THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

BEING A CORRECTED RE-ISSUE

WITH AN

INTRODUCTION, SUPPLEMENT, AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

OF

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ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES

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V-Z

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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION.

I. CONSONANTS.

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z *have their usual values.*

g as in *g*o (g^{o}).
h ... *h*o! (h^{o}).
r ... *r*un (r$\varnothing$n), ter*r*ier (te·riə$_{1}$).
ɹ ... her (həɹ), far*th*er (fā·ɹðəɹ).
s ... *s*ee (s$\bar{\imath}$), *c*ess (ses).
w ... *w*en (wen).
hw ... *wh*en (hwen).
y ... *y*es (yes).

þ as in *th*in (þin), ba*th* (baþ).
ð ... *th*en (ðen), ba*th*e (b$\bar{e}^{1}$ð).
ʃ ... *sh*op (ʃɒp), di*sh* (diʃ).
tʃ ... *ch*op (tʃɒp), di*tch* (ditʃ).
ʒ ... vi*s*ion (vi·ʒən), dé*j*euner (deʒōne).
dʒ ... *j*u*dg*e (dʒʊdʒ).
ŋ ... si*ng*i*ng* (si·ŋiŋ), thi*nk* (þiŋk).
ŋg ... fi*ng*er (fiŋgəɹ).

(FOREIGN.)
ñ as in *French nasal*, *e*nviron (añvi·roñ).
l^{y} ... It. sera*gl*io (seɹä·l^{y}o).
n^{y} ... It. si*gn*ore (sin^{y}ō·ɹe).
χ ... Ger. a*ch* (aχ), Sc. lo*ch* (loχ, loχ^{w}).
χ^{y} ... Ger. i*ch* (iχ^{y}), Sc. ni*ch*t (nėχ^{y}t).
γ ... Ger. sagen (zä·γĕn).
γ^{y} ... Ger. legen, regnen (lē·γ^{y}ĕn, rē·γ^{y}nĕn).

II. VOWELS.

ORDINARY.	LONG.	OBSCURE.
a as in Fr. *à la* mode (a la mod^{y}).	as in *a*lms (āmz), b*a*r (bāɹ).	ă as in *a*mœb*a* (ămi·bă).
ai ... aye = *yes* (ai), Is*ai*ah (əizai·ă).		
æ ... m*a*n (mæn).		æ̆ ... *a*ccept (ækse·pt), manl*a*c (mæ^{i}·niæ̆k).
ɑ ... p*a*ss (pɑs), ch*a*nt (tʃɑnt).		
ɑu ... l*ou*d (lɑud), n*ow* (nɑu).		
ɐ ... c*u*t (kɐt), s*o*n (sɐn).	ɐ̄ ... c*u*rl (kɐ̄l), f*ur* (fɐ̄ɹ).	ɐ̆ ... dat*u*m (dē^{i}·tɐ̆m).
e ... y*e*t (yet), t*e*n (ten).	ē (ē^{o})... th*e*re (ðē^{o}ɹ), p*ea*r, p*a*re (pē^{o}ɹ).	ĕ ... mom*e*nt (mŏ^{ə}·mĕnt), sev*e*ral (se·vĕrăl).
ə ... surv*ey* s*o*. (sə^{i}·rvé), Fr. attach*é* (ataʃə).	ē^{1} (ē^{1})... r*ei*n, r*a*in (rē^{1}n), th*ey* (ðē^{1}).	ə̆ ... separate (*adj.*) (se·pə̆rē^{1}t).
‖ɛ ... Fr. ch*e*f (ʃɛf).	ɛ̄ ... Fr. f*ai*re (fɛ̄ɹ^{y}).	
ɘ ... ev*e*r (evɘɹ), nat*i*on (nē^{1}·ʃən).	ɘ̄ ... f*ir* (fɘ̄ɹ), f*e*rn (fɘ̄ɹn), *ea*rth (ɘ̄ɹþ).	ė ... add*e*d (æ·dėd), *e*state (ėstē^{1}·t).
əi ... *I*, *eye*, (əi), b*i*nd (bəind).		
‖ø ... Fr. eau d*e* vie (ō dø vē^{y}).		
i ... s*i*t (sit), m*y*st*i*c (mistik).	ī (ī^{o})... b*ie*r (bī^{o}ɹ), cl*ea*r (klī^{o}ɹ).	ĭ ... van*i*ty (væ·nĭti).
ɨ ... Psych*e* (səi·kɨ), r*e*act (rɨ$_{1}$æ·kt).	ī ... th*ie*f (þī̆f), *se*e (sī).	ɨ̆ ... r*e*main (rɨ̆mē^{1}·n), b*e*lieve (bɨ̆lī̆·v).
o ... ach*o*r (ā^{1}·koɹ), m*o*rality (moræ·lĭti).	ō (ō^{o})... b*oa*r, b*o*re (bō^{o}ɹ), gl*o*ry (glō^{o}·ri).	ŏ ... the*o*ry (þī̆·ŏri).
oi ... *oi*l (oil), b*oy* (boi).		
ø ... her*o* (hī^{o}·rø), z*oo*logy (zø$_{1}$ɒlŏdʒi).	ō̆ (ō^{ə})... s*o*, s*ow* (sō^{ə}), s*ou*l (sō^{ə}l).	ō̆ ... viol*e*t (vəi·ō̆lėt), par*o*dy (pæ·rō̆di).
ǫ ... wh*a*t (hwǫt), w*a*tch (wǫtʃ).	ǭ ... w*a*lk (wǭk), w*a*rt (wǭɹt).	ǫ̆ ... *au*thority (ǫ̆þø·rĭti).
ɒ, ɒ̄* .. g*o*t (gɒt), s*o*ft (sɒft).	ɒ̄ ... sh*o*rt (ʃɒ̄ɹt), th*o*rn (þɒ̄ɹn).	ɒ̆ ... c*o*nnect (kɒ̆ne·kt), amaz*o*n (æ·măzɒ̆n).
‖ö ... Ger. K*ö*ln (köln).	‖ō̈ ... Fr. c*oeu*r (kō̈r).	
‖ō̈ ... Fr. p*eu* (pō̈).	‖ō̈̄ ... Ger. G*ö*the (gō̈̄tĕ), Fr. j*eû*ne (ʒō̈̄n).	
u ... f*u*ll (ful), b*oo*k (buk).	ū (ū^{o}).. p*oo*r (pū^{o}ɹ), m*oo*rish (mū^{o}·riʃ).	
iu ... d*u*ration (diurē^{1}·ʃən).	iū, ^{i}ū... p*ure* (piū^{o}ɹ), l*ure* (l^{i}ū^{o}ɹ).	iŭ, ^{i}ŭ verd*ure* (vē·ɹdiŭɹ), measure (me·ʒ^{i}ŭɹ).
ʉ ... unt*o* (ʊ·ntʉ), fr*u*gality (frʉ-).	ʉ̄ ... t*wo* m*oo*ns (tʉ̄ mʉ̄nz).	ʉ̆ ... altogether (ǫ̆ltʉ̆ge·ðəɹ).
iʉ ... Matthe*w* (mæ·þiʉ), virtu*e* (vē·ɹtiʉ).	iʉ̄, ^{i}ʉ̄... f*ew* (fiʉ̄), l*ute* (l^{i}ʉ̄t).	iʉ̆ ... circular (sē·ɹkiʉ̆lăɹ).
‖ü ... Ger. M*ü*ller (mü·lĕr).		
‖ʉ̈ ... Fr. d*une* (dʉ̈n).	‖ʉ̈̄ ... Ger. gr*ü*n (grʉ̈̄n), Fr. j*us* (ʒʉ̈̄).	

* (see I^{o}, ē^{o}, ō^{o}, ū^{o}) } see Vol. I, p. xxxiv, note 3.
^{i}, ^{ə} (see ē^{1}, ō^{ə}) }
^{y} as in able (ē^{1}b'l), eaten (ī^{1}t'n) = voice-glide.

* ɒ̄ the ø in s*o*ft, of medial or doubtful length. ‖ Only in foreign (or earlier English) words

In the ETYMOLOGY,

OE. *e*, *ø*, representing an earlier *a*, are distinguished as ę, ǫ (having the phonetic value of ę and ǫ, or ǫ, above); as in *ęnde* from *andi* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andeis*), *mǫnn* from *mann*, *gǫ* from *an*.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, &c.

a. [in Etymol.] ... = adoption of, adopted from.
a (as *a* 1300) ..... = *ante*, before.
a., *adj.*, adj..... = adjective.
absol., absol. ..... = absolutely.
abst. ..... = abstract.
acc. ..... = accusative.
ad. [in Etymol.]... = adaptation of.
adv., adv. ..... = adverb.
advb. ..... = adverbial, -ly.
AF., AFr. ..... = Anglo-French.
Anat. ..... = in Anatomy.
Antiq. ..... = in Antiquities.
aphet. ..... = aphetic, aphetized.
app. ..... = apparently.
Arab. ..... = Arabic.
Arch. ..... = in Architecture.
arch. ..... = archaic.
Archæol. ..... = in Archæology.
assoc. ..... = association.
Astr. ..... = in Astronomy.
Astrol. ..... = in Astrology.
attrib. ..... = attributive, -ly.
bef. ..... = before.
Biol. ..... = in Biology.
Boh. ..... = Bohemian.
Bot. ..... = in Botany.
Build. ..... = in Building.
c (as *c* 1300) ..... = *circa*, about.
c. (as 13th c.)..... = century.
Cat. ..... = Catalan.
catachr. ..... = catachrestically.
Cf., cf. ..... = *confer*, compare.
Chem. ..... = in Chemistry.
cl. L. ..... = classical Latin.
cogn. w. ..... = cognate with.
collect. ..... = collective, -ly.
colloq. ..... = colloquially.
comb. ..... = combined, -ing.
Comb. ..... = Combinations.
Comm. ..... = in commercial usage.
comp. .. .. = compound, composition.
compl. ..... = complement.
Conch. ..... = in Conchology.
concr. ..... = concretely.
conj. ..... = conjunction.
cons. ..... = consonant.
Const., *Const.* ... = Construction, construed with.
Cryst. ..... = in Crystallography.
(D.) ..... = in Davies (Supp. Eng. Glossary).
Da. ..... = Danish.
dat. ..... = dative.
def. ..... = definite.
deriv. ..... = derivative, -ation.
dial., *dial.* ..... = dialect, -al.
Dict. ..... = Dictionary.
dim. ..... = diminutive.
Du. ..... = Dutch.
Eccl. ..... = in ecclesiastical usage.
ellipt. ..... = elliptical, -ly.
e. midl. ..... = east midland (dialect).
Eng. ..... = English.
Ent. ..... = in Entomology.
erron. ..... = erroneous, -ly.
esp., esp. ..... = especially.
etym. ..... = etymology.
euphem. ..... = euphemistically.
exc. ..... = except.
f. [in Etymol.] ... = formed on.
f. (in subordinate entries) ..... = form of.
fem. (*rarely* f.) ... = feminine.
fig. ..... = figurative, -ly.
F., Fr. ..... = French.
freq. ..... = frequently.
Fris. ..... = Frisian.
G., Ger. ..... = German.
Gael. ..... = Gaelic.
gen. ..... = genitive.
gen. ..... = general, -ly.
gen. sign. ..... = general signification.
Geol. ..... = in Geology.
Geom. ..... = in Geometry.
Goth. ..... = Gothic (= Mœso-Gothic).
Gr. ..... = Greek.
Gram. ..... = in Grammar.
Heb. ..... = Hebrew.
Her. ..... = in Heraldry.
Herb. ..... = with herbalists.
Hort. ..... = in Horticulture.
imp. ..... Imperative.
impers. ..... impersonal.
impf. ..... imperfect.
ind. ..... Indicative.
indef. ..... indefinite.
inf. ..... Infinitive.
infl. ..... influenced.
int. ..... interjection.
intr. ..... intransitive.
It. ..... = Italian.
J., (J.) ..... = Johnson (quotation from).
Jam.)..... = in Jamieson, Scottish Dict.
Jod.)..... = Jodrell (quoted from).
L. ..... = Latin.
(L.)(in quotations) = Latham's edn. of Todd's
lang. ..... = language. [Johnson.
LG. ..... = Low German.
lit. ..... = literal, -ly.
Lith. ..... = Lithuanian.
LXX. ..... = Septuagint.
Mal. ..... = Malay.
masc. (*rarely* m.) = masculine.
Math. ..... = in Mathematics.
ME. ..... = Middle English.
Med. ..... = in Medicine.
med.L. ..... = mediæval Latin.
Mech. ..... = in Mechanics.
Metaph. ..... = in Metaphysics.
MHG. ..... = Middle High German.
midl. ..... = midland (dialect).
Mil. ..... = in military usage.
Min. ..... = in Mineralogy.
mod. ..... = modern.
Mus. ..... = in Music.
(N.) ..... = Nares (quoted from).
n. of action..... = noun of action.
n. of agent ..... = noun of agent.
Nat. Hist. ..... = in Natural History.
Naut. ..... = in nautical language.
neut. (*rarely* n.) = neuter.
NF., NFr. ..... = Northern French.
N. O. ..... = Natural Order.
nom. ..... = nominative.
north. ..... = northern (dialect).
N. T. ..... = New Testament.
Numism. ..... = in Numismatics.
obj. ..... = object.
Obs., *obs.*, obs. ... = obsolete.
occas. ..... = occasional, -ly.
OE. ..... = Old English (= Anglo-Saxon).
OF., OFr. ..... = Old French.
OFris. ..... = Old Frisian.
OHG. ..... = Old High German.
OIr. ..... = Old Irish.
ON. ..... = Old Norse (Old Icelandic).
ONF. ..... = Old Northern French.
Opt. ..... = in Optics.
Ornith. ..... = in Ornithology.
OS. ..... = Old Saxon.
OSl. ..... = Old Slavonic.
O. T. ..... = Old Testament.
OTeut. ..... = Original Teutonic.
orig. ..... = original, -ly.
Palæont. ..... = in Palæontology.
pa. pple. ..... = passive or past participle.
pass. ..... = passive, -ly.
pa. t. ..... = past tense.
Path. ..... = in Pathology.
perh. ..... = perhaps.
Pers. ..... = Persian.
pers. ..... = person, -al.
pf. ..... = perfect.
Pg. ..... = Portuguese.
Philol. ..... = in Philology.
phonet. ..... = phonetic, -ally.
phr. ..... = phrase.
Phren. ..... = in Phrenology.
Phys. ..... = in Physiology.
pl., *pl.* ..... = plural.
poet. ..... = poetic.
pop. ..... = popular, -ly.
ppl. a., ppl. adj.... = participial adjective.
pple. ..... = participle.
Pr. ..... = Provençal.
prec. ..... = preceding (word or article).
pref. ..... = prefix.
prep. ..... = preposition.
pres. ..... = present.
Prim. sign. ..... = Primary signification.
priv. ..... = privative.
prob. ..... = probably.
pron. ..... = pronoun.
pronunc. ..... = pronunciation.
prop. ..... = properly.
Pros. ..... = in Prosody.
pr. pple. ..... = present participle.
Psych. ..... = in Psychology.
q.v. ..... = *quod vide*, which see.
(R.) ..... = in Richardson's Dict.
R. C. Ch. ..... = Roman Catholic Church.
refash. ..... = refashioned, -ing.
refl., refl. ..... = reflexive.
reg. ..... = regular.
repr. ..... = representative, representing.
Rhet. ..... = in Rhetoric.
Rom. ..... = Romanic, Romance.
sb., *sb.* ..... = substantive.
Sc. ..... = Scotch.
sc. ..... = *scilicet*, understand or supply.
sing. ..... = singular.
Skr. ..... = Sanskrit.
Slav. ..... = Slavonic.
Sp. ..... = Spanish.
sp. ..... = spelling.
spec. ..... = specifically.
subj. ..... = subject, subjunctive.
subord. cl. ..... = subordinate clause.
subseq. ..... = subsequently.
subst. ..... = substantively.
suff. ..... = suffix.
superl. ..... = superlative.
Surg. ..... = in Surgery.
Sw. ..... = Swedish.
s.w. ..... = south western (dialect).
T. (T.) ..... = in Todd's Johnson.
techn. ..... = technical, -ly.
Theol. ..... = in Theology.
tr. ..... = translation of.
trans. ..... = transitive.
transf. ..... = transferred sense.
Trig. ..... = in Trigonometry.
Typog. ..... = in Typography.
ult. ..... = ultimate, -ly.
unkn. ..... = unknown.
U.S. ..... = United States.
v., vb. ..... = verb.
v. str., or *w.* ..... = verb strong, or weak.
vbl. sb. ..... = verbal substantive.
var. ..... = variant of.
wd. ..... = word.
WGer. ..... = West Germanic.
w. midl. ..... = west midland (dialect).
WS. ..... = West Saxon.
(Y.)..... = in Col. Yule's Glossary.
Zool. ..... = in Zoology.

Before a word or sense.

† = obsolete.
‖ = not naturalized.

In the quotations.

* sometimes points out the word illustrated.

In the list of Forms.

1 = before 1100.
2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200).
3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300).
5-7 = 15th to 17th century. (See General Explanations, Vol. I, p. xxx.)

In the Etymol.

* indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred.
:— = extant representative, or regular phonetic descendant of.

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

V.

V (vī), the 22nd letter of the modern English and the 20th of the ancient Roman alphabet, was in the latter an adoption of the early Greek vowel-symbol Υ, now also represented by U and Y (q.v.), but in Latin was employed also with the value of the Greek digamma (viz. *w*), to which it corresponds etymologically. When not purely vocalic, it still denoted this sound at the time when the earliest Latin loan-words were adopted in the Teutonic languages; consequently such words beginning with *v* appear in Old English with *w*. Under the Empire, however, the semi-vocalic sound gradually changed to a bilabial consonant, and finally became the labio-dental voiced spirant now denoted by the letter in English and various other languages. This development did not take place in Old English; and no *v*, whether bilabial or labio-dental, occurred initially in the older Teutonic languages, although the sound was common in other positions (in OE. denoted by *f*, in early texts by *b*).

In OE. dictionaries there is thus no set of words with initial V, one or two Latin words adopted at a late period usually appearing with *f*, as *fann*, *fers* (but also *vers*), from L. *vannus*, *versus*. The first appearance of V-words is found in those ME. texts which begin to show a distinct French influence, as the *Ancren Riwle*; even early writers like Orm and Lazamon, while not free from the use of French words, do not employ any beginning with *v*. The number of such words steadily increases in later texts, and is subsequently greatly reinforced by direct adoptions from Latin, by new formations on Latin stems, and by adoptions from other Romanic languages. The other sources of initial V are of minor importance. The change of *w* to *v*, which took place in the middle period of the Scandinavian languages, is represented in a few words, as *Valhalla*, *valkyrie*, *viking*, but otherwise the words with this initial are chiefly derived from languages not directly related to English. A small number of words, however, as *vat*, *vixen*, exemplify the voicing of *f*- peculiar to southern (now only south-western) dialects. This change is not indicated in OE. spelling, and how far it had developed in speech is uncertain, but in southern ME. texts all native words (rarely those of French or Latin origin) beginning with *f* may appear with *v*- (or its equivalent *u*-); the more important variant forms due to this cause are entered in their places below. Conversely words properly having *v*- are occasionally written with *f*-, and there is evidence that this is not merely graphic, but represents an actual pronunciation. ('Euen so oure Englishmen vse to speake in Essexe, for they say fineger for vineger, feale for veale, & contrary wyse a voxe for a foxe, voure for foure, etc.' 1546 Langley, tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* I. vi. 14.)

When not initial, *v* occurs freely in native words as well as in those of Latin or other origin. In the former it represents OE. *f* when voiced, as in *ðefen* even, *drīfan* drive, *lufu* love. The use of *f* (or *ff*) in such words was partly retained in ME. (and especially in Sc. down to the 16th century); but even in late OE. *s* is frequently substituted, and in early ME. (as in med.L. and OF.) *s* and *v* come into general use to denote the sound in all positions. It was only in the 17th century that these two letters, both of which had been employed in a double function (see U), were finally distinguished as vowel and consonant; and down to the 19th century words beginning with either letter continued to form one series in dictionaries.

In some ME. (chiefly northern) manuscripts, and in many Scottish texts of the 15th and 16th centuries, *v* is more or less frequently written in place of *w*, while conversely *w* is freely written instead of *v*. These forms are merely graphic, and do not imply a phonetic interchange of *w* and *v* (though in mod. north-eastern Sc. *wr-* has become *vr-*). In south-eastern English dialects the change of *v*- to *w*- does occur, and older representations of Cockney speech exhibit a converse change of *w*- to *v*-, which recent investigators have been unable to verify as still existent. The latter change is illustrated in the following quotations.

1803 Pegge *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* (1814) 77 Villiam, I vants my vig...Vitch vig, Sir?..Vy, the vite vig in the vooden vig-box, vitch I vore last Vensday at the westry. 1824 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 37, I vas valking by the Admirallity in my vay home. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiii, Ve got Tom Vildspark off..ven all the big vigs..said as nothing couldn't save him.

Elision of *v* when not initial has taken place extensively in dialects, especially those of the North and Scotland, as in *deil* devil, *shule* shovel, *hairst* harvest. In standard English this is represented by such words as *hawk*, *head*, *lark*, *lord*, and is specially indicated in a few archaic or poetic forms, as *e'en* even, *e'er* ever, *ne'er* never, *o'er* over.

I. 1. Illustrations of the use of the letter or of its name. † *Double V* [i.e. *U*], = W.

? 1460 in *Archæol.* (1842) XXIX. 331 There was an V and thre arres to-gydre. 1530 Palsgr. 440 A byfore V. 1552 Huloet s.v., There is a diuersitie betwene the single V. and the dowble W., therfore the alphabete of them shalbe set diuersly. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 211 He that can tickle Mar-prelate with taunts, can twitch double V. to the quicke. 1636 B. Jonson *Eng. Gram.* iii, V..is, like our *i*, a letter of a double power. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 16 Some Letters of the same name and shape are used sometimes for Vowels, and sometimes for Consonants; as J, V, W, Y. 1676 Grew *Anat. Pl., Anat. Fl.* IV. 154 An Angle, twice as big as that of a V Consonant. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *U*, Besides the Vowel U, there is a Consonant of the same Denomination, wrote *V*, or *U*. 1736 Ainsworth II. s.v., Our Saxon ancestors, who commonly substitute *f* in the place of *v*. 1808 Jamieson, *V*, in some of our old printed books, is invariably used for *W*. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 151, V is not used as a signature in the printer's alphabet. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Oct. 11 The letter for the ensuing year was directed to be changed to V Gothic.

2. Used with reference to the shape of the letter; an object having this shape; a V-shaped, acute-angled formation.

1832 [see next]. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. xiii/1 The corsage draped in the form of a V on the bosom. 1863 Tyndall *Heat* (1870) iv. § 131 The water ..is first brought into one arm of the V. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 45/2 The first geese of the season will wing their way in lines and V's from the south.

b. *attrib.*, as *V-form*, *shape*; freq. in the sense 'shaped like the letter V', as *V anvil*, *edge*, *hut*, *slide*, *thread*, *tool* (in fret-cutting), *-trough*, etc.; **V-pug**, a species of moth (see quot.).

1861 Sir W. Fairbairn *Iron* 125 The *V anvil, fig. 43, the natural offspring of the steam-hammer. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 794 A rod passing..through a *V-form brace of iron. 1857 R. B. Paul *Lett. Canterbury* 57 The form is that of a *V hut, the extremities of the rafters being left bare. 1879 C. L. Innes *Canterbury Sk.* 20 A 'V' hut..is exactly as if you took the roof off a house and stood it on the ground. 1832 J. Rennie *Consp. Butterfl. & M.* 132 The *V. Pug [*Eupithecia V.-ata*]. ..Wings..marked with a black V behind the middle. 1869 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. N 2, A pair of opposite dies of a *V shape. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 88/1 A rectangular or oblong table of iron..upon two *V slides. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 479 The *V supports may now be secured in their places. 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Drawg.* (1892) 14 The Whitworth *V thread..is the standard form of triangular thread used in this country. 1875 Sir T. Seaton *Fret-Cutting* 8 The *V tool is the most difficult of all tools to sharpen. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 9083, *V-trough for funnel and subterranean wires. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts*, *V tube*, a glass tube, in the form of the letter V .., to show the decomposition of a neutral salt by galvanism.

c. *Comb.* in *V-shaped* adj.

1838-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 202/1 A fissure or triangular V-shaped notch. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 423/2 Tobis.. generally double-angular or V-shaped. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 103 A V-shaped black mark on side of head.

3. Used to denote serial order, as V Battery, MS. V, or as a symbol of some thing or person, a point in a diagram, etc.

II. 4. The Roman numeral symbol for: Five († or fifth).

13.. *K. Alis.* 1851 Anon he dob his bemen blowe, v c. on a prowe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Þe v. boȝ of prede. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. v. 23, v. Chapiter. The v^e^ principal argument..is this. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop, Alfonce* iii, [Of the x tonnes] v were ful of oyle, & the other v were but half ful. 1530 Palsgr. 38 As appereth in the iii chaptre and the v rule of the same. 1535 Coverdale *Job* i. 3, v. C. yock of oxen, v. C. she asses. 1636 B. Jonson *Eng. Gram.* ii, Our numeral letters are, I for 1, V for 5. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlviii. V. 6 A single chapter will include, III. The Bulgarians, IV. Hungarians, and, V. Russians. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 151/2 Wish an Engraving, Plate V. *Ibid.* 197/1 Lecture V.

b. *V, V-spot, V-note*, a five-dollar note. *U.S.*

1837 *Knickerbocker Mag.* IX. 96 My wallet..[was] distended with V's and X's to its utmost capacity. 1849 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. 1. viii. 57, I vow my boll sheer o' the spiles wouldn't come nigh a V spot. 1864 Browning *Dram. Persons* Wks. 1896 I. 603 Sixty Vs must do. A trifle, though, to start with! *Ibid.*, A poor lad..hears the company Talk grand of dollars, V-notes, and so forth.

III. 5. Abbreviations.

a. Of various Latin words or phrases: v. = *verso* 'the back of the leaf', *versus* 'against', *vide* 'see'; v.g. = *verbi gratia*.

1678 Phillips, *V.G.* an usual character or abbreviation of the words *verbi gratia*, *i.e.* namely, or to instance in a word. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxx. § 5 [Ideas] made up of such collections of simple ideas as were really never united ..: v.g. [etc.]. 1738 Chambers *Cycl.* (1751) s.v. *Angle*, *V.* Phil. Trans. N°. 420. p. 147. 1767 R. Burn *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) IV. C c, A Table of the Cases adjudged;..Acton *v.* Smith...Adams *v.* Rush [etc.]. 1827 Jarman *Powell's Devises* II. 311 It is to be observed that Maddison *v.* Andrew, and Mills *v.* Norris, were decided at a period when the rule..was not so well settled. 1865 *Reader* 28 Jan., Rime *v.* Rhyme.

b. Of English words and phrases: V. = various proper names, as Victoria, Vincent, Violet, etc; the chemical symbol of Vanadium; v. = verb, verse, vision (in *Med.*); very (in various phrases, as v.g. very good, v.h.c. very highly commended, etc.); V.A. = Vicar-Apostolic; V.C. = Victoria Cross; v.d. = various dates; V.M. = Virgin Mary; V.P. = Vice-President; v.r. = variant or various reading; V.S. = veterinary surgeon; v.y. = various years.

1670 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 111 A pretty little picture of the V.M. 1787 in Milner *Suppl. Mem. Eng. Cath.* (1820) 48 The ecclesiastical government by V.V.A. is by no means essential to our religion. 1820 Milner *Ibid.* 252 The Prelate who did publish the Resolutions was the Western V.A. 1863 Hotten *Hand-bk. Topogr.* 195/2 Cuttings from Newspapers [etc.]. V.D. 1866 F. H. Wilson *Our Father* (1869) 122 Placards with the lion and unicorn at the top, the letter V at the one side and R at the other. 1872 Lever *Ld. Kilgobbin* lxxix, It's a case for the V.C. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 8 Mar. 3/4, I have been 'good, bad, and indifferent' and I have been 'v.g.' 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Oct. 10/2, v.h.c. in the cheese fair.

c. In music an abbrev. of various Italian words, as *verte* 'turn', *violino* 'violin', *voce* 'voice', *volta* 'time'.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks.* 1 The Letter *V* is often used as an Abbreviation of the Word *Violino*. *Ibid.*, The Letters *VS* at the Bottom of a Leaf are often used as an Abbreviation of the Words *Volti Subito*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *V*, in music, is often used to shew that a piece is designed for the violin; and VV, for two violins, or more.

Hence **V-d** *pa. pple.*, cut with a V-shaped incision.

1881 Greener *Gun* 380 The sight consists of a steel spring screwed on to the top rib, with one end set at right angles and V-d to form the sight.

Va, southern ME. var. Foe *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. Way *sb.*, Woe *sb.* and *a.*

Vaalite (vā·lait). *Min.* [f. the *Vaal* River, S. Africa, + -ite 1 2 b; named by Maskelyne.] A variety of vermiculite.

1874 Maskelyne in *Geol. Soc. Lond.* XXX. 409 Vaalite.. occurs in hexagonal prisms, the angles of which are nearly 60° and 120°.

Vaat, obs. form of Vat.

Vac (væk), abbrev. (chiefly in Univ. colloquial use) of Vacation *sb.*

1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 55. 3/2 It was very hard in the *Vac.* without Gains. 1864 Bp. Creighton in Mrs. Creighton *Life* (1904) I. ii. 11, I shall have all the rest of the Vac. to perpend and meditate on that point. 1871 M. Legrand *Camb. Freshm.* 365 When I was a boy at Harrow, I always hated going home for the 'vacs'. 1906 *Catholic Weekly* 18 May 7 Others lectured to working men in the vacs.

† **Vacabond.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 5-6 vacabound(e, 5 wayka-). β. 5-6 vacabund(e. γ. 5-6 vacabond(e, 6 vacoo-, vaka-). δ. 6 vacabo(u)n, vacabone. [a. OF. *vacabonde* (*vacquabonde*, *vaccabon*), app. an alteration of *vagabond*(*e* Vagabond under the influence of L. *vacāre* (F. *vaquer*) to be unoccupied or idle.

The form survives in northern F. dialects, and in the 17th century Chifflet gives *vacabond* as the pron. of *vagabond* (Littré). In Anglo-L. of the 15-16th cent. *vacabundus* occurs in place of *vagabundus*.]

1. A person having no settled means of living or no fixed home; a vagabond.

α. 1405 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 37 Al men of the forseide shire except foure or five gentlimen & a fewe vacabondis, woldin fisene cum to pese. 1472 *Presentments of*

Juries in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 24 John Bek is a vacabound. 1483 *Ibid.* 28 One Wrodyngton, a waykabound. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 12 It shall be leful to the constables.. to arest the sayde vacaboundes and ydell persones. 1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* II. iv. i, Fetche me in all ydle vacaboundes.

β. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 270/1 Thomas Watkynson.. Yoman and Robert Withes late of Salley in the shire of York Vacabunde. 1495 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 568 All maner vacabundes & beggers myghty in body within þis Citie. 1530 Palsgr. 183 *Vngs piegs*, a payre of stockes to punyssh vacabundes. 1552 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 103 Any vacabunde, suspect person, or nowghty people. 1584 *Mirr. Mag.* 16 b, He commaunded, that vnto a nomber of yong diseased vacabunds, there should be ministred a thin Diet, an excessiue labor, and cleanly lodging.

γ. 1472 *Presentments of Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 24 Thomas Dransfeld .. liffes as a vacabond. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xxviii. 85 There was no begger, vacabonde, nor rybault..but by grete flockys they came. 1563 in Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 303 Beggers or vakabondes do come into the Cytye. 1588 Greene *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 39 Hast thou these fourteen yeeres gone as a vacabonde about the world vnknowen and de-spised?

δ. 1556 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 113 He dothe harber wacabones. 1567 Harman *Caveat* 19 Vagarantes and sturdy vacabons. 1571 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* E iij b, Betten with a codgell like a Slaue, a Vacaboun, or a lasie Lubber.

2. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (Cf. Vagabond *a.*)

1538 Elyot, *Errabundus*, moche wanderynge, or vacabunde. 1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 190 The true beginning of the Frenchmen was by a vacabunde captayne named Marcomyrus. 1552 Huloet, Vacabund parson, *erro.* 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* II. viii. 57 Adioining vnto him certaine fugitiue and beggerly vacabond persons.

† Vacabuncy. *Obs.*—1 [irreg. f. *vacabund* Vacabond. Cf. Vagabuncy.] Vagabondage.

1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 25 Euery stronge and valiant begger and vacabound, after he were whipped for his vacabuncie and idelnes.

Vacance (vē·kăns). Chiefly *Sc.* Also 6 **wacance, vacans,** 9 **vacanse.** [ad. L. *vacantia* (see next), or a. F. *vacance* (1642).]

† 1. a. A vacant period. *Obs.*—1

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. vii. (S.T.S.) I. 43 This gouernance ..was callit the Interregne, That is to say, þe vacance betuix the deith of ane king to þe electioun of ane vthir.

† b. Cessation or suspension *of* laws. *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. ii. (S.T.S.) I. 247 þe vacance of lawis [L. *institium*] was commandit. *Ibid.* 249 At the returnyng of quintius to rome, the vacance of lawis ceissit.

† 2. The fact of becoming vacant; the vacation *of* an office. *Obs.*

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 177 Upoun the vacance of ony prelacie the kirkis thairof salbe disponit to qualifiit ministeris in titill.

3. = Vacation 2. Now *rare.*

1562–7 Buchanan *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (S.T.S.) 10 Heir efter..thair may be gevin sum vacans on to the first day of October. 1587 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 32/2 The Lordis of counsell and sessioun hes bene in vse..to haue vacance at 3ule, Fastingis euin, Pasche, & Witsonday. 1609 in Seton *Life A. Seton* (1882) 9 The Yule vacance to be and continue from the 24th December to the 6th January *inclusivé*. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xii. § ii. (1699) 207 Neither the Sheriff, nor Barrons, can hold Courts *in feriat*, or close, time of Vacance. 1695 Sibbald *Autobiog.* (1834) 189, I past the Bajon yeer under Mr. James Wyseman, who died the ·vacance thereafter. 1752 J. Louthian *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 28 These Letters pass upon a Bill signed by three Lords in Time of Vacance, and four in Time of Session. 1826 J Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 242 The fates o' the laddies at the Edinburgh Military Academy, on the Saturday before their vacance. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 154 We have angled ten hours a-day for half-a-week (during the vacance). 1901 Trotter *Gall. Gossip* 338 Give them vacance to-morrow.

attrib. *a* 1712 Fountainhall *Decis.* (1759) II. 345 It was just and necessary to arrest him, and make him answer, though in vacance-time. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Poems* (1789) II. 46 Their stamack's aft in tift In vacance-time.

† 4. In Eng. use: Leisure, relaxation. *Obs. rare.*

1609 Bible (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxviii. 25 *comm.*, The wisdom of a scribe in the time of vacance. *a* 1760 J. H. Browne *Poems* (1768) 141 Nor thou disdain Fit hour of Vacance with the Muses' train.

Vacancy (vē·kănsi). Also 6 **vacantie,** 7 *Sc.* **vaccancy.** [f. Vacant *a.* (see -ancy), or ad. late and med.L. *vacantia* (Sp. and Pg. *vacancia*, It. *vacanza*), f. *vacant-*, *vacans* vacant. Cf. prec.]

I. 1. = Vacation 2. Also in pl. Now *arch.*

c 1580 W. Stelman *Dial.* (1896) 6 There I contynued my sute untill the tyme of ther vacantie in the Lawe. 1633 W. Robinson in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 18 He is to come this vacancy into Lincolnshire about business of his own. 1679 *Trials of White & other Jesuits* 62 *Joseph.* He was [absent] in the time of the Vacancy... *L. C. J.* When are the Vacancies? *Joseph.* In August, my Lord 1702 Marwood *Diary* in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 134 To-day the Vacancys of the lower Classe began, and end at St Luke. 1703 in Ritchie *Churches of St. Baldred* 128 He must not grant the vacancie without acquainting the session. 1780 Stiles *Diary* (1901) II. 409 At the End of the Vacancy 1744 Mr. Reed carried his 3 pupils..to enter into Harv[ard] College. 1876 Grant *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 182 Besides the half and occasional holiday two annual plays', or 'vacancies', have of old been granted to the scholar. 1876 in Hare *Story Life* (1896) IV. 412 They are having their vacancies.

† b. Without article. *Obs. rare.*

1643 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 481 The porter..shall attend the colledge for saving the fabrick, both in tyme of play and vacancie. 1691 tr. *Emiliane's Observ. Journ. Naples* 15 Every year in Autumn they have two Months of vacancy.

† 2. Temporary freedom or cessation from business or some usual occupation. Also const. *from.*

1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 21 His assiduous reading in any vacancie from busines. 1602 Segar *Honour Mil. & Civ.* IV. xxi, For he that hath been longest vacant may take place before him that is lesse ancient in Vacancie. *c* 1630 Milton (*title*), On the University Carrier who sickn'd in the time of his vacancy, being forbid to go to London, by reason of the Plague. 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxix. (1668) 337 He did not find so much vacancy as his heart desired for private Prayer. 1775 Johnson *Lett.* (1788) I. 291 Air, and vacancy, and novelty, would..afford all the relief that human art can give.

† b. Free or unoccupied time; leisure. *Obs.*

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 26 If he fill'd His vacancie with his Voluptuousnesse. *a* 1608 Preston *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 114 So occupied with outward things abroad, that they have no vacancie to feed their soule within. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* To Rdr., This Work..has taken me up the vacancy of above Twenty years.

† c. An interval of leisure or unoccupied time.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 305 Daies of nothing, but Riots, visits..and such like Exiles from themselves, and vacancies from the businesse of life. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* I. *Redempt. Time* 21 An industrious Husband-man, Trades-man, Scholar, will never want business for occasional vacancies and hors subcisivæ. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xx. § 3 There are none so enslav'd to the necessities of life, who might not find many vacancies that might be husbanded to this advantage of their knowledg. 1748 in *Welsh Rev.* Feb. (1892) 350 Filled in yr vacancies of yr day with work.

3. The state or condition of being free from or unoccupied with work, business, or action; absence of occupation; idleness; inactivity.

Freq. in the 17th c.; now *rare.*

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* I. 64 Cheese,..a sport that agreeth well with their sedentary vacancie. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* xii. § 10 They who are least troubled with caring for necessary things..are invited by their vacancy sometimes to disputation among themselves concerning the Commonweal. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* Pref., Having about three Years since, and in the Vacancy of a Country Life, taken this Volume in hand. 1782 W. Herberden *Comment. Pref.* viii. (1806) 78 Nor does the vacancy of a Bath life suit complaints. 1818 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 200 The source of the common fondness for novels of this sort rests in that dislike of vacancy and that love of sloth..inherent in the human mind. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. vi, Such is the refuge of our youth and age, The first from Hope, the last from Vacancy.

† b. Const. *from.* (Freq. in 17th cent.) *Obs.*

1618 Jackson *Creed* III. Pref. A 3 b, God..blesse me outwardly with that measure of health, of vacancy from other businesse [etc.]. 1631 Byfield *Doctr. Sabb.* 143 A precise vacancy from all worke..is morall. 1690 Norris *Beatitudes* (1692) 80 Implying, that a Vacancy from Wrath is a necessary Qualification for Prayer. 1712 *Spect.* No. 408 P 8 An absolute Indifference and Vacancy from all Passion.

† c. Freedom from mental preoccupation. *Obs.*

1732 Johnson *Rambler* No. 204 P 13 Nor was he able to disengage his attention, or mingle with vacancy and ease in any amusement. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* V. 293 Her pliant mind, in this state of vacancy, had readily been bent to the new pursuit. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. I. iii, 'Every evening at six'..[they] walk majestically out again, to embroidery, small scandal, prayers, and vacancy. 1856 Aytoun *Bothwell* II. i, The fishers..whistle o'er their lazy task In happy vacancy.

d. Absence of any determining influence or factor. *rare*—1.

1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. vii. (1762) 64 The Will's Freedom consists in..this Vacancy and Opportunity that is left for the Will itself to be the Determiner of the Act.

II. † 4. An unoccupied period or interval; a time of absence *of* some activity. *Obs.*

1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* V. I. 90 For three months before, (No int'rim, not a minutes vacancie,) Both day and night did we keepe companie. 1625 T. Godwin *Moses & Aaron* I. (1641) 2 In these vacancies or distances of time, between Iudge and Judge. 1663 Heath *Flagellum* (1672) 32 In so long an interval and vacancy of War, from which this Nation had been blessed.

5. The fact or condition of an office or post being, becoming, or falling vacant; an occasion or occurrence of this.

1607 in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 59 Within foure daies of the vacancie knowen. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 197 They began a new Custom, which was, That they would in Vacancies, name the Captains, and other inferiour Officers under their Pay. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. ii. 172 No candidate shall, after the date..of the writs, or after the vacancy, give any money or entertainment to his electors. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 35 A sale of an advowson, the church being actually void, was simoniacal and void in respect to the then present vacancy. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* C. 408/1 With reference to the vacancy among the Chancery taxing masters.

b. Const. *of* (an office, position, etc.).

1620 G. Carleton *Jurisdict.* 2 That power whereby we succeed the Emperour in the vacancie of the Empire. 1629 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 321 As did the Clerky of Rome also in the vaca[n]cy of that Sea determine. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 77 *note*, Zornesan Mustapha Basha made Keeper of the Seal during the vacancy of the Charge of Grand Visier. 1726 Aylife *Parergon* 129 In the Vacancy of a Bishoprick, the Guardian of the Spiritualities was summon'd to Parliament in the Bishop's Room. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 252 The vacancy of the throne was precedent to their meeting without any royal summons.

c. An instance or occasion of land, a tenancy, etc., being or becoming vacant. *rare.*

1829 Christian in *Blackstone's Comm.* II. 9 It cannot be said that in such a case there is ever a vacancy of possession. 1845 Pelton *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 827/1 The maxim..that the tenancy of the land should always be filled, and that the tenant could make no disposition of his interest likely to involve a vacancy in the same tenancy.

6. A vacant or unoccupied office, post, or dignity.

1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 82 Mounsieur Catinat..has sent 250 officers to throw themselves into the towne to supply the vacancies of those that were sick and dead there. 1708 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 21 He shall force a Rupture with some one of his Lieutenants to make a Vacancy for him. 1769 *Junius' Lett.* iii. (1788) 46 His military cares have never extended beyond the disposal of vacancies. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 638 How could there be an election without a vacancy? 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* IV. 286 More than twenty vacancies in the order of the Golden Fleece were placed by him at Henry's disposal.

b. A church without an incumbent or minister.

1887 J. Macfarlane *Mem. T. Archer* I. 17 The 'vacancies' sought after him.

7. Absence or lack *of* something. *rare.*

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xiii. 269 Jordan, in the vacancy of the inhabitants, having got violent possession, fenced and fortified himself in the slime pits. 1809 Foster *Ess.* III. i. II. 11 With this cast of significance, and vacancy of sense, it is allowed to depreciate without being accountable.

III. 8. Empty or void space.

1600 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iv. 117 Alas, how is't with you? That you bend your eye on vacancie, And with the incorporall ayre do hold discourse. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 221 Th' ayre: which but for vacancie, Had gone to gaze on Cleopater too, And made a gap in Nature. 1813 Byron *Corsair* I. xv, The tender blue of that large loving eye Grew frozen with its gaze on vacancy. 1827 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 134 To roar and bellow No Popery to Vacancy and the Moon. 1834 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II. x. 164 Folding his arms upon his breast, with his eyes fixed upon vacancy, he stood in gloomy silence. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Way Navy* 79 Meanwhile the 'Mersey' came up out of vacancy at her best speed.

9. A vacant, unfilled, or unoccupied space; an open space between objects or things, or in a row or series; a breach, gap, or opening; † an unoccupied or uninhabited piece of ground.

1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 28 In the case of those who first inhabited Vacancies; or who became possess'd by right of War and Conquest. 1670 W. Perwich *Desp.* (1903) 90 As soon as ever he passed the great vacancy, he went to see the Cittadell. 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 901 In measuring of Roofing, seldom any deductions are made for..the Vacancies for Lutheren Lights, and Sky-Lights. 1726 R. Bradley *Country Gentl. Monthly Director* 3 In places where there are Vacancies in Hedges, set Truncheons, or Twigs of the White Sallow. 1744 M. Bishop *Life & Adv.* 209 It [i. e gun-fire] soon broke us in a terrible manner, though our Vacancies were quickly filled up 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 20 Their saddles have in the middle a vacancy, which must make it easy for the horse. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 55 Small vacancies in the ice would not prevent the journey. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 20 This great arch .. with the lofty vacancy beneath it. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Jan. 1/3 The closing of the fontanelle, or the 'vacancy' in the infant cranium.

b. *transf.* A blank, gap, or deficiency.

1759 Johnson *Rasselas* i, 'Every one in the valley was required to propose whatever might contribute to fill up the vacancies of attention, and lessen the tediousness of time. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 2 Visions of reluctant homage from crowned heads..have passed away from me, and leave no vacancy. 1856 Dove *Logic Chr. Faith* v. ii. 327 Without revelation there would be a distinct vacancy in the scheme of knowledge.

10. The state or condition of being vacant, empty, or unoccupied; emptiness.

1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlv. IV. 453 He contemplated with horror the vacancy and solitude of the city. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* I. 214 Such is the vacancy of dissipated pleasure, that..an opening always remains for something yet to be tried. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 52 The dullest country town in England can afford no idea of the stillness and vacancy of the several noble-looking cities. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xix, Quentin felt a strange vacancy and chillness of the heart. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* I. § 12. 31 When David or Hezekiah shrank from the gloomy vacancy of the grave.

b. Lack of intelligence; inanity; vacuity.

1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* v, Where in his face there was wildness and vacancy, in hers there was. patient composure. 1866 — *Boy at Rugby* Christm. Stories (1874) 332 He is a smiling piece of vacancy.

† Va·cand, *ppl. a.* and *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also 5 **wacande,** 5–6 **wacand,** 7 **vacand, vacane.** β. 5 **wak-, vakande,** 5–6 **vakand,** 6 **vaken.** [Sc. pres. pple. of Vake *v.* The usual spelling with *c* follows that of L. *vacant-*: see next.]

A. *ppl. a.* = Vacant *a.* (esp. in sense 1).

a. 1405 in Fraser *The Lennox* (1874) II. 57 With the gyffing and the patronage of the said Kirk..alse often as it happinys to be vacand. 1458 *Burgh Rec. Peebles* (1872) 196 Sir Wilyam of Fulop chapellane sal be present..to the first service that sal happyn vacand in thair gouernans. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 531 As Bruce at the paiioun So entryt in, and saw wacand his seit. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxi. 26 Couatyce ringis into the spirituall state, 3arnand banifice the quhilk ar now vacand. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 286 He gaue him the pryorie of Coldinghame..quhilk was wacand in his handis at that tyme. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 26 After the deceis of the husband, the Dowrie of his wife named be him, is vaicand (possessed be na man) or nocht vaicand. 1649 Lamont *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 12 He [the minister] was excommunicate, and his church declared

B. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 27 Quhil þus þe kyarik was walsande, Off Inglande þe kynge was þan thynkande [etc.]. 1456 *Extr. Aberd. Rec.* (1844) I. 82 That chapelnary of Sayut

Nichallis altar was then vakande. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* (1710) XIII. x. 119 With this the Kyng Latinus can decess, And left the sceptoure vakand to his hand.

B. *sb.* **1.** One who is free to take a mate.

1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 206 3e speik of berdis on bewch: of blise may thai sing, That, on sanct Valentynis day, ar vacandis ilk 3er.

2. A vacant office; a vacancy.

1567 *Burgh Rec. Peebles* (1872) 306 Nixt vaken that fallis within the towne of Peblis, that the said Thomas sones sall haif the samin.

Vacant (vē'·kánt), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **vacaunt** (5 **vacavnt**), 4– **vacant**, 5–7 **vacante**. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vacant* (=It., Sp., Pg. *vacante*), or ad. L. *vacant-*, *vacans*, pres. pple. of *vacāre* to be empty, etc.: cf. prec. In early senses the evidence is scanty until the latter part of the 16th century or later.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of a benefice, office, position, etc.: Not filled, held, or occupied; in respect of which a successor to the previous incumbent or holder has not been appointed.

Freq. of ecclesiastical benefices (see first group of quots.).

(*a*) *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 72/51 Þe bischopriche of wircestre vacaunt was and lere. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 210 Þer Steuen..suore, Þat if a bisshopriche vacant wer he se, Þe kyng, no non of his, suld chalange Þat of fe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 237 b, Many churches lye vacant. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 223/1 The Pope had accursed the english people, bicause they suffred the Bishops seas to be vacant so long a time. 1611 in *30th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 546 There hath fallen vacant a benefice annexed to ye vicariat. 1671 J. DAVIES (*title*), The Ceremonies of the Vacant See: or a True Relation of what passes at Rome upon the Pope's Death. 1803 NELSON *Let. to R. Suckling* 23 Mar., Mr. Horace Suckling..is very anxious that you should present him to the vacant living. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 95 The archbishopric of York was vacant. 1887 *New York Independent* 8 Sept. 16 One sixth of its churches are 'vacant', meaning of course, without pastors.

(*b*) 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 381 That he myghte haue reioycede an oþer tetrarchye, beenge vacante þat tyme. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 507/2 Vacavnt, not occupyyd, *vacuus*. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 303 b, Yet hath no man hetherto desyred the same places .as common & vacant to be geven them. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 145 Speciall Dignities, which vacant lye For thy best vse and wearing. 1681 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (Camden) 87 You may be assured y^t as soon as this or any other place is vacant you shall be put in into it. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 192 Dr. Arneman..has undertaken to superintend the foreign department of the Medical and Physical Journal, vacant by the decease of the late Dr. Noehden. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 634 If the throne was vacant the Estates of the Realm might place William in it. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 115 Three places had fallen vacant.

†**b.** Const. *of* (an incumbent or holder). *rare.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9697 Þe vifte was þat bissopriches & abbeies al so þat vacauns were of prelas in þe kinges hond were ido. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 109 Northumbrelonde was vacante of a kynge viij^te yeres.

†**c.** Having no owner or possessor. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 16 The goodes of the Empire, whiche shall chaunce to be vacant, he shall geve away to no man. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Vacant Effects* (in *Law*) are such as are abandoned for want of an Heir, after the Death or Flight of their former Owner.

2. Devoid of all material contents or accessories; containing, or occupied by, nothing; unfilled, empty, void.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4774 For, fra it droȝe to þe derke ay till it dawid eftir, It was bot vacant & voide as vanite it were. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 417 [One voide place of ther owne lond. *Ibid.*] The forsaid vacant place of lond. 1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 15 In the middle a square vacant place, wherein the moulded brick is disposed. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 89 The Moon, When she deserts the night, Hid in her vacant interlunar cave. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 329 The billowy plain..floats wide; nor can evade ..its [the blast's] seizing force; Or whirl'd in air, or into vacant chaff Shook waste. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* 8 The vacant space within the shell. *Ibid.* 91 It fills up the vacant angle under the arm. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 472 Instant to his aid The Goddess hasted, to his vacant hand His whip restored. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 714 From that very moment, complaint was extinguished; and the voice of praise..occupied the vacant air. 1858 GLENNY *Everyday Bk.* 76/2 All the plants that are strong enough..may be planted in vacant places.

transf. a 1822 SHELLEY *Death* I. 6 All dead! those vacant names alone..remain. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 233 Philosophy was becoming more and more vacant and abstract.

b. Devoid of an occupant; not taken up by any one. Also *fig.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 304 But now..that warre-thoughts Haue left their places vacant, in their roomes Come [etc.]. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. i, There's not a vacant corner of my heart, But all is fild with deade Antonios losse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 190 Instead Of Spirits maligne a better Race to bring Into thir vacant room. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* III. 220 Satan's accurs'd desertion to supply, And fill the vacant stations of the sky. 1780 BURKE *Econ. Reform.* Wks. III. 279 The bleak winds..howling through the vacant lobbies, and clattering the doors of deserted guard-rooms. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XX, To see the vacant chair, and think 'How good! how kind! and he is gone'. 1867 RUSKIN *Frondes* II. 247 There was a spacious half of seat vacant in my little hooded carriage.

c. Of land, houses, etc.: Uninhabited, unoccupied, untenanted. Also, of a room: Not in use, disengaged.

1518 *Star Cha* · *Cases* (Selden) II. 246 About viij c howseholdes in the same Towne desolate, vacante, and decayed. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* III, Let the old souldiers..enter upon the vacant lands. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* (1818) II. 383 The new settlers will naturally convert their labour to the cultivation of the vacant soil. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* (1852) I. 2 A house which had long been vacant in our neighbourhood. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 140 There are at least a million and a-half acres likely to be vacant every autumn.

d. Marked or characterized by the absence of life, activity, or sound.

1792 COWPER *Iliad* II. 68 Amid the stillness of the vacant night. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XXXIV. 16 To drop head-foremost in the jaws Of vacant darkness and to cease. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. iv. 136 Somewhere in the dead and vacant dawn Philip went to bed.

e. Of water: Free from ice; open.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 71 In the morning of the 7th, a large vacant sheet of water showed itself to the westward.

3. With *of.* Devoid or destitute of, entirely lacking or free from, something.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5116 We at ere voide ay of vice & vacant of syn. *a* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. XXXII. 101 If þe state of þe herte be vacant of a riȝt fundement. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 125 My person, which I waigh not, Being of those Vertues [truth and honesty] vacant. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 718 That no corner might Be vacant of her [i. e. Nature's] plenty. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* XXXII. (1687) 391 A company of select friends, vacant of business, and full of cheerfulness, met together at one table. 1751 FRANKLIN *Essays* Wks. 1840 II. 319 Was the face of the earth vacant of other plants, it might be sowed and over-spread with one kind only. 1764 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 7 The hour being vacant of business, he got upon his legs. 1848 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 175, I, to herd with narrow foreheads, vacant of our glorious gains! 1902 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Rel. & Theol.* II. II. ii. 292 How could men vacant of good have affinities with Him [etc.]?

elliptical. 1582 N. T. (Rheims) 2 *Peter* i. 8 They shal make you not vacant [L. *vacuos*], nor without fruite.

†**b.** Empty-handed; destitute. *Obs. rare.*

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. vi. (MS. Bodl. 263), They banished hym neuer to come agayne: And so this tiraunt, vacant, wente in veyn Aboute the world as a fals Fugityff. 1576 in Collier *Illustr. E. E. Pop. Lit.* No. 16. 44 So that none of us went vacant away, But of one of the parties had honestly our paye.

4. Of time: Free from, unoccupied with, affairs, business, or customary work; leisure. Also const. *from* (an action or occupation).

Freq. from *c* 1550 to *c* 1750; now *Obs.* or *rare.*

(*a*) 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. viii, Puttyng one to hym..In vacant tymes from other more serious lernynge. *Ibid.* xviii, Alexander, in tymes vacaunt from bataile, delyted in that maner huntinge. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* (1550) 34 Such euyl persones as wyl not leue one houre vacant from doyng and exercysing cruelties. 1631 BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 80 *Feriarum*, that is, dayes vacant from pleading and labour.

(*b*) 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xiv, He wil with good laisure at a vacaunt time sitte down [etc.]. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* To Rdr., Such scriblings are hardly worth the vacantest howers. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 7 The most active or busy man that hath been or can be, hath ..many vacant times of leisure. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowe* v. § 9. 419 Vacant houres cannot better be spent then in the Artillery Garden. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 471 P 3 The Memory relieves the Mind in her vacant Moments. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 104 Chosroes..consumed his vacant hours in the rural sports of hunting and hawking. 1805 T. LINDLEY *Voy. Brasil* (1808) 34 The females, who fill up their vacant hours with this elegant amusement. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* I. iii. 35 Any vacant evening of his own blank solitude.

†**b.** Of persons: Not engaged or employed in (one's usual or regular) occupation or work; disengaged or free *from* labour or toil; at leisure; also, having nothing or little to do. *Obs.*

(*a*) 1600 PALFREYMAN *Bauldwin's Mor. Philos.* I. xliv. 28 When he was vacant from his labor, he wold write most eloquent..Comodies. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Cont.* (1634) 152 Those that are vacant from such things are at rest.

(*b*) 1632 BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 154 They may be vacant as Christians 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 216 For Satan with slye preface to return Had left him vacant. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. XXVI. (1715) 158 If he can produce any vacant Person richer than himself. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* XIX. 4 Another spring renews the soldier's toil, And finds me vacant in the rural cave. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6933/2 In such excursions those vacant people [Laplanders] find a luxurious and ready repast in these fish.

absol. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* Ded., To instruct the ignorant, and entertain the vacant.

c. Characterized by, arising or proceeding from, absence of occupation, leisure, or idleness; undisturbed by business or work.

1613 SANDYS *Trav.* 256 Here vacant Life, here Peace her empire keepes. 1630 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) II. 332 A great natural principle, that the vacantest thoughts are everywhere the worst. 1662 GUNNING *Lent Fast* 202 A season of vacant attendance on fasting and prayer. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* v, Every morning waked us to a repetition of toil; but the evening repaid it with vacant hilarity. 1777 MACPHERSON *Ossian* Introd. 10 That poetical enthusiasm, which is better suited to a vacant and indolent state. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess. Fam. & Hum.* Ser. II. 89 An idle and vacant life..is not calculated to be a happy one.

d. At leisure to devote oneself *to* some object. Also of things, open or accessible *to* some influence, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1631 BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 151 How much more ought Christians to bee vacant to God alone on the Lords day? 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* v. xiv. 172 Grotius,..who by reason of his Political employments could not be so entirely vacant to the searching into so abstruse a Mystery. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Tim. v. 13 Those that are taken up with Family Business of their own are not so vacant and liable to these Crimes. 1782 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 121 P 5 When the heart is vacant to every fresh form of delight. 1763 — *Let. to Boswell* 8 Dec., Vacant to every object, and sensible of every impulse. 1838 SIR J. STEPHEN *Eccl. Ess.* II. 184 So long as they shall be vacant to record..contrite reminiscences of a desire for roasted goose.

†**e.** At leisure *for* something. *Obs.*[-1]

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 147 Sir John Berkely,.. who was the more vacant for that service by the reduction of Barnstable.

5. Of the mind or brain: Devoid of or unoccupied with thought or reflection. Chiefly *poet.*

1579 SPENSER *Shep. Cal.* Oct. 100 The vaunted verse a vacant head demaundes, Ne wont with crabbed care the Muses dwell. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 286 The wretched Slaue: Who with a body fill'd and vacant mind, Gets him to rest. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 122 The loud laugh that spoke the vacant mind. 1782 COWPER *Retirem.* 624 Absence of occupation is not rest, A mind quite vacant is a mind distress'd. 1828 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* XV, The demon of ennui again took possession of her vacant mind. 1855 TENNYSON *Daisy* 106 Perchance, to lull the throbs of pain, Perchance, to charm a vacant brain.

†**b.** Abstracted or disengaged *from* (the body, etc.) in contemplation or reverie. *Obs.*[-1]

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 5, I was in the spirit on the Lord's day,..my mind being vacant from this earthly body, and external senses.

†**c.** Free from care or anxiety. *Obs. rare.*

a 1639 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1685) 172 The Duke..even in the midst of so many diversions, had continually a very pleasant and vacant face (as I may well call it) proceeding no doubt from a singular assurance in his temper. 1723 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* II. i, Why so much Care in thy Countenance? You, who used to be so Gay, so Open, so Vacant!

6. Characterized by, exhibiting, or proceeding from, absence of intelligence or thought; expressionless, meaningless; inane.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 513 P 4 The vacant look of a fine Lady is not to be preserved, if she admits any thing to take up her Thoughts but her own dear Person. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 205 Yet fully ever has a vacant stare. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 277 Let me mask Mine own [looks] in some inane and vacant smile. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 32 The loud laugh of the woodpecker, joyous and vacant. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* I, His eyes gazed upon the scene, but with somewhat of a vacant aspect. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* II. i. 56 Vacant are thine eyes, Cold thine insulted brow and mute thy lips.

b. Empty-headed, unthinking. *rare.*

1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 163 Metellus was a vacant aristocrat, to be depended on for resisting popular demands, but without insight otherwise.

7. *Comb.*, as *vacant-looking*, *-minded* adjs.; *vacant-heartedness*, *-mindedness.*

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. 219 We all heard he was engaged to your beautiful vacant-looking cousin. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 49 If they have formerly figured as beauties, the fickle voice of fashion now proclaims that they are 'pretty, certainly, but silly and vacant-looking'. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Arcostook* XVIII, Her frivolity—her not so much vacant-mindedness as vacant-heartedness. 1883 J. MACKENZIE *Day-dawn Dark Places* 272, I have been saddened by the vacant-minded pupil.

B. *sb.* †**1.** *Sc.* A vacant estate. *Obs.*[-1]

c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 738 And als the nixt vacant..That hapnis in France, quhair sa euer it fall, Forfaltour or fre waird..I gif the beir heritabilly.

†**2.** One who has held office but is for the time being unemployed or in retirement. *Obs. rare.*

1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* IV. XXI. [236 These diuers degrees were in the Emperiall Court called Administraintes, Vacantes, and Honorarii. *Ibid.*] 237 Note likewise that the Officers whom we call Vacants are of two sorts.

†**3.** *pl.* A vacation. *Obs.*[-1]

1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* I. iii. 35 The next Terme, after the ordinary vacants, to be held at the Burgh of Dendie.

†**4.** *post.* A vacant space; a vacuum. *Obs. rare.*

1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* V. 248 Ready by Turns to rise or to descend, Nature against a Vacant to defend. *Ibid.* VII. 355 Thou in the Vacant didst the Earth suspend.

Hence †**Va·cant** *v.* **a.** *trans.* To render vacant, in various senses; to vacate. **b.** *intr.* To take a vacation. *Obs. rare.*

1649 RAINBOW *Funeral Serm.* 29 May 30 She applyed her self vigorously to the setling of all things, which concerned the secular affairs of her Family, that so she might totally and wholly be vacanted to God. 1674 [Z. CAWDREY] *Catholicon* 18 Which Sacredness they know may be presently vacanted by the Prevalency of a greater opposite Power. 1752 *Scotland's Glory* 57 For getting Yule kept up Our highest courts vacanted.

Vacantie, obs. var. VACANCY.

Vacantly (vē'·kántli), *adv.* [f. VACANT *a.* + -LY [2].] In a vacant manner; †in freedom from business or work.

1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 288 Great is the difference between leading thy life vacantly and leading it slouthfully. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* V. 1915 Its sculptured walls vacantly to the stroke of footfalls answered. 1839 DICKENS *Nicholby* XV, The back parlour sat with her mouth wide open staring vacantly at the collector, in a stupor of dismay. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 322 Striding over to the place he laughed vacantly as he heard the story.

†**Va·cantry.** *Obs.*[-1] [f. as prec. + -RY.] Vacancy, idleness, inoccupation.

1606 CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* VI. 732 So serious is his trifling companie In all his swelling ship of vacantrie.

‖**Vacat.** *Obs.* [L., 3rd sing. pres. ind. of *vacāre* to be vacant. Cf. VACATUR.] An annulment or abrogation.

1392 *Child-Marriages* 160 To thend that the Recognizaunce thereof may be Adnihilated and voyd, and a vacat therevpon to be entred. 1643 R. Baker *Chron., Edw. II* 145 The want of his fathers blessing..without which a Vacat is set upon the labours of men. *a* 1672 Twysden in *Spelman's Hist. Sacrilege* (1698) Add. 21, Matt. Paris..having written that Marriage to have been *Contra Consilium Episc. Edmundi*, [he] did afterwards make a Vacat of it.

Vacatable, *a.* [f. Vacate *v.* + -able.] That may be vacated; capable of becoming vacant.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 May 2/1 The number of Liberal seats vacatable in England and Scotland.

†**Vacate,** *pa. pple. Obs.*[1] [ad. L. *vacātus*, pa. pple. of *vacāre*: see next.] Annulled, made legally void.

c 1688 *Viud. Proc. H. M. Eccl. Comm.* 54 The statute is Obsolete,..and must be esteemed as if it had been vacate and null.

Vacate (vē·ke·t, văkē·t), *v.* [ad. L. *vacāt-*, ppl. stem of *vacāre* to be empty, free, etc.]

1. *trans.* To make void in law; to deprive of legal authority or validity; to annul or cancel.

Very common in the 17–18th c. Now only in legal use.

1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* II. (ed. 2) 53 The King calling a Parliament at Winchester, utterly repealed and vacated those former Ordinances. 1677 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 538 If any one should spend before the day of election above ten pound,..it shall be accounted bribery, and vacate his choice. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4538/1 All Entries, shall be vacated and cancelled. 1750 Carte *Hist. Eng.* II. 158 Her relations..incited him [Hen. VIII] to remove the obstacles to his happiness, by vacating his marriage with Anne of Cleves. 1790 in Dallas *Amer. Law Rep.* I. 120 The court will confirm the Judgment as to one, and vacate it as to the other. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1141 Such omission on the part of the officer will not vacate the contract. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 35 The opposition asked leave to bring in a bill vacating all grants of Crown property which had been made since the Revolution. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 133/1, I..declare the deed to be void, and that it ought to be cancelled and the registration vacated.

b. *transf.* To deprive of force, efficacy, or value; to render inoperative, meaningless, or useless. Now *Obs.* or *rare.*

1695 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* (1669) 584/1 The Christians Creed doth not vacate the Ten Commandments. 1698 Chilcot *Evil Thoughts* i. (1851) 4 Endeavouring to vacate the obligation of the fifth commandment. 1721 in G. Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 323 A punctilio;..as such it is vacated by the universal practice of the Church. *a* 1791 Wesley *To Servants* Wks. 1811 IX. 103 The character of the master..does not vacate the duty of the servant. 1808 Paley *Nat. Theol.* I. i. § 3. 6 These superfluous parts.. would not vacate the reasoning which we had instituted concerning other parts. 1827 R. Hall *Wks.* (1832) VI. 414 They..inculcated the obligation of circumcision,..thereby vacating and superseding the sacrifice of Christ.

c. To remove or withdraw (a record).

1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 128 Imbezzling or vacating records..is a felonious offence against public justice.

2. To make or render (a post or position) vacant; to deprive of an occupant or holder.

1697 J. Lewis *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 80 As a Garter was vacated by the death of Lord Strafford. 1751 T. Sharp in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 375 Some of the Bishopricks vacated by the deprivation of the Nonjur. Bishops. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 158 Suppose..that the whole royal line should at any time fail, and become extinct, which would indisputably vacate the throne. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* I. xxv, One of the seats in your uncle's borough. is every day expected to be vacated. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xxi. 678 Hadrian de Castello sought the death of Pope Leo in order to vacate the throne which, when it was vacated, was filled by Hadrian of Utrecht.

b. To leave (an office, position, etc.) vacant by death, resignation, or retirement; to give up, relinquish, or resign the holding or possession of.

1830 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxv, Pen..promised that he would give his election dinner there, when the Baronet should vacate his seat in the young man's favour. 1875 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit.* (ed. 3) Pref. p. x *note*, When the above was written the author had still the Chair of Poetry at Oxford, which he has since vacated.

c. *absol.* To give up an office or position.

1812 in *Examiner* 30 Nov. 763/1 As soon as the forms of the House will admit of a Member vacating, in consequence of a double return. 1894 Boase *Exeter Coll.* (O.H.S.) p. lxxix, A Devonshire fellowship was given to Maurice Ley,..but Ley soon vacated.

3. To leave or withdraw from (a place, seat, etc.); to quit or give up.

1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* iv, It was most probable that if the officers..found the abbey vacated, they would quit before morning. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 172 The English ladies..had caused their servant to insult one of the collegians..in the hope that they would vacate the premises. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. v. 61, I have determined .to remove him to the berth Riley has vacated.

b. *absol.* To give up possession or occupancy of a house, etc.

1854 Thoreau *Walden* 48, I to pay four dollars and twenty-five cents to-night, he to vacate at five to-morrow morning. 1856 Miss Mulock *J. Halifax* xiv, So we vacated; and all that long Sunday we sat in the parlour lately our neighbour's.

4. *intr.* † a. To devote one's time, to give oneself up, *to* something. *Obs. rare.*

1685 Evelyn *Mrs. Godolphin* (1888) 7 Prescribeing to herselfe a constant method of devotion,..that she might the better vacate to holy dutyes. *a* 1706 — *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 260 There must be deacons and deaconesses, .so that the preachers may wholly vacate to the Word.

† b. To withdraw oneself *from* (a task). *Obs.*[1]

1665 G. Harvey *Adv. agst. Plague* 1, I might justly vacate from this task, having so lately amused my self about a Tract of the French Contagion.

c. *U.S.* To give up work for a time; to take a holiday or vacation.

1885 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 July 476 One thing he [a Chinaman] can never learn, and that is how to vacate.

Hence **Vacated** *ppl. a.*

1791 *On Relig. Fashionable World* 114 It is the very genius of christianity to extirpate all selfishness, on whose vacated ground benevolence plants itself. 1832 I. Taylor *Edwards' Freed. Will* Prelat. Essay p. xxxix, They find a deserted city and vacated palaces. 1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* 727 Leaving the rock either side of the vacated space to be pressed together. 1903 W. Bright *Age of Fathers* II. xxx. 94 The priest Eugenius..was rewarded by promotion to the vacated see.

Vacating (vākē·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vacate *v.*]

1. The action of annulling, making void, or depriving of legal authority or validity.

1648 (*title*), A Declaration of the Commons of England,.. expressing their reasons for the Adnulling and Vacating of these Ensuing Votes. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xcvii, How..several Lord Mayors..prosecuted the vacating of Patents that they judged entrenching on the Conservacy. 1764 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* ii. (1765) 229 From the restoration until the vacating the charter. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 227 Such a method as the vacating a statute long before extinguished.

2. The action of giving up, leaving, or relinquishing.

1820 Southey *Wesley* I. 121 He therefore looked upon himself to be fully discharged from that cure by the vacating of his primary design. 1855 Brewster *Newton* I. iv. 98 The expected vacating of his Fellowship. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Sept. 397/2 The vacating of a Warden's residence.

Vacation (vākē·ʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 vacacioun, 5 vacacyone, -cione, -cyoun, vacacion(e, 5–6 vacacion (6 -cyon), 6 vacatione, 5– vacation. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vacation* (= It. *vacazione*, Sp. *vacacion*, Pg. *vacação*), or ad. L. *vacātiōn-*, *vacātio* (med.L. also *vacācio*), f. *vacāre*: see Vacate *v.*]

I. 1. Freedom, release, or rest *from* some occupation, business, or activity.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 684 Whan he hadde leyser and vacacioun From oother worldly occupacioun. 1532 Elyot *Gov.* I. ii, What vacacion had they from the warres? 1575 Lanrham *Let.* (1871) 12 The forenoon occupied..in quiet and vacation from woork. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 156 Admit of no vacation, saue onely vacation from vice. 1690 R. Lucas *Humane Life* 245 The life of the sluggish is but a waking dream, a vacation from all business. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. 165 Especially during the days of vacation from ordinary business.

b. Without const. Freedom or respite from work, etc.; time of rest or leisure.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. iv. 777 Bot þai war til Sancte Petyr ay Helparis in his lattyr day, Qwhen he gaf his vacacion Al hail til his deuocion. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* viii. 58 A secrete place, or some vacation is conuenient for preachers of the gospell. 1570 T. Norton *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 129 When, resting from worldly business..,and as it were having a certain holy vacation. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* xii. xvii. (1620) 435 His vacation is not idle, sloathfull nor sluggish. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* I. iv. 20 The Primitive Confessours were so taken up with what they endured, they had no vacation largely to relate their own or others Sufferings.

transf. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. xii. (1840) 66 After the tempest of a long war,..king Baldwin had a five years vacation of peace in his old age.

†c. Leisure for, or devoted to, some special purpose; hence, occupation, business. *Obs.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lviii. 135 Put þe vacacion of god [L *Dei vacationem*] before all oþer þinges. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 45 Ther prencipal vacatione vas on the neuresing of bestialite. *Ibid.*, Ther iv na faculte, stait, nor vacatione ..that can be conparit til oure stait. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xii 308 She [Philosophy] ascribeth no other consultation [to the Gods], nor imputeth other vacation vnto them. 1627 W. Sclater *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 2 Charity, which is the vtmost pretended aime of single life, and wilfull pouertie, whole Vacation to the Contemplation of the glorious Deitie. 1654 Hammond *Fundam.* xi. Wks. 1674 I. 298 The inestimable benefit of peace, and quiet and vacation for piety.

† d. Absence from duty or from some usual post; also, a sum paid for absence or exemption.

1461–83 in *Househ. Ord.* (ed. 4) 32 Savynge the right of the countynghouse in chekking them for theire vacations or for lak of recordes. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 57/1 Sommes of money..abated of the fees..of any of the said Souldeours ..for the vacations and absence oute of the said Toune. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Q ij b, Parmenio his tongue was very fine and voluble to run ouer his masters whole life this time of vacation from his mistris. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* I. lviii. 33 Vitellius..paies the vacations to the Centurions out of his cofers.

2. A period during which there is a formal suspension of activity; one or other part of the year during which law-courts, universities, or schools are suspended or closed; holidays.

c 1436 Pecock *Bk. of Faith* (1909) 228 Hou myche labour is maad in ynnes of Court in Londoun, bi tymes of vacacioun, aboute the reding..of the Kingis Statutis. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xv. (1885) 148 How mony owres off the day this counsell shall sytt, when thai shall haue any vacacion. 1529 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 36 We dyd apoyete them there to mete ageyne at the vacacion of Christmas last past. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 349 [Three stays] With Lawiers in the vacation: for they sleepe betweene Terme and Terme. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 70, I judge Lawyers and Officers more happy, who have their Termes to live in the City, and their Vacations to returne into the Countrey. *a* 1668 Davenant *Play-ho. to be Let* i, We are standing Properties of the Play-house, which, in Vacation, lye in pawn for the Rent. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg.) 29 It being in the Time of the Vacation. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 324 The young nobleman, whom I accompanied to his seat from the university, during the Christmas-vacation. 1796 Burke *Let. Noble Lord* Wks. VIII. 35 Every honest father of a family..will pray that there may be a very long vacation in all such schools. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 216 For no other reason, perhaps, but because the fine was levied in the vacation, and was dated as of the preceding term. 1880 Lytton *Disowned* vi, To this house Algernon was constantly consigned during his vacations from school. 1904 Mrs. Creighton *Life Bp. Creighton* I. x. 308 In the Easter Vacation we went for a short walking tour in Norfolk.

transf. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. i. 242 Wherefore in the mid-st of the Term of his businesse he makes himself a vacation to speak with them. *c* 1656 Usher *Ann.* (1658) 814 The King of Kings forbore his hunting and feasting of the Nobles, which is a Kinde of Vacation among the Parthians.

b. *Long Vacation* (see Long *a.*[1] 18).

a 1601 Sir T. Fanshawe *Pract. Exch.* (1658) 160 In every long vacation all the bills..and other pleadings are to be taken from the common files. 1632 T. Adams in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 150 The arabick Lecture to be entred upon after that long vacation following. 1693 [see Long *a.* 18]. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 215 In ye Long-Vacation [he] made an Excursion. 1882–[see Long *a.* 18]. 1882 H. C. Merivale *Faucit of B.* v, When season, reading-party, and long vacation were all over,..much distressed was the Oxford world [etc.].

c. A holiday. Chiefly *U.S.*

1878 *Masque of Poets* 177 At Saratoga, where you meet all grades of well-dressed people spending short vacations. 1888 A. K. Green (Mrs. Rohlfs) *Behind Closed Doors* vi, She went away for a short vacation a few days ago.

d. *attrib.*, as *vacation-exercise, -task, -time*, etc.

1608 Milton (*title*), At a Vacation Exercise in the Colledge. *a* 1668 Davenant *Play-ho. to be Let* Wks. (1673) 75 Good, Sir, no French translation till the Tearm; It is too precious for Vacation-ware. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 47 (1726) 251 Every monday throughout the year, in vacation-time as well as in term-time. 1797 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 298 This Vacation exercise, the subject of which will be communicated to him at the usual time. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* II. xiii, It is now vacation time, and I have come to town with the idea of holding lectures on the state of education. 1844 Talfourd (*title*), Vacation Rambles and Thoughts. 1894 Ld. Coleridge in *Life* (1904) II. xii. 382, I am smitten once more with the fate of Vacation Judge. 1904 'M. Y. Halidom' *Weird Transform.* x. 84 What with his walks and his vacation tasks, small danger was apprehended.

3. † a. A state or period characterized by the intermission or absence *of* something. *Obs.*

1567 Allen *Def. Priesth.* Pref., In this pitiful vacation and long lacke of the practise of priesthoode. 1630 Lennard tr. *Charron's Wisd.* (1658) 31 Whereby followeth a kind of intermission and vacation of the actions. 1677 Temple *Let. to Hyde* Wks. 1720 II. 474 We have had since Monday last, a perfect Vacation of all Affairs. *a* 1721 Ken *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 115 Sleep's a Vacation of our Pow'rs, And innocently wastes our Hours.

† b. A cessation *from* something.

1617 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 184 This day is here Good Friday, and such a dead vacation from all kind of business, as I can now add little to this letter. *c* 1770 Eliz. Carter *Lett.* (1808) 96 That dead vacation from all present hopes and fears that stupifies the retirement of a convent.

c. A state or period of inactivity.

1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 116 The inconvenience of this cold vacation in the Hand, gave being to that Axiome in Rhetorique [etc.]. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Pref. p. viii, The occasional vacations of the Press, by reason of Festivals, or the absence of the Corrector. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. iv. 75 The city was in a state of comparative desolation;..a vacation of centuries had passed over it.

4. A time of freedom, release, or respite (*from* something).

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III. xii. 125 The Martinmans, finding the war to be carried from their wals,..would use the commodity of that vacation. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* I. vi, The longest vacation from persecution they enjoyed was when Charles was Emperor of the West. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* I. iv. 189 Giving himself a vacation from the hardships of War. 1724 R. Fiddes *Pract. Disc.* II. 200 Such times should be vacations from the common business and affairs of human life. 1748 tr. *Vegetius Remains* 244 Let..a Vacation from Labour be given him.

II. † 5. The fact of an office or post becoming or being vacant; the time during which the vacancy lasts. *Obs.*

Chiefly in ecclesiastical use: see (*a*).

(*a*) *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxxiii. 5897 In til a vacacione þai walde noucht mak electioue Twys. 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 247/1 Of all..voidaunce of Bisshopriches, Abbeys and Prioryes, tyme of vacation [etc.]. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 16 All..licences..shall (during the vacation of the same see) be..graunted vnder the name and seale of the gardiane of the spiritualities. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 366 b, Bishoppriches aboute LXXXVI, by the vacations whereof, as they terme it, is caried to Rome a wonderful some of gold. 1620 Sedgar *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* IV. xxiv. 244 If it fall out that the Archbishop of Canterburie be not there, by the vacation of his See, then the Archbishop of Yorke is to take his place. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 72 Certain lands assumed by the Queen from some Bishopricks during their vacation. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. vi. 98 All arrearages of subsidies and tenths past in the days of their predecessors, and in times of vacation.

(*b*) 1542 Hen. VIII *Decl. War Scots* D ij, All castels & holdes were surrendred to him as to the superior lord in the tyme of vacation. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 16 That

he shall ratifie that which was done in the vacation of thempire, by the countie Palatine. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. xxii. 475 But we are now arrived at a meere vacation, wherein the Crown of Juda lay voyd eleven whole yeares. 1638 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 89 This commonly they practise in euery such like vacation, which otherwise, they durst neuer attempt.

†b. A vacant post; a vacancy. *Obs.*

1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 398, I hertely desyre & pray you..to graunt vnto the said Robert the next vacacion of one of the iiiii Clarkes of that your courte.

†6. The fact of a house being unoccupied or untenanted; loss of rent due to this. *Obs.*

1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 96 Vacacions. In primys, xvr Rafis chambyr, voyde by ij quarters, the quarter at ij s iiij d. *Ibid.* 192 Item, ffor the wacacion of the howse that Wylliam Raynsford dwellyd in, for iij quarters, xx s.

†7. Empty space; vacuity. *Obs.*—1

1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 211, I am of Opinion nothing less than four or five Feet high Vacation ought to be allowed..in order to break the Force of such an Ebullition, by thus giving it Room enough to expand.

III. †8. The action of voiding or evacuating.

1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* VII. (1617) 33 From fulnes, as from surfeit of meate or drink, or the want of vacation of humors.

9. The action of vacating, of leaving (or being left) vacant or unoccupied.

1876 CLARK RUSSELL *Is he the Man?* II. 2 The servants were ignorant of the true reason of old Mrs. Ransome's sudden vacation of the house. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 May 5/2 The Viceroyalty of India..will then be on the point of vacation by the Marquis of Ripon. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Oct. 465/1 Seats chosen for vacation by the Gladstonians themselves.

Hence **Vaca·tion** *v. intr.*, to take a vacation or holiday. **Vaca·tioner**, (*a*) *U. S.*, a holiday-maker; (*b*) a vacation-student. **Vaca·tionist**, = prec. (*a*). **Vaca·tionless** *a.*, having no vacation or holidays.

1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 27 Aug. 273 Despite hard times, people will go *vacationing. 1890 *Ibid.* 28 Aug., The 'swallows homeward fly'; and so, by sea and land, do *vacationers and tourists. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 491/1 It did my vacationer's heart good to see men so cheerfully industrious. 1904 *Middle Temple Rec., Min. Parlt.* I. 389 The following vacationers are fined 20s. each for absence from Mr. Daston's reading. 1885 *Field* 18 Apr. 511 The *vacationist in quest of bracing air..will find in Tyrol many places to suit him. 1892 *Ibid.* 2 July 25/2 Rivers ..attractive to the summer vacationist. 1891 *Advance* (Chicago) 25 June, I dislike to go away leaving people *vacationless who deserve an outing more than I do.

‖ **Vaca·tur.** *Obs.* [L. *vacătur*, 3rd sing. pres. ind. pass. of *vacāre*: cf. VACAT.] An annulment.

1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1739/3 Whether Your Majesty will be pleased to order a *Vacatur* to be entred upon the Enrollment of the Charter now surrendred. 1811 in *Rep. Commis. Publ. Rec. Irel.* (1815) 71 For every Vacatur—(This seldom happens, not one having occurred these six years back), £2. 17. 11.

Va·ccarage. *rare.* [See next and -AGE. Cf. also med.L. *vaccagium*.] = next.

1895 *Linc. N. & Q.* IV. 131 The vaccaria, vaccarages, or cow-pastures attached to the Abbey.

Vaccary (væ·kări). Now only *Hist.* Also 5–6 **vaccarie**, 6 **vaccharie**, 7 **vacharie**. [ad. med.L. *vaccaria*, f. L. *vacca* cow. Cf. VACHERY, and Pg. *vacaria* herd of cows.] A place where cows are kept or pastured; a dairy-farm.

1472 in *Archaeol.* XLVII. 195 Th'issues, prouffites, and revenues coming..of the ferme of the vaccarie of Sleigholme. 1545 *Act* 37 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 One parcell of lond called the Vaccharie, conteyninge by estimacion threscore Acres. 1594 CROMPTON *Jurisd.* 194 Without warrant no subiect may haue within the forest a vaccarie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vaccary*, alias *vacharie*, seemes to be a house to keep kine or cowes in. [Hence in Phillips, etc.] 1815 DICKSON *Lancashire* 13 The Forest of Wyersdale..being distributed into twelve different tracts..which still retain the ancient title of *vaccaries* or cow-pastures. [1863 J. R. WALBRAN *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) 343 *note*, To render annually of the profits of the vaccary twenty six stones eight pounds of butter.]

Vacche(n, southern ME. var. FETCH *v.*

Vacci- (væ·ksi), combining form of L. *vacca* cow, as in **Va·cicide**, the killing of a cow; **Vaccimu·lgence**, milking of cows.

Also, in recent Dicts., *vaccigenous* (for **vaccinigenous*) adj., 'producing vaccine'.

1796 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1845) II. 381 Will you try to look out for a fit servant for us,..scientific in vaccimulgence? That last word is a new one. 1900 M. C. WILSON *Irene Petrie* xi. 249 In Kashmir vaccicide is a capital crime.

†**Va·ccin.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *vaccin-ium*.] (See VACCINIUM.)

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* x. 38 What then, if Amint bee Both blacke (and swart) so violets and vaccins too are blacke.

Va·ccinable, *a.* [f. VACCIN-ATE *v.*] Capable of being successfully vaccinated.

1899 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Vaccinal (væ·ksinăl, væksəi·năl), *a.* [f. VACCINE *sb.* + -AL, or a. F. *vaccinal* (1812).] Of or pertaining to, connected with, vaccine or vaccination.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 26/2 The vaccinal eruption, especially on the scalp. *Ibid.* 27/1 Epidemics of vaccinal sore arms. 1899 *Daily News* 6 March 8/3 An inspector comes down to inquire into the vaccinal condition of the sufferers.

Vaccinate (væ·ksinēt), *v.* [f. VACCINE *a.* Cf. F. *vacciner* (*a* 1803), It. *vaccinare*, Pg. *vacinar*, Sp. *vacunar*.]

1. *trans.* To inoculate with the virus of cow-pox as a protection against small-pox.

1803 RING *Treat. Cow-pox* II. 1026 A French physician.. having vaccinated the son of the English Consul. *Ibid.* 1027 A number of those who were vaccinated in New England. *c* 1823 S. M. LLOYD *Tommy Sole* 2 When her only child, Tommy, was at a proper age, Mr. Howard proposed to vaccinate him. [*Foot-note*, To inoculate him with the cow-pox.] 1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* XXV, Rather against Ursula's wish, I vaccinated the children.

fig. 1809 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* I. 212 It might be supposed their ablutions at the cow's tail vaccinated them against the contagion of any other religion. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* x, There are teachers..who vaccinate the two childhoods with wholesome doctrine. 1892 ZANGWILL *Child. Ghetto* II. 3 Who will vaccinate him against free-thinking as I would have done?

b. *transf.* To inoculate with a virus.

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 574 By vaccinating animals ..with a strongly neurotoxic poison.

2. *intr.* To perform or practise vaccination.

1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Ld. Bacon* (1897) 404 The Baconian takes out a lancet and begins to vaccinate. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xviii, As I have before mentioned, the Shoshones vaccinate. 1878 [see VACCINE *sb.* 2].

3. *trans.* To inject by or in vaccination.

1868 SEATON *Handbk. Vaccination* 22 When lymph raised in cows by retro-vaccination is vaccinated back to the human subject.

Hence **Va·ccinated** *ppl. a.*, **Va·ccinating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1808 REECE *Med. Dict.* s.v. *Cow-pox*, The proportion of *vaccinated persons. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 177 Sometimes a roseolous rash spreads over the vaccinated limb. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 29/1 Do the vaccinated escape in an epidemic? 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 688/2 The method of *vaccinating and the phenomena of cow-pox. 1868 BALLARD *Vaccination* 355 The puncture of the vaccinating lancet. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 715 An active vaccinating material.

Vaccination (væksinē·ʃən). [f. VACCINE *a.* Cf. F. *vaccination* (*a* 1803), It. *vaccinazione* (1809), Pg. *vaccinação*, Sp. *vacunacion*.]

1. The action or practice of inoculating with vaccine matter as a preventative of small-pox.

1800 R. DUNNING (*title*), Some observations on vaccination, and the inoculated cow-pox. 1802 *Rep. Committee, Ho. Commons* XIV. 187 Vaccination has justly called forth their particular attention. 1813 *Examiner* 26 April 264/2 Prior to the introduction of vaccination, several hundreds annually died of the small pox. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 60 Vaccination comprises the modes of collecting the vaccine, and of inoculating. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 178 Small-pox has died out..in exact proportion as efficient vaccination has been generalised.

b. Inoculation with a virus.

1891 *Nature* 3 Sept., To the old dangerous method.., Pasteur had added the less dangerous one of preventive inoculation by means of an attenuated virus, to which he had applied the term vaccination. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 711 The vaccination [with anti-rabic fluid] is usually made into the subcutaneous connective tissues of the sheep.

2. *attrib.*, as *vaccination act, defaulter, law, officer, scar*, etc.

1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 690/1 In 1841, the Vaccination Act was passed. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 28 To make the vaccination law more stringent. *Ibid.* 30 To certify to the vaccination officer the fact of vaccination. 1897 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 3/3 Inflicting repeated penalties on vaccination defaulters. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 627 Any case of cancer affecting the vaccination scar.

Hence **Vaccina·tionist**, a believer in the efficacy of vaccination.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Mar. 2/1 This and similar allegations form the sheet-anchor of the vaccinationist.

Vaccinator (væ·ksinē·tər). [f. VACCINATE *v.* Cf. F. *vaccinateur*, It. *vaccinatore*, Pg. *vaccinador*, Sp. *vacunador*.]

1. One who performs, practises, or advocates vaccination.

1808 REECE *Med. Dict.* s.v. *Cow-pox*, How the vaccinators account for this, I am at a loss to conjecture. 1863 *Times* 25 Apr., Many public vaccinators, it is said, are wholly incompetent to perform their duty. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 590 In another case the vaccinator..died of erysipelas.

2. An instrument used in performing vaccination.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2686/1. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 633 Cases of..septic infection have been known to follow the use of some mechanical vaccinator.

Comb. 1885 HARRIES tr. *Warlomont's Anim. Vaccination* 124 [An] apparatus which we have called the vaccinator-trephine.

Va·ccinatory, *a. rare.* [f. VACCINATE *v.*] Used for, connected with, vaccination; vaccine.

1808 *Blackm. Mag.* XXIV. 834 Quassia might be distributed gratis at Apothecary's Hall, as vaccinatory matter is at the Cow-pox Hospital. 1880 *Daily News* 25 May 5/7 Pus just as efficacious for vaccinatory purposes as the lymph habitually used.

Vaccine (væ·ksin, -in), *sb.* [f. as next, or a. F. *vaccine* (1800) cow-pox, vaccination, *vaccin* (1812) vaccine matter, = It. and Pg. *vaccina*, Sp. *vacuna*.]

†1. Vaccination. *Obs.*—1

1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Bette* III. 210 Is it to them the world owes inoculation, which they so long opposed; or the vaccine, which they still oppose?

2. Vaccine matter used in vaccination.

1846 [see VACCINATION 1]. 1852 LEADAM *Homœopathy* 361 A child..totally insusceptible of the influence of vaccine. 1864 *Spectator* 375 As ordinary Englishmen say, the vaccine took. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 94 It would be also well, for the purpose of keeping up a good supply of vaccine, occasionally to vaccinate direct from the heifer.

fig. 1881 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Aunts Alt.* cliv. III. 135 Impressing the advantages of industry, with the chance of acting as a vaccine to the habits of thieves.

attrib. 1889 *Buck's Ref. Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 518 Ure's vaccine-scarificator consists of four blades fixed upon a horizontal axis.

b. A preparation of some virus used for the purpose of inoculation.

1894 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 3/1 Graduated solutions of what for want of a better word may be called the vaccine.

Vaccine (væ·ksin, -in), *a.* [ad. L. *vaccin-us* (f. *vacca* cow), esp. in *variolæ vaccinæ* cow-pox (Dr. Jenner, 1798). Cf. It. *vaccino*.]

1. *Vaccine disease, pock*, = COW-POX.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 281 The certainty that the having suffered the vaccine disease, will prove a preservative from the infection of the small-pox. 1800 *Ibid.* VIII. 169, I found the Vaccine-pock so safe and mild a disease..that I became a convert. 1851 LEADAM *Homœopathy* 360 When the system has been satisfactorily infected by the vaccine disease.

b. Appearing in, characteristic of, the disease of cow-pox.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 28 Matter taken from a vaccine pustule. 1816 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVI. 383 It might be supposed that, like the vaccine infection, it secured the system against a stronger poison. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 755/1 The vaccine cicatrix is round, deep, radiated, and puckered. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 26/1 Ulceration of the vaccine vesicle..is one of the commoner forms of 'bad arm'.

2. *Vaccine lymph, matter, virus*, the characteristic virus of cow-pox (obtained directly or from human subjects) which is employed in vaccination.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 25 Manifestly arising from absorption of vaccine matter into the system. 1799 JENNER *Further Obs. Var. Vaccinæ* (Crookshank, 1889) II. 188 Mr. Henry Jenner..inserted the vaccine virus into the arm of a child. 1813 D. MILNE in *Home Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 150, I gave his phial of vaccine matter to a Dr. Staunton. 1880 *A. Flint's Princ. Med.* 1043 The vesicles..contain a transparent, viscid liquid called the vaccine lymph. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 644 Essential constituents of vaccine lymph.

3. *Vaccine inoculation*, = VACCINATION 1.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 310 Extracts of Letters on the Vaccine Inoculation. 1800 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europe* 182/2 Dr. Jenner, the discoverer of the vaccine inoculation. 1806 R. WILLAN (*title*), On Vaccine Inoculation.

b. Connected with vaccination.

1812 *Examiner* 21 Sept. 597/2 The National Vaccine Establishment has..published its report. 1826 J. RING (*title*), A caution against vaccine swindlers and impostors.

4. Derived from, pertaining or relating to, cows.

1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 242 We have milk.., butter,..cheese. All this is vaccine matter. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 10 June, Cows ..executed a kind of comic vaccine war dance. 1881 S. R. MACPHAIL *Relig. House of Pluscardyn* ii. 31 When any animal about the farm became ill, there was generally to be found some skilled person who professed vaccine medical knowledge.

Va·ccine, *v.* *rare*—1. = VACCINATE *v.* 1.

1803 MAR. EDGEWORTH *To-morrow* Wks. 1832 V. 355, I think we had better have him vaccined.

Vaccinee (væksinī·). *rare.* [Cf. prec. and -EE 1.] One who is, or has been, vaccinated.

1889 *Buck's Ref. Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 518 Vaccinees of twelve or more years. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 594 The three groups of vaccinees (vaccinated on the same day) to which these children belonged.

‖ **Vaccinia** (væksi·niă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. L. *vaccin-us* VACCINE *a.*] Cow-pox.

Recent Dicts. also give *vaccinella* and *vacciniola* as names of spurious or secondary eruptions sometimes following upon vaccination.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 357 The Small-pox will never be extirpated till every parent is in the habit of inserting the vaccinia in the arm of his child. 1842 BURDOSS *Dis. Skin* 129 Genuine vaccinia is sometimes developed on the hands of ostlers. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 52 In other cases it precedes an attack of smallpox, attends vaccinia, and is common in children.

Hence **Vacci·nial** *a.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 572 A generalised vaccinial eruption has been produced in children who had sucked their vaccination pocks.

Vaccinide (væ·ksinəid). *Path.* [a. F. *vaccinide*, f. *vaccine* VACCINE *a.*] (See quot. 1889.)

1889 CROOKSHANK *Hist. Vaccination* II. 552 The Lyons Commission is unwilling to admit the existence of generalized vaccinal eruptions, or vaccinides. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 571 The only decisive test whether an eruption following vaccination be a true 'vaccinide' or not.

Vaccinifer (væksi·nifər). [f. VACCINE *sb.*] A person (esp. a child) acting as the transmitter of vaccine virus.

1868 BALLARD *Vaccination* 355 The admixture of blood from the vessels of the syphilitic vaccinifer. 1898 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 94 When the blood of a syphilitic vaccinifer is transferred..to a non-syphilitic subject. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 24/2 The circumstance that the calf..becomes the vaccinifer, instead of the child.

Hence **Vaccini·ferous** *a.*

1889 HARRIES tr. *Warlomont's Anim. Vaccination* 23 The vacciniferous property of 'the grease'.

Vacci·niform, *a. Path.* [f. VACCINIA.] Resembling cow-pox. (In recent Dicts.)

Va·ccinine. Also -in. [Cf. VACCINE *sb.* and *a.*, VACCINIA.] 'The specific contagion of cow-pox.' (In recent Dicts.)

Vacciniola: see note to VACCINIA.

Vaccinist (væ·ksinist). [f. VACCINE *sb.* or *a.* + -IST. Cf. *anti-vaccinist* (1822).] A vaccinator; a supporter or advocate of vaccination.

1847 WEBSTER, *Vaccinist*, one who inoculates with the cow-pox. 1883 *Vaccination Inquirer* IV. 189 The most insolent and fanatical vaccinist on the Metropolitan bench. 1898 *Daily News* 2 Apr. 4 From the point of view of the strict vaccinists and from that of the anti-vaccinists.

‖ **Vaccinium** (væksi·niŏm). *Bot.* [L. *vaccinium* bilberry (?).] a. A large genus of plants, chiefly belonging to the northern hemisphere, many species of which bear edible berries. b. One or other species of this genus; *spec.* a bilberry.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vaccinium*, a Black-berry, a Bilberry, or Hurtle-berry; also a Violet-flower. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Vaccinium*, in botany, a name by which some authors have called the great bilberry, or *vitis idæa magna* of other writers. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 372 In structure [this is]certainly different from the other Vaccinium. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. II. 269 It feeds upon the berries..of the vaccinium. 1882 *Garden* 29 Apr. 292/2 Vacciniums mix well with American plants. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* III. 36 The dense mass of tender leaved vaccinium.

Vaccinization (væksinəizē·ʃən). [a. F. *vaccinisation*, f. *vaccine* VACCINE *sb.*] Vaccination continued or repeated until the vaccine virus has no effect.

1889 *Buck's Ref. Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 515 In Holland, a modified vaccinization has been practised for a long time, ten insertions being made upon each subject.

Vaccino-, combining form of VACCINE *sb.* or *a.*, or of VACCINIA, as in *vaccinophobia* (1899), *vaccino-syphilis*, *vaccino-syphilitic* adj.

1868 BALLARD *Vaccination* 362 The dread of performing a vaccino-syphilitic inoculation. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 94 Vaccino-syphilis may be transferred by means of vaccination. 1885 HARRIES tr. *Warlomont's Anim. Vaccination* 78 The most pronounced case of vaccino-syphilis.

Vaccinogenic, *a. rare.* [f. VACCINE *sb.*] Producing vaccine; vaccinal.

1889 CROOKSHANK *Hist. Vaccination* II. 585 According to some, the vaccinogenic eruption is never spontaneous in the cow.

So **Vaccinogenous** *a.* (1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*)

Vaccinoid, *sb.* or *a. Path.* [f. VACCINE *sb.* or *a.*, or VACCINIA. Cf. F. *vaccinoïde* vaccinide.] (See quots.)

1880 A. *Flint's Princ. Med.* [1044 Incomplete vaccinia, *vaccinoid*, as it was termed by Trousseau. *Ibid.*] 1045 Partial success, as shown by imperfect or vaccinoid vesicles, is still more common.

‖ **Vaccíola.** *Obs.* [mod.L. (Stokes), f. *vacca* cow.] Cow-pox; vaccinia.

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 454 The incised part bore the characteristic marks of pure Vacciola. 1804 *Ibid.* XII. 440 Small-pox inoculation after vacciola.

† **Vaccíolate**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To vaccinate. So **Vacciola·tion**, **Vaccíolator**.

1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 242 The French inaccuracy, which many of our most eminent vacciolators so complaisantly adopt. *Ibid.* 440, I know many who..have by design vacciolated themselves after the small-pox. *Ibid.* 441 The effect of vacciolation (inoculation of vacciolous matter).

† **Vaccíolous**, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec.] = VACCINE *a.* 2.

1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 242 Vacciolous matter is matter of vacciola or cow-pock.

Vach, obs. Sc. f. WATCH. **Vache**, obs. f. VETCH.

† **Va·chery.** *Obs.* Also 4 **vacherie**, 5 **-erye**, **-yre.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vacherie*, f. *vache* cow.] = VACCARY. Also *attrib.*

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 28 Recouerer..þoru forme þat him is i-graunted þoru acheson of wind mulle, bercherie, vacherie, auoiting of his curt. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 618 *Vaccarium*, a vacherye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 507/2 Vacherye, or dayrye, *vaccaria, armentarium.* 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 191/1 Of the two Vachyres called Brenand and Whytledale. 1650 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1871) XXIII. 296 The vachery lands..are not included in the valluacon. *Ibid.*, [The] litle stone gate below the vachery.

Vacht, obs. Sc. form of WAUGHT *v.*

Vacillancy (væ·silănsi). Now *rare.* [f. next. See -ANCY and cf. It. *vacillanza.*] Vacillation.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. xviii, That Vacillancy in humane Souls, and such Mutations as are found in corporeal matter. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. i. § v. (1699) 8 The committing these Crimes may be occasioned by levity and vacillancy of judgment in minors. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. 95 That the weakness and vacillancy of this Method may yet more clearly appear. 1811 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) I. x. 253 My mind was in a state of vacillancy and discomfort.

Vacillant (væ·silănt), *a.* [ad. L. *vacillant-*, *vacillans*, pres. pple. of *vacillāre*: see next. So F. *vacillant* (14th c.).]

1. Uncertain, hesitating, wavering.

1521 *Bradshaw's St. Werburge, Ball. to St. Werburge* 2 With hert contrite accepte my supplicacion, Aydynge my fraylete and lyfe vacillaunt. 1668 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) p. v, Because the reason of Universal Nature, and of Man, ought to stand firm on all sides, and to be no where vacillant. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 715/1 The vacillant, magnanimous, simple-hearted Lavin.

2. *Ent.* Unsteady; swaying readily.

1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1319/1 *Vacillans*, applied to anthers when they are oblong, attached by the middle of their length, and mobile; vacillant.

Vacillate, *ppl. a.* [Cf. next and -ATE 2.] Vacillating, unsteady.

1830 W. PHILLIPS *Mt. Sinai* I. 74 With purpose vacillate, and changed resolve, He follow'd Israel.

Vacillate (væ·silēt), *v.* [f. L. *vacillāt-*, ppl. stem of *vacillāre* to sway, stagger, totter, etc., whence also F. *vaciller* (1314), It. *vacillare*, Pg. *vacillar*, Sp. *vacilar.*]

1. *intr.* To swing or sway unsteadily; to be in unstable equilibrium; to stagger.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* c j b, Those which are too longe doe vacillate, and turne this way and that way in the hand. 1721 BAILEY, *To Vacillate*, to..stagger, waggle, or shake. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 505 Whether the earth, during the agitation of the waters, does rock and vacillate,..is what I shall leave to future inquiry. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxii, When a spheroid..turns upon an axis which is not permanent,..it is always liable to shift and vacillate from one axis to another. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 175 Lawless, vacillating on his feet, and still shouting the chorus of sea-ballads, took the long tiller in his hands.

b. To vary; to hover doubtfully.

1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 231 The fate of books vacillates with the fancies of book-lovers. 1873 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 2) § 186 Among the words which still vacillate between the two sounds of EA, is the word *break.*

c. To fluctuate; to produce varying results.

1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xv. 235 In the course of these attempts at discovering and maintaining the best temperature, it [an apparatus for condensing the vapour] was found to vacillate.

2. To alternate or waver between different opinions or courses of action.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vacillate*, to wauer, to be inconstant. 1661 R. BURNEY *K. Chas. presented* 9 His Majesties wrath ..causes the spirit of the ill-affected to vacillate. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. ii. 19 In his last years he stood alone, and never less vacillated in his conduct. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Painters* II. III. ili. § 2. 179 *note*, He may pause, but he must not hesitate,—and tremble, but he must not vacillate. 1891 BP. CREIGHTON in Mrs. Creighton *Life* (1904) II. i. 22 You can judge if you look within; you vacillate if you look without.

b. Freq. const. *between.*

1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. xiii. 217 His looks appeared to be strangely vacillating between hope and fear. 1890 M'COSH *Div. Govt.* II. ii. (1874) 212 The superstitious man vacillates..between hope and fear, between self-confidence and despondency.

Vacillating, *ppl. a.* [f. prec.]

1. Of persons: Given to vacillation.

a 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 309 The bad Have fairly earned a victory o'er..The vacillating, inconsistent good. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princ.* II. 57 This vacillating man ..wrote a second time. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 86 The vacillating sinner,..impelled by his sufferings, yet presenting a passive resistance. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 232 The vacillating monarch restored the fishing privilege.

2. Of conduct, etc.: Marked by vacillation.

1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. v. 138 [The] address..throws a clear and steady light on the vacillating conduct of Charles the First. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 255 Very unwillingly..he was compelled to act his vacillating part to England. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xli, The vacillating expression of a mind unable to concentrate itself strongly.

3. Of things: a. Varying, changeful. b. Unsteady, swaying.

1828 SCOTT *Peveril* i, Following the vacillating and un-

Pompeii IV. v, He..rushed with swift but vacillating steps down the starlit streets.

Hence **Va·cillatingly** *adv.*

a 1849 POE *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 365 He has made successful and frequent incursions, although vacillatingly, into the domain of the true Imagination.

Vacillation (væsilē·ʃən). Also 5 **-acion.** [ad. L. *vacillātio*, noun of action f. *vacillāre* VACILLATE *v.* So F. *vacillation* (1512), It. *vacillazione*, Pg. *vacillação*, Sp. *vacilacion.*]

The action or quality of alternating or wavering in respect of opinion or conduct; hesitation, uncertainty.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxx. 80 Tho that ben naturelle of the same countre withouten vacillacion wille done theyr deuoyre. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Vacillation*, inconstancy, wauering. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. III*, Wks. (1711) 40 That the friendship begun might continue without all vacillation. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 201 This vacillation of thoughts is in some the consequent of their very constitution. 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* (Oxf. ed.) I. 204 Christopher Smart, with whose unhappy vacillation of mind he sincerely sympathised. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. iii. 34 In the vacillation of the disputants, victory hung on the subtilty of an argument. *a* 1853 F. ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. vii. (1876) 49 There is such an indecision, such a vacillation about the man. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 365 Elizabeth .. screened her .. statesmanship under the natural timidity and vacillation of her sex.

b. An instance of this.

1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. v. 116 The agents on both sides were shocked at the vacillations of their own Cabinets. 1879 CHURCH *Spenser* 22 When all about her [Elizabeth] were dismayed both at the plan itself and at her vacillations.

2. The action, or an act, of swaying or swinging unsteadily to and fro.

Quot. 1633 is a rendering of St. Augustine *De Rect. Cath. Conv.* § 5, where the reading *vacillationes* is doubtful.

1633 PRYNNE *1st Pt. Histrio-m.* 27 To prohibit the vse of all diabolicall Enterludes, Vacillations, and songs of the Gentiles. 1635 H. VALENTINE *Sea-Serm.* 57 The second effect of a tempest is the vacillation, staggering, and trepidation of their bodies. 1722-8 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* v. ii. (1739) II. 667 To keep the Body upright, and prevent its falling, by readily assisting against every Vacillation thereof. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xi. § 5. 220 The bones of the feet.. are put in action by every slip or vacillation of the body, and seem to assist in restoring its balance. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 233 For this cause did the intelligent creature repose (though not indeed without vacillation) on the lower perch.

3. Variation between extremes. *rare* —1.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 160 We shall then have..the double menstrual parallax, or vacillation, arising from the whole diameter of the epicycle, 14″.

Vacillator (væ·silētəɹ). [f. VACILLATE *v.*] One who vacillates or wavers.

1820 *Spectator* 30 July, If we win,..the vacillators will flock over to the Unionist standard. 1901 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Nov. 590/2 He..is now but a querulous vacillator.

Vacillatory (væ·silătŏri), *a.* [f. VACILLATE *v.*]

1. Marked by vacillation.

a 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. i. (1740) 95 If ever such vacillatory Accounts of Affairs of State, Kings and Monarchies, were given in Print before, I am mistaken. *a* 1835 M'CULLOCH *Attributes* (1837) xlii. III. 89 The details are far too numerous or obscure or vacillatory to admit of a place here. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* II. viii. 118 My political course, I must acknowledge, has been rather vacillatory.

2. Of persons: Tending to vacillate.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VII. iii. III. 183 Hildebrand.. for the first time..is vacillatory, hesitating, doubtful. 1876 TROLLOPE *Amer. Senator* xxxiv, The Postmaster, half vacillatory, in his desire to oblige a neighbour produced the letter.

Vacive, *a. rare* —0. [ad. L. *vacīvus*]. 'Empty, void' (1656 Blount *Glossogr.*). Hence **Vaci·vity**, 'emptiness' (1721 Bailey).

† **Va·cuate**, *pa. pple. Obs.* —1 [ad. L. *vacuātus*, pa. pple. of *vacuāre*: see next.] Made empty.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 339 Philippus..scholde destroye sone the cite if that hit were vacuate and voide of discrete men.

† **Va·cuate**, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *vacuāt-*, ppl. stem of *vacuāre* (hence It. *vacuare*) to empty, clear, free, f. *vacuus*: see VACUUM.]

1. *trans.* a. To clear out; = EVACUATE *v.* 5.

1572 J. JONES *Bucklers Bathes Benefyte* 15 b, Galen willeth to vacuat, clense, or empty, that which is euill. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 49 That so the superfluous humidity of his stomach may be vacuated. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 165 Senny, Rhabarb..vacuate flegm also. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* I. 158/2 We have..portable ventilators which are continually employed in vacuating the foul air from our hold.

b. To empty; = EVACUATE *v.* 1.

1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. vi. 239 If he that hath been once abundantly vacuated, must necessarily relapse into the same disease. 1684 *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 84 When the Heart-burn is violent, we must not vacuate the whole Body. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 84 Its so well vacuated by boiling the quicksilver in the tube, that I depend on its being luminous after being carried so far.

2. To annul, cancel, abrogate, set aside; = EVACUATE *v.* 4.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. x. 129 Toboso too was flesh and blood; and how If some great Prince should vacuate her vow? 1682 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* xiii. Wks. 16 II. 104 Which Law vacuates and makes null and void ‖ Laws of Man, ipso facto, that are made to the contrary. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) II. 234 There can be no Laws contrived..but what they can vacuate.

Hence † **Va·cuating** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1684 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 125 They may act Eregularly, to ye Vacuating and Insecurity of such acts and Judgments of ye said Courts.

† **Vacua·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *vacuātio*, f. L. *vacuāre* VACUATE *v.* So It. *vacuazione*, Pg. *vacuação.*]

1. A vacuity or hollow part.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* D 2 [Of bones] They that haue the embossynges and vacuacyons be they that make the ioyntes.

2. = EVACUATION 1 a, 1 b.

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* 54 Through abundant swets, and all other immoderate vacuations. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 284 The vacuation of blood & seede, is a dubble charge to nature. 1635 A. READ *Tumors & Ulcers* 197 The vacuation of the humor impacted in the part. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 45 Which distinction is taken from the manner of excretion or vacuation. 1721 BAILEY, *Vacuation*, an emptying.

3. Emptiness. *rare.*

1611 FLORIO, *Vacuatione*, emptinesse, vacuation, vacuity, voidnesse. *a* 1666 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol Soc.) I. 103 They very joyfull handlinge the same [a trunk], found it promisinge noe vacuation, but verie heavy.

† **Va·cuative.** *Obs. rare* —1. [f. VACUATE *v.*] = EVACUATIVE *sb.*

1696 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 318 The vital spirits..are consumed by heat, malignity, vacuatives, grief.

Vacu·efy, *v.* [f. VACUUM, after L. *vacuefactre* to make empty.] To produce a vacuum.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *To Vacuefy*, to make void or empty. 1828 D. CRAIGIE *Path. Anat.* 175 Vacuefying apparatus.. found in the upper surface of the head of the sucking fish.

† **Va·cuist.** *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *vacuista*, f. *vacuum* VACUUM. So It. and Sp. *vacuista*, F. *vacuiste.*] One who maintains the possibility of a vacuum in nature.

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* xvii. 120 Those spaces which the Vacuists would have to be empty, because they are manifestly devoid of Air, and all the grosser bodies

1684 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 132 The second Hypothesis 's of the Vacuists. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* (1683) Notes 14 Mr. Hobs adds another Argument, which is of no force against the Vacuists.

† Vacuitous, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. next.] Having the nature of a vacuum; empty of matter.

1766 G. CANNING *Anti-Lucretius* III. 172 Where'er a spot vacuitous is found, There you must own that Matter feels a bound.

Vacuity (væki·ĭti). Also 6 vacuytee, 6–7 vacuitie, 7 vacuety. [ad. L. *vacuitās* empty space, vacancy, freedom, etc., f. *vacuus*: see VACUUM. So F. *vacuité* (1314), It. *vacuità*, Sp. *vacuidad*, Pg. *vacuidade*.]

I. 1. Absolute emptiness of space; complete absence of matter.

1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* I. ii. 4 b, Epicurus ..putteth two Causes Atomos or Motes and Vacuitie or emptinesse. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* i. 2 For him ..The Horisons and hemespheres obay, And windes the fillers of vacuitie. *c* 1626 DONNE *Serm.* Wks. 1839 IV. 20 Water will clamber up hills and Air will sink down into Vaults rather than admit Vacuity. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* [illegible] rise from nothing in Vacuity. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vacuum*, But mere Space, or Vacuity, is suppos'd to be extended; therefore it is material. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 231 A large portion of interspersed vacuity is sufficient for all purposes. 1865 G. OUTRAM *Law Lyrics, The Annuity* viii, She beats the taads that live in stanes An' fatten in vacuity.

b. With *a*, *no*, etc. (Passing into 8.)

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1021 There is no voidnesse or vacuity in nature. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 54 So the laws of nature will admit of many things contrary to nature, rather then endure a vacuity. 1704 RAY *Creation* I. 83 Nature's abhorrence of a Vacuity.

transf. a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 244 In the first vacuity, when thou wast nothing he sought thee so early as in Adam. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* (1840) 237 To prevent a vacuity, (the detestation of nature,) a new plantation was soon substituted in their room.

2. Emptiness consisting in the absence of solid or liquid matter.

1579 G. BAKER *Guydo's Quest.* 12 Some [bones] are embossed for to enter, and other haue vacuity that receiueth. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 156 The vacuity of the depleted veins doth attract the bloud beneath. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* II. 10 This vacuity of the arteries upon death, was one of the objections urged very forcibly by the ancients against the circulation of the blood.

b. Absence of any of the visible objects usually occupying certain spaces; complete emptiness in respect of things or persons.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 268 Leading him to a dark deep well,..but terrified with the vacuity and darknesse, he retired. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* XV, The princess and her maid,..seeing nothing to bound their prospect, considered themselves as in danger of being lost in a dreary vacuity. 1773 — in *Boswell* (1816) II. 404 Madam, I do not like to come down to vacuity. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XX, Such sunbeams as forced their way through the narrow Gothic lattices..and..lost themselves in the vacuity of the vaults behind. 1842 H. ROGERS *Introd. Burke's Wks.* 67 The grim spectres..who stalk from desolation to desolation, through the dreary vacuity..of chill and comfortless chambers. 1892 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 139/1 As he gazed, a moving spot intruded on the white vacuity of its perspective.

c. The fact of being unfilled or unoccupied.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 41 But 'tis cheaper to supply the vacuity of such accidental decays by a new plantation. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 168 To fill the vacant thrones of me and mine, Which affront Heaven with their vacuity.

3. The quality or fact of being empty, in various fig. senses.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 247 To make them feele the emptinesse, vacuity, and no worth of man. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* XVI. 169 The most generall [cause of desire]..is a Vacuity, Indigence, and selfe-insufficiency of the Soule. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. Myst. O. & N. T.* I. 289 They have the most light to discover to themselves their own vacuity and nothingness. 1806 A. KNOX *Rem.* I. 91 It would follow that..the great central appetite of intellectual man..was abandoned to the self-torture of irremediable vacuity. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vi. (1872) 206 Here is an abyss of vacuity in our much-admired opulence. 1889 PATER *Marius* II. 144 It was an experience which came in the midst of a deep sense of vacuity in things.

b. Emptiness (in fig. senses) as a condition or state having a kind of real existence.

a 1721 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 409 Thou all-sufficient art, and I Am nothing but vacuity. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 141 P 9 Think on the misery of him who is condemned to cultivate barrenness and ransack vacuity. 1776 — *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 30 Mar., I know that a whole system of hopes, and designs, and expectations, is swept away at once, and nothing left but bottomless vacuity. 1829 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (1830) 25 The drear Vacuity of sorrow on thee lay. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* VI. (1904) 245 Having once parted with Reality, he tumbles helpless in Vacuity. 1888 P. FITZGERALD *Fatal Zero* IV, In my lonely blue chamber, there is a sort of vacuity for thought, the world is shut out.

4. Complete absence of ideas; vacancy of mind or thought.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. vi. § 1 Men..are at the first without vnderstanding or knowledge at all. Neuerthelesse from this vtter vacuitie they grow by degrees. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., Mores Politicus* (1860) 27 Which will availe him little; but to be an indicium of his own vacuity and emptiness of all solidity. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 363 The Pulse,..if it be weak,..indicates Vacuity and Fear. 1773 HAN. MORE *Search after Happ.* II, Though more to folly than to guilt inclined, A drear vacuity possess'd my mind. 1828 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* XV, Imputing to fatigue of body, what in fact was the consequence of mental vacuity, he proposed returning home. 1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* XVII, She heard and saw all that passed; but in place of heart and sense, was a dead vacuity. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I. i. 9 We cannot so far lull our faculty of thought as to realise the mental vacuity of the savage.

b. Const. *of* (eye, mind, thought).

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. i, That perplexed vacuity of eye which puzzled souls generally stare with. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 297 'Tis thus the understanding takes repose In indolent vacuity of thought. 1829 CORBETT *Adv. Young Man* v. 247 A great fondness for music is a mark of..great vacuity of mind. 1869 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xx. 307 He frequents low dissolute haunts from no graver cause than idleness and vacuity of mind. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 183 We may be sure that the vacuity of thought in which most men live was for Saul a thing impossible.

5. Complete absence or lack *of* something.

1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xlv. (1631) 251 Which vacuitie of vertue at that time will breede more terrour to him then darknesse to children. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 172 Christ is a sufficient store to a poore soule in the vacuity of other things. 1698 J. COCKBURN *Bourignianism Detected* I. 7 She .. was in an admirable vacuity of all Desire of knowing. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. vi, When he is quite tired of his existence, from a total vacuity of ideas, he must affect a look of absence. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 118 There is as much character in his air and manner as there is vacuity of it in the countenance of..St. Etienne. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 46 To contemplate the body and mind .. at birth .. as consisting equally of a blank or vacuity of impressions.

† 6. Complete freedom or exemption *from* something. *Obs.*

a 1629 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. xii. § 1 The soule cannot haue in it, any true ioy,..vnlesse the same be founded, both in security, and in confidence, and in tranquillity. All which do imply a vacuity from feare. 1648 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 246 By the Evenness of the Mind and the Vacuity from those secret lashes..that haunt a guilty Conscience. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 429 A well-grounded vacuity or freedom from all troublesome, distracting, and tormenting fears and cares.

7. † a. Leisure *for* some pursuit. *Obs.*—1

1607 *Scholast. Disc. agst. Antichrist* I. iii. 137 From this preposterousnesse of the Crosse setting the sense before the spirite, come wee to his Vacuitie for his inwarde Devotion.

b. Lack of occupation; idleness.

1827 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. II. ix. 389 A whole race of men..whom the pain of vacuity forced upon some application of mind. 1875 A. R. HOPE *My Schoolboy F.* 72 The hours of thoughtful vacuity I had spent.

II. 8. A hollow or enclosed space empty of matter; *esp.* a small internal cavity or interstice of this kind in a solid body.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* D ij, Some [bones] are enbossed for to entre, and other haue vacuytees that receyueth. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 330 That so those places being emptied..the vacuety may be replenished with better blood. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lxv. 10 The earth ..sinks down and fills up the vacuities. 1677 GREW *Anat. Pl.* (1682) 300 There are Vacuities in Water. That is to say, [illegible]DLEY hard least vacuity or interstice being to be seen. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 422 Every particle of light that issues from the sun, must leave a spherical vacuity of one millionth of one millionth of an inch diameter. 1800 *Ibid.* XC. 235 A wad was placed over the powder, dry sand superadded, to fill all vacuities. 1840 *Jrnl. Engl. Agric. Soc.* I. III. 355 Water in descending seeks the nearest vacuity. 1872 DANA *Corals* I. 38 The polyp has..no blood-vessels but the vacuities among the tissues.

b. A cosmic space empty of matter.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 49 When this sensible world shall be destroyed, all shall then be here as it is now there, an Empyreall Heaven, a quasi vacuitie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 932 That seat soon failing, [he] meets A vast vacuitie. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* 75 Whilst their numberless Atoms wildly rov'd in their infinite Vacuity. 1795 W. BLAKE *Bk. Los* IV, The Deep fled away On all sides, and left an unform'd Dark Vacuity.

9. An empty space left or contrived in something, esp. in some composite work or structure.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* (1672) 26 To place the Columnes precisely one over another, that so the solid may answer to the solid, and the vacuities to the vacuities. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Waltham Abbey* (1840) 257 The great pillars thereof are wreathed with indentings; which vacuities, if formerly filled up with brass,..added much to the beauty of the building. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 55/2 The vacuities whichrare left between the back..of the Arch, and the upright of the Wall. 1773 JOHNSON *West. Isl.* Wks. X. 509 Round which there are narrow cavities or recesses formed by small vacuities or by a double wall. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 405 Rooms are the interior vacuities or habitable parts of a building. 1848 *Florist's Jrnl.* 67 An ingeniously contrived trap for earwigs,..leaving a vacuity for the reception of the insects. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 8 By a vacuity in the skull walls for the blood to pass out from the lateral sinus.

b. An open space, gap, or interval left between or among things. *rare.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* II. P 12 Whereby the Elephants passing the vacuities of the *Hastati*, might have run upon them. 1797 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* I. lv, The Scots and Picts..rushed with redoubled violence into this vacuity. 1865 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 152 The market-place..of the town is a rather spacious and irregularly shaped vacuity.

c. An empty space due to the disappearance or absence of some special thing.

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 227 He has also seen others..reproduce a smaller or larger number of teeth to supply vacuities progressively produced in earlier life. 1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxvii. 413 Those dark vacuities called 'coal sacks' by the ancient navigators, which are so numerous between α Centauri and α Antaris. 1867–77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* VI. iv. 519 The central vacuity is not quite dark.

10. An emptiness, an empty space, a blank, in various fig. uses.

a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 5 A filling of all former vacuities, a supplying of all emptinesses in our soule. 1692 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 325 In this age, when men may say any thing if they have but Rhetorick to fill up the Vacuities. 1822 W. OWTRAM *Serm.* 342 Our Saviour..filled up the vacuities that Moses had left in moral duties. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 286 Each want of happiness by hope supply'd, And each vacuity of sense by pride. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. ii. (1869) 303 Whatever vacuities this excessive circulation occasioned in the necessary coin of the kingdom. 1841 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. x, But yesterday I saw a dreary vacuity in this direction in which now I see so much. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* i, Oh those Sabbaths..when there was nothing to fill up the long vacuity but books of which I did not understand a word.

11. An empty or inane thing.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XI. lxviii, That with those huge ador'd Vacuities, Which puff the World up with their frothy flood, Ev'n massy Gold must counted be. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 311 The Prince, by the Concessions of these Honorary Vacuities, redeeming the War from delay. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* I. iv, Thou for one wilt not again vote for any quack, do honour to any edge-gilt vacuity in man's shape.

‖ **Vacuo** (in the phrase *in vacuo*): see IN (Latin prep.) 20.

Vacuolar (væ·kiu,ōlăi), *a.* [ad. F. *vacuolaire*, f. *vacuole* VACUOLE.] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, a vacuole or vacuoles.

1852 *Zoologist* X. 3406 He [Huxley] next mentioned appearances which he terms vacuolar thickenings. 1899 J. R. GREENE *Protozoa* 43 In some specimens the central cavity is replaced by an aggregation of large vacuolar spaces. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 141 The interior of these frequently contains vacuolar spaces.

So **Va·cuolary** *a.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 907 Ehrlich says that changes are to be found in the hepatic cells—a 'vacuolary' degeneration.

Va·cuolate, *a.* = next.

1890 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXX. 6 In some cases the stalk has a vacuolate structure.

Vacuolated (væ·kiu,ōlēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. VACUOLE: cf. next.] Rendered vacuolar; modified or altered by vacuolation.

1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 84 The cavity of the base of the involucrum appears to become filled up by vacuolated tissue. 1878 F. J. BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 24 There are often vacuolated spaces in the cells, which are filled with a fluid. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 211 Cell invaginations, the protoplasm of which is highly vacuolated.

Vacuolation (væ·kiu,ōlēi·ʃən). [f. next: cf. prec. and -ATION.] The formation of vacuoles; change to a vacuolar state.

1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 318 In other cases it would appear that a number of cells are formed by a process of vacuolation. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 329 Vacuolation—denoting the spontaneous resolution of part of a more or less dense structure in such a way as to give rise to a cavity or cavities within it. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 508 Vacuolation of the nerve-cell is peculiarly frequent in senile brain atrophy.

Vacuole (væ·kiu,ōul). [a. F. *vacuole* (Dujardin), f. L. *vacu-us* empty.]

1. A small cavity or vesicle in organic tissue or protoplasm, freq. containing some fluid.

a. *Zool.* and *Anat.* 1853 *Ray Soc. Bot. & Physiol. Mem.* 534 All these properties had already been observed by Dujardin;..the aqueous spaces or hollows he named 'Vacuoles', regarding them as the most characteristic feature of the substance. 1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 10 The structure of the villi and vacuoles in *Athorybia*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 224 Into the vacuoles or loculi of this net-work the serum exudes.

b. *Bot.* 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Plants* XV. 351 Two or three vacuoles or small spheres appeared within some of the larger globules. 1888 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 280 In numerous succulents the vacuoles of the assimilating cells frequently contain a thin mucus.

attrib. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 585 The centre of the sac is filled in the unripe seed with a clear vacuole-fluid.

2. An empty or open space (in a comet).

1881 *Science* II. 317 In this envelope was a curious oval vacuole, behind the nucleus, but on the preceding side of the axis of the tail.

Va·cuolisation. [f. prec.] = VACUOLATION. Cf. *vacuolised* = vacuolated. (In recent use.)

1882 *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Jan. 4 What is the nature of the vacuolisation? 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 168 Small and large neuroglia cells,..in a state of vacuolisation and progressive liquefaction.

Vacuous (væ·kiuəs), *a.* [f. L. *vacu-us* empty, void, free, clear, etc. (cf. VACUUM) + -OUS.]

† 1. Not properly filled out or developed. *Obs.*—1

1652 SMALLWOOD *Commend. Verses to W. Cartwright's Wks.*, False Vacuous Births in every street we see: But seldome, true and ripen'd, such as He.

2. Empty of matter; not occupied or filled with anything solid or tangible.

1654–60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 374/1 It were impossible for one body to make another to recede, if the triple dimension..were vacuous. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 226 Wil they say that these Atomes were introduced or produced in this vacuous space in time? 1794 R. J. SULIVAN

View Nat. IV. 3 He contended, that thunder or sound would not be able to pass through walls,...unless there were some vacuous spaces in those bodies. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II. vi. Comm. p. xxiii, He notices many natural circumstances which..demonstrate the vacuous natures of all substances. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxiv. 356 The water..is not able to fill it, hence a vacuous space must be formed in the cell.

b. Empty of air or gas; in which a vacuum has been produced.

1669 Boyle *Contin. New Exp.* II. (1682) 158, I put Pears bruised into a vacuous Reciever. 1844 E. A. Parnell *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 490 The difference between its weight when containing the gas, and when vacuous. 1866 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 4) 59 No air is given off from the bubbles, so they seem to be vacuous. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 233 In incandescent lamps the electric current heats up a carbon filament inclosed in a vacuous globe.

c. *Bot.* Not containing some part or feature usually present.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1199/2 Bracts which usually support flowers are said to be vacuous when they have no flower in their axils.

d. Empty of any visible object.

1877 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 255 As the flies of a summer day dart from point to point in the vacuous air.

3. Empty of ideas; unintelligent; expressionless. Cf. Vacant *a.* 5.

1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* x, A vacuous, solemn..Snob. 1883 *Standard* 2 Jan. 5/2 The absence of anxiety..leaves their minds vacuous. 1889 *Times* 26 Oct. 9/1 That gift of oppressive familiarity which by some vacuous people is taken to indicate..sterling sense.

Comh. 1895 'H. S. Merriman' *Grey Lady* I. iii. (1899) 28 He was rather a vacuous-looking young man.

b. Indicative of mental vacancy.

1848 Thackeray *Newcomes* II. 25 With that vacuous leer which distinguishes his lordship. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* vi. 55 Those negative faces with their vacuous eyes and stony lineaments. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xx. 320 There was a cheery, vacuous, smiling expression on his round face.

Comh. 1895 M'Carthy *Own Times* v. I. 116 A huge white-headed, vacuous-eyed man was to be seen.

4. Devoid of content or substance.

1870 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 56 The vacuous monotonous desire and discontent, the fitful and febrile beauty of Alfred de Musset. 1879 Howells *L. Arcostoh* (1883) I. 45 Mrs. Erwin wrote an epistolary style exasperatingly vacuous and diffuse.

5. Unoccupied, idle, indolent; not filled up with any (profitable) employment or activity.

1870 Morley *Voltaire* 334 It cannot for ever be tolerable that the mass should wear away their lives in unbroken toil without hope or aim, in order that the few may live selfish and vacuous days. 1897 *Review of Rev.* 37 There are many rich people who..lead such mean and vacuous lives.

Hence **Va·cuously** *adv.*; **Va·cuousness.**

1648 W. Mountague *Devout Ess.* I. 352 In that vacuousness the winds and vapors of tediousness and displicence rise. 1826 J. Gilchrist *Philos. Etym.* 226 The mistiness and vacuousness of abstract expression. 1880 *All Year Round* No. 88. 283 He had..a broad fair face, rather vacuously good natured in its ordinary expression. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 14 Feb., So there he stood, with his hands in his pockets,..gazing vacuously at the fighting and rough play.

‖ **Vacuum** (væ·kiŭm, *pl.* -ŭm). Pl. **vacua** and **vacuums.** [L. *vacuum*, neut. of *vacuus* empty: cf. Vacuous *a.* So F. *vacuum*, It., Sp., Pg. *vacuo.*]

1. Emptiness of space; space unoccupied by matter. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1550 Crannmer *Lord's Supper* 21 Naturall reason abhorreth *vacuum*, that is to say, that there shoulde be any emptye place, wherin no substance shoulde be. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* 35 This Arte is very profitable: to proue, that *Vacuum*, or Emptines is not in the world. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 83 The more gross of the Tangible Parts do contract and serve themselves together..to avoid *Vacuum*. 1657 Trapp *Ezra* ix. 6 For beyond the moveable Heavens, Aristotle..saith there is neither body, nor time, nor place, nor *vacuum*. 1676 *Poor Robin's Intell.* 30 May–6 June 1/1 Having his head as ful of Vacuum as his small proportion of brains was capable of. 1795 W. Blake *Bk. Los* i, Round the flames roll, .. mounting on high Into Vacuum, into nonentity, Where nothing was. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 76/1 The astronomical argument, therefore, in favour of *absolute* vacuum has fallen.

2. A space entirely empty of matter.

1607 A. Brewer *Lingua* iv. i, H i b, First shall the whole Machin of the world..returne to..Chaos, then the least vacuvm be found in the vniuerse. 1638 Wilkins *New World* I. (1684) 23 To dispute against Democritus, who thought, that the World was made by the casual concourse of Atoms in a great *Vacuum*. 1714 *Let. from Layman* (ed. 2) 7 A Government can't rightfully restrain a Man's professing the Belief of a *Vacuum*, or a *Plenum*. 1763 Johnson in *Boswell* 21 July, There are objections against a *plenum*, and objections against a *vacuum*; yet one of them must..be true. 1865 J. Grote *Plato* I. i. 80 Proceeding upon his hypothesis of atoms and vacua as the only objective existences. 1884 F. Temple *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* i. (1885) 8 The reasons why.. Nature abhors a vacuum were discovered.

b. A space empty of air, esp. one from which the air has been artificially withdrawn.

sing. 1658 French *Yorksh. Spa* ii. 7 So much air being spent, there would of necessity follow a *vacuum*. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 2 The Interest of the Ayr, in hindring the descent of the Quick-silver, in the famous Experiment touching a *Vacuum*. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* 8 *note*, The Ear-wig..and some other Insects would seem unconcerned at the Vacuum a good while, and lie as dead; but revive in the Air. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 299 The air contained therein is condensed, and leaves a *vacuum*, which the external air..tends to occupy. 1829 *Nat. Philos., Heat* I. ii. 2 (L.U.K.), Count Rumford proved the passage of heat through a Torricellian vacuum, that is, the space left at the top of a barometer by the falling. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geogr.* i. § 6 At the height of 80 or 90 miles there is a vacuum far more complete than any which we can produce by any air-pump. 1892 J. P. Cooke *New Chem.* 27 Alcohol expands more slowly into the aqueous vapor than it would into a vacuum. *pl.* 1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 679 That the vacua be as nearly as possible compleat. 1832 Brewster *Nat. Magic* x. 262 The plates, being raised or depressed by the voluntary muscles, form so many vacua.

3. An empty space; a portion of space (left) unoccupied or unfilled with the usual or natural contents.

1589 Nashe in *Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 12 The Scythians, who..swaddle themselues streighter, to the intent no *vacuum* beeing left in their intrayles [etc.]. *a* 1635 T. Randolph *Poems, Parley with his Empty Purse* (1640) 113 Unnatural vacuum, can your emptinesse Answer to some slight questions? 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* viii, He made a Dive into my Pocket, but encountring a Disappointment, Rub'd off, Cursing the *Vacuum*. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 241, I discovered a *Vacuum* upon the intercostal Muscles, from whence about a Spoonful of..Matter was discharged. 1791 H. Walpole in *Miss Berry's Jrnl.* I. 328, I shall fill my vacuum with some lines that General Conway has sent me. *a* 1838 C. Morris *Lyra Urbana.* (1840) II. 97 The Dandy's head, A vacuum dead, Ne'er tries for thought to seek!

b. In various fig. uses.

1627 Middleton *Fair Quar.* II. D iij b, I cannot see that *vacuum* in your bloud. 1830 Lennard tr. *Charron's Wisd.* vii. 33 It were a *vacuum*, a defect, a deformitie too absurd in nature..that betwixt two extreames..there should be no middle. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 10 Commonly they misspent that triennial probation, and left upon that place a *vacuum* of doing little or nothing. 1710 Palmer *Prov.* 384 'Tis infinitely pleasing to observe there has been no *Vacuum* in our Life. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 317 It should therefore seem that the larks from the more adjacent parts croud in to supply the vacuum occasioned by the London Epicures. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* ix, The.. vacuum occasioned by my mother's death. 1846 Grote *Greece* (1862) I. xvi. 294 They filled up the vacuum of the unrecorded past. 1879 R. H. Elliot *Written on Forch.* I. 140 So Martin Kerr..was left with a sheer, hopeless vacuum to fill up as best he could.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vacuum-brake, cleaner, cleanser, disk, distillation, engine, -made, -pan, -pump, -vessel.*

Also *vacuum-apparatus, -cylinder, -filter, -gauge, -shunt, -valve* (Knight, 1875–84).

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2686/1 **Vacuum-brake*, a form of steam-operated car-brake. 1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 168 The train is fitted throughout with vacuum brakes. 1903 *Hardwareman* 23 May 395 A decision of..serious import as regards the operations of the *Vacuum Cleaner Co. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 5/3 There is a machine at work, called the '*vacuum cleanser', which gives them all, in turn, a thorough 'spring cleaning'. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiii. 163 Sometimes the *vacuum disks were parallel to the veins [of the glacier]. 1899 tr. *R. von Jaksch's Clin. Diag.* v. (ed. 4) 170 Still better for this purpose is the method of *vacuum distillation. 1895 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 670 The application of Mr. Brown's pneumatic, or *vacuum engine. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 879 *Vacuum-made liqueurs. 1839 *Ibid.* 1208 An apparatus inserted air-tight into the cover of the *vacuum-pan. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 66 The syrup..is boiled down again in the vacuum pan, and is obtained in the form of..crushed sugar. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Vacuum-pump*, a pump attached to a marine steam-engine. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 323 Professor Dewar's coils and *vacuum-vessels.

Vad, southern ME. var. Fade *a.*[2]; obs. Sc. f. Wed *sb.*, Woad.

†**Va·dable**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also **vadeable.** [ad. med.L. *vadābilis* (f. *vadāre* to wade through) or a. Sp. *vadeable* (Pg. *vadeavel*, OF. *vadable*).] Fordable.

1555 Watreman *Fardle Facions* Pref. 12 To the ende thei [*sc.* the rivers] might not onely be vadable, but passed also with drie foote. 1578 T. N. tr. *Comp. W. India* 65 After hee had iourneyed three leagues, hee came to a faire vadeable Riuer. 1611 Florio, *Vadoso*, vadable, or foardable.

Vadam, southern ME. var. Fathom.

Vaddah, obs. form of Veddah.

†**Vade**, *sb. Obs.*–[1] [ad. L. *vadum.*] A shallow place in a river.

1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) V. 94 Irwel is not navigable but in sum Places for Vadys and Rokkes.

†**Vade**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [var. of Fade *v.*[1], chiefly used in fig. senses (very common *c* 1530–1630) and app. to some extent associated with L. *vādĕre* to go: see next, to which some of the quotations placed under 3–3 c may really belong.

This association may be the real explanation of the form, but see the note to Fade *a.*[2]]

1. *intr.* Of colour: = Fade *v.*[1] 4.

1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* Pref. in Ashm. (1652) 127 Colour whych wyll not vade. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 956 To vade, *ternir.* *a* 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* (1622) 378 How doth the colour vade of those vermillion dies. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* III. 45 As soone as the beautiful hew of the leaues begin to vade. 1623 *Answ. Uncasting Machiav.* E iv b, Whose colours never vade. 1647 C. Harvey *Schola Cordis* xvii. 4 The staines of sin I see Are vaded all, or di'd in graine.

2. Of flowers, etc.: = Fade *v.*[1] 1.

1492 [see 3 b]. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 894 Rose that can nat vade, *rose immarcessible.* 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 3 Small grayish leaues..the whiche do perish and vade in winter. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 80 One flourishing branch of his most Royall roote..Is hackt downe, and his summer leafes all vaded. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 22 Do not the flowers vade, and grasse die for her departure?

3. To pass away, disappear, vanish; to decay or perish; = Fade *v.*[1] 6.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xxxvi. 564 Aage that passyth & vadyth chaungyth tymes of thynges. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* (1550) 4 When he departed, the only sheilde, defence and comfort of the common people was vadid and gone. 1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 19 Yorme is most fraile,..it vadith as grasse doth growe. 1607 Middleton *Fam. Love* I. i, I know how soon their love vadeth. 1641 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlew.* 324 Where..beauty never fadeth, love never faileth, health never vadeth. *a* 1676 Marvell *Poems, Clorinda & Damon* (1681) 12 Grass withers; and the Flow'rs too fade. Seize the short loyes then, ere they vade.

b. Const. *from, into, to.*

1492 Ryman *Poems* lxxxiv. 2 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 253 As medowe floures..Vadeth to erthe..Likewise richesse and grete honoures Shall vade fro enery creature. *c* 1537 *Thersites* D ij, The cowherd of Comertowne, with his croked spade, Cause frome the the wormes soone to vade. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ii. 40 How euer gay their blossome or their blade Doe flourish now, they into dust shall vade. 1663 Cane *Eyt. to Author of Animad. First Lad* 96 All your talk in this your eighteenth chapter vades into nothing.

c. With *away.*

1530 *Proper Dyalogs* in *Rey's Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 133 Aftermynge that oure loue shuld a-way vade Without any memory of them at all. 1587 M. Grove *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 38 The time thus doth consume & wear, the night doth vade away. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrimes* II. 1761 The bankes of sand doe fleet and vade away out of the river.

†**Vade**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* [ad. L. *vādĕre* to go; cf. prec.] 1. To go away, depart. *rare.*

1569 Elyiden *Peistratus & Catanea* (Bynneman), Then proclamation made That Peistrate to proper solle should vade. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. (1818) 67 Beauty feedeth, beauty fadeth, Beauty lost, her lover vadeth.

2. To proceed, advance.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 5 You are too yonge to vade unto these graue matters.

Vade, obs. Sc. form of Wade *v.*

†**Vadelect.** *Obs.* Also 6 -lict. [ad. Anglo-L. *vadelectus*, *vadlectus* (13th c.), ad. AF. *vadlet*, var. OF. *vaslet*, *vallet*, *varlet*: see Valet *sb.* and Varlet.] A servant, serving-man.

1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* 161 The same French king, for want of a Herealde.., was constrained to subbornate a vadelict, or common seruing-man. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 156 But if the sheriffe be a Vadelect of the crowne or other meniall seruant of the King, there the challenge is good. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Vadelet* or *Vadelect*..signifies a servant, and is used in the accounts of the Inner Temple, for a Benchers Clerk or Servant.

So **Vadelet, Vadlet.** *arch.*

1661 [see prec.]. 1813 Williams *Law of Clergy* 398 The King as founder of..many religious houses had a corrody for his vadelets, and a pension for a chuplain. 1861 Riley tr. *Carpenter's Liber Albus* 40 As soon as the Sheriffs are sworn, all the Servants of their office—clerks, serjeants and their vadlets..—shall also be sworn.

‖ **Vade-mecum** (vē·dĭ mī·kŭm). Also **vade mecum.** [L., *vāde* imper. sing. of *vādĕre* to go + *mēcum* with me. So F., Sp., Pg. *vademecum* (Pg. also *-meco*).]

1. A book or manual suitable for carrying about with one for ready reference. (Sometimes used as the title of such a work.)

1629 (*title*), Vade Mecum: A Manuall of Essayes Morrall, Theologicall. 1649 F. Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 405 Among the very Ethiopians this book was in such repute, that the Ethiopian Eunuch made it his (Vade mecum) his companion in his journey. 1679 (*title*), A Vade-mecum for the Lovers of Musick. 1731 Fielding *Grub St. Op.* Introd., It is a sort of family Opera. The husband's vade-mecum; and is very necessary for all married men to have in their houses. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 128 The Odéon shall possess a literary journal,..to be a valuable vade-mecum for such persons as are not in the habit of deciding on the merits of theatrical performances. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. cci, Aristotle's rules, The *Vade Mecum* of the true sublime, Which makes so many poets, and some fools. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* Introd. p. xv, It is the remains..of a handbook for the practitioner; a *vade mecum*, as modern law-writers would call it.

fig. *a* 1631 Donne *Select.* (1840) 51 His *vade mecum*, the abridgment of all nature, and all law, his own heart, and conscience.

2. A thing commonly carried about by a person as being of some service to him.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 355 Gold..was my continuall vade Mecum. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 72 Whose Vade mecum is an Aqua vitæ Bottle. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 50 You may safely take it [a maxim] as your *vade mecum* along with you, in reference to the things of this life. 1774 'J. Collier' *Mus. Trav.* App. 23 To write a pamphlet against the use of a medicine which had been his *vade mecum* in all his journies.

Vader, southern ME. variant of Father.

Vadiation (vēdĭē·ʃən). *Law. rare.* [ad. med. L. *vadiātio*, f. *vadiāre* to give security.] The action of requiring or giving surety or pledges.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., Vadiation, *Vadiatio*, in the civil law. 1820–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 537 *note*, Remedy against..sequestration, or vadiation in this or that shape.

†**Vadimony.** *Obs.* Also 6 vady-, 7 vademony. [ad. L. *vadimōnium*, f. *vad-*, *vas* bail, surety.] A pledge or recognisance.

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 8 That they haue ther vadymonies [*printed* -memes] and wadde: the xiiii. artycle. *c* 1560 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 22 The accent in the fourth sylla[b] from the end; as in matrimonie, patrimonie,

vádimonie. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 48 His Obligation was arbitrary and voluntary; not arising from the guilt of ...sin, but by way of vadimony, and susception. 1699 J. BARRY *Reviv. Cordial* (1802) 80 In this work,..which he himself, as vademony and surety for God's elect, hath undertaken to..perform.

†Va·ding, *vbl. sb. Obs.*—[1] [f. VADE *v.*[1]] The action or process of disappearing, declining, etc.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 254/2 Y⁰ lyke vadyng of water happened also in the floode of Medeway.e.

†Va·ding, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 7 vaid-. [f. as prec.] Fading, passing away, fleeting, transitory.

1566 ADLINGTON *Apuleius* Ep. Ded., The vaine and soone vadynge beautie of the woilde. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.*, etc. R j, My Lady fayre whose shape doth shine And glyster in my vading sighte. 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. lxv. (1612) 279 What els is Forme but vaiding aire? 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 53 Thy form's Diuine, no fading, vading flower. 1661 *Sir A. Haslerig's Last Will & Test.* 2 What a vading breath, or light blast is this flash of Honour.

Vadlet: see VADELET.

Vadmal, -mel, varr. (after mod. Scand. forms) of WADMAL.

[1797 *Stat. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 326 The old men and women.. continue to wear good strong black clothes without dying, called by the ancient Norse, Vadmell.] 1851 THORPE *Northern Myth.* I. 112, I am Kraka, Coal-black in vadmel! 1881 DU CHAILLU *Land Midnight Sun* II. 78 The tent was made of coarse heavy vadmal.

Vadome, southern ME. variant of FATHOM *sb.*

†Vado·sity. *Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vadōs-us*, f. *vadum* ford.] The fact of being fordable.

1658 BURTON *Comm Itin. Antoninus* 224 The word Ford, by reason of the vadosity of the River there, being added.

Va·dy, *a. south-w. dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Damp, moist.

1880 MRS PARR *Adam & Eve* xiii. 188 The grass was too 'vady' for him to sit down upon.

‖ Væ. *Obs.* Also 6 ve. [L. *væ* alas!] A denunciation or threatening of woe.

1559 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 79 We should.. deserve the wrathful *ve* and vengeance of God. 1584 LODGE *Alarm agst. Usurers* F iiij, The Lord shal place you among the goates, and pronounce his Ve against you. 1602 W. WATSON *Quodl. Relig. & State* 9 With how many *vaes* and woes to you Scribes and Pharisees did he come vpon them? *a* 1636 WESTCOTE *View Devonsh.* (1845) 61 There was a *væ* or woe pronounced against them in these words,—'Woe unto you Piltonians, that make cloth without wool'.

Væder, Væle, Vælde, Væle, Væren, Værne, Væx, Væxer, southern ME. varr. FATHER, FEY *a.*, FIELD *sb.*, FELE *a.*, FERE *v.*[1], FERN *sb.*, FAX, FAIR *a.*

Vafand, Vaffand, obs. Sc. ff. *waving* WAVE *v.*

Vafroun, var. WAFROUN *Sc. Obs.*

†Va·frous, *a. Obs.* Also 6 vaffrous. [f. L. *vafer, vafr-* + -OUS.] Sly, cunning, crafty, shifty.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 11 Thinkyng surely that they..would neuer..longe agree with the Englishmen, accordyng to their olde vaffrous [1550 crafty] varietie. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 17 Divine providence.. adjudged it best..not to bestow..upon subtle and vafrous people, Courage, and Strength of body. 1650 B. *Discollimitium* 17 These are subtle, and vafrous Men, who are never solidly, nor honestly Wise. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 106 This vafrous and bloudy Treason against the holy Majesty of Christ. 1721 in BAILEY.

Vag, *sb. Devon. dial.* [Cf. FAG *sb.*[2]] Dried turf or peat used as fuel; a piece of this.

1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. England* II. 6 Towards the Mountains, Turf (provincially 'Vags') and Peat (provincially 'Turf'). 1889 *Portfolio* Jan. 11/2 In the winter he may turn many an honest penny by the sale of 'vags'. 1895 G. MORTIMER *Tales Moors* 224 You can cut as much vag—or peat, as you calls it up country—as you'm a mind to.

Vag, *v. U.S. slang.* [f. *vag.* abbrev. of VAGABOND.] *trans.* To treat or deal with (one) as a vagabond or vagrant.

1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 169, I was arrested as a vagrant As the popular expression went, I got 'vagged'.

Vag, dial. var. FAG *v.*[2]; obs. Sc. f. WAGE *sb.*

Vagabond (væ·găbǫnd), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5–6 vagabound(e, -bunde, 5–6, 8 -bund, 5–7 -bonde, 7–vagabond; 6 *Sc.* wagabund, -bond; 7, 9 *dial.*, vagabone, 9 *dial.* -bon. [a. OF. *vagabond* (14th c.) or ad. L. *vagābund-us*, f. *vagārī* to wander. Cf. mod.F. *vagabond*, It. *vagabondo*, Sp. and Pg. *vagabundo*, *vagamundo*; also G. *vagabund*, *-bond*, Sw. *vagabond*, Du. *vagebond*. As a sb. the form finally takes the place of the earlier VACABOND.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of persons, etc.: Roaming or wandering from place to place without settled habitation or home; leading a wandering life; nomadic.

a. In predicative use.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1684 O thow blyssed Lady, hyde hem that flen vnto the for helpe, and they that be vagabonde, dyscoure hem nat. 1513 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xii. (S.T.S.) I. 71 Mony of þir pepill vagabound and ouresett with powerte tuke wagis of þe sabynis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 322 He staw away..and þeid vagabund dissagyusit ane lang quhill. 1598 STEPHENS *Trans. in Russia* 96/1 Dispersed and vagabond, exiled from their native soil and air, they wander over the face of the earth.

fig. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 256 My louk, myn eyen, unswre and vagabounde. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 16 To Heav'n thir prayers Flew up, nor missed the way, by envious windes Blow'n vagabond or frustrate.

b. In attrib. use (occas. hyphened).

1585 EDEN *Decades* I. IX. (Arb.) 97 Owre men suppose them to bee a vagabunde and wanderinge nacion lyke vnto the Scythians. 1602 MOUNTJOY *Letter* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 233 How, as a Vagabond Woodkerne hee may preserve his life,..I know not. 1640 tr. *Verdery's Rom. of Rom.* III. 31, I have for my brother and Soveraign, the Prince of Greece, whom but even now I beheld to be a vagabond Girle. 1691 tr. *Emiliane's Observ. Journ. Naples* 220 They become soon weary of it and then turn Vagabond-Hermits. 1706 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 181 A vagabond Debtor may be cited in whatever Place or Jurisdiction he is found. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 559 A vagabond and useless tribe there eat Their miserable meal. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, I have ballads which vagabond minstrels sing to drunken churls. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I, We are a vagabond nation now.

transf. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 45 This common bodie, Like to a Vagabond Flagge vpon the Streame, Goes too, and backe. 1638 WILKINS *New World* xii. (1707) 98 The Concourse of many little Vagabond Stars, by the union of their Beams. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 899 Those vagabond bodies, the comets.

†c. *spec.* Of soldiers or sailors. *Obs.*

1748 LIND *Lett. Rel. Navy* (1757) II 85 If they are to be set at liberty, who are accused of perjury, how is a vagabond seaman to be found, when he comes to England? 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 519, I do not know what measures to take about our vagabond soldiers.

† 2. (See quot. and cf. EXTRAVAGANT *a.* 2.) *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYR *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 258 3it is thare othir lawis callit lawis extravaganis, that is for to say lawis vagaboundis, that ar nocht incorporit in othir bukis of lawis of Lombardy.

3. Inclined to stray or gad about without proper occupation; leading an unsettled, irregular, or disreputable life; good-for-nothing, rascally, worthless.

1630 *Greene's Fr. Bacon* II. i. (Q.[4]), Where be these vagabond [1594 vacabond] knaues, that they attend no better on their Master? 1682 BURNET *Rights Princes* ii. 66 Some idle vagabond Clarks that had procured themselves to be put in Orders. 1742-3 WESLEY *Jrnl.* (1749) 9 A clergyman came into the..room, and ask'd aloud, with a tone unusually sharp, 'Where those vagabond fellows were?' 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* civ, A most vagabond crew! 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 123 He took a ceremonious leave of the Crow chieftain, and his vagabond warriors. *c* 1870 B. HARTE *Coyotte* Poems (1886) 16 Lop-eared and large-jointed, but ever alway A thoroughly vagabond outcast in gray.

4. Of or pertaining to, characteristic or distinctive of, a homeless wanderer.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xviii. 104 By suche vagabounde beggerie, they make..beleeue, that they canne foresay and deuine. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 89 Let them pronounce the steepe Tarpeian death, Vagabond exile, ..I would not buy Their mercie. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 40 Voyages by Sea and Land, and a vagabond life. 1698 CROWNE *Caligula* IV. Dram. Wks. 1874 IV. 406 Rase from thy memory my sinful hours, And all my little vagabond amours. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* I. vi. (1840) 73 Satan being confined to a vagabond, wandering, unsettled condition. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 27 They have the true vagabond abhorrence of all useful..employments. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. i. 7 Abandoning his vagabond propensities and becoming stationary. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* Introd. 13 This book is well-suited for your migratory needs, and vagabond habits.

5. *fig.* Roving, straying; not subject to control or restraint.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* IV. I, My heart is a vain heart, a vagabond and unstable heart. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Introd., The brood of Belial,..to whom no liberty is pleasing but unbridl'd and vagabond lust without pale or partition. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 455 The Inconstant has a vagabond Soul, without any settled Place of Abode. 1878 MORLEY *Carlyle* 195 In that house are many mansions, the boisterous sanctuary of a vagabond polytheism.

B. *sb* **1.** One who has no fixed abode or home, and who wanders about from place to place; *spec.* one who does this without regular occupation or obvious means of support; an itinerant beggar, idle loafer, or tramp; a vagrant.

a. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 653 Now shall all the cursinges of your lawe, Opon yow [i.e. the Jews] fall most myschevose, & be knawen of vagabundes ouer awe. 1496 LD BOTHWELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 24 Evere day throw þam þir vagabunds escapis, cummyn to Perkin. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 25 And yeet theese wretched vagabunds hard destenye scourgeth.

β. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 Every vagabounde, heremyte, or beggar able to labre, or clerk, pilgryme, or shipman, 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xii. (S.T.S.) I. 69 Gif þai suld pas as vagabundis and vncertane pepill throw þare howsis. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 354 The dogge..defend[s] our houses from theeues, vagaboundes, lewde fellowes. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 60 b, Some of them hauing bin vagabounds and beggers. 1635 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scotl.* Ser. II. VI. 5 Haveing corrupted all the equipage of the ship, who are bot vagabounds. 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.*, *Vagamundear*, to play the vagabound, to strole about.

γ. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xvii. 5 The Iewes..toke vnto them evyll men wich were vagabondes and gadered a company. 1575 in *Maitland Club Misc.* I. 120 All vagabundis and idill personis that has nocht quhairupoun to sustene thame selfis. 1577 HOLINSHED *Descr. Brit.* III. v. 106 b, The third [sort] consisteth of thriftlesse poore, as..the vagabond that will abide no where, but runneth vp and downe from place to place (as it were seeking woorke and finding none). 1609 *London Prodigal* v. i, For shame, betake you to some honest Trade And flie not thus like a Vagabond. *a* 1629 HINDE *S. Bruen* XXIX. (1641) 94 Such assemblies are..a very randevous of all rogues, and vagabonds. 1685 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* 22 If they do this, they are put in Prison as idle Vagabonds. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 718/2 A Bill..for the effectual punishing Rogues and Vagabonds. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 376 His relations, dishonoured in the public estimation, abandon their home, and become vagabonds. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* III. 95 Issuing forth as a vagabond to spread the infection of idleness and vice. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xviii, We have more vagabonds in the forest than I like. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* II. III. i. 8 He was a stroller and a vagabond, so far as social status went, an idle rogue.

transf. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return Parnass.* III. iv. 1332 You grandsyre Phœbus with your lowly eye, The firmaments eternall vagabond.

Comb. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1657) 933 They were loose people and abjects..who vagabondlike wandred up and down the Countrey. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* I. (1818) 16 This corps being composed of the most ragged, bare-legged, sans-culotte vagabond-looking wretches.

2. 1567 HARMAN (*title*), A Caueat..for Commen Cursetors Vulgarely called Vagabones. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 124 Wee ar noe vagabones, wee ar no arrant Rogues that doe runne with plaies about the country. [1842 (see 2 b).] 1902 THOTTEN *Gall. Gossip* 188 Rogues an vagabons.

b. A nomad. *rare.*

1756 NUGENT *Montesquieu* XX. ii. (1758) II. 3 Hospitality ..is found in the most admirable perfection among nations of vagabonds. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 108 They claimed..to be thorough mountaineers, and first-rate hunters—the common boast of these vagabonds of the wilderness.

c. *Vagabond's discoloration, disease, skin* (see quots.).

1876 GREENHOW in *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 46 These cases..have received the special name of 'Vogt's *Vagabunden-Krankheit*', which I have rendered into English as 'Vagabond's Discoloration'; because this discoloration of skin..is..brought on by long-continued exposure, dirty habits and the irritation of vermin. 1890 F. TAYLOR *Man. Pract. Med.* (1891) 893 The disease has then been called *prurigo senilis*, and also *vagabond's disease*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 701 The vagabond's disease, or *Morbus errorum* of Greenhow. *Ibid.* 866 Excoriations, wheals and pustules are produced by scratching which, if long continued, may produce a brown, leather-like condition—the so-called vagabond's skin seen in tramps.

2. A disreputable or worthless person; an idle, good-for-nothing fellow; a rascal or rogue (sometimes without serious implication of bad qualities).

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 178, I spoke in the mildest Terms imaginable: which nothing mov'd this Vagabond. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, No young vagabond could be brought to bear its contemplation for a moment. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* III. iii, I couldn't be such a vagabond of a husband. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 316 The dishonest, scheming vagabonds!

b. Used as a term of reproof or abuse.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* x, Mind, on your peril, you old vagabone, don't let them fight that badger without me. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* iv, You were eaves-dropping at that door, you vagabond! 1884 PAR *Eustace* 66 'What are you lying there for, you lazy vagabond?' roared Randolph.

Vagabond (væ·găbǫnd), *v.* Also 7 vagabound, -bund. [f. VAGABOND *sb.* Cf. F. *vagabonder* (1526).] *intr.* To roam or wander (*about*) as or like a vagabond or vagrant; to vagabondize. Also with *it*.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 414 In this sort vagabonding in those vntroden places, they were guided [etc.]. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Rodé*, That hath roamed, wandered, vagabonded it all the countrey ouer. *c* 1624 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 27 [Dido] vagabounding in ane heavy cace Through fields vnknowne, accompanyed by none. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 357 Vagabonding about from inn to inn. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* lvi, Why is he not in my counting house at Amsterdam, instead of vagabonding it out yonder? 1901 *Westm Gaz.* 18 Oct. 2/1 The said son went vagabonding about the world.

Hence **Va·gabonding** *vbl. sb.*

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Celica* xii, Cupid, thou naughtie Boy, when thou wert loathed, Naked and blind, for Vagabunding noted.

Vagabondage (væ·găbǫndēdʒ). [f. VAGABOND *sb.* + -AGE, or a. F. *vagabondage* (1798).]

1. The state, condition, or character of a vagabond; life or conduct characteristic of or resembling that of a vagabond; idle or unconventional wandering or travelling; vagabondism.

1813 [implied in *Vagabondager*: see below] 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 336 That love of..bird's-nesting and vagabondage, which..is inherent in all boys. 1898 *Times* 4 Nov. 6/2 [The Ionians] have been elevated from the lowest grade of Mediterranean vagabondage. 1871 HOLME LEE *Miss Barrington* I. vii. 102 Spring arrived and he grew restless again and betook himself to vagabondage and the streets.

fig. 1863 LECKY in *Mem.* (1909) II. 34, I have been indulging in an enormous amount of literary vagabondage. 1872 MISS BRADDON *Lovels of Arden* xxii. 171 Her random sketches—some of them mere vagabondage of the pencil, jotted down half unconsciously.

2. Vagabonds collectively; persons of a vagabond class or order.

1855 [J. D. BURN] *Autobiogr. Beggar Boy* (1859) 137 One of the immediate consequences of their conduct would be, to let loose the whole vagabondage of the country. 1903 *Times* 14 Feb. 12/3 They are already bringing a good deal of rural vagabondage to London.

Hence **Vagabo·ndager,** one who practises vagabondage.

1813 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. 52 At midnight I entered my carriage, and found myself in solitude with a cheerless imagination...Thus vagabondagers pay for their temporary pleasures.

†Vagabo·ndial, *a. Obs.*—[1] In 7 -bundiall. [f. as prec. + -IAL.] = next.

1615 J. H. *Worlds Folly* C b, The recollection of the vagabundiall Iewes into the sheepe-fold of Iesus Christ.

Vagabo ndical, *a. rare.* Also 6–7 vagabund-. [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] Roaming, wandering; vagabondish.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 35 Dogges..which taught and exercised to daunce in measure,..and sundry such properties, which they learne of theyr vagabundicall masters. 1658 COKAINE *Obst. Lady* II. i, He..vaticinated future Occurents by the mysterious influences of the sublime Stars, and vagabundical Planets.

a 1664 G. DANIEL *Memoirs Eng.* xiv, Joe Haynes..was the hero of a variety of vagabondical adventures.

Vagabonding (væ·găbŏndiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. VAGABOND *v.*]

1. That roams or wanders as, or in the manner of, a vagabond. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Songs in Astr. & Stella* v. xii. (Grosart) I. 86, I now then staine thy white with vagabon ing shame. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xiii. 610 Even vagabonding roagues..have their magnificences and voluptuousnesse. 1614 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Whs.* (1913) I. 13, I..On euery part my vagabounding Sight Did cast. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 111 A vagabonding Guest, Transported here and there. *Ibid.* 118 Concerning vagabonding Greekes, and their counterfeit Testimonials. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* May 571 The sword..went fairly straight along its vagabonding road.

2. Characterized by roaming or wandering; vagabondish.

Not clearly distinct from the *vbl. sb.* used *attrib.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 472 These iewels certainely with their disguising sleights, they haue pilfred in their vagabounding race. 1884 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 283 Some would spend our prime's best age In vagabonding pilgr mage. 1904 A. B. PATERSON *Poems* 90 And through our blood there runs The vagabonding love of change.

†Vagabo·ndious, *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. VAGABOND *sb.*] Vagabond, vagrant.

1602 in *MSS. Ho. Lords* (Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.) VII. 153 [The whole trade of cardmaking and wire drawing was nearly spoiled by] vagabondious persons.

Vagabondish (væ·găbŏndiʃ), *a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Pertaining or appropriate to, characteristic of, a vagabond or vagabonds.

1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 97 All this has a shew of business, though of a light vagabondish kind. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Birds of Prey* II. i, There was a vagabondish kind of foppery in his costume. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* May 871 The vagabondish spirit engendered by their long..journey.

2. Of the nature of a vagabond; somewhat like a vagabond in conduct or life.

1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 105 By far the larger number of those who apply to the traveller for charity are vagabondish in their instincts and indolent in their habits. 1881 *Times* 5 July 9 This vain and vagabondish mendicant.

Vagabondism (væ·găbŏndiz'm). [f. as prec.]

1. = VAGABONDAGE 1.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 139 Who, after forty years of indigence and vagabondism, is admitted into the first societies. 1859 *Hist. Cant* in *Slang Dict.* p. ix, The Gypsies were not long in the country before they found native imitators. Vagabondism is peculiarly catching. 1888 *Charity Organis. Rev.* April 145 Vagabondism as a licit mode of life.

b. A rascally or knavish act. *rare.*

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v. (1904) 188 All errors and perversities of his, even those stealings of ribbons, aimless confused miseries and vagabondisms.

2. = VAGABONDAGE 2. *rare*[−1].

1872 BREWER *Eng. Studies* (1881) iv. 196 All the vagabondism of the kingdom had scented the fray.

Vagabondize (væ·găbŏndaiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To live, wander, or go about as, or in the manner of, a vagabond; to roam or travel in a free, idle, unconstrained, or unconventional manner; to play the vagabond.

a. With indefinite *it*.

1612 COTGR., *Roder*, to roame, wander, vagabondize it. 1776 *Ann. Reg., Charact.* 35/2 After thus vagabondizing it for some time, he was discovered by the consul. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* liii, How much earlier he would have found her by staying quietly at Tergou, than by vagabondizing it all over Holland.

b. In ordinary use. Freq. with advs. and preps.

1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* III. 39 No modest woman would go vagabondizing about the country. 1795 tr. *Mercier's Fragm. Pol. & Hist.* II. 223 The streets would be filled with wretches, vagabondizing round the palaces of sloth. 1832 *Westm. Rev.* July 38 Peoples among whom his fortunes cast him while vagabondizing in the remotest corners of the globe. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxvi, That..scapegrace..had vagabondised all over Europe as a newspaper correspondent. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelist* 87, I..acquired a taste for vagabondising about among the poor.

fig. 1884 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* iii, The surgeon's thoughts went vagabondizing away from the little coffee-room. 1868 — *Birds of Prey* v. iii, My thoughts went vagabondising off to Charlotte.

Hence **Va·gabondizer.**

1860 *All Year Round* No. 42. 362 The itinerant traveller and poetical or artistic vagabondiser.

Vagabondising (væ·găbŏndaizin), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb; idle or unconventional wandering; an occasion of this.

1829 SIR A. W. CALCOTT *Lett. to Chantrey* 18 Aug., A note we have had from the Phillips to join you in a vagabondising to Hampstead. 1849 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* xviii. 203 The Continental tour..had, with poor Goldsmith, been little better than a course of literary vagabondizing. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxi, Then, vagabondising came natural to you, from the beginning?

Va·gabondizing, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.]

1. That vagabondizes; vagabond.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 200 We have a pretty considerable ..idea of how those vagabondising ragamuffins spend the hours of the day. 1855 *Household Wds.* XII. 168 Her wicked, vagabondising, brandy-drinking..husband.

2. Characterized by, devoted or inclined to, wandering or vagabondage.

1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII 349 [They] would prefer labour to a vagabondising life. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 175 They fade away with the dawn..and are not beheld any more till vagabondising time begins again. 1883 MISS C. F. WOOLSON *Anne* 377 July..already felt a stron; affection in his capacious vagabondizing heart for the stranger.

Va·gabondry. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. VAGABOND *sb.* + -RY.] = VAGABONDAGE I.

1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI*, c. 3 Preamble, Idlenes and Vagabundrye is the mother and roote of all theftes. 1611 COTGR., *Maraudise*, beggerie, roguerie, idle knauerie, base vagabondrie. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1257 A base vagabondry, *mendicimonium.* 1869 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 257 We went through Dropmore with unusual vagabondry.

†Vagabuncy, later f. VACABUNCY. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Thess.* Ded., To banysh ..ryot, idlenes, ruffianynge vagabuncie [etc.].

†Vagabundulo. *nonce-word.* [f. *vagabund* VAGABOND *sb.*] ? A roguish trick.

1632 SHIRLEY *School of Complement* v. iii, Gorgon has had his deuices and vagabunduloes as well as the best on yee.

Vagal (vē·găl), *a. Anat.* and *Path.* [f. VAG-US + -AL.] a. *Vagal nerve*, the vagus or pneumogastric nerve. b. Of, pertaining to, or affecting this.

1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 205 The exoccipitals.. are perforated to give exit to the vagal and hypoglossal nerves. 1885 MCWILLIAM in *Jrnl. Physiol.* VI. 223 The effects of vagal stimulation were frequently investigated. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 816 The upper vagal roots are more concerned in inspiration than the lower ones.

†Va·gancy. *Obs. rare.* [f. VAGANT *a.*: see -ANCY.] A wandering or strolling. Also *fig.*

1642 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. i, That our happinesse may orbe it selfe into a thousand vagancies of glory and delight. 1642 BROME *Joviall Crew* v, *Springlove.* My humble suit is that you will be pleas'd To let me walk upon my known occasions this Sommer. *Lawyer.* Fie! Canst not yet leave off those Vagancies?

†Va·gant, *a.* (and *pres. pple.*). *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **vagaunt,** 5–6 **-aunte,** 5–6, 8 **vagant,** 5 **-ante.** [a. OF. *vagant, vagaunt,* or L. *vagant-, vagans,* pres. pple. of *vagārī* to wander.]

1. Wandering, roaming, roving; travelling or moving from place to place; having no settled home or abiding-place. Cf. VAGRANT *a.* 3.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iv. 12 Vagaunt and fer fugitif thow shalt be vpon the erthe alle the daies of thi lijf. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 135 In the tyme of Hinguar and Hubba, Ardulphus the bischop was vagante longe with þe body of Seynte Cuthberte. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. x, For al we haue be disparblid & longe haue be vagant on the see. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 407 b/1 Thus Josaphat was two yere vaganute & erryd in deserte. 1517 WATSON *Shyppe of Fooles* A ij, I am the fyrste in the shyppe vaganute with the other fooles. 1578 *Sc. Poems 16th C.* (1801) II. 170 Thocht vagant freirs faine wald lie, The trueth will furth.

2. Devious, erratic. *rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* v. 6 Bi the path of lif thei gon not; vagaunt ben the goingus of hir, and vnserchable. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 50. 1/1 By so Vagant a Proceedure, it is a Chance but he must hear some points of Duty..repeated.

3. Of thoughts: Wandering.

c 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 42 Yt can not sturre vp yt selfe from wandryng and vagant thoughtes that yt is accustomyd in. *Ibid.* 165 Also the harte oughte fulle besyly to be kepte from all vagaunte thoughtes.

Vagara(u)nt, -ent, obs. forms of VAGRANT.

Vagare, obs. form of VAGARY.

Vaga·rian. *rare*[−0]. [f. as next + -AN.] One given to vagaries or whims.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Vagarious (văgē·riəs), *a.* [f. VAGARY *sb.*]

†1. Variable, inconstant, changing. *Obs.*[−1]

1798 R. P. *Tour in Wales* (MS.) 36 Thus life's vagarious tenure passes on! And thus, the scenic vision glows with change!

2. Marked or characterized by, full of, subject to, vagaries; erratic.

1827 *Examiner* 70/1 The Travels of Wilhelm Meister, wild, vagarious, and disconnected as it is. *a* 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget Parad.* (1872) 153 Mr. Wirgman's mind was somewhat attuned to psychology; but he was cracky and vagarious. 1877 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXIX. 134 The work..is free from the vagarious theorizing.

3. Wandering, roaming, roving.

1882 *Harper's Mag.* April 661 Sharp interruption from the vagarious horned enemy. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Sept. 363/2 The history of the vagarious canary, Kiki.

Hence **Vaga·riously** *adv.*

1892 *Dispatch* (Columbus) 17 Nov., An idly planned and vagariously disposed though always picturesque college retreat.

Vaga·rish, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec.]

1. Of the eyes: Disposed to wander; wandering.

1801 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks. 1812 V. 40 His eyes were oft vagarish. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 230 My people's eyes were all vagarish While striving your hard phrases to conjecture.

2. Somewhat vagarious or whimsical.

1819 KEATS in Ld. Houghton *Life* (1848) II. 26 But you knowing my unsteady and vagarish disposition will [etc.].

Vaga·risome, *a.* [f. as prec. + -SOME.] Vagarious, capricious.

1883 *Bazaar* 5 Sept. 259 Early autumn clothing is slightly vagarisome, and steady observation is necessary in order to determine what is 'worn' from what is 'put on'.

Vaga·rist. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who is subject to vagaries; a vagarious person.

1888 *The Voice* (N. Y.) 24 May, The Prohibition party are now free from..suspicion of being vagarists.

Vagarity (văgē·rĭti). *rare*[−1]. [f. as prec. + -ITY.] Capricious irregularity or variability.

1886 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. II. 89/1 Instances of vagarity are noticeable with each Prince of Wales, many of whom seem to have ignored..the title [of Duke of Cornwall].

Vagary (văgē·ri), *sb.* Also 6–7 **vagare,** 6 **-arie.** [prob. ad. L. *vagārī* (It. *vagare*) to wander. Cf. FEGARY.]

†1. A wandering or devious journey or tour; a roaming about or abroad; an excursion, ramble, stroll. *Obs.*

Freq. in the 17th c., chiefly in verbal phrases as *to fetch, make,* or *take a vagary.*

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 24 The Irish enimie spieing that the citizens were accustomed to fetch such od vagaries,..they..laid in sundrie places for their comming. 1582 — *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 44 Thee gates vncloased they skud with a liuely vagare. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 19 These haue often vagaries ouer the deserts vnto the prouince of Tedgear. *c* 1613 *Soc. Comt. People Anglesey* (1860) 40 To entice his neighbours wifes..to leave their husbands..and to follow him by turns, into other countreys, and after a long vagare, to return again. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* I. v. 12 A hot Sun-shine..will quickly prompt them out of their Hives to take a short vagary. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 320 The like did Dinah, when she made a needless vagary to see the daughters of the land. 1826 W. E. ANDREWS *Crit. Rev. Fox's Bk. Mart.* II. 413 Whether it is likely that such a person should be permitted to make a walking vagary throughout all London.

transf. and *fig. c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 225 (1810) 237 Torridge, after a long vagary, making many meanders, emptieth itself in the..sea. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xvi. (1665) 359 Our hearts are soon gone away from the duty in hand, and taken a vagary to the furthest part of the world. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xxii, My aunt Dinah and the coachman..led us a vagary some millions of miles into the very heart of the planetary system.

†b. *To play his vagary,* of a horse, to leave or refuse to follow the proper or desired course. *Obs.*[−1]

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Art of Riding* I. 11 If he will then play his vagarie, beate him forthwith with your wand.

†2. A wandering in speech or writing; a rambling from the subject under consideration; a digression or divagation. *Obs.* (passing into sense 5).

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 67 Countenauncinge oute the matter ether with tunge or penne withoute the same discoursinge vagaries. 1596 R. H. tr. *Lavaterus' Ghostes & Sp.* To Rdr. a ij, His histories seeme not idle tales, or impertinent vagaries, but very truthes. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* Apol. 15 When ever he was at a loss, that the people might not perceive it, he presently would fall into a wordy vagary. 1681 — *Answ. Dodwell* iv. 54 You must talk at other rates than you have done in your tedious fallacious Vagaries. 1762 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 451 Mr. Beckford..had his vagaries as usual, and gave the House a little prelude of what they were to expect.

3. A departure or straying from the ordered, regular, or usual course of conduct, decorum, or propriety; a frolic or prank, esp. one of a freakish nature. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (passing into sense 4).

1588 BABINGTON *Prof. Exp. Lord's Pr.* (1596) 274 A short vagare..layde a grinding griefe vpon his conscience during life. 1593 B. BARNES *Parth. & Parth.* vi, I will be His bail for this offence; and if he make Another such vagary, take of me A pawn. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moon* (1849) 21 Hee that might doe well and would not, when hee wanteth shal be unpittied..; then shall you hear of your olde vagaries. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 614 Strait they chang'd thir minds, Flew off, and into strange vagaries fell, As they would dance. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 96 Would your Son engage in some Frolic, or take a Vagary, were it not..better than without your Knowledge?

GAY *What d'ye call it* I. iv, Ye Goblins and Fairys, [illegible] vagary..She could turn a knight into a waggon of hay. 1828 C. STRETTON *Chequered Life* II. 100, I could not sleep: I was too much amused at the vagaries of my new acquaintances [*sc.* rats], and kept watching them.

fig. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* I, Let us hear what vagaries fancy has been playing in your mind.

† b. Without article: Frolic, gambolling. *Obs.*

1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* Wks. 1812 II. 401 Here—there, Up, down, she dances it; now far, now near, In mad and riotous vagary.

4. A capricious, fantastic, or eccentric action or piece of conduct.

1640 MASSINGER *Picture* v. iii, An old bachelor, as I am, ..is not troubled With these fine vagaries. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 260 P 1 The Vagaries of a Child are not more ridiculous than the Circumstances which are heaped up in my Memory. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) IV. xxii. 162 She..., not having so great a fortune to support vagaries, would have shone..in Italy. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. vi, A noble natural Courtesy shines through him, beautifying his vagaries. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Puritt.* iv. 409 Ignorance and vanity once unbridled knew no limit to the vagaries ..into which they ran. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxxvi. 150 The sentiment of the nation at large..acts but slowly in restraining the vagaries..of one particular State.

b. A caprice or trick *of* fortune, fancy, the brain, a malady, etc.

1727 DENNIS *Remarks Pope's Homer* Pref. A, A vagary of fortune who is sometimes pleased to be frolicsome. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 27 The vagaries of the perspective, originating in such an arrangement, were rather amusing. 1868 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 17, I must yet notice another and a peculiar vagary of his malady. 1872 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. iv. 123 To follow the vagaries of fashion.

5. An erratic play of fancy; a fantastic, eccentric, or extravagant idea or notion. (Cf. 2.)

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VI. xxxii. 218 These ideal vagaries, which, for the time, realize pain or pleasure to us. 1771 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 237 But by all means curb these vagaries and wandering imaginations. *a* 1806 H. K. WHITE *To Contemplation* Rem. (1825) 384, I alone, A wayward youth, misled by Fancy's vagaries, Remain'd unsettled. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* I. § 2. 77 Every system that would land in such a conclusion is a mere logical vagary. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 270 *note*, But it is worse than useless to record the vagaries of Apocalyptic interpretation.

†Vagary, *v. Obs.* [Cf. prec.] *intr.* To wander or roam. Also *transf.*

1598 FLORIO, *Vagare*,..to vagarie, or range, to straie abroade. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 224 The marishes and lower grounds lying vpon the three riuers that vagary vp to her. 1611 COTGR., *Vaucrer*, to raunge, roame, vagarie, wander, idle it vp and downe. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 60 Though he might decline Law, yet he vagari'd not therefrom. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1257 To vagary, *vagari, palari.*

†Vagation. *Obs.* Also 4 **vagacyone**, 5–6 **-cion**, 6 **-cyon**, **-tione**. [ad. L. *vagātiōn-*, *vagātio*, n. of action f. *vagārī* to wander. Cf. OF. *vagation* (Godef.), Pg. *vagação.*] The action of wandering, straying, or departing from the proper or regular course; an instance or occasion of this; a wandering, rambling, roaming; an aberration. In *lit.* and *fig.* use.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* (1866) 14 Whene þe mynde es stablede sadely with-owtten changynge and vagacyone in Godd. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 42 For this vagacion is caused of dulnes, and of heuynes of hert. 1508 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxvii. 219 Chase fro myn hert all maner darkenes, stablysshe the great vagacions of my mynde that I suffre. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiii. 121 Ane of his familiar frendis inquyrit hym of the cause of his inconstant vagatione. 1597 HARVEY *Trimming T. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 53 Neuerthelesse can I accuse you of lazines; for all this time of your vagation, with you I thinke the Signe hath been in Pisces. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 291 Socrates, offended at the bold and blind vagations of men, in their disputations about the measures of the sunne. 1723 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. ii. 100 By this so curious and exact a Libration, unseemly Contortions and Vagations of the Eye are prevented. 1714 — *Astro-Theol.* IV. v. (1769) 118 But I have myself observed a greater vagation in the third satellite.

†Vage, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [app. ad. It. *vago* Cf. VAGISNESS.] Fine, handsome.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 198 The finer gold, the richer stones,..the more vage and beautifull iewell.

Vage, southern dial. var. FAGE *v.*; obs. f. VAGUE *sb.* and *v.*; obs. or dial. f. VOYAGE; obs. Sc. f. WAGE *v.*, WEDGE *sb.* **Vageit,** obs. Sc. f. WAGED *ppl. a.* **Vageowr,** obs. Sc. f. WAGER (soldier). **Vager,** obs. Sc. f. VAGUER (wanderer), WAGER (soldier). **Vagging,** dial. var. FAGGING *vbl. sb.*

Vagi- (vē· dʒəi), comb. form of L. *vagus* VAGUE *a.*, occurring in a few botanical terms, as *va·giform*, *vagine·rvose* adjs. (see quots.).

1829 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Vagiformis*,..applied by de Candolle to leaves of cellular plants when their false nervures are dispersed without order or regularity; vagiform. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1199 *Vaginervose*, having the veins arranged without any order.

†Va·gient, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *vāgient-em*, pres. pple. of *vāgīre* to cry, squall.] Of infants, infancy, etc.: Crying, squalling, wailing.

1608 GAULE *Pract. Theo.* (1629) 417 There shall be nor vagient Youngling, nor decrepit Ageling. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iv. III. xlii, But for the cradle of the Cretian Jove, And guardians of his vagient Infancie, What sober man but sagely will reprove? 1659 — *Immort. Soul* (1662) 142 The vagient cries of the Infant Jupiter amidst the..dancings of the Cretick Corybantes.

‖Vagina (vădʒəi·nă). Pl. **vaginæ** (-əi·nī), **vaginas.** [L. *vāgīna* sheath, scabbard. Cf. F. *vagin* (1762), †*vagina*, Pg. *vagina.*]

1. *Anat.* and *Med.* The membranous canal leading from the vulva to the uterus in women and female mammals.

1688 GIBSON *Anat.* 20 It has passages..for the neck of the Bladder, and in Women for the vagina of the Womb. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 93 The upper end of the vagina is joined to the circumference of the lips of the os uteri. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 21 Neither could we discover by the touch any communication between the rectum and vagina. 1847 YOUATT *Horse* viii. 174 The true polypus .. is usually found in the nostrils, the pharynx, the uterus, or the vagina. 1896 tr. *Bons' Text-bk. Zool.* 490 In the Marsupials..the two vaginæ open separately on the floor of the urinogenital sinus.

b. A canal or organ having similar form or function in other animals; a genital passage.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 146 This vessel, which consists of a double tunic, in the cabbage-butterfly terminates the vagina. 1872 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 358 Female generative organs of the Queen Bee:..*e*, vagina, or common excretory duct.

2. A part or formation serving as or suggestive of a sheath; a sheath-like covering, organ, or part; a theca.

1723 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. iv. (1727) 363 *note*, The Female hath vaginæ prettily furrow'd; the Male smooth. *Ibid.* 365 Many of them provided with the finest Articulations, and Foldings, for the Wings to be withdrawn, and neatly laid up in their Vaginæ, and Cases. 1772 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 191/1 The fibres [of the muscles] are..distinguished by membranous, cellular, or adipose septa, as by so many particular vaginæ. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 361 *Vagina* (the Vagina), the jointed sheath of the *Proboscis*, representing the *Labium* in a perfect mouth.

b. *Bot.* = SHEATH *sb.*^{1} 2 b.

1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* I. 28 Sometimes they are covered with a Vagina or Sheath at the top. 1731 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Narcissus*, The Empalement, which commonly rises out of a membranous *Vagina*. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 93 Occasionally the petiole embraces the branch from which it springs, and in such cases is said to be sheathing; and is even called a sheath or vagina, as in grasses. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 75 The sheathing portion..or vagina.

c. *Sculpture.* The lower part of a terminus, out of which the bust or figure appears to rise. (So F. *gaîne.*) *rare*$^{-0}$.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Vagina is that long Part between the Base and the Capital; and is found in divers Manners, and with divers Ornaments.

Hence **Vagi·na-less** *a.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1061, I have recently pointed out..the process by which the embryo dracunculi quit the body of the vaginaless parent worm.

Vaginal (vădʒəi·năl, væ·dʒĭnăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -AL. Cf. F. *vaginal* (1762), Pg. *vaginal.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** *Anat.* and *Med.* Of the nature of, having the form or function of, a sheath; serving as a sheath. *Vaginal process*, a process or apophysis of the lower portion of the temporal bone, partially enclosing the styloid process.

1726 MONRO *Anatomy* 164 The Cavity between the Zygomatic, Auditory and vaginal Process. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 295 The vaginal coat of the testicle. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 55 A bony lamina, called the vaginal process.., which forms the posterior limit of the glenoid cavity. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 80 A sharp ridge runs inwards and forwards from the root of the styloid process. This ridge is termed the vaginal process. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., Vaginal coat of the eye, capsule of Tenon. *Ibid.*, Vaginal tunic.

b. *Bot.* = VAGINANT *a.*

1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 75 The vaginal petiolar region is more or less distinctly evident in many Monocotyledonous leaves.

2. Of, pertaining to, or affecting the vagina.

1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 156 *marg.*, The vaginal polypus sometimes dispersed by stimulants and astringents. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 314 The Uterine and Vaginal arteries of the female are derived from the internal iliac, or Ischiatic arteries. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstet. Med. & Surg.* 36 The vaginal canal becomes much contracted in advanced life. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 688 Vaginal and labial hernia may be mistaken for the mucous cysts of those parts.

b. Of instruments: Used in dealing with, or operating on, the vagina.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2687/2 Vaginal speculum. *Ibid.*, Vaginal syringe. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Surg. Instr. Catal.* 411 Vaginal and uterine instruments.

B. *sb.* A vaginal artery or muscle.

1872 F. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 32 Sim's instrument, on the other hand, elevates the posterior vaginal.

Vaginalitis (vædʒĭnăləi·tĭs). *Path.* [f. prec. + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the vaginal coat or tunic of the testicles.

1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 134 Vaginalitis, although a very frequent, is not a constant symptom, and is always consecutive to the inflammation of the epididymis.

Vaginant, *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *vāgīnant-*, *vāgīnans*, f. *vāgīna* sheath. So F. *vaginant.*] = SHEATHING *ppl. a.* b.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot* III. vii. (1765) 191 *Vaginant*, forming a *Vagina* or Sheath; when the Base of the Leaf forms a cylindric Tube that invests the Branch. 1831 G. F. RICHARDSON *Geol.* vii. 203 Sessile leaves are sometimes vaginant, that is, sheathing, as in grasses.

Vaginate, *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *vāgīnāt-us*, f. as prec.: cf. next and VAGINATED *ppl. a.*] Enclosed in a sheath or vagina; invaginate.

1849 CRAIG, *Vaginate, Vaginated*, in Botany, sheathed, invested by the tubular base of the leaf, as a stem. 1856 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 190 Penis vaginate simple, with a small posterior accessory part. *Ibid.* 300 Mouth..composed of a rostellum, retractile, vaginate at the base. 1899 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1320 *Vaginatus*, cased, sheathed, vaginate.

†Vaginate, *v. Obs.*$^{-0}$ [f. L. *vāgīna*: cf. prec.] To sheathe (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Phillips (1658) substitutes '*Vagination*, a sheathing'.

†Vaginated, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ED 1.] = VAGINATE *a.*

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 400 Those above are wholly vaginated (or sheathed) and come trifoliate at every joynt. 1776 *Evelyn's Sylva* viii. 445 The rest of the vaginated stem touches no other part of the whole cavity. 1849 [see VAGINATE *a.*].

Va·gine. *Obs.*$^{-0}$ [ad. L. *vāgīna* VAGINA.] A scabbard (Cockeram, 1623).

Vagini-, comb. f. of L. *vāgīna* sheath (see VAGINO-) in a few scientific terms, as *vaginiform* adj.; **vaginigluteus,** a muscle acting upon the sheath of the thigh; also *vaginigluteal* adj.; **†vaginipennous** *a.*, of beetles, having the wings covered with a sheath; coleopterous.

A few other instances of scientific or technical usage are given in some recent Dicts., as *vaginicoline*, *vaginicolous*, *vaginiferous*, *vaginipennate* adjs.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. (1686) 142 All vaginipennous or sheath-winged insects, as Beetles and Dorrs. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vaginipennous*, pertaining to such flies, which have their wings cloaked as it were in sheaths or cases, as the Beetle hath. Dr. B[owne]. 1899 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1320 *Vaginiformis*,..vaginiform.

‖Vaginismus (vædʒĭnai·zmŭs). *Path.* [mod. L. (SIMS), f. *vāgīna.*] Painful spasmodic contraction of the vagina; vulvismus.

1866 J. M. SIMS *Uterine Surg.* 326 By the term vaginismus I mean an excessive hyperæsthesia of the hymen and vulvar outlet. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 443 The patient then left for two months, but was readmitted as the vaginismus still persisted.

Vaginitis (vædʒĭnəi·tĭs). *Path.* [f. as prec. + -ITIS. Cf. F. *vaginite.*] Inflammation of the vagina.

1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 96 He found other forms of infusoria in the pus from syphilitic vaginitis. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 187 Vaginitis is more common than any other form of gonorrhœa in women. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 443 Spasm of sphincter vaginæ marked, with some vaginitis and endocervicitis.

Vagino- (vădʒəi·nō), used as a comb. form of L. *vāgina* in some scientific terms, as †**vaginopennous**, = *vaginipennous*; **vagi·noscope**, an instrument for examining the vagina; **vagino-vesical**, pertaining to the vagina and the bladder.

Recent Dicts. give a number of others in *Med., Path.*, or *Surg.*, as *vagino-fixation*, *vaginotomy*; *vagino-abdominal*, *-labial*, *-vulvar* adjs. (Cf. F. *vaginolabial*, *-péritonéal*, *-vésical*, etc.)

1735 JOHNSON, *Ladybird*, a small red insect vaginopennous. 1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 154 Vagino-venical prolapse. Prolapse of the vagina dragging the bladder along with it. 1866 J. M. SIMS *Uterine Surg.* 33 Dr. Routh..has detected pregnancy..by means of his vaginoscope.

‖Vaginula (vădʒəi·nĭŭlă). Pl. **vaginulæ.** *Zool.* and *Bot.* [L. *vāgīnula*, dim. of *vāgīna* VAGINA.] A little sheath or vagina; *esp.* in *Bot.* the capsule or theca enclosing the base of the seta in certain mosses.

a. 1843 WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 18 The external..membrane of the mouth forms a number of pyramidal and globular pouches or vaginulæ.

b. 1849 HALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1114 Urn-shaped pistillidia .., enclosed at first within a calyptra.., which is ultimately carried up with them.., leaving often a sheath (vaginula) round the bottom of the fruit-stalk. 1863 M. J. BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* iii. 20 In *Sphagnum* the vaginula is lifted up on a cylindrical hyaline stalk. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 360 The basal portion of the growing archegonium becomes swollen out and penetrates down into the tissue of the stem, being nourished and firmly enclosed by it (the vaginula).

Vaginule. *Bot.* [Anglicizing of prec. or a. F. *vaginule.*] = prec.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 380 In *Jungermannia* the sporangia are elevated upon stalks arising out of the vaginule.

†Vaginess. *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [? f. It. *vaghezza*, f. *vago* VAGE *a.*] Handsomeness, elegance.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 197 All these [parts of the world]..are inameled with a most gratious vaginesse, lustre, and beautie.

†Va·git. *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [ad. L. *vāgīt-us*, f. *vāgīre* to cry, squall.] A cry, lamentation, wail.

1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 294 His cruell altars with sad vagits sounde.

†Va·gitate, *v. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [ad. med.L. *vagitāre*, f. L. *vagārī* to wander.] *intr.* To roam or travel.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. viii. (1654) 103 Before the use of the compass was known it was impossible to vagitate athwart the Ocean.

Vago- (vē·go), used as comb. f. of VAGUS in a few terms of *Anat.* or *Med.* in the sense 'of or pertaining to, denoting, the vagus or pneumogastric nerve (and some other nerve or part)', as *vago-accessory*, *-glossopharyngeal*, *-sympathetic* adjs.

1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. i. (1878) 392 In the mixed vago-sympathetic trunk. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 860 Among bulbar nerves the vago-accessory is by far the most frequently attacked. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 811 The hypoglossal root fibres lie in close proximity to those of the vago-glossopharyngeal nerve.

†Va·gous, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *vagus*: see VAGUE *a.*] Vagrant or vague, in various senses; departing from or exceeding just or ordinary bounds; irregular, inordinate; unsettled, wandering.

1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* I. i. 15 We have no other assurance of it then so wild and vagous a tradition. *Ibid.* iii. 32, I know not what natural vagous and indetermin'd notion. 1684 N. S. tr. *Crit Eng. Edit. Bible* ix. 67 The first is only a Vagous way of Disputation, propounding now one thing, now another. 1720 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 78 The whole throng of Physicians..crieth it up.. to..cure vagous Pains. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 207 Such as were born and begot of a single woman, through a vagous Lust,..were called *Spuris*. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) I. 319 [They] were no doubt liable to vagous and wandering Pains.

Va·grance. *rare.* [f. as next: see -ANCE.] Vagrancy.

1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 85 P 9 The understanding may be restrained from that vagrance and dissipation by which it relieves itself after a long intenseness of thought. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. xxii. 107 You'll never mount the airy steep With all your tripping vagrance.

Vagrancy (vē·grănsi). [f. VAGRANT *a.*: see -ANCY.]

1. *fig.* The action or fact of wandering or digressing in mind, opinion, thought, etc.; an instance of this. (Cf. 3.)

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. lxxiii, Curious men will judge't a vagrancy To start thus from my scope. 1778 Johnson in *Boswell* (1831) IV. 176 Of this vacillation and vagrancy of mind, I impute a great part to a fortuitous and unsettled life. 1808 Han. More *Calebs* II. 200 Poetry..has of late too much degenerated into personal satire,..and caricature;..it has exhibited the vagrancies of genius, without the inspiration. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 256 We can all of us apprehend the pretty vagrancy of the fancy. 1861 Tulloch *Rng. Purit.* ii. 291 The workings of conscience helped to check the vagrancies of the heart.

2. The state, condition, or action of roaming abroad or wandering about from place to place.

a 1677 Barrow *Serm.* lv. Wks. 1686 III. 42 Therefore did he spend his days in continual labour, in restless travel, in endless vagrancy, going about doing good. *Ibid.* v. 57 Moses did not lose his affection towards his Countreymen, because he was by one of them threatned away into banishment and vagrancy. 1776 Johnson in *Boswell* (Oxf. ed.) II. 40 As a shepherd..he is answerable for those that stray... But no man can be answerable..for vagrancy which he has not authority to restrain. 1822–36 De Quincey *Conf.* Wks. 1862 I. 131 Happier life I cannot imagine than this vagrancy, if the weather were but tolerable, through endless successions of changing beauty. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. i, Before terminating for ever his vagrancies. 1889 B. Harte *Cressy* i, It had been the habit of the master to utilize these preliminary vagrancies of his little flock.

transf. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 76/2, I was struck by the wild untutored vagrancy of every growing thing.

b. *spec.* Idle wandering with no settled habitation, occupation, or obvious means of support; conduct, life, or practices characteristic of vagrants or idle beggars.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vagrancy*, a vagrant, disorderly, or ill Course of Life. *a* 1792 Burke *Sh. Negro Code* Wks. (Bohn) V. 544 He shall by office prosecute them for the offences of idleness.., gaming, or vagrancy. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 145 Vagrancy had thus everywhere a colourable excuse given to it, and soon largely increased. 1876 J. Weiss *Wit, Hum. & Shaks.* iv. 141 He ought to be taken up for vagrancy as having no visible means of support.

attrib. 1902 *Scribner's Mag.* April 406/1 The sleepy unwary are lucky if they escape the Island on a vagrancy commitment.

3. An instance or occasion of wandering or roaming; a rambling journey; a straying.

1763 Ld. Hardwicke in *Life* (1847) III. xv. 381 The runaways need not shorten their vagrancy on that account. 1799 Strutt *Dress & Habit* II. 318 It was evidently his intention to hold up these idle vagrancies to ridicule.

Vagrant (vē'grănt), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 5–6 **vagaraunt**(e, 6–7 **vagarant**, 6 **-ent**. *β.* 6– **vagrant**, 7 **vag'rant**. [Late ME. *vagraunt*, *vagarant*, perh. an alteration of earlier AF. *wakerant* (*wacrant*, *walcrant*), through association with L. *vagārī*: cf. Vagabond. The AF. word is employed in the sense of 'vagrant' in enactments of the 14th cent.]

A. *sb.* 1. One of a class of persons who having no settled home or regular work wander from place to place, and maintain themselves by begging or in some other disreputable or dishonest way; an itinerant beggar, idle loafer, or tramp.

Vagrants have been the subject of many legal enactments, and by the Act 5 Geo. IV, c. 83 (the Vagrancy Act), now in force, they are divided into 'idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues and other vagrants'.

a. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 113/1 Alle Statutes of Laborers, ..Vitaillers, Servauntz and Vagarauntz, afore this tyme made. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 75 They runne roging like vagarents vp and downe the countries like maisterles-se men. 1598 Barkeley *Felic. Man* (1631) 378 [Seamen] are alwaies as vagarants and in continuall exile.

β. 1452 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 202 All manere vagraunts, vacabunds and beggers begging oute of the hundred wheras they duelle. 1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 3 § 6 Yf it shall appear..suche man..to have been a vagraunte and vacabound or ydle parsone. 1626 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiv. xci. 367 Lest his Bagpipe, Sheephooke, Skrip, and Bottell..By Vagrants (more then many now) might suffer of their stealth. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 392 These then are Vagrants, while the Husbandman fixes himself in the Villages. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 452 Vagrants who on falsehood live, Skill'd in smooth tales, and artful to deceive. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 34 The præfect, who seemed to have been designed as a terror only to slaves and vagrants. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Ireland* 119 The listless or bold expression which characterises vagrants. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 75 For the able-bodied vagrant, it is well known that the old English laws had no mercy. 1884 Pae *Eustace* 57 If you dare to trespass on my grounds..you will be treated as a vagrant or a beggar.

2 One who wanders or roams about; a person who leads a wandering life; a rover.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* xi, Vagrant, go roam and range about the world, and perish as a vagabond on earth! 1718 Pope *Odyss.* II. 212 Unnumber'd birds glide through the aerial way, Vagrants of air, and unforeboding stray. 1719 De For *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 361 In about five Days Time the three Vagrants, tir'd with Wandring,..came back. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1771) V. ix. 194 He chose the Israelites, poor vagrants who had not a foot of ground of their own. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* II. 194 Why,..if ages past Led the bold vagrants to so mild a waste,..Why the wild woods for ever must they rove?

fig. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* iii. 3 We shal not neede trauell farre to seeke instances of such vagrants out of the wayes of God.

3. A wandering or non-sedentary spider (see first quot.).

1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlii. (1826) I. 493 The former Walckenaer, in his admirable work on spiders, has designated by the name of *Vagrants*. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xix. 298 There is a very common black and white spider amongst the *vagrants*.

B. *adj.* 1. Wandering about without proper means of livelihood; living in vagrancy or idle vagabondage; of or belonging to the class of vagrants or itinerant beggars.

a. 1462 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 127 Many..of the Kynges liege people..gothe vagarauntand vnoccupied and may not haue ther labour to ther levyng. 1530 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 2 Yf any suche ympotent person after the sayde Feast of Seynt Iohn, be vagarant & goo abeggyng. *Ibid.* § 9 Whypped for a vagarant stronge begger. 1608 Bacon *Comment. Sol.* I. Wks. 1868 IV. 91 The Indited recusant, the Non Communicant, the vagarant person. 1632 Sanderson *Serm.* 383 Sturdy Roagues and vagarant townsend beggars.

β. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 160 In all which places they mustred souldiers,..entertaining also strangers, and other vagrant and masterlesse men. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* II, Current and vagrant—Stockant, whippant Beggars! 1722 De For *Plague* 122 Every vagrant person may, by the laws of England, be taken up. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 149 His house was known to all the vagrant train. 1824–28 Somerville *Life & Times* (1861) 370 Before the general establishment of poor's-rates, the country was overrun with vagrant beggars. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 74 An Act to render Reformatory and Industrial Schools in Scotland more available for the Benefit of Vagrant Children. *fig.* 1663 J. Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 252 If once Right Reason..be put by its office, our inward house will soon lie ..free for every vile and vagrant Opinion to take up and dwell therein.

2. *fig.* Wandering, straying, roving; inconstant, unsettled, wayward, etc.

1522 More *Dequat. Noviss.* Wks. 76/1 It often happeth, yᵗ the very face sheweth yᵉ mind walking a pilgrimage, in such wise yᵗ not without som note & reproch of suche vagarauntе mind [etc.]. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* iii. 3 We haue a wandring and vagrant vaine euen after our calling, and therefore much more before. 1651 H. More *Enthus. Tri.* (1662) 48 His causality is more vagrant, more lax and general, then to be brought in here. 1684 Burnet tr. *Utopia* 141 They think that if they were not so strictly restrained from all vagrant Appetites, very few would engage in a married state. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 143 P4 Ambition, Envy, vagrant Desire, or impertinent Mirth will take up our Minds. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. Pref. 26 Men daily, hourly sacrifice the greatest known interest, to..any vagrant inclination. 1755 J. Shebbare *Lydia* (1769) I. 116 Pleasure skin-deep and vagrant, pain heart-felt and long-lasting! 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 154 We wander by forest side or fountain,..following our vagrant fancies. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 542 The offspring of a vagrant and ignoble love. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I. xxiii. 234 A child..with a violent and vagrant temper.

3. Leading a wandering or nomadic life; ranging or roaming from place to place; straying, straggling. Cf. Vagant *a.* 1.

prod. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 201 They shulde here and se lernyng in the sayd college, and not to be vagrant abrode in the sayd towne. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. iii. (Arb.) 22 The people remained in the woods and mountains, vagarant and dispersed like the wild beasts. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 889 [They] became vagrant through most parts of the Romaine Empire. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, lxxxii, Vagrant as a Rout Possest with feare, led by vnskillfull guides. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 232 Ye shall not beg,..Sent with a Pass, and vagrant thro' the land.

attrib. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 90 Fearing his vagrant sonne might grow too potent..he rowses himselfe. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xv. 37 A vagrant Zany, of no certain Manger, Who knew not, ere he din'd, or Friend or Stranger. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxxvii, I amused myself with observing the manners of the vagrant nations. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxv. (1787) II. 532 The vagrant soldiers were recalled to their standard. 1812 J. Henry *Camp. agst. Quebec* 68 Without the path of the vagrant savage to guide us. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 630 It might well be..that..regents would continue to administer the government in the name of vagrant and mendicant kings. 1860 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* I. x. 100 They proved to be a vagrant band, such as..all Italy abounds with.

b. Of animals, birds, etc.

1743 Francis tr. *Horace, Odes* IV. iv. 4 To whom the monarch of the gods assign'd Dominion o'er the vagrant, feather'd race. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 396 It becomes a resting place to vagrant birds. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 53 [The goat is] lively, capricious, and vagrant; it is not easily confined to its flock.., and prone to stray remote from the rest. 1817 Wordsw. *Vernal Ode* 90 The soft murmur of the vagrant Bee. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 562 In one case two swarms, both of them vagrant swarms, took possession of the same hive.

c. Of plants: Rambling or straggling in growth or habit; straying. Also of hair.

1827 Hood *Mids. Fairies* xlix, And sometimes we enrich gray stems, with twined And vagrant ivy. 1851 Longf. *Gold. Leg.* ii. *A Farm*, The vagrant Vines that wandered, Seeking the sunshine, round and round. 1868 Sala *Seven Sons* I. xi. 265 She had..a quantity of vagrant brown hair.

4. Of or belonging to a vagrant or wanderer; characterized by, peculiar to, devoted or given up to, vagrancy or wandering.

1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. M 4 b, Doe you allow of that vagarant ministerie, which is in manie Countries..sprong vp of late, to the discredite of the Gospell of Jesus Christ? 1598 Hackluyt *Voy.* I. 490 The worde Turk signifieth a Shepheard or one that followeth a vagarant and wilde kinde of life. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 665 The Ethiopians..liued before a vagrant life, like the *Nomades* of olde. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lvi. 8 Thou knowest the dayes of my exile, and vagrant condition. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 304 That Beauteous Emma vagrant Courses took; Her Father's House and civil Life forsook. 1775 Johnson *Let.* 27 May in *Boswell*, Because it will be inconvenient to send them after me in my vagrant state. — *Tax. no Tyr.* 22 But the age being now past of vagrant excursion. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 212 Persons whose life has been passed in vagrant diplomacy. 1867 Morris *Jason* xiv. 416 Keeping but vagrant life for thine own part Of what thou boastest with the Gods to share.

5. Of things: Not fixed or stationary; moving hither and thither; *spec.* in *Path.* of certain blood-cells.

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i, Ere he march in Asia, or display His vagrant Ensigne in the Persean fields. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 226 Mercurie..is in truth a fugitive vagrant substance. 1743 Francis tr. *Horace, Odes* I. xxvi. 3 Bear them, ye vagrant winds, away *Ibid.* xxxiv. 14 The ponderous earth, and vagrant streams. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* II. 417 When we consider the motion of those vagrant worlds, the comets. 1800 Moore *Anacreon* lviii. 10 Then I loose all such clinging cares, And cast them to the vagrant airs. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xv, A vagrant ray of sunlight patching the shade of the tall houses. 1857 Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 203 The lofty ice mountains that wander like vagrant islands along the coast of America. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 497 The fixed cells of the tissue to a great extent appear to supplant in its office the vagrant leucocyte.

† b. Of a disease or pain: Not local or confined to one particular part. *Obs.*

1656 Ridgley *Pract. Physick* 94 Arthritis that is vagrant is Scorbutical, and a pain of divers parts. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* IV. 126 M. N. was suddenly taken with most sharp vagrant pains.

Va'grant, *v. rare*⁻¹. [f. prec.] *intr.* To behave like a vagrant; to ramble or roam.

1886 Miss Broughton *Doctor Cupid* I. ix. 156 The boy is out—..vagranting after his kind.

Va'grantism. [f. Vagrant *sb.* or *a.*] Inclination to, love of, vagrancy.

1908 G. S. Hall *Adolescence* I. 296 The erratic acts of these cases,..passionate vagrantism and vagabondage, solitude and soliloquy.

Va'grantize, *v. rare.* [f. Vagrant *sb.* + -ize] † a. *trans.* To arrest as a vagrant. *Obs.* b. To reduce to the condition of a vagrant. In quot. *absol.*

1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 21 Set off to the next justice of the peace, for the purpose of getting the whole set vagrantized. 1893 *Liverpool Daily Post* 22 Dec. 4/10 The result is rather to permanently vagrantize—if one may coin a verb for the occasion—instead of inculcating..independent effort.

Va'grant-like, *adv.* [f. Vagrant *sb.*] In or after the manner of a vagrant.

1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* I iv. (1713) 97 He vagrant-like wandred on in a course of dissoluteness.

Vagrantly (vē'grăntli), *adv.* Also 6 **vagrauntlie.** [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] As a vagrant; in a vagrant or wandering manner; † irrelevantly.

1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 3 § 6 We haue taken this bearer I. K. vagrauntlie,. going loytering idellie abowt. *a* 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 634 The contrary..being barely and nakedly affirmed of the Iesuites, and that most vagrantly, and from the purpose. 1604 N. D. *3rd Pt. Three Conversions of Eng.* 93 Who would neither haue lands..nor any certaine seats or habitation, but went abroade vagrantly. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict., Vage*, wandringly, scatteringly, vagrantly. 1847 Webster, *Vagrantly*, in a wandering, unsettled manner. 1893 *Dispatch* (Columbus) 20 April, Come with me then, vagrantly, into a few of these lovely old home-spots of rural England.

† **Vagra'rious,** *a. nonce-word.* [Cf. next and -arious.] Vagrant, wandering.

1795 Wilberforce in *Life* (1830) II. 105 My health is not equal to this vagrarious kind of life.

† **Va'grate,** *v. nonce-word.* [f. Vagr-ant *sb.*: see -ate.] *intr.* To range or wander.

1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* IX. 314 In this unbounded range, Where error vagrates and illusions change.

† **Va'gring,** *ppl. a. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. as prec.] Vagrant, wandering; nomadic.

1619 W. Sclater *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1629) 310 There are risen vp a scattered and vagring company, vnder color of deuotion.

Vagrom (vē'grǫm), *a.* [Illiterate alteration of Vagrant *a.*: cf. Ingram *a.* In mod. use only after Shakspere.]

1. Vagrant, vagabond, wandering.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. iii. 26 *Dogberry*, You shall comprehend all vagrom men. 1863 G. A. Sala *Capt. Dangerous* I. x. 285 Sheep-stealers, footpads, vagrom men and women. 1874 M. Collins *Transmigr.* II. ii. 49 With him came the vagrom guest,..a boy almost. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* 164 Born of a poor vagrom woman.

2. Eccentric, erratic.

1888 *Sat. Rev.* LIV. 497 Words lose their character and have their history obscured by being spelled after the vagrom devices of the phonetic people.

Vagt, southern ME. var. *fagt*, pa. t. Fight *v.*

† **Vague,** *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Also 6 **vage.** [Of obscure origin.] A prank or trick. Only in pl.

Freq. in the second quarter of the 16th c., esp. in the phrase *to play one's vagues*, with which *to take one's vagues* appears to be synonymous.

(*a*) 1523 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 200 Thei thought that Columpna had..takyn so his vages against the said Cardinall de Medyces..that the said Columpna dorst never have

trustyd..hymself aftir in the desperat handes of the Cardinall. 1526 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 120 Yf they playe thus their vages, They shall not escape the plages Which to theym of Rome happened. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 252 b, The Scottes had some leysure to play their vagues and folowe their accustomed manier. *c* 1567 Abp. Parker *Ps.* civ, There playth his vages Leviathan.

(*b*) 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 80 b, She despyseth all outwarde vages & vanytees, & is contente to fulfyll all yᵗ her lady commaundeth. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1968 Because of theyr neglygence and of theyr wanton vagys, I vysyte them and stryke them with many sore plagys.

Vague (vēᵉg), *a.*, *adv.*, *sb.*[2] Also 7 vage. [a. F. *vague* (13th c.) or ad. L. *vag-us* wandering, inconstant, uncertain, etc. (hence also It., Sp., Pg. *vago*).]

1. Of statements, etc.: Couched in general or indefinite terms; not definitely or precisely expressed; deficient in details or particulars.

1548 Vicary *Anat.* (1888) 15 Likewise a Chirurgion must take heede that he deceiue no man with his vague promises. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Durham* I. (1662) 298 With subtilty not light, slight, vage as air, But such as Truth doth crown. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 76 ¶ 8 Men often extenuate their own guilt, only by vague and general charges upon others. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 521 Their answers, vague, And all at random. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. 179 He remained inflexible, covering his refusal with the vague pretext, 'that circumstances were not in his power'. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 400 He wanted ..to have, not vague professions of good will, but distinct invitations and promises of support. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 773/2 The statement of claim is so vague that we had to go into detail, so as to make the case clear.

2. Of words, language, etc.: Not precise or exact in meaning.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* To Rdr., Vague and insignificant forms of speech, and abuse of language, have so long passed for mysteries of science. 1744 Harris *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 2 So it was..with a thousand words beside, all no less common, and equally familiar; and yet all of them equally vague and undetermined. *a* 1781 R. Watson *Philip III* (1793) I. III. 306 It was conceived in vague and general terms. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. p. xi, Its descriptive language was..arbitrary, vague and ambiguous. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 502 By an indiscriminate use of vague terms. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 152 These vague phrases were not likely to quiet the perturbed mind of the minister. 1870 Farrar *Fam. Speech* iii. (1873) 87 But the name Chaldee is so vague and misleading that I have purposely excluded it. 1900 E. Holmes *What is Poetry?* 79 Vague words, then, stir emotion; exact terms repress it. *fig.* 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* viii. 23 Like the vague sighings of a wind at even, That wakes the wavelets of the slumbering sea, And dies on the creation of its breath.

3. Of ideas, knowledge, etc.: Lacking in definiteness or precision: indefinite, indistinct.

a 1704 Locke (J.), These vague ideas, signified by the terms, whatsoever and thing. 1753 Hogarth *Anal Beauty* 7 So vague is taste, when it has no solid principles for its foundation. 1792 Mary Wollstonecr. *Rights Wom.* v. 186 Though prudence of this sort be termed a virtue, morality becomes vague when any part is supposed to rest on falsehood. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 172 The metes and bounds of property would be vague and indeterminate. 1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 2 To the vague and unsatisfactory state of our knowledge respecting them. *a* 1881 A. Barratt *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 156 Beyond this we only get a vague analogy.

b. Similarly of feelings or sensations.

1797 S. & Ht. Lee *Cant. T.* I. 106 [He was] trembling with a new and vague apprehension. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 256 Their movements not only give a vague alarm, but..will even indicate to the knowing trapper the very quarter whence danger threatens. 1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 387 The patient's illness begins with general disorder; ..vague pains in the belly, and sometimes with vomiting. 1868 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* 15 The vague but strong feeling that her son was a stranger to her. 1885 E. Clodd *Myths* I. § 6. 111 Man's sense of vague wonder in the presence of powers whose force he cannot measure.

4. †a. *Vague acid* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1742 Shaw tr. *Boerhaave's Chem.* (ed. 2) I. 112 Of the Vague Acid. The vague volatile liquid acid, found perhaps every where in mines. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Vague Acid*, a term much used by the modern chemists, and signifying a certain volatile fluid salt or acid, supposed to be found every where in mines, and in combination with different other substances, to form many of the ordinary compound fossils. 1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 45 A Belemnite, whose laminæ were in a manner dissected and laid open by the vague acid,..which every where pervades the earth, destroying some bodies, and forming others.

b *Bot.* (See quot.)

1842 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* viii. (1880) 313 *Vague*, when the radicle bears no evident or uniform relation of the kind to the pericarp.

5. Lacking physical definiteness of form or outline; indistinctly seen or perceived; formless, obscure, shadowy.

1820 B. W. Procter *Flood of Thessaly* I. 3 Chaos, touched ith light and form, Lost its vague being. 1849 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* 433 These are in every state of condensation, from a vague film hardly to be discerned to such as have actually arrived at a solid nucleus of stars. 1879 Huxley *Hume* iv. 96 We travel through countries where every feature of the scenery is vague.

6. Of persons, the mind, etc.: Unable to think with clearness or precision; indefinite or inexact in thought or statement.

1806-20 Wordsw. *River Duddon* xxvi, Random cares and truant joys, That shield from mischief and preserve from stains Vague minds, while men are growing out of boys. 1827 Carlyle *Misc.* (1840) I. 17 Richter has..an imagination vague, sombre, splendid, or appalling. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. viii. 142 The sharp practice of the world drives some logic into the most vague of men: women are not so schooled.

b. *poet.* Of the eyes: Devoid of expression. *rare.*

1820 Keats *St. Agnes* viii, She danc'd along with vague, regardless eyes.

7. † a. ? Vagrant, vagabond. *Obs.*

a 1627 Sir J. Hayward *Edw. VI* (1630) 63 The Lord Gray encouraged his men to set sharpely upon the vague villaines, good neither to liue peaceably nor to fight.

b. Of the Egyptian month or year: Beginning at varying seasons; moveable, shifting.

a 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 762 The beginnings of these years being taken from the first of the vage or moveable moneth *Thoth* of the Egyptians. 1860 R. S. Poole in *Smith's Dict. Bible* I. 506/1 (*Egypt*), The Vague Year contained 365 days without any additional fraction, and therefore passed through all the seasons in about 1500 years. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 665 This [Egyptian] year is called *vague*, by reason of its commencing sometimes at one season of the year, and sometimes at another.

8. As *adv.* Vaguely; indistinctly.

1864 Longf. *Wind over Chimney* ix, The night-wind drear Clamours louder, wilder, vaguer.

b. In combs., as *vague-hovering*, *-menacing*, *-sailing*, *-shining*, etc.

1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 238 In this wild Universe of ours, storming-in, vague-menacing, it is enough if you shall find..existence. 1871 J. Hay *Pike County Ball.* (1880) 90 Vague-hovering o'er her form..A warmer and a dearer charm. *Ibid.* 95 Vague-sailing, where the feathery clouds Fleck white the tranquil skies. 1879 Dowden *Southey* vii. 196 Will-o'-the-wisp, vague-shining theories that beguile night wanderers.

9. *absol.* as *sb.*, esp. *the vague*, the vague aspect or consideration of things. *In the vague*, in a vague or indefinite state or condition, uncertain; without entering into details or particulars, in general.

1831 Carlyle *Sterling* I. xii, John Mill..spoke of him..as a gifted amiable being..in danger of dissipating himself into the vague. 1856 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 280 My plans are still in the vague; I feel no haste to 'see my way'. 1881 Masson *De Quincey* 196 The meaning is all but lost in a mere vague of music. 1882 Bain *J. S. Mill* i. 13 All this is completely in the vague. 1894 *Month* Oct. 207 We must take them rather in the vague.

b. The vague or uncertain future. *rare.*

1865 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 260 Dr. B. is postponed into the vague.

c. The vague or undefined expanse *of* something.

1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 90 The great Genoese did not draw that first star-guided furrow across the vague of waters. 1875 Ruskin *Lect. Art* vi. 169 The shadows lost or disregarded in the vague of space.

Vague (vēᵉg), *v.*[1] Chiefly *Sc.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: α. 6-7 **vage.** β. *Sc.* 6-7, 9 **vaig**, 7 **vaige.** γ. 7- **vague.** [ad. L. *vagārī* to wander: cf. F. *vaguer*, Pg. *vagar*, It. *vagare.*] *intr.* To wander; to range, roam; to ramble idly or as a vagrant.

α. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* v. x. (Royal MS.) 3394 Fra land to land he wes vagand [*v.r.* wauerande]. 1548 *Compl. Scott.* xiii. (1872) 111 Quhen metellus hed vagit vp and doune there ane lang tyme. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 2 Euill disposed persons vage and wander abroad at midnight.

β. 1587 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI*, c. 119 P 12 Thay sall remane within this realme..and sall not vaig thairfra. 1647 *Aberd. Rec.* in *Aberd Jrnl. N. & Q.* (1908) I. 26/1 That all persones..heir the word of God, and not vaig nor goe to the old toun. *c* 1657 Sir W. Mure *Ps.* cix. 10 Still vaige, and sharke, and beg about. Their bounds lay'd waist, they may. 1801 Eyden *Compl. Scott.* Gloss. 379 To *vaig* is in comme so as well as *stravaig.*

γ. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxiii. xlii. 503 To..set at ease these robbers that vague about our country. *Ibid.* xxi. xxi. 785 They vagued to and fro in scattering wise up and downe the countrey a foraging. *c* 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 121 Thou idle boy thus vagueing here and there. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxvi. § iv. (1699) 266 If they were necessitated to vague up and down at all Courts, upon all occasions. 1766 Nichol *Poems* 2 Thus through the country I went vaguing 1786 in *Old Ch. Life Scotl.* (1885) 320 The profanation of this holy day by idly vaguing together.

† b. In fig. use. *Obs.*

1567 Drant *Horace, Ep.* B j, Should I goe wryte at Randonne tho, and vage abroade, and raue? 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 289 [He] louset a brydle to thame to vaig in quhat lust or leicherie lyket thame best. *a* 1614 J. Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 445 The Kingsould be judge if a Minister vag from his text. 1641 R. B. K. *Par. Liturgy w. Mass-bk.*, etc. 39 In these conceats all of them agree to vage.

Vague (vēᵉg), *v.*[2] *rare.* [f. Vague *a.*] *intr.* To act or write vaguely; to be vague or indefinite.

1880 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 649, I have vagued away in a sort of circle round my diaries still heaped on the floor, and Josephine standing between me and the lamp. 1894 Mrs. C. Praed *Christina Chard* I. 123 I've vagued all my life—that's been my curse. *Ibid.* 128 You are to fulfil yourself. You are to 'vague no more.

Vaguely (vēᵉgli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly [2].]

1. In a vague, indefinite, or indeterminate manner; with vagueness or lack of precision; in vague terms.

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxx. (1787) III. 185 The services of Stilicho are great and manifest, his crimes, as they are vaguely stated in the language of flattery and hatred, are obscure. 1792 Boswell *Johnson* (1831) I. 330 Concerning the publication of which Sir John Hawkins guesses vaguely and idly. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 30 When my uncle was dressing, he called vaguely to mind the visitor of the preceding night. 1828 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 303 A motion was made so vaguely worded that it could hardly be said to mean any thing. *a* 1881 A. Barratt *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 104 To some such conception we are vaguely led.

b. Dimly, obscurely.

1872 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xxi. 494, I vaguely discerned the audience and apparatus. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xix. 316 The houses grew vaguely distinct.

2. Without attention or concentration of mind or thought; idly, vacantly.

1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, He stood..listening vaguely to what the magistrate was saying to him. 1878 T. Hardy *Ret. Native* v. v, 'No,' said Eustacia, looking vaguely through the window at the fire.

Vagueness (vēᵉgnés). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or condition of being vague; lack of distinctness or preciseness; indefiniteness.

1799 Mackintosh *Study Law Nat.* 8 Notwithstanding the objections of some writers to the vagueness of the language. 1829 H. Nelle *Lit. Rem.* 52 A great fault into which descriptive writers fall is the vagueness and indistinctness of their pictures. 1843 Mill *Logic* I. ii. § 5 We shall have occasion to show under what conditions this vagueness may exist. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vii. 238 A general vagueness as to the ordinary duties of mankind. *a* 1881 A. Barratt *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 52 The weakness of this conception is its vagueness.

b. An instance of this; a vague thing, feature, word, etc.

1838 *Lond. & Westm. Rev.* XXIX. 68 With a remark or two on those errors and vaguenesses we shall conclude. 1839 Poe *Fall House Usher* Wks. 1864 I. 298 The paintings ..which grew, touch by touch, into vaguenesses at which I shuddered. *a* 1849 — *R. H. Horne* Ibid. III. 436 Pure vaguenesses of speech abound.

Va'guer. *Sc.* Also 6 **vaigare**, 7 **va(i)ger.** [f. Vague *v.*[1]] An idle stroller or wanderer; a vagrant.

15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), Vaigares, adhantaris of ailhoussis. 1647 Baillie *Lett.* (1841) III. 13 An act against vagers from their own ministers. 1876 Grant *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 195 They were forbidden..to be perturbers or vaguers, wandering from place to place.

Va'guing, *vbl. sb.* Now *rare.* Also *Sc.* 6 **vaiging**, 7 **-in, vaging.** [f. as prec.] The action of the vb.; idle rambling or wandering; an instance or occasion of this. Chiefly *Sc.*

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 238 His wyfe..culde nocht suffir his foull, inordinat, and voluptuous vaiging by her. 1659 A. Hay *Diary* (S.H.S.) 38 That the Lord wold reforme..the vaigings and whorings of my heart. 1692 in Bower *Hist. Univ. Edinb.* I. 54 That thereby vaging and vice may be discouraged. 1770 J. Watt in Muirhead *Life* (1858) 203 The vaguing about the country, and bodily fatigue, have given me health and spirits. 1900 H. G. Graham *Soc. Life in Scot. 18th Cent.* (1901) III. ii. 92 The vaguing or loitering idly in the streets..was a subject of condemnation.

Va'guing, *ppl. a.* Also 7 **vaging.** [f. as prec.] Wandering, roving.

1607 W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess* (1629) 223 Men of no setled abode; vaguing, or vagabond lewes. 1619 Sir W. Mure *True Crucifix* 2715 Sathan,..whocourse doth take On wings of vaging thoughts, before to send His Messingers. 1633 Struther *True Happiness* 135 Hee saw nothing beside, that could so much as draw his vaging desire to it. 1905 Gunn *Baron Crt. of Stitchill* (S.H.S.) Introd. p. xxii, The sturdy, vaguing beggar who would neither work nor want was a constant menace to the cottar and villager.

Vaguish (vēᵉgiʃ), *a.* [i. Vague *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat vague or indefinite.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 532 It is very clear That I into a vaguish style have got. 1853 G. J. Cayley *Æsthetics* II. 146 It is a vaguish affair to have to squeeze a whole capital into a postscript, but I have no time to individualise.

Vagus (vēᵉgŭs). *Anat.* and *Path.* Pl. **vagi** (vēᵉdʒəi). [a. L. *vagus* wandering, straying.] The pneumogastric nerve (see Pneumogastric *a.*).

1840 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 403 The Pneumogastric Nerve (vagus) arises by numerous filaments from the respiratory tract immediately below the glosso-pharyngeal. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc* IX. 96, I endeavoured to compress the right vagus at the angle of the jaw. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 773 Some fibres of the vagus pass to the intestines.

b. *attrib.* in *vagus nerve*, etc.

1856 Todd & Bowman *Phys. Anat.* II. 119 The Vagus Nerve emerges from the Medulla oblongata immediately below the glosso-pharyngeal. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 928 Atropine paralyses the vagus endings and centre. 1897 *Ibid.* IV. 631 Vagus pneumonia, as it is called, which follows section of the vagi in rabbits.

‖ **Vah,** *int. Obs.* Also 4 **vath.** [L *vah* (hence Gr. *οὐά*); med.L. also *vath.*] An exclamation expressive of exultation, contempt, or disgust.

1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xliv. 16 He..is chaufid, and seide, Vah [*v.r.* vath; *Cov.* A ha], or weel, I am hat; I sai the fyr. — *Matt.* xxvii. 40 Forsothe men passynge forth blasfemyden hym, mouynge her heuedis, and seyinge, 'Vath, or fie, to thee'. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* xxvii. 40 Saying, Vah, thou that destroyest the temple of God. 1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* IV. 191 Vah, but ift bee your fortunes to goe hence, leave mee some suer gard for my weake defense! 1619 Harris *Drunkard's Cup* 19 Vah, vah, vah, you would sinke to see and smell. 1632 Anchoran *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 186 Vah, away with shame, dishonestie and lecherie!

Vaiage, obs. Sc. f. Voyage. **Vaick,** var. Vake *v. Obs.* **Vaid,** obs. Sc. f. Wade *v.*

† **Vaidie.** *Obs.*—[1] [a. AF. *vaidye*, *vaidie*, = ONF. *voi(s)die*, OF. *voi(s)dia*, of doubtful origin.] Subtlety, guileful cunning.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 96 This said Herodes in vaidye [*v.rr.* ful couthy, full falsilye], For at Crist hauld he gret enuye.

Vaifer, obs. Sc. f. WAVER *v.* **Vaig,** obs. Sc. f. VAGUE, WAGE. **Vaik(e,** later ff. VAKE *v. Sc.*; obs. Sc. ff. WAKE *v.*, WEAK *a.* and *v.*

Vail (vēl), *sb.*[1] Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: *a.* 5 vayll(e, 5–7 vayle; 5 *Sc.* waill(e, waile, 6–7 vaile, 6– vail (6 *Sc.* vaill), 9 *dial.* vaail; 6 veyle, 7 veile, 8 veil. *β.* 5–9 vale. [f. VAIL *v.*[1] Cf. AVAIL *sb.*]

I. †1. Advantage, benefit, profit. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 9 God send also unto thy most vayle..A spiryt, a strenghte, and of good counsaylle *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 76 For, what maner vertu þat a man haue, but yf he be yn charyte, hit stondys him in no vayle. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V 201 He wyst no waill thar langar for to bide. *c* 1500 in Denton *Eng. in 15th C.* (1888) 318 He to kepe vnder yowre tenants and haue all the vayle and thay the burdyn. *Ibid.*, [To] destroy the cherch & the towne for a lytell vayle to yowre place. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 392 At Paryse garden..a man shall not fayle To fynde two or thre hundredes, for the bearwardes vaile.

b. *dial.* Advance, prog s.

a 1847 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* (E.D.S.) s.v., Thee dosn't zim to meyak much vaail.

†2. *Of* (. .) *vail,* of profit, value, or worth. *Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 262 Peras he was wont..to speke mony an ydull worde and of no vayle, aftyr he turnet al his speche ynto profyt. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 167 The byschoprykis, that war of gretast waile, Thai tuk in hand. 1478 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 418/1 Sayand that the brocht that Master Thomas..fand is of vayll, and the brocht that I..fand..is of na wayll. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 136 Quhen he considderit haill The Britis war bot of sa litill vaill.

†3. *Sc.* Value or worth; account, estimation.

1471 *Acta Audit.* 11/1 And gif þal oxin be of mare vale, he to restor again þe Remanent. 1480 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 52/1 Henry to pay to þe said sir edward sa mekle as þe said teind was of vale. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 98 Als force it is no tyme to him to faill, And lufe all thing ay efter the awin vaill. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 74 Than man I..my Goddis name maneaweir, And set him at full lytill vaill.

II. 4. A casual or occasional profit or emolument in addition to salary, stipend, wages, or other regular payment, esp. one accruing or attached to an office or position; a fee or offering of this nature. Usu. in pl. Now *arch.* or *Obs.*

The pl. is occas. found construed as a sing.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 648 The half of all offerynges & vayles of the auter. *Ibid.*, The offrynges & the vaylys of fowre days by the yere. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 113 A..chapel-eyne, þe which shall take all þe obuencions (or vayles) of þe Auter of þe same chapell. 1550 T. LEVER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. 103 The number of the stock reserved, all manner of vails beside. 1563–70 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 265/2 The church of S Helen, which was then esteemed woorth an hundred marks by yeere, besides other vailes and commodities belonging to the same. 1628 *Barnevelt's Apol.* F iij b, Out of the wages allowed by the citie with other veiles I could wel-nigh maintaine my family. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1647) 84 Our vailes for Burialls & Christenings is..ceast. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 102 For he would quickly lick himself whole again by his vails. 1720 SWIFT *Fates Clergymen* Wks. 1751 II. II. 27 His revenue (besides vails) amounted to about thirty pounds a year. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Thackeray's Earl Chatham* (1897) 300 These ignominious vails Pitt resolutely declined.

transf. and *fig.* 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 627 To shew that mindes and tongues with Learnings brand, Are blest with plenty in all wordly vails. 1694 CROWNE *Regulus* v, You scorn those scorns which always are the vales Of that unlucky office [i. e. of a spy].

b. A dole or gratuity given to one in an inferior position. (Cf. 5.)

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Very Merry-Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. (1630) 13 Let Trencher-Poets scrape for such base vailes, I'l take an Oare in hand when writing failes. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* I. 176 Since our Knights and Senators account To what their sordid begging Vails amount. 1863 W. W. STORY *Roba di R.* iii. 45 There are festivals and ceremonials where the people demand as of right certain vails and presents called *mancie* and *propine.*

c. A gift or present in the nature of a bribe.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 253 Not reckoning a great many other Vails that are to be given every day almost to the Sous-Basha and several other knaves. 1886 C. DICK *The Model,* etc 80 The Custom House they passed with smile and tributary vail.

5. A gratuity given to a servant or attendant; a tip; *spec.* one of those given by a visitor on his departure to the servants of the house in which he has been a guest. Now *arch.* a. In pl.

In the 17th and 18th centuries servants were largely paid by these gratuities, and the practice of giving them is freq. alluded to in the literature of the period. The word is recorded in various midland dialect glossaries, but usually as obsolescent.

a. 1605 *London Prodigal* II. iv, *Artichoke* [servant to Sir Launcelot]. Our yeares wages and our vailes will scarcely pay for broken swords and bucklers. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 362 Why should he, like a Servant, seek Vails over and above his Wages? 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* Wks. 1883 XI. 375, I advise you of the servants..who expect vails, always to stand rank and file when a stranger is taking his leave. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 157 *note,* An Agreement entered into among the Gentlemen of several Counties in Ireland, not to give Vails to Servants. 1778 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* II. 218 One custom they kept up, which is laid down almost everywhere else—they allow their servants to take vails. 1823 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* 107 If you tell tales, My son shall your place have, and pocket your vails. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* I, The lacqueys rose up from their cards to open the door to him, in order to get their 'vails'. 1904 *Times* 20 Aug. 12/6 English visitors measure their vails..with discretion ..in America.

fig. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) I. 310 These things among other the servants of God may certainly reckon upon, as the certain vails and benefits of His service. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 408 Time lodg'd in their own hands is folly's vails.

Comb. 1760 (*title*), The Sentiments and Advice of Thos. Trueman, a Footman, setting forth the Custom of Vails-Giving in England. 1860 SMILES *Self Help* vii. 188 One of the minor social evils..was the custom of what was called vails giving.

β. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* II. I. (1722) 18 *But.* Rare News, my Lads, rare News! *Gard.* What's the Matter? hast thou got any more Vales for us? *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Odes* Wks. (1765) 197 Phoo—how she stands—biting her nails—As tho' she play'd for half her vales. 1823 A. CLARKE *Mem. Wesley Fam.* 453 Vales to servants, that sovereign disgrace to their masters. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. iv. 571 The system of vales which made servants in a great degree independent of their masters. 1894 WEYMAN *Man in Black* 116 They expect their vales at those places.

b. In sing. *rare.*

1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* II. 192 There are commonly Attendance, who, for a small Vale, will provide you such things as you have Occasion for. 1807 HOARE *Tour Irel.* 329 The vale or parting token, which the menial servants still in many houses expect. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 7 April 337/2 Calling for the bill, and settling it off-hand was pleasant, but the vail to the waiter was delicious.

6. *pl.* = PERQUISITE 3 c. Now *rare.*

In early use applied to the remnants of material left over by a tailor after making a garment or suit.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D b, He is paide for his workmanship, vnlesse by misfortune his shieres slippe awrye, and then his vales is but a shred of home spunne cloth. *Ibid.*, The vales of one veluet breech is more then twenty paire of mine. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 7 All that is gotten..by stealth or vailes, whereby men vnconscionably shape out their owne commoditie out of another mans cloth. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Whs.* (1687) 75 By the same title as the upper Garment is the Vails of the Executioner. 1677 *Compl. Servant-Maid* 114 Do not covet to have the Kitching Stuff for your Vales, but rather ask the more wages. 1731 FIELDING *New Way to keep a Wife* III. iii, Where ladies govern there are secrets, and where there are secrets there are vails. I lived with a lady once who used to give her cloaths awny every month. *a* 1732 GAY *Fables* II. xi, A Carrier..Would see his horses eat their corn: This sunk the hostler's vails, 'tis true; But then his horses had their due. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXXVI, These tell-tale articles must not remain here—they are rather too rich vails for the drudges who dress the chamber. 1890 *Gloue. Gloss.* s.v., The maiter did always get the malt-dust for his vails.

fig. 1659 OWEN *Epigr.* No. 34, Things only proper unto Males, The Female Sex claim as their Vales.

†**Vail,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[—1] [f. VAIL *v.*[2]] The going down or setting *of* the sun.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. viii. 7 Looke..How vgly night comes breathing at his heeles, Euen with the vaile and darking of the Sunne.

†**Vail,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 vayle (4 uayle), 5–6 vaylle (5 waylle); 4–6 vaille, 4–7 vaile, 5–6 vale; 4–6 vayl, 5–6 vayll; 4–7 (9) vail (4 wail), 4–6 vaill (5–6 waill). *β. north.* and *Sc.* 4 vaily, 5 wayly; 5–6 vailȝe, valȝe, wailȝe (6 volȝe, welȝe). [ad. OF. *vail, vaill,* 1st pers. pres. indic., or *vail-, vaill-,* subj and participial stem of *valoir* to be of value or worth:—L. *valēre.* Cf. AVAIL *v.*]

1. *intr.* To have might or power; to prevail.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7375 His faas sal noght a-gain him wail [*Fairf.* vaily]. For him ne his sal i noght fail.

2. To be of use or service; to avail or profit: a. Used impersonally with *it.*

Usu in negative or interrogative sentences and freq. with infinitive compl.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9471 Yn erytage nat long hyt vayleþ, þe þred eyre leseþ, þat ouþer trauayleþ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 37 In a tyme an holy man blamed hym for þat dede, and it vayled nouȝt. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3883 'What vaylith it,' quod hanybald, 'to angir or to curs?' 1486 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6160 Whan she sawh yt wayllede nouht Mor to maken resistence. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 35 Where is no reason it vayleth not to chatter. 1592 W. WYRLEY *Armorie* 119 What booteth it of Gentries brag to boast, What vaileth it, old ensignes foorth to show? 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E j, What vaileth it a lion be a king Closely shut vp within this tower of stone.

b. With other subjects.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3646 Ay, whiles he is in dedly syn, His help vailles noght, bot es in vayne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 89 Thurgh this science it is ful soght, Which vaileth and which vaileth noght. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 26 Withoute trouth what vailith high noblesse? 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 178 Gif be the benefice of sauf condyte vaillis nocht, never man wald traist efter in sauf condyt. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 101 Ther vayleth no resonynge, For wyll dothe rule all thynge. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 66 What vailes the glittering Golde, when loue is forcde to flee. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 791 Small was the bodies band, And of the Lizards poysonous, this least in shape did vail.

c. Const. *to* (a person or thing). Cf. 3.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5765 To hym not vallith his preching. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 247 To this thynges hit vaillyth morhe to haue richesse and glory. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 And yet when suche clothe ys alle ywrowte, To the maker it waylyth lytylle or nowȝtte.

d. *Vail que* (or *quod*) *vail, vail that vail might* [ad. F. *vaille que vaille*], whatever may (or might) happen, at all hazards; = AVAIL *v.* 1 c. Chiefly *Sc.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 147 Bot gif othir wald thame assaile, Thai wald defend, availe que vaile [*Edin. MS.* vaile que waile]. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2672 Vail that vail might, the monkys brend me. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IX. Prol. 86 Thus, vaill que vaill, ilk gude deyd helpis other. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 161, I wyll, said scho, ascend, vaile quod vaile. 1550 — *Sqr. Meldrum* 951 Now, vaile quod vaile, Upon the Ladie thow mak ane saile.

3. *trans.* (Orig. with indirect object.) To be of use, advantage, or benefit to; to aid, assist, or help (a person, etc.): a. With *it,* or infin. clause.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3640 Bot þou sal do sun mi consail, Wel i wat it sal þe wail. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 8150 Hit hadde the vayled, hadde it be tid. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 720 What vayleth you to schew so gret rygour? 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* I. (Percy Soc.) 7 It vayled not the bodye for to dispose Against the head. 1596 LODGE *Life & Death W. Longbeard* C j b, What vailes me to compose As many verses as Homer did make? 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. XXVIII, What 'vail'd it him, that brightly play'd The morning sun on Mortham's glade?

b. With other subjects.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26147 If þou be stad in suilk a nede For mikil may þe wail þis dede. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12580 Per-to algate dos 3our trauail, & þat we may, we wil 3ow vaille. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 877, xx[ti] slow he of þat rout, þat non armure ne miȝt hem vaille. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Graal* III. 900 His defens ne vailled him not sekerly. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 112 The thrid he strak..The crag in twa; no weidis mycht him waill. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 273 In all di-port he may ws gritlie vaill. 1530 PALSGR. 764/2 What vayleth your rychesses you nowe? *a* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* I. 2 My goodes can vayle thee nought.

4. Of persons: To be worth in respect of means or wealth.

1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 520 Ane honest man and baroun vailyeand in landis and gudis mair nor twenty thowsand punoes.

Hence †**Vai·ling** *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 328 Ane sayndis-man..Wise, vailyeing, and moist of valour.

Vail (vēl), *v.*[2] Now *arch.* Forms: *a.* 4–7 vale. *β.* 6–7 vayl(e, vaill, vaile, 6– vail. γ. 6 veile, 7–9 veil. [ad. OF. *valer* (rare), or aphetic f. AVALE *v.*]

I. *trans.* 1. To lower (a weapon, banner, etc.); to cause or allow to descend or sink.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12384 þat sword he lifte wel on hey, & valede his scheld a party 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XX. xlii, She broke and cleft the crown; and caus'd him vaile His proud and lofty top. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict. on Earth* XXXVI, But all so soone as heav'n his browes doth bend, Shee veils her banners, and pulls in her beames. 1864 SKEAT tr. *Uhland's Poems* 234 Faint with toil, he vails his spear.

b. *spec.* To lower in sign of submission or respect.

1599 GREENE *George a Greene* G ij, If any aske a reason why? or how? Say, English Edward vaild his staffe to you. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* v. 331 At whose approche th' whole armie veild their pikes, soldiers and officers on knees down strikes. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* I. i. 68 They vayl'd their Ensignes as it by did move. 1687 A. LOVELL tr *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 289 The besieged begged Quarter, veiled their Standards and Colours, as a sign that they submitted to the Discretion of the Sultan.

c. To lower or cast down (the eyes); to bend, bow down (the head, etc.); to hang (the tail).

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 28 Which bird,..after he hath caste downe his eyes as ashamed at the lothsomnes of his feet, vayleth his taile and plucketh downe the pride of his plumes. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. 428 Valing your Christall eyes to your faire bosoms. 1646 QUARLES *Hieroglyphikes* vii. 1 What dire disaster bred This change, that thus she vails her golden head? 1657 *Lust's Dominion* I. iii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIV. 105, I, vailing my knees to the cold earth. 1675 PLUME *Life Hacket* in *Cent. Serm.* p. xlvii, The jolly Prelat..never stoopt nor vail'd his head. 1836 KEBLE *Lyra Apost.* 117 Voice of the wise of old! Go..teach proud Science where to vail her brow. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 655 Here her hand Grasp'd, made her vail her eyes: she look'd and saw The novice.

†d. To throw down, give up or surrender (a purse). *rare*[—1].

1593 PEELE *Edw. I,* H ij b, And this sentence is..confirmed by our Lord Lluellen Prince of Wales, and Robin Hood of the great mountaines. So vaile your budgettes to Robin of the mountaine.

2. To doff or take off (a bonnet, hat, crown, or other head-dress), esp. out of respect or as a sign of submission. Also const. *to* or *unto* (a person, etc.).

α, β. *c* 1460 *Emare* 992 When he mette the emperour, He valed his hode with gret honour. 1588 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 32 In every place wheare we were presente, They vayled their bonetis and bowed a kne. 1592 LYLY *Endym.* III. iii, Hee..sayth, seeing it is the fashion of the world, hee will vaile bonet to beautie. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xlviii. 89 This said, the virgin gan her beauoir vale. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 22 His Speech being ended, the King vailed his Crown, a thing rare in any of his Predecessors. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlii, Pantagruel vayling his Cap and making a Leg with such a majestick Garb,..farewell'd Trinquamelle the President. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* viii, The bonnets, which hitherto each Chief had worn,..were now at once vailed in honour of the royal warrant 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. ii, The earl acknowledged their greeting by vailing his plumed cap.

γ. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 305 As for veiling bonnet before great rulers and magistrats, or within their sight [etc.]. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Year* Wks. (Grosart) I. 138 Into [illegible]..veiling his Bonnet, he strucke in. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinolia* II. 279 He spake, And veil'd his Bonnet to the Crewd. 1818 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiv, The spiritual dignitaries, who in those days veiled not

their bonnets to created being, bestowed on the King..their blessing instead of rendering obeisance.

b. *fig.* with *bonnet*: To manifest submission; to acknowledge oneself overcome or surpassed; to yield, give way. (Cf. 3 b.)

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 59 If you giue but a glance to your beholders, you haue vayled the bonnet in token of obedience. 1596 *K. Edw. III*, v. 78 Copland..with a lowly minde Doth vale the bonnet of his victory. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 360 My heart yerneth..to thinke how many right honourable personages in this vnseemly..manner were debased and brought to vale bonet. 1626 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 138 None is made so happy but he hath cause to vale the bonnett. 1739 R. Whatley *Three Lett.* 14 After the noted rupture in St. James's Square, he had so remarkably veil'd his bonnet.

c. (As prec.) To submit or yield, to show respect, *to* some person, etc.

1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 297/1 All christendome must veile the bonnet to his holinesse. 1590 Nashe *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 241 All Schooles of Phylosophers shoulde haue vailed the bonet vnto God. 1611 Corvat *Crudities* 266 Shee wil very neare benumme and captivate thy senses, and make reason vale bonnet to affection. 1675 J. Smith *Chr. Relig. App.* II. 14 Therefore we see all the Grecian Philosophy that was not founded upon Tradition..veil'd the Bonnet to that of Pythagoras, Socrates and Plato.

†3. *Naut.* To lower, to let or haul down (a sail).

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* Cciiij, The waues dyd ryse so hygh and thicke..that the shipmen beganne to vale their sayles. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 351 In the meane while he taketh the helme into his hande, he vaileth the foresaile, and..laboreth to come out of the darke sea. 1634–5 Bredeton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 3 We vailed our topsail, and..it being answered that we were of London and bound for Rotterdam, we were dismissed.

fig. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 48 If he will her to keepe a low sayle, she will vayle al her sheete.

b. *esp.* To lower as a salute or in acknowledgement of inferiority. Chiefly with *bonnet* as object. Sometimes *fig.* (Cf. 2 b.)

(*a*) 1509, *a* 1529 [see Bonnet *sb.* 2]. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 365 The french Captaine..signified vnto them that for honoure sake, after the olde accustomed fascion, they should vaile their bonnets, strike saile, and hailse her with shoting of their ordinaunce. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 730 Mysians, Troyans, Tyrians vaile your bonnets, strike your top-sailes to this Indian-Admirall. 1633 Sir J. Burroughs *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1651) 62 Divers Ships..that have constantly kept the Narrow Seas, unto which all strangers even at this day vaile Bonnet in acknowlegement of this Superioritie. 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* Wks. 1875 IV. 282 The pretended causes [of war] were made publick, which were, the not having vailed bonnet to the English yacht [etc.]

(*b*) 1631 Heywood *Fair Maid of West* I. iv, It did me good To see the Spanish Carvel vail her top Unto my maiden flag. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xix. 68 In token of joy they gave a great shout, and withall vailing their top sails in shew of obedience.

†4. *fig.* a. To abase, humble, or lower (one's courage, the heart, etc); to submit, subject, or yield (one thing) *to* (another). *Obs.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 98 Also let oure Dido vayle her hert too bedfeloe Troian. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* v. ii, Now vaile your pride you captiue Christians. 1602 J. Davies (Heref.) *Mirum in Modum* Wks. (Grosart) I. 15/2 Vaile, vaile thy thoughts, th' imaginations vaile, Vnto the depth of all profundities. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* i. (1650) 2 There can be no reason why you should vail your owne just advantage to another mans excesse. 1654 Owen *Saints' Persev.* Iv. Wks. 1851 XI. 211 Expressing much confidence that the world of saints ..will vail their faith and understanding to his dictates. 1827 Scott *Surg. Dan.* v, When his gold-laced hat veiled its splendour before the fresher mounted beavers of the 'prentices of Dr. Gray.

b. To strike or cast down., *rare*—1.

1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* v. i, Then maist thou think that Mars himself came down To vaile thy plumes and heaue thee from thy pompe.

II. *intr.* †5. To fall (*down*); to descend. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 497 A quartere of his helme a-waye gane vale, And halfen-dele his one Ere. †*a* 1422 Lydg. *Two Merch.* 542 Thus is he valyd adoun from high degre. *c* 1570 *Henry's Wallace* VIII. 1169 The donk dew doun fra the heuin did vaill. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. (1641) 23 When, through Heav'n's Vault vailing toward Spain, The Moone descendeth. *Ibid.* I. vii. 59 Here vales a Valley, there ascends a Mountain. 1624 Fletcher *Wife for Month* III. iii, His jollity is down, valed to the ground Sir, And his high hopes..Are turn'd tormentors to him.

†b. Of a swelling: To go down, subside. *Obs.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4261 He laide þe hare on his eye lidd, Abouen þe bolnyng...Be fore þe mete, it vale.

†c. Of a storm: To abate, cease. *Obs.*—1

1606 Sylvester *Trophеis* 935 Wks. (Grosart) II. 241 The Stormes that long disturb'd the State are val'd.

6. Of a bonnet or banner: To be doffed or lowered in token of respect or submission.

c 1550 *A pore helpe* 214 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 260 And telles them suche a tale As makes theyr bonettes vale. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 303 His [i. e. Bentley's] Hat, which never vail'd to human pride, Walker with rev'rence took, and laid aside. 1826 Mrs. Shelley *Last Man* II. 15 The inhabitants in thousands were assembled to give him hail,..the soldiery presented arms, the banners vailed.

†7. To drop or sail down stream or with the tide. Also with *down*. *Obs.*

1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, X. 118 Our other shippes, which be already valed. 1583 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 234 We departed from Detford, passing by Greenwich..and so valed unto Blackwall. 1598 Hakluyt *Ibid.* 367 Wee departed..before Sunne rising and valed downe the riuer sometime sailing, and sometime rowing.

†8. To bow or bend down *to* the ground in obeisance or salutation. *Obs.*—1

c 1593 Marlowe *Hero & Leander* I. 159 There Hero.. Vaild to the ground, vailing her eie-lids close, And modestly they opened as she rose.

III. *absol.* †9. *Naut.* To lower the sail. (Cf. 3.) Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

1512 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) XIII. 330 No Vessell of the Flete vale or plukke doun his Saill unto such tyme as the Admiral hath valed. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* II. ii, Because we vail'd not to the Turkish Fleet. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* III. iv, What, will he saile by, and not once strike, or vaile to a Man of warre? 1632 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I*, 49 A Dutch Man of Warre comming by that Ship, would not vail, as the manner is, acknowledging by that, our Soveraignty over the Sea.

10. To doff or take off the cap or hat (*to* a person, etc.).

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. iv, *1st Cup.* The health of that honourable countess...*and Cup.* I doe vaile to it with reverence. 1632 Massinger *Emperor East* I. ii, I have..set down, To a hair's-breadth, how low a new-stamp'd courtier May vail to a country gentleman. 1648 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 214 Hee [Herbert] the vtmost Fame Has gain'd; and now they vaile, to heare Him Sing. *c* 1700 Pomfret *Poems, Dies Novissima* (1736) 9 Straight I finish'd—veiling low. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* II. iv. 39, I would sooner veil to such a Man as this than to a King on his throne. *a* 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Lord of Thoulouse*, Knights..Before Count Raymond bend the knee, And vail to him.

transf. 1597 Lyly *Wom. in Moon* v. I, The locund trees that vaild when she came neare, And..Did seeme to say, 'Pandora is our Queene'.

11. *fig.* To submit, yield, give place *to* (or *unto*); to acknowledge the superiority or supremacy of.

In freq. use by 17th c. divines.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 301 All rivers else beside Vaile unto me. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 395 To Cæsars Amphitheater all other workes must vaile. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* (1686) I. 335 These indeed are lofty commendations thereof, yet all of them may worthily veil to this. 1706 De Foe *Jure Divino* x. 232 Vail Satyr to the mighty Edward's Fame. 1779 T. Hutchinson *Diary* II. 243 The Ministry vail to every measure to humour the people. 1864 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 525 They all vail to the English idiom, and scruple not to acknowledge its superiority over their own.

b. To do homage *to* one.

1608 Shake. *Per.* IV. Prol. 29 When She would with rich and constant pen Vail to her mistress Dian.

Hence **Vai·ling** *ppl. a.*[2]

a 1639 Wotton in *Relig.* (1672) 386 Where surging flouds and valing ebbs can tell That none beyond thy marks must sink or swell.

†**Vail,** *v.*[3] *Obs.*—1 In 7 vaile. [f. Vail *sb.*[1] 5.] *absol.* To give vails or gratuities.

1598–9 B. Jonson *Case Altered* II. ii, Why, now you come near him, sir; He doth vaile, he doth remunerate.

Vail, obs. f. Veil *sb.* and *v.*

†**Vai·lable,** *a. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4–7 **vailable,** 5–6 **vaylable**; 5 **vaill-,** 5–6 **vayllable** (6 **veyll-**); 5–6 **vaile-,** 6 **vayleable**; 5 **valeable** (*Sc.* **walable**), 6 **valeable** (*Sc.* **valabill**). *β.* 6 *Sc.* **vailziesbill, valiabill, -able,** 7 *Sc.* **valliable.** [f. Vail *v.*[1] + -able. Cf. Available *a.*]

1. Of avail, advantage, or benefit; availing, advantageous, beneficial, profitable, etc.; effectual, efficacious. a. Const. *for, to* (*unto*), or with inf.

(*a*) 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 136 Wordes that ben resonable, And for this art schal be vailable. *Ibid.* 198 To al the lond it is vailable Only thurgh grace of his persone. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 948 The Ryvers..wern also ful profitable And vn-to manne ryght vayllable. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 88 b/a Holy oylle..whiche is moche vayllable to thelthe of sykenesses of many men. 1530 Palsgr. 794 Every exemple is as vayllable to the lerner, as thoughe I gave a rule. 1561 *Godly Q. Hester* (1873) 57 The dayly prayer of that hole secte..Eke holy ceremonies of gods prouiseon To god is vaileable.

(*b*) 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 233 Thei two [*sc.* pity and justice] remuen alle vice, And ben of vertu most vailable To make a kinges regne stable. 1492 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxiv. 28 b/a It is moche better & more vaylable to dispose & applie hym to folow thother gode maners & vertues of the holy faders. 1565 Harding in Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 443 For the promise with the deliuery is more vaileable to transfer my right in the horse, then my promise alone.

b. Without const.

c 1400 Gower in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 8 Aboute a kyng good counseil is to preise, Above alle othre thinges most vailable. ?*c* 1470 G. Ashby *Active Policy* 475 Whether thei [i. e. servants] be good or nat vailable. 1530 Palsgr. Ep. p. v, Howe soever veyllable my poore dilygence hath ben. 1544 Bethan *Precepts War* I. cxlix. H ij b, Therefore let the capitaine be sure to haue some man vaileable in feates and strength. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* II. iv, The souldier might bee kept in more strait obedience, without which neuer Captaine can doe any thing vaileable in the warres.

c. *Sc.* Morally profitable or allowable.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 302 A prince suld be amesurit to tak delytis fleschly, nocht vaillable. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc. 3603 Kep thaim fra delyt nocht vaiable, And fra al dedd dishonorable.

2. Legally valid or effective.

a. 1433–4 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 437/2 In the same Parlement ..her said demenyng of the said Revenues of the Feoffament be declared as for good and vaillable. 1491 *Ibid.* 514/1 That the Acte made..be vaillable and stond in strength and force. 1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 262 Grantis the als valabill as gif ane decreit of the Lordis of Counsale wer gevin. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie* 18 The law did then take the said grant to be good and vailable. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 403 Whereby it doth plainly appear, that the Sentence given by the Pope to the contrary was not vailable. 1652 Wadsworth tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 9 Adriano's Commission was dated long before Don Ferdinando's decess, therefore not valeable.

β. 1585 *Inchaffray Charters* (S.H.S.) 162 All fredomes.. be als vailable and of als greit strenth, force, and effect..as gif [etc.]. *c* 1675 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 436 Reversioun is vailzieabill to redeme the landis fra ony possessour thairof.

3. *Sc.* Of sufficient means; solvent. *rare.*

1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 77 Gif the debtour confessis the debt, and is not valliable in gudes and geir, to pay the samine. *Ibid.* 80 Gif the borgh may proue that the principall debtour is vailable.

†**Vailance.** *Obs.* In 4 vayl-. [a. OF. *vaill-, vailance*: cf. next and -ance.] Value, worth.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) I. 85 There the vaylance of men is demed in richesse outforth, wenen men to have no proper good in them-selfe.

†**Vailant,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 vaill-, 5 vayll-aunt, vayl-, vailant. [a. OF. *vaill-, vailant*, pres. pple. of *valoir* to be of use, etc.: see Vail *v.*[1]] Of avail, advantage, or value; valid.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 56 b, Þanne nere þat zifte nost vaillaunt þe wile þat a mi3tte be repeled of þe Eir. *Ibid.* 61 b, Þulke excepcion is vaillaunt ase to þe writ of possession. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 125 New Ensamplis that oryson is moch vaylant agaynys the Malice of ennemys. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. vi. 71 It [*sc.* love] is vailant þerfore to all þinges.

Vaila(u)nt, obs. ff. Valiant *a.*

Vaile, obs. f. Fail *v.*, Vale *sb.*[1], Veil *sb.*

†**Vailed,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare* [f. Vail *v.*[2]] Lowered, drooped; doffed or taken off in salutation.

1591 Greene *Maidens Dreame* 28 A golden Hind was placed at her feet, Whose valed eares bewraid her inward greet. 1602 Shake. *Ham.* I. iii. 70 Do not for euer with thy veyled lids Seeke for thy Noble Father in the dust. 1621 Quarles *Div. Poems, Esther* Wks. (Grosart) II. 53/2 Doe him honour, fitting his degree, With vayled Bonnet, and low bended knee.

†**Vai·ler.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -er[1].] 1. One who abases or brings down; a humbler.

1600 Tourneur *Transf. Metam.* ix, With all the force of ..fearefull thunder, vailer of Earth's pride.

2. One who vails or doffs the hat, etc. in salutation.

a 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. E v b, If hee finds not good store of vailers, he comes home stiff and seer.

Vai·lful, *a.* = Availful *a.*

A conjectural reading in Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. vi. 4 for *vaile full* of the Folios.

†**Vail·ing,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.* [f. Vail *v.*[2]] The action of the vb.; a descent

1593 Marlowe *Edw. II*, I. ii, And happie is the man, whom he vouchsafes For vailing of his bonnet one good looke. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1672) 64 The Beholder descending many steps was afterwards conveyed again by several mountings and valings to various entertainments of his sent and sight.

Vaill, obs. Sc. f. Vale *sb.*; obs. var. Wale *v.* (choose) *Sc.* **Vaillant,** obs. f. Valiant *a.* **Vaillaunt,** var. Vailant *a. Obs.* **Vailliaunce,** obs. f. Valiance.

†**Vail staff.** *Obs.*—1 [f. Vail *v.*[2] 1 b.] The practice of lowering a staff in token of respect or as a salute.

1599 Greene *George a Greene* v. I. And for the ancient custome of Vaile staffe, keepe it still, Clayme priuiledge from me: If any aske a reason why? or how? Say, English Edward vaild his staffe to you.

Vaimure, var. *vamure* Vaumure *Obs.*

Vain (vēⁱn), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **vayn** (4, 5–6 *Sc.*, **wayn**), 4–6 **vayne** (5–6 **wayne**), 4–7 **vaine** (5 *Sc.* **waine**), 4, 6– **vain** (4 **wain**). *β.* 4 **vein, veen,** 5 **veine**; 4–5 **veyn** (4 **ueyn,** 5 **weyn**), **veyne** (5 **veyyne, feyne,** *Sc.* **weyne**). *γ.* 4 **wan,** 5, 6 *Sc.*, **wane,** 5–6 *Sc.* **vane** (6 **uane**). [a. OF. *vein, veyn, vain* (F. *vain*):—L. *vānus* empty, void, idle, etc. (whence also It. and Sp. *vano*, Pg. *vão*).]

I. 1. Devoid of real value, worth, or significance; idle, unprofitable, useless, worthless; of no effect, force, or power; fruitless, futile, unavailing.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28332 Quen idel thoght me come and vain, Wit will I stode þam noght again. *c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 3 Na thynge..sa..dos awaye coryous and vayne ocupacyons fra vs. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 135 Witeþ al..men þat the power of kynges is vayne. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 64 To put away all maner worldes vanyte, and vayn murthe, and reuell. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. v, For the loue of a vayn thynge men ought not to leue that whiche is certeyn. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (E.E.T.S.) 23 Such wayne, vngodly, and vnprofitable lerninge. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 102 b, Many woulde judge that promesse to be vayne. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* II. (1634) 372 After which victorie it is said that Jephta performed the vaine vow which he made. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iii. § 6 Certainly God..will never alter the course of nature, meerly for satisfaction of mens vain curiosities. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 7, Without a natural Talent, all the Acquirements of Learning are vain. 1729 Franklin *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 325 The remainder of that day..was wasted in a vain discussion. 1820 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. xiii. 103 It was vain for him to attempt any explanation. *a* 1843 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. xiv. (1866) 178 In vain regrets for the past, in vainer resolves for the

future. 1879 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 177 All literature, art, and science are vain, and worse, if they do not enable you to be glad.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5350 Y rede þou 3elde hyt 3yse, Þy saluacyun ys elles alle veyn. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* Prol. I. 11 The vein honour was noght desired, Which hath the proude herte fyred. 1486 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1291 Thanne me sempte yt was but veyn, Mor for me to speke ageyn. *a* 1450 *Manhind* 846 in *Macro Plays* 32 Beware of weyn confidens of mercy. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 382 Dremys .ben thingis weyn, of non affek.

γ. *a* 1450 *Manhind* 533 in *Macro Plays* 20 He xall wene grace were wane. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xii. 39 Wirk for the joy that lestis evir; For vder joy is all bot vane. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 105 That rathir thay appeir nocht to be spokne of a vane ostentatioune, than of the veritie.

† b. Of material things: Useless, worthless. *Obs.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 384 Cyclaminus altera hath an unprofitable and vaine roote. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 48 Most wretched men, whose dayes depend on thrids so vaine. 1769 Sir W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 20 His spear, vain instrument of dying praise.

c. Trivial, unimportant. *rare*—1.

1731 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 29 Imitating Fools, Who..Load some vain Church with old Theatric state, Turn Arcs of triumph to a Garden-gate.

† 2. Empty, vacant, void. Also const. *of*. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* i. 2 The erthe forsothe was veyn with-ynne and void. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxix. (1859) 62 Alle folke the alouteth and abeyeth, and thou arte veyne, and voyde of al maner of vertue. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. Prol. 19 With dull forhede and wane, With ruide engine and barrand emptive brane. 1544 *Exhort. in Priv. Prayers* (1851) 568 Outwardly shewing a great pretence of holiness, and being vain of true godliness inwardly. [1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* III. 166 Such melancholy..is Skilful in forming such in the vain air Out of the motes and atoms of the day.]

3. Of persons: Devoid of sense or wisdom; foolish, silly, thoughtless; of an idle or futile nature or disposition. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 217 Wherof he was so proud and vein, That he his fader in desdeign Hath take. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4384 At Vaxor þe vayn pepull voidly honourit Bachian. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. vii. 8 He is veyne þat puttiþ his hope in men or in creatures. 1535 COVERDALE *James* ii. 20 Wilt thou vnderstonde o thou vayne man that faith with out dedes is dead? 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 106 Diuerse vaine persons bruted dayly among the Commons of the realme, that Christ had twise apered vnto him. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 185 This I thinke, there's no man is so vaine, That would refuse so faire an offer'd Chaine. *a* 1632 DONNE *Poems, Woman's Constancy*, Vaine lunatique, against these scapes I could Dispute, and conquer, if I would. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xx. (1687) 210 If it..would make you a medler in other mens matters (as most of our vain Believers are). 1764 COWPER *Tirocc.* 754 [Art not] thou at best, and in thy sob'rest mood, A trifler vain? 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 587 Hush! hush! thou vain dreamer! this hour is her last. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* V. iii. 36 So that our hair should sweep The footsteps of the vain and senseless crowd.

absol. c 1450 [see 7 a]. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 590 Is sparkling wit.. The fixt fee-simple of the vain and light? 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. xiv, The pence of slavery, With which old tirnes..had quelled the vain and free.

4. Given to or indulging in personal vanity; having an excessively high opinion of one's own appearance, attainments, qualities, possessions, etc.; delighting in, or desirous of attracting, the admiration of others; conceited. Also *absol.*

1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* 101 For to be conscious of what all admire, And not be vain, advances vertue high'r. 1703 EVELYN *Diary* Feb., She..I believe carried with her out of this vain nation above £1000. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint* (1786) III. 56 Perceiving the poor man to be immoderately vain, he piqued him to attempt portraits. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. x, It might teach the vainest to forswear vanity. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. x. 609 The vain man, restless, insatiable, and always craving after the admiration of his contemporaries. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 18 The heart of the vain man is lighter than the heart of the proud.

transf. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 366 The vainest corner of our own vain heart.

b. Const. *of*.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* Pref., We deserve more compassion, because we are not vain of our Barbarities. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. viii, A good, honest, plain girl, and not vain of her face. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. i, Between you and me, he was not a little vain of his leg. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, The General..sate down to pen a *poulet* (he was exceedingly vain of his French) to Mademoiselle Aménaide.

II. 5. In the advb. phrase **In vain**, to no effect or purpose; ineffectually, uselessly, vainly.

After L. *in vanum*, or OF. *en vain* (F. *en vain*, = It. *in vano*, Sp. *en vano*, Pg. *em vão*).

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16172 Of him he wend ha signes sene, For noght, al was in vain. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xx. 1 That..he spend noght his precious blode in vayn on vs. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 48 Bot þat trawaill þai maid in wayne. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 198 Thar Prayer was not in wayne. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 151 The more thai bad, the mor it was in wayne. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* ii. 3 Yet is it in vayne, for he contynueth still in his godlynesse. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 20 All was in vain, for there was no remedy but to obey. 1652 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xviii. 89 It is therefore in vain to grant Soveraignty by way of precedent Covenant. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 394 Nor Bits nor Bridles can his Rage restrain: And rugged Rocks are interpos'd in vain. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 1 P 7 The secret Satisfaction of thinking that I have not Lived in vain. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 157 In vain do you seek repose from beds of roses. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 227 Here he endeavoured in vain to barter a rifle for a horse. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 623 He wrote piteous letters to the king and to several courtiers, but in vain. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vi. (1875) 76 Lewis tried in vain to satisfy his sons..by dividing and redividing.

b. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10852 Alle here trauayle bey do yn veyn. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1359 *Dido*, For wel I wot that it is al in veyn. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4173 He sayde, 'nowe haue y trauelled twey [= twice] in feyne'. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 65 Ye schal nat labour al in veyne, Ye shul have hevene. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 524 The king..al this resone thinkith bot in weyne.

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19411 (Edinb.), Al þaire striue was bot in wan. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* li. (*Paul*) 518 3et wald nocht god his prayer war in wane. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* Wks. (S.T.S.) III. 37 Him to reioe 3it playit he a sprynge,..Bot all in wane, þat comfort him no thing. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 197/1 In vane, *frustra*. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 13 Thay that sweris in uane and thay that sweris ony fals ath. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 140 For lake of lederis thair thay wrocht in uane. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xviii. 37 Vben they sau they wroght in vane.

† b. So *for vain*. *Obs.*—1

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 12 My Grauitie Wherein . I take pride, Could I, with boote, change for an idle plume, Which the ayre beats for vaine.

6. *To take..in vain*: † a. To disregard, to treat with contempt. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 3769 Kyng Phelyp took therof non hede, But layde thertoo a deff ear...Kyng Richardys words he took in vain. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16271 Oswy tok by somons in veyn, To come to court he hadde disdeyn.

b. With *name* as object. To use or utter (the name of God) lightly, needlessly, or profanely; *transf.* to mention or speak of casually or idly.

A literal rendering of *assumens* (*nomen Dei*) *in vanum* in the Vulgate text of Exod. xx. 7.

13.. *Cursor M.* 25218 Len vs lord swilk mode and mayn þat we tak neuer þi name in vayn. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xx. 7 Thow shalt not tak the name of the Lord thi God in veyn. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 41 The secunde thow shalle noght in vayne thi lord god name take. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 298 To sweir and tak his name in vane. 1630 W. T. *Justific. Relig. now Professed* iii. 22 His name is taken in vaine. 1732–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* 99 Who's that takes my Name in vain? 1880 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 185 Who, never naming God except for gain, So never took that useful name in vain. 1884 RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* ii, I always call Chancery 'it'. I wouldn't take its name in vain for worlds.

† 7. As *sb.* a. Vanity; a vain thing. *Obs.*

c 1330 *King of Tars* 71, I schal him seende such wordes to seyn, That al his thought schal torne to veyn. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xx. 26 Leeue veyn [L. *vana*] to þe veyn, & take þou hede to þo þinges þat god comaundiþ þe. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 1208 All the World proclaiming Vain of Vains, Man's happinesse in God's true Fear maintains. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lii. Wks. (1677) 84 The power of the Gospel, in crying down the vains of men. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 267 The fruits of dying friends survey; Expose the vain of life; weigh life and death.

† b. Emptiness, void space. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxvi. 7 He that streccheth out the north vp on vein [L. *super vacuum*], and hangeth vp the erthe vp on nost. 1509 HAWKS *Past. Pleas.* 105 Wythouten vayne he dyd all thyng fulfyll As astronomy doth make apparaunce.

8. In misc. adjectival or adverbial combs. or attrib. uses, as *vain-averted*, *-boasting*, *-conceited*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-proud*, *-spent*, *-talking* adjs.; *vain-speaker*, *-struggling*.

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 78 There be some sclaunderouse people, vaynespeakers,..whych I must nedes speake againyst. 1562 PHAER *Æneid* IX. B b iij, And furst Eurialus he seeth..Vainstruggling working much. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 28 Wanetalkand men and dissauearis, quha peruertis hail houssis. 1590 *Marlowe's Tamburl.* To Rdr., Though (happly) they haue bene of some vaine conceited fondlings greatly gaped at. 1603 BRETON *Dialogue of Pithe* Wks. (Grosart) II. 17/1 If you will be vaine-headed, God helpe you, for I cannot. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Paradox agst. Liberty* 667 Wks. (Grosart) II. 61 The..vain-proud state and port, That for the grace of Kings adorns the Courtly sort. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VIII. xxii, A vagrant rout .Strow him with vain-spent prayers, and idle layes. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 291 O babbling and vain-boasting Ajax, what hast thou said? 1858 H. BUSHNELL *New Life* vi. (1861) 79 He drove Lot's family, or his vain-hearted wife, out of the city. 1871 H. KING *Ovid's Metam.* VII. 523 Struggling with vain-averted eyes to shun The noontide beams.

Hence † **Vain** *v. trans.*, to frustrate. *Obs.*—1

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xii. 34 Euery good man..must be wise and circumspect, to vaine the sleeke nauations of those that would undoe him.

Vain, obs. f. VEIN *sb.*; southern ME. var. FAIN *a.* and *adv.* **Vaincur**, Sc. var. VAINQUER *Obs.* **Vaine**, var. WONE *sb.* (hope) *Obs.* **Vainess(e**, obs. ff. VAINNESS.

Vainful, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **vaynfull**. [f. VAIN *a.* + -FUL.] Vain, unprofitable, useless.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 55 They..spende theyr time in vaynful vanyte. 1[illegible] TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 20 Though countrie be more [illegible]ll, and not so greedie gainfull, yet is it not so vainfull, in following fansies ele. 1888 in ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.* 795.

Hence † **Vainfully** *adv.*, in vain, vainly. *Obs.*

1509 HAWES *Conv. Swearers* 21 Vnto the man I gaue commaundement Not to take the name of thy God vaynfully.

Vaingloriness. *rare*—1. [f. VAINGLORY *sb.*] Vainglory.

1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 4 That spirit of foppery haughtiness, and vain-glorinese.

Vainglorious (*vē*nglō·rĭəs), *a.* Also 6–8 **vain glorious**, 6– **vain-glorious**. [f. VAINGLORY *sb.* Cf. med.L. *vānagloriōsus* (OF. *vana-, vanagloriosus*), Sp. and It. *vanaglorioso*, Pg. *vangloriozo*.]

1. Filled with, given to, indulging in, vainglory; inordinately boastful or proud of one's own abilities, actions, or qualities; excessively and ostentatiously vain. a. Const. *of*.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Cock & Fox*, Nyse proud men, woid and vaneglorcous Of kin and blude. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 160 Being not a little vain glorious of what he had done with me. 1709 LAW *Serious Call* xviii. (1732) 330 They think it a part of their duty to be proud, envious, and vain-glorious of their own accomplishments. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 715 When he call'd, Vain-glorious of her charms, his Vashti forth To grace the full pavilion.

b. Without const.

c 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 6/2 Not the knowlage of the Hebrew, Chaldei, and Arabie language, beside Greke & Latin, could make him vainglorious. 1599 B. JONSON *Aw. Man out of Hum.* Char. Pers., A Vaine-glorious Knight, over-Englishing his travels, and wholly consecrated to singularity; the very Jacobs staffe of complement. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xi. (1640) 88 Be not vaine-glorious, studying to doe some earthly vaine thing, for which you may be talked of farre and neere. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xi. 49 Vain-glorious men, delight in supposing themselves gallant men. 1723 YOUNG *Last Day* III. 79 Look round, vain-glorious muse, and you whose'er Devote yourselves to fame, and think her fair 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Vain glorious*, or *ostentatious man*, one who boasts without reason. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 139 Where is the fame Which the vainglorious mighty of the earth Seek to eternize? 1840 AINSWORTH *Tower of London* (1864) 370 One of the galleries of the palace, where the vain-glorious mannikin was lingering in the hope of being admitted to the royal presence. 1881 TYLOR *Anthropology* 384 Even the vainglorious scribes of Egypt would hardly venture to record events without a foundation of fact.

absol. a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* Prol., Our Comedie.. against the vayne glorious doth inuey. 1596 NORDEN *Progr. Pietie* (1847) 173 Though it please the vain-glorious for a time it will bring repentance. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* viii. 101 He baiteth the hook..for the vaine-glorious with popularitie. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* viii. (1853) 43 For God loveth not the arrogant and vainglorious.

transf. and *fig.* 1608 NIXON *Chr. Navy* B ij, Lofty mindes That in this world doe seeke to glister so, Blowne on this rocke by fond vaine glorious winds, Fall headlong downe. 1619 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kitchsey Winsey* Wks. (1630) 36 Itch'd with the vain-glorious worme, To write and lye.

†2. Characterized by, indicative of, or proceeding from vainglory.

1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 4 Sic vane glorious tetels and namis and pouers. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 68 Wandring..in a vayne glorious opinion of their owne wit. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 331 Such stately honours and vaine-glorious praises as he in his life time enioyed. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 12 Whether that bee ground of that vain-glorious boast..I here dispute not. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Oct. 1667, The Vice-Chancellor's letter..were too vaine glorious to insert. 1792 COWPER *Odyss.* IV. 610 Neptune that speech vain-glorious hearing, grasp'd His trident. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VI. ix. (1849) 376 Let not my readers imagine..that I am indulging in vainglorious boastings. 1862 SALA *Dutch Pictures* xvi. 243 'See Naples and then die,' is the vain glorious saying of the Neapolitans. 1896 DK. ARGYLL *Philos. Belief* 268 They were the very incarnations of vainglorious pride.

Vainglo·riously, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a vain-glorious manner.

1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Gloriosus*, renoumed, some tyme in the yll parte, vayne gloriously [*sic*], or bostynge hym selfe. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 31 Leat it therefore no more entre into your hertes to thynke with your selues vaingloriously. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1593) 211 Sure I meane not I To vant my selfe vaine-gloriously by telling of a lye. 1623 N. ROGERS *Strange Vineyard* 36 When Nebuchadnezzar vaunted vaingloriously of that great Babel which he had built. 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* 38 Which heretofore in the persuance of fame and forren dominion spent it self vain-gloriously abroad. 1702 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3808/3 The Ambition of Spain, when it..vain gloriously stiled its *Armada* Invincible. 1808 EDWARDS *Plain Pract. Plan* I. 8 A character which France can no more than vain gloriously affect to be. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 207, I cannot tell you how vain-gloriously I walked the streets.

Vainglo·riousness. [f. as prec.] The quality or character of being vainglorious.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 328 Their facion of makyng oracions was..replenyshed with vauntyng..& vainglorious-nesse. 1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1706) 25 The spirit of lying or vain-gloriousness in boasting a mans self, and in desire to fill his talk concerning his kindred and acquaintance. 1582 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 46 b, By y' meanes you see that one offendeth by arrogancie, another by obstinacie,..another by vainglorieusnesse. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 134 An amor patriæ above all our vain-gloriousness. 1844 THACKERAY *Barry Lyndon* V, Led away by the vainglorieusness of youth,..I invented a thousand stories. 1886 TUPPER *My Life as Author* 355 He had repented of the vainglorieusness of those herald angels and their dome.

Vainglory (*vē*nglō·ri), *sb.* Also **vain-glory**, **vain glory**. Forms: see VAIN *a.* and GLORY *sb.* [ad. med.L. *vāna glōria*. Cf OF. and mod.F. *vaine gloire*, It., Sp. *vanagloria*, Pg. *vangloria*.]

1. Glory that is vain, empty, or worthless; inordinate or unwarranted pride in one's accomplishments or qualities; disposition or tendency to exalt oneself unduly; idle boasting or vaunting.

c. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26933 Noght als intent o waynglori, Or als þis ypocrites dos. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1145 Honours nurysshes, als men may se, Vayn glory, vauntyng, and vanite. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 35 Bostynge and vanyte. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* vi, He that taketh within hym self vayne glorye of that thynge by the whiche he shold humble hym self is a very fole. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 22 For he that doth a thing secretly..how seketh he vayngloryȝ? 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. XXXIV. 156 b, Through the..increase of their power, they fell into such a vainglory and arrogancy. 1607 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 174 Their trade..is not augmented but deminnished by vayneglorie and unnecessarie disburcements. 1636 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. XXXV. (1674) 44 Tamberlan the Scythian..had the vain-glory to be called the Emperor of the East. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* vii. 309 Vainglory, whereby Men affect a great many dry and insipid Studies ..only to please others, and procure from them a blind Admiration. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. v, Thus have I ..acknowledged my vain-glory. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Exerc. Benevolence* (1875) 34 That portion of his thinking time which he spends upon vain-glory, upon imagining, for instance, what other people are thinking about him. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* III. ii. 106 The wisdom of the world? Nay: 'tis vain-glory.

β. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 35 Bot he such veine gloire hadde Of that he was set upon hyh. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 2610 Til vsurpe til hym þat nayme It war bot wayne glore or defame. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc. 3644 To schaw hire proud, at men may see, Is pryd, wanglore, and vanite. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 118, I synnit..In fals vane gloir and deidis negligent.

b. In the phr. *for vainglory.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 3 Men doon þis nouelrie for veyn glorie. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 367 Som men telleþ þat Aristotil made his bookes so schortliche and so hard for envie and for vayngloríe. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 23 He..mervailed that the duke..wolde nowe for vainglory under colour of doyng dedes of Armes.. violate the peace.

c. As a personal name, or in personified use.

c 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud MS.) 1004 Hou his fader sergeaunte alle, veyn glorie gonne hym calle, And gorre on hym gonne browe. 14.. *Why I can't be Nun* 228 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 144 Dame sclowthe and dame veyne glory. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* B ij, His first sonne is Vainglory. 1717 L. HOWEL *Desiderius* (ed. 3) 18 She gave him her Name, Vain-glory.

2. A vainglorious thing, action, etc. *rare.*

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 378 None schal take any synguler abstynence up-on her withe-oute licence of the abbes, in awnter God take it for a veyne glory. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. ii. 249 What needs these Feasts, pompes, and Vaine-glories? 1649 MILTON *Eikon* viii. Wks. 1851 III. 392 The Vulgar; who notwithstanding what they might know, will beleeve such vain-glories as these.

Hence **Vainglo·ry** *v.* †**a.** *refl.* To exalt or make much of (oneself) unduly. *Obs.* **b.** *intr.* To indulge in vainglory. Also **Vainglo·rying** *vbl. sb.*

a 1637 N. FERRAR tr. *Valdes' 110 Consid.* (1638) 104, I understand, that a man being Just by his Justice, doth as much prize himselfe, or vain-glory himselfe, as much as the theife, who is taken from the Gallowes in the Holy Week, ..vaine-glories himselfe for his deliverance. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 46 The scheme..had involved a little vain-glorying before his acquaintance. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* July 485 It would be idle and frivolous to mention these points for the sake of vain-glorying during the Jubilee year.

†**Vai·nling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. VAIN *a.* + -LING 1 1.] A vain or vainglorious person.

1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maiestie* Ep. Ded., Presuming himselfe (fond Vain-ling) to be of more esteeme, because he was the Nuncio and Interpreter of the Gods. *Ibid.* 134 Thus we see, he was no vaineling, who pronounced all things vnder the Sunne to bee vanitie of vanities.

Vainly (vē·nli), *adv.* Forms: α. 4, 6 **vaynly**, 6–7 **vainlie**, 7 **vaine-**, 6– **vainly.** β. 5 **veynli**, **-(e)ily**, **veinly.** γ. 6 *Sc.* **vanelie.** [f. VAIN *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a vain or futile manner; without advantage, profit, or success; to no effect or purpose; in vain; uselessly, fruitlessly, ineffectually.

1382 WYCLIF *James* iv. 5 Wher weenen ȝe, that veynly [L. *inaniter*] the scripture seith [etc.] 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 195, I folwer of evel craft..trowed vaynly for to be defended and helped by ȝoure prayers. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. li. 123 Ner he shal not ioy veinly, if he be resonably excused by oþer. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 293 This noble prynces, ..whome my purpose is not vaynly to extol..aboue her merytes, but to the edefyenge of other. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* (1550) 23 Vitayll..not wantonly consumed, nor vainly spent. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. iv. 8 Till now, my selfe and such As slept within the shadow of your power Haue..breath'd Our sufferance vainly. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 811, I forewarn thee, shuff His deadly arrow; neither vainly hope To be invulnerable. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* I. 12 Every one going away with that Rag which he had snatch'd, vainly believ'd that he had possess'd himself of Philosophy. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xiv. 13 What though majestic in your pride you stood.., You now may vainly boast an empty name. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxix. (1787) III. 110 Perhaps he vainly imagined, that he laboured for the interest of an only daughter. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xii, There, vainly Ralph de Wilton strove 'Gainst Marmion's force to stand. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 31 In the caprices of passion and humour we look vainly for any guiding principle. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* III. I. 98 From my hand The spear was vainly flung and gave no wound.

Comb. 1818 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVI. XXVIII, He..Beyond my vainly-panting reach is plac'd.

†**2.** Foolishly, senselessly, thoughtlessly. *Obs.*

1588 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 330 She spoke somwhat idlie and vainlie, by reason of the extremitie of her sickness. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 101 Nathir haue thay nochtwithstandeng now vanelie fallin fromo the faith of the Catholik Kirk. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 346 Ethelbald,..though most vainly given when he was hot and young, Yet, by the wise reproofe of godly Bishops brought From those unstay'd delights by which his youth was caught. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Vain Love* 46 What Lover can like me complain, Who first lov'd vainly, next in vain! 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Inanilequent*, talking or babbling vainly.

3. With personal vanity; conceitedly.

1628 *Ld. Cromwell* iv. i. 35 'Tis greater glorie for me, That you remember it, then of myselfe Vainlie to report it. 1650 HOBBES *De Corpore Politico* 3 How some are vainly Glorious, and hope for precedencie and superiority above their Fellows. 1698 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* xi, When with too much pleasure you admire Your Horse's Worth, and vainly boast his Sire. 1779 COWPER *Human Frailty* 20 A stranger to superior strength, Man vainly trusts his own.

Vainness (vē·nnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or condition of being vain, in various senses: **a.** Futility, ineffectiveness, uselessness.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* XXXIII. 18 The helps of the world hold our senses entangled..till they have given us a tryall of theyr vaynenesse. 1600 PALFREYMAN *Baldwin's Mor. Philos.* 37 The vainenes of this life is greater then the profit. 1648 W. BROWNE *Polexeno* v. I. 284, I knew the vainnesse of my hopes, and the just cause Alcidiana had to punish my boldnesse. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 303 Beauty.. shew'd the vainess of Defence, When Phillis does Invade. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xix. (1866) 314 Pilate, feeling the vainness..of these pretensions. 1892 *Athenæum* 18 June 790/1 The vainness of this and that creed.

b. Vanity, esp. personal vanity or conceit. Now *rare.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXVI. iii, I did not them frequent, Who be to vainesse bent. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. Prol. 20 Free from vain-nesse, and self-glorious pride. 1600 PALFREYMAN *Baldwin's Mor. Philos* I. 12 Hee despised..much all vainnesse of apparell. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacifica* 19 The vices, and the vainnesse of thy tongue. 1825 COLERIDGE *Lett., Convers.*, etc. II. 179 Mr. Chance is a self-satisfied man, but of the very..best sort...I regard such vainness but as the overflow of humanity.

†**c.** Foolishness, stupidity. *Obs.*—1

1591 SPENSER *Vis. Worlds Vanitie* vi, O how great vainnesse is it then to scorne The weake.

†**Vainquer.** *Obs. rare* In 5 **vaynquer**, *Sc.* **vainour.** [a. OF. *vainqu-ëerre, veinqueor*, etc. (mod.F. *vainqueur*), f. *vaincre* to conquer.] A conqueror, vanquisher, victor.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 272 Thare cummys the vaincur, askand jugment of rycht. 1482 CAXTON *Godfrey* ccii. 296 Thenne made they..moche ioye & grete, as doon the vaynquers and conquerours whan they departe theyr gayne.

†**Vainqueress.** *Obs.*—1 In 6 **venqueresse.** [a. OF. *vainqueresse, veinq-*: see prec.] A female conqueror or vanquisher.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CLXXX. (1811) 178 Elfleda that sheldes so ofte dyd rayse Agayne her enemyes, this noble venqueresse Virago and made, whose vertue can I nat expresse.

Vair (vēə1), *sb.* Forms: 4 **veir(e**, **veyr(e**, 5 **feyre**; 4, 6–8 **vaire**, 4, 8– **vair**, *Sc.* **wayre**, 7 **vayre**, 9 *dial.* **vare**, **fare**, **viare**, etc. [a. OF. *vair, veir* (also nom. *vairs*):—L. *varium*, acc. sing. masc. of *varius* parti-coloured. Cf. med.L. *varius*, also *vairus, vayrus, veyrus* (from OF.), and *vajus* (from It. *vajo*), in the same sense.]

1. A fur obtained from a variety of squirrel with grey back and white belly, much used in the 13th and 14th centuries as a trimming or lining for garments. Now only *arch.*

Cotgrave's definition of F. *vair* as 'a rich furre of Ermines powdered thicke with blue haires' is app. unsupported by evidence.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25466 Nu ask i noþer gra ne grene,..Ne purperpall, nee pride o pane, Ne riche robe wit veir and giue. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11194 Manteles..Of meneuer, stranlyng, veyr, & gris. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James the less*) 764 Furryt wele in wayre & grece. *c* 1388 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 265 For somme vaire, and somme gryse, .In bagges about thai bere.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xii, If pall and vair no more I wear. 1818 RANKEN *Hist. France* IV. 377 It was ordained, A.D. 1294,..that no ecclesiastic, but dignified clergymen, should wear vair, gray, or ermine, excepting [etc.]. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Laus Veneris* 266 Each man's hair Crowned with green leaves beneath white hoods of vair.

2. A weasel or stoat. Now *dial.*

Prob. due to an early misunderstanding as to the source of the fur.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 335 Þere beeþ veyres [L. *mustelas*: CAXTON *feyres*] litel of body and ful hardy and strong. 1796– in dial. glossaries (Dev., Dorset, Somerset, Pemb., Glamorgan, Wexford, etc.) in forms *vare, fare, viare, vier, wyer, veer.* 1892 MRS. BRAY *Descr. Part of Devon* (1835) I. xix. 342 The stoat, vair, or vairy, is the commonest of the weasel tribe.

3. *Her.* One of the heraldic furs, represented by bell- or cup-shaped spaces of two (or more) tinctures, usu. azure and argent, disposed alternately (in imitation of small skins arranged in a similar manner and sewn together).

Vair cuppa or *tasty* (see quot. *c* 1828 and VAIRY *a.* 2 b). *Vair-en-pal, vair-en-point* (see quot. 1766). Cf. also COUNTERVAIR.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 132 The ninthe and last [doubling] of all, is called Vaire, which is of al coloures except those two before rehersed [i. e. azure and vert]. It may be also of three sondry colours, which..colours must be tolde as this is blazed. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. iv. (1611) 13 If you obserue the proportion of this vaire, you shall easily discerne the very shape of the case or skinne of little beasts, in them. 1612 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* XV. (1906) 194 Quarterly Gules and Vaire. 1637 *Camden's Rem.* 209 Hubert de Burgo, ..who bare for his Armes in a Shield, Gules seven Losenges vaire, 3, 3, 1. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Furr*, The Heralds use two Metals,..and two Furrs, or hairy Skins, Ermine and Vaire. 1766 PORNY *Heraldry* iii. (1777) 87 *Vair-en-point* or *Vair-en-pal*, is said when the point of a Vair is opposite to the Base of another. 1816 *Gentl. Mag.* March 223 A fesse between two chevrons Vaire. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Vair cuppa*, or *Vair Tasty*, is..by most writers upon heraldry, considered a kind of fur, and shaped in the form of cups or goblets by divisions potent counter-potent. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop* iv. (ed. 3) 20 Vair, Counter Vair,..are always Argent and Azure, unless other tinctures are named in the blason.

†**Vair,** *a. Obs.*—1 *Sc.* In 5 **wayre**, **wa(i)re.** [a. OF. *vair, veir*:—L. *varium*: see prec. and VARY *a.*] Varied or variegated in colour.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. v. 217 The brukyd bestys and the wayre (*v.r.* ware, waire] he gert depart fra quhyt & tayre.

Vaird, obs. Sc. f. WARD.

Vair(e, southern ME. varr. FAIR *a.* and *adv.*

†**Vaired,** *a. Obs.*—1 [Cf. VAIR *sb.*] = VAIRY *a.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* ii, Heralds..disposed the figures of Ermins, and vaired coats in this Quincuncial method.

†**Vaires.** *Obs*—1 [perh. pl. of F. *veire* (*voire*) truth: see VEIRE] *In vaires*, ? in verity, truly.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1015 Wyth clene cortays carp, closed fro fylþe; & hor play was passande vche prynce gomen, in vayres.

Vairhede, ME. var. FAIRHEAD. **Vairloch,** obs. Sc. f. WARLOCK. **Vairn,** obs. Sc. f. WARN *v.* **Vairstall,** obs. Sc. ff. WARESTALL.

Vairy (vēə·ri), *a.* (and *sb.*). Forms: α. 5 **varri**, 6–7 **varrye** (7–16), **varry**, 6–7, 9 **varrey.** β. 7–9 **vairy**, 8 **vary.** See also VERRY *a.* [a. OF. *vairy*, f. *vair* VAIR *sb.*

The mod.F. form *vairé* has been employed in some heraldic books.]

1. *Her.* Of a coat, charge, etc.: Varied or variegated with two or more colours; having divisions and tinctures like those of vair.

Some writers have drawn a distinction between *vair* and *vairy*, using the latter when tinctures other than argent and azure are blazoned.

α. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Her.* B iv b, Thre cootarmuris be ther called reatryall in armys. Oon is whan a cootarmure is varri of dyuerse colowris to the poynt. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 52 b, A playne crosse, varrye. *Ibid.* 131 b, The eight doubling is Varry, and is so properly called, although it be Or, and Vert, or els Vert and Or. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie*, *Ld. Chandos* 97 A patie crosse of red in gold he bare Or which fiue losinges varrey placed are. 1610 GUILLIM *Her.* (1611) I. iv. 15 As for the rest, *viz.* Verry and Varrye, they are meere fantasies and improper termes. 1645 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 321 Tavestock in Devon shire gave Varrey Or and Azure, on a Chiefe Or, two Mullets. Gules. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Varry*..signifies that which is diversified with argent and azure. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., Varrey in point.

β. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4217/4 The second Vary, a Canton. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 235 The arms of Oettingen are vairy ruby and a shield saphire. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* iii. 53 If the field were Or, and the bells Gules, it would be blazoned as Vairy, Or and Gules.

†**b.** *Vairy-cuppy, tassa* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1610 GUILLIM *Her.* I. iv. (1611) 15 This sort of furre or doubling was..of some old Heralds called vary cuppy and varry tassa. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vairy Coppy*, or *Votant Counter-Votent*, is a Bearing in Heraldry. 1766 PORNY *Heraldry* II. § ii. 27 Potent-counter-potent, anciently called Vairy-cuppy, is when the Field is filled with Crutches or Potents counter-placed.

¶ **2.** Furred with vair. Also used as if the name of a material.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Vairy gowns are observed by Julius Pollux to have been the habit of the antient Gauls, as Ermins were of the Armenians. 1861 AINSWORTH *Const. Tower* (1862) 187 Wrapped in cerecloth of many folds, and in an outer cover of cloth of vairy and velvet,..the corpse was laid out.

Vairy (weasel, stoat): see VAIR *sb.* 2. **Vaise,** dial. f. FEEZE *v.* **Vaist,** obs. Sc. f. WEST, **Vaistie,** var. Sc. WASTY *a. Obs.* **Vaistour,** obs. Sc. f. WANTER.

‖**Vaisya** (vaiyă). Also 9 **veisya.** [Skr. *vaiśya* peasant, labourer, etc.

In Sir T. Herbert's *Trav.* (1634) 38 the form *wyse* occurs, and RICE from Urdū has had some currency.]

The third of the four great Hindu castes, comprising the merchants and agriculturists; a member of this caste. Also *attrib.*

1794 SIR W. JONES *Inst. of Menu* I. § 31 [Brahma] caused the Brahmen, the Cshatriya, the Vaisya, and the Súdra..to proceed from his mouth, his arm, his thigh, and his foot. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 53/2 Born of a Vaisya woman. 1801 R. PATTON *Asiat. Mon.* 123 The functions of the *vaisya* tribe. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 31 The practical knowledge required from a veisya is more general than that of the other classes.

Vait, obs. Sc. f. WAIT *v.*, and *wot* WIT *v.*

Vaivode (vē·vŏd). Now *Hist.* Forms: α. 6–7 **vayuod(e**, 7 **vayvod**, 7, 9 **vayvode**, 8 **vay-**

wode. *β.* 6 **uai-**, 7 **vaiuoda**; 7 **vaiuod**, 7–8 **vaivod** (7 **vavoyd**), 7–9 **vaivode**, 8 **vaiwode.** [Ultimately ad. older Magyar *vajvoda* (now *vajda*), representing the common Slavonic *voj(e)voda* VOIVODE. The immediate source is partly mod.L. *vayvoda* (cf. Sp., Pg, and It. *vaivoda*) or F. *vayvode*. See also WAYWODE.] A local ruler or official in various parts of south-eastern Europe (in older use esp. in Transylvania).

a. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 72 He had an adversarye John Sepuse, the vayuode of transylvania. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 44 b, In a great battalle fought betwixt him and that famous Vayuod Iuan Huniades Coruino. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 579 The one [sister], marryed to the King of Poland; the other, to Sigismund Battor, Prince or Vayvod of Transilvania. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2070/8 The Vayvode Janco was drawing together a great Body of Morlacks with a design to attack some place in the Province of Bosnia. 1768 *Ann. Reg.* I. 19 Count Potocki, Vaywode of Kiow, had no less than ten towns, and one hundred and thirty villages, destroyed in his own territories.

fig. 1613 DEKKER *Diuels Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) III. 351 Behemah Dornschweyn,..chiefe Vayuode of Vsury, Symony, Bribery, Periury,..etc.

β. 1568 J. SNUIF tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 7 John Vaiuoda soughte to haue al the glorie of the victorie to him selfe. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 51 The Vaiuods of Valachia, Moldauia and Transiluania hold their estates by vertue of this bribery. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xix. 249 The Government of the Cities is manag'd by Five Kinds of Officers, the Bassa, Sub-Bassa, Vaivode, Cadi and Receiver of the Customs. 1771 *W. Guthrie's Geogr.* (ed. 3) 114 Their ancient nobility were divided into knezes, or knazeys, boyars, and vaivods. 1776 *Ann. Reg.* II. 7 At Athens..his patrimony had suffered from the extortions of a tyrannical Vaiwode. 1833 ELLIS *Elgin Marbles* I. 2 Lord Elgin then received very strongly expressed firmauns from the Porte, which were carried..to the Vaivode of Athens and the Disdar of the Acropolis.

transf. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* II. xiv. (1636) 132 Andriscus.., delivered up into our hands by that Vaivod, or petty King, of Thrace to whom hee had fled for succour.

Vaize, southern ME. var. **FEY** *a.* **Vak**, obs. Sc. f. **WAKE** *v.* **Vakabonde**, obs. f. **VAGABOND.**

†Vake, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vac-uus*.] Empty.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I. xxxiii. 24 Whilest it stood void and vake, the old Latines had surprised and taken it. *Ibid.* xxiv. vii. 513 Certe ne conspiratours..possessed themselves of a vake house, standing over a narrow lane.

†Vake, vaik, *v. Sc. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 **wake**, 5–7 **vake**, 7 **veak.** *β.* 5 **wayk**, 5–7 **vaik**, 6 **walk**, 6–7 **vaick**, 7 **vaike.** [ad. L. *vac-āre* to be empty: cf. prec. So OF. and F. *vaquer*, Sp. and Pg. *vacar*, It. *vacare*. With the exception of quot. 1543 in 1 *a* the use of the word is entirely Scottish: cf. VACAND *ppl. a.*]

1. *intr.* Of a benefice, office, or position: To become or fall vacant; also, to remain vacant or unfilled.

Freq. from *c* 1350 to *c* 1650, esp. of ecclesiastical benefices.

a. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* v. 4110 (Cott.), Qwhen he was ded, þan dayis nyne þat se wakyt [*Wemyss MS.* vaikit]. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 223 For and the Archebischopryke of Ranis or Rowan vakit, and the chanouns wald ches ane Inglisman to be archebischop. 1522 DOUGLAS in *Wks.* (1874) I. p. cx, The beneficis and grete prelaceis that wakis. 1543 SENTLEGER in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. iii. 485 Ther is a Statute here [at Waterford]..that when suche roumbe shulde vake,..they shoulde then electe and chose..one Inglisheman. 1604 A. SETON in G. Seton *Memoir* (1882) iv. 57 Quhen eiuer onye place sould vake in onye maner.

β. c 1550 LYNDESAY *Tragedie* 361 Quhen thare doith vaik ony benefyce. 1558 KENNEDY *Comp. Treat.* in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 151 Gyf ane benefice vaick, the gret men of the realme wyll haue it. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xviii. 102 Sic [a lord] as..feiris God now ken the roume dois walk. 1639 MARQ. OF HAMILTON *Expl. Meaning Oath & Covenant* 16 [It] also declares, that all bishopricks vaicking, or that shall vaick, shall be only disponed to actuall preachers and ministers in the Kirk. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1851) II. 204 Thus Oswall cumis bak with this answer, and Doctor Forbes place still vaikis. 1696 in *Home Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 271 The Justice Clerk..disposes of the Clerk to the Justice Court his place when it vaikes.

b. Of a tack or tenancy.

1473 *Rental Bk Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 197 Gif it happynis..that takis to wayk be ony maner of wa. 1548 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 69 Fairgeand heirof the forsaidis takkis to vaik *ex facto*.

2. Of persons: **a.** To be free, to have time or leisure, for engaging in some occupation; to be occupied or busy. Const. *for*, *on* or *upon* (also, to wait or attend *upon* one), *to*.

1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 221 The law levis all clerkis to vake in scolis and in studyis to..sciences and literature *Ibid.* 222 Of thame quhilkis levis all richessis.. to vake thareapon. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xviii, All thir..on Venus seruice vaikis, In deidis of armis for thair ladyis saikis. 1566–7 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 497 Becaus the haill Lordis of Secreit Counsall may nocht weill vaik at all tymes for the ordouring thairof being occupiit with uther wechtie materis. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xli. 89 Nou Cupid compellis Our hairtis echone On Venus vha vaikis, To muse on our maikis. *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 45, I was resigned ower be my father hailelie unto him to veak upon him as his sone and servant.

b. To be at leisure or free *from* some occupation or business.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Preach. Swallow*) xxxix, Esope..Quhen that he vaikit frome mair autentik werk,.. this foirsaid fabill wrait. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* II. 107 Quhen he mycht vake fra temporal effayres, his exercise was ay in spiritual. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn* lxv. 4 Quhan I may vaik fra service of the king.

Hence **†Vaked** *ppl. a.*; **†Va'king** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

1572 J. KNOX in Calderw. *Hist. Kirk Scott.* (Wodrow Soc.) III. 766 That all bishoprics vacand may be presented within a yeer after the vaiking therof. 1622 in R. M. Fergusson *A. Hume* (1899) 221 They assigne to him the first vaiking Gilbrotheria fyne that sall occur to thame. 1638 in A. Maxwell *Hist. Old Dundee* (1884) 388 Being oft times requirit, [he] would propone nothing but only ane mein [= moan]' Vaiked Sea!' 1660 in Crookshank *Hist. Suffer. Ch. Scot.* (1749) I. 59 That hereafter vaking stipends may be intromitted with by Presbyteries.

‖ Vakeel, vakil (vākī·l). *Anglo-Ind.* Forms: *α.* 7 **vakill, vekill, -ile, -ell, vikil, vicle**, 8 **vekil**, 9 **vakil, vakil.** *β.* 7– **vakeel** (7 **fakeel**), 7 **vickeele**, 7–8 **vack-, vekeel.** [a. Urdū (Pers.-Arab.) وكيل *vakīl, wakīl*: cf. WAKEEL.]

1. An agent or representative, esp. one representing a person of political importance either permanently or on a special occasion; a minister, envoy, or ambassador.

a. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 21 Two coppyes, to the Governour of this place and his owne vekile. *Ibid.* 69 Receaved two letters of Isacke Beages to Assuff Chon, and the other to his vekill. 1628 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 35 The Dutch Director's Vakill. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 171 Through the bad Conduct of the Vikil, he was necessitated to reimbark. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 283 Terms..were proposed, and the Vakils returned with them to the Bai. 1870 SIR W. W. HUNTER in *Life* (1901) xi. 182 His Vakil or representative told me the story of the sunken fortunes of the family.

β. 1623 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 307 That hereafter the Kings people may recoure it from the vickeeles of Agha Reza. 1624 *Ibid.* (1909) III. 30 Their vackeels at Court is to accquaint the King thereof. 1692 J. OVINGTON *Voy. Suratt* 415 November the 1st, arriv'd a Pattamar or Courrier, from our Fakeel, or Sollicitor at Court. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 74 He was determined to fall on us, and turned our vacqueel out of the durbar. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 24/2 He was Vakeel of Bollakey Doss, and executed whatever business he ordered. 1803 EDMONSTONE in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 3/2 Duplicates have been delivered to the Vakeels of those chiefs at the Presidency for transmission to their principals. 1878 EARL LYTTON *Lett.* (1906) II. 57 The Amir undertook to keep a *vakeel* at Peshawur.

2. A native attorney or barrister; a pleader in the Hindu law-courts.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vakeel*, a native attorney in India. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 12 July 13/2 An official known as the poor man's vakeel, whose duty it is to see that every prisoner..shall be represented in court by a competent counsellor. 1890 KIPLING *City Dreadf. N.* 15 He looks like a *vakil* to the boot-heels, and..recalls memories of up-country courts.

Vakin, obs. Sc. f. **WAKEN** *v.* **Val**, southern ME. var. **FALL** *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. **VEIL** *sb.*[1], **WALL** *sb.* **Valachian**, var. **WALACHIAN.**

Valance (væ·lăns), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 5 **valaunce**, 6–7 **valans** (6 **wal-**), 5– **valance** (8 **vol-**); 5–9 **vallance.** *β.* 5, 7 **valens**, 6 **valense**, 7–9 **vallens** (7 **-ins**), 6– **valence**, 6–7 **vallence.** *γ. pl.* 6 **vallanes**, 6, 8 **vallance**, 7, 9 **vallens**; 6, 9 **valence**, 7 **valens.** *δ. pl.* 6 **valandes**, 7 **vallands, -ents**, 9 **valends.** [Of obscure origin: perh. a. AF. **valance*, f. *valer* = OF. *avaler* to descend (cf. *vale* VAIL *v.*[2]).

Florio (1598) gives '*Valensa, valensana*, Say or Serge for bed-curtains or valances for beds', and '*Valensaan del letto*, valences for beds', but there is no evidence for the genuineness of these.]

1. A piece of drapery attached lengthways to a canopy, altar-cloth, or the like, so as to hang in a vertical position. Also *attrib*

a. 1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 36 The selor of cloth on loffte, with the valaunce of scripture abowte the ymage. 1494 *Household. Ord.* (1790) 115 The ninth question; whether in the same feaste the Queens cloth of Estate shall hang as highe as the Kings or noe? answere thereunto; the Queens shall hang lower by the vallance. 1540 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 2 For weskynge of autor clothis and albes, ..and the sowynge on of the valans of them. *Ibid.*, The walans that hangyth over the heygh auter. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 92 Four stately pillars of brass bear up a canopy of the same metal..with vallances and a gilt fringe, yet all of brass. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 54 A tent, striped with white and gold, and the valance, of the same colours. 1857 BAKER *Nile Trib.* v. 106 Upon striking the tent, we found beneath the valance between the crown and the walls a regiment of scorpions.

attrib. 1892 LOWNDES *Camping Sketches* 49 Waxing eloquent over knotted guy-ropes and missing valance-loops.

β. 1500 *Will of M. Yonge* (Somerset Ho.), Afore the ymage of our Lady within the valens of the same Chirch. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 639 Saricenet..let doune in maner of a valence before the gallery. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1082/2 A rich herse,..couered with blacke veluet, with a valence fringed with golde.

γ. 1806 *Naval Chron.* XV. 231 The vallens [of the funeral canopy] were fringed with black.

2. *spec.* **a.** A border of drapery hanging round the canopy of a bed; in later use, a short curtain around the frame of a bedstead, etc., serving to screen the space underneath.

a. c 1480 *Bk. Curtasye* 447 in *Babees Bk.*, For lordys two beddys schalle be made..þo valance on sylour shalle henge with wyn, iij curteyns streȝt drawen with-inne. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 132 A sperver.., conteignyng tessour, celour, and valances lyned with busk. 1500 *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 66 The seler ij yerdes dim. and the quarter long, the valance j quarter dim. depe. *a* 1593 MARLOWE in *Engl. Parnassus* (1600) 480 And as a costly vallance ore a bed, So did their garland tops the brooke orespred. 1611 COTGR., *Les pentes d'vn lict*, the Valance. 1676 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 165 The vallance was of the same make. 1749 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 527, I think the fringe of the valance and bases should be the same depth as that on the bottom of the curtains. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Spectre of Tappington*, He peeped under the valance of an old-fashioned bedstead. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 36 An iron bedstead, (no vallance, of course), and hair mattress. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contradictions* I. They had tucked away the scalloped valance,..and drawn back the striped curtains

β. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Prestilla pelada*, vallence for a bed. 1608 *Inv.* in *Collectanea Archæol.* (1863) II. 97 One bedsteede,..The vallence and fyrnge of curtaines of say. 1688 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl* xiii (1634) 139 As we see in knops now adayes upon the Valences and Canopies of beds. 1699 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3434/4 The Curtains and double Vallence of a red Damask Bed. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 396 She had had the presence of mind..to tear down the half-burnt vallens, as well as curtains. 1794 *Girlhood of M. J. Holroyd* (1896) 287 Mrs Maynard has made up the Bed..with full Valences. 1831 *Remembrance* 80 The hangings of the large square bed were of yellow merino,.. with plain, moth-eaten valences.

γ. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 67 These make laces vpon staues, purses,..and whyte vallance for beddes. 1587 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 317 A pure of sheates, a coueringe, a tenster, courtaynes and vallanes. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* III. ii. 177 Let him make Valence for his bed on't, or a demy foote-cloth. 1730 SOUTHALL *Treat. Buggs* 40 The Tester-Cloth,..to which the Head-cloth, and inside and outside Vallens are to be fixed. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 284 All the vallance were unnailed.

δ. 1512 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 38 Two pilloo coddes with the valandes. 1590 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 58 Lyttell nelles to festen valandes to bedesse, jd. 1632 QUARLES *Hist. Samson* Wks. (Grosart) II. 161/2 My beds,.. My sheets; My vallents, and my curtaines. 1675 TEONGE *Diary* (1825) 47 The bedds..with white curtens, and vallands. 1882 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xxi. (1882) II. 50 They came from the valends of the broken down bedstead.

b. A short window-curtain. *rare.*

1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 3 Nailing up some Vallens to the Windows in the Dining-room. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2688 *Valance*, a *lambrequin*, or drooping curtain hiding the curtain-rods of a window.

3. A pendant border or edging of velvet, leather, or other material.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Apr. 1644, The Duke of Orleans's Library;..the valans of the shelves being of greene velvet fring'd with gold. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Mysterious Husb.* III. 5 Nor were the valence less adorned;—indeed, they appeared to have been fashioned by a chissel. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2688 *Valance*, the drooping ledge at the parting of a trunk.

transf. 1884 W. K. PARKER *Mammalian Descent* ii. (1885) 55 *note*, In whose larval skull a similar vallance of cartilage grows copiously.

b. A flap attached to a head-dress, esp. as a protection against the sun.

1791 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1891) IX. 318 The hats with valences, the folds above the chin of the ladies, and the dirty shirts and shaggy hair of the young men,. have confounded all individuality. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1246 Like the cap with a valance named from the East Indian hero 'Havelock'.

†Valance, *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[–1] In 5 **-aunce.** [ad. F. *Valence* Valencia in Spain.] A Valencia almond.

1469 in *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 103 Item Jardens and Valaunces 330 lb.

† Valance, *sb.*[3] *Obs.*[–1] In 6 **-aunce.** [app. ad. med.L. *valesia, valisia* VALISE, with ending assimilated to *sb.*[1]] A cloak-bag.

a 1562 CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 64 Byfore hyme he hadde ..a gentilman that carried his valaunce, otherwyse called a clooke bage; which was made all to gether of fyne scarlett clothe, enbrodered over..with clothe of gold very richly.

Va'lance, *v. rare.* Also **vallance.** [f. VALANCE *sb.*[1]; cf. next.] *trans.* To drape or fringe with, or as with, a valance.

1857 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* 294 Butter-cups and scarlet bean Do vallance like pied beard his chin.

Valanced (væ·lănst), *ppl. a.* Also 6–7 **valanced** (6 **-ensed**), 7, 9 **vallanced.** [f. as prec.] Provided or furnished *with* a valance or draped edging of a specified material.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 9 b, The compas of the Pauilion above, enbroudered rychely, and valenced with flat golde, beten in wyre. *Ibid.* 207 b, A clothe of estate.. valanced with frettes. 1592 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1779) 121 The Canapie was of greene satten,..valenced about and fringed with greene silke and siluer. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxix, An old set-stitch'd chair, valanced and fringed around with party-coloured worsted bobs. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xi, [The pavilion] was of purple silk, valanced with gold embroidery, having the cords of the same rich materials.

b. *transf.* Also *elliptically*, fringed with hair.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 403 What my olde Friend, thy face is vallanced [Q.[2] valanct'] Since I saw thee last, com'st thou to beard me in Denmarke? 1827 KEATHLEY *Trav.* I. 213 Men, *barbons*, whose faces have been long vallanced, act the parts of women. 1833 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 179 A broad and nobly-cut brow, valanced with a eyebrows, overhung serious, deep-set eyes. 1892 .

20 Oct. 533/1 A tall-masted schooner rode grandly in between the Heads, valanced with foam.

†Valanche. *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. dial. (*la*) *valanche* (for F. *l'avalanche*).] = AVALANCHE.

1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* xxxviii, Scarce a year passes in which some mules and their drivers do not perish by the valanches.

Valanes, obs. f. VALONIA. **Valay,** obs. Sc. f. VALLEY. **Vald,** obs. Sc. var. *would* WILL *v.* **Vald(e,** ME. var. FIELD *sb.* **Valdenses, -ian,** var. WALDENSES, -IAN. **Valdinge,** obs. Sc. var. WIELDING *vbl. sb.* **Valdois,** obs. var. VAUDOIS.

†Val-dunk. *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning obscure.)

1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Wine-seaber* 102 By this time his cause is heard, and now this val-dunke growne rampant-drunke, would fight if hee knew how.

Vale (vēl), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 4- vale (4–5 vaal), 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) wale. β. 5–7 vaile (7 vaille), 6 *Sc.* vaill, 7–8 vail; § *Sc.* wail, waill(e, 6 *Sc.* waile, wayill. [ad. OF. *val* (= It., Sp., Pg. *valle*) :— L. *vallem*, acc. of *vallis, vallēs* valley.]

1. A more or less extensive tract of land lying between two ranges of hills, or stretches of high ground, and usually traversed by a river or stream; a dale or valley, esp. one which is comparatively wide and flat.

In later use chiefly *poet.* (exc. as in b), but employed as an ordinary prose word by American writers in the second half of the 18th century.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 673 For þat Cite þer bysyde was sette in a vale. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxi. 138 Þare es a vale betwene twa hilles. 1486 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21198 After philisofres talys, Ther ben hylle, ther ben wales, Medwes, ryvers. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 248 Suete war the vapouris,.. Halesum the vale, depaynt wyth flouris ying. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. iii. 93 These two haue tic'd me hither to this place, A barren, detested vale you see it is. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* Wks. (1630) 236/2 Then let who list delight in Vales below, Skie-kissing Mountaines pleasure are for me. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 7 Towards the Tiberiade Sea there is another vale very hollow, between two hills, where the Sun is hardly ever seen. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 636 [The wave] steals, at last, Along the mazes of the quiet vale. 1751 J. BARTRAM *Observ. Trav. Pennsylv.*, etc. 35 We lodged by Front Creek in a spacious vale. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life, Jrnls., & Corr.* (1888) I. 277 At the bottom of the vale, and on the bank of the river, is a huge rock. 1833 THIRLWALL *Greece* (1839) I. 7 Into which the Spercheius ..winds through a long narrow vale. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, I pity people who weren't born in a vale. I don't mean a flat country, but a vale: that is, a flat country bounded by hills. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 8 Forth we sallied to see sunset from the vale.

transf. 1820 SHELLEY *Vision of Sea* 15 The walls of the watery vale..are unmoved by the gale. *Ibid.* 96 The mountainous vale of the wave.

β. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3980 If I be vencust in þe vaile & voidid of my lyfe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 216 They rode in a full fayre vaile. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 14 In ane vaill that is betyde the toun, Ebericus stentit thair palȝeonis doun. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) XIV. 16 The wallowit weidis in þe vaill. 1627 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xxi. 102 Heir wods and vaills and echoes that resounds. 1770 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1889) II. 308 The vail (through which this creek runs)..appears to be wide.

b. Const. *of* (the distinctive name of the vale).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2705 Abram satt his hus..Bi-side þe wale of mont mambre. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5164 Al men sal ryse to þe dome, And in þe vale of Iosaphat come. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 285 In þe wale of comptone [*read* campioune; L. *pugilum*]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 30 Men schall passe thurgh þis deserte to þe vale of Etym. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. XXVI. 4364 A companny þat..war walkande In til þe wall of Anande. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 267 By the vale of Remsie. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. xiii, The famous vales in Englande, of which one is called the Vale of white horse, another of Euesham,..the third of Allesbyrry [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 266 And thou Moon [stand] in the vale of Aialon, Till Israel overcome. 1804 C. B. BROWN tr. *Volney's View* 33 West of the Allegheny, towards the vale of the Ohio, there are many remarkable hills. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 81 The Vale of Gloucester, or that part of the Vale of Severn..which lies in Gloucestershire.

c. Without article, occas. contrasted with *hill, mountain*, etc.

c 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* vii, The briddes..Which on the braunches, bothe in pleyn and vale, So loude songe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 999 Baith hycht and waill obeyed all till his will. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI 563 Where casual fire Had wasted woods on Mountain or in Vale. ?1706 WORSEW. *'Calm is all nature'* 6 A slumber seems to steal O'er vale, and mountain. 1822 SHELLEY *Scenes fr. Faust* II. 62 A voice..which..vibrates far o'er field and vale.

2. In fig. uses. Also const. *of* (adversity, etc.).

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 42 Sche can plonge wor'l emperoures From þe hille of hize prosperite In-to be vale of aduersite. *c* 1450 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 181 In the vaile of restles mynd, I sowght in mowmteyn & in mede. [1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* LXXXIII. 6 Which goinge thorow the vale of mysery, vse it for a well.] 1604 BRETON *Grimello's Fortunes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 5/2 After that I had past the great Mountaine of mishaps, I fell into a long valle of miserie. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 721, I..Have pour'd my stream of panegyric down The vale of nature. 1809 SHELLEY *'For my dagger'* 22, I dare not unveil The shadows that float o'er Eternity's vale.

b. The world regarded as a place *of* trouble, sorrow, misery, or weeping. Usu. with *this*.

14.. in *Twndale's Vis.* (1843) 123 In thys sorowfull vale Of trowbull of woo and of hevynes. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 29 In þis vale of wepynge þai haue bene delityd. 1497 BP. ALCOK *Mons Perfect.* A iij/2 Y⁰ transytory Joye of this vale of mysery. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxiii. 7 Out of this vaill of trubbill and dissait. 1564 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* III. (1855) 65 The labilitie and breuitie of tymes..and of men in this wale of teiris beand considerit. 1628 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1664) 123 What could you find in the vail of tears [etc.]? 1655 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 12 For afflicktions whille we live in this vaille of miserey must continually be loocked for. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 881 Though life's valley be a vale of tears, A brighter scene beyond that vale appears. 1816 SHELLEY *Hymn Intell. Beauty* ii, Why dost thou pass away and leave our state, This dim vast vale of tears, vacant and desolate?

c. The world regarded as the scene of life. With various qualifications, as *earthly, mortal*, etc., or const. *of* (life, etc.).

c 1446 LYDG. *Nightingale Poems* II. 351 Where-as þat god of love hym-self doth dwelle Vpon an hille ferre from the mortal vale. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 70 Great is his comfort in this Earthly Vale, Although by his sight his sinne be multiplyed. 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* I. 621 Why, whilst We struggle in this Vale beneath.., Do They more bless'd perpetual Life employ..in Scenes of Joy? 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 709 An unambitious mind, content In the low vale of life. 1819 SHELLEY *'A gentle Story'* 6 In this world's deserted vale. 1850 TENNYSON in Ld. H. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 309 In this vale of Time the hills of Time often shut out the mountains of Eternity.

d. *The vale of years*, the declining years of a person's life; old age.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 266 Haply,..for I am declin'd Into the vale of yeares. 1676 D'URFEY *Mms. Fickle* IV. i, A man that has the misfortune to decline into the vail of Years. 1769 LD. HOLLAND in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 372 Yet I..am weak enough sometimes to think, that if Rigby..had pleased, I should have walked down the vale of years more easily. 1796 BURKE *Lett. Regicide Peace* Wks. VIII 310 That venerable potentate and pontiff, issunk deep into the vale of years. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ix, Mrs. Butler [was] a woman, and declined into the vale of years.

†3. a. One of the grooves in the beam of a hart's antler. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Alle alonge þe beames þere be smale vales, þat men clepe gotters.

†b. ? The notch at the back of a barbed arrow-head. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7704 To that kyng he gan to hale, And drow an arwe vp to the vale.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib., as *vale-dweller, -hind*; vale-lily, the lily of the valley.

1822 BEDDOES *Poems, Rom. Lily* 150 My tribute shall be sweet, though small:—A cup of the vale-lily bloom. 1832 BERE *St. Herbert's Isle* 13 To mark the vale-hind fed the ripened shock. 1889 *Archæol. Æliana* XIII. 266 The fierce pagan vale-dwellers by the North Tyne.

b. Attrib., occas. passing into *adj.*, in the sense 'of or belonging to, found, grown, or produced in, a (particular) vale', as *Vale-barley*, †*-dog, -farmer, -grey* (a variety of pea), *-man, soil.*

1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. viii. 98 Now the Gentlemen which dwell on the downes and plaine grounds, to maintaine the reputation of their Dogs, affirme them to be much more nimble..in turning, then the vale Dogs be. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 240 When at any time they sow Peas on this Land, the best Husbandmen will chuse the Vale-gray as most proper for it. *a* 1728 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 152 The hill-country-barley is generally better esteemed by the malsters than the vale-barley. *Ibid.*, The vale-lands are generally too wet, cold, and clayey. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 92 The Beech will never make a good Tree in their vale, spewey, and wet Soil. *Ibid.* 221 The Vale-men in their open, low Fields,..won't sow Peas alone. 1740 SOMERVILE *Hobbinolia* II. 7 The Vale-Inhabitants, proud, and elate With Victory. 1813 BIRKBECK *Journ. thro' France* 63 The vale farmers are busy sowing lupines..on their wheat stubbles. 1893 *Outing* XXVII. 194/2 Those Vale farmers, no pen can ever accurately depict.

c. *Comb.*, as *vale-born, -buried.*

1801 MRS. ROBINSON *Sylphid* III. 24 (Jod.), Her emblems are the white rose bending in a graceful curve over the modest vale-born lily. 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* V. 102 The vale-buried town of Keswick.

†Vale, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* (Erroneous var. of DALE[3] I, either after VALE *sb.*[1] or by simple misprint.)

c 1635 [see PUMP *sb.*[1] 6]. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Vale of a Pump*, at Sea, is the Term for the Trough by which the Water runs from the Pump along the Ship sides, to the Scupper-holes. [Hence in later Dicts.]

‖ Vale (vā·lī), *int.* and *sb.*[3] [L., 2nd pers. sing. imper. of *valēre* to be well.]

A. *int.* Farewell; goodbye; adieu.

1530 COVERDALE tr. *Wermullers' Treat. Death* Pref. iiij b, Vale, Loue God, leue vanitye, and lyue in Chryst. 1556 ROBINSON *More's Utopia* To Rdr. (Arb.) 20 So doynge thou shalt-minister vnto me good cause to thinke my labour and paynes herein not altogethers bestowed in vaine. *Vale.* 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* To Rdr. A iij, And herewithall I bid thee farewell, and doe not forget me. *Vale.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Vale*, farewel, God be with you, God keep you in health. 1912 L. INKSTER (*title*), Vale, a Book of Verse. *Ibid.* 63 *Vale.* 'Goodbye, Goodbye!'

B. *sb.* A farewell greeting, letter, etc.; a good-bye, farewell, or leave-taking.

1580–3 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 86 Giuing her her *vale* with a counterfait kind of curtesie. 1584 — *Arbasto* Ibid. III. 211 The thankes I had for this..was a..churlish *vale* of the old trot Vechia. 1619 SIR S. D'EWES in *Coll. Life Jas. I* (1821) 81, I took my *vale* of him, with many thanks, and posted homewards. 1626 BRETON *Fantasticke* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/2 The Nymphes of the Woodes in consort with the Muses sing an Aue to the Morning, and a Vale to the Sunnes setting. 1675 J. SMITH *Christ. Relig. Appeal* I. xl. § 4. 103 They must bid an eternal *Vale* to their admired Law and Temple. 1824 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. iii. 129, I am going to say my *vales* to you for some weeks.

a 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1865) II. 108 So instead of laughing gayly, I dropped a tear, and wrote my 'Vale'.

fig. 1832 LENTON *Character.* C 2, He takes his *vale* for a certaine season to some minister Sanctuary.

Vale, southern ME. var. FELE *a.*; obs. f. VAIL, VEIL *sb.*[1] and *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WALE *sb.* and *v.*, WALL *sb.*

†Valect. *arch. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *valectus*, var. *vadelectus* VADELECT.] A personal attendant.

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 713 William de la Pole is in plaine tearmes called *Delectus Valectus*,..that is our well beloued Valect.,; now, Valect..was in those dales an honorable title [etc.]. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 439 In recompence whereof the king made him his valect (equivalent to what afterward was called gentleman of the bedchamber).

† Valedatory, variant of VALEDICTORY *a.*

App. f. L. *dat-, dare* to give, after the obs. phrase 'to give (one) farewell'.

1633 BRETON *Packet Mad Letters* 102 A valedatory Letter to his inconstant Mistris.

Valediet, *v. rare*—[0]. [ad. L. *valedict-, valedicere*: see next.] *intr.* 'To bid farewell' (Bailey, 1721).

Valediction (vælˌdi·kʃən). [ad. L. type **valedictio*, noun of action f. *vale-dicere*, f. L. *valē* VALE *int.*, and *dicere* to say, speak.]

1. The action of bidding or saying farewell (*to* a person, etc.); an instance of this; a farewell or leave-taking.

1614 DONNE *Lett.* li. Wks. 1839 VI. 368 For I must do this as a Valediction to the World, before I take Orders. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 3 There [were]..such dear accollado's..at their valediction and parting, as eye scarce ever beheld the like. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 324 After a formal Valediction ashore, the next day we passed the Straits. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 68 [Gustavus III] after the last valediction to the queen and prince, died. 1872 LE FANU *In a Glass Darkly* I. 158 They parted with a hurried and melancholy valediction.

2. An utterance, discourse, etc., made at (or by way of) leave-taking or bidding farewell.

1619 HALES *Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 86, I dealt with Mr. Præses concerning a Copy of Mr. Deans Valediction to the Synod. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 73 The Spirit of Comfort (which in his late valediction he promised to send his Apostles). 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* 35 Their last valediction, thrice uttered by the attendants, was also very solemn. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* III. x, He stayed not to hear the valediction or the thanks of the witch. 1863 *Q. Rev.* July 203 The truly Yankee valediction, 'I guess we will all go home, and so, good night'.

Valedictorian (vælˌdiktōˑriən). *U.S.* [f. next + -AN.] In colleges, academies, etc., the student (male or female) appointed on grounds of merit to deliver the valedictory oration on Commencement day.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1880 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* (1887) 100 The last year's 'Valedictorian' of the Apollinean Institute. 1873 ELIZ. PHELPS *Trothy's Wedding Tour* 172 The valedictorian of her class in the young ladies' Star of Hope Seminary. 1887 *Lippincott's Mag.* Aug. 294 Among others ..chosen are the valedictorian of the Senior class [etc.].

Valedictory (vælˌdiktōri), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *valedict-um*, pa. pple. of *vale-dicere* (see VALEDICTION) + -ORY.]

A. *adj.* 1. Uttered or bestowed in bidding or on taking farewell; of the nature of a valediction.

1681 BAXTER *Infant Bapt.* 159 In the Pulpit in his Valedictory Oration to the People of Bewdeley. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Jan. 1694, He [Dryden] read to us his Prologue and Epilogue to his valedictory Play, now shortly to be acted. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* v. § 4. 213 These valedictory songs..which the Prefatto takes notice of. 1778 STILES *Diary* (1901) II. 288 The President [of Yale] introduced the exercises in a latin Speech...Then succeeded..Valedictory Orat[ion]. Engl[ish]. By] Sir Tracy. 1829 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 155 The Bishop who delivered the valedictory address. 1850 IRVING *Goldsmith* Iv. 70 He penned his valedictory letter to his good uncle. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, While delivering these valedictory observations, Wegg continually disappointed Mr. Boffin of his hand by flourishing it in the air.

2. Manifested, performed, or done by way of valediction.

1806 R. CUMBERLAND *Mem.* 166 Crowds of people,..studious to pay to their popular chief governor every valedictory honour that their zeal and attention could devise. 1849 MRS. CRAIK *Ogilvies* XXII, All that passed between them was a valedictory bow. 1871 AINSWORTH *Tower Hill* II. xi, As he cast a valedictory look around, his eye alighted upon Dereham. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Nov. 8/1 Lord Ripon's valedictory tour..in the Punjab and North-West Provinces.

B. *sb.* 1. *U.S.* A valedictory oration. (See quot. 1847 and cf. VALEDICTORIAN.)

1847 WEBSTER, *Valedictory*, in American colleges, an oration or address spoken at commencement, by a member of the class which receive the degree of bachelor of arts, and take their leave of college and of each other. 1884 J. QUINCY *Figures of Past* 54 An oration in English and a Latin valedictory were commonly spoken by three-year graduates.

2. A statement or speech made by way of valediction on leaving a position, person, etc.

1892 *Monist* II. 309 In his Valedictory on retiring from the Editorship. 1893 GOLDW. SMITH *United States* 296 John A. Andrew also..said in his valedictory of January the 4th, 1866, that [etc.].

Hence **Valedi·ctorily** *adv. rare*—[1].

1896 CLODIUS *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 208 Charles Norton dines with us this evening, valedictorily.

‖ **Vale-dictum.** *Obs. rare.* [L. *vale-dictum*, neut. pa. pple. of *vale-dīcere* to say farewell.] = VALEDICTION 2.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 23 We have said enough: let my *vale-dictum* now be this; the Land mournes [etc.] *Ibid.* 140.

Valeis, obs. f. VALLEY.

†Valence[1]. *Obs. rare.* [prob. the name of the French town *Valence* on the Rhone.] Some thin woven fabric.

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 272 The remenaunt was wel keuerede to myn pay Rygh[t] with a subtyl couercheif of valence; Ther nas no thikkere cloth of no defense. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 47 Upon hir hed a kerche of Valence, Noon other richesse of counterfet array.

Valence[2] (vā'lĕns). [ad. L. *valentia*; see VALENCY.]

†1. An extract or preparation (*of* some herb) used in medicine. *Obs.*

c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 69 þis medicyne is called tapsi nalencia...; in þe brissing..putte in litel bi litel of oile of rose, or violet, or camamille, þat þe valence may competently imbibe it. *Ibid.* 98 þis medyc[in]e is called Valence of scabious for þe valuw of it. *Ibid.*, Valence of wormode is þus made.

† 2. Valour, courage; = VALIANCE 1. *Obs.*

a 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 172 For his valence, he was called Cœur de Lyon, the Lyons heart.

3 *Chem.* = VALENCY 3. (See also quot. 1902.)

Cf. EQUIVALENCE 2 and QUANTIVALENCE.

1884 *American* VIII. 300 To what extent is the Hypothesis of 'Valence' or 'Atomicity' of Value in explaining Chemical Reactions. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* June 1018 Meanwhile, it is clear that the 'valence', the *number* of electrical charges [in poisons], plays an important part.

Valence, var. VALANCE *sb.*[1]

Valencia (vălē'nshiă). Also **Valentia.** [See def.]

1. *attrib.* Of or pertaining to, cultivated in or obtained from, Valencia, a province and town of eastern Spain.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 207 The Stones commonly called Valentia garnets are..of this species... They may be the garnets of Spain, mentioned in..Raab's Catalogue. 1822 A. T. Thomson *Dispensatory* 150 The Valentia almond is a sweet, large, flat almond, pointed at one extremity. 1858 Homans *Cycl. Commerce* 1477/2 In Europe, the Valencia oranges are eagerly sought after, on account of their early appearance, large size, and beautiful color.

2. A mixed fabric mainly employed for waistcoats, having a wool weft with a warp of silk, silk and cotton, or linen, and usually striped. Chiefly in pl.

1850 in Ogilvie. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 490/1 Fancy vesting called valencias or tollinets. *Ibid.* 1115/2 Tollinets and valentias. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 510/1 Valentias are produced at Spitalfields, and many are showy in appearance.

3. *ellipt.* in *pl.* Valencia almonds or raisins; raisins similar to those of Valencia.

1867 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl. 460/1 *Valencias*, raisins prepared by dipping the bunches of grapes into a hot lye made of wood ashes, oil, and lime, and then dried in the sun. 1904 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 9 This year we have some of the finest Valencias (we call all raisins Valencias, you know) from Australia.

Valencian (vălē'nshiăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Valentian.** [See prec. and -AN.]

A. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of the town, province, or former kingdom of Valencia in Spain.

1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, I. Wks. 1851 III. 517 The grievances, which the Valencians aimed at redressing. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 88/2 No great number of cattle or horses are kept by the Valencians.

B. Of or belonging to Valencia (see prec.) or its people.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Almond*, Valentian and Barbary Almonds, which are those from whence the oil is procured. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, I. Wks. 1851 III. 399 But the Valencian nobles..considered this measure as an indignity to their country. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 89/1 Ribalta, Victoria, .. and other painters of the Valencian school. 1847 tr. *Bouterwek's Hist. Span. Lit.* 6 The author is one of the last poets who wrote in the Valencian dialect.

Valenciennes (valansien). Also 8 *Sc.* **Valentiana.** [See def.]

1. The name of a town in northern France, celebrated for the manufacture of lace, used *attrib.* in *Valenciennes lace* (see quot. 1858). Also *Comb.*

1717 Lady G. Baillie *Household Bk.* (S.H.S.) 214 For narow valentians lace at 11s. 1854 Gherkwood *Haps & Mishaps* 120 There is also a class engaged in weaving Valenciennes lace, of a beautiful quality. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Valenciennes-lace*, a rich lace which has a six-sided mesh formed of two threads partly twisted and plaited, the pattern being worked in the net. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 507/2 In Belgium there are six centres for Valenciennes lace making.

2. *ellipt.* A variety of lace originally manufactured at Valenciennes; a ruffle or the like made of this.

1764 W. Varey in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 270, I shall be obliged to you for four pair of Valenciennes, as good as people wear when they dress, but not too deep. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Angelina* iii, Eight and twenty [shillings]..is really nothing for any lace you'd wear; but more particularly for real Valenciennes. 1859 Reade *Love me Little* (1888) 169 'Well! does not every lady wear lace on her nightgown?..What is that on yours, pray?' 'A little misery of Valenciennes, an inch broad.' 1905 Elin. Glyn *Vicissitudes Evangeline* 99 Short sleeves ruffled with Valenciennes.

3. 'A pyrotechnic composition, usually employed as incendiary' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Valency (vā'lĕnsi). Also 7 **-cie.** [ad. L. (ante- and post-classical) *valentia* vigour, capacity, f. *valēre* to be well or strong. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *valentia*, It. *valenza*, *valenzia*.]

†1. Might, power, strength. *Obs.*—[a]

1623 in Cockeram I. 1656 in Blount.

2. *Physics.* Energy, active force.

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Nov. 222/1 The molecule..is therefore a body in which all the attractions or valencies are satisfied, leaving the combined atoms to act as a whole from one centre.

3. *Chem.* The power or capacity of certain elements to combine with or displace a greater or less number of hydrogen (or other) atoms; atomicity.

Cf. EQUIVALENCY 2 and VALENCE[2] 3.

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 473/2 The valency of an element is usually expressed by dashes or Roman numerals placed on the right of its symbol. *a* 1881 Barratt *Phys. Metempiric* 65, I think it will probably be eventually found that the atoms of high 'atomicity' or valency are really molecules. 1894 *Athenæum* 14 Apr. 481/1 The valencies and atomic weights in some cases need correction.

b. A unit of this capacity. Usu. in pl.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Carbon is said to have four valencies.

4. Importance, significance.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 166 These two conditions..are by no means of identical pathological valency.

‖ **Valent** (vā'lĕnt), *sb.*[1] *Sc. Law.* [L. *valent*, 3rd pl. pres. indic. of *valēre* to be of worth.]

1. Value or worth.

1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. v. § 37 The old and new extents of lands, of which the *valent* is not known.

2. *Valent clause*, in a retour of special service, that clause in which the old and new extent of the lands are specified (W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.*).

1752 A. MacDouall *Inst. Laws Scot.* IV. i. II. 460 The Valent-clause, whereby the inquest ought to have returned both the old and new extent. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. v. § 38 Because annualrents arising out of lands had no distinct valuation or extent, therefore they are said in the *valent* clause of the retour, *valere seipsum.*

Valent (væ'lĕnt), *sb.*[2] *techn.* and *dial.* [Back-formation from *valents* VALANCE *sb.*[1]] A valance.

1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) I. 143 The pockets, the falls, and valents. *Ibid.* 204 A broad stripe of leather, welted on the edge,..which shelters the inside, and is called a valent. 1888 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 795 *Valent*, a short curtain; .also the name of the upper or fixed part (if any) of window drapery.

†Va'lent, *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *valent-*, *valens*, pres. pple. of *valēre*] Vigorous, flourishing.

1492 Ryman *Poems* xviii. 2 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 186 A rouse, a valent floure, i-wis, Crist made springe of a thorne.

Valentia. ? *Obs.* [ad. Sp. *venencia*] (See quots. and cf. VALINCHER.)

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 319/2 An Instrument belonging to the Vintner or Merchant, called a Valentia. The first being the Valentia is a Pipe made of Silver or Tin, round and taper, and hollow withal. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Wds., Valentia*, the tin machine used for lifting beer, wine, etc. out at the bung-hole of a cask, by pressing the thumb on the small hole at top... I have never heard it called Valentia out of Suffolk.

Valentia, variant of VALENCIA.

Valentian, variant of VALENCIAN *a.*

†Valentide. *Obs.*—[1] [f. VALEN-TINE + TIDE *sb.*] *Saint Valentide*, St. Valentine's day, or the time of the year when this falls.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 32 On a day, when Cupid kept his court, As he is wont at each Saint Valentide.

Valentine (væ'lĕntain), *sb.* Also 5 **valantine** (6 *Sc.* **-tene**), **valeyntyne**, 5–6 **valentyne** (6 **-tyn**); 7 **vallentyne**; 5 *Sc.*, 6 **walentyne** (6 *Sc.* **wall-**); 5 **volentyn(e, -antyne, -ontyn** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *Valentin*, or ad. L. *Valentinus*, the name of two early Italian saints, both commemorated on the 14th of February.]

1. (*St.*) *Valentine's day*, the 14th of February.

Freq. mentioned with reference to the choosing of sweethearts or the mating of birds.

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 309 For this was on seynt Volantynys day Whan euery bryd comyth there to chese his make. *c* 1430 *Lydgate's Min. Poems* (1911) I. 304 A balade made..in wyse of chesing loues at Saint Valentynes day. *c* 1450 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1 05) 127 The xiiij day of Feuerell, that is to say vpon seynt Valentyne's day, the Kyng com to London. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 117 And after saynt Valentynes daye, it is tyme to graffe both peares and wardens. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. v. 48 To morrow is S. Valentines day. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xiii. (1713) 206 As some.. embrace the first they meet on Valentine's day. 1725 Bourne in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1777) xviii. 209 Such is the Observation of Candlemas-Day, such is Childermas-Day, such Valentine's Day, and some others. 1822 Nares *Gloss.* 538 The number of letters sent on Valentine's Day, makes several additional sorters necessary at the Post Office in London. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* v, How blithe would she have been to see this happy Saint Valentine's morning! 1854 [see VALENTINE *v.* 2]. *ellipt.* 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 144 Saint Valentine is past, Begin these wood birds but to couple now? 1714 Gay *Shepherd's Week* IV. 37 Last Valentine, the day when birds of kind Their paramours with mutual chirpings find.

b. *St. Valentine's eve* (Sc. *Valentine's e'en*), the eve of St. Valentine's day.

1671 *Roxb. Ball.* (1890) VII. 119 A Crew on S. Valentine's Eve did meet together. 1824–28 Somerville *Life & Times* (1861) 344 Valentine's e'en, and Hallowe'en,..used to be anniversaries observed in every house by the..young people. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiii, I will have no evasions, boy—Where went thou on St. Valentine's Eve?

2. A person of the opposite sex chosen, drawn by lot, or otherwise determined, on St. Valentine's day, as a sweetheart, lover, or special friend for the ensuing year.

a 1450 *MS. Harl.* 1735 fol. 48 (Halliw.), Godys blescyng have he and myn, My nose gentyl Volontyn, Good Tomas the frere. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 170 Unto my ryght welebelovyd Volmatyn, John Paston, Squyer, be this bill delyvered. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 564 A! god be with my valentynes. My byrd swetyng, my lovys so dere! 1535 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 126, I gyf and bequeth to my valentyn Agnes Illyon x s. 1596 Raleigh *Disc. Guiana* 23 After the Queens haue chosen, the rest cast lottes for their Valentines. 1623 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 395 To the great grief of his sweetheart, Mrs. Bray, my ancient valentine. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 14 Feb., This morning came up to my wife's bedside..little Will Mercer to be her Valentine...But I am also this year my wife's Valentine. 1712 Woodes Rogers *Voy. r. World* 359 That same Day, in Commemoration of the antient Custom in England of chusing Valentines, I drew up a List of the fair Ladies in Bristol..and sent for my Officers into the Cabbin, where every one drew. 1719 Ozell tr. *Misson's Mem. Trav. Eng.* 331 There is another kind of Valentine; which is the first young Man or Woman that Chance throws in your Way in the Street, or elsewhere, on that Day. *a* 1859 Macaulay in *Sat. Rev.* (1863) 152 All good attend my Valentine!

transf. c 1750 Goldsm. in W. Irving *Bing.* (1849) IV. 54 With submission at your shrine, Comes a heart your Valentine.

† b. Applied to God, or to one of the Saints, as a patron chosen by a worshipper. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Godstow Register* (1911) 14 O true valeyntyne is oure lord to me. 1500 *Will of Hewetts* (Somerset Ho.), To.. Saint Mary & to her moder Saint Anne my speciall voweis & volentyns on whoos day I was borne. 1696 Blount *Glossogr., Valentines*,..Saints chosen for special Patrons for a year, according to the use of the Romanists.

3. A folded paper inscribed with the name of a person to be drawn as a valentine. *To draw valentines*, to draw lots for this or other reasons.

c 1553 *Cecil Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 134 There is three papers like unto walentynes put in a cap and so they draw. 1639 *Sc. Acts Parlt.* (1870) V. 604/2 Act ordaining the Commissioneris of shyris to draw lottis and valentines zairlie at ilk parliament for thair places. 1725 Bourne in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1777) 225 It is a Ceremony, never omitted among the Vulgar, to draw Lots, which they Term Valentines, on the Eve before Valentine day. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl.* I. 141 The young people..in February draw Valentines, and from them collect their future fortune in the nuptial state. 1787 Burns *Tam Glen* vi, Yestreen at the valentines' dealing,..thrice I drew ane without failing, And thrice it was written—Tam Glen!

† b. A gift or present to a person drawn or chosen as one's especial friend on St. Valentine's day.

c 1620 in *Heriot's Mem.* App. VII. (1822) 215 For gold, and making of a Valentine. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. iv, Many such allurements there are,.. tokens, favours, symbols, letters, valentines, &c.

c. A written or printed letter or missive, a card of dainty design with verses or other words, esp of an amorous or sentimental nature, sent on St. Valentine's day to a person of the opposite sex; in later use also a printed sheet consisting of a more or less grotesque picture with humorous or satirical rhymes (more exactly called a *mock valentine*).

1824 Miss Mitford *Village Sch.* I. (1863) 47 A fine sheet of flourishing writing, something between a valentine and a sampler. 1844 Alb. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xxiv. (1886) 73 He had that morning received..a valentine, in a lady's handwriting, and perfectly anonymous. 1879 *Paper & Printing Trades Jrnl.* XXIX. 20 One occasionally hears that valentines are going out. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 7/1 The Christmas card has apparently killed the valentine...Valentines are still sold, and sent, but they are chiefly of the satirical order.

d. *transf.* (Cf. VALENTINE *v.* 1.)

1847 Tennyson *Princ.* V. 229 A song on every spray Of birds that piped their Valentines.

† 4. *Sc.* a. (Meaning uncertain.) *Obs.*—[1]

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 918 Thus wycit he the walentyne thraly and thrawin.

† b. 'A sealed letter from the Crown to landholders for the apprehension of persons offending against the law.' *Obs.*

1556 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 328 For inbringin of certane personis gevin in valentynis to the airis of Elgin, Banf, and Abirdene. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 169 Thir personis under written:..in presence of the Quenis Grace ressavit thair valentinis of the names of the personis culpable of thift. 1587 *Sc. Acts Parlt.* (1814) III. 464/2 The kingis Maiesties cloiss valentynis to be send to the Maisteris, ..baillies and chiftanes of all notable lymmeris and thevis.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *valentine bag, glove, -writer*; **Valentine-bun** (see quot. 1854); **Valentine-day**, = sense 1.

1695 Lady G. Baillie *Housh. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 257 To Lisl Rainald for my Robin's vallantin gloves. 1725 Bourne in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1777) 225 On the Eve before Valentine-day. 1820 (*title*), Fairburn's Annual, Original, Comic & Entertaining Valentine-writer for the year 18 s. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 505 Those that issue from the bursting Valentine-bag of our postman. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., In Peterborough..sweet plum buns were formerly, and I believe are still, made, called Valentine buns.

Va'lentine, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* and *intr.* Of birds: To greet with song, to sing, at mating-time. (Cf. prec. 3 d.)

1851 MEREDITH *Pastorals, Poems* 104 Shall the birds in vain then valentine their sweethearts? — *Thrush in Feb.* i, I know him, February's thrush, And loud at eve he valentines.

2. *intr.* (See quots.) *dial.*

1854 Miss BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* 373 *Valentining*, children going from house to house the morning of St.

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given him leave to go 'Valentining'.

Valentinian (vælĕnti·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 **-eian.** [See def.]

A. *sb.* A follower of the Egyptian theologian Valentinus (fl. *c* 150), founder of a Gnostic sect.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. iii. 497 The sect of Valentynyanys, whiche helden that Crist took no thing of Maries bodi. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Staphylus' Apol.* 168 b, The conflictes of Irenee with the Valentinians. 1579 FULKE *Heshins' Parl.* 2 As the olde Heretiques the Valentinians did. 1626 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Valentinians*, certaine heretikes ..who held opinion that our Saulour receiued not his flesh of the blessed virgin Mary. 1720 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* 15 The Valentinians..learned what they said concerning the Generation of their Æones, of Hesiod. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* IV. 540 *note*, The Valentinians embraced a complex, and almost incoherent, system. 1833 A. CRICHTON *Hist. Arabia* I. v. 216 Sabellians, Valentinians, and a host of obscurer sects, all rose up in the theological arena. 1874 W. R. CASSELS *Supernatural Relig.* II. II. x. 221 The Valentinians differed materially among themselves regarding certain points.

B. *adj.* Adhering or belonging to the Gnostic sect instituted by the heresiarch Valentinus; taught or disseminated by Valentinus or his followers.

1579 FULKE *Conf. Sanders* 585 Yet came that estimation of the crosse from the Valentinian heretikes. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 56, I found that there were Valentinian Anabaptists in those days. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 554 And now he made many converts,..particularly Ambrosius, noted for the Valentinian heresie. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 149 As a sufficient means of proving the falsehood of the Valentinian doctrines. 1874 W. R. CASSELS *Supernatural Relig.* II. II. x. 214 He calls him the most noted man of the Valentinian school.

Hence **Valenti·nianism**, the doctrine or creed of Valentinus and his followers.

1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Col.* 331 *note*, The later Basilideans apparently influenced by Valentinianism superadded to the teaching of their founder. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 768 The word is tainted with Valentinianism.

Valentinite (vælĕntinəit). *Min.* Also **-elte.** [f. the name of the alleged mediæval alchemist Basil *Valentine*; named by W. Haidinger, 1845.] White antimony; antimony bloom.

1860 *Ure's Dict Arts* (ed. 5) I. 168 White Antimony (Valentinite) is the result of the alteration of grey antimony, native antimony, and other ores of that metal. 1863 [see ANTIMONY 3]. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 379 Antimony..is also found in nature as white antimony ore or valentinite.

Va·ler-, variant of VALERO-, employed before second elements beginning with a vowel, as *valer-aceto-nitril(e, -aldehyde, -aldine, -amide, -anilide.*

1848 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 2) 542 Alkalis convert..*valeracetonitril into valerianic and acetic acids and ammonia. 1858 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 972 Valeracetonitrile is a mobile colourless liquid. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 236 *Valeraldehyde. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 851 Valeraldehyd [= Valeric Aldehyd]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 974 **Valeraldine*..An organic base, homologous with thialdine. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 236 When valerate of oxide of ethyle is left in contact with strong ammonia, *valeramide and alcohol are formed. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 974 *Valeramide*,.. the primary amide of valeric acid. *Ibid.* 975 **Valeramilide*...Produced by the action of valeric anhydride on aniline.

Valeral (væ·lĕrăl). *Chem.* [f. *valer(ic)* + *al(dehyde)*: see VALERIC *a.*] A colourless, very mobile liquid obtained from valerianates or from amylic alcohol. Also *attrib.*

1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 236 Valeraldehyde or valeral. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 972 Valeral is usually prepared by oxidising amylic alcohol with chromate of potassium and sulphuric acid. *Ibid.* 974 Valeral-ammonia melts when heated.

Valerate (væ·lĕrĕt). *Chem.* [f. VALER-IC *a.* + -ATE[1] c.] = VALERIANATE.

1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk Org. Chem.* 236 Valerate of oxide of ethyle, or valeric ether. *Ibid.*, Valerate of Ammonia. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 399 Valerate of zinc.., as well as some others of the valerates, has been used medicinally. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 976 Valerates are decomposed by mineral acids.

Valerene. *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -ENE.] (See quots.)

1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 237 Valerene..is obtained as one of the products of the action of zinc on iodide of amyle. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 626 *Borneene. Valerene* $C^{1}H^{16}$.—A liquid hydrocarbon, isomeric with oil of turpentine

Valereus, obs. Sc. f. VALOROUS *a.*

Valerian (vălī·riăn). Also 4–5 **valirian**, 5 **valerian**, 5–6 **valeryan**(e, 6 **valeriane**. [ad. OF. *valeriane* (mod.F. *valériane*) or med.L. *valeriana* (also It., Sp., and Pg.), app. the fem. sing. of the L. adj. *Valerianus*, f. the personal name *Valerius.*]

1. One or other of the various species of herbaceous plants belonging to the widely-distributed genus *Valeriana*, many of which have been used medicinally as stimulants or antispasmodics.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 800 And herbes couthe I telle eek many oon, As egrimoigne, valirian, and lunarie. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 269 Poudre maad of pe rotis of valarian temperid wip wijn. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, An herbe..pat men calleth..in oure langage valeryane, pe whiche maketh men feese. 1530 PALSGR. 284/1 Valeryan an herbe. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 339 There be two sortes of Valerian, the garden and wilde. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccl. 1078 Generally the valerians are called by one name. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 213 Valerian then he crops, and purposely doth stampe T' apply unto the place that's haled with the cramps. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* 67 Flowers in Prime, .. Syringa's, Sedum's, ..Valerian, Veronica [etc.]. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 199 The roots of Valerian are esteemed most medicinal, which are dug up in Oxfordshire and Glocestershire. 1768 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 100 Gay loosestrife there and pale valerian spring. 1822 LAMB *Elia* I. *Praise Chimney-Sweepers*, No less pleased than those domestic animals—cats—when they purr over a new-found sprig of valerian. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1202/1 Two Valerians are natives of this country. 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar. 204/2 Any one requiring a useful plant for some semi-wild garden ought to give the Valerian a trial.

2. With distinctive terms: **a.** Denoting varieties of true valerian, as *garden, great, little, wild*, etc.

Many varieties are enumerated in Parkinson *Theatr. Pl.* (1640) 120–2, Bradley *Dict. Bot.* (1728), *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. (1753), Johnson *Gard. Dict.* (1852), etc.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 62 The one is growing in moyst plasshes and in morish groundes, and it is called in englishe wylde Valerian. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 339 Great wild valerian. Little wild valerian. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. 916 The tame or garden Valerian hath his first leaues long, broade, sinooth, greene, and vndeuided. *Ibid.* 917 *Valeriana Petræa*, Stone Valerian. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Martyr* (1878) 83 Great wild Valerian and the Withie wind. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* (1904) 386 Knobbed Mountaine Valerian. 1640 — *Theat. Pl.* 119 The great Valerian hath a thicke short grayish roote. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 42 The little Valerian has small Roots, of a good Smell. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The great garden Valerian is an alexipharmic, sudorific, and diuretic. *Ibid.*, The wild Valerian root is much more famous than this. 1790 BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* 427 Infusions of balm-leaves,..the roots of wild valerian, or the flowers of the lime-tree. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 192 The root of the Common Valerian possesses a strong and peculiar odour. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 183 The handsome heart-leaved valerian (*Valeriana Pyrenaica*).

b. *Red, spur-*, or *spurred* (also † *basil*) *valerian*, = *Centranthus ruber.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. 551 Of Basill Valerian. Red Valerian hath beene so called of the likenesse of the flowers and spoked rundles with Valerian, by which name we had rather haue it called, then rashly to laie vpon it an vnproper name. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Pl.* 122 This small red Valerian is very like unto the greater red Valerian. 1849 [see SPURRED *a.* 4]. 1855–63 [see SPUR *sb.*[1] 14 b]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 247/1 The Red Valerian, *C. ruber*, formerly known as *Valeriana rubra*, offers a good example of the genus. 1899 BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* Poet. Wks. (1912) 352 With red Valerian And Toadflax on the wall.

c. *Greek* († *Greekish, Grecian*) *valerian*, Jacob's ladder, *Polemonium cæruleum.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. 340 The garden Valerian and Greeke Valerian are sowen and planted in gardens. *Ibid.*, The Greekish Valerian hath two or three holow stalkes, or moe. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* (1904) 388 The Greek Valerian hath many winged leaues lying vpon the ground,..very like vnto the wilde Valerian. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* VI. 436 The Leaves were set upon a long stem, like to that which is called Grecian Valerian. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xvi. (1794) 189 Greek Valerian or Jacob's-Ladder which has the corolla rather rotate. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 15 Blue Jacob's Ladder or Greek Valerian. 1858 IRVINE *Brit. Plants* 477 *Polemoniaceæ*, the Greek Valerian Family.

3. The drug derived from the rootstocks of the wild valerian or other species.

1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 29, I shall hate you as bad as senna and valerian. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 472 Internally valerian with opium [was] prescribed. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 347/2 It is curious that the Celtic and mountain nards are also Valerians, the former being yielded by *Valeriana Celtica* and *Saliunca*. 1843 *Ibid.* XXVI. 92/2 Valerian is considered a cerebro-spinal stimulant. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 604 Sedatives such as bromides and valerian.. must be administered.

4. *attrib.*, as *valerian oil, root, tea*; **valerian family, order, tribe, -wort**, the order *Valerianaceæ.*

a. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 49 A Teaspoonful of Valerian Root. 1783 *Med. Comm.* I. 214 She had taken the drops in the valerian tea. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 975 Crude valerian-oil is a mixture of several substances. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 288 Valerian Root. The root of *Valeriana officinalis*, dried.

b. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 698 Valerianworts are principally distinguished from Teazelworts by their want of albumen. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 906 The Valerian Family. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 160 The Valerian Tribe. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* 315 The Valerian Order.

Valerianaceous (vălī·riănē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. mod. L. *Valerianace-æ*: see prec.] Of or belonging to the Valerian order.

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 681 The Lamb's lettuce, or corn-salad, ..is a valerianaceous indigenous annual.

Valerianate (vălī·riănĕt). *Chem.* [f. VALERIAN + -ATE[1] c.] A salt produced by the action of valeric acid on a base.

1848 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 168 Hydrogen is given off, and valerianate of potash is formed. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 154 Apple oil is a similar preparation of valerianate of amyl. 1868 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 347 The valerianates are all soluble in water, excepting those of silver and mercury. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 124 Zinc, which may well be given as the valerianate.

Valerianic (vălī·riæ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. bot. L. *Valeriana* VALERIAN + -IC.] Derived or obtained from valerian.

1828 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 36 There pass over into the receiver, water and an oil; both of which contain valerianic acid. 1839 R. D. THOMSON in *British Ann.* 354 Valerianic ether. 1866 W. ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 6 The combination of water, valerianic aldehyd, and prussic acid. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 288 Valerian root owes its activity to a volatile oil and valerianic acid.

Valeric (vălē·rik), *a. Chem.* [f. VALER-IAN + -IC.] = prec.

1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 236 Valerate of oxide of ethyle, or valeric ether. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 128 Under the influence of spongy platinum, amylic alcohol gradually absorbs oxygen,..and valeric acid is produced. *Ibid.* 139 Valeric aldehyd...This compound may be obtained in various ways. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 979 Valeric bromide. *Ibid.*, Valeric chloride.

Valerin (væ·lĕrin). *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IN.] (See quots.)

1866 W. ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 93 By combining valeric acid with glycerin we produce valerin, a constituent of whale oil. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 980 *Valerins*, glycerides produced by heating valeric acid with glycerin.

Va·lero-, combining form of VALERIAN or VALERIC *a.*, used in a few chemical terms, as *valero-benzoic, -glyceral, -lactic.* (Cf. VALER-.)

1854 *Fownes's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 5) 488 Anhydrous Valerobenzoic Acid. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 980 *Valero-glyceral*,..a compound analogous to acetal. *Ibid.* 981 *Valerolactic acid*,..syn. with ethyl-lactic acid.

Valerol (væ·lĕrɒl). *Chem.* Also **-ole.** [f. VALER-IAN + -OL.] 'The neutral oxygenated constituent of valerian-oil' (Watts).

1845 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 447 When fresh, it contains no valerianic acid, but an oil, valerole. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 398 The valerian root contains a compound (valerol, $C_{15}H_{10}O_2$), which by oxidation becomes converted into valeric acid. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 289 Valerole. is a crystalline body at a low temperature. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 545 Valerol is a constituent of the volatile oil of hops.

Valerone (væ·lĕ·ōun). *Chem.* Also **-on.** [f. as prec. + -ONE.] (See quots. 1852, 1868.)

1839 R. D. THOMSON in *British Ann.* 362 Valeron. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 237 Valerone,..homologous with acetone, is formed when valerianic acid is heated with excess of baryta. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 981 Valerone is a transparent, colourless, mobile liquid, having a pleasant ethereal odour and burning taste.

Valeroni·trile. *Chem.* Also **-yle, -il.** [f. VALERO- + NITRILE.] Cyanide of tetryl.

1847 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 2) 597 Valeronitrile .. may be derived from valerianate of ammonia. 1848 FOWNES *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) 542 Alkalis convert valeronitril into valerianic acid and ammonia. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 627 If it be distilled with dilute sulphuric acid and peroxide of manganese, valeronitrile with carbonic acid and water are produced.

Valerous, obs. f. VALOROUS *a.*

Va·leryl. *Chem.* Also **-yle.** [f. VALER-IAN + -YL.] 'The radicle of valeric acid and its derivatives' (Watts).

1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 236 Hydrated oxide of valeryle. *Ibid.* 237 The compounds of amyle and valeryle. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 981 The bromide, chloride, &c. of valeryl.

Va·lerylene. *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -ENE.] A hydrocarbon homologous with acetylene.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 981 Valerylene..is a colourless very mobile liquid, which floats on water, and is nearly insoluble therein. 1873 ROLFE *Phys. Chem.* p. xviii, Quintine or Valerylene.

Valesian (vălī·ʃăn). [ad. mod.L. pl. *Valesiani, Valesii*, ad. late Gr. Οὐαλήσιοι, f. Οὐάλης, L. *Valens.*] (See quots.)

1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 585 There appeared a new sort of hereticks in the Church called Valesians from Vale-ius an Arabian. They made all their followers eunuchs. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Valesians*, .. antient Sectaries, so called from one Valens, a Person unknown to Epiphanius, who makes mention of this Sect. 1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Dissenting Churches* I. 96 Others who were called heretics at that period; such as the Valesians.

Valesiye, obs. var. FALSELY *adv.*

Valet (væ·lĕt, væ·lē), *sb.* Also 6–7 **vallet** (6 **-ett**, *Sc.* **wallett**), 7 **valett**; 8 *Sc.* **vallie.** [a. F. *valet*, OF. *valet, vallet, vaslet*, prob. related to VASSAL. Cf. VADELECT, VALECT, and VARLET.]

1. A man-servant performing duties chiefly relating to the person of his master; a gentleman's personal attendant.

1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* I. (1898) I. 34 Not worthy anye waye to be vallet to the worste of us. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 181 Ane of the vallettis of the Kingis Majesteis chalmer. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 333 At this day, a *Diener*, seruant or vallet is both in Alemanique and Belgique called *Ein Knecht*. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 651 Before the Dame, and round about, March'd Whiffers, and Staffiers on foot, With Lacquies, Grooms, Valets, and Pages. 1692 *Satyr agst. French* 15 That Gentleman does much himself forget, Who in his Chamber has not French Vallet. *Ibid.* 25 From hence they'd fly,..And leave not one poor Vallet here behind. 1719 HAMILTON *Ep. to Ramsay* II. viii, I wad nae care to be thy vallie, Or thy recorder. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 102 We have taken an occasional valet, whom I intend hereafter to hire as my own servant. *a* 1846 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Knight & Lady*, Thompson, the *Valet*, Look'd gravely at Sally. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. vi. 218 The rich man's valet

studies his master's temper and caprices. 1883 *Athenæum* 26 Sept. 393/3 The chief characters in his plays are heavy fathers and confidential valets.

fig. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. i. I, Which would not end till 'France' (La France, as she named her royal valet) finally mustered heart to see Choiseul.

2. *Mil.* A footman acting as attendant or servant to a horseman. *rare.* (Cf. Varlet 1 b.)

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 269 There be..two quarters for horsemen, the which their vallets are to entrench with a smal trench. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* xiii. 281 They became terror-struck when they perceived that the French caused dismounted horsemen to be put to death by their valets.

3. a. Appositive, as *valet-courier, harquebusier, maid, -musician.*

1598 Dallington *Meth. Trav.* K 4 [A horseman] who shall quitte his horse, and serue on foot, prouided that hee haue with him a vallet Harquebusier. 1845 E. Holmes *Life Mozart* 5 The Archbishop of Saltzburg..entertained him in the capacity of valet-musician. 1867 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 32 The clever old valet maid that waited on them. 1897 'H. S. Merriman' *In Kedar's Tents* xxii. 243 A valet-courier of taciturn habit.

b. Attributive, as *valet judgement, world.*

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres.* I. iv, It is to the sham-hero that..the valet world belongs. 1855 — *Misc.* (1857) IV. 354 Sublime to the valet judgment.

Hence **Va·letage,** the service rendered by a valet; **Va·lethood,** the state or condition of being a valet; **Va·letism,** the character or spirit of a valet.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres.* II. ix, The fruit of long ages of confirmed Valethood;..cloth-worship and quack-worship. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* xiii. 183 To far other persons besides the valet by reason of his valetism, does the hero often cease to be a hero. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 17 May 588/2 The vassalage or the valetage is prompted by an honest personal devotion, like that of Tom Steele to O'Connell.

Va·let, *v.* [f. Valet *sb.*] *trans.* To wait upon, to attend or serve, as a valet.

1840 J. T. J. Hewlett *P. Priggins* xx, He always comes down to college to valet me, take my things away to brush, and so on. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, Fancy me waited upon and valeted by a stout party in black, of quiet, gentlemanly manners. 1886 A. Griffiths *Pauper Peer* i, If he keeps no servant, the proprietor of the establishment will valet him.

refl. 1893 McCarthy *Dictator* i, In the most splendid days of Gloria, he had always valeted himself.

absol. 1885 G. Allen *Babylon* xv, But can he valet, I wonder?

Hence **Va·leting** *vbl. sb.*

1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. iii, He would have gone without nether integuments altogether, sooner than have had recourse to female valeting 1861 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 77, I have all the valeting to do myself.

‖ **Valetaille** (valetɑ'ly). [F., f. *valet* Valet *sb.*] A number or retinue of valets.

1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VII. iii. (1872) II. 266 No end of military valetaille, chiefly 'janizaries' in Turk costume. 1862 H. Marryat *Year in Sweden* I. 284 The rest of the valetaille were closely incarcerated.

‖ **Valet-de-chambre** (valɛ də ʃɑ̃br). Also 7 **valett-**, 7–8 **valette**; 7 **vally**, 8 **vale**; 8 **valet de shamber**, 8–9 **valet de sham**, 9 **valley-de-sham**. [F., lit. 'chamber-valet'.] = Valet *sb.* I.

a. 1646 Chas. I *Lett. to Q. Henrietta M.* (Camden) 60 One Dubois, valett-de-chambre to the Queen Regent. 1655 *Nicholas P.* (Camden) II. 291 There finding a valet de chambre attending, the Marquis wild him to tell the prince I was there. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 106 P 2 You would take his Valet de Chambre for his Brother. 1764 Foote *Patron* II. 31 It has been said, and I believe with some shadow of truth, that no man is a hero to his valet de chambre. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* No. 32. 147, I dare say, remember a shrewd remark of a writer, whose name I cannot recollect, That no great man ever appeared great in the eyes of his valet de chambre. 1839 Dickens *Nickleby* xxviii, With noiseless tread two valets-de-chambre advanced into the room. 1862 Aïdé *Carr of C.* III. 36 Though our *valets-de-chambre* know us to be no heroes, it is clearly their interest to make us appear such in the eyes of the world.

β. 1678 in Pollock *Popish Plot* App B. (1903) 384 A vally de chambre to the Lord Bellasis. 1709 O. Dykes *Eng. Prov.* (ed. 2) 135 By the conversation of an illiterate Coxcomb of a Vale De Chambre. 1776 Foote *Capuchin* I. Wks. 1799 II. 384 His old shopman, whom he keeps as his valet de sham. 1791 O'Keeffe *Wild Oats* I. i, I wish you hadn't made me your valet de shamber. 1853 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1864) IV. 184 The door was opened by Mr. Gray's factotum and valley-de-sham Phil.

Hence **Valet-de-chambreship.**

1779 J. Moore *View Soc. Fr.* (1793) I. 14 His dexterity and intelligence in the science of valet-de-chambreship.

‖ **Valet-de-place** (valɛ də plas). [F., lit. 'place-servant'.] A man who acts as a guide to strangers or tourists; a cicerone.

1750 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) II. xiii. 52 You will have your coach,..your own footman, and a valet de place. 1792 C. Smith *Desmond* III. 267 A Frenchman, who had formerly served me as *valet de place.* 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 4 6/2 We chose rather to stroll out alone, than to put ourselves under the direction of a valet-de-place. 1886 Ruskin *Time & Tide* 62, I asked a valet-de-place at Meurice's what people were generally going to [for amusement].

Valetry (væ·letri). [f. Valet *sb.*] Valets collectively; the office or quality of a valet.

1806 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 344 Hospitals for decayed valetry and dependents of ministerial land-owners. 1853 James *Agnes Sorel* I. 191 The cutler..could not forbear some grumbling observations upon valets and valetry. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shaks.* 97 Work fitter for ushers and embalmers and the general valetry or varletry of Church and State.

†Va·letude. *Obs. rare.* Also valitude. [ad. L. *valētūdo, valitūdo* state of health, f. *valēre* to be well or strong.] **a.** Good health. **b.** Condition as to health.

a 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 106 Thair was worschip with welth and valitude..Thair was melknes weil mixt with mansuetude. 1603 Cockeram I, *Valetude*, health or sickneese. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 261 Esula..is frequently used to the valitude of many, and the death of more.

‖ **Valetudinaire,** *a.* and *sb. rare.* [F. *valétudinaire.*] = Valetudinary.

1828 Warburton *Hist. Guernsey* (1838) 131 One, that is valétudinaire, may, in the time of his sickness, contract with any relation or stranger to take care of him. 1725 Pope *Farew. to Lond.* x, Still idle, with a busy air, Deep whimsies to contrive; The gayest valetudinaire, Most thinking rake, alive.

Valetudinarian (vælɪ̯tiūdinē·riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [See Valetudinary *a.* and -ian.]

A. *sb.* A person in weak health, esp. one who is constantly concerned with his own ailments; an invalid.

1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 81 Many of our English Valetudinarians have gone from Jamaica..to the I. Caimanes,.. to live wholly upon Turtle that abound there. 1746 R. James *Health's Improv.* Introd. 45 Such who have very strong Constitutions, are more liable to pestilential Disorders, and putrid Fevers, than Valetudinarians. 1787 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 1056/2 Every one knows how hard a task it is to cure a valetudinarian. 1832 J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipman* vi. (1837) 102 The hot springs and medicinal vapours..must at a very early period have excited the attention of valetudinarians. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* iv. 92 Naturally, he fell into many of the self-indulgent and troublesome ways of the valetudinarian.

fig. 1728 Budgell *Spect.* No. 395 P 10 These are a kind of Valetudinarians in Chastity. 1777 Sheridan *School for Scand.* I. i, True, madam! there are Valetudinarians in reputation as well as constitution. 1873 Goulburn *Pers. Relig.* II. v. 81 The man becomes a valetudinarian in religion, full of himself, his symptoms, his ailments, the delicacy of his moral health.

B. *adj.* = Valetudinary *a.*

1723 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* III. iv. (1727) 72 An admirable Easement..to the valetudinarian, feeble Part of Mankind. 1740 Cheyne *Ess. Regimen* i, The Scorbutic, Gouty, Consumptive, or Nervous Valetudinarian-low-livers. 1751 Earl Orrery *Rem. Swift* (1752) 113 His fortune exempted him from care and sollicitude. His valetudinarian habit of body from intemperance. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. 128 The valetudinarian devotee becomes more and more the puppet of his spiritual doctor. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 283 Asclepius did not instruct his descendants in valetudinarian arts.

Hence **Valetudina·rianism,** the condition of a valetudinarian; tendency to be in weak health or to be much concerned about one's own health.

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 52 Those traces of laborious valetudinarianism and nervous sensibility. 1868 W. R. Greg *Lit. & Soc. Judgm.* 490 The bolder spirits.., perhaps over-recklessly, despise such egotistic valetudinarianism. 1892 *Speaker* 30 July 141/2 The schoolmistress has had to forget her valetudinarianism and patent medicines in the struggle for existence.

Valetu·dinariness. *rare*—1. [f. Valetudinary *a.*] Weakness of health.

1742 Cheyne *Regimen* III. iv. 243 If there be an habitual Thinness, Leanness, Tenderness and Valetudinariness.

†Valetudina·rious, *a. Obs.* [See Valetudinary and -ious.] Having weak health; valetudinary. Also *fig.*

1648 *Petit. Eastern Assoc.* 14 Our Parliament might be somewhat valetudinarious. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* III. iv. 504 Valitudinarious bodies can as well spare food as physick. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VI. vii. 70 About the Beginning of January he began to be very Valetudinarious, labouring under Pains that seem'd Ischiatick. 1704 S. Sewall *Diary* 1 Apr. (1879) II. 97 Visited my valetudinarious son at Brooklin.

†Valetu·dinarist. *Obs.* [Cf. next and -ist.] A valetudinarian.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 204 Ere these valetudinarists arrive at the broad and pleasant way of perfect convalescence.

Valetudinary (vælɪ̯tiū·dinări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *valētūdināri-us*, f. *valētūdin-*, *valētūdo* Valetude. So It., Sp., Pg. *valetudinario*, F. *valétudinaire.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Not in robust or vigorous health; more or less weakly, infirm, or delicate; invalid: **a.** Of the body, etc.

1582 Mulcaster *Positt.* XXX. (1887) 210 Either it is sickly, ..or it is healthy,..or it is valetudinarie, neither pure sicke nor perfit whole. 1619 Donne *Lett.* Wks. 1839 VI. 374, I carry an infirm and Valetudinary body. 1692 Boyle *Hist. Air* 230 Oxford .. I have known to be very disagreeable to some moist splenetick and valetudinary bodies. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 705 His puny and valetudinary frame would not permit him.

fig. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 300 P 3 This valetudinary Friendship, subject to so many Heats and Colds.

b. Of persons. (In later use freq. implying anxious attention to the state of one's own health.)

1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cxcvii. 161 For they [students] be commonly valetudinary that is sickely. 1646 R. Baillie *Anabaptism* (1647) Pref., Very small changes of the heaven and air are able to vex much a crasy and valetudinary person. 1692 Boyle *Hist. Air* 242 Sick and valetudinary Persons used to be sent thither. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* Pref. (1734) p. viii, A gross, full, high Diet, is [improper] for a poor, thin, low, valetudinary Creature. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 91 All the unpleasing and unsocial qualities of a valetudinary man. 1808 Scott in *Lockhart* (1837) I. i. 19 Though valetudinary, he lived to be nearly ninety. 1844 N. P. Willis *Lucy Jane* I. 44 The men being old and valetudinary.

absol. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 230 Preventive we call that [physic] which..preventeth sickneese in the healthy, or the recourse thereof in the valetudinary. 1692 Gaule *Magastrom.* 139 Experience of all places, and ages tell us, that the more valetudinary, have commonly been the more vertuous. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 2 The Tender therefore, and Valetudinary, ought cautiously to avoid all Occasions of catching Cold. 1782 *Med Comm.* I. 11 *note*, The old and valetudinary, suffered most severely. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 165 The valetudinary, consumptive, and physic-taking, earliest fall victims of the ship's motion.

2. Of conditions, etc.: Characterized by weak or feeble health.

1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii. 163 Such as are naturally infirme, and of a valetudinary state of body. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XV. 530 No Cough nor any signs of a Valetudinary disposition of the Lungs do appear. 1702 C. Wolley *Jrnl. N. York* (1860) 26 A person seemingly of a weakly Stamen and a valetudinary Constitution. *a* 1776 R. James *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 44 Mr. Collyer..has by that means been brought from the most valetudinary state, to one of great health and vigour. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* ix. 331 Apparently a man of melancholic and valetudinary habits. 1876 L. Stephen *Hist. Eng. 18th C.* II. 386 The last thirty-six years of his long life was passed in valetudinary retirement.

B. *sb.* †**1.** An infirmary or hospital. *Obs.*

After med.L. *valetudinarium.*

1623 Cockeram I, *Valetudinaria*, an Hospitall. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* III. ii. 45 There lay the poor man, till being found, he was carried into the Valetudinary.

2. = Valetudinarian *sb.*

1785 *Lounger* (1787) I. 200 Dr. Doddipoll was a valetudinary like myself. 1787 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 15 Aug., General Grenville, a silent, reserved valetudinary, went under the same convoy. 1832 E. FitzGerald *Euphranor* 46 It is better to die well ever so young than to grow up a valetudinary and a poltroon. 1860 *Macm. Mag.* II. 36 The painters who have shown him [Christ] as a delicate valetudinary.

†Valetu·dinous, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *valētūdin-*, *valētūdo* Valetude + -ous.] Invalid, weakly.

1655 Fuller *Hist. Cambridge* 128 It seemeth that soon after,..affrighted with the valetudinous condition of King Edward,..he returned to Heidelberg.

†Valeur. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. and F. *valeur*, later f. *valour* Valour.] **a.** Value. **b.** Valour.

1433–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 437/2 This thaire assent and grant for to stande in strengthe, and ellus to be as voide and of noe valaure. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 32 Gif the key of Jurisdicciouu dois thing that it aw nocht to do,..that suld be of lytill valeur. 1646 Howell. *Lewis XIII*, 115 Some of the Provensall Gentlemen shew'd much Passion for the honor of their Countrey..by divers proofs of valeur.

Valew, obs. f. Value *sb.*

†Vale-water. *Obs.* [f. Vail *v.*2] Ebb-tide.

1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 257 The current runneth as strong ..as at London bridge vpon a vale water. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 720 Neere unto Hunt-Cliffe and not farre from the shore there appeere aloft at a vale water certaine rocks.

Valewe, southern ME. var. Fallow *v.*1; obs. f. Value *sb.* **Valey,** obs. f. Valley *sb.*

Va·lgous, *a.* [See next.] 'Bandy-legged; having the legs bent outward' (Craig, 1849).

‖ **Valgus** (væ·lgŏs). *Path.* [L. *valgus* bandy-legged.]

1. A variety of club-foot in which the foot is turned outwards (+ or inwards).

1800 *Med. Jrnl* IV. 195 In those diseases where the feet turn inwards, and which, I presume, Mr. Watt will call valgus. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 348/2 When the foot..is turned outwards, called *valgus. Ibid.* 349/2 The same complication of the pes equinus with the valgus is rare. 1884 W. Pye *Surg. Handicraft* 322 The second expedient is only used for valgus, and consists in fixing a pad under the sole of the foot.

attrib. 1884 W. Pye *Surg. Handicraft* 322 Valgus pad for sole [of the foot]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII 15 The abductors of the foot move it into the valgus position.

2. *Spurious valgus*, flat foot.

1872 Bryant *Pract. Surgery* 1014.

Valhall, occas. variant of next.

1763 Percy *Five Pieces Runic Poetry* 60 This place or Elizium was called *Valhall* or the hall of slaughter. 1770 — tr. *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* I. 87 These souls were Odin's right, he received them in Valhall.

Valhalla (vælhæ·lă). Also **Wal-**. [a. mod. L. *Valhalla*, ad. ON. *Valhall-*, *Valhöll*, f. *val-r* (= OE. *wæl*) those slain in battle + *höll* hall. Cf. G. *Walhalla*, F. *Wal-*, *Valhalla.*] In Old Northern mythology, the hall assigned to those who have died in battle, in which they feast with Odin.

a. 1768 Gray *Fatal Sisters* 79 *note*, The *Valkyriur*.. conducted them to *Valhalla*, the hall of Odin, or paradise of the Brave. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3888/1 That their great Odinus excluded all those from his *valhalla*, or paradise, who [etc.]. 1801 M. G. Lewis *Tales of Wonder*, *Hacho's Death Song* xvii, Soon as he gains Valhalla's gate, Eight heroes there to greet him wait. 1855 Arnold *Balder Dead* I. 19 Enough of tears, ye Gods, enough of wail! Not to lament in was Valhalla made.

β. 1891 *Expositor* II Jan. 171/2 A long and happy sojourn in the Walhalla.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A place or sphere assigned to persons, etc., worthy of special honour.

c 1845 Mrs. Browning *Fourfold Aspect* ii, That this Death, then, must be found A Valhalla for the crowned. 1868 Milman *St. Paul's* 480 That St. Paul's might fitly become a Valhalla for English worthies. 1880 Ld. Acton *Lett M.*

Gladstone (1904) 56 Neither Pitt nor Peel lives in my Walhalla.

‖ Vali (vălī). [Turk. (Arab.) ولي *valī*. Cf. WALI.] A civil governor of a Turkish province or vilayet.

The form *valiē* occurs in the transl. of Chardin's *Coronat. Solyman* (1686) 34.

1783 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. v. iii. 139 Vachtanga..ought ..to have succeeded him in the dignity of vali of Georgia. 1875 R. WILSON tr. *Figuier's Hum. Race* 284 A vali and council is at the head of the administration of each government or 'vilayet'. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 387 The *Vali*,..like nearly all Turkish officials,..had discarded the Turkish costume. 1903 *Times* 5 Sept. 8/6 The corrupt and inefficient government of the Vali of Beirut.

Hence **Vali·ship**, the office or position of a vali.

1907 *Times* 17 Jan. 3/6 It may have been right to depose Kiamil from his Valiship.

Valiable, obs. Sc. var. VAILABLE *a.*

Valiance (væ·lyăns). Forms: 5 vailliaunce, vaylliaunce, 5–6 valiaunce,-yaunce, 6-eaunce, 6–7, 9 valiance. [a. AF. *valiance* (1304), or ad. OF. *vaillance* (AF. *vayllaunce*), f. *valiant, vaillant*: see VALIANT *a.*]

1. Bravery, valour; = VALIANCY 1.

Very common in the 16th c.; now chiefly as a literary archaism.

1456 Sir G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 53 The mekle valiaunce of schir Cipro consul of Rome. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 55 For his grete trouthe, vailliaunce, and manhod..king Pirrus ..offred to gyve hym the ..iiij^th part of his roiaume. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 126 These fooles them boast of deedes of valiaunce And worthy actes done by them in battayle. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* III. 50 When I was yong, and valiance had, and prowess. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 44 Let vs not expect, that other come and encourage vs to be braue and resolute, but let vs begin to excite other to valiance.

1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. III. vii. 387 His son exerted many acts of forward valiance. 1841 THACKERAY *Drum* I. v, In spite of our valiance, The victory lay with Malbrook. 1874 *Academy* 16 June 491/3 Equal to them in business capacity, superior in persevering energy, in valiance of heart and true courage.

2. A valiant act or deed; a feat of valour or bravery. Now *arch.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. viii. 173 Grete valyaunces, prowesses, and appertyces of werre were that day shewed. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. vii. 17 By cause he had founde so many valyaunces in the romayns. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xix. (Arb.) 57 Places of assembly, where the company shalbe desirous to heare of old aduentures and valiances of noble knights in times past.

1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* I. ii. 21 Our cavalier's is the poetic leg, a portent, a valiance.

Valiancy (væ·lyănsi). Forms: 6 val(l)iauncie, 6–7 (9) valiancie (7 vall-), 7 valiansie, 7–valiancy (7 valiantcy), 6–7 valiencie. [Cf. prec. and -ANCY.]

1. The quality or attribute of being valiant or courageous; bravery, valiantness, valour.

Freq. from *c* 1575 to *c* 1600.

1574 J. JONES *Beg. Growing & Living Things* 32 Feeblenesse of spirit, want of strength, and lacke of valiauncie. 1590 Sir J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 23 More to the effect of our Archers, than to anie extraordinarie valiancie of our Nation. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* II. i, That which they lost by base Captiuitie, We may redeeme with honored valiansie. 1654 E. JOHNSON *Wonder-work. Provid.* 30 Yet was he not minded to make triall of his peoples valiantcy in fight at this time. 1661 MORGAN *Spa. Gentry* III. v. 45 Those prizes and Crownes they had gained by their Valiancy in war.

1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI. 392 Though Talbot with vain valiancy Yet urged the war, and stemm'd alone the tide Of battle. 1807 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* ii, Cincinnatus and the like, who fought not the common enemy with the less valiancy that their arms had been exercised in halding the stilts of the pleugh. 1850 T. H. GILL *Golden Chain of Praise* (1894) CXXXVI. viii, Turn our darkness into light; Give us valiancy for fear. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 164 Would that gay valiancy be with him so long as it was with Henri IV!

b. Const. *of* (the mind, heart, spirit, etc.).

1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* I. Ep. Ded. 3 Her flatteries haue ouercome that valiencie of mans minde. *c* 1630 *Don Bellianis* 18 Truly Prince Don Gallaneo you have plainly expressed the valliancy of your mind. 1813 COLERIDGE *Lect. Shaks.* in *Rem.* (1836) II. 143 This happy valiancy of style is but the representative and result of all the material excellencies so expressed. 1846 PROWETT *Prometh. Bd.* 12 Or force of hands, or valiancy of heart.

c *arch.* Used with possessive as an honorific.

1808 SCOTT *Fair Maid* xxiv, His blood..will flow as temperately as your valiancie's, when you stand up in your stirrupe to view a field of battle.

†2. A valiant act or feat. *Obs.*—[1]

1607 *Lisander & Cal.* VIII. 138 Acting in the fury wherein hee was..such valiancies, that thereby he did lessen all those which heretofore hee had done.

Valiant (væ·lyănt), *a.* (and *sb.*). Forms: *α.* 4 vailaunte, vaylaunt, vailant, 5 -aunt, vaillant. *β.* 4, 6 valliaunt, 5 valya(u)nte, 5–6 valya(u)nt, 6 waly-, valiaunt(e, *Sc.* valliant, 4–valiant (6–7 valient); 6 valeaunt(e, valeant, *Sc.* vaill-, vailleant. *γ.* (Chiefly *Sc.*) 5–6 vailȝeand, 6 vail(l)-, vailȝeant, -ȝeand, val(l)-, wal(l)-ȝeand, -ȝeant, -yeant, -ieȝeand, -ieȝeant, -ieand, etc. [ad. OF. *vaillant* (*-aunt*, AF. *vaylant*), *vaillant* (AF. *-aunt*), pres. pple. of *valoir* to be of worth :— L. *valēre*. Cf. It. and Pg. *valente*, Sp. *valiente*.

The comparative *valiantor*, superlative *valiantest* were formerly frequent, the latter occurring occasionally in the 16th and 17th c. in the shortened forms *valiaunst, valiarst, valiensf.*]

1. a. Of persons: Stalwart *of* body, bone, hands. Prob. with some implication of sense 2. In mod. Sussex dial. the sense of 'stout, well-built' is recorded.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4370 Pys Conred had a seriaunt, A wys man, and of body vaylaunt. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 9 So wis he was in dede, of body so valiant. *Ibid.* 144 Richer kyng is non in his world bot ȝe, No valiantor of bon in Cristendam als he. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxxiv. 424 Sir Moreau of Fyennes..was a right valyant man of his handes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* (1550) v, Antony Wooduille,..a wise, hardy and honourable personage, as valiaunte of handes as politique of counsayll.

†b. *Valiant beggar*, a sturdy beggar. *Obs.*

1552 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. xvi. 27 b, That no man.. shuld gyue any almes to any valyant beggar that is well able to laboure. 1554 *Noti. Rec.* III. 373 Harberor of valyeant begers and comyn woman. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 104 b, The Emperoure made a streicte ordinance touching valiant beggers.

†c. Of things: Strong, firm. *Obs.*

1548 BRCON *Pathw. Prayer* xvii. H iij, For the name of the Lorde is a stronge tower & valeaunt Bulwarke. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* viii. (1891) 60 The Wheat and Rie endureth all the winter stormes & forces as a valiant and stout grayne. 1607 TOPSELL *Four f. Beasts* 460 A Lyon hath a most valiant and strong head.

†d. Strong in respect of smell or taste. *Obs.*

1607 A. BREWER *Lingua* IV. iii, This, if your breath be not too valiant, will make you smell as sweet as my lady's dog. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cornwall* (1662) I. 194 The scent thereof [i. e. garlic] is somewhat Valiant and Offensive.

2. Having or possessing courage; *esp.* acting with or showing boldness or bravery in fight or on the field of battle; bold, brave, courageous, stout-hearted.

a. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 56 So that these heraldz on him crie, 'Vailant, vailant, lo, wher he goth!' *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 541 Sir Gawayn, knyght vailant. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 423 Lepe to horse many a vailaunt knyght. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. v. (1883) 176 And thus is hit of euery man the more vaillant the more honoured.

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6952, I haue a broper, sire Constaunt, God wertour, & man valliaunt. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 9 Many tymes on Uttred Bretons bataile souht: Uttred was so valiant, he gaf of þam right nouht. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 299 Of this grett velany I salle be vengede ones On ȝone venemus mene, wyth valiant knyghtes! 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xlii. 482 The good knyghte Semound the valyaunt. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xcii. 296 For he is so nobie and so valyaunt that he fereth no man. 1535 COVERDALE *Esther* xiii. 9 O Lorde Lorde, thou valeaunt and allmightie kynge. 1578 T. PROCTER *Gorg. Gallery* M iij b, Wee subiect bee to griefe, eche horror feares The valiaunst harts, when death doth daunt the brest. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IV. 233 The inhabitants are valiant and warrelike people. 1634 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* 199 Crocodiles..cruell and yet valiant. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* VI. 144 Glaucus.., Than whom a fairer person there was not, Nor valianter in all the Land. 1706 MAULE *Hist. Picts* in *Misc. Scot.* I. 37 He levies a mighty and strong army of the valiantest wa riors. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* II. i. 33 Panting with terror, I survey The martial host in dread array, The chiefs, how valiant and how just! 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* IV. xviii, It is the foe! Each valiant lord Fling by his bow, and grasp his sword! 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 204 The Englishry generally respected him as a valiant, skilful, and generous enemy. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. 68 In all these castles..William placed trusty and valiant captains.

transf. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 257 His vesturis ryche, With the valyant blode was verrede alle ouer! 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 171, I gyrt thee with the valiant Sword of Yorke. 1599 — *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 98 Those that leaue their valiant bones in France. 1782 HIGHMORE *Kambia Coast of Sussex* (1873) 19 The beauteous form of woman..graced with ..her smiles the feats of valiant Arms.

Comb. 1595 *Locrine* II. iii, There might we see the valiant minded knights, Fetching carreers along the spatious plaines. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 90, I do not thinke a brauer Gentleman, More actiue valiant, or more valiant young,..is now aliue.

γ. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 243 The king stude..maist vailyeand to se. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 7 Men of armes, and vailȝeand knychtis. 1563 WINȜET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. The vailȝeant cheiftane of God.. Nehemias. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 9 In the weiris thay war maist valȝeant, and in peace maist faithfull.

b. Const. *of* (courage, etc.).

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 298 Knyghtes & sergeantz, noble men fulle couth, Of prowes fulle valiantz. 1538 ELYOT, *Fortis*, valyant of corage. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 46 A Lad of Life, an Impe of Fame, of Parents good, of Fist most valiant. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* Wks. (1630) L 2 b, I wish a plentifull encrease of good appetites and hungry stomackes, that euery one in their calling may proue valiant of their teeth.

c. *absol.* with *the*

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Judges* xxi. 10 Twelue thousand men of the moste valiant. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ii. 71 b, [The] most valiant of the valiauntest. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Poems* (1672) 335 O harmless Death! whom still the valiant brave. 1728 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 80 In Tilts and Turnaments the Valiant strove to purchase Emma's Love. 1816 WORDSW. *Ode, 1815*, 57 The valiant of this land.

†d. Of material things: Fine, splendid. *Obs.*

1604 MIDDLETON *Black Book* D iij b, A valiant Buffe Doublet, stuft with Points like a Legge of Mutton with Parsleye.

3. Characterized by, performed with, or exhibiting valour or courage; of a valorous character or nature.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12576 Schame hit were þat cyther ȝede Wiþouten bataille or vaillaunte dede. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* I. 11 He did full mony valȝeant deid In Roiss, and Murray land. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lv. 188 His barons stode styll to beholde his valyaunt dedes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 304 Before Winter be past I will enter into Fraunce, in puyssaunt and valyaunt maner. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 75 The foresaide captaine with his armie..gaue them such a valiant onset, that the greater part of them was slaine. 1655–60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 750/1 The valiant Exhortation of an old Man.. chang'd the minds and fortune of the whole City. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) I. 50 Truly with valiant patient energy..it carried its Petition of Right. 1907 *Trans. Devon Assoc.* 52 The valiant deeds of the great reign of Elizabeth.

†4. Of great worth or merit; worthy. *Obs. rare.*

1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. v. (E.E.T.S.) 25 Other philosophires ther were..prudent alle and valyant, seen that they set to fore alle other thynges clergye.

†5. Marked or characterized by the use of strength. *Obs.*—[1]

1532 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxvii. (1880) 289 That some be done with extending of myght, and as hit were violently, and that is called valiaunt exercise.

†6. Worth (a specified sum). Also const. *in* (goods or property). Cf. VAIL *v.*[1] 4. *Obs. rare.*

1590 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 557 The said Thomas is bot ane puir man.., not valiant in substance and guidis ane hundreth pundis. 1603 *Ibid.* VI. 525 All..lanuit gentlemen, valiant tuentie chalderis of victuall. 1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old One* I. i, A rich country widow, four hundred a year valiant, in woods, in bullocks, in barns and in rye-stacks.

†b. *Sc.* As *sb.* Value or worth. *Obs.*—[1]

1606 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 286 The saidis decreittis ..may bring þe danger of the ȝeirlie violent profficittis vpoun the persones,..thairby surmounting otten tymes thair haill valiant.

†7. *Sc.* Valid, effective, decisive. *Obs.*—[1]

1632 LITHGOW *Trav* IV. 143 Their definitiue sentence in Lawe or Religion is..absolutely valiant.

8. As *sb.* One who is valiant; a brave or courageous person.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jer.* xlvi. 9 Get ye up on horses, and in chariots, and let the valiants come forth. 1611 BIBLE *Sam.* xxi. *heading*, Foure battels against the Philistines, wherein foure valiants of Dauid slay foure gyants. *a* 1782 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* Pref. (1795) A 4, For the most eminent Valiants among this People in the Beginning were not Men of Note or Learning, tho' of great Courage. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 May 4/1 Valiants of the wheel who, when they cannot drive, will tramp over the dreary marshes of Turkestan.

Hence **†Va·liant** *v. trans.*, to render valiant.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. LXXV. (1647) 231 Sure, Virtue is a Defendress, and valiants the heart of man.

†Valiantise. *Obs.* Forms: 4 vailliauntise, 4, 6 valyauntise, valiantise, 5 *Sc* vailliantis, 6 valy-, valiauntise. [a. OF. *vaill-, vallantise, valiandise*, etc., f. *vaillant* VALIANT *a.*; see -ISE [2].]

1. Valiancy, valour.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12193 He [Arthur] tristed wel..on his grete vailiauntise Ar he durst take þat emprise. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 268 Now is Cipres lorn fro Isaac & hise, & to R[ichard] suorn for his valiantise. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6800 Philomene sende him vnto hise, For he him wan with valyauntise. 1456 Sir G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 224 For suppos for grete vailliantis and honourable dede of armes a bonde man war..maid knycht in armes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxvii. 489 Men of armes proued well there their valyauntise and prowes. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. iv. 31 If brabling Make-Fray, at each Fayre and Size, Picks quarrels for to shew his valiantise.

2. A valiant act or deed. *rare.*

1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 11 For these and manie other vailiauntises, noble feates, and victories,..the Prince was honnored.

Valiantly (væ·lyăntli), *adv.* [f. VALIANT *a.* + -LY [2].] In a valiant manner; with valour or courage; boldly, bravely, courageously.

a. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* viii. 22 And hys knyghtes folowyde hym,..determynyde to do walyauntly. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 296 The Erle Douglas of Scotland, who fought a season right valiauntly. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* V. Wks. 1856 I. 63 He died unforst, I trust, and valiantly. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks 1851 III. 286 The Divine right of Episcopacy was then valiantly asserted. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 205 Thou must engage valiantly and fiercely against every Fortune. 1787 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. IV. 24 This man..was slain valiantly fighting for his country. 1879 MRS. HUNGERFORD *Airy Fairy Lilian* I. 204 Putting one foot into a friendly crevice, and holding on valiantly to the upper stones. 1907 *Verney Mem.* II. 219 He talked valiantly at first of military service.

Comb. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Hornbk.* Procm. B 3, Oh what songs will I charme out in praise of those valiantly-strong-stinking breaths.

β. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritt Wemen* 431 To furnyse a bancat In Venus chalmer, valȝeandly, withoutin vane ruse. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xx. (S.T.S.) I. 210 The batall beand in ane parte renewit, manifius Consul faucht na less Valeȝeantlie þan he did in ane vthir weyng. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 77 Ȝe haue provin valieȝeantlie..for the defence and libertie of this realme. *a* 1600 in *Montgomerie's Poems* (S.T.S., Suppl. Vol.) 246 That I may valȝeandle resist the fleche, þe warld, þe dewell, & hell.

Va·liantness. ? *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. The quality or condition of being valiant; valiancy, valour. Also *personif.*

Very common in the 16th c.

a. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. xii. 608, I vnderstande thy valyauntnesse wel. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* 16 The whiche..Charlemagne by hys prowesse and valyauntnes had dyscomfyted. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 135 The Englishmen..excelled so farr the Frenchmen in there valyauntnes,

that they remayned conquerors in the fielde. 1540 Morysine *Vives' Introd. Wysd.* B v, Strengthe and valiantnesse is, to suffise and accomplyshe the exercises of vertu without werynes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 2, Which honor [i.e. knighthood] in times past..was the rewarde of valeauntnes. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 343 Mahomet seeing this valiantnesse of the defendants, openly said [etc.]. 1672 Baxter *Bagshaw's Scandals* 1. 6 They call out for Valiantness in suffering 1727 P. Walker *Life of R. Cameron* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 237 The Valiantness of the Fourscore Priests, that withstood Uzziah.

fl. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vii. 93 Ik, in thi name, beraknis batalrus;..W. valyeantnes; S. for strenewite. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* Ep. 6 The toune of nauerne bauis vytnes of his delegent vailȝeantnes. *a* 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* IV. 577 Sine Cheualrie come in with vailȝeantnes.

b. Const. *of* (courage, heart, mind, etc.).

1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 7 By ryght and lawe, whereof forse & valyauntnesse of herte doth ryse. 1539 Taverner *Gard. Wysd.* I. 4 b, It greued moch this excellent Prynce, that so stronge an herte and valyauntnesse of nature was spent in a matter of leudenesse 1579 Twyne *Phis. agst. Fortune* I. xv. 16 The mightinesse of the Citie and Empire, and the valiantnesse of the peoples myndes. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 409 Much inferiour to this great king in wealth and number of men, but not in hautinesse of mind and valiantnesse of courage. 1736 Ainsworth, *Magnanimitas*, valiantness of heart and courage.

2. Physical strength; robustness, sturdiness, stalwartness *of* (body). *rare.*

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 104 In the Iliades are described strengthe and valeantenes of the body. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 311 Bartholomew Leslie,..quhais ..ablenes of mynd, valȝeantnes of body and fercenes of force, king Malcolme meruelet sa mekle.

Valicot, obs. form of *waly-coat* Wyliecoat.

Valid (væ·lid), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 6–7 valide, 8 valed. [ad. F. *valide* (OF. *valide*, Sp., It., Pg. *valido*) or L. *valid-us* strong, powerful, effective, f. *valēre* to be strong, etc.]

1. Good or adequate in law; possessing legal authority or force; legally binding or efficacious.

1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 95 Seing his said tak is valide and sufficient in the self. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xv. 72 The nature of Justice, consisteth in keeping of valid Covenants. *a* 1688 Cudworth *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 2 Whatsoever is decreed and constituted, that for the time is Valid, being made so by Arts and Laws. 1726 in *Nourne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 36 Declareing if I do not exerce these faculties in my own time these presents shall remain a valed evident albeit not delivered by me. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, IX. Wks. 1851 IV. 315 This strange tribunal founded its charge upon the ban of the empire, which..was destitute of every legal formality which could render it valid. 1786 Burke *Art. agst. W. Hastings* Wks II. 90 A claim, which they determined not to comply with but in return for the surrender of another equally valid. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 257 Those, who held rent-free lands by titles that might be declared valid. 1878 Jevons *Primer Pol. Econ.* 128 According to law, deeds, leases, cheques, receipts, contracts, and many other documents are not legally valid unless they be stamped.

b. *Eccl.* Technically perfect or efficacious.

1674 J. Owen *Holy Spirit* (1693) 235 So as that the Call to Office should yet be valid. *c* 1680 Beveridge *Serm.* (1729) I. 28 Not but that the ordination is valid. 1876 Mellor *Priesth.* viii. 361 No ordination is valid unless there be in the recipient of orders what is termed in the Church of Rome an habitual, or, at least, a virtual intention.

2. Of arguments, proofs, assertions, etc.: Well founded and fully applicable to the particular matter or circumstances; sound and to the point; against which no objection can fairly be brought.

a 1648 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1764) 138 The whole face of Affairs was presently changed, insomuch that neither my Reasons, nor the Ambassadors.., how valid soever cou'd prevail. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* iv. 115 He may admit of those Arguments as valid and conclusive. 1727 Prior *Alma* I. 416 For when One's Proofs are aptly chosen; Four are as valid as four Dozen. 1766 Pitt in Almon *Anecd.* xxix. (1810) I. 432 The excuse is a valid one, if it is a just one. 1803 Wellington in Gurwood *Disp.* (1835) II. 164 Reasons which I thought valid but which I do not think it necessary to communicate to him. 1859 Mill *Liberty* ii. 36 An objection which applies to all conduct, can be no valid objection to any conduct in particular. 1881 Westcott & Hort *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 46 A generalisation obtained from one book would be fairly valid for all the rest.

b. In general use: Effective, effectual; sound.

1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* ii § 7. 23 If yet to words relating to the future, there shall some other signes be added, they may become as valid, as if they had been spoken of the present. 1774 Reid *Aristotle's Logic* ii. § 2. 183 This same *et cætera*. shall in any future time shew a good and valid right to a property in the subject. 1824 Byron *Juan* XVI. xxxv, The effort was not valid To hinder him from growing still more pallid. 1860 Mansel *Prolog. Log.* (ed. 2) 22 The only valid method of investigating the relation between thought and speech. 1875 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* III. 253, I should urge you to consider your early religious experience as a portion of valid knowledge.

3. Of things: Strong, powerful. Now *arch.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Valid*, strong, mighty, puissant, able. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 438 Perhaps more valid Armes, Weapons more violent, when next we meet, May serve to better us. 1807 Crabbe *Birth of Flattery* 109 So on a dream our peasant placed his hope, And found that rush as valid as a rope. 1837 Browning *Parleyings* Wks. 1896 II. 692, 2 What beseems a king who cannot reign, But to drop sceptre valid arm should wield? 1891 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 493 In addition to the strong jaws..there are three exceedingly valid hooks.

† **b.** Of malt liquor: Unduly thick. *Obs.*[-1]

1748 *London & Co. Brewer* I. (ed. 4) 38 They also keep it from running into such Cohesions as would make it ropy, valid, and sour.

4. Of persons: Sound or robust in body; possessed of health and strength. Also said of health.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 139 The more valetudinary have commonly been the more vertuous; and the more valid, the more vitious. 1708 Motteux *Rabelais* (1737) V. 232 Thanks to Jove's Benignity you're valid. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 137, I much fear his excessive Grief may injure his Health, which is not very valid, at present. 1879 Sala in *Daily Telegr.* 12 June, When he was a valid man he may have had many a boxing bout with Shaw the Life Guardsman. 1899 *Daily News* 1 Dec. 7/1 The Boers have evidently put every valid male into the field.

b. Of the mind: Sane, strong. *rare.*

1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 1. 9 The restraining grace of common-sense is the mark of all the valid minds.

5. As *sb.* A person in good health. Opposed to Invalid *sb.* 1.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Sept. 5 *Kuristen* and valids may alike thank Dr. Yeo for a series of highly interesting and instructive Essays.

† **Va·lidate**, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.*[-1] In 6-at. [ad. med.L. *validāt-us*, pa. pple. of *validāre*: see next.] Valid, validated.

1586 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 103 To be als validat ane Act of Parliament as the former.

Validate (væ·lidēt), *v.* [f. med.L. *validāt-*, ppl. stem of *validāre* (1394 in Du Cange), or after F. *valider* (1586 in Godef. *Compl.*; = Sp. and Pg. *validar*, It. *validare*): see Valid *a.* and -ate[3]. Cf. Invalidate *v.*]

1. *trans.* To render or declare legally valid; to confirm the validity of (an act, contract, deed, etc.); to legalize.

a 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 209 Henry consented, that..the marriage betwixt Francis and Leonora ..should be validated and confirmed. 1699 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 435 You only establish *quantum in vobis est*, without either validating or invalidating the Acts and Ordinances for the Excise. 1706 J. Sergeant *Acc. Chapter Hp. Chalcedon* (1853) 121 The long prescription it has enjoyed, which alone is able to validate and confirm it. 1750 Carte *Hist. Eng.* II. 859 Pope Julius II..granted a dispensation..for validating the contract [of marriage] if it had been already made. 1801 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) III. 477 It is true the treaty was not ratified; but when ratified it is validated retrospectively. 1849–50 Alison *Hist. Europe* I. v. § 49. 607 The question of the royal sanction being required to validate the acts of the legislature. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* II. § 220 The legacy will be invalid by the civil law; but it will be validated by the Senatus-consult.

b. *spec.* [Now after F. *valider*.] To declare (an election) valid; to declare (a person) duly and properly elected. Hence **Va·lidated** *ppl. a.*

1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 75 Have an account brought in to validate the members for Scotland and Ireland. 1883 *Daily News* 25 June 5/3 The Chamber has validated the election for Passy of M. Cailla. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 7/1 Nearly all the validated deputies..voted.

2. To make valid or of good authority; to confirm or corroborate; to substantiate or support.

1775 C. Johnston *Pilgrim* 250 The lawyer found convenient witnesses to prove a marriage,..and every circumstance necessary to validate his scheme. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* xlviii. (1783) II. 14, I intend my memoirs shall serve as the counterpart of his; and both will indisputedly prove and validate the peculiar truth of these singular sentiments. 1803 Miss Porter *Thaddeus* (1826) III. xvi. 341 Come, Lord Herrington, you must validate my report, for I learnt it of you. 1872 *Contemp. Rev.* XX. 395 The eschatological idea shared the fortunes of the theological, was with it materialized, spiritualized, impersonalized, validated, or dissolved.

Hence **Va·lidating** *vbl. sb.*

a 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 409 An act also.. was now confirmed and the Oath prescribed, for the more Validating whereof also, it was declared [etc.].

Validation (vælidē·ʃən). [f. prec.: cf. F. *validation* (16th c.), Sp. *validacion*, Pg. *-ação*, It. *-azione*.] The action of validating or making valid.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cotgrave), *Validation*, a strengthning, inforcement, confirming; an establishing or ratifying. 1847 in Webster (citing Knowles). 1872 *Echo* 3 Oct. 6 Father Hyacynthe has just applied to the French tribunals for the validation of his civil marriage. 1888 *Act* 51 & 52 *Vict.* c. 42 § 5 An instrument, the enrolment whereof is required..for the validation of an assurance.

Validity (vălidĭti). Also 6 valydyty(e, 6–7 validitie, 7 vallydety, *Sc.* validete. [ad. late L. *validitas*, f. *valid-us* Valid *a.* Cf. F. *validité* (16th c.), It. *validità*.]

1. The quality of being valid in law; legal authority, force, or strength.

c 1550 *Life Fisher* in *F.'s Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) II. p 1, Two or three daies after, he began to discusse with him the validitie of his maryage. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 171 The questioun standis nocht upoun the validitie and invaliditie of the saising. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 310 Concerning the validitie of these lawes. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xv. 72 The Validity of Covenants begins not but with the Constitution of a Civill Power. 1701 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3715/4 A Definitive Sentence hath been..given by the Judges Delegates, for the Validity of the Last Will of John Higgs. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 315 To consider and determine the validity of appeals or indictments. 1828 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 212 The validity of such a lease was established in the following modern case. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 77 Much as they hated him, they could not question the validity of his commission. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. a/s The plaintiff denied the validity of the transfer.

2. The quality of being well-founded on fact, or established on sound principles, and thoroughly applicable to the case or circumstances; soundness and strength (of argument, proof, authority, etc.).

a. In the phrase *of . . . validity.*

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 488 b, Of no greater valydyty is that Argument lykewyse which they rake out of Augustines wordes. 1599 Thynne *Animadv.* (1810) 21 This ys a mere coniecture, and of no valydytye. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* ii. 34 Neither are their reasons of such validity. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 145 It remain's in the next place, that wee consider of what validitie the contrarie Opinions of Writers are. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. r. World* 7 Expressions full of contempt of the Commission, making it appear as a thing of hardly any validity or consequence. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 222 No arguments brought in favour of absorption by the common veins appear to me of equal validity with those that can be urged against it. 1893 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) II. 138 *note*, The assurance contained in his letter..was of equal validity as if given by the most Noble the Governor General.

b. In general use.

1588 Fraunce *Lawier's Log.* I. i. 5 Artificial Logike then is the polyshing of natural wit, as discovering the validitie of everie reason. 1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 60 In this point the Philosopher..seemeth to question the validity of his own arguments. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. 80 Something must be premised about the validity of this writing, learned men much differing therein. 1689 G. Harvey *Cuping Dis. by Expect.* i. 1 If Antiquity be capable of conferring Validity, the Art of Expectation..may be termed equally valuable. 1716 Pope *Lett.* (1736) VI. 3 You are doubtless persuaded of the validity of that famous verse 'Tis Expectation makes a Blessing dear'. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 188 To examine the validity of the notion entertained by workmen, respecting Tarras Mortar. 1804 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) III. 552, I do not exactly understand the validity of this objection. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. vii. 418 Statesmen..who denied the validity of general principles in politics. *a* 1881 Barratt *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 285 That does not alter the validity of the conclusion to be ultimately arrived at.

† **3.** The quality or state of being physically strong or sound; robustness, strength. *Obs.*

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* I. 26 The shoulder blades.. putting forth a strong ridge..not a little to the augmenting of their validitie. 1601 R. Johnson *Kinged. & Commw.* (1603) 148 Some men maintain great disputation, whether fortresses builte of stone, chalke or earth be of greatest validitie. 1620 Markham *Farew. Husb.* II. xvii. (1668) 81 The grain wanting his true nourishment, grows withered and of no validity. 1651 Wittie tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. xxv. 300 If in debility of strength the bloud be lighter, and in validity of strength it be heavier.

transf. 1602 Shake. *Ham.* III. ii. 199 Purpose is but the slaue to Memorie, Of violent Birth, but poore validitie. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 29 P 3 Some pious persons who ..question the validity of their own faith, because they shrink at the thoughts of flames and tortures.

b. Physical value or capacity. *rare.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 669 That a Bore or male swine wil not remaine of validity and good for breed past three yeare old. 1868 E. Edwards *Sir W. Ralegh* I. xxv. 612 No hope remained of his validity in active service.

4. Value or worth; efficacy.

Merging into sense 2, from which in some instances it is hardly distinguishable.

1593 Harvey *New Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 290 Some surmounting spirites loue to arreare a huge opinion of their excessiue validity, *pro*, or *contra*. 1595 in *Maitland Club Misc.* I. 76 To give in in writt..the estait and validitie of the vicarage of Ruglen. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 303 The scrapings that come of sweating in banes and hot-houses, be counted of greater validitie in all these infirmities. 1631 Lenton *Charact.* B 10 b, Shee hath lately..giuen her selfe out a brace of hundreds more then ere his estate was worth, besides his debts and legacies, whereas her validity proportionable can scarce absolue those. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 189 He had too high an opinion of the validity of regular troops. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 195 The most certain index of the validity of a limestone for Aquatic Buildings. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 101 The character and history of the most celebrated quacks, the ground of their popular fame, and the validity of their various pretences.

† **5.** *pl.* Valid powers or capacities. *Obs.*

1586 Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 41 Whose spirits caried with greater efficacie of aspiring eternitie then those whose duller conceits are adapted to more terrene and grosse validities. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 13 Nature as much as is possible inclineth vnto validities and preseruations. 1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* II. 67 You may indeede call these things secrets, because their validities are not suddainly apprehended or found.

Va·lidless, *a.* or *adv. rare*[-1]. [f. Valid *a.*] Without strength or force; powerless(ly).

1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* 346 The shield and helm were cloven by the steel, Yet on the body validless it fell.

Validly (væ·lidli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly[2].] In a valid manner; with legal validity.

1627 Gillespie *Eng.-Pop. Cerem.* III. viii. 173 One simple Presbyter..can not validly give Ordination. 1681 Baxter *Answ. Dodwell* iv. 45 May a man be validly a Bishop,.. that believeth not that there is a God? 1767 Chauncy *Lett.* (1768) 32 They may be validly commissioned to propagate the Gospel. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* I. 237 A Highland gentleman..once consulted me if he could not validly purchase the chieftainship of his family from the chief. 1863 H. Cox *Institt.* I. v. 25 The Court of Exchequer decided that impositions on exports and imports might be validly made by proclamation. 1883 *Weekly Notes* 27 Nov. 170/2 He held that the Rule Committee were validly constituted and their power validly exercised.

Comb. 1848 Soames *Latin Church* I. 16 *note*, Nor does the tale itself necessarily imply transubstantiation..v validly-ordained consecrator intended it.

Va·lidness. *rare.* [-NESS.] Validity.

1797 Bailey (vol. II), *Validness*, Ability, Power; also Authentickness, &c. 1882 Arnold in *19th Cent.* No. 69. 718 Lucidity is the perception of the want of truth and validness in notions long current.

†Va·lidous, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *valid-us* Valid *a.* + -ous.] Valid, in various senses.

1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 98 Because the Consequence is so Validous wee will looke a little into these holy fire-works. *Ibid.* 100 This ranke savor was so Validous and strong that it sented through the glasse. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. § 37. 553 The other [side urged] against Norwich, that no second election could be validous, vnlesse the former were first annulled. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Elis.* Introd., In the first Parliament which Queene Mary held.. the marriage..was judged to be..validous and available.

Valiencie, obs. form of Valiancy.

Valient, obs. form of Valiant.

†Va·lienton. *Obs.*⁻¹ [a. Sp. *valenton*, f. *valiente* valiant.] A bully, braggart.

1681 Rycaut tr. *Gracian's Critick* 185 The Couragious, and Valientons of the World, after some few bravadoes and blustering words,..submitted..to the loss of Liberty.

Valinch(er, velinche(r: see quots. and Valentia.

1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Wds.* s.v. *Valentia*,..I have met with the word in print, spelled *Valinch.* 1847 Webster, *Valinch*, a tube for drawing liquors from a cask by the bung-hole. 1868 *Loftus' Catal. Hydrometers*, etc. 6 Velinchers for sampling casks. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2553 *Thief-tube*,..a sampling-tube; a velinche. 1879 *N. & Q.* 4 Feb. 97/1 The nearest approach to a 'long' measure is the valincher, or valinch, used in sampling 'from the bung'.

Valise (vălī·s, valī·z). Forms: 7 **vallies, valice**, 8 **valise, valaise**, 9 *Sc.* **wal-, wallise, vallise**, 7– **valise**. [a. F. *valise* (1568), ad. It. *valigia* (Sp. *balija*), corresponding to med.L. *valisia* (1407), *valixia, valesia* (1298), of doubtful origin.

In Sandys *Travels* (1615) 115 the form *valeisa* is used.]

1. A travelling case or portmanteau, now usually made of leather and of a size suitable for carrying by hand, formerly also for strapping to the saddle of a horse. Now chiefly *U.S.*

1633 B. Jonson *Tale of Tub* II. i, I promise To keep my master's privities seal'd up In the vallies of my trust, lock'd close for ever. 1644 D. Hume *Hist. Douglas* 95 The Country people..sometimes robbed them of their horses, sometimes of their valises and luggage. 1650 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 317 Poor Alari lost above two thousand franks which he had in his Valice. 1713 C'tess Winchelsea *Misc. Poems* 130 Bringing their Noddles, and Valizes pack'd With Mysteries, from Shops and Taylors wreck'd. 1785 *Arab. Nts. Entert.* 576 Having brought a valaise along with him, he put as much gold into it as his horse could carry. 1797 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 156 Your impatience to receive your valise and its key was natural. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxii, He drew the girths of his saddle, adjusted the valise, and put on the bridle. 1839 Dickens *Nickleby* xiii, He packed up a few clothes in a small leathern valise. 1884 E. Yates *Rec. & Rep.* I. 46 The letters being enclosed in leather valises, which were strapped behind the post-boys.

b. *Mil.* A cylindrical cloth or leather case adapted for carrying the kit or outfit of a soldier, esp. of a cavalryman or artilleryman.

1833 *Reg. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 83 The valise being..lightly stuffed with hay. 1851 *Ord. & Regul. R. E.* xxvii. 124 The Boxes of the Non-Commissioned Officers, and the Valises of the Men, to be placed under the foot of the Bedstead. 1877 *Field Exerc. Infantry* 410 The Officer Commanding a piquet will decide if patrols are to wear Valises or not.

2. *attrib.* in *valise dee, equipment, -lock, -saddle, strap*, etc.

1852 Burn *Milit. Dict.* II. s.v., Valise or baggage-straps. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2688/1 *Valise-lock*, a small trunk-lock. *Ibid.*, A valise-saddle is placed on each off-horse of an artillery-carriage. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 853 The modern valise equipment is less injurious to the young soldier than the old knapsack. 1898 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 9/2 The greatcoat straps will be passed downwards, through the valise dees.

Valk, obs. Sc. form of Wake *v.*, Walk *v.*

Valkin, -yne, obs. Sc. forms of Waken *v.*

Va·lkyr, abbreviated form of Valkyrie.

1841 Carlyle *Heroes* i. (1904) 31 Of the Valkyrs and the Hall of Odin. *Ibid.*, The Valkyrs are Choosers of the Slain.

Valkyrian, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. next.] Of or concerning the valkyries.

1847 Tennyson *Princ.* IV. 121 Ourself have often tried Valkyrian hymns.

Valkyrie (vælkĭri, vælkī·ri). Forms: *a.* 8–9 **valkyria** (*pl.* **-iur**, 9 **-ise**). *β.* 8–9 **valkerie** (9 **-kery**), 9– **valkyrie**. [a. ON. *valkyrja* (pl. *-kyrjur*), f. *val-r* those slain in battle + *-kyrja* chooser, f. *kur-* (*:-khus-*), ablaut stem of *kjósa* to choose. Cf. OE. *wælcyrie* (*-ge, -ige*), *-kyrie* Walkyrie.] In Scandinavian mythology, one or other of the twelve war-maidens supposed to hover over battlefields and to conduct the fallen warriors to Valhalla.

a. 1768 Gray *Fatal Sisters* Note, The *Valkyriur* were female Divinities, Servants of Odin (or Woden) in the Gothic mythology. 1778 Mrs. Grant of Laggan *Lett. Mount.* (1807) II. ix. 55 The prophetic Valkyria may once more say [etc.]. 1806 W. Herbert *Sel. Icel. Poetry* I. 119 Two of the Valkyriæ or virgins of slaughter. *a* 1838 Mrs. Hemans *Sword of the Tomb* Poems (1873) 339 The far-renown'd Whom the bright Valkyriur's warning voice Had call'd to the banquet where gods rejoice.

β. 1770 Percy tr. *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* I. 102 There are other virgins in Valhall;.. they are called Valkeries. *Ibid.* II. 99 These Goddesses are called Valkyries. 1784 Jenningham *Rise Scand. Poetry* Advt. p. iii, The Valkeries are a female troop whom Odin sends to the field of battle upon invisible steeds. 1801 M. G. Lewis *Tales of Wonder, Sword of Angantyr* xxxiii, 'Tis the Valkyries who sing, While they spin thy vital thread. *a* 1843 Southey *Death of Odin*, No virgin goddess him shall call;..No Valkery for him prepare The smiling mead. 1881 Du Chaillu *Land of Midnight Sun* II. 420 Are you Scandinavian valkyries who travel through the air?

†Vall. *Obs.*⁻¹ [ad. L. *vall-is.*] A valley.

1611 Chapman *Iliad* IV. 479 As from hils, raine waters headlong fall, That all wales eate huge Ruts, which, met, in one bed, fill a vall With such a confluence of streames.

Vall, southern dial. var. Fall *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Wall *sb.*, Waw *sb.*, Well *sb.*

Vallal, southern dial. var. Fal-lal *sb.*

†Valla·ncy. *Obs.*⁻¹ [prob. the surname *Vallancey.*] Used *attrib.* to designate a form of wig.

1674 Dryden *Epil. opening New House* 8 Criticks in plume and white vallancy Wig, Who lolling on our foremost Benches sit.

Vallar (vælā·lăi), *a. Roman Antiq.* [ad. L. *vallār-is*, f. *vall-um* or *vall-us* rampart. Cf. It. *vallare*, Sp. *valar*, F. *vallaire.*] Of a crown or garland: Bestowed as a distinction on the first soldier to mount the enemy's rampart. (Cf. Mural *a.*¹ 1 b.)

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 255 Augustus used to geve golden trappour muche sooner..then garlandes, vallares, and muralles. 1600 Holland *Pliny* II. 115 The Vallare and Murall Chaplets bestowed upon brave knights and valiant souldiers, who..mounted the wals in the assault of a citie. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 62 To whom shall be given now the ciuicke, murall, vallare, and naualls garlands, tnat the Romaines were wont to graunte theire respectiue conquerours? 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s.v., Vallar Crown. 1728 [see Garland *sb.* 3 c]. *c* 1828 Henry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss.

So **Va·llary** *a.* Also **†Valla·rial** *a. Obs.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* IV. iv. (Roxb.) 294/2 He beareth for his crest, a Greyhounds head sable, out of a crowne Vallariall, Or. 1777 Porny *Heraldry* (ed. 3) 207 The Vallary or Castrense-Crown was of gold, formed like a circle with Pales or Pallisadoes on the top of it. 1863 Burke *Vicissn. Families* Ser. III. 143 His famous attack on the..Earl of Desmond, at Kilmallock, where he won his gold spurs, and his vallary crown.

Vallate (vælē·t), *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *vallāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vallāre* to circumvallate.] Having a raised outer edge.

1878 *Ann. Nat. Hist.* 5th Ser. II. 37 In its compressed vallate character, proliferous growth, and marginal apertures, it is identical with many of the siliceous sponges.

Va·llated, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -ed.] Surrounded by or as by a wall.

1888 *Science* XII. 305 The favorite but not vallated domain of literature is æsthetics in its true meaning.

Valla·tion. *rare.* [ad. late L. *vallātio*, f. L. *vallāre* (see Vallate *a.*), f. *vallum* rampart.] A ridge, wall, or bank of earth thrown up as a defence or protection; an earthwork or fortification of this nature.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 112 Two hedges, with their Vallations and Trenches, will be requisite in all the Round; *viz.* one next to the Enclosure, the other about the thicket, to fence it from Cattle. 1781 Warton *Hist. Kiddington* 70 The vallation .. called Dyke-Hills, consisting of two ridges or borders with an intermediate trench,..is not Roman. 1799 R. Warner *Walk* (1800) 19 He may..please his fancy with discriminating between the vallations of the Celtic aborigenes, and the huge mounds of their Saxon invaders.

†Va·llatory, *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. L. *vall-um* rampart.] Used or adapted for measuring a wall, etc.

a 1682 Sir T. Browne *Misc. Tracts* I. (1683) 82 With such differences of Kerds, Vallatory, Sagittary, Scriptory, and others they might be furnished in Judæa.

Valle, southern ME. variant of Fall *v.*

‖ Vallecula (vælē·kiŭlă). Pl. **-ulæ.** [Late L. *vallecula*, var. of L. *vallicula*, dim. of *vallēs, vallis* Valley *sb.* Cf. F. *vallécule.*]

1. *Anat.* A furrow, fissure, or fossa; *spec.* = Valley *sb.* 6.

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 883 Valley, or vallecula, of Haller. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 871/2 This lobe forms a well-defined inferior vermiform process, which lies at the bottom of a deep fossa or *vallecula.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 782 The spaces between these [glosso-epiglottic] folds are named the vallecular.

2. *Bot.* A groove or channel; a sulcus or stria.

1856 Henslow *Bot. Terms* 211 *Vallecula*, a depressed space (interstice) between the primary 'Ridges' on the fruit of Umbelliferæ.

Hence **Valle·cular** *a.*

1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs's Bot.* 376 The vallecular canals, which correspond to the furrows, arise in the fundamental tissue by separation.

†Vallente. *Obs.*⁻¹ [app. ad. med.L. *valentia* Valency.] Power, might.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (1860) 7 [There are] v. causes principalle [for making war]: three of them bene of righte: and the other tweyne of vallente.

Valler, obs. Sc. form of Waller.

†Va·llet. *Obs.*⁻¹ [Irreg. dimin. of Valley *sb.* Cf. Vall.] A small valley.

a 1647 Habington *Surv. Worc.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I. 111. 490 In the myddest of thys vallet on a litteli hyll..standethe the Churche with the Manner house.

Vallew, obs. form of Value.

Valley (væ·li), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4–5 **valeie** (4 **ualeie**), 4–6 **valei** (5 *Sc.* **walei, wale, vale**), 4 **valee**; 4–5 **valeye** (4 **ualeye**), 4–7 **valey** (4 **waley**); 4 **valleie**, 4, 6 *Sc.*, **valle**, 6 **vallei**, 6– **valley**; *Sc.* and *north.* 4 **valaye**, 4–6 **valay**, 5 **wala, wallay**, 6 **vallay**. *β.* 7 **vally, vallie**, *pl.* 6– **vallies**. [a. OF. *valee* (AF. pl. *valeys*), *vallee* (mod.F. *vallée*), early OF. *vallede*, = Prov. *vallada*, It. *vallata*, f. L. *vallis, vallēs*: see Vale *sb.*]

1. A long depression or hollow lying between hills or stretches of high ground and usually having a river or stream flowing along its bottom.

In ordinary use a *valley* is distinguished from a *vale* by having less width and a steeper slope on either side.

a. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1277 Þo he com nei kaunterburi In a valeie biside He sei þe emperours ost. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3876 Smerteliche he dede him in þe ways, Ouer þe downes & þe valeys. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4796 For hilles and valeis sal turned be In-til playn, and made even to se. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 4 In-till þe wod soyn enterit he, And held doun toward a vale, Quhar throu þe vod a vattir ran. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XIII. 195 He shewde hym the valey be the wode side. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* XV. 56 The reyne russhynge doun from the mountaynes descended in to the valeyes. 1535 Coverdale *Luke* iii. 5 Euery valley shalbe fylled, and euery mountayne & hyll shalbe brought lowe. 1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 45 Choose suche a valley, where the water can neither lye long, nor runne away to fast. 1611 Shake. *Wint. T.* V. i. 206 We are not (Sir) nor are we like to be: The Starres (I see) will kisse the Valleyes first. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. ii. 18 Our new Guide..crost another River, and enter'd into a large Valley of the fattest Land I did ever take notice of. 1773 Cook *1st Voy.* I. xvi. in *Hawkesw. Voy.* II. 172 To trace our river up the valley from whence it issues, and examine how far it's banks were inhabited. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* iii, As they advanced, the valley opened. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 49 We marched up the valley, which became narrower as we advanced. 1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 247 They cannot be of large extent, as the valleys are all narrow, and without bottoms on either side.

β. 1596 Mascall *Cattle* 253 Goats; their keeper ought for to be..bolde, for to go with them through vallies. 1629 N. Carpenter *Geogr. Del.* II. x. 169 Plants, and Vegetalls for the most part prosper best in the vallies and plaines. 1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* xxxvi. (1687) 461 Believe not me but your self..that these Vallies are watered from above. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 65/1 Hills..with..little Vallies between.., and very difficult of access thro' the narrow passes of the Vallies. 1777 W. Dalrymple *Trav. Sp. & Port.* ii, The verdant banks of the river, with the Indian corn in the vallies. 1827 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* I. I. 18 In the little vallies, which..occurred at every mile of their progress. 1849 James *Woodman* iii, A faint, blueish mist prevented the eye from penetrating into the deeper vallies.

b. Const. *of* (the distinctive name of the valley).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 5/148 Ase he in þe ualeye of Ebron leouede with teone and wo. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7027 And in þe valey of Jurdan, þey founden eddren mony on. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 405 Whoþer þat Crist shal come into þe valey of Josaphath or [etc.]. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lix. 6, I wil deuyde Sichem, & mete out the valley of Suchoth. 1611 Bible *Ps.* lxxxiv. 6 Who passing through the valley of Baca, make it a well. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 404 The pleasant Vally of Hinnom. 1726 Gordon *Itin. Sept.* 55 That eminent Ground, which bounds the Valley of Kilsyth to the Southward. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 305 The valley of Kingsclere,..in Berkshire, is about five miles long and two in breadth.

c. Without article.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 684 Thai maid To rype the wood, bath wala, slonk, and slaid. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 116 Sweet interchange Of Hill and Vallie, Rivers, Woods and Plaines. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 322 A spacious map Of hill and valley interpos'd between. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 247 Out of town and valley came a noise. 1865 H. H. Dixon *Field & Fern* 233 Wood and valley backed up by a Cheviot hill compose a pleasant landscape.

d. The extensive stretch of flattish country drained or watered by one or other of the larger river-systems of the world.

c 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 393/2 In those early ages ..a certain people descended from the mountains near the cataracts into the valley overflowed by the Nile. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 472/1 Dividing the valley of the Euphrates from the rivers which flow into the Black Sea. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 823/2 Surface 'drift' deposits..occur ..in the valley of the Amazon westward to..Peru.

e. *Geol.* (See quot. 1839.)

1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 305 Dr. Buckland on Valleys of Elevation. 1839 G. Roberts *Dict. Geol., Valleys of elevation*, those which seem to have originated in a fracture of the strata, and a movement of the fractured part upwards.

2. In figurative uses.

Valley of the shadow (of death): see Shadow *sb.* 1 b.

1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xxii. 1 The charge of the valey of viseoun. 1421–2 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4444 The swete venym of his tonge sydeth His lord vnto þe valeie of derknesse. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17447, I was engendryd fyrst in helle;..in that Valey Infernal I was begete. 1782 Cowper *Conversat.* 636 Youth has a sprightliness and fire to boast, That in the valley of decline are lost. 1820 Shelley *Triumph Life* 397 If..Thou comest from the realm without a name Into this valley of perpetual dream. 1852 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. II. i. (1864) 18 You must be content with the quiet valleys of existence. 1880 J. Parker *Apostolic Life* I. 78 Thou knowest how much we are in the valley, and how often we pass through dark places.

b. *Valley of tears*: see Vale *sb.*¹ 2 b.

[1382 Wyclif *Ps.* lxxxiii. 6 In the vaiel of teris, in the place that he sette.] *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 51 To the we syȝen grounynge and wepynge in this valeye of teres. *c* 1420 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiii. 92 In þis valey of teres þere

many excell hinges. 1894 J. H. S. (*title*), The Valley of Tears...The Consolations of God.

3. *transf.* A depression or hollow suggestive of a valley; *esp.* a trough between sea-waves.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 100 His Fore-head, nay, the Valley, The pretty dimples of his Chin, and Cheeke. 1692 RAY *Creation* II. (1704) 298 The Eyes are sunk in a Convenient Valley. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* iv. (1849) 164 The little Petrel flits hither and thither, now treading the brow of the watery hill, now sweeping through the valley. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 176 The *Good Hope* swooped dizzily down into the valley of the rollers.

4. *techn.* The depressed angle formed by the meeting (at the bottom) of two sloping sides of a composite roof, or by the slope of a roof and a wall; a gutter.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 901 The Bricklayer sometimes will require to have running measure for Hyps and Valleys. 1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 162 Of measuring Vallies, or Gutters in Tiling. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 360 In like manner the two conductors from the chimnies A and C united in the valley of the roof between them. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 83 To steady and support the lower edges of slates finishing against vallies. 1866 FITZPATRICK *Sham Squire* 113 Murphy hurried Lord Edward to the roof of the warehouse, and with some difficulty persuaded him to lie in the valley. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Book of West* II. xii. 175 Here also are some quaint old slated houses; the valleys are not leaded.

b. A tile used in roofing a valley.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 996 The ridge pieces, hips, and valleys, to be seven inches by one and a half inches.

† **5.** *Fr. Hist.* = PLAIN *sb.*[1] 6. (Cf. MOUNTAIN 6.)

1790 *Prof. Expl. New Terms* in *Ann. Reg.* p. xii, The *Valley*. The lower seats; and these in the middle of the hall of the Assembly.

6. *Anat.* (See quots. and cf. VALLECULA 1.)

1842 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 807/2 A large hollow between the hemispheres [of the cerebellum]..is the small valley (*vallecula*) of Halley. *c* 1845 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III 688/2 A deep fissure which proceeds..backwards along the median line..is called the valley.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in sense 1 (freq. denoting 'situated in a valley'), as *valley-bottoms, -cottage, -fountain, -gate, -glacier, -glade,* etc.; *valley-like* adj., *-ward* adv.

1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* II. 153 The little *valley-bottoms were complete flower gardens. 1859 MEREDITH *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 92 For me yon *valley-cottage beckons warm. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cliii, In a could *vallie-fountaine. 1535 COVERDALE *Chron.* xxvi. 9 Osias buylded *gate* viii, Now 'tis buried deep In the next *valley-glades. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 28 Along the banks of the Thames and its tributary streams there is a bed of *valley-gravel. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 466 The amphitheatre form of terraced land is always a *valley head. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* III. (1875) II. 184 The *valley-hills That in the rear of Sparta northwards rise aloft. 1852 THOREAU *Lett.* (1865) 66 The vast *valley-like 'spore'..of some celestial beast. 1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 172 A solitary moorland with valley-like undulations. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 466 The outflow of the stream—the *valley-maker—marks ordinarily the base of the amphitheatre. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 86 Contrariwise the *Valley People ..are ever heavy spirited, dull, and sickly. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 363 The four great *valley-plains..divided by lateral spurs. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 243 A thin young man..who arrived at the castle by the *valley-road from Knollsea. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 39, I walkit furth on be ane *valay syde. 1870 INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* 378 Moses and the Israelites pursued their way up the cliffs of the valley-sides. 1841 W. C. BRYANT *Walk at Sunset* Wks. 44 Oh, let me, by the crystal *valley-stream, Wander. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 89 Joining then the *valley-streamlet. 1894 *Book News* Mar. 174 Dark belts of woodland, with *valleyward the white gleam of the Froom. 1883 *Science* I. 326/1 These lakes are perhaps formed by a local depression of the *valley-way.

b. Valley-lily, the lily of the valley.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxxvii. 332 The flowers of the Valley Lillie. 1766 M. BRUCE *Lochleven* Wks. (1914) 206 Her breast was fairer than the vernal bloom Of valley-lily. 1818 KEATS *Endymion* I. 136 Wild thyme, and valley-lilies whiter still Than Leda's love. *a* 1850 BEDDOES *Poems, Lily of the Valley* 201 The birthday-hours Of the valley-lily.

c. *Valley of death tree,* the Upas-tree.

1888 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

8. *attrib.* in sense 4, as *valley-board, -gutter, -piece, -rafter.*

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 230 The valley-rafters of a roof. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 852 Proper valley boards are to be put for the lead valleys. *Ibid.* § 1330 A valley-gutter between two roofs. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. Arch.* 1049 The rafter which supports the valley is called the *valley rafter* or *valley piece*, and the board fixed upon it for the leaden gutter to rest upon is called the *valley board.*

Hence **Va·lleyful,** the fill of a valley; **Va·lleyite,** an inhabitant of a valley; **Va·lleylet,** a small valley.

1886 G. GREENWOOD *Rain & Rivers* 188 Its infinite ramification of stream and valley, streamlet and valleylet. 1890 *Longman's Mag.* July 241 A whole valleyful of appropriate plants. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 136/1 While I roamed about the burying-place of the valleyites.

Va·lley, *v. rare.* [f. the sb.]

1. *intr.* To form a hollow or hollows resembling a valley.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 51 A Peace of this Roke is fallen, and valleith [*v.r.* valleyeth] after a strange fascion. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* I. xvii. 303 In the billowy white of the dress ballooning and valleying softly.

† **2.** *trans.* To adjoin as a valley. *Obs.*—[1]

1625 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 36 In a deep bottome that vallied a steeper precipice.

3. To make valleys in, to furrow.

c 1823 BEDDOES *Poems, Midnight Hymn* 111 The slaves of Egypt..Vallied the unaccustomed sea.

Va·lleyed, *ppl. a.* Also **vallied.** [f. VALLEY *sb.*] Situated in a valley.

1844 *Catholic Weekly Instructor* 31 He left the sunny Italy ..., and from his vallied home, wandered [etc.].

Vallidom. *north. dial.* [Irreg. f. *vally* VALUE *sb.*] The value or worth *of* a thing.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Vallidom,* the value of. 1828– in north. dial. glossaries (Yks., Durh., Cumbld., Lancs., Linc.). 1887 A. E. BARR *Border Shepherdess* iv. 57 He knew the vallidom of everything he possessed to a halfpenny.

† **Vallia.** *Obs.*—[1] [L. *vall-um* VALLUM.] Rampart, wall.

1600 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 356 Severus his forced vallie, with other strong and huge labors and fabrications.

Valliscau·lian, *sb.* and *a.* [See def.]

a. *sb. pl.* An order of ascetic monks, forming a branch of the Benedictines, founded at Val des Choux (*Vallis Caulium*) in 1193. **b.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the Valliscaulians or their order.

1888 *Athenæum* 8 Apr. 442/1 Three priories of the Valliscaulian Order were founded in the remoter districts of Scotland during the reign of Alexander II. 1888 RANKIN *Handbk. Ch. Scotl.* (ed. 4) 125 The Rented or endowed religious,..subdivided into Benedictines, Cistercians, Carthusians, Vallis-Caulians, and Trinitarians.

Vallon, obs. form of WALLOON.

Vallonia, var. VALONIA.

Vallor, -ow, obs. forms of VOLLER *dial.*

Vallota (vælōu·tă). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. the name of the French botanist Antoine *Vallot* (1594–1671).] A genus of amaryllidaceous plants, characterized by rich scarlet flowers, and consisting of but one species, *V. purpurea,* the Scarborough lily.

1837 W. HERBERT *Amaryllidaceæ* 133. 1852 G. W. JOHNSTON *Cott. Gard. Dict.* 904 A cross-seedling..obtained ..from *Cyrtanthus obliquus,* which no one could distinguish from a Vallota of the same age. 1888 *Garden* 25 Mar. 206/2 Vallotas may be increased by the quantities of offsets which they produce.

Vallow, obs. form of VALUE.

† **Vallow deer,** obs. variant of FALLOW-DEER.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 104 Herds of Vallow Deer.

‖ **Vallum** (væ·lŏm). [L., f. *vallus* stake, palisade.]

1. A wall or rampart of earth, sods, or stone, erected as a permanent means of defence; *esp.* one of those constructed by the Romans in northern England and central Scotland.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 790 Wee gather out of Bede, that the said Vallum or Rampier, was nothing else but a wall of turffes. 1699 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* 38 Agricola began, and in some manner finished, a Wall or Vallum, upon that narrow Space of Land. 1726 A. GORDON *Itin. Sept.* 52 Thence the *Vallum* descends from the above-mentioned Hill, to another Brook. 1781 WARTON *Hist. Kiddington* 55 The vallum or ridged bank..crossing the Ikenild-street within two miles of Ewelme. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. III. ii. 79 This British Vallum—a vast rampart of earth and stone strengthened by a fosse. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* vi. 172 He would walk round the ancient vallum,..and wonder at the mechanical skill which could have moved such ponderous masses.

2. In Roman castrametation, a palisaded bank or mound, formed of the earth cast up from the ditch or fosse around a camp or station.

1826 *Gas. Scot.* s.v. *Crichton,* A circular camp or intrenchment, the *vallum* of which is very distinct. 1826 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv, Nothing can be more plainly traced—a proper *agger* or *vallum,* with its corresponding ditch or *fossa.* 1833 JAS. DAVIDSON *Brit. & Rom. Rem. Axminster* 13 It has been said that this intrenchment had formerly a double vallum,..but no vestiges of the inner vallum remain, if such an one ever existed. 1880 HODGKIN *Italy & Invaders* I. i. I. 120 The usual square form of a Roman camp strengthened by ditch and vallum and palisade.

transf. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Fl. Macarthy* (1819) II. v. 237 A small dunghill, which usually forms the first *vallum* to the residence of an Irish peasant. 1829 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 301 An inner keep or castle, surrounded by a strong wall, beyond which was a ditch or deep fosse,..and beyond this again was raised an outer vallum or rampart.

Vally, dial. variant of FELLOE, VALUE.

† **Valoir.** *Obs.*—[1] In 6 valoyre. [a. F. *valoir* to be of value.] Value, worth, price.

c 1496 *The Epitaffe,* etc. in Skelton's Wks. (1843) II. 392 Gewellys of late poysyd at grete valoyre.

Valonia (vælōu·niă). Also 9 **vallonia**; 8 **valanea,** 9 **-onea**; 9 **velonia, -ea.** [ad. It. *vallonia, vallonéa,* whence also F. *vallonée, velonnée,* †*velonis* (1553), ad. mod.Gr. βαλάνια, βελάνια, pl. of βαλάνι, βελάνι acorn (anc. Gr. βάλανος).]

1. The large acorn-cups and acorns of *Quercus ægilops* (and the related *Q. vallonea*), a species of oak growing esp. in the north-eastern Mediterranean regions, valued for the abundant tannin they contain, and much used in tanning, dyeing, etc.

c. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6040/6 Red Saunders, Shumack, Sticklack, Turnsole, Valonia. *Ibid.* 7 Valonia the Tun Weight, seven Pounds. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 266 Valonia is a dying ingredient, brought from Italy and the Levant. It is the husks of the acorn, generally mixed with that fruit. 1832 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 82 The leather made with valonia is said to be firmer and heavier than the oak-tanned. 1889 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 5/6 Another day, while I was collecting vallonia, I was assaulted by four soldiers.

β. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 27 The species of low oak, which produces valanea, or the large acorns used in tanning. *Ibid.* 124 The Valanea, or large acorns,..are exported, chiefly to Italy. 1887 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s.v., In 1860, there were imported 29,720 tons of valonea. 1898 ZANGWILL *Dreamers Ghetto* iv. 116 Hard-headed Sephardim were busy..shipping freights of figs or valonea.

γ. *c* 1835 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIII. 743 The acorns ..are extensively used by dyers by the name of Velonea. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1039. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1202/1.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4628, Oak bark and valonia tanned leather. 1903 *Brighton Stand.* 27 Oct. 9/3 A..clerk in the hide and valonia business.

2. *Valonia Oak,* the Levantine species *Quercus ægilops.* Also *ellipt.*

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 796 Velonia Oak. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 98 A species known in the Levant under the name of Velonia. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 214/2 *Q. Ægilops,* Great prickly-cupped Oak, or Valonia. 1892 AGNES CLERKE *Fam. Stud. Homer* vi. 153 The tradition of acorn-eating connected with the rustic Arcadians applied evidently to the fruit of the valonia-oak.

‖ **Valonidi.** [ad. mod.Gr. βαλανίδι acorn-cup. Cf. F. *velanède, avelanède.*] *V. oak,* = prec. 2.

1878 GOSSE *Rivers Bible* 266 The Valonidi oak, the characteristic tree of this part of the country.

Valop, obs. form of WALLOP *sb.* and *v.*

Valor (væ·lŏr). Also 6–7 **vallor,** 6 **valore,** 7 *Sc.* **walor.** [var. of VALOUR by assimilation to, or direct adoption of, med.L. *valor.*]

† **1.** The amount in money, etc., that a thing is worth; = VALUE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1496–7 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 127 If hir ladyship wold send by him a token to my master, yt shall avale hir another of xx tymes the valor. 1526 *Linc. Wills* (1914) I. 179 Yerely spendyng the valore off the sayd v Roode [of land] att my forsayd yereday. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 89 Thou hast stoln with force and armes an horse..to such a valor. 1676 COLES, *Valor of Marriage.* [See VALOUR 3 d.] *transf. c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxvii 26 Will scho absent, Hyne sall I went, And at als littill valor set hir.

† **b.** In the phr. *of (great,* etc.) *valor. Obs.*

1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 174 3e have..a lytel stoffe of myne for my howesold wesche [= which] is of no grete valor. 1543 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 84 What valor they were of this deponent knoweth nott.

† **c.** The monetary value *of* (a specified sum).

1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 156 The yerlie valor of xl s. *a* 1548 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 65 A Prebend in York ..of the yerly valor of xliij. marks. 1602 *Shetland Law Rep.* in *Scotsman* (1886) 29 Jan. 7/1 Gif he beis apprehendit with the walor of an uris thift.

d. *Eccl.* An assessment-value set upon Church property; a list of these values.

1800 LYSONS *Environs London Suppl.* 245 In the old *valors* this rectory was rated at 70 marks. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. i. (1864) VI. 18 *note,* The Valor of pope Nicholas was framed by those who wished..to..lighten their taxation.

2. † **a.** Intrinsic worth or merit; = VALUE *sb.* 6.

1580 LODGE *Sch. Abuse* B j, All your objections you make agaynst poetrye be of no valor. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* (1669) 281/1 Why I but because it hath not God to put a valor on it.

b. Power, import, significance.

1676 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 12, I have set down two valors of *x* to every equation. 1692 RAY *Coll. Words, Acc. Errors Alph.,* Now I come to shew that our alphabet is faulty as to the powers or valors attributed to some letters. 1808 JEBB *Corr.* (1834) I. 469 If I may make an English word to express the valor of the Greek word.

3. Courage, bravery; = VALOUR 1 c. Now chiefly *U.S.*

1586 HOBY *Pol. Disc. Truth* xi. 36 They haue so often beene subdued by the valor of the French. 1605 *1st Part Jeronimo* III. i, Our courages are new borne, our vallors bred. 1674 tr. *Schiffer's Lapland* Pref., Where so much passive valor is necessary we may dispense with the want of active. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* Pref. p. xli, Besides, I must have transferred, to Sthenelus, the valor, firmness, and address of Ulysses. 1782 HIGHMORE *Ramble Coast Sussex* (1873) 19 In the days of chivalry, when the soul of valor animated every thought. 1828 WEBSTER, *Worthy,*.. a man of valor. 1874 BANCROFT *Footpr. Time* i, The period of rude and restless valor among the Greeks.

Valorisa·tion. *U.S.* [See prec. and -IZATION.] The act or fact of fixing the value or price of some commercial commodity.

1907 *Amer. Polit. Sci. Rev.* Feb. 249 (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl.), The financing of the valorization scheme is provided for by the issuing of bonds by the three coffee producing States, guaranteed by the general government.

Valorous (vælərəs), *a.* Forms: α. 5 **vaillerous,** 6 *Sc.* **valereus,** 7 **valerous, vallarous.** β. 5– **valorous,** 7 *Sc.* **val'rous,** 8 **val'rous.** γ. 6–9 **valourous.** [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *valeureux,* f. *valeur* VALOUR, or med.L. *valerosus* valiant, valuable, f. *valor* VALOR. Cf. It. *valeroso,* Sp. and Pg. *valeroso.*]

1. Of persons: Endowed with valour; valiant, courageous; brave, bold.

α. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 12 She seeing that he was..a yong gentilman..hauyng a chiere of a vailleroous man receyued

him into her wages as souldyour. 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 221 Al the noble successeurs of this Godlie and valereus king. 1680 *Debates in Parl.* (1682) 174 A King on their side, endowed with a vallarous Spirit.

Comb. 1642-4 VICARS *God in Mount* (1844) 56 This piously valerous-hearted Gentleman.

β. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 22/1 In which voiage his valorous hart at all assaies..was most manifestlie perceiued. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 236 Thou art as valorous as Hector of Troy. 1607 *Lisander & Cal.* I. 1 Henry, the valorous Father of our invincible Monarch. 1727 SWIFT *On cutting down the thorn at Market Hill* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 88 Sir Archibald, that valʳous knight. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. III. vii. 418 William invaded Scotland .with design, perhaps, to chastise, rather than subdue, a valorous people. 1879 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Sept. 324 As the valorous Swiss were some twenty in number the position of the travellers was hopeless.

Comb. 1602 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* D vii, They answered me I was too valorous bold

γ. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIV. xlvi. 541 Certaine Tribunes and marshals, valourous and doubtie good men. 1647 F. BLAND *Souldiers March* 39 A token of a minde truly noble and valourous. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. ii. 244 The Valourous Arthur of history, or the redoubtable Arthur of romance. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* XXXIII, I am about..to give you as a bride to this valourous prince.

2. Of actions, etc.: Marked or characterized by valour, courage, or bravery.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* Prol. 10 This present booke,..in whiche may alle valyeunt prynces and other nobles see many valorous fayttes of armes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 18 [She] gathering force, and courage valorous, Encountred him in battell well ordaind. 1612 *North's Plutarch, Epaminondas* 1125 Not able any longer to defend themselues against the valorous force of himselfe and his followers. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 174 The enemie..rather wonderinge at his valerous charge, then any way able to oppose it. 1823 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 532 *note*, The whole universe will acknowledge those valorous efforts. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 209 Two tall peaks.., far famed for valorous deeds..of the Suliotes.

†**3.** Having value, worth, or merit; valuable.

1582 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iii 19 The Hexameter verse ..whereof neither Homer in Greeke, nor Virgill in Latine, (how valorous Autors!)..were ashamed. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Humours Heaven* II. lxxxvi, Be their value ne'r so valorous Its held but base and made by nature sleight.

Hence **Va'lorousness.** *rare* —⁰.

1727 BAILEY, *Valorousness*, Valiantness, Stoutness, Bravery.

Valorously (vælərəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY ².] Bravely, valiantly.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 125 He pay't as valorously as I may, that sal I suerly do. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* I. 549 The Trojans valʳously resist their force. 1673 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. 239 Which they valorously and stoutly performed, wounding James himself. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 21 [He] pushed valourously forward. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* viii. 287 Supposing it to be a crocodile, they valorously determined to shoot it. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 251 The order was valorously obeyed.

Valou, obs. Sc. form of WALLOW *v.*

Valour (væ·ləɹ). Forms: 4- **valour** (5-6 *Sc.* wa-), 5 **valowr**, 5-6 **valoure** (5 *Sc.* wa-, 5-6 vo-), 6 **vallour** (*Sc.* wa-), 5 **vallouer**, 6 **valouer.** [a. OF. *valour* (*valur*; later and mod.F. *valeur* VALEUR), = Sp. and Pg. *valor*, It. *valore*:—late L. *valōr-*, *valor* VALOR, f. *valēre* to be strong, etc. See also VALURE.]

1. †**a.** Worth or importance due to personal qualities or to rank. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3402 (Kölbing), Kay, þe steward of valour. *Ibid.* 4179 A damisel of gret valour Was þo comen to king Arthour. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 140 (Ritson), He was a noble dysour, Wyth ladyes of valour, A mery man of mouthe. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 28 Ye that be so moche excellent and vertuous that alle my thoughtes ben torned.. to you that ar of so moche hye valour. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. iv. 198, I am very noughte, nothynge hauynge, ne nothynge of valour. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritit Wemen* 185 He lukis as he wald luffit be, thocht he be litill of valour. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 179 b, Whereby..your valour and worthinesse maie bee deciphered, and my insufficiencie not made vnknowne.

†**b.** Worth or worthiness in respect of manly qualities or attributes. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 4090 Yiff that he durste hym abyde, Undyr the forest off Arsour He wolde assaye hys valour. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXI. (*Eugenia*) 421 Alle erle þat was a fare man, quham for beute & valoure þe emprice luffit paramoure. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2493 How Alexander in his armes all-way encreses, In valour & in victori & vertues so noble. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXII. 405, I shall lete hem well wite that I am not hidde, yef in me be so moche valoure. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 2 Renownit, ryall, right reuerend and serene Lord, hie trywmphing in wirschip and valoure.

c. The quality of mind which enables a person to face danger with boldness or firmness; courage or bravery, esp. as shown in warfare or conflict; valiancy, prowess.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 1 Lieutenant generall...A degree..won..by meanes of his owne valour & seruice done to the king. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. ii. 39 Captaines strouue to haue their valours tride. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* To Rdr., Our fortunate and oft prooued valour in warres abroad. 1634-66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 54 He ow'd the Affront not to our Valours, but to his feare. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 686 In those dayes Might onely shall be admir'd, And Valour and Heroic Vertu call'd. 1713 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 8, English Valour cannot be matched when it is animated by English Beauty. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* vi. (1782) I. 284 Valour, and the love of discipline, [became] the only qualifications for military employments. 1820 SCOTT *Peveril* vi, Real valour consists not in being insensible to danger, but in being prompt to confront and disarm it. 1827 G. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* ix, [She knew] that the better part of valour was advisable. 1876 MORLEY *Carlyle* 191 The same principle which revealed the valour and godliness of Puritanism.

personif. 1692 PRIOR *An Ode* i, Nor to melt at Beauties Tears, nor follow Valour's Sword.

d. Used as a personal name or (with possessives) as a quasi-title; also, a person of courage.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 176 And at this sport Sir Valour dies; cries, O enough Patroclus. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl, An your valour be so dull, you will please to learn [etc.]. 1839 LYTTON *Richelieu* I. i, I,..Leading young valours..reckless as myself, Seised on the town of Faviaux. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* XXVI, But the stern-gallery? How..came your valour thither?

e. *Comb.*, as *valour-breathing*, *-loving*, etc.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Lawe* 13 Rock-batt'ring Bumbards, Valour-murdering Guns. 1598 *Ibid.* II. i. *Furies* 35 The snares of vertue, valour-softning Hyrens. 1758 *Praises of Isis* 130 Warrior steeds, and valour-breathing knights. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 279 He sat in the tent of valour-loving Eurypylus. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* XXV. I. 183 Immaculate manliness..bleeds with keenest anguish at the undraped spectacle of a valour-ruined man.

†**2.** Value or worth in material or other respects; = VALUE *sb.* 6. **a.** In the phr. *of* (. .) *valour*. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3265 (Kölbing), A launce he tok of gret valour. *Ibid.* 6353 His stede he smot of gret valour. *c* 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 984 Kyng Artour gan her fayre grete, And sche hym agayn, with wordes swete, That were of greet valour. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* Ixxiv. 191 (Wemyss), In all þat land wes nane Temple standand of valoure. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 311 That parliamente of kynge Ricardus was made voyde & as of noo valoure. 1526 TINDALE *Romans* iii. 23 The prayse that is off valoure before God. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 9 b, These hys powers,..of what valoure they be, and to what end we ought to wey them. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* ix. 69 Their Viands are of no valour, no valew without these. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* II. viii. 106 If we compare his works being of infinite valour with our works.

†**b.** In other constructions. *Obs.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 35 Not discordenge in eny thynge, neiþer in valoure of wordes, neither in ordre. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. xvii. 126 The lyfe contemplatyf excedeth in valoure and in worthynes the lyfe actyf. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 559 In peice and rest ..Ane small thing growis to ane greit valour. 1565 HARDING *Answ. M. Ivelles Chalenge* 220 This is the doctrine of the churche, touching the valour of the Masse. 1616 CHAMPNEY *Voc. Bps.* 307 For the effectuall applying of the merite, valour, and effect thereof vnto us.

†**3.** The amount (in money, etc.) or sum that a thing is worth; = VALUE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 1039 (K.), He haþ me sent þe valour Of faire fistes four, Se'e he ferst began. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3000 Not for the valour of al this town Wold I lenght thi life soo. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 135 To restore agayne the thing or the valour. 1538 in Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Adm.* (Selden Soc.) II. 67 Our goodes..to be solld..and of the monys that shall cum of the valour of those goodes [etc.]. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* (Marsh) 56 b, A verye beautifull ringe of great price and estimation, which for the valour and beautie he was very desirous perpetually to leave unto his successours. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 97 He sall pay to his parents, the valour of his marriage. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Valour*, value.

†**b.** In the phr. *of* (*great*, *little*, etc.) *valour*.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* XXVI. 332 This olde gentyl knyht.. purveied him of Gold & of tresowr, and of mani a Iewel of gret valowr. 1496-7 *Plumpton Corr* (Camden) 123 She hath in coyne in old nobles, cli..with other goods of great valour. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 32 Oure fyngres shyninge with precyous stons Sett in golden rynges of ryche valoure. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xv. 99 b, A long and large girdle of silke and gold of no small beautie and valour. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 439 [Zames] caused his treasure, plate, jewels, and other things of great valour and light carriage to be trussed up.

†**c.** Const. *of.* = VALUE *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 267 That euery man.. scholde..offre a penny in valoure of oure x. d. usualle. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 326 He wold not gyff þer-for þe valour of a shred clowte. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 473 Londes and rentes unto the valoure of a M li. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 § 27 Plate iewels or other goodes..of the valour of .xii. d. or aboue. *a* 1576 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 176 The quene gaif him ane cheinze to the wallour of ane thowsand crounis. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIII. v. 1159 To send presents..to the valour of two thousand Asses over and above.

†**d.** *spec.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—¹

1607 COWEL *Interpreter*, *Valour of Mariage*..Is a writ that lyeth for the Lord, hauing profered covenable mariage to the Infant, without disparidgement, against the Infant, comming to his yeares, if he refuse to take the Lords offer. And it is to recouer the value of the mariage.

4. The amount, quantity, etc., *of* (so much or so many). *rare.*

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* IV. vi, I thinke wee were best put hem in the stocks,..for the valour of an houre, or such a thing, till his worship come. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., It might be about the valour of three hours, two miles, four acres, etc.

Valouwe, southern ME. var. FALLOW *v.*¹

Vals, southern ME. var. FALSE *a.*

Valsalvan, *a. Med.* [f. the name of the Italian anatomist A. M. *Valsalva* (1666-1723).] Associated with Valsalva's researches on the organs of hearing; introduced or used by Valsalva.

1878 in *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* (1879) IX. 389 On Valsalvan inflation, the whole..bulges out into a whitish swelling.

1879 *Ibid.* 391 After some trouble, the left becomes inflated by the Valsalvan method.

Valse (vɑls), *sb.* Also 8 **volse.** [a. F. *valse* (= Sp. *vals*, Pg. *valsa*, It. *valser*), ad. G. *walzer* WALTZ.] A round dance in triple time, a waltz; the music for this. Also *attrib.*

1796 *Times* 19 Feb. in Ashton *Old Times* (1885) 321 The young Ladies are particularly favourable to a German Dance, called *the Volse*. 1880 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 390/1 [Chopin's] first..compositions were dances: Polonaises, Mazurkas, and Valses. 1894 E. SCOTT *Dancing* 168 The Verse, a new Valse Dance.

Valse (vɑls), *v.* [f. prec., or ad. F. *valser* (= Sp. and Pg. *valsar*).] *intr.* To dance the valse or waltz; to waltz.

1870 H. SMART *Race for Wife* I, I am quite willing to look on at your valsing for another hour. 1876 *The World* V. No. 124. 29 With whom Maud fancies herself in love because he valses so divinely.

Hence **Va'lser, Va'lsing** *vbl. sb.* (also *transf.*)

1870 Miss BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 102 The gnats are dancing round and round..I wonder that that incessant valsing does not make them giddy.

Valse, southern ME. var. FALSE *a.* and *v.* **Valsen, -on,** obs. southern varr. FAUSEN (eel). **Valshede, -liche, -nesse,** southern ME. varr. FALSEHOOD, -LY *adv.*, -NESS. **Valt(e,** obs. ff. VAULT *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹ **Valter,** obs. Sc. f. WATER.

Valuable (væ·lĭuăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **valewable,** 7-8 **valueable.** [f. VALUE *v.* + -ABLE.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of material or monetary value; having value for use or for exchange.

1589 NASHE *Pref.* to *Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 8 Which being the effect of an vndescerning iudgement, makes drosse as valuable as gold. 1687 BURNET *Trav.* III. (1750) 127, I did not see the Gospel of St. Mark which is one of the valuablest Things of the Treasure. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* ii. 77 Which makes 'tithes' at least one fourth part less valuable to them, than they were to the Levitical Priesthood. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 53 A very valuable cabinet where the arrangement is very judicious, especially as to the coins and medals. 1776 *Trial Nundocomar* 82/2 Do you know whether he kept jewels, or other valuable effects there? 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* I. i. 2 A commodity or a product is not valuable because it is useful; but it is valuable because it can only be procured by the intervention of labour. 1845 *Poultry Chron.* III. 430, I have lately lost a valuable hen from a disease which is new to me. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. xvi. 303 Gold, during the Middle Ages, was about sixteen times more valuable than the same weight of silver.

†**b.** Amounting to a reasonable sum; not merely nominal. *Obs.*

1613 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 159 Vpon trust and confidence that they..shall demise the same at a valewable rent, and to the best profite.

c. *Valuable consideration*: see CONSIDERATION 6.

1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1682) II. 97 Some small trifle or other: which being of very little worth or use, and so not to be taken for a valuable consideration, may therefore be called nought or nothing. 1698 in Sir H. Dalrymple *Decis.* (1792) I A decree..finding, that the bond was granted for no valuable consideration, and therefore discharging all execution thereupon for ever. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 297 A valuable consideration is such as money, marriage, or the like, which the law esteems an equivalent given for the grant. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 64 Not even an alienation, for a valuable consideration, to a purchaser..will avoid it. 1898 LD. HARRIS in *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Oct. 7/1 Who will satisfy themselves that no valuable consideration has passed between the respective county clubs to bring about the transfer.

2. Having value or worth, of great use or service, *to* a person or *for* a purpose.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 128 King James..would often say, that his access to the Crown of England was the more valuable to him, as it redeem'd him from the subjection to the ill manners..of those Preachers. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 164 These were the principal goods on board her, but we found besides what was to us much more valuable than the rest of the cargoe. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. iv, I..saw most of the usual wonders,—the Parisian Temples being to me much the most valuable. 1878 JEVONS *Polit. Econ.* 96 We may say that quinine is valuable for curing fevers, ..or that water is valuable for putting out fires 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 405/2 Young solicitors will find many hints valuable to them interspersed among its contents.

b. Possessed of qualities which confer value or bring into high estimation.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 146 Somewhat further, over heaps of stones of valewable portraicktures, we mount towards the most lofty part of this Pallace. 1737 H. WALPOLE in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 270, I should be glad of purchasing a good collection of ye ancient Classicks, and other valuable authors. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) IV. xviii. 387 Yet we never..doubt of their having a real, though unknown, Subserviency to valuable Ends. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 173 If they should accord with the spirit of your very valuable Journal, you are at full liberty to insert them. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 248 At such a moment the ministers could not refuse to listen to any person who professed himself able to give them valuable information. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 81 No instrument of education is more valuable than arithmetic.

†**c.** Of persons: Entitled to consideration or distinction; estimable. *Obs.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 65 [They] appear'd to be a good Number of very valuable Men, on whose behalf he had only Authority to consulde. 1703 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) II. 230 Mr. Pepys, who was a very valuable person, ..is dead, and was yesterday buryed. 1707 SWIFT *To Young Lady* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 49 A lady of your acquaintance

married to a very valuable person. 1730 SOUTHALL *Treat. Bugs* 3 The late Learned and truly Valuable Dr. Woodward..approv'd the Design.

†3. That can be valued; capable of having the value estimated. *Obs. rare.*

1627 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1682) I. 263 That sin..from which he hath once escaped without shame, or so much as valueable loss. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. ix. P 130 We are..now speaking.. of Possessions and Commodities of Life Valuable by Money.

†4. Capable of being compared or equated in value *with* something. *Obs.*

1646 QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 86/2 Is..a puffe of breath wee call life, valuable with his honour, in comparison of whom the very Angels are impure? 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* ii. § 14. 28 His Will..hath simply before it, for its object, a certain good valuable with the thing promised.

†5. Valid, sound. *Obs.*—1

1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 8 He that will rather make an irreligious quarell with other Religions then try the Truth of his own by valuable Arguments.

B. *sb.* An article of worth or value. Usually in pl., valuable goods or possessions.

1775 in ASH. 1797 S. & H. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 188 With such valuables and papers as he deemed most likely to secure him either impunity or revenge. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* III. v, I did not long wrestle with my pride before I obtained the victory, and sent all my valuables to the hammer. 1842 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Rutilius & Lucius* 92 No one but had furnished himself with some valuable. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 123 Which the crews helped by throwing overboard their valuables.

Valuableness (væ·liu,ăb'lnés). [f. prec.] The character or condition of being valuable.

1683 LORRAIN tr. *Muret's Rites Fun.* To Rdr. 4 Which having said with regard to the valuableness of the Subject, I shall only add [etc.]. 1721 T. THOMAS *Pref. Urry's Chaucer* p. l, The valuableness of it will appear by the use which has been made of it in the Glossary. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. II. xxiv. 134 There lies a nearer way for good qualities to arrive at their valuableness. 1865 J. GROTE *Moral Ideals* vi. (1876) 71 And then it may be that the valuableness of actions varies as their usefulness.

Valuably (væ·liu,ăbli), *adv.* [f. as prec.]

†1. a. With equivalence of value. *Obs.*—1

1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 137 A great Patrimony may be valuably transubstantiated into the quantity of a little stone.

†b. At a high rate or value. *Obs.*

1755 JOHNSON, *Preciously*, valuably; to a great price.

2. With valuable or precious articles.

1780 *Gentl. Mag.* L. 617 Danford gained intelligence at an Inn in the country of a box valuably filled. 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 83 She is valuably laden.

3. In a valuable manner; so as to be valuable or highly useful.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 177/2 Mr. Palgrave's sombre picture must be treated as..valuably qualifying, not as superseding, such standard representations as that by Layard. 1895 *Review of Rev.* Aug. 167 If he had lived only to write that, he would have lived valuably. 1896 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* L. 285 Which perplex and exhaust the pupil without contributing valuably to his mental discipline.

Valuate (væ·liu,eit), *v.* [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To estimate the value of (something); to appraise.

1873 *Lond. Soc.* Feb. 140 It will be important to valuate the influence of this extraordinary man. 1892 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Wrecker* 291 The actual harm I can do I leave you to valuate for yourself.

Valuation (væliu,ēi·ʃən). Also 6 valewacion, valuacion, -atioun, 7 valuacion, valluacon, valuation. [a. OF. *valuacion, -ation* (cf. mod.F. *évaluation* EVALUATION), = Sp. *valuacion*, f. *valuar* (Sp. *valuar*) VALUE *v.*]

1. The action of valuing; the process of assessing or fixing the value of a thing.

1529 MORE *Suppl. Souls* Wks. 294/2 For surely it might be that he was not ware of the newe valuacion: for he ranne awaye before the valuacion changed. 1551 SIR J. WILLIAMS *Accompts* (Abbotsf. Cl.) 13 Myters, ornamentes, and other thinges received without weight or valuacion. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 313/1 The valuation of their goodes and substance, as well in cattell as in readie monie. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 61 These Valuations were made as Parties interested could prevail upon and against one another by their Attendance, Friends, Eloquence, and Vehemence. 1737 H. WALPOLE in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 270, I..would give more for them on a reasonable valuation than a Bookseller would doe. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* (1787) II. 72 The secret wealth of commerce, and the precarious profits of art or labour, are susceptible only of a discretionary valuation. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xliii. V. 205 A new valuation of all private property had been made. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Property Law* vii. 42 If they refuse to value the estate, or disagree in the valuation, you cannot enforce the performance of the contract.

attrib. 1825 *Statutes Gt. Brit. & Irel.* XXII. 314 Valuation (Ireland) Act Amendment; further to amend 15 & 16 Vict. c. 63 relating to the Valuation of rateable Property. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Dec. 2/1 The amendment of the valuation law.

b. Estimated value; worth or price as determined by deliberate estimation.

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 816 The valuation of this religious structure..was three hundred eight pounds. 1737 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 437 There are many Masters of Servants yet unpaid, who are very anxious to receive their valuation. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* CXX. (1783) IV. 119 The ear-rings were no trifles in point of price .., bearing no less a valuation than 200 guineas. 1822 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 456 The fair valuation, at which our commercial concerns might be calculated. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. vii. I. 445 The money valuation of the estimated produce of the land in cultivation. 1888 ANNIE S. SWAN *Doris Cheyne* vii. 122 Mr. Hardwicke had paid the sum required for the goodwill, and had also taken the furniture at a valuation.

†2. Value or worth, esp. of a material nature.

1567 *Trial Treas.* (Percy Soc.) 6 It is not golde alwayes that doth shine, But corrupting copper, of small valuation. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* N j b, Diuers precious Iewells .., whereof two or three Gemmes were of more valuation in his accounte, then all the rest. 1622 R. PRESTON *Godly Man's Inquisition* i. 20 If any man hath lost any matter of valuation, how diligently will they set themselues to Inquisitions. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* II. 44 Without receiving any considerable valuation for so precious a Jewell. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 145 Which casualties..makes their Price and valuation so uncertain, and proves so great a discouragement to the Countryman.

†b. *spec.* Current value (of money). *Obs.*

1552 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I (1895) 88 One counselleth to rayse and enhaunce the valuacion of money, when the king must paye any. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 486 By aduancing the Valuation of gold..in England, when Crowne gold was valued from fiftie fiue shillings the ounce to three pound. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 454 Here are four Authorities then..for the low valuation of the Sicilian Talent. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. v. (1869) I. 46 No creditor could..be cheated in consequence of the high valuation of silver in coin.

†c. = VALUE *sb.* 7 a. *Obs.*—1

1636 *Records's Gr. Artes* 43, I may reckon them simply without any respect of their valuation or place: saying, 2 and 3 make 5.

3. Appreciation or estimation of anything in respect of excellence or merit.

1548 ELYOT, *Aestimatio*, a valuacion, consideracion, or weying of a matter. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 189 Our valuation shall be such, That euery slight, and falsederiued Cause, Yea, euery idle..wanton Reason,..Shall, to the King, taste of this Action. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (ROXB.) 281, I obserued in England the same superstitious neglect of Common Prayer, and excessive valuation of Preaching, to haue infected some places among vs. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 256 The very Theater whereupon things are acted, serves to put a valuation upon them. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 356 The admirable Solution of many of those difficulties..doth give a very great valuation and esteem to the truth..of the Scriptures. 1748–6 FIELDING *True Patriot* Wks. 1775 IX. 318, I believe it is difficult to find any two persons, who place an equal valuation on any virtue, good or great quality whatever. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 May 5/5 The outside public appear disposed to take Mr. Chaplin at his own valuation.

Hence **Valua·tional** *a.*

1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 285 They proposed a geometrical survey, detailed and valuational.

†**Va·luative,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. VALUE *v.* + -ATIVE.] Expressive of value.

1566 STAPLETON *Ref. Unstr. Jewel* IV. 62 The Sacramentary off Geneua will haue the verbe *est* is, to stand for, is in value, not is in substance, and so (*est*) must not be a verbe substantiue, but a verbe valuatiue.

Valuator (væ·liu,ēitɔr). [f. VALUE *v.* + -ATOR, after VALUATION.] One who estimates the value of things; *esp.* one appointed or licensed to do so; an appraiser.

1732–a SWIFT *Consid. two Bills* Wks. 1841 II. 225/1, I am therefore at a loss what kind of valuators the bishops will make use of. 1820 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* (1837) II. 197 The valuator of books made toward the door as fast as his loosened and yielding joints could carry him. 1848 *Chambers's Jrnl.* X. 423 A small daily stipend from government as a valuator of Books. 1896 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 114 The price is not always agreed upon that day; the valuators sometimes considering it advisable to wait for a time before deciding.

Value (væ·liu), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 valu, 4– value (4 ualue, 5 walue, valwe), 4 valuwe; 4, 7 va·leu, 5 -ieu, -eue, 7 valleu; 5–7 valewe (5–6 walew, 5 -ewe, -ywe); 4–5 valow(e; 9 *dial.* vally. [a. OF. *value* (13th c), *vallue* (F. dial. *vaillue*), fem. pa. pple. of *valoir* to be of worth:—L. *valēre.* Cf. med.L. *valua* (1235, from OF.), Sp. *valua*, It. *valuta.*]

I. 1. That amount of some commodity, medium of exchange, etc., which is considered to be an equivalent for something else; a fair or adequate equivalent or return.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5966 But þou 3yve hyt hym a3eyn, Or þe valeu.., þou art falle þan yn þe vyce Of coueytyse. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 163 Amendes I wille make. ..Pi godes þe biken, or þe valow verray. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxv. (Harl. MS.) 288, I saide to you þat I myȝte not selle you þe ston, no lesse þan I recyvid þerfore the trewe value. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 254 The other two Consuls .were not released, till their Nations..promised the Basha to pay..the value of the Ships Loadings. 1726 *Lond. Gaz.* No 5472/4 A Bill..for Value received, for 60 *l.* 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyss., Descr.* vii. 86 On Condition he paid a certain number of Cows, or the Value. 1806 CUMBERLAND *Mem* (1807) II. 152 We hardly could be said to have had value for our money. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1286 For the recovery of the goods in question, or the value thereof, if the plaintiff cannot have the goods. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* (1876) 147 To pay at a given date..a specified sum of money, for which value has been received.

†b. A standard of estimation or exchange; an amount or sum reckoned in terms of this; a thing regarded as worth having. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xvii. (Bodl. MS.), Vma is a cesteyne weiȝt and valewe. *c* 1460 *Play Sacrum.* 290 For so lytelle a walew in conscyence to stond bownd. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xi. 249 Thei game not for money, or any valewe elles. 1655 MILTON *Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 333 We thought it requisite to remit beforehand two thousand Pounds of the Value of England, with all possible speed. 1754 HANWAY *Trav.* VI. I. 146 They stripped their habitation of everything that was valuable. The Russians lost a great value [*note*, About one hundred thousand pound].

†c. *spec.* = VALOUR 3 d. *Obs.*

1607 [see VALOUR 3 d]. *a* 1632 DONNE *Sat.* iii. 62 As Wards still Take such wives as their Guardians offer, or Pay valewes. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. XXIV. § 8 Values and forfeitures of marriage and all other charges incident to tenure by Knights service. 1684 MANLEY, *Value of Marriage* [copying Cowel: see VALOUR 3 d].

2. The material or monetary worth of a thing; the amount at which it may be estimated in terms of some medium of exchange or other standard of a similar nature.

Sometimes, esp. in recent use, as the second element in combs., as *assay-, coin-, house-, land-value.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 83 Extendours he sette forto extend þe land...Alle þei did extend to witte þe verrey valowe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 414 God..wole not þat men chaffere but in þingis whoos valu þei knowen. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2812, I ha no konnyng dywe To declare the walywe So ryche of stonys and tresour. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 413 That ye .certifie vs as-wel of the names of all the seid gentilmen..as for þe very value of their said lyvelodes and goodes. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 117 An Estimate of the contentes and valewe of soche parcelles and stuffe as was delyuered owte of the storehouses. *Ibid.* 118 Pantacles one paier of bridges satten in valewe iij^{s} iiij^{d}. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 b, Whan a benefice or prebende is fallen, what diligent inquisition is made to knowe the yearely value. 1622 *Ld. Cromwell* II. iii. 56 The King of late hath had his treasurie rob'd, And of the choysest iewelles that he had: The value of them was some seauen thousand pound. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 53 As Metals mixt, the rich and base Do both at equal Values pass. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 255/2 Were pounds sterling, livres, florins, piastres, &c...invariable in their values. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. v. (1904) I. 43 In England ..the value of all goods and of all estates is generally computed in silver. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 4 In the time of King Edward the value of the city to the King was fifty-three pounds. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1208 To loyal hearts the value of all gifts Must vary as the giver's. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* I. 116 The value of the stock I hold has doubled.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1854 in Tomes *Amer. in Japan* 410 In Japan, as in European countries, the standard of value-weight, and that of currency-weight, differ. 1878 F. A. WALKER *Money* xiii. 263 The bi-metallic theory proposes to harness two metals of somewhat diverse tendencies value-wards.

†b. Valuation, appraisement. *Obs.*—1

c 1488 *Pinnpton Corr.* (Camden) 68 It was sene by our tenants, & set to a valow what should be our charge to do, & that shall he have.

c. In phrases. *Under value*, below the proper value. † *To good value, at a small value*, at a low or small price.

1638 FEATLY *Transubst.* 9 The fifth was nominated to a poore Vicaridge under vallew. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 387 How is his Edition so scarce, that..may be purchas'd at a small value? *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 14 July 1683, He..shew'd me some very rare and curious bookes, and some MSS. which he had purchas'd to good value.

3. *Of value*, valuable. *Of . . value*, possessed of (a specified) material or monetary worth.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 9199 To precyouse stanes of vertow, And to sylver and gold and thing of valow. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXB.) XXVI. 124 Oile of olyfe of grete valu. *c* 1400 *Pilg. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. ix. 62 The prys of myn Appel is of suche valewe that it passeth the estymacion of ony creature. 1436 *Libel Eng. Polity* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II 162 Hit is of lytelle valeue,..Wyth Englyssh wolle but if it menged be. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 33 Not al onely these Iewelles whyche been of lytel valewe. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 35 When he knewe the two Erles to be a praye of suche a greate value, he determined not to deliuer theim. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 198 b, So noble a garment, of more value than al ye treasures of golde. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 133 Their shops are full of fine earthen vessels, which are of much greater value then the things contained in them. 1628–9 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 82 Shee [a boat] had little of value in her. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 19 Gold and Siluer is of no value amongst them. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld. & Cumbld.* viii. 37 Lead and Coal,..being of a disagreeable Nature, the one makes the other of little Value. 1772 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 260/2 The old [guineas] must be of less value still. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 A tower, with a fireproof chamber for the muniments and jewels of especial value.

4. The equivalent (in material worth) *of* a specified sum or amount.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 34 Wolde neuer kyng ne knyht.. ȝeuen hem to heore ȝeres-ȝiue þe value of a grote! *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 845 He.. broghte gold vn-to this Philosophre The value of fyue hundred pound I gesse. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 124 We trewly may aduerten ..þat for the valu of a þing of nou3t, Mortal causes and werris first bygonne *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 120 Of all the harneys that thei hade brought thider, thei hadde not with hem the valew of iij^{li}. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliii. 145 Thou shalt not lese the valew of one peny. *Ibid.* lxviii. 234 They left not in ye abbay the valew of a floren. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 632 A Bason, wherein each puts the value of twelue pence in Gold. 1772 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 260/2 If..the new guineas are below the value of a pound sterling in silver. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 320/2 A gold coin of the assayed value of 3*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* 1889 *Whitaker's Alm.* 183 Bronze coinage..to the value of £57,563.

b. In contemptuous comparisons. Now *rare.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 124 Ne douteb he kyng ne Emperour þe value of a ryuesche. *Ibid.* 3442 þat þe Amorel ne dredeþ

hym nost..þe value of a kerse. *a* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 171 He is noght worth at al In no degree the value of a flye. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17506, I seue right not of alle his tene, Not the value of a bene. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. xviii. 2170, I cowntyt nought þe tobir twa Wicis þe walew of a stra. 1798 Wordsw. *P. Bell* 239 But not the value of a hair Was heart or head the better.

c. The extent or amount *of* a specified standard or measure of length, quantity, etc. Now only *dial.*

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. vi. 433 They must be sharpened like a stake for the value of the length of halfe a foote. 1731 P. Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Sage*, Flowing out very plentifully..to the Value of several Gallons in a few Days. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. i. 10 Give each of them the value of three large table spoonfuls of the mixture for a dose. 1792 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* (1820) I. 67, I jogged on, near the value of a league, I warrant, and then I came to a track. 1794 — *Myst. Udolpho* lii, They stood in the same posture for the value of a minute. 1818 Wilbraham *Chesh. Gloss.* s.v., When you come to the value of five feet deep. 1854 Miss Baker *Northumpt. Gloss.* 374 There was only the vally of a bushel of apples in all the orchard. *Ibid.*, Dig down to the vally of seven or eight feet.

II. †5. Worth or worthiness (of persons) in respect of rank or personal qualities. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4911 Alle of valow, moste & leste, Suld com to London to his feste. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 100 þerfor þe duke him dight, as man of grete value. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Parson's T.* 398 Insolent is he þat displaith in his iugement alle oþer folk as to regard of his valieu. *c* 1400 *Brut* 248 Euerych of ham hade ful riche yiftes, euery man as he was of value and of State. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. viii. 721 Þai þat duelt that ile wiþ in War sottis wylde of na walew. 1483 Caxton *Cato* A iiij, Thou oughtest to gyue place to hym that is gretter and more of valewe than thou arte. 1590 Greene *Mourn. Garm.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 154 Some were Caualiers, and men of great value. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1651) 484 A young widow of value: Who lately dying left order by Will that her body should be buried in her dwelling Parish.

†b. Worth or efficacy in combat or warfare; manliness, valour. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 29 Who..his sword forth drew, And him with equall value counteruayld. 1591 Harington *Orl Fur.* XXXIV. xii, Alceste by his value brought My father and his friends to such distresse. 1614 Lodge *Seneca* 7 The Emperour..giveth a chaine of gold to some one souldier of his that approved his valew in some difficult enterprise.

6. The relative status of a thing, or the estimate in which it is held, according to its real or supposed worth, usefulness, or importance.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 195 Oure bileve techiþ us þat God kepiþ þingis after her valu, for if ony þing be betere, God makiþ it to be betere. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 602 *Cleopatra*, Loue hadde brought this man in swich a rage.. That al the world he sette at no value. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. ii. 78 Your bounte..may no man preyse half to the valewe. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 68 These words with Cyrus came in at one eare and went out at the other, lighter in value then the wynd in waight. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. x. 42 [Let men] rate themselves at the highest Value they can; yet their true Value is no more than it is esteemed by others. 1779 *Mirror* No. 5. 33 It unfortunately happens, that we are very inadequate judges of the value of our own discourse. 1808 Duppa *Trav. Italy*, etc. 21 These landscapes have no value but as being the earliest attempts to represent scenes from nature. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 217 Attaching to its commerce and alliance more value than belonged to either. 1884 J. Gilmour *Mongols* xvii. 205 Buddhism . tells him that each prayer repeated has a certain value in cleansing away sin.

attrib. 1899 Garvie *Ritschlian Theol.* 176 The theoretical judgments cannot give an intelligible unity to the world-whole, but the value-judgments can.

b. In the phr. *of* (..) *value.* (Cf. 3.)

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 372 Quhar it failȝeys, na wertu May be off price, na off valu. 1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 299 þe corrclaii is þe preyere of ualue springand out of þarfyth charite. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 171 That appartenyth to a feynte herte to lowe myche a thynge of lytill value. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 133 Yf this opinion bee of anye value. 1849 James *Woodman* iii, There may be news of value indeed. 1855 Brewster *Life of Newton* II. xviii. 166 Observations of such value, that without them they could not proceed in their researches.

c. *To set a . . value on* or *upon*, to estimate at a specified rate.

1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xviii. 92 Considering what values men are naturally apt to set upon themselves. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 62 But the Backwardness Parents shew in divulging their Faults, will make them set a greater Value on their Credit themselves. *a* 1763 W. King *Pol. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 101 My Lord Hardwick..who is said to be worth 800,000 *l.* sets the same value on half a crown now as he did when he was only worth one hundred. 1782 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 7 You set too much value on the few and slight services, that I have been able to perform. 1842 Combe *Digestion* 260 No one who sets any value on the lives of his horses or dogs, ever allows it to be disregarded. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 64 Wolsey set much value upon the study of Greek. 1890 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 365, I must see what value the kafir sets on his services.

†d. Estimate or opinion *of*, liking *for*, a person or thing. *Obs.*

(*a*) 1652 Lovedav tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* III. 232 Thus parted those two great men, preserving in their soules such a value of one another as you may easily imagine. 1677 in *Cleveland's Poems* Ep. Ded., Such competent Judges,..in whose just value of him Cleveland shall live..the pattern of succeeding Ages.

(*b*) 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 204 He has a very great Value for her by reason of her great Estate. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 33 ¶ 5 Nay, child, do not be troubled that I take Notice of it; my Value for you made me speak it. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XIV. v, I must esteem one for whom I know Mr. Allworthy hath so much value. 1772 *Life N. Fireside* 182 In a few days she conceived a Value for me, which she expressed in the warmest Terms. 1794 Mathias *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 434 Men of learning have always had a proper value for the Greek language.

†e. *ellipt.* Esteem, regard. *Obs.*—1

1700 Dryden *Fables Anc. & Mod.* Ded., I am not vain enough to boast that I have deserv'd the value of so Illustrious a Line.

7. a. *Math.* The precise number or amount represented by a figure, quantity, etc.

1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* (1575) 43 Euery Figure hathe two values: One..which it hath of his Forme, and yᵉ other ..whiche he taketh of his Place. *a* 1680 Butler *Remains* (1759) II. 80 A huffing Courtier is a Cypher, that has no Value himself, but from the Place he stands in. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 477 The Resolution whereof will give the Value of the Root. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 134/2 That he can get a Value of *v* to substitute in the first Equation, to bring out the Value of *z* true. 1823 H. J. Brooke *Introd. Crystallogr.* 255 As the value of ϕ increases, the planes δ incline more and more on the primary planes. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* I. i. 2 The values of these angles..prove that the glass of the ancients differed very little from that manufactured in our own times. 1881 *Nature* No. 618. 417 So boron in the crystalline salt..has a higher atomic value than in its fluoride.

b. *Mus.* The relative length or duration of a tone signified by a note.

1662 Playford *Skill Mus.* I. vii. (1674) 25 The Semibreve ..is called the Master-Note. All the other Notes..are measured or Proportioned to its value. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Measure*, The Measure is regulated according to the different Quality or Value of the Notes in the Piece. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 333/2 The value, or length in time, of the Semibreve may be considered as unity. 1869 Ouseley *Counterp.* xix. 157 It is not allowed, in making the answer, to change the value of the notes of the subject.

c. Of cards, chessmen, or the like: Relative rank or importance according to the conventions of the game; the amount at which each (or each set) is reckoned in counting the score.

1670 Cotton *Gamester* (1680) 76 The value of the Cards [in Cribbage] is thus: Any fifteen upon the Cards is two. *Ibid.* 87 The rest of the Cards are best according to their value in pips. 1742 Hoyle *Whist* 27 Suppose you have.. four other Cards of no Value. 1850 *Bohn's Hand-Bk. Games* (1867) 252 If in cutting there be two lowest cards of a like value, the holders cut again for the deal. 1874 H. Gibbs *Ombre* (1878) 5 'French Ruff,' 'Five-cards' and other games in which the cards have the same value or nearly the same value as in Ombre.

d. *Painting.* Due or proper effect or importance; relative tone of colour in each distinct section of a picture; a patch characterized by a particular tone.

1778 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* viii. (1876) 453 A certain quantity of cold colours is necessary to give value and lustre to the warm colours. 1892 Mrs. H. Ward *David Grieve* II. 312 Working [at a painting] now in the forest, now at home, the lights and values had suffered. 1896 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 3/4 The new French stamp..is printed in two impressions full and mezzo-tint, white spaces furnishing a third value.

attrib. 1900 *Academy* 12 Apr. 392/2 Replace it in the picture, it is still a vase, but quite without value relation to the other parts of the picture.

Value (væ·liu), *v.* Forms: 5–6 **valew**, 6–7 **valewe**, 7 **vallew**; 7 *Sc.* **walow**, **wallow**; 6– **vallue**, 6– **value**. [f. the sb. Cf. Sp. *valuar*, It. *valutare.*]

I. 1. *trans.* To estimate or appraise as being worth a specified sum or amount. Const. *at*, †*to*, or with inf.

1482 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* VIII. i, They hadde as moche good and Jewellys, as was valewyd to fyve honderde thousand motons of Golde. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xxvii. 16 It shalbe valued at fiftye Sycles of syluer. 1548 Elyot s.v. *Aestimo*, He valewed it at iii. pence. 1627 *Rep. Parishes Scotl.* (Bann. Cl.) 2 We wallow it to be worth sex bollis off wictuall. *Ibid.* 3 Quilkis we walow at sex bollis. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 355 Their Rings..were valued to a hundred Chickens of Malta. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 339, I valued it at Ten Pounds. 1734 R. Seymour *Compl. Gamester* I. 27 [In the game of Codille] a Fish is generally valued at Ten Counters. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 151 The appraisers..valued the same to four pounds. 1835 *Tomlins' Law Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v. *Insurance*, After stating that the goods should be valued at so much.

†b. To equate in value *with* something. *Obs.*

1560 Bible (Geneva) *Job* xxviii. 16 Wisdome..shal not be valued with the wedge of golde of Ophir, nor with the precious onix. *Ibid.* 19.

2. To estimate the value of (goods, property, etc.); to appraise in respect of value.

1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 1 Merchaundises..to be valued after that they coste at the firste byeng or achate. 1523 Fitzherb. *Bk. Survey.* 3 b, To value what the grasse of the gardens..be worth by the yere. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xxvii. 12 Yᵉ prest shal value it, whether it be good or bad, & it shal stonde at the prestes valuynge. 1666 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 19 The Presents had not yet been valu'd, among which was the Cabinet..; which could not be valu'd but by them. 1755 Magens *Insurances* I. 197 For Labour and Wood..which has not been valued, but put at least at 25 Rixdollars. 1780 Burke *Econ. Reform.* Wks. III. 272, I propose to have those rights of the crown valued as manerial rights are valued on an inclosure. 1870 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 206 Voltaire got his bill back, and the jewels were to be duly valued.

absol. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 372 Weigh with her thy self; Then value.

†b. To rate for purposes of taxation. *Obs.*—1

1526 Tindale *Luke* II. 1 All the worlde shulde be valued.

c. With immaterial object. †Also *absol.* with *of*.

1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 228 The country awaines cannot value of my worth. 1623 Heming & Condell *Ded. Shake. Folio*, When we valew the places your H. H. sustaine, we cannot but know their dignity greater, then to descend to the reading of these trifles. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* I. 513 The Lord, who can best try, And value what is best, did pass it by.

8. To estimate or regard as having a certain value or worth: †**a.** With various constructions. *Obs.*

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. 129 And all their Styles together Are lesser valewed than to liue beloued of my Tuder. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. i. 33 And her wit Values it selfe so highly, that to her All matter else seemes weake. ? 1634 Earl Stirling *Anacrisis* P 2, I value Language as a Conduit..: I compare a Poem to a Garden. 1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* xxiv. Apol. Philos. 247 The Swine may see the Pearl, which yet he values but with the ordinary muck. *a* 1667 Jer. Taylor *Serm.* (1673) 124 He must by it regulate his life, and value it above secular regards. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 26/1 In India the Cypress is valu'd almost equal with the Spice Trees.

†b. With complementary predicate. *Obs.*

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. iii. 14 The Queene is valued thirtie thousand strong. 1619 in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 207 His Master is here valued to be but a silly Jesuited soule. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 138 He valewes himself to be worthy of an informer, and of commissioners. 1737 Franklin *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 286 Caligula valued himself a notable dancer.

c. Const. *at* or † *of* (a specified amount). Also without prep. Usually in negative clauses.

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* IV. I. § 1 To value at little the power of the Macedonians. 1667 Dryden *Sir Martin Mar-all* I. i, I will not value any man's fortune at a rush, except he have wit. 1752 Lavington *Anthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 42 They don't value Ignatius of a Hair. 1784 Richardson *Corr.* (1804) III. 218 If I am angry, you can't help it (as much as to say you value it not a farthing). 1848 J. Grant *Aide-de-C.* xxiv, He would not value his ducats..a rush. 1892 R. N. Bain tr. *Jókai's Pretty Michal* iv. (1897) 50 He cares not a fig for muskets, and does not value his life at a boot-lace.

II. 4. To consider of worth or importance; to rate high; to esteem; to set store by.

1549 J. Cheke in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 8 Your sight is ful of gai things abrode, which I desire not, as things sufficientli known and valewd. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 227 Though I am disdained of a few ouerweening fooles, I am valued as well as thy selfe with the wise. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 73, I was too yong that time to value her, But now I know her. 1698 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 50, I hope..that you will pries that which is most to be valewd, which is virtue. 1703 De Foe in *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 62, I value the esteem of one wise man above abundance of blessings. 1771 *Junius' Lett.* lv. (1778) 293 Perhaps the example might have taught him not to value his own understanding so highly. 1808 Scott *F. M. Perth* xii, Stir not your tongue,..as you value having an entire tooth in your head. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. 195 Instead of despising, he will approve and value their exertions. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* iv. 94 He valued money, as a man values it who has been poor.

†b. To commend or praise (*to* another); to vaunt. *Obs.*

1670 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 473 That your Lordship may value it to their Ministers in England, if you find them complaining. 1672 *Ibid.* 513, I have not omitted to value to them the business of the Banquiers. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Apr. 1646, In this room stands the glorious inscription of Cavaliero Galeazzo Arconati, valueing his gift to the librarie of severall drawings by Da Vinci.

†5. With negatives: To take account of; to heed or regard; to be concerned about; to care. *Obs.*

Freq. *c* 1630–1730 with various constructions.

1592 Greene *Maidens Dr.* xix, But like to Scauola, for countries good, He did not value for to spend his blood. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Travels* 10 The foolish quality of which Bird [the booby] is to sit still, not valuing danger. 1662 in *Extr. St. Papers Friends* Ser. II. (1912) 125 My opinion is thay will not vallew their Oath. 1720 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 84 People infected..valued not who they injur'd. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* (1757) 423 You are in a condition of not valuing whether the coasts are alarm'd or not. 1768 Earl Haddington *Forest Trees* 19 They do not value what soil they are set in.

6. *refl.* **a.** To pride or plume (oneself) *on* or *upon* a thing. †Also *to* a person.

1667 Pepys *Diary* 27 May, He..values himself upon having of things do well under his hand. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 332 Mr. B. was not ashamed to write it, nay to value himself upon 't. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 20 Pierpont valued himself to me upon this service he did his country. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 413 The calm and patient turn of the Chinese, on which they so much value themselves. 1838 Lytton *Alice* II. ii, A sensible and frequent..speaker,..valuing himself on not being a party man. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* II. v. (1866) 224 Moreover.., the learned Doctor valued himself upon his logic.

b. To think highly of (oneself) *for* something.

1667 T. Brown *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 75 What sort of an animal was the dragon, which thou valuest thyself so much for slaying? 1725 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 218 They value themselves here for making very fine kid gloves for ladies. 1743 J. Mosses *Serm.* II. 53 Those extraordinary gifts, for which the Corinthians so highly valued themselves. 1827 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* I. xvii. 251 Every one is in danger of valuing himself for what he does.

†7. To give greater value to; to raise the estimation of. *Obs. rare.*

1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* V. iii. § 2. 402 Hanno..and his Partisans, being neither able to taxe the vertue of their enemies,..nor to performe the like seruices vnto the Common-weale, had nothing left, whereby to value

selues, excepting the generall reprehension of Warre. *a* 1625 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 16 It valued her the more,.. and it took best with the people. 1673 Temple *United Prov.* Wks. 1720 I. 54 The same Qualities and Dispositions do not value a private Man and a State.

III. †**8.** To equal in value; to be equivalent to. *Obs.*

1581 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) G j, Seeming unto them no golde nor siluer was inough to value them. 1624 Middleton *Game at Chess* III. i, This goodnesse Whose worth no transitory piece can value. *a* 1642 Rowley *Birth Merlin* IV. ii, What articles or what conditions Can you expect to value half your wrong?

†**b.** *esp.* To have the value of (so much money).

1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 12 In the Greek he writeth δραχμας, valuing six half pence a piece, the hundredth part of an Attick pound. 1622 Bible *Mark* xii. 15 A penny [*marg.*] Valewing of our money seuen pence halfe penie. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 41 An English shilling values twentie two Pice. 1638 Phillips, *Julio*, a kind of Italian coin,..valuing about six pence.

†**c.** To be worth (nothing, more, etc.). *Obs.*

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 57 The parte of that one valueth much more than the part of the other. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. i, Whose reeling censure, if I valew not, It valewes naught. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 32 What wer't worth to know The secret of your conference? *Anne*...Not your demand; it values not your asking. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 113 Gold..values more in purest prise, Then drosse. 1799 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 69 The 'Maid of the Inn' you selected for censure, and in my own mind it values little.

Hence Va·luing *vbl. sb.*

1535 [see Value *v.* 2]. 1563 Cooper *Thesaurus, Aestimatio*, the prisyng or valuing of a thing. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 12 The valuing of most, regardes more fortunes event, than causes merit. 1662 *Stationers' Reg.* 16 Nov. (Arb.) IV. 23 A Booke for the true valewing of anie commoditie.

Valued (væ·liud), *ppl. a.* [f. prec.]

†**1.** In which value is indicated. *Obs.*—1

1605 Shake. *Mach.* III. i. 94 The valued file Distinguishes the swift, the slow, the subtle.

b. *Valued policy* (see quot. 1848).

1782 in Burrow *Law Rep.* II. 1171 A valued Policy is not to be considered as a Wager Policy. 1766 *Ibid.* IV. 69. 1848 Arnould *Marine Insur.* I. v. (1866) I. 218 A valued policy is one in which the agreed value of the subject insured..is expressed on the face of the policy. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 25 Sept. 6/7 Let..the private individual demand a 'valued' policy, and the monopoly of the big companies collapses.

2. Estimated, appraised; to which a definite value has been assigned.

1607 Middleton *Fam. Love* I. ii. 58 Art or nature never yet could set A valued price to her unvalued worth. 1623 Tapp *Pathw. Knowledge* 258 Now out of 252 li. the valued price of 12 peeces of Linnen cloth ready money, substract 46 li. [etc.] 1752 McDouall *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. 333 There is no mention in the brieve or service of the Valued rent. 1798 in *Hist. Moray* (1882) I. i. 172 The valued rent is £350.

3. Highly esteemed or appreciated.

1665 Glanvill *Defence Van. Dogm.* 79 Laertius sayes in his [book that] the Epicureans..were the only valued Sects of Philosophers. 1725 Pope *Odyssey* XV. 129 This silver bowl...this valued gift be thine. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xviii. 138 You..boldly guard the injur'd Fame Of a well-known, and valued Friend. 1803 Visct. Strangford *Poems of Camoens* (1810) 107 Within my bosom's cell I bear A recent wound—a valued woe. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 160 The exposition of a political transaction is never without some valued results. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxvii. 270, I have omitted that which was its most valued characteristic. It abounded in life.

Valueless (væ·liúlés), *a.* [f. Value *sb.*]

1 Destitute of value; having no value.

1595 Shake. *John* III. i. 101 You haue beguil'd me with a counterfeit Resembling Maiesty, which being touch'd and tride, Proues valuelesse. 1684 *Foxe's A & M.* III. 102/1 The Sentence..might not be found faulty and valueless [*earlier edd.* valuelesse]. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII. vi, One single obstacle has power to render them valueless. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* vi, Take them, therefore—they are to me valueless trinkets. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvii, It was found that all his property..was represented by valueless shares in different bubble companies. 1871 Freeman *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. ix. 261 Like all chronicles of the kind, it is valueless alike for prophecy and for early history.

2. Priceless, invaluable. *rare*—1.

1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 281 Infinite mines of adamant and gold, Valueless stones, and unimagined gems.

Hence Va·luelessness.

1838 *Lond. & Westm. Rev.* XXIX. 58 The valuelessness of all prior statistics of crime. 1881 Bruce *Chief End Revelation* iv. 189 The Spinozan doctrine as to the valuelessness of miracles for the purpose of revealing God.

Valuer (væ·liuəɹ). [f. Value *v.*] **a.** One who estimates or assesses values; a valuator. **b.** One who values, or sets a value upon something; an appreciator.

1611 Cotgr., *Appreciateur*, a praiser, rater, valuer. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 66 To say nothing more hardly of you, you are too unjust a valuer of your selfe. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* II. viii. 266 What miserable valuers were they of its dignity. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Appraiser*, a Valuer of Goods. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 129 § 29 To appoint a valuer to value the same. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. 493 The varying scales on which valuers proceed. 1893 *The Voice* (N. Y.) 31 Aug., A chairmaker..might bring a chair, and receive from the valuer..notes for as many hours' value [etc.].

†**Valure,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 valur, wallure, 6 valuer, va(l)lower. [app. an alteration of OF. *valur* or *valeur* Valour, after forms in -ure.]

1. a. Worthiness or merit; = Valour 1 a.

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 139 What glory or what valure the may be-tyde. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 284 She saw also by his norture, He was a man of grete valure. *c* 1482 Caxton *Dialogues* 4 Be swyft and redy Hym or hem first to grete, Yf he be or they be men of valure. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Ireland* viii. in *Holinshed*, I doubt not, but hys fame and renowme in learnyng, shall be aunswerable to his desert and valure in writyng. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie* 63 As to the gaser well it might appeere That all the Vallewer in the world was heere.

b. Physical strength or ability; power, might. *rare.*

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 3 Of our selues we are so weake, and our abilitie so small, our valure so litle, and haue so few things, that..of our selues we haue not what to giue. 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 440 Causing the Canaanites to feare his force and valure.

c. Courage, bravery; = Valour 1 c.

Common *c* 1580–1610.

1577–82 Breton *Flourish upon Fancy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 18/2 Thy valure is but vauntes, thy weapons are but wordes. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xii. 125 The Arabians..beleue that in valure & hardines they doe surpasse al the other nations. 1606 Chapman *Gent. Usher* I. i, This is your old valure, nephew, that will fight sleeping as well as waking. 1640–1 *Kilkenny War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 50 Barrones and gentilmen of good sort..by quhas valure the kingdome hath ever been defendit.

2. Worth, importance, efficacy. Freq. in the phr. *of no valure.*

(*a*) *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* I. xxiv. (1859) 29 This excusacyon is of no valure. 1509 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 81 Good hope,..without the whiche euery thynge that we do is of no valure. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* v. (1596) 61 We call memory a reasonable power, because without it the vnderstanding and the imaginatiue are of no valure.

(*b*) 1486 Sir G. Have *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 214 For ellis war it litill of valure the privilege that the Emperour has gevin to the haly kirk. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B vj b, Wordes, whiche were not mete,..rude, and least of valure. 1577 Harrison *England* II. vi. (1877) II. 149 These [wines] are not least of all accompted of, because of their strength and valure. 1596 Bell *Surv. Popery* III. ix. 397 The naturall valure only of good words. *Ibid.*, The valure and just estimation of eternal life.

3. = Value *sb.* 2.

1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 269/1 Decreas of the pris and valure of the wolles. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xvi. 374 And whan Reynawde saw that that gyfte was so riche he was glad of it, by cause of ye grete valure of it. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 [They] shall..put to such markes to every of the same wares..upon payne of forfeyture the double valure of the same wares. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 387 Swearing vnto him that he would prouyde other for him, that should amount to as good a valure. 1588 J. Mellis *Briefe Instr.* E j, Putting the valure of them, how much they be, after the common price in ready money.

b. In the phr. *of (great,* etc.) *valure.*

1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 7 A sheelde of crystalle of grete valure. 1491–2 *Sarum Church-w. Acc.* (Swayne) 41 Smalle peces of clene golde of litelle valure. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss* I. cccxx. 495 He reputed this aduenture of more valure than v. hundred thousande frankes. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 Hys horse is iudged to be of such valure if you respect ye price, as is one of our cities. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 234 There they put all their goods of any valure.

4. = Value *sb.* 4. Const. *of* (so much).

c 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 124 Alle that for me thu dos pray, helpeth me not..the valure of a pese. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 110, I doubte the not the valure of an olde dede hounde. 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 138 Robert edward wyll spende..to the valuer of twenty markys to helpe them with all. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1184/1 He neuer vsed to passe vpon himselfe the valure of six pence at a meale.

5. = Value *sb.* 7 b.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Pref., With what toyle and wearinesse I was enforced to compare the parts for trying out the valure of some notes.

Hence †**Valure** *v. trans.*, = Value *v.* 2. *Obs.* **Also** †**Valureless** *a.*, valueless. *Obs.* †**Valurous** *a.*, valuable (cf. Valorous *a.* 3). *Obs.*

1487 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. 7 § 1 The nature, weight, content, or valure of all maner other merchandises used to be weyed or valured. 1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1028/2 The sentence thereof might not be founde fautye and valureles by me. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. ii, Thy Garments shall be .. Enchast with precious iuelles of mine owne: More rich and valurous than Zenocrates.

Valure, obs. variant of Velure.

Valuwen, southern ME. var. Fallow *v.*

Va·lval, *a. Bot.* [f. Valve *sb.* 3 b.] *Valval view*, that aspect of a diatom in which one of the valves is turned to the observer; the side-view.

1891– in *Cent. Dict.* and later Dicts.

Valvar (væ·lvāɹ), *a. rare.* [f. Valve *sb.* + -ar.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, a valve.

1832 Macgillivray tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 400 Their calyx is superior with four or five valvar divisions. 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Valvaris*,..of or belonging to a valve: valvar.

Valvassor, variant of Vavasour.

Valvate (væ·lvēt), *a. Bot.* [ad. L. *valvāt-us* having folding-doors, f. *valva* Valve *sb.*]

1. Of sepals or petals: Applied to each other by the margins only.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot* 51 Hamamelideæ, which are known by their habit,..and also by their valvate sepals and petals. 1830 Hooker *Stud. Flora* p. xl, Malvaceæ i..Sepals 5, valvate.

b. Of a calyx: Composed of sepals so united.

1828 Carpenter *Veg. Phys.* § 536 The calyx of the Rhamneæ being valvate (i. e. the sepals, before expanding, having their edges in proximity with each other). 1877 Hulme *Wild Flowers* I. p. xiii, Calyx five-partite, valvate in bud.

2. Of æstivation or vernation: Characterized by this arrangement of parts.

1829 Lindley *Synops. Brit. Bot.* 72 Calyx monophyllous, 4–5 cleft, with a valvate æstivation. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 186 Sometimes they are..placed so as to touch each other by their edges; thus giving rise to valvate vernation. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 218 The valvate æstivation may be seen in the calyx of the Lime.

Valve (vælv), *sb.*[1] **Also 5 valwe. 7 value.** [ad. L. *valva* leaf of a door (usu. pl. *valvæ* a folding door). So F. *valve* (1611), Pg. *valva.*]

I. 1. One or other of the halves or leaves of a double or folding door.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 449 At þe laste þey brende þe valves of þe temple þat were i-heled wit gold. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/1 Valwe, *valva, vel valve.* 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2) *Valves*, folding doors or windows. 1718 Pope *Odyss.* I. 555 The bolt, obedient to the silken cord, To the strong staple's inmost depth restored, Secured the valves. 1834 Beckford *Italy* I. 326 Throwing open the valves, we entered the chapel. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 280 The outside of the valves [of the triptych] was painted with figures of S. John the Baptist and Moses. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. iii. 164 Ye valves of yon dark iron portals! *transf.* *c* 1530 *Judic. Urines* I. iii. 8 For to delyuer and purge them oute by that membre, that is to say, by the matryce, and so out by the value, that is to say, by ye gate of hyr body.

b. A door controlling the flow of water in a sluice.

1790 *Act* 33 *Geo. III*, c. 90 § 65 If any Person..cause to be opened..any Lock Gate, or any Paddle, Valve, or Clough, belonging to any Lock..on the said Canal. 1847 Dwyer *Princ. & Pract. Hydraul. Engin.* 74 The gate or valve of a sluice is generally made to move by machinery in a vertical position.

2. a. *Conch.* One of the halves of a hinged shell; a single shell of similar form; a single part of a compound shell.

1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 7 b, Some are covered on every side, as oisters, cocks, and tellines; others have but one valve, the other side sticking to rocks. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 232, I separated the valves, and the rising part of the hinge to the edge shewed them to be shells. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 69 These shells take different forms, and are often composed of a different number of valves; sometimes six; sometimes but three. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 80 The hollow valve of this species..was formerly used as a drinking cup. *Ibid.*, The lower valve white, and longitudinally sulcated; upper valve rufous. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. King.* (ed. 4) 540 The elastic ligament for opening the valves..being placed externally instead of within the shell.

b. *Ent.* (See quot.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxxiii. III. 390 *Valvæ* (the Valves), two lateral laminæ, often coriaceous, by which the ovipositor when unemployed is covered.

3. *Bot.* **a.** One of the halves or sections of a dehiscent pod, pericarp, or capsule.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. vi. (1765) 13 *Siliqua*, a Pod, is a Pericarpium of two Valves, wherein the Seeds are fastened along both the Sutures or Joinings of the Valves. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 294 Pod long, cylindrical;..valves 2, opening with a jerk, and the valves rolling back. 1862 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 452 The valves of the fruit opening longitudinally, and bearing transverse septa in their interior. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 235 Capsule globose;..valves septiferous.

b. In various applications (see quots.).

1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xiii. (1794) 130 The inner [chaff] consisting also of two parts or valves, which you may call petals. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 176 Bloss[om] 1 petal, funnel-shaped. Tube cylindrical, crooked...Mouth closed by 5 prominent, convex, approaching valves. 1822 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 23 The stamina have six filaments, subulate, inserted into the valves of the nectary. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 104 The pieces of which these three classes of bractem are composed are called valves or valvulæ by the greater part of botanists. *Ibid.* 126 In the most common state of the anther the cells..open with two valves, by a longitudinal fissure from the base to the apex. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 629 The cells [of Diatomaceæ]..enclosed by a membrane..impregnated with silex and separable into valves. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 12 Anthers opening by ascending lids or valves.

II. 4. *Anat.* A membranous fold in an organ or passage of the body (esp. in the heart, arteries, and veins), which automatically closes after the manner of a trap-door to prevent the reflux of blood or other fluid.

1615 Crooke *Body Man* 180 In each of these passages there are Values which hinder the refluence of the choler. 1653 More *Antid. Ath.* Scholia II. xii. § 6 As to the Fabrick of the Valves and Veins of the Heart. 1688 Boyle *Final Causes* iv. 157 Our famous Harvey..took notice that the valves in the veins..were so placed that they gave free passage to the blood towards the heart. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 375 This foramen in the embryo..is closed by a valve which prevents the reflux of the blood. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 208 The valves..close the vein, sustain the blood, and prevent its reflux towards the capillary vessels. 1830 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. xiv, The valves, which in other Vertebrata guard the entrance of the great veins into the right auricle.

b. A similar part or structure serving to close a passage for other reasons.

1805 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (ed. 3) I. 97 Within each [ear] there is a kind of secondary auricle..so placed as to serve for a valve or guard to the auditory passage. 1823 *Ibid.*

(ed. 4) I. 120 The ears are short, and have each a very small inner valve. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 322/1 The pyloric orifice of the gizzard is guarded by a valve in many birds. 1868 A. M. Bell *Princ. Speech* 292 When the Stammerer has brought the *valve of the throat—the glottis—under due control.

fig. 1871 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* (1877) I. 74 Animals..have, so to say, fewer valves in their moral constitution for the entrance of divine guidance.

† 5. A supposed check (similar to above) to the reflux of sap in plants. *Obs.*

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 30 About the Pores of bodies, and a kind of Valves in wood. 1672–6 Grew *Anat. Pl., Anat. Trunks* (1682) 126 Which..plainly shews, That in the Sap-Vessels of a Plant, there are no Valves. *a* 1704 Locke *Elem. Nat. Phil.* ix. (1754) 33 The heat dilating, and the cold contracting those little tubes; supposing there be valves in them, it is easy to be conceived how the circulation is performed in plants. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 435 These valves possess a contractile force,..whereby the regress of the moisture is prevented, and of course it is taken up by the tree.

6. *Mech.* A device of the nature of a flap, lid, plug, etc., applied to a pipe or aperture to control the passage of air, steam, water or the like, usually acting automatically by yielding to pressure in one direction only.

Many classes and varieties of valves are in use, and are distinguished by special epithets denoting form or purpose, as *ball-, clack-, cone-, disk-, flap-valve*; *air-, escape-, feed-, injection-valve*, etc. See also Safety-valve.

1659 Leak *Waterworks.* 13 Of the Value or Suspiral. It will be also necessarie..to demonstrate the manner of the value of Copper which openeth itself by intervals. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 447 A Square Woodden Bucket..on the ends of which are the moveable bottoms or Valves *E E*. 1708 Savery *Miner's Fr.* 68 Will not these Brass Valves.. in your Engine speedily ware out? 1800 Vince *Hydrost.* ix. (1806) 91 Each sucker has a valve opening upwards. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 12 The pressure shuts the valve in the neck of the air vessel, and opens the valve in the piston. 1889 Welch *Naval Archit.* 133 Self-acting or automatic valves are fitted where watertight bulkheads.. are pierced for ventilation purposes.

fig. 1830 Gen. P. Thomson *Exerc* (1842) I. 295 The slightest degree of popular interference which can act as a valve to the great boiler, and prevent the whole from blowing up. 1847 De Quincey *Secr. Soc.* Wks. 1863 VI. 236 There was a valve in reserve, by which your perplexity could escape.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In sense 6, as *valve-board, -box, casing, chest, engine, face*, etc.; *valve governor, lifter*; *valve-like, -shaped* adjs.; also in collocations used attributively, as *valve-guide stem, valve-rod end.*

The number of attributive uses is very great, esp. in recent technical works.

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 352/3 There is a board screwed down on the top of A. That is the ˢvalve-board. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 290/2 The valve-boards are next hinged on to the feeder-boards. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 766/2 Above..is the seat of the lower steam valve, opening into the ˢvalve box. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 3 Dec. 282 2 Take the high pressure valves out of the valve-box. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 44 The flange to which is bolted the ˢvalve casing. 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 74 An elevation of the valve casing with the cover and the valve removed. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 62 The blow-through pipe, terminating in a ˢvalve chest. 1889 Welch *Naval Archit.* xi. 124 Is the former, a suction-box or valve chest V is fitted beneath the pump. 1797 J. Curr *Coal Viewer* 44 The plug floor in all the common engines falls 17½ inches below the top of the boiler, and in the ˢvalve engine it falls 2 feet 1 inch below. 1854 Webster, ˢ*Valve-face.* 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 70 The angle which the valve face makes with its axis is generally 45°. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 508/2 To bring the ˢvalve-gear within.. reach of the engineer. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 27 ˢValve governors, shafts, and other geering of mills. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2476/2 The ˢvalve-guide stem has an end knob, by which its falling out is prevented. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 97 The eccentric rod pulled backwards and forwards by means of the ˢvalve lifter. 1852 S. P. Woodward *Mollusca* (1856) 34 The in-coming and out-going currents..are kept apart by a ˢvalve-like fringe. 1859 Semple *Diphtheria* 206 A valve-like sound or a peculiar hissing noise. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 524 A slender pipe, open at both ends, inserted into the ˢvalve-plug. 1832–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 187/1 In this engine the working the valves is effected by eccentrics..below the ˢvalve rods. 1862 Sir W. Fairbairn *Iron* 123 To knock off the point of the trigger from the shoulder on the valve-rod. 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 119 Valve-rod end for a marine engine. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 379/2 H, the ˢvalve-seat. 1844 *Ibid.* VII. 190/2 The next valve was composed of several triangular pieces, opening on leather joints, from the circumference of the ˢvalve seating. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 365 Small ˢvalve-shaped wound over outer side of fracture. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 198 It was quite clear the ˢvalve-spindle must be of adequate strength. 1887 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 373 Applying the mouth to the lower aperture of the ˢvalve tube.

b. In sense 4, as *valve-flap, -lesion, segment.*

Many others occur in recent medical works

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 433 The junction of two of the aortic valve-flaps. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 952 A deformed valve segment must..be a strained segment. *Ibid.* 1004 In the remainder there was no valve-lesion.

c. Special Combs.: **valve-shell**, a gasteropod of the genus *Valvata*; **valve-tailed bat** (see quot.).

1852 Woodward *Mollusca* 2. 140 *Valvata*,..Valve-shell. 1872 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 316 *note.* The Valve-tailed Bat ..is remarkable..for the presence of a curious horny case, composed of two parts, which covers the extremity of the tail.

†**Valve**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [perh. an error for ˢ*valve*, by confusion with prec.] A turn of a bandage.

1689 J. Moyle *Abstr. Sea Chyrurgery* I. vi. 45 Then a soft Rouler to come several turns about it, and every valve as it comes over the wound cut..in the middle. *Ibid.* 46.

Valve, *v. rare.* [f. Valve *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To furnish with a valve or valves; to govern or check, to hold *back*, by a valve or similar device.

1861 Smiles *Engineers* II. 260 Whilst the fresh waters should be allowed freely to escape, the sea should be valved back, and prevented flowing in upon the land. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 312 It is probable that by these synapses the circuits of the nervous system..are..securely valved against regurgitation.

2. *intr.* To make use of a valve or valves; *spec.* in ballooning, to open a valve in order to descend.

1906 *Westm. Gaz* 3 Oct. 8/1 All we could do was to undulate, alternately valving and ballasting.

Valved (vælvd), *a.* [f. Valve *sb.*]

1. With limiting terms: **a.** Of a door: Having (so many) leaves. *rare.*

1676 Hobbes *Iliad* 375 In the pale a high two-valved door For chars and waggons to go in and out.

b. *Bot.*, etc. Having (so many) valves.

See also *two-valved* s.v. Two *a.*

1772 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 637/2 *Siliqua*, is a double-valved pericarpium. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 867 Capsule 4-valved: seeds roundish. 1832 South *Otto's Path. Anat.* 74 There are some which..live for protection..ever in the double-valved muscles. 1847 W. E. Steele *Field Bot.* 73 Fruit mostly a dry or fleshy capsule, 1 or many-celled and valved.

2. Provided with a valve or valves, in various senses.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.*, *Valvatum petalum*, a valved petal. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts, Valved*, any thing that opens upon hinges or to which a valve of any kind is attached. 1852 Tr. Rose tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 12 We made several experiments by means of a valved thermometrical sounding lead, on the temperature of the ocean. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 170/1 A complete set of valved instruments, consisting chiefly of cornets, clavicors, and trombones. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 254 The blood is returned to the heart by means of muscular movements acting on the valved veins.

Valveless (vælvlés), *a.* [f. Valve *sb.*] Having no valve; destitute or devoid of valves.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 219 Capsule..sometimes valveless, or dehiscing transversely. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* (1856) 69 Animal and pen like Loligo in most respects;..funnel valveless. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 216 The hepatic veins are valveless. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 919 The 'Wardwell' valveless engine..is horizontal.

Va·lvelet. *rare.* Also 9 valvlet. [f. Valve *sb.* + -let.] A small valve.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.*, *Valvula*, a..Valvelet, or Valvule. [Hence in later Dicts.] 1870 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* 125 Two large openings, each furnished with two valves or valvlets intended to prevent the reflux of the blood.

Va·lviform, *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *valviformis* or F. *valviforme.*] Valve-shaped.

1829 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 268 Valviform parts of oviduct 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1321.

‖ **Valvula** (væ·lvĭulă), *Anat.* Pl. **valvulæ.** [med. or mod.L., dim. of *valva* Valve *sb.* Cf. L. *valvola* pod of legumes.] A valve or valvule.

Usually with Latin qualifying term, as *valvula coli, valvula conniventes.*

1615 H. Crooke *Body of Man* (1631) 853 Some men had rather call them [*sc.* valves in the veins of the joints] *Ostiola* than *Valvulæ.* 1653 More *Antid. Ath.* II xii. § 6 You may add to these the notable contrivance of the Heart, its two Ventricles and its many *Valvulæ.* 1832 [see Valve *sb.*[1] 3 b]. 1839 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 346/2 Opposite the attached border of the *valvula*, this layer is somewhat thick.

Valvular (væ·lvĭulăr), *a.* [f. prec.]

1. Having the form or function of a valve; composed or consisting of valves. Chiefly *Anat.* and *Bot.*

(*a*) 1797 M. Baillie *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 32 The valvular apparatus between the auricles and ventricles is also occasionally thickened. *Ibid.* 104 The œsophagus necessarily acquired a valvular communication with it. 1843 J. J. Wilkinson tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. ii. 68 Among these glands..we observe a great number of transparent vessels, with valvular divisions. 1876 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I. 25 It may appear as a direct or as a valvular opening, depressed, or raised.

(*b*) 1829 Lindley *Synops. Brit. Bot.* 54 Sepals 4–5, with a valvular æstivation. 1830 — *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 141 The calyx is valvular, and the petals only 2. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 298 Ovary superior. Capsule valvular.

(*c*) 1876 J. J. Wilkinson *Hum. Sci. & Dev. Rev.* 67 The gates of science are valvular, and open from above downwards, but cannot be opened from below upwards.

2. Furnished with a valve or valves.

1828 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 233 Valvular veins, when divided across, require a ligature only at the orifice which points towards the heart.

3. Of or pertaining to a valve or valves.

1865 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* iii. 308 The structural lesions relate, in the first place, to the valves and orifices of the heart. These are known commonly as valvular lesions. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* 492 Valvular defects may be of two kinds; they may be obstructive...or such as admit of regurgitation. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVIII. 209 Valvular disease of the heart.

Va·lvulate, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ate[1].] Furnished with small valves.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 564 The length of the valve is greater than its breadth, except in the form known as valvulate pedicellariæ.

Valvule (væ·lvĭul). [Anglicised f. Valvula or a. F. *valvule.*] A small valve, in various senses.

1758 in Johnson. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. vi. (1765) 23 The Inclosure of the Capsule, which surrounds..the Fruit externally, is called a Valvule. 1831 T. Hope *Ess. Oxig. Man* II. 80 Their weight, pressing backwards on the parietes of the vessels, scoops these out at certain distances into bags or valvules. 1892 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* 126 In the interior of this lengthened heart larger valvules..are folded back against the wall to let the blood pass forward. 1879 *Trans. Linn. Soc.* II. I. 32 The edge..is not straight, but cut into a series of minute valvules, the crescentic or respiratory leaves.

‖ **Valvuli·tis.** *Path.* [f. Valvula + -itis.] Inflammation of the valves of the heart.

1892 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 43 A grave sign indicative of serious and generally persistent or recurrent valvulitis. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 866 Endocarditis affects principally the valves of the heart, hence the name valvulitis.

Valwe, southern ME. var. Fallow *sb.* and *v.*[2]

Valx, obs. Sc. form of Wax *sb.*

Valyaunce, obs. form of Valiance.

†**Va·lyl(e.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. Val-erian *sb.* + -yl(e.] = Butyl.

1850 Daubeny *Atom. The.* viii. (ed. 2) 249 The previous discovery made by Dr. Kolbe, of a compound of carbon and hydrogen derived by electrolysis from the valerianic acid, and hence called valyle. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 195 Tetryl, Butyl, or Valyl.

Va·lylene. *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -ene.] (See quots.)

1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 982 *Valylene*...This hydrocarbon is found..among the products of the action of alcoholic potash on dibromide of valerylene. 1888 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 564 Quintone or Valylene.

Vambrace (væ·mbrēs). Now only *Archæol.* Forms: *a.* 4 vaumbras, 4–6 vambras (-brase, 5 uambras, 6 *Sc.* wambraiss), 7 vambrasse (8 -brass). *β.* 4– vambrace (5 wam-, 7 van-). [var. of *vaunt-* Vantbrace, through elision of *t* and change of *nb* to *mb* by assimilation.] Defensive armour for the (fore-) arm.

a. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 20030 Vaumbras & rerbras, wyþ coters of stel. 1385–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 133, ij palets, j brestplat, vambras. 1390 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 171 Unum bonum par cerotecarum de plate, cum vambrase et rerebrase. 1462 *Will of Bonney* (Somerset Ho.), j salett garnished cum argento, legharnes, vambras, & rerebras. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 12 One sorte had the vambraces, the pace gardes, the grandgardes..parted with golde and azure. 1581 Styward *Mart. Discipl.* II. 165 To haue good..poldrones and vambrases for their shoulders & armes. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* 8 [Whether] The Vambrasse, or the Pouldron, they should prize.

β. 1411 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 19 A pare of vambrace and rerebrace. *c* 1450 Mynam *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 37 Thys knyghtys vambracys in colours Alle depeyntyd with red were. 1513 *MS. Papers* 5 *Hen. VIII*, No. 4102 (P. R. O.), His vambraces, polvorines, ij Salettes (etc.). 1581 Styward *Mart. Discipl.* I. 44 A fayre Corslet, with all the peeces appertaining to the same, that is the curats, ye collers, the poldrens with the Vambraces. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. ii. 47 On his arme..an Otters skinne, or some such matter for his vambrace. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 44 They have likewise the Coat of Mail, the Cuirats, the Head-piece, and a Vambrace fastened to the Sword. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* (1827) II. 379 The vambraces or greaves which covered the arms, thighs, and legs of the horsemen. 1819 Scott *Anne of G.* xxxii, Among gauntlets, boots, vambraces, and such like gear. 1890 Boutell in *Gentl. Mag.* CXX. II. 44 The arms are cased in brassarts and vambraces of plate.

transf. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 274, I supported the arm with a vambrace, or half-canal, made of one very thin piece of wood.

Vambraced, *a. Her.* [f. prec.] Of an arm: Defended or covered by a vambrace.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* IV. xv. (1611) 232 He bt Gules, three Dexter Armes Vambraced and Proper. Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. 109/2 He beareth Gules a dexter Arme Vambraced, Or. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Vambraced*, a term which implies that the arm is wholly covered with armour. 1868 Cussans *Her.* vi. 92 An Arm encased in armour is Vambraced.

†**Vambrash**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also -brishe. [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To brandish.

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* N j, For Iupiter touching the heauens with his wande, caused them to thunder & vambrishe lightnings. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 27 b, With glistering naked swords, which..he made semblance as if hee shaked and vambrasht. 1623 Cockeram I, *Vambrash*, to shake a staffe or launce.

Vame, obs. Sc. f. Wem *sb.*, Womb.

Vamer, Vameure, vair. *vauvure* Vaumure.

Vamose (vămō·s), **vamoose** (vămū·s), *v. U.S. colloq.* Also vamos, vamous, vamoos, varmoose. [ad. Sp. *vamos* let us go.]

1. *intr.* To depart, make off, decamp, disappear.

a. 1848 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, Its occupants..forthwith vamosed with their baggage. 1852 Haliburton *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. 112, I makes a spring in after him, and caught him by the hair of the head, just as he was vamosing. 1892 McCarthy *Red Diamonds* I. 173 The fifth name was that of Ratt Gundy, opposite to which Seth Chickering had written the one word: 'Vamosed'.

β. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 214 *Vamoose*, to go, or be off. 1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 May 540/3 Guess, they'd better varmoose. 1894 M. Collins *Frances* III. 80 If I can get money down for some of my gold bonds, we'll vamoos at once. 1898 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 175 The hunter was voted a fraud..and was..told to 'vamoose'.

2. *trans.* To decamp or disappear from; to quit hurriedly. Freq. in phr. *to vamose the ranch.*

1882 F. Marryat *Gold Quarts Mining* 8 On the old Californian principle of 'making a "pile" and vamosing the ranche'. 1887 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*, Another pair of jail-birds have vamosed the log jail at Jacksonville. 1888 E. B. Custer *Tenting on Plains* i. (1893) 32, I got that far when the eyes of the old galoots started out of their heads, and they vamoosed the ranche.

Vamp (væmp), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3 vaumpe, 3, 5 vaumpe, 5 vawmpe; 4–5 wampe, 5 vampe, 6 vamppe, 7– vamp. [ad. AF. **vampé*, **vanpé* (Palsgrave *vanstpid*), = OF. *avanpid* (12th c.; later F. *avantpied*), f. *avan(t)* before + *pié* foot. The final syllable is preserved in the variant Vampey.]

1. That part of hose or stockings which covers the foot and ankle; also, a short stocking, a sock. Now *dial.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Ine sumer 3e habbeð leaue uorto gon and sitten baruot, and hosen wiðuten uaumpez, and ligge ine ham hwoso liked. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 843 He dede his schon of-drawe, And karf his vaumpes, fot-hot, And wente him forht al barfot. 1378–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 587 Pro..j pare botarum et Wampes de Dubelsols. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 654 *Hec pedana*, wampe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/1 Vampe, of an hoose.., *pedana*. *a* 1562 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 223 Allthoughe..that our predecessors went uppon clothe right somptiously, we do entend..to goo a foote frome thence, without any suche glory, in the vamppes of my hosyn. 1676 Coles, *Vamp*, a sock. [1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vamps* or *Vampays*, an odd kind of short Hose or Stockings that cover'd the Feet, and came up only to the Ancle, just above the Shooe.] 1880 in *E. Cornw. Gloss.*

2. The part of a boot or shoe covering the front of the foot; *U.S.*, that part between the sole and the top in front of the ankle-seams.

1634 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* iv. iv. 192 Her Grace when she had victuall'd that grand Camp, Gave me a piece of Cheese tuff as a vamp. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 14/1 Of a Shooe: ..the Vamp, is all the piece that covers the top of the foot. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vamp*, the Upper Leather of a Shoe. 1770 *T. Hazard Son of Robt.* (1893) 288 One pair of vamps for shoes. 1785 Belknap in *M. Cutler's Life*, etc. (1888) II. 234 This bathing vessel..is in the form of a slipper. He sits in the Heel, and his legs go under the Vamp. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Parent's Assist.* (1854) 347 The last-maker made a last for her, and over this Mary sewed the calico vamps tight. 1845 Whittier *Shoemakers* ii, Now shape the sole! now deftly curl The glossy vamp around it. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 280/1 The upper is found to consist,..in the case of a button boot, of a 'vamp' to cover the front part of the foot [etc.].

Vamp (væmp), *sb.*[2] [f. Vamp *v.*[1]] Anything vamped, patched up, or refurbished; a patchwork; a book of this nature.

1884 J. F. Hodgetts *Older England* ii. 62 This name was no vamp or hybrid mixture of Latin and English. 1897 *Academy* 6 Mar. 274/1 Such vamps as the one I have analysed from Mr. Henley's notes can only be credited to him as brilliant luck brilliantly used.

b. A vamped or improvised accompaniment.

1888 in *Imp. Dict.* IV. 539.

Vamp (væmp), *v.*[1] Also 8 vaump. [f. Vamp *sb.*[1]]

I. 1. *trans.* To provide or furnish with a (new) vamp; to mend or repair with or as with patches; to furbish up, renovate, or restore. Also with *up*.

Some further developments in dial. use are illustrated in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

(*a*) 1599 [see Vamping *vbl. sb.*[1]]. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* ii. i, What a time did we endure In twopenny commons, and in boots twice vamped! 1639 Shirley *Gentl. Venice* iii. ii, *Giovanni.* In the mean time buy thee a sword and belt, And what is fit. (*Gives him money*). *Georgio.* No more: I'll be a soldier...This will Suffice to vamp my body. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *To Vamp*, to new Dress, Licker, Refresh, or Rub up old Hatts, Boots, &c. 1844 Alb. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xiv. (1886) 42 Various new-footed boots..vamped and polished to the last pitch of ingenuity. 1860 Emerson *Conduct of Life* ix. Wks. (Bohn) II. 446 Plod and plough, vamp your old coats and hats, weave a shoestring. 1884 A. Griffiths *Chron. Newgate* I. i. 33 Blankets vamped in foreign parts with the hair of oxen.

(*b*) 1785 Johnson *Connoisseur* No. 77 P 1 The woman of the town, vamped up for shew with paint, patches, plumpers, and every external ornament that art can administer. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* V. 189 The apparel ..would do well enough for herself, when vamped up, as she knew how. 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* v. viii, Old furniture..re-burnished and vamped up. 1864 C. Knight *Passages Work. Life* I. v. 219 Our old fabric..was in danger of falling,..although we had spent large sums in vamping it up. 1875 *Chambers' Jrnl.* 30 Nov. 749 Old boots and shoes are sold to men who vamp them up in such a style that their former owners would not know them.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (Freq. with reference to literary compositions.)

(*a*) 1632 *Song* in Lyly *Sappho* ii. iii. 109 To th' Tap-house then lets gang, and rore, Cal hard, tis rare to vamp a score. 1640 Gataker *Whitaker* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1867) II. 117 Let them strive to vamp Their wasted memories by another lamp. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* i. 1 The Argument? what needs a Proëme, 'Io vamp a Three-half-penny Poeme? 1706 Swift *Baucis & Phil.* 128 He..Knew how to preach old sermons next, Vamp'd in the preface and the text. 1743 *Lond. & Co. Brewer* iii. (ed. 2) 238 Vamping Malt-Liquors.—Is of late much in Practice for its excellent Service in recovering, preserving, and fining strong October and March Beers. 1795 Burns *Address, sp. by Miss Fontenelle* 4 A Prologue, Epilogue, or some such matter, 'Twould vamp my bill, said I, if nothing better. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xvi. 185 When on each feature death had fix'd his stamp, And not a doctor could the body vamp. 1867 Emerson *May-Day* Wks. (Bohn) III. 417 Chemist to vamp old worlds with new. 1883 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 2/8, I meant to suggest that the Central News were parties to 'vamping' the telegram...What do you mean by 'vamping'?—Inserting matter which is not in any original telegram.

(*b*) 1741 T. Betterton *Hist. Eng. Stage* vi. 151 He attempted to commence Dramatic Poet, by vamping up an old Play or two of Massinger and Decker. 1782 Bolingbroke *Study of Hist.* v. 159 They maintained the dignity of history, and thought it beneath them to vamp up old traditions. 1825 J. Foster *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 67 The expedient of vamping up an old Sermon. 1902 L. Stephen *Stud. Biogr.* IV. i. 21, I could not suppose that they were merely vamping up old material.

2. *transf.* To make or produce by or as by patching; to adapt, compile, compose, put together (a book, composition, etc.) out of old materials; to serve up (something old) as new by addition or alteration. Also with *up* (freq. = Trump *v.*[1] 5 c).

(*a*) 1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 113 This absurd motion of the armes, makes an Oratour seeme..as if he newly came from vamping his Oration. 1748 Foote *Knights* Pref., The three principal characters..are neither vamped from antiquated plays, pilfered from French farces, nor the baseless beings of the poet's brain. 1774 tr. *Helvetius' Child of Nature* II. 205 They consist, in general, of old characters, old incidents, and old catastrophes, vamped out in the language and dress of the day. 1827 Carlyle *Misc.* (1840) I. 5 Well are he and Hennings of Gotha aware that this thing of shreds and patches has been vamped together for sale only. 1880 *Literary World* 17 Dec. 416 Industry worthy of the veriest drudge that vamps books together for his daily bread.

absol. 1792 A. Murphy *Grecian Daughter* Prol., Historians ..who only take Scissars and paste; cut, vamp; a book they make.

(*b*) 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* 100 Which opinion hath been vamp'd up of late by Cardan and Cesalpinus and other newsmongers. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xxx, I set myself down, and vamped up a fine flaunting poetical panegyric. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 197 The usurpers..for the most part endeavoured to vamp up some feeble shew of a title by descent. 1814 *Trewman's Exeter Flying-Post* 16 June 1 The falsehood was vamped up on the authority of a pretended letter. 1830 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VI. liii. 383 Forged letters were produced, a case of Majestas was vamped up. 1894 Sala *London up to date* II i. 23, I have vamped up my description of the function from accounts which I have read.

†b. With personal object: To convert into, to bring forward *as*, something. *Obs.*

a 1658 Cleveland *Charac. Diurn. Maker* Wks. (1677) 101 It is like over-reach of Language..when a clumsie Cobler usurps the Attribute of our English Peers and is vamp'd a Translator. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 34 For .. his preferment hath metamorphosed the antient titles of his progeneters..into master, and now he is vampt a gentleman. 1773 Berridge *Wks.* (1864) 134 Some people only vamp him up as a prophet: and trample on his blood.

3. *Mus.* To improvise or extemporize (an accompaniment, tune, etc.).

1789 Burney *Hist. Music* III. 208 *note*, I remember very early in my musical life to have heard one of the town waits at Shrewsbury vamp a base upon all occasions. 1861 Mayhew *London Labour* III. 191/2 As soon as I could get in to vamp the tunes on the banjo a little. 1897 Sir A. Sullivan in *Strand* Dec. 654/1 Then the voice parts are written out by the copyist, and the rehearsals begin; the composer..vamping an accompaniment.

b. *intr.* To improvise an accompaniment.

1876 in Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 445/1. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 3/5 Pianist and Vocalist; one who can vamp.

II. 4. *intr.* To make one's way on foot; to tramp or trudge. Now *dial.*

1634 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* iii. ii. 73 If my hard hearted Queen should vamp to Charon. *Ibid.* iv. xxv. 285 That is the Knight, that must be the example, That the prime horse, that with Knight-Errants vamp will. 1681 H. Foule *Hist. Romish Treas.* 133 When Humility vamps on foot. 1705 *Wandering Spy* No. 19. 73, I Vaumpt along Cheapside, down the Poultry. 1747 *T. Hazard, Son of Robt.* (1893) 241 Our chief concern was about packing up our alls and vamping off. 1887 T. Hardy *Woodlanders* I. ii. 24, I shouldn't have vamped all these miles for any less important employer. 1892 — *Tess* I. 12 Well, vamp on to Marlott, will ye, and order that carriage. 1893 in *Wiltshire Gloss.*

b. *trans.* To tramp or walk (the streets). *rare.*

1898 T. Hardy *Wessex Poems* 55 We vamped the streets in the stifling air.

Vamp, *v.*[2] *slang. trans.* To pawn.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s v., *I'll Vamp and tip you the Cole*, I'll Pawn my Cloths, but I'll raise the Money for you. [Hence in later slang Dicts.]

†**Vampage.** *Obs.*—[1] [app. f. Vamp *sb.*[1] + -age; but perh. an error for *vampays* Vampey.] Vamps or feet (of hose).

1555 J. Proctor *Wyat's Rebell.* 32 Thei were driuen to.. runne awaye in the vampage of their hose.

Vamped (væmpt), *ppl. a.* [f. Vamp *v.*[1] Cf. the earlier New-vamped *a.*]

1. With *up*. Mended or repaired with or as with patches; patched or furbished up; made up or composed of old materials and produced as new.

1729 J. Macky *Journ. thro. Eng.* I. iv. 74 Women in vampt-up old Cloaths. 1753 *School of Man* 18 Is this the business of a Vamped-up Maid? 1799 Dilworth *Life Pope* 100 He justly turns into ridicule several patched and vamped up buildings. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* v, They would not send out lying puffs of their vamped-up goods.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1826 Sue *Winter in London* II. 152 The hackneyed, second-hand, vamped-up hearts one meets with in

1828 Ma ...eworth *Manœuvring* i, A vamped-up sentimental conversation reason. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 379/1 A passionate burst of vocal tragedy wedged in between an overture by S. Bennett and a violin concerto by Spohr leaves an unpleasing and vamped-up impression. 1892 *B.* Hinton *Lord's Returns* 191 The vamped-up sentiment; the covert sneers.

c. Of a charge, story, etc.: Invented, fabricated, trumped *up*.

1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 170 A lawyer, who, knowing nothing about the matter, stands with a paper in his hand, containing a vamped-up story. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* xii. (1876) 361 A vamped-up charge of treason. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* iv. § 5. 260 He bade them to terrorise no one, and bring no vamped-up worthless accusation.

2. Of an accompaniment: Extemporized.

1874 in *Slang Dict.*

Vamper (væ·mpəɹ). [f. Vamp *v.*[1]]

†1. A stocking. *Obs.*—[0]

Perhaps an error for *vampais* or *vampays*.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Vampers*, Stockings. [Hence in later slang dicts.]

2. One who vamps or patches. Also with *up*.

1712 *Odes of Horace* viii. 7/1 Our Horace is a new vamper of words and borrowed this from the Greek. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* viii. xxxvii, That in selling my chaise, I had sold my remarks..to the chaise-vamper. 1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 191, I shall use all vampers, like the great American shrike.., who sticks small singing-birds on sharp-pointed thorns. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv. Skilfullest vamper-up of old rotten leather, to make it look like new.

3. *slang.* (See quot.)

1865 *Slang Dict.* 265 *Vampers*, fellows who frequent public-houses and pick quarrels with the wearers of rings and watches, in hopes of getting up a fight, and so enabling their 'pals' to steal the articles.

4. One who improvises music, esp. accompaniments on the pianoforte.

1884 *Yorksh. Post* 7 Nov., Lady pianist and vocalist, reader at sight, vamper. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept., His education as a vamper is complete for all practical purposes.

†**Vampeth,** *sb.* and *v. Obs.* Also vaumped-, vampet(e. [ad. early AF. **vamped*, later **vampé*: see next.] = Vampey *sb.* and *v.*

c 1430 *York Memor. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 194 Pro la vaumped-yng xij parium ocrearum. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 399/2 A vampethe [1483 vampett], *pedana, impedia*. To vampethe [1483 vampet], *pedanare*.

†**Vampey, vampy,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 vampei, va(w)mpay, wampay. [ad. AF. **vampé*: see Vamp *sb.*[1]] = Vamp *sb.*[1] 1.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 601 *Pedana*, a vampey. *Ibid.* 664 *Hec pedana*, wampay. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 894 [Give him] his vampeys and sokkes, þan all day he may go warme. 1485 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 8 A pair of hosyn of crymesyn sarcenet vampeis. 1530 Palsgr. 284/1 Vampey of a hose, *avant pied*. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 263 Beside, you will ioin a neates leather vampy to a calues leather heele: is not heere good stuffe maister shoomaker? 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 242/2 Of the old rotten leather they make vampies for high shooes for honest country plowmen, or belts for soldiers.

Hence †**Vampey, Vampy** *v. trans.*, to put a vamp on, to patch. Also **Vampeying** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1416 *Maldon Court-Rolls* (Bundle 10, No. 6), Propter vampeyeng et solynge de vn payre de botys. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 601 *Pedano*, to vampeye. 1429 *Paston Lett.* I. 487 Item, j. payre of blake vampayed withe lether. 1464 *Mann. & Housek. Exp.* (Roxb.) 255 The same day mastyr payd to hys cordwaner..for vawmpayinge of his botys, viiid. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burning Pestle* v, [Her] Master wrought with Lingell and with All, And underground he vampied many a Boot.

fig. 1630 B. *Discollimin.* 19 One of my Men being well vampied in his Crowne with Ale,..rides into one of my Marishes.

Vamping, *sb. Mining.* (See quot.)

1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Vamping*, the *débris* of a stope, which forms a hard mass under the feet of the miner.

Vamping (væ·mpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vamp *v.*[1]]

1. The action of the vb., in lit. and fig. senses.

1599 Minsheu *Sp. Dict., Cabeçado*,..the vamping or putting to the instops to bootes. 1680 *Vind. Conforming Clergy* (ed. 2) 50 It had certainly been a far more honest..Employment for him to have..hired a Stall, and set himself bodily to Vamping of Boots. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Vamp*, To graft a new Footing on old Stockings is still call'd Vamping. 1773 Foote *Bankrupt* iii, Political papers should bear vamping; like sermons, change but the application and text, and they will suit all persons and seasons. 1819 Jeffrey in Cockburn *Life* (1852) II. 287, I have just got done with another Review...I have more vamping and patching than writing. 1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. (1872) 233 The mere vamping-together of hostile veracities. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 72. 508 No vamping of him up into a severe ancient Roman will do.

b. *attrib.* (in sense 3 of the vb.).

c 1890 (*title*), Reeves' Vamping Tutor.—The Art of Extemporaneous Accompaniment or playing by ear on the Piano. 1895 *Church Times* 30 June 842/4 Those strange, long, keyless trumpets, called vamping-horns. 1906 F. Bond *Screens & Galleries* 147 One of the strangest instruments of the old choirs is the vamping trumpet.

2. Tramping, trudging. *rare.*

1662 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 46 His quick motion and speedy vamping from place to place..makes him smell like a traveller.

Vamping, *ppl. a.* [f. Vamp *v.*[1]] That vamps, in senses of the vb.

a 1626 Beaum. & Fl. *Bonduca* i. ii, Do you hope to triumph, Or dare your vamping valour, goodman Cobler, Clap a new

soul to th' kingdom? 1727 M. Green *Spleen* 163 Whose easy vamping talent lies, First wit to pilfer, then disguise. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxix, A pert, vamping chaise-undertaker..demanded if Monsieur would have his chaise refitted.

Va·mpirarchy. [f. next.] A set of ruling persons comparable to vampires.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 144 A sceptical critic has pretended, with a degree of malice prepense against the Vampyrarchy,..that his Imperial Majesty's surgeons-major and counsellors of war might perchance be deceived in some respects.

Vampire (væ·mpəiəɹ), *sb.* Also **vampyre.** [a. F. *vampire*, ad. Magyar *vampir*, a word of Slavonic origin occurring in the same form in Russ., Pol., Czech, Serb., and Bulg., with such variants as Bulg. *vapir*, *vepir*, Ruthen. *vepyr*, *vopyr*, *opyr*, Russ. *upir*, *upyr*, Pol. *upior*; Miklosich suggests north Turkish *uber* witch, as a possible source. Cf. G. *vampir*, *vampyr*, Da., Sw. *vampyr*, Du. *vampir*, It., Sp., Pg. *vampiro*, mod.L. *vampyrus*.]

1. A preternatural being of a malignant nature (in the original and usual form of the belief, a re-animated corpse), supposed to seek nourishment, or do harm, by sucking the blood of sleeping persons; a man or woman abnormally endowed with similar habits.

a. 1734 *Trav. three English Gent.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) IV. 358 These Vampyres are supposed to be the Bodies of deceased Persons, animated by evil Spirits, which come out of the Graves, in the Night-time, suck the Blood of many of the Living, and thereby destroy them. 1760–8 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxxx. P 8 From a meal he advances to a surfeit, and at last sucks blood like a vampyre. 1819 [Polidori] *The Vampyre* p. xx, He had been tormented by a vampyre, but had found a way to rid himself of the evil, by eating some of the earth out of the vampyre's grave. 1847 Mrs. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* iv. 71 Speedy death was the inevitable consequence of such a visitation, and any one who so died became himself a vampyre.

β. 1796 Pegge *Anonym.* (1809) 182 The accounts we have of the Vampires of Hungary are most incredible. They are Blood-suckers, that come out of their graves to torment the living. 1813 Byron *Giaour* Note 38, The freshness of the face, and the wetness of the lip with blood, are the never-failing signs of a Vampire. 1846 T. Wright *Ess. Mid. Ages* I. ix. 301 Walter Mapes..gives some curious stories of English vampires in the twelfth century. 1885 *Sat. Rev* 9 Jan. 53 We would welcome a spectre, a ghoul, or even a vampire gladly, rather than meet [Stevenson's] Mr. Edward Hyde.

2. *transf.* A person of a malignant and loath-some character, esp. one who preys ruthlessly upon others; a vile and cruel exactor or extortioner.

1742 C. Forman *Obs. Revol.* 11 These are the vampires of the publick, and rifters of the kingdom. 1824 Harriet Shelley in *Lett. Shelley* (1909) II. App. I. 992 In short, the man I once loved is dead. This is a vampire. His character is blasted for ever. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 174 There appeared to be no prospect of shaking off the vampires that had fastened themselves on the princes of Rajputana. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log of Sea-waif* 164 The vampires who supplied them with liquor had somehow obtained a claim upon all their wages.

b. *slang.* An intolerable bore or tedious person.

1862 B. Taylor *Home & Abroad* III. II. 215 In the German language there is no epithet which exactly translates our word 'bore', or its intensification, 'vampyre'.

c. Applied to a mosquito.

1864 Gerish *Life Woods* iv. (1874) 58 A sharp prick and the little vampire is drinking your blood.

3. *Zool.* **a.** One or other of various bats, chiefly South American, known or popularly believed to be blood-suckers.

a. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 119 An animal not so formidable, but still more mischievous than these, is the American Vampyre. 1834 *Handbk. Nat. Philos., Phys. Geogr.* 55/2 (L.U.K.), The vampyres, or blood-sucking bats, nine species of which have been mentioned. 1845 E. Warburton *Crescent & Cross* xvi. (1859) 168 My companion slew fifty-seven Vampyres in the few minutes.

β. 1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8711/2 The *vampyrus*, vampire, or Ternate bat, with large canine teeth. 1785 Smellie *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) V. 283 We shall call it vampire, because it sucks the blood of men and other animals when asleep. *c* 1820 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* III. (1825) 154 The owls went away of their own accord. ..The bats and vampires remained with me. 1839 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* ii. (1845) 22 My servant..suddenly put his hand on the beast's withers, and secured the vampire. 1893 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 299 The vampires are remarkable for the varied nature of their food.

b. The tarantula spider. *rare*—1.

1843 Marryat *M. Violet* xliv, The deadly tarantula spider or 'vampire' of the prairies.

c. The devil-fish. *rare*—1.

1867 *Chronicle* 5 Oct. 669 This giant of the Cephalopters is simply a monstrous Ray; and though Sea Devil and Vampire are assigned to it as trivial names, it..is in no way formidable save from its enormous strength and bulk.

4. A double-leaved trap-door, closing by means of springs, used in theatres to effect a sudden disappearance from the stage.

1881 W. S. Gilbert *Foggerty's Fairy* 1, Where's my vampire? 1886 *Stage Gossip* 69 A 'vampire' is a trap used by the sprites, and is cut in the 'flats', and often in the stage —the sprite falling bodily through the trap.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vampire bookseller*, *corpse*, *-fanned* adj., *legend*, *spell*, etc.; **vampire bat,** = sense 3 a; **vampire trap,** = sense 4.

1790 Shaw *Spec. Linn.* pl. 8, The *Vampyre Bat. Tail-less Bat with the nose plain, and the flying-membrane divided between the thighs. 1807 *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 176 The vampyre bat, which will be found to live on vegetables. 1839 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* ii. (1843) 22 The Vampire bat is often the cause of much trouble, by biting the horses on their withers. 1875 B. Taylor *Faust* II. iii, Like vampire-bats, they're squeaking, twittering, humming. 1788 Burns *Poet's Progress* 89 *Vampyre-booksellers drain him to the heart. 1802 Southey *Thalaba* VIII. x, Through the *vampire corpse He thrust his lance. 1819 [Polidori] *The Vampyre* Introd. p. xxiii, The vampyre corse of the Arabian maid Oneiza. 1847 Emerson *Poems*, *Mithridates* Wks. (Bohn) I. 410 Swing me in the upas boughs, *Vampire-fanned, when I carouse. 1855 Smedley *Occult Sci.* 69 Criticism applied to the *Vampire legends by an anonymous writer. 1899 E. J. Chapman *Drama Two Lives*, *Snake-Witch* 39 That unrest That held him with its *vampire spell. 1872 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* II. 175 There is a whole literature of hideous *vampire stories. 1813 Byron *Giaour* Note 37, The *Vampire superstition is still general in the Levant.

Hence **Va·mpire** *v. trans.*, to assail or prey upon after the manner of a vampire. **Vampi·ric** *a.*, **Va·mpirish** *a.*, of the nature of a vampire.

1832 Jekyll *Corr.* (1894) 306 Sotheby will not let poor Sir Walter lie quietly in his grave, but *vampires him with verses that would disgrace even the annuals. 1905 B. Kennedy *Green Sphinx* xxi, The only wealth of the world is the produce coming from the labour of Nature...And gold insolently vampires this produce. 1888 H. Merivale *Faucit of Balliol* II. vi, I'm not sure that you are not a ghost..of some uncomfortable *vampiric order. 1891 A. Lang *Angling Sketches* 57 The Highland fairies are very *vampirish.

Vampirism (væ·mpəiriz'm). Also **vampyrism.** [f. Vampire *sb.*] The collective facts or ideas associated with the supposed existence and habits of vampires.

1794–6 E. Darwin *Zoon.* II. 63 The supposed existence.. of witchcraft, vampyrism, animal magnetism and American tractors. 1819 [Polidori] *The Vampyre* Introd. p. xxii, The same measures were adopted with the corses of those persons who had previously died from vampyrism. 1855 Smedley *Occult Sci.* 66 Instances of Vampirism, which chiefly occurred in Hungary. 1872 Le Fanu *In a Glass* III. 262 He devoted himself to the..laborious investigation of the marvellously authenticated tradition of Vampirism.

fig. 1802 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 183 The Magazine exists;..the spirit having left it, I suspect vampirism in its present life. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. III. ii, Treason, delusion, vampyrism, scoundrelism, from Dan to Beer-sheba! 1858 O. W. Holmes *Autocr. Breakf.-t.* ix. (1883) 175 Ah! long illness is the real vampyrism.

Va·mpirize, *v. rare.* Also **vampyrize.** [f. as prec.] **a.** *intr.* To act as a vampire. **b.** *trans.* = Vampire *v.*

1819 [Polidori] *The Vampyre* Introd. p. xxii, That the deceased is not only doomed to vampyrize, but compelled to confine his infernal visitations solely to those beings he loved most while upon earth. 1888 McCarthy & Phaed *Ladies' Gallery* III. vii. 121 She took to fiction,..and vampirized Mrs. Lance when she found her own experience and imagination inadequate.

Vamplate (væ·mplēt). Now *Archæol.* Forms: *α.* 5 vaun- (faun-), 6 van-, **vantplate.** *β.* 6 *Sc.* **wamplat,** 6– **vamplate,** 7, 9 **vamplet.** [f. AF. *va(ɯ)n-*, *va(ɯ)nt-*, Vant- + *plate* Plate *sb.*] A plate fixed on a spear or lance to serve as a guard for the hand, esp. in tilting.

a. c 1350 *Lybeaus Desc.* 1644 (K.), Loke þour scheldes be strong, þour schaftes good and long, þour saket and vaunplate. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 137 Tua vant plates, tua spere hedis, tua suordis. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 78 The speres brake in the kynges hande to the vantplate all to sheuers. 1598 Florio, *Calce*,..a vanplate, the iron about a tilting-staffe neere the hand.

β. 1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 190 For ij marekyn skynnis to lyne the twa wamplatis to the Kingis speris. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. vii. (1912) 387 Amphialus..let his staffe fall to Agenors vamplat. 1638 *Guillim's Heraldry* IV. xiii. 343 This vamplet..is of steele and is vsed for the safegard of the Tilters hand, and is taken off and put on to the staffe or speare at pleasure. 1660 in *Archaeologia* XI. 99 Vamplets for tilting staves. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vamplate*, a Gauntlet, or Iron-Glove. *c* 1868 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss. 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* viii. 128 At the handle the shaft passed through a small circular shield, or hand-guard (called a vamplate), which was fixed to the shaft of the lance. 1898 Visct. Dillon in *Archæol. Jrnl.* V. 309 The Hatton and Prince Henry vamplates are truncated cones.

Va·mplet. *south-w. dial.* [f. Vamp *sb.*1 + -let.] A gaiter. Usu. in pl.

1842 Akerman *Wilts. Gloss., Vamplets*, rude gaiters to defend the legs from wet. 1863 Wise *New Forest* 162 His legs are still cased..with gaiters, known as 'vamplets', or 'strogs'. 1866 Blackmore *C. Nowell* xlix, She wore a pair of poor Clayton's vamplets. 1875 — *Alice Lorraine* II. xvi. 208 Instead of white stockings, he displayed gold-buttoned vamplets of orange velvet. 1893– in dial. glossaries (Berks., Hants, Wilts.).

Vampoose, Vampoose, erron. vars. Vamose *v.*

1857 Kingsley *Two Years Ago* I, Has he vampoosed with the contents of a till, that he wishes so for solitude? 1857 G. H. Kingsley *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) 448 A 'cute Help, who had vampoosed into the swamp with the family plate.

Vamure, var. Vaumure *Obs.*

†Vamward. *Obs. rare.* Also **vaumward, vawme-.** [var. of **vaun(t)ward** Vantward. Cf. Vaward.] The vanguard of a host or army.

13.. *Coer de L.* 4005 These rydden in the vawmewarde. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 188 He gaf hum þe vaumward. *Ibid.* 334 þer vaumward was sone dight.

Van (væn), *sb.*1 Also 5–7 vanne (7 wanne), 7–8 vann. [Southern var. of Fan *sb.*1, perh. partly a. OF. *van* or ad. L. *vannus*. Cf. WFlem. *van*, Du. *wan*, G. *wanne*, Sw. *vanna*.]

1. A winnowing basket or shovel; = Fan *sb.*1 1 a. Also, in mod. dial., = Fanner 2.

c 1450 [see Fan *sb.*1 1 a, β]. *c* 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 38 Ghyselin the maude maker Hath sold his vannes,.. His temmesis to clense with. 1546 Adlington *Apuleius* 122 Then al the people..toke a great number of Vannes replenished with odors and pleasaunt smelles. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* III. (1603) 246 At last he was put in a vanne,.. and tossed up and downe that he might not sleepe. 1602–1792 [see Fan *sb.*1 1 a, β]. 1802 Ranken *Hist. France* I. 430 The van was a broad shovel, with which they threw the grain with force to a distance, while the light chaff fell behind. 1807 J. Robinson *Archæol. Græca* v. xiv. 477 To put them in vans or implements for winnowing corn. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm., Lev.* vii. 30 It is used of the van in winnowing. 1880– in south-western dial. glossaries.

b. A shovel used for lifting charcoal or testing ore.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 102 Your Coals sufficiently cool'd, with a very long-toothed Rake, and a Vann, you may load them into the Coal-wains. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Vanning*, This instrument called the Vann [*printed* Vaun], is a long and moderately deep wooden shovel. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2689/2 *Van*, a shovel used in sifting ore.

c. [Cf. Van *v.*] A process of testing ore on a shovel; the amount of metal obtained by this test.

1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 216 If the Van will cover or equal the weight of a crown piece, it is good Tin-stuff, and is termed a Crown Van. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss., Van*, a rude process of trying tin ores by crushing and washing on a shovel. *c* 1888 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.* XII. 64 (Cent.), As he watched the process of making a van on a shovel, and saw the copper roll up to the highest point.

†2. = Fan *sb.*1 1 d. *Obs.*—1

1458 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* fol. 11 b, John Dale hath in his kepynge a justyng sade, ij vannys, and a sper.

3. A wing; = Fan *sb.*1 4. Chiefly *poet.*

1667 [see Fan *sb.*1 4 β]. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 583 Strait a fiery Globe Of Angels on full sail of wing flew nigh, Who on their plumy Vans receiv'd him soft. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* XII. 749 He wheel'd in Air, and stretch'd his Vans in vain; His Vans no longer cou'd his Flight sustain. 1792– [see Fan *sb.*1 4]. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* VII. (1816) I. 215 Its ample vans are calculated to catch the wind as sails, and so to carry it sometimes over the sea. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* XXXIII. 342 A carrion crow flapped its vans above the heads of man and wife. 1879 E. Arnold *Lt. Asia* VI. (1881) 156 Bright butterflies Fluttered their vans, azure and green and gold.

fig. 1898 G. Meredith *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 549 Beneath the vans of doom did men pass in.

†4. ? The vane of a ship. *Obs.*—1

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 13 The Vans of the next Ships (though groveling with a neighbouring Wave) could not be discerned.

5. A sail of a windmill; = Fan *sb.*1 6 c. (Cf. Vane 3 a.)

1837 Landor *Pentameron* Wks. 1846 II. 352 A sigh sets her windmill at work van over van, incessantly. 1896 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* IV. 520 As a windmill seen at distance radiating Its delicate white vans against the sky. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Prof. Breakf.-t.* xi, With his arms flying.. like the vans of a windmill.

Van (væn), *sb.*2 Also 7 vann. [Shortening of Vanguard.]

1. The foremost division or detachment of a military or naval force when advancing or set in order for doing so.

1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* (1821) 420 The Van went off with few slaine. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 799 Spinola himself went in the Van, sending before him Scouts and Pioneers to search the ways and level them. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 535 Armies rush To Battel in the Clouds, before each Van Prick forth the Aerie Knights. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/1 They were very strong in the Center, and weaker in the Van and Rear. *a* 1782 R. Watson *Philip III* (1783) v. 382 The van was led by the mareschal Leadiguieres, the main body by the duke of Savoy, and Shomberg..brought up the rear with the artillery. 1826 Scott *Old Mort.* XXV, As Lord Evandale spoke, the van of the insurgents began to make their appearance. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 355 The van of the Mahratta army ..had advanced to within fifteen miles of Chanda. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xix. 308 Roman civilians had followed in the van of the armies.

b. Without article.

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. II. 104 The Foe he had survey'd Rang'd, as to him they did appear, With Van, main Battel, Wings and Rear. 1667 Milton *P. L.* V. 580 Standards, and Gonfalons twixt Van and Reare Streame in the Aire. 1809 Wordsw. *Hofer* 10 They stagger at the shock From van to rear. 1865 Carlyle *Frederk. Gt.* XVIII. iv. V. 86 Van, having faced to right..and so become Left Wing, will attack Krecsor.

c. Const. *of* (war, etc.), or with possessive.

1716 Pope *Iliad* XIII. 350 But those my ship contains, whence distant far, I fight conspicuous in the Van of War. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* I. vii, Another! and a braver man Was never seen in battle's van.

†d. *In one's van*, in front of one. *Obs.*

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 230 The king's army [was] in his rear, and Sir Richard Grenvil in his van.

2. The foremost portion of, or the foremost position in, a company or train of persons moving, or prepared to move, forwards or onwards.

1620 Beaum. & Fl. *Scornf. Lady* V. i, Come who leads? Sir Roger, you shall have the Van: lead the way. 1648 J.

BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVI. lxxii, The gallant Paans of His vocal Van To all the Orbs proclaim'd the Spectacle. 1674 *Jackson's Recantations* 19 in Hindley *Book Collector's Misc.* III, I..was commonly in the van, upon any desperate exploit, having the knowledge of my weapon [etc.]. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 48 My aunt led the van with a red-hot poker; and, in my opinion, she was the most formidable of the party. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* V. (1865) I. 220 The Gauls..formed the van of the great Celtic migration. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xxvi. 240 After the van of the procession had marched into the dining-room.

b. *fig.*, esp. in the phrases *to lead* († *bear*, † *have*) *the van*, and *in the van*.

(*a*) *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 115 Ratcliffe Church esteemeth it a greater grace to lead the van of all parochial, than to follow in the rear after many Cathedral Churches in England. 1683 tr. *Erasm. Moriæ Encom.* 9 Why may not I justly bear the Van among the whole troop of Gods? *a* 1706 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1710) I. 234 The Apostle gives us a chain of all Christian graces: wherein.. faith leads the van. 1772 FLETCHER *Logica Genev.* 198 As Moses led the van of these testimonies..and St. Paul the main body, permit St. James to bring up the rear. 1838 STEPHENS *Trav. Greece* I. vii. 125, I could not follow them in their long and repeated kneelings and prostrations; but my young Greek..led the van.

(*b*) 1771 *Junius Lett.* lvii. (1788) 306 The natural resources of the crown are no longer confided in. Corruption glitters in the van. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 343 Be thou therefore in the van Of circumstance. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. viii, The chief of men is he who stands in the van of men. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* iv. 87 That nothing less will suffice here if we are to maintain our position in the van of industrial nations.

3. The fore or front part of a thing. *rare*.

1727 DYER *Grongar Hill* 3 Silent Nymph!..Who..lie On the mountain's lonely van, Beyond the noise of busy man. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 508 While o'er the quivering deck, from van to rear, Broad surges roll in terrible career.

4. *attrib.*, as *van-division*, *-ship*, *-squadron*.

1852 *French Occurr. Nov. 29-Dec. 6* 216 Ruttier..commanded the Van-squadron, and charged very resolutely up to us. 1795 NELSON 13 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 14 The Admiral made the signal for the Van-ships to join him. 1796 — 19 June *Ibid.* (1846) VII. p. lxxxii, The Admiral has honoured me with the command of the Van-Division. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 71 He received the..fire from the van ships. 1862 MEREDITH *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 122 The day was a van-bird of summer.

Van (væn), *sb.*[3] [Shortened f. CARAVAN 4.]

1. A covered vehicle chiefly employed for the conveyance of goods, usually resembling a large wooden box with arched roof and opening from behind, but varying in size (and to some extent in form) according to the use intended.

1849 LYTTON *The Disowned* I. iv. 50 Yes, Sir, we have some luggage—came last night by the van. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 3 The Cornish van is a conveyance both peculiar and interesting. This particular one..resembled very nearly an ordinary covered cart of some length. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* x. 213 The great van rocked, settled a little—and stuck fast.

b. *Felons' van*, *prison van*. Also ellipt.

1858 [see PRISON *sb.* 3 a]. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. 338 The hour when the Parliament of France had been driven into the felons' van. 1895 *Daily News* 17 May 8/6 The Gaoler—There is no van between 10.30 in the morning and four in the afternoon.

2. A closed carriage or truck used on railways for conveying passengers' luggage and the guard of the train, or in goods trains for smaller articles needing protection from the weather.

Freq. with defining terms, as *brake-*, *guard's*, *luggage van*.

1868 BOYD *Less. Middle Age* 339 Emerging from the carriage door, the pilgrim..hastens to the van at the end of the train. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX 47/1 The portmanteau and hamper had been put into the van.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *van boy*, *dock*, *-driver*, *dweller*, *harness*, *load*, *-man*, *shunter*.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 34 *Van..Boy, Guard. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 7/2 A van boy, seventeen years of age. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 639 On the left of this platform is the '*van dock' in which the vans are standing. 1895 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 6/3 A Midland Railway *van driver. 1894 *Ibid.* 25 Jan. 2/4 The fourth annual meeting of the United Kingdom Showmen's and *Van Dwellers' Protection Association. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4727, *Van harness and cart harness. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 23 Apr. 5/2 Countless *vanloads of happy urchins, bent on enjoying their Sunday school treat. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 34 Trap Minder. *Van Man. 1891 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 2/7 Vanman of the Glasgow City Parochial Authorities. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 639 The vans, as they enter the shed, are at once placed under the orders..of '*van shunters'.

Van (væn), *sb.*[4] [a. Welsh *fan* (van), mutated form of *ban* height, occurring in place-names in South Wales, esp. in Brecknock] A height or summit.

1891 KINGSLEY *At Last* ii, Flat 'vans' or hog-backed hills, and broad sweeps of moorland,..are as rare as are steep walls of cliff. 1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* I. 249 The range of the great forest of Brecon, with its series of isolated summits or vans.

Van (væn), *v.*[1] Also 4 **uanni**, 5 **vane**, 5-7 **vanne**. [Southern var. FAN *v.*]

1. *trans.* To winnow with a fan. ? *Obs.*

1340 [see FAN *v.* 1]. *c* 1467 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 86 Tak clene whet and bet it in a mortoire and vane it clene. 1548 ELYOT, *Enanno*, to van corne or other lyke thyng. 1552 HULOET, Vanne or fanne corne, *euanno*. 1611 COTGR., *Berner*, to vanne, or winnow corne. 1632 ANCHORAN *Camerius' Gate Tongues* 87 Hee vanneth, winnoweth and waggeth oates with a wanne. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Wt-waeyenen*, to Winnowe, or to Vanne out. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) *Vanned*, fanned or winnowed.

fig. 14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* C. XXIII. 168 Elde..wayueth [*v.r.* vanned] away wanhope. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xl. 332 The Suit or Process, being well vanned and winnowed.

† 2. a. = FAN *v.* 3. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Ventulus*, Vanne winde softely on hir in this maner.

† b. To fan; to blow upon. *Obs.*

1668 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. viii. 18 Nor does the wound but rankle more, which is vanned by the publike ayre.

3. To separate and test (ore) by washing on a van or shovel. (Earlier in VANNING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2.)

1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 575 We have seen a miner dexterously van pulverised iron pyrites. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Bk. of W'est* II. v. 61 In dressing the ore the miners broke it with their hammers, and then 'vanned' it on their broad oak shovels.

Van (væn), *v.*[2] *rare*—[1]. [f. VAN *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To go in the van of, to lead.

1852 A. SMITH *Life Drama* ii, Do not the royal souls that van the world Hunger for praises?

Van (væn), *v.*[3] [f. VAN *sb.*[3]]

1. *trans.* To send in a van.

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 167 Vanning his horses to the different meetings. 1862 H. H. DIXON *Scott & Sebright* iii. 303 When..he [a racehorse] could hardly move in his box, he was vanned down to Hermit Lodge.

2. To confine in a van.

1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 34 A convict—one of the two servants who were not 'van'd' overnight.

Van, obs. Sc. pa. t. WIN *v.*

Vanadate (væ·nădēt). *Chem.* [f. VANAD-IUM + -ATE[1]. So F. *vanadate*.] A salt produced by the combination of vanadic acid with a base.

1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* II. 858/2 The precipitate is vanadate of barytes or lead. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* iii. § 1. 145 Vanadic acid and vanadates. 1883 *Science* I. 490/1 Strontic vanadate was prepared by fusion of the acid with sodic bromide and strontic bromide. *Ibid.*, Vanadates of lead, cadmium, zinc,..were formed in the same way.

Vanadiate (vănē·diĕt). *Chem.* [f. VANADI-UM + -ATE[1].] = prec.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. II. 539 Analysis of Vanadiates. The only vanadiate known at present to exist in the mineral kingdom, is the vanadiate of lead. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 301 The vanadiate of potash in the bisulphate of potash solution is boiled with hydrochloric acid. 1869 *Phil. Trans* CLVIII. 18 Vanadiate of ammonia.

Vanadic (vănæ·dik, vănē·dik). *Chem.* [f. VANAD-IUM + -IC. Cf. F. *vanadique*.] Of or pertaining to, derived from, vanadium; *spec.* containing vanadium in its higher valency, as opposed to VANADIOUS *a.* Chiefly in *vanadic acid*.

1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* II. 858/2 The vanadic acid is reduced to the state of salifiable oxide. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 303 Vanadic acid is a brownish powder, but when melted..it approaches a rusty-red. 1874 ROSCOE *Ess.* (Owens Coll.) II. 55 The crystalline form of a mineral contained vanadic oxide.

Vanadinite (vănæ·dinəit). *Min.* [f. VANAD-IUM + -IN + -ITE.] A mineral consisting of vanadate of lead and chloride of lead, occurring in brilliant crystals of various colours.

1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 532 Vanadinite... Found in Mexico, the Ural, and Dumfriesshire. 1880 CLEMENSHAW *Wurtz's Atom. The.* 139 The atomic weight of vanadium has been altered so that vanadinite, which is isomorphous with apotite, is represented by a similar formula.

Vanadious (vănē·diəs), *a. Chem.* [f. VANADI-UM + -OUS c.] Containing vanadium in its lower valency, as opposed to VANADIC *a.*

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 988 Vanadious phosphate and sulphate have been obtained in definite crystals. 1870 ROSCOE in *Lond. Philos. Mag.* July 63 Vanadious salt.

Vanadite (væ·nădəit). *Chem. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ITE. So F. *vanadite*.] (See quot.)

1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* II. 859/1 Oxide of vanadium..combines with bases, and forms salts, which may be called *vanadites*. 1858 T. GRAHAM *Inorg. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 174 The insoluble vanadites, when moistened or covered with water, become green.

Vanadium (vănē·diŏm). *Chem.* [mod.L., irreg. f. ON. *Vana-dís* one of the names of the Scandinavian goddess Freyja: see -IUM. Named (1830) by the Swedish chemist Sefström, who found it in iron from Taberg near Jönköping.] A rare chemical element (symbol V), occurring in certain iron, lead, and uranium ores, some of the compounds of which are used in the production of aniline blacks and other dyeing materials.

The metal was detected by Del Rio in certain Mexican lead ores in 1801, and named by him *Erythronium*.

1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* II. 859/1 Vanadium dissolves readily in nitric acid and in aqua regia. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1263 Vanadium is white, and when its surface is polished, it resembles silver or molybdenum more than any other metal. 1880 *Times* 23 Oct. 6/1, I would suggest a preparation of aniline with vanadium for the tinted grounds.

attrib. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 301 The vanadium sulphide precipitates, and gathered, is..roasted in an open crucible till it becomes vanadic acid. 1869 ROSCOE in *Phil. Trans.* CLVIII. 11 Vanadium dioxide, or vanadyl, V_2O_2. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 4/2 The material used in its construction (vanadium steel, made in the company's own works).

† **Vanadous**, obs. variant of VANADIOUS *a.*

1858 T. GRAHAM *Inorg. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 173 Bioxide of vanadium is also capable of acting as an acid...It is hence called vanadous acid.

Va·nadyl. *Chem.* [f. VANAD-IUM + -YL.] Vanadium dioxide.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 987 As it enters into many vanadium-compounds.., it may be appropriately called vanadyl. 1869 ROSCOE in *Phil. Trans.* CLVIII. 3 Vanadyl monochloride.

Vanbrace, -bras, vars. VAM-, VANTBRACE.

a 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) x. vi. 379/2 We sholde take with us rerebras and vanbras & gloues of plate. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, CCXVIII, Alanzon breakes the Blow, which the King first Made... and locks his Hilt In Harrie's Vanbrace. 1816 *Monthly Mag.* XLI. 330 Their arms and legs vanbras and cuisses sheath.

Vance, variant of VAUNCE *v. Obs.*

† **Va·ncement.** *Obs.*—[1] In 4 **vauns-**. [Aphetic f. ADVANCEMENT.] Advancement, preferment.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5514 3yf þou oþer þaue or sent Of holy cherche to haue vaunsement.

Vance-roof. *E. Angl.* Also 8-9 **vaunce-**. [f. VAUNCE *v.*] A garret. Also *fig.*

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. vii § 2. 256 Canst thou hide any one sin in the vance-roof of thy heart? 1657 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 119 You may ges how full our hous is when my lady and all hir faimily of women ly in the van[c]e rouff over the dining chamber. 1682–3 *MS. Lett. Norwich Quakers*, And for the vance roofes we giue 10s a weeke for those to worke in y^t Lodge in the hole. 1787 in MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. E. Norf.* 1823 in Moor *Suffolk Gloss.*

† **Vanchase.** *Obs. rare.* Also **vaunchace**. [f. *van-* (see VANT-) + CHASE *sb.*[1] Cf. VAUNT-CHASE.] The van, front, or advanced part of the chase or hunt. So † **Vanchaser**, a hound hunting in the van. *Obs.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol., He hath ynogh at done..to loke..which houndes ben vanchasours and perfiters. *Ibid.*, He shal se, whiche houndes commeth in the vanchace [*Bodl. MS.* vaunchace] and the myddell and whiche ben perfitours.

Van-courier (væ·nkū·riəɹ). Forms: α. 6–7 **van-corrier**, 7 **-currier**, **-iour**. β. 7–9 **van-courier**. [Var. of *vant-* VAUNT-COURIER.] A vaunt-courier or forerunner, in *lit.* and *fig.* senses.

α. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* I. 13 He is to appoint what bands shal watch & what vancorriers. 1652 BENLOWE *Theoph.* VII. xliv, Windes are van-curriers and postilions to Thy will. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 147 Where is reformation to latch arrows,..to meet the Vancurriours in their march? 1687 tr. *Sallust* (1692) 287 The Vancurriers that scouted before, returning brought word, that all were friends.

β. 1670 *Caveat to Conventiclers* 1 The Van couriers appeared in number about half a score. *a* 1694 *Life M. Robinson* (ed. Mayor) 36 All the neighbouring gentlemen knew of the master's approach by these his vancouriers. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Van-couriers*, light-armed Soldiers sent before to beat the Road, upon the approach of an Enemy. 1879 TODHUNTER *Alcestis* 11 What bodes this pale vancourier of fate?

Vanquist, obs. Sc. pa. t. and pple. of VANQUISH *v.*

† **Van-current**, *a. Obs.* [f. *van-* + CURRENT *a.*, after *van-courier*.] Forerunning, precursory.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, liv, Soe van-Current feavers but Yeild to a Pestilence.

Vand, obs. Sc. form of WAND *sb.*

Vanda (væ·ndă). *Bot.* [mod.L., a. Skr. and Hindī *vandā*.] A genus of epiphytal orchids, native to tropical Asia, characterized by large showy flowers borne in racemes; a plant of this genus.

1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 738/1. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) V. 57 The Vandas, Saccolabiums, and Dendrobiums of India. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 35/2, I herewith send you a dried flower of the blue Vanda, which is now flowering. *Comb.* 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 480/1 Dendrobiums and Vanda-like plants. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) V. 55 The flowers of this beautiful vanda-like plant.

Vandal (væ·ndăl), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6–7 **Vandale**, 7 **Vandall**. [ad. L. *Vandalus*, pl. *Vandali* (also *-alii*, *-ili*, *-illi*, *-uli*), whence also F. *Vandale*, It., Sp., Pg. *Vandalo*. Trevisa, in his translation of Higden (1387), uses the form *Wandales*.

The different Latin forms indicate a variation of suffix in the Germanic stem, viz. **Wandal-*, *-il-*, *-ul-*. The second of these is represented by OE. *Wendlas* (pl.), ON. *Vendill*, designating inhabitants of the north of Jutland.]

A. *sb.* 1. A member of a Germanic tribe, which in the fourth and fifth centuries invaded Western Europe, and established settlements in various parts of it, esp. in Gaul and Spain, finally in 428–9 migrating to Northern Africa. Chiefly in pl.

In the year 455 their king Genseric led a marauding expedition against Rome, which he took and completely sacked. The Vandals were overthrown by Belisarius in 533 at the battle of Tricamarum.

1588 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 283 Chaumgas..caused..by the commynge of the Gothes and Vandales, and other Barbarians into Italy. 1596 SPENSER *St. Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 627/2 The coming downe of the Gothes, the Hunnes, and the Vandals. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* ii. 44 The Gothes and the Vandalles, beeing also a people of the septentrional partes of Germania. 1649–8 COTTERELL tr. *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 3 Famous incursions of the Vandals. 1694 DRYDEN *To Sir G. Kneller* 47 Till Goths, and Vandals, a rude Northern race, Did all the matchless Monuments deface. *a* 1743 SAVAGE *Of Public Spirit* Wks. 1777 II. 141 Rome all subdu'd, yet Vandals vanquish'd Rome. 1788 GIBBON *Decl.*

tr. F. xii. IV. 146 The certain intelligence that the Vandal [*sc.* Gelimer] had fled to the inaccessible country of the Moors. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 266/1 The Slavonian tribes were subject to the Teutonic Vandals, who are often confounded with the Wends. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 58/2 There does not seem to be in the story of the capture of Rome by the Vandals any justification for the charge of wilful and objectless destruction of public buildings.

2. *transf.* One who acts like a Vandal or barbarian; a wilful or ignorant destroyer of anything beautiful, venerable, or worthy of preservation.

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 50 For who would Rob them but Goths and Vandalls. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 696 At length Erasmus..Stemm'd the wild torrent of a barb'rous age, And drove those holy Vandals [i.e. monks] off the stage. 1780 Cowper *On Burning Ld. Mansfield's Library* 1 The Vandals of our Isle..Have burnt to dust a nobler pile than ever Roman saw! 1801 Helen M. Williams *Mann. & Opin. Fr. Rep.* II. xxxv. 177 The monuments..which have escaped the fury of our modern Vandals [i.e. Jacobins]. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 189 A horrid Vandal,—but his money Will buy a glorious coat of arms. 1895 Suffling *Land of Broads* 85 Stained glass, which those narrow-minded Vandals, the Puritans, took great pains to destroy.

B. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the Vandals (or a Vandal).

Vandal war, the war waged by the Roman Empire against the Vandals in Africa, 532–546.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 98 Procopius, in the fourth booke of the Vandale Warre. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxiii. (1787) III. 346 The warlike tyrant is supposed to have shed more Vandal blood by the hand of the executioner, than in the field of battle. 1788 *Ibid.* xli. IV. 152 The chariots of state which had been used by the Vandal queen. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 266/1 All the names of the Vandal kings are Teutonic. 1879 Lumby *Introd. to Higden* (Rolls) VII. p. xx, Gregory [VI] appealed to the emperor for help, and when an excuse of the Vandal war was made by him, the pope took the field himself against the robbers. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 57/2 The Vandal occupation of this great city [i.e. Carthage)..lasted for ninety-four years.

2. Acting like a Vandal in the wilful or ignorant destruction of things of beauty or historic interest; recklessly or ruthlessly destructive; barbarous, rude, uncultured.

1700 Dryden *Prol.* [*Fletcher's Pilgrim*] 35 Our bold Britton..Invades the Psalms with Rhymes, and leaves no room For any Vandal Hopkins yet to come. 1798 W. T. Fitzgerald *Misc. Poems* (1801) 99 Though Europe suffers, to her foul disgrace, This second Inroad of the Vandal Race. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 34 Vandal naturalists. 1892 T. A. Cook *Old Touraine* (1894) II 39 A certain vandal senator..irreparably destroyed a great part of the old buildings.

3. Characterized by vandalism or lack of culture; vandalic, vandalistic.

1752 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 443 Some good tombs .., and a very Vandal one. 1857 Ld. Granville in *Life* (1905) I. x. 260 They..are against any Vandal destruction of towns, palaces, etc. 1863 Mary Howitt tr *F. Bremer's Greece & Greeks* II. xii. 24 Masses of marble fragments and stones show what a work of Vandal desolation has been here.

Hence **Va·ndalled** *pa. pple.*, over-run or devastated by the Vandals.

1648 Winyard *Midsummer-Moon* 4 The whole University resembles Greece over-run by Turkes, or Italy Goth'd and Vandald.

Vanda·lian, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [Cf. Vandal *sb.* 1, quot. 1842.] Wendish.

1730 *Hist. Litt.* I. 535 We have now an entire Translation of the Bible in the Vandalian Tongue.

Vandalic (vændæ·lik), *a.* Also 7 **Vandallique.** [ad. L. *Vandalic-us*, f. *Vandalus* Vandal. So F. *vandalique*. In the 15th cent. translation of Higden the form *Wandalical* occurs.]

1. Characteristic of, resembling that of, the Vandals; barbarously or ignorantly destructive; vandalistic.

1666 Waterhouse *Fire London* 66 This late harrass of us by a more than Gottish and Vandallique fire. 1762 Warburton *Doct. Grace* III. ii. Wks. 1788 IV. 704 Rash Divines might be apt to charge this holy man..with a brutal spite to Reason,—and with more than Vandalic rage against human Learning. 1821 Helen M. Williams *Mann. & Opin. Fr. Rep.* I. xviii. 226 The vandalic fury that employed itself not only on the mutilation of statues, but destroyed the paintings of the first masters. 1865 *Ecclesiologist* XXVI 271 Deliberate, we might say Vandalic demolition. 1887 F. R. Stockton *Hundredth Man* xv, In his vandalic operations Enoch had shown..fiendish ingenuity.

b. Of persons: = Vandal *a.* 2.

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 88 The cathedral itself is ordered to be repaired, and unfortunately 'beautified', by the most Vandalic architect Paris ever was afflicted with.

2. Of or pertaining to, consisting of, the Vandals.

a 1727 Newton *Obs. Daniel* (1733) I. v. 34 The Burgundians, a Vandalic nation, were between the Vistula and the southern fountain of the Boristhenes. 1802 Sibbald *Chron. S. P.* IV. p. iv, The Saxons, of Vandalic origin. 1838 G. S. Faber *Inquiry* 477 Passing thence into Germany, he long sojourned among the Vandalic States, and finally settled in Bohemia. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* II. xv. 375 Barbarians of the Vandalic race,..made insolent by success.

†**Vandaliro.** *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [a. older Sp. *vandolera*.] = Bandolier 2.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 78 The Major had noe amunition more then what the souldiers did carie in their vandaliros about them.

Va·ndaliish, *a. rare.* [f. Vandal + -ish.] Vandalic, vandalistic.

1834 Bucktord *Italy* II. 356 Yes, I witnessed this vandalish operation. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 647 These pretended barbarians—Gothic, Vandalish, Lombard,..were in reality the restorers and regenerators of the effete Roman intellect.

Vandalism (væ·ndăliz'm). [a. F. *vandalisme*, first used by Henri Grégoire, Bishop of Blois, *c* 1793.] The conduct or spirit characteristic of, or attributed to, the Vandals in respect of culture; ruthless destruction or spoiling of anything beautiful or venerable; in weakened sense, barbarous, ignorant, or inartistic treatment.

1798 Helen M. Williams *Lett. France* IV. 179 (Jod.) Those barbarous triumphs are passed and anarchy and vandalism can return no more. 1800 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 684 The writers, who bring against certain philosophic innovationists a clamorous charge of Vandalism. 1848 Gallenga *Italy* 497 After several hours of that unavailing Vandalism, which set houses and palaces on fire, they were compelled to beat a retreat. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 35 Monuments, through the lapse of time and the barbarous hand of modern Vandalism, become in many cases..decayed and mutilated.

b. An instance of this; a vandalistic act.

1880 Sergt. Ballantine *Exper.* xxii. 218 The vandalisms that have changed the fair scene..into its present shape.

Vandalistic (vændăli·stik), *a.* [f. Vandal *sb.* + -istic.] Characterized by, given to, vandalism.

1824 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 505 The authorities are Vandalistic enough to prohibit the sport. 1827 *Naturalist* 45 The most vandalistic plant-grubber. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 10/1 The natives..betray a vandalistic disposition towards the tablets and inscriptions.

Vandalisa·tion. [Cf. next.] The action of rendering barbarous.

1800 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 684 Events thicken to accelerate the entire Vandalization of Europe.

Vandalise (væ·ndălaiz), *v.* [f. Vandal *sb.* + -ize] *trans.* To render Vandal in respect of culture; to deal with or treat in a vandalistic manner.

1800 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 684 To vandalize Europe then can have no other signification than to introduce eastern Slavonian barbarians to domination over the actual feats of culture and improvement. 1821 *New Monthly Mag* II. 353 They are not only vandalized in style, but in sentiment. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 99 The noblest monuments of art and piety have been vandalized.

Hence **Va·ndalising** *ppl. a.*

1804 Fessenden *Democracy Unveiled* (1806) I. 293 Direct their vandalizing ravages To make men like themselves, mere savages. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 581 No..vigilance..could disarm their rude followers of ferocious and Vandalizing habits.

Va·ndalously, *adv. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Vandal *sb.*] In a vandalistic manner.

1890 *Tablet* 6 Sept. 374 They were scandalously and vandalously wrong when they reviled the Mother of God.

†**Vandelas.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 **vandelas,** 7 **-alas, -olose, -ulose.** [See def.] A kind of strong coarse canvas, used esp. for sails, manufactured in the district of Brittany formerly called Le Vendelais.

1571 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 137 For vandelas lxvij ells di.—lxvij^{li} vj^{d}. 1572 *Ibid.* 167 For xx^{tie} peeces of Vandelas to cover the Banketting howse. 1612 *Leiger A. Halyburton* (1867) 319 Vandolose or Vitrie canvas the eln, xs. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 167 Linnens,..narrow vandales, or vittry canvas. 1657 *Acts of Interregn.* (1911) II. 1213 Vandalose or Vittry Canvas.

‖ **Vandellia** (vændeliă). [mod.L. (Linnæus), from the name of Domenico *Vandelli* (1732–), an Italian botanist, in later life resident in Portugal.] A genus of scrophulariaceous plants, some of which possess emetic or purgative properties; a plant of this genus, esp. *V. diffusa*, or a medicinal preparation of this.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 618/1. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants.* 530 Diffuse Vandellia. 1887 Molonky *Forestry W. Africa* 396 Employed in this manner the vandellia is as certain in its action as ipecacuanha.

Vandemonian (vændĭmōu·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Van Diemonian, Diemenian.** [f. *Van Diemen('s Land*, the original name of Tasmania, given by its discoverer Tasman in 1642 in honour of Anthony Van Diemen (1593–1645), governor of the Dutch East Indies.]

A. *adj.* Of, belonging to, or inhabiting Tasmania.

Freq. applied to the convicts domiciled there in the early part of the 19th c.

1840 G. Arden *Austr. Fellæ* 9 A shrewd old Vandemonian colonist. 1853 S. Sidney *Three Colonies Austral.* (ed. 2) 171 *note*, Acts levelled against Van Diemonian expirees. 1855 W. Howitt *Two Y. Victoria* xx. I. 367 Some of the Van Diemenian convicts.

B. *sb.* An inhabitant of Tasmania.

1852 G. C. Mundy *Our Antipodes* III. viii. 251 The Van Diemonians, as they unpleasingly call themselves. 1867 *Cassell's Mag.* II. 440/2, 'I never wanted to leave England,' I have heard an old Vandemonian observe boastfully.

Hence **Vandemo·nianism,** rough or unmannerly behaviour; rowdyism.

1863 *Victorian Hansard* 22 Apr. IX. 701 (Morris), Mr. Houston looked upon the conduct of hon. gentlemen opposite as ranging from the extreme of vandemonianism to the extreme of namby-pambyism.

†**Vanden.** *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [Humorous application of Du. *van den*, 'of the', in surnames.] Dutch.

1698 Foed *Lady's Trial* II. 1, Gulls or Moguls, Tag, rag, or other, Hogen-Mogen vanden, Skip-Jacks, or Cheuses.

Vandros: see Rhemdos 2 (quot. 1552).

Vandscott, obs. Sc. form of Wainscot.

Vandyke (vændəi·k), *sb.* Also 8 **Vandike,** 8–9 **Vandyck.** [From the name of Sir Anthony *Vandyke* (Anglicized spelling of *Van Dyck*), the great Flemish painter (1599–1641).]

1. A painting or portrait by Vandyke.

1751 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 305 The whole-length Vandykes went for a song! 1888 Mrs. H. Ward *R. Elsmere* 542 The ball-room, lined with Vandycks and Lelys.

2. A broad lace or linen collar or neckerchief with a deeply cut edge, in imitation of the style of collar freq. depicted in portraits by Vandyke, forming an article of fashionable dress in the 18th century.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 324 Circling round her ivory neck Frizzle out the smart Vandike. 1769 Granger *Biogr. Hist. Eng., Chas. I*, I. 571 Laced handkerchiefs, resembling the large falling band worn by the men, were in fashion among the ladies: this article of dress has been lately revived, and called a Vandyck. 1838 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 248 One of them..attempts to exchange a worked vandyke.

3. One of a number of deep-cut points on the border or fringe of an article of apparel (see quot. 1882). Usu. in pl.

1827 *Souvenir* I. 151/3 (Stanford), Tulle pelisse, with three vandykes on the shoulders, forming epaulettes. 1832 G. R. Porter *Silk Manuf.* 230 The particular form required whether as vandykes, or scallops, or any other figures. 1838 *Ladies' Treasury* Sept. 185 The body has a bertha cut in vandykes. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 510/1 *Vandykes*, this term is descriptive of a particular pointed form cut as a decorative border to collars and other portions of wearing apparel, and to the trimmings of dress skirts and bodices.

4. *transf.* A notched, deeply indented, or zigzag border, edging, or formation.

1846 Ruskin *Let.* Wks. 1909 XXXVI. 64 A bridge..with this pretty vandyke outside by way of variety. 1891 *Daily News* 14 Oct. 2/8 The whole coast is a vandyke of bays and clefts and promontories.

5. *techn.* (See quot.)

1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 736 (Buhl work), Brass borders, technically known as vandykes, are worked in narrow slips.

6. Used attrib. or as adj. in designating things associated in some way with Vandyke or his paintings, as *Vandyke beard, border, brown, couching*, etc. (see quots. and cf. prec. senses).

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 June 8/2 Everyone is now wearing a pointed V-shaped *Vandyck beard, while a few years ago the Vandyck beard was unknown. 1880 *Paper & Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXX. 29 Each page having a deep *Vandyke border. 1850 Weale *Dict. Terms*, *'*Vandyke Brown*,..a species of peat or bog-earth, of a fine deep semi-transparent brown colour. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 92/2 *Vandyke couching*, a Raised Couching formed with lines of whipcord laid on the linen foundation in the shape of vandykes [etc.]. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* 162 His [i. e. Charles I] *Vandyke dress, his handsome face, and his peaked beard. 1757 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 467 Madam Godlineau, in a round card cap of black lace..and a *vandyke handkerchief of the same. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 495/1 *Vandyke stitch*, a raised Couching. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. v, *Vandyke tippets, ruffs, fardingales, are brought vividly before us. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 499/1 *Vandyke tracery*..is worked much in the same way as Cross Tracery, and forms a zig-zag device on the open parts of leaves and other spaces. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 242 In 1766..Crane manufactured a rich brocade for waistcoats,..and about two years afterwards he attempted *vandyke-work, by appending a warp-machine to a plain stocking frame.

b. (See quot.)

1889 Maiden *Useful Pl. W. Ind.* 99 *Panicum flavidum*,.. 'Vandyke Grass' (of Bailey).

Vandyke (vændəi·k), *v.* Also **Vandyck.** [f. as prec.]

1. *trans.* To furnish or provide (some dress material) with vandykes or deep-cut points, after the manner represented in Vandyke's paintings; to cut or shape with deep angular indentations. Chiefly in pa. pple.

1800 [implied in Vandyked *ppl. a.*] 1808 Moir *Mansie Wauch* vii. 65 Long muslin frockies, Vandyked across the breast. 1869 *Latest News* 5 Sept. 7 The muslin skirt is trimmed with a gathered flounce, vandyked at each edge. 1894 Wyman *Man in Black* 53 His dress was in the extreme of the fashion, his falling collar vandyked.

b. In general use.

1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Feb., I made the leaves of the [needle-] book, which I vandyked very nicely, out of a piece of flannel. 1868 *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 485 A shelf of limestone..not presenting a straight face, but vandyked, as it were, into a bewildering number of zigzags. 1887 Grosart in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. I. 4 This document is indented or vandyked along its upper edge.

c. Said of the thing forming, or helping to form, the indentations.

1864 *Chambers' Jrnl.* II. 323 Tongues of sea-sand..vandyking its borders. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 208 It is easy to see numerous irregularities and transverse markings, vandyking and crossing the more visible features in various directions. 1898 Weyman *Castle Inn* 221 The peaks of three gables rose above them, vandyking the sky.

2. *intr.* To go or proceed in an irregular zigzag manner; to take a zigzag course. ? *Obs.*

1808 Moir *Mansie Wauch* xiii. 195 It behoves me..to beg pardon..for being forced whiles to zig zag and vandyke. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 27 He discussed two bottles of

old Bordeaux, and, staggering to a bye lane, vandyked to Farningham. 1845 Alb. Smith *Fort. Scattergood Fam.* xv, Foreign gentlemen .. vandyked with indecision about the quay, as they tried to recollect the name of the hotel.

Vandyked (vændəi·kt), *ppl. a.* [Cf. prec.] Provided with vandykes; cut or shaped at the edge into deep indentations; zigzagged.

1800 *Hull Advertiser* 22 Nov. 3/3 A broad border, or rather flounce, of vandyked velvet. 1832 T. Brown *Bk. Butterflies & M.* (1834) I. 169 The wings are of an intense black, denticulated with a vandyked border of white. 1860 Sala *Lady Chesterfield* v. 80 The vandyked morocco valance. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 139 The roadway is bordered by a massive stone wall..with a vandyked top, like a piece of lace.

Vandy·king, *vbl. sb. rare.* [Cf. Vandyke *v.*]

†1. *nonce-use.* ? The drawing or sketching of portraits. *Obs.*—[1]

1633 Windebank in *Strafford's Lett. & Disp.* (1739) I. 161 You made many ill Faces with your Pen, (pardon I beseech your Lordship, the over free Censure of your Vandyking).

2. *concr.* Vandyked material; work shaped in vandykes or deep zigzags.

1819 [F. Mac Donogh] *Hermit in Lond.* 170 Tiers of vandyking and quilled lace.

Vane (vēn). Also 6 vayn, 6–7 veine, 8 vain. [Southern var. of Fane *sb.*[1]]

1. A plate of metal, usually of an ornamental form, fixed at an elevation upon a vertical spindle, so as to turn readily with the wind and show the direction from which this is blowing; a weather-cock.

Vanes are a common addition to the tops of spires or other pinnacles of buildings.

1485 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) II. 254 Cum il ventilogiis, viz. vanys de Tyn emptis..ponendis super utrumque finem prædicti dormitorii. 1479–81 *Rec St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 103 Item, for mendyng of the vane of the steple. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* B j, Be ye not like ne semblable the tortuse ne to the Crane which wynde their hede here and there as a vane. 1532 in E. Law *Hampton Crt. Pal.* (1885) 364 A vayn servyng for the stone typis at the gabull ende of the Tennys play. 1572–3 *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (Swayne, 1896) 287 Taking downe of the vane and mending of him. 1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* xiv. 17 Like as a vane is turn'd with every blast. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 13 July 1654, These were adorn'd with a variety of dials, little statues, vanes, &c. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* II. xix. 325 When I see a spire at a very great distance there appears no vane at the top. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* ii, One or two.. venerable turrets, bearing each its own vane of rare device glittering in the autumn sun. 1849 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (ed. 6) xv. 138 Thus two alternations of north and south wind will cause the vane at any place to go completely round the compass. 1880 L. Morris *Ode of Life* 130 The old grey church, with the tall spire, Whose vane the sunsets fire.

transf. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* I. (1873) 3 The direction of the branches was N.E. by N., and these natural vanes must indicate the prevailing direction of the trade wind. 1859 Herschel in *Mem. Sci. Enq.* 136 The direction of the wind, as well as its force, should be registered at each observation; and for this it is well to have a small compass with a vane of card or thin and very moveable sheet brass.

b. *fig.* An unstable or constantly changing person or thing.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 97 What plume of feathers is hee that indited this Letter? What veine? What Wether-cocke? ?*a* 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Four Plays* Wks. 1912 X. 303 My desire's a vane, That the least breath from her turns every way. 1830 D. G. Mitchell *Reveries Bachelor* 133 Who is going to shift this vane of my desires?

c. *Naut.* A piece of bunting fixed to a wooden frame, which turns on a spindle at the mast-head to show the direction of the wind. (See also Dog-vane.)

1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 3 Some compare her [the ship] to a Commonwealth, and carry the Allegory from the Vane, down to the Keelson. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Mar., Vane*, a thin slip of bunting hung to the mast-head, or some other conspicuous place,..to show the direction of the wind. 1863 *Rep Sea Fisheries Comm.* (1865) II. 404/8 Do you [trawlers] carry any particular kind of vane?—Yes, until it blows away; we generally carry a red vane. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 709 *A distinguishing vane* denotes the division of a fleet to which a ship of the line belongs, according to the mast on which it is borne.

†2. A metal plate having the form of a flag or banner bearing a coat of arms, esp. one supported by the figure of an animal. *Obs.*

Sometimes app. serving the purpose of a weather-cock.

1502 *Marv. Pr. Arthur* in *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) II. 260 A red lyon rampand, holdyng a vane enpeynted with the armys of Englond. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 97 Ouer the gates wer arches with towers embattailed set with vanes and scutchions of the armes of the Emperor and the Kyng. 1574 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 351 For.. coloringe the beasts and the vanes and the Quenes armes.. with good colors and oyles.

3. a. A sail of a windmill.

1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 482 All thinges are carryed about in a certaine vehement whyrling unstablenesse, as it were the fleyng vanes of a windemill. 16.. *Anc. Poems, Ball.*, etc. (Percy Soc.) 47 They have a castle on a hill, I took it for an old wind-mill, The vanes blown off by weather. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Windmill*, Made with vertical Sails, like the ordinary Windmils,..placed on an Axis of a proportionable length to the length of the Vanes. 1754 J. Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) I. 19 [She] took Occasion to utter three or four sighs,..each of which would have turned the vanes of a windmill. 1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. II. 49 The miller shewed me the machinery..and how it works the mill by the action of those vanes or sails. 1864 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 182 The women with a curious cap with an erection on it like two vanes of a windmill flapping in the air.

b. A blade, wing, or similar projection attached to an axis, wheel, etc., so as to be acted upon by a current of air or liquid or to produce a current by rotation.

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 17 Each axis has four or more thin arms or vanes fixed into it; the vanes are similar in all respects, except in their position. 1824 R. Stuart *Hist. Steam Engine* 150 On the circumference of a wheel eight vanes or flaps are attached by joints. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 38 An upright shaft furnished with arms or vanes for the purpose of agitation. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 211 Fans.—These instruments, with straight radial vanes, were abundantly used in the German mines..about 1550.

c. A revolving fan or wheel.

1810 Crabbe *Borough* x. 248 Ev'n the poor ventilating vane, that flew Of late so fast, is now grown drowsy too. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts* s.v., Vane is also synonymous with fly or fly wheel. *Ibid.* s.v. *Vane, Electrical*, When..the vane is placed near to it, the strength of the current will be sufficient to impel the vane forward, so that it will rotate on its centre.

4. A sight of a levelling-staff, forestaff, quadrant, or other surveying instrument.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* VII. xvi. 326 b, Turne both your faces, and also the vane of the Transame towardes the Sunne. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. xiv. 85 Set the Vane G to a certain number of Degrees,..looking through the Vane F,..draw your Sight-Vane a little lower. 1674 Leybourne *Compl. Surveyor* 45 Upon the longer Sight is to be placed a Vane of brass, to be moved up and down at pleasure. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., Those Sights which are made to move and slide upon Cross-staves, Forestaves, Davis Quadrants, &c. the Seamen call Vanes. 1748 *Anson's Voy* III. iii. 327 The quadrant was eagerly seized, but on examination, it unluckily wanted vanes, and therefore in its present state was altogether useless. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 307/1 [In] Houghton's staffs..the vane is circular inlaid with a diamond-shaped lozenge. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 710 The one opposite to the fore horizon-glass is the foresight-vane, the other the backsight vane.

5. The web of a feather.

1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* VII. i 374 The Mechanism of the vanes or webs of Feathers. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 92 Their texture is equally extraordinary; the shafts broad and very thin; the vanes unwebbed. 1834 Mudie *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 14 The larger ribs of the webs or vanes of not a few are of considerable substance and strength. 1875 Blake *Zool.* 94 The vane consists of barbs which proceed at right angles to the shaft.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vane-like* adj., *-pin*, *-spindle*, *staff*, *-surmounted* adj.

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* I. 91 *Versatilis*, vane-like. 1844 in Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 95 The balls from which arise the vane-spindles of the two churches. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 306/2 The vane staff is more calculated for the purpose [than the levelling staff]. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* ix, Then came rows of houses, with little vane-surmounted masts uprearing themselves from among the scarlet beans. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Vane-spindle*, the pivot on which the masthead-vane turns. 1889 P. H. Emerson *English Idyls* 22 She was black from stem to stern, from keel to vane-pin.

Vane, southern ME. var. Fain *a.*; obs. Sc. f. Vain *a.*, Vein *sb.*, Wane *sb.* and *v.*, *won* pt. t. of Win *v.* **Vaneer**, obs. f. Veneer *sb.* **Vane-hope**, Sc. var. Wanhope.

†Vanel(l. *Obs. rare.* Also **venelle.** [Anglicized f. Vanilla or Vanille.] a. A vanilla pod. b. Vanilla.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3891/3 The Cargo..consisting of.. Cocoa, Venelles,..Silk Grass,..Ebbone and Logwood, &c. 1769 E. Bancroft *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 101 Vanilla, or Vanella, are the fruit of a ligneous siliquose vine. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 165 One case of vanel, sixty cases of sugar.

Va·neless, *a.* [f. Vane.] Unprovided with a vane.

1889 P. H. Emerson *English Idyls* 25 Down the river.. came sailing the black vaneless old wherry.

‖ Vane·ssa. *Ent.* [mod.L. (Fabricius).] A genus of butterflies (including the *red admiral* and *peacock*); a butterfly belonging to this genus.

1863 Bates *Nat. Amazon* I. (1864) 10 The only Amazonian species which is at all nearly related to our Vanessas, the Admiral and Peacock Butterflies. 1903 *Spectator* 17 Jan. 84/2 Many butterflies, especially the vanessas, creep away and sleep through the winter.

Vane·ssid, *a.* and *sb. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *Vanessidæ* (pl.), f. *Vanessa*: see prec.] A. *adj.* Belonging to the family of butterflies of which *Vanessa* is the type. B. *sb.* A butterfly of this family.

1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 467/2 The brightly coloured vanessid butterflies. *Ibid.* 469/2 The British Vanessids.

Van-foss(e. *Mil.* [ad. F. *avant-fossé*, after *vanguard*, etc., and Fosse.] (See quots.)

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Van-Fosse*,..a Ditch dug without the Counterscarp, and running all along the Glacis; usually full of Water. 1852 Burn *Naval & Milit. Dict.* II. 304/1 Van-foss, *avant fossé*. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Van-fosse*, a wet ditch at the outer foot of the glacis.

Vang (væŋ). *Naut.* [var. Fang *sb.* 7 a.] One or other of the two ropes used for steadying the gaff of a fore-and-aft sail.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Mar.* s.v. *Brace*, The mizen-yard is furnished with fangs, or vangs, in the room of braces. *Ibid., Vangs*, a sort of braces to support the mizen gaff, and keep it steady. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* (1859) 486 The gaff is violently shaken by the loosened sail; for both vangs and brails are gone. 1892 *Voy. to Mauritius* I. 35 The orderly officer, seated on the bulwark, and holding on by a vang. 1881 Clark Russell *Ocean Free-Lance* III. ii. 63 He stood upon the rail..with his arm round the vang.

Vang, southern dial. and ME. var. Fang *sb.*, *v.*[1]

Vangee. *Naut.* (See quots.)

1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 239 The pumps of a vessel are ..often worked by means of a contrivance called the vangee. [Description follows.] 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 710 *Vangee*, a contrivance for working the pumps of a vessel by means of a barrel and crank-breaks.

†Vangel. *Obs.* Also *Sc.* 5–6 vangele, -ell; 5 wangele, -yl(e, -yll, 5–6 -ell, 6 -el. [Aphetic f. Evangel.] Gospel.

a 1340 Hampole *Prickr* cxviii. 72 Laghe of godis mouth is þe vangel. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1402 Þar þe buk of þe wangele..he gef hyme frely in þat place. *c* 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* (1850) IV. 297 Here endith vangelis, and bigynneth a prologe on the Romayns. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. x. 70 (Laing), He made a tyxstyre in that qwhylle, Quhare in was closyd the Wangylle. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 199 Sworn apon the haly wangyl befor the Abbot and conuent. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 27 To prech his halie vangel to al creatur. *Ibid.*, The wangel of iesus christ. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 239 Ather of vther was sworne in the haly vangell.

attrib. *c* 1430 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 201 Item ane buke for the vangell lettrin.

†Vangelie, aphetic form of Evangely. *Obs.*

a 1390 *Wycliffite Bible*, 1 *Tim.* i. 11 Vp the euangelie [*v.r.* uangelie] of the glorie of blessid God. *a* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* lii. 969 Piers..the holy vangelye gan him vndo.

†Vangelist. *Obs.* Also 4 **wangelyst**, 4–6 **-ist**(e. [Aphetic f. Evangelist.] An evangelist.

a 1330 *Roland & V.* 153 Iames þe apostel bi crist, Iones broþer, þe wangelist. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1295 Þe wark of wangeliste þu do. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 39 And syne the wangelistis hes thairof writine. *Ibid.*, The prophetis, apostlis, and the vangelistis. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 200 Wolues, quhome of my Vangelistis wryte.

Vangle, dial. variant of Fangle *sb.*[1]

‖ Vanglo. (See quots.)

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 270 The Vanglo or Oil-plant. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 515 *Sesamum*... These plants were introduced into Jamaica by the Jews, and are now cultivated in most parts of the island. They are called *vanglo* or oil-plant. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vanglo*, a West Indian name for the teel seeds of the East (*Sesamum orientale*).

Vanguard (væ·ngārd). Also *Sc.* 5 **vandgard**, 6 **vandgarde**, **-gaird**; 6 **wangard**(e, **-guard**, **-gaird**, **vangart**, **-gard**(e, **-gaird.** [ad. OF. *avangarde*, var. of *avantgarde*: see Vantguard. Cf. It. and Sp. *vanguardia*, Pg *vanguarda*.]

1. *Mil.* The foremost division of an army; the forefront or van.

The Scottish examples are placed first.

(*a*) 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* XI. 164 Till renownyt erllis twa ..He gaf the vandgard in ledyng. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. v. 210 Alsus..ruschis abak for feir..In the vangart [ed. 1553 vandgarde] throw mony a poyntit glaive. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 284 This gude schir Loth the wangard led that da. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 270 The wandgaird was neir mearchant togither. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 313 He..obteynet the name and honour of Capitane of the kingis Vangaird.

(*b*) 1503 *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 208 The Souchyvais whiche [were]appoyncted to kepe my vanguarde avaunced tha[ym for]wardes without my knowlege. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. ii. 63 Let the Officer of the Vanguarde draw out three rankes of the armed pikes. 1600 F. Markham *Bk. War* IV. viii. 151 As soone as the head or Vanguard beginneth, that in the same time the Reare bee ready to follow. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 389 Villars, the Commander of the Van-Guard..being circumvented, and taken by Fontains Army. 1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 5 The landgraves vanguard pursued their rear. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Every Army is compos'd of three Parts, a Van-guard, Rear-guard, and Main Body. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3493 Van Guard. See Advanced Guard. 1838 Lytton *Leila* IV. i, Winding along the steeps of the mountain were seen the gleaming spears and pennants of the Moslem vanguard. 1851 Longf. *Gold. Leg.* I. *Castle of Vaudsberg*, As when the vanguard of the Roman legions First saw it from the top of yonder hill! 1875 Clery *Min. Tact.* vi. (1877) 76 The advanced party, which may be conveniently termed the Vanguard, is composed of cavalry and infantry.

b. In fig. use.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iii, At length..Germany and Weissnichtwo were where they should be, in the vanguard of the world. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* ii. 116 Palestine ..was then the vanguard of the eastern, and therefore, of the civilised world. 1878 Maclear *Celts* I. 22 They were to form the vanguard in the Missionary history of Europe.

attrib. 1888 *Century* XXXVI. 657 All day his vanguard spirit, flaming bright, Bore up the brunt of unavailing fight.

2. *ellipt.* The name of a variety of peach.

1706 Abercrombie *Arr.* 14 in *Gard. Assist.*, Peaches... Vanguard. 1822 W. Forsyth *Fruit Trees* 28 To the foregoing may be added, .. Smooth-leaved Royal George, Steward's late Gallande, Vanguard. 1860 Hogg *Fruit Man.* 147 *Vanguard.*—This is a variety of the Noblesse... The only apparent difference is in the habit of the trees, which in Vanguard is much more robust and hardy than in the Noblesse.

Vanhap, Sc. form of Wanhap.

†Vanil, error for Anil *a.*

1599 Willes in Hakluyt *Voy.* II. ii. 78 Many Tartars and Mogores, that brought into China certaine bl..wes of great value: all we thought it to be Vanil of Cambaia wont to be sold at Ormus.

Vanilla (vănĭ·lă). Also 7 **vaynilla**. *β.* 7 **vinello-**, 8 **vanello**, 8–9 **vanelloe** (8 **-eloe**); 8 **vanillio**, **-illio**, 8–9 **vanillo-**. [In earlier use a. and ad. older Sp. *vaynilla*, now *vainilla*, dim. of *vaina* (:—L. *vāgina* VAGINA) sheath. Subsequently a. mod. botanical L. *Vanilla*, from the same source. Cf. It. *vainiglia*, Pg. *bainilha*, *baunilha*, F. *vanille* VANILLE.]

1. A pod produced by one or other species of the genus *Vanilla* (see sense 2), esp. *V. planifolia*. Chiefly in pl.

a. 1662 H. STUBBE *Indian Nectar* ii. 11 They added..the Vaynillas [to the chocolate] for the like ends, and to strengthen the brain. *Ibid.* 17 Afterwards to mix the Vaynillas, cut into pieces, and dryed 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 485 Vanillas which they mingle with the Cacao to make Chocolate.

β. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* 38 There grow on this Coast Vinelloes in great quantity, with which Chocolate is perfumed. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* vi. v. (1735) 150 When.. mix'd with Vanillios, or Spices, it [chocolate] acquires likewise the good and bad Qualities of aromatick Oils. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* iii. li. (1760) 220 Angelica-Seed, Vanellos and Mace, of each one Ounce and a half. 1758 *Elaboratory Laid Open* 318 Cut the vanilloes into small pieces. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 267 Vanelloes are long flat pods, containing a reddish pulp, with small shining black seeds,..but seldom imported. 1854 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 311/2 The vanelloe is a long flattish pod [etc.].

2. The climbing orchid *Vanilla planifolia*, or other species related to this; the tropical (American) genus to which these belong.

a. 1638 T. FROGER *Voy.* 129 The Vanilla is a plant that creeps up along other trees, in the same manner as Ivy does. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 11 Nor does the vanilla.. grow any where..in greater perfection. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* III. 340 The vanilla is a plant which, like the ivy, grows to the trees it meets with. *c* 1820 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* (1825) 182 In some parts of these forests I saw the Vanilla growing luxuriantly. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 116/2 The reason of the vanilla not producing fruit in Europe when it has flowered. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 91/2 The vanilla is an epiphyte, or air-plant.

β. 1708 *Propos. Effectual War in Amer.* 19 Cacao-Trees and the Vanilio grow there [Granada in America] naturally. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 160 The Vanelloe. With the Fruit of this Plant the Spaniards perfume their Chocolate. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 330 Vanilla, or Vaneloe, *Epidendrum*. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1323 The known kind of plants to be found here are..a shrubbery speedwell, sowthistles, virgin's bower, vanelloe.

b. With pl. One or other species of this genus.

1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 87 Their country abounded in vanilloes and sarsaparilla. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 765 The Vanillos shoot out roots at every joint like the Ivy. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxiii, One hanging garden of crimson and orange orchids or vanillas. 1874 *Athenæum* 10 Oct. 488/1 *La Liberté* states that a wild vanilla has been introduced into commerce.

c. With distinguishing terms.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl.* [illegible] aromatic Vanilla. [illegible] *Penny Cycl.* XXV[illegible] Vanilla. .. *V. grandiflora*, Large-flowered Vanilla. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1204/1 Cuba Vanilla, *Critonia Dalea*.

3. The aromatic substance composed of, or obtained from, the slender pod-like capsule of *Vanilla planifolia* or related species, much used as a flavouring or perfume.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Chocolate*, To have the better market for their Cacao Nuts, Achiott, Vanilla, and other Drugs. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The pods..of the *zimirona*, which is also called *bastard Vanilla*, are the smallest of all the kinds. The *ley* kind is the only good *Vanilla*. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 265 The aromatic substance called Vanilla is the succulent fruit of a climbing West Indian plant of the order [Orchideæ]. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xvi. 63 The English and the Anglo-Americans often seek to make purchases of vanilla at the port of La Guayra. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 152 As an aromatic, vanilla is much used by confectioners for flavouring ices and custards.

b. A kind or variety of this. (See also quot. 1866.)

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The smell of the Vanillas ought to be penetrating and agreeable. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 115/2 It does not appear that any of the Brazilian vanillas form the substance known in trade. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1204/1 *Chica Vanilla*, the Panama name for the fruit of a species of *Sobralia*. 1874 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 67/2 None of the South American vanillas appear to be used in Great Britain for flavouring purposes.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vanilla bean*, *ice*, *orchid*, *pod*, *sugar*, *worker*; **vanilla grass** (see quot.); **vanilla plant** (*a*) = sense 2; (*b*) an American species of *Liatris*.

1886 *American* XII. 318 The aromatic principle of the *vanilla bean. 1898 *19th Cent.* April 644 Spices should be added, such as..cinnamon, cloves, cardamom, and vanilla bean. [illegible] *borealis*. Garnish [illegible] WHITE in *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* (N.S.) V. 260 A forest..in which the trees are literally over-burdened with the *vanilla orchid. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The leaves of the *Vanilla plant are about a foot long, and three fingers breadth wide. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1263 The vanilla plant is cultivated in Brazil,..and some other tropical countries. 1854 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 311/2 *Epidendrum Vanilla*, the systematic name of the vanelloe plant. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 285 *Liatris odoratissima*, Vanilla-plant..Leaves exhaling the odor of Vanilla when bruised. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Africa* 421 The source of the *vanilla pods of commerce. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 66/2 The best varieties of vanilla pods are of a dark chocolate brown or nearly black colour. 1846 SOYER *Cookery* 569 Serve with whipped cream flavoured with *vanilla sugar under it. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 923 *Vanilla-workers sometimes manifest lichen-erythæma of the face and hands.

Vanille (vănĭ·l). Also **vanile**. [a. F. *vanille*, ad. mod.L. *Vanilla*: see prec.]

1. = VANILLA 3. Also *fig.*

a 1845 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) I. 260 Ah, you flavour everything; you are the vanille of society. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 667 Their fragrant odoriferous fruit..constitutes the Vanilla or Vanile of the shops. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vii, And what is this delicious scent about the air? Vanille? Of course it is.

2. *Vanille ice*, ice cream flavoured with vanilla essence. Also *ellipt.*

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 38 She accepts the offer of some vanille ice, which she receives over the head of a squat lady. 1846 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VII. 1184 Each lovely lady..holds her dear fan while she feeds her smile On meditative spoonfuls of vanille. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Victory* III. 235 Vanille and strawberry ices were in constant demand at Tortoni's.

Vani·llic, *a. Chem.* [f. VANILL-A + -IC 1 b.] *Vanillic acid*, vanillin, or an oxidized form of this.

1868 [see next]. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Mat. Med.* 385 Vanillin..has, in fact, acid properties, and is therefore appropriately called vanillic acid. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 304 Vanillic acid..is formed by oxidation of vanillin, which is the corresponding aldehyde.

Vani·llin. *Chem.* Also **-ine**. [f. as prec. + **-IN.**] 'The neutral odoriferous principle of vanilla' (Watts).

1858 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 994 *Vanillin*..was first recognised as a peculiar substance by Bley.., further examined by Gobley,..and afterwards by Stokkebye,..who designates it as *vanillic acid*. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 66/2 The peculiar fragrance of vanilla is due to vanillin. *Ibid.*, The amount of vanillin varies according to the kind. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 289 A solution composed of phloroglucine, 2 parts; vanilline, 1 part; absolute alcohol, 30 parts.

Vani·llism. *Path.* [i. as prec. + **-ISM**] A diseased condition (of the skin and general system) characteristic of workers in vanilla.

1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 29 April 5/1 Dr. Layet has just published the results of his inquiries into the nature of a singular malady known as 'vanillism'. 1886 *American* XII. 269 That class of diseases in which morphinism, caffeism, and vanillism are found.

‖ **Vanillon.** [F., f. *vanille* VANILLE.] (See quots.)

[1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1264 A third sort, which comes from Brazil, is the *Vanillon*, or large vanilla of the French market.] 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 67/1 In Brazil, Peru, and other parts of South America a broad and fleshy vanilla is prepared, which has an inferior odour...This variety is often distinguished as vanillon in commerce.

Vani·loquence. *rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *vāniloquentia*.] (See quots.) Also **Vani·loquent** *a.*; **Vani·loquy** [ad. late L. *vāniloquium*.]

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vaniloquence*, much talke or babling. *Ibid.* II, Much *Babling*, Dicacity, Vaniloquie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vaniloquence*, vain talk, vain babling. [Hence in Phillips and Bailey.] 1727 BAILEY, *Vaniloquent*, talking vainly.

Vanish (væ·nĭʃ), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. Disappearance; vanishment.

1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 58 This Vanish, or ascent of the inward Ethereall Principles doth not presently follow their separation.

2. *spec.* A gradual cessation of a sound; a slight sound in which another ends; a glide.

1833 RUSH *Human Voice* (ed. 2) 319 The Drift of the downward Vanish.

Vanish (væ·nĭʃ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **vanysche** (4 **-ysshe**, 5 **-yssche**, **-yshe**, 6 **-ysch**), 4–6 **vanysshe** (5 **-yssh**, **wanyssh-**); 4 **vanyshe**, 5–6 **vanysh**; 4, 6 *Sc.*, **vanisch** (6 *Sc.* **wanische**, **wenisch**), 5–7 **vanishe** (6 **-isshe**), 6– **vanish** (6 **vannish**, *Sc.* **wanish**); 4–5 **vanesche** (5 **-essche**, **-esshe**, **-esce**, **-eche**). *β.* 4–5, 6 *Sc.*, **vanys**, **-yss** (5 **vaynyss-**, 5–6 *Sc.* **wanys-**), 5 **wanyse**, 6 *Sc.* **vanyse**; 4–5, 6 *Sc.*, **vanis(s)-**, 6 *Sc.* **wanis(s)-**; 5 **waynes-**, *Sc.* **wanes-**, 6 *Sc.* **wanels**. *γ.* 4 **vansch-**, 5 **vanshe**, **wansh-**, **wanse**. [Aphetic ad. OF. *evaniss-*: see EVANISH *v.*]

1. *intr.* To disappear from sight, to become invisible, esp. in a rapid and mysterious manner:

a. With *away*; occas. with addition of *out of* or *from sight*, etc. Now *rare*.

α. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8195 Wyþ þe croys she gan here blys, þan þey vanyssched aweye as swyþe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 435 Whanne þis was i-seide he vanysshed awey. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2935 He vanyshide away alle sodeynly, And I alloone lefte alle soole. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 11 Þen anon þys fend vanechet away wyth an horrybull stenche. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. viii. 85 Therwith merlyn vanyssched awey sodenly. 1545 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* 182 b, After these woordes spoken, the Aungels vanished awaye from theyr sight. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Disappear*,..to vanish away, to go out of sight. 1809 SHELLEY *'For my dagger'* 17 Where the phantoms of Prejudice vanish away. 1820 DOYLE *White Company* xxiv, When I see the last sail..vanishing away against the western sky.

β. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 2969 And when þe devel herd hym þus say, Alle skomfit he vanyst oway. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlii. (*Agatha*) 280 Away son þai vanist but ony [illegible] ...after the blood, and the taste, and the sweetness are vanished away. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resist. in Georgia* (1863) 32 If the mind and soul were awakened, instead of mere physical good attempted, the physical good would result, and the great curse vanish away. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* lxxii, Alas, that Spring should vanish with the Rose!

β. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. iv. (1868) 74 Her honours vanissen awey and þat on oon. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. ix. 13 The clude about thame swith was brokin, And wanist tyte away amang the air.

γ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 157 But fal[s]nes i-feyned vansche þ awey in schort tyme. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 226 His beatys dyeden in yche dyche, His katelle vanished alle away.

b. Without adverb.

α. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 639 Hit schal veraly þurth vertue do vanisch 3our sorís! *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pardoner's T.* 404 Lo how I vanyshe, flesah and blood and skyn. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Jer.* xlix. 7 Is wisdome no more in Teman?..Is their wisdome vanished? 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 211 The benefite of the same will utterly decay and vanish. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 124 The fortifying of the Spaniards at Sligo vanished with the rumour. 1695 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) 13 April, The cold began to vanish and the north-east wind change. 1740 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 439 The Bill for Raising of Money for the use of the Crown is vanished. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxvii, I own my objections have almost wholly vanished. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 42 A little while, and the smile will vanish from that cheek. 1832 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 166 Very much, indeed, that I wished to remember has vanished. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. vi. (1879) 285 Even those who had previously been most successful..found all their success vanish.

(ARTS.) Go fare ye wel, O husbandi, ours young ladyes entirely tender. This sayd, shee vannisht. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* 20 [This] notable Act being performed, you are to vanish presently out of the Quire. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 11 She againe deluded us, after two houres chase as a phantasme vanishing towards Goa. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 267 We had hardly alighted, but our Pistols were taken away, and what was not lock'd up immediately vanish'd. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 104 They melt, they vanish from my eyes. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, Whose dark figures, passing without sound, vanished like shadows. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 21 That land, now vanishing from my view, which contained all that was most dear to me in life. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xviii. 225 Its curved face..vanished into unknown space.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christopher*) 267 With þat criste tra hyme wanyst, & hame he passit til his bewist. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1113 (Ashm.), Þan waynest him þis vayne god & voidis fra þe chambre. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables*, *Lion & Mouse* xliii, And with that word he vanist, and I woke. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xvi. 64 Mercuryus, yet spekynge, vaynyssed oute of eneas sight.

γ. 1375 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 132 Þe addre.. vanschede out of here sizt. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xvi. 24 Whanne he hadde seide so how sodeynlich he vanshede.

†**c.** In perfect tense with *be*; esp. *was vanished* = had vanished. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 259 Thus it befell..Sche was vanysshi riht as hir liste, That no wyht bot hirself it wiste. *a* 1400 *Partonope* (Univ. Coll. MS.) 826 (2568), With that worde sodenly they be Vanesshid a-way, that trewly he Wote neuer where they be become. *c* 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1188 So sodenly As they were vanysshyd saw I neuer thyng with ey. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 113 And quhen scho wanyst was and Invisible, Hir madin wepit. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxiii. 68 By that tyme they had gone a lytyll by yᵉ ryuer syde they loste yᵉ syght of yᵉ castell, it was clene vanyshyd a way. *a* 1628 F. GREVILLE *Cælica* xli, And I poore Ixion to my Iuno vowed, With thoughts to clip her, clipt my owne desire: For she was vanisht, I held nothing fast. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Het is verstoven*, ..It is Vanished away as dust.

d. In fig. use.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 116 Those spirites by lytle and lytle, vanyshed cleane out of syght [i.e. in popular belief]. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 7 He that reads it as a bare miracle will onely vanish in a wondering humor. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 292 The Epick Poets not only..immediately shew the Effects of the Inspiration they pray for, ..they actually vanish from our View. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* II. i, And in this manner vanishes King Lackland. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxix. (1878) 407 Straining their eyes after their brothers and sisters that have vanished in the dark.

2. To disappear by decaying, coming to an end, or ceasing to exist: a. With *away*.

a. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 32 Þe affeccyone of lufe es tendir and lyghtly will vanysche awaye. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 88 When he seþe..þe bolnyng for to vanysh away, and þe akyng for to be cesed. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vii. 32 Their auncyent customes..vanysshed awaye as thei neuer had be vsed. 1530 PALSGR. 765/2 And a woman be ones fourty, her beautye wyll vanisshe awaye. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* li. 6 The heauens shal vanish awaye like smoke. *a* 1600 in *Montgomerie's Poems* (S.T.S. Suppl.

β. γ. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xvi. 8 So myghte happe, þat.. vanishe [should] alle myne vertues and myne faire lockes. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* i. 487 It wyll wanyse & wast, roten & be brent. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 31 Quhen he gettis ony aduersite or persecutione, thane it [*sc.* his faith] wanisis and wauers as ane dreyme. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 239 How sune vanishes that pleasure, quhilke mortall man callis felicitie.

c. Const. *into* (air, smoke, etc.).

1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. iii, Weepe heauens, and vanish into liquid teares. 1609 Dekker *Gul's Horn-bk.* 27 Plaudities, and the Breath of the great Beast, which (like the threatnings of two Cowards) vanish all into aire. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 44 The ill successe of the Queenes affaires (whose great expences and Royall Army they had seene vanish into smoke). 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 575 Surprize him first,..Then all his Frauds will vanish into Wind. 1807 Hogg *Mountain Bard, Mess John* xxiv, If the cock be heard to crow, The charm will vanish into air. 1842 Longf. *Belfry of Bruges* iv, Wreaths of snow-white smoke ascending, vanished, ghost-like, into air.

d. *Math.* Of numbers or quantities: To become zero.

1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 190 Because the Orbits of Mercury and Venus..do almost vanish in respect of the Orbit of Saturn. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 175 This series..only differs from it by the last term S *o* not vanishing, that is, being = 0. 1823 H. J. Brooke *Introd. Crystallogr.* 201 The axis must vanish, before the planes P and P' would reach 180°. 1840 Lardner *Geom.* 290 The distance between them decreasing without limit, but never vanishing. 1888 Watson & Burbury *Math. Electr. & Magn.* I. 42 All the terms will vanish except those in which the multiples of ϕ are the same.

†3. To become worthless or vain. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 419 3if salt vanysche awey it is not worþ aftir but to be castun out. 1388 — *Luke* xiv. 34 If salt schal vanysche [L. *evanuerit*], in what thing schal it be sauerid? — *Rom.* i. 21 Thei vanyscheden [L. *evanuerunt*] in her thouȝtis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 347 Þe apostel seiþ þat suche philosofres vanished away in here þouȝtes.

4. *trans.* To cause to disappear; to remove from sight. Now *rare*.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 45 And with þat he vanyshid his enchawntement, & þer was oght nott lefte of all þat hym þoght he saw. 1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. iii, Thus are the villaines..fled for feare, Like Summers vapours, vanisht by the Sun. 1604 *Mest. Gallants at Ordinarie* 5 Say thou'st slayne Foure hundred Silkweauers,..vanisht As many Tapsters, Chamberlaines, and Ostlers. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 47 Whose bodies have been vanished into all the Elements. 1679 Penn *Addr. Prot.* II. 93 And were Liturgies..so framed,..Schisms on Opinion were utterly vanished. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secr. Mem.* (1736) III. 74 Whilst she was going to enquire who had sent it, the Child was dextrously vanish'd from the place. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 636 You might as well think of haranguing a man out of a fever, as go to vanish his scruples arising from that cause by the remonstrances of reason. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Dec. 4/1 Then he vanishes a birdcage and its occupant...Finally, he vanishes his wife.

Hence **Vanished** (væ·nɪʃt) *ppl. a.*

1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 742 He runs, and chides his vanish'd, loathed delight. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xxx, Then can I..mone th' expence of many a vannisht sight.

1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xl, Oft did he mark the scenes of vanish'd war. 1867 Morris *Jason* I. 394 Strange questions of the race of vanished men. *Ibid.* X. 554 And their hearts too, with thoughts of vanished years Were pensive. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 108 Specimens of lifeless and shells of defunct and vanished univalves and bivalves.

Va·nisher. [f. Vanish *v.*] One who, or that which, vanishes or disappears.

1864 Whittier *The Vanishers* iii, From the clefts of mountain rocks..Flash the eyes and flow the locks Of the mystic Vanishers.

Vanishing (væ·nɪʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. The action or fact of disappearing.

c 1386 Chaucer *Kn.'s T.* 1502 And forth sche wente, and made a vanyshynge. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 22 Afore the vanyschynge therof, it apperyd in the evynynge. 1611 Cotgr., *Esvanouissement*,..a vanishing out of sight. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* III. (1634) 7 As where it telleth of Nebuchadnezzar his owne vanishing away. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 44 P 1 Thunder and Lightning..at the Vanishing of a Devil. 1814 Byron *Juan* XVI. xxiv, There was no great cause To think his vanishing unnatural. 1886 *Athenæum* 9 Oct. 463/3 Amongst the vanishings and disappearances of the 'unfit'.

2. *Vanishing point*, in perspective, the point in which receding parallel lines, if continued, appear to meet. Similarly *vanishing line, plane*.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 183/2 Produce CB..and draw PV parallel to it...V is its vanishing point. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 712 Distance of a vanishing point, is the distance from the vanishing point on the picture to the eye of the spectator. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 493 A plane W, which will be termed the vanishing plane of the original one. *Ibid.*, The vanishing line and parallel of the vertex. 1858 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 90 In Millais' 'Mariana'..the top of the green curtain in the distant window has too low a vanishing-point. 1885 Leudesdorf *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 5 The point *F*, the image of the point at infinity *f*, is called the vanishing point of *a*'. *Ibid.* 21 In every plane σ passing through *O* lies a vanishing line *f*', which is the image of the point at infinity in the same plane. *Ibid.*, This plane ϕ', which may be called the vanishing plane.

Vanishing (væ·nɪʃɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. the vb.]

1. Disappearing from sight or from existence.

1434 Misyn *Mending Life* 108 So þat þou sulde..despyse abidynge þingis & to vanischynge þingis drawes. 1567 *Trial Treas.* (Percy Soc.) 18 To seke such thinges as be permanent, And not such as are of a vanishing kinde. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxi. 6 Not a vanishing prosperitie, but a stedye and substantiall gladnesse. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 124 If they remaine abroad in the aire,.. they grow as light as any vanishing or softer substance. 1658 Rowland tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 931 The uncertainty of this vanishing life. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 75 Casting at me a vanishing glance, she was out of sight in an instant. 1833 Rush *Human Voice* (ed. 2) 263 Of the Vanishing Stress. *Ibid.* 285 Of the Vanishing Emphasis. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* vi. 129 To make the discomfort..a vanishing quality. 1887 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 461/1 Only a vanishing remnant lingers in the South Pacific.

2. *Math.* Becoming zero.

1823 J. Mitchell *Dict. Math. & Phys. Sci.* s.v., We have the following rule for finding the value of vanishing fractions. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 403/1 Much discussion has arisen as to whether vanishing fractions have values or not. 1891 J. Edwards *Diff. Calculus* (ed. 2) i. 5 When the limit of a quantity is zero..., the quantity is said to be a vanishing quantity for those values.

Hence **Va·nishingly** *adv.*

1870 tr. *Clausius* in *Lond.* etc. *Philos. Mag.* Aug. 127 The divisor *t* . must accordingly cause the term to become vanishingly small with very great values of *t*. 1881 Shairp *Asp. Poetry* viii. 239 Some momentary gleam..that has fleeted vanishingly over earth and sea.

Va·nishment. [f. Vanish *v.*] The act of vanishing or disappearing; the state of having vanished.

1832 Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 326 Mysteriously brought back from vanishment by some one single silent thought. 1851 G. S. Faber *Many Mansions* 105 His sudden vanishment from the eyes of the beholders. 1895 *Archæol. Æliana* XVII. 62 The usual chamfer being reduced almost to vanishment.

Vanist (væ·nist). [See def. and -ist.] An adherent of Sir Henry Vane (1613–62) in respect of Antinomian principles.

1658 Baxter *Life John Howe* Wks. 1846 Pref. p. xiii, Infidels and Papists who are very high and busy under several garbs, especially of Seekers, Vanists, Behmenists. 1664 — *Life* (1696) 63 The Vanists, the Independants, and other Sects.. was left by Cromwell to do his Business under the Name of the Parliament of England. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (ed. 2) 135 Favouring the errors of the..Vanists. 1836 H. Rogers *J. Howe* iii. 65 Here was a Vanist, pouring out his unintelligible rhapsodies.

Vanitarianism. *nonce-wd.* [f. next.] The pursuit of vanities.

1849 Thackeray *Lett.* 81 After wasting a deal of opportunities and time and desires in vanitarianism.

Vanity (væ·nɪti). Forms: 3–4 **uanite**, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) **vanite** (5 **wan-**), 5–6 **vanitee**, 6–7 **vanitie** (6 *Sc.* **wan-**), 6– **vanity** (6 **-tye**); 4–6 **vanyte** (5 **wan-**, **wann-**), 4–6 **vanytee**, 6 **vanytye**, **-tie**. [a. OF. *vanite* (F. *vanité*, = It. *vanità*, Sp. *vanidad*, Pg. *vaidade*), ad. L. *vānitāt-*, *vānitās*, f. *vānus* Vain *a.*]

1. That which is vain, futile, or worthless; that which is of no value or profit.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 27 Hare confort & hare delit, hwerin is hit al meast, bute i flesches fulðe oðer in weorldes uanite..? 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 331 Þose vnwyse ledes þat affyen hym in vanyte & in vayne þynges. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1619 Þus es þe world, and þe lyfe þare-in, Ful of vanyte and of syn. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 431 Þonkinge of enemyes is but vanite. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xliii. 316 Whanne alle this haddist þou seyn,..vpe thou ryse, and bethowhtest the Whethir it were soth oþer vanite. *c* 1480 Henryson *Abbey Walk* 51 (Bann.), Thy power and thy warldis pelf Is nocht bot verry vanitie. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlvi. 98 This frustir luve all is bot vanite. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxxix. 5 Euery man at his best state is altogether vanitie. 1691 Ray *Creation* I. (1704) 76 We see nothing in the Heavens which argues Chance, Vanity or Error. 1834 Mathew *Serm.* ii. 44 Yet you often..are disposed to own that all in this world is vanity.

b. Vain and unprofitable conduct or employment of time.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3346 Forsoþe hyt semeþ weyl to be Al here lyfe yn vanyte. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7228 Þai..awa mysturned here þair lyfyng In-tylle vanyte and flesschly lykyng. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 729 But efter al this nyce vanite, They took hire leve, and hom they wente alle. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 219 Lat reson brydle thy sensualite,..Ageyn al worldly disordinat vanyte. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshman* (Percy Soc.) 5 Men labour sorer in fruyteles vanyte, Than in fayre warkes of grete utylyte. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 73, I pray the, Lord,..All vanitie and lieand word, Full far away thow put fra me. 1607 Meriton *Sixe-folde Politician* (Arb.) 114 As the enterludes may be tearmed the Schoole-houses of vanitie and wantonnes. 1612 *Two Noble K.* II. ii 109 All those pleasures That wooe the wils of men to vanity. 1752 *Transl. & Paraph. Sc. Ch.* xxvii. 102 In Vanity ye waste your Days.

†c. *In vanity*, in vain. *Obs.*—1

1509 Hawes *Conv. Swearers* 23 Ye dare not take their names in vanyte.

2. The quality of being vain or worthless; the futility or worthlessness *of* something.

c 1325 *Prose Psalter* li. 7 He was michel worþ in his vanite. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xi. 1 A haly man þat sees þe vanyte of þe warld multiplid. 1382 Wyclif *Eccl.* iv. 17 That ȝe walke not now, as and hethen men walken, in the vanyte of her witt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7121 Thus curstly þat knighthode..Voidet þere victory for vanite of speche. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 9 In all þis vanyte of his lif he happed to fynde a book þat Tullius Cicero mad. 1535 Coverdale *Eccles.* xvii. 31 He hath pleasure in the vanyte of wickednes. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 31 A fabulous story, whereof the vanity is so much the more visible. 1694 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 200 This [rumour] alarmed me so much that I had little rest till Treas. spoke with King, who assured him of the vanity of it. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 159 P 2, I fell into a profound Contemplation on the Vanity of human Life. 1741 C. Middleton *Cicero* II. viii. 216 The vanity of expecting any lasting glory. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxiv, The Bohemian had gone where the vanity of his dreadful creed was to be put to the final issue. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 699/1 The noble Lord might have anticipated the vanity of his exertions. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 274 The vanity of the resistance of the kings of Judah.

†b. The quality of being foolish or of holding erroneous opinions. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 649 Of his vanytee He hadde ybought hym kneedyng tubbes thre. — *Clerk's T.* 194 Wol nat oure lord yet leue his vanytee? Wol he nat wedde? 1578 Timme *Calvin on Gen.* 26 Whereby their vanitie is overthrowen which think that the world was a matter alwayes without forme. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 46/10 That..[they] mycht now se thair awne daftnes, and lach or greit at thair awne vanitie. 1662 in *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 123 Your petitioner is in great dread and horrour of an oath (though hee detests the vanity of Quakers and such like giddy people).

3. The quality of being personally vain; high opinion of oneself; self-conceit and desire for admiration.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xv. 4 Synn and vnclennes þat þai ere in þat folous þaire flesch and þe vanyte of þaire blode. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 166 That whil he stod in that nobleasse, He scholde his vanite represse With suche wordes as he berde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1730 Be vanyte & vayne glori þat in þi wayne kindlis. *Ibid.* 1784 All þi vanyte to voide & þi vayne pride. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 65 Yowre blynde fantesies now in hertis weyve Of childiasbe vanyte, and lete hem over slyde. 1596 Spenser *St. Ireland* Wks. (Globe) 627/2 They..through their owne vanitye ..doe therupon build..historyes of theyr owne antiquitye. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 85 What did this vanity But minister communication of A most poore issue? 1649 Milton *Eikon.* B, The intention of this discourse was not fond ambition or the vanity to get a Name. 1903 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 310 The vanity of wicked Men is scarcely more conspicuous than in the fond Imaginations they flatter themselves with. 1783 W. Thomson *Watson's Philip III* (1839) 77 She cannot be vindicated from the imputation of female vanity, and the love of admiration on account of her exterior accomplishments. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. i, His vanity was so mingled with good nature that it became graceful. 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* 7 To the young wife's vanity and to Mr. Gordon's pride in his choice.

b. With *a* and pl.: An instance of this; an occasion for being vain.

1712–4 Pope *Rape Lock* I. 52 Think not, when Woman's transient breath is fled, That all her vanities at once are dead. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. xxxi. 203 The nobility and gentry..who placed a vanity in these institutions. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* I Wks. 1799 II. 57 To derive a vanity from a misfortune, will not I'm afraid be admitted as a vast instance of wisdom.

c. A thing of which one is vain; also *slang*, one's favourite liquor.

1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho.* I. II. ix, She was my vanity, and oh All other vanities how vain! 1891 C. James *Rom. Rigmarole* 114 It is advisable to wash it down with a long drink of the reader's particular vanity.

4. A vain, idle, or worthless thing; a thing or action of no value.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 53 Þat foly luue, þat uanite, þam likes now nan oþer gle. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1619 Þus es þe world, and þe lyfe þare-in, Ful of vanyte and of syn. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 431 Þonkinge of enemyes is but vanite. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xliii. 316 Whanne alle this haddist þou seyn,..vpe thou ryse, and bethowhtest the Whethir it were soth oþer vanite. *c* 1480 Henryson *Abbey Walk* 51 (Bann.), Thy power and thy warldis pelf Is nocht bot verry vanitie. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlvi. 98 This frustir luve all is bot vanite. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxxix. 5 Euery man at his best state is altogether vanitie. 1691 Ray *Creation* I. (1704) 76 We see nothing in the Heavens which argues Chance, Vanity or Error. 1834 Mathew *Serm.* ii. 44 Yet you often..are disposed to own that all in this world is vanity.

†b. An idle tale or matter; an idea or statement of a worthless or unfounded nature. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 77 Holy wryt, þet hise clepeþ leazinges..and mettinges and uanites. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 184 Many has lykyng trofels to here, And vanites wille blethly lere. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 166 Whanne þou iangelyst in cherch, or thynkest vanytes. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 108, I knaw me..culpable..In wordis vyle, in vanetеis expreming. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 205 The Frenche men were thought to be authors and forgers of this vanitie. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 37 They be great southsayers, they haue good dayes and bad dayes,.. they doe easily beleeue whatsoeuer vanitie. 1638 Heylyn *Cosmogr.* I. 211 Turpin hath..interlaced his Storie with a number of ridiculous vanities. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 301 His Poem the *Asraeana*..begins with this vanity, truely poetical and Romantick Spaniard-like.

†5. Emptiness, lightness; the state of being void or empty; inanity. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 127 A good oynement for þe vanyte of þe heed. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4774 It was bot vacant & voide, as vanite it were. 1587 Levins *Pathw. Health* (1632) 6 For the Vanity of the head Take the iuice of wall-wort,..and therewith annoint the temples.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vanity-giving*, *-huckster*, *sight*; **vanity-bag**, **-box**, **-case**, a small hand-bag, etc., for ladies, fitted with a mirror and powder-puff.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 166 She is not transfigurd..bod vnto þer sightis þat may be begylid with vanyte syght. 1669 Penn *No Cross* Wks. 1782 II. 205 Let such of those Vanity-hucksters as have got sufficient be contented to retreat. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Aug. 6/3 Remembering..that enough of

our public men do eat of this vanity-giving food.
Vanity-bag, etc.

7. Vanity Fair (after quot. 1678 below), a place or scene where all is frivolity and empty show; the world or a section of it as a scene of idle amusement and unsubstantial display.

[1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* (1900) 82 The name of that Town is Vanity; and at the town there is a Fair kept, called Vanity-Fair. It..beareth the name of Vanity-Fair, because the Town where 'tis kept is lighter than Vanity.]

1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 137 Such is the Palais Royal;—a vanity fair—a mart of sin and seduction! 1847 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iii, Carrying so many bonny lasses to barter modesty for conceit and levity at the metropolitan Vanity Fair. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* III. 110 But how preach..at all in such a vanity fair as this now going on at Ullathorne? 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* 72 Never was such a brilliant, jigging, smirking Vanity Fair as that through which he leads us.

attrib. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, The last scene of her dismal Vanity Fair comedy was fast approaching. *Ibid.* xii, Assuming that any Vanity Fair feelings subsist in the sphere whither we are bound.

Hence **Vanity-fairian.** *nonce-wd.*

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xvii, Even with the most selfish disposition, the Vanity Fairian..can't but feel some sympathies and regret.

Va·nityless, *a. rare.* [f. the sb.] Devoid of vanity.

1854 H. STRICKLAND *Travel Thoughts* 47 [I] wonder if there is any one sane person in the whole world, utterly vanitiless.

Vanjarrah, variant of *bunjarrah* BRINJARRY.

Van John. *Univ. slang.* = VINGT-UN.

1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* xi, 'Van John' was the [illegible] in the morning, and a good deal of Van John in the evening.

† **Vanlay,** *v. Obs.* [Cf. VAUNTLAY *sb.*] *intr.* To cast off a vauntlay (*to* a hart).

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, He.. shulde take goode heede þat he vanlay not, if oþer relayes be behynde, for dreede of bendynge oute fro þe relayes. *Ibid.*, When he hath be so wele ronne to and..relayed and vanleyed to,..þenne turneth he his heed and stondeth at abaye.

† **Vanlin,** variant of VENLIN *Obs.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II 1779/2 There were assembled fouretene Ensignes of the French footemen, .xviii. vanlins of Almains, [and] four or fiue .C. men at armes of France.

Va·nmost, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. VAN *sb.*[2]] Foremost.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt* XVIII. iv. V. 87 Ziethen, vanmost of all, finds Nadasti and his Austrian squadrons drawn across the Highway.

Vann(e, obs. variants of VAN *sb.* and *v.*[1]

Vanner[1] (væ·nəɹ). [f. VAN *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]]

1. One who winnows with a fan. *rare.*

1552 HULOET, Vanner, *uannator.* 1611 COTGR., *Vanneur*, a vanner, or winnower of corne.

2. *Mining.* One who tests the quality of ore by washing it on a shovel.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2098 Whereby the kind, nature and quantity of the Ore is guessed at,..without any great deception, especially if the Vanner have any judgement at all. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Met Mining* 12 The speed and accuracy with which a practised vanner determines the value of a sample of tin ore, fills the beholder with wonder and delight.

b. An apparatus for separating minerals from the gangue.

1880 *U. S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 71 The concentrate from the vanners is high, but the tailings rich. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 16 June 6/9 The company..obtained between 12 and 13 tons of pyrites from the vanners.

Vanner[2] (væ·nəɹ). [f. VAN *sb.*[3]] A light horse suitable for drawing a small van.

1888 *Referee* 8 April (Cassell's), Cabbers, and vanners. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Sept. 4/2 Tramway horses were keenly competed for, and, with serviceable 'vanners', fetched as an average £40 each. 1897 HAYES *Points Horse* (ed. 2) xv. 125 The light vanner belongs to a class intermediate between the light harness horse and the heavy draught horse.

Va·nning, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. VAN *v.*[1]]

† **1.** The action of winnowing with a fan. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Vannyng, *uannatio.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 607 The winnowing, vanning, and laying up either of corne or pulse. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 672 The Corne which is the Vanning lieth lowest, is the best.

† **b.** The action of tossing in a winnowing-fan.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* Annot. 36 Sagatio,..that pastime with us in some place called the canvasing, and else where, the vanning of dogs.

2. The action or process of separating ore on a shovel. Also *attrib*, as *vanning-action, shovel.*

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2098 Vanning..is performed by pulverising the stone, or clay, or what else may be suspected to contain any mineral body, and placing it on a Vanning shovel. 1765 *Ibid.* LVI. 38, I employed a tinner dextrous in vanning (a way of breaking and trying ores, by washing them on a shovel gently with water) to try it in his usual way. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 223 This must be repeated, till it is cleansed from the rough gravelly parts, which may be known by vanning of it on a shovel. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall, etc.* xv. 585 Great dexterity is exhibited by the tinners in the operation termed vanning. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Met. Mining* 12 The same principle is at the bottom of the beautiful art of 'vanning'. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 920/1 The object throughout is..to imitate the vanning action of the miner's shovel.

Vanning, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. VAN *sb.*[3]] **a.** The action of conveying in a van. **b.** Travelling or touring in a van; caravanning.

1890 *Athenæum* 15 Oct. 509/2 In 1836 came the affair of Ellis, of whose 'vanning' so much has been made, though Eclipse had been conveyed in a van..from Epsom..about fifty years before. 1910 *Times* 21 July 8/5 The 'Wanderer', ..the pioneer of 'vanning' as a pastime for health and pleasure, ..is..to be sold by auction.

Vanplate, obs. form of VAMPLATE.

Vanquash, *v. nonce-wd.* [Jocularly f. VAN *sb.*[2] + QUASH *v.*] *trans.* To smash.

c 1626 *Dick of Devon* II. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II, Nay, if you be no better in the Reare then in the Van I shall make no doubt to vanquish, and vanquash you, too, before we part.

† **Vanquer.** *Obs.*—[1] [ad. F. *vainqueur*, f. *vainqu-*, *vaincre* VANQUISH *v.*] Conqueror.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 143 And so this ..Sall now..As Aiax wes, be vanquer of the sell.

† **Va·nquerer.** *Obs.*—[1] [Var. of VAN-COURIER, prob. influenced by F. *querir* to seek.] A scout.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 118 He must give order to the Scoute Mayster whyche way he shall send his Vanquerers to discover.

† **Vanqueror.** *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. VANQUER and CONQUEROR.] Victor.

1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 6 Neither the vanqueror nor the vanquished can haue lust cause of triumph.

Va·nquish, *sb. Sc.* [f. the vb.] (See quots.)

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 267 The pernicious quality of a species of grass to the health of the sheep..infecting them with a disease called the Vanquish. 1793 *Ibid.* VII. 518 In one or two farms a disease also prevails termed the Vanquish. 1807 *Essays Highl. Soc.* III. 407 Change of pasture..is the best known cure for the vanquish.

Vanquish (væ·ŋkwiʃ), *v.* Forms: *a.* 4 vencuse, 4–5 venkus (5 wen-), 5, 6 *Sc.*, venous (5 *Sc.* wen-), 5 -oows; 4 venkis, 5 -kes(e, wenkys; *Sc.* 5 vincuse, wynous, 5–6 vinous(e, 6 uin-, winous, vincous (wincows), vinquis (win-), vanquis. *β.* 4–5 venquis (5 -quyse, -quyss, *Sc.* wenquis); *Sc.* 6 venqueis, -ques, vinqueis, winques, 6–7 winquis, 6 vanques, -quis(e, wanqueis, -ques, -quis. *γ.* 5 venou(s)che, -cussche, -cuzsche, -quys(o)he, -qwyssche, -qwissh, -quissh, -quessh, 5–6 venquyssche, -quissche; 6 vanquy(s)she, -quyche, -quishe, -quysh, *Sc.* -quhish, 6–vanquish. *δ.* 5–6 vaynquyssche (6 vaynoq-, veynq-, *Sc.* waynquysse), -quessche, -quysh, 6 vainquish, *Sc.* wainquis. [ad. OF. *vencus* pa. pple. and *venquis* pa. t. of *veintre* (:—L. *vincĕre*), mod.F. *vaincre* to conquer, overcome; the ending was finally assimilated to that of verbs from F. stems in *-iss-*: see -ISH[2]. The *δ*-forms, however, are ad. late OF. *vainquiss-*, *vainquir*, a rare variant of *vaincre.* See also VENGUE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To overcome or defeat (an opponent or enemy) in conflict or battle; to reduce to subjection or submission by superior force.

α. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7396 3e may me vaille To vencuse þem in pleyn bataille. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 554 He wan throw batail Fraunce all fre; And lucius yber wencusyt he. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3122 If he be fallen vndire fote..And vencust of oure violence, quat vallis him his hestis? *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. xx. 23 To vincus folk he kennit sa fast That he wes vincust at þe last. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 48 Thre kingis..he vencust, all halely, and put thame to the flicht. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xvii. (S.T.S.) I. 105 How þe equis and Wolchis war diuidit amang þame self, and vincust be romanis. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 832 Diuers greit Kingis in feild he did vincus. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 301 Malcolme in battell first vancuist, secundly obteynes the victorie.

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5188 He auaunted hym..He venquised þe emperour alone. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 602 For þat Nichamoure and Timothee Wiþ Iewes were venqwiste mihtile. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 10500 For aust that he myst do,..Thei ware put vnto flyȝt, Wenkyst foule, & discomfiȝt. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 241 Quhen Wallace had weyle wenquist..The fals terand that had his fadyr slayne. 1549 *Compl. Scott.* Prol. 12 Annibal,..beand venquest be nobil scipion, past for refuge tyl anthiocus. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 339 He vanquisses the King of Norway. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 17 Gif he quha is challenged be overcome and winquised be battel.

γ. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* x. 19 Seynge alle the kyngis..hem to be vencusshid of Yrael. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 194 Thurgh Hanibal, That Romayns hath venquysshed tymes thre. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 97 David that sloughe Golye,..That sloughe the bere,..venqwysshed the lyoune. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lv. 185 Yf he can vanquyssche me, then he shal delyuer to thee thy nece. 1555 EDEN *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 51 The Moores or Sarasens and Iewes which..yet coulde neuer before bee cleane vanquyssched vatyll the dayes of this noble and Catholyke prince. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 45 Wer't not a shame,.. The fearfull French, whom you late vanquished, Should make a start ore-seas and vanquish you? 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. ii, [To] baffle hell, And vie with those that stood, and vanquish those that fell. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* i. (1728) 96 David vanquished the Ammonites. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III. 517 Me, Menelaus, by Minerva's aid, Hath vanquish'd now, who may hereafter him. 1844–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* VII. xlii. § 21. 105 She, vanquished but not subdued, compelled to yield to necessity, followed her timid consort. 1898 KANE *Arct. Explor.* I. xxix. 304 They gnawed her feet and nails so ferociously that we drew her yelping and vanquished.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 37 For by bataylle he shall not be reconne and vaynquyssshid. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 408, I am vaynquyssed & overcome wythout any stroke. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 34 Preamble, They were rencountered, vaynquessched, dispersed, overcome, and dyvers put to deth. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xclii. 503 Syr, thonked be god we haue vayaquyssshed the Emperoure. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Debellare*, to vainquish or ouercome by warre.

b. *fig.* To overcome by spiritual power.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margarete*) 34 Ve[illegible] scho cane vincuse þe flesch, þe warld, þe fend alsa. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Contr. Tracts* Sel. Wks. III. 439 þe fend haþ ben many day abowte to vencushe Cristen men bi Antecristis clerkis. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Shepe & G.* 343 Bi his meknesse he..venquyssshid hath Satan. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* B ij b, Saynt Johan sayth in the pocalyps who shal vanquyssshe the world. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 22 He it is, by whose mighty powre, I he worlde was vainquished and his prince cast out. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 44 Than spekis he to God face to face, Quhen that the Deuill he has vincust. 1581 BURNE in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 118 [That] the craft.. of the Deuil is vinquest and ouercum. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 175 The Son of God Now entring his great duel,..to vanquish by wisdom hellish wiles.

† **c.** To expel or banish *from* a place. *Obs.*

1536 *Pilgrym's T.* in *Thynne's Animadv.* (1875) 79 Wher this man walked, ther was no farey ner other spiritis, for his blessynges..did vanquyche them from euery buch and tre. 1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) 374 Conspiring the reentrie of Tarquinius race unto the Kingdome of Rome, from whence they had been vanquished for wickednes and whoredome.

2. To overcome (a person) by other than physical means. Also const. *of* (= in respect of).

c 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 8 Mercyable Quene,..Hafe mercy of my Perilous langoure, Venquist has me my cruelle aduersair. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* 661 Therfore saith the wise man, if thou wolt venquisch thin enemy lerne to suffre. 1477 CAXTON *Dictes* 121 He that demaundethe but reason is able to vaynquyssshe & ouercome his ennemye. *a* 1500 *Bernardus de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 122 For he is nocht ay wencusto with þe sworde, But oft throw lufe. *c* 1530 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 58 Ofte the enmy is easelyer venquysied with seruice than with stroke of swerde. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 43 Hippolyte and alk Pandora ale That with hir slicht[is] al men dois vincous. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 235, I my self, Who vanquisht with a peal of words ..Gave up my fort of silence to a Woman. 1723 W. HAMILTON *To C'tess Eglinton* 22 The Fair One,..Cur'd of her scorn, and vanquish'd of her hate. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 212 In arguing too, the parson own'd his skill, For e'en though vanquish'd, he could argue still. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten* V. II. 295 At last, M. Gerard has got the upper hand; he has vanquished his colleagues, he has vanquished the king.

† **b.** To convict *of* some offence. *Obs.*—[1]

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. xxi. X iiij, Whan it is so that he of that was lawfully vaynquyssshed or that he hath that confessed in Iugement.

3. With impersonal object: To overcome, subdue, suppress, or put an end to (a feeling, state of things, etc.).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 435 For treuþe mut vencusche al oþer þing. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 46 Pacience..venquysseth..thynges þat rigour sholde neuere atteyne. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3546 We se ofte that humilite, Bothe ire, and also felonye Venquyssheth. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3284 Thenfecciouu of hir troubled eyr He hath venqueschod. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 69 And yf thou canst not vaynquyssshe thyn yre than muste thyn yre ouercome the. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. xi. 64 The flambe of torchis vincoust the dirk aycht. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 122 O God, as gude and gracious, Lat thair Jugeing vencust be. *a* 1601 MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* (1878) II. 154 Euen then my loue shall not be vanquished. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. i. (1651) 37 If the cause be removed, the effect is likewise vanquished. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 607 By vanquishing Temptation, [thou] hast regain'd lost Paradise. 1782 COWPER *Expost.* 411 To vanquish lust, and wear its yoke no more. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 110 Till it thus vanquish shame and fear. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Fr. Wines & Pol.* viii. 130 Charles repeatedly vanquished his resentment at the Marquis' supercilious treatment of him.

† **b.** To excel or surpass. *Obs.*—[1]

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 7 New authouris .. be þare crafty eloquence traistis to vincus the rude langage of anciant authouris.

† **4.** To win or gain (a battle or other contest).

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 1126 Sone that douzty undur sheld Had y-venkessyd the feld. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 56 Vter venquyssshed the bataylle, and ther ne escaped noon of the sarazins. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 211/3 Thus as he demanded he vanquyssshid the batayll. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 42 A gentlemanne..did demaunde of an Englishemanne, how many battailes kyng Edward had vanquished.

5. *absol.* To be victorious; to have the victory.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xiv. 47 And whidir euer he turnede hym alle, he venkiusede. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* (1890) 846 He threwe away his swerde, and judged himself better to vaynquyssshe in suffering of deth. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 736 He shall no lesse commend his wisdome where he voyded, then his manhood where he vanquished. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 349 He..as stoutlie straik and vanquist, that a noble Victorie he obteynet. 1851 *Raleigh's Ghost* 213 When he suffered his hands to fall down, Amalek vanquished.

Vanquishable (væ·ŋkwiʃəb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being vanquished or overcome.

1555 WATHERMAN *Fardle Facions* App. 309 Ye shal be of all menne moste strong and valiaunte in fight, and vanquishable to none enemie. 1600 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II, Banisht, forlorne, despairing,..vanquishable. 1634 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iv. 87 That great Gyant..was only vanquishable by the Knights of the Well. 1736 ARBUTHNOT 1, Vanquishable, *vincibilis, superabilis.* 1821 COLERIDGE *Table T.* 25 July, I should not have wished for a more vanquishable opponent. 1866 CARLYLE *Reminis.* (1881) II. 221 I she again proved not to be vanquishable.

Vanquished (væ·ŋkwiſt), *ppl. a.* Also 5–6 *Sc.* **venoust**, 6 *Sc.* **vincust, vanquest, -queist**; 6 **vanquisshed**, 7 **vanquisht**. [f. as prec.] Defeated, overcome, subdued.

1496 Sir G. Hayr *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 272 The vencust man ..suld pay to the vencusour his costis. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* I. ii. 27 Cariand to Italy Thair vincust hammald goddis and Ilion. 1589 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S.T.S.) 54 The portrators of euerie vanquest towne, Of Cittadells [etc.]. 1671 Milton *Samson* 281 The matchless Gideon in pursuit Of Madian and her vanquisht Kings. 1710 W. King *Heathen Gods & Heroes* x. (1722) 41 Those [arms] which Marcus Marcellus took from the vanquish'd Viridomarus. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxviii. (1787) III. 103 But the victors themselves were insensibly subdued by the arts of their vanquished rivals. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. 44 This plea the King considered as the subterfuge of a vanquished disputant. 1854 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 266 Much more they steep The vanquished soul in sweet forgetfulness.

b. *absol.* The person or persons defeated, etc.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 30 Greater commoditie hath therof ensewed to the vanquisshed then the victourers. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* I. 38 That the victors would sacke the vanquisheds houses. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xx. 104 It is not..the Victory, that giveth the right of Dominion over the Vanquished [etc.]. 1728 Eliza Heywood tr. *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 67 Perhaps, if Tremouille had been the vanquish'd, he could not have behaved with the same Temper, as, being Conqueror, he did. 1810 Jane Porter *Scottish Chiefs* lxxxv, He bade that generous prince adieu, with the full belief of soon returning to find him the vanquished of Edward. 1887 Bowen *Æneid* II. 353 One hope only remains for the vanquished—hope to resign.

Vanquisher (væ·ŋkwiſəɹ). Forms: *α.* 5 *Sc.* **venousour**, 6 **vanquysser**, *Sc.* **-quisser, venquessair, vinquiesser**. *β.* 5 **vaynquyssheur, -our**, 6 **venquesshor, vanquysher**, 6– **vanquisher**. [f. as prec.] A conqueror, subduer.

α. 1456 [see prec.]. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xv. 40 Yf it fortunyd that the vanquysser sle his enymye. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 149 The victoree is ioyful quhen the enemeis are venqueist vithout ony domage to the venquesair. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 8 That he myght declair him self vinquiesser ouir death and sathan. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 302 A certane 3ouing man,..the principal vanquisser of Cam.

β. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. vii, In suffryng hym thou shalt be his vaynquysshour. 1490 — *Eneydos* xi. 42 God forbede that it may be sayd of Eneas,..vaynquyssheur of grete bataylles [etc.]. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* II. (1811) 80 Dunwallo..was venquesshor of ye other Dukes or rulers. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 441 The Saints..are victorers and vanquishers, howsoeuer they are oppressed. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 11 This inuincible ale victoriously vanquished the vanquisher. 1652 Kirkman *Clerio & Lesia* 83 This superbe Vanquisher receiving the Trophies and the Laurels. 1704 Richers *Hist. Roy. General. Spain* 266 The Castle of Zamora soon after surrender'd to the vanquisher. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. III. vii. 400 *note*, Combats, wherein they were sometimes the vanquishers, and sometimes the vanquished. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm., Gen.* xxxii. 27 The secret of his power with his friendly vanquisher.

Va·nquishing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec.] The action of overcoming or subduing.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 56 Þe coniunccion ne uailleþ noȝt, so ase þe scisede mai repelen, ne þe venquissinge ne uailleþ noȝt bote ȝif hit were aioined þoru riȝt. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 825 For dout of vincussing they went nocht away. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* XVIII. 206 (E.), Quhen thai of Scotland had wittering Off Schir Eduuardis wencussing. 1611 Cotgr., *Victoire*, victorie, conquest, a subduing, or vanquishing. 1736 Ainsworth, *Debellatio*, a vanquishing, or overthrow.

Va·nquishing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] That overcomes or conquers.

1611 Cotgr., *Vainqueresse*, a vanquishing or victorious woman. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 258 Such was the dread of his vanquishing army amongst the nations of the West.

Vanquishment (væ·ŋkwiſmĕnt). [f. as prec.] The act of vanquishing or overcoming.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 42 The vanquishment of that vglie nest of Harpies, hath beene reserued as a worke for mee, before all beginnings. 1613–8 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 5 He draue Valentinian to seeke ayde of Theodosius..after the vanquishment and death of his brother. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 336 This he took to be an omen or presage of the vanquishment and death of Perses. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* II. xv. (1715) 328 Appearing in time of War, it signified vanquishment, and running away. 1851 I. Taylor *Wesley & Methodism* 26 His conversion, taking place..by successive vanquishments. 1888 B. W. Richardson *Son of Star* I. 226 The princess.. had gained a reputation ..for her prowess and skill in vanquishment.

† **Vanquissant**, *a. Obs.*—1 [ad. obs. F. *vainquissant*, pres. pple. of *vainquir*: see Vanquish *v.*] Victorious.

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 195 Congratulations she received not as a woman in child-bed, but as a Captaine vanquissant of a battel.

Vansire. *Zool.* [a. F. *vansire*, formed by Buffon (1765) from the Malagasy name, given by him as *vohang-* or *voangshira* (otherwise recorded as *vontsira*).] The marsh-ichneumon (*Herpestes galera*) of South Africa.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. ix. 362 To the ferret kind we may add an animal which Mr. Buffon calls the Vansire, the skin of which was sent him stuffed, from Madagascar. 1785 Smellie tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VII. 222 The vansire..is a native of Madagascar and the interior parts of Africa. 1831 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* Apr. 37 M. Goudot has brought a small carnivorous animal, which he states to be the true vansire.

Vanston(e, southern ME. var. Fontstone.

Vant, southern var. Font *sb.*[1]; obs. f. Vaunt *sb.* and *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Want *v.*

Vant-, *prefix*, representing AF. *vant-*, aphetic f. *avant-* Avant-: see Vant-brace, -guard, -ward. In a number of compounds the *t* was elided, as Vambrace, -chase, -courier, -guard, etc. Before labials the *n* by assimilation became *m*, as in Vambrace, Vampey, Vamplate, Vamward; and a further reduction appears in *vamure* Vaumure and Vaward. The AF. variant *vaunt-* is also very fully represented in English forms: see Vaunt-chase, -courier, etc.

Vantage (va·ntedʒ), *sb.* Also 4–7 **vauntage**, 6 **vauntadge**; 5–6 *Sc.* **wantage**, 7–8 **'vantage**. [a. AF. *vantage* (1302), var. of OF. *avantage* Advantage *sb.* Cf. It. *vantaggio*, Sp. *ventaja*, Pg. *vantagem.*]

1. Advantage, benefit, profit, gain. Now *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8015 O þam þou sal haue gret vantage, Bath to þe and to þi barnage. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 302 Not of leesyng of worldliche worshp ne worldliche vauntage,..but of leasyng of vertues. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/1 Vauntage, (*K.*, or avauntage), *profectus, proventus.* *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 915 This wantage was, the Scottis thaim dantyt awa, Nayn Inglisman durst fra his feris ga. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 172 b, Repute it for your singlar vauntage & wynnynge to be exercised & tossed in dyuerse temptacyons. 1555 Hooper in *Coverdale's Lett. Mart.* (1564) 141 Such fleshe as..had great vauntage by hys word, are become his very enemies. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 72, I receyued two seuerall letters from you,..Out of which..I reaped double commoditie and vauntage. 1617 Collins *Def. Bp. of Ely* I. i. 72 What vantage haue you now of all that is said of Peters ship to countenance Rome? 1645 *Arraignm. Persecution* 23 Shall we that haue received vantage by their rejection, thus recompence them with tyranny? [1846 Landor *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 266 It would give..the neighbourhood much vantage, to see these two fellows good men.]

† b. Pecuniary profit or gain. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Freemasonry* (Halliw. 1840) 149 The mayster schal not, for no vantage, Make no prentes that ys outrage. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 43 Iudas was wo, þat he had not þat vauntage of þo xxx. pens þat was þe tythe of þe iij. hundreth pena. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxv. 27 Then at my commynge shulde I have receaved my money with vauntage. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 310 He became a master in makynge cardes for the sea, whereby he had great vantage. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 90 If one penie vantage be therein to saue, of coast man or fleming be sure to haue.

† c. A perquisite. *Obs.* (Cf. Vail *sb.*[1] 4.)

a 1470 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) VII. xxi. 308/2 That he sholde besydes his salarye take annuell or trentalle, or ony suche other, that they calle vantages. 1482 *MS. at St. Nich. Bristol* in *Clerk's Book of 1549* (Bradshaw Soc.) 70 Hit was of old vsage that the vantage of weddyngges was longgynge to the Clerke. 1558 G. Cavendish *Poems* (1825) II. 52 First in the privye councell was my foundacion, And cheife secretary with all vantages and fees.

† d. *Printing.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 393 When a Whitepage or more happens in a Sheet, the Compositer calls that Vantage: So does the Press-man, when a Form of one Pull comes to the Press. [1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 151 *Vantage*, an old synonym for the modern one of 'fat'.]

† 2. a. A greater amount *of* something. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiv. lii. (Tollem. MS.), Therfore þese places of heremites hauen moche noye and trauayll; nepeles it haþ a vauntage [L. *plurimum*] of commodite and reste.

† b. An additional amount or sum. *For* or *to the vantage*, in addition. *Vantage of bread* (see quot. 1611). *Obs.*

1589 More *Suppl. Souls* Wks. 331 And yet haue we for the vauntage..the boke of ye kinges, the woordes of the Prophete zacharie [etc.]. 1538 *Croscombe Ch. Ward. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 43 R. Phelyppes for the vantage of bredde, xxii*d.* 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. iii. 86 Yes, [there are] a dozen [such women]; and as many to th' vantage, as would store the world they plaid for. 1611 Cotgr., *Le tresain du pain*, vantage of bread; the thirteenth loafe giuen by Bakers vnto the dozen. 1617 Collins *Def. Bp. of Ely* II. ix. 346 Supererogation there is none, where first all is not done that ought to be done, and then a vantage too, or surplus ouer. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. xiii. (1647) 191 The Popes Legate and Robert Earl of Artois..would make no bargain except Alexandria..were also cast in for vantage to make the conditions down-weight. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vantage*, that which is given over and above just Weight and Measure; Overplus.

† c. *And* (*a* or *the*) *vantage, with the vantage*, and above, and (a little) more. *Obs.*

1594 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1860) 244, xx*l* stirkes of yeare old and vantage, 18[l]., x stirkes, of two yeares ould and vantage, 16[l]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 12 But Venus ascendeth up to her station in fifteene daies and the vantage. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* I. i, She is fifteen, with the vantage, And if she be not ready now for mannage—. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 251 Of a huge stature, and a mind answerable thereunto, for it is said, that he was five cubids high, and vantage. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No 4472/4 Stoln or Stray'd..., a brown bay Gelding, 14 hands and the vantage high. 1711 — No. 4875/4 A large kindly black Mare,..two Years old, with the Vantage. 1734 J. Sherbeare *Matrimony* (1766) I. 4 In plain English, she had seen One and Thirty Birth-days, and a 'Vantage, as they say in the West of England.

† d. *ellipt.* = prec. *Obs.*—1

1601 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 124 A litle younge styre of towe yeres old vantage.

3. Advantage or superiority in a contest; position or opportunity likely to give superiority; vantage-ground. † *Upon the vantage*, at an advantage

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xvii. 18 The archers, haue noo vauntage of hym nor of his company. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 3 The cause why they were thus shauen before, was, for that their enemies should not haue the vauntage to take them by the hayres of the head while they were fighting. *Ibid.* 4 They which by might could haue vantage ouer others, had nothing to doe with..quiet qualities. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 215 Oft thay meit [in battle]; oft thay parte with lytle vantage. 1600 Holland *Livy* I. xxvii. 20 When hee thought hee had gained vantage ynough, hee mounted up the hill with all his companies. 1607 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 117 Knowing the weakness, he esteem'd his vantage in suffering them to land. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 27 A Castle, strong, and of white chalky stone, its Ordnance planted high to play in Mounts upon the vantage. 1798 Southey *Joan of Arc* VII. 345 The exasperate knight..up the steps advanced, Like one who disregarded in his strength The enemy's vantage. 1820 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 160 Though close bedged in by the foe, The vantage hath been ours. 1867 Trollope (*Avon. Barset* I. xviii. 156 The bishop found that he would thus lose his expected vantage.

b With defining term introduced by *of*.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxciv 597/1 The englishemen had the vauntage of the hyll, and helde themselfe so cloose together that none coude entre into them. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 242 Assoone as the king and his Marshalles had ordered hys battayle, he drewe vp the sayles and came with a quarter winde to haue the vauntage of the sonne. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 599 It hath been anciently practised to burne Heath, and Ling, and Sedge, with the vantage of the Wind, upon the Ground. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* V. xviii, To each knight their care assigned Like vantage of the sun and wind. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* V, Thou wilt have better access to drive them back, having the vantage of the house. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* XVI. III. 621 James..consented to retreat till he should reach some spot where he might have the vantage of ground.

c. In the phrases *coign* (see Coign *sb.* 1), *place, point* (etc.) *of vantage*. So also † *dice of vantage*.

c 1570 *Misogonus* II. iv. 168 (Brandl), The preistes handes ith mustardpott; the knave, throwe at an inch, Has some dise of vauntadge, myne oth I durst take. 1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* XVI. 24 Naked champions..Are wont, intent, to watch their place of hold And vantage, ere in closer strife they meet. 1832–4 De Quincey *Cæsars* Wks. 1860 X. 55 This adoption would have been applied .. as a station of vantage for introducing him to the public favour. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* xvii. (1868) II. 347 It was unfortunate that the possession of Sluys had given Alexander such a point of vantage.

† 4. With *a* and pl.: An advantage; a position or state of superiority. Freq. with *at* or *for*. *Obs.*

Perh. originally a wrong division of *avantage*.

c 1450 *Merlin* xxxii. 654 Petrius..cowde well fle and returne at a vauntage, and well fight with his enmyes. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* liii. 204 They chased Subyon that was horsed at a vauntage better than they were. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 117 Then they issued out boldly and shot coragiously as men that shot for a vauntage. *a* 1568 in *A. Scott's Poems* (S.T.S.) 44 Thair is nocht ane winche þat I ne Sall win ane wantage of me. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 268 b, Hereupon he doth conclude as it were at a vauntage that the doctrine of these men is not onely unprofitable, but also pestiferous. 1625 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 32 Wee may well assure our selues, (as in all other Arts, so in this) there is a vantage and dexterity, by skill. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 263 Naaman seemed humble, when he stood at Elisha his doore, but it was for a vantage.

† b. An opportunity; a chance. *Obs.*

1592 *Soliman & Per.* I. ii, I, watch you vauntages? Thine be it then. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. iii. 24 When shall we heare from him. *Pisanio.* Be assur'd Madam, With his next vantage. *Ibid.* II. iii. 50 You are most bound to th' King, Who let's go by no vantages, that may Preferre you to his daughter.

5. In phrases with verbs: a. With personal object, as *to catch, have, hold, take* (one) *at* († *a* or † *the*) *vantage.*

c 1310 *Gesta Rom.* (W. de W.) A ij, At the last she had hym at a vauntage agayne, ande was afore hym. 1582 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 156 b, You haue taken me at a vauntage. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vii. 51 Me seely wretch she so at vauntage caught. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 12 He will take a weak man at the vantage. 1827 Southey *Hist. Penins. War* II. 123 In this sort of warfare their loss was generally greater than that of the natives, who on such occasions had them at vantage. 1857 Emerson *Poems* 153 Complement of human kind, Holding us at vantage still.

† b. With *vantage* as object, esp. *to take . . vantage (of)*. *Obs.* (Cf. Advantage *sb.* 5 b.)

(*a*) 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 2 If the vantage had bene presently takin. *c* 1588 [R. Browne] *Answ. Cartwright* 23 If any will take vantage, that yet their censers were holy,..let vs consider what holines this was. 1592 Marlowe *Massacre Paris* III. 1, [He] takes his vantage on Religion, To plant the Pope and popelings in the Realme. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 50 Hee thought to make his Vantage upon his Parliament.

(*b*) 1592 Lyly *Endym.* II. 1, You will be sure I shall take no vantage of your words. 1600 Holland *Livy* I. ii. 9 The armie of the Antemnates, taking the vantage of the time,.. entred the confines of Rome. 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* xvi. 40, I Will take no 'vantage of thy Missrie.

6. *Lawn Tennis.* = Advantage *sb.* 2.

1874 Peile *Lawn Tennis* 30 If he lose the next stroke (he being vantage to love), the score is again called deuce. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 467/2 Then our opponents ran to deuce, and another victory made the score vantage in our favor.

7. *attrib.*, as (sense 2 b) † *vantage-loaf*; (sense 3) *vantage-coign, -ditch, -place, -point*; (sense 6) *vantage-game, -set.* Also Vantage-ground.

1622 in Plomer *Abstracts fr. Wills of Eng. Printers* (1903) 45 To twelve Poore people..one penny loafe and Twoe pence a peece and the vauntage l oafe to the Clerke there. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. ii, Bulwark,..bastion, tower, and vantage-coign. *a* 1861 Clough *Retig. Poems* li. 85 Quick seizure and fast unrelaxing hold of vantage-place. 1875 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 322 Terraces, house-tops,—every vantage-point—were crowded thickly with spectators. 1885 J. H. Dell *Dawning Grey, Prefatory*, Some last vantage-ditch of wrong. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 7 July 6/3 The Londoners equalized and made another 'vantage' set necessary. *Ibid.*, The Irishmen gained the 'vantage' game every time.

Vantage (vɑ·ntédʒ), *v.* Also 5 vauntagyn, 6 -age. [f. prec., or ad. OF. *vantager* (Palsgr.).]

1. *trans.* To profit or benefit (one). Now only *arch.* Cf. Advantage *v.* 4.

c 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.), Forderyn,..or vauntagyn. 1530 Palsgr. 765/1 What dothe it vauntage you to go so often over-see? 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 49 Needlesse feare did neuer vantage none. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. i, Yf nothing but that losse may vantage you, I would accompt that losse my vauntage to. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Job Triumphant* IV. 227 What will it vantage mee, What shall I gain, if I from sin be free? 1823 Scott *Betrothed* xxiv, To keep him as a captive might vantage them more in many degrees, than could his death. 1891 C. E. Norton *Dante's Purgat.* xiii. 66 What hath it vantaged thee to make of me a screen?

refl. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 186 They vauntage themselves nothyng by this distinction. 1598 Barrpt *Theor. Warres* I. ii. 13 Thereby to aduance and vantage himselfe.

†2. *intr.* To make gain or profit. *Obs.*—1

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 33/1 The commen saying of. naughty wemen, which say, they vantage more in one holy day, then in L. other daies besides.

Hence **Va·ntaged** *ppl. a.*, †increased, augmented.

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* Pref. 7 That..with the testimonie of a cleare conscience, we may render our vauntaged talentes vnto the high Auditour.

†**Va·ntageable,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 vantish-. [f. prec.] Advantageous, profitable.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* 361 b/1 These Caursinites..had their debters to them bound in such sort, as was much vantishable [1596 vantageable] to them, and much iniurious vnto the other. 1620 Marcellini *Tri. Jas. I*, 83 And when all this had bin done, where are then his so much vantageable profits?

Va·ntage-ground. [Vantage *sb.* 7.] A position which places one at an advantage for defence or attack.

Freq. in 19th cent., chiefly in fig. use.

1612 Bacon *Ess., Of Great Place* (Arb.) 282 That cannot be without power and place; as the vantage and commanding ground. 1625 — *Of Truth* (Arb.) 500 No pleasure is comparable, to the standing vpon the vantage ground of Truth. 1644 Waller in *Cal. State Papers, Dom. Ser.* (1888) 301, I moved not till I had full assurance..that the enemy was clearly gone, lest it might have been but a feint to draw me from my vantage ground. 1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. 1842 I. 170 But I quit the vantage ground on which I stand, and where I might leave the burthen of the proof upon him. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 164, I am convinced that for the human soul to prosper in rustic life a certain vantage-ground is pre-requisite. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Phil.* II. vi. 173 A means of fresh attack with new vantage ground. 1878 Maclear *Celts* I. 10 Making the Greek colony of Massilia..her vantage-ground.

Va·ntageless, *a.* [f. Vantage *sb.*] Not having any advantage or superiority.

1810 Scott *Lady of L.* V. xii, See here, all vantageless I stand, Arm'd like thyself with single brand.

†**Vantageous,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. Vantage *sb.*] Bringing advantage or gain.

c 1586 T. Hacket *Treas. Amadis* D iij, It perteineth not to suche a Lord as ye are to have and to hold any such brave and vantageous purposes with me.

†**Vantation.** *Obs.*—1 [app. f. *vant* Vaunt *v.*] Ostentation, display.

1637 Bastwick *Litany* III. 20 They have..scarce a sermon in the whole University; and if there be one it tends onely to vantation, and to shew the strength of lines, which indeed breatheth nothing but vanity.

Va·ntbrace. Now *arch.* or *Hist.* Forms: α. 4-5 vauntbras, 6 -brasse; 6-7 (9) vantbras, 7-8 -brass. β. 5, 7, 9 vauntbrace, 6-7, 9 vantbrace. [a. AF. *vantbras*, aphetic f. *avantbras*, f. *avant* before + *bras* arm.] = Vambrace.

α. 1374 *For. Acc.* 49 *Edw. III*, B, In .x. bacinettis,..iij. paribus Vauntbras et rerebras. 1412 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1902) 60 Unum basinetum cum ventale, vauntbras, rerbras [etc.]. 1416 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 104 Pauns, vauntbrases,..et quyssshews. 1504-6 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 90 For iij pair vantbrasses. 1580 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 167 The King..lokythe dayly..to receive the vauntbrasse and gauntlett. 1624 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* VI. 854 One, for his own, his Fellow's Helm puts on: One, his right Vantbras on left arm doth don. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1121 Then put on all thy gorgeous arms,..thy broad Habergeon, Vant-brass and Greves, and Gauntlet. 1790 *Ann. Reg., Poetry* 153 On his strong vantbrass Hacon's sword descends. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Vant bras*, armour for the arm.

β. 1412-20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 87 (MS. Digby 230), Pat þe sleues eke so longe be þat his vauntbrace may be cured ner. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XX. cxxxix, His shield was pierst, his vantbrace cleft and split. 1622 F. Markham *Bk. War* I. x. 39 As touching the Vantbrace (which armeth from the Elbow to the hand) they are not greatly materiall in this case. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 109 After many..blown to the disadvantage of their casks, cerulets, and vantbraces. 1820 Scott *Eve St. John* iii, Yet his plate-jack was braced, and his helmet was laced, And his vaunt-brace of proof he wore. 1828 Heber *Journ. India* II. xxv. 126 Many of the others [native horsemen of Baroda] had helmets, vant-braces, gauntlets, &c.

Vant-courier, -curer (-ier, -or, -our), obs. ff. Vaunt-courier.

Vanterie, -ery, varr. Vauntery *Obs.*

†**Vantguard,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: α. 5-6 *Sc.* wantgard, 6-7 vantgard (6 -garde), 6-8 vantguard (6-7 -guarde). β. 5-6 vauntgarde (7 vaunte-), 6-7 vauntgard, -guard. [Aphetic f. Avantguard. Cf. Vantward.]

1. *Mil.* = Vanguard 1.

α. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 500 Wallace him selff the wantgard he has tayne. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.* (1809) 442 Bothe the vantgardes ioyned together with auche a force that it was marueli to beholde. 1587 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1970/2 Being lodged in the vantgard that was gouerned by monsieur de Brissac. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. ii. 67 The one marcheth in the vantgard, and the other in the reareward. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* x. 40 And Tupitil and Teutecatl, very principall gentlemen, had the Vant-gard with ten thousand men. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* I. III. 133 Shewing him at the same time the Duke's Vant-Guard, which began to appear upon a little eminence hard by. 1700 Chauncy *Hist. Antiq. Herts.* (1826) I. 39 Who..was Captain of the Vantguard of King Edward's Army in Scotland. *a* 1754 Carte *Hist. Eng.* (1755) IV. 60 His vantguard was quartered at S. Lanfranc.

β. *c* 1450 *Merlin* X. 151 Now fro hens-forth may we go vpon youre enmyes, and ther-fore devise now who shall haue the vaunt garde. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 232 In the vaunte garde..were xx thousand cryslen men. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 124 In kepyng this course the vauntgarde encountered with the Erle of Boleyn. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Louw C.* III. 98 b, They first appointed seuen Ensignes for the vauntguard. 1643 R. Baker *Chron.* 94 Fauconbridge and Blunt continue the leading of the Vauntguard. 1679 Blount *Anc. Tenures* 109 By condition of service to lead the Vauntguard of the Earles Army.

b. *fig.* = Vanguard 1 b.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 39 Of all the Beasts.. The Elephant the Vant-guard doth command. 1623 H. Sydenham *Serm. Sol. Occ.* (1637) 90 Men who make a shrewd flourish in the vant-guard of Religion. 1629 N. Carpenter *Achitophel* I. (1640) 22 Litle can true wisdome ..perswade in the Reare where wicked policie commands the Vant-guard.

2 a. A breastplate, corslet. *rare*—1.

1562 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 120 They had also Habergions..which is a defence for the breste, called a breste plate, or a vauntgarde.

b. (See quot.)

1611 Florio, *Vanguardia*,..a vantguard of a helmet, of a caske or head piece.

†**Vant-guard,** *v. Obs.*—1 [f. Guard *v.* after prec.] *trans.* To defend in front.

16..T. C. C. J. *Remedy of Love* 83 (Nares), Carthage is strong, with many a mightie tower, With broad deepe ditch, vant guarding stately wall.

Vantishable, variant of Vantageable *a. Obs.*

Vantmure, var. Vauntmure *Obs.*

Vanton, -toun, obs. Sc. ff. Wanton *a.*

Vantose, obs. var. Ventose *sb.*

Vantour, obs. form of Vaunter.

Vantparlar, -er, etc., varr. Vauntparler.

Vantplate, obs. form of Vamplate.

Vantrauth, variant of Wantroth *Obs.*

†**Va·ntward.** *Obs.* Also 3 vantwarde, 4-5 vauntward(e. [Aphetic form of Avantward; cf. Vantguard. See also next, and Vamward, Vaward.] The vanguard of an army.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7478 Hor vantwarde was to broke, þat me miȝte wiþinne hom wende. *Ibid.* 9006 Þe vantwardes hom mette verst, as riȝt was to done. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 94 Elde þe hore he was in þe vauntwarde, And bare þe banere bifor deth, by riȝte he it claymed. *c* 1450 *Coutin. Brut* II. (1908) 320 Sere Bertram Cleykyn, þat was..chyueteyn of þe vauntward of þe bataill. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* VIII. xiii, He sette..the duc of York in the vauntward. 1557 *K. Arthur* (Copland) I. xv, Lyonses and Phariaunce had the vaunt warde. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 794 They marched forth in the Vantward: they returned home in the Rereward.

†**Va·nward,** *sb. Obs.* In 5 van-, 6 vawneward. [Reduced form of prec.: cf. Vanguard. See also Vaward.] = prec.

In reprints of 16th cent. works *vanward* is sometimes substituted for *vaward* Vaward, and the latter is perh. the correct reading of the MS. in quot. 1476.

1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 162 The Swechys..hathe slayne the most parte off hys vanwarde. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. (1516) 205 b/1 He than sette forthe his waye; commaundynge his vawnewarde to kepe their lourney towarde Paris.

Va·nward, *a.* [f. Van *sb.*3] Situated, having place or position, in the van or front.

1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 39 As if the vanward clouds of evil days Had spent their malice. 1823 De Quincey *Lett. Educ.* iv. (1860) 77 Its vanward and its rearward man. 1877 Patmore *Unknown Eros* 42 Until the vanward billows feel The agitating shallows. 1896 *Edin. Rev.* July 151 The horison became darkened with the vanward clouds of evil days.

Va·nward, *adv.* [f. as prec.] Towards or in the front; forward. Also with *to*.

1827 Hood *Mids. Fairies* xlvi, Then next a merry Woodsman, clad in green, Strept vanward from his mates. 1858 J. P. Kennedy *Rob of the Bowl* ii, Vanward the same kind of enclosures..shut in a grassy court. 1888 Lowell *Heartsease & Rue* 56 Whose brave example still to vanward shines.

Vapid (væ·pid), *a.* Also 7 vappid. [ad. L. *vapid-us* savourless, insipid. Cf. obs. F. *vapide* (Cotgr.).]

1. Of liquors, beverages, etc.: Devoid of briskness; failing to produce an agreeable effect on the palate; flat, insipid.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vapid*, that gives an ill smack, that casts a vapour or ill savour, stinking. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 116 A sourish, saltish, and...vapid liquor. 1676 Grew *Anat. Pl., Anat. Fl.* (1682) 158 Now the Liquors, in which these are generated, do always..lose their Tast and Smell, and so become Vapid. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* xx. 585 Then away goes the brisk and pleasant Spirits and leave a vapid or sour Drink. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* II. 208 It somewhat resembled vapid French white wine. 1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 24 July, He..made his own cold tea, and drank it weak and vapid. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 47 Vapid, old and worn out trees, producing vapid fruit. 1864 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 1 Nov., So are bottled mineral waters the vapidest of beverages.

fig. 1783 Ld. Bristol in A. Young *Autobiogr.* (1898) vi. 118 When you are *vapid*, if ever those *pétillant* spirits of yours are so, come and imbibe some air at the Dowdhill.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xiii, Such vapid and flat daylight as filtered through the ground-glass windows.

b. Said of taste or flavour.

1677 Grew *Anat. Fl.* (1682) 280 A soft Taste, is either Vapid, as in Watery Bodies, Whites of Eggs, Starch,. Or Unctuous, as in Oyls, Fat, &c. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 32 It gives to the beer a vapid disagreeable flavour. 1837 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* II. 337 The exhilarating effect is produced at the sacrifice of fine flavour, and with the introduction of vapid bitterness. 1859 W. S. Coleman *Woodlands* (1866) 118 The tempting appearance of which, however, is not borne out by their flavour, which is mawkish and vapid.

c. *Med.* Of blood: Devoid of strength or vigour; weak, inert.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIV. 495 In such Diseases the whole mass of Blood. is otherwise grown vappid as it were. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 52 Softening and enriching the sharp and vapid blood. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 363 *note*, Dr. Stevens thinks that the blood first loses its solid parts, and becomes thin, that it then becomes deprived of its saline principles, and turns black and vapid.

d. Of flowers: Scentless. *rare*—1.

c 1730 Shenstone *Rural Elegance* 235 To rear some breathless vapid flow'rs.

2. *fig.* Devoid of animation, zest, or interest; dull, flat, lifeless, insipid: a. Of talk, discourse, writings, etc.

1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 34 P 8 Conversation would become dull and vapid. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* Wks. 1765 II. 204 Vapid frivolous chit-chat serves to pass away the time. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 211 The minute ceremonials and vapid common-place of the German theatre. 1820 Hazlitt *Table-T.* Ser. II. i, The news of the morning become stale and vapid by the dinner-hour. 1865 H. Phillips *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 112 The newspapers contained as usual vapid and lengthy essays. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Feb. 4/7 There is ..a great deal of vapid declamation on this subject, but it will soon die out.

b. Of amusements, pleasures, etc.

1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 16 This town..begins to grow satiated with the uniform round of its vapid dissipations. 1799 Han. More *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 98 A sophisticated little creature, nursed in these forced, and costly, and vapid pleasures. 1825-9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* IV. xxviii. 309 One continued round of vapid amusements, some of which are too light and trifling even to amuse a child at a common fete. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* I. i, Mrs. Stratheden's 'At Homes' are very different from the general run of those vapid and dreary entertainments.

c. Of persons or places.

1784 Cowper *Task* I. 303 The languid eye, the..wither'd muscle, and the vapid soul, Reproach their owner. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 197, I grew so dull, and vapid, and genteel. 1839 [Mrs. Maitland] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 272 Masulipatam was an ugly place;..nothing to be seen but wide sandy roads,..altogether, a most vapid sort of place. 1873 C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond.* (1876) 219 The adoption of the most vapid young lady's perversion of her mother-tongue.

d. In miscellaneous contexts.

1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* I. 236 A scheme of human happiness, which no time, no repetition can make vapid to a feeling heart. 1818 Hazlitt *Table-T., On Vulg. & Affect.*, It is a vapid assumption of superiority. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. vii, A smile is..in general vapid. 1861 Whyte Melville *Market Harb.* 10 The vapid demeanour and cool assurance which triumph in a ball-room. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* viii. 315 If these pernicious views.. be entertained..the renewal of humanity [is] a vapid and foolish dream.

†3. Of a damp or steamy character; dank; vaporous. *Obs.*

1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxii. 169 A vapid Air, or Water rarified into vapor, may..emulate the elastical power of..true Air. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 18 Few (if any) vappid and stinking Exhalations can ascend from them to corrupt the Air. 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 449, Rheita affirms, that he observed Jupiter to be invested round with a vapid Atmosphere.

Hence **Va·pidism.** *rare*—1.

1831 Carlyle *Schiller* in *Fraser's Mag.* III. 130 All critical guild-brethren now working diligently..in the calmer sphere of Vapidism or even Nullism.

Vapidity (văpi·dĭti). [f. prec. + -ity.]

1. The fact or quality of being vapid.

1782 Bailey, *Vapidity*, deadness, flatness, a being palled. 1771 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 256 After a violent ferment in the nation, as remarkable a deadness and vapidity has succeeded. 1820 *Examiner* 347/1 [It] threw such a gloom and vapidity over all that we never saw the beautiful opera with so little pleasure. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shake. Char.* xx. 307 Master Froth strays from the right path from sheer vapidity. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 536 *note*, Surely such passages as these ought to be more than adequate to defend the Pastoral Epistles from the charge of vapidity.

2. A vapid remark, idea, feature, etc.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 966 Their pet ——— cannot make a single speech without dragging in..some vapidity about the Revolution Settlement. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* lv. (1879) 665 Teaching..so searching and practical, compared with the vapidities of the Rabbis. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 11 May 7 Those upon whom the crudities and vapidities of the 'commission' portraits..jar.

Vapidly (væ·pidli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a vapid manner.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* xx, She seemed to herself so useless, so stupidly, vapidly, frivolously useless. 1888 *Times* 24 Sept. 9/5 If they were become simply unintelligible or vapidly dull, the wonder would be less.

Vapidness (væ·pidnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] = VAPIDITY.

1727 BAILEY, *Vapidness*, deadness, flatness, palledness of liquors. 1820 KEATS in Rossetti *Life* (1887) 142 When once a person has smoked the vapidness of the routine of society. 1828-9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* IV. xxviii. 392 The vapidness,..the languor and vexation, which accompany the life of an unconverted man. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 12 Nov. 3/5 Her work..in one or two instances sinks into vapidness.

Vapo·graphy. [Irreg. f. VAPOUR *sb.*: cf. VAPOROGRAPH.] (See quot.)

1898 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* LIII. 860 The phenomena of normal physical emanations from certain substances which have the property of influencing the sensitive plate. These phenomena have been variously labeled scoto-graphy, vapography, etc.

Vapon, obs. Sc. form of WEAPON.

Vapor, variant of VAPOUR.

Vaporabi·lity. Also **vapour-.** [f. next.] Capacity of being vaporized.

a 1833 MCCULLOCH *Attributes* xiv. (1837) III. 184 The fluidity which its own singular nature communicates and .. the vapourability dependent on that.

Vaporable (vē·pŏrăb'l), *a.* Also 4 **vapour(e)-.** [ad. med.L. *vapōrābilis*: see VAPOUR *sb.* and -ABLE. Cf. OF. *vaporable.*]

1. Capable of being converted into vapour.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. iv. (Bodl. MS.), Heete of heuen..drawip it aiifc to fulle soi liich vaporable parties of water and of erbe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 357 Eyther it is not of vaporable nature, or to be of smaule quantitie. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 614 The first Beings or Embrions of mineral salts are nothing but vapours, or juices not concreted, totally vaporable. 1681 *Phil. Collect.* XII. 89 By reason of the fumes Lead usually emits, being a quick vaporable Metal. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* xii. 355 There would be no deposition from atmosphere if the water had not first been carried up by evaporation; and the vaporable fluid is obtained from the moistened soil. 1893 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Jan. 3/3 The vaporable parts ascending to the clear ether of heaven.

†**2.** Capable of converting substances into vapour. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xl. (Bodl. MS.), White comeþ of vapoureable aier & watry þat is in þe membres.. for white comeþ of hote aier & vaporable bestes beþ white vnder þe wombe. 1498 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 118 The nature is mare vaporable and of better digestioun to corrump and bray the metis.

†**Va·porary,** *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *vaporarium*, f. L. *vapor* VAPOUR. Cf. L. *vapōrārium* a steam-pipe in a bath.] A medical preparation used in a form of vapour-bath.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 187 A vaporary consists of the same things a semicupium is made of. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 304 Of a Vaporarie:..fiat decoctio.. cujus vaporem excipiat. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Vaporary*, a Decoction of Herbs, and other ingredients, the fume whereof ascends through the hole of a Chair where the patient sits. [Hence in later edd. and other Dicts. The additional definition in Bailey (1721-) 'a stove, stew, hot-house or bagnio' follows Kersey (1706) s v. *Vaporarium.*]

†**Va·porary,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. as prec.: see -ARY] (See quot.)

1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 94 Let us see what may be said concerning Vaporary windes (we mean such as are engendred by vapours).

†**Va·porate,** *ppl. a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vapōrāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vapōrāre*: see next.] Vaporized.

1653 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 352/2 Smelling judgeth of Odors, good and ill,..putrid, humid, liquid, vaporate.

†**Va·porate,** *v. Obs.* Also 7 **vapourate.** [f. L. *vapōrāt-*, ppl. stem of *vapōrāre* to convert into, to become, vapour.]

1. *trans.* a. To convert into vapour, to vaporize.

1611 FLORIO, *Vaporabile*,..that may be vaporated.

b. To emit as vapour.

a 1640 J. BALL *Power Godlines* (1657) 119 A boyling Sea, or Sepulchre of corruption, steeming and vaporating up continually a world of..ill-disposed imaginations. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Swademen*, to Exhale, or, to Vapourate.

2. *intr.* a. To rise in or as vapour.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 111 They represse and infrigidate the hot fumes that vaporate to the head. 1643 A. ROSS *Mel Helic.* 168 If Musk, Perfume, or rosed air, Or Balm could vaporate from thee.

b. To give off vapour.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vāporate*, to cast forth vapours.

†**Vapora·tion.** *Obs.* Also 4-6 **-acion,** 6 **-acyon,** 5 **vapouracioun.** [ad. L. *vapōrātio*, n. of action f. *vapōrāre*: see prec. Cf. Sp. *vaporacion*, It. *-azione.*] The action of vaporizing; conversion into, production of, vapour.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Also of vaporacion of fumosite bat he [*sc.* the sea] caste> vpward and bredeþ myste and cloudes. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 118 Tendar meits of licht and sone degestioun, and delicious thingis and of sutil vapouracioun moystis. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* d ij b, Blud lettyng..minisheth vaporation that gothe to the heed & troublethe the wyttis. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 35 Make a vaporacion beneth with Rammes greace, or fat, waxe, pitche and cumin. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Vaporation*, a casting forth of vapours. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 9 It may be done ..by Corosion, By Fumigation or Vaporation. 1730 S. PARKER *Bibliotheca Biblica* I. 438 By Conflagration, and Congelation,..by Vaporation, and Evaporation: by Sublimation, and Precipitation.

†**Vaporative,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **-atife, -atyf.** [ad. med.L. *vapōrātīv-us*: see VAPORATE *v.*]

1. = VAPORABLE *a.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. iii. (Bodl. MS.), þinge þat is vnctuous haþ moisture in hit self, & so for bicause of þe partie þat is vaporatife hit may renne and be ymade hard bi heete. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* i. 24 The generative water became congealed, and the vaporative water passed away. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 21/1 The better to receive with effect the dry or vaporative medicine.

2. Productive of vapour.

1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* (1860) 11 Quhair the ground is fat and Vaporatiue.

†**Vaporatory,** *a. Obs.*—[1] In 7 **vapour-.** [Cf. prec. and -ATORY.] Consisting of vapour.

1683 *Weekly Mem.* 65 Amongst other things to sit in a vapouratory bath for some weeks.

Vapore·scence. *rare*—[1]. [f. L. *vapōr-* vapour: see -ESCENCE.] The fact of becoming vaporous. Also **Vapore·scent** *a.*, vaporizing. (In quots. *fig.*)

1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. i. § 21. 393 It is by this kind of vaporescence, so to speak, by this flat misty unison of parts, that nature [etc.]. 1872 — *Munera P.* 47 Their vaporescent point, at which riches..'make to themselves wings'.

Vapori·ferous, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *vapōrifer* emitting, full of vapour + -OUS.] 'That makes or stirs up vapours' (Blount, 1656).

Vaporific (væ·pŏri·fik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *vaporific-us*, f. L. *vapōri-* VAPOUR *sb.*: see -FIC.]

1. Associated or connected with, producing or causing, vaporization.

1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 482 The melting, the vaporific, and shining points. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. ix. 375 Either in their condensed state of water, or in the state of vaporific expansion. 1799 *Phil. Mag.* III. 419 A great quantity of vaporific,..or, as it is called, latent heat. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* II. vi. 496 *note*, The statement by Dr. Thomson refers to the completion, or last stage, of the discovery, namely the vaporific combination of heat. 1886 *Daily Tel.* 8 April (Cassell's), It is the product of vaporific sublimation.

2. Vaporous.

1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 171 There is exhaled from it a subtile fluid in a vaporific state. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 164 During this dry slaking heat is excited, by the moisture losing its vaporific form.

fig. 1847 CARLYLE *Misc.* III. 380 With the earliest spring he has come in person,..vaporific, driven by his fixed idea.

Vapo·riform, *a.* [f. L. *vapōri-*, stem of *vapor* VAPOUR *sb.*: see -FORM.] Vaporous.

1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 5) III. 750 Steam is water in its vaporiform state. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* i. 36 Rock-matter in a state of vaporiform incandescence.

Vapori·meter. [f. as prec. + -METER.] An instrument for measuring the amount of vapour.

1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. IV. 565 The alcohol [is] determined..by Geissler's vaporimeter. 1899 tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagnosis* (ed. 4) vii. 355 Parlato employs the vaporimeter for the purpose.

Vaporish, variant of VAPOURISH *a.*

Vaporizable (vē·pŏrəizăb'l), *a.* [f. VAPORIZE *v.*] Capable of being vaporized; vaporable.

1823 J. BANCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 108 Lead not being vaporizable, remains behind. 1848 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 343 There is probably no vaporizable body of which the atmosphere does not contain some trace. 1881 LE CONTE *Sight* 13 Unless a body is volatile or vaporizable it cannot be smelled.

Vaporization (vē·pŏrəizē··shən). Also **vapour-.** [f. next + -ATION. Cf. F. *vaporisation.*] The action or process of converting, or of being converted, into vapour.

1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 360 The metal becomes oxydated during the vaporization of the sulphur. 1807 DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 12 It combines with oxygene.. without flame at all temperatures that I have tried below that of its vaporization. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* xii. 442 The sun by the act of vaporisation lifts mechanically all the moisture of our air. 1878 HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 38 The bichloride was necessarily discontinued, and mercurial vaporization substituted.

b. 1826 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) IV. 246/2 Evaporation and true Vaporisation of fluids at their boiling point. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 13 It is one of the most curious and important phenomena attending vaporization. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 253 Application of Fuel to Vapourization.

Vaporize (vē·pŏrəiz), *v.* Also 9 **vapour-.** [f. L. *vapōr-* VAPOUR *sb.* + -IZE. Cf. F. *vaporiser.*]

1. *trans.* To convert into smoke. *rare*—[1].

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 119 *marg. note*, Forty load of Tobacco vaporized.

2. To convert into vapour.

a. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 26 The regulus zinc, vaporised by the heat, rises from the crucible as a metallic gas. 1849 R. V. DIXON *Heat* I. 193 The vapour was projected.. with a loud, whistling noise, which subsided when the liquid was all vaporised. 1878 MISS J. J. YOUNG *Ceramic Art* 81 The heat vaporises the salt, and..the chlorine

β. 1836 SMART, *To vapourise.* 1884 J. BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild H.* 210 The hot air vapourising the drops.

b. In fig. use.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vi, In figurative language, we might say he becomes..spiritualised, vaporised. 1868 FELTON *Anc. & Med. Gr.* I. x. 178 They have not only vaporized her husband into a myth, but have consolidated a myth into a lover. 1888 DOWLING *Miracle Gold* III. xxvii. 15 The family estates and honours had been vapourized before that last of the Poniatowskis fell under Napoleon.

3. *intr.* To become vaporous.

1828-32 WEBSTER, *Vaporize*,..to pass off in vapor. 1855 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 458 Zinc does not vapourize until the heat is raised to whiteness. 1872 *Athenæum* 20 Jan. 84/2 Faraday..stated..that mercury ceased to vapourize below the freezing-point. 1881 TYNDALL *Ess. Floating Matter Air* 196 The liquid within the narrow tube vaporizes.

fig. 1892 *Black & White* 2 Apr. 423/1 Money seems somehow to have vaporised away, and none knows anything about it.

4. *trans.* To spray with fine particles of liquid.

1900 O. ONIONS *Compl. Bachelor* v. 51 My hostess..vapourised me in passing with a tiny scent fountain.

Hence **Va·porized** *ppl. a.*; **Va·porizing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 803 Chambers into which the *vaporized substances are deposited. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* iii. 124 We must reduce the vaporised water capable of producing rain. 1888 *Daily News* 15 May 6/2 Small launches..propelled by means of vapourised spirit. 1831-3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 280/1 The valve before described, attached to the *vaporizing apparatus. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2690/2 *Vaporizing stove*, one for furnishing steam to dampen the air of apartments, conservatories, etc. 1886 *Jrnl. Education* 1 Aug 325 Without this all theorising is empty vapourising. 1896 *Daily News* 15 July 8/4 The vaporising and condensing of ammonia.

Vaporizer (vē·pŏrəizəi). [f. prec.] A device or apparatus by which conversion into vapour is accomplished.

1846 in WORCESTER. 1860 *London Soc.* I. 223 Mixed with the odours of Rimmel's patent Vaporiser. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Nov. 6/1 The apparatus acts as a vaporizer and steam generator. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 420/2 In order to start the engine a lamp is used for a few minutes to heat the vaporizer.

Va·porograph. [Irreg. f. L. *vapōr-* VAPOUR *sb.* + -GRAPH. Cf. VAPOURGRAPH.] A picture produced by vapography. Hence **Vaporogra·phic** *a.*

1903 *Month* Feb. 172 Some sort of 'vaporographs' may be obtained by his methods or others that are analogous. *Ibid.* 166 The 'vaporographic' theory explaining the origin of this impression.

†**Vaporo·se,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vapōrōs-us*, f. *vapor* VAPOUR *sb.*] Vaporous; easily vaporizing.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 16 (Addit. MS.), Woundes mowe not3t ben y-dryyed in a moyste eyre & a vaporose. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 338 The apoplexy,. if vaporose, [is cured] by abstinence, preparants,..and friction. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* VI. vii. (1735) 204 Therefore in fat People the Use of vaporose or perspirable Food, and Exercise, are proper.

Vaporo·sity. *rare.* [Cf. prec. and -ITY] Vaporous quality or qualities.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Y iiij b, Garlyke..burteth the eies, through it sharpenes and vaporosite. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIX. 2 As wet-paperish as St. Swithin himself, with all his *sirocco* vaporosity about him. 1837 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Diamond Neckl.*, He is here with his fixed-idea and volcanic vaporosity.

Vaporo-sulphu·reous, *a. rare*—[1]. [Cf. VAPOROGRAPH.] Of a vaporous and sulphurous nature.

1676 *Phil. Trans.* II. 619 There are found Earths impregnated with this acid matter, being vaporo-sulphureous.

Vaporous (vē·pŏrəs), *a.* Also 6 **vaporouse, vaperous,** 7 **vap'rous,** 9 **vaprous**; 7-9 **vapourous.** [f. L. *vapōr-us* or ad. L. *vapōrōs-us*, f. *vapor* VAPOUR *sb.* Cf. F. *vaporeux*, It., Sp., Pg. *vaporoso.*]

†**1.** Of a bath: Consisting or composed of vapour. *Obs.* (Cf. VAPOUR-BATH.)

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* Piij, Also Escume made of this herbe used in vaperous bathes dystroyeth age. 1632 JORDEN *Nat. Bathes* i. (1669) 2 These kind of watry and vaporous Bathes have been in use from all antiquity. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Balneum Vaporosum*, the Vapourous Bath, is when the Vessel that contains the Matter..is heated by the Vapours, or Steams that arise from the hot or boiling Water.

2. Emitting or exhaling vapour; †*spec.* of food in the stomach.

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) B ij b, The pacyente oughte..to forbeare all vaporous meates, as garlyke, onyons [etc.]. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxli. (1636) 269 Such things as bee most vaporous do most dispose us to sleepe. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VI. xxii. 799 The wine is a claret,..of a thinne substance, not fuming or being vaporous. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 181, I adulse all such..to sup ..on rosted meats, because they are lesse vaporous. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 392 To settle their Meat to the Bottom of their Stomach, that it may prove less vaporous to the Head. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 80 Scorbutic Ale..restraineth the Ebullition..of the Vapourous Blood. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* v. iv. (1735) 139 Aliment too vapourous or perspirable, will subject it to the Inconveniencies of too strong a Perspiration.

†**b.** Of the eyes: Moist with tears. *Obs.*—[1]

1588 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* O iv b, He..at last met by chaunce with a sorcerer, to whom deploring with vapor eyes his burdanous taske [*printed* burdarus taste] (etc.)

8. Filled with, thick or dim with, vapour; foggy, misty.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 771 O hatefull, vaporous, and foggy night,..Muster thy mists to meete the Easterne light. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 998 Considering that mists, fogs and clouds are no congealations, but onely gatherings and thickenings of a moist and vapourous aire. 1660 VENNER *Via Recta* Introd. 5 There the aire is..seldome infected with vaporous blasts. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 67 Through the Gross and Vaporous Air near the Earth. 1729 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmorld.* ii. 16 The magnetick Attraction of this Ætherial Spirit of Cold, which governs the humid and vaporous Atmosphere. 1818 SHELLEY *Eugenean Hills* 92 The waveless plain of Lombardy, Bounded by the vaporous air. *a* 1844 HAWTHORNE *Mother Rigby's Pipe* i, The small cottage became all vaporous. 1869 J. PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iv. 124 The outline of the cone was plain against the illuminated vaporous atmosphere.

fig. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 334 [The Jesuits'] religious pietie in shew, is but a rainebow cloude, of atheall policie in action, drawne vp in vaporous dewes of cold congealed deuotions. *a* 1692 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* IX. ii. (1821) 414 To rise above that vaporous sphere of sensual and earthly pleasures, which darken the mind.

b. Covered or obscured with vapour.

a 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* i. (1690) 12 Holland is a Level Country,..and by its being moist and vaporous, there is always wind stirring over it. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 19 Wide sea,..Many old rotten-timber'd boats there be Upon thy vaporous bo-om! 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 115 The lower cloud field—itself an empire of vaporous hills. 1883–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* April x, The tripod shook, and o'er the vaporous well The chanting Pythoness gave oracle.

4. Having the form, nature, or consistency of vapour. (Common in 19th cent.)

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxv. 196 Places in th' earth, whose vertue is to draw vaporous matter, and to convert it into water. 1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 234 How can darknesse be called a Masse? etc. No it cannot. Nor a thin vaporous matter neither. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I v. § 36. 784 Its being in Hades [is] nothing but its presiding over that Idol or enlivened vaporous Body. 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit* (1798) 136 The *virus lunare*, the vaporous drops that hang in any region of infection. [Cf. Shaks. *Macb.* III. v. 24.] 1818 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* 97 Formed from the vaporous muriatic acid. 1872 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. iv. 119 Caused in some way by the vapourous fumes diffused in its air. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 284 The photosphere must be composed of a shell of cloudy or vaporous material.

fig. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gipsy* 50 The westering sun That still on plains beyond streams vaporous gold.

† **b.** In older medical use applied to supposed emanations from internal organs or from substances within the body. *Obs.*

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 119 A vaporous humour or fumosytie rising .from the stomake. *c* 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* C 7 From the whych ryse vaporouse spirites and move disordinatly about the brayne. 1660 VENNER *Via Recta* (1650) 49 It doth nothing lesse then offend the braine..with vaporous fumes. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 71 These vaporous steams arising from the blood.

c. *fig.* Of ideas, feelings, etc.: Fanciful, idle, unsubstantial, vain.

1603 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 3 So whosoever shall entertain high and vaporous imaginations, instead of a.. sober inquiry of truth, shall beget hopes and beliefs of strange and impossible shapes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 456 O foolish pride, O suppressing ambition! and vaporous curiosity! 1796 COLERIDGE *Sybil. Leaves, Ode Departing Year* ix, The vaporous passions that bedim God's Image, sister of the Seraphim. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb* IV. i. 321 The vaporous exultation not to be confined! 1874 MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* II xiv. 119 But his arguments were vaporous enough and made little impression. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xvi, But such vaporous conjecture passed away as quickly as it came.

d. Of fabrics or garments: Gauzy, filmy.

1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* III. xvi. 235 The most fragile and vaporous bonnets were to be seen in the Bois de Boulogne. 1881 H. JAMES *Portrait of Lady* xlii, She..kept no less anxious an eye upon her vaporous skirts. 1896 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Mar. 4/2 Full sleeves of vaporous Indian muslin.

5. Of persons or minds: Inclined to be fanciful, vague, or frothy, in ideas or discourse.

1603 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. 9 Let him but read the fable of Ixion, and it will hold him from being vaporous or imaginatiue. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXVIII, B—, the mouth-piece of the debating clubs, noisy, vaporous, and democratic. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* v. ii, Shame on my vaporous brain!

6. Of state or condition: Characteristic of vapour.

1661 *Origen's Opinions* in *Phœnix* (1721) I. 53 We then find that they which steam'd forth in a vaporous Rarity.. do at last fall down again in a watery Consistence. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 26 The dephlogisticated marine acid, in a vapourous state, certainly acts upon it. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 7 The elevated temperature it demands to be converted into the vaporous state. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* lii. § 60 (1870) 61 We have matter in the vaporous or gaseous form.

Hence **Vaporously** *adv.*; **Vaporousness.**

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VI. xxii. 777 The most.. common annoiance that the vaporousnes of the wine doth cause, is drunkennes. *Ibid.* 781 By his vaporousnes it filleth the braine. 1757 T. BIRCH *Hist. Royal Soc.* III. 416 The warmth and vaporousness of the air at the bottom of the well. 1877 *Academy* 21 April 352 The whole thing is toned down to a pale husky vaporousness of surface. 1889 LOWELL *Democracy*, etc. 243 The thought of a god vaguely and vaporously dispersed throughout the visible creation.

Vapory, variant of VAPOURY *a.*

Vapour (vē·pəɹ), *sb.* Also 5–6 vapowre, 6 vapoure; 5 wapour, 6 wapure; 6– vapor. [a. AF. *vapour* (OF. *vapeur*) or ad. L. *vapor-*, steam. Cf. F. *vapeur*, Sp. and Pg. *vapor*, It. *vapore*.]

1. Without article: Matter in the form of a steamy or imperceptible exhalation; *esp.* the form into which liquids are naturally converted by the action of a sufficient degree of heat.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 11 As man, brid, best, fissbe, herbe, and greene tree The feele in tymes with vapour eterne. 1382 WYCLIF *Joel* ii. 30 Blood, and fijr, and vapour of smoke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 388/1 Vapowre, *vapor*. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. XXV. (1913) 117 This is a moisture subtyl whiche appereth but lytyl, and is named vapour. 1563 COOPER *Thes., Vapore*, to heate or make warme with vapour. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Vapor*, moisture, aire, hot breath, or reaking. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. v. (1611) 97 Vapour is a moist kinde of fume extracted chiefly out of the water. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 81 If It [exhalation] come from the water or some watry place, it is Vapor. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 737 The Hills..Vapour, and Exhalation dusk and moist, Sent up amain. 1725 WATTS *Logic* (1736) 115 Snow is congealed Vapour. Hail is congeal'd Rain. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. 199 The perpetuity of many springs, which always yield the same quantity when the least rain or vapour is afforded. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I 116 A white smoke, which is acote and water in a state of vapour. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* vi, There were large masses of heavy vapour rolling across the southern part of the horizon. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 40 Only when the vapour is partially condensed, and therefore ceases to be true vapour.

fig. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 393 When Tempest of Commotion,..Borne with black Vapour, doth begin to melt. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 326 There is nothing but Shadow and Vapour in the Thing.

2. An exhalation of the nature of steam, or an emanation consisting of imperceptible particles, usually due to the effect of heat upon moisture.

In later use frequently *spec.* in *Chem.* Sometimes, esp. in poetry, loosely applied to smoky matter emitted from burning substances.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* viii. 12 And the vapour, or smoke, of a cloud roos togider of the ensence. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melibeus* P 23 It may nat be..þat where as gret fyre hath longe tyme endured þat þere ne dwelleth som vapour of warmnesse. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 93 Stoppe þe moupe, þat þe vapour go nost out. And biry þe vessel with þe olle in moist erþe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* XXXVIII. 28 The vapoure of the fyre brenneth his flesh. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. A v b, The brothe of wermwood with his vapor that riseth vp from it. 1562 — *Baths* B ij b, The hote vapores [of a bath]. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 46 Grasse..(too greene and moyst) yf it be carryed into the loft, rotteth, and the vapour being ouerheated, falleth on fyre and burneth. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 81 A Vapour hath a certain watry nature in it, and yet it is not water. 1726 POPE *Iliad* VIII. 680 Full hecatombs lay burning on the shore; The winds to Heaven the curling vapours bore. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 457 The smoke of tobacco,..the vapours of onions and garlic,..are carefully to be avoided. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 16 At the end of a certain period the bottle will be filled with red vapours. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 337 Vapours now arise, which are concentrated acetic acid...These vapours pass over..into the cask of water. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* I. 18 Vapours of ammonia will be evolved if nitrogen be present. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xlvi, Then they dragged her to the bath, heated it to boiling heat, and suffocated her in the burning vapour.

b. An exhalation rising by natural causes from the ground or from some damp place; freq., a mist or fog.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 385 The vapour, which that fro the erthe glood, Made the sonne to seme rody and brood. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 84 When that the mysty vapour was agoon, And clere and feyre was the morw[e]nyng. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 247 Suete war the vapouris soft the morowing. 1509 HAWES *Past. Plesr.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 60 All abrode the fayre dropes dyd shewe, Encensynge out all the vapours yll. 1585 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cc. 253/2 Discendyng downe as in to a cellar, a certayne hoote vapure rose agaynst them. 1595 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 133 If..wee shal consent that vapours are lyfted vp wherof the watery cloudes are engendred. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. viii. 143 You shall vsually see great caimes vpon the coasties, where the vapors come from the Ilands, or maine land. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Bacon.* 60 The air is not very clear because of vapors continually rising. 1698 KEILL *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 83 The vapours which are raised by the Sun under the Torrid Zone. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 50 But when the breath of age commits the fault, 'Tis nauseous as the vapour of a vault. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 71 And hour by hour, when the air was still, The vapours arose which have strength to kill. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 49 In hot countries, where insalubrious vapours in some places infest the night.

c. *fig.* Used esp. (see *a*) to denote something unsubstantial or worthless.

(*a*) 1382 WYCLIF *Jas.* iv. 15 Forsothe what is youre lijf? A vapour, to a litel semynge. [Similarly in Tindale and later versions.] 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 112 Our lyfe is but a shadow..., a vapor, a bubble, a blast. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Trag.* Plays 1873 II. 311 He alters euery minute: what a vapor The strongest mind is to a storme of crosses. 1663 DAVENANT *Siege of Rhodes* Wks. (1672) 25 Let it not last, But in a blast Spend this infectious vapour, Life! 1732 LAW *Serious C.* iv. 52 These Scriptures which represent..the greatest things of life as bubbles, vapours, dreams, and shadows. 1782 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1891) VIII. 34, I am at this present very sick of my little vapour of fame. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 78 A man to whom the Earth and all its glories are in truth a vapour and a Dream.

(*b*) 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. vii. 264 In my Great: to be hid, And in the vapour of my Glory smother'd. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvi. § 8 Upon the Church there never yet fell tempestuous storm the vapors whereof were not first noted to rise from coldnesse in affection. 1698 R. BAKER tr. *Balnac's Lett.* (vol. II) 49 I should do wrong.. to disiustre so pure a matter with the impression of so blacke a vapour. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, The gleams of sense and feeling which escaped from the Justice through the vapours of sloth and self-indulgence.

3. *pl.* In older medical use: Exhalations supposed to be developed within the organs of the body (esp. the stomach) and to have an injurious effect upon the health.

1482 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 239 That the vapours that gonne vp into the heed in tyme of slepynge may haue issue. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* II. xviii, When the brayne is hurte so that the humours and vapours styre and move the..phantasye. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 53 Of humours some are more grosse and colde, some are subtyl and hot, and are called vapours. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. ii. (1840) 198 Oftentimes the head doth ache for the ill vapours of the stomach. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 332 Those malign vapours which by reason of over-much eating are exhaled from the stomach into the head. 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 472 Vapours from an empty Stomach. 1868 J. F. KIRK *Chas. the Bold* III. v. ii. 375 His habit of drinking in the morning a bowl of warm barley water under the notion of expelling noxious vapors.

b. A morbid condition supposed to be caused by the presence of such exhalations; depression of spirits, hypochondria, hysteria, or other nervous disorder. Now *arch.* (Common *c* 1665–1750.)

1660 H. STUBBE *Indian Nectar* iii. 33 By the eating of those Nuts, she feels Hypochondriacal vapours..to be instantly allayed. 1680 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 221 My wifes disease, I think, is vapors. *c* 1690 TEMPLE *Ess., Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 283 To all these succeeded Vapours, which serve the same Turn, and furnish Occasion of Complaint among Persons whose Bodies or Minds ail something, but they know not what. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* III. 136 Sometimes, thro pride, the sexes change their airs; My lord has vapours, and my lady swears. 1735–6 BAYNE in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) II. 87 The displiting symptoms of a nervous illness commonly called vapours, or lowness of spirits. 1763 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes to R.A.'s* v. Wks. 1812 I. 60 The World will be in fits and vapours. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise Chimney-Sweepers*, The rake, who wisheth to dissipate his o'er-night vapours in more grateful coffee. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 146 In the First Variety, which is commonly distinguished by the name of Vapours, or Low Spirits, the patient is tormented with a visionary or exaggerated sense of pains. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xx, She had a headache, vapours. They are over.

c. So *The vapours.* (Common in 18th cent.)

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 115 P 4 It is to a Neglect in this Particular that we must ascribe the Spleen, which is so frequent in Men of..sedentary Tempers, as well as the Vapours to which those of the other Sex are so often subject. 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 161 These things fill'd my Head with new Imaginations, and gave me the Vapours again, to the highest Degree. 1778 LADY S. LENNOX *Lett.* (1901) I. 284, I should have the vapours all day if I played an hour at cards. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* XXVIII. (1831) 251, I must drink better health to you to save myself from the vapours. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1888) 12 Don't give your Royal brain the vapours By opening Opposition papers.

† **d.** *Path.* The epileptic aura. *Obs.*

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 544 Professor Loeffler,.. instead of cauterising the limb from which the epileptic halitus seems to ascend, has ingeniously tied a tight ligature above the part whence the vapour issues.

† **4.** A fancy or fantastic idea; a foolish brag or boast. *Obs.*

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. iii, Let's drinke it out, good Vrs, and no vapours! *Ibid.* v, Gentlemen, these are very strange vapours! and very idle vapours! I assure you. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Kowὴ Def.* XXVI. 264 After all their vapours what do they lymbeck out of this Text? *a* 1688 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 218 For those, whose Modesty must not endure to hear their own Praises spoken, may yet publish of themselves the most notorious Vapours imaginable. 1703 STEELE *Tender Husb.* II. i, These are mere vapours, indeed—Nothing but vapours. 1738 tr. *Gwasso's Art Converts.* 165, I have Remedies to cure them of their Arrogance, and to keep those Vapours from fuming into the Head.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** With sbs., as *vapour-belt, -burner, -cloud, -density*, etc.; (in sense 3 b) *vapour-fit.*

1875 R. F. BURTON *Ultima Thule* I. 67 The *vapour-belt which girdles the mountain flanks. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2690 **Vapor-burner*, a device for burning previously vaporized liquid hydrocarbons. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 253 Those far-spread smoke-clouds and *vapour-clouds rising up there. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xix. 137 Vapour-clouds from the Atlantic undergo a similar detention in crossing the Alleghany range. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) I. § 2. 25 To calculate the *vapour density of any compound. 1890 A. M. CLERKE *Syst. Stars* 54 The vapour-densities of several of these metals are significantly high. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, **Vapour-douche*, a topical vapour-bath, which consists in the direction of a jet of aqueous vapour on some part of the body. 1832–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 188/1 Howard's steam or *vapour engine. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 177 Another variety of marine engine is Mr. Howard's vapour engine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2690/2 In 1850..M. Prospère Vincent du Trembley brought into notice what is now known as the 'binary vapor-engine', or the 'combined vapor-engine'. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 62 Since I find all *Vapour Fits to have the Pulse of a diary Fever, I place this Constitution next to the Fevers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2690/2 **Vapor-inhaler*,..one for administering vapor produced by drawing or forcing atmospheric air through a liquid, or a sponge saturated with a liquid. 1848 ROMALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* I. 154 *Vapour lamps. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2690/2 **Vapor lamp*, see *Vapor-burner*. 1826 SCROPE *Volcanoes* 22 The *vapour-pillar rises still higher. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 76, I have made divers..leaps at those upper regions; but

always fell backward into this *vapour-pit. 1880 G. P. Scrope *Volcanoes* 20 This pillar of white *vapour-puffs. 1864 Spencer *Biol.* I. 18 The ranges..of diffusive mobility ..appears to be as wide as the scale of *vapour-tensions. 1672–3 Grew *Anat. Pl., Anat. Roots* II. (1682) 67 There is yet another kind of Sap-Vessels, which may be called *Vapour-Vessels. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) I. § 2. 46 The simplicity thus introduced into our calculations of *vapour volume. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 70 Then thou, faire Sun, which on my earth doest shine, Exhalest this *vapor-vow.

b. With adjs. and pples., as *vapour-belted, -braided, -burdened, -filled*, etc. Also *vapour-like* adj. and adv.

1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* lvii, Many a *vapour-belted pyramid. 1855 Tennyson *Letters* 42 Sweetly gleam'd the stars, And sweet the *vapour-braided blue. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 827 Th' exhaling sun, the *vapour-burden'd air. 1894 *Outing* XXIII. 363 The dark, *vapor-filled night closed in. 18— In Ld. Coleridge *Story Devonsh. Ho.* xvii. (1905) 280 A pair of sleek steeds that are as delicate as a *Vapour-headed Lady. *a* 1715 Wycherley *Posth. Wks.* (1728) 147 If then so soon the Great and Powerful fail, And *Vapour-like, almost e'er seen, exhale. 1840 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (ed 5) 424 A vapour-like smoke. 1860 Spencer *First Princ.* II. ix § 76 (1875) 227 Each portion of such vapour-like matter must begin to move towards the common centre of gravity. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vaporiferousness*, an exhaling or *vapour-producing Quality. 1832 J. Bree *St. Herbert's Isle* 68 At length the impatient hours the twilight led With *vapour-sandaled feet and rubied cheek. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* vii. (1842) 220 The junction being made *vapour-tight..by some glazier's putty.

Vapour (vē·pəɹ), *v.* Also 5–6 vapoure, 6– vapor, 6–7 vapor (7 vapr-). [f. prec., or ad. L. *vapōrāre*: cf. Vaporate *v.*]

1. *intr.* To rise or ascend, to be emitted or diffused, in the form of vapour. Also with *up* and *out*.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 3921 Þe bawme vapoureth vp a-loſte In-to þe eyre of þe erbes ſoſte. 1614 T. Adams in Spurgeon *Treas. David* I. 190 Thick spumy mists, which vapour up from the dark and foggy earth. *a* 1647 Habington *Surv. Worc.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) III. 544 Annoyed with the contagion vaporinge from the water. 1655 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* xv. iii. 410 Put it into a new glazed pot or pipkin, closed up that nothing may vapor out. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* 158 Lay this lute upon the edge of thy Funnel, which will bind fast the plate and the Funnel that nothing can vapor that way.

fig. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 134 Does not sin pour from my soul, And, vapouring up before the face of God, Congregate there?

b. To pass *away*, to be dissipated, in the form of vapour.

1535 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 357 To take such waters,..and ..cause them to boyle and vapoure away vntyll the dregs or residence remayne in the bottome. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 3 When the water is thickned, it seemes to become a stone..; when it vapoures away, to be breath or aire. 1635 Times *Quærist.* I. vii. 27 Whatsoeuer is airy therein..by the force of the heat vapoureth away. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* IV. iii. 318 Mingle all these well together, lute the glass body, that nothing vapour away.

fig. 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 71 Their whole life hath vapoured away in hopes. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 237 The first day vapors away in Tobacco, feasts, and other ordinary feastivalls. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N.T.*, 1 *Cor.* iv. 19 For all that Men call Learning and Wisdom.. vapoureth away as Idleness and Vanity. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 133 P 8, I expected that their exultation would in time vapour away.

c. To pass or be dissolved *into* a state of vapour or moisture. *rare.*

1567 Drant *Horace, Ep.* xvii. F iij, Though he shoulde vaper into teares. 1640 Walton *Lives, Donne* (1670) 77 In the last hour of his last day, as his body melted away and vapoured into spirit, .he said [etc.]. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. To Rdr., Words vanish soon, and vapour into Ayr.

2. *trans.* a. To cause to rise *up* or ascend in the form of vapour. Also *fig.*

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 454 Whan Phebus..on the herbes tendre and ſoſte The bawmy dropes aiſuer fair Vapoured hath vp in the ayr. 1519 *Interl, Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 12 Therfore by hete it is vaporyd up lyghtly, and in the ayre makyth cloudys and myſtes. 1530 Kastell *Bk. Purgat.* II. xiii, Or ellys it wyll be vapoured up by the hete of the sonne. 1627 Donne *5 Serm.* 45 But every Man is vapor'd up into ayre, and as the ayre can bee thinkes he can fill any place. 1795 Blake *Bk. Ahania* Poet. Wks. (1914) 345 Effluvia vapour'd above In noxious clouds.

b. To cause to pass *away* in the form of vapour.

1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* (1866) 9 Putte it into a vessel of glas in þe which be putt watir tofore, .and aftir do vapoure awey þe watir at þe fier. 1560 Whitehorne *Ord. Soudiours* (1588) 26 b, It must be boyled so long, till all the thinne watrinesse be vapored away, and the substaunce of the salt peter thickned. *a* 1626 Bacon *Med. Rem., Baconiana* (1679) 160 Then upon a gentle heat vapour away all the Spirit of Wine. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* 174 In a clean glass Vessel vapor all the Vinegar away.

fig. *a* 1600 Donne *The Expiration* 2 So, so, breake off this last lamenting kisse, Which sucks two soules, and vapors Both away.

c. With *out* or *forth*: To evaporate.

1530 Rastell *Bk. Purgat.* III. vii. The temperate eyer wyll vapour out the tartnes & sowernes of that humour. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 23 Opium leeseth some of his poisonous Quallity, if it be vapoured out, mingled with Spirit of Wine, or the like. 1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 28 In Dissipating Medecines, some vapour forth the thinne part of the Tumours. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* 134 If he call me dull, because I vapor not out all my spirits into froth.

d. To convert into vapour. Chiefly with *to*.

1592 Spenser *Ruines Time* 219 He now is dead, and all his glorie gone, And all his greatnes vapoured to nought. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 87/1 Thy soul's but a Blast, That with thy Breath is vapored to nought. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 36 With more of the same Dew..vapoured to siccity. *a* 1814 *Forgery* II. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 453 Ev'n the hot potent wine, Whose power only but a short time since Flatter'd my brain, is vapor'd all in air. 1888 Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 79 If there runs in any water, within a while it will be vapoured to the dregs.

†3. To send *forth*, *out*, or *up*, to emit or discharge, to disperse, etc., in the form of vapour. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxiv. (1869) 117, I haue a special horn bi which I caste and vapoure out the wynd that I haue in my bodi. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 5 Consider also the nature of the Mote.., whether the same sendeth or vapoureth forth..noisome or stinking aire. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxlvi. ii, His strength is none, if any in his breath; Which vapor'd foorth to mother earth he goes. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* II. 49 Ev'n when the peoples thronging, and their heat Did vapour up their breathings and their sweat, For him to swallow. 1656 [? J. Sergeant] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 126 The clouds of ashes (vapour'd out in Vast abundance).

fig. 1592 Daniel *Compl. Rosamond* 803 With armes a-crosse, and eyes to heauen bended, Vaporing out sighs that to the skies ascended. 1634 Sir T. Hawkins *Pol. Observ.* 7 He with all his might vapoured forth the smoke of his greatnesse. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 36 He vapours out the grievousest sighs.

b. *absol.* To emit vapour.

1552 Huloet, Vapouren or cast out vapoures, *halito.* 1650 Ashmole *Chym. Collect.* iv. 51 Our Fire is Minerall, and vapours not, unlesse it be too much stirred up.

4. a. To expose to the moistening effect of vapour. *rare*—1.

1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 100 The matryce..must be annoynted, perfumed, and vapored with suche thynges, the whiche maye make it more ample and large.

b. To make dim or obscure with vapour.

1875 Blackmore *Alice Lorraine* I. 150 One of those sudden changes, which (at less than a breath) vapour the glass of the feminine mind.

5. *intr.* To use language as light or unsubstantial as vapour; to talk fantastically, grandiloquently, or boastingly; to brag or bluster.

1628 Ford *Lover's Mel.* IV. ii, He vapours like a tinker, and struts like a juggler. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* 145 Poets indeed use to vapor much after this manner. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav* II. 180 He would suffer no body to say any thing to him, and to hear him vapour, there was no Man greater than he. 1700 S. L. tr. *Bryde's Voy. E. Ind.* 160 He vapour'd and call'd me all the Cowards he could think of. 1760 *Cautions & Adv. to Officers Army* 12, I have heard so many young Officers, vaporing and wishing to meet an Enemy. 1812 Combe *Syntax, Picturesque* IV, Dear Mrs. Syntax, how she'd vapour, Were she to read this curious paper! 1859 W. Collins *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 52 You may imagine what a passion I was in when I vapoured and blustered in that way. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Mar. 1/1 Lord Salisbury has vapoured a good deal and brandished his painted sword of lath.

b. Const. *about*, *of*, or *with*.

(*a*) 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 37 To strike a terrour into those who have vapoured of their owne insolencie. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 50 Yet could the Messenger hardly forbear threatning, vapouring of their numbers and strength. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 36 The Wealth of his Party, of which he vapours so much,..is no mean Motive to enflame his Zeal. 1789 J. Moore *Zeluco* (1797) II. lxvii. 178 Some of his friends were imprudent enough to vapour a little about his determination of calling Carlostein to account. 1820 Hazlitt *Table-T.* Ser. II. xvii. (1869) 345 Strutting and vapouring about his own pretensions. 1864 Thackeray *D. Duval* v. (1869) 65, I was..vapouring about what we would do, were we attacked. 1897 Rhoscomyl *White Rose Arno* 185 Those dear Countesses of whom you were forever vapouring.

(*b*) 1678 *Char. Town-Gallant* (Hindley, 1872) II. 4 He.. stayed at the University long enough to..get by heart the name of his College to vapour with. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 332 His Scylax, that he lately vapour'd with. 1876 J. Weiss *Wit, Hum. & Shaks.* vi. 200 The words and style which mariners and travellers brought home to vapor with to eager listeners in the taverns.

c. *trans.* To declare or assert in a boasting or grandiloquent manner. Also, in later use, with *forth* or *away*.

1658 F. Osborne *Trad. Mem. K. James* Wks. (1673) 470 That..vapoured he would..bring him in by the Sword. 1665 Winstanley *Loy. Martyrol.* 11 An unanswerable Work, of which they will never clear themselves, brag and vapour what they please. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1806) 236 Plumire..began to vapour that he would have the castle pull'd downe. 1692 Bp. Patrick *Answ. Touchstone* 258 Neither he, nor any one else (whatsoever he vapours) dare break in pieces, or tear a Crucifix, or Picture. *a* 1732 Swift *Sandys' Ghost* xix, To poor Ovid shall befall..A metamorphosis more strange Than all his books can vapour. 1755 Warburton *Apol. for two first Lett.* Wks 1788 VII. 572 Pope gave easy credit to him, when he vapoured that he would demonstrate all the common Metaphysics to be wicked and abominable. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* IV. i, Where are the high-flown fancies Which but last week..You vapoured forth? *a* 1872 Maurice *Friendsh. Bks.* (1874) x. 279 Vapouring away patriotism is undoubtedly a very bad thing.

d. To force (a person) *into* or *out of* something, to put *down*, by talking big.

1654 Whitelocke *Swed. Ambassy* (1772) I. 158 Who was not to be vapoured or threatened into a conformity to their desires. 1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* Addr. p. v, That I might not therefore be vapour'd down by insignificant Testimonies. 1829 T. L. Peacock *Misfort. Elphin.* ix, I am not to be sung, or cajoled, or vapoured, or bullied out of my prisoner.

6. To act in a fantastic or ostentatious manner; to show off; to swagger; to walk *in* with a swaggering air.

1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* 127 With Pipe and Flute full often here he vapors, And round about the Altar frisks and Capers. *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. I. 56 Some men have the nature of an horse, to prance and vapour in their strength. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 89 Wow but ye will be vap'ring Whene'er ye gang to the town. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxi, When you mean to vapour with your hanger and your dram-cup in support of treasonable toasts. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xl, They..would gare with admiring eyes upon the robbers vapouring about in the court below. 1898 J. Meade Falkner *Moonfleet* vi, In vapours Maskew, and with an angry glance about him makes straight for the desk.

7. *trans.* † a. To affect with fantastic ideas. *Obs.*

1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* iv. § 3 (1730) 139 He was formal and fantastick, smitten with Dress and Equipage, and it may be vapour'd by his Perfumes.

b. To give (one) the vapours; to depress or bore.

1774 Berridge *Lett.* xv. (1864) 386 At times, when I am very low, a letter that demands a speedy answer will vapour me as much as a large bill requiring prompt payment would a sinking tradesman. 1779 *Sylph* I. 24, I shall be vapoured to death if I stay here much longer. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* III. 83 She has lost all her sprightliness, and vapours me but to look at her. 1804 *Something Odd* I. 216 His low spirits, which are indeed so very bad at times, as to bore and vapour one to death.

c. *intr.* To get the vapours. *rare*—1.

1808 Marian Moore *Lascelles* I. 19 The evenings are so long, that I declare I vapour every time they come for want of something else to do.

Vapour-bath. Also vapour bath.

1. A bath consisting of vapour. (Cf. Vaporous *a.* 1.) Also, an apartment in which a bath of this kind is used.

1719 Quincy *Phys. Dict.* (1722) 8 *Æstuary*, a kind of Vapour-Bath. 1766 Smollett *Trav.* xxxii. II. 135 They likewise indulged in vapour-baths, in order to enjoy a pleasing relaxation. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 57 A machine for conveying a vapour bath to diseased limbs. 1843 Sir C. Scudamore *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 12 Some persons argue that the vapor bath is quite as useful as the blanket. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 579 Vapour baths help not only to remove the scales [etc.].

b. *transf.* A thing or place comparable to a bath of this kind.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 46 This kind of internal and highly inflammable vapour-bath is ever ready to catch fire. 1838 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 148 The last Drawing Room of the season; so of course an awful crowd and a vapour bath.. 1864 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* 152 One day in August, when all Chowringhee is a vast vapour-bath.

2. *Chem.* A vessel or receptacle in which hot vapour is generated in order to heat or melt a substance.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Vaporosum Balneum*, or *Vapour-bath*, in Chymistry, a Term applied to a Chymist's Bath, or Heat, wherein the Body is placed so as to receive the Fumes of boiling Water. 1844 G. Bird *Urin. Deposits* (1857) 18 Evaporate an ounce..over a spirit-lamp without the interposition of the vapour-bath. 1892 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 95, I have..used gelatine.., melting it like glue in a vapour bath.

Hence **Vapour-bathing.**

1766 J. Symons (*title*), Observations on Vapor-Bathing.

Vapoured (vē·pəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Vapour *sb.* or *v.*]

1. Filled with vapour or moisture. *rare.*

1536 Wyatt *Poems* (1913) I. 216 With vapoured Iyes he lokyth here and there. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* T iij b, With driueling and with vapoured eies.

2. Formed of or from vapour. *rare*—1.

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) R iv, While from mine eyes The vapored teares downstilled here and there.

3. Affected with the vapours; suffering from nervous depression; low-spirited.

Freq. in the 18th cent., esp. in predicative use.

1670 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 110 Instead of dull, mopish, vapour'd women..we found..bright and airy ladyes. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* II. iv. § 3 (1734) 145 They were never vapour'd or low-spirited to any Degree. 1753 *Ess. Celibacy* 104 If a vapoured person is at one time convinced of the truth of any proposition,..at another he will adopt the opposite opinion. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* III. 351 Sir Sedley..whispered: 'I am horribly vapoured!' 1810 Crabbe *Borough* ix. 137 Her have I seen, pale, vapour'd through the day, With crowded parties at the midnight play. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 398 Write when you can do nothing else, when you are vapoured, and then I shall be sure to hear the truth.

transf. 1735 *Monitor* No. 21. I. 179 It may..give you a little respite in a vapoured day; when..your head akes.

Vapourer (vē·pərəɹ). Also 9 vaporer. [f. Vapour *v.*]

1. One who vapours; a bragging, grandiloquent, or fantastical talker.

1653 Gauden *Hieraspl.* 223 This pusillanimous and frothy generation of vapourers..are the greatest enemies to..our Religion. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 3 Dec., A fortunate, though a passionate and but weak, man as to policy,..and one that is the greatest vapourer in the world. 1772 Fletcher *Checks* Wks. 1795 III. 238 That vapourer in favour of your perseverance, fairly and consistently builds on..the foundation of the Calvinists. 1816 J. Gilchrist *Philos. Etym.* 214 We might show how applicable to certain rhetorical metaphysical vaporers the descriptions are. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 344 Not one of your old serene metaphysical vapourers.

2. *Vapourer moth*, a British moth of the genus

Orgyia, esp. *O. antiqua*, the male of which flies with a rapid quivering motion.

1782 W. Curtis *Brown-tail Moth* 6 The *Phalæna Antiqua*, or Vapourer Moth, which I have seen to thrive on the deadly Nightshade and poisonous Laurel. 1832 T. Brown *Bk. Butterflies & M.* (1834) I. 49 The following figure of the female Vapourer Moth. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* viii, A crawling grub, like the female of our own Vapourer moth. 1890 Ormerod *Injur. Insects* (ed. 2) 322 The pretty and easily distinguishable caterpillar of the Common Vapourer Moth.

ellipt. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 418 *Bombyx gonostigmata.* The scarce Vapourer. 1861 Morris *Brit. Moths* I. 77 *Orgyia antiqua*, Vapourer.

Va·pourgraph. = Vaporograph.

1903 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Apr. 457/1 These 'vapourgraphs' show the deepest stain..where the object emitting the vapour is in actual contact with the cloth.

Vapouring (vē·pərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vapour *v.*]

1. Emission of vapour; evaporation. *rare.*

1548 Elyot, *Respiratio*, a breathynge, or vapourynge. 1651 French *Distill.* iii. 64 That Liquor..may be rectified by the vapouring away of the flegme.

2. The action of talking or acting in a high-flown or pretentious manner.

c 1630 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 306 The tongue may boast great things, and talk high...We call it vapouring: and well may we so call it. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 269 Spanish Officers,...with their vapouring, distaste the good servants of so great a Queen. 1706 Vanbrugh *Mistake* iv. 303 Take thy satin pincushion ..thou madest such a vapouring about yesterday. 1773 Johnson *Lett.* 25 March (1788) I. 80 Harry will be happier now he goes to school and reads Milton. Miss will want him for all her vapouring. 1816 Earl Dudley *Lett.* 22 June (1840) 146 It is really amazing, that after all their vapouring..they should not have ventured to assail him. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* v. (1904) 176 Consider them, with their tumid sentimental vapouring about virtue. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II. 197 The errors of which Lord Derby had been guilty and the preposterous vapourings of some of his less responsible followers.

3. *fig.* in pl. Vain imaginations.

1873 Dixon *Two Queens* I. vi. I. 44 These stings of conscience..were not the vapourings of an idle fancy.

Vapouring (vē·pərin), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Acting or talking in a pretentious or high-flown manner.

1647 R. Josselin *Diary* (1908) 45, 25 Troops came to quarter with us, somewhat bold and vapouring. *c* 1670 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1881) II. 311 To make big of it, as if it did constitute us righteous before god, as the vapouring pharisee. 1692 *The Bragadocio* 22 'Tis that Fierce, Vapouring, Coward, Bravado, I fancy. 1794 *Manners France* 29 Prussia's fame and Glory's fled, And you're a vapouring fool. 1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. I. 26 The bustling, vapouring, chattering Duke of Newcastle. 1848 Thackeray *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. 1900 VI. 47 It is always a comfort to read of those absurd vapouring vainglorious Frenchmen obtaining a beating. 1864 C. Knight *Passages Work. Life* I. i. 57 The burly Englishman regarded the vapouring little man with something like..contempt.

2. Having a fantastical, pretentious, or foolishly boastful character.

1649 tr. *Boehme's Epistles* To Rdr. (1886) 2 The frame and structure of our knowledge, which by our artificial reason we should build unto ourselves upon that foundation, would be but a vapouring notion. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* xvii. II. 280 They told Barnaby, in a vapouring sort, (which that Nation was then much addicted to) how little Harm England in their Wars was like to do them. 1795 Burke in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 548 We shall not..employ a person capable of writing such miserable, vapouring and empty stuff. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* III. 240 The vapouring vanity of one struggling against opinion, and fearing to sink in human estimation. 1859 Green *O.xf. Stud.* (O.H.S.) 265 In this burst of vapouring Toryism open persecution had at last reached its close. 1877 Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* p. xxxiii, Buonaparte's vapouring letter to Tippoo and gasconading demeanour in Egypt.

3. Full of vapour; emitting or giving off a vapour.

1648 Hexham II, *Een domp-gat*, a smoakie or a vapouring hole. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* II. i, Now the vapouring wine Opens the heart and shuts the eyes.

4. Of the nature of vapour; vaporous.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 198 As vap'ring clouds by summer's suns are driven. 1854 S. Dobell *Balder* xxv. 181 Like some great vapouring cloud Topping a cumulous heaven of mysteries.

Hence **Va·pouringly** *adv.*

1653 *Lilburn Tryal & Cast* 154 It would make a man smile, to read what hee vapouringly talks. 1767 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* ix. iii, The Corporal..gave a slight flourish with his stick—but not vapouringly. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Aug. 209/2 [He] spoke rather vapouringly..about the House of Lords.

Vapourish (vē·pəriʃ), *a.* [f. Vapour *sb.* + -ish.]

1. Of the nature of vapour; dim through the presence of vapour; vapoury.

1647 Hexham I, Vaporish, *dompigh, roockachtigh.* 1781 Hayley *Triumphs Temper* I. 287 To drive gross atoms from the rays of noon Or chase the halo from the vapourish moon. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LV. 166 The conception is generally vague, vapourish, and metaphysical. 1887 Hall Caine *Son of Hagar* II. viii, When Greta set out, the atmosphere was yellow and vapourish.

2. Apt to be troubled with the vapours; inclined to depression or low spirits.

1716–20 *Lett. Miss's Frnl.* (1729) I. 97 For, as most other old Maids, she is exceedingly vapourish and fanciful. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* II. 313 Every one sees, that the yawning Husband, and the vapourish Wife, are truly insupportable to one another. 1760 Sir J. E. Smith *Mem.* (1832) I. 48 It made me vapourish to see so many students going away. 1803 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 60, I see him, with all his inherent good properties, a vapourish egotist. 1844 Thackeray *Barry Lyndon* xix, Lady Lyndon, always vapourish and nervous,..became more agitated than ever.

b. Of the nature of, connected with, arising from, nervous depression.

1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* II. iv. § 4 (1734) 148 Some Headachs..may properly enough be call'd Vapourish or Nervous. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. 288, I am in the depth of vapourish despondency. 1793 W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 41 (1794) II. 107 Be tender of using it in this torpid and vapourish condition. 1838 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 22 This 'very penetrating world'—as a maid of my mother's used to call it in vapourish moods. 1879 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III. 85 His pretty,..middle-aged wife, whose languid airs and vapourish graces were likely to pall..after a year of married life.

3. Apt to produce vapours. *rare*—1.

1708 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Flux*, He must forbear every thing that is hot and vapourish.

Hence **Va·pourishness.**

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 42 You will not wonder that the vapourishness which has laid hold of my heart should rise to my pen. 1860 Cockburn Muir *Ess., Pagan or Christ.* 116 There is a vapourishness about the design of French Cathedrals and French work generally.

Va·pourized, *ppl. a.* [f. Vapour *sb.* 3 b.] = Vapoured *a.* 3.

1835 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* (1883) I. 415 Our masters run from station to station at our cost, as vapourised ladies at home run about from spa to spa.

Va·pourless, *a.* Also **vaporless.** [f. Vapour *sb.*] Destitute of, free from, vapour.

1850 B. Taylor *Eldorado* xxxiii. II. 99 The walls of white rock..stand out distinctly in the vaporless atmosphere. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog.* xi. § 645 And why should these winds be almost vaporless? 1884 *Q. Rev.* April 339 The deep purple of a vapourless sky.

Vapoury (vē·pəri), *a.* Also 6 **vaporie,** 8–9 *U.S.* **vapory**; 7–8 **vap'ry.** [f. Vapour *sb.* + -y.]

1. Of the nature or consistency of vapour; composed of, or caused by, vapour.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. *Furies* 262 The heat, hidden in a vapoury Cloud, Striving for issue. 1598 Drayton *Heroical Ep., Ros. to Hen. II* (1605) M 4, The waxen taper..With his dull vapory dimnesse mocks my sight. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 748 A vapoury adherency..which flyeth from the strokes of hammers upon hot burning iron. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1724 They see the blazing wonder rise anew..: From his huge vapoury train perhaps to shake Reviving moisture. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1851) II. 1039/1 The vapoury steam is diffused over the surface of the body. 1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* xxv. 84 One from the wound, the other from the mouth Breathed a thick smoke, whose vapoury columns join'd. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 77 The clouds have gathered into one thick low canopy, dark and vapoury as the smoke which overhangs London. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xvi. 106 The Jungfrau.. had wrapped her vapoury veil around her. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Sept. 5/3 Inside the body..it is suggested that there resides a kind of vapoury form which animates it.

transf. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. lxxii, On the couch ..they sighing lie reclin'd, And court the vapoury god soft-breathing in the wind.

Comb. 1796 Townshend *Poems* 65 Who wak'st the vap'ry-skirted vale To songful life.

b. *fig.* Unsubstantial, indefinite, vague.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 396 My love-fever'd spirit evolves A fair vapoury vision. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* III. vii. § 3 (1876) 297 The mass of vapoury and baseless speculation with which this..has in latter times become surrounded. 1874 T. Hardy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* I. xxii. 254 His readings of her seemed now to be vapoury and indistinct.

2. Rendered dim or obscure by the presence of vapour.

1818 Keats *Endym.* IV. 483 Leaving old Sleep within his vapoury lair. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 474 The vapory distant hills and the blue sea peep through vistas..of the pines. 1878 T. Hardy *Ret. Native* III. vi, The yellow and vapoury sunset..had presaged change.

3. = Vapourish *a.* 2. *rare*—1.

1772 J. Adams *Diary* 5 June Wks. 1850 II. 269 Thirty people have been here to-day, they say;—the halt, the lame, the vapory, hypochondriac, scrofulous, &c. all resort here.

‖ **Va·ppa.** Now *rare.* [L.] Flat or sour wine. Also *fig.*

[1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 424 Whereupon it getteth the name of Vappa, and is cleane turned to bee dead or soure.] 1629 H. Burton *Babel no Bethel* 69 Rome or Trent hath made a dead vappa of the word of God. 1631 Massinger *Believe as You List* iv. i, Your viper wine (is)..But vappa to the nectar of her lippe. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Forms & Qual.* 202 Whether Must, Wine, spirit of Wine, Vinegar, Tartar, and Vappa, be specifically distinct Bodies? 1840 De Quincey *Wks.* (1862) X. 217 But how that can be, when you recollect the philosophic *Vappa* of Xenophon, seems to pass the deciphering power of Œdipus.

transf. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Vappa*,..a peculiar state of the blood, when it is in a low, dispirited condition.

† **Va·ppe.** *Obs. rare.* [Anglicized f. prec.] *a.* = prec. b. *fig.* A stupid person.

1637 Reeve *God's Plea* 105 Wilt thou not at last be the meer underwit, and the grand Vappe? 1660 Jer. Taylor *Doctor* II. iii. rule 21 § 14 The Norvegians complain'd that they could very seldom get any Wine into their Country, and when it did come it was almost vinegar or vappe.

Vappin, obs. Sc. form of Weapon.

† **Va·ppous,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vappa*: see above.] Flat, insipid.

1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6087 If the boyled Must by too violent an Effervescence cast out the Lee (by which it grows vappous or dead).

Va·pulary, *a. rare*—1. [See next and -ary.] = Vapulatory.

1864 *Sat. Rev.* 7 May 567 Who but a hoary-headed Etonian would recur with affectionate fondness to his vapulary memories of Dr. Keate?

Vapulate (væ·pĭlē·ĭt), *v. rare.* [ad. L. *vāpulāt-*, ppl. stem of *vāpulāre* to be beaten. Cf. obs. F. *vapuler*, Sp. and Pg. *vapular.*]

1. *trans.* To beat or strike.

1603 Dekker & Chettle *Grissill* 2315, I..with my pon-yard vapulating and checking his engine, downe it cut mee a payre of very imperiall cloth of golde hose. 1623 Cockeram I, *Vapulate*, to beat, to strike.

b. *absol.* To administer a flogging.

1828 J. Bowen *Psyche* 198 If they vapulate in vain.

2. *intr.* To suffer vapulation or flogging.

1783 Parr *Lett.* Wks. 1828 VII. 390 Blunders for which a boy ought to vapulate.

Vapulation (væpĭlē·ĭ·ʃən). *rare.* [ad. L. **vāpulātio*, n. of action f. *vāpulāre*: see prec. Cf. Sp. *vapulacion.*] A beating or flogging. Also *transf.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vapulation*, a beating or scourging. 1706 E. Ward *London Spy* II. Wks. (ed. 3) I. 33 Like an Offender at a Whipping-Post,..the more importunate he seems for their favourable usage, the severer Vapulation they are to exercise upon him. 1791 Hampson *Mem. J. Wesley* III. 5 A strapping colonel interposing, the vapulation did not take place.

Va·pulatory, *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *vāpulāt-* Vapulate *v.* + -ory.] Of or relating to flogging.

1886 Lowell *Wks.* (1890) VI. 163, I am not..arguing in favour of a return to these vapulatory methods.

Vapyn, obs. Sc. form of Weapon.

‖ **Vaquero** (väkē·rō). [Sp. (= Pg. *vaqueiro*), f. *vaca* cow. Cf. Prov. *vaquier*, F. *vacher*, and It. *vaccaro*, med.L. *vaccārius.*]

1. In Spanish America: A cowboy or cowherd; a herdsman or cattle-driver.

1837 Irving *Adv. Capt. Bonneville* III. 86 The vaqueros, or Indian cattle-drivers. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xvii. 119, I found them in the ranche of a vaquero in the woods. 1893 K. Sanborn *S. California* xii. 152 The American vaquero—usually a short, fat man with dumpy legs, who dons a flapping sombrero.

attrib. 1880 Bret Harte *Jeff Briggs* ii, Having caparisoned himself and charger in true *vaquero* style.

2. (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Vaquero*,..a jacket worn by women and children.

Vaquil, variant of Vakeel.

1906 *Contemp. Rev.* May 580 The German Ambassador there..has become the Vaquil or Agent of the Sultan.

Var, southern dial. var. Far *adv.*, etc.; obs. Sc. f. War *a.*, Ware *a.*, *were* (see Be *v.*).

Var., freq. abbreviation of Variety.

‖ **Vara** (vā·rä). Also 7 **varra.** [Sp. and Pg. *vara* rod, yardstick:—L. *vāra* forked pole, trestle, f. L. *vārus* bent.] A linear measure used in Spain, Portugal, and Spanish America, of varying length in different localities, but usu. about 33 inches long; a Spanish yard. Cf. Vare[1] 1.

1674 Jeake *Arith. Surv.* (1696) 115 The 100 Ells of Antwerp make at Cadiz for Cloth 81 Varras. 1748 *Earthquake of Peru* I. (ed. 2) 39 Quarters, of 150 Varas or Spanish Yards, that is 64 Fathoms square. 1811 Pinkerton *Mod. Geogr.* (ed. 3) 689 A mass of native iron..about 32 varas in length..and..half a vara in thickness. 1850 B. Taylor *Eldorado* xviii. (1862) 187 The minimum extent is two hundred varas square (a vara is a little less than a yard) of irrigable land.

Vara, dial. variant of Very *adv.*

Varagian, *a.* [f. mod.L. *Varagi* (pl.), ad. old Russian *Variagi.*] = Varangian *a.*

The form *Varegian* (after the mod.L. variant *Varagi*) has also been employed.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 258 A Varagian (probably Danish) freebooter of the Baltic, named Rurik.

Varan (væ·rān). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Varan-us* (Merrem, 1820), f. Ar. *waran*, var. of وَرَل *waral*, monitor lizard. So F. *Varan.*] A lizard belonging to the genus *Varanus* or family *Varanidæ*; a monitor or varanian.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 231/1 The Heloderms have not the scales..with which they are covered surrounded by small squamous grains like the Varans. 1887 Howorth *Mammoth & Flood* 370 Allied to the living varans and lacelizards of Australia.

Varand, obs. Sc. form of Warrant.

Varandeisse, obs. Sc. form of Warrandice.

Varangian (vărænd·ʒiăn), *sb.* and *a. Hist.* [f. med. or mod.L. *Varang-us*, ad. med.Gr. *Βάραγγος* (pl. *Βάραγγοι*), ad. (through Slavonic languages) ON. *Væringi* (pl. *Væringjar*), app. f. *vár-* (f. pl. *várar*) plighted faith.

In the old Russian chronicle of Nestor the name occurs as *Variagi* and *Variasi* (pl.), and survives in mod.Russ. варя́гъ a pedlar, Ruthenian *varjah* a big strong man.]

A. *sb.* 1. One of the Scandinavian rovers who in the 9th and 10th centuries overran parts of Russia and reached Constantinople; a Northman (latterly also an Anglo-Saxon) forming one of the bodyguard of the later Byzantine emperors (see B.).

1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* lv. V. 561 In their wars against the more inland savages [of Russia], the Varangians condescended to serve as friends and auxiliaries. *Ibid.* 562 The new Varangians were a colony of English and Danes

who fled from the yoke of the N... 1832 Scott *Ct. Rob.* ii, The passengers observed to each other, that the stranger was a Varangian. 1836 *Partington's Brit. Cycl., Lit.* etc. III. 501/1 The Varangians, a race of bold pirates who infested the coasts of the Baltic. 1889 Baring-Gould *Grettir* xliii. 379 The company called the Varangians, who acted as a bodyguard to the Emperor.

2. The language spoken by these. *rare*—1.

1832 Scott *Ct. Rob.* iii, Mustering what few words of Varangian he possessed, which he eked out with Greek.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Varangians; composed of Varangians, etc.

1768 Gibbon *Decl & F.* lv. V. 563 The primitive subjects of the Varangian chief. 1832 Scott *Ct. Rob.* xxx, They were to mount on horseback at the sounding of the great Varangian trumpet. 1900 Hector H. Munro *Rise Russ. Empire* ii. 17 A Varangian power..had sprung up among the tribes of the Slavic hinterland.

b. *Varangian Guard*, the bodyguard of the Byzantine emperors, formed of Varangians.

1832 Scott *Ct. Rob.* ii, This account of the Varangian Guard is strictly historical. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XI. 788/2 The valour of the Varangian, or Anglo-Saxon and Danish guards, ever the firmest support of the Byzantine throne. 1889 Baring-Gould *Grettir* xliii. 380 The order came to the Varangian guard that [etc.].

Varanian (vărē'niăn), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Varan-us* Varan + -ian.]

A. *sb.* A lizard belonging to the family *Varanidæ* of scaled saurians; a monitor or varan.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 460/2 The Varanians form a family of scaled Saurians, including the Monitors of the Old World. 1847 T. R. Jones in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 288/1 In the Geckos, Agamians, and Varanians, the base of the tooth is imbedded in a shallow socket.

B. *adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of the varans or monitors.

1840 Owen *Odontogr.* I. 263 The Varanian family of squamate Saurians..includes the Monitors of the old world. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 460/2 Allied in the form of the teeth to the typical Varanian Monitors.

Varanid. *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Varanid-æ*, f. *Varanus* Varan.] = Varanian *sb.*

1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 422 Allied [to the lizards] are the Varanids (*Varanus*), large, tropical, old-world forms with long bifid tongue.

Varble, obs. f. Warble *sb.* **Vard,** obs. Sc. f. Ward *sb.* and *v.* **Vardan(e, -en,** obs. Sc. ff. Warden. **Vardanry,** obs. Sc. f. Wardenry. **Varde,** southern ME. var. Fedd *sb.*1 **Vardel, -il,** obs. Sc. ff. World. **Varden,** southern dial. var. Farthing; obs. Sc. f. Warden. **Varder,** southern dial. var. Farther; var. Verdor *Obs.*

†**Vardingale.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 6 **verdyngale,** 6-7 **verdingale, -all.** β. 6–8 **vardingale** (6 *Sc.* **ward-**). γ. 6 **vardingard.** [ad. obs. F. *verdugale, vertugale, vertugade* (16th c.), ad. Sp. *verdugado*, f. *verdugo* rod, stick. See also Verdugal.] A framework of hoops formerly used by women to extend their skirts; = Farthingale.

α. 1552 [see Farthingale]. 1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 478 Fashion brought-in the verdingale, and carried out the verdingale, and hath againe reuiued the verdingale.., and placed it behinde, like a rudder. 1609 Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 23 Wee have verdingales to beare up our bands, as they had to support their loose britches.

β. 1560 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scot.* XI. 163 For ane wardingale to hir. 1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 240 A hamper to pack the vard[i]ngales in. 1603 Dekker *Wonderfull Yeare* Wks. (Grosart) I. 157 The meanest that was there.. was in..her vardingale, her turkie grograin kirtle. 1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* v. 219 From Vardingale to Vardingale, hee flyes His brave Lieutenant, lest Hee him surprise. 1673, 1753 [see Farthingale].

γ. 1578 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 230 Ane vardingard of blak taffetie the foirskirt of satine pasmentit with gold.

transf. and *fig.* 1590 R. W[ilson] *Three Lords & Ladies London* (Roxb.) 295 Thou from Dissimulation art sent, And bring'st a gown of glosing,..A vardingale of vaine boast. 1592 Greene *Def. Conny Catching* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 96 Illest be the French sleeues & breech verdingales, that grants them liberty to conny-catch so mightily.

Vardite, -ditt, dial. or obs. forms of Verdict.

Vardle. *dial.* Also 6 **verdoll.** [Alteration of OF. *vervelle* or *vert(e)velle* in the same sense: cf. Vartiwell, Varvel.] (See later quots.)

1585 in *Archæologia* XXV. 478 For bengells, verdolls, & hoks, hespes & staples, for ye same berne, vj s. vij d. 1787 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. E. Anglia* Gloss., *Vardle*, a common eye or thimble of a gate, with a spike only. 1893 Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norfolk* 86 *Vardle*, bottom hinge of a gate.

Vardlie, obs. Sc. form of Worldly *a.*

†**Vardo.** *Cant. Obs.* (See quot.) Also *attrib.*

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Vardo*, a waggon. *Ibid.*, *Vardo-gill*, a waggoner.

Vardour, variant of *verdour* Verdor *Obs.*

Vardy. Now *dial.* Also 8 **vardi,** 9 **vardie.** [Colloq. or dial. var. of *verdit*, obs. f. Verdict.] Opinion, judgement, verdict.

1731–8 Swift *Polite Conv.* i. 15 *Lord SA* Well, I fear Lady Answerall can't live long; she has so much wit. *Nev.* No, she can't live...*Lady Ans.* O! Miss, you must give your Vardi too! 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., To give one's vardy; i. e. verdict or opinion. 1825– in dial. glossaries (N. Cy., Linc., Yorks.).

Vardytt, obs. form of Verdict.

†**Vare**1 *Obs.* Also 7 **varre.** [ad. Sp. *vara* Vara.]

1. = Vara.

1545 *Rates of Customs* d iij b, The Vares of Spayne:..In. Vares makithe .viii. yardes Englyshe. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 175 Certain peeces of blacke silke of twelue vares long a peece. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 273 The other measure is called a vare,..which measure is of 5 palmes or spans, and is one code and two third parts. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xi. 240 It extendes above foure score Varres or yardes in length.

2. A rod, staff, or wand, esp. as a symbol of judicial office or authority.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 357 He tooke the Vares of Justice from the Iudges and Sargeants, and incontinent restored them againe. *c* 1648 Howell *Lett.* I. iii. xxxii, If an Alguazil..show him his Vare, that is a little white staffe he carryeth as badge of his office. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 48 Imposing my hand upon a Crosse held out to me upon the end of a Vare, or wand. 1682 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 595 His Hand a Vare of Justice did uphold.

†**Vare**2. Variant of Fare *sb.*3 *Obs.*

1653 H. Appleton *Fight Lagorn-Road* 2 At Naples I made Provision for my Squadron,..passing thence through the Vare [=Strait] of Messina.

Vare, dial. var. Fare *sb.*2; southern ME. var. Fare *v.*; var. Vair *sb.*1; obs. Sc. f. Ware *sb.*

‖**Varec.** Also varech. [F. *varech*, *varec* (OF. *warec*, *werek*, *verec*, *vrec*, etc.), ad. old Scand. **wrek*: see Wreck *sb.*]

1. Sea-weed.

1676 *Phil. Trans.* II. 594 The Sea-Fox, in whose stomach they found a branch of the Sea-herb Varec. 1763 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 294 The most ordinary of these manures is the Varec, a sea-weed which is periodically throw'n upon the coast by the sea-tide. 1836 Sir G. Head *Home Tour* 289, I observed large quantities of varech or sea-weed on the beach [at Robin Hood's Bay]. 1889 *Guernsey News* 1 Feb., The gathering of varech in Herm commences to-morrow.

attrib. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 36 Then, dry and moist, the varech limit-line,

2. An impure carbonate of soda obtained from sea-weed.

1844 Fownes *Chem.* 234 Carbonate of Soda...The *barilla* ..is thus produced in several places on the coast of Spain... That made in Brittany is called *varec*. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) III. 940 *Varec*, the name of kelp made on the coast of Normandy.

Varecoste, southern ME. variant of Farcost.

Varegilt (*obs. Sc.*): see Waregilt.

Vareit, Sc. variant of *varied* Wary *v.*

‖**Varella.** *Obs.* Pl. **-ellaes, -ely.** [Pg. and It. *varella, -ela* (16th cent.), of doubtful origin.] A pagoda.

1588 T. Hickock tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 33 b, They spend many of these Sugar canes in making of houses and tents which they call *Varely* for their Idoles. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 260 They consume in these Varellaes great ... guilded) Idolls. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 119 The King of Pegu..had them placed amongst the other Idols kept in a *Varella* or *Mosquee*.

†**Varelle,** Anglicized form of prec. *Obs.*

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 261 There is a Varelle or Pagode, which is the pilgrimage of the Pegues.

Varen, southern ME. variant of Fare *v.*

Vare-nut, dial. variant of Fare-nut.

Vare-widgeon. *dial.* [f. Vair *sb.*1] (See quot.)

1813 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl. s.v. *Smew*, The females and young birds are called in the southern part of Devonshire, Vare-Wigeon, from a supposed similitude about the head to a Weasel, which is denominated *Vare*.

†**Varewort.** *Obs.*—1 In 3 **uarewurt.** A plant of doubtful identity.

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 557 *Eptaphillos*, salerne, uarewurt.

Varge, obs. or dial. variant of Verge.

†**Vargeous,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. F. *verge*:—L. *virga* rod, wand.] Resembling a rod; rod-like.

1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 988 The same thing holds for the measure of the vargeous palets [F. *palettes de verges*], the balance wheel [etc.].

Varges, -is, etc., variant of Verjuice, etc.

Vargood, dial. variant of Fargood.

‖**Vari.** [The first part of the Malagasy name *varikandana* or *varianda*. Cf. *varikosy* the broad-nosed lemur.] The ruffed lemur, *Lemur varius*.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 241 The Vari is much larger than either of the former [i. e. mococo and mongos]..; it has a kind of ruff round the neck, consisting of very long hair. 1785 Smellie *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VII. 228 The vari is larger, stronger, and more ferocious than the maucauco. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 420/1 The *Vari*, to which the name of *Lemur Macaco* has been applied by modern authors, is given by Linnæus as Var[iety] d. of that species.

‖**Vari,** pl. of Varus.

Variability (vē·riăbi·lĭti). [f next + -ity, or a. F. *variabilité*,—It. *variabilità*, Sp. *variabilidad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

1. The fact or quality of being variable in some respect; tendency towards, capacity for, variation or change.

1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 89 In her outward appearance there is a variability, that renders it almost impossible to draw an exact resemblance of her. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* Wks. 1842 II. 355 His protest against binding him to his opinions, and his reservation of a right to whatever opinions he pleases, remain in their full force. This variability is pleasant, and shews a fertility of fancy. 1839 Lady Lytton *Chevely* III. 146 It is this atmospheric variability..that occasions the thousand little dissensions that spring from love itself. 1869 Phillips *Vesuvius* viii. 246 Reasonings on the variability of the relative level of land and sea. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* June 901 They made too little account of the variability of human nature and circumstances.

2. *spec.* a. The fact of, or capacity for, varying in amount, magnitude, or value.

1826 tr. *Lacroix's Diff. & Int. Calculus* 157 From this may be deduced the differential coefficient of *s*, relative to the variability of *x*. 1870 Peirce tr. *Guillemin's Sun* 282 The variability of a certain number of stars. 1873 H. Spencer *Sociol.* vi. 124 The variability of the ratio..being duly conceived in terms of lines that lengthen and shorten.

b. *Biol.* Capability in plants or animals of variation or deviation from a type.

1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* (1835) II. 449 Variability of a species compared to that of an individual. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* i. 40 A high degree of variability is obviously favourable, as freely giving the materials for selection to work on. 1880 Wallace *Island Life* iv. 58 The belief in the variability of all animals in all their parts and organs.

Variable (vē·riăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–**variable** (5–6 **varri-,** 6 *Sc.* **vareable**), 5, *Sc.* 6, **-abill,** *Sc.* 6 **-abil** (**varieabill**), 5–6 **varyable,** 6 **-abul,** 5 **uaryabyl, veryabyll.** [a. OF. *variable* (F., Sp., and Prov. *variable*, Pg. *variavel*, It. *variabile*), ad. L. *variābilis*, f. *variāre* to Vary.]

A. *adj.* 1. Liable or apt to vary or change; (readily) susceptible or capable of variation; mutable, changeable, fluctuating, uncertain.

a. Of the course of events, the state of things, etc.

c 1397 Chaucer *Lack Steef.* 8 What made this worlde to be so variable But louste þat folke haue in discencion? *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5424 In a state that is not stable, But chaungynge ay and variable. 1448–9 J. Metham *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 54 Thy uaryabyl aqwel,..O fortune! brent myght be With Pluto in helle. 1483 Caxton *Cato* g iiij, For the goodes of thys worlde been varyable; now one is ryche and now poure. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* 51 They nothing thynke on fortune var[i]able. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* (1550) 34 The Englysha affaires..began to wauer, and waxe variable. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 119 Some joining in skirmish with the enemies, fought with variable event. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* 696 They had continued a doubtfull and variable fight a great part of the day.

b. Of feeling, conduct, etc.

c 1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Kur.* 287 Quhat art thou, lufe,..To sum constant, till othir variabil. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 114 So variable and vnconstant is the nature of man.' 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 111 O sweare not by the Moone,..Least that thy Loue proue likewise variable. 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. viii. 13, I neuer heard a passion so confused, So strange, outragious, and so variable. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 92 His heart I know, how variable and vain Self-left. 1849 Ruskin *Seven Lamps* vii. § 7. 191 The decorations..might be made subjects of variable fancy. 1862 H. Spencer *First Princ.* I. v. § 29 (1875) 102 There begins to fade from the mind the conception of a special personality to whose variable will they were before ascribed.

Comb. 1618 Bolton *Florus* iv. iii. (1636) 293 While Antonius, variable-witted,..takes upon him to be a king.

c. In miscellaneous applications.

1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 196 By hir iyen clowdy and varyable vysage. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 442 These beautifull shapes,..not varriable in time, not withering throughe the heate of the sunne. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vi. 38 For formes are variable and decay, By course of kind, and by occasion. 1609 Wibarne *New Age Old Names* To Rdr. A 4 b, If I haue omitted something in a matter so variable. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 63 Our Course variable between East and South. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 98 P 1 There is not so variable a thing in Nature as a Lady's Head-dress. 1832 Lewis *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* Introd. 7 The variable meaning of a word. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt.* II. i. (1874) 78 This production of change is not variable or capricious, but follows certain fixed laws. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 388 Events, which..depend at once on constant and on variable conditions.

absol. 1872 Bagehot *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 32 We overlook and forget the constant while we watch the variable.

2. Of persons: Apt to change from one opinion or course of action to another; inconstant, fickle, unreliable.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 357 Þe men beeþ variable and vnstedefast, trecherous and gileful. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xix. 69 Somme of ows [are] sothfast and some variable. 1402 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* 78 Al-be-hyt that man fynde o woman nyce, In-constant, recheles, or varriable. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iii. (1883) 37 So that they be not founde.. for enuye variable. *a* 1592 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 37 My word nor I shall not be variable, But alwaies..firme and stable. *a* 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 135 The popularie..ar so warieabill and faccell. 1643 Baker *Chron.* (1653) 504 Lydington was..a man of the greatest understanding,..but very variable. 1708–9 *Pennyw. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 313, I am very sensible he is a variable man, and not..to be entirely depended on. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 162 P 5 One of the most variable Beings of the most variable Kind. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. xxx, Uncertain, coy, and hard to please, And variable as the shade By the light quivering aspen made.

transf. 1484 Caxton *Curiall* ij b, Them whom fortune the variable hath most hyely lyfte up and enhaunsed. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 120 b, King Charles did consider, what a variable lady Fortune was.

b. Const. *in* (words, actions, etc.).

1429 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 145 In thy behestes be nat variable. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 544 See you not howe varyable the kynge is in his wordis? 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* 214 In vsyng my rayment I am not varyable. 1562 Bullein *Bulwarke, Bk. Vse Sickness* 55 Bee

not variable in Religion. 1603 Jas. I in Ellis *Lett.* Ser. 1. III. 139 He is in this businesse..as variable and uncertaine as the Moone.

†c. Liable to alter or turn *from* (or *of*) a purpose, etc. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 752 No mervell is, bouȝe Rome be som what variabill Fro honour & fro wele. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 5120 Þei wil holde stable, And finally nat be variable From þe ende, platly, þat þei make. *c* 1430 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 216 If we fynde hym varyable Of his prechynge that he hath tawth. 1493 *Fetronylla* 81 (Pynson), From hir entent nat founde variable.

3. a. Of the weather, seasons, etc.: Liable to vary in temperature or character; changeable.

c 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 150 The seuin Planetis..hes power..To reull..Wedder and wind, and courss variabill. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowe* v. § 13. 428 Peace is not like the immoveable mountaines, but rather like to the variable skie. 1728 De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg.) 14 The Weather was temperate, variable and cool enough. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 493/2 The great sunshine heats of Florence, which are too variable and undetermined. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 569 The weather..was very variable, but upon the whole mild. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 288 Exposed entirely to the vicissitudes of our ever-variable climate.

b. Of wind or currents: Tending to change in direction; shifting.

1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* III. I. (1848) 146 As variable as the Wind. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xiii. (1840) 229 We had the wind variable. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* I. 340 He who has been taught to consider that nothing in the world is so variable as the winds. 1832 De la Beche *Geol. Man.* 95 There is a tendency of the surface waters to the S.E., being variable in winter. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxv. 84 The wind shifted and became variable. 1854 Tomlinson *Arago's Astron.* 185 Much less regular in the temperate regions, they are called *variable* winds.

c. Of a star: That varies periodically in respect of brightness or magnitude.

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 471/2 *marg.*, Of the variable [1]74 Brewster *More Worlds* i. 7 It appears and disappears like a variable star, shewing in painful succession its spots of light and of shade. 1880 Agnes Giberne *Sun, Moon & Stars* 230 There are numbers of stars called Variable Stars, the light of which is constantly changing, now becoming more, now becoming less.

d. *Biol.* Liable to deviate from a type; admitting of such deviation. (Cf. Variation 10.)

1859 Darwin *Orig. Species* v. 149 Beings low in the scale of nature are more variable than those which are higher. 1877 Conder *Basis of Faith* v. 232 Species, it has been well said, are 'variable, but not mutable'. 1880 Wallace *Island Life* 59 It is now very easy to understand how, from such a variable species, one or more new species may arise.

†4. Characterized by variation or diversity; differing, diverse, various. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 233 The peple wente furthe to mete the victor with variable [L. *varia*] gladdenes-e. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 61 For musike doth sette in all unyte The discorde thynges whiche are variable. 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 By occasion of variable and sundrie opinions..great discorde..bathe arrisen. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* p. iii, Flowers..delightsome to the eye, in consideration of their variable colours. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 372 The variable transformations of Proteus. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 167 It were a worke..tedious to the Reader, to recite the variable opinions of Chronologers..about these points.

†b. Different *from* something. *Obs.*—1

1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 167 Thy visage chaunging by lookes manifolde:..Sometime as lead, from death scant variable.

†c. Variegated. *Obs.*—1

1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 16 Of the coloure of boxe, somwhat variable and as it wer chekered.

†5. Of varying ownership. *Obs.*

1549 in *Leges Marchiarum* (1705) 80 The Land variable, common of both the People, called the Debateable Ground, which lieth between the West Marches of England and Scotland. *Ibid.* 81 The said Variable Ground.

6. Susceptible or admitting of increase or diminution, not remaining the same or uniform, in respect of size, number, amount, or degree.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 94 His belly is variable, now great, now small like an Oxes. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 496 They are sold at a more reduced price, about 9*s.* per dozen; this, however variable,..leaves the money saved proportionably the same. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 114 The pressure of the atmosphere is variable. 1828 Lardner *Handbk. Nat. Phil.* 281 When the quantity of heat necessary to raise a body one degree is different in different parts of the scale, the specific heat is said to be *variable*. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 27 If a point, *P*, moves round a circle with a velocity either constant or variable.

b. Of quantity, number, etc.: Liable to vary.

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Variable Quantities*, in Fluxions, are such as are supposed to be continually increasing or decreasing; and so do by the motion of their said Increase or Decrease Generate Lines, Areas or Solidities. 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* 223 If any one of the variable Dimances..be called *x*. 1763 — *Meth. Increments* 41 Multiply the given increment by the next preceding value of the variable quantity. 1802 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 740/1 The abscisses and ordinates of an ellipsis, or other curve line, are variable quantities. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 374 A sucker composed of a variable number of scaly pieces. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 254 Small bundles, the number of which is variable.

c. *spec.* (See quot.)

1829 *Hand-bk. Nat. Philos., Hydrost.* viii. 81 (L.U.K.), Some springs, called *variable* or *reciprocating*,..discharge a much smaller quantity of water for a certain time, and then give out a greater quantity.

7. That may be varied, changed, or modified; alterable.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 14 What if the minister's vocation be..not a ceremony variable as times and occasions require? 1611 Bible *Heb.* iii. 1 *marg.*, According to variable songs or tunes. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2690 *Variable Cut-off*, one actuated from the governor, so as to be brought into action according to the load on the engine. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Nov. 7/1 The permanent taxes..will be variable only by regular Act.

Comb. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2691 Olmsted's Variable-Speed Pulley. *Ibid.*, *Variable-speed Wheel*, a contrivance for obtaining alternately accelerated and retarded circular motion.

b. *Gram.* Capable of inflexion.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

8. *Nat. Hist.* In specific names, as **variable cod, hare, ixalus, jacana, lemur, maple, mole, rail, tanager, toad.**

1880 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 642/2 [The] Dorse..of the same genus with the cod..; its colour is more variable, from which it has received the name of *Variable Cod. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 529 The Polar or *Variable Hare (*Lepus timidus* or *variabilis*)..is white during winter in the colder regions. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 366 The *Variable Ixalus of Ceylon is..very variable in its coloration. 1785 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* III. i. 244 *Variable Jacana (*Parra variabilis*). 1896 H. O. Forbes *Handbk. Primates* I. 68 The Ruffed or *Variable Lemur derives its name from the remarkable variability of its external markings. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 78/1 *Acer heterophyllum*, the *variable maple...This is the plant sold in the English nurseries under the name of *A. creticum*. 1776 P. Brown *Illustr. Zool.* 110 *Variable Mole. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quad.* II. 485 Variable Mole:..color of the hair on the upper part of the body varied with glossy green and copper-color. 1824 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XII. i. 198 *Variable Rail (*Rallus varians*). Brown Rail spotted and striated with black and white, with the body beneath and eyebrows cinereous or griseous. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 234 *Variable Tanager...: general colour of the plumage green, very glossy and variable. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 360 The *Variable, or Green Toad, found in France, has hind limbs and feet nearly as large as those of the Frog.

B. *sb.* 1. *Math.* and *Phys.* A quantity or force which, throughout a mathematical calculation or investigation, is assumed to vary or be capable of varying in value. Cf. prec. 6 b and Constant *sb.*

1816 tr. *Lacroix's Diff. & Int. Calculus* 4 The limit of the ratio..will be obtained by dividing the differential of the function by that of the variable. 1862 Draper *Intell. Devel. Europe* (1865) 173 In some mathematical expression containing constants and variables. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 238 In this case ϕ will also be a potential (or flow) function of the new variables (ξ, η).

2. a. A variable or shifting wind; *spec.* in *pl.* (see quots. 1857, 1867).

1846 A. Young *Nant. Dict* 349 The meeting of the two opposite currents [of wind] here produces the intermediate space called the calms or variables. 1857 Tomes *Americ. in Japan* i. 31 The Variables, which are found South of the border of the South-east Trades. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 710 *Variables*, those parts of the sea where a steady wind is not expected.

b. A variable star. (See A. 3 c.)

1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* 81 Among the acknowledged variables β *Persei* is perhaps the most interesting. 1880 *Athenæum* 11 Sept. 341/1 The period of this interesting variable is a little less than five days.

3. Something which is liable to vary or change; a changeable factor, feature, or element.

1846 Grote *Greece* II. xxi. (1862) II. 209 The beginning and the end are here (in the Odyssey) the date in respect to epical genesis, though the intermediate events admit of being conceived as variables. 1865 Martineau in *Theol. Rev.* 670 A changing scene with the variables of which he is in immediate contact. 1881 H. H. Gibbs *Double Standard* 13 Uniformity, and therefore the removal of those variables which must be an encumbrance to commerce.

Variableness. [f. prec. + -ness.] The quality of being variable or changeable; tendency or liability to vary: a. Of things.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 201 Therefore mony difference be in a man, swiftenesse of sawle, variableneese of witte. 1569 Golding *Heminge's Postill.* Ded. 2 Whose interpretation being alwayes one without variableneese. 1595 *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 19 The variableness of the winde and weather. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 The variableness of times, places, & dispositions of churches. 1712 Steele *Spectator* No. 478 ¶ 2 The Variableness of Fashion turns the Stream of Business. 1794 Jones in G. Adams *Nat. & Exper. Phil.* II. xxii. 468 *note*, The variableness in refractive power of different sorts of glass. 1820 W. Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 403 This variableness being the effect of the unequal temperature of the ice and water. 1838 Arnold in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. viii. 126

b. Of persons, the mind, conduct, etc.

1491 Caxton *Vitas P.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 237 By a brother of his he hadde be Induced to soo grete varyableneese and unstedfastneese. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 271 b, The varyableneese or vnstedfastneese of man or woman. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 307 That the reading of many authors..drawe not after them the discommoditie of fickle headinesse and variableneese. 1612 Bible *Jas.* i. 17 The Father of lights, with whom is no variableneese, neither shadow of turning. 1677 Hales *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. v. 213 It being the soveraign Prerogative of Almighty God only, to be without variableness or shadow of change. 1748 Richardson *Cla* ...ryll. 193 The charge of variableness and ... in judgment. 1580 Knox *Ref.* xxiv. I. 220 ... temporary variableness of the mind.

Variably (vē·riăbli), *adv.* [f. Variable *a.* + -ly 2.] In a variable, inconstant, or uncertain manner; changeably; with variation.

1590 H. Barrow *Brief Discoverie* 4 Amongst those 4 he stil contended to set vp one chief, which variably fell out, sometimes to one, sometimes to another. 1598 Florio, *Variamente*, changeablie,...diuerslie, variablie. 1648 Hexham II, *Veranderlicken*, Changeably, or Variably. 1731 Bailey (ed. 5), *Variably*, changeably, uncertainly. 1772 C. Hutton *Bridges* iv, The variably increased velocity. 1824 Byron *Juan* xvi. cxxi, The blue eyes glared, And rather variably for stony death. 1852 H. Rogers *Eclipse Faith* 372 That Nature was, within certain limits, only variably uniform. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 273/1 The..variably-coloured Helices.

†**Variament.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. type **varīmentum*, f. *variāre* to Vary.] A disagreement or difference.

1491 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 231 By reason whereof certane contraversies, variamentes and debates wer growen.

Variance (vē·riăns). Forms: 4- **variance** (6 *Sc.* -ans, 6 **vareance**), 4-6 **variaunce** (5 -aunce); 4-7 **varyaunce** (5 -awnce, -anse, 6 -ance); 5 **wari-, warya(u)nce**; 5 **veryaunce** (fery-), **werysuns**, -ouns; 6 **vari-**, *Sc.* **warience**. [a. OF. *variance*, *-aunce*, *-ence* (= It. *varianza*), ad. L. *varientia*, f. *variāre* to Vary.]

I. 1. The fact or state of undergoing change or alteration; tendency to vary or become different; variation.

c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1423 God ordayns here..Sere variaunce..Of þe tyme and wedirs and seasons, In taken of þe worldes condicions, þat swa unstable er and variande. 1398 Chaucer *Fortune* 45 Thou born art in my regne of varyaunce. Abowte the wheel with oother most thow dryue. *c* 1400 *Brut* xxxiv, [It] was callede þe citee of Ludstan; but now þat name is chaungede þrouȝ variance of lettres, and now is callede London. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vi. 100 Bot this fals warld, with mony doubill cast, In it is nocht bot werray variance. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2052 She [Fortune] dawnsyth varyaunce with mutabylyte; Nowe all in welth, forthwith in pouerte. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Duke of Glocester* v, Any man to assure, In state uncarefull of Fortunes varyaunce. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 305 It being reasonable for every man to vary his opinion according to the variance of his reason. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* I. 752 By this magnetic variance is explored. 1840 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. III. 282 The variance in the produce of the wheats I attribute to the nature of the soil. 1859 Tennent *Ceylon* II. VII. vii. 260 The temperature..ranges from 36° to 81° with a mean daily variance of 11°. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 752 Even as the blood loses and replaces its corpuscles, without a variance in the volume and vigor of its current.

†b. Inconstancy in persons; variableness, changeableness. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 22 Ther is deceipte in his balance, And al is that the variance Of ous, that scholde ous betre avise. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1135 The most parte of Room held it for dotage, And had muche mervell of his variaunce. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. vii. 176 He spekith of a variaunce and of a chaunging..in mannis wil. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 223 In hir face semit greit variance, Quhyles perfyte treuth, and quhyles Inconstance. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlv. 6 Luve ..Quhilk is begun with inconstance, And endis nocht but variance.

†c. In the phr. *without* (Sc. *but*) *variance*. *Obs.* The phrase occurs also in sense 3 b.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 10 We say offte hert, withowte variaunce, Sovereigne lord, welcome, welcome ye be! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 40 Wallace..spak to thaim with manly contenance. In fayr affornie, he said, but variance [etc.]. 1500–20 Dunbar *Tretis* xxxi 17 He that with gud lyfe and trewth, But varians or vder slewth,..Dois evir mair with ane maister dwell.

2. The fact or quality of varying or differing; difference, divergence, discrepancy.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 762 For that that som men blamen ever yit, Lo, other maner folk commenden it. And as for me, for alle swich variaunce, Felicitie clepe I my suffisaunce. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 28 For alle Cristene men shulden be of oo wille, and variaunce in siche sectis makiþ variaunce in wille. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiii. 60 In many poyntes þai vary fra vs and fra oure faith. All þaire variaunce ware to mykil to tell. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 277 Ye haue not many chaunges [of service] after the varyaunce of feastes,..as the comon seruyce of the churche vseth. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 221 So is there variance between written storie, and common speech, touching the true place of that building. 1605 Camden *Rem.* (1623) 36 Words, that in their originall are Latine, and yet (saue some small variance in their terminations) fall out all one with the French, Dutch, and English. 1839 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* IV. ii. § 12 It is evident that variance of opinion proves error somewhere. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 243 The variance of knowledge and will, where no passion is the stimulant. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 136/1 Whether variance between the provisional and complete specification of a patent..is still a ground of invalidity.

†b. Variety. *Obs.*—1

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4632 Mekill variance of vertus enverouns oure saules.

3. a. *Law.* A difference or discrepancy between two statements or documents.

1429 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 346 For whiche diversite and variaunce of the seide name. *c* 1430 Henry *Wallace* viii. 1736 Thar may na band be maid so sufficians, Bot ay in it

that fynd a varians. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, v. iv, *Lawyer.* This matter craues a variance, not a speech. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* XXV. (1636) 98 So if I graunt you.. a way ouer my land according to a plot..whereof a table is annexed to these presents, and there be some speciall vari-

(ed. 4) II. 2107 Advantage cannot be taken of a variance between the plaint and the declaration in the superior court. 1827 *Bentham's Ration. Judic. Evid.* V. 598 The designation..by the name of St. Ethelburgh, instead of Saint Ethelburgha, was held to be (as lawyers term it) a fatal variance. 1835 *Tomlins Law Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v., If there is a variance between the declaration and the writ, it is error; and the writ should formerly abate.

b. In general use: A difference or discrepancy; a discriminating or divergent feature.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 83 The particuler variances betwene the Indentures and book of shipping. 1512 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V 325 There have bene greate variaunce now of late in taking of principules. 1534 MORE *Dial. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1153/1 That is a ryght heauy thyng to see suche varyaunces in our belief ryse and grow among our self. 1825 NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 656 Though in the preceding statements there is an apparent variance,..the variations may have arisen [etc.]. 1860 TENNENT *Ceylon* Introd. xxxix, I have to apologise for variances in the spelling of proper names. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 27/1 The variances..which have arisen between the real property law of the United States and England.

†c. Divergence from the truth. *Obs.*

c 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 706 How scholde I ȝeven the ony penaunce whanne I knowe wel thou makest variawnce. *Ibid.* 748, 958.

4. The fact of changing, altering, or varying *from* a state, opinion, etc.; an instance of this.

1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 253 Holsum to thee now were a variaunce Fro the feend to our lord god. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 45 After variaunce Fro lif to dethe. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 271/1 In this point I assure you faythfully, there is no maner change or varyaunce from his oppinion. 1798 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) III. 460 The first and only instance of variance from the former port of my resolution, I was duped into.

II. 5. The state or fact of disagreeing or falling out; discord, dissension, contention, debate. (Cf. 7 and 8.)

c 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 409 In came Dyscord to haue made varyaunce. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 184/1 If variance falle betwixt any fynder, affermyng ayenst any other persone. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiv. 89 [It] maketh theim to entertayne well togider wythoute varvaunce. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 1 Great discorde, variance, debate, ..& sedicion hath growen betwene his said subiectes. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Hecyra* IV. iv, When you seeke forged matter to cause strife and varience. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xxvii. 43 Murder attends the variance of the Proud. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilg. Prog.* II. 192 She makes Variance betwixt Rulers and Subjects, betwixt Parents and Children. 1721 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* III. 193 What is variance? A sin opposed to amity. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 65 If any attempted to..defraud me of my property, I yielded it without variance. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. 393 It would be necessary for a time to keep up a show of variance between them. 1855 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* v. (1878) 139 The bloody variance of a feudal nobility. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* II. 152, I never saw a child with such an instinct for preventing variance, or so full of tact and pretty ways.

Comb. 1552 HULOET, Variaunce makers, *litistensores.*

b. Opposition or antagonism *to* something. *rare.*

1842 MANNING *Serm.* i. (1848) I. 16 An energetic variance of will to the mind of God. 1875 — *Mission H. Ghost* viii. 210 We have used our wills for all manner of conscious variance to His holy will.

6. A disagreement, quarrel, or falling out; a dispute.

c 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 244 Wyll ye agre that Phebe your maistresse May haue the guydyng of your varyaunce? 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 265/1 To make variaunces and commotion betwene you..and youre true people. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 6 As thei went togedere..there felle in a varyaunce for ther logynge. 1542 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 339/2 Certaine articles, for ye which there is a varience in the world at this day. 1580 in W. Cotton *Elizabethan Guild* (1873) 21 Yf any variance or controversie shall at any tyme happen to ryse betwene any youre brethren. 1607 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* Induct. 84 Then thus betwixt vs two this variance ends. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 92 It were too long a Story to tell..ye originalls and beginnings of their variances. 1788 J. BROWN *View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* IV. II. 318 No variance hath ever taken place between God and holy angels.

†b. *spec.* A difference or dispute leading to legal action between parties. *Obs.*

1476 *Searchers Verdicts* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 21 Award & jugement..of a variaunce of a ground be twix John Gilyot Alderman..and Ambrose Preston of London. 1498 *Cov. Leet Bk.* III. 595 Where-as diuerse discordes and warlaunces were late moved & had bitwen the seid parties. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (E.E.T.S.) 51 To here and iudge suche causes and varyances. 1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 203 In respect of the variance and debait standand betuix thame. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 271 Is there a variance? enter but his door, Balk'd are the Courts, and contest is no more.

III. 7. *In variance.* †a. Forming a subject of debate, contention, or legal action. *Obs.*

1461–2 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 4 He is agred..to put all thing that is in variance betwixt you & him in the said Sir John & me. 1468 *Searchers Verdicts* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 18 A grounde þat stode in variaunce betwix thabbot & Convent. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 327 Suche matteres as then were in varyaunce bytwene the seid Mulsho and the seid Selby. 1539 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. App. x. 32 Consider, I beseche you, the matters here in Varyaunce. 1586 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. iv. 438 One that mooueth pleas or suites..to the end to have part of the land, or other thing in variance. 1713 M. HENRY *Conc. Meekness Spirit* (1820) 118 If meekness rule, matters in variance may be fairly reasoned and adjusted.

†b. At variance; = 8 b. *Obs.*

c 1465 *Engl. Chron.* (Camden) 64 It happid that with bolstes langage..he fil in variaunce with thaym, and thay fil on him. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCCIX. 493 The realme of Englande was as then in great variaunce among themselfe.

8. *At variance.* a. Of persons: In a state of discord, dissension, or enmity.

1523 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 757 The Lordes whome he knew at varyaunce, himselfe in his deathbed appeased. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* III. ii, Simo and Davus are at variance about the birth of the child. 1620 T. BAYLEY *Worcester's Apophth.* 4 The Servants of his house..were never at variance, in point of Religion. 1683 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 363 Whilst the Emperor and Turke are at variance. 1710 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* II. 337 God and man naturally are at variance. *a* 1781 R. WATSON *Philip III* (1793) I. i. 60 Neither of the courts at variance seemed..inclined to prolong the war. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 77 The rest of the Peloponnesian allies, seeing the two kings at variance, followed the example of the Corinthians. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. II. 34 The powers who dwell In the celestial mansions are no more At variance.

transf. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 73. 126, I heard a violent Noise, as if the Elements were all at Variance.

b. Const. *with, among(st* or *between, from.*

(*a*) 1508 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 177 James hath brokyn with..his Neyburus..and is at gret waryance with them. 1593 *Bacchus Bountie* C 4, Hee falls at variance with mistris Merigodowne. 1650 *Nicholas P.* (Camden) 204 And they do their best to set this good Princess at variance with her Mother in Law. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1585 What cause Brought him so soon at variance with himself Among his foes? 1736 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 454 One..with whom you were at Variance. 1768 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. ii, It is with myself only I am at variance. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. 39 On all matters as to which he was at variance with the Athenians. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5 138 Every year found the Justiciary at greater variance with Rome.

(*b*) 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 78/2 The Britaynes..were at variance amongst themselues. 1656 MILTON *Lett. of State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 373 We have beheld the Protestant Princes more and more at weakning Variance among themselves. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. 214 The Breton princes were at variance between themselves.

(*c*) 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 6 Mar. 21/4 A Government from which..he is totally at variance on points even more important.

c. In the phrases *to set* (or †*fall*) *at variance.*

(*a*) 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* x. 35 For I am come to sett a man att varyaunce ageynst hys father. [So in later versions.] 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xvii. 9 He y^t discloseth the faute, setteth frendes at variaunce. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 541 The Spaniards set York and Stanley at variance. 1655 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 557 Pale-faced envye, mixt with hatred and mallice, hath done there best indeavour to sett us att variance. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, To disguise our passions, To set our looks at variance with our thoughts. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* I. Wks. 1757 IV. 107 Prone to..set things at variance, which, by nature, are allies.

(*b*) 1528 MORE *De Quat. Noviss.* Wks. 89/1 Now shal ye se men fall at varyance for kissyng of the pax. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 45 The earle of Lennox and the cardinall was fallin at varience. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 35 Mars and Mercury fell at variance whose servant he should be.

d. Of things: In a state of disagreement or difference; conflicting, differing. Usu. const. *with.*

(*a*) 1704 POPE *Spring* 60 She runs, but hopes she does not run unseen; While a kind glance at her pursuer flies, How much at variance are her feet and eyes! 1797 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 72 His tongue and his countenance were a little at variance. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 9 The opinions and practices of most brewers are completely at variance upon the subject of mashing. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. 505 Men's opinions of the worth of what Ralegh actually did as an historian are much at variance. 1910 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 39 The brow and the mouth are at variance.

(*b*) 1780 *Mirror* No 84, Nature and Fashion are two opposite powers, that have long been at variance with one another. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 621 Arms,..in whatever cause, Seem most at variance with all moral good. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Playing Cards* I. 58 An exquisite Chinese painting is at variance with this assertion. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 246 His conduct was not a little at variance with his professions. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 240 With a doctrine, like Kant's, that [etc]..., my philosophy is wholly at variance.

Variancy. *rare.* [ad. L. *variantia*: see VARY *v.* and -ANCY.] Changeability; variance.

1888 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 475/1 The surprises there are in man, his complexity, his variancy.

Variand, obs. Sc. and north. f. VARYING *ppl. a.*

Variant (vē·riănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–6 **varyant** (5 -te), **varyaunt** (5 -te), 5 **variaunt(e.** [a. OF. *variant* (F. *variant*, = Sp., Pg., and It. *variante*), a. L. *variant-*, *varians*, pres. pple. of *variāre* to VARY.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of persons: Changeful in disposition or purpose; inconstant, fickle. Also const. *of* or *in*. Now *rare.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 622 On his falshede fayn wold I me wreke, If I wist how, But he is heer and there, He is so variant, he byt no where. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1974 Now þow wolt, & now þow nolt;..Now say oon, & sith another; so variant of mynde! *c* 1450 *Mankind* 274 in *Macro Plays* If he stedefast in condycyon I so ȝe be not varyant! 1509 HAWES *Past. Plea.* XXVII. (Percy Soc.) 130 To be..In stable love fixt and not variaunt. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. G viij, They are..no wher stedfast & vniforme, but euery wher variant & foolish. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 145 He was also deceitfull, variant, and fraudulent. 1892 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 360 Calm and resolute, if occasionally variant of mood.

†b. Acting in a changeable or fickle manner. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 299 He was to large of giftes,..redy to speke and variaunt of dedes.

†c. Dissentient, disagreeing. *Obs.*

1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 3657 Sethen þe alle assenten and accorde, Fro youre sentence I wil nat discorde, In no wyse to be variaunt.

2. Of things: Exhibiting variation or change; tending to vary or alter; not remaining uniform.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. v. (1868) 22 Þi myȝt attempreþ þo variaunte seasons of þe ȝere. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. vi. (Skeat) I. 248 After the variaunt opinion in false hertes of unstable people. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 472 in *26 Pol.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. xv. (S.T.S.) II. 103 ȝe cry of romanis was variant, slaw, & but curage. 1672 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf* 136 The Ordinances..therefore were appointed..in a variant and mutable forme. *c* 1674 *Acc. Scotland's Griev. under Lauderdale's Min.* 10 It was also both inconstant in its being, and variant in its number and method. 1752 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 40 Nouns Variant in their gender are *dies* and *finis.*

†b. Of fortune, conditions, etc.: = VARIABLE *a.* 1 a. *Obs.* (In early use partly after sense 1.)

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 66 So flyttyng is sche [*sc.* Fortune], and so variant, Ther is no trust vpon hir fair lawhyng. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. xvii. 827 But fortune is soo varyaunt, and the whele soo meuable, there nys none constaunte abydynge. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lviii. 26 So variant is this warldis rent, That nane thairof can be content. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. viii. 117 The variant chance Of our onstabill lyfe. 1561 *Godly Q. Hester* (1873) 58 Contente To thinke it no lyghtnes, nor wytte inconstante, But the necessytie of tymes varyant.

c. Of wind: Changing, shifting. *rare*^{-1}.

1847 LONGF. *Ev.* I i. 82 Above in the variant breezes Numberless noisy weathercocks rattled.

3. Exhibiting difference or variety; diversified, varied; diverse, different.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 301 These freris habitis,..þat ben þus large & variaunt as weren habitis of pharisees. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1917 The arwis were so fulle of rage, So variaunt of diversitee. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5651 Þai ware visid all in versis in variant lettirs. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* lvii. (Arb.) 110 A variant medelyng of melody sownyd wyth alle. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* (1893) 19 He was put to many varyaunt turmentes. 1585 (as. 1 *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 33 So Iob and Ieremie..Did right descryue their ioyes, their woes and tofts, In variant verse of hundreth thousand sorts. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. Comm., The decorum that some poor critics have stood upon..is far from the variant order of nature. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 291 They who would trauerse earths variant face. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 457 The plains are of moderate extent; the surface being almost every where variant, and undulating. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 105 The angels..'stablishing In variant countries various roots of men. 1858 H. BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* ix. (1864) 260 He can produce variant results through invariable causes.

†b. Of colours: Varied, variegated. Also of cloth or an animal in respect of colour. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4336 Nouthire..transmite we na vebbis To vermylion ne violett ne variant littis. 1472 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* VI. viii. in Ashm. (1652) 163 By colors varyante aye new and new. 1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 20, vij elne of tartar of variant hewis to lyne a gowne of blac. 1502 *Ibid.* II. 346 Ane variant hors giffin to the King. 1507 *Ibid.* III. 260 Taffeti, grene, rede, blew, and variant. 1575 *Bk. Univ. Kirk Scotl.* 6 Aug., We think.. unseemly..all kinde of..licht and variant hewis in cloathing, as red, blew, ȝellow, and sicklyke. 1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* I. i, Welcome, bright Morne, that with thy golden rayes Reveal'st the variant colours of the world.

4. Differing or discrepant *from* something; †also const. *to* (= from).

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) x. 122 And alle theise han manye Articles of oure Feythe, and to othere thei ben varyaunt. 1473–5 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 60 The matter comprised in the side replicacion is new matter variaunt from her bill. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 31 It is no thynge varyaunt fro the dignyte of a wyse man. 1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* 134 Thee prieste pryvee Masse is not quadrant but variant to the sayd word [of God]. 1742 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* ii 9 Most of the Customs of this Kingdom variant from the Common Law. 1770 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 143/2 The publication in the papers was variant from that which he sent home. 1860 J. P. KENNEDY *Life W. Wirt* I. xxii. 355 His first impressions of him..are singularly variant from those which [etc.]. 1880 MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* xli, Words that were absurdly variant from all her present mood.

b. Without const. (Cf. VARIOUS *a.* 8 d.)

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* To Gentl. Inner T., They shall find the interpretation thereof many wayes variant and diuers. 1865 STRANGFORD *Selection* (1869) II. 187 With a variant spelling of the body of the word. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 373 *note*, One of the numberless instances of variant readings in the Hebrew. 1897 J. M. WHITON *Reconsid. & Reinforcem.* 23 These..are definitions not too variant to stand indifferently for synonyms of spirit.

c. *Biol.* Varying or diverging from type.

1881 *Athenæum* No. 2818. 560 'Angela' is Spielhagen's variant child. 1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 April 502/1 In nature a variant minority is liable to be diluted and to disappear by intermixture.

B. *sb.* 1. A form or modification differing in some respect from other forms of the same thing.

1848 LAYARD *Nineveh* II. 1 *note*, Many of these [cuneiform] characters are undoubtedly what are

termed 'variants'; that is, merely a different way of forming the same letter. 1862 RAWLINSON *Anc. Mon. Chaldæa* I. 143 Il, of course, is but a variant of El. 1869 ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* I. iv. 248 Other variants of course occur from carelessness. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 336 The names seem, however, to be chiefly variants of the general ethnic title.

b. A various reading.

1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2), *Agam.* 1116 *note*, The variants -σσνε and -δσνε only show that a termination was added to the original -σν. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 3 The primary work of textual criticism is merely to discriminate the erroneous variants from the true.

2. A variation of the original work, story, song, etc.

1872 RALSTON *Songs Russian People* 200 There are many variants of the same song, but they do not differ materially. 1877 MRS. A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* Pref. p. xiii, Religious books, variants of the Ritual, moral essays, maxims. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I. iv. 70 They are the variants of stories presumably related in the Aryan fatherland.

3. *Nat. Hist.* A variant form or type.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

† Variate, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *variāt us*, pa. pple. of *variāre* to VARY.] a. Diversified, variegated. b. Varied in nature.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 52 Olyue is puld of colour variate. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 254 The divine effulgence and operation is one essence, both simple and impartible, and bonifome in things partible variate (as to operation).

† Variate, *v. Obs.* [a. L. *variāt-*, ppl. stem of *variāre*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To produce a modification, variation, or change in (something); to alter, cause to change.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. (1569) 105 b, The perfection of that which thus doth variat and alter bothe my thoughts and passions. *Ibid.* II. 128 The examples also of sutch diversity do variate and make diverse the affections of men. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* Pref. 2 Others..study to variate and shift the extern forms and models of Religion. 1701 BEVERLEY *Praise of Glory of Grace* 45 Not Variating this Enquiry into the Multiplicity of the Lesser and more Particular Causes. 1770 BARETTI *Journ. Lond. to Genoa* I. xxi. 162 Female dress is no where variated so much as..in this country.

2. *intr.* To vary or change.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 435 That which we touch, with times doth variate, Now hot, now cold.

Hence **† Variated** *ppl. a.*; **† Variating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

1628 J. KING *Serm.* 5 Nov. 33 What was the cause of their multiplied, variated complotments against him? 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 22 Their shiftings and variatings from one living to another. *Ibid.* 28 Who runs like a Badger, with variating and unequal motions. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 43 This artificial change is but a fixation of natures inconstancy,..helping its variating infirmities.

Variation (vēərɪē·ʃən). Forms: 5 **varyacyoune**, **-cio(u)n**, 6 **-cyon**; 5 **variacioun**, 5–6 **-cion**, 6 **-cyon**, **-tioun**, 6– **variation**. [a. OF. *variation*, *-acion* (F. *variation*, = Sp. *variacion*, Pg. *variação*, It. *variazione*), a. L. *variātiōn-*, *variātio*, n. of action f. *variāre* to VARY.]

I. † 1. Difference, divergence, or discrepancy between two or more things or persons. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Kn't.'s T.* 1730 In al the world..So even withoute variacioun Ther nere suche companyes tweye. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 20066, I sey also..That ther be.. Many constellacioun And many varyacioun. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 48 Here is for to noten that their is grete variacion amongst auctoures, both of ȝeres and of Kyngis names. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. i. 65 This present fygure is..demonstraunce certayne and trewe, without ony variacion ne doubtaunce. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 42 A clyme is a porcion of the worlde betwene South and North, wherein is variacion in length of the daye, the space of halfe an houre. 1608 T. SPENCER *Logick* 68 Health.. dissenteth from a man that is sicke, by reason of that distance, or variation, which ariseth from sicknes. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discoveries* Wks. 1640 II. 106 There is a great variation betweene him, that is rais'd to the soveraignity by the favour of his Peeres, and him that comes to it by the suffrage of the people.

† 2. Discord, variance, dissension; an instance of this. *Obs. rare.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 923 Be-twyx yow and me be never varyacyounes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxlvi. 548 Thus the Christen realmes were in variacyon, and the churches in great dyfference, bycause of the popes.

† 3. a. Uncertainty, doubt. *Obs.*—1

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 28 In this sorow and in this payne and varyacion..Vesca, Abell and the damoysel were a longe tyme.

† b. Inconstancy; variableness.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas* XIX. (Percy Soc.) 88 My heart shall be without variacion Wyth you present, in perfite sykernes. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1340, I..depely swere as mine power to bene Faithful deuoide of variacion.

II. 4. The fact of varying in condition, character, degree, or other quality; the fact of undergoing modification or alteration, especially within certain limits.

1500 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) v. vi, In shynynge varyacyon of dyuers coloures. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1340 This present lyfe..How dred-full it is, full of varyacyon. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 45 Parralleles, are lines whereby the sonne passynge causeth variation of tyme. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 13 Let vs looke somewhat into the variation of times and things of the world. 1633 NABBES *Microcosmus* II, Two kisses more will cloy me; nought can relish But variation. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. v. 214 According to the varying gravity of the atmosphere; which variation has..a very considerable influence on the weather-glass. 1730 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 53 As is held by many learned men who have written of the variation of the air. 1765 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology* (ed. 3) I. 67 Lest you accuse me of a want of variation in the conclusion of my letters, I shall end this in the good old-fashion way. 1822 MISS M. A. KELTY *Osmond* I. 36 In this variation of feeling the morning..wore away. 1848 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 246 From these data, it appears, that..the variation is the most striking with regard to the fibrin and globulin. 1889 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 96 In order to effect this object the charge upon the conductor must be capable of variation.

b. The action of making some change or alteration.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Satire Antients* Wks. 1730 I. 14 They used in other words the same variation of the letter u into i, as inaxumus, maximus. 1711 in *Nairne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 133 The said parties having in order thereto agreed.. in the terms of the two former contracts..without change or variation. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 542 The powers reserved to Wilson Lomer..to control the variation of investments. 1913 *Act 3 Geo. V*, c. 3 § 1 Where a resolution is passed..providing for the variation of any existing tax.

5. *Variation of the compass*, († *lodestone*,) or *needle*, the deviation or divergence of the magnetic needle from the true north and south line; the amount or angular measure of this; = DECLINATION 8 b.

1556 BURROUGH in *Hakluyt* (1886) III. 126, I went on shoare and observed the variation of the Compasse, which was three degrees. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxix. I ij b, Drawing a right line making an angle..equall to the variation of the compasse in your region. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 49 Cabot first found out the variation of the Compasse. 1679 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 160 *Variation of the Needle*, the Turning or Deviation of the Needle in the Mariners Compass [etc.]. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 156 The variation of the Loadstone. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 62 How to find the Sun's Azimuth, and from thence to find the Variation of the Needle. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (1840) xxix. 338 The variation of the compass. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 16 The diurnal variation of the needle being far from inconsiderable.

b. *ellipt.* in the same sense.

1594 DAVIS *Seaman's Secrets* (1607) 17 If your Compasse be good and without variation. 1597 W. BARLOWE *Navigator's Supply* A 2, By the Variation is vnderstood the difference in the Horizon betweene the true and the magneticall Meridian. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 12 There is also..a Compasse for the variation. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. i. 138 The Points of the Needle..are subject to be drawn aside by the Guns.., or any Iron neer it, and liable to Variation, and doth not shew the true North. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 100, I found that the Variation did not always increase or decrease in proportion to the Degrees of Longitude East or West. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., The highest variation..appears to be 17½ W. and the least 16½ W. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 82 The variation is in practice ascertained by comparing the sun's true and magnetic amplitude or azimuths. 1878 [see DECLINATION 8].

c. *Variation of the variation* (see last quot.).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Variation of the Variation*, is so call'd, because the Variation of the Needle is not always the same in the same Place. 1839 NOAD *Electricity* 202 The variation of the variation, that is, the fact that the variation was not a constant quantity, but varied in different latitudes, was first noticed by the discoverer of America. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 710 *Variation of the Variation*, is the change in the declination of the needle observed at different times in the same place.

6. The fact, on the part of the mercury, of standing higher or lower in the tube of a barometer or thermometer; the extent or range of this.

1719 QUINCY *Phys. Dict.* (1722) 12 The greatest Variation of the Height of the Mercury being 3 Inches. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 183 The variation of the thermometer at Petersburgh is at least five times greater..than .at St. Catherine's. 1825 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 28 Had the tube been straight, Q would have been the limit of the scale of variation. 1828 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 168 A rise or fall of the mercury in the tube, within the usual limits of barometric variation.

7. *Astr.* a. The libration of the moon; = LIBRATION 2.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Variation* is, according to Tycho, the third Inequality in the Motion of the Moon. 1728 PEMBERTON *Newton's Philos.* 199 This inequality of the moon's motion about the earth is called by astronomers its variation. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* (1823) I. II. 682 The Variation is occasioned by the other resolved part, that which acts in the direction of the tangent to the Moon's orbit. 1879 NEWCOMB & HOLDEN *Astron.* 163 The disturbing action of the sun [upon the moon] produces a great number of other inequalities, of which the largest are the evection and the variation.

b. (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 43 *Annual Variation*, the change produced in the right ascension or declination of a star by the precession of the equinoxes and proper motion of the star taken together.

8. *Math.* † a. = PERMUTATION 3 b. *Obs.*

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Variation*, or Permutation of Quantities, is the changing any number of given Quantities, with respect to their Places. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Combination*, Suppose the Quantities 3, and the Exponent of Variation 3; the Number of Changes is found $27 = 3^3$.

b. Change in a function or functions of an equation due to an indefinitely small increase or decrease in the value of the constants.

1743 W. EMERSON *Fluxions* 3 The Velocity, Variation, or Quickness of Increase (or Decrease) of any Fluxion is called the second Fluxion. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 136/2 *Variation*. Under this head comes the explanation of a part of the language of proportion which is much used...We refer to such phrases as the following:—A varies as B.—A varies inversely as B. 1888 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 6 Then .. will, on arriving again at *O*, have assumed by continuous variation the value $m_0 + H$.

c. *Variation of curvature*: (see quot. 1842).

a 1727 NEWTON *Meth. Fluxions & Inf. Ser.* (1736) 76 The Inequability or Variation of Curvature is required at any Point of a Curve. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Variation of curvature*, the change made on a curve, so as to occasion it to be flatter or sharper in each succeeding part.

d. *Algebra.* The following of a + sign after a — sign, or vice versa, in a row of signs.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

9. *Mus.* (See quot.)

1730 *Treat. Harmony* 34 There is another sort of Division called Variation, which may also be upon a Division.

10. *Biol.* Deviation or divergence in the structure, character, or function of an organism from those typical of or usual in the species or group.

1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* I. 12 There are many laws regulating variation, some few of which can be dimly seen. 1867–8 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. xliii. (ed. 10) II. 488 If some modification of an organ, or instinct, be produced by what is called 'Spontaneous Variation'. 1872 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. ix. 176 No naturalist could tell how far this variation could be carried. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 923 The characters of many of these varieties are perfectly hereditary, and all the organs show the greatest degree of variation.

III. 11. An instance of varying or changing; an alteration or change in something, esp. within certain limits.

Sometimes in specific senses: cf. 5–10 above.

1611 COTGR., *Muance*, change, alteration; and particularly, a variation, or change of notes in singing. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 525 The natural course of variations in the creature. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 31 A Baroscope, or an instrument to show all the Minute Variations in the Pressure of the Air. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 486 Variations of the Compass. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 11 P 12 The most variable of all variations; the changes of the weather. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* IV. 231 They.. contrived to fill a long summer's day, or winter's evening, by an agreeable variation of female amusements. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Weal & Woe* vii. 94 Seasons are sometimes stormy and our commerce liable to variations. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 196 We may therefore be disposed to consider all marked variations of dialect as evidences of difference of date. 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 181 The variations of light and shade are alone visible.

b. A difference due to the introduction or intrusion of some change or alteration.

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 36 We have the firmer ground to go upon for this little Variation. 1727 T. INNES *Anc. Inhab. Scot.* (1879) 87 Variations which the negligence as well as the ignorance of transcribers is ordinarily the cause of. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 849 *note*, The other MSS. present only slight variations. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 272 The..stories have evidently come from the same original, but present curious variations in the form under which the youth is born. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 192 In different specimens..the lava exhibits great variations.

c. *Biol.* A slight departure or divergence from a type. (Cf. 10.)

1835 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. ii. (ed. 4) II. 498 The phenomenon, that some individuals are made to deviate widely from the ordinary type...How far..may such variations extend in the course of indefinite periods of time? 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* Introd. 4 We shall see how great is the power of man in accumulating by his Selection successive slight variations. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* I. 65 An accidental variation only means a variation of which you cannot determine the direction. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 777 Changes in these hereditary peculiarities, or variations, are never brought about by direct external influences.

d. A different form or species; a variety, variant.

1863 HUXLEY *Known. Org. Nat.* 99 If, by crossing a variation with the original stock, you multiply that variation, and then take care to keep that variation distinct from the original stock, and make them breed together. 1868 *Boy's Own Bk.* 593 The Matadore Game..is a variation of All Fives. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 5 Try a variation of the game!

12. A deviation or departure *from* something.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 178 Besides that any Variation from it..would make the Uniformity the less. *a* 1668 HEYLIN *Laud* I. 223 It was best to take the English Liturgie, without any variation from it. 1782 J. BROWN *Nat. & Rev. Relig* III. ii. 246 There often befalls it a deforming variation from the original happy constitution. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 208 He did not think fit to make any variation from what was then determined.

13. *Math.* a. (Cf. 8 a.)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Combination*, Suppose two Quantities, *a* and *b*; their Variations will be 2; consequently, as each of those may be combined, even with itself, to these there must be added two Variations.

b. *Calculus of variations*, a form of calculus applicable to expressions or functions in which the law relating the quantities is liable to variation.

1810 WOODHOUSE (*title*), A Treatise on Isoperimetrical Problems, and the Calculus of Variations. 1835 BREWSTER *Newton* I. xiii. 349 The calculus of variations discovered by Lagrange in 1760, was the greatest step in the improvement of the infinitesimal calculus which was made in the last century. 1861 TODHUNTER (*title*), A History of the Progress of the Calculus of Variations during the Nineteenth Century.

14. *Mus.* A modification with regard to the tune, time, and harmony of a theme, by which on repetition it appears in a new but still recognizable form; *esp.* in pl., embellishments in an air for giving variety on repetition after playing it in its simple form.

1802 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (1811), *Variations*, or *Var*, the name given to certain ornamented repetitions, in which, while the original notes, harmony, and modulation, are..so far preserved as to sustain the parent subject, the passages are branched out in flourishes. 1820 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. xl. 372 She ran a set of variations on 'Kenmure's on and awa'', which I told her were enough to raise a whole country-side. 1873 H. C. Banister *Music* 216 In some Sonatas, etc., one of the Movements is a Theme with Variations.

15. *attrib.* in sense 5 b, as *variation-chart, compass, instrument.*

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. vi. 67 The Use of the Quadrant and Variation-Compass. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Variation Chart*, a Chart design'd by Dr. Halley. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* Introd., A new variation-chart lately published. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 483 The variation compass ..was..a very good one. 1837 Lloyd in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* VI. App. 21 The variation instrument will be placed in the magnetic meridian, with respect to the theodolite. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 710 The admiralty variation chart has been brought to great perfection.

Varia·tional, *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Marked or characterized by, dealing with or concerning, variation, in various senses.

1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 327 Which..is the general variational equation of motion of a conservative system. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 77/1 This succession of variational theories. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Oct. 422/1 Man..is more variational than woman.

Varia·tionist. [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who composes musical variations.

1901 J. Huneker *Mezzotints Mod. Music* 35 Brahms..is not only the greatest variationist of his times, but with Bach and Beethoven the greatest of all times.

Varia·tious, *a. rare*—[1] [Irreg. f. VARIATION.] = VARIATIONAL *a.*

1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 175 The names of Astyanax and Hector are really the same, for the one means a king, and the other is a 'holder or possessor'; 'tis all one meaning, save the phrase is a little variatious.

Varia·tive, *a.* [f. VARY *v.* + -ATIVE.] Accompanied by or showing variation; variational.

1894 Winchell *Doctr. Evolution* B. § 4. 48 The hypothesis that this variative improvement is capable of being continued indefinitely.

Hence **Varia·tively** *adv.* (*Stand. Dict.* 1895).

Variator (vē·rĭē·tə(r)). [In sense 1, a. mod.L. *variātor*; in sense 2, f. VARIATE *v.* + -OR.]

†**1.** In University use: (see VARY *v.* 5 d). *Obs.*

1709 Pointer *Oxon. Acad.* 18 The Variator opposing Aristotle, in three Latin Speeches.

2. A kind of joint, esp. used in electric subways, to compensate for variations of length in the connexions, due to changes of temperature.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Varicated, *a. Zool.* [f. as next] Of a shell: Marked or furnished with varices.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Varication (værikē·ĭ·ʃən). [f. L. *varic-*, stem of *varix* VARIX.]

†**1.** *Path.* Varicose condition or formation. *Obs.*

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 290 Cutting a Sinus in two places, where the varication begins, and where it ends.

2. *Zool.* The formation of a varix or varices in a shell; the form or arrangement of these.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

†**Varice.** *Obs.* [a. F. *varice* or ad. L. *varicem* VARIX.] A varix or varicose vein.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 Fj, Bycause of the rotten blode, or varyce (that is to say a tumyde vayne) that causeth the fluxion. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 31/2 The Varice or bursten vayne is therunder situated.

‖ **Varicella** (værise·lă). *Path.* [mod.L. (Vogel, 1764), irreg. dimin. of *variola* VARIOLA. Cf. F. *varicelle.*] Chicken-pox.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 59 Exanthemata, or eruptive fevers; comprehending 10 genera, *viz.* 1. Erysipelas; 2. Pestis; 3. Variola; 4. Varicella; 5. Rubeola [etc.]. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 441 Though very much resembling variola, I remarked, [that] it might yet be found to be varicella. 1815 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 2) III. 85 While..varicella or water-pox in all its varieties, was designated by the term variola. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 181 Varicella has been largely confounded with small-pox, of which it has been regarded as a modified variety.

attrib. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 131 Around many of the varicella marks..a rapid ulceration immediately began. 1898 *Hutchinson's Arch. Surg.* IX. 369 It might be the result of..a sequel of varicella, i.e. a varicella prurigo.

Hence **Varice·llar** *a.*, varicellous. **Varice·lloid,** modified small-pox, varioloid.

1873 F. T. Roberts *Th. & Pract. Med.* 786 Small-pox after Vaccination—Varioloid—Varicelloid. 1891 *Cent. Dict., Varicellar.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 720 When the disease is engrafted on the lesions of varicella..it does not confine itself to the varicellar lesions.

Varice·llous, *a. Path.* [f. VARICELL-A + -OUS.] Of or relating to, affected with, of the nature of, varicella or chicken-pox.

1822 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVIII. 333 The boy sleeping with his varicellous brother would become varicellous. 1825 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 2) III. 81 Every variety to which the small-pox can make any fair pretension, distinct, confluent, crystallized or varicellous. *Ibid.* 92 This slightness of irritability in the fluid of the varicellous vesicle. 1897 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 28 Aug. 33 Varicellous Laryngitis.

Varices, pl. of VARIX.

Vari·ciform, *a. rare*—[o]. [ad. mod.L. *variciformis*, f. L. *varic-* VARIX.] Resembling a varix.

1849 in Craig. 1899 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* [Recent Dicts. give *varicoid* in the same sense.]

†**Varicle.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *varic-* VARIX: see -CLE.] A varicose tumour or swelling.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVIII. 600/1 A Nun had a very painful Varicle, and..when I had set fire to it, it was discussed at once.

Varicocele (værĭkōsēl). *Path.* [mod.L., f. L. *varic-* VARIX + Gr. κήλη tumour. So F. *varicocèle.*] Varicose condition or dilatation of the spermatic veins.

1736 A. Monro in *Med. Ess. & Obs.* (1742) V. I. 383 In the Vessels of a Person labouring under the *Varicocele.* 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 469 Most authors distinguish *varicocele*, a varicose dilatation of the veins of the scrotum, from *circocele*, a varicose state of the veins of the spermatic cord; but surgeons in the present day generally understand, by *varicocele*, the varicose affection of the cord itself, which is much more common than that of the scrotum. 1874 Van Buren *Dis. Genit. Org.* 468 Varicocele is constituted by a varicose enlargement of the pampiniform plexus and veins of the cord. 1883–4 *Med. Annual* 56/1 A very successful mode of treating varicocele.

attrib. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Surg. Instr. Catal.* 576 Varicocele Clamp,..Spring Tractor,..Needles,..Ring.

Vari-coloured, varicoloured (vē·rĭkŭ·lɔɪd), *a.* Also 7, 9 **vary-colour'd,** 9 **varie-coloured.** [f. L. *vari-us* VARIOUS *a.* + COLOURED *ppl. a.*] Of various or different colours; variegated in colour.

1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 215 They adorn it according to fancy; sometimes with ribbons, sometimes with streamers of varicoloured Taffata. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* lxii. 184 Vary-colour'd, many-coated, canvas-wearing cloak-carriers. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* IV. 486 The varicoloured clouds that hang..upon its sides. 1830 Tennyson *Arab. Nts.* 57 A walk with vary-colour'd shells. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xxiv. (1844) I. 198 A profusion of vari-coloured beads. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log Sea-waif* 73 All around the edge of the darkness ran an incessant tangle of vari-coloured lightnings.

b. *fig.* Different, diverse, diversified.

1855 Browning *Cleon* 161 My works, in all these varicoloured kinds. 1865 Lowell *Leg. Brittany* II. xxxii, Where fifty voices in one strand did twist Their varicoloured tones.

Varicose (værĭkō·us), *a.* [ad. L. *varicōs-us* (hence It., Sp., and Pg. *varicoso*), f. *varic-* VARIX: see -OSE.]

1. *Path.* or *Med.* Affected with, characterized by, of the nature of, a varix or varices.

1730 Bailey, *Varicose*, that hath the Veins puffed up and swoln more than ordinary with corrupt Blood. 1770 *Med. Observ.* (1772) IV. 377 Two Letters on the Varicose Aneurysm, from Mr. W. White, Surgeon at York, to W. Hunter. 1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 234 Cases of disease where the distension of these veins had..produced..that unseemly appearance which is termed varicose. 1826 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 180 The use of the knife, and of ligatures for the cure of varicose ulcers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 185 Varicose affection of the veins of the spermatic cord constitutes the disease named varicocele. 1880 Bastian *Brain* 32 They then not unfrequently assume an irregular or varicose appearance.

b. Of veins: Unnaturally swollen or dilated.

'When a vein becomes varicose, it has a blue colour, becomes dilated, knotty, and irregular, and winds in a serpentine manner under the skin' (1835 *Cyclop. Pract. Med.* IV. 443).

1797 M. Baillie *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 357 When the enlargement of the veins is very considerable, they also become varicose. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 299, I have met with many instances of varicose veins on this island. 1844 G. Bird *Urin. Dep.* (1857) 403 She had morning sickness, and the veins of her lower extremities were varicose. 1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 56 The patient had varicose veins of the gullet.

fig. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 74 Milton has.. not a sinew sharp or rigid, not a vein varicose or inflated. 1864 Sala in *Temple Bar* Feb. 337 The responsibility of originating these varicose veins in the limbs of a fair city.

2. *Ent.* and *Bot.* Unusually enlarged or swollen; resembling a varix.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xl. 103 These [bile-vessels] by Malpighi and the earlier physiologists..were denominated *varicose* vessels. *Ibid.* xlvi. 340 *Varicose*,..when the nervures are disproportionably swelled in any part. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 468 The bordering cells project into the canal like varicose hairs.

3. Of appliances: Designed or used for the treatment of varicose veins.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Varicose-stockings*, elastic or bandaged stockings for giving pressure and support to swelled veins in the legs.

Hence **Varico·sed** *ppl. a.*

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2040. 248, I now saw a bright red varicosed papilla.

Varicosity (værikŏ·sĭti). [f. VARICOSE *a.* + -ITY.]

1. A varicose swelling or distension.

c 1842 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 933 Irregular dilatations or varicosities of the absorbent vessels. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 64 These fibrils present numerous minute varicosities, and, at intervals, larger swellings. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1078 On pricking one of these varicosities a larger or smaller quantity of fluid escapes.

2. The state or condition of being varicose or abnormally swollen; an instance or case of this.

1876 Gross *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 137 The disease here consists either in a simple varicosity or in the development of polar growths. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 380 Varicosity of the veins at the lower end of the œsophagus. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxxi. 462 One [type of disease] characterised by varicosity of lymphatics.

transf. 1891 Rayleigh in *Proc. Roy. Inst.* (1893) XIII. 364 The cylindrical [liquid] jet may be said to become *varicose*, and the variconity goes on increasing with time.

3. The state of having varicose veins.

1899 H. P. Dunn in *Barthol. Hosp. Rep.* XV. 231 Varicosity of the lower limbs is met with in seamen.

†**Varicous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. F. *variqueux* (Paré) or L. *varicōs-us* VARICOSE *a.*] Varicose.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 45/1 Greate Armes and great Legges, which are varicouse. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. 2. ii, Which saith that in melancholy and mad men, the varicous tumor haemorroides appearing doth heale the same. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* xx. vii. (1678) 462 The swelling and blackness of the Tongue, and as it were varicous veins lying under it. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 261 This Liniment, .. contracting the varicous Vessels, reduces them to their due Tenor and Size. 1782 *Med. Comm.* I. 119 The cutaneous veins were slightly varicous. 1786 *Ibid.* II. 97 [The veins had] assumed a varicous appearance.

Varied (vē·rĭd), *ppl. a.* [f. VARY *v.*]

1. Differing from one another; of different or various sorts or kinds.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 86 Where like a sweet melodius bird it sung Sweet varied notes inchanting euery eare. — *L. L. L.* v. ii. 775 Varying in subiects as the eie doth roule, To euerie varied obiect in his glance. 1728 Prior *Solomon* I. 350 How shall We next o'er Earth and Seas pursue The vary'd Forms of ev'ry thing we view. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 268 The very birds and quadrupeds, which are more beautiful, and of species more varied, in islands than any where else. 1851 Helps *Comp. Solit.* x. 181 So varied, extensive and pervading are human distresses. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* ii. § 76. 87 That astronomy is competent to explain the varied motions of the heavenly bodies. 1880 *Grove's Dict. Music* II. 567 The art of adapting musical ideas to the varied capabilities of Stringed, Wind, Keyed, and other Instruments.

2. Marked by variation or variety; presenting different forms or qualities on this account.

1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 87 Observe..what other planets circle other suns, What vary'd Being peoples ev'ry star. 1748 Gray *Alliance* 27 Howe'er opinion tinge the varied Mind. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 172 The sloping land..Displaying, on its varied side, the grace Of hedge-row beauties numberless. 1818 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiv, When I behold ..this rich and varied land, with its castles, churches,..and fertile fields. 1838 James *Robber* iv, The path she followed was like a varied but a pleasant life. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 252 Sketching the boat and her sails in their varied action.

b. *poet.* Of the Deity or persons.

a 1748 Thomson *Hymn* 2 These, as they change, Almighty Father, these Are but the varied God. The rolling year Is full of thee. 1763 Churchill *Apology* Poems I. 68 The varied actor flies from part to part.

3. Vari-coloured, variegated; *esp.* in the names of birds or animals.

1715 Pope *Iliad* IV. 225 Stiff with the rich embroider'd work around, My varied belt repell'd the flying wound. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quad.* I. 195 Varied Monkey. *Ibid.* II. 413 Varied Squirrel..: upper part of the body varied with black, white, and brown. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop Birds* I. ii. 568 Varied Woodpecker. 1817 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* X. ii. 333 Senegal Flycatcher...Varied Flycatcher, with white eye-brows, and the outer tail-feathers half white. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 726/1 Varied Monkey (*Cercopithecus Mona*)—an African species. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.vv. *Pickerel, Shrike, Thrush.*

4. *Comb.* in *varied-coloured, -winged* adjs.

1812 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. ii. 420 Varied-winged Parrakeet...Green Parrakeet, with blue crown, and wing-coverts varied with black, blue, and yellow. 1818 Hervé *How to Enjoy Paris* (ed. 2) 18 A little messenger of comfort, clad in varied-coloured rags. 1845 J. Coulter *Adv. in Pacific* xiv. 215 The varied-coloured bright feathers of the ground-parrot.

Variedly (vē·rĭdli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a varied manner; diversely.

1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* I. 293 Whatever was beautiful ..these noble gentlemen had tastefully and variedly expended on the glory of that day. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* v. 238 Good and evil are so variedly mingled in nations or individuals, that [etc.]. 1878 Cox *Salv. Mundi* vii. (ed. 3) 156 We see how that law works here—how variedly and subtlely, and with what delicate complexity.

Variedness. *rare.* [-NESS.] Diversity of aspect or character.

1827 *Expositor* Oct. 281 It will flourish..by impregnating the life of the town with its own variedness.

Variegate (vē·rĭ,ĕgē[i]t), *v.* Also 8 **variagate.** [f. L. *variegāt-*, ppl. stem of *variegāre* to make varied or of divers colours, f. *vari-us* VARIOUS *a.*]

1. *trans.* To diversify; to invest with variety; to enliven with differences or changes.

1653 More *Antid. Ath.* Ep. Ded. A 3 The glorious Wisdom and Goodness of God so fairly drawn out and skilfully variegated in the sundry Objects of externall Nature. 1820 W. Tennant *Auster F.* Pref., Ancient and modern manners are mixed and jumbled together, to heighten the humour or to variegate the description. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* IV. 150 All the germs Of pain or pleasure, sympathy or hate, That variegate the eternal universe. 1858 H. Rogers *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 122 The spectacle of the infinite diversities of religion, which variegate, but alas! do not beautify the world.

b. *esp.* To render varied in colour or appearance; to mark or cover with patches of different colours or objects.

a 1728 Woodward *Fossils* I. 20 The Shells are filled with a white Spar, which variegates and adds to the Beauty of the Seene. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 620 The bleached verdure

of woodlands and of cultivated declivities..variegates the prospect in a charming manner. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 238 Where the British flag, variegated by the crosses of Saint George and Saint Andrew, hung by the side of the white flag of France. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 107 Lichens..variegate the monotonous gray with hues of yellow and red.

2. To vary by change or alteration. *rare.*

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 371 Particulars are to be divided by a Mixture of Division of Species and Compound Surds, variegated as the Case requires. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 69 They were not in a savage state, when they first separated, and variegated their dialects, with so much religious care, and exact art.

Hence **Va·riegating** *ppl. a.*

1727 POPE, etc. *Art Sinking* 93 Of tropes and figures: and first of the variegating, confounding, and reversing figures.

Variegated (vē·ri,ėgᵉ·tėd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. or L. *variegāt-us*, pa. pple. of *variegāre*.]

1. Marked with patches or spots of different colours; varied in colour; of diverse or various colours; many-coloured, vari-coloured; *spec.* in *Bot.* (see VARIEGATION 1).

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norwich* (1662) 274 The skil in making Tulips..variegated, with stripes of divers colours. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* ii. 46 In sawing pieces of variegated marbles. 1718 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 145 She said, and gave the veil;..The prince the variegated present took. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 218 The glittering of the sun on their variegated plumage. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 78 A variegated flowing robe of silk. 1818 *Examiner* 24 Aug. 544/2 Some of his tradesmen..illuminated their houses with variegated lamps. 1852 *Beck's Florist* 212 This magnificent new variegated plant is a native of Java. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 565 They are sometimes smooth, sometimes ribbed, upon the surface, and often variegated in colour.

Comb. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 238 However, neither the yellow, nor the variegated, flowered lucerne is ever so strong as that with purple flowers. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* April 727/1 Near it is the striking foliage of the variegated-leaved althea.

b. In the specific names of animals, birds, etc.

A large number of similar uses occur in the works of Latham and Shaw.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Syn Birds* II. i. 99 Variegated chatterer, *Ibid.* 181 Variegated Bunting (*Emberiza principalis*). 1792 SHAW *Mus. Leverianum* 38 The Variegated Baboon. 1801 — *Gen. Zool.* II. 17 Variegated Cavy. *Ibid.* 123 Variegated Marmot. 1802 *Ibid.* III. i. 215 Variegated Lizard. 1804 *Ibid.* V. ii. 439 Variegated Sun-fish. 1814 LEACH *Zool. Misc.* I. 117 Variegated Coucal. 1840 [see SOLE *sb*.² 2]. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 95 The Douc, or Variegated Monkey,..is perhaps the most gaily clad of all this group. 1881 *Ibid.* V. 73 The Variegated Sole (*Solea variegata*) is rarely more than eight or nine inches long, and closely resembles the Common Sole. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., Variegated spider-monkey, *Ateles variegatus*, or *hartlettii*.

c. In the names of plants or shrubs.

1832 G. W. JOHNSON *Cott. Gard. Dict.* 904/2 Variegated Laurel, *Aucuba*. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 160 Variegated Simethis. 1859 — *Brit. Grasses* 208 Variegated Rough Horse-tail. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad Crowd* II. x. 100 Boughs of laurustinus, and variegated box,..and boy's love.

d. *Min.* (See quots.)

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 622 Variegated Copper Ore. Buntkupfererz—liver-coloured copper ore. 1850 DANA *Min.* 504 Erubescite.—Variegated Copper Pyrites. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., *Variegated copper-ore*, the same as Bornite. *Ibid.*, *Variegated-sandstone*, a name formerly given to the New Red Sandstone.

2. Marked or characterized by variety; of a varied character, form, or nature; diverse.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vii. 3 Therein was abundantly seen Gods πολυποίκιλος σοφία, his variegated wisdom. 1687 N. N. *Old Poetry* 18 God Almighty..accepts the variegated Services of his different Creatures. 1708 FALCONER *Shipwr.* Proem 20 Ye ever-tuneful Nine! whose sacred lyres,..in softer notes, express The variegated pang of deep distress. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 110 The dancers prance it away, with wild and quick sliding steps, and variegated postures of body. 1798 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 57 The variegated and important duties of the Aids of a Commander-in-Chief..require experienced Officers. 1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* iv. (1852) 105 The minute and variegated details of the way in which this wondrous economy is extended. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 387, I go along the same variegated path I came by yesterday.

b. Composed of persons of various characters or kinds; heterogeneous; motley. *rare.*

1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* 1. 162 A variegated band Of middle aged, and old, and young. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) I. xix. 381 The variegated group which composed Lord Aberdeen's ministry.

3. Varied or diversified (in colour, appearance, etc.) *with* something.

1698 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 379 The whole World, variegated with Plants, Animals and Stars, being his [*sc.* God's] Temple. 1781 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 156 P 10 No plays have oftener filled the eye with tears..than those which are variegated with interludes of mirth. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 265 The colour is generally an olive brown, variegated with one that is more dusky. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 180 The tract of country..is happily variegated with plains and mountains, hills and vallies. 1866 *Guesthor Scot.* (ed. 2) 433 The surface is variegated with hills and eminences, streams of water, and fertile plains. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 104 Their colour is a bright-golden scarlet; the limb variegated with red and yellow. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 287 Corolla blue variegated with white inside.

4. Characterised by variegation (of colour).

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 7 Who does not admire the variegated diversity of colours in her [the butterfly's] expanded wings? 1838 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. xvi. (ed. 4) III. 272 The surface..was of a variegated colour. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xiii, A rich wilderness of flowers, of the most bountiful verdure and variegated colours.

5. Produced by variation; variant.

1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* iv. 143 For all that disease is disease, and not a variegated form of health.

Hence **Va·riegatedness.**

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 215 Variegatedness, motly, pyed, particoloured, divers colours.

Variegation (vē·ri,ėgē·ʃən). [f. VARIEGATE *v.* Cf. Sp. *variegacion*, Pg. *variegação*.]

1. The condition or quality of being variegated or varied in colour; diversity of colour or the production of this; *spec.* in *Bot.*, the presence of two or more colours in the leaves, petals, or other parts of plants; also, defective or special development leading to such colouring.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 364 He..that could content himselfe..that the variegation of Birds was from their living in the Sunne. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Variegation*, a garnishing with divers colours. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 64 P 5, I happened to catch a moth of peculiar variegation. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Indians* 3 The variegation..of colours among the human race. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 142/1 This variegation of the leaves sometimes disappears. 1862 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 745 Variegation in leaves must be regarded as a diseased condition of the cells of which they are composed. 1882 G. ALLEN in *Nature* XXVI. 323 When we come to consider the subject of variegation [of colours in flowers] and of reversion.

b. With *a* and pl. Also, a variegated marking.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* 77 Plant them [tulips] in natural earth somewhat impoverish'd with very fine sand; else they will soon lose their variegations. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Florist's Year* (Sept.), Remembering always 'tis Nourishment is the Cause of Variegations in Plants. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 48 The beautiful variegations in them [specimens of marble] may have probably been occasioned by the mineral vapours. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 78 Its colours..passing into variegations. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 471 Body brown, smooth, with white variegations. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* (1885) 112 And where's the gloom now?—silver-smitten straight, One glow and variegation!

2. The action or process of diversifying or rendering varied in character; an instance or occasion of this.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xxiii. 451 There being Folly and Wickedness all over the World, it is better there should be this variegation of it, then that it should be every-where in the same dress. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Disc. Serm. & Rem.* x. (1681) 376 His attributes are but the several modes and variegations of Almighty Love. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art Sinking* 97 For variegation, nothing is more useful than the Paronomasia, or Pun. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl.* Wks. 1825 IX. 157 The variegation of time by terms and vacations. 1777 — *Lett.* (1788) I. 303 Do not omit painful casualties, or unpleasing passages; they make the variegation of existence. 1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Moral* III. 85 The diversity of production which takes place on the earth, occasioning..a perpetual variegation and augmentation of commodities.

†**b.** Alternation *of* (one thing with another). *Obs.*

1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Addison* Wks. III. 47 His..variegation of prose and verse, however, gains upon the reader.

Va·riegator. *rare.* [f. as prec.] One who or that which variegates.

1892 in *Cent. Dict.* 1910 DEIVER in *Expositor* Feb. 121 The 'work of the variegator' is prescribed for the screens of the Tent of Meeting.

Varier (vē·ri·ǝɹ). [f. VARY *v.*]

†**1.** *Hist.* = PREVARICATOR 4. *Obs.*

1614 [see PREVARICATOR 4]. 1665 BUCK in Peacock *Stat. Cantab.* (1841) App. B. p. lxxxii, The Proctor calleth up the Varier or Prævaricator, who, having ended his speech, is dismist by the Proctor.

2. One who varies or dissents *from* something.

1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 19 They gain'd a coast..At close of day; slept, woke, and went the next, The Sabbath, pious variers from the church, To chapel.

Varietal (vǝrai·ėtǎl), *a.* *Biol.* and *Bot.* [f. VARIET-Y + -AL.] Of or pertaining to, connected with, indicating, etc., a distinct variety of animal or plant. Opposed to *specific* or *generic*.

1866 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* (ed. 4) ii. 59 He is at first much perplexed in determining what differences to consider as specific, and what as varietal. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* xiv. 319 The careful study of varietal forms. 1881 LEES in *Jrnl. Bot.* X. 23 Quite sufficiently distinct to merit a varietal if not a specific name. 1902 *Jrnl. R. Instit. Cornwall* XV. 123 No one can deny that it merits varietal rank.

Hence **Vari·etally** *adv.*, in respect of varietal qualities; as a distinct variety.

1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* xii. 290 Not only did man exist at this time, but man not even varietally distinct from modern European races. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 386/2 Foraminifera..which can be identified—not only generically and specifically, but even varietally.

Variety (vǝrai·ėti). Forms: 6 varyete, varietee, -tye, 6–7 -tie, 7– variety. [a. F. *variété* (= It. *varietà*, Sp. *variedad*, Pg. *variedade*), or ad. L. *varietāt-*, *varietās* difference, diversity, etc., f. *vari-us* VARIOUS *a.*: see -TY.]

†**1. a.** Variation or change of fortune. *Obs.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G viij, The players and gesters suffered great varietee in the empyre, according to the diuersitee of emperours. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 27 b, It is to be marueiled how Danie Nature hath..for varietie sake so manifoldly varied and multiplied ye kindes of colours either simply died, and stained, or [etc.]. *a* 1633 J. AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 270 Therefore in Pleasures both Body and Soule desire with fulnesse of Pleasure to have fulnesse of variety. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 15 And she [Nature] affects so much to use Variety, in all she does. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Ess. & Dial. Dead, Opinion* Wks. 1907 II. 196 We judge of things according to the humour we are in and that very Humour is subject to infinite Variety. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 606 Variety's the very spice of life, That gives it all its flavour. 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* v. iv, Variety is the mother of enjoyment. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xi. 312 A sensible man avoids variety in drinking. 1878 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 14 There is a want of variety in the answers.

c. As a literary, musical, or artistic quality.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* III. 180 So that you must in your musicke be wauering like the wind, sometime wanton, sometime drooping,..and shew the verie vttermost of your varietie, and the more varietie you shew the better shal you please. 1602 R. CHESTER *Love's Martyr* Title-p., A Poeme enterlaced with much varietie and raritie. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* x. (1906) 86 Varietie is various, and the rules of it so difficult [etc.]. *Ibid.*, To proceed further, were to translate Virgil himselfe; therefore hitherto of varietie. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* ii. 16 How great a share variety has in producing beauty. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. ii. ii. § 8 Variety is never so conspicuous, as when it is united with symmetry. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 61 Variety is a rare and high quality, but poets of the first order have had little or none of it.

d. *pl.* A series or succession of different forms, conditions, etc.; variations.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. viii. 100 We see great varieties in the yeere, which proceeds from the divers motions and aspects of Planets. 1668 COWLEY *Ess., Agric., Virg. Georg.* 40 What makes the Sea retreat, and what advance: Varieties too regular for chance. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 180, I must..make a short digression on the heat and cold of different climates, and on the varieties

†**b.** Tendency to change; fickleness; change of purpose or plans. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 22 Thinkyng surely that they..would neuer consent & longe agree with the Englishmen, according to their olde vsed vnfrous varietie. 1579 TENTON *Guicciard.* (1618) 312 This varietie (if it be possible to find out the truth in so great inconstancie) many attributed to his credulitie and lightnesse of beliefe.

†**c.** Dissension, division. *Obs.*—1

1548 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. 68 After the decease of King Edgare,..was a wonderfull varyete and scisme through out the whole realme.

2. Difference or discrepancy between things or in the same thing at different times.

1538 HULOET, Varietie in fourme, *dissimilitudo*. 1580 FULKE *Martiall Confut.* viii. Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 193 The variety in time that is in the witness of the invention of the Cross. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xix. 180 Many, according to the varietie of their opinions, attribute this to diverse causes. 1609 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 245 The vulgar Latine..hath noted in the margin..in the variety of reading. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curius Pol.* 165 You cannot..but conclude..that my reasons are valid and strong for the variety of my different Conduct in such great Affairs. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 246 This..occasions a very remarkable variety in the manner of equipping the ship for these two different voyages. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 381 Upon examination, there will be less variety found between them than between birds that live upon land, and those that swim upon the water. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Prometh.* 591 *note*, There is the same variety in 601, and the latter reading necessitates the questionable lengthening of *a* before *sp* in 612.

3. The fact, quality, or condition of being varied; diversity of nature or character; absence of monotony, sameness, or uniformity.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Cor.* xii. 34 The diuers playing and vse is not to the member reprochful, but this varietie rather apertayneth to the welth of the whole body. 1561 tr. *Calvin's Iour Godly Serm.* iii. G j, Although amonges men, there be soche a varietie & defference of myndes and desyres. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 241 Age cannot wither her, nor custome stale Her infinite variety. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 63 By Representing the Variety of Opinions about the thing whereon I now discourse. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 3 They do not Consider the wonderful Variety of the Disorders of Nature. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 108/1 The powerfulness, and variety of this splendid instrument. 1856 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 497 The perpetual variety of work which I have been in. 1880 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vii. 136 We find ourselves surrounded by the greatest variety of character in the world.

b. Without article.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 27 b, It is to be maruelled how Danie Nature hath..for varietie sake so manifoldly varied and multiplied ye kindes of colours either simply died, and stained, or [etc.]. *a* 1633 J. AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 270 Therefore in Pleasures both Body and Soule desire with fulnesse of Pleasure to have fulnesse of variety. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 15 And she [Nature] affects so much to use Variety, in all she does. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Ess. & Dial. Dead, Opinion* Wks. 1907 II. 196 We judge of things according to the humour we are in and that very Humour is subject to infinite Variety. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 606 Variety's the very spice of life, That gives it all its flavour. 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* v. iv, Variety is the mother of enjoyment. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xi. 312 A sensible man avoids variety in drinking. 1878 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 14 There is a want of variety in the answers.

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varieties of its surface. 1805 FORSYTH *Ess.* I. i. 5 The varieties through which life has passed. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 167 He had passed through all varieties of fortune, and had seen both sides of human nature.

†**4.** The fact or quality of being varied in colour; variegation. *Obs. rare.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 67 Hauyng theyr fethers entermengled with greene, yelowe, and purple, which he varietie delileth the sense not a litle. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* xxvi. 31 Twisted silke. wrought with imbrodered worke and goodlie varietie. — *Ezek.* xvii. 3 A great eagle with great winges..full of feathers, and of varietie, came to Libanus.

5. Used as a collective to denote a number *of* things, qualities, etc., different or distinct in character; a varied assemblage, number, or quantity *of* something.

In some instances hardly distinguishable from sense 3.

a. With *the*.

1583 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 30, I might heape together the varietie of pleasures, which come by travaile. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL in *1st Folio Shaks.* A 3 *heading*, To the great Variety of Readers. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 186 Behold the varietie of temporary blessings. 1798 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* II. 164 The variety of simple scenes ..made him delight to linger in Switzerland. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 579 The variety of movements of which the hand of Man is capable.

b. Without article. *? Obs.*

1575 FENTON (*title*), Golden Epistles, contayning varietie of discourse, both morall, philosophicall, and divine, gathered as well out of the remainder of Guevaraes workes, and other authors. 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxv. 278 Varietie of Men to court a Woman is her pride. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., England* (1685) 91 Bravely furnished with Variety of pleasant Orchards and Gardens. *c* 1791 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 541/1 Hindostan affords variety of beasts for carriage, as camels, dromedaries [etc.].

c. With *a*, *that*, etc.

1708 SEWEL II. s.v. *Verschiet*, There is no variety of goods; There's no choice to be had. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vein*, In digging .. they meet with a Variety of Veins. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 197 He thus perceived a variety of kinds, almost equal to that variety of productions, which these little animals are seen to form. 1780 *Mirror* No. 77, From this circumstance..a variety of remarks might be made. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 262 In consequence of the quality of the work executed, Messrs. Maudslay..have performed a great variety of smaller operations. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 240 Like Proteus, he transforms himself into a variety of shapes. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* XV, To Nero..every man was sluggish and plebeian who did not care to season his recreation with a variety of vices.

d. With a plural verb.

1728 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Bristol* 10 April, For twenty miles together..the most beautiful variety of prospects present themselves. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xix. § 24 Now of the infinite variety of nations there are upon earth, there are no two which agree exactly in their laws. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* X. lxv. § 74. 69 A variety of false attacks were immediately directed..against the ramparts. 1887 *Science* X 115 A variety of hooks were used for different kinds of fish and according to the time of day.

6. A different form *of* some thing, quality, or condition; something which differs or varies from others of the same class or kind; a kind or sort.

Also without *of*: see (*b*).

(*a*) 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Observ. & Trav. Lond. to Hamburgh* Wks. (1630) 81/2 They haue strange torments and varieties of deaths, according to the various nature of the offences that are committed. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* To Rdr. a vij, Some good soules.. will be glad to finde profitable admonitions..with varieties of pleasures fitting their humour. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 475 The spirit of that competition burns With all varieties of ill by turns. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 118 The distinction between the certain and the probable is felt to be too important not to be marked by corresponding varieties of speech. 1860 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vii. (1877) 156 Even the varieties of good character are almost infinite. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* I. iv. 22 The two lads represent two distinct varieties of human life.

(*b*) 1643 DENHAM *Cooper's H.* 198 Nature, whether more intent to please Us or her self, with strange varieties,.. Wisely she knew the harmony of things. 1672 GREW *Anat. Pl.* Introd. 3 For beholding the Many and Elegant Varieties, wherewith a Field or Garden is adorned. 1779 *Mirror* No. 8, A good plain Mirror, intended to represent things just as they are, but with properties and varieties not to be met with in common glass. 1829 CARLYLE *Schiller* II. 77 The task of composing dramatic varieties, of training players,.. could not wholly occupy such a mind as his.

b. *Bot.* and *Biol.* A plant or animal differing from those of the species to which it belongs in some minor but permanent or transmissible particular; a group of such individuals constituting a sub-species or other subdivision of a species; also, a plant or animal which varies in some trivial respect from its immediate parent or type.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* xxvi. 215 Many more sorts of varieties of these kindes there are, but these onely..are noursed vp in Florists Gardens for pleasure. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 2) II. 217 To make Varieties of them, the Seeds of the best single ones..are to be sown in September. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 145 The Lady Cow, which has likewise its Varieties beautifully spotted with the gayest Colours. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) VI. 4651/2 *Tritnophya leipyria* is only a variety of the *tritnophya canaus*. 1832 LANDER *Exp. Niger* II. viii. 10 Another variety of corn grows here, which has eight ears on a single stem. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 206 For 12 old varieties in the nurserymen's class. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. 7 When we look to the individuals of the same variety or sub-variety of our older cultivated plants and animals. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 6 A worker in wood will tell, from the texture and grain, not merely the species but the variety of tree.

attrib. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 42 And what shall we say to some of our Latinised variety-names?

c. So in the classification of inorganic substances or of diseases.

(*a*) 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The naturalists of former ages have run into great errors, in mistaking the accidental varieties of plants, animals, and minerals for distinct species. 1757 DA COSTA *Fossils* 134 The sand-stone, ..exhibited by Woodward,..is only a variety of this kind. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 619 Verona green is merely a variety of the mineral called green earth. 1856 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 204 The coal is partly 'splint',..partly of the 'cannel' or 'parrot' variety.

(*b*) 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 5 It is an inflammatory affection, but destitute of redness;..the name of phlegmasia alba, or white inflammation, will therefore sufficiently characterise this variety of it. 1876 BALSTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 414 The various forms of intercurrent or secondary pneumonia, and..the lobular variety of the disease.

†**7.** *pl.* Articles of various kinds; odds and ends. 1624 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 28 Whatsoever goods or varietyes be brought in by the Englishe.

8. *ellipt.* Variety performances. (See 9 b.)

1908 *Stage Year Bk.* 26 Some provincial theatres have gone over entirely to variety.

9. *attrib.* a. *Variety shop* or *store*, one in which small goods of various kinds are sold; a general store. *U.S.*

1824 A. SINGLETON (H. C. Knight) *Lett. fr. South & W.* 84 One indication of a new country is that the shops are variety-shops; each one keeping piece-goods, groceries, cutlery, porcelain, and stationary [*sic*] in different corners. 1889 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*, [The collected trumpery] gives the Mayor's office the appearance of a 'variety store'. 1892 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* I. 149 A 'variety store', offering for sale every possible article of merchandize, from lace gloves to goose-yokes [etc.]. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 888/1 One of them walked gauntly down to the post-office in the corner of the variety store.

b. Used to designate music-hall or theatrical entertainments of a mixed character (songs, dances, impersonations, etc.). Also applied to things or persons connected with such entertainments.

1886 *Referee* 25 March (Cassell's), The biggest variety company ever seen at the East-end of London. 1891 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 14 March 165/1 Music halls, or, to give them the more recent and appropriate term, variety shows, are quite modern institutions. 1892 *Daily News* 25 March 2/2 The high salaries paid to variety artists. 1894 'M. O'RELL' *J. Bull & Co.* 200 A succession of songs and dances in costume, commonly called Variety Shows. 1908 *Stage Year Bk.* 26 They are now an integral part of variety performances. *Ibid.*, Theatres need the latter [licence] for the variety weeks and even extended variety seasons.

Variform (vē·rifɒrm), *a.* Also 7 varie-form. [f. L. *vari-*, stem of *varius* VARIOUS *a.* + -FORM. Cf. It. *variforme*.] Of various forms; varied or different in form; diversiform.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* Transl. Premonit., Because every thing in its Essence and Being is good, and that, because it is one, and true; but that which is double, varie-form, seeming, or false, that it sees to be evil. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* III. 499, I..find [it] very hard properly to design them [our actions] every one by themselves by a principal quality, so ambiguous and variform they are by several lights. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 419 'What men call love' is a variform thing. 1845 SCROQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 189 Among these variform buildings, strangely interspersed, are here and there huge masses of heavy foliage. 1860 MUIR COCKBURN *Pagan or Christian* 39 It eventually becomes with its variform sculpture ..a distinguishing peculiarity.

Hence **Variformly** *adv.*

1892 CLARK RUSSELL *Curatica* 129 Pat was called variformly Patrick, Paddy, Patsey, or Pat.

†**Variformed**, *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. as prec. + FORMED.] Variously formed or shaped; variform.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 27 The inferiour part of this shoulder bone..is..large, and variformed.

Variformity. *rare*[−1]. [f. VARIFORM *a.* + -ITY.] Variety or diversity of form.

1708 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* v. iv. (1852) 332 The Forms ..were not in all points the same, nor did our churches at all find that this variformity was an inconvenience.

†**Va·rify**, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *vari-*, stem of *varius* VARIOUS *a.*: see -FY.] *trans.* To make varied; to vary; to variegate.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 661 May ..Suiting the Lawns in all her pomp and pride Of lively Colours, lovely varifi'd. 1631 J. BUNGE *Answ. Rejoined* 88 So as the same Law might ever remaine firme, and vnbroken, when occasions should varine and change particularities. 1680–90 TEMPLE *Ess., Gardening* Wks. 1720 I. 183 All the rest are either varified by Names, or not to be named with these, nor worth troubling a Garden. 1741 E. POSTON *Prattler* (1747) I. 113 You don't know what great Use a little Latin and Greek would now be of: You can't imagin the Credit and Reputation that there is in a Line, or even a Word or two, of it:.. Besides, it varifies it, and makes it naturally the fitter for Entertainment.

Varily, obs. form of VERILY *adv.*

Varinas. [See def.] The name of a town in Venezuela used to designate a kind of tobacco (see quot. 1858). Also *elliptt.*

1747 W. DOUGLAS *Brit. Settlements N. Amer.* (1760) I. 116 Virginia tobacco, and Brazil, and Varinas tobacco, differ upon this account. 1839 J. FUME (W. A. Chattо) *Paper on Tobacco* 117 Varinas is usually imported in rolls formed of the leaves of the tobacco spun into a kind of thick twist. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Varina's* [sic] *roll*, a kind of tobacco generally plaited round a thick stick, very much like C'naster.

Varing(e, obs Sc. ff. WAIRING (spending).

‖ **Variola** (vărai·ŏlă). *Path.* [med.L. *variola* pustule, pox, f. L. *varius* speckled, variegated. Cf. F. *variole* and *vérole* (OF. *verole*, *vairole*), = Prov. *variola*, Cat *verola*, Sp. *viruela*, It. *vajuola* fem. pl., and *vajuolo*.] The small-pox.

1771–1804 [see VARICELLA]. 1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) III. 85 The adjunct spurious or bastard variola. 1846 DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 282 M. Solon found the urine coagulable in five out of eleven cases of variola. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 149 Variola may be met with at any age.

Comb. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 648 Numerous strains of so called variola-vaccine lymph. 1898 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 7 May 1285 The measure of protection afforded these children by his variola-descended lymph.

Vari·olar, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *variolar-is*, f. *variola*: see prec. So F. *variolaire*.] Of or pertaining to, resembling (that of), variola.

1840 in SMART. 1843 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. xl. 52 The material is a hard variety of basalt,..distinguished by a pitted or variolar aspect. 1859 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Variolarioid, *a.* [f. mod.L. *Variolaria* (see def.) + -OID.] Of or pertaining to the *Variolaria*, a spurious genus of lichens characterized by pustulate shields; pustulate, pitted.

1896 W. L. LINDSAY *Pop. Hist. Brit. Lichens* 42 This variolarioid condition is not uncommon in many crustaceous species.

Variolate (vē·riŏlēt), *v. Med.* [f. VARIOLA: see -ATE.] *trans.* To infect with variola; to inoculate with the virus of variola or small-pox.

c 1792 [implied in *Variolated* ppl. a.]. 1810 *Edin. Rev.* XV. 329 The total number of those vaccinated..is perhaps not less than those variolated. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 24/2 The proof being to variolate the cow on the udder. 1898 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 7 May 1185 He had altogether failed in attempts to variolate the cow.

Hence **Variolated** *ppl. a.*

c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 246/1 The Chinese convey a pellet of variolated cotton..into the nostrils of the patient. 1802 JENNER in Ring *Treat. Cow pox* 24 From variolated pustules one cannot be surprised to hear, that a disease has been communicated by effluvia. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 754/2 If the patient be exposed to a variolated atmosphere at the time he is vaccinated. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 649 The final scab on the site of inoculation is not so elevated in the variolated as in the vaccinated animals.

Variolation (vē·riŏlē·ʃən). *Med.* [f. prec.] Inoculation with the virus of small-pox.

1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 536 A remarkable coincidence of failure..of variolation as well as vaccination. 1810 *Edin. Rev.* XV. 340 It [i.e. vaccination] has been adopted by millions who never would have submitted to variolation. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 559 The practice of variolation, which was revived and introduced into Great Britain by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu.

Variole (vē·riōl). *rare.* [ad. med.L. *variola* VARIOLA.] Something resembling a small-pox marking or pustule in appearance or formation:

a. *Ent.* A foveole or small fovea.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 270 *Variola*,..a shallow impression like a mark of the small-pox.

b. *Geol.* A spherular concretion of a variolite.

1890 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLVI. 312 The spherulites or 'varioles' [of the variolite-diabase] are grouped or drawn out in bands parallel to the surface.

Variolic (vēri·ɒlik), *a. rare*[−1]. [f. VARIOL-A + -IC.] Cf. F. *variolique*.] Variolar, variolous.

1897 in Baron *Life Jenner* I. 335 Till I had inoculated my children again with variolic matter.

Varioline (vē·riŏlin). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -INE.] The hypothetical infectious principle of variola.

1864 FARR *Rep. Reg. Gen.* Suppl. 34 When any zymotic matter such as varioline, scarlatinine or typhine finds its way into a village.

Variolite (vē·riŏlait). *Geol.* [f. med.L. *variol-a* VARIOLA + -ITE[1] 2. Cf. F. *variolite*, G. *variolit*.] A kind of rock embedded with spherulites which give it the appearance of being pock-marked (see quots.); esp. the diabase (diorite) of Brongniart.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 368 Variolites. Stones that have rounded protuberances, of a different nature from the common mass of the stone. 1811 PINKERTON *Petrol.* I. 133 When the crystals..assume an oval, but particularly a round shape, the rock may be aptly styled a variolite. *Ibid.*, The stones called variolites of Durance, being pebbles rolled down by that river in Dauphiny. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xiii. 248 Variolite is an aphanitic diabase of compact texture and greenish-grey colour, in which there occur little concretions of a paler colour, ranging up to the size of small nuts.

Variolitic, *a. Geol.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of the nature of, or containing, variolite; spherulitic.

1862 G. P. SCROPE *Volcanoes* 363 The clinkstone is usually variolitic. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 139 Diabase..is sometimes..variolitic or amygdaloidal.

Variolitisation. *Geol.* [f. VARIOLITE + -IZATION.] The process of becoming variolitic; change or conversion into variolite.

1890 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLVI. 330 As variolitisation seems to have resulted from the same causes that have built up ordinary spherulites.

Variolisation (vē·riŏlaiz[1]·ʃən). *Med.* [f. VARIOL-A + -IZATION.] Variolation.

1892 in *Cent. Dict.* 1910 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 276 Variolisation ..is said to have been known to the Chinese from the commencement of the eleventh century.

Varioloid (vē·riŏloid), *a.* and *sb. Path.* [ad. mod.L. *varioloides*, *-odes* (Frank, *c* 1790): see VARIOLA and -OID. So F. *varioloïde*, It *vajuoloide*.]

A. *adj.* Resembling variola or small-pox; like that of variola.

In early use 'applied to a supposed special disease spontaneously developed in our climate under certain atmospheric conditions and capable of being propagated by infection or inoculation' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*).

1821 W. STOKER (*title*), Observations on the Varioloid Disease. 1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 737 Varioloid eruptions, III. 88. 1832 LEADAM *Homœopathy* 354 Varioloid Diseases. This term is applied to those diseases which resemble small-pox, and are more or less dependent upon the same epidemical constitution of the atmosphere for their production. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 479 Sometimes it [a pathological process] is partial, and a varioloid lesion

B. *sb.* A modified form of variola, esp. a mild variety occurring after vaccination or in those who have previously had small-pox.

1888–92 in WEBSTER. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 148 One of the former was attacked by varioloid just after the crisis of long-continued spotted fever. 1870 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* 234 A case or two of varioloid in the regiment. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 103 A papular appearance which if the rash be scanty, may resemble the early stage of varioloid.

fig. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Culture* Wks. (Bohn) II. 364 Is egotism a metaphysical varioloid of this malady?

Variolous (vărai'ŏləs), *a.* [f. med.L. *variola* VARIOLA, or a. F. *varioleux*: see -OUS.]

1. Of the nature of, resembling (that of), variola or small-pox; of or pertaining to, appearing in, characteristic of, variola.

1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 569 The third Epidemical Constitution..was that of the Small-pocks, and of a Variolous Feaver, resembling..the Smal-pocks. 1749 *Ibid.* XLVI. 235 From the Dissections of those who have died of the Small-Pox, we find that the Viscera are subject to the variolous Abscesses. 1780 *Ibid.* LXX. 239 She was delivered of a child, as full of variolous pustules as herself. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 170 [They] thought it [an eruption] had a variolous appearance. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 754/2 When a person has been inoculated with a mixture of the variolous and vaccine poisons. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 639 In these respects its evolution is not unlike that of a variolous or vaccine vesicle.

Comb. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 453 Others were distinguishable by a variolous-like aspect and circular inflammation.

b. *Variolous matter* (*fluid* or *virus*), the virus of small-pox, esp. as used for purposes of inoculation.

1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 278 From the first reception of the variolous matter. 1798 JENNER *Variolæ Vaccinæ* (1801) 23 Cow-pox virus..renders the constitution unsusceptible of the variolous. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 22, I immediately inoculated the whole party with the most virulent variolous matter I could procure. 1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 192 When vaccine or variolous fluid is properly inserted under the cuticle. 1875 RICHARDSON *Dis. Mod. Life* 83 He therefore inoculated patients with diluted solutions of variolous matter.

c. *Variolous contagion, disease, infection*, etc., variola, small-pox. ? *Obs.*

c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 245/2 The variolous matter only produces the variolous disease. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 318 In every instance, the patient..has completely lost the susceptibility for the variolous contagion. 1807 *Ibid.* XVII. 27 Six full days..during which they had been exposed to the variolous infection. 1827 DE QUINCEY *Last Days Kant* Wks. 1854 III. 123 He thought, that, as a guarantee against the variolous infection, it required a much longer probation.

2. Of persons: Affected with, suffering from, small-pox.

1658 SYDENHAM *Let. Boyle* B.'s Wks. 1744 V. 639/2 In visiting..many of my variolous patients. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 245/2 Inoculation with the blood of variolous patients hath been tried without effect. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 284 Variolous patients. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 207 It is..exceptional to find that the children born of variolous mothers..have had small-pox in uterus.

3. *Ent.* (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 270 *Variolous* (Variolosus), beset with many varioles.

‖ Variorum (vēəriō·rŭm). [L., gen. pl. masc. of *varius* VARIOUS *a.*, in the phrase *editio cum notis variorum* (see def.).]

1. An edition, esp. of the complete works of a classical author, containing the notes of various commentators or editors. Also in the full phrase *Variorum edition.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A set of Dutch *Variorums. Ibid.*, The *Variorums*, for the generality, are the best Editions. 1824 SCOTT *Let. to Constable* 6 Jan., In the shape of these inimitable Variorums, who knows what new ideas the Classics may suggest? 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* II. (1863) 268, I should like to see a variorum edition of our Pizarro. 1870 LOWELL *Among My Bks.* Ser. I. 162 The serious notes of a *variorum* edition of Shakespeare.

b. *attrib.*, as *variorum classic, comment*, or with the name of the author.

a 1763 BYRON *Misc. Poems* (1773) II. 333 The *variorum* Comments. 1802 DIBDIN *Edit. Classics* 11 The second edition [of Claudian]..is esteemed one of the scarcest of the *Variorum* Classics. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* Introd. Epist., The Prolegomena of the Variorum Shakspeare.

c. As *adj.* in the sense 'obtained or collected from various books or sources'.

1883 *American* VII. 170 Outlines of the Chief Political Changes in the History of the World, Arranged by Centuries, with Variorum Illustrations. 1887 *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 210/3 In his variorum readings of the name from old records he has obviously misread t for c in several instances.

2. *fig.* Variation; a varying or changing scene.

1777 SKINNER *Tullochgorum* Wks. 1809 III. 136 Dull Italian lays,..They're dowf and dowie at the best, Wi' a' their variorum. 1785 BURNS *Jolly Beggars* 8th Air, Life is all a variorum, We regard not how it goes.

Variotinted, *a.* [Irreg. f. L. *varius* varied.] Of various tints or colours.

1903 AGNES M. CLERKE *Probl. Astrophysics* 44 The dazzling variotinted fireworks disclosed by the prism.

Various (vēəriəs), *a.* [f. L. *vari-us* changing, different, diverse, variegated + -OUS. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *vario.*]

I. †1. Of things: Undergoing, exhibiting, subject to, variation or change; variable, changeful. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Variouse, *mactillans,..varius.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 226 Various, *varius, instabilis.* 1611 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir G. Nonsence* Wks. (1630) 1/2 Most conscript Vmpire in this various Orbe. 1647 COTTERELL tr. *Davila's Hist. Fr.* I. 13 As the condition of the Court is ever various and inconstant. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 191 The Instances of latter Discoveries which make evident this various state of the Globe of Earth and Water. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4463/3 The Winds were so various that we could not make to the Bay of la Hogue 'till the 11th. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* v. 11 Ill can I bear the various clime of Love! 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* Epil., The servile suitors watch her various face, She smiles preferment, or she frowns disgrace.

†b. Of fortune, life, etc. *Obs.*

1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discovery by Sea* Wks. (1630) 24/1 Whilst we like various Fortunes Tennis ball; At euery stroake, were in the Hazzard all. 1644 QUARLES *Judgment & Mercy* 12 Fear not the frowns of princes, or the imperious hand of various fortune. 1703 N. ROWE *Ulysses* I. i, Ev'ry Change Of various Life. 1741–8 GRAY *Agrippina* 54 Through various life I have pursued your steps.

†c. Turning different ways; going in different directions. *Obs.*

1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 13 There walked she; and in her various minde, Projects and casts about which way to finde The progress of the young Partheniaes heart. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VI. 134 Forth from her snowy hand Nausicaa threw The various ball.

†d. Of a war: Marked by varying success. *Obs.*

1754–8 BP. NEWTON *Obs. Proph. Daniel* xii. 179 Hence arose a various war between Antiochus and Epiphanes, each of them seizing Phœnicia and Cœle-Syria by turns.

†2. Of persons: a. Changeable in character; inconstant, unstable; fickle. *Obs.*

1636 E. DACRES tr. *Machiavel's Disc. Livy* I. 231 A Prince loosen'd from the law, will bee unthankfull, various, and imprudent. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. IV. 328 So Cardinal Alexandrino dealt with Cardinal di S. Sisto, a various and unconstant man. 1670 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 330 Truly he seems to me so various and fickle in handling this businesse all along. 1719 SWIFT *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1841 I. 544/2 Robert, who was various in his nature, and always under the power of the present persuader. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. (1782) I. 9 The various character of that emperor, capable, by turns, of the meanest and the most generous sentiments. 1820 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosologie* (ed. 3) 227 The mind, involuntarily various and unsteady.

†b. Marked by change or vacillation in opinions or views. *Obs.*

1645 VISCT. FALKLAND *Infallibility* 13 Saint Austin, who is very various I confesse in it. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* i. 3 In this point he seems somewhat various. 1661 J. DAVIES (*evil Wayes* 373 The officers of the army themselves began to be various and uncertain what to do.

†c. *poet.* Appearing in or assuming a variety of forms. *Obs.*

1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 524 Watch with insidious care his known abode; There fast in chains constrain the various god [*sc.* Proteus].

II. 3. Of persons: †a. Versatile in knowledge or acquirements; exhibiting variety in work or writings. *Obs.*

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 1 His name was already up.. for a great scholar: a various Linguist. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. (1686) 24 A delectable Author, very various. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. i, What in this respect is wiser, or better instructed than the Bee? What Artificer is so various, what Painter..can imitate her works? 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 545 A man so various, that he seem'd to be Not one, but all Mankind's Epitome.

b. Giving attention to many different subjects.

1878 R. CHOATE *Addresses* 235 It is a common belief that Mr. Webster was a various reader; and I think it is true.

4. a. Varied in colour; vari-coloured, variegated. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1618 [see VARNISH *v.* 1 b]. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 2 The various Iris Juno sends with haste, To find bold Turnus. 1718 PRIOR *The Garland* ii, At Morn the Nymph vouchsafe to place Upon her Brow the various Wreath. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 106 The rising Sun..As many Colours from their glossy Skins Beaming reflects, as paint the various Bow. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* III. 54 A polish'd casque her lovely temples bound, With flow'rs of gold and various plumage crown'd. 1855 LONGF. *Hiawatha* xii. 186 He saw the nine fair sisters..Changed to birds of various plumage.

b. Exhibiting variety in appearance; presenting different aspects at different times or places.

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 288 Use these till the pain, and various colour cease. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 89, I.. underneath beheld The Earth outstretcht Immense, a prospect wide And various. 1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* v. xvii, Ten thousand meanings lurk in every corner of that various face. 1712 ADDISON *Spectator* No. 417 P 3 The various Scenary of a Country Life. 1785 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 98 If one gets safe to the top, he may enjoy..a very extensive and various prospect on both sides. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* I. 118 Her road lay through a country various and rich. 1832 LANDER *Exped. Niger* I. i. 32 They were clad in all their finery, their apparel being as gaudy as it was various. 1863 W. W. STORY *Roba di Roma* xiii, Various as the Campagna is in outline, it is quite as various in colour, reflecting every aspect of the sky and answering every touch of the seasons. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays of Highlands* Introd. 49 The various outline of the Orcadian coast..presents a fine background.

5. Characterized by variation or variety of attributes or properties; exhibiting or possessing (several) different characters or qualities; varied in nature or character.

prod. *a* 1638 J. AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 270 Let the Pleasure be full to give Content; Let it be Various to avoid Satiatie. 1760 SIR W. JONES *Arcadia* Poems (1777) 109 His tune so various and uncouth he made, That not a dancer could in cadence move. 1780 *New Newgate Cal.* V. 100 After conviction their behaviour was very various. On some occasions they appeared hardened in a very high degree, and at others [etc.]. 1823 FALTON *Fam. Lett.* xliv. (1825) 324 Since our return from our journey, the weather has been very various. 1838 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 99 The velocity of rivers is very various, the slower class moving at less than 3 feet, and the more rapid at so much as 6 feet per second. 1876 PARKER *Parables* I. vii. 107 The miniaturation of the spirit is various: by it Moses was made wise, Bezaleel was made skilful, and Samson was made strong.

attrib. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 14 The various motion and configuration of the particles of matter. 1670 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 354 We shall have much adoe to get businesse of so various nature into fashion. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penitent* I. i, The various fury of the Seasons. *a* 1720 PRIOR *Judgment of Venus* i, When Kneller's Works of various Grace, Were to fair Venus shown. 1796 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 413 We have had various health, but never any that deserved to be called good. 1807 CRABBE *Pur. Reg.* III. 412 To show the various worth of Catherine Lloyd. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. ii, Such a various prodigality of writing materials. 1868 HEAVYSEGE *Jezebel* III. 215 Then followed many years of various fate.

†b. Calculated to cause difference or dissimilarity. *Obs.*—1

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 53 God..In derision sets Upon thir Tongues a various Spirit,..To sow a jangling noise of words unknown.

6. a. Marked by variety of incident or action.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 379 She..lets grow her wings That in the various bussie of resort Were all to ruffl'd. 1667 — *P. L.* VI. 242 For wide was spred That War and various. 1727 DYER *Grongar Hill* 97 Wave succeeding wave, they go A various journey to the deep. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthusiasm* (1867) 75 Pride..forbids [the heretic's] return to the truth he has..denounced from all points of his various course.

b. *poet.* Acting in many different ways.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 668 God of our Fathers, what is man! That thou towards him with hand so various..Temperst thy providence.

7. a. Exhibiting variety of subject or topic; concerned or occupied with many different themes.

1677–8 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 583 The other things committed to them, being of various consideration, they will probably digest into severall Bills. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 795 Relate your fortunes, while the friendly night And silent hours to various talk invite. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 239 Yet under this rude exterior it was easy to distinguish various knowledge, nice discrimination, and a strong and active mind. 1818 *Tuckey's Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* Introd. p. lvii, He had stored his mind with so much various knowledge..that he was considered the most eligible for the undertaking. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. v, One whose conversation was so various, easy, and delightful.

b. Exhibiting variety in the different persons or things forming a collective whole; displaying or including a variety of objects.

1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 15 Through the four portals rush'd a various throng. 1812 SCOTT *Don Roderick* II. lvii, A various host they came, whose ranks display Each mode in which the warrior meets the fight. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* v, Great artist Memory,..Needs must thou dearly love thy first essay, And foremost in thy various gallery Place it. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 163 One simple law, as with a chain, Doth bind the various vast infinity.

III. 8. With pl. sb. Different from one another; of different kinds or sorts: a. In attrib. use.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 22 All the Sea-girt Isles That like to rich and various gemms inlay The..bosom of the Deep. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights Muses, Music's Duel* 128 The humourous strings expound his learned touch By various Glosses. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 375 Then were they known to men by various Names, And various Idols through the Heathen World. 1724 WATTS *Logic* (1746) 116 As infinitely various as the Essences of Things are, their Definitions must needs have very various Forms. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* II. xviii. 39 For Earth impartial entertains Her various sons, and in her breast Princes and beggars equal rest. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 564 Dr. Jackson..is very careful in marking all those various effects produced from similar causes. 1837 *1st Rep. Comm. Customs* 13 To discharge the various and onerous duties of 'Shipping Masters'. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 196 There arises..by help of abstraction from the content of the various impressions, the picture of empty extension.

elliptical. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 415 The Various Class presented the usual number of curiosities. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 3/1 A couple of 'cock, ground game, and such 'various' as snipe, duck, a plover or so.

b. Predicative.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xliii. 393 The causes why men believe any Christian Doctrine, are various. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 209 How various and innumerable Are those, who live upon the Rabble? 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 147 The Beetle and Water-Scorpion are little various in the outward Structure of their Bodies. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 302 The woodland scene, Diversified with trees of every growth, Alike, yet various. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid. Lothian* xxxiv, Its springs, various in character, yet alike efficacious in virtue, are to be found in abundance. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 180 Talents great and various assisted to spread the contagion. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* xi. 213 The advantages of travel are very various and very numerous.

c. With a singular sb., and freq. preceded by *each* or *every.*

a 1721 PRIOR *Colin's Mistakes* xi, Ca'ndish-Holles-Harley stood confest, As various Hour advis'd, in various Habit dress'd. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xvii. 32 Yet Aristippus every Dress became: In every various Change of Life the same. 1766 [C. ANSTEY] *New Bath Guide* ix. 42, I alone his Thoughts employ Through each various Scene of Joy. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxx, Sufficient care was

taken that this report should find its way to Ravenswood Castle through every various channel. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. xviii, Don Jóse, like a lineal son of Eve, Went plucking various fruit without her leave. 1863 Longf. *Wayside Inn* II. Prel. 63 The breakfast ended, each pursued The promptings of his various mood.

d. In the phrase *various reading(s)*. (Cf. Variant *sb.* 2 and Lection 1 c.)

1659 Bp. Walton *Considerator Considd.* 114 Various Readings are the difference of Copies collected and offered to the reader's judgment. 1701 *Stanley's Hist. Philos.* Introd. d b. That he might omit nothing, he has annext the various Readings, Conjectures and Observations. 1721 Bp. Atterbury *Let. to Pope* 27 Sept., Therefore in my Waller there is a various reading of the first of these couplets. *c* 1750 Johnson in *Boswell* (Oxf. ed.) II. 618 *note*, Chaucer, a new edition of him, from manuscripts and old editions, with various readings, conjectures [etc.]. 1824 J. Johnson *Typogr.* II. 437 An exact list of all its various readings. 1853 Paley *Æschylus* Pref. (1861) p. x, What really is a necessary and inevitable part of an editor's duty, viz. the continual discussion of various readings. 1910 *Expositor* Apr. 352 It may rest upon a various reading in the Hebrew.

9. In weakened sense, as an enumerative term: Different, divers, several, many, more than one.

It is not always possible to distinguish absolutely between this sense and 8, as the meaning freq. merges into 'many different': cf. Divers *a.* 3.

1696 Prior *To the King at Arrival in Holland* 62 In various Tongues He hears the Captains dwell On their great Leader's Praise. 1725 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 279 By this Means we shall be able to judge with the greater Exactness, of all the various Phænomena's of Nature. 1762 J. Reeve in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* VII. Introd. p. xlii, From that period the College of St. Omer began to shine among the various Seminaries of piety and learning. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxi, But be heard of the Major's fame from various members of his society. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* ii. 30 The eyeball is moved in various directions by six muscles. 1897 Ld. Roberts *41 Yrs. India* vii. (1898) 41 Various acts of incendiarism took place.

10. *Comb.* With adjs. or pa. ppples., as *various-blossomed, -coloured, -formed, -measured*, etc.

1730-46 Thomson *Autumn* 5 The *various-blossom'd Spring. *a* 1721 Ken *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 35 Bright *various colour'd Rays his Wings adorn. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 231 The various-coloured Gadus,..The Cod-fish. 1784 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxxi, Such triple tiaras of various-coloured gauze on her head. 1803 Kenny *Society* 54 In spite of danger *various-form'd, to wrest Nature's yet hidden secrets. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 155 *L[epidium] Perfoliatum*, *Various-leaved Pepper Wort. 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV. 256 *Various-measur'd verse, Æolian charms and Dorian Lyric Odes. 1880 Beaconsfield *Endymion* lxv, The intended introduction of grain at *various-priced duties per quarter. 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 1110 The fiery spume Of fat Bitumen, steaming on the day, With *various-tinctur'd trains of latent flame. 1788 Coleridge *Sonnet to Autumnal Moon* 1 Mild Splendour of the *various-vested Night!

Variously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly ².]

1. In a various manner; in various or different ways; with variation or variety; differently, diversely.

1627 May *Lucan* VII. 630 The war, that variously had wander'd ore The fields, there stucke, there Cæsars fortune stay'd. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 87 This stratagem was never understood; and was then variously spoken of. 1682 J. Norris *Hierocles* 7 But 'twas the Law of the Creation which variously order'd things according to the dignity of their natures. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 6. 370 These Circumstances are variously combined in the various Kinds and Degrees of Madness. 1779 T. Forrest *Voy. New Guinea* 326 Variously do those Islands groan under the tyranny of their masters. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. III. vii. 406 About the lineage, and station, of this celebrated personage..writers have written variously. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xii. 87 The sound commenced again, changing its note variously. 1880 Geikie *Phys. Geog.* iv. 199 A ball.. with an exterior crust which has been variously estimated at from twenty to a thousand miles in thickness.

b. With adjs.

1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exper. Phil.* IV. xlix. 331 It emits the rays of light in every direction, and those rays are variously refrangible and colorific. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 398 Our prose became less majestic,..less variously musical than that of an earlier age. 1871 Carlyle in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 378 The consequences for the time were variously sad. 1871 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 226 So dame and damsel glitter'd at the feast Variously gay.

c. *U.S.* At different times. *rare.*

1890 A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 756 Samuel Perkins..kept a barber shop variously under the National Hotel and the Clinton Bank.

2. *Comb.* With pa. ppples., adjs., or pres. ppples., as *variously-coloured, -conditioned, -shaped, -working, -wrought*, etc.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Feb. 1645, The mouthes of these spiracles are bestrew'd with variously-colour'd cinders. 1768-74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 171 A long-complicated succession of variously-working second causes. 1837 Caunter *Lives Moghul Emp., Baber* IX. 238 The variously-coloured page of human life. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 193 Brass, gold, and variously-wrought iron. 1855 T. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 2) p. xvi, Variously-shaped eggs of Insects. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 60 The stars shine out with variously coloured lights.

Variousness. [f. Various *a.* + -ness.]

†**1.** Changeableness, inconstancy, variability. *Obs.*

1607 Daniel *Cleopatra* Wks. (Grosart) III. 9 A Roman hath but here a Roman quayld, And onely hut by Fortune's variousnes. 1647 Cotterell tr. *Davila's Hist. Fr.* I. 22 The Prince had in the war proved the variousness of fortune.

†**2.** Difference, variance. *Obs.*

1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 68 This space is the varietie, or variousnes that is betweene severall, and distinct arguments. *a* 1653 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 9 Here the plural number is used, which implieth a variousness and disagreement in false Doctrines.

3. Variety of character or nature; varied condition or quality.

1631 Biggs *New Disp.* 198 The variousnesse..of..every single and particular form of the Individuall. 1633 Blithe *Engl. Improver Impr.* 55 And a good experienced Millwright..is well able to regulate them..to the incomming of the Tide, or out-going of the Floods, as the variousness of opportunities will require. 1834 Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVI. 543 His waking thoughts had all the vividness of visions, all the variousness of dreams. 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 2) 39 Unimaginable space..Faileth to match His boundless variousness. 1865 M. Arnold *Lect. Crit.* iv. (1873) 163 The religious life is at bottom everywhere alike; but it is curious to note the variousness of its setting.

Varisoune, Sc. variant of Warison.

Varite, obs. Sc. form of Verity.

‖ **Varix** (vē·riks). Pl. **varices** (vē·risiz). [L. (stem *varic-*). Cf. Varice.]

1. *Path.* An abnormal dilatation or enlargement of a vein or artery, usually accompanied by a tortuous development; a varicose vein.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 178 þe blood letyng of þis veyne is good..for varices & for vicera þat ben in þe hipis ouþer in þe leggis. 1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 C iij b, It may so be that varix, that is to say a swollen vayne that is aboue it, may be the cause. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 279 Some writers hold, that this herb.., bound vnto the swelling veines called Varices, doth allay the paine thereof. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* 363 For that is easie to see in a Varix of the Thigh and Foot. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 188 *Varices*, sometimes become very large and painful upon the legs, requiring opening. 1783 *Med. Comm.* I. 181 The dilatation of a vein (commonly called a *varix*) takes an oblong shape. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 286/1 Pressure on the varix empties it of its contents. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 190 In another case a similar thrombosed varix had broken from its pedicle.

b. The diseased condition characterized by this, as a specific malady.

1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflamm.* 128 The dilatation of capillary vessels which occurs in some species of varix. 1876 Gross *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 156 The veins..have a tortuous, convoluted arrangement, similar to what occurs in varix of the leg and thigh. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I. 500 Varix is commonly an affection of the veins in the lower extremities, and mainly, of the branches of the saphena vein.

2. *Conch.* A longitudinal elevation or swelling on the surface of a shell (see quot. 1851).

1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 201 With a marginal and sometimes a dorsal varix. 1851 G. F. Richardson *Geol.* viii. 241 The *varices*..are ribs which cross the volutions in some species of *buccinum*, *murex*, and *triton*. They are formed by the periodical growth of the shells. 1851 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit. 1860*, 198 The *Struthiolariæ* have a simple varix instead of a wide lip.

Vark, obs. (chiefly Sc.) f. Work *sb.* and *v.*

Varld(ly, obs. Sc. forms of World(ly.

Varlet (vā·rlĕt). Forms: *α.* 5– **varlet** (6 *Sc.* **warllet**, 7 **varlott**), 5–6 **varlette**; 6–7 **varlot** (6 *Sc.* **war-**). *β.* 6 **verlet** (-lett, -lotte), 7 **verlate**; 6 **verlot** (*Sc.* wer-), -lotts. [*α.* OF. *varlet* (14th c.), var. of *vaslet*, *vallet*, *vallet* Valet. Hence also med.L. *varletus*. In mod.F. *varlet* is restricted to the historical sense 1 b.]

1. A man or lad acting as an attendant or servant; a menial, a groom. Now *arch.*

α. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 240 The varlet of the labourare, that is for to say his hyre man that dryvis the pleuche. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 154 b/2, I haue rychesses ynough, seruantes, varlettes, .. and kynaysmen whiche serue me. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lv. 187 This varlet semeth rather sone to a kyng..then to be a varlet to a mynstrell. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 94 She calls out to the varlets she doth keep,..Braine the dog's master first, and then the cur. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Vadelet*,.. a Benchers Clerk or Servant. The Butlers of the house corruptly call them Varlets. 1684 Burnet tr. *More's Utopia* 109 If it should so happen, that..all this Wealth should pass from the Master to the meanest Varlet of his whole Family. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. viii, Lords and varlets, where are they? 1843 James *Agnes Sorel* (1860) I. 124 Acquiring very rapidly from the different varlets and pages a vast amount of information.

β. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvi. (Percy Soc.) 114 Than on my iorney...Wyth my verlet called Attendaunce, Forthe on I rode. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* xii. ii. 13 The byssy knaipis and verlettis of his stabill About thame [*sc.* the horsea] stud. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* xli, Kepe neuer such seruantes, as doth thee no good, For nestling of verlettes..make[s] many a rich man to shet vp his doores.

b. *spec.* An attendant on a knight or other person of military importance. Now only *Hist.*

1470-85 Malory *Arthur* x. xiv. 434 Thenne this Knyght called to hym a varlette, and badde hym ryde vntyl younder fayr manoyre. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 69 Whan Parys coude wel speke mouryske, he and his varlet took the waye toward ynde. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xvi. 16 The archers who were to the nombre of iii. M. shotte faste theyr arowes, nat sparyng maisters nor varlettis. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 50 Divers beyng wounded wer released by theyr varlettes and conveighed out of the feide. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iv. 37 Far away they spyde A varlet running towards hastily.. Behind his backe he bore a braven shield. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. 1 Call here my Varlet, Ile vnarme againe. Why should I warre without the walls of Troy? 1825 Scott *Talism.* iii, Some fifty more men, archers and varlets included. 1864 Burton *Scot. Abr.* I. iii. 123 In one month the French lost upwards of a hundred varlets. 1889 F. Cowper *Capt. of Wight* 167 Their esquires were waiting outside, and their varlets were leading their horses...up and down.

†**c.** *Varlet of the chamber*, = Valet-de-chambre. *Obs.*

1587 Throgmorton in Robertson *Hist. Scot.* (1851) II. 435 [She requested] to have her apothecary..and..to have a varlet of the chamber. 1588 *Excheq. Rolls Scot.* XXI. 403 To William Murray, varlett of his majesteis chalmer, for his pensioun. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 158 His voiage vnder Don Anthonio was nothing so great credit to him, as a French Varlet of the chamber is. [1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 406 'Tis this that Proudest Dames enamors On Lacquies, and Varlets des-Chambres.]

†**d.** = Sergeant *sb.* 8. *Obs.*

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. ix, Why, you were best get one o' the varlets o' the citie, a serieant. 1620 Melton *Astrolog.* 73 Those that stand before both the Compters,.. who appeare in the shapes of Sergeants, alias Varlets. 1638 Shirley *Mart. Soldier* v, I was first a Varlet, then a Bumbaily, now an under Jailor.

2. A person of a low, mean, or knavish disposition; a knave, rogue, rascal.

In later use freq. without serious implication of bad qualities.

α. 1555 in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 173 Then my lord mayd, thou art a very varlet. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xiv. iii. 297 A notable cousening varlot, who professed Alcumystrie. 1624 Bp. Mountagu *Immed. Addr.* 213 Is not this a varlet in graine: a fit Patron of Inuocation? 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 307 All shall see that you were arrant varlots, such as Religion can receive no blemish from. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. v, A little contemptible varlet, without the least title to birth, person, wit. 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb.* v. ii, Look, if the varlet has not the effrontery to call his lordship plain Thomas. 1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* viii, A handsome boy,..but a mischievous varlet. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xl. (1856) 365 We are an uncouth, snobby, and withal, shabby-looking set of varlets. 1882 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* I. x, In the doorway were the two impudent varlets, whom he called his clerks.

β. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* II. 518 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 490/1 The helper of harlettes, And captayne of verlettes, The cloke of all vnthriftes. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 144 Such Lords ill example doth giue, where verlets and drabs so may liue. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 89 Now see the villany of these verlates.

b. Employed as an abusive form of address.

1566 Adlington *Apuleius* 55 Thou presumest and thinkest, thou triflinge boye, thou verlette,..that thou arte most worthy and excellent. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schism* 116 Know you (varlets) whom you dally-with? 1678 D'Urfey *Muse. Fickle* III. i, Out of my doors thou Varlet; away. 1706 Addison *Rosamond* I. iii, Faithless Varlet, art thou there? 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* v. ii, And is it to you, you graceless varlet, I owe all this? 1829 Lytton *Devereux* II. iv, 'Now for thee, varlet,' cried Tarleton, brandishing his rapier. 1841 James *Brigand* iii, Run, sir varlet, run.

†**c.** In the phr. *to play the .. varlet. Obs.*

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 871/1 To play the verie varlets against all goodnesse:..we see the wicked are giuen to this. 1625-80 C. More *Life Sir T. More* (1828) 328 He fell to scoffing,..and played the very varlet with the king. 1652 D. Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 172 So faine would the comptroller have played a good varlett, and satisfeid the queene, or elles have made up his owne profite.

†**d.** *transf.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 18 Thou art thought to be Achilles male Varlot. *Patr.* Male Varlot you Rogue! What's that? *Ther.* Why his masculine Whore.

†**3.** The knave in cards. *Obs.* [So F. *valet*.]

1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 43 Walk walidrag, and warlot [*v.r.* verlot] of the cairtis. 1579 Rice *Invective agst. Vices* B iv, [They] are more at quiete with the Ace, Kyng, Queene, or Varlet of Spades, then thei can be with a Spade to digge..for their liuyng. *Ibid.*, Varlette of the Hartes. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* IV. i, *Mad.* We call'd him a Coat-card O' the last order. *P. Iv.* What's that? a Knaue? *Mad.* Some readings haue it so, my manuscript Doth speake it, Varlet.

4. *attrib.* as *varlet heretic, page, rebel.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Bk. Knighthood* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 15 Thai ordanyt him a squier, and a varlet page to be ever contynualy at his bidding and service. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 68 Did the maior of London thrust throughe Jacke Straw beinge but a varlet rebell, and onely disquietinge the Citye? 1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1581/2 He is the naughtiest verlet heretique, that euer I knewe.

¶ **5.** App. used for Warlock.

1703 Brand *New Desc. Ork. & Zetland* viii. 110 There is a House called Kebister, where a Varlet or Wizard lived.

Hence **Varletess,** a female varlet.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* I. xxxi. 196 It was more Pride than Love..that put me upon making such a confounded rout about losing this noble varletess. *Ibid.* VI. 96 Eight o'clock at Mid-summer, and these lazy varletesses (in full health) not come down yet to breakfast!

Varletry (vā·rlĕtri). Also **7 varlotarie.** [f. Varlet + -ry.] Varlets collectively; a number or crowd of attendants or menials.

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 56 Shall they hoyst me vp, And shew me to the showting Varlotarie Of censuring Rome? 1757 Dyer *Fleece* III. 461 Those Whose virtues taught the varletry of towns To useful toil to turn the pilfering hand. 1789 J. White *Karl Strongbow* II. 20 The retainers..now hurried to the barbican..I wheeled round however, and with Gridalbin made a hideous carnage of this varletry. 1840 Browning *Sordello* VI. 402 Gay swarms of varletry that come and go, Pages to dice with. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xiv, It was only the clientage and varletry of Octavia who had dared to assume the people's name.

‖ **Varletto.** *Obs.*—[1] [Italianized f. *varlet*. Cf. It. *valletto* servant, valet.] = Varlet 1 or 2 b.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. v. 66 *Host.* Where be my horses? Speake well of them varletto.

Varlo, obs. Sc. f. WARLOCK. **Varly**, obs. Sc. f WARELY *adv.* **Varm**, southern dial. var. FARM *v.*[1] **Varme**, obs. Sc. f. WARM *a.*

Varment, varmint (vā·ɹmənt), *sb.*[1] and *a.*[1] *dial.* and *U.S.* Also varmant, -munt, verment, warment, -mint, etc. [var. of *varmin* VERMIN, with excrescent *-t*. Rare before *c* 1825.]

1. a. *collect.* Vermin. b. An animal of a noxious or objectionable kind.

A large collection of American examples is given by Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* (1912) s.v.

a. 1539 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 148 Let me not be utterly caste away here in pryson, remayening fwll of varment which cawaythe me to hawe no lyste of meytte nor dryncke. 1689 HUSBANDE *Monitor* Ep. Ded., For many who smell like a Kirkish Verment, Can now, Sir, put on a Lamb-like garment. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Wds., Varmint*, vermin, not always confined to the verminous class of animals, but extended to any annoying or troublesome ones. 1828 J. HALL *Lett. fr. West* 297 He gave his foe [a bear-cub] a mortal shot, or to use his own language, 'I burst the varment'. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xxiii, 'These beavers,' said he, '..are the knowingest varment as I know'. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Varment*, vermin.

β. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* (N S.) XXIII. 242 Some of the followers of the gallant *varmint.* 1846 T. B. THORPE *Backwoods* 166 The idea of a 'man's keeping two varmints in a grass, when he might shoot a dozen by going a little way into the woods'. These 'varmints' were two beautiful deer. 1883 PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 151 Meanwhile the varmint had stolen on in his struggle for Tilton Wood and life. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 25 Oct. 2/3 The granger came out with his rifle and shot the varmint [a panther].

2. An objectionable or troublesome person or persons; a mischievous boy or child.

1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* v. 92 The poor beasts have smoaked for it: Rabbet me, but I'd rather ride forty miles after a fox, than ten with such *varmint.* 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Varment, Vermont*,..also a term of reproach, particularly to a child. 1845 C. H. J. ANDERSON *Swedish Brothers* 8 That little varmint Nettop has tickled his heels for him. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, 'I've got the young varmint at last, have I,' pants the farmer. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 114 'You young varment, you!' you bad or naughty boy.

Varment, varmint, *sb.*[2] and *a.*[2] *slang* (now *dial.*). [Of obscure origin; there is no obvious connexion with prec.]

A. *sb.* A sporting amateur with the knowledge or skill of a professional.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 9 Every professional amateur ..is denominated a Varment. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XI. xvii, I'oor Tom was once a kiddy upon town, A thorough varmint, and a *real* swell, Full flash, all fancy.

B. *adj.* 1. (See quot. 1823.) Also *Comb.*

1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T., Varment*, natty, dashing. He is quite varment, he is quite the go. He sports a varment hat, coat, etc., he is dressed like a gentleman Jehu. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* II. xiv. 135 We sat down..and looked round inquiringly at the smug and varment citizens with which the room was filled. 1859 WARBURTON *Hunting Songs* 92 A varment looking gemman on a woiry tilt.

2. Knowing, clever, cunning.

1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* 317 *Varment* is also a sort of cant word for knowing; as a *varment* chap, a knowing one. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* I. 179 Nevertheless there is a varment and knowing look about her [a ship] which I like. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 162 None but a very varmint dog..will face one of these water-weazels a second time. 1850 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 340 He..ran into the stockyard and caught the varmint, ambling black mare. 1891 P. H. EMERSON *East Coast Yarns* 92, I met old Jimmy Lodes, the varmintest horse-dealer about these parts.

Hence **Va·rmentcy**; **Va·rmentish** *a.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 9 This polite art is designated Varmentcy. *Ibid.* 10 The origin of Varmentcy, as of almost all the noble Sciences, is obscure. 1819 *Ibid.* (N.S.) V. 54 Nothing under four horses would look 'varmentish'.

Varmin, obs. or dial. var. VERMIN. **Varn(e,** obs. ff. WARN *v.* **Varnasyng,** Sc. var. WARNISHING. **Varngreis,** obs. Sc. var. VERDIGRIS. **Varnis,** obs. Sc. var. WARNISH *v.*

Varnish (vā·ɹnĭʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4 **vernisshe,** 4, 6 **vernysshe,** 5 **-nyshe, -nysche, -nesche**; 4 **vernich,** 5 **vernysh** (**wernysch**), 6–8 **vernish**; 4, 7 **vernich**; 6 **vernise,** *Sc.* **verneis, vernes, vernys,** 7 **vernis, -nice.** *β.* 6 **varnysch,** 6– **varnish** (7 **-nishe**); 6 *Sc.* **varneyis,** 7 **varnes.** [ad. OF. *vernis* (*varnis*), *vernis* (12th c.), = Prov. *vernis, -nits*, Pg. *vernis*, It. *vernice*, Cat. *barnis*, Sp. *barnis*, of unknown origin. Cf. med.L. *vernicium* and *vernix* (*bernix*), med.Gr. *βερνίκη*, mod. Gr. *βερνίκι*. French is also the source of MHG. *firnîs*, G. *firnis*(*s*, Du. *vernis*, Da. *fernis*, Sw. *fernissa*.]

1. Resinous matter dissolved in some liquid and used for spreading over a surface in order to give this a hard, shining, transparent coat, by which it is made more durable or ornamental.

In early use, dry resinous matter for making a solution of this kind.

a. 1342–*a Ely Sacr. Rolls* II. 121 In vj llbr. de albo vernich, prec. lbr. iijd. 1398 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III* m. 34/1 b, In .iiij. Mill'de vernisshe 3.v. lb de vermeillione. 1562 LANGL. *P. P.* A. v. 70 Venim or vernisch or vinegre, I trouwe, Walleþ in my wombe. 14.. in *Reliq. Ant.* I. 163 For to make wernysh.—Take a galon of good ale, and put thereto iij ounces of gumme of Arabyke [etc.]. 1466 *Mann. & Household Exp.* (Roxb.) 349 My maistyr receyvid of Fynches man of Colchestre a ll. of vernysshe, pryse .vj.d. 1521 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 64 For iij vnce quhit vernys. *Ibid.* IV. 92 Caddes, vernesis, rode lede. 1530 PALSGR. 284/2 Vernyshe, *vernys.* 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xv. 99 b, They vse by continuall artifice Terebinthe and vernish. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* 135 Aqua vitæ, liquid vernize, arsenike. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* I. xvii. 69 The oile of walnuts is..used..by painters for vernice. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 285 Apelles..did by an inimitable invention anoint his finished workes with..a thinne kinde of inke or vernish. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* XVI. 341 Powder luniper-gum, which Scriveners call Vernish, and add it to the rest. 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.* I, *Barnis*, Vernish.

β. 1546 *Inv. Ch. Goods Surrey* 106 Item for ij lb. of varnysch, ij s. viij d. 1620 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 244 Three pound of varnishe for the caroache, xxj*d*. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Varnish*, is that wherewith a picture is rubbed over to make it shine and have a gloss; there is also a ground or varnish which is laid upon a plate that is to be etched. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Wounds*, Let him drop some Varnish with a Feather to the bottom. 1773 *Cook's Voy.* (1777) II. III. xi. 146 As we had neither pitch, tar, nor rosin, left to pay the seams, this was done with varnish of pine. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 86 As wood, and many other substances..are porous and apt to imbibe water, ..it is proper to give them a coat of varnish. 1842 LEVER *J. Hinton* x, Like the varnish upon a picture, it brings out all the colour into strong effect. 1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr.* 60 When the sectors are firmly stuck down to the glass, and the varnish quite dry.

transf. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 40 Now came the cane from India, smooth and bright With Nature's varnish.

b. With *a* and pl. A special preparation of this nature.

Many varieties are enumerated in special works from *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. (1753) onwards.

a. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 417 How, in China and Japan, they make the Black-vernish. *Ibid.* 487 This Author mentions ..their [*sc.* Chinese] Vernice, of which he sets down some Receipts both for the Red and Black. 1676 *Ibid.* XI. 714 An Oyl, of which the Persians make a Vernis.

1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 420 A pattent is past for the invention of a varnish to preserve guns, &c. from rust. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The Varnishes used by the Chinese are two. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 84 It is only formed by a beautiful brown varnish, laid upon a white ground. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 538 Dragon's blood..is used also to give a red colour to varnishes. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II 235 In using the varnishes..care must be taken not to apply too great a quantity of them to the surface of the calico.

c. A solution of this kind spread on a surface; the coating or surface so formed.

1643 *Plain English* 13 Posts whose varnish is..worne off. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 9 Not much unlike to our Etching with points and Needles on the Vernish. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 33/1 Lime..for plaistering..gives the best varnish to the Work. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, All things were in a state of high varnish and polish. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* IX. 240 When it was found that all chemical precipitates radiated alike, it was the radiation from a varnish common to them all which showed the observed constancy.

transf. 1715 POPE *Ep. Addison* 37 This the blue varnish, that the green endears, The sacred rust of twice ten hundred years! 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* iii, By encrusting them with a black varnish of soot. 1838 EMERSON *Addr., Literary Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) II. 207 The sense of spiritual independence is like the lovely varnish of the dew.

fig. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* IV. iii, The varnish of power brings forth at once the defects and the beauties of the human portrait. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Behaviour* Wks. (Bohn) II. 380 They [manners] form at last a rich varnish, with which the routine of life is washed. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Feb. 1/2 There is a film of Levantine varnish around the court at Constantinople.

d. A preparation of boiled oil (or other substances) used in the making of printers' ink.

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 445 The oil is..boiled gently till it acquires the proper consistence. In this state it is called the varnish. 1841 T. C. HANSARD *Printing & Typef.* 106 The next..article is nut or linseed oil boiled and burnt into a varnish.

e. A medical preparation resembling a varnish, for application to the skin.

1809 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 582 Both tar and pyrogallol work better as paints and varnishes than the chrysarobin.

2. *fig.* A specious gloss or outward show; a pretence.

1586 JEWEL *Reply Harding* (1611) 438 This of late yeeres was the Schoole-doctours Catholike meaning,..which now M. Harding and his Fellowes are faine for shame, to colour ouer with some finer Vernish. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 362 God will not be dallyed with; this outward varnish cannot bleare His eyes. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xliv. (1739) 71 For the better varnish, the Duke would not be his own Judge. 1765 *Prov. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 163 It is impossible to get the least certain intelligence from thence, as nothing comes out of the closet but with a double varnish. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* lvii. (1819) II. 1 Qualities, which, when seen in their true light, and without the varnish of deceit, are peculiarly unpleasing. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 285 The affectation of legal forms afforded him a thin varnish for his proceedings. 1844 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 291 Women will..always give a varnish of duty to their inclinations. 1895 C. GRAHAM *Notes Monteith* i. 7 Convention has lent a thin varnish of hypocrisy to manners.

b. Without article.

1743 *Lond. Mag.* 396 The authentick Gazette, which.. never once dealt in Puff or Varnish, but told the Truth. 1829 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. XV, From the clerk of the kitchen I required the bestest accounts without varnish or concealment. 1837 HAMILTON *Lect. Met., Plato* Wks. (Bohn) I. 308 This eldest Goethe, hating varnish and falsehood, delighted in revealing the real at the base of the accidental.

3. A means of embellishment or adornment; a beautifying or improving quality or feature.

1581 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1130 Though..Divinity, For only varnish, have but Verity. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 233, I might enamell..this deuice more artificially and masterly, and attire it in his true orient varnish and tincture. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. 27 My intent is without varnish or amplification, iustly to weigh the dignitie of knowledge in the ballance with other things. 1672 PANTON *Spec. Jam.* Ded., Though it have not the Romantick varnish of stile, worthy your Majestie's view and regard. 1722 STEELE *Spect.* No. 364 P 1 This last Qualification..serves as a Varnish to all the rest. 1727 S. SWITZER *Pract. Gard.* Ixxviii. 392 Neatness and politure ought now ..to serve for a varnish to the alleya and the dress'd grounds. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 246 A cloudy and rainy day takes the varnish off the scenery.

b. Gloss, brilliancy.

1841 T. C. HANSARD *Printing & Typef.* 107 The turpentine is added to give greater varnish [to the ink].

4. An external appearance or display of some quality without underlying reality. (Cf. VENEER *sb.*)

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. § 6 He lived long enough to have..judgement to distinguish a meer outside and varnish, from what was solid and substantial. 1776 GIBBON *Lett. Holroyd* 20 May, I..laugh at her Paris varnish, and oblige her to become a simple reasonable Suissesse. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 23 Aug., Such a fine varnish of low politeness!—such a struggle to appear a gentleman! 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. VII. 123 New forms..destitute of life and reality, an empty varnish. 1853 MERIVALE *Rom. Rep.* iv. (1867) 100 But this varnish of superior culture seems to have failed in softening a rough plebeian nature. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* iv. 65 The youth comes up with a varnish of accomplishment beyond his real powers.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **varnish brush, gum, -house, -maker, pot, -secretor**; **varnish sumach,** the Japanese tree *Rhus vernicifera* from which lacquer is obtained; **varnish-tree,** one or other of various trees yielding a resinous substance used as a varnish.

1859 F. S. COOPER *Ironmongers' Catal.* 38 *Varnish Brushes. 1892 *Daily News* 13 Feb. 7/3 Cinchona..bark sold well, but *varnish gums generally eased off. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1269 Crystal varnish may be made..in the *varnish-house. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Supp., *Spike*,..an essential oil, much used by the *varnish-makers and the painters in enamel. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1267 The choice of linseed oil is of peculiar consequence to the varnish-maker. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 739 Put the copal, coarsely pulverized, into a *varnish pot. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xli. 126 *Varnish-secretor (*Colleterium*)... In the cabbage butterfly there is a pair of ovate ones [*sc.* oviduct vessels],..filled with a yellow fluid, which Reaumur and Herold think is used for varnishing or gumming the eggs. 1822 T. GOOD *Stud. Med* (1829) IV. 685, I mean several of the acrid poisons, as..*rhus vernix*, *varnish sumach. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 453 He says, speaking of this true *varnish-tree, that callicuts are painted with the juice of this shrub. *Ibid.* 448, I suppose he means, by this true varnish-tree, the Carolina pennated Toxicodendron. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 147/2 The theetsee, or varnish-tree of the Burmese, has been described and figured by Dr. Wallich, by the name of Melanorrhœa usitata. He identified it with the Kheu, or varnish-tree of Munnipore. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 443/1 The natives speak of the tree producing this resin, *B*[*uncia*] *utilis*, as the Wax tree or Varnish tree. *Ibid.* 1204/2.

Varnish, *sb.*[2] Also 7 **vernish.** [f. the vb.] An act of varnishing; an application of varnish.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 515 If you be desirous to keepe any yron-worke from rust, give it a vernish with ceruse, plaistre, and tar, incorporat all together. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Japanning*, If it be not well done, polishing will be necessary, for which reason you must give it five or six varnishes more.

Varnish (vā·ɹnĭʃ), *v.* Forms: a. 4–6 **vernysshe,** 5 **vernysche** (**-nyschyn**), 6 **wernysh-,** 6–8 **vernish,** 6 *Sc.* **vernes-.** *β.* 5 **varnesch-,** 6 *Sc.* **varneis, warnis,** 6– **varnish.** [ad. OF. *verniss(i)er, vernic(i)er* (F. *vernisser*), or *varniss-, vernir*, f. *vernis* VARNISH *sb.* Cf. med.L. and It. *verniciare*, Pg. *envernisar*, Sp. *barnisar*.]

1. *trans.* To paint *over*, to coat, with varnish; to overlay with a thin coating composed of varnish.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Bokes þat beþ yvarnesched with þe gumme þerof beþ nouȝt ȝete wiþ wormes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/1 Vernyschyn, *vernicio.* 1530 PALSGR. 765/2 I vernysshe a spurre, or any yron with vernysshe, *je vernys.* Come hyther, spurryer, be my spurres well vernysshed. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 12 Some had their armyng swerdes freshly burnyshed and some had them conningly vernished. 1589 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) 55 Corslets of pruif, and mony targe of steill, Sum varneist bright, sum dorred diuerslie. 1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxix. 288 They bringe likewise from this Province oyle of Aspicke, which..Painters vse much..to vernish the pictures. 1697 J. POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. xv. (1715) 127 Several other Colours were also made use of, nor were they barely varnish'd over with them, but very often anneal'd by Wax melted in the Fire. 1702 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xxxvii. 247 Plaister varnish'd with a green colour. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Japanning.* With a pencil varnish it over with the finest white varnish. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. ii. 118 These pictures, I am persuaded, were afterwards constantly varnished. 1861 T. A. TROLLOPE *La Beata* I. vii. 152 The copy..was not to be sent home till it had been varnished.

absol. 1573 *Art Limming* (1588) 9 If you will vernish on silver, then take the Almon of Bengewyne.

b. *transf.* To invest with a bright or glossy appearance; to smear or stain with some substance similar to varnish.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 209 Wel hath the myller ver-

ayashed his heed, Ful pale he was, for-dronken, and nat reed. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 53 Ful pale drunke, wexl vernysaht of visage. *Ibid.* 54 And whan thou hast wexl vernysaht thi pate, To take a sleepe in hast thou wolt the dresse. 1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 117, I found him in his bed chamber, his wife slaine And the blade yet varnished with bloud, grasped in his fist. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Spectacles* xxxiii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 300 The Leaves fresh varnisht lively green, The Blossoms various to be seen. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 11 Her eyes are.. of a pure golden colour, most admirable to behold, especially when varnish'd with a full light. *a* 1733 Ramsay *Tartana* 17 You who Drain from the flow'rs the early dews of May, To varnish on your cheek the crimson dye. 1841 Maunder *Sci. & Lit. Treas.* (1848) s.v. *Scarabæus*, The colour [of the *Scarabæus auratus*] is most brilliant, highly varnished, and of a golden green. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. x, Next morning, that horrible old Lady Tippins begins to be dyed and varnished for the interesting occasion.

2. To embellish or adorn; to improve, trick out, furbish *up*.

14.. *Sir Beues* (MS. C.) 3777 Blak sendel and..rede, Vernysched wip roseys off ayluyr bryst. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 430 The Elizabeth of Euphues being but shadowed for others to vernish, but begun for others to ende. 1589 Nashe *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 189 All my foolerie I bequeath to my good friend Lanam; it..may serue (perhappes) for yong beginners, if it be newe varnished. 1639 G. Daniel *Vervic* 720 My Name, which stood The Boast of Fame, I varnish't with my Blood. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 162 To dress up and to varnish the Story of Pausanias. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 154 Which were set off with all the fulsome Rhetorick that the penners could varnish them with. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 374 [Here is] old Franck's Seven Acts of Mercy varnished up. 1887 Huxley in *Life* (1900) II. 154 It will go on and be varnished into a simulacrum of success.

3. To cover or overlay with a specious or deceptive appearance; to gloss over, disguise.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* iv. 3 Though they be wylfully blind & vernish their unryghtuousnesse with counterfet colours. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 15 The church of Rome hath hitherto practised and doth profess the same adoration to the sign of the cross,..howsoeuer they varnish and qualifie their sentence. 1641 Milton *Reform.* Wks. 1851 III. 11 But what doe wee suffer..Prelatisme, as we do, thus to blanch and varnish her deformities with the faire colours..of Episcopacie? 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Skiamachia* Wks. (1711) 108 Wicked Counsels may be varnished with the shining Oil of sly Pretences. 1713 Addison *Cato* II. ii, Cato's voice was ne'er employed To clear the guilty, and to vernish crimes. 1783 Blair *Rhet.* xxv. (1812) II. 160 The art of varnishing weak arguments plausibly. 1838 *Woman* II. 241 The female character of this day is varnished, not polished. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xx. 220 He does not varnish—he does not even polish vice. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. iii. 134 A corrupt heart thinly varnished by a coating of affectation.

4. With *over* (in senses 2 and 3).

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* ii. Wks. 1851 III. 103 God..never intended to leave the Government..to be patch't afterwards, and varnish't over with the devices..of mans imagination. 1643 Denham *Cooper's H.* 125 And yet this Act, to varnish o'r the shame Of Sacriledge, must bear Devotions Name. 1694 Addison *England's Greatest Poets* Misc. Wks. 1726 I. 38 Or had the Poet ne'er profan'd his pen, To vernish o'er the guilt of faithless men. 1719 Young *Busiris* III i, O, how can you abuse your sacred reason,..To varnish o'er, and paint, so black a crime! ?1773 Macpherson *Ossian's Poems, Dissert. Concern. Æra of Ossian* (1785) II. 227 When they [*sc.* poets] found their themes inadequate to the warmth of their imaginations, they varnished them over with fables. 1824 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 193 He may hide it by increased zeal and violence, or varnish it over by simulated gaiety. 1871 R. H. Hutton *Theol. Ess.* iii. (1888) 49 To varnish over these distinctions.

Hence **Va·rnishing** *ppl. a.*

1796 *Med. Gulliver* 203 The mischiefs flowing from my fallacious varnishing pamphlet were not thought of.

Varnished (vā·rnĭsṭ), *ppl. a.* [f prec.]

1. Coated with varnish; †painted.

1553 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scot.* X. 176 Ane pair of warnist styrrep irnis. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. v. 31 Nor thrust your head..To gaze on Christian fooles with varnisht faces. 1599 Minsheu *Span. Dial.* 3/2 What rapier? . None but that varnist rapier, least it should raine. 1671 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. 29. I am credibly inform'd, that the Art of making the like Varnish'd Wares, is now begun to be a Trade at Paris. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Japanning*, Laying this paper upon the table, or piece of varnished-work. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* I 247 The varnished superior surface imbibes the essential particles. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xlix, Brown silk stockings, highly varnished shoes, and gold buckles.

b. *transf.* Presenting a shining or glossy appearance as if coated with varnish.

1642 H More *Song of Soul* II. iii. i. 25 Fresh varnish'd groves, tall hills, and gilded clouds Arching an eyelid for the glowing Morn. 1646 Quarles *Eglogues* ix, S 6, how sweat imbalmes His varnisht Temples! 1733 Pope *Donne's Sat.* IV. 208 Such painted puppets! such a varnish'd race Of hollow gew gaws, only dress and face! *c* 1820 *Dublin Hosp. Rep.* III. 23 A florid, clear, varnished tongue. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 83 The variety..termed the Varnished Willow, is an upright tree.

2. *fig.* a. Embellished; speciously tricked out.

1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 129 A smug neate stile,.. vernished phrases. 1632 Hopkins *Funeral Serm.* (1685) 103 Nor easily cousened by varnisht and plausible error.

b. Simulated, pretended.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. ii 36 To haue his pompe..But onely painted like his varnisht Friends. 1685 Dryden *Threnodia Aug.* iv. 132 Whose noble pride Was still above Dissembled hate or varnished love.

Varnisher (vā·rnĭʃəɹ). [f. as prec.]

1. One who varnishes; *spec.* one who makes a business or trade of varnishing.

1598 Florio, *Inuernicatore*, a varnisher. 1669 Pepys *Diary* 26 Apr., To Lilly's, the Varnisher, who is lately dead, and his wife and brother keep up the trade. 1706 Stevens *Span. Dict.* I, *Barnizador*, a Varnisher. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6224/8 William Morgan, .. Varnisher. 1804 P. Tingay (*title*), Painter and Varnisher's Guide. 1885 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 745 These accidents can be repaired only by new strata of varnish, which render application to the varnisher necessary. 1884 *Daily Tel.* 7 April, Painters' and varnishers' shops.

fig. c 1700 Pope *Imit. Earl Rochester* 81 With thee in private modest Dulness lies, And in thy bosom lurks in Thought's disguise; Thou varnisher of Fools, and cheat of all the Wise!

2 *slang.* (See quot.)

1865 *Slang Dict.* 265 *Varnisher*, an utterer of false sovereigns.

Varnishing (vā·rnĭʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec.]

1. The action of applying varnish or of coating anything with varnish.

1505 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 148 For vernesing of x pair sterap irnis. 1536–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 697 Cum emendacione lez bosses, et wernyshynge. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxviii. 34 He wil geve his hart to finish the vernishing thereof. 1632 Sherwood s.v., A kind of varnishing like to damasking. 1688 Stalker (*title*), Treatise of Japaning and Varnishing, Being a compleat Discovery of those Arts. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Japanning*, For in this laying it on depends the principal art of varnishing. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* vi. § 1. 360 Linseed oil..is also largely employed..in the varnishing of oiled silk. 1885 *Athenæum* 11 July 55/2 It proves to be ..untouched except for a little clumsy varnishing.

fig. 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1709) 139 Whence comes all Circumvention in Commerce, adulterating of Wares, vouching and varnishing against all good Faith and Honesty?

2. A coating of varnish. In quot. *fig.*

1754 P. H. *Hiberniad* iii. 22 These Advantages, however shewy, are but the outward Varnishing of Man.

3. *attrib.*, as *varnishing brush*; **varnishing day** (see quot. 1862).

c 1805 Turner in *Westm. Gas.* (1896) 1 May 8/3 When we have no more 'varnishing' days we shall not know one another. 1808 Sir T. Lawrence in D. E. Williams *Life* (1831) II. 406 Will you likewise procure a large flat varnishing brush? 1862 W. Sandby *Hist. R. Acad. Arts* I. 274 In the year 1809..the 'varnishing days' were appointed, whereby the members of the Academy were granted the privilege of retouching and varnishing their pictures after they were hung, and prior to the opening of the exhibition. 1896 *Harper's Mag* Apr. 680/2 Varnishing-day came at last. The portrait was received with enthusiasm and given a place of honor.

†Va·rnishment. *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec.] The act of varnishing.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 210 Thou hast.. wyth Arts-vanishing varnishment, made thy selfe a changeling from the forme I first cast thee in. 1646 Jenkyn *Remora* 19 Let not humane varnishments and pretexts draw forth thy love to it.

Varnys(ing, Sc. varr. Warnish(ing.

Varnysoun, Sc. var. Warnison.

†Varon, *a. Obs.* Also 5 varond, 6 varrant. [ad. F. *varron*] Wall-eyed.

1452 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 120 De j equo trottante, vocato Varond. 1538 *Ibid.* VI. 75 To my sone .. a varon meir, one blake meir with the folowers [etc.]. 1559 *Will of R. Whitehead, York* (MS.), My eldest stagg which was of my varrant meare.

Varp, obs. Sc. f. Warp *v.* **Varra,** dial. var. Very *adv.*; Sc. f. Warray *v. Obs.* **Varrand,** obs. Sc. f. Warrant. **Varrander,** obs. Sc. f. Warrener. **Varrant,** variant of Varon *a. Obs.* **Varrar,** obs. Sc. compar. of Ware *a.* **Varray,** Sc var. Very *a.*, Warray *v.*

Va·rriated, *a. Her. rare*—°. = Variated *a.*

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Varriated*, or *Warriated*, cut in the form of vair.

Varronian (vərǫ·niăn), *a.* [ad. L. *Varrōnianus*, f. *Varrōn*, *Varro*: (see def.).] Of or pertaining to the Roman author M. Terentius Varro (116–27 B.C.); admitted as genuine by Varro.

1693 Dryden *Disc. Satire* Ess. (Ker) II. 64 That which we call the Varronian Satire. *Ibid.* 107 The *Secchia Rapita* is an Italian poem, a satire of the Varronian kind. 1738 Chambers *Cycl* (ed. 2) s.v. *Menippean*, In imitation of him [*sc.* Menippus], Varro also wrote satyrs..; Whence this sort of composition is also denominated Varronian satyr. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 93/2 The 'Varronian plays' [of Plautus] were the twenty which have come down to us, along with one which has been lost. 1911 W. W. Fowler *Relig. Exp. Rom.* vii 163 It can no longer be rearranged on the original Varronian plan.

Varry, dial. var. Fare *sb.*[1] (pig); obs. var. Vairy *a.*, Vary *sb.* and *v.*; dial. var. Very *adv.*

Varsal (vā·ɹsăl), *a.* and *adv.* Also 7 'varsal. [Illiterate abbreviation of Universal *a.* Cf. the earlier form Versal *a.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Universal, whole. Only in the phr. *in the varsal world.*

1696 Vanbrugh *Relapse* v. v, That which they call pinmoney is to buy their wives everything in the 'varsal world. 1731–8 Swift *Polite Conv.* ii. I believe there is not such another in the varsal world. 1752 Eliza Heywood *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 203 'She must certainly be somewhat of kin to the child.'—'None in the varsal world, sir.' 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Wds.* s.v., I'm sewer I beent a farden i' the varsal wald. 1884 in Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*

2. Single, individual. *rare.*

1763 Bickerstaff *Maid of Mill* I. viii, There's nothing comes amiss to her; she's cute at every varsal kind of thing. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xiv, When every varsal soul in the family were gone to bed.

B. *adv.* Extremely, vastly. *rare*—[1].

a 1824 *Fam. Politics* III. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 200 A has now retired with his profits, and married a varsal rich woman.

Varsatile, obs. variant of Versatile *a.*

Varsity (vā·ɹsĭti). Also **'varsity.** [Colloquial abbreviation of University. Cf. the late 17th cent. form Versity.] University. Also *attrib.*

1846 in *Brasenose Ale* 84 To victory we steered, And o'er the vanquished Varsity Our flag triumphant reared. 1872 H. Kingsley *Hornby Mills*, etc. II. 66, I have such faith in the old University (never use that horrid word 'varsity, my lad; don't vulgarise the old place). 1888 Quiller-Couch in *Lichens fr. the Oxford Mag.* (1890) 105 We'll dance at the 'Varsity Ball.

Varso·vian, *a.* [f. med.L. *Varsovia* Warsaw, or ad. F. *Varsovien.*] Belonging to Warsaw.

1900 Seton Merriman *Vultures* v, There is in some Varsovian families a heritage of mourning to be worn until Poland is reinstated.

Varsovia·na. [var. of next, after It. or L. forms.] = next.

1860 *Cornh. Mag.* II. 332 Dances, from the dexterous hornpipe to the quiet Varsoviana. 1894 Black *Highl. Cousins* I. 38 Miss Jessie, do you know the Varsoviana?

‖ **Varsovienne.** [F., fem. of *Varsovien*, f. *Varsovie* Warsaw.] A dance, app. of French origin, resembling some of the Polish national dances.

1859 *Habits Gd. Society* v. 214 The schottische, hop-waltz, redowa, varsovienne,..and so forth, have had their day.

Varstay, Sc. variant of Warestall *Obs.*

Var h, southern dial. variant of Farth.

Va·rtiwell. *dial.* Also 8 **vartuale.** [ad. OF. *vertevelle*: see Vardle and Varvel.] (See later quots.)

1763 in Peacock *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (1889) 593 Crookes and vartuales and bands, 1s. 8d. 1866 Brogden *Linc. Gloss.*, *Vartiwells*, a part of a hinge to a gate. 1877 Peacock *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 265 *Vartiwell*, the eye of a gate in which the crook works.

‖ **Varus**[1] (vē·rŭs). *Path.* [L. *vārus* knock-kneed.] A physical deformity in which the foot is turned inwards.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 192 It may be granted too, that he has cured by this instrument, some deformity that he calls varus, or valgus. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 349/1 The astragalus sometimes projects in front, and lower than in the varus. 1854 in T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (1884) II. 339 In inveterate varus the treatment might well be commenced..by ablation of the os cuboides.

‖ **Varus**[2] (vē·rŭs). *Path.* [L. *varus* pimple.] a. Stone-pock. b. A papule (of small-pox).

1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 358 There is less inflammation and soreness than in the simple varus. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII 755/1 The vaccine pustule runs a given course of varus and of vesicle, terminating by a concretion which forms the crust.

Varvacite, variant of Varvicite.

Varvel (vā·ɹvĕl). Forms: *a.* 6 **vervall, veruel, vervile,** 7 (9) **vervel,** 7 **-vell, vervail(e, vervil.** *β.* 7 **varuel(l, varvill,** 8– **varvel.** [a. OF. *vervelle* (1350), *verviele, varvele*, etc. (F. *vervelle*) in the same sense (in OF. also a ring for a bolt or hinge: see Vardle), app. a reduced form of *vertvelle, vertevelle* Vartiwell, repr. a pop.Lat. derivative of L. *vertibulum* joint.] A metal ring (freq. of silver with the owner's name engraved on it) attached to the end of a hawk's jess and serving to connect this with the leash.

a. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 674 Praying you to tell Mr. Porter his vervailes [*printed* vervalles] may be in good ordre, as also his hawkes. 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c 12 Haukes hauinge vpon..them the marke of the kinges armes and veruels. 1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie, Commend. Hawking* Bij b, With Belles, and Bewets, Veruels eke, to make the Falcon fine. 1615 Armin *Val. Welshm.* (1663) 11ij, Proud Welshman, redeliver up that Bird... The Vervels that she wears belongs to Rome. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 977/4 A Soare Faulcon with the Vervailes of Sir William Godbold of Gillingham. 1697 Evelyn *Numismata* v. 186 Branded with the names..(as do now our Falkners..on the Vervils of their Hawks and Dog-Collars). [1892 G. Lambert *Gold & Silversmiths Art* 49 The vervels (silver rings for the legs of hawks) on which the name of the owner was engraved.]

β. 1615 Latham *Falconry, Words explained*, Pp, Iesses, are those short straps of leather,..fastned to the Hawks legs, etc. and so to the leese by varuels, anlets, or such like. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 233 Their Lures, Jesses, Varvills, and Hoods, are richly set with stones of great price and lustre. 1672 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 623/4 A Falcon lost..with the Kings Varvels upon her Gesses. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 943, I would give my merlin's best crimson jesses and varvels of silver to dip but my fingers' ends in that dimpling pool. 1894 *Daily News* 8 June 8/5 Hawks' varvels, lent by Lord Dillon.

Hence **Va·rvelled** *a.* (In later use *Her.*)

1644 T. Westfield in Spurgeon *Treas. David* Ps. xxxvii. 36–7 The hawk flies high..vervelled with the gingling bells of encouragement. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., When the leather thongs..are borne flotant, with rings at the ends...it is then termed jessed..and varvelled.

Varvicite (vā·ɹvĭsăit). *Min.* [f. med.L. *Varvicia* Warwickshire: see -ite. Named by Phillips (1829).] 'An impure pyrolusite or wad, resulting from the alteration of manganite' (Chester).

1809 R. Phillips in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. II. VI. 280 What you examined was principally manganite, while the mineral which I analysed was the new oxide, and which, should you agree with me as to its composition, I propose to call Varvicite. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 381/2 Varvicite occurs massive and in pseudo-crystals. Composed of thin plates and fibres. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.*, *Varvicite*, a manganese-ore from Warwickshire.

Varvin, obs. form of Vervain.

Vary, *sb.* Also 7 varie, 8 varry. [f. Vary *v.*] A variation; † a hesitation or vacillation.

1600 E. B. in *Engl. Helicon* B iv b, When the sunshine which dissolv'd the snow Culloured the bubble with a pleasant vary. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. ii. 85 (Q.), And turne their halcion beakes With euery gale and varie of their maisters. 1739 Alex. Nicol *Nat. without Art* 80 I'm at a varry Whether to keep free, or marry.

† **Vary**, *a. Obs.* In 4, 6 varye. [ad. L. *vari-us*: see Various *a.*] Particoloured, variegated.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxi. 10 Y..sawȝ in sleep the malis.. varye, and spotti, and of dyuers colours. *Ibid.* 12. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 207 Varye, *varius*.

Vary (vē·ri), *v.* Forms: 4–7 varie, 5–6 varye (5 varyen, -yn), 5–vary (5–6 *Sc.* wary); 6 varrie, varry, varrey. [ad. OF. (also mod. F.) *varier*, or L. *variāre*, f. *vari-us* Various *a.* Cf. Sp. and Pg. *variar*, It. *variare*.]

I. *intr.* **1.** Of things: To undergo change or alteration; to pass from one condition, state, etc., to another, esp. with frequent or ready change or difference within certain limits.

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 802 For al my werkes were flyttyng That tyme, and al my thought varyeng. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 1725, I not what doth enclyne ȝoure worþin·s sodeinly to varie. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 116 For they [*sc.* the vines] from fruit to bareyneesse wol vary When they be sette. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* iv. 9 The stait of man dois change & vary, Now sound, now seik, now blyth, now sary. 1608 Shaks. *Pericles* III. Prol. 47 Their vessel shakes On Neptune's billow;..but fortune's mood Varies again. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* IV. v. i. (1903) 461 The first howre after the Sunne is sett, strikes one, the Noone or midday varyeth daily as the Sunne doth his setting. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 436 We met with black dismal weather, with tempestuous winds, varying all around the Compass. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* vi, La Motte's complexion varied to every sentence of his speech. 1828 Duppa *Trav. Italy*, etc. 21 The view [along this road] is constantly varying. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* i. 7 When the organisation has once begun to vary, it generally continues to vary for many generations. 1880 Geikie *Phys. Geog.* ii. 46 The quantity of water-vapour in the air varies from day to day, and, indeed, from hour to hour.

b. Const. *from* or *between* (specified limits).

1828 Duppa *Trav. Italy*, etc. 128 During this week the thermometer varied only from 60° to 62° of Fahrenheit. 1843 Sir C. Scudamore *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 31 The very large number of patients on his list, varying from two to five hundred. 1858 H. Rogers *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 380 Men's Gods have varied between the infinite Creator and a monkey.

c. To break *off* by change.

1881 Tylor *Anthropol.* i. (1904) 10 No other explanation is possible but that an ancient parent language gave rise to them all, they having only varied off from it in different directions.

2. To differ, to exhibit or present divergence, *from* something else.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6213 For varie her wordis fro her deede They thenke on gile without dreede. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* Prol. 2 And certaynly our langage now vsed varyeth ferre from that whiche was vsed and spoken whan I was borne. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 56 b, An other particion may be made betweene parceners, that varieth from the particions aforesayde. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. vii. (1622) 231 That that bird [the Phœnix]..differeth in the beake, and varieth of feathers from other birds. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XIX. lxxxix, Those feigned armes he forst me to deuize, So that from yours but small or nought they varrie [*prime* carrie]. 1823 H. J. Brooke *Introd. Crystallogr.* 189 Other oblique rhombic prisms, varying from the primary. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 2104 Rebate planes vary from bench planes in having no tote or handle [etc.]. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 96/1 This edition varies very little from its predecessor published in 1887.

b. Without const.

1530 Palsgr. 765/1, I dare promesse you our bookes vary nat. 1564 Day tr. *P. Martyr's Comm. lib. Judges* 175 Yet was not god chaunged, but the condicion of men varyed. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. 182 Howsoeuer mens opinions doe otherwise varie, neuerthelesse touching Baptisme.. we may with consent of the whole Christian world conclude [etc.]. 1822 Bible 1 *Esdr.* v. 9 *marg.*, Nehem. 7. 9, where..looke for the true numbers;..here they vary much. 1825 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 17 This bird is said to vary very much, and Marcgrave mentions one which had the wing-coverts plain brown. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 8 The specific gravity of wood has been observed to vary in the same variety;..it is not even the same in different parts of the same tree. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron* § 22 The first thing which strikes us when we look at the stars is, that they vary very much in brightness.

c. *ellipt.* To deviate from the true North.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. vi. 67 The upper Compass doth represent the true Compass that never varieth, whereby you have a most necessary Instrument to rectifie the Compass.

3. Of persons: To differ, diverge, or depart, in respect of practice or observance (*from* some standard). Also const. † *of*.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 301 Þe secte of macamethe takiþ meche of cristis secte, but it variþ in som rewele & in clopis. — *Sel. Wks.* III. 345 Þes newe ordris..varien in Goddis office fro þat þat Crist had his prestis do. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 899 And who so seyth of trouthe I varye Bid hym proven the contrarye. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiii. 60 In many poyntes þal vary fra vs and fra oure faith. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 131 Suche folke whiche..Dare to theyr wyfes be nat contrarye, Ne from theyr lustes dare not varye. 1533 J. Heywood *Pardoner & Friar* A j, Knyfe nor staffe may we none cary, Except we shulde from the gospell vary. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 227 He was forced..to lyue in a straunge lande among people that..varyed from his maners. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* A 4 b, I hope I haue hit of his meaning, though I vary from his wordes, as all Translators must doe. 1680 W. Allen *Peace & Unity* 91 In varying from these [appointments] was the sin of those Men. 1713 M. Henry *Ord. Serm.*, Wks. 1857 II. 498/2 As God never varies from himself, so he never wavers in himself. 1723 Chambers tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 9 Scamozzi is the only Author who varies from the rule. 1809 Roland *Fencing* 123 Many persons..are very apt, when parrying carte and tierce, to vary from the usual parades made upon this occasion.

† **b.** To be deprived *of* something. *Obs.*—1

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. ii. (Skeat) I. 194, I shal him enfourme of al the trouthe in thy love, with thy conscience; so that of his helpe thou shalt not varye at thy nede.

† **c.** To depart from the truth. *Obs.*—1

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 131 But my foode and my cherisshynge, To telle plainly and not to varye, Is of suche folke.

d. *Sc.* To wander in mind; to rave. ? *Obs.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxi. 12 This is ane felloun phary, Or ellis my witt rycht woundrouslie dois varie. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 101 My febill wit I wary, My desie heid quhome laik of brane gart vary. ? *a* 1550 *Droichis Part Play* in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 314 Bot ȝit I trow that I vary, I am bot ane lilyud Hary, That lang hes bene with the fary. 1825 Jamieson, *To vary, vairie*, applied to one who exhibits the first symptoms of *delirium*, as the effect of bodily disorder; as, 'I observed him vairyin' the day,' Ettr. For[est].

† **4.** To differ in respect of statement; to give a different or divergent account. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 425 Here take heed þat auctors varieþ, for William seiþ.., but Marianus and Beda telleþ [etc.]. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 187 Nat purposyng to moche for to varie, Nor for to be dyuerse nor contrarie Vn to Guydo. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 207 And scho answerd..and tolde hym all þyng, and varyet yn no poynt. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* v. (1533) 33 b, Of the firste commyng of these Saxons into great Britayn, authours in party varrey. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 175/1, I wil beleue him muche better than hym..if thei varyed in a tale and were contrary. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 477 We will..adde thereunto [the account of] Oppianus: for he doth vary in both of them.

b. Const. *from* (another or each other). In later use, to depart *from* an author by some change of statement.

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* II. (1811) 89 The wryters of the Story..wryten dyuersly, so that the one varyeth greatly from the other. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 116/2 William Malmes. wryting of this Vortimer..varyeth in a maner altogither from Geffrey of Monmouth. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 315, I have in..other places varied somewhat from him. 1700 Dryden *Pref. Fables* Poet. Wks. (1910) 275, I durst not make thus bold with Ovid; lest some future Milbourn should arise, and say, I varied from my Author, because I understood him not. 1826 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 256 Later writers, therefore, found it expedient to vary from him in describing the catastrophe.

† **5.** To differ in opinion, to disagree (*about*, *for*, *in*, or *of* something); to dissent *from* another. *Obs.*

? 1428 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 13 Yf the said parsons, wardeyns & iiij parishens of the said Chirch..varye of their said chosyng of the same preest..& can nat accorde. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 28 Remembre wele on olde January,..and how Justyne did vary Fro placebo. 1516 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 108 The said parties haue varied also in the namyng of Auditours for heryng and takyng of accomptes. 1527 Gardiner *Let. Wolsey* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. 71 At these words the Popes Ho. casting his armes abrode, bad us put in the words we varyed for. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* A iiij, Where about men presently so greatly strive and varie. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 68 Which sound, whether it proceedeth from the mouth, or from the motion of their winges: Aristotle and Hesychius do much vary and contend. 1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 55 Give mee leave to vary from so learned an Author, and diligent observer.

† **b.** To disagree seriously, to discord or quarrel; to fall at variance. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 118 Per was ij brether þat dwelte samen many yeris, & þai varid neuer nor neuer was wrothe. *c* 1500 *Communycacyon* (W. de W.) C j, And yf thou be a lyl tell dyspleased Thou cursed & varyest bothe nyght & daye. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. ccx. [ccvi] 650 They never varyed nor their people togyuyder, therfore they reigned in great puissaunce. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 350 Men fell out among themselues. Wherefore, how, when, and vpon what occasion they varied, I am now about to declare.

† **c.** To quarrel or be at strife *with*, to contend *against*, another. *Obs.*

1496 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 581 That no maner persone..vexe, trouble, as-saute nor varie with eny his Neighbours. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. cxcv. [cxci] 598 If euer Flaunders and Brabant shulde vary agaynst the crowne of Fraunce. *a* 1529 Skelton *Dk. Albany* 342 If our moost royall Harry Lynt with you to varry, Full soone ye should miscary. 1589 *Mirr. Mag., Jas. I, Scot.* vii, We wer driuen to the English coast, Which realme with Skotland at that time did vary.

† **d.** *spec.* In University use: (see quot. 1749).

1682 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 490 July 8, Th., Mr. [John] Conant varied, A great entertainment in the gallery. 1685 their turns, every Year about the Act Time, or at least before the 21st Day of August, to vary,..i. e. to perform some publick Exercise in the Common-Hall, the Variator opposing Aristotle, in three Latin Speeches.

6. † **a.** To be uncertain; to hesitate. *Obs.*—1

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* (1913) 53 Thus in varyeng in this doubte she approched the loggyse.

b. To change or alter in respect of conduct. † Also with inf.

1482 Caxton *Godfrey* lxxix. (chapter heading), How the duc that was at Rages varyed for to holde this that he had promysed to Bawdwyn. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxviii. 378 All they of his counsaile coude not make hym to vary fro that pourpose. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxi. viii, As for me, resolv'd to tary In my trust, and not to vary, I will heape thy praise with praise. 1780 J. Moore *View Soc. Fr.* I. i, Our young friend seemed confirmed in his resolutions and gave me fresh assurances..that he never would vary.

c. To move in different ways or directions.

1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 516 As when a Ship..Vexe oft, as oft so steers, and shifts her Saile; So varied hee.

7. † **a.** To be inconsistent in one's statements; to introduce a difference or discrepancy.

1557 Seager *Sch. Virtue* 506 in *Babees Bk.*, See here he [*sc.* Aristotle] doth vary. Refuse not his councell, Nor his wordes dispise. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 139 They had alledged..that the byshop Clement varied in his sentence, and had declared to the Frenche king in priuate talke, what he thought. 1637 Prynne *Documents* (Camden) 79 For drawing wittnesses to varie from their former depositions. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 329 She is examined hereupon, and varies in her first answer, being pressed further she acknowledgeth it in her second. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *To Vary*,..to falter in one's Answers; to disagree with, or differ from one's self.

b. *Law.* To make a departure in pleading.

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* ii. § 121. 54 The plaintiffe shall take nothing by his writ, because he cannot varie from the place dated in the obligation.

II. *trans.* **8.** To cause to change or alter; to introduce changes or alterations into (something); in later use freq., to adapt to certain circumstances or requirements by appropriate modifications.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 200 We han, ludus, of ȝour lif listned ful ofte, þat michil ben ȝour manerus from oþur men varied. 1382 Wyclif *Eccles.* xxxviii. 28 Whyche grauede grauen broochis, and the bysyneese of hym varieth the peynture. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xxiv (W. de W. 1495) 73 Hote ayre and colde and drye and temperate varye and chaunge the pulse. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hor.* (Dallaway) p. lxxxvii, The bordir of thyn cros is varlet as wall from the colours of the cros as fro the colours of the felde. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 118 Shall we varie our deuice at will, Euen as new occasion appeares? 1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 250 The name of Vigniers..is the same with Vicarij, both but varying the word *Vicecomes*. 1633 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 227 Your rules being varied according to art and discretion. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 595 But thou, the more he varies Forms, beware To strain his Fetters with a stricter Care. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 331 They had not varied their course in the dark. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* I. i. 150 Words..we can twist and vary as we please. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* I. i. § 2 (1819) 4 Nor can I perceive that it varies at all the inference. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. v, He had never varied his ground an inch. 1891 *Act* 54 & 55 *Vict.* c. 66 § 16 The court, after such notice,..may vary such order in such manner..as it may think fit.

† **b.** To change the form of (a word) grammatically. *Obs.*

1648 Gage *West Ind.* 214 So likewise are varied or declined *Abix*, signifying a plantation, *Acal* earth.

c. To dispose, obtain, occupy, in a manner characterized by variety or variation.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 609 The setting Sun survey, ..If dusky Spots are vary'd on his Brow [etc.]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 59 We varied our depths from fifty to eighty fathom. 1788 Johnson *Idler* No. 7 P 9 To vary a whole week with joy, anxiety, and conjecture.

† **9.** To express in different words. *Obs.*

1580 G. Harvey in *Spenser's Wks.* (1912) 646, I gaue him this Theame out of Ouid, to translate, and varie after his best fashion. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 294 *Clo.* This was no Damosell neyther sir, shee was a Virgin. *Fer.* It is so varried to, for it was proclaimed Virgin. 1599 — *Hen. V* III. vii. 35 The man hath no wit, that cannot..varie deserued prayse on my Palfray. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 184 Let your ceasless change Varie to our great Maker still new praise. 1682 Flavel *Fear* 8 They are at their wits end,..or as it is varied in the margin all wisdom is swallowed up.

absol. 1583 Lyly in T. Watson *Poems* (Arb.) 30 In that so aptly you haue varied vppon women,..confesse I must [etc.].

† **10.** To set at variance. *Obs.*—1

1795 Burke *Corr.* Wks. 1842 II. 240 When his Grace.. brought out the vapid stuff, which had varied the clubs and disgusted the courts.

Vary, obs. Sc. form of Wary *v.* (curse).

Varying (vēə·riiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vary *v.*] The action of the verb, in various senses.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm. Sel.* Wks. I. 241 Here telliþ Crist to his Chirche how þer wille shulde be temprid for variynge of þer heed after his resurreccioun. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9501 For that ye this othre day Supposed in me such varyng Whan it was told you of my wedding. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlviii. 218 (Add. MS.), I chaunge to the t.. to do away the variynges. 1530 Palsgr. 264/1 Veryeng, *c*——yng, *muance*. 1533 J. Heywood *Johan* B j b, I gyue you good leue To chaunge her for her shreude varyeng. 1620 Berkeley *Lud. Lit.* 244 The Nouns haue so little varying or turning in them. 1698 T. Spencer *Logick* 48 Since (saith the Apostle..) Is a varying from the Law. *a* 1698 Manl. or Halifax *Wks.* (1912) 211 Neither King nor People would now like just the original Constitution, without any variation. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 237 The varying of proper

names, may be owing to the *fancy* of some Author..[who] ordered them to be distinguished by different characters from the Text. 1825 CARLYLE *Schiller* II. (1845) 97 Those careless felicities, those varyings from high to low. 1829

1901 WRENCH *Winches*
done up to books. (obs.)

Varying (vē·riiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That varies, in senses of the verb; tending to vary or change. † Also const. *from*.

c 1390 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1423 Þe life of þis world es ful unstable, And ful variand and chaungeable. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xcviii. (Bodl. MS.), Þe apple tre is rounde diuers and varying fro oþer trees of wodes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4637 Of all þe frutis on þe fold we fange at oure will, Bath venyson & volatile & variand fisches. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Paddock & Mouse* x, With mynd Inconstant, fals, and variand, Full of desait. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlviii. 1 Quhen Merche wes with variand windis past. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxvii. 48 Gif scho steidfast stand, And be not variand, I am at hir command. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 170 He..with his varying child-nesse, cures in me Thoughts, that would thick my blood. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. agst. Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 57, I strive in vain the varying crimes to trace, Of this salacious and destructive race. 1751 GRAY *Spring* 37 In fortune's varying colours dreat. 1798 S. & HY. LEE *Canterb. T.* II. 114 With a varying complexion, and timid air, [he] enquired for her mother. 1823 SHELLEY *Alastor* 96 That scene of ampler majesty Than gems or gold, the varying roof of heaven. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 168 The varying amounts..excreted during equal periods by different persons. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 5. 509 The struggle..went on throughout his reign with varying success.

b. *spec.* in *Path.*

1829 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 476 Varying squint and ptosis are very common during the irritative and pressure stages.

† 2. Varied in colour; variegated. *Obs.*

1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 85 A cousing of variand purpir tartar browdin with thrisillis and a vnicorne. *Ibid.* 163 Thre elne and dimid. of varyande tartar.

3. *Varying hare*, a species of hare, inhabiting northern or elevated regions, the fur of which turns white in winter; the Alpine, blue, or mountain hare.

The American varying hare (*Lepus Americanus*) is a variety of the Polar hare (*L. glacialis*).

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 370 Varying Hare. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.* s.v. *Hare*, The varying Hare, *Lepus variabilis*, turns white in the Winter. 1849 *Sh. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 158 The Alpine or varying hare inhabits certain districts of our island, namely, the northern parts of Scotland. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 476/2 In those parts where the common hare does not occur, its place is taken by the varying or mountain hare (*Lepus variabilis*).

Hence **Va·ryingly** *adv.*

c 1880 GLADSTONE *Farew. Addr., Edinb. Univ.* 19 In modes, and in degrees, varyingly perceptible to us. 1880 F. T. PALGRAVE in Grosart *Spenser's Wks.* IV. p. xxxv, Spenser sees life..through more than one veil, always, though varyingly, conventional in character.

Varyte, obs. form of VERITY.

‖ Vas (væs). Pl. **vasa** (vē·să). [L. *vās* (pl. *vāsa*), vessel.]

1. a. *Anat.* A hollow organ serving for the conveyance of a liquid in the body.

Commonly in specific applications with Latin epithet, as *vas breve, deferens, vasa brevia, deferentia*, etc., or used ellipt. for one or other of these.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 274 Exhausting the stock of aliment from the *vasa* and *viscera*. 1900 R. HARRISON in *Lancet* 14 July 96/2, I divided both his vasa in the usual way. *Ibid.* 97/2 Vasectomy or torsion of the vas for hypertrophy.

b. *Bot.* (See quots.)

Commonly with Latin epithet, as *vasa fibrosa*, etc.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 148/2 *Vasa* (vessels),..a term applied to several of the tissues of plants. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1/1 *Vasa*, the tubes which occur in the interior of plants, serve for the conveyance of sap or air.

† 2. A vase. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. next.)

1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* (1699) 43 Brass Statues and *Vasa*, and a 100 other things relating to Antiquity. *Ibid.* 45 Urns and Funeral *Vasa* of all Materials.

† Vasa[1]. *Obs.* [Chiefly in the plural forms *vasa's, vasas*, f. L. *vāsa* pl. (see prec. 2); hence irregularly *vasa* as sing.] A vase.

1651 EVELYN *Char. Eng.* (1659) 36 One of their Spurs engaged in a Carpet.., drew all to the ground, brake the Glass & the Vasa in pieces. 1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 188 Here also were great *Vasa's* of Trelliage upon Pedestals. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* Pref. b 1/b, Busts, Obeliaks, Columns, Inscriptions, Dials, Vasa's, Perspectives. *a* 1700 — *Diary* 14 Nov. 1643, A vasa of onyx. *Ibid.* 29 Nov. 1644, An antiq vasa of marble neare 6 foote high.

Vasa[2] (vē·să, vē·za). Also **vasa**. [Malagasy *vasa*.] One or other of several Madagascar parrots belonging to the genus *Coracopsis*. Usu. *attrib.*

1821 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 328 Vasa Parrot. *Ibid.* 329 Smaller Vasa Parrot. *Ibid.*, The Smaller Vasa measures about fourteen inches in length. 1904 *Times* 30 Jan. 10/2 The collection of foreign birds,..among others of..macaws, a black vasa parrot, and a hoopoe.

Vasal (vē·[1]săl), *a.* [f. L. *vās* VAS.] Connected with one or other of the *vasa* of the body.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 493 Auspitz concluded that the wheal is produced by a reflex irritation from sensory to vasal nerves.

† Vascay, ? erron. variant of VASQUINE.

1609 MARKHAM *Famous Whore* (1868) 22 Perfumed gloues, gownes, kirtles, vascaies, muffes.

Vascular (væ·skiŭlă[1]), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *vāsculār-is*, f. L. *vāscul-um*, dim. of *vās* VAS. So F. *vasculaire*, It. *vascolare*, Sp. and Pg. *vascular*.]

1. *Bot.* Of fibres, tissue, etc.: Having the form of tubular vessels; consisting of continuous tubes of simple membrane.

1672–3 GREW *Anat. Pl., Anat. Roots* (1682) 69 The Vascular Rays are not equally extended in all Roots. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 256 The solids are all vascular, and consist of elastic fibres. 1792 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. 1. 1. iii. 32 The vascular fibres of the bark. 1827 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 68 The membranous tissue of the plant, whether cellular or vascular, is uniformly colourless. 1847 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* (1857) 31 Its mass of soft cellular tissue is strengthened all round by internal buttresses of dense vascular fibre. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn Life* ii. 32 Plants existed at that time having true woody or vascular tissues.

b. Of structure: Characterized by the prevalence of tubular vessels.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vegetable*, The vascular Structure of Vegetables, is render'd very apparent, by an Experiment of MR. Willoughby. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 13 From preceding writers we had learned the general tubular or vascular structure of the vegetable body. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 9 Endogens are flowering plants with a vascular structure.

c. *Vascular system*, the aggregate of tubular vessels in a plant.

1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 60 The alburnum is the great vascular system of the vegetable through which the sap rises. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 59 In both cases there is a cellular and vascular system distinct from each other. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1205/1 *Vascular system*, all that part of the interior structure of a plant into whose composition spiral vessels or their modifications enter.

d. Of plants: Having a vascular structure.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. p. xiv, All plants that bear flowers have spiral vessels, and are therefore Vascular. 1849 MURCHISON *Silluria* xii. 287 The great mass of the plants belong to the vascular cryptogamic class. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 67 The lowest orders of Vascular Plants, like the true Mosses, are comparatively insignificant in appearance.

2. *Anat.* or *Phys.* Having the character or properties of a conveying vessel or vessels.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., All the Flesh in an animal Body is found to be Vascular, none of it Parenchymous. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 2 The several parts of its body being, at some time of its existence, vascular. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xi. (ed. 2) 209 It [the spleen] must be vascular, and admit of a circulation through it, in order to be kept alive, or be part of a living body. 1835 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 126/1 The vascular is another tissue extensively distributed among animals. 1880 BEALE *Slight Ailments* 85 If we could see the mucous membrane in .. cases of indigestion we should no doubt find it unduly vascular.

fig. 1838 EMERSON *Address, Lit. Ethics* Wks (Bohn) II. 209 An able man is nothing else than a good, free, vascular organization, whereinto the universal spirit freely flows. 1847 — *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Ibid. I. 344 Cut these words, and they would bleed; they are vascular and alive.

b. *Vascular system*: (see quot. 1876).

1725 ROBINSON *Phys. & Dis.* 255 The Air..obliges the whole vascular System of the Solids to redouble their Contractions. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 215 To restore the energy and lost tone of the vascular system. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 485 The vascular system comprises the heart, arteries, veins, and capillaries; the lymphatic glands and vessels, together with certain ductless glands; and the blood with its tributary fluids.

c. Affecting the vascular system or tissue.

1869 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* II. v. (1872) I. 236 The vascular excitement, caused by emotion. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVIII. 206 The first stage of alcoholic action is vascular excitement rapidly followed by exhaustion.

Vascula·rity. [f. VASCULAR *a.* + -ITY.] Vascular form or condition.

1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 209 The great vascularity of a muscle is..for the purpose of repairing the waste in the muscular fibres, occasioned by their action. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosologia* 321 The great vascularity and irritability of the skin at that period of life. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. iv. 146 The quantity of blood a leech is capable of drawing varies..according to the vascularity of the part. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 690 In the cords some evidences of increased vascularity were visible in the grey matter.

Vascularisa·tion. [f. as next + -ATION.] Conversion to a vascular condition.

1818 COOPER & TRAVERS *Surg. Ess.* I. (ed. 3) 79 Several lumps of lymph effused in the anterior chamber, are undergoing vascularization. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 101/1 Ascertaining the fact of vascularization of scirrhous coagula. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 195 Likewise inflammation or disease of cartilage may be followed by vascularisation and ossification.

Vascularise (væ·skiŭlărəiz), *v.* [f. VASCULAR *a.* + -IZE. Cf. next.] *trans.* To render vascular.

1893 A. S. ECCLES *Sciatica* 47 To increase the surface-temperature and thoroughly vascularise the skin and superficial tissues. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 3 The terminal tubes being vascularised by the pulmonary artery.

Va·scularised, *ppl. a.* [Cf. prec.] Rendered vascular; converted into a vascular form.

1858 J. H. BENNET *Nutrition* i. 10 [The] mucous membrane of the stomach..becomes highly vascularised. 1874 JONES & SIEVEKING *Path. Anat.* 17 The occurrence of a vascularised coagulum in a tuberculous cavity in the lungs. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 489 The growth consisted of small cells, and was highly vascularised.

Va·scularly, *adv.* [f. VASCULAR *a.*] In a vascular manner.

1850 *Nature* 26 June 215/2 Multiple buds, one springing from another and being vascularly connected therewith. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug 3/1 When it has become vascularly attached to the tissues around the area.

Va·sculated, *ppl. a.* [f. L. *vāscul-um* VASCULUM.] Provided with small vessels.

1744 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 187 The Wings are finely vasculated, and the Pod is lined with fine silky Down.

Vasculе, Anglicized form of VASCULUM.

1859 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1322/2

Vasculi·ferous, *a.* [f. L. *vāsculi-*, combining form of *vāsculum*, + -FEROUS.] (See quots.)

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vasculiferous Plants*, are according to the Botanists, such as have besides the common Calyx or Flower Cup, a peculiar Vessel or Case to contain their Seed. 1731 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v., Vasculiferous Plants are such whose Seeds are contain'd in Vessels which are sometimes divided into Cells.

Va·sculiform, *a.* [f. as prec. + -FORM.] Having the shape of a small vase.

1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 120 Cup vasculiform, margin erect or incurved.

Va·sculose, *sb.* [f. VASCUL-AR *a.* + -OSE[2].] The principal constituent of the vascular tissue in plants.

1883 *Science* I. 80/1 Vasculose is not easily soluble in concentrated sulphuric acid. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot* (1892) 35 *note*, Vasculose increases in amount with the density of the wood. The pith contains..vasculose 25 per cent.

Vasculo·se, *a. rare.* [-OSE[1].] = VASCULAR *a.*

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1209 *Vasculose*, containing spiral vessels or their modifications.

Va·sculous, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *vāscul-um*: see next.] = VASCULAR *a.* 2.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vesicula*, The first [membrane] whereof is Vasculous; the second Muscular; and the third Glandulous.

‖ Vasculum (væ·skiŭlŏm). [L., dim. of *vās* vessel.]

1. *Bot.* = ASCIDIUM 2.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 96 The singular form of leaf in Sarracenia and Nepenthes, which has been called *Ascidium* or *Vasculum*. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Vasculum*,..the cup which terminates the leaves of the Nepenthes; a vascule.

2. A special kind of case used by botanists for carrying newly-collected specimens.

Usually made of tin in the form of a flattened cylinder, with a lid on one side opening lengthways.

1844 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 82 The botanists having stored each their vasculum with specimens of the Rubi, the party again united. 1877 SIR C. W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. 14 Various implements such as .. botanical vasculums. 1887 J. BALL *Nat. in S. Amer.* 128, I shouldered my tin vasculum and went ashore.

Vase (vāz). Also 6 **vasse**, 7 **vause**, **vaze**. [a. F. *vase* (= It., Sp., Pg. *vaso*), ad. L. *vās* vessel: see VAS and VASA[1].

The earlier pronunciations (vɑ·z) and (vē·z) are still current in America; the former of these is indicated by the rimes in the following passages. Another variant (vǫz) has still some currency in England.

1731 SWIFT *Strephon & Chloe* 191 [*rime* face]. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VI. xcvii. [*rimes* place, grace]. 1847 EMERSON *Poems* Wks (Bohn) I. 425 Cut a bough from my parent stem, And dip it in thy porcelain vase [*rime* grace]. 1857 WHITTIER *Shipper Ireson's Ride* 26 Girls..such as chase Bacchus round some antique vase. *c* 1860 LOWELL *Ambrose* x, The water unchanged, in every case, Shall put on the figure of the vase.]

1. *Arch.* † a. = BELL *sb.*[1] 6 a. *Obs.*

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* D iiij, The Abacus, the which lieth on the vasse or basket, that was founde on the maydens tombe in Corinthe. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 33/2 The bell or vase, the breadth of which at the bottom must be..that of the top of the Shaft..; and the breadth of the top of the vase must be equal to..the bottom of the shaft. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Bell*, In this sense, *bell* is the same with what is otherwise called *vase* and *tambour*.

b. An ornament having the form of a vase (see sense 2).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vase*,..in Architecture, an Ornament above the Cornice. 1731 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vases* ..are ornaments placed on cornices, socles, or pedestals, representing such vessels as the antients used in sacrifices, as incense-pots, &c., often inriched with Basso Relievo's.

2. A vessel, usually of an ornamental character, commonly of a circular section and made either of earthenware or metal, but varying greatly in actual form and use.

1629 in A. Michaelis *Anc. Marb. Gt. Brit.* (1882) 203, I desire you woulde presently..knowe what Sir Tho. Roe hath brought of antiquities, Goddes, vases, inscriptions, medalles, or such like. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. II. 288 The Chamberlain..puts the names of all the Cardinals ..into a Vase. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 207 No chargers then were wrought in burnish'd gold, Nor silver vases took the forming mold. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. (1787) III. 240 Many a vase, in the division of the spoil, was shivered into fragments by the stroke of a battle-axe. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. 92 A tribute of fresh culled flowers, which are afterwards arranged in vases. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 292 Seven Silver Vases, of the value of Six Guineas each, will also be awarded, instead of money prizes. 1898 G. B. SHAW *You never can tell* Plays II. 274 The vases on pillar pedestals of veined marble with bases of black polished wood.

fig. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* iv, Break, thou deep vase of chilling tears, That grief hath shaken into frost!

b. (See quot.) *rare*[−0].

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Goldsmiths, Pewterers, &c. also use *Vase* for the middle of a Church Candlestick; which is usually of a roundish Figure, bordering somewhat on that of a Vase. [Hence in Bailey.]

c. A calyx or other growth resembling a ——

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Vase* is also sometimes used among Florists, for what they otherwise call the Calyx. [Hence in Bailey, etc.] *a* 1811 LEYDEN *On Spring* Remains (1819) 238 The tulip's vase with dew-pearl sheen And icy crystal gleams afar. 1883 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 15 Graceful stalked vases of the Campanularia appear.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 2), as *vase-carriage, -handle, -like* adj., *-maker, -painter, -painting, -shaped* adj., *-work.*

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 380 *Vase-shaped*, ..formed like a flower-pot. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 96/2 The two winged boys who dip into a vase-like fountain. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 149/2 The numerous names of vase painters. *Ibid.*, The most antient style of vase painting. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* 48 Two curious vase-carrings, one found in Sweden and the other in Mecklenburg. 1870 G. J. CHESTER in *Recov. Jerus.* (1871) 473 Six vase-handles, found ..on a bed of rich earth. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 5/3 The best vase-work in the period 570 to 470 B. C. 1894 S. SMILES *J. Wedgwood* xiv. 157 Where, amongst our potters, could I get a complete Vase-maker?,

Hence **Va·seful, Va·selet.**

1856 R. F. BURTON *Pilgr. El-Medinah* III. 202 A present to the Sakkas, or carriers, ..who distributed a large earthen vaseful in my name to poor pilgrims. 1889 M. M. MACMILLAN *Lett.* (1893) 250, I will present the vaselet to the British Museum. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 June 3/3 A vaseful of Iceland poppies.

Vase·ctomised, *ppl. a.* [Cf. next.] That has had the *vas deferens* removed.

1900 R. HARRISON in *Lancet* 14 July 96/1 There are good reasons for believing that a vasectomised or castrated male is not liable to undergo hypertrophy of the prostate.

Vase·ctomy. *Surg.* [f. L. *vās-* VAS 1 a.] Excision of the *vas deferens* or a portion of this.

1899 R. HARRISON in *Lancet* 5 Aug. 331 Vasectomy and castration in relation to prostatic enlargement.

Vased, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. VASE.] Ornamented or provided with vases.

1806 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) II. 144 The stately yew-hedge walks, and vased and statued terraces.

Vaseline (væ·sĕlīn, -in), *sb.* [Irreg. f. G. *wasser* water + Gr. ἔλαιον oil + -INE.] A soft, greasy substance used as an ointment or lubricant, obtained by evaporating petroleum and passing the residuum through animal charcoal. (Cf. PETROLATUM.)

A proprietary term, introduced by R. A. Chesebrough in 1872.

1874 *Eng. Mech.* 25 Sept. 36 A new petroleum product has been introduced into the trade under the name of vaseline. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 171 Applied vaseline to his head whenever the cap was off. 1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIV. 778 Palm oil and vaseline was sold for lubricating machinery.

Hence **Va·seline** *v. trans.*, to lubricate, rub, or anoint with vaseline.

1891 *Bicycling News* April 117 My machine is all vaselined and put away. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Dec. 2/1 A gentle hand had washed and vaselined and bandaged the..little heels.

Vasifa·ctive, *a. Biol.* [f. L. *vāsi-* VAS.] Producing vessels.

1882 *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Jan. 44 The spindle-shaped cells of vasifactive tissue, showed the same series of changes.

Vasi·ferous, *a. rare*⁻⁰. (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Vasiferous*, that carries a vessel.

Vasiform (vē·zĭfōrm), *a.* [f. L. *vāsi-* VAS + -FORM.]

1. Having the form of a duct or similar conveying vessel; tubular.

a. *Phys.* 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 245/2 The blood [of Cirripeds] ..is propelled by a dorsal vasiform heart. 1839-47 *Ibid.* [II 365/2 The systemic heart first appears in the sessile Tunicaries as a vasiform undivided ventricle. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. v. ii. 261 The secreting glands are..vasiform tortuous tubes. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 98 The more elongated and vasiform heart.

b. *Bot.* 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) 21 Of Pitted Tissue, or Bothrenchyma... Vasiform Tissue, Dotted Ducts. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1205/1 *Vasiform tissue*, ducts, that is tubes having the appearance of spiral vessels and bothrenchyma. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 87 Vasiform elements.

2. Shaped like a vase.

1846 DANA *Zoöph.* (1848) 433, 1. The mode of growth:.. spreading each way from a central pedicel, and concave above (vasiform, or vase shape). 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 212/2 The flowers..form a vasiform tuft.

Vaskene, variant of VASQUINE *Obs.*

Vaso- (vē·zo), combining form, on Gr. types, of L. *vās* VAS, employed in terms of *Phys.* and *Path.* relating to the vascular system or parts of this, as **vaso-cellular** *a.*, **-constriction, -constrictive** *a.*, **-constrictor, -dentinal** *a.*, **-dentine, -dilatation, -dilator, -ganglion, -inhibitory** *a.*, **-motive** *a.*

1847 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 1026/2 *Vaso-cellular structure (of the penis). 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 249 The velocity of the blood flow is increased, whenever the arterial pressure is raised by general *vaso-constriction. 1890 W. JAMES *Princ. Psychol.* I. 97 Slowing and quickening of the heart..are independent of the *vaso-constrictive phenomenon. 1895 ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 271 To obtain the local vasoconstrictive effect on the bleeding vessels. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* 259 Stimulating a number of *vaso-constrictor nerves. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 118 When the vaso-constrictors alone are acting, the process is re-

1. 1852 G. A. MAITLAND *Petrifactions* lii. § 5. 254 The ——*vaso-dentinal tract of the tooth opposed to it below. 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 878 The tubes which convey the capillary vessels through the substance of the osteo- and *vaso-dentine of the teeth of fishes. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 363 Nt —— radiating from the central mass of vasodentine. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 344 When one lower limb was heated, *vaso-dilatation..and sweating were observed in the other lower limb. 1882 *Nature* XXIII. 236 The nerves which act as *vaso-dilators on the mucous membrane of the buccal cavity. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 155 At the bottom of this sac there is a small *vaso-ganglion,..by which the urine is secreted. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 422 Nerves ..which, when stimulated, occasion..the dilatation of arteries —the so-called '*vaso-inhibitory' or 'vaso-dilator' nerves. 1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 47. 390 Excitation of *vaso-motive action.

Vaso-motor, *a.* and *sb. Phys.* [f. prec.]

A. *adj.* 1. Acting upon the walls of the blood-vessels, so as to produce constriction or dilatation of these and thus regulate or affect the flow of blood. Chiefly with *nerve* and *centre.*

(*a*) 1868 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* I. vi. (1870) I. 115 The feelings that go along with discharges into the vaso-motor and sympathetic nerves, are the predominant ones. 1872 HAMMOND *Dis. Nervous Syst.* 63 Certain medicines are causes of cerebral anæmia,..by their action on the vaso-motor nerves. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 42 The muscular tissue of the vascular system..is under the doininance of..the nerves of the vaso-motor system.

(*b*) 1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 47. 390 The vaso-motor centres. 1873 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 355 In large doses lobelia seems to paralyze the vaso-motor centres. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 641 It also excites the vaso-motor centre, and thus leads to rise in the blood-pressure.

2. Affecting the vaso-motor nerves or centres.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 677 The ophthalmoscope ..yielded evidence of arterial relaxation, pointing to slight vaso-motor paralysis. 1881 *Trans. Obstet. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 93 Were the phenomena due to peripheral irritation reflected from the cord in the form of motor and vaso-motor disturbance? 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 195 Marked vaso-motor symptoms, and optic-nerve atrophy.

B. *sb.* A vaso-motor nerve.

1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 47 Marked heat and injection of the ear helices from paralysis of vaso-motor. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 726 Hydrotherapeutic methods,..directed primarily to the cutaneous vaso-motors.

Hence **Vaso-moto·rial** *a.*, **Vaso-moto·rially** *adv.*, **Vaso-mo·tory** *a.*

1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* 145 The vaso-motorial functions of the cervical sympathetic. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 282 The effects of the latter experiment may be explained as a result of vaso-motorial influence. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 28 A considerable number of instances of the purest vasomotory angina. 1901 *Lancet* 8 June 1627/1 The most efficacious way of increasing the urinary flow vaso-motorially.

Va·sotribe. *Surg.* [f. VASO- + Gr. τρίβειν to crush.] An instrument used to arrest hemorrhage.

1903 *Lancet* 30 May 1520/2 Even Kocher's powerful forceps..does not stop the circulation like a vasotribe.

†**Vasquine.** *Sc. Obs.* Also **vaskene, waskyne, wasqwene.** [a. F. *vasquine*, obs. var. *basquine*, ad. Sp. *basquiña*. Cf. HASQUINE.] A petticoat.

1553 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 202 Item, half ane elne blak welwote to bordour ane waskyne of quhite ——

1561 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 132 Of Doublettis, Vaskenis, and Skirtis. Item, ane doublett of blak velvot and the vaskene of the same. 1567 in Hay Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 511 Item to lyne ane vasquine of blak taffatis of the four treid v elle. [1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XXXI, I shall endure her presence without any desire to damage either her curch or vasquine.]

Vassal (væ·săl), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4 **vassale,** 6 **wassale**; 5-7 **vassall** (6 **phassalle,** *Sc.* **wassall**), 5- **vassal** (8 **vasal**); 5 **vayssal, vaysall**; 5 **vasseyll-,** 6-7 **vassaile,** 7 **vassail**(1; 6-7 **vassell,** *Sc.* **wassell-.** [a. OF. *vassal, vasal* (F. *vassal*. = It., Pg. *vassallo*, Sp. *vasallo*):—med.L. *vassall-us* man-servant, domestic, retainer, a word of Celtic origin: the simpler form *vassus* (used in the same senses) corresponds to Old Gaulish *-vassus, vasso-* (in personal names), OBreton *guas* (MBret. *goas*, Bret. *goaz*), W. *gwas*, Ir. *foss* servant, serf. Cf. VAVASOUR.]

1. In the feudal system, one holding lands from a superior on conditions of homage and allegiance; a feudatory; a tenant in fee. Now *Hist.*

13.. *Cœur de L.* 3365 They are doughty vassales, Kynges sones and amyrales. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* lii. 69 The emperour Charlemayne called to hym his goode vassayles. 1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God & New* (1534) I, Joha.. ye xij. pope of y^t^ name..dyd prescribe an othe vnto Otho, in whiche Otho shold acknowlege him self to be ye popes phassalle (as we do now cal it). *a* 1536 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 32 It becummeth ane prince to leive frielie..nocht subiectit to ane vassellis correctione or chastisment. 1602 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Serm. Paules Crosse* 62 The Queene mured vp with her owne vas-alles. 1665 in *Extr. S. P. rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 234 The foreman and Chiefe thereof (*sc.* the jury) being all Tennants and vassalls to the Major and Aldermen. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem. Wks.* 1720 I. 453 The Emperor made an invincible Difficulty, declaring he would never treat with a Vassal of his own. *a* 1761 R. WATSON *Philip III*, IV. (1783) 293 It was enacted, that all their effects should belong to the lords whose vassals they were. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. i. 23 To bask by the huge hearths of those old halls, Carousing with the vassals. 1880 ARLEN *Prov. Poet* 196 Princes having under them as their vassals other chiefs as renowned and valiant as themselves. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 99 All was trusted to the loyalty of William's new-made vassals.

b. Used in addressing persons of this class.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 150 Tell me, vassall, knowest thou not the name of Reynawde, the sone of Aymon? — *Blanchardyn* xxviii. 104 Vassall! vassal! to whom I bane taken in hande that thynge must dere to me in this world. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lx. 223 Wassale, who art thou that hath slayn my brother? 1592 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 125 Presumptuous vassals, are you not asham'd..To trouble and disturbe the King, and Vs? 1822 BYRON *Werner* II. ii. 309 March, vassals! 'tis your leader, and will bring The rear up.

c. In Scottish legal use.

1424 *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1814) II. 107/1 Arnest ourlordis pat in dantrande & skaith of pair vassallis & tenentis deserris till ester to pair landis and superioritesis. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* 407 In respect that they nor none of thame ar nather freehalders, vassallis, subvassallis, bot ar fewaris only. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. King Robt. I*, 28 Gif it sall happen that ouer Lords poynd and distrenzie their vassellis contrare the constitution forsaid. 1689 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 74 The forfaultors of vassells and creditors, who shall be innocent of pair superiors or debitors crymes. 1739 *Morison's Dict. Decis.* (1806) XXXIII. 14507 The vassal is not bound to accept of a new charter, disconform to his former rights. 1763-8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. iii. § 13 A vassal ..may make over his property to a subvassal by a subaltern right. *Ibid.*, The vassal who thus subfeus [etc.]. 1825 R. BELL *Convey. Land* 238 The consent of both superior and vassal must be adhibited by those forms which practice has prescribed. 1853 H. BARCLAY *Digest Law Scot.* 964 Vassal is he who has the right of fee or property—*dominium utile*—distinguished from the right of superiority, or *dominium directum*. 1896 W. K. MORTON *Man. Law Scot.* II. iii. 84 The law held the feu to transmit to heir of vassal, but superior could reject a stranger.

2. *transf.* One who holds, in relation to another, a position similar or comparable to that of a feudal vassal.

1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* 23 b, To bynd theyr Cityes by othe, that they shoulde neyther requyre their hostages agayn,.. nor yet refuse to be their subiectes & vassales for euer. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* (1596) 47 The Lorde of that town and other foure Lords..came vnto Cortez with a good trayne of their vassals and seruitours. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VII. 52 The king of Phœnicia, whose vassal I declare myself to be. 1807 J. ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* II. iii. 148 From the time of their [the Helots] first reduction these vassals, impatient of their servitude, often endeavoured to break their yoke. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* (1839) II. 173 The death of Cyrus is speedily avenged by one of his vassals, Amorges king of the Sacians. 1909 J. STUART *Burma thro. Cent.* iv. 42 The King of Bengal determined to restore the exiled King, and did so, the restored King becoming a vassal of Bengal.

b. *esp.* A humble servant or subordinate; one devoted to the service of another.

c 1390 *Melusine* xxiv. 163 Damoyselle, .. as to my part, your vassall & seruaunt shal I euer be. 1591 SPENSER *Daphnaida* 181 For rare it seemes..That man..Should to a least his noble hart embase, And be the vassall of his vassalesse. 1596 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 370 Mr. Andro Melvill)..calling the King bot 'God's sillie vassall'. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lviii, Being your vassail bound to staie your leisure. 1651 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 254 Lord Digby is a vassal of the Louvre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 90 The Vassals of his anger, when the Scourge Inexorably .. Calls us to Penance. 1757 KEMBLE in *Scots Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 220 Ld Carlos does not care to make the Figure of a Sort of Vassal. 1781 J. BROWN *View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* VI. i. 549 These donations ought to be made conscientiously under a sense of our debt to God as his vassals and tenants. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* XXXIX, Alas, for the captive princess, whose nod was to command a vassal so costly as your Grace! 1827 J. HAMILTON *Less. fr. Gt. Biogr.* 140 The man who by sin makes himself Satan's vassal may soon be his victim. 1838 LYTTON *What will He do?* VII. iv, Flora Vyvyan had still guarded..a seat beside herself for Darrell, by leading it for the present to one of her obedient vassals.

transf. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 666 Thy thoughts, low vassals to thy state. 1692 PRIOR *Ode Imit. Horace* 2, Where-e'er old Rhine his fruitful Water turns, Or fills his Vassals Tributary Urns.

c. One who is completely subject to some influence. Const. *of* or *to*.

c 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 780 Ie happy maids, ..Flie from love's plague and perillous infection, Nor wonne by men, nor vassaills to affection. 1632 R. BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Consc.* (1635) 34 These vassals of selfe-love and slaves of lust. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. 86 Either the Soul becomes servant and vassal to Sin, or at best it is led away Captive by it. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 253 In this Bull he calls her Majesty 'an usurper and a Vassal of iniquity'. 1833 TENNYSON *Maud* II. i. ii, The feeble vassals of wine and anger and lust. 1859 — *Merlin & V.* 341 Fame with men ..Should..work as vassal to the larger love.

3. A base or abject person; a slave.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 37 Vassalls auaunt or with my wings you die, Let fit an Eagle seate him with a Vile? 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* Prol., That I may not euer continually .. play the part of a vagabond vassalle. 1603 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 163 *Kent.* Now by Apollo, King, Thou swear'st thy Gods in vaine. *Lear.* O vassal! Miscreant. 1786 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 53 We now use the word *vassal* opprobriously, as synonymous to slave or bondman. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XXVII, Thou that art thou liest!

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* a. Having the status or character of a vassal; subject, subordinate; † a vile. Chiefly *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 608 No outrageous thing From vassal actors can be wiped away. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. i, Vassall fears Ilies trembling at his feete. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxli, Thy proud hearts slaue and vassall wretch to be. 1626 R. C. *Times Whistle* IV. (1871) 41 Other mettals all Are but his vassalle starres. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* I. iv, Man..Forlorn, and silent as his Vassal-Beasts. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XV. 127 § she: and soon..Your vassal godhead! ——

SOMERVILLE *Chace* II. 332 When An —— Forms in dread Battle John'd, The Vassal World the! 1760 FALCONER *Shipw.* Introd. 4 Albion bids the sea

thunder roll Along her vassal deep. 1817 Moore *Lalla Rookh* Wks. (1910) 422/1 As if the loveliest plants and trees Had vassal breezes of their own. *a* 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Eng. Lit.* lii. (1855) 92 Britain was a kind of vassal nation of the Roman Empire. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. App. 686 A title most commonly given to vassal princes.

b. In predicative use. Also const. *to* or *unto*.

1592 *Nobody & Somebody* (1878) 284 He be no longer vassaile To such a tirannous rule. 1608 J. Rhodes *Answ. Romish Rime* E, And now the other Bishops three..Were first made vassal vnto Rome. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 133 That people victor once, now vile and base, Deservedly made vassal. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Years* I. 325 It would have been to make Belgium vassal to the five powers. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 215 The eye that saw the whole earth vassal.

c. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a vassal.

1588 Shaks. *L. l. L.* IV. iii. 224 Who sees the heauenly Rosaline, That..Bowes not his vassall head. 1607 Middleton *Michaelmas Term* I. i. 57 With what a vassal-appetite they gnaw On our reversions. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 562/1 The oath of vassal loyalty constraining him to stand at his post.

Vassal (væ·săl), *v.* Now *rare*. Also 7 vassail(e, -ayl, -all. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To make subject or subordinate *to* some thing or person.

1613 Drumm. of Hawth. *Cypress Grove* Wks. 1913 II. 98 Celestiall thinges fauour him, earthly thinges are vassaled vnto him. 1618 G. Sandys *Trav.* 77 Whose posterity in part remaineth to this day, though vassaled to the often changes of forraine Governours. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. lxxi. 203 It vassailes him to the world, to beasts, and men.

refl. 1620 Withers *Philarete* (1633) II xii, Lovers..Vassaling themselves with shame To some proud imperious Dame. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* (1682) III. 209 The other nine.. have vassalled themselves to the great Mongul.

2. To reduce to the position of a vassal; to subdue or subjugate. Also *fig.*

1612 W. Parkes *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 17 The rules of reason, and the lawes of nature,..vassayled, obliterate and vnregarded by him. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 493 For Crœsus King of Lydia..was vanquished..and vassalled by Cyrus of Persia. *a* 1633 G. Daniel *Idyll* Illustr. 5 And fellow-Creatures vassall'd, tumble downe To either Face or Hand, the Axe, or Crowne.

Hence **Va·ssalled** *ppl. a.*

1608 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxx. (1612) 338 And oft his vassalde English he gainst forraine Swords did bring. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cccii, The Vassail'd Earth was rent, vnder his Rule. 1815 J. C. Hobhouse *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 102 To restore the kings..of that ancient, oppressed, vassalled, decimated France.

Vassalage (væ·sălēdʒ), *sb.* Forms: α. 4–vassallage (7 -adge, -edge, 8 vasalage), 5–7 vassallage, 5 vassol-, 6 vassallage; 4–5, 7 vasselage (4 vassh-, 5 vass-), 4, 7 vassellage (6 vasell-), 5 vaisselage; 6 *Sc.* vaslage, -lege. β. 5 wasselage; *Sc.* 5 wassolage, waslage, 5–6 wassalage, 6 -edge, wassallage, wassilaige. [a. OF. *vassal(l)age, vas(s)elage, vessalaige*, etc. (F. *vasselage*), f. *vassal* Vassal *sb.* So Prov. *vassal-, vasselatge*, Sp. *vasallage*, Pg. *vassallagem*, It. *vassallagio*, med.L. *vassallagium*.]

1. Action befitting a good vassal or a man of courage and spirit; prowess in battle, warfare, or other difficult enterprise. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

α. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4610 Whan he wendyþ to þe tournament She..byt hym do for hys lemman Yn vassheIage alle þat he kan. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 188 Gentille of norture, & noble of lynage, Was non þat bare armure, þat did suilk vassalage. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1671 Riȝt as he will let it be do, for þat is vassalage. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12873 Kyng Sarpedoun Was in his tyme a stalworth man, A noble knyȝt of vasselage. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 54 To count all the vasselage that thare was done on ayther syde, it war marvaile to here. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 34 b, Our defendour..whiche hath only in him self more of vaiselage than is in alle Esclauonye. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vii. 10 Welcum..incomparable knight, The fame of armys, and floure of vassalage. 1565 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. II. 204 And maynie made knightes that never showde anye greate token of their vaselage. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* lv. 141 Delanira hir husband Hercules.. Brocht to mischeif, for all his vassalage. 1825 Scott *Betr.* xxi, Were I to choose some knight of name,..he would be setting about to do deeds of vassalage upon the Welsh.

Ironical. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1667 (*Hypsipyle*), And of Iason this is the vassellage That in hise dayis nas ther non i-founde So fals a louere goinge on the grounde.

β. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 290 He had a sone..þat wes þan bot a litill page; Bot syne he wes off gret waslage. *Ibid.* x. 568 He knew his worthy wassalage. *c* 1300 *Lancelot* 2708 Thar schew the lord air ywan his curage, His manhed, & his noble wassolage. *c* 1330 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 171 He..in the Net of wanhoip had bene tane, Quhilk causit him want baith welth & wassallage. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 153 He was of tender aige and could not wse no wassaledge nor feit of weiris.

†b. A brave or chivalrous act; a noble or gallant exploit. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12331 Me þynkeþ hit were no vasselage, Þre til on; hit were outrage! 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10606 Record off folkys that be sage, Sclaundere ys no vasselage. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 158 Thus he conteynde in till hys tendyr age; In armys syne did mony hie waslage. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 887 For that war na wassalage, sum men wald say. *a* 1576 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 118 Ane gret navie.. landit in orknay and thocht to haue done sum wassallage thair. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1840) I. 23 The Erll of Morray..rejoisit michtellie at this vassalage done be his men. *Ibid.* 182 The barronis..left the house, thinking it no vassalage to stay whill thay war slayne.

treasy. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 132 His Fatheris murther also ȝe clairly knew, Myschantly haugit, ane wickit vassalage.

†c. Pre-eminence, supremacy. *Obs.*–1

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 176 In noon so greet encrese Off world tresour, as for to liue in pees, Which among vertues hath the vassalage.

2. The state or condition of a vassal; subordination, homage, or allegiance characteristic of, or resembling that of, a vassal.

1594 Nashe *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 266 Much more may I acknowledge all redundant prostrate vassalage to the royall descended Famille of the Careys. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 4 Acknowledging no superiours, in no vassalage to Emperour or Pope. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. 182 He was a worthy man in his generation, had not his vassalage to the Pope ingaged him in cruelty against the poor professors of the truth. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 852 Let us not then pursue..our state Of splendid vassalage. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 46 P 2 The only Part of Great Britain where the Tenure of Vassalage is still in being. 1756 Nugent *Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 15 The peasants are all in a state of vassalage to the nobility. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scot. in 1772*, 294 Tyranny more often than protection was the attendance on their vassalage. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. III. iv. 347 They acknowledged their vassalage ..by receiving rulers, from the Scandian peninsula. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 461 That they had no right ..to reduce to vassalage the native Princes, who had always been treated..as independent. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xiii. 312 William's vassalage for England will be still more nominal than his vassalage for Normandy.

attrib. 1791 Paine *Rights of Man* 82 Submission is wholly a vassalage term, repugnant to the dignity of Freedom.

b. In semi-personified use.

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 40 Like vassalage at vnawares encountring The eye of Maiestie. 1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr's T.* IX. 410 For trewe kinges this inscribe of soueraigntie, that vassalage backe startes at maiestie.

c. In the phrase *to hold* (lands) *in vassalage.*

1747 Carte *Hist. Eng.* I. 195 Who being tired with beating Cerdic consented at last that he should hold a great part of the west of him in vassalage. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. ix. 186 The prince..offered..to hold his kingdom in vassalage under the Crown of England. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 284 Several good families held their estates in vassalage of feudal Chiefs.

3. Subjection, subordination; servitude; service. Freq. const. *to*. a. To a person or persons.

1595 T. P. Goodwine *Blanchardyn* II. Ded., [A] most worthy Patrone; to whose vasselage..bountifull rewardes haue bound me during life, in all obseruancie. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § 4. 231 Man is bound both by nature, grace, gratitude, vassalladge..to loue, honour, and bleese thee. 1628 Wither *Philarete* (1633) K j b, Who, beforetime held in scorne, To yeeld Vassalage, or Duty, Though unto the Queen of Beauty. 1793 Burke *Obs. Conduct Minority* Wks. 1842 I. 626 This insolent claim of superiority on their part, and of a sort of vassalage to them on that of other members. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* i. 1. 1 How our

condition of the solid South; its continued vassalage to the reckless and dangerous class.

b. To some influence, esp. of a detrimental kind.

1618 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 14 It must worke in vs a ..watchfulnes against all sinn, which bringeth such vassaledge vpon vs. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Van. Dogm.* 13 An attempt to redeem the free-born spirits of Men, from an unworthy vassallage to so stigmatiz'd an Authority. 1742 Blair *Grave* 598 Human Nature groans Beneath a Vassalage so vile and cruel. 1767 Dr. Dodd *Poems* 8 Princes.. unfortunately great, Born to the pompous vassalage of state. 1833 Lytton *Godolphin* 84 All round bore the seal of vassalage to Time. 1849 Coleridge *Shaks. Notes* (1875) 126 The subservience and vassalage of strength and animal courage to intellect and policy. 1871 Lowell *Pope* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 11 English literature..showed the marks..of an artistic vassalage to France.

4. † a. The authority of a superior in relation to a vassal. *Obs.*

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw* 140 Lots, Sales, Homages, rights of Vassalage, Forrests, Ponds, Rivers. 1670 *Devout Communic.* (1688) 81 How many slaves under the vassalage of an enemy fare better than thou! 1681 H. Neville *Plato Rediv.* 37 This Vassallage over the People, which the Peers of France had, being abolisht.

b. An estate or fief held by a vassal.

1655 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. IV. 190 The Countship of Foix, with six territorial vassalages.

5. A body or assemblage of vassals.

1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* II. 30 But now the inly-working North Was ripe to send its thousands forth, A potent vassalage, to fight In Percy's and in Neville's right. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 416 The assembled vassalage were all still as death. 1849 J. Grant *Kirkaldy* xx. 230 Kirkaldy, whose garrison was probably recruited from his own vassalage.

Hence † **Va·ssalage** *v.*, = Vassal *v. Obs.*

1648 *Royalist's Defence* 38 Refusing to acknowledge it His duty to bee governed by them His Subjects, and..to vassalage unto those Rebels Himselfe, His Royall Posterity, and all the rest of the people. 1668 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* 59 What man labouring to fulfil his desire, is not ten times further off by being vassalag'd more thereunto?

† **Va·ssalate,** *v. Obs.*–1 [f. Vassal *sb.*] = Vassal *v.* So † **Vassala·tion,** vassalage, subjection. *Obs.*–1

1648 W. Mountague *Devout Ets.* I. xv. § 2. 271 Thus God suffereth things which have no true goodness, to work upon our imagination;..and this vassalation is a penalty set by the true Judge of all things, upon our attempt to design of our own heads, the forms of good and evil. 1699 Gauden *Tears Ch.* 496 Conventions, where either Lay-men shall over-number and over-awe the Clergy, or Clergy-men shall vassalate their consciences to gratifie any potent party.

Vassaldom. *rare*–1. [f. Vassal *sb.* + -dom.] = Vassalage 2.

1876 Bunnaby *Ride to Khiva* xxvii. 262 The khanate [of Khiva] was reduced to a state of complete vassaldom.

Va·ssaless. *rare.* [f. Vassal *sb.* + -ess.] A female vassal.

1592 [see Vassal *sb.* 2 b]. 1848 Agnes Strickland *Queens Eng.* II. 42 He could have forbidden his fair vassaless to marry the subject of King Philip.

Vassalic (væsæ·lik), *a* [f. Vassal *sb.*] Of or pertaining to vassals or vassalage.

1897 F. W. Maitland *Domesday Bk. & Beyond* 73 The very highest storeys of the feudal or vassalic edifice. 1898 — *Townsh. & Borough* 43 There are feudal or vassalic distinctions.

Va·ssalism. [f. Vassal *sb.*] Tendency to accept a position of vassalage.

1894 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 600 That obsequious compliance.. which indicated the shameful vassalism (if we may coin a word) of a German government.

Vassalize (væ·sălaiz), *v.* [f. Vassal *sb.*]

1. *trans.* = Vassal *v.* 1.

& *Sp.* 2

might rule over one another, this to vassalise us to a foreign nation. 1653 Chisenhale *Cath. Hist.* 36 Their..close practises against all that will not..vassalize themselves to their impious Lord and Master. 1670 in R. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 308 All other workemen depending on the same must lye adle [*sic*] and bee vassalized to their rudenes and exorbitances.

2. = Vassal *v.* 2.

1642 March *Act. for Slaunder* 7 He might seize all his estate, and vassalize his person at pleasure. 1654 Spittlehouse *Vind. Fifth Mon. Men* 5 Against all arbitrary or absolute power..vassalizing the Saints and People of God in this Commonwealth. 1848 Lowell *Fable for Critics* 1306 To vassalize old tyrant Winter.

Hence **Va·ssalized** *ppl. a.*, **Va·ssalizing** *vbl. sb.*

1647 *Maids' Petition* 3 Till then, wee'le remaine your *Vassalized Virgins. 1841 T. MacQueen in *Poets Ayrsh.* 216 It marked the deep bondage of vassalised man. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 80 The *vassalizing of the rebellious affections. 1662 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 215 Therefore the meat is not yet fully transchanged, unless when its own Archeus being subdued, our vital one is introduced with a full vassalizing of the former.

Va·ssalry. Also 5 vasselry, 6 vassalrie, -rey. [f. Vassal *sb.* + -ry. Cf. med.L. *vasseleria* (1238) fief, OF. *vasselleria* warlike exploit.]

1. = Vassalage 5.

a 1470 Harding *Chron.* xcix, Thei reigned vpon the vasselry That were out castes of all Britany. 1806 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 67 Something could be done..to facilitate the acquisition of a peculium..by the negro vassalry. 1832 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 209 The Earls of Ross and Huntly, whose dominions and vassalry embraced almost the whole of the Highlands. 1888 E. Arnold *Pearls of Faith* xxiii. (1883) 84 Queens were his slaves, and Kings his vassalry.

2. = Vassalage 3.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 13 b, The olde bondage and vassalrie men of your condition were wont to be in. *c* 1600 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 117 This beast .. disdaineth vassalrey and subjection.

Vassal's grass. (See quots.)

a 1818 M. G. Lewis *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 251 Many years ago, a new species of grass was imported into Jamaica, by Mr. Vassal...This nuisance, which is called 'Vassal's grass', ..has now completely overrun the parish of Westmoreland. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 262 The greater part of it was a coarse-looking but sweet herbage, called Vassal's grass.

Va·ssalship. [f. Vassal *sb.*] Vassalage.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. Indies* 50 These generally gave their vassalship to the King of Spaine into the handes of Hernando Cortez. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 53 Their political rights were not affected by their vassalship.

Vassand, obs. Sc. form of Wersand.

Vassayl, obs. form of Wassail.

Vast (vast), *sb.* [f. the adj.]

1. A vast or immense space. Chiefly *poet.*, and freq. with adjs.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. 5 That great Chaos, and infinite Vast, which the ancient Philosophers affirmed to bee vnder the earth. 1608 Shake. *Per.* III. i. 1 Thou god of this great vast, rebuke these surges. 1709–12 Ken *Anodynes* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 449, I then would higher soar, and cast My eyes o're the Ethereal Vast. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 683 By Juno's guardian aid, the wat'ry Vast Secure of storms, your Royal brother past. 1794 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 130 Our souls the bands of death shall tear, Through the whole starry vast to range. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 859 Far as the mariner on highest mast Can see all round upon the calmed vast. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* Concl. xxxi, A soul shall draw from out the vast And strike his being into bounds. 1898 T. Hardy *Wessex Poems* 72 And up from the vast a murmuring passed As from a wood of pines.

b. Const. *of* (heaven, sea, etc.). Also *fig.*

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 326 Vrchins Shall for that vast of night that they may worke All exercise on thee. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 34/2 Such as do Nations govern, and command Vasts of the Sea and Emperies of Land. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 803 Through the vast of Heav'n It sounded. 1795 W. Blake *Song Los* 4 And all the vast of Nature shrunk Before their shrunken eyes. 1838 Eliza Cook *England* iv, I'd tread the vast of mountain range, or spot serene and flowered. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xiv, Which need never stop short at the boundary of knowledge, but can draw for ever on the vasts of ignorance.

2. *dial.* A very great number or amount.

1793 *Piper of Peebles* 14 A vast o' fouk a' round about Come to the feast. *c* 1820 Hogg *Shepk. Wedding* i. They couldna get them [*sc.* leisters] aindry, else there had been a vast o bludeshed. *a* 1825– in dialect glossaries (E. Anglia, Yks., Leic., etc.). 1833 R. S. Surtees *Soapey Sp. Tour* (1893) 50 It takes a vast of clothes, even at Oxford prices, to come to a thousand pounds. 1888 Huxley in *Life* (1900) II. xiii. 188, I took a vast of trouble (as the country folks say) about it.

Vast (vast), *a.* and *adv.* [ad. L. *vastus* void, immense, extensive, etc., or F. *vaste* (1611), It., Sp., Pg. *vasto*.]

1. Of very great or large dimensions or size; huge, immense, enormous.

1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* 360 If ye compare..one of smale stature, with a vast giant,..the combat could not choose but seeme in all pointes verie vnequall. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 994 Unskilfull cutters..are of opinion that the enormous and huge statues, called Colosses, which they cut, will seeme more vast and mightie if they frame them straddling with their legs. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Forms & Qual.* 171 These Bodies, that are the vastest and the most important of the Sublunary World. 1712–4 Pope *Rape Lock* v. 92 Three seal-rings, which after, melted down, Form'd a vast buckle for his widow's gown. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 222 A vast ruff, a vaster fardingale ..are the features by which every body knows at once the pictures of queen Elizabeth. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xvii. 315 On the ice cascades .the river glacier has piled vast blocks on vaster pedestals. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* vi. 155 It is not a single building, but rather a vast collection of chambers and galleries.

absol. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 811 A ray of heav'nly light, gilding all forms Terrestrial in the vast and the minute. 1802 Findlater *Agric. Surv. Peebles.* 18 The mountains,.. too much upon the vast for beauty, are yet too tame for the sublime.

2. Of great or immense extent or area; extensive, far-stretching.

1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* v. i. 9 One sees more diuels then vaste hell can hold. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 290 Betweene which two Kingdomes lieth a vast desert being much destitute of water. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 23 The top hath the vast aire to spread his boughs in. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 327 Thorough Deserts vast And Regions Desolate they past. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 531 Such an extent of Plains, so vast a Space Of Wilds unknown..Allures their Eyes. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* v. (1724) 79 What a vast field for contemplation is here opened! 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 200 The river..overflowed the adjacent country, like a vast lake. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. iii. 292 Another month, and I am left alone In the vast city. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I. 391 The circle of vision here embraces vaster plains and bolder mountains. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 70 Ruling over vast territory which had been held by the Earls.

Comb. 1861 Ld. Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 85 The sun, About him drawing the vast-skirted clouds. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., From thence it spread inland into vast-rolling pastures.

b. Qualifying nouns of dimension.

1677 Miège *Fr. Dict.* I. s.v. *Vaste*, A Country of a vast extent. 1688 Prior *An Ode* i, The mysterious Gulph of vast Immensity. *a* 1721 — *To C'tess Dowager of Devonsh.* i, That Both, their Skill to this vast Height did raise, Be ours the Wonder, and be yours the Praise. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 343 A pit or hole of a vast depth. 1774 Pennant *Tour. Scot. in 1772* 6 The church stands at a vast height above the town. 1809–14 Wordsw. *Excurs.* IV. 1161 A temple framing of dimensions vast, And yet not too enormous for the sound Of human anthems. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* x, His vast breadth of shoulder.

c. In transf. or fig. uses.

1736 Butler *Anal.* II. ii. Wks. 1874 I. 173 The scheme of nature..is evidently vast, even beyond all possible imagination. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* c. iv, Vast as Eternity thy Love. 1764 Cowper *Task* VI. 218 But how should matter..satisfy a law So vast in its demands, unless impell'd [etc.]. 1806 R. Cumberland *Mem.* (1807) I. 160 Time whelms us in the vast Inane. 1852 H. Rogers *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 142 It must be accomplished in a cycle vast as those of the geological era. 1869 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) II. 292 Science is grown too vast for any one head. 1884 *Congregational Year Bk.* 56 Mightier wonders and vaster problems.

3. Of the mind, etc.: Unusually large or comprehensive in grasp or aims.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 464 Cardinall Wolsey,.. whose vast minde reached alwayes at things too high. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low-C. Wars* II. 38 But the Prince of Orange and Count Egmont..were of vaster spirits then the rest. 1692 Dryden *St. Evremont's Ess.* 372 Her Spirit is extensive without being Vast, never rambling so far in general Thoughts, as not to be able to return easily to singular Considerations. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 209 P 2 The Account we have of his vast Mind. 1743 Francis tr. *Horace, Odes* I. xxxvii. 12 Vast in her Hopes, and giddy with Success. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 287 With voice far sweeter than thy dying notes, Spirit more vast than thine.

4. Very great, immense, enormous, in respect of amount, quantity, or number.

1627 *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 214 Yet what is all this but a small part of those vast treasures left him by his father. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) II. 572 Sir Thomas Cooke, late lord mayor of London, one of vast wealth. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xix. 341 No wise man expends vast sums to bring home trifling commodities. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 64 The vast Rain which fell at that Time. 1760 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* II. 62, I have known vast crops of rye upon barren lands that have been old warrens, and well dunged with rabbits. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 93 The members of the vast family of Mankind. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. 369 Carrying away vast herds of cattle. 1848 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 210 The same had robbed his Church of vast wealth. 1870 *Statist. Mines & Mining* 224 The Colorado River ..sends a vast body of water to the Gulf of California.

b. With nouns of quality, action, etc.

1595 Shake. *John* IV. iii. 152 Vast confusion waites..The imminent decay of wrested pompe. *c* 1600 *Life & Death Long Meg of Westm.* ii, On this Sir John de Castile, in a bravado, would needs make an experiment of her vast strength. 1647 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 148 Soe unequall ..where there is so vast a disproportion in the knowledge, abilities, and interests of the persons. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 89 Vast are the thanks thy grateful Rome shou'd pay To wars, which usher in thy sacred sway. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 166 The same vast superiority will be found in every article of employment to which these waggons can be put. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 393 Most of them engage, for a short time at a vast price, every actor or actress of name in the metropolis. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Fr. Wines & Pol.* I. 15 Vast labour will be required to render these lands productive once more. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 174 His reading was vast, especially in theology.

c. With nouns denoting number or amount. (Passing into next.)

(*a*) 1677 Miège *Fr. Dict.* II, A vast quantity, *une grande quantité*. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Bristol* 25 Nov., The vast number of English crowds the town so much. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vii. 105 These rocks terminate in a vast number of ragged points. 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIX. 49 To put vast quantities of men into prison. 1837 Buckle *Civilis.* I. vii. 325 Disputes..now regarded with indifference by the vast majority of educated men. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 154, I saw a vast number, and examined them very carefully.

(*b*) 1718 Hickes & Nelson *J. Kettlewell* III. cxvi. 478 He took a vast deal of Pains, nicely to Examine every Thing. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. v. 27 Mackenzie, with artificial admiration, said a vast deal more than he thought. 1858 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 75 We have done a vast deal here. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xviii. 246 He showed her a vast amount of studied respect.

5. In weakened sense as a mere intensive.

Com non in fashionable use in the 18th cent.: cf. Vastly *adv.* 5.

1696 Phillips (ed. 5) s.v., Figuratively we say, such a one has a vast Fancy, a vast Wit, vast Parts, &c. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 120 Every new and full Moon, the Sea drives 'em up in a vast way. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Beauties* Wks. 1730 I. 45, I saw Armida, to my vast surprize, So rich in charms. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* ii. § 1 That most other bodies while exposed to the air are continually sending forth effluvia of vast subtilty. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* II. i. 61 They shot with vast precision to that distance. 1840 Hawthorne *Biogr. Sk., Pepperell* (1879) 186 An object of vast antipathy to many of the settled ministers. 1861 F. Metcalfe *Oxonian in Iceland* iii. (1867) 33 Their wise heads go everlasting..nidding, nodding, with vast solemnity.

b. *A vast many*, a great many. ? *Obs.*

1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. 49 By..perpetual Circulation a vast many things in the System of Nature are transacted. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 22 The Restoration held brought a vast many Families to London. 1771 T. Hull *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III. 207 Jacob was sent out a vast many times. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* II. ii, But there are a vast many persons in the neighbourhood who would make suitable husbands for such a girl. 1853 Hawthorne *Tanglewood T., Pomegranate Seeds*, It troubled her with a vast many tender fears.

c. *adv.* = Vastly *adv.* Now *dial.*

1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, A vast rich Town, *une Ville fort riche.* 1756 Amory *Buncle* (1770) II. 264 Many vast high ones [*sc.* mountains] we crossed, and travelled through very wonderful glins. 1757 H. Brooke *Female Officer* I. viii, He is vast expert at his weapon, truly! *c* 1790 M. P.' [Dorothy Kilner] *Anecd. Boarding School* I. 47, I cannot say that I am vast fond of her. *Ibid.* 98 Half a dozen of them all at once calling out, O! vast fine! vast fine! 1809– in dialect glossaries, etc.

Vast, southern ME. var. Fast *sb.*, *a.*, and *adv.*; obs. Sc. f. Waste.

†**Vast,** *v. Obs.*–[1] [ad. L. *vast-āre*.] *trans.* To lay waste, destroy.

1434 Misyn *Mending Life* 119 For þe..fleschly sawle in-to behaldyng of þe godhede is not rauischyd bot if it be gostely, all fleschly lettyngis vastyd.

***Vast, Vast,** aphetic ff. Avast.

1841 R. H. Dana *Seaman's Man.* 133 *Avast*, or *'Vast*, an order to stop. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 72/2 'Vast!' yells the coxswain, as the pier of the railroad bridge flies by.

†**Va·stacy.** *Obs.*–[1] [f. Vast *a.*] Vastness.

1607 *Tiberius Claudius Nero* M 2, What Lidian desart, Indian vastacie? What wildernesse in wilde Arabia, so hatefull monster euer nourished?

†**Va·state,** *ppl. a. Obs.*–[2] [ad. L. *vastāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vastāre*.] Laid waste; devastated.

1629 T. Adams *Serm., Taming of Tongue* Wks. 152 The vastate ruines of ancient monuments.

Va·state, *v. rare.* [Cf. prec. and Vastation 3.] *trans.* To render unsusceptible.

1892 *Harper's Mag.* LXXXIV. 608/1 That long passion of his early youth, which seemed to have vastated him before he came there. He was rather proud of his vastation.

Vastation (væstē·ʃən). Also 6 vastacion. [ad. L. *vastātiōn-*, *vastātio*, n. of action f. *vastāre*, f. *vastus* waste. So It. *vastazione*, Pg. *vastação*.]

†**1.** The action of laying waste, devastating, or destroying. Also freq., an instance of this. *Obs.* (very common 1610–1660).

former times, continue the invasion and vastation of each other. *a* 1629 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* III. (1677) 175 Thereupon ensued a pitiful vastation of Churches and Church-buildings. 1663 J. Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 383 No war, no sedition,..no vastation,..made so great a waste upon the religion..of that place.

†**2.** The fact or condition of being devastated or laid waste. *Obs.*

1576 Bannister *Hist. Man* v. 64 The whole masse of man ..must needes haue ruine in perpetuall ruine, and vastation. 1617 Collins *Def. BA. Ely* II. x. 438 We lament their desolation and vastation. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* III. xxiv. (1840) 162 The sad spectacle of their country's vastation would disturb their minds. 1653 Gauden *Hieraspi.* To Rdr. 24 It may be through the Lords mercy, this winters flood shall be for their mendment or fertility, and not for their utter vastation and ruine.

3. The action of purifying by the destruction of evil qualities or elements. Also *transf.*

1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 328 He was let down through a column that seemed of brass,..that he might descend safely among the unhappy, and witness the vastation of souls. 1888 J. Ellis *New Christianity* XII. 290 Spirits preparing for heaven, or undergoing vastation. 1890 [see Vastate v.].

†**Vastative,** *a. Obs.*–[1] [f. L. *vast-āre*: see -ative.] Devastating.

1667 Waterhouse *Fire London* 34 Circumstances, benign to, and corresponding with a vastative event.

†**Vastator.** *Obs.*–[1] [a. L. *vastātor*, agent-n. f. *vastāre*.] Devastator.

1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* 86 The cunning Adversaries and Vastators of the Church of England drive a lesser trade.

Vaste, southern ME. var. Fast *a.*, *adv.*, and *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Waste *sb.* and *v.* **Vastell,** obs. var. Wastel. **Vastering** (obs. Sc.): see Wastering.

†**Vasti·dity.** *Obs.* [Irreg. var. Vastity.] Vastness, vastitude.

1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 68 A restraint, Though all the worlds vastidities you had To a determin'd scope. [1822 W. Tennant *Anster F.* II. xvii, Their heads with curl'd vastidity of wig.]

Va·stily, *adv.* [f. Vasty *a.*] In a vast manner.

1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 972 A few Distinguishable phantasms vague and grand Which sweep out and around us vastily.

Vastitude (væ·stitiūd). [ad. L. *vastitūdo*, f. *vastus* Vast *a.*]

†**1.** Devastation; laying waste. *Obs.*–[1]

1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* ix. 16b And after the bataill their shalbe an vtter perpetuall vastitude and destruccion of them.

2. The quality of being vast; immensity.

1623 Cockeram 1, *Vastitude*, greatness, exceeding largeness. 1790 H. Boyd *Ruins Athens* in *Poet. Reg.* (1806–7) 75 The woodland orator,..Mute and benumb'd, a theatre surveys Whose vastitude appalls him. 1829 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* i, The vastitude of the multifarious objects by which she..is environed. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Crowned & Buried* vii, The torrid vastitude Of India felt..That name.

b. Of immaterial things.

1809 Foster *Ess.* I. iv, You adopted a certain vastitude of phrase, mistaking extravagance of expression for greatness of thought. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXIX. 181 The Abbey performances gave this country a character no other has ever yet achieved for vastitude, precision, and excellence in the grander demonstrations of music. 1884 *Congregational Year Bk.* 33 They could not see..the measure or the issues of their mission—or, perhaps, its very vastitude had paralysed their energies.

c. Unusual largeness.

1876 Browning *Shop* 12 He who owns the wealth Which blocks the window's vastitude. 1886 Dowden *Shelley* II. 210 If the vastitude of Mr. Gisborne's nose was, as Shelley says, Slawkenbergian.

3. A vast extent or space.

1841 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* I. vi. 163 Sending up.. spires, domes, and cupolas from a superincumbent vastitude of smoke. 1854 S. Neil *Elem. Rhet.* 71 Onward through the immense vastitudes which the Almighty hand has sprinkled with suns and world-systems. 1883 *Liverpool Courier* 25 Sept. 4/5 The enormous astral vastitudes were seen to be broken by the domain of another tenant.

Vastity (væ·stiti). Now *rare*. Also 7 vaunt-ity. [ad. L. *vastitās* or F. *vastité* (= It. *vastità*, Sp. *vastedad*): see Vast *a.* and -ity.]

†**1.** The fact or quality of being desolate, waste, void, or empty. *Obs.*

1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* ix. 16a b, Aftir the batails were done there remayned a perpetuall vastite & desolacion. 1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* 49 Hauing warre and discorde as the causes of destruction, vastity and penurye. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 85 Finding nothing but emptines and vastitie. 1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* Wks. (1630) 130/2 Hee therefore did replenish the vaustity of my empty purse. 1626 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* 69 Earthquakes..upon the face of the Earth, raising of it in one place, leaving Gulfes and Vastitie in another. 1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 174 The army of the Gentiles causing desolation, and vastity, shall..destroy the City.

2. The quality of being vast or immense; vastness, vastitude.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xii. 345 In considering the clowdy vastitie and gloomie canapies of our churches. 1635 Heywood *Hierarchy* I. 4 Th' unbounded Sea and Vastitie of shore, All these expresse a Godhead to adore. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 403* The Dead Sea because of its vastity..remains immoveable.

transf. 1634 Cokaine *Dianea* III. 233 This [Kingdom] of Cyprus is sufficient to satiate the vastitie of these thoughts. 1699 Adolph *Simplicity Creation* p. xi, The fifth had read a great part of my work, admired the vastity of physical knowledge embodied therein.

3. A vast or immense space. *rare*–[1].

1632 Nereidam tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 17 Witness the mayne sandie parts of Africa and the immense vastities of the new world.

Vastland, obs. Sc. form of Westland.

Vastly (va·stli), *adv.* [f. Vast *a.* + -ly [2].]

1. In a waste or desolate manner. *rare*–[1].

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1740 Who, like a late-sack'd island, vastly stood Bare and unpeopled in this fearful flood.

2. Immensely; to an extent or degree not readily grasped or estimated.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 17 Though these hopes be vastly hyperbolical. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. i, Why, first she's an Heiress vastly rich. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 7 It hath many safe and commodious Ports and Havens, as Falmouth vastly spacious. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 5 This vastly great, or infinite power and wisdom. 1860 *Cornhill Mag.* Jan. 73 Popular power has increased vastly during the last half-century in our own country. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 4 April 4/6 A policy which will add so vastly to its influence and power.

b. Freq. with words or phrases denoting comparison.

1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 25 When the Actions whereby they are produced are so vastly diverse. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 35 In a sense vastly different from what was intended by Mr. Rule. 1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. I. ii. 53 The Bullet will be carried vastly further than the small Shot. 1778 SHERIDAN *Camp* II. iii, To be sure, a circus or a crescent would have been vastly better. 1820 HAZLITT *Table-T.* Ser. II. xvi. (1869) 322 You have got on vastly beyond the point at which you have set out. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 229 It is of trifling consequence..that the explosion of sporting powder is vastly more rapid and powerful. 1879 TOURGÉE *Fool's Err.* xxii. 134 The Union people here are vastly in a minority.

3. In weakened sense as a mere intensive: Exceedingly, extremely, very. (Cf. VAST *a.* 5.)

Common in fashionable use in the 18th cent., chiefly with adjs. (*a*), but occasionally with vbs. (*b*) or advs. (*c*). The abuse of *wast* and *vastly* is commented on by Lord Chesterfield, *Lett.* No. 195 and 196.

(*a*) 1664 *Vernay Mem.* (1907) II. 204 She putts on and assumes much, very much of the vastly extravagant humors. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 219 The City..was vastly full of People. 1733 T. BURNET *MS. Let.* 30 Jan., Believe me most affectionately, though vastly peevish, Yours T. B. 1782 Mrs BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. xi, This is all vastly true; but I have no time to hear any more of it just now. 1826 J. FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 78 A vastly acute and doggedly intellectual fellow. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxii, Mrs. Portman..was vastly bitter against Pen..since his impertinent behaviour to the Doctor. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* vi. 68 That small person..was becoming vastly indignant.

(*b*) 1750 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 358, I laughed vastly. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* xii, I protest I like my Lady Blarney vastly. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 234, I should vastly like to examine this little hunchback a little more closely. 1879 Mrs. MACQUOID *Berksh. Lady* 182 That will please me vastly.

(*c*) 1758 Mrs. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 127 He..sung vastly fine. 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* Prol., An't you come vastly late? 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Lady Susan* xv, She talks vastly well. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltravers* 5 As for bed, this chair will do vastly well.

Vastness (vɑ·stnes). [f. VAST *a.*]

†**1.** Desolation; waste. *Obs. rare.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 7 Because their excursions into the limits of physical causes hath bred a vastness and solitude in that tract. 1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* 87 This Bill doth seem to me an uncouth wildernesse, a dismall vastnesse.

2. The quality of being vast; immensity.

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* III. iii, Could the Sea throw up his vastness, And offer free his best inhabitants. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 472 Scarse from his mould Behemoth biggest born of Earth upheav'd His vastness. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 12 The swelling Surges menace the lowering Skies, leaving a Hollow where they borrowed their Gigantine Vastness. 1794 Mrs. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vi, Emily gazed with enthusiasm on the vastness of the sea. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 24 When we speak of the vastness, the regularity, and the permanency of the solar system. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 199 The vastness of scale in the Milanese palaces..impressed me..at once.

Ag. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, The open vastnesse of a tyrannes eare. 1873 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* i. 8 You will be able to appreciate the vastness of this area of cruelty.

b. Of immaterial things.

1620 FLETCHER *Prophetess* II. i, You have blown his swoln pride to that vastness, As he believes the Earth is in his fathom. 1658 *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 77 The vastnesse of my affection. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xcvii I look'd on these and thought of thee In vastness and in mystery. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 116 The vastness of Scott's true historical knowledge.

3. A vast or immense space.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 61 The excellent Dr. Hen. More, whose soul may have roamed as far into these scopes and vastnesses as most mens in the world. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* xii. 137 Then a voice was heard..Coming from the empty vastness. 1875 — *Masque Pandora* vi, Thunder and tempest of wind Their trumpets blow in the vastness.

†**Va·sture.** *Obs.*[1] [f. VAST *a.*] = prec. 3.

1596 *Edw. III*, II. i. 402 What can one drop of poyson harme the Sea, Whose hugie vastures can digest the ill And make it loose his operation?

Vasty (vɑ·sti), *a.* [f. VAST *a.* + -Y.] Vast, immense. (In mod. use after Shakspere.)

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 52, I can call Spirits from the vastie Deepe. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. iv. 105 The poore Soules, for whom this hungry Warre Opens his vastie lawes. 1605 *Play of Stukeley* K iij b, Which makes me..sorrow that thy valour should be soake In such a vasty vnknowne sea of Armes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 330, I saw in a white sandy ground divers vastie, craggie stones of strange formes.

1700 R. CUMBERLAND *Calvary* 182 Nosh can tell How all the earth with violence was fill'd, Or e'er the fountains of the vasty deep Were broken up. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Sp.* I. 77 The feudal castle, the vasty Escorial, the rock-built alcazar. 1867 E. F. BULL *Ecce Cœlum* I. 10 Not a whisper, not a rustle, through all the vasty dome.

Ag. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 63 You pretty little star Shines on a vasty falsehood. 1889 PATER *Marius* II. 48 Those vasty conceptions of the later Greek philosophy.

†**Vasy,** *a. Obs.* Also **veasy.** [app. f. *F. vase* slime.] Slimy.

1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 75 In the Marshes of Kent and Essex, the Air..is generally so infectious, by Means of those low, veasy, boggy Grounds. 1743 *Ibid.* II. (ed. 2) 143 Who sees our vasy, muddy Sediments..often increased by the Foulnesses of new Supplies, and subsided at the Bottom?

Vat (væt), *sb.* Forms: 3 **uset,** 3-4 **uet,** 5- **vat,** 4, 6 **vatte,** 8 **vatt**; 4-5 **vaat,** 4, 6-8 **vate,** 6 **vaette.** [Southern variant of FAT *sb.*[1] The long vowel in the obs. forms *vaat, vate,* is derived from the OE. pl. (*fatu*, etc.) or from late forms of the gen. and dat. sing. (*fates, fate*).]

1. A cask, tun, or other vessel used for holding or storing water, beer, or other liquid; usually one of some size in which a liquor, esp. beer or cider, undergoes fermentation or is prepared; † a vessel.

a 1225 *Juliana* 31 Þe worldes wealdent þat wiste sein luhan his ewanigeliste unhurt iþe uset of wallinde eoli. 1340 *Ayenb.* 231 Hi bereþ a wel precious tresor ine a wel fyebble uat. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5 495 An Archebyschop..bad hym ordeyne an huge vaat, Ful of water clere. 1399 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 473 '21 m. 2 Pro xxiiij circulis ligneis emptis ad diuer[sos] vattes et cowelys inde ligandis pro aqua in eisdem conservanda. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 577 *Cuva*, a cuve or a vat. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 465 Canels or pipis, wynes forth to lede Into the vat & tonnys, make also. 1552 HULOET, Vat, or fat, a vessell for water, ale, bere, or any licour, *labrum*. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Captaines* 745 Each grape to weep, and crimsin streams to spin Into the Vate, set to receive them in. 1662 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 194 A clean and strongly-scented Cask or Vate. 1697 PRIOR *Ep. Sir F. Sheppard* 41 My Uncle..Might have..Taught me with Cyder to replenish My Vats or ebbing Tide of Rhenish. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 18 Would'st thou, thy Vats with gen'rous Juice should froth? Respect thy Orchats. 1781 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 5 Apr., We are not here to sell a parcel of boilers and vats. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 169 This fermenting tun is an immense circular vat or tub bound with strong iron hoops, and covered in at all parts. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 237 For the large circular vats in which the ale was formerly fermented, slate tuns have been recently substituted.

Comb. 1611 COTGR., *Cuvelier*, a vat-maker, or tub-maker.

b. A vessel, cauldron, or cistern containing the liquid used in dyeing or some other process.

1548 ELYOT, *Ahenum*, a great vatte, wherein purple is dyed. 1632 SHERWOOD *s.v.*, A dying Vat, *cuvier*. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Dying Ingredients*, Dying materials..applied..by only dipping the stuff in the vat of dye. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 165 (Papermaking), Having prepared the stuff, chest and vatt, quite clean, I chopt the clean bark or first preparation [etc.]. 1792 W. HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. Introd. p. ii, The Stuffs..were immersed in vats, where they received various colours. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 360 The large vat or cistern [of a paper-mill], A A, is of an oblong figure on the outside. 1832 *Porcelain & Glass* 38 When the flints are thus sufficiently ground, the semi-fluid is transferred to another vat. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* XII. I. 432 Every locality is like a dyer's vat, the residents take its colour.

†c. = FAT *sb.*[1] I b. *Obs. rare.*

1507 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 53 Item an oyle vatte of sylver.

†d. A cask or tub used as a receptacle for refuse or filth. *Obs.*

1534-5 *MS. Rawl. D.* 77 fol. 67 b, The vaettes that conveyeth the Rubbysch frome the great Kechyn. 1536 *Ibid.*, Skoryng and makyng clean the Vattes of the Comen Jakes ..with other vattes with in the said castell.

2. In various special uses: a. = CHEESE-VAT.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 334 *Vattor*, or *Vallow*, or *Vate*, a concave Mould wherein a Cheese is pressed. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 51. 19 The next step taken was to get a proper 'vat' and 'follower' made of solid mahogany.

b. *Tanning.* = TAN-VAT.

1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 115 Until they think proper to lay it away in the Vatts. In these holes, which are the largest in the tan-yard, the leather is spread out smooth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* III. 2490/1 The tan-yard contains a number of wooden-lined vats, whose tops are level with the ..ground. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 276/1 The hides are placed..in vats filled with a dissolved excrement.

c. *Cornwall.* (See quot.)

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 225 Upon the top of the arch or back of the calciner, is made a square hollow place called a Vate or Dry, sufficient to contain a serving or hand barrow full of Tin.

d. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1810 J. MAWE *Min. Derby* Gloss., *Vat*, a wooden tub used to wash ore and mineral substances. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 253 Outside of the building the pulp runs first into vats, where the heavier portion settles and the rest goes into the creek. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. v, The wash was carried along in the trucks from the top of the shaft to the puddlers, which were large circular vats into which water was constantly gushing.

e. *Saltmaking.* A salt-pit (see quots.).

1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* (Low) ii. 22 There is a series of vats or pools through which the water is passed as it comes from the sea, and is reduced to the briny state. 1862 J. H. BENNET *Shores Medit.* (1873) I. v. 143 The vats or pools into which the sea-water is received for evaporation.

3. A cask, barrel, or other vessel for holding or storing dry goods; = FAT *sb.*[1] 3.

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 326 Their business being to attend each ship, to top the vats, and to return an account of the coals measured. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 741 The arrival of a vat of Hambro' yarn. *Ibid.*, The inhabitants met the waggon,..decorated the vat with ribands,..and drew the v..through the village. 1839 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 159 The horses are to be taken out; the harness..packed in vats.

†b. Formerly used as a measure of capacity for coal (see quots. and FAT *sb.*[1] 4). *Obs.*

1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* xlii, It is agreed and order'd, that all Lightermen selling Coals, shall sell Pool-measure,..That is to say, One and Twenty Chaldron to the Score, or otherwise to sell the same Measure each person buys, (provided the Parcel be Five Chaldron and a Vatt at the least). 1763 *Ann. Reg.* 64 Importation of coals into the port of London in the year 1762, amounting to 570,774 chaldrons and one vat. 1821 *Acc. Peculations Coal Trade* 5 The measure used in the pool is by vat; this contains nine bushels heaped.

†c. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Fat, Vat*, (of Merchandise) an uncertain quantity, as of yarn, from 200 to 211 bundles; of wire, from 20 to 25 pound weight, &c.

4. *Dyeing.* The liquid solution in which the material to be dyed is immersed; the dyeing liquor. Usually with defining term.

1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* II. 998/2 Lime is much used in working blue-vats. *Ibid.* 1000/2 The blue vats in deep blues of the fifth stall, give no considerable weight. 1765 (*indigo vat*: see INDIGO C. 2). 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 415 In this vat, the immediate principles..perform the dis-oxidizing function of the copperas in the cold vat. *Ibid.*, The pastel vats require most skill..in consequence of their complexity. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 251 Copperas or common blue vat. *Ibid.* 252 An excess of lime yields a sharp vat;..too little lime yields a soft vat. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 8 A vat prepared with caustic soda.

5. *attrib.*, as *vat-room*; **vat-man,** *Papermaking*, a workman who lifts the pulp from the vat and moulds the sheets of paper; a dipper or maker; **vat-net** (see quot.); **vat-press,** *Papermaking*, a press in which the sheets are placed after they leave the vat.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 927 Meanwhile the vat-man puts the deckel upon the other mould. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 225/1 The vatman takes up enough pulp on the mould to fill the deckle. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 921/1 *Vat net*, used as a strainer over a tub or tank. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 931, 1 Man..in keeping in order 7 vats, vat-presses, &c. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/1 This post..is placed in the vat-press, and subjected to a strong pressure to force out the superfluous water. 1843 TIZARD *Brewing* xix. 464 Where the trade is extensive, and vat-room is of consequent importance.

Hence **Va·tful.**

1632 SHERWOOD, A vat-full, *cuvée*. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* XIII. 411/1 By the sudden interposition of a vat-full of pale ale details.

Vat (væt), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To place or store in a vat.

1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exemplified* 48 Many people as soon as the Whey is removed immediately break the Curd small..and then put it into the Cheese Vat..I would always recommend that it rest one quarter of an Hour, before 'tis broke or vatted. 1880 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 727/1 The factitious compound being mixed or vatted with the wines in bond. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 24 § 64 (1) The proprietor of spirits..may..vat, blend, or rack them in the warehouse.

b. To immerse in a dyeing solution or vat.

1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 210/2 The goods are next limed, vatted to shade, taken out.

Vat, southern ME. and dial. var. FAT *a.*; obs. Sc. f. *wot* WIT *v.* **Vatch,** southern dial. var. FETCH *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WATCH. **Vate,** obs. Sc. f. WAIT *v.* **Vater(e,** obs. Sc. ff. WATER.

Vates (vē·tēz). [L. *vātēs.*]

1. A poet or bard, esp. one who is divinely inspired; a prophet-poet.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* II. IX. 1572 The people interjecting their applauses, clapping hands and running in to gratifie their Vates (Poet or Prophet) with a Present. 1687 *Acc. Author's Life* in Cleveland *Wks.* Ded. A 7, And here again he was Vates in the whole Import of the Word, both Poet and Prophet. 1855 LEWES *Goethe* I. 251 The high and priestly office which he gave the poet, as a real Vates. 1878 G. SMITH *Life John Wilson* xvii. 547 Each was the Vates of his countrymen.

2. *pl.* One of the classes of the old Gaulish druids. Cf. OVATE *sb.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Druids*, The *Bardi* were the Poets; the *Vates*..were the Sacrificers, and Naturalists. 1775 L. SHAW *Hist. Moray* VI. § 1. 227 Druid was the general name of the Sect or Order; and their Literati were divided into Priests, Vates, and Bards, who were their Divines. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 668 According to function they were divided into classes—bards, vates, and druids proper.

Vath, dial. var. FAITH *int.*

Vath(e, Sc. var. WOTHE *sb.* (danger).

Vathym, southern ME. variant of FATHOM *sb.*

Vatic (væ·tik), *a.* Also 7 **vatick.** [f. L. *vātēs* a prophet, poet + -IC.] Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a prophet or seer; prophetic, inspired.

1603 BP. HALL *King's Prophecy* xvii, My puis-né Muse presumed to recite The vatick lines of that Cumæan Dame. 1844 Mrs. BROWNING *Vis. Poets* clxxviii, If every vatic word that sweeps To change the world must pale their lips. 1868 *Good Words* 1 Jan. 53 To the sound of their vatic exordiums did Roland Laporte and Jean Cavallier march from their fastnesses. 1872 H. B. FORMAN *Our Living Poets* 251 The thought..betrays enough of the vatic exaltation of the seer.

†**Va·tical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Vatic. Hence **Va·tically** *adv.*

1594 *Zepheria* xvi, My brow..Which whilome thou with

lawrell vaticall Enobled hast, (high signall of renowne). 1634 Bp. HALL *Contempt., N. T.* IV. XXV. 238 Neither couldst thou have made up those vaticall predictions, without this conveyance. 1641 *Brightman's Predictions* 3 Now as Mr. Brightman vatically observeth, the Church of Thyatira [etc.].

Vatican (væ·tikăn). Also 6-7 Vaticane. [a. F. *Vatican* (= It., Sp., Pg. *Vaticano*), or ad. L. *Vāticān-us* (sc. *collis, mons*): see def.]

1. (With initial capital, and now always with *the*.) The palace of the Pope built upon the Vatican Hill in Rome.

Also, in recent use, the papal authorities or the system which they represent; the papal power; the Papacy.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 100 As wee are accustomed to goo on Pylgramege to Rome or Vaticane. 1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* II. i. E 1, Heere leaue we Charles with pompous ceremonies, Feasting within the Vaticane at Rome. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 13 The Latine edition.. printed in the Printing-house of Vatican. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Jan. 1645, I went to see the Pope's Palace, the Vatican, where he for the most part keeps his Court. 1777 R. WATSON *Philip II*, II. (1839) 29 He expressed his dread that ere long the Vatican itself would be in the hands of the enemy. 1779 J. JAY in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 284 There is as much intrigue in this State-House as in the Vatican. 1856 GLADSTONE in *Lett. Ch. & Relig.* (1912) II. 395, I repaired to the Vatican in household uniform. 1909 J. M'CABE *Decay Ch. Rome* vi. 128 England is regarded as substantially won for the Vatican.

b. Used with reference to the artistic or literary treasures preserved here; the Vatican galleries or library.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* App. 1386 The statue of Laocoon.. now at this day..is to be seene at the Vaticane. 1610 BOLTON *Elem. Armories* 54 Such a librarie as .they had rather tosse then to bee Deipnosophists in Athenæus, or glowe-wormes in the Medicæan, or Vatican, the most renowned armaries of bookes in all the world 1694 J. NORRIS *Curs. Refl. Locke's Hum. Underst.* 43, I..would not part with his Book for half a Vatican. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 34 This picture resembles that which is to be seen in the Vatican at Rome. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 70 The man of the woods..has, certainly, a very imperfect resemblance to the Apollo of the Vatican. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 166 Of these two copies [of a statue] one..is in the Vatican.

fig. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen IV*, cclxv, A Well-bought Treasure from his Vatican; Whose Volumes Numberless Nature doth Summe In one Compendious Abstract; Well-bound Man! 1854 THOREAU *Walden* iii. (1886) 108 When the vaticans shall be filled with Vedas and Zendavestas and Bibles. 1868 M. ARNOLD in *Life I.d. Coleridge* (1904) II. vi. 160 Suppose you look in your stately Vatican of a library and see if you have not half a dozen copies.

2. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Vatican or its library.

Vatican Council, the council of 1869-70 which proclaimed the infallibility of the Pope.

1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 208 You found not these excellent qualities in the Vatican Library. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Jan. 1645, By these we descended into the Vatican Gardens. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 102 The old Vatican Terence has at the Head of every Scene the Figures of all the Persons. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 150/2 The Vatican manuscript contained originally the whole Greek Bible. 1825 in *Ushaw Mag.* Dec. (1913) 265, I lately got a beautiful edition of the LXX..printed from the Vatican copy. 1845 GRAVES *Roman Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 768 The Vatican fragments were taken by Mai from a manuscript of the *Collationes* of Cassianus in the Vatican Library. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 325 The Fathers of the Vatican Council expound the doctrine of the church in these words. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 815/2 The Vatican palace also appears to have originated in a house which existed in the time of Constantine.

Hence **Vatica·nal, Vatica·nic, Vatica·nical** *adjs.*

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 3/3 Several Catholic parishes elected priests who refused to accept the new *Vaticanal dogma. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* iv. 160 In the spirit of the *Vaticanic dictum. 1908 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar., Lit. Suppl. 10 He has announced with *Vaticanical authority that [etc.].

Vaticanism (væ·tikăniz'm). [f. VATICAN.]

1. The tenet of absolute papal infallibility or supremacy in respect of ecclesiastical doctrine or affairs as declared by the Vatican Council.

1875 GLADSTONE *Vaticanism* 8 The proceedings of Vaticanism threaten to be a source of some practical inconvenience. 1875 — *Gleanr.* (1879) VI. 243 The antichristian action of Vaticanism on the minds and lives of men with a power and sagacity worthy of the best days of Italian thought. 1890 *Spectator* 23 Aug., But in 1870 Manning and Newman seemed to be drifting in opposite directions,—the one towards 'Vaticanism', the other towards restrictions of the Papal initiative.

2. *transf.* (See quot.)

1884 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 187 'Vaticanism', in the sense in which we here use the term, is a word borrowed from Dr. Scrivener to express the opinion of those who think the Vatican Codex to be the truest and best text of the Greek Testament.

Vaticanist (væ·tikănist), *sb.* and *a.* [f. as prec. + -IST.]

A. *sb.* An adherent or supporter of the Vatican or of Vaticanism.

1846 WORCESTER, *Vaticanist*, an adherent to the Vatican. *Ec. Rev.* 1873 *Guardian* 20 Aug. 1086/1 We are the true Catholics, we are the true members of the Church, and the Vaticanists have made a new sect. 1879 GLADSTONE *Gleanr.* (1879) VI. 219 The Court of Rome..filled the office with a Vaticanist.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Vaticanism or its adherents.

1892 *Church Times* 11 Mar. 290/4 The adequate maintenance of the Vaticanist claims. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 3/3 The fundamental question between the Vaticanist Cæsar and the English Church.

Vaticanization (væ·tikănaizē·ʃən). [Cf. next + -ATION.] The action or fact of bringing under the authority of the Vatican or Papacy.

1873 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIII. 94 The Italianization, or rather the Vaticanization, of Latin Christendom.

Vaticanize, *v.* [f. VATICAN + -IZE.] *trans.* To subject to the authority of the Vatican; to imbue with Vaticanism. So **Vaticanized** *ppl. a.*

1890 *For. Ch. Chron.* March 8 Impossible for him to adopt the Vaticanized faith. 1896 BRIGHT *Rom. See in Early Ch.* 212 This bold attempt to Vaticanize antiquity.

Vaticide[1] (væ·tisaid). [f. L. *vāti-*, stem of *vātēs* prophet + -CIDE 1.] One who kills a prophet. Also *fig.*

1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 74 Then first (if Poets aught of truth declare) The caitiff Vaticide conceiv'd a prayer. 1748 SMOLLETT *Reproof* 172, I see with joy, the vaticide deplore An hell-denouncing priest and sov'reign whore. 1749 — *Regicide* Pref. p. vii, My Patience being by this Time quite exhausted, I desired a Gentleman who interested himself in my Concerns, to go and expostulate with the Vaticide [*sc.* the Manager of Drury-lane Theatre].

Va·ticide[2]. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -CIDE 2.] The killing of a prophet.

1853 LANDOR *Wks.* (1876) V. 219 Vaticide is no crime in the Statute-book.

Vaticinal (văti·sinăl), *a.* [f. L. *vāticin-us* prophetic + -AL.] Of the nature of, characterized by, vaticination or prophecy; prophetic, vatic.

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 1 Sylvester Giraldus Cambrensis, his vaticinall historie of the Conquest of Ireland. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* 14 Which are the Prosaicall books? Such as are for the most part writen in prose, and foretell things to come; whence also more especially they are termed Propheticall, or vaticinall. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 304 Dion..disregarded the vaticinall portent. 1775 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1840) I. 1 Thomas Leirmonth, or Rymer, .has left vaticinal rhymes, in which he predicted the union of Scotland with England. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. vi. 285 He was induced.., contrary to the vaticinal warnings of Columba, to carry a mixed body of various people, into..Ireland. 1844 *Q. Rev.* LXXIV. 230 In the true vaticinal spirit of poetry and prophecy. 1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 30 Sept. 438/2 His.. vaticinal conclusions have proved to be..flabby.

†**Vati·cinant**, *pres. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vāticinant-*, *vāticinans*, pres. pple. of *vāticinārī*: see VATICINATE *v.*] a. Prophesying, predicting. b. (See quot. 1647.)

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 29 There fonde they the preste of Iubyter, wyth his wyf and alle his meyne, vaticynaunte or prophecyeng thynges moche merueyllous. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 165/1 The soul is said to be in a vaticinant, or parturient condition, when she hath some kind of sense, and hovering knowledge of a thing, but yet cannot distinctly and fully..represent it to herself.

†**Vaticinar.** *Sc. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vāticin-*, stem of *vāticinārī* (see next) + -AR[2].] A vaticinator or prophet.

1549 *Compl. Scotl.* x. 82 The inglismen gifis ferme credit to diuerse prophane propheseis of merlyne, and til vthir ald corruppit vaticinaris.

Vaticinate (văti·sinēt), *v.* [f. L. *vāticināt-*, ppl. stem of *vāticinārī* to forebode, foretell, prophesy, f. *vātēs* VATES.]

1. *intr.* To speak as a prophet or seer; to utter vaticinations or predictions; to foretell events.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vaticinate*, to prophesie. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 220 And then goes on vaticinating,..Whiles Cambray's issue serue the Lord their Maker [etc.]. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 187 Is it not by diabolical instinct that they here peremptorily vaticinate or ominate of long life, short life, marriage [etc.]? 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. § 29. 134 Aristotle (as it were Vaticinating concerning it) somewhere calls [the Spirit of God]..a certain Better and Diviner thing than Reason. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 253 All have not alike learned the connexion of natural things, or understand what they signify, or know how to vaticinate by them. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 82 What if Humphrey has vaticinated? What if he has beaten all prognosticators since Nostradamus? 1835 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Aug. 202 The plan followed by the late Mr. Coleridge in vaticinating upon the events of the last war. 1886 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. vi. 239 From a hundred platforms..gentlemen declaimed, vaticinated, and returned thanks to one another.

transf. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. iii. 9 Intellection Or higher gets, or at least hath some sent Of God, vaticinates, or is parturient.

2. *trans.* To foretell, predict, prognosticate, or prophesy (a future event).

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 259 Chalcas did vaticinate or prognosticate the destruction of Troy. 1658 COKAINE *Obstinate Lady* II. i, He was an intricate Prognosticator of firmamental Eclipses, and vaticinated future Occurents by the mysterious influences of the sublime Stars. 1820 BYRON *Lett. to Murray* 24 April, I vaticinate a row in Italy. 1832 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* (1887) 178, I vaticinate what will be the upshot of all his schemes of reform. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* VII. xiv. 412 To vaticinate a reign of socialistic terror for the immediate future.

transf. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 378 My soul seemeth to vaticinate and presage its approaching dissolution and freedom from this its prison. 1877 A. B. ALCOTT *Table-t.* 133 Instinct, intuition, volition, embosoms and supposes whatsoever the Spirit vaticinates.

Hence **Vati·cinating** *ppl. adj.* and *ppl. a.*

1694 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 207 Those vaticinating boyes who with their long-spread hair fall flat afore the Idoll. *Ibid.* (1638) 356 Virgil..from some vaticinating Notion seemes to point at it, in the 6 lib. Ænead. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxv. 210 The Cock Vaticinating and Alectryomantick, ate up the Pickles. 1791-1823 D'ISRAELI *Curs. Lit.* (1858) III. 278 George Withers, the vaticinating poet of our civil wars.

Vaticination (vătisinē·ʃən). [ad. L. *vāticinātiōn-*, *vāticinātia*, n. of action f. *vāticinārī*: see prec. Cf. obs. F. *vaticination* (Cotgr.).]

1. A prediction of an oracular or inspired nature; a prognostication or prophecy, a prophetic utterance or forecast.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1198 Sibylla, and Aristonice, or such as published their vaticinations and prophesies in verse. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 63 The Law has appointed a sort of Prophets as Judges over these divine Vaticinations. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xii, Yorick scarce ever heard this sad vaticination of his destiny read over to him, but..that he [etc.]. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, The Dominie..had just that moment parted from Meg Merrilies, and was too deeply wrapt up in pondering upon her vaticinations, to make any answer. 1880 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* iii. (1865) I. 215 The frightful vaticinations of fire and slaughter with which Cicero had kept the ears of the people tingling. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* iv. § 6. 266 The 'Sibylline Oracles'..contain many vaticinations, inextricably mingled, from Jewish, heathen, and Christian sources.

transf. 1836 EMERSON *Nature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 170 Every surmise and vaticination of the mind is entitled to a certain respect.

2. The action or fact of vaticinating; the utterance of predictions or prophecies; also, the power or gift of this.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vaticination*, a prophesying. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* iv. 147 Unless we dare ascribe to the Tyrant a Spirit of Vaticination, we cannot acquit the Author of the Letters of so manifest a cheat. 1828 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxiii, He despised most of the ordinary prejudices about witchcraft, omens, and vaticination. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* iii. § 3. 206 The ambiguous vaticination of the heathen oracles.

transf. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 252 He that foretels the motions of planets,..may be said to do it by natural vaticination.

†b. Divine or inspired apprehension or knowledge; intuition, insight. *Obs.*

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref., Whether this Assurance be called a Vaticination or Divine Sagacity, (as it is by Plato and Aristotle) or Faith, as in the Scripture. *Ibid.* 409 That Vaticination, which all men have in their minds concerning the Gods.

Vati·cinator. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *vaticinateur* (Cotgr.) or ad. L. *vāticinātor*, agent-noun f. *vāticinārī* to VATICINATE.] One who writes or utters vaticinations: a prognosticator or prophet.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 335 Cicero derided the Bœotian vaticinators for presaging victory to the Thebanes from the crowing of cocks. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii, The Owner of that Soul deserveth to be termed a Vaticinator or Prophet. 1791-1823 D'ISRAELI *Curs. Lit.* (1859) II. 483 Poetical vaticinators are prophets only while we read their verses. 1828 — *Chas. I*, I. iv. 59 What vaticinator would have ventured to predict..that his Queen was then before him? 1842 — *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 300 That mystical vaticinator of past events, a conjectural historian.

Vaticinatory, *a. rare*[—1]. [f. VATICINATE *v.*: see -ORY 2.] Vaticinal, prophetic.

1883 S. WAINWRIGHT *Sci. Sophisms* viii. 169 The vaticinatory character of these opinions is their least remarkable feature.

†**Vati·cinatress.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. VATICINATOR + -ESS[1], after F. *vaticinatrice*. Cf. L. *vāticinātrix*.] A female vaticinator; a prophetess.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 137 The House of the Vaticinatress.

†**Vaticinatric,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [irreg. formation on VATICINATE *v.*] Pertaining to, connected with, vaticination.

1709 *Evelyn's Sylva* III. iv. 228 As in the temple Despoene ..where they were prohibited the burning of Olive-wood, or the φυτὸν Μαντικὸν, the Vaticinatric Laurel, or the Thick-rind Oak [etc.].

†**Vaticine,** variant of VATICINY. *Obs.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Hollinshed* II. 43/2 Thus (according to this vaticine) twise it was left, but the third time it shall be kept. *Ibid.* 52/2 Then was fulfilled the vaticine or prophesie of old Merlin.

†**Vaticinian,** *a. Obs.*—[0] [f. L. *vāticini-us* prophetic.] Vaticinal. (Blount, 1656.)

†**Vaticiny.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vāticinium*, f. *vāticinus* prophetical: cf. VATICINE.] A vaticination or prophecy.

1615 R. BUFFIELD *Comm. Coloss.* i. 6 The certain event of the vaticinies or prophecies. 1654 VALVAIN *Chronography* 24 Seek not to wrest a connexion of sacred Chronology from Daniels Vaticiny. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

†**Vati·nian,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *Vatīniān-us*, f. *Vatīnius* 'a Roman, whom all men hated for his odious behaviour' (Blount, 1674).] Of hatred: Bitter, intense, violent.

After L. *odium Vatinianum* (Catullus xiv. 3).

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glasse* 2 The vipereous and vatinian deadly hate. 1632 R. H. *Arraignm., Whole Creatures* xvi. 284 King Philip of France hating King Richard the first of England: with a vatinian deadly hatred. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 256 The Vatinian hatred of Books and Authors in Religious and Politick Differences.

Vatir, obs. Sc. f. WATER. **Vatt(e**, obs. ff. VAT *sb.* **Vatte**, southern ME. var. FAT *a.*, pa. t. FET *v.*

Vatted, *ppl. a.* [f. VAT *v.*] Placed or stored in a vat; said esp. of wine. Also *fig.*, mellow.

1843 TIZARD *Brewing* 463 Old and vatted Beer. 1878 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Nov. 694/1 The forged wine of Hamburg, which is variously known as Elbe sherry, vatted sherry, and Hamburg sherry. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Feb. 253 A considerable company,..most of us fine old vatted English Tories.

Vatten, obs. southern var. FATTEN *v.* **Vatter**, **-ir**, **-yr**, obs. Sc. ff. WATER. **Vattill**, obs. f. WATTLE.

Va·tting, *vbl. sb.* [f. VAT *v.*] The action or process of placing beer or other liquor in a vat or vats. Also *attrib.*

1843 TIZARD *Brewing* 444 Vatting of Porter. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.* s.v., Vatting charges at the docks. 1860 BAGEHOT *Biogr. Studies, Gladstone* (1881) 93 Let a man question the fees on vatting, or the change in the game-certificate. *c* 1886 KIPLING *Opium Factory* 93 After vatting,..the big vats..are probed with test rods.

Vatyr, obs. Sc. form of WATER.

Vau (vô). Also 9 **vaw**. [a. late L. *vau* (Vulgate), ad. Heb. *vāv* VAV.] The sixth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the Hebrew particle *va-*, *ve-*, *ū-* 'and', denoted by this letter. (Cf. VAV.)

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxix. 41 [*Heading*] Vau. [Also in Coverdale and later versions.] 1639 SIR W. MURE *Ps.* cxix. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 185 He...Vau. 1643 J. CARYL *Expos. Job* I. 1586 The particle *Vau*..usually taken as a Coniunction. *Ibid.* 1587 Thus in the Text the particle (*Vau*) is taken by some as a note of likeness. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* II. s.v. *F*, Its place and analogous use favour its descent from the Hebrew *vau*. 1798 *Brit Critic* XI. 116 There is no similarity whatever between the Syriac jod..and vau. 1832 S. LEE *Hebr. Gram.* (ed. 2) 21 The *Vaw*..is frequently left out. *Ibid.* 30 The *Vaw* commencing this last syllable. 1844 W. UPTON *Physioglyphics* 156 The Hebrew having no express character for *o*, the full sound of it is indicated by a *vau* with a dot above.

Vaude·se, variant of VAUDOIS *sb.* and *a.*

1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) VIII. 6179/1 The valleys between France and Italy are inhabited by the Vaudese, who are Protestants. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2274 In Nov., 1845, the Vaudese clergy left the Established Church. *Ibid.*, The Vaudese revolution.

Vaudeville (vōdvil, -vīl). [F. *vaudeville*, earlier *vau* (pl. *vaux*) *de ville*, *vau de vire*, and in full *chanson du Vau de Vire* a song of the valley of Vire (in Calvados, Normandy). The name is said to have been first given to songs composed by Olivier Basselin, a fuller of Vire in the 15th c.]

1. A light popular song, commonly of a satirical or topical nature; *spec.* a song of this nature sung on the stage.

The entry in Blount *Glossogr.* (1656) is copied directly from Cotgrave (1611).

1739 H. WALPOLE *Let. to R. West* 18 June, I will send you one of the vaudevilles or ballads which they sing at the comedy after their *petites pièces*. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 85 Whenever Carbonel sings his delicious vaudevilles we think of you. 1844 WATTS *Bibl. Brit.* II. 617 Simon de la Loubere also wrote Songs, Vaudevilles, Madrigals, Sonnets, Odes, &c.

2. A play or stage performance of a light and amusing character interspersed with songs. Also without article, this species of play or comedy.

1833 LYTTON *Godolphin* ix, Fanny..was inimitable in vaudeville, in farce, and in the lighter comedy. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 65/2 The third, the Olympic, is a tiny show-box for vaudevilles and burlesques. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxix, Country people always go to see tragedies. None of your flimsy vaudevilles for them! 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xx, In this world and all the life upon it only like a farce or vaudeville, where you find no great meanings?

attrib. 1891 *Times* 28 Oct. 13/4 A vaudeville entertainment, which was continued for about three months. 1899 MORROW *Bohem. Paris* 15 Paris, the great city, the vaudeville playhouse of the world.

Vaudevillist (vō·dvilist). [ad. F. *vaudevilliste* (1735), f. *vaudeville*: see prec.] A writer of vaudevilles.

1879 *Gentl. Mag.* Oct. 478 Whilst the writer of comedy has grown too witty, the vaudevillist too stupid. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 502/1 The untiring inventiveness of innumerable vaudevillists.

Vau·dism. *rare*⁻¹. [Irreg. f. next.] The tenets of the Vaudois.

1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* V. 17 All persons whatsoever, living or dead,..under the suspicion of heresy or Vaudism.

Vaudois (vōdwa), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 Valdois. [F., repr. med.L. *Valdensis*: see WALDENSES.] **a.** *sb. pl.* Waldensians. **b.** *adj.* Waldensian.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 219 Ther be in the French prouince a people called Valdois. They of an aunciente custome, doe not acknowledg the bishop of Rome. 1692 P. BOYER (*title*), The History of the Vaudois. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Vaudois had their name from this Valdo, whose Retainers they were. They were also call'd Lyonists. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 737/1 In the valleys of Lucerne, Peyrouse, and St. Martin..live the celebrated Waldenses or Vaudois. 1830 WHITTIER (*title*), The Vaudois teacher. *Ibid.* 27 She hath gone to the Vaudois vales. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 234 The church of Rome and its Italian princes had deeply disgraced themselves by their conduct to the unhappy Vaudois. 1856 R. PALMER *Hum. & Pers. Mem.* I. xvii. 256 He reported of the Vaudois pastors, that they were desirous of cultivating the Anglican connection.

Vau·douism. [f. next.] = VOODOOISM.

1884 *Spectator* 13 Dec. 1651/2 Vaudouism, which now rages in Hayti, is, in fact, an old African creed, and its priests hold cannibalism necessary to their rites. 1890 *U. P. Mag.* June 245 Great numbers of all ranks secretly practise vaudouism.

Vaudoux (vōdō). [F.] = VOODOO *sb.* Also *attrib.*

1864 R. F. BURTON *Mission to Gelele* (1893) I. 62 The Vaudoux or small green snake of the Haytian negroes, so well-known by the abominable orgies enacted before the 'Vaudoux King and Queen'. 1884 in Sir S. St. John *Hayti* v. 208 The fetish sect of Vaudoux, imported into Hayti by the slaves coming from the tribes on the western coast of Africa. *Ibid.* vii. 247 A freshly built temple dedicated to the Vaudoux worship.

Vaudy (vō·di), *a. Sc.* Also **vady**, **vaudie**. [Of obscure origin.] **a.** Elated, delighted. **b.** Stout, stalwart. **c.** Gay or fine in appearance.

Piper of Peebles 7 Cummers fled and hurl'd as weel On ice, as ony vady chiel. 1805 ANDR. SCOTT *Poems* (1808) 222 In blue worset boots that my auld mither span, I've aft been fu' vaudy [1821 vanty] sin' I was a man. *a* 1869 CHARLES SPENCE *Poems* (1898) 72 Now I got new trews and coat, And stalked about in trappings vaudie.

Vauer, obs. Sc. form of WAVER *v.*

Vauessour, obs. form of VAVASOUR.

†Vaughouse. *Obs.*⁻¹ [ad. Du. *wachthuis* or LG. *wachthûs*.] A guard-house.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* (Chaucer Soc.) 131 But they this leader to the vaughouse bore, wheare..how cowardice, ..how crueltie abusd his rancke, let silence put it bye.

Vaught, obs. f. VAULT *sb.*¹, *v.*¹, and *v.*²

Vault (vôlt), *sb.*¹ Forms: *α.* 4–6 **voute** (5 **woute**), 4–6 (9 *Sc.*) **vout** (5 **wout**); 5–6 **vowte** (5 **wowte**), 5 (9 *Sc.*) **vowt**; 5 **voghte** (**wogte**), 6 **vowght**, **vought**. *β.* 5 (6 *Sc.*) **woult**, 6 **voulte**, **voult**; 5–7 **volt** (5 *Sc.* **volut**), 5–6 **wolte**, *Sc.* **wolt**. *γ.* 4 **vavte**, 4–7 **vawte**, 5–6 **vaute**; 4–7 **vaut** (5 **vavtt**), **vawt**, 6 **vaught**, **vawght**. *δ.* 6 **valte**, **vaulte**, **valt**, 6– **vault**. [*a.* OF. *voute*, *voulte*, *volte*, *vaulte*, *vaute* (mod.F. *voûte*), = Prov. *volta*, *vouta*, *vota*, It. and Pg. *volta* :—pop.L. **volta*, ppl. sb. f. L. *volvĕre* to turn. Cf. VOLT *sb.*

It is not clear at what date the *l* finally established itself in the standard pronunciation of this word and *sb.*², together with the related verbs, etc. As in the case of *fault*, there is some tendency towards the use of a short vowel (vŏlt) in all the forms.]

1. A structure of stones or bricks so combined as to support each other over a space and serve as a roof or covering to this; an arched surface covering some space or area in the interior of a building, and usually supported by walls or pillars; an arched roof or ceiling.

The two chief varieties are the *barrel* or *cylindric(al) vault* and the *groined vault*.

α. 1387 *Charters of Edinb.* (1871) 35 The voute abovyn Sant Stevinys auter. 1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 58 Pe voute of Okeham stepil. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 454 In a were tyme þai war sett aboue a vowte in þe kurk. 1491 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 181 To the massonis of the Palis, in drinksiluer for the pendin of three voutis, iij vnicornis. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* xvi. 59 He spredeth out the heauen like a vowte. 1539–40 in *Devon N. & Q.* (1903) Oct. 238 Hewyng of tymber for the lytell chamber vought att Powderham. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Camera*, a vowte. 1808 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* x. 89 Feint a hair cared he about auld kirks, or kirkyards, or vouts, or throughstanes. 1901 TROTTER *Galloway Gossip* 239 He..cam on a vowt biggit wi' stane an lime.

β. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 2434 It had vnder erd but weir Standand woltis & cavis seir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IX. viii. 114 Sa sairly knyt that maner embuchement Semyt to be a clos volt quhar thai went. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) I. 18 The riche Cardinal of Winchester gildid all the Floures and Knottes in the Voulte of the Chirch. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 247 The wallis ar revin, and the volt thairthrow partit, neir hand the ane side from the uther.

γ. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7197 (Laud MS.), þe toures maken, & þe torels, Vawtes, Alures, & þe kirnels. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 81 Vawtes of stoonwerk wonderliche i-wrou3t. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxviii. 581 See you yonder vawte by the grete hous? 1523 SKELTON *Gart. Laurel* 476 Enuawtyd with rubies the vawte was of this place. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xvi. 50 b, There are conduit pypes.., supported some by vautes, and othersom by..pillars. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Kings* vii. 3 He decked the whole vaut with bordes of ceder. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 66 The walls, vautes,..and windows they razed and teare a down.

δ. 1545 ELYOT, *Arcus*,..the vault of a rouse. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 114 b, They set a young man..above over the vaulte of the churche. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxiv. 65 The arcenal..hath neare an hundreth arches or vaultes to builde and hale the gallies vnder couer and drye. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xiii. 112 With a slender covering of mats or straw, they are better preserved from the heate, than in Spaine vnder a roofe of wood, or a vault of stone. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 271, I did intend here to have added something about the Arching of Vaults, but..shall .omit speaking of Vaults in this Exercise. 1730 GRAY *Elegy* 39 The long-drawn isle and fretted vault. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 42 The vault of the king's own chapel at St. James. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xx, The shadow of the ribbed and darksome vault, with which veneration .. had canopied its source. 1840 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 3) I. 306 In groined vaults the arches which cross each other do not always correspond in width.

b. *transf.* An arching roof or covering resembling a structure of this kind.

a 1470 TIPTOFT *Caesar* xii. (1530) 14, vii Legions made in a manner a vaut to hyde them. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 405 A man shall see the drops of water become stone, as they hang to the very vaults of the rocke. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* II. iv, At length the bowery vaults appear! 1773 *Cook's Voy.* I. xvi. (Hawksworth) II. 170 They frequently passed under vaults, formed by fragments of the rock. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 557 The net is tightened.., and forms a grand vault over the whole cherry garden. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 137 The coloured segments of globe out of which foam is constituted, are portions of spherical vaults constructed of fluent particles. 1877 BRYANT *Little People of Snow* 151 And now the white walls widened, and the vault Swelled upward, like some vast cathedral dome.

c. The apparent concave surface formed by the sky. Chiefly *poet.* and usually with defining terms.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XIX. vii, His [the sun's] race is ev'n, from ende of heav'n, About that vault he goeth. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1229 From whence he vewes..Whatso the heauen in his wide vawte containes. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 259 Had I your tongues and eyes, Il'd vse them so, That Heauens vault should crack. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Nemean Ode* ii, Through earth, and ayr, and Seas, and up to th' heavenly Vault. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* I. vi. 5 This Vault of Air, this congregated Ball, Self-center'd Sun, and Stars that rise and fall. 1782 COWPER *Hope* 79 When evening turns the blue vault grey. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 215 The intersection of the plane of the water with the hemispherical celestial vault. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 229 The vault of the nocturnal sky. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* viii 331 The bright vault of heaven.

d. *Anat.* One or other of certain concave structures or surfaces normally facing downwards.

1594 T. R. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 150 Vessels and instruments, which serue the brayne,..amongest the which there is. another called a vault, both in respect of the fashion and of the vse. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 95 This vault is formed by the nasal bones and the nasal processes of the maxillary bones. *Ibid.* 423 The posterior lobes and the vault of the hemispheres of the cerebrum. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* iv. (1874) 45 The upper and middle portions of the cranial vault. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 818/2 He..distinguishes the posterior pillars of the vault from the pedes hippocampi.

2. An enclosed space covered with an arched roof; *esp.* a lower or underground apartment or portion of a building constructed in this form.

α, *β.* 1396–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 600 Pro carla-c[ione] vj^xx lad. petr[arum]..pro le vout. 14.. *Dorothe* 101 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 192 Sche scholde not scape so sone, he thowȝt; He put here in prison in a vowhte. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* IV. 1195 Alle the presen, whiche had yowtes seuene, Was light that tyme right of his presens. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 404 The buyldynge of olde antiquite In cellers and lowe voultes, and halles of realte. 1554–5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 268 To ressave voultis fra the monkes to put in lyme. 1558 *Ibid.* 432 For carying of the foirsaid furneising..to ane wolt. 1616 *Extr Aberd. Rec.* (1898) II. 330 To mack ane hewin doir in the mid wall, betuixt the northmest voult and the southermest voult.

γ. 1488 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 253 He commaundid to kepe his chylde..and that hit were Enclosid in a vaut of stone. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* Pref. 2 The grete stones & meruaylous werkys of yron lyeng vnder the grounde & ryal vautes. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* xiii. 276 Than went we doune to an other vaute. 1534 in *Archæol. Cant.* VII. 286 In the Vawt where the Moncks do dyne. Jolde table [etc.]. 1584 *Star Chamber Decrees Print. & Stat.* (1863) 21 That no presse be used in vaut or secret place, but such as may easily and openly be found in search. 1602 CAMPION *Bk. Airs* Wks. (Iullen) 91 Thnt man needs neither towers..Nor secret vauts to fly From thunder's violence.

fig. 1545 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. xvii. R vlij b, So throwing them selues into a muste confuse Chaos or vawte of double dotage.

δ. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 77 These vaultes are alltogether neclected. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 84 They make their little Vaults very quickly, and in building of them use Timber as with us. 1698 KRILL *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 117 In Vaults and Caves there is no sensible alteration of heat in Summer and Winter. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXVI, From the steps they proceeded through a passage adjoining the vaults. 1836 EMERSON *Nature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 151 A paper currency is employed, when there is no bullion in the vaults. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xi. 113 The thermometer inside was at +90°, and the vault [=hut] measured fifteen feet by six.

b. A place of this kind used as a cellar or storeroom for provisions or liquors.

1500 in J. Latimer *Merch. Vent. Bristol* (1903) 34 In his mansion or shop or in celers or vawts y^t he holdeth..in fee. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 42 In our dayes vse to keepe both Wine and Grayne in suche vaultes. 2 NASHE *Summers Last Will* 1188 Bacchus, for thou abus so earths fruits, Impris'ned liue in cellars and in vawtes. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 45 Most of them three Stories high, with very noble Lodgings, Store-Houses, Vaults and Stables belonging to them. 1699 POMFRET *Poems, The Choice*, I'd have a little Vault, but always stor'd With the best Wines each Vintage could afford. 1730 SWIFT *Panegyrick on Dean* Wks. 1751 IV. I. 136 When to the vault you walk in state, In quality of butler's mate. 1786–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 120 Among other cellars, there is one which perhaps has not its equal..This vault communicates with another. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* XXXVI, The wine cellar at the Homestead was not a stately vault.

fig. 1608 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. iii. 101 The Wine of Life is drawne, and the meere Lees Is left this Vault, to brag of.

3. †**a.** An arched space under the floor of a church, used for ecclesiastical purposes; a crypt.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 Vnder þe kirk also es a vowte, whare Cristen men dwelles. *a* 1450 BOTTENER *Itin.* (1778) 176 The second way goth ryght est by the voult of Seynt Johnys chyrch. 1503–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 252 Payd for a stay bar of yerryn to stay the Nev pevys

[=pews] In to þe vawlt. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 31 A very fayre churche,..wherein we descendyd into a wonder fayre vaught.

b. A burial chamber (originally with arched roof), usually altogether or partly under ground.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 223 After he was remoued to Winsore and there in a new vawte newly intumilate. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul* v. iii. 86 Here lies Iuliet, and her beautie makes This Vault a feasting presence full of light. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* x, For some there was that to the imitation of Abraham, made vp little cauas or voltes, for buriall vse. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 379 Hee purposed .. that his bones should bee bestowed in an arched vault made under the chancell of Saint Peters Church in Oxford. 1722 *Lond. Gaz* No. 6084/7 The Body was deposited in the Vault. 1749 in *Nairne l'estrige Evidence* (1874) 81 Mrs. Jean Mercer..lyes .opposite to the Duke of Roxburghs vault. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 172 In as few years their successors will go to the family vault of 'all the Capulets'. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. 187 'Now,' said the priest, 'you must help me to bring forth the bodies that are to be buried in this vault'. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 37/1 A vault cannot properly be made either in the church or churchyard, without the consent of the ordinary. *Ibid.*, A vault may be attached by prescription to a mansion. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 61 The vaults beneath the Chancel, sometimes called the dead-house.

†**4. a.** A covered conduit for carrying away water or filth; a drain or sewer. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1607 The water..Gosshet through Godardys & other grete vautes, And clensit by course all þe clene Cite. 1533 *MS. Rawl. D.* 776 lf. 131 b, Makyng of new vawtis of bryk to Conevaye the water Commyng frome the leades of the said Castell vnder the said new wharff. 1567 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. ii. 154 The gouernors..shall viewe the comen sewer or vawt at the seid house. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 53 A goodly Jakes within the town with a vault to conevey all filth into the Tiber. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb. 1645, The streetes..having many vaults and conveyances under them for the sullage.

†**b.** A cistern. *Obs.*—1

1552 HULOET, Vault or place to receaue rayne water, *impluuium*.

†**c.** A necessary-house; a privy. *Obs.*

1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav. Lond. to Hamburgh* Wks. (1630) 80/2 The Hangman..hath the emptying of all the vaults or draughts in the city. 1665 *Orders Ld. Mayor Lond.* in De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg.) 64 That no Nightman.. be suffered to empty a Vault into any Garden. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Vault*, an..House of Office.

5. A natural cavern, cave, or overarched space; † a deep hole or pit.

sometimes filled with water, and otherwhiles neither bottome, trees, or water maie be perceiued. 1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 40 A holl or deepe vaute in the grounde wherinto the sea floweth at high water verie farr under the earth. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 11 This City is of a round forme, compassed of all sides with Mountaines, having many Vauts or Caues vnder it. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 127 Some shou'd digg Vaults and Holes in the Earth, as Rabbets, to secure themselves and their Young. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 274 In the burning entrails of which..the fire-consumed Ætnean vaults incessantly thunder. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* iii. 61 It is from the deep vaults to which primæval life has been consigned that the history of the dawn of life is to be composed. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 38 The vault at the end of the glacier.

transf. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 29 Moreouer in the interiour part of the wrest, we finde a broad, and deepe cauitie,..through the which are concurrent, not a small number of tendons of Muscles, to be inserted to the ioyntes of the fingers. And in this vawte, or hollow, they seeme as it were included, or locked up.

†**b.** *To go to the vault*: (see quot.). *Obs.*

1576 TURBERV. *Veneris* 165, I' haue seene [hares] that woulde take the ground like a Coney (whiche is called going to the vault) when they haue beene hunted.

6. *techn.* The inner portion of a steel furnace.

1805 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 341 Inside the conical building is a smaller furnace, called the vault, built of fire-brick or stone..D D, in the section, is the dome of the vault. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* 409 The temperature in each furnace is regulated by closing or opening the small flues in the arch of the vault.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vault beam, -cover, door, fashion, height, -like* adj., *pier*, etc.

1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* vi. 9 *marg.*, [He covered] the *vault beams and the sielings with Cedar. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2694/1 A *vault-cover with glass bull's-eyes or prisms. 1553–4 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 345 Ane greit loke to the *wolt dure of Sanct Thomas ile. 1552 HULOET, Vaultyng or makyng a worke..*vault fascion, *concameratio*. 1616 *Extr. Aberd. Rec.* (1848) II. 338 The said Thomas.. sall big the same of the breidth of the haill tolbuith quhill it be *voult hight. 1847 DICKENS *Haunted M.* i, His dwelling was so solitary and *vault-like. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 50 Whenever we emerged into the vault-like streets. 1905 F. BOND *Gothic Architecture* 38 Nowhere is the result plainer than in the construction of the Gothic *vault pier. *c* 1630 DONNE *Serm.* cli. Wks. 1839 VI. 73 These particular Spirits in their *Vault-prayers and Cellar-service shake the pillars of State and Church. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings* Wks. 1907 XVI. 113 *Vault-roof reverberates, groans the ground! 1843 TIZARD *Brew-*

Higden I. xlviii. (1527) 47 A thre chambred hous made of *vawte stones. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The several *Voussoirs*, or Vault-stones whereof it [an arch] consists. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* ii, The..vault-stone stared blue and cold at the cold moon. *a* 1610 G. BABINGTON *Wks.* (1622) II. 35 That late thrice-damnable Powder-Treason, or *Vault-Treason; what name might it haue answerable to the iniquitie of it? 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 58 [A] building round & strongly set vp *vawtwise in form of the Hemispherike. 1611 COTGR., *Ketombe*,..a flat vault, or a roome thats made vault-wise. 1668 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 67 Their Cabans, or Huts, which are covered vault-wise, are built half under-ground. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 808 Every brilliant pair finished..was briskly strung up on cobwebs, with which the cart, vaultwise, was interwoven. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. v. 584 This Temple was borne vp with *Vault-worke. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 35/2 Pit-sand..they use..in Vault-work, but not in plaistering.

Vault (vɔ̄lt), *sb.*[2] Also 6 **vaute.** [f. VAULT *v.*[2], or, in sense 2, ad. F. *volte*.]

1. An act of vaulting; a leap or spring; † *spec.* of harts (see quot. 1576).

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 45 It is a pleasure, to beholde them when they goe to Rutte and make their vaute. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* I. xl, So on a wither'd tree he fairly set him, And helpt him fit the rope,..So thear he stands, readie to hell to make his vault. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* Wks. I. 93/1 What Necromanticke spells are Rut, Vault, Slot, Pores, and Entryes, Abatures, and Foyles. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Vault* is also used for the Manages practis'd on the wooden Horse, to learn to mount and unmount with Ease and Expedition. 1868 W. R. SMITH in *Life* (1912) iii. 94 A popular exercise is the spring vault. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 153/2 The world's record in the fence vault, and..the pole vault. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 2/1 M. Brocas fell to the ground, after his vault.

†**2.** = VOLTE (in the manege). *Obs.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., There are some Vaults wherein the Horse makes two parallel Circles.

Vault (vɔ̄lt), *v.*[1] Forms: α. 4 *Sc.*, 5 **voute** (4 *Sc.* **wout-**); 4, 6 **vowte** (5 **vowytn**), 6 **vought**, 7 *Sc.* **wowt**; 6 **volt**, 6, 7 *Sc.*, **voult**. β. 5–6 **vawte** (5 **vawth-**), 5–7 **vaut(e**, 6 **vaught**. γ. 6 **vaulten, vaulte, valte**, 6– **vault**. [ad. OF. *vouter, voulter, volter, vaulter* (mod.F. *voûter*), f. *voute*, etc., VAULT *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To construct with, to cover in with, a vault or arched roof. Also with *over*.

α. 1387 *Charters Edinb.* (1871) 35 The forsaidys..sal mak and voute v. chapellis on the south syde of the paryce kyrc of Edynburgh. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii. 3 Thou voltest it aboue with waters. 1616 *Extr. Aberd. Rec.* (1848) II. 338 The said Thomas..sall voult ouer the nethermest voultis the hight of the tolbuith fluir. *a* 1656 R. GORDON *Contin. Hist. Earls Sutherl.* (1813) 309 The Earl..finished the great tour the same yeir, wowting it to the top.

β. 1511–2 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 478 They can..vawte the chirch..after the fourme of a platte therfor deuised. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 42 b, They doo vaute the floore with Bryckes. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1714/1 Sir William Chester..and John Calthrop .couered and vauted the towne ditch from Aldersgate to Newgate.

γ. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. v. 12 The first builders of this house vaulted vnder the ground a secret way vnknowne to any but my selfe. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 303 The Concavity of Trees hung in the aire, hath taught our Architects to vault buildings. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 73/2 What-ever sort of Arch you vault your Bridge with. 1809 BOWLES *Days Departed* 8 Ask of the Geologist How Nature, vaulting the rude chamber, scoop'd Its vast recesses. 1848 G. S. HILLARD in *Life Longf.* (1891) II. 111 But to combine them all, to vault them with such a sky,..this is not easy. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Deserts S. France* II. 104 The various attempts made to vault the naves.

b. In pa. pple. used predicatively. (Cf. VAULTED *ppl. a.*)

α. 1387 *Charters Edinb.* (1871) 35 The fyfte chapel woutyt with a durre. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) lii. 17 And undre theise Stages ben Stables wel y-vowted for the Emperours Hors. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 689 Fresche alures with lusty hiȝe pynacles,..Vowted aboue like reclinatories. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 26 There is a fayre large Chapell, well voughted and lyghted by many lampes brennynge. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) II. 53 A right fair and costely peace of Worke..made al of Stone and curiusly voultid.

β. 1434 *Indenture Fotheringhay* in Dugdale *Monast.* (1846) VI. 1414/2 Three strong and mighty arches vawtbid with stoon. 1448 HEN. VI in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 356, ij. chambres aboue, vauted. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxxxix. 99/1 The houses within were well vawted with stone, so that the engynes nor spryngalles dyd the men but small domage. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 105 b, He caused an oxe to be made of wood, inwardly vauted and hollow within. 1618 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* Note to ill. 238 Chedder Cleeues, rocky and vauted, by continual distilling, is the fountain of a forcible stream.

γ. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii, Narrow Vales vaulted about with Hils. 1615 tr. *De Montfart's Surv. E. Indies* 20 The said place is all vaulted about with Porches. 1686 WOOD *Life* 20 July, Buried..in a grave brickt and vaulted over with bricks. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 165 The inside is vaulted, and is large enough for the reception of eight or ten beavers. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 19 It was rain-water, preserved in small reservoirs, vaulted over with brick and mortar. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* viii, The study..was vaulted with stone. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* v. 77 Long ranges of buildings..most solidly vaulted.

c. Of things: To form a vault over (something); to cover like a vault; to overarch.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 214 The dismal hiss Of fiery Darts in flaming volies flew, And flying vaulted either Host with fire. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 70 The wall beginning to bend forward, Arch-wise, as if it were to vault a Portico. 1729 YOUNG *Busiris* IV. i, Have I not seen whole armies vaulted o'er With flying lav'lins? 1776 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 23 Jan. (1809) I. 21, I was vaulted over with water in a moment. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. 287 The trifoid arbours which vaulted over the paths, are hung with beautiful flowers of all kinds. 1829 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VII. 231 Blaze-trailing fuses vault the night's dim round, And shells and langrage lacerate the ground.

2. *absol.* To construct a vault or vaults. *rare*—[0].

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512/1 Vowtyn, or make a vowte, *arcuo, testudino*. 1552 HULOET, Vaulten or make vaultes, or arches, *fornico*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 16/40 To valte, *arcum ducere*.

3. To bend, arch, or raise (something) after the manner of a vault.

1552 HULOET, Vaulten or make bente lyke a bowe, *arcuor*. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXVI. liii, Whose skillfull art did vault the skies. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 376 You must Vault the Earth, whereby it may hang over them, and not touch them. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., To vault a horse-shoe, is to forge it hollow,..that the shoe, thus hollow or vaulted, may not bear upon the sole that is higher than the hoof. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos Eaters* 85 Hateful is the dark-blue sky, Vaulted o'er the dark-blue sea. 1877 J. BAYCE *Transcauc. & Ararat* 35 Looking..across the vast expanse, with the wide blue sky vaulted over it.

†**4.** To make vaults or cavities under (something).

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 77 Wee shall vault and vndermine your foundations in such maner that they shalbe torne vpside downe.

5. *intr.* To curve in the form of a vault.

1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nuns of Desert* II. 166 The spangled arch, which vaulted to the footstool of the Throne of Mercy. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* V. 30 A dusky deep, serene as breathless even, Seem'd vaulting downward like another heaven. 1844 EMERSON *Misc., Tantalus* Wks. (Bohn) III. 323 Her mighty orbit vaults like the fresh rainbow into the deep.

Vault (vɔ̄lt), *v.*[2] Forms: α. 6 **vaute**, 6–7 **vaut**; 6 **vaught**. β. 6– **vault**. [app. ad. OF. *volter* (*voulter*, etc.) to gambol, leap, assimilated in form to prec.]

1. *trans.* **a.** To mount (a horse) by leaping. *rare*—[1].

1538 ELYOT, *Desultor*, he that can vaute [*pr.* vaunte; 1545 vaulte] a horse, and leape frome one horsbacke vnto an other. [Cf. VAULTING *vbl. sb.*[2] 2, quot. 1532.]

†**b.** *fig.* (Cf. LEAP *v.* 9.) *Obs.*

1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 134 Should he make me Liue like Diana's Priest, betwixt cold sheets, Whiles he is vaulting variable Rampes In your despight.

c. To get over, surmount, by vaulting.

1884 *Kendal Mercury & Times* 3 Oct. 5/1 The gate..has been locked,..so that foot passengers have to vault the gate. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 550/1 Rodgers vaulted the boxwood and seated himself on her veranda.

2. *intr.* To spring or leap; *spec.* to leap with the assistance of the hand resting on the thing to be surmounted, or with the aid of a pole.

α. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 64 To vaut lustely, to runne, to leape, to wrestle. 1591 LODGE *Hist. Dk. Normandy* G ij, He was actiue of bodie, & vaughted exceedingly well. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 148 If I could winne a Lady at Leape-frogge, or by vawting into my Saddle, with my Armour on my backe. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 170 King Theutobocchus..was wont to vaut over foure or five horses set together. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 95 The generous and gallant Phaëton, All courage, vaut's into the blazing Throne.

β. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* II. i, Such a delicate steeple, I' the towne, as Bow, to vault from. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. xi. 135 When we addresse ourselves to prayer ..let us..when we have done, not rise from the ground as if we vaulted, or were glad we had done. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 268 In his Dances he leap'd up, and vaulted, like Phrynichus, who was celebrated for those Performances. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 84 Vaulting from one to the other. 1792 COWPER *Iliad* VII. 285 In standing fight adjusting all my steps To martial measures sweet, or vaulting light Into my chariot, thence [I] can urge the foe. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xxii, Vaulting from the ground, His saddle every horseman found. 1830 TENNYSON *Mermaid* 33, I would.. lightly vault from the throne and play With the mermen in and out of the rocks. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 220 Can he vault among swords, and turn upon a wheel.

fig. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 68 Ignorance seldom vaults into knowledge, but passes into it through an intermediate state of obscurity. 1836 EMERSON *Nature* viii. *Prospects* Wks. (Bohn) II. 171 As if a banished king should buy his territories inch by inch, instead of vaulting at once into his throne. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 212 *note*, He was ordained priest a day or two only before he vaulted into the Archbishopric of Canterbury.

†**b.** = LEAP *v.* 9. *Obs.*

Cf. fig. uses of VAULTER[2] and VAULTING *vbl. sb.*[2]

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 44 Harts do commonly beginne to Vault about the middest of September 1725 *New Cant. Dict., To Vault*, to commit Acts of Debauchery.

Vaultage (vɔ̄·ltedʒ). [f. VAULT *sb.*[1]] A vaulted place or area; a series of vaults.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 124 Hee'le call you to so hot an Answer of it, That Caues and Wombie Vaultages of France Shall chide your Trespas. 1603 HEYWOOD *If you know not me* Wks. 1874 I. 290 *D. Now.* What is this vaultage for..? *Gresh.* Stowage for merchants ware, and strangers goods. *a* 1839 GALT *Demon Destiny* II. 12 Hell rebellowing through her vaultages. 1863 K. H. DIGBY *Chapel of St. John* (ed. 2) 38 It might be well for you to cast one look back towards this sepulchral vaultage. 1863 *East London Observer* 27 June, To be let, the vaultage of a large chapel in the Commercial Road.

Vaulted (vɔ̄·ltĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. VAULT *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

1. Having the form of a vault; arched or rounded.

†**a.** Of the chin. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxlvi. 549 Her skynne was as whyte as ye floure in the mede,..her throte smoth and clere, her chyne vaunted [*printed* vaunted; Fr. *voltis*].

b. Of a roof or ceiling, etc.

1552 HULOET, Vaulted rowffe, *testudinatum tectum*. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1895) I. 126 The fayer embowed or vawted roofes, or..fretised seelings. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* iv. § 1 (1643) 54 The world being mans house, the Firmament is as the vaulted roof of it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 536 Now to the Court arriv'd, th' admiring Son Beholds the vaulted Roofs of Pory Stone. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* III. i, Raging Mirth With peals of Clamour shakes the vaulted Roof. 1789 SMYTH tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 115 Terms applied without distinction to all vaulted ceilings whatever. 1844 A. P. DE LISLE in E. Purcell *Life* (1900) I. vii. 122 It contains fine stained glass, and a vaulted ceiling painted with semi-Gothick patterns. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* III. xii. 109 A vaulted arch supported an upper chamber.

c. Of the sky. (Cf. VAULT *sb.*[1] 1 c.)

c 1590 MONTGOMERIE *Sonnets* lvi, Vndemeth the heuinly vaulted round. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 611 The fume.. mounts fro thence In rolling globes vp to the vauted skies. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 33 Hath Nature giuen them eyes To see this vaulted Arch, and the rich Crop Of Sea and Land? 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 524 The vaulted Firmament With loud Acclaims, and vast Applause is rent. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE, *Elegies* vi. 26 Pale Cynthia mounts the vaulted sky. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 97 A temple, one not made with hands, The vaulted firmament 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. II. 44 Lost in the vaulted azure The lark sends down his flickering lay.

d. In miscellaneous uses.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. VI. i. 140 The Vaulted-Limpet. *Patella concamerata.* 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v., Vaulted, *fornicatus*; arched. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 514 Blos[om] upper lip vaulted. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 47 Umbilicus large, armed with small vaulted scales. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 47 Wild horses have larger heads than domestic horses, with more vaulted foreheads. 1858 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* II. 75 A vase .having a vaulted cover. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. lvi, The skull [in reptiles] is less vaulted and less capacious than in Aves.

2. Constructed or furnished with an arched roof; covered in or roofed by a vault.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 243 The artificiall baines and vaulted stouves and hot houses, which then were newly come vp. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v II, This vaulted Tower's half built of massie stone. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 26 In this Court there are Lodging-rooms under a vaulted Gallery that runs all round it. 1717 BERKELEY *Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks 1871 IV. 520 Below stairs we saw several vaulted chambers. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxi, I have only to go..along the vaulted passage and across the great hall. 1830 WHEWELL *Archit. Notes* 5 In a vaulted church, we have in general one vault which runs longitudinally along the church. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 320 The heavy winter rains supply the vaulted cisterns. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 247 Viollet le Duc says, the design for a vaulted building has to be commenced at the top and worked downwards.

transf. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 78 To dig the mineral from the vaulted earth. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. v. 104 A paradise of vaulted bowers. 1878 H. TAYLOR *Deukalion* I. i. 15 At the bases of the mountain's lofty vaulted entrances of caverns.

3. Immured as in a vault.

1863 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* xx. (1905) 450 Very few could stand this vaulted life of mine.

Hence **Vaulted**ly *adv.*

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 127 The shell round it being vaultedly convex.

Vaulter[1], *rare*—. [f. VAULT *v.*[1]] A builder of vaults.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Welver*, an Archer, or a Vaulter.

Vaulter[2] (vǭ·ltəɹ). Also 6–7 **vauter, vawter, 7 vautor.** [f. VAULT *v.*[2]] One who vaults or leaps. Also *fig.* (quot. 1579).

α. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Amphippi*,..vauters from one horse to an other. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 36 Euery Vawter in one blinde Tauerne or other is Tenant at will, to which shee tolleth resorte. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1278 Demetrius .was well content to heare himselfe called Jupiter Καταβάτης, that is to say, the vawter. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 226 The Numidians,..in manner of vauters,..could leap from the weary horse to a fresh. 1647 HEXHAM I. (Of Weights), A weight of Lead that Leapers, Vauters or Dauncers on ropes hold in their hands.

β. 1552 HULOET, Vaulter on a horse, *desultor*. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Desultor*, a vaulter that leapeth vp and downe from a horse. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 230 He had two Tumblers or Vaulters, one an Englishman, the other an Italian. 1694 *Martens' Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 116 They put them upwards together, as the Vaulters do when they jump over Swords. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 258 ¶ 3 Why should not Rope-dancers, Vaulters, Tumblers,..and Posture-makers appear a-min on our Stage? 1791 COWPER *Odrss.* XVIII. 317 Since fame reports the Trojans..nimble vaulters to the backs of steeds. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, The band of renowned Bohemian vaulters and tumblers. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 301/1 If you want..fame as..a vaulter, or a heaver of heavy weights, the Manhattan is your club.

transf. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1816) I. 108 The encomium which he bestows upon these vigilant little vaulters. *a* 1845 L. HUNT *To Grasshopper & Cricket* 1 Green little vaulter in the sunny grass.

Vaulting (vǭ·ltiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] and *sb.* [f. VAULT *v.*[1] and *sb.*[1]]

1. a. The construction of a vault or vaults; the operation of covering or roofing with a vault.

1512 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 608 Herry Semerk shall haue duryng the tyme of the said vawtyng the vse of certeyn stuffes and necessaryes. 1552 HULOET, Vaultyng or makyng a worke wyth vaultes or vault fascion, *concameratio*. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 76 Then thus it is he alloweth the vaulting or arching over of the Jakes. 1647 HEXHAM I. s.v., A vaulting or making of an arch roofe. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 201 The fourth for the Vaulting of Sellars or any other Offices. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* 506 Domical..vaulting over a circular area was likewise practised by the Romans. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 465/2 Their introduction..caused an entire change in the system of vaulting.

b. The development of a vaulted space.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 150 When the abscess comes into relation with the costal walls, more or less vaulting, with widening and effacement of the intercostal spaces, will be manifest.

2. The work or structure forming a vault.

1513 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 613 The said John Wastell shall make and sett vpp. the vawtyng of ij porches. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 94 A silver sconce that hung from the vaulting. 1790 PENNANT *London* (1793) 65 The vaulting of this was not finished till 1296. 1811 MILNER *Eccles. Archit. Eng.* Pref. p. xvi, The gorgeous vaulting of King's College. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 401 This produces in the vaulting of St. James an effect something like a wooden roof. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* IX. iv, The vaulting (supported partly on low columns..and partly on the basement wall of the church) is therefore of unusual extent.

transf. and *fig.* 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* x, Beyond the azure vaulting of the sky. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 1026 His truth had barred The vaulting of his life.

b. With *a* and pl.: A species, example, or piece of such work.

1750 WEBB *Parentalia* 290 The Romans used hemispherical Vaultings. 1797 S. LYSONS *Rom. Antiq. Woodchester* 17 It is probable that part of the roof was formed by diagonal vaultings, resting on the four columns. 1823 BUCKLAND *Relig. Dilur.* 5 The natural vaultings that compose this subterraneous wonder. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2694/1 Vaultings, or arched roofs, are supported by ribs or groins, often intersecting each other.

transf. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* xv. § 4 (1837) I. 356 The shell..is fortified by a series of ribs and vaultings disposed in the form of arches and domes.

3. *attrib.*, as *vaulting field, pier, pillar, rib, -span, shaft, -surface.*

1830 WHEWELL *Archit. Notes* 21 The vaulting pillars are half columns from the floor. *Ibid.* 44 The principal, or vaulting piers in the Romanesque style were often engaged columns. *Ibid.* 45 In sexpartite vaulting they supply vaulting shafts smaller and less important than the principal piers. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. viii. 97 The entire development of this cross system in connection with the vaulting ribs. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 176 In either case, the error has to be thrown into the vaulting-surfaces. 1880 *Archaeol. Cant.* XIII. 20 The Repton crypt, with its narrow vaulting-spans. 1886 B. BROWN *Schola to Cathedral* iv. 159 Eight triangular vaulting fields corresponding to the eight sides of the drum from which it rises.

Vaulting (vǭ·ltiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. VAULT *v.*[2]; but in fig. uses (see 3 and 4) perh. partly suggested by the etymological sense of L. *fornicātio*.]

1. The action of leaping with a vault, esp. as a gymnastic exercise.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xvii, There is also a ryght good exercise..whiche is named the vautynge [*printed* vauntynge] of a horse: that is to lepe on him at euery side without stiroppe or other helpe, specially whiles the horse is goynge. 1545 — *Dict., Desultura*, lyghtynge vp and down, vaultyng of an horse. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 23, I maie commende hym for playing at weapons,..for vautying, for playing vpon Instrumentes. 1607 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 305 These forraine exercises of vauting and dancing the Moriske. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 644 Ralpho was mounted now, and gotten O'erthwart his Beast with active vau'ting. 1700 WALLIS in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 328 Vaulting, leaping, and the like, are now much disused, as too violent for this softer age. 1836 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 443/2 By vaulting a man can easily clear his own height, and often considerably more.

fig. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. 182 Tu'lus goe scotfree, though thou often bragst, That for a false French-Crowne thou vaulting hadst.

2. *Vaulting horse*: †a. A horse mounted by vaulting, esp. one used for the exercise of leaping into the saddle without the help of a stirrup. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Desultorij equi*, vaultyng horses that light souldiours vsed in warre. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. ix, I'ld spend twentie pound my vauting-horse stood here now. 1613 HEXHAM *Tongue-combat* Ep. Ded. 3 His Puppet..ouer whom hee insults, as vpon a vaulting-horse lowe enough for his leape. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. i, Instead of backing the brave steed o' mornings, To mount the chambermaid; and for a leap Of the vaulting-horse, to ply the vaulting-house.

b. *Gymnastics.* A wooden figure of a horse employed for exercise in vaulting.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2694/1 *Vaulting horse*, a wooden horse in a gymnasium, for practice in vaulting. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 127/1 All kinds of Gymnastic Apparatus,..including..Vaulting Horses, Vaulting Bucks, Vaulting Tables. 1898 *Daily News* 23 March 6/2 The squad representing the School of Arms gave a very neat exhibition of vaulting-horse work.

†3. *Vaulting-house*, a brothel. Also *vaulting-door*, the door of such a place. *Obs.*

(a) 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* I iij, Let him but looke into a vawting house, he shall play his tricks without charges. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sins* IV. (Arb.) 32 Letchery is patron of al your Suburb Colledges, and sets vp Vaulting-houses, and Daunsing-Schooles. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnatural Combat* I. i, Let me but receive My pay that is behind, to set me up A tavern or a vaulting-house. While men love Or drunkenness or lechery, they'll ne'er fall me.

(*b*) 1625 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* IV. iii, No more talking, Dear keeper of the vaulting door; lead on.

†4. *Vaulting-school*: a. = prec. b. (See quot. *a* 1700). *Obs.*

1606 H. PARROT *Mousetrap* 93 Vnto a Garden-house, or Vaulting-schoole. 1637 NABBES *Microcosm.* II, Ayre was my father, and my mother a light-heel'd madame that kept a vaulting-schoole at the signe of Virgo. 1692 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* IV. v, Must my lodging be your vaulting-school still? Thou hast appointed a wench to come hither, I find. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Vaulting-School*, a Bawdy-house; also an Academy where Vaulting, and other Manly Exercises are Taught. [Hence in later slang Dicts.]

5. *attrib.* in various uses, as *vaulting bar, buck, -master, motion.*

1641 W. STOKES (*title*), The Vaulting Master; or the Art of Vaulting reduced to a Method. 1700 WALLIS in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 317 Mr. Bosely (then a dancing-master and vaulting-master here). 1771 M. LORT in J. Granger *Lett.* (1805) 194 He [*sc.* William Stokes] was a noted vaulting-master and rope-dancer. 1839 'CRAVEN' *Walker's Manly Exerc.* (ed. 6) 48 This exercise is conveniently practised on the vaulting bar, which rests upon two or three posts. 1849 *Chambers's Inform. People* II. 643/2 Exercises [in vaulting] are performed with vaulting bars. 1870 HARDY & WARE *Mod. Hoyle, Chess* 40 The Knight is the only piece that possesses what is styled the 'vaulting motion'. 1884 [see 2 b].

Vaulting (vǭ·ltiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. VAULT *v.*[2]] That vaults or leaps.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. 27 Vaulting Ambition, which o'er-leapes it selfe, And falles on th'other. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* II. i, Alibe he know her, As doth the vauting Hart his venting Hind. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xiii. (1857) 217 Such always is the vaulting liberty of a false theology 1868 ISABELLE SAXON *Five Years Golden Gate* 52 So wild are the speculations, and so vaulting is the ambition of the majority of business men. 1887 STEVENSON *Misadv. J. Nicholson* i. 3 It could not come, without vaulting hyperbole, under the rubric of a gilded saloon.

b. *Vaulting monkey*: (see quots.).

1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. i. 31 Vaulting Monkey, *Simia Petaurista.* 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist* I. 109 The White-nosed Monkey (*Cercopithecus petaurista*)...Some call it the Vaulting Monkey.

Hence **Vaultingly** *adv.*

1890 *Temple Bar* Jan. 147 The Niobe was vaultingly ambitious.

Vaulture. [f. VAULT *sb.*[1] Cf. obs. F. *vouture* (*voulture, volture*).] Vaulting.

1692 RAY *Three Physico-Theol. Disc.* (1713) iii. 80 The reason is the Strength and Firmness of their Vaulture and Pillars, sufficient to support the superincumbent Weight.

Vaulty (vǭ·lti), *a.* Also 6 **vautie**, 6–7 **vaultie.** [f. VAULT *sb.*[1]] Resembling a vault; having the arching form of a vault.

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* H iiij, L is yᵉ back or bossing side of the liuer. M the holowe, caue, or vautie part of yᵉ liuer. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xxv. (1622) 441 Well (me thinkes) becomes this vaultie skie A stately tombe to couer him deceased. *c* 1595 J. DICKENSON *Sheph. Compl.* (1878) 8 Heau'ns light, whose vautie roofe bright orbs embosse. 1632 HOWELL *Venice* 76 Sound..which resounds in vaulty and hollow places. 1726 A. MONRO *Anat. Bones* (1741) 94 This vaulty Labyrinth. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 22 Nov. 650/2 The great vaulty interior of the house.

Vaumbras, obs. form of VAMBRACE.

Vaumpe, obs. form of VAMP *sb.*[1]

†**Vaumure**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: α. 5–7 (9) **vawmure** (6 **vawmeure, vawmer**), 6–7 **vaumure.** β. 6–7 **vamure** (6 **vamer**). γ. 6 **vaimure.** [Reduced form of AF. **vaunt-mur*: see VAUNTMURE and AVANTMURE.] An advanced wall or earthwork thrown out in front of the main fortifications; the outer wall or series of walls of a fortification or fortress.

α. *c* 1475 *Contin. Brut.* II. 577 The Flemmynges laid beire gonnes to þe walles, & beete doun þe vawmures and þe walles. 1562 PHAER *Æneid* D d j, Afront the vaumures long ..the legion wayting stood. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1427 Gods prouidence..ouerthrew a peece of the wall and vawmure of six and twentie poles. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 179 The safe recourse they had to the wall and vaumure strengthened with turfe defended these wait-layers from all danger. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 246 [He] took the vawmure, which was of no great strength. *Ibid.* 254 The Macedons therefore not having quite battered the inner wall, but onely undermined a vaumure made of brick. [1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. i, Next, the Palace, with its bulwark and vaumure.]

β. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 133 b, On the Weste side was a greate rampire or banke, very stepe without and within, and like to a vamure of a fortresse, by the vamure the diches were .xxiiii. fote depe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 50 Wherin the vamure must be so steep, that it may not easily be climed. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XI. lxiv, A mount thereof to make, Or else some vamure fit to saue the towne. 1642 *Prince Rupert's Sp. to King* 4 Their graffes or ditches being dry and their vamures unpalisado'd.

γ. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 124 To make up againe their vaimures, the which were thrown downe with the furi of the artillery. *Ibid.*, He threw downe more then halfe thereof [a wall], breaking also one part of the vaimure.

Hence †**Vaumure** *v. trans.*, to provide with a vaumure or advanced earthwork. †**Vaumuring**, the material forming a vaumure; vaumures collectively. *Obs. rare.*

1523 SURREY in Morton *Mon. Ann. Teviotdale* (1832) 27 The said foetres was vawmeured with erthe of the beste sorte..., and had a barbican. *c* 1600 *Surv. Carlisle Castle* in Scott *Border Antiq.* (1814) I. 35 The vawmering of Calder-tower is in decay.

†**Vaunce**, *v. Obs.* Also 4–6 **vaunse**, 6 **vance.** [Aphetic f. of ADVANCE *v.*] To advance, in various senses. (Common in the 16th cent.)

a. *trans.* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3516 Pou art nat ryȝt vaunsed to be. *a* 1400 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* III. 33 (MS. Rawl. Poet. 38), Shal no lewednesse lette þe clerkes þat I Þat be [me] worth furst vaunsed. *a* 1450 *Myrc*

Pass. Pr. 1636 3ef hyt [*i.e.* contrition] be gret, yeue luyte penaunce. β ~~If~~ hyt be luyte, yow moste hyt vaunce [*v.r.* haunce]. β CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xviii. 54 The wy ... it not to putte nor vaunce forth hym and hys ... lyghtly to a batayylle. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* (Arb.) 85 Al thogh..winds vaunce fully thy sayls with prosperus huffing. 1594 R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 21 This hardie speech ..Gaue each one care, and vaunst his courage hie. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* IX. 379 Which emblesms hee bid vaunce, for foes to reede of mercie, iustice, death, how hee

b. *refl.* *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 350 He vaunced hym selfe forthe, and caught the kynge wyth bothe hys armes. — *Blanchardyn* xxiii. 77 As blanchardyn. perceyued þe noble puceile, he dyde vaunce him self toward her. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 616 A picture of an armed Knight on a courser barded Vauncyng himself upon that hill. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 207 But marke the chance, my self to vance, By friendships lot, to Paules I got. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 41 They vaunst themselves, and stood mee bolt upright.

c. *intr.* 1544 BETHAM *Precepte War* I. cxcvii. I vj b, The hoste vauncyng towarde battayl, the capitayne ought to speake these wordes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iv. 17 Sir Satyrane..vauncing forth from all the other band Of knights.

Hence † **Vaunˈcing** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 56 A how bitter luf and vauncing [L. *promotio*]..þat he reys his luf at a moment a-boue a veyn þing. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc) 33 Clerkys that han cunnyng, Schuld have monys soule in kepyng, Bot thai mai get no vaunsyng Without aymony.

Vaunce-roof, variant of VANCE-ROOF.

Vaunchace, variant of VANCHASE *Obs.*

† **Vauneant.** *Obs.*[−1] [a. older F. *vau-, vaut-neant*, f. *vaut* 3rd pers. sing. pres. of *valoir* to be worth + *neant* nothing.] A good-for-nothing person.

1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vitillant* 109 We can doe no other then blame these vau-neantes, vaine & vitious persons.

Vaunplate, obs. form of VAMPLATE.

Vaunt (vɔ̃nt, *U.S.* vänt), *sb.*[1] Now *rhet.* or *arch.* Also 5–6 **vaunte**, 6–7 **vant.** [Aphetic f. AVAUNT *sb.*[1] Cf. VAUNT *v.*]

1. Boasting, bragging; boastful or vainglorious language or utterance; arrogant assertion or bearing.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1880 Bot þof þou þe victor a vaſſe na vaunte sall arise. 14.. *Sir Beues* (S.) 3963+87 Kyng Yuor swoor with grete vaunt Be hys god Termegaunt. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 41 Sic vaunt of wostouris with hairtis in sinfull staturis 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 4 For my part (without vaunt be it spoken,) I haue seruice euery day at certaine appointed houres. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iv. 29 A great Gyant Whom he did ouerthrow..And in three battailes did so deadly daunt, That he dare not returne for all his daily vaunt. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. i. (1846) II. 256 With all the vaunt and insolent port of a conqueror.

personified. *a* 1580 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 523 To Vant and Voky ye beir this rowm alef.

transf. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 14 [Certain orators] would so muche saie as their witte would giue, not weighyng the state of the cause, but mindyng the vaunt of their braine.

2. *To make* (*one's* or *a*) *vaunt*, to boast or brag. Also const. *of* something. Now *rare.*

(*a*) 1530 PALSGR. 619/2 He made his vaunte that he wolde beate me. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 147 The christians .. whom thou haste threated to drawe hy the heare of their heades to the nexte ryuer,..as thou haste often tymes made thy vaunte emonge thy naked slaues. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk* (Camden) 5, [I] am an inch beneath him, as he ons made his vaunt.

(*b*) *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lii. 177 Make no vaunt of ony thynge without thou canst do it in dede, for in euery thynge I wyll proue thee. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* 51 Many make vauntes and crakes of hauing visions of Aungels, whiche they yet neuer sawe 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To make a vaunt of a Thing, to boast of it.

(*c*) 1586 G. WHITNEY *Embl.* 228 Then, let him not make vaunt of his desert. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* iv. (1868) I. 114 He stoutly denied the facts of which the leaguers made vaunt.

3. A boasting assertion, speech, or statement; a boast or brag.

1597 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* Wks. (1912) 186 Tom Drums vants, and his rare intertainment at Mistris Farmers house. 1605 BACON *Ess., Vain-Glory* (Arb.) 463 They that are Glorious, must needs be Factious...They must needs be Violent, to make good their owne Vaunts. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 84 The spirits beneath, whom I seduc'd With other promises and other vaunts Then to submit, boasting I could subdue Th' Omnipotent. 1694 DRYDEN *Love Trl.* I. i, The haughty Captive, who had made his Vaunts To lay their Dwellings level. 1726 POPE *Iliad* V. 580 Now, now thy country calls her wonted friends, And the proud vaunt in just derision ends. *a* 1735 G. GRANVILLE *Unnat. Flights Poetry* 51 Such vaunts as his who can with patience read? 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 108 May the vaunts And menace of the vengeful enemy Pass like the gust. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* IX. II. (1819) III. 375 A writer of the thirteenth [century] asserts that all the world was clothed from English wool wrought in Flanders. This indeed is an exaggerated vaunt. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. i, Spain then first realized the magnificent vaunt,..that the sun never set within the borders of her dominions. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 58 For a man to boast of wisdom when his heart is full of bitter emulation and party spirit is a lying vaunt.

b. Const. *of.*

1565 JEWEL *Reply Harding* (1611) 73 But that the same humanitie of Christ is in the Sacrament, in such grosse sort, as is supposed by our Aduersaries, notwithstanding many bold vants thereof made, yet was it hitherto neuer prooued. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 73 Telling her how he was a King,..what power he had to aduance her, with many other proude vaunts of his wealth. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 20 [He] by reputing of his high descent..And made high ... of his Nobilitie, Did [etc.]. 1624 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 80 Of which his vain pretension, and his frequent vaunts thereof being by letters minded and admonished, he returns this Answer. 1778 BP. LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* Notes (ed. 2) 217 They introduce him as uttering the most extravagant vaunts of his power and ambitious designs. 1826 SCOTT *Rev. Kemble's Life, Biogr.* (1849) 200 Assassins [were] approaching him..in the very midst of his triumphant vaunt of his repeated victories.

† c. (See quot. and cf. BRAG *sb.*[1] 6.) *Obs.*—[0]

1598 FLORIO, *Chiasta*,..a vaunt or vye in gaming.

4. A cause or subject of boasting. *rare.*

1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 188 Is it thus at last That the Achaians .Shall seek again their country, leaving here, To be the vaunt of Ilium and her King, Helen of Argos?

† **Vaunt,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 7 **vant.** [Independent use of the prefix VANT-, VAUNT-. Cf. F. *avant* fore part.]

1. A front part or portion. *rare.*

In the first quot. with reference to the face.

1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* C iiij b, Take awaie this beard, and giue mee a pikede vaunt, Martin sweares by his ten bones. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* Prol. 27 Our Play Leapes ore the vaunt and firstlings of those broyles, Beginning in the middle.

2. The van of an army.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. vi. 9 Go charge Agrippa, Plant those that haue reuolted in the Vant. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 59 Cherisophus led the Vaunt,..Xenophon and the Reare-Commanders brought vp the Reare. 1624 DONNE *Devot.* (ed. 2) 380 When an Army marches, the vaunt may lodge to night, where the Reare comes not till to morrow.

† **Vaunt,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] A kind of fruit pie.

1508–13 W. DE WORDE *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 270 Fruyter vaunte, with a subtylte, two potages, blaunche manger, and gelly. 1594 *Gd. Huswifes Handmaid Kitchin* 38 b, To make a Vaunt. Take marrow of Beefe [etc.]. *Ibid.* 39 Cut it in faire slices,..as long as your Vaunt is.

Vaunt (vɔ̃nt, *U.S.* vänt), *v.* Now *rhet.* or *arch.* Also 5–7 **vant**, 6 **vaunte**, 6 *Sc.* **wantt-**, **wamet-**, 6–7 **vante.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vanter*, = It. and med.L. *vantare*:—pop.L. **vānitāre*: cf. AVAUNT *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To boast or brag; to use boastful, bragging, or vainglorious language.

Fairly common *c* 1600; now *rare* or *Obs.*

14.. LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* VII. 35 Me wilnynge þat men wende ich were..Riche,..Bostynge and Braggynge wyth meny bolde obes, Auauntyng vp-on [*Ilchester MS.* Vauntyng vp] my veine glorie for eny vndernymynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/1 Vaunton, or a-vaunton or booston, *jacto, ostento.* 1513 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C vj/1 They laude their verses, they boast, they vaunt, they iet. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 25 To vaunt, *gloriari.* 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 198 But I will not vaunt, before the victorie. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 31/1 For Southard, men are cruell, moody, madd, Hot blacke, leane, leapers, lustfull, vsd to vant. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 476 All this (as the drunkard will vaunt,) for the honour of..the Prince. 1699 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* 583 He talk'd little, never vaunted, observ'd much, was very secret. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XV. 342 In time he vaunts among his Youthful Peers, Strong-bon'd, and strung with Nerves, in pride of Years. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XI. 462 Transported from his ambush forth he leap'd With a loud laugh, and, vaunting, thus exclaim'd: Oh shaft well shot! it galls thee. 1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nuns of Desert* I. 145 Sometimes vowing never-ceasing affection, then vaunting in his power, threatening revenge for her disdainful repulsion of offers. 1826 ANDR. SCOTT *Poems* 97 He could vaunting tell, That he wad face the ghaist.

b. Const. *of* (or † *on*).

1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* (1888) I. 27 A cunning and skilful Chirurgion needs neuer vaunt of his dooings. 1584–7 GREENE *Menaudo* Wks. (Grosart) III. 67 They thinke no man so able to atchiue any enterprises as he, vanting of his victories. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epigr.* 12 The vanitie of them which vaunt of their auncient nobility. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balnac's Lett.* (vol. I) 394 He..blusheth not at Christian vertues, nor vanteth of moral ones. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 93 The Hollanders..Vant of their scarcity of theeves. 1728 POPE *Iliad* XIII. 82 Here Hector..Vaunts of his gods, and calls high Jove his sire. 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1775, He did not vaunt of his new dignity, but I understood he was highly pleased with it. 1820 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* IV. 53 Who, like the proud Pharisee,..proudly vaunt on their own virtues. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. i, Of such as these I should not care to vaunt. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Wallace* v, The meanest drudge will sometimes vaunt Of independent sires.

c. With other preps.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Peter* II. 19 They are rather filthe and spottes, who in their filthie glotonous banketting vaunt against you, as though you were madde menne. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 559 And all that vaunts in worldly vanitie Shall fall through fortunes mutabilitie. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* XV, When I perceiue that men as plants increase, Cheared and checkt euen by the selfe-same skie: Vaunt in their youthfull sap, at height decrease. 1605 *1st Part Ieronimo* III. ii (Stage direction), Andrea slain, and Prince Balthezer vanting on him. 1628 PEYNNE *Lovelockes* 40 Who vaunts, and triumphes, in the length and largeneese of his Locke. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VII. 86 So erst from earth Antæus vaunting in his giant bulk, When grasp't by force Herculean, down he fell Vanquish'd. 1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nuns of Desert* II. 254 She vaunted over the 'humble and meek'.

† d. With *it.* Also *spec.* (see quot. 1611). *Obs.*

1611 FLORIO, *Chiastare*,..to vant it or vie it in gaming. 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. i, Hearke, how yonder Thrustle chants it, And her mate as proudly vants it.

2. With clause as object, usu. introduced by *that.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccxxxviii. 312/2 He had before smyt and vaunted, howe & the kynge cause to reyse the siege before Ipre, he wolde abyde & fight with hym.

1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 37 Apollinaris in a maseare crakin and waintis that he consentis in deid to the vnitie of the Trinitie. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, I. iii. 87 She vaunted 'mongst her Minions t'other day, The very treyne of her worst wearing Gowne, Was better worth then all my Fathers Lands. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 172 All others may vaunt verily, that they have vanquished men: but Sergius may boast, that he hath conquered..Fortune her selfe. 1633 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* viii. 23 Prester-John, of whose race the Abissins vaunt they are descended. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 136 *note*, The emperor ..vaunting that, with his good sword, .he could cut a man in twain. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. 33 Attila vaunted that the grass never grew again after his horse's hoof.

† 3. *refl.* To boast, extol, glorify, or praise (oneself). Usu. const. *for, of*, or *in. Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2713 For vertu ne no victori ne vant noght þi-selfe. *a* 1500 in *Reliq. Antiq.* etc. 81 Thai rus thaim nocht of done foly,..Na wantis thaim nocht of thar gud deid. 1624 WOTTON *Arch.* 55 Apelles [did excel] in Invention and Grace, whereof he doth himself most vaunt. 1805 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, Thou shouldst know, ere thou vauntest thyself, that one steel glove can crush a whole handful of hornets. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1180 Who may vaunt him as we may in death though he die for the land?

transf. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Kenilworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 119 The Countrey craves consent, your vertues vaunt themselfe. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* III. i, Fore the morning sun Shall vaunt him thrice ouer the loftie east.

† b. With infinitive or object clause. Also with *for* (= as), and double accusative. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. ix. 85 Full oft him self extoll and vant he wald Of Troiane bluide to be descend of ald. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 27 Donatistis..quha craikis and wanetis thame be the auctoritie of that counsal to baptise agane. 1584 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Nav.* IV. xxviii. 146 b, Shooting.., whereof they do vaunt themselues to haue been the first inuentors. 1605 BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 169 Pompey vaunted Himselfe for Sylla's Ouermatch. 1810 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xvi, Thou vauntest thyself a philosopher?

† c. To bear (oneself) proudly or vaingloriously.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 236 The Church that yet vaunteth it se'lfe with two steeples. 1577 *Test. of 12 Patr.* (1604) 52 Ye shall be swoln with wickedness in the priesthood,..not only vaunting and boasting your selves against men, but also being puffed and swoln up with pride against the commandments of God. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Cor.* xiii. 4 Charitie enuieth not: charitie vaunteth not it selfe, is not puffed vp. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xi. (1687) 67 Hath he not crowned himself with greater glory in not vaunting himself in those Trophies?

† 4. *trans.* To proclaim or display proudly. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii 16 Tell me..What shape, what shield,..And what so else his person most may vaunt? 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. ii. 27 There met our armies in their proud aray: Both furnisht well, both full of hope and feare, ..Both vaunting sundry colours of deuice.

5. To boast of (something); to commend or praise in a vainglorious manner.

a 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* II. i, And then I meane to vaunt our victorie. *c* 1596 PRIOR *Partial Fame* 7 He vaunts His Conquest, She conceals Her Shame. 1728 *Freethinker* No. 65. 68 A Keeper of Bears may as well vaunt his Policy, as a Ruler of Slaves. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. Pref. 11 This country, which does not always err in vaunting its own productions. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXXVI, He really felt the ascendency which he vaunted. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Rep.* viii. (1865) I. 226 The Roman matron was taught indeed to vaunt her ignorance as a virtue. 1878 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Soc. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) III. 372 In ignorant ages it was common to vaunt the human superiority by underrating the instinct of other animals.

† b. To utter boastingly. *Obs.*[−1]

1633 P. FLETCHER *Post. Misc.* 87 They eat my heart, they vant that bitter word, Where is thy trust? where is thy hope?

† **Vaunt,** *int. Obs. rare.* [Aphetic form of AVAUNT *int.*, etc.] Avaunt, away, be off!

1598 *Mucedorus* Induct. 13 Vaunt, churlish curre,..Blush, monster, blush, and post away with shame. 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Right Hand* 50 Then, vaunt Dogge! damn'd of thine owne conscience.

Vaunt-, *prefix*, an AF. variant of VANT-. (For examples see VAUNT-CHASE, -COURIER, etc.)

Vauntage. *rare*[−1]. [f. VAUNT *sb.*[1]] Boasting, vaunting.

1818 MILMAN *Samor* III. 374 Frisian and Scandinavian, Cimbrian rich In ancient vauntage of his sires, who clomb The Alpine snows, and shook free Rome with dread.

Vauntbrace, -bras(se, varr. and obs. forms of VANTBRACE.

† **Vaunt-chase.** *Obs. rare.* [prob. ad. AF. **vauntchace*: see VAUNT-.] = VANCHASE. (See also quot. 1688.)

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 213 'There he goeth, thats he,..to him, to him,' naming the hound that goth away with the vauntchace [*sic*] and hallowing the rest vnto him. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 289/1 Vaunt-chase is the Hound that leadeth the rest in the Chase.

Vaunt-courier (vɔ̃nt-, vi:nt, kʊ·riər). Forms: α. 6 **vantcorrour, -currour, -curor,** 6–8 **-curror,** 7 **-curreur, -currer**; 6 **vauntcurrour,** 7 **-curror,** 6–7 **vauntcurrer.** β. 6 **vaunte-,** 6–7 **vauntcurrier,** 7 **-currior,** 6–7 **vantcurrier,** 7 **-curier.** γ. 7 **vantcourier, vauntcourrier,** 7, 9 **vauntcourier.** δ. 7 **vauntcourer, vantcourrer.** ε. *errors.* 7 **vaunt carrier.** [ad. F. *avant-coureur* AVANT-COURIER, with assimilation to forms in VANT-, VAUNT-, and to COURIER. Cf. VAN-COURIER.]

† 1. One of the advance-guard of an army or body

of troops; a soldier or horseman sent out in advance of the main body. Usually in pl. *Obs.*

α. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 433 b, He by his vauntcurrers levied as muche power as he possible might. 1589 Stocker tr. *Diod. Sic.* II. x. 55 The vauntcurrers of eche side gaue intelligence of the approch of one an other. 1590 R. Higcock *Quintess. Wit* 68 b, In the spyes, in the guides, in the vantcorrours, in the principall officers. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 184 Vpon the head of the battell ranged 200 thousande horsemen in small troupes, like our vantcurrers. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III x. II. 114 On the sodaine one of their Vaunt-curriors brought newes of the King's approch. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* IX. 50 Some Vaulcurriers advancing a little before the Army.

β. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Publicola* (1895) I. 275 Lucretius..was appointed to make head against the vauntcurriers of the Sabynes. 1600 Dymmok *Ireland* (1843) 31 The rebel..deliveringe some few shott out of the woods and ditches upon our vaunt-curriers. *a* 1642 Kynaston *Leoline & Sydanis* 1265 How as the swift vant-curriers rode about As sentinell perdue. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 190 Unless the leader look about him in his march and search every hedge by vant-curriers.

γ. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Hornbk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 219 Thou dost not only send out the lively spirits, like vauntcouriers, to fortify and make good the uttermost borders of thy body.

δ. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Vauntcourers*, forerunners. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* v. iii. II. 449 The Carthaginian Horse, and light Armature, fell vpon the Roman Vant-courrers.

ε. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 71 A party of Indians.. fired upon the front and mortally wounded two of the vaunt Carriers.

2. *transf.* One who goes or is sent out in advance in order to prepare the way or to announce the approach of another; a forerunner.

α. 1581 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 177 And this latter so impugned the supremacie of the Patriarch of Constantinople, that he sticked not to call hym the vauntcurrour of Antichrist. 1587 Dnant *Horace, Ep.* iii. cv, And those that wil vauntcurrers be Not I wil draw theim backe. 1607 Dekker *Northward Hoe* II Wks. 1873 III. 29 Ile send my vant-currer presently. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. II. xliv. 479 All such as had been vantcurrors in private colleges to enter into this apostasy.

β, γ. 1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 12 The harbinger, the host, the Steward, the Vauntcourrier. 1606 Dekker *News from Hell* Wks. (Grosart) II. 137 To all which questions the vant curier answers briefly. 1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 4 He despatched vaunt-couriers and messengers of glad tidings.

b. Of things.

1598 Barkeley *Pelic. Man* v. (1603) 472 The crying and lamenting of a childe when hee first entereth into this world, doth seeme to presage his painefull life, as a vauntcurrer of his miseries to come. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. ii. 5 You Sulph'rous and Thought-executing Fires, Vaunt-curriors to Oake-cleauing Thunder-bolts. 1639 Chapman & Shirley *Chabot* III. ii, I will relate to your honours his most cruel exactions upon the subject—the old vantcouriers of rebellions. 1821 Milman *Fall Jerusalem* 39 And gloom of deepest midnight the vaunt-courier Of your dread presence. 1849 Longf. *Kavanagh* xix, These were the vaunt-couriers and attendants of the hot August.

† Vaunt-currying, *a. Obs.*—[1] [? f. *vaunt-currier* Vaunt-courier. Cf. Curry *v.*[2]] (Meaning not clear.)

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. iii. in Bullen *Old Plays* (1884) III, *Will.* How will they digest it thinkest thou, when they shall finde our Ladies not there? *Ia* I haue a vaunt-Curriing deuise shall make them digest it most healthfully.

Vaunted, *ppl. a.* Also 7 **vanted.** [f. Vaunt *v.*] Boasted or bragged of; highly extolled.

1635 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* (1869) 123 Whose meanest Perfection so farre excels all your so long vanted masculine merits. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 251 My Vanquisher, spoild of his vanted spoile. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 42, I have seen the vaunted present of porcelain. 1815 Scott *Talism.* xiii, Our cousin Edith must first learn how this vaunted wight hath conducted himself. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) II. I. xvii. 124 Their vaunted purity of blood. 1893 Pember *Earth's Earliest Ages* 67 How..all our vaunted wisdom in this life is said to be at best but a knowledge in part.

Vauntegarde, variant of Vantguard *Obs.*

Vaunter (vɔ̃·ntəɹ). Now *arch.* Forms: 5–6 **vantour,** 6 **vauntour**; 6 *Sc.* **vantar**; 6–7 **vanter,** 7– **vaunter.** [ad. OF. *vantere, vanteor* (AF. *vanteour*), *vanteur* (F. *vanteur*), f. *vanter* Vaunt *v.* Cf. Prov. *vantaire, -ador*, It. *vantatore.*] A boaster or braggart.

1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 30 Thai ar..grete vantouris of litill foredede. 1484 Caxton *Chivalry* 65 By surete ben mespryised many cowardes, vauntours, and many vayne semblaunces. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. xxxiv. 104 These frenchmen ar great vantours and hyghe mynded. 1573 Tyne in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 29 Tratours,..vantars, luffars of thame selues mair than of God. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 113 Alas you know, I am no Vaunter I. *a* 1610 Healey *Theophrastus* (1636) 79 A vanter or forth-putter is he, that boastes upon the Exchange, that he hath store of banke mony. 1640 Gent *Knave in Gr.* II. i. E b, If it prove not correspondent to my word, thinke me an idle vanter. 1726 Pope *Iliad* v. 347 Mistaken vaunter! (Diomed replied:) Thy dart has err'd, and now my spear be tried. 1728 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VI. 125 A very pert, conceited Person, full of himself, and a mere Vaunter. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* III. 222 De Ruyter's curled lip indicated his contempt of the vaunter. 1848 Lytton *Harold* VII. iii, Now thou shalt see if the Norman is the vaunter thou deemest him. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* II. 146 Such is the unmasking of vaunters, who utter their wishes, as if they were already performances.

b. A boastful assertor, extoller, commender or praiser, *of* something.

1583 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 95 b, By vocation of life a souldiour is counted a great bragger, and a vaunter of hymselfe. 1623 Cockeram II, A Vaunter of his owne vertues, *arrtalogon.* 1700 Dryden *Homer, Iliad* I. 336 Tongue-valiant Hero, Vaunter of thy Might. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 222 They are really no puffers, no vaunters of that which they possess. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aurora Leigh* VII. 1079 The large-mouthed frogs (Those noisy vaunters of their shallow streams). 1866 *Fortn. Rev.* V. 540 The proud vaunter of universal knowledge had been transformed into the humble student of the Bible.

Vaun·tery. Now *Obs.* or *arch.* Also 5, 7 **vaunterye,** 6 **-erie,** 7 **vanterie,** 7–8 **-ery.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vanterie*, f. *vanter* to vaunt (cf. Avauntry), or in later use f. Vaunt *v.* + **-ery.**]

1. Vaunting, boasting; boastful or vainglorious bearing or show.

1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 272 b/1 She was not so indyscrete for tenbaunce her self by ouer moche vaunterye. 1592 *Consp. for Pretended Reform.* 5 [He] held it vp triumphantly, and shewed it with great vaunterie and glorie. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 303 This vanterie and glorious boasting of a mans sel'e. 1636 in *4th Rep. Hist. MSS. Commiss.* 291/1 In Wentworth's Declaration ..there was much smoke of the vanterie of his own service. 1755 T. H. Croker *Orl. Fur.* XXXIII. lxxi, They gave themselves too lofty vantery, That France no knight or Paladin could shew To stand before the weakest of them three. 1824 Southey *Roderick* XXII. 23 She had led The infatuate Moor, in dangerous vauntery, To these aspiring forms. *Ibid.* XXV. 308 The same [horse] on whom The apostate Orpas in his vauntery Wont to parade the streets of Cordoba.

† 2. A boast, a vaunt. *Obs.*

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 476 They stood much upon promises of future prowesse or vanteries of present valour. 1605 Daniel *Queen's Arcadia* I. iii, That Touch Of deep Dislike of both their Vaunteries. 1626 T. H[awkins] tr. *Caussin's Holy Court* 432 She shewed to take not much pleasure in these his vanteryes.

Vaun·tful, *a.* and *adv.* Now *arch.* [f. Vaunt *sb.*[1] + **-ful.**] Boastful.

1590 Spenser *Muiopot.* 54 Yong Clarion with vauntfull lustie hed After his guize did cast abroad to fare. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 532 Rabsakeh..Thus braves the Hebrews and upbraids their Prince (Weening, them all with vaunt-full threats to smib). 1838 *Tait's Mag.* V. 707 The English King forthwith entrusted to the vauntful captain his two sons. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 180 His lightnings and his thunders Recking no more—so speaks the vauntful tongue—Than vulgar noonday heat. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 513 Invincible men call her [*i.e.* the Armada]:..Well won that vauntful title by the dread, That all around is by her coming spread.

b. As *adv.* Boastfully. *rare*—[1].

a 1814 A. Becket *Genii* i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 499 Albeit the agent only Of him who bears it [a name] vauntful, man's prime enemy.

Vauntgard(e, -guard, varr. Vantguard *Obs.*

Vaun·tiness. *rare.* [f. Vaunty *a.*] Boastfulness.

1820 in Jodrell (citing Bailey, app. in error: see Vauntingness). 1851 Spurgeon *Treas. David* II. 2 Peaceful and joyful notwithstanding the proud and boastful vauntiness of his enemies.

Vaun·ting, *vbl. sb.* Now *arch.* [f. Vaunt *v.*] The action of the vb.; boasting, bragging.

c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1145 Honours nuryshes, als men may se, Vayn glory, vauntyng and vanite. 1586 Day *Engl. Secretary* II. (1625) 51, I could alwaies find an Asse by his braying, and scorne a rascall though he were neuer so full of vaunting. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 52 You say, you are a better Souldier: Let it appeare so; make your vaunting true. 1611 Bible *Wisdom* xvii. 7 As for the illusions of arte Magicke, they were put downe, and their vaunting in wisedome was reprooued with disgrace. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* vii, Be moderate in speech, and forbear oaths or vaunting. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 349 To our generation the honest vaunting of our ancestors must appear almost ludicrous. 1864 Burton *Scot Abroad* I. iii. 112 The Earl of Flanders..having, in his vain vaunting, defeated so important a project.

attrib. c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LXIV. v, The hartes uprightly playn Shall have their vaunting scope.

b. An instance of this; a boast.

1793 Ld. Auckland *Corr.* (1862) III. 27 His vauntings increase with his disgraces. *a* 1800 Cowper *Iliad* (ed. 2) XXI. 550 Let me never in my father's courts Such vauntings hear of thine again. 1838 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) I. 8 We had many delightful vauntings of the same kind. 1877 *Smith's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 133/2 The hypocritical vauntings of Clytemnestra.

Vaun·ting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + **-ing**[2].]

1. That vaunts or boasts; given or addicted to boasting.

1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurditie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 51 No matter though such vaunting vpstarts..become the scoffe of a Scholler. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. iii. 43 Many a Nobleman lies starke and stiffe Vnder the houles of vaunting enemies. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 231, I my selfe have seen these vaunting Mountebanks calling themselves Psylli. 1632 Sherwood, A vaunting woman, *ostentatrice.* 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* I. 39 Begin thy carols, then, thou vaunting slouch. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Braggard*, a bragging, vaunting, vain glorious fellow. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* XXXIX, Would to God, Richard, or any of his vaunting minions of England, would appear in these lists! 1853 Lynch *Self-Improv.* ii. 45 An empty, vaunting person who has brass enough to face the world and to say there is no God in it. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 105 In the evenings he was vaunting, boastful, and declared he could play even Renshaw at evens.

transf. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 4 Nim, rowse thy vaunting Veines: Boy, brissle thy Courage vp.

2. Of a boastful nature or character; indicative of, proceeding from, boasting or vainglory.

1647 Hexham I. s.v., Vaunting and bragging wordes. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 258 The vaunting accounts given by the Spaniards of her size, her guns, and her strength. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch's Lives* (1879) I. 134/1 The vaunting shouts and songs of the barbarians. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 66 Does not Pyrrho likewise speak in a 'vaunting manner' on several occasions? 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 583 Over one gate had been placed a vaunting inscription which defied the allies to wrench the prize from the grasp of France. 1897 Sarah Tytler *Lady Jean's Son* 205 Rejoicing over him in a vaunting and insolent manner.

Vaun·tingly, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a vaunting manner; boastfully, ostentatiously, vainglorioously.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 16 Let me speake truely and not vauntingly. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 36, I heard thee say (and vauntingly thou spak'st it) That thou wer't cause of Noble Glousters death. 1611 Cotgr., *Piaffeusement*, braggingly,..stroutingly, vauntingly. 1636 I'Anthe *Unbish. Tim.* Ded. (1661) 2 Whether seriously or vauntingly only, let the event determine. 1689 T. Plunket *Char. Good Commander*, etc. 6 Who threatned vauntingly That he..would England Invade. 1798 Ellis in *Anti-Jacobin* 1 Jan. (1852) 88 And dare you vauntingly decide, The fortune we shall meet. 1804 Eugenia de Acton *Tale without Title* II. 100 Should the scrutiny proclaim your innocence, receive not vauntingly the clearing verdict. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* I. 91 Upon which Mr. M'Dougal would vauntingly lay down Mr. Astor's letter,..a document not to be disputed.

† Vaun·tingness. *Obs.*—[0] [f. Vaunting *vbl. sb.*] Boastfulness.

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Ostentatiousness*, vauntingness, bragging, shewiness.

† Vauntise. *Obs.*—[1] [ad. OF. *vantise* vaunting, vanity, pride: see **-ise** 2.] A vaunt or boast.

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* (1913) 22 Moche was Iason displayesaunt whan he had vnderstande the vauntises of his mortall ennemy.

Vauntlay. Now *arch.* Also 5 (9) **vauntelay.** [f. Vaunt- + *-lay* as in Kelay *sb.* The compound may have existed in AF. Cf. Vanlay *v.*] The releasing or setting on of a relay of hounds before the other pursuing hounds have passed; the relay of hounds so released.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E viij b, Even at his comyng yf thow lett thy howndys goo While the oder that be behynde ser arn hym frow That is a vauntelay. 1616 Bullokar *Engl. Expos., Vauntlay*, a terme of hunting, when they sette hounds in readynes, where they thinke a chace will passe, and cast them off before the rest of the kennell come in. [Hence in Blount (1656), Phillips, Holme, etc.] *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Vauntlay*, Hounds or Beagles set in readiness [etc.]. 1842 Sir H. Taylor *Edwin the Fair* I. vi, She holds them all together; Relay or vauntlay 'tis the same to her.

† Vauntmure. *Obs.* Also 6 **vauntemure, vauntmire, vantmure.** [Aphetic form of Avantmure: see Vant-, Vaunt-.] = Vaumure.

1562 J. Shute tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 16 b, Throughe their long..neglygence of the Greekes for want of reparation, their vauntemures were utterlye decaied in many places. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 135 b, I here fell downe a pane of the wall, and vauntmire of the Towne..sixe and twentie Poles longe. 1596 Daniel tr. *Comines* (1614) 231 Wherewith the wals, towers, and vantmures of the castell and towne were throughly battered. 1605 Camden *Rem.* (1623) 206 He with another engine named the Warwolfe pierced with one stone, and cut as even as a thread, two Vauntmures.

† Vauntparler. *Obs.* Also **vaunt(e)perler, vauntperlor, -parler, wantperlor, -parler.** [ad. AF. *vaunt-parlour*, obs. F. *avant-parleur* 'forespeaker'.]

1. 'One that is too forward to speak' (Cotgr.).

a 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 427 He tryhumfythe, he trumpythe, he turnythe all vp and downe, With, skyregalyard, prowde palyard, vaunteperler, ye prate! *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 36 Then sodainly was ther in ye counsaill, a vauntparler, a botcher which hetying this, called a great number of his affinitie and went out of the counsayll. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 408/1 This Prince..followed vpon a wilfull pretence..the councell and aduice of vauntperlors, and suche as (being aduanced from base degree vnto hygh authoritie) studyed more to keepe them-selues in fauoure than (etc.).

2. One who speaks for or on behalf of others; a spokesman.

1534 *St. Papers, Hen. VIII* (1830) I. 424 It shuld be best bestowed upon Fitre Whitford, and upon Lache, whiche bee the vauntperlers, and heddes of thair faction. 1579 Fulke *Heshins's Parl.* 66 He doeth honestly confesse, that ..Damascen [was] the first and chiefest of the lower house, he may make him Vantparlar if he will. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 120/1 Their vantparler was sir Christopher Barnwell knight, who being somewhat learned, his credit was so much the more, and by them thought most ..worthie to haue beene the speaker for that house.

† Vauntpe. *Obs.*—[0] [ad. older F. *vantpié.*] = Vamp *sb.*[1] 1.

1530 Palsgr. 284/1 Vauntpe of a hose, *vantpie.*

† Vauntplate. *Obs.*—[1] [f. Vaunt- + Plate *sb.*] = Vamplate.

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 143 He bore him a thrust under the vauntplate.

† Vauntsquare, *v. Obs.*—[1] [f. Vaunt- + Square *v.*] *intr.* To face or front squarely.

1562 Phaer *Æneid* IX. A aij, Messapus voward helde, the rerward kept yong princes twayne Of Tirrhus, but himself king Turnus midst in battaile mayne, Vauntesquaring spreds his t

Vauntward(e, variants of VANTWARD *Obs.*

Vaunty, *a. dial.* (chiefly *Sc.*). Also 9 *Sc.* **vanty**. [f. VAUNT *v.*] Boastful, proud, vain.

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 81 Altho' my father was nae laird, 'Tis daffin to be vaunty, He keepit ay a good kail-yard. 1789 BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* i, Wow, but your letter made me vauntie! 1821 [see VAUDY *a.*]. 1842 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Pilgr. Auvergne* II. 120 Certainly he had reason to be 'vaunty', for his grand new house was worthy of a more populous town than Thiers. 1875 POSNER *Quaint Words S. Wercs.* 19 A vaunty dame,...proud woman.

Vaupyn, obs. Sc. form of WEAPON.

+Vauqueline. *Obs.* [a. F. *vauqueline*, f. the name of the French chemist L. N. *Vauquelin* (1768–1829).]

1. *Chem.* Strychnine.

1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 290 Vauqueline..was discovered by M. M. Pelletier and Caventou, in the bean of St. Ignatius, and the nux vomica.

2. *Min.* Vauquelinite.

1823 in W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 350.

Vauquelinite (vōˈklĭnəit). *Min.* [f. as prec. + -ITE.] Named by Berzelius (1818).] Chromate of lead and copper, found in amorphous masses or crystalline crusts of a green colour (Chester).

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 350 Vauquelinite. Chromate of Lead and Copper. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 914 The mineral called Vauquelinite is a double chromate of lead and copper.

‖ Vaurien (vōryē̃). Also **vaut-rien, vaut rien.** [F. *vaurien*, f. *vaut* 3rd pers. sing. pres. of *valoir* to be worth + *rien* nothing.] A worthless, good-for-nothing fellow; a scamp.

a. 1825–9 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* V. xxx. 152 Then to be called an idle fellow—a *vaut rien*—a Miss Molly—it is what I cannot bear. 1880 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxix. 142 You will have every blackguard and vaut-rien in the world claiming his share.

β. 1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne Page* II. 118 Leaving her to be slowly murdered by the vaurien who possesses her. 1874 LISLE CARR *J. Gwynne* II. vii 189 When that *vaurien* St. Clair's health broke down 1885 *Diary Actress* 133 They are only vauriens who loaf about town.., not men of honour.

+Vau·sing, *vbl. sb. Obs.*—° (See quots.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 112/2 Vausing, is to make the Jaumes or sides of Stone Windows and Doors,..to over sail the other part of the Wall they are set in. *Ibid.* 473/2 The Vausing, is to make the Jaumes to over sale the Mullions, and that is wrought into severall kind of Mouldinga.

Vaustity, obs. form of VASTITY.

Vaut, southern dial. var. *faut* FAULT *sb.*

1568 FULWEL *Like will to Like* A iij b, It is a common trade...A small vaut as the world is now brought to passe.

Vaut(e, obs. forms of VAULT *sb.* and *v.*

+Vau·terer. *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *vautrarius*, f. OF. *vautre* hunting-dog.] = FEWTERER.

1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 35 To be the Kings Vauterer or Dog-leader in Gascoigny.

Vauxhall (vɒ̈kshɔ̄·l). [The name of a locality in London on the south bank of the Thames, where Vauxhall Gardens (see def.) were situated.] Used *ellipt.* for Vauxhall Gardens, a popular pleasure resort from the 17th to the middle of the 19th century; a place of resort or amusement resembling or imitating this.

Evelyn records in his memoirs under the date 2 July 1661, 'I went to see the New Spring Garden at Lambeth, a pretty contriv'd plantation'. The gardens were finally closed on 25 July 1859.

1769 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 111 Sieur Torre opened his new Vauxhall, near St. Martin's gate [in Paris], under the denomination of the Feasts of Tempe. 1815 *Ibid., Chron.* 50 Mr. Sadler appeared in Mr. Harper's gardens, or the Vauxhall of this place [*sc.* Norwich], in the evening.

attrib. 1822 *Lond. Lit. Gaz.* 61/1 But the portions [of food] are of the Vauxhall order. 1892 DOBSON *18th Cent. Vignettes* 253 The popular legend that an expert Vauxhall waiter could cover the entire garden (about eleven acres) with slices from one ham.

Hence **Vauxha·llian** *a.*, **Vauxha·llify** *v. trans.*

1815 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 429 There is an illumination to-night in the Allée Vert, or Green Walk, which is to be Vauxhallified in honour of the Emperor. 1827 *Westm. Rev.* VIII. 353 Here follows a description of a very gay festival, much more Vauxhallian than Attic.

Vav (væv), variant of VAU. *Vav conversive*: see CONVERSIVE *a.*[1] 2 b.

1826 GIBBS *Gesenius' Hebr. Lex.* (1833) 54/1 A prefix.. usually called Vav conversive of the future. 1869 LIDDELL & SCOTT *Gr. Lex.* s.v. *δίγαμμα*, But the Lat. F. holds the same place in the alph[abet] with the Hebr. *vav.* 1870 J. F. SMITH *Ewald's Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 229 Then the calm regular narration may come in with the Vav of sequence.

Vavasory. Also 7 **valuasserie**, 9 **vavassory.** [ad. OF. *vavas(s)orie, va(u)vasserie*, or med.L. *vavasoria*, f. *vavasor*: see next.] An estate held by a VAVASOUR.

1611 COTGR., *Vavassorie*, a Valuasserie; th'estate, land, or territorie of a Vavassor, Mesne Lord. 1696 HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1700) 65 The Middle-Thane..was also call'd a Vavasor, and his Lands a Vavasory. *Ibid.* 67 It cannot be imagin'd, that the Vavasorys or Freeholds in the People amounted to any considerable proportion. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., There are base Vavasories, and frank, or noble Vavasories, according as it hath pleas'd the Lord to make his Vavasour. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Isle of Axholme* 124 He was enfeoffed with the vavasories of Camville and Wyville. *a* 1861 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* III. 405 It is not practicable to ascertain the others who received their rewards by Vavassories or Sub-tenancies.

Vavasour (vævăsŭr). Now *arch.* and *Hist.* Forms: α. 4 vauassour(e, 4, 7– vavasour (4 -oure), 5 favasour, *Sc.* wawasour, vauesowre, 7 vavesour; 5 vavyssoure, vauyssour, 7 vauessour, vauassour, 9 vavassour. β. 5 vauaser, 7, 9 vavasor, vavassor. γ. 6–7 valuassor, 6–8 -vasor, 7–8 valvasour, 9 valvassor. [a. OF. *vavas(s)our, vavas(s)or, vavasseur* (so mod.F.), or med.L *vavassor, valvassor*, also *vasvassor*, app. f. *vassi vassorum* 'vassals of vassals'. Cf. OTov. *va(l)vasor*, It. *varvassore, -oro, barbassore, -oro.*] A feudal tenant ranking immediately below a baron.

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3300 (Laud MS.), Noot ich no tale of his squyers, Ne of vava-ours, ne of Bachilers. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10996 He gaf giftes of honurs, & landes & rentes, to vauasours. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 430 Litel prowesse for me it were wip a vauasour for to melle. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Bk. Knythood.* lii. (S.T.S.) 81 All kingis suld have under thame dukkis and princis, Erllis and vicountes, and vauvassouris and barounis. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 1729 Syne to thi tennandis & to thi wawasouris, If [= give] easy haknays, pallfrais, and curhouris. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honour* II. v. § 4 Now for the nature of a vavasour; it is plain that he was ever beneath a baron. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxxi. (1739) 47 Others served on horseback, and were called Rad-Knights,..and these I take to be the Vavasours, noted in the Conqueror's Laws. 1660 SHERINGHAM *King's Supremacy Asserted* (1682) v. 32 There are other great men under the King which are called Barons, and other which are called Vavasours, men of great dignity. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 102 P 1 Upon my accession .to my elder brother's estate and title of a Baronet I received a visit from Rouge Dragon to congratulate me upon my new rank of a Vavasour. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 65 William the conqueror ..directing..that a certain quantity..should be paid by the earls, barons, and vavasours respectively. 1821 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* vii, One or two Scottish retainers or vavasours..sat at the bottom of the table. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* III. ii, The ..ignominious flight of the counts and vavasours of great William the Duke. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xv. 207 It was ordered that the sheriff should be a vavasour of the County.

β. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prologue* 360 A schirreue hadde he ben and a counter, Was nowher such a worthi vauaser. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Surnames* (1623) 110 Baron, Knight,.. Vavasor, Squire, Castellan. 1642 BIRD *Mag. Honour* 8 There be oth·rs which are called Vavasors,..men of great dignity. 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* 35 The Middle-Thane was feudall, but not honorary; he was also call'd a Vavasor. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 194 The vassals of this high nobility, who..were usually termed Vavassors. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* (1876) 41 *note*, Similar provisions follow as to the relief to be paid by barons, vavassors, and villeins.

γ. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 113 As for the valvasors, it was a denomination applied unto all degrees of honor under the first three. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 696 The Kings Valvasors in times past they were. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 289 For a Corollarie to this Discourse of Barons, we add..the ancient title of Vauassours or Valuasors. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. iv. (1710) 186 Baronets..are constituted in the Room of the Ancient Valvasours, between the Barons of England, and the Orders of Knights. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 403 The first name of dignity, next beneath a peer, was antiently that of *vidames, vice domini*, or *valvasors*. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* I. 768 Lord, liegeman, valvassor and suzerain, Ere he could choose, surrounded him. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. 57 Heribert refused to admit the valvassors of the Church of Milan to this privilege.

Vavengeour (obs. Sc.): see WAVENGER.

+Vaver, obs. southern variant of FAVOUR *sb.*

1536 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 499 That he mythe the rather bye youre grases mene obtayne the kyng his vaverya.

Vavte, obs. form of VAULT *sb.*[1]

Vaward. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: α. 4-vaward (6 va-ward), 5–6 vawarde. β. *Sc.* 5 waward(e, wayward, 5–6 wawart. γ. 5 vauwarde, fauward, 6–7 vauward; 5–6 vawe-, 6 vawwarde, 6, 8 vawward. δ. 5 wowarde, 5–6 vowarde, 6–7 voward. [Reduced form of *vaumward* VAMWARD. See VANT- *prefix.*]

1. *Mil.* = VANGUARD 1.

α. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 48 Thai saw in battale cum arayit The vaward with baner displayit. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3617 Þe men out of Medy he mas..To enverom alle þe vaward of all þe vile yndes. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3554 Abel, his son bold and hard, Bare the baner in the vaward. *c* 1471 *Arriv. K. Edw. IV* (Camden) 29 His vawarde so sore oppressyd them, with shott of arrowe, that they gave them right-a-sharpe shwre. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 48 Beside this, he appointcted a vawarde, of the which he made capitayne Edward duke of Yorke. 1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 132 To give their attendance at the lodging of their Chiefes of the Armie, whether it be of the Battaile, or Vawarde. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 178 The English were the first that entered with great vigour upon the front and vaward. 1640 HARINGTON *Edw. IV*, 81 The Vaward commanded by the Duke of Glocester, the Rere by the Lord Hastings. [1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vaward*, an obsolete Word for Van-Guard.] 1828 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 116 He intrusted the command of the vaward, or centre, to the Earl of Moray. 1846 TORRENS *Rem. Milit. Hist.* 148 The disposition of troops seems..to have been a vaward, or advance, a centre, and rear.

β. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 340 And thai haf tald thair reboyting, Thai of the waward. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xix. 2261 He askyt at þe kynge Til haf þe wawarde [*v.r.* wawart] of his batale. 1500–20 [see b].

γ. *c* 1440 *Sege Jerus.* 430 Þe fauward Titus toke,..With six þousand soudiours. *c* 1440 *Bone Florence* 604 The vawewarde and the myddyll soone, And the rere-warde owte of Rome The grete oost removyd and yode. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 222 Havinge the rule of the Frenche kynges vawewarde. 1580 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 207 Sebastian.. was Lieue tenant general of the Vawward of Diocletian the emperour. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 39 The Vauward of his armie was conducted by John and Andronicus. 1782 COWPER *Iliad* VIII. 219 Then, Di ' aided as he was, Rush'd ardent to the vaw-ward.

δ. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. XXVIII, In his passage to gouerne the wowarde. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 241 In the vowarde of whom were foote men with bawes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 179 Whiche is more fered of the feendes than ony vowarde of a batayle. 1543 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1849) IX. 393 The other galees of theEmperour appoynted for the vowarde. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1593/1 Forthwith the Lord Lieutenant sent to the vowarde, commaunding that they shoulde marche towarde the towne. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* Playe 1873 III. 162 The voward of the foe is ranged already.

b. In fig. context.

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 57 It ar 3e that stonden bifore, in Anticristis vauwarde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 58 Than to battell thai war arreyit all, And ay the wawart kepit Thocht. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. (1634) 10 And therefore he doubteth not to set their mouthes in the vaward, as being strongly armed to subdue their madnesse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. viii. (1622) 30 Her haire being laide at the full length downe her backe, bare shew as if the voward fayled, yet that would conquer.

c. *fig.* The forefront; the early part.

In later use only as an echo of Shakspere.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 200 We that are in the vaward of our youth. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 22 The vaward or suburbes of my narration. 1807 SCOTT *Jrnl.* I. 378 She is not in the vaward of youth. — *Chron. Canongate* vi, Those who write themselves in the vaward of youth. 1884 A. BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. I. 208 He.. states that he and his accomplices..are in the vaward of their youth.

2. *attrib.* (Cf. VANWARD *a.*)

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxiv, Myself will rule this central host,..My sons command the vaward post. *Ibid.* xxxiii, Where's now their victor vaward wing? 1814 — *Lord of Isles* VI. xii, To centre of the vaward-line Fitz-Louis guided Amadine.

Vawe, ME. var. FAIN *a.* and *adv.*, FEW *a.*

+Vawegard, obs. variant of VANGUARD (after VAWARD).

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 176 b, The vawegard was conducted by the erle of Warwycke.

Vawght, obs. form of VAULT *sb.*[1]

Vawmer, -meure, -mure, varr. VAUMURE *Obs.*

Vawmewarde, variant of VAMWARD *Obs.*

+Vaws-cornice. *Obs.*—° (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 102/1 *Vaws-Cornice*, is any small Cornish lying under a great swelling out peece, as under a Planchier, or swelling Frieze.

Vawt(e, obs. ff. VAULT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] **Vawthe**, obs. f. VAULT *v.*[1] **Vax**, obs. Sc. f. WAX *sb.* and *v.* **Vax-cayme**, obs. Sc. f. WAX-COMB.

+Vay(e, obs. southern variants of FAY *sb.*[1]

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 27 By my vaye, shee looketh like a foule Kite that haunteth our yarde at home. 1600 *Contention betw Liberality & Prodigality* IV. iii, Come on, surrah, chill make you vast, bum vay.

Vay, southern dial. var. FAY *v.*[1]; obs. Sc. f. WAY. **Vayage**, obs. Sc. var. VOYAGE. **Vayd**, obs. Sc. f. WADE *v.* **Vaye**, obs. Sc. f. WAY *sb.* **Vayk**, obs. Sc. f. WEAK *a.* **Vayle**, obs. f. VEIL *sb.* **Vaylliaunce**, obs. f. VALIANCE. **Vayn**, southern ME. var. FAIN *a.*; obs. Sc. f. WAIN; Sc. var. WANE *sb. Obs.* **Vaynd**, var. WAIND *v. Sc.* **Vayndis**, Sc. var. WANDISH *v.* **Vayne**, obs. f. VEIN *sb.* **Vayowre**, var. VEIOUR *Obs.* **Vayr**, southern ME. var. FAIR *a.* **Vayrd**, obs. Sc. f. WARD *v.* **Vayre**, southern ME. var. FAIR *a.*; obs. f. VAIR. **Vaz**, southern ME. var. FAW *a. Obs.* **Vazt**, southern ME. var. *fought* FIGHT *v.*

Vch(e, ME. varr. EACH *a.* **Vddir, Vder**, obs. Sc. ff. OTHER *a.* **Ve**, obs. Sc. f. WE *pron.*, WEE *a.*

+Vea, *int. Naut. Obs.* (See quots.)

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seaman* 30 To row a spell, bold-water, trim the boate, *vea, vea, vea, vea.* 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* vi. 27 One and all, Vea, vea, vea, vea, vea, that is they pull all strongly together.

Veadge, Veage, obs. varr. VOYAGE *sb.*

Veak, obs. Sc. form of VAKE *v.*

Veal (vīl), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 vel (5 vell), 5–7 vele; 5 veel (feel), 6 veele; 5 veylle, 6 veyle (*Sc.* veil, weill); 6–7 veale (6 ueale, feale), 6– veal (*Sc.* 7 weall, 8 veall). [a. AF. *vel*, OF. *veel* (*viel, veal, vael*, etc.; mod.F. *veau*), *velet*, = Prov. *vedel(h*, Cat. *vedel*, It. and Pg. *vitello*:—L. *vitellus*, dim. of *vitulus* calf.]

1. The flesh of a calf as an article of diet.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 176 'Bet is,' quod he, 'a pyk than a pikerell, And bet than olde boef is the tendre vel', *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vi. 72 Thei eten but lytille or non of Flessche of Veel or of Beef. *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 28 A sawce hit is For vele and venyson, iwys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Veel, flesche, *vitulina*. 1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* II. (1570) B iii/2 Fat porke or vele, & namely such as is bought For easier price when they be leane & nought. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 277 They also coompare the flesshe of these tortoyses to be equall with veale in taste. 1600 VENNER *Via Recta* iii. 52 Veale is a more odoriferous flesh then any other. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxxiv. 137 These people feed on all, as Veal, Mutton, Pork,..and finally of all other beasts whatsoever. 1708–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* I. i, *Aim.* Have you any Veal? *Boy.* Veal! Sir, we

had a delicate Loin of Veal on Wednesday last. 1780 Buckford *Biog. Mem.* 125 The most perfect fillet of veal that ever made the mouth of man to water. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 127 In the rearing of calves for veal in Holland, it is usual to confine them in pens. 1890 *Spectator* 4 Oct., What insipid and tasteless cheer does veal afford!

2. A calf, esp. as killed for food or intended for this purpose. Now *rare*.

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 244 Flesh of Velis, Vynegre, beanroll, and Potage of oot-mell. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 72 The ydolatiers of the golden veel. 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 269 For purveying of all the velys, lambes, ..certain piggs and polaly. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. Prol. 185 Tydy ky lowyn, vellys by thame rynnis. 1544 in *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 305 The prices of Flesh, as of Beefes, Muttons, Veales, & Porkes. 1582 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 199, vj. fatte wethres, at viij s. viij d. a pece, and ij. veyles, at vj s. viij d. a pece. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 25 The flesh..of their swine, oxen, and veales haue the best relish. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Panag. Sir L. Pemberton* 63 When guests make their abode To eate thy Bullocks thighs, thy Veales, thy fat Weathers. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 315/1 Upon these [drag hooks] are hung two Veals or Muttons at a time. 1737 *Ochlartyrs House Bk.* (S.H.S.) 13 Killd a Veall. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 319 In selling veals to butchers, their haggling was extremely disagreeable. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* I. 265 My mother..would receive her prodigal and kill the fatted veal for me. 1898 Westcott *David Harum* xvii, Jim brought three or four veals into town one spring to sell.

collect. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 148 P 1 The Flesh of Lamb, Veal, Chicken, and other Animals under Age.

3. *attrib.*, chiefly in names of dishes, etc., made from veal, as *veal broth, cutlet, gravy, pie*, etc.

a 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* III. vii, Ye Porridg gutted Slaves, ye Veal broth-Hoobies! 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 14 Three sixe-penny veale pyes..were presented to the scalado. 1675 E. W[ilson] *Spadacrene Domest.* 39 This [water]..helpeth all internal corrosions, if taken in Veal Broath fasting. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., Put your Veal Stakes into the Pan again, and finish the dressing with Veal Sweet-Breads. *Ibid.*, Some Veal Gravy must be pour'd upon it. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 340 Let the patient also drink plentifully of veal broth. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housek.* (1778) 19 About a pound of beef or veal suet. 1827 Scott *Surg. Dau.* ii. Lamb and spinage, and a veal Florentine. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 182 A large baby in one arm, and a basket of..cold veal-pie in the other. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xviii, He treats Mrs. Perch to a veal cutlet and Scotch ale. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Veal-tea*, a thick gelatinous soup or broth made of the fleshy part of the fillet or knuckle of veal. 1885 Jerome *On the Stage* 48 Property Man, behind, making a veal and ham pie, out of an old piece of canvas and a handful of shavings.

b. Special Combs.: **veal-bled** *a.*, bled to exhaustion, like a calf intended for veal; **veal-bones**, *fig.* youth, nonage; **veal calf**, (*a*) = sense 2; (*b*) a variety of leather; **veal-farmer**, one who rears calves for the butcher; **veal-like** *a.*, resembling (that of) veal; †**veal money** (see quot.); **veal-skin**, (*a*) the skin of a calf; (*b*) a skin-disease characterized by white shining spots.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Sept. 3/1 The exhausted, and almost *veal-bled and forlorn bull. 1785 R. Cumberland *Observer* No. 92, Our process seldom fails in either case, when we apply it timely, and especially to young poets in their *veal bones, as the saying is. 1886 Addy *Sheffield Gloss.* 272 There is a saying 'married in the veal bones always a calf'. †1536 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 153 To Thomas morison..for ij *veale calves. 1895 *Boston Herald* 21 March 3/6 Colored leather is firmer and selling more freely; Grain, 12@14c; veal calf, 16@18c. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 469 The *veal-farmers keep from 6 to 12 cows each. 1882–7 'Veal-like [see *veal-skin* below]. 1897 W. Anderson *Surg. Treat. Lupus* 7 An unwholesome, veal-like whiteness, diversified by tiny blood-vessels. 1684 Manley *Cowell's Interpreter* s.v., *Veale money or Veale noble money. The Tenants of one of the Tythings within the Mannor of Bradford in Wiltshire, pay a yearly Rent by this name..in lieu of veale paid formerly in kind. 1591 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXII. 171 [10*s.* of certain] barkit *weill-kynnis. 1882–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 634 *Epichrosis Leucasmus.* Veal-Skin..This is the vitiligo or veal-skin of Willan, so called from the veal-like appearance which these spots produce on the general colour of the surface. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Veal-skins*, an Irish trade-name for hides of the calf, which are dearer than other leather

Hence **Veal** *v. trans.*, to rear (calves) for use as veal; **Veal·er**, a calf intended or fit for veal. *U.S.* 1902 in American Dicts.

Veal, *sb.*[2] *Sc. Mining.* (See quots.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-M.* 269 *Veal*, a tank or water-barrel placed upon a cage for emptying the sump. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 *Veal*, or *woun*, a water box or chest, usually on wheels, for removing water.

Veale, var. Vele *Obs.*; obs. Sc. f. Well *adv.*

Veal·ing, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Veal *sb.*[1]] **a.** *A-vealing*, procuring veal. **b.** Conversion into veal.

1664 Cotton *Scarron.* I. 47 And up he starts, to go a stealing, Either a Mutt'ning, or a Vealing. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 394 It is equally suitable, whether the calf is intended for vealing or to be reared.

†**Veal·ing**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* (See quot.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 86/2 Working, is to lay them on the Beam and with the Fleshing Knife and Vealing Knife, to scrape off the Lime and cleanse them from their Fleshyness.

Veal·ing, *vbl. sb.*[3] *Sc. Mining.* [f. Veal *sb.*[2]]

1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 *Vealing*, or *wenning*, chesting; getting out water by means of veals.

Vealinous, obs form of Villainous *a.*

Vealy (vī·li), *a.* [f. Veal *sb.*[1]]

1. Resembling veal.

1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 17 Then put in a few boiled forcemeat balls, which must be made of the vealy part of your turtle. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 259 When we were fairly at anchor..they crawled out again,.. their vealy faces mezzotinted with soot.

2. *fig.* Imperfectly developed; immature; characterised by youthful immaturity.

1890 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 17 July, A vealy medical-school graduate, whose employment is an insult to intelligent people. 1907 *Outlook* 19 Jan. 80/1 The sylvan thief shared our vealy homage with moonlighters, smugglers [etc.].

Hence **Veal·iness**, want of maturity.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Veand, obs. Sc. variant of *weighing* Weigh *v.*

Veany, variant of Veny[2] *Obs.* **Vear**, obs. f. Veer *v.*; obs. Sc. f. War *sb.*; south-w. dial. f. Fear *v.* **Veare**, southern ME. variant of Fare *v.* **Vearie**, obs. Sc. form of Very *adv.*

Vease. Now only *south-w. dial.* Forms: 4 (9) ve.e (9 veze); 6–7 (9) vease, 7 veaze; 7 veese (9 veese); 9 vaise, vase, etc. [Southern var. of Feeze *sb.*] A rush, impetus; a run before a leap. (Cf. Feeze *sb.* 1 and 1 b.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Knight's T.* 1127 And ther out cam a rage, and such a vese, That it made al the gate for to rese. 1573 Twyne *Æneid* XII. Nn 4 b, This vp in hand he caught, and tremblyng at his foe did flyng, Arysing vp therwith, and forth his vease he fet withall. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* I. 41 In this flitting whirle-winde vease, I passe the Mountaines Pyrinees. *Ibid.* VIII. 346 O Marriners stay not my veaze, Headlong to plunge into the seas. *a* 1618 J. Davies (Heref.) *Wit's Pilgrimage* Wks. (Grosart) II. 31/2 From whence Loues lightest Muses take their veeze To leape into those Seas, which cares destroy. 1646 in Dircks *Life Marq. Worcester* x. (1865) 171, I only would retire myself from further present charge, as a ram doth to take a greater vease. 1678 Ray *Prov.* 78 Every pease hath its veaze, and a bean fifteen..signifies Pease are flatulent, but Beans ten times more. 1825 Jennings *Dial. W. Engl.* 80 *Vase*,..the distance employed to increase the intensity of motion or action from a given point. 1875 Poison *Quaint Words S. Worcs.* 26 What a vese they [*sc.* the hounds] did go, surely.

Vease, dial. var. Feeze *v.*[1] **Veasy**, var. Vasy *a. Obs.* **Veawe**, southern ME. var. Few *a.*; obs. var. View *v.* **Veaze**, var. Vease. **Veb**, obs. form of Web *sb.* **Vecche, Vechche**, southern ME. varr. Fetch *v.*

‖ **Vecchio.** *Obs.* [It.] An old man.

c 1570 *Bugbears* I. ii. 61 Yet it dothe not content our pinchefiste, the old vecchio. *Ibid.* 79 The three thousand Crownes that our vecchio dothe require.

Vech(e, obs. ff. Vetch. **Vecht, Vechtie**, obs. Sc. ff. Wright *sb.*, Weighty *a.*

†**Vecke, Vekke wekke.** *Obs.* Also 5 **vekke wekke.** [app. ad. It. *vecchia*, fem. of *vecchio* old.] An old woman.

As direct adoption from Italian would be remarkable in the 14th cent., it is possible that the word existed in OF. colloquial use.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 98 This olde wyht him hath awaited ..: Florent his wofull heved upleſte And syh this vecke wher sche sat. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4495 A rympled vekke, ferre ronne in age, Frownyng and yelowe in hir visage. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2795 Sche cleped anoon vn-to hir presence An aged vekke, fer in yeris ronne. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12752 An olde wekke a-noon I mette. 1430–40 — *Bochas* I. xx. (1554) 36 b, Whan these veckes, ferre yronne in age, Within them selfe hath vaine glory and delite For to farce and poppe their visage.

†**Vecked**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = Invecked *ppl. a.*

1562 Leigh *Armory* II. 56 b, Hee beareth Azure, a crosse formye vecked Argent.

Vecord. *rare*[−1]. = next.

1788 tr. *Swedenborg's Wisdom of Angels* V. § 378. 364 Hence too the Terms Concord, Discord, Vecord (malicious Madness) and other similar Expressions.

Vecordy. *rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *vēcordia*, f. *vēcors* senseless, foolish.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* [copying Cooper], *Vecordy*, madness, trouble of minde, folly, doting.

Vecount, obs. Sc. form of Viscount.

Vecta·rious, *a. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *vectāri-us* (*equus*), f. *vectāre* to convey.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vectarious*, belonging to a coach, waggon or any carriage. [Hence in Phillips (1658); in later edd. (1671–96) *Vectorious*.]

Vectayllys, obs. variant of Victuals.

Ve·ctible, *a. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *vect-*, ppl. stem of *vehĕre* to carry.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vectible*, that is or may be carried.

Vectigal (vektī·găl), *sb.*[1] Now only *Rom. Hist.* Also 6 vecti-, *Sc.* victigall. [a. L. *vectīgal* a payment to the State, etc.] A payment of the nature of tribute, tax, or rent, made to a superior or to the State.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 243 Grit tribute and victigall alsua, Ilk 3eir by 3eir to king Arthure till pa. 1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) IV. 111 Thereupon they give a Fee Farme or Vectigall of an 100. l. yearely. The Vectigall is as it was. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vectigal*, used substantively for toll, impost-money or tribute it self. 1774 T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 104 His lands and tenants were exempted from all regal exactions of tallage, toll, passage, pontage, and vectigal. 1858 Arnold *Hist. Rome* (1846) I. xvii. 366 The tribunes demanded..that the occupiers of the remainder should pay their vectigal regularly.

†**Vectigal**, *sb.*[2] and *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* victogall. [ad. L. *vectīgāl-is*, f. *vectigal*: see prec.] **a.** *sb.* A collector of tribute. **b.** *adj.* (See quot. 1656.)

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 188 Mark Terebell..Hes constat him his victogall that tyde, For to collect his tribute and his rent. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vectigal*, that pays or pertains to paying tribute, subsidy, pension or rent.

†**Vection.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vectiōn-*, *vectio*, n. of action f. *vehĕre* to carry.] The action of carrying; vectitation.

c 1620 Sir C. Heydon *Astrol. Disc.* (1650) 42 For whatsoever moveth another, it doth it either by impulsion, attraction, volutation, or vection. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* (1670) 198 Albertus calls this motion a vection or a carrying. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 40 Local motion..Traction or drawing. Vection or carrying.

‖ **Vectis** (ve·ktis). [L. *vectis* lever, crow-bar.]

†**1.** A lever. *Obs.*

1648 Wilkins *Math. Magic* I. v. 33 Rather suppose BC, to be a Vectis or Leaver, towards the middle of which is the place of the fuciment. 1674 Petty *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 119 In the Fuze of a Watch, the greatest strength of the Spring is made to work upon the shortest Vectis.

2. *Surg.* **a.** An obstetrical instrument employed as a lever to free the head of the child.

1790 *Med. Comm.* II. 397 It is now near forty years since an account of the vectis or lever of Roonhuysen was published. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 190 If, at the same time, the head be lying clear on the perinæum, the vectis or forceps should be had recourse to. 1841 Ramsbotham *Obstet. Med. & Surg.* 314 Another instrument that has been much employed with the view of extracting the child living, is the vectis or lever. 1861 *Trans. Obstet. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 78, I passed in a vectis, and by its aid as a lever..I brought down the second larger head and left arm.

b. An instrument employed in operations on the eye.

1822 *Illustr. to Maw's Price-current* 77 [Eye instruments.] Vectis, Taylor's. 1892 *Ibid.* 42 Ophthalmoscope lamp, operation scissors,..and vectis. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Catal. Surg. Instr.* 158 Vectis (Taylor's), for Extraction of Soft Lens.

Vectita·tion. *rare.* [f. L. *vectitāre* (rare), freq. of *vectāre* to carry, convey.] The action of carrying or conveying (frequently); the fact of being carried or conveyed.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vectitation*, an often carriage. 1727 Pope, etc. *Martinus Scriblerus* vi, Whilst their enervated Lords are lolling in their chariots (a species of Vectitation seldom used amongst the Ancients, except by old men). 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 253 A method of aerial vectitation.

Ve·ctitory, *a. rare*[−1]. [Cf. prec.] Of the nature of carrying or conveying.

1822 *Examiner* 8/1 Heaven forbid that..the bodies of Turks should be applied to vectitory purposes.

Vector (ve·ktəɹ). [a. L. *vector*, agent-noun f. *vehĕre* to carry. So (in sense 1) Sp. and Pg. *vector*, F. *vecteur*.]

†**1.** *Astr.* (See quot. 1704.) Also *vector radius*, = *radius vector* Radius 3 e. *Obs.*

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., A Line supposed to be drawn from any Planet moving round a Center, or the Focus of an Ellipsis, to that Center or Focus, is by some Writers of the New Astronomy, called the Vector; because 'tis that Line by which the Planet seems to be carried round its Center. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 28 If a right line, called by some the vector radius, be drawn from the sun through any planet, and supposed to revolve round the sun with the planet [etc.].

2. *Math.* A quantity having direction as well as magnitude, denoted by a line drawn from its original to its final position.

a 1865 Sir W. R. Hamilton *Elem. Quaternions* I. i. 1 A right line AB, considered as having not only length, but also direction, is said to be a Vector. 1881 J. C. Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* II. 28 The vector, whose components are F, G, H, is called the vector-potential of magnetic induction. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 109 The resultant of a system of vectors whose type is $\omega . II'dn$, if each were directed from *I* to *P*, would be a vector $\omega M . IG$ directed from *I* to *G*.

attrib. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* 95 We are led to two different kinds of product of two vectors,..a vector product..and a scalar product. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 256 Some vector property (such as rotation about an axis). 1897 Curry *Theory Electr. & Magnetism* 361 If we replace the vector-equation by its three component-equations and the vector-integrals of the latter by the above values.

Vectorial (vektō·riăl), *a.* [f. L. *vectōri-us* or directly f. prec.]

†**1.** Capable of carrying or conveying. *Obs.*

1725 Derham *Astro-Theol.* (1726) 66 From a Vectorial Power, or Emanations from the Sun. *Ibid.* 68 If..we should imagine the Moon to be wheeled about our Earth, by the Motion and Vectorial Power of the Earth.

2. *Math.* Of or pertaining to, connected with, a vector or radius vector.

1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 84 The vectorial area of the complex path thus traced out..is the area of the roulette. 1882 C. Smith *Conic Sect.* (1885) 10 The radius vector is considered positive if measured from O along the line bounding the vectorial angle.

Vectorian, *a. rare*[−0]. [Cf. prec.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vectorian*, apt to carry, serving for carriage.

†**Ve·ctorship.** *Obs.* [f. L. *vector* Vector.] Conveying agency or activity.

1649 Bulwer *Pathomyot.* I. iv. 19 This Animall Faculty.. by the vectorship of the spirit flowes from the Braines into every particle.

†**Ve·cture.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *vectūra*, f. *vect-*, *vehĕre* to carry.] Carriage, conveyance.

1625 Bacon *Ess., Sed. & Troubles* (Arb.) 405 There be but

three Things, which one Nation selleth vnto another: The Commodities..: The Manufacture; and the Vecture or Carriage. *a* 1643 (see SECTARIE).

Ved, obs. Sc. form of WED *v.*, WEED *sb.*

‖ **Veda** (vē·dă). Also 8 Beda; Vidam, Viedam, Vedam. [a. Skr. *vēda* knowledge, sacred knowledge, sacred book, from the root *vid-* to know: see WIT *v.* The *a*-forms are from the Skr. nom. and acc. *vēdam*, perh. partly through Tamil. The Urdū form *bed* (Hindī *ved*) is also represented in older use by *Bead* (1698), *Beid* (1776), and *Bede* (1789).] One or other of the four ancient sacred books of the Hindus (called the *Rig-*, *Yajur-*, *Sāma-*, and *Atharva-vēda*); the body of sacred literature contained in these books.

a. 1734 PICART tr. *Roger's Relig. & Manners Bramins* in *Cerem. & Relig. Customs Var. Nations* III. 353 The Vedam is the Book of the Law among these People, and contains all they are to believe or practise. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 4 The Bramins say, that Brumma, their law-giver, left them a book, called the Vidam, which contains all his doctrines and institutions. 1766 J. Z. HOLWELL *Interesting Hist. Events* (ed. 2) I. 12 The great absurdities and impurities of the Viedam. 1778 ORME *Hist. Milit. Trans.* VI. II. 5 The Shaster..they assert to be the genuine scripture of Bramah, in preference to the Vidam. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* IV. 295 The Vedams, or texts of scripture, were published by Brahma, together with the Shasters, or commentaries, about six hundred years afterwards.

β. 1776 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Ind.* I. 33 The Bramin promised to pardon him on condition that he should swear never to translate the Bedas, or sacred volumes. 1788 *Asiatic Researches* I. 340 The first four [parts of knowledge] are the immortal *Véda's* evidently revealed by God. 1808 COLEBROOKE *Ibid.* VIII. 387 It may be here proper to remark, that each Véda consists of two parts, denominated the Mantras and the Brâhmanas; or prayers and precepts. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 71 The religion taught in the Institutes is derived from the Védas, to which scriptures they refer in every page. 1871 MATEER *Travancore* 35 Accordingly, as a matter of fact, the Sudras never do read the Sanscrit Vedas.

attrib. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 403/1 In like manner, the Veda-hymns led to the consideration of the laws of metre. 1843 *Ibid.* XXVI. 171 These various schools of the Veda theology.

Hence **Veda·ic** *a.*, = VEDIC *a.*; **Ve·daism**, = VEDISM.

1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* x. 176 In ancient Indian Vedaic mythology the apsaras were heavenly damsels who dwelt in the æther, between Earth and Sun. 1887 L. PARKS *Star in East* VIII. 208 Their religion sprung from the same root as Vedaism.

‖ **Veda·nta.** Also **Vedânta, Vedânta.** [Skr. *vēdânta*, f. *vēda* VEDA + *anta* end.] One of the leading systems of Hindu philosophy. Also *attrib.*

The Hindī form *Vedant* has also been occas. used.

1823 COLEBROOKE *Philos. Hindus* in *Trans. Roy. Asiatic Soc.* (1827) I. 19 The latter (Uttara) commonly called Védânta, and attributed to Vyása, deduces from the text of the Indian scriptures, a refined psychology, which goes to a denial of a material world. 1849 C. S. HENRY tr. *Ept. Hist. Philos.* 28 The Vedanta philosophy is an exhibition of pantheism in its greatest metaphysical strictness. *Ibid.* 29 The Vedanta system shows us .. how pantheism must logically result in scepticism 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 1/3 The philosophy of Vedânta is the abstract science which embraces all these methods.

Hence **Veda·ntic** *a.*, **Veda·ntism, Veda·ntist.**

The Skr. *Vedāntin* and Hindī *Vedantī* have also been used instead of 'Vedantist'.

1882 MAX MÜLLER *India* vii. 270 The Brahma-Samâj.. was "Vedântic in spirit. 1888 *Athenæum* 8 July 41/1 He commences his enumeration with that system which is farthest removed from Vedântic speculation,..omitting, however, the Vedânta itself. 1849 C. S. HENRY tr. *Epit. Hist. Philos.* 29 "Vedantism embraces in its wide comprehension, a multitude of other conceptions, which are common to it and to the other philosophies of India. 1880 BIRDWOOD *Ind. Arts* I. 4 But Vedantism is really nothing else than Nihilism. 1849 C. S. HENRY tr. *Epit. Hist. Philos.* 26 Brahma alone exists; everything else is an illusion. The "Vedantists prove this capital axiom by [etc.]. *Ibid.* 29 In order to avoid misconception of the Vedantist reasoning. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 215 His sect went by the name of 'Vedantists' in fact, the 'Evangelicals' of the East.

Ve·dda. Also 7 **Veddah**, 9 **Veddah, Wedda.** [Sinhalese *veddā* archer, hunter.] A member of a primitive race inhabiting the forest districts of Ceylon.

1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 61 In this Land are many of these wild men, they call them Vaddahs. 1832 CARPENTER *Mem. Phys.* (ed. 2) 289 The Veddahs or wild hunters of Ceylon. 1878 JEVONS *Money* iv. 28 Somewhat similar pieces circulated in Abyssinia, the Soulou Archipelago.., and among the Veddahs. 1881 TYLOR *Anthropology* vi. (1904) 164 In the forests of Ceylon are found..the Veddas or 'hunters', shy wild men who build bough huts, and live on game and wild honey.

Vedde, obs. Sc. f. WITHY. **Vedder, -ir,** obs. Sc. f. WEATHER, WETHER. **Vede,** obs. Sc. f. WEED *sb.* **Veds(n,** southern ME. var. FEND *v.*

‖ **Vedette** (vĭdĕt). Also 9 **vedet**; 7– **vidette.** [F., ad. It. *vedetta*, prob. f. *vedere* to see. The incorrect spelling *vidette*, now rare, was common in the first half of the 19th cent.]

1. *Mil.* A mounted sentry placed in advance of the outposts of an army to observe the movements of the enemy.

a. 1690 DAVIES *Diary* (Camden) 129 And then lay down to sleep..without posting any scouts or videttes abroad. 1758 Gouv. MORRIS in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 298 A few good cavalry may be requisite for the videttes. 1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 561/2 He fell in with the enemy's videttes. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* III. iii. (1864) 152 One of the videttes perceived..a large body of Indians moving towards the Christian lines. 1888 *Regul. & Orders Army* § 892 Instructions for the guidance of Outposts,..videttes, and sentries. 1900 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* xxii. 376 The rigid system of patrol which brought death..to our sleet-soaked videttes.

β. 1702 *Milit. Dict.*, *Vedette*, a Sentinel of the Horse.. detached from the main Body of the Army [etc.]. 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 78 To post the Out-Guard, and see the Vedettes placed properly. 1786 GILLIES *Hist. Greece* iii. I. 100 The order of their guards and watches was highly judicious; they employed, for their security, out-sentries and vedettes. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1836) V. 355 *note*, The vedettes of the outposts were within shot of each other. 1844 *Queen's Reg. & Ord. Army* 394 Whether they have been in the habit of placing piquets, posting vedets, conducting patrols, &c. 1879 *Blackw. Mag.* July 23 A vedette was killed to-day. Half-a-dozen Zulus rushed out on him soon after he had been posted for the day.

transf. 1807 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 248, I made a pretext to halt—established my boy as a vedet, and sat down peaceably under a bush and made my notes. 1812 Col. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 53 An old cock, who was the vidette. 1878 L. W. M. LOCKHART *Mine is Thine* xxii. II. 98 The blackcock *vedette* rolled his burnished plumage leisurely against the sun.

fig. 1801 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) VII. 483 Philosophical vedette at the distance of one thousand miles..is precious to us here. 1880 *Spectator* 13 Nov. 1439 They cannot bear to see the landlords, whom they regard as their own vedettes, terrorized.

2. *Vedette boat*, a small vessel used for scouting purposes in naval warfare.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Oct. 6/1 Building armour-clads, fast cruisers, vedette and torpedo boats. 1892 *Times* (weekly ed.) 7 Oct. 7/2 They are vedette boats and not torpedo boats in the proper sense.

Vedic (vē·dik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. VED-A + -IC.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to, contained or mentioned in, contemporary with, the Vedas. *b. sb.* The language of the Vedas, an early form of Sanskrit.

1859 MAX MÜLLER *Anc. Sanskrit Lit.* 10 The sacred literature of the Vedic age. *Ibid.* 11 The..publication of all Vedic texts and commentaries. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ix. 558 The old Vedic worship was a libation to the god of fire. 1873 WHITNEY *Oriental & Ling. Stud.* I A general view of the whole body of Vedic literature. 1884 *American* VIII. 90 There are still orthodox Brahmans, who..maintain old Vedic sacrifices. 1890 SCHRUMPF *First Aryan Reader* p. xi, Specimen B ought to have preceded specimen A, as Vedic is older than Sanskrit.

Vedir, obs. Sc. f. WEATHER.

Ve·dism. [f. VED-A + -ISM. Cf. VEDAISM.] The system of religious beliefs and practices contained in the Vedas.

1882 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 542/3 In this paper he showed the relationship between the Vaishnava religion and three other forms of the Hindu religious system, viz., Vedism, Brâhmanism, and Saivism. 1895 J. KIDD *Morality & Relig.* v. 191 Vedism, then, generally speaking, was a religion of nature.

Ve·dist. [f. as prec. + -IST.] A student of, or authority on, the Vedas.

1896 SEELEY *Introd. Pol. Sci.* (1900) 364 Not dealing with the new matter introduced by Egyptologists or Assyriologists or Vedists.

Vedlak, obs. form of WEDLOCK.

Vedo(u, obs. Sc. ff. WIDOW.

‖ **Vedro.** Also 8 **wedro.** [Russ. ведро́ pail.] A Russian liquid measure equal to 2.7 imperial gallons.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* VI. lxxxi. (1762) I. 371, 8 Krushquas, 1 wedro—13 english quarts. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* II. 593 The greater part was then already podraded (contracted) for at 148 kopecks for every vedro. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 234 Boiled in large kettles containing from forty to forty-three Russian vedros, or eimers, of water. 1833 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 77 The..distilleries.. issue about twenty-five millions of vedros. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 224 The peasants of that province..drank this year 62,924 vedros of vodka more than last.

Vee. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GREELEY *Gloss. Coal-M.* 269 *Vee*, the junction of two underground roadways meeting in the form of a V.

‖ **Veedor.** *Obs.* Also 6 **veadore, viador.** [a. Sp. and Pg. *veedôr*, Pg. *vedor*, *veador*, *viador*, f. *ver* to see.] An official invested with inspecting or controlling power.

a. [1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 158 One Gonzalus Fernandus Ouiedus beinge one of the maiestrates appointed in that office which the Spanyardes caule *Veedor*.] 1598 T. SCARLETT *Est. Engl. Fugitives* G, Sammarithe, the Veedors chiefe officer. 1622 SHELTON *Quix.* III. viii. 192 The office of a Bawde..should not be practised but by people well borne; and ought besides to haue a Veedor, and examinator of them.

β. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 109 We spake with his Vendore, or chiefe man, that hath the dealing with the Christians. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* II. VII. 949 (Guinea), They haue one attending on them, whom they call Viador (which word they haue learned of the Portugals); hee is the Kings Treasurer, and keepeth his Gold and other Riches.

Veel, southern dial. var. FEEL *v.*, FIELD *sb.*

Veer (vīəɹ), *sb.* [f. VEER *v.*²] An act or instance of veering; a change of direction.

1621 COTGR., *Virevoultis*, a veere, whirle,..frisk, or turne. 1623 T. JAMES *Voy.* 70 Wee..expected a lower veere of the water. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 232 Till the warm hour returns With veer of wind. 1890 *Daily* [illegible] This project of the Emperor William would sudden veer round a short time ago against Prince F[illegible]

Veer, southern ME. var. FIR; var. VERE (Spring) *Obs.*

Veer (vīəɹ), *v.*¹ *Naut.* Forms: 5–7 **vere** (6 *Sc.* **vire**); 6 **vyere**, 7 **vier-**; 6–7 **veare**, 7 **vear**; 7 **veere**, 7– **veer.** [a. MDu. *vieren* to let out, slacken, = OHG. *fieren*, *fieran* to give direction to. Hence also G. *vieren*, *fieren*, Da. *fire*, Sw. *fira* in nautical use.]

1. *trans.* To allow (a sheet or other sail-line) to run out to some extent; to let out by releasing. Also with *out*. † *Obs.*

So Du. and Flem. (*de*) *schoot vieren*, freq. used fig.

c 1460 *Pilgrim's Sea-Voy.* 25 Haile the b wayne! now, vere the shate! 1520 *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, III. II. 975 [The galley was next them, but if she] may vyere the shit, she will go from us all. 1530 *Hickscorner* 302 A-le the helme! a-le! vere! shot of! vere sayle! 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Vire the trossis, nou heise. *Ibid.*, Vire your liftaris and your top sail trossis. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 1 Behold I see the hauen nigh at hand...Vere the maine shete, and beare vp with the land. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 26 Loure the maine top saile, veare a fadome of your sheat. 1627— *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 39 Veere more sheat, or a flowne sheat, that is, when they are not haled home to the blocks. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 Vere out some of your Fore and Main-sheets. *Ibid.* 18 Vere out the main Sheet, and fore Sheet. 1694 (see MAIN-SHEET 1).

absol. 1530 [see above]. *a* 1598 CLEVELAND *Innoc. of Trust* 74 Now Bedfellows do one another greet I' th' Sayloms Phrase, Vere, vere, more Sheet.

b. To let *out* (any line or rope); to allow to run *out* gradually to a desired length.

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xiv. (1577) 42 They haue a pece of wood, and a line to vere out ouer borde. 1608–9 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 75, I bore vp to her, and by a barrell viered her out a long hawser. 1630 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 608 As you veer out the Log-Line, set the Drift of the Log with your Compass. 1721 *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 178 [He] marches on the bottom of the Sea, veering out the Coiles of his Pipe. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 68 They rowed it towards the rock, veering out a rope, which they had fastened to the large boat. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 178/2 They had the appearance of a single rope capable of being coiled and veered out conveniently. 1893 W. R. MACKINTOSH *Around Orkney Peat Fires* (1905) II. 136 [He] veered out the boat's tether till he came alongside the vessel.

†c. Similarly without adv. *Obs. rare.*

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 219 As fast as you can; and vere a line. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 169 *Veer a line*, let it off the reel after striking.

2. To allow (a boat, buoy, etc.) to drift further off by letting out a line attached to it. Usually with *away* or *out*.

1539 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Rec. Crt. Admy.* (Selden) I. 67 The marinars of the sayd Venys shippe did vere owt there grete bote. 1624 *Mechanic's Mag.* No. 42. 215 They tried the means of veering away a buoy. 1832 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* lxxiv, We veered an empty cask astern, with a rope attached to it. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 207 They veered out a buoy with a line, which we got hold of. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 357 To veer a buoy in a ship's wake, means to slack out a rope to which the buoy has been attached, in order to let it go astern.

3. To let out or pay out (a cable).

1604 *Adm. Ct. Exam.* 22 May, The cables were not viewed. 1620 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 203 On both sides was crying out to veere cable. *Ibid.*, Those [cables were] very short, and vered to the better end. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Sea-man's Gram.* viii. 30 Veere more Cable, in when you ride at Anchor. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 156 Tho' they immediately let go the Sheet-Anchor, and veer'd almost two Cables on it, yet they drove out to Sea. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 211 Cables veered astern, with tackles leading from them to the ship's quarters. 1834 G. B. RICHARDSON *Univ. Code* v. (ed. 12) 1280, I cannot veer more cable. 1870 MEADE *New Zealand* 290 After veering cable we went to quarters. 1899 *V. T. Bullen Way Navy* 41 Every anchor fell and cable was veered to five shackles.

fig. 1626 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. v 46 Traines shall seeke out Ingine,..euery cable Is to be vear'd.

absol. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) A a a 4 b, *Ne fila plus amarre!* keep fast the cable! stopper the cable! veer no more! 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 404 At 4 a.m. found ship drove, veered to a whole cable.

b. With *away* or *out*.

(*a*) 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 437 This obliged us to let go our Sheet Anchor, veering out a good scope of Cable. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) A a a 4 b, *Filer le cable bout par bout*,..to veer out the cable end-for-end. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-wolf* 74 The warships, which, with topmasts housed and cables veered out to the clinch, were all steaming full speed ahead.

(*b*) 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 138 To veer away the cable briskly. *Ibid.* III. ii. 319 After we had veered away one whole cable. 1765 COMMODORE BYRON *Voy.* (1773) I. 79 A thick fog coming on with hard rain, we veered away the stream cable. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 357 'Veer away the cable,' that is, slack it and let it run out.

fig. 1769 M. CUMBERLAND *Brothers* in *Brit. Theat.* (1808) XVIII. 17 I'll veer away no more good advice after you.

c. To put *on* (cables) end to end. *rare*⁻¹.

1826 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 86 The latter continued..to drop to leeward, and the Theseus was obliged to veer on two cables to keep within reach of them.

4. *To veer and haul*: (see quots.).

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine*, *To Veer and haul*, to pull a rope tight, by drawing it in and slackening it alternately,.. so that the rope is straitened to a greater tension. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 159 *To veer and haul*, is to haul and slack alternately on a rope, as in warping, until

the vessel or boat gets headway. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *To veer and haul*, to gently tauten and then slacken a rope three times before giving a heavy pull, the object being to concentrate the force of several men. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* viii. 282 By hauling and veering on it,..a sufficiently uniform strain on it would be obtained.

fig. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 251 The agents have a certain margin to veer and haul on in their commission.

1902 *Speaker* 27 April 109/2 Here is a sum on which the British Government may fairly veer and haul.

†5. *intr.* Of a ship: To sail with the sheet let out. *Obs.*

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (MS. Harl. 2301) s.v., When a Shipp sailes, and the Sheate is veered-out, wee saie she goes veering. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi. 76 The Ship goes Lasking, Quartering, Veering, or Large; are terms of the same signification, *viz.* that she neither goes by a Wind nor before the wind, but betwixt both.

Veer (vīəɹ), *v.*[2] Forms: 6 verre (?), 7 vere, vear(e, veere, 7– veer. [ad. F. *virer* (= Sp. *virar*, *birar*, Pg. *virar*, It. *virare*), to turn, to veer; of obscure origin. See also Vire *v.*]

1. *intr.* a. Of the wind: To change gradually; to pass by degrees from one point to another, *spec.* in the direction of the sun's course. Orig. *Naut.*

1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 73 And after that the winde verred [*sic*] to the Southwest they bare with the same. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 39 Now the wind veeres, that is, it doth shift from point to point. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 6 The wind in one hours space veering about every point of the Compass. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. vii. 234 Their Influence may be separated so far as to suffer a cooler Wind to blow, which upon their Rising shall vere to a warmer point. 1744 J. Claridge *Sheph. Banbury's Rules* 15 The wind commonly veers to the South West. 1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 230 The wind was Easterly. At the instant of the shock it is said to have veered to the West. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxxi, The wind had veered round, and the Aurora was now able to lay up clear of the island of Maritimo 1849 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (ed. 8) xv. 138 When north and south winds blow alternately, the wind at any place will veer in one uniform direction through every point of the compass. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log Sea-waif* 317 The next night the wind veered to the eastward.

†b. To turn round, revolve. *Obs.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii *Columnes* 459 O! thou fair Chariot,..thou do'st alwaies veer About the North-Pole. *Ibid.* 484 As long as Heav'n's swift Orb shall veer. 1611 Cotgr., *Virer*, to veere, turne round, wheele or whirle about.

2. *Naut.* Of a ship: To change course; *spec.* to turn round with the head away from the wind in order to sail on another tack.

c 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 134 The other veres as slowe, Lar-board and Star-board. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v. 1088 A-head of all the Master Pilot steers, And, as he leads, the following navy veers. 1762 *British Mag.* II 497 The Packet in haste to Beaumaurice was veering, When, lo! a large ship towards our vessel was steering. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* III. iii, It plunged and tacked and veered. 1818 Lytton *Harold* III. ii, The Earl's fleet after a brief halt veered majestically round. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 119 The coble tossed, and veered, and tacked, As she strove to make the shore.

3. Of things: To turn round or about; to change from one direction or course to another.

Also in fig. context (quot. 1690): cf. sense 4.

1633 T. James *Voy.* 12 The water veer'd to a lower ebbe. 1690 Dryden *Amphitryon* v. 48 Thou Weather-cock of Government; that when the Wind..changes for the Soveraign, veers to Prerogative.

1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xiii, A narrow inlet,..Lost for a space, through thickets veering, But broader when again appearing. 1823 Byron *Island* I. iii, No more at thy command The obedient helm shall veer, the sail expand. 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball.*, *Rondel* 5 Grief a fixed star, and joy a vane that veers. 1878 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf. P.* 811 The shadows slowly farther crept and veered Like changing memories.

b. Of persons or animals.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 17 Susanna slipped..from the side of her mamma, and veering toward Harry, she went on one side. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* IV. 80 'Twas but a short hour's walk, ere veering round I saw the snow-white church. 1825 Corbett *Rur. Rides* 322 After passing Bullington, Sutton, and Wonston we veered away from State-Charity. 1879 Tourgée *Fool's Err.* XXXVI. 256 The amazed horse veered quickly to one side, and stopped as if stricken to stone.

4. *fig.* To change or alter; to pass from one state, position, tendency, etc., to another; to be variable or changeable: a. Of persons.

1670 Dryden *Cong. Granada* III. i, Two Factions turn him with each Blast of Wind. But now he shall not veer. 1682 S. Pordage *Medal Rev.* 2 When the Tide turn'd, then strait about he veers, And for the stronger side he still appears. 1714 Swift *Yacht sent to their Trumps* Wks. 1841 II. 252 Those few at last veer'd quite about, And join'd in my disgrace. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* VIII. § 4 (1841) I. 318/1 Alcibiades was of a pliant and flexible disposition, that would take any impression which the difference of times and circumstances might require, still veering either to good or evil with the same facility and ardor. 1821 Peard *Gog* Poems 1865 I. 95 Linda, like many a modern Miss, Began to veer around at this. 1858 H. Rushnell *Nat. & Supernat.* x. (1864) 308 The infirmity..shown by human teachers, when they veer a little from their point.. to catch the assent of multitudes. 1884 F. M. Crawford *Rom. Singer* I. 56 He is a man to veer about like a weather-cock.

b. Of feelings, thoughts, conditions, etc.

1669 Dryden *Tyrannic Love* IV. i, Like a wind it [love] in no quarter stays; But points and veers each hour a thousand ways. 1721 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 296 For as these passions veer, my interest veers, my steerage varys. 1736 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) III. 198 Madame Pompadour, perceiving how much the King's disposition veered to devotion, artfully took the turn of humouring it. 1813 Scott *Ashby* I. xxii, While his own troubled passions veer Through hatred, joy, regret, and fear. 1833 Hr. Martineau *Fr. Wines & Pol.* III. 47 Her thoughts were ready to veer any way in hope of escape. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 52 Seldom has the fortune of war veered round so rapidly.

c. To diverge or differ *from* something. *rare*—[1].

1796 *Campaign*, *1793–4* I. i. iv. 25 Your opinion, dear Richard, veer'd widely from mine.

5. *absol.* To alter the course of a ship, *spec.* by causing it to swing round with the stern to windward so as to sail on another tack. Also of a ship: To admit of veering.

1625 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 54 [The Portuguese] payde away, vearinge to delay time for our cominge upp with them. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 40 Foundering is when she will neither veere nor steare, the Sea will..ouer rake her. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 66 If the Wind be contrary, they never strive against it, but vere about. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi. 76 In keeping the Ship near the Wind, these terms are used,..Veer no more, keep her to, touch the Wind. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* s.v. *Veering*, If..it is absolutely necessary to veer, in order to save the ship from destruction. 1810 J. H. Moore *Pract. Navigator* 200 *To veer*, to change a ship's course from one tack to the other, by turning her stern to windward. 1884 Par. *Eustace* 124 My lads, lie to, then veer and sail against the wind.

b. *trans.* (with *ship* as object).

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* s.v. *Veering*, When it becomes necessary to veer the ship, the sails towards the stern are either furled, or brailed up.

6. *trans.* To turn (something) from one course or direction to another. Also *fig.* (cf. 4).

(*a*) 1647 N. Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 30, I veer'd my tongue to this Kind of Language *de industria*. 1809 Kendall *Trav.* III. 18 The tone of the British Cabinet is veered by every incidental change of war. 1883 Meredith *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 212 Cities and martial States, Whither soon the youth veered his theme.

(*b*) 1809 J. Grahame *Birds of Scot.* 85 Her bleeding wing she veers..; on him she springs. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 81 A lofty beech To veer [L. *torqueat*] the bottom of the carriage [or the plough]. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 167 At each successive scarification he veers the direction of the parallel incisions.

†7. To turn *about* or screw in order to adjust; to cause to revolve or whirl. *Obs.*

a 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 107 In musical Instruments, if a String jar and be out of Tune, we do not frettingly break it, but leisurely veer it about to a Concord. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 140 A pair of Yarn Windles, which she..unintermittedly veered, and frisked about.

Veer, south-western dial. variant of Feer *v.*

Veerable, *a.* [f. Veer *v.*[2] 1.] †Of the wind: Tending to veer; changeable.

1670–1 Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy* I. (1694) 56 The wind veerable round the compass. 1698 Corant in Dampier *Voy.* (1699) II. III. 55 When we find the Winds.. veerable to S.W. and back to South, we stand off to the Westward. 1712 W. Rogers *Voy* (1718) 13 Yesterday the wind was very little and veerable 1742 Woodroofe in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxiii. 98 The winds being light and veerable favored us very much.

Veerer[1]. *rare*—°. [f. Veer *v.*[2]] (See quot.)

1611 Cotgr., *Vireur*, a veerer, or whiler, a round turner, or turner of things often about.

Veerer[2]. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss Coal-M.* 209 *Veerer* (Somerset), an old word for Banksman.

Veering, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Veer *v.*[1] 3.] The action of causing or allowing to run out; *attrib.* in *veering cable*, *chain*.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 711 *The veering cable*, that cable which is veered out in unmooring, and not unspliced or unshackled in clearing hawse. 1894 *Times* 20 Mar 3/5 From the top of the swivel a single veering chain passed into the lightship through the hawse pipe.

Veering, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Veer *v.*[2]] The action or fact of changing course or direction.

a. Of the wind (or a vane), or in general use.

1611 Cotgr., *Virement*, a veering, whirling, wheeling. 1696 Whiston *Th. Earth* IV. (1722) 367 It will not now depend on the Season of the Year alone, but on the Veering of the Wind. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* XI. i. (Rtldg.) 393 Scipio..asked whether the veering of the wind in the political horizon might not blow me some good. 1833 Herschel *Pop. Lect. Sci.* iv. § 31 (1873) 168 Nothing apparently can be more capricious than the shifting and veering of a weather-cock on a gusty day. 1850 Vaughan in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 323 The direction and veering of the wind ..gave him..warning.

b. Of a ship. Also in fig. context.

1668 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* 2 Expect rough seas, flaws, and contrary blasts, and 'tis well if by many cross tacks and veerings you arrive at the port. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., It is evident, that veering as well as tacking is a necessary consequence of the same..principle. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 177/2 The disadvantage of veering is that..the ship is sometimes carried far to leeward. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. 301 After some tacking and veering, we worked up to the entrance.

c. In figurative uses.

1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 25 P 7 A sovereign..that is prone to fall in with all the Turns and Veerings of the People. 1780 J. Brown *Lett. Toleration* (1803) II. 216 After much sinful veering towards the abjured abominations of Popery, they..lamented their perfidy to God. 1861 Tulloch *Eng. Purit.* i. 147 The strange and apparently inconsistent veerings in Cromwell's own mind.

Veering, *vbl. sb.*[3] *s. dial.* = Feering *vbl. sb.*

1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xi. 116 The Word Veering ..is the Plowman's Term for turning two Furrows toward each other, as they must do to begin a Ridge; and therefore they call the Top of a Ridge, a Veering. *Ibid.*, Our Intervals wholly consist either of Veerings or Hentings. 1839 [G. C. Lewis] *Herefordsh. Gloss.* 115 Ploughed land is said to be laid out into broad veerings, when many furrows are turned up on each side against the same ridge. 1882–90 in Glouc. and Worc. glossaries.

Veering, *ppl. a.* [f. Veer *v.*[2]]

1. Changing course or direction; †turning round, revolving.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Columnes* 635 On th' other side [of the astrolabe], under a veering sight, it Table veers. 1736 Yalden *Poet. Wks.* (1833) 66 Nor tax me with inconstancy; we find The driving bark requires a veering wind. 1798 *Loves of Triangles* in *Anti-Jacobin* (1852) 124 The veering helm the dexterous steersman stops. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., 3rd Sund. after Easter*, Like a bright veering cloud Grey blossoms twinkle there. 1873 R. W. Church *Influence Christ. National Character* I. 17 Fickle as the veering wind. 1896 *Strand Mag.* XII. 250 A ringing shout of encouragement rent the veering smoke-wreaths.

2. *fig.* Vacillating, variable, changeful.

1684 Roscommon *Ess. Verse* 241 But if a wild Uncertainty prevail, And turn your vearing Heart with ev'ry Gale. 1747 Collins *Odes, Passions*, Of dilt'ling themes the veering song was mix'd. *c* 1836 Mrs. Browning *Island* xix, Man's veering heart and careless eyes. 1853 W. Jerdan *Autobiog.* III. xvii. 262 It was thought a veering speech the Duke had just made in the House of Peers. 1875 Poste *Gaius* I. 116 After much veering legislation..., Justinian enacted that a man or a woman who divorced without a cause should retire to a cloister.

Hence **Veeringly** *adv.*, 'changingly, shiftingly' (Webster, 1847).

Veery (vīəɹi). *U.S.* [? Imitative.] A North American thrush (*Turdus fuscescens*), also called *tawny* and *Wilson's thrush*.

1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. i, The place flows with birds,.. deep in the forest [are] olive-backs, veeries, oven-birds. 1860 Whittier *My Playmate* xv, There in spring the veeries sing The song of long ago. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 685/1 Our thrushes are all frank, open-mannered birds; but the veery and the hermit build upon the ground.

†**Vees**[1], Sc variant of Vives.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 328 The weam-eill, the wild-fire, the vomit and the vees [*v.rr.* veis, weis]. 1608 *Melrose Recs* (S.H.S.) I. 60 [The mare] thairefter tuik ane seiknes callit the veis.

Vees[2]. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-M.* 209 *Vees*, *Veen*, and *Vise*, a kind of soft earth in a fissure or upon the sides of a dyke.

Veeze, south. dial. variant of Feeze *v.*[1]

‖**Vega**[1] (vē'gă). [Sp. and Catal. *vega*, Pg. *veiga*, of obscure origin.] In Spain and Spanish America, an extensive, fertile, and grass-covered plain or tract of land.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. i. 24, I am now in Valentia, one of the noblest Cities in all Spain, situate in a large Vega or Valley, about sixty miles compass. 1827 Longf. *Life* (1891) I. ix. 231 We crossed the beautiful Vega—those delicious and luxuriant meadows which stretch away to the south and west of Granada. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* I. viii. (1846) I. 363 Their spacious vegas afforded an ample field for the display of their matchless horsemanship. 1850 B. Taylor *Eldorado* vii. (1862) 67 The grass on the vega before the house was still thick and green. 1887 F. Francis *Saddle & Mocassin* 85 The horses were driven in from the vega.

b. In the West Indies, a piece of fertile meadow-land used for the cultivation of sugar or tobacco; a tobacco-field.

1871 Kingsley *At Last* ix, The vega is usually a highly cultivated cane-piece. 1871 Hazard *Cuba* 329 The best properties known as *vegas*, or tobacco farms, are comprised in a narrow area in the south-west part of the island.

Vega[2] (vī'gă). [a. Sp. or med.L. *Vega*, ad. Arab. وَاقِع *wāqiʿ* falling, in (*al nasr*) *al wāqiʿ* 'the falling (vulture)', the constellation Lyra. So F. *Wéga*.] The brightest star in the constellation Lyra; a Lyræ.

1638 Childrey tr. *Hues' Treat. Globes* (1889) 53 The bright Starre in this Constellation, being the first in number, Alfonsus calleth Vega. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 225/2 Its brightest star, α Lyræ, also called Vega, is a conspicuous object. 1889 C. R. Markham tr. *Hues' Treat. Globes* 221 Vega contains hydrogen, iron, sodium, and magnesium.

Veget, obs. var. Vegete *a.*

Vegetability (vedʒĭtăbĭ'lĭti). [ad. med.L. **vegetabilitas*, f. L. *vegetābilis* Vegetable *a.*: see -ity. Cf. OF. *vegetablete* (Godef.), F. *végétabilité*, It. *vegetabilità*, Sp. *vegetabilidad*.]

†1. A vegetable organism. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 90 It shewys oppynly..bat euerylk kende of vegetabilitez haues a propre ordre, bat ys, complexioun.

2. Vegetable character, quality, or nature.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 91 [The] lapidificall juyce of the Sea, which entring the parts of that plant [*sc.* coral], overcomes its vegetability, and converts it into a lapideous substance. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2035 A description of sundry new Metals, or Semi-metals, as he calls them; together with a discourse of their Vegetability. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 189 These have their vegetability the same way, with the porous species of Coral. 1894 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 192 If any additional proofs of the vegetability of corallines were needed. 1898 T. R. Jones *Aquarian Nat.* 136 The mineralogists..questioned the vegetability of such of these productions as were of a hard and stony nature.

Vegetable (ve·dʒĭtăb'l), *sb.* Also 6 **vegitable.** [*f.* the adj.]

1. A living organism belonging to the vegetable kingdom or the lower of the two series of organic beings; a growth devoid of animal life; a plant in the widest or scientific sense (= PLANT *sb.*[1] 2).

1588 J. HESTER *Compendium Ration. Secr.* (title-p.), The Hidden Vertues of sondrie Vegitables, Animalles, and Mineralls. 1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* II. 123 Some of them are taken from minerals.., some from the vegetables, and some from the animals. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 12, I suppose there is none will .. deny .. the Heavens and Planets to have influence over Herbs, Corn, Plants, and all Vegetables. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und* IV. vi. (1695) 337 In Vegetables, which are nourished, grow, and produce Leaves, Flowers, and Seeds, in a constant Succession. 1737 GRAY *Lett.* Poems (1775) 94 Both vale and hill are covered with most venerable beeches, and other very reverend vegetables. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* clii. (1819) III. 169 They [*i. e.* speeches] are like vegetables of a night, or insects of a day. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract Agric.* I. 387 After the rushes or other coarse vegetables have been cut down and carried away. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 265 The expressed oils of mild vegetables, as the pistachio, olive, and almond. 1883 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 205 Both [trees] are pleasant vegetables. 1884 *De Candolle's Orig. Cultivated Pl.* 4 The *Tetragonia*, an insignificant green vegetable.

fig. a 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 44 He was a meer vegetable of the Court, that sprung up at night, and sunk again at his noon. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 86 ¶ 3, I met him with all the respect due to so reverend a vegetable; for you are to know, that is my sense of a person who remains idle in the same place for half a century.

† **b.** *pl.* in collective sense: Vegetation. *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 43, I have bin alwaies naturally affected to woods and groves, and those kind of vegetables. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* VI. (1723) 295 June, July, and August..exhibit a still different Shew of Vegetables, and Face of Things. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 18 Their only way is to let it cover itself with such vegetables as may come. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* XXV, Scrubby and stunted heath, intermixed with the long bent, or coarse grass,..were the only vegetables that could be seen.

† **c.** Applied to the earth or to a mineral regarded as capable of growth. *Obs. rare.*

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. (1677) 96 Though the Earth be not animated with a Sensible Soul, yet it is possible that it may be a great Immortal Vegetable 1716 CHEYNE *Philos Princ. Nat. Relig.* I. 278 A hill is nothing but the Nest of some Mettle or Mineral, either of Stone, Iron, Tin, Copper or such like lower Vegetables.

2. A plant cultivated for food; *esp.* an edible herb or root used for human consumption and commonly eaten, either cooked or raw, with meat or other article of food.

1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* (1771) I. 461 The cultivation of the new-discovered vegetables, and all the modes of raising the old ones. 1796 MRS. INCHBALD *Nature & Art* xlvi. (1820) 158 At a stinted repast of milk and vegetables. 1840 LOUDON *Cottager's Man.* 4 in *Husb.* III. (L.U.K.), To supply the cottager's family..with vegetables, potatoes, and faggots. 1846 SOYER *Cookery* 450 Where a dish of vegetables are required for second course. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 243 Cabbages or any other vegetables which are fit for boiling.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib. in sense 2, as *vegetable-basin, dish, food, garden, -market*, etc.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vegetation*, The common Opinion .is, that Water is the great vegetable Food. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. III. 15 Two vegetable dishes. 1853 HICKIE *Aristoph.* (Bohn) II 416 In the pottery-market and the vegetable-market alike. a 1860 ALB. SMITH *Med. Student* (1861) 17 Threading their way through the crowd of the vegetable-waggons arriving for to-morrow's market. 1898 F. G. LEE *Negl Baptt.* 11 A vegetable-basin or a soap-dish was used instead of the font. 1893 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 337/1 May I tell him..about your vegetable garden?

b. Objective or obj. genitive, as *vegetable-eater, -feeder, -seller*; *vegetable-eating, -feeding* adjs.

Also with the names of instruments, as *vegetable-chopper, -cutter, -grater, -slicer*, etc. (Knight *Dict. Mech.*)

(*a*) 1798 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 28 There are both sorts [of bears], carnivorous and vegetable-eaters. 1851–6 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1858) 12 All the land-snails are vegetable-feeders. 1867 M. ARNOLD *Celtic Lit.* 4 Bathing people, vegetable-sellers, and donkey boys. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 54 The cheiroptera are, however, vegetable-feeders.

(*b*) 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 493/1 In a vegetable-feeding insect the stomach is very voluminous. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* XXV. 262 They are exceedingly expert divers, and can swim under water to much longer distances than any others of the vegetable-eating ducks 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 966 These stony masses are found in the intestines of many vegetable-feeding animals.

Vegetable (ve·dʒĭtăb'l), *a.* Also 6 **vegitabile**, 7 **-able.** [a. OF. *vegetable* (mod.F. *végétable*, = It. *vegetabile*, Sp. *vegetable*, Pg. *vegetavel*), or ad. L. *vegetābilis* animating, vivifying, f. *vegetāre*: see VEGETATE *v.*

In some instances the adj. cannot be clearly distinguished from the attributive uses of the *sb.*]

† **1.** Having the vegetating property of plants; living and growing as a plant or organism endowed with the lowest form of life. (Cf. VEGETAL *a.* 1.)

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 90 What þinge vegetable þat..makyȝ fruyt, to þe soune ȝe apropird. 1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 674 Zephirus, þat is so comfortable For to norysche þinges vegetable. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 73 Hit may be concludede Paradise not to be there, sythe noo thynge vegetable may haue lyfe þer. c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1033 All thynges created of God under the moone..ben elemented vegetables and sensytyves. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Vegetable*, springing, or growing as hearbes. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 197 How far themselues differ from senselesse stockes, or come short of the vegetable trees. a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* III. iv. (1677) 206 Things vegetable, that have simply Life, with those operations incident to Life.

fig. 1642 W. CARTWRIGHT *Lady-Errant* I. ii, The other counts her apricots..lays 'em naked And open to the sun, that it may freely Smile on her vegetable embraces. a 1678 MARVELL *Poems, To coy Mistress* 11 My vegetable love should grow Vaster than empires and more slow.

† **b.** Of the soul. *Obs.*

1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 5686 Comparysownyd, as it were semblable, To a sowle þat were vegetable, ȝe whiche, with-oute sensibilite, Mynystreth lyf in herbe, flour, and tre. c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 203 In the whiche [body] our Lorde hath planted the soule vegetable by the whiche it groweth. 1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XXII. iv. (1620) 821 The earth is full of vegetable soules, strangely combined with earthly bodies. 1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. vi. (1611) 101 A vegetable Soul is a facultie or power that giueth life vnto bodies.

† **c.** *Vegetable power*, the principle of simple life and growth. *Obs.*

1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 672 The vegetable power common to men and plants. 1685 HART *Anat. Ur* I. ii. 29 The state of the nourishing or vegetable power ouer the whole bodie.

† **d.** *Vegetable stone*, one of the three varieties of the philosophers' stone, supposed to possess health-preserving properties. *Obs.*

After med.L. *lapis vegetabilis*: cf. Gower *Conf* II 86.

1652 ASHMOLE *Theatr Chem Brit.* Proleg. 7 By the Vegitable [Stone] may be perfectly known the Nature of Man.

2. Of or pertaining to, composed or consisting of, derived or obtained from, plants or their parts; of the nature of or resembling a vegetable. Freq. as contrasted with animal or mineral products.

a. Of material substances.

1582 HESTER *Secr. Phisonom.* I. xxxiii. 39 You shall giue them ʒj of our Vegitabile Sirrup. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 3 All sorts of soyle..do draw their generatiue & fructifying vertue from that vegetable salt. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. (1723) 101 By Retrenching a considerable Quantity of the vegetable Matter. 1721 MORTIMER *Husbandry* II. 207 Statues are a lasting Ornament when vegetable Ornaments are out of Season. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 320 The direful bane Of vegetable venom. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* IV. 2679/1 Almost all concretes that abound either with mineral or vegetable sulphur. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 31 May 2/2 The superiority of coal to vegetable tar. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ii. § 3. 84 The insoluble pectose contained in the vegetable tissue. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Greek Test.* 18 The ancient ink was purely vegetable, without any metallic base.

poet. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 220 And all amid them stood the Tree of Life High eminent, blooming Ambrosial Fruit Of vegetable Gold. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 110 My coursers sought their birthplace in the sun,..Pasturing flowers of vegetable fire. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 91 The zephyr in his garden rolled From plum-trees vegetable gold.

b. Of conditions, actions, qualities, etc.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxvii. § 4 The wood, bark, and leaves, &c. of an oak, in which consists the vegetable life. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 178 My Song to flow'ry Gardens might extend, To teach the Vegetable Arts. 1712 POPE *Vertumnus & Pomona* 4 None taught the trees a nobler race to bear, Or more improv'd the vegetable care. 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Ess. Effects Air* I. 9 The Heat arising from vegetable Perspiration is very sensible in a hot Day near a Field of Corn. 1788 GIBBON *Decl & F.* I. V. 172 The lonesome traveller derives a sort of comfort and society from the presence of vegetable life. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 571 The learned President begins this paper by a theory of animal and vegetable processes, deriving them from fermentation. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 25 This short passage comprehends the essence of all that can be said on the subject of vegetable development. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. David* Ps. xcii. 10 The brutish men grow with a sort of vegetable vigour of their own.

c. Of earth, mould, etc.: (see later quots.).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. vi. (1776) I. 55 In regions which are uninhabited, where the forests are not cut down,..the bed of vegetable earth is constantly encreasing. 1818 *New Botanic Gard.* I. 53 Beds of light vegetable earth. *Ibid*, Good light vegetable mould. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 137 What remains, when the decomposition has totally broken down the structure of the vegetable, is a black pulverulent substance,..This constitutes what is called vegetable mould, and is also the chief ingredient in vegetable manure. 1858 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 185 Whatever rocks may be composed of, they are sure to be covered, after a time, with debris,..until at last there is a covering of vegetable soil.

3. *Vegetable creation, kingdom, world*, etc., that division of organic nature to which plants belong.

1668 COWLEY *Ess. Prose & Verse, Garden* (1906) 427 Who would not joy to see his conquering hand Ore all the Vegetable World command? 1692–[see KINGDOM 5]. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* I. 49 The Vegetable World, each Plant, and Tree, ..I am allow'd, as Fame reports, to know. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 206 This extends in more or less degree to every part of vegetable creation. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 180/2 The distinction given between the animal and vegetable kingdoms is the possession of sensation by the former. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 84 To supply the vegetable world with its carbon.

4. Of, composed or consisting of, made from, esculent vegetables.

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. v. 62 What your Garden yields,..To him be sacrific'd, and let him taste, Before your Gods, the vegetable Feast. 1769 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 449 A milk and vegetable diet..will often perform a cure. 1842 COMBE *Digestion* 208 Vegetable food and fruit might, with propriety, be used by the middle and richer classes in this country to a greater extent than it is. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vegetable-soups*, soups made with green peas, turnips, and carrots cut small, cabbages, &c.

5. Resembling that of a vegetable; *esp.* uneventful, featureless, monotonous, dull.

1824 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. ii. 46 The pauper peasantry, weary of a merely vegetable life, were glad of any pretext for excitement. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* vii. 298 They had no occasion to mark the lapse of time in their monotonous and vegetable existence.

6. *ellipt.* Living on vegetables; vegetarian.

1812 SHELLEY in Hogg *Life* (1858) II. 197, I continue vegetable; Harriet means to be slightly animal, until the arrival of spring.

7. Special collocations.

Vegetable acid, an organic acid derived from a plant. *Vegetable alkali* (see quots. and ALKALI 3). *Vegetable brimstone* (see quot. and LYCOPODIUM 2). *Vegetable butter* (see quot. and BUTTER *sb.*[1] 3). *Vegetable camel* (see quot.). *Vegetable casein*, = LEGUMIN. *Vegetable caterpillar, egg, ethiops, fire-cracker, flannel*, † *fly* (see quots.). *Vegetable gelatin*: see GELATIN 1 b. *Vegetable gold*, † (*a*) saffron (Mayne, 1859); (*b*) an acid derived from the roots of the plant *Trixis Pipinahuac* (*Treas. Bot* 1866). *Vegetable hair*, the long-beard, *Tillandsia usneoides* (Ibid). *Vegetable horse-hair*, the fibre of the leaves of the European palm *Chamærops humilis* (Ibid. Suppl. 1874). *Vegetable ivory* (see IVORY 2); also *attrib. Vegetable jelly*, = PECTIN. † *Vegetable lamb*: see LAMB *sb.* 5 c. *Vegetable leather*, the plant *Euphorbia pumicea* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). *Vegetable marrow*: see MARROW *sb.*[1] 3. *Vegetable mummy*: see MUMMY *sb.*[1] 2 c. *Vegetable oyster*: (*a*) *U.S.*, salsify; (*b*) scorzonera. *Vegetable parchment*: see PARCHMENT *sb.* 2 b. *Vegetable pear*, the chocho (see PEAR *sb.* 3). *Vegetable sheep, silk* (see quots.). *Vegetable sulphur*, vegetable brimstone. *Vegetable tallow, vellum* (see quots.). *Vegetable wax*, a wax or wax-like substance obtained from plants or vegetable growths. *Vegetable wool* (see quot.).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Alkaly*, Since *Vegetable Acids are originally no other than Mineral ones. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 389 The acetous, and most other vegetable acids, have some action upon tin. 1892 *Photogr. Ann* II. 684 Acids, including vegetable acids. 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) III. 1809/1 The fixed kind are subdivided into .. the *vegetable, and mineral or fossile alkali. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 5 Of the fixed [alkalis] there are two species, the one generally afforded by the incineration of inland vegetables, and thence called the Vegetable Alkali. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed 3) II. 588 Carbonate of Potash..was characterized by a great variety of names, according to the manner of preparing it; such as fixed nitre, salt of tartar, vegetable alkali. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 70 The powder contained in the sporecases of Lycopodium clavatum and Selago..is employed under the name of Lycopode, or *vegetable brimstone,.. in the manufacture of fireworks, and.. to roll up pills. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 68/2 **Vegetable butters*, the name given to the concrete oil of certain vegetables, from its resemblance to the butter obtained from the milk of animals, and from being employed for similar purposes. The term is also occasionally, but improperly, applied to some vegetable products which are entirely of a waxy nature, such as the wax of the *Myrica cerifera*. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. bot.* vi. 40 Some of them [plants] flourish in the most dry and sandy places, exposed to a burning sun; as the *Stapelia*, sometimes called the *vegetable camel. 1841 *Vegetable caseine* [see CASEIN]. 1889 E. WAKEFIELD *New Zealand after 50 Yrs.* 81 The aweto, or *vegetable-caterpillar, called by the naturalists *Hipialus virescens*... For some inexplicable reason, the spore of a vegetable fungus *Sphæria Robertsii*, fixes itself on its neck.., takes root and grows vigorously. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1018/2 *Sapota* *mammosa*..) yields the Marmalade fruit sometimes called the *Vegetable Egg. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 26 Of ivory shavings, sponge, and the *vegetable æthiops, bladderwrack, is charcoal also made. 1860 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) III. 949 *Vegetable æthiops*, a charcoal prepared by the incineration in a covered crucible of the *fucus vesiculosus*, or common sea wrack. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl. 1350/2 *Vegetable fire-cracker, *Bridelia coccinea*. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2695/1 **Vegetable flannel*, a fabric made of a fine fiber obtained from the leaves of the *Pinus sylvestris*. Pine-wool. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 271 The *vegetable fly is found in the island Dominica, and (excepting that it has no wings) resembles the drone both in size and colour more than any other English insect. In the month of May it buries itself in the earth, and begins to vegetate. 1842– *Vegetable ivory [see IVORY 2]. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 219 A hut was made among vegetable-ivory palms. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 109 The vegetable-ivory plant (*Phytelephas macrocarpa*)..attracted a large share of attention. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 194 *Vegetable jelly, unless when tinged by the fruit from which it has been obtained, is nearly colourless. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ii. § 3. 83 Vegetable Jelly (formerly called *pectin*). 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 185 Such [compound flowers] as have ligulate florets; as the dandelion, lettuce, and *vegetable-oyster. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 307 *Oyster-plant*, salsify.., so called from its resemblance in taste, when cooked, to the oyster. It is also called the Vegetable Oyster. 1882 *The Garden* 11 Nov. 425/3 Salsafy and Scorzonera. Those fond of using pet names often call one or other of these the .'vegetable oyster'. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 959/1 The name of *Vegetable Sheep (!) is given by the settlers in New Zealand to *Raoulia eximia*, because, from its growing in large white tufts on elevated sheep-runs, it may be readily mistaken for the sheep. 1895 in Morris *Austral Engl.* (1898) 246/2 There is in the Alpine regions of the South Island a plant popularly called the 'vegetable sheep', botanically named *Raoulia*. 1843 T. C. ARCHER *Pop. Econ. Bot.* 181 *Vegetable silk. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Vegetable Silk*, a cotton-like material obtained from the seed-pods of *Chorisia speciosa*. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.* 402/2 **Vegetable sulphur*, a powder obtained from the theca of ..common club moss [etc.]. 1846 *Foreign Q. Rev.* April 88 Among the exports of Borneo..[are] *vegetable tallow,.. coffee [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1206 *Vegetable tallow*, a fatty substance obtained from *Stillingia sebifera*, *Valeria indica*, and other plants. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 151 **Vegetable vellum*, Japanese vellum-paper specially

prepared to imitate vellum. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 495 In China and in North America, wax is obtained directly from plants, and is then called "vegetable-wax. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 180/1 *Myrica quercifolia*, a native of the Cape of Good Hope, is another species which yields a vegetable wax. 1853 T. C. Archer *Pop. Econ. Bot.* 281 Vegetable Wax (South American). *Ibid.* 282 Vegetable Wax, or Myrtle Wax (of North America). 1884 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 8 March 146/2 The prepared fibre of this plant [Neilgherry nettle] is sometimes called "Vegetable wool.

b. In the names of pigments, as *vegetable black, blue*, etc.

1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed 3) II 174 This acid reddens vegetable blues, and gradually destroys the greater number of them. 1875 Bidford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. (ed. 2) 365 *Vegetable Black.*—This is the cheapest and best black for all ordinary work.

Vegetablise, *v. rare.* [f. Vegetable *sb.* or *a.* + -ise.] *trans.* and *refl.* To render vegetable; to convert into, or cause to resemble, a vegetable substance.

a 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 113 Having been vegetablized .. in the leaves, it [the sap] passes into vessels .. in the bark. 1869 in *Cosmopolitan* 19 Aug. 314 The mineral vegetablises itself, the vegetable animalises itself. *a* 1891 O'Neill *Dyeing & Calico Print.* 36 (Cent. Dict.), Silk is to be vegetablised .. by an immersion in a bath of cellulose dissolved in ammoniacal copper oxide.

Vegetably, *adv. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ly 2.]

1. In the manner of a vegetable or plant; with vegetative properties.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 39 These things happen in plants vegetably animate.

2. In respect of, by means of, vegetables; towards vegetables. Only in combs.

1827 *Examiner* 248/1 There is a bold enrichment in the vegetably-marked foreground. 1857 F. Francis *Angling* i. (1880) 31 A bait for roach when they are vegetably-minded.

Vegetal (ve·dʒĭtăl), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 **vegytalle, vygital**, 6–7 **vegitall**, 7 **vegital, vegetall**, 7– **vegetal**. [ad. med.L. **vegetālis*, f. L. *vegetāre*: see Vegetate *v.* Cf. F. *végétal* (16th c.), Sp. and Pg. *vegetal*, It. *vegetale*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Characterized by, exhibiting or producing, the phenomena of physical life and growth. (Cf. Vegetable *a.* 1.) Now usually in expressed or implied contrast with *animal*.

The modern use is due to Herbert Spencer (see Lewes *Physiol. Common Life* (1860) II. 430 *note*), and has largely influenced the retention or revival of the form in other senses.

c 1400 in Ashm. *Theatr. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 211 Wyth vygital moyster and of the red Grap. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* iv. 19 Whan .. the naturel hete of blood humayn comforte my membris, & made theym vegytalle wyth sencyble moeuynges. 1621 Cotgr., *Vegetal*, vegetall, hauing or giuing a (plant-like) life, increase, .. or growing. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* 1. i. II. v, Necessary concomitants or affections of this Vegetall facultie is life, and his privation death. 1666 Bp. S. Parker *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 180 They can exert no acts but of Imagination, whence spring forth the powers of the Vegetal life.

1858 Spencer *Ess., Architect. Types* (1891) II. 377 That there is some relation between Gothic architecture and vegetal forms is generally admitted. 1861 — *Education* 21 Phenomena of animal and vegetal life. 1879 G. Allen *Colour-Sense* iv, Not a trace of any vegetal organism has yet been discovered in the primary rocks to which [etc.]. 1893 J. Fiske *Man's Destiny* 27 The myriad fantastic hues of animal and vegetal life.

b. In expressed or implied contrast with *sensible* (or *sensitive*) and *rational*. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* Democritus to Rdr. 16 All creatures, vegetal, sensible and rational. *Ibid.* 1. i. II. v, Vegetal Plants, Sensible Beasts, Rational Men. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq* 384 The functions and delights of the mere Vegetal and Animal nature. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 275 The inferior classes of life: first the rational, then the sensitive, after that the vegetal. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 303 The famous classic and mediæval theories of the vegetal, sensitive, and rational souls.

2. Of or pertaining to, derived or obtained from, plants or vegetables.

1596 J. Hester *Experiments & Cures*, etc. (title-p.), Certaine Secrets of Isacke Hollandus concerning the Vegetall and Animall worke. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 343 Scorbutick pills are so prepared with noble vegetal extractions. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Lye*, Take this Lye, put into it an Ounce or two of vegetal Salt. 1758 J. S. *La Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 142 Manna, Cassia, and vegetal Salt. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 300 Most of their vegetal riches might be matched in Covent Garden. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 143 Vegetal lakes, and the most tender colours. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 363 All vegetal tissues which contain pectose. 1879 G. Allen *Colour-Sense* iii, The bright hues of vegetal products like fruits and flowers.

3. = Vegetable *a.* 3.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* 1. 61 The main .. Agent in all Natures three Kingdoms Mineral, Vegetal, and Animal.

1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. I. 71 The rose, .. Pride of the vegetal creation. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 34. 175 This advice is equally just in regard to many other members of the vegetal world. 1876 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 243 Many of the lowest forms of life cannot positively be assigned either to the vegetal or to the animal kingdom.

B. *sb.* An organic substance which is neither animal nor mineral; a plant; = Vegetable *sb.* 1.

Very common in the first half of the 17th c. In recent use going with the modern application of the adj. in sense 1.

1599 Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) 15 All other armes which are not Anymalls and vegitalls, .. as Cheeserons, pales, Bendes [etc.]. 1599 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S.T.S.) 81 He knawes .. The vertue of all kinde of fruites, and euerie vegetal. 1600 B. Jonson *Alch.* 1. i, Your mineralls, vegetalls and animalls .. Could not relieue your corps. *c* 1640 Waller *For Drinking of Healths* 1 Let brutes and vegetals, that cannot think, So far as drought and nature urges, drink. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1620 All th'other Members shall .. Spring out of this, as from a Seed, All sorts of Vegetals proceed.

1864 H. Spencer *Princ. Biol.* I. 212 The largest species of both animals and vegetals belong to the highest classes.

†b. *fig.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1626 T. H[awkins] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 244 A great number of men are now a dayes vegetalls, that is to say, who so line, as if they had no other soule but the vegetative, as plantes, and lead the very life of the mushrome.

Vegetalcule. *rare*—1. [f. prec. + -cule, after *animalcule*.] A minute vegetable organism.

1856 Grindon *Life* xxv. (1875) 322 Between the first animalcules and the first vegetalcules there is a seeming identity.

Vegetality. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ity. Cf. F. *végétalité*.] = Vegetability 2.

1860 Lewes *Physiol. Common Life* II. 430 *note*, We may thus say vegetal, and vegetality, as well as animal, and animality. 1879 — *Study Psychol.* 54 In its evolution it passes from Vegetality to Animality, and through Animality to Humanity.

Vegetant (ve·dʒĭtănt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *végétant*, or ad. L. *vegetant-, vegetans*, pres. pple. of *vegetāre*: see Vegetate *v.*]

A. *adj.* †1. Animating, vivifying, invigorating. *Vegetant stone*: see Vegetable *a.* 1 d. *Obs. rare.*

1576 G. Baker tr. *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 112 The making of the vegetant stone .. is borowed out of the practises of the above sayde Aucthour. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* v. 629 The sea's chill breath, And vegetant dews, I fear will be my death.

2. Vegetating; vegetable, vegetal. Now *rare.*

1620 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* 1. iii. 6 The Grouth & Repletion of productions, both Vegetant and Animall. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 28 Life vegetant as Trees, fruitful and unfruitful. 1675 Evelyn *Terra* (1729) 323 Vegetant and indissoluble salts. 1903 R. Bridges *Winter Delights* 70 Rejoicing In vegetant or brute existence.

3. *nonce-use.* Vegetarian.

1858 Hogg *Shelley* II. 420 Tooke proposed shrimps and treacle to one of the fathers of the church vegetant here on earth.

†B. *sb.* = Vegetable *sb.* 1, Vegetal *sb. Obs.*

1605 Timme *Quersit.* 1. xvi. 85 Simple vegetants, with metallick substances, doe draw those mercuriall .. of a purging nature. 1620 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* 1. vi. 13 It intimates howe and wherewith the Plot is .. replenished both with Vegetants, and Animals.

Vegetarian (vedʒĭtē·rĭăn), *sb.* and *a.* [Irreg. f. Veget-able after sbs. and adjs. in *-arian*. Hence F. *végétarien*, G. *vegetarianer*.

The general use of the word appears to have been largely due to the formation of the Vegetarian Society at Ramsgate in 1847.]

A. *sb.* 1. One who lives wholly or principally upon vegetable foods; a person who on principle abstains from any form of animal food, or at least such as is obtained by the direct destruction of life.

1842 *Healthian* Apr. 34 To tell a healthy vegetarian that his diet is very uncongenial with the wants of his nature. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 332 A man can scarce become a vegetarian even without also becoming in some measure intolerant of the still large .. class that eat beef with their greens, and herrings with their potatoes. 1885 Salmon *Introd. N. T.* xi. 241 Even those who used animal food themselves came to think of the vegetarian as one who lived a higher life.

b. *transf.* Of animals, etc.

1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 307 For though ours are not vegetarians, every chicken we have is a stanch teetotaler! 1861 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Institt. 1860*, 194 It is almost certain that some tribes [of Gasteropods] which have a permanently elongated muzzle are not vegetarians.

2. A member of a fanatical Chinese sect. Also *attrib.*

1895 *Tablet* 10 Aug. 208 Some 80 men belonging to a sect known as Vegetarians stormed the station .. at night. 1896 *Mission. Herald* (Boston) July 279 A large portion of the vegetarians were unwilling to even plunder the missionaries. *Ibid.*, The vegetarian leaders imagined that the missionaries were at the bottom of this activity against themselves.

B *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to vegetarians or vegetarianism; practising or advocating vegetarianism.

In this group possibly attrib. uses of the sb.

1849 *Vegetarian Messenger* Introd. 1 Condensed accounts of meetings and the transactions of the Vegetarian Society. 1860 [John Smith] (*title*), The Principles and Practice of Vegetarian Cookery. 1890 J. Knight *Vegetarianism in Practice* 11 The moral aspects of the Vegetarian practice. *Ibid.* 12 The Vegetarian system affords such articles as will give all requisite nourishment.

2. Of animals: Living on vegetables.

1856 T. R. Jones *Aquarian Nat.* 342 Mr. Darwin gives an interesting account of a crab .. which lives on c nuts .. This vegetarian crab [etc.]. 1889 R. Teimi Noble *The Cape & its People* 200 An order .. comp almost wholly of vegetarian insects.

3. Consisting of vegetables or plants.

1868 R. Owen *Anat. Vertebrates* III. 503 The diprotodont [type of dentition] obtains in the majority of the Australasian marsupials, and is associated usually with vegetarian or promiscuous diet. 1911 Swanton *Ind. Tribes Lower Missis.* (Bureau Amer. Ethnol.) 317 The diet of the Tunica was more vegetarian than that of American tribes generally.

Vegetarianism (vedʒĭtē·rĭănĭz'm). [f. prec.] The doctrine or practice of vegetarians: abstention from eating meat, fish, or other animal products.

1853 in Dunglison *Lex.* 1862 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 324 All this was partly owing, no doubt, to mere physical illness; not improbably to vegetarianism. 1879 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (ed. 6) I. xi. 339 Is it contrary to the rules of Vegetarianism to eat eggs? 1885 Salmon *Introd. N. T.* 241 Among ourselves .. vegetarianism is regarded as a harmless eccentricity.

†**Vegetary**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vegetāre* Vegetate *v.* + -ary 1.] Vegetable, vegetative.

a 1595 Southwell *Hundred Meditt.* (1873) 178 As Thou are one in essance, so is my soul, containing all the powers, with a vegetary, sensible and reasonable life.

†**Vegetate**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 7 **vegit-**. [ad. L. *vegetāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vegetāre*: see next.] Endowed with vegetable life; growing as plants.

1574 J. Jones tr. *Galen, De Elementis* Ep. Ded. p. ii, Whether they be *Inanimata* .as the Minerals; or *Animata*, with life, Vegetat, Sensit, & Rational, Growing thinges, as Hearbes. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 79 This may be evidenced, by undeniable experiments, from things inanimate and vegitate.

Vegetate (ve·dʒĭtēt), *v.* [f. L. *vegetāt-*, ppl. stem of *vegetāre* to animate, enliven, f. *vegetus* active, lively, vigorous: see Vegete *a.*]

1. *intr.* Of plants, seeds, etc.: To exercise or exhibit vegetative faculties or functions; to grow or develop, or begin to do so.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* 1. x. 38 You might see .. the manifest forme of a rose, vegetating and growing. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 27 A Plant .. vegetates; that is to say .. it nourishes itself, shoots, increases in size, and produces Leaves, Flowers, and Seeds. 1769 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 97 Seeds will not vegetate without air. 1791 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 107 A young oak, just vegetating from the acorn. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II. 627 The plants being well earthed up, vegetate with increased luxuriance. 1858 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 859 The leaves [of the tea-plant] are not fit to be pulled till the shrub has vegetated for three years. 1882 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. (1857) xviii 263 The sun in autumn may be bright and clear, but the seed which has not been sown until then will not vegetate.

transf. and *fig.* 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux' Strat.* Prol., A weed that has to twenty summers ran, Shoots up in stalk, and vegetates to man. 1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 16 See dying vegetables life sustain, See life dissolving, vegetate again. 1792 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 408 That corruption has cast deep roots in that party, and they vegetate in it .. every day with greater and greater force. 1836 I. Taylor *Phys. The. Another Life* xiii. 173 Such dispositions .. are living powers; they vegetate, and cover the entire surface of the soul.

b. *transf.* To increase as if by, to present the appearance of, vegetable growth.

1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 177 All parts of the world vegetate by a fine subtle æther. 1788 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 79 They vegetate, if solutions of both metals [i. e. silver and mercury] in the same acid be mixed together. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 501 Naturalists have observed that ore in swamps and pondy ground vegetates and increases. 1823 Ure *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Vegetation* (*Saline*), When salts are suffered to vegetate in this manner [etc.]. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Vegetate*, .. as a wart or pimple; [to] produce excrescences.

c. To produce vegetation.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 105 It is well known that beds of volcanic ashes and pumice vegetate sooner than any other.

2. *fig.* Of persons: To live a merely physical life; to lead a dull, monotonous existence, devoid of intellectual activity or social intercourse; to live in dull retirement or seclusion.

1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 18 The man who chuses never to laugh .. seems to me only in the quiet state of a green tree; he vegetates, 'tis true, but shall we say he lives? 1777 G. Forster *Voy. round World* I. 342 In short, we rather vegetated than lived. 1820 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* I. 25 He repaired with his family .. to vegetate (as they called it) at Wilmington Park. 1860 Adler *Prov. Poet* xvii. 380 Weary .. of the obscurity in which he vegetated he resolved to apply himself to the culture of poetry. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 252 The family was vegetating in dingy privacy in an Austrian provincial town on the shattered remnants of what had once been a princely fortune.

b. Of a country, nation, etc.

1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 294 The Polish nation might, after having vegetated so long in obscurity [etc.]. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* VII. vi. (1849) 407 The vast empire of China .. has vegetated through a succession of drowsy ages. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* xv. 341 The republics of Genoa, Sienna, and Lucca had permission to vegetate under the imperial protection. 1892 Kossuth in *Daily News* 22 March (1894) 5/6 The House of Hapsburg, as a dynasty, exists no more. It merely vegetates at the whim of the mighty Czar.

†3. *trans.* To cause to grow; to stimulate growth or development in; to animate, quicken. *Obs.*

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* A 4 b, The Roote, whose sappe doth vegetate the rest. 1648 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 70 The continuing and placing of Ideas .. doth greatly quicken and vegetate the Invention. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 347 This Sensible World, is the Receptacle of all Forms, Qualities, and Bodies, all which cannot be vegetated and quickned without God.

absol. 1892 H. M. tr. *Erasmus. Colloq.* 300 Therefore in some parts it [the soul] animates only, and vegetates.

†4. To make strong or vigorous. *Obs.*—0

1623 in Cockeram.

5. To provide or supply with vegetables (see quot.). *rare*—1.

1838 Parker *Exploring Tour beyond Rocky Mts.* (1846) 286 Our stay at Tahiti was employed by the ship's crew .. in vegetating the ship, as they phrase it; that is, in collecting oranges, bananas, sweet potatoes, .. yams and squashes.

6. In *pa. pple.* Provided with vegetation or plant-life. Usually with qualifying adv.

1876 *Nature* 9 Nov. 31/2 The head of the bay, which

appeared from the distance to be well vegetated 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Nov. 6/2 New Amsterdam..is densely vegetated, and consequently more valuable.

Hence **Ve·getated** *ppl. a.*; **Ve·getating** *vbl. sb.*

1775 Ash, *Vegetating*, the state or act of growing like plants. 1804–20 Blake *Jerus.* To Deists, Your Greek Philosophy, which is a remnant of Druidism, teaches that Man is righteous in his Vegetated Spectre. 1884 E. P. Roe *Nat. Ser. Story* ii. Frequent removal from one part of the country to another prevents anything like vegetating.

Ve·getating, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ING 2.]

1. Characterized by, associated with, or causing vegetation.

1704 Ray *Creation* (ed. 4) I 95 It's not unlikely, that the Rain-water may be endued with some vegetating or prolifick Vertue. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 78 Seeds in a vegetating state. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 48 The vegetating power which is operating during the whole year in evergreens. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 265/1 Root fleshy,..soon after taken out of the earth becomes highly scented, which it retains as long as in a vegetating state.

2. Exhibiting vegetation or growth.

1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 313 Six veins of vegetating earth, which were in process of time discovered, received sugar canes. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 152 Mr. Gough informs me that vegetating germs of the viviparous variety...planted in his garden in the year 1790, still continue viviparous. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* April 128 Sheep may occasionally be allowed to take a walk over the fallow, to pick up any vegetating weeds or grass roots that may come in their way. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 630 The Lemnaceæ consist of small branched leafless floating vegetating bodies.

Vegetation (vedʒĭtē·ʃən). Also 6 **vegitacion**, 7–8 **-tion**. [ad. (late and) med.L. *vegetātio*, f. *vegetāre* Vegetate *v.* So F. *végétation*, It. *vegetazione*, Sp. *vegetacion*, Pg. *vegetação*.

The definitions 'a comforting, making strong', etc., in Cockeram (1623) and Blount (1656) are merely copied from Cooper's explanation of *vegetatio* in Apuleius.]

I. Abstract senses.

1. The action of vegetating or growing; the faculty, process, or phenomena of growth and development as possessed by certain organic substances; vegetal activity or property.

a. In general use.

1564 J. Day tr. *Martyr's Comm. Judges* xiii. 212 To eate, is not onely to chawe the meate,..but moreouer to conuert it into the substawnce of hys bodye, by concoction thoroughe the power of vegitacion. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* II. 22 Salt.. causeth the vegetation, perfection, maturitie, and the whole good that is contained in euery thing that nourisheth. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* I. xiii. 57 A most pure and perfect body, replenished with vital spirits, and full of vegetation. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. Pref. 10 Through every species of animal life, .to that point where sense is almost extinct, and vegetation commences. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 7 The phenomena of vegetation must be considered as an important branch of the science of organized Nature. *fig.* 1755 Young *Centaur* vi. Wks. 1757 IV. 287 The light of God's countenance is the sun of the human soul, whence all its vegetation of real felicity.

†b. Of the soul. *Obs.* (Cf. Vegetative *a.* 1 a.)

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 16 One soul hath those three essentiall faculties of Vnderstanding, Will, and Memorie, or (as others) of Vegetation, Sense, and Reason. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 55 Sence, and vegetation is an effect by emanation of the soule.

c. Of plants or seeds. †Also, vegetative power (quot. 1665).

1661 Sir K. Digby (*title*), A Discourse concerning the Vegetation of Plants. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 333 The root where the sap lies constantly conveying vegetation to the tree in those warm Regions. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 28 The Operations of each Plant, which are Nutrition, Augmentation and Propagation,..we..express by the single Word Vegetation, which in Effect includes them all. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. vii. (1765) 14 The Seed..is a deciduous Part of the Vegetable, the Rudiment of a new one, quickened for Vegetation by the Sprinkling of the Pollen. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 191 In these countries vegetation is so rapid, that every thing makes haste to come and more to go. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 250 The vegetation of perennial grasses in the spring is at least a fortnight sooner on lime-stone and sandy soils ..than on clayey. 1853 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. (1872) iii. 31 Seeds and germs..incapable of vegetation in the unkindly climate of their birth. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 561 The intercellular air-spaces of the cortical parenchyma are in open communication with the external air at the time of active vegetation.

†d. Of inorganic substances. *Obs.*

1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 739 They are prepossest with an opinion against the vegetation of all Stones. 1748 *Earthquake Peru* Pref. 12 As a Proof of the quick Vegitation of Silver. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 33 This is not a place for an Inquiry into the seeming vegetation of those stony substances.

†2. An act or instance of vegetating; a stage in plant growth or development *Obs.*

1672 Grew *Anat. Pl., Idea* (1682) 2 The Method of Nature her self, in her continued Series of Vegetations; proceeding from the Seed sown, to the formation of the Root.

†3. *transf.* The production of a plant-like formation. *Obs.* (Cf. 5 b.)

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 305 The Artificial Vegetation of Silver, commonly called Diana's Tree. 1823 Ure *Dict. Chem.* s.v., The Influence of the Air and Light upon the Vegetation of Salts. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts, Vegetation of Salts*, a curious phenomena [*sic*], which takes place when strong solutions of metallic salts are left in glass, earthenware, or other vessels.

4. *fig.* Existence similar or comparable to that of a vegetable; dull, empty, or stagnant life spent in retirement or seclusion.

1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I. xiii. 124 His state is rather a state of vegetation. 1823 T. Hook *Parson's Daus.* I. xi, In this state of vegetation he remained until about ten o'clock. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xvi. 290 Hedouville ..went to spend a life of mere vegetation in Spain. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt.-Royal* II. iv. 53 You can't expect to find much difference in me after three years' vegetation in Cornwall.

II. Concrete senses.

5. †a. A vegetable form or growth; a plant.

1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 518 At which times all Vegitations are in their flourishing state. 1691 — *Wisd. Dictates* 210 The pleasant Ferment..of the Stomach can with much more facility..disgest Vegitations, than Flesh or Fish. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 29 Some Vegetations,..as..Mushrooms and Mosses; the maritime Vegetations,..are not properly Plants.

b. A plant-like growth or formation due to chemical action. (Cf. 3.)

1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 378 Bergman relates, that he has sometimes observed beautiful crystallizations or vegetations of metallic silver formed on pieces of iron immersed long in a solution of silver. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 446 The Nickel forming greenish vegetations. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 133 At the end of some hours there will be formed, at the surface of the small mass of amalgam, a vegetation in the form of a bush. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 124 A beautiful white vegetation will be perceptible round the wire. 1849 J. R. Jackson *Min.* 287 A pretty metallic vegetation in glass jars;..called the Tree of Diana.

c. *Path.* A morbid fungoid growth or excrescence occurring on some part of the body.

1835 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 419/2 Warty vegetations of the valves.—These excrescences bear a close resemblance to venereal warty vegetations. 1861 Bumstead *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 242 Vegetations are papillary growths springing from the skin or mucous membrane, chiefly in the neighborhood of the genital organs. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 327 The posterior flap at its right corner bore a large vegetation, assuming the shape of a mushroom, of about 1¼ inch in diameter.

6. Plants collectively; plants or vegetal growths as a product of the soil, freq. considered in respect of a certain area.

1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 440 Deep to the root Of vegetation parch'd, the cleaving fields..an arid hue disclose. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xliii, The paths were rude, and frequently overgrown with vegetation. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* viii. 170 Blue mists..Scattered the seeds of pestilence, and fed Unnatural vegetation. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iii. (1860) 74 When an American forest is cut down, a very different vegetation springs up. 1881 *Nature* No. 610. 448 An admirable summary of the vegetation of the different regions of the globe.

transf. 1847 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 275. 265 The Corinthian places in the room of the simple bulge of the Doric order a slender body..gradually enlarging and richly clothed with vegetation.

attrib. 1878 W. R. S. Ralston in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 536 A reference to vegetation-spirits and their foes.

b. (See quot.)

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 21 Jan. 448/2 In old object glasses there is occasionally an appearance which has been called 'vegetation', and which consists of a number of very thin lines disposed in an arborescent form.

Hence **Vegeta·tionless** *a.*

1855 Lewes *Goethe* I. 233 On the vegetationless surface the radiation is direct.

Vegetative (ve·dʒĭtetiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **vegetatif, -tyf(f**, 6 **-ife**, 6–7 **-ive**; 6 **vegitatiue**, 8 **-ive**. [ad. med.L. *vegetātīvus*, f. the ppl. stem of L. *vegetāre* Vegetate *v.*: see **-ive**. So F. *végétatif* (13th c.), Sp., Pg., It. *vegetativo*.]

A. *adj.* I. Having the function of vegetation; endowed with the power or faculty of growth.

a. Of the soul. (Cf. Sensitive *a.* 1.)

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* (W. de W. 1495) III. xiii, Þe (soule) vegetatyf desyryth to be,..& the resonable soule desyreth to [be] best. 1433 Lydg. *St. Edmund* App. 334 Quyk lyk a soule moore than vegetatyff. 1581 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxiv, The one [part of the soul], wherin is the powar or efficacie of growinge, which is also in herbes and trees..; & that parte is callen vegetatife. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 338 That order, which God hath set betweene the vertues of the Vegetatiue soule for the nourishing of the bodie. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Gen.* vi. *comm.*, The powre or force to engender belongeth to the vegetative soul. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* (1696) 9 As we distinguish mens souls into the vegetative, the animal, and the rational. 1692 Ray *Creation* I. (ed. 2) 40 For my part, I should make no scruple to attribute the Formation of Plants, their growth and nutrition to the vegetative Soul in them. 1725 [see Soul *sb.* 5 (a)]. 1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 262 The ancient Αὐτοκινεῖς, the ministers of Physis, were classed by Plato under three souls, the rational, animal, and vegetative. 1879 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* II. xl. 243 How..is this vegetative soul to be presented to the mind? where did it flourish before the tree grew?

b. Of material things; in later use esp. of plants or parts of these.

1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 20 Also nothing multiplyed shall ye finde, But it be of Vegetative or of Sensitive kinde. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 357 b/1 Alle thyngys obeyed to this holy man as well thynges not sensible as vegetatyf and not resonable. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxii. (1555) Niv b, Herbes and fruytes..In erthe he planted for to haue their life By diuers vertues and sundry growing, So to continue and be vegitative. 1562 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xxi, This marrow, this vegetative and vitall substance. 1623 tr. *Maxim's Trans. Annoc. & Med. Times* 32 The vegetative Bodies; as Plants, Trees, and such like. 1670 *Mornl State Eng.* 5 None but sensitive and vegetative Creatures pursue the primitive end of their institutions.

1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 200 P 2 The indolent Man descends from the Dignity of his Nature, and makes that Being which was Rational merely Vegetative. 1796 Bp. Watson *Apol. Bible* 318 Somewhat after the way of your vegetative speck in the kernel of a peach. 1822 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Essex & Gertr.* I. 262 The vegetative adhesions [to books] of the undisturbed damp. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 220 A very common weed, and so vegetative and retentive of life that it requires much labour..to clear the lands infested with it. 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem. Pl.* 523 When a new root-cap and vegetative point had been formed, they bent themselves perpendicularly downwards.

fig. 1782 Paine *Let. Abbé Raynal* (1791) 40 The mind is presented with a wide extended prospect of vegetative good, and sees a thousand blessings budding into existence

†c. *Vegetative stone*, = Vegetable *a* 1 d. *Obs.*—1

c 1450 Lydg. & Burgh *Secrees* 531 Of stoonys, Specially of three—Oon myneral, Anothir vegetatyff, Partyd on foure to lengthe a mannys lyff.

d. *spec.* in *Phys.* and *Bot.* Concerned with growth and development, as opposed to *reproductive*.

(*a*) 1837 Bullock tr. *Cazeaux's Midwifery* 178 One has been called the external, or serous layer, and the other is denominated the internal, mucous, or the vegetative one. 1891 W. A. Jamieson *Dis. Skin* I. (ed. 3) 5 The deepest layer of all is the vegetative or mucous proper. 1909 J. W. Jenkinson *Exper. Embryol.* 245 A blastopore is in very numerous cases formed at the vegetative pole.

(*b*) 1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 117 A conical elongation..distinguished as the Vegetative Cone. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 246 The multiplication of individuals being effected by the separation of the ordinary vegetative cells. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* Introd. 8 Under the term vegetative organs we include all those organs of the plant which are not organs of reproduction. *Ibid.* 282 In the main vegetative axes of Lycopodium) clavatum and L. annotinum.

2. Of or pertaining to, concerned or connected with, characterized by, vegetation or growth.

a. Of faculty, power, principle, etc.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 96 Þe wirkynge of þis last [virtue], (þat þe Auctour clepys vegetatyf, & I here strenght sustantyf). *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 196 To tempre the spiritis by vertu vegetatiff.

1606 Bryskett *Civ. Life* 44 This power of the soule..is called vegetatiue (you must giue me leaue to vse new words of Art..) because it giueth life and increase to growing things. 1636 Featly *Clavis Myst.* xi. 143 The sensitive faculty includeth the vegetative. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrologia Restored* 215 All things decay and diminish in their vegetative vigour. 1712 Hughes *Spect.* No. 554 P 12 The Soul has in this Respect a certain vegetative Power, which cannot lie wholly idle. 1791 Cowper *Yardley Oak* 34 Thou fell'st at once, and in the loamy clod Swelling with vegetative force instinct Didst burst thine egg. 1802 Gouva. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 161 There is a vigorous vegetative principle at the root which will make our tree flourish. *a* 1872 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* v. (1876) 178 Of the irrational soul, one branch is, the nutritive and vegetative faculty. 1874 Blackie *Self Cult.* 41 This growth is a constant and habitual exercise of vital or vegetative force.

b. Of life.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 25 b, For in them is the life vegetatiue or that life which nourisheth. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 288 In naturall things there are three kindes of life: vegetative or increasing which is in plants; sensitive which is in beasts; rationall or reasonable which is in men. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* I. ix. 47 The Sunne ..giueth vnto earthly bodies their forme and vegetatiue life. 1678 Norris *Miscell.* (1699) 251 In Rationals (there is) Vegetative Life, Sense and Reason. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 5/2 Plants, Seeds, and every thing else that has the vegetative Life. 1729 Savage *Wanderer* IV. 124 Hail, glorious sun! to whose attractive fires, The waken'd, vegetative life aspires! 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 126/2 The nerves of organic or vegetative life. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* II. i. 259 The whole vegetative life is run through in the same cell. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 1 Common Rat,..dissected so as to show .. portions of most of the organs of vegetative life.

c. In general use.

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* II. 16 To proue that salt is no enemie, either to the vegetatiue, or sensatiue natures. 1647 H. More *Poems* Interpret. Gen. 432 That immense diffusion of atoms is to be referred to Psychie, as an internall vegetative act. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 130 [In] Winter..the Vegitative Quality stands as it were still. 1762 J. H. Stevenson *Crazy Tales* 7 The work of vegetative laws. 1782–3 W. F. Martyn *Geog. Mag.* II. 147 Olives and mulberries arrive at full vegetative perfection. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 93 A survey of the minute action of vegetative energies. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geogr.* vi. 301 The Europasian Forest region is characterized by a pretty uniform temperature during the vegetative season.

3. Causing or promoting vegetation; inducing vegetable growth; productive, fertile.

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* II. 3 A Philosophicall discourse.. vpon the vegetatiue and fructifying Salt of Nature. 1612 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* II. iii. (1634) 214 The vegetative humour or moisture that quickeneth and giveth life to trees, plants, herbs and flowers, whereby they grow and increase. 1675 Evelyn *Terra* (1729) 317 Composts..are by no means fit for the Earth,..unless..so order'd as..to..communicate heat, and vegetative Spirits to what you shall apply them. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 98 Fullers-earth is..very full of that vegetative Salt that helps the growth of Plants. 1782 Crèvecœur *Lett.* 50 In Europe they were as so many useless plants, wanting vegitative mould, and refreshing showers. 1836 *Brit. Husb.* I. 360 The vegetative mould which covers the earth in all situations undisturbed by the plough. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xviii. (1856) 138 The question whether unmixed snow can act as a vegetative matrix.

†4. Obtained or derived from, consisting of, vegetables or plants. *Obs. rare.*

1666 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* 2 This pill is a Corrector of all Vegetative poysons. 1692 Tryon *Wisd. Dictates* 220

All Vegetative Foods are not only wholesom, but easily concocted.

5. = VEGETABLE *a.* 3.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 175 Having done with the Vegetative, I proceed to the Animal Kingdom. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* III. 144, I, casting an Eye upon the Vegetative World, consider Herbs and Trees. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 209, I think I may be sure that neither lifeless matter, nor the vegetative tribe,..have any reflex thoughts. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 39 In regard to the vegetative and brute creation. 1859 I. TAYLOR *Logic Theol.* 44 The living world, vegetative and animal.

6. *fig.* Vegetating; inactive.

1808 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* IV. 74 In this vegetative state of happiness you found me.

b. *Path.* Characterized by the exercise or activity of the physical functions only.

1893 *Daily News* 25 Apr 5/4 He is in what his doctor calls a vegetative state, and incapable of connecting two ideas together. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* VIII. 196 Idiots of vegetative grade. *Ibid.* 937 This girl led a vegetative life, but learnt to recognize those around her.

B. *sb.* †1. Vegetative faculty or power. *rare.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xiv. 68 In vegeta'les there were only those vegetatiues; which, in beastes, beside the vegetation which they retain,..become also sensatiue.

†2. An organic body capable of growth and development but devoid of sensation and thought; a vegetable or plant. *Obs.*

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* I. vi, Having related unto you the..nature of the Soile, with his vegetatives, and other commodities. *a* 1668 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xxviii. (1677) 152 Even Plants, which are but Vegetatives, will not grow in Caues, where the Air is barr'd from them. 1668 CLARENDON *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 93 We live rather the Life of Vegetatives or Sensitives,..than the lives of reasonable men. 1712 K. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 210 Having run over the living Creatures and Vegetatives. 1764 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 372 We are vegetatives formed by education.

Hence **Vegetatively** *adv.*, **Vegetativeness.**

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 431/2 In some instances the one generation may spring *vegetatively from the other without the intervention of a spore. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 442 They develop into one of the three following forms all of which can reproduce themselves vegetatively. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), **Vegetativeness*, a vegetative Quality. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* 48 Superior constitutional vegetativeness in the females [of Lychnis].

Vegete (vĭdʒī·t), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 7 **veget, vegit.** [ad. L. *vegetus*, f. *vegēre* to be active or lively. Cf. It. and Pg. *vegeto*, obs. F. *vejete* (Cotgr.)]

1. Healthy and active; flourishing in respect of health and vigour: a. Of persons, the body, etc.

1639 W. CARTWRIGHT *Rey. Slave* III. i, The veget Artist and the vigorous Poet, whose braines are full and forging still. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. 82 Even her body was made aëry and vegete. 1670 MAYNWARINGE *Vita Sana* vii. 85 Active stirring people are..more vegete and lively in spirit. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 350 His face was always tinted with a fresh colour, and his looks vegete and sanguine. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 361 That animal.. was supposed to renew its life, and to become..vegete and fresh. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 380 If I forgot that ample and vegete countenance of Mr. R—.

b. Of age, condition, etc.

1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Dying* iv. § 1 He had lived an healthful and vegete Age till his last sickness. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 401 That florid Vegete vigorous condition which ought to be in the less Vegete, or the Valetudinary state of Bodies. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 230 He that is of a firm habit of body, and has a vegete heat.

c. Of the faculties, mind, etc.

1660 SOUTH *Serm* (1727) IV. i. 21 A well radicated habit, in a lively, vegete Faculty, is like an Apple of Gold in a Picture of Silver. 1662 *Ibid.* (1697) I. 55 The understanding ..was vegete, quick, and lively. 1727 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St Dead* 84 Before the organical Construction of the Body is impair'd, and the Spirits are vegete and vigorous. 1769 GRANGER *Biogr. Hist Eng.* (1804) II. 155 His body was firm and erect, and his faculties lively and vegete. 1846 J. HAMILTON *Mount Olives* v. 126 If you would possess such a mind you must keep it fresh and vegete and lifesome by secret prayer.

2. Of plants or their parts: Healthy, vigorous; growing strongly or promoting active growth.

1631 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 106 This be a very necessary management in taller Plants, and serves to make them much more vegete and lusty. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2069 Whether the Juyce of Trees, whil'st alive and vegete, can properly be said..to descend. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) II. 120 Active in sending the vegete juices through the vessels of all plants. 1794–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) I. 137 There are many trees whose whole internal wood is perished, and yet the branches are vegete and healthy. 1800 — *Phytol.* 167 Because the lower leaf dies, and the sweet juice is absorbed, as the upper leaf becomes vegete.

transf. 1653 ASHWELL *Fides Apost.* 189 The Nicene Creed, ..by this meanes become vegete and growen, was afterwards used in the Greeke Church.

†3. Lively, bright. *Obs.*—1

a 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV. iii, In troth a stone of lustre, I assure you It darts a pretty light, a veget spark.

Hence **Vegetëness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vegeteness*, Liveliness, Quickness, Soundness, the Quality of having a growing Life.

†**Vegetist.** *nonce-word.* [Irreg. f. VEGET-ABLE + -IST.] One who is concerned with the growth or cultivation of vegetable products.

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 7 Sept. 1775, The Vegetist, perhaps, more than any other man, is subject to the power..of the elements. *Ibid., Digest* 25 The Vegetist ought never to lose sight of this maxim.

†**Vegetity.** *Obs.*—1 In 7 **vegititie.** [Irreg. f. VEGET-ATE *v.* + -ITY.] Vegetative power or quality.

But perhaps a misprint for *vegitivitie.*

1608 T. SPENCER *Logick* 43 The soule of Peter hath the same rationalitie with all other mens soules: no singular tree differs from other trees in vegititie.

Vegetive (ve·dʒĭtĭv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **vegeet-yve,** 7 **vegitiue.** [Reduced form of VEGETATIVE *a.*, after L. *veget-āre* or *veget-us.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, vegetables or plants; = VEGETATIVE *a.* 2.

1526 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 534 The oolde tre for lakk of vegeetyve sprytis maye nott opteeyne perfect rote fastnesse. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 123 Not rent off, but cut off, ripe beane with a knite, for hindering stalke of hir vegetiue life. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Vocation* 1354 The pleasant Soyl..in all dry'd and dead; Voyd of all force, vitall, or vegetive. 1631 W. SALTONSTALL *Pict. Loquent.* F ii, His knowledge consists in the vegetive nature of Plants. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. App.* II. 15 Man had not Power so much as over the green Herb, to deprive it of its Vegetive Life;..but by God's Donation.

1830 COLERIDGE *Church & State* (1839) 192 Thus, without the first power, that of growth, or what Bichat and others name the vegetive life or productivity, the second power.. could not exist. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 333 What if it were that life..through all The countless grades, vegetive, animal, Of nature should progress at last to man.

2. Endowed with the faculty of vegetation or growth; = VEGETATIVE *a.* 1 b.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 140 The Castle of Catie, about which there is nothing vegetiue, but a few solitary Palmes. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* II. i. xlvii, That full grasp of vast Eternitie 'Longs not to beings simply vegetive. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 41 Such as are alwayes vegetive and juicy. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 1076 So man, at first a Drop, dilates with Heat,..First vegetive, then feels, and reasons last. 1700 — *Ovid's Met.* I. 751 The Tree still panted in the unfinish'd part, Not wholly vegetive, and heav'd her Heart.

†b. Of the soul: = VEGETATIVE *a.* 1 a. *Obs.*

a 1623 PEMBLE *Justification* (1629) 196 The Vegetiue soule whereby Plants liue.

c. Covered with or productive of vegetation.

1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 68 Ocean and continent, sea, desert, plain Mineral and vegetive.

d. Leading a merely physical existence. Cf. VEGETATIVE *a.* 6.

1882 SYMONDS *Animi Figura* 111 Shall these arise winged by immortal mind, Who toiled on earth obscure and vegetive?

B. *sb.* = VEGETATIVE *sb.* 2, VEGETABLE *sb.* 2.

Common in the 17th c.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxvi. (1612) 316 Nor lesse the only Vegitiues, as trees, fruits, herbes, and such. *a* 1640 MASSINGER *Old Law* I. i, Make us better then those vegetives Whose soules die within em. 1678 T. [PORTER] *Fr. Conjurer* I. 8 Have you not already eat about three parts of a Pilchard, besides a dish of Vegetives? 1689 PLUNKET *Char Good Commander*, etc. 55 The Sun to Plants more welcome is...Thus they of Vegetives might learn some good. 1819 H. BUSK *Banquet* III. 479 In snug retreat this vegetive [i.e. a mushroom] demure, From human reach long deem'd itself secure.

Vegeti·vorous, *a.* [Irreg. f. the stem *veget-* after *herbivorous*, etc.] Feeding on vegetables or plants.

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 304/1 The true vegetivorous genera [of marsupials] have a cæcum which is thrice as long as the body. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 406/1 Vegetivorous snails (*Lymnæus*) eating young newts.

Vegetising, *ppl. a.* [i. as prec.] Vegetarian.

1857 *Tait's Mag.* XXIV. 6 Those vegetising friends, whose finer feelings are said to be distressed horribly at the smell of hot joints.

Vegeto- (ve·dʒĭto), irregular combining form of the L. stem *veget-*, used in the sense of 'vegetable and..' or 'having a vegetable origin'. a. With adjs., as *vegeto-alkaline, -animal, -bituminous, -carbonaceous, -mineral, -sulphuric*, etc.

Cf. F. *végéto-animal, -minéral, -sulfurique.*

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 80/1 The *vegeto-alkaline acetates.. are decomposed. 1799 ANDERSON *Recreations* I. 267 Hairs, spines, feathers, &c., are all *vegeto-animal productions. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 65 Composts of vegetable or vegeto-animal matter and earth are of various kinds. 1876 tr. *Schützenberger's Fermentation* 34 The matter which decomposes sugar is a vegeto-animal substance. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 40 By Inflammable substances I understand all those of Mineral Origin whose principal character is Inflammability...Of these the simplest kinds may be reduced to six Genera, namely the Acriform, the Bituminous, Carbonaceous, *Vegeto-Carbonaceous, *Vegeto Bituminous, and the Sulphureous. 1776 PERCIVAL *Ess.* III. 247 Each ounce, therefore, of the *vegeto-mineral water contains only four tenths of a grain of this metal. 1785 *Med. Comm.* II. 31 A poultice with Gould'rd's vegeto mineral extract had been..prescribed. 1857 BULLOCK tr. *Caseaux's Midwifery* 25 Some of the vegeto-mineral lotions are usually sufficient to cause their [i.e. caruncles] disappearance. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 654 Some *vegeto-sulphuric acid is formed at the same time.

b. With sbs., as *vegeto-alkali, -alkaloid, -mineral, -principle, -veratrine*, etc.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 205 Dr. Sertürner has obtained some other *vegeto-alkalies from Cinchona. 1844 FOWNES *Chem.* 478 The vegeto-alkalis, or alkaloids, constitute a remarkable, and at present isolated, group of bodies. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci* I. 416/1 An account of the vegeto alkalies. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim Alkaloids* 60 The means of distinguishing the *vegeto-alkaloid. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 40 The most interesting fact relative to this *vegeto-mineral is its geological position. 1830 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XVII. 385 M. Dulong has obtained a particular *vegeto-principle from the roots of *Plumbago Europæa.* 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 59 The *vegeto-veratrine does not reduce the ferricyanide.

†**Vegetous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *veget-us* VEGETE; see -OUS.] = VEGETE *a.*

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* II. ii, If shee be faire, yong, and vegetous. *a* 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 422 A vegetous faith is able to say unto a mountain, Be removed into the sea. 1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* IV. (1722) 351 The Seeds of those Vegetables which God originally Created were fresh and vegetous.

Vegit, obs. f. VEGETE *a.*

Vehemence (vī·ĭmĕns, vī·hĭmĕns). Also 6 **-emce.** [a. late OF. *vehemence* (F. *véhémence*), or ad. L. *vehementia*: see next.

In this and the related words the only pron. recognized by dictionaries, with the exception of the most recent, is that with (vī·h-); this is now unusual in Britain, but appears to be still the standard pron. in the United States.]

1. Intensity or strength *of* smell or colour. *rare.*

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* IX. 10 Him might no man now abyde ner beare, for the vehemence of styncke. 1844 HOOD *Haunted Ho.* III. xvii, The Bloody Hand shone strangely out With vehemence of colour!

2. Impetuosity, great force or violence, of physical action or agents.

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* XXXV. (1870) 297 The dust also that ryseth in the strete thorow the vehemens of the wynde. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 954 A universal hubbub wilde Of stunning sounds and voices all confus'd ..assaults his ears With loudest vehemence. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. iii, His eyes are dragged inwards, and rolled with great vehemence. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 148 The action, by which a body is deprived of phlogiston by means of pure air, with such vehemence as to generate not only heat but flame. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 49 Owing to the feebler affinities of these elements, the reactions take place with less vehemence.

3. Great or excessive ardour, eagerness, or fervour of personal feeling or action; passionate force, violence, or excitement.

1529 MORE *Dyalogs* Wks. 265/2 By waye of excesse & yperbole, to declare the vehemence of his mynde in the matter of fayth. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 200 Nay, I pre'thee now, with most petitionary vehemence, tell me who it is. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. viii. 35 Sometimes the hurt..is caused by the vehemence, or long continuance of the Passion. 1699 BURNET *39 Art.* I. 97 Passion produces a Vehemence of Action. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 544 Hypocrisy and fraud are often not less mischievous..than impetuosity and vehemence of temper. 1769 *Junius Lett.* XXXV. (1778) 187 You measure their affections by the vehemence of their expressions. 1839 DICKENS *Nicholby* xii, With all the vehemence that his indignant and excited feelings could bring to bear upon it. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 29 With an almost savage vehemence of gesticulation. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1. 347 Cromwell..was quick to profit by the vehemence of the Catholic reaction.

b. An instance of this. *rare.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. 33 Is it possible that my brother and sister could make them very failings, their vehemences, of such importance to all the family?

Vehemency (vī·ĭmĕnsi, vī·h-). Now *rare.* Also 6 **-entie, 6–7 -encie.** [ad. L. *vehementia*, f. *vehement-* VEHEMENT *a.*: see -ENCY. Cf. prec., and Sp. and Pg. *vehemencia*, It. *veemenza.*]

1. = VEHEMENCE 3 and 3 b.

1538 TONSTALL *Serm. Palm Sund.* (1823) 51 The greatness and vehemency..of his fayth. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 735 He..excuseth them, by vehemency of desire. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 247 Would it apply well to the vehemency of your affection that I should win what you would enjoy? 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 8 He could not satisfie himselfe in his vehemencie against such a doctrine as this was. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 74 That which excites men to endless brawlings, and altercations; Schisms, Heresies, and Rebellions, by the vehemencies of Dispute. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. ii. 92 The vehemency of the Spirit, if Nature be feeble, draws it inward, and masters it. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* XXII. (1781) III. 211 Well do I know the vehemency with which you are wont to pursue a new adventure.

b. *esp.* Of utterance or expression.

1542–3 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 91 God shall rayse other that shall speake..with no lesse loue & vehemency. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 97 Polidore..wryteth very vehemently against him in his History, which vehemency or fonde malice I thought meete.. to suppresse. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 148 The best perswasions to the contrary Faile not to vse, and with what vehemencie Th'occasion shall instruct you. 1679 PRANCE *Narr. Popish Plot* 28 Which he pronounced with a great deal of vehemency and earnestness. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 148 [He] exclaimed with some vehemency, Never, never did I behold such beauty. 1830 J. MILNE *Widow & Her Son* iv. (1851) 232 You'll learn henceforth to chide with far less vehemency. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* XLVII. (1857) II. 314 All these speeches were spoken with great vehemency.

2. Intensity or severity: a. Of pain, illness, etc.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. i. 13 That the payne, and the accidens encrease not, nor diminische, but contynue in great vehementie. 1598 BP. WATSON *Sev. Sacraun.* XXX. 193 Doo not differre this tyl the vehemencie of your sickenes decaye your speache and memorie. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 359 According to the strength of the sick, [illegible] vehemency of the mischief and contagion.

b. Of cold, heat, or other influences.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 109 Humour refresheth heate, and alaieth the vehemencie thereof. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 259 The Podagra or Gout, quhilk of the Vehemencie of calde he contracted.

1604 E. Ofʃ[ENSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 96 The vehemencie of the fire forceth and driveth vp an aboundance of vapours. 1652 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 309 Which if it were Hippocrates his opinion notwithstanding the vehemency of his remedies [etc.]. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Flower*, On these they hang a Piece of Cloth, which..defends 'em from the Vehemency of its [*sc.* the sun's] Rays. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv, Those farther rules by which diviners pretend to ascertain the vehemency of this evil direction.

3. = VEHEMENCE 2.

1585 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 120 The vehemencie of the wynde is not of poure to caste downe those houses. 1589 SROCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* III. ix. 118 Many Barques..with the vehemencie of the wether were runne on lande. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Deut.* XXVIII. 49 In likenes of an eagle that flieth with vehemencie. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 105 It is continually forced along with Celerity and Vehemency.

b. Used of sounds.

1585 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 84 The earth trembeled throwgh the vehemencie of theyr owtcry. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 439 Least the vehemency of chirking frogs vexe the wish'd-for Repose of his..body.

4. = VEHEMENCE 1. *rare*—[1].

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Vehemencia odoris*, the vehemencie of, &c.

Vehement (vī'ĭmĕnt), *a.* and *adv.* Also 6 *Sc.* **viement**. [a. OF *vehement* (F. *véhément*, = Sp. and Pg. *vehemente*, It. *veemente*), or ad. L. *vehement-*, *vehemens* violent, impetuous, etc., usually regarded as f. *vehe-* (= *vē-* in *vēcors*) lacking, wanting + *mens* mind.]

I. 1. Intense, severe; rising to a high degree or pitch: a. Of pain, illness, etc.

1485 *St. Winefryde* (Caxton) 12 The languour and maladye was vehement and encreaced dayly. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 148 Vaschus..fell into a vehement feuer by reason of excesse of labour. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 39 It doeth also cease vehement dolour and payne. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 325 [A] Comet..signifieth vehement sicknesses. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 268, I order'd the following Mixture to be externally apply'd to his Side..while his Pain was very vehement. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 96 Vehement erysipelatous or irritative inflammation took place.

b. Of heat or cold, etc.

1554 W. PRAT *Discript. Aphrique* C viii b, The earthe.. is made hote in a lytle space by the vehemente heate of the ayre. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 62 The fire is vehementer, and the hearth is of heat sometime extreme, sometime more soft and milde. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1623) R 3, The Snow..causeth them presently to fall, and with his vehement cold to rise no more. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Forms & Qual.* 320 Salt of Tartar requires a vehement fire to flux it. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 564 The action of the Sun would there have been too vehement.

2. Of natural forces: Operating with great strength or violence; *esp.* of wind, blowing very strongly or violently.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. ii, The bees may issue out of theyr stalles without peryll of rayne or vehement wynde. 1563 FULKE *Meteors* (1640) 30 When the lightning is not vehement. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 242 Aganis sa suddane and vieient ane storm. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 832 The Land..would be violently hot, if a fresh easterly breeze did not coole it with vehement breath in the heat of the day. 1625 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 196 The barge-windows, notwithstanding the vehement shower, were open. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 9 The Rain was so vehement. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 209 The succeeding vehement Deluges of Rain rendered their Incampment superlatively comfortless. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Look at Clock*, Like a Weather-cock whirled by a vehement puff, David turned himself round.

b. In general use: Strong and rapid.

1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 317 Violent Sweats proceed from a Laxity of the Vessels and too vehement a Circulation of the Blood.

c. Of sound: Excessively loud.

1752 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 415 The two Gunnings, who have made so vehement a noise.

3. Of actions: Characterized by great physical exertion; performed with unusual force or violence.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xvi, By exercise, whiche is a vehement motion,..the helthe of man is preserued, and his strength increased. 1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* 6 Those persons.. may use vehementer exercise and stronger ambulations. *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 34 With such vehement vigour he assaulted his foes, that his men regained their lost advantage. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 191 At the close of each stanza a hearty roar, and a vehement thrumming on the table. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* 92 The clapping..was twice as long and twice as vehement as usual. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* 309 Who that observes this delighted adoption of vehement rites..can doubt, that [etc.].

transf. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 12 They must secondly, consider what a vehement efficacy there is in man's wit. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 1 P 11 These vehement exertions of intellect cannot be frequent. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* v. 53 The woman was making a vehement effort to speak in her natural voice.

†4. Of remedies, etc.: Having a powerful effect upon the system. *Obs.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 Eij, All the body muste be emptyed..or that any partye be take subiecte to the stronge and vehement remedyes. 1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Bk. Simples* (1579) 5 b, The longe Onion is more vehementer then the rounde, and the Redde more then the white. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 692 The gall of swine is not very vehement. 1622 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 199 In the beginning over vehement warmings are to be avoided. 1696 J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 96 The juyce of wild Cucumber is not so vehement as they commonly report.

†b. Of taste: Strong, pungent. *Obs.*

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 40 Being in shape somewhat like to the Millet of Italy, but of a most vehement and fiery tast.

†c. Vivid; intensely bright. *Obs.*

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 131 These colours in some rain-bows are more vehement or apparent. 1692 RAY *Creation* (ed. 2) II. 25 Preserving the Eye from being injured by too vehement and lucid an Object.

II. 5. a. Of suspicion or likelihood: Very strong. Now *arch.*

1516 *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 36/2 All Lawis excludis be said governour fra administracion and governance for suspicioun vehement and violent. 1565 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 208 The Quenes howsbande being entred into a vehement suspicion of David. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 80 Notwithstanding all those vehement likelihoods, yet I will not condemne you till I see how you confute me. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 342 From your Syluester wee learne, That the Popes precepts binde not, where there is vehement likelyhood of trouble or scandall. 1811 SOUTHEY in *Life A. Bell* (1844) II. 644 Mrs. Trimmer's book..I much wish to see, having a vehement suspicion that some parts of it have been misrepresented.

†b. Of proof, etc.: Strong, forcible, cogent; capable of producing conviction. *Obs.*

1530 TINDALE *Wks.* (Parker Soc. 1848) 428 There is not a better, vehementer, or mightier thing to make a man understand..than an allegory. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 33 And these vehement demonstrations twice repeted suffer it to be drawen no other where but to Christ. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 61 The valliantnesse, constancie, and sobernesse of your person, then which nothing can be more vehement and patheticall. 1731 CHANDLER tr. *Limborch's Hist. Inquis.* II. 215 When these Proofs are vehement or sufficient for the Torture, it is left for the Judge to determine.

†c. Very close or intimate. *Obs.*—[1]

1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* xiv. (1630) 59 The law is more strong in that case, because of the vehement relation which the enrolment hath to the time of the bargaine and sale.

6. Of thoughts, feelings, etc.: Extremely strong or deep; ardent, eager, passionate.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 233 Meditacyon is a vehement or a huge goostly applicacion of the mynde. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm* 328 The Phisitions..judged by and by the disease to come of a vehement thought. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 8 It is a salutation or greeting full of vehement and hartie good wil. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 3. 177 The vehementer passion venteth forth the liuelier action. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. vi. 27 Weeping..is caused by such accidents, as suddenly take away some vehement hope. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 73 P 5 The Passion for Praise, which is so very vehement in the Fair Sex. 1775 DE LOLME *Eng. Const* Adv. (1784) p. xix, Influenced by vehement prepossessions. 1818 CARY *Dante, Purgd.* v. 107 Vehement desire Possess'd me. 1846 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. iv. 162 Leibnitz..began to tell his beads with vehement devotion. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 62 The Queen's vehement partisanship.

b. Of anger or similar feelings: Violent; intense.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 50 b, Ye olde rancor betwene them beyng newly reuiued (The which betwene no creatures can be more vehement then betwene bretherne). 1552 HULOET, Vehement anger, *excandescentia*. 1639 HAMMOND *On Ps.* cii. 503 By those is meant a vehement displeasure and anger.

7. Of language: Very forcibly or passionately uttered or expressed; resulting from, and indicative of, strong feeling or excitement.

1533 *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 114 The French kynges mother with very ardente and vehemente wordes sayd [etc.]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 176 b, About this time came forth..a boke of Martin Luthers very vehement. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. ii, Sharpely to solicit With vehement sute the king in my behalfe. 1608 DONNE *Ó Serm.* 56 In that remarkable and vehement place where he expostulates with them. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Feb. 1683, A vehement speech he made about the compositions. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* VIII. vii. IV. 40 That lively and vehement eloquence which like a torrent bears down all things on its way. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xl. II. 80 The Corinthian deputy Sosicles, in vehement language, remonstrated with the Spartans on their inconsistency. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 92 He..replies with the most vehement protestations of gratitude and fidelity.

8. Of persons, their character, etc.: Acting, or tending to act, in a manner displaying passion or excitement.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 29 b, I confess to have been more vehement then became me. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 194 Vehement therefore and zealous must we be for the house of God. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 15 Vouchsafe me, then, your hush't observances, Vehement in pursuite of strange novelties. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ezechiel* XXXVIII. 15 Thou and manie peoples with thee,..a great companie, and a vehement armie. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XV. 254 Summon thy crew on board, Ere my arrival notice give of thine To the old King; for vehement I know His temper. 1847 JAMES *J. Marston Hall* IX, My nature was too quick and vehement to take pleasure in vice without passion. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* II. 293 For the woman .. Ever prefers the audacious, the wilful, the vehement hero. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* xiii. 237 The Pharisees were scrupulous, exact, vehement, and eager, about everything connected with religion.

9. Of debate, strife, etc.: Characterized by great heat or bitterness.

1620 BEDELL *Lett.* 26, I would to Christ that of all other Controuersies this were the vehementest betweene vs. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 93 Nor by this was the Warre lessened, onely it was delayed, and not vehement enough for the time. 1846 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. 135 This .. was a sufficiently difficult undertaking,.., in which he had to expect powerful and [illegible] 1847 HARRIS *Life Ld. Hardwicke* III. xii. 44 A very vehement debate took place in the House of Lords. 1903 W. BRIGHT *Age of Fathers* I. v. 70 The dissension caused by Arianism became daily more vehement.

III. †10. *Sc.* As *adv.* = VEHEMENTLY *adv. Obs.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 52 The tua vintirs that thai hef ar nocht verray vehement cald. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 407 He became so vehement seik that no man had hope of his lyffe. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 10 Althoch the king prudentlie dissembled, thay knew him to be vehement angrie.

Vehemently (vī'ĭmĕntlĭ, vī'h-), *adv.* [f. prec.]

1. To a very great extent; in a very high degree. Now *rare*.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 460 In Fraunce this yere the people dyed..so vehemently that in the cytie of Paris dyed..ouer I.M. people. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 18 This [unguent]..taketh awaye superfluous fleshe, and doth vehemently excicate and drie. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 46 Two onely that were the conveyers of him, sickned vehemently, and one of them died. 1698 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* II. iv. 56 Vomiting is not very dangerous..unless it hold the Patient vehemently. 1698 LD. PRESTON *Beetle.* IV. 172 Whom Wickedness, the most extreme Evil, doth not only affect, but even vehemently infect. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Womb*, This tumour returned again, and..in three days it became vehemently enraged. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* II. ii. (1872) I. 54 Preussen was a vehemently Heathen country.

b. Used with reference to suspicion: cf. prec. 5 a.

1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 981/1 Such thinges..as maketh him not slightly but very vehemently suspected. 1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Discipline* (Arb.) 76 One..that is vehemently suspected, to haue haynously offended. 1622 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 289 It will be very vehemently suspected that he is Antichrist indeed. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1938/4 He is vehemently suspected to be concerned in these Robberies and Burglaries following. 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 233 Mr. Wilson's letter having led me vehemently to suspect that the document which impeached his character was an invention of his wife's.

2. a. With strong or violent language; in a manner showing strong feeling or excitement.

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xx. 42 Marke what, and how vehemently the Holy Gost speakyth here in the prophete. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 97 Polidore had no good opinion of king John, and therfore wryteth very vehemently against him in his History. 1612 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 610 The Deputies of the Religion have very vehemently protested against these proceedings. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* Addr. p. xi, Reckoning it a great instance of Piety and devout Zeal, vehemently to declaim against Reason and Philosophy. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Cromwell & Porter* 116 Wks. 1907 II. 265, I did actually fight in the field, Preached loudly in the Church, and talked vehemently in the Parliament. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. 1808 I. 62, I could shew how vehemently they have contended for names. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 24 The slave-owners..insist vehemently upon the mental and physical inferiority of the blacks.

b. With strong or intense feeling; ardently, eagerly.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 329 Wherewith being wehemently moued,..he began more and more to be confirmed. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 54 It was alwayes of me maruellous vehemently and earnestly desiered. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* II. iii. 141 Doe you think his heart is not vehemently prompted to Deifie his saint? 1682 BURNET *Rights Princes* ii. 36 That they did vehemently, and out of all measure aspire to that Chair. *Ibid.* iv. 118 Against this, the Zeal of some Bishops appeared vehemently. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. vii. 54 For a week together she was vehemently intent upon visiting England. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. viii. 277 It requires a high degree of improbability to prevent the greater part of mankind from believing what they vehemently wish.

3. With violence or impetuosity.

1538 ELYOT, *Perflo*, to blowe vehemently or strongly. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 312 Ane blast of eistrene winde..raissit the flame of fyre sa wehementlie that it blew wpoun the freir that accusait him. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* vi. 48 When the flood arose, the streame beat vehemently vpon that house. 1666 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 257 The fire broke out vehemently again last night. *a* 1796 WATERHOUSE in Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 500 We see the mineral water boiling vehemently like a pot over the fire. 1821 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 57 He was observed to smoke his pipe vehemently.

Vehemontness. [f. as prec.] = VEHEMENCE.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 280 The same ought to be asked with no lesse feruentnes and vehementnesse of desire. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* iv. 2 Both the vehementnesse of his grefe, & the earnestnesse of his praying. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. lxxxiv. 625 Tainted with some ill smell..gotten through the vehementnes of the fire. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inq. & Ad. Physic* 99 The blame is impos'd on the too vehementness of the Disease, when the Doctor is often more in fault.

Vehicle (vī'ĭk'l, vē'hĭk'l), *sb.* Also 7 **vehickle**. [ad. F *véhicule* (= Sp. and Pg. *vehiculo*, It. *veicolo*, *veicolo*) or L. *vehiculum*, f. *vehĕre* to carry.

On the pronunciation see the note to VEHEMENCE.]

I. 1. A substance, *esp.* a liquid, serving as a means for the readier application or use of another substance mixed with it or dissolved in it: a. *Med.* A medium of a suitable kind in which strong or unpalatable drugs or medicines are administered.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 303 Let all your Vehicles for your Medicines..be soft and pleasing to your Patients. 1698 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* III. xix. 281 Let him have of the same pill in a convenient vehicle, of four grains. 1689 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* v. 34, I seldom give less than half a spoonful,..diluted with a sufficient measure of a temperate Vehicle. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. iv. § 4 (1734) 248 Mineral Chalybeat Waters..are the

most agreeable and beneficial Vehicle for such Medicines. 1772 PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1777) I. 72 A sufficient dose of the medicine cannot be given on account of the heating nature of its vehicle 1816 A. C. HUTCHISON *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1826) 169 The Doctor..exhibited to him an ounce of castor-oil, uncovered by any vehicle. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 31 The dried petals..are almost destitute of therapeutic virtues, but their preparations are used as elegant vehicles.

fig. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 19 Both these pleasing Vehicles, if I may so call them, and Correctives of Reproofs [etc.]. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 87 ¶ 3 With what vehicles to disguise the catharticks of the soul. 1755 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) III. 181 The invasion..I really believe was dressed up for a vehicle (as the apothecaries call it) to make us swallow the treaties. 1844 WARDLAW *Prov.* (1869) II. 102 If we have a bitter..medicine to administer, we are desirous..to convey it in a pleasant *vehicle*.

b. In general use.

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1729) 149 There ought to be one of the Dishes, in which to beat and mingle the liqu'd Vehicles, and a second to receive the crude Herbs in. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Malt-Liquor*, The Substance of high dry'd Malt, which retain many fiery Particles in their Contexture, and are therefore best lost in a smooth Vehicle. 1831 J. DAVIES *Mat. Med.* 376 It is..soluble in more than 2000 of cold water, and 9000 of this vehicle when boiling. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2097. 30 When the crusts [of eczema] form, acid. salicyl., in a vehicle of olive oil, is useful.

c. *Painting.* A fluid (as water, oil, etc.) with which pigments are mixed for use.

1787 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 103 The well known disadvantages that Paintings in Oil lie under, have rendered the discovery of some other Vehicle an object of attentive enquiry. 1807 J. OPIE in *Lect. Art* iv. (1848) 320 Colours . little muddled by vehicles. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 202 The term 'vehicle', which is borrowed from pharmacy, is applied in art to the fluid employed to bring pigments into a proper working state. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 427/1 A perfect vehicle mixes readily with the pigment.

2. That which serves as a means of transmission, or as a material embodiment or manifestation, of something: **a.** With reference to matter or physical conditions.

1630 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 117 Drink may not be only esteemed the Vehicle of aliment. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 265 To cleanse and purifie those grosser Excrements, the Vehicles (or Lodgings) of malignant Spirits. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. ii, Asses, as, as, ras, das, &c. are in music, only as the vehicles of sound, and without any fixed ideas. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. xxvii. 221 If the water be in reality the vehicle of this disease. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 239 Water, as it is the vehicle of the nourishment of the plant, is the substance principally given off by the leaves. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 14. 52 There is a considerable portion of all natural food..serving rather for the vehicle than for the substance of our support. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I i. (1870) 3 That more advanced Philosophy of the present day, which regards Matter merely as the vehicle of Force.

b. In other contexts.

1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 8 Aug., To receive a favour through the vehicle of insolent ostentation—no! no! 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 297 They viewed the tea as a vehicle of an unconstitutional tax. 1870 DALE *Week-day Serm.* ii. 51 Making the very form of Christian forgiveness the vehicle of revenge. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* IV. lix. 183 It is..possible to feel gratitude even where we discern a mistake that may have been injurious, the vehicle of the mistake being an affectionate intention prosecuted through a lifetime of kindly offices.

c. A substance employed as a material in or on which some work is executed.

1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i § 58 The more extended use of paper as the vehicle of writing instead of parchment. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Legends Monast. Ord.* 441 The whole [picture] has been significantly described as a 'parody of Divine love'. The vehicle, white marble,—its place in a Christian church,—enhance all its vileness.

3. A means or medium by which ideas or impressions are communicated or made known; a medium of expression or utterance.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* iv. 223 A spiritual kind of vehicle, whereby corporeal impressions are transferred to the mind. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vindic. Mosaick Syst.* Introd. 7 Philosophical Mythology..a more agreeable Vehicle, found out for the conveying to us the Truth and Reason of Things. 1762 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS Comm.* App. I. 347 It might not be improper to contradict it by some vehicle of the publick papers. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xii II. 138 But a metrical vehicle did not so well suit Zeno's dialectic genius. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* x. (1890) 378 Quarles was a kind of journalist to whom the vehicle of verse came more easily than the vehicle of prose.

b. Const. *of*.

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 106 And alms are but the vehicles of pray'r. 1688 J. H. STEVENSON *Mr. Bays* Pref. A 2, Rhyme (which he very Judiciously somewhere calls the Vehicle of Nonsense). 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 121 ¶ 14 Allegory is perhaps one of the most pleasing vehicles of instruction. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 625 Did charity prevail, the press would prove A vehicle of virtue, truth, and love. 1828 HAZLITT *Table-T.* Ser. II. xv. (1869) 305 Music is not made the vehicle of poetry, but poetry of music. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xxii. (1865) III. 40 In the common intercourse of life Greek became a fashionable vehicle of expression. 1884 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I iv. 77 The myths..yielded themselves with ease as vehicles of new ideas.

c. Const. *to* or *for*.

1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nature* v. 223 Words seem to be as it were bodies or vehicles to the sense or meaning. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xii. 67 You consider skill in Languages then as a Vehicle to Knowledge—Not I presume as Science itself. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xii. (1839) II. 142 It is extremely doubtful how far they were ever used as a vehicle for the exposition of theological doctrines differing from the popular creed. *c* 1890 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) I. 385 Which makes it..a far better vehicle..for many forms of thought. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Primer* iv. 45 In the same play, rhyme is often employed as a vehicle for generalising reflections.

4. The form, the material or other shape, in which something spiritual is embodied or manifested.

Freq. *c* 1650–1700, esp. of the body in relation to the soul or spirit.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* v. 176 The spiritual vehicle of the soul,..a kind of umbra or aerial manitle in which the soul wraps herself. 1670 *Moral State England* 121 When our souls are divested of their grosser vehicles. 1699 BURNET *39 Art.* i. 18 God being considered as the Supreme Light, this might lead men to worship the Sun as his chief Vehicle. 1756 T. AMORY *J. Buncle* iv. (1770) 288 My friend is now present with his Saviour, beholding his glory, in a vehicle resembling the body of the Lord. 1773 *Cook's Voy.* (1784) II. III. ix. 164 They speak of spirits being..not totally divested of those passions which actuated them when combined with material vehicles 1836 I. TAYLOR *Phys. The. Another Life* i. (1847) 19 There is a spiritual body and another vehicle of human nature as well as a natural body.

II. 5. A material means, channel, or instrument, by which a substance or some property of matter (as sound or heat) is conveyed or transmitted from one point to another.

1615 H. CROOKE *Body of Man* 80 The vmbilicall veine..is the first of all the veines,..because it is the vehicle or conueigher of blood. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xvii 120 If I thought your Lordship could..imagine that Light could be convey'd without .having (if I may so speak) a Body for its Vehicle. 1707 *Curs. in Husb. & Gard.* 39 He had observ'd..Pores or little Channels in..the Wood of different Trees...Some of these little Vehicles of Communication go from the bottom upwards *Ibid.* 49 Fibres and little Vehicles that are in the Bodies of Plants. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Music* (1789) I. 433 Pythagoras supposed the air to be the vehicle of sound. 1809 *Imison's Sci. & Art* (1822) I. 227 Air is the usual vehicle of Sound, but it is not absolutely essential. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* II 499 The vapour..becomes another storehouse of heat, and a vehicle by which it is removed from the earth.

transf. 1783 BURKE *Rep. Affairs of India* Wks. 1842 II. 18 Finding a great parliamentary corporation turned into a vehicle for remitting to England the private fortunes of those [etc.].

6. A means of conveyance provided with wheels or runners and used for the carriage of persons or goods; a carriage, cart, wagon, sledge, or similar contrivance.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vehicle*, a Cart, Wain, Wagon, or Chariot. 1700 COLLIER *2nd Def. Short View* 56 You may take it in a Cart, or a Waggon, but..I think a Wheelbarrow may do; for the word Vehicle..will carry that sense. 1709 *Tatler* No. 32 ¶ 2 She calls her Chariot, Vehicle. 1749 BYROM *Rem.* (1857) II. 486, I went with Mr. Freke, who had his vehicle there, to the King's Chapel. 1784 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 17 Nov., I staid at Oxford till Tuesday, and then came in the common vehicle easily to London. 1829 LYTTON *Disowned* 28 The rumbling and jolting vehicle stopped at the door of a tavern in Holborn. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. x. 123 The shortest, directly fastened to the sledge runner, as a means of guiding or suddenly arresting and turning the vehicle. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 327 The direct effects of superior means of communication have been to create a better class of vehicles.

Comb. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 493 Such a peculiar species of insanity as vehicle-madness must have been pointed at by everybody. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 36 Several vehicle-drivers tried to cut it down. 1890 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 3/6 The National Coach and Van Trade Union, which comprised the whole of the workers in the vehicle-building trades.

7. Any means of carriage, conveyance, or transport; a receptacle in which anything is placed in order to be moved.

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1572 The Spirit hors'd him like a Sack, Upon the Vehicle, his Back. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 220 Unless the aethereal matter be supposed to be carried about the sun like a vortex or whirlpool, as a vehicle to convey it and the rest of the planets. 1728 MORGAN *Hist. Algiers* I. ii. 21 The Sunbeams are so fierce and scorching, that all the Water would, infallibly, be exhal'd thro' the Pores of those leathern Vehicles. 1774 BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 407 It was a cup in which Hercules passed the seas; and the same history is given of Helius, who was said to have traversed the ocean in the same vehicle. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 120 The balloon descended...On a sudden, his crazy vehicle struck upon the roof of a house. 1815 *Ibid.* 4 His three sons fatally committed themselves to this treacherous vehicle [*sc.* a boat], in order to shoot wild-fowl. 1842 *Peter Parley's Ann.* II. 250 The show-woman now procured a lamp; and, fixing it in a proper vehicle, gradually lowered it to the bottom of the well.

Vehicle (vī'ik'l, vē'h-), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To place or convey in a vehicle. Chiefly in pa. pple.

a 1722 KEN *Hymns Evening.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 28 There the Babe's Soul is vehicled, said he; God must with perfect Man united be. 1727 FENTON *Poems* (1790) 38 When vehicled in flame, thou slow didst pass Prone through the gates of night. 1732 M. GREEN *Grotto* Wks. (1790) 251 O.. guard us through polemic life; From poison vehicled in praise. 1905 SALMOND *Relig. Quest. France* iii. 33 Helping to vehicle to heaven the praises of ransomed souls.

Ve'hicled, *a.* [f. as prec.] Covered with, occupied by, vehicles.

1894 *Cornh. Mag.* July 67 Joe's attempt to cross a thickly vehicled road was immethodical.

Vehicula, pl. of VEHICULUM.

Vehicular (vĭhi'kiŭlăi), *a.* Also 7 -are. [ad. late L. *vehiculār-is*, f. *vehicul-um* VEHICLE *sb.*]

1. Of or pertaining to, associated or connected with, a (wheeled) vehicle.

1626 CHAPMAN *Homer's Hymns Venus*, Chariots and all the frames vehiculare. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vehicular*, pertaining to any instrument or engine of carriage. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII. 12 By making use of a vehicular story, to wheel in among them worse manners than their own. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* i, The Insides and Outsides, to use the appropriate vehicular phrases. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* I. ii. 12 Coachmen and cabmen, and conductors, and horses, and all the exterior phenomena of things vehicular. 1860 G. MEREDITH *Evan Harrington* x, I heard your welcome vehicular music.

fig. 1885 *Cent. Mag.* XXIX. 310 The poet's walk, talk, bearing, and intellect, are illustrated by a series of images, and in a style so vehicular as to deserve unusual praise.

b Made, performed, or carried on, by means of a vehicle or vehicles.

1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. xii, In his heart he preferred the pedestrian even to the vehicular expedition. 1826 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxvi, It is the vehicular, not the equestrian exercise, which he envies. 1834 LOWELL *Jrnl. Italy* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 130, I am quite sure that he believes..the Pre-Adamites were..incapable of any but vehicular progression. 1879 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 5/2 Vehicular traffic was almost entirely suspended.

c. Of the nature of, serving as, a vehicle.

1807 BYRON *Let. to Miss Pigot* Aug., Places inaccessible to vehicular conveyances. 1844 EMERSON *Ess., Poet*, All language is vehicular and transitive, and is good..for conveyance, not as farms and houses are, for home-stead. 1871 LYTTON *Coming Race* xiv, They prefer their wings, for travel,..to vehicular conveyances.

†**2.** Invested with a vehicle or special form; embodied. *Obs.*

1656 S. HOLLAND *Zeal* (1719) 89 That every Grove, Grot and Stream has its tutelar and vehicular Deity. *a* 1774 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. xxi. 47 We may gather that the rational soul is compleatly formed..before entrance into the human body, and that the fashion and lineaments it afterwards takes..are not necessary for its subsistence in the vehicular state. *Ibid.* xxvi. 140 To behold the wonders of the vehicular state, and boundless glories of the mundane soul.

Hence **Vehi'cularly** *adv.*

1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* x. 130/1 Pullman the beneficent did not fail..to be vehicularly manifest on the train which conveyed us from Washington to Philadelphia.

Vehi'culary, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. late L. *vehiculāri-us*.] = VEHICULAR *a.* 1 c.

1835 J. KNOWLES *Dict.*, *Litter*, a kind of vehiculary bed.

Vehi'culate, *v. rare.* [f. L. *vehicul-um* VEHICLE *sb.*: see -ATE 3.] **a.** *trans.* To carry or convey in, or as in, a vehicle. In quots. *fig.* **b.** *intr.* To travel, to ride or drive, in a vehicle.

1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 27 Giving a document to mortal menageries, which are then only vehiculated to their central point. *Ibid.* 195 For this courage which vehiculates his attempts, and occasions his glory, is God's royal donative. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* II. i, The vehicle for truth, or fact of some sort,—which surely a man should first try various other ways of vehiculating, and conveying safe.

Vehi'culated, *ppl. a. rare*$^{-1}$. [Cf. prec.] Invested with form; embodied.

a 1727 J. REYNOLDS *View of Death* (1735) 89 There may be vehiculated Spirits, of very different orders.

Vehicula'tion. [f. as VEHICULATE *v.*: see -ATION, and cf. med.L. *vehiculatio.*] Conveyance by means of a vehicle or vehicles; vehicular activity or traffic.

1834 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 148 By a sort of parallel to the Game Laws, certain modes of vehiculation were to be peculiar to the magnifico. 1852 CARLYLE in *New Review* Dec. (1891) 482 Boulevards very stirring, airy, locomotive to a fair degree, but the vehiculation very light 1866 — *E. Irving* in *Reminis.* (1881) II. 212 The New Road with its lively traffic and vehiculation. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 12 Nov. 4/4 We know of nothing more handsome or inviting in the literature of vehiculation.

Vehi'culatory, *a.* [f. as prec.: see -ORY 2.] Of the nature of, pertaining or relating to, vehicles.

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. viii, He would accumulate.., logical swim-bladders,..and other precautionary and vehiculatory gear, for netting out. 1865 — *Frredk. Gt.* XIX. v. (1872) VIII. 177 To cart from Bohemia such a cipher of human rations daily..will surpass all the vehiculatory power of Daun.

†**Vehicule.** *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [a. F. *véhicule* or ad. L. *vehiculum*: see next] = VEHICLE *sb.* 1.

1541 COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 H ij b, Of theyr sodayne passynge as a vehicule, with y^{t} there is hunny it noyeth nat the vicere.

‖**Vehiculum.** Now *rare* or *Obs.* Pl. **vehicula**; also 7 **-aes.** [L.: see VEHICLE *sb.*]

1. = VEHICLE *sb.* 1. Also *fig.* and *transf.*

1624 BEDELL *Lett.* x. 143 Here is..some truth mingled among, to giue the better grace, and to be as it were the *Vehiculum* of a lie. 1635 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* I. vii. 33 The Dose is one dram in any proper Liquor or Vehiculum to swallow it down with. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 8. 12 We doubt not but to make a Sovereign Antidote against Atheism, out of that very Philosophy, which so many have used as a *Vehiculum* to convey this Poyson of Atheism by. 1787 MATY tr. *Riesbeck's Trav. Germ.* III. 76 Burgundy is the standing vehiculum of green peace.

2. = VEHICLE *sb.* 6. In quots. *fig.*

1633 PRYNNE *1st Pt. Histrio-m.* 65 Unchast, Obscene, and Amorous wordes, are but so many vehiculaes, to carrie men on to Adulterous and Sinfull deedes. 1648 HOWELL *Instr. Forr. Trav.* (Arb.) 59 Speech is the..Ambassador of the mind, and the Tongue the Vehiculum, the Chariot, which conveyeth..the notions of the Mind to Reasons Palace.

3. = VEHICLE *sb.* 2.

1658 ASHMOLE *Theat. Chem.* Annot. 451 She is the Planet nearest the Earth, and appointed as it were the *Vehiculum*

of all other heavenly Influences unto what is Sublunary. 1668 Howe *Bless. Righteous* 325 Are not the exceeding great and precious promises, the Vehicula, the conveighances of the Divine Nature?

4. = VEHICLE *sb.* 4.

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 189/1 Having imposed each one his proper Star as a vehiculum. *Ibid.* 191/1 The rest of the body they appointed as a vehiculum to serve this. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* IV. 15 Plato..supposes, that into the vehiculum of the soul..is infused..a particular formative virtue, distinct, according to that star.

5. = VEHICLE *sb.* 5.

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* t. xvii. 44 The wheyish .exceeds the two excrementitious Cholers, by reason of the Blood, whose vehiculum it was to be.

‖ Vehme (vē·mə, ‖ fē·mə). *Hist.* Also **Fehm.** [a. older G. *Vehme* (now *Fehme*, *Feme*), MHG. *veme*, *veime* judgement, punishment.] = next.

1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xx, Go hence,..and let the fear of the Holy Vehme never pass from before thine eyes. 1838 *Spark's Biogr., Exton* IX. 390 Individual opinions are restrained by a tyranny as inexorable as that of the Holy Vehme, the secret tribunal of the Middle Ages. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 63/2 It was necessary that a candidate for initiation into the Fehm..should not be a party to any process before a Fehmic court.

‖ Vehmgericht (vē·m-, ‖ fē·mgərix't). *Hist.* Also **Vehme-, Fehm-.** [a. older G. *Vehm-*, now *Fehm-*, *Femgericht* (pl. *-gerichte*), f. prec. + *gericht* court, tribunal.] A form of secret tribunal which exercised great power in Westphalia from the end of the 12th to the middle of the 16th century.

1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xx, Men initiated and intrusted with high authority by the Vehme-gericht, or tribunal of the bounds. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* t. vi, Two Black Knights, who pretended to be ambassadors from the Vehm-Gericht. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 63/2 It was only with the restoration of public order..that the influence of the Fehmgerichte gradually waned.

transf. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliv, 'Was Rebecca guilty or not?' The Vehmgericht of the servants' hall had pronounced against her. 1880 *Edin. Rev* Jan. 143 The horrors of the Karmathian, the detestable Vehmgericht of the 'Assassins',..all owe their origin to the schism of the House of 'Ali.

Vehmic (vē·mik, fē·mik), *a.* Also **Vehmique, Fehmic.** [f. VEHM-E + -IC.] Pertaining to, connected with, the Vehmgericht.

1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xx, Machinations for the destruction of the Vehmique institutions. *Ibid.*, In the Vehmique court all must be Vehmique. 1831 *Ibid.* Introd., The Vehmic tribunals of Westphalia, a name so awful in men's ears during many centuries. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 276 Invisible as a familiar or agent of the Vehmic association. 1879 [see VEHME]. 1882-3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2451/1 When the State became able to maintain its laws, the Vehmic Court became superfluous.

Veh·mist. [f. as prec. + -IST.] A member of the Vehmgericht.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 234 [They] thus, like the Vehmists of Germany, pursued a faithless or refractory member, even on the throne, with the steel and the cord.

Veht(en, southern ME. varr. FIGHT *sb.* and *v.* **Vˀiage,** obs. var. VOYAGE *sb.* **Veicht,** obs. Sc. f. WEIGHT *sb.* **Veid,** obs. Sc. f. WEED *sb.* **Veie,** southern ME. var. FAY *a.* **Veien,** southern ME. var. FAY *v.*[1] **Veighor,** var. VEYOUR (viewer) *Obs.*

Veigle, *v.* Now *dial.* [Aphetic f. INVEIGLE *v.*] *trans.* To inveigle. Also *absol.*

1745 *Gentl. Mag.* 161 Venus may veigle to the grove, To taste the trifling sweets of love 1778 FOOTE *Trip Calais* II. Wks. 1799 II. 345, I asked, if they had vehmic access unto Miss Minnikin into their clutches. 1837 T. GIBSON *Lag. & Notes Westm.* Gloss. 307 *Veigle*, to entice.

Veik, obs. Sc. form of WEAK *a.*

Veil (vēl), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 3 ueile, 4-5 (7) veile, 5 veylle, 5-7 veyle; 4-5, 7 veyl, 6 veyll, veill (vall), 3-5, 7- veil. β. 4 vayle. 4-5 vayl, 5-7 vayle, 5-8 vaile, vail (5 *Sc.* waile, wail), 6 vayel(l)e, 8 vaill. γ. 5 *Sc.* wale, val, 4, 6-7 vale. [a. AF. and ONF. *veile* (*veille*) or *veil* (*veyl*), = OF. *voile* (*voille*) and *voil* :—L. *vēla* (neut. pl., taken as fem. sing.) and *vēlum* sail, curtain, veil. Cf. F. *voile* m. (veil) and f. (sail), = Prov. *vel*, It. and Sp. *velo*, Pg. *veo*. See also VELE.]

I. 1. A piece of linen or other material forming part of the distinctive head-dress of a nun, and worn so as to fall over the head and shoulders and down each side of the face.

α 1225 *Ancr. R.* 420 ȝif ȝe muwen beon wimpel-leas, beoð bi warme kepp-n and þeruppon blake ueiles. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Matthew*) 422 Þe apostil þane..þai madynnis all blyssit, & gefe þam waile & pall. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 33 He ordeynede þat a nonne..schulde nouȝt handle þe towayles of þe awter,..but schе schal bere a veile on hire heed. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. viii. 1563 He gaf biddynge to þaim ay þat þar wail war na tyme lewide, þan þai suldе wer it on þar hewide. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 200 Rymyled liche a nunnys veylle. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 14 And many whyte nonnes with whyte vayles. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1102 The nonnes, with vaile and wimple plight. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 228 Effir her consecratione, haueng put on the Vale of her Virginitie..effir the commetude of the kirke. 1612 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 699 Heine..that put on the Vaile and religious habite of a Nunne. 1692 TOWNSHEND *Albion's Triumph* 17 Religion, a woman in a short Surplesse of lawne ruffl 17 Religion, a woman in a short Surplesse of lawne ruffl gathered about the neck, and vnder it a garment of wratchet, with a short vale of aliues. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Praises before whom the Vows are made, blesses the Veil, and gives it to the Religious. 1753 *Diary Blue Nuns* in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VIII. 196 June the 19th Mother . . Six [of . . and black veils over their white garments, appeared to be professed nuns of the order of Mount Carmel.

b. *To take the veil*, to become a nun; to enter a convent or nunnery. (See also quots. *a* 1700–56.)

Originally in sense 34 of the verb TAKE, but in later use passing into sense 16 c.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 78 Thir maydens ware sent thaire vayles to take Of that bisschope, of whaim I spake...Thir maydens come bifore the autere, And toke thaire vayles. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 661 Throw hyme þe wale has tan a cusing of domycyane. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. iii. 264 Hir systyr þan dame Cristyane Off religion þe wail had tane. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 262 b, She had forsaken the worlde and taken the holy veyle and habyte of religion. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 395 Taking herself the Vale for opinion of holinesse. *a* 1700 *Diary Blue Nuns* in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VIII. 15 Margarite Pigiu came from England to be a lay sister and took the litle vaile for religion. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 259 It was the white vaill she was to take, that is, she was to enter her noviscet, for there is here no publick ceremony in takeing the black vaill, and last vows, for that is done within the convent, after a year's wearing the white. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* iii, My father intended I should take the veil. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iii, She never took the veil, but lived and died in severe seclusion, and in the practice of the Roman Catholic religion. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* iii. 103 Then it..became a large and flourishing Convent, the wife of Baldwin I having taken the veil there.

c. *The veil*, the life of a nun.

1818 CARY *Dante, Parad.* IV. 95 And thou mightst after of Piccarda learn That Constance held affection to the veil. 1827 HOOD *Bianca's Dream* 202 By twenty she had quite renounced the veil. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xiv, One who, ..according to the laws of the Church, had a right to take a choice between the world and the veil.

2. An article of attire consisting of a piece of thin cloth, silk, or other light fabric, worn, especially by women, over the head or face either as a part of the ordinary head-dress, or in order to conceal or protect the face; now usually a piece of net or thin gauzy material tied to the hat and completely covering the face in order to protect it from the sun or wind. Also in fig. context (quot. 1648).

α, β. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3616 Þat folc on him [Moses] ne miȝte sen But a veil wore hem bi-twen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 958] at oþer wyth a gorger was gered ouer þe swyre, Chymbled ouer hir blake chyn with mylk-quyte vayles. 14.. *Siege Jerus* (E.E.T.S.) 15 ȝit is þe visage in þe vail, as Veronyk hym broȝt. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. viii 77 Our hedis befoir the altar we aray With valis brown, efter the Troiane gise. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 255 His heare long downe to his shulders,..with a vaile of silke rowled abowte his head. 1584 *Brief Exam.* ***iiij b, A Byshop that suffered a wydowe to syt without a vayle in the Church among other wydowes. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 250 This same wise Tragedian bringeth in Agamemnon with a vaile before his eyes. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights Muses* Poems (1904) 146 How at the sight did'st Thou draw back thine Eyes, Into thy modest veyle? 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 240/1 Gipsies..in the Countrey for a Vaile use some Durty Clout, having holes only for their Eyes. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 73 125 She wore a white, unspotted Vail. 1760–8 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* CXVIII, They were covered from head to foot with long black veils. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772*, 124 Over her face a veil, so transparent as not to conceal. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 17 We all put on our veils, as a protection from the heat and light. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 139 The women of the lower orders here [Antwerp] wear a veil, resembling the Spanish mantilla. 1899 W. COLLINS *Q of Hearts* (1875) 20 A bright laughing face, prettily framed round by a black veil, passed over the head, and tied under the chin. 1900 J. G. FRAZER *Golden Bough* (ed. 2) I. 313 Amongst the Touaregs..the veil is never put off, not even in eating or sleeping.

transf. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 200 A Peacock.. spreads round the rich pride of his pompous vail.

γ. 1580–3 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 112 Where eyther the person or place should haue neede of a vale for Sunne burning. 1621 QUARLES *Hadassa* Wks. (Grosart) II. 60/1 Haman went home and mourn'd, (His visage muffled in a mournfull vale).

† b. A loin-cloth. *Obs.*[1]

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 187 A small valle ouer their priuities.

c. *Eccl.* = *Humeral veil*, HUMERAL *a.* 2. (Cf. also OFFERTORY 5.)

1782 [see 4]. 1905 *Ch. Times* 3 Feb. 136 The Offertory veil is worn on the shoulders like a broad scarf, the pendant ends being gathered up in the hands for holding and covering the sacred vessels.

3. A piece of cloth or other material serving as a curtain or hanging: a. *Jewish Antiq.* The piece of precious cloth separating the sanctuary from the body of the Temple or the Tabernacle.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16762+85 Dede men risen out of her graue, þe temple vayl clef in twoo. 13.. *Gaop. Nicod.* 660 þe son wex dirk ful sone, þe vail rale in þe kirk. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXVI. 33 The veyle forsothe be it sett ȝu bi cercles, with ȝane the whiche thou shalt put the arke of testymonye. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1747 In þe temple þe veil was kut on two. 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 246/1 Ye veyle of the temple is broken asunder yᵉ diuided among yᵉ Jewes. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* III. 14 He made a vayle also of ȝalow sylke, scarlet, purple and lynenwerke, and made Cherubins theron. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Macc.* I. 22 Antiochus ..entred proudly into the sanctuarie, and tooke away..the valle. 1737 WHISTON tr. *Josephus, Antiq.* III. vii. § 7 The vails, too, which were composed of four things, they declared the four elements. 1782 J. BROWN *Nat. & Revealed Relig.* IV. iii. 363 While he expired, an earthquake rent the rocks, and the vail of the temple. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 186/2 The inner sanctuary was separated from the holy place by a rich curtain or veil.

fig. 1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* x. 20 Bi a veyl, or heuering, that is to seyȝe, his fleisch. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* x 20 Through the vayle, that is to saye by his flesshe. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* Ep. Ded. a 2, We are come..even to the Holy of Holies, through his flesh that hath broken downe the vaile of seperation.

b. *Eccl.* The curtain hung between the altar and the choir, esp. during Lent. Now *Hist.*

1487–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 68 For makyng of iiij poleis of bras & iron werk and leds þat serued for þe vayl. *a* 1490 *Mirk's Festial* 126 þe vayle þat hange be drawen all þe Lenton bytwene þe auter and þe qwere. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 294 For xxvij elne Bertane claith, to be the vail in the chapel of Halyrudhous agane Lenterane. 1530 PALSGR. 284/2 Veyle for the church *in* lent, *custode*. 1536 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 67 That day the vayelle was hongyd [up] benethe the steppes. *Ibid.* 69 The xxviij. day after was Ester evyne, and then was the tabulle remevyd, and sette benethe at the vayele northe and sowthe. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 94 A large Curtain or Veil should be suspended in the Presbytery between the Choir and Altar.

c. Used fig. or allusively in various prepositional phrases, as *behind*, *beyond*, or *within the veil*, chiefly after Heb. vi. 19 in Tindale's (1526) and later versions of the Bible; now commonly with reference to the next world.

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 91 b, Christe hath brought vs all in into the inner temple within the vayle or forshaninge, and vnto the mercy stole of God. 1782 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 180 To participate of the mysteries of love with modesty, as within a veil or sacred inclosure, not with a canine impudence. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lvi, What hope of answer, or redress? Behind the veil, behind the veil. 1859 E. FITZGERALD *Omar* xlvii, When You and I behind the Veil are past. 1877 A. J. ROSS *Mem. Alex. Ld* xxx. 521 In March, 1670, Thomas Erskine passed on to the veil.

† d. A curtain or awning (cf. quots.). *Obs.*

1762 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxi. (1787) II. 277 The master of the offices stood before the veil or curtain of the sacred apartment. 1790 *Bystander* 33 To prevent inconvenience from the heat of the sun, they extended veils..by means of cords attached to the extremity of the building.

4. A piece of silk or other material used as a covering, *spec.* (*Eccl.*) to drape a crucifix, image, picture, etc., esp. during Lent, or to cover the chalice.

(a) 1399 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 129 In salario Johannis Payntour pictantis j magnum vale ad cooperiendum crucem stantem infra corpus ecclesiæ in Quadragesima. 1501 *Acc. Ld High Treas. Scot.* II. 64 For xliiij elne lynnyn claith, that wes antependia and vales in the Kirk of Strivelin. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* I. 21 One vp a lofte the patten holdes, encloade in silken vayle. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., In the Romish Churches, in time of Lent, they have Veils, or large Curtains over the Altar, Crucifix, Images of the Saints, &c. 1762 in J. H. Harting *Hist. Sardinian Chapel* (1905) 25 Burse and veil for the chalice, veils for Benediction and the desk. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 427 There was a similar veil used also for covering over the Sepulchre on Good Friday.

(b) 1782 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. (1787) II. 251 He..respectfully unfolded the silken veil which covered the haughty epistle of his sovereign.

5. *fig.* Something which conceals, covers, or hides; a disguising or obscuring medium or influence; a cloak or mask. (Common in the 19th c.)

a. Of immaterial things. † *Under veil*, surreptitiously.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* iii. 15 But til in to this day, whanne Moyses is radd, the veyl is putt vpon her hertis. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 4542 Daunz Anthenor, and Pollydamas, þat han contreued amonge hem ootterly, And vnder veil concelyd secrely. 1562 [etc.] 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lv. § 8 Till that humilitie which had bene before as a vaile to hide and conceale maiestie were layd aside. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 17 Hee remoueth the scales from our eyes, the vaile from our hearts. 1619 SIR H. WOTTON in *Reg. & Germ.* (Camden) 51, I have likewise a zeale to the cause, which I hope wilbe some vaile to myne other infirmities. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communicant* I. iv. 90 For Christ in the Sacrament is Christ under a vail. *a* 1735 LANSDOWNE *Progr. Beauty* 142 Hide with a vail those griefs that none can paint. 1763 W. THOMSON *Watson's Philip III*, VI. (1839) 337 His indulgence to the reformed religion covered the violence of his usurpations with a specious veil. 1820 SHELLEY *Naples* 93 From Nature's inmost shrine, Strip every impious gawd, rend Error veil by veil. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 1006 The thickest veil covers the whole of these processes; and so far have philosophers hitherto been from removing this veil, that they have not even been able to approach it. 1898 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xvii. 182 Tearing aside the veils behind which human hearts have slept through many years.

b. Const. *of* (with defining term).

1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xvii. 3 Bi the derc veil of forȝetyng thei ben scatered,..and with..myche vi[o]dringe disturbid. *a* 1475 in *Contin. Brut* 601 Thou, shewyng there a face ful honygne, Vndyr a veyle of fals decepcione. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 The vaile of darckenes of the vsurped power..of the see and bishoppes of Rome. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 42, I will..pluckе the borrowed vaile of modestie from the so-seeming Mist. Page. *a* 1630 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xi. (1640) 90 To vse the mantle or veile of loue to cover a multitude of sinnes. 1681 WYNDHAM *King's Concealment* 86 Striving to cover her trouble with the vail of chearfulness. 1729 YOUNG *Busiris* II. i, That chastity of look, which seems to hang A vail of purest light o'er all her beauties. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VIII. III. 37

Under whatever veil of artifice or secrecy the Emperor still affected to conceal his designs. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* viii, Qualities which were visible even through the veil of extreme dejection, with which his natural character was.., obscured. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 150 (He) dropped the veil of Mahratta diplomacy, and gave utterance to his opinions. 1882 J. Hatton *Journalistic London* ix. 162 If the veil of anonymity were completely raised, other ..names would appear in the list.

c. Of material substances, the clouds, etc. With *of* or other defining addition.

1598 Florio, *Velo*, ..the mortal vaile, mans carkas or body. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* ii, She woo's the..Air To hide her guilty front with innocent Snow, And on her naked shame . The Saintly Vail of Maiden white to throw. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* x. cccxx, He who in his Bodie's vail till now The Rays of his Divinity hath hid. 1653 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xvii, Between us and the invisible World there is a gross cloud and vail of flesh which interposes. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Priv. Th.* I (1730) 2, I am sure, within this Veil of Flesh there dwells a Soul. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. iii. 45 When the veil Of mist was drawn aside, there hung the sun. *c* 1853 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. 44 Fifty years of ruin would suffice to wrap them in a leafy veil. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* ix. 121 A great veil of rain stretches from the sky to the earth.

d. Similarly without specific qualification.

1594 E. G[rimstone] *D Acosta's Hist. Indies* III xxi 188 They do vsually see as it were two heavens, one cleere and bright above, and the other obscure, and as it were a grane va le spread vnderneath. *a* 1652 Brome *Queenes Exch.* II. i, Imagine now you see break through a Vail Amidst those Stars. .The bright Cynthia in her full of Lustre. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 332 The green And tender blade.. Escapes unhurt beneath so warm a veil 1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xxxvii, Such soften'd shade the hill receives, Her purple veil when twilight leaves Upon its western swell. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 129 The climbing plants..form great veils and curtains between and over the trees.

e. *To draw* or *throw* (also *cast*) *a veil over*, to hide or conceal, to refrain from discussing or dealing with, to hush up or keep from public knowledge. Also without const.

(*a*) 1702 De Foe *True-born Eng.* I. 90 Satyr, be kind! and draw a silent Veil! Thy native England's vices to conceal. 1744 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 211, I wish'd from my Soul that I could draw a Veil over Vice-Admiral Lestock's Conduct in the late Skirmish. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 55 As far as regards their private characters, it may..be the duty of those who are 'liable to other imperfections', to draw a veil over them 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 351 There was evidence of proceedings having been enacted over which I would rather draw a veil.

(*b*) 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 169 P 12 The ill-natured Man ..exposes those Failings .which the other would cast a Veil over. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* II. 101 His faithful attachment to the family caused him to throw a veil over suspicions that the rest of the world will for ever indulge. 1823 Lamb *Elia* II. *Barbara S—*, I must throw a veil over so ne mortifying circumstances. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 545 It throws a veil over the grossness of its error. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 109 He throws a veil of mystery over the origin of the decline.

6. a. A slight tinge or colouring. *rare*—[1].

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. I. 40 As for colour, although Crystall in his pellucid body seems to have none at all, yet in its reduction into powder, it hath a vaile and shadow of blew.

b. *Mus.* A slight obscuration or want of clearness in the voice. (Cf. Veiled *ppl. a.* 3 b.)

1884 *Grove's Dict. Music* IV. 235 Let no student of singing endeavour to cultivate a veil because some great singers have had it naturally. A superinduced veil means a ruined voice

c. *Photogr.* An obscure or veiled appearance.

1893 Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* 132 The clear portions of the negatives should remain unclouded and free from veil or fog until the last.

7. In various specific uses: A veil-like membrane, membranous appendage or part, serving as a cover or screen; a velum: (see quots.).

a. *Bot.* 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I ii. (1765) 4 *Calyptra*, a Veil, in Mosses. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 811 *Polytr[ichum] striatum*...The veils appear in winter, and the capsules in Feb. 1822–7 Good *Stud. Med.* (1829) I. 248 For the most part the smell of these [mushrooms] is virulent, and they are covered with a calyptre or veil. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 208 The *velum*, or veil [in fungi], is a horizontal membrane, connecting the margin of the pileus with the stipes 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* Gloss., *Veil*, a partial covering of the cup; a membranaceous, fibrous, or granulose coating stretching over the mouth of the cup, soon breaking up into fragments.

b. *Anat* 1829 Cooper *Good's Stud. Med.* I. 599 Certain phenomena, which occasionally show themselves in the glottis, larynx, and even in the pendulous veil of the palate. 1854 Bushnan in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 140 This expulsion of water is produced by means of a peculiar arrangement of the veil of the palate. 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Velum.*

c. *Zool.* 1810 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) VIII. 100/2 When young it [the larva] is covered with a veil of black silk. 1834 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 258 A membranous veil on the mouth supplies the want of tentacula. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Calent.* 36 Around the margin of the nectosac, the wall of the nectocalyx is produced inwards, forming a shelf-like membrane, or 'veil'.

8. *dial.* = Cant *sb.*[1] 5.

1879– in dial. glossaries, etc. (N. Cy., Yks., Chesh., Shropa., and U.S.).

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in senses 3 b and 4) *veil-cloth*, *-rope*, (in sense 2) *veil* (*head*)*-dress*, *-maker*, *net*; also *veil-hid* adj.

1484 *Mem. Riton* (Surtees) III. 151 Pro..ij tenterapes, et j veylrane cum j corda. 1552–3 *Inv. Church Goods* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 24 Item, .. iij clothes to hang afore thalters, ix towelles, a vell clothe. 1611 Florio, *Velaro*, a vaile or sipres maker. 1813 Barwick *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XII. II. iii. 146 A woman in a veil head-dress. 1826 W. Elliott *The Nun* 41 A veil-hid sister beckons at the door. 1876 Edersheim *Jewish Life Days Christ* xiii. 217 The veil-dress was a kind of mantilla, thrown gracefully about the whole person, and covering the head. 1888 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 2/7 Veil nets continue in steady request. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Jan 3/2 The milliner must watch the coiffeur, the veil-maker the milliner.

11. †10. A sail. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xxviii. (1869) 191 Aboue was þe mast of þe ship dressed wher vpon heeng þe seyl ystreight, whiche cooper weys is cleped veyl.

† **Veil**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 4 veille, 5 veyle. [a. OF. *veille*:—L. *vigilia* waking, watching.] A watcher or watchman.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 223 Sleuþe for serwe fel doun i-swowene Til *vigilate* þe veil fette water at his eiȝen [*Harl. MS.* Til..*vigilate* þe wakere warned him þo]. 1480 Caxton *Myrr.* III. viii. (1913) 147 Thus is he [i.e. the sun] the right veyle and patrone of all the other sterres.

Veil (vēl), *v.* Forms: α. 4, 7– veil, 4 veyle, veill-, 5 veyll-, weyll-, 7 veile. β. 6 *Sc.* vale, vaill, 6–7 vayle, vaile, 6–8 vail [f. Veil *sb.*[1], in early use after OF. *veler*, *voiller* (mod.F. *voiler*) or L. *vēlāre*. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *velar*, It. *velare*.]

1. *trans.* To cover (the person, etc.) with, or as with, a veil; to conceal or hide (the face, etc.) by means of a veil or other material; to enveil.

Freq. in the pa. pple., which in some contexts may be taken as the passive of sense 3.

1382 Wyclif *Luke* xxii. 64 And thei veyliden him, or hidden, and smyten his face. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. xiii. 218 Thus mekill said scho; and tharwyth bad adew, Hir hed valit with a haw clayth or blew. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. i. 28 The Element it selfe..Shall not behold her face at ample view; But like a Cloystresse she will vailed walke. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 May 1645, A Venus of marble, veiled from the middle to the feete. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 246 She was veiled till she came into the room. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* VIII. 103 Then his robe.. with both hands o'er his head Ulysses drew, behind its ample folds Veiling his face, through fear to be observed. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. ii. 309 We veil our eyes before thy light. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* v. 119 The same women closely veiled..were toiling down the rugged and slippery street. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* April xxii, 'Midst them there Went Psyche, all in lily-whiteness veil'd.

refl. 1891 'Annie Thomas' *That Affair* I. x 171 Miss Polthuan hats and veils herself.

transf. and *fig.* 1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* III. 315, I .. Will with my Silence vail their Countenance. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 425 Eve separate he spies, Veil'd in a Cloud of Fragrance. *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* VII. lxxix, She Vail'd in the scarlat of her modest cheek, Reply'd. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 3 Come, gentle Spring, And veil'd in a shower Of shadowing roses, on our plains descend.

b. *transf.* with a thing as object. Also, to enclose or hang with a veil or curtain (quot. 1656). Occas. passing into sense 4, but with material object.

1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xvi. 42 This church..was made all of free stone, and couered or vayled ouer with bricke. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* III. v, In some fit place vaylde from the eyes a' th' Court. 1656 J. Smith *Pract. Physick* 208 The sides of the Cradle must be vailed, that the child may look only straight forward. *a* 1700 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 279 Three Leagues in Compass they the Ocean vail'd, And press'd the Billows prostrate as they sail'd. 1750 Gray *Long Story* 39 With.. aprons long they hid their armour, And veil'd their weapons bright and keen. 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* I. ii, A group of elms, too scanty at present to veil their desolation. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* III. 272 She bow'd as if to veil a noble tear. 1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 367 She veils the solar radiance and brings on the night.

fig. 1589 *Commendatory Verses Spenser's F. Q.* S.'s Wks. (1912) 409 That faire Ilands right: Which thou doest vaile in Type of Faery land, Elyzas blessed field, that Albion hight.

c. *refl.* To hide, cover, or wreathe (oneself) *in* something. Usually *fig.*

1799 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* I. 129 [His] grieved and rankling heart..veiled itself in smiles. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lix, 'Done, I say,' added Sampson, rubbing his hands and veiling himself again in his usual oily manner. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt.* III. i. (1874) 286 High truths, like high mountains, are apt to veil themselves in clouds.

d. *absol.* To put on or wear a veil.

1713 Mrs. Centlivre *Wonder* II, You must veil and follow him. 1835 Burnes *Trav. Bokhara* (ed. 2) III. 24 Their head-dress is, perhaps, a little large, but..as they never veil, it becomes them.

2. To bestow the veil of a nun upon (a woman); to admit into monastic life as a nun.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 305 Seint Bryde þat Patrik veilleded..overlevede him by sixty 3ere. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 327 Thei..make a worthi pourveance Ayein the day whan thei be veiled. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 623 And other maydones mony mo also, Weron veylled þo in þat abbay. *a* 1634 Hanmer *Chron. Ireland* (1633) 43 The Nunne Cecubris whom Patricke first vailed of all the women in Ireland. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Essex* (1662) 327, I..conceive she [Matilda Fitz-Walter] had surely been Sainted if vailed. 1886 Canon Monahan *Rec. Ardagh & Clonmacnoise* 2 Some hold..that St. Bridget of Kildare was veiled by St. Macchilla.

b. *refl.* To make (oneself *a nun*) by taking the veil. *rare*—[1].

1632 Webver *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 760 A daughter of his, vailed herselfe a Nunne.

3. To cover, enshroud, or screen as or in the ner of a veil; to serve as a veil to (something).

a. Of a garment, cloth, etc.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* VIII. I. 73 A linȝe wattry garmond dyd hym vaill. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 99 Thus ornament is but..The beautious scarfe Vailing an Indian beautie. 1703 Pope *Thebais* I. 432 His ample hat his beamy locks o'erspread, And veil'd the starry glories of his head! 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, Their beauty, softened by the lawn that thinly veiled it. 1867 Morris *Jason* XIV. 732 Scarlet cloth, and fine silk, fit to veil The perfect limbs of dreaded Goddesses.

transf. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) II. 9 Shame never veiled the light of those bold eyes.

b. Of clouds, vapour, etc.

1614 Gorges *Lucan* X. 436 Thus they the time securely spent, Till mid-night vail'd the Element. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 452 And now from end to end Nights Hemisphere had veild the Horizon round. *Ibid.* XI. 229 Yonder blazing Cloud that veils the Hill. 1779 Cowper *Olney Hymns, Submission* 23 The next cloud that veils my skies. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxv, The clouds..veiling the sun and stretching their shadows along the distant scene. 1820 Lamb *Elia* I. *My First Play*, The green curtain that veiled a heaven to my imagination. 1836 Macgillivray *Trav Humboldt* xiv. 178 The heat became suffocating, and a reddish vapour veiled the horizon. 1871 T. K. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 134 A cloud veiling the sun will cause their tentacles to fold, as though apprehensive of danger from the passing shadows.

4. *fig.* To conceal (some immaterial thing, condition, quality, etc.) from apprehension, knowledge, or perception; to deal with, treat, etc., so as to disguise or obscure; to hide the real nature or meaning of (something). Freq. with implication of bad motives.

1538 Latimer *Remains* (Parker Soc.) 399 And in what case are they in, that hath veiled treason so long? 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* I Wks. 1856 I. 15 Weele not vaile our names. 1620–6 Quarles *Feast for Worms* Ded., I dedicate..these few leaues to your truly-Noble Selfe, hoping your Lordship wil vaile my boldnes in your good acceptance. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Persian Wars* I. 30 Tribonianus, being a faire spoken man,..able to vail his Covetousness with abundance of Learning. 1728 *Freethinker* No. 106. 6 Popery does not appear Bare-faced in England: the Terrours of it are veiled. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1772) I. i. 4 *note*, Pythagoras learned to veil his precepts. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 311 The literary delusion..long veiled the personal history of the Earl of Surrey. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 209 That which had so long veiled his cleverness from the knowledge of mankind. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 145 The real names are veiled under the obsolete titles delighted in by the Latin writers.

5. To render less distinct or apparent; to reduce, soften, tone down.

1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxv. 306 The mucilage veils the astringent and irritating qualities of the metallic salt. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* xiv. 102 The chance of veiling the image through the reduction of the bromide unacted upon by light is increased.

6. *intr. Photogr.* To become dark or obscure; to darken.

1890 [see Veiling *vbl. sb.* 4]. 1907 Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 127 The high lights..should be just commencing to veil.

Veil, obs. f. Vail *sb.*[1]; var. Vail *v.*[2]; obs. Sc. form of Weal *sb.*, Well *adv.*

Veild, obs. Sc. form of Wield *v.*

Veildar, obs. Sc. form of Wielder.

Veile, obs. form of Vail; obs. Sc. f. Well *adv.*

Veiled (vēld), *ppl. a.* [f. Veil *v.* or *sb.*[1]]

1. Covered with or wearing a veil; shrouded in a veil.

1593 Marlowe tr. *Lucan* I. 597 The Nunnes And their vaild Matron, who alone might view Minerues statue 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. i 231 Our veyl'd Dames Commit the Warre of White and Damaske In their nicely gawded Cheekes. 1614 J. Davies (Heref.) *Eclogue* 33 Wks. (Grosart) II. 19/2 Than vp (sad swaine) pull fro thy vailed cheeke Hur prop thy palme. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 151 He dreamed a veiled maid Sate near him. 1820 — *Prometh. Unb.* II. iv. 1 What veiled form sits on that ebon throne? 1851 Ruskin in Collingwood *Life* (1900) 129 Those veiled vestals and prancing Amazons..will all be forgotten. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* iii, No one recognised the veiled figure.

b. *poet.* Of the eyes.

1817 Shelley *Pr. Athan.* I. 90 'Tis the shadow of a dream Which the veiled eye of Memory never saw. 1821 — *Adonais* ii, With veiled eyes, 'Mid listening Echoes, in her Paradise She sate.

c. *Bot.* Having a velum; velate.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Calyptra*, In this sense *Euonymus* is said to be calyptred, calyptrate or veiled. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

2. Concealed, covered, hidden, as if by a veil; obscure, unrevealed.

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* I. 2 The vailed knowledge of the law. 1674 Boyle *Excell. Theol.* I. i. 49 A close and critical account of the more vailed and pregnant parts of Scripture. 1822 Shelley *Epipsych.* 26 Seraph of Heaven! Veiled Glory of this lampless Universe! 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 219 Returning the inquirer's thoughts and veiled recollections to himself, as answers to his queries. 1878 J. P. Hopps *Rel. & Moral Lect.* xiii. 42 On the one hand, all the masks will drop off; and, on the other hand, all the veiled goodness will appear.

b. *fig.* Covert, disguised; not openly declared, expressed, or stated.

1875 E. White *Life in Christ* II. x. (1878) 205 There is a wide difference between a veiled promise and a veiled threatening. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* v, The scarcely veiled sneer which marked his tone of voice. 1899 Aldenham *Colloq. Currency* (1900) 326 The Imperfect or Veiled

Bimetallism such as that practised under the Bank Act of 1844.

3. † **a.** Of sight: Dim, indistinct. *Obs.*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* VI. lxv, Why do we..With curious labour, dimme and vailed sight, Prie in the nature of this King and Queen?

b. Of sound, the voice, etc.: Indistinct, muffled, obscure.

1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 35 It sometimes also presents a further modification, which I call the veiled puff (*souffle voilé*). In this case, it seems to us as if every vibration of the voice..agitates a sort of moveable veil interposed between the excavation and the ear. 1884 *Grove's Dict. Music* IV. 235 *Veiled Voice*...A voice is said to be veiled when it is not clear, but sounding as if it passed through some interposed medium. 1897 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 7/4 Jenny Lind's Veiled Voice. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 872 The heart-sounds become veiled and impure.

c. *Photogr.* Of a negative: Lacking clearness or distinctness; dim.

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 477 Isochromatic and other very sensitive plates requiring the greatest possible protection during development, to avoid veiled negatives.

Hence **Veiledly** *adv.*, **Veiledness.**

1879 C. & Mary Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Key* 600 In the 'Sonnets', there is the same spirit of modesty..with the utmost veiledness of diction. 1881 K. Arnold *Indian Poetry* 73 Blue lotus-blooms, seen veiledly Under the wave.

Veilfair, -fare, obs. Sc. forms of Welfare.

Veiling (vē·lĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Veil *v.* or *sb.*1]

I. 1. Something serving as a veil, cover, or screen; a veil or curtain. Also *fig.*

In quot. 1748 prob. confused with Valance *sb.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) 36 A Seraphin louith to see god wythout ony wayllynge of fygure eyther of creature sette bytwene. *Ibid.* xviii. 43 He seeth god face to face wythout veyllynge put bytwene. 1611 Florio, *Velame*,..vailings, shadowings or curteins. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 396 The Breach on the East Side, near a Window,..was opposite to the Vailings of the Bed, which were singed. 1842 Is. Williams *Baptistery* I. xiv. (1874) 175 Then when strongest heart is failing Death it calls in to its aid, Strips aside the fleshly veiling Round ourselves that we have made. 1900 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 7/4 Vivid flashes of lightning illuminated the whole room, piercing the veiling of the windows.

2. Material of which veils are made. Also pl.

Nun's veiling: see Nun *sb.*1 6 c.

1888 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 510/1 The widths of gauze for Veiling measure from half a yard to three-quarters in width. 1894 *Times* 16 April 4/2 The sale of veilings is fairly well sustained.

attrib. 1891 *Times* 15 Oct. 9/5 A considerable business is being done in silk veiling nets.

II. 3. The action of putting on or covering with a veil. Also *attrib.* in *veiling place.*

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xix. vi, [The sun comes forth] like a bridegroome From out his vailing places. 1611 Florio, *Velatio*, a vailing. 1886 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 277 On the lacing,..the bonneting, the veiling, the gloving [etc.].

4. The action or fact of becoming blurred, dim, or indistinct; dimness or indistinctness of appearance, esp. in a photographic film or negative.

1890 *Anthon's Photogr. Bulletin* III. 57 Films which have a tendency to veiling and thinness. 1893 Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* 122 It is of the utmost importance that the high lights of a lantern slide should be transparent and free from the slightest veiling or discoloration. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* VI. 843 A little veiling or uncertainty of the outlines of the discs.

Veiling (vē·lĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Veil *v.*] That veils, covers, or conceals.

a 1672 Sterry *Freed. Will* (1675) 128 God is seen by the Soul, but shadowed by this shadowy and vailing Image within which he resides. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xlvii, Then 'gan she work again; nor stay'd her care, But to throw back at times her veiling hair. 1855 Rossetti *Poems* (1904) 183/1 Not till this velling world shall cease And harvest yield its whole increase. 1867 Jean Ingelow *Story of Doom* I. 278 Then she pushed Her veiling hair back from her round, soft eyes.

Veill, obs. Sc. form of Weal *sb.*, Well *adv.*

Veillane, obs. Sc. form of Villain.

Veilless (vē·lĭlès), *a.* [f. Veil *sb.*1 + -less.]

1. Having no veil; unprovided with or unprotected by a veil.

1820 Milman *Martyr Antioch* 55 That head, whose veilless blaze Fill'd angels with amaze. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 536 Half whistling and half singing a coarse song, He drove the dust against her veilless eyes. 1872 F. Myers *Renewal Youth* 86 They scarce could bear Veilless the tingling incidence of air.

2. *transf.* Unshaded, unclouded.

1870 Miss Broughton *Red as Rose* I. 117 The corn has been whitening under the sun's hard veilless stare. 1888 H. Drummond *Tropical Africa* v. 109 The glittering ball, whose daily march across the burnished and veilless zenith brings him untold agony.

‖ **Veilleuse** (vɛyøz). [F.] A small and usually highly decorated night-lamp.

1826 H. D. Beste *Four Yrs. France* 379 The reflection of a veilleuse, or small night lamp.

Veillfair, obs. Sc. form of Welfare.

Veil-like, *a.* [f. Veil *sb.*1] Like or resembling a veil, or that of a veil; having the appearance or character of a veil.

1825 Lytton *Pilgrims* x. viii. He saw the pale and veil-like mists that succeed the sunset. 1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch-bk.* 115 She had a long flowing white veil-like robe. 1887 Hissey *Holiday on Road* 154 The air has a perceptible quality...You feel its veil-like influence pervading all.

Veilme, obs. form of Film *sb.*

Veily (vē·lĭ), *a.* [f. Veil *sb.*1 + -y.] Veil-like; diaphanous.

1839 T. Miller *Rural Sk.* 9, I had watched..until the veily twilight was let down from heaven. 1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. iv. § 6. 244 The..rain-cloud, with its ragged and spray-like edge, its veily transparency [etc.].

Vein (vēn), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3–7 **veyne** (4–5 **weyne,** 6 **ueyne**), 4, 7 **veyn**; 4–7 **veine** (4 **vene**), 7– **vein.** *β.* 4–7 **vayne** (5 **wayne**), 5 **vayn** (**wayn**), 6–7 **vain**(*e*. *γ.* 5, 6–7 *Sc.*, **vane** (5, 6 *Sc.*, **wane**). [a. OF. *veine, vaine* (F. *veine*):—L. *vēna* (cf. Vene), whence also Prov., Sp., It. *vena*, Pg. *veia* (†*veya, vea*).]

I. 1. One or other of the tubular vessels in which the blood is conveyed through the animal body; in later use *spec.* one of those by which the blood is carried back to the heart from the extremities (opposed to *artery*).

Many veins are distinguished by special epithets, as *alar, auricular, axillary, basilic, cardiac*, etc.: see these words.

α. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1175 (Laud MS.), þe kynges veynes wexen chelde. *Ibid.* 9414 Þer was..many veyn leten blood. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 59 For betynge of veynes is bettre i-knowe in þe vttre parties of bodies þan ynward and in þe myddel wibynne. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret* 229 Tho men whych haue the neke abowte and the temples, grete ruddy veynes, bene wrothy and hugely angry. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 291 Þe prest blessuth a ring..and duth hit on hur fyngur þat haþe a veyne to hure herte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 For yᵉ whiche his senewes and veynes brast. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 359 This oyll anoynted upon the pulsing veynes, where they appeare moste, as of the temples,..delivereth..from all poysons. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iii. 15, I haue a faint cold feare thrills through my veines. 1631 R. Bolton *Comf. Afft. Consc.* (1635) 199 When a veine is broken and bleeds inwardly,..the Physition is wont to open a veine in the arme so to divert the current of the blood. *c* 1673 Traherne *Post. Wks.* (1906) 180 Veins wherein blood floweth, Refreshing all my flesh, Like rivers. 1727 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* vi. (1841) I. 44 Being drawn off, like the blood let out of the veins. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 388 With us and quadrupedes the blood goes from the veins to the heart. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 21 The superficial veins appear remarkably large. 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* lvi. VII. 197 Demosthenes now felt the poison in his veins. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 227 All these veins terminate in two large venous canals.

β. c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1908 [If] ilka vayne of þe mans body Had a rote festend fast þarby. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5829 The gret vayne of his gorge. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 240 The blode rynnyth into the waynys throgh al the body. 1480 Caxton *Myrr.* II. xix. (1913) 109 Alle in lyke wyse as the blood of a man gooth and renneth by the vaynes of the body. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 50 Some men vse to let them blouddе vnder the eye in a vaine. 1582 Hester *Secr. Phisonom.* I. xxiv. 28 When the bloud is alterated of that putrefaction, it goeth to the vaines. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 67/1 Seas of Blood..Might still haue kept the Chanells of the Vaynes. 1647 Hexham I. A Vaine, *een Ader*...Great Vaines or Arteres, *Groot Aderen.*

γ. c 1450 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ix. 229 Thy ryght hande has I. wane, in fay, Thy litill fynger liath yt aye. 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* VII. 173 Quhen the vanys fillit ar, The body vorthis hevy euirmar. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 35 Blude birst out at every vane. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) ix. 34 Ane hairt of iouris bayth vane and nervis. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 95 A vane..cuttit in his body, al the blude of his body is lattne outbleid at the samyn. 1655 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 557, I had only a vomitt..and breathed a vane.

† **b.** *Lacteal, lacteous*, or *milky veins*, = Lacteal *sb.* I. *Obs.*

1656 J. Smith *Pract. Physick* 4 Obstruction of the Vessels, especially of the Pancreas, and fault of the milky veins. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 66 The stomach and guts, and their appendent Vessels, the lacteal Veins. 1704 Ray *Creation* (ed. 4) I. 99 The Food, is further subtiliz'd and render'd so fluid and penetrant, that the thinner and finer part of it easily finds its way in at the streight Orifices of the lacteous Veins.

c. *Fluid vein*, a separate flow of blood in a larger vein. (Cf. 6 c.)

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 659 The formation of innumerable small fluid veins. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 502 This change in the continents sets up fluid veins in the contained blood.

2. In phrases and figurative uses:

† **a.** *To taste*, or *feel, one's vein(s*, to feel the pulse. *To die in a vein*, to die through loss of blood. *Obs.*

13.. *Sayn Sages* (W.) 1048 The yonge man segh the childes peyne, And tasted his senewe, and his veyne. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 315 This noble clerk with alle haste Began the veines forto taste. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 74 Þis Joseph was passand connyng in grapyng of þer vaynys at war seke, and he come vnto hym & felid his vaynys. 1547–64 Baldwin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 35 Seneca..supposing that to dye in a veyne was the easiest kinde of death, desired to be let bloud in the veynes of his arme.

b. In various fig. uses.

1382 Wyclif *Job* iv. 12 To me is seid a woord hid, and as theefli myn ere toc the veynes [L. *venas*] of his gruching. *c* 1530 Tindale *Prophete Jonas* Prol. Aij, The fleshly minded ypocrites steppe upp the Vaynes of life which are in yᵉ scripture. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 24 Now the cloth being thus stretched forth in euery vaine, how is it possible either to endure or hold out? 1606 J. King *Serm.* Sept. 47 By all princely meanes to put bloud into the veines of the Church againe. 1651 in M. Sellers *Eastland Co.* (Camden) Introd. 75 In equity and reason the benefitt of trade should be equally disposed into all the vaines of the Commonwealth. 1739 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 73 It is a true Sign, that our [i.e. a Traffick has since conveyd Spirits and Nourishment into each Vein of the Body Politick. 1832 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. iii, Here, too, as in the Euphrates and the Ganges, is a vein or veinlet of the grand World-circulation of Waters. 1865 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 303 Great poets..crowding the happy veins of language again with all the life..that had been dribbling away. 1866 B. Taylor *Poet's Jrnl.* 38 As ardent veins of summer heat Throb thro' the innocence of spring.

c. In miscellaneous fig. phrases.

(*a*) *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3459 If he were touchid on eomme good veyne, He shuld yit rewen on thi peyne. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* C iij b, *Vetus Commodus* beganne to pricke him..in the right vaine. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 59 Satan..makes it his next care..to strike in the right vein; for he loves to have his work easy and feasible.

(*b*) 1587 Stanyhurst *Descr. Ireland* 34/2 In *Holinshed*, Let him with all the veines of his heart beseech God. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 215 There were many of them that would haue bene glad with all the veines in their heartes. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 10, I see the vaine is vp in the forhead, and Martin shall haue as good as he brings. 1668 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 6 A kinde of a breaking of vein in which the salt water was conveyed up and down the body of the earth.

3. † **a.** A sap-vessel in plants. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 3 Whan that Aprille..hath..bathed every veyne in swich licour, Of which vertue engendred is the flour. 1398 Trevisa *Earth. De P. R.* xvii. 1. (Bodl. MS.), Þei [trees] haue weyes and veynes in þe whiche kinde moisture is ikepte and passeþ þerbi fro þe erþe into alle þe parties abowte. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. Prol. 255 Welcum support of euery rute and vane, Welcum confort of alkynd fruyt and grane.

b. *Bot.* A slender bundle of fibrovascular tissue forming an extension of the petiole in the parenchyma of a leaf.

In early use less specific in sense. Some botanists have restricted *vein* to branches of the midrib, in contrast to *nerves* proceeding from the base of the leaf.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. vii. 76 The herb aweit, Of levis rank,..With sprouttis, sprangis, and vanis our allquhair. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 18 These [leaves] are somewhat grosser and fatter, with small vaynes running betwene on the contrarye side. 1731 P. Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Leaves*, They..consist of a very glutinous Matter, being furnished every where with Veins and Nerves. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Venosum*, When it has no veins,.. it is called *Folium Avenium*, a veinless leaf. 1812 *New Botanic Gard.* I. 42 The leaves,..with a network of veins underneath. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 88 Till within a few years the distribution of veins in the leaf had not received much attention. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1206/2 Costal or primary veins are such as spring from the midrib; external veins are those next the edge. 1880 Bessey *Bot.* 145 The disposition of the veins in a leaf depends largely upon its mode of growth. Usually several veins form early.

c. *Ent.* A nervure of an insect's wing.

1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. II. 347 French naturalists use this term (*nervure*) for the veins of wings. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 326 The wings are traversed in various directions by more or less numerous nervures,..now forming a net-work, and then simple veins. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 336 Each wing is found to consist of a double membrane, between which a variable number of veins, or *nervures*, ramify in different directions.

† **4.** *Sc.* A slender stripe of a different colour or material on a garment. (Cf. Vein *v.* 1 a.) *Obs.*

1539 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 34 Ane coit of fresit claith of silvir vanit with ane small inset vane of gold. 1542 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 74 To jeit the cote witht thre vanis aboute the taill.

5. A marking or an appearance suggestive of a vein; *esp.* an irregular stripe or streak of a different colour in marble or other stone.

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xiv. 189 The red veins in the marble may seem to blush at the falshoods written on it. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 40/1 The Ab-istos is.. marvellous weighty and black of colour, bestroked with red Veins. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 414 ¶ 2 Those accidental Landskips of Trees, Clouds and Cities, that are sometimes found in the Veins of Marble. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 178 When [the paint is] dry, you may with the point of a needle open fine veins or other embellishments. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vii. 54 The blue veins of the glacier are beautifully shown. 1861 B. Silliman *Physics* 378 The beautiful play of colors seen upon mother of pearl is caused by the delicate veins with which the surface is covered.

b. A streak or seam of a different material or texture from the main substance.

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 28 The Mason must work no Stone with Sandy veines. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 7 Wrought iron may be hardened..by ignition and plunging in water, but the effect is confined to the surface; except ..the iron contain veins of steel. 1831 Brewster *Optics* x. 85 The spectrum formed by a fine prism of flint glass, free of veins. 1869 Sir E. Reed *Ship-build.* xviii. 384 Angle-irons have to be free from veins and cracked holes, and rivet-iron has to be free from cracks and veins when laid up and finished.

c. A fibre (in metal). *rare*—1.

1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 4 It will be a sign of its Goodness, if being made into Bars, its veins are continu'd strait..; because the streightness of its veins shews the Iron to be without knots.

II. 6. A small natural channel or perforation within the earth through which water trickles or flows; a flow of water through such a channel. Also *transf.* (quot. 1598).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 318/639 Wellene comiez of grete wateres and muche del of þe se þoruȝ veynes al vnder eorþe: ..For bare beoz ase it veynene weren onder eorþe mani on. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 662 In þe veines of þe water, as þe water deb vp walle He let cloxy fur in metal. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 93 For riht as veines ben of blod In man, riht so the water flod Therthe of his cours makth ful of veines.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 382/a Lete us al praye unto our lord that he opene to us..here the vaynes of a fontayn or of a welle. 1494 KYD *Cornelia* II. 370 Pervsine we not a petty vaine, Cut from a spring by chaunce or arte, Engendreth fountaines. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Handycrafts* 492 A burning Mountain from his fiery vain An yron rowle along the Plain. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 12 These mountaines are full of baines and veines of warme water. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 227 The rapid current, ..through veins Of porous Earth with kindly thirst up drawn. 1789 BRAND *Newcastle* I 442 There is an order of common-council for cutting off a vein of water which had lately been discovered and brought into the town. 1828 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 90 A feeding reservoir placed above that from which the invariable vein flows. 1864 BRYANT *Sella* 487 She taught The skill to pierce the soil and meet the veins Of clear cold water winding underneath.

fig. 1380 WYCLIF *Jer.* xvii 13 For thei forsoken the veyne of lyuyng watris [1388 the Lord, a veyne of quyk watris]. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 62 O welle of swetnes replete in every veyne, That al mankynd preserved has fro dethe. 1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., Wks. 1856 I. 72 The rawish danke of clumsie winter ramps The fluent summers vaine. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jer.* xvii. 13 They have forsaken the vaine of living waters. 1640 GAUDEN *The Love of Truth*, etc. 7 Then doth the ray or veyn of truth flow aright from God to us.

†b. A streamlet or rivulet; a current. *Obs.*

1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 158 Through the midst of these gardens, they deriue some small vaine of the riuer. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 705 When hee entred into the Streits, he encountred a great veine of redde water, extending it selfe from Aden as farre as they could see from the Ships tops.

c. *Physics.* A slender body of water or other liquid. (Cf. 1 c.)

1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl* VI. 39/2 The impulse of a 'vein' of fluid falling perpendicularly, is equal to the weight of a column whose base is the area of the vein.

7. *Min.* A deposit of metallic or earthy material having an extended or ramifying course under ground; a seam or lode; *spec.* a continuous crack or fissure filled with matter (esp. metallic ore) different from the containing rock.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 15 Þe water þat renneþ and passeþ by veynes of certayn metal takiþ in his cours grete hete. *c* 1480 J. METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 149 The fourthe day ye gode..to seke spryngys for wellys off water, to seke also veynys off metel. 1530 PALSGR. 698/2 Al this yerth, so farre as this vayne goth, savoureth of brimstone. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 211 Although golde be founde in maner euery where in these regions of golden Castile..the myne or veyne whiche owghte to be folowed, ought to bee in a place whiche may stande to saue muche of the charges of the labourers. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 247 In Clidisdale war funde in Craufurd mure vndir the erd sum vanes ful of golde. 1617 MORYSON *Itin* III. 136 The inward parts abound with a rich vaine of Mettals, where wonderfull quantitie of most pure Tinne is digged up. 1670 PETTUS *Fodina Reg.* 2 When the Miners by these Shafts or Adits do strike or thred a Vein of any Metal.. then the Metal which is digged from those Veins is called Oar. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmoreld.* 24 These Fissures, by the Miners, are called Dykes, Rakes, Riders, or Veins, according to the Nature of those Classes of Matter they pervade. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* O 2, Ore is the very Vein itself, all other Signs of Ore or Vein are not comparable to it; yet this is allowed, that two Sides and Soil between them, formes a dead Vein. 1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate Culross* 15 At that time the vein of Roch Salt in Cheshire had not been discovered. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 274 Veins of quartz, and also of slate and granite, and various earthy minerals.. frequently intersect granitic and schistose rocks. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 586 Metals are chiefly found in the earth in veins which traverse the granitic, schistose, and limestone rocks. 1875 DAWSON *Devon Life* ii. 13 Strata often diversified with veins..of crystalline minerals.

fig. a 1667 COWLEY *Dea'th Mr. Jordan* Poems (1905) 92 Like those that work in Mines for others gain. He..had much more to do, To search the Vein, dig, purge, and mint it too. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 171 These are telling indications of an original relationship among all the groups of languages mentioned: outcroppings, as it were, of a vein which invites further exploration.

8. †a. A strip or limited stretch of ground or soil, *esp.* one having a particular character or quality. *Obs.*

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. ii. 119 The whole contrie (excepte a litle vaine of sandie grauell) is fertile 1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 48 Each soile hath no liking of euerie graine, nor barlie and wheat is for euerie vaine. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 49, I saw in divers places very fat and fruitfull veines of ground as goodly meadowes, very spatious champaigne fieldes [etc.]. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 141 The most plantations were placed straglingly and scatteringly, as a choice veine of rich ground inuited them. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 19 Some Earths are much better than others in every Climate, nay even sometimes in a small Compass of Ground, vulgarly term'd Veins of Earth.

b. A channel or lane of water.

1626 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 2 He prouideth himselfe a ship, keele, or cocke-boat, out of which he may lay out and take in his nets, and be in the vaine and way where the best doing is. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Vind. Dutch War* App. 131 The King of Sweden hath also several districts, channels, or veins Royal in his Seas, which are appropriated to his particular use. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc Arctic Reg.* I. 229 A lane, or vein, is a narrow channel of water in packs, or other large collections of ice *Ibid.* 260 Whenever a vein of water appears in the required direction, it is if possible attained. 1835 [see LANE *sb.* 9]. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Vein*, the clear water between the openings of floes of ice. The same as *ice-lane*.

c. A current of wind; the track in which this

1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 24 The next day a whirlwind began..and directed its course toward the east, in a vein of near half a mile wide. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* xv. § 677 Lieutenant Jansen has called my attention to a vein of wind which forms a current in the air as remarkable as that of the Gulf Stream is in the sea. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Vein*, ..a very limited current of wind—a cat's-paw.

d. *Whaling.* (See quot.)

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* II. ii. 5 When making a passage from one feeding-ground to another, the sperm whales, guided by some infallible instinct, mostly swim in veins, as they are called, continuing their way along a given oceanline with..undeviating exactitude.

III. *fig.* **9.** A strain or intermixture *of* some quality traceable in personal character or conduct, in a discourse or writing, etc.

1565 STAPLETON tr. *Staphylus' Apol.* 153 With the like vaine of euangelicall sincerite 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1266/1 Bicause it is a veine of godlie deuise, and tending to a verie honorable purpose. 1680 W. ALLEN *Peace & Unity* 16 'Let all your things be done with Charity'; a fine and vein of this should run through all. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. Myst. O. & N. T.* I. 117 This is a fear of faith, which hath always a vein of love running along with it. 1702 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 389 A vein of Superstition ran through all his Actions. 1773 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 446 There is a vein of natural good sense in him, from which a good deal might be expected. 1820 *Examiner* No. 612. 113/2 A fine vein of sentiment runs through it. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 20 An English Dominican..with some learning and a rich vein of natural humour. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. 331 There is a vein of bitter sarcasm in the way in which the tale is told.

b. A line or course *of* thought, etc.; a source *of* information.

1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* ii, I have collected out of ancient authors this short summary of a body of philosophy and divinity, which seems to have been composed by a vein and race of thinking very different from any other systems. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 169 ¶ 12 Delay opens new veins of thought. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 217 In the midst of a vein of thought or a moment of inspiration 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 6 He professes to open a new vein of discourse. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Africa* 32 The many gentlemen who make the Science of Botany a lifelong study, and who have so many veins of information.

†10. a. The tenor or general character *of* something *Obs.*—1

1555 R. TAVERNER in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 171, I doe beleeue that the Religion set forth in King Edwardes dayes was accordyng to the vayne of the holy Scripture.

†b. A kind or species. *Obs. rare.*

1588 RP. CHENY in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. iii. 525 These young men, which are of a lower vein,..be not men perfect, as they seem. 1652-62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* (1673) III 29/1 Other Commodities of this Island are..Honey as good as any the world affordeth; and a vein of most delicious vines.

11. A natural tendency towards, a special aptitude or capacity for, the production of literary or artistic work; a particular strain of talent or genius: a. With possessives. (The common use.)

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Nij b, If I had Virgilles vayne to indite, or Homers quill. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 21 They beeing Poets, dyd exercise their delightful vaine in those points of highest knowledge. 1624 WOTTON *Arch.* Reliq. (1672) 57 Artizans have not only their Growths and Perfections but likewise their Vains and Times. 1637 EVELYN *Numismata* viii. 286 Vittoria Colonna, whose extraordinary Vein in Poetry was equal with Petrarchs. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 63 Indulge, my Friend, thy modest Vein;..Prospects, gay smiling, aid the Strain. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* (1833) 336 The fertility of Shakspeare's vein betrays him frequently [etc.]. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. iv. 122 His boyish addiction to verse, and the rebuke which his vein received from the Apothecary's..wife.

b. With *a, that*, etc.

1580 G. HARVEY *Three Lett.* Spenser's Wks. (1912) 628 They sauour of that singular extraordinarie veine and inuention, whiche I euer fancied moste. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. i, You must prove the aptitude of your genius; if you find none, you must hearken out a vein, and buy. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 72 All the fabulous veine, and learning of Greece, proceeded out of this quarter. 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* ii. 78, I doe not take my self to have so happy a vein, that all that I utter should be a definition. 17.. PHILIPS *Epistle* in *Steele's Poet. Misc.* (1714) 37 Why then, in making Verses should I strain For Wit, and of Apollo beg a Vein? 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 15 For the coffee-houses and populace, we have declaimers of a copious vein. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 2 To these might be added others not less learned, nor with a scarce less happy vein.

12. A special or characteristic style of language or expression in writing or speech: a. With possessives.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. C j b, Though euerie translatour followe his owne veine of turnyng the Latin into Englishe. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct 83 To restraine The lust of lawlesse youth with good aduice: Or pricke them forth with pleasaunce of thy vaine 1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* IV i. 1166 Lett mee heare Chancer's vaine finde. I love antiquitie, if it be not harshe. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv § 2 Then grew the flowing and watery vein of Osorius, the Portugal bishop, to be in price. 1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* I, What say, Sir, to our Poet Scribble here? *Spr.* I like his vain exceeding well. 1818 SCOTT *Province. Antiq. Scott.* (1826) 219 After adorning it with an inscription, somewhat in the vein of Ancient Pistol. 1904 G. SAMPSON *Newman's Sel. Ess.* Introd. p. xxxvi, They [sc. these words] are not in Blougram's vein.

b. With *a, this*, etc.

1576 N. R. in *Gascoigne's Steele Glas* Wks. 1910 II 228 Thus divers men with divers vaines did write, But Gascoigne doth in every vaine indite. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. 1. 29 To haue a sweet vaine in speech. 1620-6 QUARLES *Div. Poems, Hadassa* Pref., A Sober vaine best suits Theologie. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Cond. Underst.* Posth. Wks. (1706) 18 Many a good poetick Vein is buried under a Trade. 1748 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. iv. 133 Such Rancour this, of such a poisonous Vein, As never, never, shall my Paper stain. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* lx, Is it not noteworthy also, that it is in this vein that the London poets have always been greatest? 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 276 The answer, Meno, was in the orthodox solemn vein.

c. With *his*, etc., and qualifying term.

1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xii, To which Hereward answered, in his boasting vein, that he would bring home that mare. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* xx. i. IV. 62 Writing a letter in his smoothest vein to Wolsey. 1877 'H. A. PAGE' *De Quincey* I. xi. 213 The following shows him in his best vein.

†13. A particular course of action or conduct; a habit or practice. *Obs.*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 194 The composers of that age ..followed only that vaine of wresting in much matter in small bounder. 1623 *Lewt. of Tower's Sp.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 319, I was much addicted to that idle Vein of Gambling. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1872) 62 Thus he runs on his course, til 'h drunken vaine Ruines his substance. *c* 1725 SWIFT *Serm.* x. Wks. 1841 II 164/1 Hence it is become an impertinent vein among people of all sorts to hunt after what they call a good sermon.

†b. An inclination or desire, a tendency, towards something specified. *Obs.*

1587 HARRISON *England* II. iii. (1877) 88, I perceiue the abbeie lands haue fleshed you and set your teeth on edge, to aske also those colleges...As you loue your welfares therfore, follow no more this veine, but content your selues with that you haue alreadie. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Envy* (Arb.) 513 Adrian the Emperour, that mortally Enuied Poets, and Painters, and Artificers, in Works, wherein he had a veine to excell. 1673 TEMPLE *Ess. Ireland* Wks. 1720 I. 109, I suppose the Vein I have had of running into Speculations of this kind..have cost me this present Service.

14. Personal character or disposition; also, a particular element or trait in this.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Vena*, To know the naturall disposition and veyne of euery man. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 6 No Terence phrase:..The verse that pleaseth a Romaine rashe intent, Might well offend the godly Preachers vayne. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 83 It is no shame, the fellow finds his vaine, And yeelding to him, humors well his frenzie. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 17 They have need of somewhat more than a pleasant veyne, and..at least they have as much discretion as vertue. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 145 The veine of those petty Bourkes.. may seeme strange to any that is both well affected and fully acquainted with them. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal* 59 So provoking a devil was Dick, That we wished him full ten times a day at Old Nick; But, missing his mirth and agreeable vein, As often we wished to have Dick back again. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. ii. 28 You have a sly, equivocating vein 1820 LAMB *Elia* I. *Oxford in Vacation*, When the peacock vein rises, I strut a Gentleman Commoner. 1854 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 433, I am afraid I have a little of the wolf-vein in me, in spite of fifteen centuries of civilization.

b. A temporary state of mind or feeling; a humour or mood.

1577–82 BRETON *Toys Idle Head* Wks. (Grosart) I. 28/2 For who continues in this vaine Of setting still,..in the ende he shall be faine To leaue it. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 34, I am hardly drawn to a merie vaine from such waightie matters. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. iv. 699 He take the Gentleman now, he is in a good vayne, for he smiles. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard* IV. vii, Could I get her In a marriage vaine, but she'll not look Upon a man not she. 1723 POPE *Lett.* Wks. 1737 VI. 146 The merry Vein you knew me in, is sunk into a Turn of Reflection. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 123 Harry was in no manner of vein..for entertaining. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* vi, He knew not how to pursue the pleasing theme, so as to soothe and prolong the vein which he had excited. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. iv, If thou art in a classical vein, put myrtle about his curls and make him a young Bacchus.

c. *In the vein*, in a fit or suitable mood for something.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iii. 122 Thou troublest me, I am not in the vaine.

1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* iii. (1875) 119 To produce constantly, to produce whether in the vein or out of the vein. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xxxiv, I like to hear them when I am in the vein. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xix. 176 Nobody can be more amusing when she is in the vein.

†d. A fit *of* laughter. *Obs.*—1

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VII. 29 He burst into a loud vein of laughter.

IV. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In sense 1, as *vein-blood* (also = blood-letting), *-healing* adj., *-pipe*, *-streaked* adj., *-work*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Kat.'s T.* 1889 That nother veyne blod, ne ventusyng, Ne drynk of herbes may him his helpyng. *c* 1425 *St. Christine* ix. in *Anglia* VIII. 123/16 She lete her blode ful often of myn kel veyne blode. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* b iiij, Hit is nat clere nor flowynge, but more lyke to veyne bludde. 1545 RAYNALD *Birth Mankynde* 27 b, Vayne blood and artire blood. 1590 SPENSER *Mother Hub.* 197 Veyne-healing Verueyn, and hed-purging Dill. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. To Rdr., The coole refreshing it hath from the lungs, or the veine-pipes proceeding from the liuer. 1890 LE GALLIENNE *G. Meredith* 32 The human form disappears beneath nets of veinwork and muscle. 1894 MRS. DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 218 Urquhart..saw the vein-streaked hand gripping the pipe-stem tremble.

†b. In sense 6 b, as *vein-riveret*. *Obs.*—1

1696 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 34 A veine riveret of the Seine.

c. In sense 7, as *vein fissure*, *-form*, *-formation*, *-gallery*, *-granite*, *marble*, etc.

1845 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall* 105 The general course of the mineral *vein flexures in these localities. 1863 *Science* 9 Feb. 18/1 A *vein-form similar to the terrestrial veins commonly known as *filons en escardes*. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 115 The creeks and gulches.. cutting channels through this *vein-formation. 1877 F. Warung *Tales Old Régime* 96 The chamber..into which the *vein-galleries..opened. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 355 The *vein-granite of Cornwall very generally assumes a finer grain, and frequently undergoes a change. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2430, Its great strength, ten times that of *vein marble and statuary, renders it safe from breakage. 1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 19 Quartz or quartzite predominating as *vein-matrix, and compact limestone as foot-wall. 1874 *Ibid.* 329 The *vein-matter in the westerly portion..is of quite a different nature. 1875 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 47 In *vein mining trial borings are not often made. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 131 The active vein-mining counties of California. *Ibid.* 213 The *vein-system consists in most part of a series of nearly parallel veins. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 42 Pyrites are to be met with..*vein-wise.

Vein (vēⁱn), *v.* Forms: 6 veyne, 6–7 veyn, 7 veine, 7- vein; 6 *Sc.* vane, 6–7 vaine (*Sc.* uaine, wayne), 7 vain. [f. prec. Cf. F. *veiner* in sense 1 b.]

1. *trans.* †a. *Sc.* To ornament (a garment, etc.) with narrow stripes of some suitable material. *Obs.*

1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 200 For lij elne wellus to veyne the samyn cote, iiij li. 1505 *Ibid.* 332 For ane elne wellus to veyn the said cote. 1549 *Ibid.* IX. 351 Ane elne tannye welwote to vane the said goun. 1654 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1881) II. 297 Ane covering of grein cloathe vained [*printed* named] with gallowne lace.

b. To ornament with coloured, incised, or impressed lines or streaks suggestive of veins. Also with *in*.

1686 [see Veining *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* s.v., To vein a Mantle-piece, to paint it Marble-like with Veins. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 25 They often vein it by Art, especially for Gun stocks and such uses, by steeping of filings of Iron in *Aqua Fortis*. 1755 Johnson, *To Marble*, v.a., to variegate, or vein like marble. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vein*, to stripe or mottle, to marble, etc. 1895 Rowe *Chip-Carving* 40 In veining in the marginal lines of a box or blotter, a ruler is often of great assistance. 1896 *Daily News* 9 June 9/6 The tinted petals are passed up to another room, where they are 'veined' by being squeezed into a sort of mould.

2. *refl.* To diffuse like a vein. *rare*⁻¹.

1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 19 (1713) I. 129 This is *Vox Populi*, this is *Plato Redivivus*, this is Huntscrap Mr. Petyt,..and indeed veins it self through all the late Pamphlets and Libels.

3. *trans.* Of things: To extend over or through (something) after the manner of veins.

1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* X. 226 Proud Mississippi..Flings forth..Ten thousand watery glades; that, round him curl'd, Vein the broad bosom of the western world. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 309 Yon spectacle of cloud Which seals the gate up to the final doom, Is God's seal manifest... The unmolten lightnings vein it motionless. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* IV. 522 All the gold That veins the world. 1889 Rider Haggard *Cleopatra* II. x, Half Hercules and half a fool, with a dash of genius veining his folly through.

†4. *intr.* To put oneself into a particular 'vein' or mood. Also with *it*. *Obs.*

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. (1612) 154 But her, not coy I found so chast, as saue a kisse or twaine, I nothing got, although in all I vained to her vaine. 1592 *Ibid.* IX. xlvi. 217 Hence Citizens with Courtiours so do vaine it for the time, That with their paper Ladders they euen stately Castels clyme.

†5. *refl.* To injure (oneself) in a vein. *Obs.*

Cf. *self-vein'd* in Warner *Albion's Engl.* (1602) x. lix. 263.

1631 G. Markham *Country Contentm.* (ed. 4) I. xix. 117 If your Cocke haue in his fight veined him-selfe eyther by narrow striking, or other crosse blow, you shall find out the wound.

Vein, obs. Sc. form of Ween *v.*

Veinage. *rare.* [f. Vein *sb.*] The course of a vein or veins; a collection or system of veins.

1875 Blackmore *Alice Lorraine* xlviii, Therefore one might see the rich fruit..with russet veinage mellowing. 1881 — *Christowell* II. ii. 24 His housekeeper, following quickly the veinage of his thoughts, called back from the top of the back stairs. 1904 *Academy* 23 Apr. 454/2 There is a veinage of supernaturalism through the book.

Veinal, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. Vein *sb.*] = Venous *a.*

1846 in Worcester (citing Boyle; but perh. a mere error for Venal *a.*).

Veined (vēⁱnd), *ppl. a.* [f. Vein *sb.*]

1. Furnished or marked with veins (in various senses): a. In predicative use; also with adverbial qualification, as *finely veined*.

a 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 1151 Handes soft as sylke, Whyter than the mylke, That are so quyckely vayned. 1611 Cotgr., *Veiné*, veined, or full of veines. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 15 The knot of an old Oak..is often finely veined like Walnut. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 385 *Venosum*, veined, with Veins many Ways. 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed. 3) II. 313 Leaflits ..veined, of the appearance of those of Skirrets. 1834 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 424 Males and females ..furnished with long wings, less veined than those of the other Hymenoptera of this section. 1883 Jefferies *Story My Heart* I. 13 The million leaves, veined and edge-cut, on bush and tree. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* lvii, On abaci of carved ivory stood myrrhine vases..red, veined, lustrous.

b. Used attributively.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.*, *Venosum folium*, a Veined leaf. 1800 Playfair *Illustr. Huttonian Th.* 12 Where that stone is stratified and either coincides with veined granite or with gneiss. 1880 Tyndall *Glac.* I. i. 7 The means of observing together the veined structure of the ice. 1895 Rowe *Chip-Carving* 39 A series of arcs described from point a, where the two veined circles meet.

2. Intersected or marked *with* something (esp. a colour) suggestive of veins.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* To Rdr., Conveying .. through delicate embrodered meadowes, often veined with gentle gliding brooks. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Marble*, Marble of Brabançon, in Hainault, is Black, vein'd with White. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 59 Four Gothic demi pillars, painted white, and veined with blue. 1769 Sir W. Jones *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 13 The round earth with foaming oceans vein'd. 1886 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 266 Flowers large, white, beautifully veined with purple. 1897 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xxv, The white marble at the bottom of the bath was veined with a dreadful red. 1880 Floyer *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 198 Beautiful blue and purple marble veined with white.

3. *fig.* ? Fixed in the blood; ingrained.

1633 Ford *Love's Sacr.* v. i, Come, black Angel, Fair devil, in thy prayers reckon up The sum in gross, of all thy vained follies.

4. Lodged or distributed in veins.

1887–35 Willis *Wife's Appeal* 87 To course the veined metals of the earth.

Veiner (vēⁱnəɹ). [f. Vein *sb.* or *v.*]

1. a. (See quot. 1883, and cf. Veining *vbl. sb.* 1 b.)

1864 [F. W. Robinson] *Mem. Jane Cameron* I. 119 There were..menders and darners, veiners and winders,..needlewomen [etc.]. 1883 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Veiner*, a sewer of muslin in the neighbourhood of Belfast.

b. One who makes veins in artificial flowers.

1881 *Instr. Census Clarke* (1835) 35 [Artificial] Flower Making: Stiffener. Cutter-out. Veiner. *Ibid.*, Leaf Making: . Cutter-out. Veiner. Shader.

2. In wood-carving, a small V-shaped tool used for making veins in leaves.

1895 Rowe *Chip-Carving* 31 If the student has not a V tool he can use the veiner.

Veinery. *rare*⁻¹. [f. Vein *sb.*] = Vinage.

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 392 That arm, through whose blue veinery flowed..blood as pure as the celestial ichor.

Veing, obs. Sc. form of *weighing* Weigh *v.*

Veinify, *v. rare*⁻¹. [f. Vein *sb.*] *intr.* To produce or form veins.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 57 True it is, that in the Bones there is, that I may so say, a power to bonify or make bones, in the veins to veinefy, so there be an apt disposition of the matter.

Veininess. [f. Veiny *a.*] The condition of being veiny.

1730 Bailey (fol.), *Veininess*, Fulness of Veins. 1884 Trowbridge *Farnell's Folly* II. I. 233 Incipient veininess of cheek and pendency of jowl were also observable.

Veining (vēⁱniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vein *sb.* or *v.*]

1. The action or process of ornamenting with vein-like markings.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2197/4 A New Art or Invention of Making, Marbling, Veining, and Finishing of Mantle-pieces for Chimneys. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 350/1 (Jewellery), This operation of 'matting', and another which is called 'veining', and which consists in indenting fine lines on and between the work, are to the raised design what shading is to a drawing.

attrib. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 422/1 Removing some portions of the graining colour with a small veining fitch. 1881 Young *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 648. 297 The veining-tool..being narrow and used to engrave the veins of leaves and similar work.

b. The operation of producing vein-like patterns with the needle; the result of this work.

1849 Craig, *Veining*, a kind of needle-work, in which the veins of a piece of muslin are wrought to a pattern.

Catholic Housek. 1 Sept. 14/1 The fine needlework on muslin which includes 'veining', 'spoking', 'pointing', and 'lace stitching'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 July 3/2 Only very coarse twist veinings, revealing an underlay of white or any contrasting tone. 1903 *Ibid.* 5 Feb. 4/2 The veining itself is simply the common and universally known herring-bone stitch.

2. The arrangement of veins or vein-like markings on or in something; a veined appearance or structure; venation.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 620 The circumstance that most strikingly distinguishes *legumina* from *elytra* is their neuration or veining. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 86 All the beautiful veining of the riband surface in these circum-stances disappears. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild fl.* I. (ed. 4) 38 Throughout plants generally, the ribbing or veining is arranged according to two..plans. 1892 *Nation* 8 Dec. 435/1 He may also, occasionally, have deserted a statue because of veinings in the marble.

fig. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Prof. Breakf.-t.* x, All the veinings of her nature were impressed on these pages.

3. In weaving, a stripe in the cloth formed by a vacancy in the warp. (1849 in Craig.)

Veinless (vēⁱnlés), *a.* [f. Vein *sb.*] Having no veins; destitute of veins. Chiefly *Bot.*, of leaves.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Venosum*, When it (a leaf) has no veins,..it is called *Folium Aveniium*, a veinless leaf. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 91 *Venulets*..., when no veins at all are formed, except a slight approach to a costa. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) V. 43 Leaves in pairs, oblong, and veinless. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* VII. 307 Health gives the bright ... to the corneæ, and lustre to the pupil.

Veinlet (vēⁱnlĕt). [f. Vein *sb.* Cf. Venulet.] A small or minor vein (in various senses).

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. iii, If ... is a vein or veinlet of the grand World-circulation of Waters. 1845 Emerson *Misc.* viii. 63 He no longer fills the veins and veinlets. 1872 Huxley *Physiol.* v. 120 The blood of the capillaries of the lobule is poured into that vein by a minute veinlet.

b. *spec.* in *Bot.* A branch or subdivision of a vein or venule.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 91 The area of parenchyma, lying between two or more veins or veinlets. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 141 There are also other veins of less extent.. given off by the midrib, and these give origin to small *veinlets*. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 8 The branches of the veins are venules, and the branches of the venules are veinlets. 1877 Heath *Fern World* 215 Along on each side of the mid veins of the lobes are alternate veinlets.

Veinling. *rare*⁻¹. [f. Vein *sb.*] = prec.

a 1618 Sylvester *Job Triumphant* III. 273 Sure, there are mines and veinlings (under ground) Whence Silver is fetcht, and wherein Gold is found.

Veinous (vēⁱnəs), *a.* [f. Vein *sb.* Cf. Venous *a.* and F. *veineux* (16th c.).]

1. *Phys.* a. Full of, traversed by, veins.

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* XI. Wks. (1678) 277 The liver and all the veinous parts being polluted. 1719 Boyer *Dict. Royal* I, *Veineux*,..veinous, full of Veins. 1878 F. J. Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 68 We find representatives of this in the parasitic Dicyemidæ, which live in the so-called veinous appendages of the Cephalopoda.

b. Occupying the veins.

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 564 The black or veinous blood not sufficiently stimulating the left ventricle.

c. Consisting of veins.

1831 T. Hope *Ess. Orig. Man* II. 85 In organized matter and bodies only pressures and counterpressures..produce all the divisions and differences of a later and more minute description, first in systems vital, aqueous and aerial,..next . in later systems sanguineous, veinous and arterial.

2. Having large or prominent veins (also *transf.*); formed by outstanding veins.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxvii, The witch..crouched on the veinous root of an old tree, pulled out a short black pipe. 1859 — *T. Two Cities* II. viii, She clasped her veinous and knotted hands together. 1885 Rider Haggard *Witch's Head* II. iv. 68 Plowden's thick lips turned quite pale, the veinous cross upon his forehead throbbed.

Vein-stone. Also veinstone. [f. Vein *sb.*]

1. Stone or earthy matter composing a vein and containing metallic ore; gangue, matrix.

1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmoreld.* 37 The appearance of several Veins of Spar, Soil, and Vein-Stone breaking out upon the Surface. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 273 Several feet wide of ore, mixed with spar and vein-stone. *Ibid.* 284 What I call vein-stone, is a compound mineral concretion, of various colours, appearances, and degrees of hardness. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 423 Before sufficient time is allowed for the accretion of a large quantity of vein-stone. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 380/1 Quartzose veinstone often contains iron pyrites. 1882 *U.S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 599 A simple and cheap mode of extracting the gold from low-grade vein-stone.

b. With pl.: A portion or variety of this.

a 1708 Woodward *Fossils* I. 163 Vein-stones, or Bodies consisting of Spar, earthy Stones, or other Matter..found lodg'd in the Veins..of the Strata along with the Ores of Metals and Minerals. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 410 Of these, the most soluble were first carried off,..and being deposited on the surfaces of the rift, formed, what are called, the vein-stones. 1833–4 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 777/1 The veinstones are chiefly quartz. 1883 *Science* I. 130/1 All serpentines not veinstones..appear to belong to peridotite.

2. = Phlebolite, -lith.

1835 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 443/1 Of phlebolites, vein-stones, or calculi in the veins. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1400/2 The curious bodies called phleboliths, phlebo-liths, or vein-stones,..are true vascular calculi.

Vein-stuff. [f. Vein *sb.*] = Vein-stone 1.

1833–4 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 769/1 Metallic matter and certain nonmetallic substances usually connected therewith, and commonly called vein-stuff. 1872 Smyth *Mining Statistics* 49 The vein-stuff got from the deepest levels is not so rich per ton as the stone obtained in the upper half of the mine. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 50 Malleable native copper..intimately mixed with siliceous vein-stuff.

Veinulet. *rare.* [f. Vein *sb.* Cf. Venule.] A small vein or veinlet.

Recent Dicts. also give *veinule* 'a minute vein, a venule', as a term of *Bot.* and *Geol.* (perh. after F. *veinule*).

1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 105 There is plenty of blood..running back from the remotest Veinulets or smallest branches of the Veins. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 85 The secondary branches, or those sent off from the veinlets, are the veinulets.

Veiny (vēⁱni), *a.* [f. Vein *sb.*]

1. †a. *Veiny artery*, one or other trunk of the pulmonary vein. *Obs.*

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 227 For this cause it is called the veiny artery, because it holdeth of the nature both of an artery and of a veine. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 29/1 The Lunges through veiny-artire, aire doth shoue Vnto the hart, it to refresh againe. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* IV. xxiii. *note*, The third is called the Veiny arterie, rising from the left side, which hath two folds three-forked.

b. Full of blood-veins; having prominent veins; of or pertaining to veins. Also *fig.* (quot. 1612).

1611 Cotgr., *Veineux*, veinie, full of veines. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* v. 327 So Greshолme far doth stand..and Gaisholme, nearer land (Which with their veiny breasts Intice the Gods of sea). 1828 Gaelic *Museum* II. i. iv. 198 Within this Veiny-Coat, lie's a soft, white, thick and Oval Body. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Veiny*, belonging to, or full of Veins. 1789 M. Madan tr. *Perrins* (1795) 163 If you say these things among veiny centurions. 1823 Shelley *Q. Mab*

II. 214 A gentle start convulsed Ianthe's frame; Her veiny eyelids quietly unclosed. 1823 *Examiner* 22 Feb. 124/1 The hands..are divested of their too veiny inflation. 1888 'L. Scott' (Mrs. Baxter) *Tuscan Stud.* II. iv. 223 There is a general darkness and veiny roughness about the hands of the performers.

2. a. Traversed by veins of a different (mineral) substance or structure.

1708 Ozell *Boileau's Lutrin* 46 The veiny Flint and hardy Steel ingage. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 96 A kind of Stone..not at all of a veiny quality. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* IV. 476 Veiny diamonds, in which these extremities are not uniform, and in the same direction. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* vi, She could see the veiny precipices and tangled thickets that closely impended over the road.

b. Full of, having the nature of, veins or continuous passages.

1807 Hood *Mids. Fairies* lx, We bear the gold and silver keys Of bubbling springs and fountains, that below Course thro' the veiny earth. 1854 H. E. J. Howard *Rape Proserpine* II Is it the wind, that works its stealthy way Where veiny clefts the secret pass betray?

3. Marked by veins of colour.

c 1711 Petiver *Gazophyl.* Dec. VIII. Tab. 71 A hard reddish veiny Wood from the Philippine Isles. 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 135 Effulgent, hence the veiny marble shines. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 21 Oct. 2/3 Six blocks of very superior veiny marble. 1816 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 162 The finest specimens..have been cleansed and repaired till they look like lapis lazuli jars, stained and veiny.

4. *Bot.* Of leaves: Having many veins.

c 1711 Petiver *Gazophyl.* Dec. VI. Tab. 50 The true Ipecacuanha..a low Plant with .soft veiny Leaves. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 184 *Venose*, veiny. 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 166 *Venosum*, veiny, when the vessels by which the leaf is nourished are branched, subdivided, and more or less prominent. 1828 — *Eng. Flora* II. 89 Leaflets ..ovate, veiny, deeply serrated and cut. 1849 *Florist* 238 It will give an idea of coarseness, as in a veiny Pelargonium.

Veip, obs. Sc. f. Weep *v.* **Veir,** southern ME. var. Fair *a.*; obs. var. Vair *sb.*; var. Vere (spring) *Obs.*; obs. Sc. f. *weir* War *sb.*, Wear *v.* **Veird,** obs. Sc. form of Weird *sb.* **Veirdit,** obs. form of Verdict.

†Veire, *adv* and *sb. Obs.* Also **veyre**; **veir, vair.** [a. ONF. *veire, veir,* = OF. *voire, voir,* adv. and sb., f. *voir* —L. *vēr-um* true.] (*In*) *veir*(*e,* truly, in truth. (Cf. Vaires.)

13.. *K. Alis.* 1000 (Laud MS.), [They] sworen, & seiden veire, Alisaundre was fals ayre. *Ibid.* 5660. *Ibid.* 5663 And 3if of fele hiwe is þe eyre, So shullen þe stones ben in veyre. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7643 He had made him in al air To þe lond, þat of hem com veir. *Ibid.* 8013, etc.

Veire, southern ME. var. Fair *a.* and *adv.*; obs. f. Vair. **Veiring,** obs. Sc. f. Wearing *vbl. sb.* **Veirs,** obs. Sc. f. Verse *sb.* **Veis,** var. Vees[1]. **Veise,** *Mining.* Also **veise,** etc. [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-M.* 269 *Veises*, joints in the coal strata. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 *Veise, vees, vise*, the line of fracture of a fault or hitch.

Veit, obs Sc. f. Wet *a.*, Wite *v.* **Veiunge,** southern ME. var. Faying *vbl. sb.* **Veive,** Sc. var. Vive *a.* **Veize,** southern ME. var. Fey *a.* **Veize,** obs. dial. var. Freeze *v.*[1] **Vejour,** var. Veyor *Obs.* **Vekke,** var. Vecke *Obs.* **Vekyt,** obs. Sc. f. Wicked *a* **Vel,** southern ME. var. Fell *sb* and pa. t. of Fall *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Well *adv.* **Vela,** pl of Velum. **Velaghe,** southern ME. var. Fellow *sb.* **Velam(e,** obs. ff. Vellum.

‖Velamen (vĭlē·mĕn). Pl. **-amina.** [L. *vēlāmen*, f. *vēlāre* to cover.]

1. *Bot.* The outer envelope or covering of the aerial roots of some arums and orchids.

1882 Vines tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 690 Rain or dew which moistens the root-envelope (velamen) or wounded surfaces. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 227 A continuous layer of air-containing tracheides covers, as a *sheath* or *velamen*, the aerial roots of epiphytic orchids.

2. *Anat* A membranous covering or integument.

In recent Dicts., which also give *velamentum* in the same sense.

Velame ntous, *a.* [f. mod.L. *velamentum*: cf. prec. and L. *vēlāmenta* pl.] Of the nature of a membrane or membranous covering

1891 *Cent. Dict* s v., The velamentous arms of the nautilus. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 March 773 Velamentous insertion of the cord.

Velans, -ly, varr. Villains *a*, Villainsly *adv.*, *Obs.* **Velany,** obs. f. Villainy.

Velar (vī·lăr), *a.* (and *sb*) Also 9 *erron.* **vellar.** [ad. It. *velare*, F. *vélaire*, or L. *vēlār-is*, f. L. *vēlum* sail, curtain, etc.; cf. Velum.]

1. *Arch.* (See quots.)

1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 58/1 A Vault..which for its resemblance to a swelling Sail, we..call a Velar Cupola. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 595 *Vellar cupola*, a cupola or dome, terminated by four or more walls. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 1050.

2. *Phon* Of sounds: Produced by means of the soft palate.

Applied specifically to one of the two sets of guttural sounds existing in the original Indo-European language.

1876 *Academy* 4 Nov. 457/1 The author begins with the now well-known distinction of the *k* sounds into two sets, which he calls velar and palatal. 1883 I. Taylor *Alphabet* I. 160 The Semitic alphabets..have no symbols for certain classes of sounds, such as the velar gutturals. 1888 King & Cookson *Sounds & Infl.* vi. 117 According to place of articulation they can be divided into labial, dental, palatal, and velar sounds.

b. As *sb.* A velar guttural.

1886 T. Le M. Doune *Introd. Gothic* 37 The guttural element of a velar may vanish. *Ibid.*, The velars themselves may be palatalized. 1888 King & Cookson *Sounds & Infl.* vi. 118 The distinction between palatals and velars is comparatively recent and of great importance in the history of modern philology.

3. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to a velum.

1878 F. J. Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 328 The cilia in the velar circlet are those that are most markedly developed. 1880 *Nature* XXII. 147/2 Velar centrifugal canals are peculiar to this genus. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 663/1 The post-oral hemisphere of the Trochosphere grows more rapidly than the anterior or velar area.

‖ Velarium (vĭlē·rĭŭm). Pl. **velaria.** [L. *vēlāri-um* awning, f. *vēlum* sail, etc., Velum.]

1. *Rom. Antiq.* A large awning used to cover a theatre or amphitheatre as a protection against sun or rain.

1834 Lytton *Pompeii* v. ii, The obstinate refusal of one part of the velaria to ally itself with the rest. 1836 C. Wordsworth *Athens* xiii. (1855) 76 As if for the invention of Athens, a velarium, or awning, was perhaps extended. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* 267 When he sat under the purple velaria of the Circus Maximus.

transf. 1892 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 681 The great velarium of the pulpit, intended as a sounding board for the preacher's voice, was spread over the nave like a vast bird.

2. *Zool.* A thin marginal rim on the bell of certain hydrozoans.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 782 The bell itself is somewhat flattened...Its margin never becomes inflected inwards: when it is thin and velum-like..it is termed by Haeckel 'velarium'.

Ve·lary, *a.* [f. L. *vēl-um* sail: see -ary.] Pertaining to the sails of a ship.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Velat, obs. form of Velvet.

Velate (vī·lĕt), *a.* [f. L. *vēl-um* Velum, or ad. L. *vēlāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vēlāre* to cover.] **a.** *Bot.* (See quots. 1857–66.) **b.** *Zool.* Having a velum.

1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 236 *Velate*, furnished with a veil. 1866 *Trans. Bot.* 1206/2 *Velate*, partially concealed from view; veiled. 1880 *Nature* XXII. 147/1 It is remarkable among all Hydromedusæ (velate medusæ, that is, exclusive of Charybdæa).

†Ve·lated, *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.* [f. L. *vēlāt-us*: see prec.] Covered over; veiled, hidden.

1542 Becon *Potat. Lent* iv. II vj, But what doth it mene. That the Crosse is caried forth beynge couered with a clothe..? *Phil.* The Crosse so velated & couered signifieth Christ. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* A 4 By a sedulous search into their velated nature, and abscond disposition.

Ve·lated, *ppl. a.*[2] *Zool.* [f. L. *vēl-um* Velum.] Furnished with a velum or sail-like membrane.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 597/2 The physiologist, in contemplating the structure of the velated arms [of the octopus], is compelled to disallow them the power of being ..expanded to meet the breeze. 1895 A. H. Cooke in *Mollusca & Brachiopods* 384 The principal agents in the deposition of the shell [of young *Argonauta*] are the two velated or web-like arms.

Velation. *rare*—[o]. [ad. late L. *vēlātio*, f. *vēlāre* to veil.] **a.** The action of veiling or the fact of being veiled. **b.** The formation of a velum.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Velau-, Velazrede, southern ME. var. Fellowred *Obs.* **Velawe,** southern ME. var. Fellow *sb* and *v.* **Velcom, -cum,** obs. Sc. ff. Welcome. **Velde,** southern ME. var. Field, pa. t. Feel *v.*, Fell *v.*, Fold *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Wield *v.*

†Velderude. *Obs.*—[o] [app. f. *velde* Field *sb.* + *rude* Rud *sb.*[2]] = Herb John 1.

c 1265 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 557 *Ypis, i.* herbe Johan, *i.* uelderude.

Veldevare, -ver, dial. varr. Fieldfare.

‖ Veldt, veld (velt). Also velt. [a. older Du. *veldt*, now *veld* (velt) : see Field *sb.*]

1. In South Africa, the unenclosed country or open pasture-land.

Freq. with defining terms denoting character or locality, as *bush-, grass-, high, low, sour, sweet veldt.* Hence occas. in pl. (quot. 1876).

a. 1852 C. Barter *Dorp & Veld* 43 My preference for a less confined sleeping-place on the open 'veld'. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 404 The velt is now full of a poisonous herb, which is certain death in a few hours to oxen. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 42/1 The pastoral lands or velds..are distinguished according to the nature of the grass or sedge which they produce as 'sweet' or 'sour'. 1892 *Tablet* 13 Aug. 260 The priest lived under a tent on the veld.

β. 1862 Colenso *Pentateuch* I. 114 Joseph..wandering alone upon the veldt in search of his brethren. 1879 *Daily News* 28 June 5/6 In the veldt..with a saddle for one's pillow. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 25 May 7/3 Streets and squares and public buildings, where a year and a half ago was nothing but the boundless veldt.

2. *attrib.*, as *veldt fire, knowledge, lily, side, stool.* Similar uses are common from 1900 onwards.

1862 Anderssen *Okavango River* 49 The tremendous 'veldt' fires, which, ravaging the country far and wide, make it like a huge fiery furnace. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* I. 23 A deal table and a lot of velt stools and wagon chests the only furniture. 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 78 A faithful native, who instructed him in veldt knowledge and all the arts of spooring. 1899 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 5/4 Here the veldt lilies and creeping convolvulus are beginning to bloom.

b. Special Comb. (chiefly with the spelling *veld*), as **veld-cornet,** = *field-cornet* Field *sb* 21; **veld fever** (see quot.); **veld-kost** [Du. *kost* food] (see quot.); **veldman, veldtsman,** one skilled in living or hunting on the veldt; **veldt pig,** the Ethiopian wart-hog (*Phacochœrus ethiopicus*); **veld rat,** the striped rat of S. Africa; **veld sickness** (see quot.); **veld sores,** a form of skin eruption due to living on the open veldt.

1852 J. C. Brown *Arbousset's Narrative* xxiii. 350 He went to the drinking place of a *veldcornet, a kind of country magistrate. 1899 Rider Haggard *Swallow* ix, I, as Veld-Cornet of the district, have tried the case according to the law. 1899 Mrs. Phillips *S. Afr. Recoll.* 9 '*Veld fever' is a malady, a longing indescribable, which comes over many South Africans, who have lived much on the veld. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* 82 The *veld-kost we will gather. *Ibid.* 323 *Veld-kost*, literally *country-food*, is the term used for the wild roots and bulbs eaten by the Bushmen. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 475 Stout wardens of the marches who are known to be as good *veldmen and riflemen as any Boers in Africa. 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 286 Jack liked to parade himself as an old Veldtsman. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vi. 135 Just after sunset..a flac farc (*veldt pig) came out of a hole near me. 1905 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 551 The disease has been observed in *veld rats (*Arvicanthus pumilio*), cats, and in one dog. 1896 R. Wallace *Farming Ind. Cape Colony* 82 Animals brought from sweet veld suffer from what is termed *veld sickness, which results from insufficient nutrition and the hard and irritating nature of the food consumed. 1898 Rae *Matabeleland Campaign* 62 Owing to the insufficient supply of vegetables, there were several cases of *veld sores. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2095. 486 Veld sores formed the most frequent entry in the morning company sick reports.

Veldt-marshal, variant of Veld-marshal.

Veldt-shoe. *S. African.* Also **velschoen** (*ol.*); **veld-, velt-, veldt-schoen, veldtschoon.** [a. or ad. Cape Du. *veldschoen*, earlier *velschoen*, f. Du. *vel* skin, Fell *sb.*[1] + *schoen* Shoe *sb.*; the first element has been assimilated to *veld* Veldt.] A light shoe made of untanned hide.

α. 1822 Burchell *Trav.* I 214 The Hottentots soon took off the hide, which they cut in small pieces, for the purpose of making *velschoen* (hide-shoes). 1883 Olive Schreiner *Afr. Farm* I. ii, On their feet they wore home-made 'vél-schoen',

β. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* iv. 178 A sort of sandals..are in common use, called *veld-schoenen* (country shoes). 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 139/1 Here I divested myself of my leather trousers, shooting belt, and veltschoens. 1885 Rider Haggard *K. Solomon's Mines* (1887) 201, I discarded my trousers,..retaining only my veldtschoons. 1894 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 38 A Boer veldtschoen upon the right foot.

γ. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vi. 212 No heels to my veldt shoes, which were made of blesbuck skin.

†Vele. *Obs.* Also **veale.** [var. of Veil *sb.*[1], after It. and Sp. *velo*, L. *vēlum.*] A veil or covering.

a. 1580 Spenser *Three Proper Lett.* i. Wks. (1912) 611 Wote ye why his Moother with a Veale hath couered his Face? 1591 — *Ruines Rome* i, Thrice hauing seene vnder the heauens veale Your toombs deuoted compasse ouer all. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Superer.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 161 To examine matters barely, without their veales, or habiliments.

β. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Heb.* ix. 3 After the second vele, the tabernacle. *Ibid* x. 20 By the vele, that is, his flesh. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 19 In his fall his shield, that couered was, Did loose his vele by chaunce, and open flew. *Ibid.* II. xii. 77 [Acrasia] was arayd..All in a vele of silke and siluer thin. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* I. lxvi. 37 They ..with sacred veiles and infules afore them..mollified the soldiers minds.

Vele, southern ME. var. Feel *v.*, Feie *a.*; obs. f. Veal; obs. Sc. f. Weel *sb.*, Well *adv.*

†Veled, *ppl. a. Obs.*—[1] [Cf. Vele.] Veiled.

1565 Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 116 They were veled, attended to singing Gods seruice, came to a common refectory.

‖ Vele lla. *Zool.* [mod.L. (Gmelin and Lamarck), f. L. *vēlum* sail.] A genus of siphonophorous oceanic hydrozoans; a member of this genus.

1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd* 482 The Porpita and Velella..which were formerly joined with the Medusæ. 1860 Wraxall *Life in Sea* x. 243 The Velellæ have a very extended geographical range. 1882 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit. 1880*, 940 The animals are believed to sleep by day and prey upon the Jelly Fish and Velellæ by night. 1888 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 284 The little Velella..has been compared to a little raft with an obliquely placed upright sail.

Hence **Vele·llidous** *a.*, related to *Velella.*

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 268/1 The Velellidous Acalephs have within their soft substance a cartilaginous or calcareous plate or disc.

Velem, obs. f. Vellum. **Velen, Velenie,** obs. ff. Villain *a.*, Villainy. **Velewit,** obs. f. Velvet. **Velfull,** obs. Sc. f. Wealful *a.* **Velicotte,** obs. variant of Wyliecoat.

Veliferous (vĭlĭ·fĕrəs), *a.* [L. *vēlifer*, f. *vēlum* Velum: see -ferous.]

†1. Carrying sails. *Obs.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Velliferous*, that bears saile, or is under sail, as a ship. 1674 Evelyn *Navig. & Commerce* 53 Nay, so addicted were they to Sailing, that they invented Velliferous Chariots, and to Sail upon the Land. 1697 —

Numismata viii. 280 Stevinus who framed the Veliferous Chariot.

2. *Zool.* Bearing a velum; membranous.

1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 614 With its veliferous arms thus firmly embracing its abode, the Argonaut has two modes of progression.

† Veli·fic(al, *a. Obs.*—[f. L. *vēlificus.*] (See quots.) Also **† Veli·ficate** *v.* [f. L. *vēlificāre, -ārī*], **Velifica·tion** [ad. L. *vēlificātio*]. *Obs.*—

1623 Cockeram I, *Velificate*, to saile. *Ibid.*, *Velification*, a sailing. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Velifical*, that is done with sails displayed or full spread. *Ibid.*, *Velification*, a sailing forwards, or hoysting sail; a course or voyage. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Velifick*, done or performed with Sails.

Veliform, *a. rare*—. [f. L. *vēli-* Velum.] Having the form of a velum.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Veliger (vī·lidʒəɹ). *Zool* [f. as prec. + *-ger* bearing. Cf. L. *vēliger* sail-bearing.] A molluscan larva furnished with a velum or ciliated swimming-membrane. Also *attrib.*

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 497 In the great majority of the *Odontophora*, the young leaves the egg as a *veliger* very similar to that of the *Lamellibranchiata*. 1878 F. J. Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 319 The Veliger stage is not always developed. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 654/2 In development they pass through the typical trochosphere and veliger stages provided with boat-like shell.

Veligerous (vīlidʒĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [Cf. prec. and -gerous.] Of certain larval forms: Bearing, or furnished with, a velum.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii 485 It is obvious that the two have, in common with...the *Annelida*, the ciliated or veligerous larval form. 1880 F. M. Balfour *Comp. Embryol.* I. 192 In prosobranchiate Gasteropods...the free-swimming veligerous larva may have a long existence

Velim(e, obs. ff. Vellum. **Velinche(r:** see Valinch'er. **Velipend,** obs. Sc. f. Vilipend *v.*

† Velitand, *v. Obs.*—[1] In 7 vilitande. [Irreg. f. L. *vēlit-ārī*: cf. next.] *intr.* To skirmish.

1641 Sir E. Dering *4 Sp. conc. Laud*, etc. iii. 9 [As] the Roman Velites, who did use to begin the Battaile, so shall I but vilitande, and skirmish, whilst the maine Battaile is setting forwards.

† Ve·litary, *a. Obs* [ad. L. *vēlitāris*, f. *vēlit-*, *vēles*: see Velites.] Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, light-armed troops.

1600 Holland *Livy* 995 The Consull...had made provision aforehand of great store of darts, light velitarie javelines, arrowes,...and small stones. 1623 Bingham *Lipsius's Comparison Xenophon* 5 Surely the most of our men are vnarmed, and what else, but to be compared to velitarie bands? 1632 Holland *Cyropædia* 139 They, who at that time defaited the velitary fight and skirmish of Archers and Javeleti ers. 1649 J. Robinson *Misc. Propositions* Pref. p. iv, My intention is...by excursions, in a velitary way, to skirmish with some, whom...I dissent from.

Velita·tion. Now *rare.* Also 7 vellet-. [ad. L. *vēlitātio*, n. of action f. *vēlitārī*, f. *vēlit-*, *vēles*: see next.]

1. A slight or preliminary engagement with an enemy; a skirmish.

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Velitations*, skirmishes, fightings. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. i. iv. Let him read those Pharsalian fields fought of late in France for religion, their massacres,...and he shall find ours to be but velitations to theirs. 1692 O. Walker *Gk. & Rom. Hist.* 160 If any one killed an Enemy in any Velitation or pickering when they fought man to man, he was rewarded with a Spear without a head, call'd Hasta pura. 1832 J. P. Kennedy *Swallow B.* xxix. (1860) 265 In which latter species of employment it was his luck to hold frequent velitations with the enemy.

2. *fig.* A wordy skirmish or encounter; a controversy, debate, or dispute not carried to extremes. (Very common in 17th cent.)

1607 B. Barnes *Divils Charter* II. i. D 4 b, Forbeare your idle velletations. 1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi Κοινη* xxiv. 249 In all these velitations against their dear brethren..the Apologists..have not drawn much blood. 1679 Jenison *Narr. Popish Plot* Pref. 9 This Censure is but a light Velitation, if comp'r'd with that black charge of guilt. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VII. ii. (1852) 503 All the velitations were peaceably furled up in this result. 1732 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* iii. § 4 That question in Plato may have place among the velitations of philosophers; but a man can scarce propose it seriously to himself. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* viii, While the ladies were engaged in the light skappish velitation, or skirmish, which we have described. 1831 De Quincey in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 905 The very best of his performances being mere velitations, skirmishes, or academic exercises.

‖ Velites (vī·lītēz), *sb. pl.* [L. *vēlitēs*, pl. of *vēlit-*, *vēles*. So F. *vélites*] Light-armed soldiers employed as skirmishers in the Roman armies.

1600 Holland *Livy* 532 The light armed darters (called Velites)..so assailed the defendants, that they [etc.] 1641 [see Velitand *v.*]. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Velites*, in the Roman Army, a kind of antient Soldiery, who were arm'd with a Javelin, a Cask, Cuirasse, and Shield. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XVI. 191 Of the *velites*, or youngest and fourth order of troops,...Polybius makes no mention in his details of Roman castrametation. 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* iv. 89 The *veltites*, or light infantry, whose entire equipment was in exact conformity with their distinctive denomination. 1892 L. Villari *Life & Times Machiavelli* II. viii. 306 [Transl. M.'s Art of War] In order that the battalion may be protected on all sides..it is strengthened by 1500 extra foot soldiers, of whom 1000 are armed with pikes,...and 500 velites.

† Veli·volant, *a. Obs.*—[ad. L. *vēlivolans.*] (See quot.)

1698 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Velivolant*, running and (as it were) flying with full sail.

Vell, *sb. dial.* Also 8–9 velve. [Of obscure origin; *vell* is no doubt a reduction of *velve*, and the initial *v* may stand for original *f*.] (See quots.)

1724 *Act* 11 *Geo.* I. c. 7 Addit. Bk. Rates, Calves Velves to make Rennet. *c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 369/2 Let the vell, maw, rennet-bag (or by whatever name it is called), be perfectly sweet. 1818 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 58 Calves Velves, or Vells, are the Maws or Stomachs of Calves, which have fed entirely upon Milk. After being salted or kept some time, the Vells are infused in a preparation of salt and water for the making of Rennet. *c* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 32 (L.U.K.) III, Rennet or runnet is made from the stomachs of calves, called here 'vells'. Irish vells are the best. 1861 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXII. i. 59 The rennet does not keep well when made in any quantity of pickled vells. 1886–93 in dial. glossaries (Glouc., Wilts., Som.).

Vell, *v. s.w dial.* Also 9 fell. [f. *vell*, south-western dialect var. Fell *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To strip (land) of turf by means of a skimming-plough. Also **Velled** *ppl. a.*, **Ve·lling** *vbl. sb.*

1674 Ray *S. & E. C. Words* 78 *Velling*, Plowing up the turf or upper surface of the ground, to lay on heaps to burn. West-countrey. [Hence in Phillips (1706), etc.] 1796 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. W. Devon.* I. 143 For velling, the share is made wide, with the angle or outer point of the wing or fin turned upward, to separate the turf entirely from the soil. *Ibid.*, *W. England* II. 8 A considerable portion of the country is now set with roof heaps of Lime, and with velled Beat, now burning. *Ibid.* 47 Grass Inclosures velled for Wheat. 1837 J. F. Palmer *Devonsh. Dial.* Gloss. 38 The balk or narrow slip which is left in velling the land. 1871 J. Couch *Hist. Polperro* 118 If an old grass field with a thick face is to be taken into culture, the skimming plough is used, and the process is called 'felling'.

Vell, obs. var. Veal. **Vellam,** obs. f. Vellum. **Vellat,** obs. f. Velvet. **Velle,** southern ME. var. Fell *sb.* and *v.*, Fill *v.*; pa. t. Fall *v.*

Velleity (velī·ĭti). Also 7 velleitie. [ad. med.L. *velleitāt-*, *velleitās*, f. L. *velle* to will, wish: see -ity. Cf. F. *velléité* (16th c.), It. *velleità*, Sp. *veleidad*, Pg. *velleidade.*]

1. The fact or quality of merely willing, wishing, or desiring, without any effort or advance towards action or realization.

1618 Bp. Hall *Contempl., N. T.* (1634) 101 Thy word alone, thy beck alone, thy wish alone, yea, the least act of velleity from thee might have wrought this cure. 1662 Baxter *Saints' R.* IV To Rdr. 831 We must distinguish..Between the simple Velleity of the Will, and the choice that followeth the Comparate act of the intellect. 1690 Norris *Beatitudes* (1694) 105 By impotent willing meaning that natural Inclination or Velleity we have to every Good as such. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 80 Velleity can scarce be called a power, for a power which never operates is no power at all. 1808 Bentham *Sc. Reform* 77 In your Lordship will is volition, clothed and armed with power—in me, it is bare inert velleity. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LII. 110 This singular exuberance of velleity for education must presuppose a corresponding qualification for the task. 1866 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1870) 191 Châteaubriand..had the same harmless velleity of self-destruction. 1867 — *Rousseau* Prose Wks. 1890 II. 250 He and all like him mistake emotion for conviction, velleity for resolve.

2. With *a* and pl. A mere wish, desire, or inclination without accompanying action or effort.

Very common in the 17th c.; now somewhat rare.

1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 78 The antecedent will of God is only a velleitie or wishing that a thing might be. 1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xvii. 180 They are onely Velleities and not Volitions: halfe and broken wishes, not whole desires. 1692 J. Norris *Curs. Reflect.* 37 The same might also be illustrated from the Actions of the Will, some of which are perfect and compleat Determinations, others only Velleities or Endeavours. 1710 — *Chr. Prud.* vi. 2. 9 The one loves it only in some respect or degree, with an incomplete Love or Velleity as 'tis call'd. 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 315 We may have vehement Willings, Longings, Volitions, and Velleities. 1808 Bentham *Sc. Reform* 2 Preceding administrations reckoned this..in the number of their velleities: what they had been thinking of doing, your Lordship has done. 1842 Carlyle in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) I. 218 He had no fixed intentions, only rebellious impulses, blind longings and velleities. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* iv. 415 No matter what his least velleity, I was determined he should want no wish.

b. Const. with various preps., as *after*, *against*, *for*, *of*, *towards* (something). Also with *to* and inf.

1633 Ames *Fresh Suit agst. Ceremonies* II. 20 No imperfect velleities of good are so interpreted. 1692 N. Culverwel *Lt. Nature* (1857) 268 Nature that has but some weak glimpses of Him, has but faint and languishing velleities after Him. 1680 H. Dodwell *Two Lett.* (1692) 7 The designing the more noble end for the less noble..implies no volition, but only a velleity, for that which is more noble. *Ibid.* 48 Terrifying men from their sins, so as not only to make them entertain some strugling velleities against them [etc.]. 1795 Hussey in Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 280 Some of her prelates have..showed a *velleity* to make a stand in the upper house. 1853 Grote *Greece* II. lxxxiv. XI. 108 The effect was not the less produced, of disgusting Dionysius with his velleities towards political good. 1861 Mill *Repr. Govt.* 330 The executive, with their real but faint velleities of something better. 1889 *Dublin Rev.* July 194 There is no reason to suspect the slightest velleity to bring any pressure to bear on the matter.

Vellem, obs. f. Vellum. **Vellenage,** obs. f. Villainage. **Vellet,** obs. forms of Velvet.

Velletation, obs. f. Velitation.

Ve·llicate, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 7 vellicat. [f. L. *vellicāt-*, ppl. stem of *vellicāre*, frequentative of *vellĕre* to pull, pluck, twitch, etc. Cf. Sp. *vellicar*, Pg. *vellicar.*]

1. *trans.* Of things: To act upon or affect so as to irritate; *esp.* to pluck, nip, pinch, or tear (a part of the body) by means of small or sharp points.

Chiefly in old medical use with reference to the action of medicaments, sharp or acrid substances, etc., on the tissues of the body. Freq. in the 17th and 18th centuries.

1604 F. Hering *Modest Defence* 16 They [i. e. strong medicines] doe forcibly vellicat, offend and violat her [Nature]. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 27 Those corrosive fretting, pontick, and acid juyces, which vellicate and prick the nerves. 1685 Boyle *Eng. Notion Nat.* 223 The Fibres..of the Stomach, Bowels, and other Parts, being..Vellicated by the Plenty or Acrimony of the Peccant Matter. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 113. 2/2 Some sharp Humor on that part..may vellicate and twitch it. 1783 Bryant *Flora Diluviana* 108 A hairy, bristly substance, which..will, by pricking and vellicating the coats of stomach and bowels, many times occasion sickness. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 82 The same effect is produced whenever the teeth are vellicated by smooth substances, as a piece of silk or velvet. *absol.* 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 61 The æthereal oil, being deprived of the acid spirit in distillation, which, vellicating and contracting as a stimulus, might have proved a counterpoise to the excessive lubricating..qualities of the oil.

b. Of persons: To tickle or titillate.

1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 242, I vellicated the pericranium with the end of a knife. *a* 1778 C. Darwin *Experiments* (1780) 94 Thus, if you vellicate the throat with a feather, nausea is produced. 1794–6 E. Darwin *Zoon.* (1801) I. 281 So when children expect to be tickled in play..by gently vellicating the soles of their feet, laughter is most vehemently excited.

† 2. *fig.* To carp at; to criticize adversely. *Obs.*

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 1 These are they that vellicate authority. 1662 Owen *Animad. Fiat Lux* vi. If any one..have a mind..to vellicate commonly received maxims. 1686 H. More in J. Norris *Lett.* (1688) 208 Needing the confirmation of your Hypothesis, which I took the boldness a little to vellicate.

3. *intr.* To twitch; to contract or move convulsively. *rare.*

1670 Maynwaring *Vita Sana* xiii. 120 Fast not, but satisfie the Stomach when it vell cates and calls for meat. 1864 Webster, *Vellicate*, to move spasmodically; to twitch; as, a nerve vellicates.

Hence **Ve·llicating** *ppl. a.*

1669 *Address to Gentry Eng.* 81 Many a pregnant spirit is suffocated in the streight enclosures of a confining vellicating fortune. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 67 It washes the vellicating Humours from the original of the Nerves. 1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 365 The increased Flux of Tears, excited by the vellicating Body. 1752 Smollett *Per. Pic.* (1779) I. xiii. 112 Lubricating injections to defend the coats of the stomach..from the vellicating particles. 1768 *Elaboratory* 228 A vellicating and pungent action. 1853 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 48 *Amyctícus*,..irritating; vellicating.

Vellica·tion. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. L. *vellicātio*, noun of action f. *vellicāre* to Vellicate. Cf. older F. *vellication* (Cotgr.), It. *vellicazione*, Sp. *velicacion*, Pg. *vellicação.*]

1. The action or process of pulling or twitching; irritation or stimulation by means of small or sharp points; titillation or tickling.

1623 Cockeram I, *Vellication*, plucking. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 37 Therfore we see that almost all Purgers have a kind of Twiching and vellication. 1655 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* VI. i. 130 The Nerve and Membrane in the hole of the Tooth..which doth..suffer distension and vellication. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlv. (1694) 371 Is it not daily seen how School-masters..shake the Heads of their Disciples..that, by this Erection, Vellication, stretching and pulling their Ears..they may stir them up? 1728 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 177 The Vellication or Irritation of the Fibres and Membranes. 1794–6 E. Darwin *Zoon.* (1801) I. 281 Here the pleasurable idea of playfulness coincides with the vellication. 1822 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 547 The vellication of a hair-brush contrived for the purpose. *Ibid.* IV. 690 The best artificial means of obtaining so salutary an action is by a free and laborious process of friction, vellication or shampooing.

2. An instance or occasion of this; also, a twitching or convulsive movement, esp. of a muscle or other part of the body.

1665 *Collection Plague Pieces* (1721) 21 There happens a Vellication of the nervous Parts. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 302 Severe vellications in the Intestines by sharp humors. 1723 Stukeley in *Mem.* (1882) I. 69 After some vellications and preludes the Gout seiz'd upon my right foot. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* II. 67 Sharp uneasy vellications of the skin. 1783 Johnson *Lett.* (1788) II. 339 These vellications of my breast shorten my breath.

transf. 1782 Johnson *Prayers & Medit.* (1817) 193 At night, I had some mental vellications, or revulsions.

Ve·llicative, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. as Vellicate *v.* + -ive.] Having the quality of vellicating; causing irritation or twitching.

1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 82 They [i. e. teeth] are colloquially said to be set on edge; and that in two ways, as follows:—..From jarring noises...From vellicative or acrid substances.

† Ve·llicle. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. type **vellicŭlum*, f. *vellĕre* to pluck, pull.] Something which pinches or nips so as to hold fast (see quot.).

1676 H. More *Rem.* 143 The Power..of the Laws of Nature, in colligating strictly Parts of the most distantial Textures and Consistancies, without the Help of Vellicles, Hooks, or Grappers. *Ibid.* 147.

Velling, *vbl. sb.*: see Vell *v.*

Vellom, obs. form of Vellum.

Vellon (velyō·n). Also 7 **vellion**. [Sp. *vellon*: see BILLON.] Copper, as used in Spanish coinage. Used esp. in the denomination of certain coins, as *real (of) vellon*: see REAL *sb.*[2]

1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 202 We let our dispense for 72,000 reals vellon, a year. 1682 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* To Rdr., We were dispatched thence with..something under the name of a Largess, to bear our Expences, paid in Vellion, or the Base Copper Money of Spain. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Money*, Spanish Money of Account, is the Peso, Ducat of Silver and Vellon, Rial of Vellon, and Cornados and Maravedis of Silver and Vellon. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) II. 489 The price of the load of four fanegas of wheat was..100 reals vellon. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 323/1 It passes in Spain for 20 reals vellon.

attrib. 1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 196 October the 14th, the King proclaimed the lowering the vellon money to the half.

Vellon, dial. form of FELON *sb.*[2]

Velloped, error for *jelloped* JOLLOPED *a.*

1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Velloped*; a cock is said to be armed, crested, and velloped, when his spurs, comb, and gills, are of a different tincture from the body.

Vellot(e, obs. forms of VELVET.

† **Vellous**, *sb.* and *a. Sc. Obs.* Forms: α. 5 vell-, **wellowis**, **vellous**, **-us**, 5–6 **wellus**. β. 5 **veluous**, **-vous**, **-uus**, **welwous**, 6 **-uous**, **-uos**, **velvois**, etc. [a. OF. *velous*, *velos*, *velvis*, *velvis*, later F. *velours* VELOURS.] = VELVET *sb.* and *a*

α. *c* 1450 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 196, I reid cap of vellowis. *Ibid.* 197 A blew claith wellowis. 1474 *Acc. Ld High Treas. Scot.* I. 16, 2½ elne of vellous for a fute mantil. *Ibid.* 69, vj elne of vellus for a kirtil. 1503 *Ibid.* II. 297 For ane wellus bonet to the Erle of Murray.

β. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 73, iiij½ elne of rede crammacy veluous. 1491 *Acta Dom. Conc.* 199/1, xviij elne of Welwous. 1530 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 27 Ane schitt of grene veluos. 1551 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 124 Ane bed of blak velvois. *a* 1586 SIR R. MAITLAND *Poems* (Pinkerton, 1786) 326 Thair gouns..Barrit with velvous.

Vellum (ve·ləm). Forms: α. 5 **velym**, 5–6 **velyme**, 5, 7 **velim**, 6 **velime**, **velem**, 7 **vellem**. β. 5, 7 **velum**, 5–7 **velume** (7 **velumne**), 7– **vellum**. γ. 7 **velom**, 7–8 **vellom**. δ. 7 **velame**, 7–8 **velam**, **vellam**. [ad. OF. *velin* (*vellin*, *veelin*, etc.; mod F. *vélin*), f. *vel* VEAL *sb.*, with change of *n* to *m* as in *pilgrim*, *venom*.]

1. A fine kind of parchment prepared from the skins of calves (lambs or kids) and used especially for writing, painting, or binding; also, any superior quality of parchment or an imitation of this.

Vegetable vellum: see VEGETABLE *a.* 7.

α. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Velyme, *membrana*. *c* 1440 PECOCK *Repr.* 1 xv. 81 That Holi Writt mai be take for the outward lettris writun and schapun vnder dyuerse figuris in parchemyn or in velim. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 80 b, That mouffe that we wrytte vpon, and is made of beestis skynnes, is somtyme called parchement, somtyme velem. 1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* II. 127 The Painters vse generall groundes..; saue vpon paper, parchment or velime. 1644 *Direct. Publ. Worship* Ord. 3 A fair register book of velim. *fig.* 1621 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *To Worthy Persons* Wks. (Grosart) II. 62/1 Vpon th' unspotted vellem of thy face Nature hath printed characters of grace.

β. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 93 The Notayres, skynners, coryours, and cardewaners werke by skynnes and hydes, As parchemyn, velums, peltrye and cordewan. 1499 *Croscombe Church-w. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 24 A mass boke of velum lymmyde. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr & Stella* Sonn. xi, A childe..With gilded leaues or coloured velume playes. 1618 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowers of Sion, Bk. World*, But allthe wee (like foolish Children) rest Well pleas'd with colour'd Velum ie. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* xvi. 506 And without doubt it was immortal Vellum, and stoln from the Parchmentes of Jove. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* v. iii, I have an old fox by my thigh that shall hack your instrument of ram vellum to shreds, sir! 1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 243 The Retina (of an artificial eye) was made of a very white thin Piece of Vellum. *a* 1781 R. WATSON *Philip III*, III. (1833) 159 The deed..was written on paper, and not on vellum, as was usual in all transactions of importance. 1819 KEATS *Fall Hyperion* I. 5 Pity these have not Trac'd upon vellum or wild Indian leaf The shadows of melodious utterance. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* iii, The Paradise of Dante in the proper old Italian binding of white vellum and gold. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect Gk. Test.* 16 The durable fine vellum of our oldest extant codices.

fig. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 569 The sportive wind blows wide Their flutt'ring rags, and shows a tawny skin, The vellum of the pedigree they claim

γ. 1601 HAKEWILL *Van. Eye* xxii. (1615) 110 [To] beholde the heavens, and in them (as in large characters drawn in faire velom) the glory of their maker. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* i, One of the first Books Printed on Paper; (that of Tully being on Vellom). 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Parchment*, What we call Vellom is only Parchment made of the Skins of abortive Calves, or at least of sucking Calves.

δ. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIV. lxxvi, The house is builded like a maze within,..The shape whereof plotted in velam thin I will you giue. 1617 BARBIER *Jan. Ling.* 114 He cancelled a line in the margent of the velame. 1632 QUARLES *Div Fancies* II. xiii, Hee..Whose milk-white Vellam did incurre No least suspition of a Blurre. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 258 A MS. in velam. 1725 *Ibid.* V. 130 King Henry the VIIIth's Primer upon Vellam.

fig. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* IV. iv, Can you think This master peece of heauen, this precious vellam, Of such a puritie and virgin whitenesse, Could be design'd to base perfurie, and whoredome,..writ vpon 't?

2. A piece or sheet of this material; a manuscript or testimonial written on vellum.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 204 A froward velym vpon to wryt. 1667 *Death's Vision* (1713) 2 *note*, Like a Velum upon the Head of a Drum. 1878 G. VIGFUSSON *Sturlunga Saga* I. p. clx, A quarto of 200 leaves when entire (about the largest size ever reached by an Icelandic vellum). 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Oct. 6/3 He and his brother ..received the vellum of the Royal Humane Society for their plucky conduct.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib. in the senses 'made of, resembling, of the nature of, bound in, vellum'.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. 307 With shere and velume wings. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a j, All these, lively designementes..be in velame parchement described. 1586 HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 94/1 He ought rather to make sute for some good vellam parchment for the ingrossing thereof. 1636 DAVENANT *Platonick Lovers* IV. i, Not all thy Leathern, nor thy Vellum friends, those dead companions on thy Shelves shall be more faithful [etc.]. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 46 Who place Religion in their Velam-ears; As in their Phylacters the Jews did theirs. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 330 A very Ancient Vellam MS. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 216 Mr Longman has already furnished me with a vellum-book of white paper. 1800 LAMB *Elia* I. *South-Sea House*, The costly vellum covers of some of them [*sc.* books]. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* III. v. 88 A large vellum envelope.

b. *Comb.* With pa. pples., as *vellum-bound*, *-covered*.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, With vellum-covered books under their arms. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 605 A square vellum-bound book, with massive silver clasps. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F Holt* (1868) 11 Her writing-table, with vellum-covered account-books on it.

c. Special Combs.: **vellum-binder** (see quot. 1858); **vellum-binding**, the process or trade of binding account-books; also *attrib.*; **vellum cloth**, tracing-cloth; † **vellum mode** (see MODE *sb.* 11, quot. 1795); **vellum paper**, a paper made to imitate vellum; hence *vellum-papered* adj.; **vellum post** (see quot.); **vellum thunder** *poet.*, the noise made by the parchment of a drum.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Vellum-binder*, a book-binder who covers books with vellum, and makes account-books. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Nov. 3/1 Three of them are concerned with the bookbinders—that is, the binders of printed books—and the fourth with the vellum-binders, the technical name for account-book binders. 1835 J. HANNETT *Bibliopegia* III. (Heading) 139 Of Stationery, or *Vellum Binding. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Nov. 3/1 As soon as it was known that the bookbinders were going to concede the eight hours, several of the best vellum-binding firms conceded it also. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 151 **Vellum laid paper*, a laid writing paper with a vellum surface. *Ibid.*, *Vellum wove paper*, a wove writing paper with a vellum surface. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 73 Look at..the .*vellum-papered 32 mo. 1847 WEBSTER, **Vellum-post*, a peculiar sort of superior writing-paper. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 78 Here Rows of Drummers stand in martial File, And with their *Vellom-T hunder shake the Pile.

Hence **Ve·llumy** *a*, relating to or resembling vellum (Worcester, 1846, citing *Ec. Rev.*).

Vellure, obs. form of VELURE.

† **Vellute.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. It. *velluto*, or var. of *vellet* VELVET *sb.* after this.] Velvet.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) F ij, Wyth hir shooes of vellute, and hir hose fitting cleane to hir lenge. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* v. iii, (It) will save charges Of coaches, vellute gowns, and cut-work smocks.

Velly, dial. var. *felly* FELLOE.

† **Velocimane.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *vélocimane*, f. *vélóci-* (after VELOCIPEDE) + L. *man-us* hand.] A contrivance of the nature of a velocipede, but propelled by hand.

A *velocimanipede* was advertised in the *Morning Chron.* of 13 May 1819: see HOBBY *sb.*[1] 4.

[1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. IV. 240 The Swiss inventor styles his Carriage a *velocimane*.] 1882 C. L. DODGSON in Collingwood *Life* v. (1899) 219 Went out with Charsley, and did four miles on one of his velocimans, very pleasantly. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Velocimans*, ..a species of tricycle.

Velocimeter (vēlŏsi·mĭtəɹ). [f. L. *vēlōci-*, *vēlox* swift + -METER.] An instrument or apparatus (variously constructed) for measuring the speed or velocity of engines, vessels, projectiles, etc.

1842 H. SPENCER in *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 231/2 The instrument represented in the annexed plate, which I have named a 'Velocimeter', is intended to supersede the long calculations, frequently necessary, in obtaining velocities in engine trials. 1843 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Opt.* etc. *Instrum.* (1875) 183 An instrument for measuring the steerage-way of vessels..[The apparatus is called a] Velocimeter. 1876 *Catal. Sci. Appar. S. Kens.* 55 Patent electric Velocimeter,..arranged for water currents and ascertaining the speed of vessels.

Velo·cious, *a. rare.* [f. L. *vēlōci-*, *vēlox* swift + -OUS.] Rapid. Also **Velo·ciously** *adv.*

In quot. 1872 humorously for 'fast'.

1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 357 Satan was seen to fall like lightning from heaven, to wit, viewably, violently, and velociously or swiftly. 1773 ROMANS *Florida* App. 62 Providing so facile a navigation for the regions of the west, by means of a velocious current. 1872 DARBY *Three to One* III. 233 They are not at all like some of the young ladies of the present day, 'velocious,' as we have heard a Yankee say.

Veloci·pedal, *a. rare.* [f. next + -AL.] Of or relating to, depicting, a velocipede.

1868 *Pall Mall G.* No. 1022. 1908/2 The velocipedal skill of M. de Vlsin. 1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. IV. 240 Nor have I any recollection of a velocipedal plate (= picture).

Velocipede (vĭlŏ·sipēd). [ad. F. *vélocipède*, f. L. *vēlōci-*, *vēlox* swift + *ped-*, *pēs* foot.]

1. = DANDY-HORSE, HOBBY *sb.*[1] 4, HOBBY-HORSE 5. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1819 *Monthly Mag.* March 156 A machine called the Velocipede, or Swift Walker. Invented by Baron Drais and patented in England by Denis Johnson, coachmaker, of Long Acre, in 1818. 1819 KEATS *Lett.* (1895) 300 The nothing of the day is a machine called the velocipede. It is a wheel carriage to ride cock-horse upon, sitting astride and pushing it along with the toes, a rudder-wheel in hand. 1822 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 209 He never proceeded with his machine at a greater rate than five miles an hour, and yet named it Velocipede. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 242/1 The horse will take longer steps, and longer springs or leaps,..in the same way as a man upon a velocipede. 1850 in OUILVIE.

† b. A kind of roller-skate. *Obs.*

1885 *Mech. Mag.* V. 79 A Velocipede intended to be fixed on one foot;..the *velocipedestrian* pushes himself away with the other.

2. A travelling-machine having wheels turned by the pressure of the feet upon pedals; *esp.* an early form of the bicycle or tricycle, a 'bone-shaker'. Now *rare*. (Quot. 1853 may belong to sense 1.)

1849–50 WEALE *Dict. Terms* s.v. 1851 *Catal. Crt. Exhib.* v. No. 991, Velocipede, consisting of three wheels. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Soapey Sp. Tour* (1893) 369 He is riding a miserable rat of a badly-clipped mouse-coloured pony, that looks like a velocipede under him. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 126 The unprecedented reaction is moving on with the swiftness of a velocipede. 1885 *Cyclist Touring Club Gaz.* IV. 146 Bicycles, tricycles, and other velocipedes. *Ibid.* 149 Every cyclist using a velocipede.

3. *transf.* & Applied to persons.

1822 *New Monthly Mag.* VI. 344 In the Ballet we have nothing new to report. M. Paul, a true velocipede, continues to electri y the astonished spectators. 1892 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xvi, He's a worthy little velocipede, as Fenellan calls him.

b. A swift-moving vehicle.

1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 340 Stage-coaches..were not the velocipedes that they now are. 1842 R. FORD in Smiles *Publisher & Friends* (1891) II. 491, I read Borrow with great delight all the way down per rail, and it shortened the rapid flight of that velocipede.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *velocipede carriage*, *-crank*, *traffic*, *velocity*, *-wise* adv.

1819 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIX. 1. 423 With our heavy population, Velocipede carriages may hereafter be substituted.. worked by two or more men. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 39 The rush of waiters hurrying with velocipede velocity in opposite directions. 1869 H. BUSHNELL *Wom. S.* viii. 178 He sings velocipede-wise, turning the crank himself. 1870 *Belgravia* Feb. 444 A paddle-wheel..furnished with velocipede-cranks.

Hence **Velocipe·dean**, **Velo·cipeder**, = VELOCIPEDIST. **Velocipede·strian** *a.*, = VELOCIPEDIC *a.*; *sb.* one who uses a velocipede (see sense 1 b above); also **Velocipede·strianism**, the practice of using the velocipede. **Velocipe·dian**, = VELOCIPEDIST **Velocipe·dic** *a.*, of or pertaining to velocipedes. **Velo·cipeding** *vbl. sb.*, the action or practice of using a velocipede. **Velo·cipedist** [ad. F. *vélocipédiste*], one who rides a velocipede.

1842 HOWITT *Vis. Remark. Places* Ser. II. 431 He was a very adroit *Velocipedean. 1869 *Daily News* 9 March, As the bicycles gained the open country the velocipedeans began to work in earnest. 1879 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 39 A 'Velocipeder presented himself at a turnpike, and demanded, 'What's to pay?' 1869 *Sci. Amer.* 13 Feb. 101 The votaries of *Velocipedestrian Science. *Ibid.* 9 Jan. 25 *Velocipedestrianism, a word coined for the times, is easier to learn than skating. 1869 *Echo* 3 Dec., The invention of the crank-axled machine gave a great impulse to velocipedestrianism. 1869 *Velocipede* (N.Y.) April 20 A *velocipedan, after a fair amount of experience, finds himself, at home astride his two-wheeler. 1892 *Times* 21 April 5/5 Dr. Mussy, spokesman of the *Velocipedic Union, dwelt on the advantages of cycling to school-boys, tourists, and soldiers. 1869 *Velocipede* (N.Y.) April 21 *Velocipeding is a hopeful sign of progress. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 109 Just like that velocipeding and Danube-boating at Pesth! 1880 WILLIAMS *Hist. Acc. Invent.* II. 486 The rest afforded to the *velocipedist between his steps which set the machine in motion, enables him to proceed much quicker. 1868 *Lond. Soc.* Nov. 408 The velocipedists have stolen a march on the coming flying man. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 28 April 10/2 The 'St. Petersburg Society of Amateur Velocipedists'.

Velocity (vĭlŏ·sĭti). Also 6 *Sc.* **velocite**, 6–7 **velocitie**. [ad. F. *vélocité* (14th cent.; = It. *velocità*, Sp. *velocidad*, Pg. *-idade*) or L. *vēlōcitāt-*, *vēlōcitās*, f. *vēlōci-*, *vēlox* swift, rapid: see -ITY.]

1. Rapidity or celerity of motion; swiftness, speed.

c 1550 ROLLAND *Cryt. Venus* II. 672 Thay baid him pas with all velocite To the Gracis. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 210 This byrde..is of such velocitie and swyftnes in flying that [etc.]. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 115 The Lybian Roes.. (saith hee) are of an admirable velocity or swiftnes.

Scepsis Sci. xl. 61 The supposed motion will be near a thousand miles an hour under the Equinoctiall line: yet it will ——— to have no Velocity to the sense. 1704 FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 24 His Blood flows with its due Velocity. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 370 Black heaths, and wild uncultivated plains, over which the unresisted wind sweeps with a velocity I never yet was witness to. 1820 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1829) III. 74 Some of the species..are enabled to spring with great force and velocity on their prey. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 379 The flying coaches are extolled as far superior to any similar vehicles ever known in the world. Their velocity is the subject of special commendation.

b. *spec.* Relative rapidity; rate of motion.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 113 Motion, in as much as a certain length may in a certain time be transmitted by it, is called Velocity or swiftness: &c. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 91 The Velocity in *A* is to the Velocity in *P*, as *SN* to *SH*. But as the Velocities in *A* and *P*, so are the Spaces run in the same time, by the Bodies. 1743 W. Emerson *Fluxions* v, It is the general Practice in Mechanics, to measure the Velocity of a Body by the Space uniformly described in a given Time. *c* 1790 Imison *Sch. Arts* I. 1 Mechanics is a science which treats of the forces, motions, velocities, and in general, of the actions of bodies upon one another. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* Pref. (1815) 16 In mechanics, the important question of the ratio between the velocity and momentum is still undecided. 1847 Livingstone *Trav.* xvi. 284 *note*, A declivity of three inches per mile gives a velocity in a smooth straight channel of three miles an hour. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geogr.* iii. 137 It has..a velocity of upwards of three knots per hour.

2. Rapidity (absolute or relative) of operation or action; quickness.

a 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 18 Mr. Hobbes ..was with the velocity of a thought..able to decipher that impertinent Question. 1743 W. Emerson *Fluxions* 2 He will find some to increase faster, others slower; and consequently that there are comparative Velocities (or Fluxions) of Increase during their Generation. 1794 Hutton *Philos. Light*, etc. 198 Neither the quantity of the fire, nor the velocity of its propagation. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. v. 479 Colonel Brathwaite was instructed to anticipate resistance by velocity of completion. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* IV. 481 The velocity with which the English world was swept into the New Era. 1871 B. Stewart *Heat* (ed. 2) § 228 The rate at which it loses temperature or the velocity of cooling.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *velocity-measurer, potential, ratio.*

1849–50 Weale *Dict. Terms* s.v. *Velocimeter*, Such a velocity-measurer was constructed by Breguet, of Paris. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* III. 203 The circulation along any path from *a* to *b* .is called the velocity-potential at *b*. 1880 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 160 If .the velocity potential has at each point of the curve an assigned value. 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 36 Velocity Ratio in Belt Gearing.

Velodrome. [a. F. *vélodrome*, f. *vélo* colloq. abbrev. of *vélocipède* Velocipede + *-drome* as in Hippodrome.] A special place or building in which exhibitions of cycle-riding, cycle or motor races, etc., are held.

1901 *Times* 26 Nov. 5/6 The Alexandra Palace Velodrome. *Ibid.*, The sides slope gently from the floor to the 'hog-backs', which are placed at either end of the velodrome.

Velom, obs. variant of Vellum.

Velonea, Velonia, variants of Valonia.

Velonye, southern ME. variant of Felony.

† Velope, aphetic form of Envelope *v.* *Obs.*—1

1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 93 With Darkness velop'd, soon they reach'd the Gate.

Velouet, obs. form of Velvet.

‖ Velours (vəlu̇r). Also **velour, veluse.** [F. *velours* (OF. *velour, velous*) velvet. Cf. Velure.]

1. (See quots. and cf. Lure *sb.*4)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Velours*, a Velvet-Rubber for a Hat. 1831–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 762/2 A uniform direction is given to the nap by means of..a plush brush called a *velours* 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1866) I. 837/2 The general surface of the hat is..improved by means of..a plush cushion called a *velours*, or *veluse*. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2699/1 *Velour*, a hatter's lustering and smoothing pad of silk or plush.

2. a. (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Velours*, a kind of velvet or plush for furniture, carpets, etc. manufactured in Prussia, partly of linen and partly of double cotton warps with mohair yarn weft.

b. A woollen dress-stuff with a velvet pile.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 923/1 *Velours*..., a French goods, all wool. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 134. p. iii/3 A medium shade of striped grey velours.

‖ Veloutine (vəlu̇tin). [F., f. *velouté* velvety + -ine.] (See quot. 1884.)

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 923/1 *Veloutine* [printed *Velontine*]...a corded French fabric, with fancy wool warp and merino wool weft. 1890 *Daily News* 29 May 3/1 The chemisette is generally made of finely pleated silk, whether it be in the richest veloutine, bengaline, or ordinary surah.

Velt, southern dial. variant of Felt *sb.*3

1879 Jefferies *Wild Life* 302 The ploughboys call the fieldfares 'velts'.

Velt, var. Velit; obs. Sc. form of Welt *v.*

† Velter. *Obs.*—1 [ad. OF. *veltre* or med.L. *veltris*: see Fewterer.] A small hunting-dog.

1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* Carta de Foresta of Canutus § 32 *margin*, These little Dogges called Velteres, and such as are called Ramhundt (al which Dogges are to sit in ones lap) may be kept in the Forest.

Velterer. *rare*—1. [Cf. prec.] = Fewterer.

1911 J. H. Round *King's Serjeants* 272 The number of greyhounds..accompanying them varied, but each velterer, normally, had charge of from four to six.

† Veltfare, obs. dial. variant of Fieldfare.

Cf. the mod. dial. form *veltiver*.

a 1732 Swift *Country Parsons Blessings* (Hoppe), Or else a veltfare or a snipe.

Velth(t, obs. Sc. forms of Wealth.

Velthy, obs. form of Wealthy *a.*

† Velt-marshal. *Obs.* Also **veldt-marshal, velt-mareschal.** [ad. G. *feld-marschall*, with the spelling of the first element influenced by LG. or Du.] = Field-marshal.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4560/2 The King of Denmark and King Augustus stood as Godfathers to a Son of the Velt-Marshal. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 641/2 To resign the Command of the Army provisionally to Velt-Marshal Philippi. 1774 H. Walpole *Corr.* (1846) V. 368 You may be a veldt-marshal by this time. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xi, Anent whilk I have heard the great Velt-Mareschal Bannier hold a learned argument with General Tiefenbach.

‖ Velum (vī·lŏm). Pl. **vela** (vī·lă). [L. *vēlum* a sail, awning, curtain, covering, veil.]

1. † a. A screen or protection. *Obs.*

1781 Priestley in Young *Autobiogr.* (1896) v. 99 A glass velum, interposed between the retort and the recipient for the air, remains quite cool and dry.

b. A velarium.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 197/2 Such ceiling or vault therefore assumes somewhat the appearance of an awning or *velum* stretched immediately upon arches.

2. *Anat.* a. The soft palate; the membranous septum extending backwards from the hard palate. Also more fully *velum palati* and *velum pendulum*.

(*a*) 1772 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 303/1 The septum, which may likewise be termed *velum*, or *valvula palati*, terminates below by a loose floating edge. 1782 Heberden *Comment.* vii (1806) 27 The velum pendulum was putrid. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 179 One was removed..from behind the velum pendulum by the forceps. 1847 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 931 The velum palati is a soft moveable curtain stretching backwards and downwards into the cavity of the pharynx [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Muscles of the velum palati. 1859 Semple *Diphtheria* 55 The posterior column of the velum palati.

(*b*) 1753 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* III. 2313/2 The great uses of this membrane are..for preventing by its claustrum or velum, the things to be swallowed from getting up into the nostrils. 1826 S. Cooper *First Lines Surgery* 241 The velum and uvula are occasionally destroyed. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 365 You see then the importance of passing the needles through a well determined point of the velum. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 725 A child..was attacked by sore-throat with false membrane, which spread from the tonsils over the velum.

attrib. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 370 Voice husky; glands of velum palate enlarged.

b. One or other of two membranes extending from the vermiform process of the brain.

1840 G. V. Ellis *Anat.* 32 The two medullary vela are inclined obliquely towards each other. *Ibid.*, The anterior medullary velum or valve of Vieussens. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 377 The velum consists only of the ependyma, the pia mater, and the arachnoid.

c. A triangular fold of the pia mater lying between the third ventricle and the fornix of the brain. (In full *velum interpositum*.)

c 1845 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 635 The velum interpositum is best exposed..by removing carefully in succession the corpus callosum and the fornix. In raising the velum itself [etc.].

d. A small triangular space in the inferior region of the bladder.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 385/1 This membrane presents some peculiarities throughout the extent of a small region named the 'trigone' or the 'velum' of the bladder.

3. *Zool.* A membrane or membranous integument, esp. one occurring in molluscs, medusæ, or lower forms of animal life.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 370 *Velum* (the Velum), a membrane attached to the inner side of the cubital spur in *Apis*. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 110/1 Though the term *velum* is used, which would hardly be applicable to the palmated arms or *vela* of the other kind [of Nautilus]. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 129 The inner margin of the bell in these medusoids is always produced into a velum. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 430/1 In the majority of sponges both excurrent and incurrent canals are constricted at intervals by transverse diaphragms or *vela*, which contain myocytes concentrically and sometimes radiately arranged.

4. *Bot.* A membranous structure or covering in certain fungi.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 208 The *velum*, or veil, is a horizontal membrane, connecting the margin of the pileus with the stipes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1207/1 *Velum*, the annulus of certain fungals. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 337 This formation of a velum is connected with the entire growth of the whole fructification.

Velum(e, Velumne, obs. ff. Vellum.

Velunge, southern ME. variant of Feeling *sb.*

Veluot, obs. Sc. form of Velvet.

Velure (vəl·ū·r). Also 6 **vellure.** [ad. OF. *velour*: see Velours.]

† 1. Velvet. Also *attrib. Obs.*

1587 Harrison *Descr. Eng.* III. i. in *Holinshed* I. 227/1 But now..the same [wool] hath beene imploied vnto sundrie other vses, as mockados, baies, vellures, grograines, &c. 1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 62 One girth sixe times peec'd, and a womans Crupper of velure. 1600 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 57 A yellow taffata dubblet, cut upon carnation velure. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gent.* v. i, Did you not walk the Town, In a long Cloak half compass? an old Hat, Lin'd with Vellure? 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 279 Velures: English, the single piece. 1548 *Whitehall Evening-Post* No. 405, [He] had on when he was last seen, a light Dove-coloured Coat, black Velure Waistcoat, grey Breeches, and a light Grizzle Wig.

Comb. 1607 Dekker *Northward Ho* v. i, The bragging velure-cassock hobbi-horses prauncs vp and downe as if some a the Tiltars had ridden them.

2. = Velours 1. Hence **Velure** *v. trans.*, to dress (a hat) by means of a velvet pad.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 520/2 Dressing and polishing.. come next, after which the hat is 'velured' in a revolving machine by the application of haircloth and velvet velures.

Velu·tinous, *a.* *Ent.* and *Bot.* [f. mod.L. *velutin-us*, f. med.L. *velutum* velvet.] (See quots.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 276 *Velutinous*,.. covered with very thick-set upright short hairs or pile, resembling velvet. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 236 *Velutinous*, velvety to the touch. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1207/2 *Velutinous*, velvety; having a hairy surface, which in texture resembles velvet, as in *Rechea coccinea*.

Velvatter, obs. Sc. form of Well-water.

Velveret. Also **-ett.** Now *rare.* [Irreg. f. Velvet *sb.* Hence F. *velverette*.] A variety of fustian with a velvet surface.

1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 268 The Cotton Trade..has been greatly improved of late..by the Invention of Velverets. 1776 [see Velveteen 1]. 1787 G. Canning *Microcosm* No. 22 (1788) 256, I shall presently see landscapes beautifully diversified with..plains of Plush,..vallies of Velveret, and meadows of Manchester. 1803 *Ann. Reg.* 808 Cotton velvets, velveteens, velverets, thicksets, cords, and other cotton piece goods. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 337 The cotton stuffs called corduroy, velverett, velveteen, thickset, used for men's wearing apparel, belong to the same fabric. *Ibid* 538 Plain Velveret. Cord and Velveret. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 310/2 *Velveret*, an inferior sort of Velvet, employed for trimmings, the web of which is of cotton, and the pile of silk.

attrib. 1795 Southey *Lett. fr Spain* (1799) 18 A soldier was the other character, in old black velveret breeches.

Velvet (ve·lvĕt), *sb.* Forms: α. 4–7 **veluet,** 4, 6 **-ett** (5 **feluett**), 6 **-ette**; 4– **velvet** (5 **felvet, velvut, -ved, velavet**), 5–7 **velvett** (6 **-vytt**), 7 **villvet,** 8 **velvit.** β. 5–6 **velwet** (5 **felwet,** 6 **-weth**); 5 **vele-, vellewet** (**fellewet, felewote**); **velouet, -owet.** γ. 5 **veluette,** 5–6 **-wet(t,** 6 **wellwet, wellvet,** *Sc.* **wellvet, welwete.** δ. *Sc.* 5 **veluate,** 6 **-note, -uot(t**; 6 **veluot, -wot(e, wellwott, wolwat.** ε. 6 **vellett, -at (velat),** *Sc.* **-ot(e,** 6–7 **vellet.** [ad. med.L. *velvetum* (*-ettum*), also *vel(l)uetum* (*-ettum*), app. representing a Romanic type **villūtēttum*, dim. of **villūtum*, whence med.L. *vel(l)utum* (*velotum*), It. *velluto*, OF. *velut, -ute*, Sp. and Pg. *velludo*, ultimately f. L. *vill-us* shaggy hair. Cf. Velluté, Velours, and Velure.]

I. 1. A textile fabric of silk having a short, dense, and smooth piled surface; a kind or variety of this.

Also with defining terms as *cotton, Genoa, ruised, stamped velvet*: see these words.

α. 1300 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. II*, 22/14, 1 couerchief de veluett. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2027 His cote, wyth þe conysaunce of þe clere werker, Ennurned vpon veluet vertuuus stones. 1352 *Cal. Pat. Rolls* 25 *Edw. III*, 137, j fanoun de murre velvet. *a* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 930 Her sadell was semyly sett, The sambus wer grene felvet. *c* 1442 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 208 Farewelle, damask and clothes of gold; Farewelle, velvet, and clothes in grayn. 1483 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 245 To Allhalow Chirch of Aisheton my gown of blew feluett. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. (1871) 130 Yf the nobyllys..be not appayrayd lyd in sylkys and veluettys, they thynke they lake much of theyr honowre. 1555 Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. iv. 46 Tentes and pauilions placed in good ordre, of veluet and saten. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 124 That our ladies and wiues when they go abroad in the street may..shine again in their silks and velvets. 1694 *Marten's Voy. Spitsberg.* in *Acc. Serv. Late Voy* II. 166 He is not as black as Velvet as the Whale is, but like a Tench. 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* iii. 55 They wear all sorts of Silks, and particularly the fine Velvets of Turkey. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 376 A *suite* of seven rooms furnished with red damask and velvet. 1809–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 262 The lady in blue velvet, who so attentively peruses her book. 1818 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 385 Embroidered satin, velvet, and Persian brocade are, of course, confined to the great. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 261/2 Mohair..is largely made into fabrics for ladies' wear, linings, tabinets, plushes, and velvets.

β. *a* 1400 T. Chestre *Launf.* 935 Har manteles wer of grene felwet, Ybordured with gold. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 255/2 Upon velowet, and Cloth of Gold. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 3 The noble Mayer clad in reed velewet. *Ibid.* 6 The tour arrayed withe velwettes softe. 1532 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 45, iij olde doblettes and Shredys of velwet. 1598 in Noake *Worcester Mon.* (1866) 272 A coope of blewe felweth with oystars fethers.

γ. 1442–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 472, j vestimentum ..de welwett. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2615 Hyr paraylle All of one hewe, Off a grene veluette. 1507 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 52 A westement of grene wellwett. *Ibid.*, A mantell of purpull wellweut. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 234 On hys bonet of blacke velvet a floure delyce of golde. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 174 Ane ryding pie of blak wellvet. *Ibid.* 368 Claith of gould, welwete, sataine and dameis.

δ. 1436 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Cl.) II. 142 Vnus mantellus pro nostra domina borderatus cum ly veluate. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxvii. 12 Four men of renoun, In gounes of veluot. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 254 His wyfe weiris weluot on hir Gowne and Coller. 1581 Burne in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 136 That the altaris vas vont to be ornit vith veluot.

ε. 1346–7 in Feuilleraf *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 6 For making of one doble turff Cappe of vellett white & Grene chekyd. 1547 *Harl. MS. 1419 B.* fol. 55 b, One placarde of Murrey vellat; another of crimson vellat. *c* 1550 Lyndesay *Tragedie* 21 [A man] In Rayment reid..Off vellot and of Saityng Crammosie. 1609 *London Prodigal* I. i. 161 My ryding breeches, Vnckle, those that you thought had bene vellet. 1688 Br. Hacket in *Swertes Misc.* (1861) Introd. p. xiv, The most curious piece that I have seen of purple vellat.

b. A piece of this material. *rare.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 636 By hir beddes head ache

made a meve, And covered it with velusttẽ [*v.r.* velowetys] blewe. 1548 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, Ropes, pails, velvets, ostrich feathers, and other mortuary properties.

c. In various fig. or allusive uses.

a 1592 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* G.'s Wks (Grosart) XIV. 90 If he were a king of velues, I will talke to him. 1607 *Merry Devil Edmonton* IV. i. 37 Thou speakst as true as velues. 1672 T. JORDAN *Lond. Triumph.* 4 My father, store of velvet wore; My grandsire, beggars' velvet I *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Velvet*, a Tongue. *Tip the Velvet*, to Tongue a Woman. [Hence in later slang Dicts.] 1814 [see GENTLEMAN 5 c]. 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v. *Velvet*, To the little gentleman in velvet, i.e. the mole that threw up the hill that caused Crop (King William's horse) to stumble. 1882 PIDGKON *Engineer's Holiday* (1883) 167 Whose hand of iron was never ungloved with velvet. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 3/2 Paul Mercer is born, not indeed in the purple, but in the velvet of vast wealth.

d. *On velvet*, in a position of ease or advantage; in an advantageous or prosperous condition.

Now chiefly in sporting slang (see later quots.), but formerly in more general use.

1769 BURKE *Obs. Pres. St. Nat.* Wks. II. 142 Not like our author, who is always on velvet, he is aware of some difficulties. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *To be upon velvet*, to have the best of a bet or match. 1789 ANBURY *Trav.* II. 382 Therefore, only tell General Phillips 'that on that day I fought upon velvet'. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 23 Feb., We stand on velvet as to finance. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 41 Before that we were on velvet; but the instant he appeared everything was changed. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 314 Men who have succeeded in their speculations, especially on the turf, are said to stand on velvet. 1897 *Daily News* 1 June 3/5 Is that what you call being 'On velvet' when you are sure to win something?—Yes.

e. A wearer of velvet.

1782 MRS. H. COWLEY *Which is the Man* III. iii, We had all the law ladies from Lincoln's Inn, a dozen good velvets from Bishopsgate, with the wives and daughters of half the M.D.'s and LL.D.'s in town.

2. *transf.* The soft downy skin which covers a deer's horn while in the growing stage.

c 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, Hir hornes benn kenered with a softe heer, þat hunters call veluetz. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 47 Then they discouer themselues, going vnto the trees to fray their heads, and to rub of the velues. *Ibid.* 244 His heade when it commeth first out, hath a russet pyll vpon it, the whiche is called *Velues*. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 492 The Surface of the Horn, and the smooth Hairy Skin that covers them whilst they are growing (which is commonly call'd the Velvet). 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 518/1 In the early condition the horn is soft and yielding, and is protected only by a...delicate integument... From this circumstance the skin is here termed the 'velvet'. 1892 PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 43 It was a full-grown bull in prime condition, the velvet not yet shed, but the horns quite hard underneath.

b. In the phr. *in velvet* said of the deer.

1880 W. GILL *River Golden Sand* I. viii. 370 The deer are only hunted when in velvet, and from the horns in this state a medicine is made. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* iv. 72 While this bark or skin remains on the horn the stag is said to be *in velvet* and is not hunted.

3. A surface, substance, etc., comparable to velvet in respect of softness or general appearance.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 41/2 The Potentiall Cauteryes nowe-adayes are indeede of velvet, and verye excellent. *Ibid.* 41 b/1 That is one of the best, which Mr. Paré calleth the Cauterye of Velvet. 1747 GRAY *Death Fav Cat* 9 The velvet of her paws. 1782 COWPER *Ep. Prof. Lady* 15 Where Nature has her mossy velvet spread. 1837 'O RHODCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 267 Here is something to put velvet in the ale. 1904 R. J. FARRER *Garden Asia* 240 Every peak is clad in the velvet of wood and copse.

b. *ellipt.* A velvet cork.

1830 *Edinb. Cycl.* VII. I. 217/1 The finished corks are finally sorted by a boy into four kinds, superfine or velvets, fine, common, and coarse.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.* 4. Attrib., in the sense 'made of velvet', as *velvet bag*, *band*, *cap*, *gown*, etc., or 'covered with velvet', as *velvet cushion*, *furniture*.

c 1350 *Lybeaus Disc.* 838 A velvwet mantyll gay...Sche caste aboute her swyre. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 149 A longe gowne of grene velvet upon velvet tissshue cloth of gold. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxviii 36 Many a semely knyght in velvet gownes and cheynes of gold. 1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 159 One other jackett...with velvett bandes. 1612 *Pasquil's Night-cap* (1877) 37, I thinke them in their hattes as good, As Gentle-women in their velvet-hood. 1821 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 17 My wives Tawney vellet gown. *c* 1645 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 5 The red velvet furniture. 1780 BURKE *Œcon. Reform* Wks. III. 321 Have their velvet bags, and their red boxes, been so full, that nothing more could possibly be crammed into them? 1796 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Satyr* Wks. 1812 III. 408 Who with a velvet lash would flog a bear. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* III. v, Beneath this was a faded velvet waistcoat. 1848 LADY LYTTELTON *Corr.* (1912) 338, I am sending some narrow velvet ribbon to trim it along the tucks.

b. Attrib., in the sense 'smooth or soft like velvet, velvety', as *velvet down*, *hand*, *leaf*, etc.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 105 Through the Velvet leaues the winde, All vnseene, can passage finde. 1598 CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* V. 439 Come Night and lay thy velvet hand On glorious Dayes outfacing face. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VI. 23 Which fertil zephirs velvet spirit bloweth. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 898 Thus I set my printless feet O're the Cowslips Velvet head. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 27 O'er Idalia's velvet-green The rosy-crowned Loves are seen On Cytherea's day. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. i, Then the roses on those cheeks are shaded with a sort of velvet down. *a* 1805 H. K. WHITE *Remains* (1825) 365 Stretch'd supinely on the velvet turf. 1862 MRS. NORTON *Lady of La Garaye* Prol. 108 The soft white owl with velvet wings. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Rey & V.* I. 2 A tuft of dark velvet pansies on one side.

fig. 1590 *Arden of Feversham* I. i. 324 Why, what art thou now but a Velvet drudge, A cheating steward, and base minded peasant? 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 41 b/1 Receipte of the Velvet Cauterye. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, I cannot soothe the World With velvet words and oyly flatteries. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* Ep. Ded., History is a velvet study and recreation work. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* (1843) 86, I have ...taken a few finish stitches, which may...please a few Velvet eares. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 297 With as sweet a softness as might be Remember'd from its velvet summer song. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xciii, He...to such purpose intervenes That you get velvet-compliment, three-pile.

c. With names of colours, esp. *velvet black*.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud Ep.* 335 Of the suffitus of a torch, doe Painters make a velvet blacke. 1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* cli, This is a most fair Velvet Black. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* IV. xiii, Blue, glossy green, and velvet black, They coiled and swam. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. II 496 Velvet-black Paradise Bird. 1811 *Ibid.* VIII. I. 293 Velvet-crimson Humming-Bird.

5. Parasynthetic and instrumental, as *velvet-bearded*, *-caped*, *-draped*, *-eared*, *-eyed*, etc.

1611 L. BARRY *Ram Alley* III. i, These *Veluet bearded boyes will still be doing, say what we old men can. 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*. II. i 754 A *Veluet cap'de cloake, fac'st before with Serge. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. i, The gentleman was standing with his back to the *velvet-draped mantel-piece. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 540 The *hoary white* [wheat], by some called the **velvet-eared*, is by far the most valuable. 1708 PETIVER *Gasophyl.* I. § 10 The *Velvet-eyed Virginia Snap-Beetle. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxi, The *velvet-footed butler brought them their wine. 1692 [? J. BANCROFT] *Edw. III with Fall Mortimer* II. ii, These Peuking *velvethearted Wary Knaves that pretend to Scruples. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* vi, She let him sit by her in little sheltered *velvet-hung nooks 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxxv, The broad-hatted, ..*velvet-jacketed, jovial colony of the artists. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xxxvii, There were the locket and earrings in the little *velvet-lined boxes. 1796 BURKE *Lett. to Noble Lord* Wks. (1907) VI. 71 The demure, insidious...*velvet-pawed, green-eyed philosophers. 1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 17 The *velvet-sheathed dagger of Queen Elizabeth. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 103 The two miles home were like walking in *velvet-soled shoes. 1870 *Pouchet's Universe* 109 Certain *velvet-winged Phalenæ.

6. Objective, with agent-nouns, as *velvet-dresser*, *-maker*, *-weaver*, etc.; also *velvet merchant*.

1530 PALSGR. 284/2 Velvetmaker, *velourtier*. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. lvi. 247 Velvet-weavers, Tapestrie-makers and Upholsterers. 1677 MIÈGE *Fr. Dict.* I, *Velourtier*...a Velvet-maker. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I v. § 9 (1876) 51 This change...only transfers Employment from velvet-makers to bricklayers. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Velvet-dresser*, a cleaner and dyer of velvet. *Ibid.*, *Velvet-manufacturer*, a weaver of velvet. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* iv. § 76 *note*, He pays, probably, an intermediate ship-owner, velvet merchant, and shopman.

7. Special Combs.: **velvet-brush** (see quot.); **†velvet-cap**, one who wears a cap of velvet; a physician or student; **velvet-cloth** (see quots.); **† velvet-coat**, ? a young fop; **velvet copper-ore**, cyanotrichite; **velvet-cork** (see quot. and cf. 3 b); **†velvet-guard**, a trimming of velvet; a wearer of such trimmings; **†velvet-jacket**, an attendant or retainer wearing a jacket of velvet; **velvet-loom**, a loom for weaving velvet; **velvet-painting** (see quot. 1849–50); **velvet-paper** (see quot.); **velvet-pile** *attrib.*, having a pile like that of velvet; also *absol.*, a carpet or cloth of this kind; **velvet-plain** *post.*, a card-table; **velvet tip** (see sense 2; in quot. used allusively); **velvet tree**, **wire drawer**, **work** (see quots.).

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Velvet-brush*, a brush used by ladies to remove dust, &c. from garments made of velvet. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. 554 It is requisite that the French Phisitions be learned and carefull, your English *veluet cap is malignant and enuious. 1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 12 Euery Prentice can leere at their braue Cassockes, and laugh the Veluet Cap out of countenance. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 511/1 **Velvet cloth*, a plain cloth with a gloss, employed in Ecclesiastical Embroidery. *Ibid.*, *Velvet cloths*,...beautifully soft and warm descriptions of cloth, suitable for ladies' jackets. 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, E] Heare menes suetes your selfe I require you in goddes behalfe & put it not to the hearing of these *veluette cotes, these vp skippes. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. § 504 *Velvet copper ore is probably also a silicate [of copper]. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 542 (Sulphates) Lettsomite, Velvet Copper Ore. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Velvet cork*, the best kind of cork bark, which is of a reddish colour. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 261 Sweare me, Kate,...A good mouth filling Oath: and leaue in sooth, And such protest of Pepper Ginger-bread, To *Veluet-Guards, and Sunday-Citizens. 1610 *Histriomastix* III i E], Out on these veluet gards, and black lac'd sleeues, These simpring fashions simply followed. 1600 HEYWOOD *1 Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 17 Spoken like a man, and true *veluet-jacket, And we will enter, or strike by the way. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2699/1 **Velvet-loom*, a pile-fabric loom. 1813 *Examiner* 10 May 298/1 A little skill in *velvet painting. 1849–50 WEALE *Dict. Terms*, *Velvet painting* is the art of colouring on velvet with transparent liquid and other ready diluted colours. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2699/1 **Velvet-paper*, wall-paper printed with glue and dusted with shearings of cloth or flock. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* II. 564/2 *Velvet-pile carpeting. *Ibid.*, Patent velvet-pile and Brussels carpets. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, *Brit.* II. No. 4006, Pilots, Cheviots, velvet piles. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 169 Oh the dear pleasures of the *velvet plain, The painted tablets, dealt and dealt again. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. iii, What, what, what, what! nothing but *velvet tips; you are of the first head yet. 1878 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2699/2 **Velvet-tree* (Puddling), the point where the draft from the neck of the furnace is turned upward into the stack. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Velvet wire drawer*, a manufacturer of the metal wire used in velvet making. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 511/1 *Velvet work...is...largely used in Church Embroideries as a background for altar cloths and hangings.

b. In names of animals (birds, insects, etc.), as **velvet ant**, a spider-ant (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **velvet crab**, a species of swimming crab (*Portunus puber*); **velvet-duck**, a species of scoter (*Œdemia fusca*); **velvet fairy** (see quot.); **velvet fiddler crab**, = *velvet crab*; **velvet fish** (see quot.); **†velvet runner**, the water-rail; **velvet scoter**, = *velvet duck*; **velvet sponge** (see quots.).

1681 GREW *Museum* I. v. iv. 120 The Claw of the Punger, or the *Velvet-Crab, called Pagurus. 1830 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things Sea-side* v. 288 Some of the most beautiful of our British crabs are those termed Velvet-crabs, on account of the velvety down with which the shell is covered. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Islands* II. ix. 232 The spider crab, and swimming or velvet crab, are also eaten. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 363 The feathers of the whole body are so soft and delicate as nothing more, so that it might be not undeservedly called the *Velvet-Duck. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 493 Velvet Duck:..the plumage is of a fine black, and of the soft and delicate appearance of velvet. 1840 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 175, I made a capital shot at 6 black velvet ducks. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 235 The Velvet Duck (*Anas fusca*)...is the largest of the Scoters. 1881 LYELL *Fancy Pigeons* 86 The black Nürnberg swallow has most of these grease quills, and from its beautiful green lustre is called the '*velvet fairy'. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 199 The *Velvet Fiddler Crab (*Portunus puber*) has...its entire carapace densely covered with hairs. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 489/1 **Velvet-fish*, [the] name given in Tasmania to the fish *Heloxenus cutaneus*. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 315 The *Velvet Runner. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Velvet-Runner*, a Water-Fowl, whose Feathers are black and smooth as Velvet. 1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* III. 215 *Oidemia fusca*, *Velvet Scoter. 1882 *Cassell's Nat Hist.* VI. 318 The 'wool' Sponge, which appears to be one or perhaps two species of the Hippospongia, *H. gossypina*, and *H. meandriformis*, the '*velvet' Sponge. 1883 W. S. KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 47 The so-called Velvet, Abacco-velvet, or Boat-sponge (*S. equina*, var. *meandriniformis*), differing from the Sheep's-wool in the absence of the fleece-like tufts upon its outer surface.

c. In names of plants, as **velvet-bean**, an annual climbing-plant (*Macuna utilis*) bearing velvety pods; **velvet-bur**, a tropical plant of the vervain family; **velvet-dock**, common mullein; **velvet-ear(ed) wheat**, = *velvet wheat*; **†velvet-flower** (see quots.); **velvet flower-de-luce**, **-grass**, **-moss** (see quots.); **velvet rose**, a variety of rose with velvety petals; **velvet-seed**, a small evergreen West Indian tree; **velvet wheat**, a variety of white wheat with downy ears.

1898 *Gardener's Mag.* 3 Sept. 569/2 The accounts...respecting the agricultural value of the Florida *velvet bean must be received with caution. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1207/2 *Velvet-bur, *Privia echinata*. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.*, *Velvet-Dock, from its soft leaves, *Verbascum Thapsus*. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* (L.U.K.) II. 138 We have...the 'golden-ear', the '*velvet-ear', the 'egg-shell', and 'hedge-wheat'. 1862 MORTON *Farmer's Cal.* 547 Among white wheats...the *Velvet-eared, a short-strawed sort, is of remarkable quality and productiveness. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 11 The other kynde [of *Amaranthus*] is called here in Englande of some purple *veluet floure, of other flouramore. *Ibid.* 80 Viola flammea,...in englishe veluet floure or french Marigoulde. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 96 Veluet flowers, or french Marigolds. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xviii. 168 These pleasant...floures are called...in English floure Gentill, Floramor, and Purple veluet floure. [Hence in Gerarde and Cotgr.] 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.*, *Velvet-flower*, from its crimson velvety tassels, *Amaranthus caudatus*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 94 *Iris Tuberosa*. *Veluet flower de-luce. 1846 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 573 *Holcus lanatus*, *Velvet-Grass. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Velvet-moss*, a name for the *Gyrophora murina*, a lichen used in dyeing, obtained in the Dovrefeldt mountains of Norway. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 1085 *Rosa Holosericea*, the *veluet Rose...The flowers..of a deepe and blacke red colour, resembling red crimson veluet, whereupon some haue called it the Veluet Rose. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.*, Arr. 33/1 Velvet rose (single). 1893 G. D. LESLIE *Lett. Marco* I. 3 A rose that is almost obsolete,...called the velvet rose. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1207/2 *Velvet-seed, *Guettarda elliptica*. 1771 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Tour East Eng.* II. 485 Mr. Arbuthnot gathered six ears of this wheat,...and carrying it to market, the farmers remarked that they knew it, but had lost the sort, and called it *velvit wheat. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1131/1 Some Scotch wheats have become greatly mixed with velvet wheat.

Ve'lvet, *v. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To imitate velvet in painting.

1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* 83 Take your verditure,...it is the faintest and palest greene that is, but it is good to veluet vpon blacke in any manner of drapery.

2. *trans.* 'To make like velvet; to cover with velvet.' (1864 WEBSTER.)

Ve'lveted, *a.* [f. VELVET *sb.*] Covered with velvet or a velvety down; dressed in velvet; having velvet trappings.

1611 COTGR., *Velouté*, Velueted, of Veluet, clad, or couered with Veluet. 1686 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* (ed. 3) 344 Its Leaves are long, divided, and hairy, or velveted. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) I. 223 They

..are..velveted on the Back like a Rat. 1830 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* xx, This yellow-starched and velveted old hag. 1868 *Morning Star* 7 Jan., The miniature sleighs, each containing a fair passenger velveted and furred. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Aug. 8/2 An open hearse, heavily plumed and drawn by half a dozen horses, also velveted and plumed.

Velveteen (velvĭtī·n). Also 8 velvatean. [f. VELVET *sb.* Hence F. *velvetine.*]

1. A fabric having the appearance or surface of velvet, but made from cotton in place of silk.

1776 *Specif. Woolstenholme's Patent* No. 1123, For his new kind of goods called velvateans, being an improvement on velveretts. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 299 Velvets, velveteens, thicksets. 1843 LD. MELBOURNE in Benson & Esher *Lett. Q. Victoria* (1908) I. 467 George Byng came the other morning in a waistcoat of Peel's velveteen. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 53. 63 The barragons and fustians,..dimities and velveteens, for which Bolton was famous. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 511/1 *Velveteen*, a description of fustian, made of twilled cotton, and having a raised pile, and of finer cotton, and better finish than the latter.

b. *attrib.* Made of this material.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 200 He..generally sticks to his velveteen jacket. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* I. i, A man..plainly clad in a velveteen shooting-jacket. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 57. 156 Mé wore a fur cap, and shorts, and was of the velveteen race, velveteeny. 1887 DOYLE *Study in Scarlet* (1892) 26 A railway porter in his velveteen uniform.

2. *pl.* a. Trousers or knickerbockers made of this material.

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* i, He..thought of the fine times coming, when he would be a man,..and wear velveteens and ankle-jacks. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, 'The man,' Mortimer goes on,..'was only son of a tremendous old rascal who made his money by Dust'. 'Red velveteens and a bell?' the gloomy Eugene inquires.

b. *transf.* A gamekeeper (as commonly wearing velveteen clothes).

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ix, What business is that of yours, old Velveteens? 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 23 Be it known that Velveteens placed those 'brummels' there in order that we might move them.

Hence **Velveteened** *a.*, dressed in velveteen.

Also (in nonce-use) *Velveteeny* adj.: see prec. 2 b.

1896 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 2/1 In the procession thereafter were the velveteened foresters.

† **Velvet head.** *Obs.* Also 6 **vellet head, 7 velvet-head.** [f. VELVET *sb.* 2.]

1. The head of a deer while the horns are still covered with velvet. Also *transf.* of a kid (quot. 1579).

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 244 His heade is called then a veluet heade. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 185 His Vellet head began to shoote out, And his wrethed hornes gan newly sprout. 1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Four-f. Beasts* 124 Hornes..couered with a rough skinne, which the hunters for honours sake call a Veluet head. 1686 BRETON *Fantasticks* Wks. (Grosart) II. 12/1 The veluet heads of the Forrests fall at the loose of the Crosse bow. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* (1677) 65 If you geld him when he hath a Velvet-head, it will ever be so, without fraying or burnishing.

2. Applied contemptuously to a person.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. ii, What says old velvet-head?

Hence † **Velvet-headed** *a.* In quots. *fig. Obs.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* vi. 23 Roman Prelacy in these younger times was but Velvet-headed. 1650 B *Disciplinianum* 41 You will expose your Flocks to all the new-fangled Errours that bud so fast, out of the Brow-antlers of our velvet-headed Brockets. 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 6 He lays the same claim still,..and though Velvet-headed hath the more itch to be pushing.

Velvetiness. [f. VELVETY *a.*] The quality of resembling velvet in smoothness, etc.

1882 *Good Literature* 6 May 142/1 In America, where.. black women have that happy Ethiopian velvetiness of cuticle. 1889 MARY E. CARTER *Mrs. Severn* I. i. Prol. 10 The dense velvetiness of the furze.

Velveting. [f. VELVET *sb.*]

† 1. The nap or pile of velvet. *Obs.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Nap or Shag, call'd also Velveting, of this Stuff..is form'd of part of the Threads of the Warp. *Ibid.*, The Threads that make the Velveting.

2. Velvet as a commercial fabric; velvet in the piece; esp. *pl.* velvet goods.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Velvet-leaf. [f. VELVET *sb.* 4 b.]

1. The tropical shrub *Cissampelos Pareira*, the root and bark of which are employed medicinally.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 200 Velvet-Leaf. This has a round, whitish, wooldy stalk..having several leaves,..very thick set with a whitish down, or soft hair, feeling to the touch as velvet, whence its name. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 397 The Velvet-Leaf is looked upon as an excellent diuretic. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 288/2 The most important plant of the genus is the Velvet Leaf, *C. Pareira*, a native of the West Indies, Central America, and India. 1872 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 168 Pareira Root. The dried root of *Cissampelos Pareira*, or Velvet leaf.

2. The tree-mallow, *Lavatera arborea*, or a leaf of this.

1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (1750) 312 Take velvet-leaves, wipe them clean, chop them small,..and boil them gently, till they are crisp. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 614 Tree Mallow, or Velvet-leaf. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 232.

3. (See quots.)

(*a*) 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 68 *Abutilon Avicennæ*, Velvet-Leaf. – 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1207/2 Velvet-leaf,..*Sida Abutilon.* (*b*) 1892 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Tournefortia*, *T. Argentea* is sometimes cultivated under the name of East Indian velvet-leaf.

Velvet-like, *a.* [f. VELVET *sb.*] Resembling (that of) velvet.

1677 MIEGE *Fr. Dict.* I, *Velouté*,..made velvet-like. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 4 Velvet Crab with the thorax quinquedentated; body covered with short brown velvet-like pile. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 134 The whole plant [is] of a velvet-like softness. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. I. 173 The greater portion of the head covered by short and serrated, velvet-like feathers. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 615 The species are border flowers, in much esteem for their velvet-like leaves. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. IV. 109 The rib or raised part..is cut..so as to form a velvet-like pile.

Velvetory. (See quot.)

1889 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 99 Arch-bricks, proper for the tops of reverberatory furnaces,..vulgarly called velvetory bricks.

Velvetry. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. VELVET *sb.*] Velvet, or material resembling this, in a collective sense.

1887 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* (ed. 4) III. v. 61 They had sleeved their bent arms with green velvetry of moss.

Velvety (vĕ·lvĕti), *a.* [f. VELVET *sb.*]

1. Having the smooth and soft appearance or feel of velvet.

1758 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 77 The oriental velvety Papilio, with short antennæ. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 569 Leaves very soft, and almost velvety. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 337 Skin loose, free, and velvety to the touch. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 185 Their stigmas generally long and velvety externally. 1882 *Garden* 10 June 399/3 Its dark velvety and rich yellow flowers are very fine indeed.

Comb. 1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 209 Leaves.. velvety-tomentose. 1878 MRS. F. D. BRIDGES *Jrnl. Lady's Trav. round World* I. Aug. (1883) 2 Our ship moving almost noiselessly across the velvety-looking sea.

b. Applied to colours. (Cf. VELVET *sb.* 4 c.)

1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. I. 135 The under part of the wings are of a fine velvety black. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* vii, She was calling attention..to the light velvety green. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 40 A deep brown hue, like the velvety brown of a stag's throat.

2. Characteristic of velvet; similar to that of velvet.

1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 397 Presenting a beautiful white velvety appearance. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 143/2 Of velvety look and feel. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 16 Feb., The well-remembered tones had lost something of their old velvety quality. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. 421/1 It is the grouping and velvety effect they produce which is original.

3. *fig.* Unusually or attractively smooth, soft, or gentle.

1861 CUNNINGHAM *Wheat & Tares* 82 The other's velvety manner made him chafe and fret. 1896 *Strand Mag.* XII. 329/1 The tiny bells of the lime-blossoms..mingled their soft, velvety murmur with the other peaceful sounds of Nature.

b. Smooth and soft to the taste.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 216/2 The rum is velvety, sugary, with a pleasant, soothing effect. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xi. 125 Accompanied by the softest and most velvety of sauces.

Velveut, -vytt, -wet, obs. ff. VELVET.

Vely, southern ME. variant of *felly* FELLOE.

† **Velyard.** *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [ad. F. *vieillard*, † *viellard.*] An old man.

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1904 Vyle velyarde, thou must not nowe my dynt withstande.

Velym(e, obs. ff. VELLUM. **Vem,** obs. Sc. f. WEM *sb.* **Vemen,** southern ME. var. *feme* FOAM *v.*; obs. Sc. pl. WOMAN. **Vemon, Vemynous,** obs. erron. varr. VENOM, VENOMOUS. **Ven,** southern ME. and dial. var. FEN *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WEEN *v.*

‖ **Vena** (vī·nă). Pl. **venæ** (vī·nē). [L. *vēna.*] A vein.

Used only in conjunction with Latin adjs. or genitives; many of the specific names thus formed are recorded in special Dictionaries from the 17th cent. onwards.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 177 Summe of þese veynes comeþ fro a veyne of þe lyuer, þat is clepid vena ramosa. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 54 Agayne þe mormale be þer leanyng of vena basilica, i. lyuer vayne. 1548 VICARY *Anat.* (1888) vii. 54 Of *vena Sephalica* springeth *vena occularis*; and of *vena Basilica* springeth *vena Salvatella.* 1598 FLORIO, *Asellare vena*, a large vaine being a branch of Vena caua. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. iv, The Doctor..tells you, Of *Vena caua*, and of *vena porta.* 1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* 343 The Bloud being prest out into the *Vena cava.* 1755 *Dict. Arts & S.* I. 3148/2 Between the aorta and the vena azygos. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* vii. 47 A blue vena frontalis..in an open, smooth, well-arched forehead. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 8 The abdominal branches of the vena portæ. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 352 The Venæ Thebesii are numerous minute venules [etc.]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 245 The aortic and vena cava pressures are obtained by passing canulæ down the carotid artery and jugular vein respectively.

† **Venable,** *a. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [f. L. *vēn-um* (see VENAL *a.*^{1}) + -ABLE.] = VENDIBLE *a.*

1507 in Man *Reading* (1816) 357 Everie burgess..may.. also bye and sell all manner of merchandies and thynge venable in feyres and markets.

Venabule. *rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. L. *vēnābulum*, f. *vēnā-ri* to hunt.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Venabule*, a hunting staffe.

Venaesection, variant of VENESECTION.

Venaker, obs. Sc. variant of VINEGAR.

Venal (vī·năl), *a.*^{1} Also 6 **venall.** [ad. L. *vēnāl-is*, f. *vēnum* that which is sold or for sale. So OF. *venal*, F. *vénal*, Sp. and Pg. *venal*, It. *venale.*]

1. Of things: a. Exposed or offered for sale, that may be bought, as an ordinary article of merchandise. Also, associated or connected with ordinary sale or purchase. Now *arch.*

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 147 Not as a Venal addition to the price of the Book..but..as a Specimen of what we have alledged. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 358 Promising..that by Sal Armoniack I here mean the Factitious and Venal. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 14 He sinks in Credit, who attempts to raise His venal Wares with over-rating Praise, To put them off his Hands. 1849 CLARIDGE *Cold Water Cure* 38 Men..avoid water—perhaps because it costs nothing (for, in our artificial life, we are led to esteem things according to their venal price). 1883 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 564/3 The book, though open for many years to the frequenters of great libraries, has not been venal on the shelves of the ordinary bookseller. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 12 The figs..might be venal at the nearest stall without our troubling the stall-keeper.

b. Of offices, privileges, etc.: Capable of being acquired by purchase, instead of being conferred on grounds of merit or regarded as above bargaining for

1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 9 When these places of honour and trust were made venal,..and sold for ready money to such as gave most for them. 1778 in *Lett. Lib. Hen* (Camden) 405 In the last Parliament, the places being quite venal, the young men, who had purchased, were the majority. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 169 The face of affairs in France is at present greatly altered; every thing there is now become venal. 1830 J. MENDHAM (*title*), The Venal Indulgences and pardons of the Church of Rome, exemplified [etc.]. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 5 They see that wealth is safety and power where everything is venal. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* ii. (1868) I. 42 All posts and charges were venal.

c. Of support, favour, etc.: That may be bought or obtained for a price; ready to be given in return for some reward without regard for higher principles.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 196 Prophecy is not venal, or to be bought and hired with mony and preferments. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 217 From him some bribe thy venal tongue requires. 1738 JOHNSON *London* 198 The Laureate Tribe in venal Verse relate, How Virtue wars with persecuting Fate. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xi. (1788) 73 You may command a venal vote. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 26 *note*, Deigning to subsidize a venal pen in order to throw a gloss over the flagrant dereliction. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xliv. II. 165 As the Senate is smaller..the vote of each member is of more consequence, and fetches, when venal, a higher price.

2. Of persons: Capable of being bought over or bribed; ready to lend support or exert influence for purely mercenary considerations; of an unprincipled and hireling character.

1670 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 326 We are all venal cowards, except some few. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 414 Their Magistrates are corrupt..and their tribunals crafty and venal. 1782 COWPER *Table-t.* 358 And every venal stickler for the yoke Felt himself crush'd at the first word he spoke. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* x. § 6 (ed. 3) 284 Venal orators conducted the prosecution. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. vi. 252 Rome was as venal under the popes as Jugurtha found her under the Republic.

3. Connected or associated with sordid and unprincipled bargaining; subject to mercenary or corrupt influences.

1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 338 Hence slaughter in the venal field returns, And Rome her yearly competitions mourns. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1067 Thy pathetic eloquence I that..Of honest Zeal th' indignant lightning throws, And shakes Corruption on her venal throne. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 194 To squander us away..for a venal enlargement of their own territories. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. xxiv. 371 No one has accused him of attempting to enrich his exchequer by the venal sale of office. 1885 FARGUS *Slings & Arrows* 62 The compartment of the train which was, by a venal arrangement of the guard's, reserved to ourselves.

Venal (vī·năl), *a.*^{2} Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. L. *vēna* VEIN *sb.* + -AL. Cf. VENIAL *a.*^{2}]

1. Of blood: Contained in the veins.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 30 So the Heart..containeth in his right ventricle venal, in his left arterial blood. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medic* 417 Bleeding drains onely the Venal Bloud. 1745 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 20, I cannot conceive how they are dilated. It is said, by the force of the venal blood rushing into them. 1762 P. BECKFORD *Hunting* (1802) 123 He made a strong ligature on his neck, that the venal blood might be emitted with the greater impetus. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 302 The blood that was discharged was evidently venal.

2. Of or pertaining to, connected with, forming, of the nature of, a vein or veins.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 319 The right [auricle] before the vena cava, and the left [before] the venal arterie. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 70 Making it [the blood] to restagnate in some of the arterial or venal chanels. 1744 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 60 The Bloud is stopp'd, as mentioned before, in the little venal parallel Canals. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. i. § 2. 45 The venal Sinuses which surround the Brain and spinal Marrow. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 207 There was no obstruction at the entrance of the thoracic duct into the venal system 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 479 To make the skin do the office of a valve to the venal opening.

Venal(e, obs. forms of VENNEL.

Venalitious, *a. rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. L. *vēnālītius* (*-icius*), f. *vēnālis* VENAL *a.*^{1}] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venalitious*, belonging to the sale of men or children, or of slaves; that is to be bought or sold.

Venality (vĭnæ·lĭti). [ad. F. *vénalité*, or late L. *vēnālitās*, f. *vēnālis* VENAL *a.*[1] So It. *venalità*, Sp. *venalidad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

1. The quality or fact of being for sale. *rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Venalitie*, venalitie, vendiblenesse; a being salable; a letting or setting vnto sale. [Hence in Blount (1656).] 1880 RANKEN *Hist. France* VII. I. ii. 158 They proposed..to abolish altogether the venality of offices, which would have cut off one of the principal sources of finance in the state. 1874 TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 168 The intense vulgarity of so much English work comes direct from its venality.

2. The quality of being venal; readiness to give support or favour in return for profit or reward; prostitution of talents or principles for mercenary considerations.

a 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* II. XXV. (1704) 283 Such as will rise, must render themselves conformable in all corruption and venality. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* (1827) III. 288 A soul superior to venality and views of interest. 1749 BOLINGBROKE *Lett. Patriotism*, etc. 128 Want is the consequence of profusion, venality of want, and dependance of venality. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXIII. III. 309 It only proves the opinion generally entertained of Spartan venality. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 3. 622 His pride and venality had made him unpopular with the nation at large.

Venalization. *rare*[−1]. [See VENAL *a.*[1] and IZATION.] The action or process of making venal.

1906 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 549/2 We fear the venalization of Literature and a monopoly of its distribution.

Venally, *adv. rare*[−1]. [f. VENAL *a.*[1]] In a venal or mercenary manner.

1736 *Demi-Rep* 35 Their souls all free, not venally profuse.

Venalness. *rare*[−0]. = VENALITY.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Venalness*, Saleableness.

Venarie, -ary, obs. varr. VENERY[1].

Venatic (vĭnæ·tik), *a.* [ad. L. *vēnātic-us*, f. *vēnārī* to hunt. So obs. F. *venatique*.] Of or pertaining to, employed in, devoted to, hunting.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venatick*, belonging to hunting or chasing. 1732 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* I. 244 The Hassaqaye the Hottentots look upon as the most notable martial and venatick weapon they have. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 3 [Stories of hunting] written with ten times the.. vigour, and picturesqueness, either venatic or literary. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 4 March, Why are not other nations which have passed through the same venatic period as deeply imbued with the spirit of sport? 1889 BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 19, I adore, with a sort of venatic worship, both a fox and a hound.

So **Venatical** *a.* Hence **Venatically** *adv.*

a 1666 HOWELL *Lett.* (1678) IV. 4 Ther be three [places] for Venery or Venatical plesure in England, viz. a Forrest, a Chase and a Park. 1887 *Field* 26 Feb. 267/2, I do not know whether that vernal saint, Valentine, was venatically-minded. 1893 *Ibid.* 11 March 345/1 Venatically workmanlike.

Venation[1]. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 4 **venacyon.** [ad. L. *vēnātio*, f. *vēnārī* to hunt. So F. *vénation* (†*venacion*), It. *venasione*.] The action or occupation of hunting wild animals.

1386 *Almanak* 17 In December..be son es in Capricorn, for Esau by venacyon lost hys fader benyson. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xi. (1611) 217 The last of the foressaid Arts wee reckoned to bee Venation, which Plato divideth into three species, Hunting, Hawking and Fishing. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 32 There are extant of his in Greeke, foure bookes of Cynegeticks or venation. *Ibid.* VI. vi, At one venation the King of Siam took four thousand Elephants. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. 247 Some in ferine Venation take delight. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 160 What sumphs all the ancients were in venation, notwithstanding their boasted prowess!

Venation[2] (vĭnē·ʃən). [f. L. *vēna* VEIN *sb.*]

†1. The arrangement or structure of sap-vessels in plants. *Obs.*[−1]

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. i. 106 As for the manner of their venation,..we shall find it to be otherwise then as is commonly presumed, by sawing away of trees.

2. *a. Bot.* The arrangement of the veins in the leaves of plants.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. p. xxii, Many other orders are distinguished without exception by modifications of venation. 1851 G. F. RICHARDSON *Geol.* vii. 170 In leaves we can rarely recognise, in a fossil state, more than their mode of venation, division, arrangement, and outline. 1890 *Science Gossip* XXVI. 181, I took a specimen..with six well-developed leaves, the venation being very distinct.

b. Ent. The arrangement of the veins in the wings of insects.

1861–8 LE CONTE *Classif. Coleoptera N. Amer.* I. Introd. p. xviii, The venation is subject to variation in different genera. 1891 *Science Gossip* XXVII. 53 The venation in many genera [of the Nematocera] varies in the relative lengths of some of the veins and their respective positions.

Hence **Venational** *a.*, of or relating to venation.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Venatious, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *vēnāt-*, ppl. stem of *vēnārī* to hunt.] Inclined to hunting.

1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind., Arts & Sci.* 22 Take a Hare, Deer, or Fox, &c. and let them be kept among Hounds in their kennel, or so that the venatious appetite of them is not excited, and they will not meddle with them.

Venator. *rare.* [a. L. *vēnātor*, agent-noun f. *vēnārī* to hunt.] A hunter or huntsman.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venator*, a hunter or huntsman. 1871 J. TAYLOR in Edwards *Freedom of Will* Introd. p. lxvii, It by no means appears that the little unlicensed venator invariably directs his flight towards the nearest or the best-fed gnat.

Venatorial (venătōˑriăl), *a.* [f. L. *vēnātōrius* (see VENATORY *a.*) + -AL.]

1. Connected with hunting.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 200 What are your sylvan or venatorial exploits compared to the high games enacted in the broad prairies? 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 85 The most northerly tribe..surpass their southern neighbours in venatorial skill. 1870 COUES *Birds N.-W.* 365 The contrast between the physique of Rough-legged Hawks and their venatorial exploits, is striking.

2. Given to hunting; addicted to the chase.

a 1881 BLACKIE *Lay Serm.* I. 32 The migrations of a tropical bird, or the nosings of a venatorial hound. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* I. Her main personal experience was in the social class which is primitively venatorial still, canine under its polish.

So †**Venatorious** *a. Obs. rare*[−0].

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venatorious*, belonging to hunting and chasing, serving for that game.

Venatory (ve·nătəri), *a.* [ad. L. *vēnātōri-us*, f. *vēnāt-*, ppl. stem of *vēnārī* to hunt: see -ORY] = VENATORIAL *a.*

1837 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Mirabeau*, Man being a venatory creature. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* III. VII. v, The venatory Attorney-spirit which keeps its eye on the bond only. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX. 393 Regarding deer-stalking—a branch of the art venatory which few have the opportunity to study.

Vench, obs. Sc. form of WENCH *sb.*

†**Vencue,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 4 **venku,** 5 **vencu.** [a. OF. *vencu*, pa. pple. of *veintre*: see VANQUISH *v.*] *trans.* To vanquish, subdue.

13.. *Sowdone Sages* (W.) 2024 He ne mighte..In batail spede, That he ne was euer more biwraid, Ouercomen, venkud, and bitraid. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13240 Without his help & his vertu We schal these other sone vencu.

Vencus(e, -oushe, etc., obs. varr. VANQUISH *v.*

Vend, *sb.* [f. VEND *v.* Cf. VENT *sb.*[3]]

1. Sale; opportunity of selling.

1618 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 42 This place never yet..gave vend to any quantety of our commodity. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 32 Neither have they any encouragement for their industry, having no Vend by Traffic and Commerce for what they have got. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 510 This Market is of great resort, and a good vend for all Country Commodities. 1707 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlvi. 152 Pepper is planted for Export, but not above 300 Tuns in a Year, because they want Vend for more. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 165 There is a person..who is a great dealer in Indian silks,..and has a great vend for them. 1828 COLEBROOKE *Import Colonial Corn* 60 Corn is stored..and kept for years..in expectation of a future vend and a less glutted market.

2. *spec.* Sale of coals from a colliery; the total amount sold during a certain period.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 17 This I think is shameful for Owners, who striving to get all the Trade to themselves, or to have a Major Part of Vend, will fall out among themselves. 1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate Culross* 59 Sir Archibald had better have contented himself with a more limited vend at a greater price. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Commerce* (ed. 2) 289 The annual vend of coals carried coastwise from Durham and Northumberland is 3,300,000 tons. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vend,*..the whole quantity of coal sent from a colliery in the year. 1893 NEASHAM *North-country Sk.* 28 By agreement..they were limited to an annual vend of 12,000 chaldrons.

Vend (vend), *v.* [ad. F. *vendre* (= It. *vendere*, Sp. and Pg. *vender*) or L. *vendĕre* to sell; but in senses 3 and 4 app. substituted for VENT *v.*[2] 4 and 5 through association of this with VENT *v.*[3]]

1. *intr.* To be disposed of by sale; to find a market or purchaser.

1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1908) II. 46 Course and fine pursleene..which vend both slowlye and at cheape rates. 1640 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 96 Whereby Wool, the great Staple of the Kingdom, is become of small value, and vends not. 1689 HICKERINGILL *Modest Inquiries* v. 32 No Books vend so nimbly, as those that are sold (by Stealth as it were) and want Imprimaturs. 1768 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 371 If our manufactures are too dear they will not vend abroad.

2. *trans.* To sell; to dispose of by sale; to trade in as a seller.

1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. vii. 70 No Nation can be rich that receives more dead Commodities from abroad, then it can spend at home, or vend into Forrain parts. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 279 Formerly all the Silk made in Sicily was vended at Messina. 1707 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxlii. 224 The Company vends a great Deal of Cloth and Ophium there, and brings Gold-dust in Return. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VI. Wks. 1851 IV. 153 They opened warehouses in different parts of Europe, in which they vended their commodities. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 224 The produce of these small dairies is generally vended at Plymouth. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* vii, Fishmongers who never sold a fish, mercers who vended not a yard of riband. 1879 *Echo* No. 3374. 2/5 A license or patent to sell no matter what, includes the right to vend books and news-

fig. To give utterance to, to put forward, advance (an opinion, etc.).

1657 *North's Plutarch* Add. Lives (1676) 7 Doubtless many have heard some Coridons, or Mechanick fellows.. vending their judgements on him whose Effigies or Portraiture is here represented. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. v. 364 This uncomfortable Doctrine was if not first coined yet mainly vended by the Novatian Party. 1718 BENTLEY *Serm.* x. 369 He that zealously vends his Novelties, what is he but a Trader for the fame of Singularity? 1728 *Freethinker* No. 26, To incite the Men of Scholarship and Capacity to traffick together in Truths; and never to vend Falshoods of any kind to the Vulgar. 1799 MRS. WEST *Tale of Times* III. 387 The most fashionable, and perhaps most successful, way of vending pernicious sentiments has been through the medium of books of entertainment. 1846 G. S. FABER *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 126 Those requisite proofs of a fact, which convict him and Mr. Ward of having..vended a double falsehood. 1907 P. T. FORSYTH *Positive Preaching* iii. 202 He is not free to vend in his pulpit the extravagances of an eccentric individualism.

†4. To give vent to, to direct. *Obs.*

1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* v. Wks. 1716 II. 49 If they will be angry, they should vend their spleen against the said wickedness of their Under-Officers.

Vend, southern ME. var. FIEND; var. WEND *sb.*; obs. f. WEND *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WIND *sb.* and *weened* WEEN *v.*

Vendable, *a.* Now *rare.* [a. OF. *vendable*, f. *vendre* to sell, or (in later use) directly f. VEND *v.* + -ABLE.] = VENDIBLE *a.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5804 But chaunged is this world unstable; For love is over alle vendable. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 112 Saluste..saith that alle thynges be vendable. *c* 1580 W. SPELMAN *Dialogs* (1896) 4 He to returne to me such goodes, as I thought to be vendable in Inglond. 1662 J. BANGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 90 He courted a long time the Barberini..to be made clerk of the apostolick chamber, he being very rich (and that a vendable honour). 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 292/2 The Axe and Cleever are used to cut the quarter of Beasts into smaller and more vendable pieces. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 21 Sept., The vendable commodities of the United States have fallen in price in 20 years more than 45 per cent.

Vendace (ve·ndēs). Also 8 **vangis,** 9 **vendis, vendise.** [app. ad. OF. *vendese, vendoise* (mod.F. *vandoise*) dace.] a. A species of small freshwater fish (*Coregonus vandesius*) belonging to the same genus as the pollan and powan or gwyniad, found in the lake of Lochmaben in Scotland. b. A closely-allied species (*Coregonus gracilior*) found in Derwentwater, formerly identified with the preceding.

[1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustrata* II. II. 26 Piscis in Lacu Mabano, Vandesius. In eodem Lacu Gevandesius.] 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 268 It [the gwiniad] is the same with the Ferra of the lake of Geneva, the Schelley of Hulsewater, the Pollen of Lough Neagh, and the Vangis and Juvangis of Loch Mabon. 1777 — in Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* (1789) I. 61 Guiniad Found in Loch-Mabon; called in those parts the Vendace, and Juvangis; and in Loch-Lomond, where it is called the Poan. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* II. 272 There is one [fish] that, from every information that can be obtained, is peculiar to that loch [Castle Loch]...It is called the Vendise or Vendace. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxiv, *Herlings*, which frequent the Nith, and *vendisses*, which are only found in the Castle-Loch of Lochmaben. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 731/1 The Vendace (*Coregonus Albula*), found also in the Scotch lakes. 1884 BRAITHWAITE *Salmonidæ Westmld.* ii. 5 The vendace or vendis and the smelt, or sparling.

attrib. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 744/1 Vendace-fishing at Lochmaben takes place only on the 1st of August each year. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 366 Vendace Nets, from Lake Wetter. *Ibid.* 372 Gwyniad Roe,..Vendace Roe.

†**Vendage.** *Obs.* Also **vind-, vyndage.** [ad. OF. *vendange* (also mod.F.), *vendenge*:—L. *vindēmia*] Vintage.

a. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 367 May no drynke me moiste ne my thruste slake, Tyl þe vendage falle in þe vale of Iosephath. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Esdras* x. 37 The firste fruytes..of vendage, and of oile. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 619 *Vindemix* [sic], vendage.

β. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* XXV. 5 Grapes of thi first fruytis and vyndage thou shalt not gedere. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* I. 234 Kitte hem streit aftir thi good vyndage. *Ibid.* X. 114 This mone in places warme & nygh the see, Vyndage is hugely to solempnyse.

Vende, southern ME. variant of FIEND *sb.*

Vendean (vendĭ·ăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Vendéan.** [f. F. *Vendée*, the name of a maritime department in western France.]

A. *sb.* An inhabitant of La Vendée, esp. one who took part in the insurrection of 1793 against the Republic.

1796 *Gentl. Mag.* May 407 The Vendeans are extraordinary [illegible] unhappy Vendeans..were defeated with fearful loss. 1903 W. BRIGHT *Age of Fathers* I. xii. 244 The experience of a fugitive Jacobite or Vendéan.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to La Vendée, esp. in connexion with the insurrection of 1793.

1796 *Gentl. Mag.* May 408/1 The Vendean generals. *Ibid.* 412/1 The History of the Vendean War. 1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav.* 149/1 The west..would have been organised once more into Vendean guerillas. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 86 The Vendéan insurrection had been combated by means neither suggested nor directed by the executive. 1912 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 319 The Breton and Vendéan royalists were still formidable.

Vended, *ppl. a.* [f. VEND *v.*] Sold.

1812 CRABBE *Tales* xiv. 116 Suppose..your vended numbers rise The same with those which gain each real prize.

Vendee (vendī·). [f. VEND *v.* + -EE.] The person to whom a thing is sold; the purchaser.

Most frequently in immediate contrast to *vendor*.

1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI*, c. 3 § 8 Such Lessee, donee, vendee, or assignee. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 59 If the writ of covenant be brought against all the vendors by all the vendees. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 117 The Vendee cannot get leave to cutt these trees by any meanes, but the partie must sell the trees to him. 1670 R. COKE *Discourse Trade* 19 Vexatious Suits between Vendor and

Vendee, Mortgagor and Mortgagee. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 447 If the vendor says, the price of a beast is four pounds, and the vendee says he will give four pounds, the bargain is struck. 1827 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 769 A few days after the sale, the vendee gave the factor, in part payment, two promissory notes. 1881 NICHOLSON *From Sword to Share* xiii, Unpaid accounts of three months standing are charged against the vendee at the rate of 12 per cent.

Vender (ve·ndəɹ). [f. VEND *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. VENDOR.]

1. One who sells; a seller; sometimes in restricted sense, a street-seller.

1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. (1635) 60 A deed of gift of goods is..good against the executors, administrators, or vender of the party himselfe. 1681 *Sc. Acts Parlt.* (1820) VIII 243/2 Venders & dispersers of forbidden books. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 251 P 5 Take care in particular, that those may not make the most Noise who have the least to sell, which is very observable in the Venders of Card-matches. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 181 P 11, I inquired diligently at what office any prize had been sold, that I might purchase of a more successful vender.

§ 57 The Swiss reformer was engaged in combating the venders of indulgences. 1866 ENGEL *Nat. Mus.* viii. 301 The melodious cries of venders in the noisy streets of large and populous towns.

fig. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* vi. (1862) 17 He gathered the fruit of knowledge for himself instead of receiving it from the dirty fingers of a retail vender.

2. One who advances or advocates an opinion, etc.

1828 DWIGHT *Theol.* (1830) I. 92 Epicurus, the principal vender of this system.

Hence **Ve·nderess, ve·ndress,** a female seller.

1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 98 Vendress of ballads and the bundled match. 1852 MISS M. B. EDWARDS *John & I*, I. v. 96 A stout girl, venderess of coarse green earthenware from the town.

‖ Vendetta (vende·tă). [It., :—L. *vindicta* vengeance. Cf. VINDICTIVE *a.*]

1. A family blood-feud, usually of a hereditary character, as customary among the inhabitants of Corsica and parts of Italy.

1855 *Edinb. Rev.* CI. 456 Paoli..succeeded in making the vendetta disgraceful. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 63. 209/2 The deadly 'vendetta'..which has sacrificed whole families, and once depopulated an entire village for one girl. 1870 O. W. HOLMES *Old Vol. of Life* (1891) 291, I came away thinking I had discovered a new national custom, as peculiar ..as the Corsican vendetta.

2. A similar blood-feud, or prosecution of private revenge, in other communities.

1862 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages* vii. 66 But there are no traces [among the early Anglo-Saxons] of that *vendetta*, which was the sombre glory of the Welsh. 1891 *Spectator* 7 Mar., The Papuan..would eat everybody, but that he fears arousing endless vendettas.

attrib. 1897 *Humanitarian* X. 209 The vendetta spirit is hereditary.

Hence **Vende·ttist,** one who takes part in, or carries on, a vendetta.

1904 *Times* 2 June 10/3 We..perceive that they are bloodthirsty vendettists.

Vendibi·lity. [See next and -ITY.] The quality of being vendible or saleable.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Doctor* IV. i. rule 2 § 31 In Merchandise, ..in the price of market, and the vendibility of commodities. 1875 LOWER *Eng. Surnames* (ed. 4) II. App. 162 In former times, a bush or a besom affixed to any article denoted its vendibility. 1892 *Jrnl. Education* 1 Feb. 98/1 A course calculated to give their degrees all the prestige attaching to vendibility.

Vendible (ve·ndib'l), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vendibilis*, f. *vendĕre* to sell. So Sp. *vendible*, It. *vendibile*. Cf. VENDABLE *a.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Capable of being vended or sold; that may be disposed of by sale; saleable, marketable.

Freq. with *more, most*, etc., denoting the readiness with which a thing can be sold.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* xi. 3 In to wynnynge of money,..by eche yeeris prentehode vendible, or able to be soold. 1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 91 Wyne..alowed by hym to be good and vendyble. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 37 They come not alwayes for our commodities, but sometimes to sell theirs heere, knowing it heere to be best vendible. 1633 PRYNNE *1st Pt. Histriom.* Ep. Ded., Play-books..being now more vendible than the choycest Sermons. *Ibid.* 905 They cannot therefore bee vendible because they are not valuable. 1679 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 275 The University of Oxford, by their printing of Bibles, and other saleable books, will be enabled to go forward with those other less vendible. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Kiv b, This to make it vendible, is first knocked out with a Hammer, and the dead Stuff picked out as clean as may be. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* IX. iii. III. 232 They get rid of some commodity, not very vendible. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 980 In this way all the vendible coal becomes available. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 90/2 A thing made which is useful for its own sake, and vendible as such.

transf. 1582 BURGHLEY in D. Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 304 He is altogether French and will seek to draw this King into France, where his life I fear will be vendible. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 112 Silence is onely commendable In a neats tongue dri'd, and a maid not vendible.

b. = VENAL *a.* 1 b and 1 c.

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* x. (1599) 427 Fauors and voyces being made vendible and corrupted, discords..haue bin kindled amongst themselues. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1594) I. 377 So long as the places of judgement shall be vendible, and bestowed upon him that offereth most. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. 76 It is not our customs, to sell our curtesies as a vendible commodity. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 788 In England and Germany Forces were levied and raised for both parties with a vendible faith. 1791 BURKE *Wks.* (1837) I. 566 It attached, under the royal government, to an innumerable multitude of places, real and nominal, that were vendible.

†c. Of persons: = VENAL *a.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 493 Environed he was with a multitude thronged together of vendible or sale souldiors. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 424 Those were sellable, vendible men,..to be sold for money. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) Pref. p. xxiii, I would not have him learn the custom of those vendible souls there, who.. serve any prince for money.

†2. Offered for sale; that may be bought or purchased. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Vendible, or whych maye be bought, *mercalis, vendibilis.* 1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 281 Lentils.. was the vsuall food..commonly vendible in their tabernes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 150 Houses, like our Tauernes, Where is vendible Wine. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 144 He, not finding any [book] vendible therein, caus'd a small one to be purposely transcrib'd for me. 1756 EARL CHESTERF. in *Connoisseur* No. 107, I am so great an admirer of the fair sex, that I never let a tittle of their vendible writings escape me.

†3. *fig.* Current, accepted, acceptable. *Obs.*

1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 20 Certaine vulgar Phrases, Proverbs, and Complements, which are peculiar to the English, and not vendible or used in French. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 234 Let the foppish canonist with his fardel of matrimonial cases goe and be vendible where men bee so unhappy as to cheap'n him. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 16. 281 Some may still suspect all this to have been nothing else but a refinement and interpolation of Paganism, .. or a kind of Mangonization of it, to render it more vendible and plausible.

B. *sb.* A thing admitting of being sold or offered for sale.

1681 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 520 The prizes of all vendibles for the belly of man and horse were stuck up in public places. 1691 — *Ath. Oxon.* (1721) II. 384 It appears that the said Revolutions were occasion'd by the excessive Gabells laid upon common Vendibles. 1697 J. POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. xv. (1715) 82 In the Market, where they had the care of all Vendibles. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xxix, The farmers .taking their vendibles to the neighbouring towns on the Tuesdays. 1905 HOLMAN HUNT *Pre-Raphaelism* I. 368 The gorgeous group of vendibles in the market.

Hence **Ve·ndibleness; Ve·ndibly** *adv.*

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 20 The greater they do then abide, the vendibler, or readier they will be to be solde. 1611 COTGR., *Venalité*, venalitie, vendiblenesse; a being salable. *Ibid.*, *Venalement*, vendibly, salably. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vendiblaness*, Saleableness.

†**Ve·ndicate,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *vendicāt-*, ppl. stem of *vendicāre*, variant of *vindicāre* VINDICATE *v.* Cf. obs. F. *vendiquer.*]

1. *trans* To claim for oneself.

1532 ELYOT *Gov* III. iii His body so pertayneth unto him, that none other without his consent may vendicate therein any propretie. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1, They..haue vsurped, and vendicated a fayned and an vnlawfull power and iurisdiction within this realme. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) To Rdr. iiij, Not that we vendicat any thing to our selues aboue the least of our brethren. 1611 COTGR., *Vendiquer*, to vendicate; to claime, or challenge. [Hence in Blount (1656).]

2. With inf.: To assert a claim, to claim ability, *to* do something.

1557 N. T. (Geneva) 1 *Cor.* ii. 2, I dyd not vendicat to my selfe to knowe any thyng among you, saue Iesus Christe. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XII. 230 Wee have twoe Ladies, which, with your trim paire, dare vendicate to singe.

Vendicatife, -yue, obs. varr. VINDICATIVE *a.*

†**Vendication.** *Obs.*—[f. VENDICATE *v.*, after the entry in Blount *Glossogr.*] (See quot.)

1658 PHILLIPS, *Vendication*, a challenging to oneself, a claiming.

Vendicion, obs. form of VENDITION.

Ve·nding, *vbl. sb.* [f. VEND *v.*] The action of selling or retailing.

1666 *Act* 17 *Chas. II*, c. 5 § 2 Any publick Vending of the said Books. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. xxvi. 254 For the raising and vending of provisions. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xiii. 338 The famous mercantile society, called the Merchant Adventurers,..was instituted..for the vending of the cloth abroad. 1822 LAMB *Elia* I. *Praise Chimney-Sweepers*, [He] kept open a shop..for the vending of this 'wholesome and pleasant beverage'. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 38 Now it will astonish most of my hearers that I have included the vending of oysters amongst noxious trades.

Vendis(e, variants of VENDACE.

Vendish, variant of WENDISH *a.*

†**Ve·nditate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *venditāt-*, ppl. stem of *venditāre*, frequentative of *vendĕre* to sell.] *refl.* and *trans.* To set out as if for sale; to put forward or display in a favourable light or in a specious manner; to exhibit ostentatiously. (Common *c* 1600–50.)

refl. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. xxxv. 110 Using them as instruments to venditate himselfe forth to the common people. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. i. ii. Although hee.. venditate himselfe for a God, by curing of seuerall diseases. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 361 Their doctrine..wanting fit opportunity to venditate it self publickly vpon the stage. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* I. 10 Those philosophers..which made their knowledge only matter of ostentation, to venditate and set off themselves.

trans. 1620 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 345 Euer as any of these new commers can venditate and vaunt his owne cunning with braue words, straitwaies we put our selues into his hands. 1624 F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 437 The miracles which Romists venditate .. are either Fryars fables, or misapplyed. 1678 MARVELL *Def. K. Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 239 Let it, in the meantime, venditate all its street adages, its odd ends of Latin.

Venditation. [ad. L. *venditātio*, noun of action from *venditāre*: see prec.]

†1. The action of putting forward or displaying in a favourable or ostentatious manner. *Obs.*

1609 SIR E. HOBY *Lett. Mr. T. H.* 74 Calvins censure of Purgatorie is held by you as a specious venditation. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 3) XXX. 76 The venditation of our owne worth, or parts, or merits, argues a miserable indigence in them all. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discoveries* Wks. (Rtldg.) 747/2 Some [wits], by a..false venditation of their own naturals, think to divert the sagacity of their readers from themselves.

2. The action of offering for sale. *rare*—[1].

1844 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 163 The orangewomen stride over the benches with clamorous 'venditation'.

Vendition (vendi·ʃən). Also 6 **vendicion,** *Sc.* **-itioune, wend-,** 7 *Sc.* **venditioun.** [ad. L. *venditio*, noun of action from *vendĕre* to sell. So OF. *vendicion*, obs. F. *vendition*, Sp. *vendicion*, It. *vendizione.*] The action of selling; disposal or transfer by sale.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 109 b, It might more truely bee called a spuying, then a vendicion or sale. 1559 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1896) II. 73 The venditioune and alienatioune maid thairof to the said Androw. 1608 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parallel* 29 It is of a vendition by the tenant in taile. 1639 ARROWSMITH *Chain Princ.* 490 His directing and ordering great sins to great good, as Josephs vendition to the Churches preservation. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII. 60 Several taverns are set apart solely for the vendition of this liquor. 1828 SEWELL in *Oxf. Prize Ess.* 26 The still more prevailing practice of vendition to slavery and prostitution. 1863 *Temple Bar* IX. 65 The Marché St. Honoré is the most usual place for their vendition.

†**Ve·nditive,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vendit-*, ppl. stem of *vendĕre* to sell.] (See quot.)

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 10 There is a service of Inferioritie; which is either: 1. Voluntary,..Or..5. Native, such as are borne servants,..Or 6. Venditive, that have sold themselves.

†**Ve·nditor.** *Obs. rare.* Also 8 *Sc.* **vanditor.** [a. L. *venditor*, agent-noun from *vendĕre* to sell, or ad. It. *venditore.*] A seller, vendor.

1598 *Money masters all things* 89 The Venditors of Oatmeal round and small, Do diligently walt on Money's Call. 1733 LADY BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 340 To the venditor in full for Moneths 5, £4 0 0.

†**Vendonging.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. OF. *vendenger, -anger* (F. *vendanger*), f. *vendenge, -ange*: see VENDAGE.] The vintage.

1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Þe obre beggeþ..ine berneste þet corn, ine uendonginge þet wyn.

Vendor (ve·ndɔɹ). [a. late AF. *vendor*, earlier *vendour* (F. *vendeur*), agent-noun from *vendre* VEND *v.* Cf. VENDER.] One who disposes of a thing by sale; a seller.

Orig. *Law*, and still the regular spelling in legal use.

1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 59 If the writ of covenant be brought against all the vendors by all the vendees. 1662 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 131 It is true indeed..that then such vendor does equally to all sellers, and in exchanging observes arithmetical proportion. 1670 [see VENDEE]. *a* 1692 POLLEXFEN *Disc. Trade* (1697) A 6 From the first Buyer to the last Vendor. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 447 Where the vendor hath in himself..the property of the thing sold. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 30 The vendor would immediately have become a trustee for the purchaser. 1860 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 4 The vendors of quack medicines and cosmetics are aware of the power of Greek nomenclature. 1891 M. WILLIAMS *Later Leaves* v. 63 A well-known..vendor of ladies' hats and bonnets.

transf. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 30 March 2/2 The automatic vendor has become an institution in our midst.

attrib. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 May 6/2 The vendor company is now selling the business to a public company.

†**Vendosy.** *Obs.*—[1] [ad. F. *vendoise*: see VENDACE.] The dace.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* O iij, The perche and pike are the best, so they be fatte: and next are the vendoises, and than lopsters.

Vendress, var. VENDERESS.

Vendrosse: see KERRODS 2 (quot. 1552).

Vendue (vendiū·). *U.S.* and *W. Indies.* Also 7 **vendu,** 9 **vendoo, vandew.** [a. Du. *vendu*, †*vendue*, a. older F. (now dial.) *vendue* sale, f. *vendre* to sell.]

1. A public sale; an auction. Freq. in phr. *at* (*a*) *vendue, by vendue*: see first group of quots.

(*a*) 1686 *Ann. Albany* (1890) II 93 Which said lotts of grounde ye common councill will dispose of at a publike vendu or out cry. 1748 SMOLLETT *R. Random* XXXVI. I. 304, I went ashore [at Port Royal], and having purchased a laced waistcoat..at a vendue [1760 a sale], made a swaggering figure. 1757 WOOLMAN *Jrnl.* IV. (1840) 55 When estates are sold by executors at vendue. *Even. Post* 25 May 263/2 To be sold by ..large quantity of Ship Timber. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* .. 20/2, I was..knocked down at vendue to old 'Squire Kegworth. 1898 PASMENTER *Hist. Pelham, Mass.* 167 Bidding off the poor to support at the lowered vendue, or lowest bidder.

(*b*) 1750 J. ADAMS *Diary* Wks. 1850 II. 73, I am to attend a vendue this afternoon at Lambert's. 1768 MRS. ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 402 The retailing vendues, which are tolerated here, ruin the shop-keepers. Shall

PECKARD *Tour W. Indies* II. 325 A Dutch 'vendue' of slaves. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxvii, Is it a vandew, or a weddin,..or what is it? 1837 W. D. HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 6 [To] have a vendue, and sell out everything before the snow flew.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vendue-crier, master, room, store.*

1710 *S. Carolina Stat.* (1837) II. 348 The person herein after appointed publick vendue master, or his deputy. 1762 *Descr. S. Carolina* 33 There is also..a Receiver-general of the Quit-rents, a Vendue Master, and Naval Officer. 1798 *Bay's Rep.* (1809) I. 103 The goods were in a vendue store, a common market, a public place known and established in law. 1799 *The Aurora* (Philad.) 10 Apr. (Thornton), By profession he is a vendue crier. He said he would cry the vendue in spite of the Standing Army. 1818 *Life Planter Jamaica* 180 Marly entered the vendue room. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Vendue-master*,..an auctioneer.

† Vene. *Obs rare.* [ad. L. *vēna.*] A vein.

1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xxxiv. 139 The Sea.. powreth foorth in venes to fill the springs and receiueth it againe from the Riuers. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* v. lxxv, In ech Mans Body so many Venes appeer. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Dis. Physick* 5 Likewise Virsungus might treat more fully of the Pancr[e]atick Juice, as Asellius of the Lacteal Venes.

Vene, obs. Sc. form of WEEN *sb.* and *v.*

† Venecreke, variant of *fenegreke* FENUGREEK.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* ciij b, Take venecreke and then anoynt itt with this Oyntement afforsayde.

Venedo·tian, *a.* [f. med.L. *Venedotia* North Wales.] Of or pertaining to North Wales.

1841 *Anc. Laws & Inst. Wales* Pref. p. vii, The Venedotian Code, said to be the compilation of Jorwerth, son of Madog. *Ibid.* p. x, The Venedotian or North Wales Code. 1887 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 77 The last important head of law in the Venedotian code.

Venee, variant of VENY 2 *Obs.*

Veneer (vĭnī·ə), *sb.* Also 8 **fanneer, vaneer, venear,** 9 **vineer.** [ad. G. *furni(e)r, fourni(e)r,* †*fornier* in the same sense: see next and VENEERING *vbl. sb.* The loss of *r* in the unstressed first syllable also appears in Da. *finer,* Sw. *fanér,* Russ. фанéръ.]

1. One of the thin slices or slips of fine or fancy wood, or other suitable material, used in veneering.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3806/8 A Large Parcel of French Walnutt-Tree Venears will be exposed to Sale..on Thursday. 1806 *Ann. Reg.* (1808) 560/2 A new mode of cutting veneers, or thin boards. 1823 *Macclesfield Courier* in O. W. Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* (1827) 302 The largest and finest log of mahogany ever imported into this country ..sawn into vineers. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* § x. 372 Put in as many veneers as the liquor will cover.

2. Material prepared for use in veneering, or applied to a surface by this or some similar process.

1730 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* VII. II. 43 This [ash] wood and walnut-tree..makes the best of fanneer. 1778 W. PAIN *Carpenter's Repository* Pl. 56 A circular Plan..representing the Vaneer and Backing for the Stiles. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 586 By gluing several thicknesses of veneer upon each other. 1843 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. IV. 212 The cabinet-maker buys the veneer in this rough state. *Ibid.*, He cuts a piece of veneer. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 319 One of the legs [of the chair was] broken and the grand veneer knocked off the back.

b. *In veneer,* in thin plates or slips.

1558 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 333 Presents, ponderous with Ind ivory in veneer, commands he to be borne Unto the ships.

3. *fig.* A merely outward show or appearance *of* some good quality. (Cf. VARNISH *sb.*[1] 4.)

1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxxii, A veneer of useful knowledge. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* I. iv. 44 A savage barbarian with a thin veneer of corrupt and superficial civilisation. 1882 W. BALLANTINE *Exper.* xv. 148 [The] heartfelt courtesy..was replaced by a superficial veneer of forced politeness.

b. Without article.

1871 *Daily News* 7 Dec., A gentleman with some polish—I was almost tempted to say with some veneer. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 165/2 These days of veneer and affectation in buildings and nomenclature.

4. One or other of many species of moths of the genus *Crambus* or family *Crambidæ*; a grass-moth.

1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 386 *Crambus sanguinea.* The buff-edged rosy Veneer. *Ibid.* 408 *C. arborum.* The yellow satin Veneer. 1832 RENNIE *Consp. Moths* 215–9.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *veneer-cutter, -making, merchant, -mill, -room, saw, wood.*

Also *veneer-press,* and *veneer bending, -cutting, -planing, -polishing, -straightening machine* (1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2699–2702).

1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 148 The 'veneer-rooms' at such [pianoforte] factories are places of importance. 1852 JERDAN *Autobiog.* II. xiv. 181 He..purchased all the veneer wood which he could obtain. 1854 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 798/1 In all veneer saws the edge must run very true. *Ibid.*, In saw-mills where veneers are cut, the arrangement of the segment saw is called a veneer-mill. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Veneer-cutter,* one who saws furniture wood into thin lengths, by steam-power machinery. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 138/2 These methods of veneer-making. 1894 *Daily News* 8 June 8/4 Witnesses ..who deposed to knowing prisoner in the characters of a veneer merchant, a tankard maker, and an inventor.

Veneer (vĭnī·ə), *v.* Also 8 **vaneer, veneir.** [Later form (cf. next) of FINEER *v.*, ad. G. *furni(e)ren, fourni(e)ren,* ad. F. *fournir* FURNISH *v.* Cf. Da. *finere,* Sw. *fanéra.*]

1. *trans.* To apply or fix as veneering.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Marquetry,* All the Pieces thus formed with the Saw,..they veneer or fasten each in its Place on the common Ground. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2700/2 To veneer marble on zinc.

2. To cover or face with veneer.

Also ECCLES. *transf.*, to cover with a layer or facing of some different or superior material.

1742 *Butterwille's Pat.* in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 150 To veneer the Frames of Printings and Pictures,..the fronts of Cabinets, Bureos, &c., now usually veneered with Ebony, Whalebone, &c. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 171 The pulpit is veneered, and carved with..figures. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 206 We suppose our table.. made either of solid mahogany or veneered upon deal. 1854 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 797/2 Pape, of Paris, some years ago, veneered a piano-forte entirely with ivory. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 758 Mr. Burges' proposal to veneer the lower part..with marble is objectionable.

transf. 1857 DUPPERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 316 The salt-water bay..was veneered over with a pellicle of ice one-eighth of an inch in thickness.

b. *fig.* To invest with a merely external or specious appearance of some commendable or attractive quality. Usu const. *with.*

1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* Prol. 117 And one the Master, as a rogue in grain Veneer'd with sanctimonious theory. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* lxvi, Another lady of neglected education, whom..Elizabeth was veneering with thin plates of knowledge. 1872 JEAFFRESON *Brides & Bridals* I. viii. 126 Paganism thinly veneered with Christianity.

absol. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 123 He? *Veneers* in first-rate style. The mahogany scales off now and then.

c. To serve as a veneer to (something).

1875 M. COLLINS *Sweet & Twenty* II. II. i. 175 He returned with a vast amount of polish, which, however, veneered a good deal of conceit.

Hence **Venee·red** *ppl. a.*

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 18 A carved pulpit, a veneered sounding-board. 1846 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 214 They are placed so that the veneered surface shall be grasped between the two clamps. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 140 The veneered furniture has ousted the more solid, trustworthy articles.

fig. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 798/1 The thinly veneered Berserkir in the English race.

transf. 1889 *Textile News* 5 Apr. 26/2 The Hat Trade... Large quantities of coloured veneered goods are in demand from abroad.

Venee·ring, *vbl. sb.* [Later form of *faneering, fineering* (cf. FINEER *v.*), ad. G. *furni(e)rung, fourni(e)rung*: see prec. and cf. Da. *finering,* Sw. *fanering.*

The form *faneering* occurs in 1670 in Evelyn *Sylva* xxiv. 121, and in 1685 in Cotton *Montaigne's Ess.* (1711) III. 247. *Fineering* is common in the 18th cent.]

1. The process of applying thin flat plates or slips of fine wood (or other suitable material, as ivory) to cabinet-work or similar articles in order to produce a more elegant or polished surface than that of the underlying material; also, the result obtained by this process.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Veneering,* a sort of In-laid Work among Joyners, Cabinet-makers &c. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Marquetry,* The whole is..polish'd with the Skin of the Sea-dog, Wax, and Shave-Grass, as in simple Vaneering. 1762 DERRICK *Lett.* (1767) II. 66 Their polish is high; the inlaying and veneering very beautiful. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 611 The old wood furnishes the cabinet-maker with a beautiful material for veneering. 1854 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 798/2 The operations of veneering consist in glueing the veneer to the prepared surface, and cleaning and polishing it when so fixed. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 421/1 In veneering with the hammer, cut the veneer a little larger than the surface to be covered.

transf. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2700 A process termed *veneering* has been adopted with some kinds of pottery where a strong but coarse and unsightly ware is dipped.. into a paste of superior color and quality.

b. *fig.* (Cf. VENEER *v.* 2 b.)

1808 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. vi. 208 By this sort of veneering, he converts..articles which, in their original state, might hang in the market [etc.]. 1846 FORD *Gatherings fr. Spain* (1906) 238 There is little originality in Spanish medicine. It is chiefly a veneering of other men's ideas. 1867 O. W. HOLMES *Guardian Angel* iv, He had been a good scholar in college, not so much by hard study as by skilful veneering. 1884 G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* (1887) 126 The ..veneering of the mind with new impressions.

2. Wood or other material in the form of veneer; a facing of this.

1789 BURNS *Sketch,* Veneering oft outshines the solid wood. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* ii. § 18. 46 A veneering of marble has been fastened on the rough brick wall. 1852 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3411, The veneering being laid in cement instead of glue, will bear an immense amount of heat..before it will strip from the underwood.

transf. 1866 CARLYLE *Reminis.* (1881) II. 275 Book press of rough deal, but covered with newspaper veneering where necessary.

b. *fig.* (Cf. VENEER *v.* 2 b.)

1865 *Reader* 4 Mar. 253/3 Though the great mass..have but a veneering of education and accomplishment. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. x. 372 A very thin veneering of mediævalism..covered his modern creed. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 235 The thin veneering of civilisation gets worn off.

3. *attrib.*, as *veneering-hammer, -plane, -press.*

A *fanseering-saw* is mentioned in 1688 by R. Holme *Armoury* 365/1.

1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 212 This veneering-plane is of small size, and the iron..is jagged with a number of notches. *Ibid.* 213 A piece of wood about three inches square and an inch thick has a straight strip of iron-plate fixed to one edge, and is called a veneering-hammer. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 138/2 The surfaces..are..tightly pressed together in a veneering press.

† Venefic, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* In 7–8 **venefick.** [ad. L. *venēfic-us, f. venēnum* poison: see -FIC. So older F. *venefique,* It., Sp., Pg. *venefico.*]

A. *adj.* Practising, or dealing in, poisoning; acting by poison; having poisonous effects.

1648 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 27 So may it bee the Serpentine, the Venefick or Poysonous Witch. 1652 tr. *Father Paul Sarpi's Life* (1676) 92 But it appears that science hath a venefick vertue of swelling many men. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* II. App. (1852) 212 If Ley gave it under their hands that if we believe no venefick witchcraft, we must renounce the Scripture.

B. *sb.* One who practises poisoning as a secret art; a sorcerer or sorceress; a wizard or witch.

So L. *venēficus* masc. and *venēfica* fem.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 173 Is it a matter of much artifice for veneficks, or witches, to forespeak their own purposed and laboured malefice?

† Vene·fical, *a. Obs.* [See prec. and -AL.] **a.** = VENEFIC *a.* Also *fig.* **b.** Practising, associated with, malignant sorcery or witchcraft.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* VI. iv. (1886) 95 *marg.*, Of a butcher a right venefical witch. 1609 B. JONSON *Masque of Queens* Wks. (Rtldg.) 566 These witches..came forth.. with spindles, timbrels, rattles, or other venefical instruments. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 39 This they urge as a proof of the possibility of venefical and metamorphosing or transforming magick. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 57 The loose sheets of Northern Sorceries, translated from the original Code of the venefical Text. 1716 *Ibid.* II. To Rdr. 9 The same Contagious and Venefical Distemper of Brains and Body.

Hence **† Vene·fically** *adv. Obs.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 280 A magician..wrought it venefically, so that the poore man fell suddenly into a strange disease.

† Vene·fice. *Obs.* [ad. L. *venēficium,* f. *venēficus* VENEFIC *a.* So OF. *venefice,* F. *vénéfice,* It., Sp., Pg. *veneficio.*] The practice of employing poison or magical potions; the exercise of sorcery by such means.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 349 Þe sixte werk of leccherie is venefice, þat is þanne done whan men usen experimentis to geten þis werk of leccherie. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 72 By knots, .. incantations, or other impoisonings, and venefices, to harme, endamage, or hurt any other. 1626 SIR J. ELLIOTT *Def.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll* (1659) I. 362 Nor did he apply the Veneries and Venefices of Sejanus to the Duke. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* To Rdr., I..tear them not at all; not their..incantations, venefices, malefices, &c.

† Venefi·cial, *a. Obs.* [f. prec.] = VENEFICAL *a.*

a 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 200 Simaetha the Witch..doth manifestly declare it, where speaking of her venefitial Philtra [etc.]. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 99 As for the Magicall vertues in this plant, and conceived efficacie unto veneficiall intentions, it seemeth unto me a Pagan relique derived from the ancient Druides. 1658 — *Gard. Cyrus* 199 Why the Goddesses sit commonly crosse-legged in ancient draughts, Since Juno is described in the same as a venefical posture to hinder the birth of Hercules?

Venefi·cious, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. as prec.] = VENEFICAL *a.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 266 That it was an old veneficious practice, and Juno is made in this posture to hinder the delivery of Alcmena. 1650 CHARLETON tr. *Van Helmont's Paradoxes* 53 In this place we have nothing to doe with Veneficious Witches, properly called Sorcerers. 1702 SHERBURNE *Seneca's Trag.* 207 *note,* The Bonds and Fetters of veneficious Incantations. 1904 LE QUEUX *Closed Book* xxxvi, The actual poison-ring of that veneficious bacchante, Lucrezia Borgia.

Hence **Venefi·ciously** *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 265 Lest witches should draw or pricke their names therein, and veneficiously mischiefe their persons.

Vene·ficous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *venēfic-us* + -OUS.] = VENEFICAL *a.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 593 Mercury, wherewith a veneficous Circulator at Lutetia promised the cure of all diseases. 1831 in Madden *Will. Wenlock* (Roxb. Cl.) 10 A cup of beer, prepared by one who is skilled in such veneficous arts.

† Venefy. *Obs.*[1] = VENEFICE.

1626 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VIII. 130 *note,* Leyfurcke.. vsd all violence and art, which lay in vile Videreacs venefies, to crosse and disappoint the destanies.

Venegre, obs. var. VINEGAR. **Veneison,** obs. f. VENISON. **Venel,** obs. f. VENNEL. **Venem(e,** obs. ff. VENOM *sb.* and *v.* **Venemous(e,** obs. ff. VENOMOUS *a.* **Venemyn,** obs. f. VENOM *v.*

† Vene·nate, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *venēnāt-us,* pa. pple. of *venēnāre*: see next.] Poisoned; infected or imbued with poison or poisonous properties.

1633 T. JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* App. 1605 They affirme that this fruit hath a wonderfull efficacie against venenate qualities and putrefaction. 1634 — *Parey's Chirurg.* IX. xi. 331 The wound must be dilated..that so the venenate matter may flow forth more freely. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 4019 The fermentation of the venenat humors being quelled, and the pores closed. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* (1729) II. i. 22 They give this in Fevers after Calcination, by which means the venenate Parts are carried off.

† Vene·nate, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *venēnāt-,* ppl. stem of *venēnāre, f. venēn-um* poison.] *trans.* To poison; to render poisonous.

1623 COCKERAM II, To Poyson, *Venenate.* 1665 G. HARVEY *Adv. agst. Plague* 5 The air..must be first venenated or rendred poysonous. *Ibid.* 7 The said Miasms entring the

Body are not so Energick as to venenate the intire mass of blood in an instant.

So † **Ve·nenated** *ppl. a. Obs.*

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xvi. 11 When poyson'd lawes and venenated stings, Were both as opposite against content.

† **Venena·tion.** *Obs.* [See prec. and -ATION.] The action of, or a means of, poisoning.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. vii. 119 That this venenation shooteth from the eye, and that this way a Basilisk may empoyson,..it is not a thing impossible. *Ibid.* VII. xix. 385 For, surely there are subtiler venenations, such as will invisibly destroy.

Vene·ne, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [Irreg. ad. L. *venēn-um* poison.] Poisonous, venomous.

1665 G. HARVEY *Adv. agst. Plague* 2 A great ebullition or fermentation ensuing between the Venene Corpuscles and the Vital Spirits. *Ibid.* 7 The more sulphurous parts.. assume a venene nature, which expiring infect and venenate the air. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 503/1 Which drives away by sweat the malignity of Venene, Pestilential, and Venereal Diseases. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipapoph.* vi. § 2. 225 It would leave behind no poisonous or venene particle of matter.

Veneni·ferous, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *venēnifer* (Ovid): see -FEROUS.] (See quot.) Also **Veneni·fluous** *a.*, flowing with or discharging venom.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venenifrous*, that bears poyson, venemous. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The venenifluous fang of a rattlesnake.

Vene·no-, employed as combining form of L. *venēnum* poison, as *veneno-sa·livary* adj.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 944 They finally find their way into the large grape-like cells and ducts of the three-lobed veneno-salivary gland.

Venenose, *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. late L. *venēnōs-us*, f. *venēn-um* poison: see -OSE. So It., Sp., Pg. *venenoso.*] Poisonous, venomous.

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 275 The venenose vapour.. ascends not a foot from the ground 1691 — *Creation* II. (1692) 77 All .. Warts, Tumors and Excrescencies, where any Insects are found, are excited or raised up..by some Venenose Liquor. 1698 — in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 85 The venenose Quality of this Plant. 1837 MILLINGEN *Cur. Med. Exp.* (1839) 376 Many absurd ideas regarding venenose substances prevailed in ancient days as well as in modern times. 1845 T. COOPER *Purgatory of Suicides* II. xxix, The younger Hellene ceased; and..The elder..now, ebriate with rage, Dashes to earth the foul venenose draught.

† **Veneno·sity.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *venēnōsitas*: see prec. and -OSITY. So It. *venenosità*, Sp. *venenosidad*, older F. *venenosité* (Paré).] Poisonous quality or property.

1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 16b, Men have nede to beware, what medycines they ye eyve, that in them be no venenositie, malyce, or corruption. 1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* 24 Notwithstanding this their venenositie attributed to them by Avicen.. I woulde not willinglie refuse them for austentation. 1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* xv. 109 Poysonable spirits..may be mingled with metals, so that they may participate of their venenositie. 1665 G. HARVEY *Adv. agst. Plague* 14 We should continually fortifie our spirits with internal Antidotes, to expell those Venenosities, as fast as they croud in. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Wks.* (1772) IV. 318 The venenosity they suspect in that corrosive menstruum.

Vene·nous, *a.* Now *rare.* Also 5 *Sc.* **venenows,** 7 **venenouse.** [ad. late L. *venēnōs-us*, or f. L. *venēn-um* + -OUS Cf. F. *vénéneux.*] = VENENOSE *a.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. iv. 319 A serpent al vgly,..Fel apperande and venenows. *Ibid.* VII. vii. 1353 His mynyster, þat made hym þan serwis, Prewaly put in his chalice Venenows poysson. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venenous*, full of poyson or venom. 1662 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 328 If it exceed it's turned into the plague, which is a venenouse disease of the heart. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1714/5 That Traiterous, Venenous, Insinuating and Trapaning Association, lately found in the Closet of the Earl of Shaftsbury.

Venerabi·lity. [ad. med.L. *venerābilitās*: see next and -ITY. So It. *venerabilità*, Pg. *-ilidade.*]

1. The quality of being venerable.

1664 H. MORE *Antid. Idolatry* viii. 93 The Images have according to the excellency and venerability of their Prototypes, some Latria [etc.]. 1805 R. P. KNIGHT *Princ. Taste* (ed. 2) II. ii. 161 This air of venerability (which belongs to the sublime, and not to the beautiful). 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX 388 [They] have lost the loveliness of youth, without having gained the venerability of age. *a* 1849 POE *Wks.* (1864) III. 405 Far be it from us..to dwell irreverently on matters which have venerability. 1904 *Athenæum* 24 Dec. 886/1 Its conventions are..as much a part of its venerability as the trappings of the Lord Mayor's Show.

2. Employed as a form of address to an ecclesiastic. *rare*⁻¹.

1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* v, I lived in the family of the Countess **, at Cintra, when your venerability was her spiritual guide.

Venerable (ve·nĕrăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–6 *Sc.* **venerabill** (5–lle). [a. OF. *venerable* (mod.F. *vénérable*, = Sp. *venerable*, Pg. *veneravel*, It. *venerabile*) or ad. L. *venerābilis*, f. *venerārī* to venerate.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of persons: Worthy of being venerated, revered, or highly respected and esteemed, on account of character or position: a. As an epithet of ecclesiastics (or ecclesiastical bodies), now *spec.* of archdeacons or, in the Roman Catholic Church, of those who have attained the first degree of canonization. (Freq. abbreviated as *Ven.*)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 187 Venerable fadern of religion were in Egipte in this tyme. 1437 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bann. Cl.) 285 A venerabill fadir in crist Androw.. Abbot of Dunfermlyn. 1455 *Reg. Aberdeen.* (Maitland Cl.) I. 275 Be it kendo..me Valter of Deskfurde..to be oblyst ..til ane venerabille man master Johnne of Clat. 1500 *Reg. Privy Seal Scotl.* I. 69/1 Ane Letter..to ane venerable fader Henry, abbot of Cambuskynneth. *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1911) IX. 336 Much Relishing vn^ble Father Bakers..Bookes, wch she write out and faithfully practised. 1730 HOSTON *Mem.* xii. 418 Having the Dissent by me in writ, from which I read it before this Venerable Assembly [the synod]. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 103 Here ..lie together the sacred bodies of the venerable fathers Sosius and Severinus. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* v. iv. 120 In the same age, Peter the Venerable, of Cluny, was defending the use of them [organs] against the Petrobrusians. 1872 *The Month* Aug. 25 The Ven. Bartholomew Holshauser..died in Germany in 1658. 1894 *Daily News* 29 Jan. 5 Joan of Arc has been..declared 'venerable' by the Congregation of Rites. That is..the first step to sainthip.

b. In general use. *rare.*

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 131 Hee was..a man so venerable amongst both the Christians, and Heathen, that his ordinary style was, The Doctor of whole Asia. 1681 in Ingleby *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (Shaks. Soc.) 386, I can't..omit the first Famous Masters in't of our Nation, Venerable Shakespear and the great Ben Johnson. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 195 We have often regretted the particular fault, which, though in venerable characters, we must have been blind not to see. 1755 W. DUNCAN *Cicero's Sel. Orat.* ix. (1816) 297 It is with justice..that Ennius bestows upon poets the epithet of *venerable.*

c. Const. *for* (something) or *to* (persons). *rare.*

1653 VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 53 A man even to his enemies venerable for his piety. 1713 BERKELEY *Ess. Guardian* i. Wks. III. 144 Persons who have devoted themselves to the service of God are venerable to all who fear Him. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* II. viii. § 29. 256 The Archbishop of Arles, venerable for his years and his virtues.

2. Commanding veneration or respect by reason of age combined with high personal character and dignity of appearance; having an impressive appearance in virtue of years and personal qualities.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Lion & Mouse* 64, I said, Esope, my Maister Venerabill, I 3ow beseik [etc.]. 1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* ii. (1570) B j b/2 Suche men with princes be sene more acceptable Then men of wisedome & clarkes venerable. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* vi. 86 b, Daniel was now a right venerable sage olde father more then lxxx. yeares olde. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* Proem. 4 O thou venerable father of antient (and therefore hoary) customes, Sylvanus, I inuoke thy assistance. 1630 BULWER *Anthrop.* 130 Man shews more venerable, especially if by age his hairs be every where fairly superabundantly circumfused. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 73 A venerable old gentleman, who, they say, had been high pontiff of Rome in the days of yore. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 87 Said to be the House of Simeon, that venerable old Prophet. 1787 BURNS *Let. J. Skinner* 25 Oct., Reverend and Venerable Sir, Accept..my most sincere thanks [etc.]. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 303 Amongst those executed before Belgrade were venerable Senators..and aged and renowned Woiwodes. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* i, A white beard which made him look venerable against his will. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* IV. ii. 143 A venerable country gentleman who had seen a great deal of the world.

transf. 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 4 Cattle and gray venerable horses came and hung their mild heads over the embankment.

b. Applied to personal features or attributes of these.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 325 The father, with a father's fears: (His venerable eyes bedimm'd with tears). 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* II. 292 His slender hairs, which time had silver'd o'er, Flow'd venerable down. 1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Dissent. Ch.* II. 50 Mr. Barker was in person well made,..and of a venerable appearance. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXX, He wore a breast-plate, over which descended a grey beard of venerable length. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 314 *note*, The king might naturally call the old man γεραιφορος from his prudence and venerable aspect.

3. Of things: a. Worthy of, to be regarded with, religious reverence.

1504 LADY MARGARET tr. *De Imitatione* IV. i. 261 Wherefore than shulde nat I be more inflamed in thy venerable presence? 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 173 Our Lordes holy woundes fiue, His handes, his feete, and his crosse venerable. 1596 BELL. *Surv. Popery* III. x. 405 How wilt thou touch thy mouth with his venerable blood? 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 339 Among the vnequall numbers the seauenth hath the first place, whose maiesty and diuinitie is so great, that the antients tearmed it sacred and venerable. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epist.* (1647) 169 A Bishop hath no new power in the consecration of the Venerable Eucharist, more then a Presbyter hath. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 539 The day of Expiation was..much more sacred and venerable than the common sabbath. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. 322 What a venerable and fearful place is a Church. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. iii. § 12 A strong natural feeling of reverence accumulates a store of ideas of things venerable. 1879 C. G. ROSSETTI *Seek & Find* 308 Awful then and by us venerable is the dignity of each Christian priest.

b. Worthy of veneration or deep respect; deserving to be revered on account of noble qualities or associations.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 81 Ios from Naxus 24 miles, venerable for the sepulchre of Homer. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 33 Holy Writers, and such whose names are venerable unto all posterity. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 77 To oppose what custom and great names have render'd venerable. 1708 ROWE *Ambit. Step-Mother* I. i, The thoughts of Princes dwell in sacred Privacy Unknown and venerable to the Vulgar. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, x. Wks. 1813 III. 207 The ancient and venerable fabric of the German Constitution. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 93 Those qualities which are naturally amiable or venerable. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 1. 74 Throughout the whole course of his reign, all the venerable associations by which the throne had long been fenced were gradually losing their strength.

c. Fitted to excite feelings of veneration; impressive, august.

1675 CROOKE *Body of Man* 70 For it is a venerable sight to see a man when he is come to the yeares fit for it, to haue his face compassed about with thicke and comely haire. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Conti* 31 July, We saw.. yet standing the vast pillars of a temple of Minerva. This venerable sight made me think..on a beautiful temple of Theseus. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XI. viii. § 5 The procession was venerable, and the manner of it different from that of other nations. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 110 While oft some temple's mould'ring tops between With venerable grandeur mark the scene.

4. Worthy of veneration or respect on account of age or antiquity; rendered impressive by the appearance of age.

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* 738 An affectionate lover of venerable Antiquity. 1653 VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 151 Against an ancient tradition, which to many seems so venerable. 1671 PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* Ep. Ded., Those evidences and venerable Monuments of Time. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 178 His looks adorn'd the venerable place. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 421 Thus it is that you are clothed with majesty, venerable ruins of Greece and Rome! 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh* (1824) 172 That venerable tower, he told them, was the remains of an ancient Fire-temple. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iii, In the midst of Cloisterham stands the nuns' house, a venerable brick edifice. 1904 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Univ.* 63 The oldest of the venerable lime-trees date from time immemorial.

absol. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* (1697) p. lxxxv, Ancient Words, which, with all their Rusticity, had somewhat of Venerable in them.

b. Ancient, antique, old.

1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 63 Those muskets cased with venerable rust. 1842 H. ROGERS *Introd. Burke's Wks.* I. 1 Thus a single generation often witnesses the complete demolition of certain venerable errors, propagated and believed through a long succession of ages. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xi, Chests in oak or walnut,..rows of venerable chairs, high backed and narrow. 1857 GRINDON *Life* iv. 35 The periodical (atomic) renewal of the body is one of the most venerable ideas in physiology.

† 5. Giving evidence of veneration; reverent, reverential. *Obs.* (So L. *venerabilis.*)

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 145 They speake in order, and obserue euen without the house a venerable silence. 1624 FISHER in F. White *Repl. Fisher* 224 Kissing their feet, and their sores, out of venerable affection vnto Christ. 1675 G. R. tr. *Le Grand's Man without Passion* 77 Although I have a venerable value for the fauourers of this opinion. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 7 The Venerable presents of some Itinerant Fryars. 1730 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) II. ii. 269 To talk magisterially and in venerable Terms of..an Infinite Being.

6. *Comb.*, as *venerable-like, -looking* adjs.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 264 Wee found twelue Venerable like Turkes. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* XIV, Was he not a venerable-looking man, with grey hair? 1854 tr. *Hettner's Athens & Peloponnese* 31 Tall, venerable-looking men, with noble features.

B. *sb.* A venerable person; an ecclesiastic having the title of 'Venerable'.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 128 Lord M. has engaged the two venerables to stay here, to attend the issue. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 444 But can heresy have come from the Venerables and Saints of the Romish Church? 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* XXXV, He described his country's male venerables as being distinguishable from annuitant spinsters only in presenting themselves forked.

b. A venerable thing; an antique. *nonce-use.*

1803 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 292 My old and ugly stall-gleanings are all now turning to account...In turning over these venerables, you would be surprised to see how much I find that bears upon biography.

Ve·nerableness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] = VENERABILITY 1.

1682 *Whole Duty Nations* 59 Things that have only the thin pretexts of Antiquity to give them some venerableness. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 232 As there is a native venerableness in grey hairs, so 'tis impious to make 'em the subject of a jest. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. xxiv. 133 Years written by venerableness, rather than by wrinkles, in her face. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Tombs in Abbey*, You owe it to the venerableness of your ecclesiastical establishment. 1892 SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 346 The office..is one of extreme venerableness and antiquity.

Ve·nerably, *adv.* [f. as prec.] In a venerable manner; so as to be venerable; † with veneration.

c 1620 *Women Saints* (1686) 180 Whose happie passage the Greeke and Latine Churche do venerablie accorde..[on] the fift of August. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal's Satires* VI. 32 So venerably Ancient is the Sin. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* 8 Each Faculty in Blandishments they lull, Aspiring to be venerably dull. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* III. xxx. (1762) I. 130 The years that had rendered his beard so venerably hoary. 1792 HUDDESFORD *Salmagundi* 135 Might I but..See thee in scarlet robe encase thy fur, And at St. Mary's venerably purr! 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxxi, His mansion and his sepulchre; both plain And venerably simple. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 58 It [the beard] had become venerably red.

† **Ve·neral,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *Venerāl-is*, f. *Vener-*, *Venus* VENUS 1.]

1. = VENEREAL *a.* 1.

1592 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 105 This figure is ill, except it be for warre or actes venerall. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* IX. 453 By their ananimous consent they vowed perpetual abstinence from all venerall actions.

2. = VENEREOUS *a.* 1 and 3.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Venerall*, giuen to fleshly wantonnesse.

1652 J. F[RAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 97 They that will gather a Venerall, Mercuriall, or Lunary Hearb must look toward the West.

3. = VENEREAL *a.* 2.

1652 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 75 This Oil so purifies the bloud, ..that it cures all distempers that arise from the impurity thereof, as the venerall disease. 1698 G. THOMAS *Pantotechnia* 29 Sarsaparilla, so much us'd in Diet-Drinks for the Cure of the Veneral Disease. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 556 A more recent case of a true elephantiasis, that followed a venereal infection, is added.

†**Venereal,** *a.*[2] *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. med.L. *venerālitas* venerability.] = VENERABLE *a.* 2 b.

1631 MASSE *Celestina* I. 29 What a venerall and reverend countenance did hee carry!

Ve·nerance. *rare*—[1]. [Cf. OF. *venerance*, It. *veneranza*, med.L. *venerantia*.] Venerability.

1884 J. PAYNE *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 256 There was once in a province of Persia, a King of the Kings,..endowed with majesty and veneration.

†**Ve·nerand,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *venerand-us*, gerundive of *venerārī* to venerate. So It., Sp., Pg. *venerando*.] Entitled to veneration.

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* K iij, These friers..upholde them in their sermons to the people callyng them worshipfull and venerande maisters. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. II. iv. § 3. 286 Seing we conceive of Eternitie as most venerand, there is nothing more venerand than the intelligible Divine Essence.

Ve·nerant, *a. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *venerant-*, *venerans*, pres. pple. of *venerārī* to venerate. So F. *vénérant*, Sp. *venerante*.] Engaged in veneration.

1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. i. § 9 *note* 2, When we pronounce the name of Giotto, our venerant thoughts are at Assisi and Padua.

†**Ve·nerate,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *venerāt-us*, pa. pple. of *venerārī*: see next.] = prec.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 53 b, They stood all waiting with such a venerate attention, that..they all at one instant time alike made their reverent courtesies.

Venerate (vĕ·nĕrēt), *v.* [ad. L. *venerāt-*, ppl. stem of *venerārī* (also *venerāre*) to reverence, worship, adore; whence also It. *venerare*, Sp. and Pg. *venerar*, F. *vénérer*.]

1. *trans.* To regard with feelings of respect and reverence; to look upon as something exalted, hallowed, or sacred; to reverence or revere.

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Venerate*, to worship. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venerate*, to reverence, worship or honour. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 355 Who venerate themselves, the world despise. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 481 But there was a class of Alchymists, whose genius, probity, and conduct, we have reason to venerate. 1852 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* IV. iv. (1863) II. 293 The ruined chapels are still venerated. 1870 J. BRUCE *Life Gideon* iv. 70 [We] have learned to venerate the Word of God.

2. To pay honour to (something) by a distinct act of reverence.

1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. v. 289 Thrice he venerated the sacred remains.

Hence **Ve·nerated,** **Ve·nerating** *ppl. adjs.*

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 84 You would have had..a reformed and *venerated clergy. 1818 COBBETT *Pol Reg.* XXXIII. 169 In the Reports, the Resolutions, and in the venerated Acts, of your Honourable House. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 143 It would be easier to govern under the venerated authority to which the homage of the Indians had been so long paid. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 272 Smiling and sighing had the same effect Upon the venerated image. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. iii. 55 The Queen of Sheba..then brake forth into pathetic and *venerating exclamations. 1808 MISS HIGGINSON in Drummond & Upton *Life Martineau* (1902) I. iii 50 [Her reply declines to accept from him a] venerating love. 1853 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* III. xxxiv, He..saw the faces of men and women lifted towards him in venerating love. 1888 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 8 Without..trouble to their venerating visitors in coming so far up hill.

Veneration (venĕrē·ʃən). Also 5-6 **veneracion** (6 **-acyon**). [ad. L. *venerātiōn-*, *venerātio*, noun of action f. *venerārī* to venerate. So OF. *veneration* (F. *vénération*), It. *veneratione*, Sp. *veneracion*, Pg. *veneração*.]

1. A feeling of deep respect and reverence directed towards some person or thing: **a.** In the phrases *to have*, or *hold in veneration*.

1430–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 389 In that londe the memory of Seynte Andrewe thapostole is haloede gretely, and hade in veneracion. *Ibid.* III. 193 That clerke Pictagoras was hade so in veneracion of his disciples, that [etc.]. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 20 b, So men shall haue you in veneration. 1595 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks (Globe) 634/1 All those Northern nations..are wonte therfore to have the fire and the sunn in great veneration. 1629 J. MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 391 In the Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus (which the Romans have in chief veneration). *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Drunkenness* Wks. 1730 I. 38 A custom framed and cemented by nature .. ought to be .. had in veneration by all succeeding ages. 1759 DILWORTH *Pope* 62 Mr. Pope held the duke's judgement in such high veneration [etc.]. 1833 CAUSE *Eusebius' Eccl. Hist.* VII. xix. (1847) 300 This See..has ever been held in veneration by the brethren, that have followed in the succession there.

b. In general use.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 12 They would..have been of no less Esteem with the Crown, than of Veneration with the People. 1683 ROBINSON in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 133 He speaks with great veneration of you. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 372 The persons..who were stiled Baalim, had a great regard paid to their memory, which at last degenerated into a most idolatrous veneration. 1792 BURKE *Appx.* *Whigs* Wks. VI. 143 That memory will be kept alive with particular veneration by all rational and honourable whigs. 1823 in *Urbane Mag.* Dec. (1923) 267 When I am in its company, I feel a certain awe and veneration. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* ix, A gentleman..whom two accomplished..females regard with veneration. 1891 NISBET *Insanity of Genius* 298 Simple piety or veneration seems to resolve itself into an absence of the identifying faculty.

c. Const. *of* or *for* (a person or thing).

(*a*) 1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 1 All that is left, is only a kind of Veneration of a Being more excellent than our own. 1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* 409 So tender were the Judges..of the Supreme Authority they sate under, ..and had such an awe and veneration of Majesty [etc.]. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* I. 243 The old domestic..had almost intoxicated him with a silly, yet enthusiastic, veneration of old times.

(*b*) 1681 in Somers *Tracts* I 131 The greatest motive that begot in me a Veneration for the Duke. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1698) IV. 13 He has a secret esteem and Veneration for him there [in his heart]. 1728 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Bristol* 10 April, They show here the tomb of the Emperor Constantine, for which they have a great veneration. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* v. Wks. 1851 II. 35 She expressed a great veneration for the liturgy of the Church of England. 1842 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 106 It is unquestionable that the Reformation began to diminish the veneration for the Latin language. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) I. 79 At this time extravagant veneration was avowed for mechanical contrivances.

2. The action or fact of showing respect and reverence; the action or practice of venerating.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 192 b, The lower veneracyon or worshyp exhibyte & done to the sayntes of god, called in the greke dulia. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 357/2 What faith, what learning, what reason will that Images shoulde bee iudged worthy veneration? 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* xxxix. 29 They made also the plate of sacred veneration of most pure gold. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxiii, He blushed exceedingly, and fell down in a humble veneration of her. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* v. Note B. Wks. 1788 III. 200 Josephus..saw well the consistency between the veneration paid to Abraham's God, and the idolatry of the venerators. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* ii. (1876) I. 86 No part of exterior religion was more prominent..than the worship, or at least veneration of images. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* Introd. (1857) 18 The veneration paid to Mary in the early Church. 1888–9 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2562/1 The veneration of martyrs was accompanied by the feeling that their intercession made prayer effective.

3. The fact or condition of being venerated.

1625 BACON *Ess., Of Empire* (Arb.) 309 Princes are like to Heauenly Bodies,..which haue much Veneration, but no Rest. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 116 Claudian observes there was scarce any Tree that had not its veneration. 1712 *Spect.* No. 467 § 2 The various Arts..which now give a Dignity and Veneration to the Ease he does enjoy. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 71 P 1 They think veneration gained by such appearances of wisdom. 1774 REID *Aristotle's Logic* i. § 1. 3 That the air of mystery might procure great veneration.

†**b.** In the phrase *to be in* (..) *veneration*. *Obs.*

1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 352 At that time it was in highest veneration among the Moores. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* i. 5 The first Astronomers were also in such veneration with the People, that they were thought to have discourse with their Gods. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. vii. 335 The leaders of them are in veneration with the multitude.

Hence **Venera·tional** *a.*

1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 310 There is little vitality in any of their venerational feelings.

Ve·nerative, *a. rare.* [f. VENERATE *v.* + -IVE.] Of the nature of, inclined or disposed to, veneration. Also **Ve·nerativeness.**

1829 T. HOOK *Bank to Barmet* 104 They found the Organ of Venerativeness strongly developed. 1860 COCKBURN MUIR *Pagan or Chr.?* 37 A venerative love for the teachings of the Christian Faith. 1862 *All the Year Round* 27 Sept. 61/1, I for one, when a venerative youth, have felt a thrill of joy at being kindly nodded to over a bumper by some distinguished personage.

Ve·nerator. [a. L. *venerātor*, agent-noun f. *venerārī* to venerate. Cf. It. *veneratore*, Sp. and Pg. *venerador*, F. *vénérateur* (rare).] One who venerates; a reverencer *of* something.

1696 *Artif. Handsom.* 123 The report seems fitted to the pulse and bent of those times, which were high venerators of vowed virginity. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 74 Those great Priests and Venerators of Nature and its appearances. 1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (ed. 2) II i. 29 This prelate, who was a great venerator of ancient rites. 1828 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform* 75 So many indifferent and incurious observers, if not proutrate venerators. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 403 Not a scorner of your sex But venerator.

Venereal (vĭnī·rĭăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **venerealle**, 6–7 **-all.** [f. L. *venere-us*, f. *Vener-*, *Venus* VENUS[1]. Cf. VENERIAL *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to, associated or connected with, sexual desire or intercourse.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 199 The sawle of man in the vse venerealle [L. *usu veneree*] transmittethe interially formes other similitudes conceyvede exterially. 1529 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) P P iv, Here are vile women, whom loue immoderate, And lust Venereall, bringeth to hurt and shame. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XIV. xv. (1620) 490 Such is hunger and thirst, and the venereall affect, vsually called lust. 1688 NORRIS *Love* II. § ii. 95 Concerning sensual pleasure, especially that eminent species of it which we call venereal, there is more difficulty. 1727 SWIFT *Circumcision of E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 163 Those appetites are now become venal, which should be venereal. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 159/1 We have formerly descanted upon that venereal appetite which glowed in the constitution of our adventurer. 1831 J. DAVIES *Mat. Med.* 55 In the case of..anaphrodisia or want of venereal passion]

†**b.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—[2]

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 999 Divers Authors do speak of four other sorts of Moths, *viz.* the Venereal, bred in the genitals of man; the Bee Moth, the Cloth Moth, and the Library or Book Moth.

2. Resulting from, or communicated by, sexual intercourse with an infected person; symptomatic of, or associated with, a disease so caused.

1658 PHILLIPS, Venereal disease..is vulgarly called the French Pox. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 445 These new Fanatics of..the sweating-tub, inspir'd with nothing holier than the Venereal Pox. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 564 A lusty robust Souldier dangerously infected with the Venereal Disease. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 226 P 5 [He] was particularly famous for the Cure of Venereal Distempers. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 16 He looked upon the Distemper to proceed from a Venereal Cause, therefore exhibited Antivenereals. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 127 Unless we suppose the pain he has in his joints to arise from latent venereal virus. 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* v. 228 Another way in which it is highly probable that a woman may receive the venereal taint. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 174 Venereal warts are very abundant.

b. Of persons: Infected with, suffering from, venereal disease.

1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* III. v. (1686) 112 Till it have mortified and consum'd them (as happens sometimes to venereal Persons). 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXIV. 296 A return of the venereal patients treated in the 38th Regimental Hospital.

c. *ellipt.* as *sb.* Venereal disease.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXV. 317 [He] does not consider it [i. e. mercury] a specific for the venereal. *Ibid.* XXIX. 371 His skin became covered with an extensive papular..eruption, which was looked upon by many as true venereal.

†**3. a.** Of persons: Under the influence of Venus; inclined to be lascivious; addicted to venery or lust. *Obs.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 188 Pronouncing the man..to be saturnine, jovial, martial, solar, venereal, mercurial, lunar? 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment. Two Tales* (1901) 62 In Sense, she was Venereal; in Heart, Martial; Venus gave her the Gift to be lascivious; Mars to be couragious. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A Venereal Person.

†**b.** Of animals: (see quot.). *Obs.*—[1]

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge c 3, The Venereall [animals], are the delitious,..mild, kinde, pleasant, and tame; as the Calfe, cony, dog, goat, and scinck.

†**c.** (Cf. *vitriol of Venus* s.v. VENUS[1]) *Obs.*

1684–5 BOYLE *Min. Waters* 55 Common English Vitriol, as also that of Danzick which is Venereal.

†**4.** Physically beautiful or attractive. *Obs*—[1]

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. 117 Raph. Vrbine was famous for making of delicate and Venereall bodies.

†**Venerean,** *a.* (and *sb.*). *Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **veneriane.** [f. as prec. + -AN.]

1. Connected or associated with, relating or pertaining to, Venus or her service.

c 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 223 For hir sake sum sang veneriane I wald thow sang. *Ibid.* III. 758 Thay thre was of the Court veneriane. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. ix, His statue trimd with the venerean tree. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 64 Oh but when, trow we, may some loose people say, will these Halcyon, or Venerean dayes rather appeer? 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1711) I. xx. 117 My Figures proved more Venerean than Solar.

2. Of or pertaining to sexual desire or intercourse.

c 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 720 Thamar and Raab.. And Barsabe..War all of sport Ladeis veneriane. 1634 WITHER *Embl.* 71 The scarres they get in their Venerean fights. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 17 With the assurance of Venerean delights in a far higher degree to succeed after death. *c* 1700 *Jane Shore* in Evans *Old Ball.* (1784) I. 305 Those with Scythian lad engag'd in several fights, And in the brave Venerean wars did foil adventrous knights.

b. = VENEREAL *a.* 2.

1612 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* I. B iv, The Venerean disease, to which they say, he has beene long wedded.

3. Addicted to venereal pleasures. Also as *sb.*, a person of this character.

1612 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* v. I ij b, It will be such a cooler To my Venerean Gentlemans hot liuer. 1631 MASSE *Celestina* XIV. 156 Just about this time rise..your Venereans and love-sicke soules, such as our master.

Venereo·logy. *Med.* f. as next + -OLOGY.] The science or study of venereal diseases.

1900 in *Gould's Med. Dict.* (ed. 3).

†**Venereous,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **venereus.** [f. L. *venere-us* (whence It., Sp., Pg. *venereo*) + -OUS. Cf. OF. *venereux* and VENEREOUS *a.*]

1. Of persons (or animals): Addicted to, desirous of, sexual enjoyment; libidinous, lustful.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 115 Venereous people haue all their whole pleasaunce Their vice to nourishe by this unthrifty daunce. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 95 The gote, saieth Isidore, is very venereus, but fighteth not therefore. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 300 There is no kind (man only excepted) that is so venereous and nimble in generation as is a Horse or Mare. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 94 The Muscovites are extremely venereous. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* (1727) 302 The Males are less than the Females [and] are very venereous.

2. = VENEREAL *a.* 1.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 204 The acte of venereous copulation. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 182 The Conceive of the ——— thereof..putteth away all venereous dreames. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* IV. 307 In that heate and moisture are the parents of venereous desires. 1650 HUSBAND *Ch'll Formality* 138 His sinful and venereous thoughts must carry him on. 1681 H. MORE in Glanvill *Saducismus* 56 Their having any lustful or venereous transactions with them. 1735

MACKENZIE *Edist.* (1820) III. 297 This signifies the gratification of venereous desires.

b. = VENEREAL *a.* 2.

1662 LOVELL *Hist. Anim & Min.* 11 The greene caustick oil of brasse, cureth venereous pushes.

3. Exciting or stimulating sexual desire.

1621 CORYAT *Crudities* 268 As for thine eyes, shut them and turne them aside from those venereous Venetian objects.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 546 Upon the same reason Mushrooms are a Venereous meat. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. xxix. 246 Salads, wholly made up of venereous Herbs and Fruits.

4. Dedicated to Venus, *rare*—[1].

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotom.* 79 Such hayre as Berenice did aever vow to in the Venereous Temple for her Tholemæus.

Hence †**Vene·reously** *adv.*; †**Vene·reousness.**

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. viii. 408 Theocritus merrily sets out the Venereousness of the Goatheard he describes. 1665 M. N. *Med. Medicina* 65 Let a man that hath the Gout be venereously infected.

Ve·nerer. *arch.* [f. VENER-Y [2].] A huntsman.

1845 BROWNING *Flight of Duchess* x, Our Venerers, Prickers, and Verderers. 1908 H. NEWBOLT *New June* xxxii, [He] drove the point into the hart's neck, with the action of a venerer killing the real animal.

Veneres, pl. of VENUS [1].

†**Vene·rial,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6–7 **-all.** [f. L. *veneri-us*, f. *Vener-, Venus.* Cf. VENEREAL *a.*]

1. = VENEREAL *a* 1.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xviii, Thinking..to remoue him from the faythe, rather by veneriall motions, thanne by sharpenease of tourmentes. 1552 HULOET, Veneriall pastime, *aphrodisia.* 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurdity* Wks. (Grosart) I. 26 Craftie Cupid..meditates new shifts, whi·h each amorous Courtier by his veneriall experience may coniecturallie conceiue. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 553 Those that do too much follow venerial combats haue the r eyes smal and extenuated. 1636 DAVENANT *Platonick Lovers* III, I found him..Lesse apt for our veneriall Love than Muscovites Benighted when they travell on the Ice.

2. = VENEREAL *a.* 3 a.

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Ep. Ded. A iij b, I (who as yet neuer receyued one poynt of discourtesie of any veneriall Damet, *Ibid.* A iv b, Veneriall dames, and ruffling Nymphes. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *A Bawd* Wks. II. 93/2 Besides, I found a cursed Catalogue of these veneriall Caterpillers who were suppresst with the Monasteries in England.

3. a. Beautiful or attractive like Venus.

1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* III. iv. 38 They described him like a martial man, when they would expresse his heat,.. when a veneriall woman, described him with a Mirtle garland on his head.

b. Associated with the planet Venus.

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* vi. (1697) 106 The cooler the Water is when you put in the Malt, the Paler or more Venerial will the Colour of your Wort be. *Ibid.* 109 The predominant Quality..in Ale is Solar and Venereal, viz. Sweet and Balsamick.

4. Employed in curing venereal disease.

17.. M. BARRETT in Morse *Amer. Geog.* (1796) I. 682 The next is the venerial root, which, under a vegetable regimen, will cure a confirmed lues.

Hence †**Vene·rialist,** a specialist in venereal diseases. *Obs.*—[1]

1763 A. SUTHERLAND *Attempts Anc. Med. Doctr.* I. Introd. 21 Every disease, every member of the body, has its particular professor. The city swarms with Oculists, Auralists, Dentists, Venerialists, Nostrumites, &c.

†**Vene·rial,** *a.*[2] *Obs.*—[1] [f. VENERY [1].] Belonging to the chase. In quot. *absol.*

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XIII. 93 Of all the Beasts which we for our veneriall name, The Hart amongst the rest, the Hunters noblest game [etc.].

†**Vene·rian,** *a.* (and *sb.*). *Obs.* Also 5 **uener-yan.** [f. L. *veneri-us*, f. *Vener-, Venus* VENUS [1]. Cf VENEREAN and VENERIEN.]

1. Influenced by, subject to, Venus; inclined to wantonness.

14.. [see VENERIEN *a.*]. *c* 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 78/109 Heirfoir to vichis venerian I quyt To form in verse virgilian perfyt Thair facund fassons. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 120 Pigmey Dicke aforesaid..is such another Venerian steale placard as Iohn was. 1608 TARLTON *Cobler Canterb.* (1844) 133 In every house where the venerian virgins are resident, hospitalitie is quite exiled.

b. As *sb.* A person of this character.

1601 DOLMAN *Le Primaud. Fr. Acad.* III 130 Thev name one man a Saturnist, another a Martialist,..or else a Mercurialist, or a Venerian.

2. = VENEREAL *a.* 1.

1448 METHAM *Wks* (E.E.T.S) 57 Nwe radvflyid with the flame off ueneryan dysyre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. Prol. 92 Be nevir ours t, myne author teichis so, With lust of wyne, nor werkis veneriane. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Ark* 419 A vast multitude Of since-born mongrels, that derive their birth From monstrous medly of Venerian mirth. 1601 DOLMAN *Le Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 734 Euen as the aire and winde coup'eth and conioineth things seuered, so doth the Venerian power.

3. = VENEREAL *a.* 2.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 59 Because the beds are suspected for filthineese of the Venerian disease, passengers use to weare linnen breeches of their owne. 1630 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 87 The Nose that is sunk into this figure by the Venerian rot.

4. *Venerian pear,* the Venus-mear.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 439 The Barbarian or Venerian pears, which also be called Coloured.

†**Vene·riate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *Veneri-* stem of *Venus* VENUS [1].] *trans.* ? = VITRIOLATE *v.*

1685 D. DUDLEY *Metallum Martis* (1854) 31 Sulphurious veneriated redshare Iron...The Sulphurious Arceniall and Veneriating qualities, which are oftentimes in Iron stone.

Venerid (ve·nĕrid). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Veneri-dæ*, f. *Vener-, Venus* VENUS [1].] A bivalve mollusc of the family *Veneridæ*, of which *Venus* is the typical genus.

1881 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1880, 259 The characters of the Venerids, the Cyprinids, and the Cockles.

†**Vene·rien,** *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **-yen.** [a. OF. *venerien* (F. *vénérien*).] = VENERIAN *a.* and *sb.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 609 For certes I am al Venerien [*Corpus MS.* Veneriall] In feelyng and myn herte is Marcian. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 111 Ther mai no maner man withdrawe, The which venerien is bore Be were of kinde. *Ibid.* 130 Canis maior..The fifte sterre is of Magique, The whos kinde is venerien. 1550 PALSGR. 327/2 Venerven, belongyng to Venus, *Venerien.* 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 211 O wickit vaine Venerien, 3e ar not Sanctis (thocht 3e seem hally).

Venerilla. *rare*—[1]. [Dim. f. L. *Vener-, Venus.*] A little Venus.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III, He admires her on the other side, she is his idol, lady, mistress, venerilla, queen, the quintessence of beauty.

†**Vene·rious,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **-yous.** [f. L. *veneri-us*: cf. OF. *venericux* and VENEREOUS *a.*]

1. = VENEREAL *a.* 1.

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xviii. (1870) 246 Beware of Veneryous actes before the fyrste slepe. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 8 Salt..is very stirring in our bodies, and provoketh them to venerious actes. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* vii. 44 b, Hee that presumes with his all-daring quill to put foorth lewde pamphlets,..to set vp a venerious schoole. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 195 Titulation in venerious exercises. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 242 Immoderate Venery or venerious cogitations.

b. = VENEREAL *a.* 2.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 947 Their Inflamation or exulceration breeds the venerious gonorrhœa or running of the reines.

2. = VENEREOUS *a.* 1.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* lvi. 25 [A] man that is full of heare is euer venerious. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 138 b, This prety Ruddoke,..of nature, though he be not Venerious, yet [etc.]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 41 Aristotle saith, that they who ride most, are most venerious. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 146 [The Persians are] mirthfull and venerious.

3. = VENEREOUS *a.* 3.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 136 They are both somewhat windie and also venerious, especially the Parsnep.

Hence †**Vene·riousness.** *Obs.*—[1]

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cccxxvii. 106 This infirmitie doth come of to much veneriousnes, specially used after a full stomake. 1727 in BAILEY (vol. II).

†**Ve·nerist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *Vener-, Venus*: see -IST.] One addicted to venery or lust.

1596 FITZ GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 27 Cease to eternize in your marble verse The fals of fortune-tossed Venerists. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Venerist*, a whoremonger.

Venerology, var. VENEREOLOGY.

†**Ve·nerous,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **venerus.** [f. L. *Vener-, Venus*: see -OUS and cf. obs. F. *venereux.*]

1. = VENEREAL *a.* 1.

1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* (1579) 10 Dandelion..with Roses and Vineger..rebateth venerous and fleshly heat. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xv. (1596) 265 Men who desire to satisfie their venerous lusts, do yet greatly shame to confesse it. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 655 Hee was not so forward in venerous matters, nor given much to women 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. iii, For a remedy of venerous passions. 1631 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 37 A measurable Abstinence..from all venerous pleasures and tactual delights of the Body.

2. = VENEREOUS *a.* 2.

1597 *Legh's Armory* 54 b, The Goate, sayeth Isidore, is verie venerous. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 60 She is a venerous bird. — H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 23 For it is very hard to find an healthy body very comely and beautiful, but the same proves more than ordinarily venerous and lustful.

3. = VENEREOUS *a.* 3.

1587 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* II. vi. in *Holinshed* I. 167/1 The potato and such venerous roots as are brought out of Spaine, Portingale, and the Indies to furnish vp our bankets. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 137 They..are .of a venerous windy faculty. 1631 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 28 For what means this bold purpose but that his judgment was overclouded by some venerous fumes and vapours?

Venery [1] (ve·nĕri). Now *arch.* Forms: 4–5 **veneri, -erye,** 5–7, 9 **venerie,** 5 **venery,** 5– **venery**; 4 **venorye,** 5 **-ur(i)e,** 7 **-arie,** 7–8 **-ary.** [a. OF. *venerie* (F. *vénerie*), f. *vener* :—L. *vēnārī* to hunt: see -ERY]

1. The practice or sport of hunting beasts of game; the chase. Also *attrib.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 296 On hunting oft he 3ede, To swiche a lawe he drewe.., More he coupe of veneri þan coube manerious. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 856 To venerye he gaf his tent; An herde of hertes sone þey met. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 247 Delite in honeste Play, and hit beholde, as..bestis to chase in venurie. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e v b, That is the first worde, my sonne, of venery. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit* II. xv, They..daily ouerthrew townes, villages, and an infinite sort of families for the maintenance of their Venery. 1620 *2nd Pt Return fr. Parnass.* in v. 893 These are your speciall beasts for chase, or as wee Huntsmen call it, for venery. *a* 1666 [see VENATICAL *a.*]. 1739 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, A venery Book, or Book of Venery.

1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 220 These veterans of the wilderness are exceedingly pragmatical on points of venery and woodcraft. 1883 *Standard* 4 May 2/2 Other worthy professors of venery were glad to 'coach' him. 1891 J. G. AUSTIN *Betty Alden* 120 'It's bad venerie when you have trapped a wolf to let him go free on the chance some other man will finish your work.

b. In the phrases *beasts, game, hounds of venery.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxiii. 209 All maner of wylde bestes of venery, as hertez and hyndez. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 379 That place..havynge in hit diverse hyndes of bestes of venery. *c* 1450 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 60 Howndes of venery coste more then they aveyle. 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 A chace..for norishinge, generacion, and feeding of beastes of venery and of fowles of Warren. 1563 Q. ELIZ. *Let.* in Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 278 Keeper of park-houses, warrens, or other game of venerie. 1587 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* II. xix. in *Holinshed* 206/1 The beasts of the chase were commonlie the bucke, the roe, the fox, and the marterne. But those of venerie in old time were the hart, the hare, the bore and the woolfe. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 266 These beastes of chace are not in estimacion soe royall as the former beastes of Venerye. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy* (ed. 3) I. 436 Many beasts of venery, which feed on the straw or rush peculiar to those parts. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 289 Forests are waste grounds belonging to the king, replenished with all manner of beasts of chase or venary.

†**2.** Wild animals hunted as game. Also *fig.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1685 Hyndes & hertes,..bukkes and berís and oþer bestes wilde, of alle fair venorye þat falles to metes. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 415 This lady to hyr mete gan gone, And of venery had hyr fille, For they had take game at wille. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxxxvii. 568 In the meane whyle syr Tristram chaced and hunted at alle maner of venery. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 89 The hunting of them [*sc.* deer] beinge not so pleasant, as the huntynge of other venery or vermyne. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 3 Parkes..full of venery, as hartes, hyndes, falow-dere, wylde bores, and wolves for noble men to course. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 22 To the wood she goes, to.. seeke her spouse, that from her still does fly, And followes other game and venery. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 115 Woods wonderfully abounding with venerie.

transf. 1550 LATIMER *Serm.* (1562) 114 b, They must haue swyne for theyr foode to make theyr veneryes or bacon of; theyr bacon is theyr venison.

†**3.** A place where hunting-dogs are kept. *Obs.*—[1]

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. lv. 242 The Venerie, where the Beagles and Hounds were kept, was a little farther off drawing towards the Park.

Venery [2] (ve·nĕri). Also 5-6 **venerie.** [f. L. *Vener-, Venus* VENUS [1] + -Y.]

1. The practice or pursuit of sexual pleasure; indulgence of sexual desire.

1497 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 425 It was statut..that all licht weman be chargit and ordanit to discist fra thar vicis and syne of venerie. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 430 As brutell beistis takand appetyte, In venerie putting thair haill delyte. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 34 Birdes tongue, is an Herbe whose chief working is to prouoke Uenerie. 1607 DEKKER *Northward Hoe* III, Venery is like very,..it may be allowed tho it be not lawfull. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 30 A body, wherein there may be action enough to content decrepit lust, or passion to satisfie more active veneries. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 378 Nor does it seldom fall out, from their aptness to Venery,.. that they are afflicted with terrible *Mariscæ.* 1795 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 132 The Passions of the Mind have a great Influence, as also excessive Venery. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 197 If the tusks..be broke away, the animal abates of its fierceness and venery. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 139 He..gave himself up to his former intemperance in spirits and in venery. 1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder*, etc. I. i. 18 Occasionally it [i.e. acute cystitis] is traceable to the effects of excessive venery.

†**2.** *fig.* A source of great enjoyment. *Obs.*

1608 MIDDLETON *The Phœnix* III. i F 4, 'Twas e'en Venerie to me, i'faith, the pleasantst course of life. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* IV. iv, To me The fooling of this fool is venery.

Venes, obs. variant of VENUS.

Ve·nesect, *v.* [Back-formation from next.] *intr.* To practise venesection. Hence **Ve·nesecting** *ppl. a.*

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 690 He was once a great enthusiast for the venesecting art.

Venesection (venise·kʃən). *Med.* Also *β.* 7–9 **venæsection.** [ad. med. or mod.L. *vēnæ sectio* cutting of a vein: see VENA and SECTION.]

1. The operation of cutting or opening a vein; phlebotomy; the practice of this as a medical remedy.

a. 1662 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 327 The small-pocks ..are cured by..venesection in the adult. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 78 Too much blood spent in venesection. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 370 We must first endeavour to stop the flux of blood,..repeating venesection occasionally. 1791 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* (1792) II. 39 Notwithstanding this repeated venesection, his pulse was remarkably full and strong. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 67 Leeching has the advantages and disadvantages of venesection, only in a less degree. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 89 To diminish the quantity of the blood, either by venesection, or by local methods.

β. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* I. iii. 16 The Fever which attends Pain is removed by Venæsection, or by the resolution or suppuration of the Tumour. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Angina*, In the external Angina, before any Suppuration appears, recourse is had to repeated Venæsection in the Jugulars 1784–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 153 In a woman of a full habit of body venæsection is necessary. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 307 The wishes of the medical attendant who advises venæsection. 1884 PYE *Surg. Handicraft* 70 This expedient, with the practice of venæsection in general, has been out of fashion for many years now.

2. An instance of this.

1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 233 The same

seene is renewed..after as many successive venesectio... 1845 G. E. Day *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 248 The three following tables show the mean results of the first, second, and third venesections. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Path.* 2 Change in the fibrin after frequent venesections.

Venesector. *rare*—1. [Cf. Venesect *v.*] One who practises venesection; a blood-letter.

1890 *Cosmopolitan* June 139 Our barber also acts as venesector.

Venesion, obs. form of Venetian.

Veneso(u)n, -sun, obs. forms of Venison.

†**Venet,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *venet-us.*] *Venet colour,* a greyish-blue colour.

..be mennes ater coloure. that ships, which are sent out as spies, should have their sails of the venet colour, that they may not be discerned by the enemies.

Venet, obs. form of Vignette.

†**Venetia.** *Obs.*—1 = Venetian *sb.* 2.

1579 G. Harvey *Letter-Bk.* (Camden) 72 Eloquence, if a man had it, were more worth then..a payer of tatterid venetias in his presse.

Venetian (vĭnī·shăn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: α. 5 **Venycyen, Venecien,** 6 **Venesien.** β. 5–6 **Venecian,** 6 **-ycian, -esyan, -etyan,** 7– **Venetian;** δ **Venicyan,** 7, 9 **Venitian.** γ. 6 **Venytyon, Venyscyon, Vencyon, Venesion,** 8 **Venition.** [ad. med.L. *Venetiān-us,* f. *Venetia* Venice: cf. It. and Pg. *Veneziano,* Sp. *Veneciano.* In early use also a. OF. *Venicien, -esien,* etc. (mod.F. *Vénitien*).]

A. *sb.* **1.** A native or inhabitant of mediæval or modern Venice; a member of the mediæval republic of Venice; more rarely, one of the ancient Veneti inhabiting the district of Venetia.

1432 Lydg. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 4 Other alyens,.. Florentyne, and Venycyens. *c* 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 172 The commodites..of Venicyans and Florentynes. *Ibid.* 175 These seyde Veneciance. 1528 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* (1824) I. 294 His Highnes also liketh wel the Frenche Kings Lettres to the Venecians for Ravenna and Servia. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xxiiii. (1870) 281, I am a Venesien both sober and sage. *Ibid.* 185 The Venycions hath great prouision of warre. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 257 Two gentlemen, Venetians, who are not unknowne to you 1695 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 447 The Venetians, we hear, have taken several French ships. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* v. (1734) II. 129 The Venetians and the Great Duke had not thought fit to own the King till then. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 57 German bravery under the auspices of the Venetians. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 164 There were other slaves besides Mohammedans in the service of the rich Venetians. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U.S.* I v. 129 The Venetians..purchased alike infidels and Christians. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 446/1 The Gauls, the Ligurians, and the Veneti or Venetians.

†**2.** *pl.* Hose or breeches of a particular fashion originally introduced from Venice. *Obs.*

1582 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 330, vi paire of venetians of Russet gold tyncell. 1586 *Fermor Acc.* in *Archæol. Jrnl.* (1851) VIII. 283 It. for an ell half of brod taffaty to make him a dublet and venytyons. 1598 Florio, *Brache,* all maner of breeches, slops, hosen, breekes, gascoines, venetians. 1611 Cotgr., *Chausses à la gigotte,* a fashion of very close Venitians; old fashioned Venitians. *a* 1618 Harington *Epigr.* (1618) I. xx, A Captaine..brought three yards of Veluet, & three quarters To make Venetians downe below the garters.

†**b.** In sing. with *the. Obs.*—1

1592 Greene *Def. Conny-catching* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 95 The venetian and the gallogascaine is stale, and trunke slop out of vse.

†**3.** A sequin of Venice, as current in India and adjacent countries. *Obs.*

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 406 The Money which passes is a Golden Venetian, equivalent to our Angel. 1752 in J. Long *Sel. Unpubl. Recs.* 32 (Yule & B.), At this juncture a gold mohur is found to be worth 14 Arcot Rupees, and a Venetian 4½ Arcot Rupees. 1835 Burnes *Trav. Bokhara* (ed. 2) I. 90 You are then to present a handsome bow, and each of you eleven gold Venetians.

4. A closely-woven cloth having a fine twilled surface, used as a suiting or dress material.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4706/4 For Sale.., Venitions,.. Tabbies,..and other Stuffs. 1883 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Venetian,* a fine twilled fabric of carded wool for gentlemen's suits. 1899 *Daily News* 30 Oct. 2/6 The newest designs in coloured tweeds, serges, coverts, meltons,.. Venetians, beavers, and cashmeres.

5. *ellipt.* †**a.** A Venetian window. *Obs.*

1766 Entick *London* IV. 376 The body of the church is enlightened by two ranges of windows, with a Venetian in the center. 1779 *Mirror* No. 61, His dusky Gothic windows have been contrasted to great advantage, with their Bows and Venetians.

b. A Venetian blind.

1826 'Quiz' *Grand Master* VII. 167 They're soon disturb'd —a sudden rap 'Gainst the Venetians spoil'd their nap. 1861 Emma J. Worboise *Sissie* xvi. It was observed that no one, all through the day, proposed raising that side-venetian.

c. *pl.* (See quot.)

1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 514/1 *Venetians,* a heavy kind of tape or braid, resembling double Londons. They are employed more especially for Venetian blinds, whence the name.

6. = Domino 1.

1891 *Century Mag.* June 283, I then put off my sword, and put on my Venetian or domino, and entered the bal masqué.

B. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to Venice.

1554 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 166 A maske of viij patrons of galleis like venetian Senatours. 1593 G. Harvey *New Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 264 Who honoureth not..the security of the Venetian state. 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 53 There is in Italy the Toscan, the Roman, the Venetian, the Neapolitan [languages],..and all these have severall Dialects and Idiomes of Speech. 1648 Hexham II, *De Venetiaensche Zee,* the Venetian Sea, or, the Gulfe of Venice. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 378 It is now some centuries since Padua has been brought under the Venetian yoke. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 37 The republic at first embraced..the Venetian provinces of Bergamo, Brescia, and La Polesina. 1893 W. G. Collingwood *Life Ruskin* I. II. iv. 147 The treatment..of Venetian matters had to be indefinitely postponed.

b. *Venetian School,* (*a*) a school of painting, distinguished by its mastery of colouring, which originated in the 15th century and reached its climax in the 16th; (*b*) a school of Italian architecture originating in the early part of the 16th century.

(*a*) 1748 Melmoth *Fitzosborne Lett.* lxi. (1749) II. 116 On the contrary, the Venetian school is said to have neglected design a little too much. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* I. § 20 The Venetian school proposed to itself the representation of the effect of colour and shade on all things.

(*b*) 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 349 The Venetian School is characterised by its lightness and elegance; by the convenient distribution it displays; and by the abundant, perhaps exuberant, use of columns, pilasters, and arcades.

2. In special collocations, denoting things characteristic of Venice, esp. articles actually produced there, or others made in imitation of these. (Cf. similar uses of Venice.)

Venetian ball (see quots.). *Venetian bar,* in needlework, a bar formed by means of button-hole work on a thread or threads. *Venetian blind,* a window-blind composed of narrow horizontal slats so fixed on strong tapes as to admit of ready adjustment for the exclusion or admission of light and air. †*Venetian breeches,* = Venetian *sb.* 2. *Venetian brown,* a variety of brown used for colouring glass. *Venetian carpet,* a common make of carpet, usually striped, in which the warp alone is shown. *Venetian chalk* (see quots.). *Venetian cloth,* = Venetian *sb.* 4. *Venetian dentil* (see quot.). *Venetian door* (see quot. 1842). †*Venetian earth,* †Venetian chalk. *Venetian embroidery* (see quot.). *Venetian enamel,* a hard enamel used for the dials of clocks and watches. *Venetian filigree,* a variety of coloured glass. *Venetian frame,* a form of window-frame (see quot. 1833). *Venetian glass,* Venice glass. *Venetian-Gothic* adj. (see quot.). †*Venetian hose,* = Venetian *sb.* 2. *Venetian mast,* a tall pole ornamented with spiral bands of colour, used in the decoration of streets or open spaces on special occasions. *Venetian pearl,* a solid artificial pearl. *Venetian point,* a variety of point-lace. *Venetian red, satin* (see quots.). *Venetian shutter,* a shutter constructed on the same principle as a Venetian blind; hence *Venetian-shuttered* adj. *Venetian sole, stitch* (see quots.). †*Venetian sublimate* (?). *Venetian sumach,* the southern European shrub *Rhus Cotinus. Venetian swell,* an organ-swell having the front constructed like a Venetian shutter. *Venetian talc,* a hydrous silicate of magnesia. †*Venetian thyme* (see quot.). *Venetian turpentine,* Venice turpentine. *Venetian varnish* (see quot.). *Venetian vetch*: see Vetch. *Venetian white* (see quot.). *Venetian window* (see quot. 1842). *Venetian window-blind,* = Venetian blind. Also *Venetian bead,* †*dollar, lace.*

1852–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1866) I. 783/2 The *Venetian ball consists of a number of pieces of filigree glass packed into a pocket of transparent colourless glass. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2702/2 *Venetian ball,* an ornamental form of glass for paper-weights, etc. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 511/2 *Venetian bar..is used in modern Point Lace. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 198 Some bracelets made of *Venetian Beads of several colours. 1791 in *Harper's Mag.* March (1885) 535/2 Surcharge for *Venetian blinds. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* I. 148 The Venetian blind..[is] frequently used as a substitute for the common shutter and spring curtain. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xiv, It was easy to hear through the Venetian blinds all that passed inside. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 514/1 Another kind of braid or tape is made for Venetian blinds. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1354 Walton..rent his *venecian breeches of crimsin taffata, and distributed the same peecemeale. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 774/2 *Venetian brown, with gold spangles, commonly called the philosopher's stone. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 95 '*Venetian' carpets were never, it has been asserted, made at Venice at all. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 51 Carpets, treble ingrain, three-ply, and worsted chain Venetian. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1271 *Venetian chalk is Steatite. 1883 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Venetian chalk,* a white compact talc or steatite, used for marking on cloth. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 404/2 A new suit of French and *Venetian cloths 1900 *Daily News* 6 Jan. 6/6 Venetian cloth is, next to panne, still the favourite material for dresses. 1881 *Archit. Dict.,* **Venetian dentil,* a molding consisting of a fillet with its sides cut alternately into notches, which reach the middle of the face, and produce the effect of a double row of dentils. 1626 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 156 The *Venetian doller will yeald 5 mahmudis if full weight. 1731 Pope *Ep. Burlington* 36 Imitating-Fools Who..[are] Proud to catch cold at a *Venetian door. *a* 1744 — *Hor. Sat.* II. vi. 191 Palladian walls, Venetian doors, Grotesco roofs, and Stucco floors. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 1050 *Venetian door,* a door having side lights on each side for lighting an entrance hall. 1660 J. H[arding] *Basil. Valent. Chariot Antimony* 123 Mix one part of this Salt with three parts of *Venetian Earth. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 512/1 *Venetian embroidery..is work resembling Roman Work and Strasbourg Embroidery, but is lighter than either in effect. 1877 Herbert *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 468 [In] hard enamelling..the *Venetian enamels are chiefly employed. 1852–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1866) I. 783/2 The *Venetian filigree consists of plain and coloured enamel. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1585 Fix a large solid *Venetian frame (a frame in three divisions, the two side divisions being narrower than the centre one). 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 639 Venetian deal cased frames. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* Index 139/2 *Venetian Glass. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2703/2 The *Venetian-glass ball [see *Venetian ball,* quot. 1852–4]. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 748/1 '*Venetian-Gothic' [style of architecture] indicates the peculiar phase of that style so common in Venice and the north of Italy. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* E 3, The *Venetian hosen, they reach beneath the knee to the gartering place of the Leg. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 513/1 In 1654 Colbert prohibited the exportation of the *Venetian Laces into France. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 311/2 The Strand being one blaze of colour with *Venetian masts, and streamers overhead. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxxiii, There should have been joy-bells and..Venetian masts with streamers and flags. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 5/1 *Venetian point,.. Maltese-point: in all these the pattern is flatter than in the Rose-point. 1877 W. S. Gilbert *Fogerty's Fairy* 1, Look at the lace! It's Venetian point. 1883 *Mag. of Art* Dec. 66/2 Richard III wore Venetian point at his coronation. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Venetia bolus,* a fine red earth used in painting, and called in the colour-shops *Venetian red. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 413 Venetian-Red is a native ochre, rather inclining to scarlet. 1849–50 Weale *Dict. Terms, Venetian-red*:..the colours sold under this name are prepared artificially from sulphate of iron, or its residuum in the manufacturing of acids. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 322 Red oxide of iron has been already..referred to as occurring in commerce under the names of colcothar, jeweller's rouge, and Venetian red. 1786 *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Public Rec.* App. II. 175 A method..of manufacturing Silk and Mohair,..with materials which have never before been combined or manufactured together [as wood, reed, cane, straw, etc.], and which is called (by the Specifier) '*Venetian Sattin'. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 142 *Venetian shutters, which may be opened more or less at pleasure. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. cxxxiii, The Plate, after exposure, goes into back chamber, a Venetian shutter being opened and closed. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 86 An infinity of flies going into the venetian shuttered window. 1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 304 *Venetian Sole, *Plauronectes Linguatula.* 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 514/1 **Venetian stitch,* a term sometimes applied to close rows of Buttonholes as fillings in Needlepoint Laces. 1728 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Ulex,* A Solution of *Venetian Sublimate. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* IV. s.v. *Sumach,* *Venetian Sumach, *cotinus,* in botany. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 467 A [*hus*] *Cotinus,*..Venetian Sumach of the English, has wood called Young Fustick. 1882 *Garden* 19 Aug. 163/3 There are few more striking objects than a large bush of the Venetian Sumach. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 27 The *Venetian Swell..is the only sort used in England. 1881 C. A. Edwards *Organs* 121 It is to Green that we owe the Venetian swell, which took its name from the resemblance it bears to the Venetian shutter. *a* 1928 Woodward *Fossils* I. 62 This very much resembles what is sold in the Shops for *Venetian Talc. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.,* etc. I. 186 This mineral..was formerly carried to Venice as an article of commerce, being employed in medicine. Hence the name Venetian talc. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 78 The greate kynde of thyme, whereof Dioscorides maketh mention of in Epithymo, is called nowe *Venetian thyme. 1567 A. M. tr. *Guilleameau's Fr. Chirurg.* 42 b/2 *Venetiane Terebentine. 1827 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 505, 48 parts of shell-lac, 12 of Venetian turpentine. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Varnish,* White varnish, called also *venetian varnish, made of oil of turpentine, fine turpentine, and mastic 1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 6) III. 984 **Venetian white,* a carefully prepared carbonate of lead. 1779 Shaw *Hist. Moray* (1882) I. 347 It is lighted, besides several windows in the side-walls, by a *Venetian window..in the western gavel. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. v 148 A square small room...It had but a single Venetian window. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts, Venetian window,* a window in three separate apertures, the two side ones being narrow, and separated from the centre by timber only. 1709 *Public Advertiser* 25 May 3/2 *Venetian Window Blinds made by Edward Bevan.

Venetianed (vĭnī·shănd), *a.* [f. Venetian *sb.* 5 b.] Furnished with Venetian blinds or shutters.

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 566 Through the open Venetianed window I caught a passing glimpse. 1854 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* 125 The airy little bauleahs, with their light venetian'd rooms. 1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* III. 37 Along the white road, past the row of neat venetianed houses.

Venetic (vĭnĕ·tik), *a.* [f. L. *Venet-i* or *Venet-ia* + -ic.] Of or pertaining to the ancient Veneti or their country, or to the modern province of Venice.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 494/1 The population of the Venetian cities is 'Venetian' in language, but the country districts are in various ways Venetic. 1900 *Nature* 2 Jan. 212/2 Inscriptions on the outside of their rims, said to be in Venetic or old North Etruscan alphabet. 1903 *Ibid.* 29 Oct. 635 A large admixture of Albanian, Venetic, or Slav intruders.

Venett, obs. form of Vignette.

Veney, Venew(e, obs. forms of Venue.

Veney, variant of Veny [2] *Obs.*

Veneymen, obs. form of Venom *v.*

Venezuelan (venĭzwē·lăn), *a.* and *sb.* [See def.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the republic of Venezuela in the north of South America. **b.** *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Venezuela.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 81/2 The congress of the Venezuelas Republic..at Angostura. *Ibid.* 82/1 The Venezuelan congress. 1882 W. H. Brett *Mission Work Guiana* vi. 109 From the Spaniards and Venezuelans they have suffered greatly. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 514/1 Venezuelan drawn work..resembles the Oriental Drawn Thread Work and the Italian and Swedish Drawn Works.

Veng(e, southern ME. variant pa. t. Fang *v.*

†**Venge,** *sb. Obs.* [f. Venge *v.* Cf. Avenge *sb.*] Vengeance.

1587 T. Hughes *Misf. Arthur* I. ii, Why shunst thou fearefull wrath? Adde coales afreshe—preserve me to this venge.

1630 CHAPMAN & SHIRLEY *Ball* II. D 2 b, You must Lay in buttines to prevent mutinie Among the small guts, which with winde of venge else Will breake your guarde of buttons.

Venge (vendʒ), *v.* Now *arch.* Forms: 4-5 **vengyn** (5 **vengy**), 4- **venge** (4 **venie, uenge**); 4-5 **wenge**, 4, 5 *St.*, **weng.** [ad. OF. *vengier, venger* (mod.F. *venger*,—It. *vengiare*, Sp. *vengar*, Pg. *vingar*):—L. *vindicāre* VINDICATE *v.* Cf. AVENGE *v.*]

1. a. *refl.* = AVENGE *v.* 1 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5345 For þat þal na wight drightin dred, He wenged him o þam ful sare. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lii. 5 When he venges him, his vengaunce is cald woednes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 45 But lete us now putte, that ye han leve to venge yow; I say ye ben nought of might ne power as now to venge you. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 31 Be nat to hasty to venge the on thi foo. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 72 He vengid hym on his enemys horribly. 1509 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 18 Grete laude and prayse is in wylde beestes lackynge reason, that they wyll forgyue and not venge themselfe vpon other weyker beestes. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 89 Til that ech one here of vs al, at wil and ease be plast With Troyan Dames..to venge vs of Paris. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 292 Tel you the Dolphin, I am comming on, To venge me as I may. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* II. xv, Thou shalt know, If I can venge me on a foe. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* April 578 To venge themselves they pursued a policy of obstruction in the Diet.

b. *trans.* = AVENGE *v.* 1.

c 1385 *Metr. Hom.* 137 Ef thou pral Godd that he Apon thi fais venge the. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 5533 Haly Loverd,..How lange sal be ar þow venge our blude Of our enemys þat in erthe duelles. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* x. 29 (Harl. MS.), Do vs to knowe, if þer be ony þat þretenith þe; For we ben redy to venge þe. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lvi. 435 Thus owre lord venged kyng Lawncelot certayn. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 16, I greatly dread, hir sonne to venge, obtainde some suit she hath. 1590 GREENE *Orlando Furioso* 1093 Now let vs seeke to venge the Lampe of France That lately was eclipsed in Angelica. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brau. Age* II. ii, I sweare..to..venge the Gods that gouerne Sea and Sunne. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III. xxix, With this he cross'd the murderer's path, And venged young Allan well! 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* IV. 656, I have..Venged a beloved one, meted a brother measure for guilt.

c. *pass.* = AVENGE *v.* 1 c.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 24 For to plede, for to fiȝte and..to be vengid on men þat don aȝenst here wille, worschipe, or profit. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 202 Bot I wol make this beheste, I schal be venged er I go. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) II. lvii. (1859) 55, I myght haue ben fully venged vpon the. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk* II. 441 Be-cause þe seid Laurens..feyned maters to þentent to haue be venged for þe due punysshement yeven to hym be þe seid Maire. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. i. 7 They that gretly be vengid on their enemyes. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* II. i, I should be right sorry To have the means so to be venged on you.

†**d.** *intr.* = AVENGE *v.* 1 d. *Obs.*

13 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 201 [He] Ne venged for no vilte of vice ne synne,..Ne neuer so sodenly soȝt vnsoundely to weng. *Ibid.* 559 Felly he uenged Quen fourferde alle þe flesch þar he formed hade. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7333 Achilles ..Of þo kynges, þat were kild,..Wold haue vengit of þe velany, & þe vile harme. 14.. in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 208 A priest ought to be swete and softe more rather to foryeue than to vengy. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 3540 Traist nocht thine honore in a fulle, Na weng nocht quhil thi blud be cule.

2. *trans.* = AVENGE *v.* 2.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3806 Þys yche chylde toke hym to rede For to venge hys fadrys ded. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 62 (Harl. MS.), In dyverse wise..The ravyshyng to vengyn of Heleyn, By Paris done, they wroughten all hir peine. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 44 The thre oþer also deyden on spytues deþes, so þat, wythyn þre 3ere aftyr, Thomas deth was thus venget. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 244, I praye god that I maye venge your deth vpon theym or ever I decesse. 1538 STARKEY *England* 141 That hys ennemy may not pluke hym out at hys lyberty, nor yet in such place to venge hys iniury. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 160 To venge which deede, and cursed cruell acte, He slue them all. 1620 PYPER tr. *Hist. Astrea* I. II. 13 Venge not my death vpon this faire Lady. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 111 We find our selves ready to fret at any cross occurrent, to venge every injury, to rage at every light provocation. 1808 LEYDEN in *Life & Poems* (1875) 39 Thine the mighty boast..To venge each ancient violated bust. 1852 C. L. SMITH tr. *Tasso* XVIII. xlviii, And much he hoped with such a fiery brood To venge the felling of the precious wood.

†**b.** To punish (wrongdoing). *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxix. 5 Wreth, þat is vengaunce, þat he vengid in 3ow þe first syn with ded. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 216 Syk wykyt wordis of dyspyt In þat dekne ware wengyt tyt. 1401 *Fol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 111 Thou seist..that charite is chacid, to vengyn oure defautis, and mende us of oure mysse.

†**3.** = AVENGE *v.* 3. *Obs.*—1

a 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXV. iii, The Scottes and Peightes he venged & ouercame.

†**4.** To execute (vengeance); to wreak (anger) by vengeance. *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* II. 36 Lo! Y shal deme thi cause, and venge thi vengyng. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) IV. xv. 179/2 He is goddes mynystre, to venge the wrath of god in hym that dooth amys.

Vengeable, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 4-5 **veniable**, 5-7 **vengable, vengeable** (6 **uen-**); 5 **vengeabyl, -yll(e, -abill.** [a. AF. *vengeable* (Gower), f. *venger* VENGE *v.* Cf. VENGIBLE *a.*]

1. Inclined or ready to take vengeance or inflict retaliative injury. (Cf. VENGEFUL *a.* 1.)

a. Of persons (or animals).

Very common *c* 1400–1590; in mod. dial. use = destructive.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 189 For 3if he were veniable here no man myȝte suffre his veniaunce. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 119 Such a Sor is incurable, And ek the goddes ben vengable. *c* 1400 LYDG. in *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 48 Where god list spare, a tygre is not vengeable. 1421 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 153 Al-though þat shee were in this cas vengeable...Shee was in þat in partie excusable. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 140 Forto schew you how vengabull God ys apon hom þat ben lef forto sched Cristys blod. 1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggars* 3 Whate tirannt euer oppressed the people like this cruell and vengeable generacion? 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xvii. (1870) 167 There is a beast called a Bouy, lyke a Bugle, whyche is a vengeable beast. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 138 To be notoriously revenged on this vengeable feende. *c* 1620 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 206 The Appetites of envious, vengeable and greedy Counsellors. 1640 BASTWICK *Lord Bishops* iii. C 3, Who should prove the most vengable instruments of persecuting and oppressing Gods true children. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.* 232 Rottans are vengeable craiturs on young deuks.

b. Of the mind, will, etc.

1421–12 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2330 He rathir chees be disobedient To his vengeable wil,..Than be forsworn of þat he swoor so depe. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1041 His vengeable mynde was hymselfe to magnyfy..Or destroye hymselfe. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 169 His Inique covetous and vengeable disposicion. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) H iiij, To keepe her vengeable mind unto..occasion of revengement.

c. Of weapons.

c 1400 HOCCLEVE *Compl. Virgin* 179 Wel feele I þat deeth his vengeable bowe Hath bent, & me purposith doun to throwe. 1430–40 *Wycliffite Bible, Rom.* xiii. 4 (Cardwell MS.), For not without cause he berith the vengeable swerd.

2. Characterized by, arising from, vengeance or revenge; cruel, dreadful.

c 1430 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 72/128 þat the feend..Ne lese hem nat in the vengeable day! *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* IV. 1414 3e shulde not suffren þis cristen folk here Repreue oure goddis with swiche veniable manere. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 201 For none..This hurt outchaseth which is so vengeable. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 29 Such folck as the tyrant pursude with vengeabil hatred. 1627 H. BURTON *Baiting Pope's Bull* 18 Iezabell, for all her vengeable malice and impotent fury, yet could not wreck it vpon Elias.

3. As an intensive: Very great, severe, strong, intense, etc.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 655/2 As the churche of Christe is but one, so be there of those [heretics] a vengeable maynye. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 49 b, He gave a vengeable check to those persones. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 61 A mischeuous mistaking of a matter ..bredde a vengeable suspition in the heddes of many. 1602 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* To Rdr. 13 [They] will couertly flutter their wings, and keepe a vengeable coyle in Conuenticles and corners.

b. As *adv.* = VENGEABLY *adv.* 2.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 Socrates asked wherfore he was so vengeable eagre. 1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 48 A vengeable long leape, or a vengeable lowde lye. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.* 232 He's vengeable greedy; he can hardly be honest.

4. Punishable. *rare*—1.

1630 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* I. (1654) 488 [He] delivered him over to the secular power; Declaring that..it was a vengeable matter to eat or drink with him.

Vengeably, *adv.* Now *arch.* or *Obs.* Also 5 **vengably**, 6 **vengeablie, -iably, veangeably.** [f. prec.]

1. In a revengeful manner; vindictively; cruelly, pitilessly.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2775 þis Achille of cruelte ..þe dede cors toke oute of þe tass, And vengably bond it. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 105 Right so it plesed vnto God that he shulde deye vengeably. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xx. 453 He..smote a knyghte soo vengably that he cast hym doun deed to the erthe. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 103 So that they do it charitablye louyngelye, not of malyce, not vengeably, not couetouslye. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 78/1 The Irish enimie..vengeablie haue brent a great towne of mine inheritance in Meth, called Ramore.

1848 ANNE BRONTË *Agnes Grey* xiv, Miss Matilda, having ..vengeably thumped the piano for an hour, in a terrible humour both with me and it.

2. Exceedingly, greatly, very.

c 1550 BALE *Apol.* 113 But ye are lyke to come vengeably short. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 12 It would haue made mee, for my part, as hardy as I am, very veangeably afeard. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wond.* 201 Some [priests and monks]..haue bin so vengeably learned.

Vengeance (vendʒăns), *sb., adv.*, and *a.* Forms: *a.* 4 **veniance, -iaunce, -y(e)aunce,** 4–5 **veniesaunce,** 5 **veniauns, -iawnce, wenciaunce**; 4 **veniounse,** 5 **venions.** *β.* 4 **vengaunse,** 4–6 **-aunce,** 4–5 **-ance, -ans**; 4 **vengiaunce,** 5 **-anse,** 6 **-ans**; 4 **vengeans,** 4–6 **-aunce,** 4– **vengeance** (7 **veng'ance**), 6 **vengence**; 4 **vengans, -ans, -aunce, -ans, -eance,** 4, 6 *Sc.*, **vengance,** 6 *Sc.* **vengence.** [a. AF. *veniaunce, -ance, veng(e)aunce, -ance*, = OF. and F. *vengeance* (It. *vengiamsa*, Sp. *venganza*, Pg. *vinganza*), f. *venger* VENGE *v.*]

1. The act of avenging oneself or another; retributive infliction of injury or punishment; hurt or harm done from vindictive motives.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 827 Son bigan vengans to kibe. *Ibid.* 13184 But þis ded was said ful dere...Wit a greithful soth vengeance. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM III. 248 He þat spillyþ manes lyf, Veniounse hyt schal acwyte. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 249 Þis is noo good prater, but more axinge of Goddis veniaunce. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 37 She tolde..that it was the uengeaunce of God that fell on her, the whiche she had welle deserued. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 53 For hit is the most hyest and fayr vengeance that a man may doo. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xciii. 1 Thou God to whom vengeaunce belongeth, shewe thy self. 1592 KYD *Murther I. Brewen* Wks. (1901) 287 The blood of the iust Abel cried..*for* vengeance and reuenge on the murderer. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 156 Diuine mercie, removed the Christians to Pella out of the danger, that without any impediment the floud-gates of vengeance might bee set wide open for Desolations black-guard to enter. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 170 But see the angry Victor hath recall'd His Ministers of vengeance and pursuit Back to the Gates of Heav'n. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 96 Stamp we our vengeance deep, and ratify his doom. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xv. (1788) 92 The injuries you have done..demand not only redress, but vengeance. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 67 Alarm signals, to arouse the country and collect the scattered bands for vengeance. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* XXV, That in some way she regarded Britannicus..as the ultimate resource of her vengeance and despair.

b. In the phrase *to take* (also † *nim*) *vengeance.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6859 Þe king..suor he nolde abide, Þat he nolde uerst nyme vengaunce in is side. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6094 þair goddes me on wil wrake, O am mi vengeance sal I take. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 49 Sauinge your grace, I can nat seen that it mighte greetly harme me though I toke vengeaunce. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5780 God can wel vengeaunce therof take. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xii. 52 In taken of þe vengeaunce þat Godd toke on þa fyue citeez. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 106 He receyved him with grete worchip, took veniaunce on his enimes. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 59 Vengeance we sholde take therof. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xiii. 4 To take vengeaunce on them that do evyll. 1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. i. 8 Gods, if you Should haue 'tane vengeance on my faults, I neuer Had liu'd to put on this. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Avenger*, one who takes Vengeance on an Offender. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* II. xxxi, Full soon such vengeance will he take, That [etc.]. 1847 SARAH AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist Ref.* III. 17 The strong city of Pavia, on which cruel vengeance was taken for the resistance it had made.

c. Personified or otherwise regarded as an entity.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 510 Arowsed Vengeance sets him new a-worke. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 39 Left to conflict nakedly with hell and vengeance, till it carry them away quicke. 1721 YOUNG *Revenge* II. i, Vengeance is still alive; From her dark covert..She stalks in view. 1709 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 305 Where was thine arm, O Vengeance! *a* 1839 PEARD *Red Fisherman*, Look how the fearful felon gazes On the scaffold his country's vengeance raises. 1891 MARIE A. BROWN tr. *Rumeberg's Nadeschda* 67 Then saw I vengeance beckon, it lit my path In 3 years of woe.

2. With *a* and pl. An act or instance of retributive or vindictive punishment. (Also as in 1 c.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1352 For-þi in forme of iugement He thoght a neu wengaunce to sent. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 14 For the offences to God i-doon Mary vengeaunces haue befalle. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 41 Foure vengeaunces comyn to man here in erthe for fals tythyng. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Wolf & Lamb* xxi, It cryis ane vengeance vnto the heuinnis hie. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* cix. 6–10 Sad executions, judgments, and vengeances. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. agst. Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 56 He falls a willing pris'ner to her arms, There meets a veng'ance of ne'er-ending harms. 1728 POPE *Iliad* XIII. 832 With his full strength he bent his angry bow, And wing'd the feather'd vengeance at the foe. 1728 P. WALKER *Life Peden* (1901) I. 155 Hasty marriages are sudden vengeances. 1792 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 220 Taking..a cruel vengeance on these deluded wretches. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXI. IV. 201 Thrasybulus..animated his men by..the prospect of a just vengeance. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* I. 45, I am planning five distinct and lengthy vengeances against Bobby.

b. In imprecations, usually with *on*. Also rarely without article. *Obs.* or *arch.*

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* XIII. 164 Must we afore the pharisies appeare? A vengeance on them, far and neere! 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 178 A vengeance on that lame iade. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 21 A veng'ance on't, there 'tis. 1604 [? CHETTLE] *Wit of a Woman* G 4 b, A vengeance pepper such braines, as cannot beare one draught of Ipocras. 1824 SCOTT *Wav.* XXX, D'ye think the lads.. will care for..yer stool o' repentance? Vengeance on the black face o't!

c. A person of a violent temper.

1711–2 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Mar., The D— he is! married to that vengeance!..Who would have her?

3. Used to strengthen interrogations. ? *Obs.*

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence* (1607) 167 *Thr.* Where are the other? *Sau.* What other in a vengeance. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 262, I would they were in Tyber. What the vengeance, could he not speake 'em faire? 1620 *Prier Rush* 28 His wife..said vnto him: what a vengance needest thou to take a seruant? 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 213 But what a-vengeance makes thee fly From me too, as thine Enemy? *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writings* (1883) II. 40 What the vengeance uncle, sudna fouks die when they're auld? 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vi, Art thou beside thyself, boy? or what a vengeance takes thee from the city, like the wing of the whirlwind?

4. *With a vengeance*: †**a.** With a curse or malediction. *Obs.*

1525 W. SMITH *Merry Iests Widow Edyth* (1573) D j b, In she goth,..And came out agayne, saying wt a vengeaunce: They must go by water. 1581 HANMER *Jewelles Banner* E 2 b, Let such then goe with a vengeaunce, and leaue those toyes for Poets to prate of and let them preach better stuffe vnto the people. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* II. i, *Abi hinc in malam crucem.* Away with a vengeance: get thee hence with a mischiefe: goe hence sorrow enough. 1638 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. 493 The Queene..waxing impatient gaue him (Essex) a cuffe on the eare and bade him be gone with a vengeance.

1673 *Vinegar & Mustard* (Hindley) III. 8 You are land-sick now, and not sea-sick, with a vengeance to you for me. 1836 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in London* I. 70 Why not quit literature—with a vengeance to it—and turn, were it even to sheep herding?

b. As an intensive: With great force or violence; in an extreme degree; to an unusual extent.

1568 V. SKINNER tr. *Montanus' Inquisition* 24 b, He shall come downe with a vengeaunce. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* I. ii. 236 A plaister..that mends him with a verie vengeance. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girle* M j, Are you too well, too happy? *Alex.* With a vengeance. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 88 The furious multitude..struck him down, and malled him with a vengeance. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 63 Accordingly he lays it on with a vengeance. 1721 'J. DISTAFF' *Char. Don Sachoverellio* 6 This..is proving the..Existence of Gyants ..with a Vengeance. 1761 FOOTE *Liar* II. Wks. 1799 I. 293 His friends..gloss over his foible, by calling him an agreeable novelist: and so he is, with a vengeance. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 94 Some readers will think that we are drawing our traveller's bow with a vengeance. 1867 M. ARNOLD *Celtic Lit.* 29 Here, at any rate, are materials enough with a vengeance.

† **c.** So *With the vengeance. Obs.*—[1]

1693 *Humours Town* 29 This is following the Dictates of Reason with the vengeance.

† **5.** As *adv.* **a.** Extremely, intensely. *Obs.*

1548 [L. SHEPHERD] *John Bon & Mast Person* (1808) 5 Is not here a mischeuous thynge? The Messe is vengaunce holye for all ther sayeinge. 1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 41, I remember that disputation. It is vengeaunce subtile. *Ibid.* 44 They were also vengeance angry against the Pope. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 6 That's a brane fellow: but hee's vengeance prowd. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Little Fr. Lawyer* II. i, How it grumbles! This Sword is vengeance angry. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Jan., It has snowed terribly all night, and is vengeance cold.

† **b.** Not at all, never. *Obs.*

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* xxxix. 7 Vengeance the whit I am for their woordes the nere.

† **6.** As *adj.* Very great or large. *Obs.*—[1]

1600 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* Introd. 4, I bought the booke..because it was in English: yet there is a vengeance deale of Latin in it.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vengeance-cryer, -crying, -oath, -scathed, -sword, -taking.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 65 For al-be-it so that alle tarying be anoyful, algates it is nat to repreve in yevinge of lugement, ne in vengeance-taking, whan it is suffisant and resonable. *c* 1525 *Coche Lorell's B.* 11 Cursers, chyders, and grete vengeaunce cryers. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 1061 Lord, sheath again thy vengeance-sword a space. 1617 A. NEWMAN *Pleas. Vis.* 15 Haples wretches, with the memory Tortur'd of woe, and vengeance-crying Sins. 1838 S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 43 When o'erthrown In first rebellion, vengeance-scathed he fled. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Duchess May* xxviii, Thou and I have parted troth,—yet I keep my vengeance-oath.

Hence † **Ve'ngeancely** *adv.*; † **Ve'ngeancer.**

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Veniawncere, .. *vendicator, ultor, vindex.* 1622 FLETCHER *Prophetess* I. iii, Yet I could poyson him in a Pot of Perry, He loves that veng'ancely.

† **Ve'ngeant,** *a. Obs.*—[1] In 4 **vengaunt.** [a. AF. *vengant* (F. *vengeant*), pres. pple. of *venger* VENGE *v.*] Avenging; executing vengeance.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xcviii. 9 Lord oure god þou herd þaim: god þou was til þaim merciabil, and vengaunt in all þaire fyndyngis.

Vengear, obs. form of VENGER.

Vengeful (ve'ndʒfŭl), *a.* [f. VENGE *v.*, after *revengeful.* Cf. AVENGEFUL *a.*]

1. Harbouring revenge; seeking vengeance; prone or inclined to avenge oneself; vindictive.

a 1599 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vi. 48 [She] thinkes what punishment were best assign'd And thousand deathes deni-eth in her vengefull mind. 1701 F. MANNING *Poems* 77 A worse Event..The vengeful Cupid sent. 1713 SWIFT *On Himself* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 12 The queen incens'd, his services forgot, Leaves him a victim to the vengeful Scot. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Inscription* vi. 24 Fair and flow'ry is the brake, Yet it hides the vengeful snake. 1812 COMBE *Syntax, Picturesque* XXV. 452 Again the vengeful foes appear'd, Again their angry standards rear'd. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxx. 414 One of them, the male, is excited—the other, the female, collected and vengeful. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* I. 9 Ulysses is..pitiless in his hostility; subtle, vengeful, cunning.

transf. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xcix, But for his theft..A vengfull canker eate him vp to death. 1848 FABER *Spir. Confer.* (1870) 124 Wasted time is a vengeful thing. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* iv. 159 An abandoned belief may be more effectively vengeful than Dido.

b. Inflicting vengeance; serving as an instrument of vengeance. Said of a weapon, the hand or arm, etc.

(*a*) *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xxi. xii, Thou shalt..ready make thy vengefull bow Against their guilty faces. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 198 Here's a vengefull Sword, rusted with ease. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* v. iii, I pray His vengeful sword may fall upon thy head Successfully. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 154 The proud oppressors fly the vengeful sword. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. iii. 853 The victorious career of Ida was stopt..by the vengeful sword of the valorous Owen. 1869 GOULBOURN *Purs. Holiness* i. 2 So could he bid the vengeful fire fall from heaven.

(*b*) 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* cvi. 27 Her vengeful Jaws extending wide. 1709 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 140 Of all who fought beneath this Chief's Command Not one escap'd the Critic's vengeful Hand. 1748 JOHNSON *Van. Hum. Wishes* 268 Rebellion's vengeful talons. *a* 1800 COWPER *Iliad* (ed. 2) XXI. 343 Allow no respite to thy vengeful arm Till ev'ry Trojan..within Ilium's lofty walls Be fast enclosed.

2. Of actions or feelings: Characterised or prompted by revengeful motives; arising from a desire for vengeance.

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* III. Poems (1905) 328 Full thrice six years they felt fierce Eglons yoke, Till Ehuds sword Gods vengeful Message spoke. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* viii. Wks. 1851 III. 392 That choleric, and vengefull act of proclaiming him Traitor. 1709 PATOR *Carm. Sec.* xvii. With wise Silence pond'ring vengeful Wars. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 193 To us who seldom feel the vengeful wound, it is merely a subject of curiosity. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid. Lot.* xxix, The fury darted her knife at him with the vengeful dexterity of a wild Indian. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* liv. (1857) III. 77 In no composition that I have met with is there a greater display of vengeful malignity. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 7. 534 The Massacre had left them the objects of a vengeful hate.

Hence **Ve'ngefully** *adv.*, **Ve'ngefulness.**

1830–1 RUSKIN *Iteriad* II. 300 His dark lightning-eye made him seem..like his own Thalaba, *vengefully fired. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iv, On he goes vengefully thirsting for the best blood of Troy. 1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 31 July 143/1 He looked at his mother vengefully. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), **Vengefulness*, vindictive or revengeful Temper or Nature. 1862 MEREDITH *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 134 He fainted on his vengefulness, and strove To ape the magnanimity of love.

† **Ve'ngement.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *vengement*, f. *venger* VENGE *v.* Cf. AVENGEMENT.] Vengeance.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 197, I wille of þat felaun tak vengement, þat so fordos my cosun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 282 His oghne brother therupon..Tok of that Senne vengement. 1484 CAXTON *Curiall* 2, I telle to the that thy vengement shal engendre to the more greuous aduersytes. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* App. 351 That thei should take vengemente vpon them, bothe by officer, and without. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iii. 18 Witnesse thereof he shew'd his head there left, And wretched life forlorne for vengement of his theft.

Vengence, -ency, vars. VENGEANCE, -ANCY.

† **Ve'ngeously,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [Irreg. f. VENGE *v.* Cf. VENGEANCELY *adv.*] Violently, viciously.

1599 BERTON *Miseries Manillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 43/1 If I did but even touch her, the monkie would set out the throate, and crie so vengeousilie, that to it must the mother come. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 312 He came up to me so vengeously in the street, and I said to him, 'Can't it be done without fighting?'

Venger (ve'ndʒəɹ). Forms: 4–5 **veniour, -iere, vengere,** 5– **venger** (5 **wen-**), 6 **vengear** (**van-**). [a. AF. or OF. **v'ngeour* (*vangeor, vencheur*, F. *vengeur*) and *vengiere*, agent-n. f. *venger* VENGE *v.*] An avenger. Now *poet.* or *rhet.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* viii. 3 Þat þou distroy the enmy & þe vengere. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 297 He is Goddis mynystre, vengere into wrabbe to hym þat doþ evyl. 1382 — *Hosea* v. 13 And Effraym wente to Assur, and sente to the kyng veniour. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 54 And this I wyl thou know for sekyrnesse That god is wenger of wyckydnesse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/1 A venger, *vindex, vindicator.* 1526 TINDALE *Prol. Ep. Romans* A iij, Thou woldest thatt their were no..God, the auctor and vangear of the lawe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 20 His bleeding hart is in the vengers hand. 1602 YARINGTON *Two Lament. Trag.* IV. viii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, I, he is well, in such a vengers handes, As will not winck at your iniquitie. 1865 *Reader* 16 Sept. 399/2 Other champion of our cause shall come,..venger of his sire. 1881 H. PHILLIPS tr. *Chamisso's Faust* 10 The Venger's Vengeance smites the guilty head.

† **Ve'ngeress.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *vengeresse*: cf. prec. and -ESS.] A female avenger.

In quot. *c* 1450 as the name of a spear.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. xii. (1868) 107 Þe þre goddesse ... furijs, and vengeriasse of felonies. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 229 This kynge alain was seke of the woundes of the spere vengeresse [F. *la lance vengeresse*]. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvii. 99 O cruelle vltryces, wycked vengereasses, Furyes infernalle & Iusticers of helle. 1647 HEXHAM I, A vengeresse, *een wreeckster.*

† **Vengeresour.** *Obs. rare.* [f. OF. *vengeis-on* vengeance.] An avenger.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxvi. 25 And I shal brynge vpon 3ow a sword, vengesoure [1388 vengere] of my boond of pees. — *Numb.* xxxv. 25 The hoond of the vengesour.

† **Ve'ngible,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [var. of VENGEABLE *a.*]

1. Vengeful, vindictive.

1548 COOPER *Elyot's Dict., Ultrix*, ..vengible, cruell, terrible. 1595 *Locrine* I. ii. 16 The desperate god Cuprit, with one of his vengible birdbolts, hath shot me vnto the heele. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 461 These also are the Epethites of the Lioness:..bold, stony-harted, vengible. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 327 A vengible wayt-layer,..by bloudie grudges and displeasures doing much mischief.

b. Grievous, severe.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 4 Impose they doe upon them hard and vengible charges to execute.

2. Remarkable, extraordinary. Also as *adv.*

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* III. ii, He spake nothing but sentences, but they were vengible long ones. 1600 *Contention betw. Liberality & Prodigality* IV, ii, Thornes, thistles, and nettles most horrible stingers, Rasons, grypes, and gryphons, oh vengible wringers. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 78 Hee was a vengible fellow in linking matters together, whereupon he came to be surnamed Catena, that is, a chain.

Hence † **Ve'ngibly** *adv. Obs.*

1580 G. HARVEY *Three Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 40 Some as vengibly and frowardly bent, as for Example, Woormes, and Moules, and Cunnyes.

Venging, *vbl. sb.*: see VENGE *v.* 4 (quot. 1382).

Ve'nging, *ppl. a.* [f. VENGE *v.*] Avenging; executing vengeance.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 759 Thay fechtin as fast, With vengeand wapnis of were throu wedis thai wet. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Imposture* 495 So that th' old yeers' renewed generations Cannot asswage his venging indignations. 1605 *Ibid., Sonn. Late Peace* xxvi, The furie of Heav'ns venging Sword.

Vengit, obs. Sc. form of WINGED *a.*

‖ **Vengolina.** *Obs.* [mod.L., = F. *vengoline* (Buffon), from the native name in Angola, given as *bengualinha* by Edwards.] The Angola finch (*Serinus angolensis*).

1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 254, I therefore educated a young linnet under a vengolina, which imitated its African master so exactly,..that it was impossible to distinguish the one from the other.

Veniable, obs. form of VENGEABLE *a.*

† **Ve'niable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *veniabilis*, f. *venia*: see VENIAL *a.*[1]] Venial, excusable, pardonable.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiii. 168 It is an insufferable delusion, and with more veniable deceit it might have beene practised in Harts horne. *Ibid.* VII. xix. 385 In things of this nature silence condemneth history, 'tis the veniable part of things lost.

So † **Ve'niably** *adv. Obs.*—[1]

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 268 The Pictures of the Ægyptians were more tolerable, and in their sacred letters more veniably expressed the apprehension of Divinity.

Venial (vī'niăl), *a.*[1] and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 **uenial, veniale,** 4–7 **veniall,** 4– **venial**; 4–5 **venyal** (5 **-ale**), 4–6 **venyall.** *β.* 4 **veniele,** 4–5 **veniel.** [a. OF. *venial, veniel* (mod.F. *véniel*, = Sp. and Pg. *venial*, It. *veniale*), or ad. L. *venialis* (rare), f. *venia* forgiveness, indulgence, pardon.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Worthy or admitting of pardon, forgiveness, or remission; not grave or heinous; pardonable, light: **a.** Of sin; *spec.* in *Theol.* as opposed to *deadly* or *mortal.*

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 27541 Bot þar-of es oþer sines smale, þat clerkes clepes veniale. *Ibid.* 27545 Man cals þam venial and light. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2638 Þe saul þat es clensed wele Of al dedely syn and of veniele. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 287 In þis wise skippith venial sin to dedly synne. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* ix. 85 In venyale synne longe to byde, Makeþ dedly synnes to growe grete. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 60/a To swere lyghtly without hurte or blame is venyal synne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 180 Whome no synne shulde defoule, neyther originall nor actuall, mortall ne venyall. 1558 LP. WATSON *Sev. Sacram.* i. 5 If he hath lightly offended in any venyall synne, he pardoneth him. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 83 If I but tutch, to tutch 's' a venialll sin, The pretty circle of thy dimpled chin. 1682 BURNET *Rights Princes* Pref. 33 That it is only a Venial Sin in any, to lessen the great authority of another. *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 360 She had rather have suffered a thousand deaths, then wittingly commite ye least veniall sinne. 1737 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* (1753) 116 By what Rule shall a Person be able to make a Judgment whether his Sins be mortal or venial? 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* ii. 56 The crime of the person who..consulted the oracle of Apollo;—a capital offence in a Jew, but surely a venial sin in an ignorant and deluded pagan. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 408 Those who have only committed venial sins are first purified of them.

b. Of crimes, offences, etc.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 9 If they do nothing, 'tis a Veniall slip. 1628 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir Gregory Nonsence* Wks. (1630) 4/1 The man that seeketh straying minds to weane all, From veniall vices, or offences penall. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reff.* Pref. p. x, I hope it will be thought a venial Crime, if in some of these Meditations I have not aim'd to express Eloquence, but only to cherish Piety. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. iv. 174 Thus, pure from more pernicious crimes I live: Some venial frailties you may well forgive. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *Rur. Econ.* II. 115 The practice of pruning off the side boughs of Hedgerow Elms is a venial crime. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 36 Our own laws not long ago punished forgery and even more venial crimes with death. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* xiv. 134 Laughter may be the right cure for venial follies.

† **c.** Of an offender: Committing a venial sin or offence. *Obs.*—[1]

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 295 The venial offender had been released with a gentle reprimand.

2. Of an error or fault: That may be excused or overlooked; of a light, unimportant, or trivial nature; excusable.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 66 b, Whereby we may gather, that if the fault in wordes be veniall, the fault in sentence and matter be mortall. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. ix. 243 In the prosecuting and managing thereof, many not only veniall errours but unexcusable faults were committed. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 326 He thinks it a more venial fault to make a mistake at Second hand after others. 1735 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* xix. 231 He, who would have been ashamed to participate in Fraud, or to yield to Corruption, may begin to think the Faults venial, when he sees Men, who were far below Him, rise above Him by Fraud and by Corruption. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 418 Witness at his foot, The spaniel dying, for some venial fault. 1824 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl., This is a venial error compared to that of our ancestors. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* xxxvi. 362 If a boy has committed some..quite venial fault.

b. In general use.

1806 in *Mrs. Hutchinson's Mem. of Col. H.* 304 *note*, The account here given of Col. Hutchinson's motives..lays his conduct fairly open to the discussion..of the reader, who.. will determine it for himself to be commendable, censurable, or venial. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 138 This was indeed a gross delusion, but, assuredly for young men at least, a very venial one too. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* xvi. (1853) 96 An act of plunder and revenge—a venial act in the eyes of the Arabs. 1880 R. G. WHITE *Every-Day Eng.* 79

Mere provincialism in pronunciation..is venial in comparison with slovenly speech.

† 3. Allowable, permissible; blameless. *rare.*

1397 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxi. § 8 The Iewes..not doubting that bodily labours are made by necessitie veniall, though otherwise, especially on that day [i.e. the Sabbath], rest be more conuenient. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 5 Where God..With Man..familiar us'd To sit indulgent,..permitting him the while Venial discourse unblam'd. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* i. 219 With venial freedom let me now demand Thy name, thy lineage, and paternal land.

† B. *sb.* A venial sin or offence; a light fault or error. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 452 Þouȝ þis be synne, ȝit it is venyal, and not dedly, and venyals ben waschen awey wiþ preiers of a Pater-noster. *a* 1395 Hylton *Scala Perf.* I xxxiii. (W. de W. 1494), Neuertheles yet shalt thou for this defawte & all other venyals whyche may not be eschewed in this wretchyd lyf lyft up thyn hert to god. *c* 1485 *St. Mary of Oignies* I. vi. in *Anglia* VIII. 138/47 Þof she so eshewed fro smal [sins] and veniels. *c* 1540 *Schole House Women* (1572) D iiij b, And were not two small venialles, The feminine might be glorifide. 1596 Bell *Surv. Popery* III. ix. 364 Howsoeuer our late papists flatter themselues in their venials. 1609 Bp. Hall *Diswas. Poperic* Wks. (1627) 648 It..gently blanches ouer the breaches of Gods law with the name of venialls, and fauourable titles of diminution. 1671 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. iv. 15, I was careful not to commit any Mortal sin;..but of Venials I made no great account.

† **Ve·nial,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Irreg. var. of Venal *a.*[2]] Venous.

1574 J. Jones *Nat. Beginn. Growing & Living Things* 8 When the heart is opened, it receueth Aire by the veniall arterie. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* v. 70 Galen seemeth rather willyng to call this veyne a certaine veniall passage or way.

‖ **Venia·lia,** *sb. pl. Obs.*[—1] [L. *veniālia*, neut. pl. of *veniālis*: see Venial *a.*[1]] Venial sins or offences.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. ii. 183 The peccadillo's and venialia, which never come into the black book.

Venia·lity. ? *Obs.* [f. Venial *a.*[1] + -ity; cf. Sp. *venialidad*, Pg. *venialidade.*] **a.** The property or quality of being venial. **b.** A matter of favour or grace.

1628 Bp. Hall *Serm. Westm.* 54 They palliate wicked----- with the faire pretence of Venialitie. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 138 The Flemish Busses..were soon reduced..to intreat the favour of fishing by his Majesties commission: a veniality the king was most ready to indulge them.

Venially (vī·niăllĭ), *adv.* [f. Venial *a.*[1] + -ly [2].] In a venial manner, esp. in the way of venial sin; pardonably, excusably.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 26 Na mon is in erthe þat synnes noght venyally. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 288 Pylk worldly thynges þat he loueth, þurgh which he synneth venially. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 80 Perfore, takyth heed be my woordys, whanne ȝe synnen in pride venyally, & whanne dedly 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1183/1 Wher as els in dede he had offended but venyally. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 227 Thay ar aduersaries to the doctrine of trew religion quha sayis that ane iust man sinnes at leist venialliie in euery guid wark. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 639 A iust man in his good workes doth not sinne so much as venially. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* Ded., The Antients venially delighted in flourishing Gardens. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 128 All the faults, follies, and affectation of that agreeable tyrant were venially melted down into so many charms and attractions. 1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 53 So it fares with genius which, when only venially erroneous, is not to be forgiven. 1878 tr. *Villari's Machiavelli* II. I. viii. 249 If he sinned again however venially, he would certainly be hung.

Ve·nialness. *rare*—°. [f. as prec. + -ness.] = Veniality.

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Venialness*, Pardonableness. 1755 Johnson, *Pardonableness*, venialness; susceptibility of pardon.

Veniance, etc., obs. ff. Vengeance.

Venice (ve·nis). Also 6 **Venysse, Venise, Ven(i)ys, Vennys, Venes,** 7 **Vennis, Venis.** Also Venus [2]. [a. F. *Venise*:—L. *Venetia* (It. *Venezia*, Sp. *Venecia*, Pg. *Veneza*): see def.]

1. The name of the city (the capital of the province of the same name) in the north-east of Italy, used attrib. to designate various articles made there or having some connexion with the locality, as *Venice looking-glass, paper, point* (lace), *tinsel, vial, work*, etc. (Cf. Venetian *a.* 2.)

† *Venice beam*: see Roman *a.*[1] 15. *Venice blue* (see quot.). *Venice crown*, Her. (see quot.). *Venice gold, silver* (cf. Gold *sb.* 4, Silver *sb.* 4). *Venice lac* (see Lac[1] 2, quot. 1763). *Venice soap* (see quots.). † *Venice sumach*, Venetian sumach. *Venice talc, white* (see quots.).

1611 Cotgr., *Traineau à plommée*,..a Roman, or °Venice beame, for the weighing of things. 1598 Florio, *Veneto*, a light or °Venice blew, a Turkie colour. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., °*Venice Crown*, the crown, or cap of state, worn by the Doge, is made of cloth of gold,..covered with precious stones, and having two long ears, or lappets, pointed at the ends, hanging down at the sides. 1506 *Paston Lett.* III. 404 The [horse-] harnes of °Venys gold. 1520–1 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 310 Item, paid for a vnce of venes golde iijs viijd. 1535 *Wardr. Kath. Arragon* 26 in *Camden Misc.* III, Fringid withe grene silke and Venysse golde. 1598 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 40, viii Aperns of white gowlde wrought edged with venlys gowlde fringe. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* ii, Her hat..being of tawny taffeta, embroidered with scorpions of Venice gold. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) IV. 43 A..°Venice Looking-Glasse, wherin you may behold that..desired Maiden-City in her true complexion. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxiv, The great Venice looking-glasses, framed in silver. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Cambridge* I. (1662) 149 To such who object that we can never equall the perfection of °Venice-paper. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 51 3/1 The fine Needlepoints made at Brussels..were worn..in preference to the heavier °Venice Points. 1883 *Mag. of Art* Dec. 66/2 Louis XIV. had a passion for Venice point. 1574 [illegible] or Spanish soap. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Venice-soap*, a mottled soap made with olive-oil and soda, with a little sulphate of iron in solution, or sulphate of zinc. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1293 The first is called *Coccygria* and *Coccygria*: in English °Venice Sumach, or Silken Sumach. [illegible] Steatite, or Soapstone;..in bold..under the names of Briançon Chalk, French Chalk, and °Venice Talc. 1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 83 Tilsent [= tinsel] whyte and °venice. 1697 T. Brown *Dispensary* II. Wks. 1709 III. 111. 77 My cordials are all put into °Venice Vials. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts & Manuf* 1298 When white lead is mixed in equal quantities with ground sulphate of barytes, it is known in France and Germany by the name of °Venice white. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 722/1 Venice White contains 1 part of Baryta, and 1 part of White Lead. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 257 They esteeme nothyng more precious then drynkyng glasses of °Venice woorke.

2. a. **Venice glass,** (*a*) a very fine and delicate kind of glass, originally manufactured at Murano, near Venice; (*b*) an article made of this, esp. a drinking vessel or vial; (*c*) a Venetian mirror.

The extreme brittleness of vessels made of this glass is freq. alluded to in the 17th century.

(*a*) 1587 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* A ij b, They must be made of venys glasse bycause they sholde the better withstande the hete of the fyre. *a* 1593 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 41 Then they must prepare very cleare and white Glasse..; as fyne and white Vennys Glasse. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 770 The Crystalline Venice Glass is reported to be a mixture, in equal portions, of Stones brought from Pavia, by the River Ticinum, and the Ashes of a Weed called by the Arabs, *Kali*. 1673 A. Walker *Lees Lachrymans* 13 Their Venice-glass..cracks with as slight a blow as pots of courser clay.

(*b*) 1587 Harrison *England* II. vi. in *Holinshed* I. 166/2 As for drinke it is vsuallie filled in..bols of siluer in noble mens houses, also in fine Venice glasses of all formes. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 72 In a Venice Glass before our eyne, We see the Water intermix with Wine. 1620 Gataker *Marriage Dutics* 41 The more britle a Venice glasse is, the more gingerly we handle it. 1669 Boyle *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (ed. 2) *Absol. Rest Bodies* 22 Having enquired of a famous..Maker of Telescopes..whether he did not observe that the Venice-Glasses he employed would sometimes crack of themselves whilst they were yet in Plates. 1688 *On Death* in Jane Barker *Poet. Recreations* II. 44 Life is a Bubble;..'Tis far more brittle than a Venice-Glass.

(*c*) 1850 Mrs. Browning *Sonn. fr. Portug.* ix, I will not..breathe my poison on thy Venice-glass. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. ix, On which poor Lady Castlewood gave a rueful smile, and a look into a little Venice glass she had.

b. **Venice treacle,** in old pharmacy, an electuary composed of many ingredients and supposed to possess universal alexipharmic and preservative properties. Cf. Treacle *sb.* 1 c. Now *arch.*

Also occas. called *treacle of Venice.*

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 93 A little Venice Triacle or other Triacle. 1635 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Life Thomas Parr* C 3, And Garlick hee esteem'd above the rate Of Venice-Triacle, or best Mithridate. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xxv, And as well may we be afraid to take the Venice Treacle, because of its being long kept in boxes of Lead. *c* 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Dispens.* III. (1721) 146 Venice Treacle. This is also called the *Theriaca*, or Treacle of Andromachus. 1753 J. Bartlet *Gentl. Farriery* xlii. (1754) 323 Internally, for bites from vipers, may be given cordial medicines, such as Venice treacle and salt of hartshorn. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 573/2 The Muscovites at all times reject as impure..rabbit, ass's milk, mare's milk, and Venice-treacle. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xiii. *footnote*, Orvietan, or Venice treacle, as it was sometimes called, was understood to be a sovereign remedy against poison.

c. **Venice turpentine** (see quots. *c* 1789, 1800, and Turpentine *sb.* 1 b).

1577 Frampton *Joyful News* 45 Adde therto three ounces of Venise Turpentine. 1736 Bailey *Househ. Dict.* s.v. *Ague*, Mix the powder of white Hellebore roots with right Venice Turpentine. *c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 567/1 The kind now called Venice turpentine, is no other than a mixture of eight parts of common yellow or black rosin with five parts of oil of turpentine. What was originally Venice turpentine is now unknown. 1800 E. Darwin *Phytol.* vi. 84 Thus what is called Venice turpentine is obtained from the larch by wounding the bark about two feet from the ground, and catching it as it exsudes. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 278 The ointment is made as follows:—Quicksilver, 1 lb.; Venice Turpentine, ½ lb. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 503 The common varnish used for oil paintings and maps consists of 24 parts of mastic, 3 of Venice turpentine, and 1 of camphor.

Venie, var. Veny *Obs.* **Veniesaunce,** obs. f. Vengeance. **Venifice,** var. Venefice *Obs.*

Veni·genous, *a. Geol.* [f. L. type °*vēnigena*] Of rock-masses: Bearing or containing veins of metal or quartz.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 421 A series of specimens of the diamond imbedded in a venigenous mass. 1833–4 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 762/2 The intricate character of the venigenous masses of Mousseholc.

Venim(ous, obs. ff. Venom(ous.

† **Venin,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* In 4–5 **venyn.** [a. OF. *venin*:—L. *venēn-um.*] Venom, poison.

c 1350 R. Baumes *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9063 Venyn for salue wyþ hym he nam, Als a monk to court he cam. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Three Treat.* (1851) p. xxxvi, As Crist techiþ in his gospel, hou þat men shulden..forsake her cumpenye as venym [*v.r.* venym]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 57 Triacle is turneid in to venyn, and þis þat was foundun to remedie, is foundun to dep.

Hence † **Venin** *v. trans.*, to poison. *Obs.*—°

a 1300 *Prompt. Parv.* 508/2 (MS. H.), Venynyn or venymyn, *venene.*

Ve·nin, *sb.*[2] *Chem.* Also **-ine, -one.** [f. Venom + -in [1].] A toxic substance forming the distinctive element in snake-venom. (In recent Dicts.)

Veniour, obs. var. Venger.

‖ **Venire** (vĭnəi·rĭ). *Law.* [Ellipt. for next] 1. = next 1.

1665 Eyre *Tryals per Pais* iii. 31 Therefore where the Sheriff ought not to return the Venire, he cannot return the Tales. 1676 *Office Clerk Assize* 82 In the mean time doth the Clerk of the Peace file the *Venire*, and the pannel with the Indictment. 1728 Beverley *Hist. Virginia* IV. vi 223 A Writ of *Venire* issues in such Cases, to summon six of the nearest Neighbours to the Criminal. 1771 E. Long in Home *Every-day Bk.* (1826) II. 800 You must have a *venire* for a jury. 1821 Archbold *Digest Law Pleading & Evidence* 415 Stating the names, &c. of the knights and recognitors, as in the *venire.* 1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 50 § 26 *marg.*, If Plaintiff sue forth a Venire, etc. in order to Trial, and proceed not, he may afterwards sue forth another Venire, etc. and try at any subsequent Assizes.

b. *Venire de novo*, = next 1 b.

1797 Tomlins *Jacob's Law Dict.* s.v. *Venire Facias de novo*, The following seem to be the cases in which a *Venire de Novo* is grantable. 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 App. Cas. 414 Without some such power [of ascertaining what the circumstances were] no judgment, except a venire de novo, could be given.

c. *Venire man*, one summoned to serve on a jury under a writ of *Venire facias*, a juryman. *U.S.*

1780 *Virginia Statutes at Large* X. 489 An act for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses, and venire-men. 1895 *Weekly Examiner* (San Francisco) 5 Sept. 2/1 Sheriff Whelan's deputies had apparently summoned most all of the veniremen from the foreign sections of the city.

† 2. = next 2. *Obs.*

1763 Ld. Hardwicke in Harris *Life* (1847) III. 344, I believe he came in upon the venire or capias, & put in bail. 1769 [see Venire facias 2].

† 3. The place from which the jurors were to be summoned or in which the cause was to be tried; = Venue 5. *Obs.*

1682 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 185 Mr. Graham haveing moved once or twice the court of kings bench that the venire might be laid in another county. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1720/7 This day the great Case between the Earl of Shaftsbury and Mr. Cradock came on in the Kings-Bench about changing the *Venire* out of London.

‖ **Venire facias** (vĭnəi·rĭ fē·ĭsæs). *Law.* [L., lit. 'that you cause to come'. Cf. prec.]

1. A former judicial writ directed to a sheriff requiring him to summon a jury to try a cause or causes at issue between parties. *Obs.* or *Hist.*

1444 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 112/1 This issue joyned and entred of record, and a venire fac' of ye Jure retorned. 1532 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 189 They have pursued seuerall venire facias retornable the First day of the terme of seynt Hillary next comyng. 1543 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 14 Payde for a venire facias, xvj d. 1607 Middleton *Phœnix* B 4 b, Youl get a *Venire facies* to warne your Iurie, a *Decem tales* to fill vp the number. 1665 Eyre *Tryals per Pais* iii. 24 Of a *Venire facias*: To whom it shall be directed [etc.]. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 352 When therefore an issue is joined,..the court awards a writ of *venire facias.* 1790 *Amer. State Papers* Misc. (1834) I. 32 (Stanf.), Juries shall be summoned by writs of *venire facias.* 1821 Archbold *Digest Law* 414 The jury process is the same as in ordinary cases, namely, a *venire facias* and a *habeas corpora juratorum.* 1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 50 § 26. 125 No former Writ of Venire Facias had been prosecuted in that Cause.

b. *Venire facias de novo* (lit. 'that you cause to come anew'), an order for a new trial of a cause, upon the same record, owing to some defect or irregularity in the first trial.

1797 Tomlins *Jacob's Law Dict.* s.v., New Trials are generally granted where a General Verdict is found; a *Venire Facias de Novo*, upon a Special Verdict.

† 2. A writ issued against a person indicted of a misdemeanour, summoning him to appear before the court. *Obs.*

1463–4 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 20, I shall send you another [capias] with the Copie of your new suites and a venire facias against the ministre. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 313 The proper process on an indictment for any petty misdemesnor, or on a penal statute, is a writ of *venire facias*, which is in the nature of a summons to cause the party to appear. And if by the return to such venire [etc.].

Venis(e, obs. forms of Venice.

Venison (ve·nz'n, ve·niz'n). Forms: α. 3–5 **venesun,** 3–6 **veneson,** 4 **veneison, veneysun,** 4–5 **venesoun,** 5 *Sc.* **wennesone,** 6 **vennesoun,** 7 **venneson**; 4 **venisun,** 4–5 **venisoun,** 5 **venisyn,** 6 **venicon, veanisone,** 7 **venison,** 4– **venison**; 4–5 **venysoun,** 4–6 **venyson,** 5 **venysone, -soune, -sowne, vennysoun,** *Sc.* **wenysoune, -son.** β. 5 **vensoun,** 6–8 **venson,** 7–8 **ven'son,** 7 (9) **venson.** [a. AF. *venese(u)n, veneysun, venysoun, venison*, OF. *veneson, veneisun, venaison, venoison* (mod.F. *venaison*, = Pr. *venaisa,*

venaxe, obs. Sp. *venacion*, Pg. *veação*, It. *venagione*):—L. *vēnātiōn-em* hunting, f. *vēnāri* to hunt.
The pron. (ve'nɪs'n), given as *colloq.* by Smart in 1836, is ow usual in England. The fuller (ve'nɪz'n) or (ve'nɪzən) is urrent in the United States, and (ve'nɪs'n) is common in

1. The flesh of an animal killed in the chase or by hunting and used as food; formerly applied to the flesh of the deer, boar, hare, rabbit, or other game animal, now almost entirely restricted to the flesh of various species of deer. Cf. b.

a. a 1300 *Havelok* 1726 Kranes, swannes, uenesyun, Lax, lampreys, and god sturgun. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5933 (Laud MS.), To mete was greibed beef & motoun, Bredes, briddes, & venysoun. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 89 Þai..eteþ no flesche but venysoun. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 28 A sawce hit is For vele and venyson, iwys. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 662 *Hec farina*, wenyson. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 463 Soo toke he a dysshe that was before hym, that was full of venyson, and sente it to hym by a squyre of his. *a* 1500 *Remedie of Love* in Thynne *Chaucer* (1532) 367 b/2 Venyson stolne is aye the swetter. 1578 T. N. tr. *Cong. W. India* 200 They sel in this market venison by quarters or whole, as Does, Hares, Conies,..and many other beastes, which they bring up for the purpose, and take in hunting. 1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* v. (1615) 49 Amongst the common sort of people, nothing is accompted Venison, but the flesh of Red and Fallow Deere. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* III. 149 Hares are thought to nourish melancoly, yet they are eaten as Venison, both rosted and boyled. 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 48 Bears are very fat in the fall of the leaf, at which time they are excellent venison. 1736 Sheridan in Swift *Lett.* (1768) IV. 167 Our venison is plenty: our weather too hot for its carriage. 1769 Gray *Lett.*, etc. (1775) 363 Fell mutton is..in season..; it grows fat on the mountains, and nearly resembles venison. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* ix, The huntsman's knife, presented to her for the purpose of making the first incision in the stag's breast, and thereby discovering the quality of the venison. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 63 The party..hunted for a few days, until they had laid in a supply of dried buffalo meat and venison. 1885 J. G. Bertram *Brit. Alm. Comp.* 70 The best venison for the table is supplied by the fallow deer raised in the home parks of England.

β. c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 689 In *Babees Bk.*, Capoun, pigge, venisoun bake, leche lombard. 1502–3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 248 Payd..ffor a reward for brynging of venison. 1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* v. (1615) 50 Our eldest English writers doe call the same Venison, and not Venison: But by what reason I see not. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I. 274 The jars of gen'rous wine..He sgt abroach, and for the feast prepar'd, In equal portions with the ven'son shar'd. 1717 Prior *Alma* I. 378 If You Dine with my Lord May'r, Roast-beef, and Ven'son is your Fare. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 220 Turtle and ven'son all his thoughts employ. 1784 — *Task* IV. 612 Whoso seeks an audit here Propitious, pays his tribute, game or fish, Wild-fowl or ven'son.

b. With *of* (an animal) or defining term.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 472 Huy nomen with heom into heore schip bred i-novȝ and wyn, Venesun of heort and hynd, and of wilde swyn. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 324 Storkes and snytes ther were also, And venyson freshe of bucke and do. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) iii, Þe venysoun of hem [i.e. bucks] is reght goode, and ykept and salted, as þat of þe hert. 1545 Elyot, *Aprugna*, the venyson of a wylde boore. 1609 Bible (Douay) 1 *Kings* iv. 23 The venison of hartes, roes, and buffles. 1648 Hexham II, *Het wildt-braedt van een Beer*, the Venison of a wilde Boare. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* I. v. 12 Venison both red and fallow. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xii. *note*, The learned in cookery ..hold roe-venison dry and indifferent food, unless [etc.] 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 6 A haunch of kangaroo venison. 1885 J. G. Bertram *Brit. Alm. Comp.* 70 A haunch of red deer venison is not much appreciated, as it is expensive and troublesome to cook.

c. Used allusively (see quot.).

1579 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 22, I pray God the olde prouerbe be not found true, that gentlemen and riche men are venison in Heauen (that is), very rare and daintie to haue them there.

2 Any beast of chase or other wild animal killed by hunting, esp. one of the deer kind. Now *arch.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 1863 (Laud MS.), Hij charged many a selcoupe beeste..Wiþ Armure & ek vitayles; Louge Cartes wiþ pauylounes, Hors & oxen wiþ venisounes. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 64 Whan Harald or þe kyng wild com þider eftsons In þe tyme of g[r]ese, to tak þam venysons. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 51 To chase the Bore or the Venesun, The Wolfe, the Bere and the Bawson. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 234 He sittand in a busk..bydand the venysoun come stalkand by him stillely. 1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* li. 20 Thy sonnes lie comfortles at ye heade of euery strete like a taken venyson. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 9 One whole venison is bought for two rials. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. iii. 75 He that strikes The Venison first, shall be the Lord o' th' Feast. 1652 Cleveland *Poems* 12 The Ven'sons now in view, our hounds spend deeper. 1727 [Dorrington] *Philip Quarll* 15 Ten to one but I may give you a Venison. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* (1884) 302 One [hare] sat by my door...I took a step, and..away it scud with an elastic spring,..the wild free venison, asserting its vigor. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 13 July 368/2 When you see a 'venzon', shoot him, shoot him, When you shoot a venson, send me some to cook.

b. *collect.* (See quot. 1603.) Now *arch.*

a. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 112 Þe kyng..Forsters did somoun, enquered vp & doun, Whilk men of toun had taken his venysoun. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 83 A theef of venisoun..Can kepe a forest best of every man. *c* 1400 *Brut* 205 Þe Kyng Elle was gon to þe wode him forto desporte: and of venysoun somdele he hade tak. 1464 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 533 The surveyng aswell of the Verte as of the Venyson of oure forest. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* I. clxxii. (1516) 90/2 Yet therin is Venyson and other wylde beestes, and (1809) 268 The fyve sortes of beastes of the Foreste..as also the fyve sortes of the beastes of Chace, all which ten sortes are comprehended vnder the name of Venison. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect.* (1685) 347 Their Venison is the Wild Boar, the Hart, the Stag, the Fallow Deer and Hare, which are most excellent. 1700 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 819 The Verderers and Foresters shall meet to view the Attachments of the Forest, as well of Vert, as Venison. 1791 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 17 Under him are two distinct appointments of officers; the one to preserve the venison of the forest; and the other to preserve its vert. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* xiii, I was interested in the preservation of the venison and the vert more than the hunters.

β. 1597 Constable *Poems* (1859) 75 Course the fearefulle Hare, Venson do not spare. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Little Bartas* 484 Wks. (Grosart) II. 89 For Him, the Mountains, downs, & Forrests breed Buffs, Beefs, Sheep, Venron.

† **3.** The action or practice of hunting; venery. *Obs. rare.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 68 Ther scholde he with his Dart on honde Upon the Tigre and the Leon Pourchace and take his veneison. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xxxiv. (Tollem. MS.), Þese men..gon aboute in large wildirnesse as wylde men,..and lyuen by prayes and by venison. *c* 1580 *Adam Bell, Clim of Clough*, etc. iv, They were outlawed for venyson, These thre yemen euerechone.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *venison dish, plate, provider, salesman, thief*, etc.; *venison-like* adj.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 74 b, His flesh is Venesonlike: for the which he is so often hunted. 1734 Arbuthnot in Pope *Lett.* (1735) I. 340 My Venison Stomach is gone. *a* 1743 R. Savage *Progr. Divine* Wks. 1777 II. 120 Some plunder fishponds; others (ven'son thieves) The forest ravage. 1783 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., Thus, in some places, the wolf and the fox are reckoned among the Veni- [illegible]

Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Venison-dish*, a metal dish to keep venison hot at table. *Ibid.*, *Venison-plate*, a hot plate for eating venison on. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 437/2 A houndmaster, gamekeeper, and venison provider.

b. In the sense of 'made of or with, consisting of, venison', as *venison dinner, pasty, pie.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. i. 202 We haue a hot Venison pasty to dinner. 1665 in *Maitland Club Miscell.* (1840) II. 517 For Venusone py, 005 08 00. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 28 (1713) I. 184 The Whigs shall not always Rule the Roast, nor the Custards and Venison-Pasties neither. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 1. 4 To see the virtuous munificence of founders..tost up in fricasees and venison pasties. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* vi, Thorncliff's person, stuffed as it is with beef, venison-pasty, and pudding. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* iv, Since my venison dinner and drive with Lady Doldrum. 1864 C. Geikie *Life in Woods* vi. (1874) 117 Venison pie,..for days after, furnished quite a treat in the house.

Hence **Ve'nisonised** *ppl. a.*, cooked so as to resemble venison. **Venisoni'vorous** *a.*, given to eating venison. *nonce-words.*

c 1831 G. C. Lewis *Lett.* (1870) 10 People are very venisonivorous. 1881 Mrs. A. R. Ellis *Sylvestra* II. 29 The venisonized loin of mutton.

Venitary. *rare*⁻¹. [ad. med.L. *venitarium*, f. *venite*: see next.] (See quot.)

1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. xii. 213 The *Venitary* was a small book, in which the 'Venite, exultemus Domino,' ..with the appropriate invitatorium,..was written out, and the notation for the chant put beneath the words.

‖ **Venite** (vɪnəi·tɪ). [L.: 2nd pers. pl. imp. of *venīre* to come.] The ninety-fifth psalm (the ninety-fourth in the Vulgate, beginning *Venite, exultemus Domino*) used as a canticle at matins or morning prayer; the invitatory psalm; also, a musical setting of this.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 18 Þus doð et euerich Gloria Patri, & et te biginnunge of Þe Venite. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 364 The two sustres that be tabled to synge the versicles schal synge the *Venite* and the first verse at matens. 1657 Sparrow *Bk. Com. Prayer* 32 The Venite. O come let us sing unto the Lord. This is an Invitatory Psalm. 1713 Gibson *Codex Juris Eccl. Angl.* 299 Invitatories, Some Text of Scripture, adapted and chosen for the Occasion of the Day, and used before the *Venite*. 1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. xii. 213 On high feast days, the 'Venite' used to be sung with great solemnity, by the rulers of the choir. 1877 J. D. Chambers *Div. Worship* 134 The mode of singing the 'Venite', with an Invitatory superadded. 1899 A. C. Benson *Life Abp. Benson* I. xv. 589 He had himself ushered to his place by the verger before the Venite.

† **b.** *Venite book*, a book containing a musical setting of the 'Venite'; a venitary. *Obs.*

1434 *Invent. St. Mary's, Scarborough* in *Archæologia* LI. 66 Et unum librum vocatum Venite boke. 1537 in Glassock *Rec. St. Michaels* 127 Item iij pryntid masbooke and a venyte booke. 1559 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* 43 b, A booke of parchment conteyninge in yt a Venite booke, an ymnall, and a boke for diriges and berialls.

Venitian. obs. f. Venetian. **Venison,** obs. f. Venison. **Venk,** southern ME. ps. t. Fang *v.*¹ **Venkes(s, -is, -us,** obs. varr. Vanquish *v.* † **Venlin.** *Obs.* [a. obs. LG. *venlin* (obs. G. *fanlin, -lein*; now *fähnlein*), dim. of *vāne* (G. *fahne*) banner. Cf. Banner *sb.*¹ 3.] A company (of soldiers). (See also Vanlin.)

1541 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1849) VIII. 550 [They had set up four] venlins [or banners, each of which ought to] conteyne [500]. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Hollinshed* III. 1994/1 They prouided the best they could to repell them, appointing foure venlins or ensignes of lance knights to keepe a standing watch that night in the trenches.

Ven'mowse, obs. form of Venomous *a.* **Venn(e,** southern ME. variant of Fen *sb.*¹

Vennel (ve·nĕl). *Sc.* (*Ir.*) and *north.* Forms: 5– **vennel,** 5 **venal(e,** 6 **wennall, -al,** 6–9 **vennell,** 7 **venel,** 7–9 **vennal,** 8 **vennile**; 7 **vinell,** 9 **vinnel.** [a. OF. *venele, venelle, vanelle* (mod.F. *venelle*):—Rom. type **vīnella* (med.L. *venella*), dim. of L. *vēna* vein.]

1. A narrow lane, passage, or thoroughfare in a town or city; an alley or wynd. Chiefly *Sc.*

1435 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 30 A land in the west gate lyand neste the comoune vennel. 1439 *Charters*, etc. *of Edinb.* (1871) 64 The comon venale callit Sanct Leonardis wynde. 1477 *Extr. Aberd. Rec.* (1844) I. 36 That the alderman..pass through the toune to see the venalis that are closit. 1532 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* IV. (1897) 43 The common wennel of the Gray Freria. 1562 in *Archæol. Æliana* (1856) I. 42 Two burgages or tenements lying together in Spycer Lane, abutting on a vennel called the Stonye Hyll. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 155 Gif ther be any venels stopped, or bigged vp. 1706 in M'Naught *Kilmaurs* xix. 251 To send one man out of every house.. to repair the high wayes and vennles. 1727 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 425 The vennell or wynd called Lossie or Carnian's wynd. *a* 1774 D. Graham *Writ.* (1883) I. 101 Some through Preston vennal fled. 1899 W. Anderson *Dict.* Ser. II. (1860) 106 When he is away to hold the prayer-meeting down the Vennel. 1879 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. XI. 137/1 In the town of Strabane, Ireland, there are a number of narrow passages, called 'vennels', from the main street to the river shore.

2. *north.* An open drain or gutter; a sewer.

1641 in Heslop *Northumbld. Wds.* s.v., Paid Strother for making cleane the common vennell before Widdow Wilson's doore, 1*s.* *a* 1800 Pegge *Suppl. Grose, Vennel*, a gutter, called the *kennel*..elsewhere. Northumb. 1885 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Vennel*, a sewer. 1881 Sargisson *Joe Scoop* 93 (E.D.D.), Carry't t' watter off beneath ways inteh t' vennels.

Venneson, -soun, obs. ff. Venison. **Venney, Vennie,** varr. Veny ² *Obs.* **Vennis,** obs. f. Venice. **Vennisone, -ysoun,** obs. ff. Venison. **Venny,** var. Veny ² *Obs.*; dial. f. Fenny *a.*²

Venom (ve·nəm), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *α.* 3–6 **venym,** 4 **uenym, fenym** (femyn), 4–5 **wenym, venyme**; 3 **uenim,** 3–7 **venim,** 4 **wenim,** 4–7 **venime,** 6 **venimme**; 4–5 **wenem,** 5–7 **venem**(e. *β.* 4–6 **venum** (6 *Sc.* **winam**); 4–7 **venome,** 7 **venombe,** 4– **venom** (4, 9 *dial.*, **vemon,** 9 *dial.* **wenom**); *Sc.* 5 **wennome,** 6 **vennom**(e. [a. AF. and OF. *venim* (*venym*), variant of *venin* (see Venin ¹):—L. *venēn-um* (whence also It., Sp., Pg. *veneno*) poison, potion, drug, dye, etc.
The change of the final *n* to *m* may have been due to dissimilation (a different effect of which appears in the OF. variant *velin* and It. *veleno*), but cf. *pilgrim, vellum.*]

A. *sb.* **1.** The poisonous fluid normally secreted by certain snakes and other animals and used by them in attacking other living creatures.
The venom of snakes is secreted in a poison gland communicating with the fangs, through which it is ejected in the act of striking.

a. c 1220 *Bestiary* 139 in *O. E. Misc.* 5 Oc he [*sc.* a serpent] spewed or al Þe uenim Þat in his brest is bred. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14872 Strangli was þis folk felun,..Was nedder nan o mar wenim. *c* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xiii. 5 Venim of aspides, .i. nedders. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 195 The galle of the dragon shal been hire drynke, and the venym of the dragon hire morsels. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6313 A serpent him our gweld..; Bot his venym it did na sare. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. viii, The serpent came oute and slewe the child through his venym. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 67 *marg.*, Serpentes without venime. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* III. 49 Like Spiders which make venim of Roses.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20959 Þe nedder o venum sa strang. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xiii. 5 Venome of snakis [is] vndire Þe lippes of Þa. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4797 As gotis out of guttars in golanand wedres, So voidis doun Þe vemon be vermyns schaftis. 1614 *Disc. Strange & Monstrous Serpent* B 4, [The dragon] will cast his venome about foure rodde from him. *a* 1645 Milton *Arcades* 53 What the.. hurtfull Worm with canker'd venom bites. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 909 He [*sc.* a serpent]..Whose high-concocted venom thro' the veins A rapid lightning darts. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. lx. 195 The venom contained in this bladder is a yellowish thick tasteless liquor. 1813 Byron *Corsair* I. xi. 28 Man spurns the worm, but pauses ere he wake The slumbering venom of the folded snake. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, I. 127 As adders cast their skins And keep their venom, so kings often change. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 438 Poisonous serpents however are provided with an extra glandular structure placed beneath and behind the orbit. This gland it is which secretes the venom.

† **b.** *Of venom*, = Venomous *a.* 3. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 321 Þeyȝ here be no grete beستes of venym, ȝit here beeþ venemous attercoppes.

2. Poison, esp. as administered to or drunk by a person; any poisonous or noxious substance, preparation, or property; a morbid secretion or virus. Now *rare.*

a. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 408/207 Venim ich habbe, strong i-novȝh, þat ho-so þarof nimeth ouȝt. to deþe he worthþ i-brouȝt. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1010 Ech gras þat þerinne wexþ, aȝen venim is *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21055 Venim he drank wit-outen wath. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 152 For venym for-doth venym. 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 1133 Whi schuld venym or stynk lette ve to visite men in presun? *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 80 If venym or puyson be broȝt in place where Þe dyamaund is, alsone it wakes moyst. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 195 Many kingys..that myght not be overcome with armys by venym loste thar lywis. 1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters*

C]. Water of the same..is good to be dronke for venym and impoysonynge. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 108 Pogeda,.. throwgh the maliciouanes of the veneme [of a poisoned arrow], consumed and was dryed vp by lyttle and lyttle. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* i. pr. iii. 6 Thou haste not knowen Anaxagoras flight, nor Socrates Venim, nor Zenos torment. 1626 Surfl. & Markh. *Countrie Farme* 179 Garlicke eaten fasting, is the Countrey mans Treacle in the time of the Plague,..as also against all manner of Venime and Poyson.

β. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxx. 5 As venome is hid vndire a swet morsell. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 329, I wil þat þu drinke þe venome I sal þe gyfe. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 186 Ther is no venome so parlious in sharpnes, Os when it hathe of treacle a lyknes. *c* 1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* (Anloan) 106 This cruell wennome was so penitryf, As natur is of all mortall poisoun. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* ccxliii. 265 The houses and the houshoulde stuffe, vnlesse they bee purified with fire ..and such like, keepe their venom for the space of a yeare or more. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iv. i. 62 Anoynted let me be with deadly Venome. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* ii. xxix. 173 Till (if Nature be strong enough) it break at last the continuacy of the parts obstructed, and dissipateth the venome into sweat. 1685 Temple *Ess., Gardens* Wks. 1720 I. 178 A great Preservative against the Plague, which is a sort of Venom. 1797 Coleridge *Rev. G. Coleridge* 29 Some [trees] .Have tempted me to slumber in their shade..; then breathing subtlest damps, Mixed their own venom with the rain from Heaven, That I woke poisoned! 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 731 Infection of the deeper tissues and of the whole body is chiefly due to absorption of soluble venom from the place where the growth of microbes is proceeding. 1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 337 Fields of nightshade that are sufficient to themselves in their own foul venom.

3. *fig.* Something comparable to or having the effect of poison; any baneful, malign, or noxious influence or quality; bitter or virulent feeling, language, etc.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15389 Of all venim and of envi ful kindeld vp he ras. *c* 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 574 þe venym & þe vylanye & þe vyciоs fylþe, þat by-sulpes mannez saule in vnsounde hert. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 417 Ȝif manye wolden holde to ȝedere in þis bileue a3enus þe fend, it were a triacle a3enus venym þat emperour prelatis sowen in þe folc. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* ii. xlv. (1859) 51 They have ben wretched and irous, ful of venym, of rancour, and of hate. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 205 God gaue mankynde fowde of lyfe wherin the enmy spued venym by a worde of leasyng. 1509 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 79 They laye before a man venym pryuely hyd vnder the colour of apperynge vertue. *a* 1569 Kingesmyll *Man's Est.* vi. (1580) 33 That venime hath infected the whole race. 1607 Hieron *Whs.* I. 361 Hauing in him the arrowes of the Almightie, the venime thereof drinking vp his spirit. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 168 The veneme of this Book wrought upon the hearts of men.

β. 1508 Dunbar *Twa Maritit Wemen* 166 To speik..I sall nought spar...I sall the venome devoid with a vent large. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 152 Lat men be war, and keip thame suire Fra wemenis vennome. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 215 Quha venum verie poysonable and deidlye in Germanie had souked out of Luther, and otheris Archheritikis. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* iii. ii, Well, I am resolv'd what Ile doe.—What, my good spirituous sparke?—Mary, speake all the venome I can of him. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* ii. ii. 533 Who this had seene, with tongue in Venome steep'd, 'Gainst Fortunes State would Treason haue pronounc'd. 1675 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 467 He was gone into the country, swoln with his new honour, and with venom against the fanatics. 1725–6 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 170 Dr. Charlett continued his venom ag[ainst]t non-jurors. 1759 Franklin *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 416 A dose of venom apparently prepared, and administered to poison the province. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxxiii, The venom of your present language is sufficient to remind her, that she speaks with the mortal enemy of her father. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life. Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 321 Whilst art draws out the venom, it commonly extorts some benefit from the vanquished enemy.

b. With *of* (sin, envy, etc.).

α. *c* 1315 Shoreham iv. 93 Þorwe þe fenym of senne þat al mankende slaȝh. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 530 Certes than is love the medicine that casteth out the venime of envie fro mannes herte. 1497 Br. Alcock *Mons Perfect.* B iij, Yᵉ deuyl..seased neuer with his venym of dyscorde. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 245 Beware also the venym swete Of crafty wordes and flattery.

β. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 64 If any odyr gratter, fayrar or strengar be cald in þe pepyll, onon he is heuy touchyd with venum of envy. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 122 He told so mekull horrible venom of syn at þalm irkid to here hym. 1582 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 40 The sweit venum of deuyllish eloquence of wordis. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, iv. iv. 45 Mingled with Venom of Suggestion. 1643 R. Baker *Chron., Rich. I*, 91 If it may not have the name, yet certainely it had the venome of a bitter Taxation. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 445 It were to be wished all the Venome of Detraction were spent against it selfe. 1697 Prior *A Satire* 51 The Venom of a spiteful Satire.

†c. Used in addressing persons. *Obs. rare.*

1592 Breton *Pilgrim: Paradise* Wks. (Grosart) I. 12/2 The pilgrime gan replie, Die ougly venum in thy villany. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* iii. ii. 2 *And.* No faith, Ile not stay a iot longer: *To.* Thy reason deere venom, giue thy

4. With *a* and pl. A poison; a particular kind of poison or virus.

α. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 153 Of alle venymes, foulest is þe scorpioun. 1402 Hoccleve *Lett. Cupid* 258 With oo venym another was distroyed. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 16 Panne it schal be no nede to vse in this perilous cure venemys, as some lechis doon. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) U iij b, Suche herbes and venims that might poyson them in theyr mentes. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 128 One Richard Roose..dyd caste a certyne venym or poyson into a vessell replenyshed with yeste or barme. 1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol., Chancerie* § 89 Discerning and tempering by just proportions good ven.. evil. 1604 Jas. I *Counterol. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 100 The stinking Suffumigation whereof they yet vse against that disease, making so one canker or venime to eate out another. 1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 255 [Salamanders'] biting is deadly, having as many venims as colours.

β. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* vii. iv. 88 King Picus.., Quham, revist for his lufe, throu vennomys seyr, Circes his spous smate wyth ane goldin wand. 1580 Frampton tr. *Monarde's Two Med. agst. Venome* 115 These venoms partly doe kill us; partly we use them for our profite, and bodily health. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 480 A man, whose nature infected with a stronger venome, poysoned other venemous creatures, if any did bite him. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 459 Were all as tame..as their Queen was fair? Not one to flirt a venom at her eyes, Or pinch a murderous dust into her drink? 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 571 The anti-effect of different specific antivenoms upon their venoms. *Ibid.* 574 The toxicity of the most powerful venoms.

b. *fig.* (Cf. 3.)

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccl.xxxiv. 647 These people ..retourned into their owne countres; but the great venym remayned styll behynde, for Watte Tyler, Jacke Strawe, and John ball..wolde nat departe so. *a* 1576 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 82 Ane winam aganis the poure man. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 346 There is no speciall calling amongst men, whereunto by name this vice is not forbidden as a venome of all vertue. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 411 Taunts and mockeries..which infused a mortal venom into the war. 1910 A. R. Mackewen *Antoinette Bourignon* ii. 54 All the poisons and venoms with which sin has polluted God's handiwork.

†5. A colouring matter; a dye. *Obs. rare.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* ii. met. 5 (1868) 50 Þei coube nat medle the brizte flies of þe contre of sirienes wiþ þe venym of tirie. 1552 Huloet, *Venym*,..is generallye [to denote] anye thynge whych altereth coloure, or nature of that wherwith it is myxt.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Comb., as *venom-breeding, -hating, -sputtering*; *venom-fanged, -noyed, -spotted* adjs.; *venom-maker*; *venom-cold* adj.

Venom mouthed: see Venomed *ppl. a.* 4.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lvii. 5 Crist..lufes not charmers and venym makers. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* lvii. 6 The vois of the enchaunteres; and of the venym makere. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 926 Medee..By-taust Iason a riche ryng, That alle venym for-dede & strued,—That he schul not be venym-noyed. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* iii. xi. 229 Avaunt lewd curre, presume not to speake, Or with thy venome-sputtering chaps to barke 'Gainst well-pend poems. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* i. 52 Jernsey,..whose venom-hating ground The hard'ned emeril hath. 1760 Fawkes *Anacreon, Odes* xlii. 12 By rankling Malice never stung, I shun the venom-venting Tongue. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 481 The venom-spotted coils and serpent eyes. *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *There's a Hero* iv. 2 A venom-breeding Ocean. 1864 J. C. Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 220 A venom-fanged viper. 1889 R. B. Anderson tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 92 The venom-cold Elivogs. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 582 The treatment of venom poisoning.

b. Simple attrib., as *venom-albumen, -globulin, -peptone, -snake*, etc.

1845 *Zoologist* III. 1031, I found also five pairs of rudimental fangs,..apparently unattached to the venom-sac. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 291/1 In the most deadly venom-snakes..the poison fangs acquire their largest size. 1855 Bailey *Mystic* 54 Fire, ice and scalding venom-floods of hell. 1883 *Science* II. 24/1 Three distinct proteids may be isolated from the venom of the moccason and the rattle-snake. These they propose to call respectively, venom-peptone, venom-globulin, and venom-albumen. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 811 One observer classing a venom proteid with the albumins or globulins.

B. *adj.* Venomous; virulent, malignant, spiteful. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1350 *St. Laurence* 158 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 109 And seyn bete his body bare With scorpions þat uenym ware. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xi. (Bodl. MS.), The venem spiþer hatte Aranea. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 20959 (Trin.), þe venym nedder þat was strong. *c* 1512 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. p. xxxiv/1 Forestis full of snakes and other venym beestes. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* iii. in Dodsley *Old Plays* (1780) I. 18 In my syght, he is more venym than the spyder. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. 69 The venome clamors of a jealous woman. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 116 Things like sheep-lice, which aliue haue the venomest sting that may be. 1600 Breton *Melanch. Hum.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 13/1 Tis a subtill kinde of spirit, Of a venome kinde of nature. 1892 *E. Anglian Daily Times* (E.D.D.), A man remarked to two boys fighting, 'You-a-munshy [you amongst you] fare as venom as harnets'.

Venom, *v.* Now *Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: α. 4–5 venome(n, 4–6 venym(e, (4 venympe-, femyne), 4, 6–7 venim(e, 6 veneymen. β. 5–7 venome (5 vemon), 6– venom, 7 vennum. [ad. OF. *venimer* to envenom, or f. Venom *sb.* Cf. Anvenom *v.* and Envenom *v.*]

1. *trans.* To injure by means of venom; to poison (a person, etc.); = Envenom *v.* 1.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1526 Þe tong [of þe dragon] y bar oway; Þus venimed he me þan. 1375 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 136/1 Who so were..venympd wiþ eny wikked beste. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4842 A Basilisk..vemons in þe vaward valiant knigtis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xviii. 332 (Harl. MS.), It befelle in shorte tyme, that dragons and venemous bestes venemed men. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/1 To venome, *venenare, intoxicare.* 1552 Huloet, Veneymen, *inficio, cis, intoxico, as, venono, nas.* 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* 208 He that rubbeth his hands with the root [of Dragons] in May, take adders, and they shall not venim him. 1622 Markham *Masterp.* II. cviii. 300 Out of the same will runne a..humor, which will venome the whole foote. 1689 Bunyan *Holy Citie* 230 The Dragon is a venemous beast, and poisoneth all where he lieth; he beats the Earth bare, and venoms it, that it will bear no grass. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 280 These with many other different Herbs spreading and running upon the Trees choak and venom them.

fig. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 116/2 We shall see these vermine that seeke nothing else but to rotte or venime the Church of God. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* iii. E 4 b, Since I must, Through Brothers periurie, dye, O let me venome Their soules with curses.

transf. 1679 Dryden & Lee *Œdipus* iii. i, Oh his murd'rous Breath Venoms my airy Substance!

b. *absol.*

1563 Hyll *Arte Garden.* (1593) 111 Linnen cloathes..laid to any place, where either Spider or waspe hath venomed, dooth quickly take away the paine thereof. 1578 Turberv. *Venerie* 187 She venometh with hir byting when she is sault, as the Wolfe doth. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 313 A shrew, which biting horses and labouring cattell, it doth venome vntil it come vnto the hart, and then they die. 1622 Markham *Masterp.* II. cxxv. 427 Looke that you touch no part of the horse therewith, saue the sorrance onely; for it will venome.

2. To put venom in or on (something); to render venomous; = Envenom *v.* 2.

c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 2030 For þorus þat swordes dint.. þe venim will me spille: I venimed [*v.r.* femyned] hem bope,..Our fomen for to fille. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 443 A swerdman, wiþ a sword I-venymed. *a* 1470 Harding *Chron.* lxxii. xiii, There was a well whiche his enemyes espied,..Whiche they venomyd with poyson on a daye. 1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 105 b, They have poysoned the water, infected the corne, and venomed the victuals. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Ireland* (1633) 52 He also was sore wounded with a Speare, whose head was venomed. 1612 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 18/1 The Med'cine, so, thou gau'st to cure my Wounds, I venomed to make my hurt the more. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* x. 272 Venom'd was the bread, and mix'd the bowl, With drugs of force to darken all the soul. 1834 Beckford *Italy* II. 78 The heat seems..to have new venomed the stings of the fleas and the musquitoes.

fig. 1794 Southey *Elinor* 52 All her rankling shafts Barb'd with disgrace, and venom'd with disease. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* v. v, Wherefore barb And venom the refusal with contempt!

b. To embitter; = Envenom *v.* 2 b.

1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 154 Loue like a serpent poysoning my ioyes, and biting my best daies, venomd all my blisse. 1819 Keats *Vis. Hyperion* i. 175 Only the dreamer venoms all his days, Bearing more woe than all his sins deserve.

3. *fig.* To infect with moral evil; to corrupt, deprave, vitiate; = Envenom *v.* 3.

13.. *K. Alis.* 2860 [They] saide wel, or that tyme, Al Grece was of heom venymne [*v.r.* venymed]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 286 Þes religious & seculere prestis,..bi brekynge of þis lawe, ben cursid of god & venemyn cristendome. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3391 And of venym..Venus pleynly took her name. For she venemyth many wyse Al that doon to hir servise. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 51 Sen our time is now sa venomit with uncouth and superflew metis and drinkis. 1591 R. Turnbull *St. James* 161 b, Lyes, blasphemie,..filthie talke,..whereby the soules of men are often poysoned and venomed to death. 1618 Breton *Invective agst. Treason* Wks. (Grosart) I. 4/2 Pride doth blinde yᵉ Eie, Infects yᵉ Minde, vennums yᵉ harte, and gives the Sowle a sting. 1682 *Peace & Truth* 10 This was the felicity of Innocent Man before his Heart was venomed with Lust and Vanity. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 2/1 To the pyre With this fiend that venoms all our sinful veins!

Venomed, *ppl. a.* [f. Venom *sb.* or *v.* Cf. Envenomed *ppl. a.*]

1. Of reptiles, insects, etc.: Endowed with venom; = Venomous *a.* 3.

1382 Wyclif *Wisdom* xvi. 10 Thi sonus forsothe, nouther the teth of dragounes, ne of venymed thingus ouercamen. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 She [Lechery] misshapith som bodies More cruelly than circes herbis, which venemyd be with poysoun. 1552 Huloet, Venemed, *infectus, intoxicatus.* 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1627) 15 Against the venomed tongue of a beast, and also his body. 1592 Breton *Pilgrim. Paradise* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/2 A wood..Where Snakes, and Adders, and such venumed things, Had slaine a number, with their cruell stinges. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 26 The liver of an asse burnt, driueth away venomed things. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 629 To drive the Viper's Brood, and all the venom'd Race. 1794 Mathias *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 257 And venom'd insects cluster round the tomb. *a* 1806 Horsley *Serm.* (1816) IV. 35 The natural advantages of man over the venom'd reptile.

2. Covered, charged, imbued, impregnated, or smeared with venom; full of venom; poisoned, poisonous; = Venomous *a.* 5.

†1402 Quixley *Ball.* iii. in *Yorks. Arch. Jrnl.* (1908) XX. 44 Hercules Of a venymed schert was foul deseyue And brent hym self. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* ii. iv. 69 Her husband in warre against the Syrians had catched a great wounde in his arme with a venomed sworde. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 116 Theyr weapons are nother bowes nor venemed arrowes. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Ireland* (1809) 103 A Speare, whose head was venomed. 1632 P. Fletcher *Piscatory Eclog.* iv. xvii, The fish their life and death together drink, And dead pollute the seas with venom'd stink. 1634 Milton *Comus* 916 This marble venom'd seat Smear'd with gumms of glutenous heat. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* xv. 360 With venom'd Grinders you corrupt your Meat. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* i. viii. 33 They, who turn poor people's brains With venom'd drugs and magic lay. 1757 W. Wilkie *Epigoniad* vii. 210 The venom'd garment hiss'd; its touch the fires Avolding. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 308 Though he often sting me with a dart, Venomed and barbed. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 60 Beneath their venomed breath Life wears the pallid hue of death. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. ix. 168 He had aimed many a venomed arrow at her breast.

b. Of a wound.

1495 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 79 Also vitriol combaste be itself or with salt combaste yputte vpon a venemyd wonde draweb be venym fro bynep vnto aboue. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 9/2 Some woundes are of a worser nature, as beinge venomeuse, rebellious and entermingled with some badde accidentes. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* VI. ix. The venom'd wound..Long after rued that bodkin's point. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. I. 71 A venomed wound Made by a serpent's fangs.

c. Of a bite, sting, etc. Also *fig.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 53 We have breasts of proofe Gainst all the venom'd stings of misery. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 522 The greedy Flocks; Their venom'd Bite, and Scars indented on the Stocks. 1765 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1774) II. 48 The serpents round about it twin'd, Denote the rage with which he writes, His frothy slaver, venom'd bites. 1812 S. ROGERS *Ep. to Friend* 4 When..thy curious mind Has class'd the insect-tribes of human-kind, Each with its busy hum,..Its subtle web-work, or its venom'd sting. 1822 JODRELL *Persian Heroine* II. ii. 158 How sharp thy venom'd sting is, O Remorse! 1903 BRIDGES *Wintry Delights* 377 All the venom'd stings And dread sharpnesses of fury.

3. *fig.* Imbued with some virulent or malevolent quality; harmful or injurious in some way; noxious; = ENVENOMED *ppl. a.* 2.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* L (*Katherine*) 922 Gyf þou had myght, me think þu wald with venemyt alycht, tak vs in gyrne dissatfully. 1382 WYCLIF *Josh.* Prol., To reproue with venymyd tonge. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 90 So þat non erthly þinge nor odir of venemyd swetnes in qwhilk þa suld haue luste þa take. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 11 Till their soules burst with venom'd arrogance. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. XXX. (1674) 34 [They] appease the minds of incenst Princes, and the hearts of venomed people. 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 206 The Venom'd Tongue injurious to his Fame 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 115 Him, my guest, thy venom'd rage hath stung. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 256 One, whose voice was venomed melody. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 170 She play'd about with slight and sprightly talk, And vivid smiles, and faintly-venom'd points Of slander. 1865 *Spectator* 14 Oct. 1133/2 The kind of scribe who speaks of Mr. Delane as having left behind him 'a venomed trail'.

4. *Comb.* in *venomed-mouthed* adj.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 120 This Butchers Curre is venom'd-mouth'd [*Rowe* (1709) venome mouth'd; *mod. edd.* venom-mouth'd], and I Haue not the power to muzzle him.

Hence † **Ve'nomedness.** *Obs.*—⁰

1612 COTGR., *Venenosité*, venomednesse, venomousnesse.

Ve'nomer. *rare.* [f. VENOM *v.*] One who administers venom; a poisoner.

1647 HEXHAM I. s.v., A venomer, or poysoner. 1880 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* xii. 181 An sovereign against the arts of venomers as an exclusive diet of boiled eggs.

† **Ve'nomful,** *a. Obs.* [f. VENOM *sb.*] Venomous, poisonous.

1544 *Exhort.* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 569 We must beware ..of that venomful poison of all good prayer, that is to say, when our mouth prayeth, and our hearts pray not. 1612 R. FENTON *Usury* 54 Verily they discerned some malignant and venomfull qualitie in vsurie.

Ve'noming, *vbl. sb.* [f. VENOM *v.*] The action of the verb; poisoning; † poison.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* ix. 22 Sit þe fornycaciouns of Jezabel..and hyr many venymyngis thrijuen. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCX. v, Some in his sherte put ofte tyme venemyng. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. CXXI. 421 All bruisings and swellings come vnto a horse..by accident, as by some blow, rush, pinch, or outward venoming. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* XXXVI, The wreathed form of the Root is a sign that it is good for the venoming of Toads, Spiders, Adders.

Venomization (venəməizē'·ʃən). [f. VENOM *sb.* + -IZATION.] The action or process of treating with snake venom.

1905 *Jrnl. Exper. Med.* VII. 501 The effect of washing the Corpuscles after Venomization.

† **Ve'nomly,** *adv. Obs. rare.* In 4 venymliche, 6 venumly. [f. VENOM *sb.* + -LY ².] Venomously; with venom.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 147 Also among þe peple ..

..Frowning ech on other, this prosesse thei perst, And vengeable venumly, ech other verst.

Ve'nomness. Now *rare.* [f. VENOM *sb.* + -NESS.] Venomousness.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. iv. 21 Than stampe them togyther excepte the Psillium bycause of his venomnisse whych he hath in him. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Feutjnigheyt*, venomnesse, or poison. 1654 COKAINE *Dianea* II. 162 Perceiving the Infanta began to shew signes of the venomnesse of the poyson. 1886 B. ROOSEVELT *Copper Queen* I. ii. 30 A glittering serpent coiled in arrogant and tortuous venomness.

Ve'nomo-sa'livary, *a. Zool.* [Irreg. f. VENOM *sb.* + SALIVARY *a.* Cf. VENENO-.] Of or pertaining to, secreting or conveying, venomous saliva.

1888 *Amer. Naturalist* XXII. 886 The venomo-salivary duct [of the mosquito]. *Ibid.* 888 The two efferent ducts.. carry forward..the venomo-salivary products. 1900 *Lancet* 18 Aug. 528/2 The secretion of the venimo[*sic*]-salivary glands.

Venomous (ve'nəməs), *a.* Forms: α. 4–5 venymus, -ouse, 4–6 -ous, 5 -ows, venymm-(o)us (vemynousse); 4 uenimous, venimouse, 4. 6 -uus, 5–7 -ous; 4–6 venemouse, 4–8 -ous, 5 *Sc.* -us, 5–6 *Sc.* vennemous; 5 venamous, *Sc.* -us, -use, 7 *Sc.* ven'mowse. β. 5– venomous, 5 *Sc.* wenomose, 6 *Sc.* wennomus, vennomous, 6 venumous, venoumous. [a. AF. *venimus, -ous*, = OF. (also mod.F.) *venimeux*, f. *venim* VENOM *sb.*, after L. *venēnōsus*: see VENENOUS *a.*]

† 1. *fig.* Morally or spiritually hurtful or injurious; pernicious. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 120/484 Þat word me þinches venimous to þe pays of þe londe. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlix. 2 To forsake þe venymous delitis of þis warld. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 90 Venemouse lustis and likingis of deadly synnes. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Cock & Fox* 606 (Harl. MS.), Thir twa sinnis, flatterie and vane gloir, Ar vennomous. *c* 1490 CAXTON *Rule St. Benet* (E. E. T. S.) 129 Yf ony be founde gylty in this venemouse offence of properte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 55 The religyous seruaunt of god..destroyeth by holy meditacyon ye flyes & spyders of venymous thoughtes. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 414, I will at large proue that there is nothing in loue more venemous then meeting. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 707 Saint German, who happily confuted that venemous Pelagian Heresie.

2. Containing, consisting or full of, infected with, venom; possessing poisonous properties or qualities; destructive of, harmful or injurious to, life on this account.

Common from *c* 1470 to *c* 1650; now *rare.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16594 By passagers wel herde he seye þe venimouse eyr was al a-weye. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6751 Another manere of drynk þat es ille, þat sal be bitter and venemus. *c* 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 149 With thornes venymous, O heuene queen,..I am wounded. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 126 That they put in theyr medicynes no thynge venemous. 1490 — *Eneydos* XXIV. 88 Herbes..wherof the Iuse is passyng venymouse. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 45 Of the venemous apples wherwith the Canibales inuëneme theyr arrowes. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* CCXLIII. (1636) 207 Not that the ayre is venomous of it selfe, but through corruption hath now gotten such a quality. *a* 1624 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 108 Collecting als..The milkie poyson of each ven'mowse weed. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. XXIX. 173 The fleshy parts being ..by venomous matter obstructed. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 132 The cultivating of a Garden of venimous Plants. 1827 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. XXXVIII. On the heap Pour venomous gums. *a* 1839 PRAED *Red Fisherman* Poems 1864 I. 197 The trees and herbs that round it grew Were venomous and foul.

† b. Of a wound, etc.: Marked or characterized by the presence of poisonous matter; foul with venom; envenomed. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lvii, Agens þe venemos posteme þat hatte antrax & agens oþer venemous postemes. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Form.* U j, It shulde be an oyntment profitable to all sores that be venymous. *c* 1550 H. LLOYD *Treasury Health* T v, Leuen of whete breketh the venemouse humors and apostumes. 1656 J. SMITH *Pract. Physic* 363 A wound made by bullets is not venemous, nor alwaies bruised. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* I. i. 36 His Distemper daily encreas'd,..and he himself labour'd under.. venomous Swellings in his Feet,..accompany'd with intolerable Smells. 1707 WATTS *Hymns* II. CLIII. Poet. Wks. IV. 148 Sin like a venomous disease Infects our vital blood. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. ix. 196 When the serpent is irritated to give a venomous wound.

fig. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lii. (1611) 292 A soueraigne preseruatiue..from the venemous infection of heresie.

c. Of a bite or sting.

1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 81 He ouerthrew The Serpent, and his vennemous stang. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 146 The biting of a Pike is venemous and hard to be cured. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* 322 Of Venomous Bites from Vipers and Mad Dogs. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 48 Be careful how you take a pike out of the water, for his bite is venomous.

† d. Harmful or injurious *to* something. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. i. 23 Thy teares are salter then a younger mans, And venomous to thine eyes. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 17 A Caucarous and Corroding substance, and venomous to Iron.

3. Of animals, *esp.* snakes, or their parts: Secreting venom; having the power or property of communicating venom by means of bites or stings; inflicting or capable of inflicting poisonous wounds in this way.

Formerly in general literary use, now chiefly restricted to certain species of poisonous snakes.

α. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXI. (*Eugenia*) 396 Na serpent has a hed sa fel, sa venamuse, na sa cruel, as þe hed of þe colubre is. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 51 Yuel doers, corrupte ayre, wylde beestes and venemous woneþ þerynne. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) 199 Thanne have thei no drede of no Cocodrilles, ne of non other venymous Vermyn. *c* 1450 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 46 For off summe off thise serpentys, the eyn so venymmus be That with her loke thei slee yche erthly creature. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. XIV. 97 Irland is a grett Ilonde in whiche is no serpent ne venomous beeste. 1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 85/1 Like as the venemous spider bringeth forth her cobweb. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vi 9 That beastes teeth, which..Are so exceeding venemous and keene. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 13 Aduersitie Which like the toad, ougly and venemous, Weares yet a precious Iewell in his head. 1683 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 229 Those places subject thereunto shall be afflicted with water, and venemous Creatures. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 314 We found..scorpions, which we supposed were venemous. 1791–3 in *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1799) I. 225 To sleep in a dungeon with venemous reptiles.

β. *c* 1515 *Henryson's Orpheus & Eurydice* (Asloan MS.) 105 As echo ran, all bairfut, in ane bus Scho trampit on a serpent wennomus. 1595 *Locrine* I. i. 76 Triple Cerberus with his venomous throte. 1652 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. XXXVIII. 271 If poyson, or some venomous creature be neare unto it, it sweats. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. XXII. 442 It ..cures the bitings of venomous beasts. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* II. vi. 56 Many..of our European venomous animals carry their Cure.., in their own Bodies. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. ix. 194 If it [sc. the serpent] has the fang teeth, it is to be placed among the venomous class. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 182 Serpents are divided into venomous and non-venomous; and the former are sub-divided into such as are venomous with several maxillary teeth, and those which are venomous with insulated fangs. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* III. 23 The serpent had lifted his venomous crest from among the flowers. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 301 The poisonous Snakes are divided into two groups—the Viperiform Snakes and the Venomous Colubrines.

b. *fig.*, chiefly with allusion to the Devil.

1340 *Ayenb.* 171 Þe uenimouse eddre of helle. *c* 1440 *Mankind* 40 in *Macro Plays* 2 Yt hath dysaloyde mankynde from þe bittur bonde Of þe mortall enmye, þat venymouse serpente. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 25 The Earle of Northumberland..bare still a venemous scorpion in his cankered heart. *Ibid., Hen. VI*, 169 That venemous worme, that dreadfull dragon, called disdain of superioritie. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 239 The Devill,..that wicked and venimus serpent quho gois about to sie quhome he may catch.

4. *fig.* Having the virulence of venom; rancorous, spiteful, malignant, virulent; embittered, envenomed.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* X. 2 Þai haf redy in þaire hertis venymouse wordis and sharpe. *Ibid.* XXVIII. 8 Þaim..þat ..puttis away venomus tongis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Þe venimouse herte of þe enuiouse zeneþeb generalliche. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5528 With tonge woundyng, as feloun, Thurch venemous detracciouu. *a* 1480 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 56 It is not good to..take sodeyne acquesintaunce that hathe the herte of faire speche, for sum tyme her speche is deseyuable and venomous. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* li. 196 The venymouse malyce of the false traytoure Subyon. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 52 To speake venemous woordes..ageynst the annoynted of god. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus Andron.* V. iii. 13 The Venemous Mallice of my swelling heart. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Feentjnighlick*, venommously, spightfully, or [with] a venomous envy. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Session of Poets* 36 That with very much Wit he no anger expres! Nor sharpen'd his Verse with a Venemous Jest 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 623/2 One R. C..sent me venemous Libels against the Great Man. 1857 PALGRAVE *Hist. Normandy & Eng.* II. 18 A venomous opposition was festering against him. 1870 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 153 The most innocent intimacies would not have escaped misrepresentation from the venomous tongues of Roman society. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 4/7 A venomous and scurrilous attack.

b. Of persons, their character, etc.

† *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 299 Of this grett velany I salle be vengede ones On 3one venemus mene, wyth valiant knyghtes! 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* lv. 109 O wickit wemen, venomus of nature! 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 901/2 What shall men say, when a mortall man dareth thus to become venemous against God. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. li. 72 [Of these] christian children Mahometised, the venemous nature is so great, mischieuous and pernitious. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 225 [Satan is] a venimous aduersary to empoyson our soule. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 10 There are in the most depraved and venemous dispositions, certaine pieces that remaine untouch't. 1888 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 244 His most bitter enemy, the venomous and unscrupulous Foxe. 1911 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 221 The doctor seemed to me a venomous little creature.

† 5. Treated with venom or poison; envenomed, poisoned. *Obs.*

† *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2570 With the venymous swerde a vayne has he towchede. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* I. i (1859) 1 Thenne comme cruel dethe and smote me with his venemous darte *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* II. CXXXIX, Kyng Rychard.. Was hurt right ther, with dartes venemous. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 107 These people also, vse bowes and venemous arrowes. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 305 It is good against.. venimous shot of dartes and arrowes. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* Ded. p. ix, How farre the venime thereof (for it is a venimous arrow) may infect, who knowes?

6. Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, venom.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. CLVIII. 3135 Þai thoucht to gere Him with sum venamus poisoun be distroyit. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 103 Tobacco..hath a certaine venemous facultie ioyned with the heate thereof. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 159 There being a venemous quality in the paint. 1675 J. OWEN *Indwelling Sin* VI. (1732) 50 It is in the Heart like Poison, that hath nothing to allay its venemous Qualities, and so infects whatever it touches. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. ix. 195 The glands that serve to fabricate this venomous fluid. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 417 It has a fine venomous smell,.. and will certainly when stilled be good for something or other. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 2 Gaspard and Stick..had detected a venomous principle in cadaverous extracts.

72 PERRY in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III 363 The Truth defend you..from the venomous Poyson of Lyars. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 41 Lyk a traytour he steilis in, that..he may saw his venumous poyson. 1866 C. J. VAUGHAN *Plain Words* I. 10 The personal sins of each one of us..eating like a venomous poison into his soul.

7. *Comb.* in *venomous-hearted, -looking* adjs.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xv. 256 Several innocent creatures, might have been entangled..in the ensnaring web of this venomous-hearted spider. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 65 We sighted the enemy in the shape of one of those venomous-looking four-funnelled destroyers.

† **Venomoushead.** *Obs.*—¹ [f. prec. + -HEAD.] Venomousness.

14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* C. XXI. 161 Þenne hit destroieþ The ferst venemoste [*v.r.* venymous-heede] thorgh vertu of hymselue. [Cf. VENOMOUSTY.]

Ve'nomously, *adv.* [f. VENOMOUS *a.* + -LY ².] In a venomous manner; with venom or virulence; fiercely, malignantly, virulently. Chiefly *fig.*

c 1400 [see VENOMLY *adv.*]. *c* 1450 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.)

countries lieth about beds, and biteth venemously. *Cimex.* 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. iii. 48 (Q.), These things sting his mind, So venomously that burning shame detaines him from Cordelia. 1632 GAULE *Magastrom.* 360 He..put his hand into the hole, and had it most venomously bitten by a poysonous serpent. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1172 His praise of Foes is venomously Nice. 1868 FARRAR *Seekers* I. ii. (1875) 34 These facts are surely sufficient to refute..those gross charges against the private character of Seneca, venomously retailed by a jealous Greekling. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* III. 134 'Oh, yes,' he cried venomously, 'you look very innocent'. 1898 J. ARCH *Story Life* xvi. 385 The Union..was venomously assailed by men who up till then had declared they were its best friends.

Ve·nomousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The condition or quality of being venomous; †venomous matter.

c 1530 *Judic. Urines* II. xiv. 45 b, Through excesse and vyolence of hete and of venymousnes and malyce of the sekenesse. 1572 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 21 They wounded him with their privie venemousnes. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 38/2 The parte is onlye soacked throughe with some certayne venoumousenes. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 132/2 When the people doe suddaynly dye of this disease, it is then to be feared ther was any venoumousnes annexed therunto. 1611 COTGR., *Virulence*,..poison, venomousnesse. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Venomousness*, poisonous Nature or Quality. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Viper*,..a kind of Serpent, famed..for the exceeding Venomousness of its Bite. 1775 in ASH; and in later Dicts.

†**Ve·nomousty.** *Obs.*[-1] In 4 venymo(u)ste, venemoste. [f. VENOMOUS *a.* + -TY. Cf. OF. *venemoseté*, *venemenseté*, etc.] Venomousness.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 156 For of alle venymes foulest is þe scorpioun, May no medcyne helpe ; e place þere he styngeth, Tyl he be ded & do þer-to þe yuel he destroyeth, þe fyrst venymouste [*C. text* venemoste, venymoste, etc.] þorw venym of hym-self.

Ve·nomsome, *a.* Now *dial.* Also 9 vemon-. [f. VENOM *sb.* + -SOME [1].] Venomous, spiteful.

1660 *Treasons*, etc. *W. Lilley* 2 Many hundreds such venomsome passages as these. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 209 *Vemonsome*, spiteful. 1895 J. PRIOR *Remo* vii. 71 Like a raivenous roaring lion or a venomsome serpent.

†**Ve·nomy,** *sb. Obs.*[-1] [f. VENOM *sb.* + -Y.] Venomousness.

1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 88 Yᵉ venomie of such persons, which secretly by poysened wordes or other meanes causeth his neyghboure to be suspected.

Ve·nomy, *a. rare.* Also 5 venemi, -y. [f. VENOM *sb.*] Venomous, spiteful, malignant.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 80 If þe vlcus be virulent, þat is to seie venemi [*v.r.* venemy], loke if þat þe venym þat goiþ out be redisch or ȝelowisch. 1504 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 74 Ruddy his eyes and plaguefull venomy. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 394 Except the hate that persecutes him Nothing hath crueler venomy might.

†**Veno·sal,** *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. L. *vēnōs-us*: see next.] Venose, venous.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. iv, His..office is to coole the Heart, by sending aire vnto it, by the Venosall Artery.

Venose (vīnō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *vēnōs-us* (whence also It., Sp., Pg. *venoso*), f. *vēna* VEIN *sb.*] Venous; *spec.* in *Bot.* and *Ent.* (see quots.).

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 321 The short vessels arteriose and venose. *Ibid.*, By this branch of the artery it passeth to the spleen..; by the venose branches to the trunk of the vas breve. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf*, Venose Leaf, that on the surface of which there are a vast number of branched vessels, which frequently unite in an odd manner one with another. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 184 *Venose*, veiny; when the Vessels are branched all over the Leaves, and their Anastomose[s] or Joinings are plain to the naked Eye. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 290 *Venose*,..painted with lines that branch like veins. 1828 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) xxxix. 91 The arterial and venose currents [in insects]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1208/1 Indirectly venose is when lateral veins are combined within the margin, and emit other little veins.

Hence **Veno·sely** *adv.*

1846 DANA *Zoöph.* (1848) 272 The disks and ridges.. venosely furcate, or reticulate.

Venosity (vĭnɒ·sĭti). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *vēnōsitās*: see VENOSE *a.* and -ITY.] The state of being venous; *spec.* of the blood (see VENOUS *a.* 2 b).

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12), *Venosity*, a condition in which, it has been supposed, the blood is moved slowly; is more venous; and the venous blood itself in greater quantity. 1874 JONES & SIEVEKING *Pathol. Anat.* 42 The venosity of the blood is marked. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 333 Abdominal venosity is a prominent feature of many chronic ailments.

Venoso-reticulated, *a. Bot.* (See quot.)

1820 R. HALL *Elem. Bot.* 194 *Venoso-reticulated*,..having the veins disposed so as to form a net work.

Venous (vī·nəs), *a.* [ad. L. *vēnōs-us* (cf. VENOSE *a.*), or f. L. *vēn-a* + -OUS.]

1. Filled with, full of, or having veins; veined; veiny. *Venous leaf* (see quot. 1832).

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 839 The Consistences of Bodies are very diuers; Dense, Rare;..Venous, and Fibrous [etc.]. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 250 [Root-leaves] above somewhat glossy, with scattered hairs; underneath venous and woolly. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 88 If the veins diverge from the midrib towards the margin, ramifying as they proceed, such a leaf has been called a venous or reticulated leaf. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 373 If the more remote beds..are not thus affected,..they never could have existed, or would have been all granitic and venous gneiss.

2. *Anat.* and *Phys.* Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, a blood-vein or veins; having the form or function of a vein.

† *Venous artery* = *veiny artery* VEINY *a.* 1. *Venous hum* (see quot. 1891).

1682 in *Willis's Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab. 1694 W. WOTTON *Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1697) p. xxx, The subtil Blood..is ..transfused out of the Arterious Vein into the Venous Artery. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Circulation*, Both Venous Sinus's are fill'd, and grow turgid at the same time. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv. Health* (1770) 8 The drunken venous tubes, that yawn In countless pores o'er all the pervious skin. 1746 R. JAMES *Monsey's Health Improv.* 10 The Blood conveyed by the Arteries, is carried to corresponding venous Canals. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 85/2 A fluctuating motion in the jugular vein, called 'venous pulse'. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 562 The symptoms of venous inflammation. 1876 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 2) 433 Venous hum..This is the only venous murmur..likely to be met with. 1892 F. TAYLOR *Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) 677 If the stethoscope be placed over the lower end of the jugular vein..a continuous humming or rushing noise will be heard, which has been called the venous hum, or *bruit de diable*.

b. Of blood: Contained in the veins; characterized by a dusky or blackish red colour due to loss of oxygen. (Opposed to *arterial*.)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Circulation*, The venous Blood.. continually moves out of the Sinus..thro' the right Auricle, and right Ventricle, into the Pulmonary Artery. 1793 T. BEDDOES *On Calculus*, etc. 225 This experiment proves.. that the deep colour of the venous blood is not owing to the combination of hydrogene air. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 501 In the act of respiration then, the venous blood loses some combustible principles. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 29 In all the Vertebrata, the blood which furnishes the liver with the materials of the bile is venous blood. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 1009 The venous blood is collected and conveyed to the right atrium of the heart by 3 great trunks.

c. Consisting or composed of veins. *Venous system*, the aggregate of veins by which the blood is conveyed from the various parts of the body to the heart.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 81 In the Arachnida and Branchiopod Crustacea the long dorsal vessel..is connected with an arterial and venous system, which receives, distributes, and returns the blood. 1852 E. HAMILTON *Flora Homœopathica* I. 94 Berberis..seems to act upon the venous system and mucous membranes. 1875 C. G. BLAKE *Zool.* 2 The venous portal system is entirely formed of veins derived from the spleen and other viscera.

3. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, veinblood.

1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 192 These experiments are sufficient to prove that..the dark venous tint [of the blood] does not arise from carbonic acid or carbon. 1846 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* vi. 324 After passing through these, it is transmitted to the general system; and on returning thence, in a completely venous state, it is mingled with the blood which has been arterialized in the lungs.

4. *Comb.* in *venous-arterial* adj. In quot. *fig.*

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. vii, Venous-arterial circulation of Letters.

Hence **Ve·neusly** *adv.*, **Ve·nousness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Venousness*, fulness of or having Veins. 1890 *Lancet* 5 April 751/2 The membranes of the brain were venously congested.

†**Venque,** *v. Obs.*[-1] [f. OF. *venq-*, stem of *veintre* VANQUISH *v.* Cf. VENCUE *v.*] *trans.* To vanquish, subdue.

?1402 QUIXLEY *Ball.* xvi. in *Yorks. Arch. Jrnl.* (1908) XX. 48 Who þat his flessh venqueth most haue þe prys.

Venqueresse: see VAINQUERESS. *Obs.*

Venques, -quis, etc., obs. ff. VANQUISH *v.*

Venson, Ven'son, Vensoun, obs. ff. VENISON.

Vent (vent), *sb.*[1] Also 5 ventte, 5–6 vente. [Variant of FENT *sb.*]

1. An opening or slit in a garment, = FENT *sb.* 1; now *spec.* the slit in the back of a coat.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. lviii. (1869) 203 She hadde ..drawen out hire oon brest bi þe vente of hire cote. 1489, *a* 1500 [see FENT *sb.* 1]. 1535 in *Archæologia* IX. 244 A dublette;..the ventes lyned with sarcenette. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 207 b, Twoo gounes;..the capes and ventes were of frettes of whipped gold of damaske very riche. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 820/1 The trappers of the coursers were mantell harnesse coulpened, and in euerie vent a long bell of fine gold in bullion. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Vent*, the opening of the breast of a shirt, or of the sleeve, etc. 1831 MAYNE REID *Scalp-Hunters* vii. 55 Dark-velvet embroidery around the vent and along the borders. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 4 Oct. 3/4 The vent is necessary..owing to the length of the coat.

†2. = CRENEL 1. *Obs.*

1429 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 445 Item venttes crest xlj fott et di., vˢ. *Ibid.*, Item pro xij pedibus de ventes pro anbatyment', vˢ. ijᵈ. 1532 in Bayley *Hist. Tower* (1821) p. xvii, Also fynnyshed and made the vents of brycks of the White Tower. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1596) 424 Kernellare..signifieth that indented forme of the top of a Wall which hathe Vent, and Creast, commonly called Embatteling. 1603 B. JONSON *K. Jas.'s Entertainm.* Wks. (1616) 843 The Scene presented it selfe in a square and flat vpright, like to the side of a Citie: the top thereof, aboue the Vent, and Crest, adorn'd with houses, towres, and steeples.

Vent (vent), *sb.*[2] [Partly a. F. *vent* (= It., Pg. *vento*, Sp. *viento*) :—L. *vent-us* wind; partly ad. F. *vent* (OF. *avent*), vbl. sb. from *aventer* EVENT *v.*[2]]

I. 1. The action of emitting or discharging; emission or discharge *of* something; utterance *of* words. *rare.*

1508 DUNBAR *Two Maryit Women* 166, I sall the venome devoid with a vent large, And me assuage of the swalme, tha. suellit was gret. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 334 Free vent of words love's fire doth assuage. 1626 DANIEL *Hist. Eng.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 93 By this immoderate vent, both of the Garrisons, and the ablest people of the Land bee disfurnisht and left it in that impotencie.

†b. *To make vent of*, to speak or talk of. *Obs.*[-1]

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 213 Thou didst make tollerable vent of thy trauell.

2. The action, usually on the part of something confined or pent up in a comparatively small space, of escaping, or passing out; means, power, or opportunity to do this; issue, outlet. Chiefly in phrases with verbs, as *to find, get, have, make, take*, or *want vent*. (Cf. senses 4 and 5.)

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 128 b, Stop well the said violle, that nothing male take vent. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 121 Ye tail of the siluer pipe stretcht itselfe into the mouth of a great paire of belowse, where it was close soldered, and bailde about with yron, [that] it coulde not stirre or haue anie vent betwixt. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Fathers* 993 New Wine ..wanting vent, Blows up the Bung, or doth the vessell rent. 1652 FRENCH *Yorkshire Spa* ii. 18 By reason of the Suns opening the earth, and making vent. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* ii. vi. (1699) 196 That Fire of Sulphur, being pent in without vent or respiration, shall send forth a poysonous scent. 1703 *Art & Mystery of Vintners & Wine-Coopers* 60 Heat them and put them into your Wines, so let it rest with Vent, and it will be pursued. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 263 They [waters] got vent chiefly in the night, when in an horizontal position. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 24 The smoke found ample vent through the holes. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1463/1 *Blow*, the forcing of displaced air through the molten metal from insufficient vent.

transf. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) I. 161 The enterprising spirit and overflowing numbers of the Scandinavian nations soon found vent by sea. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxxii. 496 The inhabitants of Lombardy felt the foreign yoke only in the quickened circulation of wealth, the increased vent for industry.

b. The windage of a firearm or gun.

1644–7 N. NYE *Art of Gunnery* 46 Divide the Bore of the Piece into Twenty equal parts, and one of these parts is sufficient vent for any Piece; the rest of the nineteen parts must be the height of the shot. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vent*, in Gunnery,..the Difference between the Diameter of a Bullet, and the Diameter of the Bore of the Piece. [Hence in Phillips (1706), etc.] 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1807) II. 353 The loss of the elastic fluid by the vent and windage of the gun.

3. *To give vent* (with *to* or indirect object): a. To afford or provide with an outlet or means of escape; to cause or allow to issue or flow out.

After F. *donner vent*, used in the same senses.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 68 Be carefull in the beginning to give some little vent to the hogshead while it worketh. 1662 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 32 A milky liquor running out, so soon as you give it vent. 1668 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 181 To cure Rhenish of its Fretting..they seldom use any other art, but giving it vent, and covering the open Bung with a Tile or Slate. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., To give Vent to a Cask of Wine. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Tart*, You must..make a small Hole in the form of a Cross in the middle to give the Farce in the Crust some vent. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 318 The principal region in the old World, which, from time immemorial, has been agitated by earthquakes, and has given vent at certain points to subterranean fires. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 289 In order to give vent to the rising sap. 1875 [see *vent-wire* in sense 17 a].

transf. 1729 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I, *Eventer une Mine* (*la rendre inutile*), to give vent to a Mine, to counter-work or countermine it.

b. *fig.* To give outlet, expression, or utterance (to an emotion, faculty, etc.); to relieve in this way.

1625 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* III. ii, Had I not found out a friend to whom I might impart them [i. e. emotions], and so give them vent, In their abundance they would force a passage. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* III. ii. 10 The vent which the afflicted parties give by their bemoaning of their Estate. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 597, I found he wanted to give Vent to his Mind. 1781 JOHNSON *Lett.* (1788) II. 198, I have nobody whom I expect to share my uneasiness,..I give it little vent. 1823 CHALMERS *Serm.* I. 423 Oh! how I rejoice when compassion may give full vent to its tenderness. 1832 LONGF. *Emperor's Bird's-nest* iii, Thus as to and fro they went,..Giving their impatience vent. 1904 *Spectator* 20 Feb. 285/2 The voices which gave vent to any great wave of feeling.

c. To utter, burst out with (an exclamation).

1870 J. BRUCE *Life of Gideon* xi. 193 He gives vent to the exclamation 'Oh my Lord, wherewith shall *I* save Israel?'

†4. *To take vent*, in various fig. or transf. senses. *Obs.* a. Of news, etc.: To become known, to be divulged or let out.

1622 SIR D. CARLETON in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 542 Though all care hathe been taken to carrie ye matter secretly,..yet hath it taken vente [etc.]. 1668 D. SMITH in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 57 This presently took vent, and the Turks thought that they had got a Man among them, that could Cure all Diseases Infallibly. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 123 If Affonassief is no longer at Petersbourg, this Affair cannot take vent; for besides us two and him, no body knows of it. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 253 A conspiracy was formed against him: But it took Vent; and he made cruel Examples of many of the Contrivers.

b. Of coin: To pass into circulation. *rare*[-1]

1642 *Sc. Acts, Chas. I* (1870) V. 343/2 Concerneing..the copper money allreddy coyned, how the same shall take vent and passe in payment in tyme comeing.

c. Of a mine, or powder: To explode imperfectly; to lose explosive power.

1684 J. Peter *Siege Vienna* 41 At which time they sprung two Mines..without any considerable Effect, one of them taking Vent. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 87 Gun-Powder, which being bad, or having taken Vent, cannot take Fire.

5. *fig.* a. Means of outlet afforded to or obtained by a feeling, faculty, activity, etc.; expression or utterance, or the relief afforded by these. Now chiefly in the phr. *to find vent* (*in* something).

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 76/2 Griefes doe breake the heart if vent they misse. 1682 Dryden *Medal* 205 The swelling Poison of the sev'ral Sects, Which, wanting vent, the Nations Health infects. 1704 A. Collins *Gr. Chr. Relig.* Pref. p. xxviii, Enthusiasm..would spend itself by free vent and amicable collision. 1803 *Edwin* I. 206 At his words I found my angry passions heave for vent. 1838 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 13 A malevolent feeling, which might find vent in some violent demonstration against this family. 1880 W. H. Dixon *Royal Windsor* III. xii. 113 Passion found vent in words.

† b. *To get* or *have vent*, = sense 4 a. *Obs.*

1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* III. ii, This frightened him into a study how to cloak your disgrace, lest it should have vent to his lady. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 46 Should they unhappily get vent abroad,..what scandal must it raise! *a* 1725 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 197 But the thing had got some vent. 1722 De Foe *Plague* 2 As it had gotten some Vent in the Discourse of the neighbourhood, the Secretaries of State got Knowledge of it.

6. With *a*: An opportunity or occasion of escaping or issuing from a receptacle; a discharge or evacuation. (Cf. 12.)

1644 Z. Boyd *Gard. Zion* in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 20/1 Which by some chink, if it get not a vent, Blowes up the bung, or doth the Hodg-head rent. 1672 R. Wild *Poet. Licent.* 30 The other day into a place I went, Where Mortals use to go, that want a vent. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 290, I verily believe, if it had not been eas'd by a Vent given in that Manner, to the Spirits, I should have dy'd. 1725 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 255 Whereupon the Fluids..run to the Bowels for a Vent.

b. *fig.* (Cf. senses 3 and 5.) Now chiefly *to find a vent.*

(*a*) *a* 1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Self-Deceiving* (1630) 341 Tappes to giue a vent to corruption. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. ix. 49 The Egyptians..gave a great vent to Jewish Learning and Institutes. 1777 Pitt in Almon *Anecd.* (1810) II. xliv. 319, I could not have slept..without giving this vent to my eternal abhorrence of such preposterous and enormous principles.

(*b*) 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 64 Those who live within the communication of friendship have a vent for their misfortunes. 1824 Wordsw. *Excurs.* IX. 752 For, though in whispers speaking, the full heart Will find a vent. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* Introd. (1846) I 60 The tumultuous spirits of the aristocracy,..instead of finding a vent.. in these foreign expeditions, were turned within. 1873 Black *Princess Thule* (1874) 46 His distress at his own rudeness now found an easy vent.

7. Something which serves as an outlet for an emotion, energy, etc.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 374 With such joy Surcharg'd, as had like grief bin dew'd in tears, Without the vent of words. 1713 *Guardian* No. 29, Laughter is a vent of any sudden joy. 1828 Southey *Minor Poems* Poet. Wks. 1837 II. 255 This love,..and the woe Which makes thy lip now quiver with distress, Are but a vent..From the deep springs of female tenderness. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. x, Words at best are but a poor vent for a wronged and burning heart. 1883 *19th Cent.* May 887 The French have..to find and to use such vents for their energy in undeveloped and promising regions.

II. † 8. *Sc.* A flaw in a mould. *Obs.*[1]

Fr. *évent* is used in similar senses.

1541 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 123 At the quhilk melting becaus of ane vent in the cuppeling of the mulde witht the tayll, the pece felȝeit.

9. † a. An opening by which blood issues from the body. *Obs.*

1587 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 7 b, Ematites..is called of some stench bloud, for that it stoppeth his vent or course of flowing. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 353 Heere on her breat There is a vent of Blood, and something blowne.

b. The anus, anal, or excretory opening of (†persons or) animals, esp. of certain non-mammalians, as birds, fishes, and reptiles; † the vulva of a female animal.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1270/2 For those that bled till they died, stroue so much with their sickenesse, that the bloud issued out at their vents. 1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 241 As for their [i. e. crabs'] manner of Preparation, their Vents are first to be stopped with a Stick's end. 1675 Hannah Woolley *Gentlew. Comp.* 132 Geese Boiled...Fasten the neck and vent. *Ibid.* 146 Take a Pig, and draw out his Entrails, Liver, and Lights, draw him very clean at vent. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 421 For when her pouting Vent declares her Pain, She [i e. a mare] tears the Harness, and she rends the Rein. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 21 Take a lobster, if it be alive, stick a skewer in the vent of the tail. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 347 Like birds, they [i.e. sloths] have but one common vent for the purposes of propagation, excrement, and urine. 1790 Bewick *Hist. Quadrup.* (1807) 488 As soon as the Otter has caught a fish, it.. devours a part, as far as the vent. 1833 Jardine *Humming-B.* [illegible] The vent and under tail-coverts [illegible]

push it away.

10. An aperture or opening occurring or made in something and serving as an outlet for air, liquid, or other matter; a passage or hole by which matter is carried off or discharged from the interior of something; a vent-hole.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 66 A Vent, *meatus, porus.* 1580 Harvey *Three Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 44 The poores, and ventes, and crannies of the Earth being so stopped. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* II. iv, Now, he flings about his burning heat, As in a furnace, some ambitious fire, Whose vent is stopt. 1648 Wilkins *Math. Magic* II. xii. 250 Others are of opinion that this may be effected in a hollow vessell, exactly luted or stopped up in all the vents of it. 1677 in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 249 They leave a small vent about two Inches from the bottom, by which it empties it self into a little Pit. ..The vent being stopped, they fill the Cistern they have made with Water. 1732–4 Pope *Rape Lock* IV. 92 The swelling bag he rent, And all the Furies issu'd at the vent. 1738 E. Smith *Compl. Housew.* (1750) 3 If the knife be greatly daubed, has a rank smell, and a hoogoo issue from the vent, it is tainted. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* I. 609 The Shenandoah having ranged along the foot of the mountain an hundred miles to seek a vent. 1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 165 It was generally thought sufficient for the purpose..that the smoke should ascend the proper vent. 1877 in J. A. Allen *Amer. Bison* App. 459 There are old spring vents..that no longer give forth saline waters.

b. *spec.* An aperture or outlet by which volcanic matter or exhalations are emitted; the funnel or pipe of a volcano.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxiv. 193 Although we finde vents of fire in other places, as mount Ætna and Vesuvio. 1684–5 Boyle *Min. Waters* 29 Any subterraneal fire, that hath manifest chimneys or vents. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 242 A volcano, or burning vent among the hills, had flamed out. 1778–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1219 Another volcano, which had opened by at least thirty different vents within the compass of half a mile. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 135 These igneous vents were extremely numerous. 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* iii. 60 A new vent was formed below the lip of the old mountain. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* 201 A 'solfatara', or vent emitting only gaseous discharges.

c. In various special uses (see quots.).

1611 Cotgr., *Event*, the vent of a wine vessell. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Vents* (in Archit.), Pipes of Lead or Potters-Ware, one End of which opens into a Cell of a Necessary-House, the other reaching to the Roof of it for the Conveyance of the fetid Air; also Apertures made in those Walls that sustain Terrasses to furnish Air, and to give a Passage for the Waters. 1756 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s. v. *Foundery of Statues*, The vents are passages at top to let the air freely out, whilst the metal runs. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Wds., Vent*, the hole of a cask for the reception of a vent-peg. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2703/1 *Vent*, the term employed to comprehend the channels and passages by which the air, or gases, escape from the mold.

d. *Sc.* The flue or funnel of a chimney; a chimney.

1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 253 Neither are they [the stoves] put in the place for the chimney, but in another part of the room, and have a communication with the vent. 1798 in Gordon *Shaw's Hist. Moray* (1882) I. 322 Each vent springs lightly from the blue roof of its own separate airy column. 1815 *Ann. Register, Chron.* 43 A hole broke through into a neighbouring vent to carry off the smoke. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 77 Sometimes all the purposes of a stove have been served by having a flue introduced into the kitchen vent. 1889 Barrie *Window in Thrums* 11 Ye micht gang up to the attic, Leeby, an' seeif the spare bedroom vent at the manse is gaen.

e. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 *Vent*,..a return airway.

11. An opening, aperture, or hole; occas., one by which air, etc., enters or is admitted.

1593 Shaks. *Lucrece* 320 Through little vents and crannies of the place The wind wars with his torch to make him stay. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, Induct. 2 Open your Eeres: For which of you will stop The vent of Hearing, when loud Rumor speakes? 1659 Leak *Waterwks.* 23 Pour Water into the Vessels by the hole or vent M. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 56 Th' industrious Kind..contrive To stop the Vents and Crannies of their Hive. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 80 A place there is..Where, from Ambrosia, Jove retires for ease. There in his seat two spacious vents appear. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Vents* (with Essayers, Glass-makers, &c.) is a Term applied to the Covers of Wind-Furnaces, by which the Air enters. 1768 White *Selborne* xiv, Deer [when drinking]..can open two vents, one at the inner corner of each eye, having a communication with the nose. 1810 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) VI. 410/2 An oblong gaping vent on the anterior slope [of the shell]. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 69/2 One of the numerous cracks or fissures (locally called vents) that intersect the strata at this place [near Maidstone].

† b. A creek or inlet. *Obs.*[1]

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xl. 155 Having discovered this vent [Sp. *abra*], they found it ranne more and more into the land.

c. An opening or aperture in a building, etc., communicating with the outside air.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I 223 This Church..is very darke, having no light but by one window or vent, made through the earth. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* vii. 306 The streets are.. couered to saue them from the parching heate with open vents for light 1675 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (ed. 2) 286 You may this Month stop up your Bees close, so that you leave breathing vents. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* x, By some concealed vent the smithy communicated with the upper air.

d. The hole or channel in the breech of a cannon or firearm through which fire is communicated to the charge; the touch-hole; the adjustable part of a gun containing this, a vent-piece.

1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 583 For sudden all at once thir Reeds Put forth, and to a narrow vent appli'd With nicest touch. 1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 238 The velocity of the bullet is considerably greater when the cannon is fired off with a vent tube,..than when the vent is filled with loose powder. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The most common method is to place the vent about a quarter of an inch from the bottom of the chamber or bore. 1818 Sherman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 412 Spare vents should be sent to replace such as might be damaged. 1859 Wraxall tr. *R. Hondius* xxi. 319 The pistols were handed to me; I called attention to the fact that the vents were clear. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* s.v., A vent is formed by drilling a channel, ¼-inch in diameter, through a copper bush. *Ibid.*, There are two kinds of copper bushes used, viz. the through vent, and the cone vent.

e. *Mining.* (See Vent-hole 1 b, quot. 1883.)

12. *transf.* Any outlet or place of issue; a passage, exit, or way out. Chiefly *fig.*

In some contexts not clearly separable from sense 6.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* II. iii, Here is a vent to passe my sighes. 1629 Ford *Lover's Melancholy* v. M[], My teares like ruffling winds lockt vp in Caues, Do bustle for a vent. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* I. x. 25 Such widows grief is quickly emptyed, which streameth out at so large a vent. 1711 Pope *Temple Fame* 481 When thus ripe lies are to perfection sprung,..Thro' thousand vents, impatient, forth they flow. 1794 Cowper *Needless Alarm* 86 Winds for ages pent In earth's dark womb have found at last a vent. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Behaviour* Wks. (Bohn) II. 389 There is some reason to believe that, when a man does not write his poetry, it escapes by other vents through him. 1868 Bain *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* IV. iii. § 2. 339 There is at the outset a struggle, but the refusal of the muscular vent seems to be the extinction of the other effects.

III. † 13. a. The scent given off by a hunted animal; = Scent *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare.*

1576 Turbery. *Venerie* 62 When my Hounde doth streyne vpon good vent. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* XVII. xxiv, He hunteth like a spaniell by the vent, His sent is such as none can hope to shun him. 1719 Boyer *Dict. Royal* I. s.v., The Stag leaves a stronger wind, vent, or scent than the Hare.

† b. Perception by scent or smell. *Obs.*[—1]

1576 Turbery. *Venerie* 73 These be olde hartes.., whiche chaunge their laire, as the wynd chaungeth, to haue perfect vent..what faulte may perhappes be in their feede.

† 14. A wind. *Obs.*[—1]

1580 Hudson *Du Bartas' Judith* v. (1613) 64 Let him that serues the time,..With faith vnconstant saile at euerie vent.

† 15. A hint or whisper *of* something. *Obs.*[—1]

1613 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 149 There is great reason you should..recommend this cause to my secresy; for if there come forth but the least vent of it, I know *actum est de me.*

16. The action on the part of an otter of coming to the surface of the water in order to breathe; an instance or occasion of this.

1653 Walton *Angler* ii. 43 The Otter, which you may now see above water at vent. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i 306 Observe his Vents, that you may strike him with your Otter Spear.' 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 144/2 Unless the hunters are in sufficient numbers to watch the stream for miles, for his 'vent', he will probably never be seen again. *a* 1862 Foster in *Whistle-B. nkie* (1878) II. 262 The vents grow more frequent, the music more deep, And scarce from the surface the otter can keep.

IV. 17. *attrib.* a. In the sense 'used for, serving as, providing, or connected with a vent', as *vent-pit, -shaft, -way*; in the names of things or devices, as *vent-cock, -faucet, -pipe, -plug, -wire* (see quots.). See also Vent-peg.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Vent-cock*, a device for admitting air to a vessel from which liquid is to be drawn, or permit the escape of gas. *Ibid.*, **Vent-faucet*, an instrument which may act as a vent-hole borer or a faucet to draw a portion of liquor from the vessel. 1843 Tizard *Brewing* 451 This plan is greatly superior to the iron 'vent nail. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Vent-pipe*, an air-pipe; an escape pipe for steam 1728 J. Reynolds *View Death* (ed. 2) 22 This pit is, with us, call'd the *vent-pit or the air-shaft. 1843 Tizard *Brewing* 451 The nature of the materials employed..demands an adequate number of *vent plugs. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Vent-wire* (Founding), a long steel wire,..used for giving vent to green and dry sand-molds.

b. In sense 11 d, as *vent-astragal, -bit, -field, -piece, -plug, -server, tube*, etc. (see quots.).

Also *vent-cover, -punch, -stopper* (1875 in Knight).

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Cannon*, The first reinforce therefore includes..the vent-field; the *vent-astragal, and first reinforce-ring. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Vent-astragal*, that part of a gun or howitzer which determines the vent-field. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 358 **Vent-bit*, a species of gimblet used for clearing the vent of a gun when choked. 1769 *Vent-field [see *vent-astragal* above]. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Vent-field*, is the part of a gun or howitz between the breech mouldings and the astragal. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 358 *Vent-field*, a rectangular piece of the metal raised a little upon a gun; through it the vent is bored. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artill. Man.* (1862) 205 **Vent Piece*, a plug of steel or wrought iron, containing the vent. 1868 *Rep. Munitions War* 146 A 7-inch breech-loading polygrooved rifled gun on the Armstrong ventpiece system. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Vent-piece*,..the block which closes the rear of the bore in a breech-loader. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 358 **Vent-plug*, a tight plug made of leather, plaited rope-yarn, or oakum, which one of the men thrusts into the vent of a gun. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Vent-plug*, a fid or stopple made of leather or oakum fitting in the vent of a piece to stop it against weather, etc. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 452/1 **Vent-server*, an article used for serving the vents of M.L.R. guns, 64-prs. and upwards, in lieu of serving the vent with the thumb. 1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 238 The velocity of the bullet is considerably greater when the cannon is fired off with a *vent tube.

c. In sense 9 b, as *vent-feather*, one of the feathers covering or surrounding a bird's vent.

1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 572 The whiteness of the coverts of the tail and vent-feathers. 1799 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 505/2 The Vent, or vent-feathers (*crissum*),

which lies between the thighs and the tail. 1815 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. I. 98 Abdomen and vent-feathers whitish. 1834 MUDIE *Feathered Tribes* I. 11 The vent feathers, and under tail coverts, which cover the hinder part of the bird.

Vent, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 6–7 vente. [In senses 1–3 a. F. *vente* (= Sp. *venta*, Prov. and Pg. *venda*, It. *vendita*) :– pop. L. **vendita* sb., from L. *venditus*, pa. pple. of *vendĕre* to sell. Cf. VEND *sb.* In sense 4 directly ad. Sp. *venta*.

In senses 1 and 2 the word is very common from *c* 1550 to *c* 1750, freq. with adjs. denoting the readiness or profitableness of trade.]

1. The fact, on the part of commodities, of being disposed of by sale or of finding purchasers; freq. in the phrases *to find* or *have* (. .) *vent*. **a.** With *a* (or *no*).

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* ii. (1874) 11 This being reformed, aboue all other actes shal bryng the cloth of England to a contynuall vent. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 236 b, The wolles at Caleis, because of the warre, could haue no vent, nor be vttred. 1555 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* III. 70 Divers Authors of this our Age have more ridiculously clad their names in a Roman disguise..that their books might have a better vent. 1714 *French Bk. Rates* 242 The Merchandizes carried there from France..lie on Hand, and cannot find a Vent or Market. 1730 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 391 Encouragement..given to raise such Commodities that might have a constant and ready vent in Britain. 1782 PEGGE *Curialia Misc.* 141 One often sees them advertised for sale; and, if bought at all, they find a vent, no doubt, at Wapping.

b. Without article.

1564 In Hudson & Tingey *Rec. Norwich* (1910) II. 338 The seyde clothes which nowe were owte of estimation and vente. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 45 A remedie sent, where pease lack vent. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 84 Whatsoeuer thing is rered vpon grasing, hath free vente both ouer this side and also beyond the sea, to be sold at the highest penny. 1617 BACON in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 34 For the yearely makeinge of soe many tonnes of allome as..can possiblely receave vent eyther at home or abroade. 1642 BEST *Farm Bks.* (Surtees) 112 Att these three fayres..the most timely sorte of lambes have very goode vente. 1694 J. LOCKE in Ld. King *Life* (1830) I. 383 For our books are so dear, and ill printed, that they have very little vent among foreigners. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1891) V. 116 Like fish that could not find vent in London. *a* 1797 — *Geo. II* (1847) II. vii. 228 The original caricature, which had amazing vent, was of Newcastle and Fox.

2. The fact, on the part of persons, of disposing of goods by sale; opportunity for selling; market or outlet for commodities.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 174 We trust you will not moue vs to bye the thyng, whiche we cannot vtter, for in all places our vent is stopped and forbidden. 1575 *Brieff Disc. Troub. Franckford* (1846) 84 Saying that he woulde stoppe all mennes vents (as he termed it) and receiptes. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 1002 To the end, that..they might.. be served of a mart-towne for vent, and a place of receit for all forreine merchandise. *c* 1630 T. MUN *England's Treas.* (1664) 17 So far forth as the high price cause not a less vent in the quantity. 1671 *Charente's Customs Trafiletta* 69 As for the Trade and Traffick of those parts, it is much the same,..unless it be that the vent is better in some places than others. 1709 in Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 191 The Amsterdam publisher..carrying a considerable part of his impression into France, and hoping for a quick vent there. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 398 The traders ..consign..their European goods..to their correspondents in other parts for vent. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 19 May 1776, What, then, must be the fate of those who do not keep a minute account, neither of the yield nor of the vent?

b. In phrases with verbs, as *to find* or *have vent*.

1557–72 A. JENKINSON *Voy. & Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 216 We be vncertaine what vent or sale you shall finde in Persia. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 367 They vsed in old time to gather the Incense but once a yere; as hauing little vent, and small returne, and lesse occasion to sell than now adaies. 1674 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 54 Or by only naming it hoped to procure vent or better their livelyhood. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 62 Such Uses as you design to sell your Wood for, which you must be regulated in by the vent you have.

c. Const. *of*.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 241 Thether was one of their common trafficques and ventes of all their Merchaundice. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 951/2 By this grant it was thoughte, yt the king might dispend a M. markes sterling a day, such vent of woolles had the English merchants. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 504 Where he had peaceable traffique, and made vent of the whole number of his Negros. 1698 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 59 Much foreign trade will encrease the vent of our native manufactures, and much vent will make many workmen. 1700 LAW *Council of Trade* (1751) 141 This demand..at home will in all probability make way for the exportation and foreign vent of at least so much more. 1778 *Eng. Gaz.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Malton*, Malton.. was heretofore famous for its vent of corn, fish, and country utensils. 1818 G. CHALMERS *Historical View* 46 The alien duties, which had always obstructed the vent of native manufactures.

d. Const. *for*.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 39 To filch and steale whatsoeuer they can lay their hands vpon, seing they may haue such good vent for ye same. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. 3 Any Faire, Mart, or other place where any good vent for horses is. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Essex* I. (1662) 328, I know not whether it be better to wish them good Wares to Vent, or good Vent for their Wares. 1689 *Apol. Fail. Walker's Acc.* 93 The teeth being more than he hopes to have vent for in England. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 72, I doubt not, but we shall..procure a farther vent for our own product. 1761 HUME *Hist. Engl.* II. xxvi. 128 If husbandmen understand agriculture, and have a ready vent for their commodities. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lviii. 460 If..they find a vent for these goods abroad, they will have wherewith to purchase the produce of other countries. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVII. 546 Yet, even then, more goods were produced than there was vent for. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. vi. 97 The ordinary vent for timber of any sort, in Ireland, was very limited.

†**3.** A place where goods are or may be sold; a market, mart. *Obs.*–[1]

1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Politic Plat* (1), At Rone in Fraunce which is the chefest vent, be solde our Englishe wares, as Welche and Manchester Cottons.

†**4.** [After Sp. *venta*.] An inn or tavern; a baiting or posting house. *Obs.* (Cf. VENTA.)

1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 14 The seate of Ystobriga was, where nowe the ventes of Caparra, being bayting places, stand. 1612 SHELTON *Don Quix.* I. ii. (1620) 10 He perceiued an Inne, neere vnto the high way;..forthwith as soone as he espied the Vent, he fained to himselfe that it was a Castle. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Love's Pilgr.* I. i, Our house Is but a *vent* of need, that now and then Receives a guest, between the greater Towns As they come late.

†**Vent,** app. a variant spelling of WENT *sb.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III iv. 40 Fro that place syne ontill ane cave we went, Vndir a hingand hewch, in a derne vent [*v.r.* went].

†**Vent,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. VENT *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To trim the openings or slits of (a garment). Cf. FENT *v.*

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 16 Longe gownes or Cassockes for women of red Sarcenet..puffyd with whyte sarcenet & ventyd with the same. 1606 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (18.7) I. 111 Fustain to ventt it [*sc.* a gown] doune before.

2. To crenellate (a wall).

1531 in Bailey *Hist. Tower* (1821) p. xi, The walls.. rounde aboute to be copyde, ventyde, lowpyde, and crestyde. *Ibid.*, The walls of the same with one turret to be ventyde.

Vent (vent), *v.*[2] Also 7 vente, ventt. [f. VENT *sb.*[2], or ad. F. *éventer* EVENT *v.*[2] Cf. also AVENT *v.* The senses of OF. and F. *venter* are barely represented here.]

I. *trans.* †**1.** To provide (a liquor cask, etc.) with a vent or outlet for gas or vapour. *Obs.*

1398 [see VENTING *vbl. sb.*]. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxxvi. 727 The strengthe of feruent must..bieskyth ful stronge vesselles that it is put in, but thei be vented. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 66 To vent, *aperire, euacuare*. 1580–3 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 57 The wine vessel beyng ful, lets passe no wine, though neuer so wel vented. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 45 The vessel beein[g] vented and broch't, tels the taste what liquor issueth from it. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners & Wine-Coopers* 11 They draw them forth for sale as fast as they can vent them.

fig. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurdity* Wks. (Grosart) I. 35 These Bussards thinke knowledge a burthen, tapping it before they haue halt tunde it, venting it before they haue filled it.

b. *fig.* To relieve or unburden (one's heart or soul) in respect of feelings or emotions. Also *refl.*

c 1626 W. BOSWORTH *Arcadius & Sepha* I. 843 With these, and such like words, he vents his soul Of those..Conjectures. 1631 HEYWOOD *Engl. Elizabeth* (1641) 55 The King having something vented himself with laughing, replied. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 22 P 2 Without any Purpose in his Talk, but to vent an Heart overflowing with Sense of Success. 1799 WINTER *Let.* in Jay *Wks.* (1843) V. 92, I vented my soul in a line to Mr. Peronet.

†**2.** To discharge, eject, cast or pour out (liquid, smoke, etc.); to carry off or away; to drain in this way. Also with advs., as *away, down, forth, out*. *Obs.*

Said usually of the containing thing, but sometimes of the force or means by which outlet is given. Examples with advs. are placed under (*a*).

(*a*) 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 558/1 The infectious smother of this venemous vapor..had beene readie to choke all christendome, had not by the wisedome..of the princes there, the same the sooner beene vented away. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. iii. 1388 Those leaden spouts, That nought downe [*v.r.* doe] vent but what they do receiue. 1644 G. PLATTES in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 198 The pits.. will vent away the superfluous water continually, and keep the sellar alwaies dry. 1652 FRENCH *Yorkshire Spa* ii. 19 They being vented forth, the heat would..be extinguished.

(*b*) 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Providence* xviii, Springs vent their streams, and by expense get store. 1646 P. BULKELEY *Gospel Covt.* I. 114 Be not like dry vessels that will vent nothing. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voyage* (1718) 383 We found it [the leak] did not encrease more than one pump could vent. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 297 The copper funnels for venting the smoke from the kitchen fires.

fig. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 98 If there should bee any bad Bloud left in the Kingdome, an Honourable Forraine Warre will Vent it. *a* 1627 SIR J. BEAUMONT *Bosworth F.* 552 My Strength is spent, And some perhaps of Villain Blood will vent My weary Soul.

†**b.** Of persons, animals, or their organs: To cast out, expel, or discharge, esp. by natural evacuation; to evacuate (urine, etc.). *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 249 With a medicine made of an African Sparrow mixed with this, he procured one to make water, and to void a great stone which had not vented his vrine in many dales. 1621 SHAKS *Cymb.* I. ii. 3 Where ayre comes out, ayre comes in: There's none abroad so wholesome as that you vent. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks 1851 III. 70 The very maw of Hell ransack't, and made to give up her conceal'd destruction, ere shee could vent it in that horrible and damned blast. 1696 J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 94 The Chylus .. cannot all be changed into water, and if it were changed, yet the Reins can vent it forth. 1738 tr. *Guasso's Art Convers.* 74 Such as vent such pestiferous Blasts, ought to have their Wind stopt with a Halter. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 99 Sheep that are infected with this disorder cannot vent the seed, the ova, from their liver, on the ground.

transf. *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIX. 97 When Alcmena was to vent the force of Hercules.

fig. 1608 T. MORTON *Preamb. Encounter* 122 Whatsoeuer bitternesse the gall of this man could vent out.

†**c.** To shed (tears). Also with *out*. *Obs. rare.*

1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 123 Having first suffered me to vent out my teares, for the disburdning of my heart [etc.]. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 16 He..vented the tears of..pleasure, love, and gratitude.

3. a. To give, heave, or utter (a groan, sigh, etc.). Now *rare* or *poet.*

1606 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iv, I..vent a heaving sigh. 1615 T. ADAMS *White Devil* 42 The poore confident plaintife goes home undone; his moanes, his groanes are vented up to heaven. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XV. 123 Behold Ascalaphus! behold him die, But dare not murmur, dare not vent a sigh. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xiv. 45 Beneath her palm [dume vents her moan. 1858 H. BUSHNELL *Serm. New Life* 10 They even complain, venting heavy sighs. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 122 Not wise is he who vents an angry breath.

†**b.** *poet.* To pour out (one's soul) in death. *Obs.*

1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 387 He sinks,..And vents his soul, effused with gushing gore.

4. *fig.* To give vent to (an emotion, feeling, passion, etc.); to give free course or expression to; to express; to make manifest or known.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 179 Gremio, 'tis now no time to vent our loue. 1606 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. iv, I must vent my griefes, or heart will burst. 1641 TATHAM *Distr. State* II. i, Did you e'er Hear spleen better vented. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* IV. 174 Would Agamemnon thus would alwaies vent His Choler. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 74 Others, unable to contain themselves, vented their pain by incessant roarings. *a* 1781 R. WATSON *Hist. Philip III* V. (1783) 349 The resentment of Spain was farther vented in a manifesto. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiv, Martin..suppressed not his indignation a moment after he could vent it with safety. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* XXXII, He vented the lightness of his spirit in smiles and sparkling looks. 1873 SYMONDS *Gk. Poets* V. 139 Habituated to associate together in large bodies, the Dorians felt no need of venting private feeling.

transf. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 222 Things contrary will vent their contrariety in mutual strife.

b. To let loose, pour out, wreak (one's anger, spleen, etc.) *on* or *upon* a person or thing. (Cf. 5 b.)

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* III. 703 The Winds and Waves complain, And vent their malice on the Cliffs in vain. 1710 *Tatler* No. 260 P 3 That fatal distemper, which has always taken a particular pleasure in venting its spight upon the Nose. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* ix. 93 The Viceroy disappointed in this Scheme, vented all his rage upon Father James. 1750 — *Rambler* No. 87 P 9 The unsuccessful vent their discontent upon those that excel them. 1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* xiii, To vent their spleen on the first idle coxcomb they can find. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 55 The Carthaginians unable to vent their anger even on the lifeless corpse of the unfortunate Hamilcar,..vented it on his innocent son.

5. *fig.* To give out or forth, publish or spread abroad, by or as by utterance; to give utterance or publicity to (a doctrine, opinion, etc.); to utter (a word, expression, etc.). †Also const. *forth* or *out*.

Very common from *c* 1600 to *c* 1750; now somewhat *rare* or *arch.*

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. vi. 954 What lack, faith I cannot but vent vnto thee a most witty iest of mine. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 277 After that God had once vented and declared that his good purpose to mankind. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 102 And they will be sure to vent out some non-truth. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 278 P 2 Learning by Heart Scraps of Greek, which she vents upon all Occasions. 1764 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1892) IV. 279, I hate to send you every improbable tale that is vented. 1827 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. iv. 431 The Presidency vent the most bitter complaints. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lii. (1865) I. 107 The noisy declamations he vented about the imaginary dangers of his new Carthage. 1872 BLACKIE *Phases of Morals* i. 48 He who in an impulse of fearless fervour vents a little too much truth [etc.].

b. With *on* or *upon*. (Cf. 4 b.)

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* vi. 85 Many a curse did the least wise vent upon the French. 1843 GLADSTONE *Gleam.* (1879) V. 65 The nameless author who has recently vented his chaff..upon the public. 1844 LEVER *T. Burke* v, The curse vented on me by one whose ruin..lay at my own father's door.

†**c.** To disclose, divulge, or let *out* (a secret, etc.). *Obs.*

1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 276 This affair was carried on with all the secresie of so great statesmen, that they might not by venting it unseasonably, spoil [etc.]. 1679 EVERARD *Popish Plot* 7 When these matters were vented out of [= by] Sir Robert.

6. *refl.* Of a thing: To discharge (itself); to find issue or exit.

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. v. 81 Nilus venteth itself into the Mediterranean Sea with seven mouths. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 120 That very year the earth swelled with such a tympany, that in venting it self all Larr was forced to quake. 1684 J. PETER *Siege Vienna* 45 It hapned that they were all left standing, the Mine venting it self upon the Edge of the Ditch. 1726 *Nat. Hist. Ireland* 193 A lake..called Loughchorib..vents it self into the sea at Galway.

b. *esp.* Of an emotion, faculty, quality, etc.: To find vent; to express or show (itself) *in* something.

(*a*) 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. vii. 138 It is to be feared that this sin finding its usuall way obstructed, will watch its own advantage, to vent itself by some other conveyances. 1708 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. i. 375 The Malice of the Faction which I hate Would vent it self even on thy Innocence.

1808 in *Knox & Jebb' Corr.* I. 456 The fears of men, having been taught..to vent themselves, if I may so speak, through the channel of sacrifice. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 367 The coffee houses were the chief organs through which the public opinion of the metropolis vented itself. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civilis.* (1869) III. iv. 103 This ill-feeling increased until, in 1580, it vented itself by the abolition of episcopacy.

(*b*) *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 468 Able and active bodies are not to vent themselves in such vain, though gainful, ostentation. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. iii. i. 8 Affections ..delight to vent themselves in Poesie. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Music* 102 When the first Fire of Enthusiasm had vented itself in the Rapture of Hymns and Odes. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvii, The..decrepit hag..whose wrath must vent itself in impotent curses. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* xiii. (1857) II. 159 This cheerfulness has vented itself in his playful poetry.

†7. **a.** To eject or expel (people) *out of* a country. *Obs.*—1

1609 in Gardiner *Hist. Eng.* I. 438 [A wish that as many natives as possible might be] vented out of the land.

†b. To rid (a kingdom) *of* people. *Obs.*—1

1613 SIR T. STAFFORD in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 199 It will be a good meanes to vent that Kingdome..of number of Idle men that haue nothinge to doe.

†c. *fig.* To spend, get rid of (a fortune). *Obs.*—1

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. iv, How doe they liue by their wits, there, that haue vented Sixe times your fortunes?

†8 **a.** To dispense, distribute. *Obs*—1

1616 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XVII. 345 The Pallace royall, he enter'd..and his Trencher's fraight The Keruers gaue him, of the flesh there vented.

†b. To put (coins, etc.) in circulation or currency; to give in payment; to pay out. *Obs.*

1609 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scott.* Ser. II. III. 20 That nane of thame presoome..to vent and putt amongs his Majesteis subjects anie of the saids Embden dollours. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 31 Valerius having filled his Purse with pieces more current than those which he ordinarily vented. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 84 A Question put whether there be not some persons to vent such money here.

†9. To explode or fire (a mine). *Obs. rare.*

1687 J. RICHARDS *Siege Buda* 14 With directions that if the Miners should meet with the Turks Mine, to Vent it.

10. To supply (a gun) with a vent or vent-piece.

1628 SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 412 It was recommended that iron ordnance..might be vented previously to their being issued. *Ibid.*, A gun of the same description vented with pure copper. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 201 The 80-pr. is vented in the same manner as the 64-pr. 58-cwt. gun.

II. *intr.* **11.** Of an exhalation, liquid, smoke, etc.: To find or make an outlet or way of escape from a confined space; to come, flow, pass, or pour *out* or *away* by a vent or opening. Now *rare.*

(*a*) 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1556) 64 Corrupt exhalacions, ventynge out of mens bodyes. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 45 It will bee surer to let nothing vent out but the glasse it selfe. 1615 DAY *Festivals* iv. 100 They were full of new Wine, and the new Wine venting out, the Tongues of all Nations were immediatly set a float. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v. *Blood-Spavin*, When the Blood and Water have vented away as much as they will do.

(*b*) 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* IV. i. 110 New wine..by venting burasteth the bottle. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 69 Smoke venteth at the window, when the chimney refuseth passage. 1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* IV. ii, A cold deadly dew already vents through all my pores. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 To *Vent*, to have room to pass away.

fig. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 265 For loue encloa'd like raging elements of fire and water, though imprisoned, venta. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (1641) 4 It staued off all Emulations..apt to rise and vent in obloquious acrimonie..where there is one onely admitted into high administrations.

†b. To become known, be divulged. *Obs.*—1

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* (1876) 26 The earl presently communicated the matter with some of the nobles,..at the first secretly; but finding them of like affection to himself, he suffered it of purpose to vent and pass abroad.

†12. Of a bottle, confined space, etc.: To have or obtain an outlet by which the contained matter can escape. Freq. *fig.* or in fig. context. *Obs.*

1599 *Broughton's Let.* ii. 9 Like an old bottle with new wine, vnlesse you should vent, you would burst. 1624 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1744) III. 56 My heart is swol'n so big, that it must vent, Or it will burst. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. ii. (1905) 13 Quiet his mouth, that Quen will be venting else. 1633 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 324, I cannot forbeare filling vpp my paper with it, for such as we are must vent or we burst.

b. *Sc.* To let out or discharge smoke; to carry off smoke (well or ill).

1736 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 225 And neither great nor small [houses] will vent, which obliges them to use stoves: nay, these stoves will not vent at the chimney, but are often let out in a hole in the outer wall. *Ibid.* 236 As you know we cannot have in any kitchin above two stoves, because they must vent up the chimney. 1826 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, The Green Room diana vent weel in a high wind. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v., That lum vents very ill.

c. *U.S.* Of a brook: To flow *into* a river.

1784 J. BELKNAP *Tour to White Mts.* (1876) 7 A large brook, which vents into Pine River.

†13. *spec.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1752 BAILEY, To *Vent*, (among Glass Plate Workers,) is to crack in Working.

III. †14. *intr.* Of an animal: To snuff up the air, esp. in order to pick up the scent of something. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT, *Nicto, tare*, to vent as the hound doth, whiche foloweth the dere or hare, or other game. 1552 HULOET s.v., Vent or snucke as a hound or spaniell doth, *nicto.* 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 75 Seest, howe brag yond Bullocke beares, So smirke, so smoothe, his pricked eares?.. See howe he venteth into the wynd. 1612 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* xiv. 20 At the full-bagg'd cow, Or at the curl-fac'd bull, when venting he doth low,..He never seems to smile. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 9 It is observed of the Fox, that whensoever hunted to ground, he never comes out, but at the mouth of the Burrow, he lies and vents a while.

†b. *transf.* To search or seek *for*. *Obs.*—1

1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 344, I cannot denie, but that after the manner of a drunkarde, that venteth for the best wine: so doe mine eyes stare and wander to finde out some olde Sepulture.

†15. *trans.* Of animals, hounds, etc.: To become aware of, to detect or perceive, by means of the sense of smell; = SCENT *v.* 1. *Obs.*

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 75 If they chaunce once to vent the huntesman or his hounde, they will straight way dislodge from thence. *Ibid.* 187 He which maketh the trayne, must rubbe the soales of his shoes with Cowes dung, least the Foxe vent his footing. 1611 *Noble Art Venerie* 96 My liege, I went this morning on my quest, My hound did sticke, and seem'd to vent some beast. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 9 The Fox,..if he venta any thing which causes fear, returns to ground again. *Ibid.*, So Deer do naturally desire to eat Apples, but if approaching, they vent them to have been handled by man, they forsake them. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chace* III. 544 Then as o'er the Turf he [a stag] strains, He vents the cooling Stream, and up the Breeze Urges his Course with eager Violence.

†b. *transf.* To discover or discern. *Obs.*—1

1611 COTGR., *On flaire cela*,..men begin to discouer it, vent it, find it out.

16. To smell or snuff at (something). *rare.*

1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. v, *Antonio* (*pours out some wine*). She stirs, and vents it: Oh! how she holds her nose up! 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* I. ii. 43 The hounds came trailing and chanting along by the riverside, venting every tree root.

17. *intr.* Of an otter, or beaver: To rise to the surface in order to breathe. Also *transf.* of a person (quot. 1600).

1590 COCKAINE *Treat. Hunting* D ij b, He [the otter] will vent so oft, and put vp ouer water...At which time some must runne vp the water, some downe, to see where he venta. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XV. lx, As when the morning starre escapt and fled, From greedie waues with dewie beames vp flies,..So vented she. 1647 HEXHAM I. s.v., To Vent or take breath as an Otter. 1733 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 180 When she [*sc.* a beaver] swam under Water, which she would do for two or three Minutes, and then come up to vent, sometimes raising her Nostrils only above Water. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chace* IV. 433 Th' ascending Bubbles mark his [i.e. an otter's] gloomy Way. Quick fix the Nets, and cut off his Retreat Into the shelt'ring Deeps. Ah! there he vents! 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXIII, One of the otter-hunts..where the animal is detected by the hounds from his being necessitated to put his nose above the stream to vent or breathe. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 144/2 The otter..is obliged to come up and 'vent' for want of air. 1885 *Standard* 2 April 5/3 Their prey is rising to 'vent'.

†b. *trans.* To cause or force (an otter) to come to the surface. *Obs.*—0

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 134/2 An Otter: We watch, and Vent him, when we disturb him. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Vent the Otter*, Dislodge him.

†18. *trans.* To blow (a horn). *Obs.*—1

1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II*, § 57 (1876) 44, j to vent the horne shal have ij^{d}. a day wages.

†19. To supply with fresh air; to ventilate. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 440 That all the Apples..be so couched as that they touch not one another, but haue spaces between to receiue equall aire for to bee vented.

†20. To lift *up* so as to admit air. *Obs.*—1

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 42 The braue Mayd would not disarmed bee, But onely vented vp her vmbriere, And so did let her goodly visage to appere.

Vent, *v.*3 Now *dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* went, 7 vente. [f. F. *vente* VENT *sb.*3]

1. *trans.* To sell or vend (commodities or goods); to dispose of by sale.

Very common from *c* 1600 to *c* 1670.

1478–9 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 36 It is thocht expedient that all persouns haif licence and leif to cum to the towne with victualls to..vent the samyn on Mononday, Wedinsday, and Fryday. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 Pynnes which be daille vented, uttered, and put to Sale within this Realme. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Colonies* 665 The In-land Lands might truck and barter, And vent their Wares about to every Quarter. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. ii, They are quack-salvers, Fellowes, that liue by venting oyles, and drugs? 1662 in J. Simon *Ess. Irish Coins* (1749) 127 Several persons..took a liberty..to make a kind of brass or copper tokens,..and vented them to the people for a penny each piece. 1672 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 200 England doth not vent above twenty or thirty of any new mathematical book he brings over. 1729 W. WOOD *Survey Trade* 217 While Spain remains an independant Nation,..we may always hope to maintain..our Trade to that Kingdom, and vent our Manufactures in the Indies. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 153 Hemp and flax,..which now people neglect to sow, because they have no way to vent or employ it. 1790 SHERREFS *Poems* 316 Tak ye tent, How, and to whom your bills ye vent. 1864 in O'DONOGHUE *St. Knighton* (Cornwall) *Gloss.* 301.

transf. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* XXVI, Hereupon the astrologers doe mart or vent the effects of the heavens and the stars.

†b. With various advs., as *away, forth, off. Obs.*

c 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 62 As much as he should haue for the more woll vented ouer, so much should he haue for the lesse woll at a greater custome vented ouer.

1622 CAREW *Cornwall* 3 The neerenesse helpeth them..to vent forth and make return of those comodities, which their owne, or either of those countries doe afford. *c* 1630 T. MUN *England's Treas.* 79 We trade to divers places where we vent off our naitive commodities. 1631 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* III, To vent away our bad commodities.

†c. To let *out* (land). *Obs.*—1

1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* viii. (1891) 63 Some landlordes..founde it more comodiouse to keape it in their owne handes then to vente it out at xiij^{s} an acre which is the vsualle rent thireof.

†2. *intr.* Of goods: To have or find sale; to sell, go off (well or ill). *Obs.*

1622 in M. Sellers *Eastland Co.* (Camden) Introd. 54 Either over cheap pennyworths must cause our said cloths to vent there, or else they will not vent at all. 1628–9 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 29 Other thinges that I had which would vent better in that place then in England. 1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivid* 202 Cherries will vent at most Markets. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 110 Commodities would bear a much greater price than what I mention, and there would vent greater quantities.

‖ **Venta** (ve·ntă). Also 7 vento. [Sp. *venta* (= Pg. *venda*):—L. *vendita*: see VENT *sb.*3] A Spanish hostelry or wayside inn.

1620 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 107 Our ventas and hostelries without victuals or lodging. 1628 R. COCKS *Diary* (1883) II. 89 As we retorned, we went into a *vento* or tavarne. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 205 Those places..are as the *Ventas* in Spain, and serve for Inns upon the High-way. 1775 TWISS *Trav. Portug. & Sp.* 39 *note*, A *ventis* is a lone house, established by public authority, for the convenience of travellers. 1792 TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* iii. 104 The waggoners and drovers..being seated on the grass before the doors of a *venta*. 1817 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 69 A venta is seated at the foot of this road of ascent. 1846 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* Wks. 1900 V. 609 Through the flaring lattices of the Spanish ventas comes the clatter of castanets. 1897 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *In Kedar's Tents* v, Beguiling the journey with cigarette and song, calling at every venta on the road.

†**Ventage**1, *Obs.*—1 In 6 -adge. [f. VENT *v.*3 + -AGE.] The action of selling or vending; sale.

1577 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 426 The great losse they sustayned in this ventadge by meanes of those with whom they have sente..their goodes in to Spayne.

Ventage2 (ve·ntédʒ). Also 7–9 ventige. [f. VENT *sb.*2 + -AGE.]

1. One of the series of apertures or holes in the length of a wind instrument for controlling the notes; a finger-hole.

In mod. use perh. originally from Shakspere.

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 373 (Q.1), Gouerne these ventages [*Ql.* ventiges] with your fingers,..& it wil discourse most eloquent musique. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Music* I. 264 It was found practicable to produce the same variety of tones with a single pipe, by means of ventiges or holes. 1794 BURNS *Let. to G. Thomson* 20 Nov., The stock has six or seven ventiges on the upper side, and one back-ventige, like the common flute. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xxiii, An instrument made of some bright yellow hard wood,..the ventiges [1842 ventages] inlaid with gold. 1876 J. WEISS *Wit, Hum. & Shaks.* v 171 It is enough for him to finger the ventages of a recorder and invite Guildenstern to play upon it.

transf. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. i. 299 He will shoot pils into a mans guts, shall make them have more ventages than a cornet or a lamprey.

2. A comparatively small opening for the passage of air, etc.; an air-hole or vent-hole.

1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* II. v, I would have their bodies Burnt in a coal-pit with the ventage stopp'd. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 112/2 In subterraneous Conduits you shou'd open Ventiges like Wells...I have seen such Ventiges in the Country of the Marsi.

b. = VENT *sb.*4 II d.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2703/1 The ventages of ordnance are bushed with copper.

3. Means for the escape of air.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Satyr. Ess.* (1857) 226 She rises with a purpose to be extreamely sober: this begets silence, which gives her a repletion of aire without ventage; and that takes away her appetite.

Ventage, obs. form of VINTAGE.

Ventail. Now *Hist.* Forms: α. 4–6 (9) ventayle, 5 -tayll(e, -tayl; 4–6 (9) ventaile, 5–6 -tale, 5 -taill (9 -taille), 4, 9 ventail (5 *Sc.* wen-). β. 5 ventalle, 5–6 -tall, 6 -tal. [a. OF. *ventaille, -taile, ventalle* (mod.F. *ventail* masc., = OProv. *ventalha*, It. *ventaglia*), f. *vent* wind, air. Hence also MHG. *vin-, fintzile, vintale.* A purely English variant is AVENTAIL.

As the sense of 'breathing-place' appears to be inapplicable to the earliest use of the word (see sense 1) in French and English, the name may originally have been given to the piece of armour from a real or fancied resemblance to some other article so designated. Other senses of the OF. word (and of the related forms *ventele, ventail*, and *vental*) are fan, vane (of a windmill), sluice, shutter, leaf (of a folding door or picture). In OF. romances the *ventaille* is freq. mentioned as covering the heart or breast: cf. Chaucer *Clerk's Tale* 1148.]

†1. A piece of armour protecting the neck, upon which the helmet fitted; a neck-piece. *Obs.*

α. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 863 His ventail he gan vn-lace & smot of his heued in þe place. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 90 His helme was of so michel miȝt, Was neuer man ouer-comen in fiȝt Þat hadde it on his ventayle. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1722 He hitt hym evene one the nakk-bane, Thurgh ventale and peane. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14375 Her helmes were on her ventayles sperde. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* XIV. 33 Helmes, hawberkes, & ventaylles also, Alle to the Grownde he dyde hem go.

β. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 222 Your basenette shall be burnysshed bryght, Your ventall shalbe well dyght, With starres of gold it shall be set.

2. The lower movable part of the front of a helmet, as distinct from the vizor; latterly, the whole movable part including the vizor.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7010 The duke with a dynt derit hym agayn, þat the viser & the ventaile voidet hym fro. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxii, Then he auaylet vppe his viserne fro his ventalle. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 867 He braidit vp his ventaill, That cloyit was clene. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxxiv. 448 Vnder the ventayle of his helme the terys of water fell downe fro his eyen. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ii. 24 Through whose bright ventayle..His manly face..lookt foorth. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* VI. xxvi, Her ventail vp so hie, that he descride Her goodly visage, and her beauties pride. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.*, *Ventail*, that part of a helmet which is made to lift up. 1865 Kingston James *Tasso* xx. xii, Thro' the barred ventayle his flushed features shone. [1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* viii. 127 This piece, called the *mesail*, or *mursail*,..but more generally known in England as the *ventaile*, or visor, was pierced for both sight and breathing.] 1906 S. Heath *Effigies in Dorset* 10 Sometimes with a movable 'ventaille' or visor.

† **b.** One of the vents or air-holes of this. *Obs.*—1

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lx. 516 The blood brast oute at the ventayls of his helme.

† **3.** Something acting as a sail or fan. *Obs.*

a 1529 Skelton *Col. Clouts* 400 [The nuns] Must cast vp theyr blacke vayles, And set vp theyr fucke sayles, To catch wynde with their ventales.

† **Ventailet.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 **ventaylett.** [Dim. of (or error for) prec.] = prec. 2.

1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 487 Item, v. ventayletts for bassenetts.

Vental (ve·ntăl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *vent-us* Vent *sb.*2 + -al.] Of or pertaining to the wind.

1887 *Field* 14 Nov.(Cassell's), The strange, ventral eccentricities that had been occurring on our coasts.

‖ **Ventana.** Also 7 ventanna. [Sp., f. L. *vent-us* wind.] A window.

1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* I. iii, What after pass'd— Was far from the *Ventanna* where I sate. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* ix. I. 121, I .dress myself, and sit in my 'ventana'. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* v. iii. I. 249 She could ..breathe her evening hymn from the ventana of Zoraya.

Vented (ve·ntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Vent *v.*2] † **a.** Exploded, blown up. *Obs.* **b.** Allowed to escape; discharged.

1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 30 All the subtilties..were as so many vented mines, without any effect. 1911 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 522 The moral forces disengaged by the death of David Livingstone are a singular instance of this vented energy.

Venteduct, obs. form of Ventiduct.

Ventelde, misreading in the following passage for *vntelde*: see Untelde *v.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 737 Qwene alle was schyppede that scholde, they schounte no lengere, Bot venteldo theme tyte, as þe tyde rynnez.

Venter[1] (ve·ntəɹ). Also 6 ventre. [a. AF. *ventre, venter*, or L. *venter* (whence It., Fr., Prov., and Pg. *ventre*, Sp. *vientre*), paunch, womb, etc. In anatomical use the L. pl. *ventrēs* is occas. employed.]

I. 1. One or other of two or more wives who are (successively or otherwise) sources of offspring to the same person. Usually in phrases with *by*. Orig. (and in later use chiefly) *Law* (after AF. *per un, per autre, venter*).

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 8 b, Yf man haue issue .ii. sonnes by .ii. ventres. *Ibid.* 157 b, Yf a tenaunt in tayle haue issue .ii. daughters by dyuers ventres. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* I. i. § 7 If a man hath issue a sonne and a daughter by one ve nter, and a son by another venter. 1650 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I*, 89 Mr George Villers a younger sonne by a second Venter. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 60 To his Sonn by another Venter..he gave Money-portions. 1677 Sandford *Geneal. Hist. Kings Eng.* 101 Sons of his said Father by the first Venter. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 35 A man dying left Issue by two several Ventera. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IV. xxix, His sister by the father's side (for she was born of the former venter). 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 227 If the father has two sons..by different venters or wives. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 463 A. having two sons, B. and C., by several venters.

fig. 1651 Cleveland *Poems* 3 Her Speech..is a Kiss oth' second Venter. *c* 1652 — *London Lady* 24 The small Drink Country Squires of the first venter. 1687 R. L'Estrange *Am. to Dissenter* 47 The Author Writes himself a Church-of-England-Man, but it must be by a Second Venter then; for he gives his Orthodox Mother most Bloudy hard Words.

† **b.** Irregularly used of a woman's first or second marriage. *Obs.*

1707 Cibber *Double Gallant* IV, An unlick'd thing, she call'd Son—I suppose by her first Venter. 1765 Foote *Commissary* I. (1782) 16 *Mrs. Lov.* Because..the more children I have by the second venter, the greater [etc.].

2. The womb as the source of one's birth or origin; hence *transf.*, a mother in relation to her children: **a.** In the phrase *of one* (or *the same*) *venter.* (After AF. *de mesme le venter.*) ? *Obs.*

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1656) 213 Mnesiptolema..was married unto her half brother Archeptolis, for they were not both of one venter. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 29 Of Isaac by Rebekah, twins were born,..Of one venter, though not..of one minde or disposition. 1658 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* T. 47 He allowed brothers and sisters by the same father to marry, and prohibited only brothers and sisters of the same venter. [1665 F. M. Nichols *Britton* II. 319 The sister of the same venter as the purchasor shall be the nearest heir.]

fig. 1669 *Truth Triumphant* (title-p.), That Quaking is the Off-Spring of Popery; at the least, the Papist and Quaker are both of one Venter.

b. In phrases with *by* (passing into sense 1).

1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xxxi. xxvi, I am your fathers sonne, not by one venter. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* xiii. (1626) 258 Laertes was my Sire..By the venter I From Hermes spring. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 266 (1810) 275 My Sister, by one Venter. 1756 Nugent *Montesquieu's Spirit Laws* I. v. 63 It was not permitted to marry a sister by the same venter.

† **c.** *transf.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 138 Those eggs are most wholesome that are most temperate, they being like their venters.

3. a. The womb *of* a woman. *rare.*

a 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 342 Another son of Lysimachus, but by the Venter of Odrysias, another wife of his. 1767 tr. *Voltaire's Ignorant Philos.* 169 The brother Cordeliers averred that Mary had not sinned in her mother's venter.

† **b.** A single occasion of child-bearing. *Obs.*—1

1657 *Penit. Conf.* vii. 127 As to bring forth at one venter twins. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., *Venter* is also used for the Children whereof a Woman is deliver'd at one pregnancy. *Ibid.*, Thus, two Twins are said to be of the same Venter.

II. 4. In man, quadrupeds, etc.: One or other of the three chief cavities containing viscera, consisting of the abdomen, thorax, and head. Usu. in pl. or with qualifying term. ? *Obs.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* VII I. (1631) 432 It is now time wee should ascend into the third venter, the seate and very residence of the Soule. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 299 The venters are the inferiour, or abdomen; the midle, or thorax; or the supreame, which is the head. 1688 Gibson *Anat.* 2 The three venters are the cavities of the abdomen or Belly, the Chest, and Head. 1720 *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 84 The Liver, Spleen and other parts of the lower Venter. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 218 Deep Abscesses, in the Neighbourhood of one of the three Venters. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 877/1 The middle venter, or cavity of the breast.

† **b.** *spec.* The chest or thorax. *Obs.*—1

1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat* II. Introd 85 The middle Venter or Belly termed Thorax the Chest, and by some absolutely Venter.

5. † **a.** One of the four stomachs in ruminants.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 83 In the second venter of a cow there is a round black Tophus found. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 45 They [elephants] have short joynts, 4 venters; a liver four times as bigge as an oxes. 1676 Grew *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* iv. 17 The Stomachs or Venters in a Sheep are Four. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Venter*,..one of the four Stomachs of Beasts that chew the Cud.

transf. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 8, Neere to the mouth is a venter, like the craw of birds.

b. *Anat.* The abdomen, the belly.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Venter*, the Belly or Paunch. 1738 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Jonah is said..to have been three days in the whale's venter, or belly. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 639/2 Those very structures which in the saurian venter opposite its lumbar spine..appear as the ventral ribs. *Ibid.* 654 The reptilian venter and loins. 1859 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* s.v.

c. That part in lower forms of animal life more or less corresponding in function or position to the belly of mammals. (Sometimes distinguished from *abdomen*: see quots.)

c 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 678/1 *Venter*, the Belly, is the inferior part [of the insect]. 1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1288 *Venter*, in Entomology, signifies the lower part of the abdomen. 1848 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 306 *Venter* ..of a paler tint than the back. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 629 The animal frequently throws its abdomen forward along its venter towards its head. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 17 Abdomen..has been unnecessarily divided into *epigastrium*, or 'pit of the stomach', and *venter*, or 'lower belly'; but these terms are rarely used.

6. *Anat.* † **a.** (See quot. 1728.) *Obs.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 759 [This muscle] was called Digastricus because it hath two Venters or Bellies. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Muscle*, The Venter or Belly is the body of the Muscle, being a thick, fleshy part, into which are inserted Arteries and Nerves. *Ibid.* s.v., *Venter*, or Belly of a Muscle [etc.]. [Hence in later Dicts.]

b. The belly or hollowed surface of a bone.

1851 Ramsbotham *Obstetric Med. & Surgery* 2 The chief extent of the inner surface [of the hip bone] is concave and smooth, and is called the venter. *a* 1883 C. H. Fagge *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) I. 89 A large bony prominence projecting from both the dorsum and the venter. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Subscapular muscle*,..a muscle arising partly by muscular..fibres from the venter of the scapula.

† **7.** *transf* The space included within the outline of the square Hebrew characters. *Obs.*—1.

1771 Lucombe *Hist. Printing* 467 The Powers of the Hebrew Alphabet are distinguished by Points that letters have either in their venter, or over their body.

Venter[2] (ve·ntəɹ). [f. Vent *v.*2 + -er.]

1. One who utters or gives vent to a statement, doctrine, etc., esp. of an erroneous, malicious, or objectionable nature.

1612 G. H. *Anti-Coton* 76 This erroneous doctrine ought to be refuted, and the venters thereof punished. 1623 Hooker *Perdagy's Myst. Div.* Pref. Ep. 15 But what of..Blasphemies stupendous; to pass by..their Utterers, the villanous Venters? 1707 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 318 A Venter of Lies and false Stories. 1739 W. Wilson *Def. Ref. Ch. Scot.* ii. 79 The Venters of the said Errors. 1889 Beveridge *Cubrose & Tullialan* I. ix. 243 Venters of strange oaths.. are called to account and forced to do penance. 1906 Oman *Study Hist.* 4 Some earlier venter of such harangues.

† **2.** One who smells or scents out. *Obs.*—1

1611 Cotgr., *Flaireur*,..a senter, smeller, venter.

† **3.** *Sc.* One who utters forbidden coin. *Obs.*—1

1609 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 90 Panes.. vpoun persouns venters, outputtars, and homebringers of forbiddin and discharged coyne.

† **Venter**[3], *Obs. rare.* [f. Vent *v.*3 + -er.] One who sells or offers for sale; a vendor.

1620 Shelton *Quix.* (1746) III. 188 Now let the Venter and the grand Sancho be Arbitrators and Price-Setters between your Worship and me..The Venter and Sancho both agreed. 1681 *Sc. Act* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1649/6 Venters and Dispersers of forbidden Books.

Venter, etc., obs. or dial. varr. Venture, etc.

† **Venter-point.** *Obs.*—1 (Some game.)

1600 Rowlands *Lett. Humours Blood* Sat. iv. D 8 b, At shoue-groate, venter poynt, or crosse and pile.

Vent-giver. [Vent *sb.*2] = Venter[2] 1.

1611 Cotgr., *Eventeur*,..a venter, or vent-giuer.

Vent-hole. Also venthole, vent hole. [f. Vent *sb.*2 + Hole *sb.*]

1. A hole or opening for the admission or passage of air, light, etc.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 70 Afterward stop the vent holes that the Mole hath in euery place. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 186 A large Basket drawn up the middle of each [rick of sainfoin], to leave a Vent-Hole there. 1756–7 tr. *Keyssler's Trav.* (1760) III. 110 Two large vent-holes for light and air are made through the roof of this grotto. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* III. 123 It was covered with good oak planks,..leaving only some vent-holes, with trap doors, or covers, fitted very exactly to them. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. 113 Two huts and four families, but for these vent-holes entirely buried in the snow.

2. A hole or opening in a furnace, etc., for escape of smoke and gases or the admission of fresh air.

1618 Sturtevant *Metallica* (1854) 118 The lower vent-holes let out the smoak. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 101 You must make Vent-holes..through the stuff which covers your heap to the very wood. 1678 R. R[ussell] tr. *Geber* II. i. iv. vi. 96 A Furnace with large Ventholes gives both a clear and strong Fire. 1725 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 16 The Passage X of the Bellows or Vent-Hole. *Ibid.*, The Air will be made so thin over the Vent-Hole, as to press less than that which is coming from without. 1862 M. Hopkins *Hawaii* 25 The suffocating gases which escaped from the red hot ventholes of these furnaces.

b. Any hole by which an enclosed space communicates with, or discharges into, the outside air.

1750 Warburton *Julian* II. vi, A bare and hollow rock; which would here and there afford vent-holes for such fumes as generated within to transpire. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 43 Water-balls have a hollow-globe, turned somewhat oblong, with a vent-hole. 1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 234 The case..was charged through its vent-hole, and introduced into a twelve-pounder carronade. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 748/1 Vent-holes may be bored in convenient parts of the deck..from whence the state of the corn may be known by the effluvia which ascend.

c. In fig. uses.

1711 E. Ward *Vulgus Brit.* II. 124 The Ventholes of their Passion. 1908 *Parish Councils* 22 The council serves as a vent-hole for complaints and suspicions.

3. *spec.* **a.** An air-hole in a cask; a vent.

1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 190 Turn it up into the Vessel..to ferment, allowing but a small Vent-hole, lest the spirits waste. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 573 Have near the Bung-hole a little Vent-hole stopp'd with a Spile. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Brewing*, Opening and stopping the Vent-hole on every Change of Weather.

Comb. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2703 *Vent-faucet*, an instrument which may act as a vent-hole borer.

b. (See quots.)

1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Vent, Vent-Hole*, or *Spiracle*, a little Aperture, left in the Tubes or Pipes of Fountains, to facilitate the Wind's escape. 1883 Greenly *Gloss. Coal-M.* 269 *Vent* or *Vent Hole*, a small passage made with a needle through the tamping, which is used for admitting a squib, to enable the charge to be ignited.

Ventiduct (ve·ntidʌkt). Also 7 venteduct. [f. L. *venti-, ventus* wind + *duct-us* a conducting.]

1. A pipe or passage serving to bring cool or fresh air into an apartment or place, esp. in Italy and other warm climates.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 261 Cold winds..such as by venteducts from the vast caues aboue Padua they let into their roomes at their pleasure. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* 173, I have been informed of divers Ventiducts (as they call them) by very knowing Travellers that have observ'd them. 1685 Cotton tr. *Montaigne* III. 320, I would fain know what pain it was to the Persians..to make such ventiducts..as Xenophon reports they did. 1702 Floyer *Cold Baths* I. iv. (1709) 108 They stop their Sweats, unseasonably by Cold Air, by Fanning, Ventiducts, or Cold Baths. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 33 From these Caves arise extreme cold Winds..through certain subterranean Vaults, named..Ventiducts: and..through all the Chambers..these Wind-Pipes, or Ventiducts, are discharg'd. [1818 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XIX. 18 (copying Evelyn *Acetaria* II. xi) His scheme of a Royal Garden comprehended..precipices and ventiducts.] 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 106/1 Ventiduct, to bring in fresh air without dust or fog.

fig. 1692 Benlowes *Theoph.* XII. cxvii, Th' herb [*sc.* tobacco] that cramp and tooth-ache drives away,..whose pipe's both ventiduct and stove. *a* 1698 Cleveland *News from Newcastle* 32 What need we baths? What need we bower, or grove? A Coal-pit's both a Ventiduct and Stove.

b. A conduit for the passage of wind, air, or steam.

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 992, I..discover'd in several dry places of the ground thereabouts, many little Ventiducts, passages, or clefts, where the Steam issued forth. 1725 J. Reynolds *View of Death* (1735) 23 This channel is called by..the English miners the *drift*; by Mr. Boyle, the *ventiduct*. 1843 in C. Morfit *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 177 A ventiduct, made of plank,..should extend from the centre.

transf. 1876 Mrs. Whitney *Sights & Ins.* II. xvi. 458 From these cold, dark ventiducts [i. e. thoroughfares] you may come out suddenly upon a bright warm corner of an open square.

2. *attrib.* Of a hat: = Ventilatory *a.*

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4808, Patent corrugated ventiduct hat.

†Ventil [1]. *Obs.*[−1] [ad. med.L *ventile*: see next. So OF. *ventelle, -aille.*] A sluice.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* d ij, All occasions of waters possible leading. To speake of the allowance of the Fall..or of the Ventills (if the waters labour be farre, and great) I neede not.

Ventil [2] (ve·ntil). *Mus.* [a. G. *ventil*, ad. med.L. *ventile* sluice, shutter, f. L. *vent-us* wind.]

1. One or other of the valves or shutters which control the wind-supply of the various groups of stops in an organ.

1876 Hiles *Catech. Organ* vii. (1878) 50 A Ventil, or Wind-trunk valve is a valve in the wind-trunk for stopping the wind from certain stops in the manuals or pedals, and thus making them silent. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 835 Practical opinion appears decidedly to condemn the use of ventils.

attrib. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 275/1 The French ventil system of shutting off or bringing on the wind to a complete..group of stops by the depression of a pedal.

2. (See quot.)

1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 446/1 *Ventil*, a valve, by means of which brass tubes may be made to sound the semitones and tones between the natural open harmonics.

Ventilable, *a. U.S.* [f. Ventil-ate *v.* + -able.] Capable of being ventilated.

1882 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XX. 713 Ventilable and perfectly dry floors and areas are made. 1886 *Philadelphia Times* 28 Feb. (Cent.), The sleeping room is rarely ventilable, and still more rarely ventilated.

Ventilabral, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *ventilābr-um* winnowing-fan + -al.] Concerning or pertaining to a fan or fans.

1882 *World* 14 June 9 One hundred and sixty fans...Mr. Walker's collection may,..from a ventilabral point of view, [be] quite enchanting.

†Ventilary, *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. L. *ventil-āre* Ventilate *v.* + -ary [1].] Due to or caused by the wind.

1683 Pettus *Fleta Min.* II. 15 The neighbouring Motions of the Sea (which are regular, lunary, or ventilary).

†Ventilate, *pa. pple. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *ventilāt-us*, pa. pple. of *ventilāre*: see next.] Discussed or debated; thoroughly sifted or ventilated.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 141 A cause was ventilate and movede thro the commaundemente of the pope. *Ibid.* 290 This Foroneus ordeynede..causes to be ventilate afore a iugge. 1528 in Burnet *Hist Ref., Rec.* (Pocock) I. 126 All the matter declared and ventilate. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12, Courtes..where the said mattier nowe beyng in contencion..shall happen to be ventilate, commensed, or begunne.

Ventilate (ve·ntile't), *v.* Also 5 ventilatte, 6 -tylate, 7 -tulate, -tillate. [f. L. *ventilāt-*, ppl. stem of *ventilāre* to brandish, fan, winnow, agitate (whence It. *ventilare*, Prov., Sp., Pg. *ventilar*, F. *ventiler*), f. *vent-us* wind. Cf. Eventilate *v.*]

I. †1. *trans.* Of wind: To blow away (something); to scatter. *Obs.*[−1]

a 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 8 Of .iiii. wyndys, remembrith Zacharie seiynge,..'these ben the hornnys that shall blowe and ventilatte [L. *ventilaverunt*] Iude, Israel, and Ierusalem'.

2. To fan or winnow (corn, etc.). Also in fig. context.

1609 [Bp. W. Barlow] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 323 Yet is it not the peeuish..tongue of Father Parsons, that must Ventilate the Corne of this Floore, to trie whether I bee chaffe or wheate. 1623 in Cockeram I. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* v. 504 As flies the chaff..O'er all the consecrated floor, what time Ripe Ceres with brisk airs her golden grain Ventilates. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 226 It is required.. not merely that we place the grain in a garner, but that we ventilate and sift it; that we separate the full from the empty.

†3. To increase (a fire or flame) by blowing or fanning. Chiefly *fig.* or in fig. context. *Obs.*

1613 Jackson *Creed* I. 144 They blow the fire which it had kindled, ventilating and inlarging the deuouring flame. 1648 Sparke *Pref. Shute's Sarah & Hagar* b]b, Pouring out the water of his tears upon our common Flames, which others ventilated. 1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 21 So will Devotion [languish] if it have not vent by good Discourse, which fans and ventilates its Holy Fire. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 478 Speech ventilates our intellectual fire.

†4. To put or set (air) in motion; to move or agitate; to renew or freshen in this way. *Obs.*

1635 Valkntine *Foure Sea-Serm.* 41 If a man have a fan in his hand he may ventilate and agitate the still ayre into a winde. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 180 To keep constant fires under-ground to purifie and ventilate the Ayr. 1710 J. B. *Let. Sacheverell* 4 You .seem to fight Blindfold, ..and by thus ventilating and beating the Air, .expose your own Persons. 1775 Sir E. Barry *Observ. Wines* 403 Putrid exhalations in low marshy ground..where the air is not ventilated.

5. a. To expose (blood) to the chemical action of the air; to aerate, oxygenate.

1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* 377 The blood is yet more ventilated if it be speedily moved. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s.v., When the Blood is ventilated and purged from oppressing Vapours. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Lungs ventilate the blood.

b. To expose (substances, etc.) to fresh air so as to keep in, or restore to, good condition.

1755 Hales in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 344, I ventilated three gallons of stinking Jessope-well purging water. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* III. 123 This corn..was not ventilated more than six days in a year. 1771 A. Young *Farmer's Tour East Eng.* I. 345 The cows gave vast quantities of milk,.. but it was very strong, though ventilated. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. II. 80/1 Thy carcase did not even receive a fly-blow...Thy guardian angel..could not ventilate thee better. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 449 The wheat should be kept cool, well ventilated, and frequently moved.

6. Of air: To blow upon, to pass over or circulate through, so as to purify or freshen.

1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 289 The Air, which ventilates and cools the Mines. 1764 Cowper *Task* III. 426 That air and sun, Admitted freely, may..ventilate and warm the swelling buds. 1810 Sir A. Boswell *Edinburgh* in Chambers *Sc. Poems* (1862) 166 Sweeping breezes ventilate each street. 1835 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci* (ed 2) xxv. 267 Neither can the warmth of mines be attributed to the condensation of the currents of air which ventilate them. 1859 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* ii. 37 Strabo describes it as ventilated by the south-west wind.

fig. 1760 Goldsm. *Ess.* No. 15, Opposition, when restrained within due bounds, is the salubrious gale that ventilates the opinions of the people. 1795 Burke *Let. W. Smith* Wks. 1812 IX. 403 The divisions, which formerly prevailed in the Church,..only purified and ventilated our common faith.

b. Of a fan: To cool by producing a current of air.

1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* xv. 39 Whoever..One instant stops, lies then a hundred years, No fan to ventilate him, when the fire Smites sorest.

7. To supply (a room, building, mine, etc.) with fresh air in place of that which is vitiated, exhausted, or stagnant; to produce a free current of air in (some enclosed space) so as to maintain a fresh supply. Cf. Ventilator 1.

1758 S. Hales *Descr. Ventilators* II. 39 When the Wards of the lower Floors are to be ventilated. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 639/1 The order for ventilating the fleet issued by the lords of the admiralty in 1756. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 217 The great object in ventilating houses which are kept at a high temperature is to avoid thorough-draughts. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 251 The House of Commons..has been warmed and ventilated under the superintendence..of Dr. Reid. 1888 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I. v, How to ventilate and purify his cottages.

absol. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1054 About the year 1741, Dr. Hales introduced a method of ventilating by bellows. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 244 A very admirable system of heating and ventilating by hot water.

8. †**a.** = Breathe *v.* 16. *Obs.*[−0]

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s.v., To ventilate a vein, i. e. to breath or open it.

b. To provide (a mould, etc.) with a vent or vents to allow the escape of air or gas.

1805 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

†9. *intr.* To get rid of exhalations. *Obs.*[−1]

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 39 The Lamps always burning, are by open Funnels above suffered to ventilate.

II. 10. *trans.* To examine or investigate (a question, topic, etc.) freely or thoroughly by discussion or debate; to sift or discuss in free argument, controversy, or examination; to bring to public notice or consideration in this way.

Freq. *c* 1620–*c* 1680, and from *c* 1850.

1527 in Fiddes *Wolsey* (1726) II. 172 This cawse of matrymonie myght no where be ventylated or dyscussed. 1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 225 There was no Father in the Church who had greater reason to ventilate this argument vnto the bottome. 1622 Donne *Serm.* Wks. 1839 VI. 213 Some Articles concerning the falling away from justifying grace..had been ventilated in Conventicles. 1657 Heylin *Ecclesia Vind.* 95 The point had been somewhat ventulated betwixt the honourable Remonstrant on the one part, and the Smectymnians on the other. 1674 Grew *Lect.* in *Anat. Pl.* (1682) 222 The experience of so many years, wherein it hath been ventilated by the disputes of men, proveth as much. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 151 Nor is the Right of the Party..so far perempted, but that the same may be..ventilated *de Novo*. 1759 Hurd *Mor. & Pol. Dial.* (1760) 97 Questions of natural science will doubtless be effectually.. ventilated in the new society. 1784 in Boswell *Johnson* 27 June, He is..not enough known: his character has been only ventilated in party pamphlets. 1846 W. H. Mill *Five Serm.* (1848) 52 We have discussed and ventilated all points. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 352 Politicians do not 'discuss' subjects in the year of grace 1857: they 'ventilate' them. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Organ.* 2 The subject has not been sufficiently ventilated. 1870 Beaconsfield *Sel. Sp.* (1882) II. 325 Those friends who were, to use a barbarous expression, 'ventilating' the question.

11. To publish *abroad*; to make public. *rare.*

1530 Palsgr. 765/2 He is nat worthy to be a counsaylour that ventylateth the maters abrode. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) II. 65 Such a step..would have been loudly ventilated abroad as a plain declaration that popery was to govern. 1837 Landor *Pentameron* v. Wks. 1853 II. 346/1 Deeming it better, when irregular thoughts assailed me, to ventilate them abroad.

12. To utter: to give utterance or expression to (an opinion, view, etc.): to make known to others.

1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Ceremn.* II. ix. 44 Why then doeth he ventilate words for reason? 1855 F. Stephen in *Cambr. Ess.* 183 The habit..of using novels to ventilate opinions. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, There were already several things in his head which he was anxious to ventilate. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* 210 An angry Kentish landholder..might have ventilated his grievances upon Penenden Heath. 1883 *Frnl. Education* XVII. 264 To rush into print and 'ventilate his views'.

transf. 1896 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Feb. 141/2 Although it is necessary for Lord Derby..to ventilate his oratory, Parliament and the country are ready for peace. 1870 W. R. Greg *Polit. Problems* 198 It reflects and ventilates the national conceptions.

b. To give vent to, provide outlet or escape for (passion, etc.).

1823 Lamb *Lett.* xiii. 128 He is welcome to them..if they can divert a spleen or ventilate a fit of sullenness.

†13. To carry on, take part in (a controversy).

1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 275 There was neuer yet controuersie in Christian religion so..virulently canuassed and ventilated. 1678 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. Pref., Strangius..has ventilated this controversy with..force of argument beyond his sectators.

†14. To estimate the value of; to appraise. *Obs.* Directly from F. *ventiler*; cf. Evaluate *v.* b.

1688 Warburton *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 82 [To] see his goods..ventilated, i. e. appraised and sold for discharge of the debt.

Hence **Ve·ntilating** *ppl. a.*

1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* II. 196 Approach your hand to a ventilating bee, and you will find that she causes a very perceptible motion in the air. *c* 1853–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts*, etc. (1866) II. 836/1 Throttle-valves..by which the rate of the ventilating current can be increased or diminished.

Ve·ntilated, *ppl. a.* [f. prec.] Purified by or as if by ventilation; provided with means of ventilation.

1743 S. Hales *Descr. Ventilators* I. 111 As ventilated Corn may lie thick without leaving any spare Room to turn it. 1758 *Ibid.* II. 110 That wet State will be more unwholsome in a close unventilated, than in a ventilated Ship. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 363/1 The pieces of wood .so combined..[become] what the inventor terms a 'Ventilated Faggot.' 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 67/2 Close ill-ventilated apartments. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p cxxi, It is a Three-cornered Lamp; the back has a sliding ventilated door.

fig. 1736 Thomson *Liberty* IV. 790 The wholesome winds Of Opposition hence began to blow...A pestilential ministry they purge, And ventilated states renew their bloom.

Ve·ntilating, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec.] The action of the verb in various senses; ventilation.

1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Bacon.* 86 This is a very strange thing indeed, and very well worth the Ventilating. 1743 S. Hales *Descr Ventilators* I. 50 The thus ventilating of Ships. 1802 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 748/1 It is the centre of the cargo which most requires ventilating. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1053 The ventilating of rooms by openings at any height above the level of the floor.

b. *attrib.*, as *ventilating-engineer, -fan, tube*, etc.

A few technical combs. are recorded in Knight *Dict. Mech.* and *Suppl.*, as *ventilating-brick, heater, sawn, -stack, water-wheel.* Also *ventilating grate, jack, mill-stone* in recent Amer. Dicts.

1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 44 This ward .. had been supplied by a ventilating tube. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1054/2 The ventilating fan of Dr. Desaguliers. *Ibid.* 1055/2 A ventilating pump 3 feet square and 5 feet high. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 68/1 Dr. Arnott's ventilating valve. *Ibid.*, Special ventilating-flues in the walls. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* 132 Fresh air..led into the bunkers from the ventilating shafts. *c* 1890 W. H. Casmey *Ventilation* 1 My experience as a ventilating engineer.

Ventilation (ventile'ʃən). Also 5 *Sc.* ventulacioun, 6 ventilacyon. [a. L. *ventilātiōn-*, *ventilātio* (Pliny), an exposing to the air, f. *ventilāre* Ventilate *v.*; hence also It. *ventilazione*, F. *ventilation*, Sp. *-acion*, Pg. *-açdo.*]

I. †1. A stir or motion of the air; a current of air; a breeze. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Hay *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 158 The ayr passis sa throu the warlde, throu blastis of wyndis, and othir maner of ventulacionnis. 1644 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 9 Sometimes we have a clear azur'd skie with soft gentle ventilations. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 52 'Tis affirmed that almost any Ventilation and stirring of the Air doth refrigerate. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 40 P 4 The Soil ..must lie fallow..till it has..again enriched itself by the Ventilations of the Air. 1743 S. Hales *Descr. Ventilators* I 24 A like Ventilation of warm dry Air from the adjoining Stove.

fig. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 32 Whosoever feels not the warme gale and gentle ventilation of this Spirit [of God] (though I feele his pulse) I dare not say he lives. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 205 P 5 The mind that is to be moved by the gentle ventilations of gayety.

2. Movement or free course of the air.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* II. vii. 138 That renuing is to be attributed to the fire,..the outward ventilation or winding comming between as the instrument. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1683) 44 Upon such consideration of winds and ventilation the Ægyptian granaries were made open. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* II. 55 This present earth..is in most places capable of ventilation, pervious and passable to the winds. 1804 C. B. Brown tr. *Volney's View Soil U.S.* 271 The mercury ranges between 84 and 88 degrees in the shade, where there is ample ventilation. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 487 The first of these means that is usually mentioned, is a free ventilation of air. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-M.* 270 *Ventilation*, the atmospheric air circulating in a mine.

3. Oxygenation of the blood, *spec.* in the act of respiration; = Aëration 3.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 121 By ventilation to cherish, refresh and increase his naturall heate with their heat and vitall spirit. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* 350 Another Opinion there is touching Respiration, which makes the genuine use of it to be Ventilation..of the Blood. 1665 G. Harvey *Disc. Plague* xiv. in *Morb. Angl.* (1673) 144 To procure the Blood and Spirits..a free Course, ventilation, and transpiration, by suitable Purges. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 504 The lungs,..in which the air undergoes the important process of ventilation. *Ibid.* III. 209 The new and unripe blood is hurried forward to the lungs..to be completed by the process of ventilation.

4. The admission of a proper supply of fresh air, esp. to a room, building, mine, or other place where the air readily becomes stagnant and vitiated; the means or method by which this is accomplished.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 65 We see in wet Hay, how the Spirits..(if they be not cooled and prevented by Ventilation) ..break out into a flame also. 1743 S. HALES *Descr. Ventilators* I. 34 This Ventilation will also be of service to preserve..the Timber and Planks of the Hold itself. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 99/2 Before ventilation, the foul air.. became infectious. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 112 When cleanliness and ventilation are neglected. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 145 The rooms are close and oppressive, because due ventilation is not associated with the admission of the hot air. 1844 *Poultry Chron.* I. 32 Sufficient ventilation to prevent the house becoming too hot or close in summer..must also receive attention. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* 131 Pipes..leading from above the upper deck to the compartments requiring ventilation.

fig. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 101 ¶ 14 The mind stagnates without external ventilation.

b. Const. *of* (the place ventilated).

1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. 509 Attention to the construction, ventilation, and cleanliness of prisons. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 307/1 The steam-jet for the ventilation of mines was used long ago, and then abandoned. 1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 36 To ensure the efficient ventilation of the dark-room.

c. *attrib.*, as *ventilation-fan, -pipe, shaft*, etc.

1823 in Hebert *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* (1837) II. 846 The end of the ventilation-pipe. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 853 The ventilation shaft. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* 133 Where..platforms are pierced for ventilation purposes. *c* 1890 W. H. CASMEY *Ventilation* 7 We must bring the ventilation-fan to our aid.

II. 5. The action of fanning or blowing; †the winnowing of corn in this way.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 42 It is no good phisike, that whan a man is sore chafed with heate, for to cole hym with ventilacyon of clothes. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Ventilation*, a fanning, or gathering of winde; also a winnowing of Corn. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 245 Operations belonging to Agriculture, do concern..the grane.., [as] Winnowing, fan, Ventilation. 1743 S. HALES *Descr. Ventilators* I. 97 If it [*sc.* corn] were afterwards dried by the Ventilation of these Bellows. 1755 — in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 316 In several other distillations of a quart at a time, I found the quantity distilled by ventilation to be more than the double of that in the usual way. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xx. II. 194 These vibrations are so rapid as to render the wings almost invisible. When they are engaged in ventilation, the bees [etc.]. *Ibid.* 199 Amongst the bees .. ventilation goes on even in the depth of winter.

6. *fig.* Free or open discussion of or debate upon a doctrine, question, or subject of public interest; the action or fact of bringing to public notice in this way.

Freq. *c* 1645–1660, and from *c* 1860.

a 1624 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 97 The other reasons of Divine Authors..shall have their ventilation in this Distinction. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 19 If the kindled humor had not had a free ventilation in Pulpit and in Press. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 392, I shal not now enter on the solemn ventilation and debate of this Antithesis. 1850 J. H. NEWMAN *Diff. Anglicans* 177 Careful ventilation of questions. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 205 That the grievances of the nation..should be submitted to a complete ventilation. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 237 What new aspect of the subject can call for ventilation and publicity in *Photography Annual*?

†b. The utterance or expression *of* one's thoughts, etc. *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 300 So by the ventilation or skirmish of aduersary opinions the truth comes best to be knowne. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Buckingham* in *Reliq.* (1651) 106 Dr. Mason, whom he layed in a Pallet neer him, for naturall Ventilation of his thoughts.

†c. *pl.* Windy speculations; vapourings. *Obs.*—1

1648 LIGHTFOOT *Horæ Hebr.* (1684) II. 611 It would be very tedious to quote their Ventilations about it.

Ventilative (ve·ntile·tiv), *a.* [f. VENTILATE *v.* + -IVE.] Of or pertaining to, producing or promoting, ventilation.

1791 BENTHAM *Panopt.* I. Postscr. 199 Over these impure methods of obtaining heat, the ventilative is capable of possessing a great advantage. 1864 WEBSTER s.v., Ventilative apparatus. 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* II. 576 The introduction of fireplaces and other ventilative expedients.

Ventilator (ve·ntile·tə1). [f. VENTILATE *v.* + -OR, or a. L. *ventilātor* a winnower. Cf. F. *ventilateur*; It. *ventilatore*, Sp. and Pg. *-ador*.]

1. A mechanical contrivance or apparatus (such as a revolving fan or wheel fixed in a special opening) by which the vitiated or heated air is drawn or removed from a building, ship, mine, etc., and a fresh supply introduced; also freq. a simple opening, or open shaft, so placed or contrived as to facilitate renewal of the air.

1743 S. HALES (*title*), A Description of Ventilators; whereby Great Quantities of Fresh Air may with Ease be conveyed into Mines, Goals, Hospitals, Work-Houses and Ships. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 99/1 Ventilators, worked by a windmill, having been fixed. 1766 *Complete Farmer* 7 S 3/1 Two of the ventilators are constantly drawing in the air, and two of them..are blowing it out at their proper valves. 1820 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 79 Giving opportunity to workmen to fix some ventilators, which were greatly wanted in the Hall. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 143 The different ventilators may terminate in tubes connected with a chimney. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 216 The ventilators should always be above the heads of the congregation. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xii. 132 It is down these ventilators that air is drawn by the steam fans F to supply the boilers.

attrib. 1824 TREDGOLD *Princ. Ventilating Buildings* (ed. 2) 94 At this centre the ventilator tube T should be placed. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 924–5 Ventilator deflector, hood, shaft.

b. The former Ladies' Gallery in the House of Commons.

1832 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. 269 A discussion by which Nancy, if she had been in the ventilator, might have been greatly edified. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vi. 20 A modern honourable member, with..his strangers' gallery, his female ventilator, 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* lxxix, Lady Roehampton and Lady Montfort were both in the ventilator, and he knew it.

c. *Naut.* A wind-sail (see quots.).

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 368 *Wind-sail*, or *Ventilator*, a sort of long canvass bag..let down a vessel's hatchway for circulating air below. 1851 KIPPING *Sailmaking* (ed. 2) 59 The..ventilator is made of canvas No. 5. It is employed to convey a stream of fresh air downwards into the lower apartments of a ship.

d. Applied to devices for admitting air into a head-dress, boot, etc.

1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 855 Large tilting beaume of the fifteenth century...It has a hinged flap or ventilator. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2706 The ventilator for hats consists of a hole in the crown, and a head-band supported at a certain distance from the sweat-lining. *Ibid.*, The ventilator for boots consists of a double upper with holes.

2. One charged with ventilating a building, etc. Also *transf.*

17.. in *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts*, etc (1866) II. 833/1 [This wheel was] able to suck out the foul air, or throw in fresh,.. according as the Speaker is pleased to command it, whose order the ventilator waits to receive every day of the session. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* II. 195 A certain number of workers..vibrating their wings before the entrance of their hive...The station of these ventilators is upon the floor of the hive. 1860 tr. *Hartwig's Sea & Wond.* v. 55 The sun is not only the great fountain of warmth, he is also the universal ventilator.

3. One who ventilates a subject.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Ventilatory, *a. rare*—1. [f. VENTILATE *v.* + -ORY.] Of a hat: Provided with ventilation.

1850 in 'Bat' *Cricket Man.* 112 Light summer hats, made on a principle entirely new, and being quite permeable to air, are..perfectly ventilatory.

†**Ventile.** *Obs.*—1 [f. L. *ventil-āre* VENTILATE *v.*, or ad. OF. *ventail* (F. *éventail*), *ventaille* fan. Cf. also VENTIL[2] and next.] A fan.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. vii. 156 Making winde as it ware with a ventile, or trenchour.

†**Ventilous**, *a. Obs.*—1 In 5 **ventillous.** [ad. OF. *ventilleus, -ileux.*] Fluttering, unsteady.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* B j b, [The eldest daughter] had her sight ventillous lyke a vane.

†**Ventilow.** *Obs. rare.* [app. ad. It. *ventola*] A fan.

1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lii. 6 Whereupon we.. kissed the Ventilow that she held in her hand. *Ibid.* viii. 23 [He] made one of his followers to fan me with a Ventilow to refresh me.

Ventning, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. VENT *v.*[2] + -ING [1].]

I. 1. The free emission or passing of air, etc., from some confined space.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxii. 19 My wombe as must withoute venting, that breketh newe litle win vesselys. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xi. i. (Tollem. MS.), And so eyer is element of bodies and spirites, for ventynge of eyer comynge to spirites is cause of..clensynge and of purgacion. *Ibid.* xvii. clxxxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Bi ventinge fome & oþer vnclennes of wine is brou3th vp to þe mouþe of þe vessel. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* vi. xiv. 754 The vessels to auoid the venting which commonly hapneth vnto wine, must haue the bunghole very well stopt. 1621 COTGR., *Halenée*, a breathing, venting, winding, exhaling.

b. *Venting-hole*, a vent-hole. *rare*—1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 409 If pits be subject to the rising of such vapours, cunning and expert workemen make.. tunnels, or venting-holes.

2. The action or fact of giving utterance, expression, or publicity to an opinion, etc.

1654 D. DICKSON *Expos. Ps.* lxix. 26 The very talking and venting of ill speeches..is a high provocation of God's wrath. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. xi. (1848) 274 He..was wont..as much to aim at the exciting others thoughts, as the venting of his own. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* xxii. 12 The venting of that knowledge in speech. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* (1857) 403 They seem to be rather the relief of a heavy heart than the ventings of a light one.

II. †3. The action of snuffing or smelling. *Obs.*—0

1621 COTGR., *Flairement*, a senting, smelling, sauoring, venting, winding.

4. The rising of an otter to the surface of water in order to breathe.

1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 305 When he lifts up his Nose above Water for Air, it is termed Venting. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 144/1 The remainder [of the otter-hunters] must watch every intervening yard for his 'ventings'.

†**Ventning**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. VENT *v.*[3] + -ING [1].] The action of selling; = VENDING *vbl. sb.*

Frequent from *c* 1600 to *c* 1645.

1532–3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII*, c. 4, Straunge countrels.., by the ..makyng and ventyng thereof are greately enriched. 1548 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 144 Vnder the payne of.. spayning fra the venting of wyne be the space of ane yeir thairafter. 1605 BRETON *Old Man's Lesson* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/2 The Vinter, the Grocer,..and the Butcher, doe by the venting of their wares, the better maintaine their trades. 1641 MILTON *Church Govt.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 139 How they may suppresse the venting of such rarities and such a cheapnes as would undoe them. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. x. (1674) 12 A very spruce Polititian who looked to the venting of Wares.

†**Ve·nting**, *ppl. a. Obs.*—1 [f. VENT *v.*[2] + -ING [2].] That snuffs or smells.

1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* II i, As doth the vaunting Hart his venting Hind.

Ve·ntless, *a. rare*—1. [f. VENT *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Having no vent or outlet.

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 61/1 A restlesse ventlesse Flame of fire, That faine would finde the way streight to aspire.

Ventle-trap, obs variant of WENTLETRAP.

Ventner, obs. form of VINTNER.

†**Vento·rious**, *a. Obs.* [Irreg. f. VENT-URE *v.*: see -OROUS.] Characterized by venturesomeness.

1640 R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-Conviction* 48 Their ventorious boldnesse seemes not more marveillous then their ingenuitie commendable. 1707 SIR W. HOPE *New Method Fencing* (1714) 105 This ventorious, uncertain, and dangerous play upon time.

‖ **Vento·sa.** *Surg. Obs.* [med.L.: see VENTOSE *sb.*] = VENTOSE *sb.*

1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Sick Men* 68 There are twoo kindes of the ventosas, or Boxinges.

†**Vento·sal**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *ventōs-us* VENTOSE *a.* + -AL.] Performed or done by the wind.

1782 W. HOOPER *Rational Recr.* (ed. 2) II. 209 A ventosal symphony. At the top of a summer-house, or other building, freely exposed to the wind, let there be fixed [etc.].

†**Ventose**, *sb. Surg. Obs.* Also 7 *Sc.* **ventose.** [a. OF. *ventose, ventouse* (F. *ventouse*, = Prov., Sp., Pg., It. *ventosa*), ad. L. *ventōsa* (sc. *cucurbita*), fem. of *ventōsus*, f. *ventus* wind.] A species of cupping-glass. Also *attrib.*

1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Guna*, a ventose boxe. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* N iij, Ventose is an instrument made in maner of a boxe with a streyt necke and a wyde bely. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 346/1 Exhaust the bloode and froth therout with ventoses, a kinde of boxinge. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 137 Cupping glasses, boxes, and ventoses, draw the woorst matter out of the flesh. 1656 J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 44 Heurnius useth first Cupping-glasses and ventoses to the feet and Liver. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Ventose*, a Cupping-glass...The ingenious Mr. Hawksbee hath now found a way of applying Cupping-glasses without Fire, by means of a small Air-Pump.

Ventose (ventō·s), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *ventōs-us* (It., Sp., and Pg. *ventoso*, Prov. *ventos*, obs. F. *ventous*, mod.F. *venteux*) windy, conceited, etc., f. *vent-us* wind.] Windy, flatulent.

1721 BAILEY, *Ventose*, windy, also empty, bragging, vaunting. 1867 J. BIGELOW *Bench & Bar* v. 294 (Stand.), The ventose orator was confounded, and put himself and the glass down together. 1885 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. vi. 94 It is better to wind up that way than to go growling out one's existence as a ventose hypochondriac.

†**Ventose**, *v. Surg. Obs.* Also 5 **ventosen, -touse, -tuse.** [ad. OF. *ventouser* (13th c.), *ventoser* (F. *ventouser*, = Prov. *ventosar*, It. *ventosare*), ad. med.L. *ventosāre*, f. L. *ventōsa* VENTOSE *sb.*] *trans.* To bleed (a patient) by means of a cupping-glass; to apply the cup to (a wound, etc.).

a. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 12 Ventose him on þe two buttokkis, if þat he be feble. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Let þe wounde be ventosed and garsede. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* N iv b, Howe ought they to [be] gouerned that must be ventosed?

β. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 13 þe oþere..schal not be leten blood ne ventusid. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Which places been perilous to ventuse or to kutte in þ' tyme. *c* 1440 *MS. Linc. A. 1. 17* fol. 302 b, Or elles be ventoused on the thee with a boyste.

b. *absol.* To practise cupping.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 52 þou schalt not lete blood, but þou maist ventosen, if þat it be nessessarie.

Ventoseness. ? *Obs.* [f. L. *ventōs-us* VENTOSE *a.* + -NESS.] Windiness, flatulence, ventosity.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 78 No medicyne so sone helpeþ...And it avoideþ soueranly ventoseneꝫ. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Ventoseness*, windiness.

†**Ventoser.** *Obs.*—1 In 4 **ventuser.** [ad. AF. *ventouser* (F. *ventouseur*, = Prov. *ventosaire*), f. *vento(u)ser* VENTOSE *v.*] = CUPPER 2.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 378 The ventuser of rawe flesch.

†**Ventosing**, *vbl. sb. Surg. Obs.* [f. VENTOSE *v.*] The operation of drawing blood by means of a cupping-glass; cupping. Also *attrib.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1889 That neither veyne blood, ne ventusynge..may ben his helpynge. 1386 *Almenak* 52 Mynucyons to be made by blode-lattyng or ventosyng es ful profytabul. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 62 And þer be no blode-later redy, be þer made ventosyng with garsyng atuix þe buttokes. *c* 1440 *MS. Linc. A. 1. 17* fol. 299 Of bolnyng or whelynge of garsynge or ventousynge. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/2 A ventosynge boxe (*A.* a ventisynge box), *cuma*. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* N iij, What is ventosyng?..it is the puttynge of boxes vpon any membre for to expuls the mater betwene the skynne and the flesshe.

†**Vento·sitous**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. next: cf. VENTOSE *a.* and -ITOUS.] Full of wind; windy.

1621 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii. 513 *Horn.* Barmy froth, puffy, inflate, turgidous and ventositous are come vp. *Tibe.* O, terrible, windie wordes! *Ibid.* 523.

Ventosity (ventɒ·sĭti). † *Obs.* Forms: 5 ventosytee, 6 -ytie, -yte; 4–6 -ite, 6 -itee, -itye, 7 -itie, 6– ventosity. [a. OF. (and F.) *ventosité* (= It. *ventosità*, Prov. *ventositat*, Sp. *-idad*, Pg. *-idade*), ad. L. *ventōsitas* windiness, flatulency, conceit, f. *ventōs-us* VENTOSE *a.*]

1. *Path.* The state of having the stomach or other part of the alimentary canal charged with wind; flatulency.

Freq. from 1540 to 1600.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvii. (Bodl. MS.), þat comeþ..þikke humours oþer of grete ventosite. *a* 1400 in *Rel. Antiq.* I. 51 For wynd and ventosite, that men callis *collica passio*. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule*, etc. 58 If þe flowyng be olde, Anathemasis is made for aboundance of blode or for ventosite descendyng doune. *c* 1530 *Judic. Urines* III. iii. 49 It sheweth but lytell crudyte and ventosyte of the humours. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Philosoph.* III. lxv. 89 It will defende hym from all interiour passions that are caused of ventositie. 1618 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 197 The Collick..This infirmitie is engendred of ventositie, or winde in the gut *Colon*. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 115 Peccant humours..being hindred by oppilations in the guts, through costiveness and ventosity. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 31 The Gout arises from .. a flatulent Ventosity. 1748 tr. *Vegetius Renatus' Distempers Horses* 75 The Disease which arises from Ventosity or Constipation.

b. *pl.* Gases generated in the stomach or bowels; attacks of flatulence.

Common from *c* 1600 to *c* 1630.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 241 Goynge afor mette dryuth away the ventositeis 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 140 Quhen it [*sc.* wine] is our suete it.. engenderis ventositeis. *c* 1530 *Judic. Urines* II. x. 38 And therfor are caused many fumosytes and ventosites in the body. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 77 The which do vaynquesshe and expelle ventositees and windenesse. 1608 DOLMAN *La Primaud Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 790 It driueth away ventosities, and flourisheth first amongst all trees. 1628 VENNER *Baths of Bathe* (1650) 355 To take cold betwixt the bathings..induceth ventosities. 1699 MACALLO *Can. Physick* 72 Belching Ventosities, or Winds,..are prognosticks that a future Crise will be by vomit.

c. The quality in things that produces flatulence.

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 171 Many of the vegetable materials introduced into the stomach possess far more ventosity than apples.

2. A blast or puff of wind, esp. one coming from the stomach.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. Prol 123 Quhais cryis bene pronosticatioun Off wyndy blastis and ventositeis. 1568 *Bk. Culture*, Belke nere no mans face;..it is a stinking ventosity. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IX. v. 842 This commeth of a ventositie which it voideth..or casteth..out being in danger to be taken. 1725 *Fam. Dict., Belching*, a Ventosity coming out of the mouth with a disagreeable noise.

3. The state of being windy; windiness.

c 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 30 His breeches great, full of ventositie. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 35 Wee caytiefe Troians, with storms ventositye mangled. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. iv, The..ventositie of the Tropicks. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Essex* I. (1662) 319 The ventosity thereof [*sc.* powder] causing the violent explosion of the bullet.

4. *fig.* The state of being inflated or puffed up; pompous conceit, vanity, or bombast.

c 1550 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 77 But turne from such occasyon, friend, hate such ventositye. 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 120 They are so full of ventositie, that I cannot come at their matter for winde and words. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 3 Some effects of that venome which is ventositie or swelling. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* iv. 24 Vaine glory ..is windy and full of ventosity, consisting of popular applause. 1710 SHAFTESBURY *Charac.* (1711) I. i. 159 Apprehensive of the Effects of this Frothiness or Ventosity in Speech. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1811) 139 He is a man of superlative ventosity, and comparable to nothing but a huge bladder of wind. *Ibid.* (1849) 304 This general, with all his outward valour and ventosity.

b. An instance of this; an idle conceit.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II 23 Many men..do esteeme desire of name and memory but as a vanitie and ventositie. 1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 240 Whose rash ventosities and aery promises we reject. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 164 The Swelling Ventosities of Vanity.

† **5.** *Surg.* = VENTOSING *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*—1.

? 1485 tr. *Bp. Knutsson's Litil Bk. Pestilence* 9 And if a swellyng appere in the sholdres leue it with ventosite.

† **Ventoso.** *Obs.*—1 [Cf. Sp. *ventosa* vent, air-hole.] (See quot.)

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 222 The Structures are all plain atop, only Ventoso's, or Funnels, for to let in the Air.

† **Ventoʻsous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *ventōsus*: see VENTOSE *a.*] Windy, flatulent.

1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 86 Paines and gripings ..do proceed ofttimes from..the working of the spleene, which is most ventosous. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 320 Unless the ventosous humour of it [hemp] be also expulsive.

Ventour, obs. Sc. variant of VENTURE *v.*

Ventousing, var. VENTOSING *vbl. sb. Obs.*

† **Ventoy.** *Obs. rare.* [? ad. obs. F. *ventail* = *éventail.*] A fan.

1620 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* II. ii, One of you open the casements, t'other take a ventoy and gently cool my face. 1626 in BULLOKAR *Engl. Expos.* 1632 DEKKER *Match Me* II, Lacke you no rich .. Venetian ventoyes, Madam?

Vent-peg. [VENT *sb.*2] A small peg for inserting in the vent-hole of a cask; a spile.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 573 Leaving your Vent-peg always open pails it [*sc.* March-beer]. *Ibid.* 574 If once you pull out the Vent-peg, to draw a Quantity at once. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxii. 349 Mind you have a vent-peg at the top of the vessel. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 209 If on drawing out the vent-peg of the cask the liquor spurts up with force. 1844 DICKENS *Chimes* iii, Pulling out the vent-peg of the table-beer. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2903/2 The vent-peg [of the vent-cock] consists of a tubular, threaded stem, which may be screwed into a cask.

Ventrad (ve·ntræd), *adv. Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. L. *ventr-*, stem of *venter* abdomen, + -AD.] Toward the ventral surface of the body.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 639 There appears ventrad of the saurian cervix..that series of osseous pieces marked *c, d.* 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* 44 C may be said to lie either ventrad or laterad of B. 1895 MIVART in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 369 The greater extension ventrad of the apex of the prosopium.

Ventral (ve·ntrăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *ventral* (= Sp. and Pg. *ventral*, It. *ventrale*), or ad. L. *ventrāl-is*, f. *venter* abdomen.]

A. *adj.* 1. Occurring or taking place in the region of the abdomen; abdominal.

a. *Path.* Of ruptures.

1739 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 644 In some ventral Ruptures (as they are called) this also may be necessary. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 155/2 Ventral rupture is a protrusion of some of the bowels through the interstices of the abdominal muscles. *Ibid.* margin, Ventral hernia. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 160/1 Umbilical and ventral herniæ. 1892 MOULLIN *Surg.* 1047 *Ventral Hernia*, hernia through the linea alba (except at the umbilicus),..or some other part of the abdominal wall that is not usually weak.

b. Of laughter or breathing, or in general use.

1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xii, He continued at intervals to ..shake luxuriously with a silent, ventral laughter. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* (1891) 65 A trained rector, who read the service with such ventral depth of utterance. 1892 STEVENSON *Vailima Lett.* (1895) 197 His breathing seemed wholly ventral: the bust still, the belly moving strongly.

2. *Anat.* and *Zool.* Of, pertaining to, situated in or on, the abdomen; abdominal.

a. In *ventral fin.* (Cf. B. 1.)

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 248 The ventral fins are connected in a remarkable manner together. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 234 The ventral fins placed behind the pectoral fins as in the minow. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xii. § 8 The pectoral, and more particularly the ventral fins, serve to raise and depress the fish. 1862 HUXLEY *Lect. Working Men* 23 [In] the Codfish..you have the hinder limbs restored in the shape of these ventral fins.

b. In general use.

1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxii. II. 290 By the assistance of their mandibles,..and also of several dorsal and ventral tubercles. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 86 Mammæ six, two pectoral and four ventral. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 26 What is the proper relation of the ventral pieces of the Carapax? 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* i. 6 Nearer the dorsal (or back) than the ventral (or front) aspect of the body.

c. *Ventral cord*: (see quots.).

1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Physiology* I. ii. 52 The longitudinal gangliated chain of Articulated animals is often distinguished as the ventral cord. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 92 The double ventral cord has a fibrous structure along its upper surface, whilst below there is an irregular stratum of ganglion cells.

3. *Bot.* Of or belonging to the anterior or lower surface.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 144 These edges often appear in the carpellum like two sutures, of which..that which corresponds to the united margins is named the *ventral* suture. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 114 Fragaria :..styles ventral. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* I. vii. 89 The inner angle of each carpel..answers to the line of union of its infolded edges. This line is called the ventral suture. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* xvii. 398 The lower side where the foot stalk arises is nearly straight and I have called it the ventral surface.

4. *Ventral segment*, in Acoustics: (see quots.).

1830 HERSCHEL in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) IV. 782 Such points of rest are called nodes or nodal points, the intermediate portions [of a cord] which vibrate are termed bellies or ventral segments. 1873 W. LEES *Acoustics* I. iii. 24 The direct and reflective pulses..divide the string into a series of vibrating parts, called ventral segments.

5. quasi-*adv.* = VENTRALLY *adv.* 1.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 807 Structures which respectively lie ventral and lateral.

B. *sb.* 1. A ventral fin; one of the fins corresponding to the hind legs of quadrupeds.

1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 817 The anal ..seems to be continued forwards by the ventrals. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 186 The ventrals are situated near the vent. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 202 The pectoral fins are distant from the head, and not produced to the ventrals.

2. *Ent.* One or other of the segments of the abdomen, esp. in *Coleoptera.* (1891 in *Cent. Dict.*)

Ventrally (ve·ntrăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] 1. In a ventral direction; on or toward the venter; with respect to the venter or abdomen.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 368 *Actinocarpus Damasonium*:..carpels dehiscing ventrally. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 9 Ventrally, it is attached to the margin of the lower jaw. 1883 MARTIN & MOALE *Vertebr. Dissect.* 137 The anterior abdominal vein..runs ventrally and forward.

Comb. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 83 The various ventrally-placed appendages of the articulate Neuropoda. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1632 The ventrally bending limb ..having no mesoblastic somites dorsal to it.

2. In or from the venter or abdomen.

1889 H. J. BARKER *Orig. Eng.* i. 15, I laughed myself (ventrally, of course,) when the youngsters so innocently committed themselves.

Ventralward(s, *adv.* [f. VENTRAL *a.* + -WARD(S.] To or towards the belly or ventral surface of the body.

1883 SEDGWICK & HEAPE *Embryol.* 165 This branch, starting from near the dorsal beginning of the fold, runs ventralwards and forwards. 1893 TUCKEY *Amphioxus* 156 Here the mesoblast does not grow forward so far ventralwards.

Ventre, obs. f. VENTER[1], VENTURE, VINTRY.

Ventri- (ve·ntri), comb. form of L. *ventri-*, *venter* VENTER[1], occurring in various terms, as **ventricoʻrnu** *Anat.*, the ventral extension of gray matter in the substance of the spinal cord; hence **ventricoʻrnual** *a.*; **ventriouʻmbent** *a.*, lying on the belly; prone, prostrate; **veʻntriduct** *v.*, to bring to or turn towards the belly; † **ventrifluous** *a.* [ad. L. *ventrifluus*], 'laxative, purging the belly' (1727 in BAILEY); **ventrimeʻson** *Anat.*, the median line on the ventral surface of the body; hence *ventrimesal* adj. (1891 in *Cent. Dict.*); **ventriʻpetal** *a.* [after CENTRIPETAL *a.*], directed towards the belly or stomach; **ventripyʻramid** *Anat.*, = PYRAMID *sb.* 7 *a.*

1890 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 528 The *ventricornu (ventral or 'anterior' extension of the myelic cineres). *Ibid.*, The myelic cornua are strictly dorsal and ventral,.. permitting the adjectives dorsicornual and *ventricornual. 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* 36 The body is *ventricumbent, so as to expose the dorsal aspect. *Ibid.* 537 To pith [a frog] *ventriduct the head with the index, and pass the tip of the right index [etc.]. *Ibid.* 33 For convenience, the dorsal and ventral borders of this plane may be called the dorsimeson and the *ventrimeson respectively. 1819 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 12 (1822) I. 90 Every thought of mind, and every feeling of his affection,..tends to one point, with a *ventripetal force. 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* 485 *Ventripyramid.

Ventric (ve·ntrik), *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *ventr-*, stem of *venter* VENTER[1] + -IC.] Connected with, pertaining to, the stomach.

1869 M. COLLINS in F. Collins *Lett. & Friendships* (1877) I. 63 *Magister artis..venter*, says Persius—the art of accurate time-keeping is ventric.

Ventrical, prob. a misspelling and misuse of VENTRICLE.

1824 GALT *Rothelan* II. iv. iv. 125 He reached a small postern entrance, which..many years after..became celebrated as the ventrical into Moorfields.

Ventricle (ve·ntrik'l). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Also 6 ventrikle, ventrycle, 7 ventrickle. [ad. L. *ventriculus* VENTRICULUS or F. *ventricule*: see VENTRICULE.]

1. One or other of the two cavities in the heart by means of which the blood is circulated through the body; also, the cavity of the heart in certain animals and molluscs which fulfils this function.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 162 þe herte haþ two ventriclis .i. two holowe placis wiþinne, & þat oon ventricle sittiþ in þe riȝtside of þe herte, & þat oþer in þe liftside. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 195 There is a double ventricle and bone in the heart of an Elephant. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Digress. 347 The Blood that passes out of the right Ventricle of the Heart into the Lungs. 1692 RAY *Creation* (ed. 2) I. 33 An Ebullition and sudden Expansion of the Blood in the Ventricles. 1730 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* I. vi. § 2 The Heart has two Cavities or Ventricles, separated from each other by a thick fleshy Wall, or Septum. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1846) IV. 205 The great ventricle of the heart had burst. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 365 The animals of this order [*sc.* Batrachia] have a heart with a single auricle and ventricle. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 173 In the ventricles of the heart fibrinous clots may be discovered.

transf. 1851 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 63 Branchiæ two, furnished with muscular ventricles.

attrib. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 789 Cases of right ventricle failure. *Ibid.* 794 The hypertrophy was probably ..due to left ventricle trouble.

2. One or other of a series of cavities in the brain (normally numbering four in the adult human being) formed by enlargements of the neural canal.

Pineal ventricle: see PINEAL *a.* b.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 213 Summen seien þat þer ben .iiij. ventriclis of þe brayn. *Ibid.*, þis ventricle is sett bitwene two addiamentis of þe brayn. 1548 VICARY *Anat.* iv. (1888) 31 From the foremost Ventrikle of the brayne springeth seuen payre of sensatiue or feeling senewes. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. Ep. Rdr., Heere may you see..the seuerall ventricles of the braine, as so many sundrie chambers for the intertainment of the animal spirits. 1600 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 35 Beere that is too bitter.. causeth the head-ach, by filling the ventricles of the braine with troublesome vapors. 1695–87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* (1712) 206 Suppose Memory were thus seal'd upon the Brain, and transmitted its Image through the Animal Spirits in the ventricles. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. I. § 2. 6 Blood, Matter, or Serum, lying upon the Brain, or in its Ventricles. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 553 The vapour or water in the ventricles of the brain. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 93 The calamus scriptorius in the floor of the fourth ventricle. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* vii. 158 Cilia are found..in the ventricles of the brain.

3. The stomach in man or animals. ? *Obs.*

Freq. in 17th cent. use.

1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* 9 It is good for the Ventricle or Stomacke also. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II.

343 Wee will beginne at the ventricle, commonly called the stomacke. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 182 That no part of the meat may sticke..about the mouth of the stomacke, but may..be carried into the ventricle, which is the bottome of the stomach. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. (1677) 59 Whether I will or will not,..my Heart beats,..my Ventricle digests what is in it. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 18 Purging Ale..takes off the slipperiness of the Ventricle and Intestines. 1805-6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XXVIII. 26 Dangling his entrails hung, the midriff..and wretched ventricle, That turns the englutted aliment to dross.

b. The digestive sac or organs in birds, fishes, insects, and certain reptiles.

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 249, I have thruste my fore finger into hir gorge..and by that meanes have caused hir to fill in the ventricle sooner than otherwise she wouide have done. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 182 The powder of a Storks craw or Ventricle. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 907 It may..be termed the Chylus of the Bees, ..having its perfection and consummation from their ventricles. 1682 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xli. § 1 (1689) 307 His ventricle is large and capacious. 1704 RAY *Creation* (ed. 4) I. 30 The Meat [is]..transferr'd into the Gizzard ., where by the working of the Muscles compounding the sides of that Ventricle,..it is..ground small. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlviii. IV. 424 That the Orthoptera have a ventricle or gizzard. 1868 DUNCAN *Ins. World* Introd. 10 Two kinds of appendages belong to the ehylific ventricle. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 412 That part of the alimentary canal which lies in front of the chyliic ventricle (in cockroaches).

† **c.** The belly. In quot. *fig. Obs.*

1583 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 70 Ideas, apprehensions,..are begot in the ventricle of memorie, nourisht in the womhe of primater.

d. *attrib.* In † *ventricle unguent.*

1599 A. M tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 238/2 [A recipe for] An excellent Ventricle vnguente, which is very commodious for the Childebedde Woemen.

4. Any small hollow or cavity in an animal body, serving as a place of organic function; in later use, the recess or space between the true and false vocal cords on each side of the larynx; a laryngeal pouch or sac.

1641 MILTON *Church Govt.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 44 All the faculties of the Soule are confin'd of old to their severall vessels, and ventricles. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 109 The various ducts and ventricles of the body. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Ventricles*, any round Concavities in a Body. 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 500 The lateral depressions that have been denominated the ventricles of the larynx, or the ventricles of Morgagni. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. vii. (1878) 532 The ventricles of Morgagni are apparently of use in giving the vocal cords sufficient room for their vibrations. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 273/2 The ventricles no doubt permit a free vibration of the true vocal cords.

† **5.** In gen. use: A cavity or hollow. *Obs. rare.*

1627 DONNE *Serm.* IV. 5 In what corner, in what ventricle of the sea lies all the jelly of a body drowned in the general flood? *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 225 (1810) 237 The caverns and ventricles of the earth.

Ventricose (ventrikōʷs), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *ventricōsus*, f. L. *ventr-*, *venter* belly VENTER [1]: see -IC and -OSE.]

1. Swelling out in the middle, or on one side, after the manner of an animal's belly; bellied, protuberant, strongly convex.

a. *Bot.* (esp. of the corolla or calyx).

1756 J. HILL *Hist. Plants* 153 (Jod.), There is no pericarpium; but the calix becomes more ventricose, and contains a single seed. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xvi. (1794) 179 In Comfrey and Cerinthe the corolla is ventricose. 1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 13 Capsule setigerous .., included in the ventricose calix. 1841 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) II. 243 The flowers are white and ventricose. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* App. 310 Outer Glumes [of wheat] nearly equal,..ventricose.

b. *Conch.* (Usually of the body of the shell.)

1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 123 *M[urex] carinatus* with five or six spires, the body ventricose. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 79 Shell rounded, ventricose, golden red. 1851 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 70 *Cranchia*. Body large, ventricose. *Ibid.* 110 Whirls ventricose. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 155 Their ventricose or parallel-sided form. *Comb.* 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 85 Shell oblong, ventricose-cylindrical.

c. *Zool.* or *Anat.*

1834 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. II. 394 Ventricose Sucker...Oliv-aceous Sucker, with ventricose abdomen. 1833 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl. s.v. *Golden-eye*, The ventricose part consists of the same cartilaginous rings as the rest of the windpipe. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 533 The ventricose and short-bodied species of Cephalopoda. 1841 E. NEWMAN *Hist. Insects* III. iii. 185 The gullet..is ventricose or *ventricosus* when it dilates into a large bag or crop before its union with the stomach.

2. Of persons: Big-bellied; having an unusually or abnormally large abdomen.

1843 F. E. PAGET *Warden Berkingholt* 266 The Reverend Rory O'Flannigan rose like the full moon..when first she peeps from behind the hill, rubicund, coppery, ventricose. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxv. 248 Ending with the ventricose little Accommodah. 1876 W. ROBERTS *Urin. & Renal Dis.* III. viii. (ed. 3) 485 A little boy, who had been ventricose from birth.

Hence **Ventricose-seness, Ventricosity.**

1837 TURTON *Land & Fresh-W. Shells* 183 [The shell] varies greatly in size, ventricoseness, and colour. 1868 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* May 374 The greater ventricosity of form..of *M[ala] georgina*. 1909 J. W. JENKINSON *Exper. Embryol.* 71 The 'ventricosity' (ratio of breadth to length) of the shell of the Periwinkle.

Ventrico-so-, comb. form of prec., with the sense 'distended and —', as *ventricoso-globose*.

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 58 *Akyonium putrid-osum.*—Ventricoso-globose, somewhat pear-shaped.

Ventricous, *a. rare.* [See -OUS.] = VENTRICOSE *a.*, in various senses.

1702 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* (1709) II. 341 Such Children.. are usually ventricous, and not so agil and nimble as other Children. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Ventricous*, in botany, bellied; distended; swelling out in the middle; as, a ventricous perianth. 1830 OGILVIE, *Ventricous*, .in conchology, applied to shells which are inflated, or which swell in the middle.

Ventricular (ventri·kiŭlăr), *a.* Chiefly *Anat.* and *Path.* [f. L. *ventricul-us* (see next) + -AR, or ad. mod.L. [2]*ventriculāris*. So F. *ventriculaire.*]

1. Of or pertaining to the stomach; abdominal, gastral, ventral.

1822-7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 249 It is also said that the common garden rue.., when eaten to excess, is succeeded by the same symptoms of ventricular pains. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 164 No one..ever listens to ventricular admonitions, but 'greatly daring dines' on, in defiance of dyspepsia. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVII. 610 Louis XIV actually did wear it buttoned below the ventricular curve.

b. Distended in the middle; ventriculous.

1830 in OGILVIE.

2. a. Affecting a ventricle or ventricles (of the heart, brain, etc.).

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 79 Its [the heart's] point..strikes at each ventricular contraction, or *systole*, as it is called, against the wall of the chest. 1843 MARKHAM *Skoda's Auscult.* 205 The ventricular systole may also be accompanied by two distinctly different sounds. 1888 W. R. GOWERS *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* II. 298 Limited ventricular meningitis occurs especially in young children.

b. Of or pertaining to, forming part of, a ventricle.

1840 E. WILSON *Anat.'s Vade M.* (1842) 338 The Deep or Ventricular veins commence within the lateral ventricles by two vessels. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. p. lvi, A complete separation of the ventricular part of the heart into two cavities. 1875 PAYNE *Jones & Siev. Pathol. Anat.* ix. 244 The surface either of the plexus or the ventricular walls. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 109 So far as regards the heart and ventricular muscle.

3. Of the nature of a ventricle.

1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* xxiii. 397 A single auricle that communicates with a strong ventricular cavity. *Ibid.* xxix. 606 The heart.. separated into two distinct sets of cavities, each composed of an auricle and of a strong ventricular chamber. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 115 In the simplest *Calcispongiæ*,..the pores open directly into the ventricular cavity.

Ventricule (ventrikiul). *Anat.* [a. OF. *ventricule* (14th c. in Littré; = Sp. and Pg. *ventriculo*, It. *ventricolo*), ad. L. *ventriculus* VENTRICULUS.] = VENTRICLE in various senses.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 14 Þe synowez.. haþe festnyng with þe stomake and wiþ þe ventricules of þe brayne. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 97 The Apostle addes 'Meats are for the belly', i.e. for the ventricule or stomach and intestines. 1742 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 125 In the Right Auricle and Ventricule of his Heart was found a large tough subrubicund *Polypus*. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 152 The walls of the ventricule are robust.

Ventriculite (ventri·kiŭləlt). [ad. mod.L. *Ventriculites*, f. L. *ventriculus* ventricle: see -ITE [1] 2.] A fossil sponge belonging to the genus *Ventriculites* or the family *Ventriculitidæ*.

1822 MANTELL *Geol. Sussex* 176 The difference in the form of this ventriculite. 1885 J. E. TAYLOR *Brit. Fossils* I. 24 In the white chalk of Sussex,..Ventriculites occur in great numbers.

Hence **Ventriculi·tic** *a.*, of or belonging to, containing, ventriculites. (In recent Dicts.)

Ventriculo-se, *a. rare*[−o]. [ad. L. *ventricul-ōsus* pertaining to the belly, f. *ventriculus* VENTRICULUS.] a. 'Paunch-bellied' (1727 in BAILEY, vol. II). **b.** *Bot.* = next. (1891 in *Cent. Dict.*)

Ventri·culous, *a. rare*[−o]. [Cf. prec. and -OUS.] (See quots.)

1802 R. HALL *Elem. Bot.* 194 *Ventriculous*,..somewhat ventricose. 1828-32 in WEBSTER, *Ventriculous*, somewhat distended in the middle.

‖ **Ventriculus** (ventri·kiŭlŭs). [L. (in senses 1 and 2), dim. of *venter* VENTER [1].]

1. *Anat.* and *Zool.* = VENTRICLE 3.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Ventriculus*, the Stomach.] 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v., The Stomach or *Ventriculus* is placed immediately under the Midriff. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 258/1 Ventriculus, or Stomach,.. a great bag or reservoir, situated [etc.]. 1843 WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. iv. 209 The stomach or ventriculus is a hollow membranous viscus. 1894 *Athenæum* 21 April 514/3 The alimentary canal is more of the type of other Gamasidæ than of the Uropodinæ, the ventriculus being small and its cæca long.

b. The gizzard in birds and insects.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 916 [The] Stomach..consists of an interior portion, the *Proventriculus*,..and a posterior, the *Ventriculus* or Gizzard, which is muscular.

2. = VENTRICLE 1.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 278/2 The heart..is hollow within, and divided by a septum which runs between the edges into two cavities, called *ventriculi*.

3. The body-cavity of a sponge.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 115 In the simplest *Calcispongiæ*..the wall of the ventriculus is thin. *Ibid.* vii. 409 The anterior end of the ventriculus.

† **Ventrilocu·tion.** *Obs.*[−o] = VENTRILOQUISM.

1846 in Worcester (citing C. B. Brown).

Ventriloqual (ventri·lŏkwăl), *a. rare.* [Cf. next and -AL.] = VENTRILOQUIAL *a.*

1864 *Tallis's Theatr. Newspaper* 30 July 258 The phenomenon will be attributed to some kind of ventriloqual trick. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 89 These Western men are distinguished by their harsh ventriloqual speech.

Hence **Ventri·loqually** *adv. rare*[−1].

1872 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. II. 152 Proteus, speaking ventriloqually, now near, now at a distance.

Ventriloque, *sb.* and *a. rare.* [Anglicised form of VENTRILOQUUS: cf. F. *ventriloque.*] **a.** *sb.* A ventriloquist. **b.** *adj.* Ventriloquial.

1682 GLANVILL *Evid. Witches London* II. 63 This Pythoness being a Ventriloque, that is, speaking as it were from the bottom of her Belly. 1826 HOOD *Irish Schoolm.* iii, And oft, indeed, the inward of that gate, Most ventriloque, doth utter tender squeak. 1834 MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 314 The voice of the birds..is also made up partly of echo-notes, in all cases where it is ventriloque, or varies in apparent place.

Ventriloqui, pl. of VENTRILOQUUS.

Ventriloquial (ventrilō·kwiăl), *a.* [f. VENTRILOQUY + -AL.]

1. Of sounds: Such as are produced by ventriloquism.

1836-7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz., Char.* viii, The symphony..was soon afterwards followed by a faint kind of ventriloquial chirping. *a* 1845 HOOD *To Kitchener* viii, Potent to hush all ventriloquial snarling. 1879 HODDAM-WHEATHAM *Roraima* xiii. 152 It was very delightful to hear one of them pouring forth his rich and ventriloquial notes.

2. Of or belonging to, consisting of, ventriloquism.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xli, 'A bad one!'. growled Mr. Grimwig, speaking by some ventriloquial power, without moving a muscle of his face. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 11 His ventriloquial entertainment is..a clever piece of vocal imitation. 1875 FLO. MARRYAT *Open Sesame* I. x. 146 Expecting to receive another proof of her ventriloquial skill.

Hence **Ventrilo·quially** *adv.*

1893 GANTHONY *Pract. Ventriloquism* 27 Should Ventriloquial practice make your throat ache,..do not use it ventriloquially for a time.

Ventriloquism (ventri·lŏkwiz'm). [f. VENTRILOQU-Y + -ISM: cf. next.]

1. The art or practice of speaking or producing sounds in such a manner that the voice appears to proceed from some person or object other than the speaker, and usually at some distance from him. (The common use.)

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 639/2 It is with no great propriety that..their art [is called] *ventriloquism*, since they appear more frequently to speak from the roof or distant corners of the room, than from their own mouths or their own bellies. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* 12 Jan., Mathews..confirms my idea of ventriloquism (which is an absurd word), as being merely the art of imitating sounds at a greater or a less distance. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* viii. 167 This uncertainty with respect to the direction of sound is the foundation of the art of ventriloquism. 1896 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xii. 126 Their deceptions are simply vocal, a change of voice, and perhaps a limited profession of ventriloquism.

transf. c 1819 COLERIDGE *Rem.* (1836) II. 275, I call it ventriloquism, because Sejanus is a puppet, out of which the poet [Jonson] makes his own voice appear to come. 1874 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 244 We consider the poem ['Maud'] about as striking an instance as could be named of what we call poetical ventriloquism.

b. An instance of this; a ventriloqual sound.

1839 T. BEALE *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* 302 All our talent and ingenuity in these ventriloquisms were thrown away. 1878 HANDY *Rel. Native* v. vi, Soft strange ventriloquisms came from holes in the ground, hollow stalks,..and other crannies.

2. The fact or practice of speaking or appearing to speak from the abdomen.

1818 in TODD. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* v. (1862) 156 *note*, The notion of a ventriloquism such as this, of a spirit having his lodging in the body of a man. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* I. ix. (1868) 276 It was usual for the prophetic spirit to make itself known by an internal muttering or ventriloquism.

Ventriloquist (ventri·lŏkwist). [f. VENTRILOQU-Y + -IST.] One who practises, or is expert in, ventriloquy or ventriloquism; *spec.* in modern use, one who gives public exhibitions of his skill in this art.

With early quots. cf. prec. 2. The modern application (corresponding to VENTRILOQUISM 1) appears just before 1800.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Ventriloquist*, one that hath an evil spirit speaking in his belly, or one that by use and practise can speak as it were out of his belly, not moving his lips. 1682 H. MORE in *Glanvill's Sadducismus* I. Postscr. (1726) 19 Who knows but some of his counterfeit Ventriloquists may prove true ones. 1728 BP. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* 11 There are also many that can form Words and Voices in their Stomach, which shall seem to come from others rather than the Person that speaks them. Such people are call'd Engastriloques, or Ventriloquists. 1749 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IX. 7 There was a compact..between the ventriloquist and the exorcist. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 639/2 As the ancient ventriloquists, when exercising their art, seemed generally to speak from their own bellies, the name..was abundantly significant. 1813 *Stage* I. 176 A ventriloquist at Paris has attracted the attention of the whole metropolis. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xix, And pale slender women with consumptive faces lingered upon the footsteps of ventriloquists and conjurers. 1893 GANTHONY *Pract. Ventriloquism* 147 It is curious that Ventriloquists are nearly all English.

fig. c 1819 COLERIDGE *Rem.* (1836) II. 327 The

are mock dialogues in which the poet solus plays the ventriloquist. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Jan. 1/1 The 'Ventriloquist of Varzin', who can pull the strings of three Imperial Chancelleries.

attrib. 1850 *N. & Q.* Ser. 1. II. 101 It can hardly be doubted that the Archbishop's miracle was a ventriloquist hoax.

b. Applied to birds or animals. Also *attrib.*

1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* x. § 5 A tuneful bird is a ventriloquist. The seat of the song is in the breast. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life* 218 The belief that the [corn-]crake is a ventriloquist. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Onappo* (Braz[il]), a reddish-gray nyctipithecine monkey or teetee (*Callithrix discolor*). Called also *ventriloquist-monkey.*

Ventriloquistic (ventrilǒkwi·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.]

1. Using or practising ventriloquism.

In first quot. used to translate Gr. ἐγγαστριμύθους, which has also been rendered by 'ventrilinguist'.

1830 tr. *Aristophanes, Birds* 1651 At Phanæ..live a villanous ventriloquistic race,..and from these same ventriloquistic Philippi in Attica the tongue is severed in twain. 1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 79 Hence the Seventy scruple not to express their sense of the hebrew Baalath Ob, by rendering it a Ventriloquistic Woman.

2. Of or pertaining to ventriloquism or ventriloquists; ventriloquial.

1853 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* III. 182 This ventriloquistic power is certainly very remarkable. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 32 He even uttered a short ventriloquistic laugh without moving his mouth. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand. E. Arch.* 72 Its deep and ventriloquistic voice.

Ventriloquize (ventri·lǒkwəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To use or practise ventriloquism; to speak or produce sounds in the manner of a ventriloquist; to cast the voice.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 297 When the corn-crake ..ventriloquises in the corn or grass. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 148/2 The horses capered and neighed and ventriloquized right and left. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* ii, Leave thy caverned grumblings,..and discourse eloquence from thy central omphalos, like Pythoness ventriloquising. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life* 219 Some say in like manner that the starling ventriloquizes.

fig. 1832 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 21 July, I have no admiration for the practice of ventriloquizing through another man's mouth. 1890 *Spectator* 1 Nov., It looks as if the new Radicalism had entered into his soul and were ventriloquising through his organisation.

2. *trans.* To utter as a ventriloquist.

1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 45 It is a falsehood ventriloquising truth. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* iv. 131 The little Temple, up which the priests..crept to ventriloquise behind the deceptive statue their lying oracles. 1900 *Daily News* 28 July 2/5 He not only mimics but ventriloquises his imitations.

Hence **Ventri·loquising** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*

1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nuns of Desert* II. 52 Mrs. Mervin's ventriloquising powers, exhibited in the church.

Ventriloquous (ventri·lǒkwəs), *a.* [f. L. *ventriloqu-us* (see next) + -OUS.]

1. Of persons: = VENTRILOQUISTIC *a.* 1.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. vii. (1727) 149 *note*, In the same Tract, Chap. 6 is this Observation of Ventriloquous Persons. 1737 BYRON *Rem.* (1857) 116 There came the ventriloquous fellow, who imitated a friend's voice out of his mouth. 1775 in ASH, and in later Dicts.

2. Produced by or as by ventriloquy; ventriloquial.

1768 G. WHITE *Selborne* xvi, In breeding-time, snipes play over the moors, piping and humming...Is not their hum ventriloquous, like that of the turkey? 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 738 The harsh ventriloquous cry of the corncraik amongst the grass. 1880 CABLE *Grandissimes* (1898) 200 The dismal ventriloquous note of the rain-crow.

‖ Ventri·loquus. *Obs.* Usu. in pl. **ventriloqui.** [L., f. *ventri-*, *venter* belly + *loqui* to speak, after Gr. ἐγγαστρίμυθος. Cf. VENTRILOQUE.] A ventriloquist (esp. in the original sense).

The fem. *ventriloqua* (pl. *-loquæ*) is employed by R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* (1584) VII. i. 126 and xiii. 150.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXVIII. § 2. 251 They that are called ventriloqui, do persuade ignorant people that the Diuell speaketh from within them deepe in their belly. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 603 How by a peculiar use of the Epiglottis, one may come to speak inwardly, as do the Ventriloqui. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 306 Two or three pretty stories ..of *Ventriloqui*, or those that speak in their bellies. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. ii. § 5. 228 We may see how *Ventriloqui*, or Persons that speak in their Throats, without moving their Lips, impose upon the Audience. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* I. 143/2 The known faculty many people called *Ventriloqui* have had of uttering strange noises [etc.].

Ventriloquy (ventri·lǒkwi). [ad. med. or early mod.L. *ventriloqui-um* (It. *ventriloquio*, Sp., Pg. *ventriloquia*, F. *ventriloquie*), f. L. *ventriloqu-us*: see prec.]

1. = VENTRILOQUISM (in both senses).

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* VII. i. (1886) 101 A wench, practising hir diabolicall witchcraft and ventriloquie An. 1574. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. ix. 83 Some have questioned ventriloquie, when men strangely speak out of their bellies, whether it can be done lawfully or no. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1684) 64 For Ventriloquy, or speaking from the bottom of the Belly, 'tis a thing..as strange..as anything in Witchcraft. 1775 in ASH. 1823 *Examiner* 338 His excellent imitations of ventriloquy. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 248/1 The lips and jaws being always somewhat open during ventriloquy, a slight labial movement remains unnoticed. 1889 MACCOLL *Mr. Stranger's Sealed Packet* xxx, You would have put it all down to ventriloquy and imposture.

¶ 2. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Ventriloquie*, diuination by the inwards of beasts.

Ventrine, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *ventr-*, *venter* belly + -INE[1].] Of or pertaining to the abdomen.

a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 235 *note*, Prompted by a principle that sank him to the level of the brutes, viz., acquiescing in total ventrine improvidence.

† **Ventrio se,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *ventriōs-us*, f. *ventri-*, *venter* belly.] **a.** *Bot.* = VENTRICOSE *a.* 1 a. **b.** 'Gorbellied' (1727 in BAILEY, vol. II).

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* (1725) II. 60 Pods..having here and there eminences over the peas within, or being ventriose. *Ibid* 59 Smooth ventriose pods.

Ventripotent (ventri·pōtĕnt), *a.* [a. F. *ventripotent* (Rabelais), f. L. *ventri-*, *venter* belly + *potent-*, *potens* powerful, etc.]

1. Having a large abdomen; big-bellied.

1611 COTGR., *Ventripotent*, ventripotent, big-paunch, bellieable, huge-guts. [Hence in Blount.] 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 504/2 His mind is obviously not of the finest fibre, nor his massive and ventripotent person either. 1905 FITZMAURICE-KELLY *Cervantes in Eng.* 5 The short, ventripotent rustic [= Sancho Panza].

2. Having great capacity of stomach; gluttonous.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 115 These ventripotent melodists called up from the Red Sea of my port and claret all their buried swells, shakes, and cadences. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 425 The ventripotent vermin [*sc.* fleas] were in the midst of their meal. 1863 LD. LENNOX *Biogr. Reminisc.* I. 303 Louis des huitres, as the ventripotent monarch was called.

Hence **Ventripote·ntial** *a. nonce-word.*

1824 *New Monthly Mag.* XI. 313 A ventri-potential citizen, into whose Mediterranean mouth good things are perpetually flowing.

Ventro- (ventro), comb. form, on Gr. models, of VENTER[1], occurring in various terms (chiefly *Anat.* and *Surg.*), as **ventro-a·xial** *a.*, of or pertaining to the ventral and axial portions of the human trunk; **ventro-do·rsal** *a.*, of sections or lines of direction: extending from venter to back; hence *ventro-dorsally* adv.; **ventro-i·nguinal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the abdominal cavity and the inguinal canal; **ventro-la·teral** *a.*, of or belonging to the ventral and lateral sides of the body; hence *ventro-laterally* adv.; **ventro-me·sal, -me·sial** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to, situated at or on, the ventrimeson; **ventronudibra·nchiate** *a.* [cf. NUDIBRANCHIATE *a.*], characterized by having naked gills depending from the ventral region; **ventro·podal** *a.* [cf. PODAL *a.*], walking with the venter or breast touching the ground; **ventroposte·rior** *a.*, situated on, pertaining to, the under and hinder part of an organ, etc.; **ventro·tomy**, the operation of opening the abdomen by incision; abdominal section. (Cf. VENTRI-.)

Various other terms, as *ventrocystorraphy*, *-fixation*, *-scopy*, *-suspension*, etc., appear in recent Dicts. or special works.

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXV. 399/1 These muscles may be divided into two series—those of the trunk (*ventroaxial), and those of the limb (appendicular). 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s.v., *Ventro-dor-al. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 613/2 When the heart contracts *ventro-dorsally. 1888 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* 28 *Ventroinguinal. 1835-6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 522/1 *Ventro-lateral cartilages of the mantle. 1883 MARTIN & MOALE *Vertеb. Dissect* 141 The ventro-lateral aspect of the trachea. 1888 HOWES & SCOTT *Elem. Biol.* (ed. 2) 95 Slitting open the body-wall *ventro-laterally. 1888 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* 36 The line..might be called dorso-lateral instead of dorso-sinistral; or it might be called *ventro-mesal. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 8 The *ventro-mesial position and relations of the pelvic bones. *a* 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 289/2 The naked branchial fringes .. indicate the *Infero* or *Ventronudibranchiate Order [of molluscs]. 1898 SHUFELDT in *Ibis* Jan. 48 Audubon..gave them [grebes] both the erect attitudes, as well as, what may be termed, the *ventropodal ones. 1903 *Trans. Amer. Microsc. Soc.* Nov. 62 (*Cent. Suppl.*), The *ventro-posterior limit of the proton. 1887 H. A. REEVES in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 March 593 There is much need for a single and simple word to express the operation of opening the abdominal cavity, for whatever purpose...I would therefore suggest the use of an etymologically hybrid word, namely, '*ventrotomy'.

Ventro·se, *a. rare*[−0]. [ad. late L. *ventrōs-us*, f. *venter* belly.] (See quot. and VENTRICOSE *a.*)

1839 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Ventrosus*, having a belly, or swellings like the belly; ventrose.

Hence **Ventro·sity,** corpulence. (1891 in *Cent. Dict.*)

Ventr(o)us, -ly, obs. ff. VENTUROUS, -LY.

† **Ve·ntuous,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **ventuos.** [Irreg. f. L. *ventu-s* wind + -OUS.] Windy, flatulent.

Some other instances of the word in the same work (v. lx. and xvii. clxxxvi) are due to mistranslation of the Latin text.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xix. liv. (1495) 895 Rawe hony not well clarefyed is ryght ventuous and bredyth curlynge and swellyng in the wombe.

† **Ve·nturable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. VENTURE *v.*] **a.** Adventurable, attemptable. **b.** Venturous, hazardous.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 390 That whiche is harde and skarse venturable. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 34 Whose valure and venturable servys..deserveth the favour..of all true subiects.

Venture (ve·ntiŭr, -tʃəɹ), *sb.* Also 5–6 **ventur.** β. 6–7 (γ *dial.*) **venter.** [Aphetic f. *aventure* ADVENTURE *sb.*: cf. It. and Pg. *ventura*. In some senses perh. from the verb.

The form is no doubt partly due to the initial *a-* of *aventure* having been taken as the indefinite article, esp. after the stressing *ave'nture* had become usual. In 15th cent. texts it is probable that occasional instances of *a venture* or *a venter* should be read as one word.]

I. † **1.** Fortune, luck; chance. = ADVENTURE 1.

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2811 Launcelot saw ther was no socoure, nedyuse muste he hys venture abyde.

† **b.** *A venture's stroke*, one delivered at a venture; a chance stroke. *Obs.*[−1]

c 1450 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 308 Come in with a rake in every a syde, An hole rownde and an halfe, wath so hit betyde, iiij. quarters and a rownd and a ventures stroke wyth.

c. *At a venture*, at random, by chance, without due consideration or thought; = ADVENTURE 3 b.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* IV. vii, Howe at a venture, and by sodayne chaunce He met with Fame, by fortunes pureyaunce. *c* 1590 *Sir T. More* IV. i. 157 Then, good Inclination, beginne at a venter. 1608 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 15 But if the things aforesaid be not..weighed or marked, but be sold at a venture. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* xxii. 34 A certaine man drew a bow at a venture. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 215 'Tis possible that I may several times by guess, or at a venture, hit upon it. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* XV. (1840) 256 They should rather fire at a venture. 1780 COWPER *Lett.* 2 June, I never in my life began a letter more at a venture than the present. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 77 As I no longer knew where I was, I continued swimming at a venture. 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Paston Carew* xvi, 'And your mother was an Indian,' said Lady Jane, drawing her bow at a venture.

† **2.** Danger, jeopardy, hazard, or peril; the chance or risk of incurring harm or loss. *Obs.*

a. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 655 Thy lyfe thou must put in venture For Christes congregation. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 79 [He pressed] on the Persians, that they desired to come off without more venture, and so..retired home. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 156 By this way the Seed was put into the Husbandmans hand, and no venture to him. *c* 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 182 The venture's greater, I presume to say, To give your person, than your goods away. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxviii, 'Nevertheless,' said the King, 'it is not our pleasure so to put thee in venture'.

β. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iii, One that hath now made the sixth returne upon venter. 1623 T. SCOT *Highw. God* 75 The venter and hazard is the buyers and the sellers, but the certaine gaine fals betwixt both to the usurer. 1640 HABINGTON *Edw. IV*, 90 When she perceived the Lords earnest to have the Prince present in the battle, shee violently opposed. In respect of his youth, want of experience, and she so mighty venter.

† **b.** *To run the venture of*, to run the risk of.

1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 109 To run the venture of the gallows rather than the venture of starving. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 164 [He] had rather forego his known right than run the venture of doing even a hard thing.

3. An act or occasion of trying one's chance or fortune; a course or proceeding the outcome of which is uncertain, but which is attended by the risk of danger or loss; an enterprise, operation, or undertaking of a hazardous or risky nature.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* E j b, *Gronno.* Wilt thou venter thy life for a man so fondly? *Pithias.* It is no venter, my friende is iust, for whom I desire to die. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* IV. i, I'll be your scholar, I cannot lose much by the venture sure. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* Ded. Let. A 4 Your Charity..made you so resolute and pressing to have me run a Venture, which you are pleas'd to think but a very Small One. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 181 The rest, which they durst not remove, for fear of endangering all at one venture. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* VII. xxiii, No bailiff dared to enter; A man would lean upon his face, For fifteen months,..The yawn of such a venture. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl* II. v. 60, I made the desperate venture of sending off my..huntsman..to find the Esquimaux. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 326 He deemed it better not to make his great venture till he had strengthened his force.

transf. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* I. 7 A kind of probationary venture of the will.

† **b.** In the phrases *to put in* or *to a* (or *the*) *venture*, to hazard or risk. *Obs.*

1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 18, I have put my selfe to the venture to goe as far as Gascogny to seek you out. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 101 He resolved to put all in a venture. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 146 How loath would I bee..to have the matter put to a venture. *c* 1670 M. BRUCE *Gd. News in Evil Times*, etc. (1708) 33 This Love of Christ makes us put all to the venture; what loss had this poor Women that put their All to the venture for him? 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 303 As soon as they have paid their Debts, what is left they put to the venture. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Adventure*, to venture, or put to the Venture, to hazard.

† **c.** *To give the venture*, to make the attempt.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 58 That although the people were blacke and naked, yet they were ciuill: so that hee would needs giue the venter without the consent of the rest to go without weapon. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 194 Then Patroclus gave the venture. 1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* 98 However I will give the venture, and make as..profitable a discovery, as the times enable me, of the whole World.

d. An adventure or remarkable feat, incident, etc. *rare.*

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. i, The race of yore, Who..told our marvelling boyhood legends store, Of their strange ventures happ'd by land or sea. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vi, The ventures of the Greeks are surrounded by such a multitude of imagined dangers, that [etc.].

4. An enterprise of a business nature in which there is considerable risk of loss as well as chance of gain; a commercial speculation.

1584–7 Greene *Cards of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 145 Your venter was much, but your gaines such, as..you are like to liue by the losse. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 270 Hath all his ventures faild, what not one hit? 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* I. ii, If you died to day, And gaue him all,.. What large returne would come of all his venters. 1610 — *Alch.* II. ii, But I buy it. My venter brings it me. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 3 Oct., I heard the Duke speak of a great design that he and my Lord of Pembroke have..of sending a venture to some parts of Africa, to dig for gold ore there. 1820 Crabbe *Borough* xvii. 219 Of both he keeps his ledger:—there he reads Of gainful ventures and of godly deeds. 1867 Smiles *Huguenots Eng.* i. 5 [He] agreed to join them in their venture, and supply them with the necessary means. 1884 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 465 Inducing other people to spend their money..on such a venture as a limited company.

b. That which is ventured or risked in a commercial enterprise or speculation.

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 69 There's a whole Marchants venture of Burdeux-Stuffe in him. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iii, He may pricke his foot with a thorne, and be as much as the whole venter is worth. *a* 1764 R. Lloyd *Temple Fam.* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 135 The consequence has Æsop told, He lost his venture, sheep and gold. 1771 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 3 June, As to merchandise, the few ventures he took out with him, he has brought back unchanged. 1814 Canning in *Croker Papers* (1884) I. 57 It is the ship *Kingsmill*,. destined for the East Indies...She is a venture of 40,000*l* 1841 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 565 The importer is now enabled to bring his goods into this country, without being obliged to pay the duties until he finds for his venture either a foreign or a home purchaser.

† **5.** Chance or risk *of* something (*Sc.*); also *elliptically*, chance of being efficacious or beneficial. *Obs.*

1623 Lodge *Poore Mans Talent* Wks. (Hunt. Cl.) IV. 16 Dropp..two or three dropps into your eies. If you could get the liuer of a buck and mix it with these, it would bee the better, and the water would haue greater venture. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. lxxviii. 200 Your Lordship hath now a blessed venture of winning court with the Prince of the Kings of the earth. 1671 M. Bruce *Gd. News in Evil Times* Pref. (1708) A 2, That it is better for you to come and take your venture of suffering nor bide away.

6. The (or an) act of venturing upon something; an attempt *at* some action; also, the means or result of so venturing.

1842 Lover *Handy Andy* Preface 6 A few short papers, under the title of this little venture, appeared at intervals in Bentley's Miscellany. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* iv. § 3. 96 There are many forms of so called decoration in architecture, habitual, and received,..without any venture at expression of dislike 1883 Meredith *Earth & Man* i, On her great venture, Man, Earth gazes.

7. = Adventure *sb.* 8. *rare.*

1844 Kinglake *Eothen* vi, Navigating the seas of their forefathers with the same heroic..spirit of venture. 1872 Blackie *Lays Highl.* 26 Who..fled from pomp of Courts.. to win lost souls..with loving venture.

II. † **8.** A prostitute; = Venturer 3. *Obs.*—1

1612 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. vi. 123 Diseas'd ventures That play with all Infirmities for Gold, Which rottennesse can lend Nature.

† **9.** One who or that which ventures *out*. *Obs.*—1

1702 in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 123 The cruisers.. may pick up all ventures out without hazard.

10. *Venture-girl, -miss*, a girl or woman who goes to India in order to get a husband.

1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* iii. II. 287 It was a rule in the carnal bazar of Bengal for Venture-Misses to take the first man who proposed. 1836 — *G. Gurney* III. 107 Mrs. Nubley was a venture girl from England.

Venture (ve·ntiŭr, -tʃəɹ), *v.* Forms: α. 5–7 venter (6 ventre). β. 6 ventur (*Sc.* ventour), 6– venture. [Aphetic f. *aventure* Adventure *v.* Cf. prec.]

I. 1. *trans.* To risk the loss of (something); to expose to the chance of loss or injury, esp. in the hope of obtaining some advantage or gain; to hazard, risk, or stake.

Freq. const. with preps., as *for, in, on*, or *upon*.

α. *c* 1430 Lydg *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 109 Alle ys for your love, madame, my lyfe wold I venter, So that ye wylle graunt me, I have desyryd many a wyntter. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 260 Som of the religion and league of the Protestauntes..wil venter their lives & spend their blud in this war. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 101 And Prince of Wales, so dare we venter thee, Albeit, considerations infinite Do make against it. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* II. 1092 There many thousands are Of Townes and Cities ..Who would conceive it were unjustly done, That he should venter all their wealth in One. 1645 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 306 Hee that venters his life for the libertye of his countrie [etc.]. 1689 Popple tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* L.'s Wks. 1727 II. 418 We are persuaded to venter our eternal Happiness on that Belief.

β. 1573 Gascoigne *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 77 He, lykea venturer..Determined for to venture me and all his worldly pelfe. 1580 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 75 *note*, A girdle ventured by Brothers of the Company in the Lottery. 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* I. i, Many of his Majesties faithfull Su.. states, and not venture 1690 Locke *Hum. Und* II. xxi. § 66 It is a very wrong irrational way of proceeding, to venture a greater Good for a less. 1702 W. Wotton *Hist. Rome* 488 Mamaea, who durst not venture her son thro her overmuch Fondness. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 46 Pope was seized with the universal passion, and ventured some of his money. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. xi. 89 Few people chose to venture a hundred guineas upon the turn of a straw. *c* 1843 Kingsley *Misc.* (1859) I. 34 His whole fortune is ventured in an expedition over which he has no control. 1883–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* April xix, What hour the happy bride Ventures for love her maiden innocence.

b. Const. *to* with inf.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* O ij b, I rather would to shield mine honour, & preuent his shame,..so venter life & limme. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* ccxxvi. (1636) 137 Many men rashly will venter their credit, yea, and sometimes their lives too, to steale Venison. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 76 As D. Junius Brutus ventured his [life], to free Rome of Tarquin. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 4 April, Himself and three more would venture their carcasses upon it to pay all the King's debts in three years. 1706 Stevens *Sp. Dict.* s.v. *Rico*, *O rico, e pinjado*, Either rich, or hang'd, when a Man ventures his Neck to get Wealth. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. ii. 17 The Commodore did not care to venture the ships long boats to fetch the water off. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* II. (1868) I. 59 To further this end, many leading personages in France avowed their determination to venture their lives and their fortunes.

c. In proverbial use, esp. in the phrase *nought* (or *nothing*) *venture, nought* (or *nothing*) *have.*

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 31 Nought venter nought have. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 42 Nought venter nought haue, is a saying of old. 1604 [? Chettle] *Wit of Woman* C 4 b, And she that will not venter her egges shall neuer haue chickens. 1668 Sedley *Mulberry Gard.* III. ii, Who ever caught any thing with a naked hook? Nothing venture, nothing win. 1777 Boswell in *Life Johnson* (1904) II. 145, I am, however, generally for trying, 'Nothing venture, nothing have'. 1885 *Cent. Mag.* XXIX. 186 'Nothing venture, nothing have,' Betty replied saucily.

† **d.** *To venture a joint*, to take some risk. *Obs.*

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 173 To trust without heede is to venter a ioint. 1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) 17 The poore woman..promised to venture a ioynt, but shee would further him.

2. *refl.* To risk (oneself); to dare to go. Now *arch.*

Const. with preps., as *in, on, upon, with*, or adverbs of place, as *abroad, thither.*

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 80 For better it is to fecht it, .With speir men and weir men, and ventour our sellis. 1597 Delonky *Gentle Craft* (1912) 169 Lo thus her selfe she ventred, And streight her streets we entred. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 91 Yet so venture thyselfe as a forlorne wretch upon the Lord. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 92 For who being of the Demonologists opinion.. will..so much as venture himself in a sound Boat? 1705 Addison *Italy*, etc. 518 We were advis'd by our Merchants, by no means to venture our selves in the Duke of Bavaria's Country. 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* xi. 108 When I was to Cross this River at Boad, I durst not venture myself on the Flotes. 1746 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 153 One so..delicate in her constitution, that she dares not venture herself abroad in the open air. 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb.* IV. i, Dare you venture yourself alone with me? 1825 Scott *Talism.* xxiii, Was it not through thy conversation..that I ventured me thither in disguise.

3. To take the risk of sending, or causing to go, where loss or detriment is possible. Now *rare.*

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 192 Others like Merchants venter Trade abroad. 1611 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 552, I have thought good to venture these with ye Frenche poste by ye way of Lyons. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* II. 82 The streame..he found so exceeding swift, that it was like to be dangerous to venture our horses ouer 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 173 No body would venture their Goods into Mingrelia. 1707 Dobson in Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II 83, I can't think any Gentlemen will venture their Sons here. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., Which induces me to venture this letter to your house at London. 1734 in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 77 As I would not venture my character abroad in the world without the advice of those who have succeeded in it. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 520 Like something precious ventur'd far from shore, 'Tis valued for the danger's sake the more. 1814 Scott *Diary* 19 Aug. in *Lockhart*, Our own log-boat being too heavy and far too valuable to be ventured upon this Cocytus.

b. To risk entrusting (a thing) *with* a person, or letting go *out of* one's hands.

1618 Fletcher *Chances* III. i, Now could I willingly.. Venture my Body with thee. 1666 Bunyan *Grace Abound.* § 329 But yet..I must venture you all with God, though it goeth to the quick to leave you. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. ii, I apprehended they might be lost or spoiled, if I ventured them out of my possession.

II. 4. To run or take the risk of (something dangerous or harmful); to brave the dangers of (ice, water, etc.).

Passing into sense 5, and now *rare.*

1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict.* s.v. *Coeo, Societatem periculi coire*, to venture the..daunger of a thing with an other. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 67, I was determind fully, too ventur al hazards, Al Troy too trauerse, too suffer danger al hapning. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Ireland* (1633) 156 Such as would not venter the water, were slaine by the English. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. iii. 77 Why, who would not make her husband a Cuckold, to make him a Monarch? I should venture Purgatory for't. 1675 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 120 That they had rather venter hanging than starving. 1707 Freind *Peterborow's Cond. Spain* 38 They were unwilling to venture the disorders that might have happened to their Army. 1741 Lady Hartford *Corr.* (1805) III. 3 Eighty-one of them ventured his resentment. *a* 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 213 They could hardly believe his relation that I threw him into the water, and ventured my own drowning to procure his. 1843 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xl. (1856) 362 The temptations of the flesh were too much for me: I ventured the ice.

b. To risk allowing (a person) *to* do something.

1710 Addison *Spect.* No. 21 P 8 A Man would be well enough pleased to buy Silks of one, whom he would not venture to feel his Pulse.

c. To risk trusting or confiding in (a person).

1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb.* IV. i, Well, this once I'll venture you. But if you disparage me—. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. iv. ii. 92 His Sepoys deserted for want of pay, and he durst not venture them in sallies.

5. To dare, or have the courage, to attempt or undertake (some action); to risk the issue or result of; to venture upon (see 9 b).

1595 Shaks. *John* IV. iii. 5 The Wall is high, and yet I will leape downe...I am afraide, and yet Ile venture it. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* II. xv. (1622) 54 Catualda..ventured a reuenge. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. viii. 62 O Conner did undertake that the Connaught men should not..take our parts, being the only encouragement of the English, to venter this Enterprise. 1650 Milton *Eikon.* (ed. 2) Pref. A 3, It shall be ventur'd yet, and the truth not smother'd, but sent abroad. 1742 C. Middleton *Cicero* III. xi. 230 For we neither think it safe to venture a battel, nor [etc.] 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 257 It hunts about to find out the web of another spider,..with whom it ventures a battle. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* I, Miss Bertram accompanied her friend..without venturing a second glance at the object of her terror. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 71 The garrison did not wait to make closer acquaintance with men who would venture such an enterprise. 1879 — *Cæsar* xxii. 384 No more opposition was ventured by the Greek cities.

b. To dare to give, put forth, or express (an opinion, statement, etc.); to make or utter tentatively, or with some degree of presumption.

1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 101 A prudence that is so..scrupulous, that feares to venture a word for a vertuous friend. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* II. xxvi, I..ventured a sly joke at the good effects of matrimony. 1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 64 Those who had not the shadow of a ground for venturing any statement at all. 1906 Marj. Bowen *Viper of Milan* viii, 'They say in Milan Lady Valentine is to marry the Duke of Orleans,' Tomaso ventured presently.

† **c.** With *abroad*: To risk publishing (an article, etc.). *Obs.*

1674 Boyle *Excell. Theology* Pref. 3 The Philosophical papers I have hitherto ventured abroad. 1709 Chandler *Eff. agst. Bigotry* Ded. A 2 b, When I first ventur'd it abroad in the World, I expected the Fate that usually attends such as attempt to part a Fray, even to be box'd on both Ears.

III. 6. *intr.* To risk oneself; to brave the risks or chances of a journey, voyage, etc.; to dare to go or proceed. Const. with preps. and advs.

1534 in *Star Chamb. Cases* (Selden) II. 292 Your marchantes..venteryng to Iseland for Fyshe. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 1033 If thou venter into straunge landes, And bringe home thynges profitable. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Sabrina* xxii, For love to ayde her, venter in would I. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. 66 Into the great vast deep to venter out. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 92 For who being of the Demonologists Opinion..will dare to venture to either of the Indies. *a* 1727 Newton *Chronol. Amended* (1728) 112 The first men who left the Sea-coasts, and ventured out into the deep. 1797 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* I. 328, I thought not of venturing near this spot till dark. 1823 F. Clissold *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 21 It being half past six, it was considered too late now to venture to the summit. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* II. 239 Venturing on, she came at last to a great hall. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. iii. 46 With a good stock of fresh meat..I can venture away from the vessel to draw supplies from the Esquimaux.

fig. 1610 Donne *Pseudo-Martyr* 133 Olde Monkes were vsed heretofore to be but Coasters,..further then the Contemplation of Heauen, guided them, they did not easily venter. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* III. i, I affect A handsome mistress, and on good terms, Will venture as far i' the fire, so she be willing To entertain me. 1877 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. ix. 104 The archbishop had not ventured so far to be frightened at the first hard word. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xvi, She knew that in love he was the incarnation of caution, and would only venture so far as she encouraged him to come.

7. To run or take risks; to incur the chance of danger, peril, loss, disapproval, etc.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 64 And where as you may preuayle more by other meanes, why wyll you venter with so great daunger? 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 53 It is the token of a high minde to venter for a Queene. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 503 Three Gentle-women were then sent forth to seeke a Knight that would venter in her defence. 1657 T. Jordan *Walks Islington* v. ii, As I live here's Sir R. Lamard that broke the prison; how the devil durst he venter? 1725 Watts *Logic* II. v. § 4 Where the improbabilities of success or advantage are greater than the probabilities, it is not prudence to act or venture. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* I. ii 539 You have deeply ventured; But all must do so who would greatly win. 1895 H. H. Furness *Mids. N. Dream* Pref. p. xxi, In emending Shakespeare's text..those who know the most, venture the least.

b. To be boldly speculative. *rare*—1.

1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* E 4, It is a wonder, that men vnskilled in the diuersities of times, and historia, dare thus ventre in so great matters.

c. To take part in, invest in, a financial venture or speculation. *rare*—1.

c 1620 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1915) 80 The Lottery shall be presently removed..with speciall care of the Governors that the poor be not suffered to venture.

8. With inf.: To dare, presume, go so far as, be so bold as (*to* do something).

Common from *c* 1610; in later use frequently in weakened sense (cf. next).

1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* E 4, A Quene in Illiria, who durst venture to withstand the Romains. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* D b, The bolle Patriarche..neuer venturde to alienate the possessions of Idolatrous Priestes. 1609 Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 11 Blakets, which, nere a souldier there durst venter to breake. 1636 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, New Year* iv, Upon the Brink..We should stand shivering, and but slowly venter The Fatal Flood to enter. 1699 Burnet *39 Art.* xviii. 173 Instead of stretching the

severity of Justice..we may rather venter to stretch the Mercy of God. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 252 He would at any time venture to send his two sons into the mine. 1776 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 335 Why do you venture to repeal the duties upon glass, paper, and painters colours? 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* lv. VII. 71 Archias ..did not even venture to cross over to the Arabian side of the Persian Gulph. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 617 Thirty times the fugitives ventured to look through the outer hedge: but everywhere they found a sentinel on the alert. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Ecl.* VIII. 108 Over thy shoulders fling them, nor venture behind thee to look!

b. Used with reference to the expression of opinions, etc.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 354 Some of these..were by a new English Saxons name called Wiccij: but whereupon, I dare scarse venture to guesse. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* xviii. 134, I should not undertake to answer so difficult a question, and should venter to say no more. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 95, I humbly venture to say, all these things may be done. *a* 1774 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* IV. iii. 203 If you observe those people who pretend to be fullest of doubts you will find them most fond of that positive phrase, I will venture to say. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 297, I now ventured to pronounce, that what I took for a bilious fever was in reality the influenza. 1850 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 2) 98 The view which I would venture to suggest is, that such vibrations are themselves electricity or magnetism. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 244 The sound of the voice which reaches and educates the soul, we have ventured to term music.

9. *To venture on* or *upon*: †a. To make trial of (a person or animal); to dare to advance upon, approach, or attack. *Obs.*

?*c* 1500 *Everyman* 484 in Pollard *Eng. Mir. Plays* (1890) 87 Yet will I venter on her now. My Good Dedes, where be you? 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi, The sly Rhinocerot: Who..doth venter Upon his Foe. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 618 Being irefull, on the lyon, he [the boar] will venter [*prime* enter]. 1631 A. Wilson *The Swisser* II. iii, I'le venture on the Beauty. (He kisses her.)

b. To attempt or undertake (something of a dangerous or difficult nature) without assurance of success; to accept or take the risk of (an action, course, or proceeding); to dare to do, make, or take (something), realizing that a risk is being run. †Also with *of*.

1557 Cheke *Lat. to Hoby* in Hoby *Courtyer* (1561) Z 2 v, If the old demisoned wordes could..ease this neede we would not boldly venture of vnknowen wordes. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 282 There is no daunger so great, that they wyl refuse to venter vpon for his preseruation. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* I. ii, Can he endure no noise and will venter on a wife? 1652 H. L'Estrange *Amer. no Jewes* 7 To venter upon such another voyage as Noah's. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 121 P 1 They never venture upon the Fruit of any Tree,..unless they observe that it is marked with the Pecking of Birds. 1755 Young *Centaur* I. Wks. (1757) IV. 123, I venture on it out of what I conceive to be charity, greater still! 1782 Cowper *Charity* 6 A task I venture on, impell'd by thee. 1853 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 296 Not only could they have no semblance of a public meeting, but they could not even venture upon the slightest approach to.. lesser gatherings. 1876 'L. Carroll' *Hunting Snark* II. xviii, The third is his slowness in taking a jest, Should you happen to venture on one.

10. *To venture at*, to make a venture or attempt at; to guess at.

1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, II. I. 156 [It is] held for certaine The King will venture at it. 1653 More *Antid. Ath.* II. xii. § 17 To view the asperities of the Moon through a Dioptrick-Glass and venture at the Proportion of her Hills by their shadows. 1671 R. Bohun *Wind* 85 Wee might likewise venture at a better account. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 158 They cannot venture at that sort of tillage. 1736 Ainsworth I. s.v., Mankind will venture at anything. 1823 J. Simpson *Ricardo the Outlaw* I. 24 She debated for a few minutes, which door she should venture at. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xx. 308 The only time he..ventures at a reason for what he says.

Hence **Ventured** *ppl. a.*

1623 Massinger *Dk. Milan* II. i, Is this The fair return of both our ventured favours! *c* 1625 Bradford *Plymouth Plant.* (Massach. Hist. Soc.) III. 201 The cattle were ye best goods, for ye other, being ventured ware, were neither at ye best, nor at ye best prices. 1892 J. B. Mayor *Ep. James*, Author p. xxiv, His mother..did nevertheless..draw upon herself his reproof for ventured interference.

†**Ventureling.** *Obs.*—[1] In 6 **venterlyng.** [f. Venture *sb.* or *v.*] A young or petty adventurer.

1560 Bullein *Bulwarke, Dial. Sorenes & Chir.* 27 b, It is not to be marueiled, that soche venterlynges and younglinges, stomble so ofte at a strawe.

Venturer. Also 6 **venterer**, **-our.** [f. Venture *v.* Cf. Adventurer and It. *venturiere.*]

1. One who ventures, in various senses; an adventurer.

1530 Palsgr. 284/2 Venturer on the lande, *aduenturier. Ibid.*, Venturer on the see, *pirattе.* 1538 Tonstall *Serm. Palm Sund.* (1823) 67 To make this realme a praye to al venturers, al spoylers,..all rauenours of the worlde. *a* 1560 Phaer *Æneid* x. (1562) G g j b, Fortune is frend to venturers, and cowards hateth most. *a* 1631 Donne *Poems* (1635) 274 No family Ere rigg'd a soule..With whom more Venturers more boldly dare Venture their states. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* Pref. a 6, Lastly for Detraction and Censure..it is more my scorn than feare, and ought to be to any Venturer abroad into publike view. 1727 in Bailey (vol. II). 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxviii, A visit to the gaming-table—not as a heated, anxious venturer, but [etc.]. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 447 The next night Prince Louis Bonaparte and his fellow venturers destroyed the French republic. 1870 O. W. Holmes *Post. Breakf.-t.* vii, No Arctic venturer on the waveless sea Feels the dread stillness [etc.].

fig. 1624 Donne *Serm.* (1649) II. xlix. 463 Was God a venturer with me in my sinne?

transf. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 201 Airy leaves of woodbine..Are earliest venturers to unfold their buds.

†b. (See quot.) *Obs.*—[1]

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 129 The venturers with the sword were 60. thousand in number [*marg.*, *Gli Venturieri da spada*, are a kind of venturing souldiers, who commonly are wont to folow the army in hope of the spoile.].

2. One who undertakes or shares in a commercial or trading venture, esp. by sending goods or ships beyond seas; a merchant-venturer.

1557 Recorde *Whetst.* a ij, The gouerners, Consulles, and the reste of the companie of venturers into Moscouia. 1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 3 What traffique should a venturer haue [etc.]. 1621-3 Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* I. i, I meant to be a venturer in this voyage. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* I. iii, You were..the main venturer In every ship that launched forth. 1661 Webster *Cure for Cuckold* III. iii, This beginning May make us of small venturers to become Hereafter wealthy merchants. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* vi. 88 The great Capitalist whose imperial sway is more withering than despotism itself, to the enterprises of humble venturers.

†**3.** A strumpet or prostitute. Cf. Venture *sb.* 8. *Obs.*—[1]

1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* II. ii, *Mist. Just.* Had thy Circæan Magick me transform'd .. that I were turn'd common Venturer, I could not loue this old man.

†**Ventureship.** *Obs.*—[1] In 6 **venter-.** [f. Venture *sb.*] Venturousness.

1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cxxx. 801 For there must bee no ventershippe in this behalf.

Venturesome, *a.* Also 7, 9 *dial.*, **venter-.** [f. Venture *sb.* or *v.* + -some.]

1. Of persons: Disposed or ready to venture or take risks; bold, daring; = Venturous *a.* 1.

1677 Gilpin *Demonol* I xviii. 155 Even as courage whetted on and enraged, makes a Man ventersome beyond the due bounds of prudence, or safety. 1698 Hearne *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 134 Does he not make his Hero more Rash than Wise, and more Venturesome than Ambitious? 1798 Edgeworth *Pract. Educ.* (1811) II. 345 We should even in trifles avoid every circumstance which can tend to make girls venturesome. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 214 He was most venturesome in his schemes for action. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *Lond. of To-day* xxix. (ed. 3) 262 Some persons.. are sufficiently venturesome to visit Billingsgate when at the high-tide of business.

2. Of the nature of, characterized by, or involving risk; hazardous, risky.

1661 in *Phanix* (1721) I. 84 These two last Opinions of the Father, which seem the most bold and venturesome of all the rest. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. iii. 391 It must ever redound unto the honour of his memory, that bold and venturesome act of his. 1755 Johnson, *Hazardable*, venturesome; liable to chance. 1849 Dana *Geol.* IX. (1850) 451 From the sunny plain above, the streamlet made the venturesome descent. 1885 *Public Opin.* 9 Jan. 28/2 General Stewart has returned safely from his venturesome ride across the desert.

Hence **Venturesomely** *adv.*, **Venturesomeness.**

1727 Bailey (vol. II). **Venturesomly*, daringly. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* LIV. 597 To a butterfly also, may we venturesomely compare this strange..tome of weird verse. 1883 *Evang. Mag.* Aug. 343 The rocks toasted almost enough to blister the hand that should venturesomely touch them. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Fool Hardiness*, Rashness, Temerity, a Thoughtless **Venturesomness.* 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. 236 She seem'd full of Wonder at my Resolution and Venturesomeness. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 16 Did ever one hear of such venturesomeness? 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* III. xxiv, A handsome girl, whose lively venturesomeness of talk has the effect of wit.

†**Venturine.** *Obs.* [ad. It., Sp, or Pg. *venturina*, = F. *aventurine* Aventurine.]

1. (See quots.)

The sense is not recorded for the Continental word, and may be due to some misunderstanding.

1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s v. *Japan*, That it [*sc.* varnish] may not dry before the Venturine or Gold-Wire reduced to powder is sifted on it. *Ibid.*, *Venturine* or *Aventurine*, is the most delicate and slender sort of Gold-wire, us'd by Embroiderers, &c. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 442 As for the black and venturine, you must first lay a coat of varnish on the wood [etc.].

2. *Venturine-stone*: (see quot. and cf. Aventurine 1).

1775 Ash, *Venturinestone*, a kind of transparent stone brought from Italy powdered with a kind of gold dust.

Venturing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Venture *v.*]

1. The action of the vb.; *spec.* engagement or participation in a commercial venture or enterprise.

1548 *Admiralty Crt.* 17 Dec. Exam. 35 Having the licence of the Lorde Protectors Grace to goe a venturing [*i.e.* having a letter of marque]. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 139 Ventryng of much, May haue a lyttle. 1595 [† J. C.] *Alcilia* xlviii. (Grosart) 27 Much good successe men misse for lack of ventring. 1631 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 476 Theire daylie losses sustained in the ventring of theire goods by sea. *a* 1695 Marq. of Halifax *Whs.* (1912) 245 Wise Venturing is the most commendable Part of human Prudence. 1706 Stephens *Sp. Dict.* I, *Arriesgamiento*, hazarding or venturing.

†**2.** *Venturing pin*, a disposition to use, or the habit of employing, the phrase 'I venture to say'. (Cf. Pin *sb.*[1] 15.) *Obs.*

1671 Eachard *Obs. Answ. Cont. Clergy* 23 Thus far I durst venture to say, (seeing that we are yet upon the Venturing-Pin) that [etc.]. 1680 *Refl. Late Libel Curse-ye-Meroz* 5, I know him by the same old, insipid, phlegmatic-style, the same old Suppose's, Dilemma's, and venturing-pins.

Venturing, *ppl. a.* Now *rare.* [f. as prec.] Of a person: That ventures; engaged or engaging in a venture; venturous.

15.. *Vox populi vox Dei* 288 in *E. P. P.* (Hazlitt) III. 278 For of one C ye have not ten, That now be marchantes ventring men. 1599 [see Venturer 1 b]. 1626 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VII. 536 Enginers, stronge laborers and ventringe pioners. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* S iv b, In the High and Low Peaks, where ventureing Miners get but small Quantitys of Bocas.

†b. Of an expression: Bold, daring. *Obs.*—[1]

1682 N. Culverwel *Lt. Nature* xi. (1652) 79 The Stoicks ..have indeed some doting, and venturing Expressions.

Hence **Venturingly** *adv.*

1834 Fawcett *Rutherford* i, 'They were very nice people ..', Rutherford proceeded, somewhat venturingly. 1893 *Sunday Mag.* July 465/1 He bent down and touched the child's cheeks venturingly with a hard, horny finger-tip.

Venturous (ve·ntiũrəs, ve·ntʃərəs), *a.* Also β. 6–7 **venterous.** γ. 6 **ventrus**, 6–7 **ventrous**, 6–8 **vent'rous.** [Aphetic f. of Adventurous *a.* after Venture *sb.* and *v.*]

1. Of persons, etc.: Disposed to venture upon or undertake something of a dangerous or risky nature; willing to take risks or incur danger; bold, daring, or enterprising in action or opinion; adventurous, venturesome. Also const. *at*, *in*, *of*, or with *to* and inf.

a. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* ¶ iii b, I waxed venturous, and like a confident fellowe amended my pase. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 63 b, I count those, which wil vndertake to speake of euerie matter, rather venturous than learned. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. (ed. 3) 328 Skenk a Frieslander and Sir Roger Williams a Welshman, two venturous men. 1694 Kettlewell *Comp. Penitent* 21 A most presumptuously venturous and daring Sinner. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 110 But I had no need to be venturous; for I had no Want of Food. 1800 Wordsw. *Brothers* 275 Every corner Among these rocks, and every hollow place That venturous foot could reach. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* II, I know I am but too apt to be venturous in action. 1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xi, The directress was very prudent, but she could also be very venturous.

β. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* Pref. p. ii, It is nowe approoved by the venterous travellour..Martin Frobisher. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 94 Thou art not, more venterous to challenge the combatte, then I valiant to answere the quarrell. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 156 Some bold and venterous Empiricke, who made great boast of his deepe skill. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Tri.* 101 Taking vpon him (as he is very venterous) to answer an argument. *a* 1666 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 256 The noble and ventrous sparke, Phelim mc Tuhill Oneylle.

γ. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 71 His ventrous manhood and valure. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* C v b, All the Armie, ventrous, valorous, bold. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 249 Let a besieger of a City be too ventrous, and what perill ensueth. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 505 Those who at the Spear are bold And vent'rous. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 89 Savage Pirates seek thro' seas unknown The lives of other's, vent'rous of their own. 1747 Francis tr. *Horace, Odes* (ed. 2) I. xxxi. 16 The golden Goblet let Him drain, Who vent'rous plows th' Atlantic Main.

b. *absol.* with *the.*

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Ffij, And nowe shalt thou trie it, that fortune most vsually fauoures the venterous. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 35 The acts of the ventrous, and the praise of the vertuous.

c. Of things.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Abiciendus*, a venterous shippe. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. Eden 97 But (sacred Pilot) thou canst safely steer My vent'rous Pinnasse to her wished Peer. 1634 Br. Reynolds *Shieldes of Lairth* (1656) 41 Remember a Shield is a venturous weapon, a kind of suretie, which..receives the injuries which were intended to another. 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* I. i, Those venturous blossoms, whose over-hasty obedience to the early spring does anticipate the proper season. 1705 Watts in *Sotheby's Sale Cat.* 30 July (1902) 49 Accept of this first labor of the press, this ventrous Essay of Poesie in so Nice and censorious an Age. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 187 He..drives his venturous plough-share to the steep. 1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. I. 151 The first bud whose venturous head The Winter's lingering tempest braves. 1862 Calverley *Verses & Transl.* (ed. 2) 28 He who erst with venturous thumb Drew from its pie-y lair the solitary plum.

2. Of the nature of a venture; marked or characterized by, attended with, involving, hazard or risk; hazardous, risky.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 114/1 Desperation,. which is wont in ventrous attaires to do much. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. II. 75 It is venturous to set ones fortune vpon the brunt of one sole battell. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 22 The meer venturous and inconsiderate determining of youths to the profession of learning. 1709 Prior *Carm. Sec.* 75 Bloody Wreaths in vent'rous Battels won. 1783 Crabbe *Village* I. 117 The coast vessel..Which to their coast directs its vent'rous way. 1840 F. D. Bennett *Whaling Voy.* II. 186 Now but few seas are entirely free from the visits of ships occupied in this venturous service. 1882 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIII. 277 Twenty years ago the manufacture and sale of artificial manures partook more of the character of a venturous speculation.

b. Marked by, full of, adventures.

1813 Scott *Rokeby* III. ii, And well his venturous life had proved The lessons that his childhood loved.

3. Arising from, indicative of, a readiness to encounter hazard or risk; bold, daring.

1584 *Mirr. Mag.* Epist., If their forfeats were wel knowen, I fere, thei do acts as ventrus. 1587 Turbervy. *Trag. Tales* 74 b, I thinke him such a one as dares Such ventrous parts to play. 1622 Bacon *Henry VII*, 51 Meane men, who would make it their Master-piece of Credite and Favour, to giue Venturous Counsels. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies* III. (1662) 43

He was..knighted by the King for his venturous Activity. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. iii. 346 Bear with my ventrous and bold Approach. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxvii, There was something of romance in Jeanie's venturous resolution. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* viii. 349, I scarce marvel much you took it for a venturous piece of spite. 1877 Bryant *Sella* 21 Her clear, calm eye Was bright with venturous spirit.

b. Of opinions, etc.: Daringly bold or original; going further than the evidence or facts appear to warrant.

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 571 Contrarie then to this orthodoxall doctrine of the Fathers..are these ventrous and bold positions. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 57 One sentence of a ventrous edge, utter'd in the height of zeal. 1681 Baxter *Apol. Nonconf. Min.* 5 Men's uncertain and venturous reports. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 333 Lessing..was distinguished by the venturous originality of his opinions. 1837 J. H. Newman *Prophet. Office Church, &c.* 138 Nothing is gained to the intellect; rather, something is lost by this venturous claim.

Ventrously, *adv.* Also 6 venter-, 6–7 ventrously, 8 vent'rously. [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a venturous manner; boldly, daringly.

a. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xvi. 42 Than venturously they releuyd them. 1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 199, I stode emonge the rest venturously. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 476 To make shifts and expose themselves venturously into any danger. 1651 Fuller *Perkins* in *Abel Redivivus* 435 A difficult taske no lesse valiantly performed than venturously undertaken. 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. v. 324 They..determine venturously upon the first views. 1814 Scott *Wav.* i, I have venturously essayed to read a chapter to the public.

Comb. 1609 Hobbes *Thucydides* 104 You ought not to bee lesse venturously minded against the enemie.

β, γ. *c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 150 He sticketh not venterously to avouch that it was not lawful. 1573 Twyne *Æneid* Ded. A ij, I haue enterprised more ventrously then wisely..to end that which he left vnperfect. 1690 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 170 This agitation of mind..makes the Soule more boldly and ventrously to reflect upon it self. *a* 1696 Hales *Gold. Rem.* (1673) I. 85, I have often wondred with my self, how men durst die so ventrously, except they were sure they died well. *a* 1701 Sedley *Ven. & Ad.* Wks. (1766) 251 He vent'rously again the chace pursues.

Venturousness, [f. as prec.] The character or state of being venturous; boldness, daring, venturesomeness.

1583 Golding *Calvin on Dent.* cxxxvii. 842 Although men ..through their venturousenesse and their rashnes, make a confusion of all thinges, and enterprise whatsoeuer their lust fancieth. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 40 Checking and taming them from old ventrousnesse, and sauciuesse against God. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II i. 11 Though his relation may be credited, his venturousness ought not to be imitated. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Venturousness*, ..Boldness, Daringness, Hardiness. 1828 Webster s.v., The event made them repent of their venturousness. 1908 A. T. Innes in A. B. Davidson *Called of God* 40 The faith which they demand always goes out..with an objective venturousness or heroism.

Ventuse, variant of Ventose *v. Obs.*

Venue (ve·niu). Forms: 4 venov, venev, veneu, 5 venyw, 6–8 venew, 6–7 venewe; 6 venu, fenue, 6– venue. See also Vent 2. [a. OF. *venue* coming, vbl. sb. from *venir* to come.]

I. †1. A coming on, in order to strike; an assault or attack. *Obs. rare.*

a 1330 *Roland & V.* 845 And at anoþer venov, Roland smot vernagu, þat he fel doun to grounde. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 811 Beues in þat ilche venev,..Wiþ is sweid out a slinte Twei tookes at þe ferste dent. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1074 The lyon made a gret venu, And wolde have him al to-rent.

†2. A thrust or hit in fencing; a stroke or wound with a weapon. *Obs.* Cf. Veny 2 1.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Treta*, a fenue at defence, *tactus*. 1600 Holland *Livy* 513 Divers of the guard let flie at Indigemines, who by this time was readie to oppose himselfe, and to ward all venues. *c* 1605 Harington in *Month. Rev.* (1770) 53 Like a perfect fencer that will tell aforehand in which button he will give the venew. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 146 He valiantly charged upon the Rebel, and at the second venew slew him.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 62 A sweet tutch, a quicke venewe of wit, snip, snap, quick & home. 1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* I. Cij, The second venue the Welch-man hath bestowed vpon vs, is a wipe ouer the shinnes of the Non Residents. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 195 Shee had no more any Nunnerie to shelter, but lay open to the venues of Fortune. *a* 1640 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, I've breath enough at all times, Lucifer's muskcod, To give your perfumed worship three venues.

†3. A bout or turn of fencing. Also *fig. Obs.*

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. v, *Mat.* But one venue, sir. *Bob.* Venue! Fie: Most grosse denomination, as euer I heard. 1633 Heywood *Fours Prentices* I. ii, Into the Fencing-schoole, To play a venew with some friend. 1640 Shirley *Love's Cruelty* II. i, Faces about, good Master Fencer!..You and I will try a venue below. 1659 Fuller *App. Injured Innoc.* (1840) 357 If the Animadvertor hath a mind to..have a venue with him to try whose skill is most and weapon best. [1820 Scott *Monast.* xxi, Let us pause for the space of one venue, until I give you my opinion on this dependence.]

II. †4. The action of coming; arrival. *Obs.*—1

†*a* 1400 *Arthur* 307 Eche of þese vyve at her venyw Brouȝt ayn þousand at har retenyw.

†b. *concr.* That which has come; an importation of something. *Obs.*—1

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord.* (1790) 74 To kepe the first venues of wynes in vesselles or shippes..from any sale.

5. *Law.* The county, district, or locality where an action is laid; the place where a jury is summoned to come for the trial of a case. Freq. in the phrase *to lay* (also *fix* or *place*) *the venue.*

1532 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Selden) II. 190 The venewe must nedes be of Stevenage aforsed. *Ibid.* 194 The layng of the venew or issue at Stevenage..to have an indefferent Jury. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 3 Within the saide hundred where the venewe lieth. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 260 *Venew* or *Visne* is a terme used..often in our bookes, and signifies a place next to that where any thing that comes to be tryed is supposed to bee done. And therefore..some of the Jury must be of the same hundred, or sometimes of the same parish in which the thing is supposed to be done. 1664–5 *Act* 16–17 *Charles II*, c. 8 § 1 The Plaintiffe might have demurred and shewen the same for Cause, nor for want of the Averment..or for that there is noe right Venue. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Thus we say, Twelve of the Assize ought to be of the same Venew where the Demand is made. 1796 J. Anstey *Pleader's Guide* I. i. (1826) 5 For Bards and Lawyers, both, with ease, May place the *Venue* where they please. 1826 Syd. Smith *Lett. Electors Cath. Quest.* Wks. 1859 II. 227/1 The *venue* of several crimes imputed to the prisoner is laid in countries to which the jurisdiction of this court does not extend. 1838 Merson & Welsby *Reports* II. 23 The Attorney-General may lay the venue where he pleases. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* I. 350 The plaintiff laid the venue in Warwickshire.

b. In the phrases *to change the venue* or (*a*) *change of venue.*

1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 294 If the defendant will make affidavit, that the cause of action, if any, arose not in that but another county, the court will direct a change of the *venue*, or *visne*. 1796 J. Anstey *Pleader's Guide* To Rdr., Partly owing to..the changing of the Venue in the Trial. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 984 Where the writing and publication are confined to the same county..the venue may be changed into such county. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 134 If we often change a venue because a fair jury cannot be had, why should we not go further to insure justice? 1893 *Times* 3 June 13/4 The dropping of such obvious and effective weapons as secret inquiry and change of venue.

c. The scene of a real or supposed action or event; also *fig.*, a position taken up by a disputant.

a 1843 Southey *Doctor* clxxxviii (1848) 496 When I was young there was no tradition of any such thing in the town where the venue of the action is laid. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 46 Sterne would have done better to have laid the venue of his sentimentalities over a dead ass in Spain rather than in France. 1861 Sala *Dutch Pict.* 269 A something far more..vexatious..changes the *venue* to a kingdom of realities. 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* ii. 38 Here Mr. Froude changes the venue and joins issue on the old battle ground.

d. An appointed place of meeting, esp. for a match or competition.

1857 G. Lawrence *Guy Liv.* iv, A steeple-chase in which both Universities were to take part...The venue was fixed at B. 1884 *Truth* 13 March 363/2 It showed a great want of judgment..to select the former town as the venue for the semi-final tie. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 March 5/4 The question of the venue of the annual meeting: at present this was held on one of four greens.

Venued, obs. variant of Vinowed *ppl. a.*

Venuing, obs. form of Vinowing *vbl. sb.*

Ve·nular, *a. rare*—1. [f. next + -ar.] Marked with veins; veined.

1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* I. 387 The marble statues..present the following colours; milk-white, the same with venular silver-white mica,...and yellowish white.

Venule (ve·niul). [ad. L. *vēnula*, dim. of *vēna* Vein *sb.* Cf. F. *veinule* and Veinulet.] A small or minor vein.

a. *Bot.* 1850 Ogilvie, *Venules*,..the name given to the last ramifications of the veins of a leaf, which intermingle frequently, and form the skeleton. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 8 The branches of the veins are *venules*, and the branches of the venules are *veinlets*. 1866 J. Smith *Ferns Brit. & For.* (1879) 101 Venules arcuately or angularly anastomosing, producing two or more excurrent free veinlets.

b. *Anat. a* 1832 Macgillivray *Nat. Hist. Dee Side* (1855) 171 The minute glandular bodies are all situated on the venules, and are of a circular form. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 91 The white cells accumulate in the small venules in surprising numbers. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 826 The venules on the skin of the nose and cheeks of old people.

Ve·nulite. *rare*—0. [Irreg. f. Venule + -lite.] (See quot. and Venus 1 10.)

1868–72 Webster, *Venulite*, a petrified shell of the genus Venus.

Venulose, *a. Bot.* [f. Venule + -ose.] (See quot.)

1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 236 *Venuloses*, furnished with veinlets.

Venum(ous, obs. forms of Venom(ous.

†**Venundate**, *v. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *vēnum-dat-*, ppl. stem of *vēnum-dare*, var. (by assimilation) of *vēnum-dare* to sell, vend.] (See quots.) Hence †**Venundation**. *Obs.*—0

1623 Cockeram I, *Venundate*, to sell. *Venundation*, a selling and buying. [Also in Phillips (1658).] 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Venundate*, to buy and sell.

Venus 1 (vī·nŭs). Pl. **Venuses** (7, 9 **Veneres**). Also 5–6 *St.* **Wenus**. [L. *Venus* (gen. *Veneris*).]

I. 1. *Mythol.* The ancient Roman goddess of beauty and love (esp. sensual love), or the corresponding Greek goddess Aphrodite.

a 1000 *Sal. & Salm.* (Kemble) 124 Done synfan dæg hi gesetton ſisere sceaſtheorge wydenan Uenus ȝehaten, and Fryeg on Denisc. 1297 R. Glouc. *Chron.* (Rolls) 2433 After him (Jupiter) we honoureþ Venus mest, þat frie ycluped is. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 604 So faire ladies ar none lyuand; Bot me þynkes of yow þre Dame Venus semes fairest to be. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 84 The Cuper set is to Venus, And to his part Mercurius. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 3443 In honour only of Venus, þe goddes, Whom þe Grekis with al her besynes Honoured most of euery maner age. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xiv. 50 Certes, Venus, thou and thy sone Cupydo are gretely to be praysed. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 21 The birdis sang..With curiouse note, as Venus chapell clerkis. 1590 Marlowe *and Pt. Tamburl.* iv. ii, Thou shalt..Sit like to Venus in her chaire of state, Commanding all thy princely eie desires. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 1064 As if this troublesome intruding Guest Would drive the Birds of Venus (=doves) from their Nest. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 824 Certain feasts..Where Venus hears the lover's tender vow. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I. 241 The temple of Venus at Eryx, which was most probably founded by Phœnicians. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 172/2 The native Roman goddess Venus, as distinguished from the Venus who through contact with the Greeks was afterwards identified with Aphrodite.

b. In allusive use: (cf. sense 2).

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3890 Þere wole he outen his langage, And do to Bachus and Venus homage. *c* 1508 *C. Bloudbol's Test.* 62 in Hazlitt *E. P. P.* I. 94 He gaf me many a good certacion..That he had laboured in Venus secret celle. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Mastach*, Sometimes they take Three Drams, without any prejudice, especially when they are about to Fight the Battels of Mars or Venus. *a* 1796 Burns *Lines Windows Globe Tavern, Dumfries*, In wars at hame I'll spend my blood, Life-giving wars of Venus. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* iv. vii. 98 He could not stomach those beauties who call a spade a spade. Such were not for his market; the rites of Venus must be consummated in the temple of Vesta.

c. A representation, esp. a statue or image, of Venus.

a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. Wks. (1904) 301 Cæsar..is like the halfe face of a Venus, the other part of the head beyng hidden, the bodie and the rest of the members vnbegon. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 566 But of all the images that ever were made,..his (*sc.* Praxiteles) Venus passeth, which hee wrought for them of Gnidos. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 May 1645, 'Twixt the pictures two *naked Venus's* by Titian. *Ibid.*, A Venus of marble, veiled from the middle to the feete. 1728 Richardson *Statues etc. in Italy* 134 There is a Venus which stands just by This which is Irreproachable. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 157/2 Many representations of the goddess [Aphrodite]..are extant: among these, the celebrated statue, called the Venus de' Medici, is that with which we are most familiarized. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* iii, The wig-box beside the Venus upon the middle shelf of the book-case.

d. A local or other distinct conception of the goddess; also *transf.*, a goddess in other mythologies corresponding to Venus.

1770 Percy tr. *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* I. 94 This Frea became in the sequel..the Venus of the north, doubtless because she presided for the principle of all fecundity. 1828 Duppa *Trav. Italy*, etc. 136 He also shewed us a little bronze statue of a Venus. 1877 W. R. Cooper *Egypt. Obelisks* vii. (1878) 30 Under the special protection of Hathor, the Egyptian Venus.

†2. The desire for sexual intercourse; indulgence of sexual desire; lust, venery. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneid* IV. Prol. 97 Childir to engener ois Venus, and nocht in vane. 1573 L. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 253 Sardanapalus..was alwaies weryd but never satisfied with Venus. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* iii. 61 It yeeldeth very good nourishment, which..encreaseth seede, and exciteth Venus. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 289 What's more strange, their modest Appetites, Averse from Venus, fly the Nuptial Rites. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xviii. 43 If Venus be his darling Vice. 1746 — *Sat.* I. iv. 148 An honest Venus will indulge your Flame.

†3. A quality or characteristic that excites love; a charm, grace, or attractive feature. *Obs.*

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* I. iv b, Here dwell Venusis and graces of al kynd. 1607 Middleton *Five Gallants* I. i, A pretie, fat eyde wench, with a Venus in her cheeke. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. vi, All the Graces, Veneres, pleasures, elegances attend him. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 236 Know'st not how many Venuses appear In others gold? 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 138 Everyone is a virtuoso, of a higher or lower degree: every-one pursues a Grace, and courts a Venus of one kind or another. *Ibid.* 337 If he knows not this Venus, these Graces (etc.).

†b. Beauty; charm. *Obs. rare.*

1657 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 181 The Garden;..the place now made a waste; all the Venus of the place was gone. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 337 To discover, amidst the many false manners and ill stiles, the true and natural one, which represents the real beauty and Venus of the kind. *Ibid.*, 'Tis the like moral Grace, and Venus, which..is copy'd by the writing artist.

4. A beautiful or attractive woman.

a 1579 T. Hacket tr. *Amadis of Fr.* VIII. 188 (Stf.), One day ye reputed me for a Venus, that rested in your heart. 1675 J. Smith *Chr. Relig. App.* III. 8 The great Beauty of the Land, an Helen, a Venus. 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux Strat.* IV. ii, Had my Spark call'd me a Venus directly, I shou'd have believ'd him a Footman in good earnest. *a* 1824 *Woman's Will* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 62 Witness the Hottentot Venus before she has strung on her beads. 1826 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* I. (1818) 18 The dreams they had indulged in of the sable Venuses which they were to find on the banks of the Congo. *a* 1842 T. Hook *Ned Musgrave* i, The evening on which he first saw this Venus of the village.

II. 5. *Astr.* The second planet in order of distance from the sun, revolving in an orbit between those of Mercury and the earth; the morning or evening star.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 311 Sethþe þe sonne is, Venus sethþe, þe clere steorre. 1297 R. Glouc. *Chron.* (Rolls) 4704 Te tueye sterren, þat me such ylome, Venus & Mercurius, hii wenep þat hii bicome. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1026

The bryght venus folwede and ay taughte The wey, ther brode Phebus down alighte. *c* 1400 *Trait. Astron.* 8 b (MS. Bodl. B. 17), The secunde owre of þe same day is the owre of þe planet Venus. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 11 Fair Venus, the bewtie of the nicht, Uprais. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 107 Let her shine as gloriously As the Venus of the sky. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 530 Venus you retriv'd, In opposition with Mars, And no benigne friendly Stars T' allay th' effect. 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 1695 Sudden to heaven Thence weary vision turns; where...with purest ray Sweet Venus shines. 1772 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 436/2 When Venus appears west of the sun, she rises before him in the morning, and is called the morning-star; when she appears east of the sun, she shines in the evening after he sets, and is then called the evening-star. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts* s.v., Venus changes her phases like those of the moon, according to her position, relative to the earth and sun 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 81 Thus the solid ground of Venus is uneven, like that of Mercury and the Earth.

† 6. *Alch.* Copper. (In quot. 1797 allusively.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 976 Sol gold is,... and Jubiter is tyn, And Venus coper, by my fader kyn. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* 71. 20 The Alcumists giue a blauncher vnto Venus with the salt of Tartar. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. i, The great med'cine! Of which one part proiected on a hundred Of Mercurie, or Venus, or the Moone, Shall turne it to as many of the Sunne. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Copper*, The Chymists call it *Venus*; as supposing it to have some more immediate Relation to that Planet. 1758 [see Jupiter 5 b]. 1797 W. Johnston tr. *Beckmann's Invent.* I. 393 One may justly doubt whether, at present, Mars, Venus, or Saturn, is most destructive to the human race.

† b. So in *crystals, saffron, salt, vinegar, vitriol of Venus* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 901 This very elaborate method of procuring the Salt of Venus. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vitriol of Copper* or *Venus* is Blue Chrystals made by a Solution of Copper in Spirit of Nitre, Evaporation, and Chrystallization in a cool place. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Copper*, The Calx of Brass, called...sometimes...Saffron of Venus, is nothing but Copper calcin'd in a violent Fire. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 62/2 The acetous salt of copper, called crystals of Venus, or of verdigris, by the chemists. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 259 When acetate of copper, reduced to powder, is put into a retort and distilled, there comes over a liquid...and afterwards a highly concentrated acid...The acid...was formerly distinguished by the names of radical vinegar and vinegar of Venus.

† 7. *Her.* A name for the tincture green or vert when the names of planets are used in blazonry.

[1562 Leigh *Armory* 16, I pray you what planet belongeth to this colour [*sc.* vert]? Venus.] 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 78 b, The fielde is parted per Fesse Dented, Venus, and Saturne, five brasaunches. 1680 Sir G. Mackenzie *Her.* 18-19. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vert*, the Heralds Word for a Green Colour;...in Coats of Nobles, 'tis called Emerauld; and in those of Kings 'tis called Venus.

8. The highest or most favourable cast or throw in playing with huckle-bones.

1611 Cotgr. s.v., The play at huckle-bones, wherein he that turns vp Venus (figured on one side of the bone) doth winne; whereas he that turnes vp the dog, doth lose. *c* 1650 in *MS. Ashmole 788* fol. 16a The game of Astragalls...When all ye fower boanes shal shew seuerall sides this is the most fortunate cast & is called Midas or Venus take all Cock-all. 1737 Ozell *Rabelais* III. p. xvi, Venus was the best Cast, three Sices. [1876 Browning *At the 'Mermaid'* xv, Well may you blaspheme at fortune! I 'threw Venus' (Ben, expound I).]

9. *Girdle, mound, mount, ring of Venus*, in palmistry (see quots.); also *mount of Venus*, in anatomy (see quot. 1728).

Cf. *Venus girdle* (1653) in 12 below.

1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II. iii, She has a moist Palm, and an open Liberality on the Mount of Venus. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Mount of Venus, *Mons Veneris*, among Anatomists, is a little hairy Protuberance, in the middle of the *Pubes* of Women. *Ibid.*, Among Chiromancers, the Mount of Venus is a little Eminence in the Palm of the Hand, at the Root of one of the Fingers. 1865 Bramish *Psychon. Hand* 31 The line of Saturn, the ring of Venus, and the line of Apollo. 1894 Paul Brillo *Palmistry* 21 The Girdle of Venus is a line describing a semicircle, extending from between the Mounts of Jupiter and Saturn to the Mount of Mercury. This girdle is generally absent. 1900 Ina Oxenford *Mod. Palmistry* 22 The Mount of Venus encircles the root of the thumb, and is bounded more or less by the Life-line.

10. *Zool.* A genus of bivalve molluscs typically representing the family *Veneridæ*; a member of this genus or family; a venerid. Cf. Clam *sb.*[2] 1 d.

1770 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1777) IV. [p. xiv], Commercial Venus [and various other species]. *Ibid.* 93. 1802-3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) II. 293 A ribbed Venus, rounded at one extremity. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* viii. 228 That lilac-tinted Prickly Venus (*Diona Veneris*). 1880 Bastian *Brain* 75 The Razor-fish Cockle, Venus, and other bivalves possessing...'siphon-tubes'.

β. pl. 1770 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1777) IV. 89 *Tellina rugosa*...Dredged up at Weymouth. Misplaced among the Venuses. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 257 That these supposed fresh-water shells are sometimes found scattered among a multitude of acknowledged sea shells, as, Oysters, Venus's, &c. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 209/2 In the Veneres the animal, furnished with longer siphons, is provided with a retractor muscle.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

11. Simple attrib. (also possessive without '*s*), as *Venus bower, court, knot*, † *mole*, † *star, throw*, etc.

c 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 90 In *Venus Bowr to eik baith game and glew. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* IV. Prol. 139 Lat ws in riot leif, in sport and game, In *Venus court. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 108 If [she is] one of Venus court, they haue vowed dishonestye. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 171, I sweare to thee,...By the simplicitie of *Venus Doues. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1877) 35 Her hair fastened in a sort of *Venus knot behind. 1880 *Swetnam Arraigned* (1880) 45 By Art they know...how to adde A *Venus mole on euery wanton cheeke. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. vi. 5 O ten times faster *Venus Pidgions flye To steale loues bonds new made. 1902 *Edinb. Rev.* Oct. 321 Helen, by reason of the *Venus-spell,...loves Paris. *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* 39 *Venus swannes shall shed their siluer downe, To sweeten out the slumbers of thy bed. 1591 Spenser *Daphn.* 483 And night without a *Venus starre is found. 1611 Florio, *Venere*,...the day or morning star, called Lucifer or Venus star. 1879 Lewis & Short *Lat. Dict.*, *Veneraus*, the *Venus-throw at dice.

b. In sense 2, as *Venus act, exercise, life, play, work*, etc.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 753 Þai solast hom samyn .. With venus werkes, þat hom well pleasid. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 399 He that wantes riches, And valyeandnes in Venus play, is ful vile haldin. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* IV. Prol. 187 With Venus henvifis quhat wyse may I flite? *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 158 That licherie and wenus lyfe hes oft tymes a euill end. 1611 Florio, *Venereo*, .given to Venus sports, or letchery. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 166 Most of them when they were stripped, were seene to have scarres of Venus warfare. 1623 Cockeram I, *Venus-escuage*, wanton fleshlinesse. *Ibid.* III, *Barnacle*, a kinde of Sea Gull, it growes not by Venus act, but as Dubartas writes [etc.]. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 151 Opium .makes them strong and long in Venus exercises. 1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1004 Unless there had been plenty of milk at hand, this Venus bird had died and suffered deservedly for his Lechery. 1786 Burns *A Dream* xiii, A glorious Galley,...Weel rigg'd for Venus barter. 1821 Liddle *Poems* 26 Your venus jobs now's a' kend thro' The Loudins braid.

c. In sense 10.

1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped R Zaire* ii. (1818) 58 Fragments of shells of the cockle and venus genera. 1861 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit. 1860*, 256 The Venus-tribe may be regarded as the types of the Lamellibranchs.

12. Special combs. (of the possessive, with or without '*s*): **Venus** † **gem,** † **girdle,** † **hair, Venus's hair-stone, pencil** (see quots.).

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 621 Such Amethysts as these..; many give them the name of Venus gems, for the great grace that they have...both in fashion and colour. *Ibid.* 629 The stone called Venus haire, is exceeding blacke and shining; howbeit it maketh a shew of red haires sprinckled among. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 49 Venus Girdle is a Semicircle that begins between the fore-finger and the middle finger, and ends between the fourth finger and the little one. 1804 *Imp. Dict.* IV, *Venus's hair-stones*, *Venus's pencils*, fanciful names applied to rock crystals inclosing slender hair-like or needle-like crystals of hornblende, asbestos, oxide of iron, rutile, oxide of manganese, &c.

b. *Bot.* **Venus's basin, bath, the wild teasel,** *Dipsacus sylvestris*; **Venus's comb,** the shepherd's needle, *Scandix Pecten-Veneris*; **Venus's cup, Venus's basin**; **Venus's flytrap,** the North American marsh-plant *Dionæa muscipula*; † **Venus' garden,** = *Venus's navelwort* (*a*); † **Venus' glass,** Venus's looking-glass; **Venus golden apple** (see quot.); **Venus' hair,** the maiden-hair, *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris* (see also quot. *c* 1711); † **Venus' laver,** Venus's basin; **Venus('s) looking-glass,** one or other of certain plants belonging to the genus *Specularia*, esp. *S.* (or *Campanula*) *Speculum* († *Speculum Veneris*); **Venus' navel,** = next (*a*); **Venus's navelwort,** (*a*) the pennywort, *Cotyledon Umbilicus*; (*b*) one or other species of annual plants belonging to the genus *Omphalodes*, esp. *O. linifolia*; † **Venus needle,** Venus's comb; **Venus-pear,** a variety of pear mentioned by Pliny and Columella; **Venus's pride,** *U.S.* (see quot.); **Venus's slipper,** the lady's slipper, *Cypripedium Calceolus*.

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. Oiv b, Dipsacos, called in latin labrum veneris: that is *venus basin, because it holdeth alwayes water. 1578 [see below]. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccccixxi. 1006 Teasell is called Carde Teasell, and Venus Bason. 1671 Skinner, Venus-bason, *Dipsacus vulgaris*. 1763 Stukeley *Palæogr. Sacra* 25 Ladys fingers, ladys traces, ladys linnen, Venus glass. Venus bason,...etc. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.*, Venus Bason, *Veneris labrum*, so named ..from the hollows formed by the united bases of the leaves being usually filled with water, that was used..to remove warts and freckles. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 522 Called in...Englishe, Fullers Teasel, Carde Thistell, and *Venus bath or Bason. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* III. 169 Wild Teazel is still often called Venus's Bath. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1208/1 Venus' bath, *Dipsacus sylvestris*: so named from water collecting in the connate bases of the opposite leaves. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccc. 884 *Pecten Veneris, sive Scandix*, Shepheards Needle, or *Venus combe. 1671 Skinner, Venus-Comb. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Scandyx*, venus comb...The flower is of the rosaceous kind, consisting of several petals, which are arranged in a circular order on a cup. 1763 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xvii. (1794) 238 Venus's-comb is remarkable for long processes or beaks terminating the seeds. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.*, Venus' Comb, from the slender tapering beaks of the seed-vessels being set together like the teeth of a comb. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl.* III. 69 Wild Teazel..is still often called ..*Venus's Cup. 1775 *Ann. Reg.* II. 93 A Description of a newly discovered Sensitive Plant, called *Dionæa Muscipula*, or *Venus's Fly-trap. 1887 A. Gray *First Les. Bot.* (1860) 171 The Venus's Fly-trap..growing where it is always sure of all the food a plant can need. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* vii. (1870) 148 The leaf of the Venus' fly-trap of North America, closing together on its prey by turning on its mid-rib as on a hinge. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxliii. 424 Nauelwort is called..of some *Hortus Veneris*, or *Venus garden. 1621 Cotgr., *Nombril de Venus*,..Wall Pennywort, Venus garden, Hipwort. 1728 Bradley *Dict. Bot.* II. s.v., *Venus Glass*,...*Speculum veneris sive Viola Pentagona*. 1763 [see *Venus basin*]. 1888 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* IV, *Venus' Golden Apple, a common name for *Atalantia monophylla*. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 9 *Venus heir is in a meane tempre betwene hote & colde. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 409 Venus heare groweth in walles, and in stony shadowy places. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 450 Leaves, of venus-haire, and lungwort. *c* 1721 Petiver (*Gasophyl.* VI. liv, Round leaved Malabar Venus-hair. .. Its large notch'd Leaves on single Stalks, distinguish it from others. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* s.v., Venus'-hair, the *Adiantum capillus-Veneris*, given as an expectorant, and forming the basis of the celebrated syrup of capillaire. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 376 The little grub or worme which is found in the bearbe Tazill, called *Venus Laver. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. civ. 356 *Speculum Veneris*, *Venus Looking glasse..groweth in ploughed fields among the corne. 1681 Grew *Museum* II. iii. iii. 234 The Seed of Venus Looking-Glass. *a* 1689 Mrs. Behn tr. *Cowley's Plants* C.'s Wks. 1711 III. 372 But say Corn-Violet, why thou dost claim Of Venus Looking-Glass the pompous Name. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xvi. (1794) 189 Venus's Looking-glass is a Campanula, with a weak, low, and very branching stalk. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.*, Venus' Looking-Glass, from the resemblance of its flowers set upon their cylindrical ovary to an ancient round mirror at the end of a straight handle. 1598 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 24 b, With other murall and wall weeds comming out of the chinkes as.. *Venus Navill. 1625 B. Jonson *Pan's Annivers.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 643/1 Bring..Bright crown imperial, kingspear, holyhock, Sweet Venus-navel. 1878 Phillips (ed. 4), *Venus Navelwort*,..a Plant of Venus, esteemed of great use;..otherwise called Wall Penywort, and Kidneywort. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Omphalodes*, Low Vernal Venus Navel-wort, with a Comfry-leaf, or Lesser Borage. 1767 Abercrombie *Ev. Man his own Gardener* (1803) 104 Hardy Annual Flower-seeds;..Lobel's catch-fly, Venus' navel-wort, dwarf poppy. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 812/1 *Omphalodes*;.. several species are grown in English gardens, under the name of Venus's Navelwort. 1882 *Garden* 10 June 411/3 Small bouquets of pink Brier Roses with Venus's Navelwort. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccc. 884 *Scandix*,.. Venus Coombe, or *Venus Needle. 1648 Hexham II. App., *Venus-peere*, a *Venus-peere. 1879 Lewis & Short *Lat. Dict.*, *Veneræa pirus*, a kind of pear, Venus-pear. 1845-50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 143 The *Houstonia cærulea*. is known by different common names; as Innocence, *Venus's Pride, and Blue Houstonia. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxvii. (1794) 423 It has more resemblance to a wooden shoe in form, and therefore is unworthy the title of *Venus's Slipper, which Linnæus has bestowed upon it.

c. *Zool.* **Venus-basket,** Venus's flower-basket; **Venus('s) comb, Venus's cup** (see quots.); **Venus's ear,** a sea-ear or ear-shell; **Venus's fan,** a sea-fan, esp. *Rhipodogorgia* (*Gorgonia*) *flabellum*; **Venus's flower-basket,** a glass-sponge of the genus *Euplectella*, esp. *E. aspergillum*; **Venus's girdle** (see quots.); † **Venus purr** (see quot. and Purr *sb.*[2]); **Venus' purse,** Venus's flower-basket (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **Venus-shell,** a bivalve mollusc belonging to the family *Veneridæ* or related species; a venus, murex, or cowry; **Venus's slipper** (see quot.); † **Venus-winkle** (see quots. and cf. Porcelain 3).

1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 318 In some the form is constant and characteristic, as in the fairy-like *Venus-basket (*Euplectella*). 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 54/2 *Murex Tribulus*, Linn....This is the *Venus's Comb of collectors, and when perfect is a most delicate and striking shell. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 616/2 The Venus Comb of the Indian seas is..a very..beautiful shell, with many long thin spines. 1885 Lady Brassey *This Yacht* 312 There were.. grey sponges, sometimes called *Venus's cups,—in shape not unlike coral Neptune's cups. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxiv, They fell to gathering shells..like children, ..Trochuses,..and '*Venus-ears', scarlet outside. 1880 Miss Bird *Japan* II. 87 One urn and a large covered bowl are beautifully inlaid with Venus' ear. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* 33 The great stony *Venus's fan which hangs in seamen's cottages, brought home from the West Indies. 1860 Worcester (citing Baird), *Venus's Fan*,..the common name of much branched and reticulated polypes of the family *Gorgonidæ*. 1872 *Good Words* 703 One of the most beautiful of all natural productions, the *Euplectella*, or '*Venus's Flower-basket'. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 121 The beautiful Philippine Venus's Flower-Basket (*Euplectella aspergillum*), which like several of its allies, lives at considerable depths. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* xvi. I. 114 In *Cestum*, or *Venus' Girdle, 'elongation takes place to an extraordinary extent'. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 118 *Cestus veneris* (Venus's girdle), with body much compressed and elongated to a ligamentous form. 1713 Petiver *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. 18/12 *Purpura Veneræa*,.. White *Venus Pur. 1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.* 1703 A sea snaile, or *Venus shell, *cochlea Veneris*. 1618 tr. *De Montfort's Surv. E. Indies* 31 Their Venus-shells consist of certaine kind of earth or clay which hath remaind a 100 yeares in one place. 1666 J. Davies tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isles* 121 The Venus-shells may justly be numbred among the rarest productions of the Sea. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. vi. I. 137 Venus-Shell. *Concha Veneris*. Because beautiful. 1872 A. Domett *Ranolf* 41 ii. 219 Exact as roweate streak for streak Some opened Venus-shell displays. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 204/2 The shells of this genus [*sc. Cerithium*] were formerly known to collectors under the name of '*Venus's Slipper' and 'Glass Nautilus'. 1621 Holland *Pliny* I. 283 The Porcellanes or *Venus Winkles swimme above the water, and with their concavitie and hollow part which they set into the weather, helpe themselves in stead of sailes. 1621 Florio, *Veneria*, a Scallop called a Purcelane or Venus-winkle.

Venus [2], error for Venice, by association with prec.

1689 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 349 Cordage, wheat, Venus cloth. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 485/1

Rhus Cotinus, Venus Sumach, or Wild Olive. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 980/1 *R. Cotinus*, another South European species, called the Venus or Venetian Sumach, yields the yellow dye-wood called Young Fustic.

†**Venust**, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *venust-us*, f. *Venus* VENUS 1. Cf. It. and Pg. *venusto*.] Handsome, beautiful; elegant, graceful; comely in appearance.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. Prol. 87 The variant vestur of the venust vaill. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunterian Cl.) 672 My bird, my bony ane, my tendir bab venust. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Venuste*, faire, beautifull. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 673 Amber is a..Rosine flowing from the incisures of a..Venust tree. 1663 WATERHOUSE *Fort.* 187 As the Infancy of Rome was venust, so was its Manhood notably strenuous. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 270 Nor could [they] have ever thought it [*supra* so Magnificent a Pile] venust enough, whilst they abounded with Pious Benefactors.

Hence †**Venustity**, †**Venustness**. *Obs.*—0

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Venustness*, *Venustity*, beautifulness.

†**Venustate**, *v. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *venustāt-*, ppl. stem of *venustāre*, f. *venust-us*: see prec.] (See quot.) Hence †**Venustation**. *Obs.*—0

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Venustate*, to make beautiful, fair or sightly. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Venustation*, a making handsome or beautiful.

†**Venusty**. *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *venustas*, f. *venust-us* (see VENUST *a.*), or a. obs. F. *vénusté*. Cf. It. *venustà*.] Elegance of form; beauty.

1559 BEECHER *Nobylytye Wymen* (Roxb. 1904) 105 Nature hathe geven hym [sc. man] a bewtye—it is called maiestye, or venustie,..—which passethe all other bewtye.

Venville (ve'nvil). *local.* Forms: 4 **wenge-**, **vengefeild**, **vennefeld**, 6 **vyndefelde**, 7 **fen(g)-field**, **venvill**, 8- **venville**. [Of obscure origin; the suggestion made in quot. 1829 does not account for the earliest forms of the word.]

1. A special form of tenure obtaining in parishes adjoining Dartmoor, by which the tenants enjoy certain privileges in the use of the forest. Usually in the phrase *in venville*.

?13.. in *Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* (1876) VIII. 408 M[emorandu]m quod Tenent[es] d[omi]ni princip[is in] Wengefeild a[ia]s Vennefeld clamant..habere eos articulos et libertates subscript. infra forestam de Dartmoore. *Ibid.*, Et eorum Tenentes iacent in vengefeild [etc.]. 1609 in S. Rowe *Peramb. Dartmoor* (1848) 279 Blacktorrebeare (which is part in the Forest of Dartmoore and part in Venvill). 1794 R. FRASER *Gen. View Devon* 49 It is customary..to take from those not in venville one shilling. 1829 T. MOORE *Hist. Devon* IV. i. I. 473 Many of them belonged to parishes lying in what is called venville, which paid annually for the cattle, when trespassing within the forest bounds, certain compensations, entitled 'fines villarum', thence corrupted into 'fin vil' and 'venville'. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 450/2 Part of the waste [of Dartmoor] is appropriated by the surrounding parishes, the freeholders of which possess the right of common, or as it is termed the right of *venville*, on these appropriated parts. 1887 W. F. COLLIER in *Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XIX. 378 The tenants in venville are said to have the right to take anything off Dartmoor..except green oak and venison

2. *attrib.* with *farm*, *man*, *money*, *rent*, *rights*, *tenant*, etc.

a 1600 in S. A. Moore *Rep. Dartmoor Preserv. Assoc.* (1890) 48 The vyndefelde men of Chagford and Manaton. 1609 in S. Rowe *Peramb. Dartmoor* (1848) 279 Payinge for the same their Venvill rents and other dues as hath bene tyme out of mynde accustomed. *c* 1630 [see FENFIELD]. 1676 in *Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* (1899) XXXI. 140 Paid.. Phillip Andrew for Venvill rent,..[4*s.* 1*d.*]. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. England* II. 26 Many of those lands have a prescriptive right, on the forest, by paying an inconsiderable sum..annually, under the name of Venville money, to the Duchy. *Ibid.* 28 The good estimation in which Venville farms are held. 1829 T. MOORE *Hist. Devon* IV. i. I. 473 The names of the venville parishes are Sheepstor, Walkhampton, Sampford Spiney [etc.]. 1848 S. ROWE (*title*), A Perambulation of the antient and royal Forest of Dartmoor, and the Venville Precincts. 1887 W. F. COLLIER in *Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XIX. 377–85 Venville Rights on Dartmoor.

†**Veny** 1. *Obs.* Also 3 **uenie**, 5 *pl.* **venyse**, **veneis**. [a. AF. *venie* (= OF. *veine* VEYNE), ad. L. *venia* indulgence, pardon, remission.] Pardon or forgiveness; a request for this; the gesture of kneeling or prostrating oneself as an indication of penitence and desire for pardon.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 46 3if ȝe þurh ȝemeleaste gluffeð of wordes ..nimeð ower uenie dun et ter eorðe mid te honden one. *Ibid.* 426 Ase ofte ase heo hit doð..makien hore uenie akneon adun to eor ðe biuoren hire, & sigge 'Mea culpa'. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 141 When sho comes whare the cuuent takis bare venyse, þan sall sho prostrate downe. 14.. in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* II. 279 All other observance of the order as..Inclinacyons, veneis and prostracyons. 1488 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 33 And thanne ȳ came and lay prostrate before hym, askyng my *veny* and rehersyd ageyne my *Confiteor*, etc.

Veny 2. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 6–7 **veny**, **veney**, **venie**, 7 **venee**, **veany**; 6–7 **vennie**, **venney**, **venny**; 8 *dial.* **vinny**, **9finney**. [Alteration of VENUE, with the terminal vowel weakened through loss of stress. Freq. *c* 1580–*c* 1640.]

1. A hit or thrust in fencing; a wound or blow; = VENUE 2.

1576 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controuersie* 97 In daunger to receiue a venny at my hande. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 2. I. 813 A sacred Fencer..Whose two-hand Sword, at every veny,..keenly slyces through whole Troops at once. 1595 *Long Meg of Westminster* vii. (1816) 14 Or else take that staffe and hane a bout with me for thy brakefast, bee that giues the first three Venies scape free. 1632 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 223 The three aforesaid gentlemen, who were wounded in the very same parts of their bodies by other such three venees as these.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context; *esp.* a sharp retort, a pungent remark.

1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* XXXVI. 224 Accompt not these small venies of Sathan for deadly woundes. 1592 GREENE *Def. Conny Catching* To Rdr., I meane, to giue him such a veny, that he shalbe afrayd heereafter to disparage that mysticall science of Conny-catching. 1606 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. If you know not me* (1609) F 4 b, *John.* Name the weapon. *Courtes.* Nothing but kisses, and enticing lookes. *John.* Then ward your lips well, or youle ha the first venney. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 55 That whilst we lye at close ward against one vice we lye [not] open to the vennie of another. 1685 *Life William Bedell* 302 As for these vain flourishes of mine, if he had not taken a veny in them, and found it smart, he had not strook again so churlishly.

c. *Veny for veny*, tit for tat.

1611 CHAPMAN *Widow's T.* Wks. 1873 III. 20 So, there's venie for venie, I haue giuen't him 'ith speeding place for all his confidence.

2. A bout or turn of fencing; = VENUE 3.

1594 GREENE *Fr. Bacon & Fr. Bungay* 1944 Why standst thou Serlsbie? doubst thou of thy life? A venie man: faire Margret craues so much. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 256, I bruiz'd my shin..with playing at Sword and Dagger with a Master of Fence (three veneys for a dish of stew'd Prunes). 1615 HEYWOOD *Foure Prentises* I. i, I am no sooner got into the fencing-school To play a venie with some friend [etc.]. 1673 *Jackson's Wks.* III. 134, I had a Venie or 'Bout for it, and the Intent, though not the Hap, to kill him.

fig. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* III. (Arb.) 28 One Vennie more with thee, and then I haue done. 1628 MYNSHUL *Ess. & Charac. Prison, Jailers* 34 One Venny more, and if that hit, so, if not..I will lay downe the Bucklers. 1644 SIR E. DERING *Prop. Sacr.* Pref. c, And now, my sacrificing Jesuite, stand forth and let us occasionally here try a veny.

3 *south. dial.* (See quots.)

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 139 Dist hire ma, Dem? Chell ha tether Vinny wi' tha. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Vinny*, ..a scolding Bout. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* 11 *Finney*, a frolic; to have to do with. 'I'll hey a bit of a finney at that'; I'll have something to do with that.

Venyed, obs. var. VINNIED *ppl. a.* **Venym(e**, obs. ff. VENOM *sb.* and *v.* **Venymous(e**, **-owe**, **-us**, etc., obs. ff. VENOMOUS *a.* **Venyng**, obs. Sc. f. WEENING *vbl. sb.* **Venyson(e**, **-oune**, **-owne**, **Venzon**, obs. ff. VENISON. **Venyss(e**, obs. ff. VENICE. **Venyw**, obs. f. VENUE.

Veo, southern ME. var. FEE *sb.*1; south-west dial. var. FEW *a.* **Veolar**, obs. Sc. f. VIOLER. **Veolau**, southern ME. var. FELLOW. **Veolaureden**, southern ME. variant of FELLOWRED *Obs.* **Veole**, ME. var. FELE *a. Obs.* **Veol**, 1, southern ME. pa. t. FALL *v.* **Veolthe**, **Veond**, **Veor**, **Veorlich(e**, southern ME. varr. FILTH *sb.*, FIEND, FAR *adv.*, FEBLY *a.* and *adv.* **Veorme**, var. FARM *sb.*1 *Obs.* **Veorne**, **Veorðe**, **Veotere**, southern ME. varr. FERN *a. Obs.*, FOURTH *a.*, FETTER *v.*

Vepe, obs. Sc. f. WEEP *v.* **Vepen**, ME. var. WEAPON. **Veper**, obs. Sc. f. VIPER.

Veprecose, *a. Obs.*—0 [ad. med. or early mod. L. *veprecōs-us*, f. L. *vepres* (*vepris*) brier-bush, bramble-bush.] (See quot.)

1721 BAILEY, *Veprecose*, full of Brambles.

†**Vepricosous**, *a. Obs.*—0 (See prec. and quot.)

1696 BLOUNT, *Vepricosous*, full of briars or brambles.

†**Ver**, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also *Sc.* 5–6 **wer**, 6 **uer**. [a. L. *vēr* or OF. *ver*. In ME. a variant of VERE.] The season of spring; springtime.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* I. 8 He shyneth..as the flour of roses in the dazes of ver. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 91 Whan the clere sonne aroos In grene ver, ful of delyt. *c* 1450 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 435 In whiche yere in the tyme of ver [etc.]. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 27 Ver bigynneth whan þe sonne entrith into the signe of þe Ram. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 226 Syne into ver, quhen that the da grew lang, This king..tuke the feild. 1582 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 197 The more to mourne Our Ladie lost in source of sorrowes shaken Which loe in Ver to heauen hath tane the waye. 1600 *Eng. Helicon* (1887) 253 Ver hath made the pleasant field Many several odours yield.

b. In more or less personified use.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 118 Whan Ver his Seson hath begonne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4037 Ver entrid full euyn, eger with all. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* V. xv. (1554) 138 Ver came in with hys newe grene. *a* 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 8 There might I se how Ver had euery blossom hent. 1588 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 24 Now Lady Ver in liuely greene doth showe her grace in fields. 1877 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* etc. P iv b, When Ver is in hyr pryme. 1630 DRAYTON *Muses Elis.* Nymphal iii. 179 Whilst fresh Ver is flinging Her Bounties abroad.

†**Ver**, *sb.*2 *Obs.*—1 (Meaning obscure.)

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 866 þe ver by his visage verayly hit semed Wel neȝ to vche habel alle on hwes.

†**Ver**, *v.*1 *Obs.*—1 [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* ? To spot or bespatter *with* something.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2373 The vesere, the aventaile, his vesturis ryche, With the valyant blode was verrede alle ouer!

†**Ver**, *v.*2 *Obs.*—1 [Aphetic f. AVER *v.*] *trans.* To aver, declare.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 49 Quyd and othir þat coost were ay, Virgill þe virtuus, verrit for nobill.

Ver, southern ME. var. FAR *a.* and *adv.*, FIR, FIRE *sb.*, FOR *prep.*

Ver, obs. Sc. f. *were*, pa. t. of BE *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WAR *sb.* and *a.*, WERE *sb.* (doubt).

Ver-, southern ME. var. FOR- *pref.*1

†**Vera**. *Naut. Obs.* [App. f. VERE *v.*1] ? A command to let out more of the sheet.

c 1530 *Hichscorner* 302 A-le the helme! a-le! vere! shot of! vere sayle! vera!

Vera, obs. or dial. f. VERY *a.*

Veracious (vērē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *vērāc-*, *vērax* according to truth, that speaks the truth + -IOUS. Cf. next.]

1. Habitually speaking or disposed to speak the truth; observant of the truth; truthful.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) II 63 That God is good, veracious, and faithfull. 1778 JOHNSON *L. P., Swift* (1781) III. 409 The credit of the writers, both undoubtedly veracious. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* Iâli, I am a most veracious person, and Totally unacquainted with untruth. 1839 DICKENS *Nicholeby* XXVIII, The testimony of the two veracious and competent witnesses. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xiii. 431 A witness is presumed to be veracious in this case, in proportion as his love of truth is already established from others.

2. Characterized by veracity, truthfulness, or honesty; conforming to truth; true, accurate.

1777 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 27 Oct., Is not my soul laid open in these veracious pages? 1820–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 718 The testimony which has served as the instrument of the mischief, has been.. veracious. 1868 W. R. GREG *Lit. & Soc. Judgm.* 400 He.. showed His back but not His face to Moses; and dictated the veracious narrative of Balaam and his ass. *a* 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget Parad.* (1872) 250 That it was the most veracious of books written by the most honest of men.

3. That estimates or judges truly or correctly.

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. v, The young ardent soul that enters on this world, with veracious insight,..will find this world a very mad one.

Hence **Vera·ciously** *adv*, **Vera·ciousness**.

1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. III. vii. 405 In Shakspeare, it was fiction, to lay the murder of Duncan, at a place different from Bothgowanan, where the Chronicle has veraciously fixed it. 1860 I. TAYLOR *Sp. Hebr. Poetry* (1873) 63 The veraciousness of the record. 1879 MORLEY *Burke* v. 97 Burke's habitual veraciousness. 1905 *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 719/1 How diplomatists plot..is veraciously related.

Veracity (vēræ·sĭti). Also 7 **veracitie**. [ad. F. *véracité* (= It. *veracità*, Sp. *veracidad*, Pg. *veracidade*), or med.L. *vērācitāt-*, *vērācitās*, f. L. *vērāci-*, *vērax*, f. *vēr-us* real, true.]

1. The quality or character in persons of speaking or stating the truth; habitual observance of the truth; truthfulness, veraciousness.

1623 in COCKERAM I. 1624 H. MASON *New Art Lying* v. 95 Truth morally taken, which hee calleth veracitie. 1678 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 154 A due conformity between the Words and the Understanding, when I speak as I think; which is moral Truth or Veracity. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 87 Veracity..is a moral virtue, and consists in a due conformity of our words, or declarations, with our thoughts. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 57 To send deputies to the Congress of Philadelphia, to that seat of Virtue and Veracity. 1809 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 83 Veracity, therefore, not mere accuracy; to convey truth, not merely to say it, is the point of duty in dispute. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Illusions* Wks. (Bohn) II. 447, I look upon the simple and childish virtues of veracity and honesty as the root of all that is sublime in character. 1900 L. HUXLEY *Life & Lett. T. H. Huxley* II. 427 Huxley's passion for veracity was perhaps his strongest characteristic.

b. *Of veracity*, trustworthy, veracious, truthful. (Also with qualifying adjectives.)

1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* i. 8 Authors..of the greatest authority and veracity. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Suavedra-Faxardo* I. 88 Speaking of a Man of Veracity, we say he carries his Heart in his Hands. 1704 in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 331 Those in this place, of unblemished credit and undoubted veracity, who were witnesses. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 11 The same Author of veracity attests, that [etc.]. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 494 Philosophers, men of veracity, studied the heavenly bodies. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, III. 31 A few instances..from one author alone, of undoubted veracity.

c. This quality as manifested in individuals. Const. *of* (a person) or with possessive.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 114, I..doubt not of the veracity of that noble philosopher. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 81 Authors of that undoubted credit, that no body..will call their veracity in question. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii, Which, after great astonishment, clearly convinced him of my veracity. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. I. xv, All the benefit of conversation, depends upon our opinion of the speaker's veracity. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 2 But for the preparations..going on before my eyes, I should have doubts of my own veracity. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* I. ii 14 The child assents..to the veracity of his mother in her assertion of the inapprehensible.

2. Agreement of statement or report with the actual fact or facts; accordance with truth; correctness, accuracy.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. vii. 369 Mere genealogies..perhaps do carry some presumption of veracity. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 4 P 19 In narratives where historical veracity has no place. 1825 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 275 The character of veracity and simplicity on the very countenance, as it were, of the Gospel. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 316 No picture of life can have any veracity that does not admit the odious facts.

b. Const. *of* or with possessive.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 102 The veracity of the voice of Christ sounding in the Scriptures. 1684 T. GODDARD *Plato's Demon* 200 For Testimony concerning the Veracity of his History, we find even [etc.]. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Hist.*

Relig. (1850) I. 386 Were the tradition of the Scriptures' antiquity and veracity not enough. 1758 LLOYD in *Connoisseur* No. 73. 434 The veracity of these posthumous encomiums may, indeed, be fairly suspected. 1803 *Edwin* I. vi. 89 The band of warriors no longer doubting the veracity of his words. 1843 G. S. FABER *Light Dissert.* (1845) I. 151 Such, at least, is the ancient narrative:..and..I see no reason to disbelieve its general veracity. 1902 HICHENS *Londoners* 42 Finding the veracity of his paragraph thus impugned.

3. Correspondence with external facts; exactness in the indication of these.

1666 BP. S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 59 Suppose that we were born with these congenite Anticipations,..how can I be certaine of their Truth and Veracity? 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, He was under the painful necessity of admitting the veracity of his optics. 1869 F. W. NEWMAN *Misc.* 53 Every Specific Informant [*i.e.* scientific instrument] needs to have its veracity put to the test.

4. That which is true; a truthful statement; a truth.

1852 F. W. ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xvi (1857) 204 It is possible for a man to utter veracities and yet to be false to himself and to his God. 1867 STUBBS *Study Med. & Mod. Hist.* (1886) 18 A world whose falsehoods and veracities are separated by so very thin a barrier.

5. *Comb.*, as *veracity-assuring, -serving.*

1820–22 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 194 According as..the force of..the veracity-insuring..motives is the strongest. *Ibid.* 282 Veracity-serving information, information considered as a source of truth.

Verade, variant of FERRED *Obs.*

Verai, obs. form of VERY *a.*

† Veræment, *adv. Obs.* Forms: α. 4 vere-, 4–6 verrement (4 verree-). β. 4–6 vera-, 4–5 verra-, 5 *Sc.* werrament. [ad. AF. *veirement* (cf. mod. Walloon *vèrement*), = OF. *voirement* (still in dial. use), f. *veir, voir* :—L. *vērus* true. The β-forms may be partly due to the influence of *verraiment* VERIMENT.] Really, truly; = VERIMENT *adv.*

Freq. *c* 1330–*c* 1560, esp. in β-form, often as a mere tag or rime-word.

α. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 651 3yf þou wene þat verement, Hyt ys ayens þys comaundement. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 877 Þu shalt longe verreement Þare þi rihte iugement. *c* 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 485 Many a knyght, verement, To ground was ibore. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 390 These þre poyntes verement Nowþer schale-do, bot boþe assent. 15.. W. BROUN in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunt. Cl.) 138/6 With havy hairt and mekle dreid I red the scriptour verement.

β. *c* 1325 *Lai le Freine* 255 He..bad his man sigge, verrament, He schuld toward a turnament. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 2 Listeneth, lordings, in good entent, And I wol tell you verament Of mirth and of solas. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 6 Fore thou art bounden, go were thou goo,..Ther is no mon may hit undoo Bot he be cursid verament. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 6 The son, the moyne, verament, Thou maide. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 470 Go send for Deid, thus said he verament. 1561 *Queen Esther* A iij b, In their mynde they thyncke verament That either for riches & honour Iustis will doe. 1606 N. BAXTER *Sidney's Ourania* D 4 b, Yet not in any sort colour verament For no colours hath the starrie firmament. 1611 in *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses, He did his homage verament And salued them each one.

b. Quasi-*sb. In veræment,* = prec.

c 1450 *Songs, Carols,* etc. (1907) I. xl. 3 In this tyme God hath sent Hys own Son..To dwell with vs in verament. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1208 It is for gud at he is fra us went; It sall ye se, trast weill, in werrament. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 763 [They] deput ane to gif difinitiue Answer agane..Quhilk Lady hecht Themis in verament. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 247 In verament and sincerity, I neuer crouded through this confluent herring faire.

Veranda, verandah (vĕræ·ndă). Forms: α. 8– **veranda** (8 -do, -der). β. 8– **verandah.** γ. 8–9 **viranda,** -**dah** (8 -do, -der). δ. 8 **feranda, feerandah, verunda, voranda,** 8–9 **varanda, varhandah.** [Originally introduced from India, where the word is found in several of the native languages, as Hindi *varandā*, Bengali *bārāndā*, mod. Skr. *baranda*, but appears to be merely an adoption of Pg. and older Sp. *varanda* (*barunda*) railing, balustrade, balcony. F. *véranda* appears to have been adopted from English.

The evidence for the origin of the word is fully presented in Yule and Burnell's *Hobson Jobson.* The supposition that it was native to India accounts for some of the spellings placed under δ.]

1. An open portico or light roofed gallery extending along the front (and occas. other sides) of a dwelling or other building, freq. having a front of lattice-work, and erected chiefly as a protection or shelter from the sun or rain.

α. 1711 C. LOCKYER *Acc. Trade India* 20 The Building is very ancient, two Story high, and has..two large Verandas or Piazzas. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 84 A penthouse or shed, that forms what is called in the Portuguese Lingua-franca *Verandas*, either round, or on particular sides of the house. 1793 HODGES *Trav. India* 39 These boats..are, however, extremely commodious, having in the center a small verander, or open portico. 1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Introd., Poems (1890) II. 201 The Captain was walking up and down the veranda of a country tavern in Massachusetts while the coach changed horses. 1884 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* xxvii. 325 A crowd of women..take their stand in the veranda of a temple.

β. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 314/1 All around is a wide verandah, containing ranges of cells. 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* V. 208 Emma..advanced to meet Lady Castelton as she quitted her chair at the verandah. 1850 L. OLIPHANT *China & Japan* II. ix. 198 The building itself was in the form of a shed, with very deep verandahs. 1879 R. H. ELLIOT *Written on Foreheads* II. 2 After dinner we will sit in the verandah.

γ. 1752 'PHILALETHES' *Jrnl. Boscawen's Voy. Bombay* (ed. 2) 45 When we got to the Prince's, he was sitting in a miserable little Virando or Piazza. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 219 Hence people get out into the virando's and elsewhere for breath. 1793 HODGES *Trav. India* vii. 146 The space between the angle rooms are viranders, or open porticoes, to sit in during the evenings. 1828 LADY MORGAN *France* (ed. 3) II. 5 The pretty *grisettes*..were..not unconscious.. of the glasses pointed from the virandas of Tortoni's or Hardy's cafés. 1833 N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 284 When a slightly projecting roof, or a viranda, shadows.. the whole front of a house. 1844 DICKENS *Pictures from Italy* (1846) 174 There are virandas and balconies..to almost every house.

δ. 1754–73 E. IVES *Voy. India* I. iii. 45 Near each of the *verandas*, there is a square room with a pillar in the middle. 1784 in *Archæologia* VII. 287 A feerandah, or piazza, which extends from east to west sixty feet. 1786 *Ibid.* VIII. 254 The other gate leads to what in this country [India] is called a *veranda* or *feranda*, which is a kind of piazza, or landing place. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 128/2 His Lordship is supposed to be seated in the east verunda of the government-house. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. 46 Vestibules, varhandahs, .. palanquins and punkahs.

† b. Without article. *Obs.*

1776 *Trial Nundocomar* 33/2 He was not in the room I saw him in yesterday; but in a little room of Veranda.

c. *Austr.* (See quots.)

1873 TROLLOPE *Australia* I. 418 The verandah is a kind of open exchange,—some place on the street pavement apparently selected by chance, on which the dealers in mining shares do congregate. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 489/1 Verandahs .are an architectural feature..of most City shops, where they render the broad side-walks an almost continuous arcade. 'Under the Verandah' has acquired the meaning, 'where city men most do congregate'.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *veranda pillar, -post,* etc.; *veranda-builder, -like* adj.

1892 *Life in Bombay* 17 A support to a light verandah-like roof. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Verandah-builder,* a maker of wire or wood lattice-work. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 204 There is no..climbing plant that can excel this as a covering for veranda pillars. *c* 1890 A. MURDOCH *Yoshiwara Episode* 73 She clasped the verandah post..to keep her from falling in a swoon. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* 106 Cheyne, in a verandah-room,..toiled along wearily from day to day.

Veranda(h)ed, *a.* Also 9 **virandoed.** [f. prec.]

1. Provided with a veranda; furnished with verandas.

α. 1823 L. HUNT *Poems* (1860) 272 Nor would I have Veranda'd windows to forestall my grave; Veranda'd truly from the northern heat! 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 144 The stretch of verandaed hotels and restaurants ..along the shore.

β. 1825 HEBER *Jrnl.* 14 Sept., Three good-sized rooms, verandahd all round. 1865 E. LOTT *Governess in Egypt* 107 The lower basin was surrounded by a marble-paved verandahed walk or terrace. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 145 A large verandahed court.

γ. *transf. a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 84 The whole house is virandoed with shifting Venetian blinds to admit air.

2. Abounding in verandas.

1893 *The Critic* (U.S.) 16 Nov. 316/2 The verandahed South is the home of the open-air *trouvère.*

† Verangene. *Obs.*—[1] [ad. Sp. *berengena.*] = BRINJAL.

1587 HARRISON *Descr. Eng.* II. xx. in *Holinshed* I. 208/2 The nobilitie..adventure further upon such fruits as are verie dangerous and hurtfull, as the verangenes, mushroms.

Ver-arnd, var. *vor-arnd* : see FOR- *pref.*[1] 6 b.

Veratr-, combining form or stem of VERATRUM, occurring in chemical terms, as **veratralbia, -albine** (see quots.); **veratrate,** a salt of veratric acid (1884 *Imp. Dict.*); **veratric** *a.*, derived from or contained in species of *Veratrum*; **veratroidea** (-oidia), = VERATRINE; **veratroidine** (see quot.); **veratrol,** a colourless aromatic oil obtained by distilling veratric acid with excess of baryta.

1876 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (ed. 2) 156 Chas. L. Mitchell.. finds two alkaloids in the rhizome [of *Veratrum album*], one of which he denominates jervia, the other *veratralbia. 1892 *Cent. Dict.*, **Veratralbine,* an alkaloid obtained from *Veratrum album.* 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 251 **Veratric acid,* the acid with which veratria exists combined in Cevadilla. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 395/2 Two special organic acids, to which the names Cevadic and Veratric acids have been given. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* II. 542 Dimethyl-protocatechuic or Veratric acid..is contained in sabadilla seeds (from *Veratrum Sabadilla*). 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 382 This rhizome is stated to contain two alkaloids, *Viridia* and **Veratroidea*;..the latter is insoluble in ether. 1879 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* 156 Recently Prof. Wormley has arrived at the conclusion that veratroidia is identical with veratria. 1892 *Cent. Dict.*, **Veratroidine,* an alkaloid, supposed to be identical with rubijervine, obtained from *Veratrum viride.* 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 997 *Veratrol does not appear to unite with alkaline bisulphites.

Veratria (vĕrē··triă). *Chem.* [f. VERATR-UM + -IA[1]] = VERATRINE.

1821 URE *Dict. Chem., Veratria,* a new vegetable alkali, discovered lately (in July, 1819) by MM. Pelletier and Caventou, in the..cevadilla, the..white hellebore, and the.. meadow saffron. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 251/1 Veratria is a white or greenish-white powder, which has a silky and crystalline appearance under the microscope. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 20 Oct. 2/2 An alkaloid known as veratria or white hellebore. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Mat. Med.* 388 It..does not excite sneezing like the closely allied substance veratria.

Veratrin (ve·rătrin). *Chem.* [f. as next + -IN[1]. Cf. F. *vératrin*.] **a.** = VERATRINE. **b.** Veratrum-resin (Watts, 1868).

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 272 The medicinal properties of the root of Veratrum are owing to a peculiar alkaline principle, called Veratrin. 1866 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* II. 730 Of all remedies, digitalis, aconite, and veratrin are the most useful in tranquillizing the action of the heart. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 726 Ergot, aconite, veratrin,.. and many others have been prescribed.

Veratrine (ve·rătroin). *Chem.* [a. F. *vératrine*, f. VERATR-UM + -INE[5]. The mod.L. form *veratrina* has also been employed.] A poisonous vegetable alkaloid or mixture of alkaloids, obtained esp. from various species of *Veratrum* (as the seeds of *V. Sabadilla* and the root of *V. album*), and used medicinally as an ointment for the relief of neuralgia, rheumatism, etc.; veratria.

1822 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (ed. 3) 257 Its [*sc.* Colchicum] acrimony resides in a peculiar alkali, which can be separated from the other principles, and has been named *veratrine* by M.M. Pelletier and Caventou, who discovered it. 1832 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 362 Veratrine, in the form of tincture, and still more in that of ointment,..is now much used. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 27/1 Veratrine is easily exhausted from the seeds of *Veratrum Sabadilla.*

attrib. 1865 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 259, I got the thing he mentioned, Veratrine liniment. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 997 A solution of a veratrine-salt, mixed with tartaric acid.

Veratrize, *v. rare.* [f. VERATR-INE + -IZE.] *trans.* To drug, poison, or treat with veratrine. Hence **Veratrized** *ppl. a.*

1874 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* 143 These facts, however, do not prove that the convulsions in the veratrized frog are not spinal. 1892 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Veratrum** (vĕrē·trŭm). *Bot.* [L. *vērātrum* hellebore.]

1. A perennial genus typical of the family *Veratreæ* of liliaceous plants; a plant belonging to this genus, esp. the white hellebore (*V. album*); also, the rhizome of this.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lv. (Bodl. MS.), Eloborus;..þe Romayns clepeþ þis herbe Veratrum,..and þerof is twei manere of kinde, white & blacke. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 79 Veratrum..maye be called in englishe Nesewurte.] 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 69 Veratrum, there are two kindes of it, the blacke and the white. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 230 The root of Veratrum or Ellebore..maketh a most excellent medicine to rid it [dandruff] away. 1693 tr. *Biancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Veratrum*, the same with *Helleborus.* 1753 *Chambers's Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The species of white Hellebore, enumerated by Mr. Tournefort, are these: 1. The greenish-flowered *Veratrum.* And 2. The early-flowering *Veratrum*, with blackish purple flowers. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 642/1 Veratrum has likewise been found useful in epilepsy, and other convulsive complaints. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.* s.v., White-flowered Veratrum, White Hellebore. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 448/1 We strongly suspect that all these supposed Veratrums really belong rather to the genus Helonias [etc.]. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 345 Therapeutics [of Veratria]. As veratrum, but much more powerful.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *veratrum family, -leaved* adj.; **veratrum-resin** (see quots.).

1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 69 That all the individuals of the *veratrum* family possessed a very acrid taste. 1843 *Florist's Jrnl* (1846) IV. 156 *Calanthe veratrifolia.* (Derived from veratrum-leaved.) 1853 ROYLE *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 664 Veratrum Wine. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 997 *Veratrum-resin*,..a constituent of sabadilla-seeds. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Veratrum-resin*,..a brownish resin, extracted from sabadilla seeds.

Veray, obs. form of VERY *a.* and *adv.*

Verayly, obs. f. VERILY *adv.*

Verb (vɔ̄·ɹb). Also 4–7 **verbe.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *verbe* or ad. L. *verbum* word, verb (whence also It., Sp., Pg. *verbo*).]

1. *Gram.* That part of speech by which an assertion is made, or which serves to connect a subject with a predicate.

For the numerous kinds of verbs distinguished by special epithets see the adjs. *active, auxiliary, deponent, assiderative, frequentative,* etc.

1388 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. xv. (1890) I. 57 Sumtyme it mai wel be resoluid into a verbe of the same tens. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/2 A verbe, *verbum.* 1530 PALSGR. Introd. p. xxx, Of verbes in the frenche tong be two dyvers sortes. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 120 b, The greke verbe ἐκπίπτειν souneth in latin *excidere.* 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 107 b, In some case these verbes *dedi & concessi* have the same effect in substaunce. 1655 S. ASHE *Pun. Serm. Cataker* 6 There is no verb to limit it unto any term of time, either past, present, or to come. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. i. § 8. 303 That part of speech, which by our Common Grammarians is stiled a *Verb*,.. ought to have no distinct place amongst Integrals in a Philosophical Grammar. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. iv. § 6 There are also verbs, or words of action, which are equivocal as well as nouns or names. 1764 COWPER *Tiroc.* 619 No nourishment to feed his growing mind, But conjugated verbs and nouns declin'd? 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 241 *note*, The four forms of future verbs with a passive signification, which occur in Greek writers. 1904 *Verney Mem.* I. 42 The inversion of the sentences, the verb coming at the end, is curiously like the German construction.

fig. 1730 FIELDING *Rape upon Rape* II. v, I will be a verb active, and you shall be a verb passive.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *verb-formation*, *-grinder*, *-root*, *-stem*.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. i. P 3 The verb-grinder engendered in his noddle a most ingenious device. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* iv. 63 The reference of substantives to a verb-root in the Aryan languages. 1884 *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 557 A more systematic consideration of the verb-formations. 1904 BRADLEY *Making English* 124 Prefixing an adverb to a verb-stem, such as 'outbreak, outfit'.

†**2.** *Principal verb*, the chief or most important thing. *Obs.*

1816 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VII. 582 'Sirrah,' Cambuscan lowrd, 'all yee haue lo-te Your principale verbe (credite) which yee boste'. 1642 *Remonstr. Lords & Comm. in Parl.* 26 May so That therefore which is the principle Verbe in this Statute, is the serving of the King for the time being. 1670 in C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* (1894) 122 The Quality of the Commodity is not considered, but the gratuity to the officer is the principal Verb. 1728 NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 80 The violin was scarce knowne tho' now the principall verb.

†**3.** A word. *Obs. rare.*

a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) IX. 125 That so it might appear, that the assistance of the spirit promised to the church was not a vain thing, or a mere verb.

Verbage, variant of VERBIAGE. *rare*—[1].

1787 POLWHELE *Engl. Orator* III. 770 As the flippant Phrase Glides from his hollow Tongue, tho' oft debas'd By low commercial Verbage.

Verbal (vɔ̈·băl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6-7 verbale, -all(e. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *verbal* (=Sp. and Pg. *verbal*, It. *verbale*), or ad. L. *verbālis* consisting of words, pertaining to verbs, f. *verbum* word, VERB.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of persons: **a.** Dealing in or with words, esp. with mere words in contrast to things or realities.

1484 CAXTON *Curiall* 4 We be verbal or ful of wordes and desyre more the wordes than the thynges. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 38 Henoch himselfe is made, not a verball but a reall Preacher. 1648 MILTON *Ten. Kings* (1650) 58 While they are onely verbal against the punishing of Tyrants, all the Scripture they bring is direct to inferr it altogether lawful. 1677 in Hubbard *Indian Wars* (1865) II. 275, I am perswaded if Mars and Minerva go Hand in Hand, they will effect more Good in an Hour than those verbal Mercurians in their Lives. 1770 BEATTIE *Ess. on Truth* Introd. (1776) 4 A verbal disputant! what claim can he have to the title of Philosopher?

†**b.** Using many words; talkative, verbose. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iii. 111, I am much sorry (Sir) You put me to forget a Ladies manners By being so verball. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* I. i, He's growne too verball, this Learning is a great Witch. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* I. xiii. 78 A meer verball fellow, frothy,..constant in nothing but idle words and bragging.

c. Interested in, attending to, the mere words of a literary composition.

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 264 Neglect the rules each verbal critic lays, For not to know some trifles, is a praise. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* XXXIII. (1819) I. 180 It is from the labours of verbal critics, that our language will receive the only excellencies it wanted. 1855 PALEY *Æschylus* Pref. (1861) p. XXVIII, Hermann, the leader of the verbal-critics.

2. Consisting or composed of words; also, of or pertaining to, manifested in, words.

Verbal inspiration, see INSPIRATION 3 a.

1530 PALSGR. 327/2 Verball, full of wordes, *verbal*, *verballe*. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 60 As he and other of his crewe babbling in their verbale sermons vse to doe. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 831 All the neighbour caves, as seeming troubled, Make verbal repetition of her moans. 1620 W. FOLKINGHAM *Brachigraphy* i, Short-writing is either of the bare Letter, or of Words composed of Letters. That I call Literall or Elementall, this Dictionall or Verball. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* I. 253 There is a threefold lie...1. Verbal, when a man tells a false tale. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 163 The Council of Ten having stretched their Law against Treason, to Verbal Expressions. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* i. 9 Now.. what has a meaning, may be either true or false; which is as much as can be said of any verbal sentence. 1782 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 140 P 11 Samson's complaint of the inconveniences of imprisonment is not wholly without verbal quaintness. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 26/2 Several pages of his sermons consisting of a series of verbal quibbles and jingles. 1820 HAZLITT *Table-T.* Ser. II. iii. (1869) 72 We cannot by a little verbal sophistry confound the qualities of different minds. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* vi. 67 Instead of a verbal description, we will give a rough sketch of the nursery. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 424 The young playwright quizzes the verbal wit and high-flown extravagance of thought and phrase which Euphues had made fashionable.

b. Of the nature of, or denoting, a word.

1608 *Tryall Chev.* III. iii, Bourbon! who names him? that same verball sound Is like a thunderclap to Philips eares. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 8 These verbal signs they [*sc.* children] sometimes borrow from others, and sometimes make themselves. 1702 GREW *Cosmol. Sacra* II. vi. 68 Observing by degrees, that all Words consist of a certain Number of Simple Sounds; they..brought them [*sc.* marks], from many Thousands of Verbal Marks, to Two or Four and twenty Literal ones.

†**c.** *Verbal process* (also *process verbal*), a detailed account or report. [After F. *procès-verbal*.]

1688 BURNET *Rights Princes* viii. 263 In the Process Verbal of the Assembly General of the Clergy of France. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2330/3 But the Nuncio and Clergy.. have drawn up a Verbal Process of all that passed, which they have transmitted to Rome. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VII. xv, I took an inventory of the particulars, of which I formed in my pocket-book a small verbal process. 1796-9 A. BUTLER *Lives of Saints*, *St. Jane Frances*, He left an authentic verbal process of this vision, but as of a third person. 1826 *Ann. Reg.* I. 129 The next day, what is called the verbal process, was taken at the town-house...This verbal process is somewhat like our coroner's inquest.

d. *Verbal note*, in diplomacy, an unsigned note or memorandum sent as a mere reminder of some matter not of immediate importance.

1860 WHARTON *Law-Lex.* (ed. 2).

3. Concerned with, affecting or involving, words only, without touching things or realities.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. 36 Socrates..separated Philosophy and Rhetoricke, whereupon Rhetorick became an emptie and verball Art. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 16 Wee might iustly feare hard censure, if generally wee should make verball and vnnecessary changings 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi. § 7 Whether the greatest part of the Disputes in the World, are not meerly Verbal, and about the Signification of Words. *a* 1761 LAW *Consid. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 122 Men fallen from the..truth of the Christian life under the power of natural reason, and verbal learning. 1785 T. REID *Powers Hum. Mind* iv. 369 If all the general words of a language had a precise meaning, all verbal disputes would be at an end. 1807 *Knox & Jebb's Corr.* I. 372 If our liturgy..had been cast..in a vulgar mould; subsequent alterations, not only verbal but radical, would have been indispensable. *c* 1820 WHATELY *Logic* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 224/1 A definition of the term..; viz. a verbal, not necessarily a real definition. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 121 The opposition between these two modes of speaking is rather verbal than real.

b. Finding expression in words only, without being manifested in action.

1622 ROWLANDS *Good Newes & B.* 32 Telling him that her selfe, and her estate Is not to be obtain'd with verball prate Of loue, and fancie. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* IV. i, Nor shall you find A verbal friendship in me, but an active. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. T.* I. 68 They put not God off with empty complements, and verbal acknowledgments. *a* 1718 PRIOR *Knowledge* 706 My Prophets, and my Sophists finish'd here Their Civil Efforts of the Verbal War. 1741 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 256 These merely verbal professions..were thought the proper language for the public ear. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xli. V. 171 Some solid and extraordinary benefit, something..beyond a mere verbal recognition of its independence.

c. Consisting merely in words or speech.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 301 How true is that speech.. That vertue was only a verbal thing, and not a real. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. v, Of these great monarchies ..Onely a fading verball memorie, And empty name in writ is left behinde. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 349 But our Ministers..for the verbal labor of a seventh days Preachment..exact as due the tenth..of our..Labors.

4. Expressed or conveyed by speech instead of writing; stated or delivered by word of mouth; oral.

1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 241 His Majestys verball answer to those two points conteyned within her Majestys letters. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 193 The Chamber of the Pallace where verball appeales are decided, is called, the Golden Chamber. 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 131 The gentleman carried nothing from hence in writing; but I beliene he had a verball commission. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 14 June, He did it by verbal order from Sir W. Coventry. 1727 SWIFT *Poisoning of E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 150 Mr. Curll immediately proceeded to make a verbal will. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A Verbal Contract, is that made merely by Word of Mouth; in opposition to that made in Writing. 1776 *Trial Nuncomar* 61/2 Did you send a verbal or a written message? 1807 LANDSEER *Lect. Engraving* Pref. 8 The verbal communicatio s of Sir Henry Englefield, and Mr. Douce; the printed researches of Raspe, Hayley,.. and various other authors. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiv, Sending a polite verbal refusal to the commissioner, upon the plea of there being no paper or pens on board. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. iii. 37 The archbishop believed that a verbal agreement was all which would be demanded of him.

b. Of persons: Using uttered words.

1822 SCOTT *Nigel* i, The verbal proclaimers of the excellence of their commodities, had this advantage over those who..use the public papers for the same purpose.

5. Corresponding word for word; = VERBATIM *a.*

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 238, I take the very same help of translations, either Verball or Grammaticall, to be the most speedy furtherances. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes* Pref., When he that understands not the Original [of Pindar] reads the verbal Traduction of him into Latin Prose. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 464 P 1 Of this kind is a beautiful saying in Theognis;..to give it in the Verbal Translation, *Among Men* [etc.]. 1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 46 You will perceive that it is almost a verbal Copy. 1909 R. LAW *Tests of Life* ii. 29 We have what may be supposed to be almost verbal quotations of current forms of Gnostic profession.

b. In respect of each single word.

1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. 4 In close and verbal conformity with the account..preserved by St. Luke. 1888 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 443 *note*, The sacred writers never aim at verbal accuracy in their quotations.

6. Of, pertaining to, or derived from a verb.

1530 PALSGR. 37 They come of latyn nownes verballes endyng in *tio*. *Ibid.* 154 All nownes verballes endyng in *eur* be of the masculyne gendre. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* xvi. Wks. (Rtldg.) 780/1 A person is the special difference of a verbal number, whereof the present, and the time past, have in every number three. 1648 HEXHAM II. Gramm. (1658) V u 4 b/2 All Substantives derived from Verbals are called Verball words. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Verbals* or *Verbal Nouns*, those Nouns that are derived from Verbs; as *Considerable*,..from the Verb, To consider. 1755 JOHNSON, *Abandoning*. (A verbal noun from *abandon*.) *c* 1818 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 34/2 Verbal adjectives (commonly so called), which express the conception in the form of an attribute, as the Latin verbals in *bilis*, &c. 1849 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 31 The Grammar proceeds to describe other verbal derivatives. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iii. 38 The plural verbal inflection.

B. *sb.* **1.** A noun, or other part of speech, derived from a verb.

1530 PALSGR. 154 *Brodertrice*, a woman brodurar,..*tencerrice*, a woman chyder; and so of all other verballes. 1590 LEVINS *Manip.* 89 Some verbals in *bilis*. 1592 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* B 4 b, Verbals in *or*, are of the masculine gender. *c* 1860 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 29 [Words] that we derive from latin verbales in tio, sould also be [illegible] Latine tongue loves Verbals, Participials, Gerundives, and Participles of the future in *rus*. 1728 S. LOWE *Lat. Gram.* 72 Verbals are wanting, for the most part in Impersonals. ? *a* 1800 *Lett. on Lng. & Lit. Nation* I. 293 (Jod.), The rules of etymology and formation of Greek verbals evince that it must be so. 1836 J. R. MAJOR *Guide Grk. Trag.* 105 A is long before μα in verbals derived from the first person of the preterite passive. 1882 F. W. NEWMAN *Libyan Vocab.* 38 Kabail Verbs and Verbals, including Adjectives.

†**2.** [After med.L. *verbale*.] A collection of words; a vocabulary or dictionary. *Obs. rare.*

1599 *Bk. Preserv. K. Hen. VII*, i, Untill I have set forth a Verball or little Dictionarie. 1623 T. SPICER in Cockeram *Eng. Dict.* A vij b, To the Reader on this Verball of his esteemed friend, Master Henry Cockeram of Exeter.

Verbalism (vɔ̈·băliz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.]

1. A verbal expression; a word or vocable.

1787 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) I. 372, I always write in too much haste to pause for best-possible verbalisms. 1799 *Ibid.* V. 207 This propensity has probably left several erroneous verbalisms in myself-revised sheets. 1837 WHITTOCK *Compl. Bk. Trades* 390 With those instructions, and other verbalisms, that he acquires daily,..the apprentice may acquire a taste for the art. 1881 J. RUSSELL *Haigs* xi. 308 Its quaint orthography and archaic verbalisms.

b. *collect.* Words, phrasing.

1800 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) V. 285 It is not amongst our modern songs that the musical composer is to look for his happiest verbalism.

2. Predominance of what is merely verbal over reality or real significance.

1871 A. C. FRASER *Life Berkeley* ii. 28 His abhorrence of scholastic verbalism and empty abstractions. 1879 H. N. HUDSON *Hamlet* Pref. p. xv, Our children must be continually drilled in a sort of microscopic verbalism. 1889 J. M. ROBERTSON *Christ & Krishna* xii. 69 The rest is modern Talmudism—the ancient 'demoniacal possession' of verbalism over again.

Verbalist (vɔ̈·băl̈ist). [f. as prec. + -IST.]

1. One who deals in, or directs his attention to, words only, apart from reality or meaning.

c 1609 F. GREVILLE *Hum. Learn.* XXXI. (1894) 209 Yet not ashamed these Verbalists still are..To engage the Grammar rules in civil war For some small sentence which they patronize. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 200 Vaine Verbalists! whose words are but wind. 1660 GAUDEN *Brownrig* 171 Not that he was such a Formalist, Verbalist, and Sententiolist, as could not endure any alteration of words, or phrases, or method. *a* 1750 A. HILL *Wks.* (1753) II. 236 God grant now, that he mayn't think, I have piddled out this little headlessness, with purpose to be even with him, in behalf of the poor verbalists. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 309 That this circumstance should have escaped the notice of mere verbalists, is not surprising. 1864 *Reader* No. 99. 638/2 The extreme conclusions of the Verbalists. 1883 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 15 The mere verbalist; yes, and even the mocker, may find his way into the church.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1829 J. M. ROBERTSON *Ess. Crit. Meth.* 130 The verbalist and confused pantheism of last century. 1891 — *Mod. Humanists* 43 He himself became viciously verbalist.

2. One who is skilled in the use or knowledge of words.

1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias's Descr. Greece* I. Pref. p. viii, His meaning is, frequently, on this account, inaccessible to the most consummate verbalists. 1822 — *Apuleius* 351 This blunder of the editor, who was otherwise a good verbalist, is a deplorable specimen of ignorance in things of the greatest importance. 1860-1 *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 164 The opinion of the best English verbalist I ever knew.

Verbality (vəlbæ·lĭti). [f. as prec. + -ITY.]

1. The quality of being (merely) verbal; that which consists of mere words or verbiage.

1645 BP. HALL *Peace-Maker* 23 That it may appeare, this controversie hath in it more verbality then matter. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 42 He will seem to be charmed with words of holy Scripture, and to flye from the letter and dead verbality. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. iii. 181 Let men be never so specious in the formall profession and Verbalities of Religion. 1721 BAILEY, *Verbality*, a being Verbal. 1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Lt.m.* 251 Verbality is the covering which such quack philosophers as Kant and Stewart put over their poor, naked, false theories. 1826 — *Lecture* 45 *note*, I know of nothing so much calculated to reduce it [*sc.* Scripture] to a mere mass of verbality.

2. *pl.* Verbal expressions or phrases.

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 316, I recollect..the glorious emanations..of my author—but I cannot remember the intoxicating verbalities wherein he clothes them.

3. The quality appropriate to a verb.

1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 26 The forms of substantivity, adjectivity, and verbality.

Verbalisation. [f. next + -ATION. Cf. F. *verbalisation*.] The action of verbalizing or the fact of being verbalized.

1846 WORCESTER (citing Palmer). 1860 G. P. MARSH *Lect. Eng. Lang.* xiv, The verbalization, if I may so express it, of a noun, is now a difficult matter. *a* 1901 F. W. MYERS *Hum. Personal.* (1903) I. 87 Each of the four forms of communication, of verbalisation, with which human life is familiar.

Verbalise (vɔ̈·băl̈aiz), *v.* [a. F. *verbaliser* (16th c.; = Pg. *verbalisar*), or f. VERBAL *a.* + -ISE.]

1. *intr.* To use many words; to talk diffusely; to be verbose.

1609 [Bp. W. Barlow] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* Ded. p. vii, Verbalize he can, dispute he cannot. 1648 Hexham II. App., *Verbaliseren*, to Verbalize, or make a speech. 1721 Bailey, *Verbalise*, to be tedious in Discourse, to make many Words. 1889 J. M. Robertson *Ess. Crit. Meth.* 130 Mr. Lowell verbalizes as to Duty being an eternal harmony.

2. *trans.* To make into a verb.

1659 O. Walker *Instr. Oratory* 31 So nouns..are sometimes verbalized; as, to complete, to contrary, to experience. 1818 *Q. Rev.* XIX. 507 To supply the place of the nouns thus verbalized Mr. Keats, with great fecundity, spawns new ones. 1860 G. P. Marsh *Lect. Eng. Lang.* viii, English no longer exercises..the protean gift of transformation, which could at pleasure verbalize a noun.

3. To express in words.

1875 Dora Greenwell *Liber Humanitatis* 42 The man of the world, whose creed has been thus..verbalized, 'There's nothing new, and nothing true, and it's no matter'. 1886 Gurney, etc. *Phantasms of Living* II 23 It is more natural ..to visualise it, than to verbalise it in some imagined or remembered phrase.

Hence **Verbalising** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1824 J. Gilchrist *Etym. Interpr.* 90 What that something more or verbalizing property is, he either could not or would not inform the world 1869 W. G. T. Shedd *Homiletics* vi. 133 If the formation of the plan is merely a verbalizing process. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* iv. (1892) 48 A burst unnoticed in the incessantly verbalizing buzz of a continental supper-table.

Verbally (vɔ̄·ɹbăli), *adv.* [f. Verbal *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. Word for word; in respect of each word.

1588 Lambard *Eiren.* IV. v. 502 It is not of necessitie, that the Statute be verbally rehearsed, but only that the offence against the Statute be sufficiently and with full words described. 1680 Dryden *Pref. Ovid's Ep.* Ess. (Ker) I. 238 'Tis almost impossible to translate verbally, and well, at the same time. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* III. § 8. 29 To make them..such a record of Divine utterances as to be throughout verbally and literally true. 1864 Froude *Short Stud.* (1867) I. 245 If all three agreed verbally, we should feel certain it was more than accident. 1883 A. Roberts *O. T. Revision* ix. 198 They could not but verbally agree in the reports which they furnished of His addresses.

2. In or with (mere) words, without accompanying action or reality.

1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 573 This passion of Christ, the reprobate preach verballie onely. 1640 Bp. Hall *Episc.* III. § 8. 257 Would God I might not say, even the Lords Anointed, whom they verbally professe to honour. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 55 Some of the Pagans.., though they Verbally acknowledged a Deity, yet supposed a certain Fate superiour to it.

b. So far as words (only) are concerned.

1855–6 T. T. Lynch *Lett. Scattered* (1872) 572 It is vain to be verbally right, if we are not livingly real. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* I. ii. § 12 (1875) 35 Thus these three different suppositions.., verbally intelligible though they are,..turn out..to be literally unthinkable. 1908 W. M. Ramsay *Luke Physician* viii. 251 You can with sufficient ingenuity always explain—verbally—any thing out of anything.

3. In actual words; by means of words or speech.

1646 Jenkyn *Remora* 12 They said not so verbally, but mentally and practically. 1690 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* (ed. 2) Addit. 402 Justly supposing, there may be as strong a prohibition in a sense implyed, as verbally expressed. *a* 1692 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 55 Nature..has furnished men with sensories capable of distinctly perceiving a far greater variety of objects, than they are able verbally to express. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* II. 395 But, till then, here he will stay .till you have deigned to pronounce verbally his doom. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxi, She verbally fell upon and maltreated her.

b. In speech, as contrasted with writing.

1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 503 Then, after long reasoning and protesting,..the King's Commissioner arose, dischargeing the Assemblie verballie 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 70 My humble advice..is to content your selfe with what his Ma[jes]ty has verbally been pleased to declare in this matter. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. xxxvi. 292 It was universally said that the Emperor would verbally agree to any terms. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII. vii, Give me but the commission, either verbally or in writing. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Visi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 793 It was verbally agreed between plaintiff, defendant, and J. S. that the defendant should pay the amount. 1864 Lincoln in E. McPherson *Hist. U. S. Rebell.* (1864) 336 You ask me to put in writing the substance of what I verbally said the other day in your presence. 1878 S. Walpole *Hist. Eng.* II. 675 The King was verbally assured..that at least fifty fresh peerages would be required.

4. With the function of a verb.

1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* xii. 233 The verbally used [Scythian] forms are, rather, but one step removed from nouns used predicatively

Verbarian, *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *verb-um* word, after forms in *-arian*.] **a.** *adj.* Having to do with words. **b.** *sb.* An inventor or coiner of words.

1830 Coleridge *Church & State* (1839) 25 *note*, A verbarian Attorney-General, authorized to bring information..against the writer or editor of any work..who..should persevere in misusing a word. 1873 F. Hall *Mod. Eng.* 21 In *The Doctor*, Southey gives himself free scope as a verbarian.

Verbarnd, southern var. pa. t. Forburn *v. Obs.*

‖ **Verbascum** (vɔɹbæ·skŏm). [L. (Pliny), whence also It., Sp., Pg. *verbasco*.] A widely distributed genus of herbaceous plants, = Mullein; one or other species of this.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 161 The whyte Verbascum is called commonly in English mollen or hickis taper, and longwurt. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 264 That kind of Verbascum or Mullen, the flower whereof resembleth gold. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. 367 Venetian Vetch, Borrage-leav'd Verbascum. 1765 *Phil Trans* LVI. 234 Phlomis, verbascum, stoechas, sage, thyme. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 254/1 All the species of Verbascum are tall, robust, handsome plants, and may be cultivated in gardens and shrubberies. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 528 *Verbascum*, having 5 stamens, is sometimes referred to Solanaceæ.

† **Verbate,** *v. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *verb-um* word, perh. after *verbatim*.] *trans.* To reproduce word for word.

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 2, I have al onely verbated and folowed mine auctour as nighe as I could with the profoundite of good herte.

† **Verba tical,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [Irreg. f. L. *verb-um* word: see -atic and -al.] Verbal.

1622 T. Wilson *Chr. Dict.* Pref., His is Axiomatical, of simple propositions; mine is partly Verbaticall and Rematicall,..of Wordes with their significations [etc.].

Verbatim (vɔɹbē·tim), *adv.*, *a.*, and *sb.* [a. med.L. *verbātim*, f. L. *verb-um* word: cf. Literatim.]

A. *adv.* **1.** Word for word; in the exact words: **a.** With reference to a copy of a document or passage in a book, or to the report of a speech, etc.

1481 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 477 Stodealf..brought like writyng as is before wreton verbatim direct to pe Maire. ? 1503 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 263/2 The said patent.., which is now verbatim copied in this boke in the xlviii. lef. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* F vij, And..make for him a treue and iust..Coppie thereof verbatim 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 9 b, Although the place..be verbatim and word for word as I alledged it, yet will he not be satisfied. 1608 Willis *Stenographie* A ij b, He that is well practized in this Art, may write *Verbatim*, as fast as a man can treateably speake. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Res.* 155 A Volume five times as large as is this, is not able to contain them all *verbatim*. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 11 P 4, I shall give you my Cousin's Letter Verbatim, without altering a Syllable. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 620/2 Merchants are provided with a large book, in *folio*, into wh ch is copied *verbatim* every letter of business before it be sent off. 1826 F. Reynolds *Life & Times* II 184 It was, according to the previous directions of the great critic and editor, inserted verbatim. 1893 Forbes-Mitchell *Great Mutiny* 274 The following is the English version, verbatim,..word for word, and point for point, italics and all.

b. With reference to a translation.

1583 Fulke *Def. Tr. Script.* I. 69 The Scriptures translated verbatim, exactly, and according to the proper vse and signification of the wordes. 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* xxi. (1627) 251 The Hebrew, in most places translated *verbatim*, doth keepe a perfect sense. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* Pref., Witness the speeches in the first act, translated *verbatim* out of Ovid. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. C ij, The Translator could do no less than *Verbatim* to English the aforesaid letter from the Original. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 28 The venerable personage read the characters with facility, and explained them verbatim as follows. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribblemania* 124 *note*, A translation verbatim from the french

c. In the phrase *verbatim et literatim*.

1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* IV. v, We have..procured an authentick Copy; and here it follows *verbatim et literatim*. 1787 Hawkins *Johnson* 94 *note*, Mr. Newsham printed and dispersed some thousand copies verbatim et literatim of this letter. 1828 *Congress. Debates* IV. 276 (Stf.), It was, *verbatim et literatim*, a copy of the log-book of the brig. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Jan. 7 The following story is copied..from his note-book *verbatim et literatim*.

† **2.** In so many words; exactly, precisely. *Obs.*

1501 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 151 That your sayd counsell may have all the estayts..wrytten *verbatim* in paper. 1564 *Brief Exam.* ***ij, Did he not appoynt temperall rites..which he had not *verbatim* expressely at his masters hands? *a* 1638 Medb *Wks.* (1672) 666 That which the Spirit speaks in the Written Word, that it speaks ῥητως, verbatim, expresly.

† **b.** In exact accordance with the words. *Obs.*

1575 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 368 Ye said Citie could not..performe ye same verbatim.

† **3** ? By word of mouth; verbally. *Obs.*—[1]

1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, III. i. 13 Thinke not..That therefore I haue forg'd, or am not able *Verbatim* to rehearse the Methode of my Penne.

B. *adj.* **1.** Corresponding with, or following, an original word for word.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII 14/1 Which grammatically represented in a *verbatim* Translation of the Verse into English, will run thus. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 732/1 A mere simple *verbatim* repetit on .. of the romances and scandalous anecdotes. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* Pref. p. viii, Verbatim reports were taken on the former occasion. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* xxxi 6 A machine for *verbatim* reporting, which will print phonetically.

2. *transf* **a.** Able to take down a speech word for word (in shorthand).

1888 *Daily News* 24 May 8/5 Thoroughly experienced and efficient verbatim reporter. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 April 7/2 The Major spoke so rapidly that the fastest 'verbatim' hands seemed to be embarrassed.

b. Of a speaker: Usually reported, or worth reporting, word for word.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 7 April 1/3 The verbatim men, the column men,..and the paragraph men. *Ibid.* 14 May 1/2 So much has Lord Rosebery slipped out from the front rank of 'verbatim' politicians.

C. *sb.* A full or word-for-word report of a speech.

1898 *Daily News* 14 April 10/4 Crisp writer wanted, who can also do a verbatim. 1899 *Ibid.* 6 March 8/5 Verbatims of Mr. Morley were at a discount even before he quitted the Irish Office.

Hence † **Verba·timly** *adv Obs.*—[1] = prec. A. 1, 2.

1597 E. Tilney in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 417 A Composition layd uppon me..rated verbatimly by certain orders sett doun by my Lord Treasorer.

Verbena (vɔɹbī·nă). [a. L. *verbēna* (usually in pl. *verbēnæ*) in sense 1, med. and mod.L. *verbēna* (= L. *verbēnāca*) in sense 2; hence also It., Sp., Pg. *verbena*, and F. *verveine* Vervain.]

1. *Roman Antiq.* In *pl.*, the leaves or twigs of certain plants or shrubs (as olive, myrtle, laurel, etc.) having a sacred character and employed in religious ceremonies.

1600 Holland *Livy* App. 1359 There was an hallowed place likewise upon the Capitoll, from whence they gathered Verbenæ, or sacred hearbs. 1685 Temple *Ess., Gardens* Wks. 1720 I. 178 *Verbenas*, which signifies all Kinds of Sweet or Sacred Plants that were used for adorning the Altars; as Bays, Olive, Rosemary, Myrtle. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 98 Passages were culled..with as much care and reverence as the sacred *verbenæ* that grew within the enclosure of the Capitolini.

2. The plant Vervain; also, one or other plant of the genus *Verbena* or the order *Verbenaceæ*.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II 161 b, And Pliny maketh two kindes of Verbena, or Verbenaca. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Verbena*, the Herb Vervain, much us'd by the ancient Heathens in their Sacrifices. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Verbena*, Vervain. 1827–44 Willis *Declaration* 4 A scent Of orange leaves and sweet verbena. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 201 Cuttings of hardy or half-hardy herbaceous plants, such as pinks,..petunias, verbenas, rockets. 1891 Hall Caine *Scapegoat* ix, The country of the verbena and the musk that lies outside the walls of Fez.

attrib. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 207 *Verbenaceæ*. The Verbena Tribe.

b. With distinguishing terms.

1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 228 Nettle-leaved Verbena. Common Vervain. 1852 G. W. Johnson *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 97/1 *Aloysia*, sweet-scented Verbena. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1210/1 The *Aloysia citriodora* is the Lemon-scented Verbena of the gardens. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 103 2 The garden verbenas, once so popular for bedding out, are derivatives from various South-American species.

3. A perfume obtained from the leaves of vervain. *Oil of verbena* (see quots.).

1898 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Verbena*, an otto, one of the finest perfumes, obtained by distillation from the citron-scented leaves of *Aloysia citriodora*. Owing to its high price it is..imitated..by mixing the otto of lemon grass with rectified spirits, and this passes as oil of verbena. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1210/1 The lemon-grass, *Andropogon Schœnanthus* or *A. citratum*, from which the 'oil of verbena' is extracted.

Verbenaceous (vɔɹbĭnē·ʃŏs), *a. Bot.* [See prec. and -aceous.] Of or pertaining to the *Verbenaceæ*, an extensive order of monopetalous (chiefly tropical) plants.

1883 *Encycl. Brit* XV. 481/2 The 'white mangrove' *Avicennia*, a verbenaceous plant.

Verbenate, *v. rare*—[0]. [f. Verbena.] *trans.* To strew with vervain. (Webster, 1847, citing Drake.)

Verbene. *rare.* [Anglicized f. Verbena.]

† **1.** (See Verbena 1.) *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 54 'Deliuer to me,' said pe flecial, 'the herbe namyt verbene'. *Ibid.* 55 This fecial..twicht baith his hede and his hare with pe herbe verbene.

2. A plant of the order *Verbenaceæ*.

1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 663 The properties of Verbenes are much the same as those of Labiates. *Ibid.* 664 By far the most interesting plant .. belonging to the Order of Verbenes is the Teak. 1879 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Aloysia*, ..a genus of plants belonging to the..Verbenes.

† **Verberable,** *a. Obs.*—[0] [ad. L. *verberābilis* (Plautus).] (See quot.)

1696 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Verberable*, that may be, or is worthy to be beaten.

Verberant (vɔɹbē·rănt), *a.* [ad. L. *verberant-*, *verberans*, pres. pple. of *verberāre*: see next.] Reverberant.

1890 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Jan., He was grateful then, that he had escaped before the streets became verberant with such shrill echoes. 1891 Meredith *One of our Conq.* I. xiii. 251 Like the verberant twang of a musical instrument that has had a smart blow.

Verberate (vɔ̄·ɹbĕrē·t), *v.* [f. L. *verberāt-*, ppl. stem of *verberāre* to beat, flog, f. *verber* a lash, scourge, blow. Cf. It. *verberare*, Sp. and Pg. *verberar*, obs. F. *verberer*.]

1. *trans.* **a.** To strike so as to produce a sound. *rare.*

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Albanact* lxxv, The sounde that both by sea and land out flies, Reboundes againe, and verberates the skies. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* I. viii. 114 Hearing is made when the aire betwixt the speaker and hearer is verberated in a circulation.

b. To beat or strike so as to cause pain, esp. by way of punishment.

1625 Shirley *Love Tricks* III. v, You shall be verberated, and reverberated, my exact piece of stolidity. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Verberate*, to beat, punish or strike. 1697 Abp. Sancroft *Mod. Pol.* (ed. 7) 87, He feels sometimes, those Bosome-quarrels that verberate and wound his Soul. 1873 Leland *Egypt, Sketch-Bk.* 201 So the native verberated him till he reverberated. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 14 Oct. 5 It was proved ..that he had been verberated to this extent while with his regiment.

† **c.** To beat or whip up (a substance). *Obs.*—[1]

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 648 Oyl is assumed, verberated, and washed in Fountain-water.

2. *intr.* To vibrate or quiver.

1735 T. H. CROKER *Orl. Fur.* XXXIV. I, A fragrant breeze ..Made the air trem'lous verberate [It. *tremolar*] around.

Hence **Ve'rberating** *ppl. a.*

1867 J. B. ROSE tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 338 Crooked beak and verberating wings.

Verberation (vɔ̄ɹbĕrē·ʃən). [ad. L. *verberātio*, noun of action from *verberāre* : see prec. So F. *verbération* (13–14th cent.), Sp. *verberacion*, Pg. *verberação*.]

1. The action of beating or striking, or the fact of being struck, so as to produce sound; percussion.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XVI. vi. (1620) 547 Not admitting sound or verberation of aire. 1696 PHILLIPS s.v., The cause of sounds that proceed from the Verberation of the Air. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Sound..arises from a Verberation of the Air. 1865 SALA *Diary Amer.* II. 131 Canada has often been declared..to be 'knocking at the door of the Union'!..if Canada ever resorts to that method of verberation [etc.].

b. Reverberation of sound.

1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 186 Where The vaulted rocks with verberation ring.

† **2.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—◦

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 387/2 A Verbergtion, or Verberous feeling; a smarting pain, as when we are beaten with rods, whips, or scourges.

3. The action of beating or striking so as to cause pain or hurt; *esp.* flogging or scourging; also, a blow or stroke.

c 1730 ARBUTHNOT (J.), Redness and inflammation; all the effects of a soft press or verberation. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 120 The Cornelian law..prohibited pulsation as well as verberation; distinguishing verberation, which was accompanied with pain, from pulsation which was attended by the strong folds of the body, by the fierce verberations of the tail, that the enemy is destroyed. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Lazy little Boy*, The anger, or..the verberations of his schoolmaster. 1879 *Daily Tel.* 21 July, The beadle, alas! was armed with a different instrument of verberation. 1895 *Class. Rev.* April 146/1 It is idle to translate 'go on striking', for the word is found repeatedly when the verberation had not yet started.

Ve'rberative, *a.* [f. VERBERATE *v.* + -IVE.] Addicted to the practice of flogging.

1866 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Aug. 9 Her mother was a strict disciplinarian of the verberative school.

Verbere, southern ME. var. FORBEAR *v.*

† **Ve'rberous,** *a. Obs.*—◦ [f. L. *verber* a blow.]

1688 [see VERBERATION 2].

Verbiage (vɔ̄·ɹbiédʒ). [a. F. *verbiage* (17th c.), irreg. f. L. *verb-um* word: see -AGE. So Pg. *verbiagem*.]

1. Wording of a superabundant or superfluous character; abundance of words without necessity or without much meaning; excessive wordiness.

a 1721 PRIOR *Dial. Locke & Montaigne* 275 Without.. being guided by any sort of Verbiage like this. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. 69 The Matter, when..cleared from the Perplexity of his abounding Verbiage, lies open to this easy Answer. 1787 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Rom. Real Life* I. 167 The repetitions and verbiage of the pleadings [have been] reduced. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* I. iii. 20 In vain you take refuge in abstractions and verbiage. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iii. 73 The Homeric phrase is thus often muffled and deadened by Pope's verbiage.

2. Diction, wording, verbal expression.

1804 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) III. 193 All that is nothing; the previous verbiage [of the treaty] is thought sufficient to bind us. 1814 *New Brit. Theatre* III. 286 The differences between the two Epistles in the general form of thought.

Hence [or f. F. *verbiager* vb.] **Verbia'geria.**

1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 469 Her obscurity,—her high-sounding phrases,—..and all the imposing apparatus of verbiagerie, are not unsparingly employed.

Verbicide[1] (vɔ̄·ɹbisəid). [f. L. *verbi-*, *verbum* word + -CIDE 1.] One who mutilates or destroys a word.

1867 *Independent* (N. Y.) 2 May (Cent.), These clownish verbicides have carried their antics to the point of disgust. 1894 *Let.* in *Melbourne Argus* 10 Jan., It is this laziness in speaking which makes them [the Australians] grow up habitual verbicides.

Ve'rbicide[2]. [f. as prec. + -CIDE 2.] The act of destroying the sense or value of a word; the perversion of a word from its proper meaning.

1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* i. (1859) 10 Homicide and *verbicide*—that is, violent treatment of a word with fatal results to its legitimate meaning..—are alike forbidden. 1886 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 177 It is 'verbicide' in a higher sense than that in which Oliver Wendell Holmes applied the term to punning.

Verbification (vɔ̄ɹbifikē·ʃən). [See next and -FICATION.] The action of converting a substantive into a verb.

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* vi. 259 Reason will be given..for supposing that it had its beginning in the verbification of a French substantive. 1884 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XV. p. XXXII, The languages of Maskoki affinity.. have the power of expressing accidental and real existence by a verbification of the noun.

Verbify (vɔ̄·ɹbifəi), *v.* [f. VERB 1 + -(I)FY.] *trans.* To convert (a noun, etc.) into a verb. Also *absol.*

a 1823 [see *ppl. a.*]. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* 183 Not only does the language avail itself of this facility of verbifying a noun, but even [etc.]. 1884 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XV. p. XXVII, Nouns become verbified by the appending of inflectional affixes, generally suffixes, and are inflected like verbs. *Ibid.* p. XXXII, Hitchiti verbifies in the same manner.

So **Ve'rbified, Ve'rbifying** *ppl. adjs.*

a 1823 MURRAY *Hist. Europ. Lang* (1823) II. 265 A consonant or long vowel may intervene, which vowel or consonant may be justly called the verbifying consignificative. 1884 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XV. p. XXXII, An instance of a verbified substantive, miki, 'chief', was presented above.

Verbigerate (vɔ̄·ɹbi·dʒérē·t), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *verbigerāre* to talk, chat, f. *verbi-*, *verbum* word + *gerĕre* to conduct, carry on.]

† **1.** *intr.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—◦

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Verbigerate*, to speak, to talk, to noise abroad.

2. *Path.* To go on repeating the same word or phrase in a meaningless fashion, as a symptom of mental disease.

1892 TUKE *Dict. Psychol. Med.* II. 1355/1 The patient repeats in a verbigerating monotone the sentence, 'Please, do give me the keys'.

Hence **Verbigera'tion.** *Path.*

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1892 TUKE *Dict. Psychol. Med.* II. 1355/1 Verbigeration is an abnormal and unnecessary repetition of words. *Ibid.* 1355/2 Verbigeration as a symptom, is not rare. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* VIII. 345 Verbigeration has been noticed in some during the post-paroxysmal automatism.

Verbill, obs. Sc. f. WARBLE.

Ve'rbing, *vbl. sb.* [f. VERB 1.] The using of words as verbs.

1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 60 As to the Nouning and Verbing, which he so heavily charged you with, I told him..that you never confounded Grammar.

Verbless (vɔ̄·ɹbləs), *a.* [f. VERB + -LESS.] Having no verb.

a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 75 What is called a fluent man, in whose discourse are no verbless nominative cases. 1858 J. ROBERTSON *Poems* 80 The nounless, verbless tongue. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 27 Jan. 4/7 After searching through a solid page of verbless matter.

Verbo- (vɔ̄·ɹbo), irreg. comb. form of L. *verbum* word, employed in a few nonce-words, as *verbo-to'mical*, *verbo'tomist*, *verbo'tomy*.

Also, in recent use, *verboma'nia*, *-ma'niac*.

1802 (*title*), Hints to Legislators, by W. P. Russel, Verbotomist. 1804 W. P. RUSSEL (*title*), Verbotomical Spelling-book. 1805 — (*title*), Verbotomy, or a classical improved vocabulary..of the English language.

† **Verbocina'tion.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *verbocination* (Rabelais), f. L. *verb-um*, after *ratiocination*.] Expression of ideas by means of words.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. vi. 31 We despumate the Latial verbocination. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. 252 Where Rules to polish Loquels are prescrib'd, and Doct Verbocination is imbib'd.

Verbose (vɔ̄ɹbō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *verbōs-us*, f. *verbum* word. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *verboso*, OF. *verbos*, mod.F. (from 17th c.) *verbeux*.]

1. Expressed in an unnecessary number of words; prolix, wordy.

1672 PENN *Spir. Truth Vind.* 8 Which I am assur'd is quite another thing, from what is Verbose, Abusive Cavelling, Airy, and meerly Notional. 1681 H. NEVILE *Plato Redivi.* 159 For there was no need to make Acts verbose, when the great Persons could presently force the Execution of them. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* I. xlviii. 357 [They] foresaw, that in these conferences..there would happen nothing but verbose janglings and endless disceptations. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 170 A verbose, but not a very elegant inscription. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXVIII. (1787) III. 75 *note*, Few facts, and few sentiments, can be extracted from his verbose correspondence. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 97 Wilkes..instead of attempting to gain silence, by any verbose circumlocutory appeal, proceeded at once to the point. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 392 His style..is not only inartificially complex, but verbose to the very brink of tediousness. 1870 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* lxix. (1873) VI. 164 Countless papers, expressed in..verbose and tedious tenor.

2. Using an excessive number of words; writing or speaking at excessive length; long-winded.

1692 WASHINGTON *Milton's Def. People Eng.* M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. Pref. 1, I fear, lest..I might seem to deserve justly to be accounted a verbose and silly Defender. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 56 They ought to be brief, and not too verbose in their way of speaking. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iv. (1869) I. 358 The conveyances of a verbose attorney. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* x, Undergoing the legends of the dull and verbose Father Nicolas. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 3. 67 Dudo of S. Quentin, a verbose and confused writer, has preserved the earliest Norman traditions.

b. quasi-*adv.* In a verbose manner.

1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XVII. 474 Peace! answer not verbose a man like him.

Verbosely (vɔ̄ɹbō·sli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a verbose manner; wordily.

1775 in ASH. 1784 COWPER *Ep. to Hill* 44, I hate long arguments, verbosely spun. 1799 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XIII. 45 Passages may be found which will seem to have been rendered indolently or verbosely. 1902 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Nov. 688/2 Miss Taylor..tells the story effectively if a little verbosely.

Verboseness (vɔ̄ɹbō·snés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The character or quality of being verbose; verbosity.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Verboseness*, the using many Words, Fulness of Words, Prolixity in Discourse. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 73, I don't often gratify him ..with giving him the praise for his verboseness. *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *George II* (1847) II. xl. 378 When his verboseness did not persuade, he quickened it with impertinence. 1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVIII. 73 He has been mesmerised into a mystical verboseness without positive thought.

† **Verbosious,** *a. Obs.*—[1] = VERBOSE *a.* 2.

1676 J. SMITH *Old Age* (ed. 2) 258 Among all the Verbosious Græcians there is not one compleat Tract upon this Subject only.

Verbosity (vɔ̄ɹbo·sĭti). Also 6 **verbositee,** 6–7 **-tie.** [a. F. *verbosité* (16th cent.), or ad. L. (post-classical) *verbōsitas*, f. *verbōsus* VERBOSE *a.* Cf. It. *verbosità*, Sp. *verbosidad*, Pg. *-idade*.] The state or quality of being verbose; superfluity of words; wordiness, prolixity.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 74 b, Diogenes noted Plato of unmeasurable verbositee. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 18 He draweth out the thred of his verbositie, finer then the staple of his argument. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 29 Seeking the like occasions of prattling and verbosity. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* ix. Wks. 1851 III. 397 It were an endless work to walk side by side with the Verbosity of this Chapter. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 373 But O! the Verbosity of thy Writings! 1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May, He gave his opinion, with an emptiness and verbosity, that rendered the whole dispute..ridiculous. 1827 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. ii. § 31 Vitello, avoiding the tediousness of Arabian verbosity, is far more readable than Alhazen. 1898 HORLEY *France* II. III. iv. 197 A high standard of style is a check on rash verbosity.

b. With pl. An instance of this.

1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* 116 These Verbosities emasculate the understanding, and render it slight and frivolous.

† **Verbous,** *a. Obs. rare.* = VERBOSE *a.*

1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 46 Which Art..hath been opposed, slandered, reproached, reviled and gainsaid by the verbous, railing Galenists. 1659 O. WALKER *Oratory* A 4 b, To be Concise for the Pen!..Yet more circumlocutory and verbous for extempore-speech.

Verbroyde, var. pa. pple. FORBRAID *v. Obs.*

‖ **Verbum sap.** [A shortening of L. *verbum sapienti sat est* 'a word is sufficient to a wise person'.] A phrase used in place of making a full statement or explanation, implying that an intelligent person may easily infer what is left unsaid, or understand the reasons for reticence.

Examples of the full phrase, and of the shortened forms *verbum sapienti* (*sat*), occur in English works from at' 1620s onwards. The wording appears to be a combination of *verbum sat est* (see next) and *dictum sapienti sat est*, both of which are used by Plautus, the latter also by Terence.

1818 T. MOORE *Fudge Fam. in Paris* vi. 6 But never fear—I know my chap, And he knows *me*, too—*verbum sap.* 1826 LYTTON *Pelham* xxiv, I am very sorry I could not see you to breakfast—a particular engagement prevented me—*verbum sap.* 1862 W. COLLINS *No Name* III. 12, I say no more. *Verbum sap.*

‖ **Verbum sat.** Also **sat verbum.** [See note to prec.] A phrase used to conclude a statement, implying that further explanation or comment is unnecessary or unadvisable.

In the first quot. perhaps equivalent to prec.'

1649 EVELYN *Corr.* (1850) III. 49 Against which [conquest] I find most men inclined to oppose, by a juncture with the new Commonwealth. Verbum sat—. 1668 in *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 277 He say they are not of ye brood of ye old Presbiterian. verbum sat. 1838 THACKERAY *Misc. Ess.* (1885) 129 *Verbum sat*—this naughty 'Somnolency' ought to go to sleep in her night-gown. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xix. 195 The thing can be done, and we did it: *sat verbum.*

Verby (vɔ̄·ɹbi), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. VERB + -Y.] Abounding in verbs.

a 1845 HOOD *Sir John Bowring* 10 No grammar too abstruse he meets However dark and verby.

Vercifier, obs. f. VERSIFIER. **Verclef,** southern ME. pa. t. of *forcleave* FOR- *pref.*[1] 5 b.

† **Verd,** *sb. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *verd* (= Cat. *verd*, Sp., Pg., It. *verde*) :—L. *virid-em*, *viridis*; cf. VERT *sb.*[1]]

1. *Her.* The tincture green or vert.

c 1450 J. METHAM *Whs.* (E.E.T.S.) 36 For Arge, [w]hos kyng a lebard passaund Off syluer in uerd bare, he vsyd greus; that with grene were dyght.

2. *transf.* Verdancy, freshness.

1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 121 For Reliques..worke like an Apothecaries potion or new Ale: they have best strength and verd at the first.

3. Forest-verdure; = VERT *sb.*[1] 1.

1642 *Termes de la Ley* 261 b (*heading*), Verde or Vert.

1664 in *Spelman's Gloss.*

4. *Geol.* ? = GREEN-STONE 1.

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* I. 142 There are likewise..mica apathosa, verd, serpentine,..and marlstone.

Verd, southern ME. var. pa. t. of FERE *v.*[1] *Obs.*

† **Verd,** *v. Obs.*—[1] [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To sow for verdage. In quot. *absol.*

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 60 If Verdage and Pasturage be wanted, verd with Spring-Corn and Ley-Grasses.

† **Verdage,** *sb. Obs.* [f. *verd-* (as in *verdure*) + -AGE; introduced by Marshall. Cf. F. *verdage* young grain ploughed in as manure.] 'Green herbage, cut and given to cattle green' (Marshall).

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 9 June 1775, The weeds are now tender and full of sap, and make very good verdage. *Ibid., Digest* 74 Lucerne is an excellent Spring-verdage. *Ibid.* 84 Clover and Tare verdage.

Hence †**Ve·rdage** *v. trans.*, to cut or use as verdage. Also with *off*.

1778 [W. H. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 62 Plowin or Verdage-off a foul Crop. *Ibid.* 71 Verdaging the Corn encourages the young Grasses. *Ibid.* 72 Verdage weedy margins early in Summer.

Verdancy (vɜ·ɹdănsi). [See Verdant *a.* and -ancy.]

1. The quality, condition, or character of being verdant; greenness.

1632 May tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 39 But the greatest delight is, that see faire a verdancy is almost distinguished into diuerse colours. *Ibid.* 100 England abounding in rich pastures..doth euery where delight the eyes of the beholders with a most beautifull verdancy. 1888 *Gd. Words* 608 Yellow freckles in some leaves may bestrew a surface of unfaded verdancy. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 200 We see ..the same wonderful varieties of verdancy.

†**b.** *transf.* Freshness of appearance. *Obs.*—1

1678 Norris *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 368 Had not the Youth and Verdancy of her Face contradicted the ripeness of her Discoursings, you would have thought her well in years.

2. *fig.* Innocence, inexperience; rawness, simplicity.

1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* xxxvii, True, in the verdancy of youthful sentiment, many a one has shrunk from the profane association of ruby lips with the processes of mastication and deglutition. 1883 *Baily's Mag.* Jan. 358 Alas for my verdancy!

Verdant (vɜ·ɹdănt), *a.* Also 7 verdent. [f. *verd-* (as in *verdure*) + -ant, perhaps partly after L. *viridant-*, *viridans*, pres. pple. of *viridāre*, f. *viridis* green. Cf. also OF. *verdeant* (*virdeant*), *verdoiant* (F. *verdoyant*).]

1. Of a green hue or colour; green: **a.** Of vegetation.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 1 Chrymes..With verdant crown, wherewith Apoll his seemely head had clad. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 13 The verdant gras my couch did goodly dight. 1633 Cowley *Constantia* 114 Th' verdant grasse was dew'd with many a teare. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 267 Fruit-trees,..which keep on their verdant Liveries all the year long. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 64 The Walks which before were covered with Nature's verdent awning..are now open to the Sun. 1764 R. Lloyd *Capricious Lovers* v. ii, When eve embrowns the verdant grove. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 334 We soon discovered the profound and verdant forests which cover Celtic Gaul. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 337 Where ornamental hedges and other verdant architectural structures are to be grown. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* I. (1856) 474 Crowned each with its little verdant tuft,—ten radishes!

b. In other applications. *rare.*

1649 Lovelace *Grasshopper* Poems 35 Poore verdant foole [*sc.* a grasshopper], and now green Ice! 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 501 [The] Serpent..With burnisht Neck of verdant Gold, erect Amidst his circling Spires. 1738 Gray *Tasso* 67 Here the soft emerald smiles of verdant hue.

2. Green with vegetation; characterized by abundance of verdure.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 17 Streames of purple bloud new dies the verdant fields. 1647 Ogilby *Virg. Georg.* IV. 322 Gliding Streams..Which border nigh the Quiver'd Persian Land, And verdant Egypt Marl with fruitful Sand. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 632 The parting Sun Beyond the Earths green Cape and verdant Isles Hesperian sets. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* xxiii. ii, Where peaceful Rivers soft and slow Amid the verdant Landskip flow. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 70 As I tread The walk, still verdant, under oaks and elms. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 382 In the midst of a verdant and pleasing country, which enjoys a temperate climate. 1817 Moore *Lalla R., Fire-Worshippers* iv. 90 Like those verdant spots that bloom Around the crater's burning lips. 1868 Miss Braddon *Dead Sea F.* ii, The verdant avenues and placid water.

3. *fig.* Of persons: Green, inexperienced, gullible.

1824 Byron *Juan* xv. xciii, Because my business is to *dress* society, And stuff with *sage* that very verdant goose. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 26 2/2, I spoke of simple facts in my own experience, and with the..object of warning 'verdant' purchasers. 1869 *Punch* 14 Aug. 57/1 Flush of his money and just as refreshingly verdant.

Hence **Verdantness**, verdancy. *rare*—0.

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Verdantness*, a flourishing, bright, or lively Greenness.

‖**Verd-antique, verd antique** (vɜ·ud antī·k). Also 9 verde-. [Older F. (now *vert antique*), 'antique green'. Cf. Verde antico.]

1. An ornamental variety of marble, consisting chiefly of serpentine mixed with calcite and dolomite.

1745 Pococke *Descr. East* II. i. 193 The hills of Antioch are part of them of a crumbling stone, like verd antique. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 109 Columns of verd' antique and oriental alabaster. 1806 J. Pinkerton *Recollect. Paris* II. 139 Egyptian breccia..has been mistaken for the serpentine-marble, called verd antique. 1838 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* vii. (1876) II. 32, I should like to see the walls of St. Paul's incrusted with porphyry and verde antique. 1884 *Mag. Art* Apr. 226/1 Its design must have been made entirely to suit the twelve columns of verd-antique which surround its walls.

attrib. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 282 A verd-antique pitcher with an ear. 1837 Dana *Min.* (1850) 147 Serpentine forms a handsome marble when polished, especially when mixed with limestone, constituting *verd-antique* marble.

b. *Oriental verd-antique*, green porphyry. Occasionally without adj. Also *attrib.*

1832 E. Barker *Painters'* (etc.) *Assist.* 75 To imitate Oriental Verdantique Marble. 1837 Dana *Min.* (1862) 356 Green porphyry is the *oriental verd antique* of the ancients, and was held in high esteem. 1879 Rutley *Stud. Rocks* xii. 240 The verde-antique porphyry is one of the diabase-porphyrites.

2. A green incrustation on brass or copper; verdigris.

a 1825 Mrs. Hemans *Last Wasp Scot.* Poems (1849) 523 Never may housemaid wipe the verd antique From coin of thine. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* III. v. 447 Another example.., covered with verd antique, is a light beautiful bracelet.

Verdantly (vɜ·ɹdăntli), *adv.* [f. Verdant *a.* + -ly 2.] In a green or verdant manner; freshly, flourishingly.

1828 Moore *Believe me, if all those endearing young charms* i, Around the dear ruin each wish of my heart Would entwine itself verdantly still. 1847 in Webster. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harbh.* 257 The special song of Madame A. was 'With verdure clad'... Madame B. elected to be 'verdantly' clothed.

b. In a raw or inexperienced manner; greenly.

1864 R. Kimball *Was he successful?* I. xiii. 151 Perhaps to give the young fellow who was so verdantly staring at him a start.

†**Verdate.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. Verd-ic *a.* + -ate 1 1 c.] (See quot. 1859.)

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 256/1 The earthy or metallic *verdites* are yellow, while the *verdates* of the same bases are green. 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Verdate*,..a combination of verdic acid with a salifiable base.

Verd-azure, *a. rare*—1. [ad. It. *verdazzurro* sea-green: see Verd *sb.* and Azure *a.* Cf. obs. F. *verd d'azur* (Cotgr.), used by Holland *Pliny* (1601) II. 528.] Of a bluish-green colour; sea-green.

1876 Whitney *Sights & Ins.* xxxiii. II. 147 The gold-green water that, out from the mountain shadows, grew verd-azure in the sun.

†**Verdazurine,** *a. Obs.*—1 [See prec. and -ine 2.] Bluish-green; sea-green.

1682 Grew *Museum* III. iii. iii. 349 A Verdazurine Bole. So I call it, for that it is on the out-side of a blewish-green, like Verdegrease.

Verde, southern ME. var. Ferd *sb.*1 and pa. t. Fere *v.*1 *Obs.*

†**Verdé.** *Obs. rare.* Also verdi(e. [ad. It. *verdìa* or F. *verdée*.] = next.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. 74 Nor is ther in Italy any wine transported to England but in bottles, as *Verdè* and others. *Ibid.* (1655) IV. 16 They must not be us'd like Saffron bags, or *Verdé* bottles which are thrown into som by-corner when the wine and spice are taken out of them. 1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Verdi*, a kind of white Muscadine wine.

Verde·a. Also 8 verd(e)dea. [a. It. *verdèa* (whence F. *verdée*, Pg. *verdea*), f. *verde* green.] A wine made of a white grape grown in the neighbourhood of Arcetri near Florence. Also *attrib.*

a 1685 Fletcher & Mass. *Elder Bro.* II. i, Say it had been at Rome, and seen the Reliques, drunk your Verdea Wine, and rid at Naples. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Verdea*, a kind of white Muscadine wine, made in Toscany, which is sometimes brought into England in bottles. 1719 Boyer *Dict. Royal* I, *Verdée*,..Verd-dea, White-Florentine Wine. 1760 Baretti *Ital. Dict.*, *Verdea*, a kind of white grapes called Verdedea, of which is made a kind of wine, called also Verdedea. 1833 C. Redding *Hist. Mod. Wines* (1851) 278 The celebrated Verdea is a white wine, having a bright green tinge, grown at Arcetri; it was formerly held in high esteem. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1285/1.

b. *transf.* (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Verdea*, a white Tunisian wine.

‖**Verde antico.** [It.] = Verd-antique 1.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Marble*, Carystium Marmor..; the Italian antiquaries particularly mean this, by a name also in use among us, and prostituted to every other species of green marble, the *verde antiquo*. 1765 Smollett *Trav. Italy* xxviii. Wks. (1841) 756/2 The great profusion of granite, porphyry, jasper, verde antico, lapis-lazuli, and other precious stones. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 409/1 Some Verde Antico, as that dug near Susa in Piedmont. 1883 Miss Braddon *Gold. Calf* II. vi. 185 Placid gods and goddesses smirking at vacancy, on pedestals of verde antico. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 529/1 The famous *verde antico* is a rock of this character [i.e. serpentinous limestone].

Verdegrease, -gres(e, etc., obs. ff. Verdigris.

Verdeour, variant of Verdour 1 *Obs.*

†**Verder** 1. *Obs.* Also 6 vardar. [var. of Verdour 1, with weakened ending on the analogy of agent-nouns in *-our*, *-er*, *-ar*.]

1. = Verdour 1 2, Verdure 3: **a.** In plural.

1500 *Inv.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1768) II. 134 One dosen of cushions of verders stuffed with feathers. 1542 in Harrison *Ann. Old Manor Ho.* (1893) 207, vij peces of smale verders storyed with bests & flowles; iiij peces of verders paued with redd and white. 1547 in Kempe *Lasely MSS.* (1836) 158 Sixe longe carpytts of grene vardars, with flowers lyned with canvya. 1660 in *Statutes of Realm* (1819) V. 298/1 Verders of Tapistry with haire. 1662 in *Stat. at Large, Ireland* (1765) II. 417 Verders Tapistry, containing eight or ten ells with hair.

b. In singular.

1522–3 *Inv.* in *Archæol.* (1860) XXXVIII. 364 A counterpaynt of verder and a pleyn cubborde. *Ibid.*, Ij^o gret counterpoyntes of verder. 1535–6 in Dugdale *Monast. Angl.* (1823) IV. 542 One chare of lether frynged with one cuyshon of verder. 1594 *Inv.* in *Archæol.* (1884) XLVIII. 126 Item two wollen blanckettes and a coveringe of verders xl *s.*

2. = Verdure 4. *rare*—1.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 357/2 That the olde holsome wine..offend their dronken taste, because it is not so walowe swete but drinketh more of the verder.

†**Verder** 2. *Obs. rare.* [a. AF. *verdier* (13–14th c.) = OF. and F. *verdier* Vendier. See also Verdour 2.] = Verderer 2 1.

a 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 497 *De exonerando viridario forestæ*, to discharge a verder of the forest in like sort. 1717 *Hist. Reg., Chronol. Reg.* 42 Thomas Gage, Esq., elected Verder of the Forest of Dean.

†**Verder** 3, ? mispr. for Verger 2.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 214 [The] high Constable of England bearyng the verder of siluer appertainyng to y^e office of Constableship.

†**Verderer** 1. *Obs.*—1 [Extended form of Verder 1; cf. next.] = Verdurer 3.

c 1350 *Doc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 85 The arrisses, verderers, and tapstrie works, wheare with they be hanged.

Verderer 2 (vɜ·ɹdĕrəɹ). Forms: α. 6–7 verdorur, 7–9 -or. β. 7– verderer. γ. 8– verdurer. [a. AF. *verderer* (1278), extended form of *verder* Verder 2, f. OF. *verd* (var. of *vert*: see Verd *sb.* and Vert *sb.*1):—L. *viridis* green. In med.L. rendered by *viridarius*.]

1. 'A judicial officer of the King's forest..sworn to maintain and keep the assises of the forest, and also to view, receive, and enroll the attachments and presentments of all manner of trespasses of the forest, of vert and venison' (Manwood).

In later use chiefly surviving in connexion with New, Epping, and Dean Forests. Otherwise only *arch.* or *Hist.*

α. 1541–2 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 38 § 5 Surveiyng of Woodes ..in any of ye said Parkes, Forrestes or chases,..and the namynge, rulinge and orderinge of the verderours thereof. 1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 269 These..foure seem to haue been as those which later time haue stiled Verderors of the Forest. 1644 *Coke's Inst.* IV. c. 73 *Courts of Forests* (1797) 289 It was presented by the foresters, verderors, and agisters that the plaintiff has chased and taken deer within the forest. 1667–8 [see Regarder 1]. 1747 Carte *Hist. Eng.* I. 709 He..appointed likewise in each [part] two gentlemen of his household, as verderors to take care of the vert and venison. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 343 He is likewise to decide the elections of knights of the shire,.. of coroners, and of verderors. 1792 Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 20 Besides these officers..there are four others, called verderors. *Ibid.* As The verderor is an ancient forest-officer. 1866 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Apr. 261/1 Under the Norman *régime*, the officers of the Forest were Verderors, Regarders, and Foresters (besides others). *Ibid.* 261/2 The verderor, to look after the vert.

β. 1611 Cotgr., *Segrayer*, a Verderer, or such a like Officer of some authoritie, in forrests. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) II. IV. xvi. 39 A Forest hath Lawes of her own, to take cognisance of all trespasses; she hath also her peculiar Officers, as [illegible] 39 There are severall Rangers of ye forest, and 6 verderers y^t are their justices or judges of all matters relateing to ye forest. 1818 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 210 A forest has laws and officers of its own, as foresters, verderers, &c. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 175/1 The verderers and regarders [of the New Forest] are chosen by the freeholders of Hampshire. *Ibid.*, The verderers have no salary, emolument, or perquisite, besides a fee buck and a fee doe yearly. 1892 *Times* 16 July 11/2 Hampshire..has completed its roll of Unionist county members, the New Forest Division..returning the son of the Verderer, Lord Montagu.

γ. 1734 *Sir R. Atkins' Parl. & Pol. Tracts* 62 As Coroners and Verdurers [1689 Verderers]..are chosen by Writ at the County-Court to this day. 1763 Martin *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. 221 The..Forest of Sherwood..has..a Ranger, 4 Verdurers, 12 Regarders. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* xxxii, [The] hut..of old Martin the verdurer. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* I. iv, The King's verdurer caught him a-hunting in the forest, and cut off his paws.

†**2.** *local.* A petty constable having supervision of a city ward. *Obs.*—1

1791 [see Verderv].

Verderership. Also 8 verdurer-. [f. Verderer 2 + -ship.] The office of a verderer.

1611 Cotgr., *Segrarie*, a Verderership; or such a like Office of account in forrests. 1768 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* VI. 296 The verdurership over Osterforest. 1863 *Guardian* 14 Jan. 25/1 The election of proper persons to fill the vacancies in the verderership of the Forest. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 660/2 Why should not the author of 'The Forest Lovers'..be offered a verderership?

†**Verdery.** *local. Obs.* [a. OF. *verderie* (14th c. in Godef.), f. *verder* Verder 2.] (See quots.)

1792 T. Collinson *Hist. Somerset* III. 375 The city of Wells..is divided into four verderies in the manner of wards, and thus denominated:—High Street Verdery,..and South over Verdery. *Ibid.*, These verderies, each of which is superintended by two verderers, or petty constables (an office originating from the Viridarii of the Bishop's Court of Mendip). 1839 Phelps *Somersetsh.* II. 21 These Verderys [in Wells] are named Chamberlain-street Verdery [etc.].

Verdet (vɜ·ɹdĕt). [a. OF. *verdet* (16th c., = Prov. and Cat. *verdet*, Sp. and Pg. *verdete*, It. *verdetto*), dim. of *verd* Verd *sb.*]

1. *Chem.* An acetate of copper (see quots.).

1588 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 218 Take verdet, or Verdegrise, Vitriol of Almain, and salt Armoniacke. 1589 *Ibid.* III. i. 53 Take Spanishe greene called Verdet,..Vitriol, and Alome of eche equally. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 454 At Montpellier the best Verdet or Verdegreece is made,..which is..nothing but the rust or scurf of copper calcined by the vapour of wine. 1863 Watts *Dict. Chem.* I. 14 Acetates of Copper...The normal salt ($C^4H^3O^3)^2Cu^{II}$, called also Crystallised Verdigris, Verdet,..is produced by dissolving cupric oxide or common verdigris in acetic acid. 1896 Lodeman *Spraying Plants* 44 Verdet is an acetate of copper. There are many such combinations, all being known under the general name of verdet, or verdigris.

2. A fungus which grows upon maize.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 801 There seems therefore to be some quality in the maize itself, which when acted upon by the 'verdet' as the fungus is called, produces a specific poison.

Verdeter, var. VERDITER.

†Verdetto. *rare.* [It.] = VERDET 1.

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* III. 99 They which make Greenes, are greene bize, Verdigrease, *verdetto* called holy, inclining towards a yeallow. 1833 G. FIELD *Chromatography* 129 The greens called Verona green, and Verdetto, or holy green, are similar native pigments [to terre-verte].

Verdeur, var. VERDOUR *Obs.*; obs. f. VERDURE.

Verdges, obs. f. VERJUICE.

†Verdic, *a. Chem. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *verdicus* or F. *verdique*, f. F. *verdir* to become green. Cf. VERDOUS *a.*] (See quots.)

1836-41 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 1198 Verdic Acid.—This acid was extracted by Runge from several of the *Umbelliferæ* and *Plantagineæ*, &c., but chiefly from the root of the *Scabiosa succisa*. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 256/1 Runge states that he found by analysis that verdic acid contains one equivalent of oxygen more than the verdous acid.

Verdict (vɜ́·dikt), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3–7, 9 *dial.*, verdit, 4–7 -dite, 6–7 -ditt, 3–6 verdyt, -dyte, 5 -dytt, -dyth(e; 4 veirdit, 5 verpdit, -dyte; 4–5 voirdit. *β.* 5 wardytte, 6 varditt, -dytt, 6, 9 *dial.*, vardit, 9 *dial.* vardite. Also VARDY. *γ.* 5 verdoit, 6 verduytt, 7 verduit, -duiot. *δ.* 6–7 verediot, 6– verdict, 6 -dicte. [a. AF. *verdit* (= OF. *voirdit*), f. *ver*, *veir* true + *dit*, pa. pple. of *dire* to say, speak. Hence med.L. *verdictum* (*veredictum*), to which the mod. spelling and pronunciation are due. The mod.F. *verdict*, Pg. *verdict*, Sp. *verdicto*, are from Eng.]

1. *Law.* The decision of a jury in a civil or criminal cause upon an issue which has been submitted to their judgement.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9080 He stod vp & sede þe verdit vor al obere þat here were. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 60 b, 3if..þe Juree segge in his veirdit þat te askare is bastard. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2952 Until þai have gyven þair verdite, And outher þar-of made hym qwyte Als þe laghe walde, or made hym gilty. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv* 508/2 Verdyte, *veredictum*. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 40, I took syche a wey with hym that the qwest gave no verdyt. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 78 The verdyte of twelve men taken at large in Assise of disseysine. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) K v, I gyltles was condempned: Such verdits passe where iustyce is contemned. 1591 Q. ELIZABETH in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II (1887) I. 3 To order the landes to our pattentes as shalbe found due, vpon the saide Verdyte. 1614–5 HOYS *Exp. Fest. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1630) 750 When any suite concerning the Clergie shall be tried by your verdite. 1621 QUARLES *Hadassa* Wks. (Grosart) II. 44/2 At last..they put their choyce Vpon the verdit of a Iurie's voyce.

β, γ. 1479 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 28 Thys is the wardytte of xxij men & the constabylla. 1532 *Star Chamb Cases* (Selden) II. 193 To wryte any such pr·sentment or vardytt. *Ibid.* 196 The same homage deed pleynly shewe..the same to be their trewe verduytt.

δ. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 996/1 Whose verdicte the iudge taketh for a sure sentence..without ani examinacion of the circumstances, whereby they know..their verdicte to be true. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* L j b, Our lawe committeth it to the veredict of ..12. men. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 131 Not euer The Iustice and the Truth o' th' question carries The dew o' th' Verdict with it. 1657 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 121 A house and lande, which hee had recovered by law, and by a second verdict lost the same again. 1674 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 281 The jury were about to pass their verdict. 1726 *Life Penn* P.'s Wks. I. 15 The Agreement of Twelve Men is a Verdict in Law. 1782 COWPER *Truth* 448 The jury meet, the coroner is short, And lunacy the verdict of the court. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 519 On the trial the Judge directed the jury to find a verdict for the plaintiff. 1885 *Public Opinion* 9 Jan. 36/2 An advocate who wins an unjust verdict has contributed to bring about a miscarriage of justice.

Comb. 1892 *Daily News* 10 May 2 Though Mr. Bramwell had a good practice, he was never a great verdict-getter.

b. Without article.

1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 509/2 Founde gilty be verdite of xii notable men. *a* 1500 in *Archæol.* (1904) LIX. 10 By the ·· lawe..ther lith non atteynt upon untrewe verdit ·· ffyn in London. 1535 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 27 A jurie..incontinent gave verditt of them beinge guiltie of the same treason 1577 HARRISON *England* II. ix. (1877) I. 202 Our trials and recoueries are either by verdict and demourre, confession or default. 1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 23 The Iurie gaue verdit and said guiltie. 1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 22 In case any should..obtain Verdict on their side. 1797 TOMLINS *Jacob's Law Dict.* s.v., Another rule at Common law is, that surplusage will not vitiate after Verdict.

c. With particularizing addition.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v., This verdict is two-fold: either generall or especiall...A generall verdict is that, which is giuen or brought into the Court, in like generall termes to the generall issue. *Ibid.*, This speciall verdict, if it containe any ample declaration of the cause, from the beginning to the end, is also called a verdict at large. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* I. 228 b, There be two kindes of verdicts; viz. one generall, and another at large or especiall. *Ibid.*, It is therefore called a speciall Verdict or a Verdict at large, because they finde the speciall matter at large, and leave the iudgement of law thereupon to the Court. 1628 [see PRIVY *a.* 8]. 1665 [see SPECIAL *a.* 7]. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 377 The only effectual and legal verdict is the public verdict; in which they openly declare to have found the issue for the plaintiff, or for the defendant. 1769 *Ibid.* IV. 354 The jury cannot, in a criminal cause, give a privy verdict. But an open verdict may be either general, guilty, or not guilty. 1832 TOMLINS *Law Dict.* s.v., Where a verdict is given by thirteen jurors, it is said to be a void verdict; because no attaint would lie. 1854, 1884 [see PRIVILEGE *a.* 1 c]. 1894 [see SEALED *ppl. a.* 2].

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A judgement given by some body or authority acting as, or likened to, a jury.

c 1382 CHAUCER *Parlt. Foules* 525, I iuge on euery folk men shul on calle To seyn the verdit for yow foulys alle. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Love* 63 b, The euidence ..whereby..that verdict should be gathered, which shall passe againat vs. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Add. (1612) 338 The Iurour could not but giue Verdict for Elisa, and the Iudge sentence against Æneas. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ii. § 8 They are here presently to abide the verdite of battaile. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 324 Though Reason here aver That moral verdit quits her of unclean. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. 295 Ought we not in this, as well as in other things, to..bring in an honest verdict for nature as well as art? 1850 HAWTHORNE *Mark. Faun* (Tauchn.) II. xvi. 177 Might we not render some such verdict as this?—'Worthy of Death but not unworthy of Love'. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. vi. 501 The great Earl is at least entitled to a verdict of Not Proven, if not of Not Guilty.

3. *transf.* A decision or opinion pronounced or expressed upon some matter or subject; a finding, conclusion, or judgement.

α. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 787 (Petworth), Vs þoust it was not wor·se to make to wiv..And bad him seie his veredit (*var.* verdit(e, vdrdit, verdoit) as him lest. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 83 Clatering pyes, whan tha come in presence, Most malapert there verdit to purpose. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 73 When the messenger was gone, euery man began to say his verdite. 1585 DANIEL *Paul. Ionius* Pref., Neither must wee depend vpon the verdite of some conceited Philosophers. 1627 BP. HALL *Epist.* II. v. 302 There is none of all my labours..whereof I would so willingly heare the verdit of the wise and iudicious. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1028 Can'st thou for this, vain boaster, to survey me, To descant on my strength, and give thy verdict? 1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 80 *Verdi, Verdit*, opinion. 1873 WILLIAMS & JONES *Somerset Gloss.* 40 That's my verdit, therefore I say't.

β. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Staphylus' Apol.* 161 b, For they pardie by the vardit of Luther, are all damned, if they thought as they taught. 1577 *Misogonus* IV. ii. 97 To take thy neighboures varditt in such a case thou must not sticke. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Varditte*, verdict, opinion. 1877 PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 263, I think we shall hev snaw; what's your vardit? *Ibid.*, Thoo's alus pokin' in thy vardit.

γ. 14 . Verdoit [see a]. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 197 No one mystery, administration, worke or ordinance of his can passe her fingers, without some verduit or other of her owne. *Ibid* 345 The ten spies bringing a verduict of sense to their brethren.

δ. 1585 GREENE *Planetomachia, Saturnes Trag.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 111 Psammeticus..thought it a longe time to yeelde so small a verdict. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 43, I end with this verdict, the Iew and the Iesuite, is a Pultrone and a Parasite. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* Pref., It..shall stand or fall by your Verdict. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 76 This representation is authenticated by the verdict of his country. 1819 KEATS *Otho* v. v, Those tears will wash away a just resolve, A verdict ten times sworn! 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* III. i, The verdict of humanity is always against any individual member of the species who presumes to differ from the rest. 1882 C. PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xvii. 127 No controversy is supposed to be closed till the *Times* has given its verdict.

b. Without article.

1537 [? TINDALE] *Exp. St. John* 93 Of such he geueth verdyte contynently. *Ibid.* 100 The Apostle Jhon. gaue such verdyte. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* x. E vj b, In learnyng rype, in veitue juste, in verdite sharpe and sage. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 27 Iudge thy selfe, by verdit of thine eye, Whether to me they are not subiect all.

†4. A vote or suffrage. *Obs.*—1

1580 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 431 Neither the Mayor,..nor any Mayors peare, shall have either at the tyme of ellection or for any other cause but the verdicte of one man.

Verdict, *v. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To pass judgement upon, to give decision or pronounce an opinion concerning (some person or thing).

1594 Q. ELIZABETH in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 349 We princes are set upon h ghest stage, where looks of all beholders verdict our works. 1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 16 Must a Iury of Trades be busied to verdict him readie?

2. *intr.* To pronounce a verdict or sentence *against* something.

1898 *Literature* 12 Nov. 439 Lawful men of the neighbourhood ..verdict entirely against their own temporal interest.

†Verdier. *Obs.*—[o] = VERDER 2.

1612 COTGR., *Verdier*, a Verdier, or ouerseer of a forest; a Iudge or Officer .. who commaunds all the Rangers, Woodwards, Foresters, &c.

Verdigris (vɜ́·digris). Forms: *α.* 4 verdegres, 4–6 -gres(e, 5 -greys, 7 -grease, -griese, 7–8 -grease; 5–6 verdegreece, 6–7 -greece, 7–8 -greece; 6–9 verdigrease, 6 -grese, 6–8 -greese (7 verdie-), 6 verdigrece, 7 -greace, -greece; 6 verdygresse, -grace, 7 virdigreace, -greese. *β.* 4 vertegres, 5–6 -grece (5 vertegreece, 6 verthigreace), 5 vertgres, -greez, 6 -grese, -gresse, 7 -greece. *γ.* 5 vert de grece, 7 vertdegreese. *δ.* 6, 8–9 verdegris (6 verddegris), 7–9 verdigriss, 8– verdigris. *ε.* 6 vargrease, vergres(se (wer-), vergrys, *Sc.* vern-, varngris. [a. AF. and OF. *vert de Grece* (*c* 1170), OF. *verte gres* (13th c.), *vert de grice* (1314), *verte-gris* (15th c.; also mod.F.), lit. 'green of Greece'; see VERT *sb.*1 Cf. med.L. *viride græcum* (14–15th c.). The terminal syllable at an early date was no longer understood and hence underwent various corruptions of spelling and pronunciation.]

1. A green or greenish blue substance obtained artificially by the action of dilute acetic acid on thin plates of copper (or a green rust naturally forming on copper and brass), and much used as a pigment, in dyeing, the arts, and medicine; basic acetate of copper.

α. 1336–7 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 92 In ij libris dim. de verdegrese empt., ijs. vd. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Chanon Yeom. Prol. & T.* 791 (Corpus), 3it wol I telle hem...As boole armoniak, Verdegres, Boras. 1417 in *Feod. Acc. & Hen. V*, as Cerusa is verdegreys made,...and comyth of vapour of stronge vyneygre shed vpon plates of brasse. 1532 in E. Law *Hampton Crt. Pal.* (1885) 363, 3 sackes of verdygrece conteynyng 23 lb. 1582 BATMAN *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* Add. 259 Verdigrese, which as it is a colour for Painters, so it is a fretting poison. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 891 Metalls give Orient and Fine Colours..in their Putrefactions or Rusts; as Vermilion, Verdegrease, Bise. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. iii. i. 341 A sort of Native Verdegriese, from the Copper-Mines of Herngrundt. 1691 *Patent Specif.* No. 270, Verdigrease being a commodity of great use in this our realme, especially for painting and dying, and never hitherto made here. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Dispens.* II. iii. (1734) 97 The Verdigrease which is made by the pressings of the Wine put upon plates of Copper. 1798 *Ann. Reg.* 292 That their process in salt-making would dissolve the surface of the copper, into verdigrease. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. i. iii. 107 The head of a Roman spear..of brass..and..encrusted with verdigrease.

β. 1300–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 500 In vertegres, molle, atramento. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 791 (Ellesm.), Boole armoryak, vertgrees, Boras. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 82 Wax and oile..dulle þe scharpnes of vertgrese, and vertgrese represseþ þair putrefaccion and humeccacion. 1487–8 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 412 Pro xj li. de colore viridi, anglice, vertagrece, xx. xd. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 151 [Turpentine] is good for lepra, wyth vert greese. 1573 *Art of Limning* 6 To temper Vertgrese, called Spanishe greene. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* 82 Vert-greece is nothing else but the rust of brasse. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Verd-grease* or *vert-greece*.

γ. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 257 Take hony..& þan do þerto 3 ij. of vert de grece. 1694 Verdegrease [see a].

δ. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Aerugo*,..verd degris: the rust of brasse either artificiall or naturall. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 196 Gladyn pounde with a little Verdegris..draweth forth al kindes of thornes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 472 This is altogither artificiall, and is made of Cyprian verdegris or rust of brasse. 1682 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* ii. § 4 (1689) 9 Half a Pound of green Copperas, [and] as much Verdigrise. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 279 Corrosive drugs..Dry allum, verdigrise, or vitriole keen. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 378 Here is a brassy scent in the air as of verdigris. 1819 SHELLEY (*Edipus* II. i. 76 Scorpions are green, and water-snakes, and efts, And verdigris. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1273 Verdigris is a mixture of the crystallized acetate of copper and the sub-acetate, in varying proportions. 1859 ROYLE *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 172 Ærugo or Verdigris must have been early known, from the employment of Copper vessels.

ε. 1505–6 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 187 For tua pund vergreis to him, xijs. 1526 *Ibid.* 293, vj pund vergreis. 1532–3 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 65 Pro duabus libris ly wergresse, ijs. 1598 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 103 For vargrase to dresse the oxe feete.

b. *transf.* (See quots.) *rare.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 186 There is no part of the Frog so medicinable as is the bloud...The same also being made into a Verdigreace, & drunke [etc.]. [1844 HOOD *The Turtles* 116 He mention'd Aldermen deceased,..And speculated on that *verdigrease* That isn't poison.]

c. With qualifying adjs. (see quots.).

1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 91 One or two Drams of distill'd Verdigrease. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v., These are the crystals of verdegrease, improperly called distilled the absurd term distilled verdigris. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 14 The bibasic salt or blue verdigris is prepared at Montpellier. *Ibid.* 15 Green Verdigris.

2. *attrib.*, as *verdigris blue, colour, water*; **verdigris green**, a green of a bright, bluish hue; æruginous green.

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. i. 129 His skin became of a Verdigreese or yellow-green colour. 1674 W. LEYBOURNE *Compl. Surveyor* 311 Vertdegrease water and yellow berry water make a transparent Green. 1758 in Dodsley *Fug. Pieces* (1761) II. 84 The Unwholesomeness of the Rust and Verdegrease Suffusions. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 28 Verdigris green—that [colour] in which no shade of yellow is perceptible, rather bluish. 1829–37 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 67 Verdigris-green is emerald-green mixed with much Berlin-blue, and a little white. 1832 T. BROWN *Bk. Butterflies & M.* (1834) I. 213 A rich verdigris blue, of fine satiny lustre. 1896 GEORGIANA M. STUBBS *Life Sir R. F. Burton* II. 31 That look-like verdigris which one associates only with early spring in the

Hence **Verdigrisy** *a.*, of the colour of verdigris.

1897 C. MOSLEY *Stud. Board Schools* 193 Can that bit of verdigrisy green be dried salt?

Verdigrised, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Coated, or tainted with verdigris.

1851 TENNANT *Adv. Voyager Sea* I. 218 We hoisted up four verdigrised brass nine-pounders. 1853–8 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) I. 63 An old verdigrised brass bugle.

Verdingal(e, variants of VARDINGALE *Obs.*

Verdit(e, obs. forms of VERDICT.

†Verditer. *Chem. Obs.* [f. VERD-OUS *a.* + -ITE2

¾ b.] A salt produced by the action of verdous acid on a base

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 159 The precipitate consists of verdite of lead. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 256/1 The earthy or metallic *verdites* are yellow, while the *ver dates* of the same bases are green.

† **Verditel.** *Obs.*[-1] = next 1.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 250 By gradually adding the powder, in some time, on the ceasing of the violence of effervescence, the Copper will precipitate in a green powder, called Verditel.

Verditer (vɜ·ɪditəɹ). Forms: α. 6-verditer, 6 viriditer, 8 verdeter. β. 6 verdytor, 7 verditor. γ. 7-9 verditure, 7 virditur. [a. OF. *verd de terre* (later F. *vert de terre*), lit. 'green of earth': see VERD *sb.* Holland *Pliny* (1601) II. 528 employs the OF. form.]

1. A kind of pigment of a green, bluish green, or (more freq.) light blue colour, usu. prepared by adding chalk or whiting to a solution of nitrate of copper, and much used in making crayons and as a water-colour.

α. 1505-6 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 184, iij di. pund verditer; ilk pund vjs. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 94 Rosset j lb. viiid; verditer xiiijd. 1568 in *Statutes at Large, Ireland* (1765) II. 417 Verditer, the hundred weight,..£1 6s. 8d. 1674 W. LEYBOURNE *Compl. Surveyor* 310 Verditer, washed and tempered with Gum-water, is a good Blew. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Dyeing*, Bright green is first dyed blue, then back-boiled with braziletto, and verdeter. 1783 PRIESTLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 406 An ounce of copper from verditer absorbed 403 ounce measures. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 150 Bremen blue, or verditer, a greenish blue colour obtained from copper mixed with chalk or lime. *Ibid.* 1275 Verditer, or Bremen Green..is a light powder, like magnesia, having a blue or bluish green colour. 1873 *Beeton's Dict. Comm., Sealing-Wax*..is a composition of gum-lac, melted and incorporated with resin, and afterwards coloured with some pigment, as vermilion, verditer.

β. 1532 in E. Law *Hampton Crt. Pal.* (1883) 363, 2 lb. of verdytor, at 16*d.* the lb. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 (1786) III. 157/2 Verditor, the hundred weight,..j li. vj^{s} viij^{d}.

γ. 1606 PEACHAM *Art Drawing* 54 Take your Verditure, and grind it with a weak Gum Arabick Water, it is the faintest and palest green that is. 1674 W. LEYBOURNE *Compl. Surveyor* 310 Verditure washed and tempered with Gum water, makes a Green not transparent.

b. With particularizing terms, as *blue, green, refined blue, refiners' verditer.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 17 Virdigreace, and Green Viriditur, for Greens...But all must be ground with soft Varnish. 1732 J. PEELE *Water-Colours* 62 Blue Verditer is a very bright, pleasant blue. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* (ed. 6) I. 184 Blue verditer or smalt, mixed with enamel, will make a good blue paint. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 504/2 It [blue carbonate of copper] is of a fine light blue colour, and known by the name of refiners' verditer. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s. v., There are refined blue, and green verditers. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 345 The paint known as blue verditer is hydrated oxide of copper obtained by decomposing nitrate of copper with hydrate of lime.

c. Hence occas. in pl.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 72 For Smalts and verditures, I have been able with a microscope to perceive their particles very many of them transparent. 1835 G. FIELD *Chromatography* 113 These blues..as pigments are precisely of the character of verditers.

2. The blue or green colour characteristic of verditer.

1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* v. 422 The sacred hill..Clad in bright verditure and Prussian blue. 1858 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 507/2 Flies..done in the brightest of verditer and ultramarine. 1877 Miss A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* vii. 185 The prevailing colours..are verditer and chocolate.

3. *attrib.* a. With names of colours, esp. *verditer blue.*

1551-2 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 71 Grownde white leade, viijd. Verditer grene, ixd. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 17 Virditur Indico and Bice for Blews. *Ibid.*, Virditur Indico..and Green Virditur. 1732 J. PEELE *Water-Colours* 62 Verditer-Green is a light Green. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 571 Greenish blue approaching in richness to verditer blue. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* xiii. (1868) 239 A large patch of feathers on the top of the head glows and flashes with metallic splendour, and is of a vivid verditer blue. 1892 G. E. SHELLEY *Catal. Birds Brit. Mus.* XIX. 95 Throat verditer-blue, with paler blue central lines. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 18 The magnificent verditer-blue giant plantain-eater.

b. In the sense 'of the colour of verditer'.

1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 571 A grayish white chin is followed by a verditer throat. 1893 SYMONDS *In Key of Blue* 21 Verditer hues of water-snakes.

Verdius, Verdjuice, obs. ff. VERJUICE.

† **Verdoire.** *Obs.*[-1] [Irreg. var. *verdor* VERDOUR 1.] = VERDURE 2 c.

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 142 The Smaragd (commonly called the Emeraud)..exceedeth the cullors of all herbs or Verdoires.

Verdoit, obs. variant of VERDICT *sb.*

‖ **Verdona.** [Sp., f. *verde* green.] A variety of wine (see quots.).

1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. i. 10 Verdona is green strong-bodied Wine, harsher and sharper than Canary. 1833 C. REDDING *Hist. Mod. Wines* (1851) 210 Verdona, a green wine, of good body,..formerly grown on the western side of that island, and shipped at Santa Cruz for the West Indian market, little or none coming to Europe.

† **Verdour**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: α. 5 verdeur, 5-7 verdour (6 *Sc.* wer-), 6 veerdour, *Sc.* verdeour; 5 *Sc.* wardur, 6 vardour, *Sc.* wardour(e. β. 5 *Sc.* wardor, 6-7 verdor, 7 verdore. [a. OF. *verdour, verdor* (13th c.; = Prov., Sp., Pg. *verdor*, It. *verdore*), later *verdeur* (mod.F. dial *vardeur*), f. *verd* green: see -OR 1 and cf. VERDER[1] and VERDURE.]

1. Fresh greenness (of vegetation); *fig.* fresh or flourishing condition.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 213 The verdour or grennesse & the redolence Of good fame. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 156 b/a The blessyd George was hygh in deuocyon lowe thynges and therfore he had verdeur in hym self. 1510 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. vii. (1611) 106 He beareth Argent, three sterued branches,..this being mortified and vnuested of the verdour which sometime it had. 1646 QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 87/1 (*heading*), The worldly man's Verdour. Contrasting the prosperous condition of the worldly..man [etc.].

b. Taste, *esp.* fresh or pleasant taste; = VERDURE 4. Also *fig.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 154 And the vyne answered sayenge, I may not leaue my swetnes and pleasaunt verdour, whiche so delyteth..bothe god & man. 1549 COVERDALE, etc., *Erasm. Par. Jas.* II. 35 But every frute is lyke unto hys owne tree, and hathe the verdour of the juyce of hys owne rote. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 223 Those plantes which our auncestors had brought hither out of Normandie had lost their native verdour, whether you did eate their substance, or drink their iuice, which we call Cyder. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 5 We see in all other pleasures [than learning] there is satietie; and after they bee used, their verdour departeth.

2. = VERDURE 3.

1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 118 Oon other [counterpoint] of greene verdours with trees; oon other of white verdour with a scripture. 1493 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 10 A cuvaryng of wardur, cost 12*s.* 1531-2 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 371 For iiij peces of verdours for hanginges, vj*li.* xiij*s.* iiij*d* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 165 b, The newe banket chamber..was hanged with a costly verdor all new, the ground therof was all gold and the flowers were all of Sattyn silver. 1574 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 32 Ane lettgant bed furneist withe Flandreis werdour, blancattis, scheitis, and coddis.

attrib. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 157 A verdour bed to the Duk. 1501 *Ibid.* II. 31, vj elne cammas deliverit to Jame Dog to mend the verdeour clathis in Strivelin. 1532 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees) 133 A covering of a bedde of verdour werke lyned with canvas.

3. = VERDURE 2.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritt Wemen* 30 As new spynist rose, Arrayit ryallie about with mony rich wardour. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 857/1 Vnder it antike images of gold inuironed with verdor of olifs cast in compasse. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 11. 30 Salomon became inabled..to compile a naturall Historie of all Verdor, from the Cedar vpon the Mountaine, to the mosse vppon the wall.

4. = VERDURE 1 b. *rare*[-1].

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 266 There appeareth to the eye a certeyne verdour shynynge lyke the beames of the soonne.

† **Verdour**[2]. *Obs. rare.* Also 6 vierdour, 6-7 verdor. [a. AF. *verdour* (1327), var. of *verder* VERDER 2.] = VERDERER 2 1.

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* p. lxxx/1 And to this Swanmot..shall com to gedurs forestars and vierdours and non other be distraint. 1594 CROMPTON *Jurisd.* 109 If a man be indited of Trespasse done in the forrest before verdors, regardors, agistors, and other Ministers of the Forrest [etc.]. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Verdour*..a Iudiciall Officer of the Kings forest, chosen by the King, in the full county of the same shire, within the forest, where he doth dwell. *Ibid.*, The verdour is made by the Kings writ,..which is directed to the shyreeue for the choice of him in a full Countie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (after Cowell), *Verderer* or *Verdor*, a Judicial Officer of the Kings Forrest. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 210 A forest has laws and officers of its own, as foresters, verdours, rangers, and agisters.

† **Verdous,** *a. Chem. Obs.* [see VERDIC *a.* and -OUS.] *Verdous acid*: (see quots.).

1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1198 On evaporation [of an extract from the root of *Scabiosa succisa*] a yellow acid product is obtained: in this state Berzelius proposes to call it *verdous acid.* 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 256 1 Berzelius..proposes to call the colourless the *verdous* and the coloured the *verdic* acid.

Verdoy, *sb.* and *a.* [ad. F. *verdoyé*, pa. pple. of *verdoyer*: see next.]

† A. *sb.* = VERDURE 3. *Obs.*[-1]

1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 166 Item v peces of verdes for hanginges.

B. *adj. Her.* Of a bordure: (see quots. 1562 and 1610).

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 190 b, The sixte [emborduring] is called Verdoye, as when it is occupied with frewtes, leaues, or slippes. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. v. (1611) 80 This terme Verdoy is appropriated to all bordures charged with leaues, flowers, fruits, and other the like vegetables. [Hence in Phillips (1658), and in later Dicts.] 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* II. vi. 62 Sable, a bordure or, charged with Verdoy of Trefoiles aliped to the number of eight. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bordure*, If a Bordure be charg'd with any Parts of Plants or Flowers, they say *Verdoy* of *Trefoils*, or whatever Flower it be. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 68.

† **Verdoy,** *v. Obs.*[-1] [ad. OF. *verdoier* (12th c.), *verdoyer*, f. *verd* VERD *sb.*] *intr.* To become green.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* x. i, A grene medowe full of herbes verdoying or wexyng grene.

† **Verd-sauce,** variant of VERT SAUCE. *Obs.*

1499 *Prompt. Parv.* (P.), Verd sawce, *virida salsamentum.*

† **Verdue,** irreg. variant of VERDURE.

In the earliest instance app. a simple misprint, but perh. accepted by later writers.

1642 *Sylvester's Du Bartas* II. i. *Handycrafts* 334 A Grove Upon the verdue [edd. 1605, 1621 verdure] of whose Virginboughs Bird had not perch't. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man loc. Guilty* 176 'I will make snow black, to make a womans face seem fair, tarnish the verdue of the rose, to exalt the freshnesse of her Complexion. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 124 The month of May coming in with its verdue.

‖ **Verdugal.** *Obs.* Also 6 vardygall, 7 vertugal, vertigal. [OF. *verdugale, vertugale*: see VARDINGALE.] A farthingale.

1558-9 SIR R. CLOUGH in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) I. lv. 251 After that, came 1 other horse coveryd with cloth of golde to the grownde, which stoode lyke unto the gentyllwomen's vardygalls. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* v. 215 Amongst his vertugals for ayde he drew From his Lieutenant. 1611 *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses, The Gallery of 'Donna Amorosa'..in Arabia Deserta which is a meere Magazin of verdugals.

‖ **Verdugo.** *Obs. rare.* [Sp. (also Pg.) *verdugo* hangman, lash, rod, shoot, = It. *verduco* narrow-bladed sword.] A hangman or executioner. Also employed as a term of abuse.

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* II. i, *Wel.* Where are my slippers Sir? *Ser*[*vant*]. Here Sir. *Wel.* Where Sir? have you got the pot Verdugo? have you seen the Horses Sir? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* IV. i, Contrive your beard o'th top cut like Verdugoes.

Hence † **Verdugoship,** the personality of a verdugo or executioner. *Obs.*[-1]

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. iii, His great Verdugo-ship [=a Spaniard] has not a iot of language; So much the easier to be cosen'd, my Dolly.

Verduiot, -duit, obs. variants of VERDICT.

† **Verdurant,** *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. next + -ANT 1.] Green, verdant.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* N iv b, As she walked one daye in her verdurant garden alone.

Verdure (vɜ·ɪdiúɹ). Also 5 uerdure, 6 verdur, 7 verdeur, 8 verduer. [a. OF. *verdure* (12th c.; = It., Sp., Pg. *verdura*), f. *verd* green + -URE. Cf. VERDOUR 1.]

I. 1. The fresh green colour characteristic of flourishing vegetation; greenness, viridity.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 161 Alle his vesture uerayly was clene verdure. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. i. 58 Th e appel was..borne fro the grene tree and put vpon the dryе tre for to restoren this dryе tree to verdure and to freshenes. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 212 The large feeldys shulde be bareyn, No corn up growe nor greyn in his verdure. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 87 He was The Ivy which had hid my princely Trunck, And suckt my verdure out on't. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 67 We see the Ivy full of Verdure, on the most withered tree. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 404 Ingratitude..cuts off the soul like a branch from the root that gave it life and verdure. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Seculare* xli, Let twisted Olive bind those Laurels fast, Whose Verdure must for ever last. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 229 When the snow lay very thick upon the burnet, that part of it which was above the snow had all the verdure of spring. 1838 *Murray's Hand Bk. N. Germ.* 165/2 Another valley..clothed with meadows of the brightest verdure. 1910 *19th Cent.* Feb. 285 The perennial verdure of cypress and pine, ilex and box was invaluable.

fig. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 390 A spark of fire,..if it falls..into green wood or watery places,..does no harm. Penitent tears, and the verdure of humility prevent such flames and extinguish the quarrel.

b. With *a* and pl. A shade or tint of green.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 776 A cronell of lawrell with verduris light and darke I haue deuysyd for Skelton. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* (1611) 10 Most vegitables, so long as they flourish, are beautified with this verdure: and is a colour most wholsome and pleasant to the eie. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. p. xxv, The fir..clothed with leaves stiff, filiform, and of a dark verdure.

2. Green vegetation; plants or trees, or parts of these, in a green and flourishing state.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 4979 A ferly faire tre..vold of all hire verdure & vacant of leues. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 104 Some ran for to gadre of the grene herbes and verdure for to caste a long on the waye. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 432 The tyme of wynter which trees doth deface And causyth all verdure to a voyde quyte. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 828 Then shall this Mount..by might of Waves be moovd Out of his place,..With all his verdure spoil'd. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales, Proposals*, etc. 115 To him who longest shall maintain the Field This blooming Verdure on my Brows I yield. 1775 JOHNSON *Lett.* (1788) I. 288, I can look into Lucy's garden...I believe she has hardly any fruit but gooseberries; but so much verdure looks pretty in a town. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* III. 39 Voluptuous Vine,..To the trunk thou interlacest [thou] Art the verdure which embracest. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abroad* I. 2 Flourishing young plantations put forth their early verdure. 1886 SHELDON tr. *Flaubert's Salammbô* 14 The fire spread from tree to tree, until the tall mass of verdure resembled a volcano beginning to smoke.

fig. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 189 At this a surpris'd start Frosted the springing verdure of his heart.

Comb. 1912 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 316/1 Around us were the precipitous verdure-clad cliffs.

b. *esp.* Green grass or herbage.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 3 In may was neuer no medews sene Motleyd with flours on hys verdure grene. 1515 BARCLAY *Eglogues* v. (1570) D ij/1 What time the verdure of ground & euery tre, By frost and stormes is priuate of beautee. 1638 COWLEY *Love's Riddle* IV, [Thoughts] and the pleasant verdure of the fields Made me forget the way. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xiii. § 2 The earth will not appear painted with flowers, nor the fields covered with verdure, whenever he has a mind to it. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* III, Along the bottom of this valley the most vivid verdure was spread. 1846 M^CCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 143 The Cheviot

bills are..distinguished by their fine green verdure. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 52 Praising still That sott tread on velvet verdure, as it wound through hill and hill.

†c. *pl.* Green plants or herbs. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 3824 She lepte the fenestre vppon, Aboue beheld she uerdures flouresshinge. *c* 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 13/22 In wodes ben the verdures, Bremibles, bremble berries. 1631 G. Townshend *Tempe Restor'd* 4 All this second story seem'd of Silver worke inwrt with fresh Verdures. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard* II. 199 Parsley..is comprehended under the Title of Verdures or green Pot-herbs. 1729 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* ix. 282 May It is now the time of the flourishing reign of all Verduers and green things. 1782 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* ix. 206 He might perhaps now and then meet with a little smooth way,..or be flattered with some verdures and the smiles of a few daisies on the banks of the road.

†3. A rich tapestry ornamented with representations of trees or other vegetation. *Obs.*

Common *c* 1525–*c* 1550 after French usage: see also Verder[1] 2, Verdour[1] 2.

1513 *MS. Papers 5 Hen. VIII*, No. 4101 (Publ. Rec. Office), A Counterpoynt of paly verdure,..an old counterpoint of Redde verdures. *c* 1550 *Dice-Play* (Percy) 9 Divers well trimmed chambers, the worst of them apparelled with verdures. 1585 *Rates of Custome* E viij, Tappistry with wul or Verdure the flemish elle, xii. d.

II. †4. Freshness or agreeable briskness of taste in fruits or liquors; also simply, taste, savour.

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 614 A swete tree bryngeth forth..Swete fruyte and delycyous in tast and verdure. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 216 Being parched and brent .it engenderethe the verdure and taste of salte. 1574 R. Scot *Hop Gard.* (1578) 6 That Ale..borroweth the Hoppe, as without the which it wanteth his chiefe grace and best verdure. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 424 Upon such a chaunce and unhappie accident it [new wine] looseth the verdure and quicke tast. 1621 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xxiv. (1614) 47/1 The very wines made thereof..being little inferior in sweet verdure to the French wines.

fig. 1630 Donne *Serm.* (1640) 133 Every word in them [the Scriptures] hath his waight and value, his taste and verdure.

†b. Sharpness, tartness, or unpleasantness of taste. *Obs.*

In last quot. perh. only a contextual application of the general sense of 'taste': see prec.

1508 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B v b, This wyne is of verdure. *Hoc vinum est acre.* 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 152 The wines which by age and long keeping, lay downe their verdure and become sweet. 1606 Br. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* xxi. vi. 512 Something they must haue to complaine of, that shall giue an vnsauory verdure to their sweetest morsels.

†5. Smell; odour. Also *fig. Obs.*

1520 Whitinton *Vulg.* (1527) 15 This wyne drynketh of a good verdure (*delicati odoris*). 1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 165 Let lillies wither on the stalke, and weare violets in thy hand, the one faire and vnsauorie, the other blacke but of sweete verdure. 1594 R. C[arew] *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 309 What is the cause, that the excrements of brute beasts haue not so vnpleasant a verdure, as those of mankind? 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 377 The good Baulme .. in smell .. should have an harsh verdeur. *Ibid.* 429 The Oile-olive..hath of all other the best verdure, and in tast excelleth the rest. 1716 M. Davies *Athen Brit.* II. 351 The powerful Verdures of the foresaid Allium, Cepa, &c.

6. *fig.* Fresh or flourishing condition.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Psalms* lxxi. v, Do not then, now age assaileth, Courage, verdure, vertue faileth, Do not leave me cast away. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. i. 49 Euen so by Loue, the yong and tender wit Is turn'd to folly, blasting in the Bud, Loosing his verdure, euen in the prime. 1619 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 229 Whatsoever I should write now, of any passages of these days, would lose their verdure before the letter came to you. *a* 1664 Kath. Philips *Poems* (1667) 44 In Youth she did attract (for she The Verdure had without the Vanity). 1670 Clarendon *Contempl. on Psalms* Tracts (1727) 653 If he discontinues to give, all his former bounties have lost their verdure, and wither away. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xix. 149 My lord's protecting hand alone would raise My drooping verdure, and extend my praise. 1754 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) III. 67, I am in no fear of not finding you in perfect verdure. 1849 Lytton *Disowned* x, Those years make the prime and verdure of our lives.

7. *fig.* Signs of gullibility; = Green *sb.* 2 c.

1861 H. C. Pennell *Puck on Pegasus* 75 Perceiv'st thou verdure in my eye?

Verdured (vɜ·ɹdiud), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed.]

†1. Of wine: Having a (specified) taste. *Obs.*

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* III. xviii. (1541) 69 Moderate vse of small wynes, clere and well verdured, is herein very commendable. 1548 Udall *Erasmus Par. Luke* vi. 73 The sower verdured wyne of the olde superstition.

2. Clad with verdure or vegetation; covered with grass.

a 1718 T. Parnell *Gift of Poetry* (1894) 193 Lonely pleasure leads To verdur'd banks, to paths adorn'd with flowers. 1798 W. Mavor *Brit. Tourists* V. 71 The terrific ascent of St. Catherine's .is well verdured. 1839 Arnold in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. App. 398 There are two houses just built by the roadside, and opposite to them a little patch of ground just verdured. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 734/2 A peculiar valley .. made up of palisades and verdured plateaus.

Verdureless (vɜ·ɹdiūlés), *a.* [f. Verdure + -less.] Destitute of verdure; lacking vegetation; bare, bleak. (Freq. from *c* 1850.)

1824 Moir in *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 394 The bright-feather'd tribes of the sea..bask on the verdureless brow of the deep. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xiv, My heart is like a branch long broken from its stem, withered and verdureless. 1877 Dawson *Orig. World* viii. 181 It was a world of bare, rocky peaks, and verdureless valleys.

Verdurer, variant of Verderer[2].

Verdurous (vɜ·ɹdiūres), *a.* Also 7–9 *poet.* verd'rous. [f. Verdure + -ous.]

1. Of vegetation: Rich or abounding in verdure; flourishing thick and green.

1604 Drayton *Moyses* II. 51 The loathsome Hemlock as the verdurous Rose, These filthy Locusts equally deuowre. 1618 — *Poly-olb.* xv. 196 The sent-full Camomill, the verdurous Costmary. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 35 Where the lowing Herd Chews verd'rous Pasture. *c* 1730 Shenstone *Economy* I. 129 Lovely as when th' Hesperian fruitage smil'd Amid the verd'rous grove! 1818 Cary *Dante, Purg.* xxix. 89 Four animals, each crown'd with verdurous leaf. 1835 J. P. Kennedy *Horse Shoe R.* xii, The rich, verdurous and lively forest that encompassed this blighted spot. 1837 Howitt *Rur. Life* II. i. (1862) 89 Green fields and verdurous trees or deep woodlands lying all round. 1888 *Athenæum* 23 May 669/1 Verdurous masses of foliage and sward disposed with great simplicity and breadth.

fig. and *transf.* 1857 Willmott *Pleas. Lit.* xxiii. 148 Of these, Philosophy is one of the most verdurous and throws the broadest shadow. 1876 Blackie *Songs Relig. & Life* 197 With banners of gold and of silver,..And verdurous power in his path When he comes in the pride of the May.

b. Of places, etc.: Covered or clothed with verdure; displaying a rich (green) vegetation.

1717 E. Fenton *Poems* 93 There the Flocks And Herds of Phœbus o'er the verd'rous Lawn Browze fatt'ning pasture. 1772 Sir W. Jones *Seven Found.* Poems (1777) 37 Green hillocks,.. And verdurous plains with winding streams bedew'd. 1796 Coleridge *To Chas. Lloyd* 51 That verdurous hill with many a resting-place. *c* 1818 Keats *Fr. J. H. Reynolds* 58 The verd'rous bosoms of those isles. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. 80 Spots like those in the lowlands of Northern Germany, verdurous and seemingly solid. 1892 Mrs. H. Ward *David Grieve* II. 302 A playing wind sprang up,..freshening the verdurous ways through which they passed.

2. Consisting or composed of verdure.

1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 143 Yet higher then thir tops The verdurous wall of Paradise up sprung. 1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 533 Why did not the Earth protend her verdurous offerings. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* VI. xxvii, Clasping its gray rents with a verdurous woof, A hanging dome of leaves. 1818 Keats *Endymn.* III. 490 Just when the light of morn..Stole through its verdurous matting of fresh trees. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* (1868) I. v. 259 The soldiers themselves, attired in verdurous garments of foliage and flower-work,..paraded the bridge.

3. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, verdure.

1820 Keats *Ode to Nightingale* iv, Through verdurous glooms and winding mossy ways. 1851 Meredith *London by Lamplight* xxiv, This night of deep solemnity, And verdurous serenity. 1859 Neale *Disciples at Emmaus* in *Sextonian P.* (1864) 187 Every tinted leaf Opes its young channel to the verdurous sap. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 166/1 Its verdurous hue is more noticeable than its elevation.

Hence **Ve·rdurousness.**

1856 Lynch *Lett. to Scattered* (1872) 557 Many of them [*sc.* sermons] have an invigorating verdurousness, and are like the wide green fields.

Verd(u)ytt, obs. variants of Verdict.

Verdynggale, variant of Vardingale *Obs.*

†**Vere**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: α. 4–5 veir, 5 veyr, *Sc.* weyr, 6 *Sc.* weir. β. 4 veer(e, 5 weere, 6 vear. γ. 4–6 vere, 5 *Sc.* were. See also Ver *sb.*[1] [a. OF. *ver* masc. or *vere* fem. :—L. *vēr* Ver *sb.*[1]] The season of spring; spring-time.

α. *c* 1385 *Prose Psalter* lxxiii. 18 Þou madest alle þe cuntres of þerþe; somer and veir, þou formedest þo þynges. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 72 Veir bigynnes whenne þe sonne entres yn to þe toknynge of þe sitecpe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1697 Gud Wallace..Erest in weyr to Sanct Jhonstoun couth fair. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* III. i. 17 Scant begunnin was the fresch weir, Quhen that Anchises..Bad wa mak sail. *Ibid.* x. Prol. 11 Fresche veir to burgioun herbis and sweit flouris.

β. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 157 Þe tyme Of Aperil, when clothed is þe mede, With newe grene, of lusty veer the prime. 1388 Wyclif *Ecclus.* I. 8 As a flour of rosis in the dayes of veer. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 243 The tyme of weere is hote and moiste. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 244 b/a Some say that the transfyguracion was made in veer. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* H iv, In veare, the husbandmen lop their trees, to the intent that afterward they may growe the better.

γ. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. ix. (Skeat) I. 133 The same yere maketh springes and jolite in Vere..to renovel with peinted coloures. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 463 In the prymsauns of grene vere. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* II. xii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 138 And then be Wynter and Vere nygh over-gon To the Est. 1509 *Payne Evyll Marr.* (Percy) 25 In tyme of vere when lovers lusty be. *a* 1529 Skelton *Un Time* Wks. 1843 I. 138 The rotys take theyr sap in tyme of vere. 1563 *Jack Juggler* (E.E.D.S.) 36, I never use to run away in winter or in vere.

Hence †**Vere-time**, spring-time. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxv. 16 He goon out thens, com in veer tyme to the loond that ledith to Effratam. 1388 — *Ps.* lxxiii. 17 Thou madist alle the endis of erthe; somer and veer tyme, thou fourmedist tho. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 48 b/1 He wente thens and cam in veer tyme unto the londe that goth to effratam.

†**Vere**, *v. Obs.*[-1] [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To raise *up*; to uplift.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 254 That Iuel þenne in gemmys gente, Vered vp her vyse with yzen graye.

Vere, ME. var. Fere *sb.*, Fire *sb.*; obs. f. Very *a.*; obs. Sc. var. War *sb.*; obs. f. Wear *v.*; Sc. f. Were (doubt) *Obs.*

Verecund (ve·rĭkund), *a.* [ad. L. *verēcund-us* (whence obs. F. *verecond* (Cotgr.), It. *verecondo*, Pg. *verecundo*), f. *verēri* to reverence, fear.] Modest, bashful; shy, coy.

c 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* III. 305 Than said Venus vith vult verecund, Say quhat ze will and keip zow within bound. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (following Cotgrave), *Verecund*, modest, shamefac'd, demure, bashfull. [Hence in later Dicts.] 1872 'Alifn Cherm' (Yaldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 2 One day this said verecund Mr. McPherson He chanced as a nautch to be present in person. 1873 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xxvii. 22 And verecund Mr. M'Cosh,..has he no suggestion to offer?

Hence **Verecu·ndity, Ve·recundness.** *rare*—0.

1721 Bailey, *Verecundity*, Modesty, Bashfulness. 1909 *Ibid.* (vol. II), *Verecundness*, Modesty,..Verecundity.

†**Verecu·ndious**, *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. prec. + -ious.] Characterized or accompanied by modesty.

a 1639 Wotton in *Relig.* (1651) 160 Your brow proclaimeth much fidelity, a certain verecundious generosity graceth your eyes.

So †**Verecundous** *a.* [-ous.] *Obs.*—0

1656 Blount, *Verecundous*, modest, shamefac'd, demure.

†**Verefiance.** *Obs.*[-1] [f. *verefy* Verify *v.* + -ance.] Verification, confirmation.

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xliv. 113 To morwen schole ze hem alle se To londe aryven, Whiche to zow schal ben gret verefiaunce And gret fulfillenge to zoure creaunce.

Verefie, -fy, obs. ff. Verify. **Verejouse**, obs. f. Verjuice. **Verelaie**, obs. f. Virelay. **Vereli, -liche, -ly(e, -lyche**, obs. ff. Verily *adv.*

†**Verement.** *Obs.*—0 (See quot.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56/2 Buschement, or verement, *cunsus.* [Also 508/2.]

Veren, obs. pl. f. *were*, pa. t. of Be *v.*

Veresimilous, var. Verisimilous *a. Obs.*

Veretie, obs. Sc. form of Verity.

Vereti·lliform, *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Veretillum* + -(i)form.] Having the form of a member of *Veretillum*, the typical genus of *Veretillidæ*, a [illegible] ps.

[illegible] ordinary or Veretilliform

Verey(e, -liche, obs. ff. Very, Verily.

Vergaloo, *U. S.* Also vergaleu, virgaloo, -ieu. [var. of Virgouleuse, prob. taken as a pl.] The white doyenné or Warwickshire bergamot.

Downing *Fruits & Fruit-trees Amer.* 378 Virgalieu, of New York...Virgaloo, Bergaloo, of some American gardens... It is an old French variety, but with us, is in the most perfect health.

†**Vergantine.** *Obs. rare.* [a. older Sp. *vergantin* (Sp. *bergantin*, Pg. *bergantim*) Brigantine.] = Brigantine 1.

1578 T. N[icholas] tr. *Conq. W. India* 18 Hee then bought a Carvell and Vergantine. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 38 Hernando Cortez went..from Ihaxcallan to Mexico, to besiege it by land and by water, with Vergantines which for that purpose he had caused to be made.

Verge (vɜdʒ), *sb.*[1] Also 6–7 verdge, vierge, 7 varge. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *verge* (= It. *verga*) :—L. *virga* rod, etc.: cf. Virge.]

I. 1. †a. The male organ; the penis. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* I. 343 in *Anglia* XVIII. 303 3if þe verge be brente, As man of woman may so be schente.

b. *Zool.* [After mod.F. use.] The male organ of a mollusc, crustacean, or other invertebrate.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 124 All [sea-snails]..that have this orifice, or verge, as some call it, on the right side. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 242 The male verges are similar in position. 1861 Hulme tr. *Bloquin-Tandon* II. VII. 333 In these animals the sexes may be separated or united. The males are generally provided with a verge or spiculum.

†2. *Arch.* 'The shaft of a column, or a small ornamental shaft in Gothic architecture' (Parker). *Obs.*—[1]

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 653 If I schulde rehersen by and by þe korve knottes by crafte of masounry, þe fresche embowyng, with vergis rist as linys (etc.).

†3. A species of torch or candle. *Obs. rare.*

1494–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 653 Pro factura vi^xx torches, xij torchettes, cum liij vergez pro capella d'ni Prioris. 1500–1 *Ibid.* 656, ij torches, iij torchetes, ij verges.

4. a. A rod or wand carried as an emblem of authority or symbol of office; a staff of office; a warder, † sceptre, mace. † *Sergeant of the verge*, = Sergeant *sb.* 8 b.

1494 *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 124 The abbott to take to her her scepter and her verge to her hand. 1524 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 251 The said Cardinall,..delivered her the Scepter in her right hande, and the vierge of the hand of Justice in her lyfte hand. 1566 Adlington *Apuleius* 11, I pray you tell me what meaneth these servitours that follow you and these roddes or verges which they beare? 1602 Segar *Hon., Mil. & Civ.* IV. viii. § 4. 218 To this degree of Archduke belongeth a Surcoat;..hee also beareth a Verge or rod of gold. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* d iv b, He used to go before the Emperour with a golden Verge or Warder. 1679 Blount *Anc. Tenures* 22 To support his [the King's] rig Arm..whilst he held the Regal Verge or Scepter. — Holme *Armoury* IV. xii. (Roxb.) 506/2 Then [illegible] the sergeants of the Verge of the Guildhall in Paris. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. vi. (1710) 62 Putting into his Hand a Verge of Gold. 1791 Burke *Appr. Whigs* Wks. 1842 I. 530 His mind will be heated as much by the sight of a sceptre, a mace, or a verge. 1867 *1st Rep. Commissioners Publ. Worship* 38/1 Have you any cross or other emblem carried in procession in your church?—Only a verge. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 151 The verge formerly borne in state before a newly-appointed member of the Board.

†b. A rod or wand put in a person's hand when taking the oath of fealty to the lord on being admitted as a tenant, and delivered back on the giving up of the tenancy. Also in phr. *tenant by the verge*. *Obs.*

1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* III. 101 Tenants of Base tenure, are they that hold by verge at the will of the Lord. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 61 Tenant[s] by the Verge are in the same nature as tenants by copy of Court roll. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (1675) 161 Plow-bolders of base tenure are those which hold by Verge at the Will of the Lord.

5. †a. A chariot-pole. *Obs.*—[1]

1621 Sperd *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. iv. § 23. 25 They will..run vpon the vergies [L. *per temonem*], and stand stedfastly vpon the beames [L. *in jugo*], and quickly recouer themselues backe againe into the waggons.

b. A rod, wand, or stick. *rare.*

1897 *Church Q. Rev.* 5 The Pope's pastoral staff gradually swallowed up the sceptres of kings, as Aaron's verge devoured the other rods.

†6. An accent-mark. *Obs.*—[1]

1555 Eden *Decades* III. vii. (Arb.) 166 The names..are pronounced with thaccent, as yowe may know by the verge sette ouer the heddes of the vowels.

7. *Watchmaking.* The spindle or arbor of the balance in the old vertical escapement.

1704 in J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 201 In the..clock..the verge, that carries the pallets, was bent downwards. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 321 The socket is turned pretty small on the outside, in order to allow the arbors of the detents to be laid as close to the verge as may be. 1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 145 He..contrived to break the verge of one watch and the cylinder of another. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 279 The Verge..has no pretensions to accuracy in presence of such escapements as the Lever and Chronometer.

b. *ellipt.* A verge watch (see next).

1871 'M. Legrand' *Cambr. Freshm.* iii, Mr. Samuel had previously worn an antiquated verge, once the property of the worthy Captain. 1904 *Times* 11 July 2/6 The watch was simply described as a gold verge with seal.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *verge escapement, -file, hole, -maker, -pivot, spring, watch.*

1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 217 Common verge watches have no oil upon the pallets. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 308 The verge-pivots of a good sized pocket-watch. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 29/1 The end of the screw is attached to a strong verge spring. 1858 Simmons *Dict. Trade, Verge-maker*, a maker of pallets; a branch of the watch-movement trade. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2707/1 *Verge-file*, a fine file with one safe side, formerly used in working on the verge of the old vertical escapement. *Ibid.* 2708/1 The vertical or verge escapement is old-fashioned. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 128 In good clocks the pallets and verge holes are jewelled.

8. a. A part of a stocking-frame (see quot.).

1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) II. 877/1 In front of the needle-bar is a small piece of iron, called the *verge*, to regulate the position of the needles.

b. *U.S.* That part of a linotype machine which carries the pawls by which the matrices are released; an escapement pawl link.

In recent use.

II. †9. a. A measure of length or superficies for carpentry work. *Obs.*—[2]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Verge, yn a wrytyn werke, *virgata.*

†b. *Verge of land* [tr. OF. *verge de terre*, med.L. *virga terræ*], = Virgate. *Obs. rare.*

1467–8 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 609/1 A mese, iii verge of Land, ..iii Acres of Medowe. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (1675) 152 Upon two Verges of Land are built houses. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr., Yardland*..is a quantity of Land various, according to the place...It is called a Verge of Land, *anno* 28 E. 1, Statute of Wards.

III. 10. *Within the verge*, within an area subject to the jurisdiction of the Lord High Steward, defined as extending to a distance of twelve miles round the King's court. Also with *in*, and freq. const. *of* (the court, etc.). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

The phrase is a rendering of AF. *dedeins la verge* (in Anglo-L. *infra virgam*, in which *verge* originally referred to the Steward's rod of office (see sense 4 a); in early use the full expression *verge de vostre hostel* (L. *virga hospitii nostri*) is employed. In the 18th century commonly denoting the precincts of Whitehall as a place of sanctuary.

1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 24 § 1 The Lorde Stuarde of the Kynges House..wythin the Verge and Justices of Assize, and Justices of the Peace,..have also power to inquere..of every Defaulte. 1529 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II. (1726) 177 According to the ancient custom us'd within your verge. 1592 Lambarde *Archeion* (1635) 38 That the Marshall of the Kings House have the place of the King, to heare and determine Pleas of the Crowne within the Verge. 1604 *Proclam. Prices Victuals* 10 July, The Clarkes of the market of our Houshold within the Verge of our Court. 1643 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 231 That both He, and the Lord Herbert,..may likewise be restrain'd from coming within the Verge of the Court. 1669 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* 244 Murders..committed in the Court or within the Verge, which is every way within 20 miles of the chief Tunnel of the Court. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 101 P 7 Men and Women were allowed to meet at Midnight in Masques within the Verge of the Court. 1764 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 375 M. D'Eon who was to have receiv'd his sentence on Friday last..chose rather to take post in the neighbourhood of Whitehall, in the Verge of the Court. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 448/1 The original court of the marshalsea is a court of record, to hear and determine causes between the servants of the king's household and others within the verge.

transf. 1606 Br. Andrewes *Serm.* (1841) II. 200 We were not only within the dominion, but within the verge, nay even within the very gates of death.

b. Hence *The verge (of the court)*, employed with other prepositions or in other constructions to designate this area or jurisdiction.

1529 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II. (1726) 177 All manner of victuals within the precinct of the verge. 1614 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 319 Ye Clarke of the Markett for the verge. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 261 The Coroner of the Kings house..cannot intermeddle within the County forth of the Verge, because that his office extendeth not thereunto. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 231, I got safe into the verge of the court, where I kept snug. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 76 By the statute of 13 Ric. II. st. 1. c. 3..the verge of the court in this respect extends for twelve miles round the king's place of residence. 1813 H. & J. Smith *Horace in Lond.* 75 Place me beyond the verge afar, Where alleys blind the light debar. 1865 Nichols *Britton* I. p. xxxiv, This officer [of measures] appears to have been styled Clerk, or Keeper, of the Market; and his duties were generally united with those of the Coroner of the Verge.

attrib. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) [538 Officers of the Hall...Marshalsea...Verge. *Ibid.*] Index, Verge Officers, [p.] 538.

c. *Court of (the) Verge*: (see quot. 1730).

1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxviii. 285 All cases.. of trespasses *vi et armis*, where one [party]..was of the houshold, were handled in the court of the Verge, or the Marshals court. 1688 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 159 Sir Phillip Lloyd..haveing been tried at the court of verge for killing one Mr. Holborne. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Court of Verge*, is a Court or Tribunal in the Manner of a King's Bench, which takes Cognisance of all Crimes and Misdemeanours committed within the Verge of the King's Court. 1904 Mary Bateson in *Scottish Hist. Soc. Misc.* II. 11 A well-developed Court of the Verge, presided over by the Constable, is here revealed in the Scotland of 1305.

11. The bounds, limits, or precincts *of* a particular place. Chiefly after the preps. *within, in, out of.*

The examples placed under (*a*) keep closer to the original use (see sense 10) than those under (*b*).

(*a*) 1641 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 422 The English and Dutch Merchants within the Verge of the Castle [of Dublin]. *a* 1668 Davenant *Poems* (1673) 219 Th' Aldermen by Charter, title lay ('Cause writ 'ith City's Verge) to my new play. 1693 Southerne *Maid's last Prayer* IV. i, I wou'd not be known by any good will out of the verge of Whitehall. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. xxxvi. 294 She should be beheaded within the verge of the Tower. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Lidford*, The parish [of Lidford] may..compare with any in the kingdom, the whole forest of Dartmore being in the verge of it.

(*b*) 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* 394 Probably there were some wells within the verge of the Temple. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 13 The Canary Islands are..within the usual Verge of the True or General Trade-Wind. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlvii. 165 Whatever Animal comes within the Verge of a Temple, it is secured from Pursuit or Violence. 1772–84 *Cook's 3rd Voy.* I. iii. I. 31 This shews that the Cape de Verde Islands are either extensive enough to break the current of the trade-wind, or that they are situated just beyond its verge. 1860 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* xxxviii, All splendour was included within its [*sc.* the cathedral's] verge.

fig. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 633 The chamber..Is privileg'd beyond the common walk Of virtuous life, quite in the verge of heav'n.

†b. In *pl.* in the same sense. *Obs. rare.*

1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 46 The Circle of the Throne ..is thus conceived to be drawn about it, but so near that the Beasts..will have the same faces appear within the verges of the Throne that appeared without. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 324 This only of all Jacob's children was born within the verges of the land of Canaan.

†12. In phrases (as prec.). a. The range, sphere, or scope *of* something; all that is naturally included or comprehended under a particular concept, category, etc. *Obs.* (common in 17th c.).

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 219 Voide ground in the towne from the walls to the houses..is not within the verge of my Geometry. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purp. Isl.* I. xlvi, He..gave it..a perfect motion, To move it self whither it self would have it, And know what falls within the verge of notion. 1664 Owen *Vind. Animad. Fiat Lux* Wks. 1855 XIV. 294 These things are without the verge of Christian religion,—chimeras, towers and palaces in the air. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 188 They fall within the verge of that dispensation. 1717 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 35 Made without the Verge of the ancient Laws of that Kingdom. 1734 *Treat. Orig. & Progr. Fees* 34 They do not fall within the Verge of my Undertaking in the present.

transf. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* I. iii, Nay, brother, you reach out o' th Verge now.

†b. The pale or limit *of* a class or community. *Obs.*

1608 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v. vi, We will live inclos'd In holy verge of some religious order. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. 57 As he was included in the vierge of Abrahams posterity. 1699 Shaftesb. *Charac.* II. I. I. § 2 'Tis as hard to persuade..the other [sort] that there is any Virtue out of the Verge of their particular Community. 1758 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Dwarf* (1778) I. 188 Driven out of their own proper class into the very verge of another.

†c. The power, control, or jurisdiction of a person or persons. *Obs.*

1648 Milton *Observ., Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 373 For the Conscience, we must have patience till it be within our verge. 1653–4 Whitelocke *Jrnl. Swed. Emb.* (1772) I. 227 The master of the ceremonies (as in his own verge) impertinently urged Whitelocke to pledge the health. 1676 Marvell *Gen. Councels* Wks. 1875 IV. 143 The dextrous bishops.. hooked within their verge, all the business and power that could be catch'd. 1704 Swift *Mech. Operat. Spirit* (1711) 191 Engag'd in wise Inquiries about certain Walks and Purlieus, whether they are in the Verge of God or the Devil.

IV. 13. The edge, rim, border, or margin *of* some object of limited size or extent. Now *rare.*

1489 *Paston Lett.* I. 468, ij. gallon pot..the verges gilt. *Ibid.*, ij. flagons of silver, with gilt [illegible] 1482 *Ibid.* III. 282 A scochen..with a scripture wretyn in the verges therof rehersyng thise wordes, 'Here lieth Margret Paston [etc.]'. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1337/2 About the verges [of the coins] was written; Francis of France duke of Brabant. 1626 B. Jonson *Masques, Hymenæi* 926 A transparent veile..whose verge, returning vp, was fastened [etc.]. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Love Unknown* 25 A boyling caldron, round about whose verge Was in great letters set Affliction. 1673–4 Grew *Anat. Trunks* I. I. § 24 On the inner Verge of the Barque, stands another Sort of Sap-Vessels, in one slender and entire Ring. 1716 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 256 A Gravestone, round the verges of which [etc.]. 1747 Gray *Death Fav. Cat* 29 Again she bent, Nor knew the gulf between ..The slipp'ry verge her feet beguil'd, She tumbled headlong in. 1864 Boutell *Hist. & Pop. Her* xix. § 5 (ed. 3) 310 The Verge of the Escutcheon charged with 4 half Fleurs de lys or. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. i, He stood on the verge of the rug.

†b. With *a* and pl., etc.: A brim or rim; a circle of metal, etc. *Obs.*

1561 J. Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 64 b, A rainebow lyke an Emeraud compasseth or incloseth it as a verdge. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. i. 59 The inclusiue Verge Of Golden Metall, that must round my Brow. 1622 Ainsworth *Annot. Pentat.* (1639) 102 These Cups..had verges at the bottome, that they might rest upon the table. 1649 Markham *Eng. Housew.* II. ii. 116 Then having rold the coffin flat, and raised up a small verdge of an inch, or more high. *c* 1720 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 129 There is another [statue]..whose garments and all are marble..and a verge all down before and round ye neck with ye figures of the Apostles done in Embroydery as it were.

†c. *Bot.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726), *Verge*,..among Florists,..is taken for the edge or outside of a Leaf; as *A dented Verge.* 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Among Florists, a dented Verge, is a jagged edge or outside of a Leaf.

d. *Arch.* (See quots.) Cf. Verge-board.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 83 To give a slight inclination to the verge or border-slates, where they butt against brick-work. *Ibid.* § 849 The verges are the external edge of the tiling in gables, which are covered with lime and hair, or Roman cement. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 475/2 *Verge*, the edge of the tiling projecting over the gable of a roof.

14. The extreme edge, margin, or bound *of* a surface of an extensive nature, but regarded as having definite limits. Also occas. without const.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. i. 93 The furthest Verge That euer was suruey'd by English eye. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 30 The shuddering morne that flakes, With silver tinctur, the east vierge of heaven. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* I. 73 The spacious verge of that well peopled Towne. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1038 Here Nature first begins Her farthest verge, and Chaos to retire. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 16 To return to Johanna; the innermost part we suppose to be fruitful, by what the Verge of it declares. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 944 Sad..he sits, And views the main that ever toils below, Still fondly forming in the farthest verge. 1735 Somervile *Chase* III. 549 Close to the Verge Of a small Island. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 337 The jackall..pursues even to the verge of the city, and often along the streets. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii, The first tender tints of morning now appeared on the verge of the horizon. 1819 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd. p 2 He owed his fame in a great measure to his residing on the very verge of the Highlands. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 342 About a day's journey south of Leeds, on the verge of a wild moorland tract, lay an ancient manor. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iii. 53 On the western verge of Egypt.

b. *fig.* The end *of* life.

1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 72 P 11 The computer.. believes that he is marked out to reach the utmost verge of human existence. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 503 The utmost verge of this life. 1874 Holland *Mistr. Manse* xxvii, If had the power to stay his feet Yet longer on the verge of life. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 55 The mind was wandering, as it often does On the dim verge of life.

c. The utmost limit to which a thing or matter extends; the distinctive line of separation between one subject and another.

1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* V. 406 Having lived up to the very verge of his yearly income. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid.* x, He carried his dislike to youthful amusements beyond the verge that religion and reason demanded. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 173 Sforza's resolution..is..out of the verge of nature and probability. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit., Work & Days* Wks. (Bohn) III. 70 The verge or confines of matter and spirit. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Libr.* (1892) I. v. 180 The very outside verge of the province permitted to the romancer.

15. a. The extreme edge of a cliff or abrupt descent. Used absol. or with *of.*

(*a*) 1605 J. Robin in Capt. Smith *Virginia* (1624) 19 The rocky cliffs .are all overgrown with Firre,..and Oke, as the Verge is with Gousberries [etc.]. 1628 Eliza Heywood tr. *Mms. de Gomez' Belle A.* (1732) II. 61 He fell off the Verge he had been so bold to climb, dying the Sea with his Blood. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 319 His steed.., wheeling swiftly round, Or e'er his hoof had prest'd the crumbling verge, Baffled his rider, sav'd against his will! 1813 Byron *Corsair* I. xvi, The verge where ends the cliff, begins the beach. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* II. 234 In the centre of this basin yawned the mouth of the pit. Sanchica ventured to the verge and peeped in.

(*b*) 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 300 Like a man that walks upon the utmost verge of a river's brink. 1827 Moore *Lalla R., Fire-Worshippers* iv. 128 The mighty Ruins..Upon the mount's high, rocky verge. 1883 F. Clissold *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 23 This rock is seated upon the verge of a precipitous eminence. 1893 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 257 Thorbiorn shouted and brought Gretir and his brother to the verge of the cliff...

fig. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* I. 60 My hopes and fears..o'er life's narrow verge Look down—on what? a fathomless

abyss. 1762 GRAY *Let. to Wharton* 20 June, You see him [i.e. Sterne] often tottering on the verge of laughter. 1827 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. viii. 276 The fortunes of Hyder tottered on the verge of a precipice. 1849 SIR J. GRAHAM in Parker *Life & Lett.* (1907) II. IV. 86 He is now tottering on the verge of the grave. 1861 SIR G. TREVELYAN *Horace at Athens* iii. (1862) 39 We still consume..Veal that is tottering on the verge of beef.

b. The margin *of* a river or the sea. Also without const.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Trophees* 1157 The flowry Verge that longst all Jordan lies. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* I. 26 Where the Tarbellians bound at large A calmed sea, with crooked varge. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 121 Vpon the verge of the Riuer there are fiue houses. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* V. vii. The leaders urge Their followers to the ocean verge. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 163 There, at length, on the verge of the ocean,..the imperial race turned desperately to bay. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Sanboard* 82 What do they [*sc.* ships] bring to us? who.. Sport by the verge and gather rosy shells.

fig. 1843 NEALE *Hymns for Sick* 23 And when I tread the utmost verge Do Thou divide the flood.

c. *poet.* The horizon.

1822 BYRON *Heav. & Earth* I. iii, Their brazen-colour'd edges streak The verge where brighter morns were wont to break. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* VII. 23 She..sees a great black cloud..Blot out the slope of sea from verge to shore.

16. With *a* and pl. A limit or bound; a limiting or bounding belt or strip. Somewhat *rare*.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* I. 16 Within the narrow verges of this mortal life. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 877 Serve they as a flourie verge to binde The fluid skirts of that same watrie Cloud? 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 6 A verge, six yards broad, on two sides, is filled with a variety of Forest-trees. 1851 MEREDITH *Death of Winter* 19 He melts between the border sheen And leaps the flowery verges. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 136 Such pasturable verges or grassy fringes as have already been subject to acts of ownership.

b. *spec.* A narrow grass edging separating a flower border, etc., from a gravel walk.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Grass-plot*, The Quarters, or Verges, are to be prepared with..Earth to lay the Turf on. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Verge*..in Gardening..is generally understood to be a Slip of Grass which joyns to Gravel Walks, and divides them from the Borders in the Parterre Garden. 1838 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 71/1 The verges of green turf, so apt to encroach upon the gravel-walks and inwardly upon the beds.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1822 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* § 617 Verge-Shears..are a smaller variety, in which the blades are joined to the handles by kneed shanks, to lessen stooping in the operator. They are chiefly used for trimming the sides of box-edgings [*ed.* 1824 *a tds* and grass-verges]. 1888 *Garden* 28 Jan. 65/1 Verge cutting and levelling of turf.

17. The brink or border *of* something towards which there is progress or tendency (from without); the point at which something begins. Usually in the phrases *on* or *to the verge of*.

Various types of context are illustrated by the different groups of quotations.

(*a*) 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* Induct., I will .ding his spirit to the verge of hell. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XV. 14 His senses wandering to the verge of death. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regic.* IV. ii. But let us seize him on the verge of bliss. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* V 787 Sheer into his bowie He pierced him, but..Jove Him rescued even on the verge of fate. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xiii, Her maternal fondness for her grandson .carried almost to the verge of dotage. 1842 J. PEDDIE *Exp. Jonah* v. 88 He seems to have been driven to the very verge of despair. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 5 Spencer..was more than once brought to the verge of ruin by his violent temper. 1864 *Liverpool Mercury* 22 Oct. 5/4 He was jealous and volatile to the verge of insanity.

(*b*) 1754 JOHNSON *Lett. to Chesterfield* 7 Feb., I have been pushing on my work..and have brought it, at last, to the verge of publication. 1772 SHRUBSOLE & DENNE *Hist. Rochester* 35 The nation seemed on the verge of a civil war. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist Ten Y.* I. 599 A generous city..driven to the verge of revolt. 1851 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. II. xi. (1864) 145 Such men tread..on the very verge of a confession. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxiv, I had driven Catherine Weir to the verge of suicide.

(*c*) 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 121, I was now upon the verge of the proper season for action. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* v. (ed. 2) 107 Just before death..his expressions and signs upon the verge of that moment awaken our curiosity.

(*d*) 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 173 [This] brings us to the verge of modern astronomy. 1862 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* II. iv. 138 We are here on the verge of an inquiry which has perplexed the greatest philosophers.

ellipt. 1899 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxviii, She touched on delicate verges to the baronet, and he understood her well enough.

b. With vbl. sbs. *On the verge of*, on the very point of (doing something).

1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 123 He..reached the town to find..the commons and the gentlemen on the verge of fighting. 1858 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 42 We were on the very verge of granting an..annuity. 1867 [MISS INGHAM] *Poor Nellie* (1888) 91 Twice she was on the verge of telling all.

18. The space within a boundary; room, scope. Also const. *to* or *for*.

Chiefly in echoes of quot. 1757.

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. i, Let fortune empty her whole quiver on me, I have a Soul, that like an ample Shield Can take in all; and verge enough for more. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 51 Give ample room, and verge enough The characters of hell to trace. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. i. 8 The bard..had ample room and verge enough..for every variety of field sport. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xxiv, In this vast house..a great-grandsire and all his descendants might find ample verge. 1877 'H. A. PAGE' *De Quincey* I. xiii. 283 When members of freebooters found ample verge for their predatory propensities.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1836 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 338 In no other country was there so little verge, far less encouragement, allowed to theological speculation. 1863 D. G. MITCHELL *My Farm of Edgewood* 283 Here is verge, surely, for a man's cultivation. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 178 Not giving verge enough for the sweep of his soaring conception.

† **Verge**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [f. VERGE *v.*[2]] The act of verging or inclining *to* or *towards* some object, etc.

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 223 If by this verge to the other extream, I can bring the opinionative Confident but half the way. 1662 — *Lux Orient.* xiv. 119 Though they have had..their Verges towards the body and its joys, as well as their Aspires to nobler..objects.

Verge (vɔ̄ɪdʒ), *v.*[1] Also 7 verdge. [f. VERGE *sb.*[1]]

† 1. *trans.* a. To provide *with* a specified kind of verge or border; to edge. Chiefly in passive. Also with *about*. *Obs.*

1605 J. ROSIER in Capt. Smith *Virginia* (1624) I. 20 An equall plaine..verged with a greene border of grasse. 1621 MARKHAM *Prev. Hunger* 13 This Net shall be verdgd on each side with very strong Corde. [Hence in later works] 1625 — *Bk. Hou.* II. x. § 10 Long Mantles..verdged about with a small fringe of siluer. 1708 *New View of London* I. 201/1 The Figures of a Man and a Woman in Brass, and the Stone verged with Plates of the same.

b. To bound or limit *by* something. *rare*[—1].

1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. viii. 20 Sending..for horse-dung, to manure those very lands which never fail of being verged, or bottom'd, by a substance..more proper for the end they aim at.

c. To form the verge or limit of.

1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* iv. (1830) 132 How to draw the vigorous Lind-mark which verges the field of legitimate discovery.

d. To pass along the verge or edge of; to skirt.

1890 F. BARRETT *Betw. Life & Death* II. xxviii. 179 The chariot can verge the dais all the way.

2. *intr.* a. To be contiguous or adjacent to; to lie on the verge of. Const. *on* or *upon*, *along*.

1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* vii, Forests and wastes..are of considerable service to neighbourhoods that verge upon them. 1822 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 37 The air was still; The blue mist, thinly scatter'd round, Verg'd along the distant hill. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1872) I. 11 The Place de la Concorde.., verging on which is the Champs Elysées.

b. To border *on* or *upon* some state, condition, etc. (Cf VERGE *v.*[2] 3.)

1825 [see VERGENCY[1]]. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* vii. (1842) 197 Mercury or zinc require one [*sc.* a temperature] verging upon, or even surpassing, a red heat. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xviii, Your generosity must have verged on extravagance. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* v. § 3. 352 Philo, however, verges on allowing the λόγος to be the centre of the personality of God.

fig. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's Dau.* 71 Vague desires..made..all kinds of thought, That verged upon them, sweeter than the dream (etc.).

3. To rise *up* so as to show the edge. *rare*[—1].

1726–46 THOMSON *Winter* 868 Wish'd Spring returns; and..The welcome sun, just verging up at first, By small degrees extends the swelling curve!

Hence **Ve·rging** *ppl. a.*

1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. England* I. 165 Wild Deer..were found very injurious to the verging crops.

Verge (vɔ̄ɪdʒ), *v.*[2] [ad. L. *vergĕre* to bend, incline, turn. Cf. CONVERGE *v.*, DIVERGE *v.*]

1. *intr.* Of the sun: To descend toward the horizon; to sink, or begin to do so. Also *transf.*

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tr.* II. xxv, Yet when he [the sun] verges, or is hardly ris, She [the moon] the vive image of her absent brother is. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, The light was now verging low, yet served the knight still to discern that they two were no longer alone in the forest. 1890 R. BRIDGES *Indolence* Poems (1912) 270 The summer day Had verged already on its hot decline.

2. To move in a certain direction (esp. downwards); also, to extend or stretch.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) 32 Henceforward the Sun of the Kings cause declined, verging more and more Westward, till at last it set in Cornwal. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 59 So Man..Touches some wheel, or verges to some goal. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* CV. (1783) IV. 6 A tear still upon the back of my hand, verging to the very finger that [etc.]. *Ibid.* CXXVI. 149 The higher we climb..the nearer to the gods..: as we verge towards earth..we convolve with the dirt. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 513/1 Verge not downwards, a precipice lies under the earth. 1820 B. CORNWALL' *Misc. Poems, Hall of Eblis*, The pillars..verged away In long innumerable avenues. 1886 MRS. HUNGERFORD *Lady Branksmere* I, Towards this rather dilapidated apartment they always verge when perplexed.

fig. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 430 Learning, once the man's exclusive pride, Seems verging fast towards the female side.

b. To diverge or deflect; to run or trickle *off*.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 215 The Epicurean theory, of atoms descending down an infinite space..and verging from the perpendicular no body knows why. 1780 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 74 The tear had verged off, possibly while he was bowing.

3. To incline or tend, to approach or draw near, *towards* or *to* some state or condition. Also with advb. complement. (Cf. VERGE *v.*[1] 7 b.)

(*a*) 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 514 Presbytery..that verges nearer toward Popularcy or Democracy. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iv, A man of light wit, verging towards fourscore. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. lvi. 135 At a time when the people is supposed to have been verging toward utter degeneracy. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* Introd. § 3. 19 The more human knowledge progresses, the more does man..verge towards the infinite.

(*b*) *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* xvii. Wks. 1686 III. 295 The farther we go on, especially in a bad course, the nearer we verge to the dregs of our life. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 256 Where the blood verges to the contrary State. 1737 POPE *Let. to Swift* 23 Mar., The nearer I find myself verging to that period of life which is to be labour and sorrow. 1760–72 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. Advt. 6 As refinement generally verges to extreme contrarieties. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., A man whose credit was actually verging to decay. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxi. 125 When the reign of Demetrius was verging to its close. 1851 TRENCH *Poems* 24 When I began First to verge upward to a man. 1865 PARKMAN *Pioneers to Amer.* ii. (1876) 16 Yet, verging to decay, she [Spain] had an ominous and appalling strength.

(*c*) 1776 BENTHAM *Fragm. Govt.* iv. Wks. 1843 I. 288/2 It is not that,..or any discourse verging that way, that can tend to give him the smallest satisfaction. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, In such a decadent age, or one fast verging that way.

b. Const. *to* with inf. *rare*[—1].

1818 COLEBROOKE *Import Colonial Corn* 45 A country in which capital has accumulated, population become dense,.. is necessarily a manufacturing one, or verging to become so.

c. To approximate in shade or tint *to* a specified colour.

1815 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. I. 87 Plumage nearly black, with a green gloss, which, in some parts, verges to a violet. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 462/2 When large, its colour is dark red, verging to purple.

d. To pass or undergo gradual transition *into* something else.

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. 1842 I. 57 It is not to make a strong deviation from the line of the neighbouring parts; nor to verge into any exact geometrical figure. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 282/1 The 'Poultry Chronicle' is fast verging into a state of monomania. 1858 MRS. C. GORE *Heckington* II. xiii. 267 The close and trimly shrubbery verged, after a few hundred yards, into a beautiful copse.

4. To have a particular direction; to lie or extend towards a specified point.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 74/2 A large semi-circular area verging to the South. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 537 The flat [boat] always being put in an oblique direction, with its foremost end verging towards the line described by the rope. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab.* IX. 7 Whose rays..Verge to one point and blend for ever there. 1860–7 *Good Study Med.* (1829) I. 469 Indurated tumour in the left hypochondrium, verging towards the spine. 1868–72 WEBSTER s.v., A hill verges to the north.

Hence **Ve·rging** *ppl. a.*, approaching, converging.

1742 H. BROOKE *Constantia* Poems (1810) 397/1 Through his foe's shield the verging weapon press'd, And raz'd the plume that wanton'd on his crest. 1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 339 My sleek limbs cramp in this verging gloom.

Verge-board. *Arch.* Also *dial.* **verge-.** [f. VERGE *sb.*[1] 13 d.] = BARGE-BOARD.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 470 Sixty-six feet lineal one and a half inch verge board to gables. 1835 F. GOODWIN *Rural Archit.* Add. 2 The Verge Boards to be cut out of 24 inch Timber plank, well spiked to the rafter-ends of the Roof and Purlins. 1862 B. POSTE in *Archæol. Cantiana* IV. 116 There are mouldings on the verge-boards of the pediment. 1910 *Athenæum* 3 Sept. 272/2 The..church of Witley has good fourteenth-century verge-boards attached to the gable of its stone porch.

Hence **Verge-boarding.** *rare*[—1].

1835 F. GOODWIN *Rural Archit.* Add. 2 The Gables and Verge Boarding.

Verge-line. *rare.* [f. VERGE *sb.*[1]] (See quot.)

1718 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 119 The Verge-Line, in the Business of Terrasses, is the Place where the Corner of a Wall, or the Bank of a Terrass, comes to terminate. *Ibid.* 121 The Verge-Line of the Terrasses.

Vergelt, obs. Sc. form of WERGILD.

Vergency[1]. [f. VERGE *v.*[1]; cf. next.] The fact of bordering *on* something.

1825 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* iii. (1856) 179 [He] said of himself, 'I often verge so nearly on absurdity' [etc.]..This was quite true; especially the vergency on absurdity.

Vergency[2] (vɔ̄·ɪdʒĕnsi). [f. VERGE *v.*[2] + -ENCY.]

† 1. The act or fact of verging or inclining towards some condition, etc.; tendency, leaning; an instance of this. Also const. *to*, *toward*. *Obs.*

a 1663 J. GOODWIN *Filled with the Spirit* (1867) 486 The general vergency and leaning of the Scriptures on that hand we speak of. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. 432 The visible vergency of the World to another Degeneracy or Apostasie from the Kingdome of Christ. 1680 — *Apocal. Apoc.* 27 Which is a sign you are in a state of langulshment and vergency towards death. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. II. xxix. 164/1 Scarce a Minute [would] pass him without a Turn of his Eye towards Heaven, whereto his heaven-touch'd Heart was carrying of him, with its continual Vergencies.

† b. Bent or inclination. *Obs.*

1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl. Adv. Learn.* 33 It were but justice to him that the naturall vergency of his Genius should be found out.

2. The fact or condition of being inclined toward some object or in some direction.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. vii. § 3 That respect of the imaginary face of a thing towards some other thing or place, called vergency, tending, leaning, inclining. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 13 First, there must be..an Inclination, Vergency,..or Tendency, of Two lines one to the other.

b. *Optics.* (See quots.)

1832 SIR W. R. HAMILTON in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* (1837) XVII. 80 We may therefore call the curvatures of these two diametral sections the two vergencies of the final ray-lines. 1860 WOOLHOUSE (citing Lloyd), *Vergency*,..the reciprocal of the focal distance, being the measure of the degree of divergence or convergence of a pencil of rays.

Vergent, *a. Geol.* [ad. L. *vergent-*, *vergens*, pr. pple. of *vergĕre* to VERGE.] Constituting, or

belonging to, a series of Appalachian strata corresponding in age to the middle Devonian strata of British geologists.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* I. 108 Vergent Flags (Portage Flags of New York). *Ibid.*, Vergent Shales (Chemung Group of New York). *Ibid.* II. 772 The Cadent and Vergent rocks contain important bands of iron ore.

Vergeous, obs. form of VERJUICE.

† Verger [1], *Obs.* Also 5 **vergere, vergier,** *Sc.* **virger.** [a. OF. *verger* (11th c.; so in mod.F.), *vergier* (12th c.; = Pr. *vergier*) :—L. *virdidrium, viridiārium* (also *viridārium*), f. *viridis* green.] A garden or orchard; a pleasure-garden.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* 167 Thai wolde make a riche halle, Without-outen Rome, In on verger..bi o riuer. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3831 Why hast thou ben so necligent, To kepen..This verger heere left in thi warde? *c* 1450 *Merlin* xix. 310 Merlin lete rere a vergier, where-ynne was all maner of fruyt and alle maner of flowres. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. xii, To wede and pyk oute alle the evyl herbes and wedes out of her vergier or gardyn. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. Prol. 44 The grashoppers amangis the vergers gnappit.

Verger [2] (vē·ɪdʒəɹ). Also 7 **vierger.** [prob. a. AF. **verger*, f. *verge* VERGE *sb.*[1] Cf. OF. *vergiers* (*vergeur*) gauger, *vergier* maker of rings, obs. F. *verger* verger (Cotgr.); also med.L. *virgārius*, and VIRGER.]

1. An official who carries a rod or similar symbol of office before the dignitaries of a cathedral, church, or university (†or before justices).

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 48/1 Howe that Henr' late Duke of Lancastr'..founded..a Churche..of a Deane,..vi Choresters, and a Verger perpetuell. 1530 PALSGR. 284/2 Verger that bereth a rodde in the churche, *sergent de legglise.* *c* 1549 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 75 To Thomas Johnson ye verger at owr ladye churche. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Vergers*..be such as cary white wands before the Iustices of either banke, &c...; otherwise called Porters of the verge. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* IV. iv, I must walk With the French sticke, like an old Vierger, for you. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 197/1 The Verger [of the Cathedral Church] is a Man in a Gown ..whose Office it is to conduct the Reader to his place [etc.]. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. Notes 117 The Emperor, ..taking a wand in his hand, officiated as *verger*,..preceding the pontiff to the altar. 1846 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (ed. 5) 900 *Verger*,..he who carries the mace before the dean in a cathedral or collegiate church. 1854 *Ibid.* (ed. 7) 782 *Verger.* An officer with a similar title precedes the vice-chancellor in the English universities. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. xlix. 59 For nearly a week..he had been unable to face the minor canons and vergers.

attrib. *c* 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 340 Item oone Verger Rodde of silvar parcel gilte. 1546 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees) 137 Two verger rodys of sylver.

transf. 1613 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XII. 555 This by Calypso, I was told, and she Inform'd it, from the verger Mercurie.

b. One whose duty it is to take care of the interior of a church, and to act as attendant.

1707 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* II. ii, Then I, Sir, tips me the Verger with half a Crown. 1784 *Gentl. Mag.* May 349/1, I felt a secret satisfaction on visiting..the tombs in Westminster Abbey, that the verger no longer amuses the gaping vulgar [etc.]. 1844 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 258 The parish clerk bowed low before him [*sc.* the squire] and the vergers humbled themselves unto the dust in his presence. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 568 How splendid an opportunity for architectural study is afforded by the Abbey, if only the vergers would allow any one to enjoy it. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 182 The beadles and vergers curtsied to the quality and remained behind for doles.

† 2. (See quot.) *Obs.*[—1]

1469 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 48 Mynstrelles, xiii, whereof one is verger that directeth them all in festivall dayes to theyre stations, to bloweings, pipynges [etc.].

Hence **Ve·rgerless** *a.*, unaccompanied by a verger; **Ve·rgership,** the office of a verger.

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 383/2 The Office of our Sergeauntship at Armes, and..the Office of Vergership of Wyndesore. 1871 *Daily News* 12 Aug., The Vergership in St. Paul's Cathedral, vacant by the death of Mr. Cummings. 1886 HUSSEY *On Box Seat fr. Lond. to Land's End* 167 The cathedral, over which we were considerately allowed to ramble vergerless, much to our enjoyment.

† Verger [3]. *Obs.*[—1] [? a. AF. *vergiers* (Gower).] A rod carried as a symbol of office; = VERGE *sb.*[1] 4 a.

1547 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. A. 10 Then came the sergeant of the vestry with his verger, and after him the cros, with the children [etc.]. 1647 HEXHAM I, A Verger, *een roedeken.*

† Vergerer. *Obs.* Also 5 **vergerar-.** [Extended f. VERGER [2] 1: see -ER [1] 3.] = VERGER [2] 1. Hence † **Vergerership.** *Obs.*

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 347/2 The Office of Vergerarshipp of Wyndesore. 1566 tr. *Bena's Admon. to Parlt.* D j, Cathedrall churches, where master Deane,..pentioners, readers, vergerirs, &c. liue in great idleneese. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* s.v., Vergerers..be such, as carry *Virgas*, i. roddes before the Iustices of either banck, &c. 1676 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 362 His father was vergerer of Westminster.

Vergeress (vē·ɪdʒərès). [f. VERGER [2] + -ESS.] A female verger or caretaker of a church.

1889 *Daily News* 13 Nov. 3/3, I wonder some old vergeress did not come forward to claim the purse. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 3/1 The vergeress who sweeps the floor.

Vergerism. *rare*[—1]. [f. as prec. + -ISM.] Action, etc., characteristic of a verger.

1857 RUSKIN *Elem. Drawing* II. 155 There is always some discordant civility, or jarring vergerism about them [*sc.* English cathedrals].

Vergery (vē·ɪdʒəɹi). *rare*[—1]. [f. as prec. + -Y.] A sacristy.

1882 M'CLINTOCK & STRONG *Cycl. Bib. Lit.* VIII. 515 Cassell's Suppl.), The consecrated priests repair to the vergery, and put down the missal garments.

Verges, obs. form of VERJUICE.

† Verge-salt. *Obs.*[—1] (Meaning obscure.)

1696 S. H. *Golden Law* To Rdr., All which..are Immaterial to Matter, and but ceremonies to substance, as Rose-leaves and Verge-salt are to a sound and wholsome dish of meat.

† Verge-sauce. *Obs. rare.* = VERD-SAUCE.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/1 Vergesawce,..*viride salsamentum.* *c* 1490 *Two Cookery Bks.* 108 Pe sauce is verge sauce.

Vergesse, -geus, etc., obs. ff. VERJUICE.

Vergier, variant of VERGER [1] *Obs.*

Vergiform (vē·ɪdʒifɔ̄ɪm), *a. Zool.* [f. VERGE *sb.*[1] + -(I)FORM.] Of the feet of certain crustaceans: Resembling a rod; rod-like.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 197/2 Podophthalmia..; feet or extremities vergiform, partly prehensile, partly ambulatory. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 433 There are a few in which these feet are vergiform.

Vergilian, var. VIRGILIAN. **Vergine,** obs. f. VIRGIN. **Vergious, -is, -ius,** obs. ff. VERJUICE.

Vergobret (vē·ɪ ɓret). [ad. L. *vergobretus*, of Gaulish origin. So obs. F. *vergobret.*] The chief magistrate among the ancient Ædui of Gaul. Also *transf.*

1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* I. 12 The principall office, which they call Vergobret,..is an offyce that lasteth but from yere to yere, and for the tyme hath absolute power of life and deathe. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 3 The power of the Vergobret, or Prince of each tribe, was absolute. 1892 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. IV. v. 107 The present literary *vergobret* of the Æduan state..refused all help.

Vergon, southern ME. variant of FORGO *v.*

† Vergoyne. *Obs.* [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *vergogne* (= It. *vergogna*, Pg. *vergonha*) :—L. *verēcundia*, f. *verēcundus* VERECUND *a.*] Shame.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. xv. Hast thow no shame ne vergoyne to come in oure companye. *c* 1500 *Melusine* XXXVI. 285, I shuld haue grete vergoyne yf I smote the behynd.

† Vergoynous, *a. Obs.* [ad. OF. *vergoignos* (12th c., later F. *vergogneux*, = It. *vergognoso*, Pg. *vergonhoso*), f. *vergogne*: see prec.] Ashamed.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* CXXXIV. 190 Wherof he was moche vergoynous and shamefull. *c* 1500 *Melusine* iv. 21 Whan Raymondyn herde thus spek hys vncle, he was in hymself vergoynouse.

Vergres(se, obs. ff. VERDIGRIS. **Vergus, -uys, -ws,** etc., obs. ff. VERJUICE. **Vergyn(e,** obs. ff. VIRGIN. **Verhede,** southern ME. var. *ferhede* FEREDD *Obs.* **Veri,** obs. f. VERY.

Veridical (vĭri·dikăl), *a.* [f. L. *vēridic-us* (whence F. *véridique*, It., Sp., Pg. *veridico*), f. *vērum* truth, and *dic-* stem of *dīcĕre* to speak.]

1. Speaking, telling, or relating the truth; truthful, veracious.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxviii. 185 Who shall read this so veridical history. *a* 1693 *Ibid.* III. xlvi. 375 The veridical Triboulet did therein hint at what I liked well. 1784 S. HENLEY *Beckford's Vathek* Note (1868) 147 Notwithstanding the reference of Ariosto to the veridical archbishop. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 321 The veridical Gulliver. 1847 MEDWIN *Life Shelley* I. 359 That very veridical review which assumes to be the oracle..of literature. 1851 A. HAYWARD *Sel. Ess.* (1878) II. 105 Mr. Gladstone's argument for converting Homer into a veridical historian.

2. *spec.* in *Psychol.* Of hallucinations, phantasms, etc.: Coincident with, corresponding to, or representing real events or persons.

1884 F. W. H. MYERS in *Proc. Soc. Psychical Research* Apr. 48 The truth-telling, or, as we may call them, *veridical* hallucinations which do, in fact, coincide with some crisis in the life of the person whose image is seen. 1898 *Athenæum* 25 June 824/1 The vision of the lady..is certainly spoken of ..as if it had been 'veridical'.

Hence **Veridica·lity, Veri·dically** *adv.*, † **Veri·dicalness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Veridicalness*, Truth-speaking, or the Quality or Faculty of speaking Truth. 1836 *Johnsoniana* 264 Pope draws human characters the most veridically, of any poetic delineator. *a* 1901 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* (1903) I. p. xliii, The only valid evidence..for veridicality depends on a coincidence with some external event.

Veri·dicous, *a.* [f. L. *vēridic-us* (see prec.) + -OUS.] Veridical, veracious.

App. used by Peacock only.

1837 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* xix, Our Thalia is too veridicous to permit this detortion of facts. 1831 — *Crotchet Castle* xvii, This veridicous history began in May.

Verie, obs. form of VERY *a.* and *adv.*

Verie(n, southern ME. varr. FERRY *v.*

Verier, Veriest, compar. and superl. VERY *a.*

Verielie, obs. form of VERILY *adv.*

Verifiability (verifaiăbi·lĭti). [f. next + -ITY.] The fact of being verifiable.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 234 Doubts ..as to the verifiability of that conception.

Verifiable (ve·rifaiăb'l), *a.* Also 7 **verefiable.** [f. VERIFY *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be verified or proved to be true, authentic, accurate, or real; capable, admitting, or susceptible of verification.

Common in the 17th cent., and freq. from *c* 1865.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 216, I could peraduenture arread him his fortune in a fatall booke, as verifiable, as peremptorie. 1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 9 Why should not..Geffrey be as plaine and verifiable as Buchanan? *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 789 It is commended for a modest, discreet, learned, regular, and of all in that list most verifiable, discovery. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 199 If this notion be strictly verifiable. 1677 CARY *Chronol.* II. i. i. iv. 108 That of the Foundation of the City..is verifiable by the like Authorities. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. v. i. § 4 A few only of the broadest laws verifiable by the reader's immediate observation. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. xix. (1862) II. 76 Neither Homer nor Hesiod mentioned any verifiable present persons or circumstances. 1883 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* II. xii. 227 The authority..will rest on the accredited, because verifiable, experience of man.

Hence **Ve·rifiableness,** verifiability.

1881 A. BRUCE *Chief End Revelation* I. 42 While the abstract possibility of a revelation is admitted, its verifiableness is in effect denied. 1886 — *Miracl. Element Gospels* 294 They satisfy the modern requirements of verifiableness.

† Veri·fical, *a. Obs.*[—1] [f. med.L. *vērific-us* (Dietenbach), true, truthful + -AL.] True, veridical.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 157 This proposition transposed unto its verificall sense.

† Veri·ficate, *v. Obs.*[—0] [f. med.L. *vērificāt-*, ppl. stem of *vērificāre*: see next] (See quot.)

1721 BAILEY, *To Verificate*, to prove a thing true.

Verification (verifikē·ʃən). Also 6 **verifica-tioun, -acioun, veryfycacyon.** [a. OF. *verification* (mod.F. *vérification*, = It. *verificazione*, Sp. *verificacion*, Pg. *verificação*), f. *verifier*, or ad. med. L. **vērificātiōn-*, *vērificātio*, f. *vērificāre*: see VERIFY *v.* and -ATION.]

1. The action of demonstrating or proving to be true or legitimate by means of evidence or testimony; formal assertion of truth. Now *rare.*

1523 *Reg. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 388 For þe verificatioun and prewyng of his indorsyng and execution of my lordis precept. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xix. (S.T.S.) I. 110 In verificacioun hereof [i. e. an intended act of treason] þe said turnus did maist cruelie inway aganis him. 1599 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* (ed. 2) Q 3 b, The Schireffe..suld summond certaine persons. & suld be present in proper persone..with the verification of the saidis summoundes. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balsac's Lett.* 19, I say nothing (my Lord) I am not ready to sweare in verification of my belief. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Ductor* II. i. rule 7 § 2 If she be a woman, if she can be a wife, and can be his, there is no more requir'd to a verification of the contract in the law of nature. 1912 A. G. HOGG *Christ's Message Kingd.* III. xi. 140 To use an oath even for the purpose of verification, is to make a convenience of God.

2. Demonstration of truth or correctness by facts or circumstances.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* B j b, Thus than appereth the veryfycacyon of the fyrste condycyon that a Cyrurgyen ought to haue, for he ought to be lettred and learned. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 142 The Sentence of the Judge..is a sufficient Verification of the Law of Nature in that individuall case. 1785 WARBURTON *Disc., Rise Antichrist* Wks. 1788 V. 443 It hath..only the traditional verification of the Evidence of a past Fact. 1788 J. BROWN *View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* II. i 139 All the dispositions and actions of mankind are a plain verification of the leading truths of his word. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. Th.* 507 A very unexpected verification of some of the conclusions deduced above. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 12 They afford the readiest and completest verifications of his theories. 1888 *U.S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 613 Let us await the verification of time.

3. The action of establishing or testing the truth or correctness of a fact, theory, statement, etc., by means of special investigation or comparison of data.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. 521 You waste away and die in pursuite of so concealed a misterie of so obscure a verification. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. x. § 3 Fitter occasion..could not be offered for the exquisite verification or exact fulfilling of this prophecy. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 222 The latter wrote a verification of all the fix'd stars, as to their longitude and latitude, for the year 1440. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. III. iv. § 1. 190 Periods of verification, as well as epochs of induction, deserve to be attended to. 1855 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* V. § 994 This estimate..is not capable of verification by any more than the rudest approximations. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 12 May 5/3 Nearly a month will be swallowed up in the verification of the returns.

b. The action of verifying or testing the accuracy of an instrument, or the quality of goods. Also *attrib.*

1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xiv. 103 In the Irish flax trade, a similar example of the high price paid for verification occurs. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Dec. 5/2 The total number of instruments rejected as unfit for a verification certificate owing to excess of error or to other causes was only 346.

4. [After French usage.] Ratification.

1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. v. iv. 141 When the verification of it was laid before the parliament, the procureur général..solemnly protested against it. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* ii. (1875) 50 By the old constitution of France, these letters patent required the verification of the Parliament. 1902 W. L. MATHIESON *Pol. & Rel. Scotl.* I. i. 49 The Parliament of Paris in their act of verification adopted a very superior tone.

Verificative, *a. rare.* [f. L. *vērificāt-*, ppl. stem of *vērificāre*: see VERIFY *v.* and -ATIVE. Cf. OF. *verificatif*, obs. F. *vérificatif*, Sp., Pg., It. *verificativo*] Verificatory.

1860 in WORCESTER (citing *N. Amer. Rev.*). Hence in recent Dicts.

Verificatory (ve·rifik^{ei}tŏri), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ORY 2.] That verifies; having the property of verifying; of the nature of, serving as, a verification.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 362 There is nothing new under the sun—an observation which is indeed verificatory of itself. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. viii. 297 Syllogism has no part, even verificatory, in the action of my mind. 1875 W. JACKSON *Bampton Lect.* 156 The evidence becomes accumulative, or, if you please, verificatory.

Verified (ve·rifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. as next + -ED 1.] Proved to be true by verification.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* Proem to Rdr. ij, By this example of our first parents..it is a verifyed conclusion, that he infused the lesser portion [of wisdom] into her. 1911 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 282 To lay down principles..as a basis or verified induction.

Verifier (ve·rifəi,əɹ). [f. VERIFY *v.* + -ER.]

1. One who verifies, in various senses.

In quot. 1718 a translation of the Arabic title of Abubekir.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een waer-maker*, a Verifier, or a Maker good. 1718 OCKLEY *Saracens* II. 355 Then the Verifier succeeded him with the good liking of the Muslemans. 1736 AINSWORTH I, A verifier, *confirmator, assertor.* 1885 *Reader* No. 141. 283/2 Valued by some verifier of the past. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Chris. Kirkland* II. vii. 223 Who will keep the keeper? and who will verify the verifier?

2. *techn.* In the names of tools or devices (see quots.).

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Verifier*, a tool used in deep boring for detaching and bringing to the surface portions of the wall of the bore-hole at any desired depth. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 394 *Gas verifier*, an apparatus intended to verify whether the gas comes up to a given standard.

Verify (ve·rifəi), *v.* Forms: 4–6 **veryfy**, 5 **-fye**, *Sc.* **weryfy**, 6 **veryfie**; 4–7 **verifie** (5, 7 **verifie**), 6 **verifye**, 5– **verify** (4 **ferify**); 4–6 **verefy** (5 **-effy**, 6 *Sc.* **vare-**, **warefy**), **verefye** (6 *Sc.* **werafye**), 5–6 **verefie**. [ad. OF. *verifier* (1348; = mod.F. *vérifier*, Sp., Pg., Pr. *verificar*, It. *verificare*), ad. med.L. *vērificāre*, f. L. *vērus* true.]

1. *trans. Law.* To prove by good evidence or valid testimony; to testify or affirm formally or upon oath. Also const. *that*, and *to* with inf.

a 1325 [see VERIFYING *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 638 [The abbess appeared, denying] þat she leuied or causid ony noiinge or turnid ony course of watur as hit was presentid afore, & þat she is a-redi to verifie. *c* 1488 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Elis.* (1830) II. Pref. 65 Alle whiche maters the seid Richard is redy to verifie and prove, as this court woll awarde. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 P 1 To the intent to maynteyne, upholde, and veryfie suche reporte as he had made. 1562 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 289 The saidis George and William diaconis warefyis That thai lawfullie chergit ye said Mr. Thomas Meffen ..to compeyr. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Brief Descr. iij b, Iohn Careles in his examination by Doctor Martin verifieth that to bee true, whiche..those two were burdened withall by Steuen Norish. 1632–3 *Canterb. Marriage Licences* (MS.), Catherine Whitfield..is expressly consenting to this intended marriage, as is verified by Thomas Hatcher. 1689 *Acta Parlt. Scotl.* (1875) XII. 66/1 The Heraulds who denounced the viscount of Dundee at the mercat cross..did verefie þeir executiones upon oath. [1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 312 In any stage of the pleadings, when either side advances or affirms any new matter, he usually..avers it to be true; 'and this he is ready to verify'.] 1786 BURKE *W. Hastings* Wks. XII. 192 The said charge to be verified by the oath of the said Fraser. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 1028 He must be prepared with a cautioner..at giving in his defences, unless he instantly verify a defence excluding the action. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 10 May 320 The Court..ordered that the receiver should withdraw and verify his accounts by affidavit.

b. In general use: To testify to, to assert, to affirm or confirm, as true or certain. Now *rare*.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cc. 252 b/2 The landes, seignories, lordshippes, and baronyes in Acquytayne, whiche they verifyed to pertaygne to the kynge and realme of Englande. 1586 DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 90 Him, whose approued fidelity for that it remaineth of no small record to my certaine knowledge, I will presume to verifie. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIX. xlix. 1054 At first the tidings seemed so incredible, that the formost messenger was held ..for a vaine lyar..: but after that there came one after another, and all with one voice verefied and affirmed the same. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 19 So that it may as truly be verified of the Serpent as it was of Esau, that the hands of all men and beasties are against them. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 239 This Novice at his confession made this knowne and after verified as much to the Guardian and chiefe Friars. 1866 MEREDITH *Vittoria* XXXIX, 'Does Major Weisspriess know it to be true?' The question came from Anna. Weisspriess coolly verified it, on the faith of a common servant's communication.

c. To support or back up by testimony.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. ii. 17, I haue euer verified my Friends ..with all the size that verity would without lapsing suffer.

2. To show to be true by demonstration or evidence; to confirm the truth or authenticity of; to substantiate: **a.** Of persons. Now *rare*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 515 As witnessen thise olde wyse; And that ful soone I wol it verifie In this Chanon. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 35 'Prosperitee is blynd'!..And verifie I can wel it is so. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *XI Pains Hell* 212 In erþ, þe fyndis þem verefyd, [The soul] Dispisid godis laus euerechon. *c* 1500 *Melusine* i. 26 Be nat you displesed yf I haue recounted vnto you this auenture, For it is for to adiouste more of feyth, & for to veryfy thistory. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 330 This suith example..I verifie ma richt weill be the Britis. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* III. 286 Verifie Lord the words on me, drawe me after thee. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 277, I bring you Witnesses Twice fifteene thousand hearts of Englands breed,..To verifie our title with their liues. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* v. 87 [He] only desired to cleer so dangerous a suspicion, and never to speake of it but when he could verifie it. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 133 Gabriel this day by proof thou shalt behold ..how I begin To verifie that solemn message late, On which I sent thee. 1782 J. BROWN *View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* v. ii. 430 The covenant-form of this law is not changed; and God hath verified it in the..dreadful sufferings of his only begotten Son. 1828 WEBSTER s.v., The first act of the house of representatives is to verify their powers, by exhibiting their credentials to a committee of the house, or other proper authority.

b. Of things, or in passive.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. x. 53 Therfore neuer neither of tho ij. textis..seruith neither forto grounde neither forto verifie the seid firste opinioun. *c* 1475 *Mankind* 9 in *Macro Plays* I þat may be seyde & veryfyede: mankynde was dere bought. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 354 In to thy mowis and mokis It may be verifeit that thy wit is thin. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 150 If this myght be verefied of us in dede, it were..detestable to be heard of. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Loue C.* II. 63 The prince greatly maruelleth that such great learned men..would set downe and propound such matters, as neuer can nor shalbe any way verified. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 142 The knowledge of the publique Registers, publique Counsels, publique Ministers, and publique Seales: by which all Lawes are sufficiently verified. 1756 MITCHELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 376 All which has been verified by the examination of the persons in whose company he was. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 629 The strongest evidence by which the fact of a death was ever verified. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. (1877) 55 The same scene of action which brought the rational expectation brings also the event which tests and verifies the correctness of it.

3. In passive: To be proved true or correct by the result or event, or by some confirming fact or circumstance; to be fulfilled or accomplished in this way.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 213 So þat now beeþ verified þe vers þat Hildebertus .. made. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 154 Þus es þe prophecy verified. 1486 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 10 That is ane office of ane angel, to..bring the hye new tydingis, the quhilk is verifyit be the haly writt. 1488–3 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 268 Scripture saithe heritage holdyn wrongfully Schal never cheve.. As hathe be verified late ful playne. 1527 *Prose Life St. Brandan* (Percy) 49 Than the sayenge of Saynt Brandon was veryfyed. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 38 The old Prouerbe is herein verified: the ill weede ouercroppeth the good corne. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 6. 192 The like hath been verified time after time. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 182 So spake this Oracle, then verifi'd When Jesus..Saw Satan fall like Lightning down from Heav'n. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vi. Wks. 1874 I. 123 This reasoning from fact is confirmed, and .. verified, by other facts. 1799 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Franchm. T.* (ed. 2) I. 221 Of these doubts one only was verified. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* x, Professions lavishly effused and parsimoniously verified are.. inconsistent. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* I. xxxiv. 286 The Pope's auspicions were verified. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 226 The picture..is verified in the course of the dialogue.

b. Const. *in*, *of*, *on*, or *upon*.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 71 God graunt that proposicion to be verifyed in me. *a* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 8 And þe pope is Petir's vicar, þerfor it be howfiȝ to trowe þat þis feiþ is verifiȝed of him. 1486 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 4 The prophecyes..be verifyit in your maist noble and worthy princehede. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* I. vii, Everythynge in the world is verefyed upon one of them. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 153 And as this was spoken of the Phariseys, I feare me it may be likewise verified in vs. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxix. § 2 That which is vttered of the time, is not verified of time it selfe, but agreeth vnto those things which are in time. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 242 If he doth, I fear it will be verified in him, that a 'fool and his money is soon parted'. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 387 It is true, they ..made Fences; but Solomon's Words were never better verified than in them. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Dwarf* I. 191, I..content myself with the truth only of the remark, which is verified in every lane and by-lane of Paris.

c. Used actively of the circumstances, person, etc., serving as proof or confirmation.

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 127 For soth then y sobhed Veryfyyng thys wordys. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 152 The fyrst [cause] ys, forto verefy þe feyþ of his resurreccyon. 1530 PALSGR. 765/2 He hath nowe verifyed my sayenges. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* II. (1603) 72 The Temple fell downe and verified the answere of the oracle. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 25. 37 The issue verifieth thus much. 1689 MILTON *Touching Hirelings* 9 A voice [was] heard from heaven..crying aloud, This day is poison pourd into the church. Which the event soon after verifi'd. 1671 — *P. R.* III. 177 So shall thou best fulfil, best verifie The Prophets old, who sung thy endless raign. 1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* III. 47 The case of Wheble, the bookseller, verifies this assertion. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xv. 308 The measurements of Agassiz..completely verify the anticipations of Rendu. 1870 J. BRUCE *Life Gideon* xiii. 229 The people themselves did verify this pregnant saying of the Lord by their own immediate conduct.

†**d.** *refl.* To demonstrate or prove (oneself) to be of a certain character. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVI. v, And so him self [the Lord] most terrible doth verify, In terrifying kings. 1596 DRAYTON *Leg., Dk. Normandie* CXXXIV, Fortune.. Turned her selfe, as shee away would flie,..As what she was, her selfe to verifie.

4. To ascertain or test the accuracy or correctness of (something), esp. by examination or by comparison with known data, an original, or some standard; to check or correct in this way.

1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 254 For this cause can be no certaine situation of that coast and Islands, till this difference betwixt them be verified. 1599 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 169 When you will verifie your needle ..you shall vse the healpe of the Sunne. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* II. I. 67 To verify these protracted Distances, go to any of the Objects, as D, take the Bearing of X and Y, to find if they agree with the Protraction. 1798 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 28 Let us now proceed to verify the elongation of the Poles. 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester, A Clerk*, Hours.. spent in casting up and verifying accounts. 1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* iii. 43, I have seen a calculation and I mean to verify it. 1848 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 237 Capt. Dillon was..sent back..to verify the reported existence of some of the survivors of the wreck. 1875 *Chambers's Jrnl.* No. 1333. 7 A set of instruments which have been properly verified at Kew Observatory.

b. To establish by investigation.

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 386 A medical committee was appointed to verify the phænomena which precede, accompany, and follow the Vaccine Inoculation. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 337 In reading over various poetic bills of fare preserved by Athenæus, we have verified twenty-six species in one Attic supper. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 32 If..the disease [be] verified as seated on the second or third part of the subclavian vessel.

5. To give the appearance of truth to; to cause to appear true or authentic. *rare*.

1582 [see VERIFYING *vbl. sb.*]. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 99 All Henry's art and power could never verify the cheat of Perkin. 1823 SCOTT *Guy M.* xl, He assumed the name and profession of his friend Dudley, having command enough of the pencil to verify his pretended character to his host of Allonby.

Hence **Verifying** *ppl. a.*

1634 WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 62 A false asseveration usually winneth more beleefe than two verifying negatives can resettle. 1870 J. BRUCE *Life Gideon* xxiii. 412 An appendix..of verifying deeds and documents. 1884 R. BURN in *Athenæum* 15 Nov. 630/3 Its [i. e. archæology's] verifying and corrective spirit in historical investigations.

Verifying, *vbl. sb.* [f. VERIFY *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. in various senses; the proving *of* something; verification.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 47 b, Wan ha beȝ icleped to uerefiinge, þoru þat þulke i-voched weren in present. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 23 In verefiyng of thys thyng þe fyrst masse..begynnyth thus. 1561–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 196 Sik richtis..and documentis as thai will use for verefying of thair content. 1582 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 Zopirus..fayned himselfe in extreame disgrace of his King: for verifying of which, he caused his own nose and eares to be cut off. 1598 FLORIO, *Verificatione*, a verifying, an approouing, an auerring. 1632 LE GRYS tr. *Velleius Paterc.* 108 Catullus second to none in verifying of the worke which he tooke in hand. *a* 1633 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 480 For verifying whereof, We appeal to the Knowledge of some Noblemen and Ministers. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. 79 The verifying of that true sentence, the first shall be last. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Verification*, a verifying, or proving.

†**Verifyment.** *Obs.*–1 In 4 **nereflement.** [a. OF. *verifiement*: see VERIFY *v.* and -MENT.] Verification.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 47 3if þilke þat is i-voched.. wolle waranti þe tenaunt þe foreseide nereflement to þe askare ne costumes noȝt.

Verigreen. *U.S. slang.* [f. VERY *a.* + GREEN *a.*] A very simple or gullible person.

1854 in M. Johnson *W. L. Garrison & Times* (1880) 269 That man must be a veritable verigreen who dreams of pleasing slaveholders..by any method but that of letting slavery alone.

Verilay, obs. form of VIRELAY.

†**Veriloquous,** *a. Obs.*–1 [f. L. *vēriloquus*.] Speaking the truth; truthful, veracious.

Cf. *Veriloquent* (Blount, 1656), *Veriloquious* (Bailey, 1727), and *Veriloquy* (Blount).

1672 G. THOMSON *Let. to H. Stubbe* 14 Those..Galenists ..contrived therefore a scurrilous Pamphlet against a veriloquous Treatise of mine.

Verily (ve·rili), *adv.* (and *a.*). Now *arch.* or *rhet.* Forms: **a.** 4 **verraliche**, **verraȝle**, 4–5 **verrayly** (4 **varrayly**), **verrally**, 4–6 **veraȝly**, 5 **verraily**; 4 **verei-**, **ver(r)eyliche**, **verreyly**, **-li**, **verreili**, 4–5 **-ly**, 5 **verreilly**. **β.** 4 **verali**, 4–6 **veraly**, 4–5 **verraly**, 5 **verralye**, 5–6 **-ie**, 6 **veralie**, 5 *Sc.* **wer(r)aly**, **weralie**. **γ.** 5 **vereliche**, **-liche**, 4–5 **verrely**, 5 **vereli**, 5–6 **verelye**, 5–7 **verely**, 6 **verelie**, **verrelie**, *Sc.* **werelie**. **δ.** 4 **verilyche**, **verryly**k, **verrili**, 4–5 **verry-**, **verrily** (5 **varily**), 5–8 **veryly**, 6 **verilye**, *Sc.* **verie-**, **weri(e)-**, **verrilie**, 5– **verily**. [f. VERY *a.* + -LY 2. Cf. next and VERAMENT *adv.*]

A. *adv.* In truth or verity; as a matter of truth or fact; in deed, fact, or reality; really, truly.

Freq., latterly almost entirely, used as an emphatic affirmation of the truth of a statement, esp. with verbs of believing, thinking, etc. In ME. and older Sc. poetry often used as a mere rime-tag.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+4ag Þal..told þam [*sc.* the apostles] openly, How þai saȝe crist & with him spake, on-liue ful verraily. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 9239 þe nerrer þat þai sal hym be, þe verreylyer þai sal hym se. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 277 So þat þe raþer welles beeþ now but lakes, oþer more vereyliche dreye chanels wiþ oute watir. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xv. 70 Þe whilk.. descryued me þe maners of oþer countrees..als graythely and als verrally as þai had bene euer sit dwelland in þam. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxxvii. (1869) 49 With inne this bred al the souereyn good is put,..presendliche and verreyliche. *c* 1440 *Mir. Salvacioun* (Roxb.) 44 This prophecie was fulfillid in dede fulle verrayly. 1483 CAXTON

Parls & V. (1868) 33 Knowe ye veralyly that it is not longe aythen, that the sayd Iewels were..gyuen to me.

β. c 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii. 178 My saule sall verraly & perfitly lowe þe in new sanges. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5197, I schal hastlli me hize..to wynge þe verali for owre þat bi-tide þ. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 135 Who so weraly desyreth good renneoune he shall be renouned and preysid. *c* 1475 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1036 Me think farar to dee, Than schamyt be, verralie, And sclander to byde. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* iv. 90 Gud Maister Walter Kennedy, In poynt of dede lyis veraly. 1582 Wimbet *Whs.* (S.T.S.) I. 87 Gif ye beleue that our Sauiiour did thir thingis veralie and indeid.

γ. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* iv. pr. iv. (1868) 127 Whan I considre þi resouns, quod I, I ne trowe nat þat men seyn any þing more verrely. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Whs.* III. 399 Lazar and oþer weren verely deede, and verely reysid by Crist to lyve. 24.. *Sir Beues* (O.) 2577, I thanke you, sayde Beuys, verely. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* (1885) 153 Wich materes thrugly considered, it semyth verely good, þat [etc.]. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1516) 27/1 Whenne he had reygned or more verely vsurped by the terme of .iiii. yeres. 1568 Grafton *Chron* II. 295, I think verely by his valyantnes that he will not flie. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* ii. 7, I doo verely beleeue yᵗ the spirit of God..did make them to be of that nature. *a* 1647 Habington *Surv. Worcs.* (Worc. Hist. Soc.) II. 301 The father, I verely thincke, of Sir Walter Skule.

δ. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10045 Whan þe vble was on þe auter leyd,..Alle þre þogt þan verrylyk, Before þe prest, þat a chyld lay quyk. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Whs. I 374 Þei knowen verrili how þat Crist is Goddis Sone. *c* 1420 *Sir Cleges* 305 The vsscher lyfte vp the lede smartly, And sawe the cheryse verily. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 215 If he wold make yow promys that ye myght veryly trust upon hym. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 399/2 Varily,..*vere.* *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxxxii. 255, I beleue veryly that thou dydyst dye on the holy crosse to redeme vs all. 1552 Huloet, Verilye so manye, *totidem.* 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ix. 147 Some in the passage demaunded confession, thinking verily to die. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 207, I am therefore verily perswaded, that the name of Hercules euen to this place came either [etc.]. 1688–3 *Pennsylv. Archs.* I. 55 Though I could veryly hope my enemy were reconciled. 1708 Swift *Sacram. Test* Wks. 1755 II. i. 127 We are verily persuaded, the consequence will be an entire alteration of religion among us. 1771 *Junius' Lett.* liv. (1788) 293 He.. verily believes him an honest man. 1820 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester, A Clerk*, A person whom he now verily believed to be, as he had originally suspected, insane. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* i. (1858) 3 The time is verily come for acting in it. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* i. 122 Thou couldst.. laugh the laugh back, I think verily.

Comb. 1585 Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 4 The first.. appeareth to be Accusatorie, which..either simply by coniectures or by matter of knowne, or verily supported truth,..may bee conueyed.

b. Placed in front of a sentence or statement as an emphatic asseveration of its truth or accuracy; freq. connoting the truth of a preceding statement.

In versions of the N.T. regularly used to render L. *amen*, G. ἀμήν, which are freq. strengthened by repetition.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10068 Þys y beleue, and euer y shal; For verryly we se hyt alle. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xx. 12 Forsothe and verreili my sister she is. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvi. 194 (Harl. MS.), Þerefor he that hathe þe Ringe of Feithe, vereliche he shalle have al thinges to his likinge. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* (1885) 114 But verely thai liven in the most extreme pouertie and miserie. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* l. 52 Verralie, that war grytrychit. 1535 Coverdale *John* iii. 3 Verely verely I saye vnto the [etc.]. *Ibid.* 11 Verely I saye vnto yᵒ [etc.]. 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 44 b, Verely the kyng of England had so great trust..in the honor..of the French kyng. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 268 And verily there remaineth yet a great Castle. 1632 Sanderson *Serm.* II As if despising were an especiall ..kind of offending, or scandalizing. And verely so it is, especially to the Weake. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 43 ¶ 4 Verily, Mr. Spectator, we are much offended at the Act for Importing French Wines. 1849 Lytton *Caxtons* 37 Verily at times he looked on him as a book. 1872 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. II. iii. 127 Verily, we sit securely! 1879 Butcher & Lang *Odyssey* 158 For verily the might of the sun was sore upon him.

c. Used to emphasize a negative or affirmative particle.

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 284 Dyde ever ony man so grete a trayson as I have doon, nay vereli. 1509 Fisher *Fun. Serm. C'tess Richm.* Wks. (1876) 307 Were not she an vnkinde & vngentyl moder? Yes verayly. 1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* F iij, Naie, verilier, that is it to be a man. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 138 You saye I shall take the Angles of sight of euerye place that I can see..Yea verelye. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot., Should they then becom perfect chords? No verily. 1611 Bible *Acts* xvi. 37 Nay verily, but let them come themselues, and fetch vs out. 1647 Hexham, Yea verily, *ia trouwens, ofte ja voorwaer.* [1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. viii, Yes, verily, my lords and gentlemen,..so you must.]

†**B.** *adj.* True, very. *Obs. rare.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxix. 8 Lord, verralyest lord, noght as men ere lordis. *c* 1425 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1285 Morpheus, That hym before warnyd of the verryly tyde.

†**Ve'riment,** *adv., sb.,* and *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 4 verrei-, verray-, 4–5 verray-, 6 *Sc.* verrie-, 6 verriment. [a. OF. *verai-, verrai-, vraiment*, etc. (mod.F. *vraiment*) truly, f. *verai* true: see Very *a.* and -ment and cf. Verament *adv.*]

A. *adv.* In truth or verity; truly, verily.

13.. *K. Alis.* 727 (Laud MS.), By sterren & by þe firmament He hym taugte verrayment. *c* 1385 *Chron. Eng.* 617 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 296 From him verreiment He broʒte a riche present. 1370–80 *Visions of St. Paul* 235 in *O. E. Misc.* 229 þo Fendes seiden verreyment—He haþ seʒen his luggement. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1491 The lady said, Sir, verrayment, I wil do al yowr cumandment.

B. *sb.* Truth; verity.

1528 Lyndesay *Drame* 801 Efter my sempyll intandiment, ..I sall declare the suith and verrayment As I best can. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 27 Gif that he trastit nocht To that tha said wes suith and verriement [etc.]. 1550 Levins *Manip.* 68 Veriment, *veritas.*

C. *adj.* Veritable, correct.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* 940 To speake like a proctor, And tell vnto you, what is verament and true.

†**Verinas.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **Verrinus.** [var. of Varinas. Cf. Sp. *verina* and F. *vérine* (1675).] A superior quality of roll tobacco (see Varinas).

1618 in Capt. Smith *Whs.* (Arb.) 541 There are so many sofisticating Tobaco-mungers in England, were it neuer so bad, they would sell it for Verinas, and the trash that remaineth should be Virginia. 1670 *Merry Drollery* I. 10 But all the day long you do us the wrong; When for Verrinus you bring us Mundungus.

†**Ve'riness.** *Obs.*⁻¹ In 6 **verynesse.** [f. Very *a.*] Actuality, reality, truth.

1574 tr. *Marierat's Apocalips* 21 He is sayde to be lyke the sonne of man, to betoken the trueuesse or verynesse of humane nature in him, with the same fygure of speeche that Paule vsed.

Veriour, obs. Sc. form of Warrior.

Verious, -iowce, -ioyce, obs. ff. Verjuice.

Verisimilar (verisi·milāi), *a.* Also 7 **very-, 9 veri-similar.** [f. L. *vērisimilis, vērī similis* (see Verisimilitude), after Similar *a* Cf. It. *verisimile*, Sp. *verosimil*, Pg. *veri-, verosimil.*] Having the appearance or semblance of truth or reality; appearing true or real; probable.

In early use *rare.* Frequent since *c* 1845, app. after Carlyle, who used it freely.

1681 *Est. Peace & Truth Ch.* 2 As the Opposition to Truth is either from a downright Lie; or a verisimilar Semblance. 1682 Dryden *Ch Guise* Dram. Wks. 1725 V. 334 Now I am to perform all this it seems, without making any Thing verisimilar or agreeable. 1683 T. Hunt *Def. Charter Lond.* 29 Our Poet hath not so much art left him as to frame any thing agreeable or very-similar to amuse the People or wherewith to deceive them. 1727 Bailey (vol. II).

1827 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 39 Are these dramas of his not verisimilar only but true? 1846 G. S. Faber *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 3 Since I judge the doctrines of Rome to be more rational and verisimilar than any other doctrines whatever. 1887 Lowell *Democracy*, etc. 165 But 'Don Quixote', if less verisimilar as a narrative,..appeals to far higher qualities of the mind.

Hence **Verisi·milarly** *adv.*

1833 Carlyle in Froude *Life* (1882) II. xiv. 338 Wordsworth..[was] represented verisimilarly enough as a man full of English prejudices, idle [etc.].

†**Verisi·milary,** *a.* *Obs.*⁻¹ [Cf. prec. and Similary *a.*] Verisimilar.

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. vi. 31 Like verisimilarie [F. *veristmiles*] amorabons, we captat the benevolence of the ..femininе sexe.

†**Verisi·mile.** *Obs.*⁻¹ In 7 **very simile.** [See Verisimilar *a.* and Simile *sb.*] A plausible semblance or appearance *of* something.

1652 Culpepper *Eng. Physic.* (1656) 300 Almost al Astrologo-Physitians hold this to be an Herb of Mars, and they give a very simile of a truth for it too, viz. Because it cures diseases of the Head.

Verisimilitude (verisimi·litiud). Also 8–9 **veri-similitude.** [a. obs. F. *verisimilitude* (1549), or ad. L. *vērī similitūdo, vērisimilitūdo,* f. *vērī similis, vērisimilis,* f. *vērī,* gen. of *vērum* truth, and *similis* like. Cf. Sp. *verisimilitud,* Pg. *verisimilitude,* It. *verisimilitudine.*]

1. The fact or quality of being verisimilar; the appearance of being true or real; likeness or resemblance to truth, reality, or fact; probability.

In very frequent use from *c* 1850.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1031 If we wil use the rule of probability and verisimilitude. 1654 Fleckno *Ten Years Trav.* 30 Truth has no greater Enemy than verisimilitude and likelihood. 1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 64 Verisimilitude and Opinion are an easie purchase; and these counterfeits are all the Vulgars treasure. 1727 Warburton *Tracts* (1789) 83 Was it but Falshood's Mask of Veri-similitude that we doated after. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* vi. § 19 His conjectures have more verisimilitude than dogmatic theories. 1886 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 289 A depth of tenderness in her large black eyes..gave a great verisimilitude to her representation of the lovelorn damsel. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* II. vii. 291 They are nothing more to me than..judgments on the verisimilitude of intellectual views, not the possession and enjoyment of truths. 1892 Stevenson & Osbourne *Wrecker* i, To add a spice of verisimilitude 'college paper' had an actual marketable value.

b. *esp.* Of statements, narrative, etc.

1671 Milton *Samson, Of Tragedy*, The Plot,..which is nothing indeed but such œconomy, or disposition of the fable as may stand best with verisimilitude and decorum. 1733 G. Cheyne *Eng. Malady* I. vi. § 2 (1734) 48 If what I have advanc'd have any Truth or Verisimilitude. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* II. v. 60 They would appear..so extravagant, as to go far beyond the bounds of that verisimilitude which must be preserved even in fictitious narration. 1827 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* xvii. (1882) 265 The characters..have all the verisimilitude and representative quality that the purposes of poetry can require. 1858 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* lv. (1865) VII. 2 We must accept in the main the verisimilitude of the picture they have left us of this archtyrant. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 422 The traditional form was required in order to give verisimilitude to the myth.

2. A statement, etc., which has the mere appearance or show of being true or in accordance with fact; an apparent truth.

1789 Hailes *Antig. Chr. Ch.* iv. 141 Perhaps, the author had no farther view, than to state the Academical verisimilitudes on each side of the controversy. 1797 J. Lawrence in *Monthly Mag.* (1819) XLVIII. 112/1 The advantages of sophistry are infinitely beyond those of real truth; because a fortunate and well-sounding verisimilitude is so adapted to the comprehension of nine-tenths of mankind. 1821 Lamb *Elia* I. *Old Benchers Inner T*, Henceforth let no one receive the narratives of Elia for true records! They are, in truth, but shadows of fact—verisimilitudes, not verities. 1850 L. Hunt *Autobiog.* vii. (1860) 128, I felt..that there was more truth in the verisimilitudes of fiction than in the assumptions of history.

†**Verisimilitudinary,** *a.* *Obs.*⁻¹ [Cf. prec. and Similitudinary *a.*] Of persons: Having a show of being correct in opinion or judgement.

1675 E. W[ilson] *Spadacrene Dunelm.* 4 Those that hold the materiality of the Air to be from water, are not in opinion altogether paradoxical, but verisimilitudinary.

†**Verisimi·lity.** *Obs.* Also 7 **veri-simility.** [f. L. type **vērisimilitās,* f. *vērisimilis* (*vērī similis*): see Verisimilitude.] Verisimilitude.

1646 Sir T. Brown *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 157 Touching the verisimility or probable truth of this relation. *Ibid.* VII. xviii. 382 Assuredly it was a noble Nation..upon whom, if not such verities, at least such verisimilities of fortitude were placed. 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (Ker) I. 59 The spirit of man cannot be satisfied but with truth, or at least verisimility. 1706 tr. *De Piles' Art Painting* 71 The third [copy], which is Faithful and Easy,..puzzles the greatest Criticks, and often hazards their Pronouncing against the Truth, tho' it may be agreeable to Verisimility.

†**Verisi·milous,** *a.* *Obs.* Also 7 **veresimilous.** [Irreg. f. L. *vērī similis, vērisimilis*: see Verisimilitude.] Verisimilar.

1635 F. White *Sabbath* 16 Many erronious doctrines of Pontificians, are in our dayes wholly supported by verisimilous and probable reasons. 1642 Gauden *Three Serm.* 62 A Judge..needs bee a Critick,..to discerne betweene mus and man, cause and cause, just and unjust, true and veresimilous. 1675 E. W[ilson] *Spadacrene Dunelm.* 33 Any verisimilous conjecture concerning the causation of Springs.

Verism (vi·riz'm). [f. as next + -ism. Cf. Veritism.] The literary or artistic style practised or advocated by the verists.

1892 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 Sept. 407/1 This triumph of realism, veriam, naturalism, or whatever sort of 'ism' it may be called.

Verist (vī·rist). [f. L. *vēr-um* (neut.) or It. *ver-o* true + -ist. Cf. Veritist.] One who believes in or practises the rigid representation of the truth or reality in literature or art. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 395 This observation..would lead us to a controversy with the verists, realists, naturalists, or whatever their name. 1889 *Academy* 28 Feb. 213/2 These provoked the Verist reaction which followed.

Hence **Veri·stic** *a.*

1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 450 The veristic school does indeed go too far in holding up the things of sense as exclusively true and real. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 869/1 The keynote of George Eliot's art Signor Negri qualifies as essentially realistic, or, as he puts it, veristic.

Veritability. *rare*⁻¹. [f. next.] A truth or verity.

1864 A. Leighton *Myst. Leg. Edinb.* (1886) 119 It even happens often that many veritabilities pass through the mind without leaving any traces.

Veritable (ve·ritǎb'l), *a.* (and *adv.*). Also 5 **veritabill,** 6 **very table.** [a. OF. and AF. *veritable* (mod.F. *véritable,* = It. *veritevole*), f. *verite* Verity: see -able.

App. the word had become obsolete by the middle of the 17th century, and was revived early in the 19th. Webster (1828–32) notes it as 'little used'.]

1. Of a statement, etc.: That is in accordance or conformity with the truth or verity; true. ? *Obs.*

1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 21 Therfore hym ought to saye no thynge but yf hit were veritable and stable. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 1068 We shall here tidingges.. shortlye; For that is suth veritabill. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy) 20 In good fayth..thy tale is verytable, Grounded in lernynge, and gretly commendable. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iv. 76 *Des.* Indeed I is't true? *Oth.* Most veritable, therefore looke too't well. 1649 Evelyn *Liberty Servitude* iv. Misc. Writ. (1825) 21 It was not lesse lawfull to men who comprehended thoughts worthy and veritable, such as we might have of things divine, to possesse an heart elevated and a courage invincible.

†**b.** Of persons: Speaking the truth; truthful, veracious. *Obs.*

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. vii. 22 The maners and condicions whiche belongen to a good conestable ben these, that he be not testyf..ne angry, But amesured and attemporat, ..verytable in worde and promesse hardy. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E vij b, The greatest faute..is to spare the trouthe and not to be verytable. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loyse le Roy* 46 The second warned him to bee all his life true, and veritable.

2. Genuine, real, true; not counterfeit, false, or spurious; correctly or properly so called.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 119/1 And to thende to preve that his deth was veritable he wold lye therin thre dayes. 1546 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* V. xix. 260 But where the real works of Nature, or veritable acts of story are to be described, digressions are aberrations.

1890 J. G. Speedy *Sylva Brit.* 24 Few persons..form anything like just estimates of the veritable size of trees. 1892 Miss Cobbe *Intuit. Mor.* I. 73 Then Intuition must be given its natural position as the basis of the only veritable

System of Ethics. 1892 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 8 A moral relish for veritable proofs of honesty.

b. Of things or persons.

1649 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Use Passions* 9 The same Philosophers..imagined it [the soul] had parts as well as the body, and though they were more subtle, they were not less veritable. 1833 LAMB *Elia* II. *Imaginative Faculty in Productions Mod. Art*, He had painted a laudable orchard, with fitting seclusion, and a veritable dragon. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* II. xxiii. 240 A veritable personage was Whittington. 1882 *Lit. World* 21 Jan. 37/1 Nelson, we all know, was a veritable sea king.

c. With *the*, in emphatic use.

1832 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. xiv. 320 A cast of the skull of Raphael—the veritable skull dug up at Rome. 1836 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. ix. 94 Next, sugar; what complex memories the word brings back!—the veritable sugar has been long ago defunct. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* i. 150, I who am now talking..am the veritable Socrates.

8. In extended use, denoting possession of all the distinctive qualities of the person or thing specified.

1862 C. STRETTON *Chequered Life* I. 84, I tell you that Charley is a veritable eel. 1869 A. HARWOOD tr. *De Pressensé's Early Years Chr.* III. i. 360 They had a succession of governors who were veritable brigands. 1897 *Standard* 8 Feb. 7/5 At Rochefort there was..a veritable hail of tiles, slates, etc. blown off the roofs.

†**4.** As *adv.* Veritably, truly. *Obs.*—[1]

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvi. 93, I beleue veritable that it is for to take vengeaunce of the feyth & of the grete othe.. whiche I haue violated falsly.

Hence **Ve·ritableness**, truth, veracity. *rare*—[1].

1664 J. NEWBURGH in Evelyn *Pomona*, etc. 44, I am so well assured of the veritableness of my neighbours relation, that I dare not question it.

Veritably (ve·rităbli), *adv.* [f. VERITABLE *a.* + -LY [2].] In a veritable manner; with truth or verity; truly, truthfully; genuinely, really.

1482 CAXTON *Godfrey* cxliii. 214 The nombre of them that were slayn was neuer verytably knowen. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* I. xxiii. 18 Kymarchus ye sone of Secilius, as some wryters haue, but more veritably as sayth ye olde Cronycle,

1567

figure and fanticie, but few veritably and vprightly.

1804 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 143 All possible hazard may be precluded, by observing more veritably to the youthful reader, that [etc.]. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. (ed. 2) 237 Veritably afterborn, that is to say born after their father has made his will.

Veritism. [f. VERIT-Y + -ISM.] = VERISM. So **Ve·ritist, Veriti·stic** *a.* = VERIST, VERISTIC *a.* Originally and chiefly *U.S.*

1894 *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 July 53/2 Veritism is the name by which devils are to be cast out, and the artist himself is to be a veritist. 1894 H. GARLAND in *Forum* (N.Y.) Aug. 690 My own conception is that realism (or veritism) is the truthful statement of an individual impression corrected by reference to the fact. *Ibid.*, The veritist chooses for his subject not the impossible, not even the possible, but always the probable. *Ibid.* 693 The critic cannot distinguish between the entirely fictitious characters of the veritistic novel and the characters drawn from life.

Verity (ve·riti). Forms: 5 **varyte**, *Sc.* **weryte**, 5–6 **verite**, *Sc.* **veryte**, 6 **veritee**, *Sc.* **varite**; 5–6 *Sc.* **veretie**, 6 **veritye, verytie, ueritie**, *Sc.* **werietie, weratie**, 6–7 **veritie**, *Sc.* **verritie**, 7– **verity**. [a. AF. and OF. *verite, verite* (mod.F. *vérité*, = It. *verità*, Prov. *veritat, vertat, verdad*, Sp. *verdad*, Pg. *verdade*) :—L. *vēritāt-, vēritās*, f. *vēr-us* true, VERY *a.* : see -ITY.

App. not in common use in the 18th cent., but revived in the 19th.]

1. Without article. Truth, either in general or with reference to a particular fact; conformity to fact or reality. Also *personif.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 254 Bot-gyf þat pece be and concorde, to fynd veryte In-to na thing may be profyte. ..uredy

verite war seyn, That ye me luffyt, I awcht yow luff agayn. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 87 Than demaunded he of hym, what thyng he professed. He aunswered: Veritee. 1579 W. FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 577 Betweene veritie & falsitie there is no meane. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. iii. 38 Mirth, and Free-mindednesse, Simplicitie,..These be the lovely play-mates of pure veritie. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Anwot. Jer.* 66 Historical verity, saith he, shews the sepulchers of their false Gods here on earth. 1658 G. THOMAS *Pentikramia* 30, I..have all along, and shall still declare nothing but Verity. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxiii, He is a prelatist.., and all, and more than all, that has been said of him must needs be verity. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. vi. (1872) 137 A little verdant flowery island of poetic intellect, of melodious human verity. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* v. § 2. 325 The hypothesis of Catholic verity does not attempt to solve the problem.

Comb. 1822–32 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 192 A motive of any description may be termed a veracity or verity-promoting, or mendacity-restraining, motive.

b. In various prepositional phrases and constructions used adverbially, freq. with emphatic force, as *in* (†*of*) *verity*.

14.. *Sir Beues* (S.) 4313+127 Foure þousand men, pur varyte, þey brouȝten with hem to Lundone cyte. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 39 Hir cleyne virginite was [w]vanderlie and in verite preuine be the prophetis. *a* 1567 *Disrn. Occurr.* (Bann. Cl.) 14 The quhilk Johne Scott fastit without meit or drink of veritie xxxij dayes. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvii. § 5 For we take not baptism nor the eucharist for bare receiving, but (as they are indeed and in verity) for means effectual. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xxxiv, It is somewhat sudden in verity and truth; but he must depart for Dorset by daybreak to-morrow. 1878 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lvi. 232 In verity it was not I who fed my nurse, but my nurse me.

†c. *Of verity* (used predicatively): True. *Sc. Obs.* (Cf. 3 b.)

1549 *Compl. Scot.* v. 35 Bot admittend..that Socrates opinione var of verite, 3it [etc.]. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 134 The provist answerit and said, 'that is of truth and weratie, and gif' [etc.]. *c* 1593 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 5 Gif this be of ueritie I remit me to the Erlie of Angus declaratioun. 1638 in *Hewick Archæol. Soc. Trans.* (1868) 30/2 The which the said David Baddie hes maid faith before the baillies that it was of verritie.

2. With article or pronoun. The truth; the true or real facts or circumstances.

Freq. in the 16th c. in reference to religious belief, sometimes taking the sense of 'the true religion or faith'.

1488 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 161, I wey that ham lackyth men that sholde say to ham the Verite, or the trouthe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxi. 372 Telle me what ye be, and of youre felowes telle me the verite. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Sheep & Dog* 2, Seikand full mony Decreitis of the Law, And Glosis als, the veritie to knaw. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *John* iii. 19 Hereby knowe we, that we are of the verite. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 46 King: my faith I plight heere, to relate thee veritye soothlye. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 22 Therefore Lactantius approacheth neerer to the veritie. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 73 The Apostles preached here the Christian veritie. 1696 in *Aubrey's Misc.* (1721) 212, I have set it down fully,..being curious for nothing but the Verity. 1784 in *Nairne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 55 [To] grant commission for taking his oath on the verity.

b. Const. *of* (something).

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy) 39 The comon wyt.. Maye well ajudge the perfyt veritie Of theyr sentence. 1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 80 Howbeit no farder than the verity of Scripture will justifie my cause. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. x. 43 By which auncient Proverbes may be collected the verity of the assertion set downe. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xl. 250 The verity of his Miracles. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. iii. (1692) 79 We cannot..allow That a meer Belief of the Verity and Authority of the History and Doctrine of Scripture is.. Faith. 1727 SWIFT *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 154 The verity of this hypothesis is justified by the symptoms. 1788 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 210 He wrote a volume denying the verity of my experiments. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 238 The most powerful proof of the verity of the rule. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. x. 66, I felt in all its force the brave verity of the remark of Mirabeau. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Jan. 83 It is a pity Mr. Ashton should not have clearly distinguished..between the veracity of the author and the verity of his book.

c. Said of God or of Christ. Usu. with defining adj. preceding.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 6 The verite hath sayd it and wryten it. 1539 *Homilies* I. *Of Faith* II. G iij b, Chryst hymself: the eternal and infallible veritie. 1563 *Ibid.*, *Of the Resurrection* G ggg ij b, O man, cal to thy minde, that therefore hast thou receyued into thyne owne possession the euerlasting veritie, our Sauiour Jesus Christ. 1645 VANE *Lost Sheepe* 41 God being the Prime Verity. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* I. v. 126 We have no experiences in our memory which we can..transmute into an Image of the Ineffable Verity.

†d. The exact wording and meaning of the original Hebrew or Greek text of the Bible. *Obs.*

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 45 But yet let Tindale loke ouer his Testament once agene and conferre yt a lytle beter withe the verite and greke to [=too]. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *title*, The Byble in Englyshe, truly translated after the veryte of the Hebrue and Greke textes. 1627 W. BEDELL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 136 For the translation sake (being not in the Vulgar, but according to the Hebrew verity). 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 91 The assertors of the Hebrew verity. 1771 LUCOMBE *Hist. Print.* Pref. B 2 b, When they quote the Scripture wrong.., the authority of the Greek and Hebrew verity should be cast in their teeth.

e. The actuality or reality *of* something.

a 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 176 He [Christ] offered also his Hands, to the other Disciples,..to proove..the veritie of his humane Body. 1688 W. HOPKINS *Ratramnus' Body & Bl.* Dissert. v. (1688) 75 Concerning the Verity of Christ's Body and Blood in the Eucharist. 1913 *Act* 3 & 4 *Geo. V*, c. 20 § 21 Such oath..shall be taken by him to the verity of the debt.

3. With *a* and pl. A true statement, doctrine, or opinion; an established fact, a reality; a truth.

1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1548) 42 There are many veities, which yet may be no such artycles of our faithe. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. vii. in *Holinshed* I. 80/2 Sith conjecturs are no verities & mine opinion is but one mans judgement. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1623) 221 Magicke, in the time of Nero, was discovered to be but a vanity, in the declining state of the Roman Empire, accounted by the Gentiles a verity. 1649 BULWER *Anthropomet.* II. i. 60 A great Anatomist, whom I find running away with an errour instead of a conceited verity. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 12 Which [propositions] being settled in the minds of their scholars, as unquestionable verities. 1768 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxxiv, But it is an indubitable verity, continued I, addressing myself to the commissary. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 122 Thus dreams are verities. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 643 The quarrel and the reconciliation are unquestionable verities. 1878 TAIT & STEWART *Unseen Univ.* vii. § 203. 202 Our strength lies in keeping up a communication with those verities which we all acknowledge.

b. *Of a verity* (chiefly in parenthetic use): Truly, assuredly, in truth, indeed. (Cf. 1 b.) *rhet.*

1830 W. IRVING *Mahomet* vi. (1855) 33 Oh Mahomet, of a verity, thou art the prophet of God! 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. i. 15 The liver of a walrus eaten with little slices of his fat;..of a verity it is a delicious morsel. 1880 SALA *Baddington Peerage* I. xv. 271 Down she came, in about ten minutes, looking of a verity, radiant.

4. Truthfulness, veracity, sincerity. † *Obs.*

c 1535 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (1878) 52 Justice, verity, holiness, fear of God. 1585 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 14 b, Thou hast sworen to Dauid in thy verite. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. iii. 92 The King-becoming Graces, As Iustice, Verity, Temp'rance, Stableneese. 1626 BAYNEDY *Civ. Life* 242 Veritie is the vertue..by which a man in all his conuersation, in all his actions, and in all his words sheweth himselfe sincere and full of truth. 1808 E. S. BARRETT *Mists-lad Caueral* 47 If my verity is called in question, I will state in what manner, and by what means it was paid. 1848 *Scottish Jrnl. Topog.*, etc. II. 267/2 Scoto-Gallicisms..On my veritie, [from French] vérité. My certie, [from French] certes.

Verjuice (vɔ̄·ɹdʒūs), *sb.* Forms: a. 4–5 **ver-ious**, 5 **veryous, -yoce, -ius(e, -iuys, -jusse, -iowce** (**vere iouse**), 6 **werius, veriovce, -juce** (**verdjuice**), 6–7 **veriuice, -iuce, -iuyce**, 7 **verjuyce, -juce, -jus**, 7– **verjuice**. β. 4 **vergwe**, 5 **wergoys**, 6 **vergus, -uys**; 4 **vergieux**, 4–6 **-eous**, 6 **-ews, -eus**, 5 **vergyous**, 6 **-ious, -yus, -ius** (4 **verdius**, 5 **vertious**). γ. 5 **vergys**, 5–7 **vergis**, 6–7 **verges**, 6 **werges, vergeese, -i(e)ase**, 7 **verdges**; 6 **warges**, 6–7, 9 *dial.* **vargus**, 7, 9 *dial.* **vargis**. [a. OF. *verjus, verjus, vergus*, etc. (mod.F. *verjus*), f. *vert* green, unripe + *jus* JUICE.]

1. The acid juice of green or unripe grapes, crab-apples, or other sour fruit, expressed and formed into a liquor; formerly much used in cooking, as a condiment, or for medicinal purposes. Also in comparisons as, *as sour* (*bitter, tart*, etc.) *as verjuice.*

a. 1302–3 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 18 Pro j barillo ad verious. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 619 *Viridis succus*, veriuys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Veriowce, sawce, *agresta*. 1480–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 33 Make him dryake of verious and watir. *c* 1480 *Townley Myst.* XII. 236 A calf lyuer skorde with the veryouse; Good sawse. This is a restorete To make a good appete. 1534 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 187 A brake to make veriovce with. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) B iv b, The juce of Purcelane, of Plantaine, and verjuce of grape, or crabbes. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 71 Crabs after the veriuice is expressed from them 1626 MIDDLETON *Women Beware Wom.* III. iii, Having a crabbed face of her own, she'll eat the keen verjuice with her mutton. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Bible* vi. 23 II. 22 Their obedience was wrung out of them, as verjuice is out of a crab. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. ii. 124 The good Effects of Vinegar, Verjuice, Spirits of Wine, in Sprains. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* (ed. 6) I. 343 Beat pumice stones to an impalpable powder, and mix up with verjuice. 1833 ROYLE *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 358 When unripe the fruit is remarkable for the harsh acidity of its juice, which is then called verjuice. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* LXIII. 266 To distort the face as if one were quaffing verjuice.

fig. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 80 They must have veriuice that will squeese such crabbes. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* v. iii, 'S foot this Fat Bishop hath..so squeich'd and squeez'd me, I've no verjuice left in me. 1886 HERBERT *Body Div.* I. 269 Take heed of matching with one of the daughters of Heth; be that grafts into a crab-stock, is like never to want verjuice.

β. 1349–50 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 551 In xvj lag. de vergeous. 1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 135 Et pro viij galonibus vergws. *a* 1400 *Leg. Holy Rood* viii. 175 Mit Moyses in Rule hab rad, We schulde ete vr lomb in sour vergeous. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxlvii. (1869) 134, I serue of vinegre and of vergeous, and of greynes þat ben soure. *c* 1440 *Douce MS. 55* fol. 7 Then take..a quantite of vertious & saffron & sake & cast ther to. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 23 A barell with wergoys, and a botel for wynne. 1513 W. DE WORDE *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* 278 It ought for to be eten with grene garlyke, or with sorell, or tender vynes, or vergyus in somer season. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 65 b, Boile it in ill glasses full of good vergeous or whyte wyne. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 57 Some adde thereunto Vergius, or the iuyce of soure Grapes, to make the taste more tarte.

γ. 1412–3 *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) 75 De vnis..pro vergis inde facť. *c* 1528 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1779 Somtyme, parde, I must vse largesse. Ye, mary, somtyme in a messe of vergesse. 1527 *Luton Trin. Guild* (1906) 186 Payd..for j galone of wargis. 1557 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 64, ij harrells to keepe varges in. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 53 Be sure of vergis..so good for the kitchen 1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. lxxi. 148 You shall then onely giue it a pint of strong verdges to drinke. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Begger* Wks. I. 97/2 And for a Sauce he seldom is at Charges, For euery Crabtree, doth affoord him Vergis. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 108 Make a posnet of Varges or Vinigar and Milke, bath the joynt very hot therewith. 1837 HOOD *Ode to Dr. Hahnemann* 38 A drop of '*varges*'. 1884 MISS BAKER *Northamptz. Gloss.* 375 As sour as vargis. 1904 E. STEP *Wayside & Woodland Trees* 103 Cyder is made from the rotting Crabs; also a kind of vinegar called verjuice or vargis.

†b. In fig. phrases *to crowd, crush, squeeze to verjuice. Obs.*

1605 *Tryall Chev.* II. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 289 And that sowre crab do but leere at thee I shall squeeze him to Vargis. 1621 FLETCHER *Isl. Princess* III. i, They love a man that crushes 'em to verjuce. *a* 1625 — *Wife for Month* II. i, They have crowded me to Vergis, I sweat like a butter-box.

2. In fig. use, with reference to the characteristic acidity or sourness of verjuice.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skiad.* (1878) 39 Oh how the verges from his blacke pen wrung, Would rance the Idiome of the English tongue. *Ibid.* 65 To mittigate The sharp tart veriuice of his snap-haunce hate. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* V. i,

Hang him, an austere grape, That has no iuice, but what is veriuice in him. 1683 Cibber *Sir C. Nice* I, The Devil of Envy suck'd it all out, and left verjuice in the roome. 1739 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1860) 543 To be sure there must be an infinite deal of verjuice in her composition! 1792 J. Wolcot (*P. Pindar*) *Rights of Kings* xviii. Wks. 1816 II. 209 The heart should be a medlar, not a crab; Milk, and not Verjuice, from its fount should flow. 1829 Scott *Betrothed* xxii, Raoul, glancing towards her a look of verjuice [etc.]. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Daw.* II. xi, Miss Budd, although she said nothing, looked vinegar and verjuice. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* iv. 101 The temper of his proposed son-in-law was a mixture of gall, wormwood, vinegar, verjuice, vitriol and nitric acid.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* a. Simple attrib., as *verjuice barrel, bottle, brake, house, sauce, tub, vessel.*

1432 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 91 A vergyous barell. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery Bks.* 103 The sauce is vergyus sauce or sauce ginger. 1526–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 106 Pro ostiis le Weriushouse. 1551–60 in Hall *Elis. Soc.* (1887) 150 A verguys tubbe. 1578 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 234 In the buttrie..a kitt, a vergious brake. 1588 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1893) 150, ij kneadinge tubes, iij cheises, ij verges barrells. 1629 *Inv. Hoxsh. Goods* in *Trans. Essex Archæol. Soc.* III. II. 161 In the West Larder ..8 vergis vessells.

b. Passing into adj. in the sense of 'bitter, sour, sour-looking', as *verjuice countenance, face, wit.*

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* To Iudiciall Perusers, I dare defend my plainenesse against the veriuice-face of the Crabbedst Satyrist that euer stuttered. 1613 Heywood *Brazen Age* II. iii, She scarce will let me kisse her, But shee makes vergisse faces. 1632 Brome *Court Beggar* II. i, Thou hast a verjuice wit. 1823 Scott *Peveril* vii, A verjuice countenance .. is no such temptation. 1853 Hickie tr. *Aristoph.* (1887) I. 12 You bear the basket prettily, with a verjuice face.

†c. *Verjuice grape*, one or other variety of grape suitable for the making of verjuice (cf. quot. 1725 and F. *verjus* a sour or green grape). *Obs.*

1648 Hexham II, *Verjuys-besien*, Verjus or Sowre grapes. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxv, The great red grapes, the muscadine, the verjuice grape. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* Sept. 74 The Verjuyce-grape excellent for sauce, &c. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. xi. 52 Having planted your Trees, you ought..to set some Chasselas, or Verjuice Grapes, about your Squares. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., There are three sorts of Grapes to which they properly give the Name of Verjuice, *viz.* the Gouais, Farineus, and Bourdelas, otherwise le Grey; and 'tis from these three that they commonly press Verjuice.

Hence **Ve·rjuice** *v. trans.*, to embitter, make sour; **Ve·rjuiced** *ppl. a.*

1836 W. H. Maxwell *Capt. Blake* xv, The maid was a verjuiced spinster. 1848 Lowell *Fable for Critics* (1865) 217 His sermons with satire are plenteously verjuiced. 1892 W. G. Thorpe *Still Life Mid. Temple* 3 Sir John Key, where the inherent rhyme to 'donkey' verjuiced the baronetcy.

Verk(e, obs. Sc. forms of Work *sb.*

† **Verken**, obs. form of Firkin.

1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 184 P^d per me for an verken of gonpouder, viij d.

Verlay, Verlet(te, obs. ff. Virelay, Varlet.

Verlich(e, ME. vart. Ferly *a.* and *adv. Obs.*

† **Verling-line.** *Naut. Obs.* (Origin and meaning obscure.)

1420 in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI*, ij. haunsers pro verlyng-lynes ponderis cx. lb.

Verlore, var. f. pa. t. and pa. pple. Forlese *v. Obs.* **Verlot(te**, obs. ff. Varlet. **Verm**, southern dial. var. Farm *sb.*; obs. Sc. var. Worm *sb.* **Vermayn(e**, obs. ff. Vermin *sb.*

† **Verme.** *Her. Obs.* [ad. L. *vermis* worm (Honorius of Autun *De Imag. Mundi* I. xiii), incorrectly taken as the name of a fish.] An alleged fish of the Ganges, able to seize and destroy elephants.

Bossewell elsewhere (II. 66) has the form *vermante*, prob. an error for *verme hariante* by accidental omission of letters.

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* III. 25 b, H. hathe to hys Creste, a Verme hariante propre, subsigned aboute the tayle with a scrowe.

Ve·rmean, *a. rare*^−1. [f. Verme-s + -an.] = Vermian *a.* 1.

1903 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 493 Parasites, both external and internal, both protozoan and vermean, were met with.

Vermechulli, obs. f. Vermicelli.

Vermeil, vermil (vɜ·ɪmil), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: α. 5 vermaile, -mayle, -meyle, 6 vermayll, 7 -meyl; 6 vermeill, 8–9 -meille, 6– vermeil. β. 6 vermell, 7 vermel; 6–7 vermile, 7 -myle; 8–9 vermil. [a. AF. and OF. *vermail, vermeil* adj. and sb. (11th c., mod.F. *vermeil*, = Prov. *vermelh, vermel*):—acc. sing. of L. *vermiculus*, dim. of *vermis* worm: see Vermicle, and cf. Vermilion *sb.* and Vermily.]

A. *adj.* Of a bright scarlet or red colour; vermilion. Chiefly *poet.*

α. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3645 Ful fayre it [*sc.* the rose] spradde the god of bleese For suche another as I gesse Aforne ne was ne more vermayle. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Ballad at Reverence Our Lady* 45 (Skeat), Benigne braunchelet of the pyne-tree, Vyneyerd vermayle. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 74 Take not colde water in stede of vermayll wine. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 37 The pretty fische .. vithe there rede vermeil fynnis. 1596 Spenser *Prothal.* ii, With store of vermeil Roses, To decke their Bridegromes posies. 1802 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 339 Nature's vermeil robe and lilied vest. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* II. 12 This Maid, who wrought..In vermeil colours and in gold An unblest work. 1812 S. Rogers *Columbus* Poems (1839) 42 Tinging with vermeil light the billows blue. 1898 Ménie M. Dowie *Crook of Bough* 165 The vermeil flood mounted in her cheeks, but she met his glance fully.

β. 1590 Wyrley *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* i, A vermile crosse the Cyprian king still wore. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* (MS. draft), That sad Floure that strove To write his own Woes on the vermel Graine. 1692 J. Salter *Triumphs Jesus* 17 A Face with Vermile Paint still over-laid. 1792 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. I. 4 In noon's bright blaze thy vermil vest unfold. 1800 Moore *Anacreon* lvi, The ripe and vermil wine, Sweet infant of the pregnant vine.

b. Freq. of the countenance, lips, etc.

c 1614 Sir W. Mure *Dido & Æneas* I. 606 The dimples of a vermile cheek. 1754 Gray *Pleasures fr. Vicissitude* 3 With vermeil cheek and whisper soft She [*sc.* the morn] woo's the tardy spring. 1780 S. J. Pratt *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 176 The invisible sigh steals through its vermeil passages. 1820 C. R. Maturin *Melmoth* (1892) III. xxx. 198 A lip as vermeil as her own. 1864 Musgrave *Ten Days in Fr. Parsonage* I. i. 29 The vermeil cheeks..faded away into creamy hues.

transf. 1759 Mallet *Fragment* Wks. I. 50 The vivid pulse, the vermil grace,..Youth, beauty, pleasure, all are thine! 1800 Moore *Anacreon* xiv. *note* 3 So many vermil, honeyed kisses, Envy can never count our blisses.

c. With names of colours; esp. *vermeil red.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 22 In her cheekes the vermeill red did shew. 1791 Huddesford *Salmag.* 121 Thy vermeil red and living green In mimic folds thou shalt display. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 364 Like a blossom vermeil-white, That lightly breaks a faded flower-sheath. 1906 C. M. Doughty *Dawn in Britain* I. 68 Her rud as apple blossoms, vermeil-white, Her locks..Like sunny rays.

B. *sb.* 1. Vermilion hue or colour.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 45 The snowy substaunce [*ante* frothy billowes] sprent With vermeill, like the boyes blood therein shed. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* x. xli, So when cleare ivorie vermeil fitly blots, By stains it fairer grows. 1728 Fielding *Love in Sev. Masques* I. v, It has exagitated my complexion to that exorbitancy of vermeille. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Ruined Abbey* 180 The vivid vermeil fled his fady cheek. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. iv, The orb was sinking red and lurid, amidst long cloud-wracks of vermeil and purple. 1892 'M. Field' *Sight & Song* I A cloak Of vermeil and of blue.

†b. *transf.* Blood. *Obs. rare.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 24 How oft that day did sad Brunchildis see The greene shield dyde in dolorous vermeil? 1594 Greene *Selimus* 670 Ile follow Mars,..And die my shield in dolorous vermeil. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xvi. 151 With these [I] saw her so glorious and so just, that ne'er The lily from the lance had hung reverse, Or through division been with vermeil dyed.

†2. = Vermilion *sb.* 1 a. *Obs. rare*^−1.

1620 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* II. xxxii, A painted face, belied with vermeyl store.

3. (See quots.)

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 230 Oriental Ruby. Its colour is carmine red,..sometimes red and white, or red and blue, and thence called sapphire ruby, or orange red, by some called vermeille or rubicelle. 1884 *Imp. Dict., Vermeil*, a jeweller's name for a crimson-red garnet inclining slightly to orange.

4. *Gilding.* (See quot.) Also *attrib.*

Directly from mod F. *vermeil*; the quotation is part of a description of the French method of gilding.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 613 The *vermeil* coat. Vermeil is a liquid which gives lustre and fire to the gold, and makes it resemble *or moulu*. [Hence in later Dicts.]

b. Silver-gilt; gilt bronze.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vermeil* (French), silver gilt, or gilt bronze. [Hence in later Dicts.] 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 334/2 The iconostase or screen is a high wall of burnished vermeil. 1911 *19th Cent.* May 841 Golden pheasants sat..on platters of embossed vermeille.

C. *Comb.* (chiefly parasynthetic), as *vermeil-cheeked, -dyed, -rimmed, -tinctured, -tinted, -veined.*

1634 Milton *Comus* 732 What need a vermeil-tinctured lip for that? 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Furies* 451 Let th' Athenian train...now advance, Array'd in richest vesture darting round Its vermeil-tinctur'd radiance. 1810 Shelley *Hope* iv. Orig. Poetry (1898) 95 The vermiel [*sic*] tinted flowers. 1818 Keats *Endymion* I. 50 Before the daisies, vermeil rimm'd and white, Hide in deep herbage. 1820 — *St. Agnes* xxxviii, Thy beauty's shield, heart-shap'd and vermeil dyed. 1821 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 67 (1822) II. 117 The bearded and the vermeil-cheeked. 1905 Holman-Hunt *Pre-Raphaelitism* I. 4 Cheeks vermeil-veined by the pencilling of nature.

Vermeil, vermil (vɜ·ɪmil), *v.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. prec. Cf. the earlier Envermeil *v.*] *trans.* To colour or suffuse, to stain *over*, with or as with vermilion or bright red. Also *transf.*

1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 278 The presses painted & vermiled with golde. 1609 Heywood *Brit. Troy* xiii. lxxxix, Euen till his armes with blood were vermeil'd o're. 1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* xi. 264 Their bewties, all sophisticate to viewe (Vulgarlie vermillid to pretends pencil ever spread.

Hence **Ve·rmeiled, Vermiled** *ppl. a.*

1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* ix. 27 Her painted truith, her vermild modestie.

Vermeillone, -meleon, obs. ff. Vermilion.

† **Vermelet.** *Obs.*^−1 [ad. OF. *vermellet, vermeillet*, dim. of *vermeil* Vermeil *a.*] Vermilion.

c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 141 O bright Regina, who made thee so fair? Who made thy colour vermelet and white?

Vermelon(e, -oun, etc., obs. ff. Vermilion.

Vermen, obs. form of Vermin.

† **Ve·rment.** *Obs.*^−1 Aphetic f. Averment.

1472 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 64/1 By his Othe,..withouten any Issue, triall or verrement to be take in bitwene you and hym theruppon.

Vermeo·logist. [f. Verme-s + -ologist.] One who treats of worms; a helminthologist.

1828–32 Webster.

So **Vermeo·logy**, = Helminthology. (*Ibid.*)

Vermes (vɜ·ɪmīz). [L., pl. of *vermis* worm.]

1. *Path.* (See quot. 1728.)

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vermes*, see *Lumbrici.*] 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Vermes*, in Medicine, a Disease popularly call'd *Worms*; arising from some of those Reptiles being generated, and growing in the Body. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 303 Observations on Diseases in London. ..Vermes,..Epistaxis,..Epilepsia.

2. *Zool.* One or other of the primary divisions, sub-kingdoms, or groups of the animal kingdom proposed or adopted at various times by certain classifiers, comprehending worms and allied forms, but differing widely as to the nature and number of the classes or families included.

The term was introduced by Linnæus in his *Systema Naturæ* (1766).

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 362/2 Linnæus divides the whole animal kingdom into 6 classes...Class VI. Vermes, or Worms. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 225 The following catalogues of insects and vermes, 1808 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 418 Linnæus..arranged the whole in his class *Vermes*. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 105, I arrange the various divisions of the *Vermes* in the following order..I. Platyhelminthes..II. Nemathelminthes [etc.]. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 677/2 The group *Vermes* as used ..by Claus includes several distinct phyla, viz., Nematoid·a [etc.]. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 579 Other Vermes are certainly unisegmental.

Vermeselly, obs. f. Vermicelli.

Vermetid. *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Vermetid-æ*. f. L. *vermes* Vermes.] An individual of the family *Vermetidæ* of holostomatous gasteropods.

1880 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit. 1879* 905 [The Vermetidæ (worm shells). *Ibid.*] Some of the Vermetids assume a looseness of growth as great as that of the worm.

Vermi- (vɜ·ɪmi), comb. form of L. *vermi-s* (cf. Vermes), used in various words, as Vermicide, Vermiform *a.*, Vermifuge, Vermiparous *a.*, etc.; also as a base in a few other terms, as **Vermi·cosus** *a.*, of or pertaining to worms; wormy (Webster, 1847); **Vermi·cious** *a.*, = prec. (Craig, 1849); **Ve·rmidom** [cf. L. *dom-us* house] *Zool.* (see quots.); **Vermi·ferous** *a.* [-ferous], producing worms; **Vermi·gerous** *a* [-gerous], infested with intestinal worms.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 242 The ova undergo their development..in masses of gelatinous matter which adhere to the tubes of the *vermidom in *Protula*. 1894 *Jrnl. Marine Zool.* May 57 The examples..were not all from the same cluster of tubes or vermidom. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* x. (1857) 206 Many a half-hour have I spent beside it,..watching its numerous inhabitants,—insect, reptilian, and *vermiferous. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 129 The inexperienced mother is recommended to give..cakes and puddings tainted with Tansy to her *vermigerous child 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 974/1 It must not..be concluded, that..every individual [animal] is vermigerous.

Vermian (vɜ·ɪmiăn), *a.* [f. Verm-es + -ian; see Vermi- and -an.]

1. Of or pertaining to *Vermes*; characteristic of worms; worm-like.

1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 307 In this point also we can make out an affinity with Vermian larvæ (Actinotrocha). 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 578 The types of structure seen in most Vermian classes are very distinct from one another. 1903 *Outlook* 28 Oct. 589/2 Human nature is not the same in all ages:..it was once simian nature, once vermian, once lower still.

2. *Anat.* Pertaining or belonging to the vermis of the cerebellum. (In recent Dicts.)

† **Vermicell.** *Sc. Obs.*^−1 [a. F. *vermicel, -celle*, ad. It. *vermicelli*: see next.] *Soup-vermicell*, = next 2.

1724 Ramsay *Health* 63 Soup-vermicell, sous'd turbot, cray, and soles.

Vermicelli (vɜ·ɪmise·li, vɜ·ɪmitʃe·li). Also 7 **vermechulli, virmisselli**, 8 **vermigelly**; 8 **vermicelly (-oella), vermeselly.** [a. It. *vermicelli*, pl. of *vermicello*, dim. of *verme* = L. *vermem*, acc. sing. of *vermis* worm. Cf. prec.]

1. A wheaten paste, of Italian origin, now usu. made of flour, cheese, yolks of eggs, sugar and saffron, prepared in the form of long, slender, hard threads, and used as an article of diet. Cf. Macaroni 1.

1669 Davenant *Man's the Master* I. i, Vermechulli shall my Palat please, Serv'd in with Bisques, Ragous, and Intermets. 1674 Boyle *Excell. Theol.* I. I. 54 Vermicelli, wafers, and pie-crust, are all of them diversified meal. 1709 Prior *Paulo Purganti* 65 With Oysters, Eggs, and Vermicelli, She let Him almost burst his Belly. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xix. 155 It will run up like little Worms, as Vermicella does. 1767 *Ann. Reg.* I. 92 The free importation of rice, sago dust, and vermicelli..from the American colonies. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. clxx, Ceres presents a plate of vermicelli. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1276 The macaroni requires to

be made of a less compact dough than the vermicelli. 1887 L. Oliphant *Episodes* (1888) 133 A soup in which was floating what appeared to be pieces of vermicelli.

b. *attrib.*, chiefly in the sense 'made of vermicelli', as *vermicelli pudding, soup*; also 'resembling or suggestive of vermicelli', as *vermicelli braid, braiding*.

1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 1 When you make any kind of soups, particularly portable, vermicelli, or brown gravy soup. *Ibid.* 175 A Vermicelli Pudding. Boil four ounces of vermicelli in a pint of new milk till it is soft [etc.]. 1806 A. Hunter *Culina* (ed. 3) 207 White Vermicelli Soup. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 20 Sept. 267/2 We had vermicelli soup (flavoured with grated parmesan cheese). 1904 *Daily Chron.* 23 Aug. 8/1 Quite the newest of these embroideries are the so-called vermicelli braids, narrow crinkled cords formed into whirligig devices of no decidedly definite pattern. 1907 *Ibid.* 1 Oct. 8 Sleeveless coats in fine cloth, covered entirely with vermicelli braiding.

2. *elliptic.* Vermicelli soup.

1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 26 April, We..commonly stop at Mr. Gill's, the pastry-cook, to take a jelly, a tart, or a small basin of vermicelli. 1850 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* xiv, 'Perhaps you would prefer Julienne or vermicelli, gentlemen?' inquired the Don.

Ve·rmicidal, *a.* [f. next + -AL.] Of the nature of a vermicide; destructive to worms; anthelmintic. (In recent Dicts.)

Vermicide (vɔ̈·ɹmisəid). *Med.* [f. VERMI- + -CIDE 1.] A medicine for killing intestinal worms; an anthelmintic, a vermifuge.

1849 tr. *Pereira's Mat. Med. & Therap.* (ed. 3) 230 Anthelmintics are of two kinds:—Some act obnoxiously on intestinal worms—destroying or injuring them...These are ..the vermicides of some authors. 1876 Bantholow *Mat. Med.* (1879) 490 Vermicides are remedies which kill as well as expel worms. 1899 Cagney *Jahsch's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed. 4) 208 Sandwith finds thymol by far the most efficient vermicide in cases of anchylostomiasis.

Vermicle (vɔ̈·ɹmik'l). Also 4 **vermycle**. [ad. L. *vermiculus* little worm; also (late L.) scarlet colour. Cf. VERMICULE and VERMEIL.]

†1. = VERMILION *sb.* 3 a. *Obs. rare.*

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxxviii. 23 A worcher with nedlis, of iacynct, and purpur, reed clooth [*altered from* vermycle], and bija. *Ibid.* xxxix. 1.

2. *Biol.* A small worm or grub; a vermicule.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 302 A certain insect, or fly or vermicle. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 426 A little Vermicle, as small as a Mite. 1746 *Ibid.* XLIV. 353 The Vermicles [of Ants]..in a few Days infold themselves in a soft silken kind of Tissue. 1747 Gould *Eng. Ants* 76 The next..Exercise belonging to the working Ants, is feeding the Maggots or Vermicles. 1828–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) III. 366 Vermicles or the larvæ of insects have at times been found in the open ulcer of a cancer. *Ibid.* V. 661 An egg, which gives rise to a minute vermicle or larve. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 453 The bodies thus evolved simulate worms so closely..that Gaule styles them 'Würmchen', which may be translated vermicles.

†**Vermi·culant**, *a. Physiol. Obs.*—1 [a. med. L. *vermiculant-*, *vermiculans* (*pulsus*), pres. pple. of L. *vermiculārī*: see VERMICULATE *v.*, and cf. F. *vermiculant*, Pg. *-ante*.] Of the pulse: = VERMICULAR *a.* 1 b.

1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 33 The Pulse before a Syncope is very quick, then small, languid,..obscure, vermiculant, formicant.

Vermicular (vəɹmi·kiŭlăɹ), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *vermiculāris*, f. L. *vermiculus*: see VERMICULE. So F. *vermiculaire* (Paré), Sp., Pg. *vermicular*, It. *vermicolare*.]

A. *adj.* 1. *Physiol.* †a. ? Full of vermicules. *Obs. rare*—1.

1635 Culpepper & Cole tr. *Riverius* VII. iii. 159 Somtimes it [the blood] is intermitting, watery, vermicular, when the Lungs are rotten by too much moisture.

b. = PERISTALTIC *a.*

Freq. from *c* 1835.

1670 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5137 We instance the Vermicular motion of the veins [of plants] when exposed to the air. 1713 Cheselden *Anat.* III. xii. (1726) 236 After this it [the food] is continually moved by the vermicular motion of the guts. 1791 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. Notes 99 In such a structure it is easy to conceive how a vermicular or peristaltic motion of the vessel..must forcibly push forward its contents. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 9 Its [the stomach's] muscular fibres are calculated to produce a constant undulatory vermicular movement. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 668/1 On the supposition that the arteries undergo an undulatory or vermicular contraction. 1882 Mivart *Cat* 181 This form of movement is also spoken of as the vermicular motion of the intestine.

transf. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 802 Sometimes these muscles are seen working under the skin in vermicular fashion.

2. Having the sinuous shape or form characteristic of a worm; consisting of, characterized by, tortuous outlines or markings; sinuous, wavy.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 180 The Vermicular, or Worm-like Gum, is one of the Arabian or Senega Gums. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 87 This second furrow was..not in a strait line, but in a vermicular direction. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 30 A generation more refin'd, made three legs four, Gave them a twisted form vermicular. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xiv, (1816) I. 438 The vermicular shape,..of the masses with which the [larval] cases are surrounded. 1860 Hook *Lives Abps.* I. I. 33 His mantle..ornamented with stripes or vermicular figures. 1875 Fortnum *Maiolica* II. 16 Pottery of Moresque character and ornamentation with vermicular pattern in copper lustre.

b. *Bot.* (See quot. 1866.)

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. ——— which are raised from layers..produce very few of those vermicular roots, which are the only valuable ones. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* Gloss. 641/1. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1210/2 *Vermicular*, worm-shaped; thick, and almost cylindrical, but bent in different places.

c. *Anat.* = VERMIFORM *a.* 3, 3 b.

1843 J. G. Wilkinson *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. v. 148 The vermicular appendage is seen on one side of the fundus of the cæcum, resembling a miniature intestine. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Vermicular appendix or process.

3. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a worm or worms; resembling or like a worm.

1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* (1716) 385 In its Vermicular State it is a red Maggot. 1720 S. Parker *Bibliotheca Bibl.* I. 152 Without the Taint of the polluted Vermicular Life. 1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 449 Several species of vermicular tubes found in the sea. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 7 Across the body there are several annular divisions, or rather rugæ of the skin, from which the fish should seem to partake of a vermicular nature. 1804 J. Grahame *Sabbath* (1839) 16/1 We may compare the erect spirit of a British legislature with the vermicular servility of..the senate of France. 1892 *Scottish Leader* 24 May 4 Vermicular patience, however, has its limits.

b. Accomplished or made by worms; performed by means of worms. Also *fig.*

1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* II. i. 266 From thence came also Indian Figs, Nuts and Canes, and a vermicular kind of Web made of Silk. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 153 The party, which the work stood pledged to oppose through all its vermicular attacks on the glorious fabric of British Institutions. 1887 C. Hazard *Mem. Y. L. Diman* xv. 338 The trout here disdain flies. As Lewis phrases it, vermicular fishing is what succeeds.

c. *Vermicular work*: (see quot. and VERMICULATED *ppl. a.* 1 c).

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Vermicular Work*,..in Sculpture, a sort of Ornaments used in Rustick Work; consisting of Frets, or Knobs, cut with Points, representing, in some sort, the Tracks made by Worms.

4. Of the nature of a worm. *Vermicular ascaris*, the threadworm, *Oxyurus* (*Ascaris*) *vermicularis*.

1784 Cowper *Let.* 13 Dec., No animal of the vermicular or serpentine kind is crested but the most formidable of all. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 395 The Vermicular Ascarides are very common in the intestines of children. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 365 For the cure of vermicular ascarides, or maw-worms and bots, these oils have been used in the form of injections.

fig. and *transf.* 1825 *Examiner* 307/2 Fawcett..wanted a little more personal flexibility..; he cannot, at his time of life, be sufficiently vermicular. 1854 Lowell *Cambridge 30 Y. Ago* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 89 Refusing to molest the canker-worms..because we were all vermicular alike. 1872 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 189 Criminals..are partly men, partly vermin; what is human in them you must punish—what is vermicular, abolish.

b. Comprising or consisting of worms.

1886 H. F. Lester *Under two Fig Trees* viii. 117 Their [*sc.* worms'] minds, like their bodies, must be glutinous; hence they stick to the thin-end theory...There is no sect of 'bigendians' in the vermicular fold.

5. *Path.* Of diseases: Due to, caused by, intestinal worms.

1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* I. 237 Hence the probable utility of fixed air in vermicular diseases. *a* 1822 Shelley *Devil* Pr. Wks. 1880 II. 400 Persons subject to vermicular and animalcular diseases.

†B. *sb.* = VERMICULE. *Obs. rare.*

1690 R. Clark *Vermicularis Destroyed* 9 A sort of Invisible Worms or Vermiculars. *Ibid.* 11 The Putrefaction..is degenerated into innumerable Vermiculars.

Hence **Vermi·cularly** *adv.*

1818 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 84 The seeds .. vermicularly wrinkled.

Vermiculate (vəɹmi·kiŭlĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *vermiculāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vermiculārī*: see next.

Several other senses given in various Dicts. are merely inferences from senses of the ppl. adj.]

Vermiculated; vermicular; sinuous. Chiefly *fig.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 5 It is the propertie of good and sound knowledge to putrifie and dissolue into a number of subtile, idle, vnholesome, and (as I may tearme them) vermiculate questions. 1658 Phillips, *Vermiculate*, worm-eaten. *a* 1864 R. Choate (Webster), Vermiculate logic. 1872 G. Macdonald *Wilf. Cumb.* III. xvi. 214 My life seemed only a vermiculate one, a crawling about of half-thoughts-half-feelings through the corpse of a decaying existence. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Vermiculate color-markings.

b. *spec.* in *Ent.* (See quot.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 271 *Vermiculate*,.. having tortuous excavations as if eaten by worms.

†**Vermi·culate**, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *vermiculāt-*, ppl. stem of *vermiculārī* (Pliny), f. *vermiculus*, dim. of *vermis* worm.

Other senses which appear in various Dicts. are merely assumed from the ppl. adj.]

1. *intr.* To become worm-eaten. *rare*—1.

c 1632 *Elegy on Donne* D.'s Poems (1654) B 2 iv b, Speake, Doth his body there vermiculate, Crumble to dust, and feele the lawes of Fate?

2. To beat with peristaltic motion. *rare*—1.

1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 283 Her pulse indeed vermiculates, Her Breath is short & little.

Vermi·culated, *ppl. a.* [See prec. and -ED 1.]

1. Worm-eaten; covered or ornamented with markings resembling those made by the gnawing of worms.

1623 Cockeram 1, *Vermiculated*, worme-eaten. [Hence in Blount.] 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. 78 The pisana set in the middle are largest,..having on the backside several vermiculated, ferrugineous lines, in which is the seed. 1886 C. D. Warner *Their Pilgrimage* vi. (1888) 157 The ... worked underneath..until the bark came off and exposed the stems most beautifully vermiculated. 1914 H. L. Joly *Catal. Behrens Coll.* IV. 24 Bronze Koro, vermiculated design charged with dragons.

†b. *Bot.* Of plants or leaves: ? Presenting a worm-eaten appearance. *Obs.*

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.*, *Santolina*, *vermiculata*, *Crtica*, Tourn[efort]. Vermiculated Lavender Cotton of Candy. 1746 Robt. James *Introd. Monfet's Health's Improv.* 17 Those Vegetables also which contain an aromatic alcaline Oil..[include] Savory. Acrid vermiculated Houseleek. Mustard. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Santolina*, The species..enumerated by Mr. Tournefort, are these. 1. The common santolina with cylindric vermiculated leaves...And 14. The Cretic santolina with vermiculated leaves.

c. *Arch.* Of stone-work or other surfaces so carved or moulded as to present the appearance of worm-tracks.

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 242/1 The rustics may either be plain, hatched, or vermiculated. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 482 In different parts of the Louvre, wormy or vermiculated rustics are to be found. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1906 The rocky surface,..the vermiculated, and the punctured, are among the kinds used by the Italians. 1881 Young *Ev. Man his own Mech.* § 1173 The caps and key-stone are frequently of stone, the latter being 'vermiculated'; as it is called, or indented with irregular hollows.

2. Of mosaic work: Wrought, ornamented, or inlaid so as to resemble the sinuous movements or tracks of worms.

After L. (*opus*) *vermiculatum*.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vermiculated*,.. embroidered, wrought with checquer work, or with small pieces of divers colours, representing sundry pictures, as we see in Tables and Counters. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 311 So livelily were their Countenances describ'd in this vermiculated work. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 850/2 For Walls and Vaults:—Fictile or vermiculated; pieces of opaque glass, in small cubes, arranged so as to form complicated pictures.

3. Ornamented *with* sinuous or wavy lines or markings of a specified colour.

1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 124 Our species are..white more or less evidently vermiculated with black below.

Vermiculation (vəɹmikiŭlē·ʃən). [ad. L. *vermiculātiōn-*, *vermiculātio* (Pliny), noun of action f. *vermiculārī*: see VERMICULATE *v.*]

1. The fact or condition of being infested with or eaten by worms; conversion into small worms.

1611 Florio, *Vermiculatione*, a vermiculation, a breeding or crauling of vermine or grubs. 1630 Donne *Last Serm.* Wks. 1839 VI. 285 Putrefaction and Vermiculation and Incineration and Dispersion in..the Grave. 1640 Howell *Dodona's Gr.* 70 This huge Olive which flourishd so long.. fell, as they say, of vermiculation, being all worme-eaten within. 1658 J. Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 933 A certain kinde of Flies which are begotten in the bark of the Elm,..and so perchance in other herbs and plants, without any preceding vermiculation, or being turned into little worms first. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vermiculation*, is an Infection of Plants by Worms. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vermiculation*,..the breeding of Worms in Trees, Herbs, or Fruits.

fig. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 3 Apr. 3/1 The decay and vermiculation of faith has already brought European theology to the verge of collapse.

†2. *Path.* Vermicular or peristaltic movement of the intestines, etc.; peristalsis. Also *transf.*

1632 Sparke *Prim. Devot.* (1663) 127 [There is] a vermiculation in his muscles. Convulsions seize on his whole body. 1671 [R. MacWard] *True Nonconf.* 44 This is the vermiculation of your pulse. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. (1677) 31 My Heart moves..by the motion of Palpitation, my Blood by the motion of Circulation,.. my Guts by the motion of Vermiculation. 1712 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 192 Hypochondriac..Affections, such as Vermiculations, Flushings.

†b. (See quot.) *Obs.*—0

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vermiculation*,..the griping of the Guts, a Disease.

3. With pl. A tortuous boring or marking made by, or resembling the track of, a worm.

1670 Evelyn *Sylva* (ed. 2) xxv. 123 The wood of the Ensina,..when old, is curiously chambletted, and embroidered with Natural vermiculations. 1874 T. Hardy *Far fr. Madding Crowd* lx, The face of the boards is shown to be eaten into innumerable vermiculations. 1891 G. E. Shelley *Catal. Birds Brit. Mus.* XIX. 84 The under surface of the body pale sulphur-yellow, more or less mottled..with dull ashy vermiculations.

b. (See quot.) *rare*—0.

1828–32 Webster, *Vermiculation*, the act of forming so as to resemble the motion of a worm.

c. Without article. Vermicular marking or ornamentation.

1866 *Daily Tel.* 17 Feb. 5/3 This enigma of honeycombing and vermiculation. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 21 *note*, Cross-wise streaking is called barring, and always runs transverse to the axis of a bird; if the lines are straight, it is banding..; if very fine and irregular, it is vermiculation.

Vermicule (vɔ̈·ɹmikiŭl). *Biol.* [ad. L. *vermicul-us*, dim. of *vermis* worm. Cf. VERMICLE.] A small worm or worm-like creature; a maggot or grub. Also *attrib.*

1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. vi. (1716) 391 We see many Vermicules towards the outside of many of the oak-apples. 1778 [W. H. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 24 Jan. 1775, Perhaps, from insects or vermicules, or both, comes

1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 392 A transfer of vermicules from one individual to another. 1828 *P. Manson Trop. Diseases* i. 18 The halteridium .. slowly changes form, becoming elongated into a pigmented spindle-shaped body or vermicule. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 943 In the former..there is a corresponding or travelling vermicule stage.

Hence †**Vermi·culist**, a supporter of the view that generation is due to vermicules.

1784 tr *Spallanzani's Dis. Nat. Hist.* II. 249 The three principal systems respecting the generation of animals, the system of the ovarists, that of the vermiculists, and that founded upon the two liquors.

Vermiculite (vəɹmi·kiəlait). [f. L. *vermiculāri* (see VERMICULATE *v.*) + -ITE 1.]

1. *Min.* 'Hydrous silicate of aluminium, iron, and magnesium, occurring in small foliated scales' (Chester).

1824 T. H. WEBB in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci. & Arts* VII. 55 If subjected to the flame of a blowpipe,..it expands and shoots out into a variety of fanciful forms, resembling most generally small *worms*...If this proves to be a new variety..I term it Vermiculite (worm breeder). 1868 DANA *Man. Min.* 249 Vermiculite .. looks and feels like steatite; but when heated before the blowpipe, worm-like projections shoot out, owing to a separation of the thin leaves composing the grains. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-forming Min.* 199 Vermiculite and Jeffreysite are considered to be altered varieties of phlogopite.

b. *pl.* (See quot.)

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 1074 *Vermiculites*, a group of minerals resembling the chlorites, remarkable for their exfoliation before the blowpipe.

2. *Geol.* 'A short worm-track seen on the surface of many flagstones' (1884 *Imp. Dict.*).

Vermiculo·se, *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *vermiculōs-us* (Palladius), f. *vermiculus* VERMICULE. Cf. It. *vermicoloso* and next.]

†1. Of the pulse: = VERMICULAR *a.* 1 b. *Obs.*—1

1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 124 The Pulse is languid, slow, vermiculose if without a Fever.

2. Infested with worms; worm-like. *rare*—0.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vermiculose*, full of worms. 1847 WEBSTER, *Vermiculose*, a. full of worms or grubs. a. resembling worms. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Hence **Vermiculo·sity**. *rare*—0.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vermiculosity*, Abundance or Fulness of Worms.

Vermiculous (vəɹmi·kiʃləs), *a.* [See prec. and -OUS. Cf. F. *vermiculeux*.]

1. Full of worms. *rare*—1.

1690 R. CLARK *Vermiculars Destroyed* 14 Slime and vermiculous matter.

2. Of or pertaining to worms.

1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. 111. Comm. p. XXV, Otherwise, the vermiculous souls will be portions of human souls. 1819 H. BURR *Banquet* III. 462 The race vermiculous.

3. Having a wormy appearance.

1818 TODD, *Vermiculous*, ..resembling grubs. 1899 *New Monthly Mag.* LVII. 406 The more prominent part of the [man's] nose, on whose vermiculous top, the Prussian blue mostly prevailed.

4. *Path.* Of strangury: Accompanied or marked by the discharge of worms or helminths.

1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 469 They lay a foundation for the following varieties:..Spasmodic strangury...Scalding strangury...Vermiculous strangury.

†**Vermi·culus.** *Obs.* Pl. **vermiculi.** [L., dim. of *vermis* worm. Cf. VERMICULE.]

1. A small worm or grub; a vermicule.

1694 W. SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 12 All the *Vermiculi*, or *Miasmata*, which are the Progenerators of the Plague, or Pestilence. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vermes*, Some Authors assert,..that this *Spatium* is not animated, but receives its Sense and Motion from *Vermiculi*, or *Cucurbitini* inclosed in it. *Ibid.* s.v. *Vermicular.*

2. A species of marine annelid; a sea-worm.

the fish contained in them, which is always a sort of worm. 1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 284 A chambered Vermiculus, taken from Davila's Catalogue.

†**Vermified**, *pa. pple. Obs.*—1 [See VERMI- and -FY.] Troubled with, infested by, intestinal worms.

1666 G. HARVEY *Morbus Angl.* xvii. (1672) 36 Persons thus vermified, seldom go to stool without avoiding a great quantity of those verminous seeds.

Vermiform (vəɹ·mifəɹm), *a.* [ad. med.L. *vermiform-is* (whence F., It., Sp., and Pg. *vermiforme*), f. L. *vermis* worm: see -FORM. Cf. VERMES and VERMIS.

Vermiformal is used by Urquhart *Rabelais* (1653) II. xiii, translating F. *vermiforme*.]

1. *Zool.* Having the form of a worm; resembling a worm in appearance or shape; long, thin, and more or less cylindrical.

1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Vermiform*, ..shaped like a Worm. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* I. 437 A covering of vermiform masses, apparently composed of honey and pollen. 1826 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 211 Body elongated, but not vermiform or linear. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 641 [It] feeds on the insects with its protruded vermiform tongue. 1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* iv. (1882) 186 Five or six vermiform castings had been thrown up.

b. Of animals.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvii. 374 One species, which much resembles the vermiform larvæ of *Hymenoptera*. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 57 The Leeches and Worms present very much the same aspect as the vermiform or worm-shaped Echinodermata. 1846 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* 505 In some of the lowest Vermiform (worm-like) Fishes, such as the Lamprey. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 283 These young vermiform and semi-transparent eels.

c. *spec.* (see quot.)

1877 COUES *Fur Anim.* iv. 116 In general form, the Scout typifies a group of carnivorous Mammals aptly called 'vermiform', in consideration of the extreme length, tensity and mobility of the trunk, and shortness of the limbs.

2. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a worm; like or resembling that of a worm; vermicular.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 327/2 The Spleen..in Birds ..sometimes presents an elongated and vermiform shape. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* (1860) xiii. 442 If we look to the admirable drawings..of the development of this insect, we see no trace of the vermiform stage. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 118 In the Discophora they form tufts of filaments,..and execute vermiform movements.

3. *Anat.* a. *Vermiform appendix* or *appendage*, a small, worm-like process or diverticulum extending from the cæcum in man and a few other mammals.

(*a*) 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) I. 368/2 Of the little vermiform appendix of the cæcum, it will be sufficient to say that its uses have never yet been ascertained. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* vi. 150 An elongated, blind process..which from its shape is called the vermiform appendix of the cæcum. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 28 Cæcum with vermiform appendix ..of rabbit.

(*b*) 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 680 In Man, the Orangs,..and the Wombat,..both cæcum and vermiform appendage are met with. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 674 Concretions are mostly found in the vermiform appendage and are the usual causes of perforative ulceration of this part.

b. *Vermiform process*, the median lobe of the cerebellum, the upper and lower laminæ of which are distinguished as the *superior* and *inferior vermiform processes*.

Also, = prec. (In some recent Dicts.)

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 332/1 The cerebellum...In the centre of its upper surface there is a distinct prominence termed the vermiform process. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 383 The cerebellum is divided into two lateral hemispheres or lobes, two minor lobes called superior and inferior vermiform processes, and some small lobules. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 497 A very little lymph on the superior vermiform process of the cerebellum.

Hence **Vermiformous** *a.*, 'shaped like a worm' (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

Vermifugal (vəɹmi·fiŋgăl), *a. Med.* [f. next + -AL.] = VERMIFUGE *a.*

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 8 The seeds of Delphinium Staphisagria are vermifugal and caustic. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 447 Especially in the case of the seat-worm the vermifugal enemata should be medicated.

Vermifuge (vəɹ·mifiūdʒ), *a.* and *sb. Med.* [a. F. *vermifuge* (= It., Sp., Pg. *vermifugo*), or ad. mod.L. type **vermifugus*, f. L. *vermi-s* worm: see -FUGE.]

A. *adj.* Causing or promoting the evacuation or expulsion of worms or other animal parasites from the intestines; anthelmintic.

In some instances perh. an attributive use of the sb.

1697 in *Mem. Kobeby* (Surtees) 58 Vermifuge pills, a box 3s. 4d. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 54 Their vermifuge quality..justly intitles them to particular attention. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 468 The physician had suspected the presence of worms, and prescribed vermifuge medicines accordingly. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sindhoora, Sinduya*, vernacular names in India for the *Vitex Negundo*, the fruit of which is considered vermifuge. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 711 The administration of vermifuge drugs.

B. *sb.* A medicament or substance having the power or property of expelling worms from the intestines; an anthelmintic.

1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* (1719) 110 It is used hardly in any other Intention in Medicine, than as a Vermifuge. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 14 Vermifuges of the most celebrated kind,..and such other medicines as tend..to carry off or destroy the worms, were assiduously administered. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 364 In the former [class of anthelmintics] we may rank..all the oleaginous vermifuges, as oil of olives, beech-nuts, castor, and turpentine [etc.]. 1843 YOUATT *Horse* xiii. (1847) 292 Arsenic was once in great repute as a tonic and vermifuge. 1872 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 404 Anthelmintics are employed for the following purposes:—...2. The indirect, or vermifuges, to expel any worms, living or dead.

†**Vermi·fugous**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Vermifugal, vermifuge.

1726 C. D'ANVERS *Craftsman* XXXIX. (1727) 374 If my ingenious friend can by any vermifugous preparation bring away or destroy this pernicious Animalcule.

Vermigelly, obs. form of VERMICELLI.

†**Vermiglion**, obs. var. VERMILION *sb.* (perh. after It. *vermiglione*).

1592 GREENE *Conny-Catch.* III. Wks. (Grosart) X. 234 Paynters coulde not..make away theyr Vermiglion, if tallow faced whoores vsde it not for their cheekes.

Vermil(e, obs. or var. ff. VERMEIL *a.*, *sb.*, and *v.*

Vermilion (vəɹmi·lyən), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 3 vermelyon, 6 -eloon, -eloun; 4–5 vermilyon, 5 -ylyoun, 5–6 -ylyon(e, 6 -ylion; 4–5 vermilioun, 5– vermilion (6–7 -milian, 7 virmilion). *β.* 4 vermeillone, 5 -elone, 5–7 -elon, 6 *St.* -eloun; 4–5 vermylone, 4 fer-, 5 vermyloun, 5–6 vermylon; 4–5 vermulon, 4–5 vermilon(e, -iloun; also 6 vermelonde, *Sc.* vermeling, -myling. *γ.* 6–9 vermillion, 7 virmillion. [a. AF. and OF. *vermeillon, vermillon, vermilo(u)n*, etc. (mod.F. *vermillon*, = Prov. *vermeillon, vermillon, vermelho*, Cat. *bermello*, Sp. *bermellon, bermillon, vermellon*, Pg. *vermelhão*, It. *vermiglione*), f. *vermeil* VERMEIL *a.* Hence also Du. *vermiljoen*, Da. and Sw. *vermilion*.]

A. *sb.* 1. Cinnabar or red crystalline mercuric sulphide, esp. in later use that obtained artificially, much valued on account of its brilliant scarlet colour, and largely used as a pigment or in the manufacture of red sealing-wax; also, any red earth resembling this and similarly used as a pigment.

In early use rendering L. *minium* and occas. confused with 'red lead' (as in quot. 1546 in β): see MINIUM.

a. 1296 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/20 m. 4 In duabus libris de Vermelyon emptis. 1336–7 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 83 In ij libris de vermilioun empt. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508 Vermylyone, *minium*. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Adm. i. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 189 Many Experyments I have had in hond;.. Which I wyll tell the reherayng sone: Begynnyng with Vermylion. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K k j, All the Decade was written with blacke ynke, and these wordes with redde vermylyon. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 384 Cinoper or vermilion which the paynters vse in certeyne coloures. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 291 Metals give Orient and fine Colours..in their Putrefactions or Rusts, as Vermilion, Verde-grease [etc.]. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. 129 This will be.. as ready to you, as if these Letters were painted out for you in Vermilion. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 82 Cinabar finely levigated acquires a much brighter red colour, and is known to painters by the name of Vermilion. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xii, All this while Mary was anxiously looking in his face,..as pale as death; while Gus..was as red as vermilion. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 103 Dark scarlet shining crystalline masses, forming, when powdered, a beautiful scarlet colour, known by the name of vermilion.

β. 1300–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 503 In tribus libr. Gummi, di. li. de vermiloun, iij s. 1356 *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III*, m. 33/2 b, In..ij. clench' hamers, iiij. boltes ferri, .. xxxj. lb. de vermeillone. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 63 Of the..strondes of þe Reed See is i-gadered vermylon. *Ibid.* II. 331 And þere is i-founde scharpe vermyloun [L. *minium*]. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 580 in *Ab. Pol. Poems* 139 Ynke blak or rede, Made with gumme and vermylone. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 4717 We may al day oure colour grynde & bete, Tempre our azour and vermyloun. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 21 Robertes clothes were readde as vermulon. 1505–6 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 184 For iij di. pund vermeloun to him, xliij s. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* II. xiv 59 b, Vermilon or redde lead was founde in Ephesus by Gallius an Athenien. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 98 The Parret..about hir necke.. hath a Collar or Chaine naturally wrought like to Sinople or Vermelon. 1609 HIBLE (Douay) *Isa* I. 18 If they be red as vermelon, they shal be white as wooll.

γ. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 901 I'le onely now emboss my Book with Brass, Dye't with Vermillion, deck't with Copera-s. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 46 Mingle.. Vermillion with Mastickе for a red colour. 1604 E. GRIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xi. 237 Quicke-silver is found in a kinde of stone, which dooth likewise yeelde Vermillion. 1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 112 Calices..made of Gold, Vermillion, and silver. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 8 New cloathing them in vermillion and ultramarine. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) IV. 397 Dust the colour of vermillion. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1278 The vermillion of commerce is often adulterated with red lead, brickdust, dragon's blood, and realgar. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 912 Mercuric Sulphide,..in the latter [crystallised state],..has a fine red colour and constitutes the well-known pigment called cinnabar or vermillion.

b. Used as a cosmetic or for painting the body.

In later use chiefly with reference to the 'war-paint' of the American Indians.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 144 The morrow after a companie of women goe to dresse the bride, to combe her locks, and to paint her cheekes with vermillion. 16.. MIDDLETON *Old Law* III. i, The old wrinkles are well filled p, but the vermillion is seen too thick. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* VI. (1643) 294 Camillus, when he triumphed in Rome, was painted with this Vermilion. 1768 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 542/2 A thick coat of vermilion commonly distinguishes the [Red Indian's] cheeks. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 247 The men were almost entirely naked, and their bodies painted with a red ochre, procured in the mountains, and often called vermilion. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 71 Happy was he who could render himself hideous with vermilion. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* XXIII, When does a Comanche turn his back on receiving the vermilion from his chief? Never!

2. The colour of this pigment; a bright red or scarlet.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4336 Nouthire to toly me to taunde transmitte we na vebiis, To vermylion ne violett ne variant litiis. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* II. xiii. (1554) 51 b, Fenix as Clerkes eke endite Found fyrst the colour of vermilion. 1530 PALSGR. 284/2 Vermylon, reed colour, *vermillon*. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 51 A vermillion more perfect, thair rested in the freshe springing rose. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 9 Streames of blond..With which the armes, that earst so bright did show, Into a pure vermillion now are dyde. 1698 *Guillim's Her.* (ed. 3) I. ii. 19 Amongst Colours..this Colour Vermilion, or Red, hath the prime place. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* 52 A Rose can more Vermilion speake, Then any cheeke. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 649 His long Chin prov'd his Wit; his Saint-like Grace A Church Vermilion, and a Moses's Face. 1708 OZELL tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 30 Straight the Vermillion vanish'd from her Face. 1793 SIMMONS *Calculus* 230 The blood becomes of a brighter vermilion. 1820 [M. A. KELLY] *Osmond* I. 274 The soft vermillion..of her complexion. 1898 THIELMANN.

Greece II. xv. 235 The negroes of Nubia—with their bodies painted half white, half vermilion. 1882 *Garden* 23 Dec. 548/1 The colour is a vivid vermilion.

†b. A blush. *Obs.*—[1]

1767 *Minor* III. ix. 283 Miss Charlotte..never beheld me without the vermillions increasing in her cheeks.

†3. a. (Rendering L. *vermiculum*.) Wool or yarn of a red or scarlet colour. *Obs.*

clensid, that he offre for hymsilf..a tres of cedre, and vermylyoun, and lisope.

†b. A fabric dyed with vermilion. *Obs.*—[1]

1642 L. Roberts *Treas. Traffich* 33 They buy Cotton wooll, in London,..and perfit it into Fustians, Vermilions, Dymities, and other such Stuffes.

†4. A red or reddish coloured variety of pear.

1699 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 9) 169 Pears:..Ambrosia, Vermilian, Lunsac.

†5. (Also *vermilion-stone*.) A particular gem or precious stone. Cf. Vermeil *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1703–4 in Ashton *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* (1882) I. xiv. 181 Several Gold Rings set with Turky and Vermillions. *a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I. i. 191 The Common Crystal..appears to be the Basis..of the Opal,..the Jacinth, the Vermilion. 1747 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 504 The Vermilion-Stone is more tawny than the Jacinth.

6. a. *Comb.*, as *vermilion-dyed*, *-like* adjs.; †vermilion-writer, a scribe or illuminator using vermilion.

c 1470 *Cath. Angl.* 400 A vermylon wrytter, *minoygraphus*. 1581 G. Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 125 b, Those dawbed, pargetted, vermilion died faces. 1647 Hexham I, Vermillion like, *roodtachtigh*.

b. *attrib.* with *colour*, etc. (passing into next); hence in combs., as *vermilion-coloured*.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 327 The face is painted with a vermillion colour. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* I. iii. 56 It was of a vermilian colour like blood. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 465 Modesty .. is a tincture of humility, visible in a vermilion and deeper die. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A vermilion Tincture, *couleur vermeille*. 1697 Dryden *Virg., Past.* x. 40 Great Pan arrived;..His cheeks and temples of vermilion hue. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vermillion-Tincture*, a Natural red Die upon the Face; a Cherry-red. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Kermes*, Unless, perhaps, it be so call'd from its beautiful Vermillion Colour. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 381 Of a vermilion hue. 1835 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 414 If vermilion-coloured blood be subjected to the action of carbonic acid. 1856 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* 107 *Miniatus* (of a vermillion colour).

B. *adj.* Having the colour of vermilion; of a bright red or scarlet colour.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 45 Shee..died her cheekes with such a vermillion blush. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* x. 153 The pure vermillion bloud, that issu'd from her vaines. 1639 G. Daniel *Vertic.* 442 Let, let, that fatall Day record my Name, In bright vermilion Letters. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* 101 For the good ship with the vermilion cheeks The Cyclopes have not. *a* 1721 Prior *Vicar of Bray & Sir T. Moor* P 64 A lusty young Fellow with large white Teeth, and a Vermillion countenance. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* lxvii. VI. 462 The Greek monarch..with his own hand impressed three vermillion crosses on the golden bull. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xvi, How warm [the room] in its amber lamp-light, and vermilion fire-flush! 1878 H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* II. vi. 167 The handiwork of their artisans in copper and iron and wood, the vermilion camwood.

Comb. 1818 Keats *Endymion* II. 111 All my clear-eyed fish, Golden, or rainbow-sided, or purplish, Vermilion-tail'd.

†b. Painted with vermilion; rouged. *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 27 These vermillion Nymphs, to let me vnderstand they travelled with a chearefull stomacke, would oft runne races.

c. With names of colours, as *vermilion-crimson*, *-red*, *-scarlet*, *-tawny*, etc.

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 411 With mercury, a vermilion red; with silver, a carmine red. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 246 Rump and upper coverts vermilion-red. 1882 *Garden* 15 July 57/3 Well formed flowers of a brilliant vermilion-crimson. *Ibid.* 14 Oct. 347/2 The colour being a vivid vermilion-scarlet. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 85 *Peziza asperior*...Scattered, vermilion-tawny, applanate.

Vermi·lion, *v.* Also 7–9 vermillion, 7 virmilion. [f. the sb. Cf. OF. *vermeillonner*, later and mod.F. *vermillonner*.]

1. *trans.* To colour or paint with, or as with, vermilion; to give the colour of vermilion to (the face, etc.).

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XVI. cl. 400 Nay, why should faces faire indeed bo-peepe behinde a Fanne, Or be conceild in Satten, now Vermillioned, now drugd wanne. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country-Maid* (1741) II. 85, I disapprov'd of the Red with which their Faces were vermillion'd. 1756 Tolokavv *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 215 Lusty lovely health vermillions the honest cheek. 1771–2 *Ess. fr. Batchelor* (1773) I. 93 When a blush vermilions the face of a well-bred woman. 1818 G. Colman *Br. Grins, Lady of* [illegible]

fig. 1867 Denham *Direct. Paint.* IV. viii, Vermilion this mans guilt, ceruse his fears. *a* 1849 Mangan *Poems* (1859) 154 By thee [ac. Hope] are his visions vermillioned.

b. Const. *over* (*o'er*).

1698 S. Holland *Zeno* (1739) 32 That lip..was not Vermillion'd over for any to kiss. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* II. iii. 1..chas'd Thy temples, 'till reviving blood arose, And, like the morn, vermillion'd o'er thy face. 1789 W. Jackson in *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 172 The choicest fruits..vermillioned over with maiden blushes.

c. *slang.* To cover or besmear with blood.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* I. 53 Holt's face was completely vermillioned.

2. *intr.* To blush. *rare*—[0].

1729 Boyer *Dict. Royal* II. s.v.

Hence Vermi·lioned *ppl.*

1615 R. Niccols *Marriage & Wiving* vii. 21 To what end is the laying out of the embrodred haire, embared breasts, virmillioned cheekes, alluring lookes [etc.]. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Verjuice*, The Secret how to keep Verjuice Grapes, as vermillion'd and as fresh as if they were growing. 1773 J. Ross *Fratricide* v. 637 (MS.), Those once-[illegible] now pale with death! 1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Acharnians* I. i, The citizens are..running up and down, To get away from the vermilion'd rope. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* XXV, Then, pink flesh, hazel eyes, vermilioned lips, and glossy hair had preferred incontestable claims to beauty.

Vermilione·tte. [f. Vermilion *sb.* + -ette.] A substitute for or imitation of the pigment vermilion, the chief constituent of which is eosin or similar dye.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 989 Several of the bright red colours used as pigments..contain arsenic; for example cochineal red, Persian red, vermilionette, and rosaniline. 1900 *Daily News* 3 Aug. 7/5 [He] said defendants had been making vermilionette, without providing a bath.

Vermi·lionize, *v. rare*—[1]. [f. as prec. + -ize.] *trans.* To vermilion.

1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 325 The genius of Mr. Owen Jones, which, plunging into colouring matter, would vermilionise the palest face of Death.

†**Vermily.** *Obs.*—[1] [Irreg. f. *vermile* Vermeil *sb.*] Vermilion.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. viii. 6 The same she tempred with fine Mercury, And virgin wex,..And mingled them with perfect vermily.

Vermin (vɔ·rmin), *sb.* (and *a.*). Forms: α. 4–6 vermyn, 4–7 vermyne, 6 vermynne, *Sc.* verming, 6–8 vermine, 6– vermin; 7, 9 *dial.*, varmin, 7, 9 *U.S.*, virmin. β. 5–7 vermen, 6 varmen. γ. 5 vermayn, 6 vermayne. See also Varment[1]. [a. AF. and OF. *vermin* masc., *vermine* fem. (mod.F. *vermine*, Pg. *vermena*, It. *vermine*):—pop. L. **verminum*, *-ina*, f. *vermi-s* worm. The rare γ-form is prob. directly from the OF. variant *vermain* (cf. mod. Burg. *vermaigne*, Picard. *vermeinn*).]

1. *collect.* Animals of a noxious or objectionable kind: a. Orig. applied to reptiles, stealthy or slinking animals, and various wild beasts; now, except in *U.S.* and *Austr.* (see *b*), almost entirely restricted to those animals or birds which prey upon preserved game. †Also in phr. *beast of vermin*.

α. (*a*) 13.. *K. Alis.* 6112 (Linc. Inn MS.), Eustis & snakes and paddokes brode, þat heom þouȝte mete gode, Al vermyn þey eteþ. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3422 A vale full of vermyn & all of vile neddirs. 1406 *Patent Roll* 7 *Hen. IV*, pt. m. 28 Feras et alia animalia vermyne nuncupata. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 24/1 Chese and Buttur is a Merchaundise that ..wil take grete empayryng by beastes of Vermyn and Wormes. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 146 Whan they haue brought forthe theyr byrdes, to see that they be well kepte from the gleyd, crowes, fullymartes, and other vermynne. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 355 The Catt frayeth away rattes, myce, and noysome vermine. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 40 When the Corne is ripe..it is to be cut downe out of hande..because that birdes and other vermine wyll devoure it. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 168 The rest..are rather vermyne than beastes of game; such is the wild Catte, the Brocke and such like. *a* 1631 Drayton *David & Goliah* 38 His father's flock..he From ravenous vermin hourly us'd to free, His only arms his sling and sheep-hook were. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 23 We are still at Gods advantage in all, by wet, by drought, by fire, and vermine. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* II. vi. (1699) 193 A hole.. filled with Snakes, Lizards, and other poisonous Virmin. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 120 From these three Cats, I afterwards came to be so pester'd with Cats, that I was forc'd to kill them like Vermin, or wild Beasts. 1823 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 991 The other dogs were good-looking savage vermin, averaging about 40 lbs. weight. 1839 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iii. (1860) 68 That the stock of partridges, grouse, and hares on any large estate depends chiefly on the destruction of vermin. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 10/1 The fox..is.. regarded in the Highlands by farmers and game-preservers as one of the worst species of vermin.

(*b*) 1832 Kennedy *Swallow Barn* xvi, The finest place to catch *vermin*, as they call the three latter species of animals (racoons, opossums, and rabbits). 1872 De Vere *Americanisms* 564 *Varmin*, as all wild animals are called in hunter's phrase, whether they are hunted for sport, for profit, or for extermination. 1891 E. Jenks *Govt. Victoria* xxxi. 291 *note*, 'Vermin' includes kangaroos, wallabies, dingoes, stray dogs, foxes, and rabbits, and any other animal or bird proclaimed by the Governor in Council.

β. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) III. x. 56 There also sawe I a wondre grete pytte ful of vermen. 1526 Tindale *Acts* x. 12 A certayne vessell..where in wer all maner of liij. foted beastes of the erth and vermen and wormes. — *Rev.* vi. 8 Power was geven vnto them..to kyll with swearde, and with honger, and with deeth that cometh of vermen of the erth. 1592 Warner *Alb. Engl.* VII. xxxvii. (1612) 178 The Weasell, Prince of Vermen.

γ. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* ccxix. 140 b/1 Of the Famyne.., wonders are reported that they shuld ete all maner of Vermayne, as Cattes, ratles, dogges, & other.

b. Applied to creeping or wingless insects (and other minute animals) of a loathsome or offensive appearance esp. those which infest or are parasitic on living beings and plants; also occas. applied to winged insects of a troublesome nature.

a. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 916 Aftir mas, [illegible]s, And aftir vermyn stynkand uglynes. *c* 1400 Maun (Roxb.) viii. 31 In þat abbay commes neuer flesse, ne flyes, ne nan oþer awilk vermyn of corrupcioun. 1484 Caxton *Curial* 6 We after ouermoche drynkyng of wynes and grete paynes lye doun ofte in beddes ful of vermyne. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C v b, A medecyne for vermyn. 1552 Huloet s.v., Vermyn, as flees, lyse, wormes, etc. 1582 Nashe *Prognostication* Wks. (Grosart) II. 165 Beggers on Sunne shine dayes..commit great murthers vpon their rebellious vermine. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 103 Some of them.. are transformed very strangely into a kind of vermin or wormes, who beeing couered with a hard crust or shell, lye as it were dead all the winter. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 314 In Summer, their Slaves attend about them..to scare away the Gnats and such like buzzing vermine. 1671 Milton *Samson* 574 Here rather let me drudge and earn my bread, Till vermin or the draff of servil food Consume me. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (Ktldg.) 278 Hot Weather fills the Air with Vermine. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 42 These operations were extremely necessary for correcting the noisome stench on board, and destroying the vermin. 1819 Keats *Otho* IV. ii, No wrinkles where all vices nestle in Like crannied vermin. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 374 Vermin of the Insect kind. The insects which infest plants, orchard trees, &c., are almost as numerous as the plants or trees themselves. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 364 For this reason tobacco ought never to be employed, as it formerly was, to kill vermin on the person.

transf. and *fig.* 1592 London *Lamentable Shadow* (Hunter. Club) 10 Many there were that carryed vermine in theyr toongues to open secrecie. *c* 1621 Donne *Serm.* lviii. (1640) 585 To the Consideration of those Vermin of the Soule, lesser and Unconsidered Sins.

β. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 26 When any flyes or other creping vermen are entered into the sayde riftes of theyr skinnes. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 54 There we saw diverse sortes of varmen, which we have not the like in Inglande.

2. With *a*, *that*, *this*, etc. a. In generic or collective sense: A kind or class of obnoxious animals.

c 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1039 Youre wofal moder wende stedefastly, That cruel houndes or som foul vermyne Had eten yow. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3948 Quen he had voidid þis vermyn & vencust þat of ynde. 1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict., Volucra*, a vermine, whiche eateth the tender vines. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 16 Euen this greate beaste [i.e. the elephant] also..is troubled with this lyttle vermyne [i.e. flies]. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 54 We..weare sodonly wonderfully tormented with a varmen that was in our pillowes, the which did bite farr worse than fleaes. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 212 This Crocodile is..a dangerous vermine used to both elements. 1634 Wither *Embl.* 215 Though the mice a barnfull vermine be. 1725 T. Thomas in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 110 A fox just suspended on a pole, ..the shepherds..being much infested by this vermin all hereabouts. *a* 1774 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 44 Diseases ..proceeding from an imperceptible vermin swarming within us.

†b. A single animal or insect of this kind.

c 1460 J. Metham *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 62/1668 As at the sege off Thebes Ampyorax..Fyl in-to helle alle qwyk, ryght so this foule best an vermyne Myght falle thorw the erth to helle pyne. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. viii, Ha cursed & euylle serpent, vermyn and fals traytour, thow hast deceyued me. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xxviii. 5 He shuke of the vermen [L. *bestiam*] into the fyre. 1590 Spenser *Worlde's Vanitie* 77 The subtill vermin [ac. a spider] creeping closely neare, Did in his drinke shed poyson priuilie. 1604 Breton *Passionate Sheph.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 10/1 If I see the Wolfe, the Brocke, the Foxe, Or any varmin stealing downe a furrowe. 1613 Chapman *Rev. Busy D'Ambois* K 3 b, Stormie not, nor beate your selfe thus gainst the dores, Like to a sausage vermine in a trap. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1030 'Tis true, a Scorpion's Oyl is said To cure the Wounds the Vermine made. 1809 Scott *Poacher* 11 Thine eye, applausive, each sly vermin sees, That baulks the snare, yet battens on the cheese.

†c. In *pl.* in preceding senses. *Obs.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. iii. 277 Of beastes of venery and beestes of chace, and alle manere of vermayns. *Ibid.* x. iii. 900 Whiche were beestes of chace and beestes of venery, and whiche were vermyns. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Idolatry* III. Nn iij, We haue not folowed the Gentyles in makyng of images of beastes, fyshes, and vermins also. 1588 Parsons *Chr. Exerc.* I. viii. 86 It must be cast out to serue for the food of vermines. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 143 There doe engender in pulse, certain little venomous Vermins. 1648 Hexham II. s.v. *Vermolmen*, To be full of Maggots, Vermins, or Wormes.

3. *fig.* Applied to persons of a noxious, vile, objectionable, or offensive character or type.

Freq. used as a term of abuse or opprobrium; in mod. dial. sometimes without serious implication of bad qualities.

a. In collective use.

1562 Winȝet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 31 On the vthir syde, contrare cryis certane padokis, filthy versing, and skis.., of the quhilk sort are the Pelagians. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendaria* M iv b, We may then vtterly roote out this vermine (for so did the Cardinal call the Protestantes). 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 248 Dancers, mistrels, bands, and such like vermin, wherof co[illegible]only there is no want about great personages. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 107 Whole swarmes of dusklish vermin, to wit, a number of hideous highland Scots and Picts. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* II. 214 No knaves, cheats, hypocrites; the vermin of this earth, that swarm every where. 1720 Palmer *Proverbs* 82 He that falls once into the company of such vermin has a misfortune. 1767 [A. Young] *Farmer's Lett. to People* 243 These vermin, who are generally labourers, swarm in every village round me. 1820

Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. ii. 98 A coronation all unknown To Europe's royal vermin. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint* 217, I will avenge this insult,..And I will track this vermin to their earths. 1876 G. Meredith *Beauch. Career* I. ii. 29 The poacher was another kind of vermin than the stupid tenant.

b. A single person or individual of this type.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 76 b, O monstruous vermine: did I ever speake or thinke any such matter? 1607 J. Taylor *Navy of Land Ships* C viij, As a Horse being dead in the feilds and stripd, is a banquet for Dogs,.. so is a Surety to those Vermins, who..prey vpon his estate. *a* 1636 Rolle *Abridgm. Lit. Action sur Case* (1668) 57 He is a corrupt man, he is a Vermine in the Commonwealth. 1682 Dryden *Medal* 31 A Vermin wriggling in th' Usurper's ear, Bart'ring his venal wit for sums of gold. 1720 *Humourist* 192 Human Society is not infested with a more dangerous Vermin than a Flatterer. 1796 Southey *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 373 Here I was shown a den in which a Hermit lived twelve years; a small hole for so large a vermin. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) I. 137 The accursed vermin died somewhere in the Cottage. 1881 Ld. Salisbury in *Daily Tel.* 14 Nov. 2/5 The landlord is an outcast, and a vermin so horrible [etc.].

4. *To stand true vermin*, to show pluck and persistency. *rare*—1.

1834 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 67 My horse shied.. and down we both came...But I stood true vermin, and tried the islands afterwards for snipe.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *vermin head*, *-trap*, etc. b. Objective and obj. genitive, as *vermin-catcher*, *-destroyer*, *-killer*; *-destroying*, *-killing*. c. Instrumental or similative, as *vermin-covered*, *-footed*, *-haunted*, *-ridden*, *-tenanted* adjs.; *vermin-like* adj.; also **vermin puddle** (see quot.).

It is not clear whether *vermine bronne*, glossing L. *murica* in Wr.-Wülcker 644, is an attrib. use of this word.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 221 Were they associated as a body of *vermin-catchers? *Ibid.* 222 They were a club of *vermin-destroyers. ? 1888. *Dogs* (Brit. Stand. Handbks.) iv. 18 Any of the *vermin-destroying powders. 1865 E. Burritt *Walk Land's End* 182 There were scarcely any daisies or buttercups, or even the *vermin-footed charlock. 1832 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 417 To throw it off like a *vermin-haunted garment. 1861 Neale *Notes Dalmatia* 97 A tolerable inn, not more dirty nor vermin-haunted than usual. 1799 *Addingham* (Cumberld.) *Par. Bk.* (MS.), 8 *Vermin Heads, 2: 8. 1680 W. W. (*title*), The *Vermin Killer, being a very necessary Family-Book, containing Exact Rules and Directions for the Artificial Killing and Destroying of all manner of Vermin, etc. 1772 T. Simpson (*title*), The Complete Vermin-killer. 1889 *Daily News* 21 June 7/1 Two packets of vermin killer containing about six grains of strychnine. 1893 W. H. Hudson *Idle Days Patagonia* v. 59 The common dog of the country is.. a good watch-dog and vermin-killer. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* I. 129 He acquired 2000*l.* by *vermin-killing. 1829 Scott *Guy M.* Note B, The race of Pepper and Mustard are in the highest estimation at this day, not only for vermin-killing, but for intelligence and fidelity. 1863 Atkinson *Stanton Grange* (1864) 67 Vermin-killing was well carried out there. 1685 *Roxb. Ballads* (1884) V. 214 His..disagreeable *Vermin-like Face. 1830 Ogilvie, **Vermin Puddle*, puddle formed of stiff clay and small stones or gravel beaten together until it forms a mass like pudding stone. It is used in the embankments of reservoirs, to prevent..the inroads of water rats and other vermin. 1861 Neale *Notes Dalmatia* 104 The *vermin-tenanted houses are washed by the pure green waves of the lovely bay. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* 61 February...Continue *Vermine Trapps, &c. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6133, Every description of wild beast, game, and vermin traps. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 139 The *vermin voices here May buzz so loud—we scorn them, but they sting.

†6. As *adj.* Verminous. *Obs.*—1

1608 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. iv. 443 See how a little vermine pouerty altereth a whole milkie disposition.

† Ve·rmin, *v.* *Obs.*—1 [f. the sb.] *trans.* To clear of vermin.

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 72 Get warrener bound to vermin thy ground.

† Verminai·lle. *Obs.*—1 [f. Vermin *sb.*, after *canaille*, etc.] = Vermin *sb.* 3 a.

1600 O. E. (M. Sutcliffe) *Repl. Libel* I. v. 129 The Parliament of Paris..did banish the whole society or rather verminallie of Jesuites out of France.

Verminate (vɔ̈·ɪmine·ɪt), *v.* *rare.* [f. L. *vermināt-* ppl. stem of *verminārе* to have worms or griping pains, f. *vermis* worm. Cf. L. *vermina* griping pains caused by worms, stomach-ache.]

1. *intr.* To breed or produce parasitic vermin.

1693 Sir T. P. Blount *Nat. Hist.* 263 He having taken extraordinary care and pains to observe, that always on the Flesh, before it did Verminate, there sate Flies of the self same kind with those that were afterwards produc'd thence. 1721 Bailey, *To Verminate*, to breed Worms. 1912 D. Crawford *Thinking Black* xxii. 441 Here, then, we see them [*sc.* people] crowding and verminating in their filth.

†2. *Path.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—0

1721 Bailey, *To Verminate* (among Physicians), to have a griping or wringing in the Belly; to..void Worms.

Hence **Ve·rminating** *vbl. sb.* (used *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

1720 S. Parker *Bibliotheca Biblia* I. 152 The Seed of the Serpent, and its Verminating Principle. 1856 Boker *Leonor de Guzman* I. i, Out, thou flea-bitten, verminating rogue! 1912 D. Crawford *Thinking Black* vi. 97 Their average beehive hut is a verminating hole, a den of disease.

Vermination (vɔ̈ɪmine·ɪ·ʃən). [ad. L. *vermināt̆iōn-*, *verminātio*, n. of action f. *verminārе*: see prec. Cf. obs. F. *vermination*.]

†1. The fact or condition of being gnawed by worms; vermiculation. *Obs. rare.*

1628 Donne *Serm.* liv. (1640) 542 Against this vermination, (as the originall denotes) against this gnawing of the worme, that may bore through and sink the strongest vessell that sailes in the sea of this world, there is no other varnish.

2. The breeding, growth, or production of vermin, esp. parasitic vermin. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. lxxiv. 241 A Mouth, nasty with offensive fumes, till it sicken the Braine with giddy verminations. 1665 Nerdham *Med. Medicinæ* 203 This ..may serve to give some light, how much Diseases are altered from their old state in reference to Vermination. 1699 R. Burthogge *Soul of World* 37 The Vermination in Human (as well as other Animal) Bodies, of which there are innumerable Instances in Medical Writers. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. vi. 414 Seigneur Redi..tryed more Experiments relating to the Vermination of Serpents, Flesh, Fish, putrified Vegetables,.. than any one hath done since.

†3. (See quot.) *Obs.*—0

1686 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Vermination*,..a disease with worms, properly in Cattle, a vehement ache by the wringing of the Guts, as if they were gnawn with worms.

4. The fact of being infested with parasitic vermin; esp. *Med.*, the morbid condition due to this.

1818–20 E. Thompson *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 318, 76 *Parasitismus*...Vermination. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 656 Cutaneous Vermination. *Ibid.* 657 Generally speaking, vermination is a proof of weakness, whether in animals or in plants. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 92 His success was particularly great in the vermination of children.

Ve·rmine, *a.* *Zool.* *rare.* [ad. mod.L. *vermineus.*] = Verminous *a.*

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 237 The smaller ones with a long slender body, and short extremities, as the Weasel or Vermine tribe. *Ibid.*, The canine and vermine genera.

Ve·rmined, *ppl. a.* [f. Vermin *sb.*] Infested with vermin.

1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 210 Yon vermined Sarcophage. 1859 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* II. lxxxvi. 55 Why not..bring back the Stuarts, or install Saint Thomas of the vermin'd shirt at Canterbury?

† Vermi·neous, *a.* *Zool.* *Obs.*—1 [f. mod.L. *vermine-us* (Ray): see -eous.] Belonging to the animals classed as vermin.

Phil. Trans. XVII. 851 The Wolf, Fox, Badger,.. which from their long slender Bodies, like to the Weasel, we call the Vermineous or Weezel-kind.

Ve·rminer. *rare.* Also 7 **varminer.** [f. Vermin *sb.* + -er 1.] A destroyer of vermin.

1615 Markham *Country Contentm.* I. i. 5 The grissell.. shag-haird [hounds] are the best varminers, and therefore are chosen to hunt the Fox, Badger, or any other hot sent. 1848 Ainsworth *Lancs. Witches* III. i. (1878) 421 The lurchers, and, lastly, the verminers, or, as we should call them, the terriers.

† Vermi·nian, *a.* *Obs.*—1 [f. Vermin *sb.* + -ian.] Consisting or composed of vermin.

1640 Balfour in Maidment *Scottish Ball.* (1868) I. 334 God, Whose heavie hand with his verminian hoast Hath quell'd our courage and laid all our boast.

Vermini·ferous, *a.* *rare.* [f. Vermin *sb.* + -(i)ferous.] Breeding or producing vermin. Also *fig.*

1895 Farrar in *Clarion* 9 Nov. 1/2 Places horrible to live in,..foul with..gin, and verminiferous dirt. 1898 — *One Flock, Many Folds* 53, I usually commit these verminiferous fragments [R. C. newspaper cuttings] to the purging flame unread.

† Ve·rminly, *a.* *Obs.* *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ly 1.] Of the nature of vermin; like (that of) vermin.

1633 Gauden *Hieras.* Pref. 37 A verminly generation (ever destroyed, yet ever breeding) who owe their best education to their bellies. *Ibid.* 379 They have nothing in them but a verminly nimbleness and subtlety.

Vermino·logy. *rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ology.] The science of vermin.

1830 Kitto in Eadie *Life* vi. (1857) 284 On removing some clothes..one day, I found one [scorpion],..and not being sufficiently acquainted with verminology to recognise it, I felt no alarm.

† Vermino·se, *a.* *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *verminōs-us*: see next and -ose.] = Verminous *a.* 4.

1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 9 In like manner the verminose fevers are so called from their cause, viz. worms.

Verminous (vɔ̈·ɪminəs), *a.* [f. Vermin *sb.* + -ous, or ad. L. *verminōs-us* (whence OF. *verminous*, *vermenous*, *-eux*, etc., = mod.F. *vermineux*, *-euse*, It., Sp., Pg. *verminoso*, Prov. *vermenos*): — *vermis* worm.]

1. Of the nature of, consisting of, vermin; like or resembling vermin in character; noxious, objectionable, offensive: a. Of animals or persons.

1621–3 Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* III. iv, Do you place me in the rank of verminous fellows, To destroy things for wages? 1624 — *Game at Chess* IV. iv, Like that verminous labourer [*sc.* the mole], which thou imitat'st In hills of pride and malice. 1692 Ray *Coll. Words* (ed. 2) 128 A Fowmart, a Polecat, is a noted Beast of this verminous kind. 1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* II. 587 That soft class of devotees who spare The verminous brood, and cherish what they spare While feeding on their bodies. 1830 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 177 Both in Russia and Poland I believe they [i. e. Jews] are a verminous population, preying upon others. 1887 Swinburne *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 140 He has exactly as much claim to a place beside Dante as any..other murderous and verminous muckworm.

b. Of things.

c 1616 Chapman *Batrachom.* Ded., If yet the vile soul of the verminous time Love more the sale-muse and the squirrels chime. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 201/2 The sultry, verminous, unconcocted doctrine of passive obedience. 1884 Browning *Ferishtah, Sun* 24 Fancies verminous Breed in the clots there.

2. Infested with, full of, vermin, esp. parasitic vermin, foul or offensive on this account.

1632 Brome *Crt. Beggar* I. i, Note the necessity, that they [perruques] be well made Of..No verminous or sluttish locks or combings, But [etc.]. 1641 Milton *Prel. Episc.* 12 Searching among the verminous and polluted rags dropt overworn

(1862) I. xix. 110 In these tropical climates also,..drugs and plasters lose their virtue, and become verminous. 1819 *Metropolis* III. 128 The lively companions of a verminous bed. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* No. 211. 1/2 A verminous, overcrowded vagrant ward. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 866 In 'verminous persons' the hair is sometimes matted together by pus, nits, scales and scabs.

transf. 1861 Dickens *Tom Tiddler's Ground* i, How long he had held verminous occupation of his blanket and skewer.

3. Tending to breed vermin. *rare*—1.

1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* (1672) 39 A wasting of their [*sc.* children's] flesh..must depend upon some obstruction of the Entrails, or Verminous disposition of body.

4. Of diseases, or morbid conditions, etc.: Caused by, due to, characterized by the presence of, parasitic vermin or intestinal worms.

1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* (1672) 35 Of a Verminous Consumption. 1684 tr *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* x. 366/2 Their hypothesis is sufficiently known, concerning verminous putrefaction. 1733 tr. *Belloste's Hosp. Surg.* II. 72 Pestilence, Small-pox and all Verminous diseases. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* L. 837 The lead..might, by its weight, assist in removing the verminous filth, especially as the bowels

Dict. (ed. 2) s.v. *Æthiopia*, Almost all these people die of verminous diseases produced by this food. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. vii. 332 Some families appear to be more predisposed to verminous affections than others. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1033 There have been many instances of verminous abscess recorded.

b. Of persons: Subject to vermin or intestinal worms.

1860 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 974/2 Females may be more verminous than males.

Hence **Ve·rminously** *adv.*, **Ve·rminousness.**

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Verminousness*, Fulness of Worms, Worm-eatenness. 1860 Worcester (citing *Ec. Rev.*), Verminously. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Verminously unclean.

† Vermi·nulous, *a.* *Obs.*—1 [i. Vermin *sb.*] Made by vermin.

1665–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 305 In the shaking he saw all the Communications of these little Verminulous holes, like to the hole of the Worms in Wood.

Ve·rminy, *a.* *rare.* [f. Vermin *sb.* + -y.] Infested with vermin; verminous.

1859 *All Year Round* No. 36. 219, I avoid his verminy robes and his flowing rags.

Vermion, -eon, obs. vair. Vermilion *sb.*

Cf. med.L. *vermeum*, var. of *vermellum*, etc.

1399 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 129 In j lib. de vermion emp. pro pręnicto vale [= veil], *and. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3945 Þan come a flistir in of fowls as fast as it dawid, To vise on as vowtres, as vermeon hewid. 14.. *MS. Harl. 2257, Miniographus*, a writer with vermion. *Minium est genus coloris rubei*,..*anglice* vermion.

Vermi·parous, *a.* *rare.* [f. Vermi- + -parous. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *vermíparo.*]

1. Producing young, or produced as young, in the form of small worms or maggots.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 135 We deny not that many animals are vermiparous, begetting themselves at a distance. *Ibid.* 297 In creatures oviparous, as birds and fishes; in vermiparous, as Flies, Locusta, and Gnats; in animals also viviparous, as Swine and Conies. 1650 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) v. v. 203 The same..may be also true in some vermiparous exclusions. 1765 *Treatise on Dom. Pigeons* 14 All animals are distinguished into three sorts: oviparous,..viviparous,..and vermiparous, or such as are formed from a worm. 1910 D'A. W. Thompson tr. *Aristotle's Hist. Anim.* 538 In oviparous and vermiparous creatures..the female is larger than the male.

2. Producing verminous parasites.

1860 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 974/2 Very few avertebrated animals are vermiparous, while there is probably no species of vertebrate that is exempted from parasites.

Hence **† Vermi·parousness,** 'worm-breeding quality' (Bailey, 1727, vol. II). *Obs.*—0

‖ Vermis (vɔ̈·ɪmis). *Anat.* [L. *vermis* worm.] The vermiform process of the cerebellum.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Postvermis*, the vermis inferior of the cerebellum. *Ibid.*, *Prevermis*, the anterior and prominent part of the vermis of the cerebellum. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 365 In one [case of cerebellar atrophy]..the vermis was less affected by atrophy than the hemispheres.

Vermivorous (vɑ̈rmi·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *vermivor-us* worm-eating + -ous. Cf. F. *vermivore*, Sp. and Pg. *vermívoro.*] Feeding on worms, grubs, or insect vermin; said esp. of certain birds.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vermivorous*, are such Animals, as Feed upon Worms. 1828–32 Webster s. v., Vermivorous birds are very useful to the farmer. 1862 H. Macmillan *Footnotes fr. Page Nat.* 172 Guano, the product of those vermivorous shore-birds which inhabit the desolate islands of the South Seas. 1870 Gillmore tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 344 They [*sc.* the Pressirostres] are mostly vermivorous; some, however, are granivorous or herbivorous.

Hence **Vermi·vorousness,** 'a worm-devouring nature' (Bailey, 1730).

Vermouth (vəˈɹmūt, vəˈɹmŭþ). Also vermuth. [a. F. *vermout* (vɛrmut), ad. G. *wermuth* wormwood, WERMOD.] An alcoholic cordial or liqueur consisting of white wine flavoured with wormwood or other aromatic herbs and taken in order to stimulate the appetite. Also *attrib.*

1806 J. PINKERTON *Recollect. Paris* II. xv. 208 A decanter of Jamaica rum, Wormwood wine, or that of Vermouth. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* VII. i, Thinking that you soften the hearts of your friends by soups *à la bisque*, and *Vermouth* wine at a guinea a bottle! 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Nov. 12 Absinthe and vermouth began to be sold in them. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 83 There is one Italian firm importing good vermouth.

b. A glass or drink of this.

1899 J. CONRAD in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 201/1 As we sat

Vermulon, -ylone, -yl(y)oun, etc., obs. ff. VERMILION. **Vern,** southern dial. var. FERN *sb.*[1]

Vernacle, var. VERNICLE.

† Vernacly, *adv. Obs.*[−1] [Irreg. f. L. *vernāculus*: see below.] = VERNACULARLY *adv.*

1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Grayb.* 284 By Hebrew Jews you mean Jews that vernacly speak Hebrew.

Vernacul, obs. f. VERNICLE.

Vernacular (vəɹnæˈkiūlăɹ), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 vernaculer. [f. L. *vernācul-us* domestic, native, indigenous (hence It. *vernacolo*, Pg. *vernaculo*), f. *verna* a home-born slave, a native.

The Latin adj occurs in a large variety of applications; the restricted use common in English is represented by *vernacula vocabula* in Varro.]

A. *adj.* **1.** That writes, uses, or speaks the native or indigenous language of a country or district.

1601 Bp. W. BARLOW *Defence* 2 A vernaculer pen-man.. hauing translated them into English. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 77 The Office of the Virgin Mary .. is Translated also in most Languages for the Use of the Vernacular Romanists. 1716 *Ibid.* III. 38 The Learned vernacular Editor of Hippocrates's Works in French, Mr. Dacier. 1819 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 30 The vernacular public remained unmoved, and gazed at the labours of authorship, as Londoners at the opera. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 145 The vernacular poet more kindly helps us to the real names.

2. Of a language or dialect: That is naturally spoken by the people of a particular country or district; native, indigenous.

Usu. applied to the native speech of a populace, in contrast to another or others acquired for commercial, social, or educative purposes; now freq. employed with reference to that of the working classes or the peasantry.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. lvi. 78 The Welsh..is one of the fourteen vernacular and independent tongues of Europ. 1697 BENTLEY *Phalaris* (1699) 316 Being Dorians born, [they] repudiated their vernacular Idiom for that of the Athenians. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 35 They don't understand their Breviaries and Mass-Books, not.. when translated and expounded in their respective vernacular Tongues. 1832 G. DOWNES *Cont. Countries* I. 197 The congregation here being chiefly peasants, and artisans, a sermon was delivered in the vernacular dialect. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* II. iii. 50 When the Chaldee tongue became the vernacular, and the old Hebrew disappeared from common use. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* v. § 3. 338 There were 'voices'..which expressed in some vernacular idiom of Hebrew or Greek the thoughts of the Almighty.

transf. 1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 50 They much improved the vernacular style by the use of this exotic phraseology. 1785 *European Mag.* VIII. 467 Several passages are modulations on the vernacular airs of Otaheite. 1830 *Ecclesiologist* XI. 176 Even Rome, then, cannot consistently blame words to the vernacular Gregorian melodies.

b. In predicative use. Also with preps.

1808 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 103/2 The Scriptures translated into the Tamulic language, which is vernacular in the southern parts of the peninsula. 1835 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 321 The intellectual improvement of those classes..can at present be effected only by means of some language not vernacular amongst them. 1856 MRS. STOWE *Dred* II. xxxii. 323 He commenced a speech in that peculiar slang dialect which was vernacular with them. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* III. iv. 52 The Arab-speaking race..must receive the gospel mainly from those to whom the language is vernacular.

c. Coupled with the name of the language.

1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1870) 62 The vernacular English, as I have..remarked, was rough and unpolished. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Lay St. Aloys*, The 'Requiem' was sung: Not vernacular French, but a classical tongue. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 10 The

late the Bible into clear vernacular German.

3. Of literary works, etc.: Written or spoken in, translated into, the native language of a particular country or people.

1662 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 156 Though, in Greek or Latine, they amuse us, yet a vernacular translation unmasks them. 1726 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 20 Dr. Harvey's Family-Physician, and most of Will. Salmon's Books, with other such like Vernacular Pharmacy. 1768 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 170 Long vernacular Sermons from Dr. Parr. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* Pref. (1859) p. iii, A history of our vernacular literature has occupied my studies for many years. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 495 Vernacular prayer-books had, indeed, been long known in England. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* I. § 5. (1876) 49 The Chronicle remains the first vernacular history of any Teutonic people.

b. Performed in the native language.

1874 A. SOMERVILLE *Lect. Missions* xiii. 243 A paper which he read on Vernacular Preaching at the Ootacamund Missionary Conference.

4. Of words, etc.: Of or pertaining to, forming part of, the native language.

1726 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 174 This Ralph is call'd also Roger, the Latin name, Ranulphus, being possibly capable of both those Vernacular Appropriations. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. *Notes*, Which being a French and foreign termination, is no way proper to a word entirely English and vernacular. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* xxii. (1790) I. 193 Brown..preferred polysyllabic expressions derived from the language of ancient Rome, to his vernacular vocabulary. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Peroration, O, ignorance! as if the vernacular article of our mother English were capable of declension! 1848 GALLENGA *Italy* I. ii. 146 Low-born vernacular idioms were handed down to posterity as the poet's creation. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1875) 257 Whose official style of Augustus, as well as the vernacular name of 'Kaiser' [etc.].

b. Native or natural *to* a particular language.

1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 176 The finding an isolated term in an Anglo-Saxon or German vocabulary by no means proves it to be vernacular to that language.

5. Connected or concerned with the native language.

1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 234 The southern side of the building is appropriated to the vernacular department, and the northern to the English. 1883 R. B. SMITH *Life Ld. Lawrence* II. 535 Efforts were made to extend vernacular education.

6. Of arts, or features of these: Native or peculiar to a particular country or locality.

1857 SIR G. SCOTT *Sec. & Dom. Architecture* 6 Look at the vernacular cottage-building of the day. *a* 1878 — *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 315 The revived knowledge of the architecture of Greece rudely disturbed the vernacular style derived from Rome. 1893 *Harper's Weekly* 21 Oct. 1011/2 The theatre is a big, rather bare room, apparently of vernacular Javanese construction.

† **7.** Of diseases: Characteristic of, occurring in, a particular country or district; endemic. *Obs.*

1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* i. (1672) 2 Which instances do evidently bring a Consumption under the notion of a Pandemick, or Endemick, or rather a Vernacular Disease to England. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Diseases which reign most in any particular Nation, Province, or District, are called Vernacular Diseases.

8. Of a slave: That is born on his master's estate; home-born. *rare*[−1].

1804 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* II. 326 A disposition to use kindly, and to emancipate frequently, the vernacular slave.

9. Personal, private.

1840 G. S. FABER *Regen.* 38, I was favouring my evil propensities, as if they were specially my own vernacular property.

B. *sb.* **1.** The native speech or language of a particular country or district (see A. 2).

a 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 427 It is written in the Chaldaeo-Syriac, which was.. the vernacular of our Lord. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Pref., Mr. Maguire,..in his account of the late Coronation, retains his own rich vernacular. 1854 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 94 Even within the native stronghold of the Dutch vernacular. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* v. 179 A child can learn as readily the vernacular of Canton as the language of London.

transf. 1809 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* V. 575 By neglecting the vernacular in idea, he has missed in part the advantage of home praise and hereditary sympathy.

b. Freq. in phr. *in the vernacular.*

1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 176 The court confessor in his sermon at St. Denis..took the opportunity of what is called in the vernacular preaching *at* the Duke of Orleans. 1856 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 337 The performance of the services of religion in Latin, and no longer as of old in the vernacular. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* i. 37 Of the five..no one of them was qualified as yet to preach in the vernacular.

c. Without article. (Cf. next.)

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, Repeating in true sing-song vernacular the legend of St. George and his fight. 1882 B. D. W. RAMSAY *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* I. i. 25 The fair songstress opened upon me such a volley of choice Tuscan vernacular, that I fairly fled.

2. With *a* and pl. A native or indigenous language.

1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 325 Charles the Fifth, King of France, order'd the Bible to be translated..in the Picardian and Norman Vernaculars. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 322 Latin, and the vernaculars westward,..carry nearly the same idiom. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* vii, The wayfarer Of many lands is not responsible For each vernacular. 1882 *Athenæum* 4 Mar. 280 Some of the peoples and tribes whose vernaculars that class comprises. 1892 *Times* 24 Dec. 3/1 Spain, destined to be for long the most active enemy of the circulation of the Scriptures in modern vernaculars.

3. *transf.* The phraseology or idiom *of* a particular profession, trade, etc.

1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Science* vi. 151 To use the vernacular of engineers. 1892 *Century Mag.* May 126/2 On the bar we found friends that we had made in Panama, who had preceded us a few days, long enough to speak the vernacular of mining.

Hence **Verna·cularness.** *rare*[−0].

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vernacularness*, Properness, or Peculiarness to one's own Country.

Vernacularism (vəɹnæˈkiūlăɹiz'm). [-ISM.]

1. A vernacular word, idiom, or mode of expression.

1846 WORCESTER (citing *Q. Rev.*). 1883 NEALE *Eccl. Liturgiol.* 327 Wherever the Church..was not established till a late period, there such vernacularisms are scarcely, or not at all, perceptible. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 307 *note*, The more of such vernacularisms (as 'belongings') we can up from the past, the better.

2. The use of the native language.

1850 *Ecclesiologist* XI. 176 If Rome not merely allows, but authorises such vernacularism, who can forbid us to employ our own Ecclesiastical English?

Vernacularity (vəɹnækiūlæˈɹiti). [-ITY.]

1. The fact of belonging or adhering to the vernacular or native language.

[1848 SIR W. HAMILTON in *Reid's Wks.* I. 100/2 *note*, As the expressions are scientific, it is perhaps no loss that their technical precision is guarded by their non-vernacularity.] 1847 DE QUINCEY in *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 379 The merit, which justly you ascribe to Swift, is vernacularity: he never forgets his mother-tongue in exotic forms.

2. A vernacularism.

1867 CARLYLE *E. Irving* in *Remin.* (1881) I. 335 Rustic Annandale begins it, with its homely honesties, rough vernacularities, safe, innocently kind.

Verna·cularisation. [f. next + -ATION] The action of making, or fact of being made, vernacular or native to a language.

1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 105 Thousands of words,..on their first appearance, or revival, as candidates for vernacularization, must have met with repugnance.

Vernacularize (vəɹnæˈkiūlăɹəiz), *v.* [f. VERNACULAR *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To render or translate into the native speech of a people; to make vernacular.

1821 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XCIV. 384 The Stephens, or Stephenses, as their names have..been vernacularized among us. 1830 — *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* III. 450 Godfred of Strasburg, who vernacularized *Tristan & Essylda*. 1866 *Songs & Ball. Cumberld.* 397 Prince Louis Lucien Buonaparte employed him to vernacularise the Song of Solomon.

Hence **Verna·cularized** *ppl. a.*

a 1874 in A. Somerville *Lect. Missions* xiii. 243 His sanctified and vernacularized intellect lives in the numerous Tamil works.

Vernacularly (vəɹnæˈkiūlăɹli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY[2].]

1. In conformity with the vernacular manner; in the native or mother tongue.

1808 SCOTT *Let.* 23 Feb. in *Lockhart*, To expound more vernacularly, I wrote you..a swinging epistle of and concerning German Romances. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* VI. 298 He sang .. very vernacularly. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 23 A wonder that he, a Spaniard, could write English so vernacularly. 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* viii. (1879) 123 The family, vernacularly called '*muintir*', consisted of 'brethren'.

2. With or among the people of a particular country.

1839 MAGINN in *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 263 An author so vernacularly popular as their familiar and national dramatist.

† **Verna·culary,** *a. Obs.*[−1] [Irreg. f. VERNACULAR *a.* + -Y.] = VERNACULAR *a.* 2.

1632 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 202 After the manner of our English and other vernaculary tongues.

† **Verna·culate,** *v. U.S.* [Irreg. f. VERNACULAR *a.* + -ATE[3].]

1. *trans.* To call or term in the vernacular.

1887 *Semi-weekly Tribune* (N.Y.) 15 July (Cent.), Very large Antwerp 'patches', as they are vernaculated by the average fruit-grower.

2. *intr.* To use vernacular language.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Vernacule, obs. form of VERNICLE.

† **Vernacule,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vernāculus*: see VERNACULAR *a.*] = VERNACULAR *a.* 2.

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. 72 The Syriac Tongue is now no where vernacule, save in some few towns about Libanus. *Ibid.* 76 Mariana Victorius makes three Dialects of the Ethiopic Tongue, the Vernacule, the Babylonic, the Sacred.

† **Verna·culise,** *v. Obs.*[−1] [See prec. and -IZE.] *trans.* = VERNACULARIZE *v.*

a 1808 A. GEDDES *Notes Ps.* cvii. 42 (1807) 605 *Tongue-tied*, lit. *mouth-shut*: which, perhaps, might be not improperly vernaculized.

† **Verna·culous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *vernācul-us*: see -OUS.]

1. a. Low-bred, scurrilous.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ded., When a Name, so ful of authority,..is..become the lowest scorne of the age: and those men..subject to the petulancy of euery vernaculous Orator, that were wont to bee the care of Kings.

b. (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vernaculous*, a yong or green wit.

c. (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (following Cooper), *Vernaculous*, that is born and brought up in our own house.

2. Of products: Indigenous, native.

1626 BURNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 22 Where gold is vernaculous and plentifull. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 388 Some of them are exoticall, not easily cicurable in our soyle, as the Cadar of Palestina and Lebanon: others are indeed Ve(r)naculous, but altogether, wild and Sylvestrian.

3. = VERNACULAR *a.* 1 and 2.

1658 PHILLIPS *Dict.* Ded., I have..rendred it..worthy of the greatest masteries of Rhetoricians and the tongues of our Vernaculous Orators. *a* 1680 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* viii. (1683) 130 The common Language, which besides their vernaculous and Mother Tongues, may serve for commerce between them.

† **Vernage,** *Obs.* [a. OF. *vernage, vernace, vernache*, ad. It. *vernaccia* 'a kind of strong wine

like malmesie or muskadine, or bastard wine' (Florio, 1598). Cf. med.L. *vernagium, vernacium, vernachia.*] A strong and sweet kind of white Italian wine.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 563 He drinkith ypocras, clarre, and vernage Of spices hote, to encrese his corrage. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 8 In stede of drinke I underfonge A thoght so swete in mi corage, That nevere Pyment ne vernage Was half so swete forto drinke. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Take vernage, oþer strong wyne of þe beste þat a man may fynde [etc.]. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 428 They faryd as drunk men of pymente or vernage. *c* 1500 *Colin Blowbol's Test.* 339 Malmasyes, Tires, and Rumneys,.. Vernage, Cute, and Ra-pays also.

attrib. a 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 754 Ye shall have rumney and malmesyne, Both ypocrasse, and vernage wyne.

So † **Vernagelle**, a variety of vernage. *Obs.*—1

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 118 The namys of swete wynes y wold þat ye them knewe: Vernage, vernagelle, wyne Cute, pyment.

Vernage, Sc. form of WARNAGE *Obs.*

Vernakill, -ylle, obs. forms of VERNICLE.

Vernal (vɔ̄·məl), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 6–7 **vernall**. [ad. L. *vernāl-is* (rare), f. *vernus* pertaining to spring, f. *vēr* spring, VER *sb.*[1] So OF. and F., Prov., Sp., Pg. *vernal* It. *vernale.*]

1. Coming, appearing, happening, occurring, etc., in spring. **a.** *Vernal equinox* (or † *equinoctial*): see EQUINOX 1 and 2.

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1308/1 The xiiii. daye after theyr vernall Equinoctiall in the enemynge. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. xvi. (1597) 151 The beginning of Aries, which is called the vernal Equinoxe. 1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Four-f. Beasts* 209 From the vernall æquinoctiall to the summer solstice. 1696 WHISTON *Thc. Earth* I. (1722) 39 At this time, the Vernal Equinox is on the 9th of March. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1720) I. 316 You will have the Longitude sought from the Vernal Equinox. 1796 H. HUNTER *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 155 The tides at our vernal Equinox, in March, rise higher than those of September. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 216 During the three months between the vernal equinox and the summer solstice. 1838 LOCKYER *Elem Astron.* § 171 The days and nights are equal all over the world on the 22d of March and the 22d of September, which dates are called the vernal and autumnal equinoxes.

b. In general use.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 4 Such time as the Sunne is vernall, [the Island of Ferro] becomes exceeding hot and scalding. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 52 Which are generall rules for vernall and autumnall settings. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Masaich Syst.* 67 These Worms are...ordained for the Food of the Vernal Birds, such as the Cuckow. 1769 GRAY *Installation Ode* 61 Sweet is the breath of vernal shower. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 54 The vernal heat of the sun. 1800 COMBE *Syntax, Consol.* I. (Chandos Cl.) 139 'Twas as a vernal evening clos'd. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 244 The whole building is..as fresh as if just washed by a vernal shower. 1878 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 24 The Babylonian plain was subject to vernal floods.

c. *Med.* Of affections or diseases.

1822–7 GOOD *Stud. Med.* (1829) II. 134 The vernal agues generally disappear with the advance of summer. 1843 SIR T. WATSON *Lect. Princ. & Pract. Physic* I. xl. 710 You will hear and read a good deal of vernal intermittents, and autumnal intermittents.

2. Of, pertaining or belonging to, the spring-time; appropriate to the spring; spring-like: **a.** Of weather, scenery, etc.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* I. ii, We must have none here But vernal blasts, and gentle winds appear. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* I. xiii. (1678) 18 Such an Air, ..if it have a vernal temper, is good against all diseases. 1646 CRASHAW *Sosp. d'Herode* xiv, He saw a vernall smile sweetly disfigure Winters sad face. 1720 PATON *Truth & Falsehood* 8 The purling stream, the margin green, With flowers bedeck'd, a vernal scene. 1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 51 We fondly anticipate a long continuance of gentle gales and vernal serenity. But winter returns with redoubled horrors. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xix, It was a beautiful morning, of that soft vernal temperature, that seems to thaw all the frost out of one's blood. 1847 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* ii. (1848) 23 Both heaven and hell are in it—the freshest vernal airs, with the depths of Tartarus. 1872 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. I. i. 6 The Alpine meadows sloping, vernal, A newer beam descends.

transf. 1869 LOWELL *Under the Willows* 39 By vernal Chaucer, whose fresh woods Throb thick with merle and mavis all the year.

b. *Vernal season*, the season of spring.

1644 MILTON *Educat.* 7 In these vernal seasons of the yeer, when the air is calm and pleasant. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, The Vernal Season, or the Spring, *la Printemps.* 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 120 In the vernal season. 1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* 296 In the vernal season of the year.

c. In miscellaneous uses.

1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sallet*, They also make an excellent Vernal Pottage. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 118 Whatever sweets salute the northern sky With vernal lives, that blossom but to die. 1827 WORDSW. (*title*), Vernal Ode. Beneath the concave of an April sky [etc.]. 1838 J. L. STEPHENS *Trav. Russia* 67/1 Moscow seemed basking in the mild climate of Southern Asia, rioting in its brief period of vernal existence. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. vi. 112 A kind of mystic hymn to the vernal principle of life in things.

d. *fig.* Suggestive of spring; having the mildness or freshness of spring; early, youthful.

1790 COLERIDGE *Monody Death Chatterton* viii, Ah! where are fled the charms of vernal grace, And joy's wild gleams, light-flashing o'er thy face? 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* I. i. 11 What is become of all those vernal fancies, which had so much power to touch the heart? 1827 SOUTHEY *Funeral Song Princess Charlotte* 17 Late in beauty's vernal bloom,

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Catarina to Camoens* ii, When I heard you sing that burden In my vernal days and bowers. 1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 100 Captain and Colonel, Sere Generals, Ensigns vernal, Were there.

3. Of flowers, plants, etc.: Appearing, coming up, or blooming in spring-time.

1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* III. 121 Fading sooner than a vernal Flower! 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 33 As thick as bees o'er vernal blossoms fly. 1742 COLLINS *Ode to Liberty* 4 The youths,..Like vernal hyacinths in sullen hue, At once the breath of fear and virtue shedding. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 491 A Journal kept in Spring 1798, to record the time of flowering of several vernal plants. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Horace in Lond.* 65 The wood nymphs crown'd with vernal flow'rs.

b. In specific or popular names of flowers, plants, or grasses, as *vernal crocus, cyclamen, gentian, sandwort, sedge, squill*, etc. (see quots. and cf. SPRING *sb.*[1] 7 c *a*).

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) III. 2311 The varieties of the *vernal crocus are, the small and large [etc.]. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 188/3 The common Vernal Crocus..is so predominant among spring flowers. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cyclamen*, Our Botanists reckon upon several Sorts of this Plant..as the *Vernal one;..another white Vernal single, and the small Purple Cyclamen. 1728 R. BRADLEY *Dict. Bot.*, *Gentianella minor Verna*, the smaller *Vernal Gentian. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 282, I thought it possible that the vernal dwarf Gentian..might be our plant. 1882 *Garden* 18 Nov. 442/3 The lovely Vernal Gentian. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Orobus*, The *vernal, wood *orobus*, with a pale red flower. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Orobus*, *Vernal Purple-Wood Bitter-Vetch. 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 303 *Arenaria verna*, variety *Gerardi*, *Vernal Sandwort, is a small plant with numerous needle-like leaves, and star-like flowers of the most dazzling white. 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 39 Order. Cyperaceæ...*Vernal Sedge...A humble plant from 3–8 inches high. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 23 *Veronica verna*...*Vernal Speedwell. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 102 Vernal Speedwell...This very rare Speedwell..has ..pale blue flowers. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* II. 338 *Scilla verna*...*Vernal Squill. [Grows in] meadows and pastures. 1832 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 10 It was..believed that the vernal squill was peculiar to the western coasts of England. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* II 5 *Callitriche verna*...*Vernal Stargrass. Water Starwort. Water Fennel. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 296 *Callitriche verna.* *Vernal Water Starwort.

c. *Vernal grass*, one of the grasses commonly cultivated for hay.

1762 B. STILLINGFLEET *Misc. Tracts* (1791) 382, I saw this spring a meadow not far from Hampstead..with some of the vernal grass and the corn brome grass. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 428 The vernal, or spring grass, we find in the class *Diandria Digynia*. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 208 The meadow fescue, and the sweet scented vernal grass (anthoxanthum odoratum), 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 477 The vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*, L.) which is frequently met with in hay. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 489 This substance [i.e. coumarin] is found..in the sweet scented vernal grass, to which much of the fragrance of hay is owing.

d. Sown in the spring.

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 331 They sow here a vernal rye, which is a true spring corn, that will not succeed if sown in autumn.

4. *Comb*, as *vernal-bearded, -seeming, -tinctured* adjs.

1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 104 The melting rainbow's vernal-tinctured hues. 1857 WHITTIER *Last Walk Autumn* iv, And that the vernal-seeming breeze Mocked faded grass and leafless trees. 1874 L. MORRIS *Old Maytide* iii, Here be stalwart youths and lissome, honest-eyed and vernal bearded.

5. *elliptic.* or as *sb.* † **a.** The vernal season; the spring. *Obs.*—1.

1654 E. JOHNSON *Wonder-work. Provid.* 106 The vernall of the yeare 1637. being now in his prime.

b. = *Vernal grass* (see 3 c above).

1772 YOUNG *Farmer's Tour East Eng.* II. 256 The grass has consisted chiefly of the holchus,..a little meadow fox tail, and great poa:..it is remarkable that no vernal has appeared. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 514 *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, or sweet-scented vernal, is one of the earliest of our grasses. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 114 The aroma of good hay is due to the aromatic grasses contained in it, Sweet Vernal being the variety which is mainly responsible.

c. *pl.* Seeds of vernal grass. *rare*—1.

1764 *Trans. Soc. Arts* II. 60 Mix the Vernals and Hay seeds together.

Hence **Ve·rnally** *adv. rare.*

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vernally*, according to or in the Spring of the Year. 1888 ANGER *Let.* in Sichel *Life* (1906) xiii. 235 He thinks the Tweens are also vernally cleaning themselves.

Verna·lity. *rare.* [f. VERNAL *a.* + -ITY.]

† **1.** The 'spring-time' *of* something. *Obs.*

1639 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1672) 477, I was then surprized with an advertisement from Court, of the death of.. my dear nephew, in the vernality (as I may term it) of his employments and fortunes.

2. (See quot.)

1896 *Agric. Gaz.* 28 May 470/1 Vernality expresses that property of rich and shaded pasture land which makes them a lovely green, with tender and close clustering spring shoots.

Ve·rnalize, *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To render vernal or spring-like.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 500 By the amenity of their smile and their dallying jocundity, irradiating and vernalising whatever that smile and jocundity consecrate by tipping and touching. 1898 W. WATSON *Poems, Lines Richmond Park* 165 The stored sunlight in your hair and eyes Would vernalise November, and renew the aged year.

† **Ve·rnancy.** *Obs.*—1 [See next and -ANCY.] The condition or quality of being vernant.

1669 *Addr. hopeful yng. Gentry of Eng.* 6 He that expects after a deluge the same vernancy, disposition and order, the soil was before adorn'd with.

Ve·rnant, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 5 **vernand**, 6 **vernaunte, varnaunt.** [a. OF. *vernant* vernal, ad. L. *vernant-, vernans*, pres. pple. of *vernāre* to flourish, be verdant.]

1. Flourishing or growing in, or as in, spring.

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXV. 498 Hayll! vyolett vernand with swete odoure. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 606 A.. plante, Whiche dayly encreased by sufferaunce deuyne, Meueyously growynge in her, freshe and varnaunt. *Ibid.* 2808 Whiche tree to this day, endurynge all the yere, By myracle is vernaunte, freshe, green, and clere. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 A floure, whan it is freshe, vernant & newe,..is moche delectable & swete. 1567 TURBERVILE *Poems* 110 Vernant flowers that appeere To clad the soile with mantell newe. 1623 BRATHWAIT *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 316 The tree sent out her Branches, which did couer their corps with vernant blossoms. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 679 Else had the Spring Perpetual smil'd on Earth with vernant Flours. 1728–30 THOMSON *Spring* 81 The penetrative Sun..sets the steaming Power At large, to wander o'er the vernant Earth. 1842 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 80 The vernant branches feel the breeze. *Ibid.* 82 The cool delicious shade Of vernant oak.

transf. and *fig.* 1607 BREWER *Lingua* I. i. A iiij b, Oft haue I..embelisht my entreatiue phrase With smelling flowres of vernant Rhetorique: 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 317 Let not your vernant bosome so retaine, all comfort from the oat-pipe of a Swaine. 1661 BP. RUST *Origen & his Opinions* 89 The excellencie of the vernant youth and spring of the renewed world.

b. Freshly green; verdant.

1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 97 The flowring hearbes, the pleasant spring, That deckes the fields with vernant hew. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* 3 Should I not..garnish her with Flora's vernant hue?

2. Pertaining to the spring; vernal.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* iv. 211 The Trees..were so closely interwoven, that the vernant and æstivall Sunne beames could not pierce their rare imbroydery.

3. Of or forming the 'spring-time' of life.

1794 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* III. 381 The green platform of our vernant years.

† **Ve·rnate**, *v. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *vernāt-*, ppl. stem of *vernāre* (see prec.).] *intr.* (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vernate*, to wax young againe.

Vernation (vəɹnē·ʃən). [In sense 1 ad. mod L. *vernātiō* (Linnæus), f. L. *vernāre*: see VERNANT *a.* (So F. *vernation.*) In sense 2 directly f. L. *vernāt-*, ppl. stem of *vernāre.*]

1. *Bot.* The arrangement or formation of the leaves of plants or fronds of ferns in the bud; the manner in which the rudimentary or unexpanded leaves are disposed; prefoliation.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot., Foliatio*, foliation, vernation, or leafing. 1829 LINDLEY *Syn. Brit. Flora* 88 *Prunus*, vernation convolute. *Ibid.*, *Cerasus*, vernation conduplicate. 1830 — *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 157 The vernation of both the calyx and petals. 1857 P. H. GOSSE *Omphalos* 141 The green and leafy arches were once coiled up in a circinate vernation. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 428 The leaves of Ferns are usually characterised by a circinate vernation.

2. Vegetable growth or development, as characteristic of the spring. *rare* or *Obs.*

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 320 The season of vernation or eveiong will come on, the leaves will be enlarged, and assume a far deeper and more lively green. 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Nat. India* 68 From the earliest appearance of Vernation in March up to the end of May.

† **Verne**, obs. var. FERN *sb.*[3] (windlass).

† **Verne**, obs. var. *urne* RUN *v.*

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 fol. 32 Þat alle ben certein in eueriche coutreie þat te foreseide peine sal verne [*F. curra*] grefliche.

Verneuk (vəɹnø·k), *v. S. African slang.* Also **vinook.** [ad. Cape Du. *verneuken* (also in W. Flem., with variant *vernukken*).] *trans.* To cheat, humbug, swindle.

1871 *Cape Monthly Mag.* III. 46 (Pettman), How Hendrick enjoyed verneuking the Boer. 1905 D. BLACKBURN *R. Hartley, Prospector* xiii, So you have verneuked me? 1909 R. CULLUM *Compact* xviii. 213 He has vinooked the Kaffir chiefs into granting large concessions.

Hence **Verneu·ker.** Also **Verneu·kering** *vbl. sb.*, **Verneu·kery** [a. Cape Du. *verneukerie.*]

1896 in *Westm. Gaz.* 4 July 2/1 But we women of South Africa despise such mauldin *verneukery.* 1900 SIR J. ROBINSON *Life Time S. Africa* vii. 185 Hence arose the practice of 'verneukering'—by which buyer and seller each sought to get the better of the other. 1905 D. BLACKBURN *R. Hartley* xiii, Do you take me for a Boer verneuker?

Vernice, obs. form of VARNISH *sb.*[1]

Verniole (vɔ̄·mik'l). Forms: *a.* 4, 8–9 **vernicle**, 4 **fernycle**, 4–6 **vernycle**. *β.* 5 **vernacul(l, -cule, vernakill, -kylle**, 5–9 **vernacle**, 6 **varnacle.** [a. AF. and OF. *vernicle*, = OF. *veron(n)icle*, VAR. of *veronique*, ad. med.L. *veronica* the sudarium of St. Veronica: see VERONICA[2] and cf. VERONICLE, VERONIQUE. On the change of *-ique* to *-icle* see the note to CHRONICLE *sb.*]

1. The picture or representation of the face of Christ said to be impressed upon the handkerchief or sudarium of St. Veronica (see 2); any similar picture of Christ's face, esp. one engraved, painted,

or worked upon a vessel, garment, ornament, etc., used for religious or devotional purposes; an ornament or token bearing this as worn by pilgrims.

a. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 14 Moni Cros on his cloke and keijes of Rome, And þe vernicle [*C.* fernycle] bi-fore for men schulde him knowe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 685 Swiche glarynge eyen hadde he as an hare, A vernycle hadde he sowed vp on his cappe. 1467 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. III My master gaff her a gret sygnet of goolde with the vernycle. 1708 BAILEY (ed. 3). 1824 FOSBROKE *Encycl. Antiq.* (1843) II. 805 The Vernicle, or Veronique,..or face of Christ, miraculously impressed upon a handkerchief. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. x. 438 A medal stamped with the vernicle showed the pilgrim had visited Rome. 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 131/3 The vernicle, or face of our Lord, appears in the centre of the paten.

β. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 170 O vernacule [*v.r.* vernacul], I honoure him and the, þat þe made þorow his preuite. *c* 1450 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 204 Item a tabill of the vernakill in the vestre. 1473 *Will of Balasice* (Somerset Ho.), My newe chalice with a patent of alluer, the crucifix in the foote of the same chalice gilt and the vernacle upon the same patent gilt. 1526 *Will of Grene* (ibid.), Lytle masser of syluer and gylt with the vernacles bed in the bothom. 1536 in E. Ledwich *Antiq. Sarisb.* (1771) 202 A cope of Green cloth of gold, with a goodly Orphery, having in the Morse a Vernacle. 1534 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 196 Item a Masar with a sengle band with a prynt of the vernacle in the bothom. 1721 BAILEY. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. iii. I. 293 A large convex piece of fine crystal, showing beneath it the vernacle or face of our divine Redeemer. 1901 E. HOSKINS *Horæ B. Mariæ Virg.* 125 (tr. text of 1510), The pope John the xxii..hath granted unto all them that devoutly say this prayer beholding the glorious visage or vernacle of our Lord v thousand days of pardon. *Ibid.* 127 A devout orison to the blessed vernacle of our Lord.

2. The cloth or kerchief, alleged to have belonged to St. Veronica, with which, according to legend, the face of Christ was wiped on the way to Calvary, and upon which His features were miraculously impressed.

This cloth is preserved at St. Peter's, Rome, and is venerated as a relic.

a 1400 *Stac. Rome* 59 Whon þe vernicle schewed is, Gret pardoun forsoþe þer is. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 33 We cam to the howse of Veronica,..wher as our blyssyd Savyor impressyd the ymage of hys Face in hyr wymple whiche ys at Rome. And it ys callyd ther the Vernacle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 304 Ye blessed relyke the Vernacle, whiche is the very similitude & imprynte of thy blessed & gloryous vysage. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 460 The Vernycle wherewith Christes face was wyped is shewed in S. Peters Church at Rome. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 625 He would ask leave to see the Vernacle; which he said, was the picture of Christ given to Women by himself as he went to death. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. iii. 52 A large Handkerchief, or Towel,.. whereunto, with many others, they put up this devout Orison: namely, to the Holy Vernacle, as they christen it. *Ibid.* 52 The most holy Face..Imprinted on a Snow-white Cloth by th' Power above, And on the Vernacle bestow'd, as Pledge of Love. 1845 J. SAUNDERS *Cabinet Pict. Eng. Life, Chaucer* 14 Thus originated the Sudarium or holy kerchief—the Veronica—and, by corruption, the veruicle.

Vernicose, *a. Bot. rare*⁻°. [ad. mod.L. *vernicōs-us*, f. med.L. *vernic-ium* VARNISH *sb.*¹] 'Covered with a natural varnish' (*Treas. Bot.*, 1866).

Vernier (vɜ·niəi). [From the name of the inventor, Paul *Vernier* (1580–1637), a French mathematician, who described it in a tract on the *Quadrant Nouveau de Mathématiques* published in 1631.]

1. A device, consisting of a short movable scale, by which more minute measurements may be readily obtained from the divisions of the graduated scale of astronomical, surveying, or other mathematical instruments to which it is attached.

Sometimes erroneously called a *Nonius* (q.v.).

1766 *Instruct. for Hadley's Quadrant* 17 A scale of divisions graduated on the chamfered edge or sloped side of the index, which scale is called the vernier. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 28 It would likewise be an Advantage if the Vernier was made to give every Minute of a Degree, in place of four or five, as in most Theodolites. 1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 473 Another small slip of ivory is placed at each end of the arm, serving as a vernier, and subdividing these divisions into five parts. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 26 The scale of variation is furnished with an instrument called a vernier or nonius. 1826 KANE *Arct. Explor.* I. xiii. 144 Though I had much clear weather we barely succeeded by magnifiers in reading the verniers. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 18 For very exact work, the circle may be divided to half degrees, and a vernier may be employed.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vernier circle, division, piece, plate, scale*, etc.

Also with the names of instruments or tools having a vernier scale or attachment, as *vernier caliper, compass, transit* (Knight *Dict. Mech.*).

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 587/2 The first division of the vernier piece marked 15. 1797 *Ibid.* XVIII. 644/1 *Vernier scale*, a scale excellently adapted for the graduation of mathematical instruments. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 267/1 In order to read off the hundredths of an inch which the vernier zero advances beyond any tenth in the scale, we have merely to see what vernier division comes nearest to a division of the scale. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2947, The vernier plate is carried on four arms, and a diagonal brace. *Ibid.*, The horizontal limb, vernier circle, &c. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 905/2 *Vernier Scale sight* (*Rifle*), a hind sight with a vernier scale for accurate adjustment. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 148 To the bottom of the stock of a Vernier slide gauge he attaches a spring.

† Vernile, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 7 vernill. [ad. L. *vernilis*, f. *verna* a home-born slave.] Servile, slavish.

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Vernill*, slauish. 1727 BAILEY. 1843 DE QUINCY in *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 60 This scandal of Roman society was not..a pure prodact, from the vernile acurrility of which we hear so much in Roman writers.

† Vernility. *Obs.* [ad. L. *vernilitās*, f. *vernilis*: see prec. and -ITY.] Servility, slavishness.

[illegible] *psyche* I. [illegible] reason both of additions to and the corruption of the English language .. has proceeded from .. affectation of travellers,..venality & mincing of citizens, pulpits, political remonstrances, .. &c. 1788 H. CLARKE *Sch. Candidates* (1877) 9 Oh, the stupidity and venility of mankind, that there should be permitted such an abuse of power in the world, as either a public or domestic Gynecocracy!

Vernish, obs. form of VARNISH *sb.*¹ and *v.*

‖ Vernix. *Obs. rare.* [med.L.: see VARNISH *sb.*¹] Varnish.

1573 *Art of Limming* 9 To make a kynde of colouring called Vernix wherewith you may vernishe golde, siluer, or any other colour or paymtinges.

† Vernon, error for VERNAL *a. Obs.*

1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 1 The Vernon Ingress smil'd a Blessing, when she sent the melodious Harmony of Birds to melt the Air. *Ibid.* 127 The Race of Salmon, especially the Female in the Vernon Æquinox, is for the most part..casting against the rapid Streams.

Vernysoun, Sc. form of WARNISON *Obs.*

† Verol, *Obs. rare.* Also 7 veroll. [a. F. *vérole*, doublet of *variole* VARIOLA.]

1. French pox; syphilis.

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* Prol. B j, He met a french Surgeon..yᵗ cured him both of that and the Verol, yᵗ he had before in his priorums.

2. (See quot.) *rare*⁻°.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 238/1 The Veroll, the Web, are two Diseases in the eyes of Hawks, some call them the Pynne; they do proceed from Rume.

So † **Vero·la** [cf. Cat. *verola*]. = prec. 1. *Obs.*⁻¹

1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Passe & Passeth Not* Wks. (Grosart) I. 9/1 From..The French Verola, and the English feuer,..The blessed Lord of heau'n deliuer me.

Verona (vĭrō·nă). [a. It. *Verona*: see def.]

1. The name of a city in northern Italy used attrib. to designate articles found or produced in, or associated with, the locality, as *Verona brown, earth, green, serge*, etc. (see quots.).

1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Peach*, Verona [peach]. 1835 G. FIELD *Chromatography* 129 The greens called Verona green, and Verdetto,..are similar native pigments of a warmer colour. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 619 Verona green is merely a variety of the mineral called green earth. 1850 AUSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. § 435 Hisingerite,.. Verona earth, Nontronite,..are also impure silicates of [iron]. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Verona-serge*, a thin worsted and cotton fabric. It is also made of mohair and cotton, and of various colours. 1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Brown, Verona brown*, a pigment used by artists in oil-painting. It is a calcined ferruginous earth, of a reddish-brown tone.

2. *elliptic.* (See quot.)

1904 *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug. 480/2 *Verona*, a thin make of woollen material with a cotton warp, having a bright twill; used for linings.

Veronal (vĕrōnăl). *Chem.* [a. G. *veronal*.] Diethyl-malonyl-urea, a white crystalline substance used as a hypnotic. Also *attrib.*

1903 *Merck's Ann. Rep.* XVII. 283 Veronal has been thoroughly tested in a large number of noted public and private hospitals. 1904 *Lancet* 23 Jan. 223/2 A box of veronal cachets, each containing eight grains.

Verone·se, *a.* and *sb.* [a. It. *Veronese*: see VERONA and -ESE.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to, made in or obtained from, Verona in the north of Italy.

1757 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* III. 181 Four hundred and fifty Veronese feet. 1776 in *Encycl. Brit.* (1780) VI. 4124/2 The Vicantine and Veronese lavas and volcanic ashes. 1833 C. REDDING *Hist. Med. Wines* (1851) 278 Even a wretched Veronese wine..is called 'vino santo'. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 88/1 Veronese earth or terra verde, a form of ochre. 1888 *Ibid.* XXIV. 171/2 Many good pictures of the Veronese school. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Green, Veronese green*, a pigment consisting of hydrated chromium sesquioxid... Also called *viridian*.

B. *sb.* **1.** The natives or inhabitants of Verona. Also as *sing.*

1757 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* III. 176 The Veronese might justly erect statues to other illustrious persons. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 243/1 The revolutionists..threatened the other provinces which remained in obedience to the senate, and especially the Veronese. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 56 The Veronese used to call me L'Uccello.

2. The form of Italian spoken in Verona.

1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* II. xix. 22 Some talk followed, of cold and heat, and anything else one knew the Italian for, or could understand the Veronese for (Veronese being more like Spanish than Italian).

‖ Veronica[1] (vĭrō·nikă). [med.L. *veronica* (whence also Sp. and Pg. *veronica*, F. *véronique*), app. from the name of St. Veronica.]

1. *Bot.* A large genus of scrophulariaceous plants (herbs or shrubs) having leafy stems and blue (rarely white or pink) flowers borne in racemes or spikes.

Many species are indigenous to the British Isles and are commonly called Speedwell. Others are cultivated in gardens for their foliage and flowers.

1587 ANDREW tr. *Brunschwig's Distyll. Waters* II. lxxix. Fijᵒ A dragma of pouder of ye same herbe Veronica. 1598 LYTE *Dodoens* 27 The Female Veronica is..much weaker, and not so good as the Male. 1629 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* I. xv. 92 Ordinarily they gather not of many little or small flowers, as..Veronica. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* 67 May. Flowers in Prime..Valerian, Veronica double and single. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Veronica*, the Herb Fluellin, or Speed-well, good for Wounds and to provoke Sweat. 1753 *Chambers's Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., The common small procumbent Veronica, called male Speedwell. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 15 Brooklime,..and some other species of Veronica, afford nourishment to the Papilio cinxia. 1833 BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) I. ix. 377 For the first time in Italy I found my mother's favorite veronica. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* 273 The primrose, the lily of the valley, or the veronica which adorn our meadows.

attrib. 1868 J. T. BURGESS *Eng. Wild Fl.* 40 One distinguishing feature of the Veronica tribe.

b. With distinguishing epithets, as *earth-oak, field, foreign veronica*. Cf. SPEEDWELL b.

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 406 *Veronica arvensis*. Field Veronica. Corn Speedwell. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 227 *V. peregrina*..Foreign Veronica. Purslane Speedwell. Neckweed. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 105 *Veronica Chamædrys*, or Earth-Oak Veronica (from the shape of its leaves).

2. a. With *a* and pl. A plant or species of the genus Veronica.

1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 38/1 To make the garden gay, the following roots may be planted out either in beds or patches: American cowslips,..veronicas, wall-flowers. 1888 *Garden* 6 May 317/3 Tall Veronicas will now need tying up. 1899 R. BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* Poems (1912) 353 Blue-eyed Veronicas And grey-faced Scabious.

b. In pl. with *the*. The various species which compose this genus.

1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 105 The Veronicas [have] ..something graceful, feminine, and fragile in their aspect.

Vero·nica[2]. [Proper name: see VERNICLE.] = VERNICLE 1 and 2.

In quot. 1812 stressed *Veroni·ca*.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Jan. 1645, The Zitelle..walked in procession to St. Peter's, where the Veronica was shew'd. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Veronica's are Imitations of that celebrated Original one, preserv'd with great Veneration at St. Peter's in Rome. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & Fall.* xlix. V. 94 The *veronica* of Rome, or Spain, or Jerusalem, which Christ in his agony and bloody sweat applied to his face. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XXXI. 95 Like a wight, Who haply from Croatia wends to see Our Veronica. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. IV. 214 The Pope..showed him the Veronica, and allowed him to touch the holy face of the Lord.

transf. 1768 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 24 It is disputed whether the Veronica of Montreuil, or the granite obelisk mentioned by Gori, be *Abraxases*.

† Veronicle. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *veron(n)icle*: see VERNICLE.] = VERNICLE.

14.. *Leg. Rood* (1871) 170 O vernacule [*Addit. MS.* veronicle], i honoure him and the, þat þe made þorow his preuite. *c* 1450 *MS. Harl.* 149 fol. 276 Here after foloweth a story of þe veronycle.

† Veronique. *Obs. rare.* Also 7 veronicke. [a. OF. and later F. *veronique* VERONICA 2.] = VERNICLE 1. Also *fig.*

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 95 The veronicke or the print of Christs face in a towel. *a* 1721 KEN *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 228 My soul, Lord, thy Veronique make, That I may thy Resemblance take. 1829 [see VERNICLE 1 a].

† Verony. *Obs.*⁻¹ Also weroni, veroni. [a. AF. or OF. **veronie*:—med.L. *veronica*.] = prec.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18859 O sulik a moder, wel slik a child, Wit fair wisage and modes mild, It es sene be þe weroni [*v.r.* veroni, verony].

† Verport. *Obs.* [f. the Du. personal name *Verpoort* or *Verport*.] A class of tulips (see quots.).

1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xix. (1813) 380 The plain tulips ..are called whole blowers, or breeders; and accordingly as they break into other colours, stripes and variegations,.. are denominated and classed into *bagnettes, byblomens, verports*, and *bizarres*. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) 832 The Dutch florists class their late-blowing tulips as under:..Prime baguets,..Baguets Rigaut's,..Incomparable Verports.

† Verquere. *Obs.* [Ultimately (prob. through an obs. F. **verquere*) ad. Du. *verkeer* (in the comb. *verkeer-bord*, † *-berd*) backgammon, f. *verkeeren* to turn round, to play at backgammon (Kilian).] An old form of backgammon.

a 1700 *Games most in Use* 30 The Famous Game, call'd Verquere, came originally..from Holland, and is said to be the only noted Game, upon the Tables, that they practise and are good at. 1714 T. LUCAS *Mem. Gamesters* (ed. 2) 67 He was very dextrous also at Verquere, Tick-tack, Grand Trick-track, Irish, and Back-Gammon. 1721 T. AITKEN *Compt. Gamester* (title-p.), The Famous Game of Verquere, Tick-Tack, Irish, Back-Gammon.

Verra, southern dial. var. FARROW *a.*; Sc. and northern dial. f. VERY. **Verrai(e,** obs. ff. VERILY *adv.* **Verraillche, -ly,** obs. ff. VERILY *adv.* **Verrament,** var. VERAMENT *adv. Obs.* **Verray,** obs. f. VERY; obs. Sc. f. WORRY *v.* **Verrayle, -ly,** obs. ff. VERILY *adv.* **Verrayment,** var. VERIMENT *adv. Obs.*

† Verre. *Obs.* Also 4 verr, 5 ver, virre. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *verre* :—L. *vitrum* glass.]

1. Glass.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 867 And forthi, who that hath

an hede of verre Fro caste of stonys ware hym in the wey. *a* 1400–30 *Alexander* 4351 Make we na vessall of virre ne of na clere siluir. 14.. Lydg. *Life Virgin* (MS. Antiq. Soc. 134) fol. 14 (Halliw.), In alle the erthe y-balowid and y-holde, In a closet more clere than verre or glas. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Verre, glasse, *vitrum*.

2. A vessel made of glass, esp. a drinking-vessel; a glass.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxiii. 31 Ne beholde thou the win, whan it floureth, whan shal shine in the verr the colour of it [1388 the colour therof schyneth in a verl]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) iv. 32 It is alle fulle of Gravelle,..of the which Men maken fair Verres and clere. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Putte it in þe houndes þrote þe mountance of a verre full. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 87 Sue.. lepte upon the borde,.. and brake the verres, and spilt all that there was on the borde. 1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1903) VI. 75 For iiij verris with thair cacels,..price of the pece vj. s.

Verre, ME. var. Far *a.* and *adv.*; obs. f. Very.

Verrei'lly, etc., obs. ff. Very, Verily *adv.*

Ve'rrel, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 verelle, 7 verrill, 8 verril, 8–9 verrel, 9 verel, verrell. [ad. OF. *virelle, virol* (mod.F. *virole*): see Ferrule *sb.* and Virl *sb.*] A ferrule.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/2 A verelle of a knyffe, *spirula*. 1611 Cotgr., *Frete*, a Verrill; th' yron band or hoope that keeps a wooden toole from riuing. *Ibid.*, *Tourillon*, an inner Verrill; the round plate of yron whereby a peece of wood, often turned on, is preserued from wearing. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Verrel* or *Verril*, a little Brass or Iron-ring, at the small end of a Cane, or Handle of a Tool, &c. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 418, I cover this part of the tube with a brass verrel. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 129 On the upper end of this spar is fixed a stout ring or verrell. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Verel*,..a small iron hoop.

†**Ve'rrel,** *v. Obs.*[−1] In 5 virell, vyrell. [ad. OF. *vireler, viroler.*] *trans.* To furnish with a ferrule; = Ferrule *v.*

a 1450 *Fishing w. Angle* (1883) 8 Þen virell [*v.r.* vyrell] þe staff wel at bothe endys with hopy[s] of yren.

Verrelay, obs. f. Virelay. **Verrelle, -ly,** obs. ff. Verily. **Verrement,** var. Verament *adv.* **Verren,** ME. var. Ferren *adv.* and *a.*

†**Ve'rrer.** *Obs.*[−1] In 5 verrour. [ad. AF. *verrer* (1300), = OF. (and mod.F.) *verrier* (1265 in Godef.), f. *verre* Verre.] A worker in glass; a glazier.

1415 in *York Myst.* p. xxvi, Sellers, Verrours, Fuystours.

Verret, dial. f. Ferret *sb.*[1] **Verrey,** obs. f. Very; obs. Sc. f. Worry *v.* **Verreyli, -liche, -ly,** obs. ff. Verily *adv.* **Verreyment,** var. Verament *Obs.* **Verri,** southern ME. var. Far *v.*; obs. f. Very *a.* and *adv.*

†**Verri'cular,** *a. Obs.*[−0] [ad. mod.L. *verriculāris*, f. L. *verriculum* Verriculе.] Resembling a net in form or construction (see quot.).

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Verricular Tunich* (in Anat.), a Coat of the Eye, the same with *Amphiblestroides*. [After *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693).]

Verri'culate, *a. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *verriculātus*, f. L. *verriculum*: see next.] (See quot.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 277 *Verriculate*,.. having one or more verricules.

Ve'rricule. *Ent.* [ad. L. *verricul-um* a dragnet, seine, f. *verrĕre* to sweep, etc.] (See quot.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 277 *Verricule*,..a thick-set tuft of parallel hairs.

Verrie, obs. form of Very.

†**Verril,** obs. variant of *vervil* Varvel.

c 1665 *God Speed the Plow* 23 in *Roxb. Ball.* (1889) VI. 324 When the Hauk on his fist doth stand, His hood and his verril's brave, and other things we have, Which yeelds joy to a Serving-man.

Verrill, -ly, obs. ff. Verily *adv.* **Verrinus,** var. Verinas *Obs.* **Verritie,** obs. Sc. f. Verity. **Verrors,** southern ME. var. *farrer* Far *a.* **Verrour,** var. Verrer *Obs.*; var. *werrour* Warrer.

‖**Verruca** (verū·kă). Pl. **verrucæ** (verū·sī). [L. *verrūca* wart, excrescence on precious stones. Cf. It. *verruca*, Prov. *veruca*.] **a.** A wart. **b.** *Bot., Conch., Ent.* A wart-like formation, growth, or prominence.

The pl. appears as *verruces* in Lanfranc's *Cirurg.* (E.E.T.S.) 296–7.

a. 1565 J. Hall *Lanfrank's Cirurg.* Table 41 Galen (rekening it with *Verruca*,..and other lyke affectes of the skinne,) teacheth how with a holowe quille to plucke it out. [1672 Salmon *Syn. Med.* I. xlviii. 115 *Verruca*, a Wart, is a little tubercle on the Skin. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Verrucæ*, Warts, a sort of *Tubercula*.] 1770 Pennant *Zool.* IV. 85 On the chin [of the Noctule bat is] a little verruca. 1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 349 *Verruca* is a hard or soft, rounded, flat, or acuminated, circumscribed, papillary formation. *a* 1883 Fagge *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) II. 718 Warts.—*Verrucæ, papillomata.*—These are small cutaneous tumours consisting in overgrowth of the papillæ of the cutis.

b. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 118 The upper parts of all the areas [of *Echinus pentagonus*] are remarkably bare; but, about the rounded margin, the verrucæ..become frequent. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 273 *Verruca*, a small flattish wart-like prominence. 1861 Hentley *Man. Bot.* i. 51 When sessile glands consist of cells containing solid secretions so that they form hardened spherical or other appendages upon the surface of the epidermis, they are termed *verrucæ* or *warts*.

Verrucated, *a. Conch.* Also 8 verrucated. [f. mod.L. *verrūcāt-us*, f. L. *verrūca* Verruca + -ed 1.] Having or covered with verrucæ or warty growths.

a 1728 Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I. ii. 33 This small Shell has Stripes of brown, very thick, running parallel with the Volutæ.. Two verucated. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 88 Verrucated shell [of a crab].

Verruci-, combining form, on L. models, of L. *verrūca* Verruca, occurring in a few terms in *Biol.* and *Bot.*, as **Verruci'ferous** *a.*, of a zoophyte: bearing verrucæ; **Verru'ciform** *a.*, wart-shaped.

Verruciform adj. (= prec.) occurs in Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* (1856) s.v.

1833 Hooker in Smith *Eng. Flora* V. i. 132 *Apothecia* verruciform. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 306 Corallum with deep immersed cells, interstices verruciferous, verrucæ convex. *Ibid.* 525 Summit branchlets verruciform.

Verrucose (verŭkō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *verrūcōsus*, f. *verrūca* Verruca.]

1. Covered or furnished with, full of, verrucæ or wart-like excrescences or growths. Now *Nat. Hist.* and *Path.*

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 181 A verrucose stone found near a petrifying Spring. 1721 Bailey, *Verrucose*, Full of Warts. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 273 *Verrucose*, ..having several verrucæ. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 68 *Trilonia Hombergii*...Body oblong, subtetragonous, verrucose above. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 527 Branches rather stout,..verrucose. 1883 Le Conte & G. H. Horn *Classif. Coleoptera N. Amer.* 942 Head roughly granulate, or verrucose. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 816 The skin is covered by epidermis, in some parts thin and delicate, in others thick, horny, and verrucose.

fig. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 311 What designation could be more apt to mark the scurvy, verrucose, uneven,..and repulsive style of this man?

2. *Bot.* Studded with small warty swellings or protuberances; tubercular.

1802 R. Hall *Dict. Bot. Terms* 194 *Verrucose*,..warty. 1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 79 Seeds numerous, small, oval, verrucose, yellowish. 1874 Cooke *Fungi* 77 The sporidia in many cases are large, reticulated, echinulate or verrucose, and mostly somewhat globose. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 292 The verrucose epispore distinguishes this from its congeners.

Hence **Verruco'seness,** 'fulness of warts'.

1727 Bailey (vol. II).

Verrucous (verū·kəs), *a.* [ad. L. *verrūcōs-us*, f. *verrūca* Verruca: cf. prec. So OF. *verrucueux, veruqueux*, mod.F. *verruqueux, -euse.*]

1. = Verrucose *a.* 1 and 2. *rare.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (following Cooper), *Verrucous*, full of warts, hillocks or knaps. 1658 Phillips, *Verrucous*, full of warts or little excrescences of the flesh. [Similarly in Chambers *Cycl.* (1728).] 1828–32 Webster s.v., A verrucous capsule.

2. *Path.* Of the nature of a wart or warts; characterized by the formation of warts.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Verruca*, *Verrucous* is applied to any Excrescencies which have a resemblance to Warts. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. ii. 1262/2 The urethra is sometimes occupied by verrucous vegetations, the result of gonorrhœa. 1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 165 In thickened,.. localized patches of eczema a peculiar warty, verrucous condition at times shows itself. 1900 *Hutchinson's Arch. Surg.* XI. 223 They are of the kind known as the Verrucous nævus.

Verruculose (verŭkiŭlō·s), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *verrūculōs-us*, f. L. *verrūcula*, dim. of *verrūca* Verruca.] Covered with small verrucæ or warts.

1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 656 A series of granules..range along each side of the medial space, as if the surface were minutely verruculose. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1211/2.

‖**Verruga** (verū·gă). *Path.* [Sp. (also Pg. and Prov.) *verruga* wart:—L. *verrūca* Verruca.] A febrile disease endemic in Peru and characterized by warty eruptions or tumours on the skin; Peruvian wart. Also in pl. *verrugas.*

[*a* 1883 Fagge *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) II. 744 Yaws ..appears to be identical with what is known..as *Verrugas* in Peru.] 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 499 Patients suffering from verruga..do not communicate the contagion to others. *attrib.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 498 Verruga cases do better in warm places. *Ibid.* 499 The inhabitants of these verruga districts.

†**Verry,** *a.* (and *sb.*). *Obs.* Forms: 6 verrye, verrie, 6–9 verrey, 6–8 verry. [var. of *varry* Vairy *a.*]

1. *Her.* = Vairy *a.* 1.

a 1550 Leland *Itin.* II. 93, I marked yn the Wyndowes 3 sortes of Armes, one al verry of blew and white. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* 131 b, The seuenth doubling, is properly called Verrey, and is on this fashion, Argent, and Azure, or els Azure and Argent. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 31 b, Some are borne Barrie vndee, barrye verrye, or enuecked. 1610 Guillim *Her.* (1611) I. iv. 15 Hee beareth Verry, Or and Azure by the name of Claude de Rochford. 1655 M. Carte *Hon Reviv.* (1660) 99 The next is called Vayre or Verry, this being of Argent and Azure, is termed Vaire onely; but if any other Colours, then must it be blazoned Verry of such Colours. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* [Hence in Phillips, Harris, Kersey, etc.] 1780 Edmonston *Heraldry* II, *Verrey*, or *Varry*, are names given to..fur..called *Vair*, if it is composed of..any other tincture than argent and azure.

¶ **2.** Used as *sb.*, as if the name of a material or colour. Cf. Vairy 2.

Drayton's use may be due to confusion wkh Vair *sb.* 2.

1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* II. xxii, A Ladies sleeue his spirited Hastings wore, Ferrer his Tabard with rich verry spred. 1812 Cary *Dante, Par.* xvi. 100 The column, clothed with verrey [It. *vaio*], still was seen Unshaken.

Verry, southern ME. var. Far *v.*; obs. f. Very.

Vers, southern ME. var. Ferse *a.*; abbreviation of Versin.

†**Versabi'lity.** *Obs.* [See next and -ity.] **a.** = Versatility 2. **b.** Aptness or readiness to be changed or turned (round).

1673 O. Walker *Educ.* xi. 122 Wit .. consists (saith Thesauro) in 1. perspicacity, which is the consideration of all..circumstances: and 2. versability, or speedy comparing them together. 1721 Bailey, *Versability*, an aptness to be turn'd, chang'd or wound any way. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* v. xlii, By the versability of this great engine, round which they are twisted, to open new tracts of enquiry.

Versable, *a. Obs.*[−0] [ad. L. *versābilis*, f. *versāre*: see Verse *v.*[2]] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram I, *Versable*, which may be turned. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Versable*, that turns, or may be turned; turned or wounden one about another. 1721 Bailey; and in later Dicts.

Hence †**Versableness.** *Obs.*

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Versableness*, Aptness to be turned, or wound any way. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Versail, var. Versle *v. Obs.*

†**Versal,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vers-*, ppl. stem of *vertĕre* to turn (cf. *reversal*), associated with Verse *sb.*] = Versification 3.

1637 Bamfield in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 222 Such..as they shall think fit to advise with, concerning the best versal of the Psalms. *Ibid.*, The amendment of Mr. Sternhold and Mr. Hopkins's Versal of the Psalms.

Versal (vē·rsăl), *a.* ? *Obs.* Also 8 'versal. [Illiterate or colloq abbrev. of Universal *a.* Cf. the later Varsal *a.*]

1. Universal; whole. Usu. coupled with *world.*

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 219 Shee lookes as pale as [illegible] versall world.

2. Single; individual.

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* I. 151 She..had provided no versal Thing for the Child. 1717 Susanna Wesley in Southey *Wesley* (1820) I. 444 We are secluded from sight, or hearing, of any versal thing except Jeffrey.

Ve'rsalie, pres. subj. of Versle *v. Obs.*

Versant (vē·rsănt), *sb.* [a. F. *versant* (15th c. in Littré), f. *verser*: see Verse *v.*[2]]

1. The slope, side, or descent of a mountain or mountain-chain; the area or region covered by this. (Usu. with specifying epithet.)

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* IV. 1341/2 The species of oak which produces the cork vegetates..over the versants or faces of the Pyrenees. 1883 *Encycl. Amer.* I. 477/2 The best part of the United States for tree-farming is considered to be the Pacific versant. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 18 The conifer forests.. which clothe the eastern versant of the Victoria Nyanza.

2. Tendency to slope or descend; declination.

1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc* XXIX. 30 Thus the oriental half of the African continent has a compound versant, eastward with southing, and westward with southing.

Versant (vē·rsănt), *a.* [f. L. *versant-*, *versans*, pres. pple. of L. *versāre*, *versāri*: see Verse *v.*[2] Cf. Conversant *a.*]

1. Concerned, anxious, or busy *about*, occupied or engaged *in* or *with*, something.

1645 *Arraignm. of Persecution* 15 [His] nature hath ever been and is always versant in such cruelties. 1681 Flavel *Method of Grace* xxv. 432 His fears were once versant about noxious creatures, now God is the object of the fear of reverence. 1688 Boyle *Cont. New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* II. Pref., The other [matter] was [for me] to be versant about those trials, which were not to be made..with natural air..but factitious air. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* III. 409 The literary question of the age was versant almost exclusively with verbal accuracy.

2. Of persons: **a.** Skilled, versed, or experienced *in* a subject, practice, etc., as the result of having been occupied with it.

In frequent use from *c* 1790 to *c* 1860. Now *rare.*

1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 3 It may be known ..by any person versant in accounts, what sums are due. 1777 Boswell in *Johnson* 18 Sept., That is owing to his being so much versant in old English poetry. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 107 Who is perfectly versant in the method of breeding the insect. 1808 T. Hamral *Scenes of Life* II. 113 This gentleman..was completely versant in the grammatical niceties..of the language. 1842 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 669 These excellent directors, versant in wood and metal. 1870 Burton *Hist. Scot.* lxxii. (1873) VI. 312 Persons versant in the history of Scotland.

b. Conversant, familiar, or intimately acquainted *with* a subject or person.

1787 J. Howie in *Reformation Princ, Re-exhib.*, etc. 151 The Author,..being mostly versant with country-people, labours to speak and write in the vulgar dialect. 1822 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 351 A man not versant with courts of justice will not believe it. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 289 Mr. Puff..had become versant with all the private affairs of all the boroughs. 1877 H. A. Page *De Quincey* II. xvi. 30 A shepherd..who was versant with all the approaching changes of the weather.

3. *Conch.* Turning or curling over.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 322/2 Family Columellidæ.. Shell without a canal, but having the base of its aperture notched or versant, and the whorls of the spire large.

4. *Her.* (See quot.) *rare*—⁰.

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Versant*, the same as *cyclhount*, called also *surmount*; and implies erected, or elevated.

Ve·rsate, *v. rare*—¹. [f. L. *versāt-*, ppl. stem of *versāre*: see Verse *v.*²] *trans.* To turn about.

1887 *Sat. Rev.* 17 Sept. 405 An edition which we can really versate in the..hand without causing the said hand to droop and ache.

Versatile (vɔ́·rsătəil, vɔ́·rsătil), *a.* Also 7 **versatle, versatil, varsatile.** [a. F. *versatile* (16th c., = It. *versatile*, Sp., Pg. *versatil*), or ad. L. *versātilis*, f. *versāre*: see Verse *v.*²]

I. 1. Marked or characterized by changeability or inconstancy; subject to change or fluctuation; variable, changeable.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iii. § 6. 15 It is rather the reuerence which many times both aduerse parts doe giue to honestie, than any versatile aduantage of their owne carriage. 1659 *Quaeries on Proposalls of Officers of Armie to Parlt.* 4 To mold the versatile hypocrisy of his depraved mind. 1665 Glanvill *Sceptis Sci.* xxvi. 161 Those versatile representations in the neck of a Dove. 1682 Burnet *Rights of Princes* Pref. 36 He also observes the Varsatile Temper of the Jesuits. 1792 Burke *Let. to Member of Nat. Assemb.* Wks. 1842 I. 482 The versatile tenderness which marks the irregular and capricious feelings of the populace. 1798 Grant *Surv. Prov. Moray* 279 The number of scholars vibrates from 80 to 90; but from the versatile state of the establishment, it is not possible that [etc.]. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 67 Our author..is of such a versatile disposition, that..he states [etc.]. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* ix. (1856) 67 The things were there half an hour ago. I saw them, capricious, versatile, full of forms, but bright and definite as the phases of sober life.

Comb. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxiii, For at one instant to hate and defy a man,..and at the next to be..friendly with him, was not an unusual process with our versatile-minded Baronet.

b. Of persons: Fickle, inconstant. *rare.*

1682 Burnet *Rights Princes* viii. 293 Thomas Becket.. was a proud varsatile and factious Man. 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* ix. 315 The French, Versatile, Unconstant. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* VII. iv. (1864) IV. 148 The versatile people rose on his side [and] drove out the troops. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt.-Royal* iii, He is too versatile, too soft-hearted and impressionable.

2. Characterized by readiness or facility in turning from one subject, pursuit, or task to another; marked by many-sidedness or variety of talent.

In early use somewhat rare; freq. from *c* 1795.

1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 151/1 He was of a versatile wit, and in composure of his speech a difficult adversary. 1667 Sprat *Hist. Royal Soc.* 18 Disputing is a very good instrument, to sharpen mens wits, and to make them versatil. 1791 Cowper *Odyssey* I. 2 Make the man thy theme, for shrewdness famed And genius versatile. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 290 What then is that versatile faculty, called *reason*? *a* 1828 H. Neele *Lit. Rem.* 19 Chaucer's genius was vast, versatile and original. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. 158 A multitude of other subjects, with which his versatile ability made him conversant. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* i. § 6 (1876) 52 His *transf.* 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 171 The physical as well as the moral nature of man is extremely versatile, and accommodating to circumstances. 1801 *Lusignan* IV. 152 Absorbed in meditations and versatile reflections, he wandered, unconscious of the progress of time.

3. Of persons: Turning easily or readily from one subject or occupation to another; having an aptitude or faculty for fresh pursuits or tasks; showing facility in varied subjects; many-sided.

1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 95 In 1665 the versatile Gerbier published a piece he called Subsidium Peregrinantibus. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribblemania* 213 Of this versatile writer, ah! what should be said. 1841 Macaulay *Ess., W. Hastings* (1851) 634 The able and versatile Henry Dundas. 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* vi. (1858) 327 The vivid and versatile genius who has touched on almost every subject of literature. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. xii. 460 He was an able man of business, versatile, politic.

b. Const. *in.*

1807 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (ed. 5) I. 22 An individual, however versatile and extensive in his genius, would soon be exhausted. 1842 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 144 O'Connell is versatile in his words and ways, and the Repeal seems to me incomprehensible. 1872 Minto *Eng. Prose Lit.* I. i. 58 He is more versatile in the 'pitch' of his style.

II. 4. Capable of being turned round on, or as on, a pivot or hinge; that may be turned different ways. In later use *spec.* in *Ent.* and *Ornith.*

1658 Phillips, *Versatile*, apt to be wound or turned any way. 1671 R. Bohun *Wind* 72 A feather, or other versatil body. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 930 The Eyes resemble a Lens or Convex Glass set in a Versatile globular Socket. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xliii. 172 Some muscle of this kind must be in *Gryllotalpa*, and in those that have a versatile head. *Ibid.* 175 The Head..is sometimes versatile. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 306/1 Tarsus [in barbets is] shorter than the versatile toe. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 200 Hallux of average length,..outer toe more or less perfectly versatile (but never permanently reversed).

b. *Bot.* Of an anther: Swinging or turning about freely on a filament to which it is attached.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. xxii. (1765) 228 The Anthera is versatile and incumbent, when it is fastened on at its Side. 1787 *Families of Plants* I. 254 Anthers oblong, versatile. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 47 Their small round and versatile anthers. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* I. (ed. 4) 65 The filament..may..be so attached to some point of the anther as to allow it to swing loosely, when a *versatile* anther is constituted. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 182 Dispaceæ,..anthers versatile.

c. Of a leaf: Turning either way. *rare*—¹.

1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 335 Populus tremula...Leaves 1–4 in., versatile.

Hence **Ve·rsatilely** *adv.*, **Ve·rsatileness.**

1646 Gaule *Cases Consc.* 130 [A witch] that works not only darkly and closely, but variously and versatilly, as God will permit [etc.]. 1684 R. Codrington tr. *Justine* viii. 129 According to the versatilness of his wit. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Versatileness*, aptness to be turned or wound any way. 1792 J. Learmont *Poems, Mutability of Man* 20 Versatileness attends him still; A deep inwoven art Conceals..the guile And rancour of his heart. 1872 M. Collins *Two Plunges for Pearl* iv, An intellect so different from his own—so versatilely fluent, yet passionately obstinate.

Versatility (vɔ̱sătĭ·lĭti). [a. F. *versatilité* (= It. *versatilità*, Sp. *versatilidad*, Pg. *-idade*), or directly f. prec. + -ITY.]

1. The condition or quality in persons, their conduct, etc., of being changeable, fickle, or inconstant; tendency or liability to vary in opinion or action; variableness, inconstancy.

1755 Johnson, *Versatility*, the quality of being versatile. 1788 V. Knox *Ess.* xii. (1819) I. 72 This versatility and duplicity of the *grande monde*. 1783 W. Thomson *Watson's Philip III*, v. 324 To his holiness, whom they suspected of a versatility of character, which might soon lead him to relapse:..they answered [etc.]. 1824 D'Israeli *Quar. Auth.* (1867) 346 We are apt to condemn their versatility of principles as arising from dishonest motives. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Engl.* ii. I. 213 Ashley's versatility was the effect, not of levity, but of deliberate selfishness. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* VII. ii. III. 168 He might indeed dread the versatility of Henry's character, and his ready assent to the advice of flattering..counsellors.

2. The faculty or character of turning or being able to turn readily to a new subject or occupation, esp. of an intellectual nature; facility in taking up varied pursuits or tasks with some success or distinction; many-sidedness.

1798 Bisset *Life Burke* 210 Wedderburne [was] eminent for acuteness, versatility, and ingenuity. 1827 Scott *Surg. Dau.* x, His intelligence, his learning, above all, his versatility and freedom from prejudices of every kind. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vi. § 6 (1876) 325 It was with Italian versatility that he turned from the camp to the counting house. 1882 J. Sully in *Mind* No. 27. 366 In the scientific treatment of the subject..we shall make versatility synonymous with width of faculty, or diversity of capability in all its measures.

b. Const. *of* (wit, character, etc.).

a 1773 Chesterf. *Charac. Pitt* (1777) 46 He..had such a versatility of wit, that he would adopt it to all sorts of conversation. *a* 1842 Arnold *Hist. Rome* II. 495 Cineas..was in the versatility and range of his talents worthy of the best ages of Greece. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. ii. 70 Not often indeed do the Oriental nations present with an example of versatility of character. 1866 Felton *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. xii. 231 [Aristophanes] reminds us..still oftener of the splendid versatility of poetical genius..displayed by Goethe.

c. *pl.* Features or traits of versatile intellect.

1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1859) II. 123 A voluminous commentary expounded the morality of the ravishing versatilities of Ariosto.

3. Diversity of nature or character; variety of application, etc.

1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 339 The Huttonian system cannot boast of theories of equal versatility. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 419 The symptoms, that principally mark the progress of this disease in all their versatility;..it is this versatility that has produced the chief differences of opinion, entertained concerning it. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* 458 The Book of Proverbs abounds in examples of the versatility of the Hebrew *and.* 1879 Church *Spenser* 35 The inexhaustible versatility of the English tongue.

4. Capability of turning about as on a pivot.

1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 126 We have no case of true versatility of the hind toe among North American birds.

†**Versa·tilous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *versātil-is* Versatile *a.* + -ous.] Marked or characterized by versatility or variableness; versatile.

1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 347 He can finde no certaine demonstration..but that he can stoppe with his versatilous wit. 1630 Elderfield *Civ. Right Tythes* 135 Whose versatilous shifts are hard to be avoided.

Hence †**Versa·tilousness.** *Obs.*[1]—

1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xxvi. 269 Another cause of Boldnesse, is Immunity from Danger, or at least a Versatilousnesse and Dexterity of wit to evade it.

†**Versa·tion,** *Obs.* [ad. L. *versātiōn-*, *versātio*, noun of action f. *versāre*: see Verse *v.*²] A turning over or backwards and forwards. Also *attrib.*

p. xxx, ..., experience, or versation of this author, thou wilt find at every return new matter both of observation and delight in him. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 8 Any other of the Rough Versation-Orders of our Dissenting Separatists. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 717 Requiring such perpetual versation of the pages backwards and forwards to connect one section with another.

Ve·rsative, *a. rare*—¹. [f. L. *versāt-*, ppl. stem of *versāre* Verse *v.*²] Marked by adaptability or variety.

1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LIX. 426 Homer possibly had no choice; but in the hexameter there is the greatest versative power.

Verse, southern ME. variant of Fers *a.*

Verse (vɔ̱s), *sb.* Forms: 1, 4 fers (1 fæs, fyrs), 3 Orm. ferrs; 1–4 vers, 1, 3–4, 5–6 *Sc.*, vess, 4–5 wers; 4– verse, 5, 6 *Sc.*, werse; 5 veerse, veeroe, 6 vearse, 5–6 *Sc.* veirs, 6 *Sc.* veirse. [OE. *fers*, corresponding to OFris. *fers* (WFris. *fers*, NFris. *fës*, etc.), MDu. (Du.) and MLG. *vers*, OHG., MHG. *vers*, *fers* (G. *vers*), ON. (Da., Sw.) *vers*, ad. L. *versus* a line or row, spec. a line of writing (so named from turning to begin another line), verse, f. *vertĕre* to turn; in ME. reinforced by or newly a. AF. and OF. (also mod.F.) *vers* (= Pr. *vers*, It., Sp., Pg. *verso*) from the same source.

In OE. (the word being neuter), and to a certain extent in ME., the pl. was the same as the sing.]

1. A succession of words arranged according to natural or recognized rules of prosody and forming a complete metrical line; one of the lines of a poem or piece of versification.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxiv. (1890) 344 Þa ongon he sona singan in hereneese Godes Scyppendes þa fers [*v.r.* uers] & þa word þe he næfre gehyrde. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xxxvii. (Z.) 218 *Versificor*, Ic fersige oððe Ic wyrce fers. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 313 Þæt pentimemeris byð þe todælð þæt vers on þam oðrum fet. *c* 1200 Orrin Ded. 59 And icc ne mihhte nohht min ferrs A33 wiþþ Goddspelless wordess Wel fillenn all. 13.. *Cato* 633 in *Minor P. Vernon MS.* 609 Þe [= thee] merue) les of þise nakede vers [that] Beoþ maked hi two and two. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blanche* l. 463 He made of ryme ten verses [*v.r.* vers] or twelue Of a compleynt. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 33 Sibille acordiþ herto þat suche tribulacioun is nyȝe in þes verse. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) ii. 5 As it es contende in þis werse, whilk es here writen. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 242 Thes too verse afore seyde be of myn own makyng. 1483 Caxton *Cato* 9, I haue made this lytel book in double verses the whiche conteynen two shorte and utyle sentences for the symple folke. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1516) 200 And for this Sciame thus graciously was endyd, a Verifier made this verse folowynge: Lux fulsit mundo cessit Felix Nicholao. 1567 in *Guide & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) [p. cxxxiv], Sing thir four veirs efter euerie Psalme as followis. 1597–8 Bacon *Ess., Ceremonies* (Arb.) 26 Some mens behauiour is like a verse wherein euery sillable is measured. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xv. 316 When..the Spanish Embas-adour..had summed up the effect thereof in a Tetrastich, she instantly in one verse rejoined her answer. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. I. 98 But those that write in Rhime, still make The one Verse for the others sake. 1709 Hearne in *Chron. R. Gloucester* (1724) App. 601 There are eight Verses in the Tale it self, which are not in the common Editions. *a* 1771 Gray *Observ. Eng. Metre* Wks. 1843 V. 260 The verse of fourteen [syllables]..and verse of six. 1822 S. Tillbrook in *Southey's Post. Wks.* (1853) p. xx/2, Eight verses of hexametrical dimensions. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 370/1 An hexameter verse which has a spondee in the fifth place, is called a spondaic verse. 1895 A. W. Ward *Pope's Wks.* p. li, The ordinary rule as to the position of the *cæsura* in the verse.

b. In the pl. occas. merging into sense §.

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 14 He hadde many verses techyng folkis to eschewe their propre willes. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lix. 16 He hes indorait myn indyttìng With versis off his awin hand vrytting. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal., June* 42 Tho couth I sing of loue, and tune my pype Vnto my plaintiue pleas in verses made. 1602 Shake. *Ful. C.* III. iii. 34 *Cinna.* I am Cinna the Poet...4*th Cit.*] Teare him for his bad verses. *a* 1643 W. Cartwright *Love's Convert* IV. v, They do swarm hither with their Verses, like Town-poets on some Lord's Son's Wedding-day. 1724 (*title*), Rymer's Translations from Greek, Latin and Italian Poets; with other Verses and Songs. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Lyttelton* P 1 The verses cant of shepherds and flocks, and crooks dressed with flowers. 1805 H. K. White *Lit. to B. Maddock* 18 Oct., I have this week written some very elaborate verses for a college prize.

c. With distinguishing terms. (Cf. 6 c.)

1346 Langley tr. *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. viii. 16 A songe of Exameter Verses. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 377 To write in heroicall Verses. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1246 A chronicler penning the historie of these affaires in elegiack verses. 1605, 1636 [see Serpentine *a.* 1 b]. 1698 [see Leonine *a.* 2]. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Hexameter*, Epic Poems, as the Iliad, Odyssee, Æneid, &c. consist of Hexameter Verses alone. *Ibid.*, *Serpentine Verses*, are such as begin and end with the same Word. 1756 J. Warton *Ess. Pope* x. (1782) II. 211 Like Ovid's Fasti, in hexameter and pentameter verses. 1774 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1870) 30 The verses which we call Alexandrine. 1815 [see Fescennine *a.*]. 1818 J. C. Hobhouse *Hist. Illust.* (ed. 2) 442 [Italian] heroic verses have not the advantage of the hexametral length.

2. *Liturg.* = Versicle 1. Now *rare.*

c 960 *Rule St. Benet* ix. (1885) 33 Cweþe æfrest þis fers: Deus in adiutorium meum intende. *Ibid.* xi. 35 Singe man æfrest six sealmas and þonne on ende fers. *c* 1030 *Ibid.* (Logeman) 41 Æfter þisum rædingum fyliaŋ..syx sealmas mid antiphonam, swa swa þa æreran & mid ferse. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 88 R'. Delyuere me lord. With these thre wordes. V'. Now cryst. V'. Brennynge soules wepiþ [etc.]. V'. Schappere of alle þynges. *c* 1450 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 114 What is vnderstonded by the thre lessons wyth the Responces & verses folowynge. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1806 Many orisones and verses, Without note full softely Said were and that full heartily. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., Respondes, Verses, vaine repeticions. 1687 *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 111 Doth he begin with the Lord's Prayer; orderly proceeding with the Verses and Responds. 1687 Sparrow *Rationale* 29 Then follow the Verses, 'O Lord open Thou our Lips, And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise'. 1708 *Evening-Office of Church* (ed. 2) Direct. 3 Then is sung the Hymn with its Verse and Responsory. 1763 Butler *Eccl. Laws* I. 38 The invitatories, responsories, verses, collects, and whatever is said or sung in the quire. 1877 J. D. Chambers *Div. Worship* 91 The Gradual, Alleluya, and Responsory and Ve

†3. A clause, sentence, or the like; an article of the Creed. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* I. (Z.) 291 Se þridda hatte *distinctio* oððe *periodos*, se belyco þæt fers [*v.rr.* færs, fyrs]. *c* 1000 — *Pref. Genasis* (Grein) 23 Eft stynt on þære bec on þam formon fersse: *Et spiritus dei ferebatur super aquas.* *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Þet rihte ileue setten þe twelue apostles on write,..& ec of heom wrat ther of his uers, & sancte peter wrnt þet er-ste. *Ibid.* 77 We habbeð bigunnen ou to segge-n on englisch hwat liqueþ þe crede, & habbeð ou iseið twa uers. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 3405 Sancte Ieronie wrat til hym.. *Gloria Patri* in til twa verse. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* iv. 13 He declared vnto you his couenaunt, which he commaunded you to do, namely, the ten verses. 1560 *Prouse Wyves Pater Noster* 116 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 157, I pray you, gossyp dere, vnderstand well this verse.

4. One of the sections of a psalm or canticle corresponding to the compound unit (usually a couplet) of Hebrew poetry. (Now merged in next.)

c 1200 ORMIN 11943 Forr þær iss sett an oþerr ferrs þatt spekeþþ off þe deofell. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 36 Þe vorme psalm is 'Iubilate'.., þe vifte, 'Laudate Dominum in sanctis ejus'; and in eugrichon leoð vif vers. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 34 [He] seide þeos two vers of þe sauter. *Ibid.* 225 Þe foweles sunge ek here matyns,.. & of þe sauter seide þe uers *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 460 Sein Daui seiþ, if þu wolt loke In a vers of þe sauter boke [etc.]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XII. 290 Þe glose graunteth vpon þat vers [*Ps.* xxiii. 4] a gret mede to treuthe. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 3508 Of þe psalmys distyntly þe ta syde sulde þe fyrst verse say, þe tobir þe next verse ay Sulde begyn. *c* 1450 *Reule Sustris Menouresses* (1915) 103 Þan þe quere on þat one syde schal take his verse, & þe Quere on þat oþer syde schal take anoþer verse [of Ps. li]. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* CXXX. Wks. (1876) 208 It is also profytable for good & ryghtwyse people ofte to reherse this verse [*Ps.* CXXX. 1] wherby they may auoyde the grete perylles of this wretched worlde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 163 b, Yf..for ony necessite, a psalme scape ony persone, or a lesson, or else yᵗ they omyt one verse or twayne.

b. One of the sections into which a chapter of the Bible is divided. Freq. abbreviated as v.

The practice of dividing the chapters of the Bible into verses, introduced by Stephanus in 1551, was adopted by Whittingham in his New Testament (1557) and followed in the Geneva Bible (1560).

Chapter and verse: see CHAPTER *sb.* 10 b.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) To Rdr., The argumentes bothe for the booke and for the chapters with the nombre of the verse are added. 1643 CARYL *Expos. Job* 178 Verse 2 [of ch. iii].. This verse is only a transition into the matter of the next. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1170 One single Red-Coat Sentinel..could disperse Whole Troops, with Chapter rais'd, and Verse. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* John viii. 3 The last Verse of the foregoing Chapter and the eleven first Verses of this Chapter. 1789 LAW *Sevions C.* i. 8 That Religion..is to be found in almost every verse of Scripture. 1818 HORNE *Introd. Script.* (1834) II. 75 The verses into which the New Testament is now divided. 1847 *Kitto's Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* II. 909 *note*, The twentieth verse of the tenth chapter of Matthew. 1888 E. ABBOT *Crit. Ess.* xx. 465 The first edition of the New Testament divided into our present verses was printed by Robert Stephens at Geneva in 1551.

Comb. 1855 I. TAYLOR *Restor. Belief* (1856) 186 A verse-by-verse commentary.

5. A small number of metrical lines so connected by form or meaning as to constitute either a whole in themselves or a unit in a longer composition; a stanza.

In quots. *c* 1340 and 1387 applied to elegiac and hexameter couplets. In later use the pl. is sometimes not clearly distinct from 1 b.

c 1308 *Sat. Kildare* i. in *F. F. P.* (1862) 153 Þis uers is ful well iwrost, hit is of wel furre y-broȝt. *Ibid.* iii, Þis uers is imakid wel of consonans and wowel. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 246 Of þis Saynt Bernard witnes hers And er þa four wryten in þis vers. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 83 So hit semeþ þat þis vers wolde mene þat þese feyned goddes regneþ. in Chestre. 1508 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xcii, In laude of honour I wrait thir versis thre. 1573–80 BARET *Alvearie* s.v., A verse: a charme: a prophesie, *carmen*. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* III. xiii. (1622) 83 The Smyrnæans alleaged an oracle of Apollo,..the Tenians a verse [L. *carmen*] of the same Apollo, commanding them to offer an image and Temple to Neptune. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 7 Now good Cesario, but that peece of song, That old and Anticke song we heard last night;..Come, but one verse. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 74 ¶ 5 The Country of the Scotch Warriors, described in these two last Verses [of 'Chevy Chase']. 1793 BURKE *Let. to G. Thomson* 7 April, I remember the two last lines of a verse in some of the old songs of 'Logan Water'.. which I think pretty. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v., In secular music, as a song or ballad, each stanza of the words is a verse. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxvi, A young lady proceeded to entertain the company with a ballad in four verses. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiii. 167 It was at once proposed to sing a verse from Schiller's play.

b. *Mus.* (See quot.)

1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., Verse*, the appellation given to those portions of an anthem meant to be performed by a single voice to each part.

6. Without article: Metrical composition, form, or structure; language or literary work written or spoken in metre; poetry, esp. with reference to metrical form. Opposed to *prose*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22227 We wat bath thoru storl and wers, þat þe kingrikes o grece and pers War hefd kingrikes in form tide. 14.. *Chaucer's Sompn. T.* 297 (Harl. MS.), Schortly may no man, by rym and vers, Tellen her thoughtes, thay ben so dyvers. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 3492 This Damasyus..Couth mak rycht weill in metyre vers. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 50 That Verse farre exceedeth Prose in the knitting vp of the memory, the reason is manifest. 1652 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 141 In antient time, before letters were in common use, the Lawes were many times put into verse. 1696 PRIOR *Secretary* 16 Athens.., Where people knew love, and were partial to verse. 1798 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Stanza*, For though we speak Verse on the Stage, 'tis still presumed we are speaking Prose. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Dryden* (1868) 186 To write verse, is to dispose syllables and sounds harmonically by some known and settled rule. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* III, He searched again..For theme deserving of immortal verse. 1883 R. NOEL in *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 709 *note*, We find..much nakedly argumentative ratiocinative verse, but that is not, strictly speaking, poetry at all.

personif. 1580 SPENSER *Let. to Harvey* Wks. (1912) 636 Vnhappy Verse,..Make thy selfe fluttring wings of thy fast flying Thought. *c* 1645 MILTON *Sonn. to Lawes* 9 Thou honour'st Verse, and Verse must lend her wing To honour thee.

b. Freq. *in verse*, in metrical form. Also *fig.* (quot. 1390).

c 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 191 O god hyt hys, and stent in uers Ine pulke song [= Athanasian Creed]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 128 He wenþ libbe yet uourti yer, ase myþ elyuans ine uers of þe dyape. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 3 For Dronkenschipe is so divers, It may no whyle stonde in vers. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. x. 859 His epitaphi þan in werse Wryttyn þus men may rahers. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* 3 Two partyes—the fyrst is in prose and the second in verse. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 43, I will no lesingis put in vers. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* To Rdr., That to haue wel written in verse..deserueth great praise [etc.]. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poet.* (Arb.) 30 Thinking nothing to be learnedly written in verse, which fell not out in ryme. 1643 CARYL *Expos. Job* 178 Job breaths out his passion in verse, and in verse receives his answer. 1689 PRIOR *Ep. to Fleetwood Shephard* 97 In Verse or Prose, We write or chat. 1760–72 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 132 The Introduction to knowledge, partly in verse and partly in prose. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 124 In Crete and at Sparta..the maxims of the constitution were delivered in verse. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 272 The Romans choose this form..for conveying their feelings in verse.

c. With distinguishing terms. (Cf. 1 c.)

Adonic, Alexandrine, blank, elegiac, heroic(al, hexameter, Leonine, Saturnian verse, etc.: see those words.

1552 HULOET s.v., Verse heroicall, or of sixe feete, *versus heroicus*. 1585 JAS. VI *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 68 For flyting, or Inuectiues, vse..Rounce-fallis, or Tumbling verse. 1685 DRYDEN (*title*), The twenty-ninth Ode of the third Book of Horace; paraphrased in Pindarick Verse. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 39 ¶ 5 Aristotle observes, that the Iambick Verse in the Greek Tongue was the most proper for Tragedy. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. iv. VI. 488 An interminable length of harsh hexameter, or of elegiac verse.

7. The metrical or poetical compositions of a particular author, etc.; a certain amount of metrical work or poetry considered as a whole.

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 32 Lydgate.., surely for good proportion of his verse..comparable with Chawcer. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 101 Thus your Verse Flow'd with her Beautie once. *c* 1715 POPE *Ep. Jervas* 1 This Verse be thine, my friend, nor thou refuse This, from no venal or ungrateful Muse. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xxxii, Till to her lips in measured frame The minstrel verse spontaneous came. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 401 The verse of Waller still breathed the sentiments which had animated a more chivalrous generation. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 487/2 Some of the poems are spoiled by..hate of England..Had it been omitted the verse would have been improved.

†b. A particular style of metre or versification. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 30 A singuler gyft in a sweete Heroicall verse. *Ibid.* 34 Master D. Phaer..had the best peece of Poetry whereon to sette a most gallant verse.

8. *attrib.*, as *verse-book, -craft, -cup, -shot, -wit*, etc.; **verse anthem** (see quots.); †**verse-fellow**, a fellow or companion verse-maker; **verse-service** (see quots.).

1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, **Verse*, .. the epithet applied to an anthem beginning with verse. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 446/1 A verse anthem is one which begins with soli portions as opposed to a full anthem, which commences with a chorus. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* 22 Rude songs, modelled from such *verse-books as fell into my hands. 1894 *Daily News* 20 Oct. 6/1 Her own skill in *versecraft gives her unusual felicity of insight. 1885 S. COX *Expositions* xxii. 290 We have kept the best wine in this little *Verse-cup until now. 1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confuted* Wks. (Grosart) II. 235 To beare his old *verse-fellow noble M. Valanger company. 1851 J. S. ADAMS *5000 Mus. Terms* 105 **Verse service*, a service in which verses are introduced. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Music* (1900) IV. 857 A verse-service or verse-anthem sometimes includes portions set for a voice *solo*. 1794 MATHIAS *Purt. Lit.* (1797) II. 23 *note*, Before they were half finished,..as many of the others as were within hearing or **verse-shot*..were all found fast asleep!!! 1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* III. i, The prose-wits playing and the *verse-wits rooking.

b. In the sense 'composed or written in, consisting of, verse', as *verse-exercise, miscellany, narrative, -part, -tale, -text, translation*, etc.

1685 DRYDEN *Sylvæ* Pref. P 2 The hot [prose], which succeeded them, in this volume of Verse Miscellanies. 1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc. Pref.* (1699) 4 Thus much for the Verse-part. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 23 In verse or prose, or in verse-text aided by prose-comment. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 19/1 Verse narrative, even when it deals with true events,..is either more or less than history. 1896 R. PALMER *Mem.* I. i. viii. 128 He..gained both the University prizes for verse-exercises.

c. *Comb.* Objective or obj. genitive, as *verse-gracer, -merchant, -reciter, -smith, -wright, -writer*; *verse-making, reading, -repeating* ppl. a., *-writing*; instrumental, as *verse-commemorated* adj. Also *verseward* adv.

1842 S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 339 The long celebrated and *verse-commemorated month of August. 1882 W. WILKINS *Songs of Study* 127 *Verse-gracer! deign to grace mine With lucky chosen words. 1821 ANDW. SCOTT *Poems* p. x, My attachment to *verse-making. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* ... of flute-playing and ... is son. 1845 BROWN- ... 1810 *Lett.* (1899) I. 18 The Rialto where *verse-merchants most do congregate. 1589 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 31 Ye procure By your lasciuious speache, that fathers sage Defends *verse reading, to their yonger age. 1821 SHELLEY *To Jane, The Invitation* 36 You, tiresome *verse-reciter, Care. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead* Wks. 1711 IV. 75 The *Verse-repeating Beaux of Will's Coffee-House. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 205 Ye *verse-smiths and bard-mechanicians! 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* i. (1890) 8 The supposed editor..is but a journeyman verse-smith. 1822 Miss MITFORD *Let.* 3 Apr. in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 99 That feeble *verse-spinner Bloomfield. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* 230 But if, in spite of all the world can say, Thou still wilt *verseward plod thy weary way, 1799 SAVAGE *Wanderer*I. 335 Then scorn (said I) the *verse-wright of their age. 1840 PIERPONT *Airs Palestine* p. v, The pieces that make up this volume will be seen..to be.. the wares of a verse-wright, made 'to order'. 1726 SWIFT (*title*), Advice to the Grub-street *Verse-Writers. 1885 PATER ... *verse-writing. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* II. ii, So if the city be sick..your lordship would suspend me from verse-writing?

†**Verse**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vers-us*, pa. pple. of *vertĕre* to turn, change, vary.] *Verse-sine*, = versed sine: see VERSED *a.*

1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 102 An arch equal to the verse-sine of the deviation.

Verse (vɜːs), *v.*[1] Also 1 fyrsian, fersian, uersian, 4 uerse. [f. VERSE *sb.*, prob. formed afresh at different times.]

1. *intr.* To compose or make verses; to versify. Also with *it*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXXVII. (Z.) 218 *Versificor*, ic fersige [*v.rr.* uersige, fyrsige] oððe ic wyrce fers. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XVIII. 109 For þer is nouthe non who so nymeþ hede, Þat can uersie [*v.r.* versifie] fayre, oþer formeliche endite. 1606 CHAPMAN *Mons. D'Ol.* IV. i. F iij b, Prettie little Witt, y' faith; Can he verse?..I meane, has he a vaine Naturall? 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 87 You verse it simply, what need have we of your thin Poetry. 1688 W. SCOT *Hist. Scots* II. (1776) 73 Come on as many as you will, And for a wager, I'll verse with them still. 1787 in Currie *Burns' Wks.* (1800) II. 105 It sets na ony lawland cheel Like you to verse or rhyme. 1812 COMBE *Syntax, Picturesque* I. 129 I'll prose it here, I'll verse it there, And picturesque it everywhere. 1896 MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat* (1909) 66 He began to verse extemporaneously in her ear.

2. *trans.* To tell in verse; to turn into verse; to write, recount, or celebrate in verse.

1446 LYDG. *Two Nightingale Poems* i. 108 This brid, of whom y haue to you rehersed, Whych in her song expired thus ande deyede, In latyn fonde y in a boke well versed. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 67 When thou..sate all day, Playing on pipes of Corne, and versing loue To amorous Phillida. *c* 1712 PRIOR *'Full oft doth Mat'* 4 But Topaz his own Werke reheareth; And Mat. more praise what Topaz verseth. 1869 F. HALLECK *Connecticut* XXXIV, He..versed the Psalms of David to the air Of Yankee-Doodle, for Thanksgiving Days. 1892 STOPFORD BROOKE *Early Eng. Lit.* I. 12 The wanderer..sang his stave of thanks, or versed for the chief in the high seat, who he was.

†3. To accompany or bring with verses. *Obs.*[-1]

1606 MARSTON *Ant & Mel* v. If that thou canst not give, goe hang thy selfe: Ile time thee dead, or verse thee to the rope.

Hence **Versing** *ppl. a.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* Wks. I. 125/1 My versing Muse craues some repose, And whilst she sleeps Ile spowt a little prose. 1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 55. I should..throw out the vast rabble of rhyming, clinching, versing Prophets, as persons that tell the worst lies in the best maner.

Verse (vɜːs), *v.*[2] [a. F. *verser* (12th c.; = Prov. and Pg. *versar*, *vessar*, Sp. *versar*, It. *versare*), or ad. L. *versāre*, freq. of *vertĕre* to turn, etc. In mod. use, in sense 4, app. a back-formation from VERSED *ppl. a.*]

†1. *trans.* To pour *out* (the voice). *Obs.*[-1]

c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 453 Than she [*sc.* a nightingale]..fylled her throte full of wynde, the more shryller to verse out her swete voyce.

†2. To overthrow, overturn, or upset. *Obs.*[-1]

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xliii. 40 This formost spider and flie, in furius fret,..this prouesse thei perst. And vengeable venumly, ech other vers't.

†3. To turn over (a book) in study or investigation. *Obs.*

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 6 By versing and searching the Scriptures. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 272 If you be versing the Ancient Histories, then provide you Ptolomy's Maps.

†b. To revolve or turn over (something) *in* the mind. *Obs.*

1624 T. ADAMS *Sinners Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 260 Who versing in his minde this thought, can keepe his cheekes dry?

4. To instruct, to make (one) conversant or experienced, *in* something. Now *refl.* Cf. VERSED *ppl. a.*[1] 1.

... WALKER *Educ.* 132 For reading: verse him well ... Authors. 1677 W. COMBE *Diabolical* (1777) 43 ... d them in each common evil, [you] Lead them to Masques to personate the Devil. 1788 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* V. 164 The intrigues of state affairs had thoroughly versed him in chicanery and dissimulation. 1893 G. ALEXANDER in *Daily News* 4 Oct. 2/2 If

students while versing themselves in the classics were [etc.]. 1898 R. F. Horton *Commandm. Jesus* xx. 362 This is my own feeling—a feeling which grows and intensifies the more I verse myself in His commandments.

†Verse, *v.*[3] *Cant. Obs.* [Of uncertain origin; perh. a special sense of Verse *v.*[2] Cf. Verser [2]]

1. *intr.* To practise fraud or imposition. Also with *it*.

1591 ? Greene *Def. Conny-catch.* (1859) 4, I had consorts that could verse, nippe, and foyst. 1592 Greene *Discov. Cosenage* 10 b, If the poore Farmar be bashfull, and peeseth by one of these shameles strumpets, then wil she verse it with him, and claime acquaintance of him. *c* 1592 — *Thieues Falling out* (1615) A iv, We goe so neate in apparell..that wee are hardly smoakt; versing vpon all men with kinde courtesies and faire wordes.

2. *trans.* To impose upon; to cozen, cheat, defraud. Also const. *to*.

1592 Greene *Discov. Cosenage* 10 b, Till shee and her crosse-biters haue verst him to the beggers estate. *Ibid.* 11 b, Heere is a Simpler, quoth shee, Ile Verse him or hang me.

Hence **† Versing** *vbl. sb. Cant. Obs.*

1592 Greene *Discov. Cosenage* 7 Versing Law, coosenage by false gold.

Verse, obs. form of Vert.

† Verse-coloured, obs. var. Versicoloured *a.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 57 The Chamæleon and Polypus-fish, are pilled or bare without haire, and therefore may more easily be verse-coloured.

Versed (vɜ·ist), *a.* [f. mod.L. *vers-us* (sc. *sinus*), pa. pple. of L. *vertĕre* to turn.]

1. *Versed sine.* **a.** *Trig.* Originally, the segment of the diameter intercepted between the foot of the sine and the extremity of the arc; in mod. use, the ratio of this line to the radius, or (equivalently, as a function of an angle) the quantity obtained by subtracting the cosine from unity.

In mod. use also in the contracted form Versin.

1596 W. B[urrough] *Variation of Compasse* B 5 b, The versed signe of the semidiurnall arke. *a* 1652 S. Foster *Descr. Ruler*, A large Scale of Versed-Sines. 1692 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 397 The Line VS..is the Line of Versed Sines. 1732 Hadley in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 353 Draw *b* D the Sine, and *b r* the Sine complement of the Arch B *b*: BD is the versed Sine of the same. 1763 Emerson *Meth. Increments* 91 Hence we have the following series of versed sines. 1828 J. M. Spearman *Brit Gunner* (ed. 2) 319 The arcs being similar, the versed sines are proportional to the arcs or to their radii. 1853 Sir H. Douglas *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 43 A segment of a sphere whose radius is *r*, the sagitta, or versed sine, being *d*.

b. *Bridge-building.* The rise of an arch.

1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 127/1 The Dover road is carried over the railway by a flat segmental arch, 30 feet span, the rise or versed sine [*printed* line] is only two feet. 1839 *Ibid.* II. 191/2 Span of the arch..58 feet—the rise or versed sine being ten feet. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 384/1 It forms the strongest arch;..but in consequence of the height of the versed sine..it becomes necessary..to limit the span.

† 2. *Versed scale,* a scale of versed sines. *Obs.*

a 1652 S. Foster *Descr. Ruler* viii. 31 The Versed Scale is in length four times the same Radius. *Ibid.* 32 Let the Tangents..be measured out of the Versed Scale.

Versed (vɜ·ist), *ppl. a.*[1] Also 7 verst. [ad. L. *versātus*, pa. pple. of *versārī* to occupy oneself, be busied or engaged (in something). So F. *versé*, It. *versato*, Sp. and Pg. *versado*.]

1. Of persons: Experienced, practised, or skilled *in* a subject, matter, art, etc.; conversant with, having an intimate knowledge of, something; expert, skilful; = Versant *a.* 2 a.

Very frequent from *c* 1630 in this and sense 1 b.

1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 16 [The bishops of Ely and Exeter] had beene both versed in his Affaires, before hee came to the Crowne. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 24 A Clarke of the works must be verst in the prizes of Materials. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 34 Levant Merchants, and others that were verst in the Affairs of Turkey. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 361 Neither of us being vers'd in Latin. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xii. (1788) 80, I am not versed in the politics of the north. 1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* xviii, The servants are all versed in the common modes of trying luck. 1843 Mill *Logic* I. i. § 1 A mind not previously versed in the meaning and right use of the various kinds of words. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* vi. 137 Curll was..versed in every dirty trick of the Grub-street trade.

b. With defining or limiting adverbs, esp. *well* (*better, best*) *versed.*

(*a*) *a* 1610 Healey *Theophrastus* To Rdr. (1616) I 3 b, Such as are well verst in Antiquitie. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 160 A Physician..must be better versed in his Art before he can do any thing. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 176 He is certainly best versed in all his Majesty's present affairs. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 108 ¶ 3 He is extreamly well versed in all the little Handicrafts of an idle Man. 1792 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. 1808 VI. 18 Men [*sc.* Jews] well versed in swearing. 1825 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* 279 He was very well versed in his prayer-book. 1841 Borrow *Zincali* II. xi. 111. 56 Reverend gentlemen..much better versed in the points of a horse than in points of theology. 1874 Burnand *My time* xxix. 277 Our tutor was sufficiently well versed in his subjects.

(*b*) 1634 W. Trumbull tr. *Balzac's Lett.* A iv, A man no less versed in the art of well-speaking then himself. 1641 *Vind. Smectymnuus* x. 207 He that is but meanly versed in Cyprian. 1686 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 20 Those who profess themselves most versed in their own Antiquities. *a* 1721 Prior *Ess. Learning* ¶ 3 Other parts of general Learning in which they may not be so perfectly versed. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Powers* 108 He was ill-versed in anatomy, botany and chemistry. 1780 J. Peckham in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 336, I wish I was sufficiently versed in politics (etc.). 1818 W. H. Ireland *Scribleomania* 190, I am not much versed in Egyptian hieroglyphics. 1836 H. Coleridge *North. Worthies* Introd. (1852) p. xxiv, Men long versed in public affairs. 1888 Bunson *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. iii. 346 He..delivered his opinion..like one thoroughly versed in the law of farms.

c. Without const. *rare.*

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* XVIII. iii. (1842) II. 214/2 A general..prudent, able, versed by long experience. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb. 6/2 Observing that Lord Randolph Churchill used to keep the Premier and Foreign Secretary combined in order, which at present there was no one in the Cabinet versed enough or bold enough to do.

† 2. Employed or exercised *about* something; = Versant *a.* 1. *Obs.*[1]

1654 Vilvain *Theol. Treat.* ii. 80 Hope is properly versed about some good to be attained by industry.

Versed (vɜ1st), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Verse *v.*[1]] Composed or written in verse; turned into verse.

1890 *Athenæum* 27 Dec. 896/1 *Monsieur Pouf*, the versed biography of a dog. 1901 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 413 Versed commonplaces set to florid music.

Verseless, *a.* [f. Verse *sb.*] Lacking verse or poetry; unable to compose verses.

1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 654 Verseless myself, I conn'd not blithsom song; Nor lute had I, nor harp, nor tuneful lyre.

Verselet. [f. Verse *sb.* + -let.] A little verse; a small poem.

1836 B. D. Walsh *Aristophanes, Acharnians* II. iii. 43 His mind, which is collecting small verselets out of doors, is not at home. 1865 *Reader* No. 151. 567/2 Each page containing a verselet. 1880 Warren *Book-plates* i. 8 Mottoes, texts, and verselets directed against borrowers.

Versemaker. Also **verse-maker, verse maker.** [f. Verse *sb.* + Maker *sb.* Cf. Du. *versenmaker*, G. *versmacher*, Da. *versemager*.] One who makes or writes verses; a poet or versifier.

1647 Hexham 1 s.v., A verse maker, or a Poet,...*een Poët*. 1728 Young *Love Fame* 191 All other trades demand, verse-makers beg. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1904) II. 124 A mere verse-maker, in whose numbers..there is no poetry. 1836 Southey in *Life & Corr.* VI. 302 The versemaker gets the habit of weighing the meanings and qualities of words. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 269 What we call poetry was to them real life, not as to the modern versemaker a masquerade of gods and heroes.

Verseman (vɜ·ismăn). Also **verse man, verse-man.** [f. as prec. + Man *sb.*] A man who writes verse; a versemaker; a poet, esp. (in recent use) a minor poet or versifier.

1628 Gaule *Magastrom.* 235 To conclude, all the antient verse men consent in this. 1728 Prior *Better Answer* v, The God of us Verse-men (you know Child) the Sun. 1733 [see Roseman]. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Prior* ¶ 13 When the battle of Blenheim called forth all the versemen. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. xv. 300 Even miserly Pulteney was a verseman. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Oct. 5/1 Almost alone among recent English versemen, he preserves..a fine gentlemanly air of urbanity. 1890 A. Dobson *18th Cent. Vignettes* 171 Madrigalists and minor versemen.

Hence **Versemanship,** verse-making. *rare*[−1].

1762 J. Wilkes *N. Briton* No. 22, The dull mechanical part of versemanship indeed is found, but the spirit of true poetry is wanting.

Versemonger (vɜ·ismʌngəɹ). Also **verse-monger.** [f. as prec. + Monger.] A versifier, esp. one who writes poor or indifferent verse; a poetaster.

1634 Br. Hall *Contempt., N. T.* IV. xii, Which of those verse-mongers ever durst write a ballad, without imploring of some deity? 1768 Baretti *Acc. Manu. & Cust. Italy* I. 254 Some few verse-mongers of Rome. 1866 Blackie *Homer & Iliad* I. 120 A set of inferior versemongers. 1902 W. L. Mathieson *Pol. & Relig. Scott.* I. x. 338 His virtues ..were cordially recognised even by the scurrilous verse-mongers of the day.

Hence **Versemongering** *vbl. sb.*, **Versemongery.**

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 488 Earning his bread by scribblement and verse-mongery. 1875 Lowell *Spenser* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 268 There is little to distinguish it from the contemporary verse-mongering south of the Tweed.

Verser[1] (vɜ·1səɹ). [f. Verse *v.*[1] + -er [1]. Cf. *versyours* s.v. Versifier 1 a, quot. *c* 1440.] A writer of verse; a verseman, versifier.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XIII. Comm., Such as abuse the name of Critics as many versers do of poets. 1619 Drumm. of Hawth. *Conv. w. Ben Jonson* Wks. (1711) 225 He thought not Bartas a poet, but a verser; because he wrote not fiction. 1644–58 Cleveland *Gen. Poems* (1677) 63 O That I could but vote my self a Poet,..Or like the Doctors Militant could get Dubb'd at adventure Verser Banneret. 1854 Mrs. Oliphant *Magd. Hepburn* I. 9 The archer Simon,..a verser as much as a bowman. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 4/1 The invidious task of separating the poets from the versers.

† Verser[2]. *Cant.* [Cf. Verse *v.*[3]] One of a gang of cozeners or swindlers (see quots.).

c 1590 *Dice-Play* (Percy Soc.) 32 He lightly hath in his company a man of more worship than himself, that hath the countenance of a possessioner of land, and he is called the verser. 1592 Greene *Discov. Cosenage* 2 There bee requisite effectually to act the Art of Conny-catching, three seuerall parties: the Setter, the Verser, and the Barnacle. *Ibid.* 3 Imagine the Connie is in the Taserne, then sits down the Verser, and saith to the Setter, what sirha, wilt thou giue mee a quart of wine, or shall I giue thee one? (etc.). 1606 Chapman *Mons. D'Ol.* IV. i. F iij b, *D'Ol.* Can he verse? *Par.* I, and sett too, my Lord; Hee's both a Setter and a Verser.

Verset (vɜ·1sĕt). Also 5 **verset.** [n. OF. (also mod.F.) *verset* (= Prov. *verset*, Pg. *versete*, It. *versetto*), dim. of *vers* Verse *sb.*]

1. = Verse *sb.* 2, Versicle 1. Now *Hist.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 26 Sigrað ze al ðe inne vt mid te uerset 'Emitte Spiritum tuum'. *Ibid.* 42 Her sigreð fiftí auer.., alast þet uerset, 'Ecce ancilla Domini' [etc.]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 289 *Dominus pars hereditatis mee* is a meri verset. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 26 Wen þai [i.e. psalms] ere said and te verset, þabbas se saie þe benecun. *Ibid.*, And after [sing] o þir sexe salmis wid þe antefens,..wid þe verset. 1642 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 209 They beare an equall part with the Priest in many places, and have their cues and versets as well as he. 1844 Lingard *Angl.-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. App. M. 378 The manuscript, both here and in several other places, interposes two versets with their responses.

2. A little or short verse, esp. one of the Bible or similar book; a short piece of verse.

1685 Lisle *Du Bartas, Noe* Pref. 1 Among the sundrie versets or proseis which besides this I have or shall set out. 1861 I. Taylor *Spir. Hebr. Poetry* 335 The metrical Scriptures—inflxed as they were in the memory by the very means of these artificial devices of versets,. became food to the mind. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 143 A Koran verset is often written above.

Versical (vɜ·1sikăl), *a. rare.* [f. Verse *sb.* + -ical, after *poetical, metrical.*] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, composed or written in, verse.

1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 257 He already made some versical efforts in the literary periodicals of Vienna. 1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* (Abr. ed.) I. Forew. p. xiv, When treating the versical portion,..I have not always bound myself by the metrical bonds of the Arabic.

Versicle (vɜ·1sik'l), *sb.* Also 5 *Sc.* **versikill,** 5–6 **versycle,** 6 **versickil.** [ad. L. *versicul-us* Versiculus. Cf. Versicule.]

1. *Liturg.* One of a series of short sentences, usually taken from the Psalms and of a precatory nature, said or sung antiphonally in divine service; *spec.* one said by the officiant and followed by the response of the congregation or people; often *collect. pl.*, a set of these with their accompanying responses.

a 1380 *St. Paula* 191 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 7 þeos versicles heo seide and bad. 1485 in Entick *London* (1766) IV. 354 This psalm, *de profundis*, with the versicles and *Orisons* that longeth thereto. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 16 To go on procession..syngyng a Respond..; that done, a versicle with the colet of St Stephen. 1579 W. Fulke *Ref. Rastel* 743 The very sound and sense of the.. Respondes, and Versicles, declare whence they proceeded. 1625 *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 97 The Psalme being ended.., the chiefe Inquisitour singeth a sort of Versicles: and the whole Quire answereth them with their Responses. 1632 Brathwaite *Whimzies, Zealous Brother* 120 Anthems and versicles he holds papisticall. 1710 Wheatly *Bk. Com. Prayer* ii. § 21. 90 Of the Versicles before the Lord's Prayer. 1721 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VIII. 295 The Ordinary Discipline is to last the time of a *Miserere*, with the Versicle *Christus factus est*, and the Prayer *Respice quæsumus*. 1795 Mason *Ch. Mus.* II. 154 The unaccompanied Chaunt, used in the versicles and responses. 1832 W. Palmer *Orig. Liturg.* I. 219 From this it appears, that these versicles were not, perhaps, originally repeated in church, but at home, as a preparation for divine service. 1893 W. Walker *Three Churchmen* 175 When he repeated the versicle 'Lord save this woman, Thy servant!' the clerk responded [etc.].

b. The sign (℣, ℣., ℣, or ℣.) with which these are noted or indicated in prayer-books, etc.

1888 Jacob *Printers' Voc.* 151.

2. A little verse, in various senses of that term: **† a.** A short clause or sentence; = Verse *sb.*[1] 3.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 231/1 A boke..in whiche was wreton thys versycle In euerlastyng memorye shal be my rightful hoostesse. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 198 Proceed in like manner, with the titles, attributes, and workes of God. Doe it for thy name, Doe it for thy goodnesse,..&c. in seuerall versicles. 1668 Hale *Rolle's Abridgm.* Pref. 5 In Justinians time there were an incredible number of Versicles and Volumes of their Laws. *c* 1720 Burnet *Autobiog.* 11. (1902) 307 The condemnatory versicles in Athanasius' Creed. 1721 R. Keith tr. *T. à Kempis, Hall. Lilies* vi. 13 Expound me this Word which thou spakest, open the Sense of this Versicle for the Comfort of thy Servant.

b. † A verse of the Psalms or the Bible (*obs.*); now *spec.*, one of the subdivisions of a Hebrew verse.

1624 Br. Hall *Art Medit.* (1607) 36 Wee shall lift vp our heart and voice to God in singing some versicle of Dauids diuine psalmes. 1642 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 80 That versicle of Psal. 119, 'Righteous art thou, O Lord, and right are thy Judgements'. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) II. i. 204 The psalms were in number fiftsen,..made in imitation of David's Psalms; being digested into versicles. 1737 Challoner *Catk. Chr. Instructed* (1753) 200 Then wiping the Chalice,..he goes to the Book, and reads a Versicle of the holy Scripture, called the Communion. 1783 Blair *Lect.* xli. II. 389 When..one band began the Hymn thus: 'The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice', the chorus.. took up the corresponding versicle. 1873 *Speaker's Commentary* IV. 483/2 The second clause of the first versicle of this v

c. A short or single metrical line; a little verse.

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 128 On[e] pore simple versicle Had bene too mutch for such an article. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. v. (Arb.) 56 The American..and the very Canniball, do sing and also say, their highest and holiest matters in certaine rimeing versicles and not in prose. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* v. 89 It behoueth him.. to be mindfull of that prouerbiall versicle: *Cauenus est omne, quem dat amarus amnus.* 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Ceremo.* IV. iii. 7 The principall circumstances..are compre-

headed in this versicle: *Quis, Quid, Ubi, Quibus auxiliis, Cur, Quomodo, Quando.* 1652 NEEDHAM *Selden's Mare Cl.* Ep Ded. 8 According to that old Versicle *Frangit & attollit vires in Militè causa.* 1827 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 25 Mar., Here are some versicles. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* (1850) II. 257 To these pretty little compositions Mr. Pen replied..with points of wit, nay, with pretty little verses very likely, in reply to the versicles of the Muse of 'Mes Larmes'. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* III. 143 She was fond of writing versicles and setting them to music.

†d. Without article. *Obs.*—1

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. v. (Arb.) 26 How the wilde and sauage people vsed a naturall Poesie in versicle and rime as our vulgar is.

Hence †**Ve·rsicle** *v. intr.* (with *it*), to sing versicles. *Obs.*—1

1550 BALE *Apol.* 131 b, I knowe theyr progresse was great, as ye were wont to versycle it on theyr daies.

Versicler. *rare*—1. [f. VERSICLE *sb.*] A writer of versicles or short verses; a versifier.

1885 MEREDITH *Diana* XXX, I'll read your versicler tomorrow morning early.

Versicolorate, *a. Ent.* [-ATE 2.] = VERSICOLOURED *a.*

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 292 *Versicolorata*,.. when a surface changes its colour as the light varies.

Versicolo·rous, *a. rare*—1. [f. late L. *versicolōrus*: cf. VERSICOLOUR *a.*] = prec.

1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 242 Abdomen shining, versicolorous.

†**Ve·rsicolour,** *sb. Obs.*—0 (See quot. and next.)

1775 ASH, *Versicolour*, a variegated or changeable colour.

Ve·rsicolour, *a. rare.* Also 7, 9 -color. [ad. L. *versicolor*, f. *vers-*, ppl. stem of *vertĕre* to turn, change, VERSE *v.*2 + *color* COLOUR *sb.* So F. *versicolore.*] = next.

1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 3) 264 Neate gardens full of exotick, versiculoure, diuersly varied, sweete smelling flowers. 1632 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) 478 Why doe they..decke themselues with .chaines, girdles, rings,..versicolor ribbands? [1828-32 WEBSTER, *Versicolor*, .. having various colors; changeable in color.]

Versicoloured (vɜ·rsikʌlɔrd), *a.* [f. as prec. + COLOURED *ppl. a.* Cf. the earlier VERSE-COLOURED.] Changing or varying in colour; iridescent; also, of various colours, variegated.

times..been found..whitish, black, green, eruginous, and versicoloured. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 467/1 If thou hadst enveloped him in thy versicoloured and cloud-like vestiary. 1873 M. COLLINS *Squire Silchester* III. xxii. 246 A rocket..drops its versicoloured shower.

fig. 1867 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Selection* (1869) I. 135 Such views..on the subject of the versicoloured policy of France in the East.

Hence **Versicolouredness,** 'the being of changeable Colours' (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

†**Versi·cular,** *sb. Obs.*—1 [ad. med.L. *versiculārius*, f. L. *versiculus* VERSICULUS: see -AR 2.] One whose office it was to say or sing the versicles.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 364 Of the versiculars for the wyke. The two sustres that be tabled to synge the versicles schal synge the *Venite.*

Versicular (vəsi·kiulăr), *a.* [f. L. *versiculus* VERSICLE *sb.* + -AR 1.] Of or pertaining to, characterized by, consisting of, versicles or verses, esp. Biblical verses.

1818 J. JEBB *Corr.* (1834) II. 72 The theological uses of the hebraic versicular system. 1840 G. S. FABER *Christ's Disc. Capernaum* 20 That the sort of unconscious delusion, produced by the versicular figures, may be dissipated, I have ..omitted those figures altogether. 1888-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2242 It was in this edition that the versicular division of the New Testament was..introduced.

Versicula·tion. *rare.* [f. L. *versicul-us* or VERSICULE.] The action or practice of making versicules; the result of this.

1893 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 484 But here we will escape from the polyglot versiculations of Sir Edwin Arnold.

Versicule (vɜ·rsikiul). *rare.* [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *versicule* (14th c.; = It., Sp., Pg. *versiculo*), or ad. L. *versiculus*: see next and VERSICLE *sb.*] A versicle; a short verse or poem.

1491 *Cartul. St. Nicholai Aberdon.* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 256 Gif he be ane choristar and playne Sangster þat can singe Anthoms, Responsers and Versiculis. 1517 in *Archæol.* LXI. 84 A booke with the Invitatorys and the versiculis noted. *a* 1550 *Wyntoun's Cron.* (Wemyss MS.) v. xi. 3625 Versiculis thare to he can write, And ympnis alsua maid in dite. 1861 W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 14 May, A variety of versicules, songs, and rhetorical exercitations.

‖ **Versiculus** (vəɹsi·kiŭlŭs). Pl. **-culi.** [L., dim. of *versus* VERSE *sb.* Cf. prec. and VERSICLE *sb.*] A versicle. Chiefly in pl.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 93 The late bishop Hare..began his enquiry by attempting to discover the length of the versiculi or lines. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* June 323 A sentence of panegyric on my own *versiculi.* 1880 BYRON *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1900) IV. 395 Pray let not those versiculi go forth with *my* name, except among the initiated.

Versie: see VERSY *a. Obs.*

Versifiable (vɜ·rsifəi,ăb'l), *a. rare*—1. [f. VERSIFY *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. OF. *versifiable.*] That can be versified or put into verse.

1828 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 107 Names and dates, &c., will precede it [i.e. the epitaph] in the usual form, telling all that is not versifiable.

†**Versi·fical,** *a. Obs.*—1 In 6 **versyfycall.** [f. late L. *versific-us* (cf. L. *versificāre* to versify) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the making of verse.

1548-7 in *Archæol.* XXXIV. 40 They have the versyfycall rules of Sulpice gevyn in the mornyng of one of the vjth forme.

†**Ve·rsificate,** *v. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *versificāt-*, ppl. stem of *versificāre* to versify.] *intr.* 'To make verses' (Bailey, 1721).

Versification (vɜ·rsifikē·ʃən). [ad. L. *versificātiōn-*, *versificātio*, noun of action f. *versificāre* to versify. So F. *versification* (1680), Sp. *versificacion*, Pg. *-açdo*, It. *-azione.*]

1. The action of composing verse; the art or practice of versifying.

In Rolland *Crt. Venus* (*c* 1550) II. 176 'Versification, meter' should perhaps be read for 'Versificat in meter' of the text.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1198 The order of writing an historie..came downe as one would say from the stately chariot of versification, to prose, and went a foot. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Versification*, a making of Verses. 1706 POPE *Lett.* Wks. 1736 V. 53 The thoughts I have already sent you on the subject of English Versification. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. II. 27 Camden affirms, that Aldheim.. taught his countrymen the art of Latin versification. 1790 COWPER *Lett.* 13 Sept., After perpetual versification during five years I find myself..reduced to read for my amusement. 1814 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 7 June, How lamentably the art of versification is neglected by most of the poets of the present day! 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* II. xx. 153 The southern ecclesiastics..adopted this new style of versification for their chant music. 1875 OUSELEY *Mus. Form* ii. 3 You may teach a man the rules of versification or of melody.

2. The form or style in which the words in a poetical composition are arranged; the structure of poetry or verse; measure, metre.

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. p. v, Donn alone, of all our Country-men, had your Talent; but was not happy enough to arrive at your Versification. 1720 J. WELWOOD *Pref. to Rowe's Lucan* p. xliii, As to the Translation it self, ..the Language is pure, and the Versification both musical and adapted to the subject. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 137 His Versifycation is mostly as faulty as his Sentiment. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 60 P 7 The versification of Rowe he thought too melodious for the stage. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* Ded., I shall..take my chance, with that versification in which I have hitherto published nothing. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 139 Virgil was the great model, and his picturesque groups and flowing versification were imitated by many men of letters. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iii. 75 To make the versification as smooth and the sense as transparent as possible.

3. A poetical or metrical version *of* something.

1821 *Q. Rev.* XXV. 36 Of this song we have been favoured with the following beautiful versification. 1858 DORAN *Crt. Fools* 154 Many of his epigrams..are said to have been versifications of his own jokes.

Versificator (vɜ·rsifikē·tɔɹ). [a. L. *versificātor* (whence also It. *versificatore*, Sp., Pg. *versificador*, F. *versificateur*), f. *versificāre* to versify.] One who writes verse; a poet, versifier.

1611 COTGR., *Versificateur*, a versificator, versifier, maker of verses. 1688 SHADWELL *Medal* Ep. A 3 b, His Fort is, that he is an indifferent good Versificator. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. p. xi, Statius, the best Versificator next to Virgil. 1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 15 The Sons of Imagination, whether Lovers or..Prose-Writers, or Versificators. 1760 JORTIN *Erasm.* II. 105 Erasmus was very far from being as mean a poet as this versificator. 1805 *Edin. Rev.* VI. 291 The system, upon which a certain sect of versificators have lately proceeded. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 477 Alliterations and epithets..with mechanical versificators are a mere artifice.

†**Versificatory,** *a. Obs.*—0 [f. VERSIFICATE *v.*] 'Belonging to versifying' (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

Versifica·trix. [a. L. type **versificātrix*, fem. of *versificātor* VERSIFICATOR.] A female versifier; a poetess.

1784 BEATTIE in Forbes *Life* (1806) II. 147 Johnson told me, with great solemnity, that she [Hannah More] was 'the most powerful versificatrix in the English language.

Versified (vɜ·rsifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. VERSIFY *v.* + -ED.] Written or composed in verse.

1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 205 His versified epistles are greatly prised..for their taste and feeling. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. vii. 210 His poems were versified sermons.

Versifier (vɜ·rsifəi,əɹ). Forms: *α.* 4-5 **versifiour,** 5 **-fyowre**; 5 **versefiour, -fyour.** *β.* 5 **versyfyer, -fyar,** 6 **versyfyer,** 5 **vercifier,** 5-**versifier,** 6 **-fiar,** 6, 8 **-fyer**; 5 **versefier,** 5-6 **-fyer.** [a. AF. *versifiur* (13th c.), *versifiour*, OF. *verseſiere, -fierre* (13th c.), *versifieur* (14th c.), f. *versifier*: see VERSIFY *v.* and -ER.]

1. One who versifies or composes verses; a verser or verse-maker; a poet.

a. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 897 He suld fynd ful litel matere To mak ioy whilles he here duelles, Als a versifiour in metre þus telles. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* Pref., The whiche thing versifioures more than a symple redere vnderstonden. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xci. (Bodl. MS.), It is seide þt versifiours likned þe lelye to mannes inwitte. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 4 Wherfore seiþ a versifiour,..'lat werke ouercome thi worde, for boste leseneþ gode lose'. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Versifyowre (*H.* versyowre), *versificator.*

β. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 681 *Hic versificator*, a versyfyer. *a* 1450 *Mankind* 746 in *Macro Plays* 27 As a nobyll versyfyer makyth mencyon in þis verse. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 13 Omer was an auncient vercifier in Greca. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 405 Of this noble prynce a vercyfyer made these .iii. verses folowynge. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* II. ii. H iv, Euill versefyers mocked be, yet haue they to theire ioy. 1603 DANIEL *Def. Ryme* Wks. (1717) 32 This Self-Love, whereunto we Versifiers are ever noted to be especially subject. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* V. Wks. 1851 V. 227 Other pretious things, .. describ'd in Malmsbury, tak'n..out of an old versifyer, some of whose verses he recites. 1742 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xvi. § 1 More elevated language than the fondest critics have ever found in any of the Heathen versifiers either of Greece or Rome. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* I. xii. 232 Pope has often been stiled the best versifier in the English language. 1828 *Harrovian* 46 He was a good classic, and an excellent versifier. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* x. 333 Those purely rustic poems which..have.. been imitated by versifiers emulous of his gracefulness.

2. With depreciative force: A mere or poor writer of verse(s); a rimester, a poetaster.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xiii, Semblably they that make verses, expressynge therby none other lernynge but the craft of versifyeng, be..of auncient writers..onely called versifyers. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 28 Now swarme many versifiers that neede neuer aunswere to the name of Poets. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. i. (Arb.) 19 The translator, who..may well be sayd a versifier, but not a Poet. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 262 Rather nice and humerous in what was tolerable, then patient to read every drawling versifier. 1652-62 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 85 Philip whom the Versifier (I do not say the Poet) called Philippus Hispanus. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Versifier*, a maker of Verses, generally taken in an ill sense. 1781 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Journ. Flanders* Wks. 1797 II. 112 The modern versifiers,..carrying no weight of thought, easily fall into that false gallop of verse. 1821 BYRON *Diary* Wks. (1846) 531/2 As different from an orator as an improvisatore or a versifier from a poet. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* xi, She thought Byron an ephemeral versifier.

Ve·rsiform, *a. rare*—0. [ad. L. *versiformis* (post-class.): see -FORM.] (See quots.)

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Versiform*, that changes its Shape. 1884 *Imp. Dict.*, *Versiform*, varied in form; changing form: used in botany.

Versify (vɜ·rsifəi), *v.* Also 4-7 **versifye, -fie** (5 **uersefi3e, versfy**), 5 **versyfyyn, wersyfy,** 5-6 **versyfy.** [ad. OF. *vercifier, versifier* (13th c. in Godef. *Compl.*, = Prov. *versifiar*), ad. L. *versificāre* (whence It. *versificare*, Sp., Pg. *versificar*), f. *versus* VERSE *sb.* + *facĕre* to make.]

1. *intr.* To make or compose verses; to write poetry; = VERSE *v.*1 1. Also const. *upon* (or †*of*) a theme.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 367 For is none of þis newe clerkes..þat can versifye faire ne formalich enditen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Versyfyyn, *versificor.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 401/1 To versifye, *versificare, versiculare.* *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1162 Yes, in faythe; I can versyfy. 1579 LODGE *Def. Poetry*, etc. (Hunt. Club) 15 Tully attributeth it for prais to Archias yt vpon any theame he cold versify extempory. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* viii. (1627) 121 To learne to versifie, *ex tempore*, of any ordinary Theame. 1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 8 Maracus a Poet of Syracuse, who never versified so well as when he was in his distracted fits. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* I. 24 Since the World with Writing is Possest, I'll versifie in spite. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 136. 236 The Subject..promises no small Glory to the Genius who shall versify upon it. 1798 LADY BEDINGFIELD in *Betham Lett.* (1905) 51 Cannot you versify as you walk? 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. XIX, Speculating..On what may suit ..my story, And never straining hard to versify. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 394 A few scholars..had the intrepidity to versify in French with the ancient metres. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* L. 391 The true poet does not versify because he would, but because he must.

2. *trans.* To narrate or recount in verse; to treat as the subject of verse.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 90 They [tragedies] ben versified communely Of vj. feet which men clepen Exametron. 1596 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. vi, I versify the truth, not poetize. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XVII, The silly poet runs home to versify the disaster. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 533 The story is versified at great length in the French Life. 1871 LOWELL *Study Wind.*, *Pope* 315 His more ambitious works may be defined as careless thinking carefully versified.

3. To turn or convert (a literary piece) into verse; to change from prose into verse; to translate or rewrite in verse-form.

1735 POPE (*title*), The Satires of Dr. John Donne,..Versified. 1756 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* I. 11 The exalted prophesy of Isaiah, which Pope has so successfully versified. 1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* III. 35 *note*, The 30th. Psalm was the first which Luther versified. 1814 D'ISRAELI *Quarrels* [illegible] versified..some lyrical fragments of Goethe.

Versifying (vɜ·rsifəi,iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING 1.] The act or practice of making verses; an instance of this; the art of composing verse; versification.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 289 No clerke abyl to bere oure book Of versyfyeng, nor of other scyens. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 241, I lake no thynge but wersyfyynge, whyche I treste to have with a lytyll contynuance. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Schoolm.* II. (Arb.) 147 Yet neither of them hath fullie hitte perfite and trew versifying. 1580 SPENSER *Let. to Harvey* [illegible] distinguish between a true and false verse. 1677 J. PETER (*title*), Artificial Versifying; a New Way to make Latin Verses. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 61 Of what Use Versifying is,..I do not understand. 1830 SOUTHEY *Bunyan* p. xlix, In versifying he was attempting an art

which he had never learnt, and for which he had no aptitude. 1892 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 190/1 What really genuine poetic inspiration he showed is lost in the commonplace of too idle versifyings.

b. *attrib.*, as *versifying dialogue*, etc.

1686 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 424 As to y[ou]r Versifying Dialogue wth Him, I like it very well. 1785 WATTS *Logic* III. ii. § 3, I confess some of these logical Subtilties have much more Use than those versifying Tables. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 148/1, I shall exemplify by a Text, where a Singing, or mere Versifying Repetition, is literally express'd. 1787 SKINNER *Let.* in *Lifes Burns* (1800) II. 127, I know a classical education will not create a versifying taste. 1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* 839 If free, all fly his versifying fit. 1885 *Athenæum* 11 July 50/1 Godwin desired Wordsworth to undertake the versifying part of the business.

Versifying, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That versifies or writes verses.

1580 *2nd & 3rd Blast Playes & Theatres* 110 These versifieng Plaie-makers. 1730 GRAY *Long Story* 18 Shame of the versifying tribe! 1893 WALKER *Three Churchmen* 134 The reviewers he looks upon as 'gamekeepers', doing invaluable service to literature by keeping the versifying 'poachers' off Parnassus.

† **Versiloquy**. *Obs.*—° [Cf. late L. *versiloquus* that speaks in verse.] (See quot.)

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Versiloquy*, speaking in Verse.

Versin, contracted f. *versed sine* VERSED *a.*

1827 AIRY in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 685 Versin $c = 1 - \cos c$. *Ibid.*, Versin $c =$ versin $a - b$ [etc.]. 1859 PARKINSON *Optics* (1866) 254 The quantity of light received by the disc is $2\pi^2 a^2 \beta$ versin α.

Versine, variant of VERZINE *Obs.*

Versing (vɜ·siŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. VERSE *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action or practice of writing verse; an instance of this; the art or science of verse-making.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 49 That which gyueth greatest scope.., is ryming and versing. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. (1616) 9 For well it seemes in versing he hath skill. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Flower* vi, I once more smell the dew and rain, And relish versing. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* A iij b, Physick and Versing in his flaming Chaire Plac'd Phoebus, and bestow'd that blazing Haire. 1896 ANNE MANNING *Tasso & Leonora* 46 Charmed with his smooth versings. 1874 M. COLLINS *Transmigr.* II. ix. 162 The man who can..relish versing has nothing much the matter with his..psychical health. 1892 STOPFORD BROOKE *Early Eng. Lit.* I. vii. 146 He had before him some ancient versings of the fight.

attrib. 1848 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 51 What mad men are wee of the versing trade!

† **Versing box**. *Obs.*—1 (Of obscure meaning; perh. connected with VERSE *v.*3 and VERSER 2.)

a 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 232 As I stode muysynge In my mynde, Haruy Hafter came lepynge, lyghte as lynde. Vpon his breste he bare a versynge boxe.

Version (vɜ·ɪʃən), *sb* [a. F. *version* (= It. *versione*, Sp. *version*, Pg. *versão*), or ad. L. *versiōn-*, *versio*, noun of action from *vertĕre* to turn.]

1. A rendering of some text or work, or of a single word, passage, etc., from one language into another; a translation; also (rarely), the action or process of translating.

Freq. with adjs. denoting the language into which the translation is made.

1582 N. T. (Rhemish) Pref. b ij, Trusting that it may giue occasion to you .. to lay away at lest such their impure versions as hitherto you haue ben forced to occupie. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 435, I vtterly seclude all their opinions, which translate this word Arabian wolues, for the Hæbrew notes cannot admit such a version or exposition. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 61 Things translated into another tongue lose of their primative vigor and strength, unless a paraphrastical version be permitted. 1682 GREW *Anat. Plants* Pref., The Second Lecture..is also translated into French, by Mons. Mesmin,..whose Version is very well approved by those who are competent Judges. 1718 PRIOR *Poems Several Occas.* Pref., His excellent Version of the *Carmen Seculare*. 1794 BURKE *Pref. to Brissot's Addr. Constit.* Wks. VII. 327 The translator has only to say for himself, that he has found some difficulty in this version. *c* 1806 H. K. WHITE *Rem. Eng. Poets* Remains (1825) 156 None of our better versions have been able to preserve the original graces of these verses [of Ps. xviii]. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. III. vi. 293 Such of those literal versions as we possess in English (which are mostly from the 'Rámáyana'). 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 1. 448 The English version of the Bible remains the noblest example of the English tongue.

b. *Sc.* A translation from English into Latin prose done as a school or university exercise; a piece of English prose set for translation into Latin.

1711 *Burgh Rec. Aberdeen* (1872) II. 345 Ther proficiency in themma, versions, poeticall compositrs, and orations. *c* 1890 HURRY in Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1886) 629 When we our versions wrote, nae Lexicon had we To help us.

2. The particular form of a statement, account, report, etc., given by one person or party; an account resting upon limited authority or embodying a particular point of view.

1788 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1861) II. 93 The version which we received here respecting the famous Scarborough cruise. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 214 The Whig version of the story was that the old robber Mac Ian had laid an ambuscade for the soldiers. .. The Jacobite version..appeared in the Paris Gazette of the seventh of April. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xi. 140 The version generally received of what he actually did say. 1907 *Verney Mem.* II. 154 Sir Roger sends his version of the reconciliation between Monk and the City.

b. A special form or variant of something.

1838 J. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* viii. 345 To see Christianity freed from the bonds of every peculiar version. 1898 MASSON *Milton* (1859) I. 679 In the cause of true religion, or of the Scottish version of it. 1908 SIR H. MAXWELL *Guide Holyrood* 20 This painting is a larger version of one at Windsor Castle.

† 3. A turning about; a change of direction. *Obs.*

1628 BACON *Ess., Vicissitudes of Things* (Arb.) 571 What Kinde of Comet, for Magnitude, Colour, Version of the Beames,..or Lasting, produceth what Kinde of Effects. 1706 CONGREVE *Disc. Pindaric Ode* A j b, The first was call'd the Strophé, from the Version or circular Motion of the Singers in that Stanza from the Right Hand to the Left.

b. *Obstet.* The operation of manually turning the child so as to facilitate delivery.

1853 J. Y. SIMPSON *Obstet. Path. & Pract.* 27, I now found an obstruction to the complete version of the infant. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 628/2 The term version is applied to all operations by which the long axis of the child is changed in its relation to the long axis of the uterus.

† 4. Conversion, transformation. *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 97 Springs, which the Ancients thought..to be made by the Version of Aire into Water. 1626 — *New Atl., Magn. Nat.* 311, Version of bodies into other Bodies. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Forms & Qual.* 407 As to the version of Water into Earth, by a seemingly slight Operation.

Hence **Version** *v. trans.*, to translate. **Versional** *a.*, pertaining to a version or translation. **Versioner, Versionist**, one who produces a version; a translator. **Versionize** *v. trans.*, to render into another tongue, to translate.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Arianism* 19 Biddle's brief Scripture-Catechism was caus'd to be *version'd into Latin. 1884 *Advance* (Chicago) 3 Jan., At the time the Scriptures had been versioned into the King James version. 1871 *Independent* (N. Y.) 23 Mar. (Cent.), All the suggestions for emendations [of the Bible], whether textual or *versional. 1910 *Expositor* Nov. 409 The versional variants rest on divergent Hebrew texts. *c* 1806 in *H. K. White's Rem.* (1825) 159 Our *versioner, by adding an *s* to it, has [illegible] linston tr. *Mar-* [illegible] and *Versionist. [illegible] 46 *note*, All the ancient versionists seem to have thought, that the valley in this verse received its name [etc.]. 1861 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Hebr. Poetry* 338 Serviceable as Jewish versionists..are, it was not their function to concern themselves with the soul ..of the national literature. 1874 H. COPPÉE *Eng. Lit.* (ed. 3) 52 Wace's poem..was soon again..to be *versionized into English.

† **Versipellous**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *versipell-is*, f. *vers-*, *vertĕre* to turn + *pellis* skin.] Having the faculty of changing the skin. In quot. *fig.*

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 28, I could demonstrate it to be Heterogeneous, Heterodoxous, Incongrous,..Versipellous.

† **Versity**. *Obs.* [Abbrev. of UNIVERSITY.] = VARSITY.

c 1680 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* I. Wks. 1716 I. 37 M. Tantivee is a Graduate, and no small Fool, I assure you, he has been at the — Versity. 1692 MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 8 When e're he's sent to th' Versity.

† **Versle**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 3 **uerslen, uersalien**, 4 **versail**. [ad. OF. *verseiller*, *-sailler*, *-seller*, etc. :—L. type **versiculāre*, f. L. *versiculus* VERSICLE *sb.*] *intr.* To say or sing versicles or verses of the Psalms, esp. during Divine Office. Also *trans.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Mid him ne schule ȝe nouȝer uerslen ne singen ȝet he hit muwe iheren. *Ibid.* 120 Þauh heo uersalie, & sigge hire vrs, & hire Pater nosters. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* C. 1 Lord, y shal synge mercy and iugement to þe; y shal versail and vnderstonde in wai vnfiled. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16472 Þys salme þey songe, & versled hit al wyþ o tonge.

Hence † **Versling** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Verslunge of hire sautere; redinge of Englichs, oðer of Freinchs; holi meditaciuns.

‖ **Verso** (vɜ·sō). [L. *verso* (sc. *folio* leaf), abl. sing. neut. of *versus*, pa. pple. of *vertĕre* to turn. So F. and Pg. *verso*.]

1. The back of a leaf in a manuscript or printed book; the side presented to the eye when the leaf has been turned over. Also abbrev. *v.*, *vo*

The left-hand page of a book is the verso of that leaf, and faces the RECTO of the next.

1839 HALLIWELL *Maundeville* Introd. p. xiii, See f. 2, vo. 1850 FORSHALL & MADDEN *Wycliffite Bible* I. p. lxi, The verso commences with the eleventh chapter of the Epistle to the Romans. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1. 43 Sines, cosines, and secants are given on the versos of the pages in columns. 1898 *Athenæum* 12 Nov. 676 The text begins on the verso of the title-page.

fig. 1873 J. HENRY *Aeneidea* I. Pref. 77 It was not long before I had the verso of this agreeable recto of one leaf of my library life.

2. The reverse of a coin, medal, or the like.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* 1914 P. E. NEWBERRY in *Anc. Egypt* 6 On the verso of the same palette there is a scene [etc.].

Versoke, southern ME. pa. t. FORSAKE *v.*

† **Versor** 1. *Obs.* In 5 **versour(e**. [a. AF. **versour* (F. *verseur*), f. *verser* to pour, VERSE *v.*2] (See quots.)

a 1425 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 77 One chief sobyr yeoman versoure, to receyve all the ale or beere that shall be pourveyede. *Ibid.*, Othyr twoe groomes versours in this office to helpe to lodge theyre ale, to helpe drawe it [etc.].

Versor 2 (vɜ·sɔɹ). [a. L. type **versor*, f. *vers-*, *vertĕre* to turn.]

† 1. The needle of a compass. *Obs. rare.*

1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* v. ii. 209 So the verser of a Mariners needle applies it selfe to the Poles of the world.

2. *Math.* In quaternions, an operator which changes the direction of a vector without altering its length.

a 1866 SIR W. R. HAMILTON *Elem. Quaternions* II. i. (1866) 133 We shall now say that every Radial Quotient is [illegible] A Versor has thus, in [illegible] and an angle. 1886 W. S. ALDIS *Solid Geom.* (ed. 4) xiv. 235 If the two vectors OA and OB be of equal length the change of one into the other is merely an operation of rotation. In this case the quaternion is called a versor.

Verse(e, southern ME. varr. FORSEE *a.*

Verst (vɜ·st). Forms: *α.* 6–8 **werste**, 6, 8–9 **worst**, 7 **worst**, 7–8 **wurste**. *β.* 6– **verst**, 6–8 **verste**, 7 **vorst**; 6 **verse** (*pl.* **versse**), 7 **ferse**. [ad. Russ. верста́, partly through G. *werst* and F. *verste*.] A Russian measure of length equal to 3500 English feet or about two-thirds of an English mile.

α. 1558 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 322 From Moscouia to the citie of Vuolochda, are numbered [500] Werstes, one Werst conteynynge almoste the space of an Italyan myle. 1568 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 27 We left Novogorod and got forwards 36. Werstes, or seven Leagues. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5293/2 He was not gone above 12 Wurstes or Russian Miles. 1774 *Ann. Reg.* II. 151 Having approached this island within almost three wersts, or two English miles, their vessel was suddenly surrounded by ice. 1818 BYRON *Mazeppa* xvii, Many a werst, Panting as if his heart would burst, The weary brute still stagger'd on. 1841 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. IV. 73 The road from Lauroggen to Petersburg is 14 wersts.

7 JENKINSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1886) III. 198 [illegible] ia and Moſco..are accompted 500 verstes asunder. *c* 1571 J. STOW *Voy. & Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 339 The ryuer oca, which is so verste distant from ye moscow; a verste is iii quarters of an ynglesshe myle. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 7 A little isthmus or narrow slippe of lande, a fewe verstes ouerthwart. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 295 In Russia among the Moscovites confining upon Poland, a mile is called a ferse. 1638 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 23 From the furthest part westward..to Siberia Eastward, is 4400. verst or thereabouts. *a* 1670 [S. COLLINS] *Pres. St. Russia* (1671) 83 Some ran away ten Versts before they could be overtaken. 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 490 It runs from a great lake, which lies a verste and a half from its mouth. 1775 WRAXALL *Tour North. Europe* 218 Muscovite lords commonly go fifty and sixty versts..to make visits to each other. 1808 R. K. PORTER *Trav. Sk. Russ. & Swed.* (1813) I. iv. 87 Seventy or eighty versts above St. Petersburgh. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 204 A country house of the Tzar's seven versts from Moscow. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivân.* 194 No strength, old crone,—not she I—to crawl forth half a verst!

Verst(e, southern ME., varr. FIRST *a.* and *adv.*; obs. Sc. ff. WORST *a.* **Versuore**, southern ME. var. *forswore* FORSWORN.

‖ **Versus** (vɜ·səs), *prep.* [L.] Against; employed in *Law* to denote an action by one party against another. Also *transf.* Freq. abbrev. *v.* (also *ver.*, *vs.*).

1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 53 Also the jugement by twene..John Hussee *versus* John Notte. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 221, I send yow the *scire facias* for Osbern and Foke *versus* Heydon and Wyndam. 1621 *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 26 Suyt per Fowles in the Starr-chamber *versus* Lake and others. 1744 J. COMYNS *Reports of Cases* 634 Wallis *ver.* Pain and Underhill. 1774 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 19, I am engaged in a famous case,— the cause of King, of Scarborough, *versus* the mob that broke into his house. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* Pref. Ep., She may sue me for damages, as in the case Dido *versus* Virgil. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Casuistry Rom. Meals* Wks. 1890 VII. 22 Generally such a person is 'rather yellow, rather yellow' (to quote Canning *versus* Lord Durham). 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* ii. 38 The old battle-ground of free will *versus* necessity. 1894 *Outing* Feb. 397/2 The Rambler *vs.* the Lumberman; an indictment for the larceny of a path.

Versute (vəsiū·t, vɜ·sɪūt), *a.* [ad. L. *versūt-us*, f. *vers-*, *vertĕre* to turn.] Cunning, crafty, wily.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* IX. 15 Her artishe liers, wittie versute theeves. *Ibid.* 73 Ne bee out reachd at versute pollecie, or once out runn at hardie chivalrie. 1639 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* I. xiv. 132 A person of very supercilious gravity, also of versute and vertigenous policy. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* I. 6 The second, which is a more versute and specious forgery.

Hence **Versutely** *adv.*; **Versuteness**.

Also *Versutiloquent*, 'a crafty talker, one using words craftily' (Blount *Glossogr.*, 1656), and *Versutiloquous*, 'talking cunningly or craftily' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727): both after L. *versūtiloquus*.

1616 J. [illegible] Leifurck [illegible] bite. 16[illegible] [illegible] become really sensible and ashamed of his present Crooked Versuteness and Hypocrisie. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 81 Some Neatness of Stile, Versuteness of Temper, and Hypocrisie in Religion. 1847 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. vi. § 89. 286 An ingenious explanation of astuteness and versuteness.

† **Versutious**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *versūt-us*.] = prec.

1660 *3rd Conf. betw. Cromwell & H. Peters* 7 What do I not owe thee for thy versutious Complements to my Lady Lambert.

† **Versy**, *a. Obs.*—1 *Her.* In 6 **versie**. [a. F. *versé*, pa. pple. of *verser*: see VERSE *v.*2 F. *versé* has been used in some mod. heraldic books] Renversé, reversed.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 96 b, He beareth d'Or, a Chouron Versie d'Azure.

Versycle, obs. form of VERSICLE *sb.*

Versyowre: see VERRER[1].

Vert (vɜːt), *sb.*[1] (and *a*). Also 5 **veert**, 5–7 **verte**. [a. AF. and OF. *vert* (so mod.F.; formerly also *verd* VERD *sb.*), = Prov. *vert*, Cat. *verd*, Sp., Pg., and It. *verde*.—L. *virid-em*, *viridis* green, VIRID *a.*]

1. Green vegetation growing in a wood or forest and capable of serving as cover for deer.

14.. *Forest Lawes* (MS. Douce 335) fol. 73 As touching the kinges veert, that is to say, the kinges wodes; if ther be ony mann, that hath felled ony gret okes [etc.]. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xv. in *Holinshed* I. 89 b/1 The better preseruation of such venery and vert of all sortes as were nourished in the same. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* vi § 1. 33 b. [Hence in later Dicts., etc.] 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1073 While this Country was a Chace, and while the Vert was preserv'd. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 71 The punishment of all injuries done to the king's deer or *venison*, to the *vert* or greenswerd. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 143 Destruction of vert is destruction of venison. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 62 A royal demesne..covered with vert, and well stocked with deer. 1871 *Daily News* 18 Sept., The Lord of the Manor..had..enclosed four hundred acres of waste land, and had destroyed the vert on parts thereof.

transf. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* c vij b, The fourth is humble Ivy, intersert, But lowlie laid, . Preserved, in her antique bed of Vert, No faith's more firme,..then where't doth creep.

b. Coupled with *venison*. (The common use.) Freq. without article.

1455 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 319/2 The oversight of verte and venyson, in all the Parkes. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 459/2 The k[ing]..appointed foure iustices..to be as surueyers aboue all other Foresters of vert & venison. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xvii. 102 b, That which tendeth to the hurt and annoyance of the Vert and the Venison. 1622 SIR J. DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1747) 164 The great plenty both of Vert and Venison within this land. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 820 Every Forester in Fee shall..Attach Pleas of the Forest, as well concerning Vert as Venison. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1788) 347 If a man was taken with vert, or venison, it was declared to be equivalent to indictment. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse Shoe R.* xxxvii, He gave much of his time to the concerns of vert and venison. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 175/1 The master-keepers' and groom-keepers' duty is to preserve the vert and venison in their respective bailiwicks and walks.

† **c.** *Nether, over, special vert*: (see quots.). *Obs.*

1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* vi. § 2 34 There are two sorts of Vert in euery Forrest, that is to say, Ouer vert, and, Neather vert: Ouer vert is that, which the Lawiers do call Hault Boys, and Neather vert is that, which the Lawiers do call South Boys, and in the Forrest lawes, Ouer vert is all manner of Hault Boys, or great wood, aswel such as beareth fruit, as such as beareth none. *Ibid.* 35 Speciall vert, which is euery tree and bush within the Forrest, that doth beare fruite to feed the Deere withall, as Peare trees, Crabtrees, Hawthornes,..and such like. [Hence in later Law Dicts., etc.] 1727 NELSON *Laws conc. Game* 231 *Special-vert*, which may be either over or nether-vert, or both if it bears fruit, for nothing is accounted special-vert but such which beareth fruit to feed the deer.

2. *ellipt.* The right to cut green trees or shrubs in a forest. Now *arch.*

1639 in Maitland *Hist. Edinburgh* (1753) II. 251/1 All their antient Rights,..with Pit and Gallows, Sack and Soke, Thole, Theam, Vert, Wrack, Waifs [etc.]. 1707 in *State, Fraser of Fraserfield* 310 (Jam.), Cum furca, fossa,..vert, veth, venison,..pit et gallows. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl, The Holy Clerk shall have a grant of vert and venison in my woods of Warncliffe. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* vii, His rights of vert and venison, extended over a wide distance around. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* 257 The nobles about gave up to him their rights of venison, and vert, and pasture, and pannage of swine.

† **3.** A green plant or shrub. *Obs*[–1]

1648 J. RAYMOND *Il Merc. Ital.* 189 Bayes, Locusts, Pomegrannets, and such like Verts, that grow wild in the Hedges.

† **4.** A green colour or pigment. *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Housch. Bks.* (ROXB.) 339 Item,..for iiij. dos. of golde paper, and silver rowche clere and verte, viij. s. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 178 Vert,.. Sapp,..Crymsen,..White,..Broune. 1582 *Ibid.* 359 Paste bord, paper, and paste, white, sise, verte, Syneper.

5. *spec.* in *Her.* The tincture green. Also as *adj.*

c 1507 *Justes Moneths May & June* 28 in Harl. *E. P. P.* II. 114 For a cognysaunce Of Mayes month they bare a souesaunce, Of a verte cocle was the resemblaunce, Tatched ryght fast. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 15 b, That is greene, & blased Vert. *Ibid.*, And nowe we to the fourth colour, Vert. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xiii, In vert field Mars bare a golden speare. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xv. (1906) 104 A plaine crosse Vert, by the name of Hussey. 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 44 [To] tell you how they beare Gules, or, vert, azure,—heathen words for Red, Yellow, green, blue. 1655 FULLER *Antheologia* (1867) 278 The whole field was vert or green. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* [Hence in Phillips, etc.] 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vert* (in Heraldry) signifies Green, and in Graving, is expressed by Diagonal Lines, drawn from the Dexter Chief Corner, to the Sinister Base. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* i. (1816) I. 20 Some [insect-] she [*sc.* Nature] blazons with heraldic insignia, giving them to bear in fields..vert—gules—argent and or, fesses—bars..and even animals. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Vert*, the common French term for green, and the proper heraldic term for that colour.

Vert (vɜːt), *sb.*[2] Also **'vert**. [Shortened f. CONVERT *sb.*, PERVERT *sb.*] A pervert or convert from one religion to another, esp. to the Roman Catholic faith.

1864 *Union Rev.* May 277 Old friends call me a pervert; new acquaintances a convert: the other day I was addressed as a 'vert...This term ''vert'' I have every reason to believe has been only just coined. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 25 May 4/2 Cardinal Manning stands alone.., and as he is an Anglican 'vert he does not count.

transf. 1886 *North Star* 5 May, Your 'vert [to Home Rule] is ever vigorous.

Vert, *v.*[1] [ad. L. *vertĕre* to turn, overturn, etc.]

† **1.** *trans.* To turn up, root up (the ground).

1576 *Burgh Rec. Aberdeen* (1848) II. 32 It sall be lesum to quhatsumewir personne apprehendand the said sawine.. vertand the erthe, to distroy the samen.

2. To turn in a particular direction; to turn or twist out of the normal position. Now *spec.* in *Path.* or *Anat.* Hence **Verting** *ppl. a.*

c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 47 His sourd..did clinck and clak, Quhair euir he verts his force And awfull face. 1639 FULLER *Appl. Inj. Innoc.* III. 22 When a Writer's words are madly verted, inverted, perverted, against his true intent, and their Grammaticall sense.

1883 DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* (ed. 2) viii. 59 A lady had ulceration of the interior of the body of the uterus, which was not flexed or verted. 1903 *Med. Record* 7 Feb. 210 All of the muscles of the eyes may be relatively weak. The ducting or verting power is not as great as it should be.

3. *intr.* To change direction; to dart about.

1899 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* II. x. 198 He flew about in the very skies, verting like any blithe creature of the season.

Vert, *v.*[2] Also **'vert**. [f. VERT *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To become a pervert or convert from one religion to another, esp. to Roman Catholicism.

1888 *Echo* 17 Mar. (Cassell's), As a man he is welcome to vert and re-vert as often as he pleases. 1891 *Hist. St. Par. St. Martin, Colchester* 7 William Murray..'verted to the Roman Church after J. H. Newman.

Vertant, *a. Her.* [a. F. *vertant*, = L. *vertent-*, *vertens*, pres. pple. of *vertĕre*: see VERT *v.*[1]] Bending, curving.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 473/1 He beareth Argent, eight Leaves, the Stalks conjoyned and contrary bowed... But the most compendious, is to blazon them conjoyn'd dorse endorse: though good Artists will say, conjoyned and vertant to the Dextre and Sinister. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Vertant* and *Revertant*, or *Verted* and *Reverted*, the same as *flexed* and *reflexed*, or *bowed embowed*, that is formed like the letter S reverted. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Vertdegrease, Vert de grece, obs. forms of VERDIGRIS. **Verte**, southern ME. var. FART *v.* **Verteber**, var. VERTEBRE.

Vertebra (vɜːtɪbrä). Pl. **vertebræ** (vɜːtɪbrī); also 7–8 **vertebras**. [a. L. *vertebra* joint, joint of the spine, f. *vertĕre* to turn. Hence It., Sp., Pg. *vertebra*, F. *vertèbre*: cf. VERTEBRE.]

1. *Anat.* and *Zool.* One or other of the joints composing the spinal column in man or other vertebrate animals; any segment of the backbone.

a. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* (1631) 930 The vertebra in the middest receiueth that spondell which is aboue it. 1634 A. READ *Descr. Body Man* C vj/1 The transvers processe of the first vertebra. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* (1729) I. II. 82 A large Vertebra of a Fish. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 367 The Thoracic Duct or canal runs..as far as the fifth vertebra of the back. 1768 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 726 The œsophagus .terminates in the stomach about the eleventh or twelfth vertebra of the back. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 7 A Vertebra consists of a body, two laminæ, a spinous process, two transverse processes, and four articular processes. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 35 Each of these small bones is called a vertebra.

Comb. 1839 G. ROBERTS *Dict. Geol.* 180 *Vertebralis*,.. vertebra-like.

β. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 42 The Lamprey..hath a Cartilaginous flexible Tube or Channel, without any Vertebræ or Spondyls in it. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 132 Having no vertebræ in the back-bone,..he [*sc.* the crocodile] goes straight forwards, not being able to turn. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 362 For there be some with fewer Vertebræ in their Necks than others. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 140 The vertebræ of the neck [of the ourang-outang] also were shorter. 1851 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. i. 3 A backbone, composed of numerous joints, or vertebræ. 1857 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iii. 73 The angler should..sever the vertebræ at the back of the neck.

transf. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 233 The shattered vertebræ of the [Roman] aqueducts.

γ. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 8 b, Their vertebra's are cartilagineous and flexile. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 461 The Vertebra's descending from the Back. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Cyphoma*,..a bending backwards of the *Vertebra's*, or Turning-joynts of the Back. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 134 It..extended..to the right ovarium, and vertebræ of her back.

b. With particularizing terms.

1726 MONRO *Anat. Bones* 178 The Spine is commonly divided into true and false Vertebræ. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 169 The lumbar vertebræ, as they descend, have their oblique processes at a greater distance from each other. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 624 The cervical vertebræ..differ in this respect from the dorsal vertebræ; this from the lumbar vertebræ; this from the sacral vertebræ; and this from the coccygeal vertebræ 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 193 This unusually developed spine of the mesencephalic vertebra. *Ibid.* 236 In the odd-toed..ungulates, the dorso-lumbar vertebræ differ in different species. 1866 HUXLEY *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 109 A horse's skull with its upper cervical vertebræ. 1872 — *Phys.* vii. 171 The odontoid peg of the axis vertebra.

2. *pl.* (with *the*). The vertebral column; the spine or backbone.

a 1627 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* III. 1, I will finde where his Disease of Covetousness lay, whether in the Vertebræ, or in Occus-Index [= Os Coxendix]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 2 May 1644, They show also the ribs and vertebræ of the same beast. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A Weakness of the Ligaments and Muscles fasten'd to the backside of the *Vertebræ*. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. ix, Dr. Slop's figure, coming..waddling thro' the dirt upon the vertebræ of a little diminutive pony. 1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 27 They are articulated at one extremity with the vertebræ. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xv. 160 The vertebræ of a whale similar to that at the igloo of Anoatok. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* i. 6 The bones thus cut through are called the bodies of the vertebræ.

fig. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 429, I should have known you for a true Search by the pliableness of your neck: the Knowals have a wonderful stiffness in the vertebræ.

b. Without article.

1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* xx. 476 Large fossil fishes with vertebræ sometimes ossified. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 314 He had made the tour of all Europe without once leaning back in his carriage! This indicated matchless rigidity of fibre and strength of vertebræ.

3. In sing. = sense 2. *rare*[–1].

1791 WALKER *Pron. Dict.* s.v. 1876 J. G. WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 501 We now enter upon another vast division in which there is no true brain and no vertebra.

4. *Zool.* (See quots.)

1704 RAY *Disc.* II. iv. (1713) 182 Great Stones, and even broken Pieces of Lime-stone Rocks,..almost wholly compos'd of those *Vertebræ*, or broken Pieces of the *Radii* of Sea-Stars, which are commonly call'd Fairy-Stones. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Vertebra*, in echinoderms, any one of the numerous axial ossicles of the arms of starfishes.

Vertebral (vɜːtɪbrăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med. or mod.L. *vertebrālis* (= F. *vertébral*, Sp., Pg. *vertebral*, It. *vertebrale*), or f. prec. + -AL.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to, situated on or near, the vertebræ; spinal.

1682 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Vertebral*, belonging to the joynts of the back bone. 1704 RAY *Creation* II. (ed. 4) 319 The carotid, vertebral and splenick Arteries are..variously contorted. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 83 The Carotidal and the Vertebral Arteries. 1771 *Encycl. Brit* I. 218 Of the Vertebral Muscles. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 27 Vertebral Canal..extending along the whole length of the spine, following its various curvatures. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 342 The Vertebral vein descends by the side of the vertebral artery. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 197 The pleurapophyses or vertebral ribs in serpents. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 111/2 A sort of bony canal in which runs the vertebral artery.

transf. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* I. i, The acts of..the Black Prince constitute the vertebral portion of his history.

b. *Ent.* 'Situated on or noting the median line of the upper surface' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

2. Composed of vertebræ; spinal. Freq. in *vertebral column*.

1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 234 The vertebral column was completely pliant, her body..bent in every direction successively. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 632/1 Every lesser unit of the vertebral chain. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 449 The smaller size of the posterior part of the vertebral column in the American bison.

3. Of the nature of a vertebra.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 648 The vertebral pieces hold their own serial order, and thus we know them. *Ibid.* 670 These two iliac bones (*i*, *c*) are homologous..to the two vertebral laminæ of A.

b. *Zool.* (See quots.)

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 563 [In] the Ophiuridea,..each of these [quadrate axial] ossicles (which are sometimes termed *vertebræ*) is surrounded by four plates. 1877 F. BUILER in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 633 The deep ambulacral grooves which occupy the middle of the lower face of each ray [in star-fishes] are formed each by a series of plates, the *vertebral ossicles*.

4. Of animals: Having a spinal column; = VERTEBRATE *a.* 1.

1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 299 Cuvier, who was the first to divide animals into vertebral and invertebral. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 16 All the classes of vertebral animals possess the same number of senses as man. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxi. (1860) 329/1 Under what peculiarities of form..vertebral life existed in the earlier ages of the world.

B. *sb.* **1.** A vertebral artery or vein.

1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. iii. § 3 We here see the Jugular Veins, and the Vertebrals. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Medulla*, The arteries and veins of the spinal marrow..are derived from the vertebrals of the neck, the intercostals, and the lumbar. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 53 If we ligature the first part of the subclavian, ought we also to occlude the vertebral? 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 390 The arteries of the medulla oblongata..arise from the vertebrals.

2. A vertebrate animal. *rare*[–0].

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Vertebral*, n., an animal of the class which have a back-bone.

3 One of the unpaired dorsal plates in the carapace of a turtle.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 456 Dermal Scutes [of *Testudo pardalis*]:—*co*, costals; *v*, vertebrals; *m*, marginals.

Hence **Vertebrally** *adv.*

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Segmented vertebrally; vertebrally articulated ribs.

Vertebrarterial, *a. Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. VERTEBR-A + ARTERIAL *a.*] Of or belonging to a vertebra and an artery; vertebro-arterial.

1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 139 The series of these foramina is called the vertebrarterial canal. 1901 *Cunningham's Text-bk. Anat.* (1906) 75 The vertebrarterial foramen..is traversed by the vertebral artery and vein in the upper six

I Vertebrata (vaɹtĭbrē·tă). *Zool.* [mod.L. (Cuvier), n. L. *vertebrātus* (sc. *animālia*), neut. pl. of *vertebrātus* VERTEBRATE *a.*]

1. With *the.* A division of the animal kingdom including all animals which have a backbone or its equivalent.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxviii. III. 44 The difference here between Insects and the Vertebrata seems very wide. 1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 232 The blood of the Mollusca..appears to contain a smaller proportionate quantity of fibrine than that of the Vertebrata. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 277/2 In the *Vertebrata* the brain and principal trunk or chord of the nervous system is enclosed in a bony or gristly case composed of the skull and the vertebræ. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 49 Even the hiatus between the *Vertebrata* and the *Invertebrata*, is partly, if not wholly, bridged over.

2. A group or class of these; a number of vertebrate animals.

1831 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* IV. vii. 644 The geologist, without seeking to reanimate these extinct vertebrata, learns much regarding the past from..their colossal remains. 1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. I. i. 4 Between the water-breathing vertebrata and..air-breathing vertebrata there is an equally conspicuous unlikeness in energy. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 5 In every Mammalian skeleton.. the vertebræ in the trunk always differ from those of the different lower vertebrata in..the following points.

Vertebrate (vē·ɹtĭbrĕt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vertebrāt-us* (Pliny), jointed, articulated, f. *vertebra* VERTEBRA. Cf. prec. and INVERTEBRATE.]

A. *adj.* **1.** *Zool.* Of or belonging to the Vertebrata; characterized by having a backbone or spinal column. Freq. in *vertebrate animal.*

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxviii. III. 42 Size forms a pretty accurate distinction between insects and the great bulk of vertebrate animals. *a* 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 292 The passive motive Organs or Skeleton of the Vertebrate Series of Animals. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptl. & Birds* Introd. 4 A bountiful Creator appears to have adopted one general plan in the organization of all the vertebrate creation. 1881 MIVART in *Nature* No. 615. 337 The highest of them, called the vertebrate sub-kingdom ..comprises ourselves, with all beasts, birds, reptiles, efts, frogs and toads, and fishes.

Comb. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 276 In most of these vertebrate-tailed species the vertebral column extends into the upper lobe of the tail.

b. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 390 *Vertebrate*, ..when the leaf is contracted at intervals, there being an articulation at each contraction; as in Cussonia spicata.

2. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, found in, a vertebrated animal or animals.

1848 OWEN (*title*), On the Archetype and Homologies of the Vertebrate Skeleton. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxi. (1860) 229/1 The second age of vertebrate existence on our planet. 1857 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev* Apr. 450 The earliest known vertebrate remains are those of Fishes. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 663/2 In the vertebrate eye, the filaments of the optic nerve penetrate the retina.

fig. 1872 MINTO *Eng. Prose Lit.* I. iii. 201 A vertebrate skeleton of the work.

3. *fig.* a. Of persons: Having connective mental powers.

1879 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* xix. 146 The archivists and annalists will pile up facts..until the vertebrate historian comes with his generalizing ideas.

b. Of writings, etc.: Connectedly put together; characterized by strength or consistency.

1882 GOSSE in Grosart *Spenser* III. p. xlvi, Ramsay's *Gentle Shepherd*..remains the most vertebrate and interesting bucolic drama produced in Great Britain. 1884 *Athenæum* 15 Nov. 635/2 The new comedy..is more than a little lachrymose and is scarcely vertebrate. 1900 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Mar. 367 We have the right..to expect something more vertebrate, if he is to take place in literature.

B. *sb.* A member of the Vertebrata; a vertebrate animal.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol* xlv. IV. 240 The antennæ of insects are analogous to ears in Vertebrates. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 33 The general plan of their organisation is not so uniform..as that of the vertebrates. 1870 F. BOWEN *Logic* vi. 155 Some wingless animals are not vertebrates.

Vertebrate, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To connect or join after the manner of vertebræ.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 129 As like each other as three peas vertebrated in one pod. 1910 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 69 They [*sc.* satires] were written in rough dialect and vertebrated with peasant phrases and peasant wit.

Vertebrated (vē·ɹtĭbrĕ·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. VERTEBRATE *a* + -ED.]

1. = VERTEBRATE *a.* 1. Freq. in *vertebrated animal(s).*

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 371 Vertebrated animals with cold red blood, respiring by gills or branchiæ. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat. Lib.) 74 Certain relations of analogy which some of the species are thought to bear to the vertebrated tribes. 1849 SAXE *Poems* (1873) 200 One of those vertebrated vermin That lie in the grass so prettily curled. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 57 (1879) 57 The Vertebrated series, of which Man is the highest representative.

2. Consisting of, provided with, vertebræ.

1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 276 All these ancient fishes [Ganoids] have vertebrated tails. 1884 BOWEN *Logic* x. 323 Among inorganic bodies,..the metallic property is an instance of the former class; among animals, the possession of a vertebrated column or backbone.

3. *transf.* Constructed in a manner suggestive of vertebræ.

1850 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Journ.* III. 56/2 A vertebrated ..left the station at Euston Square with one of the Birmingham. *Ibid.*, The vertebrated carriage.. adapted itself to all curves with the greatest facility.

Vertebration (vaɹtĭbrē·ĭən). [f. VERTEBRA.]

1. Vertebral formation; division into segments like those of the spinal column. Also in fig. context.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 179/2 Some writers have maintained that the vertebration of the *Vertebrata* may be understood as having reference to the segmentation of the muscles of the body-wall. 1889 *Theol. Monthly* Jan. 48 His style rather resembles a cellular tissue..which may advance by growth on many sides, rather than a..compact logical vertebration.

2. *fig.* 'Backbone'; strength or firmness.

1884 W. G. WILLS in *Pall Mall G.* 28 July 4/2 Poetry and rhetoric,..which have not the heart, life, and vertebration behind, are an impertinence and intrusion. 1892 W. S. LILLY *Gt. Enigma* 313 Doctrine is the vertebration of religion.

Vertebratist. *rare*⁻¹. [f. VERTEBRATE *sb.* + -IST.] An authority upon the spine or back-bone.

1866 *Reader* 31 Mar. 331 (Theory of the skeleton), The 'orthodox' ideas of ordinary vertebratists.

Vertebre. *Anat.* and *Zool.* ? *Obs.* Also 7, 9 verteber. [a. F. *vertèbre*: see VERTEBRA. In sense 1 ad. L. *vertebrum*.]

† **1.** The rounded top of the thigh-bone. *Obs.*⁻¹

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* I v, The endes of the bones of the thyghes, called vertebres.

2. = VERTEBRA 1.

a. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 19 b, The first Vertebre ..of the necke is more solid,..then all the bones els of the backe. 1630 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 9 That part of the neck which is next to the Atlantick Vertebre. 1692 RAY *Disc.* 109 The Vertebres of Thornbacks and other Cartilagineous Fishes. 1738 *Phil. Trans.* XL. 37 The upper extremity of the *medulla spinalis*, in the first vertebre of the neck. 1769 *Ibid.* LX. 32 A kitten..had its head cut off betwixt the first and second vertebre of the neck. 1834 CAUNTER *Orient. Ann.* viii. 107 A morah, or footstool, formed of a vertebre of some huge creature. *Ibid.* 108 The attendants brought away the jaw and half a dozen of the vertebres.

β. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Vertebre. a* 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 292/2 The spine consists of a set of consecutive, cartilaginous, horny pieces,..called Vertebræ.

† **3.** The spine; = VERTEBRA 2. *Obs.*⁻⁰

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vertebre*, the chine or backe bone.

† b. *pl.* = prec. *Obs.*⁻⁰

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Vertebres*, the whole Ridge of the Back-Bone.

Vertebriform, *a. rare.* [f. VERTEBR-A + -(I)FORM.] Having the form of a vertebra.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 672/2 The mode in which the vertebriform scapulæ contract a connection with the costiform clavicles and coracoid bones. *Ibid.*

Vertebro- (vē·ɹtĭbro), comb. form, on Greek models, of VERTEBRA, occurring in various terms of *Anat.*, as *vertebro-arterial, -basilar, -chondral, -costal, -femoral, -ilsac, -sacral, -sternal.*

In recent medical and other Dicts.

Verted, *ppl. a. Her. rare*⁻⁰. [f. VERT *v.*¹] (See quot. *c* 1828 s.v. VERTANT *a.*)

Verte(e)go, obs. ff. VERTIGO.

† **Vertely,** *adv. Obs.*⁻¹ [After OF. *vertement, verdement* (15th c.) in the same sense, f. *verte* green, youthful, energetic, etc.] With activity or readiness; quickly, readily.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3168 Vertely the avawmwarde voydez theire horsez, In the Vertennone vale, the vines i manger.

† **Vertent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vertent-, vertens*, pres. pple. of *vertĕre* to turn, etc.] *Vertent year*, a cycle of the celestial bodies, containing 15,000 solar years.

After L. *annus vertens* (Cicero *Rep.* vi. 22, 24).

1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* III. 147 This great and vertent yeare is, when we see All stars and planets brought to their first station After their much and long Peregrination. 1636 — *Love's Mistress* and Prol., Who so un-read, doth not of Plato heare, His Annus Magnus, and his Vertent yeare?

Verteous, -ly, obs. forms of VIRTUOUS, -LY.

Vertew, obs. form of VIRTUE.

Vertex (vē·ɹteks). Pl. **vertices** (vē·ɹtĭsēz); also **vertexes.** [a. L. *vertex* whirl, whirlpool, VORTEX; crown of the head, highest point, summit, etc., f. *vertĕre* to turn. Cf. VERTICE.]

1. *Geom.* The point opposite to the base of a (plane or solid) figure; the point in a curve or surface at which the axis meets it; an angular point, as of a triangle or polygon.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* Cij, From the vertex, to the Circumference of the base of the Cone. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* IV. xxv. Hh ij, A transfigured Icosaedron may be resolued into 12 Pentagonal and 20 hexagonal Pyramides, concurring with their toppes or vertices all in the centers of this transformed body. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 355. 4 Triangles or rather Cones, of water, whose vertices rest cut off (as is were) by the middle stream of water. 1672 BOYLE *Virtues Gems* 12 So as to make six triangles, that terminated like those of a Pyramid in a Vertex. 1725 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 13 Two half Parabolas's whose Vertex's are C c. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 150 In the vertices of Curves, where they cut the Abscissa at right angles. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* ii. 17 These lines are called the sides of the angle, and the point C where the sides unite, is called its vertex. — TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 54 Along the two sides of a triangle, the vertex of which was near the centre of the glacier. 1882 MICHIE *Unipl. Kinemat.* 12 The parallelogram must now be jointed at its four vertices.

b. *Optics.* (See quots.)

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vertex of a Glass* (in Optick) is the same with its Pole. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 288 Draw the ray RC through the centre, cutting the [spherical] surface in the point V, which we shall denominate the *vertex*, while RC is called the *axis.* 1829 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 348 To find the vertex or centre of a lens. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 18 The point where the axis cuts the surface is called the vertex of the lens.

c. *Astr.* (See quot.)

1878 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* 922 *Vertex*..., a term used to designate that point in the limb of the Sun, the Moon, or of a planet, intersected by a circle passing through the zenith and the centre of the body.

2. The point in the heavens vertically overhead, or directly above a given place; the zenith. *Latitude* or *meridian of vertex* (see quot. *c* 1850).

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 62 The true meridian is a major circle passing through the poles of the world, and the Zenith or Vertex of any place. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 5 These sorts of people freeze within the polar circles,..the Pole being their vertex, and the Æquator.. their direct Horizon. *Ibid.* 39 The heat, when the Sun comes to the Vertex, is much more intense..than it is about the Polar Circles. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 346 When the Phænomenon..is in *A Z Z* the common Azimuth of the two places on the Earth pitch'd upon for this purpose, whose Vertices are *X* and *Z*. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v 182 The Sun was within about three degrees of the vertex. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Asvig.* (Weale) 54 Either of these points is called the *vertex* of the great circle to which it belongs; the arc intercepted between the vertex and the equator is the *latitude of vertex*; the meridian that passes through the vertex is the *meridian of vertex.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Vertex*, the zenith, the point overhead.

3. *Anat.* (and *Zool.*). The crown or top of the head; *esp.* in man, the part lying between the occiput and the sinciput.

[1615 CROOKE *Body Man* VII. ii. (1631) 434 The middle part of the scalpe..is gibbous or round,..the Latins call it *Vertex*, because in that place the haires runne round in a ring as waters doe in a whirle-poole.] 1638 A. READ *Man. Anat.* III. i. 389 *Vertex*, the crown, that which is betweene the former two, somewhat arched. 1682 S. HAWORTH *Disc. Conc. Man* 115 The middle Part between these which is Gibbose is called Vertex. 1784–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 86 [In child-birth] the crown or vertex is the first part that is pressed down, because..the bones at that part of the skull make the least resistance. 1772 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 926/2 The [Columba] turbita, with..a short bill, and a plain vertex. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 43 The skull..is divisible into four regions,—a superior region or vertex, a lateral region, an inferior, and an interior region. 1873 COUES *Birds N. W.* (1874) 281 That the young males have more or less of the vertex red or yellow, instead of an occipital crescent of scarlet. 1888 P. L. SCLATER *Argentine Ornith.* I. 137 Vertex more or less tinged with rufous.

attrib. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 482 In these vertex cases [of tuberculous meningitis]. *Ibid.* VIII. 8 The forceps was employed fifteen times in vertex presentations.

b. *Ent.* (See quots.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 365 *Vertex*, the horizontal part of the *facies*, next the front, that lies behind the eyes and between the temples. *Ibid.* 467 In *Blatta* and some other *Orthoptera* the posterior angle of the head is the vertex. 1861–2 LE CONTE *Classif. Coleoptera N. Amer.* I. Introd. p. x, The upper surface is divided into regions, the back part being called the *occiput*, the middle the *vertex*, and the anterior the *front.* 1897 W. F. KIRBY in Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 719 *Trichomera insignata*... Face nearly smooth, shining black below the vertex.

4. The top, summit, or highest point of something, esp. a hill or structure; the crown of an arch. † Also, a high piece of land, an eminence (*obs.*).

1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 21, I am neere the Apex of this question, which yet (Pernassus-like) hath a double Vertex, a twofold toppe. 1692 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 203 The great diversity of Soyls that are found there, every Vertex, or Eminency, almost affording new kinds. 1768 FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 243 Its [an altar's] vertex thirty cubits from the ground. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1777) IV. 142 *Latella vulgata*...Vertex pretty near the centre. 1821 PINKERTON *Petralogy* II. 338, I was not more than a hundred and fifty paces distant from the vertex of the cone. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 9 A conical dome, on the vertex of which is a gilt cross. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 197/1 The highest point in the intrados is called the vertex or crown.

fig. 1865 MOZLEY *Miracles* vi. 130 The question whether man is or is not the vertex of nature.

Vertgrees, -gres(e), etc., obs. ff. VERDIGRIS.

Verpe, Verping, Verpore, Verpuorp, southern ME. variants of FOURTH, FARTHING, FARTHER, FAR-FORTH.

† **Vertibility.** *Obs.* Also 5 vertybylyte, 6 vertibilite. [ad. med.L. *vertibilitāt-, vertibilitās*: see next and -ITY. Cf. Sp. *vertibilidad.*] Capacity for turning or changing; changeableness, inconstancy, mutability.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 255 Whom fro servyl condycyoun fortune up lente Of hyr wheele by vertybylyte And put hym in the state of hy degre. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Venemous Tongues* Wks. I. 234 Ye are so full of vertibilite, And of frenetyke folabilite. *a* 1627 P. BAYNE *On Eph.* I. 11 (1618) 268 God may..will that his creature shall sinne, being suffered to it selfe, by accident of it own liberty and vertibilitie. 1675 H. MORE in R. Ward *Life* (1710) 296 In this capacity of being United with the Matter, consists the Liberty and Vertibility of the Soul.

† **Vertible,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 vertybyl. [a. OF. *vertible*, or ad. med.L. *vertibilis*, f. L. *vert-*, stem of *vertĕre* to turn: see -IBLE.] Capable of turning or being turned; changing, inconstant, mutable.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 272 By the vertybyl cours of fatal deth. 1627 J. SPROCHT *Scheam Dispach's* 234 A parallel of your vertible and Wind-mill uncertainty. 1689 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* xi. xx. (1713) 251 But were it not better

that God Almighty should annihilate the Individuals of this middle vertible Order, as you call it, as soon as they lapse into Sin?

Hence †**Vertibleness**, 'aptness or easiness to turn' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727). *Obs.*—0

Vertic, *a. poet.* Also 7 **vertick**. [Irregular shortening of next, after *tropic*, etc.] Vertical, esp. of the sun.

1607 Barksted *Mirrha* (1876) 51 Thus much the Goddesse of the floods doth deign to change thy shape, into a vertick flower. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* I. 745 While Phœbus down the vertic-circle glides. *a* 1769 — *Occ. Elegy* ix, Unfelt by you the vertic sun may glow. 1800 T. Sanderson *Orig. Poems* 9 Where vertic suns, that torrid fervour pour, Check the grove's music and the vernal flow'r. 1876 J. Ellis *Cæsar in Egypt* 79 Their sacred Well, One day illumined by the vertic Sun.

Vertical (vɔ̈·ɹtikăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 **verticall**. [a. F. *vertical* (1545, = Sp., Pg. *vertical*, It. *verticale*), or ad. late L. *verticālis* (Quicherat), f. *vertic-*, stem of *vertex* Vertex.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to, placed or situated at, passing through, the vertex or zenith; occupying a position in the heavens directly overhead or above a given place or point.

†**a.** *Vertical point*, = Vertex 2. Also *fig.*, the culminating or highest point, the point of greatest development or perfection (freq. in the 17th c.). *Obs.*

1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 16 Leuell with th' earth, and his verticall point, in the forsaid Æquinoctial. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* ix. (1906) 62 Latitude is the distance of the Meridian, betweene the verticall point (or pole of the Horizon) and the Æquinoctiall. 1653 W. Ramsey *Astrol. Restored* I. viii. 15 Those that live further North are of stronger body, because their vertigal [*sic*] point being far removed from the Suns course, they more abound in cold and moisture. 1725 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 368 Let XBL be a Vertical Circle, X the Zenith, (for the Vertical point may be consider'd as mov'd in regard of the Ecliptic unmov'd). 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Point*, The Zenith and Nadir are the Vertical Points.

fig. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. 103 Such successe, as well declared it was Gods will..., that the English name should now be brought to the verticall poynt thereof without any thing being able to resist it. 1626 T. H. *Causin's Holy Court* 363 Saint Ireneus..calleth Charity..the top, and verticall point of all vertues, guifts, and fauours of God. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. III*, Wks. (1711) 43 This family seemed now in the zenith and vertical point of its greatness. *a* 1671 Ld. Fairfax *Mem.* (1699) 103 Here was the vertical point on which the army's honour and reputation turned into reproach and scandal. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 284 Both Christianity and their Country are past their Vertical Point, and are upon their Declension.

b. *Vertical circle*, an azimuth-circle (see Azimuth 1).

1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glass* 22 Here you se A.E.C. represent the verticall point, B.D. the poles of the world, by which and A. (being the vertical circle) is the meridian circle A B, C.D. delineated. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* III. I. xix. (1597) 154 b, Ther is another great circle called the circle Verticall, which passeth right over our heades through our Zenith. 1594 J. Davis *Seamen's Secr.* 11. (1607) 8 Circles of Azumuths, or verticall circles, are quarters of great circles, concurring together in the Zenith. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 112 Measure the extent CM on the Vertical-Circle, and apply it to the Line of Signs. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Azimuths* or *Vertical Circles*, are great Circles intersecting each other in the Zenith and Nadir,..and cutting the Horizon at Right Angles. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 348 Let ZBL be a Vertical Circle, in which Z is the Zenith. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 24 The vertical circle which passes through the east and west points of the horizon is termed the Prime Vertical. 1860 Olmstead *Mech. Heavens* 23 But if the point is *above* the horizon, then its azimuth is estimated by passing a vertical circle through it [etc.].

c. Of the sun, stars, etc., or in general use.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* IV. xxvi. (1597) 223 As many stars as passe right vnder your Zenith are said to bee verticall. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. x. (1635) 220 To them the Sunne is twice in the yeere verticall, that is directly ouer their heads. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 43 The extream heat of the Sun, which when vertical usually raises vapors in abundance 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict.* s.v. *Vertex*, The Equator is said to be *Vertical* to them who have a continual Equinox; because, it constantly passes by the Vertex of the Place. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 271 The Globe must be turn'd about till the first of the two Places becomes Vertical, (which it will be, when it arrives at the Meridian of the Globe). 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* I. 21 He knew that the sun, at the summer solstice, was vertical to the inhabitants of Syene. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 53 We find the services of the winds almost equally important in meliorating the fervour of a vertical sun. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvii, Becalmed under a vertical sun in the midst of the wide ocean. 1880 Geikie *Phys. Geog.* I. ii. 16 At each equinox the sun appears vertical over the equator.

fig. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Supp.* Wks. (Grosart) II 266 Come all the daintiest dainties of this tounge, and doe homage to your Verticall Starre. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* I. ii. § 96 (1740) 82 It fell out in a Conjuncture so vertical, that without it both Nations might have plunged into a mischievous Condition of Civil War. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* iv, The strong vertical light of Homer's poetry is blazing so full upon the people and things of the Iliad.

†**d.** *fig.* Pertaining to, characteristic of, or denoting the period or position of greatest eminence or perfection; at one's highest point or position. Cf. *vertical point* (a. *fig.* above). *Obs.*

1642 Ld. J. Digby *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 19 Jan. 25 In voting this bill, we shall contribute to the perpetuating our Sun, our Soveraigne, in his vesticall [*sic*], in his noone-day lustre. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. 175 But now in the time of the aforesaid William Heyworth, the Cathedral of Litchfield was in the verticall height thereof. 1655 — *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 186 As Cambridge was his vertical place, wherein he was in height of honour. 1673 Hickeringill *Greg. F. Grypb.* 38 Though Greg. and his virtuoso's seem to themselves to be vertical and cock-a-hoop.

2. *Vertical angle*: **a.** An opposite angle (see Opposite *a.* 1 and quot. 1704). **b.** The angle opposite the base of a triangle or polygon.

1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. vi. C iij, Two right lines crossing one another, make the contrary or verticall angles equall. 1660 Barrow *Euclid* I. xv. Schol., The vertical (or opposite) angles. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Angles*, Opposite or vertical Angles, as, 1. Those that are made by two Right Lines crossing each other, and which touch only in their Angular Point. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 910/2 The tangent of half the vertical angle. *Ibid.*, The line CF bisecting the vertical angle. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1806) I. 368 In a Triangle, having given the two Sides about the Vertical Angle. 1862 Todhunter *Euclid* I. 15 If two straight lines cut one another, the vertical or opposite angles shall be equal.

3. Placed or extending at right angles to the plane of the horizon; perpendicular; upright.

a. *Geom.* Of a straight line or plane surface.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Line Vertical*, in Perspective, is the common Section of the Vertical Plane and of the Draught. *Ibid.* s.v. *Plane*, *Vertical Plane*, in Opticks and Perspective, is a Plain Surface which passeth along the Principal Ray, and consequently thro' the Eye, and is perpendicular to the Geometrical Plane. 1725 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 436 Therefore there is given the Angle *LIA* the Difference or Sum of them, and *IV* Vertical to it. 1822–6 Playfair *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 11 A plane at any place perpendicular to the line in which bodies gravitate, is called a horizontal plane; and any plane passing through that line is called a vertical plane. 1851 S. P. Woodward *Mollusca* I. 62 Their shell is usually straight, or coiled in a vertical plane. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. iv. 111 When the short diagonal of the prism was vertical.

b. In general use.

1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Windmill*, That is reputed the best made with vertical Sails, like the ordinary Windmills. 1756 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 10 Vertical rainbows in the sky are not uncommon, whereas the horizontal are very extraordinary. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 187 In some coal fields one part of a stratum is inclined, and the other part vertical. 1831 Brewster *Optics* xxxi. 260 Some phenomena both of vertical and lateral mirage. 1855 Maury *Phys. Geog. Sea* vi. 326 Under the vertical rays of the never clouded sun. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 940 The adaptation of the Virginian Creeper to climbing up vertical walls.

Comb. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 10 The vertical-ringed spore-cases, when mature, split suddenly with a transverse fissure.

c. With abstract nouns, esp. of movement or direction.

1794 [see Verticity 1]. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* ix. § 6 The compound motion of the lower jaw, half lateral, and half vertical. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 31 Plates of rock, separated by seams which have generally a vertical direction. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 410 Four-fifths of the town of Cumana was shaken down by a vertical shock. 1859 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd.* I. *Protozoa* Introd. p. xxix, The relations of animals to the elements in which they live...Their vertical (bathymetrical) distribution. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* xi. 273 We give a vertical nod of approval..when we approve of their conduct.

Comb. 1850 Denison *Clock & Watch-m.* 48 It would fail for a balance or vertical-force-magnetometer.

d. Of mechanical appliances or structures. Also in technical use applied to machines which operate vertically.

Numerous other examples are given in Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875 and 1884).

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 141 The comparative power of horizontal and vertical windmills. 1839 *Handbk. Turning* 79 The vertical, or universal cutter. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2708/1 *Vertical Boring-machine*, a drill or boring-machine having a vertical spindle. *Ibid.*, Vertical Planing-machine. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc.* 151 *Vertical engine*, an upright engine, as distinct from a 'horizontal one'.

e. Special collocations, as *vertical bond*, *care-grinder*, *dial* (cf. B. 3), *escapement*, *fire*, *watch*, etc.

A number of other scientific or special terms are defined in recent encyclopædic Dicts.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* 1131 *Vertical bond is a course of bricks, stone, or other materials, tending to support or strengthen the building vertically. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 114 *Vertical care-grinder*, the treadmill. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. vi. 11 The Vertical Dial, whose Plane lieth in the Horizon, for which cause many call it the Horizontal Dial. 1728 [see B. 3 a]. 1877 *Encycl. Brit* VII. 155/1 *Vertical dials*, when on a vertical plane facing one of the cardinal points. 1850 Denison *Treatise Clock & Watch-making* 33 The escapement was exactly the same as that of a bottle-jack, or the commonest kind of watch, and is called a *vertical escapement. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 248 Vertical Escapement..[is] an escapement in which the pallet axis or the balance staff is set at right angles to the axis of the escape wheel. 1842 Burn *Nav. & Mil. Techn. Dict.* I. s.v. *Feu, Feu courbe ou vertical*, curved or *vertical fire, generally from mortars laid at an angle of not less than 15°. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 712 *Vertical fire*, in artillery, that directed upward at such an angle as that it will fall vertically, or near so, to its destination. 1898 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 308/2 We shall now give a description of a common *vertical watch. 1850 Denison *Clock & Watch-m.* 145 The old vertical watch, so called because the scape-wheel stands vertically when the other wheels are horizontal.

4. Having a position at right angles to the plane of the axis, body, or supporting surface; pointing or situated directly upwards or downwards.

a. *Bot.* Of a leaf or other part.

Martyn *Lang. Bot.* (1793) also gives *vertical leaf* (after Linnæus's *folium verticale*) as = *obverse leaf*, but objects to the use of the term.

1776 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 382 *Vertical*, Leaves so situated that the Base is perpendicular to the Apex. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1218 1. 1879 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* iii. § 4 (ed. 6) 108 *Vertical leaves*, those with blades of the ordinary kind, but presenting their edges instead of their faces to the earth and sky, or when erect with one edge directed to the stem and the other away from it.

b. *Zool.*, esp. of certain fins of fishes.

1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 203 A vertical caudal, as in Gymnetrus, but shorter. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 40 The vertical fins are situated in the median dorsal line, from the head to the extremity of the tail.

5. *Zool.*, *Anat.*, etc. Of or pertaining to, situated on, affecting, the vertex of the head.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 315 Stemmata: *Vertical*, when they are placed in the Vertex. 1892 *Cent. Dict* s.v., Vertical eyes of a fish. *Ibid.*, The vertical crest of some birds is horizontal when not erected. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 546 Meningitis, whether vertical or posterior-basic, is caused by an invasion of micro-organisms.

†**6.** Belonging to giddiness. *Obs.*—0

1623 Cockeram.

B. *sb.* [Ellipt. use of the *adj.*]

†**1.** The vertical point; the vertex or zenith. In quots. *fig.* *Obs.*

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xv. § 119 King Henries glory thus ascended to the highest verticall in France. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* IV. vi. (1821) 104 A naked intuition of eternal truth which is always the same, which never rises nor sets, but always stands still in its vertical, and fills the whole horizon of the soul with a mild and gentle light. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 100 Now she was in the Verticall of her favour, wherein hence-forward she began to decline.

2. A vertical circle, line, or plane.

Prime vertical: see Prime *a.* 9 b.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. x. 15 If you have not time until the Sun cometh unto the Azimuth of the Wall, or the Vertical of it, which cutteth the Pole thereof. *Ibid.*, The Sun is neerer to the Meridian, than to the Vertical of the ... is therefore equal to the horizontal Distance of the Vertical of the two Stars from the Meridian. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* vii. 55 The difference of the latitudes being the angle contained between the verticals at the extremities of the arc. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 449 Every portion of matter left to itself..falls in the direction of the vertical of the place on which it falls. 1888 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. VI. 526 In an inclined fault the level of the selected stratum is protracted across the fissure until a vertical from it will reach the level of the same bed.

b. *Math.* A vertical angle (see A. 2).

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Angle*, The Measure of an Angle without the Centre, is half of the Arches HI and LM, whereon it and its Vertical K do stand

c. *The vertical*, the vertical line or position; the perpendicular.

1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* vii. 56 Local attractions, which cause the plumb-line to deviate from the vertical. 1840 *Ibid.* xxix. (ed. 5) 335 The dip [of the needle] is 89° 59', which was within one minute of the vertical. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 849 A line drawn tangentially to the apical portion will very nearly coincide with the vertical. *Ibid.*, In consequence of the continuing curvature..the now erect apical portion becomes bent over out of the vertical.

3. A vertical dial (see A. 3 e).

In contrast to later use, Sturmy gives the name of *vertical* to the horizontal dial.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* Aaaa 2, I will name the Dials,..viz. Eight Verticals and Declining. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Vertical Dial*, is a Sun-Dial, drawn on the Plane of a Vertical Circle; or perpendicular to the Horizon...These are particularly call'd...East,...West,...South, and...North Verticals, when opposed to one, or other of these Cardinal Points of the Horizon.

4. (See quot.)

1908 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 180 In the slang of the rock garden the plants living...on upright rocks are called 'verticals'.

Hence **Verticalness.** *rare*—0.

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Verticalness*, the being right over one's Head. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Verticalism. *rare*—1. [-ism.] = next 2 b.

1860 Cockburn Muir *Pagan or Christian?* xii. 88 The spirituality of Verticalism is so positive and manifest, that it is hard to believe that the pious Architects..had not these things ever in their mind.

Verticality (vɔ̈·ɹtikæ·lĭti). [f. Vertical *a.* + -ity. Cf. F. *verticalité*, It. *verticalità*.]

1. The fact on the part of the sun or other celestial body of being at the vertex or zenith.

1570 J. Dee *Math. Pref.* 23 To consider..Sterres in their Longitudes, Latitudes, Declinations, and Verticalitie. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xi. 284 For unto them the Sunne is verticall twice a yeare, making two distinct Summers in the different points of verticality. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius's Gate Lang. Unl.* § 557 In the Torrid [Zone], by reason of the perpetual verticality of the Sun, there are most vehement heats. 1867 E. B. Denison *Astronomy without Mathematics* i. 37 The heat received anywhere depends on the directness of the sun's rays, or its apparent verticality overhead.

2. The condition or quality of being vertical or perpendicular; vertical position; perpendicularity.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 283 Their (i.e. argillites) verticality arising only from the drain of water. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 318 The verticality of the strata in the Isles of Wight and Purbeck. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xvi. § 6 Precipices which produce on the imagination the

effect of verticality. 1884 G. M. Dawson in *Handbk. Dom. Canada* 325 Good sections of..Cretaceous rocks..become folded together and lie at all angles up to verticality.

b. Of buildings, or architecture.

1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 99/1 The verticality which is designed and usually conveyed by the orders he communicated to his buildings by rustic quoins. 1860 Cockburn Muir *Pagan or Christian?* 61 The first and most striking feature [of the architecture of the 12th and 13th c.] is the Verticality of composition, as directly opposed to the Horizontality of all anterior structural modes. *a* 1890 Lightfoot *Hist. Ess.* iii. (1895) 146 The leading conception of Gothic architecture,..I mean its verticality, as contrasted with the horizontal lines of the Greek.

c. In weakened sense: Erectness, uprightness.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 687 She walked..in unswerving verticality.

Vertically, *adv.* [f. Vertical *a.* + -ly 2.] In a vertical manner, direction, or position; so as to be vertical to the plane of the horizon, the earth's surface, or some other horizontal line or plane; perpendicularly, or approximately so; directly overhead or down below.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* vi. x. 326 The Dogstarre, ..although it be not vertically unto any part of Asia,..yet is it so unto America, and vertically passeth over the habitations of Peru and Brasilia. 1677 Grew *Anat. Fruits* v. § 17 The Seed-Case of Anagallis..opens not by its Meridian or Vertically, .but by its Horizon. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict.* s.v. *Vertex*, A Star is said to be *Vertical*, that..Vertically hangs over any place. 1685 Plot *Staffordsh.* 17 If Lightening causes these Circles, it must also be allowed that it descends vertically. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xvii. 261 *note*, The pupill in animals of the cat kind..is oblong vertically. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 763 Capsules opening vertically. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 221 Some [insects], as the butterflies, raise their wings vertically in repose. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 615 Some modification of lateral training will, in almost every case, be found preferable to training vertically. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* ii. 21 An earthquake occurred, vertically under the town of Arica.

Comb. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Verticale*, A vertically ovate leaf is the same with an obversely-ovate or obovate leaf; and a vertically cordate leaf is the same with an obversely cordate or obcordate leaf. 1878 Abney *Treat. Photogr.* xxxiii. 268 A fair general focus can..be obtained by using with the camera a vertically-pivoted swing-back.

b. *Math.* (Cf. Vertical *a.* 2).

1660 Barrow *Euclid* I. xv. Schol., If four right lines, proceeding from one point, make the angles vertically opposite equal. 1840 Lardner *Geom.* 24 When two straight lines cross each other,..the angle BAD is said to be vertically oppos te to the angle EAC.

† Vertice. *Obs.*—[1] [a. F. *vertice* (= Sp., Pg., and It. *vertice*), ad. L. *vertic-em*, *vertex* Vertex.] The vertex or zenith.

1665 Sir T Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 5 But the *Periscii* have their shadow circulating, their meridional shadow having no existence from the vertice, but oblique and extended to the plain of the terrestrial Horizon.

Verticil (vɔ̄·ɹtisil). Also 8–9 **verticel.** [ad. L. *verticill-us* Verticillus. Cf. F. *verticille* in sense 2 (also, in earlier use, a whorl)]

† 1. (See quot.). *Obs.*—[1]

1703 A. de La Prime *Let. to Sir H. Sloan* (Sloan MSS. 4056) fol. 33 Verticels or glass Beads formed on purpose to wind thread on.

2. *Bot.* A number or set of organs or parts arranged, disposed, or produced in a circle round an axis (see quot. 1882); a whorl. *False* or *spurious verticil*, a verticillaster.

Also similarly in *Zool.* (in recent Dicts.).

a. 1793 Martyn *Dict. Bot.* s.v., A Verticil or Whirl may be 1. Sessile or peduncled. 2. Naked...3. Crowded. 1806 J. Galpine *Brit. Bot.* § 258 *Ajuga*.. Hairy: verticils crowded into a pyramidal form, many-flowered. 1826–34 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 43/2 The stamens in the same verticil are sometimes joined together, and sometimes with the neighbouring verticils. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 170 An axial structure may produce either several equivalent lateral members at the same level, or only one; in the second case the members formed in succession are termed solitary, in the first case a Whorl or Verticil.

β. 1826 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* 214 Verticel, *Verticillus*,..a whorl. 1872 Nicholson *Palæont.* 483 The joints of the stems give off verticels of leaves. 1881 Spencer in *Science Gossip* No. 202. 229 It is generally supposed that the branches were also arranged in verticels.

† Verticillary, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *verticill-us* Verticillus: see -ary.] Of motion: Rotatory, whirling, vertiginous.

1757 E. Darwin in *Phil. Trans.* L. 847 The verticillary motion given to charcoal-dust thrown on nitre in fusion. 1794–6 — *Zoon.* (1801) III. 145 When the legs are straight, as in standing erect, there is no verticillary motion in the knee-joint.

Verticillaster (vɔ̄·ɹtisilæ·stəɹ). *Bot.* [mod. L., f. L. *verticill-us* Verticillus + -aster.] A form of inflorescence occurring in certain labiate plants (see quots.); a false whorl.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 112 If the cyme is reduced to a very few flowers, and those few become corymbose, such a disposition has been called a *verticillaster* by Hoffmansegg. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 213 The Verticillaster.—This kind of cyme is seen in the White Dead-nettle. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 227 A coarse perennial herb, with..axillary cymes (forming verticillasters) of bilabiate white flowers.

Verticillate (vəɹtisi·lĕt, vəɹti·silĕt), *a.* Also 9 **verticellate.** [ad. mod.L. *verticillāt-us*, f. L. *verticillus* Verticillus: see -ate 2 2. So It. *verticillato*, Sp. *verticilado*, Pg. *verticillado*, F. *verticillé* (1694).]

1. a. *Bot.* Of plants: Having leaves, flowers, branches, etc., arranged or produced in circles or whorls around the stem. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. iv. § 4. 81 Herbs considered according to their flower..may be distinguished into..*Verticillate*; by which those kinds of Plants are meant, whose flowers grow in rundles or whirles about the stalk. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 286 The Verticillate Herbs, so called from the Flowers embracing the stalk like a whirl, or wherle. *c* 1712 Petiver *Gazophyl.* x. 94 A Verticillate Water Herb, whose Husks stick to Cloaths like Burrs or Clivers. 1726 P. Blair *Bot. Ess.* iii. 135 The Verticillate Kind are for the most part Irregular. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* xix. (1813) 357 Coreopsis, verticillate, yellow. 1828–9 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 174 The verticillate order affords an abundant stock, from which we may select [carminatives] at pleasure. *Ibid.* IV. 568 Many of the warmer sedatives and anti-pasmodics, as assafœtida, camphor, most of the verticillate plants, and cajeput.

b. *Ent.*, etc. (See quots.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 324 *Verticillate*.., antennæ beset with hair in whorls. 1883 Le Conte & Horn *Classif. Coleoptera N. Amer.* Introd. p xv, In this form the joints are frequently surrounded at tip with a circle of longer hairs, in which case the antennæ are said to be verticellate.

2. a. *Bot.* Of leaves, flowers, branches, etc.: Disposed in, or forming, verticils or whorls.

1793 Martyn *Dict. Bot.* s.v., Verticillate flowers; or flowers growing in a Whirl; or round the stem in rings one above another at each joint. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 202 Square stems and verticillate leaves [of the Madder tribe]. 1831 Mantell *Petrifactions* i. § 2. 26 Specimens of a common..tribe of coal-plants.., whose verticillate foliage is too remarkable to escape notice. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 396 The branches and roots spring exclusively from within the base of the leaf-sheath; and as this forms a whorl, the branches and roots are also verticillate.

b. Similarly in *Zool., Ent.*, etc.

1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 378 Antennæ filiform, long, of from fifteen to sixteen globular joints, furnished with verticillate hairs. 1846 Dana *Zoöph.* (1848) 675 Verrucæ ascending, .verticillate. 1871 Duncan *Transform. Insects* 111 Each tubercle carries several verticillate hairs.

3. Marked or characterized by verticillation.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 113 The most exterior verticillate series of the integuments of the flower within the bracteæ. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 414/1 Simple tubes, divided in a verticillate manner. 1877 Coues & Allen *N. Amer. Rod.* 475 The verticillate whorls of scales between which the short hairs spring. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 464 The phyllotaxis is sometimes verticillate, sometimes spiral.

Verti·cillated, *a.* Now *rare.* [Cf. prec.]

1. = prec. 1 and 1 b.

1698 J. Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 315 Like the Whorles on a Verticillated Plant. 1758 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 210 The Lacerta, with the tail verticillated with denticulated scales. 1828–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 531 The verticillated stimulant plants have, in many instances, also been found serviceable. 1828 *Gard. Chron.* XVIII. 70 To make trial of seeds of any verticillated plants.

2. = prec. 2, 2 b, and 3.

1718 Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* I. x. § 17. 184 Tho' the Calculation had been made from a greater Number of the Fibres of a verticillated Body. *c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 440/2 Different species of stellated or verticillated leaves. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 377 Antennæ ..furnished with verticillated hairs, or simply pubescent. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) V. 84 Flowers produced from the base of the bulb on a long drooping raceme, verticillated along the raceme. 1857 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* i. 20 Its fluted stem and verticillated series of linear branches.

Verticillation (vəɹtisilē·ʃən). [f. Verticillate *a.*: see -ation.] The formation of verticils; a verticillate form or structure, a verticil.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 297 The degree of verticillation requisite to constitute a calyx. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 131/2 The tail is rounded..; its verticillations are composed, above, of large tubercles, and below, of flat, quadrangular scales. 1888 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* I. 167 In the *Diadematidæ* the spines are hollow, long, and set with rings or verticillations.

Verticillato-, combining form, on Greek models, of mod.L. *verticillātus* Verticillate *a.*, as *verticillato-pinnate* (see quot.).

1829 T. Castle *Introd. Bot.* 71 Verticillato-pinnate—when the leaflets, instead of being arranged in the same plane on each side of the common leaf-stalk, are placed around it.

‖ Verticillus (vəɹtisi·lŭs). *Bot.* Pl. **verticilli** (-si·ləi). [L. *verticillus* (Pliny) whorl (sc. of a spindle), dim. of *vertex* Vertex. Cf. Verticil.] A verticil or whorl.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. iv. (1765) 174 *Verticillus*, a *Whorl*, expresses a Number of Flowers that are subsessile, and are produced in Rings round the Stems. 1763 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8570/2 The..smaller creeping germander, hath..reddish flowers, growing almost in a verticillus, or whorls, round the stalk. 1829 T. Castle *Introd. Bot.* 94 In the verticillus or whorl, the flowers surround the stem in a sort of ring. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. p. xxv, In most orders the sepals occupy one series or verticillus only. 1870 tr. *Pouchet's Univ. 102* 388 When the floral apparatus is complete it is formed of four rosettes, or verticilli, of depressed concentrated leaves.

Verticity (vəɹti·siti). Now *rare.* [ad. mod.L. *verticitās*, f. L. *vertic-*, stem of *vertex* Vertex. So F. *verticité*, Sp. *verticidad*, Pg. *verticidade*.]

I. 1. The faculty of turning, or tendency to turn, towards a vertex or pole, esp. as exhibited in the loadstone or magnetic needle.

Very common in the 17th c.; now *rare* or *Obs.*

1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. iv. (1635) 72 The Verticity is that whereby the Poles of the Earthly Spheare, conforme and settle themselves vnto the Poles of the Heauen. 1662 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 140 We believe the verticity of the Needle, without a Certificate from the dayes of old. 1705 Derham in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2136 And having again straitened it, I was surprized to find it had quite lost its Verticity. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* (1806) IV. I. 393 His poker and tongs were natural magnets, and had their verticity fixed by being heated and cooled in a vertical position. 1837 Brewster *Magnet.* 109 The little magnet or needle turned itself briskly,..shewing great verticity. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 712.

fig. 1687 Norris *Coll. Misc.* 184 The Soul will then point to the center of Happiness with her full bent and verticity. 1691 — *Pract. Disc.* 170 His Will has lost much of its Verticity or Magnetick Inclination towards the chief Good.

b. With *a* and pl.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 68 A Loadstone fired.. according to the position in cooling contracts a new verticity. 1658 — *Gard. Cyrus* v. 72 If any shall further query why magneticall Philosophy excludeth decussations, and needles transversly placed do naturally distract their verticities. 1705 C. Purshall *Mech. Marvecom* 265 If you heat an Iron Red, and let it cool perpendicular to the Earth,..its lowest end will gain a Verticity towards the North Pole. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Magnet.* A Bar of Iron that has gain'd a Verticity by being heated red-hot and cool'd again. *fig.* 1662 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 244 Though the body by a kind of Magnetism be drawn down..; yet the thus impregnate spirit contracts a Verticity to objects above the Pole.

2. The power of turning or revolving; rotation, revolution. ? *Obs.*

1672 Hooker in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 181 The verticity of Jupiter and Mars on their axes 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. ii. § 12 (1695) 307 A certain number of Globules,.. having a verticity about their own Centres. 1819 H. Busk *Banquet* III. 241 Hence on all subjects sparks of light you throw..; Blaze with the comet in his swift verticity, Or rouse us with a flash of electricity.

II. † 3. The vertex or top of something. *Obs.*—

1686 Blount *Glossogr.*

† 4. Vertical position in the heavens. *Obs. rare.*

1646 J. Gregory *Notes & Obs.* (1650) 151 The verticity of any of those [stars] could not haue come and 'stood over the place where the young child was'. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. xiii. 333 The Æstival Part of Heaven does more invigorate those Planets which attend the (☌, not only by their higher Exaltation or Approches to Verticity, but [etc.].

5. *Pole of verticity* (see quot.).

1886 Cumming *Electricity* 34 There are two points, one in the northern hemisphere and one in the southern, at which the dip is 90°, or the magnetic force is vertical. These points are called the Magnetic Poles of the earth...The term *Pole of Verticity* is sometimes applied to them.

† Vertigle, erron. f. Vertical *a.* and *sb. Obs.*

1612 Cotgr., *Azimuth*, an Azimuth, or Verticle circle, which discends from the Zenith. 1653 Waterhouse *Apol. Learning* 52 Now grows Our Nation to its Zenith: Fame is no friend to Continuance; the Verticle is near, when Admiration from abroad, and Luxury at home, threaten our Change.

† Vertigle. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *verticula*, *-us*, *-um* joint, vertebra, dim. of *vertex* Vertex, or Of. *verticule* (rare) vertebra.] A vertebra.

1698 A. Fox *Wurtz' Surg.* v. 363 Some Childrens back bone have I seen crackt in two, and the verticles thereof were disjoyned.

† Vertico·rdious, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *verticordia* turner of hearts (an epithet of Venus), f. *vertĕre* to turn + *cord-*, *cor* heart: see -ous.] That turns the heart (from evil); regenerative.

1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. II. xxvi. 149/1 The Regenerating and Verticordious Grace of Heaven, took advantage from his Religious Education..to steal into the Heart of this young Disciple.

† Verti·cularly, *adv. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *verticula*, etc., Vertigle.] In a whorled or verticillate manner.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 610 Spinous cups do verticularly circumvest its Caulicules.

† Verti·ginal, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vertigin-*, *vertīgo* Vertigo.] = Vertiginous *a.* 2.

1612 *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. ii. 177 For vertiginall dizzines.

Verti·ginate, *a. rare*—[0]. [Cf. next.] 'Turned round, giddy' (Webster, 1864).

Vertiginate (vəɹti·dginē't), *v. rare.* [f. L. *vertigin-*, *vertīgo* Vertigo.] *intr.* To turn round, spin, or rush dizzily.

[1767 A. Campbell *Lexiph.* (ed. 2) 93 My steed..with an incredible acceleration of velocity, vertiginated along the arable. *Ibid.* 52 Brine, that once vertiginated in the pacifick ocean.] *a* 1814 *Last Act* I. iii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 372, I, your great Chiron, was your instructor; and thitherward my glory vertiginates. *a* 1834 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 212 Surely never did argument vertiginate more!

Vertigine, -inie: see Vertiginy.

Vertigino·sity. *rare.* [ad. F. *vertiginosité* (16th c.). Cf. next.] (See quot.)

1696 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cotgr.), *Vertiginosity*, a giddiness, dizziness, swimming of the head or brain.

Vertiginous (vəɹti·dginəs), *a.* Also 7 **virti-.** [ad. L. *vertiginōsus* one suffering from giddiness, f. *vertigin-*, *vertīgo* Vertigo. So F. *vertigineux*, Sp., Pg., It. *vertiginoso*.]

1. Of persons, the head, etc.: Affected with, suffering from, vertigo or giddiness; giddy, dizzy.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* 2. iii. 2. i. Many phantasticall

visions about their eyes, vertiginous, apt to tremble. 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* I. xix. 233 They grew vertiginous and fell from the battlements of heaven. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 206 The former of these [damps]... makes the Workmen faint, and vertiginous. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 136 The Head turns and grows vertiginous. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 69 By these balls fishes are rendered vertiginous, and as it were intoxicated. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 299 The ocular spectra of objects..augment the disturbance of the eyes, and thereby add to the confusion of the vertiginous person. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 170, I have never been able to raise it [the drug] above seven grains without making the head stupid and vertiginous. 1906 G. Tyrrell in *Life* (1912) II. xi. 260 At first I was very vertiginous, but am slowly getting my nerves in hand.

fig. 1624 [Scott] *Vox Regis* 41 The heighth of prosperitie so amazeth the eyes of men, as it makes them vertiginous. 1687 Norris *Misc., Disc. Com.* xii. 3 § 19 If they can stand there without growing vertiginous,..they are still within the Region of Humility.

b. *fig.* Giddy-minded; unstable or unsettled in opinions, etc.; inconstant; apt to change quickly; marked by inconstancy, instability, or rapid change.

Frequent in the 17th century.

1609 Hp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 209 This vertiginous Vertumnus, whom Plato describes for an inartific all disputant. 1632 Burton *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 4) 1. iii. 1. ii. 185 Inconstant they are in all their actions, vertiginous, restlesse, vnapt to resolue of any businesse. 1681 Manton *Serm. Ps. cxix. 20* Wks 1872 VI. 190 Therefore take heed of being given up to this vertiginous spirit, to be turned and 'tossed up and down with every wind of doctrine'. 1709 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 66 As all men and things are in the same vertiginous condition. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1849) II. 378 The sphere of publication widened, in this vertiginous era. 1898 Bodley *France* III. v. 271 When one thinks of the vicissitudes of those vertiginous days, it is not surprising that .. sons of the Revolution [etc.].

2. Of the nature of, characterized by, vertigo.

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 76 Sluggish dulness, a giddy and vertiginous pace,. are sure arguments that Bees are not in good health. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 134 Fisticke Nuts..distempar the bloud, and being much eaten, oftentimes procure the vertiginous euill. 1699 Evelyn *Acetaria* (1729) 133 Mustard ..strengthening the Memory, expelling Heaviness, preventing the Vertiginous Palsey. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* III. iv. (1734) 327, I was suddenly seiz'd with a vertiginous Paroxysm. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 460 That staggering or vertiginous disease which is provincially known by the name of *Dust*. 1854 Gilfillan *Beattie* p. xvii, Beattie was troubled with a vertiginous complaint. 1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 183 He found that if he closed his eyes the vertiginous feeling was mitigated. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2092. Epit. Anc. Lit. 18 Vertiginous attacks became troublesome at times.

fig. 1626 Ailesbury *Passion Serm.* 13 Their theory was vertiginous, swom in the braine, there floating without anchor, and was of no credit with the will. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III iii. 22 My strong-winged Muse feeble to slide Into false thoughts and dreams vertiginous.

3. Liable to cause vertigo or dizziness; inducing giddiness. Also *fig.*

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. ix. 143 There .. the station is least firm, the posture most uneasie, the prospect vertiginous. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 326 The Dervis and other Santoons..express their zeal by turning round,..and others I have seen in this vertiginous exercise at the Cavalcades. *a* 1702 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 95 After they had by these vertiginous circulations and clamours turn'd their heads. 1865 W. Kay *Crisis Hupfeldiana* 78 If any one chooses to look further into this vertiginous subject, he may examine [etc.]. 1874 Stevenson *Rss. Trav., Unpleasant Places* (1905) 212 There is nothing more vertiginous than a wind like this among the woods, with all its sights and noises. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 796 It is generally necessary to avoid crowded rooms and the vertiginous influence of the dance.

4. Of motion: Having the character of rotation or revolution; rotatory.

In some cases prob. implying the preceding sense.

1663 Baxter *Div. Life* 215 The thoughts of earthly fleshly things have power to delude men, and mislead them, and hurry them about in a vertiginous motion. 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 449 It is found to have a Vertiginous Motion about its own Axis. 1712 Blackmore *Creation* 251 So give the air impression from above, It in a whirl vertiginous would move. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 117 P 10 That vertiginous motion, with which we are carried round by the diurnal revolution of the earth. 1766 G. Canning *Anti-Lucretius* IV. 323 We see, with whirl vertiginous, the Sun From west to east around his axis run. 1832 *Nat. Philos., Electro-Magn.* xii. § 257. 80 (L. U.K.), The peculiar kind of movement..which Dr. Wollaston attributed to the electromagnetic agent, and which he termed its *vertiginous motion*. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. III vii, It is the centre whereon infinite contentions unite and clash. What new universal vertiginous movement is this? 1883 Salmon in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 512 All the souls in hell and purgatory ..who, in the earth's vertiginous double motion, must roll about like grains of coffee in a grocer's mill.

b. Of an axis: Revolving, rotating.

1680 *Counterplots* 6 Whirl'd about with perpetual agitations upon the Vertiginous Axis of that Globe.

Hence **Verti·ginously** *adv.*, giddily, dizzily.

1766 G. Canning *Anti-Lucretius* V. 368 Which..to the centre of the cloud repair, And there..With furious rage vertiginously roll. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* XI. 2365 The smoothest safest of you all..Will rock vertiginously in turn, and reel, And, emulative, rush to death like me. 1886 Symonds *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. Ix. 45 A new philosophy occupied his brain, vertiginously big with incoherent births of modern thought.

Vertigi·nousness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The condition or state of being vertiginous; dizziness, giddiness. Also *fig.*

1599 A.M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 12/1 Applye it on his Foreheade and on the Temples of the heade,...as long as the vertiginousnes dureth and continueth. *c* 1668 Donne *Serm.* 6:8 It was a staggering, a vertiginousnesse, an ignorance. 1693 Jer. Taylor *Serm.* I. xxi. 282 He that commits sacrilege, is marked for a vertiginousnesse and changeable fortune. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* (1820) II. 416 We would all climb into high places, not considering the precipices on which they stand, nor the vertiginousness of our own brains. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Giddiness*,..Vertiginousness. 1846 Browning *Lett.* (1899) II. 328, I got up with the old vertiginousness, or a little worse.

† **Verti·giny.** *Obs.* Also 5, 7 **vertigine**, 6–7 **-inie.** [a. L. *vertigine*, abl. sing. of *vertigo*.] = Vertigo.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 320 [It] is good for þe brayn wiþinneforþ as for scotomia & vertigine. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* E vj b, Yᵉ vertiginie, & instabilitie of their more than fantastical brains. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* II. ii, For the Vertigine, in the head,..a most soueraigne, and approoued remedy. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 32 It inducath a kinde of heauines or drunkennesse in their head, with a vertiginie [1658 vertigini] or giddines.

† **Verti·gious,** *a. Obs. rare.* = Vertiginous *a.*

1623 Cockeram, *Vertigious*, belonging to giddinesse. 1633 E. Chibenhale *Cath. Hist.* xv. 461 The nauseating juyce ..hath intoxicated them, making their Vertigious heads turn after the Laterane Weather-cock. 1656 Blount.

‖ **Vertigo** (vɔ̈·rtigo, vɔrtai·go, vɔrtī·go). Also 7 **vertego, -teago, virtigo.** [L. *vertigo* a turning or whirling round, giddiness, etc., f. *vertĕre* to turn. Cf. F. and Sp. *vertigo*; also F. *vertige*, Pg. *vertigem*, It. *vertigine*.

The various modes of pronouncing this word form the subject of an elaborate note by Walker (1797), arguing in favour of that with the stress on the first syllable. The fashionable pronunciation, however, appears to have been (vɔrtī·go), and this alone is given by Smart (1836–40) as really current, in spite of its divergence from English analogy.]

1. *Path.* A disordered condition in which the person affected has a sensation of whirling, either of external objects or of himself, and tends to lose equilibrium and consciousness; swimming in the head; giddiness, dizziness: a. Without article.

Sometimes applied to the staggers in horses or the sturdy in sheep, and in quot. 1619 to a disease of hawks.

1598 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* C iij b, The heed ache called vertigo: whiche maketh a man to wene that the world turneth. 1598 Bullein *Govt. Health* A v, Apoplexia and Vertigo will neuer fro the[e] starte, Until the vitall blode be killed in the harte. 1619 E. Bert *Hawkes & Hawking* III. v. 85 A disease..of some called *Vertigo*, it is a swimming of the braine. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Vertigo* 1766 Beattie *Let.* in *Life & Writ.* (1806) I. 93 Have I not headachs, like Pope? vertigo, like Swift? 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 119 The most common effects observed from full doses, are vertigo, pain, or throbbing of the forehead. 1803 *Ibid.* X. 396 The general symptoms were pain across the forehead with vertigo. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk Bk.* (1872) 185 He felt as if attacked by vertigo, and his thoughts whirled in his brain. 1875 Richardson *Dis. Mod. Life* 72 In those who have irregular circulation through the brain, the tendency to giddiness and vertigo is more easily developed.

b. With *the.*

1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* III. vii, Our drinke..we will take, vntill my roofe whirle round With the vertigo. 1631 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 316 What a circular gesture wee shall observe some use in their pace as if they were troubled with the vertigo. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., The Vertigo will sometimes seize upon those who look down from an high Place. 1794 E. Darwin *Zoon.* (1801) I. 335 Thus on turning round on one foot, the vertigo continues for some seconds of time after the person is fallen on the ground. 1827 Scott *Let. in Lockhart* (1838) VII. 29 Your letter has given me the vertigo—my head turns round like a chariot-wheel. *a* 1883 Faoge *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) I. 702 The vertigo caused by derangement of the liver.

c. With *a*, etc., and pl.

c 1620 Fletcher & Massinger *Trag. Barnavelt* v. ii, Here's a Sword ..cures all rhumes, all Catharres, negroomes, verteegoes. 1641 R. Brooke *Eng. Episc.* 5 Your Faulkners seele a Pigeons eye..to prevent a Vertigo. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 129 The Mountains fenced with horrible Gulphs, till strange Vertigoes prejudicate Fancy. 1731 Swift *On his Death* Wks. 1755 III. II 242 That old vertigo in his head Will never leave him, till he's dead. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 39 These..occasion palsies, vertigoes, and other nervous affections, which often prove fatal. 1830 Galt *Life Byron* xlvii. 310 He complained of frequent vertigos, which made him feel as though he were intoxicated. 1895 Zangwill *Master* III. ii. 302 The fumes of expensive wines and cigars gave him a momentary vertigo.

2. *fig.* A disordered state of mind, or of things, comparable to giddiness.

1634 Withir *Embl.* 231 Those uselesse and vaine temp'rall things..which if thereupon our hearts we set Make men and women the vertigo get. 1661 Bagshaw in Baxter *Acc. to Inhabitants Kidderminster* 43 For him now to be suddenly advanced so much beyond his Art, will run the poor man into a dangerous Vertigo. 1708 Steele *Funeral* I. ii, How dizzy a Place is this World you live in! All Human Life's a mere Vertigo! 1709 — *Tatler* No. 29 P 7 Absolute Power is only a Vertigo in the Brain of Princes. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 187 The British Themis seems little..in danger of being healed of her habitual vertigo by this one hand. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. v, There was a certain delirious vertigo in the thought. 1875 Jevons *Money* (1878) 217 That dangerous kind of intellectual vertigo which often attacks writers on the currency.

3. The act of whirling round and round.

1823 De Quincey *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. I. 44 It was not a humming-top that was required, but a peg-top. Now, this, in order to keep up the vertigo at full stretch,..needed to be whipped incessantly.

† **Vertilage.** *Obs.* [Irreg. f. L. *vert-ĕre* to turn] (See quots.)

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. vii. 14 Tillage generally taken may comprehend all maner of husbandiags of grounds, but it is heere limited to Vertilage and Fertilage. Vertilage consists in Deluage and Fictilage. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 333/2 Vertilage, is a preparing of Ground to receive its Seed by stirring, tossing or turning the same.

† **Vertingale,** obs. var. Farthin-, Vardingale.

1592 Hulοet, Vertingale for a gentilwoman, *timus.* 1869 Mrs. Palliser *Lace* VI. 79 Under the vertingale of black taffety they wear a dozen or more petticoats.

Vertious, obs. form of Verjuice.

† **Vertoll,** obs. var. Varile, Vartiwell.

1552 Hulοet, Vertoll of a dore, *vertebra, vertibulum.*

Vertousnes, obs. f. Virtuousness.

Vertouyse, obs. Sc. f. Virtuous *a.*

Vertre, southern ME. var. Fir-tree.

† **Vert-sauce.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. (also mod. F.) *sauce verte* green sauce.] A sauce made principally with green herbs. Cf. Green sauce.

c 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 441 Vert Sause. Take parsel, and myntes, and peletur [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/1 Verte-sawce, or vergesawce,..*viride salsamentum*. *c* 1490 *Two Cookery Bks.* 104 And sauce is vergesauce [*Douce MS.* vert sauce]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 401/1 Vert sawse, *viridis salsa.*

Vertu, Vertú, varr. Virtu. **Vertual,** obs. f. Virtual *a.* **Vertue(less,** obs. ff. Virtue(less. **Vertuest,** obs. superl. of Virtuous *a.* **Vertueux,** obs. var. Virtuous *a.* **Vertugal,** var. Verdugal *Obs.* **Vertuise,** obs. Sc. f. Virtuous *a.* **Vertules(se,** obs. ff. Virtueless.

† **Vertu·mnal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *Vertumnus* (see next); by Adams falsely associated with *vĕr* spring, Ver *sb.*1] a. Vernal. b. Of or pertaining to Vertumnus.

1622 T. Adams *Eirenopolis* 282 Her smiles are more reuiuing then the Vertumnall Sunneshine. 1633 — *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 8 We cannot..keep back the cowslip to August, nor the vertumnal flowers to autumn. 1703 N. Tate tr. *Cowley's Plants* C.'s Wks. 1721 III. 405 The Goddess her Vertumnal Rites prepares.

† **Vertu·mnals,** *sb. pl. Obs.*—[ad. L. *Vertumnāl-ia* sb. pl., the festival of Vertumnus, f. *Vertumn-us* god of the changing year.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (citing Broughton), *Vertumnals*, Feasts dedicated to, or Books treated [1674 treating] of the god Vertumnus.

Vertuose, obs. f. Virtuous. **Vertuositie,** obs. f. Virtuosity. **Vertuoso,** obs. f. Virtuoso. **Vertuous(ness,** obs. forms of Virtuous(ness. **Vertuse, -tuyse,** obs. Sc. ff. Virtuous *a.* **Vertw,** obs. Sc. f. Virtue.

† **Vertwell.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. OF. *vertevelle*: see Vartiwell.] = Varvel.

13.. *Parl. Three Ages* 238 He..benntis thaym [*sc.* the hawks] one houde.., Lowppes in thaire lesses thorowe vertwells of siluere.

Verty, *a. Sc.* Also 5 **werty,** 9 **vertie, vairtie.** [Aphetic f. Averty *a.*] Attentive to business; prudent, cautious, wide-awake, early, etc. In early use coupled with *wise.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVIII. 439 King Robert..was Wis in his deid and ek verty. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 3121 He was wys and rycht werty. 1496 Sir G. Hay *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 115 It efferis wele to a constable to be wys and verty, and wele aviset in all his dedis. 1804 Tarras *Poems* 2 Archie, fu' vertie, owre the moorlan' spangs Ilk strype and stank; nae doubt he itchin fangs To crack wi' San'. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl.*, *Vairtie*, early. Buchan.

Hence **Ve·rtyness.** *rare*—1.

1496 Sir G. Hay *Bk. Knighthood* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 54 A man can..mend ane evill fortune appeirand be veirtynesse.

Veruel, obs. var. Varvel.

Verula·mian, *a. rare.* [f. L. *Verulami-um* St. Albans.] Performed by, emanating from, Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam.

1672 R. Boman *Wind* 23 From another of the Verulamian experiments. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 406 The discipline..had brought the public to a temper well fitted for the reception of the Verulamian doctrine.

† **Verule,** obs. f. Ferrule *sb.* and *v.*

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Verules*, or *Ferrils*, several rings, one within another, which have the same centre. *Ibid.*, *Veruled*, or *Ferriled*...are terms used in heraldry to express the ornamental rings round hunting-horns, &c.

‖ **Verumonta·num.** *Anat.* [f. L. *verū* spit + *montānum*, neut. of *montānus* hilly.] (See quots. 1728 and 1831.)

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Veru-montanum*, in Anatomy,..a kind of little Valve, in the Place where the Ejaculatory Ducts enter the Urethra...Its use is, to prevent the Urine, in passing the Urethra, from getting in at those Ducts. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 273/1 A small oblong oval eminence..terminating forward in a point, called *caruncula* or *verumontanum*. 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 817 The inferior median line ends posteriorly at an oblong, rounded prominence, about an inch long, called the *Verumontanum* (*Caput Gallinaginis*). This prominence is formed by the mucous membrane...Anteriorly, it becomes thin and ends in a point. 1860 Sir H. Thompson *Dis. of Prostate* (1868) 26 Some minute vessels, chiefly venous,..on either side of the verumontanum. 1876 Gross *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 857 The sinus in front of the verumontanum.

Verunda, obs. form of Veranda.

Vervorp, southern ME. var. FAR-FORTH *adv.*

Vervail(e, obs. ff. VARVEL.

Vervain (vɜ·rvĕn). *Bot.* Forms: α. 4–6 **veruseyn(e, -veyn(e**, 5, 7 **-veine**, 4, 7 **verveine**, 4, 7–9 **vervain.** β. 5, 7 **vervaine**, 5 **-wayne (warwayn)**, 6–7 **-waine**, 7– **vervain.** γ. 5–6 **verusn(e**, 6–7 **-ven.** δ. 6 **veruyne**, 6–7 **veruine**, 6–8 **-vine**; 6 **veruin, -uyn**, 6–7 **vervin, -vyn** (7 **varvin**). [a. AF. and OF. *verveine* (13th c.; Ol'. also *vervainne*, mod.F. *verveine*, = Prov., It. *vervena*), ad. L. *verbēna* VERBENA.]

1. The common European and British herbaceous plant, *Verbena officinalis*, formerly much valued for its reputed medicinal properties. Also rarely, some other species of the genus *Verbena*, or the genus itself. Cf. VERBENA 2.

α. 1398 GOWER *Conf.* II. 262 Tok sche fieldwode and verveyne, Of herbes ben noght betre tueine. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 243 A ȝelke of an eij, & as miche of oile of rosis, & as miche of iuys of veruevine. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 64 Vitriol..made with iuyse of moleyn, or of plantayne, or veruеyn. 1621 COTGR., *Verveine*, Verueine, Holie hearbe, Iunoes teares. 1706 STEVENS *Sp. Dict.* I, *Verbena*, the Herb Vervein. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1210/1 The common name of *Verbena officinalis*,..Vervein, our only native species. 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 161 Between the pathway and the wood She seemed to make a softer clime For vervein, violet, and thyme. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 402 Vervein (*Verbena officinalis*, L.).—Herbaceous plant.

β. *a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 315 in *Anglia* XVIII. 375 A lytyll wyl I tellyn of verwayne, Herbe þat meche is of mayne. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 645 *Hec veruena*, warwayn. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* iii. in Ashm. (1652) 39 Vervaine, Lunara, and Martagon. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCXXXV. 580 There be two kindes of Veruaine as Pliny saith, the male, and the female; or as others affirme, vpright, and creeping. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 218 And hard by them againe he holy Vervaine finds. 1672 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 439 Vervain..is good against Tertian and Quartan Agues. 1728 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 132 Vervain flowers in June and July. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 196 The Druids also looked upon vervain, and some other plants, as holy. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 97 Vervain blue for magic rites renown'd. 1816 SCOTT *Antiquary* xxiii, You have used neither charm,..magic mirror, nor geomantic figure. Where be..your May-fern, your vervain? 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 239 The properties formerly ascribed to the Vervain appear to have been imaginary. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* III. vi. II. 90 About the feet of the Tower of Galileo, ivy and vervain, and the Madonna's herb, grew among the grasses.

γ. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 63 Mirabolan ow to be dissolued in gote mylk,..or in rayne water or rose water, or of veruene, or of anoþer stiptike herbe. 1545 ELYOT, *Herbobotane*, the herbe called Veruen. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 64 Veruen, of some after their language is called Holy Herbe. 1591 LODGE *Hist. Dk. Normandy* B ij b, Thou art like the veruen,..poyson one wayes, and pleasure an other.

δ. 1530 PALSGR. 284/2 Vervyn an herbe, *verueyne*. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 9 b, Thynges good for the eyes: Eyebryght: Fenell: Vervyn. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 162 The second kinde of Veruine..The leaues of thys..are good agaynst..serpentes. 1596 COGAN *Haven Health* xxi. 41 Also one olde saying I haue heard of this herbe, That whosoeuer weareth Veruin and Dill, May be bold to sleepe on euery hill. 1612 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* II. i, And thou light Varvin too, thou must go after, Provoking easie souls to mirth and laughter. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 32 These yield a Robust heat, especially Elecampane, Garlick,..Vervin, Valerian. *a* 1802 in Leyden *Cout of Keelder* xxiv. *note*, Gin ye wish to be leman mine, Lay off the St. John's wort and the vervine.

b. With distinguishing terms, denoting varieties of this or other species of the genus *Verbena*. Also applied to various species of plants resembling or allied to (and sometimes formerly classed with) the vervains.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 125 *Verbena recta*, ..Upright or straight Veruayne. *Ibid.*, *Verbena supina*,..Low and base Veruayne. 1602 CHESTER *Love's Mart*, xlii, Base or flat Veruine, and the wholesome Tansie. 1611 COTGR., *Verueine basse*, Holie Veruеine, creeping Veruеine. *Ibid.*, *Verveine femelle*, Female Veruеine. *Ibid.*, *Verveine masle*, Male Veruеine, straight or vpright Veruеine, common Veruеine. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* x. 93 Luzone Vervain with Mint like Leaves. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Verbena*, Taller broad-leav'd Portugal Vervain. *Ibid.*, Canada Nettle-leav'd Vervain. *Ibid.*, American Vervain with many Spikes. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The fine-leaved Vervain. ..The narrow-leav'd nettle Vervain of America. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 403/2 *Stachytarpha Jamaicensis*, Jamaica Bastard Vervain. 1843 *Ibid.* XXVI. 254/2 *Verbena Aubletia*, Rose-coloured Vervain...*V.* [now *Lippia*] *triphylla*, Lemon-scented Vervain. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot. stricta*, Hoary Vervain. 1868 — *Less. Bot.* (1874) 340 *Verbena officinalis*, European Vervain. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Stink*, *Stinking vervain*, the guinea-hen weed.

c. With *a* and pl. A single species or plant of the genus *Verbena*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCXLVI. 718 The Veruaines flowre in July and August. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 403/2 Many of them [species of *Stachytarpha*] have been described as Vervains, but they are distinct from that genus. 1891 F. TENNYSON *Psyche* I, Garden sweets, Jasmin and vervaine, and old lavender.

2. Incorrectly used to render (or represent) L. *verbena*: see VERBENA 1.

1548 COOPER *Elyot's Dict.*, *Verbenarius*, was one of the ambassadours sent from the Romaines vnto their enemies, which were on his heade a garlande of Verueu. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1593) 159 Altars twaine of turffe she builded:..Both the which as soone as she had dight With vervine [etc.]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXX. xliii. 772 They should carrie with them every one by himselfe, certaine flint stones of their owne, and likewise Verven. 1623 B. JONSON *Sejanus* v. iv, Bestow your garlands: and, with reverence, place The vervin on the altar. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 90 Bind those Altars round With Fillets; and with Vervain strow the Ground. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. v. 276 Shall we ..say to the Æqui and Sabines, take Branches of Vervain, and return and sue to us humbly for Peace? 1789 W. MASON *Caractacus* Poems 1830 II. 77 Lift your boughs of vervain blue, Dipt in cold September dew. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 53 Festoon these altars and fat vervains burn. 1863 CONINGTON *Odes Hor.* IV. xi. 7 The altar, strew'd With vervain, hungers for the flow Of lambkin's blood.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vervain family*, *order*, *root*, *tree*, etc.; *vervain-like* adj.; **vervain humming-bird**, the small Jamaican species, *Mellisuga minima*; **vervain-sage** *U.S.* (see quot.).

c 1580 G. HARVEY *Marginalia*, *Hoppersus* (1913) 182 Redd Roses, Veruеyn rootes,..Good for the sight. 1712 tr. [illegible] leaves. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 568 Verbenaceæ, the Vervain Family. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 611 The Vervain Order.—Herbs, shrubs, or trees. 1865 WOOD *Homes without H.* XXVIII. 560 This is the Vervain Humming Bird, ..one of the minutest of the feathered race. Its popular name is derived from its fondness for the West Indian vervain. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 163/2 The vervain genus gives its name to the natural order (*Verbenaceæ*) of which it is a member. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Vervain-sage*, a European species of sage (*Salvia Verbenaca*) with small bluish flowers, sparingly naturalized in the United States.

b. Vervain mallow, a species of mallow, *Malva alcea*.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 10 Alcea..In englishe..may be named Veruen mallowe, or cut mallowe. 1621 COTGR., *Guimauues sauuages*, the wild Mallowes called, Veruine Mallowes, cut Mallowes, and Simons Mallowes. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. iii. iii. 235 The Seed of the Vervaine Mallow of Japan. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. XXXIX. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Alcea*, The common larger vervain mallow with red flowers. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* XXIV. (1794) 342 Vervain Mallow has an erect stem,..the flowers large, and light purple. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 204 Vervain Mallow. Stem erect; lower leaves angular.

Vervall, obs. variant of VARVEL.

Verve (vɜ·v). [a. F. *verve*, of obscure origin; in OF. (from 12th cent.) the sense is 'caprice, fancy'.]

1. Special bent, vein, or talent in writing. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* Ded., Ess. (Ker) II. 216 If he be above Virgil, and is resolved to follow his own *verve*, (as the French call it,) the proverb will fall heavily upon him: Who teaches himself, has a fool for his master. 1756 GRAY in W. MASON *Mem.* (1807) II. 119 You will not expect therefore I should give you any account of my *Verve* which is at best..of so delicate a constitution. 1783 H. WALPOLE *Let. to W. Mason* 8 Nov., One of my most fervent wishes has long been that you would exercise more frequently the *verve* that is so eminently marked as your characteristic talent. 1878 SMILES *Robt. Dick* 412 He had a strong poetic verve.

2. Intellectual vigour, energy, or 'go', esp. as manifested in literary productions; great vivacity of ideas and expression. (Common from *c* 1870.)

1803 BEDDOES *Hygeia* x. 35 Many such processes..are carried on with as high a *verve* or as true fervour as ever accompanied poetic fiction. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 233 There is Madame de Genlis,..approaching her eighticth year, full of *verve*, and announcing her 'Mémoires de Dangeau'. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 327 He..launched forth during the rest of the meal with his usual verve and fanciful extravagance of imagination. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 172 That thorough enjoyment of the labour, which is necessary to give life and verve to any creation, whether of the poet or the orator. 1894 A. BIRRELL *Ess.* v. 56 Cumberland tells the story with the irresistible verve of falsehood.

3. In general use: Energy, vigour, spirit.

1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* iv. I. 87 There isn't one half the *verve* among you new people there was in my young time. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* I. 250 Such a man, not too young nor yet too old,..full of verve and enjoyment of life. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances back* II. xxiv. 48 Thackeray's 'Mahogany Tree', which..[Maybew] gave in his deep bass voice with uncommon verve.

†Vervecean, *a. Obs.*—[See next and -EAN.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vervecean*, *Vervecine*, of or belonging to a Weather or Sheep; like a Weather.

Vervecine, *a. rare.* [a. F. *vervecine* (Rabelais), or ad. L. *vervēcīn-us*, f. *vervēc-is*, *vervex* wether: see -INE 1.] Of or belonging to a sheep.

The first quot. merely follows the burlesque diction of the original text.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. vi, Goodly vervecine spatules perforaminated with petrosile. 1656 [see prec.]. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. xi. 332 The vervecine and ovine hydatids, which penetrate into their [*sc.* sheep's] lungs and liver and occasion the rot.

Vervel(l, variants of VARVEL.

†Verven, obs. variant of FERVENT *a.* 2.

Attributed to a rustic speaker.

1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* III. iii, To mark the vervеn Heart of a Hesse.

Verven, etc., obs. ff. VERVAIN. **Vervene**, **Vervente**, obs. vars. FERVENCE, FERVENT.

Vervet (vɜ·rvĕt). *Zool.* [a. F. *vervet* (Cuvier), of obscure origin.] A species of monkey (*Cercopithecus pygerythrus* or *C. lalandii*), native to various parts of Africa. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Imp. Dict.* 1893 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 97 Still better known than the malbrouck is the South African vervet monkey. *Ibid.*, The fur of the vervet is of a greyish-green colour. 1897 H. O. FORBES *Hand-bk. Primates* II. 60 The Vervet Guenon..[is] very nearly allied to the Grivet, ..the Malbrouck, and..the Green Guenon.

Vervil(e, obs. variants of VARVEL.

†Vervise. *Obs.*—[1] (See quot. and PLUNKET *sb.*)

1483 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 8 § 18 Any Clothe called Vervise, otherwise called Plounkettes, Turkyns, or Celestrines with broode listes.

Verwound, southern ME. var. FORWOUND *v.*

Very (ve·ri), *a.*, *adv.*, and *sb.* Forms: α. 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) **verray** (4 **verrai, -aie**, 6 *Sc.* **varray**), 4–6 **werray** (4 **werrai, warrai**, 6 *Sc.* **warray**), **veray** (5–6 **veraye, weray**), **veral**; 4–6 **verrey** (4 **verrei, ferrey**, 5 **werrey**), **very** (5 **uerey, vereye**, 7 *Sc.* **werey**). β. 4–5 **verra**, 6 *Sc.* **vera, werra**; 8–9 *Sc.* **vera**, 9 *Sc.* and *north.* **verra**; 6–7 (9 *north.*) **vara**, 9 *Sc.* **varra**. γ. 4–5 **verre** (5 **vere**), 5–6 **werre** (6 **were**). δ. 4–5 **verri, verry** (5, 9 *dial.* **werry**), 6–7 *Sc.* **verrie** (6 **werrie**), 9 *dial.* **varry, vurry**; 4–6 **veri**, 5– **very** (5 **vary**, 5, 7 *Sc.*, **wery**), 5–6 **verye**, 5–7 **verie** (6 **werie**, *Sc.* **vearie**). [a. AF. *verrai, verrey, verai, veray*, OF. *verai, varai, vrai* (mod.F. *vrai*, Pr. *verai*), f. the stem of L. *vērus* true.]

A. *adj.* **I. 1.** Really or truly entitled to the name or designation; possessing the true character of the person or thing named; properly so called or designated; = TRUE *a.* 5.

Very common from *c* 1300 to *c* 1600; now *rare* except as an echo of Biblical usage.

a. Of persons, or the Deity.

α, β. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 87 Be þet hi offrede gold..seawede þet he was sothfast kink, and be þet hi offrede Stor..seawede þet he was verray prest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22729 A clude..bar him vp, wonder bright; Warrai man and godd warrai. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3568 Wele haþ Gij don þat day, As gode knizt & verray. *a* 1380 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 32/1 A mayden, forsoþe, wente her in, But now forsoþe, as I seo con, 3onde sittеþ a verrei mon. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 389 A verra victor a-vansid with all þe vayne werde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XV. 66 He..es a haly prophete and a verray in worde and in dede. 1413 *Pilgr. Soule* I. XV (Caxton, 1483) 14 Iheus,.. that were of Mary veray mayd bore in verray flesshe and bloode. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 957 (Grant me comfort this day, As thow art God verray! 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. Countess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 301 All the lerned men of Englonde to whome she was a veray patronesse. 1522 — *Serm. agst. Luther* I. Ibid. 313 To be vnto her in all suche stormes a verray comforter. 1533 GAU *Richt Way* 37 Be this word.. he is verray God.

γ, δ. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 310 Siþ Crist, verrest bischop of alle, curseþ not for his tiþes. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple Glas* 571 Nou am I cauȝt vnder subiecciоun, Forto bicome a verre homagere, To god of loue. *c* 1450 *Myrrowre our Ladye* 323 Thow arte the certayne hope of wretches, very mother of motherle-se. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 15 in *Macro Plays* 36 Þe belowyde sone.., Spows of þe chyrche, & very patrone. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xi. 32 All men counted Ihon, that he was a veri prophett. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 150 b, She had one poynt of a very woman, she was.. mutable, and turnyng. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Comm. Creed*, Very God of very God. 1574 tr. *Marloral's Apocalips* 21 In respect wherof he is called the sonne of man, that is too say, verie man. 1615 BEDWELL *Moham. Imp.* II. § 53 God is a very spirit. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 108 Th' are very Men, not Things That move by Puppet-work. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Mlle. Panache* (1832) 252, 'I confess, I am a very woman,' said Lady Augusta, with a sigh. 1854 TRENCH *Synonyms* § 8 (ed. 2) 30 But he is ἀληθινός,..*very* God, as distinguished from idols and all other false gods. 1887 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1870) II. 329 I hence we went into Queen Mary's room, and saw that beautiful portrait—that very queen and very woman.

b. Of abstract things, conditions, or qualities.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26103 And þan we sal þe pointes rede þat warrai scriſte al of has nede. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1184 So was hit me dere þat þou con deme, In þys verray avysyoun. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 15 For riȝt-wisenesse generali is fulfillinge of lawe, and so fulfillinge of Goddis lawe is verrei riȝt-wisenesse. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3313 Mercy..Of herte is a verray compassioun Of othir menys harm. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 91 The fertilitee Of withi, rede, aller, ywy, or vyne That ther is water nygh is verrey signe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 3 Our antecessowris..We lat ourslide, throw werray sleuthfulnes. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 202 Under the colour of a veray peax, whiche is nesertheles but a cloked and furred peax. 1562 WINET *Cert. Tractatio* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 12 Thre of the greatest ydolis,..verray ydolis in deid.

β, δ. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1639 Þere was verry matrymony, with oute fleshly dede of eny. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 315 Crist axiþ here mekenes and poverte, wiþ verri pees. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 246 This goodis of Fortune or of kynde..be not werry goodys, for now thay hyth, and now thay bythagone. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 11 Thou..haste very repentaunce of herte. *Ibid.* 13, I haue very trust in god, that [etc.]. 1488 *Bk. St. Albans* a ij, Therfore thys book fowlowyng in a dew forme shewys veri knawlege of suche pleasure. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 24 A generall syght of ye principles & processe of very religyon. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 7 The moste precious garment of verie nobilitee. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstones* 5 Which we absurdely call worldely wealth, when

as very wealth, is health. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 147 Also, Unwritten Customes..by the tacite consent of the Emperour..are very Lawes. *a* 1679 — *Rhet.* xvi. (1681) 39 The written Law is but seeming justice; the Law of Nature very justice. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. 58 Half dead with very death still drawing nigh.

c. Of material things.

a 1330 *Roland & V.* 129 For to wite þe sobe þere, 3if þe relikes verray were. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 188 Scho..bad bame hyre in askis lay, & schaw til hyre a croice verra. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. ix. 193 Ech lyuyng man is verier..ymage of Crist..than is eny vnquyk stok. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlvii. 569 It is harde.. to knowe betwene the very precyous stones and fals. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 356 Many bouwes and branches,.. muche like vnto verye trees that are in owlde woddes. 1582 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 23 The other parts which we call compound, or instrumentall, which are the verie members of the bodie. 1598 Timme *Tres Reg. Leprre* K j b, They which are out of their wittes do not see the verie things, but the fantasies of their passion. 1678 Hobbes *Decam.* ix. 106 Such Iron were indeed a very and vigorous Loadstone.

† d. Full, thorough, unqualified. *Obs.*

1446 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 339 The said maister..shal do hi⁊ verray diligence to pourvey..a place as gode. 1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 512/1 The said Quene is of verrey will and mynde, that the same Erle shall be truly and fully contented.

† e. *spec.* in *Law.* (See quot. 1607.) *Obs.*

1544 tr *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 96 b, But if it be verye lord and verye tenaunt, and the tenaunte maketh a feoffement in fee. [So Coke *On Litt.* (1628) 269] 1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s.v., Very Lord, and very Tenent,..are they that be immediate Lord & Tenent one to the other.

2. With limitation (usually expressed by *the* or a possessive) to particular instances: The true or real; that is truly or properly entitled to the name. Now *arch.* a. Of material things or places.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christopher*) 61 Þe king can ma þe takine of þe croice verra on hyme. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 255 Ysidre seiþ þat verray [L. *proprie dicta*] Germania haþ in þe est side þe mouth of þe ryuer Danubius. 1414 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. ii. 120 The materyall bred that was before is turnyd into Chrystys verray body. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 329 Than he made vpon hym the signe of the very crosse. 1525 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 4 Theyr iourney..signifyeth the iourney to yᵉ very Jerusalem. 1535 Coverdale *John* vi. 55 For my flesh is yᵉ very meate, and my bloude is yᵉ very dryuke. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 61 He is the way, trothe, lyfe, and lycht, The varray [*v.r.* verray, verie] port, till heaven full rycht. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. i. 4 Though..the reall, and very object seem invested with the fancy it begets in us. 1849 Neale *Hymns for Sick* (1906) 26 Thy very Flesh and Blood.

b. Of abstract things, conditions, etc.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. iii. (1868) 69 And by a maner þoust..3e looken from a fer til þilk verray fyn of blisfulnesse. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xii. 139 Thei that scholden ben conve ted to Crist..ban thorghe oure Wykkednesse..fer fro us and straungeres fro the holy and verry Beleeve. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xii. 65 But the trewe and verry vndir-stonding ther of is this. *c* 1465 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 3 Þe welfare of Edward Rex moste riall, That is þe verie purpos that we labure fore. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 161 The verray cause of his come I knew noght the cace. 1525 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, Euery religious persone sholde intende the perfeccyon of his soule, whiche is the very peace of the spiryte. 1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 10 Thys ys the veray true and cyuyle lyfe. 1577 *St. Aug. Manual* (Longman) 106 The very wisedome of God shall shew himselfe to them. 1647 Saltmarsh *Sparkles Glory* (1847) 80 Pastors,..who cannot now minister as the oracles of God, nor according to the very gifts of the Holy Ghost then. 1839 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt. Part.* II. lxxxvii. 37 The vulgar animosity against a skin,—the stamp of lowly-mindedness, and very indication of cart blood.

c. Of persons or the Deity.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3 Xrist, goddes verray son and wyssdame. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 24 The v rray pape sanct Innocent had bene put out [by a false pope]. 1583 [Coverdale] *Old God & New* (1534) Bj, After yᵗ yᵉ eternall & the verye god had shewed hym selfe vnto Adam. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Comm., Pref. Easter* 126 He is the very Pascall Lambe. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 184 The Priestis..ar the verray Antichristis. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 71 What would you say do me now, and I were your verie, verie Rosalind? 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 21 His minde was enlightened to know the onely very God.

† d. Proper, correct. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xv, Pough þer be alauntes of alle hewese, þe verrey hewe of þe good alauntes ..should be white with a blake spotte aboute þe eres.

3. In emphatic use, denoting that the person or thing may be so named in the fullest sense of the term, or possesses all the essential qualities of the thing specified. Cf. Veritable *a.* 3.

Common from *c* 1550 to *c* 1700; now chiefly in the superlative, freq. qualifying something bad, objectionable, or undesirable. Occasionally repeated in order to give additional emphasis.

a. With *a* or *the* preceding (or rarely without article), or with pl. sb.

(*a*) 1384 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 259 (*Prol.*), Thow thynkist in thyn wit ..That he nys but a verray propre fole. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* vi, He..is a very fole. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Kings* xxii. 19 They shall become a very desolacion and curse. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* xxv. 75 Euery one of them is become a very Nero. 1576 Gascoigne *Kenelworth Castle* Wks 1910 II. 122 Heaven was not heaven, it was rather a verye Hell. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* F j b, When he was dead, Valentinian his sonne a very childe, was by the army stiled Augustus. 1662 Petty *Taxes* 83 Not to rate..wool until it be cloth, or rather until it be a very garment. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* vi. 592 When Poor, she's scarce a tollerable Evil; But Rich, and Fine, a Wife's a very Devil. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 157 P 1 Marius was then a very Boy. 1772 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 55 The attorney was a very knave. 1846 Disraeli *Vin. Grey* III. vi, Yes, it is madness; very, very madness. 1849 Scott *Anne of G.* xxi, Sigismund Biederman will aid him willingly, and he is a very horse at labour. 1888 J. Inglis *Tent Life in Tigerland* 1 North Bhangulpore..is admittedly even for India a very sportman's paradise.

(*b*) 1593 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 6 Which insolency must be repressed, or it will be the very bane of Christian religion. 1648 *Art. Peace* in *Milton's Wks.* (1851) IV. 546 The intermeuling of Governours and Parties in this Kingdom, with Sidings and Parties in England, have been the very betraying of this Kingdom to the Irish. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 393 P 2 A Region, which is the very Reverse of Paradise. 1729 Law *Serious C.* xiv. 234 Mortification, of all kinds, is the very life and soul of piety. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 308 And then for owls, it is their very kingdom. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* 5 Voltaire was the very eye of modern illumination. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Nov. 5/4 The atmosphere of most of the courts..is the very reverse of healthy.

b. With *a* inserted between the adj. and the sb. qualified, esp. *as* or *so very a.* Cf. So *adv.* 14 d. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 405 There can no man be imagined so very a coward or so barbarouse. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Adague miser*, euen as very a wretch. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 69 For oftentimes seene, no more verie a knaue than he that doth counterfait most to be graue. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 352, I will onely content myself to protest that you were never so very a poet, as when you spake of me. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 29 July, He is as very a wencher as can be. 1704 J. Trapp *Abra-Mule* III. i. 1047 Thou cam'st to find as very a Madman As ever rav'd in Chains. 1739 A. Hill in *Richardson's Corr.* (1804) I. 36, I was so very a boy when I suffered that light piece of work to be published, that [etc.]. 1747–8 Richardson *Ibid* I. 182 A thing..so very a nothing in itself. 1804 H. Martin *Helen of Glenross* IV. 118 So very a soldier. 1818 Scott *Tapestr. Chamb.* P 47, I sank back in a swoon, as very a victim to panic terror as ever was a village girl. 1844 C. Macfarlane *Camp of Refuge* v. (1897) 77 Without knowing..how very a prisoner she is in her own manor-house.

c. In the comp. *verier* and (in later use more commonly) the superl. *veriest.*

(*a*) 1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict.* s.v. *Certus*, There is no veryer knaue. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 767/1 The Lord will..suffer vs to come home verier fooles and doltes then wee went. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 40 Your selves, veryer beasts then the hogs you lost. 1682 Flavel *Meth. Grace* vii. 145 To represent it as a verier trifle, and needless thing than these his agents have done. *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 94 Where the stump of the Tree stood it meets with not a few Visitants so much veryer stocks than it self, as to fall down and worship it. 1735 Pope *Donne's Sat.* iv. 28 A verier monster than on Africk's shore, The Sun e'er got, or slimy Nilus bore. 1814 Southey *'Who counsels peace?'* iv, All too long in blood had he been nurst, And ne'er was earth with verier tyrant curst. 1840 Clough *Dipsychus* II. iv. 111 A verier Mercury, express come down To do the world with swift arithmetic. 1856 Aytoun *Bothwell* (1857) 8 A verier knave ne'er stepped the earth.

(*b*) 1530 Palsgr. 327/2 [The] Veryest foole, *le plus fol.* 1571 Digges *Pantom.* I xxx. K j b, He hath erred euen in the principall, and as I might tearme them the veriest trifles. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 126, I know not which of these two sortes are the veriest fooles. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Armin.* 155 He is no more..for the Elect, than hee is for the veriest Reprobate. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* III. vi, I swear Mr. Benjamin is the verriest Wag in nature; an absolute Sea-wit. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 11 P 5 His Sons and his Sons Sons, have all of 'em been the veriest Rogues living. 1742 Blair *Grave* 642 The veryest Gluttons do not always cram. 1780 *Mirror* No. 104, From the same causes, the veriest trifle..had become to him an object of importance. 1833 Chalmers *Const. Man* (1835) I. ii. 129 There is no enjoyment whatever in the veriest hall of assembled outcasts. 1859 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. 227 Poetry, which read by the veriest schoolboy makes music of itself. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 200 Even the deep sinking at the Rosebridge Colliery is but the veriest dent in the earth's surface.

4. † a. Truthful, true; sure, reliable. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3473 Oure lauerd..Had don hir in to sikernes, Thoru his werrai prophecie, Quat suld be þan childer vie. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9965 Þese wurdes are verry and clere; Dauyd hem seyth yn þe sautere. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 87 Sekyrly I hop that Thomas prophecy Off Hersildoune sall verray be In him. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 34 Come lord yᵗ thi prophets be fonden lele and verray. *c* 1450 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 516 A verey prove cowthe not be hade in that mater, wherefore the kynge grawntede to þeim lothe theire lyves. *a* 1505 *Chron. Lond.* (Kingsford) 222 This yere.. came veray tydynges vnto the kyng..that the frensh kyng was dede.

b. Of truth: Exact, simple, real, actual.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 158 This is a verray sooth with outen glose. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 66 Herkenes now, and 3e may here The werre sothe alle plenere. *c* 1425 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1226 And I shall yow tell the verrey sothe of all. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* e vij b, And alle this is very trouthe. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1103/2 If he..can by no meane be shogged oute of his deadde slepe, but wil nedes take hys dreame for a verye trouth. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 237 In very truth, sir, I had as lief be hang'd sir, as goe. 1611 Florio, *Verità*, truth, veritie, verie-sooth. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. v. 8 To speak the very truth. 1890 Hawthorne *Scarlet L.* xi. (1892) 133 He had spoken the very truth, and transformed it into the veriest falsehood. 1880 Myers *Tenerife* vii, And is the World's in very truth An impercipient Soul?

† c. Of decisions, etc.: Just, true. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. xlvii. 200 (Addit. MS.), Therfore we are turned agayn, to here a verrey dome, what is for to done of this thynge. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 86 b/1 Alle they merueyiled and said that thys was a verray and ryght good answere of the question.

† d. *Of very* (*due*) *right*, justly, properly, rightly, truly. *Obs.*

† *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1627 This welle is clepid, as welle is knowen, The welle of Love, of verray right. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 7 Fortune gaff him eke prosperite, and richesse, Withe scripture appering in ther sighte, To him applyed of verray dew righte. *c* 1440 — *Hors, Shepe & G.* 57 Eques, ab 'equo' is seid of verray riht And cheualere is saide of cheualrye. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lxxxvi. 565, I and ony knyght..oughte of veray ryght socoure and rescowe soo noble a knyghte as ye are. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 117 He that of very ryght owed yᵉ cappe.

e. *In* (or † *of*) *very deed*: see Deed *sb.* 5 c.

† 5. Exact or precise, as opposed to *approximate*; = True *a.* 4. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 83 How mykelle lond & rent holy kirke had to a prowe, Alle þat did extend to witte þe verrey valowe. 1382 Wyclif *Dent.* xxv. 15 Weist thou shalt haue iust and verrey, and euen bussbel and verre shal be to thee. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 17 Euermo this cercle equinoxial turnyth liustly fro verrey est to verrey west. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 40 The seid places with the portenances [to] be soold to the verray valew. 1485 *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 318 The verray value of the same. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 53 The verie time, as Theophrastus writeth, is at the spring. 1594 West *Symbol.* II. *Chancerie* § 95 Gently requiring him ..to deliver..such and so many of the said sheepe,..or the verie value thereof. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 33 They are not well agreed about the very particular place. 1657 Trapp *Comm. Job* xxxix. 25 Horses will perceive aforehand the very time of the fight.

† b. Of a copy, writing, etc. *Obs.* (Cf. 10 c.)

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xix xiii 796 And by cause I haue lost the very mater of la cheualer du charyot I departe from the tale of sir Launcelot. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 49 b, His awne confession written with hys awne hande, the very copy wherof hereafter ensueth.

† 6. Of a friend, servant, etc.: True, faithful, sincere, staunch; = True *a.* 1. *Obs.*

Very common in the 16th c. In later use perh. merely intensive.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1686 *Lucretia*, To..drawe to memorye The verry wif, the verry trewe Lucresse. *c* 1386 — *Wife's T.* 348 Pouerte a spectakle is, as thynkyth me, Thorw whech he may his veray frend i-see. *a* 1475 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 245 Who that cannat dis-eure wise from bad Shal haue no verrey freendes þat be and. *c* 1487–1500 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 474 Your verrey bedeman the provost of the kynges College. 1532 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 347 My veraye Frend and Felow Mr. John Welsborne. 1584 R. R. tr. *Herodotus* To Rdr., I ende. Your very friende. R. R. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 283 A gentlewoman of Lorraine, my very friend, 1608 Rowlande *Humors Looking Gl.* 14 A Gentleman a verie friend of mine. 1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* III. i, Sir, Sir, your very Servant; I was afraid you had forgotten me.

† 7. Of persons: Truly or rightfully standing in a certain position or relationship; rightful, lawful, legitimate. *Obs.*

? 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 68, I am very heyre, by the discess of my fader, to a place called Keswyk. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 56 Preamble, Landes..to the whiche the vere owners be now restored by dyvers actes. 1523 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 52, I do give my full power..unto my saide suster Lucie, and I do charge hir, as she is very mother of my saide nece [etc.]. 1545 *Charters rel. Glasgow* (1906) II. 509 His varray lawful cessionaris, donatouris and assignais. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* (1809) II. 105 Neither King Edward himselfe nor the Duke of Clarence were lawfully begotten, nor were they very children of the Duke of Yorke. 1666 *Munim. Melros* (Bann. Cl.) 657 We..constitutis..Oure verrie lauchfull vndoubtit and irreuocabill Procuratouris, actoris, factoris [etc.].

transf. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 203 In the yeere, 1146, was founded Boxley in Kent, the verie daughter of Clarevalle.

† b. Legally valid or established. *Obs.*

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 24 To be put in rememorauns of youre auncien enheritaunce, verray right and title in youre duchies of Gascoigne and Guien. 1487 *Munim. Melros* (Bann. Cl.) 618 Þe Abbot..hes verray richt to þe erde siluer of þe quer of þe said Kirk.

II. 8. Used as an intensive, either to denote the inclusion of something regarded as extreme or exceptional, or to emphasize the exceptional prominence of some ordinary thing or feature.

In very common use from the 16th cent. With slight change of syntax the sense may commonly be expressed by the advs. 'even' or 'actually'. Various types of context (with *the*, possessives, etc.) are illustrated in the several groups of quotations; the use in (*d*) is now obsolete, and that in (*c*) a rare archaism.

(*a*) *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 565 Ran cow and calf, and eek the verray hogges Sore fered were for berkyng of dogges. 1526 Tindale *Luke* ii. 35 The swearde shall pearce the very hert off the. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xcvi. 6 The very heauens declare his rightuousnes, & all people se his glory. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 8 b, All Coronells and Captaines of footmen, yea euen the verie Lieutenants generalls. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 180 Sore was she troubled with vomiting, so as having nothing in her stomack, she cast up the very pure blood. 1695 Fullar *Ch. Hist.* IV. 184 The Provost..being provided for in all particulars, to the very points of his hose. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 306 P 1 It goes to the very Soul of me to speak what I really think of my Face. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* III. Notes (1736) 223 All tastes and degrees of men, from those of the highest quality to the very rabble. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII. ix, The very air was rent with cries. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxiii, He flew like the very wind. 1832 Warren *Diary*

Late Physic. II. iii. 122 The room was crammed to the very door. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5 (1882) 140 The very retainers of the royal household turned robbers. 1892 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xv, It's absurd on the very face of it.

(*b*) 1535 COVERDALE *Hab.* iii. 2 In thy very wrath thou thinkest vpon mercy. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* iv. P 2 To striue for our very rightes and dueties, with the breche of loue & charitie,..is vtterly forbydden. 1595 *Locrine* I. i. 68 A greater care torments my verie bones. 1600 in Morris *Troubles Calk. Foref.* (1872) I. iv. 194 Oftentimes their very beds they lie vpon..are sold before their faces. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 100 Yet in their verie mutuall relation there is also force of arguing to explicate a sentence. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* To Rdr., The Chyrurgeon's work of an *Esse rescindendum*, which I wish not to my very Enemies. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 27 You may imagine what Case we were in when one of them began to hack our very doors with an Ax. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* I. i, His very mirth is an antidote to all gaiety. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 725 His very soul was not his own. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. i, That we do not..see what is passing under our very eyes. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) III. vi. 86 The plain and solemn sense which they bear on their very front. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. xlvii. 433 His very defects were a main cause of his popularity.

(*c*) 1548 UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. John* 118 b, So nowe they sawe certainly at very hande the thing to be true. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K iij, There needeth no art, bicause very nature hir selfe createth and shapeth men apt to expresse pleasantly. 1572 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xvii. E iij b, And yet in conueying of waters any great distance, very experience wil bewray an error. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Numb.* xiv. *comm.*, It is so absolutely necessarie in everie communitie to have one Superior of al, that verie mutiners themselves do ever choose such a one. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 233 They keepe the Roman Lent, but more strictly, abstaining from Fish, and very Oyle (which they use for butter). 1649 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Use Passions* (1671) 81 The noise of Trumpets puts them in good humor, and..very hurts do animate their courage. 1657 CROMWELL in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 329 Their greatest persecution hath been of the people of God,..as I think very experiences will sufficiently demonstrate. 1851 KEBLE *Occas. Papers & Rev.* (1877) 240 By the way in which things are managed all Apostolic authority is denied in the Church, and very unbelievers may settle what we are to believe.

(*d*) 1618 in J. Russell *Hairs* (1881) vii. 158 For fear that his very being my brother left..some impression of the truth of his accusations. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. x. (1675) 335 Those Beams, which derive a new Glory from their very being broken.

b. Emphasizing sbs. which denote extremity of degree or extent.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 2 Ley thi reule vp that same day, & thanne wol the verray point of thy rewle sitten in the bordure, vp-on the degree of thy sonne. 1530 PALSGR. 806/1 At the very dawnyng of the daye. *Ibid.* 820/1 In the very myddes..of a thyng. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *John* viii. 4 The Scribes..said,..Master, this woman was taken in adulterie, in the verie act. 1563 ALLEN *Def. Purgat.* (1886) 3 That matter which..I perceived of all other causes in the world, most to touch the very core of heresy. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 61 He that is at the very pointe of death. 1603 CAMDEN *Rem.* 1 It cannot be impertinent, at the verie enterance, to say somewhat of Britaine. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 116 From the very brims of Tigris banke; as farre as to Euphrates, there was no greene thing left. 1772 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 401 He..then draws the lower part of that noose close up to the very corner of it. 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 359 The Milan government, we are informed, was a bankrupt from the very outset. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 347/1 Reduce this movement to the very minimum. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 18 Quiet slow sure money-making proves the matter's very root.

† **c.** Qualifying pronouns in order to give emphasis. Sometimes emphasizing identity (cf. sense 10 b). *Obs.*

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 281, I wyl euen veray I myself am ye manne. 1548 — *Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 17 And verai he shal be the expectacion of all nacions. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) E v, For very such make the greatnesse and gorgeousnesse of an Oration. 1624 QUARLES *Job* xv. 25 I'm turn'd a laughing-stock To boyes, & those, that su'd to tend my Flock,..these (euen very these) Flout at my sorrowes. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupæd.* 200 And this is even very she, whom you .were wont to sport with. *a* 1701 SEDLEY *Venus & Ad.* Wks. (1766) 36, I am ty'd to very thee By ev'ry thought I have.

d. Coupled with *own*.

1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) I. vi. 89 A prince who wielded with his own very hand the power of All the Russias. 1884 MRS. EWING *Mary's Meadow* (1886) 72, I had to have it, for my very own.

9. Neither more nor less than (that expressed by the sb. qualified); exactly that specified without qualification; = SHEER *a.* 8.

Qualifying abstract nouns, esp. those denoting emotions or conditions, and usually following a prep., esp. *for*.

c 1385 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 132 For verray feere so wolde hir herte quake. *a* 1440 *Partonope* 849 She gynneth to wepe For verray joye. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 69 [He] throu verray fors was the first lord of that realme. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 37, I yeve..to my neve .my best pure..and xx li. to put ther inne, .and wil he be servyd

dyed with very heat. 1577 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* in *Chron.* I. 157/1 Through verie displeasure of suche iniuries as shee daylye susteyned at the handes of his concubines, shee founde meanes to strangle him. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 12 As a man who..for very spight Still will be tempting him who foyls him still.

1812 CRABBE *Tales* xviii. 73 Foodly she pleaded and would gently sigh,..For very pity, or she knew not why. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 191 The sailors mutinied from very hunger. 1878 *Masque Poets* 31 For veriest joy her red mouth laughs.

b. With a limiting or restrictive force: That alone to the exclusion of any thing else; = MERE *a.*[2] 5.

1346 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 495 Having no other promocions but theyre veryr stipende or wages. 1574 BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xix. (1577) 50 b, Then haue they no other helpe but onely the very account of the shippes way. 1612 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iv. 9 Your very goodnesse, and your company, O're-payes all I can do. 1628 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 404 There be..17,000 Sheets of paper in that Book, which, upon ordinary account, cometh to eight hundred and fifty pound, the very writing. 1657 CROMWELL *Speech* 23 Jan. (*Carlyle*), So give me leave, in a very word or two, to congratulate with you. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* I. i, At thy very Name My eager Heart springs up. *Ibid.*, Sure 'tis the very Error of my Eyes. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. vii. 595 The Governor-General treated the very request as a high offence. 1843 A. W. PUGIN *Apol. Reviv. Chr. Archit.* 40 The very weight and massiveness of the work causing it frequently to settle and give. 1894 P. H. HUNTER *Jas. Inwick* xii. 153 The verra mention o' Tod-Lowrie's name was eneuch.

10. Used (after *the, this, that*, etc.) to denote or emphasize complete or exact identity: **a.** Of points of time.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Luke* x. 20 In that very houre he reioyced in spirit, and said [etc.]. 1610 DAY *Festivals* I. (1615) 20 Euen in his nicke of time, this very, very instant. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 193 The bell of that Church was sounded vpon the verie day of Saint Bartholmew. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* Pref. p. ii, To which..this our Island has been so fortunate as to have been subjected from its very first being inhabited to this very Day. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Down-Hall* xxviii, Come this very instant. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 141 She died just this very Day Seven Years. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* I. i. 29 On the very day of our debarkation. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 268 It is a rule of law..that a remainder must vest, either during the continuance of the preceding estate, or at the very instant of its determination. 1820 KEATS *St. Agnes* xiv, My lady fair the conjuror plays This very night. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 643 Jeffreys gave directions that Alice Lisle should be burned alive that very afternoon.

b. In general use.

In quots. under (*b*) corresponding to a defining clause which follows the sb.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 84 Why this is..the very hand: the very words. 1605 — *Macb.* I. vii. 76 When we haue mark'd with blood those sleeple two..,and vs'd their very Daggers. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xxxv. 8 Into that very destruction let him fall. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* 22 We are taught to pray, 'And lead us not into temptation',..which very method holy church here wisely imitates. 1661 *Act* 13 *Chas. II*, c. 9 § 6 All the Papers shall bee duely preserved and..the very Originals sent up intirely and without fraud to the Court of Admiralty. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. i, Timothy Trim; whom they did, in their conscience, believe to be the very prisoner. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 390 We put neither folio nor any thing else over the very Dedication. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxv, 'Young woman,' said he, 'your sister's case must certainly be termed a hard one'. 'God bless you, sir, for that very word!' said Jeanie. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* vii. (1852) 201 It must be made apparent, that what was demanded of human nature was the perfection of that very human nature. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 394 First of all answer this very question.

(*b*) 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 151 We have but little reason to expect, that God should gratifie us in the very individual thing that we desire. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 61 Those very Jews who at their very best Their Humour more than Loyalty expresst Now wondred. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 566 Each are continually intent upon that very thing, to which Each are respectively appointed. 1780 *Mirror* No. 99, The supposition, that this is the very character which Shakespeare meant to allot him. ' 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* x, Seeking the acquaintance of some of those very people, against whom his pride had revolted. 1857 BUCKLE *Hist. Civilis.* I. I. 6 They..take for granted the very question at issue. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 463/1 The contents of the deed were falsely stated by the very person who ought to have advised her on such legal matters.

c. Of words: Exactly corresponding to those of an original or previous statement.

1598 (see b). 1778 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* App., Wks. 1859 I. 146 Preserving, however, the very words of the established law. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. i. § 37. 51 He has neglected to quote the very words of his authorities. 1868 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xv, I said it, I said it. Those were my very words!

d. *The very thing*, the thing exactly suitable or requisite.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Montreuil* (1778) I. 90 It occurr'd to me that *that* was the very thing. 1800 MRS. J. WEST *Infidel Father* II. 123 This behaviour was certainly the very thing. 1868 NEWMAN *Let.* in *The Month* July (1909) 66, I am both surprised and glad at your news...I think it is the very thing for you.

B. *adv.* † **1.** Truly, really, genuinely; in or with truth or reality; truthfully. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 333. I dewoutly awowe, þat verray bes halden, Soberly to do þe sacrafyse when I schal saue worþe. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 29973 (Fairf.), Bot mani man þat wele can rede vnderstandis noȝt al verray quat þe vale of Iosaphat is to say. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 571 It..hath so very hyr lykenes That spack the word. *c* 1440 *Bone Florence* 1928 The al-bas, and odur nonnes by, Tolde hyt full openlye, That hyt was so verraye. *c* 1483 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 357 The compyler here-of shuld transmat veray so holy a story.

† **b.** Qualifying an adj. or pa. pple. *Obs.*

Not always clearly distinguishable from next.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 329 But for he was verray repentaunt he was excided for be fey. 1588 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxix, O I verray sely wrech, I se wele by thy dedely colours pale, Thou art to feble of thy-self to streche Vpon my quheis. *c* 1490 in Anngier *Ywe* (1840) 335 None schal be ouer skypped in any wyse for any suche chaunge, withe oute a very resonable cause. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 191 Two thousand knyghtes.., all ——— ——— of pryme berde, whiche were very frenche.] MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 244/1 Both thoes toanges [i. e. GREEK and Latin] wer as verye vulgare as ours. *c* 1550 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 5 Your Maiestie and the conseill hes to Judg gif thay be lauchful, and verray qualifiit.

2. In a high degree or measure; to a great extent; exceedingly, extremely, greatly.

Sometimes emphasized in speaking, and italicised in printing, to give additional force. (Cf. 4.)

a. Qualifying positive adjs. (and ppl. adjs.) used predicatively, attributively, or absolutely.

a. c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 86 Erle Patrik than till Berweik couth persew; Ressawide he was and trastyt verray trew. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 328 In the latine it hath a veray good grace. 1554–5 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 173 Of verey fayer quaint & strange attier. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 255 Machlin (a verayre fayre Towne.. in Brabant). *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 4 To pray me think it is verray necessarie.

b. a 1500–34 *Cov. Corp. Christi Pl.* II. 513 Those fowlys the ar full far fro me And werie yvill for me to fynde. 1530 PALSGR. 327/2 Very good, *fort bon. Ibid.* 828/1 Very farre, very hye, very lowe, etc. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 317 The said pest come in the towne of kirkcaldie that thair deit verrie mony. 1588 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 169 My father..ys a verye old man. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 56 This Iale is very scarce of oile and of corne. *Ibid.* IV. 224 Bathe, whereof now there remaine but very few ruines. 1661 PR. RUPERT in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 8 Tell him that [I] am very glad to heere of his recouvry. 1676–7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 530 A Bill for exporting Coals free, or at a very easy custome. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 44 P 6, I have, I fear, huddled up my Discourse, having been very busy. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 56 They lay very large eggs, some of them being above five inches in diameter. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Family Biog.* III. 175 You may rely on it, and 'tis very kind of you. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 304 An intermittent tendency was also *very* observable in some instances. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 580 A soft mass,. very soluble in alcohol. 1856 LD. GRANVILLE in *Life* (1905) I. 221 Very few of our Embassy were invited [to the party]. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* lxvii, Cards of invitation to banquets and balls and concerts, and 'very earlies'.

b. Qualifying another adverb.

1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 76 Vere hartely your, Molyns. 1530 PALSGR. 814/1 Very erly in the mornyng, *au plus matyn. Ibid.* 843/2 Very gladly, *moult voulentiers.* Very hardly, *a paynes*...Very seldome, *peu souvent. a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. vi. (Arb.) 70 But very well I wist he here did all in scorne. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 89 The gouernour hard thir vordis verrey plesandlie. 1630 B. JONSON *New Ins* Dram. Pers., Sir Glorious Tipto..talks gloriously of any thing, but very seldom is in the right. 1664 JER. TAYLOR *Disswas. Popery* ii. § 8. 118 For if it were [necessary], very extremely few would do their duty. 1692 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 130 The next day we set out very betimes in the Morning towards Mount Alverne. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 58 P 4 Several Pieces which have lived very near as long as the Iliad it self. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* 543/1 Nonjuring clergymen and their families partook very largely of his benevolence. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 510 Courts of equity would do very ill by not adopting that rule. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 158 The spindles should revolve very quickly in the spinning frame. 1867 DEANE *Chr. Schools* II. iii. 129 The school at Sempringham very soon became famous.

c. Qualifying past pples. used predicatively or attributively: = Very much. (See MUCH *adv.* 1 c.) Also exceptionally with *like* vb.

The correctness of this usage, which has been prevalent from the middle of the 17th cent., depends on the extent to which the participle has acquired a purely adjectival sense.

1641 in Nicolas *Priv. Mem. Digby* (1827) Introd. p. lix, At which the good Knight seemed very discontented. 1664 *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 215 Faber, a Jerman,.. being a very suspected person, reather of crafty principalls. 1708 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* II. (1726) 35 Many very valued pieces of French, Italian, and English appear in the same dress [i. e. dialogue]. 1782 R. CUMBERLAND *Anecd. Painters* (1787) II. 90, I was a very interested and anxious spectator. 1792 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 14 (1794) I. 179 Betty.. looked very pleased at several passages. 1804 SYD. SMITH *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 54 A very over-rated man. 1842 GEO. ELIOT *Life in Lett. & Jrnls.* (1885) I. 119, I am becoming very hurried. 1874 DASENT *Half a Life* III. 60, I should so very like to know who this Mr. Ball and his daughter are. *Ibid.* 177 Her foot is very swollen. 1876–7 GLADSTONE *Gleanr.* (1879) I. 79 In this rather confused and very disappointed letter.

d. With a negative, freq. denoting 'only moderately', 'rather un—'.

1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 32 Oct., Then it went off, leaving me sickish, but not very. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 269 It was not very adherent to any other Place than the Coccyx. *a* 1872 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* I. (1876) 84 They leave them unnoticed, and are not very willing to admit them in their full extent at all.

3. In purely intensive use. **a.** Emphasizing superlatives, esp. *best, last, next*.

† Also with virtual superlatives, as *principal*.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* vii. D iij, He will see the..wyth the swallowe verye firste that cummes into that place. 1634 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 17 This fell out to be the verie next day after Queen Elizabeths decease. 1664 *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* II. (1911) 188 A greater meeting..at her house then ever, the very next Sunday after the Sessions. 1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* vi. 142 The City was now reduc'd to the very last Extremity. 1729 ATTERBURY *Serm.*, 2 *Pet. ii.* 22 (1734) I. vi. 163 How then should the very Best of us..

expect..to be free from them? 1723 Mrs Collier *Art Torment., Gen. Rules* (1824) 199 If you know yourself to be of some consequence, although not the very principal person of the party. 1767 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxx, In the very next page. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 308 Three of the very richest subjects in England. 1865 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* v. 53 Whenever they stray in the very least. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 143 You have missed *the very* best thing in Kandy.

b. Denoting and emphasizing absolute identity or difference, esp. with *same* or *opposite*.

†*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 215 It is the vereye same [blind man]. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* I. *Socrates* § 86 e iij, Plato,..whiche in rebukyng hym [Socrates] did committe the verayе selfe same faulte, that he rebuked. 1601 Shaks. *All's W.* II. iii. 29 That's it, I would have said, the verie same. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 182 That which happen'd on the very same day the year before. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 44 P 6 Whose Murther he would revenge in the very same Place where it was committed. 1781 [see Selfsame *a.* 1]. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* I. 7 The very same spirit of kindness which should rule us in the performance of a task such as the one now in hand. 1835 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 690 *note*, The very opposite word was of course expected.

†c. With advs. of time, place, or manner: Exactly, precisely, just; = Even *adv.* 6. *Obs.*

(*a*) 1530 Palsgr. 808/1 Evyn very now, *tout fyn maynteuant.* *a* 1553 Udall *Roister D.* IV. vi. (Arb.) 70 *T. Trusty.* But when gost thou for him? *M. Merry.* That do I very nowe. *a* 1553 Philpot *Exam. & Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 334 It is possible some part of the Church for a time to be deceived when..they have a seal of the truth,..yea, very then when they err, and plunge into any vice or sin. 1644 Maxwell *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 74 If we alleadge Ignatius, it is to be feared he'l fare no better, for a great Scholar.. hath very now rejected all we have of him. 1645 Quarles *Sol. Recruit.* VIII. 41 Did not that voice, that voted Wisdome vain But very now, now cry it up again?

(*b*) 1530 Palsgr. 823/2 Very here, very ther, *droit cy, droit la.* 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. iv. 123 In this place first you fought: ev'n very here I sundred you.

(*c*) *a* 1592 Greene *Alphonsus* II. ii, What newes is this? and is it very so? Is our Alphonsus yet in humane state? 1630 Sanderson *Serm.* 98 Very so ought we to conceive the meaning of the universall particle 'Every man'.

4. Repeated in order to convey greater emphasis.

1649 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 128, I have a verry verry great jealousy Lord Digby will be left in the lurch. 1653 Walton *Angler* 137 He [the salmon] is very, very seldom observed to bite at a Minnow..and not oft at a fly. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1896) 46 It was indeed very, very, very dreadful. 1807 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* 13 July (1862) II. 317 The retribution may be just but it is very very severe. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 306, 'I think him pleasant, and handsome, and —.' 'Oh! very, very,' said George. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iii, Oh! I see..; negus too strong here—liberal landlord—very foolish very.

†**O.** *sb.* Truth, verity. *Obs.*—[1]

1382 Wyclif *Rom.* Prol., Thes reuokith the apostle to the verrey [1388 treuthe] and the gospels bileue.

†b. *For, in,* or *into very.* = Truly, verily. *Obs.*

23.. *Smyth & his Dame* 52 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 203, I am mayster of all, That smyteth with hamer or mall, And so may thov me call, I tell the for verray. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 96 Terpsichore [the] fift is callit in verray. *Ibid.* 772 Ane messinger said scho, into verray Thair erandis gais, baith nicht and als be day.

†**Very**(e. *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning obscure; occurring only as part of a charm.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 299 Iheus Crist and seint Benedight Blesse this hous from euery wikked wight For nyghtes verye [*Selw.* veryse, verse, verray] the white pater noster.

Very(e, obs. Sc. ff. Wary *v.*, Weary *a.*, Worry *v.* **Veryen**, southern ME. var. Ferry *v.* **Veryly**, obs. form of Verily *adv.* **Veryn**, obs. variant of Fern *sb.*[3] **Verynes**, obs. Sc. f. Weariness. **Verynesse**: see Veriness. **Very-similar**, obs f. Verisimilar *a.*

Verzete, southern ME. var. Forget *v.*

†**Verzine.** *Obs. rare.* Also versine. = next.

1558 Wadde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 90 A pounde of Verzine or Brasyl cutte in pieces. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 218 Sandols, Marsine, Versine, Porcelane of China.

‖**Verzino.** *Obs. rare.* Also verzina. [It.] Brazil-wood.

[1585 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 80 None other trees then brasile, whiche the Italians caule *Verzino.*] 1588 T. Hickock tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 23 b, In whose harbour euerie yere there ladeth some Shippes with Verzina, Nypa, and Beniamin. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 229 There goeth another ship for the said Captaine of Malacca to Sion, to lade Verzino.

Ves, obs. Sc. form of *was*: see Be *v.*

Vesage, obs. Sc. form of Visage.

Vesalian (vĭsē·lĭăn), *a.* [f. the name of the Belgian anatomist Andreas *Vesalius* (1514–64).]

1. Connected with anatomical researches.

In quot. with reference to body-snatching.

1870 H. Lowndale *Life R. Knox* 65 The students..set out on Vesalian crusades, and succeeded beyond expectation.

2. *Vesalian foramen, vein*: (see quots.).

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The Vesalian foramen (foramen Vesalii) of the sphenoid bone (a small venous opening). 1900 *Hughes' Man. Pract. Anat.* III. 188 The Vesalian, an emissary vein from the cavernous sinus, which, however, is only occasionally present. 1923 *Dorland's Med. Dict.* 2040/2 *Vesalian vein*, a vessel which connects the pterygoid plexus with the cavernous sinus.

‖**Vesania** (vĭsē·niă). *Path.* [L. *vēsānia*, f. *vēsānus* mad, f. *vē-* not + *sānus* sane.] Mental derangement, esp. of a particular type (see quot. 1857).

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vesania*, Madness from Love. *c* 1793 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 282 Order IV. Vesaniæ.] 1880 tr. *Cullen's Nosology* 130 *note*, For who would consider..any other Hallucinatio or Moroситas, which do not depend on the judgment, as a Vesania? 1880 Good *Nosology* 278 Parr..make Vesania the genus, and arrange melancholia, mania, and even oneirodynia as separate species under it. 1857 Dunglison *Dict. Med. Sci.* 964/2 *Vesanies*, madness; derangement of the intellectual and moral faculties, without coma or fever.

Vesa·nic, *a. Path.* [f. L. *vēsān-us* insane + -IC.] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, vesania.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 196 This includes eight types [of mental disease], namely i. vesanic type.

†**Vesa·nous**, *a.* [ad. L. *vēsānus*] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (following Cooper), *Vesanous*, mad, wood, furious, out of his wit, cruel, outragious.

Vesar, obs. f. Visor. **Vesatour**, obs. Sc. var. Visitor. **Vescel, Veschale, -all, -el**, obs. ff. Vessel *sb.*[1] **Vesch**(e, obs. Sc. varr. Wash *v.*

†**Ve·sculent**, *a. Obs.*—[0] [ad. med.L. *vesculent-us* (full of dainties, f. L. *vescus* small, dainty), associated with L. *vescī* to feed.] (See quots.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vesculent*, apt to eat or feed. 1658 Phillips, *Vesculent*, to be eaten, fit for food.

Vese, ME. var. Vease *Obs.* and Freeze *v.*[1]; obs. var. Vizy *v. Sc.* **Veseal**, obs. f. Vessel *sb.*[1] **Veseir**, obs. Sc. f. Visor. **Vesen**, southern ME. var. Freeze *v.*[1] **Veshel**(l, obs. Sc. ff. Vessel *sb.*[1]

†**Vesiar.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. *vesy* Vizy *v.*] An inspector. So †**Vesiater.** *Obs.*

†*a* 1500 *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), Cercciouris, vesiaris. 1527 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 167 Vesiaier and serchare of the skynnis..within the said burgh.

‖**Vesica** (vĭsəi·kă). [L. *vēsīca*, a bladder, blister.]

1. *Anat.* A bladder.

Rarely used exc. with defining term, esp. *v. natatoria* or *v. urinaria*.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vesica*, the Bladder, an hollow membranaceous Part, wherein any Liquor that is to be excerned, is contained.] 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vesica*, a Bladder. [Hence in Bailey, etc.] 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

†2. A copper vessel used in distilling. *Obs.*

1683 Salmon *Doron Medicum* I. 21 Put a quarter of the infusion..into a vesica and powre on more rain or river water. 1694 — *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 12/2 You may either distil in a Copper Vesica,..or..in a Glass Body. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vesica*,..the large Copper Body Tinned within-side, which is commonly used in Distillation of Ardent Spirits. 1721 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 126 Put all the Matter into a Copper Vesica, tinn'd within. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Distillation*, Odoriferous Plants..are distill'd by the Cucurbite, or *Vesica*.

3. *Vesica piscis* (also *piscium*), a pointed oval figure, the sides of which are properly parts of two equal circles passing through each other at their centres, freq. employed as an architectural feature and by early artists as an aureole enclosing figures of Christ, the Virgin, etc.

The reason for the name (fish's or fishes' bladder) is disputed: see quot. 1813.

1809 T. Kerrich in *Archaeol.* (1812) XVI. 313 [A figure] formed by two equal circles, cutting each other in their centers..We are told that it was called Vesica Piscis. 1813 J. S. Hawkins *Gothic Archit.* 244 Vesica piscium cannot, therefore, signify a fish's bladder, but a bladder, which when filled with wind, would be in the form of a fish. 1820 T. Kerrich in *Archaeol.* XIX. 353 Observations on the Use of the mysterious Figure, called Vesica Piscis, in the Architecture of the Middle Ages, and in Gothic Architecture. 1845 Parker *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 4) I. 399 *Vesica piscis*, a name applied by Albert Durer to a pointed oval figure [etc.]. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* I. v. 189 Their heads [*sc.* of the two portals of Ely] were formerly filled with the Vesica Piscis.

attrib. 1884 *Imp. Dict.* s.v., Vesica piscis Seal, Wimborne Minster. 1901 *Athenæum* 16 Nov. 667/2 A Vesica Piscis window of unusual character at Millom Church, Cumberland.

b. *elliptical* in this sense. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1820 T. Kerrich in *Archaeol.* XIX. 361 The precise form of the Vesica which was used. 1848 Rickman *Styles Archit.* App. p. xxxvi, A figure standing in a shallow niche, holding a vesica, probably intended to represent the Trinity. 1878 McVittie *Christ Ch. Cathedr.* 68 The figures are combined in vesica-shaped medallions. 1907 *Times* Lit. Suppl. 25 Jan. 30/2 The very beautiful vesica form..adopted in consequence of the prevailing taste for the pointed arch, and the fashion for the vesica in architecture.

Vesical (ve·sikăl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *vesical-is*, f. L. *vēsīca*: see prec. and -AL. So F. *vésical* (16th cent.), Pg. *vesical*, It. *vessicale*.]

1. Of or pertaining to, formed in, the urinary bladder.

1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 43 The specimen..which was said to be a vesical calculus of a horse. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 711 Urine..always contains a little vesical mucus, together with some other ill-defined azothed principles.

b. *spec.* in *Anat.* of various appendages of the bladder (see quots.).

1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 511 Vesical Nerves. These nerves vary in number, and are irregularly interlaced. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 388/2 The pelvic and vesical fascia. 1840 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 348 The vesical and prostatic plexus is an important plexus of veins which surrounds the neck and base of the bladder and prostate gland. 1882 Mivart *Cat* 213 Amongst these we have the superior vesical [branch], which goes to the side of the bladder.

c. *Path.* Affecting or occurring in the urinary bladder.

1846 G. E. Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 283 When mucus is separated in large quantity (as in vesical catarrh). 1849 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Trul. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 61 A violent cough and vesical irritation. 1876 Gross *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 82 Of the causes of vesical neuralgia very little is known. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 527, I found the women lying on the ground far gone in a vesical disease.

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the elliptical or vesical shape, are seen upon the jewels in the cover of the celebrated Durham Gospels of St. Cuthbert.

Vesicant (ve·sikănt), *sb.* and *a. Med.* [ad. mod.L. *vesicant-*, *vesicans*, pres. pple. of *vesicare*: see next and -ANT. So F. *vésicant*, Pg. *vesicante*, It. *vessicante*.]

A. *sb.* An application employed to raise blisters; a vesicatory.

1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 459 Vesicants. Simple. Roots, of thapsia, and pellitory of Spaine. Seeds, of mustard. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 249/1 The terebinthinate solution may be used as a most efficacious vesicant. 1871 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 417 The pustulants indsace a still deeper action, and are sometimes of greater value than vesicants.

B. *adj.* Causing, efficacious in producing, blisters; vesicatory.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlviii. 468 There appears no particular affinity between the Predaceous and Vesicant beetles. 1857 Henfrey *Elem. Bot.* § 532 *Polygonum Hydropiper*, a common native weed, is very acrid, even vesicant when fresh. 1864 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 54 It is astringent, irritant, vesicant, or even escharotic, according to the mode of its application.

Vesicate (ve·sikĕ't), *v.* Chiefly *Med.* [f. ppl. stem of mod.L. *vesicare*: see Vesica and -ATE.]

1. *trans.* To cause to rise in a blister or blisters; to raise blisters on (the skin, etc.).

1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* 173 He will perhaps apply pigeons or the like to the feet or vesicate the external members for revulsion sake. 1676 Wiseman *Surg. Treat.* vi. viii. 435 Celsus proposes, that..the externall Parts be vesicated, to make more powerfull Revulsion from within. 1720 Quincy tr. *Hodges' Loimologia* 189 The Parts thus vesicated were never suffered to heal till the Malignity of the Disease was spent. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 149 If ..this bark is stripped off with their teeth, it inflames and vesicates their lips and gums.

b. In *pa. pple.* Covered with, converted into, blisters.

1676 Wiseman *Surg. Treat.* I. vi. 38, I saw [the arm] swelled, the *Cuticula* vesicated, and shining with a burning heat of a citron colour. 1802 Jenner *Instr. Vaccine Inoculation* (1884) 59 A little red spot will appear on the third day.. which..becomes perceptibly vesicated. 1893 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 482 Outbursts of persistent wheal-like formations, sometimes vesicated.

2. *absol.* To produce blisters.

1809 *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 343 The fluid effused by vesicating with cantharides. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* (ed. 2) I. 315 In America the *Lytta cuprea* and *vittata*..are said to vesicate more speedily and with less pain. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* XII. 133 Blisters [applied] would be doubtful, and the probability was that the patient would sink before they vesicated. 1864 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 41 Liquor ammoniæ fortior..will vesicate rapidly, if evaporation is prevented.

3. *intr.* To become blistered.

1899 *J. Hutchinson's Arch. Surg.* X. 190 It [i.e. an eruption] consists of erythematous patches which vesicate at their borders and spread.

Hence **Ve·sicated** *ppl. a.*, **Ve·sicating** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

In quot. 1703 app. meaning 'having large air-cells': cf. Vesiculated *a.*

1703 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1393 The Lungs of these Water Lizards being vesicated, and not vesiculated. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 44 Blistering plasters were applied, and the vesicated parts treated as above. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* IX. 102 *note*, Dressing the vesicated surface with the French blistering paper. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 61 The Chirurgion, unknown to me, made use of Cantharides, among other ingredients of his vesicating plaister. 1772 T. Percival *Ess.* (1777) I. 146 Neither mustard,..nor any other vesicating stimulus but cantharides, excite this complaint. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 249/2 A yellow viscid matter..which has no vesicating power. 1872 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* 297 There are two preparations of vesicating collodion.

Vesication (vesikē·ʃən). *Med.* [ad. mod.L. *vesicatio*, noun of action from *vesicare*: see prec. So F. *vésication* (16th cent.), Pg. *vesicação*, Sp. *vejigacion*. Cf. Vesiculation.]

1. The result of blistering or of rising in blisters; a blister or group of these.

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. xi. 85 This..appeaseth the paine, and purgeth the vesication or bladerynge and inflation. 1676 Wiseman *Surg. Treat.* I. iii. 83, I applied a Pledgit of basilicon upon it, and dressed the Vesications with *unguent. tutiæ.* 1720 Quincy tr. *Hodges' Loimologia* 110 Those poisonous Vesications called Blains. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 205 These leaves are also applied to vesications, to promote a copious discharge. 1783 C. Kite in *Med. Commun.* II 47 A small vesication appeared on the navel. 1823 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 593 The early opening of the vesications will..not occasion pain. 1882 Hulke tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. IV. i. 236 The stinging apparatus of the Medusæ..may even give rise to vesications. 1899

Allbutt's Syst. Med. VIII. 466 In exceptional tions are produced.

2. The formation or development of blisters; the action or fact of blistering.

1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 325 An enlargement of the eyelids, and vesication of the *tunica conjunctiva*. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 320 A complete vesication had taken place over the whole extent of the metatarsal bones. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* vii. 85 They have no hesitation in applying a large blister, leaving it on until it produces full vesication. 1864 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 335 Vesication is also made use of on account of its revulsive action in internal congestions, as of the head, &c.

Vesicatory (ve·sikători, vesi·kătări), *sb.* and *a. Med.* [ad. med. or early mod.L. *vesicatorius, -orium* (whence F. *vésicatoire*, It. *vessicatorio*, Pg. *vesicatorio*, Sp. *vejigatorio*), f. L. *vēsica*: see Vesicate *v.* and -ory.]

A. *sb.* A sharp irritating ointment, plaster, or other application for causing the formation of a blister or blisters on the skin; = Blister *sb.* 3.

Very frequent from *c* 1650 to *c* 1780; now somewhat *rare*.

1604 F. Hering *Med. Defence* 18 Vesicatorys to be applied neere vnto the most principall Part. 1685 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* I. vii. 32 You must apply a Vesicatory to the fore part of the head. 1676 T. de Garencieres *Coral* 58 Carrying in his pocket a vesicatory made of cantharides. 1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 38 It can't be done by Vesicatories without some Pain. 1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 504 These were blistered slightly, by means of a small vesicatory. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 310 A vesicatory applied to the affected part, constantly relieved the pain, and produced the desired effect. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 7 The leaves of Knowltonia vesicatoria are used as vesicatories in Southern Africa. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 562 Epispastics, vesicatories, or, more colloquially, blisters.

B. *adj.* Of the nature of a vesicant; capable of, characterized by, raising blisters.

1652 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 173 The use of Vesicatory medicines; namely, Cantharides in painfull swolne limbs. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 43 If you duly perpend what I lately mentioned, of the transmutation of water into hot and vesicatory substances. 1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* II. 227 The vesicatory beetles ..are not improbably defended from their assailants by the remarkable quality..that distinguishes them. 1822–9 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 53 The *cerambyx moschatus*, which possesses a vesicatory power nearly equal to that of the lytta. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 108 Many of these beetles [sc. *Meloidæ*] possess strong vesicatory powers.

Vesicle (ve·sik'l). Also 6, 8 vessicle. [ad. F. *vésicule*, or L. *vēsīcula* Vesicula.]

1. a. *Anat.* and *Zool.* A small bladder-like vessel in an animal body; a cavity or cell with a membranous integument; a small sac or cyst.

Freq. with defining terms, as *blood-, food-, germinal, seminal, umbilical vesicles*; see also Graafian, Purkinjean.

1578 Banister *Hist Man* v. 64 The intrels, which receiue the dryer excrement, as the Vessicle of Choler. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* ix. 103 Those men which want the vesicle of cholor, are both strong and couragious. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 4 If you divide the Bee near the neck, you shall see the heart beat most lively, which is a white pulsing vesicle. 1692 Ray *Creation* II. (1692) 63 That the Lungs should be made up of such innumerable Air-pipes and Vesicles interwoven with Blood Vessels in order to purifie, ferment, or supply the sanguineous Mass with Nitro aerial Particles. 1713 Cheselden *Anat.* I. i. (1760) 12 The marrow in the larger cells is also contained in their membranous vesicles. 1794 Golding. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. ii. 156 The vesicles, that go to form the brain. 1797 M. Baillie *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 390 The small vesicles which make a part of the natural structure of the ovaria. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxii. 260 These cells may be represented as so many minute vesicles. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xxxvi, The brain [of Amphioxus] consists of three primary vesicles.

Comb. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 155 Contractile Polian vesicle-like sacs are developed.

b. Similarly in *Bot.*

1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2176 There are found many leaves of other trees, on which grow Vesicles, or small baggs. 1673 Grew *Anat. Trunks* I. i. § 3 A simple, white, and close Parenchyma or Barque; made up of Vesicles..hardly visible without a Glass. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 183 *Papillosæ*, nipply; when it is covered with Vesicles, little Bladders. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Vegetation*, All the roots becoming longer, put forth new branches out of their sides, the second leaf withers, and its vesicles are emptied. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 158 This third envelope always begins by being a mass of cellular tissue, ..and generally finishes by becoming a vesicle. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 59 The older hypothesis of a deposition of new layers from within presupposes that the starch-grains were at first hollow vesicles.

c. *Physics.* A minute bubble or spherule of liquid or vapour, esp. one of those composing a cloud or fog.

1732 Millar *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Dew*, The thin Vesicles of which Vapours consist. *Ibid.*, The Warmth .. forms those Vesicles that are specifically lighter than the Air. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. 446 Clouds are composed of a mass of vesicles like soap-bubbles. 1854 Brewster *More Worlds* iii. 61 The aqueous vapour which it [sc. the atmosphere] contains, whether it exist in minute vesicles, or in masses of clouds. 1869 Pattison tr. *Guillemin's Sun* (1870) 42 When the vesicles which constitute clouds are cooled they unite to form drops. 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 87 The salt is brought by the travelling clouds, each vesicle charged with a precious burden.

d. *Geol.* A small spherical or oval cavity produced by the presence of bubbles of gas or vapour in volcanic rocks.

1811 Pinkerton *Petralogy* II. 326 The vesicles are sometimes of an oblong form, but often spherical. 1849 Dana *Geol.* vi. (1890) 346 Occasionally we see fragments in which the vesicles are thickly disseminated. 1879 Rutley *Stud. Rocks* xi. 192 In some of the obsidians of Hawaii the vesicles are quite spherical.

2. A hollow swelling. *rare*$^{-1}$. (Cf. next.)

1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* II. 11 He demonst.... large how impossible it was..for Mankind to be produced at first from certain Vesicles or Pimples of the Earth.

3. *Path.* A small, generally round, elevation of the cuticle containing fluid matter.

1799 Jenner *Further Obs. Variolæ Vaccinæ* (1801) 33 The patient felt no general indisposition, although there was so great a number of vesicles. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 338 He has twice scratched off the surface of the rising vesicle. 1847 Youatt *Horse* viii. 204 Vesicles will sometimes appear along the under side of the tongue. 1867 Barse *Nile Tributt.* viii. (1872) 107 Small vesicles rose above the skin. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 295 The amount of fluid relatively to the solid constituents of vesicles varies very much.

b. Without article.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 755/1 The vaccine pustule runs a given course of varus and of vesicle.

Vesico- (ve·siko), combining form, on Greek models, of Vesica, occurring in various terms referring to the bladder in connexion with some other part of the body denoted by the second element, as *vesico-cervical, -intestinal, -prostatic, -rectal*, etc. (So F. *vésico-*.)

Various other terms, as *vesicocele, vesicoclysis; vesico-abdominal, -pubic, -spinal*, etc., appear in recent Dicts.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 581/2 The tear, beginning in a rigid os, extends..up the cervix to the *vesico-cervical junction. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 400 *Vesico-intestinal fistulæ sometimes establish a communication between the bladder and the ileum or colon. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (1879) II. 64 Vesico-intestinal Fistula is sometimes met with. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 933/2 The veins in the neighbourhood of the prostate gland and of the neck of the bladder..are called the *vesico-prostatic plexus. 1876 Gross *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 196 Varicose enlargement of the vesico-prostatic plexus of veins was described. *Ibid.* 339 *Vesico-Rectal Fistule is between the bladder and rectum, and between the latter tube and the urethra. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 400 2 When the disease is a *vesico-umbilical fistula, the communication is with the summit of the bladder. 1885 *Pirrie's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 526/2 *Vesico-urethral fissure..is a crack or fissure between the folds of the mucosa, at the point of junction of the urethra and bladder. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 94/1 There are a pair of recto-uterine peritoneal folds in the female and a pair of *vesico-uterine folds. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 581/2 All the tissues below may heal, leaving an opening at the upper angle of the tear—a vesico-uterine fistula. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 400/2 *Vesico-vaginal fistulæ are sometimes..the result of the progress of a uterine cancer. 1876 Gross *Dis. Bladder*, etc. 326 Vesico-vaginal fistule is an opening between the bladder and vagina. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 580/2 The tear reaches up to, or dissects off the vesico-vaginal tissue from the uterus.

‖ **Vesicula** (vĭsi·kiŭlă). Pl. **vesiculæ** (-lī). [L. *vēsīcula* a little blister, a vesicle, dim. of *vēsīca* Vesica.]

1. = Vesicle 1. Usually in pl.

In *Anat.* also with defining terms, as *vesiculæ seminales*.

a. *Anat.* 1725 Cheyne *Princ. Relig.* I. iii. § 12 (ed. 2) 234 Spiral Threads, which divide these hollow Fibrils into so many elastick Cystes or Vesiculæ. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Lungs*. A Stone-Cutter, the Vesiculæ of whose Lungs were..stuffed with Dust. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 282/2 The thoracic duct..terminates in some subjects by a kind of vesicula. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 380/2 (Bladder), Towards the vesicula it [the cellular coat] is dense and white, and supports a number of veins. 1849–52 *Ibid.* IV. ii. 1431/1 The difficulty of proving the identity of sacs called vesiculæ in other animals.

b. *Bot.* 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v. *Vegetation*, These Seed-Leaves consist of a great Number of little Vesiculæ, or Bladders. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 207 *Vesiculæ*, inflations of the thallus, filled with air, by means of which the plants are enabled to float

c. *Physics.* 1723 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* I. iii. 22 *note*, Vapours being..no other than inflated Vesiculæ of Water.

2. *Path.* = Vesicle 3.

1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 43 Vesiculæ are circumscribed, rounded elevations of the epidermis, varying in size from a pin-point to a split-pea, containing a clear serous fluid.

Vesicular (vĭsi·kiŭlăi), *a.* [ad. early mod.L. *vesicular-is* (whence F. *vésiculaire*, Pg. *vesicular*, It. *vescicolare*), f. L. *vēsīcula*: see prec.]

1. Having the form or structure of a vesicle; bladder-like.

a. *Anat. c* 1720 Gibson *Farrier's Guide* I. App. (1722) 102 These receive the Chyle..into the vesicular Kernels of the Mesentery. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Lungs*, Its inner Laminæ fill up the Interstices, which are below the Bunches of the small Lobes [in the lungs], with little vesicular Cells. 1822–9 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 10 There are no organs of generation that differ so much..as these vesicular bags. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* x. 426 A simple vesicular heart may be continued on forwards into a median artery. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 859 The nucleus is single; it is large when full grown, vesicular, with chromatin globules or ribbons.

b. *Bot.* 1848 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 147 A vesicular organ, which he terms *Cistome*. 1857 J. Hogg *Microsc.* II. i. 303 The spores are developed freely in the vesicular cells destined to produce them. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 514 Their capacity for transport is increased by the vesicular hollow protrusions of the cuticle.

c. *Physics.* 1880 A. Gerard *Amer. Weather* viii. (1888) 80 It was formerly advanced that these minute drops of rain or fog

Tyndall *Heat* vi. § 224 (1892) 278 *If* be sufficiently small they will float...

2. Characterized by the presence of vesicles; composed of parts having the form of vesicles.

a. *Anat.* 1725 Cheyne *Princ. Relig.* I. vi. § 37 (ed. 2) 322 A Muscle is a bundle of Vesicular Threads, or of solid Filaments, involved in one common Membrane. 1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1834) 69 Cold-blooded animals..respire less frequently than other creatures,..hence their vesicular lungs. 1848 Carpenter *Anim. Phys.* I. (1872) 76 We find a form of nervous tissue,..generally known as the vesicular. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 16 These central masses all contain grey substance, the cellular or vesicular matter. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 364 A true serpent, with large vesicular lungs.

b. *Bot.* 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.*, *Vesicularis*..*scabrities*, vesicular or bladdery ruggedness. 1820 R. Hall *Elem.* 193 *Ves*... the surface.

c. *Physics.* 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 397 He calls them vesicular vapour, whose particles may be distinguished by the eye. 1832 Macgillivray *Trav. Humboldt* xvi. 204 In the beginning of March the accumulation of vesicular vapours became visible. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxviii. 296 The vesicular state constituting a ... 1880 *Times* 25 Dec. 5 The silicate of soda was left in the state of a highly vesicular mass.

d. *Geol.* 1811 Pinkerton *Petralogy* II. 328 (*heading*), Vesicular Lava. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 330 The cavities in vesicular lava vary in size from that of a pea to a small nut. 1843 Portlock *Geol.* 106 The whiter grits are also sometimes vesicular from the local removal of the calcareous paste. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. iii. 80 When this cellular structure is marked by comparatively few and small holes, it may be called vesicular.

3. *Zool.* Of worms: (see quot. 1861).

1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 378 The cysts which contain vesicular worms. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. vii. xiii. 392 Under the name of Vesicular or Cystic Helmintha are included those entozoa which terminate in a vesicle, are contained in a cyst, or are composed of the latter only. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 123 Vesicular Tape-worms are of considerable size.

4. *Path.* a. Characterized by the formation or presence of vesicles on the skin.

1828–40 E. Thompson *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 5) 308 Pemphigus; Vesicular Fever. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxv. 318 The vesicular and scaly eruptions occurred in delicate persons. 1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 78 Vesicular eczema exhibits the lesion in its most perfect state. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 632/1 Vesicular eczema may occur in very small patches or in quite extensive areas.

b. Affecting or connected with the vesicles or air-cells of the lungs.

1829 Cooper *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 622 These organs [the lungs] are in a state of vesicular or pulmonary emphysema. 1833 Markham *Skoda's Auscult.* 101 By vesicular breathing, I understand that murmur only which is heard during inspiration. 1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 244 Vesicular emphysema..consists in an abnormal accumulation of air within the air-cells, whereby they become distended and their walls often atrophied. *a* 1883 Pagge *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) I. 633 It is comm... called the 'vesicular murmur', having been so named when the idea that it arose in the air-cells of the lung was accepted without question.

So **Vesi·cularly** *a. rare*$^{-1}$.

1754 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 632 We found, that the animals in the vesicles were dead; but..we had an opportunity of discovering the vesiculary polypes alive, in another coralline.

Vesiculate (vĭsi·kiŭlĕt), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *vesiculat-us*, f. L. *vēsīcula* Vesicula.] = Vesiculated *a.*

1808–32 Webster s.v., *Vesiculate a.*, bladdery; full of bladders. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1210/2 *Vesiculate*, inflated, bladdery. 1884 Cooke *Fungi* 55 Innumerable protuberances, which..soon become round vesiculate cells. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 551/2 One of the vesiculate medusæ.

Vesi·culate, *v.* [Back-formation from next.]

1. *trans.* To make vesicular or full of air-cells.

1845 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Oct. 20 He tells us that bread is 'vesiculated' by the carbonic acid gas forced into the dough.

2. *intr.* To become vesicular; to develop vesicles.

1891 *Cent. Dict.*

Vesi·culated, *a.* [f. as Vesiculate *a.* + -ed.]

1. Having or full of small cavities or air-cells.

1793 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1390 Frogs, Toads, Snakes,.. that have their Lungs Vesicated, as well as Vesiculated. 1774 *Ibid.* LXIV. 213 Any air, which gets beyond the vesiculated lungs themselves. 1886 A. H. Church *Food Grains Ind.* 33 Its [sc. wheat's] admirable appropriateness for the making of a light vesiculated bread.

2. Of the nature of a vesicle or vesicula.

1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 565 A thunderstorm hail may often be aborted by touching the little lai lai itching or vesiculated papule with some ... astic.

3. *Path.* Covered with vesicles.

a 1898 Bryant *Abdominal* (1880) 210 They both presented ... of the vesiculated kidney.

Vesiculation (vĭsikiŭlē·ʃŏn). *Path.* [f. Vesicula + -ation. Cf. Vesication.] The formation of vesicles, esp. on the skin; a vesicular condition ... e pustule.

1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 67 Typical fluid exudation ... in vesiculation, in the vesicles of eczema and ... 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 178 In some cases.. ... minute papules which characterize the scarlatinal eruption actually proceed to vesiculation. 1898 P. Manson

Trop. Diseases xxxv. 546 There may be evidence in the shape of vesiculations and thickening of the mucosa of a greater or less degree of catarrh.

Vesiculi- (vĭsi·kĭli), combining form of VESICULA, occurring in a few terms, as **vesiculiferous** *a.*, bearing vesicles; **vesiculiform** *a.*, resembling a vesicle; **vesiculigerous** *a.*, vesiculiferous.

1846 DANA *Zoöph.* 125 The inner tentacles clavate and vesiculigerous. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1330 Vesiculiferous. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Vesiculiform.

‖ **Vesiculitis** (vĭsikiŭləi·tĭs). *Path.* [f. VESICULA + -ITIS.] Inflammation of a vesicle, esp. of the seminal vesicles.

1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 183 A case in which vesiculitis terminated in an abscess. 1895 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IX. 380/2 In chronic vesiculitis local measures are of little value.

Vesiculo- (vĭsi·kiŭlo), combining form, on Greek models, of VESICULA, occurring in a few terms referring to vesicles in connexion with some part or thing denoted by the second element, as *vesiculo-bronchial, -spinal, -tympanitic.*

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 35/2 Ano-spinal and vesiculo-spinal centres. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 82/1 In emphysema a characteristic sound, somewhat less resonant, is heard, which is called vesiculo-tympanitic. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 98 Mingled with this diminished dulness and with the 'vesiculo-bronchial' breathing, ..may be heard an adventitious murmur.

Vesiculose (vĭsikiŭlō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *vĕsĭcul-ōs-us* full of blisters: see VESICULA + -OSE.] Full of vesicles; vesicular.

1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* II. 223 The elytra.., shrowding its vesiculose abdomen, gave it much the appearance of a fine flower. 1836 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 332 Abdomen inflated, vesiculose. 1861 HAGEN *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 171 Abdomen compressed at base, vesiculose, triquetral.

Hence **Vesiculo·so-**, employed as a combining form, as *vesiculoso-cellular* adj.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xxxviii. 69 In *Sphinx Ligustri* the *bronchiæ* terminate in oblong vesiculoso-cellular bodies, almost like lungs.

† **Vesi·culous**, *a. Obs.* [f. VESICUL-A + -OUS. So F. *vésiculeux.*] = VESICULOSE *a.*

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 119 The vesiculous Parts of the Body; which, according to my Notion, are part Muscles, part Glands. 1718 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 150 This Rind covers a Vesiculous Substance.

Vesigh, obs. form of VIZY *sb. Sc.*

† **Ve·sike.** *Obs.* Also 6 **vesyke, visyke.** [ad. L. *vĕsĭca* VESICA.] **a.** The bladder. **b.** A bladder-like vessel or formation; a vesicle.

1540 R. JONAS *Birth Mans.* 1. 14 b, Sometyme the vesyke or bladder..be also apostumat & blystered. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* p. i, Yf..the visyke or bladder be swollen or encombred with the stone. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* viii. (1888) 71 The chest of the Gal..is as a purse or a pannicular vesike in the holownease of the Lyuer.

Vesir, obs. form of VIZIER.

Vesper (ve·spəɹ). Also 7 *pl.* **vespres.** [Partly a. L. *vesper* masc. (hence OF. *vespre*, older F. *vêpre*, Pr. *vespre*, Sp. *vespero*, Pg. *vespera*, It. *vespero, vespro*), evening star, evening, cognate with Gr. ἕσπερος HESPERUS. Partly ad. older F. *vespres* (mod.F. *vêpres*), vespers, evensong, ad. L. *vesperas* (nom. *vesperæ*), acc. pl. of *vespera* fem.; hence also Pr. *vespras*, Sp. *visperas*, Pg. *vesperas*. For the use of the plural form cf. *matins, nones.*]

I. In the singular form.

1. *poet.* (or *rhet.*). With capital. The evening star; Hesper, Hesperus.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 109 Whan that thi liht is faded And Vesper scheweth him alofte. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 2 Ryght as the stern of day begouth to schyne, Quhen gone to bid war Vesper and Lucyne, I raise. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.*, etc. Riij b, Phebus..His course was done, & Vesper she with Luna playde their partes. 1593 G. PEELE *Hon. Order Garter* B j, About the time when Vesper in the West Gan set the euening watch. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. lxx, Vesper fair Cynthia ushers, and her train, See, th' apish earth hath lighted many a starre. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* 1. 343 Red Vesper kindles there the tapers of the night. 1708 FALCONER *Shipwr.* 1. 657 While glowing Vesper leads the starry train. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 27 Fairer than Phœbe's sapphire-region'd star, Or Vesper, amorous glow-worm of the sky.

transf. 1815 SHELLEY *Adonais* xlvi, Assume thy winged throne, thou Vesper of our throng!

2. Evening, eventide; an evening. Also *personif.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 8 Thou hast seene these Signes, They are blacke Vespers Pageants. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 123 From which ninth houre the Iewes began their Vespers or Euening...In these Vespers, as also on the Euen of euery Feast and Sabbath, after the euening sacrifice, they which doe any worke..shall neuer see good signe of a blessing. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 425 P 3 The one [companion] was Aurora..: The other was Vesper in a Robe of Azure beset with Drops of Gold. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* 76 In mist or cloud, on mast or shroud, It perched for vespers nine. 1849 THOREAU *Week Concord Riv.* 26 From highest noon till the red vesper sinks into the west.

fig. 1702 NORRIS *Ideal World* 1. iii. 160 There cannot be any vespers in the great sun of truth.

8. Vespers, evensong. (See 6.) Also *transf.* † In early use with *a* or *the.*

1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* 1. i, If you miss him when She goes to the vesper or the matins, hang me! 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* A iij b, I will tell you a storie, one I had at a Tavern vesper. 1737 *Ovall's Rabelais* 1. xl. 315 A Mass, a Matine, a Vesper well sung is half said. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 694 Mighty Earth From sea and mountain, city and wilderness, In vesper low or joyous orison, Lifts still its solemn voice. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princess* II. 309, I knew that many of those with whom I was acquainted attended mass and vesper at this chapel.

4. *ellipt.* The vesper-bell.

1808 SCOTT *Marmion* II. xxxiii, Even in the vesper's heavenly tone, They seem'd to hear a dying groan. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R., Paradise & P.* 440 But, hark! the vesper calls to pray'r.

II. In collective pl. Vespers.

† 5. a. In Univ. use: The public disputations and accompanying ceremonies which immediately preceded the inception or commencement of a Bachelor of Arts; esp. in later use at Oxford, the day on which these were held, the eve *of* the Act Cf. VESPERY. *Obs.*

1574 M. STOKYS in Peacock *Stat. Cambr.* (1841) App. A. p. xxii, The Bedyll shall bryng the Inceptours in Arte to the Place where the commensement shall be kepte, and so shall begynn the Vespers in Arte and in Civill. *Ibid.* p. xxiv, The Father in Arte in the Ve[s]pers shall sytt in the West ende off the Chyrche. 1657 OWEN *Vind. Treat. Schism* i. Wks. 1855 XIII. 217 A learned gentleman, whom I had prevailed withal to answer in the Vespers of our Act, sent me his questions. 1681 GREW *Museum* IV. ii. 361, I read two Publique Lectures at Oxford, on the Vespers of the Publique Act. 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 93 Lectures in the Vespers. The Vespers on Saturday.

† b. The eve *of* a festival, or *of* the Passion.

1629 DONNE *Serm.* 73 What a dimme Vespers of a glorious festivall. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* i. § 3. 49 The Sacrament of the Lords Supper .. being instituted in the vespers of the passion. 1663 — *Serm. 1 Cor. xv.* 27, 33 And as the Apostles in the vespers of Christs passion, so he in the Eves of his own dissolution was .. heavie unto death. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 132 Our blessed Lord in the vespers of his death.

6. *Eccl.* The sixth of the Canonical Hours of the breviary, said or celebrated towards evening; = EVENSONG 1; also, the time of this office.

Usually without article, but occas. with *the*, and sometimes with a sing. verb.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 14, I came into their Church at the time of prayers in the afternoone, the Nunnes being then at their Vespers. 1644 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. (1913) 341 The parish Church in Ruell where the King and Queene were at Vespres. 1708 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 127 Afternoon we went to Vespers to ye Abbay of S[t] Floraux, a Benedictine Order. *c* 1732 *Diary Blue Nuns* Ibid. VIII. 92 About three a clock in the afternoon whilst we were at vespers. 1756 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 19 On Ascension-eve, vespers are performed with great pomp and splendor. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 34, I stopped to attend vespers at the Cathedral of St. Denis. 1871 MISS MULOCK *Fair France* iv. 142 Vespers is, I conclude, a litany rather than a mass. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 24 Then we went into the Capella del Coro to wait for the vespers.

† b. Applied to the Evening Prayer or Evensong of the Church of England. *Obs. rare.*

1660 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Oct., At Will's I met with Mr. Spicer, and with him to the Abbey to see them at vespers.

c. With distinguishing terms denoting special forms of this office.

Sicilian vespers: see SICILIAN *a.* 2 a.

a 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 368 At y[e] first vespers of y[e] Assomption of o[r] Blessed Lady. 1762 *Evening-Office of Church* (ed. 2) 300 In the second Vespers, is a commemoration of S. Paul. *Ibid.* 363 After *Benedicamus Domino*, the Vespers of the Dead are said. 1908 *Ch. Times* 13 Mar. 347/2 Vespers for the Dead, in the form sanctioned by Bishop Creighton, was sung.

d. *poet.* Evening prayers or devotions.

1814 SHELLEY in Dowden *Life* (1887) I. 496 Adieu; remember love at vespers before sleep, I do not omit my prayers. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xxvi, Her vespers done, Of all its wreathed pearls her hair she frees.

7. *transf* The evening song of a bird. Cf. EVENSONG 2. Chiefly *poet.*

1678 H. VAUGHAN *Pious Th.* 225, I heard last May..The pleasant Philomel her vespers sing 1795–1824 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 1169 If the solemn nightingale be mute, And the soft woodlark here did never chant Her vespers. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. ii, Hoarse into middle air arose The vespers of the roosting crows. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* iv. (1884) 135 The whippoorwills chanted their vespers for half an hour.

III. 8. *attrib.* a. In the sense 'of or belonging to, used at or for, vespers or evensong', as *vesper-bell, -carol, -chime, -hymn, light, psalm, -song*, etc.; **vesper-book** (also † **vespers book**). a vesperal; **vesper music** (see quot.); **vesper service, vespers**, evensong.

In general use freq. passing into next.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxvi, The monastery, whose *vesper-bell she had heard on the preceding evening. 1844 DICKENS *Pictures from Italy* (Collins) 244 To the ringing of vesper-bells, darkness sets in. 1864 SKEAT *Uhland's Poems* 223 The sun sinks down, the vesper-bell bids men to rest and pray. 1872 in *Catholic Records Soc. Publ.* I. 138, 4 Vols: of Mass Books, .*Vesperse Book. 1892 (*title*), Vesper-Book; containing the complete Order for Vespers for the entire Year, according to the Roman Breviary. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* No. 140. 3/1 The vesper-book used by Roman Catholics. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 834 Therefore for her these *vesper-carols are. *a* 1838 MRS. HEMANS *My own Portrait* Poems (1873) 487 Even as a sound of *vesper-chimes Can wake departed things. 1868 SKURRAY *Bidcombe Hill* 7 The blackbird from the ivied temple chants His *vesper hymn. 1806 ENGEL *Nat. Music* viii. 281 The Roman Catholics..have their Vesper Hymns, and the singing of these appears to be customary in most countries where the Roman Catholic faith prevails. 1892 *Ch. Times* 4 Nov. 1094/2 An oaken altar..with *vesper lights. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.* 131 *Vesper music*, plain chant or Gregorian music is thus designated. 1823 MRS. HEMANS *Vespers of Palermo* III. iii, Here..meet me, when the bell Doth sound for *vesper-prayer! 1896 SWETE *Ch. Serv.* 62 The *vesper Psalms were five in number, recited as at Mattins in regular course. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* VI, The *vesper-service of the monks. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* v, The old cathedral bell began to ring for vesper service. 1904 WORDSW. & LITTLEHALES *Old Service Bks.* 79 The Evensong or vesper service of Sunday and other days of the week. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* III. xxiii, To-morrow eve..My *vesper song [may be] thy wail, sweet maid! 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. *Baron St. Castine* 169 No day is so long But it comes at last to vesper-song. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* I. i, Holy as hermit's *vesper strain. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 81 It shall blend its *vesper summons With the day's departing smile. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* V. vi, There must the Baron rest, Till past the hour of *vesper tide. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 49 From streaky gleam of morning's light Until the *vesper-toll. 1845 R. S. HAWKER *Ball. Cornw.*, etc. (1869) 45 Teach me, Father John, to say *Vesper-verse and matin-lay.

b. In the sense 'of or belonging to, characteristic of, occurring in, the evening; vespertinal'.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 63 Soft fell the vesper-drops, condensed below, Or bent in air in the rain-refracted bow. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 58 A vesper-blue curricle. 1810 *Associate Minstrels* 6 Fair shines the vesper-star. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 63 To preside over bread and butter at the vesper tea-table. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 134 Yet in these eyes of vesper gentleness, there was a considerable obliquity of vision. 1887 J. ASHBY STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 208 When rooms with the vesper tobacco are clouded. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Aug. 225/1 Rich in every imaginable tint of vesper beauty.

c. (Chiefly *U.S.*) In the names of animals, birds, or insects, as **vesper-beauty, vesper-bird** or **-sparrow** (see quots.); **vesper mouse**, a mouse of the genus *Hesperomys* or *Vesperimus* or related genera; a white-footed mouse.

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & M.* 115 The Vesper [illegible]

[illegible] is their diminutive size compared with the South American. 1869 J. BURROUGHS in *Galaxy Mag.* Aug., They [*i.e.* grass-finches] sing much after sundown, hence the aptness of the name vesper-sparrow, which a recent writer, Wilson Flagg, has bestowed upon them. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 364 *Passerculus gramineus*,..Grass Finch. Bay-winged Bunting. Vesper-Bird. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 764/1 Our little vesper sparrow is said to have had the same end in view when he made his soft sweet carol the vesper-song of the uplands.

† d. In sense 5 a, as *vesper disputations. Obs.*

1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 93 Vesper Disputations in Philosophy. Vesper Disputations in Law.

Vesperal (ve·spĕrăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *vesperāl-is*, f. L. *vespera*: see prec. Cf. F. *vesperal* sb.]

A. *adj.* a. Vespertinal, vespertine. b. Pertaining to vespers or the vesper-bell. *rare.*

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Vesperall*, of or belonging to the euening. [Hence in Blount.] 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* III. 135 Amid the vesperal melodies of the steeple sounding-holes.

B. *sb.* 1. *Eccl.* An office-book containing the psalms, canticles, anthems, etc., with their musical settings, used at vespers; an antiphonary containing the vesper-chants.

1859 *Life Marg. M. Hallahan* (1870) 431 They were presented with a Vesperal and Processional. 1884 *Grove's Dict. Music* IV. 257 The most correct Vesperals now in print are those published at Mechlin in 1870, and at Ratisbon in 1875.

2. An evening song.

In quot. as the title of a poem.

1896 E. DOWSON *Verses* 39 Vesperal. 'Strange grows the river on the sunless evenings!'

† **Ve·sperate**, *v. Obs.*—° [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *vesperāre* to become evening, f. L. *vesper* VESPER.] 'To wax night' (Cockeram 1. 1623).

Vesperian, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. VESPER + -IAN.] Vespertine.

1777 TOPLADY *Solar System* Wks. 1794 IV. 271 [Venus] enters on her short vesperian regency, and shines by the name of Hesperus, or the evening-star.

Vesperti·lian, *a. rare*—[1]. [See next and -AN.] Bat-like. In quot. *fig.*

1874 RUSKIN *Proserpina* I. iv § 22 Mr. Darwin..in his vespertilian treatise on the ocelli of the Argus pheasant.

‖ **Vespertĭ·lio.** *rare*—[1]. [L. *vespertilio* bat, f. *vesper* VESPER.] A bat.

In modern Zoology *Vespertilio* (pl. *-iones*) is one of the many genera of Cheiroptera: cf. *next.*

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trvls.* (1677) 385 These vespertilios.. hang in swarms upon the boughs of Trees.

Vespertĭ·lionid, *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Vespertilionid-æ* (see def.).] Of or belonging to the *Vespertilionidæ*, a large family of insectivorous bats, including the common British species.

1895 DALLAS in *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 330 The tail traverses the interfemoral membrane in the fashion of that of Vespertilionid Bat.

Vespertilionine, *a.* (*sb.*). *Zool.* [f. L. *vespertilion-*, *vespertilio* bat + -INE.] *a. adj.* Of or belonging to, comprising or consisting of, a large distinct group of insectivorous bats included in the sub-order *Microchiroptera*.

1875 G. E. Dobson in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* XVI. 350 The allies of Microchiroptera..form two natural alliances, which may be called the Vespertilionine and Emballonurine alliances respectively.

b. *sb.* A bat belonging to this group.

1892 *Cent. Dict.*

Vespertilionize, *v. nonce-word.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert or turn *into* a bat.

1854 Badham *Halieut.* 451 Others..have vespertilionised this skate into the Sea-bat.

Vespertinal (vespəɹtəi·năl), *a.* [ad. late L. *vespertināl-is*, f. L. *vespertīnus*: see next and -AL. Cf. obs. F. *vespertinal*, *-el.*] = next.

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 469 All my troubles, cares, anxieties, perplexities—matutinal, meridional, and vespertinal. 1849 Thoreau *Week Concord Riv.* 219 The vespertinal pout had already begun to flit on leathern fin. 1854 Lowell *Cambridge 30 Yrs. Ago* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 90 F. became purely vespertinal, never stirring abroad till after dark. 1901 *Athenæum* 28 Dec. 876/3 Vespertinal events.. might be dated in Saxon times in four different ways.

Vespertine (ve·spəɹtəin, -in), *a.* (and *sb.*). [ad. L. *vespertīn-us* (hence also OF. *vespertin*, It., Sp., Pg. *vespertino*), f. *vesper* Vesper: see -INE 1.]

1. Of or pertaining to the evening; coming, occurring, or taking place in the evening; *spec.* in *Astrol.* (cf. 2).

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* 168 Yf thou wil kepe late set plantis, kepe hem from vespertyn reynes. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 693 Fra Phebus rais to the hour vespertine. *c* 1610 Sir C. Heydon *Astrol. Disc.* (1650) 60 The second is..the Vespertine oriental Apparition, which he calleth the last rising. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1638) 217 The starres i their heliacall, acronicall, matutine, and vespertine motions. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 33 The Morning and Vespertin Service in that Church. 1818 Cary *Dante, Purg.* xv. 140 Far onward as our eyes..could stretch against the bright Vespertine ray. 1831 Glenny *Handbk. Fl. Gard.* 68 It is desirable on account of its powerful vespertine fragrance. 1901 *Athenæum* 28 Dec. 877 The vespertine portion of the ecclesiastical day.

b. Of animals, birds, etc.: Appearing or especially active in the evening.

In quot. 1607 after L. *lupus vespertinus*, the Vulgate rendering of Heb. *z'êb 'ereb* in Hab. i 8.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 435 This first and vulgar kinde of Hyæna is bred in Affricke and Arabia...God himselfe in holy scripture calleth it by the name of a Vespertine Wolfe. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. i. 214 Vespertine Frog. ..Native of Siberia. 1892 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The vespertine or evening grosbeak, *Hesperiphona vespertina*.

†c. Dim, imperfect. *Obs.*—1

1623 Bp. Hall *Best Bargaine* Wks. (1625) 518 If ye had already that vespertine knowledge of the Saints which ye shall once haue in heauen.

2. *Astr.* and *Astrol.* Of a star, planet, etc.: Setting at or just after sunset.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. xvi. I. 12 These stars or planets in their evening setting, are neerest to the earth:..and then they be called Occidentall Vespertine, i. when the sun toward the evening covereth them with his raies. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* cxxvii. 577 An Infortune in the Nativity,...if Vespertine, [shows] long Diseases. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict., Vespertine*, when a Planet sets after the Sun. [Hence in Harris, Kersey, etc.] 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 449 She [i. e. Venus] is..sometimes almost Full, at other times Gibbous, .. as well when she is Vespertine as Matutine. 1819 J. Wilson *Dict. Astrol.* 288 Vespertine planets, viz. those between the 10th and 7th, or on the cusp of the 4th or near it, or ☿ and ♀ rising vespertine by day.

3. *Geol.* Used to designate the lowest carboniferous formation of the Pennsylvanian coal-measures.

1858 H. D. Rogers *Geol. Pennsylv.* II. 735 The..horizon which separates the Umbral red shale from the underlying Vespertine conglomerate. *Ibid.* 736 The Vespertine, or Lower Carboniferous series. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 258/1 In its Vespertine areas are numerous patches of anthracite and semi-anthracite coals.

†4. As *sb.* Vespers, evensong. In quot. *fig. Obs.*

a 1635 Randolph *Hey for Honesty* v. Wks. (1875) 489 Their breakfasts are their matins holy zelibus, Their vespertines are eating beef and velibus.

‖ **Vesperugo.** *Obs. rare.* [L.] Evening, or the evening star. (Cf. Vesper 1 and 2.)

In mod. *Zool.* used as the name of a genus of bats belonging to the group *Vespertiliones*.

1600 Tourneur *Trans. Metam.* vii, The skie..Is cloath'd with moorie Vesperugoe's coate. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict., Vesperugo*, the Evening-Star, Venus, when she shines after Sun-Set. [Hence in Kersey, Bailey, etc.]

Vespery. Now *Hist.* [a. F. *vespérie* (16th c.), or ad. med.L. *vesperia*, f. L. *vesper* Vesper.] *pl.* = *Vespers* Vesper 5 a.

[1686 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cotgr.), *Vesperies*, Evening Exercises or Disputations (among the Sorbonists). 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vesperies*, the last Act, or Exercise for taking the Degree of Doctor, among the Sorbonists in France.] 1886 Lyte *Hist. Univ. Oxford* 213 The vesperies of the Faculty of Arts might be held..on any day that was available for lectures. The exercise consisted of a disputation between the inceptor and some Masters of Arts on certain questions propounded in Latin verse by the presiding Master.

Vespiary (ve·spiări), [Irreg. f. L. *vesp-a* wasp, after *apiary*. Cf. med.L. *vesparium*.] A wasps'

1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* II. 108 The number of females in a populous vespiary is considerable. 1830 *Insect Architecture* (L.E.K.) 71 We have never met with a single vespiary in any situation likely to have been frequented by moles. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 122/1 Wasps clothe their vespiary with ten or twelve layers of paper.

Ve·spidous, *a. Ent. rare.* [f. med.L. *Vespid-æ* (see def.) + -ous.] Of or belonging to the *Vespidæ*, an extensive family of wasps, including the social wasps and hornets; vespoid.

1848 Maunder *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 724 A Vespidous insect having the first joint of the abdomen elongated into a pedicel.

Ve·spiform, *a. Ent.* Also 8 vespæ-. [f. L. *vesp-a*, *-æ*, wasp + -(i)form.] Having the form or appearance of a wasp; wasp-like.

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 31 The vespæform Asilus, with the antennæ longer than the head. 1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* II. 263, I once found one of the vespiform bees (*Apis Gordoniana*..) hanging by its mandibles from the edge of a hazel-leaf.

†**Vespillo'n.** *Obs. rare.* Also **vespilone.** [a. L. *vespillōn-*, *vespillo* (also *vespa*), acc. to Festus I. *vesper* evening. So obs. F. *vespillon*.] (See quot. 1656.)

1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 111. 11 Such as..were of high parentage .. were buried in the euening by certaine men who had that charge, who were called Vespillons. *Ibid.* iv. 12 Such..were buried in the night time, by the Vespillons clothed all in white. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 38 By raking into the bowells of the deceased, continuall sight of Anatomies, Skeletons, or Cadaverous reliques, like Vespilloes, or Grave-makers. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vespilons*, he that carries forth dead bodies in the night to be buried, as they use in time of plague and great sickness.

Vespine (ve·spəin), *a.* [f. *vesp-a* wasp + -INE 1.] Of or pertaining to a wasp or wasps; consisting of wasps.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 103/1 The neuters are the.. busiest class of the vespine community. 1863 Miss Yonge *Wars Wapsburg* 95 Vespine laws of fortification could not be more perfectly observed. 1884 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 400 To meet this abnormal fancy of the vespine intellect, the fig-wort makes its sensitive surface mature first.

Ve·spoid, *a. Ent.* [f. L. *vesp-a* wasp + -oid.] Resembling a wasp; wasp-like; *spec.* of or belonging to the *Vespoidea*, a super-family of *Hymenoptera* containing the typical wasps.

1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iv. (1816) I. 122 *Pompilus viaticus*, a vespoid insect that deposits its eggs in spiders. 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Vespoidæ*.

Vessche, obs. form of Vetch.

†**Vesse.** *Obs.* [Of unknown origin.] A kind of worsted fabric formerly made in Suffolk. Only in pl.

1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 8 § 18 The makyng of any Clothes called Vesses, Cogware, or Worstedes. 1511-2 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 The drapyng and makyng of such clothes, called vesses, rayes, saylynge clothes, and other clothes. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 That Vesses otherwyse called Set Clothes of dyvers Colours be made in your said Countie of Suffolk, which be made to be worne in far Countries and nat in Englond.

Vesse, var. Vessey *Obs.*

Vessel (ve·sĕl), *sb.*1 Forms: α. 4, 6 vessele (4 wessele), 4–5 vesselle (5 wess-), vessale; 4 vescel, vessil, 4– vessel (4–5 wessel, uessel, 4, 6 fessel), 5–7 vessell (wessell, 5 fessell); 4 vesseal, 5 vescal, vessall. β. *Sc.* 5 vyscele, weschele, 5–6 wesch-, veschale, 5 wes(a)chael(le; 5 wischeall, 5–6 veschall (5 wesch-, vessche-), 6 weschail; 5–6 wesch-, 5–7 veschell (6 vessch-), 6 veshel, 7–8 veshell. γ. 4–5, 7 vessayle, 5 veassayle, vessaile. δ. 5 vaysel, vaissel. [a. (1) AF. and OF. *vessel*, OF. *vesseal*, *vaissel*, *vaisseau*, etc. (mod.F. *vaisseau*) masc., = Pr. *vaisel*, Sp. *vasillo*, It. *vascello*:—L. *vascellum* small vase or urn, ship, etc., dim. of *vās* Vas; (2) AF. and OF. *vessele*, *veselle*, OF. *vasselle*, *wasselle*, *vaissele*, etc. (mod.F. *vaisselle*) fem., repr. the L. pl. *vascella* and used in a collective sense.]

†1. In collective singular: Vessels or utensils for the table or for use in the household, esp. those made of gold or silver; = Plate *sb.* 15. *Obs.*

Freq. from *c* 1300 to *c* 1600.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6145 Fra þis folk..þe folk of Israel to boru Asked silueren vessel [*v.r.* wessel] sere. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1488 Now, styward, I warne the, Bye us vessel gret plente, Dyschys, cuppys, and sawsers, Bolles, treyes, and platers. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xx. 220 Alle the Vesselle, that men ben served with, in the Halle or in Chambres, ben of precious Stones. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46 A dosen of pewtre vessell. 1424 *Ibid.* 56 All my seluere vessell. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 184/2 That Sterlyng Halpeny nor Ferthyng, shuld not be molten for Vessell. 1583 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xx. 29 All his Vessell was of golde and siluer, pottis, basons, ewers, dyshes, flagons, barels, cuppes, and all other thyngis. 1587 Harrison *England* III. xi. in *Holinshed* I. 237/2 Such furniture of household of this mettall [*sc.* pewter], as we commonlie call by the name of vessell, is sold vnusuallie by the garnish. 1629 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 192 They shamed now to drinke out of earthen vessell. 1683-8 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1706) 107 He..made restitution of much Church vessell, that had beene taken and sold for ransome. 1684 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 148 Have I layd them in mine own beds, mine own hangings, and treated them continually in

β. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XI. 217 All thai..that chargit war Of palzeonys and veschall vith-all. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Mary Egypt*) 1094 Pan godis blud & his body put in to weschale, pare-to worthy. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. xii. 1073 Golde, siluir and weschaelle, Cleynly made of gud

set on buirdis; and weschall forgit of gold. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xvii. 145 Coppir, bras, and yrn and vthir mettallis var meltit to mak vtensal veschel necessair to serue ane houshald. *a* 1576 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 337 Costlie beding, weschell and naiperie according for ane king. 1587 [see sense 7].

γ. δ. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 69 He sayde that hit was better and more noble thynge to shyne in good maners than in vayssel. 1608 *Tryall Chevalr.* IV. i, And so, sir, you that walk in pewter vessayle, like one of the worthyes, will you be rul'd by me? [1800 Scott *Monast.* xvi, Every bit of vassall and silver work have we been spoiled of since Pinkie Cleuch.]

b. *dial.* (See quots.)

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* 375 *Vessel*,..all the plates, dishes, and culinary utensils which are put into requisition during a meal. 'Wash the vessel up.' Never applied to a tea-service or to glasses. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss.* 176 To wash up the vessel is to wash up plates, dishes, &c.

2. Any article designed to serve as a receptacle for a liquid or other substance, usually one of circular section and made of some durable material; *esp.* a utensil of this nature in domestic use, employed in connexion with the preparation or serving of food or drink, and usually of a size suitable for carrying by hand.

Often with defining term preceding (sometimes hyphened), indicating its special use, as *dairy*, *drinking*, *kitchen*, *milk-*, *wine-vessel*. See also Air-, Steam-vessel 2.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13395 Ieaus badd þam þan o-nan Fil þair gret wessels [*Fairf.* vessels] o stan O water clere. 1340 *Ayenb.* 235 Þe pinges þet byeþ y-halzed, aze þe uesseles y-blissed, þe chalis, þe copereaus. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 204 Goth, bringeth forth the vesselx..The which my fader in his prosperite Out of the temple of Jerusalem byraft. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xi. 43 A vessell of gold full of manna. *c* 1450 *MS. Douce* 55 fol. 12 Steep hem with sugre water..in to a feyre fessell. *c* 1471 Fortescue *Wks.* (1869) 458 Oftyntyms his Highnesse must and will bye..Wessels, Westments, and other Ornaments for his Chapel. 1526 Tindale *Luke* v. 37 Also no man poureth newe wyne into olde vessels. 1550 *N. C. Wills* (Surtees, 1908) 208 Such vessels, barkes, and other thinges as belonges to the tanners craft. 1577 Harrison *England* in *Holinshed* I. 210/1 Afterward putting it [*sc.* brawn] into close vessels, they poure.. good small ale..thereto tyll it be couered. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 630 An earthen vessel in which was hourded a mighty deale of Romaine coine. 1658 J. Harington *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* II. ii. 11 His Enemies breaking down his Statues,..made homely Vessels of them. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 121 To my great Misfortune, I had no Vessel to boil or stew any Thing. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* II. 381 Join thou the suitors, and provide, In separate vessels stow'd, all needful stores. 1831 Brewster *Optics* III. 23 Let the board with its pedestal be placed..in a glass vessel of water. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* II. ix, Bending over a steaming vessel of tea. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 8 Queer tin vessels of many shapes.

Prov. phr. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, IV. iv. 71 But the saying is true, The empty vessel makes the greatest sound.

transf. 1645 Usher *Body Div.* (1647) 200 The third night (as it seemeth) God caused the Waters to retire into their Vessels.

β. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 1458 Pat..his blude In til a weschael tycht and gude Sulde be put. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc. 102 As lekand weschell haldis no thinge, Sa opin tung has na tralstinge. 1561 Winzet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 94 The weschells and ornamentis appropriat to the seruice of God. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 120 In dischis of daintie, in veschellis of al sortis. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood *Jrnl.* (1884) 84 They immediatly put those veshells into cold water.

γ. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1713 Þou..has hosen þy hert agaynes þe hyze dryztyn,..& now his vessayles [are] avyled in vanyte vnclene. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) Lay pigges in a vessayle, with bothe hande.

b. In various fig. applications. (Cf. 3.)

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7830 Þe lew þey called 'a voyde vessel', And forsoþe, so hyt fel. *c* 1325 Shoreham I. 1548 Per-fore ech man..weasche and greydy hys fessel, And do trewlyche hys charge. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 832/1 The vessell of amitie betweene the king of England & the French being first broched by this popes letters. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, IV. Chorus 3 Of a time, When creeping Murmure..Fills the wide Vessell of the Vniuerse. 1605 — *Macb.* III. i. 67 For them, the gracious Duncan haue I murther'd; Put Rancours in the Vessell of my Peace Onely for them. *a* 1630 May *Old Couple* v, Gently, my joys distil Lest you do break the vessel you should fill. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 559, Greatly instructed I shall hence depart..and have my fill Of knowledge, what this vessel can containe. 1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 270 Who will not willingly exchange his shallow vessel for Christ's well of living water?

c. The contents of a vessel; a vesselful. *rare.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 25 b, The vyntenar gyueth frely..a taste of his wyne though he gyue not the hole vessell at ones. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. K. William* 3 Ane free man..sall gif for multure at the milne the sextene veshell.

†d. *Arch.* (See quot. and Vase 1 b.) *Obs.*—0

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vessels*, in Architecture, are certain Ornaments, usually set over the Cornices, and so named, because they represent divers sorts of Vessels, which were in use among the Ancients.

†e. *slang.* The nose. *Obs.*

1823 *Sporting Mag.* XLI. 170 There d—n your eyes, I've tapped your vessel.

3. *fig.* (chiefly in or after Biblical use). a. Said

of a person regarded as having the containing capacity or function of a vessel. Freq. const. *of* (a condition, quality, etc.). Now *arch.*

For the phr. *the weaker vessel*, see WEAK a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19674 þou ga til him [*ac.* Paul], he es ane lele, And o mi chesing he es vessele. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Tim.* ii. 21 He schal be a vessel halwid into honour, and profitable to the Lord. 1388 — *Gen.* xlix. 5 Symeon and Leuy,..fiztynge vessels of wickidnesse. *a* 1400 *N. T.* (Paues) Acts ix. 15 For he es maked vnto me a vessel of choos forto bere my name bifore kenges ande folke. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xxxvii. 115 [They] came on-to þe graue wher..Gilbertes body was hid, and..þei lifte up þat holy vessel of God. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 19 Therfore let vs apply our wylles at all tymes to be vesselles of grace. 1552 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 254 The cursit Emprour Nero, Of euerik vice the horrabyll vessell. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlix. § 1 We know there are vessels of wrath. *a* 1649 HENDE *J. Bruen* ii. (1641) 6 If he [God] had a purpose to reserve him as a vessell of honor, and for his own house. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 89 Him after long debate . his final sentence chuse Fit Vessel, fittest Imp of fraud. in whom To enter 1738 WESLEY *Psalms* LXI. v, And cast into the burning Lake The Vessels of thine Ire. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) I. 93 We know not whether ..they might not prove..chosen vessels to promote the honour of God. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXVIII, Nature.. grieves that so goodly a form should be a vessel of perdition. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lii, It makes a vessel's heart bleed! 1905 A. INNES SHAND *Days of Past* vii. 129 As for the archbishop, he was a seasoned vessel.

† b. Said of the body, esp. as the receptacle of the soul. *Obs.*

c 1360 *Know Thyself* 4 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 130 Vche cristen creature knowen hym self ouht His oune vessel. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Thess.* iv. 4 That ech of 3ou kunne welde his vessel in..holynesse and honour. — 2 *Pet.* iii. 7 3euynge honour to the wommans vessel, or body. 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1061 The body..is the vessell of the soule. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* iv. 21 How shuide thy [then be able to comprehende the waye of the Hyest? 1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 526 The seede of generation should haue been sowne in the vessell, as corne is now in the fielde. *a* 1649 HENDE *J. Bruen* vii. (1641) 28 They possessed their vessels in holinesse, and in honour. 1704 SWIFT *Mech Operat. Spirit* (1711) 299 The Saint felt his Vessel full extended in every Part.

† c. In other Biblical uses (see quots.). *Obs.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conf.* 1 And þare in he has redid vessels of ded [L. *vasa mortis*]; his aruys till brennand he made. (So in Wyclif (1382).) 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* xiv. 20 The citees be..ordeynyde..that thei weren vessels of strengthing. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* 1. (Arb.) 71 Dauid in the Psalmes calleth bowes the vessels of death. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* xiv. 10 He gaue victuals to the citie, and he appointed them that they should be vessels of munition.

4. Any structure designed to float upon and traverse the water for the carriage of persons or goods; a craft or ship of any kind, now usually one larger than a rowing-boat and often restricted to sea-going craft or those plying upon the larger rivers or lakes.

Freq. with distinguishing terms, as *bomb-, fishing, gun-, machine-, sailing-, steam-, trading-, transport-, war-vessel*, etc.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1662 Bot ar i wil mi wengeaunce tak I will þat þou a vessel mak. A schippe be-houes þe to dight. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 197 Hire Schip goth in among hem alle,..And hath the vessell undergete, Which Maister was of al the Flete. 1452 *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 477 Ordeyne as many shippes and vessels of thoo that bylonge to oure port of A. as ye shal mowe. *a* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* XXXV. 131 Blanchardyn drew hymsylf aside wyth-in his vessell. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XXXV. 110 Sum maner of shyppe or vessell to passe ouer ye see. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 12 All the long boates and vessells of oares for the landing of men. 1625 BP. HALL *Whs.* 59 A little saile to a large vessell, rids no way. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv* I. 69 All Ships and Vessells vnder 10 Tunns..to pay no fees. 1736 GRAY *Statius* II. 21 Where.. parting surges round the vessel roar. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine*, *Vessel*, a general name given to the different sorts of ships..It is, however, more particularly applied to those of the smaller kind, furnished with one or two masts. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xix. 67 All the varieties of vessels which float upon the wave. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vi, I knew enough of Greek navigation to be sure that our vessel would cling to earth. 1889 WELCH *Naval Archit.* 13 For ships of ordinary form (including probably the great majority of vessels).

fig. 1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iv. ii. 319 Damn'd Pisanio Hath with his forged Letters..From this most brauest vessell of the world Strooke the maine top! Oh Posthumus, alas, Where is thy head? 1782 COWPER *Hope* 168 Hope, as an anchor.., holds fast The Christian vessel, and defies the blast. 1856 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* I. v. 250 In 1832 the vessel of Reform was still labouring heavily.

transf. 1882 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* i. 6 And every variety of horseflesh may be seen, .f om Lord Stephen Kildare's thoroughbreds to the broad-starved equestrian vessel of Mr. Curve Ghyrkins.

b. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 106 Bot for na vyaoole wes þane nere, he enterit in riuere faste, & swemand ay. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 326 He A weschell gat, and maid him to the se. *a* 1568 SEMPILL in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 25 A fair veschell abone be watter. 1607 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 71/1 The dewtie of coquetis, entres of shipis, barkis, crearis and wtheris veshellis.

c. c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 123 To burde with carrikkes and oþer grete vessailes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. vi. 282 He commaunded his seruaunt Gomemayle to goo to his vessaile ageyne. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 250 The seid vessayle fyrst freight at London with cordage.

d. c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 76 And the sayd vaissels and ships were blowen eno the perrillous yle of Colchos.

† b. In collective singular. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1390 Whan Eneas was sailed, euyn were his shippes Two hundreth full hole, all of hede.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 160 The haven of Sluse..Where many vessell and fayre arne abydynge. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 749 Sum fled to Tay, and in small weschell yed.

5. *Anat.* and *Zool.* One of the membranous canals, ducts, or tubes in which the fluids of the body are contained and by means of which they are circulated; freq., a blood-vessel.

Often with distinguishing term, as *blood-, iliac, lymphatic, pulmonary*, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Bartk. De P. R.* IV. vii. (1495) 90 Veynes ben the vessels of blode. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* (1888) 21 There is no more difference betweene these two vessels of blood, but that the Arteie is a vessel of blood spiritual or vytal. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 213 The double membrane of this meseenterie doth inclose and sustaine the vessels which runne through it. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. Poems (1905) 380 A nimble thrust his active En'emy made,..And opened wide those secret vessels where Life's Light goes out, when first they let in aire. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 65 All the Bones, and all the Muscles, and all the Vessels of the Body. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 279 In short whatever relaxeth the too strict vessels, or straitens the too lax, is a Cordial. 1793 HOLCROFT *Lavater's Physiog.* xii. 63 Vessels everywhere penetrate the bones, supplying them with juices and marrow. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 5 The Vessels .. are canals which divide and subdivide into branches, are more or less elastic, and are formed by the superposition of different membranes. They are distinguished according to their uses and general disposition into Arteries, Veins, and Lymphatic Vessels. 1871 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* 286 Portions of new growths,..which having perforated the vessels, have been carried away by the current. 1893 W. R. GOWERS *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II 422 If a cist forms in an artery it may be detached..and may obstruct the vessel further on.

b. *Bot.* One of the cellular or tubular structures composing the vascular system of plants and having the function of containing or carrying sap or other secretion; a duct.

1672 GREW *Anat. Plants* t. iii. § 30 Of the Lignous Body it is so apparent by its Pores, or rather by its Vessels, that we need no farther Evidence. For to what end are Vessels, but for the conveyance of Liquor? 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vegetable*, Bulk for Bulk, the Plant imbibes into its Vessels 17 times more Fluid than the Quantity of the Chyle which enters into a Man's Vessels. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 93 Air..passes..into the absorbent vessels of the root. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 368 The leaf has no rib, but seems composed of vessels equally dispersed. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 40 Whenever the sap in the vessels of a plant freezes, they become ruptured and the plant dies. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* xii. 285 Some of the vessels are barred and punctured instead of being spiral.

6. *Bot.* = PERICARP. *rare.*

Common in the comb. *seed-vessel*: see SEED *sb.* 8.

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 100 Such Mosses as grow upon Walls, and other high Places, have Seeds so excessively small, that when shaken out of their Vessels they appear like Vapor. [1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vasculiferous Plants*, are..such as have besides the common Calyx or Flower Cup, a peculiar Vessel or Case to contain their Seed.]

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In senses 1 and 2, as *vessel ambry, -cleaner, cloth, house, maker, -man, stuff.* Chiefly *Sc.*

Vessel-bearing, defining *vasiferous* (q.v.), is given by Coles (1676) and Bailey (1721).

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 367 in *Babees Bk.*, For wesselle clothes,..Pe porter hase þat warde in holde. 1488 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 98/2 A weschale almery, a cop almery. 1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas Scott.* VI. 39 To the court weschellmen. 1590–1 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXII. 121 To.. William Murra, aid in the vessel hous. 1598 FLORIO, *Vascellaro*, a potter, or vessell maker. 1607 *Reg. Decreets Sc. Admiralty Ct.* I. 93 Clapeburde, pype stalves, veschell and veschell stuff, pitche, tar, rosin, etc. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* 377 *Vessel cleaner*, an under dairymaid, whose business it is to clean the cheese tub, cans, and dairy apparatus.

b. In sense 5, as *vessel-dilator, -sheath, -wall.*

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 426 In the right lateral sinus, where the clot was adherent to the vessel-wall. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 234 Vessel dilators are of special use. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 609 A proliferative inflammation of the vessel-sheaths.

c. In sense 4, as *vessel-load, -man*, etc.

1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 483 The first Russian which 'rescued' a vessel-load of Circassians on their way to Turkey. 1898 *Daily Tel.* 6 Jan. 10/7 Other couriers were despatched to see the railroads and the vessel men.

Ve·ssel, *sb.*[2] [Of uncertain origin: connexion with prec. is not clear.] *Vessel of paper* (see quots.).

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Vessel of paper*, half a quarter of a sheet. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia.* 1840 SPURDENS *Suppl. Forby*, *Vessel*, .was used for theme-papers formerly at Bury School, and perhaps at others. 1860 *Guide to Eton* Gloss., *Vessel*, the eighth of a sheet of foolscap, on which derivations are written. 1891 WRENCH *Winchester Word-Bk.* 51 *Vessel*, a half quarter of Long-paper. 1910 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Dec. 751/1 Acton..made copious extracts,..written on vessels of paper specially made for him.

Ve·ssel, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. VESSEL *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To put or enclose (a liquid, etc.) in a vessel. Also with *up.*

1577 HARRISON *England* BK. vi. (1878) II. 37 Our honie.. is harder, better wrought, and clenlier vesselled up, than that which commeth from beyond the sea. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 529 The Fourth Rule shall be, to mark what Herbs some Earths doe put forth of themselves; And to take that Earth, and to Pot it, or to Vessell it. 1640 HARVEY *Synagogue* (1647) C vij b, I would have this bread, This wine, Vessel'd in what the Sun might blush to shed His shine, When he should see. 1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 129 In ve-celling up and stopping in the Tunbridge-waters.

transf. 1690 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 2 Man had at the First, and so have all Souls before their Entrance to the Body, an explicit methodicall Knowledge, but they are soon sooner Vessel'd but that Liberty is lost.

2. To take or lift *out* by means of a vessel.

1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6088 When they pour this solution into the Vessel, they use a stick,..whereby they agitate and beat the Wine in the Vessel, and then they vessel it out into other vessels.

Vessel-cup, north. dial. var. WASSAIL-CUP.

Ve·sselful. [f. VESSEL *sb.*[1]] As much or as many as a vessel will hold. 1860 WORCESTER.

Ve·sselled, *ppl. a.* [f. VESSEL *v.* or *sb.*[1]]

1. Enclosed in a vessel. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* iii. 42 The Vessel'd Mercury. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 91 You may with great facility move the Tube to and fro in the vessel'd Quicksilver. 1670 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* V. 2037 That 4 parts of 5, or rather 5 of 6 of the vessel'd Air (if I may so call that which was shut up in the Receiver) had been pump'd out. 1708 R. NEVE *Baroscop.* 10 Upon opening of the inverted Tube into the vessel'd Mercury.

2. *Bot.* Having or provided with vessels or ducts.

1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 499 The vesseled thorns..are disposed in a fixed and regular manner.

† **Ve·sselling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. VESSEL *sb.*[1] + -ING[1].] Vessels collectively. (Cf. next.)

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 410 When they beth cold, in picched vessellynge And cleyed, close hem vp. *Ibid.* XI. 110 The chanels of this oil & vesselynge.

† **Ve·sselment.** *Obs.* [a. AF. *vessellment*, OF. *vesselement*, *vaissellement*, etc., f. *vaisselle* VESSEL *sb.*[1]: see -MENT.] Vessels collectively, esp. church vessels or plate.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9338 Curteynes, or ouþer vestyment, Or any oþer vesselement þat falleþ to holy cherches seruyse. *Ibid.* 9480 For sacrylage, alle þys ys tolde, þat vesselment of cherche ys wypholde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1280 Dere disches of golde & dubleres fayre, Þe vyoles & þe vesselment of vertuous stones. *Ibid.* 1288.

† **Vessey.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 vesse (9 vessey). [Of uncertain origin. Cf. FESSE ².] *Vessey colour*, a light-blue or sky-blue colour.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 116 b, Fishes, or something.. appertaining to them, Whereof the maisterie must bee of colour vesse, that is, the colour of the Turcas. *c* 1573 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Elizab.* (1823) I. 413 He hath twoe clokes, th' one of Vessey Collor garded with..black Clothe and twisted lace. [Hence 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* I 186 A vesey-coloured cloak, guarded with black cloth, and twisted lace of carnation.]

Vessicle, obs. f. VESICLE.

Vest (vest), *sb.* Also 8 *dial.* **west.** [a. F. *veste*, a. It. *veste* (also *vesta*) robe, gown:—L. *vestem*, *vestis* garment, attire, clothing, cognate with Gr. ἑσθής, Skr. *vastra*. Cf. Sp. *veste* garment, † *vesta* vest, Pg. *veste* garment, *vestia* vest.]

1. A loose outer garment worn by men in Eastern countries or in ancient times; a robe or gown.

1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 20 We were forced to send his maister three vestes [*sic*] of cloth of gold, for beholding his person. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 146 Their [Persians'] out Garment or Vest is commonly of Callico quilted with Cotton. 1665 *Ibid.* (1677) 131 Artaxerxes the Great gave Mithridates..a Gown or Vest of gold which he wore during a Royal banquet. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 85 The Persians make their long vests of such cloths. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. vi. 63 Lucullus..being ask'd to furnish for a Play An hundred martial Vests. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* I. 555 Putting off his vest Of softest texture. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* XI. xiv, A hermit's vest Concealed his face. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. 215 Kaeso then put on his vest, such as the Roman generals were used to wear in battle. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Fragment*, The slanting ray of the evening sun shone.. With fitful light on regal vest, and warrior's sculptured mail.

transf. 1643 DAVENANT *Unfort. Lovers* I. i, Not in his Perfume and Silks; but in his Iron Vest. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* i. § 3 If then we take a Bean and dissect it, we shall find it cloathed with a doubled Vest or Coat.

b. A similar garment worn by women. Chiefly *poet.*

1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 193 Attended by her Maiden Train, Who bore the Vests that Holy Rites require. 1727 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Cless of Mar* 18 April, I found the lady sitting on her sofa, in a table vest. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* XXXVII, When my upper vest was taken off, they were apparently struck with the splendour of my clothes. 1797 SOUTHEY *Triumph Woman* 30 Thy daughters ..for this high feast Weave the loose robe, and paint the flowery vest. 1801 SCOTT *Glenfinlas* XII, O gentle huntsman, hast thou seen..A lovely maid in vest of green? Also — *Lady of Lake* IV. XII.

c. A garment, in various fig. uses.

1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* 118 The fair woods.. flourished in that youthful vest With which their great Creator had them drest. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 790 The Ancient Asserters of the Souls Immortality, supposing it to have besides this Terrestrial Body another Spirituous or Airy Body..as its Interiour Vest or Tunicle. 1746 COLLINS *Ode Poet. Charac.* 45 Truth, in sunny vest array'd. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 862 When ev'ning in her sober vest Drew the grey curtain of the fading west. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl. Ded.* v, Light the vest of flowing storm She wears.

† d. Without article. Clothing, attire. *rare*—[1].

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. 250 Our Means of Life are Food, and Cibo, and Vest.

2. An ecclesiastical vestment. *rare.*

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Feb., A priest was taken in his vests officiating somewhere in Holborne the other day. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov. 1644, The precious vessels of gold, silver, and gems, with the vests and services to be used in the Sacriary. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VIII. 222 The

bishop's vest..hung out under my cuirass. 1829 CARY *Lives Bath & Wells* 162 He gave also many splendid vests to the Churches of Bath and Wells.

3. a. A sleeveless garment of some length worn by men beneath the coat. (Introduced by Charles II: see first quot.) Now *Hist.* **b.** A short garment worn beneath the coat or jacket as a usual part of male attire; a waistcoat.

1666 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Oct., The King hath yesterday, in Council, declared his resolution of setting a fashion for clothes...It will be a vest, I know not well how; but it is to teach the nobility thrift. *Ibid.* 15 Oct., This day the King begins to put on his vest;..being a long cassocke close to the body, of black cloth, and pinked with white silk under it, and a coat over it, and the legs ruffled with black riband like a pigeon's leg. 1667 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 300, I doubt the old fellow must have a new vest and tunick. 1668 ETHEREDGE *She would if she could* III. iii, You are not To learn..how absolutely necessary A rich Vest and a Perruque are to a man that aims At their favours. 1722 *Overseers' Acc. Holy Cross, Canterb.*, Payd for mackin a west and briches for gouddins child, [£]0. 1. 6. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* v, She wore a coat, vest, and hat, resembling those of a man. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lix, Provided with some of the most splendid vests that Calcutta could furnish. 1907 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 3/2 Lightish striped cashmere trousers would not be correct..if worn with a dark blue coat and vest.

transf. 1830 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 1937 The rivets of the vest Which girds in steel his ample breast. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazon* viii. (1864) 220 A bird resembling our starling in size..and not unlike it in colour with the exception of the rich rosy vest. 1876 HOLLAND *Sev. Oaks* i, Among the charms that dangled from this liquid chain—depending from the vest of a landscape, which ended in a ruffle of woods.

c. A knitted or woven undergarment for the upper part of the body, worn next to the skin.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 583/1 Cotton,..spun silk, merino and Cashmere gentlemen's and ladies' vests. 1883 'SYLVIA' *Lady's Guide to Home Dressm. & Milliinery* xiii. 207 [List of under-linen], 4 merino vests, [£]0 5 9.

d. Part of a woman's dress bodice, consisting of a collar and front, usually of lace, net, silk, or other soft material.

1887 *Lady's World* June 256/1 Vests of spotted kerseymere..are made with military collars and two pockets. 1913 *Daily Graphic* 26 Mar. 12/4 The bodices having vests and collars of écru lace. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 134 p. ii/1 It [a 'waistcoat blouse'] has a soft net vest that ends in short sharp points.

e. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vest-maker*, *-pocket*; also **vest-pocket voter** *U.S.* (see quot. 1883).

1823 *Mass. Spy* 3 Dec. (Thornton), He found him asleep, took from his vest pocket the key [etc.]. 1828 WEBSTER, *Vesting*, cloth for vests; vest patterns. 1879 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* xliii, I could be a confectioner, a milliner, a dressmaker, a vest-maker 1883 in Bryce *Amer. Commw.* (1888) III. v. lxxxix. 217 The class of 'vest-pocket voters'—men who come to the polls with their tickets made up, to the confusion of 'the boys.'

Vest (vest), *v.* Also 5 *Sc.* west. [ad. OF. *vestir* (mod.F. *vêtir*, = Sp. and Pg. *vestir*, It. *vestire*) :—L. *vestīre* to clothe, f. *vestis* clothing: see prec.]

I. 1. *trans.* To place, settle, or secure (something) in the possession of a person or persons; = INVEST *v.* 6. Chiefly in passive, and usually const. *in* (rarely *upon* or *with*). **a.** With reference to estates, rights, titles, etc.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xl. 7089 At Gascon wilde þe portynance To be inseist and westit He and al his ayris qwhit. 1478 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 147/1 That all such estate, title, right,..and possession..in the same persons and persones and their heires be vested. 1503-4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 34 § 7 The seid Castels..[shall] in the same persone or persones and their heires be vested and they therin be intiteled. 1585 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* in *Chron.* II. 244/2 The right of which countie king Dauid affirmed to be lastlie in him..as truelie vested in his possession by the forfeiture. 1690 *Vind. Hammond's Addr.* § 60. 24 What is vested in me, I may give or derive to another; what is intrusted onely, I cannot. 1691 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. viii. (1739) 52 No Legiance is due to him, before the Crown is vested upon him. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5830/4 Until all the said Estates and Interests vested in them are disposed of. 1758 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 68 The late act of parliament vesting the estates of certain traitors in his majesty. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 22 There were no words to vest the portions in the daughters till a marriage with consent. 1847 BRIGHT *Sp., Ireland* 13 Dec. (1876) 155 A bill with this title to vest the ownership of the land with the present occupiers. 1898 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* xvi. 107 The Court may direct the parts so laid out to remain vested in the trustees.

b. With reference to power or authority.

1639 HAMMOND *On Ps.* LXX. 17 By which the power is vested on him. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 98 The Government of Religion was vested in Princes by an antecedent right to Christ. 1692 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. LXXVII, That power of abating Nusances..is vested in both of their Offices, both by Grant and Prescription. 1736 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 244 There is a particular jurisdiction vested in the officers. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772*, 45 The right of voting is vested by burgage tenure in certain houses. 1821 WELLESLEY in *Owen Desp.* (1877) 210 It is my intention to proceed immediately to vest the administration of the ceded districts in the hands of the Company's civil servants. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 37 The government of the society thus constituted was vested in an absolute monarch. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. 339 That..warm power of recommending a successor which the Law vested in him.

c. *transf.*

1629 RUTHERF. *Sev. Lamps* v. § 21. 257 If completeness is thought to be vested in polish, and to be attainable by help of sand paper. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. iii, Proud of this confidence and secret vested in him.

2. To put, place, or establish (a person) in full or legal possession or occupation of something; = INVEST *v.* 5. Chiefly in passive, and usually const. *in* (or † *of*).

In early use only *Sc.* in the phrase *vested* (also *west*) *and seised*.

1464 in *Arc. Fam. Innes* (1864) 78 The said schir Robert deyt last vest[it] and sesit as of fee. 1488 *Acta Dom. Audit.* (1839) 213/2 It been preit þat Williame þe barde deit last westit and Seisit in þe said landis. 1537 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 6 For seising takyn of all landis Walyam Paterson his fadyr deit last vestit and sesit conforme to his serwing. 1597 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 186 All landis, rowmes, hereditages,..quhairin he deirt last vest and sessit. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 329 Of which the Irish that are vested by restoration, seem rather to take part with the divested. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. iv, The sergeant presently inquired for the principal magistrate of the town, and was informed by my landlord that he himself was vested in that office. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 208 Miltiades thus vested in the supreme command [etc.]. 1905 *Times* 8 June 6/4 The Government proposed that the Free Church should be vested in the property to be allocated to her.

fig. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 226 Not all his most gracious and debonair mine towards them could vest him in that Nations affections. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 29 In order to their being actually vested in that salvation 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 442 All, who partake of this Nature, are not only certain of, but may in some sense be said already vested in, the Happiness, which [etc.].

b. To invest (a person) *with* some quality, esp. power, authority, etc. Chiefly in passive.

1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* (1693) 126 It is his Person as vested with all his Offices, that is the immediate Fountain of all Grace unto us. 1699 BURNET *39 Art.* iv. (1700) 67 He is vested with an unconceivable high degree of Glory. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 574 God's most glorious and best Creature,..vested with a reasonable Soul. 1727 — *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 32 They may be reasonably supposed to be vested with the same powers. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 13 [He was] created a peer, and was soon after vested with the dignity of chancellor. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Old Woman's T.* (1799) I. 361 [Thou] art vested with the mission of thy..king. 1803 in Gurwood *Wellington's Desp.* (1837) II. 50 *note*, I further vest you with full powers to decide any question which may arise. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. ix. 288 To vest the officers of the Crown in India with powers independent of the Company. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 227 The Indian Government was vested with the power of sovereignty within its own limits.

c. To endow formally or legally *with* some possession or property.

1756 *Anson's Voyages* (ed. 8) I. v. 70 This company, in consideration of a sum paid to the king, is vested with the property of all diamonds found in Brasil. 1858 in J. B. Norton *Topics* 246 We propose..that every ryot should be vested with the freehold of his farm.

3. *intr.* To become vested (*in* a person); to pass into possession; to descend or devolve *upon* one as possessor.

1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 44 Euerie estate either executed maintenant, or executorie by limitation of use, which vesteth in possession by vertue of the Statute of 27 H. 8. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xli. (1739) 66 In those days the title vested not unless the Child opened his eyes. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 137 If the Duke came to be King, the prerogative would by that vest in him. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 196 For the right of the crown vests..upon his heir. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 500 The Court held..that the whole estate vested in L. his executors and administrators. 1827 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* II. 223 The principle..does not apply, if there be an express declaration that the land shall vest at twenty-one. 1865 LOWELL *Reconstruct.* Prose Wks. 1890 V. 227 In all cases of land granted to freedmen no title should vest till a fair price had been paid. 1885 SIR R. BAGGALLAY in *Law Times' Rep.* LII. 671/2 The property vests in the official receiver *qua* trustee.

II. 4. *trans.* In pa. pple.: Dressed, clothed, robed *in* some garment. Also without const. (*spec.* with reference to ecclesiastical vestments).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. ii. 3 And beich abuf..cleirlie schane Aurora westit into broun sanguane. *Ibid.* XI. 29 In rob ryall westit,...And ryche purpour. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Rev.* I. 13 One like to the Sonne of man, vested in a priestly garment to the foote. 1622 I. W. *Ou tin's Sp. Gram.* 297 He ..saies that a Frier stayes for you readie vested at the Altar. *c* 1655 MILTON *Sonn.* XXIII, My late espoused Saint..Came vested all in white, pure as her mind. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Fair Favourite* Wks. (1673) 97 Your Brother (Madam) and he brings A Lady with him, vested like a Nun. 1728 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 92 The Priest being vested, sets about the Preparation of the Bread and Wine at the little Altar. 1762 *Brit. Mag.* II. 362 On the dexter side, a pilgrim or friar, vested in russet. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. v. (1903) I. 328 The thurifers and taper-bearers, in our large collegiate and cathedral churches, were vested in tunicles. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* vi. 76 A priest, vested in surplice and stole.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Also const. *with*.

1678 DRYDEN *Troil. & Cress.* Pref., Em. (Ker) I. 219 Spirits, according to Plato, are vested with a subtle body. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 81 We see other living creatures come vested, armed, able immediately to find their pasture. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Dial betw. Charles & Clement* P 28 Hast thou not seen me..vested in all the Types and Ornaments that Human Greatness is capable of receiving. 1822 D. JOHNSTON *Serm. for Blind* 44 The brightest ornaments with which our natures can be vested. 1823 KEBLE *Hymns Paradise* 8 The Saints, in beauty vested.

5. Of a garment: To clothe or cover (a person). Also *fig.* Cf. INVEST *v.* 1 b.

1580 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 38 Which plaid vested Helen, from Greece when to Troy she flitted. 1821 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XXI. 59 The light that vests me.

6. To dress (a person) in a robe or garment, esp. as a formal act or ceremony. Cf. INVEST *v.* 1.

In the 17th cent. chiefly with reference to Oriental usage.

1648 W. L. *Newes fr. Turkie* 7 My Lord was privately informed he intended an affront by not Vesting him. 1670 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 47 The Speaker..vested him with a rich purple Velvet Robe lined with Ermines. 1698 *Voy. Emp. Abyssin. to Tartary* in *Misc. Curs.* (1708) III. 130 To draw him near the City, he vested and caressed some of his Followers. 1840 H. JOLLY *Sunday Services* 219 The words formerly pronounced at vesting the baptised with their white garments, were very solemnly expressive. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* viii. 292 The Charites receive her on her return from the scene of the Net to Cyprus, where they bathe, anoint, and vest her.

fig. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* ii. 72 Prepare their hearts, and in Humilityre New vest their Soules.

b. *Eccl.* To drape or cover (an altar).

1867 *Portuary Calendar* p. v, Our right..to vest the Altar in colours..is grounded on the old law of the English church. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 305 It is best for the ends as well as the front of an altar to be vested. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 641/2 Altars are 'vested' during service; that is, covered with cloths of various kinds.

7. *refl.* To apparel or robe (oneself), esp. in ecclesiastical vestments. Also *fig.*

a 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 41 Thinking it had been a priest putting on the amice and vesting himself to say Mass. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 30 If we grant that spirit may vest itself so with flesh and blood. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 63, I shall vest myself, as I may say, in classical armour. *c* 1772 in E. H. Burton *Life Bp. Challoner* (1909) I. ix. 140 Just before the Bishop vested himself to say Mass 1892 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Parad.* iii. 27 There are who vest and veil themselves. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xvii. 159 Don Agostino disappeared into the sacristy to vest himself.

b. *absol.* in the same sense.

1882 MASKELL *Anc. Liturgy Ch. Eng.* (ed. 3) 219 A common custom..that the priest (whether or not he vested before the altar) should vest in the sanctuary. 1892 in A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) II. 657 The imposing procession..moved..up the main aisle to the sanctuary where the celebrant vested.

III. 8. *trans.* = INVEST *v.* 9. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 36 The Merchant..vesting this Hundred Pounds in English Goods. 1772 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 139 He was then in good circumstances, and it was said came to vest his money in our stocks. 1794 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 247 He vested in some kind of property..all, or almost all, that he had brought out of France. 1804 FARL. LAUDERD. *Publ Wealth* (1819) 178 He vests his capital either in seed..or in a stock of cattle. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* Introd. (1852) 21 Her capitalists were tempted to vest very large sums in foreign countries. 1863 [see VESTED *ppl. a.* 3].

Vest, southern ME. var. FAST *a.*; obs. Sc. *f.* WEST.

Vesta (ve·stă). Also 4 Veste. [L. *Vesta*, the goddess of that name (see sense 1) answering to the Gr. Ἑστία, identical with *ἑστία* hearth, house, household.]

1. *Mythol.* A Roman female divinity, the daughter of Saturn, goddess of the hearth and household.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 73 He 3af a temple..wiþ fyre to þe goddes Vesta and here maydenes to be worschipped. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 157 Ache which was the Priouresse In Vestes temple the goddesse. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. v. 91 The..garlandis Of Vesta, goddes of the erd and fyre. 1589 GREENE *Roundelay* Poems (1876) 100 Vesta's virgins with their holy fires Do cleanse the thoughts that fancy hath defiled. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVIII. xi. 676 The minds of men were put in feare, for the going out of the fire in the chappell of Vesta. 1632 MILTON *Inscrutus* 23 Yet thou art higher far descended, Thee bright-hair'd Vesta.. To solitary Saturn bore. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 395 He said, and brought me..The venerable statues of the gods, With ancient Vesta from the sacred choir. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vestals*, The Romans were not the only People who kept the perpetual Fire of Vesta, in imitation of the celestial Fires. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl* XXXIV, Couched ..as on Vesta's sceptre a swift flame. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 285/2 Vesta was regarded as the goddess of domestic union and happiness. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 393/1 If ever the sacred fire of Vesta did go out, the negligent vestal was to be punished by scourging.

attrib. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 393/1 Fire was solemnly sent from the prytaneum or Vesta temple of the mother colony.

2. *Astr.* One of the minor planets, revolving in an orbit between Mars and Jupiter.

1807 *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 245 Observations and Measurements of the Planet Vesta. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 285/2 Vesta performs its revolution in about 1326 mean solar days. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 514 The distance, and other elements of the orbit of Vesta, presented serious differences both with this theory and Bode's law.

3. Used as the distinctive name of a special make of household stove.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 68/2 In..the 'Vesta stove',..the ashes can be raked from the grate..without any dust rising into the room. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 402/2 The various stoves, Vesta, Chunk, &c., ..are all founded on the Arnott Stove.

4. A kind of wax match. Orig. *attrib.*

1839 CATH. SINCLAIR *Holiday House* ii. 25 Laura afterwards singed a hole in her muslin frock, while lighting one of the Vesta matches to seal these numerous notes. 1839 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 62 § 2 The following Duties of ..shall be charged :. .. Vesta, of Wax, the

1,000 Matches, c. c. o.]. 1899 CORNWALLIS *Panorama New World* I. 326 Wax vestas, pipes, maccaroni, and candles. 1863 ABEL in *Lond.* (etc.) *Phil. Mag.* Nov. 356 Varieties of wax or Vesta matches. 1864 STRAUSS, etc. *Eng. Workshops* 233 The vesta boxes are put in parcels of half-a-dozen and one dozen. 1886 D. C. MURRAY *First Person Singular* xix, Frost's trembling fingers had to strike one or two vestas. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cat's-eye Rings* 68 The major pulled a vesta-case from his pocket.

Vestal (ve·stăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vestālis*, f. *Vesta* VESTA. So Sp. and Pg. *vestal*, It. and F. *vestale*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** *Vestal virgin*, one of the priestesses (originally four, subsequently six in number) who had charge of the sacred fire in the temple of Vesta at Rome.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 473 Cornelia, the most noble of virgynes vestalle, ..was put in to therthe on lyve. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xix. (S.T.S.) I. 202 Þai condampnit Oppia þe virgine vestal for hir Incest. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I. xx. 14 Numa..instituted also a Nunnerie as it were, of religious vestall virgines. *Ibid.* XXVIII. xi. 676 The Vestall virgin who had the charge that night..was.. throughly skourged. 1608 tr. *Sallust* 20 Cataline had.. Debauch'd a Lady of Noble Extraction, and a Vestal Virgin. 1720 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* ix. (1722) 26 The Vestal Virgin Claudia, whose..freedom of Behaviour had made her Modesty suspected. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 88/2 What is there in Rome so sacred and venerable as the vestal virgins who keep the perpetual fire? 1885 LECKY *Ration.* (1878) I. 23 The miracles which clustered so thickly around the vestal virgins. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xlix, In defiance of every law..he had recently seized Rubria, one of the Vestal Virgins.

2. Of fire, etc.: Of or pertaining to Vesta.

1599 *Broughton's Let.* xii. 40 They counted it vnlawfull to refresh the Vestall fire. 1607 DRAYTON *Sheph. Sirena* 53 My coate with light should shine, Purer then the Vestall fire. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 553 She sprinkl'd thrice, with Wine, the Vestal Fire. 1788 V. KNOX *Ess.* CXIV. (1819) II. 287 Those institutions..have still kept the light burning like the vestal fire. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* Poems (1839) 4 Oblivion steals upon her vestal-lamp. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXXIV. (1856) 301 Three stoves and a cooking-galley, four Argand and three bear-fat lamps, burn with the constancy of a vestal shrine.

fig. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* I. i, Thou in whose eye, so modest, and so bright, Love ever wakes, and keeps a vestal fire. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* Ded. xi, Through thine eyes, even in thy soul I see A lamp of vestal fire burning internally. 1853 *Chr. Remembrancer* Jan. 70 Then it was that the Jeromes and the Eustochiums retired .. from a world whose light seemed on the eve of extinction, to nurse the vestal fire which was never to be really put out.

3. Resembling a priestess of Vesta in respect of chastity; chaste, pure, virgin.

1598 *Locrine* v. iv. 54 Beleeue me, Locrine, but the girle is wise, And well would seeme to make a vestall Nunne. 1703 POPE *Jan. & May* 202 Demure and chaste as any vestal Nun. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XV. ix, Jones had no reason to imagine the lady to have been of the vestal kind. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 390 The day is come, and thou wilt fly with me. To whatsoe'er of dull mortality Is mine, remain a vestal sister still. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xviii, Mrs Hannah, the vestal gentlewoman of my Lady Lillycraft, has had long walks and talks with Phœbe.

transf. 1806 MOORE *Dream Antiq.* i, Upon the bank awhile I stood, And saw the vestal planet weep Her tears of light on Ariel's flood. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 874 Oft have I brought thee flowers, on their stalks set Like vestal primroses.

4. Pertaining to, characteristic of, a vestal virgin or virgins; marked by chastity or purity.

1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 8 Her Vestal liuery is but sicke and greene. 1594 DRAYTON *Min. Poems* (1907) 4 Since holy Vestall lawes haue been neglected. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i. 156 This is my last Of vestall office; I am bride habited, But mayden harted. 1789 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 18 Young Men, and Virgins,..Attend a Song fit for a vestal Ear. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 68 O dear and blessed peace! Why dost thou shroud thy vestal purity In penury and dungeons? 1885 SCOTT *Betrothed* xvii, Necessarily introducing many male guests within those vestal precincts. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* II. 204 Love whispers may not breathe Within this vestal limit.

B. *sb.* **1.** A vestal virgin.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch's Lives, Numa* (1612) 68 He also hath the keeping of the holy virgines which they call Vestales. *Ibid.* 69 [He] taketh out..the condemned Vestall, muffled vp close. 1616 BULLOKAR *Engl. Exp.* s.v., These Vestals were first instituted by Numa Pompilius, or as some write, by Romulus. 1671 PHILLIPS (ed. 3) s.v. *Vesta*, Certain Virgins called Vestalls, who were to take care of the Vestal fire. 1722 J. RICHARDSON *Acc. Statues*, etc. *Italy*, etc. 135 The Head of the young Vestal was the most engaging thing I had seen in Italy. 1740 J. DUPRÉ *Conform. Anc. & Mod. Cerem.* 47 The Chief of the Vestals was called Maxima. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 265 A..face formed exactly like the Venus of Medicis, or the sleeping vestal. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 286/1 The habits which the vestals had acquired during their priesthood. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. iii. 433 *note*, The vestal Urbinia was buried alive on account of a plague.

fig. and *transf.* 1594 DRAYTON *Min. Poems* (1907) 4 Here Chastity that Vestall most diuine, Attends that Lampe with eye which neuer sleepeth. 1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xvii, I keep neither man or boy,..or any thing that can eat or drink, except a thin, poor piece of a Vestal (to keep my fire in). 1828 HAWTHORNE *Fanshawe* iv, A flame..which Hugh was so far a vestal as to supply with its necessary fuel at all seasons of the year

2. A virgin; a chaste woman; a nun.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 158 A certaine aime he tooke At a faire Vestall, throned by the West. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 80 A grosse-pencild Painter, who..vnder colour of drawing of pictures, drawes more to his shady Pauilion, then depart thence pure Vestals. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. v. 7 Shall's go hear the vestals sing? 1727 POPE *Eloisa to Abelard* 207 How happy is the blameless vestal's lot! The world forgetting, by the world forgot. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 554 The stain Appears a spot upon a vestal's robe, The worse for what it soils. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* x, She was the most hospitable and jovial of old vestals, and had been a beauty in her day. 1879 GLADSTONE *Gleanr.* II. i. 10 He states that he never knew souls more polluted than those of some of the professed vestals of the Church.

Hence **Ve·stalship**, the state or condition of being a vestal or virgin.

1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 42 A mouth too red for the moon to buss it, But her cheek unvow its vestalship.

† **Vestament**, erroneous var. of VESTIMENT or VESTMENT.

1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* IV. i. H3b, His vestaments sit, as if they grew vpon him.

Veste, southern ME. var. FAST *v.* and *adv.*, FIST *sb.*[1]

Vested (ve·stĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. VEST *v.* + -ED.]

1. Clothed, robed, dressed, *spec.* in ecclesiastical vestments. Also *fig.*

1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 287 Just Simeon and Prophetic Anna ..altar and the vested Priest. 1769 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 360 The cooling brook, the grassy vested green. 1842 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1852) IV. 256 Why do I not go forth as a forgiven and vested creature. 1842 WORDSW. *Eccles. Sonn.* III. XXVI, The Vested Priest before the Altar stands.

b. *Her.* (See quot.)

c 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Vested*, habited, or clothed, as a cubit arm, &c. vested *as*. or the like.

2. Established, secured, or settled in the hands of, or definitely assigned to, a certain possessor.

1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 168 *Vested* remainders..are where the estate is invariably fixed, to remain to a determinate person, after the particular estate is spent. *Ibid.* 513 A legacy to one, to be paid when he attains the age of twenty-one years, is a *vested* legacy. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 185 He held it to be a vested estate in fee in the son. 1832 LEWIS *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* iii. 25 In its legal sense, vested is opposed to contingent. 1845 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* 241 The alienation of an executory interest, before its becoming an actually vested estate. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. Introd. p. xlv, After..months of struggle with the vested privileges of record-keepers.

b. *esp.* with *right* or *interest*. Also *fig.*

(*a*) a 1797 J. P. ANDREWS *Man. Constit.* 211 (Thornton), Violative of a vested legal right. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* App. p. xxxiv, Vested rights essentially differ .. from rights which are contingent. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. ix. § 3 (1876) 89 The vested right which Parliament has allowed to be acquired by the existing companies. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 285 Let its vested right, of paying out the truth, be flung into the free air of history. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* v. § 3. 233 It is not such a right as the law regards as vested, that is, as completely created.

(*b*) 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 481 The limitation.. gave him an immediate vested interest in the surplus of the estate. 1842 ABDY *Water Cure* (1843) 154 Finding that new truths have not as many vested interests to recommend them as old fallacies. 1859 MILL *Liberty* iv. (1865) 53/1 The doctrine ascribes to all mankind a vested interest in each other's moral, intellectual, and even physical perfection. 1889 W. DONISTHORPE *Individualism* iv. 122 Vested interests may perhaps be defined as rights based not upon contract but upon custom.

3. Invested.

1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 20 The returns for vested capital and the comfort of the working classes both [being] considered.

Vestee[1]. *Law. rare.* [f. VEST *v.* + -EE.] One who is vested with a right, property, etc.

1879 *Austin's Jurispr.* II. lii. 883 Subject to a series of vested rights (descendible perhaps from present vestees).

Vesten, southern ME. variant of FAST *v.*

Ve·ster. *rare.* [f. VEST *v.* 8.] One who invests money; an investor.

1829 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 146 They declare that their vesters aim at..a community in land and in goods.

† **Vesterer.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **westerer.** [f. *vester-ie* VESTRY, or OF. *vestier* vestiary.] A person having charge of vestments.

1388 in *Archaeol.* LII. 213 Fyrste the westerer shall lay the abbotes cope lowest opon the awter with the sayd westre.

Vesterie, obs. form of VESTRY[1].

† **Vesteye**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also **vestoy-.** [app. ad. an unrecorded AF. **vesteier*, OF. **vestoier*, of obscure origin.] *trans.* To inspect, examine. Hence † **Vesteying** *vbl. sb.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) XXV, It is to weten þat ofte tyme a deere is herbored with vestoynge of mannys eye. *Ibid.* XXX, If his lymer be dislaue, late him vesteye it with his eye. *Ibid.* XXXIII, And if þe lymer ouer-shete, or kan not put it forth, euery hunter þat here is, ought to go somedele a broode forto se yf þei may fynde þe reghtes with vesteynge of eye.

Vestiarian (vesti,ē·riăn), *a.* [f. VESTIAR-Y + -IAN.]

1. Of or relating to, concerned with, ecclesiastical vestments or their use.

1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 19 The question of the habits, or as it has since been termed the vestiarian controversy. 1866 *Contemp. Rev.* II. 557 The ecclesiastical Adria, agitated by ritualistic and vestiarian gales, has thrown up a great heap of pamphlets. 1881 *Guardian* 16 Feb. 232/3 We should have been well pleased had these vestiarian differences never found place amongst us.

2. Of, belonging or peculiar to, clothing or dress; vestiary. *rare*[—1].

1854 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* (1860) 34 Whitening of the seams—a disagreeable vestiarian phenomenon produced by the surface, or best-coloured portion, of the cloth being rubbed off.

† **Vestiarier.** *Obs. rare*[—0]. Also **vestyaryer(a.** [f. med.L. *vestiārius* sb. Cf. OF. *vestiarieur* (Godef.).] = VESTERER.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/1 Vestyaryer [*printed* -oc] (*K.* vestiariere [*Winch. MS.* vestyaryere], *P.* vestyar), *vestiarius.*

‖ **Vestiarium.** *rare.* [L. *vestiārium*, f. *vesti-s* clothes, clothing: see -ARIUM.] A vestiary, vestry.

1885 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xliv, The chapel by the little door near to the Vestiarium. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 13/1 The upper story of the refectory [in a Benedictine abbey] is the 'vestiarium', where the ordinary clothes of the brethren were kept.

Vestiary (ve·sti,ări), *sb.* Forms: 3-6 **vestiarie**, 4 **vestiare**, 5 **vestyarye**, **-iarye**, 5- **vestiary.** [a. OF. *vestiarie*, *vestiaire*, *vestyaire*, etc. (mod.F. *vestiaire*, = Pr. *vestiari*, Pg and It. *vestiario*), or ad. L. *vestiārium* clothes-chest, wardrobe, neut. sing. of *vestiārius* adj., f. *vesti-s* clothing, vesture. Cf. VESTUARY.]

I. 1. A vestry of a church. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 455 A lodlich cloth he boughte for fif panes; to þe bischope he gan it bringue. Þe bischop eode into þe vestiarie; is Cope he gan of streye. 1427-8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 69 For a plomer on þe vestyarye. 1448 HEN. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 354 The vestiarie to be sette oon the north syde of the saide Quere. 1503 in Blyth *Hist. Notices & Rec. Kincham* (1863) 57 My bodye to be beryed in the vestiary of Sent Martyns Chirche. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 57 b, The Church, the pulpite, the vestiarie, the chauncell. 1668 T. SMITH in *Phil. Trans.* (1697) XIX. 604 Toward one end of the English Church, just by the Vestiary. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vestiary*, a Vestry or Dressing-Room. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 212 And monie ane that day did herrie Braw spulyie frae the vestiary. 1841 GRESLEY *For. Arden* (1842) 61 The service being at length finished, ..he returned to the Vestiary. 1866 MRS. R. T. RITCHIE *Village on Cliff* xvii, The curé..walked through his wild overgrown wilderness to the vestiary.

b. A room or building, esp. one in a monastery or other large establishment, in which clothes are kept. Also, a cloak-room (quot. 1893).

c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 45, I haue do mad 3ou clothis & hosyn and schon..whech I wil þat þei be kept in a comon vestiary, þat euery man may haue part as him nedith. 1467-8 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 546/2 Davy Chirke, Yoman of oure Vestiarye of oure Houshold. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vestiary*, a place in a Monastery, where the Monks Cloaths are laid up; the Friers Wardrobe. 1866 AINSWORTH *Ovingdean Grange* 157 The room..being used, at the present day, as a vestiary. 1882 SIR H. TAYLOR *St. Clement's Eve* II. i, Go to the vestiary, wherein thou'lt find Provision of all garbs for the masqued ball. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* II. 161 'All right,' said Granton,..turning to the vestiary for his light overcoat.

† **c.** (See quot.) *Obs.*[—0]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Vestiary*, .. a Wardrobe, Press, or Chest, where apparel is laid. [Hence in Phillips, and recent Dicts.]

† **2.** = VESTIBULE 1. Cf. VESTRY 1 b. *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXXV. 17 The tentis in the 3atis of the vestiarie [L. *in foribus vestibuli*]. 1382 — 2 *Sam.* xvii. 18 Thei wenten in a swift paase in the hows of a maner man in Bahurym, that hadde a pit in his vestiarye.

II. 3. Clothes, dress, garments. *rare*[—1].

1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 467/1 Thy versicoloured and cloudlike vestiary, puffed and effuse, rustling and rolling.

Vestiary (ve·sti,ări), *a.* [ad. L. *vestiāri-us*: see prec. and -ARY[1]. Cf. obs. F. *vestiaire* (Littré).] Of, pertaining or relating to, clothes or dress.

1622 E. MISSELDEN *Free Trade* (ed. 2) 109 The Superfluity of other Commodities may bee restrained by lawes Vestiary and Sumptuary. 1648 BP. HALL *Select Th.* § 93. 271 Some are for mannury trades,..another for Vestiary services. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXV. 346 The soul may remain the same, but a new body is actually given to it by the interposition of vestiary talent. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. II. 113 A collection of vestiary curiosities. 1870 W. R. GREG *Polit. Problems* 167 Some vestiary materials have become more abundant and lower in price. 1891 HAN. LYNCH *G. Meredith* 78 We learn of vestiary elegances, and temper.

Vestible, obs. form of VESTIBULE.

Vestibular (vesti·bĭŭlăr), *a.* [f. next + -AR[1]. Cf. obs. F. *vestibulaire.*] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, resembling or serving as, a vestibule: **a.** *Anat.* (Cf. VESTIBULE *sb.* 2.)

1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 537/1 The vestibular part of the membraneous labyrinth..is all that is really fundamental in the structure of an organ of hearing. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. (1856) 23 As in the vestibular cavities of fishes. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* viii. 211 The vestibular nerve tells us that sounds are weak or loud, but gives no impression of tone or melody or harmony. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 580 The vestibular termination of the auditory nerve.

b. In general use.

1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* 158 The outer world was fenced off by the interposed atrium or vestibular cloister.

c. *Zool.* (See quot.)

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 426/1 This pseudostomosis is due to a folding of the entire sponge, so as to produce secondary canals or cavities, which may be incurrent (vestibular) or excurrent (cloacal).

So **Vesti·bulary** *a. rare.*

1843 in F. H. Ramadge *Consid. Consumption* (1850) 37

The..morbid conditions of this vestibulary portion of the respiratory apparatus.

Vestibule (ve·stibiūl), *sb.* Also *a.* 7–8 vestible. [ad. L. *vestibulum* (hence F. *vestibule*, OF. *vestible*, It., Sp. and Pg. *vestibulo*), entrance-court, fore-court, entrance. The origin of the L. word is uncertain.]

1. In reference to ancient times: The enclosed or partially enclosed space in front of the main entrance of a Roman or Greek house or building; an entrance-court or fore-court.

In some instances approximating to next.

a. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Vestible*, the porch of a dore. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vestible*,..a void place without the door, a Porch, an Entry. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Atrium*, Some have mistakenly confounded the *Atrium* with the porch or vestible, from which it was distinct. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 263 Porticos, vestibles of temples, and other public buildings.

β. a 1721 BOLINGBROKE *Study Hist.* ii. (1752) I. 19 The citizens of Rome placed the images of their ancestors in the vestibules of their houses. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 108 1/1 This tyrant..would not suffer his guards to do duty in the palace, but only in the vestibule and porticos about it. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XI 942 While ye on preparation of the feast Attended both, Ulysses and myself Stood in the vestibule. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* II. 163 He met within the murmurous vestibule His young disciple. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 219 [To] Throw you as ballast into the ship's hold, And then deliver you, a slave, to move Enormous rocks, or found a vestibule. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* I, In its vestibule was a bronze statue, fifty feet high.

b. In modern usage: A chamber or hall immediately between the entrance-door and the interior of a building or house (usually one of some size), to which it gives admittance; an ante-chamber, entrance-hall, or lobby.

a. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), A *Vestible* is also used for a Kind of little Anti-Chamber before the Entrance of an ordinary Apartment. 1747 in *Nairne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 80 In the low vestible ane old clock.

β. 1756 MRS. DELANY in *Autobiog. & Corr.* (1861) III. 437 Her apartment is the prettiest thing I ever saw, consisting of a skylight antechamber or vestibule, adorned in the Gothic way. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, He was soon admitted to a small vestibule, where he found Bianchi winding balls of silk. 1808 *Ann. Reg.* 76/1 A scene almost of butchery took place in the staircases and vestibules. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxvi, The clock in the vestibule struck nine as Robert opened the library-door. 1882 OWEN in *Nature* No. 618. 425 The impressive and rather gloomy vestibule which leads to the great hall.

Comb. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Nov. 2/2 This room opens into a long and lofty vestibule-like chamber.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

Freq. from *c* 1800; usu. const. *of*, as in the first group.

(*a*) 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* ii. Wks. 1757 IV. 141 The dark, solemn approaches to, or dismal vestibules of, the grave. 1785 BURNS *Common-pl. Bk.* Oct., If ever any young man, in the vestibule of the world, chance to throw his eye over these pages [etc.]. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 254 There can be no very great deviation, while we remain at the vestibule of useful inquiry. 1833 H. COLERIDGE *Lives Northerns* 3 A single copy of verses [by Marvell] .keeping its station in the vestibule of Paradise Lost. 1861 J. G. HOLLAND *Lett. Life* iii. 48 To-day we stand in life's vestibule. 1875 GRINDON *Life* i. 4 True figurative language is..the vestibule of philosophy.

(*b*) 1781 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* II. iv. 106 Looking upon Knowledge..to pass into the Mansions of the Mind thro' Language, they were careful..not to offend in the Vestibule. *a* 1848 R. W. HAMILTON *Rew. & Punishm.* viii. (1853) 379 The present is the vestibule to a boundless existence. 1880 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) 131 One large class of the Platonic Dialogues, which are the induction or vestibule to the rest. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* i. 3 Language and Mythology form the vestibules and outer courts to Homer, Pheidias, Lycurgus.

d. An enclosed and covered-in portion at either end of a railway carriage, serving as a means of passage from one carriage to another. Also *attrib.* in *vestibule train* (see VESTIBULED *a.*). Orig. *U.S.*

1889 *Daily News* 7 May 7/3 Communication was then established by throwing a board across, and privacy secured by stretching a piece of canvas above to connect the two roofs. It was the vestibule train principle established unexpectedly in a new quarter. 1890 T. M. COOLEY, etc. *Railways Amer.* 246 A perfectly enclosed vestibule of handsome architectural appearance between the cars. 1896 *Daily News* 14 July 9/7 The new vestibule East Coast train.

2. *Anat.* (and *Zool.*). One or other of various cavities or hollows regarded as forming an approach or entrance to another, usually a larger or more important, part.

A number of these, as *vestibule of the aorta, larynx, mouth, pharynx*, are specified in recent encyclopædic and medical Dicts.

a. The osseous cavity which forms the central portion of the labyrinth of the ear and is situated between the tympanum and the internal auditory canal, immediately behind the cochlea.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Ear*, The Labyrinth..is divided into three Parts; the first called the Vestibule. 1760 A. MONRO *Anat.* 72 The other [hole] ends in several very small canals that allow a passage to the branches of the *portio mollis*..into the vestibule and cochlea. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 530/1 Of the compartments of the osseous labyrinth, the vestibule lies in the middle, the semi-circular canals behind it, and the cochlea in front. 1846 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* II. 96 The essential part of the organ of hearing is the vestibule. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 188 The bony labyrinth consists of an irregular central cavity, the vestibule.

b. (See quot. 1857.)

1841 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstetr. Medicine* 33 The *Meatus Urinarius*,..which is the canal leading to the bladder, is situated at the further extremity of the vestibule. 1857 BULLOCK *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 43 The vestibule is a small triangular space placed at the upper part of the vulva. 1883 DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* (ed. 2) xvii. 167, I call them inflammations of the pudendum; but they are often called inflammations of the vulva, and sometimes of the vestibule.

c. *Membranous vestibule*, the membranous sacs contained within the osseous vestibule of the ear.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s.v., There is also another membrane, constituting the membranous vestibule, but it is not an exact imitation of the osseous cavity.

d. *Zool.* = VESTIBULUM 2 b. *rare.*

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 87 When fæcal matters are discharged, they make their way out by an aperture which is temporarily formed in the floor of this vestibule.

Ve·stibule, *v.* [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To provide or supply (a railway carriage) with vestibules; to unite by means of vestibules.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Apr. 2/2 The two cars..are 'vestibuled' together by a central lobby. 1904 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. I. 346/2 Through carriages on a certain train between London and Hull will henceforward be 'vestibuled through' to an express.

Ve·stibuled, *a.* [f. VESTIBULE *sb.*] Of a train: Provided with vestibules. Orig. *U.S.*

1890 T. M. COOLEY, etc. *Railways Amer.* 249 The first of the vestibuled trains went into service on the Pennsylvania Railroad in June, 1886. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Apr. 6/4 The vestibuled corridor dining-car trains on the East and West Coast routes to Scotland.

Vestibuli·tis. *Path.* [f. VESTIBULE *sb.* + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the vestibule of the vulva.

1889 DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* (ed. 4) xi. 65 When they do so women suffer..from slight superficial inflammation—vestibulitis.

Vestibulo·tomy. *Surg.* [f. as prec.: see -TOMY.] The operation of cutting or opening the vestibule of the ear.

1908 *Lancet* 9 May 1341/2 We have come to regard inferior vestibulotomy as a good and adequate means of draining the vestibule in cases of infection...Double vestibulotomy was performed with partial removal of the cochlea.

‖ **Vestibulum** (vesti·biūlŏm). [L.: see VESTIBULE *sb.*]

1. = VESTIBULE *sb.* 1.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 286 In the midst of the *Vestibulum*, there was a great Fountain. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 132 In those large *Xystas*, *Porticos*, *Atrias* and *Vestibula* of the Greeks and R[omans]. 1699 HOWE *Redeemer's Dominion* Wks. 1724 II. 64 Having the Keys of the Celestial House of God,..he should also have the Keys of the Terrestrial Bethel; which is but a sort of Portal or Vestibulum to the other. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. v. 176 In the Vestibulum of a Convent of Greek Nuns, there is a Christ very ill painted. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. iii, You enter..by a small entrance-passage (called *vestibulum*) into a hall.

2. *Anat.* and *Zool.* **a.** = VESTIBULE *sb.* 2.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vestibulum*, is a Cavity in the *Os Petrosum*, behind the *Fenestra Ovalis*. 1726 A. MONRO *Anat.* 101 Canals, that allow a Passage to the Branches of the *Portio mollis* of the seventh Pair of Nerves, into the *Vestibulum* and *Cochlea*. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 420 The external parts, particularly the inside of the nymphæ and the vestibulum, are subject to inflammation. 1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 9 The vestibulum..is completely separated from the tympanum. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 116 The membranous vestibulum is continued by a canal to a single opening in the roof of the skull.

b. *Zool.* The cavity or chamber in certain infusorians into which the œsophagus and anus open.

1859 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Protozoa* 56 In addition to the oral orifice, the vestibulum is provided with a lateral aperture which would appear to discharge the function of an anus. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 87 A groove [in the bell-animalcule], which, at one point, deepens and passes into a wide depression, the *vestibulum*.

†**Ve·stigate**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vestigāt-*, ppl. stem of *vestigāre* to track, trace out, investigate.] *intr.* and *trans.* To investigate, in various senses.

a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey*, etc. (1825) II. 4 Wherefore Dame Reason did me persuade, and move To be content with my small estate, And in this matter no more to vestigate. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Vestigate*, to tracke, or trace. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (following Cooper), *Vestigate*, to seek out, to seek by the print of the foot, to trace, to search, diligently, to hunt after. 1780 J. T. DILLON *Trav. Spain* (1781) 28 To vestigate their mode of propagation.

Hence †**Ve·stigating** (*vbl.*) *sb.*, a footprint. (Cf. VESTIGIATING.) †**Ve·stigation** (see quot. and INVESTIGATION). *Obs. rare.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 189 [The Cingalese hold] that Adam was their Created and liued there; they baleeue it rather in regard his vestigatings are yet imprinted in the earth. 1656 PHILLIPS, *Vestigation*, a seeking any one by the print of their foot, a searching diligently.

Vestige (ve·stidʒ). [a. F. *vestige*, ad. L. *vestigium* footstep, footprint, trace, mark, etc. Cf. the earlier VESTIGY.]

I. 1. A mark, trace, or visible sign *of* something, esp. a building or other material structure, which no longer exists or is present; a piece of material evidence of this nature; something which remains after the destruction or disappearance of the main portion.

In the singular freq. in negative phrases.

pl. 1600 J. COLVILLE *Parænesis* ¶ j, Not..farder..nor vnto ye vall of Septimius Seuerus..vharof the vestiges yit remaine. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Nov. 1644, Descending the Mons Cælius we come against the vestiges of the Palazzo Maggiore. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 297 We see the beginning of a Vault..with the Vestiges of the Stair upon it. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 136 The vestiges of different buildings, and the walls of a small chapel, still remain. 1826 SIR H. DAVY in *Faraday's Exp. Res.* (1859) 4 Vestiges of extinct volcanoes exist in all the low countries on the western side of the Appennines. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* III. viii. I. 459 They had not been molested by enemies. But more than once they had seen vestiges of them in smoking hamlets and ruined bridges. 1864 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor.* 243 Others wandered thither, seeking vestiges of old inheritance.

sing. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 240 Of these there is not the least Vestige remaining. 1743 KAMES *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 63 There was no remaining vestige of any moveable effects. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 370 No..vestige of the inflammable principle [will] appear. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 98 Not the least vestige of a slough could be perceived. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* xii. 140 A vestige of some ancient fabric may be seen..near the church. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 280 There is now scarce vestige left of any building prior to the fifteenth century.

b. A surviving memorial or trace *of* some condition, quality, practice, etc., serving as an indication of its former existence. Usu. in pl.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Jan. 1645, The once mighty Capua ..shewing some vestige of its former magnificence in pieces of temples, arches [etc.]. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 378 That line of policy which government has pursued:..that, I mean, of wearing out the vestiges of conquest. 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* I. iii. I. 35 The vestiges of the first indelible impression. *a* 1850 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) III. 282 These consolidation doctrines sweep away at a blow every vestige of State Rights. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 197 A toll..drove away the last vestige of lawful traffic. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 71 Modern enquirers..have also detected..the vestiges of a patriarchal state still surviving.

c. Without *of*, in prec. senses.

1735 THOMSON *Liberty* II. 404 Scarce any trace remaining, vestige grey, Or nodding column..To point where Corinth, or where Athens stood. 1789 MME. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 127 A mode..that I think will..leave no vestiges behind. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 32 A solid body of stone ..which exhibits no manner of vestige or leader whatever to point out which way the coal is gone. 1814 SCOTT *Border Antiq.* I. 1 This ancient baronial edifice is now in ruins,.. and nothing scarcely remains but a few melancholy vestiges, which [etc.]. 1830 G. A. COOKE *Topogr. Descr. Surrey* 68 Not a vestige is now standing, but the coloured bricks, stones, etc...prove that the materials have not been entirely destroyed.

d. A very small or slight trace, indication, or amount (*of* something); a particle, a scrap.

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 111 If it contains the least vestige, the slightest taint,..precipitation follows. 1762 COWPER *Conversat.* 219 On all the vestiges of truth attend, And let them guide you to a decent end. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Huttonian Theory* 334 The mountain..appeared to me to be without any vestige of stratification. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* ix. 298 Not a vestige of green pasturage was to be descried. 1884 *Chr. Commonwealth* 12 June 824/1 The general ruck and run of our politicians have scarcely a vestige of lofty motive or noble principle.

2. *Biol.* A surviving trace *of* some part formerly existing in the species; a vestigial organ or structure (see quot. 1886).

1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* xiii. (1860) 454 Rudimentary organs,..as..the vestige of an ear in earless breeds. 1868 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (ed. 10) III. xxxv. II. 274 The aquatic reptile called *Proteus anguinus*,..which retains only the vestiges or rudiments of eyes. 1886 J. A. RYDER in *Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.* 80 On investigating the condition of the vestiges of these limbs we find that the skeletal parts have actually been arrested. *Ibid.* note, Structures which are disappearing should be called vestiges.

II. 3. A mark or trace left on the ground by the foot; a footprint; a track. *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (following Cooper), *Vestige*, the print of a mans foot, a footstep, a trace, or track, or mark of any thing. 1719 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I, *Vestige*, step, footstep, vestige. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xxxvii, Who with unwearied feet could e'er impress The sand with such enormous vestiges? 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 363 In a dry country a bare foot leaves little print to common eyes; but one of these people..will pursue a robber by these vestiges for a distance that seems incredible.

fig. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. 8 A country where prophet comes after prophet, and each treads out the last vestige from the sand.

b. *transf.* An impression made upon the brain by an image. *rare.*

1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Thr.* I. ii. § 2 Through the senses, external objects act upon the brain,..leaving a durable vestige there. *Ibid.* I. ii. § 8 An image of sense or fancy, persistent in proportion to the depth of the cerebral vestige.

†**Vestigia**, error for VESTIGIUM.

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 28 Every slip of the coal metals has a vise, or vestigia, which points out to a skilful eye which way the metals are thrown out of their former course.

Vestigial (vesti·dʒiăl), *a.* [f. L. *vestigi-um* (see VESTIGE) + -AL 1.] Of the nature of a vestige; remaining or surviving in a degenerate, atrophied, or imperfect condition or form: **a.** *spec.* in *Biol.* of certain organs or structures.

1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 213 The transitory wolffian bodies and ducts..ultimately disappear from the female,.. leaving only a trace of their former existence in certain vestigial structures. 1892 *Month* Jan. 16 The existence of what are called 'rudimentary' or 'vestigial' organs. 1898

Allbutt's Syst. Med. V. 727 A triangular fold—the 'vestigial fold' of Marshall—formed by a duplicature of the serous layer,..passes between the left pulmonary artery and the subjacent pulmonary veins.

b. In general use.

1892 *19th Cent.* Jan. 37 They are only the stunted r— nants, the vestigial and atrophied traces indicating the later stages of ages of [mental] development. *a* 1901 F. W. Myers *Hum. Personality* (1903) II. 308 Vestigial beliefs which still encumbered the spirit have had time to atrophy.

Hence **Vesti·gially** *adv.*

1901 *Amer. Anthropologist* IV. 33 This conception persists up through barbarism, albeit vestigially, into civilization.

Vesti·gian, *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. Vestige + -ian.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to, or designating, the theory of evolution propounded by R. Chambers in his *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation* (1844). **b.** *sb.* One who agrees with or supports this work or theory.

1880 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 295 The case would be a decided difficulty on the Lamarckian or Vestigian doctrine of necessary progression. 1891 *Tablet* 12 Sept. 414 Men who had never been known to read a scientific book in their lives, were found poring over it, and taking sides as Vestigians and anti-Vestigians.

†Vesti·giary. *Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vestigi-um* + -ary 1.] A vestige or trace.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 238 The adored Fontanell..helpes nothing, before the crustous eschar be taken away; and the vestigiaries of heat and dryuesse be first removed.

†Vesti·giating. *Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vestigi-um*: cf. Vestigating.] Footprints, tracks.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 307 Upon Colombo's high pesice..is also shew'd and scene..the vestigiating or footsteps of old Adam.

†Vesti·gium. Pl. **vestigia** (also 7 **vestigia's**). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [L.: see Vestige.] A vestige or trace; a mark or indication left by something destroyed, lost, or no longer present.

1627 Naseus *Microcosm.* v. in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1744) V. 355 Repentance stays as the vestigium, Or mark impress'd, by which the past disease Is found to have been. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* vii. § 7. 50 Experience assureth vs, that after it [sc. light] is extinguished, it leaueth not the least vestigium behind it of hauing beene there. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 353 Upon better view I may discover his [Jorah's] Vestigia near Malacca amongst his other Brethren. 1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 297 Ruinous Heaps and Vestigia nearly effaced by Length of Time.

b. Coast. *of.*

1644 [H. Parker] *Jus Popnii* 54 Neither Nature nor History afford us any Vestigia of it. 1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* ii. 9 Of which there is to this day some Vestigia's remaining. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* v. 92 So universally and utterly abolished, that no part, no vestigium of them should remain. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 42 It is covered with bark of a light brown colour, variegated by the vestigia of the fallen off stamina of the leaves. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* II. 209/1 The vestigia of antiquity in a vicinage ought always to have great weight in determinations of this kind.

†c. *spec.* (See quot. 1704.) *Obs.*

1693 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* 22 The same Vestigia of Tendons..in each (fossil shell). 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., Vestigia of Tendons, are the little Hollows in the Shells of Fishes, which are formed on purpose for the fastening or rooting of the Tendons of their Muscles.

†Ve·stigy. *Obs.* [a. older F. *vestigie*, or ad. L. *vestigium* Vestige: see -y.] A vestige or trace.

1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* i. 13 b, In that cite yet..there remaineth the temple of Iupiters image,..or els is there no nother memoriall or akaut any vestigie thereof. *Ibid.* x. 169 b, It behoueth not one stone vpon another nor vestigie of the temple to stand and remaine. 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Ceremo.* III. viii. 192 The Canon Law it self hath some vestigies of the auncient order. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxxvi. § 13. 317 We see how the doubling, the resoluing, ..and the like, which we experience in beasts, may by the vestigies we haue traced out, be followed vnto their roote.

†Ve·stiment. *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **uestiment**, 4–6 **vestyment** (5 -mente), 4–7, 9 **vestiment** (5 *St.* **westiment**); also *pl.* 3 -mens, 4 -mens, 4–5 -menta. [a. OF. *vestiment* (= Pr. *vestimen*, Sp. and It. *vestimento*, Pg. *vestimenta*), or ad. L. *vestimentum* clothes, a garment, etc., f. *vestire* to clothe, Vest *v.* Cf. Vestment *sb.*]

1. A vestment, esp. one worn by an ecclesiastic. Common from *c* 1380 to *c* 1600, freq. in pl.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Ne wite ȝe nost in oure huse of oðer monnes þinges.., ne nout ne underuo ȝe þe chirche uestimens. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 133 Þo seint thomas haldde is masse i-songue his chesible he gan of weue, Alle is oþur uestimens on him he let bi-leue. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9337 Curteynes, or ouþer vestyment, Or any oþer vessetement þat falleþ to holy cherches seruyse. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 87 He ordeyned þat roynyatres of holy cherche schulde nouȝt were holy vestymentis in þe comyn use of every day. *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 332 Now been pristes pokes so wide, That men must enlarge the vestiment. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vi. 107 And ther-with thei risen vp, and toke hym by-twene their armes, and ledde hym to the vestymentz rioall. 1543 [Coverdale] *Old God & New* (1534) Lj, This day the preest hath a redde d when he syngeth masse of requiem, he hath on a blacke vestiment. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 287 Thies priestes,..whiles the armes be fighting together,..kneele vpon their knees in their hallowed vestimentes. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 208 Hee creditted *Newgate* with the same metamorphised costly vestiment. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. § 5. 9 Socrates answereth: you haue reason, and it becomes you well, hauing a man so trimme in your vestiments. 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* II. iii. 27 The High Priests Vestiments was linnen Breeches next his flesh. 1890 Browning *Christmas Eve* II. 74 Mine's the same right with your poorest and sickliest, Supposing I don the marriage-vestiment [*prime* Testament]

Comb. 1459–85 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 201 The Vestyment makere. *c* 1525 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 20 Stacyoners, vestyment sewers, and ymagers.

transf. and *fig.* 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 29 All that day she outwore in wandering,..Till that against the second euening Her couered with her sable vestiment. 1660 E. Blount *Horæ Subs.* 30 Howsoeuer a man may appeare to himselfe more complete, and full, in the vestiments of Vertue. 1685 T. Vaughan *Euphrates* 91 With the fire he attracts the Air which is the vestiment or body of the fire. 1696 Heylin *Surv. France* 51 There we beheld nature in her richest vestiments.

2. *collect.* Clothing, garb, vesture. *rare.*

1637 G. Daniel *Genius of Isle* 25 The Nalades in Azure vestiment, With Hairs vnbound, the willing Sand shall print.

Vestimental, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -al.] = next.

1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* I. v. 495 John of Salisbury, in one of his letters to Alexander III, reminds that Pontiff of a belt,—very likely one of these vestimental ones, which he had deigned to bestow upon him. 1908 *Times* 25 Nov. 4/2 If they were going into vestimental matters, it would take too long.

Vestimentary (vestimentări), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ary 1.] Of or pertaining to, in respect of, clothes or dress; vestiary.

Freq. in journalistic use.

1803 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VII. 25 What has been the effect of all the sermons, dissertations, essays, and paragraphs that have been written against vestimentary errors and offences? 1863 *Sat. Rev.* XV. 174/2 Such vestimentary sufferings as he has been exposed to in the changing course of fashion. 1890 *Spectator* 20 Mar., An American dentist's wife was not quite the person to inaugurate a vestimentary revolution.

Vestin, obs. Sc. form of Western *a.*

Ve·sting, *sb.* [f. Vest *sb.* 3 b.] Cloth or material for making vests or waistcoats. Usually in pl.

1828 Webster, *Vesting*, cloth for vests; vest patterns. *United States.* 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 495/1 Chinese prints for vestings. *Ibid.*, Angora velvet plushes for vestings. 1889 *Textile News* 20 Sept., Advt., Damasks, Vestings, Piques, Twills. 1892 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 6/4 The Berlin vesting is still much liked, as it is produced in such pleasing combinations of colour.

Ve·sting, *vbl. sb.* [f. Vest *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action or fact of investing, confirming, establishing, esp. by legal process.

1596 Bacon *Max. Com. Law* ix. (1630) 42 But that holdeth place onely vpon the first vesting of the vse. 1611 Cotgr., *Vesture*, ..a vesting, inuesting, or putting into possession of. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 798 This Christian Resurrection of Life, is the Vesting and Setling of the Souls of Good men, in their..Immortal Bodies. 1729 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v. *Remainder*, The Vesting of the Estate in the Crown, during the Life of the Father. 1826 G. Bell *Comm. Laws Scot.* (ed. 5) II. 609 Of some Points in the Vesting of Estates in Trust, Judicial or Voluntary. 1827 Jarman *Devises* II. 217 The Court held..that the adverbs of time, *when*, &c. do not make any thing accessary to precede the setting (*i. e.* the vesting) of the remainder. 1880 Muirhead *Ulpian* xxiv. § 23 It is requisite that, when the time of vesting arrives, the legatee shall be no longer in the heir's *potestas.*

attrib. 1700 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 631 Yesterday the lords..went thro most part of the land tax and Irish forfeiture bill; postponed the first clause, called the vesting

2. The action or process of putting on, or investing with, vestments. Also *attrib.*

1648 W. L. *Nevves fr. Turkie* 9 To hinder his Lordships Vesting. *c* 1660 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Wks.* 1831 IV. 144 That observation of St. Jerome made concerning the vesting of the priests in the Levitical ministrations. 1879 Simmons *Lay-Folks Mass-bk.* 264 The subsequent directions prove that this vesting was not at the altar. 1905 *Times* 27 Sept. 4/2 Liturgical vestments are worn..and the vesting prayers used in the Church of Rome.

†Ve·stite, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vestit-*, ppl. stem of *vestire* to Vest.] *trans.* To cover or clothe as with a garment.

1597 A. M. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 40 b/2 [To] vestite the edges of the vlcerations with plaster. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 372 Citrons..vestited with a thin cortex.

Vestiture (ve·stitiŭr). [ad. med.L. *vestitura*, f. L. *vestire* to Vest. Cf. Investiture.]

1. Investiture of a person in an office or *with* power, etc.; = Investiture 2 and 3. *rare.*

1587 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 419 He resigned to God and to s[t] Peter þe vestiture of prelates þat was i-doo by secular hondes. 1881 J. A. Alexander *Gosp. Jesus Christ* xxxix. 321 A proof of man's original formation in God's image, and his original vestiture with delegated power as God's vicegerent.

2. *concr.* That which clothes or covers: †a. = Vesture *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare.*

In quots. translating L. *vestitura* in documents of the second half of the 13th c.

c 1460 *Chaney Reg.* (1919) 152 Þe saide Abbot and oþer lordes aforenamed..haue i-suffrid þat þe saide John the vestiture (or gravse) of þe same tethe þe which abode..in þis 3ere alone may gadur & haue. *Ibid.* 156 Þe vestiture of þe saide In-hoke.

b. Clothes, clothing, vesture. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

The first quotation is the source of the in— given by Worcester (1846) and some later Dictionaries.

1870 R. Pigot *Pantology* (1847) 492 Under the head of 'vesture, we include all those arts which relate immedi— ing.' 1883 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xl. (1856) 366, I claim to be the first who has reduced all vestiture to a primitive form. 1896 — *Arct. Explor.* II. i. 23 A pair of bear-skin breeches, ..the characteristic and national vestiture of this strange

1877 *Tinsley's Mag.* XX. 522/1 It is night in the streets of a fair Italian city, and the lonely queen of light is ..arraying in snowy vestiture the tall shafts and broad walls of marble that rise here and there. 1879 J. Hawthorne *Sebast. Strome* II. xi. 175 Mary..felt herself pointedly unequal to introducing her ungainly news under a graceful vestiture of words.

Hence **†Ve·stitured** *a. Obs.*—[0]

1623 Cockeram 1, *Vestitured* (printed *-ted*), apparelled.

Ve·stless, *a.* [f. Vest *sb.*] Having no vest; lacking a vest.

1888 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 5/3 The plucky clergyman pursued the vestless burglar. 1892 *Ibid.* 29 April 7/2 Bodices are often vestless now.

Ve·stlet. *Zool.* [f. Vest *v.*] A sea-anemone of the genus *Cerianthus*, which is invested with a tube-like stem.

1860 Gosse *Actinologia Brit.* 268 The Vestlet, *Cerianthus Lloydii. Ibid.* 272 The Vestlet feeds freely in captivity.

Vestment (ve·stmĕnt). Forms: α. 4 **vestement**, 4–6 **westement**(e, 4–6 **vestement** (6 **festement**). β. 5–6 **westment**, 5 **vestmente**, 5– **vestment** (7 **vest'ment**). [a. AF. and OF. *vestement* (mod.F. *vêtement*), ad. L. *vestimentum*: see Vestiment.]

1. A garment or article of clothing, esp. one of the nature of a robe or gown; freq. an outer garment of this kind worn by a king or official either ordinarily or upon some ceremonial occasion. Also *collect.*, clothing, dress, vesture.

Now somewhat *rare or rhet.*

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 3701 Þe odor o þi uestement It smelles als o piement. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 51 This Kambyuskan..In riall vestement syt on hys deys. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* IV. v. (1883) 176 He is bounden to defende and kepe them that make his vestementis & couertoures necessarye vnto his body. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* IV. xvii. 280 The scripture saith that the vestement of Ih[es]u Crist dide seme to his apostles white as snowe. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 374 The heralds with thair awfull vestmentis. 1590 Shake. *Com. Err.* II. i. 94 Doe their gay vestments his affections baite? 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 288 The five principal Persons of the Retinue had each of them a satin Vestment, and another of Taffata. 1718 Prior *Solomon* I. 99 A fairer Red stands blushing in the Rose, Than that which on the Bridegroom's Vestment flows. 1764 Harmer *Observ.* vi. § 23. 280 Presents of vestments'..are frequently made in these countries to the great and those that are in public stations. 1771 H. Walpole *Virtue's Anecd. Paint.* IV. 2 The slightness of their vestment and the lankness of their hair. 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* VI. 313 Her charge Of folded vestments neat the Princess placed Within the royal wain. 1826 Lamb *Elia* II. *Wedding*, She stood at the altar in vestments white and candid as her thoughts. 1836 Kane *Arct. Expl* I. xxix. 281 Their clothes saturated with the freezing water of the floes, these iron men..did not strip themselves naked..and hang up their vestments in the air to dry. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 497 Remembering to warn [the patient] against heated rooms,..stewing in bed, and any possible irritation by vestments.

2. A garment worn by a priest or ecclesiastic on the occasion of some service or ceremony; a priestly robe. † In early use also *collect.*, a set of these.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1960 (Laud MS.), Þe Bisshop..dude hym on a vestement, And made..To Jubiter sacrifise. *c* 1— Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 1898 Hee [a priest of Jupiter] tuggit wipe his teythe in taggis His westment rewyn al in raggis. *c* 1488 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 2183 To my awter I wyll me dresse; On xall my westment and myn aray. 1560 Bible (Genev.) 2 *Kings* x. 22 Bring forthe vestements for all the seruants of Baal. And he broght them out vestements. 1598 J. Howson *Serm. at May* 35 Thimelicus, a dauncer, had bought by chaunce some holy vestement, and abused it publickly in the open theater. 1652 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxvi. 228 The High Priests..put on the holy vestments, and enquired of the Lord [etc.]. 1737 Whiston tr. *Josephus, Antiq.* III. vii. § 2 Over this he [the priest] wore a linen vestment, made of fine flax doubled. *Ibid.*, This vestment reaches down to the feet, and sits close to the body. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 630 The surplice, a vestment of the Pagan Priests, introduced into churches. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* VI. v. (1864) 371 A few priests, clad in their vestments and blood-stained vestments, were to be seen. 1888 Marriott *Vest. Chr.* Introd. p. v, The attempt..to trace out in detail a correspondence between the 'eight vestments' of the Jewish high-priest, and those of Christian ministry.

b An article of attire worn by the clergy of various branches of the Christian church, or by certain of their assistants, during divine service or on some special occasion; *spec.* one or other of those worn by the priest or priests at the celebration of the Eucharist; esp. the chasuble.

In early use perh. sometimes (like med.L. *vestimentum*) employed in the collective sense of 'a set of vestments'.

α. 1325 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4673 Yyf preest or clerk lene vestement þat halwed ys þurgh sacrament. 1340 *Ayenb.* 42 Þe crouchen, þe calices, þe creyme, þe corporaus, þe yblessede westemens. *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* xxix. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 321 They halow no thing but for hire, Church, ne font, ne vestement. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 140 Thys was þe fyrst man þat euer song masse yn vestementys, as prestes now doþe. 1453–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 199 Payd to maistyr parson for halowyng of the westementes, xij *d.* 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Holy Communion*, The ... ment..shall put vpon hym..a white Albe plain, with a vestment or Cope. 1556 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture*

(1866) 35 Item iij vestements—sold to Christopher Bandwine in anno 1565 who hathe put them to prophane use.

b. c1440 Promp. Parv. 509/2 Vestment.., *vestimentum*. *c1460* Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 125 Often tymes he [the king] woll bie riche hangynges and other apparell for his howses; vessaill, vestmentes, and o'ther ornamentes for his chapell. 1529 *Will* in *Archæologia* LXVI. 322 A payre of Vestmentes of White cloothe of gould of Tissue. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 23, Item, I will that a vestment be maide..of my damaske gowne. 1580 Parsons in *Relig. Pamphlets* (1858) 166 For this Sacrifice was Preistes apparell made: Vestments, Sensors, Frankensence, and the lyke. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XI. xiv, In costly vestments sacred William dight, With fear and trembling to the altar went. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 82, I shall not here spend time in describing their way of celebrating Mass, ..nor shall I speak of their Sacerdotal Vestments. 1782 in J. H. Harting *Hist. Sardin. Chapel* (1905) 25 Priest's vestment, two dalmatics to correspond, with maniples and stoles [etc.]. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvi, Your years, old man, and those sacred vestments protect you. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxv, Another churchman in his vestments bore a holy-water sprinkler. 1887 Trollope *Chron. Barset* II. xlix. 59 He had kept his surplice in his own room, and had gone down in his vestment. 1882 A. O'Shaughnessy *Christ will Return, Songs of Worker* 20 And where, 'mid all the glory Of vestments rich, are Joseph's working coat And Mary's rags?

3. *transf.* and *fig.* Something which covers as a garment; a covering.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 118/2 Ryght so the majeste of god hydde the lyght of hys dyuynyte by a carnal vestement whyche he toke of our nature humayne. 1620 Quarles *Jonah* 1300 Their nakednesse with sackcloth let them hide, And mue the vest'ments of their silken pride. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 40 The verdure..that is generally the beauteous vestment of all vegetables. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 146 This hidden spirit..putting on new shapes according to the mineral vestment wherewith he is cloathed. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* xi. 84 Green,..which colour nature hath chosen for the vestment of the earth. 1836 Emerson *Nature, Lang.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 252 A material image..arises in his mind, contemporaneous with every thought, which furnishes the vestment of the thought. 1842 W. A. Butler *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1849) 172 His perpetuated humanity is, then, in heaven,..the vestment of the divine priesthood.

4. *Comb.* in **vestment-maker.**

Freq. in 15th and early 16th c. accounts.

1405 *Close Roll*, 6 *Hen. IV*, b, Johannes Est, vestment makere. 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 80 Item, paid to a vestment-maker for the mendyng of the Blak Copes. 1530 Palsgr. 284/2 Vestmentmaker, *chasublier*. 1537–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 378 Paid to a vestment maker for xxvij dayes labour.

Vestment[2]. *rare*–[1]. [f. Vest *v.* Cf. Investment.] A right or privilege with which a person or body is invested or endowed.

1795 J. Phillips *Hist. Inland Navig.* Add. 149 It is enacted, that they be one body politic and corporate, by the name of 'The Company of Proprietors of the Mersey and Irwell Navigation', with all customary powers, vestments, &c.

Vestmental, *a. rare*–[1]. [f. Vestment[1] + -al. Cf. Vestimental *a*.] Vestimentary.

1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. vi. 249 Amongst the few episcopal ornaments still to be found in England..is one of the 'caligæ', or vestmental stockings of Bishop Waneflete's.

Vestmented, *a.* [f. as prec.] a. Of persons: Dressed or robed in vestments. b. Of a service: Celebrated or conducted in vestments.

1839 Sala *Twice round Clock* (1861) 338 The black-vestmented groom of the chambers. 1867 *21st Rep. Commissioners Publ. Worship* 50/1 From your changing the service from the high choral to the vestmented service. 1871 Miss Mulock *Fair France* 142 There came filing in a line of priests richly vestmented.

Vestni, southern ME. var. Fasten *v.* **Vestorie**, obs. f. Vestry[1]. **Vestour**, var. Vouster, hoester. *Sc.* **Vestoure**, obs. form of Vesture. **Vestoy**, var. Vesteye *v. Obs.*

Vestral, Vestrical, Vestrification, etc.: see after Vestry[1].

Vestry[1] (ve·stri). Forms: 4, 6 **westre**, 6 **vestre**; 5 **vestri**, 5–6 **vestrye**, 6–7 **vestrie** (6 **vestorie**, 7 **vesterie**), 5– **vestry**. [Prob. a. AF. **vest(e)rie*, f. Vest *v.* + -(e)ry, substituted for OF. *vestiarie, vestiaire*: see Vestiary. Cf. Revestry.]

1. A room or part of a church, usually situated in close proximity to the chancel or choir, in which the vestments, vessels, records, etc., are kept, and in which the clergy and choir robe for divine service; a room used for similar purposes in connexion with any church, chapel, or place of worship.

The vestry of parish churches is also used as a place of meeting for the transaction of certain parochial business (see 2).

1388 in *Archæologia* LII. 213 The nwter w[t] in the sayd westre. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 619 *Vestibulum*, a vestrye. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 509/2 Vestrye, *vestiarium*. 1498–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 225 For colys to brenne in the vestrye. 1506–7 *Ibid.* 262 Payd for makyng of ij keyes for the treasory chest in the vestry, vi*d*. 1540–1 in *Archæologia* XIX. 272 On the South Syde of the same Churche ys the Vestrye well covered with lead. 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees, 1903) 8 When the monkes went to any or singe the high masse they put on theire vestments..in the Vestrye. 1627 Moryson *Itin.* I. 120 In the Vestorie lie the bodies of nine kings in coffins of wood. 1680 N. O. *Bellum's Lutrin* III. 23 With equal pace the Temples Nave they measure! Into the Vestry enter: Here lies the Treasure! 1698 T. Brooke *Voy.* 121 The Jesuits are very patient there..Their Vestry is one of the most magnificent that ever was seen. *1758–7 Ragueau's Trav.* (1760) III. 73 Presently, in the Tribune hung a large picture of St. Joseph I..but this is removed into the vestry. 1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* I. 303 They sauntered about the church while the Doctor retired to the vestry to take off his gown. 1798 Southey *Surgeon's Warning* xxiii, Three men in the vestry watch To save him if they can. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxviii, The ceremony was performed..in the parish church,..and Mr. Pickwick's name is attached to the register, still preserved in the vestry thereof. 1864 A. McKay *Hist. Kilmarnock* 225 The church consists of a nave with an organ-gallery, a chancel, and a vestry. 1873 Hale *In His Name* viii. 73 Candles which furnished the light to the dim vestry.

fig. 1648 Milton *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 372 So that this rough Garment to deceive, we bring ye once again, Grave Sirs, into your own Vestry. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 324 The worshipper, escaping from the vestry of verbs and texts, is surprised to find himself a party to the whole of his religion.

b. A similar room or part in a temple or other non-Christian place of worship.

1535 Coverdale 2 *Kings* x. 22 Then sayde he vnto him that had the rule of the vestrye: Bringe forth rayment for all Baals myn-isters. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 57 In this sacred house or vestry no image is erected. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ezek.* xliv. 19 They shal put of from them their vestiments..and shal lay them up in the vesterie of the sanctuarie. 1642 Milton *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 2 In Palls and Miters, gold and guegaw's fetcht from Arons old wardrope, or the Flamins vestry.

c. A place or room where clothes († or valuables) are kept; a robing room, cloak-room; † a treasure house or chamber. Now *rare*.

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 263 Also they make report of your Ladyship here, that you entred the vestorie or treasure house of Toledo, to fetche the plate that was there. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxix. xxi. 725 For all the stand the partition betweene the players vestry, and the stage or scaffold. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 292 Then said the Interpreter again to the Damsel that waited upon these Women, Go into the Vestry and fetch out Garments for these People. 1891 G. Gissing *New Grub Street* I. 198 Where are your out-of-door things? I think there is a ladies' vestry somewhere isn't there?

2. In English parishes: An assembly or meeting of the parishioners or a certain number of these, held usually in the vestry of the parish church, for the purpose of deliberating or legislating upon the affairs of the parish or upon certain temporal matters connected with the church (see next).

Also without article (*b*).

(*a*) 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 24 This worke being finished and red ouer and ouer by the head of the parish, they called a Vestry, wherin they concluded [etc.]. 1596 in W. H. Hale *Prec. Causes Offices* (1841) 87 That they cause a vestrye to be warned on Sondaye next..to mete at the evening the same daye. 1640 *Minutes Archdeaconry of Essex* (MS.) fol. 295 William Petchie..notatur for keeping a private vestry in Rookitt's hall on Easter Munday in tyme of divine service. 1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* 20 The Parish Minister to hold weekly Vestries. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Nov. 1692, There was a Vestry call'd about repairing or new building of the Church. 1762 Foote *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 104, I did speechify once at a vestry. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 296/2 Common vestries are meetings of all the ratepayers, assembled on a three days' notice.

(*b*) 1764 in W. Wing *Ann. Steeple Aston* (1875) 63 It was agreed at vestry to sow Sandhill *turnops* this next year. 1845 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) I. 120 The affairs of a parish..are regulated in vestry, which is, properly speaking, an assembly of the minister, churchwardens and parishioners. 1859 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. iii, He himself had..gone birds'-nesting with the farmers whom he met at vestry.

b. The body of parishioners meeting in this way and constituting a parochial board or council of management.

This body had formerly the administration and management of the whole of the business affairs of the parish; but now its authority is almost entirely restricted to certain temporal matters connected with the parish church, its former powers being invested in the Parish or District Council.

a 1672 M. Wren in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 229 It was very difficult to find a man, who..followed the persuasion of Calvin, who had not also strong propensions to the Eldership and Vestry. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Apr. 1662, Being of the Vestry,..we order'd that the Communion Table should be set as usual altar-wise. 1708 Swift *Reply to Bickerstaff detected* S.'s Wks. 1755 II. 1. 167 If I had not used my utmost interest with the vestry. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 45 The vestry is select, pursuant to the will of William Tudman, who, hoping thereby to prevent the inconveniences which usually arise from a general vestry [etc.]. 1792 Young *Trav. France* 549 The first attempt towards a democracy in England would be the common people demanding as admission and voice in the vestries. 1820 Southey *Wesley* II. 402 As the vestry would not be persuaded to erect a gallery, he built one at his own expense. 1882 Besant *Revolt of Man* iv. (1883) 78 The Lower House..had degenerated into something noisier than a vestry. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 820/1 The vestries and district boards are entrusted with the management of local sewers, the lighting, paving, and cleaning of their own thoroughfares, and the removal of nuisances.

c. Any similar body elected by members of the congregation of a church and invested with the conduct of its business affairs; a meeting of such body. 1892 *Cent. Dict.*

† 3. Clothing or vesture. Also *fig. Obs. rare.*

1626 J. Wynne in *Eat. Hist.* (Westrow Soc.) I. 10 She shalt be arrayed with the golden vestry, and needlework of his manifold graces. 1626 R. Jennet *Marquer, Love freed fr. Ignorance*, One o' the Black-guard had his hand in my vestre.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In sense 1, as **vestry door, fire, -keeper, window**, etc.

1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 80 A key to the vestry dore beneth. 1520 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 200 The largenesse of the vestrie dore. 1621 Cotgr., *Sacristain*, a Sexton, or Vestrie-keeper, or a Church. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. 211. 73 They are oblig'd .. to give to the Popes Vestry-keeper .. five and twenty Ducats. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vestry-Keeper*, a Sexton, whose Business is to look after the Vestry. 1770 tr. *Life Lady Lucian* II. 3, I had taken the office of Sacristan (or Vestry Nun) and the care of waking the Sisters at the hour they were to rise. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxxii, I have left the vestry window unfastened. 1895 — *Dorrit* xiv, Having stirred the Vestry fire, he looked round the shelves of registers.

b. In sense 2, as **vestry assessment, -brother, -business, -consult** (= consultation), **meeting**, etc.

1631 T. Powell *Tom All Trades* (1876) 239 Like a Reverend Vestry wit. 1682 N. O. *Bellum's Lutrin* I. 224 Him time preferr'd..From poor Church-warden to a Vestry-brother. *a* 1683 Oldham *Satyrs* Wks. (1686) 194 At Vestry-Consults where he does appear For choosing of some Parish Officer. 1732 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 139 In the Parish where I serve, the Vestry is compos'd of thirty select Members, besides the Rector, and two Vestry Justices of the Peace. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* II. v. § 94 (1740) 374 No more of Plot than a Vestry Meeting to settle their Rates. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII. 309 An imperial sovereign summoned to settle a petty vestry-squabble! 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 37 § 63 Such Expences..as have been heretofore defrayed by Vestry Assessment in Ireland. 1888 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 206, I don't see why they should not keep out of the vestry-business.

c. Special Combs.: **vestry-book**, (*a*) a book in which the proceedings of a parochial vestry are recorded; (*b*) a book kept in a vestry in which the births, marriages, and deaths of the parishioners are registered; **vestry cess**, in Ireland, a church rate or tax levied by a vestry; **vestry-clerk**, the clerk of a parochial vestry; **vestry-tax**, = *vestry-cess*.

1773–4 *Ir. Acts* 13 & 14 *Geo. III*, c. 10 § 4 The said election or nomination shall be entered in the *vestry book of every parish, union, or chapelry. 1789 Sir W. Scott in J. Haggard *Rep. Consist. Crt. London* (1822) I. 13 As..no poll appears for Anthony, and the vestry book, which must be taken to be the authentic book, makes no mention of him, I cannot look on him as elected. 1896 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* lxv, I was sent for to the Castle to give a private baptism..., and requesting that I would bring the vestry-book along with me for the registration. 1901 A. Gordon in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* IX. 108 A modern forgery, entered in the church-wardens' vestry-book at Cheltenham. 1844 *Act* 27 & 28 *Vict.* c. 17 § 1 It is expedient to abolish *Vestry Cess in Ireland. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), **Vestry-Clerk*, a Scrivener that keeps the Parish Accounts. 1763 Burn *Eccl. Law* II. 478 The vestry clerk is chosen by the vestry. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Our Parish* ii, The vestry-clerk..is an attorney, and generally in a bustle. 1897–8 Sir. Smith *Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 130/1, I request to know if the *vestry taxes in Ireland are a mere matter of romantic feeling?

Hence in various terms, chiefly in nonce-use, with reference to sense 2: **Ve·stral** *a.*, of or pertaining to a vestry or vestries. **Vestralization**, administration by means of vestries. **Ve·stralist** *a.*, = *vestral*. **Ve·strification**, the action of vestrifying. **Ve·strified** (*ppl.*) *a.*, governed by a vestry. **Ve·strify** *v. trans.*, to transform into, cause to resemble, a vestry in character or function. **Ve·strydom**, the system of local government by a vestry or vestries; parochial vestries collectively; hence, the parochial narrowmindedness or selfish spirit regarded as characteristic of vestries. **Ve·stryhood**, = prec. **Ve·strylsh** *a.*, affected with or characterized by the spirit of vestrydom. **Ve·strylsm**, vestrydom. **Ve·strylze** *v. trans.*, = *vestrify*.

1884 *Contemp. Rev.* June 800 The fire-brigade as administered by the *vestral authorities. *Ibid.* 805 The disadvantages of disunity under the vestral administration. 1886 *Times* 13 Mar. 5/1 The wastefulness of *vestralization. 1881 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 5 The magistrate..discovered on which [etc.].

Parliament.

hardly expect an ordinary *vestrified general-reading Englishman to understand ..the intensity of passion [etc.]. 1884 Chaplin in *Daily News* 5 Dec. 3/1 If he might coin a phrase, its general effect would be to *vestrify the House of Commons. 1880 *Temple Bar Mag.* I. 80 It was the defeat of headledom and *vestrydom. 1884 *Christian World* 22 May 409/1 The opposition raised by a stolid vestrydom to a more national system of local self-government. 1871 *Contemp. Rev.* XVI. 374 *Vestryhood had for generations flourished as a calling. 1888 *Society* 16 Dec. 20/2 The public instinct recognises something petty and *vestryish about the Board. 1881 *Illustr. Lond. News* 25 Feb. 168/2 The House displayed a greater tendency to what may be called '*vestryism' than ever. 1870 W. R. Greg *Polit. Problems* 226 To deal systematically and thoroughly with the giant evil of pauperism,..would bring those who undertook it face to face with the vast opposing army of vestryism. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 235 How many disappointed competitors for that honour..will submit to be *vestryized.

Vestry[2], *Mining*. [Of uncertain origin.] The refuse or rubbish of a mine.

1764 (MS.), Rubbish and vestry from a lead mine. 1892 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (Newcastle), *Vestry*, refuse.

Vestryman. Also **vestry-man, vestry man.** [f. VESTRY[1] 2.] A member of a parochial vestry.

1624 in W. H. Hale *Prec. Causes Office* (1841) 39 So many of the vestrie men as shall..meet there for the makeing of a rate. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Ansrw.* Pref. a iij b, Indeede hee saith, that these were but as our Churchwardens, or Vestry men. 1681 CLEVELAND *Poems* 26 These Linsie-Woolsie Vestry-men. 1701 *Maryland Laws* (1723) 15 Two New Vestrymen shall be annually chosen in the Places of Two others. *a* 1721 PRIOR *True Statesmen* 35 If thou ever has't a voice Tho it be only in the Choice Of Vestry Men or grey-Coat-Boys. 1847 C. G. ADDISON *Law of Contracts* xv. § 3. 501 Vestryman, in vestry assembled, may, like any other persons, exceed their duties as vestrymen. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 37 She was roused by a formal visit from a vestryman.

Hence **Ve·strymanly** *a.*, befitting a vestryman; **Ve·strymanship,** the position of a vestryman.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Jan. 4/1 That may be "vestrymanly, but it is hardly gentlemanly. 1879 ESCOTT *England* I. 123 The mere fact of a parochial office being the coveted prize of a political competition raises its duties above the level of "vestrymanship.

Vestry-room. Also **vestry room.** [f. VESTRY[1].] The vestry of a church; the room in which a parochial vestry assembles.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4721/4 The Vestry-Room of the Parish Church of Lambeth was broke open. 1743 VINER *Abridgm. Law & Equity* XXI. 549 His proper Remedy for the Injury done by the Defendant, by hindring him to come into the Vestry-room. 1810 W. WILSON *Hist. Dissent. CA.* III. 224 He opened a day-school, in the vestry-room of his meeting. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 227/1 It comprehends a nave,..and a chantry, now used as a vestry-room. 1891 'S. MOSTYN' *Curatica* 136, I thought I should have seen you in the vestry-room.

attrib. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* v, The clerk, who was sitting by the vestry-room fire.

Vestschipe: see FASTSHIP *Obs.*

Ve·stuary. Now *arch.* [ad. OF. *vestuaire* (= Pr. and Cat. *vestuari*, Sp. and Pg. *vestuario*), or med.L. *vestuarium*, f. *vestura* VESTURE *sb.* Cf. VESTIARY *sb.*] A vestiary or vestry; a wardrobe. Also *transf.*

c 1490 CAXTON *Rule St. Benet* 136 Whan in þe chirche he shall doo of his seculer arraye and be cladde with the habite of the place; those [clothes] that he puttyth off shall be kept in the vestuary. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 449 Some..small bones wrapped up in fine silke of fresh colour, which the Abbot tooke for the reliques of some Saints, and laied uppe in his Vestuary. 1860 TRENCH *Serm. Westm. Abb.* xxxii. 368 The trappings of men's outward existence.. must be laid aside in the vestuary of the grave.

†Ve·sturage. *Obs.*—[1] [f. VESTURE *sb.* + -AGE.] An allowance for vesture or clothing.

1679 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 12) 262 Note that out of the Sergeants afore-mentioned, the King by Writ, usually calls some to be of his Council at Law, allowing each one Wadage, Feodage, Vesturage, and Regardage.

Vestural (ve·stiŭrăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Of or pertaining to vesture or clothing; vestiary.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. i, How, then, comes it..that the grand Tissue of all Tissues..should have been quite overlooked by Science,—the vestural Tissue, namely, of woollen or other cloth? 1883 *Times* 13 Nov. 9/3 Vestural adornments less suited to military purposes than to a masquerade. 1891 MISS DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* ii. 17 His vestural advantages..are what I grudge a man sole possession of.

Vesture (ve·stiŭr), *sb.* Also 5 **vestoure, wester** (9 *dial.* **vester**), 6–7 **vestur.** [a. AF. and OF. *vesture* (mod.F. *vêture*), f. *vestir* VEST *v.* Cf. med.L. and It. *vestura.*]

I. 1. That with which a person is clothed or dressed: **a.** With *a* or pl. An article of apparel or clothing; a garment or vestment.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1288 Wyth alle þe coyntyse þat he [i.e. Solomon] cowþe clene to wyrke Deuised he þe vessellment, þe vestures clene. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 235 Alle and euery man Of hem..Had on him throwen a vesture, Whiche that men clepen a cote armure. *a* 1400–30 *Alexander* 1539 (Ashm.), And sithen he castis on a Cape of kastand hewes,..A vestoure to vise on of violet floures. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 558 Fyre was put to the vesturis of the disguysers. *c* 1550 *Disc. Common* [illegible] sampine cotton. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xli. 42 Pharaoh..arayed him in vestures of fine linnen. 1643 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* xi. (1652) 344 It anathematizes all those that shall judge one vesture, one garment more holy then another. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 214 Clothed with never-fading vestures. 1886 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* v. 322 The whirling white Of choral vestures. 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. *Leg. Beautiful* 17 And he saw the Blessed Vision Of our Lord, with light Elysian Like a vesture wrapped about him.

b. *collect.* Apparel, clothing, garb, raiment.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2692 (*Hypermnestra*), I am a mayde,..And be my semblant, and by my vesture, Myn handes ben nat shapen for a knyfe. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. II. 23 Aren non nudful bote þo þre [things]..The ferst of þo ys fode, and vesture þe secounde. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 347 A knyȝhte..clothede also with regalle vesture, as if he hade bene the kynge. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Active Policy* 535 Late nat the pouer Comyns be dysguised Nee haue precious clothe in theire Vesture. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCXX. 283 The kyng of Cypre holpe them to complayne the dethe of the kyng,..and..clothed hymselfe with the vesture of doloure. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxi. 18 They haue parted my garmentes amonge them, and cast lottes vpon my vesture. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 13 They adorned Magdalene..in rolall and princely vesture. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 200 Kinde Soules, what weepe you, when you but behold Our Cæsars Vesture wounded? 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 V. 132 The Abbots Coap, which he had thrown over them, thinking by the reverence of his vesture to have withheld the murderer. 1790 COWPER *Receipt Mother's Pict.* 75 Could time..restore the hours, When, playing with thy vesture's tissued flowers,..I prick'd them into paper with a pin. 1813 SCOTT *Triferm.* III. XXXV, Her graceful vesture swept the ground. 1835 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 305 Seers wrapped themselves up in bulls' hides, and awaited, in that vesture, the inspiration which was to reveal the future. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 887 The rustling of your vesture through my dreams.

attrib. a 1743 SAVAGE *Progr. Divine* Wks. 1775 II. 119 To tear off rings,..To part 'em, for the vesture-shroud cast lots.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* (Freq. in the 19th c.)

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 For there all shall be clothed with the vesture of immortalite & garment of glory. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 208 To clothe ourselves with the comely vesture of innocency. 1606 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 26 Would'st thou have us sluts, and never shift the vestur of our thoughts? 1653 J. HALL *Paradoxes* 76 The strongest and most handsome Animalls are satisfied in their owne naturall Vestures. 1727 DYER *Grongar Hill* 99 Thus is nature's vesture wrought. 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 271 The moon through all the dreary vapour spreads The radiant vesture of her silver light. 1768 JOHNSON in *Johnsoniana* (1836) 438 When a nation..acquires new ideas, it must necessarily have a suitable vesture for them. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* I. xii. (1877) 223 The golden clusters of the Syrian vine,..so beautiful a vesture of the bare hills of Palestine. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* iii. (1870) 45 Nature as a whole was meant to be for man the vesture of the spiritual world.

d. *Conch.* (See quot.) *rare*—[0].

1735 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 32 *Vesture*, the inner covering of a shell that first appears upon removing the epidermis.

2. *Law.* All that grows upon or covers the land, with the exception of trees; one or other of the products of land, such as grass or corn.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 305/1, xl acres of Wode, and the Vesture of the same, in our Forest. 1467–8 *Ibid.* V. 575/2 The vesture of Grasse and Cornes therof. 1523 FITZHERBERT *Surv.* v, It is to be enquered of parkes..howe many acres ar conteyned in them, and for how moche the vesture of euery acre may be sold. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 209 He which hath the Vesture or Herbage of grounds ..may be charged to the repairs. 1630 CAPT. SMITH *Advt. Planters* 25 The best [ground] is ever knowne by the greatnesse of the trees and the vesture it beareth. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 210 It is requisite that the party have a lease and possession of the vesture and herbage of the land. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1217 Where plaintiff is intitled to the vesture of land, that is, corn, grass, underwood, and the like. 1869 *Austin's Jurispr.* (ed. 3) II. 88 In English Law it has been held that one person may have a freehold in the soil and another in the vesture. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 572/2 Certain hay, straw, and other vestures which have arisen on the said farm.

II. †3. The investiture of a person as a novice in a religious order. *Obs.*—[1]

1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 184 The two youngest, designated to the monastery, were yet farr from the age not only of profession but of vesture.

†4. *Law.* (See quot. and INVESTURE.) *Obs.*—[0]

1607 COWELL *Interpr., Vesture*, ..in the vse of our common lawe, [is] turned metaphorically to betoken a possession, or an admittance to a possession.

Hence **Ve·sture** *v. trans.*, to array in a vesture or vestments. *rare.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 309 That he shuld bee honorably receaued and vestured with silke.

Ve·stured, *ppl. a.* [f. prec.] Clothed or dressed in vesture; wearing vesture. Also *transf.* Chiefly in predicative use and const. *with* or *in.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCCLXXXI. 640 They ar clothed in veluet..and we be vestured with pore clothe. *c* 1530 — *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 156 She was vestured wyth a samyte of grene. *a* 1814 *Apostate* II. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* III 319 When I contrast my naked ignorance, With that rich-crown'd, that flowing vestured knowledge. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 61 Cables have..been lifted richly vestured with the spoils of the bottom. 1893 R. H. CHARLES *Bk. Enoch* 129 They will be vestured with life.

Ve·sturer. [f. VESTURE *sb.* + -ER. Cf. VESTERER.] (See quot. 1877.)

1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 20 The vesturer conducted us thro' this great repository of the dead. 1877 F. G. LEE *Gloss. Eccl. & Liturg. Terms* 437 *Vesturer.* 1. A sacristan. 2. A sexton. 3. A keeper of the vestments. 4. A sub-treasurer of a collegiate church or cathedral. 1898 *Guardian* 31 Aug 1313 The site [of the depository of the Easter sepulchre] has recently been localised by..the worthy hon vesturer.

Vestynge, obs. form of FASTING *vbl. sb.*

Vesuvian (vĭsū·viăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Vesuvius*, the name of the active volcano on the Bay of Naples in Italy. Cf. G. *vesuvian*, F. *vésuvien.*]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Vesuvius; esp. (*a*) like or resembling Vesuvius, or that of Vesuvius, in volcanic violence or power.

(*a*) 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 11 The fury of this smoaking rage being .. abated, and having pretty well drench'd their Vesuvian throats. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* III. xx, Then looked they to the hills, where fire o'erhung The bandit groups in one Vesuvian glare. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. v, Such a fire..did actually burst-forth, with explosions more or less Vesuvian, in the inner man of Herr Diogenes. 1878 HUXLEY in L. Huxley *Life* (1900) II. xxv. 432 The inflammation of the pudding was highly successful—in fact Vesuvian not to say Ætnaic.

(*b*) 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 125 There is a tendency in almost all the Vesuvian dikes to divide into horizontal prisms. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 87 History records a large number of Vesuvian eruptions. 1887 GEIKIE *Anc. Volcanoes Brit.* II. II. 472 The three modern types of Vesuvian cones.

† b. *Vesuvian salt,* aphthitalite. *Obs.*

1813 SMITHSON in *Phil. Trans.* CIII. 260 This Vesuvian salt..has presented no less than nine distinct species of

B. *sb.* **1.** *Min.* A silicate of aluminium, lime, and iron, or other base, occurring massive but more freq. in square crystals of various colours, found originally in the ancient Vesuvian lavas; idocrase.

Named by Werner, the German mineralogist, in 1795.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 285 *Vesuvian*, or white Garnet of Vesuvius. Found principally in the lava of Vesuvius. 1813 AIKIN *Min.* (ed. 2) 224 Vesuvian occurs crystallized in groups, or lining cavities, or massive. 1839 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 255 *Idocrase* was first observed in the ancient Vesuvian lavas, and thence it is called sometimes *Vesuvian.* It is a compound of silica, alumina, lime, and iron. 1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* 242 Idocrase or Vesuvian is in its chemical composition closely allied to the lime-alumina garnets.

2. A kind of match or fusee, burning with a sputtering flame, used especially for lighting cigars or tobacco-pipes in the open air.

1853 *Pract. Mechanics Jrnl.* VI. 147 One of Palmer's Vesuvians is a still more sure..way of igniting the fuze. 1862 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Inside Bar* 348 Striving by the aid of a 'Vesuvian' to relight my cigar. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-Painter's Log* 103 Beyond a few vesuvians, they had nothing among them that would burn.

attrib. 1879 *Man. Artillery Exerc.* 175 A vesuvian match-box. 1904 'E. NESBIT' *Phœnix & Carpet* I. 47 They tried to light it with Vesuvian fusees.

Vesu·vianite. *Min.* [f. prec. + -ITE[1].] = VESUVIAN *sb.* 1.

1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1892 E. S. DANA *Min.* 480 Vesuvianite was first found among the ancient ejections of Vesuvius and the dolomitic blocks of Monte Somma.

Vesu·viate, *v. nonce-wd.* [i. *Vesuvi-us*: see VESUVIAN.] *intr.* Of weather: To be very hot.

a 1876 M. COLLINS *Th. in Gard.* (1880) I. 166 It vesuviates. This sudden heat in the atmosphere has something to do with the eruption of the mountain which killed Pliny the Elder.

Vesuvin (vĭsū·vin). *Chem.* [a. G. *vesuvin*, f. *Vesuv-ius*, from its explosive property: see -IN[1].] Phenyl-brown, used esp. as a staining matter for histological preparations.

1885 KLEIN *Micro-Organisms* 84 Stained with methylene blue and vesuvin. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 678/1 Bismarck Brown, Vesuvin. The chloride of triamidoazobenzol. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 4 Bismarck brown, eosin, or vesuvin may be used as a counter stain.

Vesy, obs. form of VIZY *v. Sc.*

Vesyke, variant of VESIKE *Obs.*

†Vesyness. *Sc. Obs.*—[1] [f. "*vesy*, aphetic f. ADVISY *a.* + -NESS.] Caution, foresight, prudence.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 6555 Wiþ wit..And vesynes, throu quham þai wan This batall.

Vesyte, obs. form of VISIT *v.*

Vet, *sb.* [Colloquial contraction of VETERINARIAN or VETERINARY.] A veterinary surgeon.

1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* III. 328 A lieutenant, accompanied by the vet, did the honours of the stables. 1876 BURNABY *Ride to Khiva* xv. (ed. 3) 236 The Kirghiz themselves have but little faith in doctors or vets. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 223 A battered stud was left in the hands of the groom and the vet.

Vet, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To submit (an animal) to examination or treatment by a veterinary surgeon.

1891 'ANNIE THOMAS' *That Affair* II. i. 11 Beau is shaky in his fore legs. I shall have him vetted before the races. 1904 *Times* 9 Mar. 8/1 Of the 73 stallions..only 39 came back for a second inspection after they had been 'vetted'.

2. To examine or treat (a person) medically.

1898 MRS. CROKER *Peggy of the Bartons* xiv, You will have them [*sc.* friends] round to 'vet' you. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Apr. 2/1 'Where are you going this afternoon?'.. 'Going to be vetted,' he grunted.

Vet, southern ME. var. FAT *a.*, *fest* FOOT *sb.*; southern dial. var. FET *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WET *v.*, WIT *v.* **Vetail(l)e,** obs. ff. VICTUAL *sb.* and *v.*

†Veta·tion. *Obs.*—[0] [f. L. *vetā-re* to forbid.] 'A forbidding to do a thing.'

1623 COCKERAM I. [Hence in Blount and Phillips.]

Vetayll, obs. form of VICTUAL *sb.*

Vetch (vetʃ). Forms: *a.* 4–5 **feoch(e, 5 fechche, fehche, fech, 5–6 fecche,** 4–7 **fetche,** 4–8, 9 *dial.* **fetch.** *β.* 5 **vache,** 5, 9 *s.w. dial.*, **vatch**; 5–7 **veche** (5 **vesche**), **vech** (5 **wech**), 4–6 **vetche,** 6– **vetch** (9 **veitch**). See also FATCH and FITCH *sb.*[1] [a. ONF. *veche, vecche, veiche, vescha,* = OF. *vece, vece, vesse* (mod.F. *vesce*) :—L. *vicia*, whence also It. *veccia.*]

1. The bean-like fruit of various species of the leguminous plant *Vicia.*

Also with defining terms, as *gore-vetch*; see 3 b.

Occas. used as a type of something of little or no value (see quots. *c* 1374, 1632).

a. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 936 (Harl. MS.), This seid is by hem that he not worth two fecchis. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 209 Oon [cancer] comeþ of malancolie rotid & bigynneþ for to waxe in þe mychilnes of a feeche or of

a pese. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 612 For this scarcyte of whete in Englande, in many places the people made them brede of fetches, pesyn, and benys. 1533 in *Archæologia* XXV. 519 Fetchys bought for sede..[i] combe of fetchys. 1552 Cooper *Elyot's Dict.*, *Ervum*..is greater and bitterour then a fech. 1615 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 95 Take of alloes the quantity of a Fetch unwashed. 1630 Rowley *Woman never vext* II. 26 You may Imagine it to be Twelfe-day at night, and the Beane found in the corner of your Cake, but 'Tis not worth a fetch I'l assure you. 1661 *Petit. for Peace* 11 The Fetches are beaten out with a staff.

β. 1388 Wyclif *Ezek.* iv. 9 Take thou..beenys, and tillis, and mylie, and vetchis [1382 vetche] 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xcv. (Bodl. MS.), Amonge codware,.. tilles & vaccches beþ smalleste in quantite. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dial.* 22 Otes, vessches, Benes, pesen. 1539 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* 84 b, Some is lyke lyttelle redde vetches. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 482 Afterward there come vp long flat codden, wherein are Vetches. 1627 Morvson *Itin* III. 112 Englis Merchants bring into Italy..Conny skins, Veches, Kersies, and sometimes English Corne. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 59 ¶ 4 Cicero..was marked on the Nose with a little Wen like a Vetch. 1756 J. Kennedy *Curios. Wilton House* (1786) 65 The Busts of Cicero,..with the Mark of the *Cicer* or Vetch on his Face. 1790 Cowper *Iliad* XIII. 715 As vetches or as swarthy beans Leap from the van and fly athwart the floor, By sharp winds driven. 1866 C. C. Felton *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. vi. 406 Beans, lupines, radishes, Vetches, wild pears, when we can, And a locust now and then. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* XIII. II. 32 The swarthy beans Or vetches bound before the whistling wind. 1901 *Daily News* 12 Mar. 8/6 Some large Swedish gore-vetches are now offering at attractively low rates.

† b. = Fitch *sb.*[1] 2 (q. v.). *Obs.*

2. *pl.* Plants belonging to the genus *Vicia*, esp. to the species *Vicia sativa*, the common tare.

Frequently with special reference to the produce.

a. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 43 *Vesces*, i. fecches *vel* mous pese. 1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* XXVIII 25 He schal not sette wheete bi ordre, and barli..and fetchis in his coostis. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 237 Lupyne and fetches sleyn, and on thaire roote Up dried, are as dounging landes boote. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* IV. i. 61 Rich Leas Of Wheate, Rye, Barley, Fetches, Oates and Pease. *c* 1640 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 303 From hence also came their great proportions of wheat, rye, barly,..and ffetches, apples and pears. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Leicester* II. (1662) 126 Whereas lean land will serve for puling peas and faint fetches. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 145.

β. 1552 Huloet, Tares or vetches, a kinde of pulse or grayne, *ervilia*, *ervum*, *orobum*. 1575 in Phillipps *Wills* (*c* 1830) 457 Corne in the felde...Item, 9 acres of pease...Item, 12 acres vetches. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 352 With Wheate,..with Vetchesse, with Millette, & all other kinde of pulse. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 372 Vetches also doe manure and fat the ground where they be sowed. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 97/2 Vetches, Lentils, Tares, have leaves like Pease. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 110 Where Vetches, Pulse, and Tares have stood, And Stalks of Lupines grew. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 386 Beans, Peas, and Tares or Vetches. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 7 A piece of wheat; a scrap of lucerne; a patch of clover or vetches. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 28 The vetches attained by the 4th of July a height of ten inches. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 188 Amidst the maiden-hair and the vetches about the orifice of the warrior's tomb.

3. In generic use as a plant-name (or, in early use, as that of a grain), usually without article or with *the*; also occas., with *a* and pl., one or other species of the genus *Vicia*.

1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* iv. 9 Take thou..bene, and lent, and mylie, and vetche. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 619 *Vicia*, a wech. *Ibid.* 625 *Uicia*, vache. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 153/1 Fetche, corne, or tare, ..*vicia*. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 915 Fetche, *vesche*. 1552 Huloet, Vetche, fetche, or tare, *fassilus*. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 482 The Vetche hath stalkes of a sufficient thicknesse. 1649 J. Ogilby *Virg. Georg.* I. 241 Wouldst thou the Ground should Vetch and Fasels bear. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 139 The Chich, Fetch or Vetch are of several sorts, but the most known are the Winter and the Summer Vetch. 1750 Shenstone *Rural Elegance* 204 The tangled vetch's purple bloom. 1797 Washington *Writ.* (1892) XIII. 407 The Vetch of Europe has not succeeded with me. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 144 Heath's creeping vetch, and glaring yellow brooms. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 662/2 The true *Lathyri*..are herbs..with fewer and larger leaflets than in the vetches. 1867 Baker *Nile Tribut.* viii. (1872) 225 A peculiar species, that resembles a vetch, bears a circular pod as large as a horse-bean. 1890 D. Davidson *Mem. Long Life* viii. 211 In a field of toor (a kind of vetch), we saw a fine buck antelope lying pretty well concealed.

b. With distinguishing names, denoting various species of *Vicia*.

c 1722 Lisle *Observ. Husb.* (1757) 125 The pebble-vetch is a summer-vetch, different from the goar-vetch and not so big; they call it also the rath-ripe vetch. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., The most known [sorts] are the Winter and Summer Vetch. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vicia*, Common Vetch or Tare.. White Vetch.. Many-flower'd Vetch. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Vicia*, The species of Vetch, enumerated by Mr. Tournefort are these: 1. The common cultivated Vetch...4. The great wild bush Vetch...12. The white-flowered hairy wild Vetch [etc.]. 1777 Jacob *Catal. Plants* 122 *Vicia sativa*, Common Vetch...*Vicia sepium*, Bush Vetch. *Vicia lathyroides*, .. Wild Vetch. 1777 Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* (1789) I. 304 *Vicia cracca*. Tufted Vetch. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 638 *Vicia lathyroides*. Strangle Vetch. *Ibid.* 639 *V. lutea*. Yellow Vetch...*V. hybrida*. Bastard Vetch...*V. bithynica*. Rough Vetch. 1805 [see Tufted *a.* 3]. 1813 [see Tare *sb.*[1] 4]. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Pl.* (1836) 602 [Many species]. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 206 [Biennial, Pea-like, Bush, Rough-podded Yellow and Purple Vetch, etc.]. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 220 *Vicia Americana*. American Vetch... *V. Caroliniana*. Carolinian Vetch...*V. tetrasperma*. Slender Vetch. 1850 Miss Pratt *Comm. Things Sea-side* 76 The rough-podded Yellow Vetch (*Vicia lutea*). *Ibid.* 79 The smooth-podded Vetch (*Vicia tenuifolia*)...The rare rough-podded purple Vetch (*Vicia Bithynica*).

4. Applied, with distinguishing terms, to plants of various genera more or less resembling vetches. See also *milk-vetch* Milk *sb.* 10 b, *wood-vetch*.

[1562–1707 (see Ax-pitch).] 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.*, *Ax-vetch, in botany, the English name of a genus of plants, called by authors *securidaca*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App 330 Ax Vetch: see Hatchet Vetch. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Pl.* (1836) 636 *Phaca*. *Bastard Vetch. 1733 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Aphaca*, There is only one known species of *Aphaca*, which is the yellow vetchling, called by some the *bind-weed-leaved vetch. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 482 Of the *bitter Veche called in Greeke *Orobus*, and in latine *Ervum*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1051 Cich, or true Orobus ..: in English it is called bitter Vetch. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 44 Betony,..bitter vetch with Wine. 1728 Bradley *Dict. Bot.*, *Ervum* of Columella..is the Orobus or Bitter Vetch. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 330 Jointed Podded Bitter Vetch, *Ervum*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1212/2 *Bladder Vetch, *Phaca*. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.*, *Lathyrus*, *Chichling Vetch. 1756–1861 [see Chickling[2] b]. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 710 Chickling Vetch. *Lathyrus sativus* L. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 221 *Ervum hirsutum*. Hairy or *Creeping Vetch. 1671 Phillips s.v., The crimson *grasse Vetch [is called] Cantanance. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.*, *Nissolia*, Crimson Grass-Vetch. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Crimson Grass Vetch, *Lathyrus*. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 243 *Lathyrus Nissolia*. Crimson Lathyrus, or Grass Vetch. 1846–50 *Hairy Vetch [see *Creeping vetch*]. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1055 The first kinde of 'hatchet Fetch, hath many small branches trailing ..vpon the ground. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Pelecinus* or *Pelecinum*.., Hatchet-vetch, a Weed that grows amidst Corn. 1728 Bradley *Dict. Bot.*, *Hedysarum*,..in English, Hatchet Vetch, or Sickle-wort. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Hatchet Vetch, *Coronilla*. *Ibid.*, Cluisius's foreign Hatchet Vetch, *Biserrula*. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Pl.* (1836) 628 *Coronilla Securidaca*. Hatchet-Vetch. *Ibid.* 638 *Biserrula Pelecinus*. Bastard Hatchet Vetch. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 1091 The greater *Horse shooe Vetch. *Ibid.*, Many codded Horse shooe Vetch. 1671 Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* L iii, Horshoe Vetch, *Ferrum Equinum*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Horse-shoe Vetch, *Hippocrepis*. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 417 *Galega*... Some with us call it *Italian Vetch, but most commonly Goates Rue. 1728 Bradley *Dict. Bot.* s.v., Italian Vetch, or Goats-Rue, in Latin, Galega. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1060 *Kidney Vetch hath a stalke of the height of a cubite. *Ibid.*, The Starrie Kidney Vetch, called *Stella leguminosa*. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 1094 Bladder Pease or Kidney Vetch of Spaine. *Ibid.*, Crooked Kidney Vetch of Candy. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Vulneraria*, The common yellow-flowered *Vulneraria*, called kidney-vetch, and lady's finger. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Kidney Vetch, *Anthyllis*. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 7 The kidney vetch or lady's finger. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 1098 The most common *Licoris Vetch. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.*, *Apios*, the knobbed rooted Virginian Liquorice-Vetch. *Ibid.*, *Astragalus*, Wild Liquorice, or Liquorice Vetch. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.* s.v., *Liquorice-Vetch*, the English name of a genus of plants, known among botanists by that of *glycine*. 1882 [see Liquorice 4]. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1064 *Onobrychis montana*... Mountain *Medick Fetch. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.* s.v., *Medic-Vetch*, the name by which many call the *onobrychis*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Medic Vetch, *Hedysarum*. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Orobus*, Broad-leav'd Creeping Orobus, with a small Pod, commonly call'd, *Venetian Vetch. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 367 Persian Lilly, Lichnis, Venetian Vetch 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 485 The *wilde Vetche [*galega altera*]..serueth onely but for pasture, and feeding for cattell. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1053 Of the yellow wilde Fetch, or Tare euerlasting. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 1067 *Aphaca*. The yellow wilde Vetch. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., The Seed of the Wild Vetch is bitter.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vetch flower*, *-grass*, *-leaf*, *seed*; *vetch-leaved*, *-like* adjs.

1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., Vetch Flower mixt with Honey..will take away Freckles. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Orobus*, Wood Orobus, with Veich-Leaves. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Onobrychis*, The great, vetch-leaved *onobrychis*. *Ibid.*, The stone *onobrychis*, with long, and narrow, vetch-like leaves. *Ibid.*, *App.* s.v. *Grass*, *Vetch-grass*, the English name of a distinct genus of plants called by authors *nissolia*. 1832 J. F. South tr. *Otto's Path. Anat.* 455 One [knot] as large as a date seed..and a third of the size of a vetch seed. 1843–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 184 *Vicia sativa*. Common vetch-tare. 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 14 The Kennedya, with a purple vetch-like blossom.

Vetoh, southern dial. variant of Fetch *v.*

Vetchling (ve·tʃlin). *Bot.* Also 6 vitchelinge, 7 fetchling. [f. Vetch + -ling.]

1. A plant or species of the genus *Lathyrus* (†also *Hedysarum*); the genus itself.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 485 *Galega altera*..may also be wel called..in English Small wilde Vetches or Vitchelinges. 1640 [see *buchler vetchling* in 2]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.*, *Vetchling*, the English name of a distinct genus of plants, known among botanists by that of *aphaca*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Vetchling, *Hedysarum*. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 243 *Lathyrus Aphaca*. Yellow Lathyrus, or Vetchling. 1842 C. W. Johnson *Farmer's Encycl.* 1216/2 There are seven indigenous species of vetch-ling, or everlasting pea. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* (ed. 4) III. 200 We have a good many..vetches and vetchlings. 1894 *Daily News* 5 June 6/5 Mineral manures, including potash, give a great development of clover, vetchlings, &c.

2. With distinguishing terms.

1777 Jacob *Catal. Plants* 57 *Lathyrus pratensis*, Tare everlasting, or common yellow *bastard Vetchling. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 1082 *Onobrychis clypeatis asperis minor*. The lesser *buckler Fetchling. 1842 Hooker *Brit. Flora* I. 90 *L. Nissolia*, *crimson Vetchling, or Grass Vetch. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 635 *Lathyrus palustris*. Chickling Vetch. *Marsh Vetchling. *Ibid.* 634 *Lathyrus pratensis*. Common Yellow, or *Meadow Vetchling. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 321 *Lathyrus pratensis*, or meadow vetchling, furnishes a copious, succulent and tender herbage. 1902 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 174 Meadow vetchling and the tall meadow crowfoot. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 484 *Saint Foin*. *Medick Vetchesling. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Onobrychis*, Smaller Cock's-head, with rough Fruit or Medick Vetchling. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Medic Vetchling, *Hedysarum*. 1842 Hooker *Brit. Flora* 89 *Lathyrus hirsutus*, L., *rough-podded Vetchling. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Aphaca*,..the *yellow vetch-ling. 1778 *Essays Agric.* 426 The common yellow vetch-ling, *Lathyrus pratensis*, or everlasting tare. 1863 Goss in *Intell. Observer* III. 318 The hedgerows are still gay with flowers; the abundant yellow vetchling, two species of St. John's wort, the toad-flax..and hawkweeds supply the golden colours. 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estate* 138 The yellow vetchling had climbed up from the ditch.

Vetchy (ve·tʃi), *a. rare.* [f. Vetch + -y.] Composed of, abounding in, vetches.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 256 If to my cottage thou wilt resort,..There mayst thou ligge in a vetchy bed. 1846 J. Graham *Birds of Scot.* 26 The blooming, vetchy ridge.

Vete, obs. Sc. form of Wet *v.*, Wit *v.*

Veteran (ve·tĕrăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6–7 veterane, 7 -ant, veteren. [a. older F. *veteran* (F. *vétéran*, = It., Sp., Pg. *veterano*), or ad. L. *veterānus*, f. *veter-*, *vetus* old.]

A. *sb.* **1.** One who has had long experience in military service; an old soldier.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 132 The sturdy knight well named Fortitude, With the noble veterane ayr Consuetude. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Veterani*, old soldiers. 1700 Astry tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* II. 248 Even Veterans, who had never kept Guard. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 8 ¶ 9 A sound that will force the bravest veteran to drop his weapon, and desert his rank. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxxiv. (1788) 170 Military governments, which were intended for the support of worn-out veterans. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* IV. xix, Veterans of early fields were there, Whose helmets press'd their hoary hair. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* III. ix. (1864) 190 Then came the Spanish infantry, who in a summer's campaign had acquired the discipline and the weather-beaten aspect of veterans. 1882 Rhys *Celtic Brit.* iii. 80 Ostorius establishes a strong colony of veterans at Camulodunon.

2. One who has seen long service in any office or position; an experienced or aged person.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlii. § 5 The Arrians for the credit of their faction take the eldest, the best experienced, the most wary and the longest practised Veterans they had amongst them. 1728 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* ii. 34 A sturdy veteran in roguery. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* II. ii. 152 The servants were all veterans, gorgeous in their liveries. 1837 Dickens *Dorrit* II. vi, Miss Fanny..said the usual nothings with the skill of a veteran.

transf. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 22 The new backsly [South African ox] is then joined with one of the veterans of his own kind, from whom he learns his art. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. 422 Sending into the field a reserve of new physical reasonings on the rout and dispersion of the veterans.

Comb. 1890 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 95/1 Several of the adjacent veteran-looking trees.

B. *adj.* **1.** Of soldiers: Having much experience in warfare or military matters; long practised or exercised in war.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. 2 Veterant Souldiers, most of which were of skill sufficient to be Commanders themselues. 1628 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 170 The Veteran Souldiery of the United Provinces. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 55 The veterane Janizaries were all either slain or dead. 1739 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 316 So much has the present War drain'd them of their Veteran Troops. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 121 The loss of a veteran army, sufficient to defend the frontiers. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xxxiii, Here report said, that Adrian de Bubenberg, a veteran knight of Berne, commanded. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 460 His professional skill commanded the respect of veteran officers. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit., Courage* Wks. (Bohn) III. 108 It is the veteran soldier, who, seeing the flash of the cannon, can step aside from the path of the ball.

2. Of persons in general: Grown old in service; experienced by long usage or practice.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., A Veteran Counsellor has a Voice and Seat at Audiences. 1789 Belsham *Ess.* II. xl. 502 Did it never occur to this veteran politician that there are degrees of misconduct? 1824 Didsin *Libr. Comp.* 328 The veteran English author was not slow to reply. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 255 Godolphin had..early acquired all the flexibility and the self-possession of a veteran courtier. 1883 B. Smith *Life Ld. Lawrence* II. xxviii. 532 The veteran Viceroy walked round to the sacred spot.

transf. 1847 Stoddart *Angler's Comp.* 250 Give me..the rush of some veteran water-monarch, or the gambol..of a plump new-run grilse.

3. Of things: Old; long-continued. *rare.*

1633 Gauden *Hieras.* 44 Our old bottels and veterane Wines..are sound, sweet, well-refined, and full of spirits. 1710 Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* iv. 208 The payment of Tithes was grown to be a Veteran and thorough settled Constitution of this Kingdom. 1832 Lonor. *Coplas de Manrique* lxvi, By great And veteran service to the state,..He stood ..The proudest knight of chivalry.

Hence **Veteranacy**, the state or condition of being a veteran. **Veteraness**, a female veteran. **Veteranize** *v. U.S.* a. *trans.* To render a veteran. b. *intr.* To re-enlist as a soldier.

1861 *Daily Chron.* 23 July 5/3 This cricketer..is now, in his 'veteranacy, both batting and bowling better than ever before. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 8 May 588 On the platform..many heroines gathered, some of them 'veteranesses in this war and others recruits to the cause. 1884 *A. J. Johnson's*

Univ. Cycl. (1895) I. 355/2 The proportion was at first a little over three pieces, for 2,000 infantry, but as the latter [illegible] this was reduced to about two ——— 1891 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 7 Oct., They were the first to veterans, and thus signified a great deal at that time.

† Vetera·scent, *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. pres. pple. of L. *veterascĕre* to grow old.] Growing old.

1648 Gauden *Three Serm.* 136 The clothing of our soules, is daily veterascent and mouldring away.

† Veterate, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *veterāt-us*, f. *veter-*, *vetus* old.]

1. Of long standing; inveterate.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 G iij b, Seing y[t] he made no mention of veterate vlceres. 1568 Bullein *Bulwarke* 49 b, My sickenesse is so veterate and olde, that the aire was unsufficient to bee my helpe.

2. Having the authority of age or antiquity.

1565 J. Halle *Hist. Expost.* 31, I have thought good to gather the councels, and good documentes of diuers good and veterate Authores.

So † ——— *Obs.* (Cf. next.)

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* cviii. 41 They may be holpen so be it that the infirmitie or the impediment be not veterated or of a longe continuance.

† Veterate, *v. Obs.*—[f. late L. *veterāre*.] *intr.* 'To wax old' (Cockeram, 1623).

† Veterato·rian, *a. Obs.*—[f. L. *veterātōri-us*, f. *veterātor* an old hand.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Veteratorian*, crafty, subtil, gotten by long use.

Vetere, southern ME. variant of Fetter *sb.*

Veteresn, obs. form of Veteran.

Veterinarian (vetĕrinē·riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *veterinări-us* (see next) + -an.]

A. *sb.* 1. One who is skilled in, or professionally occupied with, the medical and surgical treatment of cattle and domestic animals; a veterinary surgeon.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 307 The second Assertion, that an Horse hath no gall, is very generall, nor onely swallowed by the people, and common Farriers, but also received by good Veterinarians. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 279 Thus the subtile Veterinarians procure white stars, or other desired marks in the fore-heads of their horses. 1706 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 32 Such were call'd at first.. Unguentarians, Emplastrists, Veterinarians, Hippo-Jatrists. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 271 Mr. Barrier, veterinarian, is said to have observed a disease in dogs, perfectly similar to the small-pox in man. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 81 It is..not desirable that you should consider yourself a veterinarian. 1886 E. R. Lankester *Advancem. Sci.* iii. (1890) 124 Rabies in a dog is recognised without difficulty by the skilled veterinarian.

† 2. (See quot.) *Obs.*—

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (after ——— *Veterinarius*, he that lets Horses or Mules to hire, a ——— a Horse-courser, a Hackney-man.

B. *adj.* = Veterinary *a.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Veterinarian*..is also used adjectively. 1706 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 43 Neither is the Collection of the Veterinarian Greek Physicians much less representative of the Series of the old Minor Physical Prophets of Medicinal Greece. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 75 A few remarks on the necessity of..a Veterinarian School. 1861 *Times* 11 July, This may be a reason why some very eminent veterinarian authority should occupy a place on the bench.

Hence **Veterina·rianism.**

1826 L. Towne *Farmer & Grazier's Guide* 10 Analogy will often hold good..between the human [maladies], and those which come under the Head of Veterinarianism.

Veterinary (ve·tĕrinări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *veterinări-us*, f. *veterīn-us* belonging or pertaining to cattle (*veterīnæ* fem. pl., *veterīna* neut. pl., cattle). So F. *vétérinaire* (16th cent.), It., Sp., Pg. *veterinario*.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to, connected or concerned with, the medical or surgical treatment of cattle and domestic animals.

1791 *Gentl. Mag.* II. 1016/1 Veterinary College, London. Established April 8, 1791. For the Improvement of Farriery, and the Treatment of Cattle. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 182 Experiments made at the Veterinary School have confirmed this hypothesis. 1832–3 (*title*), The Veterinary Examiner; or Monthly Record of Physiology, Pathology and Natural History. 1835 H. Harewood *Dict. Sports* s.v. *Clystering*, They may be purchased at any of the veterinary instrument makers in London. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 16 Oct. 4/6 Medical or veterinary problems are regarded by some as absolutely incapable of definite solution. 1888 *Field* 21 Jan. 92/3 It is curious to notice the entire absence of any idea of specific infection among the older veterinary writers.

b. *Veterinary art, science*, etc.

1790 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 298/2 The veterinary art is a practical application of sure and scientific principles to the preservation of health in animals. *Ibid.* 496/1 The important subject of Veterinary Medicine. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 412 The Veterinary Art. 1804 *Ibid.* XII. 278 Hence they were led to bring the therapeutics..of the human body to veterinary science. 1825 Bentham *Ration. Reward* 218 The veterinary art, or the art of healing as applied to animals, has only within these few years been separately studied in England. 1884 *American* VII. 343 Medicine, veterinary.

c. *Veterinary surgeon*, = Veterinarian *sb.* 1. Frequently abbreviated as Vet.

1810 James *Milit. Dict.* 1809 *European Mag.* LV. 22 The ancient farriers of our metropolis have conferred on themselves a title highly pre-eminent, that of veterinary surgeon. 1834 *Poultry Chron.* I. 393/2 If an experimental hospital could..be established under the care of a veterinary surgeon.

B. *sb.* = Veterinarian *sb.* 1.

1861 S. Lysons *Claudius & P.* 18, I must have an especial portion set off as a forge, for the armourers and veterinarian. 1880 S. R. Macphail *Relig. House of Plantagenet* ii. 51 Sometimes, indeed, a man was veterinary and a member of the fraternity too.

† Veterine, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *veterīn-us*: see prec.] (See quot. 1656.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (after Cooper), *Veterine*, that bears burdens; used in carriage. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & ——— ge* b j b, The hoofes are solid in those [animals] that are not cornigerous:..and they are renewed only in the veterine...The talle is..setose in the veterine.

Veterlok, southern ME. var. Fetterlock.

Veth, dial. var. Faith *int.*; Sc. var. Waith *Obs.*

Vethym, southern ME. variant of Fathom *sb.*

† Vetite, *ppl. a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vetit-us*, pa. pple. of *vetāre* to forbid.] Forbidden.

1a 1300 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunterian Cl.) 768 Grit was the lust that thow had for to fang The fruct vetite.

Vetitive (ve·titiv), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *vetit-*, ppl. stem of *vetāre* (see prec.) + -ive.] Amounting to a veto.

1853 F. Lieber *Civil Liberty* xvii. 164 The only case in which our executives have a real vetitive power, is the case of pardon.

Vetiver (ve·tivai). Also -veyr, -vert, vitti-vert. [ad. F. *vétyver*, ad. Tamil *veṭṭivēru* (f. *vēr* root).] = Cuscus [2].

[1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 113 The Anatheram muricatum, called Vetiver by the French, and Khus in India.] 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vetiveyr*, a name for the Khuskus grass; a scent or perfume so named. 1883 *Ibid., Vetivert*, a perfumer's name for kuskus root. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 308/1 Aromatic substances, such as vanilla, tonka bean, orris, and vetiver root. 1899 M. Thornhill *Haunts Indian Official* 18, I saw some [roots of Khuskhus] once years ago in a shop in Bond Street. It was there known under the name of 'vitivert'.

Vetles, southern ME. variant of Fetles *Obs.*

Veto (vī·to), *sb.* [a. L. *veto* I forbid (1st pers. sing. pres. ind. of *vetāre*), the word by which the Roman tribunes of the people opposed measures of the Senate or actions of the magistrates. Hence also F., Sp., Pg., It. *veto*.]

1. A prohibition having for its object or result the prevention of a proposed or intended act; the power of thus preventing or checking action by prohibition. Freq. in phr. *to put* (also *place*, *set*) *a veto on* or *upon* (something).

1629 Sir W. Mure *True Crucifix* 1108 Hee who doth exalt Himselfe to raigne,..Dare gainst this Law most impudently stand, And God's great Veto boldly counter-mand. 1654 Trapp *Comm., Zach.* ii. 13 God..refraineth the remainder of mans wrath..If he do but..interpose his *Veto*. 1768 H. Walpole *Remin.* in *Lett.* (1857) I. p. cxviii, They persuaded her to demand of the new King an earl's coronet for Lord Bathurst. She did—the Queen put in her veto, and Swift..returned to Ireland [etc.]. 1794 U. Price *Ess. Picturesque* I. 43 *note*, Had I not advanced too far to think of retreating, I might possibly have been deterred by so absolute a veto from such authority. 1809 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) I. 139/1 It is not the practice with destroyers of vermin to allow the little victims a veto upon the weapons used against them. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* III. x. 323 Upon this ingenious proposition Scott at once set his *veto*. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xxiv, The Rector had beforehand put a veto on any Dissenting chairman. 1867 Baker *Nile Tributt.* xv. (1872) 255 They were much displeased at my immediately placing a veto upon their bloody intentions.

transf. 1865 Mozley *Mirac.* iii. 73 Confounding the resistance of impression to a miracle with the veto of reason.

2. *spec.* The act, on the part of a competent person or body, of preventing or checking legislative or other political action by the exercise of a prohibitory power; the right or power to interpose prohibition against the passing, or putting in force, of an enactment or measure.

[1739 E. W. Montagu *Anc. Republics* 372 The Carthaginian constitution, where the single, *Veto*, of one discontented senator, referr'd the decision of the most important affair to a wrong-headed, ungovernable populace.] 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 127, I was..answered, that the King of France must have no *veto* on the will of the nation. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) p. xxviii, In fact, though the king possessed no *veto*, yet..nothing could come before parliament which could require his negative. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 87 He deprived the plebeian tribunes of every prerogative except the veto, which he restricted to certain cases. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* (1868) II. xii. 220 It could neither enact its own decrees nor interpose a veto on the decrees of the Governor. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. xvi. 232 The President's veto kills off some vicious measures.

b. Without article.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. i, Journalism is busy, France rings with Veto. 1879 M. Arnold *Mixed Ess., Irish Cathol.* 124 The bishops claimed..the right of veto on the appointment of professors.

3. *attrib.*, as *veto power, proposition*, etc.

Veto Act, an act of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, passed in 1834, providing that no minister should be presented to a parish against the wish of the congregation.

1838 *Edinb. Christian Instructor* Jan. 47 Cases of Tain and Strathbogie.—Veto Act. 1840 in *Acts Gen. Assembly* (1843) 1103 The act anent calls, called the Veto Act. 1861 W. J. Fitz-Patrick *Life Doyle* (1880) I. 267 The friends of the Catholic claims had abandoned the old veto propositions. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 941/2 While it did not give them actual control, [it] allowed the exercise of a veto power akin to it.

Veto (vī·to), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To put a veto on, to refuse consent to; to stop or block by this means; a. With reference to legislative measures or similar matters.

1706 Hearne *Collect.* 2 Apr. (O.H.S.) I. 223 Letters for degrees..vetoed by the Proctors. 1837 Hy. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 220 Mr. Monroe vetoed the bill authorising the collection of tolls for the repair of the Cumberland road. 1861 May *Const. Hist.* (1863) III. xvii. 372 Measures passed by the assembly were refused by the council, or vetoed by the governor. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. i. vi. 74 Washington vetoed (to use the popular expression) two bills only. *Ibid.* App. 563 The President is permitted to veto any particular item.

b. In general use.

1879 E. R. Bates *Egypt. Bondh* I. vii. 146 Fred's common sense vetoes this suggestion at once. 1886 H. F. Lester *Under Two Fig Trees* 7 The area garden plan was unanimously vetoed. 1900 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 180, I proposed shooting, which he promptly vetoed.

transf. 1872 E. F. Burr *Ad Fidem* iv. 66 [God] will be hampered by no necessity of general laws. The nature of free moral agents will not veto His activity.

2. To refuse to admit or accept (a person).

1885 *Graphic* 24 Jan. 74/2 The right of vetoing persons whom they deemed ineligible. 1891 *Spectator* 21 Mar., The power of choosing their own Prime Ministers, and..the power of immediately vetoing and removing him.

Hence **Ve·toed** *ppl. a.*; **Ve·toing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Ve·toer,** one who vetoes.

1883 Sir A. Gordon *Earl of Aberdeen* vi. 144 Another vetoed minister..applied to the Court of Session to issue a similar decree..on his behalf. 1888 *New York Weekly Tribune* 24 Oct. 1 (Cent.), *Vetoer.* 1892 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 27 Sept., Cleveland's record as a vetoer of pension bills. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 72 The President..used his pardoning and his *vetoing powers. 1892 *Daily News* 12 July 5/5 A total of 433 Presidential vetoings in the century 1789–1889. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Feb. 2/2 The committee suggested the establishment of a controlling and vetoing body.

Ve·toism. *rare.* [f. Veto *sb.* + -ism.] Exercise or advocacy of the power of veto.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Dec. (Cassell's Suppl.), Vetoism has nothing to say against the immense amount spent in that way.

Vetoist (vī·to,ist). [f. Veto *sb.* + -ist.] One who exercises the right, or supports the use, of the veto; one who advocates the possession of a power of veto, esp. for some particular purpose.

[illegible]

veto on the sale of liquor.

1882 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 484 A little further on you will come upon another, a group of learned vetoists and anti-vetoists. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 355 The vetoists..intimate their disapprobation by hissing the unfortunate performer. 1840 Gladstone *CA. Prine.* 489 The principle for which the Vetoists contend I believe is..really this [etc.]. 1863 A. H. Charteris *Life J. Robertson* iv. 68 If..the vetoists desired to give effect to the people's conscientious objections. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Nov. 5/2 He considers that unless the Liberal Party is dissociated from the Temperance reformers and Vetoists..its future will be disastrous.

Hence **Veto·istic, Veto·istical** *adjs.*

1815 D. O'Connell in W. J. Amherst *Hist. Cath. Emancip.* (1880) II. 183 He came into Ireland on a vetoistical mission. 1861 W. J. Fitz-Patrick *Life Doyle* (1880) I. 263 Dr. Milner branded Mr. Plunket's bills as vetoistic. 1862 F. C. Husenbeth *Life Bp. Milner* 155 His subsequent uniform opposition to every form of Vetoistical arrangement.

† Veton('y. *Obs.* Also 5 vetoyne, 6 *Sc.* vetoun, veyton, 7 vett'ny. [a. AF. **vetonie*, OF. *veteine*, var. (after L. *vettonica*) of *betoine* Betony.] The plant betony.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 99 in *Anglia* XVIII. 320 Betoyne is þe erbis name, And vetoiye eke in name. *c* 1440 in *Thornton Romances* p. xxxvi, Take vervayne, or vetoyne, or filles of wormod, and make lee therof. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67, I sau veyton, the decoctione of it is remeid for ane sair hede. 1568 Skeyne *The Pest* (1860) 25 Of herbis...Pimpinell, Vetoun, Finkill. *a* 1689 Mrs. Behn tr. *Cowley's Plants* C.'s Wks. 1711 III. 295 From Spanish Woods the wholsom Vett'ny came, The only Glory of the Vettons Name.

Vette, southern ME. var. Fat *v.*, Fet *a.*

Vettell, obs. form of Victual *sb.*

‖ Vettura (vetū·ra). [It.:—L. *vectūra*, conveyance, carriage, f. *vect-*, *vehĕre* to convey.] A four-wheeled carriage used in Italy.

1792 [see next 2] 1821 J. Gibson in Lady Eastlake *Life* iii. (1870) 45, I proceeded on my way in the vettura. 1883 C. E. Norton *Lett.* (1913) II. x. 152 We took a little one horse vettura and drove..to Ponte Grande.

‖ Vetturino (vetur**ī**·no). Pl. -ini. Also 7 -ine. [It., f. *vettura*: see prec.]

1. In Italy: One who lets out carriages or horses on hire; also, a driver of a vettura.

In early use, one who provided horses and made other arrangements for the convenience of travellers whom he accompanied on a journey.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 93 We agreed with a Vetturine or letter of horses, that each of us paying him fiftie five Poli, hee should finde us horses, and horsemeate, and our owne diet to Rome. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1670) II. 258 Others take with them a *Vetturino*, that lets them have horses, and dyets them to. 1796 tr. *Kotzebue's Trav.* XXIV. I. 322, I made a little excursion into the Milanese, in which I found that the best way of performing it is with the t[illegible] ——— Young *Trav. France* 109 Yesterday I agreed with a *vetturino*, to take me this morning at six o'clock, to

Brussels; but..I insisted that he should not come for me without his *vetturo*. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Harper* (1838) 232 *note*, Within a crazed and tattered vehicle,..Then degraded, and belonging to a Vetturino. 1883 W. H. RUSSELL in *19th Cent.* Sept. 483 Asserting my right of way notwithstanding the fierce opposition of many of the local *vetturini*, I toiled up the steep ascent for the hotel. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xi. 204, I must drive back to Genzano. I told the *vetturino* to wait.

2. = VETTURA.

1789 A. YOUNG *Autobiog.* (1898) viii. 176, I went by a *vetturino* to Turin. 1837 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* iii. (1862) I. 16 A lumbering post-coach, the Irish *vetturino*, the 'leathern convenience' of that time (like those of Italy of the present day). 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* July 122/1 The lumbering *vetturino*..was packed with the jolly party of bachelors!

3. *attrib.*, as *vetturino-carriage, -fashion*, etc.

1838 *Murray's Hand-Bk. N. Germ.* 193 In vetturino travelling, he must expect to start at break of day, in all weathers. 1852 HELPS *Comp. Solit* vi. 82 It was necessary to stay some time (for we travelled vetturino-fashion) at the little post-house. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* lxx, A miserable-looking vetturino carriage stood at the inn door.

Vetust, *a. rare.* [ad. L. *vetustus*, related to *vetus* old.] Old, ancient.

1623 COCKERAM I. 1637 BASTWICK *Answ. Inform. Sir J. Banks* 11 Neither novell nor hereticall but according to both the Divine Scriptures and all Antient trueth, and the vetustest Bishops, and by the whole clergy of England in King Henry the eights dayes. 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXI. 748 This is something too vetust to abide the shock of any agitation.

Hence **Vetu·stness**, 'ancientness, antiquity'.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II).

Vetusty. *rare*—1. [ad. L. *vetustas*, f. *vetustus*: see prec.] Antiquity.

1862 J. H. BENNET *Winter Medit.* III. xv. (1875) 499 Some had on two or even three of these bournous,..in various degrees of vetusty and dilapidation.

†**Veuterer**. *Obs.* Also veutrer. [ad. AF. *veutrier*: see FEWTERER, and cf. VAUTERER.] As an epithet of a hound: Employed for hunting.

c 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xv, Oþer þer be þat men clepeth alauntes veutreres. *Ibid.*, þat other nature of alauntes is ycleped veutereres.

Veveres, obs. Sc. form of VIVERS, provisions.

Veveri, erron. obs. form of IVORY.

Vew (viū). *north. dial.* Also 6 veiwe, 7–9 view, 7 vewe, vue. [Prob. an alteration of YEW.] A yew-tree, or the wood of this.

16.. in Weber *Flodden Field* (1808) 383 A Scottishe Mynstrell..broughte a bowe of vewe to drawe. 1699 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 215 Here are several Acres of young Pines, Cypresses, Vues, &c. 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* Ser. I. (E.D.S.) 79 *Veau* or *View*,..the yew tree. 1828– in northern dial. glossaries (Yks., Lancs., Chesh., Derby).

attrib. *a* 1600 *Robin Hood & Guy of Gisborne* xv, Iohn bent vp a good veiwe bow, And fettled him to shoote. *c* 1675 O. HEYWOOD *Diary*, etc. (1883) III. 223, 4 view trees set about my house Sept. 2. 1674. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., View-tree*, yew-tree.

Vew, southern dial. var. FEW *a.* **Vewar**, obs. Sc. f. VIVER, a fishpond. **Vewe**, southern ME. var. FEW *a.*; obs. f. VIEW. **Vewlie**, obs. f. VIEWLY. **Vewter** (in hunting): see FEWTERER, and cf. VAUTERER and VEUTERER.

Vex, *sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. *Sc.* A cause (or state) of vexation or grief.

1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvi, It was a sair vex and grief to a' her kith and kin. 1844 — *St. Ronan's* ii, That is another vex to auld folk such as me. 1877 G. MACDONALD *Marquis of Lossie* iii, Her man's in a sair vex. 1882 — *Castle Warlock* xlix, A sair vex it wad be to mony a puir body like mysel' to lowse the recht o' 't.

2. Distressing or vexing commotion.

1862 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) xvii. 393 The Vex of the coming Confirmation is now great. 1866 ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 412 Let trust sink in peace beneath the struggling vex of mortality.

Vex (veks), *v.* Also 5–7 vexe, wex (5 uex, wix). [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vexer*, ad. L. *vexāre* to shake, agitate, disturb, etc., whence also It. *vessare*, Pg. *vexar*, Sp. *vejar*.]

I. 1. *trans.* To trouble, afflict, or harass (a person, etc.) by aggression, encroachment, or other interference with peace and quiet.

1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 26, I have nought trespassed ageyn noon of these iij,..and yet I am soule and noysyngly vexed with hem, to my gret unease. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 333 So on a day hym happend to com vnto a place per a damysell was vexid with a fend. 1487 *Munim. de Melros* (Bann. Cl.) 618, I sall neuer inquiet, vex, nor distrubil þe said Abbot and convent. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Macc.* viii. 32 They slewe Philarches that wicked persoune, which was with Timotheus, and had vexed many Iewes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 184 b, He,..to thend he might vex the Turkes in an other quarter, was fully resolved to go foreward. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 383 By who-se meanes I am so molested, vexed, & disquieted. 1587 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 95 His Lordship hereupon had called the Counsellors to Tredagh,..to deliberate how the Army might be imployed most to vex Tyrone. 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* II. xxvi. 142 He does unjustly, and beerayeth a disposition rather to vex other men, than to demand his own right. 1738 WESLEY *Psalms* II. v, Then shall He in his Wrath address, And vex his baffled Enemies. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xxiv, Let me not vex, with inharmonious sighs, The silence of that heart's accepted sacrifice. 1843 POLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 723/1 When intestine divisions vex a state. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxix, With such compelling cause to grieve As daily vexes household peace. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* vi. 111 A thousand arrows, that vexed our flight as we came, Safe from the ranks of the foemen.

b. Const. *with* (some action, etc.).

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 246/2, I wyll bryng you S. Augustines wordes, the which was vexed of the Donatistes wyth thys same reason. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 26 b, It was not sufficient.., this realme to be..vexed with the craftie practises and invencions of the Frenche men. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 126 They never ceased to vexe the Britans with skirmishes and in-roades. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 40 So did hee vexe the Church with various and interchangeable pomp of sufferances. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 801 These yelling Monsters..bursting forth Afresh with conscious terrours vex me round. 1887 POLLOCK *Course of Time* III. (1869) 62 Whom she praised to-day, Vexing his ear with acclamations loud.

c. To worry (one) *out of* something. *rare*—1.

1876 *Prodigal Son* III. 103 Such openhanded fellows are not often to be found. So we must fasten on him, till we have stolen and vexed him out of all he has.

2. Of diseases, etc.: To afflict or distress physically; to affect with pain or suffering. Now *poet.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. xxi. 219 To putte in prysou a man that is vexed with suche a maladie what a valyauntnes were it. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 300 To endure the moost paynful crampes soo greuously vexynge her. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 179 b, He was so sore vexed with the gout that he refused all suche solempnities. 1596 MASCALL *Cattle* 208 Although they [sc. sheep] are housed, they are oftentimes vexed with cold. *a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 147 After the persecutors had beat out her teeth, and vexed her with many other tortures. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. vi. 42 Would You not wish to cure th' acuter Pains, That rack thy tortur'd Side, or vex thy Reins? 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 582 Feigning sickness oft, They swathe the forehead, drag the limping limb, And vex their flesh with artificial sores. 1817 KEATS *On the Sea* 9 Oh ye! who have your eye-balls vex'd and tir'd, Feast them upon the wideness of the Sea.

transf. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 22 It is most certaine, that Flaunders and Brabant are more vexed with colde and yce than England. 1718 POPE *Iliad* III. 5 When inclement winters vex the plain With piercing frosts, or thick-descending rain. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 169 Lightning and Inundation vexed the plains.

absol. *a* 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-deceiving* 42 The stone ..so bedded in the bladder, that it cannot greatly vexe.

3. To afflict with mental agitation or trouble; to make anxious or depressed; to distress deeply or seriously; to worry with anxiety or thought.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxxiv, Though that my spirit vexit was tofore In suemenyng, alsoone as euer I woke, By twenty fold it was in trouble more. 1560–80 DUNBAR *Poems* lxix. 12, I walk, I turne, sleip may I nocht, I vexit am with havy thocht. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* v. 9 Then was the kynge sore afrayed,..and his lordes were sore vexed. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. v. 6 She..day and night did vexe her carefull thought, And euer more and more her owne affliction wrought. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 313 Vex not his ghost, O let him passe. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 83 Thus doe we see Christ to be on all sides so vexed, as being over-whelmed with desperation. 1806 WORDSW. *Horn Egremont Castle* 55 It was a pang that vexed him then; And oft returned, again, and yet again. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. viii. 154 Most of us know what it is to vex our minds because we cannot recall some name, or trivial thing, which has escaped our memory for the moment. 1880 WATSON *Prince's Quest* (1892) 15 There fell a sadness on him, thus to be Vext with desire of her he might not see, Yet could not choose but long for.

b. *refl.* (In later use passing into sense 4.)

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 198 þis preste gretlie blamyd hym for his syn,..& þis man wexid hym [= himself] grethe and slew hym. 1526 TINDALE *John* xi. 33 He groned in his spret and vexed hym silfe and sayde: Where have ye layed hym? 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 148 Not to eate our heartes: that is, that wee shoulde not vexe our selues with thoughts. 1612 BIBLE *2 Sam.* xii. 18 How will he then vexe himselfe, if we tell him that the childe is dead? *a* 1633 BINNING *Serm* (1845) 123 Ye toil and vex yourselves and spend your time about that body and life. 1832 J. J. BLUNT *Sk. Reform. Eng.* ii. 35 He vexes himself because he cannot make a hundred watches go by his own. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 41 Why will you vex yourself about your father?

c. To trouble, exercise, or embarrass in respect of a solution.

1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* 68, I could produce other forceable reasons, such as might..vex the best wit in the world to give them just solution. 1872 MARKBY *Elem. Law* § 532 No subject has vexed English judges more than the question, what remedy a debtor has for a wrongful..sale by a creditor of property which he holds as security.

4. To affect with a feeling of dissatisfaction, annoyance, or irritation; to cause (one) to fret, grieve, or feel unhappy.

a 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 57 þe forme woman Eue vexude God more þen dyd man. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 33 This wexit him mair nor all the troubillis that he had of befoir, and [he] was the mair crabbit with him selfe [etc.]. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 66 Away, I say: stayest thou to vexe me here? 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 130 They vexe me past my patience. 1666 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 182 It vexes my very soul to heare how the base bumpkins triumph. 1696 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 312 Which, angry as he is, will vexe him worse. 1720 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 37 The bishop..complains of my not writing; and what vexes me, says he knows you have long letters from me every week. 1714 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to W. Montagu* (1887) I. 95 Your letter very much vexed me. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. viii. (Rtldg.) 358 Nothing vexes me, but that Antonia has not a thumping fortune to bring with her. 1833 *Politeness & Gd.-breeding* 98 This boy or girl..who never sneers at or jeers you, or tries to vex your feelings. 1892 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 188/1 The defendant had been maliciously making noises for the mere purpose of vexing and annoying the plaintiffs.

b. In pa. pple., freq. const. *at* or *with*.

c 1480 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 187 Sir, ye ar vexed at all, And peraventur he shall here after pleas you. 1535 PHAER *Æneid* II. 31 For amends to Pallas wrath, so vext with sore offence. 1812 COTTON., *Sir Marrin*, to grieve, or sorrow for, ..be sad, or vexed at. 1864 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 204 I am sleepy and vexet, and now I fear I have vexed you. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 165 ¶6 The Curate.., upon the reading of it, being vexed to see any thing he could not understand. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 55 That inward feeling, which,..in familiar speech, we call being vexed with oneself. 1783 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* 15 May, I would have knocked the factious dogs on the head, to be sure; but I was not *vexed*. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Briery Creek* ii. 26 He was amused at some of his foibles, vexed at others. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. v, A little vexed that she had spoken precipitately. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* I, I am always vexed with people who don't care what they eat.

c. To irritate or tease (an animal).

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Sept. 1657, 2 Virginian rattlesnakes,..when vexed, swiftly vibrating and shaking their tailes. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1854) II. 200/2 She vexed and pricked it [an asp] with a golden spindle till it seized her arm. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. iv, Vex not too far the lion, chained though he be.

5. *intr.* To be distressed in mind; to feel unhappy or dissatisfied; to fret or grieve. Also const. *at*.

Common in the 17th cent.; now *rare* or *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 122 A yong Gentleman,..vexing that the scorne of a farmer should be so preferred, cast in his minde by what meanes..he might steale away the Bride. 1598 MARSTON *Scourge of Villanie* III. viii. (1599) 214, I doe sadly grieue, and inly vexe, To viewe the base dishonour of our sexe. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 346 If..we should faile, I should hate my selfe, and vexe incessantly at my fortune. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxiii. (1687) 412 It makes us vex if we be crossed in the least of our desires. *a* 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 257 Men usually vex and repine at that which is extraordinary and unusual. 1770 MRS. THRALE *Lett. to Johnson* (1788) I. 32 Mr. Thrale particularly vexes lest you should not see Matlock on a moon-light night. 1824 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. I. 237 But since it is so,..I must not vex about it.

II. 6. *trans.* To disturb by causing physical movement, commotion, or alteration; to agitate, toss about, work, belabour or tear up, etc.

1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 152 Even there where they [the minerals] are most vexed and wrought upon, yet are they not worne out. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* ccvii, Some English wool, vex'd in a Belgian Loom, And into Cloth of spungy softness made. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* IV. 40 And sharpen'd Shares shall vex the fruitful ground. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. viii. 20 Clay..In these cases laxatives are to be prescribed,..and continually vexing it with the spade or plow. 1778 BURKE *Sp. Concil. Amer.* Wks. 1842 I. 186 No sea but what is vexed by their fisheries. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. vii, Some calm wave Vexed into whirlpools by the chasms beneath. 1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *La Beata* II. xviii. 213 Well sheltered from the blasts that even in summer vex the upper Apennine. 1878 J. D. *Æneid* VII. 905 His followers they, who vex The M glebe, so fruitful of the vine.

b. To disturb by handling; to twist.

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 35 He exalts his supercilliums and vexes his formal beard.

c. *fig.* To press, strain, or urge.

1678 MARVELL *Def. J. Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 192, I would not too much vex the similitude. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 218 Distinctions,..By b'ing too nicely overstrain'd and vext, Have made the Comment harder than the Text.

7. To subject (a matter) to prolonged or severe examination or discussion; to debate at excessive length.

a 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 20 The best way to finde the truth in this matter, was to debate and vexe it. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 243, I shall now come to the business of the Divorce; so much vexed by our Writers. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xli, Be that as it may; and not vexing a question (settled for ever without our votes), let us own that he was, at least, a..gentleman. 1877 R. F. BURTON in *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 569/1 Upon this point I must join issue with him, with Stanley, and with others who have vexed the subject.

Vex, obs. form of WAX *v.*

Vexable (ve·ksăb'l), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *vexābilis*, or f. VEX *v.* + -ABLE.]

†1. Troublesome, oppressive. *Obs.*

1500 in *Antiq. Repl.* (1808) II. 300 Without distrobill, exsyrchyng, or any other vexable demaunds of his liege people.

2. Capable of being vexed.

1820 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 191 The printers use me ill, but they do not vex me, because I am not vexable by such things.

Vexation (veksē'·ʃən). Forms: 5–6 vexacione, -acyon (5 wexacion), 6 vexatyon, 6–vexation; 5 wex-, vexacioun, 6 vexatioun. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vexation*, or ad. L. *vexātiōn-*, *vexātio*, n. of action f. *vexāre* VEX *v.* Cf. Pg. *vexação*, Sp. *vejacion*, It. *vessazione*.]

1. The action of troubling or harassing by aggression or interference (sometimes *spec.* by unjustifiable claims or legal action); the fact of being troubled or harassed in this way.

Common in the 16th cent.; now *rare*.

c 1400 *Beryn* 3842 Yee shulle fynde..amendis for to make For our vndewe vexacioun. 14.. *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 324 Such persones as will com to the citte..be fre without eny wexacion, cumyng, goyng and abydyng a day befor and a day after. 1482 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 494 Be his lounge delleyngnes, coutuls, vexacions &

be wold neuer hane conclucion, but fynde meane of trouble & vexacion to hurt & disheryte the pore comiens here of their rightfull comen, which he wolde do. 1523 *Act* 13 & 14 *Hen. VIII*, c. iii. § 9 The said maire.. may have and use all..powers and auctorities..without trouble, lette, or vexacion of any of the Inhabitauntes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 144 b, They loved rather the vexation of the common wealth, than peace and quietnes. 1581 Sir T. Coventry in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 156 The vexacions of informers and other new devised straynes I shall endeavour to represse. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* i. lxvii. (1739) 161 Therefore the Law provided a Writ of remedy against unjust vexation. 1654 tr. *Martini's Cong. China* 191 Finally..came out an Edict, which forbad all further vexation, after they had killed a hundred thousand men. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 95, I still had hopes, my long vexations past, Here to return. 1788 Cowper *Negro's Compl.* 37 He, foreseeing what vexations Afric's sons should undergo. 1852 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* 832 He was constrained by their vexations to abandon that University.

† b. Strict examination or calling to account. *Obs.*—1

a 1503 *Chron. Lond.* (Kingsford, 1905) 262 This yere was Sir William Capell ayein put in vexacion,..for thinges doon by hym in the tyme of his mairaltie.

† 2. The action of troubling, disturbing, or irritating by physical means; the fact or state of being so troubled or distressed. *Obs.*

14.. Hoccleve *Minor Poems* (1892) 220 The vexacioun Of deeth so hastid him, þat his spiryt Anoon forsooke his habitacioun. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxvi. 298 Abowte cockis crowe þe mayde, for gret vexacion þat she hadde with þe tempest, fell on slepe. 1493 *Petronylla* 18 (Pynson), Though she had of brennynge greate feruence Twene colde and hote vexacion inportable There was no grutchinge. 1515 Barclay *Eclogues* ii. (1570) B iv/1 In all that thy sight hath delectation, Thy greedy tasting hath great vexation. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 3 b, By the tormentyng and vexacion of which sicknes,..they cast away the shetes & all the clothes liyng on the bed. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccles. Hist.* (1619) 148 Maiming, racking, and scourging, and thousands of other vexations. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 74 That he ..May..thinke no more of this nights accidents, But as the fierce vexation of a dreame. 1610 B. Jonson *Catiline* iii. ii, No noise, no pulling, no vexation wakes thee, Thy lethargie is such. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* s. v. *Assodes febris*, The Distemper usually arises from the Vexation of the Stomach by sharp and cholerick Humours.

3. The state or fact of being mentally troubled or distressed, in later use esp. by something causing annoyance, irritation, dissatisfaction, or disappointment.

c 1485 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 8 Raynyng with Rewles resonable and Rightfull, The whiche for oure sake hathe sofferde grete vexacion. *c* 1471 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 279 What vexacioun was then To the quene and the lordis..Then aftur kynge Edwarde thay cryed and did wepe. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxv 41 Tak consolatioun in your pane, In tribulatioun tak consolatioun, Out of vexatioun cum hame agane. 1535 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 71 Contente onely to satisfie nature, without further vexation for knowelege of thinges to come. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* v. i. 22 Full of vexation, come I, with complaint Against my childe, my daughter Hermia. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 101 Those Britains.. did..so infest the Roman Province, that the very Vexation of it cost Ostorius his Life. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 344 They let it [a canoe] go to the first cataract,..and had the vexation of seeing it dashed all to pieces. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* iii. viii, [She] very openly expressed her vexation and displeasure. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xx, The King..heard of this new trouble with much vexation. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* ii. 122/2 The vexation of the poultry owner when he sees his favourites fall under the ravages of disease. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* ii. 19, I spoke of the constant vexation I suffered because I could not draw better.

b. In the phr. *vexation of mind, spirit.*

1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* lxv. 14 Ye shal crie for sorow of hert, and complayne for vexacion of mynde. 1540–54 Croke *1st Chap. Eccles.* (Percy Soc) 49 Nought fynde I but vexacion Of spryte and mynde. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Eccl.* ii. 17 All is vanitie, & vexacion of the spirit. 1588 Fraunce *Lawiers Logike* Ded. P 2 b, The perpetuall vexation of Spirite, and continuall consumption of body, incident to every scholler. 1621 Cotgr., *Marrison*,..chafing, fuming, vexation of mind. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* ii. iii. vii. 422 Many men spend themselues..vpon small quarrels,..with much vexation of spirit and anguish of minde. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiv, She found her reward in vanity and vexation of spirit.

4. A source or cause of mental trouble or distress; a grief or affliction. Chiefly with *a.*

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iv. iv. 305 Your Children were vexation to your youth, But mine shall be a comfort to your Age. 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* iii. (1627) 13 It is an extreme vexation, that we must be tolled amongst such little petties. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 165 Sir, I am your vexation in ordinary. 1765 Cowper *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 1 Aug., It is a mark of their great charity for one who has been a disappointment and a vexation to them. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* ii. v. 94 It may be a vexation and disadvantage to us. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xx. 344 My own vexation is, that I must pay Cæsar my debt.

† 5. The action of subjecting to violence or force; the fact of being so treated. *Obs.*

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* iv. ii, As the wind doth try strong trees, Who by vexation grow more sound and firm. 1610 — *Alch.* ii. v, Name the vexations, and the martyrizations Of mettalls, in the worke. 1692 L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* iv. viii. (1733) 94 The Earth hath enough to do.. without the superfluous Vexations of the Plow over and above.

Vexatious (veksē·ʃəs), *a.* Also 6 **vexacyus.** [f. prec.: see -ious.]

1. Causing, tending or disposed to cause, vexation (in later use in sense 3): a. Of persons, their disposition, etc.

1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 319 Henry..of his vexacyus mynde purchased a writte of monstrauerunt in the Comen place agaynst the said defendaunt. 1631 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 246 They might meerly through envy, and the pleasure they took in being vexatious, take men upon Writs. 1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* i. i, She is as vexatious as her Father was, the great Attorney. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6343/2 The Townsmen..are..turbulent and vexatious to the Regiment. 1738 Wesley *Psalms* cxviii. iv, Begirt with Hosts of Enemies Vexatious as thick-swarming Bees. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxiv, The Lord Chancellor described him, in open court, as a vexatious and capricious infant.

b. Of things.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* iii. 184 If he could but stiffly wrangle out a vexatious dispute of some odd Peripatetick qualities. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 38 Flies and Gnats are more vexatious in hot Climates, than Creatures that are able to do greater Mischiefs. 1705–6 Penn in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 108 The business of Beaumont proves very vexatious to me here. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 176 P 1 There are many vexatious accidents and uneasy situations which raise little compassion for the sufferer. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 102 The opening of the cyst generally leaves a vexatious and intractable sore. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 709 It is most vexatious to find a fruit tree has been planted untrue to name. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 75 It is somewhat vexatious that we have to trust almost wholly to authorities on one side.

c. *spec.* Of legal actions: Instituted without sufficient grounds for the purpose of causing trouble or annoyance to the defendant.

1677 Yarranton *Eng. Improv.* 9 It is a Sin, that a Gentleman..should be the occasion of ruining so many Families.. by putting them to such vexatious Suits for their Moneys lent. 1696–7 *Act* 8–9 *William III*, c. 11 Diverse evil disposed Persons are incouraged to bring frivolous and vexatious Actions. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* i. vi. 6 Persius had wealth by foreign traffic gain'd, And a vexatious suit with King maintain'd. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vi. 72 Their courts were unceasingly occupied with vexatious suits.

transf. 1909 H. M. Gwatkin *Early Ch. Hist.* I. viii. 148 If the charge turns out vexatious (*calumnia gratia*) the accuser shall be severely punished.

† 2. Full of trouble or unensiness. *Obs.*

1644 Digby *Two Treat.* Ded a iij b, He leadeth a vexatious life, that in his noblest actions is so gored with scruples, that he dareth not make a steppe, without the authority of an other to warrant him. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 329 Riches and honours which bring not a pleasant, but rather a careful and vexatious life.

† 3. Vexed, annoyed. *Obs.*—1

1756 Tolderv *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 106 Heartley grew vexatious with himself for having parted with the watch.

Vexatiously (veksē·ʃəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a vexatious manner; so as to cause annoyance or irritation.

1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 140 Thy soul is vexatiously perturbated. 1709 Swift & Addison *Tatler* No. 43 P 2, The rugged Cares and Disturbance that Publick Affairs brings with it, which does so vexatiously affect the Heads of other great Men. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. ix. 227 We were most strangely and vexatiously disappointed, by finding that the light..was only a fire on the shore. 1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 2 Aug., Very vexatiously, however, my message arrived. late. 1847 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 531 At the same time difficulties were vexatiously thrown in the way of the protestant procurator. 1879 S. C. Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* xi. 242 We paused here and interrogated our Arabs, but, vexatiously enough, we could extract from them no such tradition.

b. *spec.* in *Law.* (See Vexatious *a.* 1 c.)

1880 Muirhead *Gaius* iv. § 172 The praetor allows an oath to be exacted from him 'that he is not vexatiously denying his liability'. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 412/1 The bankrupt..must not have vexatiously defended any action.

Vexatiousness (veksē·ʃəsnes). [f. as prec. + -ness 8.] The character of being vexatious.

1668 Dr. Hopkins *Sermons, Vanity* (1685) 39 There is a fourfold vexatiousness in all worldly things. 1727 Bailey (vol. II). *c* 1825 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* (1856) 300 Amidst the vexatiousness of the most complicated case,..Monypenny sat..serenely. *a* 1859 De Quincey in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) II. xvii. 54 The vexatiousness of writing letters.

Ve·xatory, *a.* [f. L. *vexāt-*, ppl. stem of *vexāre* Vex *v.*: see -ory.] = Vexatious *a.* 1.

1900 *Speaker* 8 Sept. 629/1 The objection that they are not Englishmen may be brushed aside as futile and vexatory. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* Oct. 585 The only people who would gain by these vexatory measures would be the lawyers.

† **Vexed,** variant of Faxed *a. Obs.*

a 1259 [see Faxed *a.*]. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorks.* iii. (1662) 200 Hence Mathew Westminster calleth a Comet . a Vexed Star.

Vexed (ve·kst), *ppl. a.* Also 7 **vex't, vext,** 7 9 **vex'd.** [f. Vex *v.*]

1. Troubled, harassed; kept in a disturbed or unquiet state.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/2 Vexid, *vexatus.* 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* T j b, If you will..kepe me still allue in vexed plighte, for some offence I haue committed, then shew [etc.]. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* iii. ii. 13 The night..With direfull visions wake my vexed soule. *c* 1670 Wood *Life* 6 Sept. 1645, Col. Legge charged them so gallantly, that the rebels ran back..Yet farr had they not gone, before these vexed rebels came on againe. 1816 Shelley *Sunset* 43 The tomb of thy dead self Which one vexed ghost inhabits. 1870 Burton *Hist. Scot.* (1873) VI. lxx. 189 He thus was chosen to settle the vexed affairs of Scotland.

2. Distressed, grieved; affected with vexation; annoyed, irritated.

1600 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* ii. i. 564 O how it greeues my vexed soule to see Each painted asse in chayre of dignitye. 1632 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro, Epiphanie* Wks. (1904) 211 [The sun] hiding his vex't cheeks in a bir'd mist. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 96 The vexed father now sighed to himself. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* ii. v, While her vex'd spaniel from the beach Fay'd at the prize beyond his reach. 1846 Mrs. A Marsh *Father Darcy* II. iv. 95 The priest looked vexed and perplexed. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 247 'You think I look it?' he said, with a vexed little laugh.

absol. 1824 Campbell *Theodoric* 193 Hers was the brow ..That cheered the sad, and tranquillized the vexed.

3. Subjected to physical force or strain; tossed about, agitated, belaboured, etc.

1820 Shaks. *Temp.* i. ii. 229 Where once Thou calldst me vp..to fetch dewe From the still-vext Bermoothes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 660 Vex'd Scylla bathing in the Sea that parts Calabria from the hoarce Trinacrian shore. *Ibid.* x. 314 A ridge of pendent Rock Over the vext Abyss. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xviii. 549 'I he ponderous hammer loads his better hand, His left with tongs turns the vexed metal round. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* i. i, The peak of an aereal promontory, Whose caverned base with the vexed surge was hoary. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 21 What time the Chalcian strand Saw the vexed Argive masts In Aulis tides. 1852 G. W. Curtis *Lotus-Eating* viii. 117 The vexed river rages and tumbles among channeled rocks.

4. *Vexed question*, a much debated or contested question.

1637 Heylin *Ecclesia Vind.* 215 Nor do I mean to meddle in so vexed a question. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* i. v. § 8 (1876) 48 This leads to the vexed question to which Dr. Chalmers has very particularly adverted. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* iii. § 54 The vexed question of the destinies of the unemployed workmen. 1874 Mahaffy *Soc. Life Greece* ii. 9 The great vexed question of the origin and composition of the Homeric poems.

Hence **Ve·xedness.** *rare*—1.

1754 Richardson *Grandison* V xx. 90 My teasing uncle broke out into a loud laugh, which..had more of vexedness than mirth in it.

Vexedly (ve·ksédli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly.] In a vexed manner; with vexation.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) II. xxiv. 165 My heart is vexedly easy, if I may so describe it. Vexedly—because of the apprehended interview with Solmes. 1796 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) IV. 241, I am in a society which makes me vexedly feel the rapid flight of those weeks, whose period must close an intellectual intercourse very gratifying. 1856 *Household Words* XIII. 300/1 Then he turned round, neither vexedly nor impatiently. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xvi, Eugene answers, and answers hastily and vexedly: 'No, no, no; he doesn't mean that'. 1901 Clive Holland *Mousmé* 223 'Some one else come and have her,' she remarked vexedly.

Vexer (ve·ksəɹ). Also 6 **vexar, -or.** [f. Vex *v.*] One who or that which vexes or annoys.

1530 Palsgr. 284/2 Vexar, a grevar, *turbateur.* 1558 Huloet, Vexor, *animaduersor.* *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Psalms* lxxxix. viii, I will quaile his vexers in his sight. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 93 Hornets..are great vexers and troublers. 1620 Rowlands *Night Raven* 34 Pray speake, had you this vexer and abuser, And were thus plagu'd as I, how would you vse her? 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 235 He was..a vexer of two Parishes with continual suits of Law. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 45 They can't be blessed because they are their own Vexers and Tormentors. 1788 Burke *Impeachm. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 59 The disgracers of government, the vexers and afflicters of mankind.

† **Ve·xful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Vex *v.* + -ful 1.] = Vexatious *a.*

1598 Florio, *Essoso*, vexfull, cruell, exacting. 1603 — *Montaigne* II. xi. 243 Maintaining for his exercise the peevish frowardnes of his wife, then which no essay can be more vex-full.

Ve·xil, Anglicized f. Vexillum 2 (Webster, 1828–32). The stem of *vexillum* is also the base of the following formations given in Dicts. without evidence of their currency: **Ve·xillar** *a.*, of or pertaining to a vexillum, spec. in *Bot.* and *Ornith.* **Vexilla·rious** *a.*, = Vexillary *a.* 2. **Ve·xillate** *a.*, having a vexillum or vexilla (*Bot.* and *Ornith.*).

Vexillary (veksi·lări), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 **vexiliarie.** [ad. L. *vexillāri-us* standard-bearer, etc., f. *vexillum* standard, Vexillum.]

A. *sb.* a. One of the oldest class of veterans in the Roman army, serving under a special standard. b. A Roman standard-bearer.

1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xviii. 63 Three Prætorian cohortes, and a thousand Vexillaries. *Ibid.* c. 111 With the Vexillaries of the three British Legions. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vi. xi. § 7. 84 The Vexillaries of three British Legions followed Vitellius in his Expedition against the Illyrian Army. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1793 A. Murphy *Tacitus* (1805) V. 220 In the left wing were placed the vexillaries of the thirteenth legion. 1870 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1172 In letters like to those the vexillary Hath left crag-carven o'er the streaming Gelt.

B. *adj.* † 1. *Vexillary soldier*, = prec. a. *Obs.*—1

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* i. lx. (1622) 26 Certaine vexillarie souldiers which continued vnder ensignes, and were placed for a guard to the countrey.

2. *Bot.* Of estivation: (see quot.).

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 421 *Vexillary*, when one piece is much larger than the others, and is folded over them, they being arranged face to face.

Vexillation (veksilē·ʃən). [ad. L. *vexillātio*, f. *vexillum* standard, Vexillum.] A company of veteran soldiers (see prec. A. a) or of soldiers grouped under one standard.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vexillation*, a company of men of

arms under one Standard. 1739 *Hist. Litterarie* III. 507 The quantity of Work perform'd by the Vexillations, appears to have nearly equalled that of the whole Legions. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. III. ii. 44 The vexillation of the twentieth Legion dedicated four thousand paces of their wall to the Emperor whose name it bore. 1876 SKENE *Celtic Scot.* I. ii. I. 78 The vallum..had been constructed by the second..and twentieth legions, or rather by their vexillations.

Vexillator (vɛksĭlēi·tăɹ). [a. med.L. *vexillātor*, f. *vexillum*: see next.] A banner-bearer in a mystery or a miracle play.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 137 The prologue to this curious drama is delivered by three persons, who speak alternately, and are called vexillators. 1831 COLLIER *Hist. Dram. Poetry* II. 135 The Chester Whitsun-plays are preceded by a kind of proclamation..made by certain Vexillators in various parts of the city.

‖ Vexillum (vɛksi·lŏm). [L. (in sense 1), f. the stem of *vehĕre* to carry.]

1. a. A flag or banner carried by Roman troops; a body of men grouped under one banner.

1726 GORDON *Itin. Sept.* 79 The Figures of two winged [illegible]

averaged from 500 to 600 in strength.

b. *Eccl.* A small piece of linen or silk attached to the upper part of a crozier.

1877 F. G. LEE *Gloss. Eccl. & Liturg. Terms* 438 Many examples of the vexillum are represented in illuminated MSS. 1903 *Ch. Times* 3 Feb. 136/3 The vexillum sometimes attached to a pastoral staff was a 'sudarium' or handkerchief, in all probability.

2. *Bot.* The large external petal of a papilionaceous flower.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vexillum*, the Banner of the broad Single Leaf, which stands upright. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. XX. (1765) 116 *Vexillum*, the Standard, a Petal covering the rest. *c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 446/2 The superior [petal] ascending, (called the *vexillum* or flag). 1881 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 11 Corolla with a long sabre-shaped vexillum of a deep carmine-red colour. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* App. 304 Corolla [of garden pea] papilionaceous, white; vexillum large.

3. *Ornith.* The vane or web of a feather.

1867 P. L. SCLATER tr. *Nitzsch's Pterylography* 10 The Barbs..form, with the parts seated upon them, the so-called Vane (*vexillum*). 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 8 The rhachis..alone bears vexilla. *Ibid.* 34 Except in the case of a few of the innermost remiges, their outer vexillum..is always narrower than the inner.

Vexing (vɛ·ksiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. VEX *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb in various senses.

a 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 281 þat is of no vexyng of þe fend, but of grace of God. 1530 PALSGR. 284/2 Vexyng or troublyng, *conturbation*. 1611 COTGR., *Inquietation*, a disquieting,..vexing, molesting, troubling. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 263 It is a kind of vexing to him, that he cannot master it. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Ductor* I. i. § 2 The first is that which Nazianzen calls..accusations and vexings of a man when he is in misery.

Ve·xing, *ppl. a.* [f. VEX *v.* + -ING 2.] That vexes; causing vexation.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Psalms* VI. vi, The while a swarm of foes with vexing feates My life besitteth. 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XXII. vi. (1714) 79 Trembling Fear, and vexing Griefs annoy. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 28 Reckoning Impossibles not to concerne our Desires; nor Unavoydables our Feares; nor things past our Remedy, our vexing sorrow. 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Peter* V. 8–9 The burden of vexing carefulness. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vexatiousness*, troublesome, perplexing, vexing Quality. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xviii. (1833) 286 From this vexing dilemma I am happily relieved. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, I am glad to see that this vexing job hasna taen awa your appetite, Captain. 1910 *19th Cent.* Feb. 279 Let others seek..the games and pleasures which bring with them a thousand vexing cares.

Hence **Ve·xingly** *adv.*

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. 81 At Courts, and Seats of Justice to complain, Was to be robb'd more vexingly again. 1643 J. CARYL *Expos. Job* I. 868 This they did so vexingly, that they are said to wrest his words. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 269 P 5 It is the same poverty which makes men speak or write smuttily, that forces them to talk vexingly.

Vexor, obs. form of VEXER.

† Vey, *v. Obs.*[1] [ad. OF. *veier*: cf. SURVEY *v.* and VETOR.] *trans.* To inspect, examine.

1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 18 § 3 Accomptes..to be taken, veyed, surveyede, & comtrolled.

Vey, southern ME. var. FEY *a.*; obs. f. WEIGH *v.* **Veyage**, obs. Sc. f. VOYAGE. **Veycht**, obs. Sc. f. WEIGHT. **Veye**, obs. f. WAY *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WEIGH *v.* **Veyle**, obs. f. VAIL *sb.*[1]; obs. Sc. f. WELL *adv.* **Veyllard**, obs. f. VEILLARD. **Veyn**, obs. f. VAIN, VEIN, WEEN. **Veynde**, obs. Sc. f. WIND *v.* **Veyne**, southern ME. var. FEIGN *v.*; obs. f. VAIN, VEIN.

† Veyne. *Obs.* Also veine. [a. OF. *veine*, ad. L. *venia* pardon.] = VENY 1.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xliv. 31 When þai say 'Kirieleison', sal also take hir veine by-fore þe auter at te grece. *c* 1450 in Aungler *Hist. Syon* (1840) 250 Any brother that hathe be seek..schal first ryse and take his veyne for hys defawtes and omissyons in tyme of hys sekenes. *Ibid.* 328 Than .. the sustres may take ther veynes, and proclame ther defautes.

† Veyor. *Obs.* Also 5 veyour, vayowr, 7 veiour (7–8 vejour), veighor. [a. OF. *veiour* (also *teier*, *teaier*, *veier*, etc.), f. *veier* (*veier*): see VEY *v.*] One appointed to view or inspect a thing.

1470 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 138 Veyours sworne before John Shipward, Meire, to make vewe and put in sight of a grond and tenement. 1493 *Ibid.* 234 The vew of the partable wall,..the namynge of the sayd vayowres and ther verdyt. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Veiours*,..signifieth in our common lawe those, that are sent by the court to take view of any place in question, for the better descision of the right. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 305 An action of deceit..must be brought during the life of the Sommoners, but not when all the Sommoners and veighors be dead. *Ibid.* 344 To take the land into the Kings hands by the view of lawfull men, called thereupon Veyors.

Veyr, southern ME. var. FAIR *a.*; obs. f. VAIR; var. VERE, spring; obs. Sc. f. WAR *sb.*, WEAR *v.*

† Veyra. *Sc. Obs.* [? Cf. VERA.] (See quot.)

1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 40 Than the marynalis began to veynd the cabil, vithit mony loud cry...And as it apeirit to me, thai cryit thir vordis ansftir follouis, veyra veyra, veyra veyra, gentil gallandis [etc.].

Veyre, obs. southern var. FIRE; obs. f. VAIR. **Veyton**, var. VETON *Obs.* **Veyze**, southern ME. var. FEY *a.* **Vezer**, southern ME. var. FAIR *a.*

Vezar, obs. f. VISOR. **Veze**, obs. var. FREEZE *sb.* and *v.*[1]; var. VEASE *Obs.* **Vezir**, var. VIZIER. **† Vezon.** *Obs.*[—] (Meaning obscure.)

1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* (1707) II. IV. 4 Look, look, Joan, how the Vezons fight. Who'd think they were so full of Spite?

Vh-, obs. Sc. variant of WH-.

Vi-, *pref.*, reduced form of *vis-* VICE-. (See VICURATE, -POLITIC, -PRESIDENT, -QUEEN.)

‖ Via (vəi·ă), *sb.* [L. *via* a road or way.]

Several senses of the word (by itself or with Latin adjs.), which are recorded in earlier and copied in later Dictionaries, appear to have had no real currency in English.

1. *Via Lactea*, the Milky Way.

1615 [see MILKY WAY 1]. *a* 1635 SIBBES *Breathing after God* (1639) 144 As we say of the *Via lactea*, or Milky way in the heavens,. it is nothing but a deale of light from a company of little starres, that makes a glorious lustre. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Milky-way* or *Via Lactea*, the Galaxy, is a broad white Path or Track, encompassing the whole Heavens. 1786 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 238 In the *via lactea* he found the whitish appearance completely resolved into a glorious multitude of stars of all possible sizes. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 267 He found that the *via lactea* and *nebulæ* consisted of a collection of fixed stars. 1802 O. GREGORY *Treat. Astron.* 42 The *Via Lactea*, Galaxy, or Milky Way, may also be reckoned under the head of constellations. 1840 T. DICK *Sidereal Heavens* 185 This mighty zone..is sometimes termed..the *Via Lactea*, but more frequently..the Milky Way, from its resemblance to the whiteness of milk.

transf. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, London* II. (1662) 208 Sir Thomas More was..born in Milkstreet, London (the brightest Star that ever shined in that *Via lactea*).

2. A way or road; a highway. Also *fig.*

1787 J. WILLIAMS (A. Pasquin) *Childr. Thespis* II. (1792) 157 'Tis but few little years since the charms of his voice Made ..thousands rejoice;..And by walking approv'd thro the Thespian *via*, Tho' a slave to the tribes, prov'd the Drama's Messiah. 1909 W. J. DON in A. Reid *Regality of Kirriemuir* XXIII. 301 It was no mere track, but a substantial *via*, 20 feet wide.

3. *Via media*, a middle way; an intermediate course or state. Hence **via-medialism** (see quot. 1881).

1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 168 The whole nation..is divided into two classes— bigoted Romanists or Infidels; there is no *via media*. 1866 GEO ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd. I. 5 They were kept safely in the *via media* of indifference. 1881 *Church Times* XIX. 128 Via-medialism, then, signifies a scheme whereof one party is asked to believe a little more, and the other a little less, than what they conceive to be true. 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Paston Carew* XXXIV. There was no via media, seeing that money was not to be found.

‖ Via (vəi·ă), *int. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 6 fia. [It. *via* (special use of *via* way: see prec.) 'an aduerbe of encouraging, much vsed by riders to their horses, and by commanders' (Florio, 1598).]

1. As an exclamation encouraging, inciting, or preparatory to movement or action, = Onward, come on, come along, etc.

1596 *Edward III*, II. ii. 12 Then *via* for the spatious bounds of Fraunce. 1596 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 182 Why Via, to London will we march. 1608 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master Constable* II. B iv b, *Via* for fate, Fortune, loe this is all, At griefes rebound lle mount, although I fall. 1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* II. ii, *Tho.* Away then, find this Fidler, and do not miss me By nine a Clock. *Le*[*uncelot*]. Via. 1623 MARKHAM *Cheap & Good Husb.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 23 First the voice, which sounding sharply and cheerefully,..crying, *Via*, *how*, *hey*, and such like, adde a spirit and liuelinesse to the horse. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXI, He exclaimed, 'Thy deathhour has struck—betake thee to thy sword—Via!'

2. As an exhortation or command to depart, = Away, be off, begone.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 9 The..fiend bids me packe, *fia* saies the fiend, away saies the fiend. 1622 CHAPMAN *May Day* IV. i. 56 Your reward now shall be that I will not cut your strings nor breake your fidles, *via*, away. 1626 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* II. i, *Via pecunia*! when she's runne and gone, And fled and dead; then will I fetch her, againe. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vii, Horsewhip the rascal to purpose—via—fly away, and about it.

b. Used to check argument or reply, or to dismiss a subject.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 159 Ah ha, Mistresse Ford and Mistresse Page, haue I encompass'd you? goe to, *via*. 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, And what was Ralph Sadler but the clerk of Cromwell,..*via*! I know my steerage as well as they. *Ibid.* xxix, Why, via, let that pass too.

‖ Via (vəi·ă), *prep.* Also viâ. [L. *viâ*, abl. sing. of *via* way, VIA *sb.*] By way of; by the route which passes through or over (a specified place).

1779 J. LOVELL *Let. to Adams* 13 June, A.'s Wks. 1854 IX. 483 This night is the fourteenth since we first had the news of his victory, *via* New Providence. 1813 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. 139, I would sweep through Berlin, revictual the fortresses, and return *viâ* Magdeburg. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* III. x, Lord Weybridge..is on his way to London *viâ* Paris. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 237, I arranged to proceed through Spain and *viâ* Paris, home.

Viability [1] (vəi,ăbi·lĭti). [ad. F. *viabilité* (1812), or f. VIABLE *a.*[1]: see -ITY.] The quality or state of being viable; capacity for living; the ability to live under certain conditions.

In common use from *c* 1860.

1843 BOUVIER *Law Dict. U.S.*, *Viability*, med. jur., an aptitude to live after birth; extra uterine life. 1853 SIMPSON *Obstet. Path. & Pract.* 21, I have repeatedly been astonished at the viability of the infant after traction had been applied to it. 1870 MAUDSLEY *Body & Mind* 44 The general and ultimate result of breeding in and in is to produce barrenness and sterility, children of a low degree of viability and of imperfect mental and physical development. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 727/1 An animal or plant which is only partly adapted to its conditions of existence is ugly in exact proportion to its lack of viability.

transf. 1893 C. B. UPTON *Bases Relig. Belief* 157 It means spiritual viability or immortality.

Viability [2], [ad. F. *viabilité* (1878), or f. VIABLE *a.*[2]] The condition of being traversable.

1882 W. CORY *Guide Mod. Eng. Hist.* II. 470 The quality which convicts gave it [Tasmania], can be expressed by one word 'viability': they made some roads.

Viable (vəi ăb'l), *a.*[1] [a. F. *viable* (1539), f. *vie* life: see -ABLE.] Capable of living; able to maintain a separate existence.

a. Of children at (normal or premature) birth.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Viable*, capable of living, as a newborn infant or premature child. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 800/1 The delivery of a fœtus of viable or full-grown size. 1881 *Trans. Obstet. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 276 Such narrowing or deformity of the female pelvis..as will absolutely preclude the birth of a viable child.

b. In other physical applications.

1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 446 Polyembryony [is] the production of two or more viable embryos in a seed. *c* 1890 STEVENSON *In South Seas* I. iv. (1900) 26 To judge by the eye, there is no race more viable; and yet death reaps them with both hands.

c. *fig.* Of immaterial things or concepts.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 702 The rest are waiting for the proper medium, the viable medium, the medium of harmony. 1883 G. P. LATHROP *Hawthorne's Wks.* XI. 435 What we have here is a romance in embryo; one, moreover, that never attained to a viable stature and constitution.

Via·ble, *a.*[2] [f. L. *via* way: cf. VIABILITY [2].] Traversable.

1856 *Sat. Rev.* II. 151/2 If the building..has the advantage of standing at the end of a vista, it is but mocking the needs of the many not to make the vista viable.

† Viadant. *Obs. rare.* [Irreg. ad. Sp., Pg., It. *viandante*, f. *via* way + *andar*(*e* to go.] A wayfarer, traveller.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 129 They are but poorely cled, yet wonderfull kinde to all Viadants. *Ibid* VIII. 353 The voluntary exposement of many vnnecessary Viadants.

Viadge, obs. form of VOYAGE *sb.*

Viador, variant of VEEDOR.

Viaduct (vəi·ădʌkt). [f. L. *via* way, after AQUEDUCT. So F. *viaduc*.] An elevated structure, consisting of a series of arches or spans, by means of which a railway or road is carried over a valley, road, river, or marshy low-lying ground.

1816 REPTON *Fragm. Landscape Gard.* 162, I have ventured to suggest a hint for such a structure as may support the road.., rather calling it a Via-duct than a Bridge. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 57 Great Viaduct now erecting over the River Wear, near Sunderland. This viaduct consists of four large and six small arches. 1869 *Times* 15 Oct. 7/5 New bridges and viaducts and new streets can do much in enabling Londoners to pass more quickly to their places of business. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 240 The modern viaduct, a work worthy of old Roman days.

attrib. 1831 T. GRAHAME *Lett. N. Wood* 23 The Sankey viaduct bridge..consists of nine arches of fifty feet span. 1897 *Daily News* 11 Feb. 6/4 The viaduct gangers, who would be responsible for the erection of timbers.

Viage, obs. var. VOYAGE *sb.*

Viaggiatory, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. It. *viaggiare* to travel.] Given to travelling about.

1847 MEDWIN *Life Shelley* II. 54 The viaggiatory English old maids, who scorn the continent.

Vial (vəi·ăl), *sb.* Forms: α. 4–6 vyol(e, 4–8 viol(e, 4, 6–7 violl(e, 5–6 vyoll(e. β. 5–7 vyal(l, 6 voyalle, vialle, 6–7 viall, 7– vial. [var. *fyole*, *fiol*, *fiall*, etc., PHIAL *sb.* See the note on the letter V.] A vessel of a small or moderate size used for holding liquids; in later use *spec.*, a small glass bottle, a phial.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1180 Dere disches of golde & dubleres fayre, þe vyoles & þe vessalment of vertuous stones. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 240 Sondry vessels maad of erthe and glas,..Violes, croslets, and sublymatories, Cucurbites and alembikes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 185 Sette þe viol vpon soft colis & late ham bolle. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3032 After þat, for his chefe socour, Sche toke to hym a viol with liccur. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. x. 178 Pryamus toke fro his page a vyolle ful of the four waters that came oute of paradys. 1530

Palsgr. 283/2 Vyole, a glasse, *Aolle, viole.* *c* 1550 H. Lloyd *Treas. Health* Ev, Mengle them togither and put them in a vyal of glasse, and stop the mouth thereof close. 1609 Dekker *Ravens Almr.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 238 The leeve..spyed the Violl that the poore man held in his hand vnder his cloak. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* vi. 53 The Air in the little Vial began to dilate it self. 1705 Addison *Italy* 230, I plac'd a thin Vial, well stopp'd up with Wax, within the Smoak of the Vapour.

β. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 146 He toke vyals of cristall and of lambar and of glas, and put þys blod yn hem. 1530 Palsgr. 284/2 Vyall, a glasse, *fiole.* 1576 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 275 Two glasse voyalles for the Lord Howardes servauntes. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ix. 84 b, A cruese or viall ful of sweete and smelling water. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 433 Glass vials also and sundry small earthen vessels. 1683 W. Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 86, I gave him a small Vyall of Balme of Gilead. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 67 Put a spoonful of this Water in a Vial. 1756 Nugent *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 298 The holy vial, containing the oil used at the coronation of their kings. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atlas* xvii, Liquors clear and sweet..She in her crystal vials did closely keep. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 114 (He) placed the vial in a basin of water on a sand-bath. 1871 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* I. 296 France would not be what she is if men had not believed for a thousand years in the holy vial of Rheims.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1647 Hexham I, A viall-maker, *een.. Fioles-maker.* 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Friends* I. 321 There were two little vial-bottles and a box of corn-plaister in the drawer of the basin-stand. 1880 Mrs. Cameron *Three Flower-Pots* 25 He saw upon the table a large vial bottle with something very black in it.

b. In allegorical or purely figurative use.

Freq in allusion to Rev. xv. 7, etc. (see first quots.).

1382 Wyclif *Rev* xv. 7 Seuen golden violes, ful of the wraththe of God. *Ibid.* xvi. 1 Go ye, and schede ye out the seuen violes of Goddis wrath in to erthe. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Ballad Commend. Our Lady* 113 O glorious viole, O vitre inviolate! 1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* II. vi, And with a vial fild with baneful wrath,..Which in her blacke hand readily she bath, And drops the poison vpon euery wight. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 122 You Gods looke downe, And from your sacred Viols poure your graces Vpon my daughters head. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v., Vials of wrath, mentioned in the Apocalipse, signifie Gods readiness to be fully revenged on sinners. *c* 1680 Beveridge *Serm.* (1729) II. 5 To behold the alarighty Creator pouring out the utmost viols of his wrath..upon them. 1728 Prior *Solomon* III. 386 The frighted Angels..o'er the Earth from wrathful Viols pour'd Tempests and Storm. 1780 Burke *Œcon. Reform* Wks. 1842 I. 239 You have turn of ancient pomp in a vial of modern luxury. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* IV. ii. 134 Now the destroying angel hovers o'er Venice, and pauses ere he pours the vial. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xvii, Everywhere sensuality, division, hatred, treachery, cruelty, uncertainty, terror; the vials of God's wrath poured out. 1880 W. G. Blaikie *Livingstone* vii. 135 For one so patient and good, he had a very large vial of indignation, and on occasion poured it out right heartily over all injustice.

Hence **Vi·al** *v. trans.*, to put into a vial; also *fig.* **Vi·alled** *a.*, kept or stored in a vial. **Vi·alful**, as much as can be contained in a vial.

1634 Milton *Comus* 847 Helping all vrchin blasts, and ill luck signes..Which she with precious viold liquors heals. 1809 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* III. 46 The distilled perfume of the bookmaker's style..is here not sprinkled over every page, and vialled in every sentence. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* xii. 404, I had, in my little clay pitcher, vialfuls, as it were, of Wordsworth's reverence [etc.].

Vi·al, *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *via* way, or ad. L. *vialis*] Serving for a way or road.

1813 J. Forsyth *Rem. Excurs. Italy* 353 The arch of Augustus, being a vial one, was necessarily much wider than the triumphal arches, which succeeded.

Vial(l, Vialle, obs. forms of Viol *sb.*

Viallin, obs. form of Violin.

Via·meter. *rare.* [f. L. *via* way + -meter.] A device for recording the number of miles traversed by a wheeled vehicle; a hodometer or cyclometer.

1832–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 311/1 *marg.*, Counting Machines for road carriages, or viameter. 1858 Mrs. Sinnett tr. *B. Möllhausen's Diary* I. vi. 75 The viameter gave an accurate measurement of the number of miles passed, by counting the revolutions of the waggon wheel. 1880 Worcester. [Hence in later Dicts.]

† **Vianoe.** *Obs.*—1 [Alteration of *viandes* (see next) after forms in *-ance*: cf. Gardeviance.] Food, sustenance.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4121 He..at þam enquires, Quat was þaire viaunce in þa vales. 'Ser, venyson,' þai said.

Viand [1] (vəi·ănd). Forms: 4–5 **vyaunde,** 5 viaunde; 4, 6 **vyand(e,** 5–8 **viande,** 6– viand (7 viond). [a. AF. *viaunde, viande.* OF. *viande* (= Sp. and Pg. *vianda,* It. *vivanda*):—pop.L. **vivanda,* for *vivenda,* neut. pl. gerundive of L. *vivĕre* to live.]

1. *pl.* Articles of food; provisions, victuals.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxiii. 253 Flesche and dyverse vyaundes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII,* 80 b, Then spices, fruites, jellies, and banket viandes wer brought. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 48 b/2 His viandes, or meate and drincke, must only be Diureticke. 1615 H. Crooke *Body of Man* 629 Whilst wee chew our meate the Tongue rowleth it selfe on euerie side of the mouth and applyeth it selfe to the Viands to take a tay or Taste of them. 1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 92 A good and strong stomack will convert course viands into good nourishment. 1692 Ray *Cvanition* I. (1692) 116 Neither of which Viands (honey and bee-bread) is any where to be found amass'd by Nature. 1726 Somerville *Chace* I. 154 Soon as the growling Pack, with Joy, Have lapp'd their smoking Viands. 1829 *Mod. Jrnl.* XIV. 355 The means of inducing the invalid or convalescent to derive every benefit that arises from delicacy and variety of viands. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IV. v. (1864) II. 290 He dashed the wine on the earth and scattered about the other viands. 1886 C. Bigg *Chr. Platonists of Alexandria* iii. 104 Viands of every kind..were provided by the liberality of the wealthier brethren.

fig. 1826 Lamb *Elia* II. *Sanity of True Genius,* Lane's novels,..those scanty intellectual viands of the whole female reading public.

transf. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit., Farming* Wks. (Bohn) III. 61 He will pamper his peaches and grapes on the viands they like best.

† **b.** Applied to a viaticum. *Obs.*—1

Compare sense 2 b, quot. 1555.

1607 Hieron *Bapt. Enoch* (1613) 7 To passe ouer the Sacrament of the supper, to some old people..who must take it (as was said in the daies of superstition) for their viands, being neerer (in opinion and possibility) to their last passage.

2. *sing.* **a.** *collect.* Food, sustenance.

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xvi. 563 Othir viaunde hadde he non verament, But everiday swich as God him sente. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 17 His dayly dyet was not muche in sotyle and delicate vyaunde. *c* 1515 *Interl. Four Elem.* 465, I..oft refreashe nature agayne With delycate vyand. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV,* 7 b, The same treasure [he] spent in folie, not paiyng pore men for their vitail and viande. *Ibid., Edw. IV,* 233 Euery table was abundantly furnished with all sortes of delicate viand. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. i. 103 The Belly..I' th' midd'st a th' body, idle and vnactiue, Still cubbording the Viand. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 95 All things necessary both for viande and apparell. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* IV. 17 Before us glow'd Fruit, blossom, viand, amber wine, and gold. 1868 Calverley *Verses & Transl.* (ed. 2) 46 Say I grow hourly thinner,..Tho' I do try and absorb some viand Each day.

b. With *a,* etc. An article or kind of food. (Cf. 1.)

1527 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 128 Two small barrylls of a viande vayd among the lordes here. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 287 That euery christian manne, when he stode in any daungier of death,..should receiue it [the Sacrament] as a waifaring viande. 1658 R. White tr. *Digby's Powd. Symp.* 36 By this thin viand [the air], they came in lesse than a year to a foot long. 1704 W. King *Mully of Mountown* 20 Thy White-wine, Sugar, Milk, together club, To make that gentle viand Syllabub. 1829 Lytton *Disowned* 7 Not a viand they had fed on but had its appropriate legend. 1849 W. Irving *Astoria* 320 Having made a 'famous repast', where this viand happened to be unusually plenty. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, After some discussion a decision was pronounced in favour of veal-cutlet...R. W. himself went out to purchase the viand.

† **c.** *Viand rial,* as the name of a dish, *spec.* one composed of paste, eggs, sugar, wine, etc., and ornamented with gold and silver foil.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xviii. 193 Of theise Snayles..men maken Vyaunde Rialle, for the Kyng and for other grete Lordes. 14.. *Ane. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 455 Viande Riall for xl. Mess. [Recipe follows.] *c* 1390 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 376 Veneson in broth, viaunde Ryalle, veneson rosted.

† **Viand** [2]. *Obs.*—1 [ad. Du. *vijand*: see Fiend.] An enemy.

1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* viii. 87 Arme, arme, the viand comes!

† **Vi·ander** [1]. *Obs.* Forms: α. 4 vyaundour, viandoure, 5 *Sc.* vyanddour, wyandoure. β. 5 vyander (?), 6 vyandre, 6–7 viander. [a. AF. *via(u)ndour, viandere,* OF. *viandiere, viandier,* f. *viande* Viand [1].]

1. One who provides viands or good cheer for his household or guests; a (liberal) host or entertainer. Usually with adjs., esp. *good.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4076 Knyght was he tol god in stour, & lyberal man, & vyaundour [*v.r.* & metegift man viandoure]. 14.. *Forme of Cury* in Warner *Antiq. Culin.* (1791) 1 Kyng Richard the Secunde kyng of Inglond,..the which was accounted the best and ryallest vyand[er] of alle cristen kynges. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IX. x. 1130 This Kyng wes wys and debonare; Gud vyanddour, and fed hym fare. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 152 b, Placis to kepe all maner of foulle be requyred in a good viandars house [L. *in domo dapsili*]. 1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* II (1540) 102 One called Cimo in Athenes was also a lyberall vyandre to his frendes. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* iv. 28/1 in *Holinshed,* Wherein she fareth lyke one, that, to purchase ye name of a sumptuous francklene or a good viander, woulde budde diuers guestes to a costly and daintie dinner [etc.].

2. One who provides himself with good cheer; one who is fond of good living.

1539 Cranmer *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 396 How..prebendaries have..spent..their substance in superfluous belly cheer,..Commonly a prebendary is neither a learner, nor teacher, but a good viander. 1780 Proce *Pref. to Forme of Cury* p. v, It is certain that Hardicnut stands on record as an egregious glutton, but he is not particularly famous for being a curious Viander.

3. A supplier or seller of provisions.

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* v. ii. 151 These vianders, and marchants, doth the Lord Marshall assure and guard. 1620 F. Markham *Bk. War* III. iv. 94 The Armie shall euer haue great resort of Victuallers, Viianders, Sutlers and all occupations to relieue euery want.

4. (See quot.)

1776 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), *Newport, Cornw[all]*..has sent members to parliament ever since the 6th of Edward VI, who are returned by two officers, called viianders.

† **Vi·ander** [2]. *Obs.* Also 6 viandre, 7 -dour. [ad. OF. *viandier,* f. as prec.] Viands, victuals, food.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI,* 142 b, The Englishmen..prohibited the Gascoynes to minister to his armie, viandre and sustenaunce. *Ibid.* 148 b, The sumptuous feast, the delicate viander. 1587 Mirror *Gr. Forest* 205 She..goeth another way to the Viander and vittailes, and there eateth her fyll. 1628 J. Robinson *Ess.* xxxi. (1851) I. 134 Though it seem unreasonable that the lean way men have to go, they should be careful for the more viandour and provision for their journey.

† **Vi·andry.** *Obs.* In 6 viandrye, -rie, viaundrie. [f. Viand [1] + -ry.] = prec.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 55 They had bounteous stewardes and proctours for all their necessarie store of foode and viandrie. 1543 Grafton *Contn. Hardyng* 374 When they had as well sufficiente viandrye as all other thynges ready, they tooke theyr iourney to Welles. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* ix. 96 The Apostles had provision of viaundrie.

† **Vi·ary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *viāri-us,* f. *via* way.] Relating to, occurring on, a road or way.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xcvi. 282 So in Beasts, in Birds, in Dreames, and all viary Omens, they are onely the guessiue interpretations of dim-ey'd Man: full of doubt, full of deceit. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*

Viate·cture. *rare*—0. [Irreg. f. L. *via* way, after *architecture*] (See quot.)

1842 R. Park *Pantology* (1847) 447 We propose the term Viatecture, as nearly synonymous with Civil Engineering, to include the construction of roads and bridges, railroads, and canals, and water works; and the improvement of rivers and harbors. (Hence in Worcester (1846), etc.)

† **Via·tic,** *sb. Obs.* In 7 viaticke. = Viaticum.

1642 *Impeachm. Father Phillips* x. A iij b, After a Viaticke, hee was dispatched againe for England, with some few small Gifts.

† **Via·tic,** *a. Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *viātic-us* (rare), f. *via* way.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Viatick,* pertaining to a journey, or travelling by the way. [Hence in Phillips, Bailey, and later Dicts.]

Viatical (vəi,æ·tikăl), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. L. *viātic-us* or *-um*: see prec. and Viaticum.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to a way or road; relating to a journey. **b.** *sb. pl.* Articles for use on a journey.

1855 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1876 II. 430 His back would have been bent..under the weight of armour and viaticals which Titus [Livius] carried with him easily and far. 1863 J. G. Baker *N. Yorks. Stud. Bot.*, etc. 188 Such stations as are denominated by the terms paludal, viatical, agrestal, sylvestral, and septal exist no longer.

Via·ticated, *a. rare*—0. [f. L. *viāticāt-us* (Plautus), f. *viātic-um*: see next.] (See quot.)

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Viaticated,* furnished with Things necessary for a Journey.

‖ **Viaticum** (vəi,æ·tikŏm). Pl. **viatica.** [L. *viāticum* travelling-money, provision for a journey, neut. sing. of *viāticus* (rare), f. *via* way. Hence Sp., Pg., It. *viatico,* F. *viatique.*]

1. *Eccl.* The Eucharist, as administered to or received by one who is dying or in danger of death.

1560 in Cooper *Annw. Prov. Masse* (Parker Soc.) 11 Divers Christians .would..be always sure to have their *viaticum,* as it is termed in the old canons, that is to say, their voyage-provision. 1565 T. Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 126 Whiche the auncient fathers called *Viaticum,* the viage provision of Christen men departing oute of this world. *c* 1620 *Women Saints* 78 After that she had receiued her holie *Viaticum* or voiage foode..she departed this life. 1667 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 63 Wee durst not giue him the holy viaticum, he being so farre spent. 1685 Evelyn *Mrs. Godolphin* 151 As if presageing what was at hand, she..furnish'd herselfe with the heavenly Viaticum. 1744 in J. O. Payne *Old Eng. Cath. Missions* (1889) 98, I administered the viaticum to Will. Slie at E. Witton, he dyed Sep. 3. 1774 *Ann. Reg.* 151 Many people were dangerously wounded, 18 of whom had the viaticum administered. 1839 [Wiseman] *Lives St. Alph. Liguori,* etc. 225 Her mother fell so dangerously ill, that the Viaticum was brought to her. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxvi, No absolution, no viaticum, nor anything! I die like a dog! 1894 J. T. Fowler *Adamnan* Introd. p. liv, Having received the holy viaticum at the hands of St. Kevin, he passed away in peace.

attrib. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 101 They make their *Viaticum* Bread once a year; that is to say, upon Holy Thursday.

2. A supply of money or other necessaries for a journey; a sum given or taken to cover travelling expenses.

1582–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 100 This was very acceptabill to the Duke, and thairfoir he gaue him a reasonabill viaticum for performance of this fact. 1594 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 243 He was sent by his superior into Scotland, and had fiftee[n] crownes for his viaticum. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* I. ii, A poor viaticum; very good gold, Sir; But holy men affect a better! 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 423 The Earle of Dunbar dealt many angells of gold pretended for a viaticum, but indeed for voteing. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. vi. 202 The smallnesse of their viaticum and accommodation for their voyage..were no many circumstances of poverty. 1721 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 587 There is L.120 of debt on the Church, and the viaticums are stopped. 1752 in *Scots Mag.* (1753) 512 This pannel caused to be sent him his baggage, and a *viaticum* of money. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* XI. 285 When a few days had elapsed, I rapidly collected together my viatica in bundles. 1899 B. Camm *Brave Days of Old* 83 This money had been given to him by the most munificent Pope Gregory XIII, for his viaticum or travelling expenses the year before.

b. Without article.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. 88 He allowed them only bare *viaticum* to bear their charges. 1883 *Law Rep.* 9 Probate Div. 41 *The Gustaf* is an authority in favour of the seamen's

chains for viaticum, and it is always the practice to give subsistence money.

c. Provisions taken for use on a journey. Also *transf.* (quot. 1862).

1662 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xviii, It will be a very good *Viaticum* for you, and in the strength of this Food you may travel many days. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Islet* 239 Afterwards sitting down on the grass, every one fell to what he had brought along with him for his *Viaticum*. 1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 36 This Indian Corn is their constant Viaticum in their travels and War. 1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 344, I..comforted myself with a frugal repast of biscuit and dried beef, which was all the food my viaticum afforded me by this time. 1861 RAWLINSON *Anc. Mon., Chaldæa* I. 135 In the Chaldæan sepulchres a number of dishes are always ranged round the skeleton, containing the *viaticum* of the deceased person. 1880 W. G. BLAIKIE *Livingstone* v. 89 Purchasing a loaf and a piece of cheese as *viaticum*, he started for a college at Oberlin.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* (from senses 1 and 2).

a 1628 DAVIES *Wittes Pilgr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 46/1 And sith thy Pilgrimage is almost past Thou needst the lesse *Viaticum* for it. 1640 FLECKNOE *Trav.* xxxiii. (1667) 103 Tis to..travel without *viaticum* for any to..undertake a voyage without the Language of the Country, where he goes. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. § 12. 96 The grace of God is our viaticum and entertains us by the way. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. (1677) 186 He..hath a great freedom from fear of Death, and no small *viaticum* to attain Tranquillity of mind in his life. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* VI. § 6 The doctrine of a future state .. was their constant viaticum through life. 1775 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) I. 20 Bunbury's etchings and Sterne's journey are almost as good viaticums in France as the post book. 1853 C. D. YONGE tr. *Laertius* v. 189 Another of his sayings was, that education was the best viaticum for old age. 1891 FARRAR *Soc. & Present Day Quest.* 211 There is all Biography..to nourish you with the viaticum of good examples.

Viator (vaiˌē·tər). Also 6 **vyatour.** [a. L. *viātor*, f. *via* way. Cf. obs. F. *viateur*, It. *viatore*, Sp. *viador*.] A traveller, a wayfarer.

The ancient Roman sense of 'court-officer, apparitor' is given in various Dicts. from Chambers (1728) onwards.

1504 C'TESS RICHMOND tr. *De Imitatione* IV. i. (1893) 262 He is our helth and redempcyon, and the consolacion of vyatours, and the eternall fruycyon of saynctes. 1655 CAPEL *Tentations* 12 Because the sight of God is not a duty of ours whilest we are viators here. 1660 T. WATSON in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. iii. 8 The saints are not only blessed when they are comprehensors, but while they are viators. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 128 We find the Inscriptions address'd to the Viator, or Passenger. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* liv. 157 Concealed by the fine trees,..so ..that the passing viator remains unappalled by them.

Viato·rial, *a. rare.* [f. L. *viātōri-us*, f. *viātor*: see prec. and -ORIAL.] Of or pertaining to travelling.

[1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 54 We continued our viatorial progression through the royal perambulations.] 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 5 As to France and Flanders, if ever a subject were exhausted of viatorial novelty, this is the case with regard to these countries.

Hence **Viato·rially** *adv.*

1880 *Daily Tel.* 22 Nov., The Americans, viatorially considered, are the most patient and long-suffering people in the whole world.

† **Viato·rian,** *a. Obs.*—° [Cf. prec.] (See quot.) Also † **Viato·rious** *a. Obs.*—°

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Viatorian*, belonging to the way, travelling or journeying, or serving to way-faring-men. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Viatorious*, belonging to the Way.

† **Vi·atory,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *viātōri-us*.] Of the nature of wayfaring.

1629 DONNE *Serm.* Wks. 1839 V. 251 In a word, this is our viatory, our preparatory, our initiatory, and inchoative blessedness. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 86 A Militant condition and a viatory state.

‖ **Vibex** (vəi·beks). *Path.* Pl. **vibices** (vəi-, vibəi·sīz). [L. *vibex*, *vībix* mark of a blow or stripe, a weal.] A long and narrow mark or patch in the skin caused by the subcutaneous extravasation of blood, occurring esp. in some fevers. Usually in pl.

[1693 in *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2). 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vibex*,..a black and blew Spot occasioned by a Flux of Blood.] 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 68/2 The *vibices*, or large livid or dark greenish marks, seldom appear till very near the fatal period. 1793 BEDDOES *Consumpt.* 115 Dark coloured spots, vibices, or any other scorbutic symptoms. 1820–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 164 Petechial spots, vibices, and hemorrhages from different parts. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* 808 In malignant cases [of diphtheria]..petechiæ and vibices appear..beneath the skin.

† **Vi·brable,** *a. Obs.*—° [ad. L. *vibrābilis*, f. *vibrāre* to brandish, shake.] 'That may be shaken or brandished' (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

Vibra·cular, *a. Zool.* [f. VIBRACUL-UM + -AR.] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, vibraculæ; furnished with vibraculæ.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* 1896 HARMER *Polyzoa* xvii. (Camb. Nat. Hist. II.) 486 The large vibracular zoœcia occupy nearly the whole of the surface.

Vibra·culoid, *a. Zool.* [f. next + -OID.] Resembling (that of) a vibraculum or vibraculæ.

1896 HARMER *Polyzoa* xvii. (Camb. Nat. Hist. II.) 484 Avicularium with vibraculoid mandible. *Ibid.* 485 In *Microporella ciliata*..the avicularia are very variable, and in some cases take on a 'vibraculoid' character.

‖ **Vibraculum** (vəibra·kiŭlŏm). *Zool.* Pl. **-cula.** [mod. L., f. L. *vibrāre* to shake.] One of the long whip-like movable processes or ——— possessed by certain polyzoans; now a modified zooid.

1839 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* ——— at the tips, beyond the eyes; vibracula much shorter, also deflected. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 295 But.. there are some special organs of defence which were wanting in the Canda. One of these is called the vibraculum, or the whiplash. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 457 The dilated bases of the vibracula contain muscles by the contraction of which the flagelliform appendage is moved.

Vibrancy (vəi·brănsi). [f. next: see -CY.] The condition or quality of being vibrant.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1906 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Dec. 703/1 With a vibrancy of tone that seemed to bring her voice quite close to him.

Vibrant (vəi·brănt), *ppl. a.* [ad. L. *vibrant-*, *vibrans*, pres. pple. of *vibrāre* to VIBRATE. Cf. F. *vibrant*, Sp., Pg., and It. *vibrante*.]

† 1. a. Agitated with anger or emotion. *Obs.*—1

c 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 735 This is the case I haif to 30w to mene, Quhilk in ane part to 30w als dois pertene, As to my self, thocht I be mair vibrant

† b. Moving or acting with rapidity or energy; stirring. *Obs.*—1

1616 LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 995 Next came a stowt courragious vibrant knigat, larglie proportiond, and as large of might.

† 2. *Her.* Brandishing, flourishing. *Obs.*—1

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 97 b, P. beareth Gules and Saule,..a Lyon rampaunt d'Or, vibrante a sworde d'Argente.

3. Moving or quivering rapidly; vibrating.

1616 LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VI. 873 Theare, theare, three squares of vibrant pikes out glides. *Ibid.* VIII. 222 Till pikes, and pikes, ..sidewise, and foreright, vibrant thrustes in strikes. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 239 While Phœbus down the vertic circle glides: He, o'er th' horizon, vibrant seems to swim, And, tangent, sweeps it with his nether limb. 1827 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 236 His voice of song ..Thro' their crystalline caves the vibrant billows bear. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* (1861) 136 She danced with a kind of passionate fierceness,..her round arms wreathing and unwinding, alive and vibrant to the tips of the slender fingers. 1876 DOWDEN *Poems* 22 A vibrant tongue Had in a moment pricked upon my brow The mystic mark.

transf. 1858 W. CORY *Ionica* 87 That vibrant hearts of ours repeat What they with him were wont to feel.

b. Vibrating or thrilling *with* something.

1867 BAILEY *Universal Hymn* 8 Ye orbs, .. Even the nebulous star,..with fearful joy Vibrant, conclude God is. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Oct. 828/2 The greatest of commercial communities,..so stirring and vibrant with commerce and speculation. 1898 ZANGWILL *Master* II. vii. 213 The wonderful city..vibrant with the swirl of perpetual currents of traffic.

4. Of sound: Characterized by, exhibiting, vibration; resonant.

1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 204 While yet these words were vibrant on my tongue. 1874 HOWELLS *Foregone Concl.* viii, The vibrant accents of Chiozza. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 117 The speaker paused a moment, his low vibrant tones faltering into silence.

Vi·brate, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. L. *vibrāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vibrāre*: see next.]

† a. *pa. pple.* Vibrated (cf. VIBRATE *v.* 7 b.).

c 1420 LYDG. *Ballad Commend. Our Lady* 125 O fyry Tytan, persing with thy bemes, Whos vertuous bryghtnesse was in this brest vibrat.

b. *ppl. a.* Vibrating *with* something. *rare*—1.

1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 9 The sightless belfry clock..had ..rung, vibrate with triumph.

Vibrate (vəi·brē·t), *v.* [f. L. *vibrāt-*, ppl. stem of *vibrāre* to move rapidly to and fro, to brandish, shake, etc. So F. *vibrer*, Sp. and Pg. *vibrar*, It. *vibrare*.]

I. † 1. *intr.* Of persons: To move to and fro in a fight or struggle. *Obs.*—1

1616 LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* IX. 277 Pusshinge, repushinge, vibratinge agen, as valiant mortal and immortal men.

2. Of a pendulum, etc.: To swing to and fro; to oscillate.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 440 A Pendulum..three foot, three inches..between the middle of the Bullet and the upper end of the Thread, where it is fastned..when it vibrates. 1698 KEILL *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 265 At Cayenne in America,..it is observ'd, that a Pendulum Vibrating in a second is shorter [etc.]. *Ibid.* 279 The Gravity where the swiftest Pendulum Vibrates. 1704 S. CLARKE *Attributes* iii. (1738) 26 Pendulums, which (being of equal Lengths and unequal Gravities) vibrate in equal Times. 1827 N. ARNOTT *Physics* I. 96 Long pendulums vibrate more slowly than short ones. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ii. (1842) 33 To ascertain that they [i.e. balances] really are in adjustment; and that, after vibrating freely, they take a horizontal position. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 718/1 The double complex pendulum, when it vibrates in one plane.

3. a. Of sounds: To strike *on*, sound *in*, the ear, etc., with an effect like that of a vibrating chord; to resound; to continue to be heard. Chiefly *poet.*

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 357 The whisper, that to greatness still too near, Perhaps, yet vibrates on his Sov'reign's ear. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 91 Her song still vibrates in my ravish'd ear. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, The touching accents of her voice still vibrating on his heart. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. xvi, He hears The clang of tumult vibrate on his ears. 1821 SHELLEY *'Musjic, when* [etc.]' 2 Music, when soft voices die, Vibrates in the memory. 1910 MACINTOSH *Poets Ayrshire* 46 The sound of the anvil had ceased to vibrate in the streets.

b. To circulate *about*, move or pass *through*, pierce or penetrate *to*, *by* or *as* by vibration.

1758 W. TOLDERVY *Hist. a Orphans* IV. 167 This strange news had vibrated about the town. 1789 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 200 Those powers that .. Catch every nerve, and vibrate through the frame. 1858 *Fraserianana* 309 Surely the finest sensibilities must vibrate through his frame, since they breathe so sweetly through his song! 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 211 The consequences of the ambition of the French Emperor thus vibrated to the heart of Asia. 1889 GEO. EARLY *Remedia* 21, The voice..had vibrated through her more than once before. 1875 H. TAYLOR *Faust* I. Notes 230 The puppet-play echoed and vibrated in many tones through my mind.

4. To move or swing backwards and forwards, or upwards and downwards, with some degree of rapidity; to quiver, shake, or tremble.

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. I. 267 The whole capacity of the eye, vibrating in all its parts, must approach near to the nature of what causes pain. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 345 The heart continued the whole time to vibrate..about thirty times in a minute. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* iii. (1818) 92 A variety of palm trees vibrating in the breeze. 1849 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1854) 250 The timbers.. vibrated so as to communicate to you the peculiar tremor of a cotton-factory. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 358 The burning heat..making the whole desolate, hideous scene vibrate before your eyes as you can see things vibrating through the hot air over a line of gas jets.

b. *spec.* in *Physics* (see VIBRATION 3).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 163 If we strike a bell, or a stretched string, for instance,..a single blow produces a sound..which is multiplied as often as it happens to undulate, or vibrate. 1812–6 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 287 A musical string may vibrate, but if it is touched by a bit of cloth, or any soft body, no sound is heard. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* viii. 180 If this string is taken by the middle and pulled aside, or if it is suddenly struck, it will vibrate between its two fixed points. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xiv. 384 When a hammer strikes a bell, the latter vibrates. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* i. 25 You know that if you strike a note of music, all the octave notes will vibrate.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1813 SHELLEY *Q Mab* III. 186 When Nero..felt A new-created sense within his soul Thrill to the sight, and vibrate to the sound. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xl, Nerve and bone of that poor man's body vibrated to those words. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* I. 46 A hidden pang or gust of wrath has vibrated behind that placid countenance. 1898 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* XXIX. 306 The sight of him, the sound of his voice, stirred something within her that vibrated for hours.

5. *fig.* To move or oscillate *between* (or *betwixt*) two extreme conditions, opinions, etc.; to fluctuate or vary *from* one extreme *to* another. Also without const.: To vacillate in opinion.

1782 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (ed. 2) II. 207 A person who is less conversant in these things would feel his mind, as it were, vibrate between both [gains and losses]. 1798 *Survey Province of Moray* iii. 279 The number of scholars vibrates from 20 to 90. 1828 RANKEN *Hist. France* V. v. 403 The marc of silver..vibrated betwixt 5 livres and 20 or 30 livres. 1857 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. viii. § 33. 466 The third method is to vibrate between these two opposite statements. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 2. 589 The life of a man of fashion vibrated between frivolity and excess. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxii. 582 While his susceptible imagination was in this state of fusion, his rival..was vibrating furiously from one side to the other.

II. † 6. *trans.* To brandish or flourish (a sword). *Obs. rare.* (Cf. VIBRANT *ppl. a.* 2.)

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 188 They..shake and vibrate their Swords vpon their Shields. *Ibid.* 207 In this their Extasie..the boyes..vibrate a readie sword against the beholders.

7. To throw with vibratory motion; to launch or hurl (a thunderbolt, sentence, etc.). Now *Obs.* or *arch.*

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Answ.* ix. (1653) 39 Excommunication ..was never vibrated but by the hand of those that laboured in the Word and Doctrine. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* To Rdr. p. xxi, Such a Bishop as I have hitherto described.., that..vibrates that sacred thunder and lightning, the truely-dreadfull sentence of Excommunication. 1664 — *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 555 Though I must confess that this is very stoutly and smartly vibrated, as a dart from a strong and agil arm. 1840–1 DE QUINCEY *Style* III. in *Lett. Self-Educ.*, etc. (1863) 272 That orator [i.e. Pericles] of whom (amongst so many that vibrated thunderbolts) it was said peculiarly that he thundered and lightened. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* II. 44/2 Many vibrate sharp commiinations from the embrasures of portentously slit sleeves.

b. To emit, give forth, send out (light, sound, etc.) by, or as by, vibration or vibratory motion.

c 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 59 A Foil..whereby it [i.e. a diamond] may the better transmit and vibrate its native Lustre and Rays. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 218, I have seen the Dog-starr to vibrate so strong and bright a radiation of light. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 81/2 As to the frequency with which they [*sc.* chords] vibrate the deepest tones. 1830 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXIX. 418 O chear, Editha, and allow thy bosom To vibrate sympathy. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 578 Star to star vibrates light. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIV. 422 Any number of strings that are in unison will vibrate an answer to one of themselves when struck.

8. Of a pendulum, etc.: To measure (seconds) by vibration; also, to swing (so many times).

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 440 A Pendulum, vibrating Seconds, ..must be three foot, three inches, and one fifth of an inch long. *Ibid.* 441 A Pendulum, held in the hand, vibrating 58 single strokes in a Minute. 1709 W. DERHAM *Ibid.* XXV. 1785 The Movements..were an Eight day Clock vibrating seconds, and an Half-seconds Movement of mine. 1796 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 230 A pendulum..which.., will vibrate seconds in a true and regular manner. 1803 J. WOOD *Princ. Mech.* viii. 173 A pendulum which vibrates seconds in very small arcs. 1872 C. DAVIES *Mastr. Synt.* II. 22 The length of a pendulum which should vibrate at a given point on the earth's surface.

9. To give a vibratory motion to (something); to cause to move to and fro or up and down, esp. with a quick motion; to put in vibration.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Sept. 1657, a Virginian rattle-snakes..swiftly vibrating and shaking their tailes. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* VI. 107 With skill she vibrates her eternal tongue, Lor ever most divinely in the wrong. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 221 Their tails terminate with a hard horny spur, which they vibrate very quick when disturbed. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* VII. 145 Though I vibrated my pendulous lips with excessive rotundity. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 113 Bars, which, when to be vibrated by the action of beat, are made of brass. a 1887 C. C. ABBOTT *Naturalist's Rambles* 303 The last spotted adder..vibrated the tail in a very marked manner.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1818 KEATS *Ode to Apollo* V, Each vibrates the string That with its tyrant temper best accords. 1875 LOWELL. *Wordsworth* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 365 He saw man such as he can only be when he is vibrated by the orgasm of a national emotion. 1876 — *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 165 The 'Mulo-potmos' pleases us all the more that it vibrates in us a string of classical association.

c. *refl.* To bring *into* a certain state by or after vibration. *rare*—1.

a 1849 POE *Tales, Monos & Una* (ad fin.), That feeble thrill had vibrated itself into quiescence.

Hence **Vi·brated** *ppl. a.*; **Vi·brating** *vbl sb.*

1669 *Addr. Young Gentry Eng.* 58 The pale face, vibrated eies, inequal pulse.. shew this to be under an acute feaver. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 303 To find the Time of a Pendulum's vibrating in the Arch of a Cycloid. 1882 BAIN *Mill* III. 133 There was a clear walk, which was his principal place for 'vibrating', as he [Bentham] called his indoor exercise.

Vibratile (vəi·brătil, -əil), *a.* [ad. mod.L. **vibratilis*: see VIBRATE *v.* + -ILE. Cf. F. *vibratile*.]

1. Of the nature of vibration; marked or characterized by vibration; vibratory.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 301 Motion:..*Vibratile*,..when there is a constant oscillation of any part. 1857 *Edin. Rev.* July 36 The effect is produced..by the propagation of alternating atomic polarisations in a vibratile way. 1862 H. W. FULLER *Dis. Lungs* 36 A body not possessed of much molecular elasticity or vibratile power. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 245 The vibratile, lashing action of the spermatozoon.

2. Of cilia, etc.: Endowed with the power of vibration; having a rapid and constant oscillatory movement.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 108/2 *Polygastrica*,..aquatic animals,..with a circular exsertile dental apparatus around the mouth, and with vibratile cilia for respiration and progressive motion. 1874 LUBBOCK *Orig. & Met. Ins.* iii. 55 This larva swims by means of minute vibratile hairs or cilias. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 861 The longer process is vibratile and breaks away; the other becomes vibratile as soon as it has absorbed the remaining protoplasm.

b. *transf.* Of persons, or parts of the body.

1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* viii. (1883) 158 She [a woman] is vibratile and resonant all over. 1898 H. G. WELLS *Personal Matters* 135 One has to resort to the extended arm and fingers vibratile.

Vibrati·lity. *rare*—1. [Cf. prec.] The quality of being vibratile; vibratory power.

1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 183 The different degrees of the spissitude and excitation [*sic*] of the fluids, and vibratility of the solida. 1828–32 WEBSTER (citing Rush), *Vibratility*, disposition to preternatural vibration or motion.

Vi·brating, *ppl. a.* [f. VIBRATE *v.*]

1. Of, or characterized by, vibration; causing vibration; vibratory.

1685 BOYLE *Effects Motion* ix. 108 That a vibrating motion is thereby produced, may be argued by the dancing of the water. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Vibrating-Motion*, is a very quick and short Motion of the solid Parts of Bodies, caused by the Pulse or Stroke of some Body upon them. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 105 This weight supported him in a vibrating state. 1768 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 252 The vibrating force of arteries. 1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 313 The angular velocities of the vibrating system.

2. That vibrates; having a vibratory motion; oscillating.

17.. RAMSAY *Ep. to Friend at Florence* 33 The vib'rating harmonious strings, And breathing tubes, which the soft eunuch sings. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 230 The Center of Oscillation is the Point in the Axis of a vibrating Body [etc.]. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xviii. 154 Suppose a vibrating string to give the lowest C of the pianoforte. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. i. 225 The little songster's organ of voice..is a vibrating instrument, resembling the reed of a clarionet. 1879 STAINER *Music of Bible* 149 A sistrum, either with three rings on each bar, or with three vibrating bars.

b. Of machines or their parts, implements, etc.

1831–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 183/1 Vibrating engine...It may be worked either by high or low pressure steam, or by means of a vacuum. 1837 HUBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 711 The vibrating lever, called the tumbling-bob. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* s.v., [In the] Vibrating Steam Engine,.. the steam cylinder vibrates upon two hollow gudgeons. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2709/2 Vibrating-propeller...Vibrating-roller. 1878 PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* (1879) 36 In the latest form of transmitter .. the vibrating diaphragm is done away with altogether.

c. Of insects, etc.: Having vibratile antennæ or cilia. *rare.*

1870 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* III. iii. 163 Some ichneumons, or *vibrating flies*, are much more rapacious and bold.

3. Of sound: Vibrant.

1849 JAMES *Woodman* ix, The swinging of the great bell, as it continued to pour forth its loud vibrating call for assistance. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 754 In different cases it [i.e. a pericardial friction-fremitus] is described as harsh and grating, rasping, vibrating, or creaking.

Hence **Vibra·tingly** *adv.*

1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIV. 280 A note to which all the tender sympathies of Miss Fanny vibratingly responded.

Vibration (vəibrē·ʃən). [ad. L. *vibrātiōn-*, *vibrātio*, n. of action f. *vibrāre* to VIBRATE. So F. *vibration*, It. *vibrazione*, Sp. *vibracion*, Pg. *vibração*.]

† 1. (See quots. and cf. VIBRATE *v.* 6.) *Obs.*—0

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vibration*, a brandishing, shaking, or wagging, as men do drawn swords, when they threaten others.

2. The action on the part of a pendulum or similarly suspended body of moving or swinging to and fro; oscillation.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 191 The most probable way for the effecting of this, is that which was first suggested by Doctor Christopher Wren, namely, by Vibration of a Pendulum. 1700 MOXON *Math. Dict.*, *Vibration*, the Motion of a Pendulum in a Clock, which moves in the long sort a Secant in Time backward and forward. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vibration*, is the Swing or Motion of a Pendulum; or of a Weight hung by a String on a Pin. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 219/2 Whence the lengths of pendulums are as the forces and the squares of the times of vibration. 1822 WEBSTER *Imison's Sci. & Art* I. 80 The vibration of bodies when suspended must have been long observed. 1830 KATER & LARDNER *Mech.* x. 199 When the alternation [of motion] is constant and regular, it is called oscillation or vibration, as in pendulums and balance-wheels. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 14/2 The time of vibration depends entirely on the length of the pendulum.

b. A single instance of this.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 442 The Pendulum was this Day adjusted,..there having been but 58 vibrations in a Minute, the other Day. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 191 Let this Ball be suspended by this String, being extended to such a length, that the space of every Vibration may be equal to a second Minute of time. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., The Proportions of the Vibrations of Pendulums. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 118/1 The point or axis of suspension of a pendulum is that point about which it performs its vibrations. 1803 J. IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 124 Each swing that it [i.e. a pendulum] makes, is called a vibration, or oscillation. 1812–6 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 129 The time of one vibration of the pendulum in seconds. *Ibid.*, The times of the vibrations of pendulums are as the square roots of their lengths. 1895 R. H. PINKERTON *Theoretical Mechanics* (ed. 5) 103 The acceleration of gravity is proportional to the square of the number of vibrations of the same pendulum in a given time.

3. *Physics.* The rapid alternating or reciprocating motion to and fro, or up and down, produced in the particles of an elastic body by the disturbance of equilibrium; the motion in the particles of a sonorous body by which sound is produced.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 527 When the string of a lute or viol is stricken, the vibration, that is, the reciprocal motion of that string in the same strait line, causeth like vibration in another string which hath like tension. a 1721 PRIOR *Dial. betw. Locke & Montaigne* Wks. 1907 II. 243 The vibration of the Air and its Undulation. 1794 SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 168 An æther,..rendered luminous, by a vibration occasioned by the planetary motion. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* iii, The office of the drum of the ear is to spread out an extended surface, capable of receiving the impressions of sound, and of being put by them into a state of vibration. 1865 TYNDALL in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Feb. 247 The plane of vibration of the polarized light turns suddenly through an angle of 90°. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 100 Its amplitude of vibration or distance between its extreme positions.

attrib. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 751/1 Vibration Figures, are certain figures, formed by sand or very dry saw-dust, on a vibrating surface, which is connected with the sensation of sound in our organs of hearing.

b. A single movement of this kind.

1666 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Aug., A certain number of vibrations proper to make any tone. 1731 S. HALES *Stat. Ess.* I. 143 Which perspiration is effected by the brisk rarifying vibrations of warmth. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. xx, But still their trembling ears retain'd The deep vibrations of his witching song. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 406 The height of the longitudinal vibrations is..inversely as the length of the sonorous body. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xviii. 153 When the particles of elastic bodies are suddenly disturbed by an impulse, they return to their natural position by a series of isochronous vibrations. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xi. 244 Each vibration asserts its individual rights; and all are at last shaken forth into the air by a second sound-board.

fig. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men*, *Shaks.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 358 Ben Jonson..had no suspicion of the elastic fame whose first vibrations he was attempting. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXXVIII, The words arose within him, and stirred innumerable vibrations of memory. 1866 — *F. Holt* (1868) 8 Vibrations that make human agonies are often a mere whisper in the roar of hurrying existence.

c. *spec.* A supposed movement of this kind in the nerves, regarded as the means by which external impressions are conveyed to the mind. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Madness*, Confused Vibrations of the Nerves, and a remarkable Energy of Imagination. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. i. 11 External Objects impressed upon the Senses occasion, first in the Nerves,..and then in the Brain, Vibrations of the small..medullary Particles. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xii. 95 Those more or less pleasing vibrations of the optic nerves, which serve to inform the mind. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. 190 The vibrations of the brain are [not] themselves the perceptions. 1801 BELSHAM *Philosophy of Mind* § 4. 38 The theory of vibrations suggested by Sir Isaac Newton, [and] adopted and amplified by Dr. Hartley,..assumes that the nerves are continuations of the medullary substance of the brain, that impressions made upon the organs of sense produce vibrations in the minute particles of the nerves. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 104 Hartley's vibrations and vibratiuncles. 1857 [see VIBRATIUNCLE].

4. In wider sense: Movement to and fro or up and down, esp. when quick and more or less continuous; a quivering, swaying, or tremulous motion of any kind.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Vibration*, a shaking, striking or quavering. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Theo. Physick* 83 An increas'd Motion of the Blood, arising from a Vibration of the Vessels. 1822 SHELLEY *Lines Bay of Lerici* 16 Feeling ever—oh! too much!—The soft vibration of her touch. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 251 Our brig had just mounted the floe, and as we stood on the ice watching her vibration, it seemed so certain that she must come over on her beam-ends. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* x, There was a vibration in the old lady's cap. 1902 D. B. HALL & LD. A. OSBORNE *Sunshine & Surf* II. 17 The vibration and smells of the modern steamer.

attrib. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 678 Massage, vibration-massage, electrolysis and the constant current are said to give excellent results in suitable cases.

b. An instance of this; a quiver or tremor.

1835 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint., Midnight* (1858) 54 What Emanations, Quick Vibrations, And bright Stirs are there! 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* III. 27 He will perceive the Quicksilver to descend from the Tube into the subjacent Vessell, till it comes to 29 Digits or thereabouts; there, after some Vibrations, it ordinarily rests. 1821 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne, Sister Rosa* xviii, In long vibrations shuddered the ground. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 298 The vibrations and noise [are] much less than in other boats on the same high-pressure principle. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* ix. 254 Accompanied by tremors or vibrations in the rocks.

5. The action or fact of vacillating or varying in respect of conduct or opinion; an instance of this; a changing or swinging round.

1785 JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1829) I. 300 The late proceedings seem to be producing a decisive vibration in our favor. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1904) II. 301 This was a fair exhibition of that vibration between pious resolutions and indolence. 1848 GALLENGA *Italy* (1851) 171 It is of little importance.. to talk about the perpetual vibrations of Charles Albert's weak mind at this period. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 170 There was the same restlessness and fickleness..., the same vibration between anarchy and abject submission. 1882 BANCROFT *Hist. Const. U.S.A.* II. 354 In Virginia there had been a great vibration of opinion.

b. Variation in extent, etc.

1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* vi. § 309 The breadth of the calms of Cancer is also variable...The extreme vibration of this zone is between the parallels of 17° and 38° north.

6. *Electr.* (See quot.)

1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, *Vibration*, in electricity, is known as a quantity of the fluid intermediate between a spark and a shock.

Vibra·tional, *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of or pertaining to vibration; vibratory.

1878 PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 249 The number of vibrational forms which may arise from the composition of simple forms are mathematically infinite. 1884 H. R. HAWEIS *My Musical Life* iii. 86 The very appearance of the wood would guide him to its probable vibrational powers. 1888 *Encycl. Brit* XXIV. 242 In order that the vibrational impulse may be given as nearly as possible at the centre of the mass of air in the resonant box.

b. *Vibrational number* (see quot. 1881).

1879 C. PARRY in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 670 As far as the ratios of the vibrational numbers of the limiting sounds are concerned. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 48 We are accustomed to take a second of time as the unit, and consequently mean by vibrational number the number of vibrations which the particles of a sounding body perform in one second of time.

Vibra·tionless, *a.* [f. as prec.] Free from vibration.

Freq., in recent use, of motor-cars.

1896 *Prospectus Lond. Electrical Cab Company*, We are of opinion that they [*sc.* motor cabs] are thoroughly adapted to meet these requirements, being practically noiseless and vibrationless.

Vibratiuncle (vəibrē·ʃiŋk'l). [ad. mod.L. *vibratiuncula*, dim. of L. *vibrātio* VIBRATION.] A minute or slight vibration. Cf. VIBRATION 3 c.

1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. i. § 2. 58 Diminutive Vibrations, which may also be called Vibratiuncles and Miniatures. *Ibid.* 102 Concerning the Derivation of ideal Vibratiuncles from sensory Vibrations. 1764 REID *Inquiry* ii. § 3 Our sensations arise from vibrations and our ideas from vibratiuncles or miniature vibrations. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* IV. 156 Do you take the soul to be an Eolus's harp, and all the fine things in it, to be vibratiuncles? 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 244 Their hearing or analogous sense is much nicer than ours, collecting the slightest vibratiuncle imparted by other insects, &c. to the air. 1857 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. viii. § 43. 478 Through what vibrations or vibratiuncles that conviction came to him we do not care to enquire.

So **Vibratiuncula·tion,** a vibratiuncle.

1885 COUES *Damon of Darwin* 58 (Cent.).

Vibrative (vəi·brătiv), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *vibrāt-*, ppl. stem of *vibrāre*: see VIBRATE *v.* and -ATIVE.] Vibrating, vibratory.

1667 SPRAT *Hist. R. Soc.* 254 The variation of the vibrative motion of Pendulums. 1675 J. S[MITH] *Horolog. Dial.* 28 The vibrative traine of the Pendulum or Ballance. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 295/2 The sun, by which the ethereal medium is always kept in a vibrative motion. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 804 It throbs in on us like a plaintive heart, Pressing, with slow pulsations, vibrative, Its gradual sweetness through the yielding air.

‖ **Vibrato** (vibrā·to), *adv.* and *sb.* *Mus.* [It., :—L. *vibrāt-us*, pa. ppls. of *vibrāre* to VIBRATE.]

A. *adv.* With much vibration of tone.

1861 J. S. Adams *5000 Mus. Terms* 106.

B. *sb.* (See first quot.)

1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 446/1 *Vibrato*, a tremulous quality of tone, as opposed to a pure equal production. 1901 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 3/2 Dr. Stanford characterised the vibrato as the most detestable of devices except when used in the proper places.

Vibrator (vəiˈbrēˌtai). [Agent-noun, on L. models, f. Vibrate *v.* + -or. Cf. It. *vibratore*.]

1. That which vibrates, or causes vibration.

a. One of the vibrating reeds of an organ, harmonium, etc., by which the sound is produced.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3391, Notes or vibrators, keys, pipes, stops, &c., for harmonium making or organ building. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 167/1 This vibrator is the origin of our reed instruments. 1883 C. G. W. Lock *Werkshop Receipts* Ser. iv. 293/1 There can be no escape of wind from the wind-chest, except through the vibrators and pallet-holes.

b. One or other of various appliances, instruments, or parts, which have or cause a vibratory motion or action. Also *attrib.*

A number of these are specified in recent American Dicts.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 706/1 A composition roller, called a *vibrator*. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc.* 152 *Vibrator rollers*, those rollers on a machine which have a vibrating motion, and convey the ink to the slab for distribution. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 6 Apr. 9/3 There are also beauty rollers and massage vibrators.

2. *Math.* (See quot.)

1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 345 The reciprocal of this time we shall call..the rapidity of the system, for convenience of comparison with the frequency of a vibrator or of a rotator, which is the name commonly given to the reciprocal of its period.

Vibratory (vəiˈbrătərl), *a.* [f. Vibrate *v.* + -ory 2. Cf. F. *vibratoire*, Sp. and Pg. *vibratorio*.]

1. Of the nature of vibration; characterized by or consisting of vibration.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Vibration*, Sensation is supposed to be perform'd by means of the vibratory Motion of the Nerves. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) I. 247 When the vibratory pulses are so slow as may be distinguished, sound vanisheth. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 326 An impulsive or vibratory motion was felt [in the earth]. 1801 Belsham *Philosophy of Mind* § 4. 41 Impressions made upon the principal organs of sensations, are vibratory; the vibratory agitations of light and of air. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 449 The vibratory and irregular action, which we denominate palpitation of the heart. 1878 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* (1879) 7 The tone or pitch,..which depends upon the rapidity of the vibratory movement.

2. Causing or producing vibration.

1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* iv. § 21 The smoothness of the oil, and the vibratory power of the salt, cause the sense we call sweetness. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 323 So many vibratory strokes, can do it no service. 1812 *Religionism* 44 Vibration lends its aid; for human throats Have vibratory powers, that swell our notes. 1899 R. W. Trine *In Tune w. Infinite* vi. (1900) 128 Don't be afraid to voice your desires. In this way you set into operation vibratory forces which go out and..make their impress felt somewhere.

3. Of or pertaining to, connected or associated with, vibration.

1832 Blakey *Free Will* 170 The vibratory, or automatic system of Dr. Hartley. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xvii. 140 All the particles of an undulating fluid which are at once in a vibratory state. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 85/2 Producing a peculiar vibratory sensation. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 43/1 This is explained by the vibratory theory of light.

4. Capable of vibrating; readily admitting of vibration.

1839 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* i. 17 The animals move with the narrow apex forwards, by the aid of their vibratory cilia. 1862 R. H. Patterson *Ess. Hist. & Art* 13 The vibratory rays of the spectrum. 1878 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* (1879) 23 It being necessary to keep the vibratory bells at each station in circuits, in order that calls may be heard.

b. Of the voice: Vibrant. Also const. *with*.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* (1899) 95 He.. commenced in a resonant vibratory voice. 1891 Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* vii, A voice vibratory with excitement.

‖ Vibrio (vəiˈbriō, viˈbriō). Pl. **vibriones** (-ōniːz) and **vibrios**. [mod.L., f. L. *vibrāre* Vibrate *v.*]

†1. A genus of minute nematode worms; an anguillule. *Obs.*

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. iv. 150 The species of *Vibrio* found in diseased wheat by M. Bauer is oviparous. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 113/2 The higher organized *Vibriones* have distinct generative organs, and are ovoviviparous.

2. A group or genus of bacterioid or schizomycetous organisms characterized by vibratory motion; a member of this genus; *spec.* in *Bacteriol.*, a form of bacterium having vibratile cilia and closely resembling spirilla.

1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 33 The bacteria and the vibrios now exhibit a vibratile or serpentine movement through the surrounding fluid. 1875 Payne *Jones & Siev. Pathol. Anat.* (ed. 2) 98 This has been shown to depend upon the presence of a peculiar vibrio which lives on the surfaces of wounds and the bandages. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 95/1 Processes of putrefaction having long been known to be invariably accompanied by the formation of vibrioese and other microscopic organisms endowed with voluntary motion.

Comb. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. v. 190 In examining the secretion I regularly found..certain vibrio-like bodies in it. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xvii. 281 If the cholera vibrio be the germ of cholera, then such healthy, vibrio-bearing individuals may well suffice to start an epidemic.

Vibrioid, *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -oid.] Of or belonging to, allied to, the group *Vibrio*.

Also in recent Dicts. as a *sb.*

1864 *Intell. Observ.* VI. 70 Parasitic vibrioid worms.

Vibrion. [ad. mod.L. *vibriōn-* Vibrio. Cf. F. *vibrion*.]

1. A vibratile filament or appendage.

1833 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlvii. (1857) 433 Clios..were flashing colored light in shady places from their ciliary vibrions.

2. *Bacteriol.* A vibrio or vibrioid bacterium.

1882 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XX. 801 Studies on butyric fermentation and the vibrion which is characteristic of it. 1889 *Nature* 7 Nov. 3 'Vibrions' or 'microbes' and the so-called bacteriology.

Vibrionic (vəi-, vibriˈɔnik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ic.] Of or pertaining to, caused by, vibrios.

1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 637 It was found that the proto-sulphate of iron completely prevented the development of either protoplasmic or vibrionic life. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 883 A firm believer in the vibrionic unity of cholera.

‖ Vibrissæ (vəibriˈsī), *sb. pl.* [L. (Festus), f. *vibrāre* to Vibrate. Cf. next.]

1. *Anat.* (See quots.)

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vibrissæ*, the Hairs in the Nose. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vibrissæ*, are the Hairs which grow in the Nostrils: They, with the Mucus, which the Glands separate, stop any Filth from ascending too high up into the Nostrils. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 730/1 Those hairs..which converge from the inner circumference towards the centre of the nostril...These hairs are of the kind named *vibrissæ*. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 885/1 The *vestibule* or entrance to the nasal chamber..is studded with numerous short hairs or *vibrissæ*.

2. *Zool.* Stiff or bristly hairs, esp. those growing about the mouth or other parts of the face in certain animals.

1839 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 202 These vibrissæ [of an aquatic larva]..possess no vibratory motion, nor do they appear to be furnished with cilia. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* I. i. 25 These hairs apparently represent the vibrissæ, which are used as organs of touch by many of the lower animals. 1877 Coues *Fur Anim.* ix. 263 The vibrissæ are sparse and short, the longest scarcely or not attaining the eye. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 490 They strongly suggest the function of vibrissæ.

b. *Ornith.* The coarse hairs or bristles growing about the rictus of certain birds, esp. of insectivorous species.

1874 J. G. Wood *Nat. Hist.* 287 The beak of this species [of goat-sucker] is not so powerful as in many of its relatives, but the vibrissæ are long and well-developed.

Vibrissant, *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. pres. pple. of L. *vibrissāre* (Festus), f. *vibrāre* Vibrate *v.*] Vibrant.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* 1 A greenish glistering circle, which is the Iris (as vibrissant and glorious as a cats eye).

Vibrissation. *rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *vibrissāre*: cf. prec. and -ation.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vibrissation*, a quavering or warbling in singing, a shaking a thing.

Vibro- (vəiˈbrō), irregular combining form of L. *vibrāre* to vibrate, used in some recent technical and scientific terms, as **vi·brograph, vibro·meter, vibromo·tor, vi·brophone, vi·broscope** (hence *vibrosco·pic* adj.), etc.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 110/1 Greater accuracy [in studying the relation between pitch and vibration] may be attained with the so-called *Vibrograph or *Phonautograph. 1904 *Nature* 25 Feb. Suppl. p. iii, Vibrograph, or instrument for recording photographically vibrations of a building or of the ground. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 24 May 4/2 An ingenious instrument termed a *vibrometer..accurately records the vibration, and by its means every boat is tested before it leaves the builder's hands. 1894 *Standard* 8 Feb., By Mr. Beaumont's method the cause of vibration..is converted into a *vibromotor. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2709/2 *Vibroscope, .. an instrument invented by Duhamel for counting the vibrations of a tuning-fork. 1881 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 101 Another method of ..ring pitch is the vibroscope, which as its name implies, is a method of making vibrations visible.

‖ Viburnum (vəibəːnəm). [L. *viburnum* the wayfaring-tree.] An extensive genus of shrubs, natives of Europe, Asia, and N. America, to which the guelder-rose and laurustine belong; a species or plant of this genus.

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Acacia*, The third Sort..will ..stand in a common Stove amongst Guava's, Viburnums, &c. *Ibid.* s.v., The common Viburnum, or Pliant Mealy Tree. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Viburnum, American, *Lantana*. 1782 J. Scott *Poet. Wks.* 267 And white viburnum o'er the border strays. 1842 Bryant *Fountain* ii, The viburnum there, Paler of foliage, to the sun holds up Her circlet of green berries. 1867 A. L. Adams *Wand. Nat. India* 204 A viburnum, differing in several respects from the English Gueldar rose, bloomed sweetly by the sides of streams. 1884 *Athenæum* 20 Dec. 808/1 The remaining third include rhododendrons, rues,..viburnums.

attrib. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Viburnum Galls*,.. a species of galls, or small protuberances, frequently found on the leaves of the *Viburnum*.

Hence **Vibu·rnian,** a moth of the genus *Leucania*; **Vibu·rnic** *a.*, derived from *Viburnum*; **Vibu·rnin,** a substance found in viburnum-bark.

1832 J. Rennie *Consp. Butterfl. & M.* 157 The Viburnian (*Leucania Viburnana*). 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 998 The bark and berries of the guelder-rose..contain valeric acid (viburnic acid). 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 309/2 The bark [of *Viburnum prunifolium*] is said to contain viburnin, valerianic, oxalic, citric, and malic acids, besides other ingredients.

Vicambulate, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *vicus* street + *ambulāre* to walk.] *intr.* To walk about in the streets.

1873 M. Collins *Squire Silchester* II. xiii. 159 Many strangers were there among them, as Musical Willis, who vicambulated greatly, soon perceived.

So **Vicambulist.** *rare*⁻¹.

1822 *Etonian* I. 5 'To see and to be seen,' is the professed object of these unwearied vicambulists.

Vicar (viˈkăi). Forms: α. 4 **vikere**, 4–6 **vykere, vyker** (5 **vykeyr**), **viker**; 4 **veker**, 6 **-ere**; 4, 6 **vicker** (6 **ficker, fycker, vyckyr**). β. 4–6 **vicare** (4 **wic-**, 6 **vycare**), 4– **vicar** (5–6 **vycar**, 6 *Sc.* **wicar**; 5 **vikar**, 6 **vykar**), 6 *Sc.*, 7 **vicoar** (6 *Sc.* **vycoar, wickar**); 5 **vicour**. γ. 4, 7 **vicaire**, 5 **vic-, vycayre**; 4, 7 **vicair**, 5 **vicayr**, 6 **vycayr**. [α. AF. *vikere, vicare, vicaire* (OF. and F. *vicaire*), ad. L. *vicārius* substitute (Vicary *sb.*[1]), f. *vic-is* change, occasion, place (of another), etc. Cf. It. and Sp. *vicario*, Pg. *vigario*.] One who takes the place of, or acts instead of, another; a substitute, representative, or proxy. Chiefly *Eccl.*

1. Applied to persons, etc., as earthly representatives of God or Christ; also to Christ or the Holy Ghost as representing the Father.

The second line of the first quot. is partly corrupt.

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 27106 Noght anes to preist his sinnes [to] scriue, Bot elles to godd bot was wicare In mans scappe he sittes bare. *c* 1366 Chaucer *A. B. C.* 140 God..hath þee maked vicair & maistresse Of al þe world. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 30 Sip prelatis ben vikeris of crist. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 122 The preostes that he hath specially ordeyned in his stede as his vikeres. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 73 These hierlinges intend..to be taken for Goddes vicars upon earthe. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. St. John* xviii. 102 b, If thou [*sc.* Peter] wylt succede me as my vicar, thou must fight with no other swerde than of Gods woorde. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. i. 1. i. 290 He calls a Magician Gods Minister and his Vicar. 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* II. 32 Christ sitting at the right hand of his Father, holds but a second degree with him in honour, and rule, and is but his Vicar. 1678 R. Barclay *Apol. Quakers* ii. § 2. 82 Knowledge might be.. brought to perfection by the holy Spirit, that Vicar of the Lord. 1829 I. Taylor *Enthus.* vii. 161 Though the vicar of Christ [*sc.* every true Christian minister] be not unconditionally responsible for the happy result of his labours. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. i. viii. Introd., By and by comes along the State, God's vicar. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtidg.) 496, I tell you again I am Commander of the Faithful, and vicar upon earth of the Lord of both worlds.

b. *spec.* Applied to the Pope († or the Patriarch of Jerusalem); also to St. Peter in a similar sense (cf. quot. 1548 above).

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3837 Þat falles hym of office to halde, For he es in erthe, Godes vicar calde. † 1370 *Rob. Cisyle* 50 Hys oun brodur in 30vthe Godes generalle vykere, Pope of Rome, as ye may here. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xix. 66 (Harl. MS.) 'How of the Pope?' 'For god is oon,' seid he, 'and þerfore he hath made a vyker'. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* ccv. 301 The duc godeffroy and the prynce buymont,.. whiche had gyuen to hym this honour as for to be the vycayre of Ihesu Criste in that londe,..assygned rentes to the newe Patriark. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 203 Heare deuoute chrystyan what sayntPeter the apostle and hys viccar of Chrystes chirche sayth. 1570 Jewel *Sedit. Bull* (1609) 17 Would the Vicar of Christ give this counsell? 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 132 God and the Pope..are not alwayes of one mind; and if Christ confirm not in heaven the sentence of his Vicar on earth, we [etc.]. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The Pope pretends to be Vicar of Jesus Christ on Earth. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 244 The victory gained by the Most Christian King, Lewis XII. when he made war upon the Vicar of Christ. 1847 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 312 The divine right of the catholic church, and the character of its head as Vicar of Christ. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* x. (1875) 160 Proclaiming that to the Pope, as God's vicar, all mankind are subject, and all rulers responsible.

c. *nonce-use.* (See quot.)

1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 198 For Antichrist wee know is but the Devils Vicar, and therefore please him with your Liturgie, and you please his maister.

2. In early use, a person acting as priest in a parish in place of the real parson or rector, or as the representative of a religious community to which the tithes had been appropriated; hence, in later and modern use, the incumbent of a parish of which the tithes are impropriated or appropriated, in contrast to a Rector.

α. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 87 Erles, knihtes, and baronnes, Prestes, vikers, and parsonnes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 76 Þei..don neiþer office of prelatis,..nei er þe office of parsones ne vekeris to here parischenes. *Ibid.* 424 Þe fend hab founden cautels to bringe in vikeris in persouns stede. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290/2 All maner of Personez, and Vykeyrs, and Hospitilers. *c* 1426 Pecock *Bk. of Faith* (1909) 224 A greet famed kunnyng maystir of divinite is cumt, and parsoun and viker. 1533 in *Archæologia* XXV. 523 To the vykers woman of Dokkynge. *Ibid.*, The vykere of Snettysham servante. 1536 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 49 A gret generalle processione of alle parsons, vekeres, curattes, with alle other prestes. 1588 J. Udall *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 28 How shall we doe for the parsons and vickers?

β. † 1388 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 493 þat no persone

pe vicare ne prelate is excused fro personele in per beneficys. 1402 *J. Upland* 879 Sith personnes and vicares alone,..with bishops above hem, were y-nough to ..do prestes office. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 15 She..openly seide unto yᵉ seide Vicar, that she wold never..have hym to her Husbond. 1482—VI 210 Upon the same apropriation, ther shuld be a vicour endowed sufficiently. 1521 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 90 Sir Thomas Markby vykar off the sayd church. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 24 The vicares to have iiijd. and the clerke ijd 1586– (see PARSON 1). 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. vi. 52 Ile to the Vicar, Bring you the Maid, you shall not lacke a Priest. 1609 DEKKER *Guls Horn-bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 206 Like some pedantical Vicar stammering out a most false and crackt latine oration. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 185 He was preferred..to the Bishoprick of Coventry and Litchfield..before he had been ..Vicar or Curate of any Parish Church in England. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Mar. 1682, Our Vicar preached on Proverbs. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. xi. 302 A vicar has generally an appropriator over him. 1796 H. HUNTER *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 482 Not a simple village Vicar ought to be without the actual necessaries of life. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 59 Where the vicar produces an endowment, then the situation of the parties is reversed. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Limlif.* 99 The present vicar.. speedily brought about a different aspect.

†c. *c* 1386 *Pierowman's Tale* 830 (Skeat), Pope, bishoppes, and cardinals, Chanons, persons, and vicaire, In goddes service. 1520 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* VII. 90/1 There was decreed yᵗ all persones & vycayres sholde be called prestes.

b. *fig.* or *transf.*

1563 *Homilies* II. *Perils Idolatry* III. Yy iij b, We nede not to complayne of the lacke of one double person, hauyng so manye dombe deuyllyshe vycars (I meane these ydolles and paynted puppettes) to teache in theyr steade. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 38, I doubt not..to get a hundreth of these stratagemes, especially if I trauell neere where any of the vickers of hell are. 1608 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* iv. ii. 1782 And you Maister Amoretto, that art the chiefe Carpenter of Sonets, a priuileged Vicar for the lawlesse marriage of Inke and Paper. 1660 TATHAM *Rump* v. i, Sure the vicar of fools was his ghostly father.

c. *Vicar of Bray*, one who readily changes his principles to suit the times or circumstances.

Bray is the village of that name near Maidenhead in Berkshire. According to Fuller (see ref. below) the 'vivacious vicar' held the benefice from the reign of Henry VIII to that of Elizabeth, and was twice a Papist and twice a Protestant. In the later song, to which the currency of the phrase is mainly due, the sovereigns under whom the vicar successively changes his religion and politics are those from Charles II to George I.

[a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. *Berks.* (1662) 82 But first we will dispatch that sole Proverb of this County, viz. The Vicar of Bray, will be Vicar of Bray still. *c* 1720 *Song, Vicar of Bray* (Chorus), This is the law, I will maintain, Until my dying day, Sir, That whatsoever King may reign, Still I'll be the Vicar of Bray, Sir. 1735 BROME in *Lett. by Eminent Persons* (1813) II. 100, I have had a long chase after the Vicar of Bray, on whom the proverb... I am informed it is Simon Alleyn or Allen, who was Vicar of Bray about 1540, and died 1588.]

1725 LD. HARLEY in *Dk. Portland's MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 216 His chief crime is having been once Episcopal, and playing the Vicar of Bray upon them, and keeping his living, when the rest of his Episcopal brethren were ejected. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v *Bray, A vicar of Bray*, one who frequently changes his principles, always siding with the strongest party. 1808 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 248 The regularly educated thieves..are *Vicars of Bray* to every man whom it is their interest to humour,—blaspheming with the blasphemer and praying with the saint.

transf. 1895 *Daily News* 12 June 5/4 A habit which the Iguana shares with many lizards..is the habit of changing its colour; most lizards are Vicars of Bray to this extent.

†d. *Temporal vicar* (see quot.). *Obs.*

1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 509 Temporal vicars..are much the same with our Curates as we now call them; and these are constituted for some particular Acts and Seasons.

3. = VICAR CHORAL.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 465 For clerkes filȝ þe trauayle of þe quoere,..and dede vikers in here stede þat hadde ful litel for to lyue by. 1531 *Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 33 To the wiccaris of the quwyr; with the borrow maell. 1641 HARNE *Chron., Edw.* 116 This Queen..ordained a Dean,..forty Scholars, Vicars, Singing-men, &c. 1700 J. BROME *Trav. Eng.* 248 A Collegiate Church, consisting of a Dean, four Prebendaries, five Singing-Men, three Vicars, and four Deacons. 1878 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 52 His choir was well appointed, and every vicar, clerical as well as lay, gave his daily and efficient aid in it.

b. *Lay vicar*, = prec. (Also *Priest-vicar*: see PRIEST *sb.* 10.)

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 110 The Choir is also the term by which the lay-vicars, or lay-clerks, and choristers, *i. e.* the singers, of a cathedral, are collectively designated. 1849 JEBB *Choral Service* xii. 108 The Lay Vicars of the old Cathedrals..are sometimes members of the inferior Colleges, sometimes merely part of the foundation at large. 1877 LEE *Gloss. Liturg. & Eccl Terms* 184 *Lay vicar*, a term used in the statutes of some of our cathedrals to designate the superior grade of singing men.

4. One who takes the place of, or acts as the representative of, another (esp. the Pope or other high dignitary) in the performance of ecclesiastical or religious functions; *spec.* in the Roman Catholic Church, a bishop's deputy.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 28 3if þe Pope and his vikaris wolden studie wel his mater. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1303 And aempte that he sholde be Lyk a vyker doutles Off Aaron & of Moyses. 1576 W. LAMBARDE *Perambl. Kent* 130 This Prelate [the Bishop of Ely], hauing nowe by the Kings commission the power of a Viceroy, and bee..by the Popes gifte the authoritie of a Legate and Vicar. 1586 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 109 Directed to the Archbishopp of Cant: or to his vicar or Commissary gen ... 1622 SIR D. CARLETON *Let.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App.* I. 546 Upon yᵉ late ... of our patriarch's vicar there hath fallen vacant a b...nefice annexed to yᵉ vicariat. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epist.* I. 372 When S. Paul sent for Timothy from Ephesus, he sent Tychicus to be his Vicar. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Supremacy* vi. Wks. 1687 I. 261 The Popes..began to practise a fine trick,..which was to confer on certain Bishops..the title of their Vicar or Lieutenant; thereby pretending to impart Authority to them. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. x. i. 238 They [the patriarchs] appointed vicars, or deputies, to act for them in the remoter provinces. 1820 MILNER *Suppl. Mem. Eng. Cath.* 108 The late B. Berington's Vicar, Dr Bew. 1898 W. BRIGHT *Some Aspects Prim. Ch. Life* ii. § 6. 83 This 'high and Divine power', which Cyprian claimed as inherent in the episcopate, was larger than that which St. Paul had entrusted to his own 'vicars'.

b. With defining term preceding, as *grand*, *papal*, *Pope's vicar*.

1662 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VIII. 236 Mr Hoden *Grand Vicair of Paris being Superior. 1688 [see GRAND *a.* 2] 1696 PHILLIPS s.v., The Pope's Grand Vicar, who is a Cardinal, has a Jurisdiction..over all Secular and Regular Priests [etc.]. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 249 Some days since,..the king unexpectedly nominated him grand vicar to the archbishop. 1796 HELEN M. WILLIAMS *Lett. France* IV. 102 (Jod.), One of my college companions had become grand-vicar and first confidant to the archbishop of my diocese. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 827/2 Faber, grand-vicar of the bishop of Constance. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. App. E. 341 The bishop of Arles the *papal vicar in Gaul, in place of the pope, whose representative he was. 1900 J. K. MANN *Hist. Popes* I. I. 82 He came to Thessalonica;..its metropolitan..was a papal vicar. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 84 And first I shall begin with the *Popes Vicar, which office is the most antient of all, and was for a long time executed by Bishops, and other Prelats. 1900 J. K. MANN *Hist. Popes* I. I. 159 Augustine..was consecrated bishop by Virgilius of Arles, the Pope's vicar in Gaul.

c. With defining term appended, as *vicar apostolic, capitular, episcopal, foran(e)* or *foreign, provincial*.

See also VICAR-GENERAL.

1766 in E. H. BURTON *Life Challoner* (1909) II. xxvii. 83 After all, by the terms of the circular letter, the Vicars *Apostolic have, in case of necessity, a power to dispense. 1799 C. BUTLER *Life A. Butler* vii, The vicar-apostolic of the middle district claimed him as belonging to that district, and appointed him to a mission in Staffordshire. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 373/1 Where the succession of the Catholic hierarchy has been interrupted, as in England,..the bishops who superintend the Catholic church and represent the papal authority, are known by the name of vicars apostolic. 1851 BRIGHT *Sp., Eccles. Titles Bill* 12 May (1876) 518 The changing of vicars-apostolic to bishops in ordinary. 1849 STOVEL *Canon's Necess.* p. xxxv, Wolsey, to carry on the policy of his church, obtained his own appointment as vicar-*apostolical of England. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 303 On the death of a bishop, the clergy of the diocese elect a vicar *capitular, who exercises spiritual jurisdiction during the vacancy. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 10/2 A special meeting..for the purpose of electing a Vicar-Capitular to administer the See of Southwark during the vacancy. 1877 LEE *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 439 *Vicar *episcopal*, an office corresponding in some particulars to the English archdeacon, as well as to the Greek 'Chorepiscopus'. 1885 DOYLE in Fitzpatrick *Life* xi. (1861) I. 282 Whenever a priest falls into any dangerous illness, the Vicar-*Foreign within whose deanery he lives shall visit him. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., *Vicar-forane*, Roman Church, a dignitary or parish priest appointed by a bishop to exercise a limited jurisdiction in a particular town or district of his diocese. 1896 *Tablet* 18 Apr. 619 The *curé* and vicar-foran at Castries..receives £200 a year. 1896 VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. 234 Vicar-*provincial of Andalusia, he plies his task anew.

5. In general use: One acting, or appointed to act, in place of another, esp. in administrative functions; a vicegerent.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 250 [The prefect] deput in his sted þare, þe law to hald þaim, a vicare, & sorouful went away. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 109 Folwe þanne vche comandour tene vicaires, & vche vicaire tene lederes. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. viii. (1558) 6 In his empyre he set two vicars, Gaue them power in euery region [etc.]. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 169/2 Gordyan that was vicayr unto Julyan themperour. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. vii. (S.T.S.) II 170, I wil mak him (for he is well institute in chevelrie) vicare and lieutenent for me. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 278 He commandes that women, barnes, and citizenis all to him cum and craue mercie as to the Kingis vicare. 1600 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 38 To assemble his friends, and witnesses of his wil, and those whome he meant to make his heyres, his vicars, and substitutes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* XXV. 207 Lord Cromwell..sate in state above all the Bishops, as the King's Vicar, or Vicegerent-General in all spirituall matters. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3814/3 It is said, the King of Spain has made the Duke of Burgundy Vicar of the Spanish Low-Countries, which Title gives him a Power over those Provinces, equal to that which the King would have if he were there in Person. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 87/1 During a vacancy of the Imperial throne, the government of the empire devolves upon the two vicars. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 37 The eleven remaining dioceses [= provinces]..were governed by twelve vicars, or vice-prefects, whose name sufficiently explains the nature and dependence of their office. 1825 LYTTON *Rienzi* III. iii. He was chosen afterwards vicar (or vice-gerent) of Louis in Averna. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 169 We may be very sure that Hennings and Condell did not, as vicars, take upon themselves a disagreeable task.

transf. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 45 The rookes ben vycayns and legates of the kynge. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* C iv b, All the synewes of the body brede and come out of the brayne by it selfe, or of the noodle that is his vycaus.

b. A thing substituted for another. *rare.*

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 16 All dunghings and other sordid temperings, being but the vicars succedaneous to this improvement. 1846 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* xiii, Abraham caught the Ram, which was to serve as the vicar of Isaac.

Vicarage (vi·kărēdʒ). Forms: 5 viker(i)age, vicerage; 5– vicarage, 6 vicear-, vyc(e)ar-, *Sc.* wicar-, vicrage, 7 vicaredge; 5 vycary-, 5–6 vicariage; 5–7 vicarege, 6–7 -edge, -ige, 6–8 -idge, 7 vicear(d)ge. [f. VICAR + -AGE.]

1. The benefice or living of a vicar.

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290/2 That they holde residence upon thaire Parsonages, Vikerages, and Hospitalites, upon payn of lesyng the value of thaire Benefice. *c* 1438 LD. CLIFFORD in *Fenchale Priory* (Surtees) 72 There is a vicerege in Craven..of the which the presentacion longith to you. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 363 The advenson of the Vicarage of the same. 1536 *Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 98 Factours as thai allegit to the vyccarage of Mwnkland. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 47 That of Evans concerning the Vicarage of Warwike, is maliciously reported. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 246 He was charged with the simoniacall resignation and bestowing of his viccaridge of Castor upon a young man, a minister. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 206 Tythes appertaining to Parish-Churches, Prebends, Hospitals, Vicaredges. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* 91 We meet with no such early records that make them distinct and proper Vicariges. 1709 SWIFT *Libel on Dr. Delany* 132 The offals of a church dismes; A hungry vicarage at best. 1749 POTE *Hist. & Antiq. Windsor* 12 It is a Vicaridge in the Deanery of Reading and Diocess of Salisbury. 1813 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* iv, Though the vicarage of Highbury was not large, he was known to have some independent property. 1863 H. COX *Institl.* III. vii. 700 The hereditaments of the Crown (except advowsons and vicarages). 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 May 5/3 The plaintiff, a clergyman, who at one time had a vicarage at Bow.

transf. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 558/1 The three peruerse prelats..stroue together for the sacred see of papasie Gods vicarage. 1653 H. WHISTLER *Upshot Inf. Baptisme* 9 Whether they were redeemed by the Vicarage of a Levite, or by a ransome.

†b. A benefice attached to a parsonage. *Obs.*—1

1502 *Reg. Privy Seal Scotl.* I. 98 The parsonage of Sanct Colines Kirk..with the annexis and vicaragis thairof, that is to say, Kilmolowok in Rasay and Kilmory in Walternes.

†2. A college of vicars. *Obs.*

1485 in *Ripon Chapter Acts* (Surtees) 277, I will that my messe-bake be gyffyn to the vicarage in Rypon. 1505 *Ibid.* 304 The said messe..goo to the vicarege of Ripon, they doynge therfor a yerely obbett.

3. The house or residence of a vicar; also, those who live in this.

1530 PALSGR. 285/1 Vycrage a prestes house, *presbytoire*. 1611 COTGR., *Presbitere*, a Parsonage, Vicarage, or Priests house. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. 157 The ancient coate of Bassingborne, which by chance I found in a window at the Vicaredge in Fulham. 1820 PRARD *Poems* (1864) II. 136 The traveller was to blame And not the Vicarage or the Vicar. 1891 'S. MOSTYN' *Curatica* 150, I had bidden the Vicarage farewell the night before.

†4. *Sc.* A (or the) payment due to a vicar; vicarial tithes or other dues. *Obs.*

1579 *Munim. de Melros* (Bann. Cl.) 653 þe teind schevis ..with small teindis and Vicarragis pertenand to þe saming Kirk 1595 in *Maitland Club Misc.* I. 73 The amount and quantitie of the vicarages of the said benefices, with the glebbis and mansis. 1684 *Rec. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (S.H.S.) 95 For not paying of Vicaradge at Mertimas, which..the Judge decerns them to pay punctually. 1762 in *Nairns Peerage Evidence* (1874) 92 The town and lands of Kinnaird and the lands of Tullybeagles with the tiends parsonage and vicarage of the saids haill lands. 1775 L. SHAW *Hist. Moray* 353 The Stipend is 80 Bolls of Victual, and about L. 50 of Vicarage. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, What have I been paying stipend and teind, parsonage and vicarage, for?

†5. The position, office, or duties of a vicar or representative. *Obs. rare.*

1622 DONNE *Serm. John* xi. 35 My vicarage is to speak of his [Christ's] compassion and his tears. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epist.* § 37. 264 This whole discourse shewes, that they [the Bishops] have sole jurisdiction, and the Presbyters only in substitution and vicaridge. 1734 BP. PETRE in E. H. Burton *Life Challoner* (1909) I. 93 He gave up his pious spirit, in the ninety second year of his age and forty sixth of his episcopate and Apostolic Vicarage.

6. *attrib.*, as *vicarage church*, †*duty*, *house*, *stipend*, *teind*.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 118 From hence the Writer takes occasion to consider the State of *Vicarage Churches. 1597 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 303/2, 50 pundis money as for the personage dewtie and 10 merkis for the *vicarage dewtie foirsaid. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) IV. 118 From the which Water is conveyed to the Prebendaries Houses, to the *Vicarage Houses, and the Choristers. 1569 BP. PARKHURST *Injunctions* A iv, Whether..your Parsonage and Vicaredge house be well..maintained. 1658 H. SPELMAN in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 156 There is a reasonable Vicarage house upon it. *a* 1705 T. BAGWELL *Two Oxford Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 20 An old rotten Parsonage or Vicarage-house. 1785 J. WESLEY *Serm.* lvii. Wks. 1812 IX. 25 He removed into the Vicarage-House. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. xii. 378 An ornamental cottage in the style of the old English vicarage-house. 1867 J. CAMPBELL *Baimorino & Abbey* III. ii. 170 He was also minister of Logie..and drew his *vicarage stipend. 1620 in *T. Pond's Topogr. Acc. Cunningham* (Maitl. Cl.) 185 To Mr. Williame Birsbane, *of *vicarage* teynd the said yeir, aucht pund. 1640–2 *Kirkwalbr. Warr. Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 263 The halfe of the said glebb and vicarage teindes.

Vicarate (vi·kărēt). [f. VICAR + -ATE. Cf. VICARIATE.] A parish, district, etc., under the jurisdiction of a vicar; a vicariate.

1883 *American* V. 319 Retaining the administration of the vicarate of North Carolina. 1900 *Q. Rev. Presbyt. Ch. Aug.* 337 In the diocese of Albi,..a number of vicarates have been suppressed.

Vicar choral. Also **vicar-choral.** [VICAR 3.] (See quot. 1854, and cf. CHORAL *a.*[1] 1 b.)

The pl. occurs in various forms, as *vicars choral*, †*vicars chorals*, and, rarely, *vicar chorals*.

1530-1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 15 All other..canons, petty canons, vicars chorall, & clerkes. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 348 The same prebendaries have..vicars.. under them..called vicars choralles, which..are bound to discharge the said prebendaryes of all their cures and service in the sayd church. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Wilts.* III. (1662) 157 William Lawes, son of Thomas Lawes, a Vicar Choral of the Church of Salisbury. 1704 *Acc. Innov. Abp. Dublin* 3 He calls..the Vicar-Chorals, and orders them to answer, notwithstanding [etc.]. 1770 in *Mem. Rev. W. Richardson* (1822) 14 You seem to have been much taken with York Minster and Cathedral Service, would you like to be one of the Vicars Choral? 1837-8 *Act* 1 & 2 *Vict.* c. 106 § 39 Any Spiritual Person, being Prebendary, Canon, Priest Vicar, Vicar Choral, or Minor Canon. 1854 HOOK *Church Dict.* (ed. 7) 791/1 *Vicars choral* [are] the assistants or deputies of the canons or prebendaries of collegiate churches,..especially, though not exclusively, in the duties of the choir or chancel, as distinguished from those belonging to the altar and pulpit. 1873 PHILLIMORE *Eccl. Law Ch. Engl.* 261 The two classes of petty or minor canons and vicars-choral. *Ibid.*, A vicar-choral of the cathedral church of Wells.

Hence **Vicar-choralship**, the office of a vicar-choral.

1868 *Ecclesiologist* XXIX. 171 The endowments .. of vicars-choralships. 1891 *Star* 1 Nov. 1/7 The vicar-choralship of St. Paul's is by no means a poor appointment.

Vicaress (vi'kărĕs). Also 7 **vicaris.** f. VICAR + -ESS[1]

1. The sister ranking immediately beneath the Abbess or Mother Superior in a nunnery or convent.

c 1613 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1914) XIV 34, 2 years before her death [she] was chosen first Vicaress of ye Monastery. *a* 1700 *Diary Blue Nuns* Ibid VIII. 21 Sister Margarite Bruno alias Floyd was again chosen Viccaris. 1721 *Ibid.* 291 The Office of Vicaresse is nearest the Abbesse in Authority... The Vicaresse represents in every place, the Abbesse when she is absent. 1804 in *Archæologia* (1840) XXVIII. 198 Mother Austin was afterwards Vicaress [of the Blue Nuns' convent] several years. 1857 G. OLIVER *Coll. Cath. Relig. Cornwall*, etc. 136 The vicaress, the Rev. Mother Eyston, was sent to Bruges. 1892 J. M. STONE *Faithful unto Death* 244 To govern the new community as abbess and vicaress respectively.

2. A (female) representative. In quot. *fig.*

1668 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 185 The sensitive Soul, the vicaresse of the minde, doth surely rejoyce in a greater liberty than the souls of brute Beasts.

3. The wife of the vicar of a parish.

1770 W. HUDDESFORD in J. Granger *Lett.* (1805) 146, I am under the greatest obligation to the vicaress, for her forgiveness of my impertinence. 1849 LD. COLERIDGE in *Life & Corr.* (1904) I. viii. 190 Nothing could be kinder than the Vicar and Vicaress. 1862 MRS. HOUSTOUN *Recommended to Mercy* xii, The encroachments of the Vicaress in the government of the parish.

Vicar-general. Also **vicar general.** [VICAR 4 c, after med.L. *vicarius generalis*, F. *vicaire général.*]

The pl. occurs variously as *vicars generals*, *vicar generals*.

†1. The title assumed by or bestowed upon the Pope, as head of the Church under Christ. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 253 At Rome..The vicair general of alle Of hem that lieven Cristes feith. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 104 God.., and next him his vicare generale the pape. 1539 TONSTALL *Serm. Palm Sund.* (1823) 46 All power is gyuen to me that Christe had: and I am his vicar general, as Peter was here in erthe ouer all. 1581 ALLEN *Apol.* 17 Whither should we rather flee for relefe either of body or soul, then to..the Vicar general of Christ? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xliv. 335 Consequent to this claim of the Pope to Vicar Generall of Christ in the present Church,..is the Doctrine, that it is necessary for a Christian King, to receive his Crown by a Bishop.

transf. c 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 20 Lo, I, Nature, Thus can I forme and peynte a creature...For He that is the Former principal, Hath maad me his vikar general [etc.].

2. *R. C. Ch.* An ecclesiastical officer, usually a cleric, appointed by a bishop as his representative in matters of jurisdiction or administration.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 8023 Before his pepill ordande he þe prior archedekyn forto be, And his generall vicare. 1498 *Reg. Privy Seal Scotl.* I. 36/1 A presentation ..Direct to the vicare general of Sanctandris, the sege thairof vacand. 1509 *Plumpton Lett.* (1839) 205 Master Plompton,..at his departing out of England, comaunded to me John Carvar, his Vicker generall, .. to wryte unto you. *a* 1598 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 286 Pryor Johnne Hepburne was at that time vicar generall of the bischoperick of Sanctandrois. *c* 1608 in *Foley Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* I. 137 His inferior officers, dispersed throughout all the Countyes of this realme, with titles, powers, and formalities belonging to any Catholique Bishops whereseever, as Vicaires Generalls. 1672 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 200 Mr George Richardson..was ordained in Ireland by ye Ch^e dimissoryes given him by ye Vicar Gen[era]ll. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vice-Dominus Episcopi*, the Official, Commissary, or Vicar-general of a Bishop. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 481 The vicar-general of this diocese. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xxvi, While Vivaldi spoke the vicar-general listened with attention. 1799 C. BUTLER *Life A. Butler* xlii, He was immediately appointed vicar-general to the Bishops of Arras, St. Omer's, Ypres, and Boulogne. 1817 J. ANDREWS *Rankel's Hist. Ref.* III. 81 The bishop.. his vicar-general Faber. 1882 Abbé Valgalise, .. and the Abbé Desnoyers, as titular vicar generals.

b. *Similarly in the Church of England; spec.* a permanent lay official serving as a deputy or assistant to a bishop, or to the Archbishop of Canterbury or York, in certain ecclesiastical causes.

1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 4 All and every Archebisshoppes, Bisshippes and Archedeacons,..their Commissaries, Vicars generall, and other their Mynisters..shall make diligente inserch [etc.]. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 3 To the right puissante, and terrible Priests, my cleargie masters of the Confocation-house, whether fickers generall,..or any other of the holy league of subscription. *a* 1700–EVELYN *Diary* 31 Aug. 1663, After which the Vicar-general went to the vestry, and brought his Grace into the Chapell [at Lambeth]. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 261 According to the common way of Speech, a Chancellor is a Vicar General to the Bishop to all Intents and Purposes of Law. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 481/1 The Chancellor of a Church or of a Bishop is Vicar-general to the bishop, holds his courts [etc.]. 1854 HOOK *Church Dict.* (ed. 7) 792/1 The Vicar-General, an ecclesiastical officer who assists the bishop in the discharge of his office, as in causes and visitations. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 23 June 2/2 The Vicar-General [in the Isle of Man] is a man of many callings, holding, in addition to the Vicar-Generalship, the positions of secretary to the bishop, keeper of the records, coroner, and magistrate. 1907 *Who's Who* 413 Crippa, C. A...Vicar-General of Canterbury; Chancellor and Vicar-Gen. of York since 1900.

3. *Hist.* The title given to Thomas Cromwell in 1535 as representative of the King in ecclesiastical affairs. (Cf. VICEGERENT *sb.* 1, quots. 1536–38.)

1679 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* I. III. 181 The first act of the Kings Supremacy was, his naming Cromwell Vicar-General, and General Visitor of all the Monasteries and other Priviledged places. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iv. vii. 419 *note*, The name of Vicar-General, as appointed by the Prince, had been odious ever since Cromwell's management of that office in Henry VIII's time; and was never, for that reason, taken up afterwards. 1714 JER. COLLIER *Eccl. Hist. Gt. Brit.* II. II. 104/1 It appears that Cromwell by being made Vicar General had an entire Delegation of the King's Supremacy.

†4. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 235 The King was made Vicare generall, and Lieutenant for the Emperour.

Hence **Vicar-generalship**, the office of a vicar-general.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 287 The bischops..be the consaill of wyse men gaif to this pryour the wickar generallschip. 1714 JER. COLLIER *Eccl. Hist. Gt. Brit.* II. II. 104/1 A Mistake in confounding this Vicar Generalship with his following Dignity of Lord Vice gerent in Ecclesiastical Matters. 1850 GLADSTONE *Gleanr.* (1879) V. 193 The Vicar-generalship of Cromwell and..the episcopal Commissions of both these reigns. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Feb. 7/1 Twenty-five years of Vicar-Generalship under Manning ..ought to weigh in the balance even against aristocratic descent and Court favour.

Vicariage, obs. form of VICARAGE.

Vicarial (vai-, vikē'riăl), *a.* [ad. L. type **vicāriāl-is*, f. *vicārius* VICAR. So F. and Sp. *vicarial.*]

1. Delegated, deputed; vicarious.

1627 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 297 Our Lord communicated his power to preists and his ministires and vicars, and so thar power is ministeriall and vicariall as they call it. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 318 By these vicarial offices in the house his lordship was educated to the employ there. 1747 WEST *Resurrection* (ed. 2) 275 God..promised to continue that delegated vicarial Sceptre of Righteousness in his [David's] Posterity for ever. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 390 The contest for vicarial and deputed power..is more prudent than the struggle for that which is original and supreme. 1850 COL. WISEMAN *Pastoral* 7 Oct., The silver links of that chain which has connected their country with the See of Peter in its Vicarial Government. 1868 LIGHTFOOT *Philip.* (1885) 267 His office is representative, and not vicarial.

2. Of or belonging to a vicar or VICARS.

1744 J. COMYNS *Reports of Cases* 634 Walks ver. Pain and Underhill..Mr. Underhill the Vicar insisted upon the Tithe of Clover Seed as a Vicarial or small Tithe. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 376 Hence many things, as wood in particular, is in some countries a predial, and in some a vicarial tithe. 1805 R. CHURTON in R. Chandler *Trav. Asia M.* I. Introd. p. viii, He fitted up the vicarial house. 1840 *John Bull* 7 Nov. 540/2 A question relative to the liability of vicarial lands to Church rates was mooted before the bench. 1865 M. E. C. WALCOTT *Cathedralia* 165 The vicarial stalls of Gaia major and Sandiacre have been also restored.

3. Consisting of vicars.

1772 in *Mem. Rev. W. Richardson* (1821) 73 In May, the death of poor Frank, by a consumption, made a vacancy in the vicarial body.

4. Holding the office of a vicar.

1806 V. KNOX *Serm. Ess. xxviii.* 26 Wks. 1824 VI. 377 But the great proprietors of land soon..obtained for each a resident pastor, either rectorial or vicarial, either an incumbent or a substitute.

Vicarian (vai-, vikē'riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. late L. *vicāriān-us*, f. L. *vicārius* VICAR, or independently f. *vicāri-us* + -AN.]

A. *sb.* †1. A substitute or deputy holding some office. *Obs.*[—1]

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. (1599) 283 Shall Balbus, the demure Athenian, Dreame of the death of next Vicarian? Cast his natiuitie?

2. One who accepts the view of religious vicari-

1851 RUSKIN *Stones of Venice* II. Ecclesiastical tyranny has, for the most part, founded itself on the idea of Vicarianism, one of the most pestilent of the R[illegible]. Of this I have a word or two to say to th[illegible]

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to, by, a deputy ruler.

1643 USSHER *Disputs. Asia* 16 The greater part of the inland Lydia was brought under this Vicarian regiment. 1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* vi. 156 The Dragon..covertly erected a Vicarian Kingdom.

Hence **Vicarianism** (see A. 2 above).

Vicariate (vai-, vikē'riĕt), *sb.* Also 7 **vicariot**, 7–9 **vicariat.** [ad. med.L. *vicāriāt-us*, f. L. *vicāri-us* VICAR. Cf. OF. and F. *vicariat*, It., Sp., Pg. *vicariato.*]

1. The office or authority of a vicar in a religious or ecclesiastical sense: a. Of persons acting as earthly representatives of God or Christ.

1620 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 247 [To make] Kings, which before had their Lieutenancie and Vicariate from God, but Magistrates..to his Vicar. ?1624 — *Elegy to Ld. Harrington* Poems (1669) 249 To deliver up to God that state Of which he gave thee the Vicariate. *a* 1676 HALE *True Relig.* II. (1684) 28 Hold what you will, if you hold not the Supremacy and Vicariot of the Pope, all the rest of your Religion is not worth a rush. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2436/1 Through St. Peter the vicariate was forever conferred on the bishop of Rome.

b. Of the deputy of a bishop, etc.

1621 SIR D. CARLETON *Let.* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 546 Upon ye late remove of our patriarch's vicar there hath fallen vacant a benefice annexed to ye vicariat. 1785 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 210 Vigilius gave his Vicariate to this Arch-Bishop in the Provinces. *a* 1773 A. BUTLER *Lives Saints* (1845) XI. 203 St. Charles established a vicariat, that things might be done with deliberation and counsel, which many other bishops imitated.

c. Of a vicar in the Church of England. Also *freq.*, the period of a vicar's ministry.

1857 J. JORDAN *Parish. Hist. Euston* iv. 191 The Rev. J. Beckingham was at some period of his vicariat ejected. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Jan. 10/1 He..pointed to the record of his fifteen years' vicariate, during which he had taken none of the parish income.

2. A political office held by a person as deputy for another; deputed exercise of authority by a person or governing body.

1619 F. COTTINGTON *Let.* in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 33 If he should chance to fayle, the vicariate of Upper Germany must needes fall upon the Palatin. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4844/2 He has accepted and taken upon him..his part of the Vicariate of the Empire during the present Vacancy. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, II. Wks. 1813 V. 249 The vicariat of that part of Germany which is governed by the Saxon laws, devolved to the elector of Saxony. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* v. viii. 270 An educated nation recalls from the imperfect vicariate of what is called a representative government. 1898 DILL *Rom. Soc. Last Cent. Western Empire* 26 Flavianus received the vicariate of Africa.

attrib. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 38 They may hold vicariate aulic courts.

3. a. A district under the rule of a deputy governor.

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 204 Donna Gulomar de Quinones, wife to the regent of the vicariate of Naples. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 404/2 The provinces which constituted, under the Christian emperors, successors of Constantine, the vicariate of Rome. [*Ibid.*, These provinces were under the lay jurisdiction of an imperial vicar.]

b. *R. C. Ch.* A district under the charge of a vicar apostolic; the see of a vicar apostolic.

1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1819) II. 226 By the constitution of the church every province ought to have its metropolitan, and every vicariate its ecclesiastical exarch or primate. 1857 G. OLIVER *Coll. Hist. Cath. Relig. Cornwall*, etc. 425 This western vicariat becoming vacant by the death of Bishop Hagg. 1890 T. COOPER in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXI. 374/1 He was selected by the propaganda to preside as bishop over the vicariate of the West Indies.

c. A church ministered to by a vicar.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 335 In it is one collegiate and seven other churches, which are vicariates to the former.

4. Vicariousness. *rare*[—1].

1877 A. CAVE *Script. Doctr. Sacr.* I. 2. II. 52 They knew that the lives of innocent..animals were taken in lieu of their own..; what did they regard as the reason of this singular vicariate?

Hence **Vicariateship.** *rare*[—1].

1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 27/1 There is a dispute..between the Elector Palatine, and the Elector of Bavaria, about one of these Vicariateships.

Vicariate, *a. rare.* Also 7 **vicariat.** [f. L. *vicāri-us* + -ATE[2], or attrib. use of prec.] Pertaining to, characteristic of, a deputy or representative; delegated.

1619 NAUNTON in *Engl. & Germ.* (Camden) 33 Such strength and forces as may..enable him to maintaine the vicariat dignitie when it shall fall uppon him. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* vi. Wks. 1687 I. 261 We thought it convenient that you should be held up by the vicariat authority of our See. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. vi. 237 To the Bishops of Arles had the Holy See deputed a vicariate power there.

Vicariate, *v. rare.* [f. VICARIATE *sb.*] *intr.* To act as a deputy or substitute.

1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* III. 139 Her he edified by his Literary History, as relating to himself and the Subrector; how, for instance, he was at present vicariating in the Second Form [etc.].

†**Vicaried.** *Obs.*[—1] In 4 **vikeried.** (App. a mistranslation of med.L. *vicariditus* VICARIATE *sb.*)

1388 WYCLIF *Ezechiel.* xxxiii. 6 *note*, Nothelees he [an evil prelate] seemeth God, and takith the office of his vikeried, and chargith not of his cure.

Vicarious (vai-, vikē·riəs), *a.* [f. L. *vicāri-us* adj. and sb., f. *vic-is* change, turn, stead, office, etc.: see -ARIOUS.]

1. That takes or supplies the place of another thing or person; substituted instead of the proper thing or person.

1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Ceremn.* III. iv. 36 If I..religiously adore before the Pastor, as the Vicarious Signe of Christ himself. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 319 The Interregem are necessarily reducible to the Regal Power, being but a vicarious Appendage thereto. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* II. 70 Gravel and little stones..are often found..in their stomachs, where they prove a vicarious kind of teeth. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 29 God..made it [*sc.* the moon] a vicarious Light to the Sun, to supply its absence in this lower World. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1842 I. 320 These modern flagellants are sure..to whip their own enormities on the vicarious back of every small offender. 1809 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* vii. 161 Every right-minded and heaven-commissioned minister of religion is..in a real sense..a vicarious person. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 68 This, And worse expect, unless some god endure Vicarious thy tortures. 1853 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 30 (ed. 3) 59 The cry or exclamation .would be consciously reproduced to represent or recal the feeling on another occasion; and it then became a word, or vicarious sign.

b. Const. *of* (something). *rare.*

1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 404 The University and Colleges are thus neither identical, nor vicarious of each other. 1836–7 — *Metaph.* viii. (1870) 131 If the science be able to possess no single name vicarious of its definition.

2. Of punishment, etc.: Endured or suffered by one person in place of another; accomplished or attained by the substitution of some other person, etc., for the actual offender. Freq. in *Theol.* with reference to the suffering and death of Christ.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ix. 319 Some means of Reconciliation must be contrived; some vicarious satisfaction to Justice. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 137 But as Precious as it was, it was not the very thing that the Law required, but a Vicarious Punishment. 1736 BUTLER *Anal. Relig.* II. v. 211 Vicarious Punishments may be..absolutely necessary. 1781 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 3 June, Whatever difficulty there may be in the conception of vicarious punishments. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iii. (1852) 80 The Christian doctrine of vicarious expiation. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 319 The idea of vicarious sacrifice, or punishment by substitution,..does not seem to have been very familiar to the Greek mind. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 12 The manifold harvest, which He..should bring forth.. by His vicarious Death. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 208 Vicarious suffering too seems strange to them, their own system teaching that for his sin a man must suffer, and there is no escape.

3 Of power, authority, etc.: Exercised by one person, or body of persons, as the representative or deputy of another.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vicarious*, belonging to a Vicar, subordinate; as A Vicarious Power. 1777 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) I. 196, I shall be considered as exercising a kind of vicarious jurisdiction. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 5 Who sway'd a moment, with vicarious power, Iberia's sceptre 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 285 Such vicarious powers were conferred upon His Majesty's Courts at all the Indian Presidencies. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 487 He had..held, during some months, a vicarious primacy. *transf.* 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 322/1 Redi's opinion, that the pebbles [swallowed by birds] perform the vicarious office of teeth.

4. Performed or achieved by means of another, or by one person, etc., on behalf of another.

1806 FELLOWES tr. *Milton's 2nd Defence* Wks. VI. 377 He had not the courage..to prefix a dedication to Charles without the vicarious aid of Flaccus. 1822 LAMB *Elia* 1. *Bachelor's Complaint*, I must protest against the vicarious gluttony of Cerasia, who..sent away a dish of Morellas..to her husband at the other end of the table. 1846 *Edin. Rev.* LXXXIV. 68 The increasing laxity of the Mussulman world, and the practice of vicarious pilgrimage, have greatly diminished the numbers of the sacred caravans. 1877 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) IV. 347 May we never be subjected to the humiliation of dependence upon vicarious labour. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 301 Unconscious of their vicarious service, the butterfly and the bee..carry the fertilizing dust to the waiting stigma.

b. Of qualities, etc.: Possessed by one person but reckoned to the credit of another.

1842 PUSEY *Crisis Eng. Ch.* 136 To confound..individual duties with vicarious merits. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vi. 36 A system..where sin was expiated by the vicarious virtues of other men.

c. Of methods, principles, etc.: Based upon the substitution of one person for another.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iii, It may be called the vicarious method; it obtained amongst big fellows of lazy or bullying habits, and consisted simply in making clever boys..do their whole vulgus for them. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. x. 400 On this vicarious principle, by which we appropriate to ourselves what others do for us, the whole structure of society is raised.

5. *Physiol.* Denoting the performance by or through one organ of functions normally discharged by another; substitutive.

1760 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 4747 The Vicarious Hæmoptysis. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 650 With a view of exciting a vicarious action, I opened an issue in one of the arms. *Ibid* 668 Where the complaint is strictly idiopathic and uncombined, it has often been found to give way to some local irritation or vicarious drain. 1846 DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 170 The vicarious action of the skin and lungs. 1877 FOSTER *Physiol.* (1878) 477 Vicarious reflex movements may also be witnessed in mammals.

Vicariously (vai-, vikē·riəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².]

1. By substitution of one thing or person for another; by means of a substitute.

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. 1808 VIII. 237 Not being able to revenge themselves on God, they have a delight in vicariously defacing .. his image in man. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xvii, Some one must drink it for him, be shall be cured vicariously. 1838–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 133/1 Respiration is also carried on vicariously in a very large proportion of animals. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* vii. 397 His campaigns were..vicariously carried on by a general whom common report designated as the Achilles of the Vandals. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 60 She never did anything vicariously which concerned those dependent upon her.

2. As a substitute for another.

1868 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 410 To cause the skin to act vicariously when the action of other secreting organs is excessive. 1886 J. MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* I. 298 He suspected the practice by which one man offered up prayer vicariously and collectively for the assembled congregation.

Vicariousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being vicarious.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II). 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 188 If the vicariousness be not this mere pretence, it describes an outrage upon the first principles of rectitude. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* v. § 2. 328 The vicariousness of the sacrifice makes a more severe demand upon our conscience and intelligence. 1889 *Lancet* 27 July 175/1 Another favourite assertion of the opponents of vaccination —the vicariousness of zymotic mortality.

†**Vicarish**ip. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. VICARY *sb.*¹] = VICARSHIP.

c 1430 *Pilgr. L. f Manhode* I. xv. (1869) 12 Thow shuldest also not forȝete (whom thow doost the vicarishipe.

†**Vicarly**, *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. VICAR 2.] Holding the position of a vicar.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., A deuine vicarly brother of his, called Astrological Richard.

Vicarship. Also 6 -shyp, vycarship(pe. [f. VICAR + -SHIP.] The office or position of a vicar, in various senses of the word.

1534 HENRY VIII in *Liber Regis* p. viii, Every other person that hath any dignitie, prebend, vycarship,..or other office. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 49 The general commission, whiche he had of Sathan his great mastre, in that vycarship of his. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 540 Ye Bishop of Ierusalem should more reasonably claime this supremacie & vicarship vnto Christ. 1621 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. § 66 Lewis of Bauar the Emperour sodainely ..re-called his Vicar-ship or delegation, which hee had made to Edward, to exercise imperiall power in lower Germany. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Scarlet Gown* 66 After his arrival at Rome, Cardinal Capucino paid him all the profits accruing of his Vicarship by him administred in his absence. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III, iv. 139 If St. Peters, and so his Holiness universal Vicarship follow hence. 1739 SWIFT *Let. to Pope* 10 May, There is a man in my choir, one Mr. Lamb; he has at present but half a vicarship. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* III. 130 The crown of Spain held the vicarship of Siena as a fief of the Empire. 1839 I. TAYLOR *Ancient Chr.* I. 96 The universal vicarship of the bishop of Rome. 1867 R. PALMER *P. Howard* 71 He was recommended to the master general by Cardinal Pole for the vicarship of the province. 1896 *Oxford Chron.* 25 July 5/4 The Bishop of Oxford has lost no time in filling up the Vicarship of Abingdon.

†**Vicary**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: α. 4–5 vicarie (4 vik-), -arye, 4–6 vycary (4 -arye), 4–7 vicary (5 -ari), 6 vykary. β. 4–5 vicori(e, vicoorie; 4 vycory, 4–5 vicory, vecory, 5 vicorye. γ. 4 vi(o)kery, 5 vekery. [ad. L. *vicāri-us* VICAR.]

1. = VICAR 1 and 1 b.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11789 Þe prest ys crystys vycarye. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 283 No man has powere þer of to deme no wirke, Without þe pape of Rome, Gode's vicarie. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 379 Nature, vicarye o the almyghty lord. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xv. 70 Cleregie is cristes vikery to conforte and to cureu. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 139 Unto the most holyest and fauorablist Prince in erthe, Vicary and Lieftenaunt of Cryst. 1529 MORE *Dyalogs* II. Wks. 179/2 The Pope which is vnder Christ vycary & the head of our churche.

2. = VICAR 2.

α. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11607 Alle prestes haue nat powere..to assoyle þe..But hyt be þy paryssh preste .., Or at þy parsone or vycary. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5775 To parsones & to vicaries Was graunted grete seignuryes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's Prol.* 22 (Corpus), Sire Preest, quod he, art þou a vicary Or art þou a person? say soþ, by þy fey. 1417 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 28 Sir Iohn Dey, parsone of Bageworthe, ..sir Edward Osbourne, vicary of Thornecombe. 1463 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 200 The same writinges I send you nowe by the vicarye of Porestoke. *c* 1502 *Joseph Arim.* 253 The vykary of welles, that thyder had sought,..Released he was of part of his infyrmyte. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clouts* 572 Of persons and vycaryes They make many outcryes. 1538 *North Country Wills* (Surtees, 1908) 158 To the vicarye of Willoby a mortuary.

β, γ. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 407 Thanne is many man ylost, quod a lewed vycory. 1406 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 12 Y wyt to the vekery of the same Kyrke xij d. 1428 AUDELAY *Poems* 16 Alas he ner a parsun or a vecory. *c* 1450 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1905) 134 Ther was a prest of thaksted, that whas vicory some tyme, whas brent in Smythfelde. 1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 421 The Maire..and the Vicorye and the Propters [*sic*] with them.

3. = VICAR 3.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 465 For those men fleynge the laboure of the qwere..ordeynede vicaryes to occupye theire places. 1525 *Will R. Gybbys* 26 March (Prerog. Crt. Canterb.), Alsoe to Owen Parsons my rose cuppe..; but if he shuld dye, thenne to my bretheren the Vicaries of the Quere.

4. = VICAR 4.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. ... Peter his vicary, a rente by þe yere of everich hous of kyngdom. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xiii. (1869) 8 A maister j sigh fastyng that seemede to be a vicarie of aaron or of moyses.

5. = VICAR 5.

?14.. *S. Eng. Legendary* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXII. 383/57 To myssaian þe vecory þey were betake anon, þat he hem cholde make here sacrefise to don. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 214 Whan thou haste mestere to the Service of ten thousand men, thou cal a gouernoure, and hym shal Serve ten vicaries, and wyth euery vicarie shall cvm ten leders. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* I. clviii. (1495) 166/2 One of tose sayd chyldren was made Senatour of Rome; the other Consul of Cartage, and thother vycarye in Affryque. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* (1649) 8 Yet this [council of state] is not our new intended King?..this is but his vicary.

†**Vicary**, *sb.*² *Obs.* Also 5 wycari, 6 vicarye. [a. AF. and OF. *vicarie* (*vikarie*), or ad. med.L. *vicāria*, f. L. *vicārius* VICAR.] The office or position of a vicar; a benefice held by a vicar.

c 1420 in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 119 *note*, Forasmuch as I am enfourmed that there is a vicary voide w'in your College of Hemmynburgh..I pray yow w' all myn hert that ye will graunte hym the seid vicary. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 437 The lond of the vicary of seynt Gyle..without the north gate of Oxenford. *Ibid.* 580 Longyng..to the said chirch of Seynt Petir by the town vicary. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 401/2 A wycari,..*vicaria*. 1563 BECON *Reliques of Rome* 254 Houses of holy church, graunges, personages, or vicaries, or any maneries of men of holy church. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. (1599) 185 By chance..[he] Hath got the farme of some gelt vicary. 1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martins* 4 The ambitious Bishop and Monarch of Rome..in his pretended Vicary for the Messias. 1728 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5079/3 The Vicary, part of Killcrusaper Tythes.

†**Vicary**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vicāri-us.*] Vicarious; delegated.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 85 If ymagis be worschipid, not bi vicary worschip, but by þe same worschip of God, doules it is idolatrie. 1660 J. LLOYD *Prim. Epis.* 25 Putting the hand and seal of his highest Vicary authority, as God's Vicegerent, to the resolves of the subordinate Vicary authority of the Vicegerents of our blessed Mediator..Jesus Christ.

Vicayr(e, obs. forms of VICAR.

Vice (vəis), *sb.*¹ Forms: 3– vice (5–6 *Sc.* wice), 4–6 vyce (5–6 *Sc.* wyce); 5 vise, wise, wisse; 5 vys, vijs (vyhs, *Sc.* vis), 6 vyse, *Sc.* wys. [a. AF. and OF. *vice* (mod.F. *vice*, = Pr. *vici*, Sp. and Pg. *vicio*, It. *vizio*), ad. L. *vitium* fault, defect, failing, etc.]

1. Depravity or corruption of morals; evil, immoral, or wicked habits or conduct; indulgence in degrading pleasures or practices.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4085 Hit is ney vif ȝer þat we abbeþ yliued in such vice, Vor we nadde no3t to done, & in such delice. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24701 (Edinb.), If ani man in vice be cast He mai him draw fra þat last And be þat he was are. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4116 In wham al þe tresor of malice sal be hidde with alle maner of vice. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 Tho was the vertu sett above And vice was put under fote. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xxiv. 70 Vyce destroyeth the myght and the rygour of the sowle. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 18 God..beryth alle men gladly Wych to hym preye, puryd from vyhs. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc. 3662 Quhen thai tak it our measur, Thai turne in wys and in ariioure. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XL (Percy Soc.) 46 Fy upon slouth, the nourysher of vyce, Whych unto youth doth often prejudice. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 b, That churche..is replenyshed with theftes, robberies, and all other kynd of vice. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 123 As, vertue is to be insued: *Ergo*, vice is to be eschewed. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 5 Instructing them more amply in the knowledge of virtue, and the hatred of vice. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 104 It is impossible but that Vice must reign, where People are so ignorant of the commands of God. 1709 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 109 Vice is vice to him who is guilty of it. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, IV. Wks. 1813 V. 395 In order to avoid vice (says he), men must practise perpetual mortification. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i, Vice cannot fix, and virtue cannot change,..For vice must have variety. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 406 To exist by beggary or plunder, in idleness and vice. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 6 You, who blush for your mirth because your mirth is vice.

b. Personified.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 602 A son of myn bastard, Whos name ys Vyce—he kepeth my vaward. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 154 Vertue it selfe, of Vice must pardon begge. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 760, I hate when vices can bolt her arguments, And vertue has no tongue to check her pride. 1739 R. BULL tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 78 Oft in the mingled Scene, I've chanc'd to see A rev'rend Vice, a grey Iniquity. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 80 Alike they scorn the pomp of tyrant-Power, And coward Vice, that revels in her chains. 1784 COWPER *Task* III 106 Vice has such allowance, that her shifts And specious semblances have lost their use. 1813 SHELLEY *Falsehood & Vice* 11 Where .. War's mad fiends the scene environ,..There Vice and Falsehood took their stand.

2. A habit or practice of an immoral, degrading, or wicked nature.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23286 Þai..Ne wald noght here bot þair delices, þat drogh þam vntil oþer vices. 1340 *Ayenb.* 17 Vor prede makeþ of elmesse senne, and of uirtuus vices. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 308 þat loue myȝte wexe Amonge þe foure vertues and vices destroye. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 205 Als often [as] he is touchid wyth eny vyce. *Ibid.*, Ofte Prayer quynchyth the Pryckynges of vices. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* I. 1 (1883) 9 Whan he receiueth not ner taketh hede unto them that repreue hym and his vices. 1545

Brunelow *Lamond.* 79 They sett vp and mayntayne idolatrye, and other innumerable vices and wickednesse. 1586 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 458 Such unaccustomed vices.. semed not so muche to be forboden, as shewed. 1604 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 170 The Gods are iust, and of our pleasant vices Make instruments to plague vs. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 3 Nor [to] speak of Persons otherwise, than as the mention of their Virtues or Vices is essential to the work in hand. 1789 Law *Serious C.* ii. (1732) 16 How it comes to pass that Swearing is so common a Vice amongst Christians. 1772 *Junius Lett.* xlv. (1788) 257 There are degrees in all the private vices. 1828 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. ii. 46 An Englishman's worst vice is more human than a Roman's best virtue. 1841 Emerson *Ess.* I. x. (1903) 280 The virtues of society are vices of the saint. 1878 J. C. Morison *Gibbon* 260 Madame de Maintenon,..a woman, cold as ice and pure as snow, was freely charged with the most abhorrent vices.

b. Const. *of* (the vice in question).

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5967 þou art falle þan yn þe vyce Of coueytyse, þeft, and auaryce. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 7 Thru þe vicis of ydilnes, gret foly.., & vantones. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 118 Þer may no man fynde a payne, forto poynych dewly þe vyce of vnkyndnes. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlix. 1 In vice most vicius he excellis, That with the vice of tressone mellis. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 325 How subiect wee old men are to this vice of Lying. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods* lv. *Ep. to Friend* 8 Not like their country neighbours that commit Their vice of loving for a Christmas-fit. 1754 J. Edwards *Freed. Will* III. v. 171 The Vertue of Temperance is regarded..as a necessary Means of gratifying the Vice of Covetousness. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint* 195 The dwarf..doubling all his master's vice of pride, Made answer sharply that she should not know.

c. In horses: A bad habit or trick. Also without article (cf. sense 1).

1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v., Bad Horsemen occasion most of these Vices, by correcting unduely or out of time. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The rider is first cautiously to find whether this Vice proceeds from real stubbornness, or from faintness. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 154 The horse was warranted sound, free from vice, and not more than three years old. 1847 T. Brown *Mod. Farriery* 377 Of all the vices incidental to the horse, shying is one of the worst. *a* 1901 F. W. H. Myers *Hum. Personality* (1903) I. 200 Those defects of stability which in a horse we call vice.

3. A character in a morality play representing one or other vice; hence, a stage jester or buffoon. Very common *c* 1560–1630; now only *Hist.*

1551–2 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 73 One vyces dagger & a ladle with a bable pendante..deliverid to the Lorde of mysrules foole. 1553 *Respublica* (1905) 1 Avarice. ..The vice of the plaie. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 147 His face made of brasse, like a vice in a game, His iesture like Dauus, whom Terence doth name. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 156 He stands at their deuotion, and is but like an Ape, a Parrot, or a Vice in a play, to prate what is prompted or suggested vnto him. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 162 Lucein a common vice in playes followed the stage and acted thereon an hundred yeares. 1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 377 For I had rather..not to have to doe with Clowns and Vices. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* I. 113 Tom was the vice of every comedy, and the punch of every puppet-shew of his time. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 140 *note*, I remember to have seen a stage direction for the vice, to lay about him lustily with a great pole. 1886 A. W. Ward *Old Eng. Drama* (1901) 297 A favourite piece of horse-play in the old miracles and morals, when the Vice belabours the Devil.

transf. 1565 Calfhill *Answ. Treat. Crosse* (1846) 210 When the Vice is come from the Altar, and the people shall have no more sport [etc.].

4. Moral fault or defect (without implication of serious wrongdoing); a flaw in character or conduct.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 106 Sir Henry mad þe fyne, & mad þe mariage. Þe may withouten vice, his weddyng was wele dight. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 355 For hardyment with foly is vis; Bot hardyment, that mellit is Vith vit, is vorschip ay. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 161 Yet forgiue me God, That I doe bragge thus; this your ayre of France Hath blowne that vice in me. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 229 Whilest they thinke it enough to be without vice, they fall into that same maine vice to lacke vertues. 1794 Paley *Evid.* III. iv. (1817) 319 Contempt, prior to examination, is an intellectual vice. 1827 Macaulay *Ess., Machiavelli* (1897) 44 Ferocity and insolence were not among the vices of the national character.

5. A fault, defect, blemish or imperfection, in action or procedure or in the constitution of a thing.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr's T.* 93 He with a manly voys seith this message,..Withouten vice of silable or of lettre. *a* 1400 *Bk. Curtasye* 131 in *Babees Bk.*, In salt saler yf þat þou pit Oþer fisshe or fleysshe þat men may wyt, Þat is a vyce, as men me telles. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 911 The vesare, the aventaile,..Voyde with-owttyne vice, with wyndowes of syluer. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 100 The londis fatte, or lene, or thicke, or rare, Or drie, or moyst, and not withouten vice. 1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict., Anacoluthos*, a vice in writyng or speakynge, whan the wordes aunswere not the one to the other. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 257 The foulest vice in language is to speake barbarously. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxii. 188 There growes neither bread nor wine in these Ilands, for that the too great fertilitie and the vice of the soile suffers them not to seede. 1700 Rowe *Ambitious Step-Mother* Ded., I will engage not to be guilty of the common Vice of Dedications. 1709 Shelvocke *Artillery* III. 166 The first and most remarkable Vice in Rockets. 1781 J. Moore *View Soc. Italy* (1790) I. xxxvii. 405 In edifices..capable of sublimity from their bulk the vice of diminishing is not compensated by harmony. 1820 Southey in C. C. Southey *Life* (1849) III. 274 The vice of the Friend is its roundaboutness. 1884 A. W. Fonblanque in *Life & Labours* (1874) 313 Tenacity to fopperies and neglect of essentials is the vice of our Service. 1888 Armstrong in *Nature* XXIV. 452 The vice of the steam-engine lies in its inability to utilise heat of comparatively low grade.

b. A physical defect or blemish; a deformity; a taint, imperfection, or weakness in some part of the system.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T.* 99 Myda hadde vnder his longe heres Growynge vpon his heed two asses eres; The which vice he hydde, as he best myghte. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 281 If it so be þat allopucia come þ of vijs of humouris, ..þanne vicera wole be in þe skyn. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule*, etc. 81 Iuyse of caprifolie þat is called licium availeþ bi itself to al þe vices of þe mouþe. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 218 Demosthenes..laburd so agayn a vice & ane impediment in his mouthe, þat no man myght speke fayrer. 1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 Fj, Nat that the dyuturnyte indyketh the curacyon, but the vyce of the blode. 1598 Hulcot, Vice of a shorte breath, or winde, *apnea*. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 41, I perceive I doe anticipate the vices of age. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 693 Launce the Sore, And cut the Head; for 'till the Core be found, The secret Vice is fed, and gathers Ground. 1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 303 Physicians..attribute most Disorders of the Body to some Vice in the Blood. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 65 The numerous vices which consist in a disunion or separation in the median line. *Ibid.* 104 Vices of conformation are observed in some of these membranes. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* iii, Shall I take a thing so blind, Embrace her as my natural good; Or crush her, like a vice of blood?

† c. A spoiled or vitiated condition. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. vi. (Bodl. MS.), Mete and wyne ikept in suche a vessel take þ an horrible sauoure and smelle of þe vice of bras.

6. Viciousness, harmfulness.

1837 [Miss Maitland] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 162 The poison..will dry up, .but..will not lose its virtue, or rather its vice. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. v, In fact, half the vice of the Slogger's hitting is neutralized, for he daren't lunge out freely.

7. *Comb.* a. With pa. ppples., as *vice-bitten, -corrupted, -created, -haunted, -polluted, -worn*; also *vice-sick* adj.

1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 115 For a Devil to be so Vice-haunted as that he should roare at the picture of a Vice burnt in a pece of paper..is a passion exceeding all apprehension. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* II. 56 These our vice-corrupted times. 1735 Thomson *Liberty* II 406 Independence stoops the head, To Vice enslav'd, and Vice-created Wants. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* V. xxx. 186 What a paltry creature is a man vice-bitten, and sensible of detected folly. 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Choephoræ* 337 Rouse, sting, and drive the vice-polluted wretch With brazen scourges tortur'd thro' the city. *a* 1849 H. Colehidge *Ess.* (1851) II. 223 He has converted..the over-grown coxcomb boy, into the vice-sick, dispirited debauchee. 1884 'Edna Lyall' *We Two* iv, The usual careworn or viceworn faces. 1890 E. Johnson *Rise Christendom* 204 Many a vice-haunted monk must have gone mad but for this resource.

b. With pres. ppples., as *vice-loathing, -punishing, -rebuking, -taming, -upbraiding.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. *Imposture* 506 Vice-loathing Lord, pure Justice, Patron strong, Law's life, Right's rule; will he do any wrong? *Ibid.* II. *Babylon* 35 Such vice-upbraiding objects Who..Spares neither mother, brother, kiff, nor kin. 1611 Cotgr., *Satyre*, a Satyre; an Inuectiue, or vice-rebuking Poeme. 1619 A. Newman *Pleas. Vision* (1840) 5 And still, vice-punishing Authority, He (outlaw-like) would slight. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. iii. v, Religious Plato, and vice-taming Orpheus.

8. *attrib.*, as *vice-complexion.*

1633 Quarles *Embl.* II. x. 4 A Hagg, repair'd with vice-complexion, paint, A quest-house of complaint.

Vice (vais), *sb.*[4] Forms: (4 vis, vice), 4–6 vys (5 vijs, 6 *Sc.* wys), vyse, 5–6 *Sc.* wise, 6– vise; 4–6 (9) vyce (6 fyce), 4– vice. [a. OF. *vis* (also mod.F.), *vis, vits*, etc. :—L. *vītis* vine, with reference to the spiral growth of the tendrils. So Pr. *vits*, It. *vite* screw.]

1. A winding or spiral staircase. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

[1334–5 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 73 In j serrura empt. pro hostio in le Vis in novo Campanile, ij d.] 1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* vi. 8 Bi a vyce [L. *cochlea*] thei stieden vp into the mydil sowpynge place, and fro the mydil into the thridde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 87 He ordeyned games and plaies, and made walles and vices, and obere strong places. 1435 *Contract for Fetheringhay Ch.* (1841) 28 In the said stepill shall be a Vice townyng, servyng till the said Body, Isles and Qwere. *c* 1450 *Contin. Brut* 347 An aungell come doun fro þe stage on high, by a vice, and sette a croune of golde & precious stones & perles apon he Kinges hed. 1585 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 244 The byldyng and fynysshyng of the vise of Seynt James's Chirche. 1543 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* fol. 36, vi. days warke and a half abowt the sowth ile and the vyse off the stepull. 1648 Hexham II. s.v. *Spille*, A Vice to gett up on, or a Winding-stares.

1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* I. 16 A handsome stone vice or spiral staircase. 1900 Hope in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* XV. 334 In the north-east corner is a vice, partly built of glazed bricks.

† b. The case or shaft of a spiral stair. *rare.*

1486 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 93 Thei shal make..the Roofe of the vice of the staire. And..shal.. fynde alle the bord and tymbre..for the Roof of the vice aforsaid. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1312, I rise and walkt ..Till I a winding staire found, And held the vice aye in my hond, And upward softly so gan creepe.

† 2. A device of the nature of a screw or winch for bending a crossbow or catapult. Hence *bow* (etc.) *of vice. Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 3970 Richard bent an arweblast off vys, And schotte it to a tour. [1372–3 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 397/10 m. 3. ij. vices ad tendendum ballistas.] ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2494 Thane they beneyde [*read* bendyde] in burghe bowes of vyse. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 4027 Awblasteris, and bowis of wise, And al thynge þat mycht mak seruice.

† b. A mechanical or device by which some piece of apparatus, etc., is worked. *Obs.* (common in the 16th c.).

Orig. no doubt implying some application of a screw, but in later use employed more loosely and perhaps associated with Device 7 (cf. Vice *sb.*[3]).

a 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) II. 780 Man mai..þinche muche wonder hou hij were areerd For nis þer noþer gyn ne vys þat hit myste do. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* iii. (Percy Soc.) 25 The little turrets with ymages of golde About was set, whiche with the wynde aye moved, Wyth propre vices. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. clvi. 145 Imagys on horse backe aperyd out of sondrye placis, and after departyd agayne by meane of sertayne vyces. 1547 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) II. 1 He shewed a picture of the resurrection of our Lord made with vices, which putt out his legges of sepulchres..and turned his heade. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* p. xiii b/2 The vice, or meanes, wherby this Instrumente is opened and shutte agayne. *a* 1614 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 169 His whole body goes all upon skrewes, and his face is the vice that moves them. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 49 Idolles, and Statues, which artificially are moued by vices & gynnes. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Warres* VIII. 80 All the power was in the Burgesses whose pleasure they were nominated and moved, wooden Puppets with a Vice.

† c. A clasp or fastening for a hood. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/1 Vice, hood sperynge, *spira.*

† 3. A screw. *Obs.*

Not always clearly distinguishable from sense 2 b.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 6482 Many vys and many sotyl pyn In þe stede he made aboute goon, þe crafty lokkes vndoynge euerychon. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xvii. (1869) 184 þe angulshe þat so harde presseth troubel herte, þat it thinketh it is streyned in a pressour shet with a vys. 1450 *Fyzshynge w. Angle* (1883) 8 [A staff] with a pyke yn þe neþer ende fastnyed with a remevyng vise. 1527 *Inv. Goods Dk. Richmond* 18 in *Camden Misc.* III, A Bedstede of waynscote..well kerved, with vices and garthes to the same. 1551 Sir J. Williams *Accompts* (Abbotsford Cl.) 73 Paid for viij paier of vices of iron made for the saied seven images. *Ibid.* 76 An other paier of candellstickes..lackinge a vice. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xxvii. H iij b, In his backe prepare a vice or scrue to be fastned in the top of some staffe. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 484 A broad goblet or standing peece there was..with a devise appendant to it, for to be set too and taken off by a vice. 1603 Stow *Ann.* 1081 A Pinnace was made by an house Carpenter;..this was made to be taken a-sunder, and set togither with vices. 1611 Coryat *Crudities* 134 He is pourtrayed in white stone, ..his deske with a vice turning in it, and his bookes vnder it.

b. A screw-press. *rare.*

1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Agony* ii, Sinne is that presse and vice, which forceth pain To hunt his cruell food through ev'ry vein. [1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxi. 548 Apples were pressed in a mill with a screw or vice.]

c. *spec.* (See quot.)

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2716/2 *Vyce* (Coopering), a gimlet-pointed hand-screw employed to hold up the head while the staves are closed around it.

† 4. A tap of a vessel; a screw-stopper. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 238 *Vne vis*,..a vice of a cuppe, or suche lyke. *Ibid.* 284/2 Vyce to putte in a vessell of wyne to drawe the wyne out at, *chantepleure.* 1564 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 174 One vice of gold enameled, one sylver spone doble gilt. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xlii. lxxv, This took the water from the azure skie From whence, with turning of some cock or vice, Great store of water would mount up on high. 1612 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 305 Flagones of glase with vices covered with leather, the dozen, xii li. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. v. (1664) 26 The bottle is stopped and shut up with a stoppel, but the flaggon with a vice.

5. A tool composed of two jaws, opened and closed by means of a screw, which firmly grip and hold a piece of work in position while it is being filed, sawn, or otherwise operated upon; used especially by workers in metal or carpenters. Cf. Hand-vice.

The spelling *vise* is now usual only in U.S.

1300 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 72 Unum vise et diversa files. 1584 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 145 All my stiddes,..one vice, all my naile tooles and all my hammers. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* I. 5 The wider the two ends of the Spring stand asunder, the wider it throws the Chaps of the Vice open. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 321/2 The Vice, called the Bench Vice,..holdeth all sorts of Iron work that requires Fileing. 1745 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect.* No. 10 (1748) II. 201 There is no doubt but a pair of globes will make a better figure in their anti-chambers than the vice and wheel. 1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 258 In this machine the body to be pulled asunder is held fast by two strong vices. 1827 N. Arnott *Physics* I. 177 It is a screw which draws together the iron jaws of a smith's vice. 1837 Dickens *Dorrit* xxiii, A long low workshop, fitted with benches, and vices, and tools, and straps, and wheels. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* xiii. (1880) 464 The vice for trout files is a small brass table vice. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 284 For nearly all operations connected with watch-making either the work or the tool is gripped in the vice.

fig. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 24 If I can close with him, I care not for his thrust..If I but fist him once: if he come but within my Vice. 1866 B. Taylor *Poems, The Waves*, Bound in the vice Of the Arctic ice. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 803/1 The doctor's hands, picking at the iron vise at his windpipe, grew feebler.

b. Used in similes or comparisons.

1818 Scott *F. M. Perth* ii, To secure him with a grasp like that of his own iron vice, was, for the powerful Smith, the work of a single moment. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. v. 110 Catesby stretched out his hand across the table; took hold of that of his friend, and held it with a grasp as of an iron vice. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xii. 363 The jaws of a gigantic vice appear to have closed upon them. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 90/1 The other hand.. was crossed upon my breast, and held there as if in a vise.

6. A tool used for drawing lead into grooved rods for lattice windows.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vice*, ..an Instrument with two Wheels made use of to draw the Lead in Glasing-work. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., There are some of these Vices double, and that will draw two Leads at once. 1823 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 638 A vice, with different cheeks and cutters, to turn out the different kinds of lead as the magnitude of the window or the squares may require.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) †*vice-door, -foot*; (sense 3) †*vice-candlestick, -hasp, -nail, -pin, -turcas*; (sense 5) *vice-bench, -block, -board, -end, -jaw, -leg, -maker, -pin, -pad, -screw*, etc.; †**vice-arch** (see quot.); **vice-hand** (see quot.; in mod. use = next); **vice-man**, a workman who manipulates a vice (cf. quots.). Also VICE-LIKE *a.*[2]

Also *vice-cap, -clamp, -press* (Knight, 1875–84).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 71 Pere were somtyme bulden wib *vice arches and fostes [*v.r.* voutes] in pe manere of Rome [L. *Romano more cocturata*]. 1850 WEALE *Dict. Terms*, **Vice-bench*, the bench to which a vice is fixed. 1895 *Model Steam Engine* 94 *Vice Blocks.—Of various sizes, shapes, and patterns, used as supports upon which to bend tubes. 1808 A. SCOTT *Poems* 140 An' Vulcan loud, wi' squeakin clang, Was at the *vice-board rispin Fu' soon that day. 1892 in Feuilleton *Revels O. Edin.* (1908) 176 *Vice candlesticks xii, xii a. 1576–7 *Ibid.* 263, vj vice-candlesticktes at xij^s the peece, vj^s. 1687 MISSON *Gt. Fr. Dict.* 1, *Machoires d'Etau*, ..*Vice-chops, or the Chops of a Vice. 1354 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 91 In mercede.. reparanti is serur. et clavea del *Vicedores in ecclesia. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 89 Seynt Marie preest to hane a keye of my cost of the vys dore goyng vp to the candilbem. 1502 *Patton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 125 A Key..for ye fyce door. 1512–3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 261 Nayles for he garnettes on the vyse dore in the steple. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 35 At the left hand or *vice-end of the bench. 1533 in E. Law *Hampton Crt. Pal.* (1885) 348 The dore at the *vyce fote goyng up to the bartyllmentes of the hauld. 1844 BULWER *Chirom.* 76 The *Vice-hand or Thumb, extended out with the Fore-Finger. 1612 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 339 *Vice haspes the dozen, xiis. 1793–4 *Matthews's Bristol Directory*, Austin, Aaron, Clock and *Vice-maker, Old-market. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Vice-maker*, a manufacturer of iron vices. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* 179 The business of the *vice-man is to file and smooth the work from the rough marks of the hammer, to fit joints, and finish screw-bolts and nuts. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Vice-men*, smiths whose work is at the vice instead of the anvil. 1488–92 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 85 A grete *vice nail maid of silver. 1502 *Ibid.* II. 26 For mending of ane vice nale of the Kingis cowp that was brokin. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* I. ix. 34 His screwes, with which he shall unloose every *vice-piane or engine about the musquet. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 353/2 They neither want Vice-Pins nor Scourers. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. vii. 28 The Hole for the Vice-pin. 1823 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 145 The vice-pin intended to be screwed..is placed in the stock. *Ibid.* 146 A very simple machine used for cutting *vice-screws. 1549–50 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 58 The gret scheris, ane taingis, ane *vice turkes.

†**Vice**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Also 4 viis, vijs, wijs, 4–5 viys (4 uiys, 5 vyys); 4 vis, vys(e; 5 vyce. [a. OF. *vis* :—L. *vīs-um, visus* face.] Face, visage.

Common in the first half of the 14th century.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18841 His vice [*v.rr.* vijs, viys] stunded wit rede was blend; On nese and muth was noght at mend. *a* 1325 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 244 As we..went toward paradys; bus he bot him in be viis. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 104 Vnto be se side chaced bei Sir Lowys, He durst not abide, no turne Thebald his vis. ? *c* 1400 *Emare* 849 Lene we at be lady, clere of vyce. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7733 His vice was red as any fir.

Vice, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 vyse, 6 vise, *Sc.* wice, vyce, 9 *dial.* vise. [Aphetic f. *avise, avyse*, etc., ADVICE.] Counsel; advice.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. (Skeat) I. 60 Now thou comest goodly by thyn owne vyse, to comforte me with wordes. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 1009 Mot euery king have this wice in mynd In tyme. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) v. 23 Sic sensyeoris tymis our weill this sessone; Vpoun thair vyce war lang to waik.

a 1847 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* (E.D.S.) 40 *Vice*, or *Vise*, advice.

†**Vice**, *sb.*[5] *Obs.* Also 5 vyce, 6 vyse. [Aphetic f. DEVICE.] Design, figure, device.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1539 (D.), A vesture of vyce of vyolet floures. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* (Percy Soc.) 180 On the fourth head, on the helmet crest There was a streamer ryght white,..Wheron was written with vyse of the best, My name is Variaunce. *a* 1650 *Sir Launfewell* 216 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 148 In that pauillion was a bed of price that was coured ore with goodlie vice.

Vice (vais), *sb.*[6] Chiefly *Sc.* [a. L. *vice*, abl. of *vicis* (gen. sing.), change, turn, stead, place, etc.]

1. Stead or place (of another). Now *rare*.

1598 FLORIO, *Vece*, stead, place, liew, vice, standing for another. 1607 HUME *Admonit.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 13 If suche a man, indewed with so gryte giftis, did so, Who ar ye litle ones to succede wittinglie in his vice? 1672 *Burgh Rec. Aberdeen* (1872) 283 Nominating and setleing ane post-master..in the deceist John Wells his vice. 1681 STAIR *Institit.* I. xix. § 55. 397 Succeeding in the vice is a kind of intrusion, whereby after warning any person comes in possession, by consent of the parties warned. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 1027 The person succeeding in the vice . will be subjected as an intruder, unless he have a colourable title of possession to protect him. 1888 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vic.* c. 101 § 105 The mediate over superior, as acting in the vice of such superior.

†**2.** Turn (of sequence or alternation). *Obs.*

1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 356 It was Mr Thomas Sydserf his *vice* to have sermon that day in the Grayfriar kirk. 1672 *Burgh Rec. Aberdeen* (1872) 279 Ane ..watch of the inhabitants [to] be setled,..and no person to be absent in their vice without sickness..or vther lawfull excuse. 1712 *Ibid.* 344 That the saids elementarians..be taught for this vice be Mr. William Mennone. 1775 L. SHAW *Hist. Moray* 357 After this, the Family of Seafort claimed a [illegible]). 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 34 Messrs. vice-patrons [of the parish]. The former has the next vice.

Vice (vais), *sb.*[7] Also 6 vise. [Absolute use of VICE- *prefix.*] One who acts in the place of another; a substitute or deputy.

In mod. use the second element is usually implied or expressed in the context, as in quot. 1892.

1597 HARVEY *Trimming T. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 17 The Barbers were serued and they cut them, and were as louue Vises to make them fit for warre. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Deputy*, is..frequently used among us, for an Office, or Employ, not a Dignity; and stands indifferently for a Vice, or Lieutenant. 1812 *Ores & Juliet* II. 180 Lord Berlington offered himself as Henry's Vice, to conduct the other end of the table. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* v. iii. 66 The few..shall fawn Round a barbarian Vice of Kings' Vicegerent. 1850 DICKENS *Blenk Ho.* x, He solaces his imagination, too, by thinking of the many Chancellors and Vices, and Masters of the Rolls, who are deceased. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harbk.* 140 It was indirectly a proof of the estimation in which the Vice [= Vice-Chancellor] was held.

Vice, obs. Sc. form of WISE *sb.* (manner).

Vice (vais), *v.*[1] [f. VICE *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** *trans.* To fix *on* with a screw. *Obs.*—[2]

1542 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* XVIII. 144 Item oone Cuppe of glasse with a cover, the fote being of silver and gilt and viced on.

2. To force, strain, or press hard as by the use of a vice; to fix, jam, or squeeze tightly.

In early use only in highly figurative context.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. ii. D j, I see false suspect Is vicde; wrung hardly in a vertuous heart. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 416 He sweares, As he had seen't, or beene an Instrument To vice you to't, that you haue toucht his Queene Forbiddenly. 1637 N. WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 12 Who viceth honour, lyes. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. iv, You find yourself suddenly viced in, from the shoulder to the hip. 1849 DE QUINCEY in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 748 The coachman's hand was vice between his upper and lower thigh. *a* 1859 — *Aelius Lamia* Wks. X. 306 The glory may envelop one in a voluminous robe,..or may pinch and vice one's arms into that succinct garment [a spencer].

3. *intr.* To employ or apply a vice. *rare*—[1].

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* (1854) 99 Pressing or impressioning of things is performed..secondely by screwing or viceing.

Hence **Vi·eing** *vbl. sb.*

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een vijsinge*, a Vicing, or a Screwing.

†**Vice**, *v.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* Also **wyce**. [app. ad. OF. *vicier*, med.L. *vitiāre*, L. *vitiāre* to spoil, vitiate, but with change of meaning.] *trans.* To treat arrogantly or oppressively.

For the explanation of *valentyne* see VOLENTINE.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 918 Thus wycit [*v.r.* viciit] he the walentyne thraly and thrawin, That all the fowlis..pleuzeit to Natur.

‖ **Vice** (vəi·si), *prep.* [L. *vice* : see VICE *sb.*[6]] In place of; in succession to.

1770 *Scots Mag. Jan.* 55/1, 6th reg. of foot: Capt. Mathew Derenzy to be Major, vice John Forrest; by purchase. 1787 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 1015/1 The Lieutenant-Governor has appointed..James Miller .. Lieutenant of the said fort, vice Frederic Gottached, who is gone to Halifax. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* III. ix, A jarring bat;—a right-hand bat for a left-handed player;—a hat, *vice* stumps. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* XXII, He was gardener and out-door man, vice Upton, resigned. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xi. (ed. 3) 111 It was..soon afterwards reorganized, with Mr. Randegger, *vice* Mr. Leslie, as conductor.

Vice- (vais), *prefix*, representing L. *vice* in place of: see prec. Originally this governed a following word in the genitive, but in late L. the tendency to use the phrase as a compound noun appears in *vicequæstor* (equivalent to *prōquæstor* of analogous origin). In med.L. such formations became common, as *vicecomes, -consul, -decanus, -dominus, -princeps, -rector, -rex*, etc. From the 13th cent. onwards a number of these appear in OF., at first usually with the prefix in the form of *vis-, vi-*, but latterly assimilated as a rule to the Latin original. Similar compounds with *vice-* are also employed in It., Sp., and Pg. The older examples in English, having been taken immediately from French, also present the prefix in the reduced forms *vis-* (*vys-, vis-*) and *vi-* (*vy-*), subsequently replaced by *vice-* (also in early use *vise-*) except in VISCOUNT. The more important compounds are given below as main words; the following are illustrations of less usual or more recent terms.

a. With personal designations, especially titles of office, indicating that the person so called acts temporarily or regularly in place of, in the absence of, or as assistant to, another who properly holds the office or bears the title or name, as *vice-abbot, -agent, -Apollo, -apostle, -architect*, etc. Also occas. *transf.*, as *vice-nature*.

In the dictionaries of Florio and Mége many examples of similar forms are employed to render the Italian and French equivalents, e.g. *vice-capitain, -cardinal, -censor, -commissary*, etc.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* II. (1662) 30 Gregory of H[illegible]..was bred a Benedictine Monke in Rimney, where he became Prior, or *Vice-Abbot. 1599 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xli. § 1 A vassal whom Satan hath made his *Vice-regent. 1648 CRASHAW *Poems* (1904) 238 Him the Muses love to follow, Him they call their *vice-Apollo. 1642 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Anim.* xiii. 124 They were *Comites, and *Vicarii Apostolorum*, *Vice-Apostles. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 598 M. Perfait.., *vice-architect of the French navy. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2617/2 The Troops there under the Command of the Ban and *Vice-Ban, were obliged by the bad weather to separate. 1686 *Ibid.* No. 2201/2 He who formerly commanded that Garison v[illegible] *Vice-Ban. 1778 STILES *Diary* (1901) II. 288 The Diploma Examinatorium ..was delivered to the President, who gave it to the *Vice Bedellus, d[illegible] him to read it. 1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Nevass.* 433 The Baron of Limpurgh *Vice-Butler to the King of Bohemia. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 20 Hauing first put to flight the *vice-Caliſa of Aegypt. 1856 *All Year Round* No. 46. 475 The unmanageable Arry, who was a species of *vice-chair, and was also provided with a hammer. 1888 J. HARDY in *Proc. Ber. Nat. Club* IX. 440 Mr. Charles Watson..discharged the duties of the [illegible] chair. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Vice-chairman*, a person who presides at the lower end of a table, supporting and aiding the chairman or president; the deputy-chairman of a board of officers. 1699 BAXTER *Key Catth.* xlii. 300 Prove that Christ hath commissioned a *Vice-Christ. 1692 — *Nat. Churches* I. 42 Being an Usurpation of Christ's Office, and making a Vice-Christ, which is an Antichrist. 1712 [see VICE-GOD]. 1497 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 58 It is thought expedient that the Popes Holynesse comaund the said aide..to be publisshed by his *vicecollectour. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Vice-commodore*, a deputy commander of a naval squadron. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 541 Edward the third..did substitute Edward Bohun, the Earles younger brother, *Vice-Constable vnder him. 1878 J. GAIRDNER *Hist. Rich. III*, iv. 175 Sir Ralph Ashton was..appointed Vice-Constable..to exercise all the powers of the Lord High Constable for the particular emergency. 1566 tr. *Bene's Admon. Parit* D j, Cathedrall churches,.. where master Deane, master *Vicedeane,..readers, vergerirs, &c. liue in great idlenesse. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Ceremn.* III. viii. 161 Deanes, Vice-Deans,..Subdeacons. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3341/1 The Vice-Dean with the the 'Sub-Dean'. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 153 He made choice of his..master or generall of the host, or *vice-dictatour. 1888 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 249 A *vice-director of the military college. 1818 SHELLEY *Eng. Hills* 244 But Death promised..That he would petition for Her to be made *Vice-Emperor. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxvi. 451 Before Diæus came to Corinth, a council was held there by the *vice-general Sosicrates. 1721 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 188 Would he not have been a *vice-high-priest as well as a viceroy? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. x, As the law hath foolishly omitted this office of *vice-husband, or guardian to an eloped lady. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* XXIX, And so she thought it prudent to connect her With a vice husband, chiefly to protect her. 1609 J. DAVIES *Hum. Heaven* II. cvi, My *vice Ioues quoth he are ne'r afraid. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 112 Lupus Olanus the conductor of one of the shippes of Nicuesa, and nowe also *vice Leuetenaunt in his steede. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2527/3 And after them Count Popenheim, *Vice-Marshal of the Empire, carried the Sword of State naked before the Emperor. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 212 He hath not played the *Vicemaster of Poules, and the Foolemaster of the Theater for naughtes. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* G j, The Vice-maisters place of the fees hath not allowed one halfe penny for stipend. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 370 Potiphar. made him his vice-master. 1886 ABP. BENSON in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. 122, I sate..next to the Vice-Master. *a* 1632 DONNE *Love's Deity* 1, Since this god produc'd a Destiny, And that *vice-nature, custome, lets it bee. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4395/2 Advices from Hungary say, That Prince Ragotzki had declared Count Berezini *Vice-Palatine of that Kingdom. 1775 L. SHAW *Hist. Moray* 357 FRASER of Strichen, who, as *Vice-Patron, presented Mr. John Anand in 1640. 1793 [see VICE *sb.*[6] 2]. 1643 PRYNNE *Popish R. Favourite* 69 And therefore the Popes Holinesse hath given these his *Vice popes instructions, Commissions thus to do. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* I. (1721) 54 As the Pope keeps the Keys, they say, of Heaven Gates, being *Vice-porter under St. Peter. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 37 The eleven remaining dioceses..were governed by twelve vicars, or *vice-prefects, whose name..explains the nature. of their office. 1877 J. MORRIS *Troub. Cath. Forefathers* Ser. III. 116 During this time he was Socius to Father Henry Garret, Vice-Prefect of the English Mission. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. i. 582 Those legions which were commaunded by P. Cornelius the *Vice-prætour in Sicille. 1820–12 BENTHAM *Nation. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 167 The celebration of the ceremony..proved by the habitual operator, the *vice prie-u, a tobacconist. 1820 *Oxford Univ. Cal.* 229 Edmund Hall... Principal, George Thompson, D.D...*Vice-Principal, Daniel Wilson, M.A. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* i. (1904) 7/2, I became very intimate with him [Whately] in 1825, when I was his Vice-Principal at St. Alban Hall. 1837 G. OLIVER *Coll. Hist. Cath. Relig. Cornwall*, etc. 486 Adeodatus PAngevin, elected *vice-prior at the fourth general chapter. 1620 *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) II. 2 To present ourselves first to the Protector and *Vice-protector. *c* 1890 STEVENSON *In South Seas* I. xiv (1900) 122 The sergeant of gendarmerie enjoys the style of the *vice-resident. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xx. III. 421 The undue return made by the *vice-sheriff, who had substituted another name. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4015/2 Baron Taston is made *Vice-Stadholder, and as such will preside over the Regency at Amberg. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 5864/2 Lieutenant-General Weebe, Vice-Stadtholder of Norway, is lately dead. 1835 *App. Munic. Corp. Rep.* IV. 2345 (Lincoln), A Deputy Recorder, *Vice Steward, Gaol Chaplain [etc.]. *19th Cent.* XXXVI. 423 The *vice-sultan of Hausa [illegible]ived us right well. 1892 BRATHWAIT *Whimsies, Londons Brother* 129 Hee was once in election to haue been a *vice-verger in Amsterdam, but he wanted an audible voice. 1848 CURZON *Monast. Levant* x. iii. (1877) 221 The great man, who was *vice-viceroy on this occasion.

b. With nouns or adjs. derived from personal designations, as *vice-apostolical, -cancellarian, -deity, -duchy*, etc., or associated in some way with the holding of office, as *vice-chair, -government, -throne*.

This type is represented in late L. *vice-gestura*, med.L. *vice-comitatis, -comitatus, -dominium*, etc., and occurs freely in French and the other Romanic languages.

1641 'SYNECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* xiii. 119 He bids him goe on with speed to execute his *Vice-Apostolicall office. 1843 WARNEFORD in *Life* (1858) 285 Much too should I like to see you in your *Vice-Cancellarian chair. 1859 THACKERAY ——— lxxvi, The chair was taken by Sir Francis Clavering,..the *vice-chair being ably filled by — Barker, Esq. 1864 *Cyclists' Tour. Club Gaz.* Mar. 81/1 Messrs. W. B. Tanner and A. R. Sheppee occupied the vice-chairs. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 394 You have to reconcile the pretensions of the Popes with their practices,..their *vice-deity with their crimes. 1611 FLORIO, *Vicedominussa*, a *vice-gouernment. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. xxxvi. 113 The offer of a baronetcy and the vice-government of Virginia. 1856 MERIVALE *Hist. Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 188 In the mean time he was deputed to hold proconsular, or *vice-imperial, power beyond the city. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud Shake.* 240 His poor little vice-regal or vice-imperial parasite. *a 1617 BAYNE *On Coloss. i. & ii.* (1634) 97 We must not supply Him with *vice-ministeriall heads. 1574 *Life 30th Abp. Canterb.* Pref. C vij, The same Austen hauinge thus gotten by conquest this universall *vicepapaci ouer England. 1775 L. SHAW *Hist. Moray* 343 How far the King may claim a *Vice-Patronage, I shall not determine. 1677 MILLS *Fr. Dict.* s. *Vicecuratus*, a *Vice-principalship. 1870 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* Apr. 211 Fortunate enough to obtain the vice-principalship of the college. 1868 *Daily News* 23 Oct., The *Vice-Provostship of Eton College. *c 1890* STEVENSON *In South Seas* I. xiv. (1900) 125 He was being haled to the *vice-residency, uncertain whether to be punished or rewarded. 1884 A. FORBES *Chinese Gordon* iii. 114 A royal salute was fired, and then Gordon had to make his speech from the *vice-throne.

c. With verbs, as *vice-reign* (after *viceroy*).

1889 *Sat. Rev.* 1 June 653/2 If it were not for the Civil Service, the Viceroy simply could not vice-reign.

Vice-admiral. Also 6 *Sc.* wice admerall, weis admirall, 6 vise-, 7 visadmirall, -erall. [a. AF. *visadmirail* (OF. *visamiral*, F. *vice-amiral*): see VICE- and ADMIRAL. So It. *vice-ammiraglio*, Sp. and Pg. *vicealmirante*.]

1. A naval officer ranking next to an admiral.

1520 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 165 Your Grace hath deputed the Master of the Rolles and the Vice Admirall to examyn the Inglysh marchaunts robbed and spoyled in September. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 33 The Lorde Admirall of Englande..or any his Viceadmiralles. 1589 BIGGES *Summaria Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 21 The Lieutenant generall, the Vizeadmirall, and all the rest of the Captaines. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xi. 356 Returning now to the Viceadmiralles shippe,..they tooke the sea. 1620 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 121 The admerall and vizadmerall gave hym to understand shipps were ready to departe. 1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 108 Capt. Robinson in the Greenwich, as Admiral,..and Capt. Wild, in the Assurance, as Vice-Admiral. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver, Lilliput* viii, I..desired his Imperial Majesty to lend me..three thousand [men] under the command of his vice-admiral. 1777 R. WATSON *Philip II*, II. 259 Philip..giving him Martinez de Recalde, a seaman of great experience, for his vice-admiral. 1831 *Penny Cycl.* I. 126/2 There are also vice-admirals and rear-admirals of each flag, the former ranking with lieutenant generals..in the army. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s.v., There are vice-admirals of three grades, who hoist respectively a red, white, or blue flag.

b. (See quot. 1769.)

*a 1618 RALEIGH *Royal Navy* (1650) 37 If the Vice-Admirall of the Shire where men are mustered..had directions given, to joyn with the Musternasters.' 1770 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *State Gt. Brit.* (ed. 2) 581 A List of the Vice-Admirals. Sir John Molesworth, Bar., North parts of Cornwall. Earl Rivers, County of Essex [etc.]. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Admiral*, Vice-Admiral is also a civil officer appointed by the lords-commissioners of the admiralty. There are several of these officers established in different parts of Great-Britain, with judges and marshals under them, for executing jurisdiction within their respective districts. 1895 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 159/2.

c. (See ADMIRAL *sb.* 4.)

1598 *Act* 10 *Will. III*, c. 24 § 4 That the Master of every such Second Fishing Ship as shall enter any such Harbour or Creeke [in Newfoundland] shall be Vice-Admirall of such ..during that Fishing Season. 1708 (see ADMIRAL *sb.* 4).

† 2. A vessel commanded by a vice-admiral. *Obs.*

*c 1595 Capt. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 3 Our Generall concluded that the vice-admerall with her pinnes should sett saile and make for Plimworth before. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* 4/1 Their names were the Admirall S. Phillip, the vice Admiral S. Jacob. These were two new ships. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iv. 34 The Captaine of the Vice-Admirall..begged to encourage his Marriners. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 180 Lysander commanded the Vice-Admiral. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 9 Another Tripoline, their vice admiral, was the next day taken by the Malta gallies.

attrib. 1596 STEVENS *Span. Dict.* 1, *Almiranta*, the Vice Admiral Ship of a Fleet.

3. *Conch.* A variety of shell of the genus *Conus*.

1829 (see ADMIRAL *sb.* 7).

Hence **Vice-a'dmiralship.**

1677 Sir C. WYCH in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 128 That some man of integrity should succeed him in ye vice Admiralship of Munster.'

Vice-a'dmiralty. [f. prec. + -TY. Cf. F. *vice-amirauté*.] The office or jurisdiction of a vice-admiral (in sense 1 b); an area under the jurisdiction of a vice-admiral. *Court of vice-admiralty*, = vice-admiralty court.

1620 CAREW *Cornwall* f. 87 b, The Vice-admiralty is exercised by Mr. Charles Treuanion. 1609-28 *Sect. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 29 Daniel Gyles, Marshall of the Vice Admiralty of Southampton and the Isle of Wight. 1702 *Proclam.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3872/2 All Vice-Admirals, and Judges of the Vice-Admiralties are also to do the same. 1708 *Act* 6 *Anne* c. 11 § 19, That the Hereditable Rights of Admiralty and Vice Admiralties in Scotland be reserved to the respective Proprietors as Rights of Property. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 402 The extending the power of the courts of vice-admiralty to so enormous a degree, as deprives the people in the colonies..of their inestimable right to trials by juries. [1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxi. 283 The crown lawyers overruled all objections..and the king set up his courts of vice-admiralty in America.]

b. *Vice-admiralty court* (see quot. 1867).

1762 *Ann. Reg.* I. 127/2 Their lordships reversed the sentence of the vice-admiralty court, and ordered restitution of ships and cargoes. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 69 Appeals from the vice-admiralty courts in America..may be brought before the courts of admiralty in England. MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xxi, The True-blooded Yankee was libelled in the Vice-Admiralty Court at Cape Town. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. v. 28 The Queen..may regulate the practice of her Vice-Admiralty Courts abroad. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Vice-admiralty courts*, branches of the High Court of Admiralty, instituted for carrying on the like duties in several of our colonies, prize-courts, &c.

Vice-cha'mberlain. [VICE-.] A subordinate or deputy chamberlain; *spec.* an officer of the Royal Household under the Lord Chamberlain.

1548 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1713) XV. 81/1 Our Vice-chamberlane, Our two Principall Secretaries for the tyme being. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 56 Master Vicechamberlaine at her Maiesties..tolde the Bishop that her Maiestie misliked nothing. 1614 SELDEN *Titles of Honor* 358 Vpon knowledge thereof giuen to the Lord Chamberlaine of the Houshold or Vicechamberlaine for the time being. 1645 *Doc. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 403 Bills..subscribed and allowed by the Chamberlaine, Vicechamberlaine, or Principal Secretary of his Maiestie. 1695 LD. LONSDALE in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1915) 93 The Prince had reserved for me the Vice Chamberlain's place. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3840/2 The Rt. Hon. Peregrine Bertie Esq., Vice-Chamberlain to Her Majesty. 1780 BURKE *Econ. Reform* Wks. III. 287 He has an honourable appointment;..and he has the vice chamberlain to assist him. 1835 *App. Munic. Corp. Rep.* I. 134 The Chamberlains [at Worcester] are annually elected. .. Their business, which is performed by a deputy called a Vice-chamberlain, is to receive the rents and keep all the accounts of the corporation.

Vice-cha'ncellor. Forms: 5 vichaun-celler, 6 vychancellour, vyschancelar; 6 vice-chauncelour, -ellor, -chancelor, 6- vice-chan-cellor (7 -our); *Sc.* 6 vicechancellair, 7 -ellar, -eler. [a. OF. *vi(s)chancelier* (F. *vice-chancelier*), or ad. med.L. *vicecancellarius*: see VICE- and CHANCELLOR *sb.* So It. *vicecancelliere*, Sp. *vice-canciller*, Pg. *vicechanceller*.]

1. The deputy or substitute of an ecclesiastical chancellor; *spec.* the cardinal at the head of the Papal Chancery.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 297 This bischop indeede the prior of Dirham firste with his honoure that he is decan in that bischopryche and as vichaunceller. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 83 Six of the Abbreviators places are in the Gift of the Cardinal Vice-Chancellor. *a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Feb. 1645, Belonging to Cardinal Francesco Barberini as Vice-chancelor of the Church of Rome. 1845 SARAH AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* V. v, We have already alluded to the proceedings of his vice-chancellor, Waldkirch. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* (1887) 263 The more pressing, weighty, public, and solemn affairs of the Apostolic See..pass through the hands of the Vice-Chancellor.

2. The acting representative of the Chancellor of a university, usually the head of a college specially appointed to the office for a limited time, or the principal of the university.

1530 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 Scolers of the Universities of Oxford & Cambrydge that goo about beggyng, not beyng auctheryesed .. by the Commyssary, Chauncellour, or vichaunceller of the same. *a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 222/2 Because I had once submitted my selfe to the Vice-chauncelour, and I was thereby circumuented. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. iii. (1877) I. 80 Ouer each vniuersitie also there is a seuerall chancelor, whose offices are perpetuall, howbeit their substitutes, whom we call vicechancelors, are changed euerie yeare. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* Ded. A iij, The Reuerend Vice-Chancellor, Doctors, Proctors, Gouernors of Colledges and Hals. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1696/3 Afterwards several of the Nobility were admitted Doctors of Law, His Majesty allowing the Vice-Chancellor to be Covered in His Presence, while the Orator presented them. 1705 *Ibid.* No. 4114/2 Mr. Vice-Chancellor, and the other Members of the University, waited..upon ——— 1763-5 CHURCHILL *Author* Poems 1767 II. 128 Vice Chancellors, whose knowledge is but small, .. Ill-brook'd the gen'rous Spirit, in these days When Learning was the certain road to praise. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 48a/1 In both the English Universities the duties of the Chancellor are in nearly all cases discharged by a Vice-Chancellor. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* 235 The late Vice-Chancellor threatens to take his own children away from the church.

3. A deputy or subordinate of one or other state official bearing the title of Chancellor.

1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 267 Schir Johnne Maitland of Thirlestane, knycht, his Majestie's secretare and vice-chancellar. 1820 *Blackwood's Edin. Mag.* III. 123 Appointing him (as the said bishop) to be Vicechancellor in the Parliament, if any Lord Chancellor should not the

in Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) introd. 53 The Vice-Chancellor was dead. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 472 Mr. Hamilton, vicechancellor of the exchequer, has laid down that place. 1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Chancellor*, Sometimes the Lord Chancellor [of England] had a Vice-Chancellor, who was Keeper of the Seal. 1777 R. WATSON *Philip II*, II. 217 She was offended at their artifice, and immediately despatched her vice-chancellor to complain of their conduct. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. I. 94 The vice-chancellor [at Moscow], therefore, calmly explained the impossibility of conceding the request for troops. 1889 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XVIII. 49 Eustace (*d.* 1215), bishop of Ely,..became vice-chancellor and keeper of the royal seal, and ultimately chancellor.

b. *spec.* One of the higher judges in the former Court of Chancery.

1813 *Act* 53 *Geo. III*, c. 24 To nominate and appoint from time to time..a fit Person,..to be an additional Judge Assistant to the Lord High Chancellor,..and to be called Vice Chancellor of England. 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T., Vice Chancellor's court*, creditor's last shift. 1835 TOMLINS *Law-Dict.* I. s.v. *Chancellor*, In his judicial capacity, he hath divers assistants and officers, *viz.* the Vice-Chancellor of England,..the Masters in Chancery, &c. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 390/1 Previous to being merged in the New Supreme Court of Judicature, the Court of Chancery consisted of the Lord Chancellor,..and three Vice-Chancellors.

Hence **Vice-cha'ncellorship**, the office or dignity of a vice-chancellor; the period during which this is held.

1579 FENTON *Gudeclard.* I. 4 He made the Pope promise him .. the office of vicechancellorshippe (the principallest place in the Court of Rome). 1589 [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrat* 29 T. C. in Cambridge first inuented this violent innouation, when as his mounting ambition went through euery kinde of Ambitus, to compasse the Office of the Vice-chauncelour-ship. 1655 T. BAILY *Life Bp. Usher* 10 But now Vicechancellour-ship, Mastership and all must be laid downe. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 593 He did undergo with great honor the Vicechancellourship of this University. 1762 T. WARTON *Life Bathurst* 94 The spirited oration which he spoke in his Vice-chancellorship. 1823 SIR S. ROMILLY *Parl. Deb.* 15 Feb., The Vice-Chancellorship might in a short time become a sinecure. 1889 W. WILSON *State* § 486 (1899) 566 [The German chancellor] is, ultimately responsible in every case—even for the non-exercise of his office. The vice-chancellorship is only a convenience.

Vice-co'mital, *a.* [Cf. VICE-COUNTY *a* and COMITAL *a.*] Belonging to a vice-county (sense 2).

1859 H. C. WATSON *Cybele Brit.* IV. 275 The comital and vice-comital floras are yet incompletely ascertained.

Vice-co'nsul. [VICE-. So med.L., F., Sp., Pg. *vice-consul*, It. *viceconsolo*.]

† 1. A Roman proconsul. *Obs.*

1559 Bp. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. x. 33 Certeyn wycked persons..brought hym before their vice-consul, called Gallio. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 346 The author of this epigramme reckoneth the two times of his being viceconsull, for two whole Consulships. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 326 Aterius Labeo, a noble man of Rome, .. who otherwise had been vice-Consull in Gallia Narbonensis.

2. An assistant or deputy of a consul.

1601 W. PARRY *Trav. Sir A. Sherley* 70 The English consulls and vice consulls. 1702 W. J. *Brown's Voy. Levant* xxxii. 121 The next Morning we waited upon the Vice-Consul. *c 1744 in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxxi. 327 Which oath or affirmation, the said embassador, agent, resident, consul or vice-consul respectively, is hereby authorised to administer. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 495 The consul's presence in his port should suspend, for the time, the functions of the vice-consul. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 713 If there be a resident consul, the vice-consul is appointed and paid by him. 1882 LD. ACTON *Let. to Mary Gladstone* 9 Mar. (1904) 126 The Vice-Consul is a singularly intelligent and practical man.

Hence **Vice-co'nsular** *a.*, **Vice-co'nsulate, Vice-co'nsulship.**

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiii. (1592) 344 In Afrik they sacrifised men, vntill in the Viceconsulship of Tyberius. 1819 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 29 Oct., You say nothing of the vice-consulate for the Ravenna patrician. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* (1863) 164 They found Mr. Hicks looking very red and vice-consular indeed. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vii, The only anomaly which had been detected by the vice-consular wisdom. 1889 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Jan. 5/1 We should re-establish our two vice consulates in the interior of Macedonia.

† **Vice-count.** *Obs.* [VICE-, after med.L. *vicecomes*.] A viscount.

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 477 Henry late Erle of Northerlond, William Viscount Beaumont [etc.]. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* III. xvii. (1821) 658 John Barry, brother to the Viscount. 1655 DIGGES *Compl. Ambass.* 367 The Vice-Count of Turayne, a Gentleman very dear unto Monsieur. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. Ded., To the Right Honourable Richard Lord Vice-Count Ranelagh.

So † **Vice-countess**, a viscountess; hence † **Vice-countess-ship.** † **Vice-countie** *a.*, viscountile.

*c 1620 J. WILLIAMS *Lett.* in *Cabala* (1654) 79 A strange Creation passed of late, of a Vice-Countesship of Maidenhead, passed to the Heires Males, who must be called hereafter *Vice-Countesse Fytch. 1685 *Broadside, Coronat. James II* (T. Newcomb), Vice-Countesses, Four a-Breast. *c 1690 RAMSAY *Scots. Dames* (1820) 23 The *vicecountile jurisdiction was hereditary.

Vice-cou'nty. [In sense 1 ad. OF. *vicomté, -cé, -cy*, etc. (mod.F. *vicomté*) VISCOUNTY, or med.L. *vicecomitatus*, f. *vicecomes*: see prec. In sense 2, f. VICE- + COUNTY[1] 2.]

† 1. A viscounty. *Obs.*—[1]

1630 FULLER *Holy War* III. xxii. 147 And for a t

to begin with, he [Simon de Montfort] was seised of the Vice-county of Besiers. 1706 Stevens *Sp. Dict.* I, *Villa-Nueva de Cardenas*, a Town in..Andaluzia,..made a Vice-County by King Philip the 4th.

2. A division of a large county, treated as a county-area with regard to the distribution of species of plants, etc.

1859 H. C. Watson *Cybele Brit.* IV. 130 Smaller and more numerous sections could be formed by dividing the great counties into vice-counties. 1873–4 — *Topographical Bot.* (title-p.), The 112 Counties and Vice-counties of England, Wales, and Scotland. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 110/1 Not more than ten out of the 112 counties and vice-counties into which Great Britain is divided.

Vicegerence. Now *rare*. [Cf. next and -ENCE. So older F. *vicegerence* (mod.F. *-gérance*).] = next.

1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* P iij, Also yf oyle be made of the same floures it hathe the offyce of bawme and vycegerence of his vertues. 1660 Milton *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 432 Christ..hath not left the least shadow of a command for any such Vicegerence from him in the State. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 38 His title.. signifies substitution and vice-gerence. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xix. 336 In which words..the vice-gerence of his death is plainly expressed. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 202 He could have endured the consciousness of ..his rights invaded, from the hope that the vice-gerence of truth and retribution would return. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 173 (Avignon), The Court of Vicegerence was for all cases in which the military and religious orders were concerned. 1902 R. Bagot *Donna Diana* xiv. 156 The Papal Court is no freer from petty jealousies .than the Court of any ruler in no wise claiming Divine vicegerence.

Vicegerency (vəisi,dʒĭ·rĕnsi). [See next and -ENCY. So mod.L. *vicegerentia* (1601 in Du Cange), It. *vicegerenza*.]

1. The office, dignity, or rule of a vicegerent; the fact of ruling or administering as representative of another.

1596 Drayton *Legends* iv. 511 But to the great Vicegerencie I grew, Being a Title as Supreme as new. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 119 If euery Priest should take place agreeing to their Vice-gerencie vnder Christ, there could be no order kept. 1641 Milton *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1851 III. 73 Timothy, and Titus,..had rather the vicegerency of an Apostleship committed to them, then the ordinary charge of a Bishoprick. *a* 1668 Davenant *Law agst. Lovers* Wks. (1673) 323 The Duke,..During the time of your Vicegerency, Remain'd here in disguise. 1708 Sacheverell *Serm. Univ. Oxford* (1710) 9 The highest indignity..to any crown'd head is..denying its vice-gerency. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. App. 75 James was vaunting his divine vicegerency. 1845 R. W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* ix. 224 To gain a just conception of civil government... If it be that Divine vicegerency which many have described [etc.]. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 6/1 He has.. put to death more than forty persons who have dared to question his authority or argued against his vicegerency.

transf. 1711 G. Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* I. ii. 16 This Vicegerency, or mediatory Office to transact and minister in sacred Matters betwixt God and Man.

b. A district or province ruled by a vicegerent.

1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I. vi. 244 History and tradition record no rebellious outbreak of any importance during their away among the numerous vicegerencies of Arabia.

†**2.** Vicarious nature or character. *Obs.*

1671 Flavel *Fount Life* vii. 18 His sanctifying himself for us plainly speaks the Vicegerency of his Death. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 24 Antichrist..signifies substitution and vice-gerency.

Vicegerent (vəisi,dʒĭ·rĕnt), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 vice-, 7 vise-gerent. [ad. med.L. *vicegerent-*, *vicegerens*, f. L. *vicem* (acc.) stead, place, office, etc., and *gerens*, pres. pple. of *gerĕre* to carry, hold. So F. *vicegérant* (also *-gérant*), It., Sp., Pg. *vicegerente*. The hyphen, formerly not uncommon, is now rarely used in this and the preceding words.]

A. *sb.* **1.** A person appointed by a king or other ruler to act in his place or exercise certain of his administrative functions.

1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 26 Thomas Crumwell keper of the privey Seale of our said soueraigne Lorde the king and vitzgerent to the same for.. all his Jurisdiction ecclesiasticall within this Realme. 1538 *Ibid.* 151, I Thomas lorde Crumwell,..Vice-gerent to the kynges said highnes. 1545 *Act* 37 *Hen. VIII*, c. 17 Censures ecclesiasticall made by your Highnes and your Vicegerent, officialls, commissaries, and Judges and visitators. 1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 2 Mordred Arthurs kinsman being appointed Vicegerent in his royalty, gaue great giftes..to Cerdick a Saxon. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* VI. 90 Lysander whome Agesilaus appointed his Vice-gerent the time of his absence. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xv. (1739) 79 It hath therefore been the ancient course of Kings of this Nation, to constitute Vice-gerents in their absence. 1733 Swift *On Poetry* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 198 Now sing the minister of state,..Thou great vicegerent of the king [etc.]. 1768 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* lvii. V. 671 He was trusted by the sultan as the faithful vicegerent of his power. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* II. xiv. 194 His vicegerent was at first willing to resign his authority. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 95 He intended.. Gloucester to act as his vicegerent in England.

b. In general sense: One who takes the place of another in the discharge of some office or duties.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm Par. Tim.* I. 3 b, I left the there euen as my selfe, to haue the autoritie as a notable vicegerent in so excellent and so paynefull an office. 1642 Baker *Chron., Eliz.* 24 The Governours of Ireland..were at first called Iustices,..afterwards, Lievtenants, and their Vice-gerents were called Deputies. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 114 [His] Vice-gerent was the Vicar General of Britain, honored with the Title *Spectabilis*. 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 47 The humanity and generosity of some of these parochial vicegerents, the farmers or managers of workhouses. 1782 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 38 These prerogatives were reserved to the prafecta..: their vicegerents were confined to the trifling weight of a few ounces. 1832 Hussey *Papal Power* iii. 130 For what respect will be thought due to the vicegerents of the holy apostle St. Peter if what they ordain..be undone. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* iv. 109 There is in all cases, a vice-gerent, who in the absence of the head exercises his powers.

c. A ruler or commander *of* a country, etc., in virtue of deputed power.

1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 48a/1 Herewith he [Richard I] dothe commaunde them also to obey Robert Earle of Leycester, whome he appointed..as his Lieutenant or vicegerent of those parties during his absence. 1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 217 The Romanes had made mee Vicegerente of their forces. *c* 1620 *Woman Saints* 151 Aspasius the vicegerent of Rome. 1786 Burke *Art. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1842 II. 208 The said Mogul has been obliged to declare the head of the Mahratta state to be vicegerent of the Mogul empire.

2. Applied to rulers and magistrates as representatives of the Deity.

Frequent in the 17th century.

1547–64 Baldwin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 74 Princes, being by God put in authority, are His vice-gerents, and should therefore require obedience. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xx. (1634) 735 If they [the Magistrates] remember that they bee the vicegerents of God. 1595 W. C[lerke] *Polimanteia* C iv b, This likewise is the cause why the Prince is tearmed Gods Vicegerent vpon earth. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 114 We acknowledge that the civill magistrate weares an autority of Gods giving, and ought to be obey'd as his vicegerent. 1682 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* To Rdr., God is infinitely merciful; and his Vicegerent is only not so, because he is not Infinite. 1700 Astry tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 230 The same has place in Princes, who are God's Vicegerents in Temporals. 1710 Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* ii. 120 All Governours of Nations being Gods Vicegerents, they are bound in all things to order their Government so as will best agree with the will of him. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-Bk.* (ed. 2) II. 274 'Dieu seul est grand,' said courtly Massillon; but next to him, as the prelate thought, was certainly Louis, his vicegerent here upon earth.

b. Applied to priests, and *spec.* to the Pope, as representatives of God or Christ.

1572 R. T. *Discourse* 49 Hee onely is Antichrist that fayneth himself to do all that Christ can doo, to bee his vicegerent in earth, to sit in his place. 1593 in J. Morris *Troub. Cath. Forefathers* Ser. III. (1877) 130 Unto all which things the jurisdiction and authority of the Pope, Christ's Vicar and Vicegerent, did extend. 1660 Milton *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 432 All Protestants hold that Christ in his Church hath left no Vicegerent of his Power. 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* Wks. 1875 IV. 235 The Pope..does persecute those to the death who dare worship the Author of their Religion instead of his pretended Vicegerent. 1737 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* (1753) 81 The Priest that officiates in the Mass officiates as Christ's Vicegerent. 1842 Cdl. Wiseman in E. Purcell *Life A. P. de Lisle* (1900) I. xiii. 285 Let me know that the Vicegerent of Xt. approves of my course,..and I shall not care for all the world. 1873 H. Rogers *Orig. Bible* ii. (1875) 78 Moses.. did not affect to be, like..the Pope, the visible representative and vicegerent of God.

transf. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 96 They say it to Christ, whose deputie and vicegerent the Image there is.

c. Similarly applied to man in general or in some special respect; also (*b*) to nature, the sun, conscience, etc.

(*a*) 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Disc. Seneca* (1631) Mm viij, That this confusion is incident to our liues, is our owne fault, since the disorders of a state belongeth to..the Gouernors of a state; so this to man who is Vicegerent of the earth. 1626 Jackson *Creed* VIII. x. 93 Our first parents being Gods vicegerents here on earth, Lords of all his visible creatures. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 344 Indifferently bent to the Continuance of it, or change; as God, and his Vice-gerents, her Parents shall think fit. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 561 [A Deity who] communicates to men a knowledge..of his purposes that they may be his vicegerents in executing them. 1861 J. A. Alexander *Gosp. Jesus Christ* xxxix. 521 A proof of man's original formation in God's image, and his original vestiture with delegated power as God's vicegerent.

(*b*) 1646 H. P. *Medit. Saige* 76 Nature (God's great vicegerent). 1676 Sir M. Hale *Contempl.* II. 82 God Almighty hath substituted the Soul of Man, as his Deputy or Vicegerent in that Province which is committed to him. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxxiii. 556 Conscience,..that noble power, God's vicegerent in the soul. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* (1806) II. xxi. 415 When the sun is said to rule the day,..what else can be understood but that he acts as a vicegerent. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* Prol. 142 Thou Destiny!..Go, thou Vicegerent of my will, no less Than of the Father's. 1835 Miss Sedgwick *Linwoods* iv, Let man beware how he wilfully or carelessly perverts and blinds God's vicegerent, conscience. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 192 They dethroned righteousness, the representative and vicegerent of God, and made it rest on the ground. 1881 C. A. Young *Sun* i. (1882) 18 It has been reserved for more modern times..to show clearly just how..the sun himself [is] the symbol and vicegerent of the Deity.

d. Applied to persons as representing some other supernatural or spiritual power.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 222 Great Deputie, the Welkins Vicegerent, and sole dominator of Nauar. 1613 Heywood *Foure Prentises* I. xviii, Loves great Vice-gerent over all the world. 1702 De Foe *Trueborn Eng.* I. 17 The List of his [the Devil's] Vice-gerents and Commanders Outdoes your Cæsars or your Alexanders. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 320 Now in the time's full process forth she brings Jove's dread vicegerents, in two future kings. 1763 J. Brown *Poetry & Music* v. 62 Apollo, the God of Music, was their Author [of oracles]; The Pythia or Priestess was his Vicegerent. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 104 Merciful Prophet! stretch forth thy propitious arms towards thy Vicegerent!

3. A thing which takes the place of another.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* C ij, If my lasie legge.. should deny to make this voiage, my hearte would..substitute my handes to be their vicegerentes. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* 390 The pronouns are, as their name signifies, words which are the vicegerents of nouns.

4. A vicarious bearer *of* sorrow. *rare*⁻¹.

1594 Southwell *M. Magd. Funeral Teares* (1823) 73 All creatures..leaving me as the vicegerent of all their sorrow.

B. *adj.* (or *attrib.*). **1.** Taking the place, or performing the functions, of another.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 853 The Scripture teacheth that Christ ascended into heauen, and hath established a vicegerent power, to wit, the holie Ghost. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 56 But whom send I to judge them? whom but thee Vicegerent Son. 1728 Blackmore *Creation* 355 Next Man arose at thy creating word, Of thy terrestrial realms Vicegerent Lord. 1749 *Deity* 17 But Conscience, fair vicegerent light within, Asserts its author.

2. Characterized by deputed or vicarious power.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 609 Under his great Vice-gerent Reign abide [ye]..For ever happie. 1847 H. Bushnell *Chr. Nurt.* II. v. (1861) 208 The vicegerent office to be maintained, and the gracious ends to be secured, make it indispensable that parents should themselves be living in the Spirit.

Hence **Vicegerentship.**

1600 O. E. (*M. Sutcliffe*) *Repl. Libel* I. vi. 157 Let this Noddy..shew foorth the popes commission eyther for his vicegerentship, or for his pretended apostolicke office. 1646 Gillespie *Male Audis* 20 The capacity of a Vicegerent, which he hath by his Vicegerentship. *Ibid.* 35 The two fold Vicegerentship of God and of Christ.

Vice-god. [Vice-.] One who (on earth) takes the place, or exercises the power, of God.

Freq. in the 17th cent. as a hostile designation of the Pope.

1600 Darrell *Detect. Harsnet* 204 Our Vice Godes which are here on earth in Gods steade will take vengeance of those traitors. 1624 Bp. Mountagu *Gagg* 63 There is an headship which will not reach that illimited power giuen to the Pope, Our Lord, Vice-God vpon earth. 1664 Owen *Vind. Animad. Fiat Lux* xvi. Wks. 1855 XIV. 392 The consequences so startled the wise state of Venice that you know they disputed it to the utmost with your vice god Paul V. 1712 M. Henry *Popery Spir. Tyranny* Wks. 1853 II. 342 To call them Anti-gods, and Anti-christs, however they pretend to be Vice-christs and Vice-gods. 1784 R. Welton *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 434 Man is a vice God in the world. 1830 Bentham *Constit. Code* Wks. 1843 IX. 38 On neither side has any vice-god been seen or fancied. 1873 L. Stephen *Freethinking* ix. 347 Man, is hopelessly ignorant, but set on a throne and properly manipulated he becomes an infallible vice-God.

Hence **Vice-godhead.**

1659 Baxter *Key Cath.* xx. 84 Not only the Romish Universal Monarchy and Vice-godhead, but even its Patriarchal Primacy was no Apostolical Tradition.

Vice-governor. [Vice-.] An official acting under, or in place of, a governor; a deputy-governor. Hence **Vice-governorship.**

1598 Florio, *Vicegouernatore*, a vicegouernour, a deputie-gouernour. 1742 Woodroofe in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvii. 77 The governor, vice-governor, and commander of the garrison, came on board. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 73 He has for some time resided as vice-governor under the King of Prussia. 1842 J. F. Cooper *Jack o' Lantern* I. 159 Vito Viti had long before gone up the street to see the vice-governor. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* VI. 300 [Francis Bernard] thankfully accepts baronetcy and vice-governorship of Virginia. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 393 Spanish possessions under a Vice Governor to the Governor of Fernando Po. *Ibid.*, The Vice-Governorship of Eloby.

Vice-king. [Vice-.] One who rules as the representative of a king; a viceroy. Also *attrib.*

1579 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 739 In coasting along the Island of Mutyr, belonging to the King of Ternate, his Deputie or Vice-king..came with his Canoa to vs. 1628 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 132 Vnder his protection we went vp and downe the Citie, as if we had beene so many Vice Kings of the Country. 1659 Baxter *Key Cath.* xiii. 300 A Deputy, or Vice-King in Ireland. 1681— *Acc. Sherlocke* vi. 210 There is no need of a Vice King to make this a Kingdom. 1682–6 J. Scott (*Chr. Life* (1747) III. 362 So that now he is subject to the Father in the Capacity of a Vice-King to a supreme Sovereign. 1800 *Hist. Ind.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 24/2 He appointed Don Francis D'Almeyda, Governor-general, with the pompous title of Vice King of the Indies. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. iii. 99 Farther still down the hall are the great civil lords and vice-king vassals of the 'Lord Paramount'. 1876 Tennyson *Harold* II. ii, Thou shalt be verily king—all but the name—For I shall most sojourn in Normandy; And thou be my vice-king in England.

Vice-legate. [Vice-, after F. *vice-légat* or It. *vicelegato* (Sp. and Pg. *vicelegado*).] One who acts as the representative or deputy of a (Papal) legate.

1549 Sir T. Hoby *Trav.* 27 in *Camden Misc.* (1902), The Pope is lord of yt.. Vicelegate there for him was Annibale Borio. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 83 To meet the eldest son of any Prince, or the Ambassadors of the Dukes of Savoy,..the Cardinals..send their Vice-Legats with some small number of Coaches. 1688 *Apol. Prot. France* iv. 31 The conference the Queen had, as she passed by Avignon with the Vice-Legat, which gave him wonderful satisfaction, pleased them not so well. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4437/1 The Legat and Vice-Legat are excluded from having any part in the new State. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* 143 At Avignon..the vice legate..dispatched couriers to the neighbouring cities. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 173/1 The popes governed the city [of Avignon)..by a cardinal-legate, or rather, as the legate was always non-resident, by a vice-legate.

Hence Vice-le·gateship.

1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2685/1 The Vice-Legatship of Avignon is given to the Bishop of Fiesch. 1828 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 127/1 In the exercise of the several governments, ..he has..acquired great praise, as likewise in the Vice-legateship of Bolonia.

Viceless (vai·ślés), *a.* [f. VICE *sb.*[1] 1.] Free from vice.

1580 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 5 To that effect, that he may viceles be, Of all vices, and sic thing as gais wrang. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. xlix. 27 Galba..rather vicelesse than greatly vertuous. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. ii. (1675) 301 Errours about Religion,..maintain'd by Men that are resolute, and viceless. 1671–4 LADY WARWICK *Autobiog.* (Percy Soc.) 164 Mr. Henry St. John was very good natured and viceless. *Ibid.*, The young men were not viceless. 1847 J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 321 Viceless virtue, undecaying, Shed her lustre on our name. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Nov. 575/1 Those who are themselves sinless and viceless.

Vice-like, *a.*[1] *rare*[−1]. [f. VICE *sb.*[1] 1.] Partaking of the nature of vice.

1590 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 184 Beeing once entered into the vicelike vaine of foolerie,..I was caried most wickedlie..in a scorne against the Saincts of God

Vice-like, *a.*[2] Also *U.S.* vise-like. [f. VICE *sb.*[2] 5.] Resembling (that of) a vice; firmly tenacious or compressive.

1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 127 Traitors! that vice-like fang the hand ye lick. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Lit.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 104 What he relishes in Dante is the vice-like tenacity with which he holds a mental image before the eyes. 1890 D. DAVIDSON *Mem. Long Life* x. 258 [He] seized my hand in his vice-like fist

Vicelinge, ME. var. *fikeling* FICKLING *vbl. sb.*

Vicena·rious, *a. rare*[−0]. [See next and -IOUS.] 'Of or belonging to the twentieth' (Blount, 1656).

Vicenary (vi·sĕnări), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *vīcēnāri-us*, f. *vīcēnī*, distrib. f. *vīgintī* twenty.]

†**a.** *sb.* One who has command over twenty persons. *Obs.*

1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 49 Delicat, another Captaine, or vicenarie in Sara, hauing vnder him twenty assistants.

b. *adj.* 'Belonging to twenty' (Bailey, 1727); based on the number twenty. Cf. VIGENARY *a.*

1826 PEACOCK in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 371/2 Such a practice would naturally lead to the formation of a vicenary scale of numeration. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 337/2 In France the scale from 60 to 100 is strictly vicenary (by twenties).

Vicennals. *rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *vicennālia.*]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vicennals*, solemn games and vows for twenty..years.

Vicennial, *a. Sc. Law.* [f. L. *vīcenni-um*: see next. Cf. L *vicennālis*, F. *vicennal.*] Extending to twenty years.

1737 KAMES *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 19 What use would there be for the vicennial prescription of retours, if a purchaser[etc.]. 1785 ARNOT *Trials* (1812) 261 Lord Fountainhall laid down this doctrine, that the vicennial prescription of Crimes had no place with us. 1826 G. J. BELL *Comment. Laws Scot.* (ed. 5) I, Vicennial Prescription of Holograph Obligations. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 770 By the act 1617, c. 13, a vicennial prescription of retours was introduced.

‖ **Vicennium.** *rare*[−1]. [L., f. *vīc-*, stem of *vicies* twenty times, etc., + *annus* year.] A period of twenty years.

1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 623 The danger of dying of consumption..is greater in this than in the preceding vicennium.

Vice-pre·sident. [VICE-. So F. *vice-président*, It., Sp., and Pg. *vicepresidente.*] One who acts as the representative or deputy of a president (in various senses); an official ranking immediately below a president.

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 66 Under Sergius the Vice-president of Asia .ther arose a great strife..about the keeping of the Knaster. 1586 in J. Morris *Troub. Cath. Forefathers* (1877) 84 The Lord Evers sitting as vice-president with Meares, Hurlstone, Cheeke, and the rest. 1689 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* vii. 64 This North was created D.D. in Paris, and was sometimes Vice-President of the Colledge of Douay. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 235 The President, or Vice-president of the Queens Councell established in the North. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* (1789) IV. 18 The college [Magdalen, Oxford] was filled with catholics; and Charnock .was made vice-president. 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. India*, etc. (1893) 54 The Vice-President always breakfasted in his own room. 1800 *St. Papers* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 6/2 That nothing..shall prevent such Governor, when absent, from nominating a Vice-President and Deputy-Governor of Fort William. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 37 Melzi d'Eril was vice-president: and in the Council of State were found Serbelloni [etc.]. 1895 *Poultry Chron.* III. 421/1 The society consists of a president, vice-president, committee, secretary, and members. 1874 BANCROFT *Footpr. Time* ii. 234 The Vice-President becomes an officer of much power or dignity.

Hence Vice-preside·ntial *a.*; **Vice-pre·sidentship.** Also **Vice-pre·sidency.**

1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2600/1 The Vice-Presidentship of the Council of Arragon. 1804 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 132, I would accept the Vice-Presidentship of the Board of Trade. 1833 STORY *Comm. Constit. U.S.* III. 336 Suppose there should be three candidates for the presidency, and two for the vice-presidency. 1889 W. WILSON *State* § 1099 (1893) 960 Each party..nominates the candidates of its choice for the presidency and vice-presidency. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 20 June 5/6 There has never before been so pronounced a reluctance to accept the vice-presidential

Vice-queen. [VICE-.] **a.** A woman ruling as the representative of a queen. **b.** The wife of a viceroy. (Cf. VICEREINE.)

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. Indies* (1596) 7 His mother and three sisters..came to the Iland of Santo Domingo, with that vice-queene the Lady Mary of Toledo. 1628–9 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 77, I..sent some letters to the Vice-queene of Sardinia. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 221/3 Naples, Dec. 13...The next day the Vice-Roy went *incognito* to visit him, which was the day after returned him by the Cardinal: who paid also his complements to the Vice Queen. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* III. ix, Heavens! what luxury and magnificence! I believed myself in the palace of a vice-queen. 1796 NELSON 28 Sept. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 284 If the Enemy land near Bastia, the Vice-Queen's Yatch may be useful. 1842 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 139 Think of..the vice-queen of Portugal labouring as a bookseller's drudge. 1894 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 463 A great Roman lady, who played the part of a vice-queen in Judea.

Vice-re·ctor. [VICE-. Cf. F. *vice-recteur*, It. *vicerettore*, Sp. *vicerector*, Pg. *-reitor.*] A deputy rector (of a theological college).

1689 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 12 Entire obseruance and duty to bee performed to the Rector.., next to the Vice-Rector as his minister. 1824 in *Ushaw Mag.* Dec. (1913) 259 Your late worthy Vice Rector has been at Ushaw some days. 1890 J. MORRIS in *Month* Apr. 492 With Dr. Ferdinand English, then Vice-Rector of the English College at Rome,..I left England.

Hence **Vice-re·ctorship.**

1896 J. MORRIS in J. H. Pollen *Life* (1896) vii. 165 When the Vice-Rectorship of the English College was offered me, I did not hesitate to accept it.

Vicere·gal, *a.* [VICE- + REGAL *a.*, after VICEROY *sb.*] Of or pertaining to, associated with, a viceroy.

1839 LEVER *H. Lorrequer* ix, One of my fellow-passengers was a gentleman holding a high official appointment in the viceregal court. 1849 LANG *Wand. India* 325 He found a carriage ready to convey him to the vice-regal dwelling. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 563 The viceregal character, which the justiciar certainly possessed.

Hence **Vice-re·galize** *v. trans.*, to convert into

Ireland 1881 *Academy* April 271 The people whom he had ruled vice-regally.

Vice-re·gent. [VICE-. Cf. It. *vicereggente.*] One who acts in place of a regent.

In some early instances perh. an error for *vice-gerent.*

1556 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 315 To ane boy rynnand .to Dunkell with[t] cleis writtingis of the viceregentis. 1582 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 842 Who doubteth then, but if the Pope bee Vicar to the Prince of this world, he is Viceregent to the Diuell. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* III i, But Monarchs are the Gods Viceregents here. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* xii, The Nawaub has placed his young son, Tippoo, as Vice Regent of his newly-conquered territory of Bangalore. 1839 W. WILSON *State* § 104 (1893) 67 The five Ephors..were originally mere deputies of the kings, appointed..to act as vice-regents in the absence of their royal principals.

transf. 1660 MARQ. WORCESTER *Water-Comm. Engine* (1663) 15 A Viceregent or Countervail supplying the place and performing the full force of a Man, Wind, Beast or Mill.

‖ **Vicereine** (vīsrēn). Also **vice-reine.** [a. F. *vicereine*, f. *vice-* VICE- + *reine* queen.] The wife of a viceroy; also (less usually), = VICE-QUEEN a. Common from *c* 1885.

1823 MRS. A. JUDSON *Amer. Bapt. Miss. Burman Emp.* Contents, Letter v. Visit of the Vice-reine. [Cf. p. 63 Her highness, the viceroy's wife, visited us.] 1833 LADY BRIDGEMAN in *Jerningham Lett.* (1896) II. 391 Residing 3 years at Brussels..at the time that it belonged to Austria and had ..the Arch D. Mary Christine for Vice-Reine. 1888 *Times* 27 July 5/1 Those..who have expressed to her Highness the Vicereine and [the Khedive] himself their sympathy. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Jan. 105 The Viceroy and the Vicereine stand before Tippoo's throne, supported..by the leading officials.

Viceroy (vəi·sroi), *sb.* Also 6–7 **viceroye, 6 wise roy, viseroye** (7 -roy), 6–7 **vizroy**; 6–7 *pl.* **-roies.** [a. older F. *vice-roy, visroy* (F. *vice-roi*), f. *vice-* VICE- + *roi* king. So It. *vicerè*, Pg. *vicerei*, Sp. *virey.*

Formerly freq. written or printed with hyphen and occas. as two words.]

1. One who acts as the governor of a country, province, etc., in the name and by the authority of the supreme ruler; a vice-king.

a. 1524 *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 34 The xxiiij. of Februry Frauncis the Frenche kynge was taken prisoner..by the vice-roy of Naples. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 103 Inacus Iopez Mendocius,..viceroye of Granata. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* III. (1603) 241 The part rather of a tyrant then of a vice-roy. *a* 1642 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 135 The custome being in Persia, that in the necessary absence of the Prince in State, the Heire apparent was Vice-roy. 1698 J. FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 131 A long Gallery, hung round with the Pictures at length of all the Vice-Roys that had been in East India down to the present Vice-Roy. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 685/2 His Catholick Majesty's..dispatching all the necessary Orders to his Vice-Roys, Governors, and other Officers. 1787 A. HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 23 The government lately established in Canada—the splendid title of Viceroy—seems to look beyond the dreary regions of Canada and Nova Scotia. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. App. 4 The whole political government of the vice-roy of Mexico. 1877 W. R. COOPER *Egypt. Obelisks* xi. (1878) 61 This obelisk..was presented to the late Duke of Northumberland..by the Viceroy of Egypt. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 768/1 The supreme authority over all British India..is vested..in the viceroy or governor-general-in-Council.

b. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxxvi. 56 b, And so they remained untill the comming of the Vizeroye Don Francisco de Almeda. 1590 WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 24 These 60 Kings are all his Wise Royes in seuerall places. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 2, 6 The viseroies of that huge tract do acknowledge him for their soueraigne and supreme gouernour. 1600 DEKKER *His Dream* Wks. (Grosart) III. 80 About him, round (Like petty Viz-royes), Spirits (me thought) all-Crownde.

2. *transf.* One having authority or rank comparable to that of a viceroy.

c 1590 GREENE *Friar Bacon* 178 Now Maisters of our Academicke State, That rule in Oxford, Vizroies in your place. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 97 The King..is within his owne Kingdome the Vice-roy of God. *a* 1632 DONNE *Serm.* i. (1634) 21 God creates man whom He constitutes His Vice-roy in the world. 1644 [H. PARKER] *Jus Populi* 45 The Judges were Gods Vice-Roys, in regard they did transact affairs by direction from Gods own mouth. 1676 GREW *Anat. Pl., Exper. Lect.* 238 For what Dominion a Prince hath over the Moral, that a Physician hath, as one of God Almighty's Vice-Roys, over the Corporeal World. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 279 When Barras reigned, and the beautiful Madame Tallien reigned viceroy over him. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iii, Christie Steele was my mother's body servant, her very right hand, and..something like a viceroy over her.

attrib. 1636 COWLEY *Chronicle* Wks. (1905) 42 But in her place I then obey'd Black-ey'd Bess, her Viceroy-Maid; To whom ensu'd a Vacancy.

3. *Ent.* An American species of butterfly, *Basilarchia Archippus*, distinguished by handsome red and black colouring.

1881 S. H. SCUDDER *Butterflies* vii. 103 The caterpillar of the Viceroy signifies its displeasure at any disturbance by tossing the head upward.

Hence **Vi·ceroy** *v.* (with *it*), to rule as or like a viceroy.

1821 *Examiner* 506/1 They, forsooth, may viceroy it over authority with propriety.

Viceroyal, *a.* [f. prec. + -AL. Cf. VICEREGAL *a.*] Of or pertaining to a viceroy.

c 1728 SWIFT *Two Lett. Improv. Ireland* Wks. 1841 II. 92 Burnet..has not hitherto been able to persuade his vassals ..to settle a revenue on his viceroyal person. 1868 MRS. HORACE MANN *Life in Argentine Republic* 122 A viceroyal government was expressly created for it [*sc.* Buenos Ayres in 1777].

Viceroyalty. [ad. F. *vice-royauté*: see VICE- and ROYALTY. Stressed either on the first or second syllable.]

1. The office, rank, or authority of a viceroy.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3883/1 The Ambassador is not contented.., having entertained great hopes of being advanced to the Viceroyalty of Naples. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VIII. ii, Here I saw commanders and knights of Calatrava and St. Iago, soliciting for governments and viceroyalties. 1800 *Hist. Ind.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 29/2 Pedro Malcarenhas, on whom the viceroyalty devolved on the decease of Meneses. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 156 Sunderland .offered to procure for Tyrconnel supreme military command, enormous appointments, anything but the viceroyalty. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 475 This fact, coupled with Thurkill's similar viceroyalty in Denmark, shows that Cnut [etc.].

b. In quasi-concrete use: A viceroy or viceregal household.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ix, Fancy might suggest that the house rejoiced, as it were, in its honoured position,.. because it was under the nose of viceroyalty. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Sept. 4/2 This property..was bought by the Government in 1864 as a dwelling for Viceroyalty.

2. A province or dependency commonly administered by a viceroy.

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5303/2 The..Ship..which is to carry the Prince to his Viceroyalty of Peru. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* VII. (1778) II. 339 Costa Rica and Veragua.. belong to the vice-royalty of New Spain. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Expd. R. Zaire* IV. (1818) 159 The opposite sides of the river form two vice royalties. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 37 The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland shall be entitled to receive from the forts and batteries within His Vice-Royalty a Royal Salute. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* VI. lvi. 441 The seeds of rebellion were already [in 1782] sown in the vice-royalties of Buenos Ayres and Peru.

3. The period during which a particular viceroy holds office.

1849 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* v. ii. (1877) III. 207 Ireland had never been so well governed as during the viceroyalty of Lord Mulgrave. 1865 MAFFEI *Brigand Life* II. 21 During the vice royalty of the Count of Castrillo. 1883 B. SMITH *Life Ld. Lawrence* XXVIII. II 534 There had been a deficit in more than one year of his Viceroyalty.

Viceroydom. *rare*[−1]. [f. VICEROY *sb.* + -DOM.] = prec. 1.

1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 205 To putt allwayes the Viceroydom into the hands of an Irish Catholick.

Viceroyed, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. as prec.] Committed to a viceroy.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* 347 His is the sway of social sovereign peace:..His is the vice-royed, vouched-safe, sway of God.

Vi·ceroyship. [f. VICEROY + -SHIP.]

1. = VICEROYALTY 1.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. XXXV. 89 The Saracen Caliph commanded in Egypt; under whom, two great Lords..fall out about the Sultanie or Vice-royship of that land. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2156/2 The Viceroyship of Sardinia, vacant by the removal of the Count de Fuensalichi to the Government of Milan, is not yet disposed of. 1721 *Ibid.* No. 5953/2

The Prince . took Possession of the Viceroyship of this Kingdom. 1794 NELSON 24 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 498 Since your Excellency has taken upon you the Viceroyship of Corsica. 1893 SIR H. W. NORMAN in *Mem.* (1908) 297, I cannot face the Viceroyship [of India]...I feel I am not really equal to five years of arduous work.

2. = VICEROYALTY 2.

1609 ROWLEY *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 24 These gardners, or guardians, of this their little viceroyship, were now approached us. 1703 J. SAVAGE *Lett. Antients* LXXII. 225 The Dominion and Viceroyship of the Triballians. 1766 J. Z. HOLWELL *Orig. Princ. Anc. Brasmins* II. iv. (1779) 80 Thus the empire was divided into as many kingdoms, as there had been Vice-royships and Governments. 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* xlvii, I will...divide it [*sc.* Spain] into five...vice-royships.

3 = VICEROYALTY 3.

1709 E. WARD tr. *Cervantes* 200 The Viceroy..resolv'd to be more favourable to Don Vincent, in case he should be found in Valencia, before his Viceroyship was expir'd. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* VI. 51 His viceroyship will never be forgotten. 1889 SIR S. WALPOLE *Life Ld. J. Russell* I. xvii. 460 During the first few months of his Viceroyship.

Vicesimal (vəisē·siməl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *vīcēsim-us* twentieth, f. *vīcēnī*: see VICENARY] = VIGESIMAL *a.* Also † **Vice·sim.** *Obs.*—0

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vicesimal*, *Vicesim*, the same with Vicenarious. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 11 Jan. 5/2 Our system has inherent advantages for conversion over the former vicesimal and decdecimal system of France.

† **Vice·sime.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *vīcēsima* (*sc. pars*): see prec.] A twentieth part.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. xvi. 260 He proposed a law .concerning a twentith part or vicesime, to be levied of their goods that were made free.

Vice-treasurer. [VICE-.] One who acts as the deputy or representative of a treasurer; *spec.* an official acting in this capacity in the government of Ireland.

1542-3 in R. Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 231 Which shall be proued by writing .before the two chiefe Iustices, the chiefe Baron and the Vicethesaurer. 1547 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 135 The Vicethresaurier of the Mynt at Bristowe. 1551 SIR J. WILLIAMS *Accompte* (Abbotsford) 79 Robert Fowler, vice-treasourer, and Thomas Fowler, receivor. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. (1821) 31 The Vice-treasurer and generall Receiver of the Queenes Majesties revenewes of this Realme. 1676 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 57 All the projects..which arise from our Vice Treasurer, do still tend to this not to have any money left here in the Treasury. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4699/3 Mr. Pratt, Deputy-Vice-Treasurer, delivered..several Papers relating to the Receipts and Payments of the Vice-Treasurer. *a* 1727 in 3*rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 434/1 Mr. Flood & Mr. Hussey Burgh, the two best popular speakers, were very much softened, & Flood made Vice-Treasurer. 1860 L. HARCOURT *Diaries G. Rose* I. 71 The office of Vice-Treasurer of Ireland.

Hence **Vice-treasurership.**

1671 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 396 My Lord Angier, who bought..the Vicetreasurership of Ireland,..is, betwixt knavery and foolery, turned out. 1765 LD. HOLLAND in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 394 Will he have a Vice-Treasurership of Ireland? 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 206/2 Lord Rockingham had..offered him the chancellorship of the exchequer, and the vice treasurership of Ireland.

† **Vicety.** *Obs.*—1 (App. f. VICE *sb.*[1] + -TY, for the sake of rime.)

1633 B. JONSON *Love's Welcome* Wks. (1641) 278 *Acci.* Here is to the fruit of Pem. *Fits.* Grafted upon Stub his Stem. *Acci.* With the Peakish Nicetie. *Fits.* And old Sherewood's Vicetie.

Vice versa (vəisɪ vɔ̄·sə), *adv. phr.* Also **vice versâ** [L. (also *versā vice*), from *vice*, abl. sing. of *vicis* turn, place, position, etc., and *versā*, abl. sing. fem. of *versus*, pa. pple. of *vertĕre* to turn. So F. *vice versâ*, Sp., Pg., It. *vice versa*, *viceversa*.] With a reversal or transposition of the main items in the statement just made; contrariwise, conversely.

1602 A. COPLEY *Answ. Lat. Jesuited Gent.* 63 They are like to bee put to such a penance and the Arch-Priests *viceversa* to be suspended and attainted as Schismaticall. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 335 When it rains and blows ..all along the Coast of Malabar..no Sun appears: contrarily..those Countreys on that side Bellagate have thea clear Sun-shine weather... And *vice versa*, the seasons varies. 1689 PRIOR *Epist. to F. Shepherd* 60 The Thesis, *vice-versâ* put, Should Hebrew-wise be understood. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 78 Nor can we ask his favour upon occasion, and so *vice versa* he can make no use of us. 1772 *Regul. H.M. Service at Sea* 21 The Number of the first Entry is to be noted against the Number of the Re-entry, and *vice versa*, the Number of the Re-entry against the Number of the first Entry. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 524 It may probably happen that those who have the disorder mildly are considered only to have a common cold; and, vice versa, a heavy accidental catarrh may rank as influenza. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 315 So that each portion of muscle is single at one extremity, and at the other is continuous with two portions; and *vice versa*, each of the latter is connected with a double portion of the opposite extremity.

b. Freq. in *and* (†*so*) *vice versa, or vice versa*, used to imply the complementary statement without expressing it in words.

1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* ix. (Arb.) 47 The yeare of the Conquering of France [by Spain], is the morning of the Conquest of England (and *vice versa*). 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 296 For Clay ground they have their seed from Red-land or Chalk, & *vice versa*. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* 27. 227 Not Anatomical but Chymical, or Vice Versa. 1782 STILES in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 255 These separated parts..stretching or contracting themselves from round to oval and cylindrical, and *vice versa*. 1787 BERT *Angling* (ed. 2) 42 The larger he [the pike] is, the coarser the food, and so *vice versa*. 1835 W. R. HAMILTON tr. *Stoorm's Etc. Birds of Aristoph.* 101 Flying is compared to rowing and sailing, and vice versa. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 313/2 The young birds are seat packed in the old class hamper, or, *vice versâ*. 1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 118 Consequently the tangents at four harmonic points are harmonic, and *vice versa*.

Vice-warden. [VICE-.] A deputy warden (esp. of the Stannaries or the Borders). Hence **Vice-wardenry, -ship.**

1536 in *Priory of Hexham* (Surtees) App. p. CXXXV, The lord Ogle beyng admytted as vice-warden. *Ibid.* p. CXXXVI, Sir Ingram Percy beyng discharged of the vice-wardeary. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 17 b, In the returne he was encountered with therle of Northumberlandes vicewarden, and other gentilmen of the borders. 1640 *Act* 16 *Chas. I*, c. 15 The Warden, Vice Warden, or Steward of the said Stanaries. 1703 LD. GRANVILLE in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3951/2, I refer to my Vice-Warden to lay before you the present State of the Stannaries. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 462/1 (Cornwall), The lord-warden appoints a vice-warden to determine all stannary disputes every month. 1836 *Act* 6-7 *William IV*, c. 106 § 1 The Court of Equity of the Vice Warden..of the said Stannaries. 1883 *Rules for Appeals to Lord Warden of Stannaries* i, Any person desiring to appeal to the Lord Warden of the Stannaries from a..decision of the Vice-Warden. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Dec. 2/3 Ejected from the Vice-wardenship of the Stannaries, he was again returned to the House of Commons.

Vich, ME. var. EACH *a.*; obs. Sc. f. WHICH.

Vichaunceller, obs. f. VICE-CHANCELLOR.

Vichcraft, obs. Sc. form of WITCHCRAFT.

Vicht, obs. Sc. var. WIGHT *sb.* and *a.*

‖ **Vichy** (vi·ʃi). [See def.] The name of a town in the department of Allier in Central France, used *attrib.* and *elliptically* to designate a mineral water obtained from springs there.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s.v., Vichy-water. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 300/2 Vichy waters, from a physiological and hygienic point of view. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 16 He..mixed the contents of the phial in a glass half-filled with vichy.

Vicist(e, obs. ff. VITIATE.

Vicinage (vi·sinēdʒ). Also 4 **vesinage,** 7 **vicenage, visinage.** [ad. OF. *visenage* (*visnage*), *vicenage*, or *voisinage* (see VOISINAGE), with assimilation of the stem to the original L. *vīcīn-us*: cf. VICINITY.]

1. A number of places lying near to each other taken collectively; an area extending to a limited distance round a particular spot; a neighbourhood.

Usu. with *the, this,* or similar word, but occasionally with *a* or in pl.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 55 Somune þoru gode somunse xii fre men ant trewe of vesinage of N. 1552 HULOET, Vicinage, *vicinia, vicinetum.* 1625 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 136 King Ethelred..began the tryal of Causes by a Jury of twelve men to be chosen out of the Vicenage 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 376 All our most able and Eminent Doctors of this Vicinage. *c* 1700 POMFRET *Poet. Wks.* (1833) 37 Adam by an injured Maker driven From Eden's groves, the vicinage of Heaven. 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* CXX, The regiments are..recruited from the vicinage. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 122 The Metropolis and its Vicinage. 1813 C. VANCOUVER *Agriculture of Devon* 216 All such other parts of the district as at this time are.. open to all the inhabitants of the vicinage. *a* 1853 W. JAY *Autobiog.* (1854) iv. 37 So it was with the vicinages all around Marlborough. 1868 LOSSING *Hudson* 1 The agricultural and mineral treasures of its vicinage.

b. Freq. in the phrase *in the* (also, *this, our,* etc.) *vicinage.*

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 182, I am afraid of a Potgun or a Squib; far from running upon Muskets and Swordpoints as they say in our Vicinage. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 304 No less than twenty thousand pounds worth of this coarse commodity [lime] is yearly made, and vended in the vicinage. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 92 Until he have gotten the favour and blessing of all the Witches in the Vicinage, yea in the Hemisphere. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. XXXIV. 215 She is the only flower of fragrance, that has blown in this vicinage for ten years past. 1791 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Misses Berry* 21 Sept. (1840) VI. 455 The French ladies in my vicinage. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* x, He had lived in retirement, conversing almost entirely with those of his own principles in the vicinage. 1861 BERESW. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* viii. 274 The..recommendation of a sufficient population in the vicinage. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 3 Oct. 5/4 People in the vicinage were not in a mood to regard it as a gratuitous picturesque display.

fig. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. v. § 24 That soul that..invites an enemy to view its possessions and live in the vicinage, loves the sin itself.

c. *transf.* The people living in a certain district or neighbourhood.

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xvii. 162 Barrons shall be amerced by their Peeres, others by the vicinage. 1672 [H. STUBBE] *Rosemary & Bayes* 17, I could wish they would not disturb the vicinage with declamations against Mr. Calvin. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* I Wks. VIII. 187 Where there is no constituted judge,..the vicinage itself is the natural judge. 1822 CONSETT *Rur. Rides* (1823) I. 46 Relying, for influence, not on the good will of the vicinage, but upon the dread of their power. 1836 LD. COCKBURN *Jrnl.* (1874) I. 122 Towns and their rustic vicinages are agitating against this measure. 1882 J. THROTT *Anglo-Sax. Home* 269 The vicinage applied..to the bishop for leave to dig up the body and burn it.

2. The fact of being or living close to another or others; nearness, proximity: a. Of persons; *spec.* in *Law* as entitling to certain rights of common.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. 180 He winkes at Rebrus, that for vicinage Enters common, on his next neighbors stage. 1620 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 24 If I prescribe to haue common because of vicinage in such a village. 1646 DANIEL *Hist. Eng.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 101 By reason of the vicinage, and innumerous populacie of that Nation. 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* I. ii. (1713) 30 As if his father's presence or vicinage would put too great a restraint upon him. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 33 Common because *of* vicinage, or neighbourhood, *is* where the inhabitants of two townships, which lie contiguous to each other, have usually intercommoned with one another. 1843 CORBETT *Rur. Rides* (1830) 203 The tarred, trowsered, and blue-and-buff crew whose very vicinage I always detest. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Partition of Poland* Wks. 1846 II. 338 In a declaration delivered at Warsaw, Catherine declared, that she did nothing but in virtue of the right of vicinage, acknowledged by all nations. 1892 J. WILSON *Columbus* XVI. 357 St. Augustine, St. Basil, and St. Ambrose had placed the Garden of Eden far in the Old World's east, apart from the common vicinage of men.

b. Of things or places.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 34, I began to guess the Reason of its Activity, as borrowed from the vicinage of the warmer Corpuscles. 1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* IV. (1722) 356 The particular Prerogatives..do not entirely depend on the Vicinage of the Central Heat. 1826 COBBETT *Poor Man's Friend* II, Are they, now, to complain, if the vicinage of these same works causes a charge of rates there? 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VI. ii, The common white pottery..will not bear vicinage to a brisk kitchen fire for half-an-hour. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* Mar. 660/2 The vicinage of the traveling studio was an occasion and a pretext for unprecedented larks.

3. *In the vicinage of,* near or contiguous to, in the neighbourhood of. Cf. VICINITY 4.

1782 MRS. H. COWLEY *Bold Stroke for Husb.* V. ii, In the vicinage of Rosalvo, bounded on the west by the river. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 251 If I had had any in the vicinage of my plantation. 1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 99 The Canadians in the vicinage of Quebec lived as comfortably. 1830 CROLY *George IV*, 412 The length of canal navigation in the vicinage of London. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 151 They had become a centre and a source..of moral pestilence, in the vicinage of which it was unsafe for men to dwell.

Vicinal (vi·sinăl, visəi·năl), *a* [ad. L. *vīcīnāl-is*, f. *vīcīn-us* neighbour. So OF. and F. *vicinal.*]

1. 'Belonging to neighbours or neighbourhood.'

1623 COCKERAM I. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1727 BAILEY (vol. II).

2. *Vicinal way* or *road,* a local common way as distinguished from a highway; a by-road or cross-road.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 314 Of these [public ways] amongst the Romans some were called publick *κατ' ἐξοχήν*, and others Vicinal. 1707 *Magna Brit. & Hib.* IV. 210/2 Among the Vicinal Ways, or *Chemins vitinaux*, there is also one in this County. 1790 PENNANT *London* (1813) 13 A vicinal way went under Aldgate..towards Oldford. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 259 From this permanent station, a vicinal or cross road is carried through Glenartney. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I..I. iv. 135 From this place, there probably went off a vicinal way to the Roman stations in Tweedale. 1818 J. BIGLAND *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XVI. 15 This..appears to have been only a vicinal road of the Romans. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* I. i, In many portions of its course it overlaid an old vicinal way, which branched from the great Western road of the Romans.

b. Similarly with other sbs.

1799 R. WARNER *Walk thro' W. Counties* (1800) 8 The operations of husbandry have depressed, and indeed obliterated in many places, this grand vicinal Dorsum. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* II. III. ii. 73 A small vicinal camp on the banks of the Kuble. 1901 *Speaker* 31 Aug. 618 He saw a good-looking curé smoking in a vicinal railway.

3. Neighbouring, adjacent, near.

1739 MAITLAND *Hist. London* I. ii. 10/1 The noisom Vapours incessantly emitted from that and the vicinal Marshes. 1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 232 In vicinal situations, the next best mode to angular measurement is no doubt that of marking, by means of well-regulated clocks,.. the repeated..explosion of light. 1842 *Proc. Lond. Electr. Soc.* (1843) 355 Sparks will pass from such a wire, and, therefore, from a lightning-rod, to vicinal conducting bodies.

b. *Math.* and *Min.* Nearly coincident with a given surface or plane.

1895 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* VIII. 301, I investigate the values of a, b,..for the point P' on the vicinal surface. *Ibid.* 309 The lines which..correspond to the principal tangents of the vicinal surface must be the principal tangents of the given surface.

c. *Org. Chem.* Of substituted groups or atoms: Lying in consecutive order; adjacent to each other.

1898 J. WADE *Introd. Org. Chem.* 288 With regard to the higher substitution products..there should be three classes of tri-derivatives, and only three..all conceivable arrangements being reducible to the positions 1:2:3, or vicinal, 1:2:4, or unsymmetrical, and 1:3:5, or symmetrical. 1900 F. F. SHERE tr. *Richter's Org. Chem.* II. 39 We call them adjacent..or..vicinal.

4. Connected with the relations between a person and his neighbours.

1855 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVI. ii. 370 No harm, agricultural or fiscal, vicinal or political, shall betide the giver of such..assistance.

† **Vi·cinate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vīcīnāt-*, ppl. stem of *vīcīnārī*, f. *vīcīnus*: see next.] *trans.* To lie near to, to adjoin.

1658 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 23 The Land..seated so advantageously for traffique,..and vicinating those golden countries of Monomhig', Guallo [etc.]. *Ibid.* 114 and Kostack in Mazagonia vicinating them.

Vi·cine, *a.* Now *rare.* Also 6 **vycyne,**

vicin. [ad. L. *vīcīn-us* neighbouring, near.] = VICINAL *a.* 3.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 312 These men..subdued ye Partyes, and many other vycyne countreys. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 2, A li Myles a this side Montgomerie..is a River cumming owt of the vicine Hilles. 1583 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 229 God, vnder whose mercifull hand nauigants aboue all other creatures naturally bee most nigh, and vicine. 1649 L. HUTTEN *Answeere* 28 With..due regarde alwaies had, to the easines and familiarity of the Ceremonie, that it be vicine, hard at hand, and obvious, not far fetcht. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* iv. 35 The opening of other vicine passages might quickly obliterate any tracks of these. 1676 JAS. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* IV. II. i. 715 In Ustion take heed of Vicin parts, and apply Cauteries through a Pipe. 1824 *Guide to Aberystwyth* 31 The visitor of Aberystwyth..parading the Terrace Castle Ruins or the vicine hills..gives the subject but an ordinary thought.

Vicinity (visi·niti). [ad. L. *vīcīnitās*, f. *vīcīn-us* : see prec. and -ITY. So It. *vicinità*, Sp. *vecindad.*]

1. The state, character, or quality of being near in space; propinquity, proximity.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 12 b, For the Frenchmen come of the same offsprinage that we do...: and for the vicinitie therof are very necessary for the Italians and us. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* V. § 4. 275 The vicinitie also of the evill moveth much, for dangers afarre off we little esteeme. 1642 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 169 The third is 'to feed, and eate together'. Another degree of vicinity, and neerenesse. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 226 The most unhealthy of these (winds) are the South-East, for that then the Air is thicker, by reason of the Seas Vicinity. 1707 SWIFT *St. Irel.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 166 The abundance and vicinity of country seats. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 105 But the Athenians were not to be intimidated by any vicinity of danger. 1824 SCOTT *Betrothed* xix, The Constable alleged the vicinity of the Welsh, as what might possibly again render the abode of his betrothed bride.. perilous. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 102 He had forgotten that vicinity operates in more ways than one. 1852 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 247 Under these conditions all vicinity of watercourses, unless bridged, should be avoided.

b. Const. *to, with.*

1651 BAXTER *Lett. to Church at Brindley* 10 That we may enjoy the comfort of unity..according to our vicinity with you on Earth. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 23 All those Epithets of changeable, defective,...and the like, are.. derived from her too near vicinity with the Earth. 1782 COWPER *Hervism* 52 Ill-fated race! how deeply must they rue Their only crime, vicinity to you! 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* XXV, How much more awful is it to reflect on this near vicinity to the dying! 1838 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 206 This vicinity to the great capital drew him, however, into a wider circle of duties.

†**2.** Nearness in degree or quality; close relationship or connexion; resemblance, likeness. *Obs.*

1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol., Chancerie* § 145 Unto whom your said Oratrices husband, for the vicinity of blood, and abilitie of substance, was bolder to make his mone for helpe. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* xii. 42 Speeches farre more differing from any vicinitie to prophanenes then this of yours. 1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 51 The vicinity with mans nature it hath. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Episc.* (1647) 281 An honorary, and extraordinary priviledge indulged to them for their vicinity and relation to our Blessed Lord the fountaine of all benison to us. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. (1677) 83 There is a vicinity between Agents and Patients.

3. = VICINAGE 1.

1781 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 293 Lord Cornwallis had advanced to the vicinities of the Moravian towns. 1789 *Ibid.* III. 26 The progress of light..has equalled expectation in Paris only and its vicinities. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* iv. 173 That..tendency of things, which places the clergy of a vicinity in opposition the one to the other. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. viii, It commanded a full view of the vicinity without. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 75 We were glad..to escape the vicinity of that ugly crevasse. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 41 That might gradually have the effect of removing all noxious trades from London and its vicinity.

4. *In the vicinity (of)*, in the neighbourhood (of), near or close (to). (Cf. VICINAGE 2 b and 3.)

(*a*) 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 229 It would most probably have in it's vicinity, the tree which Nature designed should contrast with it in the same site. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 121 The merchant has his snug retreat in the vicinity of the metropolis. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 161 The extraordinary transparency of the atmosphere in the vicinity of the Rhine. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 185 Amidst the park-like undulating scenery in the vicinity of the town. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 14/1 During a severe storm in that year the Port Glasgow ship 'Marseilles' capsised in the vicinity of Portpatrick.

(*b*) 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xviii. (1842) 479 The minute hole..may be obliterated by a little pressure towards it upon the late in the immediate vicinity. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* III. v, A young man of low stature, slowly approaching towards the arch, and every cap in the vicinity was off, and every knee bowed.

b. With similar sense in other constructions. Also *transf.*, something near to (a specified amount, etc.).

1823 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. iv. 145 A detachment of grenadiers were very expeditiously quitting the vicinity of danger. 1901 *Proc. New-Eng. Hist. Genealog. Soc.* 9 Jan. p. xvi, Raising the extra cost of that number of the Annual Proceedings to the vicinity of one hundred dollars.

Vicinous, *a. rare*–1. [f. L. *vīcīn-us*: see VICINE *a.* and -OUS.] Extending to immediately adjacent parts.

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) V. 622 Local tetter. Limited to particular organs; stationary, or vicinous.

Vicinsity, variant of VITSITY.

Vicious (vi·ʃəs), *a.* Forms: *α.* 4– vicious (5–6 -ouse, 6 *Sc.* -us), 4 vecyous, 6 vicyous, *Sc.* vicious; 5–6 vycious(e, vycyous (5 -owse, 6 -ouse), 5 vyzyous; 4–5 viciose (4 vyeios). *β.* 5–6 vitius, 6–8 (9) vitious (6 -ouse). [a. AF. *vicious*, OF. *vicions* (*vitious*), *viciuus* (F. *vicieux*, = Sp. and Pg. *vicioso*, It. *vizioso*), or ad. L. *vitiōsus* (med.L. also *viciōsus*), f. *vitium* fault, VICE *sb.*1]

I. 1. Of habits, practices, etc.: Of the nature of vice; contrary to moral principles; depraved, immoral, bad.

a. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 25 Righte als before þe lykynges in þe sensualite ware fleschely, vayne, and vecyous .., righte so now þay ere made gastely, and clene. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 430 þe mor part of men, bi her vicious lijf, ben combred in þis beresye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 121 He is so ferforth Amourous, He not what thing is vicious Touchende love. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 2097 From hys gloryous ryght thus he vs estraungeth, For our vycyous lyuyng, thorough owre owne folý. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 70 O loode-sterre of al goode governaunce! Alle vicious hates by wisdon to represse. 1535–6 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 28 § 1 Ther [sc. monks'] vycyous lyvyng shamelesly encreasseth & augmentith. 1586 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 53 Dissolute lyuynge, licentious talke, and such other vicious behauiours. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. ix. (1614) 392 Richard Johnson caused the English, by his vicious liuing, to bee worse accounted of then the Russes. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 45 He ..who prefers the short pleasures of a vicious Life upon any consideration. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 54 Vicious actions, considered as mischievous to society, should be punished. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* viii, The Marquis pursuing her with insult and vicious passion. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xliii. 249 Interpreted by his enemies as a proof of unmanly luxury and vicious habits. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 23 Plato attempts to identify vicious pleasures with some form of error.

β. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 426 How Donaldus ..wes crownit King of Scottis, and of his vitius Lyfe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xviii. 91 [He] changed his good maners and vertues into most vitious tyrannies. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. xi. 45 Thence come..many times vitious Habits, customes, ferall Diseases. *c* 1670 HOBBES *Dial. Com. Laws* (1681) 7 How can a man be indicted of Avarice, Envy, Hypocrisie or any other vitious Habit till it be declared? 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Seculare* XXXIV, Some [Societies] that to Morals shall recal the Age, And purge from vitious Dross the sinking Stage. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* XV. 54 To fire with vitious hopes a modest heir. 1791 BURKE *Let. to Memb. Nat. Assembly* 32 Though his practical and speculative morals were vitious in the extreme. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. V. ii. 370 His conduct was vitious and weak.

2. Of persons: Addicted to vice or immorality; of depraved habits; profligate, wicked.

a. c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 473 Alþouhe Nero were as vicious As fende þat liþe ful lowe adoune. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton, 1483) IV. XXXV. 83 Vpon theues and morderers,..mysproude men and vicious they shalle be fyers in jugement. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 253 For yche good man ys lothe forto be yn company wyth a vycyous man. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 240/2 Personnes insolent, vicious, and of inordinate avarice. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 33 b, A vicious prince doth muche more hurte with his pernicious example to other then to hymself by his peculier offence. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* V. 518 Such as he found rich & vicious, he would deprive them from the Senate. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. iv. 629 He saith, that the Armouchiquois are a great people, but haue no adoration. They are vicious and bloudie. 1652 LOVEDAY tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* III. 161, I have known indeed many of the viciousest persons lead a long life with sweetnesse and contentment. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 22 Mankind is in this sense naturally vicious, or vicious by nature. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. to Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. i. 20 There are foolish and vicious women. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* XXXI. 164 Vicious men resemble valuable paintings which have been destroyed by varnish. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VII. 124 Every soul on this ungrateful earth, Virtuous or vicious,..Shall perish. 1860 THACKERAY *Philip* v, I know his haunts, but I don't know his friends, Pendennis...I don't think they are vicious, so much as low. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* IX. § 2. 569 Vicious as the stage was, it only reflected the general vice of the time.

β. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 527 Voidis me noght of vitius,..Ne deme no dishonesty in your derfe hurt. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 44 He causis sumtyme vitious or tyrane princes ..to haue dominioun aboue vs. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 161 In the beginning of his regyne a gude Prince, eftirwarde vitious. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 3) II. iii. VII. 330 Themistocles..was a most debosshed and vitious youth. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks 1851 V. 451 Monarchs..whose Aim is to make the People wealthy, ..but otherwise softest, basest, vitiousest, servilest. 1678 L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 178 Drunkenness..does not make Men Vitious but it shews them to be so. 1758 YOUNG *Centaur* IV. Wks. 1757 IV 200 My less vitious companions fall frequent around me; and dismal was their fall.

†**b.** Const. *of.* *Obs.*

c 1394 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. 47 þe whiche surquanries yif þei ben vicious of condicioums it is a greet charge and a destruccioun to þe house. 1483 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 278 Yf

outerageous. 1530 PALSGR. 328 Vyciouse of conversacyon. 1567 NORTH *Guevara's Dial. Pr.* Prol. A j b, The man that is vitious of his personne..deserveth to be banished. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1536/1 Some Princes hastened,..high minded, fait of renenge, vicious of his body.

c. *absol.* with *the.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 216 He putte awey the vicious

And tok to him the vertuous. 1536 G. WITHERS in *Misc. Wedrow Soc.* 18 And by all meanes compell and reproue the faultie and vicious. *a* 1581 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* V. (1633) 73 In which vertue..how far the best exceed, no farre in gluttonie and other hatefull crimes the vitious..are worse then too bedde. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 220 Most men have greater averseness to the incompliant than the vitious. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 256 P 3 If I attack the Vicious, I shall only set upon them in a Body. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* xii. (1819) I. 72 With the vicious you must be vicious. *a* 1805 H. K. WHITE *Mel. Hours* ix, Sike..has found, by bitter experience, that the vicious..are devoid of all feeling but that of self-gratification. 1865 *Blogr. Sk. R. Ivey* 72 Her example of devotedness, in the care of the wretched and vicious, was emulated with blessed effect.

d. *The vicious one*, ? the Evil One. *rare*–1.

1723 SHAFTESB. *Judgm. Hercules* I. § 2 He is wrought, agitated, and torn by contrary Passions. 'Tis the last Effort of the vitious-one, striving for possession over him.

3. Falling short of, or varying from, what is morally or practically commendable; reprehensible, blameworthy, mischievous.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 18 He that is irous and wroth.. may not speke but blameful thinges, and with his vicious wordes he stireth other folk to anger and to ire. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xviii. 38 Thair vicious wordis and vanitie, Thair trading tungis. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxii. (1880) II. 346 All thoughe I disprayse nygarshippe and vicious scarcitie,..I desyre nat to haue..meates for any occasion to moche sumptuous. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 45 To bee opinionate of him selfe is vitious. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 47 James.. thinkand it was vicious to denude the auld heritaig of ane house [etc.]. 1621 SHARP. *Cymb.* V. v. 65 It had beene vicious To haue mistrusted her. 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* (1651) 1 Being slaves within doors, no wonder they strive to have the State govern'd conformably to the inward vitious rule, by which they govern themselves. 1692 PRIOR *Ode Imit. Horace* II, See the Repenting Isle Awakes, Her Vicious Chains the generous Goddess breaks. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 159 P 7 A timidity which he himself knows to be vicious. 1780 COWPER *Let.* 28 March, The love of power seems as natural to kings as the desire of liberty is to their subjects, the excess of either is vicious and tends to the ruin of both. 1805 JEFFERSON *Autob.* Wks. 1859 I. 36 Our legislation, under the regal government, had many very vicious points. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. iv. 115 We look upon every system of taxation as radically vicious that sets the interest and the duty of individuals at variance. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* viii. 107 Young people often acquire the vicious habit of reading with the book held close to the eyes.

†**b.** Of a person: Holding faulty or wrong opinions. *Obs.*

1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* v. 26 Pope John 22 held the mortality of the soule, and was otherwise erroneous and vitious.

4. Of animals (*esp.* horses): Inclined to be savage or dangerous, or to show bad temper; not submitting to be thoroughly tamed or broken-in.

In quot. 1720 in fig. context, referring to persons.

1721 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* II. 30 Tho we may vulgarly call an ill Horse *vitious*; yet we never say of a good-one,.. that he is *worthy* or *virtuous*. 1720 SWIFT *Fates Clergymen* P 9 People in power may..drive them through the hardest and deepest roads..and will be sure to find them neither restyy nor vicious. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 363 Those [horses] naturally belonging to the country, are very small and vicious. *Ibid.* IV. 319 Although in its native wildness, it is said to be fierce and vicious, this [nylghau] seemed pleased with every kind of familiarity. 1828 RANKEN *Hist. France* IV. IV. iii. 267 A vicious animal, having injured any person, was forfeited. 1864 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vi. 295 Look at that bay horse rearing bolt upright; what a vicious one! 1892 J. A. HENDERSON *Annals Lower Deeside* 156 Philip, being flung by a vicious horse, likewise succumbed.

transf. 1824 LD. J. RUSSELL in Sir S. Walpole *Life* (1889) I. iii. 75 He [Napoleon] has a dusky grey eye, which would be called vicious in a horse.

b. Full of malice or spite; malignantly bitter or severe.

1829 JENNINGS *Dial. W. Eng., Vitious*, spiteful, revengeful. 1859 TENNYSON *Marriage of Geraint* 194 The dwarf,.. being vicious, old and irritable,..Made answer sharply that she should not know. 1908 G. TYRRELL in *Petre Life* (1912) II. xvii. 348 Three nasty vicious letters against the poor Baron in the *Tablet*.

c. *transf.* Of weather: Severe, inclement.

1888 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 695/2 Vitious weather. 1902 J. BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 81 The weather seemed more vicious than ever.

II. 5. *Law.* Marred, or rendered void, by some inherent fault or defect; not satisfying legal requirements or conditions; unlawful, illegal.

1393 in *Collect. Topographica* (1836) III. 257 To ensele the same forsaid vicious fenyd chartre. *c* 1545 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (1878) 44 The act being vicious and nought at the beginning, cannot be by tract of time confirmed. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 174, I ressavit the gudis libellit immediatlie fra the saidis Cantis efter the spoliatioun thairof, knawing the same to be spulyeit and vicious. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iii, I have consented to put my title to the issue of the sword—does that imply a vitious title? 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* IV. § 251 Nor can there be any accession in favour of a party whose own possession is vitious, *i.e.* acquired from his opponent violently, clandestinely, or in defiance of the recal of a grant during pleasure. *Ibid.* 513 In the ordinary case it was lawful to use force to eject a vitious posse-sor.

b. *Vicious intromission, intromitter* (see quot. 1838 and INTROMISSION 2). *Scots Law.*

1698 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xix. § 10 (1699) 102 If it be proved that he was actually denuded, that will liberat him from vitious intromission. 1696 [see INTROMITTER]. 1747 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 249 Universal and vitious intromitters with his goods and gear.

1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* III. ix. § 49 Though vitious intromission be a delict, it may be referred to oath. *Ibid.* § 52 Before he be cited by any creditor as a vitious intromitter. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 599 The term vitious intromission is applied exclusively to the heir's unwarrantable intromission with the moveable estate of the ancestor. *a* 1856 G. Outram *Lyrics* (1887) 95 (E.D.D.) I then attempted Vitious Intromission, And was immediately conveyed to prison. *Ibid.* 216 Vitious Intromitter.

6. Impaired or spoiled by some fault, flaw, blemish, or defect; faulty, defective, imperfect, bad; corrupt, impure, debased: **a.** Of language, style, spelling, etc. Also *transf.* of writers.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xxi. (Arb.) 256 It hath bene said before how..a good figure may become a vice, and ..a vicious speach go for a vertue in the Poeticall science. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 208 He shall have the honour to purge his country of a vitious phrase. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. Pref., The complaint against vitious verse..is of some antiquity in this Kingdom. 1695 H. Wharton in *Laud's Whs.* (1853) V. 371 Although the orthography be vicious (a matter common to many learned men of that time). 1721 Shaftesb. *Charac.* I. 145 Whatever Quarter we may give to our vicious Poets, or other Composers of irregular and short-liv'd Works. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 141 His mode of writing was vicious, rhetorical, antithetical, and forced. 1883 D. H. Wheeler *By-Ways Lit.* 100 It is believed that the Welsh-Keltic manuscripts are unusually vicious in the texts.

b. *Logic.* Of arguments, etc.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. § 3. 50 The Induction which the Logitians speake of;..their fourme of induction I say is vtterly vitious and incompetent. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iv. 26 If this fallacy be largely taken, it is committed in any vitious illation, offending the rules of good consequence. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* II. viii. 40 If from true premisses follows what is false, it is a sign that the form of the syllogism is vitious. 1774 Reid *Aristotle's Logic* v. § 1. 219 The form [of syllogisms] lies in the necessary connection between the premises and the conclusion; and where such a connection is wanting, they are said to be informal, or vicious in point of form. 1856 P. E. Dove *Logic Christian Faith* v. i. 290 We have..departed from the region of mind and spirit and introduced the natural method where the natural method is utterly vicious and illegitimate. 1864 Bowen *Logic* vii. 189 It is not difficult to prove..that arguments are vicious only when they fail to observe this method, and are always good when it is observed.

c. In general use.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 228 The uttermost on either side is vicious. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 4 A vitious figure of the head is known by sight. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 90 b, Rightly supposing that the truth must lie in some medium between these two vitious extremes. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. iii. 35 Here the rude chiszel's rougher strokes I trac'd; In flowing brass a vicious hardness found. 1846 *Art-Union Jrnl.* Oct. 285 The foundations of the bridge were originally vicious. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 611 A wooden model of that edifice, the finest specimen of a vicious style, was sent to Kensington for his inspection. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* May 672 Thus the country's money becomes thoroughly vicious: it breaks down in its most essential quality.

†**d.** Of a person: Wrong, mistaken. *Obs.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 145 Though I perchance am vicious in my guesse.

7. Foul, impure, noxious, morbid. ? *Obs.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. xxxv. 1168 Berries..full of clammie or vicious moisture. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 188 Theyr huer is very vitious, and causeth the whole body to be of ill temperament. 1641 Milton *Reform.* 55 Thou..that art but a bottle of vitious and harden'd excrements. 1656 J. Smith *Pract. Physick* 49 The vicious matter must be evacuated. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 721 Here from the vicious Air, and sickly Skies, A Plague did on the dumb Creation rise. 1831 South *Otto's Path. Anat.* 73 The last object of pathological anatomy is the consideration of vicious contents..which have no organic connexion with the animal body.

†**b.** Harmful, noxious. *Obs.*—1

1656 Earl. Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts fr. Parnass.* I. x. (1674) 12 Those Shops wherein vitious things are sold.

†**8.** Of a part or a function of the body: Morbid, diseased; irregular. *Obs.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 304 Who euer saw a conception, although it were vitious and illegitimate, which was not couered with a Filme as it were with a Garment? 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ii. 342 The vicious excesse in the number of fingers and toes. 1707 Flover *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 373 The five Members and their Intestines being changed twice five times by five vitious Pulses. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* II. vii. § 2 (1734) 185 A vitious Liver seems to be one of the primary..Causes of Nervous Distempers.

9. *Vicious circle.* **a.** *Logic.* (See sense 6 b and Circle *sb.* 19.)

c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 69/1 He runs into what is termed by logicians a *vicious circle.* 1812 Woodhouse *Astron.* viii. 52 This seems to be something like arguing in a vicious circle. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Phil.* 209 It may seem to be arguing in a vicious circle to have recourse to observation for any part of those..conclusions. 1865 Mozley *Mirac.* iv. 76 The whole evidence of revelation becomes a vicious circle. 1876 [see Circle *sb.* 19].

transf. 1839 Sir H. Holland *Med. Notes & Refl.* 100 Thus the practice proceeds, in a vicious circle of habit, from which the patient is rarely extricated without..injury to his future health.

b. *Path.* A morbid process consisting in the reciprocal continuation and aggravation of one disorder by another.

1883 Duncan *Clin. Lect. Dis. Women* (ed. 2) x. 78 There is, in this disease, what is sometimes called a vicious circle, and I shall have, in the course of this lecture, to point out to you several instances of this vicious circle.

10. *Comb.*, as *vicious-looking.*

1872 'M. Legrand' *Camb. Freshm.* 247 The gray mare expressed her denial..by giving one or two slight but uncommonly vicious-looking kicks. 1894 Miss. Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 60 Those vicious-looking knives looked as if they could do such work well.

Viciously (vi·ʃəsli), *adv.* Also 4 vicioussliche, 5 vicously; 6–8 (9) vitiously. [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a vicious manner.

1. With addiction or inclination to vice; immorally, dissolutely.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlviii. 13 Þys her way his sclaunder to hem; and efter hij shul plesen viciousliche in her moupe. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 41 Sum are gustly pore, and sum bodily; sum vertuously, and sum vicously, or synfully; and sum peynfully. 1423 Hoccleve *Addr. to Sir J. Oldcastle* 130, I putte cas, a prelat or a preest Him viciously gouerne in his lyuynge. 1446 Lydg. *Nightingale Poems* i 285 Moch peple viciously Were in this age dampnably demeyned. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 57 He [illegible] uing in couetise and gyle. 1560 Daus tr. [illegible] 41 b, They live dissolutely and vitiously at Rome. 1611 Cotgr., *Vicieusement*, viciously, lewdly, corruptly, faultily. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* I. § 17 (1716) 17 Perversity of Will, immoral and sinfull enormities ..pursue us unto Judgment, and leave us viciously miserable. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 432 By nature weak, or viciously inclin'd.

b. In weaker sense: In an improper manner or to an improper extent; reprehensibly. Also *spec.*, illegally (quot. 1880).

1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 17 Many..are vitiously proud, that their neighbours should see strangers thus visit them. *Ibid.* 35 The Italian being a great and somewhat viciously curious observer of ceremonious complements. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* (1650) 297 They that against Nature viciously use the night for the day. 1824 Southey *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 200 A practice virtually or rather viciously the same has been imputed to the Venetian aristocracy. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* Dig. 512 He eventually prevailed who proved that he was actually in possession, and had not taken it vitiously from his adversary, *i.e.* either forcibly, stealthily, or by refusal.

c. Spitefully, ill-naturedly, savagely; with (or as with) animosity or intent to injure.

viciously driven two or three tired women, who were waiting to grind their corn. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 114/2 One of the sharp little telegraphic bells rang viciously.

2. Faultily, badly, incorrectly; corruptly.

1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* III. Note § 8 Which Lucan (methinks) avoids viciously by an excess the other way. 1679 Dryden *Pref. to Tr. & Cres.* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 226 The thoughts are such as arise from the matter, the expression of 'em not viciously figurative. 1680 Burnet *Trav.* (1686) 266 They have the Gospels in Greek Capitals, but they are vitiously writ in many places. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Viciously*, .. corruptly, falsely, as *Viciously writ.* 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 91 An assembly..viciously or feebly composed in a very great part of it.

Viciousness (vi·ʃəsnés). Also 5 vycyowsnesse, 6 vycyous-, vyciousnesse, 6–8 (9) vitiousness, etc. [f. Vicious *a.* + -ness.] The character or quality of being vicious.

1. Inclination or addiction to vice or immorality; depravity of life or conduct.

1440 J. Shirley *Dethe K. James* (1818) 5 He wexe full of viciousness yn his lyvyng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/1 Vycyowsnesse, *viciositas.* 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* Prol. a vij b, Whan this Socrates perceyued the myndes of men to be prone & extremely inclyned to viciousnes, he had gret affeccion to subdue suche maners. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* II. 72 We bring with vs from the womb of our mother a vitiousnesse planted in our begetting. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* II. vii. 203 Marke those: for naught, but such lewd viciousnes, Ere graced him. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 218 Venus,..their goddesse of viciousnesse. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. 99 Now began the Saxons to be infected with an universall Vitiousnesse. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iii. 72 The..advantage..is gained by the action itself, not by the morality, the virtuousness or viciousness of it. 1796 Bp. Watson *Apol. Bible* 379 Some men have been warped to infidelity by viciousness of life. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xliv, I never will supply that man's extravagances and viciousness. 1892 Tennyson *Forsters* III. i, These be the lies the people tell of us, Because we seek to curb their viciousness.

transf. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Kiv b, Hatefull viciousnes in wordes, and hurtfull lossenes in life.

b. Tendency, on the part of animals, to be savage or refractory.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 383 In..this country.. they [*sc.* stags] are become less common than formerly; its excessive viciousness during the rutting season..inducing most people to part with the species. 1775 Adair *Amer. Indians* 427 The young ambitious heroes ascribed the whole disaster to the viciousness of my horse, saying 'he was mad'. 1818 Ranken *Hist. France* IV. iv. iii. § 2. 267 If the owner of it [*sc.* an animal] swore falsely..that he was ignorant of its viciousness. 1847 T. Brown *Mod. Farriery* 372 It is not an unfrequent occurrence for horses in harness to back instead of drawing when first started, and some add to this considerable viciousness. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 82 A playful habit of snatching at the man whilst being groomed which some horses display, may not come under the head of viciousness.

c. Maliciousness, spitefulness.

1879 Huxley *Hume* II. viii. 159 One feels ashamed of having suspected many excellent persons of being moved by mere malice and viciousness of temper to call other folks atheists.

2. The quality of being faulty or defective.

1620 Deacon & Walker *Spirits & Divels* 90 The absence, the vitiousnesse, the depriuation or fault of some other thing. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvii. 114 Then the low value shews the viciousnesse of it. 1687 M. Clifford *Notes on Dryden's Poems* iv. 13, I intended to have made no more Animadversions upon the viciousness of your Style. 1752 Carte *Hist. Eng.* (1759) III. 763 The arret above mentioned being repealed, these conservators were to judge of the goodness or viciousness of cloths.

†**b.** Faultiness or badness in respect of physical constitution. *Obs.*

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 67 The Brimstone will burn up the gross vitiousness [*sic*] of the Salt-peter. 1706 Stevens *Span. Dict.* I, *Vicio*, ..Rankness, Viciousness in Land, or the like.

3. Improper or illegal procedure.

1810–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 458 In the cases above brought to view, as cases of unfairness or vitiousness.

Vici·situous, *a. U.S.* = Vicissitudinous *a.*

1865 E. Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 165 A city set upon such a hill could not have been hidden in the vicisitous experiences of a nation. 1892 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 9 June, About all of them reach their affluence..along the same vicisitous road.

†**Vici·ssitudal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. next.] = Vicissitudinal *a.* Hence †**Vici·ssitudally** *adv.*

1598 J. Keeper tr. *A. Romei's Academi* I. 7 The sensible world hath two parts, one subiect to vicissitudal generation and corruption;..the other is the celestiall world. 1618 *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. iv. 322 The which sport they continuing, for foure times vicessitudally [*sic*] euery day [etc.].

Vicissitude (visi·sitiūd). [a. OF. and F. *vicissitude* (14th c.), or ad. L. *vicissitūdo*, f. *vicis* turn, change: see Vice *sb.*6 and *prefix.* So Sp. *vicisitud*, Pg. *vicissitude*, It. *vicissitudine.*]

1. The fact of change or mutation taking place in a particular thing or within a certain sphere; the uncertain changing or mutability *of* something.

1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* 105 Richeborowe..came to ruine, by the alteration and vicissitude of the Sea. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Vicissitude of Things* (Arb.) 570 The Vicissitude or Mutations, in the Superiour Globe, are no fit Matter, for this present Argument. 1640 G. Sandys *Christ's Passion* III. 268 O dire Vicissitude of Things! 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* vi. (1661) 115 According to the Vicissitude and conversion of humane affairs, and the change of Monarchies. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxvi. 153 The notice, that our Senses take of the constant Vicissitude of Things. 1720 [illegible] *Voy.* III. vii. III. 606 And now, such is the vicissitude of life, we thought ourselves happy in having regained a situation, which but two days before it was the utmost object of our hope to quit. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* ii. 61 It is remarkable that this vicissitude of human things, this marked outline of the succession of Empires till our Lord should come, is laid open..to the Heathen Monarch.

b. With *a*, in the same sense.

1632 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 3 Of all things else there is a vicissitude, a change both of cities and nations. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 17 Because the glory of one State depends upon the ruine of another, there is a revolution and vicissitude of their greatnesse. 1753 Johnson *Adventurer* No. 95 P 5 There is likewise in composition, as in other things, a perpetual vicissitude of fashion. 1772 *Birmingham Counterfeit* II. viii. 106 Her history..abounds with such an amazing vicissitude of incidents.

2. Without article: Change, mutation, mutability, as a natural process or tendency in things or in life generally; successive substitution of one thing or condition for another, taking place from natural causes.

1596 Drayton *Legends* iv. 757 Vicissitude impartially will'd The goodlyest things be subject to annoy. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1310 He endeavoreth by vicissitude of mutations, and by periodicall passion, to continue alwaies yoong, as if he should never die and perish. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 30 The Sisters Web of our lives is checkered with Vicissitude, The whole peece proving but a medley of Light and Shadow. *a* 1664 Katn. Philips *Submission* Poems (1667) 108 Where were our Springs, our Harvests pleasent use, Unless Vicissitude did them produce. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 4 P 11 Whatever is left in the hands of chance must be subject to vicissitude. 1782 Cowper *Hope* 17 Vicissitude wheels round the motley crowd, The rich grow poor, the poor become purse-proud. 1833–5 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* Ser. III. (1873) I. 1 This is a world of conflict, and of vicissitude amid the conflict. 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuvius* vii. 197 On such a fault-line atmospheric vicissitude has been effective.

3. A change or alteration in condition or fortune; an instance of mutability in human affairs.

1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* II. iv. 38 Nature hath these vicissitudes. Shee makes No man a state of perpetuety, Sir. 1665 Manley *Grottus' Low C. Wars* 489 That the vicissitudes of War should be brought to a stay, If equall Counsels should be found on both sides. 1682 J. Flavel *Right. Man's Ref.* 220 His people may find..rest and comfort amidst the vicissitudes of this unstable world. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 41 P 4 A deplorable instance of the Fortune of War, and Vicissitudes of humane Affairs. 1794 Godwin *Caleb Williams* 314 Mr. Collins promised, as far as he was able, to have an eye upon my vicissitudes. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* II. 1 We shall treat first of the vicissitudes to which *species* are subject. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxviii. 281 My sturdy second officer,..long accustomed to the vicissitudes of whaling life, shed tears at the prospect. 1879 Church *Spenser* 31 For fifty years the English people had had before its eyes the great vicissitudes which make tragedy.

4. Alternation, mutual or reciprocal succession,

of things or conditions; *esp.* alternating succession of opposite or contrasted things.

1624 Burton *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 2) ii. ii. iii. 211 At Berna.. a shippe was digged out of a mountaine...Came this from Earth-quakes,..or is there a vicissitude of Sea and Land, as Anaximenes held of old? 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 105 Reason cannot conceive that an animall..should live in a continuall motion, without that alternity and vicissitude of rest whereby all others continue. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vi. 8 Which makes through Heav'n Grateful vicissitude, like Day and Night. 1689 tr. *Locke's Let. Toleration* 26 How the Church was under the Vicissitude of Orthodox and Arrian Emperors is very well known. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 143 P 1 This Vicissitude of Motion and Rest, which we call Life. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 303 When I consider that various vicissitude of hopes and fears we had for twenty years struggled with. 1773 Monboddo *Language* (1774) I. i. ix. 111 Corporeal forms which are..in a constant vicissitude of generation and corruption. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I. vi. 219 The succession of light and darkness,..the vicissitude of the seasons. 1834 Mrs. Oliphant *Magd. Hepburn* II. 21 Her girlish shyness..made the colour come and go in rapid vicissitude upon her cheek.

5. An instance of alternation or succession; a change from one physical state to another, esp. as one of a constant series.

1648 Wilkins *Math. Magic* ii. v. 183 How those vicissitudes of rarefaction and condensation may be maintained. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* vi. 180 The periodical and constant Vicissitudes of Day and Night. 1718 Prior *Solomon* ii. 832 What Pangs, what Fires, what Racks didst Thou sustain? What sad Vicissitudes of smarting Pain? 1747 T. Story *Life*, etc. 86, I kept close to Meetings, and to Business, in their proper Vicissitudes. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 6 The vicissitudes of tides are scarcely felt in those seas. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) III. 352 Extreme heat and cold..are far more injurious when flowing in irregular vicissitudes, than when in an uniform tenour. 1853 Phillips *Rivers Yorksh.* iii. 90 The surface influence of descending rains, and all the agency of atmospheric vicissitudes. 1893 Ball *Story of Sun* 319 There must have been remarkable climatic vicissitudes during past ages.

† **6.** Reciprocation, return. *Obs.*[—1]

1565 *Testimonial to R. Campbell* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 288 In doing whairof..so shall you bynd ws to the lik vicissitude.

† **7.** A turn or occasion of action. *Obs.*[—1]

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* i. vi. § 13. 30 In the next vicissitude or succession, he did send his diuine truth into the world.

† **b.** *By vicissitudes*, by turns. *Obs.*

1749 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* ii. (1754) 47 The Moravian Mystics are the Persons, whom Mr. Wesley represents by Vicissitudes as the best, and as the worst, of Men.

† **Vicissitu·dinal,** *a.* *Obs.*[—1] [See next and -al.] Vicissitudinous. Also † **Vicissitudina·rian** *a.*, **-a·rious** *a.*, **-a·riously** *adv.*

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 23 A *vicissitudinall conuersion, or temporall transformation of the elementarie or terrestriall globe of this world. *c* 1729 W. Stukeley *Mem.* (Surtees) I. 210 Here we measure not time, nor have we need of your *vicissitudinarian planet called the sun. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire of Lond.* 2 God,..by whom only they [*sc.* dreadful effects] can be transformed into comforts (which as elementary and *vicissitudinarious, they can in no true sense be). 1725 *Meteorological Essays* II. 191 *Vicissitudinariously.

† **Vicissitu·dinary,** *a.* *Obs.* [f. L. *vicissitūdin-*, stem of *vicissitūdo*: see -ary.]

1. Marked by alternation; coming alternately or by turns.

1624 Donne *Devotions*, etc. (ed. 2) 296 Wee say..the dayes of man [are] vicissitudinary, as though he had as many good days, as ill. 1640 Bp Hall *Episc.* ii. xvii. 180 This presidence..is not perpetuall, but only for the time and vicissitudinary. 1650 *Descr. Future Hist. Europe* 6 A vicissitudinary time of Affliction and Ease, Persecution and rest, pure Doctrine and Heresies, is signified.

2. Reciprocal, responsive. *rare*[—1].

1629 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 92 When a mans Friend hath (first) obliged him by Signall Offices; if hee shew not all vicissitudinary Expressions of a thankefull Heart [etc.].

Vicissitu·dinous, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ous.]

1. Marked by vicissitudes; subject to various or frequent changes of fortune.

1846 Worcester (citing *Q. Rev.*). 1853 J. Stevenson in *Trans. Ch. Historians Eng.* II. 227 In this mode was the king's administration conducted during the whole of his vicissitudinous life. 1865 *Reader* 23 Sept. 335/1 His career has been vicissitudinous in the highest degree. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 4 July 2/1 A second Oxford innings, which, though 'vicissitudinous', almost equalled the first Cambridge total.

2. Of a person: That has experienced changes of fortune or circumstances.

1856 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1870) II. 189 An Englishman..who suggests himself as a kind of contrast to this warlike and vicissitudinous backwoodsman.

† **Vici·ssity.** *Obs.*[—0] [ad. L. *vicissitas* (rare) change, alteration.] (See quot.)

1721 Bailey, *Vicissity*, a changing or succeeding by Course; an interchangeable Course.

Vicker(y, obs. forms of Vicar, Vicary.

Vickid, -it, obs. forms of Wicked *a.*

Vicont, obs. form of Viscount.

† **Vico·ntiel,** *sb.* and *a.* *Obs.* Also 7 **vicondell, viscontiel.** *β.* 6–7 **vicountiell,** 7–9 **-iel.** See also Vicountile. [a. AF. *vicontiel*, f. *vicont* Viscount. Cf. OF. *vicontal*, F. *vicomtal*.]

A. *sb. pl.* Certain sums regularly payable to the Crown by a sheriff and charged against him in the Exchequer accounts.

1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 4 § 3 [To] be discharged of all suche Fermes and Sommes of money..excepte onlie of the Vicountielles of their Shires wherewithe they shalbe chardged. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s.v., There are also certaine fermes called Vicountiels, which the Shyreeue for his time payeth a certaine rent for to the King, and maketh what profit he can of them. 1642 C. Vernon *Consid. Exch.* 11 The..Sheriffe..to deliver a book written in parchment, declaring of whom and where he receiveth the vicondells, and other the Rents and Farmes written unto him in the Summons of the Pipe. 1738 *Hist. Crt. Excheq.* v. 89 This sum was an Item placed after his Vicontiels. [1819 *Statutes of Realm* IV. 43 *marg.*, Allowance to all Sheriffs for Vicountiels out of lands coming into the King's Hands.]

B. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to a sheriff.

a. 1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 253 Our officiarie *Vicecomites* or Shirifes, which haue diuers Actions Viscontiel, and inquirie of criminall causes. 1622 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1824) 230 The highest authority that he [the sheriff] hath is but vicontiel. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt.* i. lxi. 191 Other Courts also were in the countrey, and were Vicontiel or Courts of Sheriffs and Lords of Hundreds and corporations. 1670 *Act* 22 *Chas. II*, c. 6 § 1 Guild Rents, Pensions, Vicontiel Rents, Assart-Rents [etc.]. 1798 *Gentl. Mag.* Oct. 850/1 Not far from the church of Bromham lies..the chantry-house, to which appertained certain annual vicontiel or fee farm rents.

β. 1630 Dodderidge *Hist. Wales* 40 For all the ordinary Ministers and executioners of the processe of the Lawes of England, or which haue Vicountiell iurisdiction, are the Officers of particular Shires. [1819 *Statutes of Realm* IV. 43 *marg.*, Sheriffs taking Tallies shall be chargeable for Vicountiel Farms, &c.]

2. Of writs: (see quots.).

1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s.v. *Vicountiel*, Writs vicountiel are such writs as are triable in the countie or Shyreeues court. *a* 1683 Scroggs *Courts-Leet* (1714) 84 This Writ is a Vicountiel, and in the Nature of a Justicies in which the Sheriff shall hold Plea. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 238 This writ of admeasurement..is one of those writs, that are called *vicontiel*, being directed to the sheriff,..and not to be returned to any superior court, till finally executed by him.

Vicori(e, etc., variants of Vicary *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

Vicount, obs. variant of Viscount.

† **Vicountile,** *sb.* and *a.* *Obs.* = Vicontiel.

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 2 Where divers.. soomes of money been respected to..Shirieffes..upon theyre accomptes..of the foresaide fermes and other vicountyles. 1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., Essex* 12 Hertfordshire, in the time of Edw. III, was annexed vnto this shire, as towching vicountile iurisdiction. 1664 *Spelman's Gloss.* 555/1 *Vicecomitalia*, vicountiles.

Vicour, obs. form of Vicar.

Vicst, southern ME. f. *fightest*, Fight *v.*

† **Vict** [1]. *Obs.*[—1] [ad. L. *vict-us*, pa. pple. of *vincĕre* to overcome.] One who is vanquished.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2145 Ofte sith hit is sene..That a victor of a victe is vile ouercomyn

† **Vict** [2]. *Obs*[—1] App. an abbrev. of Victim *sb.*

1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* xlvii. 3 As the Fatt is disparted from the Vict, Soe David from the People, by the strict Survey of Heaven.

Victail, -ale, obs. forms of Victual *sb.*

Victim (vi·ktim), *sb.* Also 5 **vyctym,** 6–7 **victime.** [ad. L. *victima* (in senses 1, 2). So F. *victime* (16th c.), Sp. and Pg. *victima*, It. *vittima*. The Rhemish translators of the Bible were the first to make free use of the word as English, and its general currency dates only from the latter part of the 17th century.]

1. A living creature killed and offered as a sacrifice to some deity or supernatural power.

1497 Bp. Alcock *Mons Perfect.* C iij/2 Obedyence excellith al vyctyms [*printed* vyuyms] and holocaustis in the whiche was sacrefyced ye fleshe of other creatures. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Mark* ix. 49 Euery victime shal be salted with salt. *Ibid.*, *Acts* vii. 42 Did you offer victims and hostes vnto me? 1609 Bible (Douay) *Lev.* i. 2, etc. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* i. vi. 33 Of sacrificing there were from the beginning two kinds, the one called Gifts or oblations of things without life: the other Victims (so our Rhemists have taught us to English the word *Victima*) slaine sacrifices of birds and beasts. 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Victime*, a sacrifice, a beast offered in sacrifice. [Also in Cockeram, Blount, etc.] 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 784 Select four Brawny Bulls for Sacrifice,..From the slain Victims pour the streaming Blood. 1705 Addison *Italy* 3 Ulysses here the Blood of Victims shed, And rais'd the pale Assembly of the Dead. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Sacrifice*, The Priest..then took Wine in a Vessel..and..poured it between the Horns of the Victim. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 202 The Mexicans used human victims. 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* VII. lv. 105 He had inquired of Peithagoras as to the nature of the tokens which he had seen in the victims. 1867 Tennyson *Victim* v, But the Priest was happy, His victim won. *Ibid.* vi, The rites prepared, the victim bared.

fig. 1646 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro, Hymn*, Thou art love's victime, & must dy A death more mysticall & high. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Isaiah xxxiv.* ii, The Altar all the Land, and all Men in't the Victims are. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. x 374 These 20,000 men were a victim to save the rest of their nation. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxix. (1788) 367, I have bound the victim, and dragged him to the altar. 1818 Shelley *Julian* 376 The red scaffold..May ask some willing victim 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* iv. 112 Knaves are men, That..dress the victim to the offering up. 1855 Kingsley *Heroes* iv. (1868) 50, I am accursed, devoted as a victim to the sea-gods.

b. Applied to Christ as an offering for mankind.

1736 Butler *Analogy* ii. v. P 6 [Jesus Christ] is described..in the Old Testament, under the same characters of a priest, and an expiatory victim. 1745 W. Robertson in *Transl. & Paraphr.* (Sc. Ch.) vi. 8 All Heaven's Wrath tho' due to us On him, our Victim, lay. *a* 1833 J. Dick *Lect. Theol.* (1834) III. lviii. 119 In the other [case], it was a man, the Son of the living God, who was the victim. *c* 1865 W. C. Dix *Hymn*, '*Alleluia, sing to Jesus*,' Thou on earth both Priest and Victim. 1870 H. Martin *Atonement* iv. 74 They evidently concentrate attention.. on that aspect in which Christ appears as the piacular victim, or the Lamb of Sacrifice.

2. A person who is put to death or subjected to torture by another; one who suffers severely in body or property through cruel or oppressive treatment.

1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind.* Ep. Ded. 5, I designe no more than to demonstrate, that it was..the iniquity of the times which made him [Charles I] a victim, and your sacred Self an Exile. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 61 The great Provost..was one of the number of these unhappy Victims. 1783 Crabbe *Village* i. 283 A potent quack, long versed in human ills, Who first insults the victim whom he kills. 1785 Burke *Sp. Nabob Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1882 I. 331 Among the victims to this magnificent plan of universal plunder..you have all heard..of an Indian Chief called Hyder Ali Khan. 1839 Keightley *Hist. Eng.* II. 32 If he had not died the victim of a tyrant. 1854 Card. Wiseman *Fabiola* ii. xxii. 263 The hostile passions of heathen Rome..excited by the coming slaughter of so many christian victims. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 169 The list of his possessions, lands of Earl Harold, of the Sheriff Mœrleswegen, and of a crowd of smaller victims, is simply endless.

b. One who is reduced or destined to suffer under some oppressive or destructive agency.

1718 Prior *Solomon* iii. 170 Behold where Age's wretched Victim lies: See his Head trembling, and his half-clos'd Eyes. 1742 Gray *Prosp. Eton Coll.* 52 Alas! regardless of their doom The little victims play! 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 539 This new poet..is M. Esmenard,..at present a victim of the persecution which has followed that event. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* v, About the centre of the procession..came the unfortunate victim of military law. 1865 Visct. Milton & W. B. Cheadle *N.-W. Passage* viii. (1867) 124 We..even went to the length of fixing upon one useless, toothless old fellow [*sc.* a dog] as a victim to our appetites, in case of extremity. 1890 C. B. Pitman tr. *Boscowitz's Earthquakes* 211 The houses which had only partially fallen in continued to collapse and make fresh victims.

c. One who perishes or suffers in health, etc., from some enterprise or pursuit voluntarily undertaken.

1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 487 The last of old Lycurgus' sons, The generous victim to that vain attempt To save a rotten state. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 259 Frauenhofer died..at an early age; a victim, it is said, to unremitting attention bestowed upon an unhealthy employment. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 338 The studious class are their own victims. 1852 Miss Yonge *Cameos* I. xxxi. 271 While here he narrowly escaped becoming a seventh royal victim to the Crusade.

d. In weaker sense: One who suffers some injury, hardship, or loss, is badly treated or taken advantage of, etc.

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvii. (1787) III. 23 Gregory soon became the victim of malice and envy. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 342 That spirit of intolerance..of which they are the victims. 1835 Ure *Phil. Manuf.* 42 Several individuals..are to a very great extent the victims at least, if not the dupes, of scheming managers. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xx, He went off.. without further ceremony, and left his respected victim to settle the bill. 1875 Abp. Benson in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) I. xi. 393, I am that miserable man the Victim in Residence, and there is a Cathedral Festival to-day.

3. In the phrase *to fall a victim to* (some thing or person), in preceding senses.

1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* i, Manfred will suspect you,.. and you will fall a victim to his resentment. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, iv. Wks. 1813 V. 411 Some officers, who rashly attempted to restrain them, fell victims to their fury. 1803 Ellicott *Jrnl.* 13 Many of the inhabitants that season fell victims to the yellow fever. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 The Flemish and other foreign residents fell helpless victims to the rage of the populace. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 5 Sept. 17/2 It appeared as if he had fallen a victim to an assassin. *Ibid.* 19 Sept. 6/4 He fell a victim to goodness of heart and to the interest he felt in his people.

4. *attrib.* (chiefly appositive) and *Comb.*, as *victim beast*, *carrion*, *-flock*, *horde*, *-lamb*, *ox*; *victim-laden* adj.; **victim-ship,** a ship carrying victims.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 733 The Victim Ox, that was for Altars prest,..Sunk of Himself. 1697 — *Æneid* iv. 293 Blood of victim beasts enriched the ground. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* xiii. 27 A victim Ox beneath the sacred hand Of great Alcinous falls. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* ii. lxxxix, The Battle-field, where Persia's victim horde First bow'd beneath the brunt of Hellas' sword. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I. v. 133 Deceived by the black sail of the victim-ship, which Theseus had forgotten to exchange. 1843 Card. Wiseman *Ess., Minor Rites* (1853) I. 491 There is one altar ..on which the same Victim-Lamb reposes. *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *Thanksgiving* iv, I could not sue for mercy at a victim-laden shrine. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* ii. 660 The tyrant should take heed to what he doth, Since every victim-carrion turns to use. 1868 J. H. Newman *Verses Var. Occasions* 171, I cleanse Thy victim-flock, and bring them near In holiest wise.

Hence **Vi·ctim** *v. trans.*, to slay in sacrifice.

1671 Crowne *Juliana* i. 11 Barbarous Idol, not content with blood, But must have kingdoms victim'd at thy altars! 1694 — *Married Beau* iv. 54 I'll rather victim A hecatomb of such as thou to her.

† **Vi·ctimary.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *victimāri-us*, f. *victima* Victim *sb.* So F. *victimaire*.] A slayer of sacrificial victims.

[illegible] *Strom.* 373 So they were burned by the [illegible]aries or sacrificers the[illegible]es, in the sight of all the people. 1669 — *Crt. Gentiles* i. ii. ix. 261 Amongst the

Romans, the Priest did not kill the Victime, but the Popa or Victimarie, at the beck of the Priest. 1576 Aptmost *Perusal. Chr.* 298 Who had the same office as the latin popa and victimaries, that of killing the victims.

† Victimate, *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *victimāt-us*, pa. pple. of *victimāre* : see next.] = Victim *sb.* 1.

1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abuses* Ep. Ded., Sacrifices, Victimates & Holocaustes offred. *Ibid.* O Ija, Hauing offred vp their sacrifices, victimats and holocaustes to their false Gods.

† Victimate, *v. Obs.*—[f. L. *victimāt-*, ppl. stem of *victimāre*, f. *victima* Victim *sb.*] (See quots.)

1626 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Victimate*, to offer in sacrifice, to kill and sacrifice. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Victimate*, to Sacrifice, to make an Oblation.

Victimhood. [f. Victim *sb.*] The state of being a victim.

1860 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) III. 138 Wearing a sullen look of victimhood.

Victimizable, *a.* [f. Victimize *v.*] Capable of being victimized.

1842 Emerson *Ess.* II. III. (1901) 273 Have you been victimised in being brought hither?—or, prior to that, answer me this, 'Are you victimisable?'

Victimization. [f. next.] The action of victimizing, or fact of being victimized, in various senses.

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 397 The man who does not grow savage at victimization is an inert, unsentient booby. 1860 A. L. Windsor *Ethica* v. 278 On Pope's complete victimization, perhaps, less stress is to be laid. 1888 L. Oliphant *Sympneumata* 57 But the victimisation of the infant terrestrial man was not to be so fully consummated. 1900 *Pilot* 30 June 544/1 The Companies Bill and the Money-Lending Bill..had the common object of putting down fraud and victimisation.

b. *spec.* in *Theol.* (See quot.)

1893 *Month* April 485 Christ's Body in its Eucharistic state, which Theologians, when they explain the sacrificial character of the Mass, call a state of victimization.

Victimize (vi·ktiməiz), *v.* [f. Victim *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To make a victim of; to cause to suffer inconvenience, discomfort, annoyance, etc., either deliberately or by misdirected attentions.

1830 Lytton *Let.* Sept., in *M. Napier's Corr.* (1879) 87 Your contributors are at full liberty to ridicule, abuse, and (allow the author of Paul Clifford to employ a slang word) victimize me. 1839 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 166, I had the honour of being kindly victimised on the occasion by our hospitable host, as the leader of the shooting world. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xli, Becky..described the occurrence, and how she had been victimised by Lady Southdown.

b. To cheat, swindle, or defraud.

1839 [see *Victimising* ppl. a.]. 1848 Thackeray *Bh. Snobs* xxxix, In a turf transaction, either Spavin or Cockspur would try to get the better of his father, and, to gain a point in the odds, victimise his best friends. 1859 J. Lang *Wand. India* 20 After several officers have been victimized at play, their friends are apt to talk about the matter in an unpleasant manner. 1883 Greenwood *Odd People* 96 In what way has the rascal victimised his customer?

2. To put to death as, or in the manner of, a sacrificial victim; to slaughter.

1833 *Tait's Mag.* XX. 487 Fifty thousand Gentoos were victimized by the scimitar. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* II. 341 By this wound 'Tis Pallas, Pallas, victimiseth thee, And taketh vengeance on thy cursed blood. 1899 *19th Cent.* Nov. 816 *note*, The sacrifice used to be human, and virgins were victimised on the hill at Kandy.

transf. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* liii. IV. 148 The prisoners..must have shared the fate of those who were victimised outside [by an explosion].

b. To destroy or spoil (plants) completely.

1849 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* X. I. 96 The wireworm had been at work to so fearful an extent, that in ten days the whole crop seemed victimised. 1882 Hardy in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. 463 Some shrubs had been victimised by the winter.

Hence **Victimised** *ppl. a.*; **Victimising** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1849 Soyer *Mod. Housew.* 242 *Victimised Cutlets. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxiii, [He] had pledged his word..to be content with the allowance which his victimized wife still awarded him. 1855 Smedley *H. Coverdale* iv, A ..system of reprisals which those victimised individuals appeared..inclined to resent. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xv. 372 The..broken sentences of the victimised bridegroom. 1894 *Tait's Mag.* I. 392/2 The Jews were to have his money any way. If not for their conversion, then for his own *victimizing. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lv, There was no such thing: there was no victimizing. 1839 *Morning Herald* 2 Sept., The defrauded victims of..a *victimising artist.

Victimizer. [f. prec.] One who victimizes another or others.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 578 A gambling house, in which the cards are played for the victim by the victimiser. 1837 Thackeray *Ravenswing* ii, He..felt the presence of a victimiser as a hare does of a greyhound. 1865 Bates *Nat. Amazon* II. 46 The dress of the victimisers is arranged with especial reference to their prey. 1879 'E. Garrett' *House by Works* II. 137 Rather partners in fall and loss, than victimiser and victim.

† Victitation. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *victitāre* to subsist (on something), f. *victus* food, sustenance.] The taking of food or nourishment.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 51/2 In eatinge and drinckinge, without observinge anye rule of victitation. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 155/2 He must observe..good dyet in al his victitations.

lar, obs. form of Victualler.

† Victless, *a. Obs.*—[f. L. *vict-us* food : cf. Victitation.] Lacking food; hungry, starved.

1625 Chapman *Odyss.* XVII. 285 Why thou vnmou'ed Swaine, Whither dost thou leade this same victles Leager? This bane of banquets; this most nasty begger?

Victor (vi·ktəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 4– **victor,** 5 **victore, uyctor,** 6 *Sc.* **wictor.** β. 4–7 **victour** (6 *Sc.* **wictour**), 5 **victur, -oure, vyctour(e, -owre.** [a. AF. *victor, victour* (OF. *victeur*), or L. *victor*, agent-noun f. *vict-*, ppl. stem of *vincĕre* to overcome, conquer.]

1. One who overcomes or vanquishes an adversary; the leader of an army which wins a battle or war. Sometimes *collect.*, the winning army or nation. Also const. *of.*

α. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxiii. 1 A bedel þat eftere þe victory cries þat all þe land is þe victors. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 99 þe Saxons were victors, and eueriche prouince, as he was strengere, made hem kynges. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2145 Ofte sith hit is sene..That a victor of a victe is vile ouercomyn. 1448 J. Metham *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 52/1403 Yowre welfiare and prosperyte Is in my vyage, yff I may uyctor be. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 172 A victor, *victor.* 1598 Wyrley *Armorie, Capitall de Bus* i, Assailant conqueror, this braue English king Triumphant victors his noble offspring. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 67 What shalbe done To him that victory commands? or doe you purpose, A victor shall be knowne. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low-C. Warres* 235 His Body, when found by the Victors,..was exposed to publike shame and laughter. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 497 In vain the vanquish'd fly; the victor sends The dead men's weapons at their living friends. 1762 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. 6 Boadicea herself, rather than fall into the hands of the enraged victor, put an end to her own life by poison. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxx. (1787) III. 161 The Huns..soon withdrew from the presence of an insulting victor. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvii, The light yet strong buckler, and the short two-edged sword, the use of which had made them victors of the world. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 567 Two of the surviving brothers soon after came to an open conflict, and the third attacked the victor on the morning after the battle. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv. 122 Thence in safety, a victor, in height of glory returned.

β. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 87 þan afterward þey serued þe Macedonyes, when þe Macedoynes were victours in þe est londes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 186 þan sall þat victoure 3ow venge on 3our vile fais. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 4321 þe feld þei han, and ben þat day victours. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/1 Vyctowre, *victor, triumphator.* 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vii. 90 Welcum invincibile victour moste wourthy. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 78 Thinking that victour now he stoode, thus Pandarus doth braue At the stoute Greeke. 1658 Phillips, *Victour*, an overcomer or Conquerour.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* One who overcomes in any contest or struggle.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 132 Com to vs wip-outen wene, Victor of olde Enemys. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 97 Verray victor withe his woundes fyve. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 90 Help lady that be..Of his goostly enmyxe may victour be. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* 81 These same maydenes, desyring to be victouris of her kynde & eke of þe world. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritit Wemen* 326, I crew abone that crandone, as cok that wer wictour. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 23 Christ,..Victour of deid and hell. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 345 Now having obtained the chase, the victor calleth for a knife to take essay. 1687 Boyle *Martyrd. Theodora* vii. (1703) 104 O admirable contest! where the noble antagonists did not strive for victory, but death, ..that the victor might perish for the vanquished. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 313 There, Victor of his health, of fortune, friends, And fame, this lord of useless thousands ends. 1812 Shelley *Love* 7 Since withering pain no power possessed,..Nor time's dread victor, death, confessed. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 31 Oct. 6/5 The silent Victor that meets us all, sooner or later.

† c. *Sc.* The dux of a school. *Obs.*

1651 *Cal. Coll. Papers* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 105 To ye shoillmaster and doctor in Glasgow for Wm Mure his candilmas offering, he being victor that year, so. o. o. 1724 R. Wodrow *Life J. Wodrow* (1828) 78 The Archbishop Paterson's second son was then in it [the school], and was what we then called victor.

2. *attrib.* (chiefly appositive), passing into *adj.* (cf. Victorious *a.*). a. Of weapons, etc., as *victor arms, arrow, -banner, -spear, sword.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 23 He with his victour sword first opened The bowels of wide Fraunce. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 132, I protest,..Despite thy victor-Sword,..thou art a Traitor. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 477 My victor arms Have awed the realms around with dire alarms. *Ibid.* XXIV. 202 Thro' ev'ry ring the victor arrow went. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 168 O'er the wild waves the victor-banners flow'd. *Ibid.* 229 The victor-spear One hand employed. 1819 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IV. XXV, Why pause the victor swords to seal his overthrow?

b. Of persons, animals, etc., as *victor brethren, eagle, god, -hand, -head, -hero.* etc.

c 1640 Shirley *Cont. Ajax & Ulysses* (1659) 128 Upon Deaths purple Altar now, See where the Victor-victim bleeds. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 747 The Victor Horse, forgetful of his Food, The Palm renounces, and abhors the Flood. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 668 To Argos' realms the victor god resorts. *c* 1716 Somerville *To Addison, Estate Warwicksh.*, The victor-host amaz'd, with horror view'd Th' assembling troops. 1727 Pope *Iliad* XII. 257 The victor eagle, whose sinister flight Retards our host. 1730 Thomson *Sophonisba* II. ii. 7 If she may touch Thy knee, thy purple, and thy victor-hand. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 96 On Jordan's bank the victor-hero strode. *Ibid.* 328 The victor-youth the Lusian flag displays. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* IV. XXX. O Scotland! shall it e'er be mine..To raise my victor-head, and see Thy hills, thy dales, thy people free? 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 2) 388, I, it s[illegible] first Of all my victor brethren to declare The triumph past and coming.

c. Miscellaneous, as *victor-deed, -pæan, -palm, -pomp, shore, -shout.*

c 1382 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 282 The olyue of pes, & eke the dronke vyne, The victor palm, the laurer to deuyne. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 172 'Twas his in victor-pomp to bear away The golden apples from Hesperia's shore. 1803 Leyden *Scenes Infancy* IV. XVIII, The groans of wounded on the blood-red plain, And victor-shouts exulting o'er the slain. 1818 Scott *Marmion* III. XXIV, Shouting crews her navy bore, Triumphant, to the victor shore. 1824 — *Lord of Isles* V. XXXII, Then long and loud the victor-shout From turret and from tower rung out. 1820 Keats *Otho* I. ii, I wonder not this stranger's victor-deeds So hang upon your spirit. 1823 J. H. Dell *Dawning Grey, Prefatory*, For the leader that shall bring To the field the mightiest forces, shall the victor-pæan ring.

† 3. *Victor penny*, a fee paid to the schoolmaster by the scholar owning the victorious cock. *Obs.*

1525 *Foundation Stat. Manchester Gram. School* 15 April, [The Schoolmaster shall teach the children] without any money or other reward taking therefor as cokke peny, victor peny, potacion peny or any other except his said stipend.

† Victor, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: α. 4–5 **victor,** 5 *Sc.* **victour, wictour(e,** 6 *Sc.* **wict-, victore.** β. 4 **victoire,** 5 **victoyre.** [a. OF. *victore* and *victoire* : see Victory *sb.*]

Victory.

α. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 277 Scho..bad him till the battale spede, For he suld victor haf but drede. *Ibid.* VIII. 255 Gif that we may. Haf victour of our fayis heir. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XI. (*Simon & Jude*) 176 To knaw hyme & his helpe crafe, be quham þu mycht þe victoure hafe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2196 Alexander þe athill..A-vanced with þe victore & vengid on his faes. 1418 *Pol. Poems* xii. 131 þat haþ victor, wole be euel payed, So many good men ben lest. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 148 The gold takynnis..Wictour in armys, that thou sall haiff be grace. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 45 Deid is awolit throw wictore. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* Ep. 4, I suld nocht forȝet the tryumphant victore,..conqueist be the vailȝeant..kyng of seuile.

β. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 37 Fulofte is sene..The fieble hath wonne the victoire. *Ibid.* 125 To kepe and drawe into memoire Of his bataille the victoire. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 52 Scylla that was Duc of the Romayns wyth oute had many fayr victoyres agaynst the Romayns wyth Inne.

† Victor, *v. Obs.* [f. Victor *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To overcome, vanquish. Chiefly in pa. pple. and ppl. a. **Victored.** Hence † **Victoring** *ppl. a.*

1576 Bedingfield tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* 38 For that neither in victory or victored he would hinder the common wealth. 1594 — tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 12 It was condescended among them, to diuide the places victored, by foure parts. 1602 Segar *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* III. xii. 124 Whosoeuer is defender..could not be reputed victorious if hee be not victored. 1604 A. Holland *Inquis. agst. Paper Persecutors* 3 All the Pamphlets and the Toyes which I haue seene in hands of Victoring Boyes. 1683 Gadbury in *Wharton's Wks.* Pref., Where the Noble and Valiant Sir Jacob Ashley was unfortunately victor'd, and taken Prisoner.

† Victorage. *Sc. Obs.*—[In 5 **wictorag.** [f. as prec. + -age.] Victory.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXII. (*Laurence*) 138 Fere mare loyful wictorag þu sal resawe syne to þi wag.

† Victordom. *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -dom.] The condition of being a victor; victory.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 135 Innumerable martyrs by the lyght & strengthe of this gyfte had the triumphe & victordome of paynes vnspekable. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 278/1 Then will I stand by, and looke on, and see what victordome thou shalt get.

† Victorer. *Obs.* Also 6 **victorour, victourer.** [Extended form of Victor *sb.*[1], in common use *c* 1560–1610.] A victor or vanquisher.

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* IV. 57 He that is so juste an enemy, and so merciful a victorour. 1585 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 50 Greater commoditie hath therof ensewed to the vanquished then the victourers. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 5 b, The Earth in the meane time reioysing to be borne with a Victorers sharre. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 300 The manner was to hang this ridiculous puppet under the chariots of noble victorers riding in triumph. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowe* III. § 71. 314 Like victorers they continued to hold up their banners.

† Victoress. *Obs.* [f. Victor *sb.*[1] + -ess. Cf. Victress.] A female victor.

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* II. xi. (1589) 44, I am his Victor, but thy selfe art Victoresse of me. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 44 But when the victoresse arriued there,..Neither of them she found where she them lore. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* V. 237 Oh Elphilede mightie both in strength and mind. The dread of men and victoresse of thy kind. 1634 [see Victress, quot. 1601].

‖ **Victoria.**[1] (viktō·riă). [L. *victōria* (or Sp. and Pg. *victoria*) : see Victory *sb.*]

1. The word employed as a shout of triumph.

1638 Ford *Lady's Trial* II. i, Steal her away and to her Cast caps and cry *victoria!* 1672 Dryden *Assignation* IV. iv, *Victoria, Victoria!* he loves you, madam. 1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 284 The judicious reader may easily rout those Troops, which began too soon to cry *victoria*, and thought, but of dividing the spoil. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* XXXI, 'There go the rest of them! Victoria!' shouted Cary, as every Spaniard set all the sail he could. 1861 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt. Part.* III. clxi. 173 The opposite party at the same time made simpletons of themselves by throwing up their caps and crying 'victoria'.

transf. 1863 *Bradford Advertiser* 18 July 5/2, If you conquered, all the post-horns in Europe were set to sound 'Victoria!'

2. A figure of the goddess Victory. *rare*—[1].

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 May 1645 The stamp of the Roman *Denarius* varied;..if with a Victoria, so nam'd.

Victoria [2] (viktō·riă). [The name of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, etc., from 1837 to 1901, employed attributively or by itself as a designation of various things.]

1. A light, low, four-wheeled carriage having a collapsible hood, with seats (usually) for two persons and an elevated seat in front for the driver.

[1844 *Art Union Jrnl.* VI. 238 A calèche..which the French have named after Queen Victoria.] 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Aug. 11, I have taken a victoria and driven to the Porte Maillot to watch the engineers fell the trees in the Bois de Boulogne. 1876 MARY M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* xi, A victoria is the prettiest carriage a lady can possible drive in. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 10 May 3/2 We are threatened with an inundation of new cabs and victorias for the coming season.

attrib. 1903 *Motor. Ann.* 258 The motor-car best suited to India would be that..with a canopy—or, better still, a victoria top.

2. *Bot.* A gigantic species of water-lily, *Victoria regia*, indigenous to South America.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 411 Floating plants..on the continent of South America..are represented by Victoria... Victoria, the most gigantic and beautiful of water plants, is ..called Water Maize in South America. 1852 *Phil. Trans.* CXLII. 289 The specimen of Victoria which flowered in the Gardens of the Royal Botanic Society. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1215 The *Victoria* has delighted..thousands, by the size of its leaves and the beauty and fragrance of its flowers.

attrib. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 445 The plant is commonly known in this country as the Victoria Water-lily. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 558 *Victoria regia*, the Victoria Lily of the Amazon Valley in South America.

3. *Astr.* One of the minor planets, discovered by Hind in 1850.

1851 J. R. HIND *Solar System* 91 The name selected for the twelfth member [of the extra-zodiacal group] is Victoria. *Ibid.* 92 The discovery of Victoria..was quickly followed by that of another small planetary body. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* 328.

4. A variety of domestic pigeon.

1879 L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 208 Victorias are simply Hyacinths of a lighter shade. 1881 LYELL *Fancy Pigeons* 97 These varieties..have been promiscuously named Hyacinths, Victorias and Porcelains in our pigeon literature.

b. *Victoria crown(ed) pigeon*, a queen's pigeon (QUEEN *sb.* 14 b).

c 1888 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 127.

5. A variety of plum characterized by its luscious flavour and rich red colour. Also *attrib.*

1860 R. HOGG *Fruit Manual* 256 Denyer's Victoria... Skin bright red on the side next the sun, but pale red on the shaded side. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 364 He arranges his..plums in his shop window. He may tell me a magnum bonum from a Victoria. 1883 *19th Cent.* Nov. 870 Some sixteen years ago..I planted two Victoria plums. *Ibid.*, A Victoria plum tree.

6. A kind of woollen dress material.

1892 *Times* 26 Oct. 4/2 The parcels of miscellaneous goods..have consisted of blue victorias, meltons in all colours, brown venetians.

7. *attrib.* a. *Victoria Cross*, a British military and naval decoration bestowed for conspicuous bravery in battle. (Abbreviated V.C.) *Victoria Day*, the anniversary of the birthday of Queen Victoria, May 24. (Also called *Empire Day*.)

1856 *Royal Warrant* in *Lond. Gaz.* 5 Feb. 420/2 The distinction shall be styled and designated 'The Victoria Cross', and shall consist of a Maltese Cross of Bronze, with Our Royal Crest in the centre, and underneath which an escroll bearing this inscription 'For Valour'. 1863 CHAMBERS *Bk. Days* I. 319/1 The 1st of March, 1857, is one among many days associated with the bestowal of the Victoria Cross upon heroic soldiers and sailors. 1901 *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 7/4 A bill was introduced in the Canadian parliament to make Victoria day—May 24th—a permanent public holiday throughout Canada.

b. MISC., as *Victoria black, blue, Court, crape, frilling, lawn* (see quots.).

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.* 152 **Victoria black*, a fancy black-letter character. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Victoria blue. 1895 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IX. 429 *Victoria Blue*..is a brilliant and useful nuclear stain. 1899 CAGNEY *Jakes's Clin. Diagnosis* x. 437 Staining with alcoholic solution of Victoria-blue. 1847 MCCULLOCH *Brit. Emp.* (ed. 3) II. 220 The principal sheriff..visiting the county..for the purpose of holding statutory, registration, and small debt, commonly called **Victoria* Courts. 1877 *Encycl. Brit* VI. 553/1 A very successful imitation of real crape is made in Manchester of cotton yarn, and sold under the name of *Victoria crape*, employed as a lining for skirts of dresses. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 495 Cloakings—Frazer tartan,..*Victoria [tartan], Royal Stewart, Forbes, and Gordon. *Ibid.* 491/1 Silk and worsted and cotton and worsted *Victoria velvet damasks.

†**Victorial,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [a. OF. *victorial* or ad. late L. *victōriāl-is*, f. L. *victōria* VICTORY *sb.* So It. *vittoriale*.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to victory; victorious.

c 1460 *Wisdom* 1219 in *Macro Plays* 72 Now ye hase receyuyde be crownnys victoryall To regne in blys withowtyn ende! 1501 in *Dunbar's Poems* LXXXVIII. 38 London,.. thy Tour founded of old May be the hous of Mars victoryall. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 898 They knaled all downe with mycle reuerence, Salutynge the chryste with honour victorial. 1621 COTGR., *Victorial*, Victorious, of or belonging to victorie. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 114 This Song is a Triumphant Victorial Song, or Song for Victory that Israel had over Sisera's Host. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. XXVII. (1694) 163 Pantagruel for an eternal Memorial wrote this victorial dittou.

B. *sb. pl.* Games in honour of victory.

1637 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 83 They carows'd, and danc'd, and celebrated victorials.

Victorian, *a.*[1] [f. the name of *Victorius*, an ecclesiastic of the 5th century.] *Victorian cycle, period* (see quot. 1728 and DIONYSIAN *a.* 3).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Period*, *Victorian Period*, an Interval of 532 Julian Years, which elaps'd, the new and full Moons return on the same Day of the Julian Year. 1903 J. B. BURY *St. Patrick* App. 372 The Celtic Church in Britain and Ireland never adopted the Victorian cycle.

Victorian (viktō·riăn), *a.*[2] and *sb.* [f. VICTORIA [2].]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to, designating, or typical of the reign of Queen Victoria (1837–1901).

1875 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* i. 6 The significant likeness between the Alexandrian and Victorian eras. 1880 C. H. PEARSON in *Victorian Rev.* I. 544 The changes..were more radical than any programme of Victorian Liberalism suggests. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 591 An old-fashioned petticoat such as an early Victorian-age lady would have worn. 1907 MISS F. F. MONTRÉSOR *Burning Torch* 426 The furniture..was adorned in a heavy Early Victorian style.

B. *sb.* 1. A person, esp. an author, who lived in the reign of Queen Victoria.

1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 219 We can scarcely avoid calling him [Browning] the strongest, truest poet of the Victorians. 1886 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* iii. 61 He [Tennyson], alone of the Victorians, has definitely entered the immortal group of our English poets.

2. An article of furniture from the time of Queen Victoria.

1905 ELIN. GLYN *Vicks. Evangeline* 189, I shall have the suite..done up with pale green, and burn all the Early Victorians.

Hence **Victo·rianism**; **Victo·rianize** *v.*

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb. 4/2 The turban..is, of course, an early Victorianism. 1903 *Speaker* 8 April 32/2 They Victorianise his [Bunyan's] spelling and parade his Calvinism on shiny paper.

Victo·rian, *a.*[3] [See def.] Of or belonging to, native to, the colony of Victoria in Australia (named in 1851 after Queen Victoria).

In recent use occurring in a number of plant-names, as *Victorian dogwood, laurel, lilac, parsnip*.

1857–65 (*title*), The Victorian Hansard; containing the debates..of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Colony of Victoria. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 787/1 The Victorian samples [of wheat] at the last Great Exhibition ranked amongst the very best. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl.* 449 *Eucalyptus globulus*. ..[Called] 'Tasmanian' or 'Victorian Blue Gum' from the colour of its foliage.

†**Victo·riat(e.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *victōriāt-us*, f. *victōria* VICTORY *sb.*] A Roman silver coin stamped with the image of Victory, equal in value to half a denarius. Also *attrib.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 182 If this hearbe be taken in wine to the weight of a victoriat peece of silver, *i.* halfe a Romane denier, it..stoppeth the course of a new cough. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* VI. 205 They make so frequent mention of Coines and Weights, as Talents, Sicles,..Victoriates, Sesterces. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 490 What is now called the Victoriat, was coined by the Clodian Law.

Victorine (vi·ktŏrīn), *sb.*[1] [? f. VICTOR-IA [2] + -INE [4].] A kind of fur tippet worn by ladies, fastened in front of the neck and having two loose ends hanging down.

1849 *Ann. Reg.* 111 The several articles now produced, a bonnet, a fur victorine, &c. 1856 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4502, Manufacturer of self-fasteners for victorines and mantles. 1881 MISS C. M. YONGE *Lads & Lasses Langley* i. 47 The first prize was a lovely fur victorine. 1901 *Delineator* Dec. 614/1 The Victorine and collarette are again promised favour.

Victorine (vi·ktŏrīn), *sb.*[2] and *a.* [ad. F. *Victorin*, f. the name of the monastery of St. *Victor* near Paris.] a. *sb.* One or other of the founders or adherents of the type of mysticism developed at St. Victor in the 12th and 13th centuries. b. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the mysticism of St. Victor.

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 583/2 The art of the Victorine school was carried to its greatest perfection by Adam of St. Victor. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1603 There is a palpable connection..between the pseudo-Dionysian writings and the Victorines. 1886 C. HUGO *Christian Platonists of Alexandria* v. 189 Thus Origen..became also the spiritual ancestor of Bernard, the Victorines, and the author of the *De Imitatione*.

Victorious (viktō·riəs), *a.* Also 5–6 **victoriouse, -youse, -ius** (6 **-yus**); 5–6 **vyctoryous(e, 6 -ious.** [a. AF. *victorious* (= OF. and F. *victorieux*) or ad. L. (ante- and post-class.) *victōriōs-us*, f. *victōria* VICTORY *sb.* So Sp. and Pg. *victorioso*, It. *vittorioso*.]

1. Having gained victory or obtained supremacy as victor; triumphant over adversaries or rivals; successful in any contest or struggle: a. Of persons or an army. Also const. *over*.

1400 *Destr. Troy* 2126 Hit was neuer herd .. In any coste where ye come, but ye were cleue victurius. 1430–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 171 This Mitridates appereede ouer moore..victoryous after that he nobile consullus of the Romanes..hade victory of hym. 1484 CAXTON *Chyualr.* II. iv. (1883) 53 Be maryuyll to them wyth whom we haue ben victorious. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xviii. 1 God onely is righteous, & remayneth a victorious kynge for euer. 1548 in *Kng. Gilds* (1870) 197 The most valiant and victorius kinge, .. kinge Edward. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 183 The victoriouse Capitaines and Warriours, the inuincibliest Cæsars and Conquerors. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 39 With much wonder that shee..was so victorious against the Spaniards. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 997 Heav'n Gates Pourd out by millions her victorious Bands Pursuing. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* iv. (1728) 299 They led their victorious armies against the King of Egypt. 1727 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* III. 309 Giacomo da Pesaro,..victorious over the Turks in war, and ever himself in peace. 1782 COWPER *Table-t.* 473 Vengeance at last pours down upon their coast, A long despis'd, but now victorious, host. 1837 J. STERLING *Ess.*, etc. (1848) I. 276 Montaigne..yet had honesty and warmth of soul to see in Socrates a victorious witness for the..lastingness of truth. 1840 KEIGHTLEY *Rom. Empire* II. vi. 246 Victorious over all his rivals,.. Aurelian celebrated a triumph with unusual magnificence. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ii. 60 The young monarch..had already shown himself..energetic and victorious.

b. *transf.* Of things.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 358 Victorious tre, protectioun of trewe, That oonly were worthy for to bere The kyng of heven. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xxii. (1904) 485 Love, be ashamed to be called Love: cruell Hate..is victorious over thee. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 142 Th' Ethereal mould Incapable of stain would soon..purge off the baser fire Victorious. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 420 The smouldering flame the trunk receives; Ascending thence, it ..At length victorious to the top aspires. 1782 COWPER *Conversat.* 320 Now the distemper, spite of draught or pill, Victorious seem'd. 1889 J. B. BURY *Hist. Later Rom. Emp.* II. IX. I. 185 Julian's championship of the dying cause furthered the victorious creed.

2. Of, belonging to, or characterized by victory; producing victory; emblematic of victory.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xvi. 62 He shulde be dygne..to obteyne by bataylles the conqueste vyctoryouse of the.. empyre of Ytalye. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* cxlvii. (1533) 78 For the why the vyctoryous acte, the sayde Charlys obteyned a surname, and was called..Carolus Martellus. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iv. 36 As their victorious deedes haue often shewen, Being with fame through many Nations blowen. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. ii. 43, I hope well of to morrow, and will leade you, Where rather I'le expect victorious life, Then death, and Honor. *c* 1630 MILTON *At a Solemn Musick* 14 The Cherubick host..With those just Spirits that wear victorious Palms. 1712 4 POPE *Rape Lock* III. 104 Sudden, these honours shall be snatch'd away, And curs'd for ever this victorious day. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* VIII. 332 And I will give to thy victorious hand, After my own, the noblest recompense. 1819 SCOTT *Guy M.* Introd., He had not power to explain the assurance of pardon which he continued to assert, or to name the victorious name on which he trusted. 1831 — *Ct. Rob.* iv, It now became a serious and doubtful question whether our victorious eagles might be able to penetrate any farther into the country of the enemy. 1847 MRS. A. KERR *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 93 They who had borne victorious arms against the Turks.

Victoriously (viktō·riəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a victorious manner; triumphantly.

1300 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) v. vi. N N ij b, Of as moche that they ben escaped the more vyctoryously. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CLXXVII. 175 He..bare hym so victoryously agayne the Danys that he forced theym to obey to all theyr former promyse and condycions. 1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 § 1 His majestie hathe moste victoriously..defendyd and governyd this his Realme. 1628 GOUGE *Serm. Dignity Chevalry* § 6 [They] waged many battels valiantly and victoriously. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. viii. § 7 All whom he is said victoriously to have vanquished. 1928 POPE *Iliad* XII. Argt., Hector..enters at the Head of his Troops, who victoriously pursue the Grecians even to their Ships. 1755 JOHNSON, *Triumphantly*,..victoriously; with success. 1857 DE QUINCEY *Last Days Kant* Wks. III. 103 Over all which the benignity and nobility of his nature mount..victoriously to the last. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 8 April 5/2 The Bill..in due course..will be sent victoriously to the House of Lords.

Victoriousness (viktō·riəsnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being victorious.

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 4 Several Authors have represented Guinea as a Migh.y Kingdom, whose Prince by his Victoriousness had subdued numerous Countries. 1819 A. KNOX *Rem.* (1834) I. 38, I will add another instance of Christian victoriousness. 1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Cath. in Eng.* 369, I have an intense feeling in me about the power and victoriousness of truth. 1876 M. ARNOLD *Last Ess. Ch.* (1877) 144 No one has spoken more truly..of the natural victoriousness of virtue.

†**Vi·ctorise,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. VICTOR *sb.*[1] + -IZE.] a. *trans.* To make victorious. b. *intr.* To win the victory *for* one.

1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* VI. 189 Most of all did Ammon's Prince admire God's dreadfull Judgement: and to scape his ire, Who Israel thus, of vanquisht, victoris'd. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 106 Christ Jesus..was a Lyon, but it was to victorise for us, not to prey upon us.

†**Vi·ctorship.** *Obs. rare.* [f. VICTOR *sb.*[1]] The position of a victor; the chief place.

1622 BAILEY *Lond. Liv.* 281 To haue a disputation for the victorship once euery quarter of the yeare. *Ibid.*, To incourage them, and all the rest of them by their ensample to striue at length to come vnto the Victorshippe.

Victory (vi·ktŏri), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **victorie** (4 **uict-**, 4–5 **vittorie**, 6 *Sc.* **victorie, -orrie**), 4– **victorye**, 4– **victory** (5 *Sc.* **victorey**); 4–6 **vyktorye** (4 **fyctorye**), **vyctory** (6 **vyctorie**); 4–5 **vict-**, 4 **wict-**, **vikt-**, 5 **vittori.** [a. AF. and OF. *victorie* (var. of OF. and F. *victoire*), ad. L. *victōria*, f. *victor* VICTOR *sb.*[1] Cf. Sp. and Pg. *victoria*, It. *vittoria*.]

1. The position or state of having overcome an

enemy or adversary in combat, battle, or war; supremacy or superiority achieved as the result of armed conflict.

a. With *the*, as in the phr. *to have* (*get*, *win*) *the victory*. Also const. *of* (an enemy, etc.).

13.. *K. Alis.* 7663 (Laud MS.), Of troye was þerinne al þe story, Hou Gregeis hadden þe victory. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9370 (Kölbing), He þonked þe king of glorie, þat him hadde ȝouen þe victorie, To ouercomen his fomen. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 167 ȝese men..beeþ i-woned to haue the victorie and þe maistrie in euerich fiȝt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6134 Our goddis the gouerne, & soche grace lene, þat þou the victorie wyn, thi worship to saue. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ii. 5 When any man had þe victory of his enmy. *c* 1480 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1011 To wete whyche of hem shuld haue the victory. *Ibid.* 1790 Thus they contynu fyght for the victory. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. 9 (Harl. MS.), So þis yong knyst..fought with the enemeys, and wan þe victorie 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. (Percy Soc.) 190, I..for her sake shalbe invincible Of this great monster to have the victo y. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* vii. 21, I beholde, and the same horne made battail agaynst the sayntes, yee and gat the victory off them. 1592 KYD *Span. Trag.* i. ii. 64 In all this turmoyle, three long houres and more, The victory to neither part inclinde. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Macc.* xii. 11 Whereupon there was a very sore battell; but Iudas side..got the victory. 1647 HEXHAM I. 2 v., To carrie away the victorie. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 29 July, A letter from Sir W. Coventry tells me that we have the victory. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* (1740) I. ix. 580 For Lathyrus having gotten the Victory, pursued it to the utmost. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* 374 This so encouraged the Grecians, that they fought strenuously, and obtained the Victory over the Persians. 1811 G. BRUCE *Poems & Songs* 19 To him..Wha..can the victory bestow On those, who to his precepts bow.

b. Without article.

1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 473 With few folk thai had victory Off mychty kingis. *Ibid.* III. 284 Scipio..has off the templis tane The armys..In name off victory offerryt thar. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), þe cok crowiþ after bataile & victorie. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3868 Nor in armys conquest nor victorie Ben not assured vp-on multitude. 1457 HARDYNG *Chron.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1912) 748 Of his fose he had ay vyctory. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 15 By the whiche they crucifye the worlde, and hath victory of it. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxxviii. 43 Thou hast taken awaye the strength of his swerde, and geuest him not victory in the battayll. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 147 Why so: then am I sure of Victorie. Now therefore let vs hence. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 515 Surena covered with Blood and Victory came to my Chamber 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 282 Victory is the fruit of moral as well as military virtue. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVII. 681 For him Jove leads to victory. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 144 In following up the flying squadrons of Grammont and Chabot, [he] suffered victory to escape from his hands. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxxi. IV. 229 Victory still continued on the side of Athens. 1881 F. W. H. MYERS *Wordsworth* 80 When in victory..Nelson passed away.

c. *personif.*

1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 124 In fyne lo Victorye at hande.., Bent for to spoyle our Foes of Fame. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 79 Fortune, and Victory sit on thy Helme. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 762 At his right hand Victorie Sate Eagle-wing'd. 1783 CRABBE *Village* II. 132 Victory seems to die now thou art dead. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 342 That was before we knew the winged thing, Victory, might be lost, or might be won. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* April 819/2 He..has now fallen in the arms of victory.

d. Used interjectionally as an expression of triumph or encouragement. (Cf. VICTORIA 1 1.)

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 1 Saint George, and Victory; fight Souldiers, fight. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 113 Lords to the field: Saint George, and Victorie. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxviii. 479 The day of a believer's death is better than the day of his birth. Never till then, do we put off our armour, sheath our sword, and cry victory, victory. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* v. Song vi, Victory, Victory to the prostrate nations! 1821 — *Hellas* 948 Victory! Victory! Russia's famished eagles Dare not to prey beneath the crescent's light.

2. An instance or occasion of overcoming an adversary in battle, etc.; a triumph gained by force of arms.

Cadmean, *Pyrrhic victory*: see those words. *Moral victory*: see MORAL *a.* 7 c.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2500 Ofte he bankede þe king in glori Of is grace & is viktori. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxiii. 1 A bedel, þat eftere þe victory cries þat all þe land is þe victors. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 82 These olde aprouede storyis Of holynesse, of regnys, of victoryis, Of loue, of hate [etc.]. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 3 Lyke for Davyd after his victory Reyioyssed whas alle Ierusalem. 1480 CAXTON *Chron.* 33 The ix. [labour of Hercules] is the gret victorie of the beste Achilides, that blewe out fyre at his mowth. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 66 At parliament thow suld be hye renownit, That did so mony victoryse opteyn. 1584 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 11 Let vs ..choose vnto vs a head, to leade, direct, and gouerne vs,.. sith without a head, there is no victorie to be looked for. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* 33 This Brytish King in warres a Conqueror, And wondrous happie in his Victories. 1699 B. HARRIS *Parival's Iron Age* 53 Where, after they have been repulsed or routed, they have rallyed, and carried away many glorious victories. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, III. 285 The victory at Villalar proved as decisive as it was complete. 1815 *Morning Chron.* 22 June, We stop the press to announce the most brilliant and complete Victory ever obtained by the Duke of Wellington. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 90 The victory was great; but, like many victories it was fatal to the conquerors.

3. Supremacy or superiority, triumph or ultimate success, in any contest, struggle, or enterprise.

a. With *the*, or in pl., etc.

13.. *Leg. Rood* (1872) 88 Mak þis in hise armes forbi, þan sal þou haue þe victori. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvi. 6, I hope þe victory thoro his help. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 331 Se what Salamon seith in Sapience bokes, That hij þat ȝiueth ȝiftes þe victorie wynneth. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 88 Whom [*sc* martyrs] Cryst Jesu eternally in glory Ordeyned hath a palme of his victory. 1526 TINDALE 1 *John* v. 4 This is the victory that ouer commeth the worlde, euen oure fayth. 1573–80 HARVEY *Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 136 From my chamber the daye after mye victorye. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxi. § 7 Such is euer-more the small victorie of all truth. ? 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Travels* 33 (Hindley, 111), The cooks hath laid small Isles of mutton, which you may invade With stomach, knife and spoon... With these, the victory you cannot fail. 1683 NORRIS *Passion of Saviour* 130 This little V ctory He won, Shew'd what He could have done. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 164 Observe, if he disdains to yield the Prize; Of Loss impatient, proud of Victories. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 598 But I hope I have got the Victory over my self. 1779 BURKE *Corr* (1844) II. 273 We have obtained two victories, ..victories, not over our adversaries, but over our own passions and prejudices. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 74 The victory of the cabal of evil counsellors was therefore complete. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* v. (ed. 2) 189 The victory over the terror of death, in self-devotion produces the highest state of mind.

b. Without article.

c 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 407 Hyȝt moste neades for þe glorye, Elles hedde y-fayllede fyctorye. 1340 *Ayenb.* 167 Wyþ-oute pacience non ne heþ uictorie. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxii. 9 Victorie and worshipe shal [he] purchace, that ȝeueth ȝiftis. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* vii. (1868) 10 And that fast is to make you haue victori ayenst youre flesshe. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxvii. 27 All honour we this Lord with..glory, ..That wan on tre trevmphe of he victory. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 30 The teares haue got small victorie by that; For it was bad inough before their spight. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. v. § 11 Men have entered into a desire of learning..sometimes to enable them to victory of wit and contradiction. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 570 That suffering for Truths sake Is fortitude to highest victorie. 1792 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 261 He has gained no victory but over his own conscience. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxii, 'There is neither victory nor defeat in the case,' returned the Prince, drily. 'The girl loves me not'. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph. of Aristoph.* 430 *note*, The daughter of Antæus is placed at the goal, as the prize of victory.

4. The Roman goddess representing or typifying victory; a figure or statue of this.

1569 SPENSER *Sonn.*, '*I saw vnlade vp on pillers*', On eche side portraide was a victorie, With golden wings. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xxi. 26 b, Within it [the chariot] was Victory sitting with two wings. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 99 Indeed by this very same portrature..I haue seen..the goddesse Victorie expressed. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 437 The Sepulchral Monument of one Tatius..at Sipylus; whose Tomb was adorned with Wreaths of Plenty, held up by Victories. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlv. IV. 419 Crowned with a winged figure of Victory. 1820 SHELLEY *Naples* 60 Bright Altar of the bloodless sacrifice, Which armed Victory offers up unstained To Love, the flower-enchained! 1842 THACKERAY *Sec. Fun. Nap.* iii. 63 Statues of plaster representing..victories, and other female personages painted in oil so as to represent marble. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 30 Suddenly giddily tottering,..down their statue of Victory fell. 1872 HEAD *Sel Grk. Coins in Electrotype Brit. Mus.* 6 Above is a flying Victory, crowning the bull with a wreath.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *victory-anthem*, *-flashing* adj., *match*, *-worthy* adj.

1552 HULOET, Victory worthy, *palmarius*. 1709 *The Post-Boy* 1–3 Dec., The Victory Handkerchief, which gives account of..five most Glorious Victories..over the French. 1769 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* 70 A cricket-match was played at Swaffham (being the victory match). 1820 SHELLEY *Liberty* xv, Lift the victory-flashing sword. 1869 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* (1875) 122 After we have joyfully sung the victory-anthem recorded in Romans viii.

† **Victory**, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *victorier* or med.L. *victōriāre* (It. *vittoriare*), f. L. *victōria*: see prec.] *trans.* To overcome, vanquish.

a 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXXVII. ix, Greate syckenesse so had hym victoried, And droue hym out from all his region. 1576 BEDINGFIELD tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* 45 b, If he had beene victoryed, hee coulde not haue left to Alexander meane and power of happy procedinge.

Victoryless, *a.* [-LESS.] Lacking victory.

1892 BROOKE *Early Eng. Lit.* II. xvii. 108 Hell is then described, the abyss of pain, swart, victoryless, deep-daled. 1914 *Times* 14 Nov. 10/1 A protracted, victoryless affair of mere give and take on three or four vast firing-lines.

Victress (vi·ktrés). [f. L. *victr-* + -ESS 4. Cf. next and VICTRIX.] A female victor or vanquisher.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 452 Posthumius Tubertus..rode triumphant in this manner, to wit, crowned with a chaplet of Myrtle, dedicated to Venus Victresse [1634 Victoresse]. 1606 — *Sueton.* 243 When the one of them was foyled and ouercome, a third [eagle] came at the very instant from the sunne rising and chased the victresse away. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dial.* xviii. 244 She that's crownd Victresse by the Trojan Boy, For meed this golden Apple shall enioy. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 44 She as a Mother not a Victresse calls. 1741 SHENSTONE *Judgment Hercules* 514 Not such the victress, Virtue's constant queen, Endur'd the test of truth. *c* 1780 M. MOSSEY in Jeaffreson *Bk about Doctors* (1860) II. 84 O Venus, send dire ruin on her head; Strike the destroyer, lay the victress dead. 1890 W. P. SCARGILL *Eng. Sketch-Bk.* 21 Peggy Mumps, his sister, was victress in a chemise race. 1897 HOWELLS *Ital. Journ.* 201 The painter has done his best for the victress in this rivalry. 1898 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* xiv, 'I wouldn't have given it him,'..the supposed victress was saying to herself.

† **Victrice.** *Obs.* Also 5 victryce, 6 -yce, victris. [a. OF. *victrice* or L. *victrīc-*, *victrix*: see next.] = prec.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 421 O Elfede myȝti, O mayde mennene drede; victrice of kynd, wel worthy þy name. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 85 He wyl now defendyn me, And of al thi serpentys me victrych make. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxv. 63 Empryce of pryse,.. Victryce of wyce, hie genetrice Of Jhesu. 1533 *Anne Boleyn's Coronat.* in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* (1868) I. 399 He knewe, certes, that you, victrice, of all ladies Should haue the price of worthynes. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* x. D viij, The victris hath a swifte recourse by stealth vnto her place. ? 1633 B. JONSON *Underwoods*, *Lady V. Digby* ix. 96 And, in her hand With boughs of Palme, [to have] a crowned Victrice stand.

‖ **Victrix** (vi·ktriks). [L., fem. of *victor* VICTOR.] A female victor; a victress.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 113 Before Nature is victrix in diseases. 1672 [TUKE] (*title*), Souls Warfare, Comically digested into Scenes Acted between the Soul and her Enemies, Wherein she cometh off Victrix. 1716–20 *Lett. fr. Mr.'s Frnd.* (1722) I. 174 Carried away by the triumphant Victrix, who will be proud of the Conquest. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 9 The victrix has it [a smock] slipped over her running dress, and marches off triumphant. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxxii, In his victrix he required all that was here visible. 1895 E. J. DILLON in *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 620 A war which, if Russia prove the victrix, will deliver Constantinople and the Balkan Peninsula into her hands.

Victual (vi·t'l), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 **vitaile** (4 **-aille**), **vitayle** (5 **-aylle**), 5 **vitayll**, 5–6 **-ail**(l; 4–6 **vytayle** (5–6 **-aylle**, 5 *Sc.* **wytaylle**), 5–6 **vytaile** (5 **-aille**), 5 **-ayl**(l; 4–5 **vetaille** (4 **-aile**), 5 **vetayle**, 6 **-ayll**; 5 *Sc.* **wittaill**(e, **-aill**, **wytaill**, 6 **vittayle**, **-aile**, 6–7 **vittail**; 5 *Sc.* **victaill**, 6 **-ayll**, **-ayle**, **vectayll**, 6–7 **victail**. *β.* (Chiefly *Sc.*) 5 **vitt-**, **vet-**, 6 **vict-**, 5–6 **vyt-**, **vitale**; 5 **wit**(t)**-**, **wyt-**, **wet-**, **victale**. *γ.* 5–6 **vitall** (6 **-al**, **witall**), 5 **vytall**, 6 **-al**; 5–6 **vitell** (5 **vet-**, **wetell**), **vitel**, 5 **fyt-**, 6 **vytel**(l; 5 **wetyl**; 6 **vitoll**. *δ.* 5 **vittale**, 5–6 **vittall**, 5 (9) **vittal**; 5–6 **vittell** (5 **wytt-**, 6 **wett-**, **vyttell**), 6, 8, 9 *dial.*, **vittel**, 6–7, 8–9 *dial.* **vittle** (7 **victle**), 9 *dial.* **fittle**, **wittle**. *ε.* 6 **wyttuel**, **wittual**, 7 **vittual**, 8 **vitual**; 6 **victuayle**, *Sc.* **victuale**, **victuale**, **-wale**, **-uel**(l, 5–7 **victuall** (6 **wictuall**, **-wall**), 6 **vyctual**, 6– victual. [a. AF. and OF. *vitaile*, *-aille* (OF. also *vitale*, *-alle*, *vittalle*, *victaille*) fem.:—late L. *victuālia*, neut. pl. of post-classical L. *victuālis*, f. *victus* food, sustenance: cf. Prov. *vit(o)alha*, Sp. *vitualla*, Pg. *vitualha*, It. *vettovaglia*. The variant OF. and mod.F. form *victuaille* has been assimilated to the L. original, and a similar change in spelling has been made in English, while the pronunciation still represents the forms *vittel*, *vittle*. (See also VITALY.)]

1. *collect.* Whatever is normally required, or may naturally be used, for consumption in order to support life; food or provisions of any kind.

Occasionally applied to food for animals, but more commonly restricted to that of persons.

a. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10555 Y was wunt to lede vytayle To knyztes þat were yn batayle. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3025 Al þus þemperur hap him oiȝt þar to schipes wiþ goode vitaile. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1488 *Hypsipyle*, Askynge hem a-noon If they were broken or woo begoon Or hade nede of lodesmen or vitayle. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 371 Devourours of vetaile þat fourten er þei paide. *a* 1427 *York Memor. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 220 Fyssche and other vitaill ar ofte tymes conceld..in this cite. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 98 He schuld haue vii ȝere plentebe of corne and all oþer vytayle. *a* 1500 in C. Trice Martin *Chanc. Proc. 15th C.* (1904) 4 Yf the dette be surmysed to growe by the lying or sellyng of any maner of vetayll. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlvi. 156 He shall departe in this lyteil shyppe..and take vytayle in to it for there prouysyon. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 103 By that waie neither man nor vitaill could passe or come. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* Pref. a viij b, The time and place whan and whither they shall cum, and with how much prouision of vitall. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* III. i. 50 Footemen..well exercised in war; And, as it seemes, they want no needful vittaile.

β. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 108 Quhar thai mycht get 'Till thame and thairis vittale and met. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodora*) 425 Ȝai ordenyt hyr ȝare out-rydere, þar witale to þe house to by. *c* 1400 *Pewaine & Gaw.* 2873 Syr Alers,..with swith grete vetale, Come that kastel to assayle. 1487 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. ix. § 3 That every freman..may lede, carie, and goo, with his or their Vetale, Ware or marchaundise. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 210 Geff thow..hase to sel wetale in gret substance, Se le na way na derth þat thou desyre.

γ. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5176 In þat prouyns is plenty all of prise vitell, Of corne, & of catell. 1472 *Pirsentuts. of Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 23 We say yt yer haue boght of late..unsekanabyll wetyl, yt is to say, feche & herrynge, bothe Thom Smythe & John Clyffe. *Ibid.* 27 For bryngh-yng in of wetell for the welfare of comhons. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Fables*, *Twa Mice* I. 2 (Bann. MS.), Thair harbery wes tane In till a spens with vitall of grit plentie. 1513–4 *Act* 5 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 The great scarcyte of grayne and vytell at this present tyme. 1532 in J. Bulloch *Jymours* (1887) 62 The berne of salt..and all wther witall..borne be the Pynouris. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 74 In so much that vytel and nuryschment suffyeyent for them can skant here be found. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 13 Vitall, *penus*, *victus*.

δ. *c* 1480 *Wyntoun's Cron.* I. 564 (MS. E.), Within þat ile ar citeis ten Stuffit with wittall gud and men. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 108 They schall lacke no men nor vettell. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 247 For a layte that careit the wrychtis and thar wyttell to the loche, *v.s.* 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 42 Twise a day giue him fresh vittle and drinke. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl.

Soc.) 88 The Iland Zante bathe all theire provition of vittell from thence. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maiden's Blush* 355 Th' Heav'nly Herald..sees there the Brethren lying Along the Grasse, and busie at their Vittle. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 316 For, as we said, he always chose To carry Vittle in his Hose. 1703 Swift *Stella at Woodpark* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 40, I must confess, your wine and vittle I was too hard upon a little. 1748 Mary Leapor *Poems Sev. Occasions* 124 When you gather Strength a little, Can walk abroad and eat your Vittle. 1789 Burns *Robin shure in Hairst* iv, Robin promised me A' my winter vittle. 1847– in dial. glossaries, etc. (Worc., Hereford, Shropsh., Warw., Glouc., Dorset) in the form *little*. 1881 *Gd. Words* 846/1 It's a pity as you've no stomach to yer vittle.

c. 1583 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 39 The Frenche men..lye yn wayte..to destroye the Conductours of our victuayle. 1559–66 in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 71 To hinder the victuall from comeing to Edinburgh. 1570–6 W. Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* 130 Deuouring and consuming..the victuall of the countrey. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1247 Germenchius hath put in three moneths victuall into Hust in Transylvania. 1627 Bacon *Sylva* § 649 The Making of Things Inalimental, to become Alimental, may be an Experiment of great Profit, for Making new Victual. 1631 H. Nevile *Plato Rediv.* 92 The cheapness of Victual, and the want of Labourers. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 60 It might seem to prohibit the buying of grain and other victual. 1817 Byron *Beppo* xxix, And Laura waited long, and wept a little,..She almost lost all appetite for victual. 1856 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1870) I. 111 A refreshment-room, with drinks and cakes and pastry, but..no substantial victual. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 201 A fair-hair'd youth, that in his hand Bare victual for the mowers.

† b. Produce of the ground capable of being used as food. *Obs.*

White victual (quot. 1799), = next.

c 1374 Chaucer *Former Age* 36 Ther as vitayle is ek so skars and thinne Pat nat but mast or apples is ther inne. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 3 Ther is at the West side of Ytaille.. A lusty playne, habundant of vitaille. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Plantation* (Arb.) 531 Then consider, what Victuall or Esculent Things there are, which grow speedily, and within the yeere. 1627 May *Lucan* IV. 99 Nor can the souldiers goe To forrage: the drown'd fields no vittaile leaue. 1798 Malthus *Popul.* (1878) 228 This may be justly attributed to the effects of the scarcity and bad victual in the year 1783. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 147 The land is pulverized and better made for the succeeding crop of white victual.

c. *Sc.* Grain, corn. ? *Obs.*

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 171 Alsua tha sal haue the tend vitale for ij^{ch} of bere and mele. 1557 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 7 To. pay Isbell Damster the hyest price of ane boll wyttuell and thre pecis to entres. 1585 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 292/1 For payment..of aucht chalderis 3 bollis victuall, thairof 45 bollis beir and the remanent meill. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Robert I*, 36 It is statute be the king, that all they quha buyes victuall..fra burgesis at their granares, they may carie that victuall quhere they please 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxiv. § 1 (1699) 119 Usury is that Crime ..committed in Bargains of Victual, or Tacks. *Ibid.* II. xiv. § 2. 211 A landed man, whose Rent exceeds a thousand Merks, or ten Chalders of Victual. 1726 P. Walker *Life A. Peden* in *Biog. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 53 He enquired at Mrs. Steil, if she wanted a Servant for threshing Victual? 1785 Burns *3rd Epist. to Lapraik* vii, [Till] a' the vittle [be] in the yard, An' theekit right. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 99 In drying on the iron floor, the victual must be constantly turned. 1812 G. Chalmers *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 262 Though neither the nominal, nor the real, prices of victual were equal to those of the times of queen Anne. 1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* xlii, He has been very kind to the poor, having divided five load of victual among all the needful in the parish. 1843 *Report Jedburgh Thirlage Trial* 8 A portion of that corn or victual, ground at the mills, which is kept by the miller.

† d. (See quot.) *Obs.*—°

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 241/1 *Vitell*, or *Viandes*, the term for Hawks meat.

2. *pl.* Articles of food; supplies, or various kinds, of provisions; in later use *esp.* articles of ordinary diet prepared for use.

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 855 (Laud MS.), And Olyfaunts & ek Camayles, Bobe hij charged wib vitailes. *a* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1121 Wel þei were warnestured of vitayles i-now, plentiuously for al peple. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 55 Whanne der'e of vitailles is in al Engelond aboute, þere is þe lasse i-solde. *c* 1444 Lydg in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 220 To chese suych vitaylles ther braynes wer to woode. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. xxx. 142 Cartes shal folowe for to bryng and arriue the vitailles fro the shippes. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Hum* lxi. 213 They bare all in to ye shyp, & vytaylles suffycyent. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 77 The vytayles (especially the byskette breade) corrupted by takynge water. 1596 Bp. W. Barlow *Three Serm.* ii. 47 Among all other, Famine and Dearth of vittails is not the least. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Sir T. Wyatt* Wks. 1873 III. 103 Good victailes makes good blood. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 85 Which I paide.., Because they should not think I came to sharke Only for vittailes.

β. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xv. 92 Schir Eduard gert men gang and se All the vitalis of that cite. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 3027 [He] Saw his victaile war nere gane, And hop of reskew had he nane. 1453–4 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 280 That al maner of viteiloures..shulde have bene arrested by har bodys..that byinn of them any vittalis. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxxxi. 15, I will blesse hir vytales with increase, & wil satisfie hir poore with bred. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* ii. (1870) 127 In the whych is vsed good fashion and good vytales. 1575 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 97 Mye miserable Mistrisse..is oftentymes driven very harde..for her vittales and lodgings.

γ. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1195 He garte dele his vetells then Firste amanges oure wonded men. 1402 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 18 We faylyth vitels and men. *Ibid.* 16 They move have godes and fytelles plente. *c* 1480 J. Kay tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* P 3 Also they lakked vytailles. 1510 *Sel. Cases Crt. Star Chamber* (Selden) 105 So he take fro many pore men their vitals to ther grete hurte. 1548 Brinklow *Compl.* ii. 13 In London and other placys ther be many offended with the great price of vitells. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 83 We could not gitt any vitels. *Ibid.* 86 We ever had vitals reddie dreste for 3 dayes.

δ. 1534–9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 12 And dear cheape of vittels withe the thowe hast brought To the towne. 1586 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 46 With plate, monny, harnes, horse, & wettelles. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 98 To thy sheepe go and looke, for dogs will haue vittles. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I, Good companions yfaith; I see you come not for vittles. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 271 Wee had great store of fresh victles. *c* 1645 T. Tully *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 27 One John Head ..who pretended to fetch vittells out of the Country. 1696 *Monthly Mercury* VII. 87 We saw .. vast Provision of Vittles and Ammunition. 1732–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 112, I would rather want Vittles than Elbow-Room. 1838 Jas. Grant *Sk. Loud.* 171 You knows that no one can hact well without vittals, and I have not had a mouthful since yesterday. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* ix, Dinner was announced by Bailey junior in these terms,—'The wittles is up!' 1892 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *I saw Three Ships* vi. 106 And so say I, wi' all these vittles cryin' out to be ate.

ε. 1523 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 39 As for victuaylys in our waye we shuld be sure none to fynde. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 458 b, The Frenchemen, to the intent they might have victualles in a readines [etc.]. 1596 *Edward III*, IV. ii. 4 That neither vituals nor supply of men May come to succour this accursed towne. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 422 Great store of victuals and all things necessary. 1618 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 45 When the Bannyans sayle by it they heave vittuals overboard..as a sacrifice. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 101 The Wages of a..Labourer..is 4*s.* per week without Victuals. 1727 Swift *Gulliver* I. vi, I had three hundred cooks to dress my victuals. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 299 The young animals..began to dispute about their victuals, although they were given more than they could use. 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* I. 56 She once lost a salt spoon by one of them, whom Master George thought proper to bring to her door for cold victuals. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 218 It seems to me a very odd proceeding for..a town to lay a tax on the persons who bring it victuals. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xv, There was ..decking of the hall in the best hangings..; cooking of victuals, broaching of casks.

† b. *Clerk of the victuals*, = the victualler of Calais (see Victuallee 2 a *note*). *Obs.*

c 1570 R. Turvyn in *Chron. Calais* (Camden) Introd. 18 Havinge ther another offyce of the Quenes Majesty called by the name of Clarke of the Victuals.

† c. *At victuals*, engaged in eating. *Obs.*

1681 H. Foulis *Hist. Romish Treasons* 40 Books read to him whilst he was at Victuals.

† 3. *pl.* a. Animals serving for food. *Obs.*

c 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* ii. (1893) 60 The more husbandrie is occupied, the more vniversall brede should be of all victuailes, as of neate, sheepe, swyne, geese, eges, butter, and chese. 1641 *More's Edw. V*, 104 The Pageants were amaking day and night at Westminster, and vitailes killed which afterwards was cast away.

† b. Military stores; munitions of war. *Obs.*

1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* iv. 20 Moreover he added, that they had great abundance of Victuals, amongst the which there were 12 Basiliska.

4. An article of food. *rare.*

1598 Bp. Watson *Sev. Sacraum.* ix. 90 This heauenly ~~le is..a strong vitale, making vs able to endure the painful iorney to the kingdome of heauen. 1829 Carlyle *Misc., German Playwrights* (1840) II. 50 The Germans, who instead of a measurable and sufferable spicing of theatric matter, .have in fact nothing else to live on but that highly unnutritive victual.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly *Sc*), as *victual-dealer, -house, land-male, -merchant, office, -rent, -scanting* adj., *silver, stipend, wain.*

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 310 Giffin to the skippar of the schip..for 3onk Gherardis mennis fraucht and wittalis ailuir, vij *li.* 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 105 The Female ..espying hir time, when and how she may come to the Lawder or Vittailehouse. 1592 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1892) 90/2 The victuall land maillis of Clestrane benorthe the burne. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 95 If there were any, that had repining victuall-scanting Maisters tyrannizing neuerthelesse for their work. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1890) 354/2 Pro preservatione navium contra tempestates et *lie victuell-housis*. 1668 in *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 278 Of late since his Ma[jes]ties employment has slackn'd at the Victuall Office. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. vi. § 40 If the landlord refuse to receive his victual-rent when offered to him in due time. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 28 The farmer or victual-merchant. *Ibid.*, The profession of the farmer or the victual-dealer. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xlv, There was no knowing how long he might be in paying the next term's victual stipend. 1891 Doyle *White Company* xix, The rogue got between me and the nearest French victual wain.

Hence **Victual-less** *a.*, destitute of victuals.

1832 Carlyle in Froude *First 40 Years* (1882) II. 265, I arrived at Liverpool..quite sleepless, and but for your dinner,..quite victual-less.

Victual (vi't'l), *v.* **Forms**: α. 4–5 **vitaile** (5 **-aille**), 4–6 **vitayle, -aylle**, 6 **vitaill**; 4–5 **vetayle**, 5 **-aille**; 4 **vytaile** (5 **-aile**), 4–6 **vytayle**, 5 **-ayle**; 4–7 **vittaile** (6 *Sc.* **victaile**), 6 **vytteyle, vittaill-** (*Sc.* **victaill**). β. 5 *Sc.* **vitt-, wittale**, 5–6 **vitale** (5 **vytale**). γ. 4 **vitele**, 5–6 **vitel**; 5 **vetele**, 5–6 **vitell-**; 5 **vytel**, 6 **-ell**; 5 **vitale**, 6 **-alle**. δ. 5 **vittall**, 6 **vitt-, vyttell**; 5 *Sc.* **wittule**, 6 *Sc.* **wittall, wictill**; 6 **vitle**, 6–7 **vittle** (7 **wictle**). ε. 6–7 **victualle** (6 *Sc.* **victuale**), 6–8 **victuall** (6 *Sc.* **victuall**), 6– **victual** (7 **victu'l**). [ad. AF. and OF. *victailler* (also OF. *vit-, victuailler*), f. *vitaille* Victual *sb.* Cf. Sp. *vituallar*, Pg. *vitualhar*, It. *vettovagliare*.]

1. *trans.* To supply or furnish (a ship, castle, garrison, body of troops, etc.) with victuals, esp. with a store to last for some time.

a. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1382 Two hundred schyppys ben wel vytailid, With force hawberks, swerdes and knyvys. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 339 For thaim thocht thai mycht sekyrly Duell thar, quhill thai war victaillit welle. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 194, I charge you and bidde this, That ye the same Schip vitaile. *c* 1440 *Brut* II. 428 That Towne and the Castelle weren welle vitaillid and eke mannyd. 1472 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 143 Thei stuffe and vetayll sore the place. 1488 in *10th Rep. Hist MSS. Comm.* App. V. 318 That no..man victaile, nor make to be victailed, none of the saide men of warre. 1523–4 R. Grufydde in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 193 They have ayded and vittailed the Kyng's enymyes. 1583 Brende *Q. Curtius* D vij, So great an army as he had..could not be vitailed in a desolate countrey.

β. 1378 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 63 The castell weill vittallit thai With met, and fwaill can purvay. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 8 Certeyne castelles..whiche they hade vytaled. *c* 1520 M. Nisbet *Acts* xii. 20 Thai askit pece, for alamekile that thare cuntreis war vitalit of him.

γ. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 274 He were..3it more traltour, 3if he lettide o| ere knyʒtis..to vitele þes men asegid. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4710 At this tenydon truly was a tried castell,..Wele viteld, I-wisse, for wintirs ynoghe. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 205 When he had vyteld his schippis, and made hym redy. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 109 Thaye hawe vetellyd and mannyd the town of Ary. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lix. 203 It was impreygnable so it were well vytellyd. 1534 in *Star Chamb. Cases* (Selden) II. 200 They may alwaye vitalle theire townes, castelles and fortresses with suche playntie of vitalles. 1580 J. Cooke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 75 Richard. distroyed th' oost of the Egiptians comminge to vytell the Soldane in Jerusalem.

δ. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. 1580 (Cott. MS.), Eneas gert twa schippis be Wittulyt and laid to þe se. 1450 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 129 Eftir the Kingis schip wes chaysit in Dumbertane,..send with Johne of Haw to vittall hir,..xviij ll. 1555 Bradforth in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 129 For, saye they, yf we have the sea to vyttell us, we shall have powre to rule Ingland. 1587 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 6 The king..commanded the Londoners not to aid nor vittell them. 1611 J. Davies (Heref.) in Coryat *Crudities* I. 3 He his Gorge with Grapes did vittle. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* VI. Wks. 1851 V. 248 New Ships in every Port were builded, vittl'd, .. and appointed to meet all at Sandwich.

ε. 1558 Bp. Watson *Sev. Sacram.* Ser. I. 3 The fift thing ..is when his armye is..well victualled,..then to merche forward. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Wares Lowe C.* III. 97 b, Letters from the Prince, aduertising them, that hee meant the night following to victuall them. 1598 Bacon *Sacr. Medit., Miracles* Ess. (Arb.) 103 He [Christ] multiplyed the scarsitie of a few loues and fishes to a sufficiency to victuaile an host of people. 1640 Gent *Anave in Gr.* I. i. B ij, A Leaguer cannot be planted, mann'd, victuall'd, and munition'd, with a small magazine. 1670 R. Coke *Disc. Trade* 34 Before the Act we could Victual Ships with good and substantial Food cheaper than the Dutch. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 28 P 3 These dangerous Captains who could victual an Army as well as lead it. 1768 *Museum Rust.* IV. 196 The very large extent of foreign trade, which requires a great many more ships to be victualled out now than formerly. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* II. (1783) I. 100 This squadron..was victualed for twelve months. 1820 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 265, I have also written..requiring the reason for which he did not victual this corps..as I ordered. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xvi, Jack..pushed his way through the prisoners, who were being mustered to be victualled. 1865 H. Phillips *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 84 By unscrupulous foraging the troops were victualed from day to day.

fig. 1648 Beaumont *Psyche* xii. 189 They who with all riotous Dainties strive To fortify the Belly, but can finde No time to victuall and enforce [1708 recruit] the Minde!

b. *refl.* To provide or stock (oneself) with victuals.

. . . . . *Drayton's Polyolb.* ix. 326 Llewelin..compell the English campe to victuall themselves with horse-flesh. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 335 If they could get Provisions to victual themselves with. 1768 in Kitson *Life Jas. Cook* vi. (1907) 90, £120 a year for victualling himself. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* v, He will..do wisely to victual himself for at least three days. 1887 *Field* 24 Dec. 973/1 To see that the crew properly victual themselves.

2. *intr.* a. To partake of victuals; to eat. Also of animals, to feed or pasture.

1577 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 187 At meales my friend who vitleth here,..Shall both be sure of better chere, and scape with lesser cost. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. T.* 55 b, When.. euery man at boorde Had vittled well, and all was whiste. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 38 In houses, where men vittaile vpon the way, a man shall meete many times with a bare couple of Hens. 1822 Byron *Juan* VII. xlviii, As a..bell-wether [will] form the flock's connection By tinkling sounds, when they go forth to victual. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* iii, Soon we found Peggy and Smiler [the horses] in company,..victualling where the grass was good.

b. To lay in or obtain a supply of victuals.

1625 Chapman *Odyss.* III. 418 When he (there victling well, and store of gold Aboard his ships brought) his wild way did hold. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 322 Others [say] that he hath only victualed or taken in fresh water in those partes and is gone southward. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* iii. (1691) 62 Because the French cannot Victual so cheap as the English, and Dutch, nor Sail with so few Hands. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4482/3 Men belonging to Ships which are..Cleaning, Refitting, or Victualling at the Ports. 1729 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 48 Which was a voyage of such a length, that no ship could victual for.

Hence **Victualled** *ppl. a.*

1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxxii, Some five and twenty of the soundest and best victualled ships.

Victualage. *rare.* [f. Victual *sb.*] Victualling; victuals.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 343, I imployed all that little money that I had, in matters of victuallage. 1847 C. Brontë *J. Eyre* xvii, I could not proceed to the schoolroom without..running the risk of being surprised with my cargo of victualage.

Victualler (vi't'lə). Forms: α. 4 vit-, 4, 6 **vittailler**, 5–6 **vitailer** (6 vict-), 6 vi(t)tayler (vict-); 4 vytail(l)er, 5–6 **vytayler** (6 -ayller); 6 **vitellour, vitaylour, vittaillor.** β. 4, 6 **vitteler**, 5–6 **viteller**, 5 **vital(l)er, vitalar, -eer, vitullor**; 5 **veteler**, 6 **-eller, -uler**; 5 **vytalere, 6 vytiller.** γ. 5 **vittaler**, 6 **-allar, victaller**; 5 **vittelour**, 5–6 **vitteller** (6 **-eler, wytteller**); 5–7 **vitler, 6 vittler.** δ. 5– **victuallar** (7 **-aller**), 6–7 (9) **victualer**, 6 **victuelar**, 7 **vict'lar.** [a. AF. and OF. *vitaill(l)er, vitaillour* (OF. also *vitailleur, vit-, victuailleur*), f. *vitaille* Victual *sb.*]

1. A purveyor of victuals or provisions; *spec.* one who makes a business of providing food and drink for payment; a keeper of an eating-house, inn, or tavern; a licensed victualler (cf. b).

Also *spec.* (in local Irish use), a butcher.

α. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II 60 Forgoeres and vitaillers and vokates of þe arches. 1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 226/1 While vittaillers, bi suffraunce, presumen thilke states upon hem. 1453–4 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 279 Al maner of vitelloures, as wel deynsynes as foreynes. 1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13, Bere bruers and bakers whiche bene comon vitaylers. 1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heraldz* § 133 To robbe the marchaunttes of Englande,..lykewyse pore vytaylers and fysshermen of all nacions. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Caupo*, a hucster; a tauerner; a victaylar.

β. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 153 Bot men of lawe and marchauntis, and chapmen, and viteleres, synnen more in avarice þen done pore laboreres. 1421 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 25 We commaund þat no vitaler..passe out of the Cite of Couentre for to by fische, ne non othur vitayle comyng toward the Cite. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 511/1 Vytalere, *victuarius*. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 186/1 Every Merchaunt Alien, and every other Vitaler, and other Straunger. 1529 *Presentmts. of Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 32 That no vetteller, nor other man, herber no begers nor vacabundys. 1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 (1551) C v, Bere bruers and bakers, whiche bene common vitellers. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 72 Every viteler to selle as they wolde and had done before.

transf. ? *c* 1430 Lydg. *St. Giles* 109 [The hind] Of god provided to be thy vitaleer, With a repaast of hyr mylk moost soote.

γ. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 408 That no maner vitteller pay eny thynge for the occupacion of the kynges Borde. 1523 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 400 Common vittlers and hostlers. 1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 87 Other vitlers and artyficers yn Oxford. 1573 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 227 The vitteller at Reading for the dyet of sundry persons. 1599 Breton *Miseries Manillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 37/2, I had sent away this olde vitler with more crowues then shee was mistresse of many a day before. 1600–12 Rowlands *Four Knaues* (Percy Soc.) 45 The vitlers poasts all chalk'd with scores.

δ. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 123 The bakers, Brewers, and other victuallers of the City. 1592 Greene *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 34 Let not Tauerners and Victualers bee thy Executors. 1614 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Nipping Abuses* Diij b, The vintner and the vict'lar get most gaines From dayly drunkards, and distempered braines. 1642 *Ord. & Declar. Both Houses: Lords Day* 6 Any other Tiplar or Victualler whatsoever within your Ward. 1699 *Poor Man's Plea* 19 We have as firm Laws in England as need be to compel the Victualler to sell a certain Measure of Drink, mentioning what Pots and what Price. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brewer* I. (ed. 4) 89 This may be a benefit to a Victualler that brews to sell again, and cannot vent his small Beer. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 414 The several inn-keepers and victuallers throughout the kingdom. 1835 Willis *Pencillings* I. ii 20 A commissary from Villa Franca, who is to be our victualler during the quarantine. 1844 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xv. (1862) 221 Making victuallers pay for a license to retail wines.

b. *Licensed victualler*, one who has a licence to sell food or drink, but esp. the latter, to be consumed on the premises; a publican.

1824 (*title*), The Licensed Victualler's Almanack and Tablet of General Information for..1825. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xiii, Believing..that the publicans coupled with sinners in Holy Writ were veritable licensed victuallers. 1878 E. Jenkins *Haverholme* 26 They are hardly governed by the abstract principle that a Licensed Victualler is a..healthy institution, I suppose.

2. *spec.* a. One who supplies, or undertakes to supply, an army or armed force with necessary provisions; †*pl.* those engaged in bringing up victuals to an armed force.

Applied both to purveyors on a large scale, and to mere sutlers. †*Victuallar of Calais* occurs as a special designation in the 15th century.

α. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3144 þe vytallers þay alto-hewe, & þe vytailles with hymen þai ladde. 1447 *Ordinnaces of Exchequer* 35 c. 62 (6) A v, Item for the tresourer of Calais, xl.s. Item for the vytayler of Calais, xxxiij.s. iiij.d. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xiii. 35 Dyspensatours and vitaillers of the oost. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 439 The kynges hoost..was plenteously vytaylled by ye Flemynges and by other vytayllers. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 84 b, The duke of Vandosme..tooke his aduantage and set on the victaliers. 1590 Sayle *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lxxxvii. 104 With infinite vittailers and followers of the campe.

β, γ. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiv. 407 Thai raid till meit the vittelleris, That with ther wittale..Com, haldand to the host the way. *Ibid.* 429 Sum of thair meikill host has seyne Thair come, and wende weill thai had beyne Thair vitzelouris. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 116 Playntis of his men as to merchandis and vitalaris of the ost and others. 1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 407/1 William Rosse Esquier, Vittaler of the Towne of Calais and Marches of the same. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 803/1 At last they met with a vitteler comming from the campe, which was their guide and brought them thither.

δ. 1592 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. xv. 179 The victuallers and marchants [were] cut of. 1601 Ld. Mountjoy in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 200 The Victualer issues..but one pounde and a halfe of beefe *per diem*, to a souldier. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. ii. (1821) 235 Although it seemeth to us by the Certificate of the Victualler, that you were better stored at your writing, then you knew for. 1682 *Moores Baffled* 4 Which careful foresight nothing could hinder from being effectual, but the negligence of the Victuallers. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 39 P 4 Charles II. victual'd his Navy, with the Bread which one of his Dogs chose.., rather than trust to the Asseverations of the Victuallers. 1800 James *Milit. Dict., Sutler* and *Victualler* may be considered as synonimous terms as far as they relate to military matters.

attrib. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 103/2 Things necessary for Armyes..Victualler sutlers.

b. One who furnishes a ship or navy with provisions. Also *agent-victualler* (see quot. 1769).

In early use, one who undertook to provision a trading vessel in return for a share in the profits.

1432–50 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* I. Pref. 38 On balynger cleped the Cristofre,..and therof Wolfe master, and Sir Ramfray Arundell and Sir John Trerys Knyghtes owners and vitaillers. 1623 Whitbourne *Newfoundland* 26 Those men are yearely hired by the Owners, and Victuallers foorth of ships in those voyages. 1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 35 The Ship hath one third part; the Victualler the other third; the other third is for the Company. 1647 Haward *Crown Rev.* 20 Victualer of the Navy: Fee, £58. 0. 0. 1737 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 18 The Victuallers and their Officers Report..being of equal Account, it will be needless to animadvert thereon. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Agent-Victualler*, .. an officer stationed at a royal port, to regulate the victualing of the king's ships, under the direction of the commissioners for victualing the navy. 1796 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II 248 Mr. Heatly, the great victualler, writes me that the supply he is now procuring, will be the first and last, for the Port of Genoa will be shut. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 101 Beg your victualler to get the beef properly salted. 1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 341/2 To the Victualling establishment..[at Malta] there is attached an agent victualler and clerks.

3. A ship employed to carry provisions for a fleet or squadron (or for troops over-seas); a victualling ship.

a 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 216 Besydis the galayis, being twenty twa then in nomber, thei had threscoir great schippis, besydis vittallaris. 1588 *Losses and Distresses of the Spanish Navy* A iij b, They were in all, at their coming forth, a hundred xxxv. sayle, whereof foure were Galliasses, foure gallies, and ix. of them were victallers. 1625 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 63 To your last of the fleet, you must add five victuallers, and as many horse-ships, having only seamen in them. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 238/3 All these Men of War are to be attended by a proportionable number of Galliots, Advice Boats, and Victuallers. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 454 A Dutch Squadron of about 13 Sail of Men of War and Victuallers. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 131 We never were joined by any other of our ships, except our Victualler, the Anna Pink. 1780 *Ann. Reg.* 204 Some men of war, which he had sent with a convoy of store-ships and victuallers to the island of Minorca. 1823 Southey *Nelson* I. 145 There were now above 100 sail of victuallers, gun-boats, and ships of war.

4. *Sc.* 'One who deals in grain; a corn-factor.'

1808 Jamieson.

Hence **Victuallership.**

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 196/1 As in the vitelershipp of the Castell. 1487 *Ibid.* VI. 407/1 The Office of Vitellershipp of the forsaid Towne [Calais].

Victualling (vi't'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: (see Victual *v.*). [f. Victual *v.*]

1. The action of providing or storing a ship, town, army, etc. (now esp. the Navy) with victuals.

α. 1482 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 313 For the vitalyng of the sayd citte. 1482 *Paston Lett.* II. 102 My Lord Tresorer had put hym to a gret charge for the vetelyng of *Mary Talbot*. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 165 Certeyn vitayle & fewell bought for vitaylyng of the seid Ship. 1544 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Selden) II. 281 His highnes proclamacion for the vittalyng of his highnes Toune of Callis. 1570 B. Googe *Pop. Kingd.* I. E iij b, They looke to vittayling of Campes, when bloudie warres doe raigne. 1606 J. Clapham *Hist. Gt. Brit.* II. I. ii. 179 By attaching some of the Roman ships..they became first acquainted with their manner of vittailing.

β. 1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 1 Victuale goyng oute of this your said Realme for the victualyng of your Towne of Calice. 1551 Sir J. Williams *Accomptes* (Abbotsf. Cl.) 88 Towardes the victuallinge of his maiesties armyes then at Portesmouth. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 930 He commanded also the Prince..to make prouision for the victualing of his campe. 1630 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 168 It was become necessary for the victualling and seting forth your fleete. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4091/3 His Royal Highness has..appointed..Captain Thomas Harlow to be a Commissioner of the Victualling. 1725 Magens *Ess. Insurances* I. 165 The dear Victualling of the Ship in America. 1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 339/1 A Comptroller of the Victualling of the Navy and of the Transport Service. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* III. I. 390 There men might learn..how grossly the Navy Board had cheated the crown in the victualling of the fleet. 1901 *Whitaker's Almn.* 154 Admiralty...Director of Victualling.

b. The business of supplying food and drink for payment; supply of food for this purpose.

1534 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 298 It ys enacted..that no person ne persons shall..exercise eny vytelyng, byeng or sellyng..wythyn the seyd Town. 1552 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 390 A comon bouse or ynne for victuallinge and lodginge of..strangers. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 252, I keepe no victualling, yet is my house an Inne. 1892 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 309 The average return saloon fare is £6 including very liberal victualling.

2. A supply of food for personal use.

1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* VI. 119 To be in Edinburgh the v day of Januar with xxx dais wittaling. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 234, I haue..delyuered vnto him money for two monethis wagies vitailling and al other thinges for that tyme necessary. *a* 1628 Sylvester *Letanie* 46, v, They from thee prepared had Each one his sev'rall victualling, After his kind, herb, fruit and seed. 1792 N. Chipman *Rep.* (1871) 87 The prisoner should pay to the gaoler one shilling and sixpence per day for his victualing. 1829 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* 112 Teyme whispert, 'twad be best, For vittelin beame to run.

3. *attrib.*, as *victualling-bill, -board, -book,* †*booth,* †*cart,* †*cook, department* (also *transf.*), *dry store, establishment, -note, place, provisions, service, -ship, -society, -yard.*

1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesm.* vi. (1841) I. 41 From whence proceeded that black trade of buying and selling navy and victualling-bills, and transport-debts. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 130 *Bills victualling*, bills issued by the Victualling board, bearing interest till due and paid. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 72 The master of any vessel outward-bound has to apply to the searcher for a victualling-bill, which is a warrant for the shipment of such stores as he may require. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Victualling-bill*, a custom-house document, warranting the shipment of such bonded stores as the master of an outward-bound merchantman may require for his intended voyage. 1757 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 13 Half an Hour after the Victualling-Board broke up, I was sent for. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 380/1 The Victualling Board..consumes many hundred tons [of old hoops] annually for the service of the navy. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Victualling-book*, a counterpart of the ship's open list, which is kept by the purser, to enable him to make the necessary entries in it. 1588 *Anoxb. Ball.* (1887) VI. 394 And *vittaling boothes in plentie were, Where they sold meate, bread, cheese, and beere. 1578 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 134 One *victuallinge carte, a bord and a carte in the haie laith. 1568 Withals *Dict.* 41 b/1 A *vittayling cooke. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 343/2 To the eastward of Valletta..are spacious stores for the *victualling department. 1878 *Athletic World* 31 May 99/2 Francis..led off with a clever double on the..chin. Bassano then retaliated on the victualling department [= stomach]. 1757 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 52 He was..appointed to inspect all the King's *Victualling Dry Stores. 1834 *Victualling establishment [see Victualling 2 b]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Victualling-note*, an order given to a seaman in the Royal navy by the paymaster, when he joins a ship, which is handed to the ship's steward as his authority for victualling the man. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 2 Aug., I hough I lay down my *victualling place, yet, as long as he continues victualler, I shall be the better by him. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1851) II. 837/2 He..furnished himself also with cattle and other *victualling provisions. 1757 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 20 One..had been in the *Victualling Service from a Boy. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 28 April, Down the River to visit the *victualling-ships. 1711 *Broadside, Sailors Danger & Hardship at Sea* (title-p.), The loss of Seven large Transports and a Victualling Ship. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Victualling-society*, a union or association of operatives, &c. to supply themselves with meat and bread, &c. at the lowest prices. 1757 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 48 The Timber..sent into Portsmouth *Victualling-yard was..complained of. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 105 The Victualling Yards for the Royal Navy, where provisions and similar stores are deposited.

Victualling-house. [f. prec.] A house where victuals are supplied or sold; an eating-house, inn, or tavern.

α. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 57 To see that no vitailyng house..shoulde haue their doores open..either before the soonne risen, or after the soone set. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 148 They..determyned to buylde townes,..that they myght bee baytinge places and vytailynge houses for suche as shulde iorney towarde the southe. 1568 Withals *Dict.* 41 b/1 A vittellynge house, where meate is to be solde. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 122, I..tooke a chamber in a victling house, in the Market-place.

β. 1571 in *13th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 8 Licenced to keep a victualinge house within the towne of Ry. 1600–9 Rowlands *A name of Crubbes* 16 T'will be my castle for some three moneths space, while they search Tauerne, rifle victualing-house. 1666 in *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* II. (1911) 146 To keepe an Alehouse or Victualling-house within your precincts. 1732 Thoresby *Diary* (1830) II. 151 After dinner at a victualling-house, I walked to Mr. Dawson's. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 371/1 No License shall be granted to sell it by retail but to Publick Victualling-Houses, Inns, Coffee Houses or Alehouses. 1842 *Act* 5–6 *Vict.* c. 44 § 1 Any Act or Acts in force touching the Regulation..of..Victualling Houses. 1885 *Law Times* 28 Mar. 369/2 A refreshment and victualling house..on the Steep Holms, a rocky island in the Bristol Channel.

Victualling-office. [f. as prec.] An office concerned with the victualling of ships, esp. of ships of the Royal Navy.

1668 *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 278 The Place was originally called Maison de dieu, but now his Ma[je]sties victualing office in this Port is seated there. 1710 C. Shadwell *Fair Quaker Deal* I. i. 9 We..pry into the Roguries of the Victualling-Office. 1757 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 48 The Labourers of Portsmouth Victualling Office are..employed in extra Hours. 1791 *England's Gazetteer* s.v. *Dover*, The courts of chancery, admiralty, &c. relating to them all, are kept in St. James's Ch., and here are a custom-house and victualling-office. 1817 Scott *Chron. Canongate* iii, Now, my wife had keepit a victualling office.

1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 350 The Victualling Office at Plymouth..is now brought almost into JEALS-position with it [sc. the Dockyard].

b. *Boxing slang.* The stomach.

1752 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* c, He..found it impracticable to smite his antagonist upon the victualling office. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue* s.v. *Sporting Mag.* VI. 80 Spring put in a heavy claim on his opponent's victualling office.

‖ **Vicuña** (vikū'nyă), **vicu'na.** Forms: α. 7 becunia, 7–vicuna, 8–9 vicunna, 9 va-, vecuna, vicugna, vicunnia, 9– vicuña. β. 7 vicugne, 9 vicune. [a. Sp. *vicuña* (Pg. *vicunha*), the Quichuan name of the animal. See also VIGOGNE, VIGONE, and VIGONIA.]

1. A South American animal (*Auchenia vicunna*), closely related to the llama and alpaca, inhabiting the higher portions of the northern Andes and yielding a fine silky wool used for textile fabrics.

α. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* 47 It may be surmised, that it is as that of the Becunia, and other Beasts, which breed the Beazer stone. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 28 The beast is about the bigness and likeness of a Stagg. Their hair..is said also to help the gout: *sc.* Of that called Vicunas. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 11/2 The Wild Goats are numerous; they are call'd Vicunna's. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 68 There are in all parts of this country a good number of Vicunnas or Peruvian sheep. 1771 tr. *Pernety's Voy. Malouine Isl.* (1773) 289 Several of our people went a shooting..and saw some carcasses of vicunas. 1805 LUCCOCK *Nat. Wool* 14 We allude particularly to..the camel, and the dromedary, in the East, and the vicuna in South America. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 103 His dress.. was composed of the wool of the vicuña wrought into mantles, so fine that it had the appearance of silk. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 598/1 The vicugna is a much rarer animal than the alpaca. 1894 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 413 During the wet season of the year the vicunias seek the highest ridges of the Cordilleras.

β. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xl. 316 Amongst the most remarkable things at the Indies of Peru, be the Vicugnes, and sheep of the countrie, as they call them. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 732 The Vicugne somewhat resembleth a Goat, but is greater. *c* 1806 *Acc. Viceroyalty Buenos Ayres* 21 *note*, There is also a wild species of the pacos, called vicunes.

2. *ellipt.* Vicuña cloth; also, a garment made of this.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 491/1 Ponchos:—Plain and brocade, striped; alpacas, Vicunas. 1853 *Household Words* 24 Sept. 76/1 The verbiage by which coats are transformed into..alpacas, vicunas, ponchos,..and siphonias. 1883 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 3/3 A dress of cigar-brown vicugna. 1887 *Standard* 15 Sept. 2/1 A thick diagonal vicuna has been introduced as a jacket cloth.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vicuña-fur, -hunter, -skin*; vicuña-cloth, cloth made of vicuña-wool (hence ellipt. *vicuña-costume*); vicuña-wool, (*a*) wool or fur of the vicuña; (*b*) a mixture of fine wool and cotton.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 490/2 Union cloth... *Vicuna cloth. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 515/1 Vicuna cloth..is employed as a dress material, and is very soft in texture. 1889 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 6/1 Vicuna cloth is much in favour for dresses just now. 1834 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Oct. 697/2 The standing figure wears a pale brown *vicuna costume. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 487/1 *Vicuna fur, with woollen back. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 125 This led us down into a valley, where I parted with my young *vicuña-hunter. 1894 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 228/2 The finest [ponchos] are made of *vicuña skins. 1804 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 1059 On board..were 20 sacks of *Vicuna [*misprr.* Vienna] wool. 1818 *Amer. St. Papers, For. Relat.* (1834) IV 3-7 The imports..consisted of..771 arrobas of vacuna wool. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4073 Tweeds ..made from Vicugna wool. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 135 The exquisite fabrics they weave from vicuña-wool.

† **Vi-curats.** *Obs.*—[1] [See VICE- *prefix.*] A substitute in ecclesiastical functions.

a 1617 HIERON *Aarons Bells* (1623) 20 Their unlearned and for the most part ungodly Vi-Curates.

Vid 1, abbrev. of VIDE *v.*

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* Table 94 The father by reason of poverty may revoke the gift or donation made to his sonne. *vid. father. Ibid.* 95 Querrell (complaint, pley). *Vid. Pleyes.* 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.* I, *Enxaguaduras*, vid. *Enjnagnduras.* 1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* I. Index Geogr., Atrecht. *Vid.* Artas. 1783 LEMPRIÈRE *Class. Dict., Iphimedusa*, one of the daughters of Danaus... *Vid.* Danaides. 1803 LEYDEN *Scenes Infancy* I. xxii. *note*, Vid. 'Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border'. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 626/2 Vid. the diagram *fig.* 283

† **Vid.**[2], abbrev. of VIDELICET. *Obs.*

1676 W. HARBORD in *Essex Papers* (Camden) 62 He was ..found guilty of manslaughter by 6, vid: Ld. Tren[sur]er, Ld. Privy Seals [etc.].

‖ **Vidame** (vī·dām). Also 6 **vydam(e, vis-damme, 7 vidam.** [a. F. *vidame*, OF. *visdame*, ad. med.L. *vicedominus*, f. *vice-* VICE- + *dominus* lord.] Formerly in France, one who held lands from a bishop as his representative and defender in temporal matters.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xlv. 95 b/2 The Vydame of Calons dyd maruayles. 1550 *Acts Privy Council* III. 122 Ordre..for the sending of..one of the Gromes of the Chambre, to be furrer or harbenger to the saide Visdamme. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 832 Neither is there in France any Vidame which holds not of some Bishoprik, valesse that of Beauuais,..and from the chief Town of the Bishoprique are the Vidames denominated. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 47 The French Embassadour in England solicited her that the Vidame of Chartres..might be delivered to the King. 1680 MACKENZIE *Stat. Hor.* 87 To Counts, Vidames, and Viscounts [they allow] a direct standing Helmet, with 9 Barrs. 1705 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 179 The Advocates and Vidames succeeded the Defenders, and by little and little these last Offices were abolish'd. 1821 RANKEN *Hist. France* I. 334 They employed a vidame, vice-dominus or commissary. 1822 *Ibid.* II. 259 They commissioned generally their avoués, or vidames, or some superior vassal, to levy and head the troops of their barony. 1832 SIR J. STEPHEN *Lect. Hist. France* I. 131 The advocate or vidame of an ecclesiastical corporation was usually some powerful count.

transf. 1822 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) II. 346 Here is a speech of a new dignity of vidames to be created, which should wedge in 'twixt knights and baronets.

Hence † **Vidameship.** *Obs.*

a 1641 SPELMAN *Ant. Deeds* Eng. Wks. (1723) II. 242 These Officers obteyned likewise of their Lords the Bishops to have the Office of Vidameship in Fee.

Viddeful, obs. Sc. form of WIDDIFUL *a.*

Viddie, obs. Sc. form of WIDDY *sb.*

‖ **Vide** (vəi·dē), *v. imp.* [L. *vidē*, imp. sing. of *vidēre* to see.] 'See, refer to, consult'; a direction to the reader to refer to some other heading, passage, or work (or to a table, diagram, etc.) for fuller or further information.

Freq. abbreviated as *vid.*: see VID.[1]; also occas. as *v.* V s.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* App., *Pyxades*, the sonne of Strophius:..Vide *Pindar.* 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 59 For which I haue compounded an Ointment of Excellent Odour, which I call Roman Ointment, *vide* the *Receit.* 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 51 The Limon is somewhat more acute, cooling and extinguishing Thirst...*Vide* Limon. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 111 She then referr'd them to a place In Virgil, *vide* Dido's case. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 33 *Vide* Rollin *passim.* 1837 WILKINSON *Manm. & Cust. Anc. Egypt* ii. (1841) I. 66 *note*, *Vide* my Egypt and Thebes, p. 194 note. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* xii. 354 *note*, I have already proved that blood must have been in ..the newly-created Man (*vide* p. 276, *supra*).

† **Vide,** aphetic form of DIVIDE *v.* *Obs.*—[1]

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1249 The bourder of his basnet [he] bresten in sonder, And videt the viser with a vile dynt..

† **Videl,** abbreviated f. next.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 82 But the three is made of one number, videl. of two and an vnitie. 1615 W. BEDWELL *Moham. Impost.* II. 59 Therefore there remaineth yet another great difficultie, *videl.* How this law should be vniuersall.

‖ **Videlicet** (vide·liset, vəi-), *adv.* and *sb.* Also 7 **videllicet.** [L. *vidēlicet*, f. *vidē-*, stem of *vidēre* to see + *licet* it is permissible. Cf. SOILICET. The pron. (vi-, vəidī'liset) is also to some extent in use.]

A. *adv.* That is to say; namely; to wit: used to introduce an amplification, or more precise or explicit explanation, of a previous statement or word. (Cf. the abbreviated forms VID.[2], VIDEL., VIDZ(T., and VIZ.)

1464 *Mann. & Housch. Exp.* (Roxb.) 452 Alle odre percellis that are enteryd and engrosyd in my lordis book: videlicet: Ferst [etc.]. 1492 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1712) XII. 480/1 To serve him in his Werres,...*videlicet*, himself, having his Custrell and Page. 1509 *Will* in *Archaeologia* LXVI. 310 Masses of Requiem to be saide and song for my Soule by Preestes in maner and forme folowing videlicet Euery Freer [etc.]. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 706/1 Sundry clauses, pointes, matters..: Videlicet, amonges other thinges, where the bishop offred to make particuler aunswere [etc.]. 1579 FULKE *Heshins' Parl.* 131 We doe not take one thing: videlicet bread. 1600 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 27 The words of our sauiour following the former in S. Mathew videlicet: I wil geeue thee the keyes of the kingdome of heauen. 1665 in *Parish Bks. St. Julian's, Salop* I. 125 (MS.), Due to Nath: Clemson for work done to the Clock Videlicet for a new Spring,..for wyer and oyle, 5[s]. 1727 SWIFT *Circumcision E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. 1 165 The wisest man that ever was, and inasmuch the richest, beyond all peradventure was a Jew, videlicet, Solomon. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 452 To confirm farther what I say, videlicet, that the water, the more glutinous it is, the more it is disposed to become luminous. 1829 SCOTT *Rob Roy* Introd., One of Rob's original profession, *videlicet* a drover. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser 1. *St. Odille.* Then let's act like Count Otto, and while one survives, Succumb to *our* She-Saints—videlicet wives!

B. *sb.* The word itself as used to introduce an explanation or amplification, esp. in legal documents.

a 1638 CLEVELAND *Wks.* (1687) 100 You shall never take a Pamphletear, one of these Haberdashers of small Wares, without his *Videlicets*, or his *Vtpotes*. *Ibid.*, A *Videlicet* is an *Hic Canis*, it argues a Bungling Writer, as that a Painter. 1774 LD. MANSFIELD in Cowper *Rep.* (1783) 170 He has stated it to be in Minorca; with a *videlicet.* 1805 EAST *Reports* V. 252 In *Stukely* v. *Butler* (Hob. 172) Lord C. J. Hobart speaking of the use of a videlicet, says [etc.]. 1824 STEPHEN *Princ. Pleading* 313 And here, as in the case of a local fact, the insertion of a videlicet will give no help.

‖ **Vide'nda,** *sb. pl. rare.* [L., pl. of *videndum*, f. *vidēre* to see.] Things worth seeing or which ought to be seen.

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. XXXI, In my list, therefore, of Videnda at Lyons, this, tho' last,—was not, you see, least. 1771 M. TYSON *Let.* in Nichols *Lit. Anecd.* (1814) VIII. 371 Gray's notes..contain the Videnda in all parts of Great Britain, as Houses, Antiquities, Views, &c.

† **Vi'dent.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vident-*, *videns*, pres. pple. of *vidēre* to see.] (See quot.)

—]. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 40 The holy prophets..were called Vidents, or Seers.

—: see VIED *ppl. a.*

—, variant of VEDETTE.

Vidian (vi·diăn), *a. Anat.* [f. Vidus *Vidius*, Latinized form of the name of Guido Guidi, an Italian anatomist (died 1569).] The special designation of certain anatomical features of the head, as *Vidian artery, canal, nerve.*

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 39 The posterior orifice of the vidian canal. *Ibid.* 473 The superficial petrous filaments of the vidian nerve. *Ibid.* 663 The Vidian or Pterygoid Artery. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 279 The Vidian branch passes backwards along the pterygoid canal. 1875 TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 824/2 At the root of the pterygoid processes is the vidian canal, for the transmission of a nerve of the same name. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 328/2 A small nerve..goes to the sphenopalatine ganglion, and, after being joined by a branch from the carotid plexus, is known as the Vidian nerve.

‖ **Vidimus** (vəi·dimbs). [L. *vidimus* 'we have seen', 1st pers. pl. perf. of *vidēre* to see. So F. *vidimus* (from 14th c.).]

1. A copy of a document bearing an attestation that it is authentic or accurate. Also *attrib.*

1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 500/2 Credence shuld be yeven to the copie named Vidimus sealed under the auntentyke seales, and approved as to ye Originall. 1520 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 230 We will the vidimus or copy auctentike take effect and strenght as this present sauiconduyt after ten monethis past. *a* 1580 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* IV. 320 The prothogoll beirof I wald half drawin In writ, for cost to be my Vidimus. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s.v. *Innotescimus*, An *Innotescimus* and *Vidimus* are all one. [Hence in Chambers *Cycl.* (1728) s.v.] 1853 F. S. THOMAS *Handbk. Publ. Rec.* 93 A Vidimus is similar to a Notarial Certificate, in which the tenor of Royal charters..and other writings is copied and attested. *Ibid.*, Each of these persons was supplied with a vidimus copy of such letters, properly sealed and authenticated. 1899] H. ROUND *Cal. Doc. France* I. p. xxviii, He claims that the transcripts are most carefully made from charters, cartularies, 'vidimus', or other authentic sources.

† b. Without article · Confirmation of authenticity or correctness. *Obs.*—[1]

1323 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* VI. 362 The said Schir William is oblist to gif vidimus tharapone.

c. (See quot. 1850.)

1850 OGILVIE, *Vidimus*, an examination or inspection; as, a vidimus of accounts or documents. 1880 BLACK *White Wings* xxi, He told us that the last vidimus of the affairs of the Burgh of Strathgovan was most satisfactory.

† 2. *Arch.* A design for a painted or stained-glass window. *Obs.*

1526–7 in H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. App. Ddd j, Good and true patrons, otherwyse called a vidimus, for to fourme glasse and make by other four wyndowes of the seid churche. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Ibid.* 108 What a rarity in a collection of drawings would be one of their vidimus's!

† 3. The fact or reality *of* something. *Obs.*—[1]

1620 B. RICH *Descr. Irel.* xvi. 64 The *vidimus* of the matter is, our Londoners are neither vowed nor sworne to the Pope.

4. (See quot.)

1884 *Imp. Dict., Vidimus*, ..an abstract or syllabus of the contents of a document, book, and the like.

‖ **Vidonia** (vidō·niă). [Of doubtful origin: (see quot. 1833).] A dry white wine made in the Canary Islands. Also *attrib.*

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6173/3, 31 Pipes..of..White Vidonia Madera Wine. 1826 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* (1828) 191 Various wines or spirituous liquors:..Vidonia. 1833 C. REDDING *Hist. Mod. Wines* (1851) 210 What is called Vidonia is properly the dry Canary wine, of a good body...Perhaps it was so called because it is derived from the *vidogna* grape, or is a corruption of Verdona. *Ibid.* 211 At Canary both Malmsey and Vidonia are grown. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 797/1 (Canary Islands), None, however, is considered as good as the wine of Madeira. The most esteemed kind is sent to England under the name of Vidonia.

Vidou, Vidoy, obs. forms of WIDOW.

Viduage (vi·diuēdʒ). [f. L. *vidua* widow: cf. next and -AGE.] The condition of widowhood, viduity; widows collectively.

1832 LAMB *Lett.* xviii. (1865) 174 What can twenty votes do for one hundred and two widows? I cast my eyes hopeless among the viduage. 1894 *Story of My Two Wives* 67 One of the last acts of her viduage.

Vidual (vi·diuăl), *a.* Also 6 **widual.** [ad. late L. *viduāl-is*, f. *vidua* widow. So OF. *vidual*, Sp. *vidual*, It. *viduale.*] Of or belonging to, befitting, a widow or widowhood; widowed.

1550 BALE *Apol.* 37 The estate of widual clenneese is than most fytt, whan [etc.]. 1598 FLORIO, *Vedouile*, viduall, widow-like. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* VI. 282 Others there bee that have kept a viduall chastitie even in wedlocke. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Tim.* v. 12 'Cast off their first faith': Not that of their baptisme..but their viduall promised chastity and service to the Saints. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* iii. 106 One may as well say, Virginal, or Conjugal, or Vidual Prudence as any of these. 1752 RICHARDSON *Let.* in Mrs. Barbauld *Life* (1804) III. 192 Shall we show Harriet, after a departure glorious to the hero, in her vidual glory? 1876 *World* V. 12 She too retains still a deeply vidual costume. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 34 She..Who in most dusk and vidual curch, Her Lord being hence, Keeps her cold sorrows by thy bearse. *Ibid.* 44 No more shall you sit sole and vidual.

Hence **Vi·dually** *adv.*

1828 J. BROWN *Psyche* 93 If marriage solace she profess Before a solitary pillow, Or wearing vidually the willow.

† **Vi·duate,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *viduāt-us*, pa. pple. of *viduāre*, f. *viduus* destitute.]

1. Destitute *of* something.

—] viduate of Leaves.

2. Widowed.

c 1780 *Mock Ode* in Boswell *Johnson* (1904) II. 603 Cervisial coster's viduate dame.

† Vi·duated, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. L. *viduāt-*, ppl. stem of *viduāre*: see prec.] Left widowed, desolate, or destitute.

1660 Waterhouse *Arms & Arm.* 175 St. Paula, thy viduated Mother Church. 1667 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 218 In the beginning of this month came up at Oxon 'a health to the Church dowager', i.e. distressed or viduated Church of England. c 1728 *Life R. Frampton* (1876) 200 To intercede with them at helm, that the Church might not be viduated. 1727 Bailey (vol. II).

† Vidua·tion. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *viduāre*: cf. prec. and -ation.] The state of being widowed or bereaved.

1653 Waterhouse *Apol. Learn.* 149 (T.), Their triumphs rise from the church's viduation, from her learning's contempt and prosternation. [1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Viduation*, a dividing, a leaving alone, a depriving, a making widow.]

Vidue, obs. Sc. form of Widow.

† Vidui·fical, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vidua* widow: see -fic and -al.] (See quot.)

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 267 Mezereon is as much as viduifical, or widow-making plant.

Vi·duine, *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *vidua* widow-bird: see -ine 1.] Belonging to the *Viduinæ* or widow-birds.

1896 G. E. Shelley *Fer. Finches* 204 By scientists the Viduine Weavers are placed among the Ornamental Finches.

Viduity (vidiū·ĭti). Also 5 *Sc.*, 6 viduite, 6–7 -tie. [a. OF. *viduite* (AF. *veduete*; F. *viduité* = It. *viduità*), or ad. L. *viduitās*, f. *vidua* widow: see -ity.] The state of being or remaining a widow; the time during which a woman is a widow; widowhood.

1420 *Indenture* in J. Campbell *Balmerino* iv. I. (1867) 218 The said Sir Williame is oblist that he sal nocht trete the forsaid [Alesoun?] of Murray..noither in virginite na viduite, til [alienate?] ony parte of hir heritage fra the richtwise airis. 1574 *Waterford Archives* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 334 Every widowe shoulde have like benefitt..during her viduite...Aldermen's widowes shall have but a halves shift during their viduite. 1575 in Agnew *Sheriffs Galloway* (1893) I. 404 Patrick McKie..shall infeft ..Katheren Agnew..in her viduity in all and hail the lands of Larg. 1620 Br. Hall *Honour Marr. Clergy* I. vi, As for that other which hee imagines, a vow of continued viduitie, it was neither 'faith' nor 'first'. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Coriuthians* 79 Yet doth not the apostle simply prefer virginity or viduity before marriage as better. c 1726 Gilbert *Law Evidence* (1791) 497 If a Woman, who has an Estate during Viduity, makes a Lease for Years [etc.]. 1729 *Macfarlane's Geneal. Coll.* (S.H.S.) II. 101 Indenture betwixt Marion Oliphant in her Viduity on the One Part and Pat. Gray of Broxmouth on the other Part. a 1856 G. Outram *Annnity, Lyrics* (1874) 27 There I met a waesome wife Lamenting her viduity. 1896 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1896) III. 9 *note*, Widows of rentallers in the barony were entitled to enjoy their husbands' lands during viduity.

Viduous (vi·diu̯ɔs), *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *vidu-us* or *vidu-a* + -ous.] Empty, unoccupied.

1835 Thackeray *Newcomes* lxvi, She gone, and her viduous mansion your heart to let, her successor, the new occupant,..finds her miniature..hidden away somewhere.

† Vids(t., obs. variants of Viz. = Videlicet.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. iv. (Arb.) 85 Both verses be of egall quantitie, vidz. seauen sillables a peece. 1616 in *Eastland Co.* (Camden) 158 That the same [allowance] be raysed vidzt to twenty nobles apeece. 1669 Mrs. A. Thornton *Autobiog.* (Surtees) 80 The articles of agreement.. vidz., that all his estate should be passed by fine and recovery.

† Vie, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also vye, uye, uie, vi. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vie* :—L. *vīta* life.]

1. An account of the life of a saint.

a 1300 *St. Marher.* 34 Here i mai tellen ou..The vie of one meidan, was hoten Maregrete. a 1225 *Juliana* 2 Her cumeð þe uie of seinte Iuliane, ant telleð of liflade hire. a 1300 *Marina* 227 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 173 He þat made & wrot þis vie, & hyre haþ in memorie, From shome Crist him shilde.

2. Way of, or lot in, life.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3474 Oure lauerd..Had don hir in to sikernes,..Quat suld be þaa childer vie, O þair weird and o þair lijf. *Ibid.* 21740 Þe croice..es..Fondement of ur clergi, Reule it es of hali vi. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 122 Angeles sat in helle now ben, hadden ioye some tyme, And diues in deyntees lyued, and in douce vye.

† Vie, *sb.*2 *Obs. rare.* Also vye. [Aphetic f. *envie* Envy *sb.*] Envy.

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1028 Tho Ypocras wel he fond, Bi craft of the childes hond, That he coutne al his mastrie. And brast negh forth [*read* for] onde and vie. a 1400 Myrc 435 Iheſu cryst..þat..vnder pounce pylate Was I-take for vye and hate, And soffrede peyne and passyone.

† Vie, *sb.*3 *Obs.* Also 6–7 vy(e. [Aphetic ad. F. *envi* increase of stake (in OF., challenge, provocation), vbl. sb. from *envier* to increase the stake (in OF., to challenge, provoke, invite) :—L. *invītāre*: see Envy *v.*2 So Sp. and Pg. *envite* (Sp. † *embite*), It. *invito*. The adv. Avie is found slightly earlier (1509–). See also Revie *sb.*]

1. In card-playing: A challenge, venture, or bid; a sum ventured or staked on one's cards. Also in fig. context. (Common c 1590–1650).

1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 955/2 He fareth .. as though we sate together playing at poste. For first he casteth my contradiction as a vye, to witte whether I would geue it ouer with a face. 1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* (1859) 27 The Conny upon thys, knowing hys Card is the third or fourth Carde,..pawnes his rings if he hath any, hys swoorde, his cloake, or els what hee hath about him to maintaine the vie. 1592 Wotton *Lett.* (1907) I. 273 Not unlike a bad game at Mawe, wherein the first vye being seene, the cards are given before the second. a 1618 J. Davies (Heref.) *Wittes Pilgr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 32/1 Both which an end do make Of all Love's Games saue when the Vies are paid. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* ix. 56 So the cards were handsomely shuffled, the vies and revies were doubled. 1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* xxii. (ed. 2) 106 The Vye is what you please to adventure upon the goodness of your own hand.

b. In the phr. *to drop vie(s*, in fig. use.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 227 But Parish for Parish.., both for numbers in grosse of honest housholders...and substantiall graue Burgers, Yarmouth shall droppe vie with them to the last Edward groate they are worth. 1636 B. Jonson in *Ann. Dubrensis* (1877) 23, I cannot bring my Muse to dropp Vies Twixt Cotswold, and the Olimpicke exercise.

2. A challenge to contest or rivalry; a display of rivalry or emulation; a contest or competition. Occas. const. *of*. (Very common in 17th c.)

1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 64 O Gratious Golde, Whose glittring vie Doth cheere and holde Eche gazing eie. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Captaines* 10 Samuel succeds: Jews crave a King: a vie Of People-Sway: States-Rule: and Monarchy. 1621 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. 876/1 They..beganne a vie, who should be first in shewing their alteration. 1668 Owen *Animad. Fiat Lux* xxi. Wks. 1855 XIV. 169 Let him begin the vie when he pleaseth; if I live and God will, I will try this matter with him before competent judges. 1674 *Govt. of Tongue* vi. § 12. 127 However as to this particular of defaming, both the sexes seem to be at a vie. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Taudry*, They..Bedeckt the Shrines and Altars of the Saints, as being at vye with each other upon that occasion.

3. A challenge as to the accuracy of something; an objection or difficulty. *rare.*

1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) App. 340 [He] hindred al the proceedings I had begone, standinge uppon termes and vyes, saeing they were not the Quens letters I brought, nether her hand and sealle. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1197 Then came in Theon also with his vie, adding moreover & saying, that it could not be denied, but that in truth herein there haue bene great changes & mutations. 1640 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 177 For private men to put in their vie, and..to call in question the decency or expediency of the things so established,..is it self indeed the most indecent and inexpedient thing.

4. *attrib.*, as *vie crown, stake*.

The meaning of *three* [? read *thee*] *a vies wits* in quot. 1589 is not clear.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) III. 2292/2 The Lord of Tame, with an other Gentleman beyng at Tables, playing, and dropping vye crownes, ye Lady Elizabeth passing by, sayd: she would see the game out. 1589 [? Lyly] *Pappe w. Hatchet* B ij, Thinkst thou thou hast so good a wit, as none can outwrangle thee? Yes Martin, wee will play three a vies wits. *Ibid.*, Art thou so backt that none dare blade it with thee? Yes Martin, we will drop vie stabbes. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Supper.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 128 Vie stabbes, good Ecclesiasticall learning in his Apologie; and good Christian Charitie in his Homilie.

Vie (vəi), *v.* Also 4, 6–9 vye, 7 vy. [f. prec. or ad. F. *envier*: see prec. Sp. and Pg. *envidar* (Sp. † *embidar*), It. *invitare* are used in sense 1.

For an isolated earlier instance of the form see the note to sense 7.]

† **1.** *intr.* In card-playing: To make a 'vie'; to hazard a certain sum on the strength of one's hand.

The use of the word by Singer *Hist. Playing Cards* (1816) 245 is merely an echo of *invitasi* in the Italian original (1526) of the passage.

1563 Jewel *Replie Hardinges Answer* iv. 300 He commeth in onely with ioyly bragges, and great vauntes, as if he were plaieinge at poste, and shoulde winne al by vieinge. 1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 27 They vie and reule till some ten shillings bee on the stake. *Ibid.* 95 The next game they vied, and laid some fiue pound by on the helt. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* viii. (1596) 112 To play well at Primero, and to face and vie,..and by coniectures to know his aduersaries game,..are all workes of the imagination. a 1618–1640 [see Revie *v.* 4].

† **b.** In fig. context. *Obs.*

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. To Rdr., He hath made a second part out of my first; and I onely imitated his second. And shall doe the like in the third, if being elder hand, he shall vye vpon me. 1646 Quarles *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 83/1 As for thee, thy Cards are good, and having skill enough to play thy hopefull Game, vie boldly, conquer and triumph. 1654 [see Revie *v.* 4].

† **2.** *trans.* To hazard, stake, or venture (a certain sum, etc.) on a hand of cards. Freq. in fig. context. *Obs.*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.*, etc. P j, Then will they vaunt, and graunt, and for affinitie, At cardes they will vye and reuye, each their virginitie. 1591 Greene *Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 28 At last the barnacle plies it so, that perhaps he vies more mony then the cony hath in his purse. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. xvi. 84 The worlds false-hood, that playeth with Scepters, and vieth Diademes, vsing men like Counters. 1640 Quarles *Enchirid.* I. c. G iv, You, ..Princes of this lower World, who..vye Kingdomes, and winne Crownes c 1645 Howell *Lett.* II. xv, I find that you have a very hazardous game in hand, therfore give it up, and do not vie a farthing upon't. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 35 *note*, The Commonwealth party and the Protector's or Court party, began to vie stakes, and peaked at one another in their light skirmishes.

† **b.** To venture (money) in other ways. *Obs.*

1599 Hall *Sat.* IV. ii. 93 More than who vies his pence to view some tricke Of strange Moroccoes dumb arithmeticke.

† **3.** To back (cards) for a certain sum; to declare oneself able to win (a game, etc.). *Obs.*

In first quot. in fig. context: for the use of *pair* cf. quot. a 1618 in 3 b.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* E e iij, So that hee which hath my misaduentures, and is enthralled with thy presente state, maye vie the paire for sorrowe, whatsoeuer the stake be. 1591 Greene *Conny Catch.* (1592) 7 Ile vie and reuie euerie card at my pleasure, til either yours or mine come out. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. ii, *Wel.* S'light, here's a trick vyed, and reuyed! 1685 J. Cotgrave *Wit's Interpr.* (1662) 366 The first, or eldest, 'tis possible, sayes, Ile vye the Ruff; the next says, Ile see it.

† **b.** In the phr. *to vie it*; also in fig. context.

1591 Florio *2nd Frvites* 69 *S.* Let vs plaie at primere... *A.* What shall we plaie for? *S.* One shilling stake, and three rest...I vye it, will you hould it? *A.* Yea Sir, I hold it, and reuie it. 1608 Chapman *Byron's Trag.* Plays 1873 II. 285 *Qu.* Passe. *Byr.* I vy't. a 1618 J. Davies (Heref.) *Wittes Pilgr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 38/1 One, vies it, beeing but a Knaue, perchance, Against a King, or Queene, or Paires of both. 1634 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. ix. 235 All this time the Knights play'd it at Dutch Gleek, and had so vied it, and revied it, that they were all Honours in their faces. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 73/1 The eldest hand may pass and com in againe, if any of the gamsters vye it, else the dealer may play it out, or double it.

† **c.** In fig. use. *Obs.*

1604 Middleton *Father Hubburd's T.* in Bullen *O. Pl.* VIII. 95 One..likened me to a sea-crab;..another fellow vied it, and said I looked like a rabbit. 1641 H. L'Estrange *God's Sabbath* 31 As for the Protestant writers,.. we dare vie it with the Anticiparians, and give them oddes, two for one at least. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol* 3 He makes grievous complaint elswhere of scurrilous Mercuries, that vie it with his scurrilous Merlins. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Reh.* 100 To vye him, and see him, and re-vye him in contradictions. This figure now is lost to any man that is not a gamester.

4. To display, advance, practise, etc., in competition or rivalry *with* another person or thing; to contend or strive *with* in respect of (something). *Obs.* of *arch.* (Very common in 17th c.)

c 1570 *Bugbears* II. iv. 39 in R. W. Ilond *Early Plays from Italian* (1911) 106, I will vye slepes with him that lookes oute of a hood. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* IV. vi, Out, thou Chameleon harlot; now, thine eyes Vie teares with the Hyæna. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. vi. 267 The Queen, vying gold and silver with the King of Spain, had money or credit, when the other had neither. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 102 One eye vied drops with the other. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccclxxx. (1694) 401 Nothing else will serve him..but to vye Exellencies with those that took him out of the Dirt. 1702 S. Parker tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* II. 126 The Mortal might vie Pleasures and *Summum Bonum* with the Eternal Being. 1720 Mrs. Manley *Power of Love* (1741) 11 So beautiful, that thou may'st vie Advantages with the East and West. 1822 Lamb *Elia* I. *Some old Actors*, I have seen some..very sensible actresses..who..have seemed to set their wits at the jester, and to vie conceits with him in downright emulation.

† **b.** Similarly without const. *Obs.*

1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 282 An auncient historie of vowes vied and reuied betweene the citizens of Croto. 1598 E. Guilpin *Skiad.* (1878) 60 By and by Thei'le be by the ears, vie stabs, exchange disgraces. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 40 They vyed cruelties, and strove who should overcome each other therein. 1650 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I*, 7 Had you seen how the Lords did vye courtesies to this poor Gentleman,..you could not but have condemned them of much baseness. 1694 Atterbury *Serm* (1723) I. 79, I think it by no means a fit and decent thing to vie Charities, and to erect the reputation of one upon the ruins of another.

† **c.** To rival (a thing). *Obs. rare.*

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. ii. 72 He did it to vie that triple crowne which the Emperour had. 1691 J. Wilson *Belphegor* III. i, Bating that Palace, there's not a House in Genoa better furnish'd;—and for Picture—I dare almost vie Italy.

5. To match (one thing) *with* another by way of return, rivalry, or comparison. Now *arch.*

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* T iij b, Though I emule thee now, thou shouldest not vye it with malice. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Sacrifice* xxiii, The Jews..vying malice with my gentleness, Pick quarrels with their onely happiness. 1664 J. Wilson *A. Commanius* II. ii, I'll vie his Autumn, with the pride of springs. 1685 Lady R. Russell *Lett.* I. xxvii. 73, I will take your advice, and vie my state with others. 1728 *Entertainer* No. 19. 124 People would never be so vilely corrupted, as to vie Shade with Substance, and prefer Trash..to intrinsick Worth. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* v. i. 86–7 *Leofwin.* And someone saw thy willy-nilly nun Vying a tress against our golden fern. *Harold.* Vying a tear with our cold dews, a sigh With these low-moaning heavens.

† **6.** To increase in number by addition or repetition. *Obs.*

1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 311 Shee hung about my necke, and kisse on kisse Shee vi'd so fast..That in a twinkle she won me to her loue. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. iii. *Furies* 664 Sorrow..Creeping in corners, where she sits and vies Sighs from her heart, tears from her blubbered eyes.

1630 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 24 Lest shee be forced to vie sighes for their sinnes. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Easter* iii, Since all musick is but three parts vied And multiplied.

† b. To add on; to give or take by way of addition. *Obs.*

a 1633 Randolph *Amyntas* II. iv. 161 Minds in love, Doe count their daies by minutes, measure howres, .. And for each vie a teare. 1635 Quarles *Emblems* I. viii. Wks. (Grosart) I II. 57/2 One dotes; the other loathes: One frisks and sings, and vies a flagon more To drench dry cares.

7. *intr.* To enter into, or carry on, rivalry; to be rivals or competitors; to contend or compete for superiority in some respect. Also const. *for* or *in* (the object or matter of rivalry).

In Chaucer's *Dethe of Blaunche* 173 the Tanner MS. (15th c.) has *vie*, and Thynne (1532) *vye*, for *envye* of the Fairfax MS., which is prob. the correct reading.

1623 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 146 Her teares by his finde their renew'd Supplies, Both vie as for a wager, which to winne, The more she wept, the more she forced him. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 209 In Rome Sir William Hamilton ..vied much for the said Cardinals Cap. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 June 1687, The Commanders profusely vying in the expence and magnificence of tents. 1718 Prior *Protogenes & Apelles* 86 Howe'er Protogenes and I May in our Rival Talents vie. 1736 Thomson *Liberty* IV. 291 Not unworthy, she [*sc.* Genoa] Vy'd for the trident of the narrow seas. 1785 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Lyric Odes, To P. Pindar* i, They show'd their gold-lac'd clothes with pride, In harmless sallies frequent vied. 1806 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. xi. 54 They all vied in paying me every attention. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* I. v, As vainly had her maidens vied In skill to deck the princely bride. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) iii. § 168 The China seas and the North Pacific may vie in the fury of their gales.

b. Const. *with*; also † *against*, † *on*, † *upon*.

1602 [see Revie *v.* 4 b]. 1614 W. Browne *Sheph. Pipe* v. E 3, Who 'gainst the Sun (though weakned by the morne) Would vie with lookes, needeth an Eagles eye. *a* 1650 Montrose in Watson *Sc. Poems* (1711) III. 108 If .. in the Empire of thy Heart, Where I should solely be, Another do pretend a Part, And dare to Vie with me. 1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* (1709) 198 How the tawdry butterflies vie upon one another. 1698 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* vii. Wks. 1851 VIII. 183 Many other things I omit, for .. my design is not to vie with you in Impertinence. 1731–8 Swift *Polite Conv.* Introd. 81 One Isaac Newton .. might possibly pretend to vye with me for Fame in future times. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* IV. (1778) I. 359 They vie with one another in refinements of

Clive was such as enabled him to vie with the first grandees of England. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 79 Distant Kings would have vied with one another in offering their daughters to such a bridegroom.

c. *transf.* Of things.

1623 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 173 For know (though my ability be poore) My good-will vie's with any Emperour. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 184 We beheld Lamps at Night striving to vie with the Stars for Number and Lustre. 1708 Pope *Dryope* 23 Fruits that vie In glowing colours with the Tyrian dye. 1747 Gray *Death Fav. Cat* 10 Her coat, that with the tortoise vies. 1773 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 25 Aug., A library that for luminousness and elegance may vie at least with the new edifice at Streatham. 1823 F. Clissold *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 93 The glassy pinnacles of the .. Alps, .. vying with the brightness of the western horizon. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 617 The wealthiest merchant of London, .. whose banquets vied with those of kings. 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Engl. Lakes* (1879) 224 The view from the summit will vie with that from any one of the Lake mountains.

† 8. To contend in debate. *Obs.*

a 1620–*a* 1734 [see Revie *v.* 4 c].

Hence † Vied *ppl. a.*; Vie·ing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; Vie·ingly *adv.*

1605 Armin *Foole upon F.* (1880) 5 Iack Oates .. was dealing to himselfe at *vide-ruffe (for that was the game he ioyed in). 1607 Heywood *Wom. Killed w. Kindn.* 128 Gentlemen, what shall our game be? .. Faith, let it be vide-ruff, and let's make honours. 1612 R. Cocks *Diary* (1901) 114 Dec. 12, Loste at vyed ruffe ij s vj d. 1618 Bacon *Charge touching Duels* Wks. 1879 I. 681/1 A difference .. made in case of killing and destroying man, upon a fore-thought purpose, between foul and fair, and as it were between single murder and vied murder. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* (1746) III. 245 My Sport shall be vy'd Trump at Christmas. 1691 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Embite*, *vieng at any game, *Iteratio.* 1689 *Tryal Bps.* 6 The King's Counsel have answered your Objections, and we must not permit Vying and Re-vying upon one another. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 43 Colonell Jones, governor of Dublin, the other *veyinge gamster, played his parte very well hitherto. 1832 *Examiner* 691/1 People would have to be careful how they .. exaggerate their afflictions, as they are apt *vyingly with each other to do.

Vie, southern ME. variant of Fay *v.*[1]

Viealde, southern ME. variant of *falde* Fold *v.*

† **Viellard.** *Obs.* Also 5 viellars (*pl.*), veyllard, 6 villard, vylarde. [a. F. *vieillard* (OF. also *viellard*, *-art*, *villard*, etc.), f. *viel* old: see -ard.] An old man.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 64 That noble duke Agamemnon required of the goddis six suche wise viellars as was Nestor. 1483 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 117 Of whens art thou, veyllard? ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* I. 156 That ouide vylarde Jacobe, doted for age. *c* 1500 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 38 This vitius viellard now myght tak Of hir his pleasour. 1621 T. Williamson (*title*), The Wise Viellard or Old Man. Translated out of French into English.

Viei·rin(e. *Med.* Also viesrin(e. [app. f. the Portuguese surname *Vieira*.] (See quot.)

1833 *Dunglison's Dict. Med. Sci.*, *Vieirin*, bitter principle from bark of Remijia Vellozi of Brasil, where it is used as an antiperiodic and tonic, like quinine.

‖ **Vielle** (vi,e·l). [F. *vielle*, OF. *viele*, of doubtful origin.] A musical instrument with four strings played by means of a small wheel; a hurdy-gurdy. Also *Comb.*

1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Grace*, The old man had .. been no mean performer upon the vielle. 1782 *Ann. Reg.* II. 12 Few songs, guittars, vielles, or organs enliven the evenings. 1807 [see Hurdy-gurdy 1]. 1880 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* II. ii, He played upon a small and curiously shaped instrument called a vielle, .. with four strings, and a kind of small wheel instead of a bow. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* July 129 The vielle-player's story, and the Papal election, and much of the talk about music and the drama!

Vienna (vi,e·nă), the name of the capital of Austria used in various collocations, as **Vienna blue**, cobalt blue; **Vienna caustic**, = *Vienna paste*; **Vienna cross**, a stitch used in fancy embroideries; **Vienna green** (see quot. 1852); **Vienna paste**, a paste made up of equal parts of caustic potash and quicklime; **Vienna white** (see quot.).

1835 G. Field *Chromatography* 111 [Cobalt blue] has been called *Vienna blue, Paris blue, azure, and, very improperly, ultramarine. 1865 G. B. Wood & Bache *Dispensat. U.S. Amer.* (ed. 12) 1279 This preparation is a grayish-white powder, sometimes called *Vienna caustic. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlew.* 188/1 *Persian Cross stitch*, a stitch .., also called *Vienna Cross. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts*, *Vienna Green*, the same as Schweinford green; it is an arseniate of copper. 1852 W. Gregory *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 214 Schweinfurt or Vienna Green is a double salt, formed of acetate and arsenite of copper. 1867 Berkeley Hill *Essentials of Bandaging* 148 *Vienna paste, that is, equal parts of potassa fusa and quick lime worked into a paste with spirits of wine. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 5/2 To prevent its diffusion it is usually mixed with quicklime in what is known as Vienna Paste, or Potassa cum Calce. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 744 The *Vienna white of artists is simply purified chalk.

b. The distinctive name of a grade of wheat-flour, and of certain forms of plain or fancy bread.

1879 *Warne's Model Cookery* 603/2 Vienna Cake .. Take a large round spongecake and cut it very carefully into thin slices [etc.]. 1889 R. Wells *Pastrycook & Confect. Guide* 12 Vienna Bread. Take 12 lbs. of Vienna flour [etc.]. 1893 — *Mod. Pract. Bread Baker* 50 Vienna Bread. This I claim to be our highest grade of white bread. *Ibid.* 52 Common Vienna Loaves. 1906 *365 Breads & Biscuits* 62 Vienna Rolls .. may stand half an hour before baking if desired.

Viennese (vi,enī·z), *sb.* and *a.* [f. Vienn-a + -ese.]

A. *sb.* a. A native or an inhabitant of Vienna; also in collective sense. b. The variety of German spoken in Vienna.

1839 J. Paget *Hungary & Transylv.* I. 2 The foolish tales the good Viennese told us. 1850 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 575/1 In order to prevent the Hungarians coming to the aid of the Viennese [in Oct. 1848]. 1894 Parry *Stud. Gt. Composers, Beethoven* 166 His behaviour was not of the kind affected by polite Viennese.

B. *adj.* Of or belonging to Vienna; originating in Vienna.

1839 J. Paget *Hungary & Transylv.* I. 2 Viennese Reports of Hungary. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 221/2 The Viennese school of painting is of modern origin. 1889 R. Wells *Pastrycook & Confect. Guide* 10 Viennese Rolls. Take 8 lbs. of Vienna Flour [etc.].

Vier (vəi·ə). *rare.* [f. Vie *v.*] One who or that which vies with another.

c 1700 W. Hamilton in Watson *Sc. Poems* (1706) I. 68 They'll witness that I was the Vier Of all the Dogs within the Shire, I'd run all Day, and never tyre. 1902 *Academy* 18 Oct. 411/2 We have flocks of poets who are word-painters and nothing more, mere viers with painting.

Vier, southern dial. var. Fire; dial. var. Vair *sb.*; obs. f. Veer *v.*[1]; var. Vire *sb.*

Vierdour, variant of Verdour[2] *Obs.*

† **Vierge.** *Obs.*—[1] [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vierge* :—L. *virgin-em* Virgin *sb.*] The Virgin.

1462 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 270 Now blyssed saint George, pray the vierge immaculat To be good mediatrix.

Vierge, var. Verge *sb.*[1] **Vies**, var. Vives. **Viese**, var. Vees[2]. **Viesly**, obs. f. Wiesly.

View (viū), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 vewe, 5–7 vew, 6 veu(e, vue; 5, 7 vywe, 5–7 viewe (6 veiwe); 5–8 viau (6 viaue, 8 viue), 5– view. [a. AF. *vewe*, *veue*, *vue*, *viewe*, *view*, = OF. *veue* (F. *vue*), ppl. sb. from *veoir* (F. *voir*) to see. The OF. *veüe* corresponds exactly to It. *veduta* in the same sense.]

I. 1. a. A formal inspection or survey of lands, tenements, or ground, for some special purpose. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1425–6 in Madox *Form. Ang.* (1702) 276 Wee [masons and carpenters], beyng Vewers for the tyme of the seid Cite, have to these Vewes afore written, putte our seallez. *c* 1430 *Oseney Register* 183 We schall yeve to them sufficient [illegible] othir londes to a competent valewe. 1509 *Sel. Ca* [illegible] (Selden) II. 7 As it apperith by the viewe and overseyng [of the fields] takyn by maister Brudenell one of the kynges [illegible] 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 35 b, The view of the [illegible] of Dale taken the tenth day of May, the xxiii. yere of the reygne of kyng Henry the viii. 1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* I. 21 It is true that you say, such a view was taken at the time, that every Tribe might have his portion of inheritance. 1620 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 80 There is a diversity between a view and a survey, for by the view one is to take notice only by the eye, but to survey is .. by using other ceremonies and circumstances. 1894 Lincoln, etc., in Nicolay & Hay *Life* (1890) I. 119 *note*, We .. respectfully report that we have performed the duties of said view and location [of a road], as required by law, and that we have made the location on good ground.

† b. A formal examination or inspection of something, made by a properly appointed or qualified person; the charge or office of inspecting something. *Obs.*

In early quots. denoting the submitting of accounts to inspection. The sense in quot. 1654 is not quite clear. *View of frank-pledge*: see Frank-pledge 1 b.

1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 273/1 That the Collectours .. paye the money .. in youre said Receit, and make the views of their accompts. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 49 And on Saturday next comyng he shall send me a vewe of hys acompte. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 83 It semeth necessarie that another viewe be taken of all the Kynges said ordenaunces within his said Tour of London. 1520 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 674 A veu was takon by the said Maier and his brethern what stores of all Maner of Corne, and what nombre of people was then whithin the said Cite. 1538 *Cartular. Abb. de Kirkvalle* (Surtees) 353 The office of the ferme gathering in Swawdall, and the oversight of the woddes and vue of ther grownde. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) Table i, The Master and officers .. shall .. peruse the remaines of the whole stuffe and other stoare lefte at the laste vewe. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxxviii. 92 The Coroner .. even in those old daies had the view of bloodshed. 1654 G. Goddard in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. Introd. 188 That the excise of all tobacco of the English plantations, be reduced from 3*d.* to 1*d.* the pound; and that thereupon, no view or allowance be made for, or in respect of the said tobacco. 1700 J. Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 819 Our Regarders or Viewers shall go through the Forests to make a View or Regard. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The view of a place is said to be taken when the general, accompanied by an engineer, reconnoitres it. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 329 Bill of View or Sight. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* ix. (1876) II. 132 A view of this armour was to be taken twice in the year by constables chosen in every hundred.

† c. A review (of troops, etc.). *Obs.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Condo*, *Lustrum condere*, to apoynt a muster or view. 1682 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1269 A View of souldiers at a Muster, *armilustrium*. 1693 Luttrell *Brief Relat.* (1857) III. 15 The duke of Ormond took a view yesterday of his troop, and ordered all that had bay or grey horses to change them for black. 1721 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 56 The view being over, and the troops returned to their camps.

d. *Law.* (See quots.) ? *Obs.*

1567 *Expos. Termes of Law* (1579), *Viewe* is when anye actyon real is brought and the tenaunt knoweth not well what lande it is, that the demaundaunt asketh, then the tenant shal praye the viewe. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Viewers* .. signifieth in our common lawe those, that are sent by the court to take view of any place in question, for the better descision of the right. *a* 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 366 View is in reall actions of the thing demanded, .. when it is so necessarie as without view the defendant cannot well answer. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 298 He may, in real actions, demand a *view* of the thing in question, in order to ascertain it's identity and other circumstances.

† e. *By view of*, under the inspection of. *Obs.*—[1]

1700 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 820 Every, Earl, or Baron, coming to us at our Command, and passing through our Forest, may Lawfully take one or two Deer by view of the Forester if present.

2. In general use: An examination, inspection, or survey. (Cf. 18.)

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 877 They roade in the fieldes all that daye, and made a diligent vewe. 1598 Stow *Ann.* 518 The which volume was since againe, .. by viewe of diuers written copies, corrected by my self. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* (1876) 89 Edward Plantagenet .. having passed the view of the streets, was conducted to Paul's church. 1668 Denham *Poems* Ep. Ded. A iij b, Neither have I any need of such shifts, for most of the parts of this body have already had Your Majesties view. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 450 We too far the pleasing Path pursue; Surveying Nature with too nice a view.

† 3. An interview or meeting. *Obs. rare.*

1520 Sir R. Wingfield in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 270 Suche personnaiges as shall attende apon hym at the Veue. *Ibid.* 273 The noble personnaiges of this Realme .. be asmoche affectionatt to this Veue as could be wyshyd.

4. The exercise of the faculty of sight; the faculty or power of vision; the possibility or opportunity of seeing something: a. Without article.

Field of view: see Field *sb.* 26 b.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 211 At length by vew, to shore I drew. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 35/1 Thinking it good to vnderstand all things by view that might appertaine to the vse of that warre. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxli, 'Tis my heart .. Who in dispight of view is pleasd to dote. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 193 Hoise him vp to his greater height of view. 1671 Milton *Samson* 723 And now at nearer view, [it is] no other .. Than Dalila thy wife. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 1133 The hero measur'd first, with narrow view, The destin'd mark. 1707– [see Point *sb.*[1] D. 12]. 1864 *Ecclesiologist* XXV. 274 The steeple .. may .. be taken into view with the loftier saddleback of S. Alban's. 1876–7 in Abney *Photogr.* (1878) 207 The diminution of light from the centre towards the margins of the pictures from both these causes increases rapidly with any increase of angle of view beyond 40°.

b. In the phr. *to view*, chiefly after vbs.

a 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I. i, Whose lookes set forth no mortall forme to view. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 24 Their Parts when dissolved have the same Appearance to View. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 5 If he gave to View a beauteous Maid. 1757 W.

Wilkie *Epigoniad* II 270 Towards the Cad—— gate; —— full to view Expos'd, the armies and the camp she knew. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. vi. 586 One of the most important features of the case was then held up to view. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xl, Tom was already lost to view among the distant swamps of the Red River. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. iii. 28 The snow-floor had, in fact, given way, and exposed to view a clear green lake.

c. Similarly with *the*. (Cf. 14.)

1583 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. ix. 42 b, Where he sayth the second to lye on the North part, he may by the view & eisight onely be reproued. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* I. (1892) 3 That euerye shere is of biggnes as the same appeareth to the vywe. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 15 The Knowledge of Man (saith the learn'd Verulam) hath hitherto been determin'd by the View or Sight. 1721 Ramsay *Tartana* 148 These give not half that pleasure to the view. 1792 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* II. It seemed as if heaven was opening to the view. 1820 Shelley *Skylark* 50 Like a glow-worm..Among the flowers and grass, which screen it from the view! 1842 Tennyson *Vision of Sin* 23 [They] Caught each other with wild grimaces, Half-invisible to the view.

d. With limiting terms (possessives, etc.).

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1357/2 He hath set downe to the vew of all men these necessarie notes following. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 177 Alas that loue, whose view is muffled still, Should without eyes, see path-wayes to his will. 1614 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 73 For your flight to the Hearne, it is wrought, flown, and maintained by the eie and view of the Hawke. 1640 Br. Reynolds *Passions* Ded., This treatise hath had the marvellous felicity to light on the view..of a very gracious Prince's. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 118 None are suffered..to do or speak anything scandalously that may shock civility or publick view. 1711 Pope *Temple Fame* 490 Before my view appear'd a structure fair. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xxii. 19 Elsewhere now I bid thee turn thy view. 1833 Tennyson *Lady Clara Vere de Vere* 34 When thus he met his mother's view,..She spake some certain truths of you. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* I. Pref. *note*, Between two and three thousand papers of one sort or another must have passed under my view.

fig. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xi. 11 My Lady and my loue is cruelly pend In dolefull darkenesse from the vew of day.

e. Range of sight or vision.

1591 Savile *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 184 Lest any sparkle of honesty should by mischance remaine within view. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* I. 29 No one can tell, in strict speaking, where another is, if he is not within his view. *a* 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 12 Providing that the crook in his lot should not be set afresh in his view. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxv, Somewhere, out of human view, Whate'er thy hands are set to do Is wrought. 1855 — *Maud* I. xx, Was it gentle to reprove her For stealing out of view From a little lazy lover?

5. An act of looking or beholding; a sight, look, or glance.

1582 W. S. *Compend.* 81 b, The first view would displease many. 1592 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. i. 144 Mine eare is much enamored of thy note; On the first view to say,..I loue thee. 1611 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* I. 50 Seik no to subdue And kill ane hert, bot for a vieu. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 190 Who [can] deceive his mind, whose eye Views all things at one view? 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VIII. 53, I view'd thee first; how fatal was the View! 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Measures*, To see in one View an Account of the Ancient and Present Measures of several Parts of the World. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 405 That gives us Pleasure for a single View; And this, ten Times repeated, still is new. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* II. 100 The thronging thousands, to a passing view, Seemed like an ant-hill's citizens. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 224 For an hour at each view will this monstrous eye..gaze analysingly on many hundreds of stars at once.

b. *elliptical*. A view-halloo.

1903 *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 244 There is, however, in my humble opinion, no great harm in a view when the hare is first found.

6. The sight or vision *of* something. Also with possessives.

1588 Shaks. *Titus A.* III. ii. 35 Out on the murderour! thou kill'st my hart, Mine eyes cloi'd with view of Tirranie. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XIV. xiv, Thy weak armies .. Shall take new strength, new courage at his view. 1632 *Guillim's Heraldry* (ed. 3) III. ii. 113 Thus should their view put us euer more in minde, to raise our thoughts to Godward. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 23 Towards night [we] got view of Ioanna Ile. *a* 1771 Gray *Dante* 29 Pisa's Mount, that intercepts the view Of Lucca. 1794 Godwin *Caleb Williams* 247 The view of his figure immediately introduced a train of ideas into my mind. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1821) II. 29 We had now come in full view of the old family mansion. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. viii. 263 He proceeded to thread his way westwards, across moor and bog, until we lost view of him.

transf. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 191 Hitherto the distinction..appears to have been scarcely thought of. The distinct view of it was accidentally obtained by Stephen Grey, in the year 1729.

7. Visual appearance or aspect.

1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 152 If the earthe were of anye bygnes in comparison to the worlde, then should his semidiameter beare some vewe of byggenesse to the semidiameter of the skie. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 102 The same man also, persuaded partly by the views of the place itselfe, .supposeth, that Richborow was of auncient time a citie of some price. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 175 Alas that loue so gentle in his view, Should be so tyrannous and rough in proofe. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* I. (1892) 2 It most Consequentelye followes that the shere must be but little, much lesse than other sheres which seem lesse in vywe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 142 A Silvan Scene,..a woodie Theatre Of stateliest view. *Ibid.* 247 A happy rural seat of various view. 1713 *Guardian* No. 1 P 1 His Countenance is communicated to the Publick in several Views and Aspects. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVI. 209 Like furious, rush'd the Myrmidonian crew, Such their dread strength, and such their dreadful view. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* xviii. 9 As certain ores in outward view the same.

fig. 1582 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 123 To maintaine himselfe in that view which belongeth to his calling.

b. Aspect as affected by position.

1847 Leitch tr. *C. O. Muller's Anc. Art* 450 The coins exhibit his head generally in front view.

8. † a. *Hunting*. The footprints of a buck or fallow-deer. *Obs.*

Common in 17th c. works of reference, but merely as an echo of Turbervile.

1576 Turberv. *Venerie* xxxvi. 97 Then if she aske, what Slot or view I found, I say, the Slot, or view, was long on ground. *Ibid.* 239 The footyng or printe of an Hartes foote is called the Slot. Of a Bucke and all other Fallow Deare, it is to be called the View. 1611 Cotgr., *Foulée*, the Slot of a Stag, the Fuse of a Bucke (the view, or footing of either) vpon hard ground, grasse, leaues, or dust 1679 Lovell *Indic. Univ.* 26 The strain, view, slot or footing of a deer are the marks he makes in soiling.

b. A sight or prospect of some landscape or extended scene; an extent or area covered by the eye from one point.

1606 Bryskett *Civ. Life* 93 Hauing the prospect not onely of the citie, but also of the sea and hauen,..and some commending the ayre, some the delightfulnesse of the view. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 14, I neuer saw ground more pleasant for view. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 890 Before thir eyes in sudden view appear The secrets of the hoarie deep. 1718 Prior *Solomon* II. 22 Fish-ponds were made, where former Forrests grew; And Hills were levell'd to extend the View. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Cl.) 192 It is the finest viue ever I saw; the ground lies about it, you would think, in a circle. 1766 [Anstey] *Bath Guide* vii. 4 Fine Walks, and fine Views, and a Thousand fine Things. 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* II. 220 From the flat roof of the church we had a delightful view of the village. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Prol. 68 Here were telescopes For azure views; and there a group of girls In circle waited. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Oct. 8/4 A local resident..whose house..has a beautiful view down the valley.

c. A drawing, painting, print, etc., representing a landscape or other prospect.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Jan. 1645, We were then conducted into a new Gallery, whose sides were painted with views of the most famous places, towns, and territories in Italy. 1709 (*title*), Britannia Illustrata; or, Views..of the Principal Seats of the Nobility and Gentry of Great Britain. 1791 Robertson *Hist. India* App., Wks. 1851 VI. 510 Mr. Hodges has published views of three of these [fortresses]. *c* 1811 Fuseli in *Lect. Paint.* iv. (1848) 449 That kind of landscape which is entirely occupied with the tame delineation of a given spot,..what is commonly called 'views'. 1853 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) II. 220 The little view at the top of this sheet is where I live in London. 1854 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1883) I. 527 A photographist preparing to take a view of the castle. 1898 Binns *Story of the Potter* 222 Portraits, views, and fancy scenes were produced in different self-colours.

II. 9. Mental contemplation or vision (alone or combined with ocular inspection); observation, notice.

Point of view: see Point *sb.*[1] D. 12.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 530 Per is no thyng bod som peple will giff per vew and per fantasye per-vnto. 1593 Norden (*title*), Speculum Britannia. By the trauaile and vew of John Norden. 1612 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* April (1914) 249. I will be bold out of my seale and duty to present yt [a proposition] vnto his Magesties viеu. 1642 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 243 But I hate to have my secrets laid open to everybodie's view. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. ii. 26 The Poet sets Ulysses in our View. 1762 Kames *Elem. Crit.* I. (1833) 20 The mind extends its view to a son more readily than to a servant. 1846 Whately *Rhetoric* (ed. 7) Introd. vi. 34 Such a habit..also, in a rhetorical point of view, if I may so speak, often proves hurtful. 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet Letter* Introd., One..who appeared to have been rather a noteworthy personage in the view of our ancestors. 1911 J. H. Round *King's Serjeants* 254 After this, the scalding serjeanty..fades from view.

b. A single act of contemplation or attention to a subject.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 94 A view of things, *estimatio*. 1676 Dryden *Aureng-zebe* Ded., The hasty Critick, who judges on a view, is as liable to be deceived. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. I. (1869) I. 10 The advantage..is much greater than we should at first view be apt to imagine it.

10. A particular manner or way of considering or regarding a matter or question; a conception, opinion, or theory formed by reflection or study. Freq. const. *of*.

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 1 Vpon a reasonable vew of the matter. 1679 Penn *Addr. Prot.* II. ii. (1692) 60 Let us take the most impartial View we can. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iii. 50 Good Actions are never punished, considered as beneficial to Society, nor ill Actions rewarded, under the view of their being hurtful to it. 1780 *Mirror* No. 100 P 1 The view of Hamlet's character, exhibited in my last Number. 1800 Trevelyan in G. O. Trevelyan *Macaulay* (1876) I. i. 92 Miss Hannah took a more unselfish view of the subject. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* ix. (1859) 281 Atonement presents to us this view of God. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 8 The application of this view of the plan of structure of the brain will appear in the sequel. 1884 Sir W. B. Brett in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. D. 798 That was the view which the judgment of the Court below upholds.

b. An aspect or light in which something is regarded or considered. (Cf. 7.)

1713 *Guardian* No. 5 P 3 The Widow of Sir Marmaduke is to be considered in a very different View. 1749 Law *Serious C.* x. 243 If we consider mankind in a further view, as a [illegible] P 20 We are well warranted in calling the view, under which the learned men of that age beheld Christianity, an obscure and distant view.

c. *pl.* Opinions, ideas, or theories, of an individual or speculative character, held or advanced with regard to some subject.

1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, III. P 33 Nor did his political views and maxims seem less strange. 1792 J. Barlow *Conspir. Kings* 86 Gallia's sons..blake patriot views and moral views the same. 1828 Cobbett *Pol Reg.* XXXIII. 106 Reformers, not so well able to express as to think, would have had an answer to all questions relating to their views. 1841 Arnold in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. ix. 270 Of course, he who believes his own views to be true, must believe the opposite views to be error. 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* ii. 22 It does not seem that the views of the logicians named are irreconcileable. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 408 The time must come when the views of our committee will prevail.

d. Without article: Comprehensive survey.

1821–30 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* (1856) 177 Allen's single lecture contained as much truth and view as could be extracted from all the books in Europe on the subject.

11. A survey, a general or summary account, *of* something.

1604 Dallington (*title*), The View of Fraunce. 1623 Cockeram II, The full View of a thing, *synopsis*. 1647 May *Hist. Parl.* Title-p., A short and necessary view of some precedent yeares. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. Pref. 14 It may not be amiss to give the reader the whole argument here in one view. 1779 *Mirror* No. 31, An author who draws characters in the other manner..gives a view of the particulars themselves. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* II. 44/1, I proceed finally to offer a combined view of the whole. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art.* II. 157 With the record of a late excursion of his we shall close this view of the practice of aërostation.

12. An aim or intention; a design or plan; an object or purpose.

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 83 [Nicanor slew Antiochus], because interposing the view of his ambition. 1721 Marlborough in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 144, I have no other views then what tend to the firmest vnion with his Lordship. 1759 Franklin *Exr.* Wks. 1840 III. 483 Whatever view the governor had to serve by his opposition, he neither did himself or views any service by it. 1772 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) V. 20 It is necessarily implied, that a man have a sincere view of pleasing God in all things. 1825 Scott *Guy M.* xxii, Part of Brown's view in choosing that unusual tract..had been a desire to view the remains of the celebrated Roman Wall. 1831 *Society* I. 295, I have told you my views for Jemima. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. xlvii. (1862) IV. 160 Such were the views of Pericles in regard to his country.

b. Regard or reference *to* a person or thing (*rare*). † *Out of a view to*, with an eye to.

1718 M. Tomkins in W. Wilson *Dissenting Ch.* (1808) II. 540 He assured me he had no particular view *to me*, or suspicion of me, when he brought down that sermon among others to Newington. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Choir*, But the antient Ballustrades have been since restor'd; out of a View to the Beauty of the Architecture. 1736 L. Welsted *Wks.* (1787) 486 In view to the second [commandment], this necessity was greater.

13. A prospect, anticipation, expectation, or outlook.

1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 17 That we were brought in View of a truly safe, honourable, and advantagious Peace. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 210 We could have no better views at present than of falling into their hands sooner or later. 1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) II. 30 He that hath good in his view, and yet will not evil eschew, his folly deserveth to rue. 1758 S. Hayward *Serm.* xiv. 408 It gives the christian..the sweetest composure in the views of death. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* IV. 253 Are not thy views of unregretted death Drear, comfortless, and horrible? 1827 D. Johnson *Ind. Field Sports* Pref. p. x, I entertain no view of any emolument whatever from the present publication.

III. In various phrases.

†14. *At* or *to the view* (in hawking and hunting): By sight. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d j, An hawke fileth to the vew, to the Beke, or to the Toll. 1607 Chapman *Byron's Conspir.* II. Wks. (1895) 148 Both fell as their spirits flew Upwards; and still hunt honour at the view. 1628 Bp. H. King *Exp. Lord's Prayer* 144 'Tis dangerous to hunt such abstruse mysteries at the view, or locke too neere. 1637 — *Poems* (1843) 17 Teach me to hunt that kingdom at the view Where true joyes reign.

15. In (. .) view. a. *In* (*the*) *view of*, in the sight of, so as to be seen by; also, within sight of, near enough to see.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 174 These armies thus lying, the one in the conspect and vewe of the other, studied all meanes and pollecies, how to take aduauntage eche of other. 1594 *Sac. Pt. Contention* (1843) 128 Richard The second in the view of manie Lords Resignde the Crowne to Henrie the fourth. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 82 An Iland called Mzottey scituate in view of some three other. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 304 Neerer our ancient Seat; perhaps in view Of those bright confines. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 82 While I was in View of the Moor that was swimming, I stood out directly to sea with the Boat. 1728 Watts *Lat.* 20 July in *Pearson's Catal.* No. 76 (1894) 62 Are not my sermons in your view and within your reach? *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* II. 102 Here he chose his station, in view of a temple dedicated to Hercules. 1814 Wordsw. *Excursion* IX. 706 For sacrifice performed Exultingly, in view of open day. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* li, [illegible]ding hands with them and smiling in the view of all

b. *In view*, in sight, in such a place or position as to be seen; also (*b*) in contemplation or notice, under attention; (*c*) as an end or object aimed at.

In the latter uses chiefly after *have* or *keep*.

1625 Shaks. *Lear* v. i. 51 The Enemy's in view. 1667 Milton *P. L.* i. 563 And now Advanc't in view they stand, a horrid Front Of dreadful length. 1732 W. Halfpenny *Perspective* 4 Here inserted more plainly to discover what part of the Cube is in View. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, iv. Wks. 1813 V. 415 His soldiers, now that they had their prey full in view, complained neither of fatigue nor famine. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Error* 570 None sends his arrow to the mark in view, Whose hand is feeble, or his aim untrue. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 88 The hounds..were running a hare hard in view. 1826 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxvi. 262 There was nothing in view except Dalrymple Rock.

fig. 1757 Foote *Author* II. Wks. 1799 I. 149, I shall never be able to hold out long; I had rather be taken in view.

(*b*) 1667 Milton *P. L.*, x. 1030 Then let us seek Som safer resolution, which methinks I have in view. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. x. § 2 By keeping the idea..for some time actually in view, which is called contemplation. 1779 *Mirror* No. 66, It is necessary that we keep in view the character of Lady Anne. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* Introd. 2 It is probable the resemblance Josephus had in view, was chiefly that of the outward form. 1840 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. iv. 455 This should always be kept in view. 1892 'L. Malet' *Wages of Sin* II. 38, I have a quantity of work in view.

(*c*) 1720 Ramsay *Prosp. Plenty* 165 This, this our faithfu' trustees have in view, And honourably will the task pursue. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lviii. (1788) 312 Liberty..we all profess to have in view. ?1782 A. Shirreff *Poems* (1790) 278 So fiercely they fought, having honour in view, Ten hours quite elaps'd. 1853 Browning *In a Balcony* Wks. 1907 VII. 30 Who keeps one end in view makes all things serve. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1896) III. 453 It may be questioned whether the advisers of Henry VI..had any deep political object in view. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 291 And with this in view, the saddles are very generally left on.

c. *In that* (*this*, etc.) *view*, on that account, for that reason or consideration. ? *Obs.*

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 108 It is in that view that Socrates..set so high a value upon Euripides. 1768 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* v. lii. 401 How vastly profitable these our plantations are to us in every view. 1807 in Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. *App.*, It was in that view that he proposed to drink to the memory of his late Royal Highness the Duke of York.

d. *In view of*, in prospect or anticipation of, with a view to; (*b*) in consideration or regard of, on account of.

(*a*) 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1736) III. 26 Let us with a chearful Boldness loose the Reins, in View of attaining the Latter. *Ibid.* 277 In view of marrying Ethelinda. 1859 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 182 He writes to this lady, in a letter with which she has entrusted me, in view of this meeting. 1867 C. S. Parker in *Quart Reformed Parl.* 197 An unreformed Parliament, which..has never been more disposed to bestir itself for good than now in view of approaching dissolution. 1878 R. Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* I. 26 Musters were being taken through England in view of wars with Scotland and France.

(*b*) 1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* II. 160 In view of the readiness she showed to second my search, all was, or appeared to be, forgiven. 1832 — *Ess. Origin Man* III. 113 In view of the excellencies of the works embodied in it, [the language] continued to be occasionally used. 1874 Morley *Compromise* 54 Error, therefore, in view of such considerations may surely be allowed to have at least a provisional utility. 1885 L. Oliphant *Sympneumata* 212 In view of this aspect of the class of phenomena in question, we regard with leniency their presence in the human nature of the past.

16. *On* or *upon* (*the*) *view of*, on ocular inspection or perception of, *spec.* by way of inquest.

1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 414/1 All Enditements..taken afore any of your Coronners.., upon the viewe of the Body of the said Thomas Portyngton. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 20 Preamble, [They] caused a Crouner to sit and inquere on the viewe of the Bodies of the said John Cristofore, Gerard, and Genet. 1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 1, All inquisicions upon the viewe of persons slayne..within any the Kinges saide palaces or houses. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 228 Yet vpon view of the horse, they mette them with the keies of the citie. 1661 W. Lowther in *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* II. (1911) 118 His Majestyes Justices of the peace, vpon viewe or haueing Informacion of such persons soe offending. 1779 *Mirror* No. 66, The feelings that arise on the view of ability, self-possession, knowledge of character. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 47 An inquest was held..on view of the body. 1842 *L'pool Mercury* 2/5 An inquest was held before Mr. Curry, on view of the body of Wm. Clare, aged 21.

b. *On the view*, by simple inspection.

1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 31 Making an estimate of the original purity of the material..may be accomplished, first on the view; second by heat. 1835 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 615 The High Bailiff then walked round the three companies of horsemen, and pronounced, on the view, that Montague and Fox were duly elected.

c. *On view*, on exhibition; open to general or public inspection.

1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* III. vi. 104 He shall be on view in the drawing-room before dinner.

17. *With the* (*or a*) *view of*, with the object or design of (doing something).

1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 118 You acted only with a view of deceiving me. 1754 Sherlock *Disc.* (1759) I. i. 18 Religion must be formed with a View of securing a future Happiness. 1822 O. Gregory *Treat. Astron.* 257 With a view of ascertaining more accurately the nature of the sun. 1829 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. 590 With the view..of expediting the acquirement of the necessary habits. 1884 in A. Cawston *Street Improv. London* (1893) 106 Power of taking possession ..with the view of carrying out the necessary work.

b. *With a view to*, with the aim or object of attaining, effecting, or accomplishing something; const. (*a*) with nouns or pronouns, or (*b*) with verbs. Also (*c*), with regard to; (*d*) in view of.

(*a*) 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Hair*, It was with a View to this, that such..procured their Hair to be shaven off. 1767 Cowper *Lett.* 20 Oct., I am willing to suspect that you make this inquiry with a view to an interview when time shall serve. 1823 Hy. Martineau *Vanderput & S.* i. 20 [He] allowed that such an indulgence might,—especially with a view to increased knowledge,—be extended to a sufferer like Christian. 1866 R. Chambers *Ess.* Ser. II. 89 Providence has constituted us with a view to activity. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* iii. 49 The tendency is more and more to promote individual effort with a view to individual comfort. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 373/1 The Belgian Government desired his extradition with a view to his trial in Belgium.

(*b*) 1723 *Present St. Russia* I. 260 With a View to secure the Cuban-Tartars to the Russian Interest. 1769-8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* IV. iv. § 55 The forcible..abduction of the woman's person, with a view to violate it. 1800 *Ariat. Ann. Reg., Charac.* 54/2 The troops had been embarked with a view to retake the island of Grenada. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 53 They might..be advantageously introduced with a view to watering summer crops. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 105/2 The lady had contracted specifically with a view to bind definite separate estate.

(*c*) 1785 Paley *Mor. Philos.* VI. xii, War may be considered with a view to its causes and its conduct.

(*d*) 1808 Eleanor Sleath *Bristol Heiress* V. 329 With a view to his approaching nuptials, Lord Castleton presented him with a handsome service of plate.

c. *With this* (or *that*) *view*, with this intention or aim, for this purpose.

1765 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (ed. 2) III. 159 Freudbomme went to Wilton with that view. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, iv. Wks. 1813 V. 413 With this view he dispatched a courier to Bourbon. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 191 With this view he fixed a cord to a nail which was in one of the beams of the ceiling. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. ix. 573 With this view, the people, even in their ordinary amusements, are watched and carefully superintended. 1893 Liddon *Life Pusey* II. xxv. 164 With this view the writer reviews fourteen of the Articles.

18. *To take a view of*, to take a look at, to make an inspection, examination, or survey of. † Also with *the* or without article.

1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 162, I suppose that my lorde wille take the vywe off alle hys retynywe heer. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 17 [They] had sente theyr apyes to take the vewe of the countre. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* Fv, When Veiwe is taken, whether the same Childe be living..in the Howse or at Nurse. 1578 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 298 When my Lord Chamberleyne toke a viewe of the stuffe at mr Brydemans. 1632 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* To Rdr., I likewise tooke view of many ancient Monuments not inscribed. 1698 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 236 He had taken a view of the monuments. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* II. 233 The next day he took a view of all Darius's money and moveables. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 30 No sooner had he taken a view of it, than he declared, that..he had made the paper. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 305 In order to take a view of the means employed, to lessen, increase, or otherwise modify the affinities of bodies.

IV. 19. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In senses 1 and 4, as *view-day*, *-making*, *-worthy* adj.

1589 Greene *Ciceronis Amor* Epistle Ded., Thinking nothing rare, nor view-worthy, sufficiently-patronized, vnlesse shrowded vnder the protection of so honorable a Mecenas. 1600 *Maldon* (Essex) *Documents* (Bundle 162) 11, xxiii *d* for fire, and bredd, and beare spent in the Moote-halle on the pettie vew daye. 1607 in W. H. Hale *Proc. in Causes of Office* (1841) 10 They shall certify..of the vew making by the workmen..and likewise how farr they have proceeded in the repayer of the church.

b. In sense 8 b and 8 c, as *view-hunter*, *-hunting*, *-lens*, *-station*, *-taking*, etc.; **view-finder**, an attachment to a camera by which it is more readily adjusted to take a particular view.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. vi, I mean the epidemic, now endemical, of View-hunting. 1837 J. E. Murray *Summer in Pyrenees* II. 65 The most greedy view-hunters of them all will leave it [Canigou] satisfied with the beauty and magnificence of the prospect. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Sept. 4/2 It was his delight to make..good roads to all the best view stations on his estate. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 38 When the ordinary view lens, giving barrel distortion, is used. *Ibid.* 339 If they are view-taking in a region of streams and woods. 1891 *Ibid.* IV. 426 A revolving view-finder, flash-lamp, dark slide covers.

View, var. Vew (yew-tree). *dial.*

View (viū), *v.* Forms: 6-7 vewe (6 vue), vewe (6 veawe), viewe (6 vieue); 6 vieu, veu, vew, 6- view (6 veiw, *Sc.* wew). [f. the sb. Cf. Aview *v.*]

1. *trans.* To inspect or examine in a formal or official manner; to survey carefully or professionally; † to review (troops).

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccccxvii. 578 b/2 When they were nombred and viewed, they thought themselfe able to fight with the greatest prince in all the worlde. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 237 Furthermore his Maiesty woolde that you shuld cause the stretes and Lanes there to be viewed for the pavementes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 258 Captaynes were seute oute to view the situation of theyr enmemies Campe. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 251 In Christmas holidayes his Lordship viewed the towne of Galloway, and judging it a place of great importance [etc.]. 1629 Gouge *Serm. Extent God's Provid.* The Coroner and his Inquest comming to view the ——ss, found remaining but 63. 1697 J. Lewis *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 21 About this time, there came Scotch regiments of dragoons to be viewed by the King in Hyde Park. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 419 Offices..in which all Goods coming from Foreign Parts, or going to Foreign Parts, shall be declared, viewed, visited, and discharged. 1729 Fielding *Tom Jones* VII. xii, The Surgeon,..having viewed the wound,..ordered his Patient instantly to bed. 1783 Seeatzen *Babylone L.* § 227 We..took the opportunity of viewing the progress of our stonestone works at Lanlivery.

1829 Shelley *Cenci* I. i. 17, I once heard the nephew of the Pope Had sent his architect to view the ground, Meaning to build a villa. 1832 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xi, 'Well, gentlemen!' resumes the Coroner,..'the first thing to be done is to view the body'.

† b. *spec.* To inspect or examine (records, accounts, etc.) by way of check or control. *Obs.*

1534 Henry VIII in J. Bacon *Liber Regis* (1768) p. vi, [They shall] also se and vew such registers, bokes of accoumpt, Enter boks, and all other writings. *c* 1548 in J. S. Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (1898) 88 A commaundement..to vue, serche, & ouerse certayn Courte Rollis. 1554-5 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 178 Comiss'yoners specially appoynted and auctherised to vewe and take the accomptes state and remayne of and within that office. 1647 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 498 The said twelve men..shall view the late books of Excise.

† c. To survey or explore (a country, coast, etc.). *Obs.*

1552 Bible *Josh.* vii. 2 Then Josua sent men from Jericho to Ai.., saying, get you vp, and vewe the countre. 1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* i. 21 Joshua commaunded ..that euery tribe should choose out three men, that he might send them thorow the land of Canaan, to view, survey, and to describe it. 1628 Nekdham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 189 They permitted none besides Merchants to sail unto the Island without their leav, nor any man at all to view or sound the Ports and Sea Coast. 1748 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 32 The Commodore sent the Trial Sloop to view the Island. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 143 John Davis..viewed that and the more northern coasts.

2. To look at (something) more or less attentively; to scrutinize; to observe closely.

Cf. examples of *view and review* s.v. Review *v.* 2.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiv. 199 Vieu and beholde you my handes. 1563 B. Googe *Eglags*, etc (Arb.) 115 When I had vewd these wrytten lines and markde the Storye well, I loyed muche. 1577 — *Heresbach's Husb.* i. (1586) 7 b, Let vs walke abroade, that I may viewe your house tyll dinner be redy. *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. i. 73 *Illio.* Looke where she comes: *Æneas*, viewe her well. *Æn.* Well may I view her, but she sees not me. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 390 [He] sent a Guide with me..to view the Mountayne more strictly...Hauing viewed and reuiewed this [etc.]. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 27 A Museum well stored with natural and artificial Rarities, which we viewed. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 36, I, to the Temple will conduct the Crew: The Sacrifice and Sacrificers view. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 31 July, The women flocked in to see me, and we were equally entertained with viewing one another. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 405 The Chinese contented themselves with viewing it [the conflagration]. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii, She stood for some time viewing the shadowy scene. 1835 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* 428 *note*, The writings of one who had viewed the manners of Greece with no incurious eye. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 875 They..give no false impression when viewed in the developing tray.

absol. 1818 Shelley *Hymn Minerva* 18 Pallas from her immortal shoulders threw The arms divine; wise Jove rejoiced to view. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* i. vi, Thus viewing, one they saw, on hasty wing, Directing towards heaven his course.

b. To see or behold; to catch sight of.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Psalms* cxix. G ii, I quake to view how people vile Doe from thy doctryne swerve. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 51 Where a little from us, we viewed a Blacke Tent, and going thither found three old Arabians. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 331 One plainly views the Isle, and go to the place you find nothing. 1706 Estcourt *Fair Example* v. i, *W. himse.* Look up and view me then. *Syms.* That's a Jest indeed, when 'tis so dark I can't see my own Hand. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 27, I..was not a little surprised to view such an extent of Sky and Water. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 132 The fox was viewed several times by the horsemen. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxiv, The alternations of splendour and misery which these people undergo are very queer to view. 1887 *Field* 31 Dec. 982/3 Mr. Godson viewed our hunted fox sneaking away.

† c. To admit to an interview. *Obs.*

1696 Dryden *Aurengz.* III. i. 1435 I'll view this Captive Queen; to let her see, Pray'rs and Complaints are lost on such as me.

d. *Hunting.* With *away*: To see (a fox) break cover; to give notice of (the fox as doing so) by hallooing.

1823 Wentr Melville *D. Grand* x, Excitement..not diminished by my 'viewing away' a magnificent old fox. 1826 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 127/2 The first whip is sent on to the point where the fox is most likely to break, in order to view him away, and save time, by hallooing.

8. To survey mentally; to pass under mental review or examination; to consider.

1592 Savile *Tacitus, Agricola* 255 When I view and consider the cause of this warre, and our present necessity. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 33 Hee had well viewed her seuerall forces. 1637 Sparrow *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 50 These..have been viewed and allowed by the..Church for many ages past. 1679 Penn *Addr. Prot.* II. ii. 65 If we will yet rise higher in our enquiry and view the Mischiefs of Earlier Times. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Satire Antients* Wks. 1730 I. 22 When we view him to the bottom, we find in him all the Gods together. *a* 1728 Secker *Serm.* 1 *Thess.* v. 21-2 (1770) I. 16 Viewing Things on every Side..in grievous Labour to Indolence and Impatience. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 23 Bede viewed the world only from the retirement of his cell. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 12 All knowledge may be viewed either abstracted from the mind, or in relation to the mind. 1878 Helps *Soc. Press.* v. 65 He..has viewed the matter in hand more gravely.

b. Const. *with* (pleasure, etc.).

1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. viii. 14 Whate'er may hurt me, I wkh Joy pursue; Whate'er may do me good, wish Horror view. 1798 S. Hayward *Serm.* xvii. 309 The soul..views his various perfections..with pleasure. 1769

Robertson *Chas. V*, III. p 38 To view all the constable's actions with a mean and unbecoming jealousy.

c. To regard or consider in a certain light.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 110 If you, gentlemen, view this matter in that important light I do. 1779 *Mirror* No. 28, He seems to have viewed the unhappy people of that country merely as the instruments..to furnish himself and his countrymen with..wealth. 1832 Lewis *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* x. 84 A third manner of viewing mixed governments. 1861 Paley *Aeschylus* (ed. 2), *Agam.* 1548 *note*, So far from regarding the murder of her husband as a crime, she views it simply as a just retaliation. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) *I.* 32 Wisdom, viewed in this new light merely as a knowledge of knowledge and ignorance.

4. *intr.* To look or see *into* something. *rare*—1.

1711 Swift *Exam.* No. 27 P 11 Mr. Harley [is] sagacious to view into the remotest consequences of things.

Hence **Viewed** (viūd), **Viewing**, *ppl. adjs.*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* F ij b, For my vewyng eyes haue seene your paynting penne. 1882 *Society* 4 Nov. 5/1 The hounds ran on the line of a viewed fox.

View·ably, *adv. rare*—1. [f. View *v.*] Visibly.

1680 C. Nesse *Church Hist.* 357 Satan was seen to fall like lightning from heaven, to wit, viewably, violently, and velociously or swiftly.

Viewed, *a. rare*—1. [f. View *sb.*] Inclined or given to views or theories.

a 1633 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (1641) 33 It is a certaine note of the times, that the Queene in her choyce, never tooke in her favor a meere vew'd man, or a Mechanicke.

Viewer (viū·əɹ). Also 5 vywer, vyewer, 5–6 vewer, 6 vewar. [f. View *v.* + -er.]

1. A person appointed to examine or inspect something, either on a special occasion or permanently; in later use *esp.* an inspector or examiner of goods supplied by contract; † *spec.* in *Law*, one appointed by a court to inspect a place, property, etc., and report upon it.

Formerly the designation of certain officials in the town of St. Albans: see A. E. Gibbs *Corpor. Rec. St. Albans* (1890) 11.

1413–6 [see View *sb.* 1]. 1447 *Scriptores Tres* (Surtees) App. p. cccxiii, The said..Alexander [etc.]..sall werkmanlike wirke the said myne..be the sight of certeyn vewers tharto assigned. 1479–82 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 111 Item, payd to the vywers for to ouerse the howse þat dyghton dwellith in. *Ibid.*, Payd for the vywers labour and attendaunce at diuerse tymes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 103 For the capitaine of the horsemen was appointed sir Edward Gyldford, by whom the currers and vewers of the countrey were appointed. 1601 J. Keymor *Dutch Fishing* (1664) 7 She [the herring-buss] imployeth..at Land.. Viewers, Packers, Tellers, Dressers, Couchers to make the Herrings lawfull Merchandises. 1631 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 252 The Judg commands the Sheriffe, That at a day assigned, he cause a view to be taken by such Viewers or Surveyers, as may certifie the Court [etc.]. 1700 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 819 Our Regarders or Viewers shall go through the Forests to make a View or Regard. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 490 Viewer and Examiner of Tobacco [at the Port of London]. 1714 in *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* (1875) 234 One-half of said fence to be accounted as Public Fence, and the whole to be under the viewers for the security of the Great Meadow. 1828 Webster, *Viewer*, ..in New England, a town officer whose duty is to inspect something; as, a viewer of fences, who inspects them to determine whether they are sufficient in law. 1834 in Nicolay & Hay *A. Lincoln* I. 119 *note*, To appoint viewers to view and locate a road from Musick's ferry on Salt Creek. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* VII. 323 The very viewers who first examine the stores, and on the nature of whose report so much depends. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Mar. 4/2 A large number of viewers, male and female, are kept, whose sole duty it is to see that everything is faultless and in good order.

transf. *c* 1540 J. Heywood *Witty & Witless* (Percy Soc.) 1 And that experyens may schowe the trewer, Accept we reson to be owr vewer. 1574 Hellowes tr. *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 225 For if I will bee a Judge of your goodes, for the same you will be a viewer of my life.

b. An overseer, manager, or superintendent of a coal-mine or colliery.

1708 J. C. *Compleat Collier* (1845) 31 And now I must leave you to your Viewer, or Head Under-over Man, who is to take charge of a regular working of the colliery. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 668 Mr. Curry, a viewer, and three others were burnt at Hartley Colliery, near Newcastle upon Tyne, by an explosion of foul air. 1797 Curr *Coal Viewer* 8 The viewers or superintendents of collieries. 1813 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 49 Among the sufferers..[was] one of the Viewers. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 964 Coal viewers or engineers regard the dislocations now described as being subject in one respect to a general law. 1867 W. W. Smythe *Coal & Coal-mining* 175 Many of the most experienced colliery viewers ..hold to the opinion that they substitute one danger for another. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-M.* 273.

2. One who views anything closely or attentively; one who looks at a thing with attention or interest.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Speculator*, .. a beholder: a viewer. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes of Bath* 1. 8 b, The Phisicyon is a viewer and sercher out of Nature. 1579 W. Fulke *Confut. Sanders* 692 You are such a narrowe vewer of such idle pictures. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* xlvii. 13 The astrologers (*marg.* viewers of the heauens), the starre-gazers. 1729 G. Adams tr. *Sophocl., Oedip.-Colon.* 1. iii. II. 87 Be silent, for hither come some ancient Men as Viewers of your Seat. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xv, [The bride's outfit] was exhibited to select companies of female viewers. 1892 *Daily News* 25 May 6/8 There will probably be amongst viewers of the collection more than one..who will covet [etc.].

3. One who sees or looks at anything; a beholder, observer, spectator.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 143 The Prouince where you are..hath..many viewers of a yong Gentleman right nobly disposed. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* 56 Not thy nature but weaknes of vewars sight makes the seeme fayre. 1599 Greene *Alphonsus* IV. ii. 16 A canapie was set..all beset with heads of conquered kings,..which..strooke a terror to the viewers harts. *a* 1625 Fletcher & Massinger *Cust. Country* III. ii, Can it be possible this frame should suffer, And built on slight affections, fright the viewer? 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* III. xxix, Her eyes amaze the Viewers, and inspire To hearts a warm yet chast desire. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xvii. 33 'Tis summer now; all objects gay and new; Smiling alike the viewer and the view. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* VII. v, The features..were ruled by a certain expression which, as the viewer chose, might [etc.]. 1885 Meredith *Diana* xxvi, Teaching gloom to rouse a songful nest in the bosom of the viewer.

View-halloo (viūˌhălūˈ). Also 9 -holloo. *β.* -hollo(w. *γ.* -holla. *δ.* -hallo(a, -halloa, -hilloh, -hullow. [f. View *sb.* + Halloo, Hollo(w, Holla, Hallo(a, and Hillo(a.

The earliest form recorded is *view-hollow* (see *β*), and early examples of *view-halloo* have the stress on the penultimate as in the first quot. The various forms are freq. written or printed as two words without hyphen.]

The shout given by a huntsman on seeing a fox break cover. Also *fig.*

α. 1790 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* II. 298 He scour'd the county in his elbow-chair; And, with view-halloo, rous'd the dreaming hound. 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 3 At the very moment of 'Who! Whoop!' a view halloo was given by a third. 1858 Trollope *Dr. Thorne* I. i. 21 He..had a fine voice for a view halloo. 1859 *Art of Taming Horses*, etc. xii. 208 When a huntsman carries the pack forward..to a view halloo. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xxv, Lavender in the distance heard a long view-halloo.

β. 1762 G. Colman *Jealous Wife* II. iii, What is become of the Lady all this while? .You told me she was not here, and..I was just drawing off another Way, if I had not heard the View-Hollow. 1806 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 4 A dragoon..gave a view hollow. 1833 in R. E. Warburton *Hunt Songs* (1883) ii. 8 Once more a view hollo from old Oulton Lowe! 1846 R. Bell *Canning* vii. 198 Lord Melville..was no sooner condemned, than..Sir Thomas Mostyn is said to have given a view hollo!

γ. 1816 T. L. Peacock *Headlong Hall* viii, Their landing was hailed with a view-holla from the delighted Squire. 1858 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* I. lxv. 230 The dogs that answered to the view-holla that chased them to their end. 1861 *Ibid.* III. clxii. 179 It is therefore 'Hark Forward' again, and the View Holla is not far off.

δ. 1840 J. T. J. Hewlett *P. Priggins* v, Mr. Scrape gave a loud view hilloh! and galloped after me. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* I. ii, The Squire..bellowed out with all the force of lungs accustomed to give a View-hallo! 1886 Stevenson *Dr. Jekyll* 6, I gave a view halloa, took to my heels, collared my gentleman.

Viewiness (viūˈinės). [f. Viewy *a.*] The state or quality of being viewy; tendency to speculative or unpractical views.

23 May 473/1 It exhibits the broad views of the writer, of course, and is written with characteristic tendency to over-generalisation and viewiness. 1880 *Athenæum* 2 Oct. 429/1 Viewiness is bad, no doubt, but it is still worse to be without views.

Viewing (viūˈiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. View *v.*] The action of beholding or observing; examination or inspection.

1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict., Inspectio*, .. a viewynge. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. xv. (1634) 79 The Understanding minde, which with..quiet viewing beholdeth all those things that Reason is wont to discourse upon. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 79 Thee mount Leucates.. Vp peaks to the viewing. 1593 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 453 A gennerall Assembly houlden..for vewinge of the waste plott of grounde. 1613 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1910) 12 Denton had the vewing and marshalling of all his evidences and was trusted to have access unto them at his pleasure. 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 139 Often viewing will make familiar, and free it from distaste. 1672 Penn in *Life* Wks. 1726 I. 45 Such as foolishly think thy Dreams and Impostures worth a viewing. 1785 Burns *To W. Simpson* Postscr. iii, They thought the Moon..Woor by degrees, till her last roon Gaed past their viewin. 1838 J. P. Kennedy *Rob of Bowl* xiv, People are quick to censure, especially such as look to the tobacco viewing.

attrib. 1572 Diggs *Pantom.* I. xxi. G j, If it be lower at the glasse than at the viewing station. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 138 The viewing differ from the taking screens.

Viewless (viūˈlės), *a.* [f. View *sb.* or *v.*]

1. That cannot be perceived by the eye; incapable of being seen; invisible. (Cf. Sightless *a.* 2.)

Originally and chiefly *poet.*; in the 19th cent. not unusual in prose, but frequently as a direct echo of quot. 1603.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 124 To be imprison'd in the viewlesse windes. 1634 Milton *Comus* 92 But I hear the tread Of hatefull steps, I must be viewles now. 1652 Davenant *Gondibert* I. ii. 56 That viewless thing call'd Life. 1718 Pope *Odyss.* VI. 93 Light as the viewless air, the warrior maid Glides through the valves. 1760 Sir W. Jones *Arcadia* (1777) 105 This pipe, on which the god of shepherds play'd When love inflam'd him, and the viewless maid, Receive. 1794 Mrs. Piozzi *Synon.* II. 328 Whence is heard the heavy roar of waters dashing through a bottom almost viewless. *c* 1810 Wordsw. *Poems Nat. Indep. & Liberty* II. xxx, Gone are they, viewless as the buried dead. 1821 Scott *Pirate* vi, The air of majesty with which..she addressed the viewless spirit of the tempest. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xxiii, The speed of the current in her veins was just then as swift as it was viewless. 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 389 We shall find ourselves more and more, as by irresistible viewless hands, caught and drawn towards the Christian revelation.

absol. 1831 Campbell *View from St. Leonards* 88 The imaginative power That links the viewless with the visible.

2. Devoid of a view or prospect.

1840 R. Brenner *Excurs. Denmark*, etc. II. 330 Long and viewless, but with lofty, handsome houses on each side.

3. Having no views or opinions.

1885 Agnes Clerke *Pop. Hist. Astron.* 72 The turbid sense of groping and viewless ignorance. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May 1/3 The passion-less, conscience-less, viewless creature of the *Chronicle's* fancy portrait.

Hence **View·lessly** *adv.*, invisibly.

1828 Mrs. Hemans *Spanish Chapel* vi, For something viewlessly around Of solemn influence dwelt. 1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 21 They rose higher and viewlessly in distance on either side. 1890 *Lippincott's Mag.* May 668 Viewlessly your whole being has become slowly interorbed with hers.

Viewly (viūˈli), *a.* Now only *dial.* [f. View *sb.* + -ly 1.] Of good or attractive appearance.

c 1536 *Mem. Dk. Richmond* in *Camden Misc.* III. p. lxxiii, To knowe whether the kinges highnes will take a sertyne of my lordes servauntes such he as be veiwly men, and men of good honesty. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 137 A captain's wife most vewlie. 1825 Brockett *N.C. Gloss., Viewly*, pleasant to the sight, striking to the eye, handsome. 1828– in northern dial. glossaries. 1907 M. C. F. Morris *Nunburnholme* 233 The more 'viewly' appearance of the country-side.

View-point. Also viewpoint. [f. View *sb.*] A point of view: **a.** A mental position or attitude from which subjects or questions are considered.

1856 W. L. Lindsay *Pop. Hist. Brit. Lichens* 13 To paint Nature from a higher and holier view-point. 1887 Fox Bourne *Eng. Newspapers* I. vi. 156 Wilkes's private life was at no stage blameless from a modern viewpoint. 1892 M. W. Stryker *Dies Iræ* 13 Writing from the Roman Catholic viewpoint.

b. In literal sense.

1858 W. Arnot *Laws fr. Heaven* Ser. II. xxv. 200 Change the view-point, and the scene will change. 1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 75 Mochrum Loch is of striking beauty from this view-point. 1880 Miss Bird *Japan* I. 127 A zigzag path on the face of the precipice tends to a view-point 200 feet below.

Viewy (viūˈi), *a.* [f. View *sb.*]

1. Of persons: Given to adopting speculative views on particular subjects; inclined to be unpractical or visionary.

1848 J. H. Newman *Loss & Gain* I. iii. 20 Sheffield..was ..fonder of hunting for views, and more in danger of taking up false ones. That is, he was 'viewy', in a bad sense. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* I. 805/2 He there tempts viewy and inexperienced witnesses into a frank confession of their weaknesses. 1885 *Spectator* 3 Oct 1281/2 Lord Shaftesbury.. was no viewy or screaming philanthropist;..he was a man of hard sense.

b. Similarly of writings, theories, etc.

1883 Black *Shandon Bells* ix, I doubt whether the public care much about viewy books. 1885 Pater *Marius the Epicurean* II. 145 Some fine speech you were pondering, some knotty question or viewy doctrine. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 642/1 [Her] explanation of the French elections is viewy perhaps, but there is a thought in it which deserves attention.

2. *slang.* Attractive in appearance; showy.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 178/2 Then there's a sort of meal, now and then, off the odds and ends of the ham, such as isn't quite viewy enough for the public. 1851–61 *Ibid.* III. 230/2 The slaughterers cared only to have them [*sc.* chests of drawers] viewy and cheap.

Vif, southern ME. var. Five; obs. Sc. f. Wife.

Vifda, var. Vivda *Sc.* **Vifelie**, var. Vively *adv. Obs.* **Vifte, -tene, -tepe**, southern ME. varr. Five, Fifteen(th.

Vig, southern dial. var Fig *sb* and *v.*[1]

† **Vige**, *v. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vigēre* to be lively, to flourish.] *trans.* To invigorate.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 209 Rollo betooke himselfe to reste and sleape (as it is a thinge which moste of all vigethe the weried persons).

Vige·nary, *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *vigēnī*, var. of *vīcēnī*: see Vicenary *a.*] Of or relating to the number twenty.

1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 93 A method of designating the successive numbers..by means of names framed according to the decimal, quinary, or vigenary scale.

Viger(ous, obs. ff. Vigour, Vigorous

Vigesimal (vəi-, vidge·siməl), *a.* [f. L. *vigēsimus*, var. of *vīcēsim-us*: see Vicesimal *a.*] Of or pertaining to twenty; based on the number twenty.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Vigesimal*, pertaining to the twentieth in number. 1727 Bailey (vol. II). 1827 F. A. Walter tr. *Niebuhr's Rom. Hist.* I. 215 The ancient Azteks..calculated a great year of one hundred and four solar years. This they divided according to the Quinal and Vigesimal scale. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* I. v. 182 When we speak of three score and ten, we are counting by the vigesimal system. 1881 Tylor *Anthropol.* xiii. (1904) 312 The vigesimal counting (by twenties) which is the regular mode in many languages.

† **Vigesima·tion**. *Obs.*—0 [ad. L. *vīg-, vīcēsimātio*: cf. prec. and Decimation.] (See quot.)

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vigesimation*, a putting to Death every twentieth Man.

Vige·simo-quarto. = Twentyfourmo.

1864 Webster. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc.* 15a.

Vigeur, obs. form of Vigour *sb.*

Vight, obs. Sc. form of Wight.

‖ **Vigia** (viˈdʒiă). [Sp. or Pg. *vigía* a look-out, etc. :—L. *vigilia* (see next). Hence also F. *vigie*.] A warning on a sea chart to denote some hidden danger.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Vigia*, a hydrographical warning on a chart to denote that the pinnacle of a rock, or a shoal, may exist thereabout. 1873 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 147 *Vigias.*—Numerous imaginary dangers are traditionally inserted in all Ocean Charts. 1899 M. Roberts in *Brit. Soldiers* (1900) 228 'There's a vigia marked on the chart for hereabouts,' said Captain Spiller.

†Vigi·dity. *Obs.*—[1] [Irreg. f. L. *vig-ēre* to flourish.] Vegetation, growth.

1658 T. Spencer *Logick* 46 Wee haue an example of this, in the rationalitie of man, and vigiditie of plants.

Vigil (vi·dʒil), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3 uigile, 4–6 vigile, 5–6 vygyle; 4–7 vigille (5 vygylle), vigill (6 vygill), 5 vigell, vygell, wygell, 6 *Sc.* wigel, 5–6 vygyl, 6 vigyl, 6– vigil. [a. AF. and OF. (also mod.F.) *vigile*, = Sp. and It. *vigilia* :—L. *vigilia* watch, watchfulness, wakefulness, f. *vigil* awake, alert. Cf. Vigily.]

1. *Eccl.* The eve of (i.e. preceding) a festival or holy day, as an occasion of devotional watching or religious observance.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Ze schulen eten..euericne deie twie, bute uridawes and umbridawes and ȝoing dawes, and uigiles. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 232 Eche halyday to huyre hollyche þe seruice, Vigiles and fastyngdayes forthermore to knowe. 1417 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 28 þe date of þis my testament..on Setrysday in þe vygyle of þe Holy Trynyte. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 91 Whiche takynge hym in the vigille of Ester, ȝafe choyce to hym [etc.]. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xiii. i. 612 The vygyl of Pentecost whan alle the felaushlp of the round table were comen vnto Camelot. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxiii. 108 b/1 And ye next mornyng, ye whiche was in the vigill of saynt Symonde [illegible] lendes of Aprell: which was that yeare the vigile of the Resurrection of owre Lorde. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iv. iii. 45 He that shall see this day, and liue old age, Will yeerely on the Vigil feast his neighbours, And say, to morrow is Saint Crispian. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* iii. xiv. 43 The dayes from henceforward to the death of Jesus we must reckon to be like the Vigils or Eves of his Passion. 1704 Nelson *Fest. & Fasts* ix. (1739) 566 If any of these Feasts fall upon a Monday, then the Vigil or Fast-Day shall be kept upon the Saturday. 1808 Scott *Marmion* i. xxi, Since, on the vigil of St. Bede, In evil hour, he cross'd the Tweed. 1834 K. H. Digby *Mores Cath.* v. viii. 233 By the rules of fraternities of workmen, playing cards on the vigil of Christmas subjected offenders to be banished from the society. 1884 Addis & Arnold *Cath. Dict.* 843 He even contends that the law of fasting binds on the vigil of the Epiphany.

transf. and *fig.* *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Fiiv, The calme seson moste sure, is the vigile of the more vnfortune. 1637 T. Jackson *Wks.* (1844) VI. 188 The —' time itself..being the vigils of that great anniversary, November 5. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. (1902) 42 This manifesto..is dated..on the vigil of the festive day of cordial unanimity so happily celebrated by all parties in the British Parliament.

b. A devotional watching, *esp.* the watch kept on the eve of a festival or holy day; a nocturnal service or devotional exercise. Chiefly in pl.

14.. *Chaucer's Prol.* 377 (Lansd.), It is ful faire to be cleped *ma dame* And gone to vigiles al to-fore. *c* 1484 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 24 When thy conciansse wold the have mad chastessed, With wygellus, fastynge or with allmysdede. 1504 C'tess Richmond tr. *De Imitatione* iv. vii. (1893) 269 Wepe and haue sorowe that thou art yet..so slepy to holy vygylya. 1552 Huloet s.v., Vigill, or sayncties euen beynge fasted, *pernigilium*. 1592 G. Fletcher *Russe Commonw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 138 They have also three vigils or wakes in their great Lent..and the last Friday, their great vigil, as they cal it. 1603 Drayton *Odes* ii. 13 Thy ancient Vigils yeerely, I have observed cleerely. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* iii. xvi. 54 There are some things..voluntary, such as are .. prostration, long prayers, vigils. *a* 1681 Wharton *Fasts & Fest.* Wks. (1683) 31 At length the Vigils themselves were inhibited; and these Fasts..instituted in their stead. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvii. (1787) III. 34 As the patience of the multitude might have been exhausted by the length and uniformity of nocturnal vigils. 1836 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* III. xxi. (ed. 2) 338 These holy days.. were commonly ushered in by a Vigil or religious watching. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Ranke's Hist.* P 22 Thence he wandered back to the farthest West, and astonished..the schools of France by his penances and vigils. 1896 Swete *Ch. Services* 29 The solemnity of the Easter vigil was deepened by a tradition that the Second Coming of the Lord would surprise the world on some Easter Eve.

transf. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 110 Ek to thee, Diane, I preie,..With al myn herte I wolde serve Be nyhte, and thi vigile observe.

c. In the phr. *to keep* (*a*) *vigil* or *vigils*. Also *transf.* (Cf. 4 b.)

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* ii. xii. 296 The night before the Sonday, they vse to keepe vigiles, and to watche all the night in their churches. 1583 Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. Test.* 1 John v. 7 Let them keepe vigils, and fast. 1611 Bible *Luke* ii. 37 She departed not from the Temple, but serued God with fastings and prayers, night and day. 1641 Milton *Reform.* i. Wks. 1851 III. 20 Let them keep vigil and fast. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 53 P 4 You are so little vigilant, as to let the Dogs run from their Kennels to this Place. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 109 The vigilant citizens improved the opportunity of the night. 1821 Byron *Mar. Fal.* iii. ii, Disperse then to your posts: be firm and vigilant. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 274 A vigilant observer of all those minute circumstances which throw light on the dispositions of men. 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, ii. iii. I. 171 He evaded the vigilance of the custom-house officers and the more vigilant spies of the Inquisition.

absol. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex.* 691/1 Laws come to the assistance of the vigilant, not to the sleepy.

†b. Const. *of*. *Obs. rare.*

1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 166 Blacius is so vigilant of his Daughter, that your Rival can derive no advantage by his freedom. 1739 Swift *Let. to Ld. Arran* Wks. 1841 II. 819/2 Your lordship's present agent being extremely vigilant of all your lordship's interests, has lately renewed the claim of the Ormond family to those tithes.

c. *Her.* Of animals: (see quots.).

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Vigilant.* This term is applicable to the cat, when borne in a position as if upon the watch for prey. 1829 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* (ed. 2) 57 The Lion..may be Vigilant or Vorant—watching for his prey, or devouring it.

2. A place from which watch was kept. *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 284 The romanis..be wirkull eruptiouns fra þare stationis and vigilis (*v.r.* wigelis), effrayit þe equis.

†c. *Bot.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8716/1 *Vigils of Plants*, .. the precise time of the day in which the flowers of different plants open, expand, and shut. 1820 R. Hall *Elem. Bot.* 196.

4. An occasion or period of keeping awake for some special reason or purpose; a watch kept during the natural time for sleep.

1711 Pope *Temp. Fame* 301 With studies pale, with midnight vigils blind. 1713 Addison *Guardian* No. 120 P 7 There is nothing that wears out a fine Face like the Vigils of the Card-Table. 1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 260 Soft airs, nocturnal vigils, and day dreams .. Conspire against thy peace. 1817 Byron *Manfred* iii. iii. 2 He hath pursued long vigils in this tower. 1818 — *Mazeppa* x, The patient search and vigil long Of him who treasures up a wrong. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 139 His delicate frame worn out by the labours and vigils of many months. 1879 Beerbohm *Patagonia* 23, I confess I should have liked some companion to enliven my weary vigil.

transf. 1817 Byron *Manfred* i. i. 6 In my heart There is a vigil, and these eyes but close To look within. 1843 J. Martineau *Chr. Life* (1867) 166 The vigils of eternal Providence.

b. In the phr. *to keep a vigil* or *vigils*. (Cf. 1 c.)

c 1695 Ken *Hymn*, '*All praise to Thee*' x, O may my Guardian, while I sleep, Close to my bed his vigils keep. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* i. 93 While pensive Poets painful vigils keep, Sleepless themselves, to give their readers sleep. 1748 Gray *Alliance* 42 There industry and gain their vigils keep. 1843 Hirst *Com. Mammoth*, etc. 98 Lies some quaintly sculptured God, O'er the scene no vigil keeping. 1890 S. Dobell *Roman* i. Poet. Wks. 1875 I. 4, I steal forth to keep my twilight vigil. 1856 Harriett Parr '*Hear my prayer, O heavenly Father*' i, Bid Thy angels..Round my bed their vigil keep.

c. Without article: Watching, watch.

1816 Byron *Siege of Corinth* xiii, While he alone, where thousands pass'd A night of sleep, .In sickly vigil wander'd on. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxiv. (1856) 195 Many miles to the south, Captain Back passed a memorable term of vigil and exposure. 1856 Merivale *Hist. Rom. Emp.* xli. (1871) V. 96 The abiding sense of moral obligation, which should hold sleepless vigil round the desk of the historian. 1892 C. Taylor *Hermas & Gospels* 35 Hermas and the twelve virgins keep vigil by the tower.

5. A wakefulness, or period of this, due to inability to sleep. Somewhat *rare*.

1747 Berkeley *Tar-water in Plague* Wks. 1871 III. 481 In the plague are observed..drowsiness, anxiety, vigils, sinking of spirits. 1820 Coleridge *Dejection* viii, 'Tis midnight, but small thoughts have I of sleep: Full seldom may my friend such vigils keep! 1822 Shelley *Fragm. Unfinished Drama* 74 On a wintry bough the widowed bird.. Renewed the vigils of a sleepless sorrow.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vigil-keeping*, *-rage*, *service*, *-wasted* adj.

1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* vii. xv, To wakeful frenzy's vigil-rages, As opiates, were the same[pages] applied. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc.* (ed. 3) 240 But who is this that comes with mantle rude And vigil-wasted air? 1896 Swete *Ch. Services* 29 Every Saturday night was marked by a vigil service. 1897 R. Kearton *Nature & Camera* 330 The terrible loneliness of his vigil-keeping.

†Vi·gil, *sb.*[2] *Obs.*—[1] [a. L. *vigil*: see prec.] A watchman, custodian.

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Panegyric to Sir L. Pemberton* 13 For no black-bearded Vigil from thy doore Beats with a button'd-staffe the poore.

†Vi·gil, *a. Obs.*—[1] [a. L. *vigil*.] Vigilant.

1576 *Common Conditions* Prol. 3 What openly by Actours deeds in place shall straight appeare Beefore your vigill wakefull eyes.

Vigil (vi·dʒil), *v. rare.* [f. Vigil *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To keep a vigil or vigils.

1898 T. Hardy *Wessex Poems* 110 So I've claim to ask By what right you task My patience by vigilling here?

Vigilance (vi·dʒilăns). Also 7 -ence. [a. F. *vigilance* (= Sp. and Pg. *vigilancia*, It. *vigilanza*), or ad. L. *vigilantia*: see next and -ance.]

1. The quality or character of being vigilant; watchfulness against danger or any action on the part of others; alertness or closeness of observation.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 22 Vigilance, *vigilantia*. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 14 In regard of which enormities, it behooved parents to represse and bridle their vilde and untamed affections with great care and vigilance. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* iii. iii. 15 For now they are oppress'd with trauaile, they Will not, nor cannot vse such vigilance As when they are fresh. 1636 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 161 Y^e discouery and preuention of his designes is attributed to ye vigilance of Monke. 1723 Steele *Guardian* No. 28 P 3 A Soldier's [profession]..should put him upon this religious Vigilance. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 233 Thus we kept up our hopes, and did not abate of our vigilance. 1782 Jefferson *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 284 His vigilance has.. supplied the want of force in preventing the enemy from crossing the river. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* I. 45 The King is to provide for his safety by vigilance, and a state of preparation. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* iii. 40 Does not this one fact show what constant vigilance it requires to preserve the public health in a large city.

†b. A guard or watch. *Obs.*—[1]

1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 580 In at this Gate none pass The vigilance here plac't.

2. The state of being awake; *spec.* in *Path.*, abnormal wakefulness, inability to sleep, insomnia.

1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* i. i. § 3. 92 That moderate Degree of Contraction .. which is observable in all the Muscles..during Vigilance. 1777 Priestley *Matt. & Spir.* I. iv. 36 That imperfect manner [of thinking] which we call dreaming, and which is nothing more than an approach to a state of vigilance. 1828 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Pervigilium*,..disinclination to sleep; watching; vigilance. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 25 The probability of its occurrence is still further increased if, in addition to a continuously high temperature, unusual restlessness or vigilance be present.

3. *attrib.*, as **vigilance committee** (*U.S.*), a self-appointed committee for the maintenance of justice and order in an imperfectly organized community; hence, *vigilance man, work*.

1858 *New York Tribune* 30 Sept. (Bartlett), As gross a violation of justice as vigilance committee or lynching mob was ever guilty of. 1871 Morley *Crit. Misc.* I. 257 Whether the resource of the strongest be the thunders of Sinai or the rope of the Vigilance Committee. 1888 W. A. Coote in *Life J. B. Paton* (1914) xii. 211 The ordinary phases of vigilance work had failed to arouse their enthusiasm. 1890 Gunter *Miss Dividends* (1893) 84 They..had organized a Vigilance Committee before they built the town of Hamilton. *Ibid.* 85 The best citizens of these places were Vigilance men.

†Vi·gilancy. *Obs.* Also 6 vigilancye, 6–7 -ancie, 7 vigillancy; 7–8 vigilency. [ad. L. *vigilantia*, f. *vigilant-*, *vigilans*: see next and -ancy.]

1. = Vigilance 1. (Very common *c* 1550–1700.)

1537 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 97 For your vigilancy..touching the investigacion of th'occurrantes there. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 3 If we..should by our vigilancie, fynde out suche misteries. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. 380 Wee must labour ..to quench such inclinations, as much as wee can, through sobrietie, vigilancie, and continuall practise to the contrary. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* vi. 237 Our vigilencies..preuented the aduantage they expected. 1630 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I*, 29 Endearing himself to the King by shewing his diligence and vigilancy for his safety. 1686 F. Spence tr. *Varilla's Ho. Medicis* 65 While he was..labouring at this with that indefatigable vigilancy that made him subdue so many places. 1707 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 367 The Consideration of the Vigilancy of his Enemies. 1767 Eliz. Carter *Lett.* (1808) 132 My material constitution cannot possibly subsist in a state of perpetual vigilancy.

2. = Vigilance 2. *rare*—[1].

1697 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 620 This Antidote..takes away too much vigilancy, and restrains fury.

Vigilant (vi·dʒilănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 -aunt, 7 -ent. [a. F. *vigilant* (= Sp., Pg., It. *vigilante*), or ad. L. *vigilant-*, *vigilans*, pres. pple. of *vigilāre* to keep awake, f. *vigil* awake.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Wakeful and watchful; keeping steadily on the alert; attentively or closely observant.

c 1480 Henryson *Fables, Paddock & Mouse* xxiv, Be vigilant, thairfoir, and ay reddie, For mannis lyfe is brukill, and ay mortall. 1538 Tonstall *Serm. Palm Sund.* (1823) 97 Saint Paule sayth..Gyue you to prayer, beinge vigilant in it. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 120 Would to God you were as diligent in auancing his glory, as they are vigilante and circumspect in handlyng of their matters. 1611 Bible 1 *Pet.* v. 8 Be sober, be vigilant. 1640 Quarles *Enchirid.* iv. xcix, Be very vigilent over thy Childe in the April of his understanding. 1660 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 561, I am forced to be vigilant least I should be by him ensnared. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 63 P 4 You are so little vigilant, as to let the Dogs run from their Kennels to this Place. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 109 The vigilant citizens improved the opportunity of the night. 1821 Byron *Mar. Fal.* iii. ii, Disperse then to your posts: be firm and vigilant. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 274 A vigilant observer of all those minute circumstances which throw light on the dispositions of men. 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, ii. iii. I. 171 He evaded the vigilance of the custom-house officers and the more vigilant spies of the Inquisition.

absol. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex.* 691/1 Laws come to the assistance of the vigilant, not to the sleepy.

†b. Const. *of*. *Obs. rare.*

1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 166 Blacius is so vigilant of his Daughter, that your Rival can derive no advantage by his freedom. 1739 Swift *Let. to Ld. Arran* Wks. 1841 II. 819/2 Your lordship's present agent being extremely vigilant of all your lordship's interests, has lately renewed the claim of the Ormond family to those tithes.

c. *Her.* Of animals: (see quots.).

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Vigilant.* This term is applicable to the cat, when borne in a position as if upon the watch for prey. 1829 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* (ed. 2) 57 The Lion..may be Vigilant or Vorant—watching for his prey, or devouring it.

d. *Vigilant men*, members of a Vigilance Committee (see VIGILANCE 3). *U.S.*

1864 *Missouri Intelligencer* 28 Feb. (Thornton), We hate what are called vigilant men; they are a set of suspicious, mean spirited mortals, that dislike fun.

2. Of attention, etc.: Characterized by vigilance.

1532 ELYOT *Gouernour* I. xiii. (1880) I. 131 To the augmentation of understandyng..is required to be moche redyng and vigilaunt studie in euery science. 1590–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 145 He tooke order with one Clere.. that he shoulde haue a vigilant eie to his arriuall. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxxiii. § 1 That vigilant and erect attention of mind, which in prayer is verie necessarie. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Life Walker the Ironmonger* A ij b, In which businesse there was used such vigilant care, that they were both taken that very day. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 12 P 2 A long week, I lived with my cousin, before the most vigilant inquiry could procure us the least hopes of a place. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 340 She has lost Much of her vigilant instinctive dread, Not needful here. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 64 They kept a vigilant eye..upon every height where a scout might be posted. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 400 It was impossible for him to exercise a vigilant personal supervision over the officers of the police.

†**3.** Wakeful; sleepless. *Obs. rare.*

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 231 It is a drinke very profitable..for students, for them that are too vigilant. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 439 Least the vehemency of chirking frogs vexe the wish'd-for Repose,..and cast him in a vigilant perplexity.

B. *sb.* **1.** A guardian or keeper. *rare.*

——) *Repository* No. 80. 110 Persian women of rank.. hardly move but on horseback, and escorted always by trains of eunuchs and other trusty vigilants.

2. One who is wakeful or watchful.

1880 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 267 Nina no doubt shrank within her shadowy bower .. from the hazy vision of these vigilants.

Hence † **Vi·gilantness**, vigilance. *Obs. rare.*

a 1598 ROLLOCK *Passion* xi. (1616) 97 Pilate had a great vigilantnesse in his conscience. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vigilantness*, Watchfulness.

Vigilante (vidgilæ·nte). [a. Sp. *vigilante* VIGILANT *a.*]

1. *U.S.* A member of a Vigilance Committee.

1865 A. D. RICHARDSON *Beyond Mississippi* (1867) 487 The power [in Montana] is vested in the 'Vigilantes', a secret tribunal of citizens, organized before civil laws were framed. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* XXIX. 194/2 An old-time Virginia City vigilante. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Sept. 7/1 Forty well-armed vigilantes surrounded the camp and sent in a committee..to demand the surrender of the thieves.

2. A night-watchman.

1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 78 We..found a big jug of water, which Zeke carefully poured upon the head of the muttering vigilante.

Vigilantly (vi·dʒilăntli), *adv.* [f. VIGILANT *a.* + -LY 2.] In a vigilant manner; watchfully, alertly.

1532 ELYOT *Gov.* II. xiv. (1880) II. 185 To the intent to persuade the readers to enserche therfore vigilauntly. 1587 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 445 To serve him truly, humbly, diligently, vigilantly and faithfully. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 361 Then more vigilantly, more accurately, and more circumspectly, he denies it vtterly. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 113/1 The Corrector in his first reading of the Printed Coppy ought to be very carefull and vigilantly examine the proofe. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 21 How vigilantly you guard against imposture. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lxiv. VI. 311 These passes had been vigilantly guarded. 1838 J. B. WILLIAMS *Life Hale* Pref. p. lx, Such a misuse..is to be vigilantly avoided. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 217 There is a group of them..which show how vigilantly..he had watched the..intriguers of Elizabeth's and James's Courts.

†**Vi·gilate**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vigilāt-*, ppl. stem of *vigilāre* to remain awake.] *intr.* To be wakeful or sleepless. Hence † **Vi·gilating** *ppl. a.*

1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 517 The flowers are in their expanded or vigilating state from five or six in the morning till about ten. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 184 If the same quantity be given to a person..who is heated with exercise, instead of producing sleep it will cause him to vigilate.

†**Vigila·tion.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 vigill-. [ad. L. *vigilātio* (rare), noun of action f. *vigilāre*: see prec.] Wakefulness; watching.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 28/1 The patient might be debilitated [by] great abstinence, continualle vigilatione. 1623 COCKERAM II, A Watching, *vigilation.* 1635 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* x. 22 He believed that his elaborate Vigillations were not well recompenced.

‖ **Vigi·lia.** *Obs.*—[1] [L. *vigilia*: see VIGIL *sb.*[1]] = VIGIL *sb.*[1] 5.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Poison*, A good Anodyne, useful in Vigilia's, Rheumatisms, Hysteric Cases, &c.

Vigilous (vi·dʒiləs), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *vigil* wakeful, watchful + -OUS.] Of or pertaining to watching.

1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 1, I believe *vela* means both, acquiring its metaphorical sense from the vigilous uses of a rushlight.

†**Vigily.** *Obs.* Also 5 vigilie, vigylye. [ad. L. *vigilia*: see VIGIL *sb.*[1]]

1. = VIGIL *sb.*[1] 1.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 416 Vigilies and fastyng dayes, Alle pise late I passe. 1388 WYCLIF *John* xix. 42 Therfor there thei putten Jhesu, for the vigilie of Iewis feeste. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 6 In the vigylye of the natyvyte. *c* 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden) 90 The king sailled forth in to Normandie..and landid at Kiecaux; in the vigily of Assumpcion of our Lady. 1588 in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 210 Obserue the fastes commandit..in the eainces or vigilies of certane solemne daies.

2. = VIGIL *sb.*[1] 5.

1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 3 Continual vigilies, or a perpetual restlessnes, with anguishing jactitations, or throwing ones self from one part of the bed to the other. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 93 A confused..expansion of the Optick Nerve, attended with..continual Vigilies.

Vigінti- (vəidʒi·ntai) [a. L. *vigintī* twenty], a first element employed in a few combs. in the sense 'having or consisting of twenty (things)', as **Vigintia·ngular** *a.* [L. *vigintī-angulus*], having twenty angles. Also † **Vigintiquintuple** *Math.*, the result of multiplying by twenty-five.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 349 If any Root be multiplied by..5 the Product shall be the Root of the..Vigintiquintuple ..of the Squares of the Multipliers. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 329 He calls..the other [body] vigintiangular.

† **Vigintile**, *a. Astr. Obs.* [ad. med. or mod.L. *vigintilis*, f. L. *vigintī* twenty: see -ILE.] *Vigintile aspect*, the aspect of two planets when distant from each other a twentieth of a circle or 18°. Also *absol.*

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 10 Aspects..Vigintil [etc.]. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xi. 39 Sometimes the Quintile makes a shew, and if That have ought in it, the Biquintile will look for some Respect; and if so, then the Vigintile, and Quindecile, and Decile, &c. will also look to be courted. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 99 To these [aspects of Ptolemy] Kepler added eleven more, viz. the Vigintile,..the quindecile,..the semisextile [etc.].

† **Vigintivirate.** *Rom. Hist. Obs.* [ad. L. *vigintī-virāt-us*, f. *vigintī-virī* a board of twenty men.] The office or position of the *vigintiviri*, a body of twenty men charged with certain administrative functions; this body itself.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* III. vi. 72 He [Tiberius] recomended Nero, one of Germanicus children,..to the Lords of the Senat: and requested that he might be dispensed with for the office of Vigintiuirat. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vigintiwirate*, the Office of the *Vigintiviri*, or of twenty men in like authority. 1793 MURPHY *Tacitus, Ann.* III. xxix. 196 That the young prince might be excused from serving the office of the vigintivirate.

Vigner, variant of VINER, vineyard. *Obs.*

‖ **Vigneron** (vi·nyrɔn). Also 5 vigneroun, 7 vineron. [F. *vigneron*, f. *vigne* VINE *sb.*] One who cultivates grape-vines; a wine grower.

a. 1456 Sir G. HAY *Bk. Knighthood* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 60 The vignerounis labouraris had wroucht all the day, fra the morne early till nycht. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. xii, Lyke a vigneron beryng a sarpe or croked knyf to cut vygnes. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 15 Let Readers also surely think and trow, They see the painfull *Vigneron* pull the grapes. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxii. 296 They are become with time and practise more expert vignerons. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 273 Because it is a plant which is to be governed like the other vines I refer it to my vignerons. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 117 [He] prunes The End of's Life, as Vignerons Cut short the Branches of a Vine. 1732 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, But as to this, you need not consult either the Merchants or the *Vignerons*. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 294, I .. can procure for you the best crops from the vigneron himself. 1802 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* II. 123 Assistiog the vignerons in their now commencing labours of the vintage. 1834 MISS BERRY *Jrnl.* (1865) III. 424 To make some new wine, to give the vignerons when getting in the general crop. 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 769/2 The *vignerons* of South Australia..succeeded in producing a vinous liquid that [etc.].

β. 1683 PENN *Wks.* (1782) IV. 317, I would advise you to send for some thousands of plants out of France, with some able vinerons, and people of the other vocation. 1698 G. THOMAS *Pensilvania* 16 [These lands] have produc'd Choice Wine, being daily cultivated by skilful Vinerons.

Vignette (vinye·t, vine·t), *sb.* [a. F. *vignette*: see VINET.]

1. An ornamental or decorative design on a blank space in a book or among printed matter, esp. at the beginning or end of a chapter or other division, usually one of small size or occupying a small proportion of the space; *spec.* any embellishment, illustration, or picture uninclosed in a border, or having the edges shading off into the surrounding paper; a head-piece or tail-piece. Cf. VINET 2.

1751 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 13 June, He is drawing vignettes for his [Gray's] Odes. 1802 DIBDIN *Introd. Classics* 33 *note*, The engravings have a spirit and brilliance equal to the best finished French vignettes. 1820 T. HODGSON *Ess. Stereotype Printing* 132 In the American bank notes, the vignette, words, and writing, usual in such notes, are surrounded by a curiously engraved border. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* iii, An excellent guide-book and descriptive cards, surmounted by vignettes, were printed. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXX. 5 Charming vignettes, and head and tail pieces for bookwork.

b. An ornamental design, drawing, or picture in a manuscript or written document.

1830 B'NEES BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) I. ix. 347 How many vignettes did I make in my idea for my intended letter to my mother! 1860 ADLER *Prov. Pest.* xvi. 352 On the vignettes of the old manuscripts he is represented in the costume of a traveller. 1875 H. JAMES *Transatlantic Sk.* 213 Assisi, in the January twilight, looked like a vignette out of some brown old missal.

2. A photographic portrait, showing only the head or the head and shoulders, with the edges of the print shading off into the background.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3182, Untouched and coloured photographic portraits, vignettes, carte de visite. 1865 *Eng. Mech.* 17 Dec. 328/2 Our present style of vignettes, and the former style of carte-de-visite, are..very pretty. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 296 He found a coloured vignette of her that pleased him.

†**3.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—[1]

1790 BRUCE *Trav.* I. Introd. p. ix, Vignettes, or little ornamental shrubs, which generally hang from and adorn the projections and edges of the several members [of ruined architecture], are finely expressed.

4. *attrib.* in various senses, as *vignette head, moulding, view*, etc.

1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Vignette moulding*, a moulding ornamented or enriched with vine leaves, grapes, or tendrils. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 129 The prettiest effects were produced by the vignette views, seen through the depressions. 1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xviii. P 12, I can get a pretty little long vignette view of the roof of the Pantheon..through a chink between the veneering and the freestone. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 502 Placing eight 8-lengths, eight vignette heads and so on together.

Vignette (vinye·t, vine·t), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To make a vignette of; *spec.* in *Photogr.*, to produce (a picture or portrait) in the style of a vignette by softening away or shading off the edges, leaving only the central portion.

1852 DE MORGAN in Graves *Life Hamilton* (1889) III. 478, I shall remember to have an Hippopotamus neatly vignetted for the title-page. 1876 ABNEY *Photogr.* 246 For outdoor portraiture an angle of a wall facing the north with a background formed by a blanket is suitable for producing pictures that can be vignetted. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 401/2 A very good enlargement is made by vignetting the picture with the opal.

transf. and *fig.* 1882 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 5 May 307/2 Forgetting that its chief function is to finish off and vignette isolated sketches of manner, character, and thought with more precision..than is possible or suitable in prose. 1895 *Athenæum* 5 Oct. 451/1 How happily is autumn vignetted here and there!

b. To take *in* or introduce as a vignette.

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 54 Keep moving the mask so as to vignette in the clouds.

Hence **Vigne·tted** *ppl. a.*

1867 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* March 169 An album of 'vignetted' heads of all my bird friends. 1886 *Athenæum* 18 Dec. 831/3 *The Wrath of the Fay*, ..with vignetted designs in outline.

Vigne·tter. [f. VIGNETTE *sb.* + -ER[1].] A device for producing photographic vignettes, usually consisting of a mask or screen with a central hole or of graduated opacity from the centre outwards.

1873 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2710/1 *Vignetter*.., the photographer's instrument for giving a vignette appearance to a portrait or print, the edges fading away insensibly into the background. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 23 A head rest, vignetter and other accessories.

Vigne·tting, *vbl. sb.* [f. VIGNETTE *v.*] The action or process of producing vignettes, esp. in photography.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 7 May 11/2 The vignetting is, without doubt, the most difficult form of printing. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 227 Generally, unless vignetting is desired, the background may be made of hangings of some rough material, absorbent of light.

b. *attrib.*, as *vignetting glass, mask, table*, etc.

1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 261 For quarter-plates and half-plates, the vignetting mask should be about three-quarters of an inch from the negative. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. clxxix, Vignetting Glasses. *Ibid.* 486 Revolving Vignetting Table.

Vignettist (vinye·tist, vine·tist). [f. VIGNETTE *sb.* + -IST.] An artist or engraver who produces vignettes.

1884 F. WEDMORE in *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 67 Voltaire wrote to congratulate Eisen, the vignettist. 1892 *Athenæum* 7 May 597/1 This library is rich in the work of the vignettists.

Vignite (vi·nyait, vi·gnəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *vignit* (see def.): named by Karsten (1828).] A variety of magnetic iron ore found near Vignes in the department of the Moselle, France.

1846 WORCESTER (citing Dana). 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 999; and in recent Dicts.

† **Vi·gnoble.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 vygnoble. [a. F. *vignoble*:—pop. L. **vineobulum*, f. L. *vīnea* vine-plantation, vineyard.] A vineyard.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XI. ii, He [Bacchus]..lefte this contre and translated hym unto vygnobles of Thymolon. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July 1683, This gentleman was owner of that excellent vignoble of Pontaq and Obrien.

Vignour, variant of VINER[2] *Obs.*

‖ **Vigogne** (vigon[y]). Also 7 vicogne. [F., ad. Sp. *vicuña* VICUÑA.]

1. = VICUÑA 1.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 381 Vicognes are like Deer without hornes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1808) I. xiv. 234 The Sheep, the Goat, the Lama, the Vigogne, the Gazella.

2. A textile fabric made from the wool of the vicuña, used as a dress material; vicuña-cloth.

1876 *Echo* 30 Aug. (Stanf.). 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 515/1 *Vigogne*, a delicate all wool textile, twilled, and produced in neutral colours. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Feb. 8/2 The bride's going-away dress was composed of chocolate brown vigogne.

3. *Vigogne yarn*, a mixture of the wool of the vicuña, or other fine wool, and cotton.

1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* 47 In making vigogne or angola yarns, which are mixtures of cotton and wool. *Ibid.* 185 For mixing wool and cotton together for Vigogne yarn.

†Vigone. *Obs.* [ad. F. *vigogne*: see prec.] (See quots.)

1696 Blount *Glossogr.* To Rdr., The Haberdasher is ready to furnish you with a Vigone, Codebec, or Castor, &c. *Ibid.*, *Vigone*, a kind of Demicaster, or Hat, of late so called, from the fine Wool, which for the most part they are made of, borne by a kinde of sheep of Spain of that name. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vigone*,..a sort of Spanish Wooll; or a Hat made of that Wooll. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 379 Hats of Vigone.

Vigonia (vigōu·niă). Also **vigo(g)na, vegonia.** [\pp. a Latinization of F. *vigogne* Vigogne.]

1. a. *Vigonia wool*, vicuña-wool.

1763 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 163, 8 bales Vigonia, and 1 ditto Alpaca wool. 1804 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 1069 Vigona wool.

b. *Vigonia cloth*, vicuña-cloth. Also *ellipt.*, = Vigogne 2.

57 J. Jan ....

438 Vigonia cloth, merino robe cloth,..shags, vigogna shags.

2. = Vicuña 1. *rare.*

1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Phys. Geog.* 55/2 The paco, which in its domestic state is called bicunia or vigonia. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 73 A herd of 36, including the kinds called Llamas, Alpacas, and Vicunas or Vigonias.

†Vi·gorate, *v. Obs.* [t. L. *vigorāt-*, ppl. stem of *vigorāre* to animate, invigorate, f. *vigor* Vigour *sb.*: see -ate 3.] *trans.* To invigorate or strengthen.

1613 M. Ridley *Magn. Bodies* 63 They will be much refreshed, vigorated and animated with the polar and directory vertue. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc* vi. 207 All this foreign force that is upon them, serves only to vigorate and impregnate their fancies and imaginations. 1670 Maynwaring *Physycian's Repos.* 21 This Medicine vigorates and cherisheth that part. 1782 Paine *Let. Abbé Raynal* (1791) Introd., To call three powers of the mind into action at once, in a manner..that each shall aid and vigorate the other.

Hence **†Vi·gorating** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1670 H. Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 8 The Mercurial Cylinder riseth and falls in the Magdeburgical Air-Pump, according to the lessening or vigorating of the Spring of the Air.

†Vigo·rious, *a. Obs. rare.* Also **vigeryouse, vygoryous, -ious.** [Erron. var. of Vigorous *a.*] = Vigorous *a.* 1.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) v. vi. OO ij, By hym the whiche..is so vygeryous in all his puyssaunces. 1641 *Vox Borealis* C j b, Man by the contrary being too vigorious, loosseth God his Image in his privilegde.

So **†Vigo·riously** *adv Obs.*

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xii. 413 More vigeryously neuere reden men Into non place thanne they diden then. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 263 Reynawd had medled hymself vygoriously among the frenshemen. 1608 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epitome 367 [The Danes] whom, albeit the King vigoriously withstood, yet they..forceably helde themselues ..in the Land.

Vigorist (vi·gŏrist). *rare.* [f. L. *vigor* Vigour *sb.* + -ist.] One who acts with vigour or energy, or who advocates vigorous action.

1807 Syd. Smith *Lett. Catholics* viii, An additlon of polemics..which must highly gratify the vigorists, and give them an ample opportunity of displaying that foolish energy upon which their claims to distinction are founded. 1901 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 6/2 A repulsive study of the younger vigorist who replaces the old Abbé.

Vigorite (vi·gŏrəit). [f. as prec. + -ite[1] 4.] A nitro-glycerine explosive used in blasting.

1879 Webster *Suppl.* 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 928/1 Bjorkmann..gives the following recipe for the manufacture of the new explosive, vigorite.

†Vi·gorize, *v. Obs.*[-1] [f. L. *vigor* Vigour *sb.* + -ize.] *trans.* To invigorate.

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 29/1 And, for the Veines and Artires neede each other,.. They meete, and..goe togither, Thereby to vigorize the vitall Band Which the Hart s vertue wholy doth command.

Vigorous (vi·gŏrəs), *a.* Forms: 4, 7 **vigrous,** 5 **vygerous,** 5–6 **vigerous-,** 7–9 *post.* **vig'rous**; 5–6 **vygorous** (5 **vygorowse,** 6 **-ouse**; 5 *Sc.* **wygorous-**), 4– **vigorous** (5 **vigorowse-,** *Sc.* **wigorus-**); 4, 6–7 **vigourous.** [a. AF. *vigrus, vigerous, vigorouse*, OF. *vigorous, vigourous, vigoros*, etc. (mod.F. *vigoureux*), = Pr. *vigoros*, Sp., Pg., It. *vigoroso*, med.L. *vigorōsus* (Diefenbach): see Vigour *sb.* and -ous.]

1. Of persons or animals: Strong and active in body; endowed with or possessed of physical strength and energy; robust in health or constitution; hardy, lusty, strong.

App. not in common use during the 13th and 16th cent.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6973 (Laud MS.), We habbe3 many pryuee foo, þat..willen fonde to greuen vs, Bot þou þee make vigourous! *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9060 (Kölbing), Herui, þat was vigrous & lijt, On þe scheld him hit a dint hard. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 57 Euer ordeyn þi boughtes in goodnesse; 3eld þy seruyn glorious & vygerous. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/1 Vygorowse, *vigorosus, fervus.* 1530 Palsgr. 328/1 Vygorous, *vigoreux, vigereuse.* 1611 Cotgr., *Vigoureux*, vigorous, lustie, liuely, strong. 1658 Phillips, *Vigorous*, full of vigour, *i.* strength, courage, lustinesse. *a* 1687 Waller *Presage Ruin Turkish Emp.* 20 Bred in the camp, fam'd for his valor young; At sea successful, vigorous, and strong. *a* 1721 Prior *Dial. Locke & Montaigne* Wks. 1907 II. 238 We commend a Horse for being Vigorous and Handsom. 1780 Harris *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 482, I have seen great geniuses miserably err.. and, like vigorous travellers who lose their way, only wander the wider on account of their own strength. 1797 S. & Hr. Lee *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 330 Vigorous in health and youth, to him the water had long been an el..... almost as familiar and as natural as air. 1844 Emerson *Lect. New Eng. Ref.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 268 Men are Conservatives when they are least vigorous, or when they are most luxurious. They are Conservatives after dinner, or before taking their rest: when they are sick, or aged. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 428 At forty-five he was so vigorous that he made his way to Scotland on foot. 1892 Mivart *Ess. & Crit.* I. 161 The life of every healthy and vigorous animal consists mainly in the repetition of actions which have become habitual.

b. So of the body or its parts, health, etc.

1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* A iij b, Mithridate, that vigrous health preserues. 1652 — *Jeeves. Wales* (1859) 8 He was more then 80 yeares of age, yet of a very able body, and vigorous constitution. 1683 Burnet tr. *More's Utopia* (1684) 132 Their Bodies are vigorous and lively. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4469/4 Thomas Scott,..round fac'd, little vigorous Eyes. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 363 The learned finger never need explore Thy vig'rous pulse. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* IX. 65 How vigorous then the athletic form of age! 1841 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 3) 294 In twenty-five days the dog..was in the enjoyment of vigorous health and strength. 1870 Macduff *Mem. Patmos* xiv, The strong frame, the vigorous pulse, and undimmed eye.

c. Of plants, etc.: Growing strongly and freely. Also of growth or vegetation.

1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. 109 Some Trees are weak, others strong and vigorous. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 45 The vigorous vegetation which constantly takes place there. 1783 Crabbe *Village* II. 219 The tall oak, whose vigorous branches form An ample shade. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 237 My strongest and most vigorous plants grow in a bed or bank sloping to the south. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 37 In general..the seeds produced by them [are] the largest and most vigorous of growth. 1881 T. Moore in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 242/1 Near the base of the stem are two prominent buds, which would produce two vigorous shoots.

d. Marked or characterized by, requiring or involving, physical strength or activity.

1697 Walsh *Life Virgil* P 8 in Dryden *Virgil*, Which work took up seven of the most vigorous years of his life. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 260 P 1 The Time of Youth and vigorous Manhood. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xviii. 79 While He the vigorous Chace pursues. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. (1892) 215, I mean..plentiful nourishment to vigorous labour. 1836 J. H. Newman in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 237 The keenness of youth's vigorous day Thrills in each nerve and limb. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* I. ii. 77 His professional visits to Roxburghshire and Ettrick Forest were, in his vigorous life, very frequent. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxxi. 433 It requires the most vigorous efforts ..to tear from the oak ribs..a single day's firewood.

2. Full of, exhibiting, characterized by, vigour or active force; powerful, strong.

a. Of natural agencies or phenomena, substances, etc. Now somewhat *rare.*

(a) *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 57 b, He had sayled no great waye before that a vygorous tempest by reason of contrarietie of wyndes sodeynly arose. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 295 [They] tumbled downe..starke dead, being suffocated with the vigorous Sunne. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xvi. 105 We apply'd a Load-stone moderately vigorous to the out-side of the Glass. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) II. 792/1 The air was dark and heavy, for want of that vigorous heat which clears and rarefies it. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 209 At first they [*sc.* monsoons] are feeble, they afterwards become vigorous. 1909 A. Reid *Regality of Kirriemuir* xxiv. 315 Granted a more vigorous flow of water, the Northmuir need fear no local rival.

(*b*) *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III. 2 The fat of venison is conceived to be..of all flesh the most vigorous nourishment. 1691 Ray *Coll. Words, Making Salt* 209 A Rock of Natural Salt from which issues a vigourous sharp Brine. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 764 The too vig'rous Dose too fiercely wrought; And added Fury to the Strength it brought. 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Elaterium* is a vigorous Purge, and is used in Lethargies. 1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist.* I. 23 Of a more vigorous and high Spirit than the Hereford Cyder. 1802 Mar. Edgworth *Mor. T., Forester, & Printer*, The fresh seeds,..scattered upon the vigorous soil, took root, and flourished. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* VI. i, A pint of most vigorous and powerful wine.

b. Of the soul, mind, etc.

1640 Walton *Life Donne* in *D.'s Serm.* C j, His mind was liberall, and unwearied in the search of knowledge, with which his vigorous soule is now satisfied. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvii, His soul became stern and vigorous in despair. *a* 1800 in Southey *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* (1849) II. 421/1 Whilst they lay apparently senseless,..their minds were more vigorous..than they had ever been before. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 226 His [Bunyan's] vigorous understanding and his stout English heart.

c. Of immaterial things, qualities, etc.

1634 Milton *Comus* 608 He..Would..shew me simples of a thousand names, Telling their strange and vigorous faculties. 1662 H. Hibbert *Body Divinity* II. 105 All the ceremonies, services and sacrifices at that time..through Christ ..were vigorous, and for his sake acceptable to God. 1673 J. Owen *Indwelling Sin* x. (1732) 121 Suggestions of the Law of Sin,..advantaged by any suitable or vigorous Temptation. 1709 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 3 At a near distance I have experienced [an object] to make a vigorous and large appearance. 1738 S. Hayward *Serm.* xvii. 318 Grace may not be always in the same lively exercise; sometimes it appears cool and indifferent, at other times vigorous and lively. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii, Whose hopes are, therefore, vigorous. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* I. x. 347 In her case sound sense as well as vigorous ability had unfortunately condescended to an absurd disguise. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 330 Where the opportunities of vigorous intellectual exercise were frequent. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 6 So vigorous and minutely penetrative was the quality of his understanding.

d. Of language, etc.: Energetic, forcible, powerful.

1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xxvi, Doth your new spirit of chivalry supply no more vigore— ejaculation, when a noble struggle is impending? 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. ii. 40 It contains many vigorous pictures, and splendid verses. 1864 Trevelyan *Compar. Welfish* (1866) 136 A copious fount of vigorous English. 1873 C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond.* (1876) 43 A vigorous hymn was being sung.

3. Of actions, measures, etc.: Characterised by, attended, carried out, or enforced with, vigour or energy.

Freq. connoting some degree of boldness or severity.

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 81 They had so sharpe and vigorous answere, that there was not one mantellet that abode whole an houre. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 148 No Man could expect that the vigorous designs and enterprises undertaken by the Duke, would be pursued with equal resolution and courage. 1679 Everard *Prot. Princes Europe* 12 [He] did also by his most vigorous Representations..cause his Imperial Majesty..to resolve to arm vigorously. 1702 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 81 The allies made a vigorous attaque on the contrescarpe of Keiserswart. 1769 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 182 Various matters have so dissipated me, as to hinder me from a vigorous pursuit of this object. 1777 Watson *Philip II*, xiii. (1812) II. 171 This measure..shewed how firmly determined the citizens were to make a vigorous defence. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 33 The Nizam's troops being either unable or unwilling to suppress the insurrection, it became necessary to adopt more vigorous measures. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 556 If in a severe case [of simple meningitis] vigorous treatment is adopted at an early stage of the disease, recovery is by no means hopeless.

b. Of persons, etc.: Acting, or prepared to act, with vigour.

1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 115 Having you on my side, and knowing you to be as vigorous a friend of mine, as I am [of you]. 1701 Penn in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 44 Be vigorous about my property matters. 1796 Burke *Let. Noble Lord* Wks. 1842 II. 258 To be commended by an able, vigorous, and well informed statesman. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. ix. 393 A vigorous government placed in circumstances of extreme peril.

4. *Comb.*, as *vigorous-growing, -looking* adjs.

1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 37 When it is wished to have plants of a vigorous-growing species. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 269 A frank, stout, gray-haired, but vigorous-looking man.

Vi·gorously, *adv.* Forms: (see prec.). [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a vigorous manner; with vigour or energy; by means of vigorous action, measures, etc.; actively and strongly.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 148 Then the king..Strak at the tothir wigorusly,..That at the fyrst strak he him slew. *c* 1440 Lovelich *Merlin* 21378 He..forth wente thorwh the pres vigerously fyhtyng, with-owten les. *c* 1450 *Merlin* x. 155 Thei smyten in a-monge hem so vigorously that con myght here the crassinge of speres half a myle longe. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xvi. 44 The peple of the Royame of Fraunce,..aftir they herde this prechyng, entreprysed so vygorously the werke of our lord,..as ye shal here. 1518 H. Watson *Hist. Oliver of Castile* (Roxb.) M j, They that were within the castell defended them vygorously. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 306 The Quenis Majestie will sa vigorouslie paneis him..that the West Marchis sall tak exempill thairof. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 69 The Duke [of Buckingham]..being resolv'd to make Peace with Spain, to the end he might more vigorously pursue the War with France. 1685 Petty *Last Will* p. iv, Having vigorously followed my studies..at Utrecht Leyden, Amsterdam, and Paris. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 4 P 6 Except more effectual Measures were taken for acting vigorously against the Enemy. 1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 304 Pronation is performing vigorously. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 67 At the time the leaves are most vigorously performing their functions. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxv. 190, I saw Balmat..thrust his hands into the snow, and commence rubbing them vigorously. 1877 Lady Brassey *Voy. Sunbeam* IX. (1878) 148 Cheery looking little dogs, barking vigorously.

b. Intensely, prominently.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 279 One or other inlightned part of the picture becommeth more vigorously bright.

c. *Comb.*, as *vigorously-correct, disciplined, -phrased* adjs.

1824 J. Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 60 There is no one thing more urgently wanted..than a class of vigorously disciplined young scholars. 1867 F. H. Ludlow *Blasing to Tarshish* 132 A young man of such vigorously-correct habits. 1897 *Daily News* 31 March 8/3 The Lady Mayoress..made a short but vigorously-phrased plea.

Vi·gorousness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or state of being vigorous; vigorous condition; vigour.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/1 Vigorowsnesse, *vigorositas, ferocitas.* 1530 Palsgr. 283/1 Vygorousnesse, *vigueur.* 1648 Beaumont *Psyche* IX. 138 Perpetuall sparks of Vigorousnesse they shot From the two founts of their prospective fire. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. xvi. 67 Her coming to the Crown inspirited the weakest and oldest with vigorousnesse and vivacity for a time. 1709 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 56 The vigorousness or faintness of the aforesaid visible appearance. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Sprightliness*, Fulness of Spirit, Liveliness, Vigorousness. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 619 The fulness of health, that is, the vigorousness of incorruption.

Vigour (vi·gəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4– **vigour,** 4–5 **vigoure,** 4–6 **vygour,** 6 **vygure, vygueur, vigeur,** 7 **viger**; 5 **vigore,** 6 **vygor,** 4–8, 9 *U.S.* **vigor.** [a. AF. *vigur, vigour*, OF. *vigor* (*vigheur*, etc.; later and mod.F. *vigueur*, = Pr., Sp., Pg. *vigor*, It. *vigore*), ad. L. *vigōr-, vigor* liveliness, activity, force, f. *vigēre* to be lively, to thrive, flourish, etc. In some instances directly ad. L. *vigor.*]

I. Active physical strength, as an attribute or

quality of living things; active force or power; activity or energy of body or constitution.

a. In persons, animals, or their limbs.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 971 Inwyth not a fote, To streck in he strete þou has no vygour, Bot þou wer clene without-en mote. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 845 I seye this entente That right as god spirit of vigour sente To hem, and saued hem out of meschance, So sente he myght and vigour to Custance. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2738 There was no man durst hem assayle, For drede of here vigour. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. xii, Thenne the dogge toke strengthe and vygour ageyne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 256 b, Bycause [he] wolde shewe hym selfe more than man, he wolde, after that all his blode was shed, reserue in hym vygour and vertue of lyfe. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 308 As motion and long during action tyres The sinnowy vigour of the traualler. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 259 His naturall strength or vigor was not abated. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 436 Now we find this our Empyreal forme ..Inperishable, and though peirc'd with wound, Soon closing, and by native vigour heal'd. 1680–90 Temple *Ess. Health & Long Life* Wks 1720 I. 278 That the Natives and Inhabitants of hilly and barren Countries have not only more Health in general, but also more Vigour than those of the Plains. 1727 Prior *Alma* II. 128 Thus He who runs or dances, begs The equal Vigor of Two Legs. 1775 Harris *Philos. Arrangem.* (1841) 289 Health and sickness, vigour and decay, are all to be found in each individual of the human race. 1783 Crabbe *Village* II. 132 When Honour lov'd and gave thee every charm, Fire to thy eye and vigour to thy arm. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 158 So that my vigour, wedded to thy blood, Shall strike within thy pulses. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 113 And this is the cause that prevents the return of vigour to my body. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 276 The Muskellunge, *Esox nobilior*, is the rival of the Pike in size and vigor.

transf. 1902 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) lxxxviii. 19 London, thou art the flour of Cities all;..Strong Troy in vigour and in strenuytie.

†b. Freq. in ME. verse in the adverbial phrase *with* (..) *vigour*. Also in pl. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 1431 (Linc.), Bobe wiþ coyntise, and wiþ vigour, He wan of þat lond þe honour. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1936 And ever men bare them up with levours, And slew them with great vigours. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3322 Now habbeþ þes frensche lordes stoute conquered þe stronge tour, And habbeþ a-slawe & dryuen oute þe Sarayns with vygour. *c* 1400 *Lawd Troy Bk.* 13330 The vanwardis met with grat hidoure, Thei rod to-gedur with gret vigoure.

c. In plants or vegetable growths.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. iii. 209 Nature is contented to give them vigour to bring forth fruites. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* xxix. 90 It should be in this status, vigour and perfection of Trees, that a Felling should be celebrated. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. 181 That the Branches for Wood may not shoot out with so much Vigour. 1732 P. Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, The Vines..must be annually dress'd, according to the Vigour of the Plant. 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 33 The more vigour there is in a tree,..the sooner is its alburnum made perfect wood. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 470 In order..to equalise the production of fruit, and maintain a sufficient degree of vigour in the vines. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* vii. (ed. 3) 286 The tropical temperature, calling out into almost unnatural vigour whatever vegetation receives the life-giving touch of its waters.

d. Const. *of* (life, etc.). Sometimes with implication of next. Also *fig.*

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. i, Before I touch The banks of rest, my ghost shall visite her. Thou vigor of my youth, iuyce of my loue, Seize on reuenge. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 29 These surely prove even greater vigour of life than bodily strength does. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* v. § 1. 212 The vigour of English life showed itself socially in the wide extension of commerce.

2. Mental or moral strength, force, or energy; activity, animation, or liveliness of the mind or the faculties.

1587 W. Fowler *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 22 In his youthe at that tyme when the senses hes most force and vigeur. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 197, I considered, that those kindes of gaining onely required strength of body, whereas this and the like required also vigor of minde. 1677 Temple *Ess., Gout* Wks. 1720 I. 135 The vigour of the Mind decays with that of the Body. 1742 Gray *Alliance* 11 Those kindly cares, That health and vigour to the soul impart. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* VI. Wks. 1851 V. 584 A race of men..in their bodily constitution, as well as vigour of spirit, nearly resembling the warlike tribes in North America. 1823 J. Gillies tr. *Aristotle's Rhet.* II. xiv. 308 The mind retains its utmost vigour to forty-nine. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* ii, Leaving their hearts and spirits young and in full vigour. 1856 Sir B. Brodie *Psychol. Inq.* I. i. 6 He had lost none of his intellectual vigour.

3. Active force or strength as an attribute of things, natural agencies, conditions, or qualities; intensity of effect or operation.

? *a* 1445 Gascoign *Life St. Bridget* in *Kal. Leg. England* (Pynson) 125 Nat dredying the vigour of the colde nor the impedyment of the great hete. 1534–5 More *Treat. Sacrament* (1576) 61 Although we beleeue it, yet is that beliefe in many of vs very faint & farre fro the point of auche vigour and strength, as would God it had. 1554 W. Peat *Africa* C viij b, Moystnes shed by nyght and by the vygueur of the sonne. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 81 My bones beares witnesse, That since haue felt the vigor of his rage. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 293 The vigour of the day gone, and the cooling night come, we aduanced. 1638 Bp. Wilkins *New World* XIV. (1707) 119 The Loadstone does cast forth its own Vigour round about its Body. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrologia Restored* 72 Moreover a Planet that is hot and dry, is lessened of his vigour in a term that is cold and moyst. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 243 If at the turn of the disease the fever assumes new vigour, ..the patient must be bled. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* I. 12 They had seen absurdity in its full vigour. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xliv, Her enthusiasm was continually stirred to fresh vigour by the influence of Savonarola. 1880 Ruskin *Arrows of Chaos* I. xii, The crystalline vigour of a truth.

b. Of drugs, medicaments, wine, etc.

1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xx. (1870) 280 Borage..doth set a man in temporaunce. And so doth bugloss, for he is taken of more vygor, & strength, & effycacye. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 43/1 This salve must be prepared before you annoynct your heade, and it continueth in his vigor two yeares after other. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. v. 68 And with a sodaine vigour it doth posset And curd..The thin and wholsome blood. 1664 Evelyn *Pomona* xxix, It is a laudable way of trying the vigour of Cider by its promptness to burn.

c. Of words, arguments, etc.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 813/2 Some thinges yet shal I shew you..in thys laste booke besyde, that shal haue such vygour and strength therin, that [etc.]. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 57 It is certaine that a sentence hath so much the more or lesse force and vigor, according to the difference of persons from whom it commeth, and of the words by which it is uttered. 1596 *Edward III*, I. i. 44 The fiery vigor of thy words.

d. As an artistic or literary quality.

1774 Mitford *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 135 Vigor is added by the rapid flow of the short syllables. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* III. § 23. 91 The relative majesty of buildings depends more on the weight and vigour of their masses, than on any other attribute of their design. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 255/1 If..the whole picture is wanting in vigour and contrast, it is caused by over-exposure. 1896 H. Holliday *Stained Glass* i. 24 The painter has..to repeat the two matt processes till he has obtained the necessary vigour and depth in his work.

4. Legal or binding force; validity. *In vigour*, in force or operation.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 277/2 But þat neverþeles þappointement stand in al thynge unhirte, and in his vigor and strengthe. 1455 *Ibid.* 329/2 That the saide Lettres Patentes be..in alsuch force, vigore and effect. 1644 Milton *Judgm. Bucer* xxii. 6 Neither did she know the vigor of the Gospel, wherin all cause of marying is debarr'd from women, while their husbands live. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* I. (1661) 4 Secondly,..in abandoning the Court of Rome they make not any new Law, but onely declare and restore the old Law of the Land to its former Vigour. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxiv. § 2 (1699) 120 Then the former Act..was in vigour, and so the Lords could not restrict the annualrents to six [per cent], against an expresse Law. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* VII. 101 The Five Mile Act and the Conventicle Act were in full vigour.

5. Strong or energetic action, esp. in administration or government; the power, exercise, or use of this, esp. as possessed by or as an attribute of a ruler or governor.

Freq. implying some degree of severity or rigour.

c 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. III. iii. 279 The Cantons of Sweitzerland,..by inviolable observation of theire leagues, constantly governed theire Commonwealth in the old viger. 1711 *Spect.* No. 467 P 9 Never failing to exert himself with Vigour and Resolution in the Service of his Prince. 1741 C. Middleton *Cicero* I. iv. 234 The vigor of his Consulship had raised such a zeal and union of all the honest in the defense of the laws. *a* 1781 R. Watson *Philip III*, II. (1783) 143 When they reflected on the vigour and great abilities he had exerted during this campaign. 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. v. 64 The Star Chamber..was invested with a vigour beyond the laws. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xiii, The slaying of the guide was of course easy enough, and would look like an act of what politicians call 'vigour'. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 4. 375 The issue of the Scotch war revealed suddenly to Europe the vigour of Elizabeth.

b. In wider use: Force, heartiness, energy.

1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 365 It was sung..with much vigour by the congregation.

6. The condition or state of greatest strength or activity, esp. in the life of a man; *spec.* in *Med.*, the height or acme of a disease.

1563 T. Gale *Enchirid.* 35 b (Stanf.), There is another excellent plaster which Galene vseth in the Vigour of an inflammation. 1588 Kyd *Housek. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 244 They are in the vigor of their yeeres when the youth of their sonnes begin to flourish. 1698 J. Smith *Pract. Phys.* 153 [As a remedy for thirst, take] the decoction of the Roots of Sorrel, which will look like red Wine; Give drink in the vigour. 1697 Bentley *Phal.* (1699) 78 He was then in the Vigour of his years. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 66/2 When this disease is at its state, or vigor, all the symptoms are worse 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* ii. 52 A work produced in the vigour of his fancy. 1821 Lamb *Elia* I. *Distant Correspondents*, Your puns and small jests are..extremely circumscribed in their sphere of action...Their vigour is as the instant of their birth. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 544 Shakespeare, in the vigour of life, withdrew from the theatre and the metropolis. 1858 Brewster *Newton* II. xxvii. 399 The flower of his youth, and the vigour of his manhood, were entirely devoted to science.

†7. *By* or *in vigour of*, by force of, in virtue of. *Obs. rare.*

1636 Brathwait *Rom. Emp.* 383 Who..refused to performe homage in vigour of a cession made by Albertus the Arch-Duke. 1641 Heylin *Hist. Epine.* II. (1657) 366 By vigour of his Episcopall function and the Authority of his Chaire, he had power enough, to be straightway avenged of him for the same.

Vigour, southern ME. variant of Figure *sb.*

†**Vi'gour**, *v. Obs.*—[1] In 7 **vigor**. [f. Vigour *sb.*] *trans.* To invigorate; to inspire with vigour.

1636 Feltham in *Ann. Dubrensia* D iij b, Nor does Apolloes harpe ere sound more high, Then when 'tis vigor'd from a Ladies eye.

Vi'gourless, *a.* Also **vigorless**. [f. Vigour *sb.* + -less.] Destitute of or lacking vigour.

1798 *Phil. Trans.* L. 756 Indeed one can scarce call it living, merely to breathe, and trail about a vigorless body. 1888 *Outlook* (N.Y.) Apr. 483 The marked contrast between the vigorless conscience of Continental Europe, and the vigorous conscience of the Puritans. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 4/2 In those vigourless days of Whig ascendency.

Vigourous(ly, obs. forms of Vigorous(ly.

†**Vigourously**, *adv.* In 5 **vygour(e)sly**. [var. of Vigorously: cf. *villainsly*, etc.] Vigorously.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xiv. 155 Thei [*sc.* Amazons] gon often tyme in sowd..: and thei meyntenen hem self right vygouresly. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 14148 Merveilleng sore what these knyhtes were, That so Vygoursly fowhten there.

Vigrous, Vig'rous, obs. and poet. ff. Vigorous *a.* **Vigure**, southern ME. var. Figure *sb.* **Vihte(n**, southern ME. var. Fight *sb.* and *v.* **Vije**, obs. f. Vice *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. Wise *sb.* **Viked**, ME. var. Wicked *a.* **Vikel(i**, southern ME. varr. Fickle *a.* and *v.*[1] **Viker(y**, etc., obs. ff. Vicar(y, etc.

Viking (vəi·kiŋ). *Hist.* Also **vikingr, -er, -ir**; **wiking, wicking**. [ad. ON. and Icel. *víking-r* (whence also Norw., Sw., Da. *viking*, G. *wiking*), = OE. *wícing*, OFris. *witsing, wising*. Cf. also ON. and Icel. *víking* fem., the practice of marauding or piracy.

The ON. word is commonly regarded as f. *vík* creek, inlet, bay, + *-ingr* -ing[3], a viking thus being one who came out from, or frequented, inlets of the sea. The name, however, was evidently current in Anglo-Frisian from a date so early as to make its Scandinavian origin doubtful; *wícingsceaða* is found in Anglo-Saxon glossaries dating from the 8th century, and *sæ-wícingas* occurs in the early poem of Exodus, whereas evidence for *víkingr* in ON. and Icel. is doubtful before the latter part of the 10th cent. It is therefore possible that the word really originated in the Anglo-Frisian area, and was only at a later date accepted by the Scandinavian peoples; in that case it was probably formed from OE. *wíc* camp, the formation of temporary encampments being a prominent feature of viking raids.]

1. One of those Scandinavian adventurers who practised piracy at sea, and committed depredations on land, in northern and western Europe from the eighth to the eleventh century; sometimes in general use, a warlike pirate or sea-rover.

α. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. III. iii. 341 At the age of fourteen, Torfin commenced his career, as a vikingr. *c* 1827 W. Motherwell *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 13 It is a Vikingr Who kisses thy hand. 1838 Crichton *Scandinavia* I. 176 Hákon commanded the intrepid Vikingr to be put to death. 1864 [H. W. Wheelwright] *Spring & Summer in Lapland* I. 8 When the 'Viking' or pirate vessel..bore the 'Vikinger' or dreaded sea pirate to the opposite shores of Britain.

β. 1840 Longf. *Skeleton in Armour* iii, I was a Viking old! 1848 Lytton *Harold* VI. v, A fleet of vikings from Norway ravaged the western coasts. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxviii, I am already convinced that my ancestors were vikings.

γ. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iv. 165 He [Rolf] is described as having been engaged in the calling of a wiking. 1868 *Ibid.* II. vii. 96 The wikings harried far and wide. 1883 Vigfusson & Powell *Corpus Poet. Bor.* II. 139 The warden of the land had the heads of many Wickings (pirates) cut short with keen weapons. 1904 E. Rickert *Reaper* 53 Beyond that, we were Wickings, back to the time of Odin.

2. *attrib.*, as *viking age, expedition, invader, line, ship, vessel.*

1847 I. A. Blackwell *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* 86 Halfdan enriched himself by successful Viking expeditions. 1864 [see 1 α]. 1866 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 226 The lower compartment is a noble Wiking-ship. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 665 He may have joined the Danes or have done anything else in the wiking line. 1881 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 2/2 This Viking ship, with its sepulchre chamber, in which the Viking had been buried. 1883 Vigfusson & Powell *Corpus Poet. Bor.* I. 259 The Northmen confederates of the Wicking invaders. 1889 Du Chaillu *Viking Age* I. iii. 26 We must come to the conclusion that the 'Viking Age' lasted from about the second century of our era to about the middle of the twelfth.

Hence **Vi'kingism, Vi'kingship**, the practices or spirit of vikings.

1880 Stubbs *Lect. Stud. Hist.* (1886) 222 The conquest of Palestine was to Robert of Normandy..a sanctified experiment of 'vikingism. 1899 Somerville & Ross *Irish R. M.* 239, I prefer their total lack of interest in seafaring matters to the blatant Vikingism of the average male. 1883 G. Stephens *Bugge's Stud. Northern Mythol. Exam.* 15 'Wikingahip begun to be felt..as an unbearable curse.

Vikit, Vikkid, -it, obs. Sc. ff. Wicked *a.* **Vil**, obs. f. Vile *a.*, obs. Sc. f. Will *sb.* and *v.* **Vilain(e**, etc., obs. ff. Villain, etc. **Vilains(ly**, var. Villains(ly *Obs.* **Vilanie, -ye**, obs. f. Villainy. **Vilans**, var. Villains *a. Obs.*

‖ **Vilayet** (vilā·yet). Also **wilayet**. [Turkish, ad. Ar. وِلَايَة *wilāyah*, *-yet* district, dominion.] A province of the Turkish empire ruled by a vali, or governor-general.

1869 *Times* 15 Oct., Those Ottoman subjects who have passed an examination..will be admitted for three years as boarders to the Lyceum in each chief town of a vilayet. 1880 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 174 An honest man is sent to introduce reforms into some vilayet. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 April 3/1 Everything seems to be going as well in the late Vilayet of the Danube as it is going ill in the Pashalik of the Nile.

Vilayn, obs. form of Villain.

†**Vild**, *sb. Obs.*—[1] (Cf. next, but perh. an error.)

1625 *London Prodigal* v. i. 265 My daughter is missing; hath been looked for; cannot be found. A vild upon thee!

Vild (vəild), *a.* *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.* Also 6–7 vylde, 6–7 (9) vilde; 6 *Sc.* vyld, 6–7 (9) vyld, 7 vil'd. [Variant of VILE *a.*, with excrescent *-d*. The earliest instances are Scottish (cf. *tylde* for TILE *sb.*[1]), but the form is extremely common from *c* 1580 to 1650.] = VILE *a.*, in various senses: a. Of actions, things, etc.

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 48 The morne he sall go to the deid maist vylde, Howbeit he be my onlie gottin Chylde. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 35 Shall I be preast in simpler sort and vylder case then hee. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 84 Since whose vilde death manie a good Christian have bene no less vmbraded and reproched 1598–9 E. FORDE *Parismus* I. (1661) 49 With great patience he endured the imprisonment, continuing in that most vilde place. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 38 Her breath should be as horrible and vild, As ev'rie word you speake is sweet and mild. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 158 A vild thing, thus to force and wrong Nature. 1713 CROXALL *Orig. Canto Spenser* xiv. (1714) 14 With Witchcraft vild he then enwrapt her round. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxvi, O hide thy head, abominable war!.. From Heaven this life ysprung, from hell thy glories vild! 1767 MICKLE *Concub.* I. xx, Loud and angrie then Gan she of shame and haviour vild complain. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* III. xliii, Could he have had his pleasure vilde, He had crippled the joints of the noble child. 1853 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VII. 234/1 (N. Cy. sayings), Looks as vild (worthless) as a pair of Yorkshire sleeves in a goldsmith's shop. 1866 EDMONDSTON *Gloss. Shetland*, *Vyld*, dirty, filthy, vile.

b. Of persons.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 122 Quhen I was impotent, Fragile, vaine, vylde, and pure. 1582 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 216 The desolate damsell..ceased not to rebuke the vilde caitive. 1588 BABINGTON *Prof. Exp. Lord's Pr.* (1596) 235 The good Prophet had a bad seruant, a vilde Gehezi. 1608 TARLTON *Cobler Canterb.* (1844) 118 Vilde strumpet as thou art. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 11 Lo how the vildest Earth-Worme now turnes against thee! 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 324 That vilde Butcher [Herod] caus'd to cut in sunder Euery Male childe of two years old and under. 1767 MICKLE *Concub.* I. xxii, She..clept her Lemman and vild Slutt aloud. 1865 GIDLEY *Aretes* 145 Their influence mild Withdraw from presence of those monsters base and vild, Intolerance and Injustice.

absol. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 15 O thou dull God, why lyest thou with the vilde, In loathsome Bed-? 1607 — *Timon* I. i. 15 When we for recompence haue prais'd the vild.

Vild, obs. Sc. form of WILD *a.*

Vilderbeeste, var. WILDEBEESTE (gnu).

† **Vilderoy.** *Obs.*—[1] The name of some fabric.

1769 *Lloyd's Even. Post* 30 Oct.–1 Nov. 420/3 Damasks, Vilderoys, Paolis, corded Tabbies.

Vildever, dial. variant of FIELDFARE.

Vildirnes, obs. Sc. form of WILDERNESS.

Vi'ldly, *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. VILD *a.* Common *c* 1590–1650.] = VILELY *adv.*

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 127 So vildly agaynst my honour and trueth. 1588 BABINGTON *Prof. Exp. Lord's Pr.* (1596) 234 To haue true good will..so vnkindely, yea so vildly requited. 1608 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* II. ii. 328 Captain? off with that noble title! thou becomest it vildly.

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are vildly loth to lose their domineering, insulting Kingdom of Darkness. 1748 MENDEZ *Sqr. Dames* II. xxix. in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* (1755) IV. 150 Have I not cause to weep from rising morn..To see my dearling's fame thus vildly torn?

Vi'ldness. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.* [f. as prec.] = VILENESS.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 35 What vyldnes and wyckednes is not fownd in many of you? 1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 46 Enraged with a consideration of the vildeness of his men,..[he] brake from them in a fury. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 22 His inward parts may retaine a secret vildnes of disposition, which may be insufferable. 1684 E. CALAMY *Serm. 19 Oct.* (1655) 2 The body of vildnesse shall then be a body of glory. 1866 EDMONDSTON *Gloss. Shetland* 140 *Vyldness*, dirt, filth.

Vildyveer, dial. variant of FIELDFARE.

Vile (vəil), *a.*, *adv.*, and *sb.* Forms: 3–4 vil (3 uil, 4 wil), 3–5 vyl (5 wyl), 5–6 vyll; 3–7 vyle (4 uyle, 5–6 *Sc.* wyle), 3– vile (3–4 file, 4–5 wile, 5 *Sc.* wille). [a. AF. and OF. (also mod.F.) *vil* masc., *vile* fem. (= Pr., Sp., Pg. *vil*, It. *vile*) :—L. *vilem*, *vilis* of low value or price, cheap, common, mean, base.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of actions, conduct, character, etc.: Despicable on moral grounds; deserving to be regarded with abhorrence or disgust; characterized by baseness or depravity.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 192/4 Þare ne scholde vil dede ne word neuere fram hire wende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4504 Modred..huld hire in spousbruche, in vyl flesses dede. *Ibid.* 10093 He suor he wolde awreke be of þis vil trespas. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1586 Here wurdys were al vyle & waste. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 79 So vengeaunce fel vpon hem, for her vyle synnes. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XXI. 97 Thenne gan faith foully þe false lewes to despisen, And calde hem 'caytifs a-corsed', for þis was a vil vilanye. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 296 The Sparrowe Wenus he wesit for his vyle deidis, Lyand in lichory, laith, vnloveable. 1477 CAXTON *Dictes* 67 Summe thinges that ye loue & preyse ar euil and vyle. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 65 These wycked theues..cloke al this abomination..with the couer of Christianitie, which is the vylest and moste vnworthiest thing, that can be imagined. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Psalms* v. iv, Let their vile thoughts the thinckers ruine be. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Envy* (Arb.) 517 It is also the vilest Affection, and the most depraued. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xviii. 89 Not onely an act of an unjust, but also of a vile, and unmanly disposition. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 376 If aught seem vile, As vile hath been my folly, who have profan'd The mystery of God. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Apparr.* iii. (1840) 22 Turning the whole frame of nature upside down by his vile doings there. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 761 Within some pious pastor's humble cot, Where vile example..May never more be stamp'd upon his breast. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* 82, I see already that from the world, vile as it is, you have nothing of contagion to fear. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiii, That abandoned wretch,..of whose vile arts he became a victim. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 555 The Earl's past life had been stained by what they regarded as the vilest apostasy.

b. Used to qualify nouns denoting faults of mind or character. *rare.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lx. 2 A vile errour it is þat sum men says that god does vnrightwisly. *Ibid.* xv. 2 Here is þe vile pride of men confoundid. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 92 Quhat sall I wryte of 3oure vyle vanitie?

c. Of names, etc.: Implying (moral) baseness or depravity.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 383 This greved the moste, yᵗ their religion was described by so vile & contemptuouse a name. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 107 Where is Demetrius? oh how fit a word Is that vile name, to perish on my sword! 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* Pref. p. xvi, The Gentleman..represented us to the English Merchants in a very vile Light. ?*a* 1800 A. YOUNG in Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (1846) II. p. xxiv, I am disgusted with such vile assertions. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. vii. 104 This was the vilest epithet in the English language.

2. Of persons: Of a low, base, or despicable character; morally depraved or degraded; capable of the basest conduct.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2153 Wit all þou sal bi halden vile, Quar-a þou wendes in exile. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* *Alexander* 186 Þan sall þat victoure 3ow venge on 3our vile fais. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. 731 Repruffand thaim as sottis wille..For to lieff it fayntly, And leif lowndera-ris cayteffy. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xx. 14 In cumpany cheiss honorable feiris, And fra vyle folkis draw the far on syd. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xv. 16 An abhominable and vyle man, which dryncketh wickednesse like water. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 237 b, Freers vile in lyfe and learnyng. 1603 DEKKER *Batchelars Banquet* Wks. (Grosart) I. 156, I pray thee wife tell me, where lies thy griefe?..wherevpon the vile woman fetching a deepe sigh, makes this answere. 1677 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 133 There is a vile woman who has bin guilty of severall wicked practices here. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 409 Notions like these, from Men are giv'n, Those vilest Creatures under Heav'n. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 47, I was against the making use of so vile a man. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 578 A victim to the snare, That vile attorneys for the weak prepare. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 591 In every age the vilest specimens of human nature are to be found among demagogues. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 37 With that vile lad to head them off,..they would have..stumbled through the woods.

absol. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R., Fire-Worshippers* II. 278 Bondage grows Too vile for ev'n the vile to bear!

b. Applied to animals, esp. of a destructive or dangerous nature.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2624 Þar-fore hil deide in dedli sinne. ..After in a lite while þai be-come dragouns vile. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 158 Of alle fretynge venymes þe vilest is þe scorpion. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 88 The Howlet wylest in wyce, Raikit vnder the rys. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 287 Lordis, behald, inwy the wyle dragoun, In cruell fyr he byrnys this regioun.

3. Physically repulsive, esp. through filth or corruption; horrid, disgusting.

Also depreciatingly applied to the body.

a 1300 *Sarmun* lii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 1 To be-hend if we wold loke, wel file hit is þat of us come. *Ibid.* iv, Hit is wel vile þat commiþ vte. 13.. *Seuen Sages* (W.) 1353 Was nowt the boi of wit bereued, Whan he tok his fader heued, In a vil gonge slong hit inne? *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 610 Ilk man..Suld thynk of þe wrechednes of his kynde, þat es foul, and vile, and wlatsom. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii (*Paul*) 773 At his mastere askit he, quhar-for his birth [*sc.* a frog] wes sa wile, sa foule, and sa horribyle. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. 376 In þar bledderis bolnyt bilis And alkyn bruk and akab þat wile is. 1535 COVERDALE *Phil.* iii. 21 Which shal chaunge oure vyle body, yᵗ it maye be like fashioned vnto his glorious body. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 17 The Image..is surely a thing most vyle to beholde, and no less terrible. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Wisd.* xi. 13 They..worshiped serpents, that had not the vse of reason, & vile beastes. 16.. SIR W. MURE *Sonn.* xi. 2 Name spotted, fame defyld,..Too long in such a carioun vyle inclois'd. 1637 PRYNNE *Will* in *Documents agst. P.* II. ii. 106 Hence runs a maddling Dog..: Thence a vile Pig polluted with the Mire.

b. Of clothes, etc.: Mean, wretched.

1526 TINDALE *Jas.* ii. 2 A man..In goodly apparell and.. a poore man in vyle rayment. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 465 b, They put vpon him a most vile garment. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 465 Farre vnfit it is, that person bace Should with vile cloathe approach Gods maiestie. 1783 CRABBE *Village* I. 204 Such is that room..Where the vile bands that bind the thatch are seen, And lath and mud are all that lie between. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* V. i. 85, I will pass, wrapped in a vile disguise; Rags on my back.

4. Of conditions, situations, treatment, etc.: Base or degrading in character or effect; ignominious. *Durance vile*: see DURANCE 5.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4374 Wanne hii wolde..noblemen, as 3e beþ, bringe in so vil seruage. 1340 *Ayenb.* 182 Huo þet him let ouercome be his vlesse, he is ine a wel scarpol þraldome and wel vil. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2140 Hit sittis vs all, For to proffer our persons & our pare goodes, To venge of our velany and our vile harme. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* I. 246 Thou has vs doyn a vyle dispyte, and broght thi self to sorow and sitt. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 83 Many thousandes of men..lead away in so miserable & vyle captivitie. 1563 R. SANDERS *Moles* xlviii. 15 A Mole appearing on the lower part, or tip of the right Ear...To a Woman it predicts..she is desperately forlorn, and of most vile conditions. 1728 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 616 Rescue my poor Remains from vile Neglect. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. ii, Such base-born children..ought to be brought up to the lowest and vilest offices of the Commonwealth. 1770–94 [see DURANCE 5]. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 456 To work at a vile trade For wages so unlikely to be paid. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 689 He had been a slave, in the vilest of all positions.

5. Of things: Of little worth or account; mean or paltry in respect of value; held in no esteem or regard. Also *absol.*

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1112 Woldestou þi finger 3eue, .. So vnworþ and so vyl chaffare to bugge? 1340 *Ayenb.* 82 Hi ne conne..deme..betuene precious an vil. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* Prol. I. 33 This world..That whilom was so magnefied, And now is old and fieble and vil. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21138 A thyng of no valu, And..Most wyl off reputacioun. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 b, The transytory honours of this worlde sholde appere to vs vyle and nought. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 233 b, That doctryne began to waxe vyle to him every day more and more. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 24 Who contemneth Religion as a vile thing? who never nameth God but in his Oaths or Burlesque? *a* 1677 BARROW *Exp. Creed* (1697) 23 The vilest and commonest stones. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* v. § 23. 171 That it may cut off Iniquity from him, and separate betwixt the Precious and the Vile. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. i. 261 All returns are vile, but Words the poorest. *Ibid.* 424 Everlasting Fame Grows vile in sight of thee. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 389 That low And sordid gravitation of his pow'rs To a vile clod. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 667 All that others seek He casts away, like a vile weed Which the sea casts unreturningly. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* VI. 388 And all the feasts that thou hast shared erewhile With other kings, to mine shall be but vile. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 73 Thou sea, wherein he counts Not one inch of vile dominion.

b. Similarly of persons (or animals).

1340 *Ayenb.* 232 Þe zobe milde wyle by hyalde uor vyl, nayt ase milde y-prayed. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* Prol. I. 118 To so vil a povere wrecche Him deigneth schewe such simplesce. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xiv. (Bodl. MS.), Soche children for tiespas be made vile pore seruauntes. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables*, *Lion & Mouse* 10 Thow catyve wreche, and wyle vnworthy thing. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 8 His bondemen and moste vile servauntes. 1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 27 Appoynte them Judges that are moost abiecte and vyle in the congregation. 1579 [illegible]

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poor and vile. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* iii. 20 'Tis God only that hath power of annihilation, and we (vile worms) seek here to steal that incommunicable right. 1728 POPE *Iliad* II. 235 But if a clamorous vile plebeian rose, Him with reproof he check'd, or tamed with blows.

† **c.** Cheap, low (in price). *Obs.*

made my bloude vylar then golde. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus*, *Ann.* VI. iv. (1622) 127 The value of lands was rated at a very low and vile price. 1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in his Hum.* I. i. 61 For he thats so respectlesse in his course Oft sels his reputation vile and cheape.

6. Of poor or bad quality; wretchedly bad or inferior.

Now freq. used as an intensive to express strong disapproval or disgust.

a 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 34 Þe tre was vil and old. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5953 (Laud MS.), Þorou3 goddes wrethe [they] shoten away, In to þat vile contreye. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7274, I-wis thei hadde a vile nyȝt; It myȝt haue ben no worse wedur, Off heuene & erthe hadde gon to-gedur. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* 2000 Schos þai sall haue...Of þe farest þai sal not by, Bot þe vilist. 1521 *Bradshaw's St. Werburge* Prol. 20 [He] toke the payne and laboure Thy legende to translate..Out of latine in Englisahe rude and vyle. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 115 Clatus..that cummeth out of arabia..is viler then the other be. 1700 PRIOR *Carm. Sec.* iv, With the Blood of Jove there always ran Some viler Part, some Tincture of the Man. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. v. 121 Writes he vile Verses in a frantic Vein? 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 259 This vile structure was, this year, removed. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xvii, This appearance of Craigengelt..is a most vile augury for his future respectability. 1841 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé*, A Vile compound..called Olla podrida. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. viii. 91 The vile cathedral of Orleans. 1903 *Times* 10 Jan. 6/6 It is scarcely possible to conceive a viler day than..this.

b. Used as an intensive emphasizing some bad quality or condition; † also, heavy, severe.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4164 Þan fandis he furth,..Come to a velans vale þare was a vile cheele. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1949 The bourder of his basnet [he] brestes in sonder, And videt the viser with a vile dynt. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 265 Will he steale out of his wholsome bed To dare the vile contagion of the Night? 1625 *Work for Cutlers* 9, I think that Powder is a vile bragger, he doth nothing but cracke. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 474 P 2 To be obliged to receive and return Visits..is a vile Loss of Time. 1798 FRERE *Illustr. of Strne* II. 54 The brightest wit is confounded with the vilest absurdity.

7. *Comb.*, as *vile-born*, *-hearted*, *-natured*, etc.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 7 Such a dongehyll knaue and vyle borne villeyne. 1592 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 986 Be therefore counselled herein by me, And shake off this

vile hatted cowardrea. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* t. I, I wonder how ill-featur'd, vile-proportion'd That one should be [etc.]. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Ductor* t. v. rule 8 § 6 The necessities of women married to .morose vile-natur'd husbands. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* II. 30 The Hâyil princes..are perhaps mostly like vile-spirited in their youth.

B. *adv.* = Vilely *adv.* Now only in combs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16481 Iudas stode..for to be-hald and se Hu vile þat þai wit him delt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8145 Ofte sith hit is sene..That a victor of a victe is vile ouercomyn. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 18 The noble daughter of Corineus Would not endure to be so vile disdaind. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 586 A most base and vile-concluded peace. 1608 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. v, No, no song; twill be vile out of tune. *a* 1734 North *Lives, Guilford* (1890) I. 288 Roe was a close servant of Monmouth's: which comes vile near siding against his master and benefactor the Duke of York. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 1/3 The vile-smelling tramp on which we had taken passage.

† **C.** *sb.* A base or despicable person. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 818 Sche wolde be more certayn That he schulde here no-wayes be-gile Ne holde here affiir for no vile. *c* 1400 *Song of Roland* 76 They synnyd so sore in þat ylk while that many men wept and cursid þat vile. 1530 Palsgr. 285/1 Vyle, a noughty person, *lorricart.*

† **Vile,** *v. Obs.* Also 4, 6 vyle, 4 vill. [ad. AF. and OF. *viler* to blame, revile, or aphetic for Avile *v.*]

1. *trans.* To bring to a vile or low condition; to abase or degrade. Also *refl.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 802 Þus he bigan is mone; Alas, alas, þou luþer wate [= Fortune], þat vilest me þus one, þat þus clene bringst me adoun. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 34 Þe tre was vil and old; and to vill our lord also..3ut hem þozte þat tre to vair þat he were þeron ido. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 863 Avoy I hit is your vylaynye, ȝe vylen your seluen. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 288 That the hye god omnipotent wolde vouchesafe to vyle hymself so lowe. 1530 Palsgr. 765/2 Thou oughtest to be a shamed to vyle thy selfe with thyn yvell tonge.

2. To revile.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25509 Suet lauerd !..þaa felun Juus dai and night, vild [*Fairf.* reuile I] þe wit al þair might.

3. To defile.

c 1400 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 147 In þe nyȝt byfore he viled hym self [L. *se fœdasset*] with a comoun womman.

Vile, southern ME. var. File *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], and *v.*[2]

Vile cotte, obs. form of Wyllecoat.

Vilefy, obs. form of Vilify *v.*

† **Vilehead.** *Obs.*[−1] [f. Vile *a.*] Vileness.

1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Huanne þe man..knauþ his pourehede, þe vilhede, þe brotelhede of his beringe.

Vilein, Vilein-: see Villain, Villein, etc.

Vileins, variant of Villains *Obs.*

† **Vilely,** *a. Obs.*[−1] In 5 villiche, filich. [f. Vile *a.* Cf. next.] Vile in appearance.

1[3] Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* x. vii. (Tollem. MS.), The fayrer it was by his firste onynge to þe fyre, þe more unsemely and þe more villiche [*Bodl. MS.* filich; L. *vilior*] in quenchynge of þe fyre.

Vilely (vai·lili), *adv.* Forms: *α.* 3–4 villiche (4–5 filliche), 4 vyllichę, vyllychę. *β.* 3–5 vilichę (4 vilechę), 5 vilich; 4 vilike, wilik; 4, 6 vyly, 6–7 vylie; 4, 6–7 vily (4–5 vili), 6 vilie, vilye. *γ.* 4–5 vilelichę (5 villilichę), 4 vilelik, 4, 6– vilely (6 vylely). [f. Vile *a.* + -ly[2], after AF. and OF. *vilement*] In a vile manner (in various senses of the adj.).

α. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 296/82 Huy nomen and drowen þis holie man villiche þorus þe strete, Forto huy comen with-oute toun. *c* 1300 *St. Margarete* 123 Hire suete tendre flesch so filliche to-drawe was so; Allas, hou mizte eni man for reuþe such dede do. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1433 And than before the folk him bring, And thourgh the toun him villiche driue. 1340 *Ayenb.* 133 Þet is wylny..to by y-hyealde vyl and villiche to by y-drage.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25833 Þai huited on him viliker þan he had ben a hund. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2609 No man was so hardy To bryng hym þyng opunly, Þat he ne shulde vyly be shent. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* I. 6 Hathen men sal villere be dampned. 1388 Wyclif *Lev.* xviii. 28 Be 3e war, lest it caste out viliche also 3ou in liik manere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6912 Vlixes, his aune cowyn,.. To venge of þat vilany vili dissirit. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 4 Of the schame þat hyme was done, & of þat þat he was so vilich out of hys kynd lond I-dryue. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 36 b, We shall sone make our aduersaries to be lothed, if we..declare how cruelly, how vilie, and how maliciously thei haue vsed other men heretofore. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 62, I will neyther cowardlye shrinke, nor vilye forsake my flocke committed to my charge. 1616 Chamfney *Ver. Bps.* 119 For which reason doubtles do our English Puritans esteeme so vily of ordinations made by Bishops. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. i iv. § 6. 132 It is..a vile thing, vily to obey any vile thing, such as sin is.

γ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 16951 (Gött.), He þat neuer no sin did, vr sinnes all he bare, And vilelik for vs was leed. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3968 (Laud MS.), Ne had myne hauberk ben þe strongere þou haddest me vilely yslawe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. ii (1869) 175 Þilke beste was disgised so vileliche, and so foule figured þat [etc.]. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 86 Declaringe howe vylely, vylaynously, and violently he had byn vsed of owre men. 1582 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 161 So vilely to abuse, where they ought to honour. 1611 Bible 2 *Sam.* i. 21 The shield of the mightie is vilely cast away. 1694 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 462 The commons [were] enraged at it and spoke vilely of the Earl of Abendon and his son—called them Jacobites. 1765 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 144 This so generally received, tho' vilely mistaken Opinion, has caused many poor Sufferers to Endure more..than from the Distemper itself. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xxxi, How is it, sir, that..his daughter [is] vilely seduced as a recompense for his hospitality? 1824 Scott *Guy M.* xxi, Some drawings I have attempted, but I succeed vilely. 1836 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* IX. 619 A woman proud As I am, and I'm very vilely proud. 1894 Gladstone *Horace* III. v. 20 Swords, that Roman once had been, From unresisting legions vilely ta'en.

Vilenage, obs. form of Villeinage.

Vileness (vai·lnés). Also 5–6 vylenes(se, 6–7 vilenes(se, 6 vylynesse. [f. Vile *a.* + -ness.]

† **1.** Foulness, filthiness, foul matter. *Obs.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxviii. (Caxton) 341 Though it passe by vylenesse and fylthe, it is not defoyled. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 229 By suche vilenes disfigure they nature, Their chekes dirtie, their teeth by rustines Blacke, foule and rotten, expresseth their vilenes. 1530 Palsgr. 285/1 Vylenesse, nothyng clenly, *falardise.* 1552 Huloet, Vilenes, fylth, or ordure, *sordes.*

2. The quality or character of being morally vile; moral depravity; baseness of character.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 169 b, Secondaryly [are to be considered] the vylenesse, vnkyndnesse, & vnworthynesse of man to that loue. 1555 Bradforth in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 128 The natural disposition of the Spaniards whose vylenes doubtles I cannot showe. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 32, I will so lay open your vilenes yat I wil make the very stoones in Kingstone streets shall smell of your knaueries. 1635 *Life Long Meg of Westm.* xviii. 46 (Hindley), I do enjoin you that..you come into the church, and there..declare to the people the vileness of your life. *a* 1677 Barrow *Wks.* (1687) I. vii. 85 God being most holy and pure,..we, sensible of our corruption and vileness, may be fearfull and shy of coming near unto him. 1693 Crech in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiii. (1697) 318 He expatiates on the Vileness of the Times. 1740–8 Richardson *Pamela* (1785) III. x. 45 Her Vileness could hardly be equalled by the worst Actions of the most abandoned Procures. 1769 *Lett. Junius* i. (1788) 37 Judges are superior to the vileness of pecuniary corruption. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* li. 4 Is there no baseness we would hide? No inner vileness that we dread? 1866 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. i. 8 One of the very few worthies who had redeemed the vileness of a reign. 1880 E. White *Cert. Relig.* 95 The vileness of the temper which affronts the Eternal Mercy by the response of a scoffing criticism.

b. An instance of this.

1863 Pusey in *Oxf. Lent. Serm.* 14 When years of life have been spent in such preference of self, self-will, ambition, vilenesses to God. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N.* § 79 Ghastly convulsions in thought, and vilenesses in action.

3. Low or mean condition.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xv. 41 He therfore submitted hym self to our vilenes, to thend he would by lytla and lytle exalt vs to a hygher state.

4. Extreme badness or worthlessness.

1723 T. Thomas in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 74 One [picture] which, upon account of the vileness of the artist, ought not to have been placed there. 1807 Anna M. Porter *Hungar. Bro.* iv. (1832) 40 While she plied the modelling-sticks, or the chisel, with equal vileness.

Vilens(ly, varr. Villains(ly *Obs.*

Vilentyne: see Volentine.

† **Vilesse.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *villesse* (*-esce*), var. *viellesce,* etc. (mod.F. *vieillesse*), f. *vieil* old.] Old age.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 32 Thouhe she be young, yet wol she..take a buffard riche of gret vilesse. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. ix. (1869) 181 Þou shalt, quod she, wite whan þou hast seyn vilesse, and þat she shal bicomen in þee. And where is vilesse, quod I, and where dwelleth she, and what thing is it? [In ch. lv, p. 202, of this work the reading *viletee* is prob. an error for *vilece.*]

Vilet, Vi·let, obs. forms of Violet.

† **Vi·lety.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3–5 vilte (ulte, 4 filte), 4–5 vylte, 6 vilty. *β.* 4–5 vilete, 5–6 vylete(e, 6 vilety, 6–7 viletie. [a. AF. and OF. *ville* (= It. *viltà,* Pr. *viltat*), f. *vil* Vile *a.* Cf. Vility.] Vileness, in various senses; a vile action.

α. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 380, I hwuche ulte, i hwuche wo, he ledde his lif on eorðe. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1081 Gret vilte þou askest ous, wanne we of one kunde Beþ icome. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5206 He þat was hanged on a tre Bysyde Ihesu for vylte. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlix. 22 Þat þou wit þat þou ill did and see þi vilte. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 199 Neuer 3et in no boke breued I herde þat euer he wrek so wyperly on werk þat he made, Ne venged for no vilte of vice ne synne. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lviii. (Prose) 38 Alle þe uiltez þat man wille put hir to. 14.. *S. E. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXII. 352/84 Forȝeue hem þis gult þat doþ me soch filte. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 290/1 After the passion the Crosse was moche enhaunced for the vylte was transported in to preciousyte. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* v. i. 148 Whosoeuer shall.. loose the same [horse] through vilty or negligence.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20340 Þar-for þaron hei [*v.r.* haue] þou þe thoght,..þat tai do me na vilete. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiii. 93 Having euer in mynde his owne wickednes & his vilete. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* viii. 74 For yf..it happed that..[I] put the to deth it shold to me be vylete and reproche. 1504 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiv. 217 If man consyder well his vylete, pouerte & great indygence. 1576 Hedingfield tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* 57 b, And misery, vilety, shame,..are al more euil then death. 1601 Segar *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* III. v. 118 Better it is therefore to iustifie honour by Armes, then incurre suspition of viletie.

Vileyn(e, obs. ff. Villain *a.,* Villein. **Vileyne,** etc., obs. ff. Villainy. **Vileyns,** var. Villains *a. Obs.* **Vilful(ly,** obs. Sc. ff. Wilful(ly. **Vili,** obs. f. Vilely *adv.*

† **Vilisco.** *Obs.* Also villisco, vill-, villago. [ad. It. *vigliacco* (= Pg. *velhaco,* Sp. *bellaco,* obs. F. *vitiaque, vieillaque*) :—pop.L. **vitiaccone, -us,* f. L. *vilis* vile.] A vile or contemptible person; a villain, scoundrel.

a. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. iii, Now out, base villisco! Thou my resolution! 1620 Dekker *Sathrom.* Wks. 1873 I. 287 Before they came near the great hall, the faint-hearted villiacoes sounded at least thrice. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Jacke-a-Lent* Wks. I. 215/2 Panders are plagued, and the chiefe Commanders of these valorous villiacoes..purchase the inheritance of a Jayle.

β. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI,* IV. viii. 48 Me thinkes alreadie in this ciuill broyle I see them Lording it in London streets, Crying *Villiago* vnto all they meete. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Sir T. Wyatt* E ij b, A Dondego is a desperate Villiago, a very Castilian, God blesse vs. 1631 *Randolph's Hey for Honesty* II. i. 10 Why you Villiago's, my master has brought home an old lame..Dotard.

Village, obs. form of Village.

† **Vilicate,** *v. Obs.*[−1] [Perhaps a misprint for *vilificate*] *trans.* To vilify.

1646 R. Junius *Cure of Misprision* § 54. 213 ..... what it cannot attaine to, it will vilicate and deprave.

Viliche, Vilie, obs. forms of Vilely *adv.*

† **Vili·ficate,** *pa. pple. Obs.*[−1] [ad. late L. *vilificāt-us,* pa. pple. of *vilificāre* Vilify *v.*] Rendered vile.

a 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 48 This suttell serpent, transformyng hym-self yn-to the lyknes of a fair yonge man,..more vyliyfycat with precyous ornamentis, than I-bewtified for shynyng of his bewte.

Vilification (vi·lifikē·ʃən). [ad. L. type **vilificātio*: see Vilify *v.* and -fication. So OF. *vilification* (13th cent.).]

1. The action of rendering vile in worth or estate; degradation. *rare*[−1].

1630 Donne *Deaths Duell* (1632) 22 That..that priuat and retir'd man..must [in his dust]..bee mingled with the dust of euery high way...This is the most inglorious and contemptible vilification.

2. The action of vilifying by means of abusive language; reviling; an instance of this.

1653 H. More *Def. Cabbala* Pref. 83, I will not deny, but they have mingled their own fooleries with it..: Such as.. reproaches against the Pleasures of the Body; Vilification of Marriage, and the like. 1660 *Trial Regic.* (1679) 203 Then you spake in vilification of Monarchical Government. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 230 Either way is declared that which is a contumely and vilification of God. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xviii. § 34 Thus we have two genera or kinds of offences against reputation merely; to wit, 1. Defamation and 2. Vilification or Revilement. 1859 Boyd *Recreat. Country Parson* iii. 83 If you try..to live an honest, christian life, it will go hard, but you will live down such malicious vilification. *a* 1884 M. Pattison *Mem.* (1885) 322 The whole literary effort of the Catholic reaction..had been directed to beating down his fame by an organised system of detraction and vilification.

b. An abusive remark or speech. *rare.*

1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxii. 324 This epistle was made up of falsehoods, misrepresentations and vilifications. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) II. 164 In the mean time vilifications plenty there were at their tongues' end.

3. The action of bringing into disrepute.

1682 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 134 The losse of reputation (the soul of Empire) to the Crown of Spain; the Truce being made to the so much vilification thereof.

Vilifier (vi·lifəiəɹ). [f. next.] One who vilifies; a defamer or abuser.

1611 Florio, *Vilificatore,* a villifier, a debaser. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 103 He [T. Robertson] was a great Oppugner and Vilifier of the Questionists in the University. 1707 Hearne *Collect.* 6 June (O.H.S.) II. 18 A Vilifier of the Common-Prayer. *a* 1718 Penn *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 713 Those that are Disturbers and Villifiers of them that believe in Him. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* IV. li. 288 Meantime, the modern Prometheus..stood conspicuously erect, confronting his vilifier and the privy council. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Mar. 5/4 The apology extracted from his vilifier is the smallest retribution which can be exacted.

Vilify (vi·lifəi), *v.* Also 5–6 villifie, 7 villifie, 8 -fy; 6 vilefy, 7 villefie. [ad. late L. *vilificāre* (Jerome), f. *vilis* Vile *a.*: see -(I)fy. Hence also It. *vilificare,* Pr., Pg. *vilificar.*]

1. *trans.* To lower or lessen in worth or value; to reduce to a lower standing or level; to make of little (or less) account or estimation. Also *refl.*

Freq. in the 17th c.; now *rare* or *Obs.*

(*a*) *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. ix. 76 If..I villifie myself & bringe me to nouȝt,..& make me dust as I am, þi grace shal be merciful to me. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 85 He who villifies himselfe, doth not thereby save one penny. 1632 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 21 Who humbled himself in the forme of man..: vilifying himself to make man like himself. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxii. 253 The recompenses which God hath promised to those that villify themselves to serve him. *a* 1684 Leighton *Comm., 1 Peter* 3 23 (1850) 212 Are you not born to a better inheritance?.. Why then do you vilify yourselves?

(*b*) 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § 4. 251 Long delayes and many suttes vilifie the giftes;..for..it is bought dearely, which is purchased with long prayers. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 157 Such a marriage, wherin the minde is so disgrac't and villify'd below the bodies interest, ..is not of Gods institution. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 448 Though seeming Commendations,..yet..enough to vilifie, and cheapen the Noblest Merit. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 159 The Republick of Venice not only detains their Dukes Prisoners in their Palace,..but it daily retrenches their Priviledges, to villifie them the more. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 29 It would villify, and, I may say, vulgarize the Almighty, to imagine him resident among ourselves. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 147 The wealth and pride of individuals..makes the man of humble rank and fortune sensible of his inferiority, and degrades and vilifies his condition. 1845 I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* v. 207 When [a hierarchy's] distinctions of rank are of such vast compass as to vilify the humbler clerical orders.

†**b.** To make morally vile; to degrade; also, to defile or dirty. *Obs.*

1625 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Taylor's Rev.* Wks. (1630) II. 246/1 Such Motley, Medley, Linsey-Woolsey speeches Would sure have made these vilifie thy breeches. 1629 H. Hutton *Follie's Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 19 You vilifie your selfe with endlesse shame, Imposing scandall to each poet's name. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 523 Thir Makers Image.. then Forsook them, when themselves they villifi'd To serve ungovern'd appetite. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. iv. (1699) 38 Altho' the Soul be of it self of a most Noble Substance, yet his Vices do so much vilifie it, that he makes it more abominable than the Body. 1781 (see Vilifying *ppl. a.*).

absol. 1749 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) I. 440 Nothing vilifies and degrades more than pride.

†**c.** To bring disgrace or dishonour upon. *Obs.*

1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 139 The Anabaptists.. resisting the most painfull godly Ministers, and reproaching and vilifying them, by their wicked lives. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxxvii. (1674) 117 [They] blush to think that their Ancestors have so shamefully vilified their house. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* ix. 34 Their Priests, who either take no care of instructing the people, or vilify their doctrine by the sordidness of their lives. 1749 Smollett *Regicide* II. x, Heav'n shall not see A deed so abject vilify my name.

2. †**a.** To depreciate or disparage in discourse; to talk slightingly or contemptuously of. *Obs.* (passing into next).

1586 Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1595) 77 Your Vncles care, was by vilefying his wealth vnto you..to purchase for you the endowment of a farre more greater and assured treasure. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 288 The Pontifician so much depressing and vilifying his owne indisposition. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (ed. 2) 71 As these Sectaries villefie others, so they magnifie themselves. 1667 Anne Wyndham *King's Concealm.* (1681) 53 Some envious persons have sought to diminish and vilifie the faithful services which the Colonel ..performed. 1692 Ray *Creation* I. (1692) 162 To disparage, deride, and vilifie those Studies which themselves skill not of. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 180, I express myself with caution, lest I should be mistaken to vilify reason. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 117 P 2 The disposition of vulgar minds to ridicule and vilify what they cannot comprehend.

b. To depreciate with abusive or slanderous language; to defame or traduce; to speak evil of.

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* Prol. (1599) 168 When I once hear..some span-new come fry Of Innes a-court striuing to vilefy My dark reproofes. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 51 After he hath thus spent some part of his railing Rhetorick in traducing and vilifying this Protestantical Divine his Adversary. 1659 T. Pecke *Parnass. Puerp.* 175 Mother-in-Lawes, Poets much Vilifie. 1670 Baxter *Cure Ch. Div.* Concl. Pref. § 5 Not..to hate and flye from one another; nor to vilifie and backbite one another. 1713 Steele *Englishman* No. 13. 83, I have really taken a secret Pleasure in seeing him employed in villifying me. *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. iv. 348 One of those persons whom even his enemies could not vilify without praising him. 1764 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* iii. (1765) 352 Randolph, in return, vilified Dudley, in a great number of letters. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxviii, The priestly party.. spared no effort to vilify me. 1850 Mrs. Jamieson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 115 He was slandered and vilified by the corrupt monks. 1889 G. C. Brodrick in *Oxf. Chron.* 11 May 7/7 Those who had devoted their whole influence to vilifying such a remedial policy.

absol. *a* 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Eng. Lit.* iv. (1855) 439 So artfully does he misrepresent them, so vehemently does he vilify.

†**3.** To regard as worthless or of little value; to contemn or despise. *Obs.* (Common in 17th c.)

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. x. (1599) 223 Opinion mounts this froth vnto the skies, Whom iudgemente reason iustly vilifies. 1641 Baker *Chron., Hen. I*, 60 A private man, vilified, and thought to have but little in him. 1652–62 Heylyn *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 64 Gold here so vilified that they exchange it gladly for Brass. 1672 Trenchfield *Cap Gray Hairs* (1688) 40 For no man but vilifies that person in his own estimate, who is loose bodied upon that account.

†**4.** *intr.* To become common or worthless; to lose value. *Obs.*—1

a 1654 Binning *Sinners Sanctuary* x. Wks. (1735) 210/1 It is Ignorance that magnifies other Mysteries, which vilify through Knowledge.

Hence **Vi·lified** *ppl. a.*; **Vi·lifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Vi·lifyingly** *adv.*

1808 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiv, He knows how willingly Clement Blair will lay down a *vilified life upon earth. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* P 2b Their second defence of their *vilifying and abusing of the English Bibles. 1643 Chas. I *Proclam.* Wks. 1662 II. 345 To countenance the vilifying of the Book of Common Prayer. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* II. 183 In the midst of all the..Vilifyings that the World heaps upon me. 1683 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xv, I will not recite all the *vilifying language..which he was affronted with. 1708 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 81 That vilifying Malice and Contempt, which Proud and Profligate People..let fly at Them and their Office. 1781 J. Moore *View Soc. It.* (1790) II. I. 68 Free from all the villifying effects of dirt. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 103 Thou didst also teach the Town of Mansoul to speak contemptuously, and *vilifyingly of their great King Shaddai.

Vilike, obs. f. Vilely *adv.*

†**Vi·liorate**, *v. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vilior*, compar. of *vilis* Vile *a.*, after *meliorate*.] *trans.* To make less good; to worsen.

a 1722 Leslie *Husb.* (1757) 303 There is a medium in the watery temperature of the earth, either extream of which viliorates the juice.

†**Vilio·rity.** *Obs.*—1 [f. as prec.] The fact of being cheaper or of less value.

1703 [E. Neve] *City & C. Purchaser* 281 Mr. Wing's Prices are much cheaper than those about London;..which ..proceeds from the Viliority of Commodities in his Country.

Vilipend (vi·lipend), *v.* Also 5–6 **vylypende** (5 **philipend**), 6 **vilypend**, 7 **villipende**, 8 **-pend**; 6 **velipend**, *Sc.* **wellepend**; 6–7 **vilepend(e.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vilipender*, or ad. L. *vilipendĕre*, f. *vilis* vile, worthless + *pendĕre* to consider, esteem. Cf. It. *vilipendere*, Sp. and Pg. *vilipendiar*.]

1. *trans.* To rate or regard as being of little value or consequence; to contemn or despise; to treat contemptuously or slightingly.

Very common *c* 1500–1660, in some cases not clearly distinguishable from sense 2.

c 1470 G. Ashby *Active Policy* 103 For youre birthe of theim discended, In whome al vices ben vilipended. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Lion & Mouse* 135, For thy trespas thow can mak na defens, my noble persoun thus to vilipend. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvi. 41 b/1 The chyrches were pylled; and the sacred vessells vylypended or dyspysed. 1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* III. xlvii. (1893) 234 The more profoundly..he descendeth in humble consyderacion of hym selfe and vylypandynge hym selfe. 1573 L. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 157 Phidias ..was threatned with death, to vilipend so great a Goddess and to make her in Ivory, which was wont to be honoured in Marble. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* Annot. 93 Whom they did vilipend and despise, they were wont to cast stones at their Images and Statues. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* vii. § 3 (1643) 331 The terrible accidents that succeed eclipses may not be forgotten nor vilipended. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. 251 Since, thanks to Jove's Benignity you're valid, Choose not a frigid State, while yours is calid, Unless Salubrity you vilipend. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 4 Aug., I would not willingly vilipend any Christian, if peradventure he deserveth that epithet. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xiii, A youth devoid of that petulant volatility, which is impatient of, or vilipends, the conversation and advice of his seniors. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. 182 One Richard Hunt was summoned ..for vilipending his lordship's jurisdiction. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 213 This then is the proof that the doctrine of Justification is not contrary to Scripture, and does not vilipend, but really establish the Law.

2. To speak of with disparagement or contempt; to represent as contemptible or worthless; to abuse or vilify. (Common in 19th c.)

a 1529 Skelton *Bk. 3 Foles* Wks. 1843 I. 202 If that I am exalted vnto honoure..thou wylt vilepende me with thy wordes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 246 b, Vilipendyng all holy Religion, affirmyng it to bee an abusion of the people. 1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 90 Hee..did diminish, vilipend, and debase among his friends, the inestimable benefites hee hath received from her Majesty. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1120 Wherein he doth vilipend and mocke Socrates most, in that he demaundeth the question, What is man? 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 76 You shall find Luther..vilipending those books of Scripture, which were received into the Canon. *a* 1806 C. J. Fox *Reign Jas. II* (1808) p. viii, Even Dryden, who speaks with proper respect of Corneille, vilipends Racine. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xviii, Menacing the youth with maledictions..and vilipending the poor innocent girl as the basest and most artful of vixens. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* (1881) 227, I am the object of her detestation..She will seize her opportunity to vilipend me

Hence **Vi·lipended** *ppl. a.*; **Vi·lipending** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Vi·lipender**, one who vilipends; **Vilipe·nditory** *a.*, abusive.

1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trumps* I. 9 Pleasant was the well-known revenge of the *vilipended author. 1849 H. Mayo *Pop. Superst.* (1851) 197 The long-vilipended influence of Mesmer. 1832 *Westm. Rev.* July 133 He..would deserve to be laughed at with the mathematical *vilipender of Milton's poem. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 463 In manifest *vilipending of thair Hienesis autoritie. *a* 1626 Bp. Andrewes *Comm. Decalogue* 508 (T.), If it be to the scorning and vilipending of a man, it may be called the sin of the men of Succoth, who slighted Gideon. 1659 C. Noble *Answ. Immod. Queries* 6 What greater vilipendings..can be cast upon any man? 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 4/7 An occasion for a wholesale vilipending of the Government. 1628 *Hist. Perkin Warbeck* 15 Neither security or presumption..of their owne greatnesse, . nor *vilipending and slight regard of the contrary. *a* 1722 Fountainhall *Decis.* I. 548 The Lords..considered his..vilipending expressions and carriage, and thought that deserved a fine. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xii, Sir Bingo..was..in a thoughtless and vilipending humour. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 195 The passionate Romeo, and the vilipending Mercutio. 1884 *Kendal Merc. & Times* 22 Feb. 3/3 If *vilipenditory rhetoric could overthrow a Government then Mr. Gladstone ought to have collapsed.

†**Vilipe·ndency.** *Obs. rare.* [f. prec.: see -ency.] The expression of disparagement or contempt.

1653 Waterhouse *Apol. Learn.* 149 The mighty Goliahs of Rome, who by this way of vilipendency, hope to give our Clergies flesh to be food for the birds of the Air. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 77 Some Lords,..not content with that vilipendency,..would have this contempt against the prelates inserted in their Journal Book.

†**Vilipe·ndious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. Cf. Pg. *vilipendioso*.] Contemptible. Also **Vilipe·ndiously** *adv.*, abusively, opprobriously.

1536 in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) III. 168 [They inquired whether Cromwell,] whom they called most vilipendiously, [was put out of the king's council]. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Laugh & be Fat* Wks. II. 79/1 Thou ignoble horse-rubbing peasant,..being but a vilipendious mechanical Hostler.

†**Vilipe·nsion.** Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 5–6 **vilipensioun**, 6 **-pentioun**, 7 **vilepension.** [a. OF. *vilipension*, *-pention*, or ad. med.L. *vilipensio*, noun of action f. L. *vilipendĕre* Vilipend *v.* Cf. also It. *vilipensione*.] The action or fact of contemning or despising.

1496 Sir G. Have *Gen. Priests* (S.T.S.) 98 Mekle lauchter ..engenderis vilipensioun and lichtlynes quhen it exceidis. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 116, I synnit in..be exaltit arrogance,..derisioun, scorne and vilipentioun. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 318 With so grit schame and lak, In vilipentioun of the nobill blude. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 386 Committand heirthrow..contemptioun and vilipensioun of his authoritie and lawis. 1600 *Ibid.* VI. 377 In grittar contempt and vilipensioun of his Majestie. 1652 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* III. 274 In vilepension of his precious blwd sched for me and mankynd.

b. The condition of being despised.

1538 Abp. Brown in *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) III. 6 The very occasioner and author off the vilipension and contempt that I am yn.

Vilipe·nsive, *a.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *vilipendĕre*: see -ive.] Abusive.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 3 Strains not simply laudative of Oporto, but vituperative and vilipensive of Bourdeaux. 1898 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 468 Southey..tacks vilipensive prefixes and postfixes to several of these.

Vility (vi·lĭti). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 5–6 **vilite**, 6 **vylyte**, **vylite**, **vilitee**, 6–7 **vilitie**, 7, 9 **vility.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vilité* (var. of *vilté* Vilety), ad. L. *vilitās*, f. *vilis* Vile *a.*: see -ity. So It. *vilità*.]

1. Vileness of character or conduct; moral degradation or baseness.

1388 Wyclif *Deut.* xxiv. 1 If..sche fyndith not grace bifor hise iyen for sum vilite [L. *vilitatem*], he schal write a libel .. of forsakyng. 1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* III. v. (1891) 199 That all vylyte or synne, specially thyn owne synne & foulenes, displease the. 1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* Piij, They corrupt it vilitee for theim to yelde theyr valiant soules to God, any where els than in a foughten fielde. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 209 Then surely have wee not now so great cause to dread him, as to blame our selves and our wranglings and vility.

1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 556 Zelots, who of their natural vility were busy-bodies, questioners of other men's religion.

†**2.** Mean or low estimate. *Obs.*—1

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxi. (1869) 37 For charitee holdeth in cheertee that that oothere holden in vilitee.

†**b.** Meanness or lowliness of condition. *Obs.*

1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xx. 170 Al 3our gloire, veilthi, and dignite, sal change in vilite. *c* 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 123, I mervaille muche theare is anie (seinge a vilitie and contempte of the thinge) will occupie the feate of husbandrie at all. 1596 Bell *Surv. Popery* II. lv. 165 He suffered..in time of his infancie, baseness of his mothers womb, pouertie, asperitie, vilitie in the manger. *a* 1618 J. Davies (Heref.) *Witte's Pilgr.* lxxii, The Sunne..Disdaines not to behold the basest Worme, To glad his Soule and grace his vility. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* vi. 17 That idle mistake .. may probably be grounded upon the seeming vility of these figures. 1696 Kennett *Rom. Antiq.* II. v. vi. 281 The Comedians wore these [sc. *socci*] to represent the vility of the Persons they represented.

†**c.** Lowness of value or price; cheapness. *Obs.*

1623 Cockeram *Eng. Dict.* II, Cheapnes, *vilitie.* 1638 Penkethman *Artach.* C ij, Such vilitie or cheapnesse of.. graine, as 6*d.* the Quarter. 1674 Staveley *Rem. Horselrech* (1769) 221 The vility of habits [i.e. dress] should be measured by the custom of every country.

†**3.** Impurity, filth. *Obs.*

1540 *Sc. Acts, Jas. V* (1814) II. 374/2 Becaus of þe vilite þat cumis be slaying of flesche be the fleschecuris. 1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 44 The refuce, droose, & vilar part of the outher blud..separated from the purer for the vylite & euel qualite therin comprehendyd.

Vill (vil). Also 6–8 (9) **ville** [a. AF. *vill, vile*, OF. *vile, vylle, ville* farm, country-house, village, collection of villages around a city (mod.F. *ville* town):—L. *villa*: see Villa *sb.*]

1. *Law* and *Hist.* A territorial unit or division under the feudal system, consisting of a number of houses or buildings with their adjacent lands, more or less contiguous and having a common organization; corresponding to the Anglo-Saxon tithing and to the modern township or civil parish.

1596 Bacon *Maxims Com. Law* III. (1630) 14 If. part of the ville is his severall, and part his waste and common. *a* 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 261 A plea of land which is for land or other such things in demesne..must alwayes bee brought in a ville, or place knowne out of any ville. And not in a hamlet which is parcell of a vill. 1672 Manley *Cowell's Interpr., Vill*,..is sometimes taken for a Mannor, and sometimes for a Parish, or part of it. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 235 There are very many more Vills and Hamlets now than there were then, and very few Villages, Towns or Parishes then, which continue not to this Day. 1702 *Act Parl.* in *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3907/6 Any Parish, Township, Vill, or Extraparochial Place. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 291 The party raising it must acquaint the constable of the vill,..and thereupon the constable is to search his own town, and raise all the neighbouring vills. 1799 E. Hasted *Hist. Canterbury* 106 This borough [i.e. Stablegate]..was some time past erected into a ville, in order to maintain its own poor. 1839 Stonehouse *Axholme* 316 One or two small houses have been built here, but they are hardly sufficient to constitute a hamlet or vill. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 54 The social organisation of the vill may be identical perhaps with that of the mark. 1892 Athenæum *Moorland Par.* (ed. 2) 87 If..there were more than one [field] within the vill.

2. *poet.* A village.

a 1700 Ken *Hymnothea* Post. Wks. 1721 III. 383 Parochial Priests were fix'd in ev'ry Vill, Who under him should saving Truth instil. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VIII. 100

among the tenantry of thorpe and vill, Or straggling burgh. 1881 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 69 In every vill, at morning's earliest prime, To early-risers many a Hodge is seen. 1634 SIR H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* II. III. ii, So in field or forest, Or in wall'd town, by stipend lured, or vill Surprised and sack'd, by turns he lived at large.

†3. A villa. *Obs. rare.*

1684 tr. *Eutropius* X. 170 [Constantine] died in a publick Vill of the City Nicomedia. 1785 AMORY *Mem.* (1766) II. 61 He saw a vill, that seemed to him of wood, and consisted of ground-rooms. 1766 — *Buncle* (1770) III. 203 The vill here was very odd, but a charming pretty thing. The house consisted of [etc.].

Vill, obs. Sc. form of WILL *a.*

Villa (vi·lă). [Partly a. L. *villa* country-house, farm, etc., perhaps a diminutive from the stem of *vīcus* village, hamlet, country-seat; partly a. It. *villa* (whence also F., Sp., and Pg. *villa*) from the same source.]

1. Orig., a country mansion or residence, together with a farm, farm-buildings, or other houses attached, built or occupied by a person of some position and wealth; a country seat or estate; in later and more general use, a residence in the country, or in the neighbourhood of a town, usually of some size and architectural elegance and standing in its own grounds.

a. Among the ancient Romans, Greeks, etc.

1612 G. SANDYS *Trav.* IV. 274 Passing by Ciceros Villa, suen at this day so called, where yet do remaine the ruines of his Academy. 1644 STAPYLTON *Juvenal* I. 111 Who built so many villa's? when wast knowne Our Fathers with seven dishes supt alone? 1697 WALSH *Life Virgil* P 3 The beautiful *Villa's* of the Roman Nobility, equalling the Magnificence of the greatest Kings. 1772 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 254 Pliny has left us descriptions of two of his villas. As he used his Laurentine villa for his winter retreat [etc.]. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXXVI. (1787) III. 443 The villa was pleasantly seated on the margin of the lake. 1797 S. LYSONS *Rom. Antiq. Woodchester* 16 The remains of a Roman house, or rather, perhaps, of a *villa*. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* XIII. 269 The ruins of a villa built by Tiberius in the Island of Capri. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. 97 The dwellings which were thickly scattered in the neighbourhood of the capital..seem to have been chiefly villas of the more opulent Spartans. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iv. 32 Their great men had country houses and villas, the surest sign of a settled state of society.

b. With reference to modern Italy or other Continental countries.

1612 CORYAT *Crudities* 139 A certaine Gentleman called Bassano..liued at a villa that he had in the country. 1636 MASSINGER *Gt. Dk. Florence* I. i, And how, I pray you, (For we, that never look beyond our villas, Must be inquisitive) are state affairs Carried in court? *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1644, We went to see Cardinal Richelieu's villa at Ruell. *Ibid.* 10 Nov. 1644, We went to see Prince Ludovisio's villa...The house is very magnificent, and the extent of the ground is exceeding large. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 238 Their Villa's, or Palaces of Pleasure, are scattered all over the Country. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 510 The road from Pistoia to Florence..exhibits no villa's or plantations to the view, and consequently..there's the greater number of them in the neighbourhood of Florence. 1806 DALLAWAY *Observ. Eng. Archit.* x. 232 The capricious lightness of an Italian villa. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 390/1 On the borders of the Havel..is the little villa of Glienecke, once the residence of the minister Von Hardenberg. 1905 'G. THORNE' *Lost Causes* iii, The gay villa at Nice by the old citadel of Mont-Albano.

c. In English use. Now merged in next.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. *Misc.* III. ii. 184 *note*, Behold the Disposition and Order of these finer sorts of Apartments, Gardens, Villa's! 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iv. § 1. 427 The Villas and Cabinets of the Noble, the Rich, and the Curious. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 338 The profits of some of whom are so extravagant, as to support them in enormous magnificent town-houses and country villas. 1830 PRAED *Poems* (1865) II. 227 Hurrying madly after marriage To some lord's villa. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 2677 A villa should always form part of a village, and be placed, if possible, on rather higher ground. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 3000 The villas at Foot's Cray and Mereworth, imitations of Palladio's Villa, Capra,..are the maxima of villas: beyond this the villa becomes a mansion.

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1732 What behold I now? A wilderness of wonders burning round;.. Perhaps the villas of descending gods!

d. Hence, any residence of a superior or handsome type, or of some architectural pretension, in the suburbs of a town or in a residential district, such as is occupied by a person of the middle-class; also, any small better-class dwelling-house, usually one which is detached or semi-detached.

The word is frequently employed in the names given to particular houses of this type, as *Windsor Villa*.

1755 JOHNSON *Connoisseur* No. 81 P 4, I cannot help observing, that persons polite enough to be fond of such exquisite refinements, are partly in the same case with the mechanic at his dusty Villa. 1782 COWPER *Retirem.* 481 Suburban villas, highway-side retreats, That dread th' encroachment of our growing streets. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* (1889) 114 To Havre de Grace,..the hills almost covered with little new built villas. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 318 Incongruous edifices called villas. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 349 No long avenues of villas, embowered in lilacs and laburnums, extended from the great centre of wealth. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* II. 6 The farm houses are dotted about as thickly as to look like inferior 'villas' falling out of rank. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. IX. 167, I wish you would let me build you a villa at Torquay or Dartmouth.

†2. (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 May 1645, In these [valleys] i.. faire Parks or Gardens call'd Villas, being onely places of recesse and pleasure, at some distance from the streetes, yet within the walls [of Rome].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib. (passing into adj.), as *villa architecture, garden, -gate, style, -work*, etc.; **villa-house**, †(*a*) a house attached to a villa; (*b*) a villa residence; **villa dwelling, residence**, = VILLA 1 c, d.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Nov. 1644, In the villa-house is a man's body,..petrified. 1823 SCOTT *Let.* 13 Mar. in *Lockhart*, What I shall finally make of this villa-work I don't know. 1828 R. LUGAR (*title*), Villa Architecture. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1620 All the essential comforts of a villa dwelling. *Ibid.* § 1624 Of the Choice of a Situation for a Villa Residence. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. iii, A..dwelling-house, built in what is called a villa style, with a variety of gardens and conservatories. 1855 BROWNING *Old Pict. in Florence* i, The aloed arch Of the villa-gate. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* xii. 367 Mme. Mila was organising alfresco dinners in villa gardens.

b. In instrumental or similative combs., as *villa-dotted, -haunted, -like* adjs. Also in objective or obj. gen. combs., as *villa dweller, owner*, etc.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 264/1 The houses are for the most part neat and villa-like. 1871 MISS CRAIK *Fair France* 154 Flat, tame, and villa-haunted, what we should call Cockneyfied. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* III. 148 The smiling waters of Thun, with its villa-dotted shores. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *Lay Morals*, etc. (1911) 123 It is..from the villa-dweller that we hear complaints of the unworthiness of life. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 35 This sort of villa-owner's selfishness.

Hence (in nonce-use) **Villaette** (vilă,e·t), a small villa; **Villafy** (vi·lăfəi), *v. trans.*, (*a*) to turn into a villa; (*b*) to cover with villas.

'1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 563 Sweet nestling cottages and villaettes upon the shrubby braes 1858 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary North & South* (1863) I. 274 Pretty villarettes [*sic*] in charming groves of magnolia, orange-trees, and lime oaks. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 338/1 [The château] has..been ..restored and villafied. 1887 *Oxford Mag.* 9 Mar. 129 A railway which would villa-fy the shores of Rydal.

Villadom (vi·lădəm). [f. VILLA + -DOM.] The world of villas; suburban villas or their residents collectively. (Freq. in recent use.)

1830 *Macm. Mag.* May 76 Respectable and well-to-do villadom in the suburban counties. 1888 EARL OF DERBY *Herne Lodge* I. i. 1 Oases in the desert of gorgeous villadom. 1897 S. S. SPRIGGE *Life Wakley* XXV. 233 The street still reserves many of the features of suburban villadom. *attrib.* 1898 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 5/6 The roads..look to be of the lower villadom type.

Village (vi·lédʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4– **village**, 5 **vylage, villaoh-**, 5–6 **vyllage**, 5–7 **vilage**, 6 **wylage**, *Sc.* **willage, -aige, welage**; also *pl.* 6 **vyllagies**, *Sc.* **willagies**. [a. OF. *village, vilage* (mod.F. *village*), = Pr. *vilatge*, Sp. *village*, Pg. *villagem* (fem.), It. *villaggio* :—L. *villāticum*, neut. sing. of *villāticus* of or pertaining to a villa, f. *villa* VILLA: see -AGE. Cf. late L. *villagium, vilatgium.*]

1. A collection of dwelling-houses and other buildings, forming a centre of habitation in a country district; an inhabited place larger than a hamlet and smaller than a town, or having a simpler organization and administration than the latter. (Cf. the note to TOWN *sb.* 4.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 225 Henne ouer a myle, withinne a greet village. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 491 He had not ryden but a whyle,..Or he was ware of a vyllage. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 184 A Candrede in frensh and in Irysh, is a Porcion of grovnde that may contene an hundrid villachis. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 184/1 In any Toune or other village not corporat. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 14 They sayled England thorowe and thorowe, Vyllage, towne, cyte, and borowe. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 85 Much carting, ill tillage, makes som to flie village. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 60 A wall'd Towne is more worthier then a village. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 287 A large and ample village containing to the number of sixe thousand or mo families. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 51, I remember not to haue seene a more pleasant village than this [the Hague]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 448 Forth issuing on a Summers Morn to breathe Among the pleasant Villages and Farmes,..The smell of Grain. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 4 Consider also, that..the Customs of different Towns and Villages in the same Nation, are..contrary to each other. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Village* I. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2), *Wallacetown*; a thriving and populous village in Ayrshire...The village nearly joins to the Newtown of Ayr, and contains about 960 inhabitants. 1850 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 115/1 A mere village has no claim to a municipal representation. 1882 T. COAN *Life in Hawaii* 43 When the meeting closed at one village, most of the people ran on to the next.

transf. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vi. 94 There are whole villages of these Vros inhabiting in the Lake in their boates of Totora, the which are tied ether and fastened to some rocke.

fig. 1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XL. 552 To express the Condition of an Honest Fellow and no Flincher, under the Effects of good Fellowship, he is said to..Come home by the Villages, this is Provincial, when a man comes home by the fields he meets nobody, consequently is sober, when he comes home by the Villages, he calls first at one house, then at another, and drinks at all.

b. Applied jocularly to a large town or city, esp. London.

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 120, I used to keep a good prad here for a bolt to the village. ?a 1860 DU MAURIER in Moscheles *In Bohemia* (1897) 124 Living with Henley, No. 85, Newman Street...This is a very jolly little village, and I wish you were over here. 1880 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* XXVIII, You had much better come up to the little village at once, Brown, and stay there while the coin lasts. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 334 Birmingham is called 'the hardware village'.

c. *Cambr. slang.* (See quot.)

1865 *Slang Dict.* 266 A Cambridge term for a disreputable suburb of that town, viz., Barnwell, generally styled 'the village'.

d. *U.S.* A minor municipality with limited corporate powers (see quots.).

1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* II. II. XLVIII. 240 A minimum population of three hundred, occupying not more than two square miles in extent, may by popular vote become incorporated as a 'village'. *Ibid.* 247 Of these villages and other minor municipalities there are various forms in different States. Ohio, for instance, divides her municipal corporations into (*a*) cities,..(*b*) villages, with two ..., the first of from 3000 to 5000 inhabitants, the second of from 200 to 3000,..and (*c*) hamlets.

2. The inhabitants or residents of a village; the villagers.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 25 The corte, the contre, wylage, and towne, Sayth..Of all prowde knauys thow beryst the belle. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 207 The village all declar'd how much he knew. 1820 COMBE *Syntax, Consol.* I. (Chandos) 138 The Village on their Pastor gaz'd, At once afflicted and amaz'd. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 35 A sleepy land,..Where almost all the village had one name.

3. *transf.* (from 1). A small group or cluster of the burrows of prairie-dogs. Cf. TOWN *sb.* 7 b.

1808 PIKE *Sources Missis.* II. (1810) 156 *note*, The Wishtonwish of the Indians, prairie dogs of some travellers, ..reside on the prairies of Louisiana in towns and villages. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* 239, I happened on a village of barking squirrels, or prairie dogs. 1833 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* XXXII. 295, I learned that a burrow, or village, as it is termed, of prairie dogs had been discovered.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib. passing into adj., = of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a village or villages; living in or belonging to a village; rural, rustic.

Freq. in poetry from the early 18th c.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. XLII. 95 The Voinuche or Græcian village men. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, V. iii. 209 The early Village Cock Hath twice done salutation to the Morne. 1608 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 160 Of the Village dog or house-keeper. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 159 Enemies, that know not Why they are so; but like to Village Curres, Barke when their fellowes doe. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 346 Might we but hear. Or sound of pastoral reed.., or village cock Count the night watches to his feathery Dames. 1697 DRYDEN *Ded. Æneis* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 233 Those village words, as I may call them, give us a mean idea of the thing. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* II. i, Faithful as the simple Village Swain. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 327 She once, perhaps, in village plenty blest, Has wept at tales of innocence distrest. 1779 *Mirror* No. 42 P 4 The village-surgeon being then absent. 1783 CRABBE *Village* II. 2 No longer truth..disdain, But own the Village Life a life of pain. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* V. XXV, But village notes could ne'er supply That rich and varied melody. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 91 Much might be said of village manners in America. 1860 in F. Galton *Vac. Tour.* (1861) 114 The literati of the southern Slaves are not to be found among a higher class than the village clergy, and masters of village-schools. 1871 MAINE (*title*), Village-Communities in the East and West. 1883 SMILES in *Longm. Mag.* June 159 He was followed to the grave by a large number of the village labourers.

†b. Attrib., = village-like; of the size or constitution of a village. *Obs.*—1

1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epise* (1647) 89 In populous Cityes, not in village Townes, for no Bishops were ever suffered to be in village Townes.

c. In objective and obj. genitive, instrumental, locative, or other combs., as *village-founder, -haunter*; *village born, -dwelling, -lit* adjs.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, CCXCIX, These.., wrought more With village-haunters. 1822 BADGER *Nestorians* I. 343 The Jès were all *Igrâwy*, that is village-dwelling Arabs, who cultivate the soil. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1878) 270 The landscape of village-lit plain and forest-darkened height. 1880 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 38 The local hero or eponymous village-founder was the man who cut down the jungle. 1891 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 3/4 The many village-born men in towns.

d. Special combs.: **village burrow**, = sense 3; **village butler** *Cant* (see quot.); **village-house**, the chief house of a Malay village.

1795 POTTER *Dict. Cant* (ed. 2), *Village butlers*, old thieves, that would rather steal a dishclout than discontinue the practice of thieving. 1826 S. ST. JOHN *Life Forests Far East* I. 7 A passage raised on posts three feet above the ground, led to the great village-house. 1893 W. H. HUDSON *Idle Days in Patagonia* I. 12 Like..the viscacha's village burrows, and the beaver's dam, it is made to last for ever.

Hence **Vi·llage** *v. intr.*, to settle down to a villeggiatura. **Vi·llagedom**, the condition or status of a village; also, the system of village communities. **Vi·llageful**, as many as a village contains; the whole of the people of a village. **Vi·llagehood**, = *villagedom*. **Vi·llageless** *a.*, having no village. **Villa·geous** *a.*, of or concerned with villages or village-life. †**Vi·llageship**, ? a village community. **Vi·llageward(s** *advs.*, in the direction of the village. **Vi·llagism**, a mode of expression usual in villages; a rustic phrase.

1829 Byron *Let. to Hoppner* 6 June, I shall go back to Venice before I *village on the Brenta. 1867 McDowall *Hist. Dumfries* xiii. 144 William I. raised it [Dumfries] from humble *villagedom to be one of the King's own burghs. 1881 F. T. Palgrave *Visions Eng.* 4 O'er the land is wrought The happy villagedom by English tribes From Elbe and Baltic brought. *c* 1890 Stevenson *In South Seas* IV. (1900) 312 A *villageful of gay companions. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 401 They come down in villagefuls among the older tribes. 1890 *Murray's Mag.* May 602 Caudebec is only redeemed from pure *villagehood by its possession of a Mayor. 1889 Hissey *Tour in Phaeton* 169 An old and lonely country church, standing by itself, *villageless, on rising ground. 1858 Thoreau *Lett.* (1865) 171 Let it be a local and *villageous book. 1768 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 72 The town contains some corporations of villages or *villageships. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 493/2 We strolled *villageward. 1884 May Crommelin *Brown-Eyes* xix, Then the two groups went back villagewards. 1772 Nugent *Hist. Fr. Gerund* VI. 169 To say, 'Command me, in every thing,' they would think a vulgarity and *villagism.

Village-like, *a.* [f. Village *sb.*] Like or resembling a village or that of a village.

1838 Ht. Martineau *West. Trav.* I. 251 The village-like character of some of the arrangements at Washington. 1840 Arnold *Hist. Rome* (1846) II. xxxv. 437 They lived mostly in villages, or in small village-like towns. 1864 A. McKay *Hist. Kilmarnock* 186 The town no longer presented a village-like aspect.

Village. [f. Village *sb.* + -er 1.] One who lives in a village; now usually, a working-class inhabitant or native of a village.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 80 A villager, *villicus.* 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 172 Brutus had rather be a Villager, Then to repute himselfe a Sonne of Rome Vnder these hard Conditions. 1634 Milton *Comus* 166 Som harmles Villager Whom thrift keeps up about his Country gear. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 30 No chearful Maid nor Villager is seen. 1752 Young *Brothers* II. i, Each villager Is queen of her affections. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 47 Vast districts, which the nearest villagers took possession of. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* I. i, The desolate parsonage was committed to the charge of one of the villagers. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* IV. I. 314 All Frenchmen, alike townspeople and villagers, were free.

transf. 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 36 These waterie villagers [=fish] with thousands more, Doe passe and repasse neare the verdant shore.

Hence **Vi·llageress,** a female villager, a village girl or woman.

1873 M. Collins *Miranda* II. 22 The villageresses were terribly jealous at first. 1894 A. D'Heristal *Discord. Life* 201 She was so indifferent about what the squiresses and villageresses might say about her.

Villagery (vi·lĕdʒĭri, vi·lĕdʒərl). Also 6 **villagree.** [f. Village *sb.* + -(e)ry.] Villages collectively.

Now chiefly as an echo of the Shaksperian passage.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 33 Are you not hee, That frights the maidens of the Villagree. 1822 W. Tennant *Thane of Fife* III. I, Crowding they come from all her coasts so rife Of villagery. *a* 1839 Galt *Demon Destiny* (1840) 5 A vista bright appeared Of riant villagery. 1883 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 75/2 Unkempt mountain ponies startle the maidens of the villagery.

Vi·llaget. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -et. Cf. older F. *villagette* (Godef.).] A little village.

1781 *Twining Papers* Ser. II. (1887) 81 The mountains.. are, for some distance, so close to the river as scarcely to leave room for even a villaget. 1846 D. W. Pughe *Harlech Castle* 26 Naentwrog is a romantic villaget.

Vi·llagey, *a.* [f. as prec. + -y.] Somewhat village-like.

1882 *Advance* (Chicago) 21 Dec., Washington Street lays aside entirely the villagey aspect commonly ascribed to it. 1889 A. T. Page *Eyes Thames* 100 The quiet waterside,..so villagey, and all that kind of thing, you know.

Villagio, error or mispr. for *viliago* Viliaco.

1820 Scott *Monast.* xv, Truly, good villagio, your question hath in it somewhat of embarrassment.

Villain (vi·lăn), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4 vyleyn, 6 villein(e ; 4 vilaine, 4–5 vylayn (5 vil-), 5–6 vylayne ; 5 vyllayn, 6 -ayne, -aine, 5–7 villayne (7 -ayn), 6–7 villaine, 7– villain. *β.* 4 velaun, 6 vyl-, vilane (*Sc.* veill-, vill-, willane), villan, wellantt-, 7 villiane, 7–8 villian, 8 villin. [a. AF. and OF. *vilein, vilain, villain* (= Prov. *vilan*, It. and Sp. *villano*, Pg. *villão*):—pop L. **villān-um*, acc. sing. of **villānus* (see Villains *a*), f. L. *villa* Villa. See also Villein.]

1. Originally, a low-born base-minded rustic ; a man of ignoble ideas or instincts ; in later use, an unprincipled or depraved scoundrel ; a man naturally disposed to base or criminal actions, or deeply involved in the commission of disgraceful crimes : *a.* Used as a term of opprobrious address.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11537 Goddys treytour, and ryȝt vyleyn ! Hast þou no mynde of Marye Maudeleyn. 1320–30 *Horn Ch.* (Ritson) 857 The begger answered in that tide, Vilaine, cunestow nought ride? *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5471 þanne he cryde and gan to sayn : 'Whar art þow, Charlis, þow vylayn ?' 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. lvii, Ane me fand, quhilk said, and greit disdenyeit, 'Auant veillane, thow reclus imperfite'. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* vi, Villaine haue I not bound thee to tel me any thing? 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 20 Now knocke when I bid you : sirrah villaine. 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Martyr* IV. iii, *Theoph.* It matters not. We can discharge this work without his help...*Sap.* Villain ! 1663 Cowley *Cutter Coleman St,* v. xii, Villain, Rebel, Traitor, out o' my sight. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* i, Presumptuous villain ! cried Manfred, dost thou provoke my wrath? 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xii, Drunken villain,...thy idleness and debauched folly will stretch a halter ere it be long. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* v, 'Villain ! give me your papers !' cried Amyas.

b. In descriptive use. (Common from *c* 1590.)

a. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2183 Thise vilayns arn withouten pitee, Frendship, love, and alle bounté. I nyl reneeyve unto my servise Hem that ben vilayns of emprise. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 99 They .answerd to hym that he —— a vylayne to requyre & desire of them thynge that was so perylous. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* h vij, For he is a chorle and a vylayne that of his mouthe sayth ony vylony. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) II. 182 In all the worlde nought vyler can I fynde Nor wors, than is a fals unkynde vylayne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E vij b, The greateste vyllany in a villayne is to be gyuen in largesse of lyes. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 90 Thou art a Villaine to impeach me thus, Ile proue mine honor, and mine honestie Against thee presently, if thou dar'st stand. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. 84 The two most exact villaines in all the Country. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 260 He told me there were two desperate Villains among them, that it was scarce safe to shew any Mercy to. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xv. (1788) 89 Every villain fancies himself a man of abilities. 1813 Byron *Corsair* I. xi, He knew himself a villain—but he deem'd The rest no better than the thing he seem'd. *a* 1842 Arnold *Hist. Later Rom. Commw.* (1845) II. 56 The soldiers..told him that..if he played the villain he might win the throne. 1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* § 128 They are not made villains by the commission of a crime, but were villains before they committed it.

transf. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 241 Thus they slander Human Nature, and make a Villain of it.

β. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxx. 8 They were the children of fooles & vylanes, which are deed awaye from the worlde. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* (S.T.S.) xiii. 95 Wa worth 3ow Villanis that slew that Prince maist wise. 1573 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 154 For be-callyng the Constabelles knaves and wellanttes. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 319 The Straunge Newes of the railing Villan. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Q.1) v, *Cut.* I obey thee varlet ; but for these villianes—, *Mus.* Keepe the peace I charge you sir. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 132 He hath not been afraid to rail on you, my Lord,..calling you an ungodly Villian. 1704 Blair in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 132 Several of them of the most noted good preachers he affronted and abused with the most opprobrious & villifying names as Dog, Rogue, Rascal, Villin, Jesuit. 1727 *Philip Quar.* (1816) 66 Those villians had most sacrilegiously rifled and ransacked his habitation.

c. Used playfully, or without serious imputation of bad qualities. Also applied to a woman.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 19 A trustie villaine sir, that very oft..Lightens my humour with his merry iests. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. v. 16 *Enter Maria*...Heere comes the little villaine: How now my Mettle of India ? 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 35 Ile fetch her ; it is the prettiest villaine. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* i, Jock, ye villain,..are ye lying routing there, and a young gentleman seeking the way to the Place ? 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ix, 'Where's that villain Joe?' 'Here I am ; but I han't a willin,' replied a voice. It was the fat boy's. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xxiii. 300 If this afternoon's post does not bring me a letter from Jim,..I shall telegraph to the young villain.

d. (Usually with *the.*) That character in a play, novel, etc., whose evil motives or actions form an important element in the plot. Also *transf.*

1822 Lamb *Elia* I. *Old Actors,* The fact is, you do not believe in such characters as Surface—the villain of artificial comedy—even while you read or see them. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. iv. 252 Arnulf, as usual, appears as the villain of the piece. 1879 D. Cook *Nts. at the Play* (1883) II. 222 Mr. Vezin represented the villain, a welcher, pretending to be a Russian count.

† 2. A bird (*esp.* a hawk) of a common or inferior species. *Obs.*

1480 Caxton *Myrr.* II. viii. 85 Ther ben popengayes..of whom, as men saye, they that haue on eche foot fyue clawes ben gentyl, and the vylayns haue but thre. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 123 Of all kinde of hawkes.., as Sacres, Gerfalcons, peregrine Falcons, and Vilanes. *Ibid.* 124 The Vyllaine and the Lanerette may be sette vpon the stone incontinently, as soone as they be made.

3. A person or animal of a troublesome character in some respect. Const. *to* with inf.

1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 201 The sable is a villain to run.

4. *Comb.*, as *villain-like* adv.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 98 He..that names me Traitor, villain-like he lies. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. v. 218 Villain-like, I lye.

Villain, variant of Villein.

Villain (vi·lăn), *a.* Now *rare.* Forms : *a.* 4 vilein, 4–5 vil-, 5 vyleyn, 4 vyl-, 6 vileyne, villeine, 7 -ein ; 5–6 vyl-, 6 vilayne, 5–6 vylayn, 6 vylaine, vilane ; 5–6 vyllayne, 6 villayne, 6–7 -aine ; 5 *Sc.* villayn, 5 *Sc.*, 7– villain. *β.* 5 veleyne, velaine, 6 velayn, velen. [a. AF. and OF. *vilein, vilain* : see prec. and cf. Villains *a.*]

† 1. Deficient in courtesy or good-breeding ; boorish, clownish. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 104 Zome þer byeþ nuo uyleyne to þe poure huanne hi ham yeuþ enye elmesse..þet wel is worþ þet zelueþ. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 319 Wil seith..That such an herte is to vilein, Which dar noght love. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1508 And she [Venus] kan also, in certeyn, Hertys which that be vileyn Disposen hem to gentilesse.

2. Base in character or disposition ; given to committing vile or criminal acts.

1340 *Ayenb.* 18 Vor-zoþe he is wel vileyn and entrewe auoreye his lhord þet alle guod him heþ y-do,..and [he] yelt him kuead uor guod. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 182 And whanne he hadde hem so forlein, As he the which was al vilein,

He dede hem out of londe exile. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 206 To a cr.s of tre..nayliyd was he And hangyd up betwyx thevys tweyne As mayster of hem and most veleyne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxiii. 650 Thou art the moste vileyn knyght that euer I mette in my lif. *c* 1489 Skelton *Death Earl Northumbld.* 24 Vilane bastarddis in their furious tene, Fulfylled with malice of froward entente. *a* 1500–34 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Pl.* I. 802 Owt ! velen wrychis, har apon you I cry ! 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 170 Ye villaine generacion, full of pestiferous malice. 1598 *Mem. Archdeaconry Colchester* (MS.) 211 b, He sayd that Tho Reinoldes, senior, dyd call hym theefe and villaine thefe in the Church. 1609 Rowlands *Hell's Broke Loose* (Hunter. Club) 23 So these leawd wretches, spring from Villain race, That had all Pietie in detestation. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 72 Soft, what are you That fly me thus? Some villaine-Mountaineers ? 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 269 Where gloomily retired The villain spider lives, cunning and fierce, Mixture abhorred ! *c* 1750 Shenstone *Love & Hon.* 269 No ! may the deep my villain corse devour. 1812 Shelley *Mexican* III. 8 Thou-and wake to weep Whilst they curse a villain king. 1897 Gunter *Ballyho Bey* x. 123 Go, leave me, villain-girl !

transf. 1591 Spenser *Visions Bellay* xii, A troupe of Satyres in the place did rout, Which with their villeine feete the streame did ray.

3. Marked by baseness or depravity ; partaking of the nature of villainy.

1340 *Ayenb.* 59 Þe zenne of yelpynge..is wel grat and wel . wel uale and wel vileyn. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1824 (Camb.), Allas of the this was a vileyn dede. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. vi. (1883) 134 To thende that they shold kepe them and defende them fro that vyllayne and horrible synne. 1523 Ln. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxvii. 99 God y' father glorious be your conduct, and put you out of all vylayne thoughtes. *Ibid.* ccxxix. 308 To wassahe, clens, and purge hym of suche vyllayne dedes as he was gyltye in. 1689 Prior *Ep. F. Shephard* 118 When Lobb had sifted all his Text,..'Now to apply,' has plagu'd me more, Than all his Villain Cant before. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cxi, Narrowness or spite, Or villain fancy fleeting by. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xv, This villain job shall not have ending here.

† b. Bringing or casting opprobrium. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 53 He did a grete outrage, His broþer a foule despite, him self vileyn skandre. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 134 A vyleyn woord is scharpere þan a rasour, & more perys chande þan an allys-poynt. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 128 Thise thinges distrained her for to eschewe dluerse pleasaunces,..and tho were loue, drede, and shame ;..shame, to be auised and saued from velanie [*read* velaine] reproche. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 374, I ensure you I wyll shewe him these vylayne wordes that ye say of hym.

4. † a. Of occupations : Low, mean. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 114 He suld nocht ..be na stewart, na procuratour, na advocate, or ony othir villayn craft. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Dd vij, Cursed bee soo vylaine an office.

b. Low or mean in respect of birth or position ; belonging to the common herd.

1483 Caxton *Cato* c v, Thou art of vylayn blood by the fadres syde. *Ibid.* I vj, Thou oughtest not to doubt neyther old nor yonge, pouer ne ryche, ne noble ne vylayne. *c* 1500 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 36 Who can than holde hym selfe fro loue, nother fre nor vilayne ? 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 949 Nother of duke, erle, lorde, by auncestre, But of vylayne people. 1528 Roy *Rede Me* (Arb.) 106 This is a grett presumpcion For a villayne bochers sonne. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxv, Sweeping from the face of the earth some few hundreds of villain churles, who are born but to plough it.

† c. Of disposition : Mean-spirited, base. *Obs.*

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xii. (Percy Soc.) 48 The vylayne courage they do much refuse That is boystous and rude of gouernaunce. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1234/1 That seruante could skante be founden that were of suche an vnkynde vyllayne courage, that [etc.].

5. Of bad quality ; vile. *rare.*

1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Villein fleeces,* are fleeces of wolle that are shorne from scabbed sheep. 1851 Mitchell *Fresh Gleanings* 161 And carters shout to their mules in such villain *patois Lyonnais.*

† **Vi·llain,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 vileyn-, 6 vilayn-, villan-. [ad. OF. *vilainer, vil(l)aner,* etc., f. *vilain* Villain *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To debase or degrade ; to insult.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2492 For..it is to hygh a routhe A man tappere or dare do shewe his head When he hath ones his honour vyllanede. 1475 *Bk. Nobleasse* (Roxb.) 74 Suffre ye not the prelates of the Chirche of that lande.. to be oppressed, revaled, ne vileyned. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 344/1 When they haue once vilayned the sacrament of matrimonye, then woulde they make vs vyolate the sacrament of the aulter too.

2. To call villain ; to address as a villain.

1609 Rowlands *Crew Kind Gossips* E 2, Some Rascall told my wife,..And I was villaind for it sound at night.

Villainage, var. Villeinage.

Vi·llaindom. *rare*—1. [f. Villain *sb.*] The class of villains.

1880 W. F. Butler *Far Out* 267 In the simple and unlettered Africander the educated villaindom of Europe and America has found a rich field for exploit.

Villainess (vi·lănĕs). [f. Villain *sb.* + -ess.] A female villain. (Common in recent use.)

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii, My wife, my Queene and Empéresse,..Villainesse to shame, disdaine, and misery. 1869 *Reader* 20 May 563/3 Her villainess is a she-devil. 1872 M. Collins *Pr. Clarice* II. vii. 99 He can follow his hero and heroine, his villain and villainess, into holes and corners.

† **Vi·llainist.** *Obs.*—1 [f. Villain *sb.*] A confirmed villain.

1598 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 66 Some..glicking Remembrancers (not with the multiplying spirite of the Alchumist, but the villanist).

Villainize (vi·lănəiz), *v.* Also 7–8 villanize, 9 villainise. [f. VILLAIN *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To render villainous; to debase or degrade.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* III. xli. 487 To blame or abuse Ladies...Is..for a man to villanize and shame himselfe. 1700 DRYDEN *Wife of Bath's T.* 405 Were Virtue by Descent, a noble Name Could never villanize his Father's Fame. 1745 LAW *Consid. State World* III. 245 That those Writings which *villanize* Mankind have a pernicious tendency towards propagating and protecting Villany.

2. To treat or revile as a villain.

Cf. VILLAINIZER below.

1587 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 437 Here in Rouen had he been villainized, disgraced, hooted, imprisoned, bullied, degraded.

3. *intr.* To play the villain.

1888 *Echo* 11 Feb. 3 Let us hope that..these gentlemen [*sc.* actors], whose mission it is to dabble in crime.., will in future 'villainise' no more.

Hence **Vi·llainizing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Vi·llainiser**, one who reviles or defames.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1605) P iij b. What renouncers of God, blasphemers of his onely begotten sonne, villanisers of his Saints. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. § 31. 890 The foundation [of the atheistic ethics and politics] is first laid in the villanizing of Humane Nature. 1692 BENTLEY *Serm.* i. 13 In the debasing and villainizing of Mankind to the condition of Beasts.

†Vi·llainly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: α. 4 uilein-, vileyn-, vyleyn-, vilain-, vylaynliche; 4 vilayn-, 5–6 vylayn-, 6 villaynly. β. 4 vilanliche, 5 wylanlyche; 4 vilenlych, villenliche, 4 vylenly, 5 velenly. [f. VILLAIN *a.* + -LY 2] After the manner of a villain; villainously, vilely.

α. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 49 b, *Homsokne*: þat is quite of amerciament for entre of houses uileinliche ant bi-þoute leue ajen þe kinges pes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 64 Efterward huanne me zuereþ vileynliche by god and by his halzen. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5343 How wer þou so hardy,...come armed on þy stede,..& þus vylayn[li]che on þy rekoun þy message to me abede? 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* e vij b, Within a lytell tyme after she deide vylaynly and sodenly of an euyll deth. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxi. 130 Perceyue yon not how this Dogges oppressen vylaynly these valyaunt & worthy crystens? *a* 1580 PHAER *Æneid* IX. Aa iij b, If but one harme Suffred had their sinne, and not with spyte all female kinds Thus villaynly disdain.

β. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5794 (Kölbing), So þai deden, silkerliche, Defuiland vilanliche, Toward..king Rion. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1825 To..presently til him with such outrage þay hesedes bi-fore him selue, & so vylenly beode ys message. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7499 Thow art now dede and ouerthrowen,...Velenly thow hast thi mede. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1156 Thou oughtiste with no Ryghte to gabbe on hym so wylanlyche, thus be-hynde hym, oute of hys syghte.

Villainous (vi·lănəs), *a.* Forms: α. 4 vylayneus, 5–6 vylaynous, 6 velaynous, vilaynouse; 6 vyllayn-, villayn-, 6– villainous (7 villainus, -einous). β. 4, 6–7 vilanous, 5–6 vylanous, 6 -ouse, vilanus, 4, 6–9 villanous (6 -ouse); 5 vilenous(e, 6 villenus, 7–8 -ous; 7 villonous. γ. 6 velanus-, velanous, 7 vealinous. [f. VILLAIN *sb.* + -OUS, or ad. OF. *vilenneus* insulting, defamatory.]

1. Of persons: **†a.** Churlish, ill-bred, unmannerly. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1497 Ze ar stif in-noghe to constrayne wyth strenkþe, ȝif yow lykez, ȝif any were so vilanous þat yow devaye wolde. *Ya* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 178 Ful foule and cherlyssh he seined she, And eek vylayneus for to be, And litel coude of norture.

b. Having the character or disposition of a villain; infamously depraved or wicked; vilely criminal.

c 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* IV. 281 Not for to say, Venus is velanous: Bot that hir warkis may na les be vndone Nor of befoir, bot Vesta is mair Famous. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 226 Villanouse, *Angitiosus*. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 138 There is nothing but Roguery to be found in Villanous man. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 475 The furious outrage of that most villanous Rebell Ket. 1623 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 244 A ploott of that vealinous strompitt Nahar Malle. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 368 They are yet reckoned a Villanous sort of Breed. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 500 We have not half done yet, villainous Hell-hound Dogs! 1793 MRS. INCHBALD *Ev. One has Faults* III. ii, I repeat, he is the vilest, the most villanous of men. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iv. 83, I should think such a villanous, banditti-like army, was never before collected together. 1845 BREWSTER *Newton* II. xv. 56 The Elector of Hanover, whom the villanous English wished to deprive of the succession to the kingdom. 1869 D. COOK *Nts. at the Play* (1883) I. 116 Mr. Cowper gave a..careful portraiture of the villainous Stukely.

c. Miserable, wretched. *rare*—1.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 45 Oh, quod he, what region shal shrowd mee villenus owtcast?

2. Of actions: Of the nature of villainy; marked by depravity or vileness of conduct; deserving severe condemnation on moral grounds.

14.. *Chaucer's L. G. W.* 1824 (Fairf.), Allas of the thyn was a vilenouse dede. 1573–80 BARET *Alv* s.v., A Vilanous and shamefull act. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 84 He came but to speake with our Turke aboute their vilanus plott. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 111 Which Figment is still the more vile, if we consider..with what villainous and barbarous injuries it must necessarily be conceived to be accompanied. 1681 H. HALLYWELL *Melampr.* 80 [They] have incorporated themselves into the Dark Society by all manner of villanous and flagitious actions. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 27 If their brutish rage led them to one villanous action, they would soon go on to another. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 127 One villainous action is sufficient to imbitter a man's whole life. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 184 Their cold hearts blind Deceit with sternness, ignorance with pride, All that is mean and villanous. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltravers* IX. ii, I have done a villanous thing, but I thought it only a clever one. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 153 A villainous system of covering or plating barrels with fine iron, over a body of iron of the most inferior description.

b. Of looks, etc.: Indicative of villainy.

1828 SOUTHEY *Epistle to Allan Cunningham*, I shall show thee, Allan,..an array of villainous visages. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXIX, Isaac [had] a very ill-favoured face, and a most sinister and villainous squint. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. iv. II. 284 With an expression so extremely villanous, that I felt uneasy. 1865 [see LEER *sb.*²].

3. Of words, etc.: Pertaining to or characteristic of a villain; vile, scurrilous; offensively opprobrious or profane.

α. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* I. xxvii. 74 The most vylaynous and lewdest message that euer man herd sente vnto a kynge. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 261/2 Thus these wretched heretiques..lay more villaynouse rebuke to the great maieste of god, than euer any one ribaude layd vnto a nother. 1532 — *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 602/2 Wee fynde not that he called hym false wretche, nor no suche vylaynous word. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Apr. 1676, A most villainous reviling book against K. James. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. viii, My heart swelled with indignation at so villainous a calumny. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* I. i, He at last broke out with a villainous, low oath.

β. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxvi. 36/2 Whan the other commons sawe that, they began to sterre and sayde to the burgesses many euyll and vylanous wordes. 1559 *Homilies* I. *Agst. Contention* II. (1569) M viij b, Pericles being prouoked to anger with many vilanous wordes, answered not a worde. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* V. I. 265 One that hath spoke most villanous speeches of the Duke. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. i. 285 Princes doe rather pardon ill deedes, than Villanous words.

†4. Shameful, atrocious, horrible. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 301 b, Euer conspyrynge for thy grace the moost vyllaynous & shamefull deth of the crosse. 1529 MORE *Dial. Concern. Heresyes* IV. vii. 206/2 To pyteouse and to abominable were yt to reherse the vylanouse payne and tormentys that they deuysed on ye seely women. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxx. 239 They are worthy to receyue a velaynous dethe. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 359 Prince Edward..was there put to death and in most shamefull and vilanous maner his branes dashed out. 1626 *Barbour's Bruce* (Hart) 373 As Sir Daud the good Brechyne..Was put to sa villanous a dead.

†b. *Villainous judgement*, a sentence of extreme severity (see quot. 1641) passed on one found guilty of conspiracy or other grave offence.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Villenous iudgement*..is that which casteth the reproch and shame vpon him against whom it is giuen, as a Conspiritour, &c. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 264 Villeinous judgment is..that the party found guilty shall lose the benefit of the law,..that his lands, goods & chattels shall be seised into the Kings hands,..and his trees digd up, and his body imprisoned. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 136 It now is the better opinion, that the villenous judgment is by long disuse become obsolete; it not having been pronounced for some ages.

5. Extremely bad or objectionable; atrocious, detestable.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. i 15, I thinke this is the most villanous house in al London rode for Fleas. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. v. 93 There was the rankest compound of villanous smell, that euer offended nostrill. 1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* V. ii. K 4, Out vpon thee, thou hast poysoned mee with thy stinking breath or with thy villonous powders. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 123 Women are bound,..for the very interest of their beauty, to shun a passion, that makes such villanous faces, and sets so many wrinkles upon their countenances. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 5 The Press (that villanous Engine) invented much about the same time with the Reformation. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* I. ii, Thou art ugly and old, And a villainous Scold. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* I. 102 The only place which by some villainous mischance you did not see 1821 COBBETT *Kur. Rides* (1885) I. 20, I passed through that villanous hole, Cricklade, about two hours ago. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* XXVI. (1856) 214 This is the second I have killed with this villainous carbine. 1884 *Chr. World* 25 Sept. 719/2 The weather was villainous. It rained every day.

†b. As *adv.* Villainously, vilely. *Obs.*—1

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 250 We shall loose our time, And all be turn'd to Barnacles, or to Apes With foreheads villanous low.

†6. Low or base in respect of social position; servile. *Obs.* (Cf. VILLEIN.)

1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v. *Base*, Base tenents be they.. which do to their lords villeinous service. *Ibid.* s.v. *Villenage*, This villanous soccage is to cary the Lords dung into his feilds, to plow his ground [etc.]. 1643 USHER *Bod. Dtv.* (1647) 143 The slavish and villanous estate of the parents is communicated unto all their off-spring. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 155 *note*, I suppose. by *sanguinem suum emere*, was meant, that the Tenant being a Bondman, should buy out his Villainous blood, and make himself a Freeman. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 62 These were the only free holdings or tenements; the others were villenous or servile.

7. *Comb.*, as *villainous-looking* adj.

1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* VII, They were villainous-looking ruffians 1844 DICKENS *Pictures fr. Italy* (1846) 163 Seeing nothing but..a villainous-looking shepherd. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 272, I must admit my good friend was a villainous-looking savage.

Hence **Vi·llainousness** (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

Villainously (vi·lănəsli), *adv.* Forms: (see prec.). [f. prec.] In a villainous manner, in of the adj.; atrociously, vilely, detestably.

α. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Auians* IX, Better is to lyue in pouerte than to deye vylaynously and oppressyd of the ryche. *c* 1489 — *Blanchardyn* VI. 26 Her true louer, þe whiche..ye [illegible] Eden *Decades* ...ately he had byn ...*ichelay's Voy.* I. xx. 25 They were thus villainously intreted, lying along the ground as halfe desperate. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xvii. 137 His sonne was villainously strangled by Alexius Ducas. 1689 *Lond Gaz.* No. 2443/3 On Sunday last Sir George Lockhart..was Villanously [*sic*] Assassinated by one Cheeseley, who Shot him through the Neck. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. xi, The Man whose Ruin he hath so villainously contrived. 1758 L. TEMPLE *Sketches* (ed. 2) 5 His Verses were what one may call most villainously bad. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XI, He had a villainously formed head. 1892 A. E. *Lux Hist. Columbus* I. 725 The drainage of the town was villainously bad.

β. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* Prol. 10 For a thynge more noble is to dye than vylanously to be subdued. 1533 MORE *Apol.* ix. Wks. 865/2 Agaynste the beste,..these blasphemous heretiques in theyr vngracyouse bookes so vilanously ieste and rayle. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 355 They set nothing by them, but hated and spake shamefully, and vilanously of them 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 80 *Maria.* Hee's in yellow stockings. *Sir Toby.* And cross garter'd? *Maria.* Most villanously. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 60. 296 They had Villanously entreated the Ambassadors..sent unto them. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 66 Verily the most villanously ugly spot I ever saw in England. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 436, I have been living villanously since the death of my nags.

†Vi·llains, *a. Obs.* Forms: α. 4 vyleyn(y)s, vileins, 4–5 vileyns (5 vileynes–); 4 vilains-, 4–5 velaynes-, 5 vilayn(e)s-, vylayn(e)s, vyllayns, villaynis. β. 4–5 vylens, vilens (5 vyl-, vilenis, vylence, velens-); 4–5 vilans (5 velans, vilance-), 5–6 vylans, *Sc.* welan(y)s, willans, 6 villanes; 5 uelonis, vilonis-, vilonys-, vyloyns-. [a. OF. *vileins, vilains* (nom. sing. masc.):—pop.L. **villānus*: see VILLAIN *sb.* and *a.*] = VILLAIN *a.*, VILLAINOUS *a.*

a. Of actions, speech, etc.

α. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1555 Many tyme a vyleynys [*v.r.* vylens] wurde Gadryþ foule þoup to hurde. *Ibid.* 1847 For þat yche vyleynes synne, Ys here body part3d a-twynne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 46 (Camb. MS.), He dede neuere synne ne neuere cam there a vileyns word out of his mouth. *c* 1450 *Merlin* II. 96 Thow..haste putte oure frendes to so vileyns deth. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armys* (S.T.S.) 116 Quha ever strykis with wappin or othir villaynis manȝe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 97 For a man ought not to demande ner doo to be doon to his frende no vyllayns thynge that ought to be kept secrete.

β. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4412 Bot other þat wille noght do his rede Sal be done to vilans deue. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4164 He..Come to a velans vale þate was a vile cheele. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 527 Voidis ne noght of vitius, ne vilans of tunge. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 236 And at þe laste he sulde hafe a vylans dead. *a* 1450 *Nat. de la Tour* (1868) 25 With gret uelonis wordes, dispraising hym. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 122 He said vilens wordis ageyn the Seint. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxiv. 48 He that dyde otherwyse, shulde be reputed as an euyll doer, and for a vylans dede.

b. Of persons.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 28 Rome..laste so Long time amonges the Romeins Til thei become so vileins [etc.]. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 104 Man ys hardy as a lyon,..vyleyns and boystous as asse, rebell as a rambe. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3800 A cowarde and of no renoun, And vileyns of condicion. *c* 1450 *Merlin* VI. 102 Yef he be fool, or fell, or vilenis, ye owe better to suffre hym than eny other. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxii. 450 He is the moost coward and the vylaynst kyng and knyght that is now lyuyng. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 92 Their regestres were neuer ful ynough of such myscheuous villanes popes.

†Vi·llainsly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: (see prec.). [f. prec.] = VILLAINLY *adv.*, VILLAINOUSLY *adv.*

α. ?*a* 1300 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1498 That he shulde seele ..What sorowe trewe louers maken, That ben so velaynesly forsaken. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* P 12 Than was his visage.. vileynsly byspit. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 225 ȝit was hir sorwe moche more, seynge hir maister and lorde so vileynsly ferde with. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. c. (1869) 112 Thou shalt neuere keepe thee so wel, that thou ne shalt be vileynesliche treted. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armys* (S.T.S.) 47 Thai war discomfyte rycht vilaynsly. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 191/3 Whan they had so vylaynsly beten hym they put hym out of the cyte.

β. 1388 WYCLIF *2 Sam.* x. 5 The men weren schent ful vilensly. *a* 1400 *Cast. Love* (Halliwell) 1628 How vylensli he was ladde ȝet, With crowne of thornes on his hed set. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 165 þat þe commonys willansly Grewit sulde be throw þar mastry. *Ibid.* V. 1676 þat he.. had suppryait hyr welansly. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 233 Thei that were his rebelles he killid vilensly. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. liii. 503 Whanne syre Harre sawe hym doo so vylonsly, he cryed traytour knyȝt leue of for shame. 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* V. 164 Thai nobill men and thai worthy Ar distroyit so vilonisly! *c* 1500 *Gest Robyn Hode* cxiii. in Child *Ballads* III. 62 The abbot lothely on hym gan loke, And vylanesly hym gan call.

Villainy (vi·lăni), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–4 vileinie (3 uil-), 4 vileynye, vyleyny(e, vileyne; 4 vylaynye, vilaynie, 5 vilainy. β. 4 vilani(ie, wilani(e, 6 vilanie, 4–5 vylanye (6 -ie), 4–6 vylany, vilany(e; 4 velani(e, -ije, 4–5 velanye, 4–6 -any (5 -ane), 6 welany; 5 villane, wyllanye, *Sc.* willany, 6 vyllany, 6–7 villanie, 6–9 villany (7 -ey). γ. 4 vilenie, -ye, vylenye (fyl-), 4–5 vi-, vyleny, 5 vylney, *Sc.* vilne; 5 veleni, -eny; 6 villeny(e, 6–7 -enie. δ. 4–5 vilonie, -ony(e, 4–6 vylonye, 5 -ony; veloni,

velonye, welonye; villonye. *c.* 7 **villainie, 7- villainy.** [a. AF. *vile(s)nie, vilainye, vilanie*, OF. *vileinnie, villenie, vilanie, vilonie, vilenie* (so mod.F.), etc., = Pr. *vilania, -enia*, Sp., Pg., and It. *villania*, whence also med.L. *villania*: see VILLAIN *sb.* and -Y.

The present spelling was rare before the 18th c. and did not become established until the 19th, when it gradually displaced the more prevalent *villany*.]

1. Action or conduct befitting, characteristic or typical of, a villain; evil or wrongdoing of a foul, inianous, or shameful nature; extreme wickedness on the part of a person in dealing with others.

a. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 216 Lechurs, þet habbeð so uorloren scheome þet ham nis nowiht of scheome, auh secheð hwu heo muwen mest uileinie wurchen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1389 Vor it is och prince iwis & king vileinie To defouli is knistes þoru wam he ab þe maistrie. 1340 *Ayenb.* 18 He is wel vileyn and ontrewe auoreye his lhord,..and yelt him kuead uor guod, and vileynye uor corteysye. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 863 Dos away your derf dyn & derez neuer my gestes, Avoy! hit is your vylaynye, ze vylen your seluen.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8422 Bot godd hir [kept] þat was hir wit..þat moght naman o licherie Hir body neght wit wilanie. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 72 For iwysse hit arn so wykke þat in þat won dowellez, & her malys is so much I may not abide, Bot venge me on hir vilanye & venym bilyue. 1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 297 We knowe wel þat euery lesyng opinli prechid turnith him to velanye þat euere was trewe and with oute defaute. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. 981 Tenelayus..mad hym cortasse welcummynge...Bot he did willany þar agayn: þis Tenelayus he walde haf slayn. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E vij b, The greateste vyllany in a villayne is to be gyuen in largesse of lyes. 1538 ELYOT, *Obscuritas*, villany in actes; rybauldrie. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 116 Thou little valiant, great in villanie, Thou euer strong vpon the stronger side. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1872) 55 From thirst of wealth & golden villany I now am come to brutish gluttonie. 1679 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 199 He hath been twice pillor'd, and committed all manner of villaney. *a* 1726 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 95 He will hardly ever be able to carry his Matters so cunningly, but that his Villany will at last be discover'd. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1788) 300 This may be logic at Cambridge,..but among men of sense and honour, it is folly or villany in the extreme. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* iii. 41 There is some mistake here, and I think some villany. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 217 He had been induced, by the villany of Tyrconnel, to trust himself at Saint Germains.

personif. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 166 Another image, that Vilanye Y-cleped was, saugh I... Vilanye was lyk somdel That other image [*sc.* Felony]; and..She semed a wikked creature.

transf. and *fig.* 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. ii. 13 Nothing rowts vs, but The villany of oure feares. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 340 Ignorant of the deceits of men, and unused to the villany of powder.

γ. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM III. 328 Ac ys [deadly sin] þat uoule wyl al so To swyche fylenye. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 433 Ich can nouht speke for shame The vylenye of my foule mouþe and of my foule mawe. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 4405 (Trin.), Here may men se þe vileny þat he soujte on his lady. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 36 He and y hadd gret communicacion diuerse tymes, but it was neuer in no ueleni, nor in no euell thought nor in dede. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 61 In father his presence with spightful villenye cancred, Thee soon that murthrest, my sight with boucherye stayning. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 23 The gentle knight Would not be tempted to such villenie.

δ. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Tracts* Wks. (1880) 204 To be aschamyd of e..he euyl speche, & namely of lecherie & euyl contenaunce of synne & ribaudrie & vilonye. *c* 1430 *How the Good Wife* in *Babees Book* (1868) 38 Kepe þee from synne, fro vilonye, & fro blame. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 44 Who wold haue thought that I shold haue had vylonye of Rolland? *c.* 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* II. iii. 49 O, that villainy should be found in the great Chamber. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* vi. 133 He may..endeavour to recover what has been by any kind of violence or villainy taken from him. 1772 PENNANT *Tours Scot.* (1774) 10 Murdered by assassins who crossed the most to perpetrate their villainy. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I iii. 175 Manhood's purpose stern, And age's firm, cold, subtle villainy. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 107 Jenny and his other friends declaimed loudly upon the villainy of Mr. M'Quiddit, in keeping him so long from his own. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* cxlvii. III. 133 The same kind of villainy was meditated in China.

b. With *a* and pl., *this, that*, etc. An instance or case of this; a piece of wicked conduct or dealing; a vile act or deed.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 634 Gawan was for gode knawen, & as golde pured, Voyded of vche vylany, wyth vertuez ennourned in mote. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 94 For þis foule vyleynye veniaunce to 3ow alle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 133 Him thenkth it were a vilenie, Bot he rewarde him for his dede. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6912 Vlixes..To venge of þat vilany vlli dissirit. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/1 A velany, *dedicus*. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 755 Requiryng them therefore to studie how to reuenge and punishe so great a villanie. 1598 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. viii. 12 Bought you a whistle and a whipstalke too, To be reuenged on their villanies? *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 482 Though indeede they take it rather for a grace to be reputed actiue in any Villany, espetially Cruelty and theft. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* II. i. 287 Other Errours there are, that lead to beastly and unnatural Villanies. 1692 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 53 Under pretence thereof Wars might be raised, Robberies and all manner of Villanies committed. 1728 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 42 If they are honest men and would not appear in this villany. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. x[i]. The greatest villanies are daily practised to please them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 152 He was determined to keep his place, if it could be kept by any villany but one. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* cxxviii. III. 82 But such is what the poor have to expect, when they assist in the villainies of the rich. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. 422 Æthelred, if he had not ordered this villany, at any rate made himself an accessory after the fact.

†2. Treatment of a degrading or shameful nature as suffered or received by a person; ill-usage, injury, indignity, insult. *Obs.*

Not always clearly distinct from sense 3.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17250 Befor mi moder elen..Sufferd I al þis wilani [*v.r.* velani]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2500 (Laud MS.), Per dude Alisaunder curteisie; He kepte hem from vche vilenye, Darries moder, & darries wijf. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Pete*) 548 He..mad gret playnt of þe schame, of þe vilne, and of þe blame, þat lytil befor tholit he. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxii. 70 And gladly suffir I for thy sake swilk velany. 1567 *Trial Treas.* C iij b, Ye, yé they haue wed me with to much vilanie. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 82/2 Kildare pursuing Ormond to the chapiter house doore, vndertooke on his honor that he should receiue no villanie. 1590 GREENE *Royal Exch.* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 263 To see villanie offered him, and to holde his peace.

†b. In the phr. *to put* (a person) *to villainy.*

1523 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 807 Wyddowes and wyues were put to vilany, Maydens were corrupt and slayne chamfully. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* ix. 62 Syth menne shoulde se hym [*sc.* Jesus] sone after putte to so muche shame and villany. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Conculco*,..to treade vnder foote: to put to extreme vilanie.

†c. ? A punishment of a degrading or ignominious nature. *Obs.*—1

a 1400–30 *Bk. Curtasye* 56 in *Babees Bk.*, Yf þou make mawes on any wyse, A velany þou kacches or euer þou rise.

†3. Disgrace, dishonour; ignominy; discredit. *Obs.* (freq. *c* 1400–*c* 1500).

Perron was no mayde, therfore she doubted greatly to haue vylonye. *a* 1533 — *Huon* viii. 20 It shalbe greatly to your veleny and reproche yf I be thus slayne by you. 1565 JEWELL *Reply Harding* (1611) 371 They thought great villanie in that kind of Death. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 327 For this cause there is in Shame not onely a feare of villanie, but indignation also, after the committing of some fault.

†b. Used predicatively: A fact or circumstance bringing disgrace or discredit *to* a person. Also without const. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 27 It es a velany a man for to be curyously arrayede apone his heuede..and all his body

Vernon MS. 533/173 3if þat þou chyde þi soget, Hit is to þe vileynye gret. 1467 *Paston Lett.* II. 308, If I wer ther withought I had the mor sadder or wurchepfull persones abought me,..it shuld be to me but a vylney. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. viii. 108 Ye haue doone a passynge fowle dede in the sleyinge of the lady, the whiche will be grete vylany vnto yow. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lv. 185 It shal be to you grete velany [ed. 1601 dishonour].

†c. A person or thing that is the source of discredit or disgrace. *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxiii. 31 He shal ben vileny to alle; forthi that he vnderstod not the drede of the Lord. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Galat.* 21 The Gentiles.. coumpte his crosse for a vilanie and reproche.

†4. *To do villainy* or *a villainy*, esp. *to* (a person), in prec. senses. *Obs.*

a. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6516 The syxte synne ys glotonye; þat ys a shameful vyleynye þat men doun of mete and drynk. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 358 King charles .. was hende & good, & nolde for hise wordes beȝe Don otuel no vileinie. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 287 þei..don hym more dispite and vileyne þan diden Judas Scarioth and Jewis. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 20340 (Trin.), Perfore þeron haue þou þi þoujt..þat þei me do no vilayne.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16306 Pilate said and badd þai ne suld do him [*sc.* Jesus] na vilani. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1823 *Lucrece*, Whi hast thow don this lady vilanye? *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 106 By helpe of þe fende, he made hym lyke an angyll, and come to dyuers maydyns,..and soo lay by hom, and dude hom gret vylany. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccii. 92 b, The kyng Osbright me hath done shame & vilanye ayens my wyll. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 [They] spared not to do all the vylany & shame to the sone of god that they coude deuyse. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* II. i. 130 Pay her the debt you owe her, and vn-pay the villany you haue done her. *a* 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* I. i. (1704) 8 A third sort of Men who would neither do Villanys, nor suffer more than the Laws did permit.

γ. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2333 *Philomene*, This false thef Hath don this lady 3it a more myschef For fere lyst she shulde his shame crye And don hym oppynly a vilenye. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 136 In that he dothe to god ouer-grete velany.

δ. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2254 He wende wiþ is ferste [to] haue do þe vylonye. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 389 Atthalus hadde despitousliche i-scorned þis Pausanias, and i-doo hym grete vilonye. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvii. 100 Ther in thei doon foul vilonie to Cristis lawe of feith. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 20 Thanswer of a noble & debonair prynce That suffred that villonye doo to his doughter.

†5. *To say* or *speak* (*a, no*, etc.) *villainy*, to speak evil, to use wicked, low, obscene, or opprobrious language. Also, *to speak villainy of*, to defame or throw discredit on (a person). *Obs.*

After OF. *dire vilonie* (Du Cange s.v. *Villania*).

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7832 For qua lais hand in feloni O king, or sais him vilani,.. wit-vten grith, He del. 1309 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1549 A nunne..þat gode to helle for no syng ellys But for she spake euer vyleyny. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 70 He neuere yet no vilenynye ne sayde In al his lyf vn-to no maner wight. 1429 in S. Bentley *Excerpta Historica* (1831) 38 That no man saye no vilony to non other, throughe the whiche vilony sayinge, may falle sodenly man slaughter, or risinge of people. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 20 This prince had also a frende that..sayd on a tyme as moche villonye unto the prynce as ony man mihte saye. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 424/1 Ellis..said many Iniuryes & vylonyes to fyacre contumeleyng & blasphemyng hym. 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* xxxii. 6 The vile person wil speake villenie, and his heart will worke iniquitie.

(*b*) 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. xix. 832 Alle the world wylle speke of yow vylony. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 285 Do not a thing that should blemishe your renowne, neither geue occasion for any to speake vilanie of you. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 83 At men of vs great villany would say.

†b. So *words of villainy. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28531, I ha bene wont thoru lucherl Wordes to spek of vilany. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 82 If..he be a talkere of vdil wordes of vauite or of vilonye. 1568 *Bk. Nurture* To Parents, Take heede they speake no wordes of vilany.

†6. Lack of courtesy or politeness; discourtesy, incivility, rudeness; boorishness, rusticity. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1528 For þat somtyme men held velany Now yhung men haldes curtasy; And þat som tyme was curtasy cald, Now wille yhong men velany hald. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 740 Crist spak hym self ful brode in hooly writ, And wel ye woot no vileynye is it. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 590 *Inurbanitas*, vylonye. *c* 1480 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 45 Syr erle, he seyd, take and begyn; He seyd: nay, be seynt Austyn, That was to me vylony. *c* 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 29 For I reffuse not The cuppe; That were vylonye [F. *villonie*].

a 1677 BARROW *Serm. Titus iii.* 2 Wks. (1687) I. 239 This practice [of railing and reviling] doth plainly signifie..ill breeding and bad manners...In our modern languages it is termed *Villany*, as being proper for rustick Boors. 1694 DRYDEN *Love Triumph.* I. 1, But this large courtesy, this overpraise You give his worth, in any other mouth Were villainy to me.

†7. The condition or state of a villein; bondage, servitude; hence, base or ignoble condition of life; moral degradation. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 9 Certes wel aughte a man haue disdeyne of synne, and wi drawe him fro þat praldom and vilenye. 1540 COVERDALE *Fruitful Less.* I. Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 300 Jesus..took upon himself the most extreme shame..to deliuer us from eternal villany. 1543 T. BECON *New Catech.* Wks. 1560 I. 415 b, These, these goo about to bring vs vnto vilany.

†b. Low or wretched condition. *Obs.*

1570 JEWEL *View Seditious Bull* (1582) 47 Haue not they spoiled & wasted those two noble Cuntries & brought them to such vilanie & miserie, as they neuer felt before?

†8. Imperfection, defect, or injury in things. *Obs.*—1

c 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) II. lviii. (1859) 56 The bones stoden vp, as men, in the same persones, ryght as they were byfore, withouten ony spot or vylonye.

9. Base, villainous, or wicked quality.

1700 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* ii. (1726) 101 Ingratitude.. can arise from nothing but a natural baseness and villany of soul.

Hence **†Vi'llainy** (in 5 **vylonye**) *v. trans.*, = VILLAIN *v.* 1. *Obs.*—1

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 113/3 For as moche as they haue dyspyted and vylonyed the blood of Jhesu.

Villakin (vi·lăkin). [f. VILLA + -KIN.] A little villa; a villa-residence.

Chiefly in familiar or jocular use, or with some degree of disparagement.

1730 SWIFT *Let. to Gay* 19 March, I writ lately to Mr. Pope: I wish you had a little Villakin in his neighbourhood. 1730 GAY *Let. to Swift* 31 March, I am every day building villakins and have given over that of castles. 1805 J. AIKIN *Corr. Wilbes* V. 79 In this cottage (or *villakin*, as he usually termed it) he passed the pleasantest hours which he had enjoyed since the period of his adversities. 1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 258 The *villakin* was transformed into a domestic paradise. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. 159 Spick and span villas and villakins, each with its half acre of tennis-ground and double daisies.

Vi'llaless, *a.* [f. VILLA.] Having no villa or villas.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 481 The touch at the end, as to the villaless condition of Bulwer, is admirable.

Vi'llan. Also 6–7, 9 **villane.** [ad. med.L. *villān-us* villager, etc., f. L. *villa* VILLA.]

1. *Hist.* A villein; an occupier of land in the feudal vill.

1552 HULOET, Villan, *seruus*, .. *villanus*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 19 Villane, *verna*. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 98 Gif ane ouer-lord causes marie the heires of his vassall, being in his custodie, with villans (or boandmen) or Burgesses, quhereby the heires are disparaued (*etc.*). 1699 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* (ed. 2) 255 What Stock they were possessed of, and how many Villains upon their respective Estates. 1829 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 9 There are only two villanes there and four bordars having one plough and a half. 1852 T. H. TURNER *Hous. Archit.* I. iii. 105 To these woods [at Osterley, Middlesex] resorted moreover all lawless men, fugitive villans, and persons of the like description.

†2. A villager, a peasant. *Obs.*

1685 HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 108 Vineyards stored with excellent good grapes, which the villanes carry every night to sell at Shirash.

Villan, obs. f. VILLAIN. **Villanage,** variant of VILLENAGE. **Villane,** obs. f. VILLAIN.

Villanella (vilăne·lă). Pl. -elle. [It., fem. of *villanello* rural, rustic, f. *villano*: see VILLAIN *sb.* and *a.*] (See later quots.)

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* III. 180 Though many times the dittie be fine enough, yet because it carrieth that name *Villanella* they take those disallowances as being good enough for plow and cart. 1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend Mus.* 139 Then, Canzonets, Villanella's, Airs of all sorts; or what else Poetry hath contrived to be set and Sung in Musick. [Hence in R. Holme *Armoury* (1688) III. 159/2.] 1802 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Villanella*, the air of an old rustic dance, the time of which was gay and briak, and the measure strongly marked. 1884 W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 264 *Villanella*, an unaccompanied Part-Song, of light rustic character, sharing, in about equal proportions, the characteristics of the Canzonetta, and the Balletta.

Villanelle (vilăne·l). Also 6 villanell, 7 -el. [a. F. *villanelle*, ad. It. *villanella*: see prec. In the first quot. perh. an Anglicizing of the Italian word.]

† 1. = prec. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia*, etc. (1629) 535 To the tune of a Neapolitan Villanell. 1603 FLORIO tr. *Montaigne* I. liv. 170 The *Villanelles*, homely rigges, and countrie songs of Gasconie. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1711) I. liv. I. 472.

2. A poem of fixed form, usually of a pastoral or lyric nature, consisting normally of five three-lined stanzas and a final quatrain, with only two rhymes throughout.

The first and third lines of the first stanza are repeated alternately in the succeeding stanzas as a refrain, and form a final couplet in the quatrain.

1877 GOSSE in *Cornhill Mag.* July 65 It appears that villanelles may be any length, if only they retain this number and arrangement of rhymes. 1877–8 HENLEY in *Ballades & Rondeaus* (Canterb. Poets) 252 A dainty thing's the Villanelle. Sly, musical, a jewel in rhyme, It serves its purpose passing well. 1886 C. DICK *Model*, etc. 90 A Vacation Villanelle.

Villaner. *rare.* [f. VILLAN + -ER 1.] = VILLAN.

1862 TOULMIN SMITH *Parl. Rememb.* Oct. 189 The 'Inquisitio Eliensis' states that book to have been the record of an inquisition made on the oaths of the priest, the provost and six villaners of every Vill.

Villar (vi·lăɹ), *sb.* and *a. rare.* [ad. L. *villāris*, f. *villa* VILLA: see -AR.] **a.** *sb.* A peasant holding land in the feudal vill; a villein. **b.** *adj.* Pertaining or relating to, concerned with, the feudal vill or villa.

1874 A. P. FORBES *S. Ninian & S. Kentigern* Notes 313 Stephen gave his forest of Furness, a fishery at Lancaster, and one or two villars with their property. 1897 MAITLAND *Domesday & Beyond* 13 Manorial and fiscal geography interferes with physical and villar geography.

Villarsite (vilă·ɹsəit). *Min.* [a. F. *villarsite*, f. the name of the French botanist D. *Villars* (1745–1814): named in 1842 by Dufrenoy.] A hydrous silicate of magnesium occurring massive or in rounded grains at Traversella, Piedmont.

1846 WORCESTER (citing Dana). 1850 AMSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. § 489 *Villarsite*, silicate of magnesia with iron and manganese. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 511 Villarsite. —Priamatic,..Translucent. Col[our], yellowish-green. 1889 A. IRVING *Metamorphism of Rock* 55 *Villarsite*, which agrees with olivine in crystal form and optical characters, contains 4 to 6.2 per cent. of water.

Villate (vi·lĕt). *Hist.* [ad. med.L. *villata*, f. L. *villa* VILLA.] A feudal territorial division consisting of a number of villa.

The Latin term has had some currency in English historical works.

1897 LEADER *Rec. Burg. Sheffield* p. xxvi, Proceedings were taken against the constable and villate of Wakefield.

Villatic (vilæ·tik), *a.* [ad. L. *villātic-us*, f. *villa* VILLA.] Of or pertaining to a villa or villas, or the inhabitants; *esp.* (after the original sense of *villa*), rural, rustic; village-.

The Miltonic passage has been freely echoed in the 19th c.: see the first group of quots. and 1832–56 in (*b*).

(*a*) 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1695 The perched roosts, And nests in order rang'd Of tame villatic Fowl. 1822 LAMB *Corr.* (1870) 164 Widgeon, snipes, barn-door fowls, ducks, geese—your tame villatic things. 1889 *Gd. Words* Nov. 786/2 [Jacob] herding the tame villatic sheep of his father. (*b*) 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 147 P 8 He..consulted with her..how I might be..disencumbered from villatick bashfulness. 1771–2 *Ess. fr. Batchelor* (1773) I. 162 Two rebellious enchanters, whom villatic rusticity styled, Cow-herds,—or Cow-boys. 1822–36 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* App. 284 Little asteroids that formed ample inheritances for the wants of this or that provincial squire, of this or that tame villatic squireen. 1846 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I ix. Introd., A feeling of villatic pride in beholding our townsman occupying so large a space in the public eye.

† **Ville** 1. *Anat. Obs.* [ad. L. *villus* VILLUS.] = VILLUS 2. (Only in pl.)

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 30 þe corde whanne he entrib into þe brawn is departid into many smale þredis, & þei ben clepid villes [*v.r.* vylles]—þat is to seie wrappingis. & þese villes ben of iij. manner. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* lij b, Of what villes is the stomacke composed? 1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Dial. Sorenes & Chir.* 26 Iskyng [= yexing] procedyng of driyng of the villes of the stomacke.

† **Ville** 2, etc., varr. FILLE 1, chervil. *Obs.*

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 537 *Cerfolium*, l. cerfoil, l. villen. *a* 1387 *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 15 *Cerfolium*, l. villes. *Ibid.* 43 Ville, *cerefolium.*

Ville, obs. f. VILL; var. FILLE 2 *Obs.*

Villeggiatura (viledʒätū·ră). Also (incorrectly) **villegiatura.** [It., f. *villeggiare* to live at a villa or in the country, f *villa* VILLA.] Residence at a country villa or in the country; a holiday spent in this way.

1742 WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 1 Nov., I don't wonder that she hates the country; I dare to say her child does not owe its existence to the Villeggiatura. 1765 SMOLLETT *Trav.* xxix. (1706) II. 80 The mountain of Viterbo is covered with beautiful plantations and villas belonging to the Roman nobility, who come hither to make the *villeggiatura* in summer. 1822 SHELLEY *Prose Works* (1880) IV. 284 Lord Byron is in *villeggiatura*, near Leghorn. 1845 PRESCOTT in *Life Longfellow* (1891) II. 92 We keep our *villeggiatura* at Pepperell, not flitting at all to Nahant this summer. 1885 *Times* (wkly. ed.) 18 Sept. 15/3 [They] occasionally left the cares and dignity of the Vice-regal Lodge to come down for a quiet *villeggiatura* here.

So ‖ **Villegiature.** *Obs.*–1 [F. *villegiature*]

1740 *Corr. betw. C'tess Hartford & C'tess Pomfret* (1805) II. 172, I am sorry the nobility of Florence did not defer their *villegiature* till Christmas.

Villein (vi·lĕn). Now *Hist.* Forms: α. 4 vilein, 4–5 vileyn, 5 veleyn, 6 vylleyne, 6–7 villeine, 6– villein, 8–9 villeyn; also 6–7 villen. β. 5 vylayn, 5–6 -ayne, 6 vyllayn(e, villayle, 6–7 villaine, 6– villain (7 vilain). [a. AF. *villein* (*vilein*, *-eyn*, *vyleyn*, etc.), var. *villain*, etc., VILLAIN *sb.* Both types of spelling have been freely employed for this special sense of the word, and the tendency to use the form *villain* has increased in recent years.]

1. One of the class of serfs in the feudal system; *spec.* a peasant occupier or cultivator entirely subject to a lord (*villein in gross* GROSS *sb.*2 2 e) or attached to a manor (*villein regardant* REGARDANT *a.* 1); a tenant in villeinage; also applied to a person regarded as holding a similar position in other communities, a bondsman. † Hence formerly in general use, a peasant, country labourer, or low-born rustic.

α. *a* 1325 *M.S. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 56 b, Also lith assise after excepcion of villenage 3if þat vileyn vnder his louerdes power purchasede ani lond. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 325 Nou lete we this maiden hiere, And speke of Dionise ayein And of Theophile the vilein, Of whiche I spak of nou tofore. [Cf. p. 320, l. 1358.] *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) 191 Olifauntz.. that he makethe for to ben brought up amonges his Vileynes. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 11675 And while the veleyn hadde seyd al this, Evere stood sire Vlphyn and herkened, j-wys. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 1109/1 In case my aduersaries villen or bondman be impaneled, I may lawfullie chalenge him. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 34 Amongest the second sort are comprehended such as lacke freedome, & full liberty, as bond-slaue, slaues, and villeines. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Courts Baron* 146 If any Villeine or Bondman of blood hath purchased any land within his Lordship, the Lord may seise both it and such villeines goods at his pleasure. 1648 D. JENKINS *Works* 10 The Villeine of a Lord, in the presence of the King cannot be seized. 1699 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* 65 The Villens, that held nothing but at the Will of the Landlord. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 72 Villeins might be enfranchised by manumission. 1775 *Archaeol* III. 80 Is it probable, that two day labourers, and at that time *villeins*, should have any fine to compound? 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 256 After the conquest the estates of the great lords were cultivated by their villeins. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. v, The villeins are many and their hate is strong. 1873 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* (1876) 51 If the villein could not depart from the land, no more could the lord remove him so long as he rendered the service due to the lord.

fig. 1607 HIERON *Whs.* I. 333 The scorner and scoffer at the word, is euen a villen to his own profanenes.

β. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. iii. 277 That..alle men of worship maye disseuer a gentylman fro a yoman, and from a yoman a vylayne. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 148/2 It happed upon a day that he tormented a vylayn or a carle for the couetyse of hys good. 1532 *Dial. Laws Eng* II. xliii. P v, Yf a vyllayn be made a preste, yet neuertheles the lorde may sease his goodes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 104 There were slain and taken foure hundred gentlemen and the villaines frankely let go. 1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 452 Bondseruants, which we do now sence call by a strained worde Villaines, ar not here talked of. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLV. xliv. 1233 b, This K[ing]..was wont..to acknowledge & cal himselfe the freed villaine and vassaile of the people of Rome. 1620 BACON *Henry VII*, 156 John Cut,..Henry Wyat, and such other Caitifes and Villaines of Birth, have beene the principall Finders. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 267 They are Preferred to no higher Employment than to Cultivate the Earth as Villains, not Inheritors. 1714 *Spect.* No. 607 P 12 The Steward shall cause these two Neighbours to swear..if he be a Free-man, or a Villain. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 602 An act for disabling the villains or copyholders of prelates and monasteries to purchase lands in fee. 1776 DALRYMPLE *Ann. Scot.* 320 A covenant between the Lord and the villain. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 168 They [the judges] were likewise required ..to receive the oath of fealty from all persons from the earl down to the villain. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iii. 62 Time out of mind the services of the villains had been commutable for money payments. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. 478 The villain was not a slave, but a freeman minus the very important rights of his lord. As against all men but his lord, he was free.

† b. A servant, a retainer. *Obs.*–1

1535 *Goodly Primer, Passion* iv. The villains had made a great fire beneath in the midst of the hall.

2. *attrib.*, as *villein burgher, class, issue, land*, etc.; **villein service**, service which a villein was bound to render to his lord as a condition of holding his land; **villein-socage**, socage or tenure by villein service (cf. quot. 1766); so *villein-socman.*

1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* E iij b, Swanus .. besegyd Canterbury, and wan it, .. and slew the monkys; but euer kept the .x. monk alyue to do vyllayne seruyce, & slew ix. of them. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* xl. 40 b, Lande holden in vyllenage or vyllayne landes. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 23 A villein shall make free land to bee villein land, but villein land shall not make a free-man to be a villein. 1632 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 9 There may be villain Issue between those which are our Captives. 1632 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisdict.* (1657) 327 If my Villain Infant be in ward of one, by reason that he holds of him by Knights service. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 62 These villein-socmen do villein services. *Ibid.* 79 But socage..is of two sorts: free-socage,..and villein-socage, where the services, though certain, are of a baser nature. 1776 DALRYMPLE *Ann. Scot.* 320 *Merchetum*..was also used for expressing another *villain* custom. 1864 J. F. KIRK *Hist. the Bold* I. v. 244 For what purpose were the taille and the gabelle levied on the villain burghers, if the nobles derived no benefit from these exactions. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* (1876) 52 Freemen sometimes held lands by villein services. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xix. III. 367 The villein class..aspired to holy orders as one of the avenues to liberty.

† 3. As *adj.* Of base or servile birth; belonging to the class of feudal villeins or serfs. *Obs.*

1551 in J. S. Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden) 55 Your Oratour repplyede that he was Free and of Free estate and nott villayne.

Villein, obs. f. VILLAIN *sb.* and *a.*

Villeinage (vi·lĕnedʒ). Now *Hist.* Forms: α. 4–9 villenage (6 vyllenage, vyllynage, vellenage), 5 vilenage. β. 6–9 villanage, 7 villon-, villianage, 7–9 villainage. γ. 7– villeinage (9 vileinage). [a. AF. *vilenage, villenage*, OF. *vilenage, villenage, vila(i)nage*, = Pr. *vilanatge*, Sp. *villanage*, Pg. *villanagem*), or ad. med.L. *villenagium, vil(l)anagium, vileinagium*, from the same source: see VILLEIN and -AGE.]

1. The tenure by which a feudal villein held or occupied his land; tenure of lands by bond-service rendered to the lord or superior. Also called *tenure in villeinage.*

α. *a* 1325 [see VILLEIN 1 α]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* (1905) 207, iiij. acres and an half acre and half a Rode of arable lond,..the whiche he holdith in vilenage or bondage. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 12 All these tenauntes maye holde their landes by dyuers tenures..: as by..burgage tenures and tenure in vyllenage. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* xi. 40 Tenure in vyllenage is most properly whan a vylleyne holdeth of his lorde to whom he is vyllayne certayne landes & tenementes after the custome and maner or els at the wyl of his lorde, and to do his vyllayne seruyce. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. 176 Once Albion liu'd in such a cruell age Than men did hold by seruile villenage. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 211 Villenage, is where a man holdeth of his Lord, either by doing vnto him some particular base seruice, and such a one is called a tenant by villenage, or by doing generally whatsoeuer base seruice his Lord will command and impose vpon him, and such a tenaunt is termed in our Law a villaine. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v., For euery one that houldeth in villenage, is not a villein, or a bond man. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1787) 204 There was but one freeholder made in a whole country, which was the lord himself, all the rest were but tenants at will, or rather tenants in villenage. 1672 MANLEY *Cowell's Interpr.* s.v., Copy-holders is but a new Name, for anciently they were called Tenants in villenage, or, of base Tenure. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 92 With regard to the folk-land, or estates held in villenage. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 308 Copyholds being derived from the tenure in villenage, they were not originally within the jurisdiction of the king's courts at Westminster. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* III. viii. (1819) III. 259 The tenements in villenage, whether by law or usage, were never separated

burdened.

attrib. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 21 This was an usual restraint of old in Villenage Tenure.

β. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Colonarii*, ..rusticall people, tenantes in villanages. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* II. 77 A matter almost out of vse, a tenure called Villanage: that is, where the Tenants of a Mannor were Bondmen and Bondwomen. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1644) 59 The boudmen..were grievously prest by their Lords in their tenure of Villanage. 1681 H. NEVILE *Plato Redivr.* 233 Not only all Villanage is long since abollished, but the other Tenures are so altered and qualified, that they signifie nothing towards making the Yeomandry depend upon the Lords. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* III. ii. I. 473 Tenure in villanage gradually wore out. 1818 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 23 It is extremely difficult to ascertain the time, when villainage ceased in England, or even to trace its decline. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* vi, We return to the state of villanage, holding our tenement-houses..of the State.

fig. a 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* v. 132 The Earth runs in one Tenure, and we but Prevent Reveals; Villainage is the Lott.

γ. 1642 *Termes de la Ley* 262 To hold in pure Villeinage, is to do all that the Lord will him command. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 225 The abolition of the punishment of death, of the lesser tithes, and of villeinage were especially insisted on. 1848 WILLIAMS *Real Property* III. 265 Villeinage is to hold part of the demesnes of any lord..by villein services.

† b. Land held by this tenure. *Obs.*

c 1480 *Godstow Reg.* (1906) 576 The tythes of the villenagis of medys and litell medis of the same towne. *c* 1480 *Oseney Reg.* (1913) 96 In cleydon, ij. hides of villenage, þe which my modur 3afe to þe same church.

2. The state or condition of a feudal villein; complete subjection to a feudal lord or superior; bondage, serfdom, servitude.

α. 1532 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 196 Ony maner of Entree into the said Courte Rolles..Concernyng ony

vyllenage against the said defendauntes. 1581 in J. S. Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden) 58 To dyscharge the vyllynage and bondage of the bloudde of the said complaynants. 1600 Holland *Livy* xli. viii. 1101 They that were to leave such yssue at home, gave their children as it were in villenage to some Romane citizen or other whom they liked of. 1643 Milton *Sov. Salve* 26 Reduced to the

and thus began Villenage in England. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) II. 57 The villenage of the peasantry in some parts of Catalonia was very severe. 1852 H. Rogers *Ecl. Faith* 418 Mr. Newman says that it was *Christians*, not *men*, that the Church sought to enfranchise; it little matters; she sought to abolish all villenage. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 70, I do not doubt that the social state of villenage existed.

fig. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xi. 2 No wretchednesse is like to sinfull vellenage. 1604 Hieron *Wks.* I. 481 The continuall gamster is, as it were, in the state of villenage to his humor. 1644 Milton *Divorce* II. iii. 36, I spake ev'n now, as if sin were condemn'd in a perpetual villenage never to be free by law, never to be manumitted.

β. 1589 Warner *Albion's England* v. xxiii. 101 Thus Englands hope with Englands heire in one same Bark did saile: Whan despat from their villanage was English bloud of baile. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 449 For those [ichneumons] that are ouercome in combates one with another, are branded with a warlicke marke of Villanage, or subiection to their Conquerors. 1700 Dryden *Wife of Bath's T.* 443 Their Glories shine; But Infamy and Villanage are thine. 1762 [see Serf 2 b]. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 245 Joseph II rendered an essential service to humanity, in abolishing the servitude or villanage of the peasants of Bohemia. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 287 The original population..had..been conquered and reduced to a sort of villanage by certain Afghan tribes. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xxiv. V. 480 While the churl sank to the state of villainage, the slave rose to it.

γ. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 262 b, The division of Villeinage, is villeine of blood, and of tenure. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Demerara* ii. 22 Then came the bondage and villeinage of the Gothic nations. 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* v. 103 When villeinage had passed away and serfs were no longer maintained by their owners. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* ii. 66 A man or woman born in villeinage could never shake it off.

3. The body of villeins; villeins collectively.

1864 Bunton *Scot Abr.* I. i. 31 The French peasantry or villainage of the period.

Vi·lleiness. *rare.* [f. Villein + -ess.] A female villein.

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Corps, Femme de corps*, a Villeinesse, a womnn of a seruile condition. *Ibid.* s.v. *Femme.*

† **Villeining.** *Obs.*—1 = Villeinage.

1471 in *Archæol.* XLVII. 196 That..ye..pay the sume of ten marcs according to the terms of th' endentures of Vilenyng between us and the said William.

Villeinous, -en(o)us, obs. ff. Villainous *a.*

Villenie, -enye, obs. varr. Villainy.

Villi, pl. of Villus.

Villiaco, -ago, varr. Viliaco *Obs.*

† **Vi·llicated,** *ppl. a. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *villicāt-us*, pa. pple. of *villicāre* to act as bailiff.] (See quot.) Also **Villica·tion** [ad. L. *villicātio*].

1623 Cockeram 1, *Villicated*, busied about husbandrie. *Ibid.*, *Villication*, husbandry. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Villication*, the rule of Husbandry under the Master or Owner of a Mannor.

Villiche, obs. form of Vilely *adv.*

Villiform (vi·lifɔm), *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *villiform-is*: see Villus and -form. So F. *villiforme*.] Of the teeth of certain fishes: Having the form of villi; so numerous, slender, and closely set, as to resemble the pile of velvet.

Also *Bot.*, 'resembling villi'.

1849–52 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 874/1 The teeth of the Sheat-fish..present all the gradations between the villiform and radulliform types. 1859 Murchison *Situria* (ed. 3) App. 562 The minute vill form teeth of osseous fishes. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 126 Very fine conical teeth arranged in a band are termed villiform teeth.

Villify, obs. form of Vilify *v.* **Villin,** obs. f. Villain *sb.* **Villipend,** obs. f. Vilipend *v.*

Villose (vi·lōus), *a. Bot.* and *Anat.* [ad. L. *villōs-us* hairy, rough, f. *villus* Villus. Cf. It. *villoso, velloso*, Sp., Pg. *velloso*.] = Villous *a.*

a. *Bot.* 1727 Bailey (vol. II) *Villose*, hairy. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Leaf, Villose* Leaf. See *Filose* Leaf, supra. 1812 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 29 The involucre remote and villose. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) V. 26 The various parts of plants, when clothed or furnished with hairs, are described as being downy, pilose, villose, tomentose. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 185 Margin fimbriate, villose-white.

b. *Anat.* 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 156 *Dry[tes] emarginata*. Blue, punctate, villose. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 39 The substance is unusually thick in the spinose caterpillars of butterflies; and in the pupa of one.. it is villose. 1847 Hardy in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 235 Abdomen and elytra fulvo-pubescent, the last with a villose cinereous angulated band. 1861 Hagen *Synop. Neuroptera N. Amer.* 153 *Libellula julia*..Fuscous, villose.

Villosity (vilo·sĭti). [ad. L. type **villōsitās*: see prec. and -ity. So F. *villosité*, Sp. *vellosidad*.]

1. *Bot., Zool.*, etc. The condition or fact of being villose or villous.

a. 1777 Lightfoot *Flor. Scot.* II. 606 This villosity [of the leaf] soon wears off. 1803 Scoresby *Jrnl.* 414 They differ from both in the form and villosity of the leaves. 1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) 99 *Villosity*,..when they [*sc.* hairs] are very long, very soft, erect, and straight. Darwin in F. Darwin *Life* (1887) II. 98, I find Moqui Tandon treats in his 'Tératologie' on villosity of plants.

b. 1789 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xvii. 309 The villosity of the skin. 1850 Dana *Crust.* I. 200 But slight traces of any villosity can be detected. 1861 Hagen *Synop. Neuroptera N. Amer.* 180 Thorax obscure brassy-brown, with brown villosity.

2. a. A villous formation or surface. b. A villus.

1808 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 229 This villosity is supposed to be composed of tubes adapted to taking up the surrounding fluids. 1837 Bullock *Cæsarean Midwifery*

Villo·so-, comb. form of L. *villōsus* Villose *a.*, as in *villoso-scabrous* adj.

1846 Dana *Zoöph.* (1848) 390 Exterior finely striate and villoso-scabrous or spinulous.

Villous (vi·lŏs), *a.* [ad. L. *villōsus* Villose *a.* Cf. F. *villeux*.]

1. *Anat.* Covered with numerous thick-set, slender projections resembling short hairs: a. Of the inner coat of the stomach or intestines.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 169 þe stomak & þe guttis is

1723 Chevne *Eng. Malady* II. vii § 1 (1734) 184 Either it [the stomach] is too thin and weak,..or the inner villous Membrane is worn off. 1769 Hewson in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 210 The lacteals in the cod..are remarkable for having a beautiful net-work of vessels between the muscular and villous coat of the intestines. 1842 Combe *Digest.* 94 On examining the surface of the villous coat with a magnifying glass. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 183 There is thus a great contrast between its interior and the villous internal surface of the small intestine.

b. In general use.

1764 Reid *Inquiry* ii. § 1 The *membrana pituitaria*, and the olfactory nerves, which are distributed to the villous parts of this membrane. 1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 179 The tongue itself is extremely villous, having some very long villi at the point, which act, I conceive, somewhat like capillary tubes. 1832 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 555 The surface of the ciliary processes is reticulated and villous. 1846 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* 192 The villous and vascular condition of a Mucous membrane. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 124 The pharynx has a coarsely villous exterior.

2. Of the nature of villi.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos* I. 22 An Appendent Proboscis or Trunk, consisting of many villous filaments in figure of a Cone. 1854 C. H. Jones & Siev. *Pathol. Anat.* iv. 188 Rokitansky describes a variety of cancer, which he calls *villous*, from its consisting of a kind of delicate fibrous stalk branching at its end into villous processes. 1873 F. T. Roberts *Handbk. Med.* 44 The weak new vessels..in certain vascular cysts, or villous processes. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 93 Fungous, papular, villous, or cystic formations.

Comb. 1869 G. Lawson *Dis. Eye* (1874) 13 Covered with small red villous-looking granulations.

3. Of animals: Hairy, furry. *rare*—1.

1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 2, Horses have most haire upon the mane, lions upon their shoulders, ..and the hare is most villous; in all they grow thick.

4. *Bot.* Of parts of plants: Thickly covered with long soft hairs.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 444 The flowers..are succeeded by a swelling, villous pod. 1787 *Fam. Plants* I. 41 Stigmas two, villous on the side. 1808 Roxburgh in *Asiat. Res.* VIII. 300 Leaves alternate,..smooth above, villous underneath. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) V. 18 Its petals being far less taper-pointed, and not villous. 1882 *Gard. Chron.* XVI. 780 The whole plant is more or less villous.

b. Consisting of villi.

1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 37 The lower leaves..invested beneath with a villous pubescence.

Hence **Vi·llously** *adv.*

1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 429 Empty glumes villously ciliate.

‖ **Villus** (vi·lŏs). *Bot.* and *Anat.* Pl. **villi** (vi·lai). [L. *villus* tuft of hair, shaggy hair, etc.]

1. *Bot.* A long, slender, soft hair.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Villi*, in Botany, are small Hairs like the Grain of Plush or Shag, with which, as with a kind of Excrescence, some Trees do abound. 1884 Bowker & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 90 The multicellular heads of the..glandular hairs, villi, and scales.

2. *Anat.* A slender hair-like process or minute projection forming one of a number closely set upon a surface.

pl. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Crusta Villosa*,..the fourth Tunic..of the Stomach...On the Inner Surface of this Coat, are seen innumerable *Villi* or *Fibrillæ*. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 260/1 The villi of this intestine [*sc.* the duodenum] are thicker than in the stomach. 1798 [see Villous *a.* 1 b]. 1848 Carpenter *Anim. Phys.* 174 The lacteals originate in the numberless villi, or minute projections with which the mucous membrane that lines the alimentary tube is covered. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 31 The surface of this layer is often elevated into a number of villi, or conical processes. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 56 It may be produced into many, often relatively large, papillæ or villi

sing. 1848 Carpenter *Anim. Phys.* 40 In the intervals of the digestive action, only a few granules..can be seen at the end of the villus. 1880 Beale *Slight Ailments* 89 Every villus of the intestinal canal is supplied with nerve fibres.

Vilm(e, obs. varr. Film *sb.* **Vilne, Vilony(e,** etc., obs. varr. Villainy. **Vilou,** obs. f. Willow. **Vilte,** var. Vilety *Obs.* **Vilthy,** southern dial. var. Filthy *a.* **Vily(e,** obs. varr. Vilely *adv.* **Vilycoit,** obs. f. Wylecoat.

Vim (vim). Orig. *U.S.* [Commonly regarded as a. L. *vim*, acc. sing. of *vis* strength, energy; but the earlier adverbial use (see quot. 1850) suggests a purely imitative or interjectional origin.] Force or vigour, energy, 'go'. † Also as *adv.*, vigorously, sharply.

1830 *Odd Leaves* 31 (Thornton), He thought of his spurs, so he ris up, an' drove them vim in the hoss's flanx. *Ibid.* 91. 1875 *New York Herald* 17 April (Bartlett), With a vim and determination that sometimes makes victory half assured. 1876 F. L. Galt in Orton *Andes & Amazons* II. xliv. 386 [The Portuguese] seem still to carry about the vim of a Vasco de Gama in their wanderings. 1880 Johnson *W. L. Garrison* 128 There was..a Garrisonian grip and vim in the anti-slavery sentiment of the county. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 259/1 He fought well and with a vim that I have never seen equaled.

† **Vimaue.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. OF. *vimauve*, mod.F. *guimauve*. Cf. Maw *sb.*2] Marsh-mallow.

c 1420 *Master of Game* xii. (MS. Bodl. 546) fol. 58, Penne take 3e of þe mauys & of þe vimmuys & of þe white lylyes.

Vi·minal, *a. rare*—0. [ad. L. *viminālis*, f. *vīmin-*, *vīmen* osier.] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram 1, *Viminal*, apt or fit to bind with. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Viminal*, apt to winde or binde, belonging to Osiers or Twigs. [Hence in later Dicts. with varying definitions.]

Viminous (vimi·nəs), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 7 **viminious.** [f. L. *vīmine-us* (f. *vīmin-*, *vīmen*: see prec.) + -ous.]

1. Made of pliable twigs or wickerwork.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 189 Chirurgions have invented an Æstuary of a viminous texture like a bird-cage. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 37 The Timber is incomparable.., because it is exceedingly light, for Vine, and Hop-props, and divers viminious works. 1727 Prior *Alma* III. 172 As in a Hive's viminous Dome, Ten thousand Bees enjoy their Home. 1736 H. Brooke *Univ. Beauty* VI. 309 Here lightly some viminous burdens bear.

2. *Bot.* Producing long, flexible shoots or twigs.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 3 Willows, and all the Viminous kinds, which are raised of Sets only. 1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* 154 This viminous Tree [poplar] is properly but of two kinds. *Ibid.* 222 This [the willow] is one of the Viminous family. 1731 P. Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vegetation*, In some, it [the principle of life] is seated both in the Roots, and all over the Trunk and Branches; as, in the Viminous or Willow Kinds. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* 236 *Viminaceous*, producing slender twigs, such as those used for wicker-work. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1216/2.

Vin, southern dial. variant of Find *v.*

‖ **Vina** (vī·nā). Also 8 **vena,** 9 **veena.** [Skr. and Hindi *vīṇā*.] An Indian musical instrument consisting of a fretted fingerboard, to which seven strings fitted with pegs are attached, with a gourd at each end; an Indian lyre.

1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 211 A musician softly touched the chords of a vena. 1827 Moore *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* v. Introd., As the story was chiefly to be told in song,..he borrowed the vina of Lalla Rookh's slave. 1837 [Mrs. Maitland] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 55 First..came in an old man..to play and sing to the vina, an instrument like a large mandoline. 1896 *Ind. Mag.* Jan. 39 Instrumental music on the veena..is also much in vogue among them.

Vinaceous (vəine·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *vīnāce-us*, f. *vīn-um* wine: see -aceous.] Of the (reddish) colour of wine; wine-coloured.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 244 The Throat [is] tinctured with a lovely vinaceous, graplike colour. 1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 267 The rump a fine cinereous; breast ..ale chesnut dashed with a vinaceous cast. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1805) II. 388 The fore part of the neck and breast are vinaceous. 1815 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 91 Throat and sides of the head vinaceous. 1889 P. L. Sclater *Argentine Ornith.* II. 140 Beneath plumbeous, with a strong vinaceous tinge.

b. Qualifying names of colours.

1788 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 246 The general colour of the bird otherwise is brown, changing to vinaceous red on the breast. 1817 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. i. 5 Vinaceous-grey Coly, with a blue tail, crested head, and shining green occiput. *Ibid.* XI. i. 84 Pigeon with the head..of a vinaceous purple. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 226 Olive-gray with a reddish tinge, crown and under parts vinaceous-red. 1889 P. L. Sclater *Argentine Ornith.* III. 140 Above pale vinaceous brown.

c. *ellipt.* or as *sb.*

1819 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool* XI. i. 126 The belly, sides, thighs, and under tail-coverts, of a reddish vinaceous. 1877 Coues & Allen *N. Amer. Rod* 811 The prevailing tint of the dorsal surface varies from gray to pale vinaceous.

Vinacre, Vinager, obs. forms of Vinegar.

† **Vinager.** *Obs.*—0 [Cf. med.L. *vinageria, vinacheria* (Du Cange).] ? A wine-vessel.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/1 Vynagere (*K.* vynagre, *P.* vynegyr), *vinarium*.

‖ **Vinaigrette** (vinəgre·t). Also 7–8 **vinaigret,** 7, 9 **vinegrette,** 9 **vinaigaret.** [F. *vinaigrette* vinegar-sauce (also in senses 2 and 3), f. *vinaigre* Vinegar *sb.*]

† 1. A condiment prepared with vinegar. *Obs.*—1

1699 Evelyn *Acetaria* 20 Cucumber,..tho' very cold and moist, the most approved Sallet alone, or in Composition, of all the Vinaigrets, to sharpen the Appetite.

2. A small two-wheeled carriage drawn or pushed by persons, formerly in use in France. Now only *Hist.*

1698 W. King tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 6, I saw a little Master in a little Vinegrette, drawn along by two Boys, much bigger then himself, and push'd behind by a Maid. 1698 M. Lister *Journ. Paris* (1699) 13 The Vinegrette, a

Coach on Two Wheels, dragg'd by a Man, and push'd behind by a Woman or Boy, or both. 1898 A. Balfour *To Arms* xxiv. 272 The vinegrettes plying hither and thither .. are like Sedans mounted on two thin wheels.

3. A small ornamental bottle or box usually containing a sponge charged with some aromatic or pungent salts; a smelling-bottle.

1811 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Gtess & Gertr.* I. 55 She had no resource but silence, her fan and her *vinaigrette*. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xviii, The matrons, meantime, offered vinaigrettes and wielded fans. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xxxix, She..took up .a gold vinaigrette which Mrs. Transome often liked to carry with her.

b. *transf.* Applied to a person.

1836 T. Hook *G. Gurney* I. iv. 140, I would not..have ventured to confess to my most exemplary parent, more especially in the presence of the fair vinaigrette,..the adventure at Twickenham.

Vinaigrous, *a. rare*—[f. F. *vinaigre* vinegar.] Vinegary; sour-tempered.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. ix, Even the ancient vinaigrous Tantes admit it; the King's Aunts, ancient Graille and Slatterhood.

Vinakir, obs. Sc. form of Vinegar.

Vinal (vəi·năl), *a.* [ad. L. *vīnāl-is* (rare), f. *vīn-um* wine, or directly f. *vīn-um* + -al.]

†**1.** Addicted to, fond of, wine. *Obs.*—[1]

1632 S. S. *Weepers* 6 His Vinal and Venereous temper opened the little Wicket for the five other Deadly Sinnes.

2. Produced by, originating in, wine.

1656 R. White tr. *Digby's Powd. Symp.* (ed. 2) 110 The bodies..attract unto themselves..such as are of their nature ..: as wine doth the vinall spirits. *a* 1700 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 313 Their vinal Steams evaporating, they Felt of their usual Vigour a Decay. 1894 Froude *Erasmus* xi. 210 She drank it [the wine] to the last drop... Then she..tried to pitch him overboard. There is vinal energy for you.

Vinarious, *a. rare*—[f. L. *vīnāri-us*, f. *vīnum* wine: see -arious.] Of or belonging to wine.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*

Vinator·rian, *a. rare*—. (See quot. and Vinitorian *a.*)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vinatorian*, belonging to the dresser of a Vineyard.

†**Vince,** *v. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vincĕre*.] *intr.* To win the day, be victorious.

1530 Cromwell in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 367 The Florentynes clothe styll continew and defende the power of the Pope, and it ys suppoesyd that they shall vynce.

†**Vincent.** *slang. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] The dupe in a betting game of bowls or the like. Also *Vincent's law*, the art of cheating at bowls, etc.

1592 Greene *Conny-catching* II. B ij b, The Vincents Law is a common deceit or cosenage vsed in Bowling-allies, amongst the baser sort of people. *Ibid.* II. B iij, The vincent,..that is the simple man that stands by, and not acquainted with their cosenage.

Vincentian (vinse·nʃăn), *sb.* and *a.*[1] [f. *Vincent* (see def.) + -ian.] **a.** *sb.* A member of an order of Roman Catholic mission-priests founded by St. Vincent de Paul (1576–1660). **b.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to this order.

1844 Newman in W. Ward *Life* (1912) I. xi. 338 [I] went off to Cork to the Vincentians.

Vincentian (vinse·nʃăn), *a.*[2] [f. *Vincent* (see def.) + -ian.] Originating or associated with St. Vincent of Lerins (died *c* 450 A. D.).

The reference is to St. Vincent's test of orthodoxy: 'quod ubique, quod semper, quod ab omnibus creditum est'.

1875 Lindon in Johnston *Life & Lett.* (1904) vii. 200 Your difficulty seems to be in the meaning of 'Semper' in the Vincentian Canon. 1887 Ld. Acton *Lett. Mary Gladstone* (1913) 182 No consensus, no Vincentian Rule, exists that can decide this question.

†**Vincetoxic.** *Obs.*—[1] [ad. med.L. *vincetoxicum*, *-icus* (used as a plant-name), f. L. *vincĕre* to overcome + *toxicum* poison.] An antidote to poison.

1698 J. Robinson *Calm Ventilation* VII. in *Endoxa*, etc. 151 Some Vincetoxicks [*printed* -toricks] are generall, and will be contrary to severall kinds [of poison].

Vinch, obs. Sc. form of Wench *sb.*

Vincibility (vinsĭbi·lĭti). [f. next + -ity.] The state of being vincible; capability of being conquered or overcome.

1752 Richardson *Corr.* (1804) III. 203 An instance of his favourite observation in behalf of the vincibility of a first love. 1753 — *Grandison* (1781) VI. xii. 47, I don't know what to say to the vincibility of *such* a Love. 1807 *Ann. Rev.* V. 344 A belief in the vincibility of Frenchmen. 1856 J. Strang *Glasgow & its Clubs* 141 In Egypt they had testified to the *vincibility* of the French *Invincibles*.

Vincible (vi·nsĭb'l), *a.* [ad. L. *vincibilis*, f. *vincĕre* to overcome: see -ible. So obs. F. *vincible*, It. *vincibile*, Sp. *vencible*, Pg. *vencivel*.]

In the 15th cent. version of Higden (Rolls) IV. 167 *vincible* occurs as an error for *invincible*.

1. Of persons: That may be overcome or vanquished in battle or conflict, or in some contest; susceptible of defeat or overthrow.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iv 33 b, Christ ouercame hym to shewe vnto vs that he was vincible. 1590 R. Adams in *Harl. Misc.* I. 120 The English fleet..dispersed that invincible Navy, and made it vincible. 1630 J. Hayward *Edw. VI*, 75 He not easily vincible in spirit.. drew his sword and caused others to doe the like. 1682 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* 483 That Spanish Armado (which stiled Invincible, but proved Vincible). 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* II, *Vincibilis*, vincible, conquerable. 1892 Wilks *Hist. Hugf Cent.* 68 The allies .. could scarcely believe that the Napoleon who had so often conquered them was really vincible. 1899 S. E. Herrick in W. H. Salmon *Culture Chr. Manhood* 240 And the heart is so exultant, so vigorous, and the man is so feeble and so vincible.

transf. 1888 *Atlantic Monthly* XLIX. 418 He [Peel] was vincible by the truth.

2. Of material or immaterial things, obstacles, arguments, etc.: That may be overcome; conquerable, surmountable.

a 1568 Coverdale *Bk. Death* (1579) 110 To beare howe vnhurtfull, yea wholesome and vincible death is become thorow Christ. 1589 *Marprel. Epist.* Title-p., Very insufficiently furnished, with notable inabilitie of most vincible reasons. 1631 Fuller *David's Sin* xxxv. (1868) 49 Nought is so hard but vincible by paines. 1666 J. Smith *Old Age* (1676) 153 All imminent evil is looked upon either as vincible or invincible. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 191 A Pox-stone, i. e. a stone scarce vincible by fire. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) III. xxviii. 315 Were this great difficulty to be vincible. 1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* V. 130 He dreaded..her sense of duty, her obedience to her parents, had their objections been vincible. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 581 The form of faith that Lydia held (a vincible objection in other circumstances) was made a reason. 1872 *Chr. World Pulpit* II. 183 It is because these influences are vincible. that we are exhorted not to grieve the Spirit of God.

b. *Vincible ignorance*, an ignorance the means of overcoming which are possessed by the ignorant person himself. Cf. Invincible *a.* 1 c.

c 1626 Donne *Serm.* lxxvi. (1640) 775 God forgives none of that which is left undone, out of a wilfull and vincible ignorance. 1689 *Dial. betw. Timothy & Titus* 5 Though I must tell you, 'Tim, 'tis vincible ignorance; for that you have not read them, is your own fault. 1724 A. Shields *Life J. Renwick* Ep Rdr. (1827) p. vii, Their Ignorance also proved vincible, when they had got that One Minister, whom he so reproaches. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* 424/2 All vincible ignorance of the things a man's duty requires him to know is in itself sinful. 1891 *Cath. News* 31 Jan. 3 4 Violation of duty attended by culpable or vincible ignorance.

Hence **Vi·ncibleness**; **Vi·nciblv** *adv.*

1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* vi. (1661) 157 Such Papists as they count vincibly ignorant of Roman errours. 1656 — *Replic.* viii. 305 The Roman Church..doth not excommunicate all the Christians of Africk, Asia,..but only such as do erre vincibly or sinfully. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vincibleness*, Capableness or Liableness to be conquered or overcome.

Vi·nciture. *rare*—. [ad. L. *vinctūra*, f. *vincīre* to bind.] 'A binding or tying.'

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* [Hence in later Dicts.]

Vi·ncular, *a. rare.* [f. L. *vincul-um* a bond or tie.] Of a vowel: Connective. Also *elliptical* as *sb.* So **Vincula·tion** (see quot.).

1871 Kennedy *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 9 The weakest vowel is i, for which reason it is used as a Vincular, to link parts in Flexion and Derivation. *Ibid.* 29 Vinculation, or insertion of a Vincular Vowel.

†**Vi·nculate,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vinculāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vinculāre* to bind.] Bound.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* D j, Yf the viceres be nat bounde yᵗ thou mytygate the phlegmon. For it is necessary that they be nat vynculate.

‖ **Vinculum** (vi·ŋkiŭlŏm). Pl. **vincula.** [L., f. *vinc-*, stem of *vincīre* to bind + *-ulum* -ule.]

1. A bond of union; a tie. Usually *fig.*

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 697 The Religion of an Oath is a Necessary *Vinculum* of Civil Society. 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 236 Which..does diffuse it self through the Whole, and breaking the Vinculum of the more solid Parts, does dissolve their Compages. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* (1730) 4 The gentle Intestine motion of Fermentation knocking asunder their *Vincula* of mixture, they naturally fall to pieces. 1831 Blakey *Free-will* 198 In material objects we do not see the connecting principle —the *vinculum*, as it is termed, which links causes and effects together. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. VIII. iii 279 The vincula of the Intellectual World are principally formulas of invocation. *a* 1871 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* i. (1876) 13 Intimate connection drives us to conceive an ideal vinculum.

2. *Math.* A straight line drawn over two or more terms, denoting that these are to be considered as subject to the same operations of multiplication, division, etc., by another term.

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Vinculum*, is a Term in Fluxions, implying that some compound surd Quantity is multiplied into a Fluxion, &c. 1743 W. Emerson *Fluxions* 24 The fluxionary Part may be divided by the Fluxion of the Root (or Part under the Vinculum). 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1807) II. 292 When the Root under a Vinculum is a Compound Quantity; and the Index of the part or factor Without the Vinculum, increased by 1, is some Multiple of that Under the Vinculum. [1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1297 Vieta first used the bar or line over the quantities for a vinculum.] 1887 B. Smith *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 4) 5 The sign —— vinculum, placed over numbers,..[is] used to denote that all numbers under the vinculum are equally affected by all numbers not under the vinculum. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 519/2 Each of these [quantities] has a line drawn over it called a vinculum.

fig. 1887 Tate *Grk. Metres* in *Theatre of Greeks* (ed. 2) 427 The words from τὸν to ταῖδα are inclosed as it were in a vinculum of syntax. 1891 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* (1877) I. 38 The other notion of unity..denotes the vinculum, or sheath, under which branches of thought or existence, really different in kind, are taken up into a single complex root or stem.

3. *Anat.* A ligament or frenum.

1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* (and in later Dicts.).

Vincus, obs. or dial. Sc. var. Vanquish *v.* **Vind,** southern dial. var. Find *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Wind *v.* **Vindage,** var. Vendage *Obs.* **Vindak,** obs. Sc. var. Window. **Vinde,** southern ME. var. Find *v.*; obs. f. Vine *sb.*

Vindemial (vindī·miăl), *a. rare.* [ad. L. (post-classical) *vindēmiāl-is*, f. *vindēmia* Vindemy.] Of or belonging to, associated with, the gathering of grapes.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* [Hence in Phillips, Kersey, etc.] 1819 H. Busk *Dessert* 428 Yes, come, Lyæus, leave thy lucid rills, Thy ivy borders and vindemial hills.

Vindemiate (vindī·mi·ĕt), *v.* [f. L. *vindēmiāt-*, ppl. stem of *vindēmiāre*, f. as prec.] *intr.* To gather ripe fruit, esp. grapes. Hence **Vinde·miating** *vbl. sb.*

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* Aug. 72 Now vindemiate and take your Bees towards the expiration of this Moneth. 1670 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed 3), *Vindemiate*, to gather grapes or ripe fruit in harvest. [Hence in Phillips, etc.] 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Vindemiating*, the gathering of Grapes, or other ripe Fruits. 1831 Wnewell in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 123 People will ask you to reckon your fruits: so vindemiate as fast as you can.

Vindemiation (vindī·mi·ē·ʃăn). [ad. med.L. *vindēmiātio*, f. L. *vindēmiāre*: see prec.] The gathering of grapes or other fruits. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* x. (1623) T ij, Of the fruit and profit of Bees: Wherein is shewed first the Vindemiation or taking of Combes. 1653 W. G *Bacon's Hist. Winds*, etc. 305 Let this be the first Vindemiation or inchoated interpretation of the Forme of heat. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 277 *Vindemiation*, the gathering of Grapes, or reaping the Fruit of any thing; as of Cherries, Apples, Bees, &c. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), and in later Dicts.

Vinde·miatory, *a. rare*—. [ad. L. *vindēmiātōri-us* (Varro).] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vindemiatory*, of or belonging to gathering Grapes, or ripe Fruit in Harvest.

‖ **Vindemiatrix** (vindī·mi·ătriks). [med. or mod.L. fem. of *vindēmiātor* vintager, star in Virgo, f. L. *vindēmiāre*: see Vindemiate *v.*]

1. A bright fixed star in the constellation Virgo.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vindemiatrix*, a Fixed Star of the third Magnitude, in the Constellation Virgo, whose Longitude is 185 degr. 23 min. Latitude 16 degr. 55 min. [Hence in later Dicts.] 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Virgo*, Stars in the Constellation Virgo [include]..Upper of North Wing, Vindemiatrix. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 373/1 Of the bright stars in this triangle, Vindemiatrix is the one nearest to the line joining Arcturus and β Leonis. 1880 Olmsted *Mech. Heav.* 347 Twenty degrees north of Spica, is Vindemiatrix, in the arm of Virgo, a star of the third magnitude.

2. 'A female vintager' (Bailey, 1721).

†**Vindemy.** *Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vindēmia* vintage, fruit-gathering.] The taking of honey from beehives.

1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* v. (1623) K iij, At the Vindemie, in a fair calm morning, before any Bees be abroad, shut up close all the stalls in your Garden.

Vinden, southern ME. variant of Find *v.*

Vindicabi·lity. *rare*—. [f. next.] 'The quality of being vindicable, or capable of support or justification.'

1828–32 Webster (citing *Jrnl. of Science*).

Vindicable (vi·ndikăb'l), *a.* [ad. late L. *vindicābilis* (Du Cange), f. L. *vindicāre* to vindicate. Cf. OF. *vindicable* punishing.]

†**1.** Vengeful, vindictive. *Obs.*—[1]

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I 7 Any obuious obiect of disastrous misfortune: or perhaps any vindicable action, [which] might from an vnsettled rancknur be conceiued.

2. Capable of being vindicated; admitting of being justified or maintained.

1647 *Engl. Mountebank's Last Sickly Water State* 5 Their freedoms, liberty of person, property of Estates given away and become meere Notions, and not vindicable, nor preservable by Law. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No 5090/1 The most vindicable Quarrel can be imagin'd. 1736 Chandler *Hist. Persec.* 436, I think this manner of subscribing to Creeds.. is infamous in its nature, and vindicable upon no principles of conscience and honour. 1778 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* xlviii. (1783) II. 79, I think every work of God vindicable. 1836 J. Halley in W. Arnot *Mem.* (1842) 61 Feelings which were natural, but by no means vindicable. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 336 Hostilities in this campaign were generally prosecuted in a stern and inflexible spirit, vindicable, perhaps, by the cruelty and treachery of the Mahratta princes.

Vi·ndicant. *Roman Law.* [ad. L. *vindicant-*, *vindicans*, pres. pple. of *vindicāre*: see next.] The claimant in a suit.

1880 Muirhead *Gaius* II. § 24 The prætor adjudges the thing to the vindicant. *Ibid.* IV. § 16 The vindicant held in his hand a rod.

Vindicate (vi·ndikĕ·t), *v.* Also 6 7 as *pa. pple.* [f. L. *vindicāt-*, ppl. stem of *vindicāre* (also *vendicāre*: see Vendicate *v.*) to claim, to set free, to punish, etc., f. *vim*, acc. sing. of *vis* force + *dic-*, stem of *dīcĕre* to say. Cf. It. *vindicare*, Sp. and Pg. *vindicar*, F. *venditquer*.]

†**1.** *trans.* **a.** To exercise in revenge. *Obs.*—[1]

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 326 Praying þam to provid þat be people vindicat na Ire nor wraith [*altered to* vse na vengeance nor punyciounˇ] on þam.

†b. To avenge or revenge (a person, cause, wrong, etc.). *Obs.*

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Vindicate*, to revenge. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1687) 17/2 Solon declared, that it behoved them..that they should vindicate the Gods cause. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 264 Resolving by God's assistance to vindicate his Wrongs. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 67 News..being brought King Achbar that Mirza Sharoph..had been injured by the Ouzbeg Tartar; the King resolves to vindicate him. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* Wks. 1755 III. II. 18 But Cupid, full of mischief, longs To vindicate his mother's wrongs.

†c. To punish; to visit with punishment. *Obs.*

1638 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 367 There are severall Seates of Iustice heere (though none to vindicate beastlinesse). 1659 PEARSON *Creed* I. 86 God is more powerfull to exact subiection, and to vindicate rebellion. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 974 Private Trespasses should be vindicated upon the Authors thereof themselves, or else where they lived. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* 8 Because our grievances are..not precisely those which we bore from the Tudors, or vindicated on the Stuarts.

†2. To make or set free; to deliver or rescue. Usually const. *from*. *Obs.* (common 1620–60).

1568–71 (*title*), The Warkis of..Schir Dauid Lyndesay... Newly correctit, and vindicate from the former Errouris quhairwith thay war befoir corruptit. 1570 BUCHANAN *Admon.* Wks. (S. T. S.) 22 How ȝe haue vindicat this realme out of thraldome of straungearis. 1623 SIR A. SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 85 Nothing will giue you more honour then..First to vindicate those places, in which your religion is oppressed. 1620–52 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1655) 2 To vindicate, as much as in me lies, the Founders of this venerable Antiquity from oblivion. 1650 ASHMOLE *Arcanum* in *Fasc. Chem.* 166 A faithfull..Teacher, that may make the clear Sun conspicuous unto them, and vindicate their eies from darknesse. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicina* 267 The Liquor ferments, and is vindicated from Putrefaction and Stagnation. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. 1842 I. 21 We should renounce their dreams of society, together with their visions of religion, and vindicate ourselves into perfect liberty. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xiii. 328 His successful valour seemed to vindicate the nation from the ignominy into which it had fallen by its tame submission.

absol. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 110 Cæsar vindicates from a knowne Enemie; Christ redeemes from a secret Aduersarie.

3. To clear from censure, criticism, suspicion, or doubt, by means of demonstration; to justify or uphold by evidence or argument.

a 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 61 And so I shall onely vindicate the scandall of his death, and conclude him. 1691 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 150 O that God would find out some way to vindicate his own honor, and clear his cause. 1691 LANGBAINE *Acc. Eng. Poets* Pref., I might be capable of doing them better Service, in vindicating their Fame. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. viii. 389 The design of this treatise is not to vindicate the character of God. 1776 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* (1778) 280 Poussin..is said to have vindicated the conduct of Julio Romano for his inattention to the masses of light and shade. 1780 MRS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. ii, I don't mean to vindicate what has happened. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. II. ix. 413 Mr. Playfair admits that the Indian tables cannot be entirely vindicated in this respect. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 75 Those who had effected this Revolution thought it prudent to send a deputation to France for the purpose of vindicating their proceedings. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 18 Feb. 5/2 He has no secret treaties to vindicate, no occult motives to gloss over in dubious pleadings.

b. With personal object.

1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple, Treatise Charity* 13 These learned leaves shall vindicate to thee Thy holiest, humblest, hand-maid Charitie. 1659 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 338, I rise up to vindicate the Committee. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. II. 238, I must be so far justified, that is, vindicated against Calumny by my innocency in those points. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. iii. (1852) 536 The mention of this gives me an opportunity..also to vindicate another great man unto the churches of our Lord Jesus Christ.

refl. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* IV. i, The torch that feeds them was not lighted at Thy altars, Cupid. Vindicate thyself, And do not own it! *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 232 It was thought, by some, he might haue Vindicated himself in great part. 1679 J. SMITH *Narr. Popish Plot* 19 There being no way left to vindicate themselves, or discredit their Accusers, save the making their recourse to lies. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. v. 130 He could have vindicated himself, if his enemies had chosen to be his listeners. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 661 The wicked judge and the wicked king attempted to vindicate themselves by throwing the blame on each other.

c. Const. *from* (a charge, imputation, etc.).

1664 H. MORE *Apol.* in *Myst. Iniq.* 487 Those more notable Philosophick Truths in the Scripture doth..vindicate her from that vile Imputation of Ignorance in Philosophy. 1675 J. HOWE *Living Temple* I. ii. 20 He makes Velleius highly vindicate from this imputation. 1700 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* (ed. 4) IV. viii. 367 But how that vindicates the making use of Identical Propositions for the Improvement of Knowledge, from the Imputation of Trifling, I do not see. 1723 J. DART *Westmonasterium* I. 87 This I here mention to vindicate my self from those Mistakes of which I am not guilty. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 37, I must vindicate Sterne from a charge of plagiarism. 1818 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxix, When he vindicated him from the suspicions thrown out by Guarine. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 18 He turned all his defence to vindicate himself from the charge of treason. 1892 *Speaker* 2 May 526/2 It is..the first serious attempt that has been made to vindicate Horace Walpole from the aspersions of Macaulay and his followers.

d. To provide justification for (something); to justify *by* facts or results. Also with personal object.

1708 FARQUHAR *Twin Rivals* IV. iv, For Heav'n's sake, Mr. Richmore, what have I ever shewn to vindicate this presumption of yours? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V. vi, The infidelity of Molly..would perhaps have vindicated a much greater degree of resentment than he expressed on the occasion. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* Wks. 1765 II. 203 One should not destroy an insect..without a reason sufficient to vindicate one through all the courts of morality. 1836 J. GILBERT *Christian Aesthem.* vii. (1852) 205 The mere fact of voluntariness is insufficient to vindicate the justice of allowing the assumed responsibility. 1880 PROUDY *Eng. Journalism* xx. 150 No man has more brilliantly vindicated the sagacity which placed him in a position of power and responsibility.

4. To assert, maintain, make good, by means of action, esp. in one's own interest; to defend against encroachment or interference.

1650 MARVELL *Horatian Ode* 62 He nothing common did, or mean,..Nor called the gods with vulgar spite To vindicate his helpless right. 1684 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* i. (1661) 4 That..they..vindicate that liberty left them as an inheritance by their Ancestours, from the incroachments ..of the Court of Rome. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 47 Arise and vindicate Thy Glory, free thy people from thir yoke. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LXXX ii, Stir up thy Strength, thine Arm make bare, And vindicate thy chosen Race. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* VI. (1778) 196 He thought the happy period was at length come for vindicating his own rights. 1821 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 394/2 Prevention of intrusion upon private property is a right which every proprietor may act upon, and use force to vindicate. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. 4 The liberties of the nation are not yet vindicated.

5. To claim as properly belonging *to* oneself or another; to assert or establish possession of (something) *for* oneself or another.

1680 DRYDEN *Ovid's Ep.* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 235 It appears not from their writings, that any of the Grecians ever touched upon this way, which our poet therefore justly has vindicated to himself. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 332 Though Christ's Appeal to the 110th vindicates that Psalm to David, it vindicates none else. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 218 Exciting a frivolous controversy about the boundaries of the fields, he vindicated the whole of the land to himself. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. (1857) 76 Paul the Fourth, one of those remarkable men, who..have vindicated to themselves a permanent place in history. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 42 Grand enough to vindicate for him all the genius that the world gave him credit for. 1884 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2466/1 Robert Flint..vindicates him [*sc.* Voltaire] an honorable place in the development of the philosophy of history.

b. Without const.: To claim for oneself or as one's rightful property.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 224 Affianc'd in your friendly power alone, The youth wou'd vindicate the vacant throne. 1733 — *Ess. Man* III. 38 Is thine alone the seed that strews the plain? The birds of heav'n shall vindicate their grain. 1782 COWPER *Truth* 490 The soul..Can..Possess herself of all that's good or true, Assert the skies, and vindicate her due. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 850 The wide-beak'd hawk, that now beholds me die, Soon..my flesh shall tear, And wolves and tigers vindicate their share.

c. *spec.* in *Law*. Also *absol.*

a 1859 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1863) III. 207 A right to vindicate or recover the subject from any who may be in the possession of it. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Rules Ulpian* XXV. § 17 The senate has decreed that he shall not be entitled to deduct his fourth, nor yet..to vindicate gifts under the testament that have become caducous. 1880 — *Gaius* II. § 24 When he has thus vindicated, the praetor asks the cedent whether he makes any counter-vindication.

Hence **Vi·ndicated** *ppl. a.*; **Vi·ndicating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Vi·ndicatingly** *adv.*

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 42 The vindicating of this piece of antiquity to his right Author. 1642 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Shiamachia* Wks. (1711) 191 The equity of his taking of arms, for the vindicating of his crown and state from the implacable malice of those men. 1700 PRIOR *Carm. Sec.* xv, To rescu'd States, and vindicated Crowns His Equal Hand prescrib'd their ancient Bounds. 1784 A. SHIELDS *Life Rennick* (1827) 177 Instead of a reproached Minister, we got a vindicated Martyr. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Sonn. fr. Porting.* xi, I obtain From that same love this vindicating grace, To live on still in love. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xii, Her mother required schooling to tell the story vindicatingly and proudly.

Vindication (vindikē·ʃən). Also 5 **vyndi-, vyndycasion.** [a. OF. (now F. dial.) *vindication* vengeance, or ad. L. *vindicātio* action of claiming, defending, punishing, etc., f *vindicāre*: see prec. Cf. Sp. *vindicacion*, Pg. *-ação*, F. *vendication*, It. *vendicasione*.]

†1. a. The action of avenging or revenging. *Obs.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. xvi, An asse..smote hym [the lion] in the forhede with his feete by maner of vyndycacion. 1490 — *Eneydos* xxii. 85 [she] pursued hym at alle houres, in alle places, for to distroye hym, in makynge vyndicacion of the deth of his sayd moder. 1658 PHILLIPS. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) 77 As to private Vindication of Injuries, that which we more especially call Revenge, this I shall readily allow to be utterly unlawful.

†b. Retribution, punishment. *Obs.*—1

1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* I. ii. 17 Things carried so far on in a wrong way must needs..require a vindication so sharpe and smarting, as that the nation would groan under it.

†2. Deliverance; emancipation. *Obs.*—1

1623 SIR A. SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 7 So abhorred a neighbour, from whom their vindication, into liberty, must bee maintained by their own constancy.

3. The action of vindicating or defending against censure, calumny, etc.; justification by proof or explanation.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 1 So the Memory of those ..may not loss the recompense due to their Virtue, but..may find a vindication in a better age. *Ibid.* X. § 89 The soldiers publish'd a Vindication, as they call'd it, of their Proceedings and Resolutions. 1669 GALE *Crt.* I. To Rdr., The vindication of the Jewish and Christian Religion, against the Gentile Philosophers. 1695 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 33 Pere Mabillon is now engaged in the Vindication of this Year, which a learned Ecclesiastic.., would have suppressed, as a false and ridiculous Relick. 1769 *Junius Lett.* IX. (1788) 65 The author of the vindication of your conduct..writes from his own mere motion. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 299 Leave the vindication of your character to your children. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* I. xi, He enriched Mrs. Jones for life, in gratitude for her vindication of his lost and early love. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* VII, He begged to thank Miss Landless for her vindication of his character.

b. In the phr. *in vindication of.*

1660 COKE *Power & Subj.* 266 It will not ill become me, sure, to add a word or two in vindication of Sir Edward Coke. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ess., Obscurity*, This seems a strange Sentence,..and looks as if it were in vindication of the men of business. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 ¶ 3, I can add other circumstances in Vindication of the Account of this Learned Body. 1752 BP. THOMAS in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 307 Then Lord Sandwich spoke in Vindication of the Measure. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. iv. (1852) 114 It has been said, in vindication of this inequality, that the properties are of a different description.

c. A justifying fact or circumstance.

1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. 45 The position which it has won..is itself its vindication now. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* X. 134 The great vindication of evil is, we could not manifest so much virtue without it. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xvii. 179 It must..stand..as my vindication for the step, in case we should be overtaken by disaster.

4. The action of asserting or maintaining.

1871 R. W. DALE *Commandm.* vi. 166 The Commandment 'Thou shalt not kill', is a Divine vindication of the greatness and sanctity of man. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 3. 490 The bulk of the members supported Eliot in his last vindication of English liberty.

5. *Roman Law.* (See quots.)

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* II. § 194 A legacy by vindication is so called because the thing bequeathed becomes the property of the legatee in quiritarian right the moment the inheritance has been entered upon. *Ibid.* IV. § 5 Actions *in rem* are called vindications; while those in which we contend that something ought to be given to or done for us are called condictions.

Vindicative (vindi·kătiv, vi·ndikə·tiv), *a.* Also 6 **vendicatife, -yue, vindicatyfe, -iue.** [ad. OF. *vindicatif* (also mod.F.), or med.L. *vindictīv-us*: see VINDICATE *v.* and -IVE. So Sp. *vindicativo*, It. *vendicativo*.]

†1. = VINDICTIVE *a.* 1. *Obs.* (Common *c* 1590–1690.) a. Of persons (or things personified).

1521 *Bradshaw's St. Werburge* (Chetham Soc.) 211 O cruell deth, o theffe vindicatyfe, To persons vertuous ennemy mortall. 1584 *Leycester's Commw.* (1641) 13 This his sonne, who..is..farre more insolent, cruell, vindicative,..and foxlike then ever hee was. *a* 1637 N. FERRAR tr. *Valdes' 110 Consid.* (1638) 89 Understanding, that he doth not pardon, when hee is offended, wee hold him for cruell, inhumane, and vindicative. 1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 53 Some people believe him vindicative; but his anger is only a soden impetus. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 80, I.., being naturally vindicative, have suffered in silence, and possessed my soul in quiet.

†b. Of nature, disposition, etc. *Obs.*

1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xii. 101 For thai ar of ane vendicatife nature. *Ibid.* xx. 177 My vendicatyue particular affectione. 1628 DONNE *Serm.* XXIX. (1640) 287 They discerned not between a zealous and a vindicative spirit. 1646 SIR J. TEMPLE *Irish Reb.* 68 They let loose the reins of their own vindicative humour and irreconcilable hatred. 1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* IV, He is one of the Noblest, and his nature's vindicative in Honour's cause. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* III. vii. § 79 (1740) 566 When Persons are fallen upon in our Heat, as upon the vindicative Turns of Parties.

2. = VINDICTIVE *a.* 2. Now *rare*. (Common in 17th cent.)

1610 BP. CARLETON *Jurisdict.* 31 Vindicative power or coaction belongs not to the Church. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. iv. 120 Repentance being in very many actions a primitive duty, afflictive, and vindicative. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. vi. 200 That wherein he perpetually is mistaken, is the making of Non-election or Negative Reprobation a Vindicative act, the confounding it with the Judicial Sentence of Damnation. 1818 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 78 His act, which he always defended as vindicative of the injury he had sustained. 1844 TRENCH *Simon. N. T.* Ser. I. (1860) 27 The vindicative character of the punishment is the predominant thought.

b. *esp.* As an epithet of *justice*.

1626 J. YATES *Ibis ad Cæsarem* II 30 God may separate from any creature in regard of his love,..and yet not be angry with them, which alwayes presupposeth vindicative Iustice or fatherly castigations. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. liii. 150 In proceedings in cases of vindicative justice delinquents might seem to be left rather to the fury then mercy of the law. 1679 MARVELL *Narr. Popish Plot* Addr. c 2 b, They will find it ill striving against the Stream and Current of Vindicative Justice.

3. Serving to vindicate by defence or assertion.

1660 T. WHITE (*title*), Religion and Reason mutually corresponding and assisting each other, a Reply to the Vindicative Answer lately published against a Letter [etc.]. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. IX. 204 We have to treat of the vindicative powers of each House; that is, its independent power to vindicate its authority.

Hence **Vindicativeness**, vindictiveness.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* V. Ded., Whilest his ignorant auditors condemned their mutual vindicativeness, the wiser sort admired..their peaceable dispositions. 1721 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 306 They..extol Voluptuousness, Wilfulness, Vindicativeness, Arbitrariness, Vain-Glory.

Vindicator (vi·ndikē·tər). [a. late L. (eccl.) *vindicātor*, agent-n. f. *vindicāre* VINDICATE *v.* So

OF. *vindicateur*, It. *vindicatore*, Pg. *vindicador*.] One who vindicates, in various senses of the verb.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 68 For as Romulus was the first builder and peopler of that citie, so was Camillus the vindicator and deliuerer of the same. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 3 A man, who in the memory of many present, had sate in that House an earnest vindicator of the Laws. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 314 Dr. Twisse, and all our modern vindicators of grace. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satyre* Ess (ed. Ker) II. 87 A noble soul is better pleased with a zealous vindicator of Roman liberty, than with a temporising poet. 1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* Ded. 4 Our Author was so great a Lover and Vindicator of it [the English Constitution]. 1791 *Gent. Mag.* Jan. 32/1 A certain vindicator of the Marbles..has taken occasion..to insult..Le Clerc. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* xiii, When this eager vindicator of betrayed innocence arrived in the capital of Hyder. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xi. (1855) 190 Job knew that God was the vindicator of wrongs. 1884 *Spect.* 4 Oct. 1320/2 Our author..has.. entered the lists..as the vindicator of the claims of the Highland Crofters.

Hence **Vi·ndicatorship**, the personality of a vindicator. *rare*—1.

1695 J. SAGE *Fundam. Charter Presbyt.* Pref. (1697) I 4, It was necessary for his Vindicatorship to justify this Separation.

Vindicatorily, *adv.* [f. VINDICATORY *a.*] In a vindicatory or justifying manner.

1854 N. P. WILLIS in *Life & Lett. W. Irving* (1864) IV. 179 Thus vindicatorily of his friend spoke the just and kind Geoffrey Crayon. 1891 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1019 The vindicatorily personal denial of Councils of War in 1866.

Vindicatory (vi·ndikĕ¹təri), *a.* [f. VINDICATE *v.* + -ORY.]

1. Serving to vindicate: justificatory, defensive.

1647 *Royall & Royallist's Plea* 13 The warre on the Kings side is vindicatory and defensorie. 1755 JOHNSON, *Vindicatory*, defensory; justificatory. 1802 MRS. J. WEST *Infidel Father* III. 258 No proud aggression of vindicatory virtue would be visible in her manner. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* III. xxiii, A favourable magistracy..were writing urgent vindicatory letters to Rome on his behalf. 1884 *19th Cent.* May 869 The teaching of the parent Legislature does not end with the record of the famous contentions and vindicatory triumphs of the past from which it is derived.

2. Avenging; punitive, retributive.

1685 BRAMHALL *Def. True Liberty* 83 The afflictions of Job were no vindicatory punishments to take vengeance of his sins,..but probatory chastisements to make triall of his graces. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 56 To make the sanction of their laws rather vindicatory than remuneratory, or to consist rather in punishments, than in actual particular rewards. 1800 *Ann. Reg.* 153 The laws should be vindicatory on such occasions. 1874 BURNHILL *Forgiveness & Law* iii. 188 By the law..we are only held in terms of penal discipline and not of desert or vindicatory justice. 1888–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 1973 Every true philosophy of punishment must recognize the deterrent, and especially the vindicatory element, as well as the reformatory element.

Vindicatress (vi·ndikĕ¹trĕs). [f. VINDICATOR: see -ESS, and cf. OF. *vindicateresse*, med.L. *vindicatrix*.] A female vindicator.

1824 C. KNIGHT *Once upon a Time* II. 201 Had the vindicatress of the 'Rights of Women' lived in these days. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 87 The Erinuës, afterwards called the Furies in a degenerated tradition, but more truly the vindicatresses of nature and the moral order.

†**Vindict.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vindicta*.] Vengeance, revenge; retribution.

1639 GUILD in Spalding *Troubles* (1828) I. 314 As Simeon and Levi, pretending religion, but intending their own private vindict. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 141 The Punishments annexed to them must be executed on offenders, they being Vindicts and concerning God.

Vindictive (vindi·ktiv), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *vindicta* vengeance, revenge + -IVE.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of persons: Given to revenge; having a revengeful disposition. (Cf. VINDICATIVE *a.* 1.)

1616 BULLOKAR *Engl. Expos., Vindictive*, reuengefull, or apt to reuenge. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 904/1 He was vindictive in his nature. 1787 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 52 You have vindictive people to deal with, and you have gone too far to be forgiven. 1808 JEBB in A. Knox & Jebb *Corr.* (1834) I. 455 There exists in human nature..a perturbed dread of some superior, powerful and most vindictive being. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 206 He was not vindictive: when he had once pardoned an offender, he never recurred again to the offence. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 18 He is as vindictive as a demon.

b. Of actions, qualities, etc.: Characterized by a desire for, or the exercise of, revenge.

1627 J. CARTER *Plain Expos.* 46 To forbeare irefull and vindictive courses, to say or doe nothing at all in anger, or hot bloud. 1629 J. MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 430 Nor let any of you imagine that any vindictive resolution is harboured against you, either by us or the Romans. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Odes* II. viii. 8 When..you engage To meet high Heaven's vindictive Rage. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III. 450 Then with vindictive strides he rush'd again On Paris. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 205 This spirit of vindictive cowardice is not owing to any inherent depravity of soul. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 1. 80 After the fashion of oppressed sects, they mistook their own vindictive feelings for emotions of piety. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. xxx, With the first movement of vindictive rage awoke a vague caution.

2. Involving retribution or punishment; punitive, retributive; avenging. Now *rare*. a. As an epithet of *justice*. (Cf. VINDICATIVE *a.* 2 b.)

1623 R. CARPENTER *Conscr. Chr.* 102 They are euer awaked with the remembrance of Gods presence, in all your actions and censures of vindictive or remuneratiue Iustice. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Ductor* II. ii. rule 7 § 5 For in all penal and inflictions, although there be much of Vindictive justice, yet this justice is but a handmaid to Government and Correction. *a* 1711 KEN *Div. Love* Wks. (1838) 313 Our sins,..which are the vast debts we owe to thy vindictive justice. 1742 LD. CHOLMONDELEY in *Johnson's Deb.* (1787) II. 250 It has been unanswerably shewn..that vindictive justice is of the highest importance to the happiness of the public. 1844 SOUTHEY *Colloq. Soc.* (1887) 203 The shallow moralists who exclaim against vindictive justice, when punishment would cease to be just, if it were not vindictive.

b. In other contexts.

1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* I. 11 The judgements of God in this life are more exemplary for the amendment of others, than vindictive to the delinquents themselves. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* II. 436 Th' Almighty his Vindictive Arm makes bare. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 654 First to the fight his native troops he warms, Then loudly calls on Troy's vindictive arms. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 44 Pleasure brings as surely in her train, Remorse, and Sorrow, and vindictive Pain. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* II, He..Amidst vindictive thunders lets them try The stoutness of their heart. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Introd., Sometimes the sanction is retributive or vindictive, the expression of the conscience or moral sentiments of the Society.

c. Of deities: Inflicting punishment for wrong-doing.

1703 ROWE *Ulysses* III. i, Vindictive Jove prepares his Thunder. Let the Wrong-doer and the Tyrant tremble. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 407 The fast that wins deliv'rance, and suspends The stroke that a vindictive God intends, Is to renounce hypocrisy.

3. *Vindictive damages*, damages awarded not only as compensation to the plaintiff but also as a punishment to the defendant.

1823 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 67 It seemed established that there was no gross misconduct..on the part of the coachman, to call for vindictive damages.

†B. *sb.* An act of punishment. *Obs.*—1

1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* I. i. 12 Who..could give a full ..account of the deluge, whether it was a meer vindictive, a blast from heaven?

Vindictively (vindi·ktivli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY ².] In a vindictive manner; revengefully.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II). 1755 JOHNSON, *Revengingly*, with vengeance; vindictively. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* x, Has He not, given at times Example fierce of wrath and judgment, poured Vindictively on nations guilty long? 1837 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 287/2 Such a power might be maliciously and vindictively exercised. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. iv. 534 The leaders of fashion..steadily and vindictively derided them.

Vindictiveness (vindi·ktivnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or character of being vindictive; revengefulness.

1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 476 If it found any corruptions within, either of Pride, Vain Glory, Insolence, Vindictiveness, or the like. 1679 PRANCE *Add. Narr.* 45 That which makes it more remarkable, is, That this Vindictiveness was exercised towards men of his own Religion. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 381 Here, to recapitulate my faults, is, in the first place, vindictiveness; I will not call it downright revenge. 1800 COGAN *Passions* II. I. (1802) 195 There is a vindictiveness in fear, which may render it dangerous to its most innocent cause. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 180 The shield thrown over their dependants against their tyranny or vindictiveness. 1884 A. R. PENNINGTON *Wiclif* vii. 242 He tells us..that vindictiveness had mingled with his righteous indignation.

Vindicti·volence. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *vindicta* vengeance, after *malevolence*.] The desire of revenging oneself or of taking vengeance.

1865 J. GROTE *Moral Ideals* (1876) 261 Ill-will is perhaps always a form or mode of vindictivolence, i.e. is connected with a feeling of ourselves as somehow wronged.

†**Vindi·ctor.** *Obs.*—1 [Irreg. f. L. *vindicta*] = VINDICATOR.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 6 It being a Science that teacheth the difference of good and evil; and the Conservator and Vindictor of al Laws.

Vindo, obs. Sc. form of WINDOW.

Vine (vəin), *sb.* Forms: α. 4 vygne (7 vigne), vinyhe, 5 vyny. β. 4–6 vyne (4–5 vyn, 5 viyn), 4– vine (5 vijne); 4, 6 wine, 5–6 wyne. γ. 6 vinde, vynde. [a. OF. *vigne* and *vine* (mod. F. *vigne*, = Pr. and Pg. *vinha*, Cat. *vinya*, Sp. *viña*, It. *vigna*):—L. *vīnea* vineyard, vine, etc., f. *vīn-um* wine.]

I. 1. The trailing or climbing plant, *Vitis vinifera*, bearing the grapes from which ordinary wine is made (= GRAPE-VINE); also generally, any plant of the genus *Vitis*.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5758 (Laud MS.), In euerych felde rype is corne; þe grapes hongen on þe vyne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 30 Pough neuere greyne growed ne grape vppon vyne. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 57 Now vyne and tre that were ablaqueate, To couer hem it is conuenient. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* IX. 12 Then sayde the trees vnto the vyne: Come thou and be oure kinge. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 168 b, [It] is lyke vnto a gumme, and waxeth thicke aboute the bodye of the vinde. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 75 Get doong, friend mine, for stock and vine. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 586 There, th' amorous Vine calls in a thousand sorts (With winding arms) her Spouse that her supports. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VI. xxii. 774 Olde writers are not of one minde concerning the first originall and inuention of the vine. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 440 *Vitis*,..the Vine, the leeues bind strongly [etc.]. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 26 Everlasting Hate The Vine to Ivy bears. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* II. (1782) I. 64 In the time of Homer, the vine grew wild in the island of Sicily. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* III. ii, The land..was rich with vine and flock. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* iii. (1858) 164 The elevation of the hills and table-lands of Judah is the true climate of the vine. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* ix. (1870) 186 The vine is one of the most graceful of plants.

b. A single plant or tree of this species or genus.

α. *c* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* civ. 32 He..smate þar vinyhes and figetres in-twa. *c* 1325 [see 2 a]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/1 Vyny, or vyne, *vitis*. *Ibid.* 510/2 Vyny, þat bryngyithe forþe grete grapys, *bumaste*. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxii. 296 Peru and..Chilli, where there are vignes that yeeld excellent wine.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 882 Euery 3ere at þe florysynge, whan þe vynys shulde sprynge, A tempest.. fordede here vynys alle. 1340 *Ayenb.* 43 Þe zenne of ham þet uor wynnynge..destrueþ þe vines oþer cornes. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 847 Ze telle vs þat ze tende nauht to tulye þe erþe,..no plaunte winus. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 168 For he fond..how men scholden sette vines. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 244 In al regions the hettes bene encreschid, ..the wynes growyth, the cornes wixit rippe. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 80 He taketh a branche of a vyne, and puttyth yn Thomas hond. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xl. 9, I dreamed that there was a vyne before me,..and the grapes therof were rype. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 45 The vnclene baris, quha..infectis the tender burgeounis of the 3ong wynis. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 54 A Porch with rare deuice, Archt ouer head with an embracing vine. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 269 The vines..which we have had in Britaine..rather for shade than fruit. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg.* IV. 388 Raisins from the Grapes of Psythian Vines. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, Those in the Plains..sow a Hole of Melons between Vine and Vine. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xv, The vines were torn down from the branches that had supported them. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 17 It is quite clear that wine could not have been first known at an Egyptian town, if the Egyptians had no vines. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* v. (1872) 190 The celebrated vine of Hampton Court is a most productive bearer.

c. A representation of a vine in metal, embroidery, etc.; also, in mod. use, an ornamental figure cut by a skater on the ice.

a 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 207 With vines of golde set all aboute Within your shelde, .. Fulfylled with ymagery. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3667 Be-twene þe pelers was pigt with precious leuys, Gilden wynes with grapis of gracious stanes. 1506 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 44 A whyte pece with a coveryng wroght with grapes or vynes on it. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XI. xlii, Agneia..spying Methos fenc't in 's iron vine, Pierc't his swoln paunch. 1886 SHELTON tr. *Flaubert's Salammbô* 9 These cups were embellished on each of their six golden faces by an emerald vine. 1892 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) 460 When you have a pair of skates on, and an admiring circle of spectators to excite you into developing your most exquisite 'vines'.

d. *collect.* Vine-plants. *rare*—1.

1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 382 The Chinese keep the ground very clean between the rows of vine.

2. *fig.* a. Applied to Christ, in renderings or echoes of John xv. 1 and 5.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 804 For Iesus seyþ þe vygne he hys, And eke þe greyn of wete. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 628 In water of babtem þay dyssente, þen arne þay boroȝt in-to vyne. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xv. 5, I am a vyne, ȝe ben the braunchis. *c* 1450 *Myrr. oure Ladye* 281, I as a vyne haue fruited the swetenesse of smelle... In this Chapyter, oure lorde ys lykened to a vyne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 222 b, For in that our lorde is as a vyne, and all chrystyans be as the braunches of the sayd vyne. 1568 LAUDER *Godlie Tract.* 305 Christ Iesus, the faithfull wine. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lvi. (1611) 308 That true Vine whereof wee both spiritually and corporally are branches. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* 26 Its full significance was not known until Christ, the True Vine, made it known.

b. In allusion to Ps. CXXVIII. 3.

1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 289 He..has married a wife, who bids fair to be a fruitful vine, for she has had three children in four years. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 477 Now of that vine he'd have no more increase, Those playful branches now disturb his peace.

c. In miscellaneous uses.

1590 [see ELM *sb.* 3]. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 60 Grow patient, And let the stinking-Elder (Griefe) vntwine His perishing roote, with the encreasing Vine. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 149 Zotique..had like a furious wild Boare made a prodigious spoyle in the vine of many womens honesty. [Cf. Ps. LXXX. 8, 13.] 1643 [see ELM *sb.* 3]. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 969 He..recompenses well The state, beneath the shadow of whose vine He sits secure. [Cf. 1 Kings IV. 25.] 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. iv. 64 That vine Which bears the wine of life, the human heart. 1887 MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 42 The training of Love's vine of flame Was writ in laws.

3. Applied, with distinguishing epithets, to some species of *Vitis* distinct from the ordinary grape-vine, and to many plants of other genera which in manner of growth, or in some other feature, resemble this: a. *Wild vine*, the fox-grape, *Vitis Labrusca* (now *rare* or *Obs.*); also, one or other of several wild climbing or trailing plants, esp. bryony and traveller's-joy.

In quot. 1382 (and similarly in later versions) *vine* is a literal rendering of the original text; the plant intended is app. the colocynth.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* IV. 39 And con..foond as a wijld vyne, and he gedede of it wijld gourdis of the feeld. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 26 Þat er lyke vnto wylde wynes. *Ibid.* xviii. 83 Pepre growes in maner of wilde wynes be syde þe treesse of þe forest. 24.. In Wr.-Wülcker 629 *Uitaster*, wyld vyne. *Labrusca*, wylde vyne. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 45 Labrusca..may be called in englishe a wild vine. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 168 Of the seconde kinde of *Vitis syluestris*, called wild vynde. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VI. xxii. 774 Grapes..like vnto

them which the wilde vine (called of vs *Labrusca*) doth now bring forth. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 372 Take of the stalkes of *Vitis alba*, otherwise called *Brioni*, or wilde Vine, two..handfuls. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, The Wild Vine, commonly called the Claret Grape. This Sort of Grape is pretty well known in England. 1783 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Vitis*, The species of Vine enumerated by Mr. Tournefort, are these: 1. The common, or wild Vine. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 67 Redberried Bryony. Wild Vine. 1824 Scott *Lord of Isles* I. xxviii, As the wild vine in tendrils spread, Droops from the mountain oak. 1835 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* I. 18 *Clematis vitalba*. ..Country people call it..Wild Vine. *Ibid.* II. 312 A very pretty climber is this Wild Bryony,..called also Wild Vine.

b. In other special names, chiefly of non-British plants.

Alleghany vine, an American biennial plant (*Adlumia fungosa*), also called 'climbing fumitory'. **Arbor vine**: see Spanish *a.* 9. **Balloon vine**, an Australian plant (see quots.). **Bean vine**, *Phaseolus diversifolius* (see Bean 8). †**Black vine**, black bryony. **Burdekin vine**, an Australian species of *Vitis* (see quot.). **Caustic vine** (see quot.). **Climbing vine**, †(*a*) the Virginian creeper; (*b*) a cinchonaceous plant, *Psychotria parasitica*. **Condor vine**, *Gonolobus Condurango*. **Cypress vine**, quamoclit. **Deer vine**, the twinflower (*Linnæa*). **Granadilla vine**: see Granadilla b. **Harvey's vine**, an Australian plant, *Sarcopetalum Harveyanum*. **Hungry vine**, the green brier or cat-brier (*Smilax*). **India-rubber vine**, *Cryptostegia grandiflora*. **Isle of Wight vine**, bryony or black bryony. **Lawyer vine**: see Lawyer 6. **Link vine**, a West Indian species of vanilla (*V. articulata*). **Madeira** or **Mexican vine**, the climbing plant *Boussingaultia baselloides*, a native of the Andes. **Matrimony vine**: see Matrimony 7. **Mignonette vine**: see Mignonette 3. **Milk vine**, (*a*) the Southern European plant *Periploca græca*; (*b*) a Jamaican plant, *Forsteronia floribunda*. **Negro vine**, a hairy-leaved species of *Vincetoxicum*. **Pea vine**: see Pea-vine. **Pepper vine**: see Pepper *sb.* 5. **Pipe vine**: see Pipe *sb.*[1] 11 b. **Poison vine**: see Poison *sb.* 5 b. **Potato vine**: see Potato 7. **Red-bead vine**, *Abrus precatorius* (India). **Rubber vine**: see Rubber *sb.*[1] 12 b. **Sand vine**, *Gonolobus laevis* (N. America). **Scrub vine**, *Amstr.* (*a*) the dodder laurel (*Cassytha*); (*b*) the native rose (*Banera rubioides*). **Seven-year vine**: see Seven-year. **Silk vine**, = *milk vine* (*a*). **Sorrel vine**: see Sorrel *sb.*[1] 7 c. **Spanish arbor-vine**: see Spanish *a.* 9. **Strainer, Virginia(n, Water, White vine**: see these words.

Many of these names appear to be first recorded in the *Trans. Bot.* (1866, and Suppl. 1874) and in American dictionaries. In *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. (1753) Tournefort's species of *Vitis*, twenty-one in number, are enumerated.

1889 Maiden *Useful Pl.* 13 *Cardiospermum halicacabum*, ..'Heartseed', 'Heart-pea', 'Winter-cherry', '*Balloon Vine'. *Ibid.* 161 'Balloon Vine' (because of its inflated membranous capsule). 1552 Huloet, *Blacke vyne, *apronia*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Vine, Black, *Tamus*. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.* 490/1 *Burdekin Vine. Called also Round Yam, *Vitis opaca*. *Ibid.* 84/1 Caustic-Plant, or *Caustic-Vine,..*Sarcostemma australis*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Vine, *Climbing five-leaved, of Canada, *Hedera*. 1846-50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 443 *Quamoclit vulgaris*. Bindweed. *Cypress Vine *Ibid.* 449 *Lycium Barbarum*. *Matrimony Vine. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 234/1 Some of the Australian species [of *Cassytha*] are called *Scrub-vines. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.* 22/1 *Banera rubioides*,..the Scrub Vine, or Native Rose.

4. The stem of any trailing or climbing plant. Also *collect.* without article.

1553 Hyll *Art Garden* (1574) 124 And if not on this wise, then may you let their [*sc.* gourds'] vine run along on the earth, if you list. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 179 On the outside of this Floor the Pickers [of hops] sit, and pick them into Baskets after the Vines are strip'd from the Poles. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Melon*, When your Melons begin to appear upon the Vines. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 382 They do not let the vine, which bears the pepper, twist round a chinkareen tree, as is the custom on Sumatra. 1844 Welby *Poems* (1867) 163 When sweet jasmine vines their wreaths were looping Around her bower. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Garden* (1861) 117 Leading points in growing frame cucumbers are, to pinch off the shoot..to keep the frame clear of useless vine. 1898 Jean A. Owen *Hawaii* iii. 79 A hero..who descended by means of a long rope, made of convolvulus vines, into the abyss.

b. *dial.* A straw rope.

1877 B. Googe *Herrsbach's Husb.* 28 Rye..strawe is gentle and flexible, seruing for Vines. 1884 Jefferies *Red Deer* v. 97 The farmers..hang a vine of straw along from stake to stake...A vine is a rope of twisted straw.

c. *U.S.* A trailing or climbing plant.

1842 Longf. *Slave in Dismal Swamp* ii, Where..the cedar grows, and the poisonous vine Is spotted like the snake. 1876 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 2 Ranunculaceæ... Herbs (or woody vines) with a colorless acrid juice. 1879 Boddam-Whetham *Roraima & Brit. Guiana* 9 Nearly every house has a garden, and passion-flowers, morning glory, and other vines creep up the pillars. 1886 C. D. Warner *Summer in Gard.* 124 The bean is a graceful, confiding, engaging vine.

II. †**5.** A vineyard. *Obs.*

So AF. *vine, vyne* (Gower).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 507 Þe lorde ful erly vp he ros To hyre werkmen to hys vyne. *Ibid.* 521 Gos in-to my vyne. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxxi. 16 She beheeld a feeld, and boȝte it; of the fruit of hir hondis she plauntide a vyne. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) x. 121 The cursed Queen..that toke awey the Vyne of Nabaothe. 1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* II. xxxi. (1554) 67 Trust [that] He will not refuse thyne axing, But thee receiue to labour in his vine. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. x, A man was sore tyme whiche fond a serpent within a Vyne. 1514 Bainbridge in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 227 Both in the Citie and also in vynes and earthyngges without the Citie. 1580 Bible (Genev.) *Song Sol.* i. 5 That made me the keper of the vines: but I kept not mine owne vine.

6. A grape. *Obs.* or *poet.*

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 56 If þai be rede þai ar called uve, i. grapes, and þai haue þe schap of a rede vyne or grape. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* x 54 Ah! that your birth and bus'ness had been mine—To pen the sheep, and press the swelling vine!

7. *Roman Antiq.* = Vinea. *rare.*

1563 Golding *Cæsar* (1565) 51 b, He made Vines [*marg.* an instrument of war made of timber & hurdles for men to go vnder safelye to the walles of a towne], and began to make prouision of thinges meete for the siege. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 480 The Romans..plyed their mines,..their vines and other engines against the walls and gates. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 142 Some say, those Engines of Battrie, as Rams, and Vines, and Galleries, were there first invented. 1860 Kington *Frdk. II*, II. 191 Various warlike Machines...The Sow, the Vine, and the Cat.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **8. a.** Simple attrib., as *vine-arbour, border, -bough, -bower, -bunch*, etc.

1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, Care is to be taken ..not to mingle with them the Grapes of the *Vine-Arbour. 1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav.* 147/1 Houses..lying under the shade of vine-arbours or plane-trees. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 467 The most valuable manure that can be deposited in a *vine border. 1867 Morris *Jason* xiii. 222 A golden *vine-bough wreathed her golden head. 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. xii. 462 A few *vine-bowers appear somewhat lower down. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 177 Between the shadows of the *vine-bunches Floated the glowing sunlights. 1886 Conder *Syrian Stone-lore* vi. (1896) 221 A door sculptured with vine bunches. 1611 Florio, *Vineto*, a *vine-close, a vine-plot. 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* I. xiii. 152 There were wines from the *vine country of Helbona. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 238/2 The success of *vine-culture in .. the Canary Islands. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 530 Strengthned with the wood of *vine-cuttings. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8725/1 From whence Columella gives the title of *malleolus* to the vine-cuttings. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* vi. 405 Each vat is filled with vine cuttings, and rapes. 1846 Keightley *Notes Virg., Georg. Husb.* 358 The cross-pieces in the *vine-espaliers. 1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 81 *Vitaceæ*. (*Vine Family.) 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* vi. xxi. 769 To gather the greene grapes from of the *vine frames. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Pampinus*, A *vyne garlande. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxv. (1592) 382 Assigning to one..the Corne countrie, and to another the *vinegrounds. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 324 The vine-grounds being nothing but black earth and dry sticks until the middle of summer. 1611 Cotgr., *Vendange*,.. vintage, *vine-haruest. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* 158 The Ancients were perfect Masters of the *Vine-Husbandry. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* lii. 262 A little weak wine savouring more of the borachio-skin than *vine-juice. 1886 Mrs. Caddy *Footsteps Joanna D'Arc* 25 One should make a point of seeing these *vine-lands in October. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 495 *Vitaceæ* or *Ampelideæ*.—The *Vine Order...Usually climbing shrubs with a watery juice. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vitis*,..the *Vine-plant. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 342/2 Some of the finest of the soil is put into each hole, and the vine-plants ..are carefully inserted. 1856 R. Knox tr. *Edwards' Man. Zool.* § 328 In the timber of the hedge-rows, of fruit-trees, and of *vine-poles. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. Table s.v., *Vine props and railes which be best. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 251 First was carryed..a pine apple, and a vine-prop. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, Others make use of a Vine-prop, or some other Piece of Wood. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xiv. (1816) I. 438 The upright or recurrent espaliers or vine-props. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* I. 99 Digge aboute þe *vyne rotis, and dunge

1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 56 Also I wull he haue my maser of a vine rote. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 545 To open a sluce..for to overflow their Vine roots with the river. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Table (1896) 15 *Vyne sciouns, to sette. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 529 In setting a nource-garden with vine-sions. *Ibid.* 527 A *vine-set or cutting, that hath joints standing thin. 1648 Hexham II, *Een wijngaerdt-scheute*, a *Vine-shoote, or Sprigge. 1793 Holcroft tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* i. 5 Though these vine-shoots look well, they will bear but few grapes. 1647 Hexham I, A *vine slip, *een Wijngaert-snijtsel*. 1725 *Fam. Dict* s.v., Vine-slips..being put into the Ground will easily take Root. 1854 Whittier *Poems Nature, Fruit-Gift* 22 Perchance our frail, sad mother plucked..A single vine-slip. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 48 Now on the merry *vine-spray swell the buds. 1872 Head *Sel Grk. Coins in Electrotype Brit. Mus.* 38 Rose with bud, and vine-spray with bunch of grapes. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Sarment*, To bridle himselfe with a *vine-sprig; be so drunke that he cannot speake. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xlix, She found the old woman within, picking *vine-stalks. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 237 The conformation of the *vine stem has elicited a vast amount of explanatory comment. 1531 Tindale *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 94 He y^t is cut from y^e *vynestocke..can not but abyde vnfruteful. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. xxxiv. 497 The Italians graft it [*sc.* olive-tree] vpon the vine, boring the vine stocke neer vnto the earth [etc.]. 1690 Temple *Ess. Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1909) 19 A large Table at Memorancy cut out of the thickness of a Vine-stock. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) II. III. 3 Above them did they see the terraced way, And over that the vine-stocks, row on row. 1898 Manson *Trop. Diseases* 462 The male worm is characterised..by the peculiar *vine-tendril-like tail. 1846 Louisa S. Costello *Tour Venice* 192 There is..no want of gardens and *vine-terraces. 1848 Clough *Amours de Voy.* III. 16 Ah! that I were far away..Under the *vine-trellis laid. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. i. 3 A Golden *Vine-Tub of Mozaic work. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Wicker*, a *Vine Twig, an Osier Twig. 1776 J. Bryant *Mythol.* III. 229 The soft pliant vine twigs, moving round in serpentine direction. 1883 Browning *Forishtah's Fancies, Shah Abbas*, I weep like a cut vine-twig. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 404 A great standing cup or boll to be seene of *Vine wood. 1700 tr. *Dunot's Dict. Grk & Rom. Antiq.* s.v. *Tympanum*, A Pair of Stairs made of Vine-wood. 1888 Keane *Eurlym.* 19. 257, I saw Chirian Egypt kneel adown Before the *vine-wreath crown'd!

b. Objective and *obj.* genitive, with agent-nouns, as *vine-cutter, -grower, -planter*, etc., and vbl. sbs. or ppl. adjs., as *vine-bearing, -dressing, -growing*, etc.; also *vine-prop* adj.

(*a*) 1388 Wyclif 2 *Kings* xxv. 12 He lefte of the pore men of the lond vyntilieris, and erthetilieris. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xv. (1912) 247 The King one morning..saw a vine-labourer, that finding a bowe broken [etc.]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 501 Yet kind it is and wholesome for the Vine-planter and husbandman. 1611 Cotgr., *Vendangeur*, a Vintager, or vine-reaper. 1648 Hexham II, *Een..wijngaerdenier*,..a Vine-gardener. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* II. 119 One of our vine-cutters was telling yesterday [etc.]. 1835 T. Mitchell *Aharn. of Aristoph.* App. 245 A metaphor which the vine-growers of Athens easily appreciated. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 928/1 *Vine puller*, a machine for extracting vines.

(*b*) *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Table (1896) 16 Vyne couerynge and vindage apparayle. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Binement*, a vine working, weeding. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 8 The swayling Pine, the Cedar proud and tall, The vine-prop Elme. 1601 Holland *Pliny* Table s.v., Vine planting and pruning. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* II. 613 Arne claims A record next for her illustrious sons, Vine-bearing Arne. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* III An enclosure of land,..pleasant, vine-bearing, and arable. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* i, Had Timour been trained to cabbage-raising and vine-dressing. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 237/1 A vine-growing country hitherto free from *Phylloxera*.

c. With pa. ppples. and adjs., chiefly in instrumental sense, as *vine-bordered, -clad, -covered, -crowned*, etc.; also *vine-like* adj., *vine-wise* adv.

1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 457 He saw a man draw nigh Along the dusty grey *vine-bordered road. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. ix. 162 The luxuriant valleys and *vine-clad hillsides. 1826 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 125 Among the luscious slopes of vine-clad Burgundy. 1791 W. Roscoe in H. Roscoe *Life* (1833) I. 108 The *vine-cover'd hills and gay regions of France. 1840 Hood *Tu Tourists & Trav.* vi, Old Castles you'll see on the vine-covered hill. 1743 Francis tr. *Horace, Odes* III. xxv. 27 When *Vine-crown'd Bacchus leads the Way. 1851 S Jackson tr. *Krummacher's Elisha* vi. 90 From the sea-coast to the vine-crowned banks of the Jordan. 1665 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xviii 306 Behold, with frolicke stirre comes Bacchus here, In's *Vine-deck't Chariot high. 1878 Prand *Poems* (1865) II. 158 The merriest girl in all the land Of *vine-encircled France. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. iv. 25 The *Vine-fed Goat's not always luscious Fare. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 90 Lines of white, *vine-garlanded. *a* 1835 Mrs. Hemans *Shepherd-Poet of Alps* 54 The cabin's *vine-hung eaves. 1835 Willis *Pencillings* II. lviii. 147 The same square, *vine-laced, perfectly green pastures and cornfields. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 107 For thee, With *vine-leafed autumn laden blooms the field. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 208 *Vine-leaved Kitaibelia. 1727 P. Blair *Pharmaco-Bot.* V. 215 Viticulated, or *Vine-like Leaves. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man* 345 Stories ..of the climbing from earth to heaven by a tree or vine-like plant. 1740 Dyer *Ruins Rome* 35 The *vine-mantled brows The pendent goats unveil. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Eleg.* II xvi. 33 Although *vine-planted ground Contehies me. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 39 Vine-planted Epidaurus. 1809 J. Montgomery *West Indies*, etc. (1810) 34 On pure Madeira's *vine-robed hills of health. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 143 A *vine-shadowed cottage door. *a* 1869 Rossetti *House of Life* xc, Upon the broad *vine-sheltered path. 1876 Lanier *Psalm West* 283 O Stars wreathed *vine-wise round yon heavenly dells. 1792 Cowper *Iliad* VI. 159 They their wands *Vine-wreathed cast all away. 1868 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. (1863) 72 Working at her needle under the vine-wreathed porch.

9. Special Combs.: †**vine apple** (see Squash *sb.*[2] 1); **vine-bamboo**, a species of panic-grass (*Panicum divaricatum*); †**vine-bind** (see quots.); **vine-black** (see quot.); **vine-bower**, a species of clematis (*Clematis Viticella*); **vine-disease**, one or other disease attacking vines, esp. vine-mildew and the vine-pest (*Phylloxera*); †**vine dragon** [ad. F. *drageon*], (see quot.); **vine-feeder**, any insect living on vines; **vine-fly**, † = *vine saw-fly*; **vine-fungus**, = *vine-mildew*; **vine gall-insect** (see quot.); **vine-garden**, †**-garth**, a vineyard; **vine-grub**, = Vine-fretter; **vine-hook, -knife**, implements used in pruning vines; **vine-leek**, round-headed garlic (*Allium ampeloprasum*); **vine-louse**, the phylloxera; †**vine-man, -master**, a vine-dresser or vine-grower; **vine-mildew**, a disease of vines caused by the fungus *Oidium Tuckeri*; the fungus or mould itself; **vine-moth**, a species of pyralis infesting vines; †**vine-pear** (see quots.); **vine-pest**, the phylloxera; †**vine-press**, a wine-press; **vine-rake** *U.S.* (see quot.); **vine-rod**, a rod of vine-wood, *spec.* as the staff of a Roman centurion; **vine-sawfly**, a species of sawfly, the larvæ of which feed on the vine; **vine-scroll**, an ornament representing a vine; **vine-scrub**, in Australia, scrub abounding in various species of *Vitis*; **vine-snail** [F. *escargot des vignes*], the Roman snail; †**vine-wand**, = *vine-rod*; †**vine-water**, the sap which issues from vines when pruned; **vine-weevil**, a small weevil destructive to vines; **vine-worm** (see quot.); **vine-worts**, the order *Vitaceæ*.

Also, in recent American dictionaries, *vine-beetle, -borer, -chafer, -curculio, flea-beetle, -gall, gall-louse, -hopper, -inch-worm, -pruerle, -root-borer, -slug, -sphinx*, etc.

1871 Kingsley *At Last* viii, Overhead, sprawled and dangled the common *Vine-bamboo, ugly and unsatisfactory in form. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 *Vynbynd, *cornubus*.

1600 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 537 A certaine hearbe, which the Sicilians in their language call Ampelodesmos, (i. Vinebind). 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) III. 966 **Vine black*, a black procured by charring the tendrils of the vine and levigating them. 1852 JOHNSON *Gard. Dict.*, *Vine Bower, *Clematis Viticella*. 1854 FORRESTER in *Proc. Royal Soc.* VII. 156 On the *Vine-Disease in the Port-wine Districts of the Alto-Douro. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 536 The manner of..planting by a trees side a *Vine Dragon (for so we use to call the old braunch of a Vine past all service, which hath done bearing many a yeare, and is now growne to be hard). 1855 *Zoologist* XIII. 4680 Speyer gives Agrotis aquilina as a *vine-feeder. 1661 WALTON *Angler* (ed. 3) 97 Now for Flies:. I will name you but some of them, as..the cloudy, or blackish flie, the flag-flye, the *vine-flye. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 47 *Ips*,..the Vine-Fly. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Fishing Fly*, Natural Flies are innumerable: ..the Tawny-Fly, the Vine-Fly, the Shell Fly. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 636 The *Vine Fungus appears to be a plant of this tribe [*Oidium*], rarely producing perfect fruit. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., **Vine Gallinsect*, an insect of the gallinsect class, principally found on the Vine, though capable of living on some other trees. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xvi. 383 Whanne money is paied to..a laborer in a *vyne gardein for his day labour in the same vyne gardein. 1839 W. CHAMBERS *Tour Rhine* 57/1 A tolerably long reach of the river, between banks richly clad with vine gardens. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 201 When þai come þer, þe *vyne-garth, at no frute was in belor, was growyng full of rype grapis. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Vine-fretter, or *Vine-grub. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vine-grub*, a kind of Worm that gnaws the Vine. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., Reaumur observes, that..both the winged and the unwinged Vine-grubs are females. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 547 Men are wont to take their *Vine hookes when they be newly ground & sharpened [etc.]. 1625 *Thomas' Dict.* (ed. 10), *Averruncо*,..to purge vines with a vinehooke. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 A *vyne knyfe, *falx*, *falcicula*. 1611 COTGR., *Serpette*, a Vine knife, or Gardeners knife. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Vintage*, You must also provide Paniers, Dressers, Vine-Knives, Shovels and Rakes. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxxviii. 139 The *Vine Leeke groweth of it selfe in vineyards, and neere vnto vines in hot regions, whereof it both tooke the name Vine Leeke and French Leeke. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 24/2 *A[llium] ampeloprasum* (vine-leek). 1888 *Gard. Chron.* XVII. 20 The new *Vine-louse Convention, held at Berne. 1530 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* vi. Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 115 The heavenly *vineman bringeth the Christians unto the winepress. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1612) 368 In the morning..he went out..with his vine-men to labour in his vineyard. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. i. 2 b, The word..is metaphoricall .., being borrowed of the *Vinemaister. 1835 OGILVIE *Suppl.* 283 *Oidium tuckeri* is the *vine-mildew, parasitical upon the leaves and green parts of vines. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 800/2 The vine disease, or vine mildew,..has of late years made great ravages. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 111 A..very efficient mode of destroying the *vine-moth in France. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726), **Vine-Pear, or Damsel-Pear*, is gray, reddish, round, and pretty big. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Pyrus*, Poire de Vigne, *i.e.* The Vine Pear. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 364 The ravages of the *vine-pest with the terrible name of *Phylloxera vastatrix* in France. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 434/1 Then came the terrible vine-pest, and on its heels came ruin. 1587 GREENE *Euphues* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 237 Alaying the heate of Bacchus *vynepresse, with the sweete conserues fetcht from Mynerues Library. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 459 A Vine-presse house, standing alone amongst Vineyards. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 125 As grapes are squeezed in a vine-press. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virg., Georg.* II. 4 The vinepress, or vat in which they trod the grapes. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2710/2 **Vine-rake*, an implement for pulling sweet-potato or other vines off from the ridges preparatory to the digging of the ground. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 406 For the Centurion hath the honour to carie in his hand a *Vine-rod. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 263/1 They may get a vine-rod, that is, a centurion's place. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlii. (1871) V. 145 Some showed him the scars of their wounds, others the marks of the centurion's vine-rod. 1852 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veg.* vi. (1862) 512 Fir Saw-Fly.—*Vine Saw-Fly.—Rose-bush Slug. [*Ibid.* 522 A kind of saw-fly which attacks the grape-vine,..named *Selandria Vitis*. The saw-fly of the vine is of a jet-black color.] 1886 CONDER *Syrian Stone-Lore* ix. (1896) 357 The *vine-scrolls and grape-bunches on the oldest mosaics of the Dome of the Rock. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush-Life* xxii, Impenetrable *vine-scrubs line the river-banks at intervals. 1889 LUMHOLTZ *Among Cannibals* 84 Along the streams vine-scrubs often abound. 1832 J. DAVIES *Mat. Med* 413 Some animals of an inferior class, such as bull-frogs, the *vine-snail, turtle, viper, crayfish, &c. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 406 The *Vine wand is now entred into the campe, and by it our armies are raunged into battaillons. 1736 BAILEY *Household Dict.* s.v., The *vine-water without distilling, will have the same effect. 1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 174/1 Specimens of the black *Vine weevil (*Otiorhynchus sulcatus*), a very destructive insect. 1896 LINDEMAN *Spray. Plants* 280 Fire-worm; Cranberry-worm; *Vine-worm; Blackhead (*Rhopobota vacciniana*). 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 439 The propriety of placing Leea along with *Vineworts has been questioned. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* vii. (1872) 296 *note*, The vine-worts, distinguished for their wholesome and nutritious qualities, seem closely allied to the Umbelliferæ.

Hence **Vine** *v. trans.*, to graft (*in* or *into* a vine); *intr.*, to develop tendrils like a vine.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Faun. Love* 15 b, The vine braunch is to be vined in the vine. *Ibid.* 16 Neither doth the Greeke or Latin translation afford any such termes of *vinyng into a vine*, as ye seme to import. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* xv. (1813) 247 Sticking pease is to take place as soon as they begin to vine (or put forth tendrils).

Vine, obs. Sc. form of WINE *sb.*

Vinea (vi·niă). Also 7 **vinia**. [L. *vinea*: see VINE *sb.*] A kind of protective shed or penthouse anciently used in siege-operations.

1600 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 406 How to approch the walls of their enemies, to give an assault under a frame deuised for the purpose, which thereupon took the name Vinea. 1614 GORGES tr. *Lucan* III. 106 Their Vinias to the wall they brought, Couerd with greene turfes all aloft. 1636 PHILLIPS (ed. 4). 1728 ROWE tr. *Lucan* III. 721 Beneath the Vinea close th' Assailant lies. 1783 W. GORDON tr. *Livy's Rom. Hist.* II. xvii (1809) 130 The Vineæ and other works were repaired. 1888 OMAN *Art War* 47 The vinea and testudo, the catapult onager and balista, were as well known in the tenth century as in the first.

Vineal (vi·nĕăl), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *vīnĕālis*, f. *vīnea* VINE *sb.*] Of or pertaining to vines or wine; living on vines; consisting of wine.

1639 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. xii. 454 These exhalations of the Vineyards must spread..from .the Canaries to England...So that there will be an Hemisphere of vineall Atoms of an incredible extent. 1899 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Vinealis*, applied by Mirbel to plants that grow spontaneously on the vines,..vineal. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 30 Oct. 9/5 To obtain a 50 per cent. drop on Italian vineal exports to that country.

Vineat, variant of VINET[1] *Obs.*

Vinea·tic, *a. rare*—°. [a. L. *vīnĕātic-us*, f. *vīnea* VINE *sb.*] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Vineatick*, belonging to Vines, apt, or that serves for Vines.

Vine-branch. Also **vine branch.** [VINE *sb.*] A branch of a vine-tree.

c 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 11201 The vyne-braunche with alle here grapes. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Table (1896) 15 Vyne braunchis, to enoynte. 1535 COVERDALE *John* xv. 6 He that abydeth not in me, is cast out as a vyne braunche. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Nahum* ii. 2 The emptiers haue emptied them out, & marred their vine branches. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 685 He that gladly would in winter season weare a chaplet of vine branches. 1673–4 GREW *Anat. Pl., Anat. Trunks* i. § 8 In Summer time,.. the Vessels also, in the Barque of a Vine-Branch, do Bleed a Sower Sap. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 128 If in Summer-time you denude a Vine-branch of its Leaves, the Grapes will never come to maturity. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, That Bulk which they have acquir'd upon the Vine-branches. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 210/1 He lifted up the vinebranch, with which the centurions chastise such as deserve stripes. 1818–22 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XIV. 490/2 The vanilla is a plant of the thickness of a small vine branch. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* xl. 133 Posts of wood, interlaced by vine branches.

Vined, *a. rare.* [f. VINE *sb.*]

1. Ornamented with the representation of a vine.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. xxiii. (1877) I. 351 A table hauing at each hand an image vined and finelie florished both aboue and beneath. 1624 WOTTON *Elem. Archit.* 32 Other licentious inuentions, of Wreathed, and Vined, and Figured Columnes, which our Author himselfe condemneth.

2. Impregnated with the qualities of a vine.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. xxxiv. 408 These Oliues will tast both of the one and of the other, and become as it were vined Oliues.

† **Vinedage**, variant of VENDAGE *Obs.*

1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 237 Since your garden is blasted, your vinedage ended,..your prime tyme finished.

Vine-dresser. [VINE *sb.*] One occupied in the pruning, training, and cultivation of vines.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Joel* i. 11 Houle, o ye vine dressers for the wheat, and for the barly. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* lii. 16 Nebuzaradan..left certaine of the poore of the land for Vine-dressers and for husbandmen. *a* 1633 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* vii. (1655) II. 131 The Apostle exemplifieth the equity of this ..by a Vine-dressers partaking of the fruit of it. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* 4556/1 Of these there are, Husbandmen and Vinedressers, one thousand eighty three. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 341 That so the vine dresser may dig all round the vine. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 123 When the vines were all gathered, the vinedressers came in procession under the castle windows. 1884 J. DE MILLE *Castle in Spain* iv, Shepherds, goatherds, and vine-dressers stared lazily up.

fig. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1808 II. 273, I do not mean those branches [of trade] which bear without the hand of the vine-dresser.

Vine-fretter. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [VINE *sb.*] A grub or insect (in later use, a species of aphis) feeding upon vines.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 105 After the manner of Vine-fretters, which are a kind of Catterpillers, or little hayrie wormes with many feete, that eate Vines when they begin to shoote. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge c 2, The butyri in vines, and ipes, and the vinefretter in the leaves thereof. 1728 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Diseases of Trees*, The Vine-fretter, a little black Animal, does a great deal of Mischief to Trees. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 471 Almost all the peas in his neighbourhood were destroyed that year by a kind of vermin called vine-fretters. 1777 W. HOOPER *Helvetius' Treat. Man* I. 91 *note*, We should..inclose a vine-fretter in a phial. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 374 *Vine-fretter*,..an insect very destructive to vines, rose bushes, cabbages, &c. in the Southern States. 1895 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 444 He considered the generation of vine fretters from a new point of view.

Vinegar (vi·nĭgăi), *sb.* Forms: α. 4–6 **vynegre** (4 **fyn-**), 5–6 **vynagre**, 6 **-ygre**; 4–7 **vinegre** (5 **uin-**, **win-**, 6 **winnegre**), 7 **vin'gre**; 5 **venagre**. 5–7 **venegre**; β. 5 **vynoygre**, **-aygre**, 7 **vinaigre**. β. 5–6 **vyneger**, 6 **-egyr**, **vynyger**; 5–7 **vineger** (7 **-er**, **vinneger**), 6–7 **viniger** (7 **win-**); γ. 5 **venegur**, 6 **-eger**; δ. 7 **vinagar**, 7 **vinaiger**, 5–6 **vineager**. γ. 6 **vynegar**, 6– **vinegar** (8 **ven-**). δ. 4 **vynacre**, 5, 7 **vinacre**, 7 **vinaigre**; 6 **vinycare**, **vinyker**, **vynyker**, **venyker**, **-iker**. *Sc.* **vinakir**, **venaker**, **wynakar**, **-akir**, 7 *St.* **winiker**. [a. OF. *vyn egre* (14th cent.), *vinaigre* (so mod.F.), f. *vin* :—L. *vīnum* wine + *egre*, *aigre* EAGER *a.* Cf. Pr. *vina (v)gre*, Sp. and Pg. *vinagre*, It. *vinagro*. Some of the spellings are influenced by the later F. form, or by mod.L. *vinum acre*.]

1. A liquid (consisting of acetic acid in a dilute form) produced by the acetous fermentation of wine and some other alcoholic liquors or special compounds, and employed either pure or with various admixtures in the preparation of food (or as a relish to this) and in the arts, etc.

The chief sources of vinegar are indicated by the names *wine-*, *malt-*, *sugar-*, and *wood-vinegar*. *Radical vinegar*: see RADICAL *a.* 9. *Thieves' vinegar*: see THIEF 5.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26769+23 Vinegre & gall þe iewes blend And to his mouth put þore. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM 1. 809 Al so longe hyt hys blod, Ase lest þe forme of wyne, Naujt of synegre kende [=kind] chald. 1386 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 70 Venim.., or vinegre, I trouwe, Walleþ in my wombe. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 40 þe liuyse of celidone y-medled wiþ vinegre and warmed at þe fire. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xiv. 37 Flessh, benes, salt and vynaygre. *a* 1500 *Bale's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 118 Powles steple was rodenly on fire..but it was holpen and quenched wt venegre. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 211 b/1 To make winnegre shortly it nede be. 1552 HULOET, Vynygre, and honye sodden together, *oxymeli*. 1562 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 2 Let the same..put a litle vinegre thereto. 1668 CHARLETON *Myst. Ventners* (1675) 164 Of which we have an instance in the making of Vinegre. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* (1702) IX. 81 A flood, to which most fretful Vinaigre [1648 Vinaiger] is gentle Oile.

β. *c* 1408 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 32 In vinager et cepis emptis. 1409 *Ibid.* 53 In j quart de vineger empt. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 6 Goode wyne schalle turne to venegur be dene. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXVIII. 105 (Harl. MS.), Vyneger was gode,..wyn is gode,.. and muste shalle be gode. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 72 b/1 To make veneger shortli if [ye] haue nede. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 22 Olyues ..dothe corroborate the stomake..being eaten with vyneger. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 133 Vineger to coole the Ordinance. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 20 The king calls for viniger to his sallet, because his sweet meate should haue sower sauce. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* IV. iii. 103 Best wine Dying makes strongest vinneger. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Passions* iii, Since Love by mixing Poyson there, Has made it worse than Vinegere. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* 189 Spirit of Vinager being try'd after the same manner, exhibited a moderate number of bubbles.

γ. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 148 Hard Cheese wrapped in cloutes wet in Vinegar..returne to a softnesse. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* M, One cast his paile of water at his head, another his oile, another his vinegar. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 11 Vinegar I utterly mislike. 1652 in Gross *Gild Merchant* (1890) I. 133 In buying and selling a can of vinegar. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 138 As heav'ns blest beam turns vinegar more sowre. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 93 If it be drenched nine times in vinegar, it makes a fine eye-salve. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 109 They ought. to keep the patient very clean, to sprinkle the room where he lies with vinegar, or other strong acids. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 386 Vinegar appears to have little or no effect upon iron, unless assisted by the air. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 1033 The weaker the wine or the beer.., the more readily it is converted into vinegar. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 241/1 All sources of alcohol may be regarded as possible materials for making vinegar.

δ. *a* 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 156 Seeth the rote in vynacre of wyne. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 88 Vinacre,..j hoggshed. *c* 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 963 Intill wynakar þai soupit it full sone. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 41 Thay suld..giff to hime vinakir and gal to drink. 1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 8 A querte of vinycare, iiij[d]. 1583–4 *Ibid.* 16 For foure quartes of veniker, xvj[d]. 1586 *Ibid.* 26 A gallon of vyneker, xvj[d]. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 44 The water of the wisemen, the philosophers vinacre, the mineral water. 1692 in *Hawick Archæol. Soc. Trans.* (1905) 13/2 It[em] for osters and winiker, brandi and spis, [£]0. 6. 0.

fig. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 59 To stoop this Vinacre to the very Lees; some will say [etc.].

†**b.** *elliptic.* The accidental conversion of wine into vinegar. *Obs.*—[1]

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches*. XII. xiv. (1886) 201 A charme against vineager. That wine wax not eager, write on the vessell [etc.].

c. With *a* and pl. A particular kind, or special preparation, of vinegar.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 13 The fallacy of trusting to the hydrometer for determining the strength of vinegars. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 18 Vinegars are those preparations in which vinegar, or dilute acetic acid, is used as the menstruum.

2. In allusive use: **a.** With reference to the painful or harsh effect of vinegar on a wound, or on the teeth (after Prov. x. 26).

1548 UDALL *Erasmus Par. Mark* ii. 20 He that put in the vinegre of sorowe, dyd also giue him the oyle of good hope. 1590 NASHE *Mart. Martprel.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 224 It is vineger to his teeth, and maketh him very sawcie with his g. of Cant. 1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* III. xii, To qualify with oyle The soule-afflicting vin'gre of his toyle. 1656 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 109 Our desire is..not to pour Vinegar but Oyl into the wounds.

b. With reference to Hannibal's use of vinegar in making his way over the Alps, according to Livy XXI. 37 (cf. Juvenal x. 153).

Cf. the quotation for *vinegar-railing* in 6.

1636 QUARLES *Elegie* Wks. (Grosart) III. 22/1 We cut our way Through those our Alpine griefes, and sadly rise With the sharp vinegre of suffused eyes. 1776 in Boswell *Johnson* 12 Apr., Davies said, of a well-known dramatick authour, that 'he..made his way as Hannibal did, by vinegar; having begun by attacking people'. 1779 WARTON

in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 108 The Alps of your difficulties subside before you, and without vinegar.

3. *fig.* Speech, temper, etc., of a sour or acid character. (Cf. 5 b.)

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 158 Heere's the Challenge, reade it: I warrant there's vinegar and pepper in't. 1681 CROWNE *Hen. VI*, Prol., A little Vinegar against the Pope. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlii, Mrs. Pipchin..freshened the domestics with several little sprinklings of wordy vinegar. 1873 (see VERJUICE *sb.* 2).

†b. In the phr. *to wish one at vinegar. Obs.*—1

1774 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 73 He will soon do something, and play some prank, which I dare say his uncle will wish him at vinegar for.

4. *slang.* (See quots.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Vinegar*, a Cloak. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Vinegar*,..the Fellow that makes a Ring, and keeps Order among Wrestlers, Cudgel-Players, &c. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T., Vinegar*, a name given to the person, who with a whip in his hand, and a hat held before his eyes, keeps the ring clear at boxing matches and cudgel playings.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib., as *vinegar-bottle* (also *fig.*), *-cask*, *-cruet* (also *fig.*), *-manufactory*, *-pot*, *-poultice*, *-powder*, *-work*, *-yeast*; obj. genitive, as *vinegar-drawer*, *-maker*, *-making*; also *vinegar-flavoured*, *-tart* adjs.

1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 490 Item, j. *venegre botell. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., It will bee some of their destinies to carrie the vineger bottle ere they die. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return Parnass.* I. ii. 1 What Ingenioso, carrying a Vinegar bottle about thee, like a great schole-boy giuing the world a bloudy nose? 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.* I, *Vinagrera*, a Vinegar-bottle, or Cruit. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 850 In some country districts, the people keep..a *vinegar cask, into which they pour such wine as they wish to acetify. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5086/3 A Sett of Casters with *Vinegar Crewets. 1744 PARSONS in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 187 A little Piece of Camphire, exactly shaped like a common Vinegar-Crewet, having a round Bottom, and a long taper Neck. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvii, Mrs. Hussey soon appeared with a mustard-pot in one hand and a vinegar-cruet in the other. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 113 A moro-e, narrow-minded, hide-bound set of vinegar-cruets. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 12 He is a *Vinegar-drawer. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 158 *Vinegre dregs are knowne to be verie good for to heale burnes. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xiii. P 18 A *vinegar-flavoured vintage of Parnassus. 1611 COTGR., *Vinaigrier*,..a *Vineger glasse, violl, or bottle. *Ibid.*, *Vinaigrier*, a Vineger-man, or *Vineger-maker. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3283/3 All Malsters..., Brewers,..Victuallers, and Vinegar-makers. 1723 *Ibid.* No. 6134/4 John Gregory,..Distiller and Vinegar-maker. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 905 This axiom cannot be too strongly inculcated into the minds of vinegar-makers. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 60 In the ordinary process of *vinegar-making from sugar and water. 1611 COTGR., *Vinaigrier*, a *Vineger-man, or Vineger-maker. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1278 *Vinegar manufactory, by malt. 1842 *Penny Mag.* 29 Oct. 425/1 The vinegar-manufactories are but few in number. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 448 A *vinegar pot, oil pot, and sugar box. 1854 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Cataplasma Aceti*, ..the *vinegar poultice; made of vinegar and bread crumb, or the like. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl s.v., A sort of *Vinegar-powder, or Vinegar in a dry form. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 307 Let none of these scumme of the suburbs, be too *vinegar tarte with mee. 1608 [TOPTE] *Ariosto's Sat.* IV. (1611) 53 A viniger tart looke or cloudy brow. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Rape*, The Rape is..put into a Place to sour itself, before it is cast into the *Vinegar Vessel. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 3 When new vessels are mounted in a *vinegar work, they must be one third filled with the best vinegar that can be procured. *Ibid.* 2 Several azotised substances serve as re-agents towards the acetous fermentation,—such as vinegar ready-made, *vinegar-yeast, or lees.

b. Attrib., in the sense 'extremely sour in temper or disposition'; also in combs., as *vinegar-faced*, *-hearted* adjs.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 54 Other of such vineger aspect, That they'll not shew their teeth in way of smile. 1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 165 Such barmy heads wil alwaies be working, when as sad vineger wittes sit souring at the bottome of a barrell. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 28 The Commons nothing mortified with these tart and vinacre expressions [of the king], kept close to their proper stations. 1662 *Rump Songs* (1874) I. 161 From a vinegar Priest on a Crab-tree stock,..Libera nos. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. iii. 11 More grum, vinegar-fac'd,..than any kind whatsoever in the whole Island. 1844 MISS FERRIER *Luker.* xxix, The habitual vinegar expression of his long triangular visage. 1842 MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 145 A peevish and vinegar-hearted step-mother. 1846 DE QUINCEY *Orthogr. Mutineers* Wks. 1860 XIV. 108 He was too vinegar a fellow for them; nothing hearty or genial about him. 1847 E. BRONTË *Wuthering Heights* ii, Vinegar-faced Joseph projected his head from a round window of the barn. 1850 MRS. CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1903) II. 13 You may fancy the vinegar looks of the Lady of the House and the visitors whom I had kept from their dinner one mortal hour.

6. Special Combs.: †**vinegar bear**, † beer employed for conversion into vinegar; **Vinegar Bible** (see quots.); **vinegar-eel**, a minute nematoid worm (*Anguillula aceti*) breeding in vinegar; **vinegar-field**, = *vinegar-yard*; **vinegar mother**, = *vinegar-plant* (b); **vinegar-plant**, (*a*) the Virginian sumach, *Rhus typhina*; (*b*) a mould which grows on the surface of liquids undergoing acetous fermentation; **vinegar-railing** *fig.*, bitter abuse; **vinegar-tree**, = *vinegar-plant* (a); **vinegar worm**, = *vinegar-eel*; **vinegar-yard**, a yard or open space in which vinegar-casks are arranged.

1677 *Act* 29 *Chas. II*, c. 8, For every Barrell of Beere commonly called *Vineger beere brewed or made to be sold, Six pence. 1834 LOWNDES *Bibliogr. Man.* I. 280 A most magnificent edition, called 'The *Vinegar Bible', from an error in the running title at St. Luke, chap. xxii, where it is read 'the parable of the vinegar', instead of 'the parable of the vineyard'. 1868 MACRAY *Annals Bodl. Lib.* 147 Bankett, the printer, presented to the Library a magnificent copy on vellum of the 'Vinegar' Bible, printed by him in 1717. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 113/2 The *Anguillula aceti*, or common *Vinegar-eel. 1842 *Penny Mag.* 29 Oct. 426/2 Behind the store-house..is the **vinegar-field*, a remarkable feature in most vinegar-works. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 2 The Germans call it the *vinegar mother, as it serves to excite acetification in fresh liquors. 1852 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) I. 1 In the vinegar of wine..there appears a peculiar mould-plant, belonging to the genus *Mycoderma* Pers.; which is usually called vinegar mother. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 228/1 The..Virginian sumach, or *vinegar plant, grows naturally in almost every part of North America. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 637 Flocculent or gelatinous masses, constituting the curious object called the Vinegar-plant. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1217/1 The exact mode in which the Vinegar-plant operates on the solution is not known. 1609 DEKKER *Guls Horn-bk.* Wks (Grosart) II. 203 Though, with Hannibal, you bring whole hogs-heads of *vinegar-railings, it is impossible for you to quench or come ouer my Alpine-resolution. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl. 1330/2 *Vinegar-tree, *Rhus typhina*. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 163 *Anguillula aceti*, the *Vinegar worm, lives in sour paste and in vinegar. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3893/4 A Distilling-house, Brew-house, and *Vinegar-yard. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vinegar-yard*, a place where vinegar is exposed to season.

Vinegar (vi·nĭgăr), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To treat with vinegar in some way; to add or apply vinegar to; to restore by means of vinegar. Also *fig.* Hence **Vi·negaring** *vbl. sb.*

1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. v, Then, to her Cuz, Hoping, that he hath vinegard his senses, As he was bid, the Faery Queene dispenses, By me this Robe. 1721 CIBBER *Rival Fools* v, Ev'n forgive her all...No, faith! I must crab her, she must be vinegar'd! 1804 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 89 Where I should be detained, quarantined, smoked, and vinegared. 1831 BENTHAM *Memorandum-Bk.* Wks. 1843 XI. 73 You do as you do by a cucumber, when you cut it into slips to be eaten, when it has been peppered, salted, and vinegared. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* x, The landlady..proceeded to vinegar the forehead, beat the hands, titillate the nose, and unlace the stays of the spinster aunt. 1841 — *Barn. Rudge* xix, After..much damping of foreheads, and vinegaring of temples, and hartshorning of noses, and so forth. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Feb. 2/1 Aurora rose and thrust a smelling-bottle under his nose, tanned his hands, vinegared him.

Vinegarette, variant (after *vinegar*) of VINAIGRETTE.

1845 THACKERAY *The Almack's Adieu*, And at parting I gave my dear Harry A beautiful vinegarette!

Vinegarish (vi·nĭgărĭʃ), *a.* Also 7 **vinegrish**. [f. VINEGAR *sb.*] Somewhat resembling vinegar (in taste); sourish. Also *fig.*

1648 HEXHAM II, *Asijnachtigh*, Vinegrish. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 163 Animal juyces..degenerate into acid, sowre, vinegarish liquors. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 141 'Tis another fault to be sometimes so Vinous, as to contract from thence a Vinegarish sharp taste. 1845 TEMPLE in E. H. Coleridge *Life Ld. Coleridge* (1904) I. vii. 167, I expected that Scott..would have given him rather a vinegarish reply; but [etc.]. 1867 C. J. SMITH *Syn. & Antonyms, Acid*, Syn...Acetose. Vinegarish.

Vi·negarist. *rare*—1. [f. as prec.] A vinegar-maker.

1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* 146 The Rape our Vinegarists make use of, they have out of France.

Vinegary (vi·nĭgări), *a.* [f. as prec.] Resembling vinegar; sour like vinegar. Chiefly *fig.*

1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Acetous*, Vinegary, or being something like Vinegar. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, A vinegary face has Mrs. Miff. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* (1876) II. 33 So you'll just leave alone that vinegary, soul-destroying trash. 1870 FREEWELL *Mod. Men Lett.* viii. 143 Commonplace bishops and vinegary bishops' wives. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Vixen* iii, This is one of Miss Skipwith's servants,..rather a vinegary personage.

Comb. 1885 *Advance* (Chicago) 6 Aug. 509/3 A vinegary visaged lady. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 116 The only person who was in the house was a vinegary-looking woman, who told me that I could not stay.

Vine·ity. *rare*—1. [f. L. *vine-us* VINOUS + -ITY.] Vinous quality or property.

1780 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* VI. II. 42 Innocent the third acknowledged that, after consecration, there did remain in the elements a certain paneity and vineity, as he called them, which satisfied hunger and thirst.

Vine-leaf. [VINE *sb.*] A leaf of a vine.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 353 Of grene vyne leues he weryd a foly crowne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/2 Vyny leef, *pampinus, abestrum*. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 810 *Hic pamplus*, a vyneleffe. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. (1811) 160 They were fayne to take vyne leuys to couer with theyr secret membrys. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. Table s.v., Vine leaves to be cleansed once in the spring. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xii. (1906) 109 Whereby we are taught to know..Bacchus by his Vine-leaves. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, That vile Taste of a rotten Vine Leaf. 1763 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xliii, There were two dozen of eggs covered over with vine-leaves at the bottom of the basket. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 1258 Its casements bright Shone through their vine-leaves in the morning sun. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 238/2 The imago..shortly after lays its eggs upon the upper surface of the vine leaf.

attrib. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 238 Muslin. Figured; diaper vine-leaf pattern.

b. *Vine-leaf miner*, an insect infesting vine-leaves. Also *vine-leaf folder*, *hopper*, *roller*. (In recent Amer. Dicts.)

1830 *Insect Architecture* (L. E. K.) 238 The vine-leaf miner, when about to construct its cocoon, cuts..two pieces of the membrane of the leaf.

Vineless (vəi·nlès), *a.* [f. VINE *sb.*] Having no vines; destitute of vines.

1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 7 Broken hoops,..vineless poles, worm-eaten posts.

Vinelet (vəi·nlĕt). [f. VINE *sb.*] A young vine.

1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* vii, A human form..rolled in upon a newly-potted platoon of those sensitive vinelets.

Vinell, obs. variant of VENNEL.

Vinello, obs. variant of VANILLA.

†**Vi·ner**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **vyner** (4 **vigner**), 5 **viner**, **-ere**. [? ad. med.L. *vindriarius*, f. L. *vīnum* wine. Cf. VINERY 1.] A vineyard.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxvii. 32 He sloghe in haghil þe vyners of þa. *Ibid.* Cant. Hab. 87 Burioyn sall noght be in þe vyners. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xiii. 7 Sum man hadde a fyge tree plauntid in his vyner. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xvii. 389 The lord of the vyuer..and of the werk doon in his Vyner.

†**Vi·ner**[2]. *Obs.* Also 4 **vinour**, 5 **-oure**, **vyn-vignour**; 6 **vyner**. [a. OF. *vignour*, *vigneur*, or AF. *viner* (Gower) vine-grower; with sense 2 cf. OF. *vinier*, *vignier* wine-merchant.]

1. A vine-grower or vine-dresser.

a. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 148 The king and the vinour also Of wommen comen bothe two. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxciii. (Bodl. MS.), Vligo is þe kinde vinoure of þe erþe,..for þis tre rereþ vp and susteyneþ bowes, frute, & sprayes of vines. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) I. xxii. 58/1 Some ben shepeherdes,.. some vynours, some of other crafftes as the contre axeth. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iii. (1883) 41 Yf the smythes, the carpentiers, yᵗ vignours and other craftymen saye that it is most necessarye to studye for the comyn prouffit.

b. 1552 HULOET, Vyner, or orderer, or trymmer of vynes, *vinetor*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 77 A viner, *vinitor*. 1611 FLORIO, *Viguaio*, a vineroll, a viner, a vine dresser.

2. A member of the Vintners' Company.

1674 MARVELL *Ld Mayor & Crt. Aldermen* xviii, And now, worshipful sirs, Go fold up your furs, And Viners turn again, turn again.

Vi·ner[3]. *U.S.* [f. VINE *sb.* 4 c + -ER[1].] An implement for gathering the product of 'vines'.

1900 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXVI. 558/2 By the aid of machinery, the [pea-] pods are gathered by a viner.

†**Vineroll**, alteration of *vineron* VIGNERON.

1598 FLORIO, *Vendemmiatore*, a vintager, a vineroll, a vintner, a maker of wines or a grape gatherer. 1611 *Ibid. Vignaio*, a vineroll, a viner, a vine dresser.

Vineron, obs. variant of VIGNERON.

†**Vinerous**, *a. dial. Obs.* (See quot.)

1674 RAY *N. Co. Words* 90 *Vinerous*, hard to please.

Vinery (vəi·nĕri). Also 5 **vinary**, 6 **vynery**. [ad. med.L. *vindrium* (cf. VINER[1] and OF. *vignerie*) or f. VINE *sb.* + -ERY.]

† 1. A vineyard. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Commend. Our Lady* 45 Paradys of plesaunce, gladsom to all good,..Vinarye envermailyd. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 511 The kyng shuld haue in recompencement of his wrongys, the eriedam of Bygorre, & the vynery of Ramer.

2. A glass house or hot-house constructed for the cultivation of the grape-vine. Also *attrib.*

1789 ABERCROMBIE (*title*), The Hot-House Gardener on the Methods of forcing Early Grapes,..and other Choice Fruits, in Hot-Houses, Vineries, Fruit-Houses, Hot-Walls, &c. 1805 LOUDON *Improv. Hot-Houses* 34 A considerable depth [of flue] may generally be obtained..in vineries and peach houses. 1842 — *Suburban Hort.* 215 A vinery twenty-five feet long by thirteen feet six inches wide in the roof. 1879 *Florist & Pomologist* Mar. 37/2 A three-quarters span or hipped roof vinery...For general purposes there is no better form of vinery than this.

3. Vines collectively.

1883 *Cent. Mag.* XXVI. 729 Overgrown with masses of vinery. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 445/1 Its ruins..are overgrown with vinery and bushes.

†**Vinet**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: α. 5 **vynnett**, **vynette**, **-ett**, 5–6 **vynet**, 5–7 **vinet**, 6 **vinite**, 7 **vinnet**; 5 **venett(e**, 7 **venet**. β. 6 **vynyette**, **vyniet**, **viniet**, **vineyet**, **vineat**, 7 **vignet**. [ad. OF. *vignete*, *vignette* (whence obs. It. *vignetta* (Florio), Sp. *viñeta*, Pg. *vinheta*) dim. of *vigne* VINE *sb.* Readopted in the 18th century as VIGNETTE *sb.*]

1. A running or trailing ornament or design in imitation of the branches, leaves, or tendrils of the vine, employed in architecture or decorative work.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 656 And þe vowsyng ful of babewynes [= baboons], þe richie koynyng, þe lusty tablementis, Vynettis rennynge in þe casementis. *c* 1420 *Life Alex.* (1911) 64 Bitwene þe pelers of golde, ware byngande venettes of golde & sylvere, wit leues of golde. And þe brawnches of this venett ware sum of cristalle,..& sum of Onyches, and bay semed as bay hade lene verray vynes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 7 Apparyled in Crymosyn, satyne, and purpull, embrowdered with golde and by vynyettes [*Hallshed* vinlet] ran floure delices of golde. *Ibid.*, Kyrtels of Crymosyne and purpul satyn, embroudered with a vynet of Pomegranettes of golde.

attrib. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 93 The Pervincle..Passing good and proper indeed for vinet and storie works in

2. = VIGNETTE *sb.* 1 b and 1.

a. 1467 *Paston Lett.* II. 336 For viij hole vynets,..prise the vynett, xiid. Item, for xxj demi vynets 1573 *Art Limning* (1588) 2 Trace all thy letters, and set thy Vinets or flowres, and then thy imagery, if thou wilt make any. 1579 Fulke *Confut. Sanders* 691 Commonly such superfluous vinites (I trowe they call them) bee not set to, vntill they presse the whole leafe. 1612 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* I xv. (1634) 47 You may, if you list, draw..any kinde of wilde traile or vinet after your owne invention. 1637 *Star-Chamber Decree conc. Printing* 11 July 8 9 That no person shall hereafter print..vpon any booke or books, the name, title, marke or vinnet of the Company or Society of Stationers.

β. 1584 *Star Chamber Decree Printers & Stat.* (1863) 10 That everie founder of letter, cutter and pocher, be likewise bound not to cast any letter, vineyet, mark, singing notes, or such like. 1612 Cotgr., *Vignettes*, Vignets; branches, or branch-like borders, or flourishes, in painting or Ingraverie.

b. An ornamental border on a page.

1630 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlem.* Draught of Frontisp., Upon the other Border or Venet of the Picture, is presented a Summer Arbour. *Ibid.*, In the middle betwixt the Venets, is the Portraiture of a comely Personage.

3. An ornamental title-page or similar production containing various symbolical designs or figures.

1562 Leigh *Armorie* (heading), The Description of the Viniet with the circumstaunce thereof, contayned in the fyrst Page of the booke. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 688/2 Certaine there were which resorted to him, of whom some were drawers for his petygree and vyniet. 1625 F. Markham *Bk. Honour* IV. iii § 3 Prudence..is to be esteemed aboue all other Vertues: for Philosophy cals it the Guide, and our Heraulds make it the first in the Vinet.

Hence † **Vinetting** (**vignetting**) *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Vignettement*, a vignetting: a bordering, or flourishing with the branches of Vines, or other plants.

† **Vinet** [2]. *Obs.*—[1] In 5 **vynet(te.** [f. L. *vinea.*] = Vinea.

1408 tr. *Vegetius' Art War* IV. xv (MS. Digby 233) fol. 220/2 The vynet [*MS. Laud* vynette] is a gynne of werr & framed of list tymber.

Vineter, variant of Vintner.

Vi·ne-tree. Also 4 **vintre,** 4–5 **vyntre,** 4–6 **vyne-tree** (5–6 *Sc.* **wyne-**). [Vine *sb.*] A tree of the genus *Vitis* bearing grapes. Also *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7159 And sua þair corns did he brin, þair olives, wit þair vintres. a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxvii. 3 Þi wife as vyntre hahoundand in sides of þi house. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 401 Ensampil tane ma be sufficiandly be þe wyne-tre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 A vyne tree, *argitis, propago, vitis.* 1501 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 103 To the Franch man that set the wyne treis in Strivelin, xliij s. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 356 The Vinetree hath yeelded her purple grapes, by clusters. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 519 The manner how to graffe a Vine tree. 1624 Fisher in F. White *Repl.* 340 The Saints being but branches of Christ Iesus, the true Vinetree. 1786 G. Fraser *Fall of Man* 136 You will be as a fruitful vine-tree. 1788 Abercrombie *Arrangem.* 43 in *Gard. Assist.*, Evergreen Trees and Shrubs, Proper for..shrubberies,..&c. [include]..Vine tree, winged leaved. 1813 *Q. Rev.* IX. 159 Oft to mark, with curious eye, If the vine tree's time be nigh.

† **Vinetry.** *Obs.*—[1] [App. f. Vinet [1] + -ry.] Ornament, decoration. In quot. *fig.*

1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* 43 First your hearer coveteth to have his desire satisfied with matter, ere he looketh upon the form or vinetrie of words, which many times fall in of themselves to matter well contrived.

† **Vi·new,** *sb. Obs.* Also 6 **vinue,** 7 **vinow,** 8 **vinnow.** [var. of Finew *sb.* Cf. mod. Hampshire dial. *vinny.*] Mould, mouldiness.

1538 Elyot, *Mucor*, fylth, vinue, suche as is on bred or meate longe kept. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 9 If it were not thus well followed, soone would it catch a vinow, begin to putrifie [etc.]. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vinew*, Mouldiness, Hoariness, Mustiness. a 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 303 Two sorts of vinnow on cheese, one in the nature of mouldiness, or long downy vinnow, not blue.

† **Vi·new,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 **venu-,** 6–7 **vinow.** [var. of Finew *v.* Cf. mod. Som. and Dev. dial. *vinny.*] *intr.* To grow mouldy.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) III. 2250/2 Which bread doth vinow, and mice oftentimes doe eate it. 1581 [see Finew *v.*]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 364 Soone it vinoweth and catcheth a kind of mustines.

Hence † **Vi·newing** *vbl. sb.*

1552 [see Finewing *vbl. sb.*]. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Mucor*, filthe: vinewynge: hoarenesse. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Mucilage*, venuing, hoarinesse.

† **Vi·newed,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **venued, vynued, uinewed,** 7 **vinnewd, vinowed, vinnow'd.** [f. Vinew *sb.* or *v.* Cf. Finewed *a.* and Vinnied *a.*] Moulded, mouldy.

1538 Elyot, *Mucidus*, fylthy: vinewed. 1558 Wardr tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1580) 103 You must take first of the saied paste, that is not mouldie, vinewed or putrified. 1574 Newton *Health Mag.* 55 Sweete Almonds .. decline to moysture, unlesse they be vinewed and restie for then they are drye. 1576 — *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 179 Such a like hoary downe, or uinewed mouldinesse. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 530 If it be let alone,..[the vine] would proove to be slender, vinewed, leane, and poore. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. ii. 71 Like a mouldy Cheese, where three parts are blew and vinnow'd. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 70 Mould, Horinesse, Vinnewd.

fig. 1608 [see Finewed *a.*].

Hence † **Vi·newedness.** *Obs. rare.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Situs*,..horenesse: mouldinesse: vinewednesse. 1611 Cotgr., *Chanisseure*,..mouldinesse, vinewednesse. *Ibid.*, *Moisissure*, mouldinesse,..vinowed-

† **Vinewiness, -ewy,** varr. Finewiness, -ewy. 1727 Bailey (vol. II). *Vinewiness*, Mouldiness, Hc Mustiness. *Ibid.*, *Vinewy*, mouldy, hoary.

Vineyard (vi·nyĭd). Forms: 4 **vinzerd,** 6 **-yard(e, vinzard, -yearde,** 6 **vyny(e)arde, wynyard,** 7 **viniard**; 4–5 **vyneȝerd(e,** 5 **-ȝorde, -ye(e)rd,** 6 **-yeardе**; 4 **vineȝard,** 5 **-yerd,** 6 **-y(e)arde,** 5– **vineyard**; *Sc.* 5 **wyne-,** 6 **wineȝarde, wyneȝard, -yaird.** [f. Vine *sb.* + Yard *sb.*, after the earlier *wineyard*, OE. *wingeard.*]

1. A piece of ground in which grape-vines are cultivated; a plantation of vines.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* civ. 31 He smate þaire vyneȝerdis & þaire fige trese. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxli. (Bodl. MS.), þis tree..is beste in gardines to close hem wiþ and vineȝardes. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 337 In þis lond is plente of hony and of mylk and of wyn, and nouȝt of vyneȝerdes. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 66 A husbandman..hyryd men to his vyneȝorde for labour. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* f vj, A good man..whiche had an Aker of a vine yerd. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxiv. 6 They..gather the grapes out of his vynyarde, whom they haue oppressed by violence. c 1585 [R. Browne] *Answ. Cartwright* 45 Where no yarde is, there may be vynes growing, but there can bee no vineyarde. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 171 There is a right learned man that feareth lest hee have inconsiderately put this down in writing, as if this land were unfit for vineyards 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Bacon.* 71 This Shire is very full of Vineyards. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 73 The good Grapes, which Compose part of our Gard'ning, and the common Grapes that grow in Vineyards. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 449 The vineyards begin to bear two years after their planting; and continue in heart fifty or sixty years. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 211 When they [baboons] set about robbing an orchard or a vineyard,..they do not go singly to work. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 318 We sought the elevated Cathedral, which stands without the town in the midst of vineyards. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 162, I was rather disappointed at Bonn, by the first sight of what sounds so poetically, a vineyard. 1878 Emerson *Misc., Fort. Republic* Wks. (Bohn) III. 387 The wine merchant has..also, I fear, his debts to the chemist as well as to the vineyard.

b. *fig.* A sphere of action or labour, esp. of an elevated or spiritual character.

Chiefly in allusion to passages of the New Testament, as Matt. xx. 1 and xxi. 28, 40.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1293 Trawale þarfor all thi mycht in goddis wyne-yarde for to vyne feile folk þat bundine ar with syne. c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 98 þis housbonde is God, and þis vyneȝerde is his Chirche. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 51 This noble and Catholyke prince..whom God raysed for a Capitayne..vnder whose banner they myght ouercome theyr enemies and pourge his vineyarde from suche wycked weedes. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 467 Mr. Ninian..was a faithful labourer in the Lordes vinȝard, ernist, and bissie. 1618 Baret (*title*), An Hipponomie; or the Vineyard of Horsemanship deuided into Three Bookes. 1628 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 295 Their principall merchants and factors, who are indeed the true labourers of their viniard, and th' other, if rightlie considred, no other then carriers. 1708 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* I. Pref. p. xviii, Every Man..that had laboured all the heat of the day in the Vine-yard..was not. recompenced immediately according to their Merit. 1772 Smollett *Humph. Cl., To Sir W. Phillips* 10 June, The vineyard of methodism lies before you. 1791 Hampson *Mem. Wesley* III. 110 The assiduity of the labourers in this vineyard was the chief visible cause of their success. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 12 Sincerely wishing you success in your labours in the vineyard of humanity. 1905 G. Thorne *Lost Cause* x, The League 'll go on safe enough, there'll always be labourers in the vineyard.

¶ c. = Vinea. *Obs.*—[1]

1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* IX. 58 The pioners, working under long and thick boards, in the form of a Tortois, covered with raw hides to secure them from Granadoes (anciently called Vineyards, and Galleries) to enter the ditch.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vineyard-culture, -dresser, -ground,* etc.; † **vineyard leek,** a wild species of leek.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 102 The wild or wynyard leke is more hurtfull for the stomack then the comon leke. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) III. 121 The ministers of the Church are sometime called souldiers or vineyard-keepers. 1636 Prynne *Unbish. Tim.* (1661) 111 Like as an higher place is made for the Vineyardkeeper, to keep the Vineyard, so an higher place also is made for the Bishops. a 1704 T. Brown *Declam. Def. Gaming* Wks. (1709) III. 146 Bacchus was made a God, a Vine-yard-keeper [etc.]. 1731 P. Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, I have seen in one Place in this Vineyard-Plot great Pieces of old Vines replanted after the aforesaid manner. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* (title-page), A Method of introducing a Sort of Vineyard-Culture into the Corn-Fields. *Ibid.* vii. 62 Without which they could not give it [*sc.* corn] the Vineyard-Hoeing. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Porrum*, The wild vineyard leek. c 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1839) 41 As I rambled through thy vineyard-ground. *Ibid.* 223 When on a vineyard-hill we lay concealed. 1848 Clough *Amours de Voy.* II. 122 And we believe we discern some lines of man descending Down through the vineyard-slopes. 1849 K. H. Digby *Compitum* II. 361 Pope Urban I should be painted with grapes and a vine, being the patron of vineyardmen. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 928/1 A French double vineyard plow.

Hence **Vi·neyarded** *a.*, enclosed as a vineyard; covered with vineyards; **Vi·neyarding,** the cultivation of vineyards; vine-growing; **Vi·neyardist,** one who engages in vine-growing.

1820 Keats *Isabella* xvii. In that land inspired, Paled in and *vineyarded from beggar-spies. 1886 Mrs. Caddy *Footsteps Joanne D'Arc* 83 One now walks from the train to the town by the side of vineyarded hill-slopes. 1870 *Congregationalist* 29 May (Cent.), Profits of *vineyarding in California. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 267 The necessity of depending mainly upon professional *vineyardists. 1897 L. H. Bailey *Princ. Fruit-growing* 291 Careful vineyardists are able to continue the practice [of girdling] year after year without apparent injury to the vine.

Vineyet, var. Vinet *Obs.* **Vineyetour,** var. Vinitor *Obs.* **Vinger,** southern ME. var. Finger *sb.* **Vingre,** obs. f. Vinegar *sb.*

‖ **Vingt-et-un** (vɛ̃tĕɔ̃n), **vingt-un** (vɛ̃tœ̃n). Also 8 **-une.** [F., 'twenty-one'.] A round game of cards in which the object is to make the number twenty-one or as near this as possible without exceeding it, by counting the pips on the cards, court-cards counting as ten, the ace one or eleven as the holder chooses. (Cf. Van John.)

Also applied to a game at dominoes: see Stone *sb.* 13.

a. 1781 *Il estim. Mag.* IX. 604 Give the Beau-monde impertinent advice, Proscribe *Vingt-une!* prohibit box and dice! 1790 A. C. Bowers *Diaries & Corresp.* (1903) 109, I was sat down with every Miss in Winchester to play Vingt une. 1804 Jane Austen *Watsons* (1879) 358, I have played nothing but vingt-un of late. 1868 E. F. Pardon *Card Player* 69 Vingt-un may be played by two or more players.

β. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* (1850) 13/1 This passenger is reported to have lost fourteen pounds at Vingt-et-un.. yesterday. 1893 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* xi. 108 It was a very different thing to playing *vingt-et-un* at home. 1872 E. Braddon *Life Indie* viii. 338 Happy gamblers, who look upon the scientific game much in the same way as they do *vingt-et-un.*

Vinic (vəi·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *vīn-um* wine.] Obtained or derived from wine or alcohol.

1835 T. Thomson in *R. D. & T. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* II. 98 The term racemic acid given by the French is preferable; because vinic is the name applied frequently on the Continent to tartaric acid. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 98 Vinic Acids. *Ibid.* 119 Ethylic or Vinic Alcohol, Spirit of Wine. *Ibid.* 155 Ethylic or Vinic Ether. 1876 Harley *Kovle's Mat. Med.* 330 Vinic æther prepared from alcohol.

Vi·niculture. [f. L. *vīni-, vīnum* wine + Culture *sb.*] The cultivation of grapes for the production of wine.

1871 *Echo* 3 Jan., The fair for the best and newest specimens of viniculture has been held in Florence last week. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Nov., Viniculture from year to year is gaining ground in Southern Palestine 1891 H. M. Stephens *Portugal* 368 He did not neglect to encourage agriculture and viniculture.

Hence **Vinicu·ltural** *a.*; **Vinicu·lturist.**

1888 *Voice* (N.Y.) 5 July, The Vinicultural Commission will establish in San Francisco a Wine Exchange 1888 *Sci. Amer.* 24 Nov. 327/2 The harvesting of the grape crop is the period of anxiety for the viniculturist.

Viniet, variant of Vinet [1] *Obs.*

Vini·ferous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *vīni-, vīnum* wine: see -ferous.] Producing wine.

1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 80 On the left lies the viniferous district of La Côte.

Vinification (vəinifikē·ʃən). [f. as prec.: see -fication.] The conversion of grape juice or the like into an alcoholic liquid by fermentation.

1880 *Lib. Univ. Knowl.* VII. 72 The vinification [of Greek wines] is very imperfect. 1894 Thudichum (*title*), A Treatise on Wines:..with Practical Directions for Viticulture and Vinification.

Vining (vəi·niŋ), *a.* [f. Vine *sb.*] Twining like a vine.

1824 Lewis & Clark *Trav. Missouri* xxvi. (1815) III. 124 Vining and whiteberry honeysuckle. 1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 4 Mar. 5/3 The vining maples twined in so close about it that we had to get right in the water and follow up the stream.

Vinipote. *rare*—[0]. [f. L. *vīni-, vīnum* wine + *pōtus* having drunk.] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram I, *Vinipote*, a wine drinker. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vinipote*, a drinker of Wine, a Wine-bibber, a Drunkard.

Viniter(ie, obs. forms of Vinitre, Vintry.

† **Vinitor.** *Obs.* Also 7 **vinetor, vineyetour.** [a. L. *vinitor*, f. *vīnum* wine.] A vine-grower.

1559 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* iii. (1585) 48 Nowe it behooueth the vinitor to take great heede what vine he planteth in this vineyard. 1595 Charldon *Fulsordo et Fulsordo* 33 This skilfull vinitor..hath caused the stones that pestered the vineyard to bee gathered out. 1606 *True & Perf. Relat.* D dd 3, The branch beares fruit no longer then it continues in the naturall and proper Vine..cut and pruined by the same Vinetor. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* IV. 155 The Vineyard our Vineyetours had brought to a good forwardnesse. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xvi. 280 Had not Iezabel..made him a Potion and Caudell of the blood of the Vinetor, and Grapes of the Vineyard.

Vinito·rian, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *vinitori-us* (Columella), f. *vinitor*: see prec.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vinitorian*, of or belonging to the keeping a Vineyard or Vines.

Vinnel, obs. variant of Vennel.

Vinnewed, variant of Vinewed *a.* *Obs.*

Vi·nnied, *a. dial.* [var. Vinewed *a.*] Mouldy. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 162 b, This bredde is olde and vnnyed. 1670 H. Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 40 The moon is a Cheese..odly figured..(and perhaps a little vinnyed in some parts). 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Vinnied*, fenny, mouldy. 1834– in south-western dialects (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Vinnow, Vinnowed, Vinnowy, variants of Vinew *sb.*, Vinewed *a.*, Finewy *a.* **Vinny,** dial. var. Veny [2], Fenny *a.*[2], Finny *a.*[2]

Vi·nny, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **vynye.** [var. of Vinew *v.*, Finew *v.*] *intr.* To mouldy.

24.. *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 597 *Mucido*, to vynye. in Somerset and Devon glossaries.

Vino- (vəi·nə), combining f. L. *vīnum* wine, employed in a few chemical terms, as *vino-acetous, -methylic, -sulphureous.*

1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 289 And the Retort being clapped in the Hand, there is found in the Receiver a Vino-sulphureous Gas. 1843 Tizard *Brewing* 519 Vino-acetous fermentation. 1864 Watts *Dict. Chem.* II. 548 Methylate of Ethyl; Ethylmethylic Methylethylic, or Vinomethylic Ether.

Vi·nolence. *rare.* [See next and -ENCE.] = next.

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* IV. ix. (1554) 106 b, He..Through vynolence lost oft his reason. 1607 B. Barnes *Divils Charter* I. ii. A 4, Such odious Auarice and perfidie, Such vinolence and brutish gluttony. [1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vinolence, Vinolentness*, Drunkenness.]

Vi·nolency. *rare.* [ad. L. *vīnolentia*, f. *vīnolentus*: see next and -ENCY.] Drunkenness.

1623 Cockeram I. [Also Bailey (1721), etc.] 1804 Trotter *Drunkenness* ii. 21 *note*, No bad assemblage of the phænomena of Vinolency.

Vinolent (vəi·nŏlĕnt), *a.* Also 4–6 vyno-. [ad. L. *vīnolent-us*, f. *vīnum* wine.] Addicted to drinking wine; tending to drunkenness.

1382 Wyclif *Titus* i. 7 It bihoueth a bischop for to be without crime,..not proud, not wrathful, not vynolent. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 467 In wommen vinolent is no defence, This knowen lecchours by experience. *c* 1386 — *Sompn. T.* 293 They ben..Al vinolent as botel in the spence. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 5758 For man or woman þat is vinolent Is verrayly a beste vnresonable. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* IV. 1533 Venus was lecherous and also vynolent. 1515 Barclay *Eglogues* (1570) C vj/2 There is no secrete with people vinolent, By beastly surfeit, the life is breviate. 1536 Lauder *Tractate* 286 3e suld nocht chuse vnto that cure Ane Vinolent nor wod Pasture. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1837 Wheelwright tr. *Aristoph.* II. 80 *note*, The vinolent propensity of the Athenian females.

Hence **Vi·nolentness**, drunkenness. *rare*—°.

1727 Bailey (vol. II).

Vino·logist. *rare*—¹. [f. L. *vīn-um* wine + -OLOGIST.] A connoisseur in wines.

1848 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 309 The true vinologist should go down into one of the *cuevas* or cellars and have a goblet of the ruby fluid drawn from the big-bellied *Tinaja*.

Vinoma·defied, *a. rare*—¹. [f. L. *vīn-um* wine + *madefierī* to be soaked.] Soaked with wine.

1652 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 239 He, with his vinomadefied retinue, resolved to press in upon the page.

Vino·meter. [f. L. *vīn-um* wine + -OMETER.] An instrument for measuring the strength or purity of wine; an œnometer.

1863 Atkinson tr. *Ganot's Physics* 81 Lactometers and vinometers..are used for measuring the quantity of water which is introduced into milk or wine for the purposes of adulteration.

Vinook, variant of Verneuk *v.*

Vinose (vəinō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *vīnōs-us* full, or fond, of wine. Cf. It., Sp., and Pg. *vinoso*, Pg. *vinhoso*.] = Vinous *a.*

1727 Bailey (vol. II) 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 382 The Acids..are divided by the Author into Vinose and Acetose. 1826 *Examiner* 187/2 Their salaried tutors, their rich professors, their vinose and indolent fellows.

Vinosity (vəinŏ·sĭti). Also 7 vinocitie. [ad. L. *vīnōsitās* (Tertullian), the flavour of wine, f. *vīnōs-us*: see prec. and -ITY. So OF. and F. *vinosité*, It. *vinosità*, Sp. *vinosidad*, Pg. *vinosidade*.]

1. The state or quality of being vinous; vinous character or flavour.

1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* 33 Vessels of Oyles and Aromaticall Liquors...And some yet retaining a Vinosity and spirit in them, which if any have tasted they have farre exceeded the Palats of Antiquity. [Hence in Blount *Glossogr.* (1661).] 1724 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 210 If we consider, how necessary fermentation is to the vinosity of the liquor. 1757 A. Cooper *Distiller* I. ii. (1760) 20 It is common with Distillers, in order to..give it a particular Flavour, or improve its Vinosity. 1843 Tizard *Brewing* 465 The vinosity and mellowness (of vinous liquors) are at the same time improved. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 20 July, A Médoc wine-taster can tell at a sip what sort of ground a bottle of wine has grown in;..that grown on a stony layer is marked by greater body and vinosity. 1890 O. Crawfurd *Round Calendar* 195 All the rich and subtle chemistry of vinosity, which help to cheer and sustain the body.

2. Fondness for, addiction to, wine.

1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* VII. 348 The soulddiers..reprooving his intemperate vinocitie. *Ibid.* IX. 441 Riots, Reuels, Banquets, Pride, Surfets, Vinocitie, Voracitie. 1887 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 486 Aristophanes himself, notwithstanding his jokes on the vinosity of Cratinus, is said in Athenæus to have been well primed with wine when he sat down to write

Vinour(e, obs. variants of Viner ².

Vinous (vəi·nəs), *a.* [ad. L. *vīnōs-us*, f. *vīnum* wine: cf. Vinose *a.* and F. *vineux* (OF. *vineus*).]

1. Of the nature of wine; having the qualities of wine; tasting or smelling like wine; made of, or prepared with, wine.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 65 The fermentation and heat presently appears, with a kind of vinous steam. 1682 Boyle *Exp. Chem. Princ.* I. 26 Fermentation rarefy's the oyly parts of the Juice of Grapes, and subtilizes them into vinous spirits. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 224/2 So will the Liquor be Vinous in Smell, and more delicious in Taste. 1753 J. Wanden *True Amazons* 156 The most wholesome of all the Vinous Liquors in the World. 1741 C. Middleton *Cicero* I. iv. 324 He was obliged, he said, to take some vinous medicines. 1818 Accum *Chem. Tests* 72 All vinous fluids, even the mildest, contain a portion of a free acid. 1836 N. Hawthorne *Eng. Note-bks.* I. 242 They would perhaps have preferred a vinous potation. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* iii. § 2. 154 John was deprived from his birth of all vinous stimulus.

b. Producing wine or similar liquor. *rare.*

1676 Worlidge (*title*), Vinetum Britannicum: or, a Treatise of Cider;..Together with the Method of Propagating all sorts of Vinous Fruit-Trees. 1708 Ozell tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 41 Burgundia's vinous Fields she hovers round.

2. Pertaining to, characteristic of, wine.

1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 106 Water will imbibe The small Remains of Spirit, and acquire A vinous Flavour. 1729 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* 78 It has a vinous and delicious Taste. 1775 Sir E. Barry *Observ. Wines Ancients* 9 A more rich and sweet taste than is natural to them in a recent true vinous state. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 173 An accumulation of blood..which..tinges the lungs of a livid or vinous colour.

b. *Vinous fermentation*: (see quot. 1857).

1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* II. iii. § 2. 220 All Liquors which have undergone vinous Fermentation..have a Mark set upon them as dangerous. *c* 1791 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 216/1 When the vinous fermentation was finished, the liquor..was found converted into vinegar. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 502 The vinous fermentation never takes place except in substances containing sugar, and it is most remarkable in those which contain the most of the saccharine principle. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 102 When spirit of wine is formed from sugar, the change is called the alcoholic or vinous fermentation. *fig.* 1870 Lowell *Among my Books* Ser. I. 147 The Reformation had passed the period of its vinous fermentation.

3. Caused or produced by, resulting from, indulgence in wine.

1776 Johnson in *Boswell* 12 Apr., I have heard none of those drunken,—nay, drunken is a coarse word,—none of those *vinous* flights. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xli, It has even been reported by maligners, that I sung a song while under this vinous influence. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xlvi, Frank and familiar..from vinous excitement. 1874 Ld. Lytton in Lady Balfour *Lett.* (1906) I. 318 On our way back to town I was seized with a vinous inspiration.

b. Affected by, showing signs of, the use of wine.

1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. ix. 161 He was a shortish stout man, in powder, with a huge vinous face. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxiv, Winking at his cousin with a pair of vinous eyes. 1882 'F. Anstey' *Vice Versa* iii. 44 C. gave a vinous wink.

4. Addicted to wine.

1816 T. L. Peacock *Headlong Hall* ii, Indefatigable in his requisition for the proximity of his vinous Achates. 1820 Byron *Juan* III. xlii, The vinous Greek to whom he had address'd His question, much too merry to divine The questioner, fill'd up a glass of wine. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* x, Let us fancy them reeling to bed,..and their vinous General..conducted to his chamber by the young gentlemen of the house.

5. With names of colours: Like that of (red) wine; having a wine-coloured tinge.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 79/2 The general colour of the body is a dark vinous red on the upper parts and silvery grey beneath. 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar. 203/2 The colour of the flowers is a yellow-green with blotches of deep vinous-purple at the basis of the flower-cup. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 65 Cup..rough, vinous-brown. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 63 Ear-coverts and throat vinous-chestnut.

b. Of the colour of wine; vinaceous. Also *Comb.*

1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 19 The white or vinous-throated birds. *Ibid.* 80 The median and lesser wing-coverts vinous.

Hence **Vi·nously** *adv.*; **Vi·nousness.**

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vinousness*, winy Quality, Taste or Smell. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 733 He felt himself 'vinously inclined'. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xvii, He determined to overbear his client vinously. 1892 — *One of our Conq.* vi, His voice and words had a swing of conviction: they imparted vinousness to a heart athirst.

Vinow, Vinowed, variants of Vinew *sb.* and *v.*, Vinewed *a.*

Vinquish, Sc. var. Vanquish *sb.*

1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1122 It is quite a new disease on the Border;..nor did I ever hear its name save from Galloway, where it was called the vinquish.

Vint, *sb. rare.* [Back-formation from Vintage *sb.* Cf. next.] Vintage.

1639 G. Daniel *Eccius.* xxiv. 88 Opulent As Gehon, in the season of the vint. 1895 Snaith *Dorothy Marvin* vii, Such is the beauty of this rarest of vints [that, etc.].

Vint (vint), *v.* [Back-formation from Vintner or Vintage.]

†1. *trans.* To sell or vend (wine). *Obs.*—¹

1728 North *Mem. Music* (1846) 112 The taverner finding the sweets of vinting wine and taking money.

2. To make (wine, etc.); = Vintage *v.* I.

1857 Trollope *Barchester T.* xxi. II. 38, I wouldn't give a straw for the best wine that ever was vinted, after it had lain here a couple of years. 1908 *Academy* 11 April 666/1 Mr. Pickwick..drinks a brandy that was vinted and distilled in Sirius.

Vintage (vi·ntĕdʒ), *sb.* Also 5–6 vyntage. [a. AF. *vintage* (1353), altered f. of *vindage, vendage* Vendage, OF. *vendange*, by association with Vinter or Vintner.]

1. The produce or yield of the vine, either as grapes or wine; the crop or yield of a vineyard or district in a single season. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

Quot. 1460 refers to the capture of large supplies of wine from the French.

c 1450 *Brut* II. 370 Pere lay reuelid ham a while, and sette þe contre yn pees & rest tylle þe vyntage were redy to ase, *a* 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* 239 Than the vyntage of Ynglond took a other felauchip, where thei had a thousand tunne wyn and V. hundred. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* xxii. (1812) II. 55 And there he taryed tyll they had inned all their corne and vyntage. 1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* II. 82 Not one and selfe same vintage hangs on our Italian trees. 1625 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 11 By reason of their stirring and digging the mould about the roots of their vines, they had a great vintage. 1637 Burton's *Diary* (1828) I. 307 The commonwealth will be cheated; for most of the wine of this vintage is now in the vintners' cellars. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* v. 109 Two Goblets will I crown with sparkling Wine, The gen'rous Vintage of the Chian Vine. 1713 Young *Last Day* II. 348 Shine we in arms? or sing beneath our vine? Thine is the vintage, and the conquest Thine. 1748 Gray *Alliance* 57 With grim delight the brood of winter view A brighter day..; Scent the new fragrance of the breathing rose, And quaff the pendent vintage as it grows. 1818 Mrs. Shelley *Frankenst.* I. (1863) 62 Never did..the vines yield a more luxuriant vintage. 1818 Shelley *Rugantean Hills* 221 Where..the milk-white oxen slow With the purple vintage strain, Heaped upon the creaking wain.

fig. 1586 Warner *Alb. Engl.* IV. xxi. (1589) 89 The Vintage of my thriftles loue is blasted in the bloome. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. ii. (1739) 19 This was the vintage of Kings and great men, but the gleanings of the People were much more plentiful. 1820 Shelley *Ode Liberty* xii. 7 How like Bacchanals of blood Round France, the ghastly vintage, stood Destruction's sceptred slaves, and Folly's mitred brood!

b. *post.* Wine, esp. of good or rare quality.

1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 51 We had excellent cheere, rare vintage, and were drunke after supper. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 67 In solid gold the purple vintage flows. 1820 Keats *To a Nightingale* ii, O for a draught of vintage, that hath been Cool'd a long age in the deep-delved earth. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 266 The great knight,..Whom they with meats and vintage of their best And talk and minstrel melody entertain'd. 1887 Bowen *Æneid* I. 729 Soon for the goblet she asks,..Then with the vintage fills it.

transf. 1856 B. Taylor *Summer's Bacchanal* 109 Where the crystal vintage of the mountain Runs in foam from dazzling fields of snow.

c. Used with reference to the age or year of a particular wine, usually connoting one of good or outstanding quality; now *spec.* a wine made from the grape-crop of a certain district in a good year and kept separate on account of its quality.

1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. v. 6 Nor old, .. nor excellent, my Wine, Of five Years Vintage, and a marshy Vine. 1760 Johnson *Idler* No. 97 P 4 He may..regale his palate with a succession of vintages. 1817 Byron *Manfred* II. i. 18 Taste my wine; 'Tis of an ancient vintage. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 407 Honest Averill..fetch'd His richest beeswing from a binn reserved For banquets, praised the waning red, and told The vintage. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 605 The principal claret vintages of the 19th century are considered to have been those of 1815, '25, '28 [etc.]. *Ibid.* 608 The last year when the wine was shipped as a vintage.

transf. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1879) III. 231 There are vintages, both material and intellectual, which are more frequently praised than heartily enjoyed.

d. A property yielding wine. *rare*—¹.

1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 231 Last summer we purchased a small cask of wine from a woman who owns a little vintage.

2. The gathering of the ripe grapes in order to make them into wine, including the preliminary processes of wine-making, as pressing and placing the juice in the fermenting vats, etc.; the grape-harvest.

Also in the phrase †*to make vintage* (see *b*).

(*a*) 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 2 From Burdeux to London for everie tonne Wyne at the fyrst vintage,..xviij.s. 1550 Nicolls *Thucydides* IV. 214 b, Sone after that, a lytle before the vintage, that selfe somer. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Micah* vii. 1, I am as the somer gatherings, & as the grapes of the vintage. 1602 Holland *Pliny* I. 405 The grape-gatherer in time of Vintage. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vintage*,..Vine-harvest, Grape-harvest, Grape-gathering, Wine making. 1710 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 175 For if it rains a little before the Vintage, the Wine is sharper. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 261 The produce of the vintage in Guienne and Languedoc. 1833 Redding *Mod. Wines* III. (1851) 53 The time of the vintage being fixed, the gathering is begun as early in the day as possible. 1863 T. G. Shaw *Wine, Vine & Cellar* xi. 285 The vintage is often delayed to such a late period of the season as to incur the danger of injury from frost. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 605/1 The vintage in Médoc usually commences between the middle and end of September and lasts from two to three weeks. The process is a very simple one.

fig. 1860 Pusey *Minor Proph.* 197 It was a vintage, not of wine, but of woe.

(*b*) 1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* F j b, My Lord takes thee, what vintage thou hast made? 1609 Bible (Douay) *Jer.* xxxi. 5 The planters shal plant, and till the time come they shal not make vintage. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, My Conjecture is founded upon more than twenty-five Vintages, which I have seen made.

fig. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Lam.* I. 12 See if there be sorow like to my sorow: because he hath made vintage of me, as our Lord hath spoken.

b. The season or time when this is done. Also with *a* and pl.

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Vintage*, the time of yeare when wine is made. 1681 R. Child in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 148, I lived in Charanton two leagues from Paris, a whole Vintage, purposely to see how wine was made in France. 1764 Harmer *Observ.* I. § 18, 43 If St. Jerome may be believed, the vintage of Judæa is not till the end of September or beginning of October. 1858 Simmonds *Dict.*

Trade, Vintage, the season of gathering grapes. 1876 W. C. Bryant in *St. Nicholas Mag.* Dec. 101/2 The cider-making season in autumn was, at the time of which I am speaking, somewhat correspondent to the vintage in the wine countries of Europe.

3. *attrib.*, as *vintage-ball, -day, -dinner, -eve, feast, -festival, -god, -home* (after *harvest-home*), etc.

1876 Ouida *Winter City* xiv, For the Palestrina *vintage balls. 1887 Emerson *Poems* 52 'T was the *vintage-day of field and wood. 1838 Miss Pardoe *River & Desert* II. 31 A *vintage-dinner, at which I have just assisted. 1826 Mrs. Hemans *Forest Sanctuary* I. xliii, The hour, the scene,..came floating o'er my mind—A golden *vintage-eve. *a* 1880 S. Rogers *Jacquel.* Poems (1839) 24 Thro' Provence had ceased The vintage and the *vintage-feast. 1846 Grote *Greece* (1869) I. 36 Even the spontaneous joy of the vintage-feast was conferred by the favour..of Dionysos. 1833 *Philolog. Museum* II. 297 The difficulty of assigning a *vintage festival to the month of February. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 847 The lesser Dionysia..were held..in the month of December. This was a vintage festival. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* ix. 276 The cultus of the *vintage-god [*sc.* Dionysus]. 1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 65 The young gallants thinking to keep the *Vintage holy-dayes. 1839 T. Mitchell *Frogs of Aristoph.* Introd. p. cxix, The ingathering of grapes, and, if we may be allowed such a term, the *vintage-home which followed. 1800 Moore *Anacreon* lix. 12 The choral song, the *vintage hymn Of rosy youths and virgins fair. 1706 Stevens tr. *Vendiminder*, a *Vintage-man that gathers the Grapes. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. vii. 29 An infinite number of little pimping Wine-pressers, all full of *Vintagemongers, who were picking, examining, and raking the Grapes. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 197 Where aforetime was the *vintage-shout in thankfulness for the ingathering, there..should be wailing. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1839) 280 From the first hour, when *vintage-songs broke forth. 1836 Earl Carnarvon *Portugal & Gallicia* I. 94 Groups of vintagers..were gathering grapes, and singing the vintage song. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 148 Staphis..waxeth ripe .. at *vintage time. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 15 As a swarm of flies in vintage time. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, Dew is rarely wanting in Vintage-Time. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 574 'Tis the vintage-time for death and sin. 1889 Pater *Marius* xxvii. II. 222 To see their emperor living there.., his hands red at vintage-time with the juice of the grapes.

b. In sense 1 c, as *vintage claret, class, wine*, etc.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 608/2 The cheaper wines are an exception..., also those of the so-called 'vintage' class, which are the finest wines of a good year kept separate and shipped as the produce of that..year. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Dec. 1/1 There does not seem to be much 'depression' in the market for vintage wines. 1900 *Ibid.* 1 Sept. 2/1 We are allowed to make our little bids for fame with clean shirts, cut hair, sound coats, vintage clarets.

Vintage, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* (See quot.) *rare.*

1598 Florio, *Vendemmiare*, to vintage, to gather grapes, to make wine.

2. *trans.* a. To strip (vines or a vineyard) of grapes at the vintage. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1618 Bacon *Lett.* (1734) 87, I humbly beseech his Majestie that these royal boughs of forfeiture may not be vintaged or cropped by private suitors. 1648 tr. *Senault's Paraphr. Job* 222 They either carry away the corne which is not yet cut, or pillage the vines which are not yet vintaged. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxiii. 99 The Devil take me..if the Close of Seville had not been all gather'd, vintag'd, glean'd and destroy'd.

b. To gather (grapes) in order to make wine; to make (wine) from gathered grapes.

Usually with special reference to the production of wine of fine quality (cf. Vintage *sb.* 1 c).

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 605/2 If..a first growth is vintaged a little too late and does not succeed so well as some second growths. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 3/2 The Department of the Marne, where the true sparkling champagne is vintaged.

Vi·ntager. [f. Vintage *sb.* + -er.]

1. One who gathers grapes in the vintage; a labourer or worker at the vintage.

1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* II. 82 The grapes which Lesbian vintager doth crop from Methym vine. 1611 Cotgr., *Vendengeur*, a Vintager, or vine-reaper. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vintager*, a Vine-reaper, or Grape-gatherer. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, Because there are green Grapes that the Vintagers ought not to gather and mingle with the others. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 454 The basket of the vintager, and the apron of the reaper. 1806 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 719 The annual dances of the vintagers, in which they smeared their faces with lees of wine. 1846 Landor *Story of Santander* Wks. II. 464 The officer was..threatening both vintagers and mules for their intractability. 1887 Pater *Imag. Portraits* 167 The sharp sound of a bell—death-bell, perhaps, or only a crazy summons to the vintagers.

fig. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 147 They are the same that are pressed here by Christ's Vintagers or Grape-pressers. 1865 Morley *Mirac.* i. iii. 207 An element of prophecy..unfolding itself beneath the fostering care of the Divine vintager.

b. *transf.* Also *attrib.*

1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 6 A..hill, abounding in these beasts [sc. monkeys], who are a great hinderance to the poore vintagers of the countrey of Calechut, for they will climbe into the high palm trees,..breaking the vessels set to receive the Wine. 1829 T. L. Peacock *Misfort. Elphin* 26 From the flower cups of summer on field and on tree Our mead cups are filled by the vintager bee. 1871 Lowell *Study Wind.* 7 A dozen of these winged vintagers [sc. robins] bustled out from among the leaves.

2. A bright star in the constellation of Virgo.

After L. *vindemiatrix*: cf. Vindemiatrix.

1588 Ashley *Wagenar's Mariners Mirr.* B j, Prosalademiatrix, The Vintager. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 604 Eleven daies before the Calends of September,..the star named in Latine Vindemiator, *i.* the Vintager, beginneth to shew in the morning.

Vi·ntaging, *vbl. sb.* [f. Vintage *v.*] The action or process of gathering the grapes at the vintage.

1830 H. N. Coleridge *Grk. Poets* (1834) 218 Then follow successive representations of a city at peace,..of reaping, of sheaf-binding, of vintaging. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. 280 And tumorous must he let the time go by For vintaging. 1890 O. Crawfurd *Round Calendar in Portugal* 198 The maize-harvest..comes just after the vintaging of the grapes.

† **Vintaine.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **vintayne.** [a. OF. *vintaine, -eine, -ene*, (also mod.F.) *vingtaine* (= Pr. and Pg. *vintena*, Sp. *veintena*), *f. vingt* twenty.] A company of twenty soldiers, etc.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3367 Make we þre vintaine, þat be gode and certaine! þe ferste ich wile me self out lede. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 214 þai er wele arayd and ordaynd by thowsands, hundreths and vintaynes.

‖ **Vintem** (vinte·n). Forms: α. 6 **vintin** (**vinton**), 7 **ventin, vinteen,** 8 **vinten,** 8–9 **vintin.** β. 8–9 **vintain.** γ. 8–9 **vintem.** [Pg. *vintem*, *f. vinte* twenty.] In the coinage of Portugal and countries colonized from there: A small silver coin of the value of 20 reis, equivalent to about 1½*d.* sterling; also, a copper coin of the same value.

α. 1584 Barret in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. i. 274, 5 vintons make a tanga, and 4 vintenas make a tanga of base money. 1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* I. xxxv. 69/1 There is likewise a reckoning of *Vintins*, which is not likewise in coyne, but onely named in telling: of these foure good, and fiue badde doe make a *Tangas*. 1668 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* II. (1669) 86 Eight of these *Basarucques* make a *Ventin*. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 207 The *Tango*, 5 *Vinteens*. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 206 We had hitherto been suppli'd at the Rate of eight Vintins each Man *per* Day. 1775 Twiss *Trav. Portug. & Sp.* 22 Exacting a *vinten*, or about three halfpence per head. 1809 T. Lindley *Voy. Brazil* 260 The ships..sell the beef on board by retail, at two vintins a pound.

β. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Coin*, Portuguese Coins..The Vintain, whereof they have two sorts, the one Silver, and the other Billon. 1819 J. H. Vaux *Mem.* I. 218 They stop, and empty their [water-] vessel, for which they receive a vintain.

γ. 1736 Chandler *Hist. Persec* 183 Dr. Geddes tells us of one..who was allowed no more than three Vintems a day; a Vintem is about an English penny farthing. 1802 Southey in C. C. Southey *Life* (1849) II. 130 The ferry price varies..from one vintem to nine,—that is, from a penny to a shilling. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 326/2 At Rio de Janeiro there are vintems of copper also current for 80 rees 1846 H. Owen *Here & There in Portugal* 122, I purchased..for three *vintems* (a trifle more than threepence), a capital figure of a negro dandy.

† **Vintenary.** *Obs. rare.* Also **-are.** [ad. med.L. *vintēnārius*, f. *vintēnum* twenty: cf. next.] A military officer in command of twenty men.

c 1450 *Contin. Brut* 540 Sir Iohn Ward, knyght, with x Centenaries..and viij vyntenaries. *Ibid.* 541 Sir Howell Griffith..with..ij C and iij vintenares, and iiij M'CC Walshmen.

† **Vintener.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *vintenier* (*vingt-*), *i. vintene* Vintaine.] = prec.

c 1450 *Contin. Brut* 541 The nombre of þe retenue..,that is to say, of erles,..Constables, Centeners, capteyns, vyntenere, Archers on horsbak [etc.]. 1533 [see next].

† **Vinteney.** *Obs. rare.* [f. OF. *vintene, vinteine* Vintaine.] = Vintaine.

1533 *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 156 One vintener with his hole vinteney shall kepe the stand watche. *Ibid.* 157 The saide vintener and constables shall not depart more than fyve of the vinteney and iij of the constables at one tyme.

† **Vi·nter.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 3 **viniter,** 5 **vineter.** β. 5 **vintere, vyntер,** 5 **vinter.** [a. AF. *viniter, vinetur, vyn-, vinter*, OF. and early mod.F. *vinet(t)ier* (= Pr. *vinatier*, It. *vinattiere*, Sp. *vinatero*, Pg. *vinhateiro*, med.L. *vinētārius, vinātārius*) wine-seller, f. L. *vīnum* wine.] A vintner.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11286 In þe southalf of þe toune & subþe þe spicerie, Hii breke fram ende to oþer & dude al to robberie. Vor þe mer was viniter, hii breke þe viniterie. 1408 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 77 Iohn Toker, Citezein and Vineter of London. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 192 The vintere tretethe of his holsom wynes, Of gentille frute bostethe the gardener. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 20 Iohn Walworth, late Citezein & vynter of londoun.

Hence † **Vi·nteress, Vi·ntress,** = Vintneress.

1681 Rycaut tr. *Gracian's Critick* 111 The Nobles..were served with Cups of Gold, which a pritty Nimph, the Vinteress of this Babylon, filled with much Courtesie. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vintress*, a Woman Tavern-keeper.

Vintin, obs. form of Vintem.

Vintir, obs. Sc. form of Winter.

Vintner (vi·ntnəɹ). Forms: α. 5 **vyntenere, -tyner,** 5–6 **-tener,** 6 **-tenar** (*Sc.* **ventennar**), 6–7 **vintener**; 6 **vyntoner,** 7 **vintoner.** β. 5–6 **vyntuer**(e, 6– **vintner** (8 **vinetner**). [Alteration of Vinter.] One who deals in or sells wine; a wine-merchant; † an innkeeper selling wine.

α. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 211 Masouns, carpenteryȝs, of Yngelond and of Fraunce, Bakerys, brouesteryȝs, vyntenerys, with fressh lycour. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510 Vynenere, *vinarius*. *c* 1450 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 (Add. MS.) Vyntyner. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 Or as the vyntenar ryueth frely to his customers or byers a taste of his wyne. 1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 91 No vyntoner shuld set any wyne a broche. 1587 Harrison *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 249 Such [wine] as was anie waies mingled or brued by the vintener. 1617 Morrison *Itin.* III. 136 They had not our Vinteners fraud to mixe their Wines. 1636 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Trav. Signes Zodiack* A v b, All the worthy Company of Vintoners. 1669–70 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 301 One Mr. Wadlow, a vintener,..was represented as notoriously faulty.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch. MS.), Vyntnere, *vinarius*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 A vyntner..,*vinitor, merothecarius*. 1548 Cooper *Lilyot's Dict.*, *Oenopola*,..a tauerner or vintner. 1570 B. Googe *Pop. Kingd.* IV. (1880) 54 Straight after this comes Vrban in, the Vintners God deuine. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* G ij, Now sir for the vintner, hee is an honest substantiall man, a friend to al good fellowes. 1605 Breton *Old Man's Lesson* B ij, The Vintner, the Grocer, the Comfit-maker,..doe by the venting of their wares, the better maintaine their trades. 1657 Trapp *Comm. Job* xxxiii. 3 They..may here learn..not to huckster the Word of God, or corrupt it with their own mixtures, as Vintners do their wines. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2285/4 Charles Courtney..Vintner and Innholder. 1725 W. Halfpenny *Second Building* List of Subs., Mr. Peter Hudson, of Richmond, Vintner. 1772 Johnson in *Boswell* 6 April, Mr. Pitt might think it an advantageous thing for him to make him a vintner, and get him all the Portugal trade; but [etc.]. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* v. 195 Uncheck'd, the vintner still his poison vends. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 633 Once, merely from a malignant whim, he staved all the wine in a vintner's cellar. 1880 Dixon *Windsor* III. xxxi. 306 A vintner was a big man in Elizabeth's time.

† b. *Merchant vintner.* (Cf. Merchant *sb.* 1 and Merchant tailor, etc.) *Obs.*

1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 If at the tyme of any suche sale of Wyne purposed to be made, the merchaunt vyntener, or other owner..thereof, do..declare [etc.]. 1600 *Chester Pl.* Proëm. (Shaks. Soc.) 4 And you, worthy marchauntes vintners that nowe have plenty of wine, Amplifye the storie of those wise Kinges three.

Hence **Vi·ntneress,** a female vintner. **Vi·ntnership,** the occupation or position of a vintner. **Vi·ntnery,** the trade of a vintner; wine-selling.

1641 J. Johnson *Acad. Love* 89 Hosts and Vint'neresses looke to your score. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* 67 He that lives abstemiously..needs not study the wholesomnes of this meat,..nor is critical in cookery and vintnership. 1816 Struthers *Poet Wks.* (1850) I. 148 Before engaging in the tempting carcer, let them consider..how they will enjoy a Vintnership. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. ii, Unless..the father of him did, in an unexceptionable manner, perform Cookery and Vintnery in the Village of Ouarville.

† **Vi·nton.** *Obs.* [Obscurely related to Vintenary or Vintener.] (See quots.)

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 275 The whole country [i. e. the Isle of Wight] is divided into eleven parts: and every of them hath their severall Centoner, as one would say Centurion, their Vintons also, leaders as it were of twenty. 1751 *Jrnl. Gassitteer* s.v. *Wight-Island*, The militia here is divided into 11 bands, over each of which is an officer, called a centurion, though he commands more than 100 men; and the inferior officers are called vintons.

Vinton, obs. f. Vintem. **Vintre,** obs. f. Vine-tree. **Vintress:** see Vintneress.

Vintry (vi·ntri). Now *arch.* or *Hist.* Forms: 3 **vinitерie,** 5 **vyntrye,** 6 **vyntry,** 5–6 **vyntre** (6 **ventre**), 6 **vyne-, vintree, -trie,** 6, 8 **vintrie,** 6– **vintry.** [f. Vinter + -y: see -ery.] A place where wine is sold or stored; a wine-shop; a wine-vault, or a number of these.

1297 [see Vinter]. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 619/30 *Vinitria*, vyntrye. 1593 'P. Foulface' *Bacchus' Bountie* C j, Claudius Tiberius,..for the zeale hee had to the vintree, was merely termed *Cadaina Biberrus nicty*. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* May 728 In the markets, restaurants, and vintries, Jesus saw..that men's faces were not joyful and friendly.

b. With *the* (and usually with initial capital): A large wine-store formerly existing in the City of London; also, the immediate neighbourhood of this as a part of the city.

The name survives in the designation of the church St. Martin Vintry, now united with St. Michael Paternoster Royal and All Hallows the Great and Less.

a 1456 *Scogan's Moral Ballad* (heading), At a soupper of feorthe merchande in the Vyntre in London. *a* 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* Wks. 1843 I. 208 They fuge them selfe able to be Doctours of the chayre in the Vyntre At the Thre Cranes. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 86 Item the furst day of Februarij [1554] the qwenes grace came..un-to the yelde-halle of Londone,..& wente home agayne by watter at the Crane in the ventre. 1557 in Marsden *Court Adm.* (Selden) II. 98 Haye Wharf or the Three Cranes in the Vynetree. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 191 Then next ouer against S. Martins church, is a large house builded of stone and timber with vaults for the stowage of wines, & is called the Vintry. [1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Vintry, a great Place for selling of Wine. (Hence in Phillips and Bailey.)] 1790 Pennant *London* 310 In this neighborhood was the great house called the *Vintrie*, with vast wine-vaults beneath. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* vii, The bargain was made in a cellar in the Vintry. 1836 Herbert *Livery Companies Lond.* II. 630 St. Martin in the Vintry was, in the reign of Edward I, called St. Martin Baremanne church.

attrib. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 189 The Vintry ward, so called of Vintners, and of the Vintrie.

Vinue, variant of Vinew *sb. Obs.*

Viny (vəi·ni), *a.* Also 6–7 **vinie,** 7, 9 **viney.** [f. Vine *sb.* + -y.]

1. Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, vines; composed or consisting of vines.

1570 B. Googe *Pop. Kingd.* IV. 54 Fast vpon his head a crowne of vinie leaues is wounde. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. xxxiv. 498 Both the nourishment and viniе qualitie of the stocke of the said vine. 1624 *Trag. Nero* I.

iii. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1882) I. 19 Not Bacchus drawen from Nisa downe with Tigers, Curbing with viny raines their wilfull heads. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 143/2 *Coloquintida* is a Fruit..that grows upon a climbing or viny Plant. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 701 Whom strong Tyrinthe's lofty walls surround, And Epidaure with viny harvests crown'd. 1816 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 539 The cranberry is of the low and viny kind. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 213 Who enter are by kindest angels clad..In robes Woven of sunset clouds, while viny wreaths Gemberries bearing form their coronals.

b. *fig.* Of an embrace: Clinging, close.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1605) 395 These unfortunate louers..not forgetting with vinie embracements, to giue any eye a perfect moddell of affection.

2. Abounding in, full of, or covered with vines; bearing or producing vines.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XV. 109 The Skeld, the goodly Mose, the rich and Viny Rheine, Shall come to meet the Thames. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purc. Ecl.* II. xiii, From thence he furrow'd many a churlish sea, The viny Rhene, and Volgha's self did pass 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Germany* ...y plain... 1735 THOMSON *Liberty* I. 58 Baim's viny coast; where peaceful seas..ever kiss the shore. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 277 The steepest, but most lovely of pleasure-paths, conducts through viny woods and white villas to (etc.). 1854 F. TENNYSON *Days & Hours* 87 Whisper of viny hills, and sands of gold.

3. *Comb.*, as *viny-crowned* adj.

1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* 122 'Twas too sad For viny-crowned Thalia.

Vinyl (vəi·nil). *Chem.* [f. L. *vīn-um* + -YL.] The compound univalent radical CH_2CH, isomeric with ethenyl, and characteristic of many derivatives of ethylene (which is the hydride of vinyl). Also *attrib.*

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 675 Bromide of vinyl, C^2H^3 Br. 1873 — *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 611 Vinyl alcohol..is produced by combining ethine or acetylene with sulphuric acid, whereby vinyl-sulphuric acid..is formed. *Ibid.* 612 The univalent radical vinyl..may be supposed to exist in it [vinyl alcohol].

Vinzhe, obs. form of VINE *sb.*

Viol (vəi·əl), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 5 vyell, 6-7 viall, vyall (6 wyall), 7 vial. β. 6 veol, 6-7 viole (7 vyolle), violl (7 wioll), 7- viol (7 vyol). [Orig. ad. AF. and OF. *viele, vielle* (see VIELLE), but subsequently assimilated to, or replaced by, OF. and F. *viole* (= It., Sp., Pg. *viola*, Prov. *viula*).

That OF. *viole* and *vielle* represent earlier **vidule* and **videlle* (with variant forms of the diminutive suffix) is indicated by the med.L. *vidula, vitula*. On the relation of these to Germanic forms, see the note to FIDDLE *sb.*]

1. A musical instrument (in common use from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century) having five, six, or seven strings and played by means of a bow. Now *Hist.* or *arch.*

α. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* k vj, Syre Geffroy called hym before hym and demaunded hym where his vyell and clauycordes were. *a* 1500-34 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Pl.* I. 538 The whyle thatt I do reast, Trompettis, viallis and othur armone Schall bles the wakyng of my maieste. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* li. 170 He spyed lyeng beside hym an harp and a vyall wheron he coude well play. 1540 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 304 To a man to helpe to bryng the wyalls betwixt Croxton and Belwer, ij *d.* 1578 E. CLIFFE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 751 They were exceedingly delighted with the sound of the trumpet, and vialles. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 102 If any Man think that the String of the Bow, and the String of the Viall, are neither of them Equall Bodies,..he is in an Errour. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Sept., So home, and find Mercer playing on her Vyall, which is a pretty instrument. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1847) 336 Christiana..could play upon the Viol.

β. 1542 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 149 To be..x pair of hois to the four playerris on the veolis, four trumpettis of ware, and twa taburnerris. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Amos* v. 23 For I wil not heare the melodie of thy violes. 1581 MARBECK *Lib. of Notes* 545 Sing vnto him with Viole, and instrument of ten strings. 1604 DEKKER *King's Entertainm.* Wks. (1873) I. 307 Nine Boyes..sung the dittie following to their viols and other instruments. *a* 1649 HINDE *J. Bruno* iii. (1642) 10 By occasion of Musitians and a chest of Viols kept in the house, he was drawn by desire and delight into the Dancing-schoole. 1676 T. MACE *Music's Mon.* 247 The Viol is an Instrument..very much in use. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 745 Dost call the bowl, the viol, and the dance, Loud mirth, mad laughter? 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Music* IV. III. vii. 339 Compositions of many parts adapted to viols, of which there are many. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v., The viol was for a long while in such high esteem as to dispute the pre-eminence with the harp. 1839 LONGF. *Black Knight* v, Pipe and viol call the dances, Torch-light through the high halls glances. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* x. 88 On another [cup] are the figures of a gentleman and a lady who plays the viol, in the costume of the 15th or early 16th century.

† **b.** One who plays a viol. *Obs. rare.*

1540 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xii. 241 Item, for Hans Highorne, Viall, wagis, xxxiij s. iiij d. 1647 L. HAWARD *Crowne Rev.* 25 Musicians and Players,..Six Sackbuts: Eight Viols; Three Drumsteds.

2. With distinguishing terms, denoting esp. the form or tone of the instrument.

See also BASS-VIOL, *gamba viol* GAMBA[2] 1 (quots. 1598, 1710), *lyra viol* LYRA 3, and VIOL DA GAMBA.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 250, I heard much good musicke, ..especially that of a treble viol. 1661 (see VIOL DA GAMBA 1). 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Oct., The new instrument was brought called the Arched Viall,..being tuned with lute-strings, and played on with keys like an organ. 1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Viola Bastarda*, a Bastard Viol, which is a Base Viola, strung and fretted like a Base Viol. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Viola Tenore*, a Tenor-Viol. Ital. 1878 DUROSOIR *Violin* i. (1878) 9 The *viol* class —consisting of the *viol d'amore*, or treble viol; the *viol da braccia*, or tenor viol; and the *viol da gamba*, or great viol. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 267 *Viola di Fagotto* (Bassoon Viol), a name sometimes given to the Viola Bastarda.

b. *Viol d'amors* or *d'amour* (see quot. 1801).

Cf. *viola d'amore* s.v. VIOLA[1]. The F. form *viole d'amour* is also occasionally employed.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Nov. 1679, The *viol d'amore* of 5 wyre-strings plaied on with a bow. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 145 The psaltery, the *viol d'amor*, and other instruments. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., Viol d'Amour*, or *Love Viol*, a viol, or violin, furnished with six brass or steel wires, instead of sheep's-gut, and usually played with a bow. [1856 MRS. C. CLARKE tr. *Berlioz' Instrumentation* 29 The viole-d'amour is peculiarly appropriate to chords of three, four, or more notes.] 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* xxiii, If you could accompany me for some months, with your viol d'amore, across the mountains. 1889 *Daily News* 25 Jan. 2/2 Two performers upon that once obsolete but recently revived instrument, the viol d'amore.

† **3.** A variety of organ-stop. *Obs.*[1]

1688 BRE. SMITH in Hopkins *Organ* (1870) 453 Choir Organ...A Viol and Violin, of mettle,..62 pipes,...12 foote.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *viol bow, -case, class, -lesson, -play, species, -string; viol-maker, -tuning.*

a 1668 DAVENANT *Play-house to Let* Wks. (1673) 76 A man may bring a Pageant through the streets As privatly upon my Lord Mayor's day, As a burden of Viol-cases hither. 1674 PLAYFORD *Music* 101 In the choice of your Viol Bow, let it be proportioned to the Viol you use. 1676 T. MACE *Music's Mon.* 258 This..may suffice for the Best Directions in Viol-Play. *Ibid.* 264 Viol-Lessons of all sorts of Forms, and Shapes; Suited to the Five Best of the Viol-Tunings. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, A Viol-maker, *un Faiseur de Violes.* 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Music* IV. III. vii. 342 That sweet and delicate tone, which distinguishes the viol species. 1836 [see 2]. 1897 H. N. HOWARD *Footsteps Proserpine* 7 Life is the viol-string, Love is the melody.

Hence **Viol** *v. intr.*, to play the viol. *rare*—[1].

1865 J. M. LUDLOW *Epics Mid. Ages* II. 212 A thousand dancing, and a thousand violling.

† **Vi·ol**, *sb.*[2] *Naut. Obs.* Also 7 vial, violl, vyoll; 8-9 voyol, 9 voyal. [Of obscure origin.] (See later quots.)

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 8 The violl is fastened together at both ends with an eye or two, with a wall knot, and seased together. *c* 1635 CAPT. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 236. 1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* I. i, *Mast within.* Our vial's broke. *Vent. within.* Tis but our vial-block has given way. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 153 Viol cabl'd, as big as the Fore Stay. *Ibid.* 165 *Viol*, a large Hawser used to heave in the Cable. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Voyol*, a large rope used to unmoor, or heave up the anchors of a ship, by transmitting the effort of the capstern to the cables. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 133 *Viol*, or *Voyal*, a larger messenger sometimes used in weighing an anchor by a capstan. [Cf. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 713 *Viol*, or *Voyol*, a large messenger formerly used to assist in weighing an anchor by the capstan.] 1869 W. M. THOMAS tr. *Hugo's Toilers of Sea* 191 Its chain was there, and..might still be of service, unless the strain of the voyal should break away the planking.

b. *attrib.*, esp. in *viol-block.*

1667 [see above]. 1694 in *Navy Board Lett.* XXIX. 833 Blocks. Vyoll, of 54 inch. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* LXXII, He may man his capstans and viol block, if he wool; but he'll as soon heave up the Pike of Teneriff, as bring his anchor aweigh! 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 237 *Voyal or Viol Block* is a large single-sheaved block...It is used in heaving up the anchor. [1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Viol* or *Voyol Block*, a large single-sheaved block through which the messenger passed when the anchor was weighed by the fore or jear capstan. *Ibid.*, This voyal-purchase.]

Viol, obs. form of VIAL.

Viola[1] (vəi·ŏlă). [a. L. *viola* violet.]

† **1.** The violet. Also *fig. Obs. rare.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (1911) 300 Haile, freshe Rose, planted in Iericho! Swettest viola, that neuer shal fade. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Lion & Mouse* 26 The Rosis reid, ..The Prymeros, and the Purpour Uiola.

2. A large genus of herbaceous plants of the order *Violaceæ*, including violets and pansies; a plant or species of this genus.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* [as Latin generic name, and so in many later Dicts.] 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 345/2 The principle..has been separated by Boullay from some species of Viola. *Ibid.*, The capsule is like Viola. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 241/2 The violas are credited with powerful emetic and diuretic properties. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 July 4/2 The Alpine viola, in wondrous shades of mauve and violet and purple, stands an inch above the grass.

b. A hybrid garden-plant of this genus, distinguished from the pansy by a more delicate and uniform colouring of the flowers.

1871 *Field* II. 250/2 There is still a good early-flowering white Viola wanted. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 241/2 'Bedding violas,' which differ from pansies in some slight technical details, have been raised by crossing *V. lutea* with *V. calcarata*. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Nov. 1/3 Patches of pale mauve and purple show where colonies of violas and pansies are in bloom.

attrib. 1871 *Field* II. 250/2 Another manifest want in the Viola tribe. 1896 *Daily News* 22 June 5/3 Viola Show.—The first show of the National Viola Society was held on Saturday afternoon.

3. *attrib.* In chemical terms denoting substances derived from the violet or pansy.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1002 *Violin*, or *Viola-Emetin*, an emetic substance contained, according to Boullay, in all parts of the common violet. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 490/2 Little, if anything, of value has been found in pansy: a glucoside, violaquercitrin, of probably no active properties, and a little salicylic acid.

‖ **Viola**[2] (vĭ,ōu·lă). [It. and Sp. *viola*, = F. *viole* VIOL *sb.*[1]]

1. A four-stringed musical instrument slightly larger than a violin; the alto or tenor violin.

1797 SOUTHEY *Lett. Resid. Spain* 317 The King of Spain wished to hear his daughter play on the viola, and as express was..sent to Lisbon for her instrument! 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., Viola*, a tenor violin...The part it takes in concert is between that of the bass and the second violin. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 14 The father..took the bass part on the viola, Wenzl played the first violin, I the second. 1891 MEREDITH *Ones of our Cong.* XXVIII, Colney brought his viola for a duet.

attrib. 1856 MRS. C. CLARKE tr. *Berlioz' Instrumentation* 23 Viola players were always taken from among the refuse of violinists.

b. One who plays the viola.

1894 *Daily News* 23 Apr. 5 Herr Ludwig Straus, for many years viola in the quartet at the Monday Popular Concerts.

c. A variety of organ-stop.

1876 HILLS *Catech. Organ* IX. (1878) 65 *Viola*, an open stop of narrow measure, and a particularly soft and agreeable..tone.

2. *Viola da* (also *dă*) *gamba*, = VIOL DA GAMBA 1.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Viola Da Gamba*, is the same as *Viola Basso*, or Base Viol. 1787 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 210/1 The Viola di Gamba is not an instrument in general use; and will perhaps die with him, but his performance rendered it exquisitely charming. 1885 *Daily News* 17 Aug. 6/1 (Stanf.), The early 18th century room contains the spinet, the viola da gamba, and the viola d'amore.

b. = VIOL DA GAMBA 2.

1876 HILLS *Catech. Organ* IX. (1878) 66 *Viola di Gamba*, or *Gamba*,..is of tin or metal, and the tone is soft, and somewhat cutting. 1889 E. J. PAYNE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 267 Under the incorrect title of Viola da Gamba it designates an organ stop of 8 ft. pitch, with open pipes, in the choir organ.

3. *Viola d'amors* (or † *d'amour*): see VIOL[1] 2 b.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Viola D'Amour*, a kind of Treble Viol, strung with Wire, and so called because of its soft and sweet Tone. 1889 (see 2).

1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 267.

Violable (vəi·ŏlăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. (poet.) *violābilis*, f. *violāre* to violate. So OF. *violable*, It. *violabile*, Pg. *violavel.*]

† **1.** Destructive. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXII. ii, Ye Fightes & fugitiues.. Destroyed the lande by waire full violable.

2. Capable of being violated, in senses of the vb.

1552 HULOET, Violable, or able to be defiled,..or easy to be violated, *violabilis*. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* XVI. 835 Churches, Plough's, and High-waies should haue lil erties of Sanctuarie by no authoritie violable. 1633 MARMION *Fine Companion* III. i, Alas, my heart is Tender and violable with the least weapon Sorrow can dart at me. 1674 *Case of Bankers & Creditors* Introd. 4 The Subjects property is not violable but by his own consent. 1698 BUSHNELL *Serm. New Life* 347 If God had no violable sympathy he would be anything but a perfect character. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* I. I. II. 331 A rule which Spinoza treats as absolute, and will not allow to be violable, even to save one's life.

Hence **Vi·olableness**, 'capableness of being violated' (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

Viola·ceaN, *a. rare*—[1]. [-ACEAN.] = next.

a 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 162 The Hyacinth of violacean Hue. The purple Amethyst, and Sapphire blue.

Violaceous (vəiŏlā·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *violāce-us* violet-coloured, f. *viola* VIOLA[1]: see -ACEOUS.]

1. Of a violet colour; purplish blue.

1687 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 498 Incrassated by coction to make it more violaceous. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 175 [A transparent stone] of an Amethystine violaceous colour, and a genuin luster. 1790 SHAW *Nat. Misc.* III. F 2, The Violaceous Partridge. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XI. I. 42 The inferior tail-coverts are whitish, with violaceous tinges towards the sides. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) V. 17 The flowers differ in having the violaceous tint..mixed with the crimson in the texture of the flower. 1876 DUNNING *Dis. Skin* 247 In color they possess a dull red or even violaceous hue.

b. Qualifying names of colours.

1790 SHAW *Nat. Misc.* III. F 2, Violaceous-blackish Partridge with a cast of green. 1800 — *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 521 Violaceous-brown Snake. *Ibid.* 549 Violaceous-green Snake. 1808 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 298 Violaceous black; sides of the wing and tail-feathers white. 1854 tr. *Pereira's Polarised Light* (ed. 2) 268 The extraordinary violaceous blue tint which immediately precedes the yellowish red.

2. *Bot.* Belonging to or resembling the order *Violaceæ.*

Hence **Viola·ceously** *adv.*

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 336 The stricken flesh..changes color, spots violaceously.

Vi·olal, *a.* and *sb. Bot.* [f. VIOLA[1].] **a.** *adj.* Resembling or related to the genus *Viola.* **b.** *sb. pl.* The 'violal alliance' in Lindley's classification.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 300 They seem evidently to join the Violal Alliance. *Ibid.* 305 A perigynous form of Violals. *Ibid.* 338 Violal Exogens, with ...

Violan (vəi·ŏlăn). *Mus.* [f. L. *viola* VIOLA[1]; by A. Braithaupt, 1828.] (See quots.)

1850 Amsted *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 407 Pistacite,..Violane, Withamite, are either synonyms or varieties of Epidote.
1867 Dana *Min.* (1868) 182 Violan is a dark violet-blue mineral, resembling glaucophane. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1000 *Violan*, a silicate of aluminium, calcium, magnesium, and sodium...It occurs massive, and in indistinct, elongated, granular concretions.

Violan(d, obs. variants of Violin.

Violant, obs. form of Violent *v.*

Violantin (vəiō·læntin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. L. *viola* Viola [1] + (Allox)antin.] 'A compound containing the elements of violuric and dilituric acids' (Watts).
1866 W. Odling *Anim. Chem.* 128 Baeyer has increased the list of compounds by his discovery of pseudo-uric acid, hydantoine, violantine (etc.). 1873 Watts *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 939 Hydurilic acid..with nitric acid of ordinary strength..yields alloxan, together with violuric acid, violantin, and dilituric acid.

Violar, variant of Violer.

† Vi·olary. *Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *violārium*, f. *viola* Viola [1].] A violet-bed.
1697 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 182 The Violaries, how are they spurned and trodden down!

Viola·sceut, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *viola* Viola [1].] 'Approaching a violet colour' (Smart, 1840).

† Violastre. *Obs.*—[1] [a. OF. *violastre* (mod.F. *violâtre*) violaceous.] (See quot.)
c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xiv. 160 There ben also Dyamandes in Ynde, that ben clept Violastres (for here colour is liche Vyolet, or more browne than the Violettes).

Vi·olate, *pa. ppls.* and *ppl. a.* Now only *poet.* Also 5 violatt, 6 -at, -ait, 6 vyolate, *Sc.* woolait. [ad. L. *violāt-us*, pa. pple. of *violāre*: see next.]
1. Characterized by impurity or defilement.
c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1537 Now, lord of lordes, to pi blyssyd name sanctificatt, most mekely my feyth I recummend. Pott don pe pryd of mainentes violatt! 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. i. 12 For weill wist Eneas In violait [*L. polluto*] luif..quhat thingis mycht be controvit By wemen in fury rage that stranglis lovit. 1594 *Warres Cyrus* C ij, The prince..bare my daughter thence with violate hands Vnto his pallace. 1896 Mrs. H. King *Disciples, Agustiae Milano* (1873) 300 Take home the lesson to thee,..Who makest of this lovely land, God's garden, A nation violate, corrupt, accurst.
2. As *pa. pple.* Violated, in various senses of the verb; subjected to violation or injury.
1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* vii. 218 Mayden and moder yet not vyolate. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 321 The peace ..was, by the kynge, vyolate and broken. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 317 Wherwith..no parte of the maiestie of a kyng is vyolate. 1590 H. Barrow *Brief Discoverie* 4 That heauenly patterne left by the Apostles was soone violate. *a* 1629 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. ii. § 5 (1622) 203 If Iustice may be violate, for any cause at all. 1678 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 479 It was declared and resolved to be an undoubted ancient standing order, not to be violate. 1733 W. Crawford *Infidelity* (1836) 159 The law of innocency..being violate by man's apostacy. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* VI. 44 And now, O maids, behold our sanctuary Is violate, our laws broken.
b. = Violated *ppl. a.*
1655 *Theophania* 169 My Fathers blood, Agnesias languishing griefs, my violate marriage,..raised several passions.

Violate (vəi·ōlē't), *v.* Forms: 5 violatt, 6 -at, 5–6 vyolat(e, 6 voyolate, *Sc.* violate, violet; 5– violate. [f. L. *violāt-*, ppl. stem of *violāre* to treat with violence, to outrage, dishonour, injure, etc.]
1. *trans.* To break, infringe, or transgress unjustifiably; to fail duly to keep or observe: a. An oath or promise, one's faith, etc.
1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 347 His bloode be schedde in lyke wyse that dothe violate and breke this bonde of luffe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 187, I haue despoused you to a noble man, se yᵗ you violate not your fayth & spousage. 1558 Knox *First Blast* (Arb.) 50 If any man be affraid to violat the oth of obedience, which they haue made to suche monstres. 1596 *Edw. III*, IV. iii. 27 Ah, but it is mine othe, my gratious Lord, Which I in conscience may not violate. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. viii. 76 Your promise I find..euery day violated by some of your subiects. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xiv. 68 A Power set up to constrain those that would otherwise violate their faith 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, VII. Wks. 1813 III. 53 The indecency of violating a recent and solemn engagement. 1777 R. Watson *Philip II.* II. (1839) 23 Being convinced that Henry would never violate the truce of Vaucelles. — Thirlwall *Greece* I. 239 Fearing lest the sight of the fertile land..might tempt the Heracleids to violate their compact with him. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 189 These arrangements were scarcely concluded when the Raja manifested a disposition to violate them. 1878 Brownino *La Saisiaz* 28 She violates the bond.
b. A law, commandment, rule, etc.
1552 Huloet, Violate a lawe or custome, *soluere legem, uel morem.* 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 195 Thou praisest ye Empresse for instituting good lawes, and grieuest to see them violated by the Ladyes. 1611 Bible *Ezek.* xxii. 26 Her priests haue violated my law, and haue prophaned mine holy things. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 153 He which does Injury..should suffer punishment without other limitation, than that of his Will whose Law is thereby violated. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 363 If we live contrary to this, we violate the Law of him that made us. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. vii, Power,..liberty, and..dominion. All which, however happily tempered by the laws of that kingdom, have been sometimes violated by each of the three parties. 1794 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 485, I have not usually made any scruple to violate, in some degree, the strict letter and ... *ius* of decorum and propriety. ... J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* vii. (1852) 204 It is of the essence of atonement, that while it protects all rights, it must not violate any. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 126 The sovereigns resolved to violate their own late precedents of non-intervention. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* I. 12 The predestination of God in no way violates or takes away the perfect liberty of the human will.
c. Abstract and moral qualities, etc.
1588 Kyd *Housek. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 253 First wold I that the parched earth did riue,..Ere I to lose or violate my chastity beginne. 1671 Milton *Samson A.* 893 An impious crew Of men..violating the ends For which our countrey is a name so dear. 1728 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* vi. 137 He that would not violate truth, must avoid all injustice. *a* 1745 Swift *Hen. I*, Wks. 1768 IV. 290 He was a strict observer of justice, which he seems never to have violated. 1794 Paley *Evid.* III. vii. (1817) 369 Differences of opinion ..accompanied with mutual charity, which Christianity forbids them to violate. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* iii. (1852) 62 Let not the Rationalists be suffered, in the very name of justice, sacred as it is, to violate justice. 1892 Tennyson *Dawn* iii, The press..easily violates virgin Truth for a coin or a cheque.
2. To ravish or outrage (a woman).
c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 57, I hafe violatt & fylid many mens wyvis, & per chuldre. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxiii. 398 He made it to be cryed in euere strete that no man shulde be so hardy on payne of dethe to vyolat any woman, or defiowre any mayd. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv. 16 [To] see his wife and his daughters rauished and violated. 1611 Cotgr., *Forcer*,..to violate, force, or rauish (as a woman). 1696 Phillips (ed. 5). 1709 Addison *Tatler* No. 117 P 4 She was discovered by Neptune, and violated after a long and unsuccesful Importunity. 1754 Sherlock *Disc.* (1759) I. xiii. 344 We gratify our Lust by violating his Wife or Daughter. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 509 This young man,..having attempted to violate the wife of a Bramin, was imprisoned 1879 Fife-Cookson *With Armies of Balkans* 38 It was alledged however that they [sc. the Cossacks] committed separate excesses of their own, violating all the Turkish women they could find.
absol. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 951 Impale the remnant of the Greeks! despoil! Violate! make their flesh cheaper than dust!
3. To do violence to; to treat irreverently; to desecrate, dishonour, profane, or defile.
1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxi. 76, I haue not rented, vyolated ne broken, the pyramyde of his faders sepulture. † *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) I. 217 This man..Is not of God,.. Which doth voyolate the Saboath daye. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XI. xi. 127 Quha evir with wond dois hurt or violat Hyr haly body onto me dedicat. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xix. 115 A place perdye detestable and violated with dead bodyes. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Familye of Love* 13 Gods ministery is an holy and sacred thing, in thought not to be violated. 1635 Pagitt *Christianographie* I. iii. (1636) 129 If by chance any Catholicke Priest shall celebrate upon one of their Altars, they violate it and breake it. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 17 They would commonly violate the graves of those dead men we buried. 1673 *Lady's Calling* II. i. § 7 She that listens to any wanton discourse has violated her ears. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvi, What sacrilegious footsteps thus rudely violate this holy place. 1846 Arnold *Hist. Later Roman Commw.* I. vii. 277 Some of the most famous and richest temples..were violated and ransacked. 1849 James *Woodman* ix, It would be searched, and the sanctuary violated. *refl.* 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. x. 24 Experience, Manhood, Honor, ne're before, Did violate so it selfe.
b. To destroy (a person's chastity) by force.
1592 *Arden of Feversham* 38 That iniurious riball, that attempts To vyolate my deare wyues chastitie. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 347 Thou didst seeke to violate The honor of my childe. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 213 The civil law ..not allowing any punishment for violating the chastity of her, who hath indeed no chastity at all.
c. To interfere with by appropriation.
1823 Lamb *Elia* II. *Poor Relations*, A particular elbow-chair was appropriated to him, which was in no case to be violated. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxv, No boy attempted to violate the sanctity of seat or peg.
† 4. To vitiate, corrupt, or spoil, esp. in respect of physical qualities. *Obs.*
1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 98 If wee..consyder the largenes and wydenes of..the mouthes of the famous ryuer of Ister..and howe farre they violate or corrupte the salte water with their freshenes. 1598 Yong *Diana* 61 But this mischieuous absence doth violate and dissolue those things, which men thinke to be most strong and firme. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 131 They breede phlegme, violate the lunga, and soone offend the stomack..by their windie and cloying substance. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* IV. iii. (1687) 141/2 He said, that Coals, when they forsake the nature of Wood, acquire a solidity not to be violated by moisture.
† b. To damage or injure by violence. *Obs.*
1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. lxxxiii, Like to a River that is stopt his Course Doth violate his Banks. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* xliv. 136 For first it lieth not within the raging heate of the Sunne, as Affricke doth; neither is it violated with outragious windes like France. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* xv. xiv. (1678) 335 If the fracture violate..the spinal marrow contained therein, then the Patient can scarce escape death. 1658 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 208 Couch it down without violating any of the leaves. 1678 J. Rose *Eng. Vineyard Vind.* 42 Fear not your vessel if well made; since the force of the working.. will not violate it as some imagine.
† c. To despoil *of* something. *Obs.*—[1]
1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 37 When the bleake Face of winter spreads The Earth, and violates the Meads Of all their Pride.
† 5. To treat (a person) roughly or with violence; to assail or abuse. *Obs.*
a 1628 Preston *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 88 If a man should come and violate thee with ill termes thou wouldest be angry with him. 1629 Chas. I *Declarations* Wks. 1662 II. king by seditious writings.
6. To break in upon; to interrupt or disturb; to interfere with rudely or roughly.
1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 883 To question thy bold entrance on this place; Imploi'd it seems to violate sleep. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 474 O Trojans! cease From impious arms, nor violate the peace. 1728 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* vi. (1724) 132 Since he, who begins to violate the happiness of another, does what is wrong. 1775 Johnson *Taxation no Tyr.* 31 Legislation passes its limits when it violates the purse. 1796 W. Combe *Boydell's Thames* II. 3 [Pope's] garden has not yet been violated. It retains its early form. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* III. vi. (1849) 175 The dark forests which once clothed those shores had been violated by the savage hand of cultivation. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. i. 13 To violate the sacred doors of sleep.
7. To treat without proper respect or regard; to do violence or injury to (feelings, etc.) in this way.
1692 Dryden *St. Evremont's Ess.* 82 Never were they more careful of hindring the Majesty of the Roman People from being violated. 1708 Addison *Italy, Monaco* 15 They have never entertain'd a Thought of violating the Publick Credit. 1713 Berkeley in *Guard.* No. 3 P 1 A Body of Men, whom of all other a good Man would be most careful not to violate, I mean Men in Holy Orders. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 24 Man may act..in a way disproportionate to, and violate his real proper nature. 1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy, Summer* 336 Ere tyrant customs strength sufficient bore To violate the feelings of the poor. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* VIII. xxvii, Do ye thirst to bear A heart which not the serpent Custom's tooth May violate? 1822 Lamb *Elia* I. *Compl. Decay Beggars*, Do we feel the imagination at all violated when we read the 'true ballad', where King Cophetua woos the beggar maid?

Hence **Vi·olating** *vbl. sb.*
1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict., Violatio*,..a violatyng, a breakyng. 1581 Nowell & Day in *Confer.* I. (1584) C ij, Master Campion did vs wrong, to charge vs with violating of the Maiestie of the holy Bible. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 48 b, The violating and defiouring of ..his daughters, & other Ladies. 1611 Cotgr., *Violation*, a violation, or violating. 1671 Phillips (ed. 3) s.v. *Sacrilegious*, A robbing of Churches, or violating of holy things. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scot.* IV. iv. § 52 The violating of a bride, or espoused virgin. 1769 in *Boston Gaz.* 8 Jan. (1770) 3/1 Since the Tories are so set upon ruining this continent, as not even to scruple the violating their own plighted faith.

Violated (vəi·ōlē'tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed [1].] That has been subjected to violation.
1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1059 Thou shalt not know The stained taste of violated troth. 1600—*A. Y. L.* III. ii. 141 Violated vowes, twixt the soules of friend, and friend. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xxi. 217 He foresaw the infamy of violated hospitality. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 164 They argue nothing to the continuance of a false or violated Marriage. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 821 Of ev'ry Latian fair, whom Jove misled To mount by stealth my violated bed. *c* 1760 Smollett *Ode to Indep.* 6 Deep in the frozen regions of the north, A goddess violated brought thee forth. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 340 By him the violated law speaks out Its thunders. 1828 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* I. 118 In vindication of his violated rights. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* II. xii. 132 The violated charters were restored.

Violater (vəi·ōlē'tə1). Now *rare.* [f. Violate *v.*] = Violator.
1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxii. 107/2 We shall punysshe all such as violaters and brekers of the peace..as the cas shall requyre. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 274 The punishment of the..violater of the sabbath. 1645 Gataker *God's Eye on Israel* 83 Amnon was an incestuous violater of his sister. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 914 They made a League, wherein it was agreed, That the King should give Assistance against the Violaters thereof. 1728 Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 4) I. III. xi. 267 The Two Proctors..assist in the Government of the University, . punishing all Violaters of Statutes. 1767 R. Burn *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) III. 31 Violaters of virgins consecrated to God. 1828 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 21 Dec. 801/2 Calling us libellers and violaters of the law. 1863 W. H. Russell *Diary North & S.* I. 355 Here were seventy murderers, pirates, burglars, violaters, and thieves.

Violation (vəiōlē'·ʃən). Also 5–6 vyolacion, violacion(e, 6 -acyon, -atioune. [a. OF. *violacion* (F. *violation*, = Sp. *violacion*, Pg. *violação*, It. *violazione*), or ad. L. *violātiōn-*, *violātio*, noun of action f. *violāre* to violate.] The action of violating, in various senses.
1. Infringement or breach, flagrant disregard or non-observance, *of* some principle or standard of conduct or procedure, as an oath, promise, law, etc.; an instance of this.
1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 291 An objeccion was made to hym of the violacion of his religion and beleve. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxiv. 133 (Harl. MS.), Pe Emperour beynge in gret wrethe, for violacion of his precepte & comaundement. 1518 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Selden) II. 150 The further violacion and disordryng of the ordenaunces, vsages, and auncient custumes of the said towne. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 13 The harme that groweth by violation of holie ordinances. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 488 It cannot fade, but by The Violation of my faith. 1655 S. Ashe *Fun. Serm. Gataker* 18 It will be no violation of the Law of charity to affirm, that he was never truly good who doth not strive to be better. 1682 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxxiii. 356 This is a sure rule, that the greatest violation of conscience is the greatest sin. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 99 P 7 The great Violation of the Point of Honour from Man to Man, is giving the Lie. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. The violation, or non-performance, of these contracts ...ht be extended into as great a variety of wrongs, as the rights which we then considered. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* iii. (1782) I. 73 Without any violation of the principles of the

constitution. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 232 Of this rule there are many violations to be met with. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) I. 360 It would be regarded by the Czar as a flagrant violation of treaty. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 11 Laws are passed concerning violations of military discipline.

b. Without const. *rare.*

1481 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 475 Eny thyng..wherby the seid trewes & other conuencions passed betwen vs .. myght fall in vyolacion or Ruptur in any wyse. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 472 The peas whiche then was proclaymed.. whiche endured nat longe without vyolacion. 1640 Grimston *Speech* 9 Nov. (1641) 5 To adjourne the house upon any command whatsoever, without the consent and approbation of the House it selfe, were breaches and violations that highly impeached our priviledges.

†**2.** The action of treating or handling violently and injuriously. *Obs.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 179 All..with furyous vyolacion..Thus shalbe subduyd. 1626 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Violation*, an offering of violence, a breaking. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* VI. (1658) 424 Perseus..sent away the Rodians open Vessels, and Eudemus their President without Violation, nay even civilly entreated. 1699 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 9) 23 To apply the Collateral Branches of his Wall Fruits.. (without violation and unnatural bending, and reverting) to the Earth or Borders.

3. a. Defilement *of* chastity, etc.; in later use esp. by means of violence.

soul
Per
without corrupcyon or violacyon of thy virginite. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5) s.v., A forcing of a Woman against her Will, is call'd a Violation of her Chastity. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Rape*,..a Ravishing, or forcible Violation of the Chastity of a Woman, or Virgin.

b. Ravishment, outrage, rape.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. iii. 21 What is't to me, when you your selues are cause, If your pure Maydens fall into the hand Of hot and forcing Violation? 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 81 By violation is understood carnal knowledge, as well without force, as with it. 1810 Southey *Kehama* IX. 126 When Arvalan, in hour with evil fraught, For violation seized the shrieking Maid. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 171/2 The law [of treason] has been held to apply to a criminal connection by consent as well as to a forcible violation.

4. Desecration or profanation of something sacred.

1546 Gardiner *Detect. Devil's Sophistrie* 15 b, The breakyng of the most blessed sacrament, by the ministre in the masse, doth no violacion to christes most precious body there present. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* iii. 26 They sawe the dumme beast might lawfully be drawen out of the hole, lest it shoulde perysshe, without anye violacion or breache of the sabboth. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. 1777 R. Watson *Philip II* (1839) 221 The Spanish soldiers themselves..were afterwards..touched with remorse on account of their violation of the churches. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, What he desires to do, that he will do—even to the violation of sanctuary. 1856 C. Knight *Hist. Eng.* I. XVIII 425 The violation of a sacred place by murder was considered a greater crime than the murder itself.

5. Improper use *of* something.

1822 Shelley *Chas. I*, II. 75 Look that those merchants.. take fullest compensation For violation of our royal forests.

Hence **Viola·tional** *a. rare.*

1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 94 Something or other.. 'injurious', 'prejudicial', 'hurtful', or 'violational'. 1876 J. J. G. Wilkinson *Hum. Sci. & Div. Rev.* 25 Medicine has made great strides of late, and this is owing noticeably to violational science. [*Violationism* and *violationist* are also used in this work, pp. 577, 579, etc.]

Violative (vəi·ə'lĕtiv), *a.* Chiefly *U. S.* [f. Violate *v.* + -ive.] Involving or causing violation (*of* something).

a 1797 J. P. Andrews *Man. Constit.* 211 (Thornton), Violative of a vested legal right. 1856 F. Pierce *Message to Congress* 2 That no act shall remain on its statute book, violative of the provisions of the constitution. 1878 *Masque Poets* 26 Those Who have dared in violative wise To assault with strong and impious blows, The awful, slumbering Pharaohs. 1891 *Nation* (N. Y.) 24 Dec. 495/2 Four of the judges held that the act was violative of the amendments, and therefore invalid.

Violator (vəi·ə'lē1tə(r), -ə1). Also 6–7 **-our.** [a. L. *violātor*, agent-noun f. *violāre* to violate. So F. *violateur* (OF. *violatour*), It. *violatore*, Sp. and Pg. *violador*. Cf. Violater.]

1. A ravisher or outrager of women.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 33 Sardanapallus, a man hausenge grete delectacion of women, and a violator of þeim. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* V. i. 41 That Angelo is an adulterous thiefe, An hypocrite, a virgin violator. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VI. 327 If, by vowing love and honour at the altar to such a violator, I could sanctify..his unprecedented and elaborate wickedness. 1864 Tennyson *Boadicea* 50 Me the sport of ribald Veterans, mine of ruffian violators!

2. A desecrator or profaner of something sacred or venerable.

1377 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 825/1 But Guye de Mountfort was excommunicate, as a violatour of the churche. 1991 in Jas. Campbell *Balmerino & Abbey* (1867) III. ii. 178 Ordanis the sessione of the kirk of Balmerinoch to cause violatoris of the Sabbath day publictlie to make publict repentance thairfor. 1658 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol II) 13 The persecuters of those who submit themselves are to me in equal execration with the violatours of sepulchers. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 30 Commanding the Inquisitors to execute judgement upon violators, and novelties in Religion. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* I. i, Now ..glared upon the startled violators of the sanctuary, with glassy eyes and horrent visage, a grim monster. 1865 Baring-Gould *Were-Wolves* XV. 230 It is well known that Oriental romance is full of stories of violators of graves. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist., Rev.* x, They, violators of home, dared hope an inviolate home.

3. An infringer, breaker, or transgressor (of a law, compact, etc.).

1642 C. Vernon *Consid. Exch.* 104 That due punishment be inflicted upon the violators thereof. 1644 Milton *W. Bucer* Wks. 1851 IV. 332 They..are no more in bondage to such violators of Marriage. 1676 Temple *Let. to Sir J. Williamson* 21 Mar., Nor could it easily be found out how the Violator of any such Passport should be punished. 1738 Warburton *Div. Legat.* I. 16 The Violator of the Laws of the Society. 1775 De Lolme *Eng. Const.* II. XVI (1784) 239 To give up the violators of these laws. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1820) 199 Whoever thought wrong,..was a flagrant violator of the inestimable liberty of conscience. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 76 Those who attack others, not those who defend themselves, are the real violators of treaties.

4. One who injures, disturbs, or interrupts violently.

1798 A. Young *Trav. France* 31 The incendiaries, robbers, and violators of mankind. 1828–32 Webster s.v., A violator of repose.

Violatory, *a. rare.* [f. Violate *v.* + -ory.] = Violative *a.*

1802 *Times* 13 July, Nothing was so violatory of the rules of ratiocination and eloquence. 1850 W. Anderson *Regeneration* 144, I contend, that the dogma is glaringly unphilosophical, and violatory of common sense.

‖ Viol da gamba. Also 6–7 **de gambo,** 7 **di gambo, de gamboys**; 7– **de gamba,** 9 **di gamba.** [ad. It. *viola da gamba* 'leg-viol': cf. Viola 2 and Gamba 2.]

1. A viol held between the legs of the player while being played; in later use restricted to the bass viol corresponding to the modern violoncello.

1597 J. Dowland (*title*), The Firste Booke of Songes or Ayres of foure partes with Tableture for the Lute: So made that all..may be song to the Lute, Orpherian or Viol de gambo. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. iii, *Fast.* I doe more..admire your..predominate perfections, than..euer I shall haue..facultie to expresse. *Saut.* Vpon the Violl *de Gambo* you meane? 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 27 He playes o'th Viol-de-gamboys. 1611 Corvat *Crudities* 252 Their instruments ten Sagbuts, foure Cornets and two Violdegambaes of an extraordinary greatnesse. 1662 Playford *Skill Mus.* II. (1674) 91 Of this Viol de Gambo there are three several sizes,..viz., Treble Viol, Tenor Viol, and Bass Viol...These three Viols agree in one manner of Tuning. 1774 'J. Collier' *Mus. Trav.* 34, I think the effect was equal to any *viol di gamba* I ever heard. 1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* III. vii. 361 Charles I.. had been a scholar of Coperario on the viol da gamba. 1801 Busby *Dict. Mus., Viol da Gamba*, or Greater Viol, a viol with six strings, formerly much used in Germany. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 343/2 Viol da Gamba..was the last survivor of the family of viols. 1908 '*Aberdeen Jrnl.*' *N. & Q.* I. 32/1 The music ceased, and died away in a long note, like the stroke of a viol-de-gamba.

2. An organ-stop having a tone resembling that of the above instrument.

1852 Seidel *Organ* 108 Viol di gamba, or simply gamba, is one of the finest registers. 1881 C. A. Edwards *Organs* 157 The Viol-di-Gamba is soft, reedy, and sweet.

†**Viole,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **vyole.** [ad. OF. *violer*, ad. L. *violāre*: see Violate *v.*] *trans.* To violate.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 75 He took fro them all that he couthe, and enforced their wyues, and vyoled their doughters. 1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* XI. XXII, She moche enforced her for to flee for t'escape fro hyme, to th' ende that she were not vyoled ne defowled.

Viole, obs. form of Vial, Viol *sb.*1

Violence (vəi·ə'lĕns), *sb.* Also 4 **violence,** 4–6 **vyolence,** 5 *Sc.* **wyol-, wiolence,** 5–6 **violens** (7 **voyolence**). [a. AF. and OF. (also mod.F.) *violence*, ad. L. *violentia* vehemence, impetuosity, etc., f. *violentus* Violent *a.* Cf. Pr. *violensa, -ansa*, Sp. and Pg. *violencia*, It. *violenza.*]

1. The exercise of physical force so as to inflict injury on, or cause damage to, persons or property; action or conduct characterized by this; treatment or usage tending to cause bodily injury or forcibly interfering with personal freedom.

c 1290 *Beket* 932 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 133 Ȝif ani man bond on ov set, ich ov hote al-so þat ȝe þe sentence of holi churche, for swuche violence ȝe do. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11142 Clerk to bete, or handes on ley yn vyolence, hyt ys grete eye. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1175 þe world es..a sted of mykel wrechednes,..Of filthe and of corrupcion, Of violence and of oppression. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 161 Þei holden neuer neiþer lawe of god in dymes takynge, & taken hem bi vyolence & stronge curses a3enst mennus goode wille. *c* 1420 *Pryomer* 74 Lord I y suffre violence; answere þou for me! ? *a* 1448 (? Gascoigne) *Life St. Bridget* in *New Leg. England* (Pynson) 123 When yᵉ cytezens sawe yᵗ by prayers they profyted nat, somwhat with vyolence, neuertheless reuerently they ladde hir out of hir house vnto the waterside. 1504 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiv. 174 They that by vyolence restrayne theyr selfe fro synne and euer be busy to make the bodye obedyent to the soule. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 38 Then might they also be in the more hope to give the repulse to the Turke, with all his violence. *a* 1598 *Sir T. More* II. iii. 14 They intend to offer violence To the amazed Lombards. 1627 Mouvsen *Hist.* III. 47 Charles the fifth.. was wont to say, that the King of Spaine ruled over Asses, doing nothing without blowes and violence. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xx. 102 Promises proceeding from feare of death, or violence, are no Covenants. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 32, 20 Almost all the Governments..had their Commencement in Violence. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* XXVIII, The violence of war admits of no distinction. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 604 In remote And barb'rous climes, where violence prevails, And strength is lord of all. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 324 The Government..protected them against the perils of violence and rapacity, and ensured them tranquillity and repose. 1876 Bristowe *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 532 It occasionally originates..in the effects of very violent muscular exertion or of violence inflicted from without.

personif. 1609 Dekker *Work Armourers* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 231 Violence hath borne many great offices, and Money hath done much for him. 1787 Burns *Death R. Dundas* v, Mark ruffian Violence, ingrain'd with crimes, Rousing elate in these degenerate times.

b. In the phr. *to do violence to, unto* (or with indirect object): To inflict harm or injury upon; to outrage or violate. † Also *to make violence.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19325 Pal durst na violence to þam do For þe folk þam helded to. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1072 When venkkyst was no vergynyte, ne vyolence maked. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 340 He telleth hem the violence, Which the tretour Strangulio And Dionise him hadde do. 1535 Coverdale *Luke* iii. 14 Do no man violence ner wronge. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* IV. i. 28 Iuba and Petreus, fiercely combatting, Haue each done other equall violence. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* I. ii. 171 Nor shall you doe mine eare that violence, To make it truster of your owne report Against your selfe. *a* 1619 Fletcher, etc. *Knt. Malta* V. ii, They have done violence unto her Tomb, Not granting rest unto her in the grave. 1692 Dryden *St. Evremont's Ess.* 93, I make no question, but that in the violence of the Triumvirate, he did much Violence to himself. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII. iii, To say the truth, we have..often done great violence to the luxuriance of our genius. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 474 They did violence to the majesty of the law,..and then, through profaning it, did violence to man.

c. In weakened sense: Improper treatment or use of a word; wresting or perversion of meaning or application; unauthorized alteration of wording.

1596 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 143 But Master Camden with lesse violence..deriueth it [sc. *dale*] from the Bryttish *Dole*. 1659 Pearson *Creed* Ii. 294 Being in some places Adonai cannot be read for Jehovah, without manifest violence offered to the Text. 1662 Evelyn *Chalcogr.* 7 Neither the Paradigmatic..or any of the Plastic can be call'd Sculpture without a Catachresis and some Violence. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* IV. vi, A passion which might without any great violence to the word, be called love. 1856 Maurice *Gosp. St. John* vii. 94 Wherever violence is done to the truth of language, I believe more or less of violence is done to some higher truth. 1861 Paley *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 310 *note*. But this is a reckless alteration. He might with less violence have written ταυρῶδε. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* IV. XXVII. (1878) 446 The violence of the proposed interpretation is..conspicuous.

d. Undue constraint applied to some natural process, habit, etc., so as to prevent its free development or exercise.

1725 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 200 We must..not make our Reason and Philosophy perpetually offer violence to our Sight and other Senses. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VI. iv, He was obliged to attend near a quarter of an hour, though with great violence to his natural impetuosity, before he was suffered to speak. 1847 J. Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* IX. 93 The first Christian missionaries in Ireland seem to have carefully avoided all unnecessary violence to the ancient habits of the aborigines.

e. *Law.* (See quot.)

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 713 *Violence*, the question in tort, as to the amount of liability incurred by the owners for outrages and irregularities committed by the master.

2. With *a* and pl. An instance or case of violent, injurious, or severe treatment; a violent act or proceeding.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXIV. (*Pelagia*) 234 þe feynde..can cry,.. Alace! I thole but defence of hyme þis ald gret wyolence. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 208 The tidinge of this violence ..Sche sende anon ay wydewhere To suche frendes as sche hadde. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* II. vii. 86 Well þis is cald a rauischynge als þe todyr, for with a violens it is doyne & als wer agayns kynde. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 159 Curage in thame was noucht begonne to spring; Full sore thay dred to done a violence. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* 510 b, She perhaps, for very compassion of such calamities, will not only stop the stream of such violences, and return to her wonted mildness, but [etc.]. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* Pref., A tedious.. warr on his subjects, wherein he hath so farr exceeded his arbitrary violences in time of peace. 1682 Burnet *Rights Princes* II. 64 He laments the Violences that were used in some Elections. 1704 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 191 If they were clear of the violences done lately upon a family of the English. 1759 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 23 Dec., Has your brother told you of the violences in Ireland? 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 22 They saw nothing but the violences on Sir Francis's side. 1850 Kingsley *A. Locke* Pref., If the violences and tyrannies of American Democracy are to be really warnings to us [etc.]. 1864 Maine *Anc. Law* VI. (1870) 206 The violences inseparable from the best-ordered ancient society.

b. In weakened sense (cf. 1 c and 1 d).

1706 Estcourt *Fair Example* IV. i, I yielded to the Intreaty of my Friends, Acted a violence on my reluctant Heart, And gave my trembling Hand..to Another. 1777 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* I. 284 If he have but resolution enough ..to impose a violence on himself. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 219 It would yet be a violence to myself, to refrain from doing the Proprietors justice. 1828 Crabb *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 371 Then a violence would be offered, as well to the words, as to the meaning of the party.

3. Force or strength of physical action or natural agents; forcible, powerful, or violent action or motion (in early use freq. connoting destructive force or capacity).

Now often merging into next, with an intensive sense.

a 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 775 For whan a pipe is blowen sharpe, The aire ys twyst with violence. *c* 1386 —*Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 355 Thise metals been of so gret violence, Oure walles mowe nat make hem resistence. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 151 Sum ware drouned by violence of þe wawes. 1426 Lydg. *De Gedl. Pilgr.* 12210, I..sawh a whel ..By vyolence tourne aboute Contynuelly to-for my face. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 414 b, Than chiefly was the citie meruelousiye beaten with shot, the violence wherof was so great, that [etc.]. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 125 To be imprison'd in the viewlesse windes, And blowne with restlesse violence round about. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 513 The river Aufon..breaketh forth with more violence upon the flats adioyning. 1649 Leak *Water-works.* 1 To make the Water enter therein with force,..the vessel.. shall be made as high as may be, that it may give so much the more violence to the Water. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 84 The shorter the Stuff that the Tennant is made on, the less Violence the Tennant is subject to. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 61 *note*, The strokes of the sea may at the Edystone be so great as to wash the poison out again from the wood, that in a situation of less violence could..slowly insinuate itself. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 104 He knocked a fourth time, and with violence. 1862 Darwin *Fertil. Orchids* ii. 57 The pollinia cannot be jarred out of the anther-cells by violence. 1895 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 156/2 Two vessels..drifted through the violence of a storm on to the toe of a breakwater.

4. Great force, severity, or vehemence; intensity *of* some condition or influence.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 280 Wrathe..Which hath hise wordes ay so hote, That all a mannes pacience Is fyred of the violence. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xv. 70 Oft tymes he fell by violence of þat sekeness. *Ibid.* xviii 82 þe grete violence of hete þat dissolues þaire hodya. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 98 Rye..suffereth the violence of myates and frostes. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. x. 103 Arabia, the which is burnt with the Sunne, having no showres to temper the violence thereof. 1658 Phillips *s.v. Intercident*, An extraordinary critical day,..being caused by the violence of the disease. 1702 J. Purcell *Cholick* (1714) 137 If an Inflammation arises,..Bleeding is to be order'd, and repeated according to its Violence. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xli, She went off as peacefully as a child, for all the violence of her disorder was passed. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 518 The inflammatory complaints, particularly pneumonia, have recurred with considerable violence. 1874 J. L. Patterson *Ess. Relig. & Lit.* 3rd Ser. 234 It is yet obvious that..these laws apply with a far different and more grievous violence to the Catholic, than to any other ..Church.

b. Intensity or excess *of* contrast.

1894 H. H. Cole *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 218 Violence of contrast either of light or dark colours, or gaudy, florid, and large ornament are among the common sources of error which ruin design.

5. Vehemence of personal feeling or action; great, excessive, or extreme ardour or fervour; also, violent or passionate conduct or language; passion, fury.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 47 But arche wives, egre in ther vyolence, Fers as tygres for to make affray. 1583 Golding *Cæsar* (1565) 119 The enemy being not able to withstand the violence of oure fotemen,..toke them to flyght. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. i. 224 Marke me with what violence she first lou'd the Moore. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 84, I was troubled to see the violence it putt him into. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5) *Violence*, .. figuratively spoken of Human Passions and Designs, when unruly, and not to be govern'd. 1735 Somerville *Chace* III. 544 He vents the cooling Stream, and up the Breeze Urges his Course with eager Violence. 1818 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 148 To expect that the violence of party spirit is never more to return. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxii, I said nothing to deserve such a horrid imputation as your violence infers. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* II. 321 It was concluded by Akber's reproving the mullahs for their violence.

†**6.** Violation *of* some condition. *Obs.*—1

a 1754 Fielding *Remedy Afflict.* Wks. 1775 IX. 251 Nor is there any dissuasive from such contemplation [of the loss of friends]: it is no breach of friendship, nor violence of paternal fondness.

†Vi·olence, *v. Obs.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To do violence to; to violate.

Common in the 17th century.

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 The one was so farre from violencing the other, as one of them could not stand without the other. 1630 tr. *Canssin's Angel Peace* 6 The most Sacred things are violenced, and the most Profane are licenced. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* (1686) III. 304 In doing otherwise he would thwart and violence his own conscience, and be self-condemned.

2. To compel or constrain; to force (a person) *to* or *from* a place, etc., or *to* do something, by violence.

1620 Brent tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* VII. (1676) 618 Shewing there was a desire to violence the Fathers by weariness. 1647 Hammond *Power of Keys* ii. 8 Sure 'twill not be thought reasonable, that these two shall be forced and violenced to consent to that. 1648 Symmons *Vind. Chas. I* 296 They have done what they could to violence him from his Religion.

Hence † **Vi·olencing** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* I. 6 Christ himself taxeth it as a violencing of the first institution. *a* 1625 Donne *Ess.* (1651) 82 The distortions and violencing of Scriptures. 1649 Hammond *Chr. Oblig.*, etc. 68 A kind of constraining and violencing of the spirit.

†Vi·olency. *Obs.* Also 6 **violensie**, **-cye**, 6–7 **-cie.** [ad. L. *violentia*: see Violence *sb.*] Violence, in various senses.

1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* Y v, Accordynge to the aptitude or feeblenesse in re-istence of the place receauyng it: and the force or violencye of nature..sendynge it. 1598 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* xix. 25 My carte wheele catcheth Asunder crusheth it. 1599–66 *Hist. Estate Scot.* (in *Wo.. Soc. Misc.* (1844) 66 To resist the violencie of their adversaries. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* I. (1664) 13 Such fare, as may banish and expel contagion and violencie from nature.

b. In pl. Cf. Violence *sb.* 2.

c 1630 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 258 Although the text speaks expresly only of death; yet..all other violencies and injuries are intended. 1632 Sir T. Hawkins tr. *Matthieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 199 Of all his violencies, the most execrable was the death of the Architect, who skilfully re-edified..the..portall of Rome. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Doctor* III. ii. rule 3 § 2 He may do what is in his natural capacity to avoid these violencies and extremities of nature.

Violent, obs. form of Violon.

Violent (vai·ölĕnt), *a.* (*adv.*, *sb.*). Also 5 **wyolent**, 5–6 **vyolent**, **violente.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *violent*, or ad. L. *violent-us* (whence It., Sp., and Pg. *violento*) or *violent-*, *violens* (whence It. *violente*), forcible, impetuous, vehement, etc., f. *vis* strength.]

A. *adj.* **I. 1.** Of things: Having some quality or qualities in such a degree as to produce a very marked or powerful effect (esp. in the way of injury or discomfort); intense, vehement, very strong or severe: **a.** Of the sun, heat, etc. † *Violent signs* (see quot. 1679).

c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 852 It myght þe ayr swa corrumpud mak, þat men þarof þe dede suld take, Swa vile it es and violent. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 116 That planete which men calle Saturnus,..His climat is in Orient, Wher that he is most violent. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 339 A playne, Full of floures freashe,..With voiders vnder vines for violent sonnes. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2158 So violent and fervent was þe hete. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxvi. 145 b, Vppon the coales..they cast a certaine seede, the smoke whereof was so violent, that foorthwith it made them ..dlssy. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 97 If the sunnebeames be weake, they draw vp no fogge from the rivers, if they be violent [etc.]. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1626) 67 Signes onely vtter their vnwitnest loues: But hidden fire the violenter proues. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict.* 161 *Violent Signs*, are those in which the Malefick Planets, viz. Saturn or Mars have any notable Dignitie...And also those in which there are any violent fixed Stars of note, and within the Zodiac. [Hence in Phillips, 1696.] 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* 171 Till such times as the violent Frosts are over. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 380 Being again evaporated to dryness, it is..exposed to a violent heat in a crucible. 1864 Swinburne *Atalanta* 815 And thunder of storm on the sand,.. Fierce air and violent light.

b. Of poison, † the blood, etc.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 539 Sterue he shal, and that in lasse while. Than thou wolt goon a paas nat but a Mile; This poyson is so strong and violent. *a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 24 in *Anglia* XVIII. 308 Powdyr of betonye eke is good, Medelyd with hony, for vyolent blod. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 22 Discreet maistris seyn, þat þe feuere agu comounly is causid of a vyolent reed coler adust [etc.]. 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v. *Sublimate*, Corrosive Sublimate ..is then a violent Poison, which corrodes and destroys the Parts of the Body with much Violence.

c. Of pain, disease, etc.

14.. W. Paris *Cristine* 314 (Horstm. 1878), Foure men rokede hire to & froo, To make hire payne more violente. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 257 And þen was þys kyng smyton wyth a meselry þat was soo vyolent to hym, þat..he alogh hymselfe. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. i. 122 Those cold wayes, That seeme like prudent helpes, are very poysonous, Where the Disease is violent. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Poison*, The Hyoscyamus [is successful] in Hæmorrhagies, violent Heats and Inflammations. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XI. ii. The violent fatigue which both her mind and body had undergone. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 93/1 Some days he has violent purgings, at other times he gets better. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 474 As the intestines had been sufficiently emptied..by a violent diarrhœa. 1803 *Ibid.* X. 102, I think the influenza distinguishable from a common catarrh, inasmuch as the symptoms are, in general, more violent, painful, and distressing. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* IX. 100 The patient..was attacked..by intensely violent maculated fever. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 739 The condition was associated with violent headaches and neuralgia of the tongue of the same side.

d. Of passions. (Cf. sense 8 c.)

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 291 Even the violentest and most common passions of mans nature. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* II. iii. 116 Th' expedition of my violent Loue Out-run the pawser, Reason. *Ibid.* IV. iii. 169 Alas poore Country,..Where violent sorrow seemes A Moderne extasie. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I. 948 A love so violent, so strong, so sure, That neither age can change, nor art can cure. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 120 ¶ 10 This natural Love in Brutes is much more violent and intense than in rational Creatures. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 119 Love is perhaps the strongest of all the passions; at least, when it becomes violent, it is less subject to..control. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* I, She was of violent passions, haughty, vindictive, yet crafty and deceitful. 1806 W. Wilson *Hist. Dissent. Ch.* I. 272 Parker was a man of violent passions.

† **e.** Of taste or smell: Very strong. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxvii. 984 It hath a strong sauour, and in my opinion, too violent. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 232 In the morning she perceived a violent smell of sulphur.

f. Of colour: Intensely or extremely bright or strong; vivid. Also *fig.* of outline.

1768 Strutt *Sport. Pastimes* 11 Her hair, which was a very violent red, was [etc.]. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 204 The accurate study of tree branches..had more and more taught me the difference between violent and graceful lines. 1886 *Cent. Mag.* Feb. 539/1 Rouge, if too violent, by a natural law of color causes the planes of the cheeks to recede from the planes of the..whiter portions of the face.

2. Of natural forces: Possessed of or operating with great force or strength; moving, flowing, blowing, etc., strongly and impetuously.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 309 Of þe hewine a rayne gert fal, aa wyolent & fellonny, þat þe tyr alokit wes in hy. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 238 Thay tyrit gumnis wyth powder violent. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. i. 34 For violent fires soone burne out themselues. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 230 Hee knewe it [a river] was verie violent, running betwixte high mountaines without anie forde. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 680 It carrieth so violent a streame that presently it is able to driue a mill. 1658 T. Willsford *Nature's Secrets* 107 Venus and),..increases the flowing of the Seas, causing violent Tides. 1721 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 382 The South and S.W. Winds, which are the violentest Winter Winds there. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxix, The accumulating clouds.. assumed a red sulphureous tinge that foretold a violent storm. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 46 In some places the time of change is attended with calms, in others ..with violent tempests. 1894 *Poultry Chron.* II. 407/2 The circumstance of their having been in a violent storm and completely drenched. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 809/2 The violent explosives disintegrate the rock into a plastic mass.

b. Of noise: Extremely loud.

1602 *Kyd's Span. Trag.* III. xii a. 131 Then, sir, after some violent noyse, bring me foorth..with my torch in my hand. 1762 in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 56/2 There appeared a prodigious smoke, attended with the same violent noise. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II. 836 At the instant of its beginning to melt, it explodes with a violent report. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* vi, The stranger only answered with another violent snort.

3. Of persons: Acting with or using physical force or violence, esp. in order to injure, control, or intimidate others; committing harm or doing destruction in this way; † acting illegally, taking illegal possession.

1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xi. 12 The kyngdam of heuenes suffreth strengthe, or violence, and violent men rauyshen it. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 87 Men þey accounteþ violent beeþ vnesi to hir neiheboures. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 1101 in *Macro Plays* 72 With my syght I se þe people vyolent. 1533 More *Apol.* xl. 925 The man is byxyde so violent and so iubardouse, that none of theym dare be a knowen to speke of it. 1555 *Sc. Acts, Mary* (1814) II. 494/2 The actioun againis the violent occupyaris and possessouris foirsaidis. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Ps.* lxxxv. 14 The proude are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent men haue sought my soule. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, For Restoring Public Peace*, The outrage of a violent and unruly people. 1687 *Assur. Abbey Lands* 195 A violent possessor of Church-lands. 1782 J. Brown *Nat. & Rev. Relig.* I. i. 29 Violent injurers of others being public pests of society. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* v. I. 602 He had..been very unwilling to employ as his deputy a man so violent and unprincipled as Goodenough.

absol. 1388 Wyclif *Job* v. 15 God schal make saaf..a pore man fro the hond of the violent. 1535 Coverdale *Matt.* xi. 12 Y· kyngdome of heauen suffreth violence, and the violent plucke it vnto them.

b. Of the hand. Chiefly in the phr. *to lay violent hands on* or *upon* (also Sc. † *in*).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 125 þan ware handis wyolent layd one þat cristis Innocent. 1529 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 274/1 Al our dedes good or badde ascend or descende by the violent hande of God. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. ii. 22 Teach her not thus to lay such violent hands vppon her tender life. 1597 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* I. 129 A. H. ..is fund..ane quha has put violent handis in his father. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* V. viii. 70 His Fiend-like Queene, Who (as 'tis thought) by selfe and violent hands, Took o'ff her life. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Burial Dead*, The Office ensuing is not to be used for any that..have layd violent hands upon themselves. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII. iii, He laid violent hands on the collar of poor Partridge. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Vices*, Staying him [sc. a horse], by degrees, with a steady, not a violent hand. *c* 1850 Bryant *The Path* 70 What guilt is theirs who, in their greed or spite, Undo thy holy work with violent hands!

† **c.** With *to* (a person or thing). *Obs.*

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* V. ii. 109, I pray thee doe on them some violent death, They haue bene violent to me and mine. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 67 Colliders your selves, as violent to this law of God by your unmercifull binding, as the Pharises by their unbounded lousning!

4. Of actions: **a.** Characterized by the doing of harm or injury; accompanied by the exercise of violence.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1013 þis was a vengaunce violent þat voyded þise places, þat founder.ed has so fayre a folk & þe folde sonkken. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wycliff* 116 þe first persecucion of þe chirche was violent, whenne cristen men weren compellid bi exilyngis, betyngis, & dethis to make sacrifice to ydols. 1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict., Raptio*,..violent taking of a persone. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. ii. 44 To these violent proceedings all my neighbors shall cry aime. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* V. iii. 21 [To use] violent thefts, And rob in the behalfe of charitie. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 43 The more violent, at least more lasting persecution of them by fier under Marie, late Queene of England. *a* 1720 Sewell *Hist. Quakers* I. Pref. a 3, They .. have at length Triumphed .. by suffering, .. and under violent Oppression from High and Low. 1829–30 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 140 There could be no motive but a sudden and violent change of government. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* liii, Thus violent deeds live after men upon the earth. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 546 The injustice with which he had been treated would have excused him if he had resorted to violent methods of redress.

b. Characterised by the exertion of great physical force or strength; done or performed with intense or unusual force, and with some degree of rapidity; not gentle or moderate.

In later use (*b*) tending to a weaker

(*a*) 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xv. (1495) 60 By vyolent stoppyng of the throte and of the arteryes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 114b, By the violent fall of the sayd crosse in to the mariteys. *a* 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 27 The lofty pyne the great winde often riues: With violenter sawey faine turrets stepe. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. vii. 49 Oh, I am scalded with my violent motion And spleene of speede, to see your Maiesty. 1601 — *All's Well* III. ii. 118 O you leaden messengers, That ride vpon the violent speede of fire. 1664 H. Powre *Exp. Philos.* 93 We perceived..the little particles of air..on the suddain to become more visible by a violent and rapid dilatation. 1669 Stubmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 69 The Piece is Level, and will carry the Bullet Horizontally in his violent Course. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 332 There was.. some more violent motion at a distance. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 133 Wine acted powerfully on a constitution already feverish with violent exercise. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 7 Classifying them into Natural Motions and Violent Motions.

(*b*) 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* viii. 536 The action of bromine upon indigo is analogous to that of chlorine, though it is less violent. 1862 H. Spencer *First Princ.* I. v. § 32 (1875) 119 During those early stages .both political and religious changes..are necessarily violent; and necessarily entail violent retrogressions. 1868 Bain *Mental & Mor. Sci.* IV. iii. 341 A certain impetus has been given,..and, if restrained outwardly, it seems to be more violent inwardly.

c. Tending to wrest or pervert the meaning.

1720 Waterland *Eight Serm.* 104 That we ought not to be wise beyond what is written, nor put a violent Construction on any Passages.

5. † a. *In violent*, by force or constraint. *Obs.*—1

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 148 þai..told hym þat þai tuke not his son & made him freer [=friar] in violent, bod he offerd hym þerto on his awn gude will.

† b. Due or subject to constraint or force; not free or voluntary; forced. *Obs.*

name of a counsel, the true doctrine be not extinguished. 1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 297 All violent marriages engender hatred betwixt the married. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* II. v. (1635) 72 This conformity of the water dropps in a round figure is rather Violent, then Naturall. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 97 Ease would recant Vows made in pain, as violent and void.

c. Of death: Caused by or due to physical violence; not natural.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 108, I pray thee doe on them some violent death. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 34 The Duke yet liues, that Henry shall depose: But him out-liue, and dye a violent death. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxi. 114 Though Soveraignty..is, .in its own nature, not only subject to violent death, by forreign war; but also [etc.]. 1790 Paley *Serm.* Wks. (1834) 598/2 Sudden, violent, or untimely deaths..leave an impression upon a whole neighbourhood. 1822 Scott *Nigel* xxv, Men, who had both, within. less than half an hour, suffered violent death. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xxv, Whose miserable career will shortly terminate in a violent and shameful death. 1863 Boyd *Graver Thoughts Country Parson* Ser. I. iv. 67 The violent end of the martyr Stephen.

d. *Sc. Law.* Of profits: (see quot. 1765–8).

1594 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 69/1 In all tyme cuming the partie pursewit be ane vther for eiectioun sall find cautioun for the violent profittis. 1606 *Ibid.* 286 The saidis decreittis..may bring þe danger of the 3irlie violent profeittis vpoun the persones. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. vi. § 4 (1699) 190 When spoilzies or ejections are civilly pursued, the conclusion is violent profits (which is the double Rent of the Lands, and restitution of the thing craved). 1752 W. Stewart in *Scots Mag.* (1753) 294/1 It can be no more than violent profits, which is often modified in inferior courts. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. vi. § 54 Violent profits are so called, because they become due on the tenant's forcible or unwarrantable detaining the possession after he ought to have removed. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxvi, Even when ye hae gotten decreet of spuilzie, oppression, and violent profits against them. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 1068 In rural tenements, the violent profits are held to be the full profits which the landlord could have made... In urban tenements, the violent profits are generally estimated at double the stipulated rent.

6. Of persons, their temper, etc.: Displaying or exhibiting passion, excessive ardour, or lack of moderation in action or conduct. Cf. sense 3.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 149 If this Bill were once passed..the Violenter Party would be never able to prosecute their Designs. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 27 Some of the violenter sort of the other partie. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 291 Dunster, one of ye Violentest Whiggs. 1725 Burnet *Hist. Own Time* (1766) I. 155 One of the violentest Ministers of the whole party. 1769 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 215 He entertained me with an account of the present state of Lord Chatham's politics; violent, as before, against the ministry. 1898 Ld. Granville in Fitzmaurice *Life* (1905) I. 306 Shaftesbury..is much more violent for you than he was against you. 1888 S. Maimon *Autob.* ix. 59 In my passions I was violent and impatient.

absol. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* To Rdr., The Violent on both sides will condemn the Character of Absalom. 1713 Pope *Lett.* (1735) I. 200, I am no way displeased that I have offended the Violent of all Parties already.

7. Of language, or writings: Resulting from, indicative or expressive of, strong feeling.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XI. v. He..concluded by a very fond caress, and many violent protestations of love. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, The letter,..the contents of which were as singular as the expression was violent. 1826 Disraeli *Vis. Grey* v. xi, He wrote violent letters, protesting his innocence. 1872 J. Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 5 The temperament which mistakes strong expression for strong judgment, and violent phrase for grounded conviction.

II. 8. In intensive use: Very or extremely great, strong, or severe. **a.** In legal use, chiefly *Sc.*, of suspicion or presumption.

1526 *Sc. Acts, Jas. V* (1575) XII. 36/2 All Lawis exclude þe said governour fra administracion and governance for suspicioun vehement and violent. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxiv. § 3 (1699) 256 Except the Presumptions be very violent, I cannot allow this Limitation. *Ibid.* xxv. § 4. 263 Presumptions are divided, in Presumptions that are violent..and these that are not violent. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 372 Violent presumption is many times equal to full proof.

b. In general use.

1598 Timme *Calvine on Gen.* 30 It is too violent a cavill that Moses for instructions sake, distributeth all those things which he made at once, into six days. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. ii. (Arb.) 153 My Lord the simple woman is not so much to blame as her lewde abbettours, who by violent perswasions haue lead her into this wilfulnesse. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. vi. 73 He and Auffidius can no more attone Then violent'st Contrariety. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* v. Wks. 1738 I. 92 If your meaning be with a violent Hyperbaton to transpose the Text. 1807 Syd. Smith *Lett. Catholics* Wks. 1859 II. 176/1, I cannot make use of so violent a metaphor. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Phil.* 154 Ammonia is, however, a violent outstanding exception. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* lxii, Judæa was in a state of violent revolt, and the presence of an able general was urgently needed.

c. Of feelings, etc.

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 804 Thy violent vanities can never last. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* 27 That argues a violent impatience to depart from your money. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 45 A blind fit of a most violent and irresistible fury. 1742 Fielding *Jos. Andrews* I. iv, The violent respect he preserved for her. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1772) II. ii. 28 Repining and discontent arise from a violent affection for things here below. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* I. xxiii, The duchesse was in a violent fright. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. xiii. 232 With that feeling of violent irritation which the slightest contradiction now produced. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 76 The intemperate life has violent delights, and still more violent desires.

† B. As *adv.* Violently. *Obs.*

1709 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Mrs. Hewet* 12 Nov., These wars make men so violent scarce, that these good ladies take up with the shadows of them. 1712 W. Rogers *Voy.* 39 This was a fair pleasant Day, but violent hot. 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* 172 If it freezes so violent as that we are expos'd to danger.

† C. *sb.* Something which acts with violence or force; a violent passion or person. *Obs. rare.*

1619 Lushington *Resurrect. Rescued* (1659) 21 All those Violents of the Soul which have mischiefs for their Objects, ..as sorrow, fear and despair. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* iv. 53 Did the Covetous extortioner observe that he is involv'd in the same sentence, [and] remember that such Violents shall take not heaven, but hell, by force.

† **Vi·olent**, *v. Obs.* [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *violenter*, or ad. med.L. *violentāre* to compel by force: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To strain or wrest the meaning of (words, a passage, etc.). *rare.*

1549 Latimer *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 150 Thus they force and violent thys place to make for theyr purpose, wher no such thynge is mente.

2. To constrain or force by violence; to compel or coerce (a person).

Freq. in the 17th c., esp. in Scottish writers.

1598 Florio *Vehementare*, to vrge, to force, to constraine, to violent. 1634 Ld. Wariston *Diary* (S.H.S.) 200 My saule violented and urged God by this argumenting prayer. 1655 R. Baillie *Disswas. Vindication* Pref., I could no longer be dumb, but so violented, I at last do open my mouth. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxxiv. § 7 (1699) 164 The civil Law in detestation of Force and Violence, did allow three several Remedies to the person violented. 1727 Boston in *Ac. Life* (1908) 227, I hope the Reverend Commission will not violent me, which they will do, if they transport me to Closeburn. 1725 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 279 This matter would..be softly handled; and the woman and her brother look like cruel and inhuman..people, in violenting the good man in this matter. *refl.* 1730 Boston *Mem.* (1899) 225, I would fain have caused draw the nail again, but because of one that was present I restrained and violented myself.

b. To compel or force (a person) *to* (*unto*, *into*) some action or *to* do something.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* XI. xvii. 157 When a great Adversary stepping in so violented his Majesty to a Tryall, that all was..frustrated. 1660 — *Mixt Contempl.* xxxvii. (1841) 202 Surely many moderate men designed a good mark to them-selves... But query whether,..in our late civil destruction, they were not violented to outrun the mark. 1720 Blackwell *Schemes Sacrum* v. 103 Sin and Damnation violenting him (as it were) unto the same. 1721 Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* I. 469 The Procedure of this Period, in violenting People into the Declaration.

3. To bring about (an action) by force or compulsion. *rare*—1.

1650 R. Gentilis *Considerations* 53 The free putting himselfe into his hands..being done willingly, not violented by any extrinsecall mover.

4. To perpetrate or attempt with violence.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Anglesea* IV. (1662) 19 This Bishop Farrar was afterwards martyred in the raign of Queen Mary. I find not the least appearance, that his former adversaries violented any thing against him under that Queen.

5. *intr.* To act or rage with violence. *rare*—1.

The 1st Folio reads 'no lesse'.

1626 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 4 (Q.), Why tell you me of moderation? The griefe is fine, full, perfect, that I taste, And violenteth in a sence as strong As that which causeth it.

Hence † **Vi·olented** *ppl. a. Obs.*

1640 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1662) 90 It reaches to their very soules and consciences, by violented new coercive Oaths and Protestations. *c* 1643 *Observ. on his Majesty's late Answers* 24 A strange violented wrested conclusion.

Violently (vəi·lentli), *adv.* [f. Violent *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. By means of physical strength or violence; by the exercise of improper or unlawful force; forcibly. Now *Obs.* or *arch.*

1380 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxii. 29 Puplis of the loond..violentli rauyshiden the nedi man, and tourmentiden the pore man. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) viii. 91 And there was oure Lord.. scourged and smyttan and vylently entreted. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 16 Be þis artycle are þey vnderstonde acursyd þat stelyn or beryn violently out of holy cherche holy cherch good. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 How violently and without all..pite they racked that blessed body. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* v. 23 He shal restore agayne that he toke violently awaye, or gat wrongeously. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* vi. Annotations, Not compelling or violently forcing any against their will. 1632 Gouge *God's Arrowe* II. § 7. 142 What is violently or fraudulently gotten, wilbe lavishly spent. 1693 Ld. Preston *Boeth.* I. 32 If thou hadst rather be thought to have been violently remov'd, thou hast done thyself this Injury. 1786 Burke *W. Hastings* Wks. 1842 II. 108 After he had..unjustly and violently expelled the rajah Cheyt Sing..from his said lordship. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxiii, To restore the banners of the community, which you took violently from the town.

b. With other than physical violence; in some illegal, unwarrantable, or improper manner.

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 16 Neither can any Lawe bee able, violently to force the inwarde thought of man. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 216 Luther was in deede condemned at Rome, but his cause not heard, violently and tyrannically. 1626 Gouge *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* § 2 The forenamed point, The Dignity of Chivalry, is not violently wrested, but properly ariseth out of my Text. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* iv. § 18. 108 You will infect that form itself with the vulgarity of the thing to which you have violently attached it.

2. By or with great or extreme force, strength, or vigour; with impetuous or violent motion or action; so as to produce a violent effect.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 25 þeyh al an oost stood by þe pond and torned þe face thiderward, þe water wolde drawe hem violentliche toward þe pond. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 2571 With þe venymous swerde a vayne has he towchede! That voydes so violently þat alle his witte changede! *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 54 Som tyme a man is smytyn som party of þe legge violently without wondyng of þe skynne. *Ibid.* 65 þis [remedy].. wirkeþ noȝt so violently as puluis sine pari for þe vertegrez þat entreþ not here. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xi. xiii. (Caxton) 398 Though a bladder be lyghte yet it makyth grete noyse and sowne yf it be strongly blowen and afterwarde vyolently broken. *c* 1535 M. Nisbet *Prol. Rom.* (S.T.S.) III. 339 The greattest appetite ouircumis the leist, and charyis the man away vyolently with hir. 1595 *Lucrine* II. v. 66 The currents swift swimme violently with blood. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 30/2 If the Arterye be greate, and violently beateth. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 351 The streame shooting violently ouer their heads without wetting them. 1669 Stubmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 69 At 10 deg. mounture, [the gun] carries the Bullet violently 248 Paces. 1712 Budgell *Spect.* No. 161. P 3 An huge brawny Fellow, who twirled him about, and shook the little Man so violently, that [etc.]. 1792 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 132 When it is kindled by fire, it rarifies, and is violently dilated. 1777 R. Watson *Philip II*, xxi. (1839) 449 The ships were driven violently against each other. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xxvi, The bells rang violently through the house. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* I. 48 The chlorinated derivatives of Dutch liquid are violently decomposed by potassium. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvii. 212 The windows shook violently.

3. With great intensity or severity; to a high degree or pitch; intensely, severely.

14.. *Brut* II. 328 Grete..hetes, & þat wiþal a grete pestilens..destroyed & slow, violently & strongly, both men & wymmen without noumbre. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 136 Lest soaking Show'rs shou'd pierce her secret Seat, Or scorching Suns too violently heat. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6306/2 The Small Pox are come out very violently on the Queen Widow. 1748 *Life Bamfylde-Moore Carew* 34 Violently afflicted with the Sea-sickness. 1800 *Arab. Nts.* (1815) II. 172 He wept most violently. 1848 Thackeray *Fitzboodle's Prof.* Misc. Wks. 1857 IV. 6 The consequence was that I became so violently ill as to be reported intoxicated. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 351 The civil war..broke forth again more violently than before.

b. In intensive or emphatic use: To a very great or extreme degree or extent; very greatly, powerfully, or strongly.

1602 Sir W. Cornwallis *Disc. Seneca* (1631) 43 It is no charity to give so violently as to lay waste the maine of an ------

1621 Fletcher *Isl. Prince.* III. i, I may be mad, or ---- drunk. 1827 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* I. I. i. 3 This splendid fortune had violently attracted the attention of Europe. 1845 Dickens *Chimes* I. 72 A great multitude of persons will be violently astonished. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 29 Nov. 284/3 We see it (an ellipse) violently foreshortened.

4. Strongly, in respect of feeling; with deep feeling or emotion; ardently, passionately, vehemently.

1627 Monyson *Itin.* III. 55 My selfe weary of expecting companions, and violently carried with the desire to returne into my Countrey, did all alone..passe over the Alpes. 1680 Norris *Hierocles* 35 Not violently agitated by our domestick passions. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. vi, He then desired to know..how it came to pass that people were so violently bent upon getting into this assembly. 1780 *Mirror* No. 78, As I was not violently inclined towards literature. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 90 Upon which the man..became violently enraged. 1908 *Lit. World* 25 Nov. 490/2 Her work ..throws her in contact with a fiery young idealist,..and she falls violently in love with him.

5. *colloq.* In a flashy or showy manner; 'loudly'.
1782 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 15 Dec., She was violently dressed,—a large hoop,..ribands and ornaments extremely shown.

Violentness. ? *Obs.* [f. Violent *a.*] The state or quality of being violent; violence.
1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 148 If all that take not away the violentness of his Pursuit. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Violentness*, Violence, Forcibleness, Vehemence, Sharpness, Boisterousness, Outragiousness. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 84 The Violentness of the Seasons. 1748 Washington *Jrnl.* 4 Apr., Writ. (1889) I. 5 This day our tent was blown by ye violentness of ye wind.

‖ Violento. *Obs.*—[1] [It.:—L. *violentus* Violent *a.*] A violent person; one using or inclined to use violence.
a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Cumberld.* I. (1662) 218 He..was no Violento in the Troubles of Francford, but with all meekness to his might, endeavoured a pacification.

Violer (vəi·ələɹ). Now *arch.* Also 6 *Sc.* veolar, 6, 9 violar, 7 violler. [ad. OF. *violeur* (AF. *violour*): see Viol *sb.*[1] and -er [1].] A player of the viol, in early use esp. one attached to the household of the king, a noble, etc.; a fiddler.
Chiefly in Sc. use, and frequent in Scottish records and accounts of the 16th and 17th centuries.
1551 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 32 To the saidis violaris to by thame leveray. 1551–2 *Ibid.* 67 Be the lordis compositouris speciale command to my lord governouris veolaris. 1587 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1338/2 An other statelie pageant..made by an other companie of the rhetoricians, called painters or violers. 1617 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 413/1 His Maiesties violeris that accompaneit the saidis knychtis to this burgh. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* tr. iv. § 1 (1699) 185 James Johnstoun Violer, arraigned before the Magistrats of Edinburgh. *a* 1722 Sir J. Lauder *Decisions* (1759) I. 364 A Violer..was serenading in the night-time with his fiddle. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. xii, They have brought another violer upon my walk! 1825 — *Betrothed* xxx, I had forgot..the distance between an Armorican violer and a high Norman baron. 1843 James *Forest Days* iv, Come, Master Violer, let us hear the notes of the catgut.

Violescent (vəiəle·sənt), *a.* [f. L. *viol-a* Viola [1] + -escent. Cf. Violascent *a.*] Tending to a violet colour; tinged with violet.
1847 Webster. 1893 Vizetelly tr. *Zola's Dr. Pascal* i, Under the sky of a fiery, violescent blue. 1896 — tr. *Zola's Rome* 4 The yellow sunflashes..sharply outlined the violescent shadows.

Violet (vəi·ə̇lĕt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4– violet (6 *Sc.* violat), 4–7 violett, 5–6 vyolet (5 -ett, wyolet); 5–6 violette (5–6 -ete), vyolette (5 -ytte); 5 vyalett, violet, 6 vilet, 7–9 vi'let. [In senses 1–2, a. OF. *violete, violette* (mod.F. *violette*, = It. *violetta*, Sp. and Pg. *violeta*), dim. of *viole* Viola [1]. In senses 3–4, a. OF. *violete, violeta, violette* fem., or *violet, violat, vilet* (mod.F. *violet*) masc., of similar origin.]

1. A plant or flower of the genus *Viola*, esp. *V. odorata*, the sweet-smelling violet, growing wild, and cultivated in gardens; the flowers are usually purplish blue, mauve, or white. a. In sing. without article or with *the*.
c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3061 Mirie it is in time of June,.. Violet & rose flour Wone þan in maidens bour. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 261 Of þat bille [the stones] smelleþ swete as violet. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xxviii. 74 The white lely, the rede rose, the fresshe violet. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1014 In bussshis, treen, & herbis they may fynde Herbe origane, and tyme, and violette. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Lion & Mouse* iii, The rosis reid ..and the purpour violat bla. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* ccvi, Eke eche at other threw the floures bright, The primerose, the violete, and the gold. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 36 There growes..the cowsloppe, the primrose, and the violet. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 700 Underfoot the Violet, Crocus, and Hyacinth with rich inlay Broidered the ground. *a* 1718 Prior *Garland* i, The Pride of ev'ry Grove I chose, The Violet sweet, and Lilly fair. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxxi. (1794) 477 Antirrhinum, Fumitory, Violet, Impatiens, and Orchis. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 386 The violet is well known to be coloured by a blue matter which acids change to red. 1855 Kingsley *Heroes, Theseus* I. 199 The meadows [are sweet] with violet.

b. With *a* and pl.: A single flower, plant, or species of this.
c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. vi. (1868) 95 Yif þou wilt gadre violettis, ne go þou not to þe purper wode whan þe felde chirkynge agrisep of colde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xiv. 160 Here colour is..more browne than the Violettes. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 712 *Hec viola*, a vyolytte. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/2 A violett, *viola*. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 352 What man is able to affirme, that he euer sawe the Spring tide without Marche Violettes? 1598 Yong *Diana* 469 Roses and vilets strowing. 1613 Dekker *Strange Horse Race* Ep. Ded., It can bee no shame to gather a Violet, growing close to the ground. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 269 He spoils the Saffron Flow'rs, he sips the Blues Of Vi'lets. 1728-46 Thomson *Spring* 448 Where purple violets lurk With all the lowly children of the shade. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* V. 86 Meadows of softest verdure, purpled o'er With violets. 1821 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1828) 408 Violets have an agreeable sweet odour, and a very slightly bitter taste. 1880 Bessey *Bot.* 551 The genus *Viola*, the Violets, includes about half of the species of the order.

c. *collect.* and pl. The plant, or more usually the flowers, pulled or plucked for use in medicine or in making confections.
collect. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 11 For to makyn sur-ripe of violet. 14.. *Med. Rec.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 30 For the stanes tak grummel, percel, rede nettil, violet, franken ensens, and christane kirneis. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 67 Oile of violette with white of iii. eiren wall stired togidre. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 164 The violet is better that is gathered in the mornige. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 688 Syrup of Violet.
pl. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 93 Oils of violettes may be made in þe same maner. *Ibid.*, Oile of violettes. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 164 Violettes make a man to slepe, and they are good for the disease of the vuula. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 83 The Violets ought especially to be gathered in March, and dryed in a shadowey place of the aire. 1632 Jordan *Nat. Bathes* vi. (1669) 41 If Matthiolus his reason were good, then Roses and Violets, and Vinegar should be hot. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 181 Violets..are in every one's acquaintance, for their Use in Medicine. 1736 Bailey *Housh. Dict.*, *Violets* are of a laxative quality, and are us'd medically in syrups, juleps, conserves, oils, &c. 1855 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 539 *Iostacchar*, ..old name for the sugar of violets. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 458 The Violets generally, have been used on the Continent, as demulcent expectorants. 1887 *Lady* 20 Jan. 38/3 Small cut-glass dishes of pink and white bon-bons, together with candied violets.

d. *fig.* (Applied esp. to persons.)
1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 4380 Somme also..With þe lillye of virginite And violettis of parfit chastite, Ascendid ben a-boue þe sterris clere. 14.. — *To My Soverain Lady* 96 O violet, O *flour desiree*, Sith I am for you so amorous [etc.]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXV. 498 Hayll! vyolett, vernand with swete odoure. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, V. ii. 46 Welcome my sonne: who are the Violets now, That strew the greene lap of the new-come Spring? 1842 Tennyson *Will Waterproof* 147 How out of place she makes The violet of a legend blow Among the chops and steaks!

2. With specific epithets: a. Denoting species of *Viola*, or varieties of the common violet.
The number of these is very large, and only the older or more prominent are illustrated here. Tournefort's species (53 in all) are enumerated in *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. (1753) s.v. *Viola*; later lists may be found in Loudon *Encycl. Pl.* (1829–36) 186 and Johnson *Cottage Gard. Dict.* (1852) 912–3. American species are given by Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860, etc.) and in recent American dictionaries. See also Dog-violet.
1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Viola*, The purple *alpine Violet, with very small leaves. *c* 1710 Petiver *Catal. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xxxvii, *Bog Violet. 1777 Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* (1789) II. 1109 *Viola hirta*, ..*Hairy Violet. 1578–1601 *March Violet [see March *sb.*[2] 2 b]. 1728 Bradley *Dict. Bot.* s.v. *Viola*, Single March Violets. *Ibid.*, Double March Violets. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Viola*, Greater hairy March Violet, without Smell. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Viola*, The round-leaved *marsh Violet. 1777 Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* (1789) I. 506 *Viola palustris*,.. Marsh Violet. 1657 Coles *Adam in Eden* 175 *Mountain Violets with jagged Leaves. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Viola*, The great flowered yellow mountain Violet. 1858 Irvine *Handbk. Brit. Fl.* 688 *Viola lutea*, Yellow Mountain Violet, or Yellow Pansy. 1836– *Neapolitan Violet [see Neapolitan *a.* b]. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 106 The *Parma Violet has very light-blue double flowers. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xxi, A conservatory all abloom with snowdrops and Parma violets. *c* 1710 Petiver *Catal. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xxxvii, Yellow *Rock Violet. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 106 Such are the *Russian and the Neapolitan Violets, amongst the singles. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1218/2 Large-flowered simple kinds—*e.g.*, the Russian Violet. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. 148 The *sweete Violet is called..in Latine *Viola nigra*, *Viola purpurea*. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxvi. (1794) 405 The Sweet Violet, that scents the banks, hedges, and borders of woods. 1853 Royle *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 327 The..Sweet Violet ..is found wild on the borders of fields. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Viola*, White *sweet-scented Violet. 1832 Davies *Mat. Med.* 338 Sweet Scented Violet. *Viola odorata*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 705 The vpright Pancie is called.. *Viola arvensis*, ..*Tricolor*, that is to say Straight, or vpright Violet *three coloured. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Viola*, The mountain three coloured Violet, or pansie, with variegated flowers. *Ibid.*, The *tree Violet, with blue and white flowers. *Ibid.*, The yellow-flowered tree Violet. 1832 Glenny *Handbk. Fl. Gard.* 164 The tree-violet is a double-flowered, dark variety, which, if kept trained to a single stem, acquires the appearance of a miniature tree. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 178 *Viola tricolor*. *Tricolored Violet. Pansey. Heart's-ease. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 700 *Viola canina sylvestris*, Dogs Violets, or *wilde Violets. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Viola*, Wild or Dogs Violet. *c* 1710 Petiver *Catal. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xxxvii, Hairy *Wood Violet. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 186 *Viola sylvestris*, wood violet. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Feb. 4/2 Such pretty toques of wood violets are coming over from Paris! 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 700 *Viola martia lutea*. *Yellow Violets. 1657 Coles *Adam in Eden* 175 Yellow Violets of Virginia. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 663 *Viola lutea*. Yellow Violet or Pansies.

b. Applied to plants of other genera, as *bulbous, dog's tooth, false, rock, toothed violet.*
See also Bog *sb.*[1] 3, Calathian *a.*, Corn *sb.*[1] 12, Dame's Violet, Guernsey, Marian *sb.*[1] 2, Mercury *sb.* 12, Queen *sb.* 14 c, Rape *sb.*[2] 4, Water *sb.*
1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 120 *Viola Bulbosa*, or *bulbed Violet...In English we may call it the *Bulbose Violet. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* liv. 816 White *bulbus violet. 1633 Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* I. lxxxviii. 149 Touching the faculties of these bulbous Violets we haue nothing to say. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 66/2 The bulbous Violet [..the Flower monly called *Dentaria*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Violet, Dog's Tooth, *Erythronium*. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 253 *Daliborda repens*. *False Violet. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1218/2 *Rock Violet, *Chrysolepus Tolfthus*. 1861 Holland *Pliny* II. 85 In number of leaves this floure passeth the *Sea-violet aforesaid, which never exceedeth five. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* s.v., Mr. Chomel particularly distinguishes these into two sorts, viz. the Sea-Violet, or our Lady-Glove, and March-Violets. 1657 Coles *Adam in Eden* 333 Some have called the yellow Lupine *Spanish Violets,..and..Virginia Roses. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 833 Of *toothed Violets, or Coralliwoorts. 1728 Bradley *Dict. Bot.* s.v., *Dentaria*, ..Toothed Violets, and Coral-Wort. *Ibid.*, Bulb-bearing toothed Violet.

3. Cloth, dress, or vestments of a violet colour.
Not always clearly separable from next.
1380 in *Test. Karlsef.* (1893) 239, j cote de violett. *a* 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 685 Sche come in a vyolet, With whytthe perl overfret. *c* 1422 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 696 And where be my gounes of scarlet,..Grenes also, and þe fayre violet? 1483 in R. Davies *York Rec.* (1843) 142 The aldermen shalbe in violet & the xxiiij^ti in blew. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 523 He was matte with the prouost of ye marchantys with a company of xv. C. horse, ye cytezyns beyng cladde in whyte and vyolette. *c* 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1914) 520 In every tene clothes you muste have ij light popengaye grenes, ij light violettes, ij light skye collers, ij azars and ij blewes. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 130 The Maior with..the Aldermen are accustomed to be present in their Violets at Paules, on Good Friday, and in their Scarlets..at the Spittle in the Holy daies (except Wednesday in Violet). 1721 C. King *Brit. Merch.* II. 96 What is become of our noble Manufacture of Plunkets, Violets, and Blues, formerly made in Suffolk? 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Engl.* x. II. 599 He was well pleased that, in his own palace, an outcast..should, as king of France, dress in violet on days of court mourning. 1889 Pater *G. de Latour* (1896) 29 The mass said so solemnly, in violet, on Innocents' Day.

4. A purplish blue colour resembling that of the violet; a pigment or dye of this colour.
Partly a substantival use of the adj.
a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4336 Nouthire to toly ne to taunde transmitte we na vebbis, To vermylion ne violett ne variant littis. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xiv. 160 Here colour is liche Vyolet. *c* 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* 510(K.), Violet, coloure, *violaceus*. 1604 E. G[immstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxvii. 284 There are other kindes which they call gilleflowers of the Indies, the which are like to a fine orange tawnie vellet, or a violet. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 367 Of the same stuffe and colour that the Stole was of, that is, of a violet inclining to red. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* IV. ix. (Roxb.) 382/1 Cassocks of fine scarletted murrey (which is violett). 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Purple*,..a red Colour, bordering on Violet. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud Nat.* (1799) I. 543 More than one Churchman considers violet as the most beautiful of colours, because his Bishop wears it. 1815 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. I. 56 The whole plumage is of a beautiful blue green, changing in certain lights to violet. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. ii, I think I never saw such a beautiful violet as that of her eyes. 1884 Marq. Dufferin in Lyall *Life* (1905) II. 64 A tremendous thunderstorm had..dyed Olympus and his adjoining peaks with the deepest, blackest violet.

5. a. *attrib.*, in various senses, as *violet bank, -bed, breath, crown, family, flower*, etc.
Sometimes *fig.*, as *violet-virtue*, or in fig. context. *The city of the Violet Crown*, Athens (after Gr. ἰοστέφανος Ἀθῆναι, used by Pindar and Aristophanes).
1801 Southey *Thalaba* VII. xiii, So on a *violet bank The Arabian Maid laid down, Her soft cheek pillow'd upon moss and flowers. *a* 1822 Shelley *Triumph Life* 72 Violet banks where sweet dreams brood. 1853 Hickie tr. *Aristoph.* (Bohn) I. 267 The *violet-bed beside the well. 1862 Meredith *Mod. Love* xl, The *violet breath of maidenhood.
crown that crowned thy head So over-large..It slipped down? 1877 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 385 A thrill like that which the..sight of the dear city of the Violet Crown moved in an Athenian of old. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 768 *Violaceæ*, the *Violet Family. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1539 He castis on a Cape of kastand hewes,..A vestoure to vise on of *violet floures. 1598 Florio, *Violina*, a little violet flowre. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 147 Of Violet flowers with sugar, there is made a Conserue, and also a Syrupe. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Viola*, Violet flowers, fresh gathered, are emolliant, and gently purgative. 1814 Scott *Ld. Isles* vi. ix, When beams the sun through April's shower, It needs must bloom, the violet flower. 1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins* 908 Grape-honey, Bean-honey, Lilly-honey, *Violet-honey, &c. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Populeum*,..an Unguent prepared of the Buds of black Poplar, *Violet Leaves, Navel-wort [etc.]. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 416 *Violaceæ*. The *Violet Order. 1822 Shelley *Chas. I*, I. 46 Nor leave the broad..and beaten road..For the *violet paths of pleasure. 1621 Cotgr., *Violier*,.. a *Violet root or plant. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Oil*, Palm Oil [is]..a thick unctuous Liquor, of a yellow Colour, and a *Violet-smell. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 230 The flowers have a violet smell. *a* 1814 *Intrigues of a Day* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 76 That may soon be washed away. Only a little milk of roses, or *violet soap, and all will be well. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 117 Here I used to come almost every morning, during the *violet-tide. 1862 Goulburn *Pers. Relig.* II. iv. I. 261 Here is the bosom-adder of vanity coiled up in the *violet-tuft of humility. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. vi. 12 It may seeme strange..that such a poore *violet Vertue [*sc.* humility] should euer dwell with Honour. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 125 If there be needs of cooling with Rose, or *Violet-water and Sugar.

b. In adj. combs., chiefly instrumental, as *violet-crowned, -embroidered, -garlanded, -inwoven, -scented*; also *violet-hued, -like, -sweet*.
1837 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Acharnians* II. vi, The envoys.., in order to cheat your Assemblies, Would call you all '*violet-crowned'. 1869 A. R. Wallace *Malay Archip.* I. 366 A beautiful violet-crowned dove. 1637 Milton *Comus* 933 In the *violet imbroider'd vale Where the love-lorn Nightingale Nightly to thee her sad Song mourneth well. 1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Knights* V. i, He is dwelling now in ancient and fair and *violet-garlanded Athens. 1867 Miss Braddon *R. Gurney* I, There were no tears in the large *violet-hued eyes. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 197 Two runnels of a rivulet, Between the close moss *violet-inwoven, Have made their path of melody.

1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 107 Purple *violet-like flowers on coriaceous roundish leaves. 1840 Mrs. Norton *Dream* 238 The *violet-scented lanes — the warm south-wall. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xii, An afternoon in which destiny.. poisons us with violet-scented breath. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 411 Like some new bee-swarm leaving the old hive, Despite the wax..so *violet-sweet.

c. With vbl. sbs., as *violet farming, -plucking, -poisoning, setting.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* (1896) 268 Violette settyng in Feuerer. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Daw.* I. i, Daisy-picking and violet-plucking [were now] the only pursuits she really loved. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 8/2 The above case of violet-poisoning. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 17 July 6/3 Rose culture, violet farming, bee-keeping, or poultry rearing.

6. Special Combs.: †**violet-apple**, a violet-scented sort of apple; **violet-blind** *a.*, colour-blind as regards the violet rays of the spectrum; hence *violet-blindness*; †**violet-pear**, a violet-scented sort of pear; **violet-powder**, a variety of toilet-powder; hence *violet-powder* vb.; †**violet tables**, lozenges made from violets and sugar; **violet tree** (?); **violet-wood**, (*a*) kingwood; (*b*) the wood of the Australian *Acacia pendula*; (*c*) the wood of *Andira violacea*, a tree of Guiana; **violetworts**, Lindley's name for the *Violaceæ*.

1664 in Evelyn *Pomona* 47 Herefordshire affords several sorts of Cider-apples, as ..the Gennet-moyle, the Summer-*violet or Fillet, and the Winter-fillet. 1676 Worlidge *Cyder* 163 The Violet-Apple is of a most delicate aromatick taste. 1894 Abney *Colour Vision* (1895) 70 The kind of colour that these colour blind imagine as white, whether they be red-, green-, or *violet-blind. *Ibid.* 73 So far I have only met with what appears to be one genuine case of *violet blindness. 1683 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 7) 104 *Violet-pear, Petworth-pear, otherwise called the Winter-Windsor. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Violet-powder*, powdered starch or flour scented, used..to powder the skin. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* i. 114 The use of violet-powder after shaving, now very common..,is one that should be avoided. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* vi, She has, however, violet-powdered her fresh cheeks. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 147 There is..made of Violets and Sugar, certaine Plates, called *Violet Tables, which are very pleasant to the taste. 1878 H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* II. ix. 281 You may also see here [*sc.* Barundu] the *Strelitzia vaginæ*, or the wild banana, or the *violet-tree, and the oil-berry tree. 1698 T. Frogge *Voy.* 129 Letter-wood (as they call it) and that of *Violet,.. are very common in that country. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 89 King-wood, called also Violet-wood, is imported from the Brazils. 1852 [see Myall 2]. 1866 *Trans. Bot.* 1218/2. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 338 The *Violet-worts are distinctly defined by their definite stamena.

†**Vi·olet**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[-1] [ad. It. *violetta*, dim. of *viola* Viola [2].] (See quot. and cf. Violette.)

1683 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 58/1 The Violet or Violin, a diminitiue of the viol, being a very small Instrument, yet in all respects answereth to the forme of the Treble Viole in the body.

Violet (vəi·ɔlĕt), *a.* Also 4–6 **violett**, 5 **vyolet(te, vyelett, vialet, 6 violitt.** [a. OF. *violet, violet, villet* (mod.F. *violet*) adj.: see Violet *sb.*[1] Cf. It. *violetto*, Pg. *violete.*]

1. Having the colour of violets; of a blue or bluish-purple colour.

In early use only of woven fabrics.

1370 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 5, j violett toga. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/2 Vialet, yn colowre, *violaceus.* 1464 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 40, No. 6, ij togas blewe et vyolette, 1 dobelet. *c* 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 202 Item iij stykkes of tarny sateyn or els vyelett sateyn of Bruges. 1524 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 130 A violitt rebond with silver aglyttes. 1544 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 34 To Agnes Gill my violett kirtell. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 195 Thre single pandis, freinyeit with violet silk. *c* 1620 Monyson *Itin.* IV. v. i. (1903) 438 Next rode some 20. of the Pope's Chamberlayns and cheefe officers, cloathed in of violett Cloth. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem.*

1884 Ma
Life (1905) II. 64 Directly fronting you, rises a magnificent violet stretch of mountain.

b. Qualifying *colour, hue, tint*, etc.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 80 Men find dyamaundz of violet colour. 1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict.*, *Violarius*, he that dieth violet colour. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 621 There is not one of these Amaythysts, but it is transparent with a Violet colour. 1620–3 *Essex Archdeaconry Depositions Bk.* (MS.) 27 Feb. 26 One cloake for a man made of broade cloath and of a violett couler. 1648 Hexham II, *Een Violetta verwe*, a Violet Dye or colour. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. ix. 41 The Maugeron is [a plum] of a Violet Colour, large and round. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 79 The carbuncle brandishes its fiery rays, of a violet colour, on every side. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 419

Carleton *Farm Ballads* (1893) 84 The squire swore oaths of a violet hue.

c. Qualifying names of other colours, as *violet black, blue*, etc.

In later use frequently hyphened (cf. next), and in some cases (esp. *violet-blue*) also repr. the sb. used attrib.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Red*, In Limning, and Fresco, for a Violet Red,..they use a natural Earth found in England. 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. ii. 754 The quills of a violet brown. 1815 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. i. 3 The wings..are of a fine deep violet-blue. 1843 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) IV. 111 Flower-spike producing three to four flowers, and very handsome, of a beautiful violet-purple. 1882 *Garden* 17 June 418/1 The petals..bordered with violet-crimson.

d. Forming adj. combs., as *violet-black, -blue*, etc. Many examples occur in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.*

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 394 From one Root the rising Stem bestows A Wood of Leaves, and Vi'let-purple Boughs. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Star-wort*, The tall hairy New England aster with very large violet-purple flowers. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. ii. 423 Violet-black Snake, with the abdomen and sides crimson. 1819 Stephens *Ibid.* XI. i. 59 The upper parts of the body [are] violet-red. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 746 The whole liquid assumes a very strong and fine violet-blue colour. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 70 Hymenium violet-brown; juice violet.

2. a. In names of varieties of fruits or plants, as *violet clover, maize, plum*, etc. Also *ellipt.*

1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. 147 The Fourth [kind is] the Violet Fig. *Ibid.*, The Violet ripens perfectly well. *a* 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 379 A violet-plum, a standard,..which is a plum that does not cleave from the stone. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Plum*, The Violet Damson or Maugeron Plum. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 140 They first pulverize the cochineal by grinding, and after mixing four ounces of it, with twelve of violet maize, they form it into square cakes. 1786 Abercrombie *Arrangem.* 13 in *Gard. Assist.*, Cherry plum, Violet plum, Apricot plum. 1820 Hogg *Fruit Man.* 72 Figs...Skin dark. Flesh red..Early Violet, Malta. *Ibid.* 251 Purple Gage(..Violet Gage). 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 803/2 The Violet Moss (*Bissus lolithus*)..was formerly in use as a popular remedy for feverish cutaneous eruptions. 1890 *Times* 22 Sept. 4/2 The cut of violet clovers in France is not likely to be large.

b. In names of birds, insects, etc., as *violet bee, cormorant, crab, creeper, heron*, etc.; **violet-ear**, one or other species of the genus *Petasophora* of humming-birds; **violet-fly**, an artificial fly used in angling; **violet-tip**, an American butterfly (see quot.).

Latham's names are repeated in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* (1811–26).

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIV. 153/1 A *violet bee*, which they now sent off [from the balloon], flew quickly away with its usual humming noise. *c* 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 367 The Violet Carpenter Bee (*Xylocopa violacea*)..inhabits the south of Europe. 1785 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. ii. 600 *Violet Corvorant...This bird is said to be wholly black, glossed with violet. 1826 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIII. i. 86 Violet Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax violaceus.* 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 86 The *Violet Crab of the Carribee Islands. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 26 July 2/3 The much advertised land-crabs are precisely the same 'violet crab'..found on similar tropical islands. 1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. ii. 705 *Violet Creeper. 1861 Gould *Trochilidæ* IV. Pl. 223 Brazilian *Violet-ear. *Ibid.* Pl. 226 Mexican Violet-ear. 1887 R. B. Sharpe *Gould's Trochilidæ* Suppl. V. Pl. 1 *Petasophora Germana*, Guiana Violet-ear. 1676 Cotton *Walton's Angler* II. vii. (1675) 255 A fly called the *Violet-Fly; made of a dark violet stuff; with the wings, of a grey feather of a mallard. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 101 The Violet fly...Dubbed with dark violet stuff, and a little dun bear's hair mixed with it. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. ix, The old Corporal..busily employed in fixing to his line..what anglers..call the 'violet-fly'. 1815 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. ii. 249 *Violet Grosbeak, with a streak above the eyes. 1785 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. i. 97 *Violet Heron,..of a bluish black, glossed with violet. 1782 *Ibid.* I. ii. 736 *Violet Humming Bird;..the whole head, the neck, back, breast, and belly, of a violet purple. 1864–5 J. G. Wood *Homes without H.* iv.'(1868) 88 The *Violet Land Crab of Jamaica (*Gecarcinus ruricola*) is the most familiar of these creatures. 1832 J. Rennie *Consp. Butterfl. & M.* 205 The *Violet Pygmy (*Microsetia violacealla*). Wings i..first pair deep black, with a tinge of violet. 1788 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. ii. 600 *Violet Shag. Violet Corvorant. 1858 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* 307/2 *Janthina.* The *Violet Shells. —A genus of molluscous animals belonging to the class *Gasteropoda*. 1845 Gosse *Ocean* vii. (1849) 343 The *Violet-snail (*Janthina fragilis*),..whose shell..is of a pearly white above, and beneath violet. 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* iv. 76 Those singular molluscous swimmers by fin or float known to zoologists as violet-snails. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. ii. 374 *Violet Swallow,..general colour of the plumage deep blue, reflecting violet in different tints. *Ibid.* i. 222 *Violet Tanager,..colour of the plumage a deep violet. *Ibid.* 57 *Violet Thrush,..the whole plumage of a changeable violet blue. 1881 S. H. Scudder *Butterflies* 167 The most conspicuous case [of dimorphism] is in the largest, the *Violet-Tip (*Polygonia interrogationis*), where the two forms were once universally considered distinct species.

c. With names of minerals, etc.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 280 Violet Cobalt ore. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 497 The violet rock crystal, or amethyst, seems scarce. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 803/2 *Violet Stones*,..certain stones found upon high mountains, as in Thuringia,..which, in consequence of being covered with..Violet Moss, emit a smell like that of violets. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 335 Violet ebony is used for making inlaid chairs.

3. In parasynthetic combs., as *violet-eared, -headed, -hooded, -horned, -ringed*, etc.

1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. ii. 767 *Violet-Eared Humming Bird;..beneath the ears, is a very splendid violet spot. 1898 *Daily News* 22 Feb. 6/3 Violet-eared waxbills, African firefinches, black-crested yellow bulbuls. 1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. ii. 718 *Violet-Headed Creeper, *Certhia violacea*. 1815 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 8 Violet-headed Curucui (*Trogon violaceus*). 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* II. 354 With scraps of thundrous Epic lilted out By *violet-hooded Doctors. 1820 *Hortus Angl.* II. 10 *Violet-horned Poppy. 1880 A. H. Swinton *Insect Variety* 4 A *violet-ringed Oak Eggar caterpillar. 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* 69 Art thou not..A *violet-shrouded grave of Woe? *a* 1820 — *Death Adonais* 4 Wake *violet-stoled queen, and weave the crown Of Death. 1786 Abercrombie *Arrangem.* 77 in *Gard. Assist.*, White, *violet striped [tulip]. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. ii. 382 Violet-striped Acanthurus. *Acanthurus Sahal.* 1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. ii. 754 *Violet Tailed Humming Bird. 1822 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. i. 208 *Violet-throated Creeper. *Certhia affinis.*

Violet (vəi·ɔlĕt), *v.* [f. Violet *sb.*[1] or *a.*]

1. *trans.* To tinge with a violet hue.

1603 tr. *Erasme's Theat. Hon.* I. iv. 38 For the Noble Kings of France mourne in Scarlet violetted. 1892 [R. Cattermole] *Beckett*, etc. 190 The sea, Yet darkller violeted, almost frowned With splendor. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marriage* v, One flank of the white in heaven was violetted wonderfully.

2. *intr.* To gather violets.

1823 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 226 To-morrow I shall go violeting. 1827 Mrs. Hemans in H. F. Chorley *Mem.* (1836) I. 231 Having accompanied you again, and again, as I have done, in 'violetting' and seeking for wood-sorrel. 1873 *Argosy* XVI. 270 How delightful was that day among the Kentish Downs! We began it by violeting in the woods.

Violet-coloured, *a.* [Violet *sb.*[1] or *a.*] Having the blue or bluish-purple colour of a violet.

1552 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 221 The xlviij and other onneste men in violet collord gownes. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxxii. 253 Six or seven pieces of Violet coloured Damask. 1671 Woodhead *St. Teresa* II. 276 A longer Coffin in fashion of a Tomb was provided, which they covered with violet-coloured Silk. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 244 The Violet coloured Tulip striped with White. 1753 (*Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Star-wort*, The broad-leaved paniculated aster with deep violet-coloured flowers. 1800 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 516 A violet-coloured glass..stops 955 rays of light. 1827 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* vii. § 1. 447 The liquid..deposits beautiful violet-coloured prismatic crystals. 1886 Froude *Oceana* ii. 27 Looking round us and down into nothing but the violet-coloured ocean.

Violetish (vəi·ɔlĕtiʃ), *a.* [f. Violet *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Somewhat violet in colour.

1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 359 A grey partaking of a violetish tone. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Feb. 16/3 Its flesh is a violetish black or a blackish violet, overrun by a thin network of white veins.

Violette. *rare*[-1]. [ad. It. *violetta.*] = Violet *sb.*[2]

1884 Hawkis *My Musical Life* I. 239 The smaller viols or violettes of the seventeenth century fell into violins.

Violety (vəi·ɔlĕti), *a.* [f. Violet *sb.*[1] + -y.] Of or belonging to violets; more or less violet in colour.

1831 Keightley *Mythol. Anc. Greece & It.* 399 His mother called him Iamus, *Violety* 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* (1900) 96/2 Dark eyelashes and brows, .. and large eyes violety-bluey-blackish.

Violin (vəiɔli·n, vəi·ɔlin), *sb.* Forms: 6 violine, 7 vyoline, viallin, 7– violin. [ad. It. *violino* (Pg. *violino*, Sp. *violin*), f. *viola* Viola [2]. Cf. Violon.]

1. A musical instrument in common use, having four strings tuned in fifths and played with a bow; a fiddle.

In general structure the violin is composed of a resonant box of elaborately curved outline, and a neck or handle from the end of which the strings are stretched over a bridge to a tail-piece.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal., April* 103, I see Calliope speede her to the place, where my Goddesse shines: And after her the other Muses trace, with their Violines. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 6 Then were it high time for..all Peace-Makers, to put vp their pipes, or else in steed of the soft violine, learne to sound a shrill trumpet. 1608 B. Jonson *Masques* Wks. (1616) 964 The first [dance] was to the Cornets, the second to the Vyolines. 1628 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 115 Some excellently pleasing lesson plaid upon soft winde-instruments, or Violins. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 6 Mar., I played upon a viall, and he a viallin, after dinner. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 238 P 4 Violins, Voices, or any other Organs of Sound. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 10 Orpheus or Amphion in bronze, playing upon a violin. 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* I. i, He was not only a composer, but also an excellent practical performer, especially on the violin. 1884 Hawkis *My Musical Life* I. 237 The violin is not an invention, it is a growth.

transf. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 62 People, presently phansi'd the Moon, Mercury, and Venus to be a kind of violins or trebles to Jupiter and Saturn.

b. With distinguishing terms.

1620 B. Jonson *Portast.* III. iv, Come, we must have you turne fiddler againe, slaue, 'get a base violin at your backe. *c* 1670 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 212 Before the restoration of K. Charles 2 and especially after, viols began to be out of fashion, and only violins used, as treble-violin, tenor and bass-violin. 1685 Playford (*title*), The Division-Violin: containing a Collection of Divisions upon several Grounds for the Treble-Violin. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The Word Violin, alone, stands for Treble Violin. *Ibid.*, The Counter-Tenor, Tenor, or Bass-Violin. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 245/1 The tenor violin, in compass a fifth lower than the treble violin, appears to have preceded the latter.

c. *To play first violin*, to take the leading part. (Cf. Fiddle *sb.* 1 b.)

1780 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* May, [He] seemed to think nobody half so great as himself, and..chose to play first-violin without further ceremony.

2. One who plays on the violin; a violinist.

1667 Pepys *Diary* 20 Feb., They talked how the King's viallin, Bannister, is mad. *c* 1670 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 485 Thomas Baltzar, one of the violins in the king's service. 1699 J. Jackson *Lett. to Pepys* 25 Dec., Corelli the famous violin playing, in concert with above 30 more. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 346/2 At the early age of twenty he was chosen to fill the situation of first violin in the royal chapel of Turin. 1878 Miss Fothergill (*title*), The First Violin.

3 A variety of organ-stop. *rare*—[1].

1688 [see VIOL *sb.*[1] 3].

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *violin-bow*, *-case*, *class*, *family*, etc.; *violin-maker*, *-making*, *-player*; *violin like*, *-shaped* adjs.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Violin-bow*, a bow strung with horse-hair, for playing on a violin. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2711/1 The Hindus claim to have invented the violin-bow. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2041/4 Lost..., a black Leather **Violin-Case*, with a Violin in it. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXXIV, She might as well have been dressed in a violin-case. 1854 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 86 Two other Hindoo instruments..belonging to the **violin* class. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 449/1 **Violin clef*, the G clef placed upon the first line of the stave. 1885 J. HULLAH *Transition Period Music* 34 Of these instruments it would easily be found that incomparably the most important were the **Violin* family. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 198/1 *Crwth*,..a musical instrument of the **violin* kind. 1884 'EDNA LYALL' *We Two* XIX, **Violin-like* sensitiveness of nature. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1862/8 Mr. Aguttar, **Violin-Maker* in the Strand. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 346 The same author [M. Otto] also gives the names of many German violin-makers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2711/2 Antonio Stradivarius..stands, by common consent, at the head of all violin-makers. *Ibid.*, The art of **violin-making*..appears to have reached its culminating point in the productions of the Cremonese school. 1881 ADAMS *5000 Mus. Terms* 108 *Corde vuilie*, in **violin* music, indicates the open string. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2712/1 **Violin-piano*, ..a form of the pianoforte patented in England by Todd. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* ix. 137 A **violin-player*, who .. confessed to thirty-four murders. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 242/2 *note*, **Violin* rosin is called in French *colophane*. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5438, **Violin* school for joint practice of the elementary and advanced classes. 1802 R. HALL *Elem. Bot.* 158 Panduriform, *panduriformis*, **violin*-shaped. 1841 SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 160 Among the manufactures, those of the fine arts, leather, and **violin*-strings, are alone industriously practised. 1871 tr. *Schellen's Spectr. Anal.* App. 433 The motion of a point near the end of a violin string. 1884 THOMSON *Tumours of Bladder* 82 A very small écraseur, with violin-string ligature. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 346 A lyre, or lute,..may be considered..as the parent of all instruments of the **violin* tribe.

Violin, *v. rare.* [f. prec.]

†**1.** *trans.* To entice by violin-playing. *Obs.*—[1]

1713 *Gentl. Instructed* (ed. 5) I. Suppl. iv. p. xlii, Was not Madam W. plaid out of her Reputation, and violin'd into a Match below her Quality?

2. *intr.* To play the violin; *fig.*, to play a leading part.

1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* XXX, How does he enjoy playing second fiddle with the maid while Mr. tall brown-face Taffy violins it to her ladyship?

Hence **Violining** *vbl. sb.*

1899 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 5/2 The songs..and the violining all perfect in their degree.

Violin, var. VIOLINE[1].

‖**Violi·na.** *Chem.* [-INA[1]] = next.

1836 SMART. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 993 Violina is more soluble in water..than emetina. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 345/2 The principle on which this property seems to depend has been separated by Boullay from some species of Viola, and has been called Violina.

Violine[1] (vəi·ŏlain). *Chem.* Also -in. [a. F. *violine*, f. *viole* VIOL[1] + -INE[5]. Cf. prec.] A bitter emetic principle found in the common violet.

1821 J. DAVIES *Man. Mat. Med.* 338 An alkaloid principle, nearly related to emetine, discovered by M. Boulay, who has called it *Violine*. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 458 The emetic property is due to a peculiar alkaloid named *violine*, which greatly resembles, if it be not identical with, *emetine*. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 490/2 *Viola odorata* contains a gastric irritant called violin.

Violine[2] (vəi·ŏlain). *Chem.* [f. L. *viol-a* VIOLA[1] + -INE[5].] A violet-blue colouring matter or colour. Also *attrib.*

1849 D. G. PRICE in *Repertory Patent Invent.* (1860) XXXV. 139 The colouring matters I produce embrace shades of purple and pink. Three of these I name respectively, 'violine', 'purpurine', and 'rosaline'. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 721/2 Violine is very slightly soluble in water, is readily dissolved by alcohol. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 31 Oct. 8/4 Green is a dye that has receded from the affections of the smart, while violine is one that is equally ascending the scale of success. *Ibid.* 5 Dec. 8/4 A model in violine beaver, trimmed with a plume to match.

Vi·olinism. *rare*—[1]. [f. VIOLIN *sb.*] Violin-playing.

1844 H. F. CHORLEY *Music & Manners* III. 61 Royalty thus did its part in fostering a school of violinism.

Vi·olinist. Also 7 **violinest.** [ad. It. (also Sp.) *violinista*, f. *violino* VIOLIN *sb.* Cf. F. *violoniste*] A player of, or performer on, the violin.

c 1670 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 274 Nathaniel Crew, M.A., fellow of Linc. Coll.; a violinist and violist, but alwaies played out of tune. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* xii. 98 Mr. Davys Mell (the famous Violinist, and Clock-maker). 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 270 Our ablest violinists conceived that it was too difficult to be performed. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 121 A natural surprise that..the most striking acquirements of great players in our own time should be found in a violinist of that early date. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 36 Violinist's cramp may attack the right hand which holds the bow, or the left hand which fingers the strings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 12, I have been informed that in violinists..the bow arm is always considerably longer than the left arm.

Violist (vəi·ŏlist). [f. VIOL *sb.*[1] + -IST.] A player on the viol. (Also as the title of a book.)

c 1670 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 274 He was a violinist, and the two former violists. *a* 1699 B. HELY (*title*), The compleat Violist, or An Introduction to the Art of Playing on the Bass Viol. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2069 Upon these, a Sonata was perform'd by those two most eminent Violists. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* I. 13 He outdid all his teachers and became one of the neatest violists of his time. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Music* (1789) II. iv. 266 The Minstrels..were at all times the best Violists of their age. 1894 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 5/3 A large viol, so large that a boy was placed inside to sing the air while the violist played the bass.

Violl, obs. form of VIAL *sb.*, VIOL *sb.*

Violon (vəi·ŏlŏn). Also 6 **violan**, **-and**, **-ent**, **vyolon**, **phialon.** [a. F. *violon* (16th c.) violin, or (in sense 2) It. *violone* bass-viol. Cf. Sp. *violon* violoncello.]

†**1.** A violin. Also, a violinist. *Obs.*

a. 1552 *Househ. Exp. Princess Eliz.* 38 in *Camd. Misc.* (1853) II, Paid in rewarde unto sondrie persons at S. James, her grace then beyng there—..to the warderobe, xl*s.*; the violans, xl*s.* 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 39, Were it not,..I coulde finde in my hearte to commaunde the Violands to cease. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. vi. 200 Hee beareth gules, three treble violents transposed argent stringed sable.

β. 1593 DRAYTON *Eclogues* iii. 113 Tune the Taber and the Pipe to the sweet violons. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 139 *b*, He could not only turne, and make Virginals, Organes, Vyolons,..but also tune, and handsomely play vpon them. 1603 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 32 Gifin to a sait of phialonis when they played at my chamber dor, xl*s.* 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Trophеis* 436 In Argos the chaste Violon For's absent Soveraign doth grave-sweetly grone.

2. A variety of organ-stop.

1850 SEIDEL *Organ* 108 Violon..is one of the finest and most common pedal-registers. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* ix. (1878) 63 *Violon* or *Violone*, Double Bass. An open flue-stop; the tone is penetrating and fine, in imitation of the Double Bass.

Violonce·llist. [f. next + -IST.] One who plays the violoncello.

1835 G. HOGARTH *Musical Hist.* 423 As a violoncellist, Lindley has, for many years, been unrivalled. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 435 It chanced on one occasion that the violoncellist's instrument did not arrive.

‖**Violoncello** (vəiŏlŏnse·lo, -tʃe·lo; vīˌŏlŏnʧe·lo). Also 8–9 **violincello.** [It. *violoncello*, dim. of *violone*: see VIOLON. Hence also Pg. *violoncello*, Sp. *-celo*, F. *-celle*.]

1. A large four-stringed instrument of the violin class; a bass violin. Cf. 'CELLO.

a. 1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks.*, *Violoncello*, is a Small Bass Violin, just half as big as a common Bass Violin, in Length, Breadth, and Thickness. 1742 FR. BARSANTI (*title*), A Collection of Old Scots Tunes, with the Bass for Violoncello or Harpsichord. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* i. 73, I know and confess that this and the violoncello are the most perfect of all stringed Instruments. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. xlix. 55 Of all the works of his life this playing on the violoncello had been the sweetest to him. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 149 If the bass string of a Violoncello be vibrated, other sounds besides that proper to the string may be detected.

β. 1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 271 *note*, Mr. Zeidler, who plays the violincello at Covent-Garden theatre. 1797 MRS. BERKELEY *Poems G. M. Berkeley* p. cccxii, Dr. Berkeley was esteemed the finest gentleman-performer on the violincello in England. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vi, Mr. Skimpole could play on the piano and the violincello.

2. An organ-stop having a tone similar to that of a violoncello.

1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* ix. (1878) 63 *Violoncello*, an 8 feet stop, resembling in construction the Violone.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *violoncello bow*, *player*, *species*.

1818 BLAQUIERE tr. *Panaiuti's Resid. Algiers* 267 The *arabebbah*, of the violincello species, with one string. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 246/1 One of his best violoncello bows, which are rarities, was recently sold in Paris for £44. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 12 In the violoncello players who perform solos..there is very great strain.

Hence **Violonce·lloing** *ppl. a.*

1830 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* IV. (1863) 266 One fluting brother; one fiddling ditto; a violoncelloing music-master; and a singing papa.

‖**Violone** (vīˌolō·ne). [It., f. *viola* VIOLA[2]] The double-bass viol.

Also as the name of an organ-stop: see VIOLON 2.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks.*, *Violone*, is a very large Bass Violin, or Double Bass. 1730 *Treat. Harmony* 35 This Error is daily run into, by giving Divided Basses to be play'd on the *Violone* or Double Bass. 1824 *Mechanic's Mag.* 31 July 335 Having made a violin, a viola, and a violoncello, I have long since conceived the idea of making a violono [*sic*], or double bass also. 1865 J. HULLAH *Transition Period Music* 118 Those Gothic abominations, the violin, the viola, the violoncello, and the violone. 1872 H. C. BANISTER *Music* 201 The Contra-basso, or Double-Bass (also termed *Violone*), is the largest of the stringed instruments.

† **Violous,** irreg. variant of VIOLENT *a.*

1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* III. i, *Fra.* The ..Count shall pay for it! *Gil.* You are so violous.

Violurate (vəiŏlīū·rēt). *Chem.* [f. VIOLUR-IC *a.* + -ATE[1] c.] A salt produced by the action of violuric acid on a base.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1001 Hydurilic acid is warmed with water and nitrate of potassium, whereby deep-blue violurate of potassium is formed. *Ibid.* 1002 Violurate of Ammonium.

Violuric (vəiŏlīū·rik), *a. Chem.* [f. VIOL(ET) + URIC *a.*] *Violuric acid*, an acid produced by the action of nitric on hydurilic acid.

1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 128 Baeyer has increased the list of compounds by his discovery of pseudo-uric acid,.. and the violuric and barbituric acids. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1001 Violuric acid crystallises in shining, yellowish, rhombic octahedrons.

†**Viorne.** *Obs.*—[1] [a. F. *viorne* (16th c.) :—L. *viburna*, pl. of *viburnum*.] The wayfaring-tree.

1637 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 421 *Inter viburna Cupressus*, that is, the Cypresse-tree amongst the Viornes [1610 among smal twigges].

Vipa·rious, app. a mistake or misprint for *vivacious* 'tenacious of life'.

1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* XII. ii, A cat the most viparious is limited to nine lives.

Viper (vəi·pəɹ). Also 6 **vyper**, **vypar**, **veper.** [a. OF. *vipere*, *vipre* (mod.F. *vipère*, = Pr. *vipera*, *vipra*, *vibra* fem., *vibre* masc., Sp. and Pg. *vibora*, It. *vipera*) or ad. L. *vīpera* viper, snake, serpent, contracted from *vivi-pera*, f. *vivus* alive, living, and *parĕre* to bring forth. See also WIVER.]

1. The small ovo-viviparous snake *Pelias berus* (formerly *Coluber berus* or *Vipera communis*), abundant in Europe and the only venomous snake found in Great Britain; the adder; in general use, any venomous, dangerous, or repulsive snake or serpent.

The flesh of the viper was formerly regarded as possessing great nutritive or restorative properties, and was frequently used medicinally.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* XXVIII. 3 When Paul had gaddered a boundle of stickes, And putt them into the fyre, a viper (be cause off the heet) creept out. 1548 BRINKLOW *Lament.* 116 The vypar aboue all other..serpentes is most fullest of poyson. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) I. B v, Garlyke..helpeth the bytyng of a veper. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* I. Wks. (Grosart) II. 74 The Elephant being enuenomed with the Viper, eateth him vp, and is healed. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Viper*, a venemous serpent in some hot countries lying much in the earth, hauing a short taile, which grateth and maketh a noise as he goeth. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* (ed. 2) XII. 109 Some mortals also are knowne by their cognisances, as..Cleopatra by a viper. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 629 With that rank Odour from thy Dwelling-place To drive the Viper's Brood, and all the venom'd Race. 1730 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 65 The proper virtue of the Sicilian is, to subdue the poison of vipers. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 17 Vipers are found in many parts of this island. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (ed. 3) III. 95 The Viper is the only one, either of the Reptile or Serpent tribes, in Great Britain, from whose bite we have any thing to fear. 1837 BORROW *Romany Rye* App. ix, The duty of the true critic is to play the part of a leech, and not of a viper.

transf. and *fig.* 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* 24 Ar not these the venomouse tetne of vepers that thus gnawe a nother mannis name? 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 193 These blind and swalowyng sandes, the Spaniardes caule Vypers: And that by good reason, bycause in them many shyppes are entangled. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. i. 145 Hot bloud, hot thoughts, and hot deedes, why they are Vipers, is Loue a generation of Vipers? 1713 WATERLAND *Serm. Assizes Cambr.* 13 Special care therefore must be taken to find out this lurking Viper [*sc.* pride] in our Bosoms, and to cast it far from us. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXVII, Then comes remorse, with all its vipers, mixed with vain regrets for the past.

b. *Zool.* Applied with distinguishing terms to other species of the genus *Vipera*, the sub-order *Viperina*, or snakes resembling the common viper.

For *horned*, *pit*, *red*, *sand*, *water*, *yellow viper*, see those terms.

1736 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 254 *Vipera fusca*: the brown Viper in Virginia. In Carolina it is called the Truncheon-Snake. 1743 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1771) II. 44 The Black Viper..is short and thick, of slow motion. *Ibid.* 45 The Brown Viper..is..in length about two feet, and large in proportion. 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) III. 2096/1 The Vipera, or common viper of the shops...It is a native of Egypt, and other warm countries. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 377 Egyptian Viper. *Ibid.* 382 Swedish Viper. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 185 *Vipera*] *brachyura*, Cuv. (The Minute Viper.) 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 347/2 Variegated Viper—that described by Mr. Bell from Hornsey Wood. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1099–1101 [Various species]. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. v. i. 250 The *Vipera Berus* (Daud) or Small Viper (*Coluber Ammodytes*, Linn.). 1881 Nose-horned viper [see VIPERINE].

c. *Zool.* One or other of the snakes belonging to the genus *Vipera*, of which the common viper is the type, or to the family *Viperidæ*.

The vipers were formerly classified (following Linnæus) under the order *Colubri*, from which they are now separated (cf. quot. 1834). The *Viperidæ* form one of the four families into which the suborder *Viperina* (or *Solenoglypha*) is now divided.

1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 364 The species [of Coluber] differ greatly in size and habit, according to their respective tribes; some, as the Vipers, having large, flattish, and subcordate heads, with rather short than long bodies and tails. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 185 The vipers, most of which were confounded with the Colubers by Linnæus, on account of their double sub-caudal plates, require to be separated from them from the circumstance of their having poisonous fangs. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 321 The Vipers (*Viperidæ*)..have a large broad head, a vertical and long pupil in the eye, and the top of the head is covered with very little plates and scales.

2. *fig.* A venomous, malignant, or spiteful person; a villain or scoundrel.

In some quots. the influence of sense 3 or 3 *b* is perceptible.

[1526 TINDALE *Matt.* iii. 7 He sayde vnto them: O generacion of vipers, who hath taught you to fle from the vengeaunce to come?] 1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* A. Wks. (Grosart) X. 39 Those villainous vipers, vnworthy the name of men, base roagues,..being outcasts from God, vipers of the world. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 265 Where is this Viper, That would depopulate the city, & be euery man himself?

1653 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Watermen's Suit* Wks. (1630) 173, I will regard such Vipers and their slander so little, that their malice [etc.]. 1654–4 Vicars *God in Mount* (1844) 149 That most mischievous Viper of our Church & State too, Mathew Wren Bp. of Elie. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* vi. 836, I (she confesses) in the Fact was caught; Two Sons dispatching, at one deadly Draught. What Two, Two Sons, thou Viper, in one day? 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 165 *Cenci* (*to Beatrice*). Thou painted viper! Beast that thou art! Fair and yet terrible! 1832 Warren *Diary Late Physic.* II. ii. 88 'Cannot this infamous scoundrel be brought to justice?' I inquired. 'If he were, he may prove, perhaps, not worth powder and shot, the viper!' 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. iv. 85 'What a generation of vipers!' thought he, 'what a hydra brood of oppressors!' 1850 Marsden *Early Purit.* (1853) 403 The seditious carriage of some vipers of the lower house.

3. In other figurative or allusive uses: † a. In allusion to the supposition that the female viper was killed by her young eating their way out at birth. *Obs.*

Cf. Pliny *Nat. Hist.* x. lxii. 82.

1602 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii, Out viper, thou that eat'st thy parents, hence! 1608 Shaks. *Per.* I. i. 64, I am no viper, yet I feed On mother's flesh which did me breed.

b. In allusion to the fable of the viper reared or revived in a person's bosom: One who betrays or is false to those who have supported or nourished him; a false or treacherous person. Cf. Snake *sb.* 2 a.

Partly after the similar L. uses, *in sinu viperam habere* (Cicero) and *viperam nutricare sub ala* (Petronius).

derness and indulgence to such men were to nourish vipers in our bowels. 1689 *Muses Farew. to Popery* 28 Ev'n thy Royal Patron was not spar'd..O strange return to a forgiving King, But the warm'd Viper wears the greatest Sting. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xviii. viii, He is the brother of that wicked viper which I have so long nourished in my bosom. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, II. 214 Mark the consequence of warming This brood of northern vipers in your bosom. 1911 Rikkr *Ld. Holland* I. iii. 164 The Newcastles had been in terror lest they had raised a viper in their midst.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Comb., as *viper-curled, -haunted, -headed, -mouthed, -nourished* adjs.; *viper-catcher, -hunter, -hunting.*

a 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* III. xi. 26 Our verse great Tityus a huge space out-spreads, And gives the viper curled Dogge three heads. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 526 If it happen that .any man chaunce to light vpon these Viper-nourished blinde-Dormise. 1708 R. Mead *Poisons* 29 Our Viper-Catchers have a Remedy,..in which They do place.. great Confidence. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 109 The seeming rashness of one Tozzi, a viper-catcher. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 465 Viper-headed snake. *Coluber Viperinus.* 1804 *Ibid.* V. I. 120 Viper-mouthed Pike. *Esox Stomias.* 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 349/1 In England these reptiles were caught with a cleft or forked stick, which the viper-catcher drove down immediately behind the head. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* iv, When a person is timid in viper-hunting he had better leave off. *Ibid.*, Besides being a viper-hunter, I am what they call a herbalist. 1904 W. M. Gallichan *Fishing Spain* 102 These viper-haunted spots.

b. Simple attrib., as *viper bite, fat, flesh, group, kind, oil, spirit, virus.*

1721 Bailey, *Viperous*, of the Viper kind or belonging to Adders. 1754 Bartlet *Gentlem. Farriery* Index, Viper bite, how to be treated. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 199 Viper oil or fat, which shou'd be fresh, is a sovereign remedy against the stinging of bees..and other venomous insects. 1776 G. White *Selborne* 29 April, This little fry [of fifteen vipers] issued into the world with the true viper spirit about them. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 349/1 Pliny, Galen, and others prnise the efficacy of viper flesh in the cure of ulcers [etc.]. 1870 Gillmore tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* ii. 88 Such are the terrible weapons of the Viper group. 1892 'Son of Marsher' *On Surrey Hills* 62 Viper-oil..you would find in all the woodmen's cottages. 1894 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 5/4 By heating some viper virus at a temperature of 85 degrees Centigrade.

c. With intensive force (passing in later use into adj.), = Venomous, extremely bitter, viperous.

Viper-

1788 Burns *Poet's Progr.* 30 Viper-critics cureless venom dart. 1876 Sir E. M. Thompson *Chron. A. de Usk* 221 The viper race of Lombardy, split up into Guelphs and Ghibellines. 1899 Miss B. Harraden *Fowler* 75, I can't abide the little viper man. *Ibid.* 83 He don't like that little viper gentleman any more than I.

5. Special combs., as **viper-broth**, broth made from vipers, or in which a viper has been boiled, formerly supposed to possess nutritive or invigorating properties; **viper-fish**, a deep-sea fish of the family *Chauliodontidæ*, esp. *Chauliodus sloani* (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **viper-gourd**, an East Indian climbing gourd, *Trichosanthes colubrina*, remarkable for its ugliness (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **viper-grass**, = viper's grass; also *attrib.*; **viper-jelly** (cf. *viper-broth*); † **viper-mouth** (see quot. and cf. *viper-fish* above); † **viper-stone**, = Serpentine *sb.* 3; **viper-weever**, the lesser weever, *Trachinus vipera*; **viper-wine**, wine medicated by an extract or decoction obtained from vipers, formerly drunk on account of its supposed restorative or vitalizing properties; † **viper-worm**, = Viper 1.

1729 Flower *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 329 Hunted Venison, Stale Meats, *Viper Broths*, or Wine. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. 1. 309 Viper-broth is both anti-acid and nourishing. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 349/1 The lingering belief in the wonderfully invigorating qualities of 'viper broth' is not yet quite extinct in some places. 1656 J. Smith *Pract. Physick* 238 Topicals must be Specifical Resolvers, as *Viper-grasse. 1721 C. Cleve tr. *Cowley's Plants* III. C.'s Wks. III. 347 Viper-grass, full of a milky Juice Good against Poison. 1737 A. Cooper *Distiller* III. xv. (1760) 170 Of Viper-grass ten Ounces. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 102/2 A decoction made of barley,..viper-grass root, and liquorice. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 832 Wall Viper-grass. *Ibid.*, Common Viper-grass. 1863 Prior *Brit. Pl.* 234 Viper-grass,..*Scorzonera edulis*. 1702 R. Mead *Poisons* 34 The Patient ought to eat frequently of *Viper Gelly; or Broth. 1743 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1771) II. 119 *Vipera Marina*, the *Viper-Mouth. This Fish is eighteen inches in length. 1738 *Phil. Trans.* XL. 442 Speaking of the Serpentine or *Viper-Stone, he relates a very extraordinary Accident. 1863 Couch *Brit. Fishes* II. 48 The *Viper Weever, however, is common on most of the shores of Britain and Ireland. 1632 Massinger *Believe as You List* IV i, Your *viper wine, So much in practise with gray bearded gallants, [is] But vappa to the nectar of her lippe. 1632 Quarles *Hist. Samson* Wks. (Grosart) II. 149/2 Their Viper-wines, to make old age presume To feele new lust, and youthfull flames agin. 1745 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect.* No. 12 (1748) II. 292 Lady Frolick pouring a glass of viper wine down his throat. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 372 Galen..relates very remarkable cures of this disease [*sc.* elephantiasis] performed by means of viper wine. 1896 *Academy* 28 Nov. 448/3 The legend that Lady Digby died of drinking viper-wine. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 199 Th' innammel'd Scorpion, and the *Viper-worm. 1592 — *Trl. Faith* IV. v, The deadly sting of th' ugly Viper-Worm.

b. Special collocations with *viper's*, forming names of plants, as **viper's bugloss**, the plant *Echium vulgare* or a variety of this; **viper's grass**, a plant of the genus *Scorzonera*, esp. *S. hispanica*; † **viper's herb**, **viper's bugloss**; **viper's plant**, **viper's grass**.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxii. 658 *Vipers Bugloss, or wall Bugloss. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Vipers Bugloss*, a Solar herb, the roots and seeds whereof are Cordial and Expellers of Melancholy. 1698 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 402 In Texture very much resembling our Vipers Bugloss. 1777 Jacob *Catal. Plants* 33 *Echium anglicum*, English Viper's Bugloss. *Echium vulgare*, Viper's Bugloss. 1840 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) I. 106 A flinty soil nourishes the Three-leaved Speedwell and the Viper's Bugloss. 1869 Ruskin *Queen of Air* § 87 It [the serpent spirit] enters into the forget-me-not, and the star of heavenly turquoise is corrupted into the viper's bugloss. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccxlii. 596 There be diuers sorts of plants conteined vnder the title of *Viperaria, Scorzonera*, or *Vipers grasse. 1629 Parkinson *Paradisus* 301 This Spanish Vipers grasse hath diuers long, and somewhat broad leaues. *Ibid.*, This purple flowred Vipers grasse hath long and narrow leaues. 1728 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 174 A Flower of an inch and half diameter, yellow, like that of the common Vipers-grass. 1842 J. B. Fraser *Mesopot. & Assyria* xv. 359 East of Mosul, a species of vipers'-grass..abounds, and affords a plentiful nutriment. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Gard.* (1861) 32 Scorzonera, Viper's-Grass, or Spanish Salsify. 1597

1884 t

Orig. Cultivated Pl. 45 *Scorzonera hispanica*..was formerly supposed to be an antidote against the bite of adders, and was sometimes called the *viper's plant.

Hence (chiefly in nonce-use) **Vi'peran**, † **Vipe'real**, † **Vi'pered**, **Vipe'rian** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to a viper; viperine, viperous; **Vipe'riform** *a.*, having the form of a viper; viperine.

1877 Talmage *Serm.* 338 The acid of a soured life, the *viperan sting of a bitter memory. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 662 Hence perhaps the *vipereal Venom .. may derive its Force. 1560 Fitzwilliam *Let.* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1863) VIII. 16 There was not under the sun a more craftier *vipered undermining generation. 1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* 115 And Perseus triumphant homeward brings *Viperian spoils. c 1888 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 301 The poisonous Snakes are divided into two groups—the *Viperiform Snakes and the Venomous Colubrines.

† **Vi'peral.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *viperāl-is*, f. *vipera* Viper.] A medicament derived from the viper.

1726 N. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 352 The great Pox which can scarce ever be cur'd without Viperals or Mercurials.

† **Vipe'reous**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vipere-us* (hence It. *vipereo*), f. *vipera* Viper: see -eous. Cf. Viperious *a.*] Viperous, venomous.

In the first quot. after Ovid *Metam.* IV. 490; in the second translating Virgil *Æneid* VII. 349–51.

c 1620 Robinson *Mary Magd.* 547 A dreary hagge of Acheron..in the palaces of Pleasure stood, Shakinge ye frie of her vipereous brood. *Ibid.* 565 And one vpon ye wretched mayd shee slunge, That..glided on her brest with gentle hast, And there vipereous cogitations plac't.

Vi'peress, *rare*—1. [f. Viper + -ess.] A female viper. In quot. *fig.*

1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 102 But Pontia did confesse, 'My sons I would have poyson'd'. Viperesse!

Vi'perine, *sb.*[1] *rare.* [f. Viper + -ine[5].] (See quot.)

1861 Hulme tr. *Maquin-Tandon* II. v. ii. 284 Prince Lucien Bonaparte has shown that the poison of the Viper consists essentially of a principle to which he has given the name Echidnine or Viperine.

Viperine (vəi'pĕrain, -in), *a.* and *sb.*[2] Also 8 -in. [ad. L. *viperīn-us* (hence OF. *viperin*, F. *vipérin*, It., Sp., and Pg. *viperino*), f. *vipera* Viper: see -ine[1].]

1. Resembling a viper or that of a viper; having the nature or character of a viper; venomous, viperous; viper-like. Chiefly in fig. or allusive use (cf. Viper 3).

a 1550 *Image Hypocr.* II. 291 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 426 His county pallantyne Haue coustome colubryne, With codes viperyne And sectes serpentyne. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (1613), *Viperine*, like a viper, or of a viper. 1648 E. Simmons *Pref. to Wedenote's Herm. Theol.* A 8 b, If ever the Title of Rex diabolorum was rightly applyable to the King of this land, 'tis since the viperine birth of these miscreants. 1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispatch't* 22 Lingua viperea! Viperine tongue! 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* ix. 290 Cæsar Borgia's Viperine Aspect. 1726 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 130 Of all the Poetick Salts,..the Satyrical [is] most Viperin and Piercing, the Eclogist and Idillian the most Country-wise and Native. 1873 *Routledge's Mag. Genti. Mag.* June 401/1 He [a grass-snake] raised himself up in true viperine fashion.

† b. *fig.* Of glosses (see Viper 3 a). *Obs.*

1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* v. 22 Our Saviour..taking away their viperine glosses that did eat out the bowels of the text. 1648 *Commouer's Liberty* 18 Had he any other way to weaken what must of necessity be inferred from them, but by such viperine glosses.

c. Of persons.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 362 Archilocus, a viperine satyrist, and not onely so, but a petulant obscure poet. 1726 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 70 Rdr. 40 Implacable Enemies of the most invenemated Viperin, or rather Draconick kind, who are..continually gnawing and corroding the very Bowels..of the Church of England. 1845 Browning *Lett.* (1899) I. 48 A viperine she-friend of mine who, I think, rather loves me, she does so hate me. 1903 *Times* 16 Dec. 11/3 The convention of the virtuous heroine and the viperine adventuress.

2. Of or pertaining to a viper; obtained from or natural to vipers.

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 286 They [tortoises] eate Origan, for that herbe is an antidote against Viperine poyson for them. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* x. 347 Viperine Medicines are good in the Itch and Leprosie. 1708 R. Mead *Poisons* 33 The main Efficacy of the Viperine Flesh is to quicken the Circle of the Blood. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Viper*, The Virus..proves a nimble Vehicle to carry the Viperine Spicula almost every where suddenly. 1851 W. J. Broderip *Leaves fr. Note Bk. Nat.* (1852) 224 The viperine remedy had classical authority for its ministration. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 670 These two being examples of mixed colubrine and viperine poisons.

3. *Zool.* Of snakes: Resembling or related to the common viper; now *spec.* belonging to the suborder *Viperina* (*Solenoglypha*).

1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 355 Viperine Boa. *Boa Viperina.* 1870 Gillmore tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* ii. 41 His Venomous Colubrine Snakes have certainly a much nearer resemblance in other respects to the *Colubridæ* than they have to the Viperine Snakes. *Ibid.* 47 The Viperine Snake (*Tropidonotus viperinus*)..This is the smallest of all the European *Colubridæ*. 1887 Günther in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 191/1 The poison of Viperine snakes invariably destroys its coagulability.

4. *sb. Zool.* A snake belonging to the *Viperina*.

1887 Günther in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 191/1 In the other venomous snakes (Viperines and Crotalines) the maxillary bone is very short. *Ibid.* 198/2 The Death Adder..differs from the other Viperines in having the poison-fang permanently erect.

† **Viperious**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Viper + -ious. Cf. Viperous *a.*] Viperous, venomous. Hence † **viperiously** *adv. Obs.*—1

*c 1520 *Treat. Galaunt* (1860) 12 If ye beholde the galauntes progenye vyperyous That out of France be fledde. 1538 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) III. 2 He made there a comment on the saide letter,..with souch a stomake, as I thinke the three mouthed Cerberous of Hell coulde not have uttered it more viperiously. *a 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 92 Our viperious countrymen, the English Jesuits in France,..retorted that argument upon us.

Viperish (vəi'pĕriʃ), *a.* [f. Viper + -ish[1].]

1. *fig.* Venomous, viperous, spiteful.

1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) II. 40 Tell me, you viperish scoffer, what you think hath won this kingdom? 1880 W. Collins *Wom. White* III. narr. W. Hartwright vii, She cast one viperish look at me as I entered the hall. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xlv, He listened to her viperish speech. 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 839 All sorts of characters, from the most malignant and viperish to the noblest and most self-forgetful.

2. Somewhat resembling a viper: viper-like.

1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* xv, It seemed as if her footfall had startled some viperish creature. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* vii. 218 [Medea's] viperish loose hair and throbbing skin.

Hence **Vi'perishly** *adv.*, with the rapid and sinuous motion of a viper.

1870 *Temple Bar Mag.* XXIX. 180 Men..with lissom wrists that can make a foil curl viperishly round an antagonist's blade.

Vi'per-like, *adv.* and *a.* [f. Viper.]

A. *adv.* In or after the manner of a viper. Only in allusive use (see Viper 3).

1630 Drayton *Muses Elis.* x. 117 This cruell kinde thus Viper-like deuoure That fruitfull soyle which them too fully fed. 1646 J. Hall *Poems* I. 43 Had not thy mother born thee toothlesse thou Hadst eaten Viper-like a passage through. 1677 Horneck *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. (1704) 141 If Absalom had not had a kingdom in his eye, he would hardly have,..viperlike, preyed upon the bowels that did feed him. *a 1700 Dryden *P.S. to Hist. League* Wks. 1821 XVII. 162 The government in which they live, and which, viper-like, they would devour. 1729 Madden *Themistocles* IV. i. (ed. 3) 44 Can I live By Athens' Ruin, working out my Way into the World, most Viper-like, by gnawing E'en thro' my Mother's Bowels? 1772 Kelly *Clementina*

m. I, They'll else blast all the comforts of your life, And, viper-like, with death return your fondness. 1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 277 He couldn't bring himself at that late day to arise, viper like, from the hearthstone and smite.

B. *adj.* Like or resembling a viper.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 247 The genus *Echis* consists of but one species (*E. carinata*)...It is a viper-like snake. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 2/1 The noise of the little brass viper-like being in the corner as it whirred and hissed and snapped its teeth.

Vi·perling. [f. Viper + -ling.] A young viper.

1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXII. 939 Young viperlings come into the world in full maturity of malice. 1881 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 3/2 About three weeks ago the nose-horned viper ..distinguished herself by presenting the Gardens at one fell swoop with six-and-forty viperlings. 1897 G. C. Bateman *Vivarium* 222 The Viper produces, at one time, from thirty to fifty little Viperlings.

Viperous (vəi·pĕrəs), *a.* Also 6 **vyperos**, **-ouse**, **viperouse**, 7–8 **viporous**; 6 **vipros**, 7 **viprous**, 7–8 *post.* **vip'rous.** [f. Viper + -ous.]

1. Of or pertaining to a viper or vipers.

Rarely in literal use.

fig. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 144 With vipros venmuin inwart in his mynd...Dissaitfullie that tyme he gart him trow, That he wrocht ay for his plesour and prow. 1602 Rowlands *Tis Merrie when Gossips meete* (Hunter. Cl.) 13 No viperous tongue thy pleasant vayne will strike. 1608 D. T[uvill.] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 130 With the filthy slime of their malicious and viperous iawes. *a* 1665 J. Goodwin *Milled w. the Spirit* (1867) 55 Men of a viperous spirit, and desperately set upon their own ruin and destruction. 1768 Beattie *Judgm. Paris* ciii, Censure spreads the viperous bliss around. *a* 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxv. (1861) V. 304 Papers about the brazen forehead, the viperous tongue, and the white liver of Jack Howe. 1886 *Daily News* 8 April 5/3 What viperous venom and what rat-like rage.

lit. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* ix. 391 But when she [Medusa] comb'd her crawling crowne, The viprous venome trailed downe. 1706 De Foe *Jure Divino* xii. 268 In vain supplies of vip'rous Blood they bring.

† b. In allusive use (see Viper 3 a). *Obs.*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* iii. v. (1634) 319 Out of that ancient custome the confessions and satisfactions that are at this day used, tooke their beginning. Truly very viperous birthe. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Wits Pilgr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 52/2 The Viperous Iron Teeth of Time may gnaw away, to wracke, through my Works Wombe. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 127 Whether [it be]..from vapors ingendred in the bowels of the earth, and loth to bee imprisoned in a wrong orb, [the subterranean fire] rends its passage by a viperous horrid motion; or [etc.].

2. Composed or consisting of vipers. Freq. with admixture of sense 4.

Chiefly in fig. use or as a term of opprobrium, esp. in *viperous brood* or *generation*; freq. in the 17thc., now *rare* or *arch.*

fig. 1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 1754 Oh ragynge serpentes and vyperouse generacyon. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 42/1 The loose life of that viperous nation. 1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 152 This viperous brood [of liars] doe but watch their times and opportunities. 1643 Quarles *Loyal Convert* Wks. (Grosart) I. 142/2 A viperous Generation (which hath long nested in this unhappie Island). 1670 *Devout Communi.* (1688) 124 That the Lord of all should..take into his bosom the viperous brood, that have so often spit their venom in his face? 1706 E. Ward *Hud. Rediv.* (1707) II. vii. 13 For in this pious Christian Nation There is a vip'rous Congregation [etc.]. 1724 L. Milbourne *Traitor's Reward* Pref., His way of extolling his viperous generation is so very impudent and rediculous, that [etc.]. 1814 Southey *Roderick* v. 115 These were Witiza's hateful progeny; And in an evil hour the unhappy King Had spared the viperous brood. 1874 Farrar *Christ* viii. (1884) 53 A formalism and falsity which made them vipers of a viperous brood.

lit. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* II. 128 She..rent from thence, before Psyche's astonish'd eyes, that viperous fry Which her snarl'd soul in unfelt bands did ty. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 128 Vipers, and all the Viperous Brood.

† b. In allusive use (cf. 4 b, and see Viper 3 a). 1625 W. Hull *Mirr. Majestie* 39 Sinne is a viperous brood: the life of the daughter, is the death of the mother. 1627 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 514 This forwardness of you is the more remarkable, when that Viperous Generation..do, at ease, with tooth and nall, essay to rend the Bowels of their Mother. 1648 *Canterburie Marck* B 2, Hence Viprous Brood! what make you heare, Who thus the Kingdomes Bowels teare?

† c. Of hair, etc. Cf. Snaky *a.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* xii. xxx, Her viperous locks hung loose about her eares; Yet with a monstrous snake she them restrains. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xi. 8 Then from his own viperous Tresses He Pluck'd three large handfuls of his longest Snakes.

3. Of actions, qualities, etc.: Worthy of or befitting a viper; malignant, treacherous, venomous.

Very common in the 17th c.; now *rare* or *arch.*

1542 Brinklow *Complt.* xxiii. 48 b, How haue thei bewitched the Parlament howse in making such vyperos actys as the beast of Rome neuer made him selfe! 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlvi. 149 Their wicked lyves, and viperouse behaviour toward the said bishope. 1604 Coke *2 State Trials* 26, I want words sufficient to express your viperous treasons. 1632 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 252 The viperous malice of this Monkish broode. 1646 J. Hall *Poems* I. xi. 27 Wee'l suffer viperous thoughts and cares To follow after silver hairs. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) X. 285 Let us now see into how many cursed consequences, this viperous piece of villany is like to spread itself. 1824 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 399 Passions so vehement and viperous.

b. Of language, writings, etc.

1605 Camden *Rem.* Epit. 34 Vpon Stigand..I finde this most viperous Epitaph in an old Manuscript. 1622 Shake. *Cymb.* III. iv. 42 'Tis Slander,..whose tongue Out-venomes all the Wormes of Nyle; ..the Secrets of the Grave this viperous slander enters. 1892 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 3 The viperous murmurings of miscreant villaines. 1728 P. Walker *Life Peden* (1827) 270 This is a viperous, groundless wicked Story. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 58 In one of those viperous journals, which deal out profaneness, hate, fury, and sedition throughout the land. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 37 Wit..expended in darting viperous epigrams at Court-ladies. 1905 *Athenæum* 12 Aug. 217/1 Lockhart was..annoyed..especially by the viperous notes from a Whig hand.

4. Of the nature of a viper; resembling a viper in character or action; having the attributes or evil qualities of a viper.

Freq. in the 17th c.; now *rare.*

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 20 Good Sir, arise, and confound those Viperous Cryticall monsters. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* III. i. 287 Speake breefely then, For we are peremptory to dispatch This Viporous Traitor. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 347 These viprous, dessemblinge, and crockadillike currs. 1680 *Spirit of Popery* 24 The Viperous Author of the Reformed Bishop. 1760 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 130 Nostep-dames, nor viperous instruments, shall ever hereafter insinuate between us. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xxxvi, What deaf and viperous murderer could crown Life's early cup with such a draught of woe?

† D. In allusive use (see Viper 3 a). *Obs.*

1591 Shake. *1 Hen. VI*, III. i. 72 Ciuill dissention is a viperous Worme That gnawes the Bowels of the Common-wealth. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 56/2 Woe woorth such vip'rous Cousins that wil rend Their Mother's wombe (the Common-wealth) to raigne. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 11 Such viperous Schismaticks as would eate out their way. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* xii. ix, Twas vip'rous Nero slew his own indulgent Mother.

c. *fig.* Of things.

1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* ix. 576 The stings of viperous remorse, Trying their strength, enforced him to start up, Aghast and prayerless. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1311. 734/1 Considering how much damage these viperous little craft are likely to do in war. 1883–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* April xi, A savage beast, The viperous scourge of gods and humankind.

Hence **Vi·perously** *adv.*, in or after the manner of a viper; venomously; **Vi·perousness**, viperous nature or character; venomosity. *rare.*

1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 419 In that copious treatise hauing spoken as maliciouslie & viperouslie as he might.. of Wickliffes life. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* III. 210 O how the peevish and reluctant elves (Mad with their own birth,) viperously contend The worried bowels of the heart to rend! 1649 Cockayne *Found. Freedom Vind.* 1 Whose seeming sugered words are mixed with wormwood, promising fairnesse, but viperously stinging the poore despised Army. 1728 P. Walker *Life Peden* To Rdr. (1827) p. xxv, Mr. William Vetch,..in his dotted old Age, wrote so viporously and maliciously against him. 1632 *Mr. Love's Case* 37 Is it possible that such virulency and viperousness of words as these should proceed from any other Principle? 1727 Bailey (vol. II), Viperousness.

Vi·pery, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. Viper + -y.] Consisting of vipers; viperous.

1909 R. Bridges *Paraphr. Virg. Æneid* VI. Poems (1913) 458 On those convicted tremblers then leapeth avenging Tisiphone with keen flesh-whips and vipery scourges.

† **Vi·politic.** *Obs.* [Vi- *pref.*] (See quot.)

1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* I. vii, [He is] a Vi politique! Or a sub-aiding Instrument of State! A kind of laborious Secretary To a great man!

† **Vi-pre·sident.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [f. Vi- + President *sb.*] A vice-president.

a 1668 Davenant *Masque* Poems (1672) 364 We have had new orders read in the Presence-Chamber, by the Vi-President of Parnassus.

† **Vipseys,** obs. var. of or error for Gipsies.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 715 Those famous waters which commonly are called Vipseys, rise out of the earth from many sources not continually, but every second yeere, and beeing growne unto a great bourne runne downe by the lower grounds into the sea. 1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4). 1727 [see Gipsies]. 1777 *Ann. Reg.* II. 146 Vipseys or gypseys in Yorkshire..means a torrent which flows only now and then or once in a few years.

Vi-queen. *rare.* [Vi- *pref.*] A vice-queen.

1862 H. Marryat *Year in Sweden* I. 327 There Lina lies like a vi-queen in her grave.

Vir, variant of Vire *Sc.*

† **Viragin.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *virāgin-*, stem of *virāgo.* Cf. It. *viragine.*] = Virago.

1576 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 3) 2005/2 This most rough brake (wherwith this Viragin rather then Virgin..boasted her selfe to be sent of God to ryde and tame the people of England). 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VI 364 The aforesaid two Virgins, or rather Viragins, travelled to Rome with three the most beautifull of their society.

Viraginian (virădʒi·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *virāgin-* (see prec.) + -ian.] a. *adj.* = Viraginous *a.* b. *sb.* The language of a virago.

1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 292 The remembrance of his old conversation among the Viraginian trollops. 1869 O. W. Holmes *Old Vol. Life, Cinders fr. Ashes* (1891) 242 Her face..showed itself capable of something resembling what Milton calls the viraginian aspect. 1899 B. Capes *Lady of Darkness* ii. 19 She was rating him in voluble viraginian.

Viragi·nity. *rare*⁻⁰. [f. as prec. + -ity.] The character or qualities of a virago.

1846 Worcester (citing *Q. Rev.*).

Viraginous (virădʒi·nŭs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ous.] Of the nature of, having the characteristics of, a virago.

1666 *Third Adv. Painter* 24 She dry'd no tears, for she was so Viraginous, But only snuffing her trunk Cartilaginous. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* s.v. *Stang*, He is carried through the whole hamlet, with a view of exposing or shaming him for love-making in the novel. 1890 *Lond.* 16 Aug. 214 Virtie was exactly what Mme. de Staël was not, though she may have been viraginous.

Hence **Vira·ginously** *adv.*

1644 R. Culmer *Cathedral News fr. Canterb.* 21 In comes a Prebend's wife, and pleaded for the Images there, and jeered the Commissioners *viraginously.*

Virago (virā·gō). Also 6 **virragoo**, 7 **ver-**, **vyr-**, **firago.** [a. L. *virāgo* a man-like or heroic woman, a female warrior, etc., f. *vir* man. Hence also OF., F., and Sp. *virago.*]

† 1. Woman. (Only as the name given by Adam to Eve, after the Vulgate rendering of Gen. ii. 23.)

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 14 Beo hire nama Uirago, þæt is, fæmne, forðan ðe heo is of hire were genumen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 633 Virago gaf he hir to nam; þar for hight sco virago, for maked o þe man was sco. 1388 Wyclif *Gen.* ii. 23 And Adam seide..This schal be clepid virago, for she is takun of man. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 37 b/1, And Adam gaf here a name lyke as her lord and said, she shal be called Virago, whiche is as moche to saye as made of a man and is a name taken of a man. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* I. 150 Shee shalbe called, I wisse, Viragoo, nothing amisse, For out of man tacken shee is. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* cxlii. 82 b, First when a woman was made of God she was named Virago because she dyd come of a man. 1576 Gascoigne *Droome Doomes Day* I. P 6 Before Eva sinned, she was called *Virago*, and after she sinned she deserved to be called Eva.

2. A man-like, vigorous, and heroic woman; a female warrior; an amazon. Now *rare.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 413 The strong virage [L. *virago potentissima*] Elfleda..halp moche her broþer þe kyng in gouernge of counsaile. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. clxxx. (1811) 178 Elfleda,...this noble venqueresse Virago and made, whose vertue can I nat expresse. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. viii. 56 The mynd Of Juturna, the verray virago; Quhilk term to expone, be myne avis, Is a woman exersand a mannis office. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 24 One of his wiues..decketh her selfe moste gorgiously..and procedeth like a *Virago* stoutly and cherefully to the fire, where the corps of her husbande was burnte. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 34 No swarms or trouping horsmen can apale the virago. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 383 This Sultan presented him with the head of that Virago Periaconcona vpon the top of a Launce. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *A. & M.* (1642) 361 Shee so ruled as Queene eight yeers and better; a man-like virago of a stout and noble spirit. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* (1865) II. 20 That young Virago kept the door fast against them. 1712–4 Pope *Rape Lock* v. 37 To arms! to arms! the fierce virago cries, And swift as lightening to the combate flies. 1781 Cowper *Let.* 5 Mar., And as to the neutralities, I really think the Russian virago an impertinent puss for meddling with us. 1832 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. xi, Did not the same virago boast that she had a Cavalry Regiment, whereof neither horse nor man could be injured. 1885 *19th Cent.* May 772 She [Vittoria Colonna] was a virago, a name which, however misapprehended now, bore a different and worthy signification in her day.

† b. Applied to a man. *Obs. rare.*

c 1600 Day *Begg. Bednall Gr.* IV. i. (1881) 78 Come then, my mad Viragoes,..now I'll turn swaggerer myself. 1601 Shake. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 300 Why man, hee's a verie diuell, I haue not seen such a firago...They say, he has bin Fencer to the Sophy.

3. A bold, impudent († or wicked) woman; a termagant, a scold.

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 359 O Sowdanesse, roote of Iniquitee, Virago, thou Semyrame the secounde [etc.]. 1680 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* 178 God sets this black brand upon this virago Jezabel. 1734 Swift *Quiet Life* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 48 He saw virago Nell belabour, With Dick's own staff, his peaceful neighbour. 1770 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 230 No heroine in Billingsgate can go beyond the patriotic scolding of our republican virago. 1836 Jas. Grant *Sk. Lond.* 175 It now devolved on her to act the part of a wife who played both the tyrant and virago at home. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xxvii. 329, I believe Lady Aylmer to be an overbearing virago, whom it is good to put down. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 90 Three women—a mother and two daughters. These were the greatest viragoes I ever saw.

transf. 1713 Warder *True Amazons* (ed. 2) 23 But the Numbers are not great of these forward Viragos [= young bees]. 1793 G. White *Selborne* lii, Every hen is in her turn the virago of the yard.

4. a. *attrib.*, chiefly appositive, as *virago family, girl, heroine*, etc.; also *virago-strain.*

1598 Florio, *Briſalda*, a..mankinde, virago woman. 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Superb. Flagellum* C vi, Like shamelesse double sex'd *Hermaphrodites*, Virago Roaring Girles. 1639 G. Daniel *Vervic.* 161 But the Virago Queen..doth aggravate Th' aggreived Lords. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. i. 131 But a bold wench, of right virago strain, Cleft with an axe the wretched wight in twain. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxii, Petticoated philosophers, blustering heroines, or virago queens. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) I. 470 Edward III's queen Philippa was of a virago family. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* 360 Montfort was taken prisoner; his countess, one of the virago heroines of the time, was besieged in Hennebon. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* I, If she had not made Galba and his virago-mother feel the weight of her vengeance, it was only because they were too insignificant.

b. *Comb.*, as *virago-like.*

1620 Markton *Ant. & Mel.* Induct., Wks. 1856 I. 4 An Amason should have such a voice, virago-like. 1618 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 92 He doth renew his battery, and stands too't, And she, Vyrago-like, yeelds not a foote.

Hence **Vira·goish** *a.*, somewhat resembling, or

characteristic of, a virago; **Vira·goship**, the character of a virago.

1666 KILLIGREW *Siege of Urbin* I. ii, How shall we answer at the Resurrection? for our Viragoships? for our own, and others blood, thus shed! 1887 E. BERDOE *St. Bernard's* 288 The over-dressed, robust, viragoish lady patient. 1888 LADY D. HARDY *Dang. Exper.* I. iii. 59 Mrs. Brown's rather viragoish, coarse-featured face.

† **Viragon**, irreg. f. VIRAGIN or VIRAGO.

1641 *Vox Borealis* C j b, Wherein Women against the Laws of God, Nature, Nations, they act Man, and play the very Viragons.

Virall, obs. f. VIRL. **Virallay**, obs. f. VIRELAI. **Viranda**, etc., obs. f. VERANDA. **Virandoed**, var. VERANDA(H)ED *a.* **Virohippe**, obs. f. WORSHIP. **Virdingal**, obs. var. FARTHINGALE.

† **Vire**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4 fyre, 4–6 vyre, 5 *Sc.* wyr, wyir. [a. OF. *vire* (= Prov., Sp., Pg. *vira*), f. *virer* to turn.] A form of quarrel or bolt for a cross-bow. (Cf. VIRETON.)

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 595, I haf a bow, bot and a vyre. *Ibid.* 623 He tasit the vyre and leit it fle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 164 As a fyre Which fleth out of a myhti bowe, Aweie he fledde for a throwe. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 4802 Thei faust vn-armed in here atyres With longe Arwes and scharpe vires. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 2113 in *Macro Plays* (1904) 140, I schal slynge at þee many a vyre, & ben a-vengyd hastely here. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1092 The red knycht, byrnyng in loues fyre, Goith to o knycht, als swift as ony vyre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. xi. 16 This virgine sprent on swiftlie as a vyre.

† **Vire**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[—1] In 5 wire. [ad. L. *virus*.] = VIRUS.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 77 For euery olde wounde hauynge rotnes or wire, þat is þinne venymous quyttir or ony obir þing.

† **Vire**, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* Also 5 *Sc.* wyre, vyre. [ad. OF. *virer* to turn: cf. VEER *v.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To whirl or throw.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 708 Iohne Crab..In his fagattis has set the fyre, And our the wall syne can thame wyre.

2. *intr.* To turn; to wind about.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 119 As the dure turnis about apon the herre,..and vyris and revyris. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 436 No, no, hee hath vired all this while, but to come the sooner to his affected end.

† **Vire**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. (Origin and meaning doubtful: cf. VIRE *sb.*[1])

c 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 5448 Many a Gregey was euel atyred, With brode arwes al to-vired; Thei wounded hem with arwes brode.

Vire, southern dial. var. FIRE; obs. Sc. f. WIRE.

Virelay (vi·rĕlē[1]). Now *Hist.* or *arch.* Forms: 4–7, 9 virelai (5 virallay, 7 virilai, 9 -lay), 5–6 vyrelay; 4 verelai, 6–7, 9 verilay, 6 ver(re)-lay. [a. OF. *virelai* (14th c.), an alteration (prob. after *lai* LAY *sb.*[4]) of *vireli*: see VIRELY.] A song or short lyric piece, of a type originating in France in the 14th century, usu. consisting of short lines arranged in stanzas with only two rhymes, the end-rhyme of one stanza being the chief one of the next.

Chiefly current in the Chaucerian period, from *c* 1575 to 1610, and in the 19th cent.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 423 *Balade*, He made..manye an ympne for your halydayis That hightyn baladis, roundelys, & vyrelayes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 133 Ek he can carolles make, Rondeal, balade and virelai. 14.. LYDG. *To Sovereign Lady* 40 Thus many a roundel and many a virelay In freshe Englisshe..I do recorde. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* A j, For in that time I made..vyrelayes in the mooste best wyse I cowde. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 975 Som to make verelaies & laies, And som to others diverse pleyes. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxvi. 30/1 Whiche boke was called the Melyader, conteyninge all the songes, baladdes, rundeaux, and vyrelayes, whiche the gentyll duke had made in his tyme. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 21 But if thou algate iust light virelayes, And looser songs of loue to vnderfong. 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* iii. 55 With daintie and delightsome straynes of dapper Verilayes. 1614 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Eclogue* 34 Let thy Virilaies Kill enuious cunning swaines..With enuy. 1700 DRYDEN *Flower & Leaf* 365 And then the Band of Flutes began to play, To which a Lady sung a Virelay. 1795 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mrs. H. More* 13 Feb., I received your letter and packet of lays and virelays. 1812 D'ISRAELI *Calam. Auth.* (1867) 76 Thus he lived, like some old troubadour, by his rhymes, and his chants, and his virelays. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 233 O Dead, ye shall no longer..Drag us backward by the garment thus, To stand and laud you in long-drawn virelays! 1880 F. HUEFFER in *Macm. Mag.* No. 253-31 Every one will admit that a halting roudel or virelai is simply an abominati·n.

transf. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. I. iii. 5 You chearfull chaunters of the flowring woods,..To mournfull note turn your light verilayes, Death be your song, and Winters hoary sprayes. 1828 MILMAN *Samor* 171 The merry birds ..spring-tide virelays caroling.

Virelle, obs. form of VIRL.

Virent (vəi·rĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *virent-*, *virens*, pres. pple. of *virēre* to be green. Cf. It. *virente*.]

† 1. Verdant; fresh, not faded. *Obs.*

1595 *Locrine* III. ii. 11 By reason of the fatall massacre Which shall be made vpon the virent plaines. 1606 N. BAXTER [illegible] yet fresh and virent, they carve out the figures of men and women. 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 93 For through yᵉ Place is nothing withered; but still-virent Bayes ..Appeare.

2. Green in colour.

1832 J. WARTON *Retrospect* II. 89 Let not the virent snake entwine thee round. 1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 107 The sun.. illuminated its virent tints. 1892 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 490 One hand a staff of virent emerald held.

Vireo (vi·rĭ,o). *Ornith.* [a. L. *vireo*, *-onis* (Pliny) some small bird, perhaps the greenfinch.] Any small American bird belonging to the genus *Vireo* or the family *Vireonidæ*; a greenlet, a fly-catcher.

Many species are distinguished by special epithets, as *black-capped*, *black-headed*, *blue-headed*, *gray*, *mountain*, [illegible] leaves or twigs. 1845 HIRST *Com. Monmouth*, etc. 135 In yon oak a vireo shrills. 1869 J. BURROUGHS in *Galaxy Mag.* Aug. 170 The Vireos, or Greenlets, are a sort of connecting-link between the Warblers and the true Fly-catchers. 1878 COUES *Birds Colorado Valley* 485 The Vireos were long supposed to be in the curious case, that some species possessed ten primaries, and others only nine.

Vireonine, *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *vireōn-*, *vireo* (see prec.) + -INE.] a. *sb.* A vireo or bird related to this. b. *adj.* Characteristic of the vireo and related birds.

1878 COUES *Birds Colorado Valley* 484 The genus *Icteria* is still associated by some leading ornithologists with the Vireonines. *Ibid.* 523 The nest is always built after the usual Vireonine style of architecture.

Virescence (vire·sĕns). [See next and -ENCE.] a. *Bot.* Regular or abnormal development of a green colour in leaves or flowers. b. Greenness.

1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1904 R. J. FARRER *Garden Asia* 167 The fields, whose wealth of virescence glimmers ghostly.

Virescent (vire·sĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *virescent-*, *virescens*, pres. pple. of *virescĕre* to become green.] Greenish; turning or becoming green. Also *fig.*

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 324 In the most flourishing and virescent condition of any pool, ditch, or otherwise in the empire. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 326/2 Virescent juvenility or green old age. 1882 T. HARDY *Laodicean* v. ii, The summer..tipping every twig with a tiny sprout of virescent yellow. 1882 *Garden* 1 July 12/3 He also exhibited..some virescent flowers of Auricula.

† **Vireton**. *Obs. rare.* In 6 vyre-. [a. OF. *vireton* (= Prov. *viraton*), f. *virer* to turn: cf. VIRE *sb.*[1], and Sp. and Pg. *virote*.] A cross-bow bolt so constructed as to rotate on its axis while flying.

c 1500 *Melusine* 269 They..saylled foorth by such wyse that it semed as it had be the vyreton of a Crosbow. *Ibid.* 287 No sarasyn durste hym abyde, but casted at him fro ferre sperys, darts, stones & arowes, vyretons & quarelles, with theire crosbowes.

† **Viretote**. *Obs.* [app. of OF. origin, f. *virer* to turn.] An unsettled state or condition.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 584 (Ellesm.), What eyleth yow? som gay gerl, god it woot, Hath broght yow thus vp on the viritoot. [For variants see MERITOT.] [1820 SCOTT *Nigel* xviii, Here you come on the viretot, through the whole streets of London, to talk some nonsense to a lady.]

Virgal, *a. rare.* [f. L. *virga* rod.] Made of twigs or rods.

1732 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Trag.* I. iii, Oh! would'st thou bear..To see the hangman lift the virgal rod? 1880 *Daily Tel.* 23 Feb., The terrible 'Croquemitaine' and his frightful spouse..flourish their virgal sceptres to the terror of insubordinate juveniles.

Virgalieu, Virgaloo, VARR. VERGALOO.

Virgate (vɔ·ɹgĕt), *sb. Hist.* [ad. med.L. *virgāta* (sc. *terræ*), f. L. *virga* rod, used as a rendering of OE. *gierd-land* YARD-LAND.]

1. An early English land-measure, varying greatly in extent, but in many cases averaging thirty acres.

1653 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 337 Indeed, it is beneath a land is so, in some places 24 Acres, or in some 30 Acres. 1720 HEARNE *P. Langtoft's Chron.* (1810) II. 600 The town, according to Domesday Book, consisted of VIII. virgats of Land. *Ibid.*, Each virgat comprehending fourty acres. 1747 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 436 The survey was made by..carucates, virgates and acres. 1781 WARTON *Hist. Kiddington* (1783) 45, I have discovered that lady Elisabeth Montacute..possessed one virgate, about the year 1330. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 173/2 Reckoning four virgates in each hide and thirty acres to make a virgate. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 548 In Sussex we find a virgate of land at Apredoc which Harold [etc.]. 1895 POLLOCK & MAITLAND *Eng. Law* I. 347 The hide is generally regarded as made up of four, but it may well be of six virgates.

2. As a linear measure: A rod or pole.

1772 SHRUBSOLE & DENNE *Rochester* 42 The first land pier ..shall be built..by the bishop of Rochester; to plank three virgates or Yards, and to lay three sullivas or large beams on the bridge. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 130 Wood pasture three quarentens long, and one quarenten and one virgate broad.

Virgate (vɔ·ɹgĕt), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. L. *virgātus*, f. *virga* rod.]

1. Rod-like; long, slender, and straight.

1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 17 Branches virgate, elongated, one-flowered. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 47 From this kind of branch [sc. *vimen*], that called a virgate stem, *caulis virgatus*, differs only in being..more rigid. 1846 DANA *Zoophl.* (1848) 632 Branchlets..long before branching, and virgate.

2. 'Twiggy; producing many weak branchlets or twigs' (*Treas. Bot.*, 1866).

Virgated, *a. rare.* [f. L. *virgāt-us*: see prec.]

1. Rod-shaped; long and narrow.

1792 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 543 The Felis, with an elongated tail and virgated spots. The Tyger.

2. *Bot.* (See quots.)

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 382 *Virgatus*, virgated, with many slender Twigs. *c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 444/2 *Virgated*, having small weak pliant branches of unequal length.

3. Streaked, striped.

1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 430 Virgated Sparus. *Sparus Virgatus.*

Virgater. *Hist.* [f. VIRGATE *sb.* + -ER[1].] A person holding or cultivating a virgate of land.

1897 MAITLAND *Domesday & Beyond* 416 Even the villein virgater on the monastic manors of the thirteenth century is often expected to have four oxen. 1900 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VI. 382/1 Next above the four virgaters just mentioned are ..four bovators.

Virgation. *Geol.* [f. L. *virga* twig + -ATION.] A system of faults branching out like twigs from a bough.

1897 *Geogr. Jrnl.* (R. G. S.) IX. 87 The Western Balkans form in their southern part six ranges, the orographical expression of a geological 'virgation'.

† **Virge**. *Obs.* [var. of VERGE *sb.*[1], after L. *virga*.]

1. = VERGE *sb.*[1] 10.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 7 Within the virge lymited and accustumed to his Graces Courte. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. (1635) 5 Controversies arising within the Virge. Which is within xii. miles of the chiefest Tunnell of the Court. 1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* Table, The Kings granting Protections under the Great Seal of England to such as are his Servants..when especially imployed by him ..out of his Palace or Virge thereof.

b. *transf.* = VERGE *sb.*[1] 12.

a 1639 T. CAREW *Poems, To Ben Jonson* 48 Thou art not of their ranke, the quarrell lyes Within thine owne virge. 1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* 385 Within the Virge and compass of loyalty and modesty.

2. A rod or wand; *esp.* a rod of office.

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. lvi, A hundred Kings, whose temples wear impal'd In goulden diadems,..And of their golden virges none disceptred wear. *a* 1646 M. PEIDEAUX *Introd. Hist.* (1648) 108 Hadrian the second..kept a greate stirre to bring the Bulgarians under his virge. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Poems* (1672) 230 Therefore my Robe, that in his Altar lay, My Virge, my Wreath, I took; and thus did pray. 1727 SWIFT *Horace* I. Ep. vii. 97 Suppose him now a dean complete..,The silver virge, with decent pride, Stuck underneath his cushion side.

b. = VERGE *sb.*[1] 4 b.

1635 CALTHROPE *Relat. betw. Lord & Copy-holder* 51 Although some bee called Coppy-holders, some Customary, some Tenants by the Virg [*sic*],..yet doe they all agree in substance and kinde of Tenure.

3. = VERGE *sb.*[1] 9 b.

1688 [see VIRGATE *sb.* 1]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Yard-Land*, In the Statute of Warda, *An.* 28, *E.* 1, it is call'd *a Virge of Land.*

4. = VERGE *sb.*[1] 1 a.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 252 They suffer also vomiting with a spasme or crampe, and inflamation of the virge. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* IV. v. 177 Many of these Apes fell by our hands;..opening them I found..their seminary Vessels turgid, their Virge White and Nervous.

† **Virge**, obs. variant of VERGE *v.*[2]

1693 W. FREKE *Sel. Ess.* v. 38 True Vertue is a Streight line, that neither virges for Laziness nor Glory.

Virgean, *a. rare.* [f. L. *virgē-us*, f. *virga* VIRGE.] Twig-like. (Applied to a variety of the Ogham alphabet.)

1793 HELY tr. *O'Flaherty's Ogygia* II. 104, I find these seven vowels A. O. U. E. I. Æ. Oi. thus decyphered in Virgean characters.

Vergenite, obs. form of VIRGINITY.

† **Virger**. *Obs.* [var. of VERGER[2], after VIRGE or med.L. *virgārius*.] An official rod-bearer; a verger.

1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* 176 The Virgers or Tipstaves attending upon the said Courts. 1704 SOUTH in T. Warton *Life Bathurst* (1761) 185 You may deposit it with Mr. Thomas Rooks, virger of Christ-church. 1776 *Ann. Reg.* II. 8 The archbishop..came to visit us at the convent, ..attended by a virger. 1832 *Index Rolls of Parl.* 1201/1 Office of Virger, or Usher to the Order of the Garter,..confirmed to William Pope.

So † **Vi·rgeress**, = VERGERESS. *Obs. rare.*

1581 [A. GILBY] *Plene. Dial. Soldier & Chapl.* L vij b, 9 The Cannon. 10. The pettie Canon. 11. The Virgerer. 1663 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 482 After them came the virgerer and six bedells.

† **Vi·rgifer**. *Obs.*[—1] [a. med.L. *virgifer*, f. L. *virga* VIRGE + *-fer* bearing.] A verger.

1629 *Acts Durham High Commission Crt.* (Surtees) 27 Examinate..,being one of the Virgifers, did goe unto him and tooke holde of him and soe carried him forth.

Virgilian (vəidʒi·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* Virgiliane, 6, 8 Virgillian. [ad. L. *Virgiliān-us*, f. *Virgili-us*: see -AN, and cf. OF. and F. *Virgilien*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, the poet Virgil; agreeing with, or suggestive of, the style of Virgil.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* Concl., Compleitit was this wark Virgiliane, Apon the fest of Marie Magdelane. *c* 1550 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 78 Heirfoir to vichtis venerian I quyt To form in verse virgilian perfyt Thair facund fassone. 1632–36 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. Note 38 In emulation of

the Virgilian Verse, *Quadrupedante putrem* [etc.]. 1718 J. Trapp tr. *Virgil* Pref. to *Æneis* (1735) I. p. lxxxvii, What could be more well-manner'd, more delicate, and truly Virgilian? *c* 1754 Warton in Boswell *Johnson* (1904) I. 180, I told him, I thought it a very sonorous hexameter. I did not tell him, it was not in the Virgilian style. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* lxiii. (1819) I. 96 The style [of the poem] is beautiful and Virgilian. 1846 Keightley *Notes Virg., Georg.* II. 485 This mode of supplying the ellipse..is certainly the more Virgilian. 1886 Swinburne *Misc.* 231 An instinctive dignity and precision not unworthy to be called Virgilian.

b. *Virgilianæ sortes* [tr. L. *sortes Virgilianæ*], a method of divination consisting in taking a passage of Virgil at random.

1838-45 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIV. 737/1 It is said that Charles I. and Lord Falkland made trial of the Virgilian lots a little before the commencement of the great civil war.

2. Of agriculture: Practised according to the methods described in the Georgics of Virgil. Also of persons following these methods.

1724 W. Benson *Virgil's Husb.* II. Pref. p. xvi, I am certain the Husbandry of England in general is Virgilian. 1731-3 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xix. 271 The Virgilian Farmer must be content to have only his Labour for his Travel. 1764 J. Randall (*title*), The Semi-Virgilian Husbandry, deduced from various Experiments.

B. *sb.* **1.** One who is specially devoted to, or skilled in, the study of Virgil's works.

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.*, etc. Qiij b, You would a good Virgilian be.

2. One who practises agriculture after the methods laid down by Virgil.

1731-3 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xix. 272 The Virgilian is commonly late in his sowing. *Ibid.* 279 This puts the Virgilians upon a Necessity of using of Dung.

Hence **Virgi'lianism**, the characteristic style of Virgil; a Virgilian expression.

1890 L. Hunt *Autobiog.* x. (1860) 164 When I had the pleasure of hearing him [Campbell] afterwards, I forgot his Virgilianisms.

† **Virgilis**, *sb. pl. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *Virgilias*.] The Pleiades.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* x. 254 In somer tyme hym liketh wel to glade, That whan Virgilis doun goth, gynneth fade.

Virgin (vɔ·ɹdʒin), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *α.* 3, 5 **uirgine**, 3–7 **virgine** (6 wir-), 4, 6 **virgyne** (5 wir-), 4–5 **vyrgyne** (4 wyr-), 5 **vyrgine**. *β.* 4 **uirgin**, 4–6 **virgyn** (5 **uirgyn**, 6 **wirgynne**), 5–6 **vyrgyn** (6 wyr-), 5– **virgin** (5 wyr-, 6 wirgin). *γ.* 4 **vergyne**, 4–5 **vergine** (4 uer-), **vergyn**. *δ.* 5 **vyrgene** (wyr-), 5–6 **virgen**(e. [a. AF. and OF. *virgine*, *virgene*, *viergune*, etc. (= It. *vergine*, Sp. *virgen*, Pg. *virgem*), ad. L. *virginem*, acc. of *virgo* maiden. OF. also had the reduced forms *virge*, *vierge*, mod.F. *vierge*.]

I. 1. *Eccl.* An unmarried or chaste maiden or woman, distinguished for piety or steadfastness in religion, and regarded as having a special place among the members of the Christian church on account of these merits.

Chiefly used with reference to early Christian times.

c 1220 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 Dar hauede..martirs, and confessors, and virgines maked faier bode inne to wunien. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2310, I þe feire fereden of uirgines in heouene. *c* 1290 *Beket* 230 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 272 Fair was þat processioun..Of Martirs and of confessours and of virgines her-to. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8270 And she ys callede Seynt Iustyne, A martyr and an holy vyrgyne. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1098 Þis noble cite..Was sodanly ful ..Of such vergynez in þe same gyse þat was my blyaful anvnder croun. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 8 Seint Katerine þe glorioune virgyne and martyr. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 53 þe wykked tyraunt..saat in hys astat and bad þat þe holy virgyn schold be presented to hym. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxv. 46 Patriarchis, profetis, and appostillis deir, Confessouris, virgynis and martyris cleir. *c* 1620 *Women Saints* (1886) 90 Modwene..became the mistresse of verie many like professed and holie virgins. 1658 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Short Relat. Long Journ.* (1815) 10 The pious and chaste virgin Winifrid. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., In the Roman Breviary, there is a particular Office for Virgins departed. 1820 E. D. Clarke *Trav. Russia* (1839) 56/1 A host of saints, virgins, and bishops, whose pictures covered the walls. 1660 Burton *Bk. Hunter* IV. 326 St. Ursula and her eleven thousand virgins.

2. A woman (esp. a young woman) who is, or remains, in a state of inviolate chastity; an absolutely pure maiden or maid.

In early use chiefly of the Virgin Mary: cf. 4 and 5.

beand altyme vergine chaste. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 4665 Voide & vacand of vices as virgyns it ware. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 8 Alle clad in white, in tokyn of clennes, Lyke pure virginis as in ther ententis. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Walton Cl.) 36 When he dyssenddyt..Into a chast wombe of a wyrgine clene. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 163 He that revisis ane virgine, bot gif scho desire him in mariage, sal be heidit. 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvii. 58 Remember first your former qualitie, And wrak na virganis with your wilfull weir. 1602 Shaks *All's Well* I. i. 146, I will stand for't a little, though therefore I die a Virgin. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balnac's Lett.* (vol. I) 318 Nor am I ignorant that never any woman was so vicious, who hath not heretofore bin a Virgin. 1672 Milton *P. R.* I. 138 Then [thou] toldst her doubting how these things could be To her a Virgin, that on her should come The Holy Ghost. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* III. xii. § 2 Moses..permitted him [*sc.* the high-priest] only to marry a virgin. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 494 Ruysch's subject, though not a virgin, may have yet been troubled with this complaint. 1844 Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 230 The venous blood of virgins gave, in 1000 parts [etc.].

fig. 1526 Tindale 2 *Cor.* xi. 2 For I coupled you to one man, to make you a chaste virgen to Christ. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 107 God regarded as a virgin, the people whom He had made holy to Himself; He so regards the soul which He has regenerated and sanctified.

b. An old maid, a spinster.

1759 Johnson *Idler* No. 53 P 6 Lady Biddy Porpoise, a lethargick virgin of seventy-six.

c. *transf.* Of things.

1620 Capt. Smith *New-Eng. Trials* Wks. (Arb.) I. 243 From which blessed Virgin [i.e. the colony of Virginia]..sprung the fortunate habitation of Somer Iles. *Ibid.*, This Virgins sister (called New England, *Ans.* 1614, at my humble suite). 1796 Nugent *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 303 They give it [*sc.* Perone] the name of *Virgin*, because it was never taken. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* IV. iii. 292 In the language of the New Platonists, the number seven is said to be a virgin, and without a mother. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Jan. 8/3 Similarly, in Africa, the highest mountain is still a virgin.

d. Virginity. (After 1 Cor. vii. 37.) *rare.*

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemplar* Disc. iv. § 12 S. Jerome affirms that, to be continent in the state of widowhood is harder, then to keep our virgin pure.

e. *Entom.* A female insect producing fertile eggs by parthenogenesis. (Cf. 12 g.)

1883 *Imperial Dict.* (and in later Dicts.).

3. A young woman, a maid or maiden, of an age and character affording presumption of chastity.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2689 A wende, a mixte leue namore, And 3et him þouȝte, a virgine Him brouȝte out of al is pine. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 330 God..seiþ bi Iob þat a man shuld make couenaunt wiþ bise wittis to þenke not on a virgyne. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 37 Whiche commaundede also virgynes to be mariede with owte eny dowery. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 16 Then was scho so meke yn all hor doynȝys, þat all othyr vyrgenes called hor qwene of maydens. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 151 The wych some schold..be dysstrybutyd..partely to the dote of pore damoselly3 and vyrgynys. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 20 The Harpies haue Virgins faces, and vultures Talentes. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 37 Yong budding Virgin, faire, and fresh, & sweet, Whether away? 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I. 440 She seemed a virgin of the Spartan blood. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 May 1645, Rare pieces, especialy of Guido, Domenico, and a virgin named Isabella Sirani. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 252 Vortigern was struck with the beauty of a Saxon virgin, a kinswoman of Hengist. 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Rowland for Oliver, Ode to Affectation* ii, Say, virgin, where dost thou delight to dwell? With maids of honour, startful virgin? 1806 W. Herbert *Sel. Icel. Poetry* I. 119 Two of the Valkyriæ or virgins of slaughter. 1838 Dickens *Old C. Shop* ix, The beautiful virgin took another pinch [of snuff]. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv. 87 A royal virgin, in odours silkily nestled.

b. In allusions to the parable of the wise and foolish virgins (Matt. xxv. 1–13).

1620 Gataker *Spirituall Watch* 62 Either you are a wise Virgin or a foolish one: if a wise one, the company hath need of you; if an unwise one, you of it. 1756-7 tr. *Kempfer's Trav.* (1760) I. 182 On the sides of this entrance are seen the five foolish and the five wise virgins, in stone. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* ii, Why shouldst thou not talk like one of the wise virgins? 1873 Carleton *Farm Ball.* 22 Next mornin' an ancient virgin took pains to call on us, Her lamp all trimmed and a-burnin' to kindle another fuss.

4. *The Virgin Mary*, the mother of Christ. Also, an image or picture representing her.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24977 Conceiud o þe hali gast, born o þe virgine marie. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 21 He is þe sone of þe vergyne marie. *c* 1400 Maundev. Prol. (1839) 1 The seyd blessed and gloriouse Virgine Marie. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* XVII. v. 697 Also the holy ghoost shewed hym the comynge of the gloryous vyrgyne marye. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 39 Quhen the virgine Maria hard the salutatione of the angel. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Obedience* iii, And here let vs not forget the blessed virgyn Maries obedience. 1611 Bible *Matt.* i. (heading), Christ..was..borne of the Virgin Mary when she was espoused to Ioseph. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* Ded., Jesus Christ, The Son of the living God, and the sacred Virgin Mary. 1727 [see Madonna 2]. 1776 Ld. Hailes *Ann. Scotl.* I. 134 He ascribed his deliverance to the Virgin Mary. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* v, He wore his national bonnet,..with a Virgin Mary of massive silver for a brooch. 1885 J. King *Angl. Hymnology* 3 The hymn of Hannah is the prototype of the Virgin Mary's 'Magnificat'.

b. *attrib.*, or in possessive, in popular names of plants (see quots.); also (after Gaelic use) *Virgin Mary's nut*, the Bonduc or Molucca nut.

1703 M. Martin *Western Islands* 39 If she would but take the White Nut, called the Virgin Maries Nut, and lay it in the Pale into which she was to milk the Cows. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Wds., Virgin Mary thistle*, the beautiful and magnificent *Cardaus Benedictus*, or Blessed Thistle. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* III. 230 Milk Thistle...This very handsome stately plant, the Virgin Mary's Thistle [etc.]. 1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. III. 414/2 In some parts of Berkshire the spotted persicaria..is known as 'The Virgin Mary's pinch', from the dark thumb-like mark in the centre of its leaves.

aria oft
Mary's ---
bk. 464 Virgin-Mary's-cowslip, *Pulmonaria officinalis*, common Lungwort.

5. *The Virgin* (also *the blessed*, *holy*, etc., *Virgin*), = sense 4.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5873 Syn Crist cam of þe vyrgyne, Nyne score 3er euene, & nyne. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4370 Þis was þat Iohan saw in a vision Of hym þat semed þe virgyn son. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 286 For he that cause the godhede Assembled was to the manhede In the virgine. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 37 God, that of the vyrgyn was borne in bedeleym. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 101 b, Hymselfe sayenge in the gospell, Excepte ye eate the flesshe of the sone of the virgyn [*Decades* (Arb.) 139 Desyringe alwaylthe ... and the blessed virgin to fauour his beginninges. 1624 Cockeram III, *Valentinians*, a certaine heretiques, who held opinion that our Sauiour received not his flesh from the blessed Virgin. 1643 Caryl *Expos. Job* xx. 17 And this is the food which the Virgins son our Immanuel was prophesied to eat. 1704 [see Annunciation 2]. 1756 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 286 The church of the holy virgin at Lireyo. 1797 Coleridge *Christabel* I. 139 Praise we the Virgin all divine Who hath rescued thee from thy distress! 1821 Scott *Kev. St. John* xl, 'Alas! alas! away, away!' she cried, 'For the holy Virgin's sake!' 1867 Jas. Campbell *Balmerino* II. ix. 122 A full length figure of the Virgin and Holy Child standing within a Gothic niche. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxiii. 329 Uttering a special prayer to the immaculate Virgin.

b. A picture or image of the Virgin Mary; a madonna.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 April 1646, There are two Sacristias, in one of which is a fine *Virgin* of Leonardo da Vinci. 1823 Galt *R. Gilhaize* IX, My grandfather..seized the Virgin's timber leg, and flung it with violence at them. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 240/1 A most exquisite Virgin in a tabernacle in the open street at Prato. 1883 *Parker's Guide to Oxford* 87 The niches have been filled with the Virgin and Child [etc.].

6. A person of either sex remaining in a state of chastity. Usually in pl.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24685 He ledis lijf lik til angels, For virgins all ar þai. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 277 How that Adam and Eve also Virgines comen bothe tuo Into the world and were aschamed [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 297 When þe Emperour Henrie and Raneguinde his wyfe abade alway clene virgyns. 1452 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* xxxi. 107 Fro þat tyme in whech he was take fro þe world, a-non was he set a-mongis þe dauns of virgynes.

7. A youth or man who has remained in a state of chastity.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8913 (K.), Þis Naciens..bicome prest, messe to sing; Virgine of his bodi he was. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* 950 Virginitee baar oure lord Iheu crist, and virgine was hym selue. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxix. 559 A virgyne evere schal he be alle dayes of his lyve certeinle. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* XVII. xviii. 715 Thow arte a clene vyrgyn aboue all knyghtes. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. ccxiv. 232 This kynge Edwarde lafte after hym no childe, for he was accompted for a virgyn whan he dyed. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xvi. 101 These Calenders..say themselues to be virgins. 1613 J. Hayward *Norm. Kings* 296 It is certaine also that Anselme, the most earnest enforcer of single life, died not a Virgine. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Scarlet Gown* 14 It is held for certain, by them which know him, that he is still a Virgin. 1700 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 785 He was reputed a Pure Virgin. 1847 tr. *Bacci's Life St. Philip Neri* II. xiii. 253 A famous harlot,..having heard it said that Philip was a virgin,..audaciously boasted that she would cause him to fall. 1880 A. I. Kitchie *Ch. St. Baldred* 49 King Malcolm [IV] is universally said to have died a virgin.

fig. 1798 Lamb *Rosamund Gray* iv. 498 His temper had a sweet and noble frankness in it, which bespake him yet a virgin from the world.

8. *Astr.* = Virgo.

c 1480 Henryson *Fables, Fox & Wolf* iv, Mercurius, the God of Eloquence, Into the Uirgyn maid his residence. *c* 1492 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 11 Whan the sonne in tyme of yere begynneth to wythdrawe dounwarde thenne reigneth he in a planete that we call Virgyne. 1509 Hawes *Past. Plea.* xliv. (Percy Soc.) 216 Tyll peace and mercy made right to encline, Out of the Lyon to enter the Vyrgyne. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* Prol. 43 The Virgin, Libra, and the Scorpion. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. i. 11 The Virgin, sixt in her degree. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 676 Thence down amaine By Leo and the Virgin and the Scales, As deep as Capricorne. 1697 Creech *Manilius* II. 70 The Twins, Vrn, Virgin force his Sign to bend By Nature's Law. 1730-46 Thomson *Autumn* 23 When the bright Virgin gives the beauteous days, And Libra weighs in equal scales the year. 1760 Falconer *Shipwr.* I. 197 Now, in the southern hemisphere, the sun Thro' the bright Virgin and the Scales had run. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 326 The Virgin and Bootes are, with the Lion, the most important constellations in view.

9. a. *elliptical.* Applied to varieties of apple and pear.

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* 80 The Squib-pear, Spindle-pear, Virgin, Gascogne-Bergamot. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* 378 *Virgins*, a kind of apple.

b. *Ent.* Applied to species of moths and butterflies.

1892 J. Rennie *Conn. Butterfl. & M.* 49 The Virgin (*Tripheena Innuba.*) Wings two inches to two inches one-third, of uniform colour. *Ibid.* 300 The Virgin (*Brephos Parthenias*) appears the end of March.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *virgin-birth*, *-born* adj., *-produced* adj., *-violator*, *-worship*; **virgin-bower**, = Virgin's bower; **virgin-stock**, the Virginia stock; **virgin-tree**, Oriental assafœtida.

1652 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro* Poems (1904) 271 The *virgin-births with which thy sovereign spouse Made fruitfull thy fair soul. 1884 *Pusey Lect. Daniel* viii. 484 That announcement of the Virgin-birth of Him, of whom it is said, she shall call His Name Emmanuel. 1899 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 7/1, I fail to see how those who deny the virgin birth of Our Lord can in any way claim part in the Christian Church. 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV. 300 Then hear, O Son of David, *Virgin-born. 1846 Tarnow *Mirac.* 46 The Virgin born, the Son of the Most Highest. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* *Virgin-bower, a Plant of which there are two sorts [etc.]. 1820 Scott *Lady of Lake* I. xxvi, The clematis, the favour'd flower Which boasts the name of virgin-bower. 1882 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. & Surg.* 1880, 377 They are

altogether equivalent to *virgin-produced 'scolds'. 1788 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 55 Sweet peas, pansies, *virgin-stock. 1821 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Stock*, The somewhat similar *Malcolmia maritima*, ..in England called *Virginia* or *virgin stock*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1219/1 *Virgin-tree, *Sassa-

..have copied the introduction of *Virgin-worship into the original tale.

11. In possessive collocations: **virgin's garland**, a garland of flowers and coloured paper formerly carried at the funeral of a maiden; †**virgin's honey, -oil**, = *virgin honey, oil* (see 17 b); †**Virgin's sea**, = *Virginian sea* Virginian *a.* 1 d; **Virgin's spike** (see Spike *sb.*1 1 b); †**virgin's thread** (see quot.).

1825 Brockett *N.C. Gloss.*, **Virgin's garland*, many country churches in the North are adorned with these garlands; in token, says Bourne, of esteem and love, and as an emblem of reward in the heavenly Church. 1828 *Craven Glass*, *Virgin's Garlands*. Many of the Churches in the Deanery of Craven are adorned with these garlands. [Description follows.] 1879–81 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 465 Virgins-garlands still exist; as..at Minsterley, where there are several, the most recent of them being of the date 1764. 1611 Cotgr., *Miel vierge*, *Virgins honie, the honie which of it selfe, and without pressing, distills from the combe. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Empyema*, They mix a quartern of Virgins Honey, with two Paris Pints thereof. 1611 Cotgr., *Huile Virginal*, *Virgins Oyle; the Oyle that comes from the Olive of it selfe, and without pressing. 1603 in *Shirburn Ballads* lxxvii. 7 His Empyre ..Halfe which her becsome foorth doth lay from German to the Virgin's [*v.r.* Virginian] sea. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) *Virgin's-Thread*, a sort of Dew, which flies in the Air, like small untwisted Silk or Yarn, and falling upon the Ground or Plants, changes it self into a form like a Spider's web.

II. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* **12.** Of persons (usually of the female sex): Being a virgin or virgins; remaining in a state of chastity.

Virgin Queen, a name for Queen Elizabeth of England.

1560 Bible (Genev.) *Jer.* xiv. 17 For ye virgine daughter of my people is destroyed..with a sore grieuous plague. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. iii. 13 Pardon, goddesse of the night, Those that slew thy virgin knight [*sc.* Hero]. 1611 Speed *Theat. Gt. Britain* i. xi. 21/1 Ursula,..with her companie of canonized Virgin-Saints. 1633 Ford *Broken Heart* Prol., The virgin sisters then deserv'd fresh bays. *Ibid.* iii. v, To virgin-wives, such as abuse not wedlock By freedom of desires. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* vi. xxv, Hail, blessed Virgin-Spouse, who didst bequeath Breath unto him, who made thee breathe! 1697 Dryden *Æneid* xi. 754 The Volscians, and their virgin leader, wait His last commands. *a* 1718 Parnell *Hesiod* 34 In such a shape.. As virgin-goddesses are proud to wear. 1738 tr. *Guasso's Art Conserv.* 45, I am, with Respect to any concern with Women, as true a Virgin-man as I came from my Mother's ... 1786 Polwhele tr. *Idyllia of Theocritus*, etc. (1792) II. 38 And still the Arabian maids have their hair inwreathed with hyacinths, like the virgin companions of Helen. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* x, Stars, the virgin daughters of the sky. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Seine* 40 The virgin-martyr St. Honoria.

b. In predicative use. Also *fig.*, and const. *of* and *to*. *rare*.

1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 306 Likest she seemd..to Ceres in her Prime, Yet Virgin of Proserpina from Jove. 1849–52 Alison *Hist. Europe* XIV. xcvi. § 21. 218 Germany, alike virgin to revolutionary passions, and unused to revolutionary suffering, has had a firebrand tossed into its bosom. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 553 Yet not less, O Guinevere, For I was ever virgin save for thee.

c. *The Virgin Mother*, the Virgin Mary.

[*a* 1711 Ken *Sion* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 321 His Virgin-Mother had Angelick Grace.] 1730 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* I. x. 242 The Humble Deference of the sacred Virgin-Mother in Regard to Him, who was her Son, and her God too. 1817 Scott *Monks of Bangor's March* ii, On the long procession goes,..And the Virgin-mother mild In their peaceful banner smiled. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. i. 11, I..would fain enlist every holy saint in the calendar, and implore the virgin mother herself. 1860 Tennyson *Sea Dreams* 234 The Virgin Mother standing with her child High up on one of those dark minster-fronts.

d. *Virgin widow*, a widow who has been deprived of her husband before the consummation of the marriage.

a 1644 Quarles (*title*), The Virgin Widow. A Comedie. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 927 A Virgin-Widow and a Mourning Bride. 1880 Stevenson *Men & B.* 243 Isabella, virgin-widow of our Richard II. 1887 J. Gairdner in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* IX. 291/1 On 2 April [1502]..he [Prince Arthur] died at Ludlow, and Catherine was left a virgin widow.

e. *transf.* (See quots.)

1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 663 Seven, the old Magi called a Virgin Number, supposing the Force thereof great, as a Virgin in her full strength. 1725 *Fam. Dict.*, *Virgin-Vine*, a Plant reckon'd by many among the sorts of Snake-Weed. ..'Tis call'd the Virgin-Vine, because, if it may be so said, it is a Maid, and has hitherto brought forth nothing. 1849 Owen *Parthenogenesis* 76 The development of an *Aphis* in the body of a virgin parent. 1886 F. R. Cheshire *Bees & Bee-Keeping* II. 330 The cage may be used in introducing both laying and virgin queens.

f. Of a fortress, city, etc.: That has never been taken or subdued.

1[illegible] *Econ. Reform* Wks. III. 240 That house-, which has been the stronghold of prodigality, the virgin fortress which was never before attacked. 1836 *N. Brit.* XXVI. 103 She stands and grows and thrives, a v[illegible] land for now eight hundred years. 1868 *Chambers's* [illegible]*cycl.* X. 286/1 Widdin..is called by the Turks the [illegible]in Fort, from its never having been taken.

1873 Tristram *Moab* v. 78 Ibrahim..was never able to take Kerak, whose proud boast is that it yet remains a virgin city.

g. *Virgin generation, procreation*, or *(re)production*, parthenogenesis.

1849 Owen *Parthenogenesis* 28 The structures..which Reaumur..cited in order to solve the problem of the alleged virgin procreation. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 37/2 Professor Owen has given the name of Parthenogenesis, or Virgin-production, to this mode of generation. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 374/2 While..*Hymenoptera* reproduce by the union of the two sexes, yet parthenogenesis or virgin reproduction is of not uncommon occurrence.

13. Composed or consisting of virgins.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxviii. iv, Taught by thee, in this tryumphant song, A virgin army did their voices try. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 56 Yong Alcides, when he did redeeme The virgine tributs, paied..To the Sea-monster. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 290 The Graces Adorn our Parks and Malls Crowned with Virgin-Garlands. *a* 1711 Ken *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 306 Psyche then left the lovely virgin-choir. 1820 Keats *To Psyche* 30 Though temple thou hast none,..Nor virgin-choir. 1857 Emerson *Poems* 13 The lover watched his graceful maid, As mid the virgin train she strayed. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* April 22 And next the virgin tribe in white forth sail'd.

14. Of or pertaining to a virgin; appropriate to, or characteristic of, virgins: **a.** Of parts of the body, articles of dress, etc.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 816 Come challenge me,..And, by this Virgin palme, now kissing thine, I will be thine. 1608 — *Per.* IV. ii. 160 Untied I still my virgin knot will keep. 1616 Drumm. of Hawth. *Madrigals* xlv, This virgine Lock of Haire To Idmon Anthea gives. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* Pref., The Midwives do the Virgin Zone cashere. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. Introd. Lines 182 Come see her in her Virgin Face, and learn Twixt Idle ones, and Pilgrims to discern. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 1030 Iphthima the fair,..whose blooming charms Allured Eumeolus to her virgin-arms. 1807–8 Wordsw. *Eccl. Sonn.* II. xxv, Mother! whose virgin bosom was uncrost With the least shade of thought to sin allied. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* III. v, Yet ne'er again to braid her hair The virgin snood did Alice wear. 1819 S. Rogers *Hum. Life* Poems (1839) 10 Moves in her virgin-veil the gentle bride. 1846 Prowett *Prometheus Bound* 31 Thou favoured maiden, Why in thy virgin-zone still braced?

fig. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxxix, Whenever you found him he seemed watchful and serene, his modest virgin-lamp always lighted and trim.

b. Of qualities, feelings, etc.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xvii. (1622) 165 Though the pureneese of my virgin-mind be stained, let me keepe the true simplicity of my word. 1611 *2nd Maiden's Trag.* III. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* X. 433 Hast thou..overcome Thy honour's enemies with thine own white hand, Where virgin-victory sits. 1633 Ford *Broken H.* II. iii, The virgin-dowry which my birth bestow'd Is ravish'd by another. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* xviii. § 14. 362 Hither also in some respect tends the Virgin-life of Ecclesiasticall Persons. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 270 To whom the Virgin Majestie of Eve..With sweet austeer composure thus reply'd. 1713 Addison *Cato* i. vi, *Lucia*. Was ever virgin love distress'd like mine! 1720 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* I. iv. 67 Without the least Injury to her Virgin-Purity. 1737 Gray *Bard* 118 Her..face Attemper'd sweet to virgin-grace. 1762 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxxviii, A lady in the virgin bloom of sixty-three. 1808 Helen St. Victor *Ruins of Rigonda* I. 55 These..are mere virgin scruples. 1839 De Quincey *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 201 The honourable election of a self-dependent virgin seclusion, by preference to a heartless marriage! 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lii, The picture of youth, unprotected innocence, and humble virgin simplicity. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* ii, We must not disturb her virgin thoughts with a question of marriage.

15. Comparable to a virgin in respect of purity or freedom from stain; pure, unstained, unsullied. In early use in fig. context.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 406 We leuen on marye..þat ber a barne of vyrgyn flour. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 20 With blessyd Seynt Cuthburge, þat virgyn flour. 1596 Spenser *Prothalamion* 32 The virgin Lillie, and the Primrose trew. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 23 What saies the Silver, with her virgin hue? 1620 — *Temp.* IV. 55 The white cold virgin Snow vpon my heart. 1633 Ford *Broken H.* v. i, The virgin-bays shall not withstand the lightning With a more careless danger, than my constancy The full of thy relation. 1641 Milton *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 19 These that must be call'd the ancientest, and most virgin times betweene Christ and Constantine. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *Search* 70 What shades, and cells, Faire virgin-flowers, and hallow'd Wells I should rove in. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor.*, lov'st the virgin

white. 1818 Keats *Endym.* II. 113 My veined pebble-floor, that draws A virgin light to the deep. 1839 De Quincey *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 23 A glittering expanse of virgin snow. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* iv. 225 To lead a pure life, to keep your honour virgin. 1889 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* iii, The garden was covered with a sheet of virgin white.

b. Not yet touched, handled, or employed for any purpose; still undisturbed or unused; perfectly fresh or new.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 70 The Rose..which withering on the virgin thorne..dies in single blessedneese. 1638 Drumm. of Hawth. *Exequies A. Alexander* 66 How oft have we Some Chloris Name graven in each Virgin tree? 1783 Crabbe *Newspaper* 89 Unbought, unbless'd, the virgin copies wait In vain for fame. 1799 Wordsworth *Nutting* 21 The hazels rose Tall and erect, with tempting clusters hung, A virgin scene. 1839 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit. Ser.* II. I. 423, I purpose to give what..may be called the Philosophy of *Proverbs*—a topic which seems virgin. 1858 Thackeray *Orpheus* II. xii. 208 A..Samian, named Colæus, reached Tartessus, and found, as

anys, a virgin mart. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* lx. (1880) 307 Salmon..hatched in perfectly virgin waters. 1882 Flowers *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 176 It was at least a virgin country which..had never yet been entered by white man. 1879 *Althott's Syst. Med.* II. 238 The ravages of Small-pox in a virgin race.

c. Perfectly free or clear *of* something.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* May 878/2 The Sierra Madres in Mexico are still virgin of sportsmen and skin-hunters.

16. Employed for the first time.

1627 Drayton *Agincourt*, etc. 87 When th' Earle of March ..His Virgine valour on that day bestowes. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 389 His virgin sword Ægysthus' veins imbru'd. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. ix, But [it] is honestly a true Virgin-Dedication untried on, upon any soul living. *a* 1859 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 26 As on the day that saw him wield His virgin sword in battle field.

b. Forming a first essay or attempt; coming at the beginning or outset.

1667 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 8 The first Virgin-works of his greatness. *a* 1668 F. Greville *Sidney* (1652) 105 Her Virgin-triumph over that..invincible Navy. 1682 N. Culverwel *Treat.* I. xi. (1661) 76 Instincts..the first-born faculties..that are presently espoused to their Virgin-objects. 1708 Ozell tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 121 A Youth.. entring the Lists, his Virgin-Motion makes. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.*, *To Sir W. Phillips* 10 June, Tim Cropdale.. had happily wound up the Catastrophe of a virgin-Tragedy, from the Exhibition of which [etc.]. 1857 Heavyside *Sand* (1869) 27 Now quit thee well on this thy virgin field. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* v. iii. 191 That interest you preserve in all its virgin force, and this force carries a man far. 1891 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 3/2 That any measure dealing with.. the House of Lords could only be undertaken by the virgin energy of the session.

17. Special collocations: **a.** *Virgin earth, soil*, etc., soil which has not hitherto been brought into cultivation, and retains all its natural power of producing vegetation. *Virgin forest*, a forest of natural growth as yet untouched by man. *Virgin rock*, etc., native rock not yet cut into or quarried.

1709 T. Robinson in *Vind. Monarch System* 103 A small Parcel of *Virgin-Clay, digged some Fathoms under Ground. 1692 French *Yorksh. Spa* ii. 13 Helmonts *salsulum* or *virgin-earth, which he saith is a certain sand continued from the Center of the earth in divers places, even to the superficies of the same. 1692 Boyle *Hist. Air* 44 Hoping to find in the salt of what he supposed to be Virgin-earth, the true receptacle of an universal spirit. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 241 Virgin earth becomes fertile, crops of new plants ever and anon shew themselves. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 280 Hence the astonishing fertility of all new soil, or what is called virgin earth. 1822 *New Botanic Gard.* I. 64 A third part of fresh virgin earth, from a pasture ground. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 **Virgin field*, a mineral field untouched or solid. 1851 G. F. Richardson *Geol.* (1853) 443 A *virgin forest of the Isle of Gouahan, one of the Mariana Islands. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 358 Strawberries and potatoes at first produce luxuriantly in *Virgin Mould, recently turned up from pasture. 1877 J. Northcote *Catacombs* I. i. 10 They choose rather to excavate in their own fashion in the *virgin rock below. 1837 H. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 106 The slave population..is killed off..on the *virgin soils to which alone it is, in any degree, appropriate. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xix. 372 Virgin soil does not give such a heavy crop as an old garden. 1886 Bryce *Amer. Com* III. lxxvi. 6 No event, no speech or article, ever falls upon a perfectly virgin soil. 1866 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 18 It [*sc.* present practice] will doubtless continue in vogue till our *virgin wheat lands are run over by pioneers.

b. In special names of various substances (usually denoting one in a pure unmixed state or obtained as a first product), as *virgin barm, breccia, comb, copper, dip, gold*, etc. (see quots.).

1893 R. Wells *Med. Pract. Bread Baker* 20 *Virgin barm, or bastard barm, as it is sometimes called, is made in somewhat the same way as Parisian barm. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 454/1 *Semi Santo*, or **Virgin Breccia*, Very small red, chocolate,..white and yellowish angulous fragments. 1892 *Cent. Dict.*, **Virgin clay*, in industrial arts,..clay that has never been molded or fired, as distinguished from the ground substance of old ware, which is often mixed with it. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* xxiv. 65 My Memory Is pleasant as the Honey, and my flee Is sweeter than *Virgin-Combes. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* cxiv, With glewy wax some new Foundations lay Of Virgin-combs, which from the Roof are hung. 1867 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts* App. 693/2 Some virgin comb that had never seen the light was placed in clean linen. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, **Virgin Copper*, is that which has never been melted down. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 167 Remarkable for the abundance of virgin copper. 1725 *Fam. Dict.*, **Virgin-Cream*, a Dish for which having the Whites of five Eggs, let them be well whip'd and put into a Pan, with Sugar [etc.]. 1896 Olmsted *Slave States* 343 The flow of the first year..is of higher value than the ordinary dip. It is called '*virgin dip.' 1884 C. S. Sargent *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 527 'Virgin dip, or 'Soft white gum turpentine'—the product of the first year the trees are worked. 1672 E. Browne *Acc. Trav. Hungary*, etc. 99 There have been pieces of pure or *virgin Gold found in this Mine. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Gold*, *Virgin Gold*, is Gold, just as it is taken out of the Mines before it have undergone any Action, or Preparation of fire. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* VII. (1778) II. 343 A late governor of Santa Fé brought with him to Spain a lump of virgin gold. 1827 Lockhart *Scott* (1839) IV. 141 Sir John Malcolm had given him some Indian coins to supply virgin gold for the setting of this relic. 1758 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 180 This came out of the Ricks at Winter with a much finer Colour, and as fine a smell as the *Virgin-Hay. *a* 1648 Digby *Closet Opened* (1827) 4 It is of three sorts, *Virgin-honey, Live-honey, and Stock-honey. 1679 M. Rundell *Further Discov. Bees* 64 The ignorance of many Country people not knowing which is right Virgin-Honey, and which

is not. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 283 The Honey which first flows of it self from the Combs is called Virgin Honey (as is also the Honey which comes from the first Years Swarm). 1772 Fletcher *Appeal* Wks. 1795 I. 204 *note*, Some poor hungry hearts will say, 'One thing is needful for us. We cannot have too much virgin-honey'. 1867 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts* App. 693/1 Any experiments on this subject must be with virgin honey, or that drained from the new comb. *a* 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. (1729) I. 297 Lead-Grains so pure as nearly to approach the Fineness of *Virgin Lead. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1080 *Virgin-Mercury they call that, which discovers itself without the help of fire. 1757 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 144 Virgin mercury. is that which is entirely prepared by nature. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 821 Yet sometimes there are great Masses found all of pure Silver, which is call'd *Virgin-mettal. 1740 Somervile *Hobbinol* I. 202 With his Plant Of toughest *Virgin Oak in rising [he] aids His trembling Limbs. 1719 Boyer *Dict. Royal* I, *De l'huile vierge*, . sweet, or pure Oyl, *Virgin Oyl. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 284 In the district Montpellier, they apply the term virgin oil to that which spontaneously separates from the paste of crushed olives. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 359 The ripe olives are first subjected to pressure without the application of heat; in this manner the finest oil, or virgin oil, is obtained. 1758 Borlase *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 109 The most perfect copper..is the Malleable (from its purity called in Cornwall the *Virgin-ore). 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* IV. i, The miner lights Upon a vein of virgin ore. 1611 Cotgr., *Parchemin vierri*, Cleere Parchment, *virgine Parchment. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Virgin Parchment*, a sort of fine Parchment made of the Skin of a young Lamb. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xiii, It was fastened round his middle by a broad belt of virgin parchment. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 807 The best [olive oil], called *virgin salad oil, is obtained by gentle pressure in the cold. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 807/1 In this way the bubbles and sour odor are developed, and what is known as ''*Virgin Scammony' is produced. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 167, 2300 dollars weight in ingots of *virgin silver. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. II. I. 182 Silver is very seldom found Virgin. 1806 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* IV. 10 It had the appearance of metallic, malleable, or what is called, virgin silver. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 238/2 The silver found in the trade, even under the name of virgin silver, retains traces of copper. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 39 Run, or *virgin steel;—which, indeed, in the proper sense of the term, is no steel at all, but rather good cast metal. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 235 *Sulphur Virgineum*...*Virgin Sulphur. 1672 *Compl. Gunner* xv. 16 This is called Sulphur Vivum, and by some Virgin Sulphur. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Sulphur, Sulphur vivum, native* or *virgin sulphur*, is that which is dug in this form out of the earth. 1706 *Art of Painting* (1744) 283 On this they laid their *virgin tints, with light strokes of the pencil. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* xiv. 190 Let us then ..call class 4 of each colour 'bloom-tints', or, if you please, 'virgin tints', as the painters call them. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 430 Take the first, or *virgin wine, which runs of itself from the grapes.

18. *Comb.*, as *virgin-eyed, -minded, -vested* adjs.

1848 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph.* 365 *note*, Jove's virgin-eyed daughter. 1867 Earl Lytton *Lett.* (1906) I. 224 There exists nowhere..a more virgin-minded community of young men. 1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Quia Multum Amavit* 18 Thou wast fairest and first of my virgin-vested daughters.

Hence **Vi·rgin** *v.* **a.** *intr.* with *it.* To remain a virgin. **b.** *trans.* To speak of, mention (virgins).

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. iii. 48 That kisse I carried from thee deare; and my true Lippe Hath Virgin'd it ere since. 1625 Massinger *New Way* III. ii, *Marg.* You'll have me, sir, preserve the distance that Confines a virgin? *Over.* Virgin me no virgins! I must have you lose that name, or you lose me.

Virginal (vɔ̈·rdʒinăl), *sb.* Forms: 6 **virginalles, -ynal(le)s**, 6–7 **virginall(s**, 6– **virginal(s**, 7–8 **virginelles.** [App. of the same formation as Virginal *a.*, but the reason for the name is obscure.]

1. A keyed musical instrument (common in England in the 16th and 17th centuries), resembling a spinet, but set in a box or case without legs.

a. In plural form, applied to a single instrument.

1530 Palsgr. 211/1 Set my virgynalles, *entonnes mes espinettes*. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 8 Exercisyng hym self dayly in..playng at the recorders, flute, virginals, and in setting of songes. 1592 Florio *2nd Frutes* 129 He plaies also upon the cittarn, virginals, violine and flute. 1601 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Q) II. iii. 161, I can compare him to nothing more happely, then a Barbers virginals; for euery one may play vpon him. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 8 Dec., Her daughter played after dinner upon the virginals. 1662 Playford *Skill Mus.* I. i. 4 But Lessons for the Organ, Virginals, or Harp, two staves of six lines together are required. 1710 J. Chein in E. Dunbar *Soc. Life* (1865) 15, I can..play on the Treble and Gambo, Viol, Virginelles and Manicords. 1786 *Lounger* (1787) II. 192, I could play pretty well on the Virginals at home. 1823 Roscoe tr. *Sismondi's Lit. Eur.* (1846) I. v. 128 The clavicord was a sort of spinet resembling the virginals. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Nell Cook*, And fine upon the virginals is that gay Lady's touch. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* XII. iii. II. 298 Himself a player on the virginals and organ.

b. *A pair of virginals*, in the same sense. (Cf. Pair *sb.*1 6.)

1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 150 A paire of virginals. 1545 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 67 My best paire of virginalls. 1630 Dekker *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* II iv, No, for she's like a paire of Virginals, Alwaies with lackes at her talle. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 8 Sept., Hardly one lighter or boat in three that had the goods of a house in, but there was a pair of Virginalls in it. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. 93 The Dining-Room, where stood a pair of excellent Virginals. 1755 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *Let.* Wks. (1775) 177 You know I have a pair of rusty old Virginals in a Corner of the School, which have about eight Strings left out of forty-five.

c. As a singular, with plural denoting more than one instrument.

The plural use (*a*) prob. preceded the singular.

(*a*) 1566 Sternhold & Hopkins *Ps.* cl. 14 Praise him with Tymbrell and with flute, organes and virginals. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. *Handycrafts* 567 Wiery Cymbals, Rebecks sinnews twin'd, Sweet Virginals, and Cornets curled winde. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 187 Those [teeth] that are left, leaping in their heads, like Jacks in Virginals. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* vii. (1658) 57 Artificial musical instruments (as organs and virginals that playd by themselves). 1694 *Patent Specif.* (1856) No. 337. 1 Harpsichords, virginalls or the like. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Three Ages* I. 7 Large and airy study..ornamented with books, manuscripts, maps, viols, virginals, and other musical instruments.

(*b*) 1570 Levins *Manip.* 15 Virginall, *cymbala*. 1597 Breton *Wit's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 141/1 Let me euer loue musicke, though I cannot tune a virginall. 1625 Gill *Sacr. Philos.* II. 188 In an Organ or Virginall, all manner of tunes, all concords, and discords are, which are possible to bee made or conceived by any Musician. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 23 Jan., He and I did see the organ, but I do not like it, it being but a bauble, with a virginal joining to it. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 73 He shews the best way how to have an Organ or Virginal tuned. 1709 Addison *Tatler* No. 157 P 8 That ancient serious Matron-like Instrument the Virginal. 1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* III. i. 5 *note*, The Virginal is a keyed instrument of one string, jack, and quill, to each note, like a spinet. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 360/2 The compass of the virginal was from the second added line below the base to the second added line above the treble—or four octaves. 1889 Brinsmead *Hist. Pianoforte* 91 The instrument which gradually superseded the clavichord in England was the virginal.

transf. 1593 Harvey *New Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 266 Is not the Verse of M. Spencer in his braue Faery Queene, the Virginall of the diuinest Muses, and gentlest Graces?

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *virginal book, jack* (Jack *sb.*1 14), *-maker, master, music, music-book, string, wire.*

1663 Pepys *Diary* 16 Mar., Thence home by coach, buying at the Temple the printed *virginall-book for her. 1604 *Virginal Jack* [see Jack *sb.*1 14]. 1622 F. Markham *Bk. War* IV. vii. 146 Men should not like virginall Iacks be skipping up here and there, and in every corner. *c* 1638 G. Platters in Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1669) iv. § 6. 44 These may be made to play up and down like Virginal Jacks. 1551 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1891) III. 306 Robert Gundet of Westminster, *virginall maker. *c* 1580 Munday *View Sundry Examples* (Shaks. Soc.) 93 A Virginal maker that came to look Ravens quils found the man slain. 1640 in Sir C. Sharp *Chron. Mirab.* (1841) 44 Thomas Forcer, *Virginall master. 1874 Ourkley *Musical Form* 48 It was very commonly employed three hundred years ago for *virginal music. 1889 Brinsmead *Hist. Pianofortes* 93 Queen Elizabeth must..have performed music that would be considered exceedingly difficult even now, if she really played the pieces that are in her *virginal music-book. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 123 The sound of a *Virginall String, as soone as the Quill of the Jack falleth from it, stoppeth. 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* 265, I took a virginal String 89..Inches long, 1662 *Ireland, Stat. at Large* (1765) II. 418 *Virginal and ghittern wire, the pound, 4*l*. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 433 It was a Piece of small Virginal Wire. 1818 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 279, 1 Cask, 63 lbs. Brass Virginal Wire.

Hence † **Vi·rginal** *v. intr.*, to tap with the fingers as on a virginal. *Obs.*—1

1621 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 124 To be padling Palmes, and pinching Fingers,..Stith Virginalling Vpon his Palme?

Virginal (vɔ̈·rdʒinăl), *a.* Forms: 5– virginal (5 -alle, -el, -ele), 6–7 **virginall** (6 -eall); 5 **virgynal**, 5–6 **-all**, 6 **vyrginall**; 5 **vyrgynal**, 5–6 **-all.** [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *virginal* (= Sp. and Pg. *virginal*, It. *virginale*), or ad. L. *virginālis*, f. *virgin-*, *virgo*: see Virgin *sb.* and -al.]

1. Of or pertaining to a virgin or to virginity.

24.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 129 For of hur wombe the cloysture vyrgynall Euer was lyke bothe fyrst and last Closed and schytt as castell principall. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* V. 1314 He hath stodied with al herte and meende Thi virgynal body to destroye and shende. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 2973 In the vyrgynall wombe of blessed marye. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 170 The Virginall bowels of his vndefiled mother. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 78 This honourable Nymph had her virgineall.. body covered with a..stuffe of greene silke. 1612 Field *Woman's a Weathercock* III. ii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 53 And thy Bellafront presents herself, Lav'd in a bath of contrite virginal tears. 1630 Jer. Taylor *Holy Living* 395 The load was too great, and did sink thy tender and virginal body to the earth. 1721 R. Keith tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* xxii. 294 Thanks also be to holy Mary thy Mother, from whose virginal Flesh thou didst take the holy Members of thy Body. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 537/1 Can the calmest face,..or can the most virginal apron, do away with or cover this? 1854 Col. Wiseman *Fabiola* (1855) 201 One..whose brides never put off their virginal wreaths. 1876 H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* I. xv. 400 They are all comely and brown, with fine virginal bosoms.

b. *Virginal generation*, parthenogenesis.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. ii. 28 The so-called parthenogenesis, or virginal generation, of Bees.

2. Of qualities, actions, etc.: Proper to, characteristic of, a virgin.

c 1421 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3584 O humble maide! who is it pat can The debonaire humblesse tellen al, Restynge in þy clennesse virginal? 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg.* 195 b/1 There ben twelue vertues vyrgynal..wyth out whiche no vyrgyne may be agreeable to god. 1493 *Petronilla* 58 (Pynson), She fulfylled his byddynge in certeyn Withoute gruttchinge of virgynall mekenesse. *a* 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* 32 Whiche is the most clere christall Of all pure clennesse virgynall. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ix. 20 Gentle court and gracious delight She to them made, with mildnesse virginall.

1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. vi. 62 Without any more virginal fencing, will you use him kindly? 1627 Donne *Serm.* Wks. 1839 V. 613 Where is that Soul?..Is it come back in the virginal integrity in which I made it? 1640 Bp. Hall *Christian Moderation* I. § 8. 76 Virginall chastity is a grace worthy of our fervent prayers, worthy of our best endeavors. 1850 Kingsley *A. Locke* i, No foundlings educated in a nunnery ever grew up in a more virginal and spotless innocence. 1873 Doran *Lady of last Cent.* iii. 73 The..affected virginal coyness with which [she]..received..their rather audacious gallantry. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxx, That beautiful mixture of manly courage and virginal modesty.

transf. 1886 S. Lucas *Secularia* 133 Many..were privileged to behold the West in all its virginal freshness and splendour. 1866 J. H. Newman *Verses Var. Occas.* 271 He lifts his hands, there issues forth A fragrance virginal and rare.

3. Of persons: Continuing in a state of virginity; having the chastity or purity of a virgin.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 99 b/2 The vyrgynal companye of thynnocentes. 1520–30 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 79 Bricht ball cristall, rois virginall,...Aue Maria. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* I. xxvii. 19 Most virgynall flour, of al most excellent. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 5 Ye shall easely perceyve by their actes, that these virginall votaries hath bene the verye Angels of darkenesse. 1567 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 304, I would it were indifferently credited to understand, whether the married sort or the virginal pastors had done most spoil to the church. 1867 E. F. Bowden *Fathers of Desert* 267 O Virginal Mother, arouse my soul to penance and guide me to the way of salvation. 1886 W. Alexander *St. Aug. Holiday* 24 Such virgin gifts for spirits virginal. 1905 G. Thorne *Lost Causes* xii, She was pure but not virginal in temperament.

4. *transf.* Fresh, pure, unsullied, untouched.

a 1659 Osborn *Observ. Turks* Wks. (1673) 344 Learning..resembling dead Honey, which is stale, coorse, and less useful, none being pure and Virginal, but what is sucked from every Flower that may be found in the wild Field of a general Commerce. [1767 A. Campbell *Lexiph.* I A novel exhibition which is purely virginal.] 1821 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 132 Shall the earth, 'mid the roses of June, May's virginal violets scorn? 1866 M. Arnold *Empedocles* I. ii, The grass is cool, the seaside air Buoyant and fresh, the mountain flowers More virginal and sweet than ours. 1889 Jos. Thomson *Trav. Morocco* 24 From no point of view.. does Tangier look so beautiful and virginal..as from this particular gateway.

† **Virginality.** *Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + -ity.] The state or quality of being virginal.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 149 Within her pure virginalite of her flesshe, blode, and bone, the Sone of God toke humanite. 1721 Bailey, *Virginality*, Maidenliness.

Virginally (vɔ̈·rdʒinăli), *adv.* [f. Virginal *a.* + -ly 2.] In a virginal manner; like a virgin.

1882 Stevenson *Men & B.* 35 Virginally troubled at the fluttering of her dress in the spring wind. 1882 Miss C. P. Woolson *Anne* 202 Young ladies, dancing virginally by themselves.

† **Virgi·neous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *virgine-us* (f. *virgin-*, *virgo* Virgin) + -ous.] Virginal, virgin.

1585–7 Rogers *39 Art.* Pref. (1607) P 3 Her Faith, her wisedome,..her virgineous and chast behauiour he would euer celebrate. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* V. 248 Your Phrase, robustly propt, with ease produces Fractions in many weak Virgineous Cruises.

† **Virginet,** var. of (or error for) Virginal *sb.*

? *c* 1680 Ashmole *Mem.* (1717) 4 Mr. Henry Hinde, Organist of the Cathedral,..taught me the Virginetts and Organ.

† **Virginhead.** *Obs.* [-head.] = next.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. *Eden* 662 Unlike it is, Such blessed state the noble flowr should miss Of Virginhead. 1611 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* Ep. cxxv, Two foes of honord name in Honors bed, (The field) desirde (like virgins newly wiues) To lose their valours lusty virgin-head.

Virginhood. [f. Virgin *sb.* + -hood.] The condition or state of a virgin; virginity.

1636 Davenant *Platonick Lovers* III, To live in sweet unskilfull virgin-hood, The Angels life, for they no sexes know. 1872 Browning *Balaust.* 821 But thou, my girl, how will thy virginhood Conclude itself in marriage fittingly? 1874 Withrow *Catacombs of Rome* (1877) 329 The abandonment of the lofty vantage ground of virginhood.

Virginia (vəɹdʒi·niă). [f. L. *virgin-*, *virgo* Virgin *sb.* (in honour of Queen Elizabeth) + -ia 1.]

With the various applications of the word cf. those of Virginian *a.*1

1. The name of that part of North America in which the first English settlement was made in 1607, subsequently one of the original thirteen States of the North American Union, used attrib. in *Virginia colony, company, landscape, trade*, etc.

1609 in Capt. Smith *Wks.* (Arb.) p. xcviii, I am bold to write the truth of some late accidentes, be false his Maiesties Virginia colloyne. 1622 *Ibid.* 642 It came to be apprehended by some of the Virginia Company. 1773 in *Nairne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 170 Copartners in a Virginia trade carryed on by them under the firm of Oswald Dennistoun and Company. 1782 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 47/1 The Virginia militia gave the British troops a warm reception. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxix, [They] joyfully unloaded their Virginia goods, and replaced them with powder and shot. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 256/2 The most striking feature of thousands of square miles of Virginia landscape.

b. In names of plants and trees, as *Virginia cedar, corn, ivy, pea, tobacco, wheat*; **Virginia creeper,** *Ampelopsis hederacea* and *quinquefolia*, common climbing plants of the family *Vitaceæ*; **Virginia vine** (see quots.).

Also *Virginia snake-root, spiderwort, stock, tumach, witch-hazel*: see the sbs.

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Juniperus*, The three Sorts

of *Virginia Cedars .. afford excellent Timber for many Uses. 1688 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 2 The principal timber trees ..are..yellow or pitch pine; red or Virginia cedar. 1691 in Capt. Smith *Wks.* (Arb.) 564 Whatsoeuer is said against the *Virginia Corne, they finde it doth better nourish than any prouision is sent thither. 1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* II. xiv, This adheres to Trees by its hoary fibres, as our *Virginia Creeper does to Walls by its tendrels. 1766 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 153 Train and nail climbers—to walls, &c. as virgin's bower, passion flower, Virginia creeper, &c. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 452 The species of *Ampelopsis* known as 'Virginia Creepers' exhibit some interesting phænomena. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* ii, The Virginia creeper on the cathedral wall has showered half its deep-red leaves down on the pavement. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 612 *Vitis, sive potius Hedera Virginensis*, the *Virginia Vine, or rather Iuie. 1607 in Capt. Smith *Wks.* (Arb.) 97 We daily feasted with good bread, *Virginia peace, pumpions, and putchamins. 1637 COLES *Adam in Eden* 333 Some have called the yellow Lupine Spanish Violets,..and..*Virginia Roses. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Virginia-Tobacco*, the Tobacco-Plant growing in those Parts. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 115 Sow.. cape-marigold, yellow sultan, Virginia tobacco, &c. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 364 The *Virginia Vine..beareth small Grapes without any great store of iuice therein. *Ibid.* 612 This slender, but tall climing Virginia Vine (as it was first called; but Iuie, as it doth better resemble). 1652 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 36 The hill where their Corn is planted, called *Virginia-Wheat. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 978 English Wheat (as they call it, to distinguish it from Maze, commonly called Virginia Wheat).

c. In names of birds, insects, etc., as *Virginia bat, chafer, didapper, frog, goatsucker, red-bird, snap-beetle, squirrel*; **Virginia nightingale**, the cardinal grosbeak.

1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 991 The Night Raven, which some call the *Virginia Bat, is about the bigness of a Cuckow. 1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* Dec. III. Tab. xxvii, Marshal's *Virginia Chaffer. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 997 Teals, Wigeon,..*Virginia-Didapers. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Virginia-Frog*, a kind of Frog that..makes a noise like the bellowing of a Bull. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. II. 595 *Virginia Goatsucker..inhabits Virginia in summer; arrives there towards the middle of April. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 995 Of *Virginia Nightingale, or red Bird, there are two sorts. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3108/4 A Parcel of choice Virginia Nightingales, with choice Mock-Birds, are to be sold by Tho. Bland. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Virginia-Nightingale*, a Bird of a pure scarlet Colour, with a tuft on the Head. 1731 [see RED *a.* 17 b]. 1808 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 273 Numbers.. having been carried over both to France and England, in which last country they are usually called Virginia nightingales. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. II. 777 *Tetrao Virginianus*, *Virginia Partridge, smaller than the Common Partridge. 1808 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 276 They are generally known by the names red-bird, *Virginia red-bird...and crested red-bird. 1702 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* I. § 10 The Velvet-eyed *Virginia Snap-Beetle. 1609 in Capt. Smith *Wks.* (Arb.) p c, I tould him of the *Virginia squirills which they say will fly.

d. Miscellaneous combs., as *Virginia tobacco* (cf. 2); **Virginia fence**, a rail fence made in a zig-zag manner; *to make a V. fence* (see quot. 1861); **Virginia reel**, a country-dance.

1745 FRANKLIN *Drinker's Dict.* Wks. 1887 II. 26 He [being drunk] makes a *Virginia fence. 1789 ANBUREY *Trav.* II. 324 The New Englanders have a saying when a man is in liquor, he is making Virginia fences. 1826 T. FLINT *Recollections* 206 The universal fence split rails, laid in a worm trail, or what is known in the North by the name of Virginia fence. 1844 P. H. GOSSE in *Zoologist* II. 708 The fences, which are almost wholly made of rails set up in the zig-zag fashion so general in the north, commonly called a Virginia fence. 1861 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. Introd., Poet. Wks. (1912) 985 'Virginia fence, to make a 1' to walk like a drunken man. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed 3) 497 **Virginia reel*, the common name throughout the United States for the old English 'country-dance'. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 14/1 If you steep good *Virginia Tobacco in the Water,..it will be much more effectual. 1747 W. DOUGLAS *Brit. Settlements N. Amer.* (1760) I. 116 Virginia tobacco, and Brasil, and Varinas tobacco, differ upon this account.

2. *elliptical*. A variety of tobacco grown and manufactured in Virginia. Also *attrib.*

1618 in Capt. Smith *Wks.* (Arb.) 541 There are so many sofisticating Tobacco-mungers in England, were it neuer so bad, they would sell it for Verinas, and the trash that remaineth should be Virginia. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 47 My bare purse will reach no higher then to Democraticall Virginia, which many times tasts like some Levellers old leathern linings. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 9 (1713) I. 53 The Reforming Troops..offering the Incense of Virginia, and the Drink-offering of the Bottle, to their Idol of the Long-sword. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 329 P 6 He bid him stop by the way at any good Tobacconist's, and take in a Roll of their best Virginia. 1803 SIR A. BOSWELL *Spirits of Tintoc* xix, He's ta'en his apleuchan frae his breeks For a quid o' the right Virginia. 1864 HAWTHORNE *S. Felton* (1883) 301 A..German pipe..puffed out volumes of smoke, filling the pleasant western breeze with the fragrance of some excellent Virginia.

3. *Astr.* One of the minor planets.

1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* 328 Minor Planets [include] ..48. Doris. 49. Pales. 50. Virginia. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 807/2 Virginia [discovered] 1857, October 4 [by] Ferguson [at] Washington.

Virginian (vəɹdʒi·niăn), *sb.* and *a.*[1] [f. prec. + -AN.]

A. *sb.* One of the aboriginal natives or inhabitants of Virginia.

1585 HARIOT *Brief Rep. Virginia* B 1 b, [If mulberry trees are planted] there will rise as greate profite in time to the Virginians, as..doth now to the Persians. 1607–12 in Capt. Smith *Wks.* (Arb.) 79 Of the manner of the Virginians governement. 1612 MIDDLETON *Love & Antiq.* in Bullen *O. Pl.* VII. 321 The civilly instructed Irishman, and that kind savage the Virginian. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 209 The Brasilians, and Virginians, and other Natives of America. 1859 THACKERAY *Virginians* xl, A young savage Iroquois, Choctaw, or Virginian, who has lately been making a little noise in our quarter of the globe.

b. A white settler in Virginia; a native or inhabitant of the modern State of Virginia.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 659/1 The Virginians who are rich, are in general sensible, polite, and hospitable and of an independent spirit. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 372/2 Parts of the Navigation Laws were deemed highly injurious to the interests of the Virginians. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. xiii. 208 Two regiments composed of Pennsylvanians, Marylanders, and Virginians, remained as a garrison.

B. *adj.* Of, belonging or relating to, the State of Virginia; connected with or interested in Virginia.

With the various applications of the adj., cf. the attributive uses of VIRGINIA.

1609–12 in Capt. Smith *Wks.* (Arb.) 169 For the honorable and better sort of our Virginian adventurers, I think they vnderstand it as I haue writ it. 1614 CHAPMAN *Masque Inns of Court* A ij, On their heads high sprig'd-feathers, compast in Coronets, like the Virginian Princes they presented. 1781 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 46/2 The second line (was composed) of Virginian militia. *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *Geo. II* (1822) I. 346 An Indian half king,..who in the Virginian accounts is called a very considerable monarch. 1859 THACKERAY *Virginians* vi, The scanty pay and patronage of the Virginian government. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* I. xx. 545 Virginian and Maryland volunteers joined together, and..besieged the fort.

b. In names of plants and trees, as *Virginian anemone, asarole, bindweed, cowslip, date plum, dogwood, fir, grape, guelder-rose, hemp, ivy, jasmine, poplar*, etc.; †**Virginian climber**, = MARACOCK; **Virginian creeper**, = *Virginia creeper*.

Also *Virginian pohe, snake-root, spider-wort, stock, sumach, witch-hazel*; see the sbs.

1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 50 *Virginian Anemone...Petals green; flower-stalks long; seeds shaggy. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xxi. (1794) 290 *Virginian Asarole has oval leaves wedge-shaped at the base, shining and deeply serrate. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict* s.v. *Smilax*, Rough *Virginian Bindweed, with a smooth Ivy Leaf, commonly call'd Zarzaparilla. *Ibid.* s.v. *Juniperus*, Red *Virginian Cedar. *Ibid.*, The White-berry'd Virginian Cedar. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 660 *Juniperus virginiana*, the Virginian Red Cedar. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 68/2 The *Virginian Climber;.. these Flowers are of a whitish colour, thick spotted with a Peach colour. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726), *Virginian Climber*, or *Maracae*, comes out of the Ground in May with long round winding Stalks. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 323 *Mertensia Virginica*, *Virginian Cowslip or Lungwort. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 352/1 The Virginian Cowslip..attains true development in semi-shady spots. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 78 *Ampelopsis*,..*Virginian Creeper. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* ii. (1872) 41 The Virginian creeper is known to botanists by the generic name of Ampelopsis, derived from its vine-like habit of growth. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 411/2 *Diospyros virginiana* is the *Virginian Date Plum or Persimon, a native of the United States. 1785 *Fam. Dict.*, *Virginian-Dogwood*, a Tree of the natural growth of Virginia, about the size of the common Cherry-Tree, blossoming early in the Spring. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Abies*, The *Virginian Firr Tree, with small roundish Cones. *Ibid.* s.v. *Vitis*, The wild *Virginian Grape. 1829 T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 95 The *Virginian gelder-rose, a common garden shrub, affords a very perfect specimen of this kind of inflorescence. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 834 *Acnida*,..*Virginian Hemp. [Cf. HEMP 5.] 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Hedera*, Round-leav'd *Virginian Ivy. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Sept. 75 Yellow *Virginian Jasmine. 1882 *Garden* 29 April 297/1 The pure blue of *Virginian Lungwort combines happily with alpine Auriculas. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Acer*, The *Virginian flowering Maple was rais'd from Seeds which were brought from Virginia. 1669 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 3) Aug. 23, Single flowers, Shrub Spiræa, *Agnus Castus*, the *Virginian Martagon, *Malva arborescens*. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., *Virginian-Myrtle, otherwise call'd Candle-Berry-Tree. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 341/2 *Tulip-tree*, the English name of the *Liriodendron tulipifera* of America, where it is a native, it is also known by the names White wood,..*Virginian Poplar, and the Poplar. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Rubus*, The *Virginian Raspberry-bush with black Fruit. *Ibid.* s.v. *Rosa*, The Wild *Virginian Rose. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 444 *Virginian Silke. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Periploca*, Virginian Silk...The Flower consists of one Leaf. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 468/1 *Asclepias Syriaca*, Syrian or Virginian Swallow-wort, sometimes called Virginian Silk, appears to be a native of North America. .. It is frequently cultivated in flower-gardens. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1219/1 Virginian Silk, *Periploca græca*. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Veronica*, Tall *Virginian Speedwell, with many white Flowers. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Pl.* (1839) 196 *Asclepias syriaca*, *Virginian Swallow-wort. 1880 (see *Virginian silk* above). 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 217/2 *T. Virginiana*, the *Virginian Tephrosia, .. is a handsome plant with reddish flowers. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 309 The cock's-spur-thorn (*Crataegus crus galli*) and the *Virginian thorn (*C. Virginiana*) have been proposed. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 386 There are several other Trees and Shrubs which are now in Flower, as..*Virginian Trumpet-flower, Olives, ..Capers. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 280 In this *Virginian-Vine, the saying of the wisest of Kings may be verified, That a good Wife is a Tree of life. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, The Virginian Vine or Common Creeper. 1785 *Fam. Dict.*, **Virginian Wild Crab-tree*, a Plant that blossoms somewhat like the Apple, but very pleasant to the Smell.

c. In names of birds, quadrupeds, etc., as *Virginian colin, deer, nightingale, owl*, etc.

1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* II. 348 *Ortyx Virginiana*, *Virginian Colin. 1781 PENNANT *Quad.* I. 104 *Virginian Deer with slender horns...A quite distinct species, and peculiar to America. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 68 The Virginian Deer..is the 'Common' Deer of North America, and is slightly smaller than the Fallow Deer. *Ibid.* 302 The Eagle Owl..and its relative, the *Virginian Eared Owl of America, are the largest of all the family. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. I. 235 *Virginian Flying Squirrel. *Sciurus Volucella*. 1827 STEPHENS *Ibid.* X. I. 253 *Virginian Goatsucker, *Caprimulgus virginianus*. 1829 *Ibid.* VII. I. 215 *Virginian Horned Owl. *Strix Virginiana*. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 85 *Coccothraustes Virginiana*, ..the *Virginian Nightingale. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Nightingale*, *Virginian Nightingale*,..the common, but improper, name of a bird of the gross-beaked kind. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. i, She is a nightingale—a Virginian nightingale. 1896 P. A. BRUCE *Econ. Hist. Virginia* I. 119 The cardinal or red bird, which was always described as the Virginian nightingale, on account of the clearness and strength rather than the variety of its notes. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 473 *Didelphis Virginiana*. *Virginian Opossum. 1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* II. 348 *Perdix Virginiana*, *Virginian Partridge. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 28 Apr. 6/2 The so-called Virginian partridge..has unaccountably failed to adapt himself to the English climate. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 809 *Virginian Quail, or Colin (*Ortyx*), a genus of birds of the family *Tetraonidæ*, closely allied to quails and partridges. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 144 Some of the American Partridges are familiar to us in this country, such as the Virginian Quail (*Ortyx virginianus*). 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. I. 218 *Rallus Virginianus*, *Virginian Rail. [Hence in Pennant (1792) and Stephens (1824).] *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Sept. 1657, *Virginian rattle-snakes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 71 The grey *Virginian squirrel..is larger than a rabbit, and of a greyish colour. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. II. 546 *Parus Virginianus*, *Virginian Titmouse. [Hence in Pennant (1792) and Stephens (1817).]

d. Miscellaneous uses, as **Virginian plate, silver** (see quot.) **Virginian sea**, that part of the Atlantic Ocean lying off the coast of Virginia; †**Virginian vapour**, tobacco-smoke.

In quot. 1617 (and under VIRGIN *sb.* 11) *Virginian* is an error for *Vergivian*, an epithet (derived from Ptolemy) of the Irish Sea.

1864 STRAUSS, etc. *Eng. Workshops* 60 This new compound to which the inventors have given the name of *Virginian plate or Virginian silver. 1622 CAPT. SMITH *Map of Virginia* Map, The *Virginian Sea. [1627 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 156 This famous Iland in the Virginian Sea, is by olde Writers called Ierna,..by the English at this time Ireland.] 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 256/1 On the S. it is bounded by North Carolina and Tennessee,..and on the E. by the Virginian Sea of the Atlantic Ocean. 1632 LENTON *Charact.* F 7, He..then lies by *Virginian vapour a week after.

†**Virgi·nian**, *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. VIRGIN *sb.* + -IAN.] Virginal; virgin.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 754 Whether it be Virgin honey, or Virginian honey, I cannot say nay at first. 1758 *Elaboratory laid Open* 319 The best virginian honey.

†**Virgi·nic**, *a. Chem. Obs.* Also **virgineic**. [f. VIRGIN-IAN *a.*[1] + -IC.] *Virginic acid*, an acid obtained from the fat-oil of Virginian snake-root.

1837 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* 330 *Virginic acid*. ..Quevenne considers the whole of the oil to constitute the acid to which he has applied a name from Virginia, from whence the plant was originally sent by Dr. Tennant...in 1738. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1008.

Virginity (vəɹdʒi·nĭti). Forms: 4–5 **virgynyte**, 6 **-ite**; 4–6 **vyrgynyte**, 5 **-enyte**, 6 **-inite**; 4–6 **virginite** (**-itee**, 4 **wirginite**, 5 *Sc.* **verginite**), 5 **-yte**, 5–7 **-itie**, 6– **virginity**. [a. AF. and OF. *virginité* (mod.F. *virginité*, = It. *verginità*, *virginità*, Sp. *virginidad*, Pg. *-idade*), ad. L. *virginitāt-*, *virginitas*, f. *virgin-*, stem of *virgo*: see VIRGIN *sb.* and -ITY.]

1. The condition of being or remaining in a state of chastity; abstinence from or avoidance of all sexual relations; bodily chastity, as a virtue of great commendation, or as conferring especial merit or sanctity; the mode of life characterized by this, esp. as adopted from religious motives.

a. Of persons of either sex (or without special limitation of sex).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24681 Man or womman, quober it be, bat liues in wirginite, Quat fanding bat bai fele. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 203 Wedlake and widwehode with virgynyte ynempned, In toknynge of be Trinite was taken oute of o man. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 60 When ye in eny maner age That highe God defendid mariage By expres word?..Or wher commaunded be virginite? 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 Well may virginite be compared to a flours. Nothynge is more fayre, more beautefull, ne more pleasaunt than is virginite. 1547–64 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) VII. vii, The first degree of chastity is pure virginity, and the second faithfull matrimony. 1570 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 1. 85 Commonlie they cum home, common contemners of mariage..not because they loue virginitie, nor yet because they hate prettie yong virgines, but (etc.). 1651 CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* 1. 174 Origen..saith that such as live in virginity, doe not that which is commanded, but above what is due. *a* 1711 KEN *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 256 Virginity's a Heav'nly tender Grace, Connatural to the angelick Race. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. vi. § 7 The faculty of theology at Paris, censured the Colloquies for slighting the fasts of the church, virginity, monkery, pilgrimages, and other established parts of the religious system. 1840 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* V. vii. 109

Therefore marriage was in repute, and virginity in disesteem. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xix. 402 An exaggerated reverence for virginity had been growing up in the Church from the beginning.

b. Of men (esp. ecclesiastics or other religious persons).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptist*) 14 Angele als callit was he [John the Baptist], fore kepyng of verginite. 1382 WYCLIF *John* Prol., Double witnesse of virginyte is youun to hym . in this that he is seid loued of God lyfor othere disciplis. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. (Bodl. MS.) 58/2 He lyued euer in virgynyte. 1496 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 288 *John Euangelist.* Holy Edward, crownyd kyng, brothur in virginyte. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xvi. 101 Hee that wil enter into this religion must..obserue.. virginitie and abstinence. 1615 BEDWELL *Moham. Impost.* II. § 68 By this perfection, that is, by virginitie, it is knowne that he was of God accepted for his perfection. 1687 FARINDON *Serm.* (1672) II. 192 Some have placed Perfection in Virginity,..making themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven; and have laid an imputation upon the state of Matrimony as most imperfect. 1698 BROMHALL *Treat. Spec. Iere* v. 307 [He] defended the married Priests against the Monks, which observed the vow of Virginity. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. App. 538 The resolution of Eadward..to devote himself to a life of perpetual virginity. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* 556/2 Catholic feeling..has attached itself strongly to the virginity of St. Joseph.

c. Of women. Also in phrases *flower, gem*, etc., *of virginity*, chiefly with reference to the Virgin Mary.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 948 The thridde manere of chastitee is virginitee, and it behoueth þat she be hooly in herte and cleene of body, thanne is she spouse of Ihesu crist and she is the lyf of Angeles. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 336 And thus cam this Calistona Into the wode of Tegea, Wher sche virginite behihte Unto Diane. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 65 Wel oghten we thee worshipe & honure, Paleys of Cryst, flour of virginitee. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 91 Seynte Etheldreda,..whiche contynuede in virginite thau3he sche was mariede twyes. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 6 Whan I gan inwardly to remembre..Of hyr that is gemme of virgynyte. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxvi. 27 Roiss Mary,..O chast conclaif of clene virginite, That closit Crist but crymes criminale. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* t. vi. (1541) 15 b, Virginite was euer an holy thinge euen amonge theues, breakers of Saynctuary, vngratious liuers [etc.]. 1603 DEKKER *Patient Grissill* 816 Master Parneze, sweet virginitie is that inuisible Godhead, that turns vs into Angells, that makes vs saints on earth, and starres in heauen. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 738 Lest Lady,..be not cosen'd With that same vaunted name Virginity. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 164 P 5 That Vow of Virginity in which she [a novice] was going to engage herself. 1921 *Edin. Rev.* July 62 Jacqueline aspired to the veil, dedicated herself to virginity and the spiritual life.

d. Personified.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. lv. 60 This noble lady was suster to Aungels and was cleped vyrgynyte. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 842 Many pety capteynes aftyr these went, As..Clennesse, Continence, and Virginite.

2. The state or condition of a virgin or chaste woman; chastity, as the natural or normal condition of an unmarried woman; maidenhood. Also, a condition affording presumption of chastity; spinsterhood.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2875 Graunte me two monepes ar y dye, Þat y may wepe my virginite. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1071 By how coonly a kest he was clos þere, When venkkyst was no vergynyte, ne vyolence maked. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18560 For me is leuere in my contre Be aclayn in my virginite, That I falle not in 3oure handis, þan go with 3ow. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. 130 Þat scho mycht murnand be Twa moneth hir virginite. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 13 Evin so women wairis thair virginitie On thame that maist ar holdin onworthie. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 208, I denie her Virginitie: I was taken with a Maide. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 20 The [Malagasy] youth scarce knowing twelue, the maid ten yeares in the World, the title of Virginity. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 108 P 2 Some pleaded their unspotted Virginity; others their numerous issue. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 39 P 5 The reproach and solitude of antiquated virginity. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 343 They dispense premiums on virginity! 1825 SCOTT *Lett.* 24 Aug. in *Lockhart*, The celebrated 'Ladies'..who ..selected this charming spot for the repose of their time-honoured virginity. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* 556/2 Mary, then, was the Virgin Mother of God. She remained in perpetual virginity.

b. Freq. in phrases, esp. with possessives, as *to ravish, rob*, etc. (a woman's) *virginity*; *to keep, lose*, etc. (one's) *virginity*; sometimes with approximation to a concrete sense.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 316 Thus this tirant there Beraft hire such thing as men sein Mai neveremor be yolde ayein, And that was the virginite. *Ibid.* 339 To robbe the virginite Of a yong innocent awele. ? 1402 QUIXLEY *Ballade* xii. in *Yorksh. Archæol. Jrnl.* (1908) XX. 46 This Tereus kyng, The virginite rauysht by treson Of Philomene. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* ix. 23 (Harl. MS.), Whan he was ded, þer come a knyȝt, and spoiled me of my virginite. 1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefr.* 9 She chase leuer the smytynge of of her hede than to lose her vyrgynyte. 1563-83 FOXE *A. & M.* 94/2 Her heare hanging about her shoulders in two parts deuided (wherewith her shamefast chastitie and virginitie was couered). 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 49 If you..Haue vanquisht the resistance of her youth, And made defeat of her virginitie. 1620 ROWLANDS *Good Newes & B.* 21 Since Nans Virginity past help is lost, They'l teach him what a maidenhead will cost. *c* 1708 PRIOR *True Maid* 1 For my Virginity, When I lose that, says Rose, I'll dye. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., That the next Relation..of the Maid's, shall undertake to enjoy her before him, and take away her Virginity. 1739 A. BUTLER *Lives Saints* (1821) X. 489 Those holy martyrs seem..to have met a glorious death in defence of their virginity from the army of the Huns. 1866 B. TAYLOR *On Leaving California* Poems 270 Mother of mighty men, thou shalt not mourn Thy lost virginity.

fig. 1652 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro, 3rd Elegy* 6 O had he nere been at that cruell cost Nature's virginity had nere been lost.

† c. With *a* or pl. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xv. 367 Some were appointed to serue the Guacas and Sanctuaries, keeping their virginities for ever. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 157 The men..and the Virgines..both shall haue their Virginities renewed, as fast, as lost. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 269 Nor was ever any virginity so brittle, as that she brought into the world.

d. Used as a title: A virgin or unmarried woman. *rare*—[1].

1733 MRS. F. BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 9. 64 You must know then, my good sister virginity, that [etc.].

3. *fig.* The state of being virgin, fresh, or new.

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. lix, See, see the flowers that..blowe, And of all, the virgin rose,..How they all unleaved die, Loosing their virginitie. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* xix. (1647) 31 Cana the less..., where he shewed the virginity of his miracles, turning water into wine. 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 8 As the purest water..., when it slides into a dirty and a muddy Kennel, it immediately loses its clearness and virginity. 18.. WHITTIER *Pr. Wks.* (1889) II. 187 What avail your abstract theories, your hopeless virginity of democracy, sacred from the violence of meanings? 1896 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 5/4 Pretty well for what Lord Rosebery would call the virginity of the Session. 1915 J. KELMAN *Salted with Fire* IX. 121 Men's prejudices..had destroyed what Ruskin calls the virginity of the eye, and it was the main endeavour of Jesus to restore it.

Hence **Virgi·nityship**, spinsterhood.

1741 MRS. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. 299 Old Virginityship is certainly Milton's Hell 'Where hope ne'er comes that comes to all.'

Virgin-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. VIRGIN *sb.*]

A. *adj.* Resembling a virgin or that of a virgin; characteristic of or befitting a virgin; maidenlike.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 432 Oh cursed and furious envie!..seeing by thee man was first beguiled, and induced afterward..to water the earth, being yet virgine-like, with his brothers blood. *a* 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* III. iii, And here we met faire Venus virgine like, Bearing her bowe and quiuer at her backe. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. 520 When I heare them braggo to haue so virgin-like a will and colde minde. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. ii. 22 Oh damn'd paper,...Art thou a Fœdarie for this Act, and look'st So Virgin-like without? 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. 376 [To] restore unto it again that Virgin-like Attire. *a* 1794 SIR W. JONES *Enchanted Fruit* Wks. 1799 VI. 189 Rich bowls.., Some virgin-like in native pride, And some with strong Haldea dyed. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iii, She had previously made a respectful virgin-like curtsey to the gentleman.

B. *adv.* = VIRGINLY *adv. rare.*

1595 J. WEEVER *Epigr.* (1599) E vj, Chaste Lucretia virgine-like her dresses.

† **Virginly**, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. as prec. + -LY [1].] Virgin, virgin-like.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiv. 88 Dooe ye not knowe the menyng of it to bee the enclosure & tabernacle of the virginly chastitee, whiche neither any mortall man entreyng vnto it, ne the soonne of God..hath violated or defoiled?

Virginly, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY [2].] As or like a virgin; in or after the manner of a virgin; in a way becoming to a virgin or virgins.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 194/1 The holy ghoost shewed unto saynt germayn of ancerre how she shold serue god holyly & virgynely. 1823 MOORE *Rhymes on Road* v. 34 Whose beginnings are virginly pure as the source Of some mountainous rivulet. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* I. xv. 161 Virginly sensible of treasures of love to give.

Virgin's bower. [VIRGIN *sb.* II.] The British climbing shrub *Clematis Vitalba*, traveller's joy.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxiii. 741 Vpright Clamberer or Virgins Bower, is also a kinde of Clematis. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 68/2 The Virgins Bower groweth like the Honysuckle. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 500 Traveller's-joy. Great Wild Climber. Virgin's Bower. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 417 Virgin's bower, trailing airily. 1842 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) III. 36 The twisting or bending back of the petioles over any horizontal body,..as in the Virgin's bower. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 261 And woodbine, and the odorous virgin's-bower, Hung in great heaps about that undyked tower.

b. Applied to other species of *Clematis*, esp. to the American species *C. virginiana*, or employed as book-name for the whole genus.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 6. 122 *Clematis*, Virgins-bower. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Virgins Bower*,.. in botany, the name of a genus of plants;..The flower is of the rosaceous kind. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Virgin's Bower, *Clematis*. 1772 J. R. FORSTER *Flora Amer. Septentr.* 25 Clematis viorna. Virgin's bower, violet. Virg. Car. 1844-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 65 One of our most beautiful climbing plants is the *Clematis virginica*, or virgin's bower. 1896 DELAMER *Fl. Garden* (1861) 158 Virgin's Bower—*Clematis montana*, *Viticella*, and its varieties, are hardy climbers, pretty when trained over lattice-work. 1866 WHITTIER *Maids of Attitash* 15 Hardhack, and virgin's-bower, And white-spiked clethra-flower. 1880 BENNET *Bot.* 364 *Clematis*, the Virgin's Bower, of many species.

c. With distinguishing terms.

1724 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v., The Purple Virgin's-Bower... The Double-purple Virgin's-Bower. 1727 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 190 Double Virgins Bower is a climbing Tree, fit to cover some place of Repose. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Clematitis*, Purple creeping Climber, or Single Virgins Bower. *Ibid.*, Blue Climber with a double Flower, or Double Virgins Bower. 1820 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 39 *Clematis Cirrhosa*. Evergreen Virgin's Bower. 1882 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 73/2 *Clematis flammula*, a native of the south of Europe and north of Africa,..is the species known as Sweet Virgin's Bower.

Virginship. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -SHIP.] The personality of a virgin. Used with possessives as a title or form of address.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. xlvii, And Gabriel sware he would wait upon Her Virginship. 1673 DAVENANT *Distresses* v. i, Will your vex'd Virginship Vouchsafe to stay here, till you be well swadled.

Virgin's milk. ? *Obs.* [transl. med.L. *lac virginis.*] A chemical preparation having a milky appearance: a. A cosmetic preparation or wash for cleansing or purifying the face or skin (see quots.). Cf. LAC VIRGINIS 1.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. lxxiii. 604 Virgins milke is thus made with a filtre. *Ibid.*, This virgins milke is good to heale ringwormes, and saucie and red faces. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 289/2 The Tincture [of Benjamin] made with the Alcohol of Wine, being mixt with a great deal of Water, makes a kind of Milk, which by some is call'd Virgins Milk, which serves for a Wash for the Face and Skin. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 187 This Tincture of Benjamin and Storax is call'd Virgin [*sic*] Milk. 1721 BAILEY, *Virgin's milk*, a sort of Chymical Composition, called Benjamin water. 1823 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 257/1 A solution of benzoin in alcohol, added to twenty parts of rose-water, forms the cosmetic called Virgin's milk.

† b. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—[0].

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Virgin's Milk*, is made of dissolving *Saccharum Saturni* [i. e. lead acetate] in a great deal of Water: It will turn white as Milk; whence the Name. [Hence in Bailey.]

† **Virginty.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 vergynte. [f. VIRGIN *sb* : see -TY.] Virginity.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 767 In hys blod he wesch my wede on dese, & coronde clene in vergynte.

Virgin wax. Also **virgin-wax**; 5-8 **virgin's wax.** [tr. med.L. *cera virginea*: cf. VIRGIN 17 b and 11. So F. *cire-vierge.*] Orig., fresh, new, or unused bees-wax, sometimes that produced by the first swarm of bees; in later and more general use, a purified or fine quality of wax, esp. as used in the making of candles; white wax.

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 334 (Linc. MS.), After, he tok virgyn wax, And made a popet after þe quene. *a* 1400 *Sgr. lowe Degre* 688 She sered that body with specery, With wyrgin waxe and commendry. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 Þan putte to a litle oyle of olyue,..wiþ als miche virgine wax tbgidre dissolued at þe fire by it self. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/2 Vyrgyne wex, *cera virginea*. 1502 *Acc. L.d. High Treas. Scot.* II. 37 Payit to Robert Bertoune for virgyne wax that he brocht hame to the King 1538 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 55 The Herse to be garnyshed with xxx other great Tapers with ij Branches of Virgyn waxes. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 57 An excellent cement for broken glasses. Take one part of Virgin-wax [etc.]. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 9 He hath imprinted all his perfections vpon our Sauiour..as one should impresse a golden seale vpon virgin-waxe. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 33 They say, the young King's picture was found in her closet in virgin-wax. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 310 Like Virgin-Wax, be soft'ned the hard Bone, And wrought it till to female shape 'twas grown. 1798 W. BLAKE *Lett.* (1906) 54 Take a cake of virgin wax..and stroke it..over the surface of a warm plate. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, Besides lesser lights, the withdrawing-room was illuminated by four tall torches of virgin wax. 1862 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ccix, Wax which has been completely deprived of its colour is called virgin or white wax.

fig. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xii. (1912) 229 You use vile Vulcans spight..to melt that Virgin-waxe, Which while it is, it is all Asias light.

attrib. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 256 The most intenerate Virgine wax phisnomy. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. viii. 203 The convoy presently departed, leaving him..with a Virgin-waxe-light, in a golden Candlestick.

β. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxi. 897 The more newe wexe is the more able it is to take inpressyon and pryntynge of dyuers fygures and shapes, and suche wexe is callyd vyrgyns wexe. 1535 *Wardr. Kath. Arragon* 41 in *Camden Misc.* III, Item, seevyn hoolle tapers of vyrgyn's waxe. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 37 Cerfolie..being wrought & tempered with Virgins Waxe, remedieth all kinde of swelling. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 39 The purest virgins wax. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 915 Simple and natural Wax is the thicker part of the combs that contains the honey; and it is either virgins wax, or of a second sort; virgins wax is that the younger swarms of Bees make from the young branches of flowers. (That is the first Swarm put into a new Hive.) 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* x. 76 Slender Tapers of white Wax (commonly called Virgins Wax). 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* s.v. *Eye-salve*, Take one ounce of May butter, half an ounce of virgins wax [etc.].

‖ **Virgo** (vɔ̄·rgo). *Astr.* [L.: see VIRGIN *sb.*] (With initial capital.) a. The zodiacal constellation lying between Leo and Libra; the Virgin. b. The sixth sign of the zodiac, which the sun enters about Aug. 20-23.

a 1000 in *Saxon Leechd.* III. 244 An þæra tacna ys gehaten *aries*,...fifta *leo*; synta *virgo*, þæt is maiden. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 121 After Leo Virgo the next Of Signes cleped is the sexte. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 28 Alle signes in thy sodiak fro the heued of aries vnto the ende of virgo. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 64 *Tit.* Good Boy in Virgos lap... *Marc.* My Lord, I aime a Mile beyond the Moone. Your letter is with Iupiter by this. *c* 1620 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 269 Leo [may] lye of al the beastes forlorne,

as virgo may with gemini bewar. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 534 Quoth Wizard, So! In Virgo? Ha! quoth Whachum, No. Has Saturn nothing to do in't. 1697 CREECH *Manilius* II. 70 Against the Crab and Bull the Goat declares, And Virgo too, and Libra feels his Wars. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 469/2 In 14 days afterwards, the moon comes to Virgo and Libra, which are the opposite signs to Pisces and Aries. 1787 BURNS *Lett. to Moore* 2 Aug., Yet I went on with a high hand with my geometry, till the sun entered Virgo, a month which is always a carnival in my bosom. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 373/1 Virgo,..the sixth constellation in the zodiac...It is best known by two remarkable stars: the first, Spica (α Virginis);..the other, Præviudemiatrix, or Vindemiatrix (ε Virginis). 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 395 This zone..is known under the name of the nebulous regions of Virgo.

†Virgoule(e. *Obs.* Also 7 **vergoule.** [a. F. *Virgoulée*, the popular pronunciation of *Villegoursix*, the name of a village in the province of Limousin (Hatzf.).] = next.

1699 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 9) 18 Pears, Winter Musk,.. Vergoules, the great Surrein. *Ibid.* 134 Ice-Pear, Dove-Pear, Virgoule, Deadman's-Pear. 1729 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 53 *La Virgoulee.* The Virgoulee, otherwise call'd the Bujaleuf, Chambrett, the Ice-Pear [etc.]. *Ibid.* 160 Autumn, and Winter Pears, especially the largest: as the *Beurees*, *Virgoules*, and *Bon-Cretiens*. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 406 These Pears; [Nov.] Martin Sec,.. Virgoule, Sucrevert.

‖ **Virgouleuse** (*virgulōz*). Also 7 **Virguleus**, 7, 9 **Vergouleuse**, 8 **Virgoleuse.** [F. *virgouleuse*, f. *Virgoulée* (see prec.).] A juicy variety of winter pear. Also *attrib.* with *pear*. Cf. VERGALOO.

1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* (1699) 159 The Virguleus Pears were admirable. 1699 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 9) 167 Pears, Bergamot de Busy. Vergouleuse. 1706 *Gentil's Jardinier Solitaire* 40 The Marquise, the Easter Bergamot, the Virgouleuse. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pears*, Pears which become ripe in November.—The Virgouleuse is an old Pear, well known for its Goodness. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Vergouleuse*, a species of pear; contracted to *vergaloo*. 1845 A. J. DOWNING *Fruits & Fruit trees Amer.* 450 Virgouleuse...An excellent old French variety [of winter pear]...It is, however, a very different pear from the Virgalieu of New-York, which is the White Doyenné. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 219 Virgouleuse...Fruit large and pyriform. Skin smooth and delicate, pale lemon colour... November till January.

‖ **Virgula** (vō·rgiălă). [L., small rod or twig, critical mark, dim. of *virga* twig, rod, wand, etc.]

1. *Zool.* A small rod-like growth or formation:

†a. One of the spines of a ray. *Obs.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* b 5 b, They [*sc.* rays] take their prey, by hiding themselves in the mudde and putting out their virgulæ, and so alluring the small fishes, comming to them as weeds.

b. The rod-like axis of a graptolite.

1907 *Fossil Invertebr. Anim. Brit. Mus.* 47 The colony acquired a median supporting rod or virgula; this ended often in a disk.

2. †a. *Virgula divina* or *divinatoria*, a divining- or dowsing-rod. *Obs.*

1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, To Mr. Hobs* Note 28 *Virgula Divina* [see DIVINING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* vi. § 3. 80 It is the onely Plant for the *Virgula Divina*, for the discovery of Mines. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Virgula divinatoria*, is a Rod of Hazel, wherewith Miners pretend to discover where the Ores of Metalls lie. 1691 LOCKE *Lenent. Interest* 40 Not of the nature of the deusing-rod, or virgula divina, able to discover mines of gold and silver.

b. = ROD *sb.* 6 b.

1826 PEACOCK in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 411 Of this description are the *virgula*, or *rods* of Napier, which were formerly much celebrated and very generally used.

3. †a. = VIRGULE 1. *Obs. rare.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Point*, A Point with a Virgula, call'd a Semicolon. *Ibid.* s.v. *Comma.*

b. *Mus.* (See quots.)

1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Virgula*, the name of one of the ten notes used in the middle ages. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 450/1 *Virgula*, (1) The stem or tail of a note. (2) A neume.

Virgular (vō·rgiŭlăr), *a.* [f. L. *virgula* (see prec.) + -AR[1].]

†1. Of musical syncopation: Denoted by a small dash or stroke. *Obs.*—[1]

1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 52 To the same Signe there may belong a double Diminution, to wit; virgular and numerall, thus: ¢ 2. Virgular syncopation is much used.

2. Of Ogham characters, etc.: Having the shape of small thin rods; consisting of slender rod-like lines or strokes.

1857 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 3 Another example of an Irish character called a virgular ogham. *Ibid.* 35 The virgular alphabets of the Druids.

Virgulate, *a.* [ad. L. *virgulāt-us*, f. *virgula*: see -ATE.] (See quots.)

1840 SMART *Walker's Dict.*, *Virgulate*,..shaped like a little rod. 1892 CROSIER *Dict. Bot. Terms* 199 *Virgulate*, diminutive of *virgate*, shaped like a little twig or rod.

Virgule (vō·rgiūl). [a. F. *virgule*, or ad. L. *virgula* VIRGULA.]

1. A thin sloping or upright line (/, |) occurring in mediæval MSS. as a mark for the cæsura or as a punctuation-mark (frequently with the same value as the modern comma).

1827 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. viii. § 26 In the manuscripts of Chaucer, the line is always broken by a cæsura in the middle, which is pointed out by a virgule. 1828 HOPKINS *Beginnings of Writing* 111 According to Orosco y Berra these virgules or commas represent the verb to blow or to hum.

2. *Clockmaking.* (See quot.)

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 284 [A] Virgule. [is] an escapement having points of resemblance to the verge and to the horizontal.

†Virgulet, error for prec. or VIRGULA.

1620 MARCELLINE *Triumphs Jas. I*, C j b, Let them measure the Syllables, weigh the Words, controule the points and Virgulets.

†Virgult. *Obs.* [ad. L. *virgulta* (neut. pl.), bush, thicket, copse, slips or cuttings of trees, f. *virgula* VIRGULA.]

1. A bush or shrub; a set of young shoots; a branch or twig.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* 1. Prol. xii, Amyd the virgultis all in till a fary, An feminine as feblit fell I down. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Virgult*,..a company of young shoots, or many young tender Sprigs and Sprouts growing together out of the ground. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 240 Certain red berries adhere to its virgults.

2. A thicket or copse.

1736 *Drake's Eboracum* I. vii. 334 A toft and a virgult, and three other measures of land.

Virgu·late, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. mod.L. *virgult um* (see next) + -ATE.] Virgulate.

1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

‖ **Virgultum** (vəɹgə·ltŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L.: see VIRGULT.] A young slender branch or twig.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1219/2; and in recent Dicts.

†Vir-hirne, southern ME. var. FIRE-IRON 1.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 82 Flint, *cailleau*: vir-hirne, *le fusil.*

Virial (vi·riăl). *Physics.* [a. G. *virial* (Clausius), f. L. *vir-*, pl. stem of *vis* force, strength.] In Clausius' kinetic theorem of gases: (see quots.).

1870 tr. *Clausius* in *Lond.*, etc. *Philos. Mag.* Aug. 123 We will therefore give to the mean value which this magnitude has during the stationary motion of the system the name of *Virial* of the system. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 39 When an attraction or repulsion exists between two points, half the product of this stress into the distance between the two points is called the *virial* of the stress.

Viricide. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *vir* man, husband + -CIDE 2.] The slaying of men or of husbands.

1766 G. CANNING *Anti-Lucretius* I. 71 The impious Dannides, Grecian stories tell, For barbarous viricide condemn'd to hell.

†Viricund, *a. Obs.*—[1] [Irreg. f. L. *viri-dis* (see next), after *rubicund.*] In a green state.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 191/2 Take hoppes with the stalckes, and roote, ether viricunde, or exsiccated.

Vi·rid, *a. poet.* and *rhet.* Also 7 **viride.** [ad. L. *virid-is* green, blooming, vigorous.] Green, verdant.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. xciv, Her tombe was not of viride Spartane greet, Nor yet by cunning hand of Scopas wrought. 1638 H. CROMPTON *Pierides* 82 The virid Marjoram Her sparkling beauty did but see. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias' Descr. Greece* I. 61 There is, also, a temple of Earth the nurse of youths, and of virid Ceres. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* x. (1873) 97 The pillars..blooming in virid antiquity, like two massy evergreens. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 341 And as he spoke the virid bough upon Wound as he was, the dragon turned to stone.

‖ **Virida·rium.** *Roman Antiq.* [L. *viridārium* plantation of trees, pleasure-garden, f. *viridis* VIRID *a.*] A pleasure-garden or green court of an ancient Roman villa or palace.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Nov. 1644, We went to see Prince Ludovisio's villa where was formerly the *Viridarium* of the poet Sallust. 1832 W. GELL *Pompeiana* I. viii. 168 A sort of court, probably planted with flowers, and sometimes called a *viridarium*. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, The wide space between the columns, which had once given ample vista from graceful awnings into *tablinum* and *viridarium*. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* x, As Titus went across the viridarium, or chief green court of the Palace.

†Viridary, *sb. Obs. rare.* [In sense 1 ad. med.L. *viridarius* verderer, f. L. *viridis* VIRID *a.*; in sense 2 ad. L. *viridārium* VIRIDARIUM.]

1. A verderer.

1423.. in Arnolde *Chron.* (1502) p. lxxx/2 And moreouer euerych xl. daies bi al the yere forestirs and virydaries shall come togedurs to see [etc.]. 1601 W. WATSON *Sparing Discov.* a 3 Being but aduanced to the dignitie..of a vice-president, nay but of a viceprotonotary, nay but of a vice-viridary.

2. A viridarium or garden.

1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 190 Seeing how fair and flourishing the Viridarie [was].

†Viridary, *a. Obs.* (Of obscure meaning.)

Perh. an attrib. use of the sb. (see sense 1, quot. 1601), but the allusion is not obvious.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 147 [The Jesuits] haue a new tricke of a viridary post or current of time to gaine time withall, in keeping Nobles, State and all the people in suspence of euents, vntil they haue what they looke for.

Vi·ridate, *sb. Chem.* [f. VIRID-IC + -ATE[1].] A salt formed by the action of viridic acid.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1002 Coffee-beans owe their green colour to a small quantity of calcic viridate. *Ibid.*, The blue precipitate of lead-viridate is decomposed by sulphydric acid.

†Vi·ridate, *v. Obs.*—[0] [f. late L. *viridāre* to grow green, f. *viridis* VIRID *a.*] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Viridate*, to wax BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Viridate*, to make green and lusty.

†Virideer. *Obs.*—[1] [ad. med.L. *viridarius* (see VIRIDARY *sb.*), after words ending in *-eer.*] A verderer.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. K. William* 12 Gif he be found the third time with grene wode, he sall be presented to the virideer (the keiper of the grene wode and grasse).

†Viri·deous, *a. Obs.*—[1] [Irreg. f. L. *virid-is* VIRID *a.*] Virid.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 313/2 *Viridis*, virideous, green-colour.

Viride·scence. *rare.* [Cf. next.] The quality of being viridescent.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 697 An artist of this school..is signalized by the flatness and viridescence of his canvass in a moment. 1912 *Nation* 25 May 282/2 More like potatoes than the tender viridescence that we like best.

Viride·scent, *a. rare.* [ad. ppl. stem of late L. *viridescēre* to become green, f. *viridis* VIRID *a.*: see -ESCENT.] Somewhat green or virid. Also *fig.*

1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 433 *Viridescent*, greenish. 1889 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1899) II. 158 The front of the mountain ivied and furred with clinging forest, one viridescent cliff. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Oct. 430/2 Philosophers, like gods, may have a crude and viridescent old age.

‖ **Viridia.** *Chem.* [mod.L., f. L. *viridis* VIRID *a.* Cf. VIRIDINE 3.] A vegetable alkaloid obtained from the rootstock of *Veratrum viride*, an American variety of white hellebore: jervine.

1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 383 The researches of Dr. H. C. Wood have led him to conclude that Viridia and Veratroidea both exert a depressant influence on the heart.

Viri·dian, *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *virid-is* VIRID *a.*]

a. *sb.* Veronese green. b. *adj.* Of or pertaining to this colour.

1882 W. T. SUFFOLK in *Science Gossip* Mar. 49 The following list of colours contained in my own box may prove useful...Viridian. [*Note.*] A transparent oxide of chromium, perfectly permanent, of great use both by itself and in compounding other greens. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Mar. 356/2 The patch of green bank shimmering up to viridian pitch encouraged by..greys.

Viri·dic, *a. Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IC.] *Viridic acid* (see quot.).

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1002 *Viridic acid*,..an acid produced by the oxidation of cafletanic acid in presence of ammonia.

Viridine (vi·ridin). Also -in. [f. as prec. + -INE. Cf. F. *viridine.*]

1. *Bot.* = CHLOROPHYLL, CHROMULE.

1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 59 The pulp constituting the parenchyma of the leaves was at one time designated by the appellation of *viridine*, because it is generally of a green colour. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v.

2. *Dyeing.* A green aniline dye (see quots.).

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) I. 720 Viridine. A green dye has been obtained..by acting on rosolic acid with aniline and benzoic acid. 1882 *Nature* XXV. 546 R. Meldola..Investigates the action of benzyl chloride upon diphenylamine, and the action of oxidising agents upon the product. The substance thus produced is a green dye, 'viridin'.

3. *Chem.* = VIRIDIA, JERVINE.

1877 H. WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) II. 620 Parvoline, ..Coridine,..Rubidine,. Viridine. ($C_{13}H_{19}N$.) 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 604/1 The viridine and veratroidine of Bullock are now supposed to have been impure conditions of jervine and rubijervine respectively. 1888 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (ed. 7) 392 The root-stock of Veratrum viride..contains two alkaloids, *jervine* and *veratroidine*... Dr. George B. Wood named them *viridine* and *veratroidine.*

Viridite (vi·ridəit). *Min.* [f. as prec. + -ITE[1] 2 b. Named *viridit* by H. Vogelsang, 1872.] A mineral compound occurring in certain rocks in the form of minute greenish particles.

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 166 Viridite includes mineral matter which is probably referable to different varieties of chlorite and serpentine. 1883 *Science* II. 111/1 Yellowish-green needles of epidote and viridite. 1892 J. D. DANA *Min.* 664 *Viridite*,..A collective name...They are generally in scaly or fibrous forms and are often the result of the decomposition of amphibole, pyroxene, chrysolyte, etc.

Viridity (viri·diti). Now *rare.* Also 5 **vyridite**, 6–7 **viriditye.** [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *viridité* (= It. *viridità*), or L. *viriditāt-*, *viriditās*, f. *viridis* VIRID *a.*]

1. The quality or state of being virid or green; greenness, verdancy. Also in fig. context.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 76 God Almyghti ..Hath florished the erthe on every side, The woodes and the medowes wyde, Withe grete habundance of vyridite. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 69/2 Ther remayneth somtimes a viriditye or greenes about the apertione. *Ibid.* 53/2 The matter of our woundes receiveth it selfe into viriditye. 1605 J. DOVE *Confut. Atheism* 90 The Bush bore the heat of the fire without losse of viriditye. 1662 FELTHAM *Resolves* (ed. 8) II. lvii. 304 The Soul of Man ..was planted in the Element of Vertue, and while 'tis nourisht by it, it spreads and thrives with fruit and fair viridity. 1670 EVELYN *Sylva* (ed. 2) 238 This deification of their Trees, and amongst other things, for their Age and perennial viridity,..might spring from the manifold use which they afforded. 1875 *Sat. Rev.* XL. 553/1 To mark more clearly the distinction between black and green tea, the practice has arisen of imparting to the latter 'an obvious viridity' by means of various pigmentary substances.

2. *fig.* †a. (See quot.) *Obs.*—[0]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Viridity*, .. lustiness, strength, manliness. [Hence in Phillips, etc.]

b. = VERDANCY 2.

1829 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prince* iv, What intellectual viridity that exemplary creature possesses! 1838 *Chamb. Jrnl.* IX. 99 A desire to extenuate..my dear parent's viridity and trustfulness in the matter. 1839 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. I. viii. 264 The next in innocency;—may we say, in viridity?

†**Viridour.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 virydour. [ad. med.L. *viridarius* verderer, with ending assimilated to Verdour 2.] = Verderer 2 1.

?13.. *Charter of Forests* in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 212 [That] euerych forester of our fee from hensforth attache pleas of forest as wele of grasinges as of our veneri and them presente to ye virydour of ye prouince.

Virific, *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *vīr-us* Virus + -(i)fic.] Virulent, poisonous.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Jan. 4/1 It was further ascertained that the maximum of viriric effect is produced in the medulla oblongata.

Virile (vi·rəil, -il, vəi·rəil, -il), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 5 viryle, 6 vyryll, 6–8 viril (7 -ill). [a. OF. *viril* or ad. L. *virilis*, f. *vir* man: see -ile. So F., Sp., Pg. *viril*, It. *virile*.]

1. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of a man; manly, masculine; marked by strength or force.

a. Of things, qualities, etc.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* ix. 36 O the fortytude viryle of wymmen, or loos & pryce of chastyte femynyne. 1604 T. Wright *Passions, Clymact. Years* 3 The next clymacterickall yeere in them of solide and virile constitution is an 100. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. iii. (1739) 17 And yet the power of this grew as virile and Royal, as it would acknowledge no Peer but the Parliament. 1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* III. ii. (1713) 292 There is a virile state of vertue attainable when duty is turned into nature. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The Virile Age..is the Strength and Vigour of a Man's Age, *viz.* from thirty to forty-five Years. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* VIII. 175 Stammering words of an uncertain meaning, she breathed out her virile soul. 1828 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt. Part.* II. lxviii. 7 It was an act not reconcileable with virile sense, on the part of either the proposers or the acceptors. 1875 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* III. xv. 199 She punished her husband for the virile claim to greater freedom.

absol. 1876 Stedman *Victorian Poets* (1887) 407 Only the virile and heroic can fully satisfy her own nature and master it for good or evil.

b. Of dress: Denoting the attainment of man's estate; distinctively belonging to men in contrast to youths (or women).

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 52 Having put on your virile robe and growen to mans estate. 1631 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlew.* (1641) 340 One of this ranke..forbore not to unwoman herselfe, by assuming not onely a virile habit, but a virago's heart. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Robe*, At Rome, they gave the Name Virile Robe, *Toga Virilis*, to a plain kind of Gown which their Youth assumed when arrived at Puberty. 1761 *Acc. of Books* in *Ann. Reg.* 298/2 Girls wore it [i.e. the *prætexta*] till they were married, and youths till they took the viril robe. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xliv. The assumption of the virile jacket and pantaloons.

2. Of persons: a. Full of masculine energy or strength; not weak or effeminate.

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 51 He semed almost a man viril in his force. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* May 124/1 His instrument broke for want of a firm and even hand to use it—a virile, devoted master to prolong the strain. 1890 Horner *Anglo-Sax. Freedom* 319 All had ..been disciplined and made strongly virile by that priceless polity..which had been inherited from Anglo-Saxon ancestors. 1893 J. Strong *New Era* 102 The more virile a man is the more positive are his defects.

†b. Of a woman: Nubile. *Obs.*—1

1648 Hexham II, *Manbaer*, ..a maide that is Mariageable or ripe for a Husband, or Virill.

c. Of sex: Male.

1697 Evelyn *Numism.* viii 287 A Treatise of Illustrious Women showing how far they surpass the Virile Sex in all sorts even of Martial undertakings and Affairs.

d. *absol.* as *sb.* A virile person.

1903 *Critic* XLIII. 374/1 It is the fashion of the 'viriles'—to coin a word—to stigmatize the poetry..as 'decadent.'

3. *Virile member* (or *yard*), the male organ of generation.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest Chirurg.* K j, It is the yerde vyryll that is the cultyuer and labourer of the felde of mankynde. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 89 But it is good to leaue as many of the vaines and nerues of the virile member vntouched and whole as may be. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 135 Frico, whose image they deuise and pourtray with a great viril member. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Penis*, The Member, or virile Member,..one of the principal Organs of Generation in the Male Kind. 1896 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 672/1.

Hence **Vi·rileness,** 'manhood, manliness'.

1727 Bailey (vol. II).

Virilescence (virile·sĕns). [See next and -ence.] The condition of becoming virile, *spec.* of assuming physical characteristics of the male.

1836–9 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* II. 716/2 The change to virilescence in the former [*sc.* birds] being more marked and striking than in the latter [*sc.* mammalia]. 1883 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 908 *Virilescence*,..the state of the aged female in which she assumes certain of the characteristics of the male.—Mehlis. 1912 A. Harrison in *Eug. Rev.* Feb. 493 The virilescence of women would seem to imply the emasculation of men.

Virilescent (virile·sĕnt), *a.* [f. Virile *a.* + -escent.] Assuming characteristics of the male.

1836–9 *Todd's Cyc. Anat* II. 716/2 Two cases in which a virilescent type was shewn principally in the hair of the female deer.

Virilify (viri·lifəi), *v.* [f. Virile *a.* + -ify.] *trans.* To make virile or manly.

1849 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 647 It is merely his manhood that quails, which his wife has to virilify.

†**Viri·liously,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [Irreg. f. L. *virilis* Virile *a.*] Manfully.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 178 [The] Knights of St. Iohn.. viriliously expulsed the Saracens from thence. 1637 — *Siege of Breda* 25 The Enemy did divers times sally forth upon them, but they were ever viriliously repulsed backe to their owne repugnable limits.

Virilism (viri·liz'm). [f. Virile *a.* + -ism.] A form of hermaphroditism.

1896 *Nat. Science* Sept. 154 They can be referred to infantilism..and virilism.

Virility (viri·liti). Also 6–7 -tie, -tye. [ad. F. *virilité* (OF. *virilite*) or L. *virilitas*, f. *virilis* Virile *a.*: see -ity. So It. *virilità*, Sp. *virilidad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

1. The period of life during which a person of the male sex is in full vigour; mature or fully developed manhood or masculine force.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 531 The parts are these; infancie, childhood, youth, adolescencie, virilitie, and old age. 1623 J. Wodrophe *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 373/2 The first Aage of Man is called Virilitie, in which hee is in his Best Force, Vnderstanding and Disposition. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* I. 4 At such years as but just passing out of Virility he saluted only the first and freshest time of Old-Age. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Virile*, For which Reason some compare Youth to Summer, and Virility to Autumn. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. English Hist.* Wks. X. 329 When a young man approached to virility, he was not yet admitted as a member of the State. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 27 At puberty it [the pulse] is only 80; about virility 75. 1889 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1333/2.

b. *transf.* or *fig.*

1622 A. Court *Constancie* I. 41 The ruine of Townes is still at hand;..they haue their Youth, their virility, their Olde age, like men. 1627 Donne *Serm.* 214 Our Virility, our holy Manhood, our religious Strength consists in a faithfull Assurance [etc.]. 1671 E. Panton *Spec. Juventutis* 89 In the Youth and Virility of our Empire our Nobles handled all affairs of State. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* xiii. 395 During the virility of his intellect.

c. Masculine vigour; masculinity of sex.

1890 *Amer. Naturalist* Nov. 1030 We may infer, therefore, that sexual power and high sexual characters go hand in hand, and that in proportion to the advance toward organic perfection virility increases. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 839 Both these men were literary men of more sensitiveness than virility.

2. †a. The generative organs. *Obs.* b. The power of procreation; capacity for sexual intercourse.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2 b/2 That suture or seame which passeth along the virilitye. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. iii. § 23 William of Anco was punished with losse of both his eyes and his virilitye. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 205 He never after would trust any of his Eunuchs with any part of their virility. 1659 Milton *Civ. Power* Wks. 1851 V. 316 No less then the amercement of thir whole virilitie. 1721 G. Roussillon tr. *Vertot's Rev. Portugal* 136 The King..was for bringing half the prostitutes of Lisbon to prove his virility. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 214 Such mutilated persons as have voluntarily and deliberately deprived themselves of their virility. 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1333/2 *Virility*,..more particularly the generative power of man.

†c. *pl.* = prec. *Obs.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. ix. 124 Castrated animals in every species are longer lived then they which retaine their virilities. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 206 Sealing up his Virilities in a Box, delivered it unto the King.

3. Manly strength and vigour of action or thought; energy or force of a virile character.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1275 Yet could they never observe and keepe the virilitie of visage, and lion-like looke of his [*sc.* Alexander]. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 211 Thus.. discharged he the function of his calling..with prudent and magnanimous viriditie. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 26. P 7, I have lately been told of a Country-Gentlewoman, pretty much famed for this Virility of Behaviour in Party-Disputes. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nature* I. 262 Etymologists derive virtus from virility, supposing it to denote a manly strength and vigour of mind. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 2 Thus the virility and vitality of the noble people has been neutralised. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* II. i. (1866) 128 The famous moustache upon her upper lip was supposed to indicate authority and virility of purpose. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xix, A mind in which every spark of virility was dead, and which was rapidly degenerating into a mass of sensuous egotism.

b. *transf.*

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 177 These motions be more masculine causing in the song more virilitie then those accidentall cordes. 1889 W. Wilson *State* § 1195 The result some day to be reached will be normal liberty, political vitality and vigor, civil virility. 1894 E. Brooks in *Educator* (Philad.) Oct 159 Those universal and comprehensive principles of education which unite the parts of the science into an organic unity of power and virility.

†**Viring-rope.** *Obs.*—1 [app. f. Vire *v.*] ? A warping rope.

1336 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 4 (Publ. Rec. Off.) In lx. petris cordis de canabo .. pro tribus viryngropes inde faciendis.

†**Virinus,** obs. var. Verinas, Varinas.

1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isles* 192 It is made more excellent than that which commonly goes under the name of Virinus-Tobacco.

†**Viri·potence.** *Obs.*—0 [f. Viripotent *a.*1: see -ence.] 'Marriageableness' (Bailey, 1727). So †**Viri·potency.** *Obs.*—1

1632 Peyton *Catastr. Ho. Stuarts* (1731) 6 Mary Stuart ..when she attained to viripotency, was sought for a Consort to the Dauphine of France.

†**Viri·potent,** *a.*1 *Obs.* [ad. late L. *viripotent-*, *viripotens*, f. *vir* man, husband + *potens* able.] Of a woman: Physically fit for marriage; of a marriageable age.

1587 Holinshed *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 38/1 The kings daughter affianced..vnto him, and being now viripotent or mariable. *Ibid.* 102/2 He would not suffer his sonne to marrie hir, being not of ripe yeares nor viripotent or mariable. 1623 Cockeram I. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*

†**Viri·potent,** *a.*2 *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *viripotent-*, *viripotens* (Plautus), f. *virēs* strength.] Possessed of strength or energy.

1646 Gaule *Cases of Conscience* 113 Of giving Potions to make people love or hate as they please. Making the strength of youth impotent, and dead Bodies viripotent.

†**Viritrate.** *Obs.*—1 [Of obscure origin: cf. ME. *trate*, *trat* Trot *sb.*2] An abusive term applied to an old woman.

c 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 284 This Somonour clappeth at the wydwes gate Com out quod he, thou olde virytrate, I trowe thou hast som frere or preest with thee.

Virk, dial. var. Firk *v.* **Virk(e,** obs. Sc. ff. Work *v.* **Virkin,** dial. var. Firkin. **Virking,** obs. Sc. f. Working *vbl. sb.*

Virl. Now only *Sc.* Forms: α. 5–6 vyroll (5 vyrolfe), virol. β. 5–6 vyral, 6 wyrall, viral(l. γ. 5 vyrille, vyr-, virelle, 6 wirrell, 9 virrel, 8– virl. [a. OF. *virol(e* and *virelle*: see Virole, Verrel, and Ferrule.] A band of metal, ivory, or bone, placed round the end or some other part of a piece of wood, etc., to keep it from splitting or wearing; a ferrule.

α. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 510/2 Vyrolfe, of a knyfe (*K.* virol, *P.* vyroll.), *spirula*. *c* 1450 *Medulla* (Cant. MS.), *Torus est summitas templi eminens rotunditas*, a bolle or a toppe or els a rownde vyrolle. 1530 Palsgr. 285/1 Vyrull, *virolle*. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 319 Ane lattirt ..montit upoun ane auld stok, and hir axtre and quhelis garnysit with foure virols of irn.

β. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 289 Item, for iiij^e nalis to the wyndbandis and the vyralis, iiij s. 1503 *Ibid.* II. 389 Item, for sevin score viralis and diamandis for speris, ilk pece vj d. 1547 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. IX. 109/2 Item three staves, every of them having a picke with two graynes at the nether end and a wyrall of Iron tynned. 1558 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. 539 One of the king's canes,..garnished with gold; and having at the end a viral of gold.

γ. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 735 *Hec spirula*, a vyrille. 1483 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 496/28 (Publ. Rec. Off.) Virelles Plates pro diversis poleys. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 408/1 A vyrelle of a knyfe. 1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 272 Foure dusson of wirrellis with diamontis. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Shph.* I. 1, A winsome flute, O' plum-tree made, wi' iv'ry virles round. 1787 Burns *Brigs Ayr* 84 Five taper staves as smooth's a bead, Wi' virls an' whirlygigums at the head. 1813 W. Tennant *Anster Concert* in *Life* (1861) I. 25 Braw flute, wi' ivory virls, man. 1890 Service *Notandums* 115, I gaed in to Willie Gaud's as I cam bye and got him to put a new virrel on my staff.

transf. 1823 Galt *Gilhaise* xii, He walked with slow and tottering steps, wearing a virl of fur round his neck.

Hence **Virled** *ppl. a.*, furnished with a virl or ferrule. Also **Virlet,** a small virl.

1793 *Statist. Acc Scot.* IX. 371 The blade is..set in a haft of Tortoise-shell, or stained horn, girt with silver virlets. 1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* III. v. 35 An ivory headed cane virled with gold. 1842 D. Vedder *Poems* 227 A staff..Cut frae the gallows wood, Weel virled about wi' murderer's banes.

Virlat, obs. Sc. form of Varlet.

†**Virly.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. OF. *virely*, *virelai*, in origin probably a meaningless refrain employed in dancing songs.] A light dance, or sport accompanied by dancing.

var. Wormwood. **Virmillion,** obs. f. Vermilion. **Virmin,** obs. or U.S. f. Vermin *sb.*

‖**Virole.** *Her.* Also virolé. [a. F. *virole* ring, ferrule (see Viel), and *virolé* provided with a ferrule.] (See quots.)

1728 A. Nisbet *Her.* 226 From Vires, are the Terms Viroles, and Virole, in the Blasons of Figures, that have Hoops and Rings round them. 1780 Edmondson *Her.* II *Virolé*, is the hoop, ring, or mouth-piece of the bugle or hunting horn.

Hence **Viroled** *a.*

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Virolled*, this term is sometimes used for the garnishings of the bugle-horn, being the rings or rims, which surround it at various parts.

†**Viron,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 viroun, 5 vyroun, vyrown, vyrne. [a. OF. *viron* (f. *virer* to turn), used as prep. or in the phr. *en viron* Environ.]

1. Circuit, compass; a circling course. *In the viron of*, round about.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 1221 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 82 Þe viroun [L. *circuitum*] of þe wattres wonderliche He schewed. 1382 Wyclif *Judg.* ii. 12 The sones of Yrael.. folweden alien goddis, goddis of the puple that dweltan in the viroun of hem. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* (L.) 1616 Þe rede

dragoun..Drof þeo white fear adoun In to þe pleynes a gret vyroun. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Vyrne, or sercle, *..girus, ambitus, circulus.*

2. *In viron*, round about; = ENVIRON *adv.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 311 In viroun and wiþinne þei weren ful of iȝen. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 107 Summe blewe so sore that the flaume up sprong Aboutyn hyr sydys even in vyroun. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 3196 (He must] serchen jn market & town Abowtes al this contre jn vyrown. *c* 1450 — *Grail* xlii. 46 3it loked he bothe vppe and down Al abowtes that schipe in vyrown.

† Viron, *v. Obs.* Also 5 vyroun, 5–6 viron (6 vyron); 5 vyrnyn. [ad. OF. *vironner*, f. *viron*: see prec. and cf. ENVIRON *v.*]

1. *trans.* To go round; to make the circuit of.

1382 WYCLIF *Prof. Epist. St. Jerome* i, We han redde in olde stories, sum men to han vyrounde [L. *lustrasse*] prouynces.

2. To environ or encircle, to surround (*with* something).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Vyrnyn a-bowte, or closyn (*K.* closyn abowtyn), *vallo, circumvallo. Ibid.*, Vyrnyn a-bowte, or gon a-bowte, *ambio, circumdo. c* 1440 *Psalms Penit.* (1894) 10 Thu art my refute yn my woo, That hath vironed me aboute. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccviii. 711 They vyroned roundе aboute the towne. *c* 1530 — *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 139 The curtaynes were of grene sendall vyroned wyth golde & asure. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 40 We may presume the service there was rare, Because the board was vironed round with states.

† Vironry. *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. prec. and ENVIRONRY.] Environment.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* lxxxv. D vj, Her streaming rayes haue pierc'd the cloudie skies, And..Cleared the world of her blacke vironries.

Virose (vəiro·u·s), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *vīrōsus*, f. *vīrus* VIRUS.] Poisonous; suggestive of poisonous qualities; rank and unwholesome: **a.** Of things, esp. plants.

1680 MORDEN *Geogr. Rect., Germany* (1685) 124 The virose streams and particles of Mercury, or other Minerals descending from off their Mountains. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1167 Most of them are of an Aromatic Smell and Taste, but some are fœtid, virose, and fervid in their Taste. 1767 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 98/2 The root of the œnanthes that is like hemlock, with virose juice. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 205 *Virose*, nauseous to the smell, poisonous. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1219/2.

b. Of smell or flavour.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 174 This plant..is of a virose heavy smell. 1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 92 By that time the plants will..have acquired an highly virose smell. 1817 J. E. SMITH in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) Suppl. II. 405/1 Some [leaves] have a virose or nauseous flavour about them. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 309 Its smell is virose and nauseous. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 206/1 The virose and nauseous odour which characterises crude opium.

† Virour. *Obs.*—[1] [ad. late L. *viror*, f. *virēre* to be green.] Green growth, verdure.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* I. VII. xiii. 403 Ivy..circumvests..vicine Plants; which it kills with its multifarious convolutions and virour [L. orig. *virore*].

Virous (vəi·rəs), *a. rare.* = VIROSE *a.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 240 They are pleasant to the pallate; but of evil juyce, and virouse. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 26 The liquid ptomaines possess a virous, cadaveric odour, occasionally suggestive of musk or odoriferous plants.

Virr (vər). *Sc.* Also vir. [Of obscure origin.] Force, vigour, energy.

c 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 493 Making of the course of the water to be of greiter force or strenth than of befoir, or ȝit to be of less force or virre than of befoir. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis, Bir*, force, noise which an arrow, or such like makes in the air. *Scott boreales* Vir *prononciant.* 1742 R. FORBES *Jrnl. fr. London* (1755) 31 Syne we laid our heads together, an' at it wi' virr. 1790 SHIRREFS *Poems* 141 Beasy ran, and brought some whins, wi' vir, Frae out the nook. 1808–30 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Virre, southern ME. var. FIR; var. VERRE *Obs.* **Virrok** (obs. Sc.): see WIRROCK. **Virry,** obs. Sc. f. WORRY *v.* **Virschepe, Virschip,** obs. Sc. ff. WORSHIP; **Virschypful,** obs. f. WORSHIPFUL. **Virse,** southern ME. var. FURZE. **Virsling,** obs. Sc. var. WRESTLING. **Virst,** southern ME. var. FIRST *sb.* and *a.*, FRIST *sb.* **Virste,** obs. var. WRIST *sb.* **Virsute,** obs. var. VERSUTE *a.* **Virtiginous,** obs. f. VERTIGINOUS. **Virtigo,** obs. f. VERTIGO.

† Virtival. *Obs.*—[1] [ad. F. *vertivelle*: cf. VARTIWELL.] A bush or metal support for an axle.

1794 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 32 The lightning..finally threw the axis of one of the clock hammers out of the bouches or virtivals, by which it was supported.

‖ Virtu, vertu (vəitū', vɔ̈·rtū). Also verth, virth. [a. It. *virtù*:—L. *virtūt-em*, acc. sing. of *virtus* VIRTUE. The form *vertu* follows French spelling without justification, as the Italian sense of the word has never been current in French.]

1. A love of, or taste for, works of art or curios; a knowledge of, or interest in, the fine arts; the fine arts as a subject of study or interest.

a. 1722 RICHARDSON *Statues*, etc. *in Italy* 200 The whole Nation have a sort of Love to what they call the *Virtù*, and know Something of it. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* Prol., Virth to such a height is grown, All artists are encourag'd—but our own. 1768 HAN. MORE *Let.* in W. Roberts *Mem.* (1834) I. 248 Mr. Locke, a man of fashion,..and so deep in virth, that every artist of every sort allows Mr. Locke to beat him even in the secrets of his own art. 1820 SCOTT *Let. to Lockhart* (1837) IV. xi. 358 It may be the foundation of a set of bronzes, if stout Lord Walter should turn to *virtu.* 1828 CARLYLE *Frnch. Rev.* III. viii. I. 266 No noble Nation sunk from virtue to virth, ever offered such a spectacle before.

personif. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* Introd., A lumber-room; Lumber, indeed! what *Virtù* double-locks in cabinets is the real lumber to the boy!

β. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 569 Her children..Who study Shakespeare at the Inns of Court, Impale a Glow-worm, or Vertù profess. 1771 MACKENZIE *Man Feel.* (1886) 147 Fashion, Bon ton, and Vertù, are the homes of certain idols, to which we sacrifice the genuine pleasures of the soul. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribleomania* 118 A Walpole for love of vertù far renown'd. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* I. 236 This country at that period..exported swarms of men with the malady of vertu upon them. 1871 SMILES *Character*, ix. (1876) 262 There [at Rome], the virtus or valour of the ancient Romans has characteristically degenerated into vertu, or a taste for knicknacks.

b. *Man* (or *gentleman*) *of virtu*, a virtuoso.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. v, They..may be called men of wisdom and vertù (take heed you do not read virtue). 1787 *Gentl. Mag.* 1163/1 Being in company lately with several gentlemen of virth, I found in their conversation frequent use of the word Taste in a sense I was unaccustomed to. 1812 JEFFREY in *Edin. Rev.* May 31 There are few things, about which men of *virtu* are more apt to rave, than the merits of the Grecian architecture.

c. *Article, object, piece*, etc., *of virtu*, an article such as virtuosos are interested in; a curio, antique, or other product of the fine arts.

a. 1771 GOLDSM. *Haunch of Venison* 8, I had thoughts in my chambers to place it in view, To be shown to my friends as a piece of virtù. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 148 Soon were they doomed to withdraw their eyes from the innumerable bits of virtù which surrounded them. 1857 C. SUMNER in S. Longfellow *Life Longf.* (1891) II. 343 Stirling's house is full of the choicest articles of virtù. 1879 S. C. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* IV. 74 An immense number of articles of virtu from Egypt are now scattered through the world.

β. 1825 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 2) 116 The manufacture of some decoration, some piece of verth, some elegant trifle. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlix, Bareacres Castle was theirs,..with all its costly pictures, furniture, and articles of vertu. 1901 SNAITH *Wayfarers* ii, Every object of *vertu* that I ever possessed.

2. A special branch of this study or interest.

1745–6 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 429 Last Tuesday Mr. Bristowe, an uncle of Mrs. Dashwood's, dined here; he is a great virtuoso, understands all the *virtus* to perfection.

3. *collect.* Objects of art; curios.

Not always clearly distinguishable from sense 1.

1746 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 17 June, My books, my *virtu*, and my other follies and amusements take up too much of my time to leave me much leisure to think of other people's affairs. 1768 *Let.* in J. H. Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 308 My longing to see my own collection of *virtu* at Castle Howard is wonderful. 1773 W. MASON *Heroick Ep. Sir W. Chambers* 7 Whose orb collects, in one refulgent view, The scatter'd glories of Chinese Virtù. 1839 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Acc. New Play*, Some Vandal or Jew, With a taste for virtu, Has knock'd off his toes, to place, I suppose, in some Pickwick Museum. 1858 D. COSTELLO *Millionaire of Mincing Lane* ii, Pictures, crockery, gimcracks of all kinds—what is generally known as *virth.*

attrib. 1792 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ep. Sir W. Hamilton* Postscr. 4 What Britons, *knowing* in the *Virtù* trade, Soon as a grand discovery shall be made, Are near thee,..prepar'd to bite?

Virtual (vɔ̈·rtiŭăl), *a.* (and *sb.*). Forms: 4, 7–8 vertual (7 -all); 5 *Sc.* wertual(e, -all; 5–7 virtuall (5 -alle), 6– virtual. [ad. med.L. *virtuālis*, f. L. *virtus* virtue, after L. *virtuōsus*. Hence also It. *virtuale*, Sp. and Pg. *virtual*, F. *virtuel.*]

1. Possessed of certain physical virtues or capacities; effective in respect of inherent natural qualities or powers; capable of exerting influence by means of such qualities. Now *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. viii. (Bodl. MS.), But vertual liȝt igadered in a litel place or in a pointe is cleped moche liȝt. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 62 But our chiefe Digesture for our intent, Is virtuall heate of the matter digerent. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Hero & Leander* III. 89 So to all objects..his senses' flame Flowd from his parts with force so virtuall, It fir'd with sence things weare insensuall. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 See if the Virtuall Heat of the Wine, or Strong Waters will not mature it. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 106 Though the virtual beams of the Sun, give growth and life to all the Plants and Flowers it shines on. 1678 E. WILSON *Spadacrena Dunelmensis* Pref., Even ordinary water admits of a virtual mixture at least, as Experience evidenceth in Chalybeate waters. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 91 It was the foreign France the unruly feared,..Not virtual France, the France benevolent, The chivalrous.

b. Of herbs: Possessing specific virtues. *rare.*

1660 F. BROOKE *Le Blanc's Trav.* 364 To Rivers they sacrifice the shels that come from them, to fountains fruits and vertual herbs. 1830 T. AIRD *Captive of Fez* III, She knew .. every virtual plant, and every sovereign flower Beneath the moon.

† 2. Morally virtuous. *Obs.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. 1218 His awyn eyese to lif wertuall, May mirroure and ensample be Till alkyn statis. *Ibid.* VII. viii. 1206 Iohun of Salerne, prest cardynale, Commendit a lorde wertuale. 1607 DEKKER *Wh. of Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 216 You by your heauenly influence change his vilenes Into a vertuall habit fit for vse.

† 3. Capable of producing a certain effect or result; effective, potent, powerful. *Obs.*

1430–40 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 277 For a man and the worlde be assimilate in iij. thynges, in dimension diametralle..in disposicion naturalle, and in operation virtualle. *Ibid.* 283. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (Pynson) III. lx. 47 b, That is called after Sayat Thomas virtuall attencyon which causith a person in the begynnyng of his prayer to haue an actuall consideracion of the prayer or duety that he hath to do. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 37 So vertuall was the speech of Paul a Prisoner, in the heart of his Judge. 1640 SHIRLEY *Arcadia* IV. iii, I meant it A draught for false Zelmane, it being virtual To increase affection. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 13 The Loone is a Water Fowl, alike in shape to the Wobble, and as virtual for Aches. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* I, Dr. Dee..as a vertual Proof of his own Learned Pen, quotes two Authentique Authors.

b. *Mech.* (See quots.)

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 124 Whatever is the real length of the leg *b a* (of a siphon), the virtual or acting length when in use, only extends from *b* to the surface of the fluid. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 67 The velocity..due to a head of 15 inches; and this we call the *virtual* or *effective head.*

4. That is so in essence or effect, although not formally or actually; admitting of being called by the name so far as the effect or result is concerned.

1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 21 We affirm that Christ is really taken by faith,.. they say he is taken by the mouth, and that the spiritual and the virtual taking him in virtue or effect is not sufficient, though done also. 1664 — *Dissuas. Popery* II. § 8 But even this attention is not necessary that it should be actual, but it suffices to be virtual. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 166 We shall find it to amount to no less than a virtual renunciation of our baptism. 1734 WATERLAND *Diss. Exist. First Cause* 30 Every Proof *a priori* proceeds by Causes either real or virtual. 1769 BURKE *Obs. Pres. St. Nat.* Wks. 1842 I. 212 One part of it could not be yielded..without a virtual surrender of all the rest. 1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* viii. 73 *Heading*, Virtual Usury allowed. 1820 MILNER *Suppl. Mem. Eng. Cath.* 132 To prevent the virtual choice of a Catholic Bishop by an A-Catholic Ministry. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 212 He had reigned thirty-three years, during the first ten of which he was virtual sovereign of the greater part of Hindustan. 1883 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* 257 The simplest conscious action involves actual or virtual thought.

b. *Virtual Church*, a council or similar body acting in the name of the whole church. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.*

1646 J. MAXWELL *Burden of Issachar* 20 Whatsoever power..the Catholike Church, or her virtuall and Representative, an œcumenical Councel, justly challengeth; this general Assembly vindicateth to it selfe. *Ibid.* 45 It was not consented to by the Church: that is, the Virtuall Church, the Generall Assemblie. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* viii. (1661) 230 In all which..they understand..the virtual Church which is inuested with Ecclesiastical power, that is, the Pope with his Cardinals and Ministers.

c. *Optics.* Applied to the apparent focus or image resulting from the effect of reflection or refraction upon rays of light.

(*a*) 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Virtual Focus*, or *Point of Divergence* in a Concave Glass. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Point of Dispersion*, is that wherein the Rays begin to diverge; usually call'd the Virtual Focus. 1808 J. WEBSTER *Nat. Philos.* 185 They issued from the virtual focus in the axis of the lens. 1832 BREWSTER *Optics* i. 11 The point A', behind the mirror..is called their *virtual focus*, because they only tend to meet in that focus. 1874 *Lommel's Light* 90 The lenses of the second group have virtual foci.

(*b*) 1832 BREWSTER *Optics* ii. 18 In convex mirrors the image is always a virtual one formed behind the mirror. 1859 PARKINSON *Optics* (1866) 130 A familiar instance of a *virtual* image is that formed by a common looking-glass of an object in front of it:—the image of an object under water is *virtual.* 1883 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 39/1 If their direction, after the refraction, be prolonged backward, their prolongations meet to form a virtual image.

d. *Dynamics.* Of velocity or momentum (see quot. 1867).

1818 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) III. 41/1 [The] principle..of virtual velocities..is now, by most foreign writers, made the foundation of the whole theory of statics. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 373/2 The name of the principle of virtual velocities..is very ill fitted to express the idea which is to be conveyed. [Full account follows.] 1867 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 237 If the point of application of a force be displaced through a small space, the resolved part of the displacement in the direction of the force has been called its Virtual Velocity. *Ibid.*, The product of the force, into the virtual velocity of its point of application, has been called the Virtual Moment of the force.

Virtualism (vɔ̈·rtiŭălĭz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] The Calvinistic doctrine of Christ's virtual presence in the Eucharist.

1883 *Ch. Times* XXI. 775 The haze and cloud of Genevan Virtualism. 1905 *Treasury* Oct. 5 Charles Wordsworth.. a learned exponent of 'virtualism' in Eucharistic doctrine.

Virtualist (vɔ̈·rtiŭălĭst). [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who holds or advocates virtualism.

1897 *Month* Sept. 331 Without devoting much space to the attempt to prove that St. Thomas was a Virtualist. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Sept. 320/2 Our countrymen..knowing their Church Catechism, are neither Zwinglians nor Virtualists.

Virtuality (vɔ̈·rtiŭæ·lĭti). Also 5 vertualyte. [f. VIRTUAL *a.* + -ITY, perh. after med.L. **virtualitas*. Cf. F. *virtualité*, It. *virtualità*, Sp. *virtualidad*, Pg. *virtualidade*.]

† 1. a. The possession of force or power. *Obs.*—[1]

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 25 b/1 Now we may saye that Jhesus in his ascension was right hye of hiȝ maners of

heyght that is to wyte of place, of remuneracion or reward, of knowleche, and of vertualyte or strengthe.

† b. Something endowed with virtue or power. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. i. 7 This omnipotent Spirit of God..St. Augustine sometimes taketh..for the holy Ghost; sometime for a winde or breath,..or..for a created virtuality.

2. Essential nature or being, apart from external form or embodiment.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ii. 343 In one graine of corne..there lyeth dormant the virtuality of many other, and from thence sometimes proceed an hundred eares. 1688 R. L'ESTRANGE *Brief Hist. Times* II. Pref., The Two Main Pillars of the Old Cause were the Protestation (that was afterwards Emprov'd into a Covenant) and the Virtuality of the Sovereign Power in the Two Houses. 1843 tr. *Custine's Empire of Czar* II. 272 When the church abdicates its liberty, it loses its moral virtuality. 1858 H. BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* xiii. (1864) 418 The government of the world is waiting on Christianity, and is thus in highest virtuality a supernatural kingdom.

3. A virtual (as opposed to an actual) thing, capacity, etc.; a potentiality.

1836–7 Sir W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xxxviii. (1870) II. 357 Our inclinations, dispositions, natural habitudes or virtualities. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* IV. i. A Virtuality perfected into an Actuality. 1885 Mrs. H. WARD tr. *Amiel's Jrnl.* II. 263 Is not mind the universal virtuality, the universe latent?

Virtually (vɔ̈·rtiuălĭ), *adv.* Also 5 vertuallichе, 5, 7 vertually. [f. VIRTUAL *a.* + -LY 2. Cf. F. *virtuellement*, It., Sp., Pg. *virtualmente*.]

1. In respect of essence or effect, apart from actual form or specific manner; as far as essential qualities or facts are concerned.

Passing into next by a slight weakening of the sense, the idea of simple equivalence becoming more prominent than that of essential qualities.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxxvii. (1869) 49 Serteyn, quod she, locallichе j vnderstonde not, but oother weys; salliche j vnderstonde sumne, ymaginatyfliche sumne. ... *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. i. 5 vij b/1 Þe vertue of god made and ordeyned primordyall matere in yᵉ whiche as it were in a massy thynge the foure elementes were vertually and not dystyngued in tale and nombre as they arne now. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. xxiv. 40 But these and many more voluminous engines (for the ramme alone had an hundred men to manage it) are now virtually epitomized in the cannon. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 92 He defeated..the other ten nations virtually and inclusively. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. T.* I. 206 All the lesser pearls..are contain'd vertually in this one diamond. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) III. xvi. 378 If the Jews had prevailed, they would have imagined their Success a full Proof, that the Messiah was yet virtually, though not corporally, amongst them.

b. In effect, though not formally or explicitly; practically; to all intents; as good as.

a 1600 HOOKER *Disc. Justification* (1612) 32 No man is ignorant of their first principles, which doe vertually containe whatsoever by naturall meanes, is, or can be knowne. *a* 1626 Bp. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1856) I. 237 That was but virtually as good as born, this actually born indeed. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. iv. 160 Continue correspondencie with..some Professour or Secretary, who virtually is the whole University, or State. 1691 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 92 It Eye took distant Aim. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. § 34. 150 As far as this is virtually included in the Precepts for loving God above all and our Neighbour as ourselves. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. 1842 I. 497 It is virtually a begging of the question. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1152 The seamen may sue..the owners, as the persons virtually contracting with them through the agency of the master. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 160 The cause was virtually transferred to Rome, where Henry ..was unlikely to consent to plead. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. ii. 301 Before the middle of the 18th century the laws against Catholic worship were virtually obsolete.

2. Virtuously, morally. *rare.*

1539 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. cx. 296 [All persons shall] virtually and devoutly..bear their divine service and masses. 1822 CARY *Dante, Purg.* XXX. 118 This man Was..So gifted virtually, that in him All better habits wonderously had thrived.

3. In respect of (physical) virtues. *rare*—1.

1660 BURNEY *Κρὸς. Δώρον* (1661) 75 The Prince is not placed in his Chair of State, as the Sun has its spherical collocation amidst the Planets, and is chiefest vertually.

4. With virtue or power; effectively. *rare*—1.

1604 DEKKER *King's Entertainm.* Wks. 1873 I. 300 Beames from thine eyes So vertually shining, that they bring, To England's new Arabia, a new Spring.

† **Virtuate,** *v. Obs.* [f. VIRTUE + -ATE.] *trans.* To render efficacious; to invest with a particular virtue or quality.

1632 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VII. *Note* 254 Medea..now likewise invokes the Earth, Aire, Winds, Mountaines, &c. as either producing or virtuating magicall ingredients. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινη* xi. 132 None but God could..sanctifie, and virtuate the Signs and Elements [etc.]. 1689 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* v. 95 The preparation..is virtuated with an abstersif quality.

Virtue (vɔ̈·rtiu), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3–6 uertu, vertu (4 vertw-, vartu), 3–8 (9 *Sc.*) vertue (4 uertue, 5 vertuwe), 4–5 wertu (5 wertw-); 4–7 verteu, 4–6 vertew (4 -ewe), 5–7 wertew (5 -ewe); 4 ver-, wertow, 5 wertou-, 9 *north. dial.* varter, *Sc.* verter. *β.* 3–4 uirtu, 4–5, 7 virtu, 6– virtue; 6 virtew. [a. AF. and OF. *vertu* (F. *vertu*, = It. *virtù*, Sp. *virtud*, Pg. *virtude*), ad. L. *virtūt-*, *virtus* manliness, valour, worth, etc., f. *vir* man.]

I. As a quality of persons.

1. The power or operative influence inherent in a supernatural or divine being. Now *arch.* or *Obs.*

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. Eng. Misc.* 30 Besech ure lorde þet he do ine þe his uertu. 1389 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2852 'Pers', he seyd,'..þou art weyl with Ihesu; He shewiþ for þe grete vertu.' 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 284 If þour God be so clere, & of so grete vertewe, As ȝe precne oft tide. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1391 For though so be that Mars is god of Armes Youre vertu is so greet in heuene aboue That [etc.] *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 37 þat it [Bubo] may neuer be cured..but if it plese god..for to help wiþ his vnspekeable vertu. *a* 1440 *Alvth's Festial* 6 Hepyng þat þe vertu of Cryst schull put away his temptacyon. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 19/2 After the passion of Jhesu Cryst..he was transported from Infirmyte to Vertu. 1537 *N. T.* (Genev.) Epist. 4iiii, In his owne vertue he rose agayne. 1550 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* 25 b, All things would runne to ruine, and fall to nothyng, vnlesse by hys vertue, & as it were by hys hand, they were vpholden. 1594 DRAYTON *Idea* 489 All unclean Thoughts, foule Spirits cast out in mee, Onely by Vertue that proceeds from thee. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. i. 14 That the world is animated, and that God is the soul thereof,..whose divine moving vertue penetrats through the element of water. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LXXX. xx, Look on them with thy flaming Eyes, The Sin-consuming Virtue dart. 1850 NEALE *Med. Hymns* (1867) 27 Michael, who in princely virtue Cast Abaddon from on high.

b. An embodiment of such power; esp. *pl.*, one of the orders of the celestial hierarchy.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19523 Godds virtu or gret prophet, Or angel elles þai him let 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1125 þe steuen most stryke þurȝ þe vrþe to helle, þat þe vertues of heuen of ȝoye endyte. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xiii. 25 Vertues that be in heuenes, schulen be mouyd. 1398 TREVISA *De P. R.* II. xvi. (1495) c j b/2 The seuenth ordre [of angels] is Vertues. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 4 And siclik thay dremit and maid innumerabil pouers and vertus and laid to siclik orisons. 1575 TIMME tr. *Marlorat's Expos. John* 246/2 Hee hath committed these partes in charge, to the Angell. For the which cause the Angelles are called, powers, or vertues. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XV. ii. (1886) 315 Two and twentie legions of divels, partlie of the order of vertues, & partlie of the order of thrones. 1620 QUARLES *Pentalogia, Gloria Cœli* 13 Where troups of Powers, Vertues, Cherubins,..Are chaunting praises to their heauenly King. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 460 Thrones, Dominations, Princedoms, Vertues, Powers. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnothea* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 200 Virtues, who turn the orbs celestial round. 1812 CARY *Dante, Par.* XXVIII. 123 Dominations first; next them, Virtues; and powers the third. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 792/1.

† c. An act of superhuman or divine power; a 'mighty work'; a miracle. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19566 (Edin.), þe halligaste, it was sa gode, þate þa men þat it undirfange mogte do suilc virtus and sua strange. *c* 1305 *St. Christopher* 127 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 63 On such god, he seide, ȝe schulde bileoue: þat such virtu mai do. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Matthew*) 232, I traste þat þu ma do þe sammyne-lyk vertu fore his sake. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xi. 20 Thanne Ihesus began for to seie repreue to citees, in whiche ful manye vertues of hym ben don. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 28 Crist in a coost of þe Jewes miȝt not do ani vertu þer, for þe vntrouþ. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* vi. 2 What wysdom is this that is geven vnto him? and such vertues that are wrought by his hondes?

2. Conformity of life and conduct with the principles of morality; voluntary observance of the recognized moral laws or standards of right conduct; abstention on moral grounds from any form of wrong-doing or vice.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Nu hit is vertu..nor to wakien, nor hit greueð þe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 Tho was vertu sett above And vice was put under fote. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 206 So vertue wolde flowe whan vicis were ebbid. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 9 Modir of mercy, ..þat of al vertu art superlatyf. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. xx, The roote of alle vertue is obedynce and humylyte. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. x, If vertue be an election annexed unto our nature, and consisteth in a meane, which is determined by reason. 1545 BRINKLOW *Lament.* 79 Reformacion or redresse..wherby to expulse vice, and encreace vertu. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ii. 71 b, [They] haue enclined, & finally returned vnto their naturall and primitiue vertue. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. xi, The principall Habits are two in number, Vertue, and Vice. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. III. 107 He describes morall vertu in his discourses and writings. 1692 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 9 There were also those, who taught, That Virtue was that excellent thing, in which we should find our chiefest Good. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. § 4 Virtue consists in a regard to what is right and reasonable, as being so; in humanity, and in one word, virtue in its true signification 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 200 Vice is never so odious.. as when it usurps and disgraces the natural place of virtue. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 89 He thinks that to propose a reward for virtue is to render virtue impossible. 1850 F. W. ROBERTSON *Lect.* 73 That alone is virtue which has good placed before it and evil, and seeing the evil, chooses the good. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 179 Unless we know whether virtue is one or many, we shall hardly know what virtue is.

fig. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* II. i, To follow Vertue, as its own reward.] 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* V. iii, Virtue is its own Reward; There's a Pleasure in doing good, which sufficiently pays it self. 1756 HOME *Douglas* III. i. 1772 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl., To D. Lewis* 12 June, I shall be content with the reflection, that virtue is its own reward. 1820 SHELLEY *F. Fairfield* XXVIII, Supposing this iniquitous engagement..broken off by your exertions, is Virtue to be its own reward?

b. Personified, or regarded as an entity.

1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 457 Vertu so digne is and so noble in kynde, That Vice and she wol not in feere abide. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 2074 Then may ye say ye have a sure staff To..walke by the way of Vertu hys loore. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xx, If ever Vertue tooke a bodie to shewe his (else unconceaveable) beautie. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 63 That loue which Vertue begges, and Vertue graunts. 1607 DEKKER *Northw. Ho* V. Wks. 1873 III. 73 Virtue glories not in the spoil, but in the victory. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 68 If Virtue be so happy when it is afflicted. 1692 PRIOR *Ode Imit. Horace* viii, Virtue is her own Reward, With solid Beams and Native Glory bright. 1726–46 THOMSON *Winter* 1039 Virtue sole survives, Immortal never-falling friend of man. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 108 But on he moves to meet his latter end, Angels around befriending Virtue's friend. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 530 So Virtue dies, the spouse of Liberty! 1818 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 72 A wound in feelings which virtue herself has fostered. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 64. 322 Man may bow before virtue, but virtue never bows before man.

c. *spec.* Chastity, sexual purity, esp. on the part of women. *Of easy virtue*: see EASY *a.* 12.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 84 Hero it selfe can blot out Heroes vertue. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* v. i, Ne'er let the fair one boast of Virtue prov'd Till she has well refus'd the Man she lov'd. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xiv. 252, I say not this, to excuse the lady's fall; Nothing can do that; because virtue is..preferable to all considerations. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. iii, That order of females whose faces are taken as a kind of security for their virtue. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* III. viii, There are mincing women, mewing..Of their own virtue. 1889 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* ii, She played the woman of virtue—and played it well.

transf. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. iv. (1852) 221 The tax will then fall with its full weight upon men of integrity, while the millionaire of 'easy virtue' may well-nigh escape it altogether.

d. *Sc.* Industry, diligence. *rare.*

1546 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 757/2 Quhairthrow all vittew and marchandice within the said burgh is absult, ceissit and dekeyit. 1642 *Sc. Acts, Chas. I* (1817) V. 657/2 It is necessar that in everie schyre at leist thair be ane schooll or hous of vertue erected. *Ibid.* 658/2 Any parcellis of cloth, seyis, &c., ..made in the saidis houses of vertew. 1803 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. xi. 386 In many parts of Scotland the word *virtue* is limited entirely to *industry*.

3. With *a* and pl. A particular moral excellence; a special manifestation of the influence of moral principles in life or conduct.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Þet oðer þing is..denoiun, reoufulnesse, merci, pite of heorte..., edmodnesse, & oðre swuche uertus. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Þis is ȝet þe uertu þat halt.. ure feble flesch..in hal halinesse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 571 Alle virtus has [that] saul i-wis, þat vte o min vnaaked is. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 71, I wole þe teche, Faire vertus for to take And foule þewes to forsake. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 370 Suffraunce is a soureyngne vertue. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4017 Ho..voidet all vanities, & virtus disayret. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 147 The beste good of all is good of vertues and grace. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 82 Opere synnes arn contrarye to on vertew, as pride is contrarye to lowneese. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 All maner of goostly matter, concernynge the perfeccyon of graces and vertues. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 274 The word became not..her sex, whose chiefe vertue is shamefastnesse. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 84 Our crimes would dispaire if they were not cherish'd by our vertues. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 44 How great a vertue is temperance, how much of moment through the whole life of man? 1682 BUNYAN *Greatness of Soul* Wks. 1853 I. 138 It is a sport now to some to taunt and squib and deride at other men's virtues. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 207 They confess too, that Self-Denial is a Christian Vertue. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxviii. 136 Courage, preferable to equity or justice, was the virtue most valued. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. ii. 9 Human virtues without discrimination are no virtues. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. 321 Thousands..proclaimed the virtues of the deceased prince superior to those of all his predecessors. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* xiv. (1869) 553 Neither faith, hope, nor charity enters into the virtues of a savage.

transf. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., China* (1685) 423 Their chief practice or special Virtues are Theft, Murder and Adultery. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* I. i, When rage and rancour are the proper virtues, And loss of reason is the mark of men. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. ii, But they were not aware that there are things Which make revenge a virtue by reflection.

b. In enumerations of certain moral qualities regarded as of special excellence or importance, as the four cardinal virtues (see CARDINAL *a.* 2), the three theological virtues (see THEOLOGICAL *a.* 1), or the seven virtues opposed to the seven deadly sins.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 807 þat beþ þe seuen vertues wiþ winne To ouercome þe seuen dedly sinne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 5 Þe metynge of þe þre wates of þe þre vertues of deuynyte, and þe metynge of foure weies of þe foure chief vertues. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 25391 (Cott. Galba), Now hane I sayd þir askinges seuyn..whilk seuyn vertuse vaill us wine, and als fordone seuyn dedly sine. 1412–20 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4755 Prudence, attemperance, strenghe, and right, Tho foure ben vertues principal. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 1694 Þe seuene synnys I forsake & to þese vij vertuis I me take. 1532 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 7 The twa principal vertewes callit Faith and Hoip. 1590 SPENSER *Let. W. Raleigh* in *F. Q.* Pref., The twelve private Morall Vertues, as Aristotle devised. 1693 *D' Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Orders* 249 Of the Order of the ten Virtues, or Delights of the Virgin Mary, called also of the Annunciade. 1783 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 2 To nourish..in our Souls the three Divine Virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity.

c. *All the Virtues*, a name given to the Opposition in the House of Commons in 1815–16.

On the model of 'All the Talents' applied to the Grenville Ministry of 1806–7: see TALENT *sb.* 6 d.

1816 Sir G. BINGHAM *Lett.* 1 Jan., in *Cornh. Mag.* (1900) Jan. 34 Bonaparte..has heard that 'All the Virtues', with Sir Francis Burdett at their head, were to advocate his cause and recall.

d. A personified moral quality, or a representation of this in painting, sculpture, etc.

1851 E. J. MILLINGTON tr. *Didron's Chr. Iconogr.* I. 84 Each Virtue bears a characteristic attribute... Liberty, like ..the twelve sister Virtues..is decorated with a large nimbus. 1885 J. R. ALLEN *Early Chr. Symbolism* 277 Crowned figures armed with shields .. to symbolise the Virtues trampling on the Vices overcome.

4. *To make* (*a*) *virtue of necessity* (or † *need*), to do with apparent willingness, or as if performing a meritorious action, what one in reality cannot help doing; to submit to circumstances with a good grace.

After OF. *faire de necessité vertu*, L. *facere de necessitate virtutem* (Jerome *In Rufinum* 3, n. a).

(*a*) *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1586 Thus maketh vertue of necessite By paciens, and penk þat lord is he Of fortune ay, þat nought wole of here recche. *c* 1386 — *Sqr's. T.* 593 That I made vertu of necessitee And took it wel syn þat it moste bee. 1411–2 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1252 Make of necessite, reed I vertu; For better rede can I non. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cresseid* 478, I counsall the mak vertew of ane neid. 1578 WHETSTONE *2nd Pt. Promos & Cass.* v. v, Good Maddame way, by lawe, your Lord doth dye, Wherefore make vertue of necessity. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Blondi's Civill Wars* v. 115 Villandras weighing the danger made vertue of necessity, hee went to Toulouse. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* x. 245 However, I will have patience, and making Vertue of Necessity, I will forbear.

(*b*) 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* i. 28 b, They were enforced to behaue themselues..and of necessitie, to make a vertue. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 10 Shee was faine to make a vertue of her neede. 1614 DAY *Festivals* x. (1615) 297, I wil make a Vertue of this Necessitie. 1639 S. DU VERGIER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 46 They make a vertue of that necessity. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. ix. 144 Their Modern Doctors, whom the Arguments of the Protestants have compelled to make a Vertue of Necessity. *a* 1708 [see NECESSITY *sb.* 5]. 1764 tr. *Gil Blas* I. v. I. 21 And making a virtue of necessity, I put the best face I could upon it, and went about the work she set me upon. 1837 [see NECESSITY *sb.* 5].

b. *To make a virtue of*, to make a merit of, to gain credit by.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xiii, Mat, who saw Furlong was near the mark, thought he might..make a virtue of telling him.

5. Superiority or excellence, unusual ability, merit, or distinction, in some respect.

1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* x. 2 God..ladde hym out fro his gilte, ..and 3af to hym vertue of hauynge alle thingus. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 18 Now shal men se Yf any vertu in the be To tel al my dreme aryght. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 229 Miche peple wer out of here mynde, & God hab sent ham her mynde ageyn þrou3 vertu of þat holy martr'. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 864 Thir fowlis..weraly awyait, full of wirtewe, The maner, the mater, and how it remanyt. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 162 Thow hes walkit, I wis, in mony wyld land, The mair vertew thow suld haue, to keip the fra blame. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* xii, For what vertue that ony man hath none oughte to preyse hym self. 1602 *Speght's Chaucer* (ed. 2) C 1v, Vertue flourisheth in Chaucer still, Though death of him hath wrought his will. 1631 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (ed. 6) I. ii. 10 Our English Gentry ..aime for the most part at no more skill than the riding of a ridden and perfect horse, which is but onely the setting forth of another mans vertue. 1848 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam's Constit. Hist.* (1897) 85 That unsparing impartiality which is his [*sc.* Hallam's] most distinguishing virtue.

b. An accomplishment. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

15.. *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), The singeir to pas & remane in Pareis for ane yeir to le r wertewis. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 313 *Sp.* Item, she can wash and scoure. *La.* A speciall vertue. 1608 — *Per.* IV. vi. 195 Proclaim that I can sing, weave, sew, and dance, With other virtues, which I'll keep from boast. 1615 MARKHAM (*title*), The English Hus-Wife, Contayning, The inward and outward vertues which ought to be in a compleat woman. As, her skill in Physicke,..Cookery, [etc.]. 1656 DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE *True Relation* in *Life* (1886) 280 Tutors..for all sorts of virtues, as singing, dancing, playing on music, reading, writing, working, and the like. 1808 SCOTT *Autobiog.* in *Lockhart* i. (1842) 4/2 Robert sung agreeably—(a virtue which was never seen in me).

c. = VIRTU 1. *rare.*

1709 *Tatler* No. 38 P 12 He has by rote, and at second-hand, all that can be said of any man of figure, wit, and virtue in town. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XLVIII. 61 The Italians commonly call a taste for the fine arts, or skill in them, by the name of Virtue.

† 6. Physical strength, force, or energy. *Obs.*

Common *c* 1325–1420 as a rendering of L. *virtus*.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xxviii. 10 Our Lord shal 3eue vertu to his folk. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxii. 16 Geaunt aall noght be safe in multitude of his vertu. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* x. 19, I hau 3ouun to 30u power of..tredinge, on serpents, and scorpiouns, and on al the vertu of the enemy. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9291 He myst not wel his breth blowe, He was In poynt to ouer-throwe; His vertu hadde he clene lore. 1420 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 248 Hit aervyth to the stomake and to the entrailli, and than they gederith hare strwynth and vertu, wyche was amenuset and febelle. *c* 1430 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lx. 76 Þou art oure helpe, our vertu, & our strengthe. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxx. 396 He.. smote Zelodias vpon his helmet, by ouche strengthe & vertue that he made hym to enclyne vpon his hors neck.

† b. An armed force. *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* I. 4 And he gadride vertu, and ful stronge oost. *Ibid.* xiii. 34 And Symont seeȝ Joon, his sone, that he was a man of bateil, and he putte hym duyk of alle vertues.

† c. Flourishing state or condition. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Three Kings Colagne* (1886) 8 Whan þe citee of Acon..florished and stode in his vertue, loye and prosperite. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. xvi, He that gouerneth not wel his bely withe the grete payne he may hold the other lymmes in theyr strengthe and vertue.

7. The possession or display of manly qualities; manly excellence, manliness, courage, valour.

In later use tending to pass into sense 8.

13.. *Coer de L.* 2810 A baroun of gret vertewe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5304 Quat may þi vertu now a-vaile & all þine syn pride? *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1092 Syres, put no dowte, Vertu shall retorne & haue hys entente. Thys felde shalbe our. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXXII. 656 The Bretouns hem diffended as peple of grete vertu. 1523 LD. BERNERS tr. *Froiss.* I. cxcii. 228 The lord Pynnand his company defended themself by great vertue. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* Ep. 2 Quhar for 3our heroyque vertu is of mair admiratione. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* II. 104 The bastard of Burbon was made prisoner, notwithstanding he fought with great vertue. *Ibid.* Yet his vertue defended his person. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 86 Marius..from a common soldier came by his warlike vertue to be seven times consul. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Advice to Author* II. § 2. 67 They [*sc.* the Muses] were more to him than his Arms or military Virtue. 1758 JOHNSON *Let. to B. Langton* 21 Sept. in *Boswell*, A man that languishes with disease, ends his life with more pain, but with less virtue. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. ii. 70 The English were called upon for the utmost exertions of their virtue.

II. As a quality of things.

8. In the prepositional phrases *in* or *by* (also † *through* or *with*) *virtue of*, by the power or efficacy of (something aiding or justifying); hence, in later use, by the authority of, in reliance upon, in consequence of, because of. (Cf. 10 e.)

(*a*) *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Engel & meiden beon euening in uertu of ineidenhades mihte. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 18 Þe Kyng with þe maistrie went in to þe toun, Þe pris he had wonnen in vertew of Criste's passioun. 1617 *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 29 They should talke of the points of religion but by way of discourse, and not as in vertue of the commission [etc.]. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communn.* I. iv. 75 Christ in heaven perpetually offers and represents that sacrifice to his heavenly Father and in vertue of that obtaines all good things for his church. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) 105 In vertue of which perswasion, the Olives, and Olive stones, and Oyl which they produce, became an excellent commodity in Spain. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. ii. 77 He was the Head of all Creatures in Virtue of having created them. 1793 SMEATON *Eddystone L.* § 344 The experiment..was ordered in virtue of an observation that had occurred in the course of the work. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* ii. 39 In virtue of an office which he held, he had liberty to pass through the palace garden. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xiii. 188 He remained a senator in virtue of his quæstorship.

(*b*) *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 284, I þe coniure..bi vertu of þing þat þou most in þis world louest. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 32 Bi vertue of þis cheef domesman he owiþ to be excused fro þis somonynge of worldly prelat. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* P 360 It may wel wexe fieble and faille by vertu of baptesme and by the grace of god thurgh penitence. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290/1 That they mowe be vertue of the same lokett, be fully excused att alle tymes. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 53 § 1 Noo..persone the whiche . therwith entermedlede to your use or by vertu of your letters patentes. 1553 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 149 By vertue of a Warraunte sygned with her Maiesties oune handes. 1587 FLEMING *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1376/2 They shall loose the fiue shillings that they should receiue.. by vertue of my will. 1617 SIR T. WENTWORTH in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 25 When indeed he was in effect out of the Commission before, by vertu of that direction. 1663 HEATH *Flagellum* (1672) 47 Upon some pretence of private business of the Colonels and by vertue thereof in a Disguise of a Servant [etc.]. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 283 So we Christians by vertue of our Covenant with God in Christ, are separated from all other Societies. 1695 *Eng. Anc. Const. Eng.* 44 Violating the Fundamental Laws and constitutions of the Government by vertue of which he became King. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob Arcot* Wks. 1842 I. 318 No others, by virtue of general powers, can obtain a legal title..to exercise those special functions. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 287 The refugees who retired by virtue of the treaty from Amphipolis, found shelter at Eion. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 374 The planets, when they are visible, appear as stars, and, like the stars, they rise and set by virtue of the Earth's rotation.

(*c*) *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 11/346 And þoru3 vertue of þe holie croiz he ouer-cam alle is fon. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2804 Hole sche was & sounde þurch vertu of his gle. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 257 Þe barouns..prayede god þorw vertue of hem Schold sauye hem þar fro bebe men. *c* 1400 *Brut* CCVIII. 237 He come to þe Gildehall of London, and axede þe keies of þe 3ates of þe cites þrou3 vertue and streagh of his com-

(*d*) 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii, So..Must Tamburlaine by their resistlesse powers, With vertue of a gentle victorie, Conclude a league of honor to my hope.

9. Without article: † a. Of precious stones: Occult efficacy or power (as in the prevention or cure of disease, etc.); in later use, great worth or value. *Obs.*

a 1272 *Lewis Rom* 170 in *O. E. Misc.* 98 Hwat spekste of eny stone þat bi3t in vertu o3er in grace. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3178 Þus may a man..Alle þe cote of heven lykne..to precyous stones of vertew [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4425 Þe ston..was of so stif vertu, þat neuer man vpon molde miȝt it him on hause, ne schuld he with wicchecraft be wiched neuer-more. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 978 His helme & his hawberke holde, Frech ouere with rede golde, With stones of vertue dere. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxvii. 254 A coronal of gold besette with stones of vertue to the valewe of a thousand pound. 1593 HAWES *Example. Virt.* xiii. 240 The roof was set with stones of vertue. 1809 — *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 127 With perles and rubies rubicond, Mixte with emeraude so full of vertue.

b. Of plants, waters, etc.: Efficacy arising from physical qualities; esp. power to affect the human body in a beneficial manner; strengthening, sustaining, or healing properties.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 34 Bot be the fruit may sciltis se O quat vertu is ilka tre. *Ibid.* 1016 Treis o frut þan es þer sett þat serekin vertu has at ette. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 129 His herbe is Anabulla named, Which is of gret vertu proclamed. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 16 Þe schall draw wateris..Oute of wellis of oure Saviour, Whiche have vertu to curen alle langueres. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 31 It is sayde that there is an other Magadaris in Lybia. ..It hath like vertu with Laserpitio. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 145 No Cataplasme..Collected from all Simples that haue Vertue Vnder the Moone, can saue the thing from death. 1653 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* I. xiii. 48 This following Fomentation is of wonderful Vertue. 1678 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 48 A wolfes tooth for my pritty godson, that Lady Fingall gave me as a thinge of much vertu..and antidotal against convulsions. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Birds-Eye*, an Herb ..of singular Virtue against the Palsey. 1778 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 15 Oct., The second [night]..not so much better as that I dare ascribe any virtue to the medicine. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 27. 108 Distilling healing virtue into better waters. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* I. (1875) 6 There was a fountain of such virtue that, bathing in its waters, old men resumed their youth.

c. Efficacy of a moral nature; influence working for good upon human life or conduct. † Also, in early use, miraculous power (of the cross, etc.).

c 1300 *St. Margarete* 316 Of gret vertu is hire lyf, ho so þeron þo3te. *c* 1305 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 99 If þu woldest þat sope ihure..Gret vertu is wole þe telle of þe suete holi rode. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 12 In þis boke is muche vertu, to reders wiþ deuocyown. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 9 Thes rialle giftes been of vertou most, Goostly coragis most sovereignly delyte. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 32 Purposinge to euacuate Christes death, and to make it of smal efficacitie and vertue. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 14 Our Baptisme dotit with sanctitude, And greit vertew, to wesche our sinfulness. 1842 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 17. 64 Few questions..could well be more important, if Divine virtue is to be ascribed to every letter of Scripture.

d. Superiority or excellence in respect either of nature or of operation; worth or efficacy of any kind.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 16 Selden get a domb man loud. Tak that preverbe, and understond That wordes ben of vertu grete. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8388 The walles [were] vp wroght..With stones full stoute, stithest of vertue. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* XX, In vere, that full of vertu is and gude, Quhen nature first begynneth hir emprise. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. i. 10 The blade..was of no less virtue, then of fame. 1665–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 282 Yet have these two Load-stones no connexion or tye, though a Common Center of Virtue according to which they joyntly act. 1669 BUNYAN *Holy Citie* 153 Gold is the choice and chief of all Metals both for worth, colour, and vertue. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 339 The latter [*sc.* cinnamon] is vastly superior in richness, sweetness, and virtue. 1812 CARY *Dante, Par.* VII. 132 The elements Are by created virtue inform'd. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* 59 There is virtue in a bushel of coals properly consumed, to raise seventy millions of pounds weight a foot high. 1883 *N. York Chr. Union* 21 June, The new Sound steamer 'Pilgrim' is regarded as a model of mechanical and constructional virtue.

† e. Of laws, etc.: Operation, vigour. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 311 Whiche statute was ordeyned to take vertu and begynnynge at the feste of the Purificacion. 1470–85 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 168/1 That the said late Ordenaunce..be and stond in strenght and vertue, unto the xxvi day of May. 1652 NEEDHAM *Selden's Mare Cl.* 59 The Sea-Laws which were used and in full force and virtue in both the Empires were borrowed from the Rhodians. 1686 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 171 All those laws shall and are hereby Continued to Stand and be in full force and Vertue untill ye End of the first Session.

† f. *In virtue*, virtually. *Obs.*

a 1633 G. HERBERT *Priest to Temple* xxi, A most plain and easy framing the question, even containing, in virtue, the answer also.

10. With limitation to special instances (usually *the virtue of . .*, or with possessives): a. In senses 9 a and 9 b.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 312/428 Also man, zwane he is i-bore, onder heore [*sc.* the planets'] power i-wis, Schullen habbe diuers lijf, euere ase heore vertue is. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 32 Þat water hi honurde muche..Ac hi nuste nobing of þe tre þat al þe vertu made. 1390–30 *Horn Ch.* 567 Rimenild..bi-tau3t him a ring Þe vertu wele sche knewe. 15.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1660 Thilke monk Sorgien was, Þe vertu he knewe of mani a gras. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. v. (1839) 50 Who so kutte hem [*sc.* balm-branches] with Iren, it wolde destroye his Vertue and his Nature. *c* 1430 *Myrr. our Ladye* 37 A drynke..whiche is swete to taste, and effectuall to hele the woundes of synners by hys vertew. 1883 EARL OF SHREWSBURY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. III. 99, I would your Lordship wolde once make trial of my Oyle of Stags blud, for I am stronglie persuaded of the rare and great vertu thereof. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 27 It is an Errour in Phisicians, to rest simply vpon the Length of stay, for encreasing the vertue. But if you will haue the Infusion strong [etc.]. 1640 NABBES *Bride* I. ii, Like those pills which an unwilling patient Doubting their vertue takes. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* 1. i. (1760) 6 Till at last the whole Virtue or saccharine Sweetness of the Malt is extracted. 1759 MRS. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. lx. (1762) 52 By this u

the sun..will be prevented from exhaling the virtue of your manure. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 1 It will draw all the virtue out of the roots or herbs, and turn it to a good gravy. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 11 The virtue of St. Martin's precious relics was in the most active operation during the fifth and sixth centuries.

b. In sense 9 c.

a 1250 *Meid. Maregrete* xiv, Sclawen was þe dragun þoru þe uertu of þe rod. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3821 Pardon ..es of þe tresur of haly kirke, þat es gadirde..Of þe vertu of Crestes passion. 1382 Wyclif *Rom.* i. 16 Forsoth I schame not the gospel, for it is the vertu of God in to helthe to ech man bileuynge. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 138, I coniure 3ow fyue croppes in þe vertes of þe v woundes, þat crist suffred on þe roode treo. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* 18 Kynge Edwarde..requyrede hyme by the vertu of sacrament that he schulde pardone alle tho whos names here folowe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (Pynson) I. vii. 20 Hauyng grace and werkyng therafter..by the vertue of the same he may meryt and deserue the crowne of glory. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Phil.* iii. 10 That I may knowe him, and the vertue of his resurrection. *a* 1627 Bayne *On Eph.* (1658) 23 A thing wrought not by any power of nature but by the vertue of Gods Spirit. *a* 1699 Hinde *J. Bruen* li. (1641) 168 Doth not the vertue of the death and resurrection of Christ require it, that henceforth wee die unto sin..?

c. In sense 9 d.

a 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 2 It falles the flesche may noghte of his vertu noghte defaile ay while þe saule in swylk joyes is rauyste for to joye. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 302 But fynally the kyng asked the knight The vertu of this courser, and the might, And prayd him tellen of his governaunce. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 19 For cause efficient of Mettalls finde ye shall Only to be the vertue Minerall. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* xix. 19 The fyre had power in the water (contrary to his awne vertue). 1584 Sir T. Chaloner *(title)*, A shorte Discourse of the most rare..Vertue of Nitre, wherein is declared the..cures by the same effected. 1592 Daniel *Compl. Rosamond* Wks. (1717) 47 Pleasure had set my well-school'd Thoughts to play, And bid me use the Vertue of mine Eyes. *a* 1628 Preston *Effectual Faith* (1631) 118 If it bee the vertue of a horse to goe well; If it be the vertue of a knife to cut well, if it be the vertue of a Soldier to fight well. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 209 At the top [of the date palm]..is a soft pith, in which consists the soule and vegetatiue vertue of that tree. 1739 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 364 Both these stones have evidently the two properties;..the virtue seems strongest towards one end of the face. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 170 A piece of soft iron..capable of supporting as much as the magnet from which it derives its virtue. 1841–4 Emerson *Ess., Spir. Laws* Wks. (Bohn) I. 57 The virtue of a pipe is to be smooth and hollow. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 370, I shall..bless each kindly wrench that wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

d. In similar use of immaterial things. † Also in sense 9 e.

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 658 If þu coubest knowe and se þe uertu of humilite. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 513 þe uertue of il victorie..Is noght stabled in strength of no stiff prese. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 30 The vertu of hire goodly speche Is verrailly myn hertes leche. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 196/2 That the seid Letters Patentes,..aftre the strengthe, forme and vertue of the same,..stonde and abide in the force and vertue. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 21 b, Fayr lordes displese yow not yf the uertue of my corage knowe not now the feblesse of my body. 1563 Man *Musculus' Commonpl.* 28 The Apostle witnesseth, that the law is the vertue of sinne. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 112 The old verse standeth as yet in his old vertue. 1607 *Puritan* III. I. 74 The amazd widdow Will..wonder at the vertue of my words. 1642 J. M[ason] *Anat. conc. Militia* 18 The name of a Parliament onely, and not the power and vertue of it. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 41 Whether the Harwich..suffered any thing from her said sheathing, in her virtue of Sailing. 1746 Wesley *Princ. Methodist* 63 Works beyond the Virtue of Natural Causes, wrought by the Power of Evil Spirits. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, David..came, through the great virtue of *if*, to be of opinion that he might safely so act in that matter. 1852 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. xvii. (1882) 227 He hath imparted to us the virtue of his wrestlings. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 4 A collective religious tradition that had lost its virtue.

† e. *By* (or *in*) *the virtue of*, = sense 8. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 32 He schal be excused fro þe lasse bi þe vertue of þe heiere luge. 1654 R. Codrington tr. *Iustine* xvi. 254 [Many of them] delivered themselves from their..calamities by the virtue of an ingenious shame. 1656 Bramhall *Replic.* vii. 99, I confess persons deputed.. by the King doe often excommunicate and absolve .. but this is by the vertue of their own habit of Jurisdiction. 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 221 By interceding for us as Priest in the vertue of his Sacrifice. 1695 Dryden *Ess.* (ed. Ker) II. 124 The painters, by the virtue of their outlines, colours, lights, and shadows, represent the same things and persons in their pictures.

II. With *a* and pl. A particular power, efficacy, or good quality inherent in, or pertaining to, something: a. Of plants, medicines, precious stones, etc. (Cf. 9 a, 9 b, and 10 a.)

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 37 Vitailles of grete vertues, for al manere bestes. *a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 26 The vertuis of violet. *c* 1400 Maundev. vi. (1839) 69 Many othere Vertues it [an oak-tree] hathe: where fore Men holden it fulle precyous. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1011 (Trin.) Mony vertues þere is sene þe erbes euer I-liche grene. 1470–85 Malory *Arth.* xvii. v. 696 This Salamon was wyse and knewe alle the vertues of stones and trees. 1551 Turner *Herbal* Prol. A iij, I declare also the vertues of euery herbe. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. ii. 32 b, Wild asses, whiche haue in their head a stone, hauing the vertue against the falling sickness. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. ii. 4 These kindes of grasses do agree as it is thought, with the common Medow grasse, in nature and vertues. 1607 Topsell, *Four-f. Beasts* 34 There are sundry vertues confected out of this beast. 1649 Bp. Reynolds *Hosea* i. 22 Wine draweth a nourishing vertue from the flesh of Vipers. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) III. i. 379 The Sulphurousness or other Vertue of this Water. 1762 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 280 It is said in the note that Sir Nathaniel was famed for painting plants, and well skilled in their virtues. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 324 The plants of this class are supposed to have various specific virtues. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 327 Have practitioners yet proved the full virtues of the digitalis? 1838 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Germ.* 374/2 The hot mineral springs..owe their virtues to the presence of sulphur and alkaline salts. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* viii. iv. (1860) II. 53 Each planet, according to its mind or mood, shed virtues healing or harmful into minerals and herbs.

b. Of animal bodies, the elements, or other physical entities.

Expulsive virtue: see Expulsive *a.* 1.

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 42 For so astonyed and a-aweved Was every vertu in my heved. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 4 Whan that Aprille..hath..bathud every veyne in swich licour, Of which vertue engendred is the flour. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 15 þe vertues of lymes þou must knowe, þat he se, whanne þe worchinge of ony vartu failith in ony lyme. 1452 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* 120 Hir left arme had lost þe vertue of felyng. 1480 Caxton *Myrr.* III. viii. 145 The sterres that ben in heuen whiche haue vertues on therthe. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Life* (1560) S v, When a childe neseth out of measure, that is to say with a long continuance & therby the brayn & virtues animal be febled, it is good to stop it. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxix. 151 The sacred fountayne ..is of such a vertue, that putting into it any burning thing [it] is sodainly extinguished. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxi. 188 This moisture from heaven hath such a vertue, that ceasing to fal vpon the earth, it breedes a great discommoditie and defect of graine and seedes. *a* 1628 Preston *Effectual Faith* (1631) 59 If the Loadstone be of such a vertue, let it show it by attracting the Iron to it. 1684 R. Waller *Nat. Exper.* 46 The inperceptible pores of those passages by which the attractive Virtue issues out. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmorld.* v. 26 A very active Principle, or Virtue, that operates in the Generation of Stones. 1755 B. Martin *Mag. of Arts & Sci.* 389 What seems most wonderful, is, that the magnetic Virtue should not be interrupted by the Glass.

c. In miscellaneous uses.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a j, Ther ben here the vertuys of Chyualry. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 206 Money is of so great a vertue that it corrupteth Popes. 1629 Hobbes *Thucyd.* (1822) 70 For a great and a little claim imposed.. by way of command hath one and the same virtue to make subject. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* Pref. (1686) 2 Concerning the Vertues of an Heroick Poem. 1702 *Rowe's Hexv. Univ.* Advert. 4 They may inwardly perceive by a most powerful and most secret Vertue imprinted in their Souls and Hearts. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 276 It is not meant that there is any peculiar virtue or charm in the point called the centre. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N.* § 18 Over these three kingdoms of imagination, art, and science, there reigns a virtue or faculty..the appointed ruler and guide of every method of labour.

III. 12. *Comb.*, as *virtue-binding, -proof, -wise* adjs.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 384 No vaile Shee needed, Vertue-proof, no thought infirme Alterd her cheek. 1691 *Satyr agst. French* 21 And she must be but little Vertue-proof, Who can be taken with such fulsom Stuff. 1816 L. Hunt *Rimini* III. 6 The holy cheat, the virtue-binding sin. 1838 S. Bellamy *Betrayal* 49 And wisdom's self revealings, virtue-wise, Thy darkness comprehending not.

† **Virtue**, *v. Obs.*—1 In 4 vertue. [f. prec.] *refl.* To exert (oneself).

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 372 For schrifte stant of no value To him that wol him noght vertue To leve of vice the folie.

Virtued, *a. rare.* [f. Virtue *sb.*] Endued with virtue or efficacy.

1609 Heywood *Brit. Troy* IV. xi, He discends unto his knees Taking the vertued chaplet from his head. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* v. iv. 21 But has the virtu'd Steele a pow'r to move? Or can the untouch'd Needle point aright? 1897 J. Primmer *J. Primmer in Rome* (1903) 110 The old woman ..rubs her hand on the toes and passes the virtued hand across the child's forehead.

Virtuefy, *v. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -fy.] *trans.* To render virtuous.

1834 Chalmers *On Const. Man* II. ii. II. 244 It is this which *virtuefies* emotion, even though there be nothing virtuous, which is not voluntary.

† **Virtuehead.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 vertued, -hede. [f. as prec. + -head.] Virtuousness.

c 1450 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* (1900) CIV. 308 In taryeng is oft full grete drede, Where a begynnyng causith vertued [*v.r.* vertuhede].

Virtueless, *a.* Also 4–7 vertu-, 6–7 vertue-. [f. Virtue *sb.* + -less.]

1. Destitute of efficacy or excellence; ineffective, worthless.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 344 Wo worth he faire gemme vertulees. Wo worth þat herbe also þat doth no bote. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 129 The seconde is noght vertules, Clota or elles Pliades It hatte. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* ix. 38 In the presence of the disciples they depraued the name of Jesu, as a thing vertuelesse, and of no efficacie. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* VI. lxviii, And vertueless she wisht all herbes and charmes, Wherewith false men encreasse their patients harmes. 1607 Hakewill *Apol.* II. v. § 3, I do not consent with them who would make those glorious Creatures of God vertueless. *c* 1640 *Observ. his Majesty's late Answ. & Expresses* 9 Parliaments are thus vertueless and void Courts. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 264 The winds of March..are far from being virtueless. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. v. § 4 The architecture of Palladio is wholly virtueless and despicable.

2. Destitute of virtue or moral goodness; immoral, vicious.

1602 Heccleve *Let. of Cupid* 260 But swyche fithes [= low women] as weren vertuelesse, they quyttes thus, this olde clerkis wiss. 1507 Scogan *Mor. Balade* 133 That, whan ye come in your juges presence, Ye be not set as vertules behynde. 1533 More *Apol.* x. Wks. 867/2 Howe badde so euer they raken me, I am not yet fullye so vertueless, but that [etc.]. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 23 The strange and monstrous life and death, of a vertueless recreant. 1602 *How Choose Good Wife* 1. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* IX. 9 O, too unkind unto so kind a wife, Too virtueless to one so virtuous. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. (1869) 212 We know the wicked man's..name, and yet .. his virtueless name shall rot. 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* I. 307 You are not to become a worthless, virtueless, shameless fine lady. 1847 G. Harris *Life Ld. Hardwicke* xiii. III. 222 Sallies of indignation, possibly not altogether virtueless, which on special occasions were wont to emanate from this monarch's lips.

Hence **Virtuelessness.**

1891 H. S. Constable *Horses, Sport & War* 221 The cowardice, imbecility, and virtuelessness of the other classes.

† **Virtuification.** *Obs.*—1 [Cf. Virtuefy *v.*] The action of endowing with virtue.

1632 Urquhart *Jewel* 17 The Bonification and virtuification of Lully, Scotus's Hexeity, and Albedinaity of Suarez.

‖ **Virtuosa** (vɜːtʃuˌōuˈzä). Now *rare.* [It., fem. of *virtuoso* Virtuoso.] A female virtuoso.

1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* II, D'ye think, I that am a *Virtuosa* understand no better, then to leave you now you are not well? 1675 Plume *Life of Hacket* (1865) 20 Pope Gregory XV. had canonised Ignatius Loyola..and Madam Teresia, a Spanish Virtuosa. 1754 Chesterf. in *World* No. 98 P 8 Consequently those respectable titles of virtuoso and virtuosa have not the least relation to the moral characters of the parties. 1796 Burney *Mem. Metastasio* II. 161 This *virtuosa*, being unemployed, will doubtless have offers from other quarters. 1826 Margravine of Anspach *Mem.* I. viii. 310 The Virtuosa the other day had sung a Hebrew air, which began at the end. 1847 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc Art* § 405. 505 A musical virtuosa playing at the same time on a standing and lying stringed instrument.

† **Virtuose**, *sb. Obs.*—1 In 8 vertuose. [Anglicised form of Virtuoso: cf. next.] A virtuoso.

a 1721 Prior *Ess. Learning* P 6 The Gentleman who likes Medals very well will always be desirous to possess the best of them, and the Antiquary or Vertuose will be sure to top false ones upon him.

Virtuose (vɜːtʃuˌōuˈs), *a.* [ad. It. *virtuoso*: cf. prec.] Having or exhibiting the characteristics of a virtuoso; of or pertaining to virtuosi.

1890 *Academy* 17 May 346/1 Mme. Carreno is essentially a virtuose player, and it was in pieces by Liszt that she astonished her audience. 1906 *Athenæum* 8 Sept. 281/3 The virtuose element is prominent, but thought, feeling, and a poetical atmosphere are evident in the music.

Virtuose, obs. form of Virtuous *a.*

Virtuosi, pl. of Virtuoso.

Virtuosic (vɜːtʃuˌōuˈsik), *a.* [f. Virtuos-o + -ic.] = Virtuose *a.*

1889 *Academy* 13 April 261/3 Of late we have had only fugitive pieces of the romantic, and even virtuosic, schools. 1899 *Scotsman* 13 Nov. 9/4 The Capriccio, on the other hand, can only be described as a piece of virtuosic music.

Virtuosity (vɜːtʃuˌɒsˈlti). Also 5 vertuosyte, 7 vertuositie. [In sense 1 ad. med.L. *virtuōsitas*, f. late L. *virtuōsus* Virtuous *a.* In other senses f. Virtuos-o + -ity: cf. F. *virtuosité.*]

† 1. a. Manly qualities or character. *Obs.*—1

a 1470 Harding *Chron.* lix. i, For his wyt and virtuosyte, Able he was, as Chronycles coulde sele, To haue ruled all the emperalyte.

† b. Virtuousness. *Obs.* (Bailey, 1721).

2. The pursuits, interests, or temperament, characteristic of a virtuoso; interest or taste in the fine arts, esp. of a fastidious, finical, dilettante or trifling nature.

1673 H. Stubbe *Further Vind. Dutch War* 8 We are regenerated from the School of Aristotle to that of Epicurus, from all Moral Gallantry and Virtue, to a most impertinent and effeminate Vertuosity. 1676 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 360 Edward Bendlowes,..a great poet..spent about 7 hundred a yeare in vertuositie and on flattering poets. 1823 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* I.V. 408 Charles-Augustus had imbibed .. a taste for merit, a virtuosity in human excellence, to employ his preceptor's phrase. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 491 The Viennese, by their wise virtuosity, do the thing [*sc.* eating and drinking] gently, and like gentlemen. 1886 Symonds *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xii. 189 This..state of things..was due rather to the abuse of science and of virtuosity.

b. *spec.* Excessive attention to technique, or to the production of special effects, in vocal or instrumental music (also *transf.* in art or literature).

1865 *Reader* 28 Mar. 321/3 For this sentiment, this type of art, as applied to matters musical, there is a special name. It is called 'virtuosity'. 1877 E. Prout in *Academy* 17 Feb. 150 We have a short sketch of the history of piano virtuosity. 1884 Hawkis *Musical Life* II. 608 It is doubtful whether two such extraordinary personalities as those of Paganini and Liszt have ever appeared in the world of virtuosity.

c. With *a* and pl. A special study or interest of the kind affected by virtuosi.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 280 I've been cultivating some virtuosities, among other things.

3. Virtuosi collectively.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iii, Where all the Virtuosity and nearly all the Intellect of the place assembled of an evening.

‖ **Virtuoso** (vɜːtʃuˌōuˈzō). Also 7–8 vertuoso. Pl. virtuosi (7 vert-) and virtuosos. [It. *virtuoso* (also *vertuoso*) 'learned, skilled, skilful,

full of learning' (Baretti):—L. *virtuōsus*: see VIRTUOUS *a.* Hence also F. *virtuose*, † *virtuoso*.]
It is frequently difficult in particular instances to decide which of the senses is intended.

† **1.** One who has a general interest in arts and sciences, or who pursues special investigations in one or more of these; a learned person; a scientist, savant, or scholar. *Obs.*

Sometimes tending towards a depreciatory sense, as in α.

α. 1631 in Brent tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* (1676) xxv, There have happened to come to Venice..divers Virtuosi in several professions. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Pro-m 2 Perceiving by Letters from..Paris, that several of the Virtuosi there, were very intent upon the examination of the Interest of the Ayr in hindring the descent of the Quick-silver. 1684–5 — *Min. Waters* 73 The little Bodies that the ingenious Mr. Lewenhoeck, and since him divers other Virtuosi, have observ'd in Water wherein Pepper has been infus'd. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmoreld.* xii. 69 That new Hypothesis so stiffly maintained by some of our learned *Virtuosi*. 1730 *Dublin Soc. Weekly Observ.* I. No. 26. 172 Some Virtuosi tell you that continued Fermentation and repeated racking certainly spoil your Cyder. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* P 16 The former receives the thanks of mankind; the latter [i. e. the antiquary] of that valuable part, the virtuosi. [1855 KINGSLEY *Westward Ho!* xvi, Philip Sidney..has given up his rightful place toward the head of the table that he may have a knot of virtuosi all to himself.]

β. 1696 Earl MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. v. 8 The gallant Dispute which arose..between some Letterati of the State, deserves to be written; every one of these Vertuosie defended their own Opinion as the best. 1665 GLANVILL *Sceptis Sci.* xi. 58 As great Wits, as it may be e're saw the Sun, such as Pythagoras, Des-Cartes, Copernicus, Galileo, More, Kepler, and generally the vertuosi of the awakened world. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 36 The Projectors who are generally broken Citizens, were coop'd up in the Counters and Ludgate; ..the Vertuosi were confined to Gresham-College.

γ. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Virtuoso*,..a learned or ingenious person, or one that is well qualified. 1660 INGELO *Benitv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 22, I must not offend these Virtuoso's with laughing at them. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* III. 30 Another excellent Virtuoso of the same Assembly, Mr. John Evelyn, hath very considerably advanced the History of Fruit and Forest-Trees. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 60 He's no Digbian Virtuoso,..for he knows not how to sympathize with any mans Wounds whatever. 1738 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 14 Certain particularities discovered in that animal by a modern virtuoso. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed 2) s.v. *Combe-Martin*, They were neglected till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when Sir Beavis Bulmer, a virtuoso in refining metals, got great quantities of silver from them. [1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* vi. (1862) 19 There were in him undeveloped talents which might have raised him to distinction as..a virtuoso of the Royal Society.]

δ. 1695 Earl MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 5 Appearing much displeased at the affront done this man, he first honoured him with the name of Vertuoso [etc.]. 1733 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 60 To these are to be added those plodding Vertuoso's that plunder the most inward recesses of Nature. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 852 He was afterwards an eminent Physician, Vertuoso, and Knight. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* ix. (1709) 89 The *Vertuoso* despises the Rich for making such a bustle about so foolish and pale-fac'd a Metal as Gold.

2. One who has a special interest in, or taste for, the fine arts; a student or collector of antiquities, natural curiosities or rarities, etc.; a connoisseur; freq., one who carries on such pursuits in a dilettante or trifling manner.

α, β. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* iii. 34 The Greeks and inventive Romans, who..publish'd so many thousands of medails, and coynes as are in the han ls and collections of the *Virtuosi*. 1675 HOBBES *Iliad* To Rdr., There be many men called critiques, and wits, and vertuosi, that are accustomed to censure the poets, and most of them of divers judgements. *a* 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 157 A Worse thing than this happens commonly to these inferior *Virtuosi*. In seeking so earnestly for Raritys, they fall in love with Rarity, for Rareness-sake. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. Italy* (1790) II. lxxi. 367 The beautiful head of Alexander is universally admired by all the virtuosi. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. viii. § 61 The well-known word virtuosi, applied to those lovers of what was rare and beautiful in art or nature. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. v. 153 The virtuosi to whose inspection it was submitted. 1873 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1877) 349 For intellectual dilettanti and moralising virtuosi

γ, δ. *c* 1665 COWLEY *Queen's repairing Somerset-house* 86 If any prouder Virtuoso's sense At that part of my Prospect take offence. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Marall* III. (beginning). I am sure, in all companies I pass for a virtuoso. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Mar. 1644, One of the greatest virtuosos in France, for his collection of pictures, achates, medalls, and flowers. 1709 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* II. 414 Look upon the mighty labours of antiquaries, botanists, and the vertuoso's in butterflies, cockle-shells, and other odd productions of nature. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. x, A great number of nicknacks and Curiosities, which might have engaged the attention of a virtuoso. 1787 MME D'ARBLAY *Diary* June, Virtuosos being next..named, Colonel Manners inveighed against them quite violently. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 332 The Virtuoso will appreciate justly this small volume as a very instructive and agreeable manual. 1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp* liii. (1865) VI. 324 For painting and sculpture, as Grecian arts, he may have acquired the taste of a virtuoso. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 183 He was a *virtuoso* and antiquary himself, and therefore recognised the full extent of his danger.

transf. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. vi, Salter is a shaving virtuoso. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. v. 161 Excellent dishes, —such ..as Scotland borrowed from France before Catherine de Medicis brought in her Italian *virtuosi* to revolutionize the kitchen like the court.

3. One who has special knowledge or skill in music; *spec.*, in modern use, one who excels in, or devotes special attention to, technique in playing or singing.

1743 BP. BERKELEY in Fraser *Life* viii. (1871) 289 Such virtuosi as the country affords; I mean in the way of music. 1764 *Advert.* in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. IV. 386 The late famous Vertuoso Handel, received during his Life-time, such particular protection. 1834 BACKFORD *Italy* II. xxxi. 220 *note*, All these *virtuosi*..were either *contraltos* of the softest note, or *sopranos* of the highest squeakery. 1839 WRAXALL tr. *R. Houdin* xi. 155, I had often heard a nightingale sing, which I thought was the 'star' among the virtuosi. 1900 *Daily News* 19 June 4/7 A piece of little or no musical merit..has of late years come again into fashion with violin virtuosi.

4. *attrib.*, as *virtuoso collection, country, expression, kind, scheme*, etc.

1668 COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Prose, Of Avarice*, As if thou No other Use of precious Gold didst know, But that of curious Pictures to delight With the fair stamp thy *Virtuoso* Sight 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* x. (1709) 100 The Philosophical, or Virtuosi Country. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) I. 157 In Philosophy, Matters answer exactly to this *Virtuoso*-Scheme. *Ibid.* 333 To the Academys of Painters, Statuarys, and to the rest of the *Virtuoso*-Tribe. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xvi. 24 Her head's of virtuoso kind. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* civ. (1783) III. 251, I would peep into the..opinions of men, with a sort of virtuoso vigilance. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* I. vi. 38 About his mouth and eye there was the proper virtuoso expression of inquisitiveness and discrimination. 1846 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. ix. 93 Near these is a virtuoso collection of cups grouped in a tumulus or cairn. 1882 ANNIE EDWARDES *Ballroom Repent.* I. 52 With her Stradivarius tucked, in true virtuoso style, under her chin.

Virtuo·soship. [f. prec. + -SHIP.] The state or condition of being a virtuoso; the profession of a virtuoso.

a 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 160 Let us view Philosophy, like mere Virtuoso-ship, in its usual Career. 1749 MRS. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1813) III. 98 Vanity and virtuosoship go hand in hand. 1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 34 Too refined..by Italian virtuosoship, for the relish of his country neighbours. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Schiller* (1872) III. 65 Apart from virtuosoship, or any technical object, what a hold have such things on our universal curiosity as men. 1887 E. GURNEY *Tertium Quid* II. 110 The most brainless and soulless form of virtuosoship.

Virtuous (vɔ·ɪtiuəs), *a.* Forms: α. 4–5 vertuos, 4–6 -uose, 4–7 -ouse, 4–8 -uous (4 -ouous, -uuus, -ueous), 5 -uus, -uows(e, -ueux (*Sc.* wertuo(u)sse, -uwisse, -uus, 6 vertwus); 5 vertues (wert-), vertuys (*Sc.* -uyse, -uise), 5–6 -uis; 5 vertus (*Sc.* -use), wertus (*Sc.* -us); 4 vertiuus, 5–6 *Sc.* verteous, 6 *Sc.* -ewous, -ewus, -eus, werteous. Also *superl.* 5 vertues, 6 vertuest, vertuost. β. 4 uirtuous, virtuus, 5 virtuose, 7– virtuous. [a. AF. and OF. *vertuous*, OF. *vertuos*, *vertuus*, (also mod.F.) *vertueux*, etc., = Pr. *vertuos*, Cat. *virtuos*, Sp. and Pg. *virtuoso*, It. *ver-*, *virtuoso*, late L. *virtuōsus*, f. L. *virtus* VIRTUE *sb.* See -OUS.]

I. Of persons, personal qualities or actions, etc.

† **1.** Distinguished by manly qualities; full of manly courage; valiant, valorous. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 2408 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder and tholomeus, Mid her men þat weren so vertuous, þat hij weren passed ostes two. *Ibid.* 3319 Ne seiȝ ich neuer so hardy knizth.. So stronge on hors ne so vertuouse. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4310 For alle hem werreþ Galeus, þe riche king so vertuous. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxix. 595 The slaughter [was] grete on bothe sides. Neuerthelesse whan Merlin saugh the saisnes so vertuouse, he [etc.]. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. vi. 178 Ye shalle vnderstande that they ben stronge and vertuous in bataylle. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xx. 451 'Brother', sayd reynawde. 'I praye you that ye shewe yours-lfe vertuous & stronge agenste our enmyes'. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gent. Usher* I. i, My Lord, I know too well your vertuous spirit; Take heede for God's loue if you rowse the bore You come not neere him. *c* 1611 — *Iliad* XIII. 148 With this all strengths and minds he mov'd; but young Deiphobus, Old Priam's son, amongst them all was chiefly virtuous. 1612 BRAUM. & FL. *King & No K.* I, Must all men that are vertuous Think suddenly to match themselves with me? I conquered him and bravely, did I not?

† **b.** Of an act: Evincing a manly spirit; brave, heroic, courageous. *Obs. rare.*

1580 WHITEHORNE tr. *Machiavell's Arte Warre* 85 Thei had appointed rewardes to euery worthie acte: as he that faighting, saued the life of one of his Citezeins,..to him that had..slaine the enemie, and so euery vertuous act, was of the Consulles knowen and rewarded. 1653 COGAN *Diodorus Siculus* v. ii. 174 The child,..catching them [*sc.* two Dragons] by the throat, strangled them both; for which his vertuous act, the Argives called him Hercules.

† **c.** Capable, able. *Obs.*[1]

1483 CAXTON *Cato* e viij, It happeth oftymes that they to whome nature hath denyed..her forces or strengthes been better and more vertuous to gyue a good counceyl than the other.

2. Possessing or showing virtue in life and conduct; acting with moral rectitude or in conformity with moral laws; free from vice, immorality, or wickedness; good, just, righteous.

The prevailing sense. In some early quots. as a general term of commendation (cf. sense 3).

α. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 14 þe mare bat a saule es.. loynede to oure Lorde Gode, þe mare stabill it es and ryghty,.. gude, peysable, lufande, and mare vertuous. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 78 Bot if a man of bothe two Be riche and vertuous also, Thanne is he wel the more worth. *c* 1400 *Apoll. Lell.* 91 Crist is more exellent & vertuouse þan eþer createris. *c* 1475 G. ASHBY *Active Policy* 480 Looke that youre servauntes be of the best,..And eueriche in his degre vertuest. 1509 FISHER *Funerall Serm. Ctess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 301 All the vertuous and deuoute persones to whome she was as a louynge syster. 1534 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 375 Diuerse other vertuose presones men of good lernyng and reputation, shuld so testifie of her. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Peril Idol.* III. Sa ij b, The vertuest and best learned..auncient fathers. 1567 PAYNELL tr. *Treas. Amadis of Gaule* E ij b, I neuer saw a wiser, vertuouser or a more temperate prince. 1621 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 8 A man may be counted a vertuous man, though he haue made many slips in his life. 1640 QUARLES *Enchiridion* xci, If a Prince expect vertuous Subjects, let his Subjects have a vertuous Prince. 1658 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 172 The Reward of vertuous Men. 1702 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* Ep. Ded., Two Vertuous (or at least Innocent) Characters. 1706 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 206 Approving ourselves vertuous in our Behaviour as well as orthodox in our Belief.

transf. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22098 Byholde ȝonder a Chartrehous, An ordur that is full vertuous. 1538–40 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 109 The howse of Sion ..which was the vertues [= most virtuous] howse of religion that was in England.

β. 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* IV. 742 He had beyn fals and cruatus; Bot his vit maid him virtuous. 1660 INGELO *Benitv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 72 When that which is worse hath cunningly contriv'd the destruction of Virtuous persons. 1692 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 397 It were impossible so long as Men .. have a desire of their own Happiness, but they should be virtuous. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 7 *Ecclesiasticus* injoins Labour and Agriculture as a Duty of virtuous Men. 1777 R. WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 23 Thus did this monarch, who was not less virtuous than most of his cotemporary princes, deliberately resolve to add treachery to the perjury and falsehood into which he had been betrayed. 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* v. xiii, I have been too weak to be virtuous: but I have been .. tried most bitterly. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xvii, Let your most faulty characters alwnys be on the wrong side, and your virtuous ones on the right. 1881 *Jrnl. Inst. Bankers* II. IX. 563 The virtuous debtor, whose insolvency was attributable to unavoidable losses and misfortune.

b. Of women. Freq. = CHASTE *a.*

In quot. *c* 1400 merely an epithet of commendation.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 326 They can not geese That sche had doon so gret a wikkednesse, For they hun seyen hir so vertuous. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2430 Venus t. e vertuus was verely the fairest. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1573 þer nasse A wysor wommon..Ny vertuoser in levyng,..þen was þis holy mayde. 1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 21 Soo hath his grace I thinke chosen the vertuost lady and the veriest gentlewoman that lyveth. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 157 Quene Margarit was werie wyse and werteous in hir husbandis tyme, bot sune efter his deid..scho became leichorous of hir body. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 136 Mistris Ford, the honest woman, the modest wife, the vertuous creature, that hath the iealious foole to her husband. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xii. 4 A vertuous woman is a crowne to her husband. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 263 That she being a vertuous and a chaste lady, he called her whore often times. 1713 STEELE *Spect.* No. 286 P 1 In my Opinion, and in that of many of your virtuous Female Readers. 17.. *Suffolk Miracle* ii. in Child *Ballads* V. 66/1 Her beauty was beyond compare, She was both virtuous and fair. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 77 'She will be virtuous', said she, 'and she will be happy: I knew calamity only in ceasing to be virtuous'. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* II. i, Madame D'Epinay's memoirs are of this character. She was not a virtuous woman—but she felt virtue and loved it. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 35 A virtuous woman, who has given her heart..to one whom [etc.].

† **c.** Used as a title of courtesy in addressing or referring to persons, esp. ladies of rank or eminence. *Obs.*

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 896 Most illustre, ryght excellente & ryght vertuouse lady my lady Mary of Englande. 1588 KYD *Housh. Philos.* Ded., To the Worshipfvll and Vertvovs Gentleman Maister Thomas Reade, Esqvier, Health and all Happines. 1626 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xvii. *title*, Epitaph of the wery excellent, vertuouse..and trulie honoured Lady, the Lady Arnestoun. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Feb. 1668, I saw the tragedy of 'Horace' (written by the virtuous Mrs. Phillipa).

d. *absol.* (as pl.), chiefly with *the*.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 296 He putte awey the vicious And tok to him the vertuous. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. 832 He chastit þa þat war wicious-e, And relewit al wertuous-e. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 35 The acts of the ventrous, and the praise of the vertuous. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Ded., A second being..causing vs liue in the mindes of the vertuous, as it were, deified to the posteritie. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 373 As if the Vertuous, and their Vertues could be asunder. *a* 1711 KEN *Uranist* Wks. 1721 IV 498 They prin'd an humble modest Air, Sang more the Virtuous than the Fair. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxxvi[i.] But the angels of affliction spread their toils alike for the virtuous and the wicked. *c* 1805 LEYDEN *Life & Poems* (1875) 295 The soft descending dews of sleep, That bathe the virtuous in serene repose. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. viii. 137 The esteem of the noble and virtuous I would still retain.

e. Of the disposition or mind.

1584 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 398 Of a good and vertuous disposition. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 289 *Sim.* If I be drunke, I'le be drunke with those that haue the feare of God, and not with drunken knaues. *Evans.* So got-udge me, that is a vertuous minde. 1660 *Ld. Cromwell* IV. i. 20 He was my Maister, And each vertuous part, That liued in him, I tenderd with my hart. 1674 MILTON *Comus* 211 These thoughts may startle well, but not astound The vertuous mind. 1680 INGELO *Benitv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 196 Many Vertuous Dispositions are fair Resemblances of the Divine Perfections. 1788 A. HAMILTON *Lett. to Miss Schuyler* Wks. 1850 I. 287 A virtuous mind cannot long esteem a base one. 1784 COWPER *Tirocin.* 436 The most distinct

virtuous minds. 1818 Shelley *Demon of World* II. 136 The bliss..Which..Dawns on the virtuous mind.

†f. *Sc.* Diligent or industrious in work.

Perhaps due to Prov. xii. 4: see b. above, quot. 1611.

1785 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, I've heard my honest uncle often say, That lads should a'for wives that's vertuous pray. *a* 1825 Scott in Jamieson *Sc. Dict.* Suppl. s.v., Her daughter was the most virtuous woman in the parish, for that week she had spun six spyndles of yarn.

3. Of acts, life, manners, etc.: Characterized by, of the nature of, virtue; according with, or conforming to, moral law or principles; morally good or justifiable.

Occas. in a weakened sense: 'estimable, commendable, praiseworthy.'

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. 634 God to christofore gafe sic grace of vertuyne lare. *Ibid.* xxxvi. 424 Aganis þaim.. þat awantis þaim-selfe of vertuise lif. *a* 1393 Chaucer *Gentilesse* 17 Ther may no man..bequeythe his heyre his vertuous noblesse. *a* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 36 In maknes, pouert, paciens, & labour, & oþer vertuus dedis. 1450 *Lett. Mary of Anjou*, etc. (Camden) 97 The womanly and vertuouse governance that ye be renowned of. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xi, None oughte to preyse hym self but oughte to doo good and vertuous werkes whereof other may preyse hym. 1509 Fisher *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 271 Blessyd are tho whiche haue made vertuous ende and conclusyon of theyr lyfe in our lorde. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 [They] are much giuen too musick and all other vertuous & honest exercises. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* III. ii. 44 If his occasion were not vertuous, I should not vrge it halfe so faithfully. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 550 That what she wills to do or say, Seems wisest, vertuousest, discreetest, best. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 500 P 3 There is one thing I am able to give each of them, which is a virtuous Education. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxxiii, The present reward of virtuous conduct. 1782 J. Brown *Compend. View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* I. 85 To constitute an act truly virtuous, it must originate from a virtuous principle or habit. 1836 J. S. Gilbert *Char. Atonem.* ix. (1852) 207 Can pride be virtue, or can any act be truly virtuous, if done in pride? 1838 Dickens *Nicholeby* I, My Father has got it [*sc.* my uncle's money] now, and is saving it up for me, which is a highly virtuous purpose. 1871 R. W. Dale *Commandm.* Introd. 21 It is only the virtuous man who knows what is virtuous.

†**b.** Of writings: = Moral *a.* 3 b. *Obs.*—1

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xiv. (Percy Soc.) 53 He made also the tales of Caunterbury; Some vertuous, and some glad and mery.

c. Of a blush: Chaste, modest.

1818 Byron *Juan* I. Ded. vii, Your boys may hide the baldness of your brows—Perhaps some virtuous blushes.

†**4.** Belonging to the virtuosi. Also *absol.* with *the*. *Obs. rare.*

a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 10 Most excellent and virtuous Friends, This great Discovery makes amends For all our unsuccessful Pains. 1685 Petty *Will* in Ld. Fitzmaurice *Life* (1895) 319, I obtained my degree of Doctor of Phisick in Oxford, and forthwith thereupon to be admitted into the College of Phisitians, London, and into severall clubbs of the virtuous.

II. Of things, their operations, etc.

5. Producing, or capable of producing, (great) effect; powerful, potent, strong.

In some quots. influenced by or approximating to sense 6.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5228 (Laud MS.), Hij maden fyres vertuous Fyue hundred, vche gret als an hous. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 237 That word above alle erthli thinges Is vertuous in his doinges, Wher so it be to evele or goode. 1598 Chapman *Iliad* IV. [VIII.] 22 Then will I to Olimpus top our vertuous engine binde, And by it euerie thing shall hang. 1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* IX 304 Till happel e her ffather slewe the snake, and by his virtuous wordes did th' venom slake.

b. Of actions, qualities, etc.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 185 Touchynge þe þridde likenesse, þat is vertuous worchynge. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 246 Therfor the dygestion is the bettyr and more vertuose in wyntyr than in any othyr tyme. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3427 And ye may ther..Maken thynges fressh of hewe, And whan ye lyst, transforme hem newe, Your power ys so vertuous. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I (heading), Plantes..their temperature, complexions, and vertuous operations. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 367 Then crush this herbe into Lysanders eie; Whose liquor hath this virtuous propertie, To take from thence all error. 1644 [H. Parker] *Jus Populi* 18 Such causes as remain more vertuous then their effects, as the water heated is lesse hot then the fire. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 608 With one vertuous touch Th' Arch-chimick Sun, so farr from us remote..Produces..so many precious things. 1797 Coleridge *Christabel* I. xxi, It is a wine of virtuous powers; My mother made it of wild flowers. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. ix, Yet the soil..Had depth and vigour to bring forth The hardier fruits of virtuous worth.

6. Endowed with, or possessed of, inherent or natural virtue or power (often of a magical, occult, or supernatural kind); potent or powerful in effect, influence, or operation on this account; *spec.* having potent medicinal properties or qualities; efficacious or beneficial in healing. Now *arch.*

a. Of precious stones, etc.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2027 His cote, wyth þe conysaunce of þe clere werkez, Ennurned vpon velvet vertuous stonez. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1280 þe vyoles & þe vessalment of vertuous stones. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. liii. (Bodl. MS.), [The more] þat Jacinctus is liche to þe Saphire in coloure,..be more vertuous it is. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xviii. 80 If þe dyamaund be gude and vertuous, þe adamand drawes noȝt be nedill to him. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 214/2 A Margaryte, whyche gemme is white lytyl and vertuouse...The virtu of thys Stone is sayd to be ayenst effusyon of blood. 1503 Hawes *Examn. Virt.* iv. 40 Of vertuous turkeys there was a cheyr. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxlix. 562 The stone was so vertuous that none could estime valure therof. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 499 There is a vertuous Bezoar and another without virtu which appear to the show alike.

b. Of things in general.

1340 *Ayenb.* 123 Me ssyþ þet hit [sacramental bread] is ope substance þet is uirtuous and substanciel aboue onderstondigge. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxii. 264 (Add. MS.), This knyght than had a vertuous welle beside his bedde. *c* 1510 *Gesta Rom.* (W. de W.) A iij, All my temporall rychesse I haue exspended, & almoost no thynge is lefte me, excepte a vertuous tre..in the myddes of myne empyre. 1527 Brunswyke (*title*), The vertuose boke Of the distyllacyon of all maner of waters of the herbes in this present volume expressed. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. i, For neither rain can fall vpon the earth, Nor Sun reflexe his vertuous beames thereon. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 86 Streight way he with his vertuous staffe them strooke And streight of beasts they comely men became. 1629 A. Symmer *Spir. Posit* I. iii. 13 Behold the timely vertuous presence of Gods Providence. 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 113 Canace.., That own'd the vertuous Ring and Glass.

c. Of herbs, etc.

1390 Gower *Conf* III. 129 And ek his herbe in special The vertuous Fenele it is. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 4433 The erbys..be so vertuous, That no beste venymous..Ne may in no Wyse aproche. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 92 in *Macro Plays* 38 The drede of God,..þat makyst..swete wertuus herbys in þe sowll [to] spryngе. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* V. xxv. 584 The leaves [of mallow] are good for all the greefes aforesayde,..yet they be nothing so vertuous as the roote. 1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 108 Where the flowers are most fragrant and vertuous,..there the Honey dews..are most fine and pure. 1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 81 Fylberds..are vertuous in Medicine. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 84 These our mountaines are full of vertuous herbes. 1700 Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 418 The Ladies sought around For virtuous herbs. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 264 Twenty-five 'elegant' copper-plates containing the figures of many of the most virtuous herbs. 1871 Browning *Balaust.* 2124 Cutting the roots of many a virtuous herb To solace overburdened mortals! 1884 — *Fersshtah* Wks. (1896) II. 665/1 By application of a virtuous root The burning has abated.

d. Of drugs, etc.

1600 Rowland *Lett. Humours Blood* vi. 77 Strong sodden Water is a vertuous thing. †*c* 1614 J. Davies *Lett.* Wks. 1876 I. p. xlviii, Least the intention of to much Reading hinder the working of those vertuous drugs. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* x. 283 Before her gates hill-wolves, and lions, lay; Which with her virtuous drugs so tame she made, That [etc.]. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 43/1 By that means you will have a very strong and virtuous Spirit. 1871 Hawthorne *S. Fellon* (1879) 99 It is the most virtuous liquor that ever was.

†**7.** Of great excellence or worth. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9460 For now is non so glorious, Ne non in this world so vertuous, As Ilion was the while it stode. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1171 Harp he couthe & sying welle þerto, & carff welle ymagus, & peyntede bothe—Suche virtuose werkus he wolde welle do. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 80 The douffe..Unto the erthe she toke hir flight, And sang a song ful gracious, Of al songes most vertuous.

III. 8. *Comb.* (in sense 4), as *virtuous disposed, -like, -making, -minded* adjs.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 206/1 By ther Founders and other vertuous disposed persones. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 347 Becoming as virtuous-making a Pattern among Wives, as she was before among Virgins. 1699 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) II. 36 If that which restrains the Person, and holds him to a virtuous-like Behaviour, be no Affection towards..Virtue it-self,..he is not in reality the more virtuous. 1807 *Europ. Mag.* LII. 469/2 Those, on whom the virtuous-minded Muse Ne'er breath'd a portion of her hallow'd fire.

Virtuously, *adv.* Forms: (see Virtuous *a.*). [f. prec. + -ly ².]

1. In a virtuous manner; according to or in conformity with moral laws; uprightly, righteously; chastely, purely.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 46 Qwikenynge hem wiþ my grace, to lyve in mekenes vertuously. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 236 How that ye shal kepe youre sowle fro vices and ill maners, and vertuously to lywe. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 30 A remembraunce of ould love vertuously set at alle tymes to the pleseen of God. 1509 *Paternoster, Ave & Creed* A ij, To dyspose men to be vertuously occupyed in theyr myndes and prayers. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 12 How should a vertuously disposed minde better resolue with it selfe then thus? 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. i. 7 They that meane vertuously, and yet do so, The Diuell their vertue tempts, and they tempt Heauen. 1682 Norris *Heroicles* 22 The denial of Honour to our Parents wherein we think we doe vertuously. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 105 To be vertuously Magnificent, is with daily Provisions to feed the Hungry. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 33 P 6 This Woman, who could be so virtuously impertinent, as to admonish one she was hardly acquainted with. 1838 Dickens *Nicholeby* xxviii, Here Mrs. Wititterley tossed her head—not passionately only virtuously. 1847 Carlyle *Misc.* IV. 223 This we say the present editor has virtuously forborne.

†**2.** Bravely, courageously, valiantly. *Obs. rare.*

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 162 Therfor the troians vertuously the grecans into hare tentis fleynge suyt. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 209 Hector encountred the fyrst so vertuously, yᵗ he ran him thrugh out with his spere

†**3.** With great skill or excellence. *Obs.*—1

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 981 (Cott.), Þat buk Qwhar Master Iohun Barbere..His dedis ditit mar wertusly þan I can thynk in al study.

†**4.** Virtually. *Obs. rare.*

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6030 Somme vnderstonde certeynly That he ye ther vertuously; Somme seyn 'ymaginatiue', And somme 'representatiue'. 1500 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. viii. 104 Also this fourth commaundement yᵗ is the fyrst of yᵉ seconde table conteyneth in hym vertuously yᵉ vii. werkes of mercy.

†**5.** Powerfully, strongly. *Obs.*—1

In quot. used affectedly.

1588 Shaks. *Timon* I. ii. 232, I. *Lord.* We are so vertuously bound. *Tim.* And so am I to you. 2. *Lord.* So infinitely endeer'd.

Virtuousness. Also 5 vertuosenes, 5–6 -nousnes (6 -nouseness), 6–7 -neese, 6–8 -ness; 6 vertounes, -unes, *Sc.* -ounes. [f. as prec.]

†**1.** The condition of being endowed with inherent virtue or power. *Obs.*—1

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xvi. (1495) v vij b/1 The sonne..hath a vertu of plente [1535 plentiful] vertuousnes for he yeuyth vertu of generacion to thyse nether thynges.

2. The state or condition of being virtuous; virtuous quality or character; moral rectitude; goodness, probity.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xvii. 96 Thei laborid euere in mekenes for to haue it in greet measure, whilis thei myȝten haue laborid forto haue had kunnyng of moral vertuousenes. 1528 Roy *Rede me* II. (Arb.) 72 They are slaunder of vertousnes, Occasion vnto viciousnes. 1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 39 Behaviour, countenance, rayment,..all smells of vertuousnesse. 1608 L. Machin *Dumbe Knight* III, I know you hate me for my vertuousnesse. 1650 Baxter *Saints' R.* III. xi. (1662) 472 And so their chief Virtuousness lieth in that Will or Love which is contained in them. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iii. § 4 The pleasure or advantage in this case is gained by the action itself, not by the morality, the virtuousness or viciousness of it. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* III. vi. (1762) 178 In order to the Vertuousness of an Act, the Heart must be indifferent in the Time of the Performance of that Act. 1833 Chalmers *Const. Man* (1835) I. i. 100 He meddles not with the virtuousness either of humanity or justice. 1865 J. Grote *Moral Ideals* viii. (1876) 217 But that is a very low degree of virtuousness where conscience does no more than guard from wrong action. 1879 H. Spencer *Data of Ethics* III. 38 Perfection of nature, or virtuousness of action.

†**3.** High or worthy character; excellence, merit. *Obs.*—1

1525 Ld. Berners tr. *Froiss.* II. xxvi. 72 *heading*, Of the great vertuousnesse and largesse that was in the ile of Fois.

Virulence (vi·riŭlĕns). [ad. L. *virulentia*: see next and -ence. So OF. and F. *virulence.*]

1. Extreme acrimony or bitterness of temper or speech; violent malignity or rancour.

1663 Jer. Taylor *Fun. Serm. Bramhall* Wks. 1831 IV. vii. 75 It was also such honor, that it is greater than the virulence of tongues, which his worthiness and their envy had armed against him. 1696 Tate & Brady *Ps.* cxl. 3 Their sharpen'd Tongue the Serpent's sting In Virulence exceeds. 1728 Young *Love Fame* VI. 110 Our virulence is thrown On others' fame, thro' fondness for our own. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. iv. 28 My sister, who had treated Mr. Lovelace with virulence, came into me and insulted me as fast as I recovered. 1796 Bp. Watson *Apol. Bible* 322, I have been frequently shocked at the virulence of your zeal. 1838 Dickens *Nicholeby* xxi, The ill will of Miss Knag had lost nothing of its virulence. 1867 Smiles *Huguenots Eng.* xi. (1880) 194 The persecution .. was carried on with increased virulence, until resistance almost disappeared.

b. An instance of this.

a 1774 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 295 The leaders, however they may sometimes encourage these virulences to serve a turn, do not enter into the same sentiments themselves.

2. The property or quality of being physically virulent or full of virus: extreme poisonousness or venomousness; malignity or violence (of disease).

1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 106 A general dejection prevailed amongst us, which added much to the virulence of the disease. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 319, I have frequently known the disease return with all its virulence after a course of goat-whey. 1823 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 48 The wind is salubrious, stopping infection, and removing the virulence of distemper. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxvii. 283 Venomous snakes..decrease..in the virulence of their poison with decrease of temperature. 1878 H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* II. xii. 361 The itch disease was rabid;..about a dozen of the men were fearful objects of its virulence.

attrib. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 721 Whether..the virulence test is satisfactory and exclusive is a doubtful matter.

Virulency (vi·riŭlĕnsi). [ad. L. *virulentia*, f. *virulentus*: see next and -ency. So Sp. and Pg. *virulencia*, It. *virulenza.*]

1. = Virulence 1.

a 1617 Hieron *Wks.* (1620) II 487 Men of corrupt minds shall..bee as it were moued..to goe on in their virulency and spite, and scorne of good Profession. 1647 N. Ward *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 6 The zeale of the one, the virulency of the other, must..kindle combustions. 1672 Clarendon *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 269 Those differences which are debated between Roman Catholics themselves with so much virulency and animosity. 1738 Birch *Milton* in *M.'s Wks.* I. 28 He was always remarkable for an Haughtiness of Temper and Virulency of Style. 1847 E. Bronte *Wuthering Heights* ii, Several incoherent threats of retaliation that, in their indefinite depth of virulency, smacked of King Lear.

2. = Virulence 2.

1651 French *Distill.* v. 135 The powder..is very good to be strewed upon old ulcers, for it doth much correct the virulency of them. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 73 The Hyacinth .. becomes the infallible indication of the Plague, by which afterward..the virulency..is driven forth. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 561/2 Lest the Particles of the Mercury..should..create Pains, Aches, Rottenness, or a Virulency never to be taken away. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 283 The Particles of the Quick-Silver.., oftentimes impress an indelible Virulency upon the Brain.

Virulent (vi·riŭlĕnt), *a.* Also 5 verolent, 6 vyrulent. [ad. L. *virulentus* poisonous, f. *virus*

Virus. So OF. and F. *virulent*, It., Sp., and Pg. *virulento*.]

1. *Med.* †a. Of wounds or ulcers: Characterized by the presence of corrupt or poisonous matter. *Obs.* (passing into next).

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 77 *marg.*, Off olde verelent woundes. *Ibid.* So If þe vlcus be virulent, þat is to seie venemi, loke if þat þe venym þat goiþ out be rediuch or þelowisch. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Forme.* R iv, The gouernall accomplyshynge the entencyon after the vlceracyon is to dryue the rottenesse that is thycke and fleshly, blody, and vyrulent. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 28 Chamaepitys ..layd upon great woundes, and virulent..healeth the same. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* II. xlii. 966 A certaine person, well knowen vnto me, hauing a virulent vlcer, in manner of a Polipus in his nostrils. 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Ulcers* are ..Virulent, which instead of Pus, or Sanies, yield a malignant *Virus*, &c.

b. Of diseases, etc.: Characterized by extreme malignancy or violence.

1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* 22 b, Yf the desease be malygne or Virulent, ..put in more of the *Argentum Viuum*. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 28/1 It may be us'd..in the Cure of virulent Gonorrhœa's. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 102 The scars of wounds which had been for many years healed, were forced open again by this virulent distemper. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 303 They deny that the contagion has become more frequent..while the disease itself has thus been rendered less virulent and fatal. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 66 Scurvy in its most virulent form, and leprosy, were common disorders. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. v. 178 Germs..which may be pushed by foul air into virulent energy of reproduction.

transf. 1850 Emerson *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 327, I find the like unity in human structures rather virulent and pervasive. 1869 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* lxv. VIII. 170 A virulent insurrection was still glowing throughout a large portion of the empire. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiii. 299 There is often a virulent contagion in a confident tone.

2. Of serpents, material substances, plants, etc.: Possessing venomous or strongly poisonous qualities; highly injurious or fatal to life; extremely noxious.

1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* 7/2 in *Holinshed* II, Ireland bred no snake before S. Patrick was borne: *ergo*, it engendered no toade, no Adder, no Frogge, nor any other virulent worme. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 196 They gine the too forward maydens a virulent potion. 1657 W. Cole *Adam in Eden* c, The Viper and all other virulent Creatures whatever. 1671 R. Bohun *Wind* 132 Herbs or minerals, with Virulent, and Deleterious Qualities. 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 226 How the same soil..should in a leaf of the vine or sorrel produce a wholesome acid, and in that of a spurge or manchineel a most virulent poison. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* i. (1858) 4 While the virulent humour featers deep within, poisoning the sources of life. 1877 F. T. Roberts *Hanatôh. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 8 In certain cases it contains specific agents in the causation of disease, and promotes their development or renders them more virulent.

fig. 1894 P. Pinkerton *Adriatica, On Asolan Hills*, Jealousy's virulent darts, Fortune's opprobrious thrusts.

†b. Potent, powerful, effective. *Obs.*—1

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* s 2 A very excellent water for the payne of the heade...It wilbe very good and virulent for the heade.

c. Obnoxiously violent or strong. *nonce-use.*

1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl., To Sir W. Phillips* 6 May, Nay, I am convinced that she has likewise a most virulent attachment to his person; though her love never shows itself but in the shape of discontent.

3. *fig.* Violently bitter, spiteful, or malignant; full of acrimony or enmity: a. Of action or feeling.

1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 325 Where bee rules, there is a rancourous heart and a rayling tongue, there malicious and virulent courses cannot bee wanting. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* III. iii, I bring you..the sting Of virulent malice, festering your fair name, Plucked out and trod on. 1726 Dr. Wharton in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 339 Every virulent vote, every passionate reproach..are so many real commendations of my conduct. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xv. (1788) 89 The virulent exaggeration of party must be employed, to rouse..the passions of the people. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 98 On my head I may draw down your virulent spite. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xviii. 165 We have fall'd, like Mr. Baily, to discover the ground of Flamsteed's virulent antipathy to Halley. 1857 'Ouida' *C. Castlemaine's Gage* I She was hated by Whig beauties with virulent wrath.

b. Of speech or writing.

1632 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 29 He is greatly faulty in his virulent termes and charging the same upon my Lord Falkland. 1689 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 313 A virulent pamphlet..wherein he foolishly reflected on King William. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 25. 201 It is impossible..to escape the virulent Pen of that Rascal the Examiner. 1777 Priestley *Disc. Philos. Necess.* 172 Your virulent censures of myself..are abundantly too severe. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Clive* (1851) II. 526 The meetings were large, stormy, even riotous, the debates indecently virulent. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 540 He stops twice in the course of his history to apostrophize..Harold..in terms of virulent

c. Of persons, their dispositions, etc.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 213 Let him take heed of striking his wife, said another, or to be virulent in termes against her. 1647 Clarendon *Contempt. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 472 Let the virulent tongues of ill men traduce us with what calumnies they please. 1693 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* 130 (Appion), a virulent writer against the Jews. 1714 ——— *Pres. St. Aff.* Wks. 1811 I. 495 Since the virulent opposers of the queen..have so far prevailed..as to make [etc.]. 1792 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 227 His enemies here are as virulent as ever. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* I. 3 The deluded religionist, even when virulent in an extreme degree. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 276 He had since disgusted some virulent fanatics by his humanity and moderation. 1883 F. M. Peard *Contrad.* I. 42, I am glad you don't consider me very virulent.

Hence **Virulented** *v. trans.*, to render virulent.

1661 Feltham *Resolves* (ed. 6) II. lvi. 302 They say, Certain spirits virulented from the inward humor, darted on the object, convey a Venom where they point and fix.

Virulently (vi·tiŭlĕntli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a virulent manner; with virulence or violence: a. Of actions, language, etc.

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* xi. 38 The raising of whose bones, more virulently, then truly, you object to this our *Apostaticall land*. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estiennc's World Wond.* 274 There was neuer yet controuersie in Christian religion so stoutly, so vehemently, nor so virulently canuassed and ventilated. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 101 Which, it may be, made the other to be the more virulently remembered. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 306 Sacheverell..levell'd his..Anathemas most virulently against him. 1763 Hailes *Anc. Chr. Ch.* ii. 23 The device of forging acts of Pilate, in which Christ was virulently defamed. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* iv, Sentiments so virulently misanthropic. 1856 Miss Mulock *J. Halifax* xxvi, Catholics were hunted down both by law and by public opinion, as virulently as Protestant nonconformists.

b. Of poisons, diseases, etc.

1632 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* III. i, This potion that hath wrought so virulently! 1858 Copland *Dict. Pract. Med.* III. II. 1341/2 The..effects of the malady having become thus virulently contagious. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* vi. 112 Though some kinds are virulently poisonous, yet a large number are highly useful to man. 1876 *Jrnl. R. Geog. Soc.* XLVI. 54 Several are pitted with small-pox, which ranged virulently..about ten years ago.

Virulentness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ness.] Virulence.

a 1676 Hale *True Relig.* III. (1684) 43 These bitternesses and virulentnesses..have been commonly of two kinds. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Virulentness*, poisonous Nature; also Maliciousness.

‖ **Virus** (vai·rŭs). [L. *virus* slimy liquid, poison, offensive odour or taste. Hence also F., Sp., Pg. *virus*.]

In *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* (*c* 1400) 77 the word, explained as 'a thin venomy quitter', is merely taken over from the Latin text.

1. Venom, such as is emitted by a poisonous animal. Also *fig.*

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* iv. 14 You..haue..spit out all the *virus* and poyson you could conceiue, in the abuse of his.. person. 1709 Mead *Poisons* 26 The Story of Cleopatra.. pouring the Virus of an Asp into a Wound made in her Arm by her own Teeth. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Viper*, By the Microscope, the Virus [of the viper] was found to consist of minute Salts in continual Motion. 1867 Dk. Argyll *Reign of Law* i. 37 That the deadly virus shall in a few minutes curdle the blood. 1879 R. T. Smith *Basil Gt.* ix. 111 He it was who hollowed the minute sting of the bee to shed its virus through.

2. *Path.* A morbid principle or poisonous substance produced in the body as the result of some disease, esp. one capable of being introduced into other persons or animals by inoculation or otherwise and of developing the same disease in them.

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Virulent*, a Term apply'd to any thing that yields a *Virus*; that is, a corrosive or contagious Pus. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl., To Sir W. Philip* 3 Oct., When he examined the *egesta*, and felt his pulse, he declared that much of the *virus* was discharged. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 448 Whether opium applied externally, may or may not prove an antidote to the canine virus. 1800 *Ibid.* III. 352 The pustules..contain a perfect Small-pox virus. 1806 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 165 In consequence of the virus being mixed with the saliva of the rabid animal. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I. 79 It should never be forgotten that it is the virus which infects the system. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 602 Possibly there is some virus acting on the nerve-centres.

attrib. 1880 W. T. Fox in *Trans. Obstetr. Soc.* II. 210 The general symptoms being the result of virus action. *Ibid.* 228 This latter action is alike common to all forms of virus disease.

3. *fig.* A moral or intellectual poison, or poisonous influence.

1778 Wanner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 317 Venice is a stink-pot, charged with the very virus of hell! 1807 Southey *H. K. White* 12 As if there were not enough of the leaven of disquietude in our natures, without inoculating it with this dilatement—this vaccine virus of envy. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Shaks. Notes* (1875) 189 The corrosive virus which inoculates pride with a venom not its own. *a* 1884 M. Pattison *Mem.* (1885) 239 The clerical virus would have lingered in the system.

4. Violent animosity; virulence.

1866 Alger *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 360 Two classes of men, however, he did hate with especial relish and virus.

†**Vis**, *sb.*1 *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vis-us* sight, f. ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see.] Vision, sight.

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 34 If a mane lufe anoþer whilke es absent he desyris gretly his presence for to haſe þe vys of his lufe and his likynge...Pare-fore we may noghte haſe þe vis of His lufe here in fulfilling.

‖ **Vis** (vis), *sb.*2 Pl. **vires** (vai·rēz). [L. *vīs* (pl. *vīrēs*).]

1. Strength, force, energy, vigour.

c 1650 T. Goodwin *Serm.* Wks. 1681 I. III. 39 [Christ] Who then must be the immediate Uniter, by his own *Vis* or Power exerted in it. 1650 Hussey *Pill Formality* 104 There is a certain vis, a power infused into the soul. 1788 *Trifler* No. 17. 251 Charmed with the prospect which the vis of combined efforts presented to him, he resolved to investigate the springs of action. 1820 Dr. J. Brown *John Leach*, etc. 283 His verses..had more imaginative *vis*, more daintiness of phrase [etc.]. 1888 Asa. Benson in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. v. 200 There is no *vis* and there is also no learning, among them [*sc.* Reformers], out of Germany. 1907 P. T. Forsyth *Positive Preaching* v. 163 The great moral *vis* of the Reformation subsided into the renewed intellectualism of the seventeenth century dogmatists.

2. In special collocations with other Latin words.

In addition to those illustrated below, various others are or have been in use, as *vis accelleratrix, centrifuga, centripeta, impressa, insita*, etc. A number of these appear in dictionaries from about 1700 onwards.

a. *Vis major*, such a degree of superior force that no effective resistance can be made to it.

1661 Holland *Pliny* I. 599 Hailes, stormes of wind and raine, and such like impressions of the aire, which whensoever they doe light, are tearmed by the Lawyers, *Vis majors*, *i.* the greater violence. 1866 Ld. Blackburn in Hurlstone & Coltman *Rep.* IV. 271 He can excuse himself by shewing that..the escape was the consequence of vis major or the act of God.

b. *Vis inertiæ*, the resistance naturally offered by matter to any force tending to alter its state in respect of rest or motion; also *transf.*, tendency on the part of persons, etc., to remain inactive or unprogressive.

1706 [see Inertia 3]. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v., This *Vis Inertiæ* is no where more conspicuous, than in the sudden Motion of a Vessel full of Liquor upon a Horizontal Plane. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* II. i. § 6. 31 Matter is a mere passive thing, of whose very essence it is, to be endued with a *Vis inertiæ*. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. I. 312 Not so much owing to the smallness of the quantity of powder that takes fire in that case as to the *vis inertiæ* of the generated fluid. 1836 I. Taylor *Phys. The. Another Life* II. 32 This power of the mind in overcoming the *vis inertiæ* of matter.

transf. 1755 Chesterf. *Let. to Bp. of Waterford* 26 June, Writing seems to be acting..which my *vis inertiæ* will not suffer me to undertake. 1780 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1858) VII. 405 By the time absolute power is attained, it will.. be charming in speculation, but prove to be nothing but the *vis inertiæ*. 1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXIX. 361 The *vis inertiæ* which strengthens the subject in repelling the aggressions of his rulers. 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Med. Archit.* vii. I. 272 There is a *vis inertiæ* in Art which is not easily overcome.

c. *Vis viva*, the operative force of a moving or acting body, reckoned as equal to the mass of the body multiplied by the square of its velocity.

1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3317/1 The *vis viva*, or absolute apparent strength of the stroke. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII 122 The proposition on which the whole theory of the *vis viva* is actually founded. 1849 Sir W. Thomson *Math. & Phys. Papers* (1882) I. 107 Notes on Hydrodynamics. On the Vis-viva of a liquid in motion. 1870 *Loud.* etc. *Philos. Mag.* Sept. 210 But a part only of the vires vivæ produced during the efflux has been transformed into heat. 1875 Croll *Climate & T.* App. 546 The vis viva of vibration depends upon the force of the stroke.

d. *Vis vitæ*, vital force.

1752 *Gentl. Mag.* 67/1 All medicines whatever, which tend to lessen the *vis vitæ*, are pernicious. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) I. 385 A pungency, entirely peculiar, accompanied the smell; and appeared to lessen the *vis vitæ* in a manner, different from any thing, which I had ever experienced before.

e. *Vis a fronte*, a force operating from in front (as in attraction or suction). *Vis a tergo*, a force operating from behind; a propulsive force.

1822 Good *Study Med* II. 15 Hence arose another hypothesis, which ascribed the propulsive power to a progressive *vis a tergo*. 1829 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) II. 18 The secernents or extreme arteries..operate by a kind of suction, which may be regarded as a *vis a fronte*. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 19 The combined effect of the diminished *vis a tergo* and of the arterial degeneration may, in some cases, be alone sufficient to cause arrest of the circulation.

†**Vis**, *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* [Arbitrary shortening of Visit *sb.*: see first quot.] A short visit or call.

1754 *World* No. 62 P 8 When a fine gentleman chuses to signify his intention of making a short Visit..I am for an abridgment of the word, and only calling it a Vis. *Ibid.* P 9, I may observe..that the Vis seems to be chiefly confined within the bills of mortality. 1807 Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) II. 362 If you cannot make me a *visit*, at least make me a *vis*, if you can, before your return to Swansea.

Hence †**Vis** *v. trans.*, to pay a short visit to. (Cf. Viz *v.*) *Obs.*

1754 *World* No. 62 P 8 Lady Changeberfriend's compliments to Lady Fiddlefaddle, and intends to Vis her ladyship this evening.

†**Vis**, *sb.*4 *Obs. rare.* Abbreviation of Vis-à-vis 1. Also *attrib.*

1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 276 The Vis Landau will be the fashionable vehicle among the Members of the Whip Club. 1814 Byron *Let. to Moore* 9 April, In utter contempt of a hackney-coach and my own *vis*, both of which were deemed necessary for our conveyance.

Vis, var. Vice *sb.*3; obs. f. Viss; obs. Sc. f. Wise *sb.* and *a.* **Vis.**, abbrev. f. Viscount.

‖ **Visa** (vī·zā), *sb.* [F. *visa*, a. L. *visa*, fem. pa. pple. of *vidēre* to see.] = Vise *sb.*

1831 *Edin. Rev.* LIV. 200 No trust whatever..can be placed in the simple certificate given by conscience...Beyond this..its *visa* does not reach. 1899 B. Jerrold *Life D. Jerrold* 309 On going to the Austrian Consul in London for the visa of my father's passport. 1883 *Field* 4 April 439/3 We had hoped to..return through Finland, but were unable to obtain the Russian visa at Stockholm. 1898 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 5/2 Notification of the witness list was made yesterday to the Parquet, which began by refusing its visa.

Hence **Vi·sa** *v. trans.*, to visé. Also **Vi·saed** *ppl. a.*

1847 WEBSTER s.v. *Visé*, Hence, travelers speak of getting their passports *visaed*. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Commerce* 1500/2 For each passport so *visaed*. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Mar. 3/2 For want of the same readily visaed passport.

† **Vi·sable**, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. VISE *v.* + -ABLE.] Able to plan or act wisely.

c 1440 LOVELICH *Merlin* IX. 9544 [They] seiden he was a worthy knyht, vayllaunt & vysable jn every fyht.

Visage (vi·zĕdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **vysage** (4 *fysage*), **uisage**, 4– **visage** (4, 5 *Sc.*, **wisage**, **wysage**), 5 **visache**, 6 **visadge**, 6 *Sc.* **visag** (**wisag**), **vissage**; 4 **vysege**, **fisege**, 5 **fyssege**; 5 **vesage**, **-ayge**, *Sc.* **wesage**, 6 *Sc.* **vessage**. [a. AF. and OF. (also mod.F.) *visage*, = Sp. *visage*, *visaje*, Pg. *visagem*, It. *visaggio*, f. L. *vis-us* face (cf. VIS *sb.*[1]): see -AGE.]

1. The face, the front part of the head, of a person (rarely of an animal).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5887 He hydde hys vysege al þat he myȝt, Out of knowlych of here sy3t. 13.. *Coer de L.* 827 Sche gahchyd herself in the vysage. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 14 Forhede, visage, and browes. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1160 þe bond þat is fysage was bounde wyþ. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 141 To treten of anotamie of þe visage. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 141 Then had þis Vaspasyan ..a maledy yn hys vysage. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IX. 230 They scratched theyr vysages & pulled theyr heeres. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 296 He was sore hurt in the bodye and in the visage. 1578 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 144 Vpon the next occasion that we meete, With Visages displayd to talke and greete. 1632 J. PORY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 272 One out of the house dischardged haile shot upon Mr. Atturnies sonnes face, which ..pitifully mangled his visage. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 297 Rubbing their feet about their visage and head, whence the vulgar usually say at such times, the cat washeth her face. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 1019 Scalp, face, and shoulders, the keen steel divides; And the shared visage hangs on equal sides. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 331 Shrunk in abject fears, From his vile visage [he] wiped the scalding tears. 1784 *Cook's Voy.* II. IV. I. 273 Sometimes the orator of the canoe would have his face covered with a mask, representing either a human visage, or that of some animal. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. xii. 108 There are no wrinkles in his visage. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* VI. The sun burnt my visage, but I heeded it not. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XXVI, The maniac bellowed: she parted her shaggy locks from her visage. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 41 The ruddy fire-light..lending animation to the visages sketched upon them [*sc.* the walls] with charcoal.

† **b.** *In one's* (or *the*) *visage*, in or to one's face.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* V. x. (1554) 120 b, On a day, the story telleth us, With Affricans and folkes of Chartage, Siphax the Romaines met in the visage. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xi. 61 But euer the xj Kynges and their hooste was euer in the vysage of Arthur. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 18/2 That the moneye..he tooke and dyde with all his prouffyt, and [it] was prevyd in his vysage that [etc.]. 1521 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 12 Frier Wynssent..protestit solemnitly in presens of the saidis ballies, and in the vesiagh [*etc*] of the haill court, that [etc.].

2. The face with reference to the form or proportions of the features.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18858 O sullk a moder, wel slik a child, Wit fair visage. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6425 (Laud MS.), Anoþer folk bisiden is, Wiþ brode visage, & pleyn, I wys. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 383 In wysage wes he sumdeill gray. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 110 A not-heed hadde he, with a broun visage. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 228 Tho that They be dyuerse in somme cass or of body or of membres ..or of the visage. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxiv. 72, I neuer sawe..soo fayre a creture in yᵉ visage. 1540 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 5, Saynt Gregory..writeth..howe the vysages of Englande resemble more unto aungelles than earthly creatures. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 34 b, With a visage adulterated betwixt a mans and a Goates. wrinkled visage, and his hoary hairs. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 518 P9 The intrinsick Worth..is ordinarily calculated from the Cast of his Visage, the Contour of his Person [etc.]. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 133 The visage of this animal is erect, & pretty much resembles that of the Quato. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 5 Their faces are tolerably round, contrary to the visage of the others, which inclines much to flatness. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 72 Their visages, too, were peculiar: one had a large head, broad face, and small piggish eyes. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* iii, A visage like mine, looking no fresher than an apple that has stood the winter. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii. (1878) 554 The form of her visage was altered.

3. The face or features as expressive of feeling or temperament; the countenance.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 308 Boldely þei bed batalle with visage fulle austere. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 307 3if þei frohen bi irose fisege azen men þat tellan hem treuþe, noo drede þei frohen heere owen confusion. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7402 Of her estat she her repented, As her visage represented. 1448 HEN. VI *Will* in J. W. Clark *Cambridge* (1880) 158 As they wol answere before the blessed and dredeful visage of our Lord Jhesu in his..last dome. *c* 1520 *Lancelot* 460 The king stondith beuy cherith, And to the clerkis his visag so apperith, That all thei dred them of the kingis myght. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxiv. 221 He was so oosercome with ire.., that his vysage became lyke a flame of fyer. *a* 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 69 A visage, stern, and myld: where bothe did grow, vice to contemne, in vertue to reioyce. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 58 Mr. George..without stope of toung ansuering, nocht moveing his countinance nor changing his vesage. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 90 This outward sainted Deputie, Whose setled visage, and deliberate word Nips youth i'th head. 1632 C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* XIX. 158 A mighty Bulke he had and Visage grim. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 989 Him thus the Anarch old With faultring speech and visage incompos'd, Answer'd. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* I. 219 Hence aching bosoms wear a visage gay. 1771 GOLDSM. *Haunch Venison* 109 A visage so sad, and so pale with affright, Wak'd Priam in drawing his curtains by night. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. iv, His grisled beard and matted hair Obscured a visage of despair. 1834 HOGG *Domestic Manners Scott* (1882) 31 He looked up to me with a visage as stern as that of a judge. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherlands* (1868) I. I. 2 A plodding invalid..with..dreary visage.

† **b.** *To make good visage*, to appear cheerful or composed; to make oneself pleasant or agreeable *to* others. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 230 We may wel make cheer and good visage, And dryve forth the world, as it may be. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 211 A king schal make good visage, That noman knowe of his corage. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 3 There be suche men that lyethe and makithe good visage and countenaunce to women afore hem, that scornithe and mockithe hem in her absence. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xciv. [xcv.] 291 Than the duke and these two knyghtes rode along their batayle and made good vysage.

4. *transf.* The face or visible side of the sun or moon.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 109 The Mones cercle so lowe is, Wherof the Sonne out of his stage Ne seth him noght with full visage. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Fox & Wolf* ii, He perous put up his cluddie heid, Schawand his lustie visage in the sky. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIII. 2 As jung Awrora,..In orient schew hir visage paile. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 210 To-morrow night when Phœbe doth behold Her siluer visage, in the wat'ry glasse. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 333 And thou fair Moon..Stoop thy pale visage through an amber cloud, And disinherit Chaos. 1667 — *P. L.* V. 419 Earth and the Sea feed Air, the Air those Fires Ethereal, and as lowest first the Moon; Whence in her visage round those spots. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. XXXIX. 88 Sometimes she looks full upon us, and her visage is all lustre. 1847 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (ed. 2) I. 137 *note*, Aratus says of the moon,..As still her shifting visage changing turns By her we count the monthly round of morns.

† **b.** The face or surface *of* the earth. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1500 *Lancelot* 1374 He distroys by vengance of his suerd The synaris fra the vysagis of the Erde.

5. In various figurative uses. (Cf. 7.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 899 Dowble wordes slye, Swich as men clepe, 'a word with two visages'. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* LXXX. 234 Visite thy vyne O Lorde..that it may be reuiued continually by the brighte visage of thy presence. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 47 Whereto serues mercy, But to confront the visage of Offence? 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 266 Beseech your Grace Be plainer with me, let me know my Trespas By it's owne visage. 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 10 To propose his adversaries arguments with their edge blunted; nor..to set them out in more horrid visages then they truly carry. 1818 SHELLEY *Eng. Hills* 173 The tattered pall of time, Which scarce hides thy [i.e. Venice's] visage wan.

† **6.** An image or likeness; a portrait. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 1971 (Fairf.), I made mon ofter myne awen visage. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3362 (Dubl.), Whosomeuer in þat ilke hys vysage [*v.r.* ymage] behaldes, þe face is to þe foldward þe fete into þe welkyn. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 395 This is the lively visage in deede, both of the one and the other.

7. An appearance or aspect. † *By the first visage*, at first sight.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 157 Ofte tymes verite hath a vysage of lesynge, and ofte tymes a lesynge hath a coloure of verite. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 193 As be the first visage it semys that he suld nouthir obey to the tane na to the tothir. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. x, To here thinges merueilous and exquisite, whiche hath in it a visage of some thinges incredible. 1629 RAY *Creation* I. (ed. 2) 103 The sad and melancholick Visage of their Leaves, Flowers and Fruit. 1812 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 351 Noble serpentine..is generally of a dark leek green, and of an unctuous visage. 1903 *Times, Lit. Supp.* 27 Jan. 28/3 Freeman.. tries to reconstitute the visage of the towns Pippin..took and the towns he passed by.

† **8.** An assumed appearance; an outward show; a pretence or semblance. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 227 Thing which men nevere afore knewe He broghte up thanne of his taillage, And all was under the visage Of werkes which he made tho. 1524 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 280 Demonstracions and colorable dealinges..sounding more to a shewe and visage then to any parfite frute. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1211/2 They see him so many times make a great visage of warre, whan he myndeth it not. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 30 Others there are Who trym'd in Formes, and visages of Duties, Keepe yet their hearts attending on themselues. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Pet.* iii. 15 'Be not deceived; God is not mocked.' He looks through all visages and appearances, in upon the heart.

† **b.** *To give a visage*, to create an appearance or impression. *Obs.*

1549 BONNER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 717/1 Last that they tarieing with such preachers should..gyue a vysage to the encouragement of other. *Ibid.* 718/1 Your tarieng with him still..shal geue a visage, that there doctrin is tollerable.

9. *Comb.*, as *visage-burner*, *-changed* adj.

1623 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. viii. 88 As once in Tyre Pale, guilty, visage-chang'd Penthevs appear'd. 1824 J. BOWRING *Batavian Anthol.* 158 Beast—annoyer—visage-burner—Fair-one's spoiler—maiden's hate.

† **Vi·sage**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. F. *envisager* is recorded only from 1583, and there is no independent evidence for Palsgrave's *visager*.]

1. *trans.* To face or confront.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 1029 Al hadde I thyng with bothe hise eyen, Yit shul we v... ...age it hardily, And wepe and swere and chide subtilly.

2. To look upon or at; to regard or observe.

1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 230 My Lord was with the Kynge, and he vesaged so the mater that alle the Kynges howshold was and is sferd ryght sore. 1530 PALSGR. 765/2 This man hath vysaged me well sythe I came in a dores. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. ii, The theues..humbly approched to Scipio, who visaged them in suche fourme that they..made humble

Hence † **Vi·saging** *vbl. sb.*, meeting, encountering. *Obs.*

a 1500 *Gough Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 159 The duke of Somersett and Sir John Nevyle knyght son of the Erle of Salisbury had grete visagyng to gidder at London.

Visaged (vi·zĕdʒd), *a.* [f. VISAGE *sb.*] Having a visage of a specified kind.

Frequent (from the 15th c.) as the second element in combs., e.g. *black-*, *close-*, *double-*, *grim-*, *hard-*, *long-*, *sharp-visaged*: see these adjs.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6351 (Laud MS.), Anoþer folk bisyde is Visaged after hounde I wys. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 65 By reason of his sad heavy humor, always stoically visaged. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. iii. 52 Arcite is gently visagd. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 132 Before his arrivall he made a linnen head to his Dragon, visaged like a Man, and painted like one. 1865 H. BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* II. ii. (1868) 153 Christ passes before us visaged in sorrow. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Wds.* 373 *Hichory-fyaced*, pock-marked, ill visaged.

Visar, obs. Sc. form of VISOR.

Visard(e, obs. forms of VIZARD.

‖ **Vis-à-vis** (vizavĭ), *sb.*, *prep.*, and *adv.* Also 8 **vis-a-vis**, 8–9 **vis-a-vis**. [F. *vis-à-vis* face to face, f. *vis* —L. *visum*, acc. of *visus* sight, face: see VIS *sb.*[1]]

A. *sb.* **1.** A light carriage for two persons sitting face-to-face. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1753 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montague* 17 July, He was walking slowly..with..two pages, three footmen and a *vis-a-vis* following him. 1768 J. BYRON *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 230 The common vehicle here is a calash, or kind of vis-à-vis, drawn by one mule only. 1782 W. HAYLEY *Triumphs of Temper* II. 98 Her quick eyes sparkle with surprise to see The glories of a golden vis-a-vis. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 357 It is necessary to purchase a very strong carriage...A vis-a-vis is the best shape, made so that it can be converted into a bed. 1844 *Act 7 & 8 Vict.* c 91. Sched., Every horse..drawing any coach..chaise, phaeton, vis-a-vis, calash, curricle.

plur. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 13 Not being much in town, the new vis-à-vis were not familiar to him. 1787 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec.* II. 177 A new method of hanging Coaches, Vis à Vis, and other

2. One or other of two persons or things facing, or situated opposite to, each other.

c 1757 *Let.* in J. H. Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 158 We are reduced to Miss Wylde, who has a most charming vis-à-vis, Mr. Ward, who sings like a nightingale. 1766 G. WILLIAMS *Ibid.* II. 56 My *vis-à-vis* thinks you have done wrong to let even the music-meeting go off unattended. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 113 There you are, at an Innkeeper's ordinary, with all kinds of low company, and a common soldier for your vis-a-vis. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 204 Menamah, though larger in extent than Moharrek, has a less showy appearance: it is a centre of commerce, as its vis-à-vis is of government. 1893 MARTIN in Barrows *Parl. Relig.* II. 1142 Does it make no difference to us, whether we have for our vis-a-vis on the other shore of the ocean a Christian or a pagan power?

b. *esp.* in dancing. Also as *pl.*

1808 MISS BERRY *Jrnls. & Corr.* II. 371 It seems perfectly indifferent to them [the peasant men and women dancing] who is their vis-à-vis. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 231 Miss Eurydice had but a sorry partner, but she undertook to instruct me. O'Brien was our *vis-a-vis* with Miss Euterpe. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* v, Lady Jane Preston..asked me to dance with her. We had my Lord Tiptoff and Lady Fanny Rakes for our *vis-à-vis*. 1877 MISS GRANT *Sun-Maid* xiv, Partners were scrambling for vis-à-vis and places.

3. A meeting face to face; an encounter.

1857 BAKER *Nile Trib.* II. 41 This being my first *vis-à-vis* with a hippo, I was not certain whether I could claim the victory. 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 345 Every minute brought him nearer the dreaded *vis-à vis* with an omniscient M.A.

B. **1.** *prep.* Over against, in comparison with, in relation to; also *lit.*, facing, face to face with.

1755 H. WALPOLE *Let. to R. Bentley* 16 Nov., What a figure would they..make *vis-à-vis* his manly vivacity and dashing eloquence. 1759 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) IV. 162, I allow his army will be what you say; but what will that be *vis-à-vis* French, Austrians, Imperialists, Swedes, and Russians, who must amount to double that number? 1847 E. BRONTË *Wuthering Heights* I, His master dived down to him, leaving me *vis-à-vis* the ruffianly bitch. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 10/1 He is responsible vis-à-vis the Government for their efficiency.

2. *adv.* Opposite, so as to face (another or each other).

1807 BYRON *Let.* in Moore *Life* (1830) I. 231 Even the hero of my Cornelian (who is now sitting *vis-à-vis*, reading a volume of my Poetics) passed me in Trinity walks. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. I. 6 The captivating air and fascinating manners of a French lady, who sat *vis-a-vis*. 1892 NESBITT *Castel. Sleade Coll. Glass* 75 A pair of doves are poised *vis-a-vis*.

b. Const. *to* or *with*.

1824 SCOTT *Waw.* lxi, Waverley..found himself in the desired vehicle, *vis-à-vis* to Mrs. Nosebag. 1841 Mrs. MOZLEY *Lost Brooch* II. xx. 142 Only too well pleased to find myself once again *vis a vis* to Constance Duff. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xxi, Lothair was there vis-à-vis with Miss Arundel.

Hence **Vis-à-vis** *v.* ; **Vis-à-visness.**

1839 LEVER *H. Lorrequer* vi, The hissing kettle on the hob was *vis à vis'd* by a gridiron with three newly-taken trout. 1887 E. GURNEY *Tertium Quid* I. 371, I doubt whether it would involve anything like the sense of vis-à-vis-ness or parallelism, suggested to me now by such a phrase as 'posited myself in space'.

Visc., abbrev. form of VISCOUNT.

Viscacha (viskæ·tʃă). Also 8 **viscacho**, 8–9 **viscaccia**, 9 **viscacha**, **vischacha**. [a. Sp. *viscacha* (also *biscacha* BISCACHA), ad. Quichuan (*h*)*uiscacha*. Hence also F. *viscaque*.] One or other of two large burrowing rodents of South America, related to the chinchilla.

a. The *Lagidium cuvieri*, inhabiting the upper Andes from Chili to Ecuador ; the Alpine viscacha.

1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxviii. 314 There are other small animalles which they call Viscachas, and are like to hares, although they be bigger. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 376 Allied to this [Cape Hare] seems the *Viscachos*, or *Viscachas*, mentioned by Acosta and Feuillée, in their accounts of Peru. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. i. 209 *Viscaccia*...This species is said to have the general appearance of a Rabbet. 1811 W. WALTON *Peruv. Sheep* 175 They afford furs and ornamental skins,..particularly the *viscacha*, which is a species of rabbit. 1849 *Sh. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 126 The general colour of the viscacha of the western acclivities of the Peruvian Andes.. is grayish ash, clouded here and there with a tint of brown. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Animal Life* (Cassell) 196 The Alpine Viscacha (*Lagidium cuvieri*) inhabits the lofty Andes of Chili, Bolivia, and Peru.

b. The *Lagostomus trichodactylus* of the southern Argentine pampas.

1836 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* II. 26 The Viscacha (*Lagostomus trichodactylus*) is about the size of a rabbit. 1845 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 464 The Viscacha..inhabits the great plains of Buenos Ayres, where it digs burrows for itself. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 138 The Viscacha lives on the Pampas from Buenos Ayres to the borders of Patagonia.

So **Viscacho.** *rare*⁻¹.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 373 In the viscache the squamous portion of the temporal bone is..deeply indented.

† **Viscate,** *ppl. a. Obs.*⁻¹ [ad. L. *viscāt-us* : cf. next and INVISCATE *v.*] Inviscated.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 136 Pilke blood is not viscat in be substaunce of dure matris, as be mater is in empostymes.

Viscated, *ppl. a.* [f. L. *viscāt-us*, pa. pple. of *viscāre*, f. *viscus*, *viscum* birdlime.] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Viscated*, taken with Bird-lime. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Viscated*, dressed, or taken with Bird-lime.

‖ **Viscera** (vi·sĕră), *sb. pl.* [L. *viscera* internal organs, pl. of *viscus* VISCUS ². Cf. It. *viscere*, Sp. and Pg. *viceras*, F. *viscères*.]

1. *Anat.* The soft contents of the principal cavities of the body; *esp.* the internal organs of the trunk; the entrails or bowels together with the heart, liver, lungs, etc.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 174 Exhausting the stock of aliment from the *vasa* and *viscera*. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 545 Also lifting up the Viscera of the lower Belly. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 111 For in the Intentions, the Seat of the Complaint is most commonly in the Viscera. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 83 [It is] to keep them from touching the abdominal viscera of this animal. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 500 Instancing its powerful effects in obstructions of the viscera, especially in liver cases. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 30 Great stress is laid on the case of the mollusca, animals whose liver is generally immense in proportion to their other viscera. 1876 W. H. DALL *Lates Prch. Man* 18 The viscera had evidently been removed, but the muscular and cutaneous tissues were in tolerable preservation.

† b. *fig.* = BOWEL *sb.*¹ 3. *Obs.*

1652 N. CULVERWEL *Treat.* II. vi. (1661) 141 Do you think now that God will trust these with his more special mercies, with his viscera and tender mercies?

2. *transf.* The interior; the inner parts: = BOWEL *sb.*¹ 4.

1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 41 If the Atheist will venture himself into the Interior Viscera or Bowels of the Earth. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 210, I dived into the viscera of Newgate-market.

Visceral (vi·sĕrăl), *a.* [ad. med.L. *visceralis* (Du Cange) internal, f. *viscera*: see prec. So OF. *visceral* (fig.), F. *viscéral*, Sp. *visceral*, It. *viscerale*.]

† 1. a. Affecting the viscera or bowels regarded as the seat of emotion ; pertaining to, or touching deeply, inward feelings. *Obs.*

1578 FENTON *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 117 Thys warre is called Viscerall, for that it is bredde and begon in the hearte, and dissolueth and takes ende in the hearte. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Canisius's Holy Court* 288 He is vnited to all men, as oftentymes as they receyue him, by a viscerall transfusion of himselfe, as one should melt one waxe within another. 1627 DONNE *Serm.* (1640) 285 Christ here sends Paracletum in a more entire and a more internall and more Viscerall sense—a Comforter. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xi. 109 Love is of all other the inmost and most viscerall affection; and therefore called by the apostle, 'Bowels of love'.

† b. *fig.* Lying in the entrails or inward parts.

1624 DONNE *Serm.* xvii. (1640) 167 There is the land of Gold, centricall Gold, viscerall Gold, gremiall Gold, Gold in the Matrice and womb of God.

2. *Phys.* Of disorders or diseases: Affecting the viscera or internal organs.

1794 in Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 300 The Lebanon pool is famous for having wrought many cures..even in visceral obstructions and indigestion. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 919 A spring..much frequented for visceral disorders. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 247 Disease also fell upon him,—first fever, and then visceral derangement. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 288 The visceral lesions and cachexia which supervene on ague.

3. *Anat.* Of or pertaining to, consisting of, situated in or among, the viscera.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxviii. IV. 62 The *branchiæ* ..may be considered as consisting in general of .visceral ones which enter the cavity of the body, and are lost amongst the viscera and the caul [etc.]. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxx. (1856) 259 The lost art of petrified visceral monstrosities seen at the medical schools. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xix, In the sub-kingdom vertebrata..visceral systems exist in specialised and differentiated forms. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 34 Such communicating branches are especially numerous in the course of the visceral nerves.

b. *Visceral cavity*, that part of an animal body in which the viscera are contained.

1846 DANA *Zoöph.* (1848) 21 A visceral cavity closed below. 1851 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 31 Sea-water is admitted to the visceral cavity of many of the molluska by minute canals. 1868 DUNCAN *Insect World* Introd. 14 It is the unoccupied portions of the great visceral cavity which serve as conductors to the blood.

4. Pertaining to the viscera of animals used as a means of divination.

1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* Poems 1850 I. 161, I..taught what sign Of visceral lightness, coloured to a shade, May charm the genial gods. 1861 COL. HAWKER in C. E. Byles *Life & Lett.* (1905) xvii. 382, I have visceral augury.

5. *Anat.* a. *Visceral layer*, a portion of the arachnoid membrane.

1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 23 That portion of it..which covers the brain, or the visceral layer, is separated from the brain by a considerable interval. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 865/1 Many anatomists regard the arachnoid as the visceral layer of a serous membrane.

b. *Visceral arch*, one of a set of parallel ridges in the region of the mouth in the embryonic skull. *Visceral cleft*, one of the intervals between the visceral arches.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xlvii, The malleus of Mammalia ..being developed out of the proximal elements of the first visceral arch. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* i. (1873) 5 These arches are separated by temporary apertures termed 'visceral clefts'. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 841/1 Immediately below each maxillary lobe four arches, called branchial or visceral, arise in the ventral aspect of the head.

Hence **Vi·scerally** *adv.* (In quot. *fig.*)

a 1636 C. FITZGEFFREY *Comp. tow. Captives* iii. (1637) 38 Then shall your compassion extend it selfe more viscerally towards your afflicted brethren.

Vi·scerate, *v. rare.* [f. VISCERA + ATE ³, after *eviscerate*.] *trans.* To eviscerate, disembowel. Also *fig.*

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Viscerated*, having the Bowels taken out. 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 53 A butcher was employed one evening to viscerate a mare. 1830 *Examiner* 659/1 A vain pretender, who..falls a victim to his temerity and is dissected ;—viscerated to the edification of the profession.

Viscera·tion. *rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *viscerātio*, f. *viscera* VISCERA.] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Visceration*, a dole of raw flesh. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (after Cooper), *Viscerations*..good chear, a dole or distributing raw flesh at the death of rich men, or when hogs are killed ; also the garbage that Hunters give their Dogs.

Viscero- (vi·sĕro), combining form, on Greek models, of L. *viscera* VISCERA, employed in anatomical terms, as *viscero-branchial*, *-pericardial*, *-pleural* (etc.), adjs. Also **visceropto·sis** *Path.* (see quot. 1897).

The more correct combining form *visceri-* is given in some dictionaries, as *visceripericardial*, etc.

1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 667/1 The pericardium is extended so as to form a very large sac passing among the viscera dorsal wards..the viscero-pericardial sac. *Ibid.* 679/2 The visceral nerves of the viscero-pleural ganglion-pair. 1888 HOWES & SCOTT *Huxley & Martin's Biol.* i. 108 *Viscero-motor nerves* ; seen to arise from both sympathetic and lumbo-sacral plexus for distribution to the pelvic viscera. 1888 W. HERDMAN in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 613/1 A third great sinus, the viscero-branchial vessel. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 587 The names enteroptosis or visceroptosis have been applied to cases in which various abdominal organs have become displaced from their normal positions. 1903 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 11 In other cases the symptoms are due to visceroptosis.

† **Viscero se,** *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [-OSE.] = next.

1690 J. EDWARDS *Demonstr. Exist. God* II. (1696) 83 This viscerose sort of flesh is most suitable..to those vessels and parts of the body which are composed of it.

† **Vi·scerous,** *a. Obs.* [f. VISCER-A + -OUS.] Of the nature of, resembling that of, the viscera.

1697 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xix, It [Femistery] prevaileth in Chronicall diseases arising from stoppings of the viscerous parts. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Introd., Viscerous flesh or the flesh of the Bowels. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Flesh*, The Antients made five different kinds of Flesh ;..The third, Viscerous, as the Flesh of the Stomach and Intestines.

Viscid (vi·sid), *a.* [ad. late L. *viscid-us*, f. L. *viscum* birdlime (see VISCOUS *a.*). Hence also OF. *viscide*, It. *viscido*.]

1. Of fluid or soft substances: Having a glutinous or gluey character; sticky, adhesive, ropy. (Cf. VISCOUS *a.* 1.)

1633 BRATHWAIT *Arcad. Pr.* 235, I meane by sweatings and suffumigations to extract all those viscid and oily humours. 1697 *Physical Dict., Viscid phlegm*, clammy tough phlegm, roping like birdlime. 1702 GREW *Anat. Roots* I. iii. § 21, I call it a Balsame;..Yet not a Terebinth; because, nothing near so viscid or tenacious as that is. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 46 By which the spirituous Particles are set loose and free from their viscid Confinements. 1777 FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 104 Whenever we lamed any of them, they disgorged a quantity of viscid food. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 132, I could not see the surface [of the ulcer] for a very viscid discharge, which adhered to it like mucus. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 168 In persons who die of phthisis, the bile in the gall-bladder..is often very dark-coloured, and viscid. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* i. 13 The secretion from the glands is extremely viscid.

2. Of surfaces: Covered with a glutinous or sticky secretion. Chiefly *Bot.* of leaves.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 182 *Viscid, Clammy*; when they are smeared over with a Juice that is not fluid but tenacious, sticky. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Viscidum*, A Viscid or clammy leaf. 1822 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 42 The panicle is upright and viscid. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 421 Head..covered with large and hard plates, or a viscid skin. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 207 *Senecio viscosus* ; annual, glandular-pubescent, viscid. 1874 LUBBOCK *Wild Flowers* iii. 164 Close behind the stigma is a projection which terminates in a very viscid disk.

Viscidity (visi·dĭti). [f. prec. + -ITY. Cf. obs. F. *viscidité* (16th c.).]

1. The quality of being viscid ; glutinousness, stickiness, ropiness.

1611 COTGR., *Viscidité*, viscidities;.. viscosite. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Viscidity* or *Viscosity*, a clamminesse, a sticking to any thing like glue or bird lime. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 100 The Sulphur by its viscidity, does..sweeten the pungency of the Salt. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 189 Then we must dilute the Viscidity of the Humours if it be sizy. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 170 Salmon.. offends the Stomach by its Viscidity. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 30 The density, viscidity, and other qualities of this matter. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 101/2 The viscidity of the solution of sugar ..is very little above that of pure water. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 469 Castor-oil has a pale amber-color,.. and is quite viscid. Cold increases the viscidity.

2. A collection or accumulation of viscid humours; viscid matter or substance.

c 1720 GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. xxxix. (1738) 144 The cure consists in all those things that are proper to destroy the Viscidities in the Bowels. 1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 193 For by this means all Viscidities in the Blood will be diluted. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. xvi. 90 The parts of the fluid rubbing against each other, destroy all viscidities. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. II. 237/1 They must have honey, sugar, cinnamon...Dante and Ariosto, different as they are, equally avoided these sweet viscidities.

Vi·scidise, *v. rare.* [f. VISCID *a.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To become viscid.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 437 It viscidizes in the solution used for washing the true copal. 1876 — *Gorilla L.* II. 56, I was assured that it does not viscidize in the potash-wash.

Vi·scidly, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY ².] In a viscid manner.

1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 83 Plant fetid, ..all over viscidly pubescent.

Vi·scidness. [-NESS.] = VISCIDITY.

1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 218 Honey..from its Viscidness, digesteth and healeth. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 876, I have already observed, that Cassia is found in chewing to have a viscidness, which Cinnamon has not.

Visciere, obs. form of VIZIER.

Viscin (vi·sin). *Chem.* [a. F. *viscin* (Macaire), f. L. *viscum* birdlime (see VISCOUS *a.*) + -IN.] A substance which forms the main constituent of birdlime, chiefly obtained from the berries and other parts of the mistletoe.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 917 The berries..yield to alcohol a brown extractive matter soluble in water, which smells like viscin. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 78/1 Mistletoe..contains sugar,..and a peculiar, very sticky substance, viscin. Viscin is also contained in a few other plants.

Vi·scoid, *a. rare*⁻¹. [-OID.] Of a viscid or viscous nature.

1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 55 A glacier moves like a fluid, though a very stiff, viscous-fluid : its motion may therefore be rightly called viscoid.

Visco·meter, variant of VISCOSIMETER.

1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Viscometer*, a standard measurer for ascertaining the viscosity of oils for cotton-mill and other spindles.

† **Viscontal,** *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. *viscont* VISCOUNT.] Of or pertaining to a viscount.

1742 J. CLERK in *Bibl. Topogr. Brit.* (1790) III. 71 What you write of the Viscontal seal, found in an urn with bones.

Viscontial, variant of VICONTIEL *a.*

1798 *Rep. Comm. Hs. Comm.* (1803) XIII. 107 The Rents whereof (called Viscontiel Rents) are in the Collection of the Sheriffs of the several Counties, Cities, and Towns in England. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* III. vii. 684 The second consisting of certain rents called viscontial rents, or rents for which the sheriffs were accountable.

Visco·se, *sb.* [f. L *viscum* birdlime + -OSE 2.] A special form of cotton pulp, applied to various industrial purposes.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 April 8/2 A..contract for sacks in this new cotton pulp, to which the name of viscose is given.

†**Viscose**, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *viscōs-us*: see VISCOUS *a.*] Viscid, viscous.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 33 (Addit. MS.), Synwyn by kynde bub nesache and viscose. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 78, It avoidep souerayly ventoseneꝛ, and wonderfully puttep out viscose fleume & putrified. 1526 *Pil'gr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 118 The nature of a passyon of ire or fylthy pleasure of the body is so viscose & cleuynge, that harde it is for a begynner in perfeccyon to put it away whan he wolde. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), Viscose, clammy, sticky, glewy. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 224 A viscose matter, like that which is seen on fish newly caught, issues from them.

Viscosi·meter. [f. L. *viscōs-us* VISCOUS *a.*: see -METER.] An instrument for measuring the viscosity of liquids.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1003 *Viscosimeter.* This name is given by Dollfus to an apparatus for measuring the viscosity of colouring liquids thickened with gum, &c. 1882 CROOKES *Dyeing & Tissue-Printing* 381 To test the strength of a sample, it is dissolved in water,..and tested with the viscosimeter.

Viscosity (viskɒ·sĭti). Also 5–6 viscosite, 6 -tye, 6–7 -tie. [a. OF. *viscosite* (F. *viscosité*) or ad. med.L. *viscōsitās*, f. L. *viscōs-us* viscous: see -ITY. So It. *viscosità*, Sp. *viscosidad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

1. The quality or fact of being viscous; viscidity.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 65 Bole with his dryneꝛ and viscosite consumib þe moistenes. *c* 1530 *Judic. Urines* III. vi. 50 b, Suche maner of froth shewth alway more viscosite..of humours in yᵉ body, than doyth ony other maner of froth. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phioroc.* III. iv. 9 It taketh awaie the viscositie in the Stomacke, and openeth the powres. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iv. 80 The Perch is.. a little inferiour ., by reason of some viscosity in it. 1669 BOYLE *Contn New Exp.* II. (1682) 140 That liquor is very thin, and hath no viscosity to resist the pervading body. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 31 Rarity is nothing but a Privation of Density,..Friability of Viscosity. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng Malady* III. iv. (1734) 304 The phlegm in the Glands ..is nothing but the Viscosity of the Serum of the Blood. 1771 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1777) I. 190 To dissolve a general lentor and viscosity of the whole mass of fluids. 1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 65 The extreme viscosity of its pubescence, has caused it to receive the specific name it bears. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 245 The resistances due to the viscosity of the blood in the arteries.

fig. 1662 M. W. *Marriage-Breaker* v. i, So I, by my viscosity, Labouring for life in love-lime [am] drown'd in Cupid's galli pot. 1902 *Spectator* 29 Nov. 825/1 Vehicular traffic..will..block itself from its inherent viscosity.

attrib. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 461 The determination of the viscosity coefficient of the blood.

b. *Magnetic viscosity*, tendency on the part of a magnetic medium to retard the magnetizing force.

1892 *Electrical Engineer* 16 Sept. 287/1 Up to the frequency tried—*i. e.*, about 125 per second—there is no sign of magnetic viscosity; the magnetic cycle is unaffected [etc.].

2. A viscous substance; a collection of viscous matter. Cf. VISCIDITY 2.

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 56 Linesede oyle, or oyle of fenegreke, or the viscosite of holioke, and suche other. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 27 b/2 When the stomacke is burthened with anye cruditye of vndigested meat or drincke, or with anye other viscosyte whatsoever. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 80 As is observable in drops of syrup, oyle and seminall viscosities. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 143 It openeth obstructions, and purgeth viscosities of the stomack and bowells. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 297 These Viscosities depend on Heat. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 493 The sand ..has, by the means of a calcareous viscosity infiltrated by the sea, become so hard, as to become stone.

Viscount (vəi·kaunt). Forms: α. 3–6 viscounte (4 vesconnte), 5– viscount (6 viscont). β. 5 vycounte, vicounte, visound, 6 *Sc.* vecount, 6–8 vicount (7 viconf). [a. AF. *vesc-, viscounte* (*-cunte, -conte*), OF. *visconte, viconte* (F. *vicomte*), f. *vis-* VICE- + *counte* COUNT *sb.*2, after med.L. *vicecomes*: cf. VICE-COUNT. So It. *visconte*, Pg. *visconde*, Sp. *visconde*.]

1. *Hist.* One acting as the deputy or representative of a count or earl in the administration of a district; in English use *spec.* a sheriff or high sheriff.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 37 The erle Pictavense ..ravesched his owne viscountes wyf. *Ibid.* 165 Oon Wydomarus, viscounte of Lemovik .. fooned greet tresour of gold. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1984 Sir Valyant of Vyleris.. made siche avowes, To venquyse by victorie the vescownte of Roine! 1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* 23 Kynges oughte to haue under them dukes, Erles, vycountes and other lordes. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 287 Otho..pursued after yᵉ vaungards of the kyng, of yᵉ which were capitayns yᵉ vicounte of Mylyon, and one named fryer Garny. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 113 The Vicount of Melun, a verye noble man of the realme of Fraunce. 1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 181 b, Vicount is a magistrate, and officer, of grat authoryty whom wee commonly call (Sherife). 1630 WADSWORTH *Pres. Estate Spain* 38 Vicountes of Spayne, and the value of their Lordshipe, of which they are Vicounts. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Viscount*, ..*Vicomte*, signifies as much as Sheriff. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* iii. 40 All the freeholders assembled under the viscount or sheriff. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 302 Neal, the valiant Viscount of the district.

Comb. 1611 COTGR., *Vicomptier*, of a Vicount, Viscountship.

b. In the island of Jersey: (see quots.).

1694 FALLE *Jersey* ii. 65 Before whom rideth the Viscount, or Sheriff, with his Staff of Office erected, one End thereof on the Pommel of his Saddle. 1882 AMBTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxiii. 593 In Jersey there is an officer called Vicomte, or Viscount, who represents the High Sheriff of an English county.

2. A member of the fourth order of the British peerage, ranking between an earl and a baron. Occas. contracted *Visc.*, *Visct.*

This use of the title dates from the reign of Henry VI, when John, Baron Beaumont, was created Viscount Beaumont by letters patent of 12th February, 1440.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 189/2 Notwithstondyng that Viscountes were not erecte nor create, in the tyme of..oure Fadre. *c* 1475 *Contin. Brut* 602 þe Duke of Northfolke, þe Erle of Warwyk, Lord Fecoumbryge, & Vicound Bowser. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 25 b, Fraunces lorde Louell was then made Vicount Louell, and the kynge his chamberlain. *Ibid., Hen. VIII*, 190 The kyng..created the vicount Rochforth Earle of Wilshire, and the vicount Fitzwater was created Earle of Sussex. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 3) 1. ii. iii. xi, A Knight would be a Baronet, and then a Lord, and then a vicount, and then an Earle. 1632 MILTON *Ep. M. Wm.* 3 The honour'd Wife of Winchester, A Viscounts daughter, an Earls heir. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Oct. 1664, I went with my Lord Visct. Cornebury to Cornebury in Oxfordshire 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 385 All degrees of honour are not of equal antiquity. Those now in use are dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts, and barons. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 369/2 Peers of the Realm..the persons who fall under this description are the dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts, and barons. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 180 The privilege of wearing Coronets was accorded to Viscounts by James the First.

3. In Continental usage: The son or younger brother of a count.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXVIII, The postillion who drove us [to Waterloo] was a *Viscount*, a son of some bankrupt Imperial General.

Viscountcy (vəi·kauntsi). [f. prec. + -CY.] The title, dignity, or rank of a viscount.

1868 *Daily News* 6 July, He exchanges a barony in the peerage of Ireland..for a viscountcy, the fourth order in the peerage of the United Kingdom. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 3 Mar. 5/1 Her Majesty has conferred the dignity of a viscountcy upon Sir Henry B. W. Brand. 1887 *Irwin Soul* I. xvi. 169 Neither Baronetcy nor Viscountcy rewarded his zeal.

Viscountess (vəi·kauntés). [See VISCOUNT and -ESS. So F. *vicomtesse*, It. *viscontessa*, Sp. *viscondesa*, Pg. *viscondessa*.]

1. The wife of a viscount; a peeress of the fourth order of nobility.

1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 134/1 Margaret Viscountesse Lisle, wyfe of the said Henry Bodrugan, which is a grete estate of this Reame. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxi. 80 b/2 The erle then sent letters..desyrynge the kynge to suffre his cosyn the vycountes to be in peas. 1529 *Act* 21 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13. § 17 Any Chapeleyne of any Duches Marques Countesse Vyscountesse or Baronesse. 1576 *Chr. Prayers* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 521 *The Viscountess.* Viscountesses I do not spare; For of them I have no care. 1643 *Docq. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 377 A Lease made..to the said Viscountesse of parcell of the lands. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2444/1 A Pursuivant, a Vicountess, Vicounts. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vicount*, A Viscountess may have her Gown bore up by a Woman, out of the Presence of her Superiors; and in their Presence by a Man. 1753 GRAY *Long Story* 134 Why, what can the Viscountess mean? 1803 in A. Duncan *Nelson* (1806) 333 His relict Lady Viscountess Nelson. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 317 Rather disappointed at this aspect of a viscountess's life. 1880 FROUDE *Ld. Beaconsfield* xiv. 211 Mrs. Disraeli became Viscountess Beaconsfield.

2. A particular size of slate.

1878 D. C. DAVIES *Slate & Slate Quarrying* 136 Princesses..Duchesses..Marchionesses..Countesses..Viscountesses 18×9..Ladies.

Viscou·ntial, *a. rare.* [f. VISCOUNT + -IAL.] = VICONTIEL *a.*

1751 *Eng. Gazetteer* s.v. *Lincoln*, This city is a Co. of itself, and has a viscountial jurisdiction for so m. round.

†**Viscountry.** *Obs.*—¹ [-RY.] = next.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Westminster* II. (1662) 242 He forgot that he was but Lord Verulam. A Viscountry that began and ended in him dying insulsa.

Vi·scountship. Also 7 vicount-. [f. VISCOUNT + -SHIP.] The dignity of a viscount; a viscountcy.

1611 [see VISCOUNTY 2]. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I. 33 Concerninge the Devereuxes, in whom are included the Earldome of Essex and vicountshyp of Hereford. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 25 Crema was a long time under the Vicountship of Milan untill the yeer 1405. 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* I. xii. 215 The few years of his Viscountship.

Viscounty (vəi·kaunti). Also 6–7 vicountie, 8 -ty. [f. VISCOUNT + -Y. Cf. OF. *vis-, viconte*(*i*, etc., F. *vicomté*, It. *viscontado*, Sp. *vis-*, Pg. *viscondado*, and med.L. *vicecomitatus*.]

†1. A viscount. *Obs.*—¹

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 131/2 From thense by iourneies he marched and went to Corke, being met in the waie by the vicounties of Koch and Barrie, and by sir Cormac Mac Teege.

2. *Hist.* The office or jurisdiction of, the territory under the authority of, a viscount.

1611 COTGR., *Vice-comte*, a vicountie, a vicountship. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Viscounty*, the Territory of a Viscount; a sort of Lordship, or Jurisdiction in France; as The Viscounty of Turenne is very considerable. 1796 MURPHY *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 286 Caen has a provostship, a presidial, a viscounty, an office of the finances of the admiralty, and other royal tribunals. 1798 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 6 Mons. Colmar, a Jew, bought the seigneury and estate, including the viscounty of Amiens, of the Duke of Chaulnes. 1829 JEFFREY *Brittany* xviii. 268 The Viscounty of Dinan ..became..the heritage of a young lady. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. viii. 252 William was now at a point in Neal's own viscounty, at no great distance from his own castle. 1898 S. EVANS *Holy Grail* 46 Five brothers shared among them the viscounty of that city [Marseilles].

3. = VISCOUNTCY.

1839 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* lxxii, 'But the title?' 'The Viscounty goes with the English property.' 1874 DIXON *Two Queens* XVIII. vii. III. 353 About the time when he received the viscounty of Rochford. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 2/2 His Majesty has..been pleased to confer the dignity of a Viscountcy upon Lord Iveagh, K.T.

Viscous (vi·skəs), *a.* Forms: 5–7 viscouse, 6 vyscous, 6– viscous; 6 vys-, viscus. [a. AF. *viscous* (Gower), or ad. L. *viscōsus* (cf. VISCOSE *a.*), f. *viscum* (also *viscus*) mistletoe, birdlime made from mistletoe-berries. Cf. F. *visqueux*, It., Sp, Pg. *viscoso*.]

1. Of substances: Having a glutinous or gluey character. Cf. VISCID *a.* 1.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 33 Senewis bi kynde ben neische & viscouse. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 8 b, Flewme, ..thycke, viscouse lyke byrde lyme and heuy. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xii. (1870) 264 The whyte of an egge is viscus and colde. 1547 — *Brev. Health* § 207 By eatynge of euyl & vyscus meates & euyl drinkes. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 721 The fruit is..of a viscus or clammie substance. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. x. 39 He cast up from his stomacke all impurity, tough and viscous. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 52 A Nitt is an Egge glewed by some viscous matter to the sides of the hair it sticks to. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xviii. 120 Gossamere..is nothing else but the viscous misty vapour, furled up by the warm alteration of the Air. 1728 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* I. ix. § 3 A viscous Liquor like Turpentine. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I 37 Some sustain, that the Chaos..was a mass of a certain kind of viscous or mucous water. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 207 Water and Mercury may be considered as among the most perfect fluids. Others as oil &c. are viscous or imperfect fluids. 1859 W. H. GREGORY *Egypt* II. 72 The rocky walls were black and sticky, and seemed to sweat a thick, fatty, viscous liquor. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 800 The blood drawn during life is dark and viscous.

transf. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 158 Contact with the abnormal surface sets up an immediate viscous metamorphosis of the platelets.

b. *Physics.* Imperfectly fluid; intermediate between solid and fluid; adhesively soft. Also used with abstract sbs. (as *state*, etc.).

(*a*) 1847 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (ed. 2) XVIII. III. 683 The ice of a glacier is..supposed to be a plastic or viscous mass. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 194 The edges of the molten [lava] stream cooling and resisting the tension of the still viscous centre. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xii. 261 The water converted into steam, blew up the viscous rock in such forms as we find. 1880 *Times* 1 Dec. 10 His researches on tidal retardation from the action of a satellite on a viscous planet.

(*b*) 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* 223 The solid, liquid, and aëriform state, to which, perhaps, ought to be added the *viscous*, as a state intermediate between that of solidity and fluidity. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* viii. (1856) 57 Forbes' beautifully simple views of a viscous movement. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvi. 311 The inquiry as to what Professor Forbes really meant when he propounded the viscous theory. 1883 — *Heat* ii. § 34. (1870) 36 The viscous character of the space between the poles instantly disappears.

2. *fig.* Adhesive, sticky.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 33. 100 These grave solemne wittes..haue more dignity then facilety: But in some it is nature to bee somewhat viscouse and inwrapped, and not easie to turne. 1660 in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) I. 276 Our magistracy and judicatures..have..been intrusted in such viscous and birdlimed fingers.

3. *Bot.* Of leaves: = VISCID *a.* 2.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 37 Leaves, like those of Linseed, but..more viscous. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* Gloss., *Viscous*, ..having a glutinous surface.

Hence **Vi·scously** *adv.*

1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* 55 Note if the collodion flows freely, viscously, or lumpily.

Vi·scousness. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec.] The quality of being viscous; viscosity.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho., Soyle* 28 It is an erronious opinion to thinke that Marle..is to be knowne from other moulds by the fattiness, or viscousness thereof. 1618 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 238 The thicknesse and viscousnesse of Sulphur. 1674 GREW *Anat. Pl., Disc. Mixture* v. vi. § 3 The very Cause of the said Viscousness of Phlegm, is chiefly some great Acidity in the Blood. 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.* I, *Viscosidad*, Viscousness, Clamminess. 1757 T. BIRCH *Hist. Royal Soc.* IV. 256 Dr. Lister..added, that holly might turn [into stone] suddenly by reason of its viscousness and tenacity.

†**Vi·scuous**, *a. Obs.* [Irreg. f. L. *viscum*, *-us* + *-OUS.*] VISCOUS.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 618 They testifie..a repletion of grosse, viscuous or slimy humours, and a great perturbation of the spirits within. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 135 When the Exhalation by reason of the want of viscuous matter is not enflamed. 1655 T. VAUGHAN *Euphrates* 24 It is even so with the World, for it was originally made of a seed, of a seminall viscuous Humidity or Water. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1977. I expected Water, but there was only a viscuous darkish Humour 1726 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. ii. 6 The coldest and most viscuous Dungs or Soil, such as Cows-Dung. 1771 *Encycl. Brit* II. 468 The albumen is a cold, viscuous, white liquor in the egg.

Hence **Vi·scuously** *adv.*

1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxiii. (1658) 262 The solidness and viscuousness of the substance will not permit it to evaporate.

‖ **Vi·scous**[1], *Obs. rare.* [app. a. L. *viscus* birdlime, glue.] A soft viscous substance or mass.

1643 J. Stern tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* viii. 36 This following Viscus..incarnateth all sorts of corrupt ulcers. 1573 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 457 Snails taken alive shells and all, and pounded in a mortar till they become a perfect pap or *viscus*.

‖ **Viscus**[2] (vi·skŭs). *Anat.* [L. *viscus*, usually in pl. *viscera* Viscera.] One or other of the soft internal organs of the body.

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Liver*, a large glandulous Viscus, of a red sanguine Colour [etc.]. 1754-64 Smellie *Midwif.* I. 144 A tension of the part ensues affecting the nerves of that Viscus. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 238/1 It passes next behind the liver, through the great sinus of that viscus. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 236, I felt the bladder, and could puncture that viscus. 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 208/2 In other parts of the body they assume various appearances peculiar to each viscus or organ. 1879 Spencer *Data Ethics* iii. 33 Imperfection of any viscus, as lungs, heart or liver.

transf. 1829 T. Castle *Introd. Bot.* 260 Sap or lymph.. must either be intermediately conveyed to some viscus proper to give it elaboration, or immediately distributed throughout the whole body of the plant.

Visdamme, obs. variant of Vidame.

Visdome, obs. Sc. form of Wisdom.

† **Vise**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. Vise *v.*] View, contemplation, regard.

a 1450 Myrc *Parv. Pr.* 66 Thus thys worlde þow moste despyse, And holy vertues haue in vyse.

Vise, *sb.*[2] *Coalmining.* Also 7 **weyse**. [Of obscure origin. Cf. Veise.] (See quots.)

1672 G. Sinclair *Misc. Observ. Hydrostat.* (1683) 281 That which the coal-hewers term the vise, or some of them the weyse of the gas..which in effect is..but a dark vestige of the dipp or rise, that the body which now constitutes the gas, should have had naturally, if it had been perfected. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 13 Your conductor, with the point of a pick, can open up a little of the vise or fissure in the pavement. *Ibid.* 14 The mine has been made in the vise or fissure of the slip. [See also Ventigia.] 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 *Veise, veas, vise*, the line of fracture of a fault or hitch.

Vise, var. (now usually *U.S.*) of Vice *sb.*[2] (see also *sb* [1], etc.); obs. f. Viss; obs. Sc. f. Wise *sb.* (manner); obs. f. Wise *a.*

† **Vise**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **vise**, 5 **wyse**, 5–6 **vyse**, 6 *Sc.* **vyiss, wys**. [Partly (1) aphetic f. of *avise* Advise *v.* or Devise *v.*: partly (2) a. OF. (mod.F.) *viser*:—pop.L. **visare*, f. *vis-*, ppl. stem of L. *vidēre* to see. Cf. Vizy *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To devise, contrive, make.

c 1385 *Song of Yesterday* 14 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 133 þis day as leef we may be libt With alle þe murþes þat men may vise To reuele with þise buyrdes briht. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4636 3e vise 3ow þar-of [*sc.* gold] vessell for vanyte & pride. *Ibid.* 5651 þe names of all þe prouynces & þe places þat he was prince ouire..ware vised all in versis in variant letters.

2. *refl.* To bethink oneself (*well* or *better*); = Advise *v.* 5.

a 1330 *Syr Degarre* 542 Nou I schal vise me bette. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecile*) 345 For-þi is gud 3e wyse 3u weile, or 3e tyne al vardisaele. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* (D.) 751 þan ayres hym forth alexander & hys aynde takes .,wyses hym how he say wald or he aunswer 3heldes. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving*, etc. 81 Thar 3ha is 3hai, thar nay is nay, Thai wys thaim weill, ore at thai say. *a* 1568 '*This Wardlis joy*' in *Baumatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 202 Dreid God, do weill;..Seik weill at weill, and vyiss the voundir weil.

b. *trans.* To think of as useful or necessary.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 126 þen takis to him tresour & trus-es in baggis,..And obire necessari notis as nedis to his craftis, To sike salmary dangell as him self vyses.

3. To advise, counsel, direct (a person); = Advise *v.* 9.

a 1529 Skelton *Replye. agst. Vng. Scolers* 297 Therfore I vyse you to forsake Of heresy the deuyllyshe scoles. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. iv. (Arb.) 26 Well mocke muche of hir, and keepe hir well I vise ye. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Horses* (1600) 201 To trust all currant horse-coursers, I vise thee to beware.

b. With clause as object; = Advise *v.* 9 c.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 98, I am content answerd the God, but in your place I vise For better end, that Pallas she do take the enterprise.

4. *intr.* To look *on* (something).

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1539 A vestoure to vise on of violet floures. *Ibid.* 3943 þan come a fligtir in of fowls as fast as it dawid, To vise on as vowtres as vermeon hewid.

b. To reflect *on*; to consider, contemplate.

1568 T. Howell *Newe Sonets* (1879) 118 Within whose troubled head, such throngs of thoughts doth rise, That now on this and then on that, I cease not oft to vise.

5. *trans.* To look at or regard attentively or closely; to observe. *rare.*

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 88 She loked smothely vpon him (the storye sayth) and he as gentyllye vysed her agayne. *a* 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* cxix. 352 Inure my hart; I purpose yet all whole thy lawes to vyse.

Hence † **Vised** *ppl. a.*, = Advised *ppl. a.* 1; † **Vising** *vbl. sb.*, advice, counsel.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlvi. (*Baptista*) 496 Scho gaiterit hyme rychi ofte With wysing fare & wordis softe. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 230 Yf thou wolte largely lyue.. thou thyngis thou moste beholde...The thyrde that ye can be visible, and see the Services and Meritis of thy Subiectes.

Vise, obs. Sc. var. Wise *v.* (to direct).

‖ **Visé** (vĭ·zē), *sb.* [F. *visé*, pa. pple. of *viser* to examine, view: see Vise *v.*] An entry or note on a passport, certificate, or other official document signifying that it has been examined and found correct; a formal official signature or entry of this nature: = Visa.

1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1883) 36 The *visé* of a minister carries more weight than that of a consul. 1904 *Times* 26 Aug. 11/6 The..system..requires Consular visés and certificates for all exports to their country.

‖ **Visé** (vĭ·zē), *v.* [See prec.] *trans.* To put a visé on (a passport or other document); to endorse or sign as correct and in due order.

1810 B. Silliman *Jrnl. Trav.* (1820) III. 33 This passport had not been indorsed, 'viséd' as they termed it. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* viii, An officer..despatched a soldier with me to the police office, that my passport might be viséed. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 84 Foreign vessels are bound to have their ship papers *visèd* by the..Consular Agents. 1890 *Nation* (N.Y.) 29 May 372/2 The information given to Intendente Viel, who visèed the cablegram.

transf. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 166 The same ages visé'd other poets who wrote worse, and better.

Viseire, obs form of Vizier.

† **Vi·sely**, *adv. Obs.*—[1] [Aphetic f. of *avisely* Advisedly *adv.*] Carefully, attentively, prudently.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 278 þat þe sotil amortasynge of seculer lordischipis þat is don bi menene bondis in fraude of þe kyngis statute be wisely enquyred.

† **Vi·sement.** *Obs.* In 5–6 **vyse-, vysment** (5 *Sc.* **viss-, wys-**). [Aphetic f. of *avisement* Advisement, or directly a. OF. *visement* (rare) f. *viser* Vise *v.*] Consideration, deliberation, reflection, thought.

?1414 *26 Pol. Poems* (1904) 58 Wiþ wit and vysement all amende. Lete werk be witnes 3e can 3oure Crede. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 170 þe ferst spanne muste he forthow3t in thynkyng of þi synnes be-forn, wyth a full vysement, to bringe hem to þi mynde. *c* 1500 *Debate Carpenters Tools* 25 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 80 Thou arte a fole in that case: For thou spekes without vysment. 1535 W. Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 353 And syne agane to him so said this king, Without lang vysment in so grit ane thing. *a* 1568 *Sir Gratious Ground* 85 in *Baumatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 242 With vertewous vysement counsall gude reasoun.

† **Vi·senage.** *Obs.*—[1] [Of obscure origin.] A term of abuse applied to a woman.

14.. *Beryn* 1012 'Go home, lewde visenage, þat evil must þowe the!' Quod Beryne to the damesell, & gan hir fray & feer.

Visenomy, obs. variant of Visnomy.

Viser, *v. rare.* [a. F. *viser*: see Visé *v.*] *trans.* = Visé *v.*

1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 105 At Tours, they refused..to viser our passports. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 3 July 5/1 The consulates are overwhelmed with applications to viser passports for people going abroad.

Viser(e, obs. forms of Visor *sb.*, Vizier.

† **Vi·sern**, *sb. Obs.* In 5 **vy-**, 5–6 **viserne**, 6 *Sc.* **vis(a)orne** (7 *Sc.* **viserne**). [Altered form of *viser* Visor *sb.*[1]] A visor or vizard. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxii, Then he auaylet vppe his viserne fro his ventalle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 A vyserne, *larva*. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 30 b, Thus the very bonne of God plucketh of the viserne from these varlets. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* IV. Wks. 1848 II. 406 For I see the pure flock in no less daunger nor it hes bene at ony time befoir, except that the Devill hes gottin a visserne upon his face.

Hence † **Vi·sern** *v.*, † **Vi·serned** *ppl. a.*, = Visor *v.*, Visored *ppl. a.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 To vyserne, *larvare*. *a* 1598 Rollock *Serm.* Ix. Wks. (1849) I. 406 All ar visorned folk: he cummis out, scho cummis out, all masked and disaguysed.

† **Visevase.** *Obs.*—[1] In 5 **vyseuase**. [a. obs. Du. and Flem. *vise-, viese-vase* (Kilian; W.Flem. *viesevese*) phantom; mod.Du. has *viesevaas, -waas* prank, trick, grimace.] A vain or empty matter.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* iv. (Arb) 8 Now maketh kywaert the hare a complaynt also, that thynketh me a vyseuase.

† **Visgee.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 *pl.* **vysgeis**. [app. ad. Sp. and Pg. *fisga* in the same sense.] (See quot. 1620 and Fizgig 4.)

1593 *Sir F. Drake Revived* (1628) 45 Such poore weapons as they had: viz. a broken pointed Rapier, one old Visgee and a rustie Caliuer: Iohn Drake took the Rapier, and.. Richard Allen the Visegee. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* 42 The Dolphins and Bonito's are taken with certaine instruments of Iron, which we call Vysgeis, in forme of an Eelespeare, but that the blades are round, and the poynts like vnto the head of a broad Arrow.

Vishnu (vi·ʃnʊ). Also 7 **Vistney**, 8 **Wistohnu**, 8–9 **Vishnoo, Vishnou**. [Skr. *Vishṇu*, prob. f. the root *vish*, and meaning 'all-pervader' or 'worker' (Monier-Williams).] One of the principal Hindu deities, holding the second place in the great triad, but by his worshippers identified with the supreme deity and regarded as the preserver of the world.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 42 Bremaw..has power to create all other creatures. Vistney has order given to preserve them. 1763 Orme *Hist. Mil. Transac. Indostan* I. 128 That identical image of the god Wistchnu, which used to be worshipped by the god Brahma. *c* 1790 Sir W. Jones *Hymn to Narayena* Wks. 1799 VI. 368 The evil beings, who are feigned to have sprung from the ears of Vishnu. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 526/1 Many of these enthusiasts will throw themselves in the way of the chariots of Vishnoo or Sheevah. *c* 1823 Mrs. Sherwood *Stories Ch. Catech.* x. 70 At the foot of this tree was a little stone figure of Vishnou (that is, one of this country's gods). 1877 J. E. Carpenter tr. *Weber's Hist. Relig.* 247 In the cultus of Krishna the worship of Vishnu reaches its climax.

Vishnuism (vi·ʃnʊ,ĭz'm). [f. prec. + -ism.] The worship of Vishnu.

1872 Alabaster *Wheel of Law* 290 Veneration of holy foot-prints is not a peculiarly Buddhist idea, but is also found in other religions, and particularly in Vishnuism. 1875 Sir W. W. Hunter in P. E. Roberts *Life* xiii. (1908) 238 Brahma-worship..is a strange mixture of Vishnuism, Sivaism, and something much older. 1888 *Athenæum* 23 June 759/1 Prof. Weber's theory that Christianity shaped to a certain extent Vishnuism.

Vishnuite (vi·ʃnʊ,əit). [f. as prec. + -ite.] A worshipper of Vishnu; an adherent of Vishnuism. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1872 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* II. 364 A Vishnuite who has inadvertently killed a monkey..may expiate his offence by a mock sacrifice. 1888 *Athenæum* 17 June 758/3 The great Çivaite and Vishnuite systems of more recent times.

Vishnuvite (vi·ʃnʊ,vəit). [f. as prec., with *v* from the Skr. adj. *vaishṇavá* belonging to Vishnu.] = prec.

The form *Vishnavite* has had some currency.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 185/1 The Vishnuvites are chiefly found in the northern districts [of the Madras Presidency]. 1896 *Mission. Herald* (Boston) Oct. 395 This evangelist.. saw a Vishnuvite mendicant approaching..singing a Christian hymn. *Ibid.*, He was singing them in place of his old Vishnuvite hymns.

Visibility (vizĭbi·lĭti). [ad. late L. *vīsibilitāt-, vīsibilitas* (Tertull.), f. L. *vīsibilis*: see next and -ity. So F. *visibilité* (OF. *visiblelté*), It. *visibilità*, Sp. *visibilidad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

1. The condition, state, or fact of being visible; visible character or quality; capacity of being seen (in general, or under special conditions).

a. Of the Church, a kingdom, etc.

1581 W. Fulke in *Confer.* II. (1584) H ij b, What visibilitie could there be in those daies..., when there was no face at all of an outward Church? *a* 1591 H. Smith *God's Arrow* (1593) L j, And consequently visibility (which the Papists make a marke of the Church) is no perpetuall marke thereof. 1629 Lynde *Via Tuta* Ep. Ded. 1 That the world may know, it is no difficult matter for a meane Lay-man to proone the ancient visibilitie of the Protestant profession. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* (1668) 53 He maintained the constant and perpetual visibility of the Church of Christ. 1667 Poole *Dial. betw. Protest. & Papist* 49 If Christ did indeed promise the perpetual visibility of his Church. 1699 Burnet *39 Art.* xix. 183 Another question may arise out of the first words of this Article, concerning the Visibility of this Church. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* iv. § 29. 325 The visibility of the Theocracy gradually grew fainter and fainter from the first establishment of a visible monarchy. 1866 J. G. Murphy *Comm., Exod.* xv. 18 The kingdom thus rising into visibility never again disappears from the earth.

b. Of things in general.

1614 Jackson *Creed* III. xxx. § 3 The actual visibility of colours wholly depends upon the light as well for existence as duration. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 74 Where there is not so much as a seeming or visibility, there is no evidence. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 407 The Sun gives to things not only their Visibility, but also their Generation. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Hist.* v. v. § 4 This gate had no doors, for it represented the universal visibility of heaven. 1772 H. Barnes *Pract. Cas. C. P.* (ed 2) 322 The Affidavits as to Defendant's Visibility were fully answered, and his total Absconding proved. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxv. 53 They considered the visibility of matter not a necessary consequence of its creation. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VII. 13 *note*, But the God of Theologians is incapable of local visibility. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* I. ii. 44 The visibility of the effect depends on the distance of the object from the object-glass. 1888 Proctor *Fam. Sci. Stud.* 35 The comet..attracted more attention when it had passed from view than..during the brief period of its visibility.

c. *spec.* The possibility of (a vessel, etc.) being seen under the conditions of distance, light, atmosphere, etc., existing at a particular time; hence conversely, the possibility of seeing, or the range of vision, under such conditions.

Cf. Harbord *Gloss. Navig.* (1863), s.v. *Weather notation.*

1914 tr. *Baudry's Naval Battle* 265 The radius of visibility must fix the maximum time allowable for final preparations. 1916 Sir J. Jellicoe *Disp.* 24 June, in *Battle of Jutland* 62 The visibility early on 1st June (three to four miles) was less than on 31st May.

2. With *a* and pl. A visible thing or object.

1668 Feltham *Resolves* II. (1.) xcii. 269 St. Paul grants, that they may know God, through the visibilities in his Workes. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 9 The beatitude of that part which earth and visibilities too weakly affect. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Worthy Communn.* i. § 1. 27 It cannot be natural flesh, however altered in circumstance and visibilities. 1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 162 Mind, by being modelled in Men's imaginations into a Shape, a Visibility. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* II. xvi, The Highest God dwells visible in that mystic unfathomable Visibility, which calls itself 'I' on the Earth.

† b. = Sight *sb.* 1 c. *Obs.*—[1]

1778 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1904) I. 624 Sir, I have seen all the visibilities of Paris, and around it.

† 3. Appearance, aspect, look. *Obs.*—[1]

1669 Bunyan *Holy Citie* 114 'And the City lieth four square'...Now both the City, Gates and Wall, were exactly in their Visibility according to the Word.

† 4. The faculty or power of seeing; the exercise of this; sight, vision. *Obs. rare.*

1626 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Visibilitie*, the abilitie or powre of seeing. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 120 Why they choose to live by custome and catalogue, or as S. Paul saith by sight and visibility, rather then by faith. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern and Vale Farm.* 42 The Fibers of Corn or Trees.., that in Clays and Loams have firm and holding Bottoms, and will lie two or three Years to visibility.

Visibilize, *v. rare*—[1]. [i. next + -IZE.] *refl.* To make visible.

1899 S. L. Wilson *Theol. Mod. Lit.* 243 Its spirit visibilised and exemplified itself in priests, rabbis, scribes.

Visible (vi·zĭb'l), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4 **visibil(e**, 4–6 **visyble**, 5–6 **vysyble**, 4– **visible** (5 **visibal**, **visebill**, 6 **viscible**, *Sc.* **vissabill**). [a. OF. *visible* (12th c.; F. *visible* = Sp. *visible*, Pg. *visivel*, It. *visibile*), or ad. L. *vīsibilis* f. *vīs-* ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Capable of being seen; that by its nature is an object of sight; perceptible by the sense of sight.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lx. 2 Bot I sall loue þe in all þi werkis, and tell all þi wondirs: þat is bath þat ere sen & þat ere noght sene, visibiles & invisibils. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 3 Multiply vengaunce agayns my foes visibils & invisibils. *c* 1382 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1911) 744 The sacrament of þe auteer which is whijt & round visible & palpable. 1426 Audelay *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 22 Use vertuys, and leve visibal vayne and vaneté. 1483 Caxton *Cato* C j b, One onely god..the whyche hath myght and preemynence upon

Sacrani. Pref. A ij b, He was neuer visyble to the mortall eye, and yet wyll they make him appere at euerie knaues requeste that wyl..payse theyr..shote. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lviii. § 1 It was of necessitie that words..should be added vnto visible elements. 1602 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. ii, A humane soule made visible in life. 1651 Hobbes *Levia.* h. i. x. 46 Put some eminent and visible mark upon the Crest of their Helmets. 1667 Milton *P. L.* i. 62 Yet from those flames No light, but rather darkness visible Serv'd only to discover sights of woe. *a* 1721 Price *Ess. Opinion* P 8 All Visible and Audible objects are properly within their Connoissance. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* vi. § 8 The mathematical consideration of visible figure, which we shall call the geometry of visibles. 1803 Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 1 Some sorts of matter are visible, or capable of being seen. 1851 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. iv. x (1876) 124 The visible world presents a different aspect to each individual man. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 46 The sun's invisible rays far transcend the visible ones in heating power.

transf. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* i. ix. 36 Painters who are the visible representers of things..are not inculpable herein.

b. Of actions, processes, etc.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 221 Of baptisme, which they saye is a visible and an outward sygne. 1615 T. Adams *Two Sonnes* 69 Onely service hath neither ease nor concealment allotted to it, because it consists in a visible action. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 214 [It] denoteth such accidents as are visible in this World. 1664 Jer. Taylor *Dissuas. Popery* i. 5 This method is the best, the most certain, visible and tangible. 1782 J. Brown *View Nat. & Rev. Relig* IV. iii. 362 The Holy Ghost in a visible manner descended upon him at baptism. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* iii. § 114. 127 The conversion of visible energy into heat.

c. Of associations, organizations, etc., *spec.* of the Church (see Church *sb.* 4 c).

1590 R. Alison (*title*), A Plaine Confutation of a Treatise of Brownisme,..entitled, a Description of the Visible Church. 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* i. 109 For Visibility, it is granted that ordinarily the Church is visible, i.e. that there is a visible company of such as professe the truth. 1691 G. Keith (*title*), The Presbyterian and Independent Visible Churches in New England. 1739 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 217 It pleased God to unite Christians in communities or visible churches. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* iv. § 99. 315 The first establishment of a visible monarchy. 1839 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* iv. (1847) 35 The Christian Church was intended to be a visible Society. 1879 A. W. Haddan *Apost. Succession Ch. Eng.* iv. 97 That the Church to which Christians are 'to be added' was a visible organized body upon earth.

d. *Visible speech*, the distinctive name of a system of phonetic notation devised by A. Melville Bell, consisting of characters or symbols intended to represent the actual position of the vocal organs in the production of speech-sounds; also *attrib.*

1865 A. Melville Bell (*title*), Visible Speech: a new fact demonstrated. 1883 *Science* I. 474/1 An important immediate use might be made of a few of the Visible-speech symbols. 1883 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 370/2 Each letter of the Visible Speech Alphabet..is a picture of the vocal organs placed in the proper position for producing the sound indicated.

† **e.** Similar or comparable in appearance *to* something. *Obs.*—[4]

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 890 Eke of her eyen þe lokys moste horible To a furneis the stremys wer visyble.

2. That may be mentally perceived or observed; clearly or readily evident or perceptible; apparent, manifest, obvious.

In earlier use sometimes passing into the sense 'very great, eminent, etc.'

a 1613 Sir T. Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 93 His courting language, visible bawdy jests. 1672 Baxter *Bagshaw's Scand.* ii. 16 His next subject..is one of the visiblest lyes that ever I saw written by a man. 1676 D'Urfey *Mme. Fickle* iv. ii, 'Tis above the common rate of wonders, and doubtless portends some visible Calamity that threatens the Nation. 1720 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 597 The majority being so visible, as at least two to one, they declined insisting thereon. 1764 Harmer *Observ.* i. § 15. 38 There is a visible opposition betwixt this account..and those words of our Lord [etc.]. 1776 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 391 Whatever charms may appear in..the human figure, there is no visible reason why it's physical effect should exert an influence over animals. 1835 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 445 *note*, A visible decrease in the offences which had been previously committed. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 313 Pneumonia..may.. arise without any visible cause.

† **b.** In the phr. *it is visible* followed by clause.

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 38, I say, That in case such a Place full of ill Earth, were too low,.. it is visible that half the Expence would be sav'd. 1712 Swift *Rem. Barrier Treaty* 9 To which if we add the many Towns since taken, [etc.]..; it is visible what Forces the State may be able to keep. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 32 P 8 It is visible that great Numbers of them have of late eloped from their Allegiance. 1752 R. Paltock *P. Wilkins* xix. (1883) 56/1 So that it was visible he could never fly.

c. Of means, or revenue.

1779 *Mirror* No. 45 P 7 But all these things a man of fashion can do, without possessing any visible revenue whatever. 1824 *Act* 5 *Geo. IV*, c. 83 § 24 Every Person wandering abroad..not having any visible Means of Subsistence.. shall be deemed a Rogue and Vagabond. 1895 S. R. Hole *Tour America* xv. 210 He ought to have been apprehended as a vagrant having no visible means of support.

3. That can be seen under certain conditions, at a certain time, or by a particular person; in sight; open or exposed to sight or view.

Visible horizon: see Horizon 1.

1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 321 On this Mount he appeerd, under this Tree Stood visible. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm. Jer. II.* 15 Wks. 1686 II. 92 As for example, what would an eye

our Sight. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 55. 353 This elevated Machine was visible to all the People. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 232 Philosophic tube, That brings the planets home into the eye Of observation, and discovers, else Not visible, his family of worlds. 1822–16 Playfair *Nat. Phil.* (1819) II. 281 The disturbance of Jupiter might have so altered its original orbit, as to render the Comet for a time visible from the Earth. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 21 The whole glacier was visible to us from its origin to its end. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 330 When a star is so situated that it is just visible on the eastern horizon.

b. *Comm.* Of stocks or supply: Actually in hand or to be seen.

1882 *Times* 22 Feb., If the statistics relating to the visible supply of grain are to be trusted. 1891 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 2/3 Messrs. .. report deliveries of copper in England and France last month as 2,095 tons in excess of the supplies, and 'visible' stocks are reduced accordingly.

4. Of persons: Capable of being seen or visited; accessible to others; now *esp.*, disposed or prepared to be seen or visited, 'at home' to visitors. (Cf. F. *visible*.)

1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 224 Spreading from that House to other Houses, by the visible unwary conversing with those who were sick. 1772 H. Harnes *Pract. Cas. C. P.* (ed. 2) 322 Objected, on the Part of Defendant, That he was a publick visible Man, and Plaintiff had not endeavoured to arrest him. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* II. i, A foreign signor is with him—but to you he is of course visible. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvii, Jos wasn't up yet; Becky not visible (though she looked at them through the blinds). 1889 F. M. Crawford *Sant' Ilario* ix, He inquired if he could see the princess. The porter replied that she was not visible, and that the prince had gone out.

b. Of a way of life: Free from any concealment or mystery.

1888 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, He has been pretty steady in his attendance at the Bourse, and done well in a quiet way, but his life has been visible and regular.

5. *Visible direction*, in *Optics*, the apparent direction in which an object is seen.

1829 *Nat. Philos., Optics* 42/2 (U.K.S.) These perpendiculars must all pass through one point, which may be called the centre of visible direction.

B. *sb.* **1.** A visible thing or entity. Chiefly in pl.

1614 Jackson *Creed* III. xxvii. § 5 Our bodily sight, which sees diuers visibles all immediately, not one after, or by another. 1650 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 77 For it is alike easie to see visibles without eyes, as to see invisibles with eyes. *a* 1674 Traherne *Post. Wks.* (1903) 18 All that in visibles is good Or pure, or fair, or unaccurst. 1721 R. Keith tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* xii. 200 When thou..beholdest the visibles of this whole Creation. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. 248 That the most charming woman on earth..can excel the meanest in the customary visibles only. 1871 W. H. Gillespie *Argt. Being & Attrib. Absolute One* III. § 2 (ed. 5) 54 Narrow is their horizon: within it, themselves the only visibles. 1872 *Ibid.* (ed. 6) 188 The things which are seen, were not made of phenomenal visibles. 1895 Zangwill *Master* III. i. 277 The flux of centuries, the visibles of Art, the invisibles of Religion.

2. *The visible*, that which is visible, esp. the visible world.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* vi. 246 The visible and present are for brutes, A slender portion! and a narrow bound! 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 102 In his operations in the material universe, God has seen fit..to make known to us the invisible by the visible. 1881 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 1159 The last chain-link By which he had drawn from Nature's visible The fresh well-water.

Visibleness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being visible; visibility.

1581 W. Fulke in *Confer.* 11. (1584) I ij, There was a time when visibleness was no note of the Church. 1609 A. Wotton *Answ. Pop. Articles* 14 We easily grant a perpetuall continuance of the church, though we denie a necessity of visibleneese. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 66 Also visibleneese, touchableneese, which are inseparable. 1727 Bailey (vol. II). 1849 Manning *Serm.* (1848) I. xiv. 195 We have yet to regain the visibleness and consciousness of unity. *Ibid.* xxvi. 392 There is an inwardness and a retirement about it [*i.e.* the Church] even in its visibleness. 1890 *Spectator* 11 Jan. 45/2 The owners feel..as if the visibleness of their wealth constituted a danger.

Visibly (vi·zĭb'li), *adv.* Forms: 4–5 **visibely**, 5 **visibilly**, 5–6 **vysybly**, 6 **visybly**, 5– **visibly** (7 **visiblie**); also 5 **visablelyche**. [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In a visible manner († or form); so as to be visible to the eye or sight.

Passing insensibly into next.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 522 þat same body and blood invisibily, and not þe same visibely. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 79 þai growe ilk a 3ere visibilly, so þat þe amale waxes grete. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2141 As þus visablelyche to hurre modur he dude aper. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* xii, The goddesse Venus vysybly shewed her self to me. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 124 b, Somtyme as it were an aungell of lyght, somtyme visybly, somtyme fantastically. 1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* II vii. 4 The Table wherein all my thoughts are visibly Character'd and engrau'd. 1618 W. Colson *Gen. Treasury* Advt. A iij b, The other faults escaped in printing, or figures not visibly printed are..corrected with the pen. 1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Obs. & Trav. fr. Lond. to Hamburgh* Wks. (1630) III. 87/2 If it were possible that the hand of mortall men..could visibly set forth the magnificent glory of the immortal Creator. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. vii. Wks. 1874 I. 145 A moral scheme of government then is visibly established. 1782 Cowper *Truth* 390 Solyma's interior shrine, Where .. Dwelt visibly the light-creating God. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* xii. xxxiii. 6 Down that mighty stream..The boat fled visibly—three nights and days. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* vi, The mouth visibly arranged itself into a smile of inexpressible sweetness. 1837 W. K. Loftus *Trav. Chaldæa & Susiana* 270 Traces of which were still visibly adhering to many of the tablets.

2. So as to be clearly evident, manifest, or perceptible; to an extent which can be (readily) seen or observed; evidently, plainly; manifestly, obviously.

1531 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 81. 337 God hath oft visibly shewed himselfe by extraordinary meanes to fight for his. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 9 The Envy..was visibly the cause of the Murther. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. iii. 17 God, having..made the Practice thereof..visibly beneficial to all, with whom the vertuous Man has to do. 1713 Berkeley *Hylas & Phil.* I. Wks 1871 I. 282 It being too visibly absurd to hold that pain or pleasure can be in an unperceiving Substance. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 278, I saw my Deliverance indeed visibly put into my Hands. 1839 James *Louis XIV*, III. 308 A war which had been visibly overhanging them for more than two years. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (I. 58) I. v. 400 The cardinals were visibly afraid of the position which had been taken by the French king. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* iv, Lambert was visibly relieved, and his daughter reflected her father's mood.

† **3.** By actual sight. *Obs.*—[1]

1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 314 He cast anchor at Saint Sebastian, beginning visiblie to finde, that the Hand was no lesse fortified then had beene described vnto them.

Visie, var. Vizy *Sc.* **Visier**, var. Vizier.

† **Visiere.** *Obs.*—[1] In 5 **vysiere**. [a. OF. *visiere*: see Visor *sb.*[1]] A visor or vizard.

1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 226 Tofore the Sarasyns that were on horsback they had ordeyned men on fote whyche had vysieres counterfeyted all black & rede.

Visigoth (vi·zig ɒ) [ad. late L. *Visigoth-us*, usually in pl. *Visigothi* (late Gr. Οὐισίγοτθοι); the contrast with *Ostrogothi* (Ostrogoth) has suggested that the first element is to be taken as meaning 'West'.]

1. A member of that branch of the Gothic race which entered Roman territory towards the end of the fourth century and subsequently established a kingdom in Spain, overthrown by the Moors in 711–2; a West-Goth. Chiefly in *pl.*

1647 Cotterell *Davila's Hist France* I. I. 4 The famous incursions of..the Visigoths,..and the Longbeards. 1763 Smollett *Trav.* x, This amphitheatre [at Nismes] was fortified as a citadel by the Visigoths. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3 349/2 The Romans distinguished the Goths into two classes, the Ostrogoths and Visigoths...The Visigoths settled in Spain in the time of the Emperor Honorius. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 106 The West Goths (Visigoths)..were followed across the Alps in 405 by a new army of the same nation. 1867 E. F. Bowden tr. *Fathers Desert* 258 Julian was by birth a Visigoth, and had fallen into slavery through the fortune of war. 1889 J. B. Bury *Hist. Later Rom. Emp.* II. i. I. 64 The event which at length brought him into contact with Stilicho was the rising of the Visigoths.

2. *transf.* An uncivilized or barbarous person. Cf. Goth 2.

1749 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 307 He..had entirely forgot what Visigoths his countrymen are. 1764 Foote *Patron* II. 47 *Sir Thomas.* She [a careless housemaid] merits impaling. Oh, the Hun! *Dactyl.* The Vandal! *All.* The Visigoth.

Visigothic (vizigɒ·thik). [f. prec. + -IC.] Of or belonging to the Visigoths.

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 496/1 With regard to the alphabets derived from the Latin, the Lombardic relates to the manuscripts of Italy; the Visigothic to those of Spain. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 278 Especially as regards the Visigothic and Burgundian partitions. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* ix, He was an exceedingly tall and graceful

personage, of that *sangre azul* which marked high Visigothic descent. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 685/2 The money of the Iberian Peninsula begins with the Visigothic series, which consists of gold pieces.

Visinage, obs. form of VICINAGE.

Vision (vi·ʒən), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **visioun**, 4 **-iun**, **-ioune**, **-oun**, **vysyoun**, 5 **vysyoune**, 5–6 *Sc.* **visioun**; 4–5 **vysione**, **vysyon**, 5 **vysyon**, 5–6 **vysion**; 4– **vision** (5 **uision**, **visionne**), 4–6 **visyon** (6 *Sc.* **vesyne**). [a. AF. *visiun*, *visioun*, OF. *vision* (= Sp. *vision*, It. *visione*), or ad. L. *visiōn-*, *visio* sight, seeing, thing seen, f. *vīs-*, ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see.]

1. Something which is apparently seen otherwise than by ordinary sight; *esp.* an appearance of a prophetic or mystical character, or having the nature of a revelation, supernaturally presented to the mind either in sleep or in an abnormal state. *Beatific vision*: see BEATIFIC *a.* b.

In early texts *a vision* cannot always be clearly separated from *avision*.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 52 Seint Edward cam al-so anizht ase in a visioun To an holi man þat þere was neiz. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4454 Als bai lai in þat prisun, A-naght þam mete a visiun. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 65 Who so lokes his life, & redis his vision, What vengeance ordeyned was on Inglond to be don. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4369 Þis was þat Iohan saw in a vision Of hym þat semed þe virgyn son. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 213 þat 3ere byfel þe secounde si3t and visioun of Daniel, of þe aungel þat delyuerede þe children out of þe ouene. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 98 This prophete..Be a visioune so hevenly and divyne, Toke a chalice. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 17 When he had told þe kyng of þys vysion, þe kyng made preche hit ouer all þe reme. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 The seruaunt of god Moyses had moost hye reuelacyons & visyons. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 65 Secrete teachers that fayned themselves to haue visions, and to haue talke with God. 1584 LYLY *Sappho* IV. iii. 56, I haue had many phantastical visions, for euen now slumbring by your beddes side, mee thought I wasshadowed with a clowd. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 227 But behold an accident, which I rather thought at the first to haue bene a vision, then (as I found it) reall. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannick Love* I. i, *Char.* What did the Vision shew? *Placid.*..A Town besieg'd; and on the neighb'ring Plain Lay heaps of visionary Souldiers slain. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 159 P 8, I then turned again to the Vision which I had been so long contemplating. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 107 Visions of glory, spare my aching sight. 1808 LEYDEN *Mermaid* XXVI, Like one that from a fearful dream Awakes,..Yet fears to find the vision true. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Dream Fugue* Wks. 1877 XIII. 319 On the ocean, the unknown lady from the dreadful vision, and I myself are floating. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 80 In the vision, God is understood to have represented things to come, as a picture to the prophet's mind.

b. Without article. (Cf. AVISION 2.)

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 3809 Als he lay opon a nyght In a dreme, than thoght him right That he was warned in visiowne [etc.]. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* LXXXVIII. 19 When þou sayd þat, þou spak in visyon, þat is, in pryue reuelacioun til prophetis. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1621 To vndyrstand..the mater of Morpheus hys shewyng As he hath the ledde aboute in vysyon. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 298 3it of new tressone I can tell the tallis, That cumis on nycht in visioun in my sleip. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 256 Just Simeon and Prophetic Anna, warn'd By Vision, found thee in the Temple. 1783 POPE *Let. to Mrs. Cowper* 26 Sept., Wks. 1769 IX. 431, I could wish you tried something in the descriptive way on any subject you please, mixed with vision and moral. 1732 WATERLAND *Script. Vind.* III. 52 Upon the Foot of this Construction, it is supposed, that Isaiah in prophetic Dream or Vision, heard God speaking to him. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xix, Nor do I [illegible] salem from Mount Olivet.'

c. A mental concept of a distinct or vivid kind; an object of mental contemplation, esp. of an attractive or fantastic character; a highly imaginative scheme or anticipation.

1592 TIMME *Tan Eng. Lepers* E iv, In the sayde hypocriticall Pharisei then, we see a certaine phantasticall vision, shewing that in forme which it hath not in trueth. 1668 TEMPLE *Wks.* (1720) II. 60, I wish some of his Visions may not give it another Face than what it ought..to receive from the true present State of the Spanish Affairs. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 431 Upon the ship's tall side he stands, possess'd With visions prompted by intense desire. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* III. 5 And, in the visions of romantic youth, What years of endless bliss are yet to flow. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 332/2 Visions of success floated before me all day. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 212 The Dutch were not excited by those visions of American gold and silver which had inflamed the imagination of the Spaniards. 1876 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) II. 314 The splendid visions which his fancy shaped had taken possession of his mind.

d. A person seen in a dream or trance.

1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xvii. 4 Sadde visions appeared vnto them with heauie countenances. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 367 The vision bright, As with a smile more brightn'd, thus repli'd. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 139 A more than mortal sound Invades his ears; and thus the vision spoke. 1707 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 105 Ali..failed not to ask the vision how he should obtain his promised assistance in the like cases of difficulty. 1827 SCOTT *Harold* VI. xi, And thou, for so the Vision said, Must in thy Lord's repentance aid.

e. *transf.* A person, scene, etc., of unusual beauty. (Cf. DREAM *sb.*[2] 3 b.)

1820 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xii, Dost thou think it makes thee fit to be the husband of that beautiful vision? 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 2/1 The big dining room is..a vision of walnut and mahogany. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 29 June 8/3 One girl was a remarkable vision in a creamy white cloth Empire coat.

2. The action or fact of seeing or contemplating something not actually present to the eye; mystical or supernatural insight or foresight.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* iii. 1 In tho dais was noon opyn visioun. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2518 þe same nyzt þat seynt Dunstone to Salesbury come, He saw by vysione alle þat he saw here, & myche more. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* Div a, The seconde kynde of vysion is callid Spyrytual vysion or Imagynatyf. *Ibid.* Div b, In ye thirde vision yt is callid Intellectual. 1580 BIBLE (Genev.) *Isaiah* XXVIII. 7 Thei faile in vision: thei stomble in iudgement. 1594 HOOKER *Eccles. Pol.* I. xi. 82 The first .. beginning here with a weake apprehension of things not sene, endeth with the intuitiue vision of God in the world to come. 1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. xxiii. 567 It may be, that what the laborer reported, had happened vnto him by imaginary vision. 1657 J. WATT *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 153 Ministers..neither have vision to foretell, nor power to confer, blessing. 1676 DRYDEN *Aureng-zebe* I. i, If Love be Vision, mine has all the Fire Which in first Dreams, young Prophets does inspire. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Th. on Var. Subj.* Wks. 1745 VIII. 273 Vision is the art of seeing things invisible. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Trav. Humboldt* I. 18 That truths faithfully extracted from the book of nature are alone calculated to enlarge the sphere of mental vision. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* iii. 97 It needed, let us say, the divine vision of a Peter, and the inspired eloquence of a Paul, to burst the intolerable yoke. 1899 W. R. INGE *Chr. Mysticism* I. 14 Ecstasy or vision begins when thought ceases, to our consciousness, to proceed from ourselves.

3. The action of seeing with the bodily eye; the exercise of the ordinary faculty of sight, or the faculty itself. Also *transf.* (quot. 1854).

c 1492 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* Div a, The fyrst is callyd a corporal vision be cause it is seen outwarde bi bodely eye wittes. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 20/2 Because that our felicitie is fulfilled in the vision and fruicion of the humanitie of Christ. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXIII, For it [*sc.* my eye] no forme deliuers to the heart..Nor his owne vision houlds what it doth catch. 1644 HAMMOND *Pract. Catech.* I. iii. (1646) 14 *Faith* here is turned into *Vision* there. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 71 A means whereby he might be restored..to blessedness and the vision of his Creator. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 201 Vision in itself is the having or perceiving an idea representatively material in consequence of a certain impression made by light upon that expansion of the optick nerve which is at the bottom of the eye. 1728 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. xii. § 25 Whether he ever considered the manner how Vision is performed. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 58 The Distance of the Eye and the Thickness of the Lines should, by previous Trial, be suited to distinct Vision. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* iii. 48 Even the vision of natural objects presents to us insurmountable difficulties. 1854 — *More Worlds* xi. 180 The globular nebulæ of Sir W. Herschel have disappeared as globes under the sharp vision of Lord Rosse's telescope. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* iii. 31 To understand anything of the physiology of vision, it is necessary to have a general idea of the way in which images of objects are formed by refracting surfaces.

b. An instance of seeing; a look.

1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 11 With the blind the case is different;..their visions of the surfaces of all things are visions of touch. *a* 1861 T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, Tolling Bell* ix, Our visions met, when pityingly she flung Her passionate arms about me.

†4. A visage or vizard. *Obs. rare.*

In both instances perh. a misprint for *visor*.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Excess of Apparel* Ggg iiij b, As thoughe a wyse, and a christian husband, should delyte to see his wife in such paynted, and florished visions [1623 visages], which common harlots mostly do vse. *a* 1701 SEDLEY *Tyrant of Crete* V. ii, Methinks, till this day the times had Likewise a vision on, and look'd not with A true face before.

5. A thing actually seen; an object of sight.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 270 Ha' not you seene Camillo? (But that's past doubt: you haue,..For to a Vision so apparant, Rumor Cannot be mute.)

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vision-field*, *machinery*, *-monger*; *vision-haunted*, *-seeing*, *-struck* adjs.

1708 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) I. 50 Whether the matter of Apparition be true or false, the Symptoms are the same.. in the Person who is Vision-struck. 1728 *Entertainer* Ded. A iij, The Atheist and the Infidel..are reinforc'd by the Quaker, the Vision-monger and the Seeker. *c* 1803 MRS. HEMANS *Valkyriur Song*, The Sea-king woke from the troubled sleep Of a vision-haunted night. 1887 PUSEY *Let.* in Liddon *Life* (1893) I. vi. 231 A half-distracted, visionary and vision-seeing mystic. 1880 *Academy* 3 July 7 Vision-field contraction is illustrated by the case of a patient [etc.]. 1895 A. NUTT *Voy. Bran* I. x. 250 Early Christian literature likewise supplies similar descriptions without employing the Vision machinery.

Vision (vi·ʒən), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To show as in a vision; to display to the eye or mind. Also with *out*.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 129 Euen as the age of goates is knowen by the knots on their hornes, so think the anger of God apparently visioned or showne vnto thee in the knitting of my browes. 1820 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* III. 254 Should I return and behold the tomb you have affectingly visioned. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *She* 192 Mankind asks ever of the skies to vision out what lies behind them.

b. To call *up* a vision of.

1902 *Academy* 25 Jan. 100/1 Those eyes, that hair, vision up Spanish princes.

2. To see as in a vision; to bring before the eye of the mind. Also with *forth*.

1798 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 135 We in the morning eyed the pleasant fields Vision'd before. 1828 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. I. 63, I too am his brother, though his face Was only vision'd sweetly in my soul. 1896 KUS *Med. Paint.* III. IV. iv. § 5 That we may be able to vision forth the ministry of angels beside us. 1898 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* XXXIII, Gentlemen of an unpractised imaginative capacity cannot vision for themselves exactly what they would.

3. *intr.* To take a view; to look.

1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 6 Up that midway We vision for new ground.

Visional (vi·ʒənăl), *a.* [f. VISION *sb.* + -AL.]

1. Connected or concerned with, relating to, based upon, a vision or visions.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 35 Is not true and pure dialatike according to the diuision of the learned, and reuerant autors, either Expositiue, and Interpretatiue; or else Visionall, and Prophetical? 1644 JESSE *Angel of Eph.* 8 In visionall speeches Daniel..saith to Nebuchadnezzar [etc.]. 1668 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 574 That this Psalm was composed upon the visional deliberation of the defeat of that army. 1732 WATERLAND *Script. Vind.* III. 53 And therefore this visional Interpretation appears to be preferable to the other. *Ibid.* 78 So much in Favour of the visional Construction. 1908 J. ORR *Resurrect. Jesus* viii. 214 May it not at least be possible to show that the appearance of Jesus can be explained..either by subjective hallucinations, which is the older form of the visional theory, or [etc.]?

2. Of the nature of, seen or occurring in, forming part of, a vision; visionary, unreal.

1647 R. H. *Trial & Exam. Serm. by Hazlewood* 9 There was no materiall house at all, nor any gate; unless he will make the visionall ladder the gate or house. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxii. 376 The teaching of God, and our hearing and leaving of him, is not to be understood of any extraordinary visional appearances. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 295 A real and corporal combat not visional or imaginary. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 11. 1/1 We [illegible] suppose, that Visional Representations wou'd be exhibited to us under the Notion of Realities. *a* 1767 BOSTON *Serm.* (1850) 41 What sort of wrestling was it? and how could worm Jacob prevail over an uncreated angel? Some make it visional, and in a dream. 1897 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) II. 70 The interpreting angel..does not superfluously enter into any description of the visional conflict beheld by Daniel. 1858 H. BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* ii. (1864) 41 Some apparition or visional wonder.

3. Pertaining to sight; visual. *rare*[—1].

1790 *Bystander* 201 With an ardent brand Ulysses deprived him of his only visional organ.

Hence **Vi·sionally** *adv.*, as or in a vision.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* xi. 14 The second woe is past: Visionally past, not eventually. *a* 1679 POOLE *Annot., Ezek.* XXXVII. 1 The Spirit of God carrying him visionally not corporally. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 11. 1/1 We esteem the whole as Really, and not Visionally perform'd. 1847 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* (1857) 169 The reason why the drama of creation has been optically described seems to be, that it was in reality visionally revealed.

Vi·sionarily, *adv. rare*[—1]. [f. as next.] In a vision; visionally.

1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* III. vi. 37 Nay how impossible is it, to make that expression..to agree to an imaginary Temptation, except we also say, that we are only tempted visionarilly and not really.

Vi·sionariness. [f. next + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being visionary in respect of mind or views.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (ed. 3) III. 72 Visionariness seems the tendency of the Germans..fanaticism of the French. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 104 The conceptive faculty delights at times in half-formed and hazy visionariness. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Style* Wks. 1859 XI. 256 Books..labouring with the same two opposite defects..dulness from absolute monotony, and visionariness from the aërial texture of the speculations. 1880 PATER *Coleridge* Wks. 1901 V. 83 A kind of languid visionariness, deep-seated in the very constitution of the 'narcotist'.

2. The quality of being visionary in respect of reality, fulfilment, or practical value.

1827 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform.* Introd. 317 Annuality—with all its wildness and visionariness..would be far less intolerable. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 98 He..wrote instantly,..against the new alarmist, pledging his own head upon the visionariness of his alarms. 1876 MORLEY *Univ. Serm.* I. 16 This project of a Universal Empire..may..justly be charged with utter visionariness.

Visionary (vi·ʒənări), *a.* and *sb.* [f. VISION *sb.* + -ARY. Cf. F. *visionnaire*, It., Sp., Pg. *visionario*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Able or accustomed to see visions; capable of receiving impressions, or obtaining knowledge, by means of visions.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. XXXVI. 231 Such quarrells amongst the Visionary Prophets. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* III. 576 Thus, many not succeeding, most upbraid The madness of the visionary maid. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 79 So visionary brains ascend the sky, While on the ground entranc'd the wretches lie. 1771 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. XXIX, See, in the rear of the warm sunny shower The visionary boy from shelter fly. 1790 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 161 What spells entrance my visionary mind. 1819 SCOTT *Harold* V. XVII, O, think upon the words of fear Spoke by that visionary Seer. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 383 And as she grew up, she became a strange, solitary, visionary child, to whom a unseen world had revealed itself. 1883 F. GALTON *Hum. Faculty* (1910) 125 A large natural gift of the visionary faculty might become characteristic..of certain families.

b. Given to fanciful and unpractical views; having little regard to what is actual or possible; speculative, dreamy.

1727 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. I. 283 Supplying our wants, faster than the most visionary projector can adjust his schemes. 1790 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1842 I. 124 If a man happens not to succeed in such an enquiry,

be will be thought weak and visionary. 1786–7 Ronneycastle *Astræa*. I. 17 We laugh at the absurdities of a visionary pretender. 1827 W. Brougham in *Parl. Deb.* 298 Mr. Spence, the visionary author of the new system, lived 20 years ago. 1827 Lytton *Falkland* I. 13, I grew by degrees of a more thoughtful and visionary nature. 1922 W. L. Mathieson *Politics & Relig. Scot.* I. iii. 100 Knox was no visionary enthusiast.

2. Of the nature of a vision; presented or apprehended in a vision. Cf. Visional 2.

1648 Boyle *Seraph. Love* xvi. (1700) 103 The sole Hymn (except a Visionary one) I find recorded of the Celestial Quire, was sung for a Blessing to Mankind. 1661 Dryden

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they say, is the Mountain into which the Devil took our Blessed Saviour, when he tempted him with that visionary scene of all the Kingdoms and Glories of the World. 1720 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* I. viii. 161 These Divine Illapses of Revelation, which become Visionary in our Sleep. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 400 There, like the visionary emblem seen By him of Babylon, life stands a stump. 1838 Mrs. Browning *Seraphim* I. 105 One of those Whom the loving Father chose, In visionary pomp to sweep O'er Judæa's grassy places.

b. Seen only in a vision; unreal, non-existent, phantom, spectral.

1697 Dryden *Æneid* II. 365, I wept to see the visionary man, And, while my trance continued, thus began. 1700 — *Theod. & Hon.* 280 The hounds at nearer distance hoarsely bayed; The Hunter close pursu'd the visionary Maid. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* x. 633 Sudden shall skim along the dusky glades Thin airy shoals, and visionary shades. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 619 The visionary fabric melted into air. 1820 Lamb *Elia* I. *South-sea House*, The shade of some dead accountant, with visionary pen in ear, would flit by me, stiff as in life. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiv, There was not a corner or nook.. where those fairy footsteps had not glided, and that visionary golden head..fleeted along. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. viii, By what visionary hands she was led along upon that journey to escape from the Samaritan.

c. Connected with, or pertaining to, visions.

1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 556 Here frequent, at the visionary hour, When musing midnight reigns, or silent noon, Angelic harps are in full concert heard. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 313 Having intimidated themselves apart from the rest, with visionary notions. 1828 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxxi, Meanwhile, this mysterious visionary traffic had its usual effect, in unsettling Miss Ashton's mind.

d. Disturbed by visions.

1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 49 When from a visionary short repose, That nursed new cares and temper'd keener woes, Columbus woke.

3. Existing in imagination only; imaginary; not actual or real.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 846 Vanish'd are all the visionary joys. 1748 J. Mason *Self Knowl.* I. xiv. (1853) 105 Suffer not your Thoughts..to give you a visionary Pleasure in the Prospect of what you have not the least Reason to hope. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 308 So deep a hold had this.. visionary delight taken on Emily, that the days hung heavily with her. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 364 With the consolidation of the supremacy, the apprehension of its visionary evils recurred. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 11 The danger which seemed so terrible to many honest friends of liberty he did not venture to pronounce altogether visionary. 1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* I, The power of the penniless twins was a shadowy and visionary thing.

b. Of schemes, plans, etc.: Incapable of being carried out or realized; purely ideal or speculative; fantastic, unpractical.

1727 Swift *Modest Proposal* Wks. 1755 II. II. 67 Vain, idle, visionary thoughts. 1752 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 73 A miserable example of an ill-spent life, fantastic wit, visionary schemes, and female weakness. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* V. (1778) II. 130 The crews of three of his ships..insisted on relinquishing the visionary project of a desperate adventurer. 1815 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. I. 77 Those [opinions] of the ancients appear to be either visionary or erroneous. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xlvi, These were wild and visionary notions, and with little chance of ever arriving at any successful issue. 1855 Brewster *Newton* I. xi. 205 Kepler abandoned for a while his visionary speculations. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Oct. 5/5 The quiet of the land is being disturbed to suit the visionary theories of well-meaning but unpractical men.

c. Characterised by fantasy or imagination without corresponding reality.

1777 J. Richardson *Dissert. East. Nations* 3 On this visionary field, learned and pious men have disputed with much want of temper. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxx, Emily sought to lose the sense of her own cares, in the visionary scenes of the poet. 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* VII. lvi. 141 Lycurgus..had not learnt..to withdraw from active life into a visionary world. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 228 If Louis Napoleon was going to be content with a visionary life (etc.). 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. v. 294 [He] sought refuge from the hard facts of commonplace life by retiring into a visionary world.

4. Pertaining to (physical or mental) vision.

1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* IV. 211 It may be allowed me to remember What visionary powers of eye and soul In youth were mine.

B. *sb.* 1. One who has visions; one to whom unknown or future things are revealed in visions.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Visionary*, one that is subject to Dreams, silly Notions and extravagant Fancies; a fantastical Pretender to Visions and Revelations. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 56 P 3 One of their Countrymen descended in a Vision to the great Repository of Souls..The Visionary..arrived at length on the Confines of this World of Spirits. 1778 T. Hartley *Pref. Swedenborg's 'Heaven & Hell'* p. xi, Of such honourable repute was the name Seer, or visionary, in those times. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* I. 6 It [the ghost] is almost in vain to argue with the visionary against the reality of his dream. 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 253 On one side kneels the visionary, with features wan and worn. 1870 Baldw. Brown *Eccl. Truth* 282 Forms of perfect beauty and purity, of which the keenest visionary has had but feeble dreams.

2. One who indulges in fantastic ideas or schemes; an unpractical speculator or enthusiast.

1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* i. (1726) 28 This science has its visionaries as well as all others. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. p. xii, We must therefore respect the Man, even while we smile at the Visionary. 1834 Ht. Martineau *Demerara* x. 122 He had laid his accounts for being treated as a visionary, and for his own plans being laughed at as absurd. 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* xlv. 140 The agriculturist..will not be deemed a visionary, because he calculates on the coming harvest with certainty. 1880 Howells *Undisc. Country* V, He's a visionary, but he's a good man.

Visioned (vi·ʒənd), *ppl. a.* [f. Vision *sb.* or *v.*]

1. Seen in a vision.

1510 Clerville (*title*), The Copye of the letter folowynge whiche specifyeth of ye greatest and meruelous visyoned batayle that euer was sene.

1803 Scott *Cadyow Castle* xxix, Whose cheek is pale, whose eyeballs glare, As one some vision'd sight that saw. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* I. 19 Till vision'd ages, opening on his eyes, Cheer'd his sad soul. 1838 Chalmers *Introd. Ess. Chr. Def. agst. Infidelity* Wks. 1849 XIII. 298 The battles of the faith against the dark and the visioned spectres of geology. 1863 Ld. Lytton *King Arthur* II. III. xiii, As..he pressed that solemn kiss upon the visioned thing I could not see.

2. Associated with, arising from, a vision or visions.

1817 Scott *Harold* VI. xii, Trembling at first,.. Had Gunnar heard the vision'd tale. 1822 Beddoes *Bride's Trag.* IV. iv, I dreamed and in that visioned agony 'Twas whispered by strange voices (etc.). 1853 Jerdan *Autobiog.* III. 170 In her inmost abstract and visioned moods..she was the Poet. 1891 C. Dawson *Avonmore* IV. 79 Braver from that visioned thought, I duty did and duty sought.

3. Gifted with vision; having the power of seeing visions.

1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* I. 68 The visioned poet in his dreams, When silvery clouds float through the 'wildered brain. 1830 Moir *Tower of Ercildoune* iv, Methinks the visioned bard I see .. Piercing the misty depths of Time. 1866 R. S. Storrs *Serm.* in *Bible Soc. Rec.* Feb. (1894), Of such a majestic teacher as Ezekiel, the visioned prophet,..we know almost nothing.

4. Full of visions.

1813 Shelley *Alastor* 682 The dream Of dark magician in his visioned cave.

Visioner (vi·ʒənəɹ). [f. Vision *sb.*] One who has visions; a visionary.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 184 He should exalt his Character by playing the Visioner with a superannuated Superintendant. 1902 Fr. Thompson in *Academy* 12 April 378/1 The dreams..He half made possible; for that he was Visioner of vision in a most sordid day.

Visionic (vizi·ɒnik), *a. rare.* [f. Vision *sb.*] Of the nature of a vision.

1857 *Tait's Mag.* XXIV. 363 Which, if it does not assert, yet strongly suggests, the visionic character of the revelation of the creation to Moses.

Visioning (vi·ʒəniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vision *sb.* or *v.*] The action or fact of seeing visions; an instance of this.

a 1835 Motherwell *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 35 But still the present is o'ercast with visionings of yore. 1838 Mrs. Browning *Felicia Hemans* vii, Such visionings have paled in sight. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. viii, Such guessing, visioning, dim prescrutation of the momentous future. 1880 W. Watson *Prince's Quest* Poems (1892) 13 By potence wrought of Mortal Visionings In that dark house of which Sleep hath the Keys.

Visionist (vi·ʒənist). [f. Vision *sb.*]

1. One who has, or professes to have, visions; a professed visionary.

1665 J. Spencer *Vulg. Proph.* 43 The many gross fallacies put, even upon wise men, by such frequent Visionists. 1666 Br. S. Parker *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 66 We are so far from attaining any certain and real knowledge of Incorporeal Beings (of an acquaintance with which these Visionists [sc. Platonists] do boast). 1700 Hickes *Let. to Pepys* 19 June, P.'s Diary (Chandos) 696, I asked this question, to know..whether these Second-Sight folks were Seers or Visionists. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* iii. Wks. 1840 XII. 312 This Jacob Behemen..was a kind of visionist. He pretended to see things invisible. 1809 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXVIII. 188 Joanna Southcott, a fanatical visionist of the present day. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 185 The visionist had deeper thoughts and more concealed feelings than these rhapsodical phantoms. 1877 J. A. Chalmers *Life Tryo Saga* xviii. (1878) 347 The third class is that of dreamers or visionists, who discover the nature of the disease.

2. One who supports the view that the Biblical account of creation was revealed to the writer in a vision or series of visions.

1888 A. Cave *Inspir. O. Test.* iii. 129 A third class, the Visionists, also maintain the literal character of the days mentioned...In their view the days..refer to..the actual days of the revelation of the creation.

Visionless (vi·ʒənlés), *a.* [f. Vision *sb.*]

1. Destitute of vision; sightless, blind.

1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 243 Half-closed, and visionless entire they seem'd Of all external things. 1848 Eliza Cook *Song for Dog* iv, Tis my Dog that I trust to,..And he minister well to my visionless eyes. 1894 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* III. xxii. 294 Her eyes rolled stupid and visionless,

2. Having no vision of unseen things; devoid of higher insight or inspiration.

1856 R. S. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. x. ii. Notes 326 Theresa might, in the abstract, rate the visionless altitude above the valley of vision. 1859 Bp. S. Wilberforce *Addr. Ordination* ix. 182 The hindrances to our delivering simply our message may lead us to suppress or temper with it until we become visionless and dumb. 1891 N. Lorraine *Battle of Belief* 181 His cheerless, shoreless, visionless system of negations.

Vi·sionlike, *adv.* [f. Vision *sb.*] After the manner of a vision.

1824 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* I. 78 As if some thoughts had visionlike swept across her mind.

Visir(ate, obs. forms of Vizier(ate.

Visit (vi·zit), *sb.* Also 7 visite, visitt, visette, viset. [ad. F. *visite* (= It., Sp., Pg. *visita*), or f. Visit *v.*]

1. An act of visiting a person; a friendly or formal call upon, a shorter or longer stay with, a person as a feature of social intercourse.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* XIII. (1626) 274 To Nymphs of Seas,..She beares her visits. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 228 You know well, I have appointed you here a chamber, and that you are my debter of a visite, now a whole year. 1648 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 94 To ..undertake..for a visitt to him by the Lord Jarmin (who I beleeve visited none else there). 1682 Vyner Camden in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 56 My Lady Skidmore and her lord was at Mr. Conisbys house upon a visette. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 102 P 8 Like Ladies that look upon their Watches after a long Visit. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 36/1 Guilty of that most atrocious crime, the owing a visit. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 246 If the monkey ventures to offer a visit of curiosity, the toucan gives him such a welcome, that he.. is glad to escape. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* I, On the solemn occasions of the visits of parents. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 April 754/1 To call twice in one week, under the pretence of a social visit. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 99 He is looking forward to a visit from Ralph in the summer.

fig. 1782 Cowper *Table T.* 411 'Tis not..despondence and dismay Will win her [*sc.* Mercy's] visits or engage her stay.

b. Freq. in the phrases *to make*, or *pay* (also † *give*) *a visit, to return a visit.*

(*a*) 1644 T. Prujean *Aurorata* II. E j, Romeo..going to give her a visit meetes Tybalt her kinsman. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 179 My Ld Shaftsbury did me ye honour ye other day to give me a visit. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 227 An Abbot gives a Lady a visit. 1709–10 Steele *Tatler* No. 128 P 7 He came to give our Family a formal Visit.

(*b*) 1643 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 There is no obligation but that of love, to make a visit. *a* 1699 Lady Halkett *Autobiog.* (Camden) 3, I doe nott remember that I made a visitt to ye neerest neibour. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 124 P 1, I went on Saturday last to make a Visit in the City. 1753 E. Moor in *World* I. No. 11. 87 She made him a visit of a month, and at his entreaty would have settled with him for ever. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 224 Making him a visit, I found him in the great hall. 1823 J. Simpson *Ricardo the Outlaw* I. 141 She promised that in two years, at longest, she would make them a visit. 1885 W. W. Story *Fiammetta* 195 You promised you would make me a visit in the autumn.

(*c*) 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 503 Surena, by this visit, was in a few days able to pay me one. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 94 P 6 Let us pay Visits, but never see one another. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 38 The Dutch captain came off in his shallop .. to pay his visit to me. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 399 The visit paid, ecstasy we come, As from a seven years transportation, home. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 166/1, I quitted Oxford, and paid a visit to a maiden lady dwelling in the Orange Grove. 1855 Tennyson *To Rev. F. D. Maurice* xii, When the wreath of March has blossom'd, .. Or later, pay one visit here, For those are few we hold as dear.

fig. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 3 Where smiling spring its earliest visit paid.

(*d*) 1677 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 37, I missed my nephew Anthony the other day who Lady Shaftesbery sent to see me, and I am now going to returne his visit. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Chess Mar* 10 March, I returned my visits at three weeks' end. 1766 [see Return *v.* 21 b].

c. *transf.* A place to which one goes only as a visitor.

1784 Cowper *Task* I. 251 Society for me! thou seeming sweet, Be still a pleasing object in my view, My visit still, but never mine abode.

d. An excursion *to* a place for the purpose of sight-seeing; a short or temporary stay at a place. Also *transf.* of animals or birds (cf. Visit *v.* 10 d).

1800 (*title*), Visits to the Aviary. For the Instruction of youth. 1839 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* III. vii. 97 There is an account of a visit to Lynne in Miss Austen's exquisite 'Persuasion'. 1860 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 245 We had a visit to Fryston in Yorkshire, and after passing through the Highlands to Oban, made a three week's stay in Morven. 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xxi. 20, I spend five hundred in Paris in the two visits I make there.

transf. 1831 T. Nuttall in *Mem. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci.* (1833) I. 201 Crossbills .. pay irregular visits to the northern and middle States. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 7/2 [The black-cap titmouse] probably extending its visits into Mexico.

e. An occasion of going *to* a dentist, doctor, etc., for examination or treatment.

1884 Thompson *Tumours of Bladder* 10 After two or three visits [to a hospital], he took a sea voyage for his health. 1902 R. Bagot *Donna Diana* xxviii. 336 He felt that he would far prefer a visit to the dentist to the interview before him.

2. a. An instance of going to see, and assist or comfort, persons in distress.

1709 (*title*), A charitable Visit to the Prisons, containing counsel to those who are confined there. 1792 [R. Cecil] (*title*), A Friendly Visit to the House of Mourning.

b. A call made by a clergyman as part of his pastoral duties.

1724 A. Shields *Life J. Renwick* 214 No place did more desire his frequent Visits than those that were most persecuted for him. 1727 Hubbion *Funer. Serm. J. Nesbit* 41 His visits were generally short, but very agreeable, and useful.

c. A professional call made by a doctor on a patient.

1719 Boyer *Dict. Royal* I. s.v., The visit of a Physitian, or Surgeon. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Visit*, the attendance of a surgeon or physician, inspector, etc. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* 33 For a doctor..to leave the patient and communicate his opinion on the result of his visit.. within hearing..of the patient [etc.]. 1890 J. W. Martin *Quest. & Answ. Nursing* 92 To report anything that may appear unusual to the Doctor at his next visit.

3. a. Surgical examination (of a wound). *rare*—1.

1796 Charlotte Smith *Marchmont* IV. 27, I am faint after a visit to my wound.

b. An instance (or the action) of going to a place, house, etc., for the purpose of inspection or examination.

1787 Burns *Let. to M. Chalmers* Wks. (Globe) 352, I have been at Dumfries, and at one visit more shall be decided about a farm in that country. 1815 J. C. Hobhouse *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 291 The Emperor..examined the new manufacture of Arms...Napoleon was accompanied only by three officers when he made this visit. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 Sir Thomas More made, as Chancellor, a domiciliary visit in search of heretical books. 1897 J. S. Risley *Law of War* III. viii. 265 (*heading*) The right of visit and search. A belligerent has the right..to visit and search every merchant ship at sea in time of war.

†**4.** An occurrence of menstruation. *Obs.*

1653 T. Brugis *Vade Mecum* (ed. 2) 112 Philonium Persicum..is good against the overmuch flowing of womens naturall visits. *Ibid.* 127 Myrrhe..procureth womens monthly visits. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 95 The Females of these have periodical Visits like Females of the Human Race.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *visit-day*, *-paying*; †**visit-leg**, a posture of politeness in paying a visit (cf. Leg *sb.* 4).

1673 Wycherley *Gent. Dancing-Master* IV. i, *Blackamoor* (*teaching postures to M. de Paris*). Now let me see you make your visit-leg—thus. *a* 1717 Parnell *Elegy to old Beauty* 29 With better Strength, on Visit-days she bears To mount her fifty Flights of ample Stairs. 1849 Thackeray in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 552/2, I have been most remiss in visit-paying.

Visit (vi·zit), *v.* Forms: 3 uisiti, 3–4 visiten, 4–6 visyte, 4–7 visite (4 uisite, visitte, 5 vissite), 5– visit (4 wisit, 6 visit, visyt), 5–7 visitt (5 visytt), 6–7 vissit; 4 vysyty, 4–6 vysyte (5 uysyte, vycyte), vysite (4 uys-), 4 vysitte, 5 vysid, 5–6 vysit, vysyt; 4–6 visete, 4–6 viset (5 viss-, 6 visett), vyset (5 -ed, -ett, 6 -ette); 4–5 vesete (5 -ette, *Sc.* -eit), 5 vecyte, vesyte, -ite; *Sc.* 5 vesit, 6 vesit. Also *pa. t.* (*north.* and *Sc.*) 4–5 wisit, 5 vyset, vised; *pa. pple.* 4–5 visit, -yt, 5 -ide, 6 -itt. [ad. OF. *visiter* (also mod.F., = Sp. and Pg. *visitar*, It. *visitare*) or L. *visitāre* to go to see, to inspect, etc., frequentative of *vīsāre*, f. *vīs-*, ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see. In early use largely due to the frequent use of *visitare* in passages of the Vulgate, from which senses 1–7 are directly derived.]

I 1. *trans.* Of the Deity: To come to (persons) in order to comfort or benefit.

Sometimes passing into senses 7 or 8. In *Alexander* 1964 used of pagan deities.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 154 Me ivint þet heo fluwen monne sturbinge, & wenden til ham one: & tet God visitede ham & zef ham hore bonen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5789 Sai þam i sal þam son visete,..I sal þam bring vte of thain-hede. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* cv. (cvi.) 4 Þenche, Lord, on vs in þe welefilkand of þy folk, and visit vs in þyne helþe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 128 Þet is þet uerste guod þet þe holy gost deþ to þe seneyere, huanne he him visiteþ. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xv. 15 Lord, recorde thou of me, and visite me, and delyuere me fro them that pursuen me. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 914 God, as him list, visitith folk, & smyt. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 269 Almighti God hase forsaken me, because He vissettis not me as He was wunt. 1535 Coverdale *Ruth* i. 6 She had herde..yᵉ the Lorde had visited his people & geuen them bred. 1553 *Primer* in *Lit. & Doc. Edw. VI* (1844) 309 Visit him, O Lord, as thou didst visit Peter's wife's mother, and the captain's servant. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 When God comes in kindness and love to do us good, he visiteth us. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* I. 326 But art thou come, dear Saviour? hath thy Love Thus made thee stoop..and thus thy self to dress In dust to visit Mortals? 1727 De Foe *Hist. Appar.* I. (1840) 9 Thus Adam was frequently visited in Eden. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 743 For He.. Shall visit earth in Mercy.

transf. 1830 Tennyson *Ode to Memory* 4 Oh, haste, Visit my low desire! Strengthen me, enlighten me!

b. *spec.* (See quots.)

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxi. 1 God forsothe visitide Sara,..and
[illegible]
[illegible] y in it
[illegible]ere of nature
[illegible]s openliche kno[illegible]

c. To come to (persons) in order to judge of their state or condition. (Cf. sense 9.)

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* iii. 16 Visytynge Y haue visitid 30w, and Y haue seen alle thingis that haue fallun to 30w in Egipte. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 637 In this sense, Job saith, that God visits man every morning, as a shepherd his flock, lest any should be hurt or straid.

†**2.** To come to (persons) in order to observe or examine conduct or disposition; to make trial of; to subject to test or scrutiny. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3193 (Cott.) Godd has þe [Abraham] visited here to-dai, þi dede in minnyng sal last ai. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xvi. 4 (xvii. 3), þou prouedest myn hert, and visited it on niȝt. *Ibid.* lviii. 6 (lix. 5), 3if entent to visiten al folkes; ne haue þou nouȝt mercy on alle þat wirchen [illegible]

1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxi. 14 But seynge that God wil sytt in judgment, what shal I do? And for so moch as he wil nedes vyset me, what answere shal I geue him? 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 637 The eye of God is alway upon us:..he visiteth us so, that we can turn no way but he is with us. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 48 But God who oft descends to visit men Unseen, and through thir habitations walks To mark thir doings.

absol. 1611 Bible *Job* xxxi. 14 What then shall I do, when God riseth vp? and when hee visiteth, what shall I answere him?

3. To inflict hurt, harm, or punishment upon (a person); to deal severely or hardly with (persons or things); †to cut off, cause to die.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxvi. 14 Therfore thou hast visityd, and to-brosedest hem, and lost al the mynde of hem. 1485 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 528 If your wisdomes..woll please..to chese me ..Recorder of your Citie, if God visite your Recorder that nowe is. 1535 Coverdale *Amos* iii. 2 Therfore will I vyset you in all youre wickednesses. 1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 152 Beinge visitt with the hande of God. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 312 Let vs alwayes looke to the first cause of our affliction, and to God who visiteth vs iustly. 1611 Bible *Amos* iii. 14, I will also visite the altars of Bethel, and the hornes of the altar shall be cut off. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 When God visits our bodies, our estates, our families, or the kingdom where we live. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1771) I. iii. 52 We haue mentioned several reasons why God doth not immediately visit the disobedient. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 248 If vice receiv'd her retribution due When we were visited, what hope for you? 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlviii. V. 67 Her life was spared by the clemency of the emperor, but he visited the pomp and treasures of her palace.

b. To afflict or distress *with* sickness, poverty, or the like.

1424 Hen. VI in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 100 Oure bel Uncle of Excestre, whom oure Lord now late visitid with sekneese. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 127 Som withe povert hym list to visite. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 134 b, Euery chylde that he receyueth, he chastiseth & visiteth with payne & tribulacyon. 1582 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 2 God..hauing visited mee with a long, and perchaunce a curelesse disease. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vii. 19 b, Before his departure ..he went to visit the town of Mousambick, and the dwellers therein, with some sufficient reuenge. 1624 J. Usher in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 131 It pleased God to visite me with a quartan. 1748 Smollett *R. Random* xxvii, His indignation ought to be directed to Cot Almighty, who visited his people with distempers. 1862 Boyd *Graver Thoughts* 52 Holy Scripture sets before us two men,..each of whom was visited with a thorn in the flesh to keep him down.

c. To deprive *of* something. *rare*—1.

c 1585 *Faire Em* III. iv, Good father, giue me leaue to sit where I may not be disturbed, sith God hath visited me both of my sight and hearing.

4. Of sickness, etc.: To come upon (a person or persons), to assail or afflict. Freq. in passive and const. *with* or *by*.

c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1980 Als we suld ilk day þeded fele, And byde noght til þe dede us vyset. 1382 Wyclif *Numb.* xvi. 29 If [there]..visyte them a veniaunce, with the which and other ben woned to be visytid, the Lorde hath not sente me. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 95 The kyng his father, so visited with sickenesse was not personable. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 156 He was hestelie visaitit with the heot feweris. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 26, I would the state of time had first beene whole, Ere he by sicknesse had beene visited. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 When a house hath the Plague,..we use to say, Such a house is visited. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 21 So grievously visited with the plague, ..that before a month..the living were hardly able to bury the dead. 1668 E. Hookesin *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* II. (1911) 154 In the White Lyon prisson..about 23 of them visaitted with sickneese and a high feever. 1727 Swift *God's Rev. agst. Punning* Wks. 1755 III. i. 171 One Samuel an Irishman, for his forward attempt to pun..hath been visited all his life after with bulls and blunders. 1754 *Med. Observ.* (1776) I. 43 Being visited by a gentle attack [of gout] in both feet. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* I. iii. 120 Since leaving Jenna, we have met an incredible number of persons visited with the loss of one eye. 1845 *Poultry Chron.* III. 148/1 Some which were..tended with constant care, all died: and similar mortality has visited others also. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 602 Cornwall must have been more lightly visited with the Plague than most English counties.

b. *spec.* in *pass.* Bewitched.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 102 On account of their stock thus 'visited', as the term is, the infatuated peasantry almost invariably have recourse to charms.

5. To punish or requite (wrongdoing). Also const. *with*.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxxviii. (lxxxix.) 32 Y shal visite in chastesing her wickednesse, and her synnes in vengeaunce. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxxii. 34 Y in the day of veniaunce shal visite this synne of hem. [Also *Jer.* xiv. 10, *Lam.* iv. 22, etc.; similarly in later versions.] 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xxiii. 2 Therfore, now will I vyset the wickednes of youre ymaginacions, saieth yᵉ Lorde. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* ii. 41 So jealous is Nature of her constitutions that she rigorously visits every infringement of them. *Ibid.* 49 The instinct of Retribution or the vehement desire to see wrong visited with punishment. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 496 What, he often said, could be more unjust, than to visit speculations with penalties which ought to be reserved for acts? 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xix. 320 Mild offences were visited with the loss of eyes or ears.

b. To avenge, or inflict punishment for (wrongdoing) *on* or *upon* (also †*in*, *into*) a person.

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xx. 3 Visitynge the wickidnes of fadris in sones into the thridde and the ferthe generacioun. — *Jer.* xxiii. 2 Y shal visite vp on 30w the malice of youre studies. 1535 Coverdale *Numb.* xiv. 18 The Lorde.. vysiteth the myszedede of the fathers vpon the children. 1588 Shaks. *John* II. i. 179 Thy sinnes are visited in this poore childe. 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. v. 16 So the sins of my mother should be visited vpon me. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xxiii. 2 Behold I will visite vpon you the euill of your doings. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 935, I to that place Would speed before thee,..That on my head all might be visited. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 181 Which doubly visits on the tyrants' heads The long-protracted fulness of their woe. 1831 Keble *Serm.* v. (1848) 118 Thus, reversing the Scripture rule most unfairly, men visit the sins of the children on the fathers. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii. (1878) 266 He visited the daughter's fault upon the son.

c. To inflict (punishment) *on* one. *rare.*

1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* ix. (1852) 292 It is said to be of the essence of legal penalty to visit punishment on the person of the offender.

6. *absol.* To take vengeance or inflict punishment. †Also const. *on* or *over*.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* x. 12, I shal visite vpon the fruyt of the gret doende herte of the king of Assur. *Ibid.* xxvii. 1 In that dai visiten shal the Lord in his harde swerd..vp on leuyathan. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Isa.* xiii. 11 And I will visite over the evils of the world, and against the impious their iniquitie. 1840 De Quincey *Riseness* III, When the vilest outrages were offered by foreigners to their women, probably they [*sc.* the Sicarii] 'visited' for such atrocities.

II. 7. To make a practice of going to (persons in sickness or distress) in order to comfort or assist them.

c 1290 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 For þo luue of gode wakie, go ine pelrimage, uisiti þe poure, and to sike. *c* 1325 Shoreham I. 1032 [To] Vysyty syke and prysone, And helpe poure at nede. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks' Catech.* 1133 Whi [illegible] venym or stynk lette vs to visite men in presun. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 412, I visited neuere sieble men, ne fettered folke in pattes. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 68 Visite the pore, with intyre diligence, On al nedy have thow compassioun. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 231 Helpe þe seke, and vysed hom þat be in prison. *c* 1491 *Chast Goddes Chylde* 13 Also it is good to visite seke folke that ben holden goostly lyuers. 1526 Tindale *Jas.* i. 27 To vysit the frendlesse and widdowes in their adversite. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 861 You shall this twelue-month terme from day to day, Visite the speechlesse sicke. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. iii. 4 Bound by my charity,..I come to visite the afflicted spirits Here in the prison. 1687 J. Renwick in A. Shields *Life* (1724) 219 Ye must visit the Sick and these who are in Distress. 1795 Paley (*title*), The Clergyman's Companion in Visiting the Sick. 1862 *Chambers' Encycl.* IV. 541/1 The deplorable condition of the female prisoners in Newgate attracted her [Elizabeth Fry's] attention, and she resolved upon visiting them.

absol. *a* 1592 H. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 82 The devil goeth a-visiting, he will teach the sick how they shall recover their health.

b. Similarly with reference to individual cases.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16013 Til his felaus he yede He went him for to visit þaim, for þar-of had þai nede. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4388 He lay yn hys bedde long Sone aftyr betydde a lytte þe kyng come, hym to vysyte. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1238 He let of-sende..Hise neyebours him to visite, And told..Hou his deth was comen him on. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 50 Þere shal no brobir ne sister sene othir in prison, [but] þat he shal comyn and veryten hym and comfordyn hym. 1530 Palsgr. 766/1 It is an almesse dede to visyte the poore man, he hath ben long sycke. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* I. 167 It pleaseth me well that this caytyue Huon, who endureth myche payne, be vysytyd by thee. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Vis. Sick*, If the person visited bee very sicke, then the curate may end his exhortacion at this place. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. iii. 85 Come, you must go visit the good Lady that lies in. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 Christ pronounceth the blessing on them who, when he was in prison, visited him. 1712 N. Spinckes (*title*), The Sick Man Visited: and furnished with Instructions, Meditations, and Prayers. 1828 Mrs. E. Hamilton *Cottagers of Glenburnie* x, The minister..had been sent for..to visit a sick parishioner.

8. To go to see (a person) in a friendly or sociable manner; to call upon as an act of friendliness or politeness, or for some special purpose; also, to stay with for a short time as a guest.

13.. *Arth. & Merlin* 701 Bisides þer wonede an ermite, þat bider com, þis [=these] to visite. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4430 Whende ichil in-to mi cuntre, Mine freondes to visite & to se. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 325 Þat tyme whanne Moyses visited his breþeren in þe lond of Iesren, he slowȝ a man of þe Egipciane. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) v. 39 And whan the Soudan wille, he may go visite him. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 3764 Hector in herte caughte an appetite..þe same day Grekis to visite. 1484 Caxton *Chivalry* II. iv. (1883) 47 The knyght enuyphus which cam the same nyght with his squyer for to visite his lord. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III*, 46 As though he had gone secretely to visite a familiar frende of his. 1580 E. Knight *Trial Truth* To Chr. Rdr., A friend of myne visiting me at my chamber, and finding me so solitary exercised [etc.]. 1598 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 268 The Duke visited..Prospero Colonna, of whom he was received

with all sorts of Honour. 1676 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 29 Lady Cleaveland is not, they say, much satisfied in France because the greatest ladies doe not visit her. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 61 He's too lazy and proud to visit common Sailers. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xv. ix, Who, though some overnice ladies will not be seen with her, is visited (as they term it) by the whole town. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xxvi, Vivaldi was visited in his prison by a man whom he had never consciously seen before. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii. Had he not been so great a Prince very few possibly would have visited him. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 401 How many of the friends I was on my way to visit are no more seen! 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* vii, He comes here visiting his relation, Mr. Jasper. *fig.* 1592 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* i. i. 60 Let me heare from thee by Letters..And I likewise will visite thee with mine. 1683 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 72, I have long promised myself to visit thee wth a Letter.

†**b.** To have cohabitation with (one of the opposite sex). *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10800 Now the maner was most of þo mylde wemen, Thre mones with mirthe þo men for to viset. 1563 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 24 The men are accustomed to vysyte the women once in the yeare.

c. Of a medical man: To attend (a patient) professionally.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xli. 93 [The physician] is bound to visite him foure times a daye, vntill suche time as he haue recouered his health. 1607 *Pearle's Yeas* 7 The gentlewoman..sent one of the men to desire the Doctor to come and visit her Husband. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 253 The Physicians themselves in China are Apothecaries, and when they Visit their Patients, they carry a Servant loaded with their Medicines. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Physicians*, Clinical Physicians were those who visited their Patients a-bed, to examine their Cases. 1768 *Med. Observ.* (1772) IV. 5 About four o'clock I visited her again, and found that the vomiting had ceased. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 409 The District, in which the Patients of the Finsbury Dispensary are visited. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 233/1 For visiting a patient out of his own city he [Petrus de Abano] charged..about six pounds per day. 1886 in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* (1887) 486/1 In cases of urgent necessity, patients will be visited at their own houses.

d. *transf.* To go to (a person, etc.) with hostile intentions.

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lviii. 196 Syr, cause your men too be armed, and let vs go vysyte the Admyrall Galaffer. 1596 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 37 For if Lord Percy thriue not, ere the King Dismisse his power, he meanes to visit vs. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. i, Before I touch The banks of rest, my ghost shall visite her. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. v. 148 Set downe..thine own waies, Whether to knocke against the Gates of Rome, Or rudely visit them in parts remote.

e. *absol.* To make a call or calls; to pay calls; to maintain friendly or social intercourse by this means; also, to spend a short time with one as a guest; to pay visits of this kind.

In the first quot. app. 'to go canvassing'.

1626 Meade in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. III. 230 Hereupon on Tuesday morning..some durst be so bold as to visitt for the contrary in publick. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 It is..more extraordinary to visit in a morning, and most, early in the morning. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 24 P 5 They are qualify'd rather to add to the Furniture of the House (by filling an empty Chair) than to the Conversation they come into when they visit. 1753 Miss Collier *Art Torment.* I. ii. (1811) 54 Unless..she happens to receive any particular address from the young gentlemen who visit at your house. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 546, I found myself very sad, and lonely,..so all my kindred made it a point to have me a visiting among them. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* I. vii, Busied with his studies, and professing 'not to visit'. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xiii, Her ladyship knows my address, having visited here. 1894 L. Alma-Tadema *Wings of Icarus* 41 A spinster..who spends her life visiting from place to place.

fig. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii, You raythur want somebody to look arter you, sir, wen your judgment goes a visitin'.

9. To go to look at († or explore); to inspect or examine; to look into or see to (something); in later use *esp.* to examine (vessels, goods, baggage, etc.) officially.

Rarely with clause as object, as in Milton *P. L.* VIII. 45.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6081 (Laud MS.), Whan hij han rested a lyte, þe lande hij wenden to visite. Hij founden narewe paþes, & liȝtt fen. 13.. *Coer de L.* 645 Thus they vysyted the Holy Land How they myght wyane it to her hand. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 4 þe kyng Ine gart crie Home forto wend to childe & to wife, To visiite þer londes, to solace þer life. 1388 Wyclif *Job* v. 24 And thou visityngе thi fairnesse [*glass*, that is, biholding thi prosperite] schalt not do synne. 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 58 Loke þat ye visee your þynges wisely & often..also loke you visite often tymis your servauntes. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 94 Also ought they to rede visite and to knowe the statutes..of the contre. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxi. 139 There he made come..all the Captayns & chieftayns..to behold & vysyte theire harneys, yf eny thing wanted. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 8 Faustus, aryse thou out of thy lyttre hote, Go se and vysyte our wethers in the cote. 1530 Palsgr. Introd. 5 When they had thorowly visyted my said two bokes. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 21 b, Visiting afterwards theyr teeth and eyes, as though they had been horses. 1602 Mountjoy *Let. to Cecil* 13 Nov., in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 257 It groweth now about foure a clocke in the morning at which time I lightly chuse to visit our Guards my selfe. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* vii. (1661) 199 All Bulls and Missives which come from Rome to France are to be seen and visited, to try if there be nothing in them prejudicial [etc.]. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 182 We were introduced into the City by the Truchеman of the Convent, who came with a Turk belonging to the Basha, that visited our Ragage. 1730 T. Boston *Mem.* viii. (1899) 161 The synod-book was once a year to be filled up for the General Assembly to visit it. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 685/1 That no British Vessels shall be visited or molested..by the Judges of Contraband. 1772 *Regul. H. M. Services at Sea* 17 A Captain ..is immediately to repair on board, and visit her throughout, in Company with his Officers. 1778 Orme *Hist. Milit. Trans. Indostan* VI. II. 21 A passport, or *dustuck*..should exempt the goods it specified from being visited or stopped by the officers. 1820 Shelley *Fragm. Unfin. Drama* 155, I rose, and went, Visiting my flowers from pot to pot. 1897 [see Visit *sb.* 3 b].

b. *spec.* To go to (an institution) for the purpose of seeing that everything is in due order; to exercise a periodic surveillance or supervision over, or make a special investigation into (management or conduct).

c 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* (Percy Soc.) x, The erchedeknes that beth sworn To visite holy cherche,..welle begynne Febleche to wyrche. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 14 Provyded alway that the said Archebishopp of Canterburye..shall have noo power or auctoritie..to vysite or vexe any Monasteries. 1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 76 Whan I have visite hys see, this nyght I wilbe at Feversham Abbay. 1558 Bp. Watson 7 *Sacram.* 148 Bishoppes haue power..to call synodes..to visit theyr diocesanes. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 159 The said Bischope went to wissit ewerie kirk withtin his diosie four tymes in the ȝeir. 1640 in J. Campbell *Balmerino & Abbey* III. iii. (1867) 191 The Presbyterie of Cupar did visiitt the kirk. 1690 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 334 Jonathan Trelawney, bishop of Exon visited Exeter College July 26. Dr. Arthur Bury, the rector, expelled. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 96 The Bishop ought to visit his Diocese every Year in his own Person. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 91 To appoint a commission with power to visit and govern the Church of England. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 52 A faculty empowering Wolsey to visit those English monasteries.

absol. 1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* xliii. 217 His orderly proceeding appeareth in this, that he first visited and then reformed. 1602 Baynes *Diocesan's Tryall* Pref. A 2 b, When Arch. Bancroft sent M. Harsenet to Visite as they call it, that is..to suppresse those that are not friends to the Bishops Kingdome. 1691 *Case of Exeter Coll.* 46 This is every whit as rational, as that a Bishop, being a Visitor of a College, &c. should take his Episcopal Authority along with him when he goes to Visit. 1713 Gibson *Codex* xlii. viii. 1009/1 To enable Archdeacons to Visit with greater Authority and Effect. 1721 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VIII. 304 The said Lord Arch-Bishop..may visit once every year conformable to the Rule.

†**c.** To examine medically. *Obs.*

1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* i, When the medecyns had sene and vysyted hym..they sayd that he had no bodyly sekeness. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxvi. 288 Your woundes and soores must be vysyted and ouersene. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon.* x. 28 He sent for his surgens, causyng them to serche his woundes..and when they hadde well vysytyd the wounde, they sayde [etc.]

10. To go to (a temple, shrine, etc.) for the purpose of worship or as a religious duty.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxvi. 8 þat i see þe will of lord & visite his tempile. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 53 Whan Kyng Henry had i-visited mekeliche Thomas þe martires tombe. *c* 1480 *Chron. Vilod.* 3094 Per was a lady dwellyng in þat abbay þat wold vysed hurre tombe everyche day. 1485 *Paston Lett.* II. 333, I pray you voysyt the Rood of Northedor and Seynt Savyour,..and lat my sustyr Margery goo with yow to pray to them. *c* 1488 J. Kay tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* (1870) P 11 Hys entente..was; to vysyte deuoutely the blessed and holy sepulchre..in Jerusalem. 1509 Bp. Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 300 Her legges and fete [had been occupied] in vysytynge the aulters and other holy places. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lx. 209 We are goynge a pylgremage..to vysyt the holy sepulcure. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 614 In Thagia is visited the Sepulchre of a holy man. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 792 His Mother's Precepts .. performs with Care; The Temples visits, and adores with Pray'r. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Sepulcher*, The Eastern Pilgrimages are all made with Design to visit the Holy Sepulcher. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xxxii. The pilgrim ..carried a palm branch in his hand, to shew he had visited the Holy Land. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 92/1 Chinese converts [to Buddhism] came to visit the holy places and to collect the sacred books.

b. To go to (a place) for the purpose of sight-seeing or pleasure, or on some special errand.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7619 This knowe ye, sir, as wel as I, That lovers gladly wole visiten The places there her loves habiten. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xv. 70 þe whilk in swilk maner visites all rewmes fer to aspie þe maners of vs Cristen men. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3428 Bot in short tyme after þis His owne contrey visitede he wold. 1535 Coverdale *Ezra* vii. 14 Beynge sent of the kynge and of the seuen lordes of the councell, to vyset Iuda and Ierusalem. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 240 They had seine and visitit the maist pairt of scotland. 1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 35 A like hamlet..most visited with Tynners, where they lodge and feede, being nere their mynes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 364 A French Lapidator,..intending to visit Fez, loyned company with me. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 7 We were to have visited a small Island called Soli; by the intresting of a Portugal we carried with us. 1693 Dowdall in Ingleby *Shaksp. Cent. of Praise* 417 The 1st Remarkable place in this County yt I visitted was Stretford super avon. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* vi, He designed to visit again, at midnight, the fortress of Paluzzi. 1827 Lockhart *Scott* I. vii. 210 It was also..at this time that Scott visited for the first time Glammis. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 240/2 About 4000 persons visited the poultry tent in the course of the day. 1863 Lyell *Antiq. Man* 2, I have visited..many parts of England, France and Belgium.

transf. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 534 One tree after another is visited by the active little rovers, and its branches examined.

c. *transf.* Of things.

Sometimes with suggestion of sense 8.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 275 All places that the eie of heauen visits. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 290 You are..As deare to me, as are the ruddy droppes That visit my sad heart. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxvii. 201 There are partes whereas the sea enters far within the land, as comming to visite it. *Ibid.* IV. viii. 230 Forasmuch as those places are never visited with the sunne. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 240 How from that Saphire Fount the crisped Brooks.. Ran Nectar, visiting each plant. 1757 Gray *Bard* 40 Dear, as the light that visits these sad eyes. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 351 The Seine..runs to the northwest, visiting Troyes, Paris, and Rouen, in its way. 1816 Shelley *Mont Blanc* 30 Some say that gleams of a remoter world Visit the soul in sleep. 1847 Emerson *Musketaquid* 12 For me in showers, in sweeping showers, the spring Visits the valley.

d. Of birds, etc.: To resort to or frequent (land or sea, a country, etc.) for a limited period or at certain seasons.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 93 As they never visit land, .. their feathers take a colour from their situation. 1820 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* s.v. *Blackcap*, The blackcap is a migrative species visiting us early in the spring. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 199 The Mountain Chaffinch .. which visits Britain in Winter. 1887 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 577 In winter the Storks of Europe retire to Africa,..while those of Asia visit India.

absol. 1832 T. Nuttall in *Mem. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci.* (1833) I. 96 [The] Canada Jay..regularly visits, if it does not breed, in Maine or New Hampshire.

†**11.** To come to (a person) *with* some accompaniment; to supply or enrich *with* some benefit.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18158 (Cott.) þe lem þat come wit him, Brast all þe bandes of ur site, And visite vs wit grett delite. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1726 Thynk one þe valyaunt prynce þat vesettez us ever With landes and lordscheppez, whare us beste lykes. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* III. ii. 83 Visit by night your Ladies chamber-window With some sweet comfort. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 637 God visiteth his [people] with mercies.

Visitable (vi·zĭtăbl'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -able.]

1. Of institutions, etc.: Liable to visitation by some competent authority; subject to official supervision or inspection.

1605 Coke *Reports* v. 13/2 All religious or Ecclesiastical houses, whereof the king was founder, are only visitable and corrigible by the kings ecclesiastical Commission. 1661 J. Stephens *Procurations* 40 When those Religious persons..had relinquished their habit, rule, and order, for which they were visitable, then .. the Visitation ceased. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 295 All..Hospitals..built since the Reformation are Visitable by the King or Lord-Chancellor. 1767 Burn *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) IV. 12 Free chapels..being visitable only by commission from the king. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 39 § 4 In all cases such holder shall be visitable by the Visitor of the Chapter. 1895 Phillimore *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) 1061 Donatives and free chapels used to pay no procurations to any ecclesiastical ordinary, because they were not visitable by any.

2. Of places or persons: Capable of being visited; readily admitting of a visit.

In the first quot. perh. 'worth visiting'.

a 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 104 In order to see the Sanctuaries, and other visitable places. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 198 Richmond..might..thus be rendered visitable by tourists. 1842 Sir J. Graham in *Illustr. Lond. News* 14 May 7/1 The children easily visitable by their parents. 1876 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* i. § 2 The most beautiful columns at present extant and erect in the conveniently visitable world. 1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 4 June 811/1 The tropics are visitable in the winter only, and then the preacher is busiest.

transf. 1865 Miss Mulock *Noble Life* vi, His rank lifted him above the small proprietors who lived within visitable distance of the Castle.

3. Of persons: **a.** Capable of being visited on more or less equal terms by those of some standing in society; having some social position in a neighbourhood.

1765 Cowper *Let.* 18 Oct., In about two months time after my arrival, I became known to all the visitable people here. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 186/1 The Orange Grove! I was not aware that visitable people ever resided there! 1851 Tupper *Castle Cornet* 309 The landlords, having no visitable neighbours, no society within many miles, are necessarily absentees. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* v, In a select party of thirty..few visitable families could be entirely left out.

b. Capable of being visited by a clergyman in the discharge of his pastoral duties.

1904 R. Small *Hist. U. P. Congregations* I. 474 In the southern division..there were only ninety visitable families at that time.

4. Such as admits of receiving visitors.

1864 Keble *Let.* in J. T. Coleridge *Mem.* (1869) 486 Charlotte was not very much in visiting, or visitable order, during a great part of the time. 1876 Mrs. Whitney *Sights & Ins.* II. xxv. 338 Her cold, or whatever it was, had affected her face and eyes; she was not really in visitable condition.

‖ **Visitador.** *rare.* [Sp. and Pg., f. *visitar* to visit.] An official visitor, inspector, or superintendent.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 321 The Father Visitador of the Carmelites, a Spaniard, and a good Scholar. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* VI. (1778) II. 231 He authorised Francisco Tello de Sandoval to repair to Mexico as Visitador or superintendent of that country. 1846 G. Gardner *Brazil* 200 Soon afterwards the Visitador's troop overtook us, consisting of eight or nine horses.

Visitandine. [F., irreg. f. L. *visitand-*, gerundial stem of *visitāre* to visit + -ine.] A nun

belonging to the Order of the Visitation, founded in 1610 by Mme. de Chantal (St. Frances) under the direction of St. Francis de Sales.

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 571/1 There is near the same number of Congregants, Ursulines, Visitandines, and other sorts of Beguines. 1872 W. H. Jervis *Gallican Ch.* I. v. 247 A kindred institution took its rise, whose history is one of special interest, namely the Order of Visitandines, founded by François de Sales. 1888 Emily Bowles *Mme. de Maintenon* 128 Madame de Maintenon wisely made choice of some Visitandines..to train the community.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1888 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 313 Miss Giberne..who afterwards became a Visitandine nun.

Visitant (vi·zitănt), *sb.* and *a.* [a. F. *visitant*, pres. pple. of *visiter*, or ad. L. *visitant-*, *visitans* pres. pple. of *visitāre* to visit.]

A. *sb.* 1. One who pays a visit to another; a visitor.

Very common in 17–18th cent.; now *rare* or *Obs.*

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, Hee has a rich wrought wast-coat to entertaine his visitants in. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Milan* I. iii, For the most part she hath kept her private chamber, No visitants admitted. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 22 Nov., Being sick, and full of visitants, we could not speak with him. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 644 No Palace, with a lofty Gate he wants, To admit the Tydes of early Visitants. 1728 Pope *Lett.* (1737) 127 As a visitant, a lodger, or a friend you are always welcome to me. 1760 Johnson *Id'er* No. 101 P 3 His chamber was filled by visitants, eager to catch the dictates of experience. 1825–9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* I. v 151 She calmly explained to her visitant the motives of her conduct. 1826 Lamb *Elia* II. *Popular Fallacies* xii, It is not of guests that we complain, but of endless, purposeless visitants. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* I. xi. 81 He was shy and bashful..and really appeared agitated and afraid of his white-faced visitants.

transf. 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 260 The services rendered by such visitants [*sc.* insects] will be understood when we have described all the parts of a flower. 1862 R. Vaughan *Eng. Nonconformity* 357 Rulers who deserve that an avenger should be upon their path, cannot always resist the impression that such a visitant may be at hand. 1868 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) III. 44 To the absolutely stereotyped forms both of faith and scepticism,..the author of 'Ecce Homo' has been a most unacceptable visitant.

b. Applied to supernatural beings or agencies, etc., esp. as revealing themselves to mortals.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 225 Adam..to Eve, While the great Visitant approachd, thus spake. 1782 J. Brown *Nat. & Revealed Relig.* II. ii. 133 We are commended to hear him, as infinitely superior to Moses and Elias, his then visitants. 1813 Coleridge *Remorse* III. i. 85 Thou sainted spirit, Burst on our sight, a passing visitant! 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. xi, I would ask those mountains..why they no longer received heavenly visitants! 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 248 The spiritual visitant, indeed, which rejoiced the wise poet of Asera, was not the Paraclete of Jesus.

c. One who visits from charitable motives.

1662 Wither *Improv. Imprisonment* (title-p.), A few Crums & Scraps Lately found in a Prisoners-Basket at Newgate, And Saved together, by a Visitant of Oppressed Prisoners.

d. One who makes a short stay at a friend's house.

1769 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) III. 365, I found a young gentlewoman there, a visitant. 1820 Scott *Peveril* xii, An attachment, which lulled..to pleasing dreams, though of a character so different, her charge and her visitant. 1838 Lytton *Alice* II. ii, She was transferred from the little chamber,..to an apartment..usually appropriated to the regular Christmas visitant, the Dowager Countess of Chipparton.

2. One who visits some place or object of interest.

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 238 Being often used by way of sport to wet the Visitants of the Grot. 1710 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 382 Visitants of the Library. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 88 *note*, Which fact the visitant is given to understand from a long inscription upon a brass plate. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 194/1 Some of the earliest and most extensive specimens of painted glass, well worthy of the attention of the visitant. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 62 This gallery had frequent visitants.

b. One who visits a place, shrine, etc., from religious motives.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 45 Some of the Visitants count it meritorious to be trod to death under a weighty Chariot of Iron. *a* 1797 H. Walpole *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) I. x. 247 The father would accept no money from the various visitants, for which he was promised an adequate recompense by the chiefs of his sect. 1812 Cary *Dante, Par.* XXV. 20 Behold the peer of mickle might, That makes Galicia throng'd with visitants. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvi. (1845) 228 The caution is said to be as applicable to the visitants of Jerusalem as to those of Mecca.

c. One who visits a strange town or country; a stranger who spends a short time in a place; a temporary resident.

1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* (1779) III. lxxxi. 183 Ghent..was much crowded with these new visitants. 1760 Goldsm. *Nash* 24 The lodgings for visitants were paltry, though expensive. 1801 J. Jones tr. *Bigge's Trav. Fr. Rep.* I. 28 This town has very little to invite the eye of a visitant. 1829 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 362 The paper..was not written by a Virginian, but a visitant from another State. 1837 G. Musgrave *Pilgr. Dauphiné* I. ii. 34 A splendid specimen..was continually surrounded by the French visitants. 1883 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 244 To s' ..the absurdity of a new visitant pretending to hold any opinion whatever on such subjects.

d. One who enters a country in hostile fashion; an invader.

1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 93 The antient and christian inhabitants of the island retired to those natural intrenchments, for protection from their pagan visitants.

3. A thing which comes to one in a casual or temporary manner.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* v. 793 When your neighbour's knell (Rude visitant!) knocks hard at your dull sense. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 135 However irregular we find the wind..they have it a more constant and more grateful visitant. 1833 Whewell in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 160 Digby..is still ill of a rheumatic fever, his not unusual visitant. 1849 Miss Mulock *Ogilvies* xvi, Chasing away sleep and making the faint daylight a welcome visitant. 1876 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 297, I am never in that mood of sadness which used to be my frequent visitant.

4. A migratory bird, etc., as temporarily frequenting a particular locality.

1770 J. Logan *Cuckoo* lii, Delightful visitant! with thee I hail the time of flowers. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 29 Such are our visitants. With regard to those which ..breed here [etc.]. 1834 Mudie *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 19 Those [birds] which come in the spring and depart in the autumn are called summer visitants. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 97 Fresh-water fishes may be..merely visitants from the ocean for the purpose of depositing their spawn. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 13 The Hooded Crow..being..in some localities a winter visitant only, in others a resident.

B. *adj.* Paying a visit or visits; having the position or character of a visitor.

1633 H. Cogan tr. *Scarlet Gown* 67 One shall never see any visitant Coches there, he being no otherwise accounted of, then as of a forelorn Cardinal. 1676 D'Urfey *Mme. Fickle* III. ii, I begin to have a knowledge of the visitant kinsman that us'd to molest us. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* (1822) 247 An intimate Devil, or a Devil visitant. 1794 Piozzi *Synon.* I. 125 The snappish housekeeper gives short answers to the poor visitant niece. 1807 Wordsw. *Song Feast Broughain Castle* 129 He knew the rocks which Angels haunt Upon the mountains visitant. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 166 And Edith's everywhere; And Edith ever visitant with him. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 281 Mr. Melvill was entirely amiable in the Church visitant, though not formidable in the Church militant.

Visitating, *ppl. a. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *vīsitāt-*, ppl. stem of *vīsitāre* to visit.] Visiting.

1628 *Two Noble K.* I. i, But our Lords Lie bilat'ring 'fore the visitating Sun, And were good Kings, when living.

Visitation (vizitē·ʃən). Forms: 4 vysytacyun, 5–6 vysytacyon (5 -acyone, 6 -acion), vysitacyon, visytacion; 4–5 visitacioun (6 *Sc.* -atioun), 4–7 visitacion (7 -acyon), 4– visitation; 6 vesyt-, ffessyt-, fecytacyon. [a. AF. *visitacioun* (Gower), OF. and F. *visitation* (=Sp. *visitacion*, Pg. *visitação*, It. *visitazione*), or ad. L. *vīsitātiōn-*, *vīsitātio*, noun of action f. *vīsitāre* to visit.]

I. 1. The action, on the part of one in authority, or of a duly qualified or authorized person, of going to a particular place in order to make an inspection and satisfy himself that everything is in order; an instance of such inspection or supervision.

a. A visit by an ecclesiastical person (or body) to examine into the state of a diocese, parish, religious institution, etc.; *spec.* in English use, such a visit paid by a bishop or archdeacon; a meeting or gathering of persons concerned in such a visit.

Quotations for an archdeacon's visitation are placed separately under (*b*).

(*a*) 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2103 He [an abbot] went hys wey To Palestyne, þat yn an abbey, To make hys vysytacyun As falleþ yn relygyun. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 21 Why be ye not under your bishops visitations, and leege men to our king? 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 64 Abbot Pyor, whiche among a great multitude of fathers and bretherne gathered together in maner of a vysytacyon..dyd in this wyse. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 143 The Cardinall by Visitacions, mal-ying of Abbottes,..and other pollynges..had made his threasore egall with the kynges. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 369 All their Parishners..to the Ordinarie of them complain'd, ..Till at the length he published to holde A Visitation, and them cyted thether. 1662 J. Stephens *Procurations* 17 For what are Visitations other then laborious travellings from place to place? 1739 Bp. Herring in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) II. 132 It was the year of my primary visitation, and I determined to see every part of my diocese. 1762 Warburton in *W. & Hurd's Lett.* (1809) 306, I fancy my Visitation..will be the last week in June and the first in July. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* ii. (1876) I. 70 Wolsey, as papal legate,..commenced a visitation of the professed as well as secular clergy in 1523.

(*b*) 1536 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* fol. 22 b, Item payd at the ffessytacyon, iiii^{d}. 1537 *Ibid.* fol. 23 Item payd at Chelmsford at the Vesytacyon for howr costs, xviiii^{d}. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock, 1866) 56 Imprimis a box made of bone sold to Jho Wattes sens the last visitacion who keeps yt to put monney in. 1603 *Constit. & Canons* cxi, In all Visitations of Bishops and Archdeacons, the Church-wardens.. shall..present the names of all those which behave themselues rudely..in the Church. 1630 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 152, I have yours of the 16th, but it came not to my hands till last Friday, for I was absent at Ipswich on a visitation. 1723 Gibson *Codex* 999 If any Archdeacons are entituled to require Exhibits in their Visitations, it can only be upon the first of Citation. 1728 Ayliffe *Parergon* 96 For the Bishop ought to visit his Diocese every Year in his own Person, unless he thinks fit to omit the same,..and then in such a Case he ought to send his Archdeacon, which was the Original of the Archdeacons Visitation. 1842 *Words to Churchwardens* (Camb. Camd. Soc.) 1, 3 The Archdeacon at his Visitation seldom ends his charge without a few words to us Churchwardens. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 94 The articles of Visitation issued by him, when archdeacon in 1713, as to be answered by all churchwardens.

(*c*) 1707 P. Walker *Life Semple* Biog. Presbyt. (1827) I. 158 There were few parochial Visitations..but he was at them, for encouraging of laborious godly Ministers, and censuring of such as were scandalous.

b. A visit of inspection made by one or more persons having civil authority or jurisdiction or specially appointed to exercise supervision within a certain sphere; the making of such visits; † the body of persons making an inspection of this kind.

† *Visitation of manners*: see quot. 1607 and Mainour.

1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 14 Redresse visitacion and confirmacion shalbe had by the Kynges Highnes. 1538 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 34 Item the v. day after in September [1547] beganne the kynges vysytacion at Powles, and alle imagys pullyd downe. 1607 Cowell *Interpr., Visitation of manners*..was wont to be the name of the Regarders office in auncient time. 1665 in W. Campbell *Ch. & Par. Kirkaldy* 84 The visitation present appoynts the school to be visited four times in the year. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 387 On the 8. of Nov...the Visitation of his Library is commonly made. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 349 Sir Thomas Pye..has it in command from the King to acquaint [certain admirals, captains, etc.] that he is pleased with their attention during his visitation at Portsmouth. 1845 Poulson in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 866/1 It was held, that in default of a special visitor appointed by the founder or charter, the king, in the person of his chancellor, had the right of visitation. 1874 Bucknill & Tuke *Psychol. Med.* (ed. 3) 2 The bill of 1828, by which the Secretary of State was allowed to appoint fifteen Commissioners annually, for the license and visitation of those houses which had been previously licensed by the College of Physicians.

c. A periodic visit made to a district by heralds to examine and enrol arms and pedigrees. Now only *Hist.*

1572 N. Roscarrock *Prelim. Verses* in Bossewell *Armorie*, Of dubbing knights, the orders ther they haue; ..With visitacions, which allottes to eche desert his right. 1640 Yorke *Union Hon.* To Rdr., For the Armes of our Lincolnshire Gentlemen, I haue taken their knowledge from themselues, and by Visitations. 1849 R. Sims (*title*), An Index to the Pedigrees and Arms contained in the Heralds' Visitations. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiii. (ed. 3) 133 The Records of these Visitations are preserved in the College of Arms.

d. In general use: Examination, inspection.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* E iij b, The old huddle missing his monye at his next visitation, toke the haulter and hanged himselfe. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 16, I cannot tell by what Logick we call a Toad, a Beare, or an Elephant, ugly, they..having past that generall visitation of God, who saw that all that he had made was good.

e. *spec.* Examination of goods by a customs officer or similar official; the action on the part of a belligerent vessel of ascertaining, by entry or close examination, the character of a merchant ship belonging to a neutral state.

1785 Magens *Insurances* II. 513 Where these Goods shall be subject to Visitation in the same manner, as those which are made in the Kingdom. 1826 Kent *Comm.* I. 31 Maritime states claim upon a principle just in itself and temperately applied, a right of visitation. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 The law of nations gives to every belligerent cruiser the right of visitation and search of all merchant ships.

2. The action of going to a place, either for some special purpose or merely in order to see it; an instance of this.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 555 Therfore I made my visitacions To vigilies, and to processions To prechyng eek and to thise pilgrimages. 1634 Corbington tr. *Justin* XXXVIII. (1672) 377 The Ambassadors of the Romans..made a visitation into those parts to observe the condition and Kingdoms of their Confederates. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 178 We took the way by Tor, partly to see it, and partly to take a Monk to guide us in our visitations. 1700 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* II. xviii. 495 The Blessed Jesus..found Time enough to make His Circular Visitation thro' all those Towns in and about Palestine. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 395 In this manner we find, that no part of nature is wholly secluded from human visitation. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. viii. The town was a favourite place of visitation with all the family. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 311 We proceeded from hence to the Church of St. Mary Segreta, and terminated our visitation at that of the Holy Sepulchre. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxvii. 654 As they possessed estates in widely distant places, it was an object to them that they should have easy and convenient means of visitation.

transf. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxix, Lambourne, on whom his last draught, joined to repeated visitations of the pitcher upon former occasions began to make some innovation.

b. *post.* The object of a visit. *rare*⁻¹.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 275 O flours,..My early visitation, and my last At Eev'n, which I bred up with tender hand.

c. The action, on the part of animals, of resorting to a particular place at certain seasons, or of exceptionally appearing in places which are not their usual habitat.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 330 Along the coasts of Norway,..these animals are found punctual in their

3. The action or practice of visiting sick or distressed persons as a work of charity or pastoral duty.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (E.E.T.S.) 79 Whan Abacuk.. Broughte potage in to Babyloun,..After figure this mater to conveye, How almesse-dede and vysytacyoun Gretly avaylleth to sowlys whan they deye. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 120 And as to them that ben seke contynuell visitacion of them. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Offices* 18 The Order for the visitacion of the sicke. 1583 in *Woodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 460 As tuitching the Visitatioun of the seik, he declairit he was . glad to wisste the plainest creatour. 1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* 379 In performing..the Service appropriated to the Visitation of the Sick with one of these Men (who died a few Days after). 1795 Paley *Clergym. Comp.* Pref., The offices of Public and Private Baptism, though no ways relating to the visitation of the Sick, are retained. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 180 The Church of England..retains private confession in the rubric for visitation of the sick. 1886 Kington Oliphant *New English* I. 160 An office for the Visitation of the sick, which dates from about 1390.

b. The action of pastoral visiting on the part of a clergyman.

1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 253 The curate beinge of visitacion in the one parte of his paroch, cannot com to the church by the space of ij dayes. 1828 Scott *Rob Roy* iii, Country parsons, jogging homewards after a visitation. 1912 T. B. Kilpatrick *N. Test. Evangelism* iii ii. § 2. 167 The Work of Visitation. Every minister knows that this may be the most profitable part of his pastoral duty...The work of visitation can never be stereotyped.

4. *The Visitation* (*of our Lady*), the visit paid by the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth, recorded in Luke i. 39 ff.; hence *ellipt.*, the day on which this is commemorated, July 2; also, a picture representing the event.

1498 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 588 This 3ere the Chaptur of blak monkes was kept at Couentre aboute þe visitacion of our Lady. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xiv. (1870) 161, I haue seen mowe in somer on saynct Peters day and the Vysytacion of our Ladye. 1621 Cotgr. s.v., The feast of the Visitation of our Ladie. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Nov. 1644, I here are in it divers good pictures, as the Assumption..; the Crucifix; the Visitation of Elizabeth. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The Visitation of the Virgin Mary is a feast instituted first by pope Urban IV. in the year 1389. 1880 F. Mevrick in *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* II. 2140/1 Among the black-letter or second-class festivals [in the Anglican calendar] occur:—1. The Visitation, July 2nd. 1880 tr. *Woltmann & Woermann's Hist. Paint.* I. 420 The Visitation..in which..the expression of Elizabeth surprises by its individuality.

b. *The* (*order of the*) *Visitation*, the Visitandine order of nuns.

1701 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 94 We were at the Nuns of the Visitation, St. Frances de Sales' Festivall. 1748 A. Butler *Lives Saints* (1845) VIII. 277 He [St. Francis of Sales] then mentioned his project of forming a new establishment of a congregation of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary. 1864 Newman *Apol.* iv. (1904) 143/1 There was a lady, now a nun of the Visitation, to whom at this time I wrote the following letters. 1899 A. Shield in *Dublin Rev.* July 64 To visit the Nuns of the Visitation in their convent at Chaillot, founded by Queen Henrietta Maria.

5. The action of making a friendly or formal call or calls; social intercourse of this nature; visiting.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xviii. (1912) 463 He..so much abhorred all visitation or honour,..that he besought his two noble friends to carrie him away to a castle not far of. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 190 Many of the Gentlemen of the cittie did go vnto the Spaniards to visite them in the which visitation they spent all the whole day. 1603 *Journ. of Earl of Nottingham* 30 Sunday, Munday and Tuesday were..spent onely in visitation and matters of complement with one or other. 1632 May tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* II. 81 Because there was acquaintance betweene the two families, this youth was brought by way of visitation to the Ladies lodging. 1643 Baker *Chron., Edw. III*, 169 The King of Scots came for businesse and visitation. 1829 Crabbe *T. of Hall* IX, How much she grieved to lose the given day In dissipation wild, in visitation gay. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 421 Family visitation [of the insane] should be prohibited.

b. An instance of such visiting; a visit.

1582 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 157 b, The chaunces of these visitations in deede are so often, and so many, that they spend six daies of the week in them. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 176 He..was more familiar than at his first visitation. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 17 Men of best quality will easily beleeve, that their name is knowne among strangers, and they take these visitations for honours done them. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* viii. 83 Which Letters and visitations I entertained vntill my Mother had paid my debts. 1642 Eglisham *Forerunner of Revenge* 14 Hee knowing Buckinghams visitation to proceed of dissimulation, requested your petitioner..to finde the meanes to get him away quickly. 1788 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* I. 180 As he attended Mr. Orthodox to the door, to press his early visitation next morning. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 509 Feasts and visitations occupied the Duke. *a* 1817 Jane Austen *Watsons* (1879) 337 In the occurrences of the visitation..she heard Mr. Howard spoken of as the preacher. 1877 Black *Green Past.* ii, Her father hearing that she contemplated some charitable visitation of the kind had strictly forbidden it.

c. A prolonged visit, or one which is disagreeable to the recipient.

1819 *Metropolis* I. 231 She now went on a visitation (for her visits are far beyond the common length) to Lord ——.

II. 6. The action, on the part of God or some supernatural power, of coming to, or exercising power over, a person or people for some end: a. In order to encourage, comfort, or aid.

a 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 19 If he..halde it a specyalle vesytacyon of oure Lorde, and thynke it mare þan it es.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 72 Whan God of his grete visitacioun, List out of this worlde for hym to sende.

c 1430 *Mirk's Festial* 42 Syt, 3e mowe blesse þe tyme þat 3e wer borne, forto haue suche vysitacion, as I now haue herde. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 306 Now drawe ye therfore holefull water of lore of my wellys, & that w' ioy, for ye tyme of youre vysytacyon is comyn. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol* v. xxiii, For which cause we see that the most comfortable visitations, which God hath sent men from above have [etc.]. 1643 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 Mercies are visitations; when God comes in kindness and love to do us good, he visiteth us. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 22 My Celestial Patroness, who deignes Her nightly visitation unimplor'd. *a* 1741 Chalkley *Wks.* (1766) 86 The merciful Visitations of that High and Lofty One who inhabits Eternity! 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* I. 212 In such high hour Of visitation from the living God, Thought was not. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* III. § 9. 34 In such a high hour of religious visitation and in this etherial region..the Divine Spirit may mingle with the Human.

b. In order to test, try, examine, or judge.

1382 Wyclif *Luke* xix. 44 And thei schulen not leeue in thee a stoon on a stoon, for thou hast not knowe the tyme of thi visitacioun. 1382—1 *Pet.* v. 6 Therfor be 3e mekid vndir the miȝty hond of God, that he reise 3ou in the day of visitacioun. *a* 1450 *Mankind* 281 in *Macro Plays* 11 Lyke as þe smyth trieth ern in þe feer, So was he triede by Godis vysytacyon. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 134 b, It maketh hym..glad to receyue the visitacion of our lorde what so euer it be. 1551 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* 24 b, For na vther cause..bot yat thai wald nocht knaw the tyme of thair visitatioun. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Isaiah* x. 3 What wil ye do now in the daie of visitation, & of destruction. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 Jerusalem is threatned to be searcht with candles, and that was the time of Jerusalems visitation. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* I. xxvii, In the Day of Visitation, In the fearful hour of Judgement, God will remember thee!

c. So as to afflict with sickness or other trouble, esp. by way of punishment for wrong-doing.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 207 And in alle þingis bewar of grucchyng aȝens God and his visitacion, in gret labour and long, and gret sikenesse, and oþer adversitees. 1421 Hoccleve *Complaint* 382 My sycknesse, which came of god[de]s visytacion. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 33/1 That notorie sekenesse or impediment by Gods visitation. 1455 *Ibid.* 323/2 John Banham Squier,..which is blynde by Goddes visitation. 1485 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 524 And any Casualtes of disease by Godes visitacion com vnto the Recourder. *a* 1529 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2016 Pray to God your sorowes to aswage: It is foly to grudge agaynst his vysytacyon. 1603 (*title*), Certaine Prayers..most necessary to be vsed at this time in the present Visitation of Gods heauy hand for our manifold sinnes. 1635 *Life & Pranks of Long Meg of Westminster* (Hindley II) 45 'Tis the visitation of the Lord for the great sins you have committed. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 If God in affliction visit us,..let us answer his visitation of us with our visitation of him. 1820 *John Bull* 31 Dec. 24/2 A verdict of 'died by the visitation of God' was recorded. 1898 J. Arch *Story of Life* xiii. 312 A visitation of the Almighty..upon a luxurious and dissipated aristocracy.

d. A similar action on the part of an evil power or disembodied spirit.

1844 Dickens *Christmas Carol* ii. 14 The ghost had warned him of a visitation when the bell tolled one. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* i. 7 He observed that, to him, this trance looked more like a visitation of Satan than a proof of divine favour.

7. A heavy affliction, blow, or trial, regarded as an instance of divine dispensation; retributive punishment operating by this means.

a 1450 *Mankind* 721 (Brandl), Yt were to me solace, þe cruell vysytacyone of deth. 1567 *Trial Treas.* (1850) 37 Enter God's Visitation. I am God's minister, called Visitation...Sometime I bring sickness; sometime perturbation. *c* 1585 *Faire Em.* v. i, Put case I had beene blinde, and could not see—As often times such visitations falles That pleaseth God. 1639 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 172 My late wives kinsman..at the late heavy visitacion did take great paines about me in the time of my trouble. 1642 Earl of Eglinton *Lett.* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 52, I am sorrowfull from my heart for your lordships great losse and heavie visitatioun. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Visitation*,..the great Sickness with which the People of this Kingdom were sorely afflicted during..1665 and 1666. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 544 [I] now can account for the severe visitation on me, and mine. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 287 You boast an intimate knowledge of the decrees of Heaven, and shew what is ordained for the visitation of man. 1865 Seeley *Ecce Homo* vi. (1866) 53 Jehovah was considered..as punishing by providential visitations and by mysterious pains inflicted on the dead. 1885 Dunckley in *Manch. Weekly Times* 21 Feb. 5/5 War is here regarded..as a punitive visitation, as a form of retribution for our sins.

8. The fact of some violent or destructive agency or force coming or falling upon a people, country, etc.

1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xix. 23 The feare of the Lorde preserueth the life, yee it geueth plenteousnes, without the visitacion of any plage. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, III. i. 21 In the visitation of the Windes, Who take the Ruffian Billowes by the top. 1737 Chesterf. *Lett.* ccixxxix, The Austrians always leave behind them pretty lasting monuments of their visits, or rather visitations. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. viii. (1835) III. 126 In Arabia and India, and other countries, their [*sc.* locusts] visitations have been periodically experienced. 1838 Arnold *Hist. Rome* I. 287 The period..was marked by the visitations of pestilence, as well as those of war. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xv, Thanks to Ibrahim Pasha's terrible visitation the men of the tribe were wholly unarmed.

9. The fact of some immaterial power or influence acting or operating on the mind.

1791 Mrs. Inchbald *Simple Story* I. Pref. p. iii, In justice to their heavenly inspirations, I believe they have never yet favoured me with one visitation. 1819 Shelley *Ye Gentle Visitations*: Ye gentle visitations of calm thought. 1845 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. I. *Love* (1901) 200 But be our experience ..what it may, no man ever forgot the visitations of that power to his heart and brain. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xiv, His voice was what his uncle's might have been if it had been modulated by delicate health and a visitation of self-doubt. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xvi, Or was he moved by some visitation of compunction?

III. 10. *attrib.* (chiefly in special senses), as *visitation acquaintance, book, court, day, dinner, fee, nun, office, sermon, work.*

1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* xc, Mary would fain hae had me to cultivate a *visitation-acquaintance with him. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 109 Their original *visitation-books, compiled when progresses were solemnly and regularly made into every part of the kingdom, to enquire into the state of families, are allowed to be good evidence of pedigrees. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 80 The visitation books show us the old edifice once more. 1841 (*title*), Report of the *Visitation Court of the Archbishop of York. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St Gt. Brit.* (1710) 292 This day still continues to be the *Visitation-day, when the Curators ..do inspect the Library and call over all the Books. 1900 *Daily News* 27 June 6/5 Chocolate is the time-honoured beverage on visitation day at Greenwich Observatory. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xi, There was not..a ball, nor an election, nor a *visitation dinner..but he found means to attend it. 1850 J. H. Newman *Diffic. Anglic.* I. ii. (1891) I. 61 Was it a subject..discussed and denounced..in episcopal charges and at visitation dinners? 1880 *Wyclif's Wks.* 249 *marg.*, *Visitation fees. 1899 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 273 Three *visitation nuns from the monastery of Chaillot, near Paris. 1795 Paley *Clergym. Comp.* v, Prayers for a sick Child. (*Visitation office.) 1676 Glanvill *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* Pref. a 3, The Fifth [Essay] of the Agreement of Reason and Religion, was at first a *Visitation Sermon. 1782 C. Simeon in W. Carus *Life* (1847) 28 There is a Visitation Sermon preached every month at my own parish-church at Reading. 1747 Bp. Sherlock *Let.* 27 Aug., in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 297 As the *visitation work is divided between me and the Bp. of L. we have got thro' it with great ease.

Hence **Visita·tional**, of or pertaining to a visitation. †**Visita·tioner**, one who performs, or takes part in, a visitation.

1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 91 A money-renouncing clergy, that can abstain from seeing a penny a month together, unless it be when the collectors and visitationers come. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 20/2 Without impairing the utility or expediency of visitational charges.

Visitator. Now *rare.* [a. late L. *visitātor*, f. *visitāre* to visit. Cf. It. *visitatore*, Sp. and Pg. *visitador*.] An official visitor.

1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 5 If any ecclesiasticall Judge or Visitatour do voluntarily concele..any presentment. 1545 *Act* 37 *Hen. VIII*, c. 17 Censures ecclesiasticall made by your Highnes and your Vicegerent, officialls, commissaries, and Judges and visitators. 1606 W. Crashaw *Rom. Forgeries* F 3 b, The reuerend Andreas Vander Rijt, ..Canon of Antwerpe, and the censor or visitator appointed to ouerlooke and allow bookes before they be printed. 1676 in *Essex Papers* (Camden) 68 James Darcy, now Guardian of Dublin, but then Comm[i]ssary visitator. 1897 J. McCabe *Twelve Yrs. in Monastery* 178 The usual course is for the General..to send a deputy to the province which is about to hold its elections. The deputy or visitator visits all the monasteries in succession.

Visitatorial (vizitătō·riăl), *a.* [See next and -ORIAL.]

1. Pertaining to, connected with, involving or implying, official visitation: a. Of power, authority, etc.

1688 N. Johnston (*title*), The King's Visitatorial Power asserted. Being an impartial relation of the late visitation of St. Mary Magdalen College in Oxford. 1721 Bentley *Corr.* (1842) I. 417 The Crown has, for a century and half, been in sole possession of the Visitatorial power. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 470 In one of our colleges, (wherein the bishop of that diocese..has immemorially exercised visitatorial authority). 1770 (*title*), The Conduct of..the Lord Bishop of Winchester..with brief Observations on visitatorial Power. 1834 *Edin. Rev.* LVIII. 476 Deriving the visitatorial power from the property of the donor. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 90 The enactment which annexed to the crown an almost boundless visitatorial authority over the Church. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 536 The visitatorial jurisdiction by which the first..regulated, and remodelled the second.

b. With other sbs.

1771 *Gentl. Mag.* XLI 19 When I wrote my remarks upon the defence of the visitatorial decision I was ignorant of the Presidents of Magdalene College being favoured with the indulgence you mention. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 53 The Pope..left the visitatorial question undecided. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 4/7 In his visitatorial address to the churchwardens .Mr. Chancellor Christie went a little out of his way. 1890 Duckett *Visit. Eng. Cluniac Found.* 5 Formulæ for visitatorial duties.

2. Having the power of visitation; exercising authority of this kind.

1880 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 5/3 He [a professor at Oxford] may be brought before a Visitatorial Board, admonished, fined, and deprived. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 471 Leave of absence granted by visitatorial boards.

†**Visitatory**, *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. type **visitātōri-us*, f. *visitāt-*, ppl. stem of *visitāre* to visit: see -ORY.] = prec. 1 a.

1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxvii. 208 It is a visitatory, or a reforming Power which is executed by inquiry of offences against Lawes established, and by executing such Lawes.

Visite (vizē't). [F. *visite* Visit *sb.*]

1. A light cape or short sleeveless cloak worn by ladies.

1830 Shedley *L. Arundel* xxxvi. 303 A *visite*, of light blue *glacé* silk. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 1 July, She wore a white dress with a black silk visite, and a white bonnet. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 11 May 4/2 We have a 'visite' without arms or any proper accommodation for those useful appendages.

2. Short for Carte-de-visite, in attrib. use.

1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 301 A stereoscope camera which can be used to make..24 visite negatives.

Visited (vi·zitĕd), *ppl. a.* Also 6 vysaet, vysyted. [f. Visit *v.*]

† **1.** Afflicted with illness; attacked by plague or other epidemic. *Obs.*

1537 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 375 This towne, the wheche clothe kepe the vysset folke at Bradmar. 1553 S. Cabot *Ordinances* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 261 The sicke, diseased, weake, and visited person within boord to be comforted and holpen. 1575 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 159 Payd more for the charges of the vysyted woman at Hye Crosse xxiij d. 1604 F. Herring *Mod. Defence* B 2, He will not rush rashly into euery infected and visited house. 1640 Somner *Antig. Canterb.* 16 Convenient Pesthouses, and Receptacles for the poore visited people of the City. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1896) 33 If any person visited do fortune..to come..from a place infected to any other place.

2. That is the object of a visit or visits.

1673 O. Walker *Educ.* II. i. 223 In receiving visits..the Gentlemen meet them at the bottom. It is alwaies observed that the visited Gentlemen attend one degree at least further then the Patron. 1754 *World* No. 62 P 9 The Visited in these cases..have invented on their part several curious hints towards shortning the length of a Visitation. 1873 Smiles *Huguenots France* III. i. (1881) 383 Dauphiny is one of the least visited of all the provinces of France.

Visitee (vizitī·). [f. Visit *v.* + -ee.] The person to whom a visit is paid.

1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 181 A very necessary convenance interposed between visitor and visitee in those numerous calls of etiquette. 1842 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 174 To suit the more fashionable hours of our visitees. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* July 39, I should think that angels (and their visitees) were very lucky.

Visiter (vi·zitə). Now *rare*. Also 6 vyoytar. [f. Visit *v* + -er.]

1. = Visitor 2 a and 2 b.

1382 Wyclif *2 Macc.* iii. 39 He that in heuens hath dwellyng, is visiter and helper of that place. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 822 He is also a visiter and punisher of sinne vpon the wicked.

2. = Visitor 1.

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 185 These Jacobites..be esteemed to make about 160000 families, or rather 50000, as Leonard the bishop of Sidon, the popes visiter in those parts hath recorded. 1691 Baxter *Nat. Ch.* v. 21 The Scots had at first a General visiter, that was really a General Bishop. 1830 De Quincey *Bentley* Wks. 1863 VI. 75 Her Majesty was the true visiter of Trinity College.

3. = Visitor 3.

1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* III. 30 Country Gentlemen haue many visiters both with neere dwelling neighbours, and freends that iourney from farre. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 13 We doe moreover shorten our own time, fooling the greatest part of our best houres away among a company of prattling visiters. 1668 Lady Chaworth in 12th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 10 She yesterday..kept her bed yet admitted visiters in the afternoone. 1727 Swift *What passed in Lond.* Wks. 1755 III. i. 184 It was observed too, that he had few visiters that day. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* v, Tell me, Sophy, my dear, what do you think of our new visiter? 1773 Mrs. Chapone *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 44 The empty compliments of a visiter. 1796–7 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xi (1813) 225 On the very morning after their own arrival at Lambton these visiters came. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xxv, A squalid-looking woman [in Newgate prison]..was communicating some instructions to her visiter—her daughter evidently.

fig. 1799 Sickelmore *Agnes & Leonora* I. 90 The sudden and unwelcome intrusion of his old visiter, the gout, obliged him to alter his determination.

transf. 1756 (*title*), The Universal Visiter and Memorialist.

4. = Visitor 4 and 4 b.

1843 Yarrell *Brit. Birds* III. 386 The Terns..are summer visiters to this country. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 723 Immense mirrors..occupy a prominent position, which must render them appreciable to every visiter. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 671/2 The chief object of every Meccan..being to pillage the visiter in every possible way.

Visiting (vi·zitiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Visit *v.*] The action of coming or going to a person or place for some special purpose.

1. On the part of supernatural beings, esp. the Deity in order to comfort, try, or punish persons.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6189 Ioseph..praid þe folk and badd þat quen godd sent þaim visiting, þai suld his banes þe-ben bring. *Ibid.* 11966 Feird war þan birdes for þat light..For þai sagh neuer..sli visiting be-for þat night. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* li. 18 Veyne ben the werkus, and wrthi scornyngi in tyme of ther visityng, thei shul perishe. *c* 1425 Audelay *Xl Paines Hell* 359 in *O. E. Misc.* 222 God hap me chastyst fore my lenyng, I þonke my god my grace treuly Of his gracious vesityng. 1645 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 637 We may apply it..either to Gods visiting of us or in

2. On the part of persons, in various senses of the verb; *esp.* the action of calling upon others in a social or friendly way.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 42 Yn some loud were al the game ysheut, If that men ferd with love as men do here,..In visityng, in forme, or seying here sawis. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* II. 176 Denes and suddenes, drawe3ow togideres,.. *c* 1380 [illegible] dis-ltyng of cristen men. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 344 Item, to ane cowpar for mending and visiting of thir pipis,..vijd. 1530 Palsgr. 283/2 Vysityng, *visitence, visitation.* 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Visitatio*, a visityng, or commyng to see. 1627 Morison *Itin.* I. 234 Our Consuls burning with desire of returning homeward, appointed the next day for the visiting of the Sepulcher. 1698 *Whole Duty Man* xvi. 237 Visiting the sick and imprisoned; by which visiting is meant..so coming as to comfort and relieve them. 1727 Swift *To Very Yng. Lady* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 43, I hope your husband will interpose his authority to limit you in the trade of visiting. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xiii. iv, Mrs. Fitzpatrick,..though it was a full hour earlier than the decent time of visiting, received him very civilly. 1826 H. K. White *Let.* 6 Jan., Visiting and gayety are very well by way of change, but there is no enjoyment so lasting as that of one's own family. 1880 Byron *Blues* II. 8 What with driving and visiting, dancing and dining. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 68/2 It requires great care before any one can assert that a plant has disappeared, and some years' visiting of the station. 1911 *Act* 1 & 2 *Geo. V*, c. 15 § 14 Every such rule relating to the visiting of insured persons by visitors appointed by the society.

b. An instance of this; a visit.

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xli. iii, Their courteous visitings are courting lyes. 1628 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 211 By often visitings, presents, and invitacions. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VII. xl. 54 We shall be favoured with the company of Lord and Lady L. as soon as her visits and visitings are over. 1770 Wilkes *Corr.* (1805) IV. 36, I begin to recover the fatigue of visitings and great dinners, which I abominate. 1817 Mar. Edgeworth *Ormond* xvi, Say I'm too old and clumsy for morning visitings.

3. Of things. (Cf. Visit *v.* 10 c.)

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xix. 23 In plenteuousnesse it shal abide stille, withoute visiting of the werste. 1820 Mrs. Hemans *Siege of Valencia* iv. (1823) 160, I have swept o'er the mountains of your land, Leaving my traces, as the visitings Of storms, upon them! *a* 1851 Moir *Hymn Night Wind* Poet. Wks. (1852) II. 379 But not alone to inland solitudes,..Are circumscribed thy visitings.

b. Of influences affecting the mind.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xvii. 96 Thei mowe be verrified in manye othere wisis and for manye other visitingis, than ben the visitingis and the giftis of Kunnyng. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. v. 46 Stop vp th'accesse and passage to Remorse, That no compunctious visitings of Nature Shake my fell purpose. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* I. 332 A Spirit,..In soft and breeze-like visitings, Has touched thee. 1834 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* I. ix. 141 Let not those visitings pass away. 1836 *Ibid.* III. i. 6 They cannot be 'as the heathen'; they are pursued with gracious visitings, as Jonah when he fled away. 1867 Parkman *Jesuits N. Amer.* vii. (1875) 81 Some of them seemed to have visitings of real compassion.

4. *attrib.*, as *visiting acquaintance, dress, relations, terms, way*; † **visiting-bell**, ? a bell used in visiting a sick person; **visiting-book**, a book containing the names of persons to be visited; **visiting-card**, a small card bearing a person's name, to be left or presented on paying a visit; † **visiting-day**, a day set apart for receiving visitors; an at-home day; **visiting-list**, a list of persons to be visited; **visiting-society**, a society formed for the purpose of visiting the poor or sick; † **visiting-ticket**, a visiting-card.

1775 Sheridan *Rivals* IV. i, But they are the last people I should choose to have a *visiting acquaintance with. 1808 Scott *Marm.* II. xix. *note*, His [St. Cuthbert's] carrying on a visiting acquaintance with the Abbess of Coldingham. 1552–3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Staffs.* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 41 It[e]m a *veseting bell, and a peare of sensors of brasse. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 257 All my great and small names in my old French *visiting-book. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lx, Before long Emmy had a visiting-book, and was driving about regularly in a carriage, calling upon [etc]. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* I. iii, Why, a ticket [for an assembly] is only a *visiting card with a name upon it. 1820 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 158 The Duke of Beaufort's pocket was picked of..his visiting-cards. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 30. 79 People are photographed on their visiting cards. 1859 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 5/3 The New Year's visiting-card..is one of the survivals of old-fashioned French politeness. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 80 P 3. I had the Misfortune to drop in at my Lady Haughty's upon her *Visiting-Day. 1717 Prior *Dove* ix, With one great Peal They rap the Door, Like Footmen on a Visiting-Day. 1768 (*title*), The Visiting Day: a Novel. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* IV. (new ed.) 177 Shawls,..belong rather to the carriage or *visiting dress. 1829 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 368 Sitting in judgment over a *visiting list. 1870 Miss Bridgman *R. Lynne* II. iii. 66 Who would have been unexceptionable wives as regarded their dress and their visiting-list. 1884 Yates *Recoll.* I. 279 *Visiting relations had, in the mean time, been established between us and the Dickens family. 1844 [W. Harness] (*title*), *Visiting Societies and Lay Readers. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 301 No one had stood on these *visiting terms with heaven. 1770 Cumberland *West Indian* I. vi, Here, give me your direction; write it upon the back of this *visiting ticket—Have you a pencil? 1824 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Mem.* II. 253 Finding the visiting-ticket of Mr. Harris on his return home one morning. 1849 Thackeray *Virgin.* lxxxiii, A gigantic footman..delivered their ladyships' visiting tickets at our door. 1779 T. Hutchinson *Diary* 26 Feb., Called on Mrs. Burnet and Colonel Leland—which is doing a great deal for me in the *visiting way.

Visiting (vi·zitiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Visit *v.*]

1. That visits; that pays visits or is engaged in visiting.

1626 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xv. 68 There is nothing left remarkable Beneath the visiting Moone. 1720 Steele *Tatler* No. 231 P 2 The Memory of an old Visiting-Lady is so filled with Gloves, Silks, and Ribands. 1807 J. Hassiott *Struggles through Life* II. 42 Should any visiting company wish to see the infant..I have known the child brought to the door of the apartment. 1859 Leven *Davenport Dunn* III, To think you're a visiting governess in an Aldermans' family. 1895 *Daily News* 26 Oct. 3/1 None of the visiting teams were on the winning side.

b. *Visiting ant* (see quots.).

1885 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 394 One of these species, the *Atta cephalotes*, which inhabits the West Indies, is there known as the Visiting Ant. *c* 1888 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 382 The Driver Ants, or Visiting Ants, of W. Africa, generally referred to the species *Anomma arcens*. 1899 Mary Kingsley *W. African Stud.* i. 87 These ants are sometimes also called 'visiting ants', from their habit of calling in quantities at inconvenient ho—— —— humanity.

2. That visits officially for the purpose of inspection or examination.

1713 Gibson *Codex* xlii. viii. 1009/1 In the Council of Laodicea, ann. 360, it was Ordained, That no Bishops should be placed in Country Villages, but only..Itinerant or Visiting Presbyters. 1808 James *Milit. Dict., Visiting Officer*, he whose duty it is to visit the guards, barracks, messes, hospital, etc. 1828 Sir S. Romilly in *Parl. Debates* 30 That the royal prerogative should be interposed..between them and the visiting magistrates. 1880 Syd. Smith *Prisons* Wks. 1859 I. 361 Are visiting justices to doom such a prisoner to bread and water? 1868 (*title*), The Visiting Justices and the Troublesome Priest.

Vi·sitment, *nonce-wd.* [f. Visit *v.* + -ment.] A visit or visitation.

1754 *World* No. 62 P 9, I may very shortly send you a few necessary remarks upon each of these three Visitments.

Visitor (vi·zitə). Also 5 visitur, -oure, 6–7 visitour (6 *St.* vesit-, vesatour). [a. AF. *visitour* (Gower), = OF. *visiteor, visiteur* (F. *visiteur*), f. *visiter* to visit.]

1. One who visits officially for the purpose of inspection or supervision, in order to prevent or remove abuses or irregularities: **a.** An ecclesiastic, or a lay commissioner, appointed to visit religious establishments, churches, etc., for this end, either at regular intervals or on special occasions.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23985 Our noble Visitour, Which doth his peyne and his labour to looke for lucre and fals guerdoun. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 272 þe Abbott..oppynlie in þe chapitr..puit forth all þies trispas of þis yong man, when þer visitur was þer. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/2 A Visitoure, *reformator proprie in religione, visitator.* *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 416 The maister of þ^e Templers, with an other great ruler of the sayd ordre, which was named visitour of the same. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 749 These visitours found many stout prieates, but chiefiye one That had sondrye benefices. 1585 *Holinshed's Chron.* II. *Scott.* 440/1 After they had discharged bishops, they agreed to haue superintendents, commissioners, and visitors. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 96 Where a speciall Visitor is appointed vpon the foundation, the complaint must be made to that Visitor. 1676 Degge *Parson's Counsellor* II. xv. 201 The Clergy and Religious Houses came to this composition, every one to pay such a proportion to their visitors to be freed of that great oppression. 1721 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VIII. 305 Whatever the Visitor ordains, the Mother Abbesse and all her Religious shall receive and execute with respect and obedience. 1732 Neal *Hist. Purit.* I. 18 The management of which was committed to the Lord Cromwel with the title of Visitor General. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 102 The formidable name and mission of the *Dragon* his visitor-general. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 90 An Act was..passed, which..took away from the Crown the power of appointing visitors to superintend the Church. 1872 Jervis *Gallican Ch.* I. Introd. 18 An officer, called the Visitor, usually one of the bishops of the province, was appointed to preside over the proceedings.

b. One who has a right or duty of supervision (usually exercised periodically) over a university, college, school, or similar institution.

1533 Ascham in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 26 The Visitors have taken this ordre, that every man shall professe the studie eyther of divinitie, law, or physick. 1587 Ld. Burleigh in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 204 The Archbishop of Canterburie youre Visitor. 1643 Caryl *Expos. Job* v. I. 480 And over Colledges, Hospitals, and such publick Foundations, Visitors are appointed, to see [etc.]. 1691 *Case of Exeter Coll.* 14 In order to which he gets an Appeal drawn up, and carries it to the Lord Bishop of Exeter, visitor of the College, then at London. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 9 Aug. 1682, The Council of the R. Society had it recommended to them to be trustees and visitors, or supervisors, of the Academy which Monsieur Faubert did hope to procure to be built. 1709 Swift *Adv. Relig.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 106 Whatever abuses..have crept into the universities..they might in a great degree be reformed by strict injunctions..to the visitors and heads of houses. 1808 W. Wilson *Hist. Dissent. Ch.* I. 229 He was appointed by the Protector Oliver, one of the New Visitors of that University. 1829 R. Gilbert *Libr. Scholast.* 306 The appointment of the mastership [of Sedberg] is vested in the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, who are the Visitors to the school. 1832 Whately in *Life* (1866) I. 135 In certain Colleges..fundamental statutes can only be changed by visitors.

c. In other connexions.

1556 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1872) II. 298 Thomas Boyis vesitour of the baxter craft within this burgh. 1574 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* I. 104 Superflowis bankatting,..as the bailleis and eldaris than vesatouris presentlie declarit. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 862 An expert mariner or two called Visitors of the shippes, to know whether the ships be well tackled; whether they haue sufficient men. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* vi. 94 The French discourse printed at Antwerp *cum privilegio*, and approbation of the Visitor of bookes. 1654 tr. *Martini's Cosmog. Chinæ* 134 This Governeur, by reason of some corruption, and Avarice of the Visitor of the Country, had some difficulties with him. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 468 The founder [i. e. the King], his heirs, or assigns, are the visitors of all lay-corporations. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 170 The visitor (now called the ordinary

of Newgate). 1897 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 7/3 Visitor..is the ..name given to those vigilant officers of the Board whose business it is to run truants to earth. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Aug. 7/1 In 1899 four ladies were appointed as health visitors.

2. a. One who visits from charitable motives or with a view of doing good.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 205 Vertuous visitour to folkys in prisoun. 1536 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 133 Most gracyus lord and most worthyst vycytar that ever cam amonckes us. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 11 *Seb.* He receives comfort like cold porridge. *Ant.* The Visitor will not give him o're so. 1833 J. TUCKERMAN (*title*), Visitor of the Poor. 1863 *Biogr. Sk. E. Fry* 45 The cheerfulness visible in their [*sc.* prisoners'] countenances..conspired to excite the..admiration of their visitors. 1870 [see DISTRICT *sb.* 6].

b. One who visits with punishment. *rare.*

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* i. 12, I am..the visitour and seker out of the wykednes of the fathers in their children.

3. One who pays a visit to another person or to a household; one who is staying for a time with friends.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 42 You see this confluence, this great flood of visitors. 1660 J. STYPE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 177, I hear also my brother Sayer is often a visitor. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* VI. 620 She hires Tormentors, by the Year; she Treats Her Visitours, and talks. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Moral Subjects* II. (1698) 137 They do not care to be crowded with Visitors,..and to be always yoaked in Ceremony. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* Prol., Too singular in his conduct, to pass unnoticed by the visitors. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iv, She filled the rooms of the visitors with flowers. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxx. 407 After sharing the supper of their hosts, the visitors stretched themselves out and passed the night in..slumber. 1871 GRENVILLE-MURRAY *Member for Paris* I. 287 'Oh, I'm only a visitor', answered Horace modestly.

transf. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 130 What is done heere shalbe reuealed vnto you by mine Epistles, whiche shall not be your sealdome visitoures. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 570 The creeping vermin, loathsome to the sight,..A visitor unwelcome.

attrib. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* xxxii, The visitor-wife and the unseasoned prisoner still lingered.

4. One who visits a place, country, etc., esp. as a sightseer or tourist.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Cynics*, The Novelty of the Thing drew abundance of Visitors to the Village. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 72 Sometimes the visitors.., after having hired a person to perform a longer recitation, go away before he commences. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvii. 315 It is usual for visitors to the Montauvert to descend to the glacier. 1895 *B'ham Y.M.C.A. Record* Oct. 3/2 The usual time of year for the arrival in India of visitors is the middle of October.

b. An animal or bird which occasionally or at regular seasons frequents a certain locality or area.

1859–60 Sir J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) I. 405 The Puffin..is a summer visitor to our shores. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 15 The presence of the wild swan, now only a winter visitor. 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* vii. 72 The Glead or Kite..is a very rare visitor.

Hence **Vi·sitoress**, = VISITRESS.

Also *visitorish*, *visitorless* (nonce-words).

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 30/2 Their superior was called the Prepostress, and they had Visitoresses, Rectresses, and other dignitaries.

Visitorial (vizitǒ·riăl), *a.* [f. prec. or VISIT *v.*: see -ORIAL.]

1. = VISITATORIAL *a.* 1.

1813 *Examiner* 24 May 332/1 We held it to be beneath our visitorial functions. 1843 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 72 One of the visitorial injunctions, in allusion to this class of students, directs [etc.]. 1873 B. GREGORY *Holy Catholic Ch.* xv. 153 The visitorial authority of the itinerant Apostolate.

2. Capable of visiting.

1853 *Tait's Mag.* XX. 486 The more terrible and supposed visible, or at least visitorial deities of the hideous Pantheon of the Hindoos.

Vi·sitorship. [f. VISITOR 1 + -SHIP.] The office or dignity of an official visitor.

1886 L. O. PIKE *Yearbks.* 13 & 14 *Ed. III*, Introd. p. lxvii, The visitorship was in the Treasurer on the King's behalf. 1894 *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 July 49/1 Thus Balliol stands alone among the twenty-one Oxford Colleges in having the power to bestow the visitorship just given to Mr. Peel.

Visitress (vi·zitrĕs). [f. VISITOR: see -ESS.]

1. A female visitor. Also *transf.*

1827 E. W. BARNARD *Swallow* i, The visitress of man, on earth She resteth not her flagging wing. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 173 Our importunate visitress. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xxxii, Keenly, I fear, did the eye of the visitress pierce the young pastor's heart. 1869 W. R. GREG *Lit. & Soc. Judgm.* (ed. 2) 93 It is highly proper that by such an act at this time, you express your contradiction of our importunate visitress.

2. *spec.* A woman who undertakes regular visiting of the poorer households of a district in order to help or advise.

1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 104 If she ceases to be a schoolmistress, she becomes a visitress or a nurse, or she gives her labours in the dispensary. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 2/3 There is an understanding..that district visitresses have a..vested right to the society of curates.

Visive (vi·ziv), *a.* ? *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *visīv-us*, f. L. *visus* seeing, sight: see -IVE. So F. *visif*, *-ive* (15th c.), It., Sp., Pg. *visivo*.] Of or pertaining to sight or to the power of seeing; visual.

1. *Visive faculty, power, virtue*, etc.: The faculty of sight, the power of vision.

In early use *virtus visiva*, after med.L. *virtus visiua*; cf. F. *vertu, faculté, puissance visive* (15-16th cent.).

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* IV. 136 Remotion of the matter conioynt, by evaporation, and comfortacyon of the vertue visive. 1576 G. BAKER tr. *Gesner's Iewell of Health* 82 b, A water .. with a notable comforting of the virtue visive or seeing. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Deut.* xxxiv. *comm.*, God elevated his visive powre above nature to see so farre. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xxix. § 5 As oft as he is disposed to exercise his visive facultie. 1633 CULPEPPER *Pharm. Londin.* 306 Ocular Medicines are two fold, viz. such as are referred to the Visive Vertues, and such as are referred to the Eyes themselves. 1666 SPRUSTOWE *Spir. Chym.* (1668) 34 A principle, which is as necessary to goodness, as a visive power to the eye, to enable it to discern its object. 1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 59 For this end chiefly the visive sense seems to have been bestowed on animals. 1733 tr. *Belloste's Hosp. Surgeon* II. 263 This man's eye was fair and sound to all appearance, yet was it utterly deprived of the visive faculty. 1804 *Something Odd* II. 54 The neat simplicity of Eloisa's dress..struck on the visive faculty of 'my Lord'. 1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XL. 337 He had thrown a new and important light on the true character of these visive sensations.

fig. 1660 S. FISHER *Rustick's Alarm* Wks. (1679) 507 He hath given an understanding,..and this all men have, the inward visive faculty. *a* 1679 T. GOODWIN *Work of Holy Spirit* v. ii. Wks. 1704 V. i. 178 This new Spiritual visive Power, with which the Understanding is endowed. 1728 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. (1791) 229/2 You bid me open my eyes, but, alas! I want a visive faculty. 1830 T. TAYLOR *Argts. Celsus* 31 If, closing the perceptive organs of sense, you look upward with the visive power of intellect. *a* 1838 JAMIESON *Influence Spirit* (1844) 82 Ignorance of such a description that it cannot receive the light; a want of the visive faculty.

b. Serving as a means by which sight or vision is made possible. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Wks.* I. x. 26 That [spirit] which causeth the sight, is named the Visive. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* II. Pref., In curing Diseases of the Eyes..we must alwaies mingle those things which comfort the visive spirits with other Medicines. 1697 *Physical Dict., Visive-nerve*, the nerve that is the instrument of the visive faculty, or of seeing. 1686 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* III. vii. 119 The Optick or Seeing Nerves; so called..because they carry the visive spirits to the Eyes. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XXX. 49 The lightning..dashes from the blinding eyes The visive spirits dazzled and bedimm'd.

c. *Visive organ*, the organ of vision; the eye.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* IV. iii. (1660) 79 Lucretius.. believes the *Idolum* in his own Visive organ to be adequate to the Sun it self. 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 14 Let Intellectual Tubes give thee a glance of things, which visive Organs reach not. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 110 Vision is here taken materially for that impression which is made upon the visive organs by the rays of light.

d. Having the power of vision; able to see.

1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 641 God..impressed three Phantasms on the sensitive or visive Soul..of Abraham. 1793 T. TAYLOR *Orat. Julian* 22 We infer his perfective power from the whole phænomena, because he gives vision to visive natures.

2. Forming the object of vision; capable of being seen.

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* II. 106 It looseth the corporal visiue form. 1647 A. ROSS *Mystag. Poet.* x. (1675) 249 For open and solid bodies are not fit to receive or transmit the visive species.

b. *Optics.* Falling upon or appearing to the eye.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 156 This doth happen when the axis of the visive cones, diffused from the object, fall not upon the same plane. 1670 E. R. *No Plus Ultra* 83 The visive rays. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 456 b, If the Sight-hole be..any whit large, it admitteth too many visive Rays.

3. Sent out from the eyes.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 283 It seeming..that the visiue beames in both..strucke home vpon our soules.

Visk, variant of WHISK (whist).

Visnamy, variant of VISNOMY.

Visne (vi·ni). *Law* or *Hist.* Also 5 visnee, 6 vysne. [a. AF. and OF. *visné* (earlier *visnet*: see next), f. *vesin, visin, veisin* (F. *voisin*) .—L. *vicīn-us* neighbour: see VICINE *a.*]

1. A neighbourhood or vicinage, esp. as the area from which a jury is summoned.

1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 150/1 Triable by Enquest, in the same Shire and Visne where the said action shall be taken. 1464 *Ibid.* 565/2 Of the visnee where the acid seyser shall be had. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. vii. 15 All yssues.. muste be tryed by xii. fre & lawful men of the vysne. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffs* 3 A Coroner hath a fee belonging to his office viz. of every visne 1 d. 1625 Sir H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 412 In euery suit betweene an Aliien and a Demesne..the one halfe of the Iurie shall be the Aliens, if so many be in that visne. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisdictions* (1657) 374 The sherif returns a Jury of the Visne of D., and the new sherif returns no such visne. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxvii. 344 The sheriff of the county must return a panel of jurors.., without just exception, and of the *visne* or neighbourhood. 1832 *Index of Rolls of Parlt.* 952/1 The Inquest taken by Men of the Visne of the County where the Plaintiffs were born. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Visne*, a neighbouring place; a term often used in law in actions of marine replevin.

2. A jury summoned from the neighbourhood in which the cause of action lies

1633 Sir J. BOROUGH *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1652) 103 Replevin was brought of a Ship taken upon the wast of Scarborough ..to which Mutford tooke two exceptions, one because no certaine Towne, or place was named from whence the visne should come. 1832 Sir F. PALGRAVE *Eng. Commw.* II. 156 It did not occur to the Vehmic Judges to put the offender upon his second trial by the visne, which now forms the distinguishing characteristic of the English law. 1883 H. COX *Institl.* II. iii. 347 *note*, If the visne appeared on the record to be from a wrong place, it was a good ground for arresting or reversing the judgment.

†3. = VENUE 5. *Obs. rare.*

1642 [see VENUE 5]. 1665 EVEL *Tryals per Pais* viii. 85 Where the Visne is laid to be in a City, in an Action brought in a superior Court [etc.]. 1768 [see VENUE 5 b].

Vi·snet. *rare.* [a. OF. *visnet* (see prec.) or Anglo-L. *visnetum* (also *vicinetum*).]

†1. A trial by jury. *Obs.*

14.. in *Sc. Acts Parlt.* (1814) I. 378/2 Na Galowa man aw to haf visnet bot gif he refus þe law of Galowa and ask visnet.

2. *Hist.* = VISNE 1.

1872 ROBERTSON *Hist. Essays* 122 The Twelve-hides appears to have been usually regarded as a small *visnet*, or neighbourhood. *Ibid.* 137.

†**Visney.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Turk. *vishneh*, Pers. *vishneh* cherry (with corresponding forms in the Slavonic and other languages of eastern Europe: cf. the note to GEAN).] A liqueur of the nature of cherry brandy.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 143 Cherry Brandy ..to come up very near to the Liquor called Turkish Visney, that used to be sold at London for twenty Shillings per Gallon. 1736 BAILEY *Household Dict., Visney.* Fill a large bottle or cask with morello cherries..and fill up the bottle or vessel with brandy [etc.].

Visnomy (vi·znŏmi). Now *arch* or *dial.* Also 6 vyse-, vice-, visnamy, visenomy, visnomye, -nomie, 9 visnomy (*dial.* visomy). [var. of ME. *fisnomye*: see PHYSIOGNOMY.]

1. = PHYSIOGNOMY 3.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* (1555) R iij b, For you are euill fauoured, and also vgly, I am the worse, to se your visnamy. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 70 The Prophet Daniel, and the Apostle Paule: which paynt out Antichristes visnomye unto us wyth suche lyght and euidence. 1591 SPENSER *Muiopot.* 311 Each of the Gods by his like visnomie Eathe to be knowen. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. i. 159 Then with a bell regard advant mine eye With boldnes on her verie visnomie. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* III. v, You seldom see a Poet look out at a good Visnomy.

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xvi, The loon has woodie written on his very visnomy. 1821 — *Kenil.w.* x, My own ugly visnomy. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Distant Correspondents*, Who would consult his sweet visnomy, if the polished surface were two or three minutes..in giving back its copy. 1838 J. P. KENNEDY *Rob of Bowl* ii, A thick gray moustache gave a martial and veteran air to his visnomy.

†2. = PHYSIOGNOMY 2. *Obs.*—1

? 1540 COPLAND *Hye Way to Spyttel Ho.* 452 For all the seuen scyences surely he can; And is sure in physyk and palmestry, In augury, sothsayeng and vysenamy.

Viso·meter. *rare.* [f. L. *vīs-us* sight + -OMETER. Cf. VISUOMETER.] (See quot.)

1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* Nov. 178 The first person..who constructed and used an apparatus, which he calls a *visometer*, for determining the focal length of each eye, was Mr. Salom of Edinburgh.

Vison (vai·sŏn). [a. F. *vison* (Buffon), of obscure origin.] The American mink.

By some writers *Vison* has been used as the name of the genus *Lutreola*, to which the mink belongs.

1781–5 SMELLIE *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VII. 308 The pekan has so strong a resemblance to the pine weasel, and the vison to the martin, that they may be regarded as varieties of these species. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 448 Vison, Lutra Vison. .. This animal appears to approach .. extremely near to the L. Lutreola, or Smaller Otter. 1843 T. E. GRAY *List Spec. Mammal. Brit. Mus.* 64 The Mink, or Nurek Vison, *Vison Lutreola*. 1864–8 J. G. WOOD *Homes without H.* i. (1868) 92 The Mink, the Vison and other weasels of Northern America are in the habit of retiring to holes and crevices.

attrib. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 253/2 *Mink*, a name for the Vison-weasel.

Visor, vizor (vai·zəɹ), *sb.* Forms: α. 4–7 viser, vyser (6 wesser); 5 visere, vysere, *Sc.* veseir, -ere. β. 5–6 visar, *Sc.* wysar, 6 vysar, 6–7 (9) visar; *Sc.* 5–6 wesar, 6 veser, vesar. γ. 5 vesoure, 6 visoure, vysour(e, 7 visour, 6–7 (9) visour; 6- visor, vizor (7 vizer). [a. AF. *viser*, f. F. *vis* face, VICE *sb.*[3] Cf. VISIERE and VISURE.]

1. The front part of a helmet, covering the face but provided with holes or openings to admit of seeing and breathing, and capable of being raised and lowered; sometimes spec. the upper portion of this.

α. 13.. *Coer de L.* 323 Hys pusen therwith gan gon, And also hys brandellet bon, Hys vyser and hys gorgere. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8552 Hy þe vyser he hym hent, & held it til he had sesed his nekke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7092 He .. voidet his viser, auentid hym seluyn. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4285 Lamedoun, with a despiteous chere, From his face raced his visere. 1464 *Mann. & Housek. Exp.* (ROXB.) 194 My mastyr lent hym. a salat wyth a vesere of melcyn. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. xii. 181 Thenne the kyng analyd his vyser with a make & noble countenaunce. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxliv. 540 Then Gloryand and Malabrone lyft vp theyr wesers and shewyd theyr faces. 1611 COTGR., *Visiere*, the viser, or sight of an helmet.

β. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 830 Ane other awkwart apon the face tuk he; Wayr and frount bathe in the feild gert fle. *Ibid.* X. 386 Graym..smate that knycht in teyn, Towart the wesar, a litill be neth the eyn. 1560 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 367 Item, for ane vesar to ane gret bewmond and ane litill gard that beris the gret gard,.. lvj s. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 76. 1530 PALSGR. 285/2 Vysar of harnes, *visiere dung armet.*

γ. 1489 *Paston Lett.* I. 487 Item, vill. saletts, white, withe out vesoure. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 42 She..made him low incline his lofty crest, And bowd his battred visour to his breat. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 99 Why then your visor should be thatcht. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Helmet*, Dukes and Princes have their Helmet, damask'd, fronting, the Visor almost open, and without Bars. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 35 In this state nearly globular,.. resembling in figure an antique helmet with a visor. 1803 SCOTT *Cadyow Castle* xxxix, From the raised vizor's shade, his eye, Dark-rolling, glanced the ranks along. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xvi. II. 336 He was pierced with a shaft of a javelin through the visor of his helmet. 1879 GREEN *Read. Eng. Hist.* xvii. 82 They were in mail with their vizors down.

b. *U.S.* The stiff rounded part on the front of a cap; = PEAK *sb.*2 1 e.

1864 WEBSTER. 1892 BIERCE *In Midst of Life* 95 His cap was worn with the visor a trifle askew.

2. A mask to conceal the face; a vizard.

a. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 2779 A viser he made more, Two faces bihinde and two before. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 226 Siche fendis wiþ þer visers maken men to flee pees. *c* 1485 *Wisdom* 759 in *Digby Mys'.* (1896) 166 Here entre vj womane in sute, thre disgysede as galauntes, and thre as matrones, with wonderfulle vysers. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 132 The one hath a viser vgly set on his face, Another hath on vile counterfaite vesture. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 16 Thei were appareled in garmentes long and brode..with visers and cappes of gold.

β. 1530 PALSGR. 285/2 Vysar for a mummar, *faulx visaige.* 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 Any person..with his face hyde or covered withe hoode or vysar. 1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 14 Vesars or maskes for men & women. 1570 GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* IV. 48 Their faces bid alone, With visars close. 1628 DONNE *Serm.* (1640) 231 In the Resurrection, God shall put of that Vizar, and turne away that picture, and shew his own face. *a* 1689 MRS. BEHN tr. *Cowley's Plants* VI. 1426 His Image..Breaks through the Cloud of Darkness; and a Shine Gilds all the sooty Vizar! γ. 1512–13 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 Preamble, Dyvers persones have disgysed and appareld theym, and covert theyr fayces with Vysours. 1555 EDEN *Decades* III. (Arb.) 184 The fouler in the meane tyme, disguysinge hym selfe as it were with a visour. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 205 Each of those Idolles had a counterfaite visor with eies of glasse. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* II. 7 Lines, therefore, over-darke, or over-trimm'd, Are like a Picture with a Visour limm'd. 1682 FLAVEL *Fear* 78 There are some things which are.. scarecrows and vizors which children fear. 1693 *Humours Town* 127 You can never think an Amour began in a Vizor in the Play-house, will ever end in the Church. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* III. i, The rest in vizors, fearing to be known, Have ventur'd thro' the streets for your protection. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* vi, They were disguised in cloaks and visors. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 436 With a fearful vizor on his face, And a bright axe in his hand. 1906 B. CAPES *Loaves & Fishes* 146 The eyelets in its woollen visor were like holes scorched through by the burning gaze behind.

3. *fig.* (or in fig. contexts). An outward appearance or show under which something different is hid; a mask or disguise.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 354/2, I shall so pull of there gaye paynted visours, that euery man..shall plainlye perceiue and beholde the bare vgly gargyle faces of their abhominable heresie. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 1 The crafty cunning traine, By which deceipt doth maske in visour faire. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnif.* 590 All discover'd lies, The vizor's off. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Vand. Wars* I. 4 He concealed his dislike (their enmity being covered yet under a fair visour). 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* ii. M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 41 I'll make it appear that you have only put on a Knaves Vizor for the present. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. iv. 132 A person proceeds by little and little to take off the visor. 1798 BRAGGE in *Anti-Jacobin* 12 Feb. (1852) 61 But soon the vizor dropp'd. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, I. 76 When lawyers masque 'tis time for honest men To strip the vizor from their purposes. 1831 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* Introd., It appeared to him that it would have been an idle piece of affectation to attempt getting up a new *incognito*, after his original visor had been thus dashed from his brow. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* II. xv. 81 Nor can we justify his personal retreat from the battle-field, and his return under the visor of an accomplished champion.

b. Const. *of* (the quality, etc., serving as a mask or disguise).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 258 Under the viser of Envie, Lo, thus was hid the tricherie, Which hath beguiled manyon.

J. BEL

Osor. 144 There is scarse any substaunce at all in Free will, ..except a glorious visour of Title onely. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. 65 This Vizor of holie and zealous reuenge falling off, discouered the face of couetousnesse so much the more ougliie. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 122 Those that are meer outsides and visors of Christianity. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* II. 32 He pulled off his Vizour of a friend, and discovered what he was. 1857 C. BRONTË *Professor* x, I had buckled on a breast-plate of steely indifference, and let down a visor of impassible austerity. 1860 WARTER *Sea Board* II. 19 She put on the vizar of religion.

†4. A face or countenance; an outward aspect or appearance. Also *fig.* of immaterial things. *Obs.*

1575 VAUTROLLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 258 They looke onely vpon the outward visour of the lawe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. iii. (1912) 21 This lowtish clowne is such, that you never saw so ill favourd a visar. *a* 1592 H. SMITH *Restit. Nebuchadn.* 27 They which vnderstand not yet what is the booke of God, are but horse and mule, though they beare the visors of men. 1624 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 15 Sickness, Poverty, Exile, Death,..by expectation lessen the terror of their visors. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. vi, Lay by that Worldly Face and produce your natural Visor.

5. A variety of pigeon (see quots.).

1879 L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 279 Visors are another and the last introduced of the short-billed Frilled Pigeons. 1881 J. C. LYELL *Fancy Pigeons* 236 The Visor. This variety was produced by crossing the domino with the satinette tribe, the object being to have coloured headed satinettes. 1892 — *Pigeon-keeping* 108 The Visor may be called a Bluette with coloured head, as in the Domino.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *visor-clasp, -helm, -smile*; *visor-faced, -like* adjs.; **visor-bearer**, a Brazilian bird having head-feathers arranged like a visor.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 40 With visor-lyke visage, suche as it was, She smirkt. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skiad.* (1878) 36 This vizar-fac't pole-head dissimulation, This parrasite. 1797 T. PARK *Sonn.* 106 O! that the world would by her ways improve,..Nor wear the visor-smile of feigned love. 1798 LANDOR *Gebir* I. 51 His visor-helm, His buckler and his corset [1803 corslet] he laid by. 1824 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI. xxvii, Strong Egremont for air must gasp, Beauchamp undoes his visor-clasp. 1861 GOULD *Monogr. Trochilidæ* IV. Pl. 221 *Augastes Scutatus*, Natterer's Vizor-bearer. *Ibid.* Pl. 222 *Augastes Lumachellus*, Hooded Vizor-bearer.

b. **Visor-mask**, (*a*) a form of disguising mask; a domino; (*b*) a prostitute. Cf. VIZARD-MASK.

(*a*) 1672 [H. STUBBE] *Rosemary & Bayes* 11 *Personam induere* doth also signifie to put on a perruke and visor-mask. 1679 DRYDEN *Limberham* v. i, I will put on my visor-mask, however, for more security. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* v. 50 A Whore (is known) by a Visor-Mask: And a Fool by Talking to her. 1713 *Guardian* No. 4 P 1 Even Truth itself in a Dedication is like an Honest Man in a Disguise, or Visor-Mask.

(*b*) 1693 *Humours Town* 105 The Orange-Wenches, and the Visor-Masks. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* Epil., The Vizor-Masks, that are in Pit and Gallery, Approve, or Damn the Repartee and Raillery.

Vi·sor, vi·zor, *v. rare.* Also 6 **viser.** [f. prec.]

1. *refl.* To disguise (oneself) with a visor.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 80 b, In secrete places euery one visered himselfe, so that they were vnknowen.

2. *trans.* To cover *up* with a visor.

1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1012 The Sun..visoring up a red And cipher face of rounded foolishness.

Visored, vizored (vəi·zəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

1. Of persons: Having the face covered or hid with a visor or mask. Also *fig.*, and of things.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 99 Þus in stede of cristis apostlis ben comen in viserid deuelis, to disceyuen men in good lif. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xvi. 4 There is no cause why theis visord Nicodemusses should coker themselves with this fond pretence. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 698 Hast thou betrai'd my credulous innocence With visor'd falshood, and base forgery? 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* iv. (1876) I. 205 Martin Mar-prelate, a vizored Knight of those lists, behind whose shield a host of sturdy puritans were supposed to fight. 1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* III. xv. 260 There was the enemy hard in front, mailed, visored, gauntleted.

b. In predicative use. (Cf. VISOR *v.*)

c 1460 *Wisdom* 727 in *Macro Plays* 59 Here entrethe vj. Jorours..with hodis abowt her neckis, hattis of meyntenance ber-vp-on, vyseryde dyuersly. *a* 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 78 The Schottys came in to Inglonde in to the parke of Stanhope. And ther they were vyseryde for knowynge. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* Concl. 325 The lofty brows of stern Clokmore Are visored with the moving cloud. 1830 MRS. BRAY *Tha Talbs* xx. 170 Did you not come, you and your companion, visored and shrouded,..to waylay our path. 1883 SWINBURNE *Les Casquettes* iii, Like heads of the spirits of darkness visored That see not for ever, nor ever have heard.

2. Of helmets: Furnished with a vizor.

1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 136 The improved visored bascinet and camail. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 271 A soldier in a vizored helmet. 1898 *Archæol. Jrnl.* LV. 119 The head-piece, which is a visored salade.

Visorless, vizorless (vəi·zəlĕs), *a.* [f. VISOR *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no visor.

1848 LYTTON *Harold* III. v, There were the small round shield and spear of the earlier Saxon with his visorless helm. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* July 188/1 He wore a round visorless cap of astrakhan.

†**Vi·sorly,** *a. Obs.*—1 In 5 **viserly.** [f. as prec. + -LY 1.] Resembling a visor or mask.

1421 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 678 Hir viserly faces, grim & hydous Me putte in thoghtful dreedes encombrous.

Visorne, Sc. variant of VISERN *Obs.*

†**Viso·rum.** *Obs.* [For *visorium* (so in F.), aphetic for *divisorium* (so in G.), a special use of med.L. *divisorium* a dividing thing or part.] A device formerly used by compositors while setting up, to indicate the line on the copy.

1659 C. HOOLE tr. *Comenius' Vis. World* (1672) 190 The Compositor..(according to the Copy, which he hath fastened before him in a Visorum) composeth words in a composing-stick. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. P 4, 212 Some Compositers use Visorums,..pricking the point of the Visorum..upon the Border or Frame of the Case. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 383 When our Copy is very wide we use a Divisorium (commonly called Visorum), we chuse to move it each time downwards, to compose what by that means appears from under the Visorum.

†**Vi·sory,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *vīs-* (ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see) + -ORY.] Visive, visual.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* I. 19 The serpent stroke him dead, infecting his visory spirits with her unprevented poison. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 80 Let them endeavour untill they perceive whose the visory rayes do come. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVIII. 627 Small and Small seed..attenuate the visory Spirits.

†**Viscta·ctile,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vīs-us* sight + *tact-us* touch.] Involving both sight and touch.

1892 UNQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 236 By vertue of the intermutual unlimitedness of their visotactil sensation.

Visour(e, obs. forms of VISOR.

‖ **Viss** (vis). Also 7 **vise, vyse,** 8 **vis.** [ad. Tamil *visai.* Cf. It. *byss*, Pg. *bis*, in 16th c. writers.] A weight used in Southern India and Burmah equal to about 3½ lbs.

[1588 HICKOCK tr. *Federici's Voy. & Trav.* 32 b, This Ganza goeth by weight of Byse..and commonly a Byse of a Ganza is worth..halfe a ducket.] 1626 METHOLD in *Purchas Pilgrimage* (ed. 4) 1093 His peremptory demand of a Vyse of the fairest Diamonds. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 87 The annual Tribute i. e. three pound weight being a Vise of the fairest Stones or Diamonds. 1766 T. BROOKS *Coins E. Indies* 7, 40 Pollams weight is equal to 1 Vis, or 3½ lb. Avoirdupoise. *Ibid.* 11, 4 Putas is 1 Vis. 1800 *Misc. Tr.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 319/2 From the wells the oil is carried in small jars, by cooleys,..to the river; where it is delivered to the merchant exporter at 2 tecals per hundred viss. 1829 CRAWFURD *Jrnl. Emb. to Crt. of Ava* (1834) II. 203 The King [of Burma] lays claim to all [stones] that exceed in value a viss of silver, or one hundred ticals. 1876 J. ANDERSON *Mandalay to Momien* 336 In 1872, no less than one hundred and fifty thousand viss of royal cotton were stored at Manwyne.

Viss, southern ME. var. FISH; obs. Sc. f. WISH *v.* **Vissage,** obs. f. VISAGE. **Vissare,** southern ME var. FISHER. **Visse,** obs. var. VIET *v.*, *Sc.*

†**Vissep,** southern var. of ME. *fisheth* (OE. *fiscaþ*), fishing.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5341 A day as he werl was..& is men were ywent a vissep.

Vissett, obs. f. VISIT *v.* **Vissie,** var. VIET *v. Sc.*

†**Vissier.** *Sc. Obs.*—1 [f. *visty* VIET *v.*] An inspector.

1566 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 175 The said Sir James Balfour of Pettindreich knycht..vissier and ressaver.

Vissill, Sc. f. WISSEL *v. Obs.* **Vissite,** obs. f. VISIT *v.* **Vissorne,** Sc. var. VISERN *Obs.* **Vissy,** var. VIET *v. Sc.*

Vist, obs. Sc. form of *wist* WIT *v.*

Vista (vi·stä), *sb.* Also 7–9 **visto.** [It. (also Sp. and Pg.) *vista*, f. L. *vīs-*, ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see. The form *visto* exhibits the common tendency to substitute *-o* for *-a* in adoptions of Romanic words: cf. -ADO 2.]

1. A view or prospect, especially one seen through an avenue of trees or other long and narrow opening.

a. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 97 This is one of the pleasantest Vistos in the Iland. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xii. 136 The Churches..standing gradually higher than one another, make the Visto from the Sea admirably pleasant. 1740 tr. *Algarotti on Newton's Theory* I. 122 A Landskip drawn by Claude Lorrain, or a Visto by Canaletto. 1798 T. GREEN *Diary Lover of Lit.* (1810) 83 We caught a grand view of it, extending in a long visto, and bounded by the opposite projecting points of Cary Sconce and Hurst Castle. 1827 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 49 It was impossible to look in any direction but along the narrowing *visto* of canal.

β. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* 222 On several hands one sees a long Vista of streets. 1721 POPE *Temple Fame* 263 The Temple ev'ry moment grew, And ampler Vista's open'd to

decline, its splendours rise, Its vistas strike, its palaces surprise. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 379 Near the tomb is obtained a splendid vista of Naples in all its glory. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* xi, I stood looking wistfully over the gate..at the inviting vista of the green embroidered path. 1873 HODGSON *Oldport Days* x. 252 A piny dell gave some vista of the broad sea we were leaving.

2. A long narrow opening (esp. one made on purpose) in a wood, etc., through which a view may be obtained, or which in itself affords a pleasant prospect; an avenue or glade.

a. 1671 R. BOHUN *Wind* 29 A Mountaine in Provence which had a *Visto* thorough it. 1711 *Herwit* 25 Aug. 2/2 A Visto cut thro' a Hill for which the Workmen have not seen their Money. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 90 An old House that stood at the End of a Visto. 1736 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 214 Humphry employs himself..in hunting..cutting vistoes through the woods, or gardening. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 132 A fine park ..[with] spacious vistoes, under which those who walked were shaded from the sun-beams. 1809 *Child 96 Fathers* (N.Y.) I. 182 My eyes..were suddenly attracted by a small visto of trees, which appeared to me well suited to the indulgence of meditation.

fig. 1792 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 115 In the groves of *their* academy, at the end of every visto, you see nothing but the gallows.

β. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 37 The woods lye dispersed at due distance, and if any thing large, have lawnes or vista's cut through them. 1732 MRS. DELANEY *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 376 Below the house and between the lakes is a little copsewood which is cut into vistas and serpentine walks. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xlii. 251 He employed hands to cut a vista through a coppice. 1792 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 64 A winding road through a wood has undoubtedly more beauty than a vista. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 75 The tops of the grass are cut away with a sickle so as to form a narrow vista for the passage of an arrow. 1888 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* I. 36 A many-columned vista of a wood. 1893 RIDER HAGGARD *Heart of World* xiv, Everywhere stretched vistas that brought to my mind memories of the dimly-lighted nave of the great cathedral of Mexico.

b. An open corridor or long passage in or

through a large building; an interior portion of a building affording a continuous view.

c. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4414/3 Newington House built with Stone after the Italian manner, with a Visto through, ..to be let. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 118 An abundance of good sizeable roomes leading one out of another in Visto's through the house, something Like our new way of building. 1735 W. STUKELEY *Itin.* (Surtees) II. 36 They have opened a visto from the lodge through the gallery, to the library.

β. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ii, Beyond this Room there were three others, reaching the length of the House, to which you passed through three Doors, opposite to each other, in the manner of a Vista. 1846 A. DUNCAN *Nelson's Funeral* 37 The central aisle..forming in itself the grandest architectural vista in Europe. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 15 The whole [*sc.* galleries of the Louvre] extended into infinite vistas by mirrors that..multiplied everything for ever. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 15 The door at the end of the narrow little passage stood open, and the westward-fronting casement was shining like a jewel at the end of the vista.

† c. An opening or passage-way. *Obs.*—1

1737 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xiii. 155 To search well, that there should be no subterraneous Communication..[but] finding no Visto that might be suspected, they ordered the Jougies to remove their great Water Jar.

3. *fig.* A mental view or vision of a far-reaching nature.

1673 *Lady's Call.* II. iii. § 8 It must infinitly more do so.. if they please to open a visto into the other world. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. Pref. 3, I pretend only to make a kind of visto into the intelligible world. 1848 R. J. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* iii. (1852) 28 Those occasional Intimations which open vistas into the mighty depths of God's counsels. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* viii. 178 The human heart takes in all the great vistas and reaches of human reason. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Dec. 6/1 The use of reading is to lighten the load of life, and to open vistas of thought which otherwise would be closed to us.

attrib. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. P17 Catching every now and then a vista vision of ten thousand ducats.

b. A view or vision, in prospect or retrospect, of an extensive period of time or series of events, experiences, etc.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 117 Through the long visto of a thousand years, To stand contemplating our distant selves. 1780 BURKE *Econ. Reform* Wks. 1906 II. 307 They might see a long, dull, unvaried visto of despair and exclusion, for half a century, before them. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* i, A sort of vision of future grandeur passed before me, in the distant vista of which I perceived a coach with four horses and a service of plate. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. Introd. 12 As yet we can gaze but dimly into the obscure vista of these early periods. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 39 Dr. Pauli..to whose strong historical vision a vista of a few centuries is nothing. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* Ixxx. III. 50 They see a long vista of years stretching out before them in which they will have time enough to cure all their faults.

4. *In vista*, in continuous view.

1758 J. KENNEDY *Curias. Wilton House* (1786) p. xxxvii, The Rooms lie in Visto as a great Gallery. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* Pref. p. viii, Like a monotonous and undeviating route to the traveller, who..beholds the object constantly in vista. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 259 The level road with its aisles of poplars in perspective vista.

Hence **Vi·stal** *a.*, of the nature of a vista, **vi·staless** *a.*, devoid of any vista or prospect.

1860 MAYNE REID *Wild Huntress* I, The squatter's clearing..is a mere vistal opening in the woods. 1890 *Lippincott's Mag.* Feb. 242 Was Bombin's life more aimless quite Than the vistaless one of the Sybarite?

Vi·sta, *v. rare*—1. [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To make into vistas.

1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* xxxiii, The night had now closed in, and its darkness was only relieved by the wan lamps that vistaed the streets.

2. In *pa. pple.* Seen in vistas.

1848 LYTTON *K. Arthur* VII. xxviii, And all the galleries vista'd through the wave.

Vistaed (vi·stăd), *a.* [f. VISTA *sb.*]

1. Placed or arranged so as to make a vista or avenue.

1833 LYTTON *Rienzi* V. iii, They..extending far down the vistaed streets..awaited the orders of their leader. 1864—*Str. Story* V, I did not pass through the lane..but up the broad causeway, with vistaed gas-lamps. 1888 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* xxxviii, She moved slowly and saunteringly along the vistaed aisle.

2. Provided with vistas.

1860 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl., Dover to Munich* 105 Lawns, and vista'd gardens, Statues white, and cool arcades. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P.* II. 258 They would ride on and on through the many-vistaed forest.

3. *fig.* Seen as it were in prospect by the imagination.

1849 W. M. W. CALL *Reverberations* II. 85 Gazing steadfastly Thro' vistaed centuries. *a* 1861 MOIR *Poems* (1852) I. 64 To her appear The vista'd joys of Heaven's eternal year. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems, Hound of Heaven* 6 Up vistaed hopes I sped.

Visual (vi·ziŭăl, vi·z-), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 visuall. [a. OF. *visual* (16th c., = Sp. and Pg. *visual*, It. *visuale*, OF. and F. *visuel*), or ad. late L. *visuālis* (rare) attained by or belonging to sight, f. L. *vīsus* sight, VISION *sb.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Of beams: Coming, proceeding, or directed from the eye or sight. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1697 Þat of oure sight þe streytys visual May nat be-holde, nor I-seen at al,..How Appollo is in his chare schynende. 1609 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1360 It fareth with us in this case, as with those who would see a thing very farre distant; for of necessitie the visuall beames of his sight doe faile before they can reach thereto. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* To Rdr., Trusting Authorities at second hand, and rash collecting..from visuall beam's refracted through anothers eye. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 163 For inward light alas Puts forth no visual beam.

b. *Visual line*, the direct line from the eye to the object or point of vision; the line of sight.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xx. Fiijb, Agayne my line visuall proceeding from D to H the subtill notche in the subtendente side of the angle, extendeth to my fiste staffe G. 1600 DOLMAN *Le Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) 111. 696 By meanes of the shadowes, or visuall lines, representing the said shadowes. 1667 SIR R. MORAY in *Phil. Trans.* II. 474 The Visual line that passeth from the Eye to the upper-side of the Mark. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Perspective*, In drawing a perspective figure, where many lines come together, you may..draw the diagonals in red; the visual lines in black. 1850 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* II. iv. 135 Merely to indicate that they lie in almost the same visual line, or that their proximity is optical only, and not real.

c. *Visual ray*, a ray proceeding from the eye to the object seen (cf. *visual beam* above), or in later use from the object to the eye.

1605 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. vi. (1635) 154 The visuall Ray wherein the sight is carried is alwaies a right line. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 620 The Aire, No where so cleer, sharp'nd his visual ray To objects distant farr. 1735 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Perspective*, The point of sight..is the point where all the other visual rays..unite. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 649 The great and varying refractions of the visual rays. 1815 J. SMITH *Panor. Sci. & Art* II. 710 Visual rays, are those which, passing through the transparent plane, render original objects visible. Principal visual ray, is that which passes through the axis or centre of the eye. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 203 If the visual ray from the upper extremity A' coincide with the visual ray from the upper extremity of the other. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 475 The instrument will give us the angle formed by the visual ray with our base-line.

2. Of power or faculty: Pertaining or relating to, concerned or connected with, sight or vision.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1345 As the one [*sc.* the sun] kindles, bringeth foorth and stirreth up the visuall power and vertue of the sense. 1798 WORDSW. *Peter Bell* 918 The Spirits of the Mind Are busy..Upon the rights of visual sense Usurping. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. i. (1879) 13 That part of the Brain which is the instrument of our Visual Consciousness. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 665/2 Comparative researches upon the visual acuity of different parts of the retina.

fig. 1828 MACAULAY *Misc. Writ.* (1860) I. 197 Language..when it becomes too copious,..altogether destroys the visual power [of the imagination]. 1849 W. A. BUTLER *Serm.* vii. 114 Faith is the realizing power. Its the visual sense of the Spirit.

3. Of organs: Endowed with the power of sight; having the function of producing vision. Cf. OPTIC *a.* 2.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 400 An Eye..hath beene thrust forth, so as it hanged a pretty distance by the Visuall Nerue. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 414 Michael..then purg'd with Euphrasie and Rue The visual Nerve [of Adam], for he had much to see. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* xi, The virtue of the Visual nerve, which every little accident shakes out of order. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 228 An assemblage of several organs, all concurring to the production of a single result, constitutes an apparatus,—the visual apparatus, the digestive apparatus [etc.] 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 1 The visual organ, like every other special sense, possesses a peculiar form of sensibility. 1880 HUXLEY *Cray-Fish* iii. 121 Each of these visual pyramids consists of an axial structure—the visual rod invested by a sheath.

b. Of the eye, or in phrases denoting this, as *visual orb.* Chiefly *poet.*

1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 90 Neptune..Afflicts the chief, to avenge his giant son Whose visual orb Ulysses robbed of light. *Ibid.* IX. 434 Urged by some present god, they swift let fall The pointed torment on his visual ball. 1801 *Lusignan* IV. 177 [She] complained that the light,..hurt the visual optic. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic Hades* II. 221 By night when visual Eyes are blind.

4. a. Of knowledge: Attained or obtained by sight or vision.

In early use app. contrasted with book-knowledge.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P74 Mathiolus,..and other Herbalists, have hitherto been busied only about the features, and visuall knowledge of Plants, but all of them..describe vertues out of Dioscorides. 1903 CONRAD & HUEFFER *Romance* IV. v. 270 These..were the only two men of whom she could be said to have more than a visual knowledge.

b. Carried out or performed by means of vision.

1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1866) 155 The visual perception of His Form would be a small blessing. 1882 PROCTOR *Fam. Sci. Stud.* 8 The visual test however is independent.

c. Of impressions, etc.: Received through the sense of sight; based upon something seen.

1833 SIR C. BELL *Hand* (1834) 327 Were the eye fixed in the head..we should still be capable of comparing the visual impression with the experience of the body. 1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) II. 103 The visual ideas, which thus become our main symbols of tangible objects. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. ii. (1878) 397 These two things we will briefly distinguish as visual sensations and visual judgments. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* iii. 37 All parts of the retina are not equally sensitive to visual impressions.

5. Of or pertaining to vision in relation to the object of sight; = OPTIC *a.* 5, OPTICAL *a.* 2, Chiefly in special collocations as *visual angle, axis, focus, point.*

1572 J. HARARA *Lex. Techn.* ii, *Visual-angle*, is the same with the Optick-Angle. *c* 1590 IMISON *Sch. Arts* I. 205 The Visual or Optic Angle, is that which is contained under the two right lines drawn from the extreme points of an object to the eye. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii. 210 To-day's dinner subtends a larger visual angle than yesterday's revolution. 1873 W. LEES *Acoustics* II. iv. 66 The size of an object depends upon the magnitude of the visual angle. 1874 HARTWIG *Aerial World* xiii. 198 If the sun rises, the *visual axis sinks, and with it the rainbow. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 63 What may be called the *visual focus of a lens, or its distance from an object upon which we have adjusted its focus as a magnifier. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 156 The making of the actinic and visual foci coincident. 1879 MOXON *Math. Dict.* s.v., The *Visual Point in Perspective,..is a point in the Horizontal Line, wherein all the Occular Rays unite. [Hence in Phillips, Harris, etc.]. 1735 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Perspective*, Let the object you intend to delineate..be placed also on the right-hand of the visual point. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Visual Point*, the point of vision from which an object is viewed, synonymous with the point of sight.

b. In general use.

1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xi. 91 Certain smaller corrections belonging..to some change in the position of the poles of the earth: or to causes merely visual and optical. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 158 It is indeed quite conceivable that, in beings of another race, the visual scale may be much larger than ours.

6. That is an object of vision or sight; capable of being seen; perceptible, visible.

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* III. xxvi, A clear and settled idea of visual beauty. *Ibid.* IV. xv, Among many remarkable particulars that attended his first perceptions and judgments on visual objects, *c* 1820 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 295 The second commandment expressly makes the worshipping of God in or before a visual image of him.. idolatry. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxv. (1856) 313 Refraction, with its preternatural augmentation of the visual hemisphere, revisited us 1869 TYNDALL in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Feb. 237 Of all the visual waves emitted by the sun, the shortest and smallest are those which correspond to the colour blue. 1871 — *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. vi. 223 The spectrum embraces three classes of rays—the thermal, the visual, and the chemical. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 240 Which from the visual aspect of colour should appear almost black.

b. Of actions, conditions, etc. Also, characterized by visibility.

1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1840) I. 307 (*Goethe*) Everything has form, everything has visual existence; the poet's imagination bodies forth the forms of things unseen. 1840 — *Heroes* ii. (1904) 69 That this so solid-looking material world..is a visual and tactual Manifestation of God's power and presence. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* v. § 10. 145 The inclination may be seen by the eye, by bringing it [the wall] into visual contact with the upright pilasters. 1867–77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* I. i. 11 The period required to make a whole visual rotation.

c. Of signalling or a signal.

1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 424/1 Visual signalling was formerly carried on by semaphores. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 396/2 Visual signaling embraces flags, heliograph, torch, flash light, etc. 1906 *Times* 20 Aug. 5/1, I proceeded as far..as ensured my being able to use visual signals to the signal station.

7. Of the nature of a mental vision; produced or occurring as a picture in the mind.

1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* I. 88 Let the reader try to make a visual scene of it as he can. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* x. 292 When we are thinking or talking of a person, we recall some visual image of that person. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* I. v. (1876) 46 The deeper is the sense of incompetence even to imagine as a visual conception the mass of human beings who have tenanted it.

b. Carrying or conveying a mental vision or image.

1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* xiii. (1870) 469 The Greek Catalogue is charged throughout with what I may call local colour and visual epithets; epithets which..raise up a prospect or scene before the mental eye of a reader or a hearer.

B. *sb.* 1. a. A visual ray: see VISUAL *a.* 1 c.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* III. 2/2 Certain Rays which minister to the sight..are called Visuals. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 649 The quantity of effects and of errors in the visuals proceeding from this last cause must be very different at different times.

2. = VISUALIST 1.

1886 *Mind* July 415 This division of men into visuals, audiles, motiles and indifferents, as we may respectively call them, is of great interest and importance. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 440 These variations depend..upon the question whether the patients are 'auditives' or 'visuals'.

Visualist (vi·ziŭălist, vi·z-). [f. VISUAL *a.* + -IST.]

1. (See quot.)

1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Aug. 731 Charcot, who classified people into 'visualists' (those whose recollections were chiefly of things seen, who had to read a name in order to remember it; 'audists' [etc.].

2. = VISUALIZER.

1900 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* XIII. 544 The visualist probably proceeds more from the standpoint of the object and the enumeration of qualities.

3. (See quot.)

1903 G. M. STRATTON *Exp. Psych.* 128 There are the visualists, who maintain that sight is the only sense that gives us a knowledge of these things.

Visuality. *rare.* [f. VISUAL *a.* + -ITY: app. used by Carlyle only. Cf. late L. *visuālitas.*]

1. The state or quality of being visual or visible to the mind; mental visibility.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1904) 92 Every compartment of it is worked-out, with intense earnestness, into truth, into clear visuality. 1848 — *Frudk. Gt.* x. viii. II. 685 The image he has of his Burial, we perceive, is of perfect visuality, equal to what a Defoe could do in imagining.

2. With *a* and pl. A mental picture or vision.
1842 Carlyle *Misc. Ess.* (1857) IV. 242 We must. catch a few more visualities. 1845 — *Cromwell* I. 154 We have a pleasant visuality of an old summer afternoon 'in the Queen a Court' two hundred years ago.

Visualization (vi·ziuălaiz^{ă}·ʃən, vi·z-). [f. next + -ation.] The action or fact of visualizing; the power or process of forming a mental picture or vision of something not actually present to the sight; a picture thus formed.
1883 *Academy* 14 July 31 Investigations into the phenomena of visualisation. 1884 Gurney & Myers in *19th Cent.* July 72 In the next stage of visualisation the percipient sees a face or figure projected or dejected, as it were, on some convenient surface. 1894 *Athenæum* 10 Nov. 638/2 [The book had] a power of visualization that gave it a claim to real originality.

Visualize (vi·ziuălaiz, vi·z-), *v.* Also visualise. [f. Visual *a.* + -ize.]
1. *trans.* To form a mental vision, image, or picture of (something not visible or present to the sight, or of an abstraction); to make visible to the mind or imagination.
Freq. in recent use, sometimes in connexion with special branches of psychology or psychical research.
1817, 1831 [implied in *Visualized* ppl. a.] 1863 Tyndall *Heat* x. 350 We can hardly help attempting to visualise the atoms themselves. 1899 J. Smith *Chr. Charac.* 163 Bunyan, in his immortal allegory, visualised the progress from justification to glory.
2. *absol.* or *intr.* To form a mental picture of something not visible or present, or of an abstract thing, etc.; to construct a visual image or images in the mind.
1871 J. A. Symonds in H. F. Brown *Biog.* (1895) II. 52 For numbers I have..no head. I do not visualise except in the most rudimentary way. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 485 This answers to the way in which I visualize for them. 1897 A. Lang *Dreams & Ghosts* ii. 58 A novelist of my acquaintance can 'visualise' so well that [etc.].
So **Vi·sualised** *ppl. a.*, made visual or visible to the mind; formed in the mind; **Vi·sualising** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*
Carlyle's use of *visualised* was objected to by Sterling (see Carlyle *Life Sterling* II. ii).
1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* I. ii. 48 *note*, The images are at least consistent, and it was the intention of the writers to mark the seasons by this allegory of *visualized puns. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. viii, A Voice, a Motion, an Appearance:—some embodied, visualised Idea in the Eternal Mind? 1883 F. Galton *Hum. Faculty* (1910) 112 A third ..abiding fantasy of certain persons is invariably to connect visualised pictures with words. 1880 E. White *Cert. Relig.* 43 A pictorial *visualizing imagination, which can faithfully depict the scenes recorded. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 30 July 142/1 Mr. Francis Galton's interesting illustrations of the power of visualizing. *a* 1901 F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* (1903) I. p. xli, It involves at least a great increase in his ordinary visualising power.

Vi·sualiser. [f. Visualize *v.* + -er.] One who visualizes or has the faculty of forming mental images of invisible things, abstract ideas, conditions, etc.
1886 Gurney, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 195 Mrs. Bettany is by nature a good visualiser. 1894 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 266 One may be a visualiser when thinking of music. *a* 1901 F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* (1903) I. 125 For those who are already good visualisers such phenomena as these..present no quite unique experience.

Visually (vi·ziuăli, vi·z-), *adv.* Also 5 visuu-, 6 viswally. [f. Visual *a.* + -ly 2.] In a visual manner; in relation to vision; by sight.
1448-9 J. Metham *Whs.* (E.E.T.S.) 19/525 The ouer eerkyl..so vysuually, to yche mannys syte, Abouyn this spere enchauntyd apperryd. 1516 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, II. i. 514 [That they might..] viswally aperceeyve [that there was money actually there].
1821 Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* X. 249 Outness is but the feeling of otherness (alterity), rendered intuitive, or alterity visually represented. 1831 Faraday *Exp. Res.* (1859) 295 When..the wheels were visually superposed then the appearance of cogs or teeth was seen. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* 86 That when the picture is visually in focus the position of the sensitive plate shall be chemically in focus.

Visuo- (vi·ziu,o, vi·z-), combining form on Gr. models of L. *visu-s* sight, vision, employed in a few terms, chiefly *Anat.*, as *visuo-auditory*, *-kinæsthetic*, *-psychic*, *-sensory* adjs. Also vi·suometer (see quot. 1847 and cf. Visometer).
1847 A. Smee *Vision in Health & Dis.* iii. 37 The adjustment of the exact centre of the glass to the optical centres is so important in practice, that I have contrived an instrument to measure the width accurately between these centres...I have called the instrument itself the visuometer. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 425 Destruction of the visuo-kinæsthetic commissure. *Ibid.* VIII. 445 The other [commissure] conducts impressions from the visual to the auditory ward-centre (the visuo-auditory commissure). 1900 *Phil. Trans.* CXCIII. Ser. B. 168 Measurements taken from the whole of the visuo-sensory area and from the neighbouring visuo-psychic cortex.

†**Visure,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5–6 vysur(e. [a. AF. **visure* (cf. *visuré* pa. pple. in Godef.), alteration of AF. *viser* Visor, after forms ending in -ure. Cf. med.L. *visura* view, inspection.]
1. Face, visage. *rare*$^{-1}$.
c 1400 *Lonel Tway Bk.* 1468 Alle that coude of surgerye ..Hadde Achilles in that cure To hele his woundes & his visure.
2. A visor of a helmet. (See also quot. 1688.)
1490–93 Malory *Arthur* VIII. x. 289 Now gentyl knyght.. put vp thy vysure. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (1555) Aa j b, The hote fyre was so intollerable Aboue me fleyng that vaneth I might Through my visure cast abrode my sight. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccclxiii. 616 They..were afote, armed at all peces with bassenettes and vysures and good speres. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 209/1 The Visures or holes in the lever to see through.
b. A mask. Also *fig.*
c 1460 *Wisdom* 736 in *Macro Plays* 60 Here entreth vi women, in sut, thre dysgysyde as galontis..with wondyrful vysurs conregent. 1531 Tindale *Exp. 1 John* (1538) 96 He..kepeth it [*sc.* bitter speech] vntyll he come & be present wyth hym, for than doth he threaten he wyll pull awaye hys vysure.

3. *fig.* A mere outward show or appearance (*of* something); a pretence or mask. Cf. Visor *sb.* 3.
1531 Tindale *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 53 The fayth & hope of the Romane byshop..are no true fayth & hope: but vayne wordes and vysures only. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* vii. 51 They haue a certayne counterfayte apparaunce or visure of holines. 1585 Fetherstone tr. *Calvin on Acts* ix. 10 He hath in deed suffered Satan to deceiue the vnbeleeuers with false imaginations and visures.
4. a. A sight or vision. *rare*$^{-1}$.
1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* xxxiv. 14 There shal straunge visures and monstruous beastes mete one another.
b. Appearance; sight. *rare*$^{-1}$.
1545 Coverdale *Def. Chr. Man* A ij, A man, who nether in name ner visure hath bene knowne vnto me till this present daye.
Hence †**Vi·sure** *v. trans.*, to deceive or impose upon. †**Vi·sured** *ppl. a.*, wearing a visor; only *fig.*, masked, false, specious. *Obs.*
1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 1426/2 If kyng Henry the vj. had lyued vnto this day,.. it had bene past my Lorde of Wynchesters power, to haue visured the kynges highnes as he did. 1577 H. Bull tr. *Luther's Comm. Ps.* 50 This is rightly to behold the temple, and not as the visured Bishops [L. *larvarum Episcopi*] behold their idolatrous temple when they consecrate it. 1585 Fetherstone tr. *Calvin on Acts* xvii. 12 This is not spoken of any visured [L. *larvato*] councell, but of a small assembly of men.

†**Visuriency.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. L. type **visūrīre*, desiderative vb., f. L. *vīsĕre*, freq. of *vidēre* to see + -ency.] The desire of seeing.
1652 Urquhart *Jewel* 125 The visuriency of either, by ushering the tacturiency of both, made the attrectation of both consequent to the inspection of either.

Visy(e, obs. ff. Vizy *v. Sc.* **Vit,** obs. Sc. f. Wit *sb.* and *v.*; southern dial. f. Fit *v.*

Vitability. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *vīta*: see Vital *a.*] = Viability 1.
The adj. *vitable*, in place of *viable*, was suggested by F. Hall *Mod. Eng.* (1873) 181.
1889 *Nature* 26 Sept., If the modification is of service, then presumably it will add to the vitability of the individual.

Vitail(e, Vitaill(e, Vitail(e)er, etc., obs. ff. Victual *sb.* and *v.*, and Victualler.

†**Vitaillement.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *vitaillement*, f. *vitail* Victual *sb.*] The provision of victuals; victualling.
1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 235/2 For wages and vitaillement of the Soudeours. 1464 *Ibid.* 509/2 The payment of wages and vitaillement of Calels.

†**Vitaillous,** *a. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [f. *vitail* Victual *sb.* + -ous.] Of the nature of victual.
c 1475 *Partenay* 987 Ther all peple preuilage had echon, ..Euery of that which thai wold demaund Off wynes and of vitaillious viand.

Vital (vəi·tăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 vytalle, 5–6 vytall, 5–7 vitall, 6 vitalle (vytail, *Sc.* wettal). [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vital* (14th c.; = Sp. and Pg. *vital*, It. *vitale*) or ad. L. *vītāl-is* f. *vīta* life. Cf. Vitals.]
A. *adj.* I. 1. Consisting in, constituted by, that immaterial force or principle which is present in living beings or organisms and by which they are animated and their functions maintained. Now chiefly *Phys.* or *Biol.*
c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1944 In hise armes two The vital strengthe is lost, and al ago. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24220 And thus my silf, I consume al The vertu that called is vital. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. liv. § 9 For though it [i.e. Christ's body] had a beginning from us, yet God hath giuen it vitall efficacie. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1019 For that in each of us that which is mortall and subject to dissolution, containeth within it the power which is vitall. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* I. Pref. B viij b, He.. shapes us from an inward vitall Principle..into a new life and shape. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 321 Men..spent their strength in daily Strugglings for Bread to maintain the vital Strength. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 134 Where now the vital energy that mov'd,..the pure and subtile lymph Through th' imperceptible meand'ring veins Of leaf and flow'r? 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 372 Due attention ought always to be paid to the presence and activity of vital power in the animal body. 1843 Sir C. Scudamore *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 92 The higher importance and still greater influence of vital force and nervous energy, as compared with simple chemical action. 1887 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed 5) 24 This internal energy, which is peculiar to living protoplasm, is frequently spoken of as vital force.
b. *Vital spark* († or *flame*). Cf. Spark *sb.*1 3.
(*a*) 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Flamma Vitalis*; some do suppose, that there resides in the Heart of Animals such a fine and kindled, but mild Substance, as they call a *Vital Flame*. 1734 Berkeley *Siris* § 156 The calidum innatum, the vital flame, or animal spirit in man.
(*b*) 1712 Pope *Dying Christian to his Soul* i, Vital spark of heav'nly flame! Quit, oh quit this mortal frame. 1826 *F. Reynolds Life & Times* II. 342 For some moments it was supposed, that the vital spark was extinct. 1862 Boyd *Crayer Th. Country Parson* xv. 230 The multitudinous machinery of animal life is there, but the vital spark to set it in motion is wanting.

2. Maintaining, supporting, or sustaining life.
†a. *Vital spirit, spirits.* Cf. Spirit *sb.* 16. *Obs.*
Freq. in the 16th c, chiefly in pl.
(*a*) *c* 1440 *Mankind* 805 in *Macro Plays* 30 He ys so tymerouse; me seemyth hys vytall spryt doth expyre. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 82 The Spirit Vitall in the Hert doth dwell. 1539 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 12 b, Spirit vitall procedeth from the harte, and by the arteries or pulses is sente into all the body. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 500 Paule calleth him the naturall man which liueth naturally by the vitall spirit. 1672 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. iv. 334 The vital spirit resides in the heart, is dispersed by the arteries [etc.]. 1715 Pope *Iliad* III. 366 The vital spirit issued at the wound.
(*b*) 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xvi, Continual studye, without somme maner of exercise, shortely exhausteth the spiryte vytall. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 32 b, He lay as though all his vital spirites had bene from hym departed. 1606 Bryskett *Civ. Life* 48 The heart, wherein all the vitall spirits are forged, and receiue their strength. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 30 As for liuing creatures it is certaine, their Vital Spiritts are a Substaunce Compounded of an Airy and Flamy Matter. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 484. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 134 The vital Spirits are the Animal, as they are commonly call'd; I call them vital, because they move the Heart and Respiration.
b. Of blood, heat, etc., or in general use.
Vital fluid, in *Bot.*, = Latex 2.
1558 Bullein *Govt. Health* A v, Apoplexia and Vertigo will neuer fro the[e] starte, Untill the vitall blode be killed in the harte. 1563 B. Googe *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 72 He.. Gaue Onset fyrst vpon his Foes, and lost his vitall blud. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 307 The vitall moysture of his body [is] so consumed that he cannot be known to bee the same man. 1611 Corvat *Crudities* 365+3 For whose sake..he ought not doubt to powre out his vitall blood. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 236 The Spirit of God.., vital vertue infus'd, and vital warmth throughout the fluid Mass. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 555 To unload the branches, or the leaves to thin, That suck the vital moisture of the vine. 1713 Addison *Cato* IV. iii, The vital blood, that had forsook my heart, Returns again in such tumultuous tides. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 409 Let us..watch the systole and diastole, as it now receives, and now pours forth the vital stream through all the members. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 354 A fluid secreted from the crude sap which M. Schultz designates by the name of the *latex* or 'vital fluid'. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* ii. (ed. 2) 13 A careful nurse will keep a constant watch over her sick..to guard against the loss of vital heat by the patient himself.
transf. and *fig.* 1606 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iv, She was my vitall blood.
c. Of breath or air. Chiefly *poet.*
Merging into sense 5.
(*a*) 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, s.v. *Vitalis*, *Halitus vitalis*, vitall breath. 1598 *Mucedorus* I. iv. 27 Vnworthy I to beare this vitall breath! 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 814 [He] dashed out his own braines, and at last yeelded up his vitall breath. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 699 Longing the common Light again to share, And draw the vital breath of upper Air. 1717 Prior *Engraven on a Column* 5 While yet We draw this vital Breath. 1778 Wesley *Psalms* CXXXIX. 11 Ii, Should I suppress any vital Breath. 1817 Wordsw. *Vernal Ode* 47 To every draught of vital breath, Renewed throughout the bounds of earth.
(*b*) 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 66 All so soone as his enfeebled spright Gan sucke this vitall aire into his brest. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 876 Mad with her anguish,..she loaths the vital air. 1704 Pope *Pastorals, Spring* 74 The sun's mild lustre warms the vital air. *a* 1721 Prior *Colin's Mistakes* vii, All that under sky breathe vital Air. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* iii, Dream not that the amorous Deep Will yet restore him to the vital air. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 35 If the missing Doctor still breathed this vital air.
†d. *Vital air*, in *Old Chem.*, = Oxygen 1.
1791 W. Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. 1. iii, I placed [it] in contact with vital air over mercury. 1793 T. Beddoes *Calculus*, etc. 213 Venous blood exposed to vital air acquires the vermilion colour of arterial blood. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 582 Dr. Thornton has laid before the public some cases, which show the efficacy of vital air, or, as it is usually called, oxygen gas, in the cure of fits. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 135 It appears that oxygen gas,..indispensable to the life of animals, is also indispensable to the life of vegetables, on both which accounts it seems to have well merited the appellation of *vital air*, by which it was at one time designated. 1880 Huxley *Crayfish* iii. 75 A new supply of the needful 'vital air', as the old chemists called it.

3. Of parts, organs, etc.: Essential or necessary to life; performing the functions indispensable to the maintenance of life.
In modern use also of parts of plants: *vital node* (see quot. 1861); *vital vessels*, those containing or conveying the vital fluid or latex.
The vitalle partes. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 23 Of the Naturall parts, he di-puteth in the fourth and fift Bookes; of the Vitall in the sixt and seuenth. 1667 Dryden *Ind. Emperor* IV. x, It streams, it streams from every vital Part. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5) s.v., The Vital Parts are the Heart, Brain, Lungs and Liver. 1728 Prior *Solomon* III. 218 Hoary with Cares, and Ignorant of Rest, We find the vital Springs relax'd and worn. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* IV. § 5 The heart and brain, and other vital parts. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 13 The *Vital* vessels of Schultz. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 119 The part where the stem and root diverge has been called the *neck* or *collum*, or formerly, the *vital node*, because it was erroneously supposed to be the seat of the life of the plant.

b. *transf.* (In modern use denoting especially those parts of a machine, ship, etc., essential to its proper working.)

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 76 Their submiss Reverence to their Princes being a vital part of their Religion. 1698 KEILL *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 181 If these be has mentioned be the substantial and vital parts [of his theory]. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* v. 134 Erasure of any vital part of the bill..would justify the banker in refusing payment. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 12 The piston, crosshead connecting rod, and main bearings, are the vital parts to be looked after. 1889 WELCH *Naval Archit.* 141 To preserve intact such vital parts as the machinery, magazines, and steering gear.

4. Of, pertaining, or relating to, accompanying, or characteristic of life; inherent in or exhibited by living things or organic bodies.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Vitaliter*, To haue liuely or vitaille motion. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 49 Let not Bardolphs vitall thred bee cut with edge of Penny-cord. 1604 — *Oth.* v. ii. 14 When I haue pluck'd thy Rose, I cannot giue it vitall growth againe. 1632 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* ii. 13 In which as in a vital abode, and natural place, the water, whilest it remains, is living. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 1075 There mighty Cæsar waits his vital hour, Impatient for the world. 1705 J. DUNTON *Life & Errors* 311 The last sands in his Life were run, and there was no turning the Vital-glass. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 509 When the temper'd heat, Friendly to vital motion, may afford Soft fomentation. 1816 SHELLEY *Alastor* 238 Red morning..Shedding the mockery of its vital hues Upon his cheek of death. 1844 G. BIRD *Urin. Deposits* (1857) 47 In every case in which we endeavour to explain vital phenomena by the physical or chemical laws governing dead matter. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* xiv. 330 All actions of individuals being vital actions that conform to the laws of life at large.

b. Of faculties, functions, powers, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 41 Came he right now to sing a Rauens Note, Whose dismall tune bereft my vital powres. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 169 It immediatly ouer-charged my vitall sences, and put mee..into a deadly trance. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Vital* Faculty, an Action whereby a Man lives..as the Motions of the Heart, Respiration, Nutrition, &c. 1809 WORDSW. *Prelude* VIII. 209 Whose truth is not a motion or a shape Instinct with vital functions. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 38 By a gradual decay of the vital powers from old age. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 782 The vital forces appear to be of more than one kind. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 275 The whole mass has been constructed..of the products of denudation, or of those of vital processes.

c. *Geol.* Produced or formed by vital action or force; of vital or organic origin.

1848 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 49 Proportions of Chemical, Vital, and Mechanical Deposits. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* iii. 164 *note*, It is converted into Chemical and Vital work done by the vegetable and animal organisms that clothe the surface of the earth.

d. Of statistics: Concerned with or relating to the facts of life, e. g. birth, marriage, death, etc.

1837 [W. FARR] in M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Emp.* II. 567 Vital Statistics; or, the Statistics of Health, Sickness, Diseases, and Death. 1885 J. NICOL (*title*), Vital, Social, and Economic Statistics of the City of Glasgow, 1881–85.

e. In special collocations:

Vital affinity (see quot. and AFFINITY 9). *Vital capacity*, in *Phys.*, the breathing or respiratory capacity of the lungs (cf. quot. 1852). *Vital contractility*, in *Phys.* = IRRITABILITY 3. *Vital germ theory* = *Germ theory* GERM *sb.* 6 (1891 *Cent. Dict.*). †*Vital indication* (see quot.). *Obs.*⁻¹ †*Vital line*, in palmistry, the line of life: see LINE *sb.*⁸ b. *Vital sister* (see quot.). *Vital union*, a union involving common life; also *fig.*

1650 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* xi. (ed. 2) 359 *Vital affinity—a force, which is supposed to come in aid of common chemical attraction, and to render the union between the particles of a body more stable. 1852 J. HUTCHINSON *Spirometer* § 4 The most complete voluntary expiration immediately following the most complete inspiration, which we denominate the *vital capacity'. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 372 The vital capacity of women is much less that of men. 1830 R. KNOX *Bichard's Anat.* 216 These vessels are extensible, and are even possessed of a high degree of retractility...Their irritability or *vital contractility is not less evident. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vital Indication*, in the Art of Medicine, is such an one as requires the restoring and reserving of the Natural Strength of the Body. 1693 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 100 The *Vital line forked in the end, towards the wrist. *Ibid.* 101 The Liver line at a distance, and not touching the Vital line. 1824 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVI. 602/2 The Vital line thicker than ordinary..denotes a laborious old age. *Ibid.* 604 Of the Via Martis, the way or Line of Mars, or the *Vital-sister. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iii. § 6 Those inferiour terrestrial Beings with which it [i.e. the soul] communicates through the *vital union which it hath with the body. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxvii. § 25 Several substances..which, whilst they continued in a vital union with that,..made a part of the same self. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 57 Is this our duty, wisdom, glory, gain? (These heav'n benign in vital union binds). 1746 WESLEY *Princ. Methodist* 49, I believe there was a supernatural Power.. which occasion'd their Bodies to be so affected by the natural Laws of the vital Union.

5. Conferring or imparting life or vigour; invigorating, vitalizing; life-giving. Chiefly *poet.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 22 Liues he yet..that wrought this act, And doen the heauens afford him vital food? 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 56 The whole temperature of the aire is evermore so vitall, healthie, and holesome. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 245 Vitall and comfortable heate..from the bodie of the sunne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 22 Hail holy light, ofspring of Heav'n first-born..: thee I revisit safe, And feel thy sovran vital Lamp. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* III. i, O Joy, thou welcome stranger! twice three years I have not felt thy vital beam. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* I. 72 Till in time complete, What he admir'd and lov'd, his vital smile Unfolded into being. 1789 NEALE *Hymns Paradise* 8 There they quaff the vital sweetness of the Well of Quickening. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* vii. 156 The vital foods are derived directly, or indirectly, from the vegetable world.

6. Affecting life; fatal to or destructive of life.

1612 ROWLANDS *Knaue of Harts* (Hunter. Cl.) 46 This Picke-pocket suffer'd vitall losse, Betweene the Court-gate hang'd, and Charing-crosse. *a* 1645 MILTON *Arcades* 65 The celestial Sirens.. That sit upon the nine enfolded spheare, And sing to those that hold the vital shears, And turn the Adamantine spindle round. 1776 S. J. PRATT *Pupil of Pleas.* II. 238 The surgeon, to whom I went myself, in defiance of danger, assures me the wound is vital. 1812 CALHOUN *Speech* 24 June, Wks. 1864 II. 29 Throw him into battle, and he is scarcely sensible of vital gashes.

7. *fig.* That is essential to the existence of something expressed or implied in the context; constituting or involving an essential part or feature; absolutely indispensable, necessary, or requisite. Also, in wider sense, of supreme importance. Common in recent use, freq. const. *to* something (*b*).

(*a*) 1619 LUSHINGTON *Resurrect. Rescued* (1659) 70 The three vital circumstances of a well-ordered Action, Person, Time and Place. 1692 ATTERBURY *Serm. bef. Queen* 29 May 3 The weakness and worthlessness of external Performances, when compar'd with more vital and substantial Duties. 1708 — *Serm. bef. Queen* 31 Oct. 8 A thorough Sense, and Vital Experience of his Paternal Care over us, and Concern for us. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 169 At a time when the views of France became daily more and more incompatible with our own vital interests. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 273 If one of them differs from the rest on a vital point. 1879 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* (1886) 10 The really vital books for us we also know to be a very trifling portion of the whole.

(*b*) 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 506 A competence is vital to content. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* iv. 215 Hence it was that the raising of the siege of Gibeon..was so vital to the conquest of Canaan. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* vi. (1868) I. 289 A cause which was so vital to both nations. 1893 A. CAWSTON *Street Improv. London* 1 Doubtless many will gladly take up a work so vital to the welfare of the whole community.

b. Of questions, problems, etc.

1822 HAZLITT *Table-T.* XXXIII. II. 389, I should like to live to see the downfall of the Bourbons. That is a vital question with me. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 278 He and I never agreed upon this subject; and this subject was, with him, a vital one. 1830 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* I. (1872) 31 The 'Organisation of Labour'..is the universal vital Problem of the world. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 24 Respecting this question—quite vital to all social happiness.

c. Paramount, supreme, very great.

1820 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) V. 529 In order to concentrate our troops on other points of greater and more vital importance. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 233 Questions respecting postures, robes, festivals and liturgies, he considered as of no vital importance. 1850 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) V. viii. 180 This inquiry..is indeed of vital moment to those who [etc.].

II. 8. Endowed with, or possessed of, life; animate, living. Now *poet.* or *rhet.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 3470 Than this vitall glebe [*sc.* the body of St. Werburge] by divine ordinaunce voluntary permytted naturall resolution. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 185 b, For who soeuer shew not themselues obedient,..onto this beast..are accompted for dead and rotten members, and therfore to be cut of from this vitall body. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 30 Of the dismall day, that doth threaten with death, Things vitall feele the smart, and things without breath. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 345 For Spirits that live throughout Vital in every part..Cannot but by annihilating die. 1745 WATTS in *Trans. & Paraphr. Scriptures* XXXVII. vii, Out of the Deep, th' Almighty King did vital Beings frame. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 206 He called the winds, and made them breathe into each, and render them vital. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. XXVI. 6 Some monument Vital with mind. 1820 — *Witch Atl.* XXXV, That bright shape of vital stone which drew the heart out of Pygmalion.

transf. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. P 25 That mind..that can be free when the body is fast bound..is never more strong and vital, than when that languishes and expires.

fig. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) III. XIV. 219 His creed may be orthodox, but his religion is not vital. 1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 97 The live grasshopper, called..an emblem of the vital Greek tongue. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* x. 320 Every line of Theocritus is vital with a strong passion for natural beauty.

b. Of places: Full of life or activity.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 113 This is the desart, this the solitude: How populous! how vital, is the grave! 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. vi. 1 This vital world, this home of happy spirits.

c. Endowed with spiritual life. *rare.*

1807 SYD. SMITH *Lett. Catholics* (1808) 81 Those groaning and garrulous gentlemen, whom they denominate..Gospel preachers and Vital clergymen.

9. Employed as an epithet of *life.*

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 13 You must be changed you know not when, from your ritches, from this vitall lyfe and the whole worlde vnto a nother place paynefull or Joyfull. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* § 61 I cannot tell whether I should say those Creatures live which doth nothing; Sure I am their life is not vital. 1648 — *Rem. Discontents* 122 Neither indeed is any other life truly vitall, but this; for hereby we enjoy God in all whatsoever occurrences.

†10. Having the qualities essential to life; capable of living; = VIABLE *a.*¹ *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 108 When the Butterflyes do loyne together very late,..they doe lay or cast theyr eggs which will continue vitall, and that may liue till the next Spring. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 336 The nine-moneth birth is of all other the most vitall and legitimate. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 218 Pythagoras, Hippocrates,..and others..affirming the birth of the seventh month to be vitall.

B. *sb.* †1. The vital spirit or principle. *Obs.*⁻¹

1670 CAPT. J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revis'd* v. 246 When the ulcerous Lungs cannot with dexterity enough perform their Office of cooling the Heart, the Vital is generated more hot than it should be.

2. A vital part or organ. *rare.*

Formed from the collect. pl. VITALS.

1720 OLDISWORTH tr. *Quillet's Callipædia* I. 490 A florid Bloom with Blushes decks the Face,..And every Vital breathes the sweets of Love. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* XXXIV, Forced to keep the fire of my nature continually low, to compel it to burn inwardly..though the imprisoned flame consumed vital after vital.

3. *Palmistry.* The vital line.

1824 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVI. 602/2 This also frequently shows a most perilous Saturnine disease in that part wherein it touches the Vital.

Vitale, Vitale(o)r, obs. forms of VICTUAL *sb.* and *v.*, VICTUALLER.

Vitalic, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. VITAL *a.*] Vital.

1848 POE *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 173 The successive geological revolutions which have attended,..these successive elevations of vitalic character.

Vitalism (vəi'tăliz'm). *Biol.* [a. F. *vitalisme*, or independently f. VITAL *a.* + -ISM.] The doctrine or theory that the origin and phenomena of life are due to or produced by a vital principle, as of Bichat. 1877 SHIELDS *Final Philos.* 267 Leading biologists also have maintained a duality of matter and life known as vitalism. 1889 *Nature* 26 Sept. 505 But even at the height of this movement there was a reaction towards vitalism, of which Virchow,..was the greatest exponent.

Vitalist (vəi'tălist). [Cf. prec. and F. *vitaliste.*] An advocate of or believer in vitalism. Also in recent use as *adj.*, = next.

1860 LAYCOCK *Mind & Brain* I. Contents p. xviii, Conflicting theories of Life and Mind resulting from the Dogmas of the Vitalists. 1870 MAUDSLEY *Body & Mind* 169 The obvious refuge of the vitalist is to the facts that it is impossible now to evolve life artificially out of any combination of physical and chemical forces [etc.]. 1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIV. 763 Cuvier..was a vitalist, and thought the vital properties of the body a kind of entity.

Vitalistic (vəitălĭ'stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] 1. Of or pertaining to, involving or denoting, vitalism or a hypothetical vital principle.

1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Feb. 158 Though Homer assures us that..Polybius and Machaon excelled in the healing art, nothing..remains to throw any light upon their vitalistic theories. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 395 The Karen doctrine of the lik is indeed a perfect and well-marked vitalistic system. 1889 DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Women* (ed. 4) XXVIII. 224 The great question implied in vitalistic doctrine.

2. Pertaining to or denoting the germ-theory (see GERM *sb.* 6), esp. in its relation to fermentation.

1891 *Nature* 26 Mar. 482/2 It was no easy thing for him to justify the study of fermentation on the lines suggested by what was called the vitalistic or germ-theory.

Vitality (vəitæ'lĭti). Also 6–7 **vitalitie.** [ad. L. *vitālitāt-, vītālitās* (Pliny) vital force, life, f. *vītālis* VITAL *a.*: see -ITY. Cf. F. *vitalité*, It. *vitalità*, Sp. *vitalidad*, Pg. *-idade.*]

1. Vital force, power, or principle as possessed or manifested by living things (cf. VITAL *a.* 1); the principle of life; animation.

1592 *Soliman & Pers.* v. III. 65 Death..Hath depriued Erastus trunke from breathing vitalitie. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. I. § 6. 6 Whether that motion, vitality and operation, were by incubation, or how else, the manner is only knowne to God. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] XXXII. 108 When a man shall exhaust his very vitalitie, for the hilling vp of fatall Gold. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* iv. 432 When by an act of his will he had submitted to that death,..it was not in the power of his soul to continue any longer vitality to the body. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* III. ii, Let thy vitality impart New Spirits to his fainting Heart. 1822 *Times* 6 Mar. 2/2 They perceived that vitality had been actually extinct in two of them for some time, the bodies being perfectly cold. 1844 G. BIRD *Urin. Deposits* (1857) 338 Those which we have now to investigate are organic substances, often possessing organization, and sometimes enjoying an independent vitality. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* I. 1 The mysteries of organized vitality remain impenetrable.

transf. 1632 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* II. 13 Which sand hath in it a vitality, and in which..the water, whilest it remains, is living. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. XXXIV, There is a very life in our despair, Vitality of poison. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. v, Not Mankind only, but all that Mankind does or beholds, is in continual growth, re-genesis and self-perfecting vitality. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* IV. I. I. 240 All such writers ..have in them no principle of philosophical vitality.

b. Of plants or vegetative organisms. Also *spec.* of seeds: Germinating power.

(*a*) 1829 T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 262 Vitality of Plants. 1842 WORDSW. *Sonn.*, '*A Poet!*' I, And so the grandeur of the Forest-tree Comes..from its own divine vitality. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. 150 The experiments.. prove indeed conclusively that whatever the true seat of vegetable vitality may be, it is similar in its nature to that of the Animal Kingdom.

(*b*) 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 271 The power [in seeds] of preserving their vitality is also extremely variable. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 767 By retaining vitality we mean preserving their power of germinating.

2. *fig.* The ability or capacity on the part of something of continuing to exist or to perform its functions; power of enduring or continuing.

Merging insensibly into next.

1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. III. ix. 563 The dependance of ministerial vitality upon parliamentary majorities. 1866 R. W. Dale *Disc. Spec. Occas.* viii. 275 There is terrible vitality both in truth and error. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* I. 213 The vitality of Pope's writings, or at least of certain fragments of them, is remarkable.

3. *fig.* Active force or power; mental or physical vigour; activity, animation, liveliness.

Common from *c* 1860.

1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii. 110 Which shows that their minds are in a state of diminished vitality. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* I. ii. 45 Such was the intense vitality of the Béarnese prince. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 358 A country whose vitality is strong, and where the administrative power is active and vigorous. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 May 5/4 To the strong vitality which distinguishes his race, he united intellectual power of the highest order.

4. With *a* and pl. Something possessed of vital force. Also *fig.*

1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iii, He was full of bright speech and argument; radiant with arrowy vitalities. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* v. (1856) 36 There was no vegetation to define its course, not even the green conferva, that obscure vitality, which follows water at home. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 91 Shall, then, the great vitality, France, Signal the backward step once more?

Vitalization. Also -isation. [f. Vitalize *v.* + -ation.] The action or process of vitalizing, or the state of being vitalized; an instance of this.

1846 J. Hudson in *Rep. & Papers Bot.* (Ray Soc.) 306 The phenomenon of the vitalization of cells is brought about only by an excessive endosmose or nutrition. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* xxxvi, Her love..might result in vitalisations that would inflict upon others what she had bewailed as a misfortune to herself. *a* 1902 F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* (1903) I. p. xxxiv, An increased subliminal vitalization of the organism.

Vitalize (vəi·tăləiz), *v.* Also 9 -ise. [f. Vital *a.* + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To give life or animation to (the body, etc.); to endow with vital force or principle.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 784 By the Idol of the soul Plotinus seems to mean an airy or spirituous Body, quickned and vitalized by the soul, adhering to it after death. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* I. iii. 797 Seeds which now the body vitalise. 1846 J. Hudson in *Rep. & Papers Bot.* (Ray Soc.) 305 How does it happen that a cell is so vitalized as to be able to produce a phyton? 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* xi. 113 Every year..millions of eggs are regularly vitalised and transmitted over the Continent.

transf. 1858 J. H Bennet *Nutrition* ii. 43 The intellectual man . who has vitalized..his brain by brain exercise.

b. *Path.* To excite activity in (an ulcer, etc.).

1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 277 For the purpose..of 'vitalizing' the borders of an indolent ulcer within the nasal cavity.

2. *fig.* To make living or active; to infuse vitality or vigour into (something); to animate.

1805 Foster *Ess.* I. lv. 50 A malignant quality appears vitalized into a powerful demon. *a* 1853 Robertson *Lect.* (1859) 124 What he wanted was to vitalize the system—to throw into it not a Jewish, but a Christian feeling. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 111 The Greek genius was endowed with the faculty of distinguishing, differentiating, vitalizing, what the Oriental nations left hazy and confused and inert.

b. To put life into (a literary or artistic conception); to present or depict in a lifelike manner.

1884 *Athenæum* 8 March 319/3 Lord Tennyson..always allows himself room not only to vitalize his characters, but to let them grow. 1907 *Ibi d.* 16 March 313/1 He is not an artist. He cannot vitalize his material.

Hence **Vi·talised** *ppl. a.*

1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 350 The seminal fluid of the male is a highly vitalized product. 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* xiii. 197 The largest quantity of this vitalised seed was sown in the rivers of France. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* viii. 503 Those who..regard Christianity as an etherealized or vitalised morality.

Vi·taliser. [f. prec. + -er.] One who or that which vitalizes.

1888 J. Brown *John Leech*, etc. 375 He was not only..an organiser and vitaliser of hunting, he was a great breeder. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 21 June 385 Life is the revealer and vitaliser of truth.

Vi·talizing, *ppl. a.* [f. Vitalize *v.*] That vitalizes or endues with vitality; animating, invigorating.

1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* I. iii. *Comm.* p. xxvii, The seeds ..do not possess..any vitalizing quality. 1827 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 742 The principal change is that described by Prout as the vitalizing action of the stomach. 1882 Browning *Dram. Idyls* II. 249 Not one flower-dust fell but straight its fall awoke Vitalizing virtue.

Vitall, -er, obs. ff. Victual, -aller.

Vitally (vəi·tăli), *adv.* [f. Vital *a.* + -ly 2.]

†1. In a manner which imparts life or vitality; so as to cause or produce life. *Obs.*

1662 Rust *Origen & Opin.* 78 The Body wherewith she [the Soul] is vitally united. 1664 H. More *Apology* 499 What Body more radiant and refulgent then the Sun in his greatest brightness can be vitally organised? 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxvii. § 4 Though that Life be communicated to new Particles of Matter vitally united to the living Plant. *a* 1791 Wesley *Serm.* lxxx. Wks. 1811 IX. 395 You are not now vitally united to any of the members of Christ.

†2. By means of vital force or power. *Obs. rare.*

a 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. (1677) 50 The Mixt sort of Reason seems to be when a thing concurrs actively and from an internal principle, and (in things that have life) vitally, to the production of a reasonable effect. *Ibid.*, This reasonable work [of ploughing] is performed actively and vitally by my Brute in the virtue of *my* direction.

†3. In a living state; alive. *Obs.*—[1]

1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* v. 174 Nature may bring forth the young infants vitally into the world.

4. In a way or to an extent which is vital or absolutely essential; essentially, indispensably.

1770 Burke *Pres. Discont.* Wks. II. 303 The first franchise of an Englishman, and that on which all the rest vitally depend. 1795 — *Scarcity* Wks. VII. 381 Affairs that vitally concern the agriculture of the kingdom. 1858 Miss Yonge *Cameos* II. xxxi. 325 It was vitally necessary to Henry to keep himself respected and feared. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* ii. (ed. 2) 11 Due attention would be bestowed on this vitally important matter. 1882 Masson in *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 150/1 His Edinburgh life during those five years divides itself, however, very vitally, in the retrospect of it now, into two portions.

b. In an important or high degree; intensely, powerfully. *rare.*

1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 287 The effect of this operation was vitally felt by every farmer in America.

5. With life-like or vivid realization; vividly.

1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 72 She should be taught to enter with her whole personality into the history she reads; to picture the passages of it vitally in her own bright imagination.

6. So as to affect or destroy life; fatally, mortally.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The animal was vitally hit or hurt.

Vitals (vəi·tălz), *sb. pl.* [ad. L. *vitālia*, neut. pl. of *vītālis*, or directly f. Vital *a.*]

1. Those parts or organs of the body, esp. the human body, essential to life, or upon which life depends; the vital parts.

Usually as a vague or general term, but sometimes applied specifically to the brain, heart, lungs, and liver.

For the phr. *stop my vitals*, see Stap *v.* and Stop *v.* 9 c.

a 1610 Healey *Cebes* (1636) 134 Now hee..purgeth away the causes and nutriment of the maladie, and then corroborates the vitals. 1641 Tatham *Distracted State* iv. i. (1651) 24, I feel my vitals fail me. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 32 Like the wound in the heel, far from the vitals, the head or heart. 1708 Swift *Sacram. Tests* Wks. 1755 II. i. 123 If..you think a poultice made of our vitals will give it any ease, speak the word. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 117 The weapon has missed your vitals. 1792 Cowper *Odyss.* ix. 347 Me, then, my courage prompted to approach The monster..And to transfix him where the vitals wrap The liver. 1861 Paley *Aeschylus* (ed. 2) *Choeph.* 264 *note*, The notion in the mind of the speaker is that of a cold chill at the vitals. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 246 A miscellaneous collection of bits of broken iron pots and lumps of lead frisking among their vitals.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1641 Milton *Reform.* II. 64 Now heare how they [i.e. the prelates] strike at the very heart and vitals [of monarchy]. 1672 Trenchfield *Cap Grey Hairs* (1688) 32 The dainty Tooths of some corroding so far into their estates, as to reach the very vitals. 1729 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 56 The truest Sign of our Vitals not being tainted, and that we are not wounded in any Noble Part, but go on increasing in Trade. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 350 Such immense sums, drawn from the vitals of all France. 1802–12 in Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 536 The very life and vitals of the cause lies in secreting the evidence. 1843 Merivale *Rom. Rep.* i. (1867) 7 Tiberius..continued to brood over the plague-spot he had discovered in the vitals of his country. 1858 Farrar *Seekers* I. iii. (1875) 37 To have fastened upon the very vitals of the national existence.

2. *transf.* Parts or features essentially necessary to something; essential points, essentials.

1657 J. Watts *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 30 So long as the vitals and fundamentals of faith and truth abide. 1657–8 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 433 If the vitals were preserved, I should not differ for the rest. 1689 *Myst. Inig.* 9 Tho all English Protestants have ever been at an Accord in all the Essentials and Vitals of Religion. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. II. xxviii. (1852) 504 Of pernicious consequence to the very vitals of religion. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May 11/1 When the Parnellite leaders approached the vitals of the issue.

b. The vital parts of a ship. Cf. Vital *a.* 3 b.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 5/1 *Blackwale*, ..Speed 17 knots; 6,200 tons; 8½ in. armour over vitals. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 288 The armour..shielding the gun, the machinery, and 'vitals' of the vessel.

†Vitaly. *Obs.*—[2] In 5 vytaly. [var. of ME. *vitaille* Victual *sb.* Cf. obs. Flem. *victalie* (Kilian).] Victual, victuals.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Vytaly, or vytayl, *victuale*.

Vitalyge, obs. f. Victualage.

Vitascope (vəi·tăskōp). *U.S.* [f. L. *vīta* life + -scope.] A variety of kinematograph.

1896 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 4 Apr. 1/2 The vitascope throws upon a screen by means of bright lights and powerful lenses the moving life size figures of human beings and animals. 1896 *N. Amer. Rev.* Sept. 380 As yet, vitascope exhibitions are confined to episodes lasting from two to five minutes. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Dec. 180 In some forms of apparatus, such as the vitascope,..the shutter is omitted.

†Vita·tion. *Obs.*—[3] [ad. L. *vītātio*, f. *vītāre* to avoid.] 'An eschewing, voiding, or shunning' (Blount).

1623 Cockeram I. [Hence in Blount and Phillips.]

Vita·tiveness. *Phren.* [Irreg. f. L. *vīta* life.] The love of life, the desire to live, regarded as a special faculty of the mind or brain.

1843 G. Combe *Syst. Phrenol.* (ed. 3) I. 299 Dr. Spurzheim was disposed to admit the existence of this faculty, which he calls Vitativeness. 1884 G. Combe *Mod. Self-Instr. Phrenol.* 131 To cultivate Vitativeness people should lead a natural and healthy life.

Vitayle, -ayll(e, obs. forms of Victual.

Vitayler, -lour, obs. forms of Victualler.

†Vitch, obs. var. Fitch *sb.*[1] (Cf. Vetch.)

1598 Florio, *Veasa*, the pulse Vecce, or Vitches.

Vitelour, Vitel, obs. ff. Victual(ler.

†Vitele. *Obs.*—[1] [a. obs. Fr. *vitele*,] = Vitella.

1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xvii. 44 In this was y^e^ Vitele which the king doth chaw in his mouth.

Viteler, Vitell, obs. ff. Victual(ler.

Vitellarian (vitelē·riăn), *a. Anat.* [f. next.] Of or belonging to the vitellarium.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* I. 67 The function of the vitellarian gland may be taken on by cells of the ovary, or oviduct. *Ibid.* iv. 199 Passing between the anterior vitellarian masses.

‖Vitellarium (vitelē·riŏm). *Anat.* Pl. -aria. [mod.L., f. *vitell-us* Vitellus.] An accessory gland in the female productive organs of some worms, by which the vitellus for the eggs is secreted; a yolk-gland.

1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 336 There is added a highly specialised yolk-forming apparatus, or 'vitellarium'. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iv. 178 The two vitellaria, which are long and simple or branched tubes, open into the oviduct.

Vitellary (vitelări, vitelări, vəi-), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *vitell-us* Vitellus + -ary.]

A. *sb.* †1. The place or part where the yolk of an egg is formed. *Obs.*

1650 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* (ed. 2) III. xxviii. 151 A greater difficulty..is, how the sperm of the Cock..attaineth unto every egg, since the vitellary or place of the yelk is very high. 1687 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 482 Now this Fecundation seems to be in the Vitellary, and not in the Uterus.

†2. (See quot.) *Obs.*—[3]

1736 Bailey (fol.) Pref., *Vitellary*..the Yolk of an Egg; but some use it to signify a Cluster of Eggs.

B. *adj.* Of or belonging to the vitellus; vitelline.

1846 *Proc. Amer Philos. Soc.* IV. 307 There can be no mammiferous germ independent of vitellary matter. 1854 S. P. Woodward *Mollusca* II. 161 The contractions of this caudal vesicle and of the vitellary vesicle alternate. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 323 A caecal process, the remains, according to Rathke, of one lobe of the vitellary sac of the embryo.

Viteller, obs. form of Victualler.

Vitelli-, combining form of L. *vitellus* Vitellus, employed in a few scientific terms, as **vitelli·ferous, vitelli·genous, vitelli·gerous, vite·ligine** *adjs.*, producing the vitellus or yolk.

1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 52 The most simple *vitelliferous embryo. *Ibid.* 59 This embryo is composed, like those which are called vitelliferous, of two distinct bodies. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 121*/1 The ova, as they continue to descend in the *vitelligenous part of the tube,..assume the form of sub-triangular flattened bodies. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. cxxv, A complicated reproductive apparatus, in which..vitelligenous exist independently of germigenous glands. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 442, I am inclined to believe that..these epithelial cells..play the part of vitelligenous cells. 1898 *Proc. Zool. Soc. London* 555 The larvæ of many Teleosteans..in the *vitelligerous condition. 1864 Cobbold *Entozoa* 214 The female organs..consist of two masses of *vitelligine glands occupying a limited space.

Vite·llicle. *Biol.* [f. L. *vitell-us* Vitellus + dim. ending *-icle.*] A vitelline sac; a yolk-sac.

1858 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. (ed. 2) Suppl. s.v., In man and mammalia the vitellicle is called the 'umbilical vesicle'.

Vitellin (vite·lin, vəi-). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. Vitell-us + -in 1.]

1. The albuminoidal substance in the yolk of egg, a mixture of albumin and casein.

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 647 These bodies of minor importance, such as globulin and vitellin. 1867 Lloxan *Chem.* 614 Yolk of egg contains a modification of albumen termed vitelline. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 640/1 The yolk..is a bright yellow mixture of about sixteen per cent. of vitellin, a substance resembling albumen.

2. A related substance found in the seeds of plants. Also *attrib.*

1882 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 4) 35 The proteids exist in these grains as globulins, which hitherto have been known only to occur in animals, that is, as myosin-globulin and vitellin-globulin. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 364 Weyl..holds that legumin is a mixture of vegetable vitellin and casein.

Vitelline (vite·lin, -in, vəi-), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–6 vitellyn(e, 6 vytellyn, 7 vitellin. [ad. med.L. *vitellin-us*, f. L. *vitell-us* Vitellus. Cf. OF. *vitellin* (in sense 1).]

A. *adj.* 1. Coloured like the yolk of an egg; deep-yellow with a tinge of red. In early use *spec.* of bile.

? *a* 1422 Lydg. *Two Merchants* 307 Yif of colre he take his groundesmet Pure or vnpure, citryn or vitellyne. *c* 1530 *Judic. Urines* II. viii. 33 Colore Prassyn is gendred of a color vitellyn. *Ibid.* ix. 36 b, Color citrin & Color vytellyn be all one. 1598 Barrough *Meth. Physick* (ed. 3) 303 Matter cholericke and filthie (as one would say) vitelline, the which causeth feuers. 1666 G. Harvey *Morbus Angl.* xxv. (1672) 56 If we should commit the first of these, namely yellow, or vitellin choler to the test. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 244 A yellow colour arises, which indicates vitelline Bile. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 144 Hymenium vitelline; stem rather long.

2. *Biol.* Of or belonging to the vitellus or yolk of an egg.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 345/2 Only the..oily particles

of the vitelline nidus could be expected to be seen. 1849 OWEN *Parthenogenesis* 73 An ovum..may contain a supplementary nutrient vitelline mass, properly called yelk. 1883 *Science* I. 431/2 This sac..was connected with the foetal vascular system by a vitelline artery and two veins.

b. *Vitelline membrane, sac*, the transparent membrane which surrounds the yolk of an egg; the yolk-sac; the investing membrane of the embryo. 1843 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 48 The first, or the vitelline membrane of the ovum, is the wall of a cell. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Calent.* 15 In addition to these parts, many ova are provided with an outer envelope, known as the yolk-sac or 'vitelline membrane'. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 166 Generally the vitelline sac of the embryoes is free.

B. *sb.* The yolk, the vitellary substance. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*

Hence † **Vitellinous** *a.* (See quot.) *Obs.* 1706 ABERCROMBIE *Arr.* 35 in *Gard. Assist.*, Vitellinous, or yellow barked [willow-tree].

Vitello-, combining form (cf. VITELLI-) of VITELLUS, used in a few terms (*Biol.* and *Chem.*), as **vitello-duct, -intestinal** *a.*, **-lutein, -phag, -rubin** (see quots.).

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 647 Internally it opens, when single, into the *vitello-duct, or germ-duct. 1844 BUSHMAN in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* II. 84 A communication is found to have arisen between the yolk and the intestine, by a wide duct termed the *vitello-intestinal duct. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 247/2 In the red eggs of *Maja squinado* R. Maly found two kinds of coloring matter, which he named *vitellolutein and vitellorubin. *Ibid.* 248/1 Vitellolutein is soluble in alcohol to a clear yellow solution. 1904 *Science* 8 April 588/2 There is no satisfactory evidence to show that the cells..are really such, and not dividing cleavage cells or possibly *vitellophags. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 248/1 *Vitellorubin occurs in an amorphous form, soluble in alcohol to a brown fluid.

Vitellogenous, *a.* [f. prec. + -GEN + -OUS.] Producing the vitellus or yolk. 1872 E. R. LANKESTER *Advancem. Sci.* (1890) 265 The others disappear as..vitellogenous cells. 1878 F. J. BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 301 This vitellogenous layer occupies the portion of the chamber behind the egg-cell.

‖ **Vitellus** (vitĕ'lŭs, vəi-). [L. *vitellus* yolk of an egg.]

1. *Embryol.* The yolk of an egg; the germinative contents of an ovum-cell. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Eggs*, In the middle of the inner White, is the *Vitellus* or Yelk. 1826 GOOD *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 165 In this respect the albumen of the cotyledon corresponds with the vitellus of the hen's egg. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* xv. 26 Nothing can be more close than the mode of development in these..and of the vitellus in the eggs of certain *Mollusca*. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 367 In certain Amphipods..the vitellus undergoes complete division.

2. *Bot.* A fleshy sac situated between the albumen and the embryo in a seed. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 292 The *Vitellus* is esteemed by Gærtner to compose the bulk of the seed in Fuci, Mosses and Ferns. 1829 T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 245 The vitellus is an organ of a fleshy but firm texture, situated, when present, between the albumen and embryo. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 444 Embryo minute, enclosed in a vitellus, and outside of abundant fleshy albumen.

b. (See quot.) 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Vitellus*,..an oily substance adhering to the spores of Lycopodium.

Viterde, variant of VITTERED *a. Obs.*

† **Viteroke**. *Obs.*—[1] [app. related to VITTERED, FITTERED *a.*] A ragged upper garment. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Heo hudet eke hore ihole cloðes, & doð an alre vuemeste on viterokes al to torene.

Vith, ME. form of WITH.

Vipsie, southern ME. var. FIDDLE *sb.*

Viti-, combining form of L. *vitis* vine, occurring in a few forms, as **viti-ferous** *a.* [L. *vitifer*], † **vitigi-neous** *a.* [L. *vitigineus*] (see quots.).

Also (in recent dicts.) *viticide* something which kills or destroys vines; *viticolous* adj., living on or in vines. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vitiferous*, that bears Vines. 1721 BAILEY, *Vitigineous*, that cometh of a Vine. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Porrum*, The vitigineous wild leek of Gerrard.

† **Vitial**, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *viti-um* + -AL.] Vicious. 1614 T. ADAMS *Sinners Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 953 There is nothing on it [*sc.* earth] that is of it, which is not become more vitiall, then vitall.

Vitiate (vi'ʃiĕt), *ppl. a.* Now *rare*. Also 5-6 **viciat(e**, 6 **vicyate, vycyat(e**. [ad. L. *vitiāt-us* (med.L. also *viciāt-us*), pa. pple. of *vitiāre*: see next.]

1. Vitiated, depraved, infected, spoiled: a. In predicative use. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 487 Peple viciate and polute, to whom hit was not lawefulle to offre. *Ibid.* V. 213 A man viciate of body scholde not receyve ordres. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* I. (1541) 1 b, Fyre..is the clarifyer of other elementes if they be vicyate or out of theyr naturall temperaunce. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 79 Yf the matrice be perysshed or otherwyse viciate. 1759 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 14 The Blood is..vitiate or corrupt.

b. Const. *by* or *with*. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lx. 140 Nature sliden & viciat by he first man Adam horu3 synne. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* Ded. 1 For the elde bokes..thou3 thei were mad ful treuly, 3et be thei viciat be the writeres. 1533 MORE *2nd Pt. Confut. Tindale* II. Wks. 636/2 The scripture adulterate and viciate with false glosse & wronge exposicions. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* III. 7 Neyther with the sonne beame is viciate the storre, Nor yet by the bearing of a sonne, the

c. Used attributively. 1581 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 202 In their viciate and corrupt taste. 1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 15 Add thereunto the vitiate disposition of the air. 1913 A. NOYES *Tales of Mermaid Tavern, Raleigh*, He never stooped, Never once pandered to that vitiate hour.

† 2. *Sc. Law.* Rendered null or void; interfered or tampered with. *Obs.* 1586 in *Dunfermline Regr.* (Bann. Cl.) 449 Ye auld assumptioun of ye said thrid is vitiat be ye said commendatouris proper deidis. 1593 *Sc. Acts Parlt., Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 25/2 As ony pairt of the rent of dunfermling now viciat salbe recoverit. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxvii. § 2. (1699) 135 It is said to be suspect, if..it appear vitiat by ocular inspection.

Vitiate (vi'ʃiĕt), *v.* Also 6-8 **viciat(e**, 7 **vitiat, vitiatt**. [f. L. *vitiāt-* (med.L. also *viciāt-*), ppl. stem of *vitiāre* (whence It. *visiare*, Sp. and Pg. *viciar*, F. *vicier*), f. *vitium* VICE *sb.*[1] Cf. prec.]

I. *trans.* To render incomplete, imperfect, or faulty; to impair or spoil. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1303/1 Hym must we serue, though specially wyth the mynde (whych if it be not good, viciateth all together) yet..also wyth body and goodes and al. *a* 1632 DONNE *Serm., Matt. v. 16* (1640) 82 A superstitious end, or a seditious end vitiates the best works. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 453 Other Advices were prefer'd, which..do many times vitiate, if not ruine, the most noble and valiant Undertakings. 1678 BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* vii. § 2. 197 This Doctrine of Justification hath been, and is greatly vitiated in the Church of Rome. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 25 P 5 A continual Anxiety for Life vitiates all the Relishes of it, and casts a Gloom over the whole Face of Nature. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. 166 Time, which naturally and fatally viciates and depraves all things. 1794 HUTTON *Philos. Light*, etc. 124 It would only lead us into error, and thus vitiate the science or philosophy in which it were employed. 1808 J. HASLAM *Observ. Madness & Mel.* i. (1809) 31 It might be urged, that in these instances, the perception was vitiated. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* (ed. 9) 60 Considering that a deviation from truth by the fraction of a hairbreadth, would vitiate the figure.

b. To corrupt (*a*) literary works or (*b*) language by carelessness, arbitrary changes, or the introduction of foreign elements.

(*a*) 1639 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 198 The Septuagint..which we now have is the same for substance with that anciently used, though..by the injury of time, and frequent transcriptions vitiated. 1788 REID *Aristotle's Logic* i. § 1. 5 There is reason to doubt whether what [works] are his be not much vitiated and interpolated.

(*b*) 1690 TEMPLE *Ess., Poetry* Wks. 1720 I. 243 Wherever the Roman Colonies had remained, and their Language had been generally spoken, the common People used that still, but vitiated with the base Allay of their Provincial Speech. 1740 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 4 It is observable, that the Normans could not well pronounce Lincoln, but vitiated it to Nichol. 1756 JOHNSON *Dict.* Pref., Many barbarous terms and phrases, by which other dictionaries may vitiate the style, are rejected from this. 1790 'CASSANDRA' (J. Bruckner) *Crit. Tooke's Pursuy* 55 Those who consider how much the language had been vitiated at the time they lived, by the importation of foreign words.

2. To render corrupt in morals; to deprave in respect of principles or conduct; to lower the moral standard of (persons). 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1311/2 We shulde note well and marke thereby, that the vice of a vicious personne, viciateth not the company or congregacion. 1658-9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 59 This will not vitiate persons, but your nature and your posterity. 1682 BURNET *Rights Princes* Pref. 13 Mankind is not so vitiated with prejudice. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 177 P 12 The suppression of those habits with which I was vitiated. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxvii. (1788) 199 If any part of the representative body be not chosen by the people, that part vitiates and corrupts the whole. 1853 C. L. BRACE *Home Life Germany* 258 In 1806, the army had become thoroughly vitiated by luxury. 1880 E. KIRKE *Garfield* 55 In short, he had only one fault, but that was radical, and in the end, vitiated the whole man. He was thoroughly selfish.

b. Similarly with impersonal objects. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* v. v. (1886) 80 He being a spirit, may with Gods leave and ordinance viciat and corrupt the spirit and will of man. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal., Sat.* ii, Many spots my mind doth vitiate. 1634 HABINGTON *Castara* Pref. (Arb.) 22, I encounter'd there..Innocencie,..not vitiated by conversation with the world. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 304 So doth one vice cherished and allowed corrupt and viciate all the vertues in the whole world. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 93 Sufferings vitiate the best tempers 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 172 P 2 Many vitiate their principles in the acquisition of riches. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 263 The encouragement of an amusement which does seem to be vitiated there. 1847 HAMILTON *Rewards & Punishm.* viii. (1853) 362 One sin of youth vitiates a protracted life. 1862 MILL *Utilit.* i. 4 To what extent the moral beliefs of mankind have been vitiated ..by the absence of any distinct recognition of an ultimate standard.

c. To pervert (the eye, taste, etc.), so as to lead to false judgements or preferences. 1826 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 120 Stomachs may be so far vitiated as to lose all relish for plain roast, or boiled meat. 1852 CRAIG *Lect. Dressing*, etc. ii. 203 This practice has such a tendency to vitiate the eye and to mislead the mind. 1845 M'CULLOCH *Taxation* I. vi. (1852) 245 It had the mischievous effect of vitiating the public taste and stimulating the consumption of ardent spirits.

† 3. To deflower or violate (a woman). *Obs.* 1547-50 [see *Vitiating* vbl. sb.]. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* I. 35 Till she returned into her owne naturall forme, by which he vitiated her, and of her begat Achilles. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 49 This beutious Maid (Venice) hath bin often attempted to be vitiated. 1673 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* I. 107 Being not..moved by him (as David to murder Urias, and to vitiate his wife). 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 198 P 8 He confessed his Marriage, and his placing his Companion on Purpose to vitiate his Wife. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 81 It was a felony and attended with a forfeiture of the fief, if the vasal vitiated the wife or daughter of his lord. 1792 BURKE *Let. Member Nat. Assembly* Wks. VI. 36 Pedagogues, who betray the most awful family trusts, and vitiate their female pupils.

4. To corrupt or spoil in respect of substance; to make bad, impure, or defective. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstones* 15 For blood is the treasure of lyfe, not viciated. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 103 As a dead Flie doth vitiate a whole boxe of sweet ointment. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 195 Euen as women in their monthly courses doe vitiat their looking-glasses. 1652 L. S. *People's Liberty* iii. 6 As much water cannot so soon be viciated as a lesser quantity. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inf. & Ab. Physic* 33 The very texture of his Stomach and other vital bowels was vitiated. 1789 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. xvi. 93 Farmers distinguish the wheat thus vitiated by saying that it is blacked in the point. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 465 When the saliva is vitiated,..the curing of the disorder is the cure of this symptom. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxxiv, The oncoming of a malady that has permanently vitiated the sight. 1882 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* No. 52. 177 As I shall endeavour to show you, it vitiates the blood.

b. *esp.* To render (air) impure and so inadequate for, or injurious to, life. 1725 DESAGULIERS *First Impr.* 34 The ill Humours which go out of their Bodies..vitiate the Air more and more. 1793 BEDDOES *Consump.* 137 Only a very small portion of the air was vitiated, i.e. converted into fixed air. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 118 The impurity of the air vitiated by respiration. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 84 This gas would unduly accumulate, and..vitiate the entire bulk of the atmosphere.

5. To render of no effect; to invalidate either completely or in part; *spec.* to destroy or impair the legal effect or force of (a deed, etc.). 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 170 An earthly judge is subject to misprision, mis-information, partiality, corruption, and sundry infirmities that may vitiate his proceedings. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 104 A Transposition of the Order of the Sacramental Words, does, in some Mens Opinion, vitiate Baptism. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev* 37 If all the absurd theories of lawyers and divines were to vitiate the objects in which they are conversant, we should have no law, and no religion left in the world. 1827 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* II. 21 If an undefined portion of a bequest is to be applied to a purpose void by the statute, it vitiates the whole. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* XII. xxvii, I told them flatly..that, as Mr. Egerton's agent, I would allow no proceedings that might vitiate the election. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 568 The plaintiff is engaged in carrying out the illegal objects of the association..and this circumstance alone vitiates the contract for repayment.

b. To render (an argument, etc.) inconclusive or unsatisfactory. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 2. 308 This will not vitiate the foregoing Conjectures. 1846 MILL *Logic* I. v. § 3 The theory of that intellectual process has been vitiated by the influence of these erroneous notions. 1866 HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci.* (1867) 73 His proof is vitiated by an enormous oversight: and the thing..is a physical impossibility. 1878 STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* ii. § 84. 94 It is this eternity of atom which vitiates the hypothesis.

† 6. a. To adulterate. *Obs.*—[1] 1708 SHERIDAN tr. *Persius* ii. (1739) 35 It was Luxury first made us vitiate our Oyl with Cassia.

† b. To alter feloniously. *Obs.*—[1] 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 420/1 And William Taylor, for vitiating a bank-note.

Hence **Vi'tiating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* 1547 HOOPER *Declar. Christ & Office* xii. L viij, The deathe of his chyldre, the conspyricie of Absolon, the viciating of his wiues. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 21 The Collegiate Chirch..was translatid to Aberguill for vitiating of a Maide. 1647 CLARENDON *Contempt. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 392 The yielding to every corrupt affection and passion is as great a vitiating and weakening of the mind. 1669 BOYLE *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (ed. 2) *Absol. Rest Bodies* 27 Finding its passage obstructed..by the vitiating of the Pores of the Glass. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 275 A certain vitiating unsoundness of mind. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xxix, No man can escape this vitiating effect of an offence against his own sentiment of right.

Vitiated (vi'ʃiĕtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. the vb.] That has undergone vitiation; corrupted, spoiled, impaired: a. In respect of substance. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 135 Those [almonds] that..[are] reserued all the yeare, so that they waxe not too dry, or in their colour and substance vitiated [etc.]. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 43 Wholesome meats to a vitiated stomack differ little or nothing from unwholesome. 1688 BOYLE *Vitiated Sight* 271 Some may think that [such] a man has rather an excellent, than a vitiated sight. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 285 These cells becoming turgid with this viciated matter, raise the *cuticula*. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 400 It might..seem possible, that blood-letting had only let out the vitiated part. 1823 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 648 When the vesications pass into the state of sloughing, or vitiated ulcers. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 38 Certain deleterious kinds of food, such as the ergot or vitiated rye. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* vi. 166 The smoke and vitiated air of every room in the building. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 213 Confinement in the vitiated atmosphere of an ill-ventilated dark room.

b. In some abstract quality or principle.

1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 189 No affliction, or the keeping the thing detained, ought to injure the Appellant, or the vitiated Cause ayded by remedy of the Appeal. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 201 To have no other Guide than that of their own abominable and vitiated Passions. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* iv. 68 It is .. to the vitiated and low Taste of the Spectator, that the Corruptions of the Stage .. have been owing. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 100 It is in us the degenerate choice of a vitiated mind. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* I. 1 Vitiated religious sentiments have too much connexion with the principles of our physical constitution to [etc.]. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 97 This vulgar or corrupt Latin..was the vitiated mother of the sister-languages of Europe. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* II. xiv. 115 Vitiated instincts may also account for some of the hybrid unions above referred to.

Vitiation (vĭʃiˑēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *vitiātio* (rare), or f. Vitiate *v.*] The action of vitiating, the fact or state of being vitiated, in senses of the verb.

1635 Jackson *Creed* VIII. xx. § 5 No addition is forbidden, but such as includeth a vitiation of the text. 1658 Phillips, *Vitiation*, a corrupting or defiling; also a deflowring. 1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* xvii. (1672) 35 The cause of the foresaid extenuation of body..is imputed to..the bloods vitiation by malign putrid vapors, smoaking throughout the vessels. 1820 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xxvi. (1819) 429 That vitiation of taste which frequently occurs in fevers, when every taste is irregular and every one bad. 1829 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 61 The original name of the island..has already undergone considerable vitiation. 1843 Mill *Logic* I. ii. § 5 With the least vitiation of the truth of any propositions. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxv, No man ever struggled to retain power over a mixed multitude without suffering vitiation.

Vitiator. *rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *vitiātor* (rare) or f. Vitiate *v.*] One who or that which vitiates.

1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 68/2 The worst vitiator and violator of the Muses and the Graces.

Vitiˑculated, *a. Bot. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *vīticula*, dim. of *vītis* vine.] (See quot.)

1727 P. Blair *Pharmaco-Bot.* v. 215 Viticulated, or Vine-like Leaves.

Vitiˑculoˑse, *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *vīticulōsus*, f. L. *vīticul-a* (see prec.).] (See quot.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1222/1 *Viticulose*, furnished with trailing stems or viticulæ.

Vitiˑculous, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [See prec. and -ous.] Resembling the shoots of a vine.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 264 Out of which [*sc.* the root of scammony] slender and viticulous branches [L. *viticuloi surculi*] issue.

Viticultural (vitikʌˑltiŭrăl, vəiti-), *a.* [f. Viticulture + -al.] Of or pertaining to viticulture; connected with the growing of vines.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Nov. 9 All viticultural operations not requiring the muscular strength of a man. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 610/2 Hungary, from a viticultural point of view, forms by far the most important part.

Viticulture (vĭtikʌˑltiŭl, vəiti-). [f. Viti- + Culture.] The cultivation of the vine; vine-growing.

1872 Thudichum & Dupré (*title*), A Treatise on the Origin, Nature, and Varieties of Wine: being a complete Manual of Viticulture and Œnology. 1881 *Spectator* 12 March 345 Viticulture can only be successfully followed by those who give to it constant personal attention. 1902 A. Dobson *S. Richardson* iii. 66 His latest idea was to establish viticulture in England.

Hence **Viticulturer, Viticulturist,** one who is engaged in the cultivation of the vine; a vine-grower.

1882 *St. James' Gaz.* 29 March 6/1 A process of elimination .turned to account by the viticulturists. 1890 *Nature* 13 Nov. 38/2 To aid in these researches, relations have already been opened with horticulturists and viticulturists. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 June 2/2 Then the viticulturers tried to carry on the trade themselves.

Vitiliginous (vitilidʒinəs), *a.* [f. L. *vitiligin-*, stem of *vitiligo* (see next) + -ous.] Of or connected with, of the nature of, vitiligo.

1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxvi. 392 They [leprosy spots] may be mere vitiliginous patches.

‖ **Vitiligo** (vitilə·ɪgo). *Path.* [L. *vitiligo* tetter.] A skin disease characterized by the presence of smooth white shining tubercles on the face, neck, and other parts of the body; a species of leprosy.

1657 *Physical Dict., Vitiligo*, a foulness of the skin with spots of divers colours. Morphew. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vitiligo*, a sort of Leprosie; there are Three kinds of them [etc.]. 1814 Bateman *Cutaneous Dis.* (ed. 3) 274 The disease, which is here intended to be designated by the term *Vitiligo*, is..somewhat rare. 1884 W. T. Fox *Skin Dis.* 21 Albinism, vitiligo, deformities of vascular and sebaceous structure. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 604/2 The dark-skinned races are rather more subject to vitiligo than those of fair skin and light hair.

Hence ‖ **Vitiligoˑdea,** a skin-disease resembling vitiligo.

1873 F. T. Roberts *Ther. & Pract. Med.* 779 A peculiar enlargement [of the liver] associated with vitiligoidea. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 767 Two cases are..discussed by Addison and Gull..in relation to vitiligoidea.

Vitiligate, *v. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *vitilitigāre.*] (See quot.) Hence **Vitilitigating** *ppl. a.*

1670 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Vitilitigate*...to backbite, to detract, to wrangle, or make bate. *Hudebras.* [Cf. next.] 1819 H. Busk *Vestriad* III. 717 In heaven yclept Alecto.. But Discord called by mortals here on earth; A vitilitigating horrid girl.

Vitilitiga·tion. *rare.* [See prec. and -ation.] Contention, wrangling.

1647 N. Ward *Simple Cobler* 14 It is a most toylesome taske to runne the wild-goose chase after a well breath'd Opinionist: They delight in vitilitigation. 1649 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 1262 I'll force you by right ratiocination To leave your Vitilitigation.

†Vitiliti·gious, *a. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [f. L. *vitilitig-āre* (see above), after *litigious.*] Contentious, quarrelsome.

1683 E. Hooker *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 19 Most inevangelicly malevolous, vitious, vitilitigious.

Vitiosity (vĭʃiˑɔsĭti). Also 6–7, 9 **viciosity** (6 -itie, -itee), 7 **visiositie.** [ad. L. *vitiōsitās*, f. *vitiōsus*: see next and -ity. So OF. *viciosité* (*viciousité, -eté*), It. *visiosità.*]

†1. A defect or fault; an imperfection. *Obs.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.* Addit., *Cacia*, viciositie, or that whiche we commonly do calle, a faute in a thynge. 1563 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 199 With my natural viciosity of overmuch shamefastness I am so babished..that [etc.]. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 167 It may come to passe that what the Grammarian setteth downe for a viciositee in speach may become a vertue and no vice. 1665 Jer. Taylor *Unum Necess.* vi. § 16 Any person that hath a fault or a legal impurity, a debt, a vitiosity, defect, or imperfection.

2. The state or character of being morally vicious.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 247 Reason by little and little doth illuminate, purge and cleanse the soule in abating and diminishing evermore the visiositie thereof. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 42 My untamed affections and confirmed vitiosity makes mee dayly doe worse. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. Contents 104 It is not only moral vitiosity which inclines men to atheize. 1682 J. Brown *Compend. View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* I. 13 An inconceivable vitiosity of nature absolutely inconsistent with godhead. 1836 Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* Notes (1852) 380 The vitiosity of sin and public injury are here correlative.

†b. An instance of this; a vice. *Obs.*

1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* II. § 7 There are certaine tempers of body, which..doe hatch and produce viciosities, whose..monstrosity of nature admits no name. 1657 Gaule *Sagt. Just.* 9 That, after Baptism, it is no real viciosity, but only a penalty.

†3. The quality of being physically impaired or defective. *Obs.*

1647 A. Ross *Mystag. Poet.* I. (1672) 9 In this Gum [*sc.* myrrh] Venus is much delighted, as being a help to..the vitiosity of the Matrix. 1681 N. Biggs *New Disp.* P 223 If the more waterish and yellow blood doth denote its vitiosity.

4. *Sc. Law.* The quality of being faulty or improper in a legal aspect.

1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* III. ix. § 52 Such confirmation..purges the vitiosity of his former intromissions. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 529 It infers an intention on the part of the intromitter to account for his intromissions, which takes off the vitiosity, and renders him liable only to the extent of his intromissions.

Vitious(ly, -ness, vars. Vicious(ly, -ness. **Vitivert,** var. Vetiver. **Vitle, Vitler,** obs. ff. Victual(ler. **Vitles,** obs. Sc. f. Witless *a.* **Vitnes,** obs. Sc. f. Witness. **Vitoll,** obs. f. Victual. **Vitraell,** obs. f. Vitriol.

‖ **Vitrage** (vitra·ʒ). [F. *vitrage* glass-windows, f. *vitre* glass.] *Vitrage net* (also *cloth*), a lace-net or thin fabric suitable for window-curtains.

1886 *Daily News* 14 June 2/7 Window-blinds, vitrage nets, and other goods made upon curtain-machines are only in moderate request. 1894 *Times* 19 April 4/3 A steady business is being done in curtains, antimacassars, vitrage nets, &c.

Vitrailed, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. F. *vitrail* (usu. in pl. *vitraux*) a glass-window.] Having glazed windows or compartments (of a specified colour).

1884 Ruskin *Bible Amiens* iv. § 20 This Lord's House and blue-vitrailed gate of Heaven.

Vitraillist, *rare.* [f. as prec.] A maker of glass; an artist in glass-work for windows, etc.; a designer in stained-glass.

1607 B. Barnes *Divils Charter* III. v. F 3, Th' Italian Vitraillist, Which in the fierie Phlegitonian flames, Did worke strange vitriall dildidoes for Dames. 1904 *Daily News* 28 July 4/1 In the inner gallery is a large and ambitious picture, .. and some drawings by the young artist. But it is as a vitraillist that he excels.

†Vitre, *sb. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **vytre.** [a. F. *vitre*, ad. L. *vitrum* Vitrum.] Glass.

c 1420 Lyd. *Ballad Commend. Our Lady* 213 O glorious viole, O vitre inviolate! 1589 A. Hume *Hymnes* III. 55 The glansing thains, and vitre bright, Respiends against the sunne.

†Vitre, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *vitré*, or L. *vitreus*, f. *vitrum* glass.] = Vitreous *a.* 2 a.

c 1530 *Judic. Urines* II. v. 24 The .v. spice of fleume is called fleume vitrium..anglice a flewme vitre. *Ibid.* II. ix. 36 b A fleume vitre, and a whyte fleume be all one.

Vitre, variant of Vitry *Obs.*

†Vitreal, variant of Vitrial *a. Obs.*

1658 Phillips, *Vitreal*, or *Vitrine*, belonging to, or made of glasse.

†Vi·trean, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vitre-us* vitreous + -an.] Of or resembling glass.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vitrean*, *Vitrine*, ..[illegible] Glass, glassie, gla[illegible] glass. 1708 W. [illegible] One of an irregular figure.

Vitree, variant of Vitry *Obs.*

Vitrefacture. *rare*$^{-1}$. [Cf. Vitri- and Facture.] (See quot.)

1842 R. Park *Pantology* (1847) 476 Under the head of *Vitrefactures*, we include glass, pottery, and porcelain. [Hence *vitrefactures* in Worcester (1846), and later Dicts.]

† Vitremyte. *Obs.*$^{-1}$ (Of obscure meaning.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 382 And she that helmed was in starke shoures..Shal on hir head now were a vitremyte [*Harl.* wyntermyte].

Vitreo-, combining form, on Greek models, of L. *vitreus* Vitreous *a.*, employed in a few special terms having little or no currency.

1828–32 Webster, *Vitreo-electric*, containing or exhibiting positive electricity, or that which is excited by rubbing glass. *c* 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 496 Lustre [of thraulite] vitreo-resinous. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2713/2 *Vitreograph*, a photograph on glass. 1892 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Vitreo-dentinal, -dentine.

Vitreole, obs. form of Vitriol.

Vitreoˑsity. *rare.* [f. L. *vitre-us* (see next) + -osity.] The state or quality of being vitreous.

1889 A. Irving *Metamorphisms of Rock* 110, I have been led to recognise vitreosity as a phenomenon occasionally exhibited by water.

Vitreous (vi·trĭəs), *a.* Also 8 **vitrious.** [f. L. *vitre-us* of glass, glassy, bright, etc, f. *vitrum* glass, Vitrum: see -ous. Cf. F. *vitreux*, *-euse.*]

1. Of or belonging to, consisting or composed of, glass; of the nature of glass; glassy.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 52 Calcination or reducing it by Arts, into a subtile powder, by which way and a vitreous commixture, glasses are sometime made hereof. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 15 The tumid Bladder bounds at every Kick, bursts the withstanding Casements, the Chassys, Lanterns, and all the brittle vitrious Ware. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 161 Mirrour needed none Where all was vitreous. 1791 W. Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. II. iv. iv. 275 A vessel of earthenware with a vitreous coat. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* vii. (1842) 224 Glass would then be easily acted upon, and..the product obtained would not be pure, but a combination, with part of the vitreous matter. 1892 Dickens *Repr. P., Pirated Articles*, Of course, you saw the glaze—composed of various vitreous materials —laid over every article. 1888 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. § 4. 105 The final stiffening of a vitreous mass into solid stone.

fig. 1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVI. 206 He had left the vitreous and mercurial clime of France..for the voluptuous and indolent air of Italy.

b. *Geol.* and *Min.* Resembling glass in brittleness, hardness, lustre, and mode of cleavage.

1774 in Forster *Voy.* (1777) I. 387 Some of them carried arms,..which were headed with a black vitreous lava. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 409 All real lavas except those of the vitreous kind affect the magnetic needle, unless the iron they contain be much oxygenated. 1811 Pinkerton *Petrol.* I. 45 There are..evidences of a vitreous lava in one of the isles of Faroe. 1849 Murchison *Silveria* III. 38 It is often intersected by veins of vitreous quartz. 1895 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 498 Redruthite.—Vitreous Copper. Prismatic Copper Glance. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 306 *Vitreous Silver.* Native argentic sulphide. 1888 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. § 4. 100 Crystallites..seem to be earlier or peculiar forms of crystallization developed..in many vitreous rocks.

c. *Chem.* Resembling glass in composition.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 369 There remains in the retort a vitreous mass,..which is very pure arsenic acid. 1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* I. 363 Equal parts of potassium and very pure and vitreous boracic acid were put into a copper tube. 1866 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* xiv. 122 Like sulphur, it is capable of existing in various allotropic modifications, one of which is crystalline, the other vitreous.

d. *Anat.* and *Zool.* (See quots.)

(*a*) 1838 Humphry *Hum. Skeleton* 206 The separation of the outer and inner tables of the skull by the intervening diploë...The inner, or 'vitreous' table, which is the most dense. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 759 An inner dense, brittle, and somewhat glass-like layer, known as the vitreous table or layer.

(*b*) 1873 C. W. Thomson *Depths of Sea* vii. 402 When the first specimen of *Hyalonema* was brought home, the other vitreous sponges .. were unknown. 1879 Carpenter in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 378/2 The Vitreous *Foraminifera* may be grouped into three families. *Ibid.* 385/1 The material of their 'porcellanous' or 'vitreous' skeletons. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 121 Vitreous sponges (*Hexactinellidæ*) are silicious forms, characterised by the striking beauty of the skeleton, which is like spun-glass.

2. †a. *Med.* Of phlegm: Having the thick viscid consistency of molten glass. *Obs.*

1626 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 437 Of phlegme, if salt, from thirst...If vitreous, from fixed paine. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 98 She voided much vitreous phlegm and bilious humours. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 75 A moderate degree of Cold produces a sweet Phlegm.., and the greatest an *Acerbe* vitrious slime towards the coldest time of Winter.

b. *Vitreous humour* (or *body*), the transparent gelatinous substance occupying the posterior and larger part of the eyeball. †*Vitreous tunicle* (see quot. 1704).

1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. 96 We have sometimes .speedily frozen Eyes, and thereby have turn'd the Vitreous humor into very numerous and Diaphanous Films. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 747 As to the Vitreous humor, he judges it to be of that nature, that being once lost, it can never be repaired. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vitreous Tunicle*, a thin Film, or Coat, which is said to separate the Glassie Humour from the Chrystalline. 1710 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 237 The Vitreous Humour ..being one of the most transparent Things that we know of in the World. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 175 Its elasticity will assist the cellular texture of the

humour..in restoring the indolent form. 1832 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 559 The Vitreous Body is a soft, perfectly transparent, tremulous mass, occupying the three posterior fourths of the cavity of the ball of the eye. 1877 M. Foster *Physiol.* III. ii. (1878) 398 The rays of light traverse in succession the cornea, the aqueous humour, the lens and the vitreous humour.

c. *ellipt.* as *sb.* = prec.

1869 G. Lawson *Dis. Eye* (1874) 144 He has succeeded in thus extracting the lens without the loss of any vitreous. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 479 A quantity of the thin fluid vitreous escaped.

3. *Vitreous electricity*, positive electricity obtained from glass by friction.

1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 308 Experiments..respecting the vitreous and resinous electricities, as they are called. 1799 [see Electricity 1 b]. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* i. (1904) 18 Thunder was not then mere Electricity, vitreous or resinous. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 357 The genius of reading and of gardening are antagonistic, like resinous and vitreous electricity. 1879 Proctor *Pleas. Ways Sc.* xi. 238 If glass is briskly rubbed with silk it becomes charged..with positive electricity, formerly called vitreous electricity for this reason.

4. Resembling that of glass; characteristic of glass.

1821 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 196 The tears are..brittle, and break with a vitreous fracture. 1841 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 130 This change from the vitreous to the crystalline state sometimes takes place suddenly. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 42 They form a..perfectly black mass,..generally possessing a fatty or vitreous lustre. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* i. (1878) 20 Modern lavas have often a vitreous structure (glassy) such as obsidian.

b. Having the colour or appearance of glass.

1874 R. Buchanan *Pan* Post. Wks. I. 90 What time the pallid sickle wax'd Blue-edged and vitreous o'er the blackning West. 1882 — *Annan Water* i, The vitreous rays of the moon began playing on the window panes. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Vitreous*,..transparent, hyaline; formerly used for the light green of glass.

5. *Comb.*, as *vitreous-like*, *-shelled* adj.

1879 Carpenter in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 378/1 The vitreous-shelled *Foraminifera* constitute the most elevated division of the group. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Sept. 6/3 Some of the finer wares will break showing a vitreous-like substance.

Hence **Vitreousness.**

1727 Bailey (vol. II), and later Dicts.

Vitreously (vi·trĭəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a vitreous manner: **a.** With positive electricity.

1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlvi. 264 Those attracted by excited wax, are vitreously..electrified. 1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 9 We are led to the inference that the cloth is vitreously electrified. 1885 Watson & Burbury *Math. The. Electr. & Magn.* I. 75 The outside of the vessel will be found to be vitreously electrified.

b. Glassily; like glass.

1904 Howells *Son of Royal Langbrith* 62 In the moonlight Hawberk's face had a greenish hue, and his eyes shone vitreously.

Vitrescence (vitre·sĕns). [f. Vitrescent *a.*: see -ence.] The state of becoming vitreous or glassy; vitrified or vitreous condition.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 279 Mineral alkali promotes their [*sc.* zeolytes] vitrescence most, next borax, microcosmic salt least. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 264/1 The vitrescence was produced by beacon fires lighted during times of invasion. 1903 *Academy* 24 Jan. 75/2 The difficulty in most cases arises from the high vitrescence of surface [of Chinese porcelain].

So **Vitre·scency.** *rare.*

1756 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 116 Their junction with oils, and their vitrescency. 1847 H. Miller *Rambles Geol.* (1858) 363 They are artificial structures, in which vitrescency was designedly induced.

Vitrescent (vitre·sĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass + -escent. Cf. It. *vitrescente*] Tending to become glass; susceptible of being turned into glass; glassy.

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 48 They seem to be formed chiefly of the vitrescent fluor, debased by a less agitated or divided clay. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 440 The stone is of an extreme hardness, and almost a petrifaction .. of many different stones, but all vitrescent. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 262 The nitre and tartar are..rendered still more vitrescent by the borax. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 756 Iron ores..require calcareous additions, and the copper ores, rather slags or vitrescent stones, than calcareous earth. 1838 tr. *Laborde's Arts Mid. Ages* viii. 289 A vitrescent coat!

Vitrescible (vitre·sib'l), *a.* [f. L. type **vitresc-ĕre* to become glass + -ible, or directly a. F. *vitrescible* (*a* 1762), = It. *vitrescibile*, Pg. *-ivel.*] That can be vitrified; vitrifiable.

1754 Huxham in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 841 Loosely combined with the vitrescible earth. 1786 Wedgwood *Ibid.* LXXVI. 400 This effect is constant in certain clays, and begins earliest in those which are most vitrescible. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nature* I. 450 They have likewise been ranked among vitrescible stones. 1825 Hibbert in *Trans. Soc. Antig. Scot.* (1832) IV. 166 The interstices between them being filled full of this vitrescible iron ore. 1872 Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 266 Vitrescible colours..are now laid on the glass, and burned into it.

Hence **Vitrescibi·lity.** [Cf. F. *vitrescibilité.*]

1786 Wedgwood in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 401 Enabling us to ascertain the degree of vitrescibility of bodies that cannot actually be vitrified by any fires which our furnaces are capable of producing.

†**Vi·trial**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass + -ial.] Composed of glass; glassy, vitreous.

1629 Timme *Quersit.* I. xii. 50 Their fixed hennes, or vitriall and chrystalline circles, is a salt body. 1668 Tossell *Hist. Serpents* 161 As for the flesh, it is of a vitriall or glassie colour. 1689 Armin *Maids of More-Cl.* (1880) 195 Place your plate, and pile your vitriall boales Nest vpon nest.

Vitrial(l, obs. forms of Vitriol.

†**Vi·triary**, *a. Obs.*—[f. L. *vitr-um* glass. Cf. L. *vitrearius* glass-worker.] Relating to the making of glass.

1668 Sir T. Browne *Let. Merritt* 29 Dec., Wks. (Bohn) III. 508 Though I have not been a stranger unto the vitriary art, both in England and abroad.

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1569 R. Androse tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. iii. 32 It helpeth maruelously to take a dramme of the vitriature or glasing of vessels made in pouder.

Vi·trics. *rare*—. [f. L. *vitr-um* glass + -ic 2.] (See quot.)

Hence *Vitric* adj., in some later Dicts.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2713/2 *Vitrics*, this term includes the fused compounds in which silex predominates, such as glass and some of the enamels; in contradistinction to the ceramics, in which alumina predominates.

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1777 J. Williams *Acc. Anc. Ruins* 11 In some others, the stones seem to have been partly run down, and partly enveloped by the vitrid matter.

Vitrie, variant of Vitry *Obs.*

Vitrifaction (vitrifæ·kʃən). [See Vitrify *v.* and -faction.] = Vitrification.

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Vitrification*, or *Vitrifaction*, the Act of converting a Body into Glass, by Fire. 1840 Vyse *Oper. Pyramids Gizeh* I. 228 In some instances the glaize was of an extremely brilliant colour, and a perfect vitrifaction. 1845 Lady Eastlake *Frnls. & Corr.* I. 163 We now come nearer into granite Edinburgh: such petrifactions or vitrifactions, of houses. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 264/2 In Scandinavia, where there are hundreds of ordinary forts, ..no trace of vitrifaction has yet been detected.

Vitrifacture: see Vitrefacture.

Vitrifiable (vitrifəi·ăb'l), *a.* [f. Vitrify *v.* + -able. Cf. F. *vitrifiable* (1734).] Capable of being vitrified; admitting of conversion into a glassy substance by means of heat.

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Hence **Vitrifiabi·lity.** [Cf. F. *vitrifiabilité.*]

1891 *Cent. Dict.*

Vi·trificable, *a. rare*—. [Cf. Vitrificate and -able. So Sp. *vitrificable*, Pg. *vitrificavel*, It. *vetrificabile.*] Vitrifiable.

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1. The action or process of vitrifying; conversion into a glassy substance by fusion due to heat; the fact of being so converted.

1618 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 274 Vitrification is Combustion, converting Calk and Cineres into transparant glasse. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 50 The last and proper action of that element [fire] is but vitrification, or a reduction of a body into Glasse. 1661 Boyle *Scept. Chem.* v. 322 Cuppels .. ought to be Destitute of Salt, lest the Violence of the Fire should bring them to Vitrification. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 378 We may look on it as the beginning of Vitrification, or a middle state between Metal and Glass. 1773 Franklin *Lett.*, etc., Wks. 1840 V. 454 There is no earth known so vitrifiable as not to require some auxiliary solvent to facilitate its vitrification. 1824 P. F. Tytler *Paint. & Varnish. Guide* 302 This vitrification is facilitated by the addition of a certain quantity of carbonate of potash .., or carbonate of soda. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* II. III. iii. 416 Sandstone, though *per se* infusible, is perfectly capable of vitrification. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* xxxv. (1878) 613 Stones originally separate, so to speak, glued together in the process of vitrification and chrystalline circles, is a salt body. 1668 Tossell *Hist. Serpents* 161 As for the flesh, it is of a vitriall or glassie colour. 1689 Armin *Maids of More-Cl.* (1880) 195 Place your plate, and pile your vitriall boales Nest vpon nest.

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b. With *a* and pl.: An instance of such conversion.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 891 Likewise in their Putrefactions, or Rusts; as Vermilion, Verdegrease, Bise, Cirrus, &c. and likewise in their Vitrifications. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 53 Crystall..is not onely triturable, and reduceable into powder, by contrition, but will subsist in a violent fire, and endure a vitrification. 1759 Delaval in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 86 Because all vitrifications must proceed from previous calcinations.

2. The result or product of vitrifying; a vitrified substance or body.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 236 We yet more detest the precipitations, vitrifications, and preparations of Mercury, Antimony, Tuty, Sulphur, &c. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 235 Sir Theodore..communicated to them the process of the principal colours which ought to be employed in enamel, and which surpassed the famous vitrifications of Venice and Limoges. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 17 Both abound with pyrites and crystallizations, or rather vitrifications. 1845 Petrie *Eccl. Archit. Irel.* 89 This is also observable in the interior of the building, where there is a slight superficial vitrification. 1860 Smiles *Self Help* ii. 41 He had but to cover this material with a vitrification of transparent glass.

†**Vitrificatory**, *a. Obs.*—[Cf. prec. and -ory.] Causing, or resulting in, vitrification.

1678 R. R[ussell] tr. *Geber* II. i. 11. vii. 54 Having no good Fusion in Heat of Fire but a vitrificatory Fusion only.

Vitrified (vi·trifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. Vitrify *v.*]

1. Converted into glass or a glassy substance by exposure to heat; rendered glassy; glazed.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 53 Vitrified and pellucide bodyes are of a clearer complexion in their continuities, then in their powders and Atomicall divisions. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* II. 49 The sun..would..convert it at length either into an heap of ashes, or a lump of vitrified metal. 1777 J. Williams *Acc. Anc. Ruins* 15 It was all one heap of vitrified ruins from top to bottom. *a* 1787 G. White *Selborne* iv, The sand..fluxes and runs by the intense heat, and so cases over the whole face of the kiln with a strong vitrified coat like glass. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 80 At a little distance from the pit there was a large pile of calcined and vitrified ore. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 349 Glazed or vitrified pipes should only be used in or under buildings. 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* ii. 37 That foul vitrified matter called lava.

b. *fig.* Icy, frozen.

c 1779 Crabbe *Midnight* 216 The winds that in converging Furrows plough The freezing pool..Are arm'd with pain, and vitrified their Wings.

2. *Vitrified fort*, a hill-fort of a type occurring in Scotland and some parts of the Continent, the stones of which have been converted into a vitreous material by the action of fire.

1777 J. Williams *Acc. Anc. Ruins* 25 The largest vitrified fort I ever saw, is on the south side the Grampians, in the shire of Angus. 1792 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 115 Upon the top of an insulated hill adjoining, there appears to have been what some would call a vitrified fort; though others will have it to be the vestiges of a volcano. 1825 Hibbert in *Trans. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1831) IV. 180 The name of *vitrified fort* may with much advantage be exchanged for the more comprehensive and untheoretical one of *vitrified site*. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* II. III. iii. 413 One of the most remarkable specimens of a vitrified fort in Scotland. 1879 Lubbock *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* ix. 273 The vitrified fort on the Hill of Noath.

Vitriform (vi·trifɔm), *a.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass.] Having the form or appearance of glass.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 449, 120 [grains] of the Vitriform Phosphoric Acid. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 432 You will obtain a vitriform matter, of the colour of an animal's liver. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 217 The tuberculous induration is semi-transparent, vitriform, and humid. 1857 Bullock *Caseaux' Midwif.* 176 The space between the amnios and chorion..principally filled with a liquid called by M. Velpeau the reticulated or the vitriform body.

Vitrify (vi·trifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *vitrifier* (16th c.), or med.L. **vitrificāre* (Sp. and Pg. *vitrificar*, It. *vit-*, *vetrificare*), f. *vitr-um* glass: see -fy.]

1. *trans.* To convert into glass or a glass-like substance; to render vitreous by fusion due to heat.

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* I. 25 Stones which .. endure the strength of fire, and are not consumed therewith, but rather vitrified. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. i. xxix, Surely, that grand Universal-fire, at the day of judgment may by its violent ardor vitrifie and turn to one lump of Crystal, the whole Body of the Earth. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 45 Sometimes also is that heat so very intense, as further to melt it and vitrifie it. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* II. 46 Clayey soils, and such like, may by the strength of fire be converted into brick, or stone, or earthen metal, and so melted down and vitrified. 1728 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 218 Vitrifying the dross of metals so as to mould the same like Bricks or Tiles. 1750 Franklin *Lett.*, etc., Wks. 1840 V. 239 The metal appeared to have been not only melted, but even vitrified. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 428 This glass pierces crucibles and vitrifies them. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* iv. (1878) 39 Shales, sandstones, &c., are often.. vitrified at the points of junction with greenstone, basaltic, and felspathic rocks. 1868 Livingstone *Last Frnls.* (1873) I. iii. 79 The clay pipes..are met with everywhere, often vitrified.

fig. *a* 1628 Raleigh *Rem.* (1644) 255 Every ordinary wit can vitrifie, and make transparent pieces, and discern their corruptions. *a* 1698 Marvell *Appleton House* Wks. 1786 III. 221 By her flames, in heaven try'd, Nature is wholly vitrify'd. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Chev.* (1852) 102 The sorts, ketchups,..and other..compounds, with whose astringent juices we vitrify the coats of our stomachs.

absol. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 54 That..so small a fire can vitrify, will be better understood by him that knows how small a heat at a Lamp-Furnace will melt Glass.

2. *intr.* To become vitreous; to turn into glass or a substance resembling this.

a 1626 BACON *Physiol. Rem.* (1679) 101 We see Metals will vitrify. 1728 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 103 These are apt to vitrifie, and make Glass and Crystal withal. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 226, I imagined that metals might not calcine or vitrify except in the same circumstances. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 328 Such lime easily vitrifies, in consequence of the affinity of lime for silica and alumina. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xiv. 252 Resisting heat without slagging or vitrifying.

Hence **Vitrifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1674 BOYLE *Grounds Corpusc. Philos.* 32 So strictly united..as to maintain their union in the vitrifying violence of the fire. 1756 F. HOME *Exper. Bleaching* 253 The heat was just below the vitrifying point. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1019 White vitrifying pastes, fit for receiving all sorts of metallic colours. *Ibid.* 1159 The vitrifying colours are laid on by means of larger hair pencils.

Vitrine (vi·trin), *sb.* [a. F. *vitrine*, f. *vitre* glass.] A glass show-case for specimens or for objects of art. (Also *attrib.* in *vitrine table.*)

1886 *Athenæum* 27 Mar. 430/2 Four large vitrines in the Vase Room are now appropriated to the display of the Greek examples.

†**Vitrine**, *a.* *Obs.*—° [ad. med.L. *vitrīn-us*, f. L. *vitrum* glass.] Vitreous.

1656 [see VITREAN *a.*].

Vitrinopal: see VITRITE.

Vitriol (vi·triǫl), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 vitriole, 5 vit-, vytreole, 5–6 vytryol(e, 6–7 vitrioll (6 -olle), 5– vitriol; 5–7 vitriall, 6–7 vitrial, 7 vitraell. [a. OF. (also F.) *vitriol* (13th c.; = Sp. and Pg. *vitriolo*, It. *vetriolo*, *-iuolo*, *vitriolo*, *-iuolo*, *-ivuolo*) or directly ad. med.L. *vitriolum* (Albertus Magnus) f. *vitrum* glass.]

1. One or other of various native or artificial sulphates of metals (see 2 and 3) used in the arts or medicinally, esp. sulphate of iron: **a.** Used in *sing.* without article.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 555 Vnslekked lym, chalk,..Poudres diuerse, asshes,..Cered pottes, sal peter, vitriole. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 579 *Draganti*, vytryole, or coporose. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 40 Pulueriz of alume, zucarine brent, of attrament, and of vitriol. 1472 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Adm. iv. in Ashm. (1652) 190 Also I wrought in Sulphur and in Vitriall, Whych folys doe call the Grene Lyon. 1587 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* F j b, Halfe an ounce of vytryol wherof the ynke is made. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 317/1 Bloodstenchinge. Take of the best Vitriolle, beate it smalle, and boulte it through a fine cloth. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 210 Copperas or Vitriol..is a mineral salt which..doth farre excel many other kinds of salts. 1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 38 Those Acides, and acrimonious Particles of the Salt and Vitriol which had caused its Sublimation. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 8 The last is what is forced from Vinegar, Vitriol, and such like acid Substances. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Antients give the Name *Chalcitis*, or Chalcite, to native Vitriol;.. which is a kind of mineral Stone, of a reddish Colour. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 124 Besides sulphur, vitriol is also made here, of a sapphire colour. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 359 The chloride of calcium melting easily in the still, enables the whole of the acetic acid to be evolved at a lower temperature than when vitriol is employed. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xviii. II. 26 The use of vitriol was recommended among other destructive agencies.

b. In *pl.* (or with *a*).

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 79 Of atramentez, i. of vitrioles, bene many kyndez. 1603 TIMME *Quersit.* I. ix. 37 Some of these salts are bytter as wormewood, some sharpe as vitriolla. 1696 J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 6 They that drink of them purge forth black excrements by reason of the vitrials. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., According to Boerhaave, Vitriols consist of a metallic Part with a Sulphur adhering, a menstruous Acid, and Water. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 395 Vitriols have been discovered buried in the ancient sandy bed of that sea. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1004 The several vitriols being distinguished by their colours, or by the metals which they contain.

2. With distinguishing epithets: **a.** With adjs. of colour. *Blue, green, red, white vitriol*, sulphate of copper, iron, cobalt, and zinc respectively.

c 1400 tr. *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 14 Grene vitriol, & he be do to a man of a drie complexioun, engendrith fleiach. [*a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 79 per is a spice of vitriol pat is called vitriolum romanum, i. coporose; And it is of ȝalow colour in reward of þe grenner vitriol. And þer is one of white colour bot not so schynyng.] 1611 COTGR., *Marcassite louine*, Red vitriolli. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 617 A salt that had some resemblance to white Vitriol. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., In Blue Vitriol, the Metal, wherewith the Acid, etc. is join'd, is Copper. 1751 GIBSON *Diseases Horses* III. iii. 193 In some cases it [*sc.* the horse's eye] may be touched with the blue Vitriol stone, or the Lunar caustic. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 66 Green Vitriol hath a saltish and astringent taste. 1819 BRANDE *Chem.* 247 Copper and Sulphuric Acid—Oxysulphate of Copper—Blue Vitriol. 1837 DANA *Min.* 180 Cobalt Vitriol ..Red Vitriol. Sulphate of Cobalt. 1868 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s.v., White vitriol is a combination of sulphuric-acid and oxide of zinc. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 824/2 Ferrous sulphate is the salt so well known as green vitriol, and also in the impure state as copperas.

b. With other adjs., as *English*, *German*, *Hungarian*, *Roman vitriol.*

1573 *Art of Limning* 7 Then put in it two vnces of greene Copéras, or eis of Romayne Vitrial, which is beste. 1611 COTGR., *Vitriol d'Allemagne*, German Vitriolli. *Ibid.*, *Vitriol d'Hongrie*, Hungarie Vitriolli. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 134 The English bring into France .. Leade, Tynne, English Vitriall, or Shoemakers blacke. 1652 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 66 Take of Hungarian, or the best English Vitriall. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Roman Vitriol is made by exposing these Pyrites to the Air, till such time as they calcine. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 46 Take Hungarian Vitriol, Allum, of each half a Pound, Phlegm of Vitriol 10 Pounds. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 305/1 Sulphuric acid and copper form sulphate of copper, blue vitriol, or Roman vitriol, or blue copperas.

3. With term indicating the base, as *vitriol of cobalt*, *copper*, *iron*, *lead*, *silver*, etc.

1695 W. W. *New Light Chirurg. Put out* 61 The Powder consists of a Vitriol of Copper. 1699 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1715) 453/1 Of this opened Sol, to make Vitriol of Gold. 1704 HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vitriol of Copper* or *Venus*, is Blue Chrystals made by a Solution of Copper in Spirit of Nitre, Evaporation, and Chrystallisation in a cool place. *Ibid.*, *Vitriol of Silver*, or of the *Moon*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., Of this kind are the Vitriols of old, silver, copper, iron, lead, and tin. *Ibid.*, Vitriol of quicksilver, the name of a chemical preparation of quicksilver, with acid spirits. *Ibid.*, Another method of making the Vitriol of mercury. 1791 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 381 Fused..on a plate of platina, with the vitriols of tartar and soda, it appeared entirely to resist their action. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 90 If they are considered..as Vitriols of Cobalt and Nickel, they are ranged among Ores. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 288 The patient bore large doses of the vitriols of copper and of zinc.

†**b.** *Vitriol of Mars*, *Moon*, *Venus*, etc. (see quots. and 1704 in prec.). *Obs.*

1678 SALMON *Pharm. Lond.* 836/2 Filings of Steel are digested in Spirit of Vitriol, to make Vitriol of Mars. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Vitriol of Mars*, Iron and Spirit of Vitriol mix'd and distill'd together. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vitriol of Mars*, or *Salt of Steel*, is made by dissolving Steel in some proper Acid Menstruum then Evaporating and Chrystallizing to gain the Salt as above in Copper. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 66 These crystals are called Green Vitriol, and Vitriol of Mars.

4. a. *Oil of vitriol*, concentrated sulphuric acid.

1580 FRAMPTON tr. *Monardes' Med. agst. Venome* 117 b, In our time there hath been compounded and drawen out an Oyle, which they call Oyle of Vitrioll or Coporace. 1611 COTGR., *Huile de vie*, Oyle of Vitrioll. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxii. 176 This we fill'd with Oyl of Vitriol and fair water. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Oil of Vitriol, which comes out after the Spirit, by heightning the Fire wherewith that had been rais'd. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 31 Add, by a little at a time, as much vitriolic acid, commonly sold by the name of oil of vitriol, as will re-dissolve the whole. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 391 Pouring in so much concentrated oil of vitriol as shall moisten the fragments. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 102 Water made slightly sour by addition of a little oil of vitriol.

b. *Spirit(s) of vitriol*, a distilled essence of vitriol.

1671 R. BOHUN *Wind* 175 Such as Oyl of Tartar and spirit of Vitriol. 1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 44 As for the Acid Saline Principle, I suppose no person who hath tasted the Spirit of Vitriol,..will question its abounding in that subject. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Salt*, Spirit of Nitre,..Spirit of Salt,..and Spirit of Vitriol. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 72/1 If the vitriolic acid contain much water, it is then called spirit of vitriol. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 223 This may be sharpened with the spirits of vitriol. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1336 *Vitriol, Sweet Spirit of*,.. a term for..sulphuric ether.

fig. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. i. 174 The Medicine is the same; only Rome has added a few drops of the Spirits of Vitriol.

†**c.** *Colcothar, earth, salt, of vitriol*: see quots. Also *elixir of vitriol*: see ELIXIR *sb.* 4.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 91 Comatous children are..cured by Vomitive Salt of Vitriol. 1699 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1715) 453/2 *Terra Vitrioli dulcis*, sweet Earth of Vitriol. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Sulphur*, Colcothar, or fixed salt of vitriol. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v., A fine purple matter, called colcothar of vitriol. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 95 Take red calcined vitriol, or colcothar of vitriol.

5. *fig.* (In allusion to the corrosive properties of vitriol.) Virulence or acrimony of feeling or utterance.

1769 *Junius Lett.* xv. (1788) 90 Flat and insipid in your retired state, but brought into action you become vitriol again. 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. David* Ps. lv. 3 They..cast the vitriol of their calumny over me. 1895 *Literary World* (Boston) 8 Nov. 359/1 This introduction, with its mixture of genius, shrewdness, and vitriol, is a piece of prose not to be missed.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vitriol bath*, *chamber*, *-maker*, *marcasite*, *-thrower*, *-throwing*, *water*; **vitriol ochre**, a former name of glockerite; †**vitriol stone**, a native vitriol or sulphate.

1669 BOYLE *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (ed. 2) *Absol. Rest Bodies* 15 A bulky Marchasite that I procur'd from a Virtuoso that lives just by a Vitriol-work, whither these among other Vitriol-Stones are brought. 1670 [see VITRIOLIC *a.* 2]. 1675 E. WILSON *Spadacr. Dunelm.* 43 Two vitriol waters in the Copper Mine of Herongrundt. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* v. ix. 378 If in the incarning the Wound the Flesh grows luxurious, touch it with a Vitriol-stone, and it will..dispose it to cicatrize. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v., The old iron, picked up by the poor people about our streets, is sold to the vitriol or copperas makers. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* viii, We had a talk about the vitriol-throwers at Cork, and the sentence just passed upon them. 1849 HY. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* V. v. (1877) III. 263 They mourned over the murders, and vitriol-throwing of the operatives, who were enslaved by mercenary delegates. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 303 Reactions in the Vitriol Chambers. 1887 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* IV, Compassion is about as welcome to my feelings as a vitriol bath to fresh wounds.

Hence **Vitriol** *v. trans.*, to injure (a person) by means of vitriol; to expose (a thing) to the effects of vitriol.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 5/2, I do not want to be killed, and I have a particular objection to being vitrioled.

†**Vitriolate**, *a.* *Obs.* Also 7 **vitriolet**. [ad. med. or mod.L. *vitriolāt-us*, f. *vitriolum* vitriol. Cf. It. *vitriolato*, Sp. and Pg. *vitriolado*, F. *vitriolé*.]

1. Of or belonging to, resembling that of, vitriol.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 336 A vitriolate or copperose quality conjoyning with a terrestrious and astringent humidity. 1685–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 323 This had somewhat of a Vitriolate taste. 1692 BOYLE *Ess. Gems* 139 Particles which..I observ'd to be of a Vitriolate nature.

2. Treated with vitriol. *Vitriolate tartar* (see VITRIOLATED 3 a).

1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 513 As we see in Tartar Vitriolate. 1672 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. lxxxiv. 730 Vitriolate Tartar taken in Broath,..extract of Hellebore [etc.]. are here good. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 93, I gave him Spring-water corrected with Vitriolate Syrup of Rasberries. 1704 [see TARTAR[1] 3 b]. 1782 KIRWAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 40 The same double decomposition will be produced if, instead of tartar vitriolate, glauber's salt be used.

3. Affected by, impregnated with, vitriol.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Forms & Qual.* 339 This Vitriolate Nitre (if I may so call it). 1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 131 It is also..manifest, that there are in the bodies of men.. solutions or liquors imbued with sundry salts, as aluminous, acid, and vitriolate, etc. 1684 BOYLE *Porosity. Anim. & Solid Bod.* viii 125 So that their Texture was spoiled by the saline and vitriolate Corpuscles.

b. Of water, springs, etc.

1666 *Phil. Trans.* I. 339 That Pool..seems to be of Vitriolate water. 1667 *Ibid.* II. 469 The Iron, that is said to be turned into Copper, by the Vitriolate Springs at Cremnitz.. in Hungary. 1670 *Ibid.* V. 1043 There are also two Springs of a Vitriolat water, which are affirm'd to turn iron into Copper. 1751 *Eng. Gauntlet* s.v. *Worton-Lower*, A vitriolate ferrugineous spring.

Vitriolate, *v. rare.* [Cf. prec. and -ATE[3].] *trans.* To affect or treat with vitriol; to render vitriolic.

1603 TIMME *Quersit.* I. vii. 27 By reason of a singular temper of sharpness vitriolated by sweet and sulphurus spirits. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Vitriolate*, to convert, as sulphur in any compound, into sulphuric acid, formerly called vitriolic acid.

Vitriolated, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. or VITRIOLATE *a.*]

†**1.** = VITRIOLATE *a.* 1. *Obs.*—[1]

1651 BIGGS *New Dispens.* P 144 The acid saline vitriolated qualities of wine, vineger, or Juice of Limons.

2. Impregnated with vitriol: **a.** Of liquids.

a 1626 MEVEREL in *Bacon's Physiol. Rem.* (1679) 195 Iron may be dissolved by any tart, salt, or vitriolated Water. 1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 154 The vitriolated Serum would not flame; the vitriolated blood did burn with a brisk but short flame. 1756 F. HOME *Exper. Bleaching* 185 The liquor more acid than the vitriolated liquor in the foregoing experiment.

b. Of minerals, etc., affected by native sulphates.

1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 250 Vitriolated clay, or alum, is rarely found. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 113 Mr. Bergman .. deduces the origin of Vitriolated Silver, from the withering and Acidification of the Sulphurated Silver Ores. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 87 The vitriolated layers of mire still exhibit traces of sea-weeds and marshes. 1805 W. SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 49 Any spring of water that flows in the neighbourhood, will hence contain both alum and vitriolated iron.

3. Treated with vitriol: **a.** *Vitriolated tartar*, sulphate of potassium. (Cf. TARTAR[1] 3 b.)

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 628/1 Antimonial Tartar vitriolated. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Tartar*, Tartar Vitriolated, which some call Magistery of Tartar, is Oil of Tartar mix'd with rectify'd Spirit of Vitriol. 1788 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 85 Vitriolated Tartar is almost as hard to dissolve in water as the Selenites. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 183 An innocent neutral salt, vitriolated tartar. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 36 The residuum in the retort furnishes vitriolated tartar. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 795/2 Potassic sulphate..is the salt formerly called vitriolated tartar and *sal de duobus*.

b. With other sbs., as *ammonia*, *iron*, etc.

1788 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 395 Of vitriolated natron (Glauber's salt) four parts. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 67 Eight grains of myrrh, a grain and a half of vitriolated iron. 1802 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. I. 360/2 Sulphat of ammonia..was also called vitriolated ammoniac. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* (1827) 169, I gave her emetics of vitriolated zinc and copper. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Vitriolated Alkali* (Chem.), the sulphate of potash.

Vitriolation. [f. VITRIOLATE *v.*] (See quot.)

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Vitriolation*, the act or process of converting into sulphuric acid or vitriol.

†**Vitriole·scent**, *a.* *Obs.*—[1] [f. VITRIOL *sb.* + -ESCENT.] Passing into a vitriolated state. Hence **Vitriole·scence.**

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyrital.* 60 Dissolved, crumbled, vitriolescent copper-pyrites. *Ibid.* 296 The spontaneous vitriolescence of pyrites.

Vitriolet, variant of VITRIOLATE *a.*

Vitriolic (vitri·olik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7–8 **vitriolick**, 7 **-ike**, **-iq(ue.** [ad. F. *vitriolique* (16th c., = It., Sp., Pg. *vitriolico*), or f. VITRIOL *sb.* + -IC.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or belonging to vitriol; having

the nature or qualities of vitriol; impregnated with vitriol.

1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 62 The solution of the vitriol marcasite..precipitates the same vitriolick oaker. 1676 Grew *Anat. Pl., Exper. Lactation* ii. § 4 Irish Slat.. seems to be nothing else but a Vitriolick Bole. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 257 In the Quartane, the..Pain is from the vitriolic Cacochymia. 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 470 It is of a subacid taste, and very nauseously vitriolic. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. xi. 215 A mucous substance, which had something of a vitriolic quality, settled under the reticular membrane. 1800 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Ths.* 33 This compound of metal and sulphur..is destroyed by the contact of moisture and resolved into a vitriolic salt. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 108/1 If the pit water be vitriolic..it becomes necessary to use every means to procure better water. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log Sea-waif* 49 A fiery white spirit, fresh from the still...This vitriolic stuff seemed to meet every emergency.

b. *Vitriolic acid*, oil of vitriol.

1747 Wall in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. Suppl 588, I acidulated the Liquors with the vitriolic Acid. 1778 W. Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 54 It entirely resists the vitriolick acid, which dissolves or corrodes every other known metallick body, except Gold. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Forrester, Bank-notes*, The large bottle of vitriolic acid was broken. 1842 Ordeson *Creol.* xiii. 137 The gas was generated from steel filings and vitriolic acid.

2. *fig.* Of language, persons, etc.: Extremely sharp, caustic, or scathing; bitterly ill-natured or malignant.

1841 H. F. Chorley *Music & Mann.* III. 31 Venting a flood of vitriolic sarcasm, or a flight of high-toned poetry. 1866 E. P. Whipple *Characters & Charac. Men* 5 Robespierre..[and] Frederick of Prussia..were both bitter and vitriolic natures 1879 McCarthy *Hist. Own Times* II. 197 He never became more than a great Parliamentary critic of the acrid and vitriolic style. 1903 Colkman *C. Reade* III. v. (1904) 324 For vitriolic vigour this epistle excels anything in the language.

B. *sb.* A vitriolic substance. *Obs* —1

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Nov. 1651, It had a taste of a strong vitrioliq, and smelt like aqua fortis.

Vitriolico-, combining form of prec., employed in a few chemical terms, as *vitriolico-antimoniated, -muriated, -neutral*.

1782 Kirwan in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 49 Whenever a vitriolico-neutral salt..is evaporated to a certain degree, the vitriolic expels these acids in its turn. 1796 — *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 213 [Silver] Vitriolico muriated, or Corneous Silver Ore. *Ibid.* 222 Vitriolico Antimoniated Silver Ore.

Vitrio·lify, *v. rare*—°. [f. Vitriol *sb.* + -(i)fy.] *trans.* To vitriolize. Hence **Vitrio·lifying** *ppl. a.*

1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 72 The expansion of some of those prodigiously active Springy particles..which together with the Aerial Salt were arrested by the Vitriolifying principle.

†Vitrioline, *a. Obs.* [f. Vitriol *sb.* + -ine 1.] Resembling vitriol; vitriolic.

1632 French *Yorksh. Spa* iii. 34 Astringing waters, as Alluminous, and Vitrioline almost every where. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorks.* (1662) III. 188 In a morish boggy ground ariseth a spring of a Vitrioline tast and odour. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 52 The Bath waters, wherein the vitrioline virtue is most eminent. 1703 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1573 How far these Stones are the effect of a Vitrioline Juice, I will not determin.

Vitrioli·zable, *a.* [f. Vitriolize *v.* + -able.] That may be vitriolized; capable of being converted into vitriol.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 82 That the Iron, in Pyrites, [is] spontaneously Vitriolizable. 1828–32 Webster. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Vitriolisa·tion. [f. next + -ation.] The process of converting, or of being converted, into a vitriol.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 109 The vitriolisation of pyrites. 1782 Kirwan in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 74 As Mr. Monnet has observed in his excellent Treatise on Vitriolization. 1804 *Ibid.* XCIV. 318 The magnetical pyrites..seems to be liable to oxidizement, but not to vitriolization.

Vitriolize (vi·triŏlaiz), *v.* [f. Vitriol *sb.*]

1. a. *trans.* To convert into vitriol; to vitriolate. Also *absol.*

1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 453/1 Dissolve again in fair Water and cryst.allize or vitriolize as before. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 305 By long exposure to the air and moisture they are at last vitriolized.

b. *intr.* To become vitriolated or vitriolic.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 327 Such pyrites as vitriolise sparingly and leisurely. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 80 There are some that spontaneously effloresce and vitriolize.

2. *trans.* To injure with vitriol; to throw vitriol at (a person) with intent to injure.

1886 *Daily News* 15 March (Cassell's), The jury did not believe that the child from the same motive vitriolized himself. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 24 July 4/6 The painful case of a handsome girl who was 'vitriolised' by a rival.

Hence **Vi·triolised** *ppl. a.* Also **Vi·triolizer**, one who throws vitriol with intent to injure.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 2 Thinking he had to deal with a vitriolizer the servant ran down to call a policeman. 1892 *Ibid.* 9 Nov. 7/1 Vitriolised spices and arsenicated coffee. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Oct. 6/3 With vitriolised drink supplied to you at fabulous prices.

†Vitriolous, *a. Obs* [f. Vitriol *sb.* + -ous. Cf. OF. *vitriolaux*.] Of the nature of vitriol; vitriolic.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxii. 164 Some attribute from an acide and vitriolous humidity in the stomack. *Ibid.* VI. xii. 336, I say, a vitriolous or copperous quality; for vitriol is the active or chiefe ingredient in Inke. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 56 Vitriolous, nitrous, &c. Spirits.

Vitrious, obs. form of Vitreous *a.*

Vitrisch, variant of Vitry *Obs.*

Vitrite (vi·trəit). *Min.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass + -ite 1.] (See quots.)

1866 Lawrence tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* (1878) 341 Opal, as a rock, usually only forms very subordinate masses, e.g. the so-called vitrite, which occurs at Meronitz, in Bohemia. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1004 *Vitrinopal, Vitrite*, the matrix of Bohemian pyrope, related to pitchstone.

Vi·tro-, combining form on Gr. models of L. *vitrum* glass, used in a few terms, as **vitro-de·ntine**, the hard external layer of dentine in a tooth; **vi·trophyre**, a subdivision of porphyritic rocks; hence *vitrophyric* adj.; **vi·trotype** (see quot. 1875).

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 882/1 The dental plate consists..of a central mass of coarse osseous substance.. and an external sheath of very hard 'vitro-dentine'. 1870 tr. *Stricker's Man. Histology* xv. (N. Syd. Soc.) 472 The central portion [of a tooth] consists of vaso-dentine, which is covered with true dentine; external to which again is a thin layer of vitro-dentine. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2713 2 *Vitro-type* (Photography), a name given to the processes which involve the production of collodion film pictures on glass. 1888 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. iii. 90 Vogelsang has proposed to classify this type [Porphyritic] in three divisions: 1st, Granophyre,..2nd, Felsophyre,..3rd, Vitrophyre, where the ground-mass is a glassy magna. 1890 *Philos. Mag.* March 288 Among the pyroxenic rocks the most noticeable varieties are the labradorite-audesites, the pyroxene-audesites—of which both 'trachytoid' and 'vitrophyric' forms occur.

†Vitrose, *a. Obs.*—° [ad. L. type **vitrōs-us*, f. *vitrum* glass.] 'Glassy, full of glass.'

1727 Bailey (vol. II).

Vi·trous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass. Cf. F. *vitreux*, and med.L. *vitrus* adj.] Vitreous.

1657 *Physical Dict., Vitrous humor*, a moisture like to molten glass or chrystal, which is a part of the eye. 1779 Sir W. Hamilton in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 51 *note*, A flexible, capillary, yellow glass,..with small vitrous globules at a little distance one from the other. 1899 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1336 Omalius admitted a genus of vitrous rocks comprehending the silicated, vitrified stones or rocks.

†Vi·trum. *Obs. rare.* [L.] Glass; a glass substance; a glass vessel.

1657 *Physical Dict., Vitrum*, glass: it's used to signifie glass distilling vessels, or any other vessels made of glass. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 52 A certain thin Lamina of a vitrum or vitrified part of the Metal. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 547/1 Le Febure makes the Salt..of the Glass..,but he mingles the Vitrum with its equal Weight of Sulphur in Ponder.

Vitruvian (vitrū·viăn), *a.* [f. the name of M. *Vitruvius* Pollio, a Roman architect and writer on architecture (*c* 10 B.C.).] Of, relating to, or in the style of Vitruvius.

1762 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. 116 Our buildings must be as Vitruvian, as writings in the days of Erasmus were obliged to be Ciceronian. 1835 R. Willis *Archit. Mid. Ages* ii. 83 *note*, The latter [Alberti] published the first treatise on the Vitruvian architecture, in 1485. 1893 Symonds *Michelangelo* xiii. II. 217 Church, cupola, and spires are built up by a succession of Vitruvian temples.

b. *Vitruvian scroll*, a convoluted scroll-pattern employed as an architectural ornament.

1837 *Antig. Athens* 19 A sort of thatch of laurel leaves, surrounded by an ornamental edge, usually termed a Vitruvian scroll. 1886 G. Schumacher *Across the Jordan* iii. 173 A lintel-stone .. which is .. ornamented with the seven-branched candlestick and a sort of vitruvian scroll.

Hence **Vitru·vianism**, the style or principles of architecture favoured by Vitruvius.

1859 Jephson *Brittany* viii. 115 Going straight from the debased flamboyant or perpendicular to Vitruvianism.

†Vi·try. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **vettris**, *Sc.* **vitrisch**; 6 **vitre**, 7 **vitree**, **vitrie**, **vittry**, 8 **vitry**; 6–7 **vittory**, 9 **vittory**. [ad. F. *Vitré*, the name of a town in Brittany. The early forms in *-is*, *-isch* prob. represent F. *Vitrées* pl., canvas cloths made at Vitré.] *Vitry canvas*, a kind of light durable canvas. (Cf. Vandelas.) Also *ellipt.*

c 1425 *Foreign Accts.* 59 m. 23 a (P. R. O.), [A ship's bonnet containing] iiij dl' uln' canab' de vettris. 1497 *Acc. Ld High Treas. Scot.* I. 345 For xiiij elne of vetrisch cammas to ane litil palzoune of the Kingis, xiiij s. 1534 *Exch. Acc.* 58/13 Vittery canvas. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuff* 27 For which is alwaies paide ready Golde, with salt, Canuas Vitre, and a great deale of good trash. 1612 *Ledger A. Halyburton* (1867) 319 Vandolose or Vitrie canves the eln, xs. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 134 And they bring from thence Linnen cloathes, called white Roanes and Vitrea Canvas. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 167 Linnens,.. narrow vandales, or vittry canvas. 1721 C. King *Brit. Merch.* I. 181, 17000 Hund. of Vitry and Noyals Canvas. *Ibid.* 284 Canvas Vitry,..Canvas Norman. 1757 J. H. Gross *Voy. E. Indies* 176 Holland's duck, or vitry, is whilst in use, more pliant, and less apt to split. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Vitry*, a light and durable canvas. *Ibid.*, *Vittory*, a fine canvas, of which the waistcloths were formerly made.

Vitsonday, obs. Sc. form of Whitsunday.

‖Vitta (vi·tă). Pl. **vittæ** (vi·tī). [L. *vitta* a band, fillet, chaplet, esp. one worn round the head.]

†1. *Anat.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—°

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vitta*, that part of the Coat call'd *Amnion*, which sticks to the Infants Head when 'tis Just Born. [Hence in Phillips, 1706, etc.]

2. *Rom. Antiq.* (See quots.)

Neither of the applications rests upon L. usage.

1726 A. Gordon *Itin. Sept.* 77 He [sc. a Roman soldier] has a Sash or Vitta coming over his Breast, reaching to his Middle. 1847 *Kitto's Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* I. 227/2 The objects above denominated appendages and vittæ..were straps of leather secured to the lower rim of the barrel of a suit of armour, and to the openings for arm-holes.

3. *Zool.* A band or stripe of colour.

1819 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. II. 346 The hypochondria [of the Guernsey Partridge] marked with a double black vitta. 1849 Johnston in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 365 Mite..marked on the back with a dark vitta or line forming two sigmoid flexures. 1875 G. N. Lawrence *Birds S. W. Mexico* 51 *Larus californicus*..bill grayish-white, behind the yellowish-white tip a black vitta.

b. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 403/2 The term vittæ is also sometimes applied to the various stripes which are found upon leaves, and which either arise from irregular distribution or entire deficiency of colouring-matter.

4. *Bot.* **a.** One of a number of elongated club-shaped canals or tubes occurring in the pericarp of the fruit of most umbelliferous plants and containing their characteristic oil. Usually in pl.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 4 The ridges are separated by channels, below which are often placed, in the substance of the pericarp, certain linear receptacles of coloured oily matter, called *vittæ*. 1847 Steele *Field Bot.* 30 Vittæ on the upper half of the fruit oply..*Heracleum*. Vittæ as long as fruit...*Peucedanum*. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 156 Trinia..primary ridges subequal, thick, smooth, rugose or plaited, with a large *vitta* inside each.

b. One of a number of internal projections occurring in the valves of diatomaceous plants.

1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1900 Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

Vittail(e, obs. forms of Victual *sb.* and *v.*

Vittandly, obs. Sc. variant of Wittingly *adv.*

Vittate (vi·tĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *vittāt-us* bound with a fillet or chaplet, f. *vitta* Vitta + -ate 2.]

1. *Zool.*, *Bot.*, etc. Marked or striped with vittæ. Cf. Vittated *a.*

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 290 Vittate (*Vittata*), painted with several such stripes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1224/1 *Vittate*, striped lengthwise.

2. *Bot.* Having a vitta or vittæ (sense 4 a).

Chiefly in combination, *1-vittate*.

1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 153 Eryngium;..primary ridges obscure 1-vittate.

Vi·ttated, *a. Zool.*, *Ornith.*, etc. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ed 2.] = prec. 1.

Only in the specific names of a few birds, reptiles, etc.

1790 Latham *Ind. Ornith.* II. 827 *Procellaria vittata*,.. Vittated Petrel. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 533 Vittated Snake. *Coluber Vittatus*. 1804 *Ibid.* V. I. 22 Vittated Silure. *Silurus Vittatus*.

Vitte, obs. f. Wit *sb.* **Vittee**, dial. var. Fitty *a.*1 **Vittel(l**, obs. ff. Victual *sb.* and *v.* **Vitteller**, **-lour**, etc. obs. ff. Victualler. **Vittely**, obs. Sc. f. Wittily *adv.* **Vitten**, dial. var. Fitten *sb.* and *a.*

†Vittered, variant of Fittered *ppl. a. Obs.*

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 335/265 Viterde hodes and Clokes also, Al þat vile pride schal don hem ful wo. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 609 The wilde Ache or Parseley hath large leaues, al jagged, cut, and vittered, much like the leaues of the wilde Carrot.

Vittering, Sc. form of Wittering.

Vitterly, Sc. form of Witterly *adv. Obs.*

Vittery, var. Vitry *Obs.*

Vittie-vayr: see Vetiver.

Bentley *Man. Bot.* 699 *Andropogon muricatus*, Vittie-vayr or Cuscus, yields a fragrant oil according to Dr. Hooker.

Vitting, obs. Sc. form of Witting *vbl. sb.* **Vittle**, obs. or dial. f. Victual *sb.*; obs. f. Victual *v.*

†Vittorin, Anglicized f. Vetturino. *Obs.*

1613 Sir A. Sherley *Trav. Persia* 24 He brought me to a Vittorin, of whom he had already hired Horses, Camels, and Moiles for me.

Vittory, **Vittry**, var. Vitry *Obs.* **Vitty**, dial. or slang var. of Fitty *a.*; obs. Sc. f. Witty *a.* **Vittyng**, obs. Sc. f. Witting *vbl. sb.*

†Vitulate, *v. Obs.*—° [f. L. *vituldt-* ppl. stem of *vitulārī* to celebrate a festival, keep holiday, be joyful.] *intr.* 'Wantonly to rejoice' (Cockeram I, 1623).

†Vitula·tion. *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *vitulātio* (Macrobius), noun of action f. L. *vitulārī*: see prec.] A public thanksgiving or festival.

In quots. erroneously associated with L. *vitulus* a calf.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 90 The ancients called Victoria by the name of the Goddesse Vitula, bycause they sacrificed vnto hir calues, which was termed a Vitulation: and this was vsuall for victory and plenty. 1623 Cockeram, *Vitulation*, a reioicing like a calfe.

Vituline (vi·tiŭlain), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *vitulīnus*, f. *vitulus* calf. Cf. F. *vituline* (Balzac).] Of or belonging to a calf or calves; resembling that of a calf.

Vitular, *vitulary*, with similar sense, are recorded in the *Cent. Dict.* and other recent Dicts.

1638 Blount *Glossogr.* 1706–1805 Tooke *Pantheon* (1840) II. 444. 1680 Wraxall *Life in Sea* ii. 27 In spite of their [i. e. seals'] clumsy form, the vituline countenance wears an expression of calmness and peace. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 167 If a double allowance of vituline brains deserve such honor, there are few commentators on Shakespeare that would have gone afoot.

† Vituper, *sb. Obs.* Also 5 vi-, vytupere, 6 *Sc.* wituper. [a. OF. *vituper, -ere* (obs. or arch. F. *vitupère,* = Pr. *vatupier*), ad. late or med.L. *vituperium* Vituperv.] Vituperation.

1456 Sir G. Hayt *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 188 Thir fals Jowis ..revyll]is thame and dois all the vituper thai may to haly kirk and to the sacrament. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xv, Suche is now in grete honour and worship that herafter shalle falle in to grete vytupere shame and dishonour. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxiii. 233 To the moost vytupere & shame of the Catholycal feyth. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 109 Mark als þe wite, vise, wituper, and the waige Off wntried traisoun and of tyrannye.

† Vituper, *v. Obs. rare.* In 5 vytuper. [a. OF. *vituperer* (10th c.; obs. or arch. F. *vitupérer* = Pr., Sp. and Pg. *vituperar*, It. *-are*), ad. L. *vituperāre* to Vituperate. Cf. prec.] *trans.* To vituperate or revile; to dishonour or disgrace.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* III. vii, Mari preysen somtyme that that shold be blamed & vytupered And ofte men ..vytuperen that that shold be preysed. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 337 O, gode lord..deliver me from the handes of my enmyes that I be not vytupered nor brought to shame.

Vitu·perable, *a.* ? *Obs.* Also 6 vytuperable. [a. OF. *vituperable* (obs. F., Sp. *vituperable*, Pg. *vituparavel*, It. *vituperabile*), ad. L. *vituperābil-is* (rare) blameworthy, censurable, f. *vituperāre* to Vituperate.] That deserves or merits vituperation; blameworthy, censurable, reprehensible; disgraceful, shameful.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xix. 22 Yf an accustumed exercise ..be lytly forsaken þorugh hevynes o' soule or negligence, it is vituperable, & wol be founde noyous. 1482 Boteler *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) C vij, Cecilyus saide of olde age a thyng is no more vituperable and lothyng, thenne is the same that he seeith here before. *c* 1510 Barclay *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) G v, But a famous merchaunt, great, riche, and haboundant, And rightwisely dealing, is not vituperable. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* § 163. 58 b, There be many other myrthes & consolacions, some beynge good & laudable & some vytuperable. 1586 Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 61 To ouercome others by vertue is a thing most honourable, but in pursuite thereof to be conuinced of any other, is a thing most vituperable. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 99 Nothing doth more corrupt and wither greene and tender wits, then such vnsauoury and vituperable bookes. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* 357 Of vituperable men there are four species; of which the first consists of the ambitious.

Vitu·perant, *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. *vituperant-, vituperans*, pr. pple. of *vituperāre* to Vituperate. Cf. OF. *vituperant* (Godef.).] **a.** *adj.* Abusive, vituperative. **b.** *sb.* A vituperator.

1864 *Reason* 17 Feb. 7 We do not think..that the most vituperant colonel would express such strong opinions. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 5/1 Whilst Lord Salisbury came here as your most exalted vituperant, you are journeying hither as his most obedient and faithful adulator!

Vitu·perate, *ppl. a. rare*—1. [ad. L. *vituperāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vituperāre*: see next.] Vituperated; worthy of vituperation.

1832 *Westm. Rev.* XVI. 7 Wealth was to be discreditable, unmanly, vituperate, because it was found greatly to indispose men to be active thieves.

Vituperate (vəitiū·pĕrēt, vi-), *v.* [f. L. *vituperāt-*, ppl. stem of *vituperāre* to censure, blame, disparage, find fault with, etc., f. *vitu-* for *viti-*, stem of *vitium* blemish, fault, Vice *sb.*1 + *parāre* to prepare. See also Vituper *v.*] *trans.* To blame, speak ill of, find fault with, in strong or violent language; to assail with abuse; to rate or revile.

Not in common use until the beginning of the 19th c.

1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xvi. (1870) 273 They louyth not porke nor swynes fleashe, but doth vituperat & abhorre it. 1611 Cotgr., *Vitupérer*, to vituperate, dispraise, discommend. [Hence in Cockeram, Blount, Bailey, etc.] 1628 Penkethman *Artach.* C ij, Whatsoever transcends their sedulous apprehension..without any favourable expostulation..they will unworthily and unwittingly vituperate and reprehend.

1829 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, The incensed priests..continued to raise their voices, vituperating each other in bad *Eng.* V. 477 He vituperated from the pulpit the vices of the court. 1883 A. Forbes in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 671 Englishmen are not in the habit of vituperating Monk as a traitor.

refl. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Ref. Addr.* x. (1873) 96 Deviation from scenic propriety has only to vituperate itself for

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To employ abusive language.

1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* VIII. v, 46 Vituperated and vituperating, he became a wanderer throughout Germany. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* vi. 168 He loses his temper and begins to vituperate.

Hence **Vitu·perated** *ppl. a.*

1841 Emerson *Conservative* Wks. (Bohn) II. 272 You are yourself the result of this manner of living, this foul compromise, this vituperated Sodom.

Vituperation (vəitiūpĕrē·ʃən, vi-). Also 5 -acyon. [a. OF. *vituperacion, -acion, -ation* (obs. F. *vituperation*, = Sp. *vituperacion*, Pg. *vituperação*, It. *vituperazione*), or ad. L. *vituperātiōn-, vituperātio* blaming, censuring, etc., noun of action f. *vituperāre*: see prec. and -ation.]

1. The action, fact, or process of vituperating; blame, censure, reproof, or (esp. in later use) the expression of this, in abusive or violent language; abuse, railing, rating. Also, vituperative or abusive language.

There are few instances of the use of the word before the beginning of the 19th c.: cf. Vituperate *v.*

1482 Boteler *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) C viij, The third part..which Caton answerith,..repreuith them of the seconde defaulte of vituperacyon opposed ayenst olde age. 1600 (*title*), Ane Satyre of the thrie Estaits, in commendation of Vertew and Vituperation of Vyce; maid be Sir Dauid Lindesay. 1633 J. Donne *Hist. Septuagint* 155 When a man becomes vnteachable, and inaccessible, by fierceness and pride..then vituperation comes vpon him, and priuation of honour followes him. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. (1687) 165 Of Rhetoric are six kinds..[6] Vituperation, when we declare a Man to be wicked.

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xx, It was one of these old women who..answered his petition..with a volley of vituperation. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 35 Few nations can surpass the Spaniards in the language of vituperation. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 193 A rhyme written..in vituperation of the idle people at Conflans.

† 2. A cause of blame or censure. *Obs.*—1

1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 305 (*bis*) Such a Writing ought to be clean and free from any Cavil or Vituperation of Rasure.

† Vitupera·tious, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. prec.: see -ious.] Vituperative.

1797 Southey *Let. to J. Cottle* 13 Mar. in *Life* (1849) I. 306 Language is not vituperatious enough to describe the effect of its downward elongation.

Vituperative (vəitiū·pĕrĕtiv, vi-), *a.* [ad. L. type **vituperātīv-us*, f. *vituperāt-*, ppl. stem of *vituperāre*, or directly f. Vituperate *v.* + -ive. Cf. obs. F. *vituperativement* adv. (Godef.), It. *vituperativo.*]

1. Of words, language, etc.: Containing, conveying, or expressing strong depreciation; violently abusive or fault-finding; contumelious, opprobrious. Also, of or pertaining to vituperation.

Freq. in the 19th c.

1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 115 The vituperative partition will as easily be replenished with a most choice collection [of arguments]. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. xix, Tristram!—Melancholy dissyllable of sound! which, to his ears, was unison to Nincompoop, and every name vituperative under heaven. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxx, In utter despair at this vituperative epithet. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xii. 129 His eloquence becoming more and more licentious and vituperative. 1859 Mill *Liberty* ii. (1865) 32/1 It is far more important to restrain this employment of vituperative language than the other.

b. Const. *of* (a person). *rare*—1.

1823 Scott *Quentin D.* viii, Had I..heard by report that a question vituperative of my Prince had been asked by the King of France, I had..instantly mounted and returned.

2. Characterized or accompanied by vituperation or abuse.

1754 Chesterfield in *World* No. 101 P 3 The torrents of their [*sc.* female] eloquence, especially in the vituperative way, stun all opposition. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* II. i, The indignant, soon to become vituperative, secession of a considerable section of the cabinet. 1871 'Holme Lee' *Miss Barrington* I. ix. 129 When they have been most in fault themselves, they are most prone to shower a general vituperative blame and condemnation on the other side.

3. Of persons: Given to vituperation; employing or uttering abusive language.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 90 A Whig is a vituperative animal. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. v, Quietly hearing all manner of vituperative able editors speak. 1904 H. Paul *Hist. Mod. Eng.* I. xii. 208 The violent and vituperative champion of the Protestant religion.

Hence **Vitu·peratively** *adv.*, in a vituperative manner; with vituperation or abuse.

1831 Carlyle in Froude *First 40 Years* (1882) II. 159 The critical republic will cackle vituperatively, or perhaps maintain total silence. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVI. 436 [He] continues his vituperatively shrill demands. 1884 J. Parker *Apost. Life* III. 115 They would not speak their mother tongue if they did not speak vituperatively.

Vituperator (vəitiū·pĕrētai, vi-). [a. L. *vituperātor*, agent-noun f. L. *vituperāre* to Vituperate. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *vituperador*, OF. *vitupereur.*] One who vituperates; an abuser.

1837 *Chambers' Jrnl.* 19 Aug. 239 To stigmatise the vituperators would be now of little service. 1841 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* II. iv. 116, I was tempted to chastise the vulgar vituperator. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 May 5/2 That indignant declamation which is a favourite weapon with the vituperators of the Government.

Vitu·peratory, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. L. type **vituperātōri-us*, f. *vituperāre*: see Vituperate *v.* and -ory 2.] Expressive of blame or censure; vituperative, violently abusive.

1586 Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 90 Laudatorie [Epistles] wherein is specially praised any thing, and Vituperatorie, in which is misliked or condemned whatsoeuer may be thought worthy either to be abhorred or dispraised. 1660 *Charac. Italy* To Rdr. A 5, For that [proverb] hath two ends..the one Vituperatory, and the other

a 1832 Bentham *Deontol.* (1834) I. 315 The very same desire having ordinarily three designations, one laudatory, one vituperatory, and the other neutral. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 343 A fluent array of vituperatory and laudatory phrases.

† Vitupe·rious, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *vituperieus* (implied in the adv. *vituperieusement*; cf. Sp. *vituperioso*), or ad. late or med.L. *vituperiōsus* (Diefenbach), f. *vituperium* Vituperv: see -ious.]

1. Vituperative, strongly abusive or censorious.

1604 Drayton *Moyses* I. 2 Muse, I inuoke the vtmost of thy might,..Gainst the vile Atheists vituperious sting. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 490 To confound the calumnious and vituperious Papists. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 88 Vituperious Sarcasms, Secret rejoycings at their ruins.

2. Worthy of blame, vituperable; hence, shameful, discreditable, disgraceful, ignominious.

1612 tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. iv. 281 O what doe I see, and what doe I heare in my dayes, what vituperious crimes? 1624 *Gag for Pope* 12 Clothed with the Sambenito, a punishment as vituperious as the carting of Bawdes in England. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 15/2 The bearing of these Hellish Vituperious, horrid and vile things, is to deter..the beholder from becoming like them.

Hence **† Vitupe·riously** *adv.*, vituperatively; shamefully. *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. (1906) 3 The name and fame of the most righteous alive,..he thus diversly taxed and vituperiously calumniated. 1650 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 130 So they concluded to die sooner,..then to live so vituperiously in such a basenesse and servitude.

Vitu·perize, *v. nonce-word.* [irreg. f. L. *vituper-āre* + -ize.] *trans.* To vituperate.

1894 T. Wright *Life Defoe* 52 Whoever vituperized 'The True-born Englishman', it is not to be supposed that the ladies did.

Vitu·perous, *a.* ? *Obs.* [ad. obs. or arch. F. *vitupéreux* (= Pr. *vituperos*), or Sp. (also It. and Pg.) *vituperoso*, ad. late or med.L. *vituperōsus*, f. *vituperium* Vituperv: see -ous.]

1. = Vituperious *a.* 1.

1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 33 Then they returne againe with vituperous and vile words.

2. = Vituperious *a.* 2.

1610 *Chester's Tri.* To Rdr. A 2 b, Let him be prest without pity.., and like a vituperous offender, be stamped and stared at. 1651 Culpepper *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 173 White clouds in the Urine, and neer the bottome, are commendable; black clouds, and neer the top, are bad and vituperous.

Hence **Vitu·perously** *adv.*, vituperatively.

1892 E. L. Wakeman in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 18 Aug., Authorities differ not only widely but vituperously as to the origin of practical effort for their betterment.

† Vitu·pery. *Obs.* Also 5 vituperye, 6 -ie. [a. AF. *vituperie* (Gower), OF. **vituperie* (= Pr. *vituperi*, Sp., Pg., and It. *vituperio*), ad. late or med.L. *vituperium* (Diefenbach). blame, dishonour, shame, f. L. *vituperāre* to Vituperate. Cf. Vituper *sb.*] Dishonour, reproach, shame; blame, vituperation.

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* IV. i. P iiij, It may be yᵗ som ..wolde gladly vse therof [*sc.* a safe-conduct], whiche ought to tourne them in grete vitupery and blame. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 105 He ought..to defende the same (euen to the death) from all challenge or vituperie. 1590 Barrow & Greenwood in *Coll. Lett. & Confer.* 36 The rest of the vituperie wherwith you haue laden vs. 1608 H. Clapham *Errour Left Hand* 35 Emulations, heart-burnings, vituperies, bloudy practises. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* II. liii. 357 At whose perswasions & vitupery, the poore Gouernour tried if he could mooue himselfe.

Vitus, in *St. Vitus's Dance*: see Dance *sb.* 6 b. Similarly *St. Vitus' fits.*

a 1845 Hood *Sniffing a Birthday* xv, Ring Tom of Lincoln till he splits, And dance into St. Vitus' fits.

Vius, southern ME. variant of Five.

Viurie *Her.*: see Vivry.

‖ Viva (vī·vä), *sb.*1 and *int.* [It., lit. 'live', 3rd pers. sing. pres. subj. of *vivere* (:—L. *vivĕre*) to live. So Sp. and Pg. *viva.* Cf. Vivat.] A cry of 'long live' as a salute or greeting; a shout of applause; a cheer or hurrah: **a.** As a sb., in the pl. *vivas.*

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Nov. 1644, The multitude..were ..looking out of their windows and houses, with loud *vivas* and acclamations of felicity to their new Prince. 1728 [? De Foe] *Capt. Carleton's Mem.* 268 The Cavaliero.. received the repeated *Vivas* of that vast Concourse. 1828 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 53 He kept bowing and scraping,..answering the paid vivas of the populace with one of his *jolis mots.* 1852 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 490 Whereat the popular exultation drunk With indrawn 'vivas' the whole sunny air. 1882 'Ouida' *Under Two Flags* (1890) 411 Lifting her, with wild vivas that rent the sky, on to the shoulders of the four tallest men.

b. As an exclamation.

1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-Fé*, How they shouted, and fired the great guns in the square, Cried 'Viva!' and rung all the bells in the steeple.

Viva (vəi·vä), *sb.*2 *Univ. colloq.* [Abbrev. of Viva voce.] = Viva voce *sb.*

1891 *Athenæum* 19 Dec. 805/2 The description of his *viva* will bring vivid recollections of similar tortures to many minds. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 July 2/3 If a man has done his paperwork either very well or very badly, the 'viva' is almost entirely formal.

Hence **Vi·va** *v. trans.*, to subject to a viva voce examination; also *intr.*, to examine viva voce.

1893 in J. B. Firth *Minstrelsy of Isle* (1906) 190 We shall laugh at our Tutors and leave them to 'viva' themselves and be free. 1907 'Barbara Burke' *Barbara goes to Oxford* 172 Facing them..sat the youth who was being vivâed.

†Vivace, *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vīvāc-*, *vīvāx* VIVACIOUS *a.*, after F. *vivace*.] Vivacious, lively.

1721 RAMSAY *Content* 356 Another beau, as fine, but more vivace.

‖Vivace (vivā·tʃe), *adv.* (and *sb.*) *Mus.* [It. *vivace* brisk, lively :—L. *vīvāc-*, *vīvāx* : see next.] A direction indicating brisk or lively performance (see quots.).

1683 PURCELL *3 Pt. Sonnatas* To Rdr. (1893), Allegro, and Vivace (import) a very brisk, swift or fast movement. 1784 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks.*, *Vivace*, is as much as to say with Life and Spirit. By this Word is commonly understood a Degree of Movement between *Largo* and *Allegro*, but more inclining to the latter than the former. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Vivace*, a word implying that the movement to which it is prefixed is to be sung, or played, in a brisk and animated style. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* s.v., The Vivace in the latter case would imply an absence of passion or excitement, an even rate of speed, and a bright and cheerful character.

Vivacious (vəivē·ɪʃəs, vi-), *a.* Also 7-8 -eous. [f. L. *vīvāci-*, *vīvāx* (whence F. and It. *vivace*, Sp. and Pg. *vivaz*), tenacious of life, long-lived, lively, vigorous, f. *vīvĕre* to live : see -ACIOUS.]

1. Full of, characterized by, or exhibiting vivacity or liveliness; animated, brisk, lively, sprightly.

a. Of persons, the mind, disposition, etc.

In quot. 1647 the reference is to the soul.

c 1648 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. II. xv. 26 When people of a more vivacious and nimble temper com to mingle with them. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. xiv. This is that nimble quick vivacious Orb All ear, all eye, with rayes round shining bright. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Mar. 1692, The Pr. of Wales,..seeming .very much to resemble..his mother, and of a most vivacious countenance. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 P 10 If the Poet had not been Vivacious, as well as Stupid, he could not [etc.]. 1785 BURKE *Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 266 With all the reachings and graspings of a vivacious mind. 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1811) I. 130 Vivacious pupils should from time to time be accustomed to an exact enumeration of particulars. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* xi. Here the vivacious doctor made a pathetic grimace. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* March 438 The..question of assigning the palm of beauty to the vivacious..little mother or to the tall, slim, grave daughter.

absol. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 204 P 5 The young, the fair, the vivacious, and the witty.

b. Of birds.

1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 291 The scholar pitched upon may not only be more vivacious, but will continue in song. 1817 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. II. 363 It is a vivacious bird, and frequently utters the notes *tic tic tdic.*

c. Of qualities, conditions, etc.

1670 MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* xvi. 159 These Passions..whose propensities are to..steal away from the Soul, that vivacious enlivening power. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 582 A most vivacious and everlasting Sense of Pain. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymns Festiv.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 294 Your Love the more vivacious grew, The nearer it to Glory drew. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 12 Aug., in *Lockhart*, He looks very poorly,..but seems to retain all the quick, earnest, and vivacious intelligence of his character and manner. 1838 DICKENS *Nick. Nick.* XXX, Mr. Snevelicci..proposed 'The Ladies! Bless their hearts!' in a most vivacious manner. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* XXXVI, She invited affection by her beauty and her vivacious life.

d. Of writings, language, etc.

1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* (1790) I. XXV. 211 If, instead of collecting ideas, it [i.e. the mind] had been indulging its own pride in uttering vivacious nonsense. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 202 The vivacious anecdotes related ..rendered the whole scene peculiarly amusing. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 3/2 The new work is more vivacious than the old.

2. Continuing to live; remaining alive for a long time; long-lived. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. iii. § 27 Hitherto the English Bishops had been vivacious almost to wonder. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 2 Their longevity swelling their impieties, the longanimity of God would no longer endure such vivacious abominations. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* viii. 282 They will never be able to prove, that therefore Men would be so vivacious as they would have us believe. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 30 [One sees] Vivacious ill; good dying immature. *Ibid.* v. 851 He gave an old vivacious usurer His meagre aspect, and his naked bones.

transf. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northampton.* (1662) II. 293 By Gods blessing on his vivacious frugality he got so great an Estate. 1693 J. O. tr. *Cowley's Plants* I. 23 Though I the Oaks vivacious Age should live, I ne'er to all, their Names in Verse should give.

b. Of plants; †*spec.*, perennial.

1676 GREW *Anat. Flowers* II. v. § 7 As if the other [plant], because it contains a far greater Proportion of the above-said Particles,..is able to beget a more Numerous, Vivaceous, or Gigantick Birth. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 34 These..may again be distinguished by being Annual, or Perennial and Vivaceous. 1785 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Foxglove*, This Plant is one of those called the vivacious Plants, and consequently..may also be raised by the Roots. 1827 J. COLDSTREAM in J. H. Balfour *Biog.* (1865) ii. 24 Such foreign vivacious plants as pass the winter without shelter in our climate. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* (1906) 237 Still grows the vivacious lilac a generation after the door and lintel and sill are gone.

3. Possessing or exhibiting tenacity of life; difficult to kill or destroy. *rare.*

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Digress. 373 The particular and vivacious Nature of this sort of Fishes [i.e. eels]. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* ii. P 3 A late statesman said .. of England, that it was a vivacious animal that could never die except it kill'd it self. 1682-7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 345 The long round worm,..body transparent,..gregarious and vivacious.

Vivaciously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a vivacious or lively manner; with vivacity or sprightly animation; †vigorously.

a 1712 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 40 The more of Spirit things contract, The more vivaciously they act. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 19 In the French crowd,.. vivacity is every where apparent;—the soldiers are vivaciously surly; the ladies vivaciously charming [etc.]. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xviii, While she is so vivaciously accosting him. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 40 'By the bye,' said her mother vivaciously, 'didn't you bring a maid?' *Comb.* 1899 *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 394 A vivaciously-written narrative of a vacation voyage.

Vivaciousness. [f. VIVACIOUS *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Tenacity of life; longevity. *rare*

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Devon.* I. (1662) 248 Such their Fleetnesse, they will outrun many Horses; Vivaciousnesse, they out live most men. 1806 SYMMONS *Life Milton* (1810) 433 The shameless vivaciousness with which it refused to remit its grasp of political existence. 1849 *Southey's Comm.-pl. Bk* II. 605 Vivaciousness of the Acacia Tree.

2. Vivacity of manner or speech; liveliness, sprightliness.

1727 BAILEY (vol II), *Liveliness*, vivaciousness, &c. 1807 S. TURNER *Hist. Anglo-Sax.* (ed. 2) IV. v. 279 There is a vivaciousness in his despair, which no danger can intimidate. 1872 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Woman in Spite of Herself* I. v, He had achieved a reputation for humour and vivaciousness. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xix, One whose equanimity is not to be upset by the sallies of feminine vivaciousness.

Vivacity (vəivæ·sɪti, vi-). Also 5-6 vivacite, 6-7 -tie, 7 vivassity. [a. OF. *vivacite* (F. *vivacité*, = It. *vivacità*, Sp. *vivacidad*, Pg. *-idade*), or ad. L. *vīvācitāt-*, *vīvācitās* natural vigour, vital force, liveliness, f. *vīvāci-*, *vīvāx* VIVACIOUS *a.* : see -ITY.] The state or condition of being vivacious.

1. Intellectual or mental animation, acuteness, or vigour; quickness or liveliness of conception or perception.

In the first group const. *of* (mind, spirit, thought, etc.).

(*a*) 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 337 Lanfrancus..restorede specially to monkes possessions taken from theyme; whom vivacite of mynde and favor of seynte Dunstan made bolde to do soe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 216 b, He hath this viuacite or quycknes of wytte. 1598 ROB. BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. ii. 143 The Harquebutiers..inuring their horse, both to the crack and fire..wherein consisteth fine skill with viuacitie of spirite. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 57 In the vivacity of spirit there is none can paragonize or equall her. 1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg. Georg.* II. (1684) 80 The Invention, Light, and Vivacity of Mind. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm., Prov. xiv. 6* (1726) I. 186 Wit indeed, as it implies a certain uncommon Reach and Vivacity of Thought, is an excellent Talent. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 456 What is wanting in the robust frame of their bodies..is in a great measure made up to them by the vivacity of their minds. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 217 That amplitude and acuteness of intellect, that vivacity of fancy,..belonged..to Halifax alone.

(*b*) 1604 E. G[IRSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. ii. 433 Wherein..wee may well perceive the great signes of their vivacitie and good vnderstanding. 1607-12 BACON *Ess., Young Men* (Arb.) 256 Heat and vivacity in age is an excellent Composicion for busines. 1682 BURNET *Hale* 122 He had great vivacity in his Fancy, as may appear by his Inclination to Poetry. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. Notes (1736) 110 Mr. Colly Cibber, an author..of a good share of wit, and uncommon vivacity. 1763 COLE in *Coll. Top. & Gen.* (1837) IV. 48 A fine youth,..of great parts and vivacity, at Eton School. 1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1877) I. xiv. 254 How many several objects can the mind simultaneously survey, not with vivacity, but without absolute confusion.

b. Of conceptions or ideas.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Eng. Sat.* Wks. 1730 I. 27 His conceptions were..full of fire and vivacity. 1746 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 295, I greatly apprehend that the Weakness of his Lordships Body will not be able to keep pace with the Vivacity of his conceptions. 1764 REID *Inquiry* ii. § 5 Sensation, memory, belief and imagination when they have the same object are only degrees of strength and vivacity in the idea.

†2. Vital force or power; vitality. *Obs.*

This sense and sense 3 tend to merge into one another and are not always clearly distinguishable.

1611 COTGR., *Vivacité*, viuacitie, liuelinesse, lustinesse, vigor, strength. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarchy* III. 156 Aire, ..of all the Elements the most noble, and fullest of vivacitie and liuelyhood. *a* 1699 BEAUMONT *Psyche* XII. 189 Ah, dead and rotten Faith, which can display No fruit to prove the Root's vivacity! 1724 R. WELTON *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 12 The grave shall surrender our crumbled ashes, redintegrated into a more perfect vivacity than ever. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 130 This fever is much more dangerous in young persons..than in old people; for the vivacity of the former..contribute[s]..to foment it constantly.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Active force, power, vigour.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Exhort. § 13. 9 Many cases do occurre, which need a president, and the vivacity of an excellent example. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 75 It is an active and busie affection; having as much Vivacity as it hath strength. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1748) II. 8 See! how languishingly it [the departing sunlight] trembles on the leafy Spire...The little Vivacity, that remains, decays every Moment...While I speak, it expires. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 66 To prevent the Vivacity of the Fever and other Symptoms. 1783 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 36 (1794) II. 33 While this principle was in its full vivacity, all was sure to go well.

3. The property or fact of living for a long time; longevity. Now *rare.*

1626 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Vivacitie*, long life, liuelinesse. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. ix. 123 Fables are raised concerning the vivassity of Deere; for neither are their gestation or increment such as may afford an argument of long life. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 347 The vivacity of some of these Pensioners is little lesse than a Miracle, they survived so long. 1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. 181 In their topical paradises also, they [the ancients] always suppos'd a great vivacity or longevity in those that enjoy'd them.

fig. 1853 TRENCH *Proverbs* 119 The vivacity of the truth, as contrasted with this short-lived character of the lie.

†b. Tenacity of life. *Obs.*

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. i. 16 The strange vivacity we have sometimes..observed in Vipers: Since.. their Hearts clearly sever'd from their Bodies may be observ'd to beat for some hours. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 6 Many more observables there are in Common Flyes, as their Vivacity; for, when they appear desperate..they will be revoked into life, and perform its functions again.

4. Vigorous or energetic action; activity, energy, vigour; spirit. Now *rare.*

1632 KIRKMAN *Clerio & Lesia* 137 He himself killed the Prince of Doudonne, who for a time defended himself with much vivacity. *a* 1636 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 35, I was enabled with much..vivacitie to perform that service. 1736 LEDIARD *Life Marlborough* II. 494 They were charg'd with a great deal of Vivacity by the Enemy. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 359 Robbing is the only thing that goes on with any vivacity. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 302 The preparations were pushed with such vivacity on the part of England, that it was believed she had other objects in view. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 65 The vivacity with which sounds are transmitted through solid substances, is very remarkable. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 337 Of course, the vivacity of France and England tended to place Austria at her ease. 1882 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* III. 61 The promise, stimulated their irregular vivacity to enforce laws which had become obsolete.

5. The quality, condition, or fact of being animated or lively; esp. lively or spirited conduct, manner, or speech; animation or liveliness of demeanour or disposition; briskness, sprightliness.

Also (*b*) const. *of* (the disposition, etc.).

(*a*) 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I § 7 Whoever considers the Acts of power and injustice..in those intervals of Parliament, will not be much scandalized at the warmth and vivacity of those meetings. 1654 LD. BROGHILL *Parthenissa* 209 He had a look so spiritual and full of vivacity, that no effeminate Beauty was comparable to it. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 128 P 1 As Vivacity is the Gift of Women, Gravity is that of Men. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. v. 173 Is not extreme vivacity a near borderer on folly? 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* vii, Her natural vivacity resumed its long-lost empire. 1868 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. vi. 156 The noisy vivacity which the French usually assume when they would carry their point. 1847 ST AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 511 The ambassador remarked, with all the vivacity consistent with his respect for the pope, how important the affair was. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* III. viii. 74 A man with the vivacity of a boy.

(*b*) 1708 W. J. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* XXIX. 209 The Oppression under which they groan has extinguish'd all the Vivacity of their Minds. 1716 POPE *Lett.* (1735) I. 286 There is a Vivacity and Gaiety of Disposition almost peculiar to him. 1800 *Charac. in Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 32/2 The natural ardour and gay vivacity of his disposition. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* i, The vivacity of his eye indicated some irascibility of temperament. 1835 *Jas. Martin's Disc.* Memoir p. xliii, The spring and vivacity of his spirit became almost like those of a boy discharged from school.

b. As a literary or artistic quality.

1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) II. 126 An admirable half length..painted and finished with the greatest vivacity and clearness. 1824 L. MURRAY *Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 295 When narration is full of images or events, the omission of connectives may..give a sort of picture of hurry and tumult, and so heighten the vivacity of description. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* Introd., The reckless play of raillery which gave vivacity to his original acting. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 308 The first great painter of life and manners has described, with a vivacity which makes it impossible to doubt that he was copying from nature, the effect [etc.].

c. A vivacious or lively act, expression, scene, etc. Usu. in *pl.*

1692 DRYDEN tr. *St. Evremont's Ess.* 375 The most fertile Spirits come to exhaust themselves,..the most enlivened Vivacities either repulse you or weary you. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 448 P 2 Persons who fall into that Way purely to recommend themselves by their Vivacities. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1846) III. 217, I have read..the Pucelle,..throughout there are many vivacities; but so absurd, perplexed a story is intolerable. 1847 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* v. (1848) 58 The Scotch, appear to have been driven by a jovial desperation into the vivacities inspired by the sunshine of the south. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. iii, He was full of bright speech and argument; radiant with arrowy vitalities, vivacities and ingenuities.

6. Brightness, brilliancy (of light or colour).

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. Prel. 19 The splendour and vivacity of whose colours charm the eye. 1738 *Dict. Polygraph.* s.v. *China*, The vivacity of this colour appears no less in glass of lead than in crystal. 1808 SIR W. HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 157 The vivacity of the light of the comet..had a much greater resemblance to the radiance of the stars.

†Vivacy, variant of or error for VIVACITY.

1637 SIR A. JOHNSTON *Diary* (S.H.S.) 278 Quhat dumplies, deadens the vivacie, vigor, livlenes of man's spirit, bot sin? 1729 F. HAUKSBEE *Phys.-Mech. Exper.* (ed. 2) Supp. xvi. 305 Those Gudgeons..now began considerably to abate of their Vivacy.

†Vival, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vīv-us* alive, living, etc. + -AL.] Vital.

1636 W. BELLAS in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 38 Draw forth the vivall substance of your spring, You Sisters nine.

†Vivand, *pres. pple. Obs.*—[1] In 5 **wywande**. [id. OF. (*mal-*)*vivant*, pr. pple. of *vivre* to live.] *Ill vivand*, ill-living.

c 1460 *Wisdom* 786 in *Macro Plays* 61 He þat ys yll wywande, We hys hym, by þe bone.

‖ **Vivandier** (vivăndiē). [F. *vivandier* masc. (= Sp. *vivandero*, Pg. *vivandeiro*, It. *vivandiere*) a supplier of victuals or provisions, f. pop.L. **vivanda* for *vivenda*: see VIAND [1]. Cf. VIANDER [1].] In the French or other continental armies: A person who supplies victuals to troops in the field; a sutler.

The feminine *vivandière* occurs freq. in 19th cent. works relating to Continental wars.

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 13 Another doth visite Vivandiers and Victualers (if any follow the Campe). 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2694/2 They seized several hundreds of Vivandier's Boats. 1822 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurwood *Disp.* (1838) X. 321 Operations so near to the enemy, as that the *vivandiers* and other attendants on the troops cannot with safety remain near them.

Vivarium (vəivē·riŏm, vi-). Pl. **vivaria**, also **-iums**. [L. *vīvārium* enclosure for live game, warren, fish-pond, etc., neut. sing. of *vīvārius*, f. *vīvus* alive, living.]

1. A place where living animals, esp. fish, are maintained or preserved for food; a fish-pond or fish-pool; = VIVARY 2. Also *fig.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 1389 Whereupon it commeth, that those places or parkes which are set out and appointed for feeding of Deere, we use to call Vivaria. 1633 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. xxvi. 328 The face of the Sea is our Traffique, and the bowels of the Sea is our Vivarium, a place for fish to feed us. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* ii. (1849) 80 In some of the Hebrides, there are large pools for the preservation of sea-fishes, hollowed out of the solid rock...Great numbers of cod-fishes are kept in these vivaria. 1886 D. BEVERIDGE *Between Ochils & Forth* v. 80 The dry hollow..in former days served the monks as a *vivarium*, or fish-pool.

2. A place or enclosure, a piece of ground or stretch of water, specially adapted or prepared for the keeping of living animals under their normal conditions, either as objects of interest or for the purpose of scientific study; freq. in later use, an aquarium; = VIVARY 1.

1684 tr. *Combes' Versailles*, &c. 87 In the *Vivarium* are seen many kinds of Animals which have been caused to be brought from Forein Countries. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov. 1644. There is also adjoining to it a vivarium for estriges, peacocks, swanns, cranes, &c. 1833 *Athenæum* 28 May, The new Fish house..has received the somewhat curious title of the 'Marine Vivarium'. 1853 *Guide Zool. Gard*, Aquatic Vivarium. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* 297 Forming a kind of natural museum or vivarium which ancient types..had been saved from..destruction. 1900 L. HUXLEY *Life Huxley* I. xii. 155 The bay was calm and suitable both for the dredge and for keeping up a vivarium.

b. A glass bowl, case, etc., in which fish or other aquatic animals are kept, esp. for purposes of scientific study; = VIVARY 1 b.

1855 *Zoologist* XIII. 4849 Those who would view vivariums merely as interesting subjects for their drawing-room windows. 1856 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) I. 396 We set out for Ilfracombe with our hamper of glass jars, which we meant for our sea-side vivarium. 1870 DK. ARGYLL in *Mem.* xiv (1906) II. 464 Your old vivarium is still standing in its old place.

Vivars, obs. form of VIVERS.

Vivary (vəi·vări). Also 7 **vivarie**. [ad. L. *vivārium* VIVARIUM: see -ARY [1]. Cf. also VIVER [1] and VIVIER.]

1. = VIVARIUM 2. Also *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1621 DONNE *Progr. Sou.* iii, That swimming Colledge, and free Hospitall Of all mankinde, that cage and vivarie Of fowles, and beasts. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 140 Slaves..who have no other office then to hunt the Woods and Marshes for triple-coloured tortoises for the Kings Vivary. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1720) 118 Of Aviaries, Apiaries, Vivaries, Insects, &c. 1865 *Reader* No. 139. 233/1 Our marine-water vivaries.

b. = VIVARIUM 2 b. *rare*—[1].

1781 G. WHITE *Selborne* xcviii, I spent a fortnight at the house of a friend, where there was such a vivary.

2. = VIVARIUM 1. Also *fig.*

1628 COKE *Inst.* (1642) II. 100 Vivarium..In Law..signifieth Parks, Warrens, and Piscaries or Fishings...They might imprison such as they should take in their Parks or Vivaries. 1699 C. NOBLE *Inexpediency Exped.* 4 The Remedy that is prescribed is the very Seed and Sperm, the very Nursery, and Fomenter, and Vivary of that difference. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3). [Hence in Phillips, Ilailey, etc.] 1821 T. H. TURNER *Dom. Archit.* I. lii. 140 There was a pond, or vivary, in the garden, and the bailiff expended eight shillings..to feed the pikes in it. 1858 W. JOHNSON *Ionica* 60 In stagnant vivaries they lie Forgetful of their ancient haunts. 1863 J. R. WALBRAN *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) I. 191 The monks converted a marsh into a vivary which may still be traced.

‖ **Vivat** (vəi·væt), *int.* and *sb.* [a. L. *vīvat*, lit. 'may he (or she) live', 3rd pers. sing. pres. subj. of *vīvĕre* to live; perh. partly a. F. *vivat*, of the same origin. Cf. VIVA *sb.*[1]]

A. *int.* A word of acclamation wishing a person (long) life and prosperity, or expressing applause or approval.

The L. phrases *vivat regina*, *vivat rex* have had some currency in English books.

1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* II. viii, *Yall.* Here's a Health to the Royal Traveller... *Wor.* Come on Boys, *Vivat*; have at you agen then. 1852 C. BARTER *Dorp & Veld* xiii. 103 Dingaan..was succeeded by Panda, the present king [of the Zulus], of whom we have every reason to say 'vivat'.

B. *sb.* An utterance of this word by way of acclamation or applause.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, These donations were accepted with the usual clamour and *vivats* of applause common on such occasions. 1823 — *Quentin D.* xix, The multitude..greeted Melnbese Pavillon with a loud *vivat*, as he ushered in his distinguished guest. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1872) 31 The king was received with shouts and loyal vivats. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* xxxiv, Followed by the vivats of the whole Principality.

‖ **Viva voce** (vəi·vă vō·sē), *adv. phr.*, *a.*, and *sb.* Also **vivâ voce**. [med.L., lit. 'by or with the living voice', f. L. *vīvā*, abl. sing. fem. of *vīvus* living, and *vōce*, abl. sing. of *vox* voice.

The expression *viva vox* is employed by classical Latin authors, but the use of the ablative phrase appears to be of later date. Cf. OF. *par vives voiz* (1258 in Du Cange), *F. de vive voix.*]

A. *adv.* By word of mouth; in speech; orally. (Freq. in parenthetic use.) **a.** As distinct from writing. Also *in* or *with viva voce.*

(*a*) 1581 W. CHARKE in *Conf.* IV. (1584) B b ij, The Apostles taught *viua voce*, by liuely voyce. 1594 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 243 Confessyd by Thomas Walpoole and by John Ingram (*vivus voce*) That [etc.]. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 138 Yes, sir, she's there, *viua voce*, to deliuer her auricular confession. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 66 Instruction from books, strikes the imagination more faintly than that which is delivered *viva voce*. 1748 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* ii. (1757) 94 The manner of giving in the evidence in writing privately, and not viva voce in court,..gives room for great partiality. 1787 MRS. BERKELEY *Poems G. M. Berkeley* Pref. p. ccccxxviii, The good lady has frequently, *viva voce*, said to the Editor, 'Ah!' [etc.]. 1822 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 102 But I must leave the accounts until I can give it to you *viva voce*. 1848 G. STRUTHERS *Orig. Secession Ch.* 63 They were now required to answer separately and *viva voce* to the question. 1862 *Two Cosmos* I. 297 Let's hear ye *viva voce* now, man!

(*b*) 1621 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 174 Whoe all 4 with viva voce accused the said Roan to doe the acte in their sight. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 234, I thought it was proper for you to examine him in *viva voce*.

b. As distinct from silent reading or repetition: = ALOUD *adv.* ? *Obs.*

1665 R. JOHNSON *Scholars Guide* 7 Read the best Authors by periods, *vivâ voce*, thereby their stile will be secretly instilled into your minds. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* I. 159 We might peradventure be less noisy and more profitable in Company, if at convenient times we discharg'd some of our articulate Sound, and spoke to ourselves *vivâ voce* when alone. 1834 in J. A. Henderson *Ann. Lower Deeside* (1892) 221 On the petition being read *viva voce* the Petitioner was desired, and required, to retire.

B. *adj.* Conveyed or expressed in speech instead of writing; given or stated by word of mouth; spoken; oral.

a 1728 PRIOR '*Lie, Philo*' 10 Pursue me with Satyr!..But from all *vivâ voce* Reflection forbear. 1826 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 165 This *viva-voce* testimony of a cotemporary witness places the matter beyond doubt. 1852 LATHAM *Ethnol. Brit. Isl.* vii. 119 For Lincolnshire he had *viva voce* information from Cynebert. 1901 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 54 When *vivâ voce* news and gossip were eagerly sought from fresh arrivals from the country.

b. Of an examination, etc.: Carried on or conducted by speech.

In University use applied to a supplementary oral examination following upon one or other of the ordinary written examinations.

1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxv, But there are cases in which a *viva voce* conference [etc.]. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 135/1 The *vivâ voce* part of each [examination] is carried on in Latin. 1845 [PYCROFT] *Collegian's Guide* 265 In that case the *vivâ voce* examination and a second paper of questions may set all right.

C. *sb.* A viva voce examination. Freq. abbrev. VIVA *sb.*[2].

1842 ABP. TEMPLE in *Mem.* (1906) II. 433 When the day for Vivâ Voce came I was in no small fright. 1872 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby Mills*, etc. II. 52 His papers were simply admirable, and his 'viva voce' was as good as he had ever heard. 1888 *Temple Bar* Jan. 29 He was in for the terrible ordeal of a *vivâ-voce* before the Bishop.

Viva-voce, *v.* [f. VIVA-VOCE *sb.*] *trans.* To subject to a viva voce examination; to examine orally. Freq. abbrev. VIVA *v.*

1880 W. W. R. B[ALL] *Orig. & Hist. Math. Tripos* 11 Every candidate was liable to be taken aside to be vivâ voced by any M.A. who wished to do so.

Vivda. *Ork.* and *Shetl. dial.* Also **vifda**. [perh. ad. ON. *vǫðva* (nom. *vǫðve*, *-vi*) muscular flesh.] (See quots.)

a 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 94 *Vivda*, Flesh dried in a Skeo without being salted. 1809 EDMONDSTON *State Zetland Isl.* II. 49 They seldom salt their meat, but either smoke it in the house, or dry it in the air. When preserved in this latter manner, it is known by the name of *vivda*. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxx, Here, Laurie, bring up the *vifda*. 1822 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 470 Vivda, or unsalted mutton, hung up in their buildings until it was hardened and dried, is no longer known.

†**Vive**, *sb. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vīvum*, neut. of *vīvus*: see next.] = LIFE *sb.* 7.

1555 W. WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 53 The image of death, caruen out of wodde, or drawen with the pencille as nieue to the viue as is possible.

Vive, *a.* Now only *Sc.* or *arch.* Also 5 **vyue**, 6–7 **viue**; *Sc.* 6 **viwe**, 7 **wiwe**, 9 **veive**, **veev**, **veez**. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vive* fem. of *vif* [1]—L. *vīv-um*, *vīv-us* living, alive (whence also It., Sp., Pg. *vivo*), or a direct adaptation of the L. word.]

1. Physically lively, forcible, or brisk. *rare.*

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 31 b, He dyde so well that by vyue force with his trenchaunt swerde he brake the wardes and Arayes of the Esklauons. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 43 Thou shalt not sinne in any of thy five senses:.. thy pallat hating wine, flesh, and all other vive things. 1868 JAMIESON, *Vive*, brisk, vigorous.

†**b.** Of minerals: Having active properties. See also AGGNT VIVE, *calx vive* CALX 2, and SULPHUR VIVE.

1669 BOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* II. (1682) 166, I exposed Vive Sulphur to the Beams of the Sun. 1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 201 Take a mineral sulphur, whether vive, or in a marcasite. 1692 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xv. 295 Being a perfect metal..containing in itself vive-spermatick sulphur, and vive immature Mercury.

2. Affecting or impressing the mind in a lively or vivid manner.

In various applications: see groups of quots.

(*a*) 1598 in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1679) I. *Records* xxii. 53 Ye may declare the Premises unto him [..and] in as effectual and vive manner as ye can, open it unto his Holiness. 1624 BACON *War w. Spain* (1629) 22 By a viue and forcible perswasion, he moued him to a warre vpon Flanders. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 4 Sylvester gives it this true and vive description.

(*b*) *c* 1814 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 521 What woes so vive, charact'red in thy face, Thus overcloud the rayes of princely grace. 1659 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 116 None of the Israel of God is healed..but by his speciall, cleare, viue faith. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Cause Del* 168 It being Another to which I am proceeding, that it ... awakens in you far more feeling and more vive Resentments.

(*c*) 1630 GENTILIS *Considerations* 1 As if oblivion were not by some much more to bee desired, than to have the memory of them to vive. 1652 KIRKMAN *Clerio & Lovia* 98 We receive in our hearts all the various and vive impressions of so fair and divine objects.

3. Of images, pictures, etc.: Life-like, suggestive of life or reality; closely reproducing or representing the actual person or thing.

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 13 Heir surely lyes, Of reasons fowre, the glasse and picture viue. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 81 A maist vive representation of our Lords death. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 169 Mogallie, Galdies sister sone,..the viue and perfyte Image of King Galdie. 1621 ARCHBOLD *Beauty Holines* 16 As a father delighteth to looke upon the expresse and vive Image of himselfe in his sonne. 1637 J. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* 35 That sacred Oratory, the vivest resemblance I know upon the Earth of the Harmony of the Cherubims. 1669 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Script.* (1726) 74 There is a vive portraicture of providence in the affairs of the church held forth in that vision [of Ezechiel].

4. Of colours: Bright, vivid.

1591 JAS. I *Lepanto* 436 The Painter mixes colours viue, The Printer Letters sets. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 267 The Croce,..suddanlie appeirit, in viue and bricht colouris. 1633 *Epitaph A. Munnay* in *Stow's Surv.* 869/2 He..ore them laid Such viue and beauteous colours with his Pen. 1671 [R. MACWARD] *True Nonconf.* 373 It hath been my endeavour so to draw and design in viue collours, that naming would appeare superfluous.

b. *Sc.* Of things (actually or mentally): Clear, distinct.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Vive*, applied to what may be seen clearly: as, 'vive prent', letter-press which may be read easily. 1861 J. DAVIDSON *Poems Buchan Dial.* 119 In thought as veev as fan't took place, I see anither scene. 1886 D. M. SMITH *Glen Ogil* in R. Ford *Harp Perthshire* (1893) 327 The hills abune Glen Ogil I I see them a' the day As veive as when I speel'd them in summer days lang-syne.

†**5.** Alive; in a living state. *Obs.*

c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 245 Guid Elias.. Quhom Eliseus vith his tes beheld Vive reft till heawen. *Ibid.* 23 He did suddane sie The veirray viwe formodit figure frie Of Angelique. 1673 A. WALKER *Less Lachrymans* 3 Shrunk into Decrepidness, and a Living Death, made a vive Skeleton before he Dyed.

†**b.** Of the voice: (cf. VIVA VOCE). *Obs.*

1626 SYMSON *Short Compend.* VII. ii. II. 9 To y° singing of Psalmes in the Church by viue voyce, he added Organes. 1678 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. Appeal* III. 38 Reveiled by the vive-voyce of the Gods themselves.

†**Vive**, *v. Obs.*—[1] [f. prec., or directly f. L. *vīv-us.*] *trans.* To endue with life.

1627 G. DANIEL *Genius of Isle* 295 But I forget this now, vivd by the Beams Of such a majestie.

Vively, *adv.* Now *Sc.* or *Obs.* Also 5 **vyvelyche**; *Sc.* 6 **viff-**, **vivw-**, **vivelie**, **vivly**, 6–7 **viuelie**, **-ly**. [f. VIVE *a.* + -LY [2].]

†**1.** In a lively, animated, or energetic manner; with lively action. *Obs.*

1472 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Prol. iii. in Ashm. (1652) 128 After them vyvelyche therefor thou crave. *c* 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 12 Thow fyrie vulcane..My sensis schairpe, And viwelie tham vp-steir. 1648 *Poleaxes* IV. II. 219 He did so vively resent it, that the most of his wounds opened againe. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 237 Give no man just cause of offence nor resent too vively injuries towards yourself.

†**b.** Sharply; to the quick. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1590 A. HUME *Poems* (S. T. S.) 77/318 And sick as are with wickednes bewitched, I saule not how vively they be twitched.

2. Clearly, distinctly, vividly.

1627 COL. POLE in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lxxxii. 194 There be divers places..that cannot so vively be perceived by writing as they should be by conferring the same presently with the writer. *a* 1864 BACON *Policy of War* Wks. I. 125 Whom would it not animate..seeing so

many goodly examples vively described and liuisbely set forth in histories before his dale? 1593 B. Barnes *Parthenophil & Parth.* Sonn. xxv, If she vively Could see my sorrow's maze, which none can tread. 1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* Argt. 77 Lovel .describing the effects of Love, so vively, as she..confesseth herself enamour'd of him. 1632 — *Magn. Lady* II. (i.) vii. *Chorus*, If I see a thing vively presented on the stage. 1663 Blair *Autobiog.* vii. (1848) 97, I supposed the thing had been actually done, when it was so vively represented unto me. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* 124 So Polus the Actor, that he might more vively represent the grief of a Father upon the body of his deceased Son, brought in an Urn the ashes of his own Son newly dead. 1789 Ross *Helenore* (ed. 3) 69 But gin ye like to ware the time, then ye How a' the matter stoode, shall vively see.

Vivency (vəi·vènsi). *rare.* [f. L. *vīv-ēre* to live + -ENCY.] Manifestation of the principle of life; vitality.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 55 Not in a distinct and indisputable way of vivency, or answering in all points the properties or affections of plants. [1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vivancy*, a living, or injoying life. 1755 Johnson, *Vivancy*, manner of supporting or continuing life, or vegetation.] 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 312, I used to enjoy a spring day, its redolence, its vivency, its thrilling sensations of pleasure.

Viver [1]. Now *dial.* or *Obs.* Forms: 4 viuere, 5 vyvere, wywere; 4-5 viuer (5 vever, *Sc.* wewar), 5 vyuer, 6 vyver, 9 viver [a. AF. *viver*, OF. (also mod.F.) *vivier* (= Sp. *vivero*, Pg. *viveiro*), ad. L. *vīvārium* Vivarium.] A fish-pond.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13764 Þis ilk water als þe stori sais, Was mikel renumed in þas dais, Als it war a gode viuere [*printed* vinere]. *c* 1330 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 519 In j fossato facto de Molend[ino] usque le viuer, vij*s.* iij*d.* *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 344 Sanct paulis hed eftir his discese In a depe vewar warpit was. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxiii. 105 Withouten þaim er many vyuers and stankes, whare on er many fewles of riuer. *c* 1485 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 652 *Hoc vivarium*, wywere. 1511 in *Pat. Roll* III. m. 1 (P. R. O.), Parkes, chaces, warennes, vyvers, ——. 1875 Parish *Sussex Gloss.* 128 *Vivers*, fish-ponds.

† **Viver** [2]. *Obs.* Also 7 viuer. [ad. OF. *vivre* (var. *guivre*) serpent:—L. *vīpera* Viper.] (See quots.)

1611 Cotgr., *Poignastre*, the Viuer, a little sea-Dragon. *Ibid.*, *Traigne*, the sea Dragon, Viuer, Quauiuer. [1674 T. P., etc. *Eng. & Fr. Cook* 412 Potage of Vives (*alc*) or Sea-dragons.]

Viver [3] (vəi·vəɹ). *dial.* [Alteration of *fiver* Fibre.] A fibre or rootlet.

1877 E. Leigh *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Vivers*, small roots, fibres. 1906 Kipling *Puck of Pook's Hill* 250 But the vivers of her roots they hold the bank together.

‖ **Viverra** (vive·rä, vəi-). *Zool.* [L. *viverra* ferret.] † a. The ferret. *Obs.* b. The civet-cat (*Viverra civetta*), or other species of the type-genus of the civet family (*Viverridæ*). Also *attrib.*

1726 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Viverra*, the Ferret, a little Creature that runs into the Burroughs of Rabbits. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 217 Of quadrupedes, there are goats, wolves, pole-cats, a spotted animal of the viverra kind, and several kinds of serpents. 1823 Prichard *Phys. Hist. Man* iii. § 3. 113 Of the Viverra family. 1825 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* ix. (1817) I. 280 Another species of Viverra (*V. prehensilis*) is also reputed to be an eager insect-hunter.

Viverridous, *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Viverrid-æ* (see Viverra) + -ous.] Of or belonging to the *Viverridæ* or civet family.

1833 E. T. Bennett in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* I. 137 Notice of a Mammiferous Animal from Madagascar, constituting a New Form among the Viverridous Carnivora. 1834 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* I. 46 Description of a Viverridous Animal from Madagascar.

Viverrine (vive·rəin, vəi-), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *viverrīn-us*, f. *viverra* Viverra: see -ine [1].]

A. *adj.* Resembling or related to the civet, or the civet family; *spec.* belonging to the sub-family *Viverrinæ*. a. In specific names, as *viverrine cat*, *dasyurus*, *opossum*, etc.

1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 491 Viverrine Opossum. *Didelphis Viverrina.* 1810 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) XII. 497 *Dasyurus Viverrinus*, Viverrine Dasyurus. Black, spotted with white; tail without spots. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 83 The Viverrine Cat, *Felis viverrina.* 1885 *Athenæum* 28 Mar. 412/1 A viverrine phalanger (*Phalangista viverrina*) from Australia.

b. In general use.

1874 Woodward *Nat. Hist.* 47 A small, but rather important, group of the Viverrine animals. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 78 *Cynogale bennettii*..is a curious Otter-like modification of the Viverrine type.

B. *sb.* An individual of the sub-family *Viverrinæ*.

c 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 86 The skull has all the essential characters of that of a Viverrine.

Vivers (vəi·vəɹz), *sb. pl.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: α. 6 veveres, wewers, 7 viewers, viewers. β. 6 viwers, wivers, wiwers, wiuerse, 6–7 viuers, 6, 8–9 vivers (6 vivars). See also Vives. [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *vivres*, pl. of *vivre* food, sustenance, substantive use of *vivre* to live]. Food, provisions, victuals, eatables.

Only Sc. till the 19th century; its later literary currency is probably due to its frequent occurrence in the Waverley Novels.

α. 1536 Queen Margaret in *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 43 þa ma be portative be wattyr for carying of þar necessares. [illegible] scottis) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 78 Ane armie..weill furnischit witht all kynd of weweris and munitioun. 1809 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Rob. I*, 20 b, He sall cume..weill furnished with siluer to bye viewers for his sustentation.

β. 1551 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 124 The gralt..derth ..of all kynd of victuallis and viweris. 1582–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 168 The stoir of thair victuallis being daylie scand, they directit, as afore, sum horsmen to scour the fields for viuers. 1620 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* vivers are latelie arisen to an exorbitant hight. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 149 Every thing of vivers is dear in Holland but vegetables. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xlii, I'll join you at three, if the vivers can tarry so long. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* xiii. (1868) II. 164 He bitterly complained of the unwillingness of the country-people to furnish vivers, waggons, and other necessaries. 1887 Beatty-Kingston *Music & Manners* II. 18 You shall have your beer, vivers, and tobacco cheap.

fig. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 87 This is our viuers during the pilgramedg of this transitorie lif.

Vives (vəivz), *sb. pl.* Also 6 vyves, 6–8 viues, 7 ulues, vies. [Aphetic form of Avives. Cf. Fives [1], Vees [1], and Yves.] Hard swellings of the submaxillary glands of a horse; the presence of these regarded as a specific morbid condition in a horse.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 91 The viues is a sorance vnder a horse ere, bytwene the ouer ende of the chall-bones and the necke, and are rounde knottes bytwene the skyn and the fleshe. 1566 Blundevil *Horses* IV. xxxvi. (1580) 17 b, The Viues be certaine kirnels growing vnder the horses eare. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 123 There is a disease that is common in Horses, called the Viues. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horseman.* 79 It is a disease which growes under the eares, and secundum vulgus it is called the fives or vives. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1605/4 One a Bay Horse above thirteen hands high,..has been burned in the Head for the Vies. *c* 1700 W. Gibson *Farrier's Dispens.* xiii. (1734) 263 This is particularly of service in the Vives and Strangles. 1754 Bartlet *Gentlem. Farriery* 104 The vives or ives differs from the strangles only in this, that the swelling of the kernels under the ears of the horse..seldom gather. 1831 Youatt *Horse* 149 Several distinct kernels are to be felt under the jaw... The farriers call them vives.

Vivi- (vi·vi), combining form of L. *vivus* alive, living, employed in a few terms, as † **vivicombu·stion**, = next; **viviorema·tion**, the action of burning, or the fact of being burned, alive; † **vividisse·ction** = Vivisection 2; **vivisepulture**, burying alive.

a 1712 G. Grey *Life M. Robinson* in Mayor *Autobiogr.* (1856) 31 He was invited by some learned persons in other colleges to shew them vividisections of dogs. 1827 G. S. Faber *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) I. 220 The horrid penalty of vivi-cremation which a corrupt Church has specially appropriated to those whom she denominates heretics. 1852 J. W. Blakesley *Herodotus* I. 87 Many centuries afterwards..human sacrifices appear to have been offered to Mithras, but then not by vivi-combustion. 1861 R. F. Burton *City of Saints* 580 They are a superstitious brood and have many cruel practices—human sacrifices and vivi-sepulture. 1863 Liddell in *Archæol.* XL. 243 Pliny speaks of the practice of vivisepulture as continued to his own time.

Vivianite (vi·viänəit). *Min.* [f. the name of the discoverer, J. G. *Vivian*; named by Werner, 1817.] A phosphate of iron usually occurring in crystals of blue and green colour.

1823 W. Phillips *Elem. Introd. Min.* 238 Phosphate of Iron, Vivianite,..is of various shades of blue and green, sometimes bluish-green. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 324 The phosphates of protoxide and sesquioxide of iron are found associated in the mineral known as vivianite or native Prussian blue. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Sept. 3/3 A small gold coin, doubled up, was found within a lump of bone and vivianite.

Hence **Vivianitised** *a.*, encrusted with vivianite.

1870 *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Jan. 12/3 Great quantities of vivianitised bones..were found.

Vivid (vi·vid), *a.* [ad. L. *vīvid-us* living, animated, lively, f. *vīvēre* to live. Cf. It. *vivido.*]

1. Full of life; vigorous, active, or energetic on this account; lively or brisk: a. Of persons (or animals), their attributes, etc.

1638 Jackson *Creed* IX. xxix. § 2 In my old and decaying days to publish the fruits of my former labours in these mysteries which to my apprehension had been well set in my flourishing and vivid years. 1658 W. Burton *Itin. Anton.* 80 His whole body was vivid and strong. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 254 They have a sprightly vivid countenance. 1799 Corry *Sat. Lond.* (1803) 45 When the fine lady returns home fatigued after a succession of important morning visits and the exhaustion of her vivid spirits. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 13 Mr. Browning was..a most vivid and quick-thoughted person. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxxv, Mr. Vandernoodt,..as good a foil as could well be found to the intense colouring and vivid gravity of Deronda. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* clix, His hope be in the vivid horse Whose neck God clothed with thunder.

fig. 1876 Blackie *Songs Relig. & Life* 234 Let sweet fragrance flow from thee, Vivid breath of pure emotion.

b. Of material things or substances, or their qualities.

1630 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 230 The vertue that was ordained to be in that matter, cannot be so vivid and effectual. 1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 99 Elementary fire..produced from a vivid nitrous or hermetick salt. 1818 Busby *Gram. Mus.* 481 This vivid and volatile instrument [sc. the violin]. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* Introd. 6 Things emitting at unexpectedly short notice vivid and awful stenches.

c. Of feelings, etc.: Lively, strong, intense.

1833 C. Brontë *Villette* xix, His passions were strong, his aversions and attachments alike vivid. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xi. (1860) 366 We might have remained in this same belief, had not Agassiz and others called vivid attention to the Glacial period. 1880 W. Collins *Wom. White* I. narr. W. H. vi, Her face expressed vivid interest and astonishment, nothing more. 1873 H. Rogers *Orig. Bible* i. (1875) 35 The first is clearly proved by..the vivid indignation he evoked. 1905 G. Thorne *Lost Cause* viii, There is a sterling and vivid Christianity among them.

2. Of actions or operations: Proceeding, or taking place, with great vigour or activity.

1708 *Rouse's Heav. Univ.* Adv. 2 More vivid Operations of the Internal Light of souls. 1823 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 472 The combustion that ensues is exceedingly vivid and beautiful. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 257 Whenever any living part is called into vivid action, an increased flow of blood and of nervous energy towards it immediately commences. 1858 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 392 A thin cylinder of oily vapour.. is kept in a state of vivid and constant combustion.

b. Of utterances: Strongly or warmly expressed.

1806 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 3) vi. xiii, Being mounted on a beast who..proceeds very coolly to repose himself in the middle of the pond without..paying the slightest attention to your vivid remonstrances on the subject. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. x. 10 The Spanish government..made the most vivid remonstrances through its resident minister.

c. Of intellectual faculties: Capable of ready and clear creation of ideas or concepts.

1814 Scott *Wav.* iii, Edward's power of imagination..was vivid. 1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trumps.* I. 24 Vivid conception, and keen sensibility, will not of themselves make a good actor. 1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 318 Every page teems with the vivid thought, the glowing fancy [etc.]. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* I, I suspect your fancy is tolerably vivid still.

d. Of description, etc.: Presenting subjects or ideas in a clear and striking manner. Freq. with *picture* in fig. use.

(*a*) 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. v. 157, I mean especially a power of vivid painting—the true and primary sense of what is called Imagination. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* vi. 339 Nehemiah himself relates,..in one consecutive vivid narrative, the history of the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iv. 140 A most vivid history of the time. 1872 Lowell *Milton* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 72 Mr. Masson's unhappy infection with the vivid style. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiii. 206 We have..a no less vivid report of the real or imaginary speeches.

(*b*) 1847 Grote *Greece* II. xvii. III. 320 It is not from them however that Herodotus draws his vivid picture of the people, with their inhuman rites and repulsive personal features. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xx. 349 These letters give a vivid picture of the uncertainties which distracted public opinion.

3. Of colour, light, etc.: Brilliant, fresh, lively, bright.

1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* VI. v. (1848) 354 Many of the Ladies wear in their Ribbands little less vivid colours, than those of their faces. 1667 — in *Phil. Trans.* II. 582 A piece of such Wood..that gave a vivid light (for rotten Wood). 1704 Newton *Optics* I. II. x. (1721) 157 Such Bodies ought to be chosen as have the fullest and most vivid Colours. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Ruin'd Abbey* 180 The vivid vermeil fled his fady cheek. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* i, Upon the vivid glow of the western horizon. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 413 In a little time it becomes of a deep vivid blue. 1867 Howells *Ital. Journ.* 114 The lavish delight in color found expression in the vividest hues upon the walls. 1875 J. H. Bennet *Winter Medit.* (ed. 5) 408 The love of vivid colours seems to increase as we descend south.

b. Of things in respect of colour or brightness.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. iv. 212 The Sun alone makes not any Rainbow that is vivid or Illustrious. 1718 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 691 Around her throne the vivid planets roll. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Elegies* xi. 42 Then glows the breast.. More free, more vivid, than the linnet's wing. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* II. 381 The best glasses have no other effect than the making them [the stars] more vivid in their appearance. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* L. 407 A wreath of laurel, intensely vivid, inclosed..the auburn splendours of the head. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 21 Like a vivid circular rainbow quite round the sun. 1874 Holland *Mistr. Manse* 214 The brooding, threatning bank of mist Grows into groups of vivid isles.

4. Clearly or distinctly perceived or perceptible; appealing strongly to the mind or eye.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xix. 212 Those Motions made on the Organs of Sense, which at other times produce very vivid and sensible Ideas. 1720 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 248 This immaterial Image, ought to be so much the more vivid or clear, as the Object sends forth more Rays of Light. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* II. 214 We shall find the traces of this event more vivid and determinate than those of Greece. 1806 Jebb in Knox & J. *Corr.* (1834) I. 207 Sweet sounds awaken latent harmonies within us, and thus produce a vivid idea of the beautiful. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 320 At a moment when the part played by the people in July was still fresh and vivid in recollection. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* ii. (1873) 79 *note*, No book gives a more vivid impression of the growth of Russian influence. 1883 H. Wace *Gosp. & Witnesses* ii. 34 Its vivid internal marks of genuineness.

absol. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 261 Whether the cause lie not rather in a besetting velleity of the picturesque and vivid.

b. Intensely or strongly felt.

1704–5 Atterbury *Serm., Matt. xiv.* 48 (1726) I. 357 Tempting Objects, by their Number and Nearness, make

the most Vivid and Lasting Impressions upon us. 1715 [Derhaulieres] *Firm. Impr.* 41 A more vivid Sensation of Cold. 1835 I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* ii. 55 Seasons .. in which the clergy are exposed to vivid anxieties or endure actual privations. 1890 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. viii. (1857) 111 When the recollection of his sin is most vivid and most poignant. 1894 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 1. 454 The vivid sense of a Divine Purity close to such men made the life of common men seem sin.

5. Life-like; resembling life.

1852 Hawthorne *Blithedale Rom.* xi, He carried a stick with a wooden head, carved in vivid imitation of that of a serpent.

6. Quasi-*adv.* Vividly, brightly.

1819 Keats *Fall Hyperion* i. 245 The scenes Still swooning vivid through my globed brain. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt* xx. iii. (1872) IX. 44 The Prussian camp-fires, they too are all burning uncommonly vivid.

Vividity (vivi·diti). [f. prec. + -ITY.]

†**1.** Living force, vitality. *Obs.*—[1]

1616 T. Adams *Soul's Sickness* 28 Corrupt affections, which like vicious humours gnaw and suck the conscience dry of all viuiditie.

2. The quality or state of being vivid; vividness.

1772 W. Cullen *Lect. Pathol.* in J. Thomson *Life* (1832) I. 378 A degree of Vividity, of Alacrity, and Levity, or a disposition to change..can only be considered as states of morbid Irritability .in the Brain. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* vi. § 12 (1789) 45 Clearness of discernment,..vividity and rapidity of imagination. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II. v. Comm. p. xl, A vast mass of illumined matter, in the general glow and vividity of which the opaque spots are almost lost. 1880 *Daily News* 15 April 6/1 Being of life sire, the vividity of the flesh tints and the extraordinary modelling give to it a startling appearance of reality.

Vividly (vi·vidli), *adv.* [f. Vivid *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. Brightly, brilliantly, in respect of colour or light.

1667 Boyle in *Phil. Trans.* II. 587, I..found it to shine vividly. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 220 The light is still seen, but not so vividly. 1842 Johnston in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 36 The shell is strongly ribbed and rather vividly streaked..with yellow or red. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. vi. 255 While the former semicircle remains white, the latter one is vividly coloured. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 103 It bursts suddenly into flame and burns vividly.

2. Clearly, strongly, intensely, in respect of mental impression or effect.

a 1677 Barrow *Serm. Prov. iv. 23* Wks. 1686 III. 46 He will not be so forward to engage himself upon such occasions; danger and mischief being so vividly pre-represented to his sight. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 5. 385 If they rise up quick and vividly one after another, as Subjects, Predicates, and other Associates use to do. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* III. xviii. 142 Oh how vividly did early impressions return to my soul. 1862 M'Cosh *Supernat.* II. i. § 4. 159 The word seraphic..is vividly descriptive of the flights of Isaiah. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. viii. 287 The way in which treason is spoken of sets vividly before us the difficulties with which William had still to contend.

Vividness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The state or quality of being vivid, in senses of the adj.

a. Of colour, light, etc.

1667–8 Boyle in *Phil. Trans.* II. 593 To examine..the Conjecture,..That the durableness of the Light..might proceed in great part from the Vividness of it. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 June 1664, With such lively colours, that for splendour and vividness we have nothing in Europe that approches it. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xliv. 190 In the vividness of its lustre..it exceeded any thing he had ever seen before. 1836 Macgillivray *Trav. Humboldt* xviii. 256 Numerous palms are reflected by the surface of the river with a vividness almost as bright as that of the objects themselves. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* ii, The delicate colouring of her face seemed to gather a calm vividness, like flowers at evening. 1883 Miss M. Betham-Edwards *Disarmed* xxxiv, For a few minutes the flashes of lightning were awful in their vividness.

b. Of ideas, conceptions, impressions, etc.

1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* II. I. xiii. 189 A variety of ideas afford us no notion of succession unless we perceive one come before the other; nor can it be imagined that their degrees of vividness or faintness will do the job. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 17 The notions of fairies and of genii, which have been depicted with so much vividness of fancy and liveliness of description. 1828 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 207 The very vividness of the conception may have rendered him insensible to the precariousness of the proof. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* xi. 356 Death at sea touched the Greek imagination with peculiar vividness.

c. Of description, narrative, etc.

1808 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. xi. 257 She has a mastery of the subject, and a truth and vividness of expression, second only to Cowper. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 7 His graphic narrative has all the vividness that art can give to description of what the describer has not himself actually witnessed. 1884 R. W. Church *Bacon* ix. 220 In the essay on Friendship he describes the process with a vividness which tells of his own experience.

†**Vivier.** *Obs.*—[1] In 5 vyuier. [a. OF. *vivier*: see Viver 1.] A fishpond.

c 1440 *Merlin* xix. 308 He lete make a maner to repeire to, that was right feire and riche by the vyuier.

Vivific (vivi·fik), *a.* Also 6 viuifike, 7–8 vivifick. [ad. L. (post-classical) *vīvific-us*, f. *vīv-us* living: see -fic. So OF. and F. *vivifique*, Sp., Pg., It. *vivifico*.] Life-giving, enlivening, vivifying.

1552 Bp. Gardiner *On Sacrum.* I. 23 b, Wherby they might vnderstand him verie God, whose fleshe..geuen spiritually to be eaten of vs..[is] viuifike and geueth life. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. iii. 304 Chrysostome cals it..a vivifick Energie. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 99 A Vivifick Spirit or Aura, generated out of the Blood by the Brain. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 19 Light was the Active and Vivifick Principle of Generation. 1788 T. Taylor *Proclus* I. 118 The zoogonic, or vivific goddess, pours through these into the universe, an inexplicable and efficacious power. 1809 Southey in *Q. Rev.* I. 194 There is, however, in all religious communities a vivacious and vivific principle not to be found in the same degree in political bodies. 1852 A. Ballou *Spirit Manifest.* i. 25 Matter inert and passive, spirit vivific and active. 1877 W. R. Cooper *Egypt. Obelisks* v. (1878) 25 [The name] 'The Eternal Generator' contains an allusion to the vivific power of Ra, as the creator of life.

†**Vivifical,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -al.] = prec.

1632 L. Rowzee *Queenes Wellet* i. 2 Vivificall moisture.. maketh them [plants] all to grow and prosper. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 104 That Vivifical Heat, which..gives Life to all Things. *a* 1686 T. Watson *Body of Div.* (1692) 215 Christ is so full of Sap and vivifical Influence, that he makes all inoculated into him, grow Fruitful.

†**Vivificant,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *vivificant-*, *vivificans*, pres. pple. of *vivificāre*: see next.] = Vivific *a.*

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* A 3, The temperature of the ayre, which is viuificant, quickening, and full of life. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 902 Every sense findeth benefit of fire as of a vivificant power and quickening vertue. 1653 H. Cogan *Died. Sic.* 4 The one..having a vivificant and fierce, the other a cold and moist nature. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. viii. 404 That admirable splendor and vivificant virtue which is in the Sun.

Vivificate (vivi·fikĕt), *v.* Also 5–7 viuificat(e, 6 vivifycate. [ad. L. *vīvificāt-*, ppl. stem of *vivificāre* (Tertullian, etc; hence It. *vivificare*, Sp. and Pg. *vivificar*), f. *vīv-us* alive: cf. Vivific *a.* and -ate 3.]

1. *trans.* To give life to, to animate, to enliven or quicken; = Vivify *v.* 1.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 189 In the pleyne per of is a pitte where thei 3afe to viuificate the myndes of philosophres. *a* 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 887 Lyk [fr]o sede sawin in erd mortificat Flouris mony fructis viuificat. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* lxxxvi. 35 The herte dothe vivifycate all other members. 1565 Harding *Confut.* II. xiv. 109 b, God the ... 1633 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* 31 ... as God vivificates and actuates the whole world. 1675 O. Walker, etc. *Paraphr. St. Paul* 161 The sensitive..soul or faculty continues meanwhile in the body..vivificating it. 1819 H. Busk *Vestriad* I. 217 Whose blood vivificates thy veins.

†**2.** *intr.* To become endued with life. *Obs.*—[1]

1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1687) 551/2 This beam penetrates to the Abyss, and thereby all things vivificate.

Hence **Vivificating** *ppl. a.*

a 1688 Cudworth *Immut. Mor.* III. ii. § 3. (1731) 89 The Compound..of the Body and a certain Vivificating Light, imparted from the Soul to it.

Vivification (vivifikē·ʃən). Also 6–7 viui-, 7 uiui-. [ad. L. *vivificātio* (Tertullian), n. of action f. *vivificāre*: see prec. and -ation. So F. *vivification*, Sp. *vivificacion*, Pg. *-ação*, It. *vivificazione.*]

1. The process or fact of being vivified in a spiritual sense. (Cf. Eph. ii. 1–5.)

a 1548 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 262 We muste receyve the sacraments and have contrition..and then viuification, whiche is to aryse agayne by feithe. 1589 T. L. *Advt. to Q. Elizabeth* (1651) 48 That Holinesse and trewnesse of life, ..under the names Vivification, renovation spirituall, and the first resurrection. 1606 S. Gardiner *Bk. Angling* 116 An auersion from sinne, a conuersion to God: the mortification of the olde Adam, and the viuification of the newe man. 1653 Baxter *Worc. Petit. Def.* 9 O the sweet comfort that I have..in the Mortification and Vivification of my godly Friends! 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 63 The new man ..must be put on by the grace of vivification.

2. The action or fact of enduing with life; the fact of being vivified physically.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 329 If that Motion be in a certain Order, there followeth Vivification and Figuration. 1632 A.R. tr. *Lessius' De Prov. Num.* II. viii. 315 The vnion of the Soule of man with the body, as also the informing and the viuification (as I may tearme it) of the whole body decayeth no lesse, then in beasts. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 805 The Divine Spirit..which was the Efficient Cause of the Vivification of our Saviour's Body at his Resurrection. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 515 The gods call the soul.. a drop from the whole of vivification. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* II. 44 The vivification of ghosts by sacrifices of blood.

b. *concr.* That which vivifies. *rare*—[1].

1631 Mabbe *Celestina* I. 20 O reliever of my torment, and vivification of my life.

c. *Phys.* The process of converting, or of being converted, into living tissue.

1872 F. G. Thomas *Diz. Women* (ed. 3) 128 Vivification of the edges not being necessary, the procedure is simpler and less dangerous.

†**3.** Restoration of a metal to its original state.

1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. v, *Sub.* And when comes Vivification? *Fac.* After Mortification. 1640 Quarles *Virgin Widow* IV. i, He can bring an Artificiall Resurrection, and Vivification to Mercury. 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Vivification,..* The Chymists also use the Word in speaking of the new Force, Vigour, and Lustre which by this Art they give to natural Bodies, particularly to Mercury, which after having been fix'd or amalgamated, they restore to its first State.

4. The action or fact of investing with an air of vitality or reality.

1858 Bagehot in *Nat. Rev.* Oct. 468 A wonderful special faculty which Mr. Dickens possesses is what we may call his vivification of character. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 12 March 333/1 [He] is an industrious scholar..but we do not know that he has the gift of vivification.

†**Vivificative,** *a. Obs.* [f. Vivificate *v.* + -ive. Cf. OF. *vivificatif*, *-ive*, Sp., Pg., It. *vivificativo.*] Life-giving, vivifying.

c 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 852 The sweit smell, and the suaue odour..Sa weill sawrit, and viuificatiue. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* Notes 333 Psyche cannot issue out into any externall vivificative act, unlesse you suppose a body. 1661 Rust *Origen's Opin.* 120 The operations of the Spirit of life, or quickning Spirit, are all vivificative. 1755 Amory *Mem.* (1766) II. 194 *note*, By touching them with faith, we may attract the sanctification and vivificative virtue which resideth in them.

†**Vivificator.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -or. Cf. OF. *vivificateur*, Sp. and Pg. *vivificador.*] One who or that which gives life, a vivifier.

a 1555 Bradford *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) 280 We..believe,.. the Holy Spirit to be the only Comforter, vivificator, counsellor, and master of all truth. 1648 Hexham II, *Levendigh maker*, a Vivificatour. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. II. viii. 449 If they had believed that this Spirit is both Lord, and Creator and Vivificator,..they might have had some convenient accesse to life.

†**Vivificent,** *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *vīv-us* alive: cf. -fic and -ent.] Living.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 33 b/1 It is necessarye that the vivificent parte drive from it the mortified, or else the mortifiede allso cause mortificatione in the vivificent partes. 1599 — *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 30/1 Take a vivificent Cocke, and vse him on that sorte. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Vivificent*, lively, or full of strength.

Vivified (vi·vifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. Vivify *v.* + -ed 1.] Endued with life, animated, living.

Also *transf.* of metals; cf. Vivification 3.

1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* II. 113 Are we not all originally..sprung from the same vivified mass? 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 190 Charcoal..heated with an oxid-ore..leaves at the bottom of the furnace or crucible the vivified or pure metal. 1858 Pirie *Inq. Hum. Mind* vii. 339 A physical feeling of pain, appertaining to the vivified machine. 1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 179, I looked back..and saw him still standing there in the dark frameway, strangely like some vivified portrait by Velasques.

Vivifier (vi·vifəiəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.] One who or that which gives life.

1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 310 God's love for us is the great incitement, constrainer, vivifier of His creature's love. *c* 1865 Watson in *Circ. Sci.* I. 427/2 The oxygen of the air is the great vivifier of nature. 1879 Chr. G. Rossetti *Sceh & F.* 96 Light and heat, to our apprehension the great vivifiers of the material world.

Vivify (vi·vifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *vivifier* (OF. from 12th c.), ad. L. *vivificāre*: see Vivificate *v.*]

1. *trans.* To give life to; to endue with life; to animate; to quicken.

1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 42 Throughe these artyres liuely spirite, and freashe aere, is diriuied out of the mother into the childe, wherwith the naturall hete of the chylde is viuified and refreshed. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 7 iij, Let vs consider on the Sunne.. what doth she effect?..[she doth] warme vs, vivifye and administre lyfe vnto vs. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 263 Mercurius Trismegistus saide well, that it was the spirite which viuifieth or quickneth euery forme in the whole world. 1653 W. Rameszy *Astrol. Restored* 86 [They] placed a fiery sign first, for that heat ruleth in fire, by which all things are quickened and vivifyed. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. iii. 39 The great Soul of the *Universe*..vivifyeth all manner of things. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 368 In this explosion of life, every particle of native soil was vivified; and numberless races of vegetables and animals were produced. 1859 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. 359 An instinct of the dynamic and supernatural laws which underlie and vivify this material universe. 1881 Tyndall *Fss. Floating Matter of Air* 224 An indraught—slight no doubt, but still sufficient to contaminate or vivify the infusion.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (Common in 19th c.)

1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xlv. 130 As in nature one contrarie is vivified by another contrarie. 1713 Pope *Guardian* No. 11 P 3 It [an elixir] restores and vivifies the most dejected Minds. 1776 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* vii. (1876) 108 That Promethean fire, which animates the canvass and vivifies the marble. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 144 Their execution would have vivified the empire. 1892 Ht. Martineau *Each & All* iv. 39 The utmost that education can do is to extend man's views, to exalt his aims, and vivify his powers. 1833 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849) I. iii. § 68. 322 His plan was to vivify the State by vigorous measures. 1865 Morley *Mirac.* I. 4 It vivifies the stock we have, but does not add one item to it. 1909 *Sat. Rev.* 29 April 545/2 It enables its 'supers' to shout..and thereby vivify a languishing enthusiasm.

c. *Phys.* To convert into living tissue.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 416 An incision..to lay open any sinuous track, vivify callous edges, or remove spongy granulations..must be tried.

2. To make brighter or more brilliant.

1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* II, The sun appeared in all his glory,..vivifying every colour of the landscape. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing*, etc. II. 127 This covering..vivifies the most brilliant colours. 1825 [Mrs. Alexander *Valerie's Fate* I, The bright autumnal sunshine was vivifying the many-tinted trees of the Bois de Boulogne.

b. To render more animated or striking.

1833 Ht. Martineau *Three Ages* I. 26 His ready wit seldom failed to interpose to illustrate and vivify what was said. 1838 Felton *Rem. Lett.* xi. (1865) 100, I always try to vivify an idea by embodying it in some manner. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 25 Feb. 3/3 This little volume is..vivified throughout by the sympathetic yet discriminating appreciation which pays all due honour to the hero.

3. *absol.* To impart life or animation.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* §696 Which should shew, that Snow hath in it a secret Warmth; For else it could hardly Vivifie. 1658 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* II. *Quickness*, 'Tis such a blissful thing, that still Doth vivifie. 1832 L. Hunt *Day by the Fire, Rainy Day* (1870) 294 It [a fire] talks to us|...it is vivified at our touch; it vivifies in return. 1872 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiv. 359 The one may vivify, while the other kills.

4. *intr.* To acquire life; to become alive.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 277 The Ova will vivify or come to Life sooner. 1768 Foote *Devil* III. Wks. 1799 II. 276 They quit their torpid state, and vivify. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 113 The egg begins to vivify and swell with the heat of the spring. 1867 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 277 A sign that the eggs have vivified, and that they will probably hatch out. 1899 *Daily News* 1 July 8/7 When the eggs have vivified, the young salmon will be tended until the two-year-old stage.

Hence **Vi·vifying** *vbl. sb.*

1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 2 The calf was the symbol of.. His continued vivifying of all which lives. 1884 Earl Grey in *Life Mandell Creighton* (1904) I. viii. 247 The ripple which sprung from the vivifying of the waters of Embleton spread over a large surface.

Vi·vifying, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ing 2.]

1. That vivifies or animates physically; life-giving, quickening.

1635 Heywood *Hierarchy* VI. 374 The second Adam, sleeping in a vivifying death. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* viii. 127 That vivifying and incombustible sulphur that is Natures true fire and agent. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 59 The vivifying Juice, with which the Earth is impregnated. 1776 Priestley in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 231 In other places..he explodes the doctrine of a vivifying spirit in the air. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 570 The vivifying action of the atmosphere. 1808 Stuart *Planter's G.* (ed. 2) 321, I have repeatedly tried it on all sorts of subjects, ..and its vivifying powers have proved extraordinary in every instance. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 246/2 The monads, and the vivifying animalcules of flowering plants. 1872 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xii. 275 The vivifying gas cannot penetrate to the centre of the film.

†**b.** Of medicines: Restorative. *Obs.*

1668 Manley *Gratius' Low C. Wars* Pref., Whose Aid was not onely as a Hand to uphold, but a vivifying Medicine to a fainting Body. 1727 Swift *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 160 That all our members..be provided with a sufficient quantity of the vivifying drops, or Byfield's *sal volatile*. 1762 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxviii, It may sometimes happen that..a countryman who cannot read, dies without ever hearing of the vivifying drops.

2. That vivifies spiritually or mentally; imparting interest or energy.

1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 45 That vivifying Ingredient which gives life and vigour to our motives. 1770 Burke *Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1842 I. 134 Without it,..the people cannot long enjoy..the vivifying energy of good government. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (ed. 3) III. 85 The vivifying Influences of the altar, the censer, and the sacrifice. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. xiv. 105 The vivifying impulse of patriotic sentiment. 1884 *Athenæum* 7 June 722/2 Human beings.. cannot dispense with some such vivifying element in their religion.

3. *Vivifying ink*, a liquid which brings out what has been written in sympathetic ink.

1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 42 Soak a double paper in the vivifying ink.

†**Vivi·paral**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vīvipar-us* (see Viviparous) + -al.] = Viviparous.

1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind.* 5 All viviparal creatures (although born blind privitively) yet in their very first production find a way to their dams pappe.

Vivi·parism. [Cf. F. *viviparisme*.] Viviparous reproduction.

1876 G. B. Buckton *Monograph Brit. Aphides* (Ray Soc.) I. 78 Viviparism continued uninterruptedly through the whole winter.

Viviparity (vivipæ·rĭti). *Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. L. *vivipar-us* (see next) + -ity.] The condition or character of being viviparous.

1864 Spencer *Princ. Biol.* I. 211 This homogenesis..in reptiles and fishes..is always essentially oviparous, though there are cases..in which viviparity is simulated. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 358 Instances of viviparity occur among *Lacertilia*, *Ophidia* [etc.].

Viviparous (vivi·părəs, vəi-), *a.* [f. L. *vīvipar-us* (Appuleius), f. *vīv-us* alive, living + *parĕre* to bring forth: see -ous. Cf. F. *vivipare*, Sp., Pg., It. *viviparo*.]

1. Involving the production of young in a living state.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 158 We cannot from them expect a viviparous exclusion. 1681 Hulme tr. *Maguin-Tanton* II. i. 48 This constitutes the viviparous reproduction of the Mammalia. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 259 This..corresponds to the viviparous habit in some fishes and reptiles.

2. Of animals: Bringing forth young in a live state. (Usually in contrast with *oviparous*.)

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 267 Quadrupedes..together with us are viviparous, and hitherto more familiar to us, then birds, fishes, and animals oviparous. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 3. 133 Viviparous cartilagineous fish, whose bodies are not long and round. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* 160 That uniform warmth, which is so necessary even in the incubation of birds, much more in the time of gestation of viviparous animals. 1768 G. White *Selborne* xvii, Though they [*sc.* vipers] are oviparous, yet they are viviparous also, hatching their young within their bellies, and then bringing them forth. *c* 1791 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 469 The Sea-anemone is said to be viviparous. 1827 G. Higgins *Celtic Druids* 138 The oviparous quadrupeds are found..in more ancient strata than those of the viviparous class. 1828 Lewes *Sea-side Stud.* 249 The Pedicellina is viviparous, as well as oviparous, and gemmiparous. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. xliii, The true *Cetacea*..are always viviparous.

b. With specific names.

1681 Grew *Museum* I. v. i. 95 The Viviparous Eel-Pout. .. 'Tis well pictur'd by Adam Olearius, who calls it a Sea-Wolf. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 11 The viviparous blenny..brings forth two or three hundred at a time, all alive. 1838 T. Bell *Brit. Reptiles* 17 Viviparous Lizard. Nimble Lizard. Common Lizard. *Zootoca vivipara*. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Perch*, ..2. Any surf-fish or member of the *Embiotocidæ*: more fully called *viviparous perch*.

3. *Bot.* Reproducing from seeds or bulbs which germinate while still attached to the parent plant. Also in specific names.

1777 Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* I. 102 Viviparous Fescue-Grass. 1794 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xx. (1819) 322 Grasses abound which are viviparous and consequently able to propagate themselves without seed. 1812 *New Bot. Garden* I. 58 The pericarps viviparous. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 475 *Polygonum viviparum*, Viviperous [*sic*] Bistort. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Garden* (1801) 48 A few roots [of Rocambole] may be allowed standing-room as a curiosity, and as examples of viviparous plants. 1889 A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* (1890) 24 The buttercup is replaced by the little poisonous yellow oxalis with its viviparous buds.

b. Characterized by this mode of reproduction.

1808 R. Hall *Elem. Bot.* 196 Viviparous Fructification,.. when the rudiment of the germen grows out into leaves. 1906 *Athenæum* 12 May 581 The viviparous habit, now represented by the seedling hanging from the mangrove, was once nearly universal.

Hence **Vivi·parousness.**

1855 Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* I. iv. vii. 575 Creatures having large brains were seen to have other characteristics than that of intelligence: as..viviparousness.

Vivi·parously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a viviparous manner; by viviparous reproduction.

1828–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 338 The latter are.. succeeded..by hosts of the young insects produced viviparously; for..the aphis breeds both ways. 1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 133 The plant is propagated viviparously. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 447 Aphides kept in a warm room..have continued to propagate viviparously for four years.

Vivi·pary. *Bot.* [f. L. *vīvipar-us* viviparous + -y, or ad. F. *vivipare*.] = Viviparity.

1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 289. 1906 *Times* (Lit. Suppl) 30 March 117/2 The lost habit is at times revived in the abnormal vivipary of some inland plants.

Vivisect (vi·visekt, vivise·kt), *v.* [Back-formation from Vivisection.]

1. *trans.* To dissect (an animal) while living; to perform vivisection upon.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 1 Aug., Much as they vivisect live animals at Alfort. 1876 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxx. 390 Modern naturalists, not being able to vivisect the Psyche, have.. resolved that animals are to be classed by their bones. 1890 G. A. Smith *Isaiah* II. xii. 208 We do not vivisect our murderers nor kill them off by gladiatorial combats.

transf. 1892 W. H. Hudson *Naturalist in La Plata* 180 These insects..house them in cells where the grubs can vivisect them at leisure. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 413 The piteous cries..of a donkey being vivisected by hyænas.

b. *fig.* To investigate as if by vivisection; to examine or criticize minutely or mercilessly.

1876 Rhoda Broughton *Joan* I. xx, On the contrary, I live in hopes of seeing a successor or two [i.e. suitors] vivisected. 1880 Ruskin in *19th Cent.* June 950 The modern novelist..cannot easily, in a city population, find a healthy mind to vivisect.

2. *intr.* To practise vivisection.

1883 S. Coleridge *Vivisection* 13 Surely a man must be at his wits' end before he could gravely put forward such an argument..in defence of a claim to vivisect by wholesale.

Hence **Vivisected** *ppl. a.*; **Vivisecting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Vivisectee**, that which is vivisected; **Vivise·ctible** *a.*, capable of being, liable to be, vivisected.

1839 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 317/2 The artificial vomiting of *vivisected animals. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* v, The vivisected youth received the caress which quickened him to wholeness at a touch. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 3 June 3/2 Whether any attempt at the absolute prohibition of vivisection would not react to the disadvantage of the unhappy *'vivisectees'. 1875 Hoggan *Let.* in *Morn. Post* 2 Feb., I am inclined to look upon anæsthetics as the greatest curse to *vivisectible animals. 1876 J. J. G. Wilkinson *Hum. Sci. & Div. Rev.* 21 The *vivisecting scalpel is all human cruelty. *Ibid.* 67 Facts of life..which must for ever escape the vivisecting mind. 1890 'R. Holderwood' *Miner's Right* (1899) 59/2 The Doctor..looks at Cyrus with a vivisecting eye. *Ibid.* 65/2 He did not choose to adopt the vivisecting process permitted to counsel in the higher courts. 1897 *Our Dumb Animals* (Boston) Nov. 70/2 The angel conducted him from one laboratory to another, from one vivisecting table to another.

Vivisection (vivise·kʃən). [f. L. *vīvī* gen. sing. neut. (and masc.), or *vīvi-* combining form, of *vīvus* living + *sectio* cutting. Hence F. *vivisection*. Cf. *vividissection* s.v. Vivi-.]

1. The action of cutting or dissecting some part of a living organism; *spec.* the action or practice of performing dissection, or other painful experiment, upon living animals as a method of physiological or pathological study.

1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. 2 How sensible those nervous parts are, need not be told any who have seen vivisections, where the least..touches..will cause a sensible motion. 1736 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 260 Small Parts of large Objects cannot easily be applied to the Microscope without being divided from their Wholes which in the case of Vivisection defeats the Experiment.

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 735 *Vivisection*, ..the act of opening or dissecting living animals. 1852 Lewis *Meth. Obs. & Rems in Pol.* I. 101 Of late years in particular vivisection, or anatomical investigation of the living subject, has often been practised upon some of the smaller mammalia. 1879 Browning *Tray* 43 By vivisection,..How brain secretes dog's soul, we'll see!

b. An operation of this nature.

1839 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 317/1 The vivisections which many experimenters have practised, agree in carrying this investigation further. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 311 Such a conclusion seems to result from pathological facts and vivisections.

fig. 1895 Balfour in *Daily News* 15 Nov. 2/4 The vivisection of the British Empire—was that a constructive policy?

2. *fig.* Excessively minute examination or criticism.

1880 Swinburne *Study Shaks.* i. (ed. 2) 93 This vivisection of a single poem is not defensible as a freak of scholarship.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vivisection act, bill, experiment*.

—gy.

Westm. Gaz. 26 Feb. 2/1 The atrocious character of many vivisection experiments.

Vivisectional (vivise·kʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec.]

1. Of or belonging to, of the nature of, vivisection.

1866 *Westm. Rev.* Jan 148 It is impossible by vivisectional experiment to know which microscopical elements of the nervous tissues of the animal we destroy. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 65/2 For the purpose of demonstrating physiological facts to students, vivisectional experiments are..not absolutely necessary. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Aug. 6/3 The licensing for vivisectional purposes of the British Institute of Preventive Medicine.

2. Performing vivisection. Also *fig.*

1882 W. James in *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* April (1883) 116 Vivisectional physiologists. 1821 *Times* 17 Jan. 6/1 A few lively touches, which were the first to vanish under the vivisectional hands of the cleaner.

Hence **Vivise·ctionally** *adv.*

1899 J. W. Ebsworth in *Roxb. Ball.* IX. p. clxxx*, 'The Maid's Comfort' and 'The Merry Cuckoid' can be studied vivisectionally on pp. cxxix* and cxxxii*.

Vivisectionist (vivise·kʃənist). [f. as prec. + -ist.] One who practises or defends vivisection.

Lyall' *Knight-Errant* (1889) 133 Without a deep, living sympathy, the artist surely degenerates into a species of vivisectionist.

Vivisective, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ive.] = Vivisectional *a.* 2. In quot. *fig.*

a 1876 M. Collins *Pen Sketches by Vanished Hand* (1879) II. 249, I am not surprised that Mr. Browning, himself a vivisective poet, likes the diagnosis of human malady which Euripides supplies.

Vivisector (vi·visektəɹ, vivise·ktəɹ). [f. as Vivisect *v.* + -or. Hence F. *vivisecteur*.] One who vivisects or practises vivisection.

1863 *Times* 2 Aug., That is the extent of the tender mercies of French vivisectors. 1876 J. J. G. Wilkinson *Hum. Sci. & Div. Rev.* 20 No man not interested personally, but humanely, can doubt what the vivisectors are doing.

fig. 1874 Blunt *Dict. Sects* 237/2 Pascal was the vivisector rather than the anatomist. 1899 Beatrice Harraden *Fowler* 115 He had plunged deep into inquiry, and was in fact a theological and historical vivisector.

‖ **Vivres** (vī·vəɹ). [F. *vivres*: see Viveres.] Victuals, provisions.

a 1650 in Grose *Milit. Antiq.* (1788) II. 222 There are yet ..two quarters more; the one of noblemen strangers, and the other the magazines of the vivres. *Ibid.*, The general of the vivres. 1800 A. Carlyle *Autobiog.* (1860) 160 The marketplace [of Yarmouth]..is very spacious, and remarkably well provided with every kind of vivres for the pot and the spit. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 279 So much for demand and supply of vivres, and good substantial vivres too. 1852 Jerdan *Autobiog.* II. 142 He got into some debt for the vivres and tipple.

†**Vivry,** *a. Her. Obs.* In 6–7 viurie. [ad. F. *vivré*, i. *vivre* serpent.] Serpentine, tortuous.

1572 Bosswell *Armorie* II. 34 The seconde beareth Vert, a Bende Viurie, Dargent. 1612 Cotgr. s.v. *Vivré*, A bend Viurie.

Vix, abbrev. form of Vixen.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 23 Mr. Russell killed a fat unfortunate soil-running vix.

Vix, ME. variant of *wex* Wax *v.*

Vixen (vi·ks'n), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 5–8 fixen (5 fixene), 6– vixen (7 vixinge, 8 vixin), 7–8 vixon. [repr. OE. **fyxen* (= MHG. *vīhsinne*, G. *füchsin*), fem. of *fox* Fox. Cf. OE. *fyxen* adj. 'of a fox' (= OHG. *fuhsīn*, MHG. *vühsīn*). The word is one of the few in which the southern *v* for *f* has definitely established itself.]

1. The female of the fox; a she-fox.

c 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vii, þe fixene [*v.r.* fixen] of þe fore bereth as longe, as þe bicche of þe wolfe bereth hir whelpes. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* x. (1628) 334 Fixen..is the name of a she-fox otherwise and more anciently foxin. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vixen* or *Fixen*,

a Fox's Cub. 1729 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) II. 270 The vixen's just now earthed, see here's the Hole. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Vixen*,..a she fox, who, when she has cubs, is remarkably fierce. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 23, I must confess, I felt rather spoony upon that vixen. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xxxiii. 266 A vixen was trapped just across the field yonder. 1880 *Times* 9 Nov. 4/5 They ..s familiar as the craftiest old vixen with the country they have been born and bred in.

fig. 1708 Wycherley in *Pope's Lett.* (1735) I. 22 You may see a Pack of Spaniels, called Lovers, in hot Pursuit of a two-legg'd Vixen.

2. An ill-tempered quarrelsome woman; a shrew, a termagant.

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* III. ii, That false fixen..that counts her selfe so honest. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 324 O when she's angry, she is keene and shrewd, She was a vixen when she went to schoole. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. v. ii. 636 She is a foole, a nasty queane, a slut, a fixen, a scolde. *a* 1644 Quarles *Virgin Widow* v. i, She's a pestilent vixen when she's angry, and as proud as Lucifer. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm. Prov. x. 18* Wks. 1687 I. 247 Those fiery Vixons, who..really do themselves embroil things, and raise miserable combustions in the world. 1721 Ammerst *Terræ Fil.* No. 8 (1726) 36 Since they [Oxford and Cambridge] have come to woman's estate they have been a couple of the arrantest vixons. 1727 *Minor* 68 Perverseness hurried him to marry a young vixin. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Contrast* (1832) 108 Mrs. Betterworth was a vain, foolish vixen. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 565 'That may be very honourable in you', answered the pertinacious vixen, 'but it will be very poor comfort to the Princess.' 1879 'E. Garrett' *House by Works* II. 160 His unhappy secret marriage with the foreign vixen.

transf. 1861–8 G. H. K. in *Vac. Tour.* (1864) 136 There are the sixteen of them [*sc.* hinds] .quarrelling and fighting, rising perfectly upright on their hind legs,..and striking at each other with their sharp fore hoofs What vixens!

†b. In the phrase *to play the vixen*. *Obs.*

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 164 A Gentlewoman; who, howsoeuer shee scolds and playes the vixen neuer so, willbe borne with. 1597 Lyly *Wom. in Moon* I. i. (stage direction), She playes the vixen with euery thing about her.

†c. Applied to a child or a man. *Obs. rare.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Fixen*, a froward, peevish Child. 1702 S Parker tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* II. 131 He's the veriest Vixin of a Stoick. 1732–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* i. 95 Well, if that Child was mine, I'd whip it till the Blood came; Peace, you little Vixen!

3. *attrib.* (passing into *adj.*). a. Appositive with *fox*, = sense 1.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vii, The fixene fox whelpeth vnder be erthe. 1845 Youatt *Dog* iv. 102 The mouth of the earth in which a vixen fox—a fox with her young ones—has taken up her abode. 1883 E. Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 274 A little vixen fox jumping out among listless idlers of the pack.

b. Appositive, of persons, = Vixenish *a.* 1.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 80 O shame of soe greate a peere, imitatinge herin the vixinge calleagha. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* i, The fury which the old vixen queen displayed.

c. Of looks, actions, etc.. = Vixenish *a* 2.

1700 Congreve *Way of World* iv. 54 Pshaw, what a Vixon trick is this? 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxii, Disturbing us with his vixen brawls, and breaking God's peace and the king's. 1820 Keats *Cap & Bells* lxxix, She..Castled her King with such a vixen look, It bodes ill to his Majesty. 1850 E. Brontë *Wuthering Heights* x, Begone, for God's sake, and hide your vixen face!

4. *Comb.*, as *vixen-faced, -visaged.*

1836 *Boston Herald* 20 Dec. 1/6 A Mrs. Vaughton was summoned by a vixen-visaged girl, named Susan Jones. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire*, Nervous folks still, when they come in their way, shun Old vixen-faced tramps of the Hebrew persuasion.

Vixenish (vi·ksˈniʃ), *a.* [f. prec. + -ish 1.]

1. Resembling a vixen in disposition; cross, ill-tempered, snappish.

1808 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. 109 My friend Daphne, the vixenish pug. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* lxvii, Others are married and have vixenish wives. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xlv, He could hardly endure existence in the house that held his vixenish sisters.

Comb. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xlvi, Two small vixenish looking ladies.

2. Characteristic of, appropriate to, a vixen.

1838 Dickens *O. Twist* iv, A short, thin, squeezed-up woman, with a vixenish countenance. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* I. 261 She..rang the bell with vixenish violence. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Feb. 208/2 The trashy verbiage, the vixenish tattle,..to which they are treated.

Hence **Vi·xenishness.**

1820 *Examiner* No. 651. 633/1 Madge is too apt to think that vixenishness and virtue go together. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* I. 117 She would never sharpen or narrow to vixenishness.

Vi·xenishly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a vixenish or ill-tempered manner.

1845 *Bachelor of Albany* (1848) 174 'Barker of the Albany! ..is he the man?' cried the termagant Mrs. Harry, vixenishly and exultingly. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* xviii, Her mother treated her vixenishly, snubbing her for a word. 1891 Baring-Gould *In Troubadour-Land* ii. 28 [He] endeavoured to get hold of her hand. She snatched it away vixenishly

Vixenly (vi·ksˈnli), *adj.* and *adv.* Also 7 **vixonly.** [f. as prec. + -ly.] a. *adj* Resembling a vixen in disposition. b. *adv.* Crossly, ill-naturedly.

a 1677 Barrow *Pope's Supremac.* Wks. 1687 I. 225 It was onely, which in such a vixonely Pope was a great favour, a forbearance to quarrel with him. 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet L.* Introd. (1852) 3 Nevertheless, vixenly as she looks, many people are seeking, at this very moment, to shelter themselves under the wing of the federal eagle. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marriage* xlv, Our female government asks it vixenly of our impotent male.

‖ Vis., *adv.* and *sb.* Also 6 **vs.,** 7 **vis^{t}.** [Abbrev. of Videlicet. Cf. Vids(t.

The *s* represents the ordinary med.L. symbol of contraction for *et* or *-et*. For the various forms in which the abbreviation occurs in med.L. manuscripts, see Chassant *Dict. des Abréviations* and Cappelli *Dizionario di Abbreviature.* In reading aloud usually rendered by 'namely'.]

A. *adv.* = Videlicet *adv.*

a 1540 J. London in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 138 Thyder resortyd suche as..hadde any slottiche wydowes lockes, viz. here growen to gether in a tufte. 1596 Blagrave *Uran. Astrolabe* II b, If the question..be of the night (vz. you shall finde it about 8½ of clocke in the morning) and vnto that houre (vz. 8½)..set the fiduciall line of the Planetary scale. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 28 The stupid King..mistakes the letter..and construes it to a sinister sense viz. that a quarrel was pickt with him. 1645 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 230 His Mᵃʸᵉ had opportunity to effect his designe, vizt. the releife of Westchester. *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1911) IX. 335 In the time of the first Lady-Abbesse of that house viz Dame Francis Gawen. 1728 Swift *Mullinix & Tim.* Wks. 1755 III. II. 213 Observe my counsel, (viz.) Adapt your habit to your phyz. 1788 Cowper *Let. Lady Hesketh* 6 May, The ingenious contriver of it, viz. myself. 1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé* II, The vestment aforesaid, perhaps, from its hue, *viz.* yellow. 1861 Paley *Aeschylus* (ed. 2), *7 agst. Thebes* 740 *note*, To fall..on several devoted heads successively, viz. Laius, Oedipus, and his sons. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xi, Took with me three of Plumer's men as escort, viz. Troopers Abrahamson, White, and Parkin.

B. *sb.* = Videlicet *sb.* Also, a special clause in a deed introduced by *viz.*

17.. *Modern Reports* VI. 228 *marg.*, If a bond bear date at any place abroad, that place must be stated in the declaration, with a viz. at such a place in England. 1797 Mrs. M. Robinson *Walsingham* IV. 76 If I won't give you a viz and a settlement. 1805 East *Reports* V. 253 The date which gave rise to such repugnancy was laid under a *viz.*

†**Vis.,** *v. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [For *vis*, abbrev. of Visit *v.* Cf. Vis *v.*] *intr.* To pay a visit.

1767 Gray *Let. Mason* Wks. (1884) III. 277 Tomorrow I go Vizzing to Gibside to see the new married Countess.

†**Visament,** alteration of Advisement or Visement.

1601 Shake. *Merry W.* I. i. 34 The Councell (looke you) shall desire to heare the feare of Got, and not to heare a Riot: take your viza-ments in that.

Vizar, obs. f. Visor *sb.* **Vizaret, -iat, -it,** varr. Vizierate.

Vizard (vi·zɑ̈d), *sb.* and *a.* Now *arch.* Forms: *α.* 6 **vysard(e, visarde, viserde,** 6–9 **visard** (8 *Sc.* **vissart**). *β.* 6 **vi-, vysarde,** 6–8 **vysard,** 7–8 **vissard,** 6– **visard.** [Altered form of *vysar, viser, visar* Visor by confusion of ending: see -ard.]

1. A mask; = Visor *sb.* 2.

Very common from *c* 1560 to *c* 1700. Also †*case of vizards.*

α. 1538 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 95, i dozen of viserdes with shorte berdes. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 38 Not the carued visarde of a lewde woman, but the incarnate vysage of a lasciuious wantonne. 1600 Dekker *Fortunatus* Wks. 1873 I. 104 She [Vice] and others wearing gilded visards. *a* 1658 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 93 In Modena are made the best visards for masquerades. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 80. 179 The Fairy applied an enchanted Visard to her Face.

β. 1538 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 12 Warderobe stuffe, vizardes, heare. 1572 *Ibid.* 183 For floyle for vyzardes & flawchins. 1588 Kyd *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 256 Artificiall Oyles, and dawbings .. for vizards, pageants, and poppets. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii, Gag him: And put a case of vizards o're his head. 1653 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* III. (1687) 91/2 Some wild young Men..lay in wait for him, attired like furies, with vizards and torches. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 436 He complains that Executioners in Vizards (*personati Carnifices*) cut off the King's Head. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 32 P 3 Wits were privileged to wear what Masks they pleased in all Ages; and..a Vizard had been the constant Crown of their Labours. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 151 Let me see what you have got under that vizard of yours 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xxiv, A little diminutive urchin, wearing a vizard with a couple of sprouting horns. 1852 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* iii. (1858) 115 A gentleman on a grey mare, with a black vizard on his face.

b. *transf.* or *fig.*

1602 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* iv. (1626) 83 The silent Virgin ..modestly had made A visard of her hands. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 81 When the welkin had put aside the vizard of the night. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 177 A Beard is but the Vizard of a Face. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* v. 356 It was hard to conjecture what their Natural Complexion was, by reason of the thick Vizard of Paint they had on. *c* 1715 Ramsay *Vision* ii, The Thunder crakt, and Flauchts did rift, Frae the blak vissart of the lift. 1827 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Richter* (1840) I. 18 All Nature is gone forth mumming in the strangest guises. Yet the anarchy is not without its purpose: these vizards are not mere hollow masks.

†**c.** A mask as used to protect the face or eyes.

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. 176 They vsed to wear a vizard of defence. with one sight in the middle to serue both eyes. 1669 Pepys *Diary* 25 June, I to my office,..to write down my journal..and did it, with the help of my vizard, and tube fixed to it, and do find it mighty manageable, but how helpful to my eyes this trial will show me.

2. *fig.* or in fig. context. = Visor *sb.* 3.

Very common from *c* 1560 to *c* 1700. The various types of illustrated by the different groups of quotations.

(*a*) 1572 *Tindale's Whs., Sacraments* 442/2 The hypocrites that haue put a visard (*ed. c* 1530 visure) on the face of the law. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 66 Vice putteth on a vizard, and goeth disguised and covered with goodly shewes that belong onely to vertue. 1653 H. More *Def. Moral Cabbala* iii. *Reading*, That..it is only the halting and hypocrisie of men that generally have put so sowre and sad a vizard upon it [i.e. Religion]. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 71 For those..Wore Vizards of Hypocrisy, to steal And slink away, in Masquerade, to Hell. 1833 G. S. Faber *Recpit. Apostacy* p. x, Popery, whatever vizard the theological Proteus may wear,..is still..a form of recapitulated Roman apostasy.

(*b*) *a* 1585 Philpot in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlviii. 135 Put off your shameles vysards, O ye unbeleevyng Arians. *a* 1589 Kingesmyll *Conflict w. Satan* (1578) 27 We will bring him to the tryall particularly that we may plucke of his maske and vysarde. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* Pref., We haue assayed to pull off Romes vizard. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 93 What are they but the Scum of the people, take off their Visards, and underneath appeare Wicked Jewes,..&c. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 20 Men are glad to pull of their Vizards, and resume themselves again.

(*c*) 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 74 Trueth can neuer be Falsehoods Visarde. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch. Militant* 185 He took fine vizards to conceal his crimes. 1683 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 70 A sober and fair outside, the true vizard of Hypocrisie. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 349 The participation of the promised Spirit of Christ, without which all Religion is but a mere Mask or dead Virard. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* xi, He would make use of no other vizard than a long prayer.

(*d*) 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 21 For all that fatherly countenance and graue vizard which sometimes thou vsest to plead the cause of thy Reformation vnder. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 67 The impietie that lay masked vnder this vizard. 1696 W. Howard in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* xv. § 121 Having long since, by peeping a little..under the vizzard of the Impostor, got such glimpses, though but imperfect ones, of his ugly face. 1678 Marvell *Def. J. Howe* (Grosart) 141 To outlaw Mr. Howe ..from all Protestant protection, is to represent him under a Popish Vizard.

(*e*) 1567 Jewel *Def. Apol.* 4 But who they be, that..with a painted Visarde, or emptie name of the Churche, haue feared al the cattel of the fielde, it is needelesse to speake it.

b. = Visor *sb.* 3 b.

1562 Cooper *Answ. Priv. Masse* (1850) 170 That by this means your doctrine..might haue a face or visard of antiquity. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 316 Those things which put on a pretended shewe and visard of felicitie. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 10 Whereby every unworthy ignorant impostor (as under a vizzard of hidden skill) made use of the art of Surgery. 1636 Featly *Clavis Myst.* xxiv 314 Heresie and schism haue the vizard, but not the face of holinesse. 1684 J. Renwick in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 263 Another Sort of Folk cover over their Pride with a Vizard of Humility. 1725 Watts *Logic* Introd. 3 So Knavery puts on the Face of Justice, Hypocrisy and Superstition wear the Vizard of Piety. 1743 E. Erskine *Serm.* Wks. (1871) III. 91 It has put on the name and vizard of Presbyterian. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* IV. v. (1906) III. 55 The Spaniards seemed to cast off even the vizard of humanity.

†**3.** In depreciatory use: A face or countenance suggestive of a mask. *Obs.*

1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 38 With hatefull hawtie haunt not, For dainefull vizards daunt not. 1603 Breton *Packet Mad Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 12 For my Fan, it keepes me sometimes from the sight of such a vizard as your good face. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Custom of Country* I. i, This little beauty you are pleased to honour Will be so chang'd, so alter'd to an uglinesse To such a vizard, ten to one, I dye too.

†**4.** A phantasm or spectre. *Obs.*—1

a 1591 H. Smith *Seven Godly Serm.* vi. 229 If thou thinkest that it is such a mans bodie which thou seest, look in ye graue..and there thou shalt see the body where it was laid, euen while this visard walkes in thy sight.

†**5.** A person wearing a visor or mask; *spec.* a woman of loose character wearing a mask in public, a prostitute. *Obs.* (Cf. Vizard-mask 2.)

1652 H. Bell *Luther's Colloq.* 283 For the world cannot live without such vizards and shrove-tide-fools. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 164 Afterwards I saw the Vizards going into a Chamber there. 1676 Etherege *Man of Mode* I. i, This business of yours Dorimant has been With a Vizard at the Play-house. 1729 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) II. 75 Or if you find me with a vizard prattle Do you the same with any other man.

†**6.** = Visor *sb.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 252 The Stranger desir'd a Parley; and lifting up the Vizard of his Helmet, a Face..appeared [etc.]. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Paris*, Helmets which had lost their vizards.

†b. *Bot.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

c 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 446/2 *Galea-ringentis*, the vizard or upper lip of a ringent corolla.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vizard head, -maker, -making, -manufacture, -monger, vice*; *vizard-faced, -like* adjs.

1573 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 218 The vysard-maker John Owgle for xliii Beardes. 1593 Shake. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 117 But that thy Face is Vizard-like, vnchanging, Made impudent with vse of euill deedes. 1618 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 4 Bacchus cares not for outward signes a rush, Good wine needs not the hanging of a bush. Dost not thou vizzard-fac't ingratefull Elfe? 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 47 My Recreations [are]..Metamorphosing and Vizard-making. 1676 Butler *Hud.* III. I. 1012 Strive who shall be..the most genteelly bred At sucking of a Vizard Bead. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* II. § 7 The old Philosophers and great pretenders unto Virtue, who well declining the gaping Vices of Intemperance, [etc.]..were envious, malicious, contemners,..and stuff with Vizard Vices. 1684 Otway *Atheist* v. 1, A Way to revenge my self

on that Vizard-monger. 1656 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. 116 [Loyola's] order...claimed and merited the monopoly of the vizard manufacture.

Vizard, obs. or dial. form of Wizard.

Vizard, *v.* Now *rare*. Also 7 visard. [f. the sb.]

†1. *trans.* To conceal or disguise (something) under a false outward show or appearance; to represent falsely or speciously. *Obs.*

1588 Pryvne *Brief Survey* 48 Their dangerous and infectious plague-sores, which are onely visarded and palliated, not clothed nor warmed with the sacred Robes. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 51 Cloakes to hide their knauery, and beards to visard their hypocrisie. 1660 Shirley *Andromana* IV. vii, Plangus who hath visarded his ends With vertue.

2. To cover or disguise (the face, etc.) with or as with a vizard or visor; to mask.

c 1609 Webster *Appius & Virginia* v. iii, See these Monsters, whose fronts the fair Virginias innocent blood hath visarded with such black ugliness, that they are loathsome to all good mens souls. 1662 Herbert *Body Diviuity* I. 279 Jobs comforters .vizarding themselves under the cloke of amity. *a* 1669 H. Foulis *Hist. Rom. Treasons* (1681) 255 They vizarded their members and meetings. 1872 Clark Russell *Repr. Actors* (Chandos) p. xiii, Women mockingly vizarded themselves to conceal the only blushes their cheeks could exhibit—that of the paint-pot.

Hence **Vizarding** *vbl. sb.*, the action of disguising with or as with a vizard; also *concr.*, that which serves as a vizard or disguise.

1629 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Now for the cunning vizarding of them and tis done. 1694 Crowne *Married Beau* I. i, I'm angry with 'em for their vizarding. 1862 J. Murray *Songs Covenant Times* 77 Skulking from cot to cot, from cave to cave,...In quaint disguise and vizarding uncouth They shunned pursuit.

Vizarded, *ppl. a.* [f. Vizard *v.*]

1. Disguised with a vizard; wearing a vizard; visored, masked. Used (*a*) predicatively or (*b*) attributively. Also *fig.*

(*a*) 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 71 b, Your mornelike christall countenances shall be netted ouer, and (Masker-like) cawle-visarded, with crawling venomous wormes. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* II. vii. (1599) 207 She is so vizarded,...I cannot see her face. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 83 Degree being vizarded, Th'vnworthiest shewes as fairely in the Maske. 1630 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* VII. 64 These two prostrated Figures .were armed with Petitions,..their faces Vizarded; their Eares and Necks hung with little dishes [etc.]. 1736 Mrs. F. Brooke *Old Maid* No. 29. 243 The obsequious lover approaches in a mask: to say the truth, the lady is generally as well vizarded as he can be.

(*b*) *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Love Restored* Wks. (Rtldg.) 581/1 *Masq.* Have you recovered your voice to rail at me? *Plu.* No, vizarded impudence. 1658 W. Sanderson *Life K. Charles* 1138 He..humbly bowed down his generous neck to God, to be cut off by the vizarded Executioner. 1692 tr. *Emillianne's Frauds Romish Monks* 400 Many Vizarded Lackeys came forth with Flambeaus to Light them in. 1715 tr. *C'tess D'Anois' Wks.* 410 Four vizarded Ruffians.

2. *fig.* Assumed, pretended.

1663 J. H. *Hist. O. Cromwell* xi 16 Oliver..., in a passion, and transported beyond his vizarded sanctity, with an oath ..dissolved them. *a* 1688 G. Stradling *Serm. & Disc.* (1692) 350 Bodily worship..which usually concluded like the Turkish Lents after the vizarded austerity of a few spare hours in nightly Bacchanals.

Vizardless, *a. rare.* [f. Vizard *sb.*] Having no vizard; visorless.

1674 C. F. *Wit at Venture* 76 Like a Vizardless Miss that peeps under her hood.

Vizard-mask. Now *arch.* [f. Vizard *sb.* Cf. *visor-mask* Visor *sb.* 6 b.]

1. A mask worn to conceal or disguise the face; a domino; = Vizard 1.

1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir Martin Mar-all* v. iii, Fetch me down two Indian-gowns and Vizard-maska. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 13/1 The Visard Mask..covers the whole face,...being only held in the Teeth by means of a round bead. 1693 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 438, 3 hackney coaches rob'd at Wheatley bridge by 4 Oxford scholars (as 'tis said) with vizard maskes. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3985/1 That no Woman be allowed..to wear a Vizard-Mask in either of the Theatres. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 73/2 A man habited like a sailor with a vizard mask on.

2. A woman who wears such a mask; a prostitute. (Cf. Vizard *sb.* 5.)

1670 Dryden *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* Prol. 25 As those Vizard Masks maintain that Fashion, To soothe and tickle sweet Imagination. 1672 Wycherley *Love in Wood* v. ii, There are as grave men as your worship .. that adjourn their cares and businesses, to come and unbend themselves at night here with a little vizard-mask. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 193 P 3 His dexterous Insinuations, which prevailed upon a few deluded Women, especially the Vizard Masks, to believe that the Stage was in danger. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) II. 143 The play-houses are so extremely pestered with Vizard-masks and their trade. [1823 Scott *Peveril* xxviii, Billets-doux, my lord...This left at the porter's-lodge by a vizard mask.]

Visariat, **-it**, var. Vizierate. **Viz-a-viz**, obs. f. Vis-à-vis. **Viscacha**, var. Viscacha. **Vise**, dial. var. Vice *sb.*4 **Viseroye**, obs. f. Vicebor. **Viset**, obs. f. Visit *sb.*

Vizier (vizi·ə, vizyə, vizia). Forms: α. 6 (*pl.*) vesiri, 7 vesir, 7–9 vesir; 6–8 visir (8 visir), 6–9 visir; 9 viseer. β. 6 viseare, 7 -ear, viseire, -ere, visciere, viseere, 7–9 visier (7 visiar), 7– vizier. γ. 7 viser, viser, visur. [ad. Turk. *vezir*, a. Arabic وزير *wazir*, *wezir*, orig. a porter, hence one who bears the burden of government, a minister or lieutenant of a king, f. *wazara* to carry, carry on. Cf. F. *visir*, *vizir*, Sp. *visir*, Pg. *visir*, *vizir*, It. *visire*. See also Alguazil.]

1. In the Turkish empire, Persia, or other Mohammedan country: A high state official or minister, freq. one invested with vice-regal authority; a governor or viceroy of a province; now esp. the chief minister of the sovereign (see 2).

α. 1562 J. Shute tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* II. 13 b, The Turcke called vnto him all his consellours called in the Turckishe tonge Vesiri, & all his Bassaa. 1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 377 The Vezirs are Counsellors of State. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 12 The Governour of the City hath the quality of Sulthan, and hath under him, not a Calenter, but a Visir or Secretary. 1666 — tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 371 The conversation he had with a Persian Visir. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. vi. 170 Abou Yezid, his ambitious and too powerful Wizir, or Prime Minister, revolted. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* III. xxxii. (1762) I. 145 He immediately ordered his vizir to take me up behind him. 1763 Scrafton *Indostan* (1770) 47 The march of Monsur Ally Caun, Visir of the empire, into the province of Bahar 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 251 This rule was departed from by Shauh Zemaun, who made a Suddorye viseer. 1841 — *Hist. Ind.* II. 9 His vizir..had been long in one of the highest employments under the calif. 1909 *Athenæum* 4 Sept. 262/3 It was..the rivalry of jealous vezirs that invited the interference of Nur-ad-din.

β, γ. 1599. 1602 [see b. below]. 1613 Sir A. Sherley *Trav. Persia* 47 The place of the Viseire comprehending in it, the office of Chancellor, and high Treasurer. *c* 1618 Monyson *Itin.* IV. (1903) 81 The Visers or Vicevoyes residing in Constantinople being 4. of old, were 7 at this tyme. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 28 Nassuf Bashaw, the Visier and Generall to Sultan Schmat. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xiv. 177 The seven Visiers of the Bench brought up the Rear of this Magnificent Troop. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4363/1 The Janisaries have depos'd the Grand Seignior, and set his Nephew upon the Throne, who ..is to act under the Direction of Four Visiers during his Minority. 1722 *Ibid.* No. 6023/1 The Venetian Bailo has not yet been with the Vizier. 1786 Burke *Art. agst W. Hastings* Wks. XI. 371 A certain prince called Sujah ul Dowla, Naboob of Oude, and Vizier of the empire. 1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* I. Notes 331 All Pashas, before whom are carried the three horse-tails, have the title of Visier. 1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 369 In a great council of Viziers and Ulemas assembled at the house of Scheik-ul-Islam. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 268/1 The office of vizier, which spread from the Arabs to the Persians, Turks, Mongols, and other Oriental peoples, arose under the first Abbasid caliphs.

transf. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* li, His Lordship's vizier and chief confidential servant...Mr. Wenham.

†b. With the title *bashaw* added or prefixed. (See quot. 1819 in β above). *Obs.*

1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 60 Our imbassader Delivered a presente to the Vizeare Basha at his house. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 57 When the counsell hath sitten seauen or eight houre., the Bassa visur maketh true relation to the Prince, of all that hath bene handled. 1648 W. L. *Newes fr. Turkie* 25 A translate of the Imperiall Commandement, directed to the Vizere-Bassa of Egypt.

c. *transf.* One holding a position analogous to that of a Mohammedan vizier; a vicegerent, viceroy, or chief minister.

1709 Swift *Adv. Relig.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 113 The arbitrary will of an unlimited monarch, or his vizier. 1820 Shelley *Œd. Tyr.* II. ii. 8 Emperors, kings, and priests and lords, Who rule by viziers, sceptres, bank-notes, words. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 211 Perdiccas' own office [in Macedonia] was that of vizier or prime minister.

2. *Grand* (also formerly *chief*, *great*, *head*, or *prime*) *vizier*, the chief minister or administrator of a Mohammedan ruler, esp. of the Sultan of Turkey.

(*a*) 1597 Wrag in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. i. 304 At the departure of Sinan Bassa the chiefe Vizir .. there was another Bassa appointed in his place. *Ibid.* 305 This reconciliation with the great Vizir thus made [etc.]. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 44 Aladin..dying, Sahib the head *Vesir* vsurped the soueraigntie. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 16 The High Dignity of Prime Vizier. 1885 *Arab. Nts.* II. 240 The King was at that time in discourse with his prime vizier.

(*b*) 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 85 Neither the Gran Visiar, or the Emperour Himselfe will question his [i.e. the Mufti's] sentence. *c* 1645 — *Lett.* (1650) I. 70 By the advice of his grand Visier..he intended to erect a new Soldiery in Asia about Damasco. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 03 He hath his chief Minister, who is the Grand Visier; for he hath commonly seven Visiers, whereof the first hath all the Authority and does all. 1758–9 tr. *Kevsler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 311 When the grand vizir takes the field, the mufti generally makes him such a valuable present. 1802 James *Milit Dict.* s.v., The Grand Vizir possesses great powers, especially with regard to military affairs. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 205 To save Syria, perhaps Constantinople, Mahmoud turns to his grand vizier, Reschid Mehemet. 1881 Trotter *Visit Crt. Morocco* xiii. 191 The Grand Vizier,...together with his colleagues, looked as black as thunder. 1897 *Whitaker's Alm.* 561/1 Morocco, Empire of. Sultan.., Grand Vizier .. Minister of For. Affairs.

b. *transf.*

1835 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xl. III. 13 They would rather ..be subject to an usurper like Oliver,..than to a legitimate King who referred them to a Grand Vizier.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vizier-craft*, *-slave*.

1833 *Edin. Rev.* LVII. 141 Into whatever untried vanities of being Faust and his Vizier-slave may pass. 1880 Merriman *Tragic Com.* vii, He is for kingcraft to match his viziercraft.

Vizieral (vizi·rĭl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] = Vizierial.

1870 R. Anderson *Mss. Amer. Board* III. xxi. 373 The American Ambassador also procured a strong vizieral letter to the Pasha in the Tripoli district. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 5/4 That is why he held the Grand Vizieral office longer than any of his predecessors.

Vizierate (vizi·rĕt). Forms: α. 7, 9 vizirate, 8–9 visirate, 9 vizierate. β. 8 visariat, 8–9 visarit. γ. 8 visirat, 9 vizierat. [ad. Arab. وزارة *wizārat*, *-at*, f. *wezir*, etc. Vizier; or refashioned on Vizier + -ate 3. Cf. F. *visirat*, *visiriat*.]

1. The dignity, position, or authority of a vizier or grand vizier; also, the period during which a particular vizier held office.

α. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 80 Zornesan Mustapha..who had been made Caymacam before the Visirate of Chiaoux Basha. 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 10 What an ardent and restless desire Asado'ddin had conceived for the Vizirate of Egypt. 1820 T. Hope *Anastasius* (ed. 2) III. 145 This man..had served the Capitan-Pasha during his short Visirate. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 4 May, The change in the Vizierate is supposed to indicate an early settlement of the war indemnity question with Russia. 1895 *Times* 9 Nov. 5/1 Kiamil Pasha was dismissed from the Grand Vizierate last night.

β. 1768 Dow *Hist. Hindostan* II. II. *Decline* 52 Ahmed Shaw..degraded Seifdar Jung from the visarit. 1787 Beckford *Italy* (1834) II. 44 During the grand visariat of Pombal. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit India* I. III ii. 503 In the reign of Musaood he was raised to the dignity of lord of requests; and in that of Mahmood obtained the visarit.

γ. 1815 J. C. Hobhouse *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 347 It is ..clear that for some years the power of the crown, or the vizierat (it is the same), has been increasing. 1864 *Spectator* 24 Dec. 1464/1 They will rather fling up a vizierat, as Ouseley did, because the King asked him to impede a British design.

transf. 1795 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XVI. 539 France has had four religions in four years: catholic at the opening of the States General;..deistical in the vizirat of Robespierre.

2. A province or district governed by a Turkish vizier.

1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* v. 189 When the Vizierate of Bosnia stretched itself over Slavonia to the Drave. *Ibid.* viii. 346 The Vizierate of Herzegovina.

3. The department, establishment, or political residence of a (grand) vizier.

1908 *Times* 15 Sept. 3/6 A communication from the Grand Vizierate followed the Bulgarian's receipt.

Vizieress. *rare*—1. [f. Vizier.] A female vizier.

1884 J. Payne *Bk. of 1001 Nights* VIII. 340 The queen entreated Abdallah's wife with honour..and made her her vizieress.

Vizierial (vizi·rĭăl). Also **visirial**, **viserial**. [f. Vizier + -ial. Cf. F. *visirial* and Vizieral *a.*]

1. Of a letter or rescript: Issued by or under the authority of a vizier or grand vizier.

α. 1849 Layard *Nineveh* I. v. 130, I received the vizirial letter procured by Sir Stratford Canning, authorising the continuation of the excavations. 1883 *Times* 21 Aug. 3/5 The question will now be arranged on the basis of the Imperial firman to the exclusion of the Vizerial letters.

β. 1870 C. Warren *Recov. Jerus.* i. (1871) 50 In July another visierial letter was received, but it only enforced the former one. 1876 R. F. Burton in Lady Burton *Life* (1893) II. 318 In June 1869 vizierial letters were addressed especially to the Hejaz.

2. Of or pertaining to a vizier.

1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* v. 189 Omer Pasha in 1850..transferred the Vizierial residence once more to the Seraï. *Ibid.* viii. 347 The Vizierial palace of Moskar.

Viziership (vizi·əʃip). Also 8 **visirship**. [f. Vizier + -ship.]

1. The office or function of a vizier; rule or government as a grand vizier. Also *transf.* Cf. Vizierate 1.

1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 344 [There are] perhaps others in other courts, that aime at a Visiership in Christendome to the height of that in Turky. 1729 Boyse, *Visirat*, (Office de Visir), Visiership. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 523 The visiership of the Prince of Peace. 1840 *Ibid.* LVIII. 183 It is our gracious intention to promote you to the visiership. 1878 Sekiev *Stein* II. 456 Unnecessary odium falls upon him, and his power gets the appearance of a Vizirship.

2. = Vizierate 2. *rare*—1.

1735 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 163 Dividing them [sc. his dominions] all into four Wasir, or Visierships, that is, Governments.

Viznomy, variant of Visnomy.

Visor, **Visour**: see Visor *sb.* and *v.*

†**Vizroy.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 viz roe, vizroe. [ad. Pg. *viceroi* (also arch. *visoroi*), Sp. *visorey* (*virey*): see Vicebor.] A viceroy.

1583 in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. 1644 To bee at the will and pleasure of the Vizroe. 1588 R. Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* I. vii. 23 Some doo esteeme these cities to be metropolitans, where as is resident, the gouernors, presidents, or viz Rdes.

Vizroy, **Vizt.**, obs. forms of Vicebor, Viz.

Vizy (vi·zi), *sb. Sc.* Also 8–9 vizzy, 9 vizzie, vizzey, vizzie, vizie, vizey, etc. [f. the vb., or ad. F. *viste* (OF. *vizes*), look, sight, aim, etc.]

1. An aim at an object which it is desired to hit; esp. in the phr. *to take a vizy* (cf. F. *prendre visée*).

1720 RAMSAY *Mairr. Earl Wemyss* vi, The Thane of Fife, wha lately wi' his flane, And vizy leel, made the blyth bowl his ain. 1808 J. MAYNE *Siller Gun* IV. xlviii, Roused at the thought, [he] charged his fusee, Took but ae vizzy wi' his e'e—The bullet flies Clean through the target to a tee. 1822 GALT *Steam-boat* vii, Logan took a vizy, and fired. 1884 PAR *Eustace* 143 The gun was run into the desired position, the sailor called it a 'vimsey'.

b. The sight of a gun.

1808 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 288/2 Thus too, the vizy (*Anglice* sight) generally inclined unduly to one side or the other.

2. A look or view; a sight *of* something; a glimpse.

1785 MACKENZIE *Lounger* No. 6 P 2 He tried to see the stage, and got a flying vizzy now and then 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xvi, But ye had best take a visie of him through the wicket before opening the gate. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 409/1 It unfortunately never was his forte to take a steady fixed vizzy of any one thing.

Hence **Vi'zyless**, *a.*

1808 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 300/1 Oh! that our passion could restore thee [i.e. Mons Meg], butless, lockless, vizyless, .though thou be'st, to the light of day.

Vizy (vi·zi), *v. Sc.* Forms: *α.* 5–6 **vesy, wesy**, 6 **wese, wessie, vese, vesie**. *β.* 5–6, 8 **visy**, 5 **wysy**, 6 **wis(s)y, -ie, vis(s)e, visye**, 6–7 **visie**, 6, 9 **vissie**, 8 **vissey**, 8–9 **vissy**, 8– **vizy**. [ad. ONF. *viseer* (Wace) :—L. *visitāre* VISIT *v*]

†**1.** *trans.* To go to see; to pay a visit or visits to; to visit. *Obs.* **a.** a person.

Freq. in the 16th c.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 631 He vent to vesy þe kinge, & tel hym of his travalinge. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 3899 Scho oysit to wesy bodely Al pur folk þat was nere by. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 28, I confess me, Lord! that I..To hungre meit, nor drynk to thristy gaif, Nor veseit the seik. 1550 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XVIII. 502 *note*, Ane sair leg, quharthrouch I mycht nocht cum west tyll wisy þe and uthir freyndis. 1583 in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 460 He was maist wiland to wissie the puirest creatour, being aduertisit or requyreit thairunto, in the verray nicht seson. 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 231 Elizabeth..sayd,..how is this commit to me, that the Mother of my lord suld come to visie me.

b. a place.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 504, I mak ane vow, .Richt reuerentlie thy Tempill to visie. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 13 Thir tua princis vsit oft to visye the feildis to tak ther recreatione. *Ibid.* vi. 38 Quhen titan vas visiand antepodos.

2. To look at closely or attentively; to regard, see, view.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 103 The worthi Scottis..Send twa skowrrouris to wesy weyll the playne. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 243 The king stude vesiand the wall. *a* 1500 *Bernardus de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 212 Haffand a gret delyte For to wesy .. oculatouris or trumpouris. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. xv. (S.T.S.) 100 Frequent nowmer of pepill þat come to vesy þir playis. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxvii. 33 Quhen scho growis heich, I draw on dreich, To vesy and behald the end. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* vii, I vizyt him then round about. 1725 — *Gentle Shaph.* III. ii. Prol., 'Tis Symon's house, please to step in, And visy 't round and round. 1790 SHIRREFS *Poems* 256 When first your Castles I did vizzey. 1867 J. GRANT *White Cockade* I. 60 An eye was seen to vizzy them carefully.

†**b.** To examine, inspect, survey, or view formally or officially. *Obs.*

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 381 To pas to Borthuik..to vesy tymmyre for gun paraling. 1512 *Ibid.* IV. 459 To xxxv] marynaris for ij dais quhen the Franchmen passit to vesy the schippis. 1561 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XIX. 265 *note*, Thir our lettres being anis producit thairin and vesyt be the lordis auditouris therof. 1597 SKENE *Acts of Parlt.* Table s.v. *Prunters*, Prenters suld not prent ony buikes, or vther thing, bot that quhilk is visied and tryed, havand the Kingis licence.

†**c.** With clause as object, or with *to* and inf. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 559 3et wald he [i.e. a bishop] mekly on fete ga..to visy in quhat wyse þe kirkmen did þar seruice. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 380 To the man that 3eid to vesy to se gif he could wyn sclait, iij½ vnicornis. 1538 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 431 The erle of Marche..and mony lordis mo, Come to his tent to visie how he did. 1556 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 235 The thesaurare to vesy gif ony timber be to by to mak portis of.

d. To visé. *rare*—[1].

1867 J. GRANT *White Cockade* I. 54 Letters..signed and vizzied by the conservator of Scottish privileges at Campvere, and the British ambassador.

†**3.** **a.** To afflict or visit (a person) *with* sickness or harm. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 381 His fadyr..wes wesyed with seknes. *a* 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 505 Throuch the will of God, so as it was, Thay war weesit with suddane soir seiknes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ii. 24, I sal visse you vithe dreddour, vithe fyir, ande vithe suelleg (*sic*).

†**b.** To punish (a sin or wrong). *Obs.*

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 58, I will visie and punis the synnis quhilk the fatheris dois..on thair sonnis. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 151 To visy all þir wrangus workis..God gife þe grace.

4. *intr.* (or *absol.*). To look or gaze.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. ix. 113 And weseand all about, I se at last This navy of youris drawand biddir fast. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xliv, And sine thay luke and visies throwe the cleir and purffyit watter, quhill thay se the mudlis. 1899 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Shetland dial.).

5. To take aim with a gun, etc.; to aim *at*.

1580–6 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 75 He..cuttit ane small hole in the tarfles, quhairby he might visie with his hag-bute. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* viii, They'll maybe hae been trying how weel they could vizy at the wild ducks. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 457 Some raw hands, when vizzying first at the mail in the bull's eye of the target with loaded ball [etc.].

Hence **Vi'zying**, *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1552 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 148 The lairdis of Corswell, Auchyngassill, Cowhill, commissioneris for vesing of the futemen to be rasit within the Sheref domes quhair thai dwell. 1824 R. CHAMBERS *Trad. Edinb.* I. 236 Sometimes the rod was simply stretched across the *vizzying hole*, a convenient aperture through which the porter could take cognisance of the person applying.

Vi3t(e, ME. variants of FIGHT *sb.* and *v.*

Vizzard, -or, obs. forms of VIZARD, VISOR *sb.*

Vl-, southern ME. and dial. var. of FL-; occas. ME. and older Sc. spelling for UL-.

Vlach (vlæk). Also 9 **Vlache**. [a. Bulg. and Serb. *Vlach*', = OSlav. *Vlachŭ* Roumanian, Italian, Czech *Vlach* Italian, Pol. *Włoch* Italian, *Wołoch* Walachian, Russ. *Volochʹ* Walachian, Italian; these terms are Slavonic adoptions of the Germanic *Walh* (OHG. *Walh*, *Walah*, MHG. *Walch*; OE. *Wealh*) foreigner, applied especially to Celts and Latins. See WALACH and WELSH *a.*] A member of the Latin-speaking race occupying portions of south-eastern Europe; a Walachian or Roumanian.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 246/2 The Vlaches, or Wallachians, only live in the most south-western angle of the empire [of Russia]. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 16/1 They call themselves 'Romani' or 'Rumeni', but by their neighbours..they are universally known by one or other form of the word 'Vlach'. 1901 *Speaker* 22 Sept. 683/2 The alliance..would array the scattered Vlachs of Macedonia once more on the Greek side.

attrib. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 16/1 This Vlach or Rouman race occupies a far wider area than that included in the present Roumanian kingdom. 1903 *Speaker* 23 Sept. 580/1 The Greek bands..fell to murdering the leaders of the Vlach movement.

Hence **Vlachian** (vlē·kiăn), *a.*

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 19/1 The officials bearing for the most part Slavonic titles derived from the practice of the Bulgaro-Vlachian czardom. 1909 *Q. Rev.* April 681 Not the least interesting constituent of this chaotic population is the Vlachian.

Vlai, var. VLEI. **Vlanck**, var. WLONK *a. Obs.* **Vlanker**, var. FLANKER (spark of fire). *dial.* **Vlaske**, southern ME. var. FLASK *v.* **Vlat**, southern dial. var. FLAT *a.*

1620 *Contention betw. Liberality & Prodigality* II. ii, Chil goe boldly to her, that's a vlat case.

Vlatsum, Sc. f. WLATSOME *a. Obs.* **Vlaze**, southern ME. pa. pple. of FLAY *v.* **Vleau**, southern ME. var. *flew*, p.t. of FLOW *v.*

‖**Vlei** (vlēi). Also **vley, vly, vlie, vlaie**. [Du. dial. *vlei*, reduced form of Du. *vallei* valley.]

1. In South Africa: A shallow pool of water; a piece of low-lying ground covered with water during the rainy season.

1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 179 The Hottentots look anxiously around for the well known 'vlei'. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 97, I came full in view of the vley or pool of water beside which I had been directed to encamp. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 226 We found the vley, where we fully expected water, dried up. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Swallow* viii, A large vlei, or pan, where were many ducks and also some antelope.

2. *local U.S.* A swamp.

1880 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XIX. 432 To the same settlers [the Dutch] are due the geographical appellations of *kill* for stream,..and *vly* or *vlaie* for swamp, so frequently met with in the Catskills. 1889 BYNNER *Begum's Daus.* i, Up over the grassy edge of the basin which formed the vly..the children came bounding pell-mell. 1904 R. W. CHAMBERS in *Harper's Mag.* May 933/1 Have you reason to believe that an attempt has been made to fire the Owl Vlaie?

Vleoin, Vleon, Vleesche, Vleys(e, Vlex, southern ME. vars. FLY *v.*[1], FLEE *v.*, FLESH, FLAX.

Vlie, southern ME. var. FLEA, FLY *sb.*; var. VLEI. **Vliht**, southern ME. var. FLIGHT.

Vlindre, southern ME. var. FLINDER (butterfly).

Vlouting, dial. var. FLOUTING *vbl. sb.*

Vly, Vlyeche, southern ME. vars. FLY *v.*, FLITCH.

Vm-, Vn-, common ME. spelling for UM-, UN-.

Vo.[1], abbrev. of VOCE. (Cf. VOC.)

1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Gowk's Errand*, GROSE's Class. Dict. vo. *April Fool.* 1825 — Suppl. s.v. *Customable*, Skene, Ind. to Acts, vo. *Customers.*

Vo.[2] *nonce-wd.* [f. the last syllable of *octavo.*] A size of book.

1847 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 6 Feb. 87/2 Duodecimo, post-octavo, eighteenmo, sixteenmo, and a hundred other vos and mos, bewildered the aged members of the profession.

Vo, southern ME. var. FO *v.*, FOE.

Voar (vōəɹ). *Orkn. & Shetl. dial.* Also 7, 9 **), 9 voe, voue**. [a. Norw. *vaar* (vŏr), = Da. , Sw. *vår*, ON. and Icel. *vár* spring: see WARE *sb.*] The spring; seed-time. Also *vere-time.*

1629 *Orkney Witch Trials in County Folk-Lore* III. (1901) 76 Being accusit thairupoun be the said Michaell in vore tyme. *Ibid.* 78 Sex yeiris sone or thairby in vore.

1806 P. NEILL *Tour* 58 If a man and a dog land upon of the islands in *voe*-time, i.e. Spring. 1825 JAMIESON Suppl., *Voe*, *Voar*, *Voue*, the spring-time. 1898 ELIZA EDMONDSTON *Sk. & Tales Shetland* xi. 135, I ought to go to help our poor father and mother to get their finished. 1871 R. COWIE *Shetland* II. viii. 159 The operations of 'Voe' (as the seed-time is called in Shetland) do not commence until the end of March.

Voc., abbrev. of VOCE. (Cf. VO.[1])

1725 T. HEARNE *R. Brunne's Chron.* (1810) I. p. cxxiii, See the Glossary to this Work, voc. *Kamfendene*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Calkins*, Savar. *Dict. Com.* I. s. p. 1598. voc. crampon. 1890 ALLIBONE *Dict. Eng. Lit.* (1888) II. 1532 See, also, Collier's Bibl. Accts. of Early Eng. Lit., 1865, voc. Paynell.

Voc., abbrev. of VOCATIVE.

Voc., Vocab., abbrev. of VOCABULARY.

Vocabi'lity. [f. next + -ITY.] A spoken or shouted remark or sentence.

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Chas.* (1852) 54 At the time of the Reform Bill, their [*sc.* the linkmen's] vocabilities had a still more personal tendency.

Vocable (vō·kăb'l), *sb.* [a. F. *vocable* (16th c., = Pr. *vocable*, Sp. *vocablo*, Pg. *vocabulo*, It. *vocabolo*, *-ulo*), or directly ad. L. *vocābul-um*, f. *vocāre* to call, name.]

1. A word or term.

App. reintroduced in the 18th century; mentioned as a Scotticism by Beattie in 1787.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. p. xxii, The great nombre of theyr vocables be evidently deryved forth of latin. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 9 This sillable, ϖ, in composicion of greke vocables betokeneth a certain facilitee. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Ij, N.O. perceyuing this deuision of vocables, thought good to note the sense thereof. 1600–9 ROWLANDS *Knaue of Clubbes* 19 He to coniure goes, With characters, and vocables, and diuers antique shewes. 1658 A. READ *Chirurg.* ix. 60 It is not amisse sometimes to coine vocables of art to expresse the matter which is in hand.

1786 GENDES *Prospectus New Transl. Bible* 61 There is no language so compleatly copious and distinctive as to have a different *vocable* for every different idea. 1787 — *Let. to Bp. of London* 82, I had ventured to use the word *vocable*. Some have approved of it, as a term we wanted; others have objected to it, as an innovation. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 527/1 Even some of the American jargon dialects contain vocables which indicate an Asiatic or European original. 1807 BOUCHER *Suppl. Johnson's Dict.* s.v. *Ay*, The simple annals, or history, of this vocable in our own language..would probably be not less curious than its general history is. 1822 BLACKIE *Study Lang.* 30 If you love the book..you will master the vocables it contains in a speedy and agreeable way. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* IV. xxiv. (1878) 348 Dreamers, for whom..every vocable is surrounded with an aureola or many-tinted halo of mysteries and 'inner senses'.

†**2.** A name or designation. *Obs. rare.*

c 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 76 Therof to this daie remaineth these vocables of coine, as libra, pondo, dipondium, .. vocables of weight; that afterward weare gyven to coines pretending the same weight. *a* 1623 BUCK *Rich. III*, v. (1646) 133 We will next endeavour to understand that Vocable, or term, *Tyrannus* (that is, a Tyrant, or an evil King) cast upon King Richard.

Vo·cable, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *voc-āre* to call + -ABLE.] Capable of utterance.

1901 MEREDITH *Poems, With the Persuader* 174 Cunninger than the numbered strings,..For mastered discords and the things Not vocable, whose mysteries Are inmost Love's.

Hence **Vo·cably** *adv.*

1906 J. A. HOBSON *Canada To-day* i. 3 Canada is conscious, vocably, uproariously conscious, that her day has come.

†**Voca·bula.** *Obs.*—[1] [pl. of L. *vocābulum* VOCABLE *sb.*] A vocabulary.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 360 They have their Grammars, Dictionaries, and Vocabulaes, in which are the Roots of the Arabick Tongue.

†**Voca·bular**, *sb. Obs.*—[1] [See VOCABULARY *sb.* and -AR [2].] A vocabulary.

1530 PALSGR. 10 By what meanes it shalbe knowen in the frenche vocabular whan *s* and *s* be vowels and whan they be consonantes.

Vocabular (vōkæ·bi§lăɹ), *a.* [f. L. *vocābul-um* VOCABLE *sb.* + -AR [1].] Of, pertaining to, or concerning words.

1628 TORSELL *Serpents* 282 Which wordes in their seuerall Languages, haue other significations, as are to be found in euery vocabular Dictionary. 1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. ii. 75 To unscruple all vocabular doubts and difficulties, let us but look into the fourteenth Ch. of Gen. and there we shall find a King of Gods own making. 1804 J. GILCHRIST *Etym. Interpreter* 61 This is the most prolific origin of verbal multiplication or vocabular augmentation; for thus an indefinite number of nouns are produced by a few verbs and adjectives. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* ix, Leaving vocabular ghosts undisturbed in their lexicon-limbo. 1867 LYTTON in *Ld. Lytton's Lett.* (1906) I. iv. 206 Too many images and vocabular effects make the sense of the whole obscure.

Vocabula·rian, *a.* [Cf. prec. and -IAN.] One who gives much or undue attention to words.

1899 *Pall Mall G.* 20 July 4/1 He is not a vocabularian: he uses, as none but a poet can, the old poetic materials.

Voca·bularise, *v. rare*—[1]. [Cf. prec. and -IZE.] *trans.* To furnish with a vocabulary.

1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 52 The vernacular French of the Capital, .. amply vocabularised from the other languages of the mixed hosts whom Napoleon had assembled.

Vocabulary (vōkæ·bi§lări), *sb.* Also 6 **-arye**, 7 **-aric**. [ad. med.L. *vocābulāri-us*, *-um*, f. L.

vocābulum VOCABLE *sb.*: see -ARY[1]. Hence also It., Sp., Pg. *vocabulario*, F. *vocabulaire* (1481). Cf. VOCABULAR *sb.*, VOCABULER.]

1. A collection or list of words with brief explanations of their meanings; now *esp.* a list of this kind given in an elementary grammar or reading-book of a foreign language.

Longer vocabularies are usually arranged alphabetically or according to subject-headings. In philological grammars and readers the vocabulary is commonly termed a *glossary*.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 427/1 Then must he with his translacion make vs an Englishe vocabularye of his own deuise too. 1579 FULKE *Heshins' Parl.* 55 Maister Heskins fareth as hee were halfe madde, sending vs to the Vocabularies, Calepines, and Dictionaries. 1611 COTGR., *Vocabulaire*, a Vocabularie, Dictionarie. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ix. 355 This is the proper signification of the word, [it is] thus used in Scripture by the Septuagint, [and] Greeke vocabularies thus expound it. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi 260 A vocabulary made after this fashion, would, perhaps, with more ease, and in less time, teach the true signification of many Terms. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* (1801) 41 It is necessary that we should be furnished with Vocabularies and Dictionaries of several sorts. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 65 From our visitors I procured a vocabulary of their language. 1857 T. WRIGHT (*title*), A Volume of Vocabularies. *Ibid.* Pref., One of the most valuable of the later vocabularies here printed. 1884 BRADLEY *Latin Prose Composition* 353 General Vocabulary. *Ibid.*, The Latin words in this Vocabulary are not necessarily equivalent to the English.

fig. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 398/1 As I wene it is expounded in god almightes vocabulary.

transf. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacrae* I. i. § 3 Otherwise all the use of words is to be a meer vocabulary to the understanding, and an Index to memory.

b. Const. *of*. (Passing into the sense of 'list'.)

1821 J. Q. ADAMS in C. Davies *Metric Syst.* (1871) III. 145 A vocabulary of new denominations was annexed to every weight and measure belonging to it. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 137 He heard a vocabulary of dishes enumerated with grace and fluency [by the French cook]. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xvi. 309 The most complete vocabulary of arms .. in the Old Testament is taken from the panoply of a Philistine warrior.

c. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Vocabulary*, the system of naval signals based on Sir Home Popham's improvements.

2. The range of language of a particular person, class, profession, or the like.

Used with limiting terms (possessives, adjectives, etc.).

1753 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) III. 20, I wore out .. my vocabulary with commending. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. v, Let nerves be discarded from the female vocabulary. 1815 J. CORMACK *Abol. Fem. Infanticide Guserat* x. 196 The almost infinite labours of an individual, from whose vocabulary the word impossible seems to have been excluded. 1851 PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 2 An Innocent, in Shakesperian vocabulary, signifies an Idiot. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxix, The actor .. had erased the words 'ought' and 'ought not' from his vocabulary as completely as most of his contemporaries.

b. Const. *of* (some quality, feeling, etc.).

1770 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* IV. x, In the vocabulary of modern honour there is no such term. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xii. 129 His eloquence becoming more and more .. vituperative, until it has exhausted either his strength or his vocabulary of invective. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 5 The rank vocabulary of malice and hate. 1884 J. SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* v. 80 The more religion appeals to the senses, the more fecund has been the vocabulary of oaths.

c. With *a*, or without article.

1837 EMERSON *Addr., Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 281 If it were only for a vocabulary, the scholar would be covetous of action. 1892 C. TAYLOR *Witness of Hermas to Four Gosp.* 130 On the principle that vocabulary is an indication of an author's literary sources. 1898 WATTS DUNTON *Aylwin* v. i, 'To repeat one's words', I said quietly, shows a limited vocabulary.

3. The sum or aggregate of words composing a language.

1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* cxiv. (1819) II. 285 The Latin Fathers .. wrote well enough to preserve a skill in the construction and vocabulary of the language. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* II. ii. 107 It is no longer a sealed language, its laws, structure, and vocabulary being sufficiently well known. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. i. 4 The largest infusion that the vocabulary of one European tongue ever received from another. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* vii. 206 He recognised his responsibility .. in keeping the vocabulary of the language pure.

Voca·bulary, *a. rare.* [f. L. *vocābul-um* VOCABLE *sb.* + -ARY.] Of or pertaining to words; composed of, or concerned with, words.

1626 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Vocabularie*, of or belonging to words, which consisteth onely of words. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 April 6/3 The vocabulary code compiled by the International Bureau of Telegraphic Administrations. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 2/1 Treating it as a vocabulary quarrel to which it would be childish to attach any importance.

Vocabula·tion. *rare*[−1]. [f. as prec. + -ATION.] The use or choice of words.

1891 E. EGGLESTON *Faith Doctor* xiii. 162 A mind .. felicitous in vocabulation and ingenious in the construction of sentences.

†**Voca·buler.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. VOCABULARY *sb.* and -ER[4] 2.] A vocabulary.

1530 PALSGR. 150 By the helpe of the frenche vocabuler. 1706 STEVENS I, *Vocabulario*, a Dictionary, a Vocabuler.

Voca·bulist. Also 6 -iste, -yst(e. [ad. L. type **vocabulista*: see VOCABLE and -IST. So F. *vocabuliste* (1731) in sense 2.]

†**1.** A vocabulary. *Obs.*

1530 BAYNTON in *Palsgr.* Introd. p. xliii, Theyr vocabulistes, which have ben of so many yeres, and by so sondry clerkes agatheryng. 1530 PALSGR. 150 Some fewe sentences whiche the lernar shall fynde before the begynnyng of the sayd vocabulyst.

2. A compiler of a vocabulary.

1545 BALE *Myst. Inig.* 2 After the vocabulystes Tortellius .. Calepinus, Guarin' & soche other vocabulystes. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 147 This is an obsolete phrase, and is not to be found in any vocabulist I know of.

Voca·buline, *v. rare*[−1]. [Cf. prec. and -IZE.] *trans.* To put into words, to utter.

1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 233 He was too much disgusted to speak—too much revolted at me and the ring and all mankind, to vocabuline anything.

Vocal (vō·kăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vōcāl-is* uttering voice, speaking, etc., f. *vōc-*, *vox* voice + -AL. So F., Sp., Pg. *vocal*, It. *vocale*.]

A. *adj.* **I. 1.** Uttered or communicated by the voice; spoken, oral: **a.** Of prayer. (Opposed to *mental*.)

a 1395 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. xxvii. (W. de W. 1494), This manere of prayer whiche is callid vocal. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 159 Bycause this prayer is for the hole chirche, necessary it is that it be vocall, that is to say, eyther songe or distinctly sayd with voyce. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Com. Prayer* Ppp iiij, Let vs se whether the Scriptures .. wyll allow any vocall prayer, that is, when the mouth vttereth the peticions with voyce. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Answ.* ii. (1653) 8 Which Prayers were so farre from being Prescript Formes or Liturgies that they were not vocall but mentall Prayers. 1672 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. vi. 314 If Vocal Prayer be made, as it should, even Mental is an ingredient into it. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) II. xi. 148 Vocal prayer, whether more or less articulate, will be found .. by far the most proportioned to the human .. faculties. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 151 Instead of the ancient severities [of penance], vocal prayers came to be all that was enjoined. 1862 *Lond. Rev.* 26 July 84 The dangers of unreality and self-delusion with which *vocal* prayers were beset. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* 569 St. Benedict supposes that some of his monks will pray after the vocal prayers of the office with tears and application of heart.

b. In other contexts.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 53 b, Why then do they make accompt of it, but as a vocall word, and outward sounde? 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. ix. 278 He is diligent and faithfull in preaching the Gospel: either by his pen .. or by his vocall sermons. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 232 Messengers, who deliver their missives by vocal relation. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 198 Forth came the human pair, And joynd thir vocal Worship to the Quire Of Creatures wanting voice. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 42 When high he sings The vocal lay responsive to the strings. 1737 GRAY *Bard* 120 What strains of vocal transport round her play. 1818 STODDART in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 90/1 It is quite enough that we have one vocal sign, one organic articulation, to advertise the hearer, that what we say is not in the subject of which we speak. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xcii. 1 Silent worship is sweet, but vocal worship is sweeter. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 101 John Hobbs, called always .. George, to distinguish him, in vocal summons, from my father and me.

†**c.** Expressed in words. *Obs.*[−1]

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* III. i. 65 The Pro---y of Possessions .. may be deuided into Vocall and Evidential. Vocall Propriety denotates the Properties of particulars by due Appellation.

d. Of sound: Produced by the voice; *spec.* of the nature of words or speech.

1623 MASSINGER *Bondman* I. iii, If a virgin .. Presume to clothe her thought in vocal sounds, Let her find pardon. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 23 A vibration of those Cartilaginous Bodies which forms that Breath, into a Vocal sound or Voice. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XII. 571 Her Words were in her Clamour drown'd; For my stun'd Ears receiv'd no vocal Sound. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 305/1 If any two human beings can by vocal sounds mutually convey to each other their desires. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Language* I. 19 The mere possession of vocal cries not different from those of animals. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ii. 31 Vocal sound is the Matter of speech.

2. Of music: Performed by, composed for, the voice; that is sung or intended for singing. (Opposed to *instrumental*.)

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XCVIII. ii, O sing, .. Make lute a part with vocall musique beare. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 486 Giving herselfe to learne poesie, and likewise vocall musicke. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 161 Vocal-Musick, performed by Instruments which Nature hath invented for delight, ought not to be set at naught. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 276 The Morning being ushered in with Vocal and Instrumental Musick. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 405 P 8 Vocal and Instrumental Musick were made use of in their Religious Worship. 1795 MASON *Ch. Music* i. 24 When the Greek and Latin writers treat of Instrumental Music .. they seldom, if ever, consider it as separated from Vocal. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 92/1 In the accompaniment to vocal music, much greater freedom of imitation is allowable than in the voice part. 1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 9 Vocal music, regarded historically, takes precedence by its antiquity of instrumental music.

b. Connected with singing. *Vocal score* (see quot. 1876).

1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 535 The vocal taste of Spain must be very much degenerated, or that of France improved, if the same singer can excite equal rapture in the capitals of both countries. 1822 C. BUTLER *Hist. Mem. Eng. Cath.* IV. xcviii. 464 [Ancient Greek music] was governed by rhythm and quarter tones made a part of its regular vocal scale. 1827 CANON AINGER in E. Sichel *Life & Lett.* (1906) 43, I .. shall place myself in a snug corner of the hall, with the vocal score in my hands. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 388/2 A vocal score is (or was formerly understood to be) one in which the voice-parts are written out in full, and the accompaniment (if any) is indicated by a figured bass.

3. a. Having the character of a vowel; vocalic.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xv(ii). (Arb.) 141 The foote (*Tribrachus*) of three short times is very hard to be made by any of our trissillables vnles they be compounded of the smoothest sort of consonants or sillables vocals. 1632 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* To Rdr. 7 Also E vocall, for E dipthong. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* II. s.v. *I*, They give it [*sc.* i, j] a name from its consonant use, we from the vocal. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* I. 279 As their delicate ears could bear none but vocal terminations.

b. Actually uttered or sounded. *rare.*

1781 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 88 P 11 There is reason to believe that the silent e which our ancestors added to the most of our monosyllables, .. was once vocal. 1785 JOHNSON s.v. *E*, Afterwards it [the letter *e*] was in poetry either mute or vocal, as the verse required.

c. *Phonetics.* Uttered with voice (as distinguished from *breath*); voiced, sonant.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. xii. § 2. 369 (*Zh*) the sonorous Consonant, and (*Sh*) its correspondent mute, are framed by a percolation of the breath, betwixt the tongue rendered concave, and the teeth both upper and lower: The first being vocal, the other mute. 1669 W. HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 53 B. is Vocal, Labial, Occlusive. *Ibid.* 58 L. and R. .. are not easie .. to be pronounced spiritally, .. but are apt to get a tincture of Vocal sound. 1864 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 35 The semi-vowels may be subdivided into *vocal* and *aspirated*. The vocal are those which are formed by the voice; the aspirated, those formed by the breath. 1847 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 72 Examples beginning with a vocal letter are found both in the Chinese and in other languages 1874 SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 538 There can be no doubt that the *f* in Early Old English was vocal like the Welsh *f*.

II. 4. Endowed with a voice, possessed of utterance; exercising the power of speech or of uttering sounds.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 233 Brought there were thither .. such [frogs] as would crie in the water: and that whole kind still remaineth vocall. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 190, I am sure neither are Canonicall, neither the meere vocall Preacher, nor the Preaching Auditor. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xxxiv. (1713) 271 As probable as the black Hunter ranging the Forest with his vocal, but invisible, Hounds in Fountainbleau. 1733 POPE *Essay on Man* III. 157, In the same temple, the resounding wood, All vocal beings hymn'd their equal God. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 339 These insects are generally vocal in the midst of summer. *c* 1798 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 529/1 The organs of all vocal animals are so formed, as, upon any particular impulse, to utter sounds. 1877 TYNDALL in *Daily News* 2 Oct. 2/5 Though the mechanical theory of a vocal Heavenly multitude proves untenable.

b. *transf.* Of inanimate things, places, etc.

1646 J. HALL *Poems* 57 Were but this Marble vocall, there such an Elogium would appeare As [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 530 He .. with Serpent Tongue Organic, or impulse of vocal Air, His fraudulent temptation thus began. 1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* X. (1722) 40 How these Oracles were deliver'd, is a Controversie, whether by two Doves that spoke, or by the Leaves of the Oaks themselves, which became Vocal. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 159 The poet's or historian's page, by one Made vocal for th' amusement of the rest. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 160 Many a stream That from the neighbouring hill descended clear Wound vocal thro' the valley. 1825 LAMB *Elia* II. *Superannuated Man*, Stones of old Mincing Lane, .. to the footsteps of what toll-worn clerk are your everlasting flints now vocal? 1837 WILKINSON *Manners & Cust. Anc. Egypt.* II. (1842) I. 59 *note*, The vocal statue of the supposed Memnon is of Amunoph III. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 156 There are seven steam-hammers .. and a remarkably vocal saw for cutting red-hot iron.

c. Of musical instruments. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Oct. 1664, There was brought a new invented instrument of musiq, .. made vocal by a wheele, and a zone of parchment that rubb'd horizontaly against the strings. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXXXVII. ii, Our Harps, no longer vocal now, We cast aside. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. i. 23 Nor chaunt of birds, nor vocal lyre To him can sleep afford. 1760 FAWKES tr. *Anacreon, Ode* i. 5 Rapt I strike the vocal Shell—Hark—the trembling Chords rebel.

5. *fig.* Conveying impressions or ideas as if by speech; expressive, eloquent.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 134 By a mute and silent way it ascendeth, and bringeth all things mortall to a vocall iustice, which speaketh in action though not in voyce. 1608–22 BP. HALL *Epist.* (1643) 328 Accusations are vocall, Apologies dumbe. 1697 EVELYN *Numism.* Introd. 1 Medals .. give me leave to call them) Vocal Monuments of Antiquity. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. xiii. 343 The Multitude of my successive Miseries might become Vocal, and never cease to Importune Thy Mercy. 1724 R. WELTON *Christ. Faith & Pract.* 209 That vocal blood and those speaking wounds. 1897 *Garden* 24 April 294/3 Every leaf is vocal, and the air is full of the moist fragrance of the earth.

Comb. 1649 OWEN *Shaking & Transl. Heav. & Earth* 36 The works of God .. are vocall-speaking works: the minde of God is in them.

b. *spec.* (See quot.) *rare*[−9].

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Arms*, Speaking, or Vocal Arms, are those wherein the Figures bear an Allusion to the Name of the Family.

6. Operative or concerned in the production of voice. Freq. in *vocal chord, organs*, etc.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXXVI. § 14. 318 Who would looke curiously into the motions of the dispositions of a beastes vocal instruments. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., Vocal nerves are those noble sinews, which have the vertue of forming the speech. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Recurrent Nerves*, by some called *Vocal*, because they are spent upon the Instruments of Speech. 1731 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 208 What these vocal organs precisely are, is not in all respects

agreed by philosophers and anatomists. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 429/2 The upward current of air passing through the larynx produces an effect on the vocal ligaments. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* vii. 178 These sharp free edges of the glottis are the so-called vocal chords or vocal ligaments. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 391/2 The vocal bands deserve a separate notice on account of their great physiological importance.

b. *spec.* Connected with the utterance of vowel-sounds.

1887 *Alien. & Neurol.* VIII. 7 The vocal (vowel) mechanism is the first that is manifested in the child.

7. Of or belonging to the voice (+ or sound).

1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 4 In the report of a Piece, the eye being the nimbler sense, discernes the discharge before any intelligence by conduct of the vocall Wave arrive at the eare. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 1 Though his [Charles's] vocall impediment accompanyed him till the fatall stroke. 1795 MASON *Ch. Music* ii. 154 They must still endeavour to hit that precise medium in the vocal faculty, which pronounces and sings at the same time. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxii, Mr. Quilp was certainly entertaining himself with vocal exercise. 1862 H. W. FULLER *Dis. Chest* 1. iii. 18 This 'vocal fremitus' is more pronounced in adults than in children. 1881 LADY HERBERT *Edith* 6 Indifferent to everything but his child's beauty and vocal talents.

b. Of the nature of voice or sound.

a 1826 HEBER *Transl. Pindar* II. 158 Of vocal shafts..that wildly fly. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* xliv, 'Tis the eyes that shoot out vocal light.

8. Full of voice or sound; sounding, resounding. Also const. *by, with.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 204 Hill, or Valley, Fountain, or fresh shade Made vocal by my Song. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IV. 4 Sicilian Muse prepare To make the vocal Woods deserve a Consul's care. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 140 Such plain roofs as Piety could raise, And only vocal with the Maker's praise. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 247 She flies the vocal grove, and shuns the society of all the feathered choir. 1823 BYRON *Age of Bronze* xi, This was not the method of old Rome, When Tully fulmined o'er each vocal dome. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* viii. 288 The inland streams..are vocal in spring with the shrill chirping of millions of frogs. 1868 FARRAR *Silence & V.* i. (1875) 8 When all the air is vocal with whispering trees, and singing birds.

9. Readily or freely expressing oneself in speech; giving vent to one's views or opinions.

1871 SMILES *Charac.* ix. (1876) 236 The modern English, as compared..with their nimbler more communicative and vocal neighbours, the modern French and Irish. 1881 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Feb. 1/1 That policy [of coercion in Ireland] may have done something to pacify..an influential and highly vocal class in England. 1887 *Ibid.* 4 March 1/2 The most vocal class in the whole community, as the legal profession may fairly be described.

B. *sb.* **1. a.** A vowel. *Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* To Rdr. (Arb.) 14 Where the next word following beginneth with a vocal. 1585 — *Treat. Irel.* 9/2 in *Holinshed* I, In corruption of common talke we find that (u) with his vocale is enailie lost and suppressed; so we saie ere for euer [etc.].

†**b.** A voiced consonant. *Obs.*

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 78 To soften the Occluse Gingival Consonants, by a kind of..addition of a Spirital..to a Vocal producing the Vowel.

2. Vocal faculty; power of speech.

1838 MRS. BROWNING *Seraphim* II. 112 Hath language left thy lips, to place Its vocal in thine eye?

3. A member of a Roman Catholic body who has a right to vote in certain elections.

a 1650 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 109 In Conaght, on the 15th of August, 1650, all the vocalls of the whole province there apeeringe, and of Carons faction.. were the undernamed (though not all, but some, before theire transgression were vocalls). 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A Man must have been a Religious a certain number of Years, to be a Vocal. 1811 W. JACOB *Trav. S. Spain* 64, I am afraid I should only create disgust were I to dwell on other characters among the vocals, as they are designated.

Vocalic (vōkæ·lik), *a.* [f. VOCAL *a.* + -IC. Cf. F. *vocalique.*]

1. Rich in vowels; composed mainly or entirely of vowels.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxii, The Gaelic language being uncommonly vocalic is well adapted for sudden and extemporaneous poetry. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xvi. I. 473 Its richness, its flexibility and capacity of new combinations, its vocalic abundance and metrical pronunciation. 1859 PATTESON in Miss Yonge *Life* (1874) I. 430 Their language is all vocalic and so easy to put into writing.

b. Characterized by a vowel or vowels.

1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* ii. 92 The varying vocalic forms of the Imperfect [tense]. 1887 A. S. COOK *Sievers' O. E. Gram.* 129 Vocalic or strong declension.

2. Consisting of a vowel or vowels; of the nature of a vowel.

1852 in *Jrnl. Ethnol. Soc.* (1854) III. 264 The series of vocalic and consonantal sounds. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 25 The sing. accusative ending in a vowel or a vocalic consonant. 1874 A. B. DAVIDSON *Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 102 Sometimes the vocalic termination is written with *yod.* 1891 A. L. MAYHEW *O. E. Phonology* 19 In final unaccented syllables e was developed from a vocalic liquid or nasal.

3. Of or pertaining to, affecting or concerning, a vowel or vowels.

1862 GRAHAM *Eng. Word-Bk.* Introd., In words of Gothic origin we more frequently find that internal vocalic and consonantal changes are employed to produce the new word. 1876 DOUSE *Grimm's Law* 171 Of the corresponding vocalic affections, the palatal..is as much European as Aryan. 1876 BLACKIE *Lang. & Lit. Scot. Highl.* I. 63 No man with an ear will deny vocalic depth..to the following lines.

Vocalion (vōkæ·liən). [f. VOCAL *a.* + -ION.] A musical instrument of the nature of a harmonium with broad reeds, producing sounds somewhat resembling the human voice.

Invented in 1882 by J. Baillie Hamilton.

1882 *Daily News* 17 Apr. 2/2 The vocalion resembles in form a small organ, and is constructed of various dimensions, some having but one row of keys (or manuals), others having two keyboards and pedals. 1889 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* IV. 320 A main peculiarity of the Vocalion is that the reeds are placed above the pallets and below the slides.

Vocalism (vō·kălĭz'm). [f. VOCAL *a.* + -ISM. Cf. F. *vocalisme*, mod.L. *vocalismus*, in sense 2 b.]

1. The exercise of the voice or vocal organs in speech.

1864 WEBSTER, *Vocalism*, the exercise of the vocal organs. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr* I. ii. 11 Rough and violent intonations embodied in mimetic vocalism the harsh, the painful, the agitating passions. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 19 We should now be talking in monosyllables, and eking out our scantiness of vocalism by nods, shrugs, winks, and other resources of pantomime.

b. The art of exercising the voice in singing.

1884 SALA *Journ. due South* I. xx. (1887) 255 Italian vocalism seems to me to be extremely beautiful everywhere save in Italy itself, where singing out of tune..seem[s] to be the rule. 1889 *Daily News* 28 June 2/3 A professor of vocalism to the family of the Prince and Princess of Wales. 1903 *Sat. Rev* 16 May 614/2 When vocalism is wanted..her vocal art is sufficient for the purpose.

2. A vocal sound or articulation.

1873 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 2) § 126 In the schools, children are allowed to utter such thick-lipped vocalisms as *Moses.*

b. A system of vowels; the use of vowels.

1873 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 2) § 109 There is one dialect of our family which is distinguished for such a vocalism, and that is Mœso-Gothic. 1891 A. L. MAYHEW *O. E. Phonology* Pref. p. v, The subject of my book is the Vocalism and Consonantism of Old English or Anglo-Saxon.

Vocalist (vō·kălist). [f. as prec. + -IST. Cf. F. *vocaliste* in sense 2.]

†**1.** An utterer of words; a speaker. *Obs.*—[1]

1613 JACKSON *Creed* II. iv. § 6 The ciuill Magistrates facilitie to countenance euery prating Discontent, or forth-putting Vocalist.

2. A vocal musician; a singer.

1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* II. i, Preparing himself, like certain other accomplished vocalists, with a few preliminary hems and haws. 1858 H. SPENCER *Ess.* I. 370 Now, in singing, this tremulousness of voice is very effectively used by some vocalists in highly pathetic passages. 1883 STEVENSON *Prince Otto* II. iv. 102 She was a good vocalist; and, even in speech, her voice commanded a great range of changes. *transf.* 1897 G. ALLEN *Type writer Girl* viii. 86 Little vocalists carolled songs without words in the sky overhead.

Hence **Vocali·stic** *a.*, pertaining to vocal music or musicians.

1884 *Bazaar* 12 Dec. 629/2 Vocalistic feats..which would put to shame most of the public singers of the day.

Vocality (vōkæ·lĭti). [f. VOCAL *a.* + -ITY.]

1. The quality of having voice or utterance; the possession or exercise of vocal powers.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 34 Sentences of scripture, expressing the loudnesse and vocality of sinne. 1637 *Divine Lover* 27 Now as concerninge the maner of exercising these Deuotions, it ought cheifly to be done in Spirit and mind, and without any vocalitie at all. 1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* I. xvii. 192 The movements of her eyes and eyelids, and of the intricate muscles of vocality. 1818 *Monthly Mag.* XLVI. 321 If you consider attentively the proportion of vocality needed in articulating each consonant. 1849 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xxiv, Fearing she might not confine herself to vocality. 1865 CARLYLE *Frnth. Gt.* xx. vi. (1872) IX. 122 Cats do execution for a time, but cannot stand the confinement..and object (think with what vocality).

2. The quality or fact of being uttered or utterable; vocal quality or nature.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Vocalitie*, the tune or sound of the voice. 1863 A. MELVILLE BELL *Princ. Speech* 197 When the Stammerer can..keep the tongue and jaw steady during the continuous flow of the vocality of *l.*

b. *pl.* Vocal properties or sounds, *spec.* as displayed in singing.

1867 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Dec., Not understanding the words, I lose the benefit of the vocality of the musick, and it proves only instrumental. 1774 'J. COLLIER' *Mus. Trav.* (1775) 91, I was informed..that I could not see him, as he was then busied in performing his vocalities. 1833 J. RUSH *Philos. Human Voice* iii. (ed. 2) 55 The five tonic sounds to which the vocalities of the subtonics bear a resemblance, are *ee-i, oo-ze, a-rr, e-nd, i-n.* 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVIII. 510 What in all the vocalities of Nature is there to compare with..this cloistered melodist?

3. *Phonetics.* The quality of being (*a*) voiced or (*b*) vocalic.

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 58 L. and R. being in extreams, one of Roughness, the other of Smoothness and freeness of Vocality, are not easie..to be pronounced spiritally. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 402 My present Design..is to give a List of Vowels, whereby to discriminate, as conveniently as may be, all the Instances of Vocality that occur, distinctly, in the English Language. 1874 SWEET in *Trans Philol. Soc.* 538 Even in the present literary English we find initial vocality still preserved in the words *eden* (from *fæsn*), *ewt* and *ekren.*

Vocalization (vō·kălaizē'·shən). [f. next + -ATION. or ad. F. *vocalisation* (1835).]

1. The action of vocalizing or the fact of being vocalized; utterance with the voice.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 431/2 In this stammer the difficulty is not to produce voice, but to control its quantities. Vocalisation freely takes place, but [etc.]. 1878 KANE *Amer. Explt.* I. xxx. 410 His vocalisation is something between the mooing of a cow and the deepest baying of a mastiff. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* iv. 73 Mere vocalisations of the movements of the mouth. 1889 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 430 A break will at once occur in the vocalisation of the letter *f.*

b. Mode of utterance or pronunciation, esp. of vowel sounds.

1835 PALEY *Æschylus* 167/1 It is of course uncertain whether the word..is a Greek vocalisation of a Persian word. 1888 BLACKIE in *Athenæum* 22 Dec. 797/2 In the gamut of the vowels..the English have set up a vocalisation of their own. 1873 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 2) § 179 Its French vocalisation has resulted in *toit.*

c. Expression in words or speech.

1887 *Spectator* 5 Nov. 1473 Sir George Trevelyan has this week contributed largely to this vocalisation of the Home-rulers' case.

2. *Mus.* The action or art of producing musical sounds with the voice; exercise of the voice in singing.

1832 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* xxv. 215 It is not every one who is gifted with the..talent of vocalization. 1863 E. C CLAYTON *Queens of Song* II. 386 Mlle. Piccolomini..bore a certain similitude to the great German singer, though in point of vocalization she was very inferior. 1883 *19th Cent.* May 867 On a visit to the Zoological Gardens,..I heard..illustrations of nearly all the principal subjects belonging to the repertoire of technical vocalisation.

b. *spec.* The action of singing upon a vowel to one or more notes.

1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 321 Vocalisation is therefore one part of the operation of pronunciation, the other being articulation.

3. The insertion of vowel-signs in forms of writing consisting mainly or entirely of consonants.

1845 PITMAN *Man. Phonography* (ed. 7) 27 Vocalization of double Consonants. 1847 *Ibid.* (ed. 8) 35 Vocalization of Words. 1848 *Athenæum* 10 June 572/2 The question of vocalization..is one of the highest importance in Biblical criticism. 1883 A. ROBERTS *O. T. Revision* vii. 145 The important subject of vocalization..here falls to be more particularly considered.

4. *Phonetics.* Conversion into a voiced sound.

1874 SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 539 It seems, therefore, that the vocalization of initial (and also medial) *s* in English is merely a case of levelling, caused by the analogy of the vocal *ð* and *v.*

5. The utterance of vowel sounds.

1887 *Alien. & Neurol.* VIII. 7 Vocalization (vowelizing) is the expression of an emotion, an indistinct sensation, not an idea.

Vocalize (vō·kălaiz), *v.* [f. VOCAL *a.* + -IZE. Cf. F. *vocaliser* (1835), Pg. *vocalisar*, *-izar*, Sp. *-izar*, It. *-izzare.*]

1. *trans.* To form into voice; to make audible by utterance; to utter or articulate.

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 30 It is one thing to Breath, or give an Impulse to breath alone; another thing, to vocalize that breath, *i. e.* in its passage through the Larynx to give it the sound of Humane Voyce. *Ibid.* 80 The Vowels are made by a free passage of Breath Vocalized through the cavity of the Mouth. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 119 Every breath of moving air may continue articulate, especially if vocaliz'd in Sir S. Moreland's trumpet. 1867 A. MELVILLE BELL *Visible Speech* 91 A faithful copy of the native pronunciation which readers in all countries will vocalize alike. 1889 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 65 A similar inability to control the tongue can be demonstrated by making the patient vocalise *r.*

b. To sing.

1798 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 246 Our small company had vocalized all the songs in the opera, in such a manner as I never heard them executed upon any theatre in London. 1851 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 213 How would you like to see me..scoring up semibreves on a staff for half a dozen Rustics to vocalize?

2. *Phonetics.* **a.** To convert into a vowel.

1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 249 It is true that the objectionable sound might be..got rid of..by vocalizing the second consonant, especially if a labial. 1872 KENNEDY *Public. Sch. Lat. Gram.* 8 § 12 Poets sometimes vocalise v-consonans before a vowel: as *sil-u-a* for *sil-va.* 1891 A. L. MAYHEW *O. E. Phonology* 67 Ea = au, the u of which is the w vocalized when standing at the end of a syllable.

b. To utter with voice (as distinguished from *breath*); to render sonant.

1836 SMART *Pronouncing Dict.* p. xxx, *s* is always vocalized, that is, pronounced as *z*, when, in forming the plural of a noun..it can be so pronounced. 1848 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 169 If we were asked why the Cochin-Chinese vocalized the *p*, it would be difficult to give any other reason than that some languages are distinguished..by the softness of their pronunciation.

3. To endow with voice; to render vocal or articulate.

1858 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) IV. 219 In this way, by turns, you vocalize the whole Union, and make the growing chorus of the Revolution rise from every part of it. 1872 SYMONDS *Introd. Study Dante* 226 It was not merely the painting of his age that Dante absorbed into himself and vocalized.

4. To furnish with vowels or vowel-signs.

1845 PITMAN *Man. Phonography* (ed. 7) 27 These series of double consonants are vocalized in the following manner. 1889 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* X. 232 Arabic books, especially Arabic poetry, are vocalised in the East as well as in the West.

5. *intr.* To perform vocal music; to sing.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 303 He..would therefore endeavour to vocalise, if an auditory were to be found. 1879 H. JAMES *Daisy Miller* II. I. 69 The young lady, who was still strolling along in front of them, softly vocalising.

b. *spec.* (See quots.)

1873 H. C. Banister *Music* 254 *Vocalise*, to sing with several notes to one vowel, as distinguished from Sol-faing, or Sol-misation. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 381 To vocalise is.. to sing upon a vowel, whether one note or a series of notes, in contradistinction to singing to separate syllables.

Hence **Vo·calised** *ppl. a.*; **Vo·calising** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Vo·caliser**, one who vocalizes or gives expression (to something).

1882 A. Macfarlane *Consanguinity* 17 "Vocalised equivalent fayoyo. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 3/1 The sweetest and most delicately vocalised dialect in Britain. 1901 H. Murray *R. Buchanan* 81 Browning and Tennyson, .. as the typical "vocalisers of modern religious thought. 1863 A. Melville Bell *Princ. Speech* 164 The glottis is in the "vocalising position, and the breath in passing through it creates sonorous vibration. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 452 There is great danger of vocalising with the short inspiration.

Vo·caller. *rare*—1. [f. Vocal *a.*] = Vocalist 2.

1876 Hesant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* xviii, Presently that young lady discovers that she is not likely to get cracked up as a vocaller.

Vocally (vō·kăli), *adv.* [f. Vocal *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. In a vocal manner, by or with the voice; in spoken words.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* (1892) 15 As to the thirde [name] vocally, for as moche as by the voys he was callyd Jhesus. 1616 A. Roberts *Treat. Witchcraft* Title-p., Her contract vocally made betweene the Deuill and her, in solemne termes. 1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 74 Neither Moses nor Joshua were Usurpers, though not vocally chosen by the people. 1659 B. Jones *Hermælogium* 42 In that the first and second persons of the Verb be aswell digitally as vocally notified. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. iii. (1840) 108 By whispering to her vocally when she was asleep. 1782 Eliz. Blower *Geo. Bateman* II. 136 The valet, though he durst not vocally express his admiration.., yet leered familiarly. 1848 R. J. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* xii. (1852) 302 That which we in all our prayers and thanksgivings do vocally,..the ancient Church..did visibly. 1847 Emily Brontë *Wuthering H.* i, I' never told my love vocally. 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* ii. 8 The dog..gave vent to little sobs in a wild attempt to vocally describe his gladness.

b. Contrasted with *mentally*.

a 1638 Mede *Whs.* (1672) 366 That which every Christian doth mentally and vocally, when he commends his prayers to God the Father through Jesus Christ. 1672 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. vi. 315 Whence it falls out, that those, who in this manner pray vocally, are very often by God exalted.. to Contemplation. 1738 Waterland *Chr. Sacrifice Expl.* App. 59 In Baptism..we represent and commemorate mentally, vocally, and manually, (in Mind, and by Mouth, and by significant Actions) the Death and Burial of Christ our Lord. 1872 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xxi. 2 Jesus prayed vocally as well as mentally.

2. By means of singing; in vocal music.

1716 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5487/3 Mr. Purcell's Te Deum will be vocally and instrumentally performed. 1724 *Ibid.* No. 6324/2 An Anthem..will be vocally and instrumentally performed. 1872 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* lvii. 8 Vocally and instrumentally will I celebrate thy worship. 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 134/3 Madame Suzanne Adams was successful vocally.

3. In respect of vowels.

1873 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 2) § 647 Those syllables which are vocally of the lowest consideration.

Vo·calness. [f. Vocal *a.*] (See quot.)

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vocalness*, a vocal Quality. [Hence in later Dicts.]

†Vocate, *sb. Obs.* Forms: α. 4–5 **voket**, 4–5 **vokett-**, 5 **vokett**, **vokyte**. β. 4 **vok-**, **vocate**, 5 **vocat**. [Aphetic f. *avoket*, *avocat* Advocate *sb.*] An advocate, in various senses.

α. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5402 Ȝyf þou yn falsehede so moche ȝede,..To consente to a fals luggyng, Or hyredyst a voket to swyche þyng. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 315/113 We han euer a good voket To foren his holi fader set. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* III. 61 Were bede to þat brudale..vytailers and vokettus of þe Arches. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 680/31 *Hic causidicus*, a vokyte. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lii 372 (Add MS.), Bi the foxe are vndirstondyn vokettes, prelates of causes temporall, courteers, Iurrours, and wily men. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 404/1 (A.), A Vokett, *vbi* A plettere.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20927 (Göt.) Paule, bat saul had first to nam..First he was þe iuus vocate [*Cott.* auocate], And ayden he come till postil state. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 60 Were boden to þe bridaile..vitaillers and vokates of þe arches. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4847 My wondys I geue..To plete for hem when they ha nede..I make ther vocat of my blood. ? 14.. in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 525 Receyvoures, Procutours, Vocatis. 1509 Fisher *Wks.* (1876) 282 Our sauyour Ihesu is..a suffycyent vocate for vs before the face of his fader. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 516 A vocat named Peter Puysour, and a felowe of his named maister John Godarde.

†Vocate, *v. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vocāt-*, ppl. stem of *vocāre* to call.] *trans.* To call or summon.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 40 Your realme to the which you be bothe (as you saye) inheritoure, and by your people accercited and vocated vnto.

Vocation (*vokē*·ʃən). Forms: 5–7 **vocacion**, 5 **-ciouu**, 5–6 **-cyon**, **-tiouu**, 6 **vocatiouu**, 6– **vocation**. [a. OF. *vocacion*, *-ation* (F. *vocation*, = Sp. *vocacion*, Pg. *vocação*, It. *vocazione*), or ad. L. *vocātiōn-*, *vocātio*, noun of action f. *vocāre* to call summon.]

1. The action on the part of God of calling a person to exercise some special function, especially of a spiritual nature, or to fill a certain position; divine influence or guidance towards a definite (esp. religious) career; the fact of being so called or directed towards a special work in life; natural tendency to, or fitness for, such work.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10808 Thapostles..By choys & by ellecciouu And also by vocaciouu,..kam to hym. 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* i. 1 Paul by vocacion the Apostle of Jesus Christ thorowe the will of god. 1528 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 107 Of Saynt Thomas of Cantourbury..I beleve and..trust yf that he were .. of oure lordes vocacion (etc.). 1649 F. Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 92 His Vocation or calling by God to be Governour of Israel in Moses stead, is repeated. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 128 A Cordelier,..being at Gon, moved with a pious vocation, went to preach the Gospel in these parts. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., 'Tis a Rule, that none are to enter the Ecclesiastick or Monastick State, without a particular Vocation, or Call. 1783 *Diary Blue Nuns* in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VIII. 126 Peggy Johnson [a postulant] left our house haveing no vocation. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iv. (1904) 117 Luther and Knox were by express vocation Priests, and did faithfully perform that function in its common sense. 1852 Ld. Cockburn *Jeffrey* I. 353, I wish I had more of the inward vocation to the holy office. 1888 Bernard *Fr. World to Cloister* i. 5 You see, it is a question of vocation—where I am called there must I go.

b. The action on the part of God (or Christ) of calling persons or mankind to a state of salvation or union with Himself; the fact or condition of being so called. (Cf. Calling *vbl. sb.* 9.)

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. v. P vj, As the deuyll blyndeth the synner, so he hym maketh to lose the herynge of the vocacyon that our lorde vnto hym maketh. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 262 b, That vnspeke mercy that thou shewed in theyr vocacyon or callynge. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. 306 As by vocation and election God maketh his elect. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Amos* comm., Foreshewing..the vocation of al Nations to Christ. 1646 E. Fisher *Marrow Mod. Divin.* (ed. 2) 186 Therefore sayth he you must not look for sanctification, till you come to Christ in vocation. 1672 *Disc. Evangelical Love* 33 There is Vocation, or an effectual Calling to the knowledg of Christ by the Gospel. *a* 1771 J. Gill *Expos. O. T. Ps.* cxiv 1 (1810) IV. 192/1 An emblem of the Lord's people in effectual vocation, coming out of bondage into liberty.

is set forth in these three doorways.

c. *Vocation of the Gentiles* (cf. Acts x. 45, etc.). So F. *la vocation des Gentils* (Calvin).

1649 F. Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 611 Vocation of the Gentiles, and many spirituall Priviledges of the Church. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 129 They pitch on Twelfday, as that on which sometime happened the vocation of the Gentiles.

2. The particular function or station to which a person is called by God; a mode of life or sphere of action regarded as so determined. (Cf. Calling *vbl. sb.* 10.)

1487 Caxton *Bk. Good Manners* d vi b (Stanf.), The pryncipal of theyr vocacyon is for to defende the fayth. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iv. D iiij, Yf they [*sc.* kings] gouerne truely the realme of theyr conscyence and the estate of theyr vocacyon. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* iii. 15 He wil gyue grace to the kyng, to walke in his vocacyon. 1565 Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 129 Gregory Nazianzen leaving the bishoprick of Constantinople, much..serche was made to finde a worthy man to occupy that high vocation. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. ix. 281 Heaven is his vocation, and therefore he counts earthly employments avocations. *a* 1792 V. Knox *Serm.* xxiii. 507 Let us go forth to our various employments, resolved to walk worthy of our Christian vocation. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xxii, 'I shall probably take the veil.'..'The vocation will fit you to a hair', I thought. 1888 Liddon in *Chr. World Pulpit* XXXIV. 388 In some quarters, the missionary's life..is regarded as a profession rather than as a vocation.

b. One's ordinary occupation, business, or profession. (Cf. Calling *vbl. sb.* 11.)

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 95 b, By vocation of life a souldiour is counted a great bragger, and a vaunter of hymselfe. 1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* I. Ded. 5 The same hath..commended suche unto her highnes..as officers right worthy their vocations. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 114 Why, Hal, 'tis my Vocation Hal; 'Tis no sin for a man to labour in his Vocation. 1620 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* 13 If there bee any in our vocation or calling, that liue disorderly and out of compasse, what trade can you name that doe not the like. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* i. 12 Vsefull necessaries for our vocations, and callings. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 118, I cannot but be sorry that he hath undertaken this desperate vocation. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 304 P 3 Your Petitioner's Ancestor..was the first of that Vocation in Britain; who..was by way of Eminency called the Stationer. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 242 It is idle to write a panegyric on the greatest man in any vocation. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk* II. 356 In addition to his other vocations, he was the singing-master of the neighbourhood. 1872 Ainsworth *Tower Hill* I. i, A droll-looking wight, whose vocation was proclaimed by his motley garb. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 554 The vocations of the women..expose them to sudden changes of temperature.

c. *collect.* Those who follow a particular business or profession.

1587 Harrison *England* II. v. (1877) I. 132 Euerie function and seuerall vocation striueth with other. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 289 It is comely that euery estate and vocation should be knowen by the differences of their habit. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 137 Some Lawes are addressed..to particular Provinces; some to particular Vocations; and some to particular Men.

3. A call *to* a public position.

1583 G. Mary in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. vi. 20 ...yance the tyme of her vocation to the crowne.

b. The action, on the part of an ecclesiastical body, of calling a person to the ministry or to a particular office or charge in the Church. (Cf. Calling *vbl. sb.* 3 b.)

1578 *2nd Bk. Discipline* iii, Vocatioun or calling..is ane lauchfull way, be the quhilk qualifeit personis is promotit to ane spirituall office within the kirk of God. 1588 Udall *Demonstr. Discipl.* (Arb.) 67 The gouernors of the Church may not meddle, but onely in church-matters, as for example, vocation, and abdication. 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Ceremon.* III. viii. 195 As the vocation of Ministers pertaineth to the whole Church, so to the same also pertaineth the removing of Ministers. 1847 tr. *Bunsen's Ch. of Future* v. 116 Here the natural and historical form, that of call (or vocation) meets us at once. It is recognised as belonging to the congregation. 1880 Hook *Lives Abps.* I. i. 8 A vocation to pastoral duty in the manufacturing districts demanded.. his energies for five and thirty years.

†4. ? Designation, title. *Obs.*—1

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 116 Knowest not thou wel that enery man of noble name or vocacion is holden & bounden to paye and holde his promesse.

†5. The action of summoning an assembly or its members. *Obs. rare.*

c 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 272 Befoir Cupide..[he] Speiris the caus of that vocatioun. 1772 *Hartford Merc.* Suppl. 28 Sept. 2/1 The letters of vocation for the new Senators appointed by the King of Sweden.

†6. Appeal, entreaty, petition. *Obs. rare.*

1574 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* (1840) I. 98 That ane publict humiliatioun and fast, togidder with an ernest vocatioun and prayar, be institutit. 1587 M. Grove *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 18 Some on Venus, some to Luna make their vocation.

Vocational (vokē·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. Vocation + -al.] Of, pertaining or relating to, a vocation or occupation.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 204 It [i.e. prophecy] was a gift, or grace, not so much personal as vocational; pertaining not to ordinary duty so much as extraordinary occasion. *a* 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 16 It may fall in the vocational part. Whatever is men's calling or station .. the crook in their lot may take its place therein. 1865 *Athenæum* 27 May 715/3 With these appear the Tilewrights, a vocational name of Saxon Origin, and the Mayers. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* ix. 159 The classes, whether social, vocational, or educational.

Hence **Voca·tionally** *adv.*

1890 Clark Russell *Nelson* xvi. 229 The seamanship of those days, the strategies, the devices,..are no longer of the least value vocationally.

Vocative (vo·kătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **vocatyf**, 6 **vocatyve**, 6–7 **vocatiue** (6 foo-). [a. OF. *vocatif*, *-ive* (mod F. *vocatif* = Sp., Pg., It. *vocativo*), or ad. L. *vocātīv-us* (sc. *casus*; also as sb.), f. *vocāt-*, ppl. stem of *vocāre* to call.]

A. *adj.* 1. *Vocative case*: That case of nouns, adjectives, or pronouns, which in inflected languages is used to express address or invocation.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xci. 418 (Add. MS.), The fyfte is the vocatyf case. 1520 Whittinton *Vulg.* (1527) 1 The verbe shall accorde with his nominative or vocative case. 1549 Lily *Introd. Gram.* B ij, The seconde person is spoken to: as Tu, thou: vos, ye. And of this person is also euery vocatiue case. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. i. 54 What is the Focatiue case (William)? 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* 101 In construing..we begin commonly at a Vocatiue case if there be one. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* IV. vi. 448 Interjections, divers of which are said to govern the Nominative, Dative, Accusative, Vocative Case. *c* 1791 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 42/1 Thus the nominative case would pass into a vocative, of which the use is always to solicit attention. 1867 Brande & Cox *Dict Sci*, etc III. 959 Vocative Case. ..In strictness of speech it is not a case at all. *a* 1892 D. Fraser *Autobiog.* I. 14 Reasoned and didactic prayers—what I once heard well stigmatised as 'sermons in the vocative case'.

b. In fig. context. (Cf. next.)

14.. *Piers of Fulham* 270 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 15 To knowen folke that ben datyff: Their punches be called ablatif; They haue their ijen vocatif.

2. Characteristic of, pertaining to, calling or addressing.

1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 55 To this vocative, alluring and inticing compellation of the Hand. 1827 G. S. Faber *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) III. 112 Pope Gregory, in his first epistle to the Emperor Leo Isauricus,. salutes him with the vocative title of Βασιλεῦ. 1872 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* 162 As to the sense: the O prefixed merely imparts to the title a vocative effect.

B. *sb.* 1. The vocative case.

a 1522 Lily *Gram. Rudim.* in *Colet's Æditio* (1527) A viij, Whan the nominatiue endeth in us, the vocatiue shal ende in e. 1549 — *Introd. Gram.* A vi b, All nounes of the neuter gendre..haue the nominatiue, the accusatyue, and the vocatiue lyke in both numbers. 1647 Jer. Taylor *Lat. Gram.* 5 [In neuter nouns] the nominative, accusative, and vocative are alike in both numbers. 1729 *Lat. Gram.* 6 These Nouns following make their Vocative in *e* or in *us*. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* II, *O*..is often understood both before an accusative and vocative. 1752 Harris *Hermes* II. viii. (1786) 145 *note*, The Vocative..was nothing more than the Form of address in front of names, titles, and epithets. *Ibid.* II. iv. 276 The Vocative..being not only unknown to the modern Languages, but often in the ancient being supplied by the Nominative. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 542/2 Those [Latin nouns] in *ius*, whose nominative, accusative, and vocative..are alike. 1828 Stoddart in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 33/1 The vocative or ablative, which latter some writers have considered as the primary and original case of the noun. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xxxiv, O endless vocatives that would still leave expression slipping helpless from the measurement of mortal folly!

2. An invocation or appeal.

1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. v. 27 The two latter will hardly come neither, if they think it will be to hear your whining vocatives.

Hence **Vo·catively** *adv.*

1662 BP. PEARSON *Creed* (ed. 2) 145 The Nominative may as well stand vocatively without an Article. 1904 BRADLEY *Making of English* 192 To use the word [fellow] vocatively to an equal in the sense of 'comrade'.

‖ Voce. [L. *vōce*, abl. of *vox* voice, word.] Under the word or heading. (Cf. Vo.[1], Voc.)

1838 BELL *Dict. Laws Scotl.* 866 What regards the calling lists has been explained, *voce* Calling a Summons.

Voce, obs. Sc. and north. variant of VOICE.

† Voche, *v. Obs.*[−1] [app. ad. OF. *vocher*, *-ier*: see VOUCH *v.*] *trans.* ? To call or summon.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* 1281 Legyounes of aungeliez togeder uoched þer keaten ansens of swete smelle.

Vochette, error for *rochette* ROCHET.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 7 Ouer their garmentes were vochettes of pleasantes, rouled with Crymsyne veluet, and set w^t^ letters of golde. [Hence in Holinshed.]

Vociferance (vōsi·fĕrăns). [f. next: see -ANCE.] **a.** Clamour or noise of shouting. **b.** Vociferant quality.

1838 S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 168 From darkness came The hydra tongued vociferance. 1855 BROWNING *Master Hugues of Saxe-Gotha* xv, All now is wrangle, abuse and vociferance. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 28 May 2/3 Alternating between a hoarse whisper and a painfully pitched vociferance.

Vociferant (vōsi·fĕrănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vōciferant-*, *vōciferans*, pres. pple. of *vōciferārī*, *-āre*: see next.]

can more than supply each want! 1699 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 214 The most vociferant vulgar..do least know what the matter is. 1685 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* vi. 38 That Themistocles came to Artaxerxes, not to Xerxes,..he proves from a plain narrative, where there is no mention of any vociferant Ecstatical Olbius. 1836 *Westm. Rev.* XXIV. 82 A new race of parsons sprung up, half political leaders, half-fanatical fire-brands..now declaiming in the pulpit, now vociferant in the tavern [etc.]. 1850 BROWNING *Christmas Eve* iv. 28 My mind was full of the scene I had left, That placid flock, that pastor vociferant. 1863 MRS. WHITNEY *Faith Gartney's Girlh* xiv, She..shook first him and then his frock .and carried him, vociferant, to the door.

B. *sb.* A clamorous or noisy person.

1890 *Atlantic Monthly* May 675/2 Strange as it may appear to earnest but misguided vociferants.

Vociferate (vosi·fĕrē[1]t), *v.* [f. *vōciferāt*, ppl. stem of L. *vōciferārī* (rarely *-āre*), f. *vōci-*, *vox* voice + *ferre* to carry. Cf. F. *vociférer*, Sp. and Pg. *vociferar*, It. *vociferare*.]

1. *intr.* To cry out loudly; to bawl, to shout.

1623 COCKERAM I. *Vociferate*, to bray or crie out. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 270 You do so insult and vociferate upon it, like one of your bulky Princes [etc.]. 1768 MARQ. ROCKINGHAM In G. Harris *Life Ld. Hardwicke* (1847) xvi. III. 427 He vociferated beyond even his usual pitch. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XII. 335 So they vociferating to the Greeks, Stirr'd them to battle. 1824 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *Annaline* II. 196 His passion was somewhat exhausted and he ceased to vociferate. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xvii. 202 They were vociferating as if to attract our attention.

2. *trans.* To utter in a loud voice; to shout out clamorously; to declaim or assert with loud vehemence.

The object may be either the words uttered (*a*), or a descriptive noun (*b*).

(*a*) 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 99 Damn'd, damn'd doings! vociferated the Peer. 1797 MRS RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvi, 'You shall not separate me from my master, though', vociferated Paulo. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxi, They vociferated loudly, that those who were not with them were against them. 1852 MRS STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vii, He therefore rode along..vociferating occasionally that 'twas 'desp't rough, and bad for Jerry's foot'. 1871 *Member for Paris* I. 233 'You shall apologise,' vociferated the Bench.

(*b*) 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 2. P 6 The cook warbles her lyrics in the kitchen, and the thrasher vociferates his heroicks in the barn. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* lxxxi. (1819) II. 127 The ignorant plebeian, though he may vociferate the word Liberty in a riot, knows not how to give it an effectual support. 1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* I. 89 The nursery-maid..loudly vociferated the dreadful accident to the astonished servants. 1848 EMILY BRONTË *Wuthering H.* ix, He entered, vociferating oaths dreadful to hear. 1860 F. WINSLOW *Diseases Brain & Mind* iv. 53, I then began to vociferate a number of most incoherent expressions.

3. To drive by means of clamour.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 9 April, It would be worse than disappointing .if Lord Beaconsfield should have been vociferated out of office merely in order to please Montenegro and Bulgaria.

Hence **Vocĭ·ferated** *ppl. a.*; **Vocĭ·ferating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1617 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* II. ii, Beef we can hear before us..And tubs of pork; vociferating veals. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. *Argt.*, Then follow the Exercises for the Poets, of tickling, vociferating, diving. 1782 COWPER *Conversat.* 213 Vociferated logic kills me quite.

Vociferation (vosifĕrē··ʃən). Also 5 vooe-, 5–6 vocyferacion, 6 -cyon, 6 vociferacion. [a. OF. *vociferacion* (mod.F. *vociférations* pl., = Sp. *vociferacion*, Pg. *-ação*, It. *-azione*), or ad. L. *vōciferātiōn-*, *vōciferātio*, noun of action f. *vōciferārī*: see prec. and -ATION.]

1. An act or instance of loud speaking or shouting; a clamour or outcry.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 145 Þe vocyferacions Of the gret glawmours & þe sownes War herd in entring of þe place. 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 C ij, Ye ought to haue cure of all the body in strengthyng it with dyuers exercytacyons, testynges, and vociferacions. 1609 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 619 Howbeit, in this exercise we must beware of over-loud vociferations and clamours. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 54 P 5 When our young Heralds are exercis'd in the Faculties of making Proclamation, and other Vociferations. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 18 P 4, I can bear the vociferations of either sex without catching any of the fire from those that utter them. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 167 How mean and trivial are the vociferations in defence of property. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxvii. 550 Without paying any attention to his vociferations we went on.

2. The action of vociferating; the utterance of loud outcries or shouts; loud and vehement exercise of the voice.

1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 43 With terrible vociferacion They made wonderfull exclamacion The worde of god to subverte. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 29 b, The people ..woulde openly crye and make vocyferacion that God dyd take vengeance. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* III. xxviii. (1639) 148 It is manifest that vociferation and crying out.. doth greatly helpe in this evill. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 118 Such exercises as gently dilate and extend the Breast, as shooting, vociferation, commotion of the Arms. 1722 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 407 P 2 Violent Gesture and Vociferation naturally shake the Hearts of the Ignorant. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* VII. lxxxvi. (1762) I. 400 They modulate their voices to a tone consistent with pious thoughts, without that extravagant vociferation practised in some churches. 1820 SCOTT *Let* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. xi. 368 The whole mob of the Middlesex blackguards..almost drive me mad with their noise and vociferation. 1862 BORROW *Waltsiv*, There was plenty of vociferation, but not one single burst of eloquence. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* ii. 58 That wounderfully busy scene of embarkation and disembarkation, and of noisy Arab vociferation.

b. Const. *of* (the words uttered).

1780 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 325 Having after some confused vociferation of 'Hear him—hear him!' obtained a silent attention.

† Vocĭ·ferative, *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. as VOCIFERATE *v.* + -IVE.] Vociferous.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 50 With dismall crying and vociferatiue inculcating vnto her.

Vocĭ·ferator (vosi·fĕrē·tər). [f. VOCIFERATE *v.*, or ad. L. *vōciferātor* (Tertullian). Cf. F. *vociférateur*, Sp. and Pg. *vociferador*.] One who or that which vociferates; a clamorous or noisy shouter.

1814 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) II. 50, I dare say I shall put up with their noises till spring, when certainly you shall have the advantage of at least one of the little vociferators. 1844 *Ann. Reg.* 172 A numerous herd of vociferators in favour of arbitrary power. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct. (Cassell's), He defied the vociferators to do their worst.

Vocĭfero·sity. *rare*[−1]. [f. next: see -OSITY.] The quality or state of being vociferous.

1837 CARLYLE *Misc., Mirabeau* (1857) IV. 90 Shall we give poor Buffière's testimonial in mess-room dialect; in its native twanging vociferosity?

Vocĭ·ferous (vosi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *vōcifer-ārī* (see VOCIFERATE *v.*) + -OUS.]

1. Uttering loud cries or shouts; clamorous, bawling, noisy.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 83 Thrise three vociferous heralds rose to checke the rout, and get Eaie to their Ioue-kept gouernoie. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 121, I sailed into a Presbyterian Meeting..where the vociferous Holder-forth was as bold and saucy, as if the Deity and all Mankind had owed him Money. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. ix, Mr. Allworthy had been before silent, from the same cause which had made his sister vociferous. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 299 The boorish driver leaning o'er his team Vociferous, and impatient of delay. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* Proem xviii, The restless joy Of those glad girls, and that vociferous boy! 1834 JAMES *J. Marston Hall* vii, My companions were very vociferous 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 56 The whole audience instead of being mute became vociferous.

transf. 1850–1 LONGF *Gold. Leg.* Prol., Sp. iv, Hover downward! Seize the loud, vociferous bells, and..to the pavement Hurl them from their windy tower.

fig. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 565/1 Mr. Cody..could scarcely design a vulgar and vociferous work if he tried.

b. Applied to birds.

1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 94 Vociferous Eagle, *Falco Vociferus*. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. ii. (1820) 170 Flocks of vociferous geese cackled about the fields.

2. Of the nature of vociferation; uttered with or accompanied by clamour; characterized by loud declamation.

1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Piper* 144 All he reades, he puts into his pipe: which consisting of three notes breaks out into a most vociferous syllogisme. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 99 Though candour and benevolence are silent virtues, they are as visible as the most vociferous ill-nature. 1826 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II v. 196 Popular gratitude is as vociferous as it is sudden. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 283 Jealousy of their good name now prompted them to the most vociferous vindications of their innocence. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* i, Showing by his answers that he was but vaguely hearing the vociferous talk of his companions.

Vocĭ·ferously (vosi·fĕrəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a vociferous manner; with great noise or vehemence.

1826 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* viii. 162 Meantime the Hamsalls and Goulash, Vociferously call'd to 'Sahib'. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* IV. xi, The little dog began barking vociferously. 1883 F. C. CLAYTON *Queens of Song* II. 113 All Paris thronged to admire..and applauded vociferously.

Vocĭ·ferousness (vosi·fĕrəsnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being vociferous.

1842 MACGILLIVRAY *Man. Brit. Ornith.* II. 93 The Tattlers ..being equally remarkable for their timidity, vociferousness, and the balancing motion of their bodies. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xxix, The voice..came in deep tones, more feminine than any shrillness, and more impressive than vociferousness.

† Vocification. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vōci-*, *vox* voice + -FICATION. Cf. L. *vōcificāre* to shout.] Articulate speech or utterance.

1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* III. 19 He breathes and pathetically bleeds out this vocification. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 744 You, Sir,..are not to be informed, that vocification is performed in the *asperæ arteriæ*.

Vo·citate, *v. rare*[−1]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *vocitāre* (frequentative of *vocāre* to call), after *vociter* in Rabelais.] *trans.* To name or call.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. vi, From the alme, inclyte, and celebrate Academie, which is vocitated [*i. que l'on vocite*] Lutetia.

Vocita·tion. *rare*[−1]. [f. as prec. + -ATION.] Shouting, outcry.

1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* v. 518 With lungs Stentorian here, affrights the crowd, And Ilium scares with vociations loud.

† Vockeel, obs. variant of VAKEEL 1.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 115 In Town there are many private Merchants that bear a Port equal to our Europe Companies, being only Vockeels or Factors for money'd Men up the Country.

Vocular (vǫ kiū·lăr), *a. rare.* [f. L. *vōcula* VOCULE + -AR.]

1. Vowel, vocalic.

1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* (ed. 2) 1036 The vocular sound in bread.

2. Vocal.

1838 DICKENS *O Twist* vii, Something which would render the series of vocular exclamations so designated [*sc.* howling], an involuntary process.

Voculation. *rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *vōculātio*, f. *vōcula*: see next.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Voculation*, the accent of every word, the due moderation and measuring the voice in pronouncing a word.

Vocule (vǫ kiūl). [ad. L. *vōcula*, dim. of *vox* voice.] The faint final sound produced in pronouncing certain consonants.

1833 J. RUSH *Philos. Human Voice* III. 55, I have called this last vented sound of the subtonics the Vocule. *Ibid.* xlii. 273 When the articulative occlusion .. is removed, there is a slight momentary issue of voice which completes the structure of these sounds. This is called the Vocule.

Vod, obs. Sc. f. WOOD *sb.* and *a.* **Vodder,** southern ME. var. FODDER *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WEATHER. **Vode,** southern ME. var. FOOD *sb.*; obs. Sc. var. VOID *a.*, WOOD *a.* **Vodeness,** obs. Sc. f. WOODNESS (madness).

‖ Vodka (vǫ·dkă). Also β. **vodki, -ky**; γ. **votka, votky.** [Russ. ВÓДКА (gen. sing. ВÓДКИ), pronounced (vǫ·tka).] An ardent spirit used in Russia, chiefly distilled from rye, but also from barley, potatoes, or other materials.

α. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) II. 484 The principal imports are..Sekiskaya-Vodka, or brandy distilled from fruit. 1833 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 74 The peasantry still prefer their national brandy, called vodka. 1883 C. READE in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 253/1 A young fellow..brings..me a flask of vodka.

β. 1830 *Edinb. Encycl.* XVII. 514/2 The Russian nobles do not drink ardent spirits, *vodki*, in the morning. 1885 HARE *Russia* I. 24 Vodki (corn brandy) is the chief means of intoxication. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 470/2 Anything which his understanding failed to connect directly with the price of bread and 'vodky'.

γ. 1855 *Englishwoman in Russia* 86 The government revenues are in great part acquired by the sale of votku. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Aug. 7/1 A large tame bear, which had been trained..to drink votky..entered a village tavern.

b. *attrib.*, as *vodka bottle, flask*, etc.

1876 MARY M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* xxxiii, He hastily searched the room and found a vodka flask. 1883 O'DONOVAN *Merv* I. 1 After the fashion of Russia generally, the majority of these [houses] consisted of rum and vodka shops. 1903 *Times* 8 Sept. 7/2 The establishment of the vodka monopoly..strained the resources of Russian credit.

Vodnes, Vodure, obs. Sc. ff. WOODNESS, VOIDER.

Voe (vō[ə]). *Orkn. & Shetl. dial.* [ad. Norw. *vaag* (vǭg), ON. and Icel. *vág-r* (mod. Icel. *vog-r*), bay, inlet.] A bay, creek, or inlet.

a 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 93 *Voes*, a Creek or Bay, or firth, or inlet. *a* 1733 *Shetland Acts* 33 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 201 That none fish with haddock lines within voes from Belton to Martinmas. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* I. 389 The voes, by which the parish (*sc.* Delting) is intersected. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* i, A comfortable roadstead..with the house situated on the side of an inland voe. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 384/1 Tracts of cultivated and fertile land, generally near the voes and the sea-coasts 1879 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 60 In the voes of Orkney, Haco, Thou diust spread thy prideful sail.

attrib. 1898 J. NICHOLSON *Sprigs Heather* 23 He was not long in walking round the voe-head.

Voff, Vofful, obs. Sc. ff. WOLF *sb.*, WOFFUL *a.*

Vogal, vogle. *Cornish mining.* [ad. Cornish *vogva* cavern. Another variant is *fogo*.] = VUG.

1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 278 *Vugh*, or *vugal* ..a cavity. 1860 Worcester (citing Ansted), *Vugia*.

Vogie (vō·gi), *a. Sc.* Also 8 **vougy**, 9 **vogey**. [Of obscure origin.]

1. Vain, proud, conceited.

1719 Ramsay *Epist. Hamilton* Answ. ii. ii, 'Whisht', quoth the vougy jade. 1768 Burns *My Hoggie* 4 My only beast, I had nae mae, And vow but I was vogie! 1789 Ross *Helenore* (ed. 3) 112 Of your consent, he says, I'm mair nor fain, And vogie that I can ca' you my ain. 1832 Galt *Lawrie T.* vii. xi. (1849) 350, I was somewhat vogie of the valour I had shown her so handsomely off-hand.

2. Merry, cheerful, delighted, gay.

1715 in Hogg *Jacobite Relics* (1819) 81 We took a spring, and danc'd a fling, And wow but we were vogie! *a* 1774 Fergusson *Ode to Bee* Poems (1845) 18 The Muse Scuds ear' and heartsome owre the dews, Fu' vogie and fu' blythe to crap The winsome flowers frae nature's lap. 1822 Galt *Provost* xlii, Many among us thought..that we had got a great catch, and they were both blythe and vogie when he was chosen. 1896 in Proudlock *Borderland Muse* 323 He's harmless as yon vogie lamb That loups beside its sleeping dam.

‖ **Vogt** (vōgt, fōgt). Also 7 **vooght**, **vaught**. [a. G. *vogt* (and Du. *voogd*, † *voget*), MHG. *voget*, OHG. *fogat*, ad. med.L. *vocāt-us*: cf. Vocate *sb.*]

A steward, bailiff, or similar official.

1694 Penn *Trav. Holland & Germ.* 91 The Inspector of the Calvinists hath injoined the Vooght, or chief Officer, not to suffer any preaching to be among our Friends. *Ibid.* 109 The Vaught or chief Officer. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 252 He acknowledged them to be hereditary vogts of his church. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 57 The rights of the archbishop being guarded by an advocatus or vogt,..the state was governed by its own landrath.

Voghte, obs. variant of Vault *sb.*[1]

Vogue (vōug), *sb.* Also 6 **vog(e**, *Sc.* **wogue**, 7 **voag**, **vouge**. [a. F. *vogue* rowing, course, success, f. *voguer*, ad. It. *vogare* to row. So It. and Pg. *voga*, Sp. *boga*.]

I. †1. *The vogue*, the principal or foremost place in popular repute or estimation; the greatest currency or prevalence. Chiefly in phrases *to have, bear, carry, get* (etc.) *the vogue*. Now *Obs.*

(*a*) 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 123 Quha hes þe wogue [*printed* wogne], him all þe warld dois wey. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 12/24 As mychtie Monarck rair,..He onlie hes the vog armipotent. 1643 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 290 These are the men that now have the vogue, and..seem to have quite swallowed up both the King's Prerogatives, and those of the Lords. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 17 Democritus having had for many ages almost the general cry and vogue for Atoms. 1731 Medley *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* I. 65 They have the vogue above all the other Hottentot nations for strength and dexterity in throwing the Hassagaye. 1738 *Observ. Brit. Wool* 9 English Woollen Manufactures have had the Vogue and Name for many Years past, all over Europe. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 210 He had published a theory of electricity, which then had the general vogue.

(*b*) *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1735) 380 Such scornful and such partial Persons, as have oftest possessed your Ear and carried the Vogue in your Court. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 47 Though Mustard-seed do carry the Vogue amongst the People. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 123 It bears the Vogue for altering the Blood. 1728 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 152 McFadzean that most bloody Rogue, Who for his Villany did bear the Vogue. 1741 Betterton *Eng. Stage* I. 9 Notwithstanding the Industry of the Patentee and Managers, it seems the King's House then carried the Vogue of the Town.

(*c*) 1685 *Choice Coll. Songs*, '*Fill up the Bowl*' v, While you can find one Factious Rogue, To sway the Poll, and get the Vogue. 1710 Swift *Tatler* No. 230 P 7 Some of which [words] are now struggling for the Vogue, and others are in possession of it. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, I'll..win the vogue at market, tron, or fair, For halesome, clean, cheap and sufficient ware. 1732 Swift *Beast's Confession* Pref., London is seldom without a dozen of their own educating, who engross the vogue for half a winter together.

2. Without article: Popularity; general acceptance or currency; success in popular esteem.

1604 Wilcocks in *Golding's De Mornay* Ded. Pr. Wales (1617) A 2 b, This booke being countenanced, vnder your Patronage and defence, shall haue more vogue, and better acceptance with all sorts. 1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I*, 121 So long as you permit the Schisms of Arminius to have such vogue..in the principal Towns of Holland. 1694 W. Freke *Sel. Ess.* 2 An Author not Licensed by Common Vogue, as well as Authority, looks like one with the Plague-sore upon him. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* vii. Wks. 1768 I. 116 Having observed how little invention bears any vogue, besides what is derived into these channels. 1716 Waterland *Serm. bef. Cambridge Univ.* 21 A good Man has no Security..but by examining carefully what is true, right, and just in it self, separate from common Vogue, or popular Opinion. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 248 To convince you that fashion, vogue,..and law, were the chief foundation of all moral determinations. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Notebks.* I. 154 Mr. —..seems to have a good deal of vogue as a sculptor. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 351 Astrologers, magians, sooth-sayers,..acquired such vogue, as to attract the indignant notice of both satirists and historians.

b. In phr. *in* (or *out of*) *vogue*. Also with adjs. (usually intensive), as *in full vogue*, etc.

(*a*) 1643 Chas. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. III. 297 Though Mars be now most in voag, yet Hymen may bee some tymes remembred. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lix. 242 The Idol which is most in vogue amongst them, and most frequented. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* ii. iv. (1677) 165 The same Words and Phrases that were not used, in former Ages, become in Fashion, Reputation and Vogue in another Age. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* iv. xii, It is highly probable, that such travellers..may, by detecting my errors,..justle me out of vogue and stand in my place. 1738 — *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 42 My Book would be out of Vogue with the first Change of Fashion. 1747 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 297 Corruptions of the grossest sort have been in vogue, for many generations. 1787 Bentham *Def. Usury* x. 98 A method much in vogue was, to let the Jews get the money..and then squeese it out of them as it was wanted. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 274 The writers whom you suppose in vogue,..have long since had their day. 1842 Newman *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) V. ix. 141 The influence of some system of religion which is in vogue. 1879 Proctor *Pleas. Ways Sc.* ii. 30 The system of lunar weather wisdom in vogue to this day among seamen.

(*b*) 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 101 Letters are in no vogue in that Country, and profound Ignorance reigns among them. 1692 Sprat *Wicked Contrivance* II. 15 The Popish-Plot having been just before in full vogue there, as well as here. 1741 Betterton *Eng. Stage* i. 8 During this Interval, many Plays were brought upon the Stage written in Heroic Rhime: and..in 1668..it became still in greater Vogue. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 35 The following popular song is said to be in great vogue. 1838 James *Louis XIV*, IV. 83 As the system of conversion [to the Roman Catholic faith] was at that time in high vogue.

c. In phr. *to bring* or *put*, *to come* or *start*, etc., *into* (or *in*) *vogue*.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 Nov. 1694, It had been brought into vogue by Mr. Tudor an apothecary. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* Misc. Wks. 1736 III. 13 To bring the study of Medals in vogue. 1750 Chesterf. *Lett.* ccxviii. (1792) II. 341 Without which they..would be vilified by those very gallantries which put them in vogue. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 176 What would the mathematician give to know the newest fashions as they start into vogue, or be let into all the scandal and tittle-tattle of the town? 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. lxii. 148 Austere doctrines..seem to have come into vogue in the higher circles. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 13 Travelling in a carriage with post-horses was brought into vogue by the Bourbons. 1876 Gladstone *Homeric Synchr.* 134 It had still more recently come into vogue as the national name.

d. In phr. *to give vogue* (to something).

c 1688 [? Burnet] *Enquiry into Reasons Abrog. Test* 7/1 The main things that gave it Popular Vogue and Reputation with his Party. 1770 Gray *Lett.* Poems (1775) 385 That childish nation, the French, have given him vogue and fashion. 1799 in *Med. Jrnl* (1800) III. 14 Those artifices that have so often given Medical Men vogue in the great world. 1824 Byron *Juan* xv. xlviii, Although her birth and wealth had given her vogue, Beyond the charmers we have already cited. 1837 Hallam *Hist. Literature* I. I. vii. § 27. 402 It contains several feigned letters of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, which probably in a credulous age passed for genuine, and gave vogue to the book. 1877 E. R. Conder *Basis Faith* ii. 69 To give vogue to a phrase by which he hopes to make the idea..ridiculous.

†e. *Of vogue*, holding a prominent place in popular estimation or notice; fashionable.

1678 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* iv. iii. iv. 137 Is it not strange then, that Reformed Divines, yea some of great vogue for Pietie and Learning should espouse an error so grosse. 1703 Steele *Tender Husb.* I. i, The Great Beauties, and Short-liv'd People of Vogue, were always her Discourse and Imitation. 1709 — *Tatler* No. 14 P 5 There are Two who frequent this Place, whom she takes for Men of Vogue.

3. With *a*: A prominent place in popular favour or fashion; a course or period of success or distinction in this connexion.

1673 *Lady's Call.* I. v. § 25 That impudence of profaneness which has given it such a vogue in the world. 1704 Swift *Mech. Operat. Spir.* Misc. (1711) 274, I do not find any [Title] which holds so general a Vogue as that of A Letter to a Friend. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 248 Authority..may give a temporary vogue to a bad poet. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* viii. 45 Paltry imitations of Chinese buildings have a kind of vogue, chiefly on account of their novelty. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* III. 118 The carriages called caterpillars acquired a temporary vogue. 1832 Lewis *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* xiv. 136 A theory which, in its day, had a sufficient vogue to transfer its peculiar and technical expressions into common language. 1880 H. James *Hawthorne* 37 The Universal History had a great vogue and passed through hundreds of editions.

b. In similar use with *the* or other limiting terms.

c 1645 Howell. *Lett.* I. v. xxxiii. 169 The Lord Treasurer Weston is he who hath the greatest vogue now at Court, but many great ones have clash'd with him. 1674 Boyle *Excell. Theol.* II. v. 202 The present success..ought not to make him so sure..that the same Opinions will be always in the same, or greater Vogue. 1697 Bentley *Phal.* (1699) 341 The Milesian Cloths had the greatest Vogue in the Greek Markets. 1709 O. Dykes *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 18 Prodigality is a jolly Vice, and of the most popular Vogue in the World. 1743 Fielding *J. Wild* I. iv, Whisk and swabbers was the game then in the chief vogue. 1834 Macaulay *Ess., Pitt* P 24 The vogue which it has obtained may serve to show [etc.]. 1881 *Athenæum* 15 Jan. 88/3 The vogue which mountaineering has acquired of late years.

c. With possessives (or *of*).

a 1683 Oldham *Art of Poetry* Wks. (1686) 7 Others..Shall be revived, and come again in force If custom please: from whence their vogue they draw. 1737 L. Clarke *Hist. Bible* (1740) II. 316 James, in regard of his great Vogue with the populace, for sincerity, virtue, and judgment. 1772 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* Let. 4 July, All these places, Bath excepted, have their vogue, and then the fashion changes. 1780 Miss Wilkes in *Corr. J. Wilkes* (1805) IV. 298 The vogue of this employment occasions a great many presents being made. 1838 *Court Mag.* VI. p. x/2 Tartan shawls have entirely lost their vogue; they are replaced by Egyptian shawls, which are now more fashionable than any other. 1855 N. Hawthorne in *Life Longfellow* (1891) II. 287 No other poet has anything like your vogue. 1886 *Ch. Times* 730/1 Its defects, not its merits are the source of its vogue.

II. †4. a. Natural bent or capacity. *Obs.*—[1]

1590 Sir R. Williams *Disc. Warre* 25 If they finde any of great qualitie that carries a vogue, to command popular or men of war.

†b. General course or tendency; general character or condition. *Obs.*

1626 T. H[awkins] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 74 They seing all things are permitted them, do instantly take that vogue, which depraued nature doth present vnto them, they follow the track of pleasure. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Bunch of Grapes* i, One vogue and vein, One aire of thought usurps my brain. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* cxliii. 343 The Native..shall live gallantly..above the ordinary Vogue of his Birth. 1660 Gauden *Slight Healers* 76 They go with the vogue and stream of times. 1700 *Eng. Theophrast.* 195 Mens merit is generally judg'd of by the Vogue of the Fortune they are in. 1709 Law *Serious C.* xvii. 308 According to the spirit and vogue of this world, whose corrupt air we have all breath'd, there are many things that pass for great, and honourable.

†c. Vigour or energy. *Obs.*—[1]

1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 5 This is at large inculcated..with great vouge and ostentation by the Bishop of *Condom*.

†5. The approbation, approval, or popular favour *of* some class of persons, etc. *Obs.*

1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* ix, For many to eternize their soone forgot memory, and to gaine the vogue of this vaine world, hes prepared Pyramides of pomp. 1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 75 Wouldst Thou wooe a Feature In a glasse?..Or resigne what you may claime To the vogue of vulgar flame. 1660–3 South *Serm.* (1843) II. xviii. 305 A King..not owing his Kingdom to the vogue of the populace but to the suffrage of nature. 1682 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* x. § 1. (1689) 97 For that the Trout is the most Excellent Fish, by the Vogue of the most curious Palates. 1720 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* II. xx. 565, I would fain Recollect and Obtain the Universal Approbation and Vogue in my own favour.

†b. The current opinion or belief; the general report or rumour. *Obs.*

1626 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 131 Some affirm the Earl of Suffolk..goes general of the fleet.. Captain Pennington hath the vogue to go to his vice-admiral. 1661 Sir P. Tyrill in *Essex Rev.* (1909) XVIII. 95 The generall vogue of the towne is ye yesterday the Portugall match was agreed upon at the Counsell. 1685 J. Chamberlayne *Coffee Tea & Choc.* 49 Indeed 'tis the common vogue and opinion of this Country, that there is nothing more Soveraign then this plant. 1721 Perry *Daggenh Breach* 79 The Opinion of my Assistants being urg'd, and the general vogue of Men that my Work was carried on in a sufficient Manner. 1730 Swift *Let. to Gay* 19 Nov., The vogue of our few honest folks here is that Duck is absolutely to succeed Eusden in the laurel.

6. The prevailing fashion or tendency; *esp.* that which is in favour at a particular time.

1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* xi. (1662) 46 The common Sewer or stream of the present vogue and humor. 1660 Stillingfl. *Iren.* II. vi. § 11. (1662) 266 If Jerome speak according to the general vogue, this solution may be sufficient. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* lxv, His mustachios, bad French, and waltzing..were quite the vogue. 1860 Sala *Lady Chesterf.* Pref. p. iii, An age when burlesque is the vogue.

b. Without article or with *a*.

1689–90 Temple *Ess. Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 283 As Diseases have changed Vogue, so have Remedies in my Time and Observation. 1738 Fielding *Hist. Register* iii, There is a vogue, my Lord, which if you will bring me into, you will lay a lasting obligation on me. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 June 15/3 Others..at once took the thing up and made it a vogue.

Vogue, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To cry *up* or *down*.

c 1662 in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 32/2 He procured an awe and reverence to himself, being vogued up by the Clergy, and rendered to the Vulgar as a Pattern of Piety. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 408 Thus may a good Medicine be vogu'd down by a groundless fancy!

b. To bring into, or keep in, vogue.

1687 J. Reynolds *Death's Vis.* Pref. (1713) 2 [That] those Poets shou'd be chiefly Applauded and Vogued, whose sole use of Religion..is to Undermine and Lampoon it.

2. To repute or reckon (as something).

1673 R. Burthogge *Causa Dei* 251 Pythagoras..might put this Honorary Mark upon the Ternary Number, and Vogue it Sacred and Divine. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 78. (1713) II. 228 Hellish Rage, which, forsooth, must be vogued Protestant Zeal. 1691 T. H[alk] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xlii, Some who would take it ill not to be vogued for first-rate Politicians.

Vogue, *v.*[2] *Obs.*—[1] [ad. F. *voguer*: see Vogue *sb.*] *intr.* To float.

1687 Rycaut *Hist. Turks* II. 316 The Turks brake it [the bridge] the preceeding day, letting the materials vogue with the stream into the Danube.

Voiadge, obs. form of Voyage *sb.*

Voice (vois), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 **vois** (4 **uoys**), 3–5 **voys** (5 **uoys**, 5–6 **woys**), 4–5 **voise** (4 **uoise**), 4–6 (7) **voyse** (5 **woyse**); 4–7 **voyce** (4 **voysce**, 5 **voyc**, 5–6 *Sc.* **woyce**), 4– **voice** (4 **uoice**, 4, 5–6 *Sc.*, **woice**, 6 **voio**); also 5 **wyce**, 8–9 *dial.* **vice**. *B. Sc.* and *north.* 4–7 **voce** (5 **uoce**, 5–6 **woce**), 5, 7 **vose**, 6 **vox**, **wox**. [a. AF. *voiz*, *voice*, OF. *vois*, *vois*, *voix* (mod.F. *voix*, = Pr. *vos*, Sp. and Pg. *voz*, It. *voce*):—L. *vōc-em*, *vox* voice, sound.]

I. 1. Sound, or the whole body of sounds, made or produced by the vocal organs of man or animals in their natural action; esp. sound formed in or emitted from the human larynx in speaking, singing, or other utterance; vocal sound as the vehicle of human utterance or expression. Also occas., the faculty or power of producing this; or concretely, the organs by which it is produced.

a. With *the*, or with limiting terms as *man's*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11480 Þis ilk stern..said to þaim wit mans woice, þat þai suld wend to Juen land. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 40 Þe son of þe cry com to þe cowherde euene, þat he wist witerly it was þe voys of a childe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 83 Þe voys þat þey makeþ is liker to an houndes berkynge þan to a manis voys. 1398 — *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), To schape þe voice aier is ifonge in þe leues of þe lungen. 1580 J. Hay *Demandes* § 17 in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 39 The trew intelligence..and nocht the outward sounding of the woce. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. 59 There is..a dubble Speech; the one in the mynd,..the other the sounding image thereof,..vttered by our mouth and..termed the Speech of the Voyce. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 838 Plato defineth the Voice to be a spirit. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 95 They that haue the voyce of Lyons, and the act of Hares: are they not Monsters? 1635 Vaughan *Silex Scint., Holy Script.* ii, Thou [the Bible] art the great Elixir rare and choice; The Word in Characters, God in the Voice. 1710 M. Henry *Disputes Reviewed* Wks. 1853 II. 464/1 When the temper is not kept within due bounds, commonly the voice is not. 1780 W. Shaw (*title*) A Galic and English Dictionary. Containing all the Words in the Scotch and Irish Dialects of the Celtic, that could be collected from the Voice, and Old Books and MSS. 1831 Youatt *Horse* viii. 150 The voice of animals is produced by the passage of air through this aperture. 1844 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 154/1 Speaking-pipes, or tubes to convey the voice from one place to another. 1889 Ruskin *Præterita* III. 162 The Voice is the eternal musical instrument of heaven and earth, from angels down to birds.

b. Without article.

Occas. put for 'musical voice', 'power of singing': cf. quots. 1667 and 1697.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17840 And als sun þai spak wit woice. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 75 Among alle þingis vois is a freel þing. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xx. 67 See howe my sone..bymeneth hym in herte chere and voys. 1444 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 12 He sal vphald the ladymesse with uoce on Twisdai, Thurisdai, and Fridai like owke for a yher. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xlviii. 119 So I teche wiþoute voice of wordes, wiþoute confusion of opinyons. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlviii. 162 Thane all the birdis song with voce on hicht. 1588 A. King tr. *Camisius' Catech.* 124 Seing wraith without ony voce of worde is appointed to iudgement, wraith in voce is appointed to a councel quhairin sentence is pronunced. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. i. 132 These are .. melancholie showes, That .. counterfet the dead in voyce and figure. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 134 A vocal iustice, which speaketh in action though not in voyce. 1666–7 Pepys *Diary* 12 Feb., I confess I was mightily pleased with the musique. He pretends not to voice; though it be good, but not excellent. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 70 Hollow Rocks that render back the Sound, And doubled Images of Voice rebound. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* v 10 Your merit and your years command the choice: Amyntas only rivals you in voice. 1721 Bailey, *Aphony*, a want of voice. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., That Canal,..which at first pass'd for the principal Organ of Voice. ? 1780 Cowper *Cricket* 17 Though in voice and shape they be Form'd as if akin to thee. 1828 Whately *Rhet.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 295/1 To observe all the modulations, &c. of voice, which take place in such a delivery. 1872 Huxley *Physiol.* vii. 184 Thus, voice may exist without speech, and..speech may exist without voice, as in whispering. 1884 F. M. Crawford *Rom. Singer* I. 2 He had so much voice that he did not know what to do with it.

transf. and *fig.* 1815 Scott *Waterloo* i, We yet may hear the hour Peal'd over orchard and canal, With voice prolong'd and measured fall. 1817 — *Harold* III. vi, From realms afar Comes voice of battle and of war.

c. With adjs. denoting the quality or tone. Chiefly *with* or *in* . . *voice*. Cf. 6 c.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3850 (Laud MS.), And hem he seide wiþ voice clere Ich bidde frendes þat ȝe me here. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4853 (Kölbing), Ten com bihinde..Wiþ loude voice & to hem gradde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 584 With styf voys [he] hym called, Lazare, veni foras. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 140 Therfor criet the pepill, har kynge and his good werkes with hey woyce commendid and preisit. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 18 Hit shall be lefull to yow..in lowe voice to saye diuine seruice. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 13 Throw birdis songe with opine wox one hy, That seasit not one luffaris for to cry. 1552 Lyndsay *Monarche* 5588 [An angel shall cry] With hydous voce, and vehement.—Ryse, [etc.]. *a* 1609 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S.T.S.) 15 When I waill with weeping vose, Lord, to my plaint give eare. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 37 Methought Close at mine ear one call'd me forth to walk With gentle voice. 1822 Cary *Dante, Purg.* xxv. 24 At the hymn's close They shouted loud, 'I do not know a man'; Then in low voice again took up the strain. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. iv. 9 Muttering with hoarse, harsh voice.

d. *In* (. .) *voice*. Of persons: Having the voice or vocal organs in fit or good condition for speaking or singing. So *out of voice*.

1757 Foote *Author* Epil., O! Such a Sustinuto upon B! Ma'am, when she's quite in Voice she'll go to C. 1760–8 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxxi, You know very well..that I am not in voice [for singing] to-day. 1826 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 283 Owing to a cold..I was, as the players call it, not in very good voice. 1868 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 391, I was in wonderful voice last night, but croak a little this morning. 1884 'Edna Lyall' *We Two* xxvi, I am afraid my wife is quite out of voice.

transf. 1883 Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 253 Hounds were in full voice, and several foxes in full flight almost immediately.

e. The sound of voices. (In quot., of birds.)

1832 James *Phil. Augustus* I. ii, The earth was full of flowers, and the woods full of voice.

f. Utterance or expression (of feeling, etc.). Chiefly in phrases, as *to give voice to*, *to find voice in*.

1845 Arnold *Hymnth Churchyard* v, Hail to the courage which gave Voice to its creed. 1884 'E. Garrett' *At Any Cost* xiv. 255 Tom had been unable to suppress sundry conjectures... but he had never given them voice. 1926 Sitwell *Poetry Bedmock* Introd. p. xxxv, There was always plenty of hero-worship, which found voice in song.

g. *Phonology.* Sound uttered with vibration or resonance of the vocal chords, as distinguished from Breath 10.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 409/2 The consonants are conveniently classed into those with and those without voice. 1888 Sweet *Eng. Sounds* 18 The relations of breath and voice in consonants are mainly determined by their surroundings. *Ibid.* 89 The intermediate change of voice to whisper is very common.

2. †a. The supremacy or upper hand in a struggle. *Obs.*—1

Employed merely for the sake of rime.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21694 Quen þat þai faght..And moises held his hand o-loft, To-quils he beild his hend on croice, Ai hald his aun folk þe voice.

b. The right or privilege of speaking or voting in a legislative assembly, or of taking part in, or exercising control or influence over, some particular matter; part or share in the control, government, or deciding of something. Chiefly in phr. *to have* (or † *bear*) . . *voice in*. Cf. 10 d.

App. not in common use from the end of the 17th c. to the latter part of the 19th.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 479/2 Not to be made free, ne herde, ne bere no voice in no maner assemble of the said Comyns. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 27 § 11 No merchaunt..[shall] bere eny voyce ne have eny sayngs in eny Courte..wythin oure seid Staple. 1525 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1527 (1883) 97 That he be chosin be fremen, and na servandis till have voce amangis maisteris in ony materis. 1581 Allen *Apologie* 38 b, The Parliament is a mere temporal Court, the Bishops them selues hauing voice there no otherwise but as Barons of the Realme. 1666 in J. Bulloch *Pynours* (1887) 70 The Master of Impost..to have voce and consent of the distribution of the moneyes belonging thervnto. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 323 Persons having Voice or Vote to such Election. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Error* 45 Man, thus endued with an elective voice, Must be supplied with objects of his choice. 1873 Helps *Anim. & Mast.* v. (1875) 114 If we had more voice in the management of affairs. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 28 May 5/2 Some voice Europe will insist upon having in the political disposal of Egypt. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* iv. 185 The parishioners had more voice in the matter than they have now.

† c. *To give voice to*, to vote for. *Obs.*

1566 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 112 Item, he gave voyce to himselfe in the graunte of lease to him selfe, for the which lease he gave no fine at all.

3. The expressed opinion, judgement, will, or wish *of* the people, a number of persons, a corporate body, etc., occas. as indicated or shown by the exercise of the suffrage. Cf. 10.

In some instances not clearly distinct from 4.

1390 Gower *Conf.* Prol. I. 7 The world is changed overal, ..And that I take to record Of every lond for his partie The comun vois, which may noght lie. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2886 For peples vois is goddes voys, men seyne. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 909 With the great saill, and woice off hys parliament. 1528 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 426 [Order made] by the consent of Mr. Recordar, and the ballyffes with the holl voyce of the town then being present. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 62 The whole voice of the commons was to yelde, yeld, rather then starue. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, II. ii. 88 A President .. in committing freely Your scruple to the voyce of Christendome. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xvi. 82 The voyce of the greater number, must be considered as the voyce of them all. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 3 Let no man .be so weak as..[to] conclude ought against it either by Tradition or the common Voice of the World. 1711 Swift *Cond. Allies* 78 It is the Folly of too many, to mistake the Eccho of a London Coffee-house for the Voice of the Kingdom. 1780 *Mirror* No. 77 Before the trial of an atrocious criminal, the unanimous voice of the Public is, that he should be led out to punishment. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. i, It is the voice of all France, the Sound that rises. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 167 Recalled by the voice of both the contending factions, he was the very man to arbitrate between them. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II. ii, I will be king of England by the laws, The choice, and voice of England.

b. Without *of*. Now usually with defining adj., as *general*, *popular*, *public*, prefixed (*b*).

(*a*) 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 17 Hakon, Hernebald sonne, of best he bare þe voice, In stede of Kynges banere he did him bere þe croice. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 113 Whatsoeuer cunning fiend it was That wrought vpon thee so preposterously Hath got the voyce in hell for excellence. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* IV. v, I feare, you wrong him. He has the voyce to be an honest Romane. 1626 Earle *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 70 [He] cries Chaucer for his Money aboue all our English Poets, because the voice ha's gone so. 1703 Rowe *Ulyss.* II. i, So shall the Voice in Ithaca be for you. 1787 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1891 XI. 181 *note*, Thus stands the matter at present in this State. I think nevertheless the voice is for it.

(*b*) 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 140 Lucius our Emperour: for well I know, The common voyce do cry it shall be so. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 150 Much I endure, when writing I would bribe The public Voice. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. vii, The public voice..seldom reaches to a brother or a husband, though it rings in the ears of all the neighbourhood. 1773 Mrs. Chapone *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 212, I believe the general voice will direct you to Hume. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 82 To me, by common voice Elected umpire, Here comes to-day. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi II. 123 While the king was thus trying to terrify the lords of articles into submission, the popular voice encouraged them to persist.

† 4. That which is generally or commonly said; general or common talk; rumour or report. *Obs.*

Freq. in the 16th c., often with *com*

a 1400 Maunder. (Roxb.) vii. 27 Þe [illegible] voice es þare þat þai er þe beres of Joseph. ? 1460 *Paston Lett.* II. 107 It is my part to enfourme youre maisteirshyp as the comoun voyse is,..for it is half a deth to me to here the generall voyse of the peyyll, whiche dayyll encreasyth. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccclxxxiv. 651 In this meane tyme voyce and bruyte ranne through London, howe these vnhappy people were lykely to ale the kynge [etc.]. *a* 1568 *Satir Poems Reform.* xlvii. 12 Grit foulis þe were with fallowis to defame hir, Havand na cause bot commoun voce and sklander. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* K viij, The voyce went the same time..that there was a letter..sent into Normandy, containing these wordes. 1607 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 70 All Sunday it was current that the parliament did hold, but now the voice runs otherwise. *a* 1639 Wotton *Lett.* in *Relig.* (1651) 429 Doctour Balcanquel.. shall (as the voice goeth) be removed to the Deanrie of Durham. 1642 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 100 The next day the voice went up and down, that..they intended to introduce Forreign force.

† b. A piece of common or general talk; a report or rumour. *Obs.*

1463 in *Sc. Acts, Jas. III* (1874) XII. 30/1 Þe kingis declaratioun .. quhilk .. þai hald sufficient to purge þe said Alexander..of þe said voice and Rumor. 1538 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 98 Ther ys a voyce that yt shulde be the Duchys of Myllayn. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 330/1 There runneth a great voyce of mee, that I haue maried a wife. 1629 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 156 There is a voice, that my Lord North sets forth four ships. 1639 Wotton *Lett.* (1907) II. 410 We have a new strange voice flying here, that the Prince Palatine is towards a marriage. 1652 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 100 The sound of this voice went up to the Castle.

† c. Fame or renown *of* something. *Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1138 Sum off thaim said, the queyn luffyt Wallace, For the gret woice off his noblnes. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXVIII. xlvi. 707 His power increased dayly; for that the Frenchmen flocked vnto him from all parts, upon the noyse and voyce of his name.

5. *Gram.* The form of a verb by which the relation of the subject to the action implied is indicated; one or other of the modes of inflecting or varying a verb according to the distinctions of *active*, *passive*, or *middle*.

In quot. 1591 used instead of 'person'.

1388 Wyclif *Prol.* 37 A participle of a present tens, either preterit, of actif vois, either passif. 1591 Percival *Span. Dict.* C 2 By changing *e* of the future of the Indicatiue into *ía*, you make the third voice of the preterimperfect tense of the Subiunctiue. 1612 Brinsley *Pos. Parts* (1615) 20 b, Giue the terminations of the first Persons of the Actiue voice alone. *a* 1653 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* vi. 1 The word φερώμεθα, translated 'Let us go on', is of the passive voice. 1678 [see Passive *a.* 3]. 1706 J. Stevens *Sp. Dict., Sp. Gram.* 15 Participle of the Present Tense and Active Voice. 1765– [see Active *a.* 3]. 1772 A. Adam *Gram.* (1793) 20 Voice expresses the different circumstances in which we consider an object, whether as acting, or being acted upon. 1841 Latham *Eng. Lang.* 12 The characteristic..of..the Scandinavian languages is the possession of a Passive Form, or a Passive Voice, ending in *st*. 1858 C. P. Mason *Eng. Gram.* § 180 By means either of a verb in the active voice, or of a verb in the passive voice. 1872 [see Middle *a.* 4 a].

II. 6. In limited sense: The sounds naturally made by a single person or animal in speech or other form of vocal utterance; these sounds regarded as characteristic of the person and as distinguishing him from another or others; also freq., the individual organic means or capacity of producing such sounds.

a. In usages where this sound is taken to represent the person or being who utters it, or is regarded apart from the utterer. Freq. with verbs of saying, introducing the words uttered.

c 1290 *St. Francis* 54 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 55 Þo spac a voiz þare-inne [the cross] wel Mildeliche and softe, And seide, 'Frauncoys, go þe forth' [etc.]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5750 A voys sede as hym þozte þes wordes..as he vel adoun. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16633 Til þe kyng Alayn he spak, And told hym what þe vois had seyd. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 260 A voice loude in þat lifte to lucifer cryeth. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxxiii, And there-with-all apperit vnto me A voce, and said, 'tak hede, man, and behold'. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XI. vi. 580 He herd a voys that said go hens thow syre Bors. 1526 Tindale *Acts* x. 13 And a voyce spake vnto hym from heven: Ryse Peter Kyll and eate. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 2 Men commonly reporte that..it was by a heauenly voyce reueled to Cadwalader..that [etc.]. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 36 Some..hurld vp their Caps, And some tenne voyces cry'd 'God saue King Richard'. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 2 A voyce forsooth was heard from heauen, saying: Now is poison poured down into the Church, &c. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 132 Return Alpheus, the dread voice is past, That shrunk thy streams. 1667 — *P. L.* IV. 167 There had I fixt Mine eyes till now..Had not a voice thus warnd me. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 462 In secret murmurs thus they sought relief, While no bold voice proclaim'd aloud their grief. 1725 Watts *Logic* II. v. § 2 Proof of divine Revelation by Visions, Voices, or Miracles. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxx, 'It is I', replied the voice. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 191 In the world unknown Sleeps a voice unspoken. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 403 'I second that proposal', exclaimed a voice. 1871 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 756 About his feet A voice clung sobbing till he question'd it, 'What art thou?' and the voice about his feet Sent up an answer, sobbing, 'I am thy fool'.

b. In ordinary use, with *a*, *the*, *this*, etc., or more freq. with possessives.

The Biblical passage illustrated by quot. 1382 has had some echo in recent use.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8904 And þan bigan soo for to cri Als wit a voce o prophecí. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7450

As sone as he hadde made þe croyce, þe bryde fleyh furh, and left hys voys. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxvii. 22 The vois forsothe is the vois of Jacob, but the hondis ben the hondis of Esau. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 56 þan cometh and crieth her owen kynde dame, And þey (the young partridges) folwith þe vois at þe firist note. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 31 Crie, cese not, vphaunse þi vois os a trompe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 218 Compleyne your woice unto the God abuffe. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* I. vi. 173 Quhy grantis thou necht we may joine hand in hand, And for to heir and reedir vocis trew? 1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 149 Though the Swyne wil roame at the knowen voyce of theyr swyneheard. 1609 Douland *Ornith. Microl.* 5 The sound of a sensible creature is properly called a Voyce, for things without sence haue no Voyce. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Despair* i, Beneath this gloomy shade, By Nature only for my sorrows made I'll spend this voyce in crys. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* x. 111 Now let us rise, for Hoarseness oft invades The Singer's Voice, who sings beneath the Shades. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, I admired as much at the voices of him and his men who seemed to me only to whisper. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* XII. 214 When with rapid course we had arriv'd Within such distance as a voice may reach. 1820 Keats *Isabella* vi, He inwardly did pray For power to speak; but still the ruddy tide Stifled his voice. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* I. iii. He felt sure that he had stammered like a schoolboy, and spoken below his voice, like a young squire to an old knight. 1833 M. Arnold *Forsaken Merman* 12 Call her once before you go.—Call once yet! In a voice that she will know. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 872 The extremities become cool,..the voice sunk to a whisper, and the countenance Hippocratic.

c. With adjs. denoting the quality or tone (sometimes *spec.* in respect of musical quality or power).

1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* xviii. 28 Thanne thei crieden with a greet voys. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxxxi. (1495) nn iv b/1 The voyce that is dysposid to songe and melody hath thyse proprytees as layder sayth. Voyces he sayth ben smalle, subtyll, thicke, clere, sharpe & shylle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12040 Vlixes..declaret hom þe cause with his clere voyc. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 439 And on a rewde maner he salustyd all the rout, With a bold voyse, carpyng wordys stout. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlvi. 105 Than sang thay both with vocis lowd and cleir. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Eccl.* xxxiii. 32 A iesting song of one that hath a pleasant voice. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 105 To talke modestly, stilly, and with low voices. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 161 His bigge manly voice, Turning againe toward childish trebble. *Ibid.* v. iii. 14 The onely prologues to a bad voice. 1623 Cockeram II, A *Voyce* as strong as if it were the noise of 100 men, stentorian voice. 1637 *Scotch Prayer Bk., Morn. Prayer*, Then shall the Presbyter or Minister begin the Lords prayer with a loull voyce. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. viii. 20 And thee..with a gentle Voice Instil this Precept at his list'ning Ear. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 39 Besides painting [he] had a talent for music and a good voice. 1819 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. I. 127 White-bellied Goura..: it has a very disagreeable and mournful voice, which is repeatedly uttered. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. 32 'Come here, both of you,' says the lady, in a deep, awful voice. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* iii. 100 He ..began chatting away in his squeaking voice.

transf. 1638 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* (1869) 3 Whose due Praise the Catholike Church doth at this day solemnely sing, but with a more elevated Voyce.

d. In or after Biblical phraseology, esp. *the voice of God*. Chiefly in fig. use and freq. = 'the expressed will or desire *of* God, etc.; the divine command, ordinance, or word'.

a 1325 *Prose Ps.* cv. 24 [cvi. 25] And hij..gruched in her tabernacles, and hij ne herd nouȝt þe voice of our Lord. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 174 And there I herde and understod The vois of god with wordes cliere. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* Prol. 70 [= Hebr. iii. 7, 8] If þat ȝe here hys voce þis day, Turn noght ȝoure hertes fro hym oway —Bott tyll hys voce ȝe tak gude hede. 1563 Winȝet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 7 That ony sentence in the haly Wreit is the voce and mynd of Christe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 653 God so commanded, and left that Command Sole Daughter of his voice. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 371 The Voice of Nature is the Voice of God. 1730 Thomson *Hymn* 22 And oft thy voice in dreadful thunder speaks. 1782 W. Hawkins *Ode St. Cecilia's Day* I. *Chorus* 63 Music, essence holy, high,..Daughter of the voice of God. 1820 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 474 They did violence to the majesty of the law, which was the very voice of God. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* II. x. 308 As prayer is the voice of man to God, so Revelation is the voice of God to man.

e. Used in reference to the expression of opinion or protest, or the issuing of a command.

1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 337 Yet to their Generals Voyce they soon obeyd Innumerable. 1720 *Humourist* 23 All the Time the Business of Scandal was handling, there was not one dissenting Voice to be heard in the whole Assembly. 1756 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 329 A convention..ratified the constitution without a dissenting voice. 1807 Scott *Highl. Widow* v, Here I will abide my fate; nor is there in Scotland a voice of power enough to bid me stir from hence, and be obeyed. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 435 When the voice of a single powerful member of the Batavian federation might have averted an event fatal to all the politics of Lewis, no such voice was raised. 1872 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) VI. xviii. 240 The voice..from Exeter was a voice raised on behalf of the House of Godwine.

f. *To lose the voice*, to be (temporarily) deprived of the power of using the voice for singing or speaking.

1749 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* II. (1754) 34 A religious Nun,.. famed for Skill in Music and a fine Voice, had her Voice lost by a Hoarseness for ten Years. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 546 In one case..the voice was merely much weakened; in the other,..the voice was lost altogether. 1877 Roberts *Handbk. Med.* I. 353 Voice is completely lost, and cough becomes aphonic.

7. In phrases. a. *With one* (†*e*, †*a*) *voice*, unanimously. †Also Sc. *in one voice*.

(*a*) *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13030 Alle wyþ o voys Songen þey þe Letanie. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 200 With ane voce all can thai cry—'Gud king [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1000 þan answard him with a voice all his proud princes. 1483 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* ii. 26 Al wyth one voys gaf to hym laude and honour. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 3473 With o woys thay cry al, 'sir knycht' (etc.). 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 258 They with one minde and voyce gave a determinate answwere. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 221 All the Greekish heads, which with one voyce Call Agamemnon Head and Generall. 1669 Dryden *Tyrannic Love* v. i, We, with one voice, salute you emperor. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1788) 357 With one voice they all condemn you. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 651 The nations .. cried aloud, As with one voice, Truth, liberty, and love! 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 23 All the members demanded with one voice who it was who was charged with the crime.

(*b*) 1550 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1894) I. 18 We the saidis deyderis..all in ane voce devyidis the said land and tenement as eftir followis. 1569 *Rec. Privy Council Scot.* II. 21 Sic boittis as the Lieutenentis in ane voce sall find gude to hald on the watter. 1604 in *Chron. Perth*, etc. (Maitl. Club) 69 The Session all in one voice finds the said Mr. William's proceedings orderly done.

†b. *At a voice*, in accord or agreement, unanimous. *Obs.*—1

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) I. 144 Bes bobe at a voice, in one ȝour wille be mynde, To help þe Cristen men..Ageyn þe oste paen.

†c. *In my voice*, in my name. *Obs. rare.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 87 But what is, come see, And in my voice most welcome shall you be. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 185 Implore her, in my voice, that she make friends To the strict deputy.

8. a. The sound *of* prayer, etc.

a 1325 *Prose Ps.* cxxxix. 7 [cxl. 6] Here, Lord, þe voice of my prayere. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* vi. 9 [8] The lord hath herd the vois of my wepyng. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 15 The vois of his preynge, Which herd was to the goddes hihe. 1551 Bible *Lev.* v. 1 When a soule hath synned and herde yᵉ voyce of cursing. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxxi. 22 Thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cryed vnto thee. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 887 'Tis the voice of song—A loud hosanna sent from all thy works. 1791 — *Iliad* XVIII. 617 And sweet was heard The voice around of Hymenæal song. 1827 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 724 From that very moment, complaint was extinguished; and the voice of praise..occupied the vacant air.

b. *transf.* A sound or sounds produced or emitted by something inanimate, as (*a*) a stream, thunder, the wind, etc., or (*b*) musical instruments.

(*a*) *a* 1325 *Prose Ps.* xcii. 4 [xciii. 3] þe flodes an-hesed her voice. *Ibid.* 5 [4] Fram þe voices of mani waters. *Ibid.* ciii. 8 [civ. 7] Hij shul douten of þe voice of ȝy bonder. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xcii[i]. 3 The flodis rereden vp ther vois. Flodis rereden vp ther flowingis; fro the voises of manye watris. 1539 Bible (Great) *Ps.* lxxvii. 18 The voyce of thy thonder was hearde rounde aboute. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* lxvi. 6 A voice of noyse from the city, a voice from the Temple. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 443 With a roaring sound The rising Rivers float the nether Ground; And Rocks the bellowing Voice of boiling Seas rebound. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 191 Upon the roar Of distant floods, or on the softer voice Of neighb'ring fountain. 1801 Scott *Glenfinlas* lx, The voice of thunder shook the wood. 1807 Wordsw. *Sonn., Thought of a Briton*, Two Voices are there; one is of the sea, One of the mountains; each a mighty Voice. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxvi. (1856) 211 The voices of the ice..are at this moment dinning in my ear.

(*b*) 1535 Coverdale 2 *Chron.* v. 13 Whan the voyce arose from yᵉ trompettes, cymbales and other instrumentes of musick. 1551 Bible *Exod.* xix. 16 The voyce of yᵉ horne waxed exceadynge lowde. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 257 Trumpet blow loud, Send thy Brasse voyce through all these lazie Tents. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 313 They must bee such as will reioyce and gather stoinacke at the voice of musicke, or trumpets. 1713 Addison *Cato* III. iii, O Marcus, I am warm'd; my heart Leaps at the trumpet's voice, and burns for glory. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* lxxvii, The liquid voice Of pipes, that fills the clear air thrillingly. 1885 Longf. *Sunrise on Hills* ii. 96 The wild horn, whose voice the woodland fills, Was ringing to the merry shout. 1841 Whittier *Merrimac* 66 Clearly on the calm air swells The twilight voice of distant bells.

c. In figurative use.

In the second group with reference to conscience or duty.

(*a*) 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* iv. 10 The vois of the blood of thi brother crieth to me fro the erthe. 1533 Gau *Richt Way* 104 Ye voce of his blwid cryis..to ye hewine. 1732 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 99 Unworthy he, the voice of Fame to hear. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 43 Can Honour's voice provoke the silent dust? *Ibid.* 91 E'en from the tomb the voice of Nature cries. 1820 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. xix. 162 He dreaded that the voice of truth should be heard. 1839 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* ix. (1847) 90 Where the voice of tradition has been strong, unvarying, and continued. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. ii, Came it never,..like the voice of old Eternities, far-sounding through thy heart of hearts?

(*b*) 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 685 The still small voice is wanted. 1796 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 389, I advised, that you should obey the voice of what we considered an indispensable duty. 1810 tr. *Mme. Cottin's Chevalier de Versenai* II. 110 That interior voice, that inflexible judge which speaks within us. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* I. v. 104 We are accustomed to speak of conscience as a voice. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 419 The voice of conscience, too, was heard, reminding the good man that he was not altogether innocent.

d. A call or cry. *rare*—1.

1637 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. v. 12 With two or three loud voyces Ceaseth all their disports, .. untill the next morning when by a like voyce they have liberty given them to play.

†9. A word or number of words uttered or expressed in speech; a phrase, sentence, or speech; a discourse or report. *Obs.*

12.. *Cursor Mundi* 3806 (Gött.), And eyle he putt apon þat ston, And made to godd a voice [*Cotton* voo (= vow)] anon. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 17 It had bene mor expedient vnto þe þis day for to hafe etyn flesch in þi cell, þan for to hafe made þis voyce of þine abstinence enange so many of þi brethir. 1598 Q. Eliz. *Plutarch* 130 [The] busy man..go he wyl to Jugis seates, to markets and to portz; Vsing this vois, 'have you no newes to-day?' 1608 Torkst. *Fratr.* I. ii, In thy change, This voice into all places will be hurl'd: Thou and the deuill has deceaved the world. 1782 H. Blair in *Sc. Paraphr.* XLIV. lii, 'Tis finish'd, was his latest voice.

†b. An articulate sound; a vocable, term, or word. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 201 Some coude not saye so moche, but onely expresse suche voyces, that he not in vse to signyfye ony thynge. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 164 b, The Greke voice κλεὶς signifieth bothe a keye ..and also the canell bone. 1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* 4 A gentleman or a nobleman..(for I do wittingly confound these voices). 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* I. viii. § 9 *Cethim* is a voice plurall .. and signifieth *peræsores*. 1654 Jer. Taylor *Real Pres.* 129 For as Aquinas said, in all sciences words signifie things, but it is proper to Theologie, that things themselves signified or expressed by voices should also signifie something beyond it. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* I. xxiv. 98 Of Voices..That we call Articulate which consists of so many Syllables, or Letters..So that it may be written, as, Man, Animal, &c.

10. An expression of opinion, choice, or preference uttered or given by a person; a single vote, esp. one given in the election of a person to some office or position or on a matter coming for decision before a deliberative assembly. †*Dumb voice* (see quot. *c* 1618).

Very common from *c* 1540 to *c* 1770.

1380 in Horstm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1881) 150/1 Paschasius gaf his voice in hy To him he wist was les wurthy. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 203 Thus grante I yow myn hole vois. Ches for ous bothen, I you preie. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 105/2 Officers have ben chosen at the said Staple, by the voyces of Marchaunts, havyng goodes. 1489 *Ibid.* VI. 432/1 If in the said Elecciones..the Voices be divided and equall for sundry parties, then the Voise of the Maire..to stand and be reputed for two Voices in the same Election. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccccxlvi. 547 Than the cardynals all of one accorde assembled togyder, and their voyces rested on sir Robert of Genesue. 1549 Thomas *Hist. Italie* 79 This maner of geuyng theyr voices by ballotte is one of the laudablest thynges vsed amongest theim. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 108 b, The new Academikes that were before chosen by priuie voyces. 1606 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 62 Upon long debate in the House, and put to the question,..Oxford won it by many voices. *c* 1628 Moryson *Itin.* (1903) 118 Anyone 24 are by lott selected, who being shutt up in a chamber, may not depart till by dumb voyces, that is by divers little balls, they have chosen eight Protectours. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 846 In the year 1626 was a greater Canvas than this, there being then 1078 voices given on all Sides. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 193 If it should happen, that three and three should be of each side, the president shall have a casting voice. 1776 J. Adams *Wks.* (1854) IX. 370 A motion is made, and carried by a majority of one voice. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 470 *note*, The number of persons..having a voice, as the phrase is, meaning a vote, in any assembly invested with the form of a body corporate. 1895 J. S. Watson tr. *Xenophon's Anab.* I. x. § 9 *note*, But on the whole, the other interpretation seems to have most voices in favour of it. 1898 *Times* 12 Feb. 9/1 The speaker said he had already collected the voices, and it was now too late for the hon. member to intervene.

fig. 1782 Cowper *Conversat.* 663 Though common sense, allowed a casting voice, And free from bias, must approve the choice.

†b. *To put to voices*, to put to the vote. *Obs.*

1585 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* [ap. (1924) 222 Th'act. being put to voices..past as an acte with consent of the hole howse. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 859 After this..matter had been thus..debated on both sides in the Senat, it was at last put to voices. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 123 When Hervete had made an end of his speech, they put it to voyces, and the voyces went on Herveis side.

†c. Support or approval in a suit or petition. *Obs. rare.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iv. 167 There's *money* for thee; Let mee haue thy voice in my behalfe. 1599 — *Midс. N.* I. i. 54 In this kind, wanting your fathers voyce The other must be held the worthier. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. v. 113 Thou should'st neither want my meanes for thy releefe, nor my voyce for thy preferment.

d. A right or power to take part in the control or management of something. Chiefly in the phr. *to have a voice in*. Cf. 2 b.

1835 Malden *Orig. Universities* 169 The appointments to the remaining five [professorships] are of a mixed nature, but the town-council has a voice in all. 1865 J. S. Mill in *Even. Star* 10 July, It was a matter of the utmost importance that they should have a voice in the thing that was to be decided. 1888 *Echo* 21 April (Cassell's), The one thing which the labourer wants is a voice in the management of the workhouse.

11. *Mus.* The vocal capacity of one person in respect of its employment for musical purposes, esp. in combination with others; a person considered as the possessor of a voice so employed; a singer. Chiefly in pl.

1607 in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) II. 107 Sixe cornets and sixe chappell-voyces were seated almost right against them. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 2 Aug., [He] hath sent for voices and painters and other persons from Italy. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 16 Nov. 1650, A concert of French musick and voices. 1731 in *Penny Cycl.* (1840) XVI. 468/1 An oratorio in English..composed by Mr. Handel,..to be performed by a great number of voices and instruments. 1830 *Ibid.* 467/2 Dialogues in verse,..which he caused to be

the most beautifull voices in Rome. 1686 *Encycl.* III. 9/2 Another Chorus of hundreds of voices, and eighty harps, which had been assembled and trained for the same occasion.

b. A vocal part in music.

1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Jan., Mrs. Anne Jones,..who dances well,..and danced with great pleasure;..and then sang many things of three voices. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iii. 55 This one Voice or Part is mentioned as the greatest Excellency of the Temple Musick.

12. The agency or means by which something specified is expressed, represented, or revealed.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxix. 3 All toungs (the voice of soules) giue thee that due, Vttring bare truth. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 371 The Consent of Mankind is the Voice of Nature. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* ii. (1857) 45 Poetry is the voice of imagination. 1867 J. H. NEWMAN in B. Ward *Life* (1912) II. xxvii. 293 Doctrine is the *voice* of a religious body. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 3 The scientific reason urgently seeks instruments and a voice.

b. Applied to persons.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 19 To vs [you were] th'imagine Voyce of Heauen it selfe. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 61 I (now the voyce of the recorded Law) Pronounce a sentence. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiii, A potent voice of parliament, A pillar steadfast in the storm. 1876 LOWELL in *New Princeton Rev.* March 173 This no doubt is one of the chief praises of Gray, as of other poets, that he is the voice of emotions common to all mankind. 1903 *Q. Rev.* April 602 They met with no contradiction from Lord Cranborne, the present voice of the Foreign Office in the House of Commons.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **13. a.** Comb., chiefly objective, as *voice-breaking, -production, -training* sbs.; *voice-crazing, -feigning, -ordering*; *voice-like*; *voice-matched* adjs.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 295 To stodye more in voys-brekyng in cherche þan in deuoute syngynge. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. vi. 23 No such voice-feigning bird was on the ground. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 249 With reiterate I soliciting, and prostrate voyce-crazing vehemencie. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 575 David's the next, who, with the melody Of voyce-matcht fingers, draws sphear's harmony. *Ibid.* IV. *Columns* 715 All these Harps and Lutes..Plac't round about her, prove in every part This is the noble, sweet, Voyce-ord'ring Art. 1842 FABER *Styrian Lake* 71 And the chattering volcelike sounds that came On the breath of the tempest swelling. 1895–6 *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 110 The development of the voice-producing muscles. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Feb. 165/2 We have methods of voice-training to overcome this. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 791 The patient must be instructed in the proper method of voice-production.

b. Simple attrib., as *voice-accompaniment, -gesture, -stammer, tune*, etc. Also in sense 1 g, as *voice-glide, sound, stop*, etc.

(*a*) 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 431/2 Voice stammer is of two kinds. 1876 LIDDON in J. O. Johnston *Life* (1904) 211 The voice-accompaniment was beautiful. 1879 WHITNEY *Sanskrit Gram.* 369 The utterances which may be classed as interjections are..in part voice-gestures, in part onomatopoesias. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 181 In all cases the tunes are only voice tunes, not for instrumental performance.

(*b*) 1888 SWEET *Eng. Sounds* 21 In North Welsh all long high vowels are followed by an obscure voice-glide. 1890 — *Primer Spoken Eng.* 1 In the formation of voice sounds, such as *aa* in 'father'. *Ibid.* 9 Initial voice stops..have hardly any vocality in the stop itself.

14. Special combs., as **†voice-asker**, one who asks for the opinion of others; **voice-box**, the larynx; **voice-figure**, a figure or graphic representation of a vocal sound; **voice-part**, *Mus.*, a part or melody written for the voice, a vocal part; **voice-pipe, -tube**, a pipe or tube for conveying the voice, a speaking tube, esp. as used on ships.

1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* xiv. 317 Much lesse did Paul make him [Timothy] *voice-asker, to knowe whether it should please the Presbyters to haue these things done, or no. 1912 A. KEITH *Human Body* i. 16 The windpipe has already been exposed, and is seen issuing from the *voice-box or larynx below the chin. 1891 MARG. WATTS HUGHES in *Century Mag.* May 37/1 The peculiar forms shown in the illustrations of this article, and which I call *Voice-Figures. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 June 5/5 The range and variety of the Voice Figures correspond to the scope of the human voice. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 144 Certaine minstrels and singers, which by turnes sometimes vse their instruments and sometimes *voice-musicke. 1889 GORE OUSELEY *Counterp. Canon & Fugue* xv. 111 When the canon is produced simply between two *voice-parts, it is called 'two in one'. 1897 SIR A. SULLIVAN in *Strand Mag.* Dec. 654/1 Then the voice parts are written out by the copyist, and the rehearsals begin. 1893 *Daily News* 20 Feb. 5/5 *Voice pipes have, according to this authority, 'failed utterly on board ships'. 1895 *Review of Rev.* Aug. 219 Receiving orders only by *voice-tube transmitted from the deck. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 91 Electric wires, telephones, voice tubes, and engines of every sort.

Voice (vois), *v.* Also 5 voyse, voise, 6–7 voyce, 7 *Sc.* woyce. [f. prec.]

I. *trans.* **1.** In passive: To be commonly said or stated; to be spoken of generally or publicly; to be reported, rumoured, or bruited *abroad*. ? *Obs.*

a. With *for, as, to be*, or simple complement.

1453 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 49 Johane, the wyfe of Robert Ielyngham, chapman, saith ye voysed for a myche governyd woman. 1626 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 148 Here is much lamentation for the King of Denmark, whose disaster is voiced by all to be exceeding great. 1638 MAYNE *Lucius* (1664) 206 Nor are they..to be pointed at by passengers, and voiced the most Valiant among equalls. 1639 HEYLIN *Certamen Epist.* 33 A Book of mine called Respondit Petrus..was publiquely voyced abroad, to have been publiquely burnt in London. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 63 About the House was a delicate Garden, voiced to be the pleasantest in India. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxv, Not long should Roderick Dhu's renown Be foremost voiced by mountain fame. 1822 — *Nigel* xxix, Your father was voiced generally as..one of the bravest men of Scotland.

†b. In impersonal use, *it is voiced*. Usually introduced by *as*, or const. *that, how*. *Obs.*

(*a*) 1458 *Paston Lett.* I. 425 The King's safe conduct is not holden but broken, as it is voiced here. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 72 Which grevous offence, as it is voised accustumablie,..hathe be more usid under..youre obeisaunce..than in othir straunge regions. 1589 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 605 A prayer..made by her Maiestie, as it was voyced. 1689 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* I. 176 Pennington hasted to Oxford where the Parliament was reassembled, but as was voiced, was there concealed till the Parliament was dissolved.

(*b*) 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sins* II. (Arb.) 20 After it was voyc'd that Monsieur Mendax came to dwell amongst them. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 95 When it was voyced, how graciously he had spoken to the Senate. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 138 The Duke of Albany..made it to be voiced abroad, that he had no purpose to stir out of France this year. 1652 C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* VI. 52 When it was voic'd how Graciously he spoke,..All men were pleas'd.

†c. Const. *upon* (a thing or person). *Obs.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 5 For one miracle reported to be wrought by the Crucifix, not so few perhaps as an hundred are voiced upon those other Images. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndom.* II. 54 If the Church groundeth not the canonization of Saints upon the report of miracles voyced on them.

†d. In miscellaneous uses. *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLV. XXVII. 1219 Giving no credite to the fame that was voiced of the Romans victorie, they cruelly handled certaine Romane souldiours. 1628 HOSKES *Thucyd.* (1822) 13 The causes of the breach of the league publickly voiced, were these. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 473 And now these Articles being published in the neighbourhood, and thence voiced abroad, drew many to them.

†2. Similarly in active use: To speak of, state, report, proclaim, etc. *Obs.*

Used (*a*) with or (*b*) without complement. Cf. sense 1.

(*a*) 1597–8 BACON *Ess., Suitors* (Arb.) 46 Secrecie in Suites is a great meane of obtayning, for voicing them to bee in forwardness may discourage some kinde of suters, but doth quicken and awake others. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. lxxxiii, Many sought to feed The easie creditours of nouelties, By voycing him aliue. 1644 FEATLY *Roma Ruens* 2 So you papists generally, though you are a medly or oento of many heresticks,..yet you voyce your selvs Catholikes. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* (1673) II. 53 He voiced my book all over as a most pernicious engine against the whole body of the clergy.

(*b*) 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Span. Gipsy* II. ii, He, as report Was bold to voice, retir'd himself to Rhodes. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* II. i, With much joy [she] returned home, and, as report voiced it at Athens, enjoyed her happiness. 1633 — *Love's Sacr.* II. i, Yet for the friendship 'twixt my lord and you, I have not voic'd your follies.

†3. To speak much or highly of; to praise or cry *up* (a person or thing). Usually in the passive.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 498 The publike calamities of her countrey..caused her to be well knowne and voiced in the world. 1654 W. JENKYN *Fun. Serm.* Ep. Ded. A ij b, Nothing is more ordinary than for the wicked to voice up dead Ministers for..blessed men, whom in their life-time ..they bitterly opposed. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greyb.* 149 Such was this advancement of Abbot to the Arch-Bishoprick, voic'd and carried up so high by the Cabal of the Puritans.

†b. To speak of (one) in a certain way. *Obs.*—[1]

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 81 Is this th' Athenian Minion, whom the world Voic'd so regardfully?

†4. To elect (a person) by voice or vote; to name, nominate, or appoint to an office. Also with *out*. *Obs.*

1606 BACON *Let. Ld. Salisbury* Several Lett. (1657) 40 Because I have been voiced to it [*sc.* the Solicitor's place], I would be glad it were done. 1623 BP. SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 96 We may well voice him for a magistrate;..that hath the fewest and least [defects]. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* IV. 186 Praxaspes begins his oration,..Then told them whom in his [*sc.* Cyrus's] stead they had voyced into the Sacred Empire. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Cl.) II. 363 He desyrit the moderatour to voice out tuelf of thair bretheren to sit..at thair committee.

†b. With complement. *Obs.*—[1]

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 242 Say..that Your Minds pre-occupy'd..made you against the graine To Voyce him Consull.

†c. To vote for (something). *Obs.*—[1]

1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* v. 20 They that were present had voyce, they who voyced the Canons, joyned in the decree.

5. To speak or utter (a word, etc.); **†**to sound or pronounce in utterance *like* (something).

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 18 Some words I gather'd from one of the gravest of them, which (being voyced like the Irish) if I give it hardly to be pronounced, you may excuse mee. 1648 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 167 Again that name hath knelled upon mine ear, Though I have never voiced it. 1866 LOWELL *Biglow Papers Ser.* II. Introd. The Americanisms with which we are faulted and which we are in the habit of voicing. 1904 WEYMAN *A&. Vigne* xxiii, He was more than content if the little fool would.. voice no cries.

Ag. 1895 LANIER *Symphony* 265 And man shall sing thee a true-love song, Voiced in act his whole life long.

†b. To announce (something) *to* a person. *Obs.*

1629 R. HALL in *Bp. Hall's Wks.* (1839) XI. 407 Was it lately voiced to thee from heaven, concerning those wretched animals stabling in France, 'Arise, Pope Urban, kill and eat?'

c. To inform or tell (a person) *that* (etc.).

1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 134 Till chance had there voiced me That one I loved valiantly in sonage Had caused her to be.

6. To give voice, utterance, or expression to (an emotion, opinion, etc.); to express in words or with the voice; to proclaim openly or publicly.

Common from *c* 1880 in both Eng. and U.S. use.

1607–12 BACON *Ess., Gt. Place* (Arb.) 280 Rather assume this right in silence and *de facto*, then voyce it with claimes and Challenges. 1825 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVI. 429 None daring to give utterance to a thought, or to voice the thrill of emotion which even every coward's heart must have felt. 1880 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI. ix. 264 The will of a united and resolute people was voiced by our great English journal. 1898 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Coll. & Recoll.* xx. 258 St. Aldegonde..voiced the universal sentiment of his less fortunate fellow-citizens.

refl. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 203 Again the world-soul voiced itself, and I Drank in the fruitful glories of her words.

b. *poet.* Of birds, the wind, etc.

1822 B. W. PROCTER *Misc. Poems, Mids. Madness*, But I may hear..the lost nightingale, Voice her complaint. 1829 SOUTHEY *Young Dragon* IV. 57 Wherefore, ye happy Birds, your mirth Are ye in carols voicing? 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXI. 316 The windy forest, rousing from its sleep, Voices its heart in hoarse, Titanic roar.

absol. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 101 The bird Makes his heart voice amid the blaze of flowers.

c. Of words, writings, etc.

1830 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 88 Words in vain shall voice my sorrow. 1889 W. M. THAYER *Life A. Lincoln* XXV. 337 These earnest words voice his abiding interest in the loyal army. 1892 *Times* 13 June 6/2 This letter voices the opinion of my church in Ireland.

d. To act as the mouthpiece or spokesman of, to express the opinions of (a body of persons).

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 July 4/3 The leader of the South German Democrats rose to voice the Opposition. 1893 *Programme World's Congress* 3 A series of popular congresses ..voiced by the ablest living representatives.

7. *poet.* or *rhet.* To endow with voice, or the faculty of speech or song. Cf. VOICED *ppl. a.* 1.

a 1722 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 33 The God of Harmony voic'd all their Throats, And sweetly harmoniz'd their various Notes. 1721 A. HILL *Adv. Poets* xvi, Th' Almighty God, who gave the Sun to blaze, Voic'd the Great Poet, for his Maker's Praise. 1833 D. JERROLD *Chron. Clovernook* Wks. VI. 298 Upon the shore are beautiful shells, red-lipped as Venus, and voiced with wondrous singing.

b. *Organ-building.* To give the correct quality of tone to (an organ or organ-pipe). Cf. VOICING *vbl. sb.* 4.

1708 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 380 Agreed.. y^t Mr Christopher..do finish the Organ by tuning and voicing it. 1725 *Ibid.* 581, 30 pounds for cleaning and voicing ye Chapel Organ. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., To voice*, an expression applied by organ-builders to the regulating the tone of a pipe. *To Voice a Pipe*, is to bring it to its intended tone and power. 1858 J. BARON *Scudamore Organs* 27 Such an organ, if properly voiced and played, will have a clear, ringing, truthful tone. 1882 W. E. DICKSON *Pract. Organ-building* IX. 121 The skill, taste, and judgment with which it is finally voiced and regulated.

c. To sound (a musical instrument). *rare*—[1].

1728 R. NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 26 It is said the tibia had four foramina..., by which I guess it was voiced either by the lippe, as a cornett, or els by some reedall.

8. *Phonology.* To utter (a sound) with vibration of the vocal chords. Cf. VOICED *ppl. a.* 3.

1877 [see VOICED *ppl. a.*]. 1888 SWEET *Eng. Sounds* 18 Dutch still voices final *s* in stressless words such as *is* and *was* when a vowel follows.

9. *Mus.* To write the voice-parts for (a piece of music).

1873 HILES *Dict. Mus. Terms* (ed. 2) 227 To voice, also means, writing the voice parts, regard being had to the nature and capabilities of each kind of voice.

II. *intr.* **†10.** To use the voice; to cry out, exclaim, make outcry. Also *to voice it*. *Obs.*

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 295 The silver-Smith at Ephesus made a head of such good fellowes, voycing it as strongly as their Captaine against the Apostle. 1632 QUARLES *Div. Fancies* II. xxvii, If thou wilt give me David's heart, He voyce, Great God, with David; and make David's choyce. 1682 SOUTHERNE *Loyal Brother* III. i, Were those soft slaves of leachery..To head an Army?.. How wou'd they voice it o're and o're for Tachmas To come, and blunt the edge of War again!

†11. To vote; to give a vote or votes. *Obs.*

a 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 386 Mr. Thomas and the rest abode in the place, and according as they had voiced, appointed Mr. Patrick Weimes..to be received Minister. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epicr.* § 42. 290, I remember also that this place is pretended for the peoples power of voycing in Counsells.

†b. With complement. *Obs.*—[1]

1638 *Act Gen. Assembly Ch. Scot.* (1682) 14 In this pretended Assembly..the voicers were threatned to voice *affirmative*, under no lesse paine nor the wrath of authoritie.

Voiced (voist), *ppl. a.* [f. VOICE *sb.* and *v.*]

1. Endowed with or possessing a voice; having a voice *like* that of some other person or being.

In some instances perhaps the passive participle.

a 1680 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* XXXVII. 10 Sen we ar voced, whairfor suld we refraine, To suffer pain for our bodies bene? 1642 DENHAM *Sophy* IV. 24 That's Erythræ Or some Angell voyc't like her. *a* 1800 KEATS *Wks.* (1884) II. 15 Where the germs take buoyant root in stormy Air,

sack lightning sap, and become voiced dragons. 1861 Ld. Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* II God to her rescue sends Voiced seraphims.

transf. 1834 Ld. Houghton *Mem. Tour Greece* 138 How were ye voiced, ye Stars,—how cheerily Castor and Pollux spoke to the quivering seaman. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 108/2 All was silence and all was solitude, and yet all was voiced and all was full. 1861 Ld. Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 34 Oft have you flooded this fair space with song, Waked these voiced walls, and vocal made yon roof.

b. Having a voice of a specified kind, quality, or tone.

For *clear-*, *faint-*, *gentle-*, *hoarse-*, *hollow-*, *loud-*, *low-*, †*nine-*, †*rank-* (1513), *rough-*, *shrill-*, *soft-*, *sweet-voiced*, etc., see the adjs.

1637 Austin *Hec Homo* v. 128 Ovid..advised women (who are so angel-like voyced) to learne by musicks rules, to order it. 1824 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 61 Never were rills and fountains So merrily voiced as these.

†2. Much or highly spoken of; commended, famed. *Obs.*—1

1661 *Life T. Fuller* 14 He continued his pious endeavours of preaching in most of the voyced pulpits of London.

3. *Phonology.* Uttered with voice (or vibration of the vocal chords) as opposed to breath; sonant. Said esp. of certain consonants, as opposed to those which are *voiceless* (see Voiceless *a.* 5).

1867 A. M. Bell *Visible Sp.* 67 The initially voiced *v* sinks imperceptibly into its voiceless correspondent *f*—as if the word were written *leavf.* 1876 Douse *Grimm's L.* App. D. 195 The action of the chordæ in the production of voiced sounds. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 64 The pronunciation of certain letters is also somewhat indistinct, especially the voiced explosives such as *b*, *d*, *g*.

b. Of breath.

1877 Sweet *Handbk. Phonetics* 74 As stops can only be voiced by driving voiced breath into an air-tight chamber, they cannot be continued for any length of time.

Voiceful (voi·sfŭl), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.* [f. Voice *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Endowed with, or as if with, a voice; having voice or power of utterance; vocal.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xviii. 459 The Seniors then did beare The voicefull Heralds scepters 1842 Faber *Styrian Lake*, etc. 100 And for the voiceful Church and poor mute world Doth he not keep his potent Cross unfurled? 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* i. 11 As they supposed that Song had been learned by man first, and by all voiceful creatures.

transf. 1842 Faber *Styrian Lake*, etc. 43 Man's voiceful destinies, Like the surge of meeting seas, Are to them but a wild song. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. ix § 24. 301 Death, not silent or patient, waiting his appointed hour, but voiceful, venomous.

b. Of a stream, the sea, etc.

Also in the sense of 'full of sound or sounds'.

1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II iii. 70 To take the kinde ayre of a wistfull morne Neere Tauies voycefull streame. 1828 Coleridge *Fancy in Nubibus* 14 That blind Bard, who..Beheld the Iliad and the Odyssee Rise to the swelling of the voiceful sea! 1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* xxviii. 316 Our green lanes and voiceful woods. 1891 Miss Dowie *Girl in Karp.* 202 The trumpeters..blew long notes of inconsequent music, which the Ceremonies caught in its voiceful waters.

c. Vocal *with*, expressive *of*, something.

(*a*) 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. xiv. § 10 The mountains were thus voiceful with perpetual rebuke. 1863 Goulburn *Office H. Comm.* I. 79 A law..every statute of which..is voiceful with condemnation. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 320 He sailed along shores of which every hill and promontory is voiceful with heroic memories.

(*b*) 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* IX. 76 Blake's poems..run on a sort of parallel of contrast—the one creative, the other voiceful of revolt and self-consciousness.

2. Of or pertaining to the voice; uttered by the voice or voices.

1821 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 75. (1822) II. 177 He has less of the oracular or voiceful part of his art. 1867 Howells *Ital. Journ.* 62 In clamorous Italy, whose voiceful uproar strikes to the summits of her guardian Alps. 1876 Farrar *Marlb. Serm.* xxxi. 308 Every silent, every voiceful appeal to that which each of us has in him of purest and sweetest.

3. Involving much speech or argument; contentious. *rare*—1.

1879 Meredith *Egoist* II. vi. 137 Dr. Middleton assented and entered on the voiceful ground of Greek metres.

Hence **Voi·cefulness.**

1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* vi. § 10. 172 That deep sense of voicefulness..which we feel in walls that have long been washed by the passing waves of humanity.

Voi·celess, *a.* [f. Voice *sb.* + -less.]

1. Having no voice; destitute of the power of utterance; uttering no words or speech; dumb, mute.

In group (*b*) applied to immaterial things.

(*a*) 1535 Coverdale *Acts* viii. 32 As a lambe voycelesse before his sherer so opened he not his mouth. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* x. xii, Peace in the silent streets! save when the cries Of victims to their fiery judgement led, Made pale their voiceless lips. 1849 De Quincey *Eng. Mail-Coach* III. iv. Wks. 1890 XIII. 325 Clinging to the horns of the altar, voiceless she stood. 1857 Tennyson *Enid* 1115 Mute As creatures voiceless thro' the fault of birth. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* ii, Lavender did not care to remain among those voiceless monuments of a forgotten past.

absol. 1835 Singleton *Virgil* II. 108 He of the voiceless both a council calls And gains the knowledge of their lives. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* xxiv, The men waited for some seconds silent as the voiceless.

(*b*) 1816 Byron *Monody on Sheridan* 10 Who hath not shared that calm so still and deep, The voiceless thought which would not speak but weep. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 766 It is the public good which is so often powerless and voiceless in presence of the audacity of private wrong. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* liv, The deadly wrong..had excited an indignation..which, though it was voiceless, had made itself felt.

b. Having no voice in the control or management of affairs.

a 1634 Coke *Inst.* IV. i. (1648) 5 The Proctors of the Clergy ..were voicelesse Assistants;..and having no voices, and so many learned Bishops having voices, their presence is not now holden necessary.

c. Failing, unable, or not attempting, to express one's feelings or opinions; silent, mute. Also *absol.*

1863 J. G. Holland *Lett. to Joneses* ix. (1864) 129 The world will never come to you..you must go to the world or die voiceless. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 28 June 1/1 The surrender of the voiceless, helpless masses of the population to their Turkish taskmasters. 1890 C. W. R. Cooke *4 Y. in Parl.* 69 By the voiceless I mean the men who have the capacity to speak, and the desire, but have missed their opportunities.

2. Characterized by the absence of sound; in or on which no voice or sound is heard; silent, still.

In this and the two following senses chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.*

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 662 Motionless, As their own voiceless earth and vacant air. 1820 Byron *Juan* III. lxxxvi, On thy voiceless shore The heroic lay is tuneless now. 1830 S. Dobell *Roman* viii. 27 The sweet content of voiceless woods After the nightingale. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 156 To an inhabitant of the Earth, our light-giver by night would appear..but a silent and voiceless desert.

3. Not expressed or uttered by the voice or in speech; unspoken, unuttered.

1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xcvii, I live and die unheard, With a most voiceless thought, sheathing it as a sword. 1839 Longf. *Footsteps of Angels* ix, Uttered not, yet comprehended, Is the spirit's voiceless prayer. 1862 T. C. Grattan *Beaten Paths* II. 218 A dead silence followed the fall of the curtain; and I felt..the voiceless verdict of 'damnation'. 1865 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* xi. (1878) 296 Secret as the voiceless language of the soul.

4. Characterized by, or causing, loss of speech or vocal utterance; speechless.

1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxix, The Niobe of nations! there she stands, Childless and crownless, in her voiceless woe. 1843 *Chambers's Edin. Jrnl.* 47/2 Her lips parted with a voiceless agony. 1879 Tourgée *Fool's Err.* xxxiv. 225 Dumb mouths which spoke of the voiceless agony of death.

5. *Phonology.* Produced or uttered without voice or vocalic tone; surd. Said esp. of certain consonants in opposition to Voiced *ppl. a.* 3.

1867 A. M. Bell *Visible Sp.* 67 Where the voiceless correspondent of a vocal consonant is separately heard. 1874 Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* IV. xi. 1333 The great relations between voiced and voiceless consonants. 1877 Sweet *Handbk. Phonetics* 75 Consonants with voiceless stop and breath off-glide are called 'breath' or 'voiceless' stops.

Voi·celessly, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a voiceless manner; without speech or utterance; silently.

1851 Meredith *Daphne* lii, Voicelessly the forest Virgin Vanished! 1887 T. Hempstead in *Harper's Mag.* April 677 The river sliding there, Voicelessly, slowly down. 1890 D. C. Murray *J. Vale* xxviii, The engineer, accustomed to rough fare, attacked it cheerfully; but Snelling waved it voicelessly away.

Voi·celessness. [f. as prec.] The fact or condition of being voiceless, in various senses.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 74 Dreadful as if distilled from the voicelessness of the graves of a buried world. 1874 Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* III. 1126 To indicate voicelessness, prefix (') to a whispered, or (") to a voiced letter. 1877 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 38 The utter voicelessness of the common people in any point when the Law or the Senate had spoken.

Voi·celet. [f. Voice *sb.* + -let.] A little voice.

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 809 The voicelets of the Dwarfs sounded only like a light whisper.

Voicer (voi·sər). [f. Voice *v.*]

†1. *Sc.* One who votes or has the right to do this; a voter. *Obs.*

1638 [see Voice *v.* 12 b]. 1641 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 340 They..will force the King either to be our agent, and formall voycer to his death, or else doe the world knows not what. 1651 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1893) II. 32 He was..a voicer in Parliament for that ingagement.

2. *Organ-building.* One who voices the pipes of an organ; esp. a skilled workman whose special task it is to do this.

1879 *Organ Voicing* 12 Touching the manufacture of all pipes, it is of paramount importance to the voicer, that they should be thoroughly well made. 1882 W. E. Dickson *Pract. Organ-building* ix. 119 Thus completed and cleaned over, the pipes are handed to the voicer. 1889 Stainer in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 335/2 Few are equally good voicers both of reed and flue-pipes.

Voicing (voi·sĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Voice *v.*]

†1. The action, fact, or process of voting by voice; voting; election, nomination, or decision by vote. *Obs.*

1623 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 94 We must confer our voices ..upon those whom..we conceive to be the fittest; and the greater the place is..the greater ought our care in voycing to be. 1649 Bp. Guthrie *Mem.* (1702) 119 It was not the Custom in Assemblies for any Man..to interrupt Voicing by Discourses; every one was to answer to the Question, Yea, or Nay, and no more. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Cl.) II. 292 It gois to voiceing, and, be pluralitie of voices, found, no man sould be raisit aganes the countrie.

2. The action or fact of uttering with the voice; the speaking or utterance *of* something; also, †mentioning, speaking about.

?*c* 1613 Bacon *Wks.* (1879) I. 493/1 That the very voicing or suspect of the raising of the price of silver..would make..a deadness and retention of money. 1632 Massie *Celestina* vi. 72 Being wounded with that golden shaft, which at the very voycing of your name, had struck her to the heart. 1697 J. Watts *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 18 The one professeth by their due hearing, and the other by their due voicing (*i.*), Preaching the word of Faith. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* xii. 517 Poetry..makes great efforts to express..this finest part of the voicing of language. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 896/1 When Bryant's sweet and solemn voicing of nature's meanings and life's mysteries will fail in their music to the ears of men.

3. Speech, vocal utterance; enunciation.

1822 B. W. Procter *Juan* i, Be silent.., ye ministers Of death and darkness (for your voicing doth Bespeak ye terrible agents). 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Beauty* Wks. (Bohn) II. 430 The clergy have bronchitis .. Macready thought it came of the falsetto of their voicing.

b. With *a* and pl.

1849 M. Arnold *New Sirens* 47 Till at evening we descry At a pause of Siren voicings These vext branches and this howling sky. 1873 W. S. Mayo *Never Again* xi. 145 Expound me, then, these mystic voicings.

c. Expression or utterance. *rare.*

1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 29 Nov. 772 How much of all that is best in our modern life had voicing and in some manner organic formulation in this little town.

4. *Organ-building.* The operation or process of obtaining the correct quality of tone in an organ-pipe or stop, or of obtaining the same tone in a series of these; the tone so obtained.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 2/1 The tone of the pipes..depending on what is technically called the voicing. 1879 *Organ Voicing* 28 The only difference in the voicing consists in keeping the mouth a trifle lower. 1889 Stainer in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 335/2 In testing the voicing of an organ-stop.

attrib. 1879 *Organ Voicing* 25 If..the voicing operations [are] cleanly and correctly done.

5. *Phonetics.* The action or process of producing or uttering with voice or sonancy.

1874 Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* III. 1113 In middle Germany, where the distinctions (p b, t d) are practically unknown,.. recourse is had to what Brücke and M. Bell consider as whispering instead of voicing.

Void (void), *a.* and *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–7 voyde (5–6 woyde, 6 wyde), 4–7 voide (6 woide); 4–8 voyd (6 voyed, 6–7 *Sc.* woyd), 4– void (5 voied, 6 woid); *Sc.* 6 vode (9 vodd). [a. AF. and OF. *voide* (OF. also *vuide*, *veude*, etc.; mod.F. *vide*), fem. of *voit*, *vuit*, *vuis*, etc.:—pop.L. **vocitum*, *-us*, replacing L. *vacuus*. Cf. Pr. *voit*, *voig*, It. *voto*.]

A. *adj.* I. 1. Of a see, benefice, etc.: Having no incumbent, holder, or possessor; unoccupied, vacant.

c 1290 *Beket* 594 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 123 Þat no bischopriche ne non Abbeie also, Þat were voyde with-oute prelat, In þe kingus hond were I-do. *c* 1450 *Contin Brut* II. 360 Ser Roger Walden, that King Richard had made Archebischop of Caunterbury, be made Bischop of London, for þat time it stode voyde. 1473–5 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 61 They beyng so seased, the chirch fell voyde. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, *c.* 25 § 2 Whensoever..any of ther Sees to be voyde be eny other ways. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 36 The See was voyde fiue yeres, and the goodes of the Church spent to the-kinges vse. 1596 Drayton *Legends* iv. 705 If some Abbey hapned void to fall, By death of Him that the Superiour was. 1628 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. VII. (ed. 3) 324, I know not..in what Cathedral Church, a fat Prebend fell voide. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist* II. iv. § 45 Winchester lay void six, and Sherburn seven years. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 684 In the said See, after it had laid void till Nov. 1688, did succeed Dr. Tho. Lamplugh. *a* 1725 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 248 He was removed to Winchester void by Duppa's death. 1785 Paley *Mor. Philos.* III. I. xx, The advowson of a void turn, by law, cannot be transferred from one patron to another. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 223/2 If a donative is the second living taken without a dispensation, the first is not made void by the statute. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. iii, The chairs of the prelates of London and Canterbury were void.

b. Similarly of secular offices.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 109 Norþhumberlonde was voyde wi, oute kyng eiȝte ȝere. *c* 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1905) 43 Hit was knowyn that thurh the deposicion,..and causes forseyd,.. the Rewme off Englond was voyde for the tyme. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xix. 67 Your fader.. lefte hys landes and possessyons voyde, without lord. 1535 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 308, I am aceerteynyd that the Rowmes of your foure Clarkes are now furnyshyd & non of theym voide. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 158 b, This office had bene for ever voyde synce the death of the Duke of Bourbon. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 54 To bee Lord President of Mounster, which place had layen void some few monethe. 1670 Walton *Lives* II. 123 The Provostship of His Majesties Colledge of Eaton became void by the death of Mr. Thomas Murray. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. I. iii. (1710) 6 Seventy Queen's Scholars are..sent yearly to King's College in Cambridge, as Places become void. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 660 This last was evidently the earldom made void by the death of Ælfhelm.

†c. *Void money*, money which has accumulated during the vacancy of an office. *Obs.*

1513 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Rec. off voyd money at þe payment off Lomas. Rec. off voyd money off þe payment off Philyp and Jacobe. 1539 *Ibid.*, Rec. of the voyd money vs. ij d.

2. Of a seat, saddle, etc.: Having no occupant; in which no one is sitting, lying, etc.; empty.

23.. *Cœur de L.* 5079 Ther was a many a voyd sadyl. *a* 1350 *St. Stephen* 226 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 31 Paire graues er both voyd & bare. 24.. *Tyndale's Vis.* 2043 Tyndale saw..A sige that was full bryght schynand, But hyt was voyde wen he saw hyt. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 59 At this table was euer a voyde place, that betokeneth the place of Iudas. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. ii. (1883) 165 He may put hym in the voyde space to fore the phisicyen. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 259/1 Whan her fader & moder sawe her chare come home empty & voide thenne they did do seke their doughter oueral. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Transtrum nauium*, a seate voyde or emptie. 1695 SIBBALD *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 She was interred in her father's grave in the isle of Torphichen upon the part of the through stone that was voyd. *a* 1723 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 80, I stept in and sate down on the first void Seat. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 42 Behold, instead, Void at Verona, Juliet's marble trough. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1897) 120 'We know the Shrine is void,' they said, 'The Goddess flown'.

†b. Of a horse: Having no rider. *Obs. rare.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. viii. 129 Accolon mounted vpon a voyde hors. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Inanis*, *Inanis equus*, a voyde or emptie horse: a leere horse.

c. Of a house or room: Unoccupied; untenanted. Now chiefly *dial.*

1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 96 A howse at fayster lane, voyd by iij quarters. 1508 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 127 The same ten[emen]t..stood wyde without ani tenant many yeres afore. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 10 Happily they slipped into some Noble mans voide house in London. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 471, 720. mansions: whereof 224. stood void. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 217 Eu'ry Inn so full, That no void Room in Chamber, or on Ground,.. was to be found. 1866– in dial. glossaries (Shetland, Shropshire, Worc., Herts., Glouc.).

3. Of places: Destitute of occupants or inhabitants; not occupied or frequented by living creatures; deserted, empty.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 192 Tille Acres bei him led, better hele to haue In þer way ilk dele þei fond voide als bethe. *Ibid.* 305 Alle voide was þe place, þe bataile slayn & done all within þat space 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 390 Sen þat place in heven bright Was made voyde thurgh þe syn of pride. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3221 Wel two Mile to loke aboute a stryde voide þer nas, þat of þat ilke heþenene route al ful was euery plas 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 129 Otheris sayde that hit was to drede that thay sholde fynde the Cite of grece woyde. 1483 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxiv, On the quhele was lytill void space. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* II. (1811) 25 Ye kyng wᵗ thaduyce of his Barons graunted vnto them a voyde and wast countre. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* iii. 45 As for Ierusalem, it laye voyde, and was as it had bene a wyldernesse. There wente no man in nor out at it. 1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 209 That he might know that the world..should not be a desert and voyde place for ever. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 184 Finding it [the realm] than voyd in a maner and bair of strang handes to defend it. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* (1678) 79 An appetite keen as a Wolf upon the void plains of the North. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 675 Where void spaces on the walls appear, Or thin defence, they pour their forces there. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xvii, In the void offices around Rung not a hoof, nor bay'd a hound. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 197 The scanty pasture-fields were void and empty.

b. Not occupied by buildings or other useful structures; unutilized, vacant.

1442 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 387 For cariage of xxvj lodes of lome fro the fundacion of the College..in to a woyde place. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 90/1 A cottage, and a voide place conteignyng by estimation a Rode. 1519 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* (ed. Nash) 3 A void grownd in the North side of the said mill lane. 1548 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 93 A tenement late in the tenure of John Alestre and a voide peyce of grownde with a gardeyn. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* xxii. 10 The King of Iudah sate..in a voyd place in the entrance of the gate of Samaria. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 50 Near this Castle Gate, in a void place of the street are two pulpits handsomely built of stone. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 72 Hamadan is a very large Town, but contains many void places, Gardens, and even ploughed Fields within it. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. 143 In the middle of each square was likewise all void ground. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist.* I. 113 There is a great Deal of void Ground, within the Walls [of Winchester]. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 191 Most likely it stood in the void space between the mound, the gateway, and the later

†c. Unproductive, uncultivated. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. xlviii. (Bodl. MS.), A feelde þat is yered hatte Noualis oþer feelde þat lieþ voide euer þe oþer 3ere to renewe his vertu. 1618 W LAWSON *Country Housew. Garrd.* (1626) 6 Men and cattell (that haue put trees thence, from out of Plaines to void corners) are better then trees.

4. Not occupied by visible contents; containing no matter; empty, unfilled: a. Of receptacles, or things of similar form.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 191 We..With voide handes schul appiere, Touchende oure cure spiritel. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 53 3if þei weren sepultures, þei scholden not ben voyd with inne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. 255 (Harl. MS.), Hit is a woyde tonne, caste oute with sum men fro sum shippe. *c* 1500 *For to serve a Lord* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 370 Cutte away the nekke in a voyde plate. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 25 All there Caringis were sette in voyde granges and barnes. *a* 1533 — *Huon* xlv. 150 Incontynent the cuppe was voyde, and yᵉ wyne vanyshyd away. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 83 They vse to serue in sower crawt or cabbage vpon a voide circle of earued Iron standing on three feete. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III. 447 But Venus, foam-sprung Goddess,..snapp'd short the brace,..And the void helmet follow'd as he pull'd.

b. In general use. (Freq. of place or space.)

1393 PIERS PL. *Husb.* § 36 The small corne lyeth in the holowe and voyde places of the greate beanes. 1598 BARR *Theor. Warres* III. ii. 82 With their shot bestowed, in the 4 voyde angles or corners. *a* 1639 T. CAREW *Truce in Love entrented* i, For see my heart is made thy Quiver, where remaines No voyd place for another Dart. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 88 Nor can endure to fill up a void Place, At a Line's End, with one insipid Phrase. 1697 J. POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. viii. (1715) 39 The Spaces between..lest void to admit the Light. 1794 HUTTON *Philos. Light*, etc. 49 It therefore passes as freely through a transparent body as through the voidest space. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 182 There are no void spaces among the basaltes. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xlvii, Dart thy spirit's light Beyond all worlds, until its spacious might Satiate the void circumference. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 428 An eagle wrought in gold That..with void mouth gapes after emptier prey.

Comb. 1837 G. MACDONALD *Poems* 140 The air is as the breath From the lips of void-eyed Death.

†c. *Void room*, an unfurnished or unoccupied room serving as an entrance or waiting hall. *Obs.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 12 You see a voyd roome before the Kitchin, whiche is an entrie both to the Kitchin..and to the Oxhouses. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 123/2 Betweene which & the lower end of the house is a void roome seruing for the lower house, and for all sutors.

†d. Of paper, etc.: Blank, not written on; containing no writing or lettering. *Obs.*

1551 ASCHAM *Lett.* Wks. 1865 I. II. 286 Because this paper is void, I cannot leave talking with you. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 728 A mangled Inscription..broken heere and there with voide places betweene. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xvii. 202 Keep the left side of your Book void, that you may write all the Passages of the Voyage. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. 360 He had every head of enquiry separately wrote down on a sheet of paper, with a void space opposite to it.

e. *spec.* Having the centre empty or not filled in.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot., There were in old time foure maners of pricking, one al blacke which they tearmed blacke full, another which we vse now which they called black void. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Bastions Void* or *Hollow*, are those that have a Rampart and Parapet ranging only round about their Flanks and Faces, so that a void Space is left toward the Centre.

†5. Empty-handed; destitute. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. (1868) 50 Yif þou haddest entred in þe paþe of þis lif a voide wayfaryng man, þan woldest þou synge by-fore þe þeef. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xii. 3 The erthe tilieres..beten him takun, and leften him voyde. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 25 He wolde not go from hym voyde. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 759/1 My sonne..shall not returne againe to me voyde or emptie. For he shall bring with him the fathers out of Limbus.

†b. *Void (of) course*, said of a planet: (see quot. 1679). *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 114 Now fleeth Venus unto Cylenius tour, With voide cours, for fere of Phebus light. 1679 MOXON *Math. Dict., Void of Course.* A Planet is said to be so, when he is separated from one Planet, and doth not during his being in that Sign, Apply to any other, either by Body or Aspect.

6. †a. Of persons, etc.: Empty or destitute of good qualities; worthless. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 36 He þat seiþ to his broþer þat haþ þe holi gost..þat he is voide & wiþ-oute kunnynge. 1382 — 2 *Peter* I. 8 Thei shulen not ordeyne 3ou voyde, ne with outen fruyt, in the knowinge of oure Lord Jhesu Crist. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xcii. 421 (Add. MS.), Ye ——— or ellys ye han fastid to mych, that your hede is voyde. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1346/1 They that do persecute, be voyde and without all truth. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 45 Empty words she gave, and sounding strain, But senseless, lifeless I idol void and vain!

b. Of speech, action, etc.: Ineffective, useless, leading to no result.

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* lv. 11 My wrd..shal not be turned 3een voide to me, but shal do what euere thingus I wolde. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 154 In voyde wordis onely is hare memory makyd. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xx. 23 Wipdrawe þiself fro voide spekinges & idel circuites. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1453 In certaynte haue I All worldely pleasures,..and honour, With all voyde busynesse, and cures transytory. *Ibid.* 1809 O gloryous vyrgyn, replete with synguler grace,..Refusynge voyde pleasures. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 145 For all was ioy that I did fele: And of voide wandering I was free. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lx. § 5 Despaire I cannot, nor induce my minde to thinke his faith voide. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. v. § 12 The end ought to be, from both philosophies to separate.. whatsoever is empty and void, and to preserve.. whatsoever is solid and fruitful. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Cor.* ix. 15 It were better for me to die, then that any man should make my glorying voyd. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* VII. 19 Void was her use, And she as one that climbs a peak to gaze O'er land and main. 1871 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* (ed. 9) III. 629/2 Void end means that neither side can score a cast. *Ibid.* 630/1 A void end shall be included in this provision. 1882 DUFFERIN in Lyall *Life* (1905) II. i. 13 Any serious communication we may make to the Ministers is as void as though it had been confided to the winds.

†c. Of material things: Superfluous, waste. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 23 This mone is ek for pampinacious Conseniens: void leves peld to be. 1494–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 215 For makyng of j ole in the chirche for voyde water. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 293 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 99 Wyth bones & voyd morsels fyll not thy trenchour, my friend, full.

d. Of looks: Vacant. *rare*—¹.

1798 COLERIDGE *Destiny of Nations* 253 Her flushed tumultuous features..now once more Naked, and void, and

7. Having no legal force; not binding in law; legally null, invalid, or ineffectual.

Null and void: see NULL a. 2 b.

1433–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 437/2 This thaire [illegible] grant for to stande in strengthe, and elles to be as voide and of noo valeure. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 321 That parliamente of kynge Ricardus was made voyde & as of noo valoure. 1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 513/1 An Acte for making voyde of a Statute concerning artificers. 1527 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmoreld. Archæol. Soc.* (1914) XIV. 80 This obligacione to be voide and of noe effect. 1580 DALTON tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 206 What soever is there done to be voyde and of none effect. 1590 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 102 B, Then the said couenant touching the paiment of &c. and the deliuering of the said bond to be cancelled, and either of them shalbe vtterly void. 1629 DONNE *Serm. 24 Feb.* (1626) 43 If the Bill were interlinde, or blotted, or dropt, the Bill was voyd. 1631 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxi. 121 Covenants, not to defend a mans own body, are voyd. 1672 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* I. i, The Force us'd on me made that Contract void. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 41. 265 She immediately made void certain Grants she had made. 1774 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* App., Wks. 1859 I. 130 The true ground on which we declare these acts void, is, that the British Parliament has no right to exercise authority over us. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 46 All statutes which they deemed void, contradictory, or superfluous. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xiv. 202 The Parliament declared that the same marriage had from the beginning been void. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xviii. II. 35 The election was declared void, and a new writ was issued.

b. In general use: Null, invalid.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 Ceremonyes..whiche all were euacuate and made voyde by the passyon of our sauyour Jesu Chryst. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* Prol., That repentaunce that he had before shuld be but voyde. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 102 Of this Argument, both the Proposition and Assumption are false, and so the Conclusion cannot but be voyd of it selfe. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 99 This makes void that common conceit and tradition of the Fish called *Faber marinus.* 1746 HOYLE *Games, Quadrille* 36 If there happen to be two Cards of the same sort, and found out before the Deal is ended, the Deal is void, but not otherwise. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. 225 The cast is void if the ball does not enter any of the holes. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* III. 57 Our vows Were, in some part, neglected and made void.

8. Of time: Free from work or occupation; unemployed, idle, leisure. Now *rare.*

c 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 23 Therefore though..a lesson be red but of one alone, yet thinke not that that is a voyde tyme to all the other to do what they wyll. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 161 To haue a commyn place appoyntyd.. wherin they myght at voyd tymys exercyse themselfys. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* IV. (1895) 142 All the voide time, that is betwene the houres of woorke, slepe, and meate. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* I. i, Haue you so much leasure and voide time from your owne priuate affaires, that [etc.]. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. i, I'll chain him in my study, that a void hours I may run o'er the story of his country. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxiv, That void interval which passes for him so slowly.. teems with events for his friends.

†b. Vacant in respect of office; marked by a vacancy or interregnum. *Obs.*

1480 *Waterf. Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 316 They that be chosen ballyffs one yere, shal not be chosen..without they have one yere voied betwxt. 1496 *Ibid.* 324 The eldest that have borne the office of Mairaltie shall have the same voide day, if he have noo daye before. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lxxi. 94 That Valens and Cæcina might obtaine some voide moneths that yeare to be Consuls in. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. vi. § 8. 329 There can be no void years found betweene Iosua and Othoniel. *Ibid.* xxii. § 11. 558 Yet some coniectures there are made, which tend to keepe all euen, without acknowledging any voide time.

†c. Of persons: Unemployed.

c 1480 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lix. 137 Nature louyþ k——..but grace can not be voide ner idel, but gladly takiþ upon him labour & trauelle.

†9. Lacking, wanting. *Obs.*—¹

1554–9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 4 In Chryst all fullness of power and myght dothe dwell; In hyme voyd was nothyng that was nydfull and fytt.

†10. Powerless, unable. *Obs.*—¹

1578 ROYDON in T. Procter *Gorg. Gallery* A ij b, But Sicophantes will neuer cease to swell Though (learnedly) themselues be voyde to write.

II. Const. *of* (occas. †*from*).

11. Devoid of, free from, not tainted with (some bad quality, fault, or defect).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 50 The lambish peple, voyd of alle vyce. *c* 1385—*L. G. W.* Prol. 167 Thus thise foweles, voide of al malice..songe alle of oon acorde. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 21 And Musik had, voyde of alle discord, Boece her clerk, withe hevenly armony. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1624 A ryoll king..herd off Wallace gouernance..and off his pruvyt prys, Off honour, trewth, and woid off cowatis. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Calliope* 18 Yet is she fayne, Voyde of disdayn Me to rethyne Her seruiture. 1580 DALTON tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 b, They oughte to be free and voyde from anger. 1595 *Locrine* II. ii. 3 We Coblers lead a merie life!..Void of all vnrule and of strife. 1605 EARL STIRLING *Alexandr. Trag.* IV. i, All love a courteous count'nance, voyd of Art. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 75 The said point could not be thought void of that cunning, wherein the writer excelled. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 66. 84 Let your Deliberations be void of Animosities. 1813 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 260 Our code void of quirks in a Blackstone is seen. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* xi. 233 A piece of flint glass,..by no means void of imperfections. 1882 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* I, He was a man void of mystery, and not given to secrets.

b. Free from, untouched by, not affected or impaired by (something unpleasant or hurtful).

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 809 On a camell rydyng, as voyde of all care. 1529 FISHER *Funeral Serm. Q. Richmond* Wks. (1876) 302 A lyfe voyde of all sorow &

encombraunce. 1522 More *Dr quat. Noviss.* Wks. 81/1 So ye never any of them had euer in their lines knowen or herd, either themself or any other voyd of these diseases. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 102 A place myght be assigned for the counsell, voyde of all daunger and suspicion. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LIX. vi, They prate and bable voide of feare. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 330 Some would haue him kept in a close, darke and quiet house, voyde from all noise. 1655 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* iv. 6 Never clogging the memory with several figures for words ..which with ease and void of confusion, are thus speedily.. letter for letter set down. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 585 Next Day, nor only that, but all the Moon,..Are void of Tempests. *Ibid.* II. 688 My next Desire is, void of Care and Strife, To lead a soft, secure, Inglorious Life. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) III. xxviii. 330. I, sanguine in my hopes, had expressed myself as void of all doubt but you would become a Catholick. 1820 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, Eachin alone had left it [the battle-ground] void of wounds. 1878 Marie A. Brown tr. *Runeberg's Nadeschda* III. 37 And void of fear..She goes to Woldmar.

† **c.** Clear or quit of (a person); vacant in respect of. *Obs.*

c 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III*, 48 b, Nowe nothinge was contrariant..to his pernicious purpose, but that his mancion was not voide of his wife. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 293 b, In the countrey round about were forces of Spaniyardes and Italians. Of whome to be voyde and free, they ..payde thirty thousand..crownes. 1652 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxiv. 188 The Parliament .. declared the Throne void of Edward the Fourth, and Henry the Sixth King.

12. Destitute of, not graced or ennobled by (some virtue or good quality).

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxix. (1859) 62 Thou arte weyne, and voyde of al maner of vertue. 1467 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 56 Ye poope holy prestis full of presomcion,..voyd of discrecion. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 61, I se the haltane in thy harlotrie,..Off every vertew woyd. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 24 The inhabitantes are.. vtterly voyde of all godly knowledge. 1555 — *Decades* (Arb.) 52 O vnthankefull Englande and voyde of honest shame. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 3 They haue been so voide of the orders and exercises of war of their forefathers. 1622 *Two Noble K.* III. i, O thou most perfidious That ever gently lookd; the voydest of honour That eu'r bore gentle Token. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 1074 Bad Fruit of Knowledge,..Which leaves us naked thus, of Honour void. 1688 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II 410, I am not so void of reson at this age bot that I can refran from duing myself and family any damag by play. 1706 Estcourt *Fair Example* v. i, Beauty, tho' void of Virtue, has the Power To make as well the Wise as Fools adore. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 136 But Hunger is void of all Compassion. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* vi. iv, She was totally void of judgment or discretion. 1827 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. viii. 660 Whom he represents as too void of character, to write anything of himself. 1831 Mackintosh *Hist. Eng.* II. 44 He was as void of manly as of kingly virtues. 1861 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xiv. 206 A person void of capacity, without any experience.

b. Destitute or deprived of, lacking or wanting (something desirable or natural).

The groups of quotations illustrate different types of context.

(*a*) *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1382 Came thedyr Attropos, voyde of all gladness, Wrappyd in hyr shete. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 298 Þat war voide of all gude esperance. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 33 Wolde of all ioy, but full of painfulnes. 1592 Timme *Ten Eng. Lepers* K iij, They find that they are utterly void of all helpe. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* v. 341 Voyd of all delight, cold, barren, bleake and dry. 1690 Child *Disc. Trade* (16,8) 14 The people poor, despicable, and voide of commerce. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 676 He took his way, thro' Forrests void of Light. 1709 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 90 It would not at first view be altogether void of probability. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VII. 643 Life void of joy, Sad prelude of Eternity in pain! 1812 Crabbe *Tales* II. 304 By various shores, he passed, on various seas, Never so happy as when void of ease. 1860 Burton *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 309 The records of endurance and martyrdom for conscience sake, can never be void of interest.

(*b*) 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 240 Ryghtful houe of ettyuge is, whan the stomake is purchet and clenset, and voyde of the mette. 1563 B. Googe *Eglogs* v. (Arb.) 47 Thy face good Egon [is] voide of blud, thine eles amased stare. 1581 W. Fulke in *Confer.* III. (1584) O iij b, Nay, hee saith plainely, they are not *Expertes corporis*, voyde of body. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* V. (1687) 183/2 If matter it self be in it self void of measure, it is necessary that it receive measure from some superiour. 1728 T. Sheridan tr. *Persius* v. (1739) 68 A white Shield void of any Figures in it. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* I. 378 This water, when newly melted, is totally void both of air, and of the aerial acid. 1815 J Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 489 It is colourless and void of smell, but intensely saline and bitter. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 124 Leaving 1727 cubic inches void of any material substance. 1839 Jephson & Reeve *Brittany* 237 The surface of the water was perfectly void of any ripple.

(*c*) 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 339 Philippus, kynge of Macedony, scholde destroye sone the cite if that hit were vacuate and voide of discrete men. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 97 Methocht Compassioun, voide of feiris, Than straik at me with mony ane stound. *c* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1533) II. 8 b/a To espye when he were voyde of his company, and then to take hym. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 298 He marched through wilde and desert places voide of inhabitants. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* X. 505 The Inhabitants being left void of a Gouernour, or solid Patrone.

(*d*) 1513 *Life Henry V* (Kingsford, 1911) 126 Whereby the Englishmen, voide of there requests, returned to there lodges. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. I. 240 He was depos'd, and declar'd void of the Papacy.

B. *sb.*[1] **1.** † **a.** One who is devoid *of* something. *Obs.*[—1]

1634 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* IV. 186 Their Immodest flame Fires none but Fools, Frantiks, or Voids of shame.

b. A state or condition devoid *of* something; a lack or want. *rare.*

1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 274 On account of the impossibility of making a perfect void of air by means of the pump. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VI. 358 Men in whom pride..supplies the void of sense. 1789 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 559 Nor has the society he has kept been such as to supply the void of education. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 273 Space is the void of outward objects.

2. Emptiness, vacancy, vacuity, vacuum.

a 1618 Sylvester *Trag. Hen. Gt.* 600 Who, from the Ocean, Motion can recall, Heat from Fire, Void from Air, Order from All. 1781 Lofft *Eudosia* VI. 349 In perfect void, the medium lost,..All substances with like velocity Descend. 1871 B Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. I. v. 67 Naught shalt thou see in endless void afar. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* iv. § 121. 133 But there is also void in things, else they would be jammed together.

fig. 1860 Pusey *Min. Propn.* 472 It leaves the feeling of void and forsakenness.

3. a. *Arch.* A space left in a wall for a window, or door; the opening of an arch; any unfilled space in a building or structure.

1626 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 341 The said Thomas ..sall build ane voyd hard be the said passage for letting doun the puinsis fronne the knock. 1728 Chambers tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 138 Massive is found over Massive, and Void under Void. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 120 The Thickness of each Pier is not one Third Part of the Void of each Arch. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 163 A very loose mode of..measuring *voids*, as the openings of doors and windows are termed. 1889 Hissey *Tour in Phaeton* 124 The windows are both prominent and graceful features in the building, not merely glazed voids.

b. An empty or vacant space; an unoccupied place or opening in something or between things; a vacancy caused by the removal of something.

Examples of the singular with *the* (cf. sense 4) are placed under (*a*). The use is often *fig.*, esp. in the phrase *to fill the void.*

(*a*) 1697 Dryden *Æneid* X. 634 From the forbidden space his men retired..He said, and to the void advanced his pace. 1737 [S. Berington] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 161 In the middle of this Concave is a golden Sun, hanging in the Void. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 209 All the tricks That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, deep, and wizard glen, So fathomless, so full of gloom, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer..would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of Nature.

(*b*) 1708 Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. I. iii. (1710) 353 There is..a Void within for the Soldiers Lodgings. 1712 Blackmore *Creation* 84 The Stars..At a vast distance from each other lye, Sever'd by spacious voids of liquid sky. 1822 Byron *Heaven & Earth* I. iii. 310 Without Him, even eternity would be A void. 1849 Julius Hare *Sermons* II. 469 We learn that the courts of heaven are not a bare void, but that..innumerable beings are there. 1862 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 932 If..a severe frost..destroys half the plants ..the voids are again filled up by the dispersion of the seeds.

c. *spec.* An absolutely empty space; a vacuum.

1727 Swift *Wonder of Wond.* Wks. 1755 II. II. 53 He is an atomic philosopher, strongly maintaining a void in nature. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* II. xix. 262 It [*sc.* space] is only an immense, eternal, immoveable, and indestructible void or emptiness. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xiv. (1840) 123 It is utterly incomprehensible that the celestial bodies should exert a reciprocal attraction through a void. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 33 Whether there was or was not a Void, or place without matter, had already been debated among rival sects of philosophers. 1905 *Times* 31 Aug. 7/4 Does not..the Democritean void again emerge?

fig. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 243 On superior pow'rs Were we to press, inferior might on ours: Or in the full creation leave a void. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 37 It seem'd A void was made in Nature; all her bonds Crack'd.

d. One of the small unoccupied spaces in a heap or mass which is not perfectly solid.

1837 J. T. Smith tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 87 It is then easy to judge by the quantity of water used, what proportion the voids bear to the whole bulk of the sand. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 254 The very sides of the grave itself shall pass, Vanishing, atom and void, atom and void, Into the unseen for ever. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 48 How large we could determine by filling its voids with water and measuring its quantity. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 774/1 Strength of Concrete with Different Per Cent. of Voids Filled.

4. *spec.* With *the*: The empty expanse of space.

1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 829 With lonely steps to tread Th' unfounded deep, & through the void immense To search with wandring quest a place foretold. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VI. 51 He sung..How Seas, and Earth, and Air, and active Flame, Fell through the mighty Void. 1697 — *Æneid* XII. 994 Prone through the void the rocky ruin shoots. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard* 229 This rich variety of Creatures, that fill the Void, in which the Earth in the Beginning was said to be. 1774 Beattie *Minstr.* II. xxiii, For now no cloud obscures the starry void. 1820 Shelley *Liberty* i, The ray Of the remotest sphere of living flame Which paves the void was from behind it flung. 1854 Brewster *More Worlds* x. 163 The immense void which lies between our system and the nearest system of the stars. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 69 The scattered Fragments into the Void we carry.

b. Const. *of* (heaven, etc.).

1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 438 The void profound Of unessential Night receives him next Wide gaping. , 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 47 In the Void of Heav'n a Space is free, Betwixt the Scorpion and the Maid, for thee. 1726–46 Thomson *Seasons, Winter* 576 If Nature's boundless frame Was call'd, late-rising from the void of night, Or sprung eternal from th' Eternal Mind. 1749 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. iii. 38 Thus did the venturous Cretan dare To tempt with impious wings the void of air.

fig. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 210 Pride, where wit fails,.. fills up all the mighty void of sense. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. ii. 43 Mere Outside all, to fill the mighty Void Of Life, in Dress and Equipage employ'd. 1795 Burke *Regic. Peace* I. Wks. 1842 II. 275 To lose ourselves in the infinite void of the conjectural world. 1829 I. Taylor *Enthus.* iv. 84 The dark void of infidelity. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* i, To fill up the great void of life with giving small orders to tenants.

5. *fig.* **a.** An unsatisfied feeling or desire.

1779 Cowper *Hymns* i, They have left an aching void, The world can never fill. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xiii. 6 (Tears] Which weep a loss for ever new, A void where heart on heart reposed. 1899 Doyle *Duet* (1909) 15/1 You talk about my happiness before I met you,..but what a void there was!

b. A blank in a record.

1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* Introd., They are an attempt to satisfy a total void. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xiv. 389 A void is left which history cannot fill.

6. A period during which a house or farm is unoccupied or unlet. (Cf. Void *a.* 2 c.)

1885 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 3/3 For some years it went reasonably well; but with frequent voids and losses of rent. 1903 — 20 Feb 3 The [income tax] authorities would only allow 'voids' or 'empties' within the financial year in which they occurred.

7. In the game of skat: The seven, eight, or nine, which have no value in counting.

1891 Diehl *Skat* 58 By leading the void of the plain suit, you will very likely be enabled to make two tricks in that suit.

† **Void,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* An abbrev. of Voidee, prob. through misunderstanding the spelling *voide.*

1461–83 *Household. Ord.* (1790) 36 The King never taketh a voyd of comfittes and other spices, but standing. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 934/1 To whome the earle of Sussex in a goodlie spice plate brought a void of spice and comfets. 1626 Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* III. 91 After the void, praeserves in silvern plate Set suche a postscripte to ann antedate, As not a common penn knowes to define.

Void (void), *v.* Forms: 4–5 voyden, 4–7 voyde (4 woyde, 5 uoyde, voyede), voyd (5 woyd, voyed, 6 *Sc.* woyid); 4, 6 voiden, 4–6 voide, 4– void (5 woid); 4 vewd-, 6 *Sc.* woud. [Partly (1) ad. AF. and OF. *voider, vuider* (OF. also *voidier, vuidier*; mod.F. *vider*, = Pr. *voidar, voyar, vujar*, etc., Cat. *vuydar*, It. *votare*):—pop.L. **vocitare* to make empty: see Void *a.* Partly (2) an aphetic form of Avoid *v.*]

I. 1. *trans.* To clear (a room, house, place) *of* occupants; to empty or clear (a place, receptacle, etc.) *of* something. † Also const. *from.* Now *arch.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 373 (Linc.), He voidud þeo chaumbre of many vchon. *c* 1380 *Sir Fermmb.* 3131 By þat wern þe feldes alle of þe Sarsyns y-vewdid wel. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2625 *Hypermnestra*, Whan that the house voyded was of alle. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1951 Pere was no thing, þat eny man myȝte se,..For hanybald had do void it [*sc.* his house] of al thing þat was there. *c* 1482 J. Kay tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* P 7 Anon with grete dylygence they voyded their shippes of the men of werre and of their ordonnances. 15.. *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), To woud the said biging of the gudis. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 230 Penny royal..cleanseth the Lunges, and voydeth them and the breast from all grosse and thicke humors. 1634 Fuller *Wounded Consc.*, etc. (1867) 187 Bondi..causeth the room to be voided of all company. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 280 The cavity of the cylindar and globe containing the thermometer was completely voided of air with mercury. 1861 Ld. Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 73 And, voided now Of all his multitudes, the mighty Hall..laid bare His ghostly galleries to the mournful moon.

b. To rid, to make free or clear, *of* (or † *from*) some quality or condition.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 247 Þe barons alle said,.. Þe lond þei wild voide of þat heriale. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 26 þai suld weill hawe pryss þat..war woydyt off cowardy. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 79 Excepte it be fyrst voyded from all..elacyon, pryde and contradiccyon. 1545 *Primer* A ij, That our hartes be voyded quyte, From phansy, and fond delighte. 1576 Gascoigne *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 94 Your thrice comming here doth bode thrise happy hope and voides the place from feare. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. 74 The Parliament shall void her Upper House of the same annoyances. 1668 Howe *Bless. Righteous* (1825) 273 Having voided thy mind of what is earthly and carnal. 1861 Berkeley *Hope Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* I. 2 It is neither possible nor desireable so wholly to void either nature of the presence of the other.

† **c.** To bereave or deprive *of* life. *Obs.*[—1]

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3080 If I be vencust in þe valle & voidid of my lyfe, Lat all my seggis & sonis be to þi-selfe ȝolden.

2. Without const. † **a.** To clear (a table) of dishes, remains of food, etc. after a meal. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 468 Full lowe he set hym on his kne, And voyded his borde full gentely. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 272 Now this feest is done, voyde ye the table. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IV. xxi. (1589) 89 The Traine and taple voyded, then he..Directs her by his tongue and teares, vnto his louing heart. 1621 Quarles *Argalus & P.* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 273/1 The board was voided, and the Sewer Had now resign'd his office with the Ewer. 1637 Thornelky tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 119 Dinner was done, and the Table voided.

fig. 1638 Quarles *Hieroglyphikes* xiii. Wks. (Grosart) III. 195/2 Time voids the table, dinner's done.

† **b.** To evacuate (the stomach); to clear or blow (the nose); to clean out (slaughtered animals). Also *refl. Obs. rare.*

c 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, And when þei be ful or seeke, þei fedeth hem with gras, as an hounde

doth, forte voyed hem. 1492 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 240 To kepe kynde hete, and to voyde the stomake, good is hit afor motte sumwhate to walke or ryde. 1535 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 139 The bochers ..shall voyd and kyll noe mos ware in the sayd bowses. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 49 They would neither.. spit, nor void their noses into the riuers, but reuerenced them aboue all things.

† **c.** To make void or empty; to clear or empty (some thing or place) of its contents or occupants.

1396 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 268 A little before..my lord Herberd voided all the King's chamber except lords and officers .. which remained there still. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 227 The chamber being voyded, he brake with him in these tearmes. 1600 H. Iland *Livy* VII. v. 252 So the roume being voided, and all commaunded to depart farre ynough out of the way, he draweth out his skeine. 1616 *Marlowe's Faustus* III. iv, Good Fredericke see the roomes be voyded straight, His Maiesty is comming to the Hall. 1658 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 4 Thus when your Trench is voided and emptied to the depth which you desire, you shall cast in long dung.

d. To render (a benefice) vacant; to vacate. *Obs.*

1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 217 When any Archbishoprick or Bishop ick shall be voided. 1677 W. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 327 His living.. being voided by his own act, though it would have been otherwise if voided by death. *a* 1703 Bp. Kidder in Cassan *Bps. Bath & Wells* II. (1830) 126 After I had entered upon this living, and thereby voided that in Essex.

† **e.** To exhaust (a subject) by discussion or exposition; to deal with exhaustively or thoroughly.

1659 H. Thorndike *Epil. Trag. Ch. Eng.* I. xx. 255 Not to insist here, what the respective interests of publick and private persons in the Church are and ought to be, because it is a point that cannot here be voided. 1687 Towerson *Baptism* 273 A question which will best be voided by considering the force of those Arguments, which the condemners have produc'd.

8. To deprive (something) of legal validity; to make legally void or invalid; to annul or cancel.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* fol. 30 b, The parties of þulke fins..ope suuche fins to voiden ant for te amenden weren i suffred. *Ibid.*, On suuche manere þe fins..oftesipes ben ivoided. 1487 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 394/1 That..it be lefull to the said Roger..to enter,..and enjoye all that comprised in the same Lettres Patentes so voided. 1535 Cromwell in *State Papers Hen. VIII* (1849) VII. 586 [To] desire the Bishop..to revoke and denounce voyd and frustrate the injust and slaunderous sentence. 1641 H. Thorndike *Govt. Churches* 132 In some cases they void excommunication that is grounded upon particular interesse. 1647 Diggs *Unlawf. Taking Arms* § 4. 147 His obstinate refusall voides the Parliament. 1691 Locke *Lower. Interest* Wks. 1727 II. 7 Unless you intend to..void Bargains lawfully made. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 79 A contract voided by the death of the Prince. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. viii. 98 The giving meat and drink, exceeding £5 in value, to electors, shall void an election. 1883 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 812/4 On the principles of Roman Canon law, the Papal succession has been voided many times over.

b. To deprive of efficacy, force, or value; to render inoperative or meaningless; to set aside or nullify. Now *rare.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cvi[i]. 11 þe counsaile of be heghest þai voidyd [L. *irritaverunt*]. 1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 304 For þou þese to [= two] craftis nemlid were michil more nedful in þe elde lawe, þe newe testament hath voydid þese and manie others. ? 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 115 That th' effect of the old purpose of the said Sir John Fastolf schuld not be all voyded. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* (1868) 176 Yf one begynne to..talke with you of suche mater, lete hym alone..And thus ye shalle voyde and breke his talkynge. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (Kingsford, 1911) 80 By whose departure the intent of this victorious Kinge was vtterly empessished and voyded in that Cause. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk* Wks. 1057/1 By y' marking of thys one poynt, ye may voyde almost all the craft, with which master..Frith and Tyndall labour to deceiue you. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 12 Baptisme..is by a fourth sort of men voided for the onely defect of ecclesiasticall authoritie in the Minister. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* III. (1687) 105/1 Now tell me if thy adversary Sue thee, and thou art like to be overthrown For want of witnesses, how wilt thou void His suit? 1675 O. Walker, etc. *Paraphr. Hebrews* 3 The former religion of the Law..voided and annulled by that farr more preeminent of Christ. *a* 1688 W. Clagett *17 Serm.* (1699) 197 They voided the commandments of God, and made his word of none effect. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 467 O how is man inlarg'd, Seen thro' this medium [i.e. Redemption].. How voided his vast distance from the skies! 1874 S. Cox *Pilgr. Pa.* iv. 83 We defeat our own hops and void our own prayer.

† **c.** To confute or refute. *Obs.*

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 926/1 With these and such other like reasons, the Gray Franciscans voyded their Adversaries. 1630 M. Godwyn tr. *Bp. Harefoot's Ann. Eng.* (1675) 184 He by such witty answers voided the accusation of his Adversary, that the Jurors found him not guilty. 1648 Milton *Colast.* 19 After waiting and voiding, hee thinks to void my second Argument. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* xiv. 479 His Design was..To account for the Low Sicilian Talent, and to void all that Mr. B. had written about it before.

II. † **4.** To send or put (a person) away; to cause or compel to go away from or leave a place; to dismiss or expel. *Obs.*

Freq. const. *out of*, also more rarely *from* or *of* the place. Also (*b*) with advs. as *out* or *aloof*.

(*a*) 13.. *Gosp. Nicodemus* (A.) 285 Pilate gart voyde bame alle þat were within þat house. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 1236 Voyde youre man and lat hym be ther oute. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xiii. 137 He let voyden out of his Chaumbre alle maner of men. 1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 89, Y wille that the same Jonet be vtterliche excluded & voyded fro the forseide Manere of Staverton. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Augustine* 11 þe bischop was compelled to voyde hir with swech wordys: Go fro me, woman. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* (1868) 52 The prynce that was voyded and hydde under the bed. *a* 1529 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 57 That ye voide out of your house Robert laurence and he nomore to resorte to the same. 1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* III. (1558) 164 Al hearers being voided out of the place, he commaunded the yongman should come to hym. 1608 Dekker *Dead Terrors* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 57 Not to keepe any single woman in his house on the Holy-dayes, but the Bailiffe to see them voyded out of the Lordship. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 62 Now the Bishops abrogated and voided out of the Church..the Episcopall arts begin to bud again.

(*b*) 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. xx. (1554) 190 b/1 Let him also voyde out at his gate, Ryotous people. 1563 Bernde *Q. Curtius* Q vij, [He] appointed certaine to waite whiles he slept, which shoulde voide al men a loufe, to the entent he should not be disquieted wt any noise. 1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* xiii. 206 In his pastorall care he visited it [*sc.* the Temple], and in the zeale of God voided them out which did defile it.

† **b.** With double object. *Obs.*

1498 Hoccleve *Let. of Cupid* 468 Voide hem our court, and banysh hem for euer. 1483 *Presentmts. of Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 28 We wyll þt schoy be voydyd the ton [= town]. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme* (1811) 126 He warryd oft agaynst the Danys, but at the last by agrement he voydyd them the West contrey. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* A ij, I knowe one Antiochus well,..but as for this fellowe, I perceiue he is a counterfeit, and therewith commaunded him to be voided his lodging.

† **c.** To dismiss or remove from a situation or position. *Obs.*

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 95 Yf that yeman be from you soo voyded ye shal take awey the lyueri of the oui Shereís. *c* 1515 Barclay *Eglogues* iii. (1570) C ij b/2 If thou chaunge some better for to haue, Thou voydest a lubber to haue agayne a knaue.

† **d.** *refl.* To remove or withdraw (oneself) *from* or *out of* a place. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 391 Also he voidede and wiþdrow hym from þat place. 1467 *Maldon* (Essex) *Crt. Rolls* (Bundle 43, No. 37), The said Gilbert voided hymself owt of the same place without rent or farme paying.

† **5.** Of persons or animals: To go away, depart, retire, or withdraw from, to leave or quit (a place); to give (ground); to move out of (the way); to get out of (one's sight); = Avoid *v.* 7. *Obs.*

Very common from *c* 1400 to *c* 1615; now *Obs.* (cf. d).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 345 Bid me bowe fro þis benche, & stonde by you bere þat I wyth-oute vylanye myȝt voyde þis table. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5358 Bot whare so euere he hem [the Romans] fond He dide hem sone voyde be lond. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. (1868) 16 He comaunded but þat þei voided þe cites of Rauenne by certeyne day assigned þat men scholde chasen hem out of toune. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxv, Smale deer be kynde will rather voyde his couert þan will a gret he.te. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3335 He sent the word,.. To voyde his grownde and tary not to long. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 236, I suide sla þe with my hynder fete because þou wolde not voyde be way, & giff me rowm to pass by þe. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxvii. 297 Goo your way & voyde my syght. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxv. 36 So this ayr Robert was layne to voyde the realme of Fraunce, and went to Namure. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 140 Paulus would not depart the Church, neither void the house. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 716 They voyded the Church, falling..as they sought to get out of the same. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 36 They..withall commanded them speedily to voyd the City. 1732 Sir C. Wogan *Let.* 27 Feb. in *Swift's Wks.* (1841) II. 670 The whole shoal of virtuosoes were sensible to the stroke, and voided the room at once.

† **b.** To dismount from (a horse). *Obs.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xvi. 58 Thenne the kynge of the C knyghtes voyded the hors lyghtly.

† **c.** To cover, move over (ground) in progression. *Obs.*—[1]

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 228 They are slow of pace, and voyde ground very sluggishlie, and therfore it is iustly termed a heauy and slothfull beast.

d. To vacate (a seat). *rare.*

1853 Miss E. S. Sheppard *Chas. Auchester* II. 38 Before I could gather with my glance who had left them, several seats were voided beneath us. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 17 Dec. (Cassell's), A wholesale system of voiding seats.

6. To remove (something) so as to leave a vacant space; to take, put, or clear away; occas., to remove by emptying or taking out. Now *rare.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 1159 For with an apparence a clerk may make To mannes sighte þat alle the Rokkes blake Of Britaigne weren ywoyded euerichon. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 231 Afterward hem stant no doute To voide with a soubtil hond The beste goodes of the lond. *c* 1400 *Rerum* 1898 Let al your marchandise Be voidit of your Shippis. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 12 þe Abbot & þe priour tog dere seydin to þe scole e hat god had voydyd his synnes out of þat lettere, in counfortyng him hat his synnes ben forgeuyn. 1466 in Leland *Collect.* (1715) VI. 21 The Sewer geveth a voyder to the Carver, and he doth voyde into it the Trenchers..and so cleanseth the table cleane. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 51 He voyded the mete and toke the vayssell. 1530 Palsgr. 769/1, I voyde a thyng out of the way, or out of syght, *je oste.* 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 43 A roll of linen,..With which his locks,..Were bound about, and voyded from before. 1629 Hobbes *Thucyd.* (1822) 113 The earth being drawn away below and settling over the part where it was voided. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Goth. Wars* IV. 129 And having voyded away much earth from beneath those timbers, they shook..the Wall, and a part of it suddenly sunk. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Dec. 1685, The spectators..were exceedingly pleas'd to see in what a moment of time all that curious work was demolish'd, the cornishures voided, and the tables clear'd. 1893 Browning *Epistle* 40 Sooth, it elates me, thus reposed and safe, To void the stuffing of my travel-scrip And share with thee whatever Jewry yields.

phr. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (1911) 76, I shal .. Voyde the chaff, & gadryn out the corn. 1430–40 — *Bochas* IX. xxxviii. *Leuwys* (1558) 327/1 Voyde [ye] the weds, of vertue take the corne.

† **b.** To clear away by destruction or demolition. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1013 þis was a yenguinnce violent bat voyded þise places, þat foundered has so fayr a folk & þe folde sonken. *Ibid.* C. 370. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1318 He blisches to þe burge & sees his hild voidid, Als bare as a bast his baistell a-way. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 569/2 That all such Weres, Milles and Dammynges,..should be voided and clene beten downe.

† **c.** With immaterial object. *Obs.*

Not always clearly distinguishable from sense 12.

1382 Wyclif *Job* xv. 4 As myche as in thee is, thou hast voidid drede. *c* 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 13 Bot who that is of charité perfit, He voideth alle sleighnes ferr awele. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 287 þis mynde schal voyde fro þe suche euyll demynges, & euyll thowstys, woordys, and dedys. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 2184, I find ne might..thing that kerved,..Wherewith I might my woful paine Have voided with bleeding of my vaine. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 628, I me bethought .. Myne orison right goodly to devyse, And pleasantly .. Beseech the goddes voiden my grevaunce. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* Prol. (Arb.) 10 Mirth recreates our spirites and voydeth pensiuenesse. 1696 J. Smith *Pruet. Physick* 12 The cause that is joyned with it [the carbuncle] must be voided, with scarification deep enough.

† **d.** To remove or take off (a helmet, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7092 He was glad of the gome, & o gode chere Voidet his viser, auentid hym seluyn. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1208 Thilke tyme, as I took hede, Her helme was voyded from his hede. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xxiii. 249 He stroke doune that knyghte and voyded his helme and strake of his hede.

† **e.** To cast, fling, or throw away (a sword); to bring or blow *down* (leaves). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4145 Vulturnus þe violent þat voidis doun þe leuys. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1069 And Charles voydede his broken brande, Owte he hent a knyfe in hande.

7. Of persons, animals, or their organs: To discharge (some matter) from the body through a natural vent or orifice, esp. through the excretory organs; to eject by excretion or evacuation; † also, to spit or pour forth (venom).

Now the usual sense. † Also (*b*) formerly with *out*.

(*a*) *c* 1386 Chaucer *Kn.'s T.* 1893 The vertu expulsif or animal .. Ne may the venym voyden ne expulse. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xli. (Bodl. MS.), For humours þat comeþ of þe melte..mowe not be yuoided att þe fulle. 1551 Robinson *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 203 Sumetymes whyles those thynges be..voided, whereof is in the body ouer great abundaunce. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 124 The more filth he voides at the mouth, the better will it be for him. *a* 1617 Hieron *Wks.* (1620) II. 15 What good will a mans meate doe him, if he void it vp, through weaknesse of stomake, as fast as it is eaten? 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 215 My brother..fell, and voided much blood at the nose. 1664 Boyle *Experim. Anim. & Solid Bod.* vi. 53 The Purulent matter hath been voided by Siege and Urine. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 548/2 Mr. D..took the Medicines, voided three small Stones, and became perfectly well. 1766 *State, D. Macdonald* v. *Dk. Gordon* Pursuer's Proof 7 The he-fish they carried off with them, and [he] has seen them often voiding the melt at their bellies. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 243 The patient voided his urine by the natural channel. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iv. (1816) I. 92 A white line, which..he found to consist of innumerable Acari, precisely the same with those that he had voided. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* iii. (1880) 100 It is astonishing what a vast number of eggs the female perch will void.

transf. and *fig.* 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, III. v. 52 The Valleyes, whose low Vassal Seat, The Alpes doth spit, and void his rhewme vpon. 1652 Cleveland *Hecatomb Mistress* 69 Thou man of mouth,..whose Musk-cat verse Voids nought but flowers for thy Muses horse. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *Rules & Lessons* xiii, That's base wit, That voyds but filth and stench. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 742 For Anaxagoras..Believ'd the Heavens were made of Stone, Because the Sun had voided one. 1863 Villari *Machiavelli* II. ii. III. 274 No sooner were the Tarquins dead than the nobles began to void their venom on the people.

(*b*) 1587 Golding *De Mornay* ii. (1592) 15 By one part the things that are needfull are taken in, and by another the things that are superfluous are voyded out. 1646 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1661) 167 We read of Arrius an Arch-heretick, that voided out his bowels at the Jakes.

b. *absol.* To evacuate; to vomit.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, Whan þe wolfe sees [the greyhounds] and he be fulle, he voydeth both before and behynde alle in his remnynge. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. *Furies* 296 Still her monstrous maw Voyds in devouring. 1655 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* IX. vii. 267 It is not good to void sparingly in a crisis. 1732 Swift *Strephon & Chloe* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 154 The bride must either void or burst. 1892 W. Motherwell *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 44 While one and all Hissed, fought, and voided on their thrall.

† **8.** To carry off or drain *away* (water, etc.); to discharge or let out. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* (O.) 1320 A water thorough that grenen ranne, To voyde the filth from any man. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 699 Euery hous..With spoutis porus, & pipes ..Voydinge filþes low in-to þe grounde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 38 When the water was all voided thei saugh the two stones. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 242 You must looke..that where they [*sc.* sheepcotes] stande, the grounde be made fayre and euen..that the wrine may be well voyded away. *Ibid.* 273 The water being voyded and kept out by Sluses and Bankes. 1621 Holland *Pliny* II. 586 The mountaine that was digged through..to void away the water out of the lough or meere Fucinus. 1810 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 213 Under this Middleton, there is voided also another river. 1648 Wilkins *Math. Magick* II. xv. (1707) 216 Every Circumvolution voiding only so much [water] as is contained in one Helix. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 92 One of these Pumps..will void a vast Quantity of Water in an Hour, with a great deal of ease.

†b. To empty out (water, etc.) from a

1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 5 Aftir þat þis erþly water be voydid, putte [etc.] 1530 PALSGR. 769/1, I voyde, I emptye, *je vuyde*. *Ibid.*, Voyde this water. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1609) *to* As a water held in a close and dark vessel issueth out, & is voyded and emptied.

†c. Of a river or stream. Also *refl.* and *absol.*, to discharge *into* the sea or another river. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Colonies* 62 Ob, the King of Rivers..In Scythian Seas voyding his violent load. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 44 Finally it voideth into the sea at two mouths, one of which mouthes is a mile broad. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 466 A little above it, the river Blith voideth it selfe into the sea. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 3) § 19. 45 When the little rivulets have once voyded themselves into the mayne streames.

†9. To make by excavation; to cut or hollow out (a hole, etc.). *Obs.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 51 Holes wear thear also, and cauerns,..voyded intoo the wall.

III. †10. To leave alone, set aside; to abstain or refrain from; to have nothing to do with. *Obs.* a. A thing, action, course of conduct, etc. = AVOID *v.* 8 b.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 744 Nay þaȝ faurty forfete ȝet fryst I a whyle, & voyde away my vengaunce. þaȝ me vyl þynk. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 105 For he doth al his thing be gesse, And voideth alle sikernesse. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4017 Ho..voidet all vanities, & virtus dissyret. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 1072 Be wisdam late vs voide pride And wilfulnes. 1435 *Misyn Fire of Love* 12 þai haue wodid old vnthriftynes of venemus lyfe. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1190/2 He fyrmely purposeth vpon it, no lesse glad to do it, then a nother man wolde be glad to voyde it. 1682 R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 64 Beware ..to void things that look Harsh, Rough, and Uncivil.

b. A person or persons: = AVOID *v.* 8 a.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 295, I voyde companye, I fle gladnesse. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 249 William..was i-corowned kyng at Westmynstre of Aldredus archebisshop of York, and voydede Stygandus archebisshop of Caunterbury. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2456 Good sir,..why do yee voide me?..I woll ȝowe no more harm. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 88 For if I had fear'd death, Of all the Men i' th' world I would haue voided thee.

†11. To keep clear of, to escape from or evade (something injurious or troublesome); = AVOID *v.* 9. *Obs.*

In later use containing a mixture of sense 6 c.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 30 We þat hoten grete avowis to voiden angus and silkenesis of þis liif. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 347 And for þe Romayns scholde somdel voide þe cruelnesse, he made trompoures blowe. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2424 (Dubl.), Bot whilke of yow as foundes frist on fote vs agayns, Sall neuer voyde my dyadane ne my derfe Ire. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 127/2 To eschewe and voyde the perils in thes seid Articles..expressed. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 48 A merveilous case it is to here, either the warninges of that he should haue voided, or the tokens of that he could not voide. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 300 Let se this checke yf ye voyde canne. *c* 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1914) 524 He may rise or fall his price accordinglye and void manye inconveniences wiche the unskillfull fall in to. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 16 The labyrinth which I desire most to eschew and voide. 1620 *Frier Rush* 18 For to voyde all tribulations and misfortunes that might fall in time to come. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1683 I. 15 For voiding which prejudices..I shall..propose some of those innumerable advantages.

†b. To get out of the way of (a blow, person, etc.); to avoid in this way. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* x. 159 He..leide a-boute hym on bothe sides, and alow all that he raught with a full stroke, so that thei voyded hys strokes and made hym rome. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. vi. 3 As soone as th' other nigh approaching, vewed The armes be bore, his speare he gan abase, And voide his course. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 106 He had given streight commandement..that no man should trouble him, and all the way voided as many as were comming towards him. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* V. ix. (1840) 258 A patron of pilgrimages, not able to void the blow yet willing to break the stroke of so..plain a testimony.

†12. To prevent or obviate; to keep or ward *off*; = AVOID *v.* 10. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12109 Hit hade doutles ben done, and hire deth voidid, Had not Calcas þe curait carpit before. 1509 *Parl. Deuylles* XXXVIII, If I tempte hym wt leychery, I must me hyde. He voydeth me of with chastyte. 1528 MORE in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 285 Hym selfe and Your Grace, if it may be voided, wold be as lothe to have eny warre with theym. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas, Semn. Late Peace* xl, Henry our King, our Father, voyds our dangers, And..planteth Peace in France. 1722 W. HAMILTON *Wallace* 4 To void a bloody Civil War, The two Contendants should submit the Thing, To the Decision of the English King.

IV. 13. *intr.* To go away, depart, withdraw from or leave a place or position; to retire or retreat; to give place, make way; to vanish or disappear: = AVOID *v.* 6. Now *Obs.* or *arch.*

Also const. (*b*) with advs., as *aside, away, hence, thence, out*, or (*c*) with preps. as *from, of, out of, to.*

a. Of persons or animals.

(*a*) 13.. *Coer de L.* 2198 The folk of the countre gan renne, And were fain to void and fienne. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 918 So whan it liked hire to gon to reste, And voyded were þey þat voyden oughte. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2985 'Nay, thou shalt nat void', he seid, 'my tale is nat i-do'. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Beware of Doubleness* 52 What man may..holde a make by the tail, Or a sliper eel constraine That it nil voide, withouten fail. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xvi. 58 Yonder I see the moste valyaunt knyght of the world.., wherfore we must nedes voyde or deye. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1273/2 He voyded not at Gods commyng, but abode to see the sentence of theyr dampnacion. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 48 Voyde sirs, see ye not maister Roister Doister come? Make place my maisters. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 736 Whose warres whoso well consider, he shall no lesse commend his wisedome where he voyded, then his manhood where he vanquished. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 106 He caused all his traine and company to void. [1896 J. H. WYLIE *Hist. Engl. Hen. IV*, LXXXVII. III. 477 As he almost got knocked down in a crowd, he very soon voided.]

(*b*) 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 140 Although I might hence voyde, yet wolde I not. *c* 1450 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xi, For whann a wilde boore is in a stronge hate of wode, peraventure..he wolde not voyed þens for þe rennynge houndes. 14.. W. PARIS *Cristine* 435 (Horstm. 1878), She bade the serpens voyde awaye In to deserte. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 89/1 The brethren voyded a side, and withdrew themselues. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 349 Erecthius and Aristomenes..voided aside to farre remote and hidden corners.

(*c*) *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 1113 þan waynest him þis vayne God & voidis fra þe chambre. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 108 Thei ..dide hem wete to wite..that he sholde in all haste voide oute of the londe and the contree. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 208 The quene hyrynge thys she voydyde unto Walys. *c* 1440 *Order in Battayll* B iij b, [To] remowe hys houte..& voyde to some sure forteresse. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par., Luke* xi. 107 b, Jesus..commanded the deuil to voide out of hym, and he voided. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Hogges* (1627) 290 The strong sauor thereof will cause the moules to void from those places. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIV. xxix. 389 So they went their waies and voided clean out of Sicilie.

b. Of things, material and immaterial.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1548 þenne hit [*sc.* the hand] vanist veraylȳ & voyded of syȝt, Bot þe lettres bileued ful large vpon plaster. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. x. (Skeat) I. 34 So thilke bodily goodes at the laste mote awaye, and than stinge they at her goinge, wherthrough entreth and clene voydeth al blisse of this knot. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7089 And the duke with a dynt derit hym agayn, þat the viser & the ventaile voidet hym fro. *Ibid.* 7133 Wen þe day vp drogh, & þe dym voidit. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 65 þi fleischeli lustis þou muste spare, For vicis and vertues wole voide atwynne. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal., Aug.* 164 Let all that sweets is, voyd; and all that may augment My doole, drawe neare. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 44 So when the soule filleth it selfe with certaine and true goods, vanitie voideth and giveth place. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 567 Least that the smell or fume doe fade, and voide away.

†c. To give up possession or occupancy of a place. *Obs.*—1

1518 *Yorkshire Deeds* (Yorks. Archæol. Soc. 1914) II. 92 If the said Cristofer haue nede to com and dwell vpon the said fermehold..then the said John to wode of it vpon resonable warnyng.

†14. To give oneself up *to*, devote one's time *to*, something. *Obs.*—1

1382 WYCLIF *Esther* ix. 17 Thei ordeyneden..that in that time eche ȝer therafter thei shulden voiden [L. *vacarent*] to plenteuous metis..and to ioie, and to festis.

†15. To form an interval *between*. *Obs.*—1

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Dayes and monþes þat voydede bytwene twein Kynges were forgendred.

†16. Of a benefice, etc.: To become, fall, or remain vacant. *Obs.*

a 1380 *St. Ambrose* 204 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 64 Hit befel afturward sikerliche þat in a cite voyded a bisschopriche. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 109 After þe passioun of Marcellinus þe pope, þe see voydede meny dayes. 1421 HEN. V in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 71 Hit is wel oure entent whanne any sucche benefice voydeth of oure yifte yat ye make collacion to him y^of. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 75/1 When sumever hit happen the said House or Hospitall bere after to void by deth..or any other wise. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. XXXVII. N ij b, It ys sayd that benefyces, dygnytyes, and personages, voydynge in the court of Rome may not be gyuen but by the Pope.

†17. Of matter, etc.: To come, flow, or pass out, esp. in or by evacuation or excretion; to issue. *Obs.*

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 41 b, To the intent that al the venom may comme out and voide from the heart. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hem. Apoth.* 33 The..gut through the whyche the ordure voydeth. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 213 By meanes whereof all fumes voided that troubled his head. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 433 Presently the filth and excrements will void cleane away. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 83 Knock hard upon it, till..the Basil of The Chissel will no longer force the chips out of the Mortess: then..work..till the Chips will void no longer. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 244 It feeds chiefly upon pepper, which it devours very greedily, gorging itself in such a manner, that it voids crude and unconcocted.

Voidable (voi·dăb'l), *a.* [f. VOID *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. AVOIDABLE *a.*]

1. Capable of being annulled or made legally void; *spec.* (as distinguished from *void*), that may be either voided or confirmed.

1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 285/2 The same Feoffments, States, Leases..be..not in anie wise voided ne voidable by reason of Coverture. 1544 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (1898) 68 Their coppie bolldes beynge allwayes voydable in the lawe at the wyll of the lord. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 241 The testament made by feare is not voide *ipso iure*, but voidable by the helpe of exception. 1601 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 3 In the one case the gift or conueyance is voidable onely, in the other it is void to all intents. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* II. 78 Even as a Marriage, Bond, or deed made by Duresse or Menace, are good in Law, and not meerly void, but voidable only upon a Plea and Tryall. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 38 If the Metropolitan ..grants Letters of Administration, such Administration is not void, but voidable, by a Sentence. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 423 These civil disabilities make the contract void *ab initio*, and not merely voidable. 1809 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 428 Whether the Vicarage..cannot be opened to a new presentation as voidable but not void. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* v, I have but a poor lease of this mansion under you, voidable at your honour's pleasure. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* x. § 1. (1876) 369 His [*sc.* an infant's] conveyances are voidable, subject, that is, to be ratified or avoided by him when he comes of age.

†2. *Her.* That may be made void: (see quot. and VOIDED *ppl. a.* 2 c). *Obs.*—1

1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. v. (1611) 48 Voiding..is the exemption of some part of the inward substance of things ... by occasion whereof the Field is transparent thorow the charge. [Hence in Phillips, Harris, etc.]

3. Capable of being voided or evacuated. *rare.*

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. iii. 79 He had..so broaken the Stone, partly by crumbling it, and partly by dissolving the Cement, as to make it voidable by Urine.

Hence **Voidabi·lity**; **Voi·dableness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Voidableness*, capableness of being voided or emptied. 1803 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 90 In some cases there must be a nullity, but that there should be a voidability was most objectionable. *Ibid.* 91/2 A medium between the entire dereliction of parental authority on the one side and entire voidability on the other. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 16 June 755 Despite the quibble about voidness and voidableness.

Voidance (voi·dăns). Also 4-5 **voydaunce**, 5 **-ans**, 5, 7 **-ance**, 5 **voidaunce**, **-ans.** [a. AF. *voidaunce, vuedance, voydance*, etc., f. *voider* VOID *v.*, or aphetic f. AVOIDANCE.] The action of voiding or making void.

1. The action or process of emptying out the contents of something; = AVOIDANCE 1. a. The discharge or evacuation of something through a natural vent, esp. from the human body by excretion; = EVACUATION 1 b. Now *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xlvi. (Bodl. MS.), þis wombe is ofte igreued by greete fulnes and replecion and þat is nought i anne iholpe but by voidans þat is contrary to replecion. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512/2 Voydaunce (or voydynge), *vacacio, evacuacio.* *c* 1460 *Vrbanitatis* 20 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 13 Fro spettyng & snetyng kepe þe also; Be priuy of voydance, & lette hit go. 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 137/1 By the longing for mete with voidance of y^t she had eten..she was perceiued for no saint. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 58 This voidance of blood doth at times stil surprize me, tho not with such vehemency. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. vi. 14 The Second Action follows upon the former, viz. the voidance of Excrements. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* vi. § 2 In the bark the same thing is effected by..a meer voydance of the Sap. 1809 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Ser. II. I. 491 The reception, concoction, and voidance, of nutriment.

b. The emptying out, carrying off or away, of water, etc., esp. by drainage. Now *rare*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. lvii. (Tollem. MS.), For parties of þe erþe ben digged and holowid..with crepynge wormes and beetes..or with voydaunce and oute castynge. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 44/2 Aswell for passage of all maner Shippes comyng therto, and voidaunce of water under the seid Brigg, as for passage of Man. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 160 To provide for the drainage of the Fen districts..by means of proper cuts and conduits for the voidance of the Fen waters.

†2. The action or fact of removing, clearing away, or getting rid of something; removal. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1106 The Barons made hem at one with grete prayer and instaunce,. Of the more myschiefe to make voydaunce. 1530 PALSGR. 285/2 Voydaunce, *vuidance, desiugement.* 1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* liii. 108 Succeeding times found these Canaanites to be prickes and thornes, and therefore both by mulctes and banishments sought eyther their yeeldance or voydance. 1632 J. BURGES *Answ. Rejoined, Lawfulness Kneeling* 70 Before the Transubstantiation, or voydance of the substance of bread was resolued of. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 213 What pains..they require, in the voidance of fond conceits, in the suppression..of froward humours.

3. *Eccl.* The fact of a benefice, etc., becoming or being void or vacant; = AVOIDANCE 4.

1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 194/1 That tyme of the voidaunce of the same Prebend. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 28 Alle þo, þat vsurpyn of newe tyme þe kepyng or þe amonicyoun of ony cherch in tyme of voydaunce, & occupye þe godys. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 158/1 Of the sayd Wardes, mariages, Relevis, voydaunces abovesayd. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. XXXVII. N iij b, If the patron presented not within the halfe yere after suche voydance..That than the kynge shold haue also the presentement. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 347/1 That prouision should be made for iij hundred Romanes in the chiefest and best benefices in al Englande, at ye next voydance. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Voydance*, is a want of an Incumbent vpon a benefice: and this voydance is double: either in law, as when a man hath more benefices incompetible: or indeed, as when the Incumbent is dead, or actually deprived. *a* 1645 FEATLY *Abbot* in *Fuller's Abel Rediv.* (1867) II. 282 One of his hearers, having a benefice of great value in his gift,..took a resolution upon the next voidance of it to confer it upon him. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. ii. 73 This voidance of so many bishopricks happened well for the furthering of the reformation of religion. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 126 The parishioners present twice and the king once in three voidances. 1899 J. VINCENT *1st Bp. Bath & Wells* 10 How could the occasion arise, except by the voidance of the See? 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 March 3/1 By an Order in Council the lectureship attached to the parish church of Dedham.. will be merged in the benefice at the next voidance.

4. Annulment; = AVOIDANCE 2.

1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 419/1 This Acte of Adnullacion or Voidans of Lettres Patentes. 1691-8 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 205, I have argued against the Voidance, and for the Establishment of the Law upon Rational Principles. 1736 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 177 The first part

of those Proposals..directly infers a Voidance of the Agreement. 1736 *Monitor* No. 30. I. 276 There are men who blush not to promote a voidance of that part of the same act. 1884 *Law Times* 29 Jan. 205/1 It was held that the purchaser was not entitled in equity to obtain a voidance of the contract.

†5. A verbal evasion or subterfuge; an evasive answer or argument. *Obs.*—1

1621 BACON *Lett.* (1734) 137 Therefore I am resolved, when I come to my answer, not to trick my innocency..by cavillations, or voydances, but to speak to them the language that my heart speaketh to me.

†6. *concr.* Matter voided or cleared away; the clearings *of* a table. *Obs.*—1

1740 *Proper. Prov. Poor* 6 Bones and other Voidance of the Table, Dish-water.

Voi·ded, *ppl. a.* [f. VOID *v.*]

†1. Made void or empty; emptied or cleared of contents. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xlv. 11 What maner if watris gon awei fro the se, and flod voided [L. *fluvius vacuefactus*] waxe drie. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6177 Humblely I yow be-seke,..My voyded herte to fulfylle, Wych so longe.. hath voyde be. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512/1 Voydyd[d], or a-voydyd (*K.* voydid,..auoyded), *evacuatus*. *c* 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* (1870) P 10[The bridge] was made with voyded pypes and with bords strongly nayled upon them. 1563 A. NEVILLE *Seneca's Œdipus* I. A iij, The corne .Nowe to the voided Barnes nought els but emptie stalkes doth bring.

2. Having a part or portion cut out so as to leave a void or vacant space: †a. Of shoes: Made with the front or uppers cut away or left open. *Obs.*

a 1539 in *Archaeologia* XLVII. 53 That noon of the said religious susters doo use..eny such voyded shoys. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. ii. 121 They vse a kinde of voided shoes (whiche afterwarde the Grieques toke vp, and called sandalium). 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Crepida*, a low voyded shooe with a latchet.

†b. Of a garment: Cut so as to show the skin or another garment beneath. *Obs. rare.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 6 b, Doblettes of Crimosin veluet, voyded lowe on the backe and before to the cannell bone. *a* 1623 G. BUCK *Rich. III*, 1. (1646) 26 The King and Queene..then ascended to the high Altar shifting their Robes, and putting on other open and voyded in sundry places for their Anoynting.

c. *Her.* Of a charge or ordinary (see quots. 1704, 1780). *Voided per cross* (see quot. *c* 1828).

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 26 There are also to bee..seene in armes Crosses doble partited,..persed, graded, & voyded, &c. *Ibid.* II. 176 He beareth Argent, on a Bende Gules, thre Mascles de Or, voyded...Whensoeuer ye shall see eyther Losenge, Mascle, or other thynge voyded of the fielde, Fesse, bende, &c., whereon theye stande, it is sufficient to saye, voyded, onelye. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Voided*, a Term in Heraldry, when there are Lines drawn within, and Parallel to the out Lines of any Ordinary: This expresses an Exemption of something of the thing Voidable, and makes the Field appear transparent thro' the Charge. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II, *Voided*, is a term applied to any ordinary, as a fesse, chevron, pale, etc. when it is pierced through, so that the field appears, and nothing remains of the charge but its edge. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Voided per cross* is a voiding in the form of a cross, such as a cross moline, and the like, voided, or cut out in the middle in the shape of a plain cross, through which the field is seen. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxxi. (ed. 3) 460 A cross gu., voided of the field. 1883 C. F. KEARY in S. L. Poole *Coins & Medals* (1894) 114 The pennies of Alexander II. have short and long voided crosses, like those of Henry III.

3. Emitted by evacuation; evacuated. *rare.*

1784 COWPER *Task* v. 95 Their nauseous dole..Of voided pulse and half-digested grain

Voide (voi·d). Now only *Hist.* Forms: 4-5 voide, 6 voyde; 5-6 (9) voidee (7 voydee); 5 voidie, 6 voidy(e, voydye. [a. AF. **voidé* or **voidée*, pa. ppple. masc. or fem. of *voider* VOID *v.*, with reference app. to the withdrawing from a hall or chamber of those who were not to sleep there.] A collation consisting of wine accompanied by spices, comfits, or the like, partaken of before retiring to rest or the departure of guests; a repast of this nature following upon a feast or fuller meal; a parting dish. (Cf. VOID *sb.*2)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 674 Ther nys no more, but here after soone, The voide dronke and traueres drawe anon, Gan euery wight þat hadde nought to done More in þat place out of þat chambar gon. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 13 Withyn an owre the Kyng askid the voidee, and drank, the travers yn the chambure edraw, and every man depairtid and went to rist. 1494 in *Lett. & Papers Rich. III. & Hen. VII.* (Rolls) I. 390 When they wer dry in their beddes they were revested.., and soo departed to the chappell, where they had spices, and their voidie. 1533 *Coronation of Anne Boleyn* (1884) 33 There was a voyde of spyce plates and wyne. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 262 That night there was a greate bancket ..and after that, twoo riche maskes..And after that, a voydye. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 99 When they had daunced, then came in a costly banket and a voidy of spices, and so departed to their lodgyng. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 849/1 The king and the ambassadours were serued at a banket with two hundred and sixtie dishes, and after that a voidee of spices with sixtie spice plates. 1630 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I*, 19 He..made him the most sumptuous Feast.,that ever was seen before,..and after that a costly Voydee, and after that a Maske.

attrib. 1881 ROSSETTI *King's Tragedy* xcl, And the King paused, but he did not speak. Then he called for the Voidee-

Voider (voi·dəɹ). Also 5 voidor, 5–7 (9) voyder, 6 -iar, vodyer; 5, 6–7 *Sc.*, voydour, *Sc.* 5 vyd-, 6 vod-, voidour. [f. VOID *v.* + -ER 1, or ad. OF. *vuideur*, *vuideor*, *voideor*, etc. (obs. F. *vidoir*), f. *voider* VOID *v.* Cf. AVOIDER.]

†1. That which keeps off or away; a screen or defence; a remover or driver away *of* something.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 339 Vmbe the sercle of the Citie was sotbely a playne,..With lef-sales vppon lofte lustie and faire,..With voiders vnder vines for violent sonnes. *c* 1500 *Everyman* B v, A precious iewell I wyll gyue the Called penaunce, voyder of aduersyte. ?*a* 1550 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 329 The sterne of day, voyder of dirknes.

†2. A piece of armour covering an exposed or unprotected place (see quot. 1880). *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10068 Doublet & quyysseux, wiþ poleyns ful riche, Voydes [*sic*], breche of maille, wyþ pauns non liche. 1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 50 [They] did on firste, after her desires, Sabatouns, grevis, cusschewis, & voideris. *Ibid.* 64 On his armys, rynged nat to wyde, þer wer wolders frettid in þe maille. *c* 1425 J. HILL in *Illustr. Anc. State & Chivalry* (Roxb.) 5 First behoveth sabatouns, greevis, and cloos qwysseux with voydours of plate or of mayle, and a cloos breche of mayle. [1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 697/1 The voider in defensive armour was a gusset-piece either of plate or of mail, used to cover a void or unprotected space at the elbow or knee joints.]

3. A receptacle into which something is voided or emptied: a. A tray, basket, or other vessel in which dirty dishes or utensils, fragments of broken food, etc., are placed in clearing the table or during a meal. Also *ellipt.*, the carrying round or use of this (quot. 1659). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1466 in Leland *Collect.* (1715) VI. 11 In the meane tyme the Sewer geveth a voyder to the Carver, and he doth voyde into it the Trenchers that lyeth under the knyves poynt, ..and so cleanseth the table cleane. *c* 1475 *For to serve a Lord* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 371 The kerver muste..have a voyder to geder in all the broke brede, trenchours, cromys lying upon the tabill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. xi. 38 Eftir the first paws, and that cours neir gane, And voduris and fat trunschcouris away tane, The goblettis greit with mychty wynis in hy Thai fillit. 1594 in *Archaeol.* (1884) XLVIII. 131 Item ij pewter voyders, xs. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. killed w. Kindn.* (1617) D 3 b, Enter 3 or 4 seruingmen, one with a Voyder and a woodden Knife to take away. 1620 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 265, I sent my old silver voyder..to be exchandged for a new. 1659 EVELYN *Char. Eng.* 64 Their ceremony at the Table, and to see the formality of the Voider, which our Withdrawing roomes in France are made to prevent. 1703 R. NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 90 The Butler..disposes..his Napkin-press.., Spoons, Knives, Forks, Voider, or Basket, and all other Necessaries appertaining to his Office. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Desiderius' Grobianus* 114 See now, the Stripling, with his Voider, waits To bear away the greasy Load of Plates. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 190 Ten waiters..Produce vast voiders, and a load of bread. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Wds., Voider*, a pail-like article, of wood or wicker, into which bones, etc. are shelved or thrown, during a meal. 1854 MRS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Voider*, a butler's Tray.

attrib. 1610 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. vii, Item voyder knives, whereof one is steele with a case. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 16/2 He beareth sable a Voyder Baskett, or a night Baskett Or.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

Very common in the first half of the 17th c.

1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* i. 7 Piers ploughman layd the cloth, and Simplicity brought in the voyder. 1615 T. ADAMS *Leaven* 112 You may as well..set him the voyder of abstinence instead of his table of surfeits. 1635 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 13. vii. (1669) 139/1 Death comes with a Voider to carry away all thy carnal enjoyments.

†c. *fig.* A receptacle for refuse or rubbish. *Obs.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. v. 631 Haply some conceiued indignitie..that our Britannia should make her Virginian lap to bee the voider, for her lewder and more disordered Inhabitants. 1625 S. WARD *Coal fr. Altar* 79 How are his Sabaoths made the voider and dung-hill for all refuse businesse.

†d. A tray, basket, or large plate, esp. one of ornamental pattern or design, for holding, carrying, or handing round sweetmeats. Also *transf.* a quantity or amount carried in this. *Obs.*

1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1829) 164 Several times we saw the Feasts of Bulls [at Madrid] and at them we had great voiders of dried sweetmeats brought us upon the King's account. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1249/1 And many Voiders of Sweetmeats were thrown among the People. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 259 Every one of the Guests were serv'd..with a Voider of Sweat-Meats Dry and Wet,..the Voiders themselves being of Wood Painted and Gilt. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Voider*,..Among Confectioners, a wooden painted Vessel to hold Services of Sweet-meats.

†e. *Brickmaking.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1683 J. HOUGHTON *Collect. Lett. Improv. Husb.* II. VI. 188 Then we have a Mould or Frame made of Beech, becau— the Earth will slip easiest from it. This Mould, Frame, or Voyder is made of the thickness of the Brick abovesaid, only half inch deeper.

f. *dial.* A large basket or receptacle of wicker-work for holding soiled clothes, etc.; a clothes-basket; a wicker basket of any kind.

1707 in Boyle *Ch. of St. Nicholas, Newcastle* 94 Paid for a voider for ye surplices. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 362 *Voider*, a kind of open-work basket. 1879 *Saunterer's Satchel* 25 (E.D.D.), I catched a lad running off wi' ahr voider. 1880 *West Cornwall Gloss.* 62 *Voyder*, a clothes basket; a large basket for holding unmended linen sold by gipsy women.

†4. *Sc.* a. An empty barrel, cask, or the like.

1482 in *Charters* (etc.) *Edinb.* (1872) 268 All the twa vydouris of gudis ventit or tensyt in the..toun of Leith. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 516/1 All the twane voydouris of guidis [etc.].

†b. Packing or wrappers removed from bales or bundles of goods. *Obs.*

1511 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 134 It is ordanit be the provest baillies and counsale anent the voydour callit cord and canves..of pakkis of lint [etc.]. *Ibid.*, To dalluer the cords and canves thairof as voidouris.

5. *Her.* As the name of an ordinary (see quots.).

1562 LEIGH *Armory* (1597) 70 b, He beareth Tenné, two voyders, Or. This is the rewarde of a Gentlewoman for seruice by her done to the prince or princes, but then the voiders shoulde be of one of the nine furs or doublinges. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. vi. (1611) 64 Last of all in our ordinaries, cometh the voider, consisting of one arch line moderately bowing from the corner of the chiefe by degrees towards the nombrile of the escocheon and from thence in like sort declining untill it come unto the sinister base. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II, *Voider*, is an ordinary much resembling the flanch, but is not quite so circular towards the centre of the field. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* 71 Flasques and Voiders are Flanches which encroach less on the Shield.

6. One who or that which voids, clears away, or empties; an emptier. *rare.*

1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 25 We are..In all cases alike, till we haue brought Martin to the ablatiue case, that is, to be taken away with a Bulls Voyder. 1598 FLORIO, *Vuotatore*, an emptier, a voider. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* III. (1617) 39 Purgations which are the emptiers and voiders of all superfluous humours.

†7. A servant or attendant who clears the table after a meal. Freq. *fig.* or in fig. context. *Obs.*

Often indistinguishable from senses 3 a and b.

1609 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 221 The voider hauing cleered the table, Cardes and Dice..are serued vp. 1644 CLEVELAND *Char. London Diurnall* 6 O brave Oliver! Times voyder, Sub-aiser to the Wormes. 1651 — *Poems* 8 Thou that art able To be a Voider to King Arthurs Table.

†8. *pl.* Castings, ejections (of worms). *Obs.*—1

a 1683 OLDHAM *Whs.* (1686) 83 Hither are loads from emptied Channels brought, And Voiders of the Worms from Sextons bought.

Voidie (cunning): see VOISDIE.

Voi·ding, *vbl. sb.* [f. VOID *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1. The discharging, emitting, or evacuation *of* something; = VOIDANCE 1 a. Now *rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 304 Thurgh voidyng of venym with vomettes grete. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 26 So by tuo hole natural daies be it nost moued, bot if voydyng of þe wombe make it. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* Hh iij, Betwene each voydynge of these lumps of blud. 1621 COTGR., *Vuidement*, a voyding, emptying, euacuating. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* IV. § 19 It still gives way to the voyding of the Sap in these, for the mounting of that in the Root. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Eszurgitation*, a casting or voiding up.

†2. The emptying out, clearing or sending away, removing, etc., of things or persons. *Obs.*

c 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1905) 36 The same kyng ..hath Juggid Thomas Arundell..to perpetuel exile and voydyng oute off the Rewme. 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 82 For voyding of ij Tonne owte of a pryve. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 272 Keruynge of brade, layenge, & voydynge of crommes. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* ibid. 67 Then if so be ye haue any more courses then on or two, ye may make the more hast in voyding. 1620 BACON *Hen. VII*, 102 The voiding of all Scottishmen out of England. 1688 SIR E. HERBERT *Hales' Case* 24 The Statutes for Voiding of Aliens out of the Kingdom.

†3. = VACATION 2. *Obs.*—1

1468 *Liber B.* (Maldon, Essex) fol. 14 Ner noon a-rest make with-oute a warant of the court, but in the tyme of voydyng.

†4. The avoidance *of* something. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (1495) Yj/1 Beestes.. haue redyenesse of wytte in..flyghte and voydynge of harme. 1529 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 35 And therfore thou shalt have another, For voydynge of stryfe. 1598 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 30 The wyl of man euer commynly folowyth that to the wych opynyon of perseuying the gud or voydyng of the yl ledyth hyt.

†5. The action of leaving or going away from a place, etc. *Obs.*

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 33 Yet notwithstanding for all their voyding and shifting, the pestilence followed them whither soeuer they went. 1662 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* IV. iii. 39 The whiche..at their voiding and going out shall abide and go in order, so as they sate at the table.

6. *Her.* (See quot. 1610 and VOIDED *ppl. a.* 2 c.) Also, the vacant space made in the voided charge or ordinary.

1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. v. 49 Voiding..is the exemption of some part of the inward substance of things voidable, by occasion whereof the Field is transparent thorow the Charge. [Hence in subsequent glossaries and Dicts.] 1722 A. NISBET *Her.* 48 If the Voiding be of a different Tincture from the Field. 1828 [see VOIDED *ppl. a.* 2 c].

7. The action of rendering void or invalid; = VOIDANCE 4.

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Conse.* IV. x. 488 Now you inquire of the annulling or voiding of marriages made unlawfully. 1707 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 145 That the voiding of one part might void the whole.

8. That which is voided or evacuated: a. *pl.* Excrements *of* persons or animals; castings *of* worms. *rare.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 69 Here be solde the voydings of close stooles. 1864 *Morn. Star* 24 Oct., It was matured

year after year by the voidings of sheep only. 1880 *Lib. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) VI. 582 Voidings and trails of worms.

†b. Fragments or remains of food removed from the table. = VOIDANCE 7. *Obs.*

1680 OTWAY *Caius Marius* IV. ii, He .. fed upon the voidings of my table. 1723 ROWE *Jane Shore* v, Oh! bestow Some poor remain, the voiding of thy table, A morsel to support my famish'd soul.

9. *attrib.*, as **†voiding beer**, beer given or drunk immediately before departing (cf. VOIDER); **†voiding knife**, a knife used to clear away fragments of food from the table; **†voiding plate** = VOIDER 3 a.

1540 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 42 b, Set down a charger or a voyder & gadre vp the fragmentes therin, & wt the voydynge knyfe gadre vp the .. cromes clene. *a* 1660 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* II. ix. Wks. (1912) 193, I must be constrained to call my Maid for a cup of voyding beere ere you will depart. 1607 *Lingua* v. xiii. K iij [*Stage direction*] Gvstvs with a voiding knife in his hand. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. vi. 64 These are called Voiders, either because of the Shallownesse wherein they doe resemble the accustomed voiding Plates with narrow brims vsed at Tables, or [etc.]. 1649 in *Archæol.* (1806) XV. 281, 2 Voyding knives with christall handles.

Voi·dless, *a. rare*—1. [f. VOID *v.*] That cannot be made void or annulled; not voidable.

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* i. § 12. 6 Some grants of some persons are voidlesse by themselves, by their heires, and by those which shall have their estates for ever.

†Voi·dly, *adv. Obs.* Also 5 voidli, voydely, 6 -lye. [f. VOID *a.* + -LY 2. Cf. OF. *vuidement* (Godef.).] Vainly, uselessly; to no purpose.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4384 At Vaxor þe vayn pepull voidly honoerit Bachian .. as a blist god. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 103 Thanne was the memento put fal[s]ly in the masse, and hooli chirche voidli or madli biddith preye. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 157 b, Of Christ thou takest thy name. .. And beware that thou bere not thy name voydely. 1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* I. cxcvi. I iv, By whych policie he shal neuer attempte, ne enterpryse anye matter voydelye, .. but by all wayes he shall haue hys owne desyre.

Voi·dness. [f. VOID *a.* + -NESS.]

†1. Freedom from work; leisure. *Obs.*—1

1382 WYCLIF *Eccles.* XXXVIII. 25 Wisdom wrijt in tyme of voydenesse [1388 *marg.*, That is, in the tyme, in which thou art voide of other werkis of nede].

†2. The quality of being devoid or destitute of value or worth; inanity, vanity, futility.

1388 WYCLIF *Wisd.* XIV. 14 For whi the voidnesse of men [L. *inprouidentia*] foond these idols in to the world. 1552 HULOET, Voydenes, *inanis as, vanitudo.* 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. l. 165 We are not so full of evill, as of voydnesse and inanitie.

3. The state or condition of being void, empty, or unoccupied; emptiness, vacancy, vacuity.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 116 þe brayn haþ sum substaunce of marie þe which fulfillib þe voidenes (*c* 1430 voydenesse) of þe forseid pannicle. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xviii. (1869) 185 If þou be void þou shalt brake, oþer sowne hye; In voydnesse is but murmure whan men smyte it with an hard thing. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hour. Apoth.* 20 b, But if the voydnesse or emptinesse is in the nethermost membres, then tye hys vpper membres. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 850 Through him .. began .. the hungry t' eat, And voydnesse to seeke full satietie. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 839 The Stoicks say, that the aire .. admitteth no voidnesse at all. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 105 There is nothing in the Body but a kind of Voidness and Inanity. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Voidness*, emptiness. 1801 *Lusignan* I. 74 They seemed robbed of attraction, and to her preoccupied mind presented only the voidness of a desert. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 775 The state of mind we have slightly depicted—so auspicious, one should think, from its troubled voidness, to the reception of religious convictions. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 210 The perfect transparency and voidness about us make the immense power of this invisible medium seem something ghostly.

b. A void or vacant space, esp. = VACUITY 8 b.

c 1430 [see *c* 1400 above]. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 820 The schoole of Pythagoras holdeth that there is a voidnesse without the world, .. out of which the world doth draw breath. *Ibid.* 1336 It is not likely that this world floteth .. in a vast and infinit voidnesse. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* i, This precious sweet Ethereall dew .. God .. did distill .. thorough all that hollow Voidnesse.

†4. The state or condition of being without something; freedom *from*, absence or lack *of*, something. *Obs.*

1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 33 The valyaunce of stomake is to be gyue to them and voydenesse from angre and grefe. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Confl. Satan* (1578) 25 This is our Crimosin, no lesse then voidnesse of all goodnesse. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 286/2 He hardeneth himselfe in his impudencie, and voidnes of shame. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1605) 406 In whom a man might perceiue what small difference in the working there is, betwixt a simple voidnesse of euill, and a iudiciall habite of vertue.

5. The state or condition of being legally void; nullity.

1883 *Sat. Rev.* 16 June 755 The existing system of prohibition (which, despite the quibble about voidness and voidableness, has notoriously been recognized in England from time immemorial).

†Void. *Cant. Obs. rare.* [prob. ad. F. *ville.*] A town.

1811 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 67 The whole void was in an uproar. 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.*, *Void*, a town.

‖ Voile (vwāl). [F. *voile* VEIL *sb.*] A thin semi-transparent cotton or woollen material much used for blouses and dresses.

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 25 June 6/1 Another dress was made of a material called voile, in biscuit colour. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 3/2 The term 'voile' covers a variety of makes of stuff, some like muslin, some like cloth. 1899 *Daily News* 29 April 8/4 The veiling that was so popular some years since, but which is now called 'voile'.

attrib. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Sept. 3/3 A charming dress of white voile cashmere.

‖ Voilette (vwalet'). [F., dim. of prec.]

1. A little veil.

1862 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* IV. 237/2 The bonnet is of white terry velvet, made with a voilette of lace. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 3/1 The American whimsical, grace- .. of a veil of velvet-spotted chiffon has given rise to a remarkably pretty voilette in the shops there.

2. A kind of thin dress material.

1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 June 10/2 A gown made in fine voilette, trimmed with lace insertion.

†Voillance. *Obs.*—1 In 5 woillaunce. [a. OF. (*bien*)*voillance* (mod.F. -*veillance*), ad. L. (*bene*)*volentia* benevolence.] (Good)will.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 123 Than gouerne ye haue wyth good Woillaunce and bonerte.

†Voine, obs. (southern dial.) var. FOIN *v.*

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* Prol. B v b, For to voine or strike below the girdle, we counted it base and too cowardly.

†Voirably, *adv. Obs.*—1 [f. OF. *voirable*, f. *voire* true.] Truly, veritably.

1502 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 165 The king of Ro[maine] may voirably saye that the same amytee in as [much] as it is perpetuall .. oughte not to be availlable to the said rebelles.

‖ Voir dire (vwār dīr). *Law.* Also 7 voire. [OF. *voir* true, the truth + *dire* to say.] (See quots. 1701 and 1768).

1676 T. W. *Office of Clerk of Assize* G j, Such person so produced for a witness, may be examined upon a *Voire Dire.* 1702 *Cowell's Interpr.* s.v., When it is pray'd upon a Trial at Law, that a Witness may be sworn upon a *Voir dire*; the meaning is, he shall upon his Oath speak or declare the truth. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 332 If however the court has, upon inspection, and doubt of the age of the party, .. it may .. examine the infant himself upon an oath of *voir dire, veritatem dicere*, that is, to make true answer to such questions as the court shall demand of him. 1834 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 232 All the persons most intimately connected with Ireland are examined on the *voir dire.*

Vois, obs. f. VOICE *sb.*

†Voisdie. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 *Sc.* woidie. [a. OF. *voisdie, voidie*: see VAIDIE.] Cunning, stratagem, sleight.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 747 The suld preas till derenye þour richt, And nocht with woidie [*MS.* woidre] na with aliclit. [*Ibid.* X. 516 the correct reading is probably *voidy*.] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 217 Nou schalt thou hiere a gret mervaile, With what voisdie that he wroghte.

†Voisin, *a. Obs.*—1 [a. F. *voisin* :—L. *vīcīn-us, -us* VICINE *a.*] Neighbouring.

1587 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 129 The voisin Realmes and Lordships shuld be in hassarde.

†Voisinage. *Obs.* Also 6-7 voisinage, 7 voysinage. [a. F. *voisinage*, f. *voisin*: cf. prec. and VICINAGE.]

1. The fact of being neighbouring or near.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 283 Erzirum is a Town of great strength .. and by reason of its voicinage to the Persian Dominions usually made the place of rendezvous, when the Turks have any design against that Empire. 1681 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* II. i. 203 Worcester and Gloucester had been united, by reason of their Voicinage.

2. The neighbourhood; the adjoining district.

1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epist.* xxi. 114 All the Presbyters that came from Ephesus and the voisinage. 1647 — *Lib. Proph.* Ep. Ded. 3, I had no Books of my own here, nor any in the voisinage. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Vind. Dutch War* 4 We in the City and Country do repine, complain and rage, till the whole Voisinage prove Male-content. 1678 SANCROFT in Bp. Wake *Charge* (1706) 43 Three Priests ..., who are of the Voisinage where the P[ro]cession testified of, resides.

b. The neighbourhood *of* a place.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Sect. x. 2 There hapned to be a marriage in Cana of Galilee in the voisinage of his dwelling. 1660 — *Ductor* I. iv. rule 2 § 13 It occasioned the death of all the little babes in the city and voisinage of Bethlehem. 1720 S. PARKER *Biblioth. Bibl.* I. 415 A City came to be built in the Voisinage of this Holy Place.

†Voisom. *Obs. rare.* Also 6 voysom. [ad. OF. *avoëson*, var. of *avoueson*: see VOWSON.] An advowson.

1538 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 77 The voysom of one benifice. 1560 DAUS tr. *Staidane's Comm.* 154 b, Pope Paule by his deputes ordeyned a reformation, touching the abuses of the Churche, as permutations, voisomes, benefices incompatibles.

†Voisour. *Obs.*—1. [ad. OF. *voisure*, var. *vousure, vousure*, etc. (mod.F. *voussure*): cf. VOUSSOIR.] Vaulting.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 2078 (Fairf.) Thorow þe grundwal of þis tour Sum rennis wiþ grete voisour.

Voist, variant of FOIST *v.*[1], VOUST *v.*

Voit, obs. Sc. form of VOTE *sb.*

‖ Voiture (vwatiūr). [F. *voiture* :—L. *vectūra*, f. *vect-*, ppl. stem of *vehĕre* to convey. Cf. VETTURA.] A carriage or conveyance; a vehicle.

1698 W. KING tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 6, I drew these Surprising Conclusions. First that a Hackney is a miserable *Voiture* [etc.]. 1698 M. — Hackneys and Chairs, which here are the most nasty and miserable Voiture that can be. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Cless of Mar* 3 Aug., I .. went in the long-boat to Hadrianikuys, where we had voitures to carry us to the Brill. 1730 H. WALPOLE in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 46 Having caused an easy voiture to be made, I undertook the journey in it. 1779 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 32 But it rained hard, and I could get no *voiture* till I was forced to go to my engagement with Lady Lambert. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 60 To say a few words, in the way of compliment, to the driver of another voiture. 1840 ARNOLD in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. App. C. 428 We are again in *voiture*, going along the edge of the sea in the port of Naples.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 31 July, I hired an ass (the only voiture to be had there). 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 347 This was the voiture with which they conveyed themselves quite down to the sea, and one of these boats it was that we spied .. coming to us in the bay. 1746 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 9 Oct. (1774) I. 197 In this journey, the understanding is the *voiture* that must carry you through.

‖ Voiturette (vwatiūre't). [F., dim. of prec.] A small motor vehicle.

1897 *Daily News* 26 July 5/5 Three motor bicycles, thirteen tricycles, eight voiturettes or quadricycles with one wheel fore and aft and two in the middle and with one or two seats. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 107 It is far better to get a small car or a voiturette.

‖ Voiturier (vwatiūrye). [F., f. *voiture* VOITURE: see -IER.] The driver of a carriage or coach.

1763 SMOLLETT *Trav.* v, I have hired a berlin and four horses to Paris, for fourteen Louis d'ors; two of which the *voiturier* is obliged to pay for a permission from the farmers of the post. 1782 J. DOUGLAS *Trav. Anecd.* I. 42 The *voiturier* said he was in haste, and opened the door of the diligence. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY in Dowden *Shelley* (1887) II. 188 After dinner our voiturier comes. 1849 J. FORBES *Physic. Holiday* iv. (1850) 44 We arranged .. with a voiturier, to take us to Schaffhausen the following day. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 434 A few shopkeepers, indeed, and most of the voituriers are Italian.

‖ Voiturin. [F., f. *voiture* (cf. prec.), after It. *vetturino* VETTURINO.]

1. The driver of a voiture; a voiturier.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Case of Delicacy*, I contracted with a *voiturin* to take his time with a couple of mules. 1790 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Berry* 9 Nov., I am not surprised at your finding voiturins, or anybody, or anything dearer. *c* 1832 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Life* XXX. (1847) 524 We have to thank our landlord, who hurried us away under the pretence that the voiturin we had hired to drive us to Nice was obliged to be off that very morning.

2. A carriage for hire, a voiture.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Case of Delicacy*, A *voiturin* arrived with a lady in it, and her servant-maid. 1768 BARETTI *Acc. Manners Italy* II. 315 Mr. Sharpe's advice .. of hiring voiturins through Savoy.

Voivode (voi·vōd). Forms: α. 6 voy-, voiuoda, voivoda. β. 7 uoiuod, 7, 9 voyvode, 9 voivode. γ. 9 woivode, -wode, woywod. [ad. Bulg. and Serb. *vojvoda*, Czech. *vojevoda*, Pol. *wojewoda*, Russ. *voevoda*, whence also Roum. *voevoda, -vod*, mod.L. *voivoda*, mod.Gr. βοεβόδα(ς.] = VAIVODE.

α. 1579 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 401 When we should haue deliuered him with the rest of his felowes vnto the Voiuodaes officers. *Ibid.*, Knesse Yorius your Maiesties Voiuoda at Plasco. 1599 *Ibid.* II. i. 198 Voyuoda of Bogdania, & Valachia.

β. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 249 That of Vaiuod or Uoiuod, vsd in other parts of the Eastern Europe, being, I think, a Slauonig, or Windish word. 1686 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 232, I went to visit and present ye Voyvode & Muselliim of Diarbikeer. 1831 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 111 Now but an insignificant-looking place, thou formerly the residence of a Voivod. 1869 FORBES *His Turkey* I. 141 The protectorate .. passed into the hands of the Hospodars or Voyvodes of Wallachia and Moldavia. 1884 W. CARR *Montenegro* 22 By repeated efforts the voivode maintains with difficulty a position on the coast.

γ. 1847 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 31 He encouraged Francis I. to keep alive the agitation in Germany, .. and to support the Woiwode of Transylvania. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* xvi. 303 Amongst those executed before Belgrade were venerable Senators .. and aged and renowned Woiwodes. 1858 *Daily Tel.* 1 Sept., To be prince of its park, lord of its lake, ruler of its river, and woiwode of its woods.

attrib. 1888 E. GERALD *Land beyond Forest* XXXIII. II. 84 Only such Tziganes are supposed to be eligible as are descended from a Woywod family.

Voivodeship. Also woiwod-, woywod-. [f. prec. + -SHIP.]

1. The district or province governed by a voivode.

1792 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* (1794) 662 Great Poland .. is subdivided into 12 districts, called woiwodships. 1793 *State Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 208 Following the border of the voivodship of Vilna. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 133/1 Cracow, a republic .. formerly part of the woywodship or palatinate of the same name in the Kingdom of Poland.

2. The office or dignity of a voivode.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 16/1 Multiplying the candidates for the voivodeship. *Ibid.* 17/1 Serban .. was raised to the voivodeship of Walachia.

Vois, obs. form of VOICE *sb.*

Vok(e, obs. variants of FOLK *sb.*

†Voke. *Sc. Obs.*—1 [Of obscure origin.] Arrogance, vanity, conceit.

a 1598 in Laing *Gologras & Gawane* (1827) III. 20 Thou schryve secrete of stinkand voke & pride.

Voky, vokie (vō·ki), *a. Sc.* Also 8 vowkie. [f. prec.] Proud, vain, elated. (In first quot. as *sb.* personified.)

a 1560 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 523 To Vant and Voky þe

beir this rowm sted. 1599 JAMES MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 459 That gunepoe..was na litle vokie for getting of the bern's name. 1735 R. FORBES *Jrnl. fr. London* in *Ajax's Sp.* 30, I was fidgin fain an' unco vokie fan I gat out oner her. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* III. 108 Of your consent..I'm maist nor fain, And vowkie [*ed. 2* vokie] that I can ca' you my ain. 1871 ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* XXXVII, He was met at the door by his mamma, who was in the mood described as 'vokie'.

Vol (vɒl). *Her.* Also 8 vole, voll. [F. *vol* flight, f. *voler* :—L. *volāre* to fly.] Two wings displayed and joined at the base.

1728 NISBET *Syst. Her.* II. v. I. 363 When two Wings are joined together, they are then called a Vole, or two Wings in Lure. 1761 *Ibid.* IV. v. II. 14 A Crown relevant with Flowers, and issuing out of it a Demi Lion between two Volls for Crest. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II, *Vol*, in the French blazon, is two wings conjoined and expanded. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* x. (ed. 3) 64 The two wings of an Eagle displayed, when conjoined and borne as a charge, are blazoned as a Vol. *Ibid.* XXXII. 466 Out of a crest-coronet a vol az. and or.

Vol, southern ME. var. FULL *a.* and *adv.*; var. VOLE *sb.*[1]; obs. Sc. var. WELL *sb.*, WOOL.

Vol., abbrev. of VOLUME.

(*a*) 1682 (*title*), An Impartial Collection of the Great Affairs of State,..By John Nalson, LL.D. Vol. I. *Ibid.*, Vol. II. 1725 T. HEARNE *R. Brunne's Chron.* (1810) I. p. xcii, At the End of the first Vol. of Leland's Itin. 1790 J. WILLIAMS *Shrove Tuesday* in *A Cabinet* etc. (2 33 I'll purchase Sherlock, Drelincourt and Dodd, T Aquinas and old Jerome's vols. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. i, A few odd vols. of the Racing Calendar. *a* 1883 FAGGE *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) I. 980 A coloured plate in vol. XXX of the 'Pathological Transactions'.

(*b*) 1864 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 533, 2 vol. chlorine with 1 vol. hydride of ethyl.

‖ **Vola** (vō·lă). *Anat.* [L. *vola*, in the same sense.] The hollow of the hand or foot.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vola*, the Palm of the Hand; also the Cavity of the Foot. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Hand*, The Metacarpus, which is the Body of the Hand, including the Dorsum and Vola. 1806 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* p. XX, An aspect towards the side on which the radius is situated is radial,..and if towards the side on which the vola or *Sevap* is situated, thenal.

†**Vola·cious**, *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. L. *vol-āre* to fly + -ACIOUS.] Fitted for, given to, flying.

1683 H. MORE *Antid. Atheism* II. xi. (1712) 73 But the reason is, because they are Birds less volacious. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Volacious*, apt or fit to fly; as A Volacious Creature.

Volage, *a.* Also 6 *Sc.* vollage. [a. OF. and F. *volage* (volaʒ), f. *voler* :—L. *volāre* to fly.] Giddy, foolish; fickle, inconstant. (In later literary use reintroduced from mod. French.) Also in comb. *volage-brained*.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1284 She fulfilled of lustynesse, That was not yit twelve yeer of age, With herte wylde, and thought volage. *c* 1366 — *Manc. T.* 135 Whan phebus wyf had sent for hir lemman Anon þay wrousten al her wil volage. ? 1440 QUIXLEY *Ballades* xvii. in *Yorksh. Arch. Jrnl.* (1909) XX. 49 Vnto Gawayn may he be resemblyng, Curteys of loue, bot he was ouer volage. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Metam.* XIV. ii. (Roxb.) 56 b, He [Eneas] hath the herte harde, volage & more orageo[us] than the see. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 194 A woman, variable as the winde Being of hir love unstable and volage. *c* 1520 BARCLAY *Jugurtha* (1557) 66 As a volage brained man he fullye determined agayne to begynne and continue the warre..rather then to yelde hym selfe to deathe or captivitie. 1549 *Compl. of Scotlande* I. 22 Oure vit is ouer febil, oure ingyne ouer harde, oure thochtis ouer vollage, ande oure ʒeiris ouer schort. *a* 1722 LD. FOUNTAINHALL *Decisions* (1759) I. 484 Some doubted how far such volage expressions inferred treason, being but *lubricum linguæ*. *a* 1773 MRS. E. MONTAGU in *Garrick's Private Corr.* (1832) II. 375 Lord Lyttelton is more *volage*, more difficult to fix, than any of Messieurs les Maccaronis. [1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v., He's unco volage o' his aller.] 1845 JANE ROBINSON *Whitehall* XXII, As naturally alluring as beds of flowers to the volage butterfly. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* XXXVI, Both [parties] are volage: wine, tobacco, and the moon, influence both alike. 1865 'OUIDA' *Strathmore* VI. I. 94 The volage, and somewhat indiscreet Princesse de Lurine.

Hence †**Vo·lageness**. *Obs.*

1633 LD. WARISTON *Diary* (S.H.S.) 179 The fear of folks speaking, rayling, and jesting at my sudaine chainge and volagnes disnaded me.

Volageous, *a. Sc.* ? *Obs.* Also 5 **walageous**. [a. AF. *volag(e)ous*, f. *volage*: see prec.] = VOLAGE *a.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 485 He was bath young, stout, and felloun, Richt ioly als, and volageous [*MS. E.* walageous]. *Ibid.* X. 353, I was sum dele volageous [*MS. E.* walageous], And left ane vench her in the toune. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 699 *Volageous*, adj., very light, giddy, or boastful. Clydes[dale].

†**Volaille.** *Obs.*[-1] In 5 **vollayle**. [a. OF. *volaille* :—late L. *volātilia* fowls, neut. pl. of L. *volātilis*, f. *volāre* to fly.] Poultry; fowls.

1444 *Maldon Bye-law* in *Essex Herald* (1888.) 12 April 6/2 There shall be no man on the market day..selle, ne bye ne flesh, ne fyshe, vollayle, ne other vytayle,..tyl the hour of pryme.

†**Vola·lkali**. *Chem. Obs.* [f. VOL(ATILE) *a.* + ALKALI.] Volatile alkali; ammonia.

[*c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 438/2 Vol. alkali.] 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 7 As pure Volalkali consists of nephitic..air and inflammable air concreted together. 1799 — *Geol. Ess.* V. 240 Margraff..found it to yield volalkali from some remains of the putrid wood that were still contained in it.

Volant (vō·lănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **volaunt**. [a. F. *volant*, pres. pple. of *voler*, also as sb.; or ad. L. *volant-*, *volans*, pres. pple. of *volāre* to fly. Cf. also It., Sp., Pg. *volante*. In 1 b and 3 placed after the noun.]

A. *adj.* †**1. a.** Riding at full gallop. *Obs. rare.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 37 They ranne volant one as fast as he might overtake the other. *Ibid.* 56 b, After that ye king & his aides had performed their courses, thei ranne volant at al commers. [Hence in Holinshed and Baker.]

†**b.** *Mil.* So constituted as to be capable of rapid movement or action. (Cf. FLYING *ppl. a.* 4 d.)

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 167 b, Certain Frenchmen..came before Alexandrie & there kept a siege volant. 1580 MAITLAND in E. Russell *Maitland of L.* (1912) ii. 37 For lack of money the camp volant cannot continue. 1577 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 479/1 in *Chron.* I, The French army in Scotland..determined with a siege volant to keepe the Englishmen in Hadington from victuales and all other reliefe. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 160 Out of these Regiments was raised a squadron *volante* (or flying Regiment) which onely was to answere Alarums. *Ibid.* 176 Sir Henrie Powers squadron volant (or flying Regiment). 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib* II. XXI. (1821) 415 The Regiment volant (commanded by Sir Harvie Power). 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 268 He sent Charles Cavendish..., with a Party Volant of Horse and Dragoons, into Lincolnshire.

†**c.** Hovering between two sides. *Obs.*[-1]

a 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. ii. § 25 (1740) 42 He was not, like the Party volant, waiting for Profers to determine him.

†**2.** *Volant piece*, an addition to the front of a helmet as a protection for the face, used especially in tournaments. *Obs.*

1509-10 in Meyrick *Anc. Armour* (1824) II. 251 These four knights shall present themselves..in harneys for the tylt without tache or breket, wolant pece on the hedde [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 123 To whiche coyffe or bassenet neuer armorer taketh hede, for it is euermore covered with the viser, barbet and volant pece. [1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* II. 263 The grand-guard, volant piece and gard de bras were put on with nuts which rendered pincers necessary.]

3. *Her.* Of birds, etc.: Represented as flying; having the wings expanded as if in flight.

Many special varieties, as *volant descendant, displayed, expensed*, etc., are explained in BERRY's *Encycl. Herald.* (*c* 1828) I. Gloss.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 29 b, R. beareth Sable and Argente..two Faucons volante, and a Greyhounde currante. 1599 R. LINCHE *Fountain Anc. Fiction* F iij b, Downe from his shoulders depended a vestement, wherein was curiously proportioned the head of Medusa,..on the one side of him were placed certaine Eagles volant. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxiii. 172 Heere also you see one gesture of a Fowle volant. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1980/4 A Coat of Armes being a Faulcon volant between 3 Mullets with distinction of a half Moon, 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Volant*, in Heraldry, is when a Bird in a Coat of Arms is drawn flying, or having its Wings spread out. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 143/2 Birds, according to their attitudes, are blazoned Volant, Displayed, Preying, etc. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* III. (ed. 3) 66 As. three butterflies volant or.

4. Flying; able to fly, capable of flight.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 385 This is the onely four-footed Beast that's volant. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 167 As to the Fire-Flies,..I take them to be a Glow-Worm Volant. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 90. 3/1 With Engine fatal to the Volant Kind. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* VI, I have considered the structure of all volant animals. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 366 A kind of volant beetle. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 300 In every part of the world there are animals adapted to the several parts, the volant living in the air, and the gradient on the earth. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 222 The volant, bright-plumaged birds of heaven. 1876 FARRAR *Marb. Serm.* XV. 142 Then shall thousands of volant angels bear us down upon their wings.

fig. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* V. I. § 50 English silver now was current, and our gold volant in the Popes Courts. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 60 The first..Weighs with nice ear the vowel, liquid, surd, And breaks in syllables the volant word. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* I. 351 Let me in volant thought Ideal bliss renew. 1818 BP. J. JEBB *Life & Lett.* lxvii. 619 But, alas, my paper wings are very rarely volant. 1840 MRS. TROLLOPE in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 40 A sort of volant admiration that seemed ready to take wing, and fly off in whatever direction he might please to indicate. 1898 MEREDITH *Poems, Napoleon* I. 12 Reverberant notes and long blew volant Fame.

b. *transf.* Connected with flying.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 3 But here,..to the volant metaphor..., is a pretty little Miss [etc.]

5. Of things: Passing rapidly through the air or space, as if by flight; floating lightly in the air.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 639 Alexander the Great,..who..lanced himselfe in maner of a starre volant in the aire, leaping out of the East into the West. *Ibid.* 791 The intelligent nature of heaven, he [Plato] calleth, a Chariot volant, to wit, the harmonicall motion and revolution of the world. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. I. xii. 54 It may be thought that these fires volant proceed from sulphurous exhalations that rise out of the Earth. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 286 The volant shadows that cross our British hills. 1798 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 167 The eddying smoke, quick flame, and volant spark. 1823 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. IV. Comm. p. vii, The poet distinguishes the volant films of substances from other portions of bodies. 1831 CAMPBELL *View fr. St. Leonard's* 75 Men's volant homes that measure liquid space On wheel or wing. 1840 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Widow Married* XXII. 130 She had always some volant ribbon or floating scarf to attend to and arrange. 1865 *Athenæum* 15 July 78/2 The car volant of Armida.

b. Moving rapidly or lightly; active, nimble. Also *fig.* of discourse.

1850 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I*, 176 Now have I brought this great Kings Reign to an end, in a volant discourse, and shall give you his Character in briefe. 1867 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 562 His volant touch Instinct through all proportions low and high Fled and pursu'd transverse the resonant fugue. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 73 *Bards* with volant touch Traverse loquacious strings. 1733 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. XXXVI. 251 Yes, my volant, my self-conducted quill, begin with the Sister. 1739 (H. DALRYMPLE) *Woodstock* (1761) 13 Their volant fingers o'er the chorded lyre, With modulating touch the artists ply. 1829 H. K. WHITE *Rem.* (1833) 95, I could..in the caverns of the ocean flood, thrid the light mazes of thy volant foot. 1848 *Lights & Shades* II. 277 Those dexter fingers, such volant summoners of sound. 1897 DOWDEN *French Lit.* V. iii. 367 He knew how to wing his verses with a volant [*sic*] refrain.

†**c.** Of colours: Changing, iridescent. *Obs.*[-1]

1616 LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 204 *note*, All colour vaunced, save white,..with all new volant dies of gallant

6. Characterized by, of the nature of, flight.

1828 MRS. LIFFY *Corfu* Poems (ed. 2) 98 The games, the race, the wrestlers meed; The discus urged with volant speed. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 263 What godlike grace in that volant motion! 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* XXII. 446 A change from..volant to non-volant habits of living. 1892 C. E. CRADDOCK *In 'Stranger People's' Country* XVI. 318 He turned to catch through the trees a flitting glimpse of her light dress, her volant attitude, as she sped silently and secretly back to the waiting group on the porch.

7. Flounced; frilled. (Cf. sense 3 below.)

1900 *Daily Tel.* 2 Aug. 3/2 The seamed skirt..has the preference over the volant skirt.

B. *sb.* †**1.** *To act, to keep* (*upon*), *the volant*, to hover between two parties, sides, or opinions. *Obs.*

a 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. ii. § 64. (1740) 63 And so they kept the Volant a good While, and did not declare on which Side they would fall. *Ibid.* III. vi. § 69. 474 The Dutch had acted the volant, and done enough, on the one Side or the other, to have kept the Fire alive. *a* 1734 — *Lives* (1826) III. 336 He..chose to keep upon the volant, free to discourse and censure as he from time to time thought fit.

2. = *Volant piece* (see sense 2 above). *rare*—[0].

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Volant*, a piece of steel on a helmet, presenting an acute angle to the front.

3. A flounce or frill.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 513/1 *Volant*, the French term denoting either a flounce, or a frill; both of which are descriptions of dress trimmings. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 17 June 6/3 Her muslin Empire dress had a deep white cloth 'volant'.

4. = VOLET 2.

1898 *Daily News* 14 July 6/2 The most interesting of the late acquisitions is the pair of volants or shutters to Lionardo's Holy Family.

Hence **Vo·lantly** *adv.*, in a volant manner.

1876 J. ELLIS *Cæsar in Egypt* 98 Two seraphs hovering o'er the fragile ark, Its puny canvas fanning volantly.

‖ **Volante** (volā·nte). [Sp.: see VOLANT *a.*] A two-wheeled covered carriage drawn by a horse ridden by a postilion (freq. with another horse attached at the side), used in Spanish countries.

Recent examples refer chiefly to Cuba.

1791 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* (1792) I. 105 You pay for a volanté with a good mule, attended by a guide, five shillings a day. 1817 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 55 He is an author for the closet (a snug parlour we should say in England), and not for a volante. 1834 BARTLETT *Mex. Boundary* I. i. 8 Towards evening..we took a volante and drove out to the bishop's palace. 1878 *Masque Poets* 185 Drawn (behind a jaunty Black-faced postillion) in a gay volante.

Hence **Volantier**, the owner or driver of a volante.

1791 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* I. (1792) 77, I left Montpellier at five in the morning with a volantier of Barcelona.

Volante, variant of VOLUNTY *Obs.*

Volapük, **-puk** (vɒ·lăpūk, -puk). [f. *vol* world (alteration of E. *world*) + *a* connecting vowel, + *pük* speech (alteration of E. *speak*).] An artificial language, chiefly composed of materials from European tongues, invented in 1879 by a German priest, Johann M. Schleyer, as a means of international communication. Also *transf.*

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan. 15/1 Volapük is the name of the recently invented world-language, or universal tongue. 1888 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 434 In his shop-fronts the Russian mercifully interprets his Cyrillian characters by that original volapuk of the world's infancy, the picture. 1890 O. W. HOLMES *Over Tea-cups* V. 93 Music will be the universal language—the *Volapük* of spiritual being.

Hence **Vo·lapüker**, **Vo·lapükist**, an advocate or student of Volapuk.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Dec. 4/1 It seems that the Volapükists have published a directory giving the names and addresses of its disciples. 1887 *Scott. Leader* 28 Nov. 4 As much practice..as in the case of a living language, would be needed to give the Volapuker facility in dialogue.

Volar (vō·lăr), *a.*[1] *Anat.* [f. VOLA + -AR.] Of or belonging to the palm of the hand or the sole of the foot; palmar.

1814 WISHART tr. *Scarpa's Treat. Hernia* Explan. p. xvi, The term *volar* in the atlantal extremities is restricted, as in common anatomical language, to the parts within the palm of the hand. 1890 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 9 Any bone of similar function in connection with the tendons on the volar side of the hand. 1899 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 353 Superficial volar [artery]: Very often of small size, so small that it terminates in the muscles of the thumb.

Vo·lar, *a.*[2] *rare*—[1]. [f. L. *vol-āre* to fly.] Employed in flying.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 69 The volar membrane is attached more or less near to the middle of the back, in some of the Rousettes.

Volary (vō·lări). Now *rare*. Also 7 **volarie**, **vollary**, 7–8 **volery**. [app. ad. F. *volière*, after types in -ARY, -ERY.]

1. A large bird-cage; an aviary. Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* v. i, She..now sits penitent and solitary, Like the forsaken turtle, in the volary Of the light Heart, the cage, she hath abused. 1654 Flecknoe *Ten Years Trav.* 110 In lieu of imagining it flying about the world, we may imagin it rather pent up, and fluttering about some narrow Bird-cage or volary. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 105 On the left hand before a Garden on the River-side, there is a Volary full of rare Fowl, as Estradges, Peacocks and others. 1728 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 235 The gardens, the volaries, the dog-kennel, the falconry, the square and bazar..are worth seeing. †1743 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett. to Mrs. Forster* (1893) II. 124, I find myself so improperly lodged as if I inhabited a volery. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Coll.* (Maitland Club) 186 Here is a flat, laid out like a parterre,..and a volary, which is a little place with the face of it wire. 1892 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 5/3 Birds..living happily in..confinement in very large cages, in spacious volaries.

transf. a 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods* xvi. Wks. (Rtldg.) 694/1, I thought thee then our Orpheus, that wouldst try, Like him, to make the air one volary. 1640 Carew *Poems* Wks. (1824) 34 Yet thou hadst daintyes, as the skie Had only been thy volarie.

attrib. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* VI. iii. II. 624/1 Edward Story, Esq; Volary-keeper to King Charles II. 1684.

2. *collect.* The birds kept in an aviary. Also *fig.*

1693 Locke *Educ.* § 94 An old Boy, at his first Appearance, with all the Gravity of his Ivy-Bush about him, is sure to draw on him the Eyes and Chirping of the whole Town Volery. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* VIII. x, These things wipe off and remove the nauseating of such of them [thrushes] as sit loitering in the aviaries, and make the whole volary more greedy and voracious.

†**Volate.** *Obs. rare.* (Meaning uncertain.)

c 1480 *Oseney Reg.* 27, J. crofte and a volate [L. *volatam*] bat Hemmying preste was i-wonyd to have.

Volatic (vŏlæ·tik), *sb.* and *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. L. *volātic-us*, f. *volāt-*, ppl. stem of *volāre* to fly.]

A. *sb.* A winged creature.

a 1643 W. Cartright *On Mr. Stokes* vi, How would they vex their Mathematicks, Their Ponderations, and their Staticks, To shew the Art of these Volaticks? 1687 Angier *Elegy* in S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.*, I've sometimes viewed thy small Volaticks flye Like golden atom's bov'ring in the sky.

B. *adj.* That flies or flits about; *spec.* in *Path.* of a variety of itch.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 72, I ordered a Cupping-glass..to get out that Volatick Spirit, which daily ranged the whole body. *Ibid.* XVI. 349 This Remedy is of so great efficacy, that..presently the volatick Itch falls off dead. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 292 Amidst the gloom volatic meteors blaze. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1336/2 *Volaticus*, ..flying; flitting; inconstant; volatic.

So **Volatical** *a. rare*—°.

1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Volatical*, that flyes or goes away suddenly, flitting, inconstant.

†**Volatify,** *v. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *volāt-* (cf. next) + -(*i*)*fy*.] *trans.* To render volatile.

1666 J. H. *Treat. Gt. Antid.* 4 Poure thereon a pint and half of volatile Salt of Tartar volatified with spirit of Wine.

Volatile (vɒ·lătəil, -il), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4, 7–8 volatil, 5 -tille, 6–7 -till, 7 -tle; 4– volatile (4 -tyle). [a. OF. and F. *volatil*, *-ile* (=Sp. and Pg. *volatil*, It. *volatile*), or ad. L. *volātilis* (also late L. *volātile* sb.), f. *volāt-*, ppl. stem of *volāre* to fly.]

A. *sb.* †1. *collect.* Birds, *esp.* wild-fowl. *Obs.* (So OF. *volatil.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6386 Volatil sent þaim þat king. 13.. *Coer de L.* 4225 Off..Partrybches, plovers, and heroun, Off larkes, and smale volatyle. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* vii. 14 Al that moueth vpon the erthe in his kynde, and al volatile after his kynde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4637 Of all þe frutis on þe fold we fange at oure will, Bath venyson & volatile & variand fisches. *c* 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* 512/1 (K.), Volatile, wyld fowle,..*volatile*. 1502 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* III. xv, To noy the small the greit beistis had na will, Nor rauenous foulis the lytill volatill. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXVIII. 36 As the fals fowler..Deuoiris the pure volatill he wylis to the net. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 164 Espling that greate mortalitie not yett interred, disfigured by volatle and other wilde beastes.

2. A winged creature; a bird, butterfly, or the like; a fowl. Usually in plural.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxvii. 31 [lxxviii. 27] He rained vp hem pudre, flesshes, and volatils fe|þered as grauel of þe se. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxii. 4, I haue made redy my mete, my boles and volatilis ben slayn. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XII. v. (Bodl. MS.), Alle oþer volatiles bringeþ forþe burþe vnneþe in a yeere. 1632 Guillim *Heraldry* (ed. 2) III. xxi. 234 No lesse than other Volatiles, or flying Animals. 1851 Biggs *New Dist.* P 294 Nor is a volatile contrary to a Reptile. 1666 J. Davies tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isles* 230 As to the Volatiles of this Country, there are Turkeys, Pintadoes, Parrots, Woodquists. 1718 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 530 That the Tongue of this Volatile was much commended..will appear from the following Quotations. 1730 G. Hughes *Barbados* 61 By Animals I would be understood to mean..such only as are generally termed Quadrupeds, Volatiles, and Insects. 1819 H. Busk *Vestriad* II. 390 From that first hall where Orpheus, first of lutes, Drew reptiles, volatiles, pantiles, and brutes. *c* 1876 R. F. Burton in Lady I. Burton *Life* (1893) I. iii. 40 A dove not being procurable, its place was supplied by a turkey-cock, and the awful gabbling of the ill-behaved volatile caused much more merriment than was decorous.

3. A volatile matter or substance.

1686 W. Harris tr. *Lemery's Chym.* I. xvii. (ed. 3) 408 These volatiles ought to be taken always in some cold liquor and not in hot broth. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 16 The Earth..was only a confus'd Mass of Matter, consisting of Solids, Fluids, and Volatiles, all jumbled together. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. ii. § 7. 248 Applying Volatiles to the Nose. 1782 E. Gray in *Med. Comm.* I. 33 Volatiles..which had been given..in order to encourage perspiration. 1810 S. Green *Reformist* II. 2 The excessive heat of the place..rendered the use of volatiles..requisite to the delicate fair ones who composed this religious group. 1840 L. Hunt *Legend Florence* II. ii, Applying a volatile to her temples. 1883 *Times* 6 June 5/2 The machine is fitted with a volatile the fumes of which cause instantaneous death.

B. *adj.* †1. Of meal: So fine or light as readily to fly about. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 46/2 An astringent Plaster, made of Bolus, flower, or volatill meale, of whytes of Egges [etc.]. 1599 — *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 54/1 Sift them till they resemble volatile meale.

2. Flying, capable of flying, volant.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 728 The Catterpiller toward the End of Summer waxeth Volatile, and turneth to a Hutterflie, or perhaps some other Fly. 1653 H. Cogan *Diodorus Siculus* 94 It produceth likewise all kinde of creatures both terrestrial and volatile, greater and stronger then other regions. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. ii. (1677) 304 The production of Animals aquatil and volatil preceded the production of terrestrial Animals. 1729 J. T. Philipps tr. *Thirty-four Consfr.* 308 Their Souls will be re-committed into Bodies two-footed, four-footed, or volatile. 1786 tr. *Bechford's Vathek* (1868) 64 One of those beautiful blue butterflies of Cashmere, which are at once so volatile and rare. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 892 Pheasants by all that's volatile! 1865 *Athenæum* 21 Oct. 535/1 Conveyed by some volatile insect.

transf. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 135 The seeds of the largest mountain-trees are no less volatile. That of the maple has two membranous pinions similar to the wings of a fly. 1812 J. Cutler *Descr. Ohio* 81 The cotton wood tree..has been supposed to be the same as the lombardy poplar, but..differs, at least, in the very large quantity of volatile, capillary pappus attached to the seeds.

b. Moving or flitting from one place to another, esp. with some degree of rapidity.

1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* v. lii, Two Meteors, Thunder and Lightning volatil. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Ductor* I. iii. rule 1 § 5 It is like a fire-stick which in the hand of a child being gently mov'd, gives a volatile and unfixed light. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 169 M. De la Hire..describes these muscæ as of two kinds, some permanent and fixed,..and others as volatile, or flying about and changing their place, even though the eye be fixed.

c. Characterized by rapid passage. *rare*—[1].

1658 *Marrow Complements* 8 With volatile haste let us set forward to the temple.

3. Of substances: Characterized by a natural tendency to dispersion in fumes or vapour; liable to, or susceptible of, evaporation and diffusion, at ordinary temperatures.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* Ded., Of which foure elements two are..volatil, as water and ayre. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Infuse vinegar, To draw his volatile substance and his tincture. 1656 J. Smith *Pract. Physick* 252 Nitre is commended because it fixeth volatil things. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* iv. 74 Sulphur is fixt and not volatile. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 21 How with heavy Bulk Volatile Hermes, fluid and unmoist, Mounts on the Wings of Air. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* ii. § 1 These volatile particles do probably repel each other. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 437 A bit of sugar dipped in compound spirits of lavender, or the volatile aromatic tincture. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* I. (1814) 6 As soon as dung begins to decompose it throws off its volatile parts. 1834 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 49 The volatile or organic portion of coal is composed of the same elements as wood, peat and brown coal. 1876 Routledge *Discov.* 28 This preliminary treatment removes all the volatile matters, expelling the whole of the carbonic acid.

transf. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 234 They afford a very strong, volatile, disagreeable smell.

b. *Volatile salt* or *salts.*

1639 G. Platters *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* 99 The fixed salt of any vegetable is different from the volatill or fugitive salt of the same. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* 20 Thy Salt doth also consist of three sorts, a fixed Salt, and a Nitrous, and a Volatil. 1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 30 The neatness and novelty of the word volatile salt. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 4 It affords a great deal of volatile Salt. 1768 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. ii, The nervous juices, with the fix'd and volatile salts, are all jumbled into one mass! 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 95 After smelling to volatile salts, or eating too much strong mustard,..a pain is often felt above the eye-brows. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. I. iii, Few are so happy as the Duke d'Orleans and the Prince de Condé; who can themselves, with volatile salts, attend the King's antechamber.

ellipt. 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gardiner* (1756) 80 Some have sown it [*sc.* salt] on moist muirish land to great advantage, for being far from the sun they have little volatile.

c. *Volatile alkali*, ammonia. (See Alkali 3.) Hence *Volatile-alkaline* adj.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Alkali*, No body hath hitherto produced a volatile Alkaly from the Acids of the Mineral Kingdom. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 98 The tincture produced did not effervesce with acids, but retained a volatile-alkaline smell. 1800 Henry *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 121 Carbonate of ammonia retains, in a considerable degree, the pungent smell of the pure volatile alkali. 1854 J. Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 307 Ammonia was formerly denominated the volatile alkali.

d. *Volatile oil*: (see Essential 5 b.).

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 229 Volatile oils are distinguished from the fixed oils by their acrid taste, their volatility, their aromatic odour, and their solubility in alcohol. 1836–41 Brande *Man. Chem.* (ed. 5) 1143 The volatile or essential oils are generally obtained by distill—— tables, or the parts of the plants which afford th

—r, in common stills. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geogr.* vi. 302 Its flora is characterised by bulbous plants and those yielding volatile oils.

e. Connected with volatilization.

1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 403 The inside of the volatile tube is coated with charcoal in the state of a fine

4. Readily changing from one interest or mood to another; changeable, fickle; marked or characterized by levity or flightiness: a. Of the mind, disposition, etc.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 146 If the Volatile, and Unquiet Spirit of the Lord Digby had not prevailed with the King. 1665 Glanvill *Sceptis Sci.* xiv. 81 If we consider the volatile nature of those officious assistants, and the several causes which occur..to scatter and disorder them. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 330 The French..Temper is allow'd to be more volatile,..and their Spirits more fluid than in other Nations. 1739 Johnson *Idler* No. 58 P 3 Sometimes occasions will be wanting to tempt the mind, however volatile, to sallies and excursions. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* I. 115 Her spirits were volatile, but her heart was tender. *c* 1830 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 527 Neither kindness nor the fear of punishment was able to restrain his volatile and restless disposition. 1861 Lp. Brougham *Brit. Const.* App. 462 The fickle, inconstant, volatile temper of the people.

b. Of persons.

1719 Vanbrugh in *Athenæum* (1890) 6 Sept. 322/1 To think, that such a volatile gentleman .. shou'd turn his thoughts & application to the duty of a Surveyors business, is a monstruous project. 1745 J. Mason *Self-Knowledge* III. i. (1853) 167 What is it, but a Want of Self-Knowledge and Self-Government, that makes us so unsettled and volatile in our Dispositions? 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1769 (1816) II. 108, I was volatile enough to repeat to him a little epigrammatick song of mine. 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. vii. 129 Henrietta was nothing more than a volatile woman. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* XXVII, Volatile, fickle, and childish as they generally were, they were soft-hearted and full of feeling. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 55 Either of these stories..may among a people so volatile as the Carthaginians, perhaps be true.

elliptl. 1756 C. Smart tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xviii. (1826) II. 259 The melancholy hate the merry,..the volatile dislike the sedate.

5. Evanescent, transient; readily vanishing or disappearing; difficult to seize, retain, or fix permanently.

1665 Jer. Taylor *Unum Necess.* v. § 6 Those transient acts of devotion, or other volatile and fugitive instances of Repentance, are not the proper and proportion'd remedy to the evil of vicious habits. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 58, I cannot give a more substantiall expression to such a violatile subject. 1686 Horneck *Crucif. Jesus* xvii. 499 Will you prefer a few airy, volatile joys before their safety? 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 234 Whatever Interpretations might have been made of this fragil and volatil Scripture. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* Introd., This delicate and aërial faculty, which seems too volatile to endure even the chains of a definition. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* Introd. (1816) I 9 The incidents which give excellence to biography are of a volatile and evanescent kind. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* I. In the Ottoman dominions..wealth..is a highly volatile blessing, not easily transmitted. 1863 — *Crimea* (1877) I. xiv. 239 He was a buyer and seller of those fractional and volatile interests in trading adventures which go by the name of 'shares'. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* xi. 214 These are.. mere volatile day dreams.

†6. Of the air: Light; not oppressive. *Obs.*—[1]

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 328 The Air is Serene and Volatile, which..is highly serviceable to the Respiration of all Living Creatures.

Volatileness. [f. prec.] The character or state of being volatile; volatility. Chiefly *fig.*

a 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. (1677) 19, I do not see the Animal or Vital Spirits, neither can they, by reason of their subtilty and volatileness, be discovered immediately to the Sense. *a* 1690 Hopkins *Expos.* etc. (1692) 314 This would fix that Volatileness and Flittiness of our Memories, and make every truth as indelible, as it is necessary. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Volatilness*, volatile Nature, Fleetingness; also a Property of Bodies whose Particles are apt to evaporate with Heat. 1766 *Life Quin* xii. (1887) 48 Many mistakes which our immortal bard Shakespeare had by oversight, or the volatileness of his genius, suffered to creep into his works. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 314/1 With the volatileness of youth, he turned to his own amusements.

Volatility (vɒlătĭ·lĭti). [ad. mod.L. *volatilitas*, f. L. *volātilis* Volatile *a.* Cf. F. *volatilité* (1641), It. *volatilità*, Sp. *volatilidad*, Pg. *-idade.*] The quality, state, or condition of being volatile, in various senses.

1. Readiness to vaporize or evaporate, tendency to be readily diffused or dissipated in the atmosphere, especially at ordinary temperatures.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 294 Heat causeth the Spirits to search some Issue out of the Body, as in the Volatility of Metals. 1627 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* 321 Essentiall or distilled Oyls,..by reason of their volatility, not abiding decoction, are with difficulty made into a Sapo. 1684–5 Boyle *Min. Waters* 29 Of the fixity or volatility of the Saline part in strong fires. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 7 By Spirit is understood the most fine and subtile Parts of Bodies, which is discoverable by its Volatility and Quickness to the Smell and Taste. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 427 From one or more of which principles, I apprehend, the volatility or fixity of all minerals..takes its origin. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 45 Ammonia warm has less action on zinc, on account, no doubt, of its volatility. 1827 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. 157 From its great volatility..it [*sc.* ether] is frequently employed for producing cold artificially. 1880 Macormac *Antiseptic Surgery* 103 The volatility of the acid renders any but recently prepared gauze untrustworthy.

2. Tendency to lightness, levity, or flightiness; lack of steadiness or seriousness.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* XI. ii. § 33 Those [recreations], which ..must needs be preacted by the fancy (such the volatility thereof) all the day before. *a* 1700 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 78 Consideration..Fixes the Volatility of Thought, Till to itself the wandring Soul is brought. 1739 Johnson *Rasselas* xvi, Such sprightliness of air and volatility of fancy as might have suited beings of a higher order. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 279 Volatility and changeableness are attributed to the French as national characteristicks. 1821 Shelley in Hogg *Life* (1858) I. 379 Volatility of character evinces no capabilities for great affections. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* viii. 171 The imagination infuses a certain volatility and intoxication. 1871 Morley *Univ. Serm.* vi. 132 The inner life of man is a struggle with volatility and disorder.

3. Adaptability for flight. Also *fig.*

1782 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* ix. (1724) 212 [The soul must] be capable of mounting upwards, in proportion to the volatility of its vehicle. 1841 Syd. Smith in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) I. 235 The volatility of the butterfly.

4. Capacity for ready or rapid movement. *rare*—1.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 296 Musical pretensions..are so much more calculated to promote unmeaning volatility of finger, than grace, taste, or expression.

Hence **Volati·lityship** [-SHIP 3 b], used to designate a volatile person. *rare.*

1771 P. Parsons *Newmarket* II. 134, I repeat my wishes that this may come to the hands of your volatilityship.

Volatilizable (vɒlă·tĭlaĭzăb'l), *a.* [f. Volatilize *v.*] Capable of being volatilized; that may be rendered volatile.

1818 W. Phillips *Min. & Geol.* (ed. 3) 30 There is another Alkali,..which, being volatilizable at moderate heat, is therefore termed Volatile Alkali. 1841 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 63/2 The portion of the coal, which in common parlance is called 'bituminous', is in a solid or fixed state while in the coal,..though, subsequently, it is volatilizable and assumes the form of gas. 1876 Bartholow *Materia Med.* (1879) 6 Iodine in vapor, iodoform, sal-ammoniac, bromine, and other volatilizable solids and gases.

Volatilization (vɒlătĭlaĭzē·ʃən). [f. next + -ation. Cf. F. *volatilisation*, Sp. *-isacion*, Pg. *-isação*, It. *-izzazione.*] The action or process of making volatile; the state of being volatilized.

1661 Boyle *Scept. Chem.* VI. (1680) 420 Multitudes of Chymists have..attempted in Vain the Volatilization of the Salt of Tartar. 1663 — *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. App. 373 This volatile red Balsam (especially if by this volatilization the Antimony have lost its Emetick property) we cannot but think endowed with more then ordinary Vertues. 1744 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 143 The Contagion of pestilential Fevers proceeds from a Subtilization and Volatilization of the perspirable Humours. 1782 *Ibid.* LXXIII. 55 Nor can this be attributed to the volatilization of the acid by heat. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* iv. (1842) 130 At higher temperatures, the volatilization and decomposition of these bodies would occasion inconvenience. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 12 In fusing the three metals together there is always a loss of zinc by volatilization.

fig. 1882 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 783 Analyses of humor are apt to leave one rather serious, and to result in an entire volatilization of the humor.

Volatilize (vɒ·lătĭlaĭz), *v.* [f. Volatile *a.* + -ize. Cf. F. *volatiliser* (1611), Sp. and Pg. *-izar*, It. *-izzare.*]

1. *trans.* To render volatile; to cause to evaporate or disperse in vapour.

1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* To Rdr., Salt of Tartar volatilized, or made into a spiritual Elixir, with any essential oyle, is an absolute corrector of all vegetal poysons. 1672–3 Grew *Anat. Pl., Anat. Roots* (1682) 89 The Air-Vessels, or rather, the Aery Ferment contained in them, volatilizing only a smaller portion of the Sap. 1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 341 Hence we see how necessary heat is, to volatilize the rancid oil. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 253 The Glass..is likely to detain any of the nobler Metals, which the arsenick might otherwise volatilize. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 254 The acids belonging to the first order are crystallizable, and they may be volatilized by heat without undergoing decomposition. 1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 221 When the protochloride of uranium is carefully heated, so as not to volatilise it,..this compound remains. 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 153 If a fragment of zinc be volatilised between the carbon poles a series of beautifully coloured strias are seen.

b. *fig.* To render light, airy, unsubstantial, etc.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* Concl. 184 The greatest part of Humanity is [so] lost in Earth..that nothing can volatilize them, and set their Reasons at Liberty. 1822–36 De Quincey *Confess.* (1862) 198 Beyond a certain point it is sure to volatilise and to disperse the intellectual energies. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xli. (1865) V. 122 Propertius is deficient in that light touch and exquisitely polished taste which volatilises the sensuality and flattery of Horace. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* I. 274 On the other hand [in Philo's philosophy] angels are sometimes volatilised into ideas.

2. *intr.* To become volatile; to evaporate.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Volatilization*, To dispose the fix'd Salts of Plants to volatilise, the Process is to be begun by making them into a Sapa. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 33 It does not give out its Acid in any heat, but rather volatilizes. 1822 *Imison's Sci. & Art* II. 125 It easily fuses and Volatilizes before the blow-pipe. 1841 E. A. Parnell *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 21 The chlorine is expelled almost before the acid begins to volatilize. 1880 MacCormac *Antiseptic Surgery* 152 The solution must be renewed from time to time as the carbolic acid volatilises.

fig. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 15 Dec. 454/2 To those who know pictures as very tangible things..it is puzzling to find them volatilising before their eyes and evaporating into a haze of words.

Hence **Vo·latilized**, **Vo·latilising** *ppl. adjs.* Also **Vo·latilizer**, an apparatus for volatilizing.

1707 Bailey (vol. II), *Volatilizing*, making volatile. *a* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 513/1 To bring vinegar therefore nearer the state of tartar, we must deprive it of its fine volatilizing phlogiston. 1805 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 724 The volatilised mercury is again condensed. 1889 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 87 The volatilising turpentine may..carry into the air particles of plumbic carbonate. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* 282 The spectrum of the volatilised metal falls on the sensitive plate. 1897 Kellogg in *Voice* (*N.Y.*) 23 Dec. 5/2 The employment of medicinal vapors by means of a suitable volatilizer or vaporizer.

Vola·tion. *rare.* [f. L. *vol-āre* to fly: see -ation, and cf. the earlier Transvolation.] The action of flying, volitation.

1755 Johnson, *Flight*,..the act of using wings; volation. ? 1787. Cowes (Cant.), The muscles of volation.

†**Volative,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *volāt-*, ppl. stem of *volāre* to fly + -ive.] Capable of flying.

1613 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (ed. 3). 1673 O. Walk *Educ.* 148 For example, an Eagle. Is..it a substance created? corporeal? volative? wilde? that flies single, not in flocks.

†**Volatiza·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [f. next + -ation.] = Volatilization.

1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 76 A vital ferment, out of which the Archeus by a further volatization hews forth these spirits. 1828 Accum *Chem. Tests* 110 One hundred grains dried fully, but short of volatization.

†**Vo·latise,** *v. Obs.* [f. Volat-ile *a.* + -ise. Cf. Volatilize *v.*]

1. *trans.* = Volatilize *v.* 1.

1650 Ashmole *Chym. Coll.* 96 If thou wouldst Volatise or Imbibe thy prepared Elixer. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* xii. 170 As easily as snow is volatised and melted in warm water. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* 73/1 A Lymphatick Juice, which it discharges into the gut..to ferment and volatize the Meat. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 277 By this means the spirit of money jobbing and speculation goes into the mass of land itself, and incorporates with it. By this kind of operation, that species of property becomes (as it were) volatized. 1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* I. 6 The common still ..can only be employed for volatising substances that do not act on copper.

2. *intr.* = Volatilize *v.* 2. *rare.*

1685 [Implied in *Volatising* ppl. a.]. 1818 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 272 It fuses at about 220° Fahrenheit, and volatizes slowly even before it fuses.

Hence †**Vo·latised, Vo·latising** *ppl. adjs.*

1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* iii. 45 Æther, which some hold to be nothing else but pure volatiz'd Salt. 1685 Boyle *Salubr. Air* 111 Some Mineral Bodies of a very volatizing nature.

†**Vo·latory.** *Obs.*—1 [Cf. Volary and -atory.] An aviary.

1656 Heylin *Surv. France* 61 Here we saw the Volatory full of sundry forain birds.

†**Volature.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *volātūra*, f. *volāre* to fly.] A fluttering movement.

1633 J. Done tr. *Ariteas's Hist. Septuagint* 62 A little Wind..entring within the vayle, running from low to high, making volatures and replies like waves.

‖ **Vol-au-vent** (vɒlovaⁿ). [F., lit. 'flight in the wind'.] A kind of raised pie, formed of a light puff paste filled with meat, fish, or the like.

1828 Lytton *Pelham* I. xxiv, The landlady,..regaled him with cold *vol-au-vent*, and a glass of Curaçoa. *Ibid.* To think she should serve me so cruelly, after I had eaten so plentifully of the *vol-au-vent*. 1846 Soyer *Cookery* 24 Serve [the sauce] in a vol-au-vent or wherever directed. 1899 Doyle *Duet* (1900) 90/1 Oyster patties or oyster vol-au-vents.

Volbet, obs. Sc. form of Woobet.

Volborthite. *Min.* [Named (1837) after its discoverer, Alexander von *Volborth*, a Russian scientist.] 'Hydrous vanadate of copper, barium and calcium, found in small, yellowish-green crystals' (Chester).

1844 Dana *Min.* (1868) 611. 1878 Lawrence tr. *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 41 Volborthite occurs as an accessory ingredient in many sandstones of the Permian formation of Russia.

Volc, southern ME. variant of Folk.

Volcan (vɒ lkăn). Now *rare.* [a. F. and Sp. *volcan* (Pt. *volca*), ad. L. *Volcān-us*, *Vulcān-us*: see Vulcan.] = Volcano *sb.* 1. Also *attrib.*

1577 Frampton *Joyful News* 31 Other Sulphur..founde nigh vnto the Volcan of Nicaraga. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxiv. 193 Of the Volcans or Vents of fire. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim Orig. Man.* 190 The like Volcans or Fiery Eruptions happen sometimes in the Land subjected to the Sea. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. viii. 295 Then ..the Volcan of Guatimala appeared in sight. 1850 Lowell *New Year's Eve* ii, If we..our faces turned When volcan glares set all the east aglow. 1893 Rider Haggard *Montezuma's Dau.* xv, Those that have seen the sun rise over the volcans of Tenoctitlan. *Ibid.* xxiii, Within fifteen years.. the volcan Popo had ceased to vomit smoke and fire.

Volca·nean, *a. rare*—1. [Cf. Volcanist.] Maintaining the igneous origin of certain geological formations.

1832 Tr. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 36 A mountain in Saxony,..celebrated on account of the disputes of volcanean and neptunean geologists.

‖ **Volcane·llo.** Pl. **volcanelli.** [It., dim. of *volcano* Volcano *sb.*] A small volcano, esp. as forming one of a group.

1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 393 The volcanelli appeared standing so thick that bye and bye..I counted above thirty at once.

Volca·nian, *a. rare.* [f. Volcan-o *sb.* + -ian. Cf. Vulcanian *a.*] Of or pertaining to, resembling that of, a volcano.

1820 Keats *Lamia* I. 135 A deep volcanian yellow took the place Of all her milder-mooned body's grace. 1884 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* viii. 203 This safety-valve for the volcanian pressure.

Volcanic (vɒlkæ·nik), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 8–9 -ick. [a. F. *volcanique* (= Sp. and Pg. *volcanico*), f. *volcan* Volcan *sb.*; or directly f. Volcan-o + -ic. Cf. Vulcanic *a.*]

1. Of ashes, etc.: Discharged from, produced or ejected by, a volcano or volcanoes.

1774 in G. Forster *Voy. round World* (1777) I. 291 The country being strewed with volcanic cinders. 1777 *Ibid.* I. 568 Our road was intolerably rugged, over heaps of volcanic stones. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 402 Of Volcanic Scoriæ... Their texture cavernous,..but never fibrous. *Ibid.* 410 Of Volcanic Ashes, Sand, Pozzolana [*sic*], Trass, Tufa, and Piperino. 1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* (1835) II. 243 This volcanic dust when it fell was an impalpable powder. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 19 The winds and the birds clothe its volcanic soil with vegetation. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* xii. 191 In some cases, the lava is broken into such fine particles that it is known as *volcanic dust* or sand.

b. Used *spec.* with names of rocks, minerals, etc.

1811– *Volcanic tufa, tuff* [see Tufa 1 b, Tuff 1 b]. 1815 Aikin *Min.* (ed. 2) 99 Volcanic or Specular Iron occurs in very compressed and irregular crystals. 1830 Ansted *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 413 Pumice or Volcanic-ash, is a light spongy modification of obsidian. 1832 Brande *Dict. Sci.* (ed. 2) App. 1421 *Vulcanite*, a mineralogical synonym of the pyroxene, or volcanic garnet. 1836 Emerson *Eng. Traits* xiii. *Religion* Wks. (Bohn) II. 96 As volcanic basalts show the work of fire which has been extinguished for ages. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 267 The ammonia which is evolved from the Tuscan boracic acid employed in this process is known in commerce as Volcanic ammonia. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 528 Sulphur..occurs native,..in opaque, lemon-yellow, crystalline masses (volcanic sulphur).

c. *Volcanic bombs, glass* (see quots.).

1798 R. Jameson *Mineral. Shetl. Isl.* etc. 36 Any appearance of..what the Volcanists call volcanic bombs. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. Gloss. 83 *Volcanic Bombs*, volcanos throw out sometimes detached masses of melted lava, which, as they fall, assume rounded forms (like bomb-shells), and are often elongated into a pear shape. *c* 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 327/2 Volcanic Glass. Obsidian. 1850 Ansted *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 413 Obsidian or Volcanic-glass.. is also a well-known volcanic product.

d. *sb. pl.* Rocks due to volcanic action.

1894 *Cosmopolitan* XVII. 128 These volcanics..in most cases..have been subjected to deforming pressures which have converted them into schists.

2. Due to or caused by a volcano or volcanoes.

1776 Sir W. Hamilton *Campi Phlegræi* 11 Many Islands ..whose Volcanick origin seems to be evidently pointed out. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 286/1 Six days after the immense volcanic eruption in Iceland had ceased. 1817 Lady Morgan *France* VIII. (1818) II. 347 The cause of those volcanic shocks, which finally overwhelm the island Atlantis. 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 135 Examining its structure as exposed to view by volcanic or other convulsions. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xvi. 304 Thought by some geologists to be of volcanic origin.

b. Of or pertaining to a volcano or volcanoes.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 687/1 To account for the volcanic fire, Dr. Woodward and others have had recourse to the hypothesis of a central fire. 1828–32 Webster s.v., Volcanic heat. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 362 That great masses of subterranean lava in the volcanic foci may remain in a red hot or incandescent state. 1836 Emerson *Eng. Traits* x. *Wealth* Wks. II. 72 Steam..vies with the volcanic forces which twisted the strata. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 189 At the mouth of the volcanic pipe, there is usually a funnel-shaped opening known as the crater.

c. Relating to volcanoes.

1828 Duppa *Trav. Italy*, etc. 94 Vesuvius..makes a great feature in volcanic history.

3. Characterized by the presence of volcanoes; composed of volcanoes; consisting of materials produced by igneous action.

c 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 461/1 That species of ore.. is to be met with only in volcanic countries. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 171 In America, particularly the Southern America, what a volcanic chain!..with Cotopaxi for its principal link. 1832 De la Beche *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 19 Hot springs are common to the volcanic districts of different parts of the world. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 80 A volcanic tract of similar character is found on Stinking river. 1845 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 180 The lava itself is seen where it has burst through the sides of volcanic hills.

b. Of the nature of a volcano.

1833–4 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 740/1 Constitution of a Volcanic Mountain in General. 1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 235 The great volcanic vent of the last-mentioned mountain.

4. *fig.* Resembling or characteristic of a volcano, or the attributes of this; violently explosive, or latently capable of sudden and violent activity.

a 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Eng. Lit.* iii. (1855) 96 The revolutions were not sudden, devastating, volcanic eruptions. 1860 'Shirley' (J. Skelton) *Nugæ Crit.* ix. 407 The military despotism of Napoleon was a volcanic power, which..perpetually threatened the tranquillity of Europe. 1880 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 486 His [*sc.* Charles I's] gentleness and love of peace were ill-fitted for the volcanic age in which his lot was cast.

b. Of the mind, passions, etc.: Intensely fervid or violent; full of latent or suppressed violence. Also occas. of persons.

1807 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (ed. 5) II. 72 His volcanic head flamed with imagination. 1870 Bushnell *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xxxix. 3 His volcanic soul was tossed with an inward ocean of fire. 1872 Liddon *Elem. Relig.* I. 4 The tremendous force of the [devils] restless latent in human nature. 1883

Harper's Mag. July 243/2 *Brocant.* But Hugo reaches as high and goes as deep as anybody... *Spectator.* But isn't he rather—rather volcanic.

5. = VOLCANEAN *a. rare*—1.

1793 (EARL DUNDONALD) *Descr. Estate Culross* 32 It is a field well worth being explored by a volcanic Mineralist.

6. *Comb.*, as *volcanic-like, -looking* adjs.

1800 LEYDEN *Tour Highlands* (1903) 132 The red conical top of the volcanic-like hill. 1854 A. R. WALLACE in *My Life* (1905) I. xx. 335 A coarse, volcanic-looking gravel.

Hence **Volcanico-**, combining form, in the sense 'volcanic and —', as in *volcanico-marine* adj.

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 260 The Breccias of Nice, the volcanico-marine valley, as it is called by St. Fond.

Volca·nically, *adv.* [See prec. and -ICALLY.]

1. In an explosive, eruptive, or fiery manner; with sudden violence.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv. (1858) 274 The accumulation of offences is...too literally exploded, blasted asunder volcanically. 1873 SYMONDS *Ch. Poets* v. 127 The energies...were restrained by the Aeolians within the sphere of individual emotions, ready to burst forth volcanically. 1892 T. HARDY *Tess* xxv, Here, in this apparently...unimpassioned place, novelty had volcanically started up.

2. In respect of a volcano or volcanoes; with regard to volcanic nature.

1886 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 4/7 Astronomically, it [the earth] is solid in its relations; volcanically, it is of liquid or plastic character. 1892 *Ibid.* 26 Mar. 5/7 Cotopaxi...comports itself, volcanically speaking, in a regular and well-behaved

Volcanicity (vɒlkăni·sĭti). [ad. F. *volcanicité*, or f. VOLCANIC *a.* + -ITY. Cf. VULCANICITY.] Volcanic action, activity, or phenomena.

1836 MACCULLIVRAY *Trans. Humboldt* XXVII. 411 Volcanicity, or the influence which the interior of our planet exercises upon its external envelope. 1883 *Athenæum* 25 Aug. 245 One of these earthquakes called perimetric, that are due to a local volcanicity.

Volcanism (vɒ·lkănĭz'm). [a. F. *volcanisme*: see VOLCANO *sb.* and -ISM, and cf. VULCANISM.] The state, condition, or character of being volcanic; volcanic action or phenomena.

1869 J. PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* v. 150 Even if no other indication of former volcanism be traceable. 1880 GEIKIE *Geol. Sk.* 276 The vast number of fissures...appeared hardly to connect themselves with any known phase of volcanism. 1893 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Mar. 577 Much more attention than formerly is now paid to the study of volcanism.

Volcanist (vɒ·lkănist). [f. VOLCAN-O *sb.* + -IST, or a. F. *volcaniste*.]

1. An asserter of the igneous origin of certain geological formations; a Plutonist or Vulcanist.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 445 This theory having appeared unsatisfactory to many of the volcanists themselves, they next devised [etc.]. 1815 W. PHILLIPS *Min. & Geol.* 68 Two distinct parties, distinguished according to the notion they embrace, by the appellations of Volcanists and Neptunists. 1830 AMSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. Gloss., *Volcanist*...A term of reproach belonging now only to the history of geology.

2. One who studies or is versed in volcanoes.

1828–32 WEBSTER. 1848 DAUBENY *Descr. Volcanos* 148 The neighbouring country to the north of Vicenza is interesting to the volcanist.

Vo·lcanite [1]. *Min. rare*—0. [f. VOLCAN-O *sb.* + -ITE, or a. F. *volcanite*.] (See quot. and cf. VULCANITE 1.)

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Volcanite*, a mineral otherwise called augite. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Vo·lcanite [2]. *Min.* [f. *Volcan-o* one of the Lipari Islands + -ITE [1] 4.] (See quot.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1004 *Volcanite*, selenide of sulphur.

Volca·nity. *rare.* [f. VOLCAN-IC *a.* + -ITY. Cf. VOLCANICITY.] a. Volcanic nature, quality, or character. b. Volcanic phenomena: volcanicity.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 433 Their volcanity is ..established by their colour, grain, and the scoriæ,...that accompany them. 1892 *Literary World* 22 July 70/1 Some such work..in which the general principles of Volcanity can be studied.

†**Volcaniza·tion.** *Obs.*—1 [Cf. next, and F. *volcanisation*.] The process of undergoing, or the state of having undergone, change by volcanic heat or action.

1798 tr. *Spallanzani's Trav. Sicilies* vi. I. 191 The limits of the volcanization of the Phlegrean fields.

Vo·lcanized, *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. F. *volcanisé* (Buffon, etc.), f. *volcan* VOLCAN: see -IZE.] Affected or altered by volcanic action or heat.

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 286 The French naturalists, ..assert the depth to be twenty feet of beds of earth, formed of the ruins of what they style the primitive (granite) and volcanised mountains. 1798 tr. *Spallanzani's Trav. Sicilies* vi. I. 190 So as to form a soil entirely volcanised. *Ibid.* vii. I. 200 In a volcanised country, where stones of any other than a volcanic nature are not to be found.

Hence **Vo·lcanize** *v. trans.* (Cf. VULCANIZE *v.*)

1828 WEBSTER (citing Spallanzani), and in later Dicts.

Volcano (vɒlkē·no), *sb.* Also 7–9 **vulcano.** Pl. **volcanoes** (7–9 -os, -o's). [a. It. *volcano* (Florio, 1598), *vulcano* (Florio, 1611):—L. *Vol-, Vulcānum*, acc. of *Volcānus* VULCAN. Cf. VOLCAN.]

1. *Physiogr.* A more or less conical hill or mountain, composed wholly or chiefly of discharged matter, communicating with the interior of the globe by a funnel or crater, from which in periods of activity steam, gases, ashes, rocks, and freq. streams of molten materials are ejected.

See also *mud-, pseudo-volcano* s.v. MUD *sb.* 5, PSEUDO- 2.

a. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* VIII. xiv. 686 A Vulcano or flaming hill, the fire whereof may be seene..about 100 miles. 1665 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 85 They regarded those mighty Vulcanos as the Courts of Pluto. 1720 PALMER *Proverbs* 25 He that would needs peep into mount Vesuvius, and search the depth of its vulcano's. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxix. IV. 42 The vulcano of Lipari, one of the flaming mouths of the infernal world. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 467 Unusual events, earthquakes, inundations, and vulcanoes altered the face of the planet.

β. 1690 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* II. 55 The burning mountains or volcano's of the earth. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 271 The seeds of subterraneous mineralls..sometimes cause earthquakes and furious eruptions of volcano's. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* II. 66 A volcano, or burning vent among the hills. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 200 Volcano's bellow ere they disembogue. 1773 BRYDONE *Tour Sicily* II. (1809) 16 Of all the volcanoes we read of, Stromboli seems to be the only one that burns without ceasing. 1782 COWPER *Hercules* 85 Some heav'n-protected isle, Where no volcano pours his fiery flood. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 221 Hill country [in the moon] broken up in the most tremendous manner by volcanoes of all sizes. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 198 Submarine volcanoes occasionally give rise to new land.

γ. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* xiv. *Literature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 113 The island is a roaring volcano of fate, of material values,..glutted markets, and low prices. 1898 D. C. MURRAY *Tales* 207 You're going to offer your old second-hand volcano of a heart to that fresh innocence?

b. An eruption or discharge *of* flame.

1716–20 *Lett. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 65 The very Eruptions, or Vulcano's of Flame, which..are observed to burst out from it on all Sides.

c. *transf.* (See quots.)

1784 COWPER *Task* III. 737 The eclipse That metropolitan volcano's [*sc.* chimneys] make, Whose Stygian throats breathe darkness all day long. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Fingig*, a firework, made of damp powder, which makes a hissing or fizzing noise when ignited: in one form called by boys a *volcano*.

2. *fig.* A violent feeling or passion, esp. one in a suppressed state.

1697 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 143 Blow him into a Flame, and you may see Vulcano's, Hurricans and Borasco's in him. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ii, A whole volcano of bitter feelings burned in his bosom, and sent streams of fire through his veins. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXV. 352 Nursing this volcano of wrath in his breast. 1883 MEREDITH *Woods of Westermain* iii, Love, the great volcano, flings Fires of lower Earth to sky.

b. A state of things liable to burst out violently at some time.

1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* ix, On the edge of a moral volcano that rumbled under my feet. 1890 *Spectator* 10 May, An outburst of the social volcano which some think exists below modern society.

3. *attrib.*, as *volcano-fire, immortality, land, -mountain*, etc.; **volcano-ship**, a kind of fire-ship.

1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) VI. 227 The next, a volcano-mountain, may readily be known by the smoke issuing from the top. 1804 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. to Ld. Mayor* Wks. 1812 V. 208 A great city orator..and *alive* of John Wilkes, Of volcano immortality. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 589 Like mountain-twins that from each other's veins Catch the volcano-fire and earthquake-spasm. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 8) 133 As these scenes, Fire-fountains, and volcano-utterances,...evince. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* xiii. II. 137 York..had distinguished himself..by..having sprung on board the burning volcano-ship at the siege of Antwerp. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 62, I have seen the other face of it ..It is the old volcano land.

Volca·no, *v. rare.* [f. prec.] **a.** *trans.* To attack (a person) in a manner suggestive of a volcano. **b.** *intr.* To blaze or belch fire like a volcano.

1866 MEREDITH *Vittoria* xxix, Manœuvre your cigar. The plan is, to give half-a-dozen bright puffs, and..when you see an Italian head, volcano him like fury. 1878 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 432 The great cannon volcanoing through all.

Volca·noism. *rare*—1. [f. VOLCANO *sb.* + -ISM.] The action of a volcano; eruption.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. x, Not blaze out, or the seldomest possible blaze out, as wasteful volcanoism to scorch and consume!

Volcano·logist. [See VOLCANOLOGY and -OLOGIST.] = VULCANOLOGIST.

1890 *Smithsonian Rep.* 216 A result worthy of examination by volcanologists. 1905 W. J. SOLLAS *Age Earth* iii. 72 Signor Sambon, an experienced and intrepid volcanologist.

Volcano·logise, *v. rare*—1. [See next and -IZE.] *intr.* To prosecute studies in volcanic phenomena.

1886 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 69 He has gone to geologise and volcanologise and so forth in Auvergne.

Volcano·logy. [f. VOLCANO *sb.* + -(O)LOGY.] = VULCANOLOGY.

1886 *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 210/3 The Progress in volcanology and seismology for 1885. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 3/2 Students..will find comparatively little that is new to them, as volcanology, in this..easy-going volume.

Volck, southern ME. variant of FOLK.

Vold(e, southern ME. vatt. of FOLD *sb.* and *v.*

Volde, obs. form of *would* WILL *v.*

Vole (vōl), *sb.*[1] Also 7, 9 **vol.** [a. F. *vole* 1642), app. f. *voler*, ad. L. *volāre* to fly.] The winning of all the tricks in certain card-games, as écarté, quadrille, or ombre. Freq. *to win the vole.*

1679 DRYDEN *Limberham* IV. i, Pug has sent me to you.. to bring you down to Cards again;..She'll never forgive you the last Vol you won. 1710–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Mar., I..played at ombre..for three hours. There were three voles against me,..but [I] came off for three shillings and sixpence. 1726 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* v. iii, Unless..sometimes winning a great Stake; laying down a Vole, *sans prendre* may come up, to the profitable Pleasure you were speaking of. 1742 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1813) II. 111 Many there would have gone twice as far to have saved a vole at quadrille. 1778 *Camp Guide* 12 To win a great—battle—I think from my soul, Is rather more dubious, than Quadrille the vole. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* XVI. 294 Carda answer'd to her call..'A vole! a vole!' she cried, 'tis fairly won.' 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 132 Unless the winners should choose to undertake to make all the ten tricks [in Quadrille], which is called the vole. 1894 WILKINS & VIVIAN *Green Bay Tree* I. 21 'A gentle flutter at ecarté.' 'In which you began with King and vol each game, I wager.'

b. *To go the vole*, to run every risk in the hope of great gain; to try all shifts.

1826 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv, Who is he?—why, he has gone the vole—has been soldier, ballad-singer, travelling tinker, and is now a beggar. 1829 — *Jrnl.* (1890) II. 62 He thinks Cadell's account must turn up trumps, and is for going the vole. 1895 *Daily News* 27 May 8/3 In the old phrase he 'went the vole,' he would be colossal, or a blank failure.

Hence **Vole** *v. intr.*, to win the vole. *rare*—1.

1738 POPE *Donne's Sat.* IV. 146 Shortly no lad shall chuck, or lady vole, But some excising Courtier will have toll.

Vole (vōl), *sb.*[2] [Orig. *vole-mouse*, ad. Norw. **vollmus* (Icel. *vallarmús*), f. *voll* (Icel. *völlr*, Sw. *vall*) field + *mus* mouse.] One or other of various rat- or mouse-like quadrupeds, esp. the short-tailed field-mouse, *Microtus* (formerly *Arvicola*) *agrestis*; the water-rat, *M. amphibius*; and the red or bank vole, *Evotomys glareolus*; also, the genus or genera to which these belong. Also †*vole-mouse.*

1805 BARRY *Orkney* III. i. 314 The Short-tailed Field Mouse,..which with us has the name of the *vole mouse.* 1828 J. FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 23 Arvicola. Vole.—No subsidiary incisors. Roots of the grinders simple...Tail round and hairy. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 114 The Voles..have three grinders above and below. *Ibid.*, The Musquash,..which is a Vole with semi-palmated hind-feet. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 115 The true Voles..number about fifty known species.

attrib. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Apr. 6/2 May the vole-plague ravage the land of those who neglect this plain-featured fact! 1906 *Country-Side* 6 Jan. 100/3 A committee of gentlemen who had come specially to investigate the 'vole' question.

b. With distinguishing terms (see quots. and prec.; also WATER-VOLE).

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 114 The *Alnacian Vole..lives under ground like the Mole. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 72 The *bank vole or bank mouse. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 278/1 The Bank-Vole (*Arvicola glareolus*). 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 114 The *Economic Vole..inhabits a sort of oven-shaped chamber. 1828 J. FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 23 The *field vole is most destructive in gardens to seeds. 1864 [H. W. WHEELWRIGHT] *Spring Lapl.* 239 Besides these we had another species of field vole (the *Lemmus medius*, Nilss.) which is peculiar to the north. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 114 *Meadow Vole..Size of a Mouse, reddish ash-colour. 1896 LYDEKKER *Brit. Mammals* 308 The *northern Vole (*Microtus ratticeps*), and the *Siberian Vole (*M. gregalis*). 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 633/1 Fauna of the Alps..[includes] the *snow-vole (*Arvicola nivalis*).

Hence **Voledom**, the world of voles. *rare*—1.

1892 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 25 June 407/2 The young mice being greedily gulped down by the black bogies, whose appearance must be the prevailing terror of voledom.

Vole, southern dial. variant of FOAL.

Vole, Volee, obs. forms of VOLLEY *sb.*

†**Vo·lency.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. (post-class.) *volentia* will, inclination.] The power of willing or determining to act in a certain way.

1686 H. MORE in J. Norris *Lett.* (1688) 208 Nor can [I] conceive but that the free Agency we are conscious to ourselves of, is placed in the soul as Volent as much as Intelligent, because this Volency, as I may so speak, is implyed in her Attention or Advertency. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 552 This is another kind of agency,..and for distinction sake we shall beg leave to call it free volency (for the speculative will allow one another to coin a word upon occasion): so the question is not whether a man be a free agent but a free volent.

†**Volens nolens**, var. NOLENS VOLENS. *Obs.*

1600 W. WATSON *Quodlibets* 58 Yet must they keepe such a..strait watch..continually, as *volens nolens* their will must not be theirs, but their superiors. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. lx. 404 If I should whip Sancho, *volens nolens.* 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 50 A wronged servant shall have right *volens nolens* from his injurious master.

Volent (vōu·lĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *volent-, volens*, pres. pple. of *velle* to will, wish, desire.]

A. *adj.* Exercising, or capable of exercising, will or choice in respect of one's conduct or course of action.

1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* II. 47 They say the appetit confined to good is volent, and therefore free. 1686 [see VOLENCY]. 1702 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 358 Nor do they [*sc.* eternal truths] depend upon the mind of God as decretory or volent,..but only..as intelligible or exhibitive. 1849 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 386, I leave the body to moulder, and I go sentient, volent, intelligent, whithersoever I am called.

†**B.** *sb.* One who freely chooses or determines the course of action which he follows. *Obs. rare.*

1788 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 332 Upon this supposition man is a free agent, and a free volent. [See also VOLENCY.]

Hence †**Volently** *adv.*, willingly. *Obs.*—[1]
1614 T. Adams *Diuelle Doubet* iv. 183 Into the pit they runne against their will, that ranne so volently, so violently to the brinkes of it.

Volente, variant of Volunty *Obs.*

†**Volentine.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **vilentyne**, 5–6 *Sc.* **valentyne**, **valantene**. [Alteration of OF. *volatile*, *voletile* (see Volatile *sb.*), perh. influenced by *volant* Volant *a.*] *coll.* Birds, fowls.
c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3535 He made him murie al þilke day, For vilentyne [*F. volatisses*] he fond ynow On ryuer and on lake. *c* 1490 Holland *Howlat* 918 All birdis he rebalkit, that wald him nocht bowe,..Thus wyelt he the walentyne (*v.r.* valantene)..That all the fowlis [etc.].

Volero, obs. variant of Bolero.

Volery, obs. form of Volary.

‖ **Volet** (vole). Also 8 *dial.* **volleat**. [a. OF. *volet*, *vollet* kerchief, or mod.F. *volet* shutter, etc., f. *voler* :—L. *volāre* to fly.]
†1. A kerchief or veil worn at the back of the head by ladies. *Obs.*
1398 *Will Y. Assheborn* (Comm. Crt. London), Unam flamiolam parisiam vocatam volet. 1407 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 52 Pro ij. volets de Northfolk-thred, xd.
†b. *dial.* A handkerchief. *Obs.*
1788 Vallancey *Vec. Bargie* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Volleat*, a handkerchief.
2. One of the wings or side-compartments of a triptych. (Cf. Volant *sb.* 4.)
1847 Worsum *Hist. Paint.* xxiii. 317 This picture was painted in 1410,..It consists of a centre and two volets or revolving doors, which close upon it. 1848 Mrs. Jameson *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 227 On the volet to the right is the supper in the house of Levi.

Volewen, southern ME. var. Follow *v.*

Voley, obs. f. Volley. **Volf(e**, obs. Sc. ff. Wolf *sb.*

†**Volge.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *volgus*, *vulgus* Vulgus.] The mob; the common crowd.
1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv. xxix. (1647) 219 He would prefer to fight with any mean person, if cried up by the volge for a tall man. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* xi. iv. § 32 One had as good be dumb, as not speak with the Volge. 1663 Heath *Flagellum* (1672) 29 Nor did the Volge know when, nor could their Boutefeus tell where to cease.

†**Volger.** *Obs.*—[1] [ad. obs. F. **volgere*, *vulgere*, var. of *voglaire*, *vouglaire*, etc.: see Godefroy s.v. *vouglaire* and cf. Fowler 3.] A species of ordnance, longer and less powerful than the bombard.
a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 121 The ordinaunce of bombardes, curtawes, and demy curtaux, slinges, canons, volgers and other ordinaunce.

†**Volgivagant**, *a. Obs.*—[0] [f. L. *volgi-*, *vulgivag-us* roving + -ant.] (See quot.)
1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Volgivagant*, *Vulgivagant*, pertaining to the common people, poor, base, mean, incertain, inconstant.

†**Volible**, *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *volūbilis*, f. *volvĕre* Volve *v.*: see -ible.] Capable of turning or of being turned round.
1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* x. 13 He clepide the ilk wheelis volible, or turnynge about. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 279 This beast [*sc.* the hedgehog]..is called red, sharp, maryne, volible, and rough.

†**Volible**, *a.*[2] *Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *vol-*, stem of *volo* I wish.] Capable of being wished or desired.
1673 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 76 As sensible good is apprehended by the Intellect, and made volible.

Volipresence. *rare.* [f. as prec.: see Presence.] (See quots.) So **Volipresent** *a.*
1880–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2415 The glorified body is..volipresent, that is, its presence was subject to the will of Christ. 1892 *Mag. Chr. Lit.* Apr. 3/1 (Stand.), The Saxon Churches generally acknowledged a potential presence (volipresence, multipresence) of the human nature of Christ.

†**Volitable**, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *volit-āre* : see Volitate *v.* and -able.] Volatile.
a 1690 Hopkins *Serm. John* iii. 5 Disc. (1694) III. 190 Their Prayers may be so importunate and earnest as if they would take no denial from God: But yet this Vollitable Spirit is soon spent.

Volitant (vǫ·lităntˌ), *a.* [ad. L. *volitant-*, *volitans*, pres. pple. of *volitāre* : see next.]
1. Flitting, flying, or constantly moving about.
1847 Emerson *Repr. Men*, *Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 340 We are golden averages, volitant stabilities,..houses founded on the sea. 1858 Lewes *Sea-side Studies* 358 That snowy mass of cloud..rose from the surface of this brilliant, buoyant, volitant, sea. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The bat is a volitant quadruped.
2. Characterized by flitting or flying to and fro.
1857 *Fraser's Mag.* July 65/1 The tremulous volitant motion of breeze upon wave.

Volitate (vǫ·lităt), *v.* [f. L. *volitāt-*, ppl. stem of *volitāre*, freq. of *volĕre* to fly.]
1. *intr.* (See quots.) ? *Obs.*
1623 Cockeram i, *Volitate*, still to wander or flie vp and downe. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Volitate*, to flie often, to run in and out, or to and fro often.
2. To fly with a fluttering motion.
1886 J. B. Rose tr. *Virg. Ecl. & Georg.* 67 Then straws and leaves will volitate in air. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 26 July 110/2 When a few weeks old they take wing, and if from an easterly voltate down hill for a short distance.

Volitation (vǫlităˑ·ʃən). [a. med.L. *volitātiōn-*, *volitātio* (Diefenb.), noun of action f. L. *volitāre* : see prec.] Flying, flight.
1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. i. 180 Birds or flying animals..are almost erect, advancing the head and breast in their progression, and onely prone in the act of their volitation. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Volitation*, a flying or fluttering about, or up and down. 1884 *Sat. Sci. Rev.* I. 382 The practical means of Volitation are to be sought for in the same mechanical means as those by which Birds fly. 1893 S. R. Hole *Tour Amer.* 193 The young rook..exercises in brief migrations..his powers of volitation.
transf. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 175 The additional volitation acquired by such a stumble is rather apt to make you run your head plump against the next person.

Volitient, *a. rare*—[1]. [Irreg. f. Volition + -ent.] Of one's own free will or choice; voluntary.
1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 92, I elected it Of my will, not of service. What I do, I do volitient, not obedient.

Volition (vǫli·ʃən). [a. F. *volition* (16th c., = Sp. *volicion*, Pg. *volição*, It. *volizione*), ad. med. L. *volitiōn-*, *volitio* (Diefenbach), noun of action f. L. *volo* I wish, will.]
1. With *a* and pl. An act of willing or resolving; a decision or choice made after due consideration or deliberation; a resolution or determination.
1615 Jackson *Creed* iv. vi. § 4. Wks. III. 62 That such acts, again, as they appropriate to the will, and call volitions, are essentially and formally intellections, is most evident. 1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xvii. 180 They are onely Velleities and not Volitions: halfe and broken wishes, not whole desires. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 851 They suppose..humane volitions..to be mechanically caused and necessitated from those effluvious images of Bodies, coming in upon the willers. 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 314 We may have vehement Willings, Longings, Volitions and Velleities. 1777 Priestley *Phil. Necessity* I. 6 A determination to suspend a volition is, in fact, another volition. 1777 — *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. Introd. p. v, Every human volition is subject to certain fixed laws. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 9 When the animal has received a sensation, and this sensation determines a volition in it, it is by the nerves that the volition is transmitted to the muscles. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 1190 Grant me such pardoning grace as can go forth From clean volitions toward a spotted will. 1854 Bowen *Logic* ix. 300 No one can tell how a mere volition moves the arm. *Ibid.* 310 Unless some new volition of a power capable of controlling the universe should supervene. *fig.* 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims*, *Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 148 Good poetry..heightens every species of force in nature by giving it a human volition.
b. Used with reference to the will of God.
1654 Warren *Unbelievers* 145 Gods gracious volitions towards them. 1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. ii. 27, I doubt all sides are over temerarious in their distribution of Gods Decrees and Volitions. 1700 C. Nesse *Antid. Arminn.* (1827) 26 We..make the volitions of God to come behind the created and temporary volitions of man.
2. The action of consciously willing or resolving; the making of a definite choice or decision with regard to a course of action; exercise of the will.
Very common from *c* 1830.
1660 Jer. Taylor *Ductor* IV. i. rule 3 § 8 The external act does superadd new obligations beyond those which are consequent to the mere internal volition, though never so perfect and complete. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* i. ii. (1677) 58 The Acts of this Faculty are generally divided into Volition, Nolition, and Suspension. 1690 Locke *Hum. Underst.* II. xxi § 5 This Power the Mind has to prefer the Consideration of any Idea..the actual preferring one to another, is that we call Volition, or Willing. 1713 Berkeley *Hylas & Phil.* I. Wks. 1871 I. 287 By the motion of my hand, which was consequent upon my volition. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 166 ? 2 That when we find worth faintly shooting in the shades of obscurity, we may let in light and sunshine upon it, and ripen barren volition into efficacy and power. 1794 Godwin *Caleb Williams* 231, I shifted my situation with a speed that seemed too swift for volition. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxix, In this answer the citizen saw something not quite consistent with his own perfect freedom of volition. 1843 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) V. 14 Do not let us suppose that..we are contemplating an affair of mere individual volition. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* i. 37 Human volition is the result of so many obscure and complicated causes, as to appear at first sight mere caprice and chance.
b. The power or faculty of willing.
1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 22/2 The Traveller, as he hath Volition, may will to go to the Right or the Left before he —— to the Guide-Post. 1764 Foote *Patron* II. Wks. 1799 I. 345 To this cabinet volition, or will, has a key. 1794 Paley *Evid.* III. viii. (1800) 422 The individuality of a mind ..or its volition, that is, its power of originating motion. 1839 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Gengulphus*, For Saints, e'en when dead, still retain their volition. 1848 Mrs. Jameson *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 46 That sort of angel-beings supposed to have a volition of their own. 1895 G. Macdonald *Lilith* xx, Despair restored my volition,..I ran and overtook her.
c. Will-power.
1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* I. ii, The four votes..had been increased, by his intense volition and unsparing means, to ten. 1847 — *Tancred* I. ii, Montacute .. acted upon a stronger volition than his own
Hence **Volitionless** *a.*, lacking volition.
1881 J. Owen *Even. w. Skeptics* I. 415 The volitionless will of the former [*sc.* Schopenhauer] is as instinct with purpose..as the most personal conception of Deity ever evolved from the brain of a theologian.

Volitional (vǫli·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.]
1. Of or belonging to volition; pertaining or relating to the action of willing.
1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* 197 Whatsoever influence..the prospects of them may have upon the will or volitional faculty. 1823 R. Dunn in *Jour. Educat. Soc.* (1836) IV. 42 The exercise of perception, memory, and volitional power. 1859 Grimpon *Life* xviii. (ed. 5) 215 The conscious, volitional exercise of our noblest capabilities. 1859 *Hutchinson's Anat. Surg.* VIII. 223 It was conceivable that the absolute volitional rest imposed by the severe pain might have acted on the muscle.
b. Affecting or impairing the will-power.
1894 Buckhill *Unsoundness of Mind* 26 Insanity may thus be Intellectual, Emotional, or Volitional.
2. Possessed of, endowed with, the faculty of volition; exercising or capable of exercising this.
1820–22 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 109 Besides the argument you present to the intellectual part of their frame, you present to its neighbour the volitional part another sort of argument. 1864 Alger *Hist. Doctrine Fut. Life* v. viii. 697 The essence of mind must be the common ground and element of all different states of consciousness. What is that common ground and element but the presence of a percipient volitional force, whether manifested or unmanifested, still there? 1887 M. Rossetti *Western Avernus* 5, I began to feel alive, volitional, not dead and most beastly mechanical as at home in England.
3. Of the nature of a volition.
1832 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 362 It cannot move of itself, but a volitional thought is sufficient to raise it.
4. Of forces: Leading or impelling to action.
1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) I. Pref. p. xiii, The volitional forces which acted upon Russia in 1853. 1874 Sidgwick *Meth. Ethics* I. iii. 22 There seem to be two grounds of objection,..one relating to the cognitive function, and the other to the motive or volitional influence, of the Practical Reason.
5. Of actions, etc.: Arising from, due to, characterized by, the exercise of volition.
Freq from *c* 1875.
1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 675/1 The case of the respiratory muscles constitutes an example of mixed movements wherein volitional can be superadded to unconscious rythmic motion. 1875 Poste *Gaius* I. Introd., Such actions are both Volitional (for the motor organs are set in motion by Volition) and Intentional. 1878 *Smithsonian Rep.* 419 The impulse causing the animal to make volitional [illegible] ments comes from the peripheral centres. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 689/2 There is probably one portion of the cerebrum in which volitional work is especially performed, viz., the frontal lobes.
b. Depending on volition or free choice.
1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 119 A mode of life more irregular, more volitional, than the daily mechanical regularity..at Garrandilla proper.

Hence **Volitionality**, the quality or state of being volitional.
1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Volitionally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] With respect to volition; in a volitional manner.
1872 W. R. Greg *Enigmas of Life* (1873) 101 They were morally and volitionally more vigorous. 1875 *Contemp. Rev.* XXV. 941 Whether they be performed volitionally or automatically.

Volitive (vǫ·lităiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **volutive**. [ad. med. or mod.L. **volitivus* (whence It., Sp. *volitivo*), or f. Volit-ion + -ive.]
A. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to the will; volitional.
1660 Jer. Taylor *Ductor* I. i. rule 2 § 4 The Volitive or chusing faculty cannot (take the name of conscience), but the intellectual may. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 29 The Command that is given by the volitive Faculty of the Soul. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. 359 The ordinate and actual power of God..which some terme Gods Volutive Power. 1799 Sir H. Davy in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 139 The perceptive and volitive powers depend..on the constant supply of..phosoxydated blood to the nervous and muscular systems. 1822–32 Bentham *Logic* Wks. 1843 VIII. 280 The volitional, or volitive faculty, or, in one word, the will. 1878 Maccall in *Leisureman's Bibl.* 386 In effect the deep cells of the cortical layers are motory, or rather volitive.
2. Originating in, arising from, the will.
1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. ii. 32 So that no man ever sinned by meer Action as such, whether Vital, Intellectual, or Volitive.
3. Performed deliberately or with express intention; designed, deliberate.
1839 J. Rogers *Anthropopr.* II. 321 [The clergy's] intentional barbarity and cruelty, their volitive despotism and oppression, their willed persecution..in reference to Luther and the like.
4. *Gram.* Expressive of a wish or desire; desiderative.
1864 Webster s.v., A volitive proposition. 1894 W. G. Hale in *Classical Rev.* Apr. 167/2 The Greek..Subjunctives of Will (volitive) and..of Anticipation (anticipatory or prospective).
B. *sb.* A desiderative verb, mood, etc.
a 1813 Murray *Hist. European Lang.* (1823) II. 280 Volitives or desideratives..are formed by using the future consignificative as with the doubled verb. 1894 W. G. Hale in *Classical Rev.* Apr. 167/2 The volitives never have *ăv*.

Volitorial, *a.* [f. mod.L. *Volitor-es* birds capable of flight + -ial.] Of or pertaining to flying; having the power of flight.
1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 176 The swifts, goatsuckers, and hummingbirds .. are birds of remarkable volitorial powers. 1873 C. C. Blake *Zool.* 93 The Hornbills are..instances of the volitorial and the Kamichi in the grallatorial

Volitwis, southern var. ME. *fullwis* Full *adv.* 2 d.

Volk, southern ME. or dial. var. Folk *sb.*

‖ **Volkameria.** *Bot.* Also **Volco-**. [mod.L., f. the name of Johann G. *Volckamer*, a German

botanist (1616–93).] A Linnean genus of verbenaceous shrubs, characterized by their fleshy or corky fruit; a shrub or plant of this genus.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Volkameria*, in botany, the name of a genus of plants...The fruit is a roundish bilocular capsule. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.* s.v., The species are shrubs, as—*Volkameria aculeata*,..Prickly Volkameria, &c. 1833 B'RESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) I. ix. 403, I have replanted with roses, oleanders, volcamerias, and geraniums. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1225.

Volksraad (*vō'lksrāt*). [f. Du. *volk* people, FOLK *sb.* + *raad* senate, council, REDE *sb.*] The chief legislative assembly in either of the former South African republics of the Transvaal or the Orange Free State.

1852 BARTER *Dorp & Veld* xiii. 194 A resolution of the *Volksraad*, that no additional natives should be allowed to take up their residence within the colony. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 25/2 While the volksraad, or peoples' council [of Orange River Free State], exercise legislative functions. 1881 EARL SELBORNE in *Personal & Pol. Mem.* (1898) II. 5 The Volksraad must yield, or the war be renewed.

† **Voll**, shortened f. of, or error for, VOLLEY *sb.*

1574 B. RICH *Dial. betw. Mercury & Soldier* A 4, Too my farewell, certayne voll of shot discharged in hope of my good speede.

Vollary, obs. f. VOLARY. **Volle**, southern ME. var. FILL *sb.*[1], FULL *v.*[1] (to baptize), FULL *a.* and *adv.*

† **Vollenge.** *Obs.*[−1] [Cf. VALANCHE and It. *valanga*.] An avalanche.

1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 456 The vollenge, which overwhelms the whole village, was at first but a little snowball.

Vo'ller, vo'llier. *s. dial.* Forms: 7 vallor, vallow, 9 valler; 8 volar, 9 voller, vollier. [Southern dial. var. of FOLLOWER (5 a).] That part of a cheese-press (or cider-press) to which pressure is applied.

1675 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (ed. 2) 323 *Vallor*, or *Vallow*, ..a Concave-Mold wherein a Cheese is pressed. [Hence in

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of Inch Board, fitted into the Ball, that communicates the Force of the Press upon the Cheese. 1853 COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* 84. 1891 *Hartland Gloss.* 82 *Voller*,...that part of a cider or cheese press to which the pressure is applied by screw or lever.

Vollere, southern ME. variant of FULLER *sb.*[1]

Volley (*vǫ'li*), *sb.* Forms: α. 6 volée, volee, (valee), vole, 7 vollee, volle. β. 6 vallew, 6–7 volue. γ. 6–8 vollie (6 vallie, *Sc.* wollie), 7 volie, 7–9 *pl.* vollies; 6 voly, 6–7 volly, 7 *Ir.* voylly. δ. 6–7 voley, 7 volley, valley, 6– volley. [ad. F. *volée* (12th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), =Pr. and Sp. *volada*, It. *volata*:—Romanic *volāta*, fem. sb. f. L. *volātus*, pa. pple. of *volāre* to fly.

The spellings *volue*, *vallew*, are prob. on the analogy of *venue*, *vinew* beside *veny*, *vinny*.]

1. A simultaneous discharge of a number of fire-arms or artillery; a salvo.

α. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1219/2 The whole fire began to plaie in such sort, that within foure volées both sides of the house were battered through. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 48 They must abide at ye least a volee of Canons.

γ. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 93 For ordinance thay dung at day and nycht By weirlyk volyis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 143 The king ..commandit to charge all the gunnis to gif the castell ane new wollie. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 163 The enemy played all the night upon them with great vollyes, but hurt onely three men. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 214/2 In grand Battalia's or feild service the souldier fires by Vollies or as some terme it, by Salves of shot. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 318 A Dutch Company that conducted us out of Town gave three Vollies and went back again. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 282 We then kept a continual Fire upon her of both great and small Arms, not firing in set Broadsides and Vollies. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* (1829) I. viii. 102 Rifles which sent their leaden messengers across the rock in vollies.

δ. 1592 in *Lyly's Works* (1902) I. 440 But from the Snail-mount and the Ship-lle in the Pond..there was a long volley of Chambers discharged. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 203 They forced the gallions with a fewe volleies. 1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 9 Let the first Ranke onely giue their volley,..and the second to passe through it, and so giue their volley. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 169 We made some stay before the City,..and saluted it with a Volley both of all our great Guns, and of small shot. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 304 We were by this Method able to fire six Volleys, half of us at a Time. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 293 A loud coarse laugh burst out from each,—united as a volley of musquetry, and ending as abruptly. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II 219 After firing a volley, the troops charged and put the enemy to the rout. 1879 BROWNING *Martin Relph* 103 They level: a volley, a smoke and the clearing of smoke.

b. Const. *of* (shot, etc.).

α. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 83 b, The valee of an 150. Canon shot. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 12 If our..Mosquettiers would give their volees of Mosquet shot uppon these shipboates full of men. 1603 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 231 At his putting into the grave 3 volles of smale shotte.

β. 1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 105 These Troupes..hauing deliuered their Volue of Shot, shall marche away. *c* 1585 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 19 Giuinge whole vallews of shott at our meetinge. *Ibid.* 45 Wyatt..receaued his Generall with a vallew of small shott.

γ. 1584 LYLY *Campaspe* v. iii. 37 There is more pleasure in tuning of voyce, then in a volly of shotte. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 59 Betwyxte everie greate shott a vallie of smale shott. 1630 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* VII. 76 A great joy expressed by three Vollyes of shot, and the cheerfull sound of Drums. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 261 The rolife gaue a voylly of foure score shott amonge them. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Oct. 1641, From whence we received many vollies of shot in compliment to my Lord Marshall.

δ. 1591 RALEIGH *Last Fight Revenge* (Arb.) 20 After many enterchanged voleies of..small shot. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 192 Resembling a volley of shot speedily deliuered. 1625 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 199 Which gave her a volley of fifteen hundred great shot. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* I. 143 His Men fell..as flat to the Ground, as if they had been shot to Death with a Volley of our Shot. 1748 *Anson's Voyage* II. v. 186 He fired a volley of small shot between the masts. 1809 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. xi. 390 A volley of small shot fired through the window. 1847 JAMES *Convict* xvi, Another volley of shot rang from behind the gateway of the town.

c *transf.*, *fig.*, and in fig. context. Also without article (quot. 1749); cf. next.

1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 232 Thus haue we.. spent a small volley vpon the Pontifician forces. 1738 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 13 Every one was pleased with your..compliments, and volleys have been shot off in return this afternoon, when I said I was coming to my room to write to you. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* III. viii. I will pour My vengeance in full volley; and the earth Shall dread to yield you succour or resource! 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. v, She discharged a volley of small charms at once from her whole countenance in a smile. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xlv, Large black eyes that flash on you a volley Of rays. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xii, Ginger-beer corks go off in volleys.

† d. *In volley*, by simultaneous firing. *Obs.*[−1]

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 42 There is yet another order of discharging of troupes of Muskets in vollie.

e. *Mining.* 'The act of exploding blasts in sections.'

1893 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

2. A shower or simultaneous flight of many missile weapons, as arrows, stones, etc. Also in fig. context.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. i. 3 Our bowmen may shoot by vollies, as thick as hayle. 1622 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. xiv. § 21. 92 The Britaines..auoided the volue of the Romans, showring downe withall great store of theirs vpon them. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 213 Over head the dismal hiss Of fiery Darts in flaming volies flew. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 215 Stones and brands in rattling volleys fly. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxxiv, The English shafts in volleys hail'd. 1820— *Abbot* xviii, Even thus fly all your shafts.., but a breath of foolish affection ever crosses in the mid volley, and aways the arrow from the mark.

b. Const. *of.*

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 32 b, The Archers with their volees of arrowes did breake both horsmen and footmen. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVIII. XXXVI. 696 The Romans ..at the first onset and volie of shot..put them to flight. 1625 BACON *Apophth.* § 126 It was told him, that the enemie had such volleyes of arrowes, that they did hide the Sunne. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 210 The People.. ply'd the Top of the Mosque with .. Volleys of Stones. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 345 Numerous volleys of arrows and stones. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvi. IV. 320 Their engines discharged a perpetual volley of stones and darts. 1830 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 437 The mob rushed upon them with a volley of stones.

c. *poet.* A storm or shower of hail, rain, etc.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 630 Wintry clouds, Surcharg'd with volies of tumultuous hail, Or stores of sounding rain. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 141 The gloomy clouds find weapons, arrowy sleet, Skin-piercing volley, blossom-bruising hail.

† **3.** A company or troop of birds, etc., in flight; a flight. *Obs. rare.*

1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 760 The ringe doues are seene to come euery yeere in great vollies ouer the sea. *Ibid.* 843 Birdes of prey doe not flie togither in vollies or troopes. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. lxi, But to their Lord, now musing in his thought, A heavenly volie of light Angels flew.

† b. A crowd or large number *of* persons or things. *Obs.*

1595 DANIEL *Civil Wars* V. cvii, Therefore easily great Sommerset..With all the volie of disgraces met. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. XXXVII. 94 King Almerick himself wearied with whole volleys of miseries, ended his life of a bloudy flux. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 564 The Souldiers ..finding their return intercepted by a valley of Archers. 1693 *Humours Town* 27 The Vollies of Duns, of believing Vintners, Tailors, Sempstresses.

4. An uttering or outpouring *of* numerous words, oaths, shouts, etc., in smart or rapid succession. Also without const.

1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. C[j b, He giues vs a voley of Scriptures against Non Residents. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 30 A fine volly of words, gentlemen, & quickly shot off. 1620 [G. BRYDGES] *Horæ Subs.* 455 Whatsoeuer by them is performed, shall be sure to finde whole vollies of praises. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* (1843) 54, I am resolved ..to storme you with volyes of Love and Loyalty. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* x. Wks. 1851 III. 412 Those thousands of blaspheming Cavaliers about him, whose mouthes let fly Oaths and Curses by the voley. 1710 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 254 ⁋5 We heard a Volley of Oaths and Curses, lasting for a long while. 1779 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* I. i, Let him have our grievances in a volley. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. vii, [He] poured forth..a volley of compliments. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 64 This, however, always produced a fresh volley from his wife. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 Oct. 219/2 Between them continuous volleys of what is called 'chaff' were kept up. 1874 LIBLE CARR *& Guyaut* I. v. 169 A volley of dire anathemas against

b. Similarly of sighs, groans, cheers, laughter, etc. Also without const.

1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 189 After a vole of broken sighes tempered with some teares, hee fell a sleepe. 1640 SANDYS *Christs Passion* IV. 270 Cries Of weeping Women, in lowd Vollies rise. 1648 CRASHAW *Music's Duel* 63 A Throng Of short thicke sobs, whose thundring volleyes float..In panting murmurs. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. xii, What vollies of sighs are sent from the windows of Holborn. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 103 They burst out into volleys of laughter. 1877 TALMAGE *Serm.* 334 Let this religion of Christ go down under a volley of merriment. 1880 B. D. W. RAMSAY *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* II. xv. 65 Giving a volley of British cheers.

c. A succession of words of command rapidly or smartly delivered.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 27 The repetition of them by every other individual concerned, must not be strictly successive, but as much as can be in a volley.

† **5.** *At* (*the* or *a*) *volley*, *on* (or *o'*) *the volley*, at random, without consideration. Usu. with verbs, esp. *speak*. *Obs.*

After F. *à la volée.*

(*a*) 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 252 The king.. they knew loued his feruently,..although it were begun at the volue. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax Apol.* A2 v] b, The sundrie censures I shoulde incurre, by letting such a pamphlet fly abroad at such a time, when euerything is taken at the voley. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 125 Like those who speake at random at a voleye. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. i, 'Tis like a Ball at Tennis..When we doe speak at volley, all the ill we can one of another. 1686 F. SIENCE tr. *St. Evremont's Misc.* Pref., Otherwise we cannot lay hold of him, he speaks at volley and universally. [1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, I have alwaya known you..prompt to speak at the volley and without reflection.]

(*b*) 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* III. vi, What we spake on the voley begins to work. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I vi, You must not giue credit To all that Ladies publiquely professe, Or talke, o'th vollee, vnto their seruants. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* Sept. 161/1 He never speaks 'on the *voley*' (that is to say, at random).

6. *Tennis.* The flight of a ball in play before it has touched the ground. Cf. FLY *sb.*[2] 2 b.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* To Rdr. 24 One that stands, as it were, at the line in a Tennis-court, and takes euerie ball at the volly. 1878 MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 112 He frequently takes a difficult service (at the volley) off the penthouse.

b. *Tennis*, *Lawn-tennis*, *Cricket*, etc. A return stroke or hit at a ball before it has touched the ground; the action of so returning the ball. (Cf. *half-volley* HALF- II. i.)

1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 282 [Mr. Budd] is said to have hit a volley to long-field for nine. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 124 The match was..loudly applauded every now and then by the spectators, when a brilliant volley was called, or a smash was declared. 1900 *Sat. Rev* 12 July 51/1 Instruction is given in the underhand volley [in lawn-tennis].

c. = VOLLEYER.

1878 MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 112 He was a powerful *force*, and a capital volley.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *volley-boast*, *loophole*, † *-shot*, *system*; volley-ball *U.S.*, a game in which a ball is struck from alternate sides of a high net without touching the ground (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl.); **volley-firing**, simultaneous firing at the word of command by successive parties of soldiers; also *fig.*; **volley gun**, a form of machine-gun which fires bullets successively or in a volley (Knight, 1884).

1878 MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 197 He..would generally return it by a *volley-boast against the main-wall. 1859 *Musketry Instr.* 62 Every file is to have its own target, and the hits are to be counted as in *volley firing. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 267 The superior efficacy of volley-firing and reserved fire. 1891 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 5/5 In the.. Town Hall of Newcastle the representative fighting men of the Liberal party were assembled for volley firing. 1898 SIR G. S. ROBERTSON *Chitral* xxiii. 225 *Volley loopholes are good against an enemy that attacks with a masterful rush. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2433/3 The Night concluded with Dancing, Bells Ringing, Bonfires, *Volly-shots. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3793/3 The 2 Companies of Foot..gave a Volley Shot at each Proclamation. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Sept. 2/3 There has for some time been a feeling in the air that the *volley system was going.

Volley (*vǫ'li*), *v.* Forms: 7 volly (8–9 *pa. t.* vollied); 6– volley. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* a. To utter (words, etc.) rapidly or impetuously. Usually with advs., as *forth*, *off*, *out*.

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* I. (1611) 62 A prophet new sprung up, whose diuination volleis wonders foorth. *Ibid.* II. 73 If sobs would helpe,..My heart should volley out deepe piercing plaints. 1593 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 921 Another flapmouthd mourner, blacke, and grim, Against the welkin, volies out his voyce. 1784 P. H. *Hibernicus* 37 She raves, and vollies off an horrid Cry. 1814 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xx, The bursts of applause which were vollied towards the stage. 1839 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* XXXVIII, Sir Julius turned one heel, and volleyed out silver laughter. 1888–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Aug. xii, She saw an uncouth form..whose parted lips Volley'd their friendly warning in a storm.

b. To discharge (arrows, shot, etc.) in a volley.

Cf. VOLLEYED *ppl. a.* 3.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* 139 When the storm bends his bow, And volleys all his arrows off at once.

c. *Tennis*, etc. To return (a ball) in play before it touches the ground; to reply to (a service) in this way.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rnr. Sports* (ed. 12) III. v. 690/2 The service must not be volleyed. 1878 [see a b]. 1900

Sat. Rev. 19 July 51/2 It is bad policy to give the advice not to volley a lob.

d. *Cricket.* To bowl or deliver (a ball) which reaches the batsman before bouncing. † *U.S.*

1909 *Cent. Dict.* Suppl.

2. *absol.* a. To fire a volley (or volleys). Also in fig. context.

Freq. in recent journalistic use, prob. after quot. 1854.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 119 Then the Boy shall sing, The holding every man shall beate as loud, As his strong sides can volly. 1854 TENNYSON *Lt. Brigade* v, Cannon behind them Volley'd and thunder'd. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 2/1 A large line of guerillas..decided swiftly that their presence and position were discovered, and swiftly they volleyed.

b. *Tennis*, etc. To hit or return the ball before it bounces; to make a volley-stroke.

1819 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1825) I. 867 He never *volleyed* [i.e. at fives], but let the balls hop. 1878 MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 197 A young player, if he fancies he can volley well, will always be apt to volley balls which would come well off the end-walls. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 20 July 7/2 F. Rooke..volleyed more effectively than his opponent.

3. *intr.* a. To emit or produce sounds simultaneously or continuously, in a manner suggestive of firearms or artillery.

In recent use freq. in 'to volley and thunder', after quot. 1854 in sense 2 a.

1820 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XXIII. xi, When its thunder broke,.. while it vollied round the vault of Hell, Earth's solid arch was shaken with the shock. 1875 L. MORRIS *Children Street* i, Every day come they there, Afternoon foul or fair, Shouting and volleying. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxix, For some time Alan volleyed upon the door, and his knocking only roused the echoes of the house.

To rush, roll, or stream with simultaneous motion; to shoot rapidly.

1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* vii, About a hundred thoughts volleyed through my mind in a moment. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* I. x. 129 The crest of the wave volleys up the incline.

c. To issue or be discharged in, or after the manner of, a volley.

1887 BOWEN *Æneid* I. 150 Firebrands fly, stones volley, the weapons furnished of wrath. *Ibid.* III. 577 Molten masses of stone to the skies with a groan and a roar Volley in showers.

Volley, southern dial. var. FOLLOW *v.*

Volleyed (vǫ·lid), *ppl. a.* Forms: 7 volied, 7–9 volied; 8 volly'd, 8–9 volley'd, 9 volleyed. [f. VOLLEY *v.* + -ED.]

1. Shouted or uttered in the manner of a volley.

a 1626 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* III. v, Heark..how the air Totters and reels, and rends apieces, Drusus, With the huge vollied clamours. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xxxiii, He strove, with vollied threat and ban,..To rally up the desperate fight.

2. Of thunder or lightning: Discharged with the noise or continuous effect of a volley.

Very common in poetry of the 18th cent.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 998 When in Battel to thy aide The blasting volied Thunder made all speed. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 212 Some pitying God..With volied vengeance blast their towring pride! 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* I. 188 She springs aloft Thro' fields of air; pursues the flying storm; Rides on the volley'd lightning thro' the heav'ns. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* 38 The vollied flame rides in my breath, My blast is elemental death. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 60 While skies in vollied rolls are rent.

b. Of the nature of a volley.

1835 J. HARRIS *Gt. Teacher* (1837) 25 He discharged its tremendous contents in one volleyed and prolonged explosion.

3. Of missiles, etc.: Discharged or cast in or as in a volley. Also in fig. context.

1759 W. MASON *Caractacus* Poems 1830 II. 127 Our vollied darts, That thick as hail fell on their helms. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* VIII. 78 The vollied weapons on both sides their task Perform'd effectual. 1797 PARK *Sonn.* 78 Then will we fire a vollied round, And uncharg'd goblets shall resound. 1836 BRYANT *Winter Piece* 122 And bounding on the frozen earth Shall fall their [*sc.* clouds'] volleyed stores rounded like hail.

4. *Tennis.* Returned by volleying.

1878 MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 226/2 Volleyed service.

Volleyer (vǫ·lĭ,ər). *Tennis.* [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who returns the ball before it bounces.

1878 MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 196 When the ball is judged and met by the racket of the volleyer. 1879 in *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* (1884) 36 A generation of volleyers will rise up who will volley from the service-line.

Vo·lleying, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of returning the ball (in tennis and other ball games) before it bounces. Also *attrib.*

1837 D. WALKER *Games & Sports* 256 (Rackets), This last stroke is termed volleying. 1888 *Daily Tel.* 18 July 2 The volleying and low play gaining repeated rounds of applause. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Sept. 8/2 He exhibited splendid volleying ability, and won by three sets to one.

Vo·lleying, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That volleys, in senses of the verb.

(*a*) 1796 COLERIDGE *Destiny of Nations* v, 53 Some drive the mutinous clouds to clash in air, And..Yoke the red lightning to their volleying car. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* IV. ii, When the volleying musket play'd Against the bloody Highland blade. 1849 J. GRANT *Kirkaldy of Grange* XXVI. 301 The booming cannon, the volleying harquebusses. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 62 Let..the volleying cannon thunder his loss.

(*b*) 1816 BYRON *Siege Corinth* II, There the volleying thunders pour, Till waves grow smoother to the roar. 1821 — *Juan* VIII. vi, The volleying roar, and loud Long booming of each peal o'ercame The ear far more than thunder. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 50/2 The volleying boom of giant trees, uprooted from their rocky foundations, sounded above the shriek of the wind.

(*c*) 1844 HOOD *Forge* I. 170 The Forge..With volleying smoke, and many a spark, Vomiting fire. 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* vi, So have I heard the cookoo's parting cry,.. Come with the volleying rain and tossing breeze.

Volliche, southern ME. var. FULLY *adv.*

Vollier. *s.w. dial.* Also volyer. [dial. var. of FOLLOWER: cf. VOLLER.] (See quot. 1855.)

1855 *Household. Wds.* 23 Sept. 130/1 [In pilchard fishing] there is a second or assisting boat, called the volyer, which carries another net, called the tuck-seine. *a* 1870 J. COUCH *Hist. Polperro* vi. (1871) 106 A second boat, the *volyer*,.. has another sean-net of a hundred or more fathoms in length, and eighteen in depth.

Vollier, variant of VOLLER *dial.*

† **Volliere.** *Obs. rare.* Also -yere, -ier. [a. F. *volière*, f. *voler* to fly.] = VOLARY.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 148 His Gardens are.. prettily contrivd into grotts, mazes, vollieres, and the like. *Ibid.* 156 [The] ayery Citizens..returne their thankfull notes in a more swift melodious consort, than if they were in the exactest vollyere in the Vniverse.

Vollit, obs. Sc. form of WOOLED *a.*

† **Vollouth**, variant of FULLOUGHT *Obs.*

c 1330 HERBERT in *Rel. Ant.* I. 87 Crist..so com to seynt Jon, And of hym was y-waxje..,To halewen our vollouth water, that sunne havet vor-don.

Volly, southern dial. var. FOLLOW *v.*, FOLLY *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

† **Volo-nola.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *volo* I am willing + *nolo* I am unwilling.] A vacillation or wavering in decision.

1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 14 His story of the Bookseller, and all the Volo-Nola's, and shall-I, shall-I's betwixt them, was nothing but fooling.

Volontary, obs. form of VOLUNTARY.

Volonteer(e, obs. forms of VOLUNTEER.

† **Volow**, var. of *folowe* FULL *v.*[1] Hence † **Volower**, one who baptizes; † **Volowing** *vbl. sb.*, baptism. *Obs. rare.*

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 107 b, Baptism is called volowinge in many places of Englonde. *Ibid.*, The child was well volowed (saye they); yee and our vicare is as fayre a volower as ever a prest within this twenty myles. 1530 — *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 277/1 They brought them to confirmation straight from Baptisme: so that now oftymes they be volowed and bishoped both in one day.

Volowynge, error for *bolnynge* BOLNING *ppl. a.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xiv. 82 Be wrothe ayeins thi selfe, and suffre no volowynge pride [L. *tumorem*] to lyve in the.

Volplane (vǫ·lplēn), *sb.* [Orig. two words, *vol plane*, properly *vol pland*, f. F. *vol* flight + *pland*, pa. pple. of *planer* PLANE *v.*[2]] A dive, descent, or downward flight at a steep angle on the part of an aeroplane under control, and with the engine stopped or shut off.

1910 in Hamel & Turner *Flying* (1914) 17 The 'vol plané', or aerial dive. 1911 GRAHAME-WHITE & HARPER *Aeroplane* 121 He was diving down from an altitude of about 1,000 feet. It was not a *vol plane* that he was making, as he had his engine running.

Hence **Volplane** *v. intr.*, to make a volplane.

1911 *Daily News* 21 July 2 He volplaned from about 200 feet to 50 feet of the ground, which he skimmed for about a hundred yards.

† **Volpo·ne.** *Obs.* Also vulpone, -ony. [The name of the chief character in B. Jonson's play *Volpone, or the Fox*, a. It. *volpone*, f. *volpe* fox; the forms in *vulp-* are after L. *vulpis*.] A cunning schemer or miser. Also *Comb.*

1672 G. THOMSON *Let. to H. Stubbe* 25 To observe their Vulpone-like windings, intrigues and nimble diversions. 1685 SOUTH *Serm.* (1715) I. 408 Come to an old, rich, professing Vulpony, and tell him, that there is a Church to be built [etc.]. 1709 SACHEVERELL *Serm. 5 Nov.* 21 In what.. lively Colours does the Holy Psalmist paint out the crafty Insiduousness of such wilely Volpones? 1710 *Acc. Last Distemper Tom Whigg* 4 Certain Beasts of Prey, Vultures and Vulpones.

† **Volsce.** *Obs.* Also 4 Vulse, 6 *Sc.* Wolche, 7 Volce (*pl.* -es, -ies). [ad. L. *Volscus*, pl. *Volsci*: cf. next.] = VOLSCIAN *sb.* 1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 159 He ouercame þe Vulces and þe Gables, and made pees wiþ Tuscans. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xx. (S.T.S.) I. 214 To seik supporte of þe pepill namyt Wolchis [*v.r.* Wolches]. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1612) 234 Vpon returne of the Volsces ambassadors..Tullus caused an assembly generall to be made of the Volsces. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 228 The newes is, sir, the Volcies are in Armes. *Ibid.* 253 The Volces haue much Corne. *Ibid.* IV. 28 He that retires, Ile take him for a Volce.

Volscian (vǫ·lshăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 *Sc.* Volscan, 7 Volcian, Volcean. [f. L. *Volsci* + -AN. Cf. prec.]

A. *sb.* 1. *Hist.* One of an ancient warlike people formerly inhabiting the east of Latium, subdued by the Romans in the 4th century B.C.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. xi. 29 Wyth armyt men and wageouris the Volscanis So neir almost by lappit hym at anis. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. iii. 178 This Fellow had a Volcean to his Mother. *Ibid.* vi. 126 Like an Eagle in a Doue-coat, I Flatter'd [*sic*] your Volcians in Corioles. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 233 Volscians armed with iron-headed darts. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* II. 163 Corioli was the capital of the country of the Volscians. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 209/2 M. Valerius, who, with an army of 20,000 ... defeated the Volscians, Aequians, and Sabines.

2. The Italic language spoken by the Volscians.

1887 R. S. CONWAY *Italic Dialects* I. 272 The majority of scholars incline to regard them as borrowed from Oscan. From geographical considerations I think Volscian is a more likely source. *Ibid.* 288 The Osco-Umbrian family of dialects (to which Volscian belonged).

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining or belonging to, the Volscians; that is a Volscian.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 58 The towne Tarracina, called in the Volscian tongue Anxur. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. iii. 3 My partner in this Action, You must report to th' Volcian Lords. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* II. 639 The Volscian Queen extended on the Plain. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* II. 186 This proclamation exasperated the whole Volscian nation against the Romans. 1842 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 289 The Pontine Marshes..were once covered with Volscian towns. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 443/2 The volcanic region of Terra di Lavoro is separated by the Volscian mountains from the Roman district.

‖ **Volse·lla.** *rare.* Also 7 vulsella. [L. *volsella, vulsella* tweezers, forceps, f. *vols-, vuls-*, ppl. stem of *vellĕre* to pluck.] (See quot. 1693 and next.)

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Volsella*, or *Vulsella*, an Instrument to pull up Hairs with by the Root, Tweezers: Or a Chyrurgions little Tongs, which are of different shape according to the Diversity of their Use. [Hence in Harris, Phillips, etc.] 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Acanthabolus*, a Surgeon's Instrument; called also *Volsella*. 1889 DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Women* (ed. 4) ii. 5 A Volsella is fixed in the cervix.

‖ **Volse·llum.** *Surg.* [mod. L., perhaps from mistaking L. *volsella* (see prec.) for a neuter pl. Cf. VULSELLUM.] A kind of forceps used in surgical operations. Also *attrib.*

1876 CURLING *Dis. Rectum* 53 The hæmorrhoidal growths are to be seized separately with the volsellum forceps. *Ibid.* 75 A fold of membrane..is to be seized with a volsellum, or the hæmorrhoidal forceps. 1898 *Batty's Amer. Text-Bk. Gynecol.* (ed. 2) 375 A double tenaculum or volsellum forceps.

Volt (vǫlt, vǫ·lt), *sb.* [f. the name of *Volta*: see VOLTAIC *a.*] The practical unit of electromotive force; the difference of potential capable of sending a current of one ampere through a conductor whose resistance is one ohm.

1873 F. JENKIN *Electr. & Magn.* x. § 2 There is already a unit of electromotive force in practical use called a *volt*. The volt is intended to represent 10^8 absolute units. 1881 SIR W. THOMSON in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 518 Nothing above 200 volts ought..to be admitted..where safeguards against accident cannot be made absolutely..trustworthy. 1892 *Electr. Engin.* 16 Sept. 283/1 The small glow lamp requires from 0·6 to 0·8 amperes and four volts to fully light it.

b. *attrib* (with numeral preceding).

1881 SIR W. THOMSON in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 518 To take energy direct from the electric main with its 80,000 volts, and supply it by secondary 200-volt dynamos or 100-volt dynamos. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 223 Five cells of this battery will light the six volt lamp.

Volt, obs. var. VAULT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]; var. VOLTE *sb.*; var. obs. Sc. VULT (face).

Volt (vǫlt, vǫ·lt), *v.* [ad. F. *volter* (f. *volte* VOLTE or ad. It. *voltare*); or (in sense 4) variant of VAULT *v.*[2] under the influence of this.]

† 1. *refl.* To turn or roll over. *Obs.*—[1]

1658 FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 67 See where he comes tumbling and tossing, and volting himself in the stiffest Streams.

† 2. *intr.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—[1]

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 150/1 [A horse is said to] Voult, when he Raires, or stands upright.

3. *Fencing.* To make a volte. Also *fig.*

1692 SIR W. HOPE *Fencing Master* 102 You must Volt, or leap with both your feet in the Air at once, quite by your Adversaries left shoulder. 1696 R. H. *Sch. Recreat.* 72 Fourthly, you may Volt, and in your so doing, give him the Thrust, which being clearly done, will mainly surprize him. 1771 LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* 215, I parry you with a Prime, and cut at your head with a Medium as I volt. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 3/2 When Mr. Chamberlain volts, it is not only his face, but his whole personality he turns round.

† 4. = VAULT *v.*[2] 2. *Obs. rare.*

1753 YOUNG *Brothers* III. i, This pass'd, as suits his Wisdom, Macedonians! Who volts o'er elder Brothers to a Throne. 1757 — *Love Fame* v. 124 Some nymphs affect a more heroic breed, And volt [*earlier edd.* vault] from hunters to the manag'd steed.

Hence **Vo·lting** *vbl. sb.*

1692 SIR W. HOPE *Fencing Master* 10 Volting is the leaping by your adversaries left side, quite out of his measure. 1803 G. ROLAND *Treat. Art Fencing* 131 The same may be said of volting, or any manœuvre that does not give the opponent a fair opportunity of hitting the right breast. 1862 G. CHAPMAN *Fail Practice* 34 Volting is prohibited in teaching with the foil, and condemned in fencing.

‖ **Volta** (vǫ·ltă). [It. *volta* turn, etc., fem. pa. pple. of *volgere, volvere* to turn, employed as a sb.] = LAVOLTA.

1642 KYNASTON *Leoline & Sydanis* 1903 These with ten Satyrs danc'd an antique round With Volta's, and a Sarraband. 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Volta*,..a turning Dance so called. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.*, Suppl. s.v., Volta is also a sort of dance of Italian origin, in which the man turns the woman several times, and then assists her to make a leap or jump; it is a species of galliard. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Volta*, an old three-timed air, peculiar to an Italian dance of the same name. 1910 *Times* 8 Aug. 10/4 At His Majesty's Theatre..the court dances will include a 'volta' with its light-hearted leaps into the air.

Volta- (vǫ·ltă), combining form of VOLTAIC used in a few technical terms, as *volta-electric*, *-electro-*

meter, *-inductric*; **voltaplast** (see quot.); **volta-type** *sb.*, an electrotype; *v. trans.*, to electrotype. *Voltagraphy*, given in some Dicts. as a synonym of 'electrotypy', after *Penny Cycl.* (1843) XXVI. 434/2, was coined specially for use in that work, and appears to have had no real currency.

1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxiii. 338 °Volta-electric induction is instantaneous. 1846 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3578, The instantaneous generation of volta-electric currents of intensity. 1834 Faraday in *Phil. Trans.* CXXIV. 85 On a new Measure of °Volta electricity. *Ibid.* 93 The instrument offers the only actual measurer of voltaic electricity which we at present possess...I have therefore named it a °Volta-electrometer. 1839 Noad *Electricity* iii. 130 Its terminal wires are soldered to a Faraday's volta-electrometer. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2714/1 *Voltaelectrometer*, an instrument for indicating the degree of electrical excitation. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 491 The manner in which this machine acts will be clearly understood by reference to the general principles of °volta-inductric action. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts*, °*Voltaplast*. Such is the name given to that form of galvanic battery which is adapted to the electrotype. 1848 Brande *Dict. Sci.* 1309/2 Gold, silver, and other metals may..be substituted for copper, and thus a variety of °volta-types may be obtained. *Ibid.*, It often happens that the article to be *voltatyped*, as this process is now called, is not a conductor of electricity. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2714/2 *Volta-type*, a cast of an object obtained by the gradual deposition of a metal from a metallic solution, through the agency of electric action.

†**Vo·ltage**[1]. *Obs.*—[1] [f. F. *volte* Volte + -age.] The action of causing a horse to move in voltes.

1606 Ford *Fame's Mem.* xxxii, He assaies, Which way to manage an vntamed horse When, how, to spur, and rayn, to stop, and raise, Close sitting, voltage of a manlike force.

Voltage[2] (vō·ltédʒ, vŏu·ltédʒ). [f. Volt *sb.* + -age.] Electromotive force reckoned or expressed in volts.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Aug. 4/3 The voltage varied between 700 and 1,300 volts. 1894 Bottone *Electr. Instr.* 111 In calculating the voltage, the desired current must also be considered, and allowance made both for the internal and external resistances. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 855 It is difficult to say what voltage is fatal to man.

fig. 1904 *Spectator* 30 Apr. 670/1 Pope...was seldom the subject of currents of high voltage like...the emotional Hazlitt.

b. *attrib.* (esp. with adj. preceding).

1890 *Daily News* 4 Jan. 6/7 There is as much danger from the low voltage as there is from the high voltage system, as far as fire is concerned. 1894 *Ibid.* 22 Jan. 2/6 The question of high voltage electricity.

Voltaic (vŏltē·ik), *a.* [From the name of the Italian physician and scientist, Alessandro *Volta* (1745-1827) + -ic.]

1. Of apparatus: Used in producing electricity by chemical action after the method discovered by Volta; esp. *voltaic battery* (Battery 10), *voltaic pile* (Pile *sb.*[2] 5).

(*a*) 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 41 It has been shown by Experiments made by means of the Voltaic battery...that compound bodies in general are capable of being decomposed by Electrical powers. 1850 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 2) 81 A voltaic battery, which consists usually of alternations of two metals, and a liquid capable of acting chemically upon one of them,...is incapable of acting. 1879 G. Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 1 When galvanism was discovered, at the beginning of the present century, and the voltaic battery invented.

(*b*) 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 275 The Voltaic pile, as well as the battery last described, are now but little used. 1839 Noad *Electricity* iii. 97 To Volta's experiments we are indebted for the first galvanic instrument, namely, the voltaic pile; it was described by him in the Philosophical Transactions of 1800. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 332 After the discovery of the voltaic pile the use of the electrical machine gradually fell into disuse.

(*c*) 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 54 Without the Voltaic apparatus, there was no possibility of examining the relations of electrical polarities to chemical attractions. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvii. 460 Voltaic arrangements, consisting of a few large plates rather than many small ones. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 92 In a voltaic cell, an energy is generated and transmitted along a wire with inconceivable rapidity. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 930/2 A voltaic pencil, by the use of which designers and draughtsmen may be enabled to dispense entirely with the aid of the engraver.

2. Of electricity: Generated by chemical action.

1816 Accum *Chem. Tests* 223 When the precipitation of the metallic lead takes place in the surface of the zinc, voltaic electricity is evolved. 1836 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (ed. 3) xxviii. 305 Voltaic electricity is of that peculiar kind which is elicited by the force of chemical action. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept., The application of voltaic electricity to the welding and fusion of metals.

b. Of a current: Consisting of voltaic electricity.

1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxi. 304 The magnetic and electric fluids,..arising from all possible positions of the conducting wire, and every direction of the voltaic current. 1860 Pierce *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 180 The effect of a continued voltaic current.

3. Of or pertaining to, connected with, caused by, electricity due to chemical action.

1820 Faraday *Exp. Res.* (1859) 65 The little bars..evidently produced voltaic action. 1827 — *Chem. Manip.* xvii. 461 This formed a voltaic combination with the platina and the fluid. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 23 The voltaic shock is very different, in consequence of the altered character of the discharge. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 309/1 The invention of voltaic deposition..created a new era for the manufacture of silver-plated wares.

b. *Voltaic brass*, brass deposited by the of electricity.

1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) II. 94 Voltaic brass does not appear to have been obtained in a solid distinct form, but has been successfully produced as a coating upon a copper

Hence **Volta·ically** *adv.*, by means of, in respect of, voltaic electricity; after the manner of a voltaic battery.

1843 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* etc. (1874) 303 Besides employing the usual chemical tests, I analysed it voltaically. 1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 144 When a series of some hundred couples of zinc and copper cylinders are arranged voltaically, and charged with common water, a battery is obtained. 1865 Mansfield *Salts* 12 One of these, the Chlorine, is said to be voltaically or chemically negative.

Voltairean, Voltairian (vŏltē·rĭăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the later name of the French author François Marie Arouet (1694-1778), who from 1718 styled himself *de Voltaire*.]

A. *sb.* A follower or adherent of Voltaire in respect of opinions or the manner of expressing them; one whose views on social and religious questions are characterized by a critical and mocking scepticism.

α. 1871 Morley *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 51 He [Condorcet] was a Voltairean in the intensity of his antipathies to the Church. 1885 *Athenæum* 2 May 567/1 His father, a country squire, and, as the fashion then was, a thorough-going Voltairean, had married one of his own serfs.

β. 1875 Gladstone *Gleanings* (1879) VI. 225 We are now engaged in training a nation to consist of Voltairians and of Clericals. 1883 M. Pattison *Mem.* (1885) 212 If it is against the Church it is a fiction of the Voltairians.

B. *adj.* Of, belonging to, or resembling Voltaire; holding opinions like those of Voltaire, or expressing them in his style.

α. 1879 Morley *Burke* viii. 176 The eager, bustling, shrill-tongued crowd of the Voltairean age. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* i, A shrewd, worldly, voltairean woman.

β. 1876 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* 189 Walpole must be reckoned as belonging both in his faults and his merits to the Voltairian school of literature. 1896 W. K. Leask *H. Miller* v. 125 There is still the Voltairian type of thinker.

Hence **Voltai·rianism** (also -ean-), = Voltairism.

1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 187 In order not to offend the Voltairianism of several of his friends, he had forborne to base his constitution on religion. 1890 *Athenæum* 19 July 90/2 He interprets Voltairianism as 'a school based on destructive irony,..and incapable of raising or fortifying the human mind'.

Voltai·rianize, *v. rare.* [f. prec. + -ize.] *trans.* To render Voltairian. Hence **Voltai·rianized** *ppl. a.*

1872 Liddon *Elem. Relig.* ii. 49 It was..quite another [thing] permanently to control the heart and convictions even of the Voltairianized multitudes of Paris. 1902 *Academy* 3 Jan. 7/2 Hamlet is completely Voltairianised, in the most audacious fashion.

Voltai·rish, *a. rare*[—1]. [f. *Voltaire* (see above) + -ish.] Resembling Voltaire.

1842 Mrs. Browning *Bk. Poets* Poet. Wks. (1904) We will not .set up its grand, luxurious, melancholy against Goethe's subtle, biting, Voltairish devil.

Voltairism (vŏltē·rĭz'm). Also -eism. [f. as prec. + -ism.]

1. Something characteristic of Voltaire.

1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. p. cxxvi, The error confessed, and still retained, is a true Voltairism.

2. The body of opinions or views expressed by Voltaire; the mocking and sceptical attitude characteristic of these.

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* I. (1904) 14 Truly, if Christianity be the highest instance of Hero-worship, then we may find here in Voltairism one of the lowest! 1878 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 1 We may think of Voltairism in France, somewhat as we think of Catholicism or the Renaissance or Calvinism.

Voltaism (vŏ·ltăĭz'm). [f. *Volta* (see Voltaic *a.*) + -ism.] The production of an electric current by the chemical action of a liquid on metals; galvanism as produced by Volta's methods.

1811 R. Turner *Arts & Sci.* xxix. 271 In voltaism, it is necessary that the bodies by which it is exhibited should have some chemical agency on each other. 1826 Good *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 219 Every one has now some knowledge of Galvanism and Voltaism. 1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 132 That remarkable form of Electricity, known by the name of Galvanism or Voltaism.

Voltaite (vŏ·ltăĭait). *Min.* [f. as prec.; named by A. Scacchi in 1840.] A hydrous sulphate of iron occurring in green, black, or brown crystals.

1846 Worcester (citing Dana). 1892 Dana *Min.* 256 Voltaite is a double sulphate of iron, alumina, potash and water crystallising like alum in octahedrons. 1888 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1005 *Voltaite*, a ferroso-ferric sulphate, containing alumina, occurring at the Solfatara, near Naples.

Voltameter (vŏltæ·mĭtăr). [See Volta- and -meter.] An instrument used for the quantitative measurement of electricity by means of the results of electrolysis.

1836 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 4) 383 When the quantity of products was examined by the voltameter, the oxygen..was always in the same proportion as from water. 1866 R. M. Ferguson *Electr.* (1870) 140 To measure one or other of these is the object of a galvanometer or voltameter. 1884 S. P. Thompson *Electr. & Magnetism* 179 The ... gives us the 'time integral' of the curr

attrib. 1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 222 One equivalent of lead was reduced in the voltameter tube.

Volte, volt (vōlt, vŏlt). [a. F. *volte*, ad. It. *volta*: see Volta.]

†**1.** A kind of dance; = Volta, Lavolta. *Obs.*

1586 Sir E. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* xi. 39 The Voltes, courantes, and vyolent daunses proceede from furie. 1599 T. Morley *Introd. Mus.* 181 Like vnto this [the Iranise] (but more light) be the voltes and courantes which being both of a measure, are notwithstanding daunced after sundrie fashions. 1610 Dowland *Var. Lute-lessons* B 2, Voltes for the Lute.

2. *Fencing.* A sudden dexterous movement to avoid a thrust.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 160/2 A Volt..is when thy adversarie doth thrust at thee which thou perceiueing, dost first put by his thrust; and just turne [*sic*] thy body round about, with thy back towards thine aduersarie thrusteth him with a quarte in his right brest. 1763 Angelo *Sch. Fencing* 44 You must..with swiftness and agility perform this turn of the body called volte. 1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* 104 When I disengage a Quarte, single your body from the thrust, by quickly forming a Volt. 1801 G. Chapman *Foil Practice* 34 The volt or spring to the right or left (being) occasionally put in practice. 1889 A. Hutton *Cold Steel* 90 Make a complete volte or turn about on the toe of the right, bringing the left foot well behind it.

† **b.** *Volt-coupe*, a feint in fencing.

1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 46 The Volt-coupe, single and double. *Ibid.* 65 Then make use of the Double Volt-Coupe..after you have made your Feint. 1696 R. H. *Sch. Recreat.* 87 Lesson 12. Of Volt Coupe.

3. In the manège, a circular movement executed by a horse. (Cf. the earlier Demi-volte.)

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Volte* (in Horsemanship) signifies a round or a circular Tread. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., A Renversed Volt, is a Track of two Treads, which the Horse makes with his Head to the Centre, and his Croup out. 1884 E. L. Anderson *Mod. Horsem.* II. xvii. 148 The school gallop is employed in traversing, and for voltes and pirouettes. The horse may be made to traverse and to do the voltes in the ordinary gallop.

4. Turn, change. *rare*[—1].

1902 Meredith *Hueless Love* viii, So has there come the gust at South-west flung By sudden volt on eves of freezing mist.

† **Vo·lted**, *ppl. a. Obs.* (Meaning not clear.)

1613-39 I. Jones in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 45 The Roses fretted, not volted.

‖ **Volte-face** (volt,fas). [Fr., ad. It. *volta faccia*, f. *volta* turn + *faccia* face.] The act of turning so as to face in the opposite direction; *fig.* a complete change of attitude or opinion.

1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xvi, Your Excellency has only to hint that the M'Aulays are going in that direction, and my friends of the Mist will instantly make volteface, and go to the right about. 1822 — *Peveril* xxxiv, At last we were obliged to make volte-face. 1883 *Athenæum* 20 Oct. 493/2 He is getting to believe in evolution and has to make some curious *volte-face* in order to retain at the same time his belief in theism. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 627/1 The sudden *volte-face* which Mr. Gladstone and Sir William Harcourt performed in 1886.

Volter, variant of Walter *sb.* *Obs.*

‖ **Voltigeur** (voltizŏ·r). [F., agent-n. f. *voltiger* to flutter, hover, vault, etc.] Formerly in the French army, a member of a special skirmishing company attached to each regiment of infantry.

1807 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 25/1 They were received at the mouth of the musket by the voltigeurs. [*Note.* Sharp-shooters, or marksmen, mounted on horseback, whose business it is to hover around the enemy,..and annoy him (etc.).] 1807 Southey *Hist. Penins. War* III. 430 The enemy's chasseurs and voltigeurs advanced in considerable bodies under General Lorset.

attrib. 1805 James *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., They submitted to a long..training, before they were admitted in the voltigeur companies. 1824 De Quincey *Pol. Econ. Dial.* vi. Misc. (1854) 259 Go on,..and skirmish with him a little more in this voltigeur style.

transf. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 221 The Van Bunschotens..would have been put to utter rout but for the arrival of a gallant corps of voltigeurs. 1817 Keatinge *Trav.* I. 155 The most active and habituated voltigeurs of the community..contrive to anticipate, and *font main basse* on whatever can be found.

Voltmeter (vō·ltmĭtăr). [f. Volt *sb.*[2] + Meter.] An instrument for measuring the pressure of electricity in volts.

1882 *Eng. Mech.* 10 Mar. 4/3, I have two instruments devised by Prof. Perry and myself, an Am-meter, and a Volt-meter, the one for measuring a strong current, and the other a large electromotive force. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 132/1 This can be verified b necting one terminal of a voltmeter to the negative 1898 *Engin. Mag.* XVI. 139/2 Plan of the plant is given, showing how the dynamo, voltmeter, switchboards, and tanks should be connected.

‖ **Vo·lto.** [It. *volto* = *volta* vault (the same word as Volta).] = Vault *sb.*[1] 1.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Oct. 1644, Entring the Church [St. Peter's, Rome], admirable is the breadth of the volto or roofe. *Ibid.* 18 Jan. 1643, The Consistory, a noble roome, the volto painted in grotesq. 1880 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* xxvi. 375 The garden [at Rome] was entered by a portico or door-case adorned with ancient statues, the volto or roof of which was painted with classic subjects.

Vo·ltzine. *Min.* Also volts-. [-ine[5].] = next.

1876 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 340 *Voltzine*. Oxysulphuret of zinc. This mineral occurs at Rosiers. 1880 Ansted *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. § 470 Voltzine. 1885 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 303 *Voltzine*...Found in a vein of quartz...and in some zinc furnaces.

Voltzite (vǫ·ltsait). *Min.* [f. the name of P. L. *Voltz*, inspector of mines; named by Fournet, 1833.] A native oxysulphide of zinc.

1835 *R. D. & T. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 274 Voltzite. This mineral is found at Pont Gibaud, in Puy de Dome. It possesses a pearly lustre; colour rose-red, or yellow. 1892 DANA *Min.* 232 *Voltzite.* A compound of sulphuret and oxyd of zinc. Occurs in implanted globules of a dirty rose-red color.

Volu·bilate, *a. Bot.* [f. next + -ATE.] = next.

1829 REES *Cycl.*, *Volubile*, or *Volubilate* Stem or Stalk,.. a name given to those of many plants, as all those the stems or stalks of which are of a twining or winding climbing nature.

Volubile, *a. Bot. rare.* [ad. L. *volūbilis*. So F. *volubile*.] = VOLUBLE *a.* 4.

1829 [see prec.]. 1838 J. MURRAY *Econ. Veg.* 48 Some stems are volubile; or 'twine' as the hop and honeysuckle, convolvulus, and 'scarlet runner.' 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 66 Stems have usually considerable firmness and solidity, but sometimes they..twist round other plants in a spiral manner like Woodbine, becoming volubile.

‖ **Volu·bilis.** *Bot. Obs.* [L.; see prec. So F. *volubilis*.] Convolvulus.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Mar. 63 Sow on the Hot-bed such Plants as are late bearing Flowers or Fruit in our Climate; as Balsamine,..Volubilis, Myrrh, Carroba, [etc.]. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 139 This Pod is the Fruit of a Kind of Volubilis.

Volubility (vǫlibi·liti). Also 6–7 -itie, 7 -itye. [ad. F. *volubilité* (15–16th cent.; = It. *volubilità*, Sp. *-idad*, Pg. *-idade*), or ad. L. *volūbilitās*, f. *volūbilis*: see next and -ITY.]

I. †**1.** Quickness in turning from one object to another; versatility. *Obs. rare.*

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 3 The wisedome and reputation of the man, togither with the naturall volubilitie of his wit. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xviii § 5 Orators.. by the observing their well graced fourmes of speech..lease the volubilitie of Application.

†**b.** Ready variation of expression. *Obs.*—1

1639 HARRINGTON *Valerius & Publicola* 18 If you speak of Israel, Athens, Rome, Venice, or the like, they hear you with volubility of countenance.

2. The capacity of revolving, rolling, or turning round; aptness to rotate about an axis or centre.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 If Celestiall Spheres should forget their woonted Motions, and by irregular volubilitie turne themselues any way as it might happen. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 31 The world with continuall volubilitie and turning about it, driveth the..globe thereof into the forme of a round ball. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1687) 432/2 He who thrust the Cylinder, gave it the beginning of motion, but did not give it volubility. 1667 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 86 It began to be out of my power any more to discern the Diversity of their several Motions by reason of their extream Volubility. 1705 PURSHALL *Mech. Macrocosm* 206 They lose their Fluidity, which depends upon the Volubility of Globular Particles at liberty. 1740 CHEYNE *Reginen* 75 Blood Globules, by their Rotundity, Volubility, and Elasticity, resist Trituration, that is, Digestion. 1754 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Needle*, In the construction of the horizontal needle a piece of pure steel is provided, of a length not exceeding six inches, lest its weight impede its volubility. 1871 BROWNING *Pr. Hohenst.* 1930 Under pretence of making fast and sure The inch [of ascent] gained by late volubility.

b. Of the eye: Readiness in moving. *rare*—1.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1075 The cheerefull cast & amiable volubility of his quicke eie.

†**3.** Capacity for moving in an easy or gliding manner. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxi. § 9 Except men know exactly all the conditions of the serpent; .his volubility and lubricity. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xviii. 153 Such Creatures..which..as it were slide from place to place, some more slowlie, but othersome with a certaine Volubility and flexible Agitation of the Bodie. 1653 T. WATSON *Art Divine Contentm.* xi. (1668) 185 The Poets painted Time with wings, to shew the volubility and swiftness of it.

†**4.** Tendency to change or turn from one condition to another; changeableness, mutability, inconstancy. *Obs.* **a.** Of persons.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. i. 295 Whosoever shall heedefully survay and consider himselfe, shall finde this volubilitie and discordance to be in himselfe. 1613 SHIRLEY *Trav. Persiis* 136 The world by taking notice of your infirmitie will alwayes feare volubilitie in all your actions. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 204 All the lawe, phisicke, and poetrie in the world canot cure or amende the flexibilitie, volubilitie, inconstancie, and treacherie of this man.

b. Of fortune or affairs.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 286 The volubilitie of inconstant fortune produceth these occurrences in the East parts. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 1 All affairs do resemble the great Machines of Heaven and Earth, in their motion and volubility. 1699 T. [COCKMAN] tr. *Tully's Offices* (1706) 88 The great Volubility and Changeableness of Fortune.

II. 5. Ready flow *of* speech, etc.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. v. (Arb.) 91 Which flowing of wordes with much volubilitie smoothly proceeding from the mouth is in some sort harmonicall. 1633 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. ii. 15 Some men..explicate our praying in the Spirit, by a mere volubility [*etc*] of language. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* V. (1687) 208/2 Cicero being at Athens heard him, and was much taken with the eloquence and volubility of his discourse. 1670 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XVI. § 122 The General was not a Man of Eloquence or Volubility of Speech. 1726 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 43 This unrestrained volubility and wantonness of speech is the occasion of numberless evils. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XVIII. 32 Gods! with what volubility of speech The table hunter prates. 1824 LAMB *Elia* II. *Old Margate Hoy*, A..young man..with..an insuppressible volubility of assertion. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 11 The sweetness of voice, and the volubility of utterance, with which both [Pisistratus and Cimon] expressed themselves.

b. Smooth, easy, or copious flow of verse or poetic utterance.

1589 NASHE in Greene *Menaphon* Pref. (Arb.) 6 The spacious volubilitie of a drumming decasillabon. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 90 P 11 The verse intended to represent the whisper of the vernal breeze, must be confessed not much to excel in softness or volubility. 1779 — *L. P., Pomfret* (1838) 113 In his other poems there is an easy volubility.

6. The character or state of being voluble in speech; great fluency of language; readiness of speech; garrulousness.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 176 Say she be mute, and will not speake a word; Then Ile commend her volubility. 1601 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 23 You have the most gracefull presence,..amazing volubility,..delicious affabilitie. 1670 G. H. tr. *Hist. Cardinals* I. i. 13 It was my fortune to hear a Franciscan Preach.., but with more Volubility than Virtue. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 115 P 5 His great Volubility and inimitable Manner of Speaking. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 157 P 8 Long familiarity with my subject enabled me to discourse with ease and volubility. 1781 R. KING *Mod. Lond. Spy* 118 The following account, which she delivered with great volubility. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 11 He took the lead in conversation, and his natural volubility, increased by sudden joy, carried all before it. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 25 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his asperity, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. JAMES *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

7. Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or discourse.

1612 W. MARTYN *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility of tongue. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* III. 36 Both had the Volubility of Tongue, In Meaning faint, but in Opinion strong. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 252 P 3 You have mentioned only the Volubility of their Tongue. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) II. 6 All this preamble was uttered.. with such volubility of tongue,..that they admired her good sense as much as her beauty.

b. Similarly of the throat, voice, etc.

1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 282 In volubility of throat the former [singer] had much the superiority. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) II. 225 Nero..used all those methods which singers practice either to mend the voice, or improve its volubility. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 98/2 These [harmonics on horns and trumpets] they executed with volubility akin to that displayed on fingered instruments.

† **Volu·bilous**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *volūbil-is*: see next.] Apt to roll or turn.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1059 It hath a broad round volubilous body.

Voluble (vǫ·liubl), *a.* Also 7 volubil. [a. older F. *voluble* (= Sp. *voluble*, Pg. *volavel*, It. *volubile*) or ad. L. *volūbilis*, f. *volū-*, *volvĕre* to turn: see -BLE.

In some instances the use of the word echoes Horace *Ep.* I. ii. 43 (Amnis) in omne volubilis ævum.]

I. 1. Liable to change; inconstant, variable, mutable. Now *rare.*

1575 FENTON *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 21 As of all voluble things there is nothyng more light than renown. 1578 WOTTON *Courtlie Controversie* 29 Poets, and Painters..testifye the loue of men to be voluble and vnconstant lyke a birde. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* VI. 339 Perceiue how vain fancies, and voluble crosses vanish away as little cloudes before the northerne winds. 1647 J. CARTER *Nail & Wheel* 71 Nothing abides at a stay; all things are unstable, and voluble. 1652 N. CULVERWEL *Lt. Nat.* I. xii. (1661) 104 The noblest Perfections..are but voluble, and uncertain. 1678 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. v. 243 The Lot, wherein the..Alruling God Controuls the Contingency of the voluble Creature. 1858 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 28 He waves, and the voluble scene is a quagmire shifting block.

2. Capable of ready rotation on a centre or axis; apt to revolve or roll in this manner. Now *rare.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 111 He [the round or sphere] is euen and smooth, without any angle, or interruption, most voluble and apt to turne, and to continue motion. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus.* x. 13 And these wheeles he called voluble, my self hearing it. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Ceremo* A ij b, Like Diogenes turning about the mouth of his voluble hoggeshead. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 594 Or this less volubil Earth By shorter flight to th' East had left him there. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* III. 2/1 A Sphere is..a round body voluble on every side. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 490 Thrice must the voluble and restless earth Spin round upon her axle. 1822 CARY *Dante, Purg.* XXII. 41, I had met The fierce encounter of the voluble rock. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-T.* Ser. II. xvii. 397 Go thy ways old world, swing round in blue ether, voluble to every age; you and I shall no more jostle!

fig. 1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* B j b, His imagination shall be carried in the voluble Sphere of diuers mens discourses. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 33 Nothing is more politique then to make the wheels of our mind concentrique and voluble with the wheel of fortune. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 106 Fortune (Sister) is unstable, and her wheele voluble.

†**b.** Of the eye: Moving readily. *Obs.*—1

1662 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 91 He hath..high eyebrowes, eyes not very voluble or prominent.

c. Capable of being rolled up.

1668 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 19 Which from the German *Bucher* ..were called Books, to whatever voluble or folding matter applyed.

3. Moving rapidly and easily, esp. with a gliding or undulating movement.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 156 A broad and voluble tong, thinne and moueable lippes, teeth euen and not shagged. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 11 The Tongue of a Serpent..is also thinne, long, and black of colour, voluble; neither is there any beast that moueth the tongue so speedily. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 436 Neerer he drew, and many a walk travers'd Of stateliest Covert, Cedar, Pine, or Palme, Then voluble and bold, now hid, now seen. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* III. 231 The parts of it [ex water] being very voluble and lubricous, as well as fine and small, it easily..distends the Tubes and Vessels of Vegetables. 1826 BRYANT *Summer Air* 28 Why so slow, Gentle and voluble spirit of the air?

fig. 1860 THACKERAY *Philip* xvii, Would you like to hear yesterday's sermon over and over again—eternally voluble?

4. *Bot.* Twining, twisting. Cf. VOLUBILE *a.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Stalk*, *Voluble stalk*, that which twists round other things. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 108 *note*, Some of the plants with voluble stems ascend other plants spirally, east—south—west. 1835 KIRBY *Power, Wisd. & Goodn. God* II. 247 Some with a climbing or voluble stem, constantly turn one way, and some an constantly turn another. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 37 *Twining*, or *voluble*, when stems rise by coiling themselves spirally around other stems or supports. [Also in later botanical works.]

II. 5. Characterized by fluency or glibness of utterance; rapid and ready of speech; fluent:

a. Of persons.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 69 A most acute Iuuenall, voluble and free of grace. 1604 — *Oth.* II. i. 242 A knaue very voluble...A slipper, and subtle knaue, a finder of occasion. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 14 There be found men aboue a hundred yeares old, that are very voluble and fluent in talke and discourse. [1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* v. i, Oh this unhappy Tongue of mine! Thou lawless voluble destroying Foe.] 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXII. 319 There end thy pompous vaunts and high disdain; Oh sharp in scandal, voluble and vain! 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 158 Fierce in his air, and voluble of tongue. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* lvi. VII. 238 A school of oratory, which produced a long series of voluble sophists. 1890 M. WILLIAMS *Leaves of Life* II. xvii. 150 Of all the voluble men I have encountered in the course of my career, he is the most voluble.

absol. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* II. Wks. 1799 I. 219 You will have at one view, the choleric, the placid, the voluble,..and the clamorous.

b. Of the tongue.

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old One* I. ii, 'Tis a fine little voluble toung mine Hoste, that wins a widdow. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 63 A man naturally eloquent, of a voluble fluent tongue. 1699 BURNET *39 Art.* xxiii. 257 Hot-headed Men of warm Fancies, and voluble Tongues..would be apt to thrust themselves on to the Teaching and Governing others. 1720 PRIOR *Truth & Falsehood* 45 Her tongue, so voluble and kind, It always runs before her mind. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XX. 309 The tongue of man is voluble, hath words For every theme. 1827 CHALMERS *Life Churchyard* 8 Churchyard was, plainly, a plausible man, who had many tales to tell, with a voluble tongue.

Comb. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* V, A notable-voluble tongde villaine.

transf. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* XXIII, But to her heart, her heart was voluble, Paining with eloquence her balmy side.

6. Of discourse, words, etc.: Characterized by great fluency or readiness of utterance.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 76 Aged eares play truant at his tales..So sweet and voluble is his discourse. 1590 — *Com. Err.* II. i. 92 If voluble and sharpe discourse be marr'd, Vnkindnesse blunts it more then marble. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 32 A discours, voluble enough, and full of sentence. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2612/4 One John Waterhouse of full middle Stature,..and of a large Voice, and voluble Speech. 1782 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* II. xiv. 473 *note*, The style of which is certainly not so melodious and voluble as that of Dryden's enchanting prose. 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1750, His periods, though not diligently rounded, are voluble and easy. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. ii. (1855) 25 In such persons words are ever at command—voluble and impassioned words. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Life Miss Mitford* I. vi. 170 At length 'madame' began a very voluble oration, intended to express the extent of our delinquency.

transf. & fig. 1712 PRIOR *Dial. betw. Locke & Montaigne* P 5, I find the same strain run with a most voluble impetuosity almost thro every Chapter of your Book. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester, Catastrophe*, The joy of the poor dancing-master .. was rapturous and voluble. 1849 MISS MULOCK *The Ogilvies* xvi, The good woman went on in her voluble grief. 1872 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xxii. 308 Oh, the jarring discord of voluble sympathy!

†**b.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 243 They [the Chinese] have contrived a fourth Kind of Writing, the Strokes whereof ..are made with more Ease and Expedition; on which Account they are called Voluble Letters.

Hence **Vo·lubleness**, the quality or character of being voluble.

1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxii. 168 Such Reptiles as hauing no feet doe with a kind of volublenesse make their way in the waters with many intricate doublings. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Volubleness*, an Aptness to roll; also a round Delivery or Utterance, an easy Pronunciation. 1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 10 Oct. 517/3 In general there is..a certain volubleness among the ministers, and forgetfulness..to give the laymen a chance [to speak].

Volubly (vǫ·liubli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a voluble manner; fluently, glibly.

1614 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XVIII. 42 O Gods (saide he) how volubly doth talke This eating gulfe. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 205 This he as volubly would vent As if his stock would ne'er be spent. 1671 CLARENDON *Dial.* Tracts (1727) 339 A Secretary of State who..spoke French as volubly and as exactly as he needed to do, without ever having been in France. 1765 JOHNSON in *Shaks. Wks.* (1778) X. 489 *note*, One that discourses fearlessly and volubly. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. i, She talked volubly of what she was about, as if it were the sole subject of her thoughts.

1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiv, He was listening to Haley, who was very volubly expatiating on the quality of the article for which they were bargaining. 1886 Gould-sonn *Pers. Relig.* i. (1873) 3 Every body can speak volubly upon controversial subjects.

Volucrary. *rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *volucr-is* bird + -ARY 1.] A treatise on birds.

1897 Dowden *Fr. Lit.* iii. 40 The earliest versified Bestiary, which is also a Volucrary.

Volucrine, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -INE.] Of or pertaining to, arising from, birds.

1881 P. S. Robinson *Under Punkah* 23 The volucrine clamour continued unabated... The passage was filled with bird-cages.

Volus, obs. var. Volley *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. Wolf *sb.*

Volume (vǫ·liụm), *sb.* Forms: α. 4–6 volym, 5 volom, 5–8 volum (5–6 vollum, 5 *Sc.* wolum). β. 5 volyme, velome, volome, 5– volume (6 *Sc.* wollume). γ. 7 volumne, 7–9 volumn. [a. OF. *volum, volume, volumme* (F. *volume*, = It. and Pg. *volume*, Sp. *volumen*), ad. L. *volūmen* coil, wreath, roll, etc., f. *volvĕre* to roll. The chief senses of the English word also exist in French.]

I. 1. *Hist.* A roll of parchment, papyrus, etc., containing written matter; a literary work, or part of one, recorded or preserved in this form, which was customary in ancient times. Also *fig.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xvii. 18 He shal discriue to hym a declaracioun of this lawe in a volym. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 27 He expownede Ypocras his bookes as it were, and..also he made meny veleyns [*v.rr.* volyms, volums] of his owne. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* vi. (1592) 65 Hee wrote sixe and thirtie thousand, fiue hundred, and fiue and twentie Volumes, that is to say, Rolles of paper, as Iamblichus reporteth. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xl. 7 In the volume of the booke it is written of me. 1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test., Esdras*, Esdras the Scribe wrote a volume, how the people returned from Chaldea to Jury. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* i. Sel. Wks. 1898 II. 266 In history a great volume is unrolled for our instruction. 1865 J. Hannett *Bibliopegia* 23 Two strings..., attached to the last sheet or cover of the volume, round which, when it was rolled up, they were fastened. 1881 G. W. Moon *King's English* ii. 99 The rolls, or volumes, were composed of several sheets, fastened to each other, and rolled upon a stick; the whole making a kind of cylinder, which was to be managed by the stick, as a handle.

† b. A roll or scroll containing a legal document. *Obs.*⁻¹

1530 *Will T. Broke, I.d. Cobham* (Somerset Ho.), This my present testament and laste will in two volumes.

2. A collection of written or printed sheets bound together so as to form a book; a tome.

α. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 61 Men algatis don worse now, for in stede of philateries men maken gret volyms of newe lawes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 15 þat þey mowe be enformed by þis schort tretys, þat hauep nouȝt i-seie þe grete volyms and large, þat beeþ of stories i-write. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* iv. Prol. 25, I haf set me.. to tret in þis volum Qwhen biggit was be Romule Rome. 1445–50 Metham *Wks.* (1916) 157, I rede in elde volummys this matere subsequent. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* Wks. 1874 IV. 228 Virgillis volum of hir sonne Enee. 1590 *Lydgate's Serpent of Division* Concl. C iv, Thus by the large writinge and golden vollums of that woorthye Chaucer, the froward Dame of Chaunce hath no respecte of persons. 1651 *Burton's Anat. Mel.* (ed. 6) III. iv. II. i. 692 To describe them in particular..would require a just volum. 1652 Culpepper *Eng. Physic.* 180 It being sufficient for a Volum by itself to speak fully of them. 1698 Keill *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 19 Mr. Erasmus Warren, who has wrote the greatest Volum against it. 1700 Maidwell in *Collectanea* (O.H.S.) I. 313 Never to be bound up in the last volum.

β. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 681 Ouides Art and bookes many on And alle thise were bounden in o volume [*v.rr.* volome, velome]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512/1 Volyme, booke, *volumen*. 1480 Caxton *Myrr.* III. xii. 160 Boece.. compiled in his lyf plente of fair volumes aourned of hye and noble philosophye. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. (1811) 145 Of his notable dedis myght I make a great volume. 1535 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 2/8 It wolde requyre rather a hole volume then a booke. 1594 Southwell *St. Peters Complaint* (1602) 15 Sweet volumes stoard with learning fit for Saints. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 16 You erre not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God: laying before vs two Bookes or Volumes to studie, if we will be secured from errour. 1646 Crashaw *Poems* (1858) 61 Lo, here a little volume, but great book! 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 225 The Lawyers..in those infinite and immense Volumes, which they have written. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 170 It would take up a larger Volume than this whole Work is intended to be, to set down all the Contrivances I hatch'd. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xx. (1788) 115 The writer of the volume in question meets me upon my own ground. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 109 The great number of pages, I might perhaps say, volumes, which have been written on the subject. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 394 The shops of the great booksellers..were crowded..and a known customer was often permitted to carry a volume home. 1893 *Bookman* June 85/2 Some writers would have gathered their fugitive pieces into volumes and called them books.

γ. 1648 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (ed. 4) Ep. Ded., A Uolumn wil hardly containe the hurt that these Sectaries have..done to this poore Church. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl.* 10 The best man upon earth..did so many things as all the Volumnes in the world could scarce containe. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 211 He cannot answer without reading over eight or ten large Volumns in Folio. 1693 South *Serm., Rom. i. 32* 288 In every volumn there is a nursery..of vice.

b. *The sacred volume*, the Bible. *The Christian volume*, the New Testament.

1785 Burns *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* xv, Perhaps the Christian Volume is the theme. 1850 Forshall & Madden *Wycliffite Bible* I. Pref. p. iii, Aelfric..added greatly to the knowledge of the sacred volume [among the Anglo-Sa. al. 1863 *Blagr. Sh. R. Fry* 75 Fifty copies of the entire Sacred Volume, and twenty-five New Testaments, were promptly forwarded for her use.

3. *fig.* Something which in character or nature is comparable to a book; *esp.* something which may be studied after the manner of a book.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 81 This night you shall.. Read ore the volume of young Paris face, And find delight, writ there with Beauties pen. 1593 — *Rich. II*, I. iv. 18 Would the word Farwell haue lengthen'd houres, He should haue had a volume of Farwels. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* Ded. p. iii, This philosophy natural, both speculatiue and actiue, is not only to be found in the volume of nature. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 19 The publick prosperities would be less deare unto me if yours were not bound up in one volume with them. 1663 Sir G. Mackenzie *Religio Stoici* 96 It is as strange that man, having that huge volumn of the Creation to revolve [etc.]. 1709 Prior *Carm. Sec.* 338 Be kind, and with a milder Hand, Closing the Volume of the finish'd Age, A more delightful Leaf expand. 1814 Byron *Lara* I ix, Books, for his volume heretofore was Man, With eye more curious he appear'd to scan. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* i. 7 Thought which so completely permeates the whole of language as to render it one vast volume of compressed allegories.

b. In the phrase *to speak* (also *express, tell*) *volumes*, to be highly expressive or significant.

1810 Shelley *Zastrozzi* iv. Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 23 A pause ensued, during which the eyes of Zastrozzi and Matilda spoke volumes to each guilty soul. 1833 Whittier *Abolitionists* Pr. Wks. 1889 III. 86 The late noble example of the eloquent statesman..speaks volumes to his political friends. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. vi. 444 Something which speaks volumes in favour of the King. 1891 'J. S. Winter' *Lumley* xv, Mrs. Jock's tone expressed volumes.

4. A separately bound portion or division of a work; one of two or more portions into which a work of some size is divided with a view to separate binding; one of a number of books forming a related set or series.

——— inkes *Froiss.* I. 329/2 Thus endeth the first volume of sir Johan Froissart: of the cronycles of England, Fraunce, Spayne [etc.]. 1549 Coverdale (*title*), The second tome or volume of the Paraphrase of Erasmus vpon the newe testament. 1684 *Scanderbag Rediv.* vi. 155 To Attempt his Character would require another Volumne. 1706 London & Wise (*title*), The Retir'd Gard'ner. In Two Volumes. *Ibid.*, To this Volume is added [etc.]. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 11, I have given, in the advertisement to my first Volume, the origin of this error. 1798 Fereiar *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. i. 4 When the first volumes of Tristram Shandy appeared. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 555 The 'Poultry Chronicle ..being now complete in three volumes.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *volume form, -swollen, -trophied* adj.

a 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 1 Mighty Telephus.. Or volume-swoln Orestes, that does fill The margin of an ample book. 1832 Howitt *Seasons* (1837) 325 The lamp lights the volume-trophied wall. 1880 *Gentl. Mag.* CCXLVI. 80 A volume Hansard is still published at the end of the session. 1897 *Daily News* 13 May 6 2 Mr. Nimmo .. will publish the whole series immediately in volume form.

II. † 6. Size, bulk, or dimensions (of a book).

1530 Palsgr. 285/2 Volym for the largenesse of a boke, *volume*. 1555 in *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* A vi/2 After he had wryt his booke to the iuste volume, filled then the mergentes and outwarde sydes with his madnes. 1577 *Vicary's Anat.* To Rdr., And albeit this Treatise be small in Volume, yet in commoditie it is great and profitable. 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* iv. (1627) 30 The fittest volume for their writing bookes is, to haue them in quarto. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 254 The Alcoran or Bible..is in volume twice so big as the Psalmes of David. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc. Printing* xxii. 97 There are four Volumns in use that are differently Imposed, viz. Folio, Quarto, Octavo and Twelves. ..The places of these Pages for all Volumns the Compositer has always in his memory.

† b. In phr. *of the largest volume*, with reference to copies of the Bible. *Obs.*

1538 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 152 That ye shall prouide..one boke of the hole bible of the largest volume in english. 1540 (*title*), The Byble in Englyshe of the largest and greatest volume. 1569 Parkhurst *Injunct.* A iv, 3. Item, whether you haue in your Churche a Bible, of the largest volume. 1605 *Min. Archdeaconry* ——— goodly ——— largest Volume (as then they were Printed). 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Bible*, Cranmer's Bible..was printed by Grafton, of the largest volume, and published in 1540.

7. A particular bulk, mass, or quantity as an attribute of a thing. Also *fig.*

1621 Quarles *Div. Poems, Esther* (1638) 102 So shall his people euen as well as He Princes (though in a lesser volume) be. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 31 It [the great hall] is beautified with rare pictures in a great volume. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 340 The stream, that with a larger volume now Rolled through the labyrinthine dell. 1826 Spencer *First Prine.* II. iv. § 50 (1875) 173 Certain gases, which, in assuming a larger volume, have caused the explosion. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 376 The torrent had so great a volume that it was worthy to be turned against a foreign State.

b. *concr.* A quantity or mass (esp. a large one) regarded as matter occupying space. Also *fig.*

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 98 It was now evident enough..what Use they would make upon occasions, of those Volumes of Votes they had often poured out upon all accidental Debates. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* I. 332 The prodigious volumes of water which have from the beginning of the world been falling into [the ocean]. 1826 J. Bennerone *Miseries Hum. Life* II. xviii, Volume upon volume of black, heavy clouds suddenly rising. 1828 Macaulay *Ess., Walpole* (1897) 272 Every noble sharper ——— volume of wig and infinite length of viband had figured at the dressing. 1863 Lyell *Antiq. Man* 32 Both in England and Ireland..bogs have burst, and sent forth great volumes of black mud. 1871 B. Stewart *Heat* (ed. 2) § 24 The volume of mercury in the stem of a thermometer.

c. *Chem.* A determinate quantity or amount, in terms of bulk, of any substance.

1818 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 65 Solids differ in degrees of hardness, in color, in density, or in the weight afforded by equal volumes. 1820 Faraday *Exp. Res.* (1859) 51 A mixture of equal volumes of oxygen and hydrogen was made, and two volumes of it detonated..by the electric spark. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 316, 1 equivalent yields 4 volumes of vapour. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 79 Instead of a given volume or measure, a given weight of air is examined. *attrib.* 1866 Odling *Anim. Chem.* 152 The atomic weights or volume-weights of chlorine, bromine, and iodine. 1882 J. C. Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* I. 134 The volume-density at any point is determined by the equation. 1885 Watson & Burbury *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 53 We call the distribution superficial in distinction from the volume distribution hitherto considered.

8. The bulk, size, or dimensions *of* a thing. Also *concr.*, the mass or solid body *of* something.

1792 *Munchausen's Trav.* xxxi. 143 Wawau..made several violent darts against the volume of the balloon, so fierce as at length to tear open a great space. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 462 It is sufficient the volume of the muscular elements be augmented sufficiently to enlarge the fibres while the volume of the interstices, and of the superficial parts diminishes. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 249 Considerable labour has been bestowed in computing the volume of lava-streams. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 103 The volume of the Sun is 1,200,000 times greater than that of the Earth. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 185 The volume of the sea is very much greater than that of the land which rises above the sea-level.

fig. 1876 J. Parker *Paracl.* I. v. 63 Inspiration increases as well as sanctifies the volume of a man's being.

b. The amount or quantity *of* something.

1882 D. A. Wells *Our Merch. Marine* 118 So small a matter apparently as the civility or neglect of conductors.. will sensibly influence the volume of travel. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Mar. 5/2 It would be a good thing to enlarge the volume of the currency; to make money more plentiful. 1892 *Daily News* 24 Dec. 7/2 The volume of business, as is usual at this season of the year, has undergone considerable diminution.

9. Without article: Bulk, mass, dimensions.

1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* I. 71 It is not true, that the seas diminish in volume, or sink gradually beneath their level. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 110 A mixture of three parts in volume of hydrogen gas, and one part of sulphurous acid gas. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xlvi, The waves, which every moment increased in volume, washed up to us. 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* xiv. 139 The brook is clear, of average purity, and moderate volume. 1872 A. Meadows *Man. Midwifery* (ed. 2) 96 There is usually some increase of volume and vascularity of the uterus itself.

fig. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 112 The Iambic did not carry weight enough or volume to sustain a lengthy narrative. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Deronda* lxi, The soul of man may know in fuller volume the good which has been.

10. a. *Mus.* (See first quots.)

1802 Busby *Dict. Mus., Volume*, a word applied to the compass of a voice from grave to acute; also to its tone, or power: as when we say, 'such a performer possesses an extensive or rich volume of voice'. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 451/2 *Volume*, a term applied to the power and quality of the tone of a voice or instrument. 1882 *Athenæum* 10 Sept. 348/1 The voice of Herr Reichmann is a bass of great volume and richness. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Mar. 8/6 The solo voices were not quite of professional volume.

b. Quantity, strength or power, combined mass, of sound.

1822 Byron *Werner* v. i. 134, I heard..., Distinct and keener far upon my ear Than the late cannon's volume, this word—'Werner!' 1868 Milman *St. Paul's* xvii. 428 The new organ pealed out its glorious volume of sound. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 249 The row when we reached the town redoubled in volume.

III. 11. *post.* A coil, fold, wreath, convolution, esp. of a serpent. (Freq. in Dryden and Pope.)

1648 Crashaw *Delights Muses, Fouls Morning* 25 Hee.. will trim And brush her Azure Mantle, which shall swim In silken Volumes. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* cxxiii, So glides some trodden Serpent on the Grass, And long behind his wounded Volume trails. 1695 Blackmore *Pr. Arth.* II. 164 The Crested Snake rolls on the flowry Plain, The shining Volumes of his Spiral Train. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 728 Th' Inachians view the slain with vast surprise, Her twisting volumes and her rolling eyes. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 60 The wounded serpent, agonis'd with pain, Thus trails his mangled volume on the plain. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 499 The overcharg'd And drench'd conservatory breathes abroad, In volumes wheeling slow, the vapour dank. 1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* IX. 42 Around them greenest hydras twisting roll'd Their volumes. 1882 Shelley *Epipsych.* 501 In the place of it The ivy and the wild-vine interknit The volumes of their many-twining stems.

b. A winding of a stream.

1726 Fenton *Ode Ld. Gower* iii, Where Thames's fruitful Tides, Slow thro' the Vale in silver Volumes play.

Volume (vǫ·liụm), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. a. *trans.* To send up, pour out, in volumes.

1825 Scott *Waverley* viii, Through the war-smoke, volumed high, Still peals that unremitted cry. 1865 Meredith *Farina* 194 More and more the nightingales volumed their notes.

b. *intr.* To rise or roll in a volume or cloud.

1804 Byron *Def. Transf.* I. i, The mighty steam, which volumes high From their proud nostrils, burns the very air. 1884 Howells *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 65 Shutting the registers, through which a welding heat came volumingup from the furnace. 1891 Meredith *Nevagua. Iliad* in *Illustr.*

Lond. News 18 Apr. 307/1 Up from under them volumed the dust cloud, Up off the plain.

2. *trans.* To collect or bind in a volume.

1853 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* II. 219 It must have a bouquet of chemically prepared sentiment, and then it is fit to be volumed from the rough cask of MS., and decanted into the reviews. 1898 *Punch* 5 Jan. 1/1 For it's always been my practice, Sir,..Since the day that I was volumed, until now I'm fifty four.

Volumed (vǫ·liəmd), *a.* [f. Volume *sb.* and *v.*]

1. Made into a volume or volumes of a specified size, number, etc.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* L j b, A little epitomisd *Bradfords Meditations*, no broader volum'd than a Scale at Armes. 1609 F. Grevil *Mustapha* I. Chorus, There, as in margents of great volum'd bookes The little notes. 1875 A. R. Hope *My Schoolboy Fr.* Pref. 4 Full of the horrors of three volumed novels.

b. Filling a volume or volumes.

1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. x. 89 Whose volumed works..Kindled around thy corse the funeral fire. — *Epist.* I. iv. 5 Do you..Some rhiming Labours meditate, That shall in volum'd Bulk arise.

c. Furnished with volumes.

1897 Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 225 The room.. was volumed round by the collections of her grandfather.

2. Formed into a rolling, rounded, or dense mass.

1803 Scott *Cadyow Castle* xxiv, For the hearth's domestic blaze, Ascends destruction's volumed flame. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xlviii, The distant torrent's rushing sound Tells where the volum'd cataract doth roll. 1813 — *Corsair* II. v. 18 His breath choked gasping with the volumed smoke. 1855 Bailey *Mystic* 31 They in his hands the volumed lightnings laid. 1887 Meredith *Appeasement of Demeter* ix, The volumed shades enfold An earth in awe before the claps resound.

‖ Volumen (vǫ·liu·men). [L. *volūmen*: see Volume *sb.*]

†**1.** A volume, a book. *Obs.*—1

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 163 He drew all the confusit lawis of Scotland in ane compendius volumen.

2. A roll (*of* parchment, etc.).

1851 Millington tr. *Didron's Chr. Iconogr.* I. 32 A volumen of parchment unfolded in the centre. 1904 W. M. Ramsay *Lett. Seven Ch.* xix. 269 A small bronze coin, which showed the poet sitting, holding a volumen on his knees.

Volu·meno·meter. [f. L. *volūmen* (cf. prec.) taken in the sense of Volume *sb.* 7 + -ometer.] (See quot. 1868.) Also **Volu·meno·metry**, 'the art of determining the volumes or spaces occupied by bodies' (*Imp. Dict.* 1884).

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 765 Their apparatus or volumenometer consists of a globular flask provided with a long narrow neck..graduated from below upwards, to indicate grains of water. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1005 *Volumenometer*, or *Stereometer*...Instruments for measuring the volume of a solid body by the quantity of a liquid or of air which it displaces, and thence also determining its specific gravity.

Vo·lumescope. [f. Volume *sb.* 7 c + -scope.] An instrument for measuring the volume of various compounds.

1889 Hare in *Philos. Mag.* VI. 171 An instrument which I have advantageously employed, in order to illustrate the experimental basis of the theory of volumes,..I shall call this instrument a Volumescope.

Volu·meter. [f. Volu-me *sb.* 7 c + -meter.] An instrument for measuring the volume of a gas.

1889 Hare in *Philos. Mag.* VI. 173 Afterwards by means of a volumeter or sliding-rod gas measure, add at once three volumes of nitric oxide.

Volumetric (vǫlisme·trik), *a.* [Cf. prec. and Metric *a.*?] Of, pertaining to, or noting measurement by volume.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2904, Containing everything necessary for the preparation of the test liquors, or their use in volumetric analysis. 1864 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 352 In making use of the volumetric solutions a graduated tube or alkalimeter is employed. 1880 Proctor *Rough Ways made Smooth* 100 Professor Newcomb has, I conceive, omitted to consider the enormous volumetric expansion.

Volumetrical (vǫlisme·trikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -al.] = Volumetric *a.*

1853 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 285 The volumetrical determination of silver or chlorine. 1862 R. H. Scott (*title*), A Handbook of Volumetrical Analysis. 1870 Maudsley *Body & Mind* 183 Perhaps it might once for all be stated, as a law of vital action, that the dignity of the force is in an inverse ratio to its volumetrical display.

Hence **Volume·trically** *adv.*

1864 Webster, *Volumetrically*, in a volumetric manner. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* 135 The metallic deposit was dissolved off in nitric acid, and estimated volumetrically. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 435 Acetic acid is, therefore, better tested volumetrically with a standard solution of alkali.

Volu·metry. *rare*—1. [Cf. Volumetric *a.* and -metry.] The scientific measurement of volume.

1863 Sutton *Handbk. Volumetric Anal.* p. vi, The main feature of volumetry is not so much analysis..as the quantitative determination of one principal constituent of a substance.

Volumette (vǫlisme·t). [f. Volume *sb.* 2 + -ette.] A small volume.

1857 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* II. 997 The conventional pictorial embellishment which adorns the hide-bound educational volumette. 1885 W. Andrews *Mod. Yorksh. Poets* 194 He has already published two volumettes.

Voluminosity (vǫlimino·siti). [See next and -osity.]

1. The state of being voluminous in respect of literary production.

1780 T. Twining in R. Twining *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 115 Last night I received the Virg. MSS.. Thanks again. I was astonished at our voluminosity. 1882 *Academy* 5 Mar. 163/3 A reasonable mean is kept between the voluminosity of Kinglake and the curtness of Livy's 'this year there was war with the Hernicans and Volscians.' 1900 *Ibid.* 26 Aug. 167/1 In point of voluminosity the *Manchester Guardian* easily outdid all competitors.

2. The fact of turning or winding; an instance of this.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 149 With what sublime..voluminosities it winds, and wreathes, and whirls, and rolls.

Voluminous (vǫli·minəs), *a.* Also 7 volluminous. [ad. late L. *volūmĭnōsus* (Sidonius), f. L. *volūmin-*, *volūmen* Volume *sb.* Cf. F. *volumineux*, It., Sp., Pg. *voluminoso*.]

1. Full of turnings or windings; containing or consisting of many coils or convolutions.

1611 Coryat *Crudities* 501 The manifold turnings and windings of the way, like a company of voluminous meanders. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 652 Many a scaly fould Voluminous and vast, a Serpent arm'd With mortal sting. 1782 Cowper *Heroism* 15 Dark and voluminous the vapours rise, And hang their horrors in the neighb'ring skies. 1792 D. Lloyd *Voy. Life* III. 46 When the serpents twain From Tenidos voluminous and vast, Him and his sons with poisonous jaws devour'd. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* 180 These voluminous bowels, this prolixity of gut, seems in no wise necessary. 1832 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 409 These lateral portions [of the cerebellum] are a little flattened, and more voluminous than the middle region.

2. Writing so much as to fill volumes; producing numerous or extensive literary works; writing or discoursing at great length.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. ix. § 4. 73 Cæsar Baronius, that voluminous Historian. 1654 'Palæmon' *Friendship* 30 If I were to recapitulate all the Motives..I should be Voluminous. 1656 Cowley *Misc., Chron.* xiii, I more voluminous should grow..Than Holinshead or Stow. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 124 P 1 The most severe Reader makes Allowances for many Rests and Nodding-places in a Voluminous Writer. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* lix. (1819) II. 10 For the very learned and voluminous Grotius was engaged in public life. 1822 Scott *Nigel* Introd. Epist., It is some consolation to reflect, that the best authors in all countries have been the most voluminous. 1851 Helps *Comp. Sotit.* xi. 225 You should be good-natured and voluminous in your replies. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 128 They were all..voluminous correspondents.

3. Forming a large volume; extending to, or consisting of, many volumes; extensive, copious.

1612 Dekker *Lond. Tri.* Wks. 1873 III. 251 Erect thou then a serious eye, and looke What worthies fill vp Fames voluminous booke. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* I. iii. ii. 34 Those Voluminous Romances that are too often the only Books which make up the Libraries of Gallants. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 1 Voluminous Works have but few Buyers, and much fewer Readers. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 331 Let the voluminous records of the numerous apothecaries' shops at Bath be examined. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* II. 309 Why should we be so obstinately wedded to the infallible correctness of voluminous writings? 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 167 He will tell you that the folly of the day..is recorded in voluminous documents. 1865 Kingsley *Heroes*, viii, Questions which..produced a voluminous literature for several centuries. 1878 Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* Index 54 A recent and complete edition of Kepler's voluminous writings. *fig.* 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 384 By what the Stars Voluminous, or single characters, In thir conjunction met, give me to spell.

b. Containing many volumes. *rare*—1.

1690 Temple *Ess. Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1909) 5 The account of this Library at Alexandria, and others very Voluminous in the lesser Asia and Rome.

4. Of matter of discourse: Extremely full or copious; forming a large mass or collection.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 108 They made great and voluminous expressions of their affection to the Kingdom and People of England. 1672 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 48, I have now prepar'd Aunswers to the objections..,but they are so voluminous as they will require some time to transcribe. 1702 Norris *Ideal World* I. iii. 162 Unless they [these passages] were less numerous and voluminous than they are. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1628 One firmament, enough for man to read! O what voluminous instruction here! 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 434 It is difficult to impress them with a favourable opinion of the wisdom and justice of our voluminous laws. 1821 Hazlitt *Table-T.* viii. P 2. 162 The impressions of real objects, stripped of the disguises of words and voluminous roundabout descriptions. 1822 J. Q. Adams in C. Davies *Metric Syst.* III. (1871) 247 The assize of casks has been in Maryland,..a subject of frequent and voluminous legislation.

b. In general use: Extensive, vast.

a 1692 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* I. 14 Truth is not, I fear, so voluminous, nor swells into such a mighty bulk as our books do. 1698 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* Introd., Many have taken voluminous Pains to determine the State of the Soul upon Dis-union. 1870 J. Bruce *Life Gideon* xiii. 239 These matters are too varied and too voluminous for any further notice here. 1899 *Times* 31 Oct. 9/5 Not that..all our splendid English history [is] one voluminous mistake.

c. Expressing volumes. *rare*—1.

1804 *Something Odd* III. 96 He..cast a most voluminous look on Clara.

5. Of great volume or size; massive, bulky, large, swelling.

The different groups of quotations illustrate some varieties of application.

(*a*) a 1635 Corbet *Poems* (1807) 21 When now Thy observations with thy brain ingendered, Have stuft thy massy and voluminous head. a 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods, Poet to Painter*, I am not so voluminous, and vast, But there are lines, wherewith I might b' embrac'd. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* Pref. b 2 b, The larger and more voluminous sort of Animals, as Bulls, Bears, Tygers, &c. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 211 It swells up a great deal, and presents an exceedingly voluminous light mass. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 248 The most voluminous current of lava which has flowed from Etna within historical times, was that of 1669. 1892 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxx, 397 That young lady with the voluminous light brown hair.

(*b*) a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 84 His Legs are stuck in his great voluminous Britches. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* 75 The voluminous skirts turned up at the corners. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* vi, On no account would Mademoiselle have appeared in her own house without the thick handkerchief and the voluminous apron. 1883 O'Donovan *Merv* xii. 134 The men, with their voluminous turbans. *Ibid.* xix. 218 A long, striped crimson tunic, girt with voluminous white sash.

(*c*) 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 386/2 In *Phascianella* the stomach is very voluminous and sacculated internally. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 386 When you fear wounding any rather voluminous vessel, arterial or venous, you may embrace it beyond the diseased parts in a ligature. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 15 The neck is a little shorter and less voluminous than the head.

Comb. 1872 Calverley *Fly Leaves* (1903) 116 Now Law steps in, bigwigg'd, voluminous-jaw'd.

(*d*) 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* II. ii § 7 The thundery discharge, the howling winds, are voluminous sounds. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xvi. 259 The voluminous noise of this opening passage. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 5/7 Tory cheers, which from the first were more loud than voluminous, rather fell away.

b. Large in numbers; numerous. *rare*—1.

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xiv. 303 Judas Maccabeus in that place got an eminent conquest, and defeated the voluminous army of Lysias.

c. Extensive in area or in time. *rare.*

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Lincoln.* II. (1662) 144 [Lincolnshire] being too Volluminous to be managed entire is divided into three parts. 1668 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 17. II. ii. (1669) 285/1 The Earth was thin sown with People, and the Age of man so voluminous as to contain many centuries of years.

Volu·minously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a voluminous manner, in senses of the adj.

1. At great length; with abundant or copious discourse; to the extent of volumes.

1633 Heywood *Eng. Trav.* To Rdr., It neuer was any great ambition in me, to bee in this kind Voluminously [*sic*] read. 1681 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* Apol. 12 Lest we should write voluminously and without end or profit. 1672 — *Bagshaw's Scand.* ii. 17 When I had not only said the contrary, but told where I had voluminously proved it. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Bookseller to Rdr., The doctor falls hard upon a new edition of Phalaris,..to which Mr. Boyle replied ..with great learning and wit, and the doctor voluminously rejoined. a 1721 Bolingbroke *Fragm. Ess.* xxxiii. Wks. 1754 V. 262 They insisted on them so constantly and so voluminously, that natural religion held but the second place in their system. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 464 Elizabeth exercised her poetical pen more voluminously than we have hitherto known. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* Introd., On the Edict, both urban and provincial, he wrote voluminously.

2. In swelling wreaths or rolls; in turns or windings.

transparent lake..voluminously winding by banks covered with olives and laurels.

3. In a large mass or quantity.

1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1854 II. 175 Stowing away..the snowy folds of a lady's gown..so voluminously, that a very small portion of it, indeed, remained for the lady's own use. 1846 Poe *L. C. Clark* Wks. 1864 III. 111 His hair and whiskers are dark, the latter meeting voluminously under the chin. 1864 E. Burritt *Walk* 313 A mineral spring at which the visitors..drink most voluminously.

Volu·minousness. [f. as prec. + -ness.]

1. The character or state of being voluminous or bulky; copiousness, extensiveness.

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* ii. 6 The Christian worship being so pure as to abhor from the voluminousness of Judaizing ceremonies. 1687 Winstanley *Lives Eng. Poets* 147 Here he did begin and finish the translation of so many authors, that considering their voluminousness, a man would think he had done nothing else. 1764 D. E. Baker *Companion Playh.* II. s.v. *Beaumont*, Our Admiration might fix itself in the opposite Extreme,..when we look back on the Voluminousness of his Works, and then enquire into the Time allowed him for them. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 443 Having..been wrought up to the highest possible pitch of voluminousness, indistinctness, and unintelligibility. 1877 Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* p. xvii, The distressing voluminousness of the materials is undoubtedly a difficulty in the way of the enquirer.

2. The quality of forming many coils or folds.

1820 Shelley *Vision of Sea* 141 The jar, and the rattle Of solid bones crushed by the infinite stress Of the snake's adamantine voluminousness.

Vo·lumist. *rare*—1. [f. Volume *sb.* 2 + -ist.] One who writes a volume; an author.

1642 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 243 Yee write them in your closets, and unwrite them in your Courts, hot Volumists and cold Bishops.

Volumo·meter. [f Volume *sb.* + -ometer.] = Volumenometer.

1879 Atkinson *Gamet's Physics* (ed. 9) 141 [The] Volumometer..consists of a glass tube with a cylinder C at the top .., the edges of which are carefully ground [etc.].

Volumometrical, *a.* = Volumetrical *a.*

1869 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. II. 313 Fehling's volumometrical copper-test.

Vo·lumy, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. VOLUME *sb.*] Swelling, rounded.

1587 DARLEY *Sybilla* 170 Clouds under clouds with volumy wombs.

†**Volunt.** *Obs. rare.* [a. late AF. *volunt* for earlier *volunte* VOLUNTY.] a. (See first quot.) b. One's own will.

1390 *Termes of the Law* 192 b, *Volunt* is, when the tenant holdeth at the will of the lessor, or of the Lord, and that is in two manners. [Hence in Harris (1704), etc.] 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. 666/1 This I haue here promised and sworne, proceedeth of mine owne desire and free volunt.

†**Voluntaire**, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *volontaire*, obs. f. *volontaire*: see VOLUNTARY *a.*] Free, voluntary; of one's own choice.

1615 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 835 Woe to the World because of such Offences; So voluntaire, so voyd of all pretences. 1671 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* 27 His unimitable example, in this his free and voluntaire suffering.

†**Voluntar**, *sb. Obs.* [Cf. next.] One who rules arbitrarily; a despot.

1630 B. *Discoll'minium* 12 Such..may..fitlier be called Masters than Magistrates, Voluntar's then Potentat's.

†**Vo·luntar**, *a. Sc. Obs.* [ad. older F. *volontaire* or L. *voluntārius* VOLUNTARY *a.*: see AR [2].] Freely undertaken or given; voluntary.

1581 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 80 [He] bes..sufferit voluntar banesment out of his natiue cuntrie thir monie yeris bypast. 1619 *Burgh Rec. Aberdeen* (1845) II. 361 That a voluntar contributioun be crawit to that effect. 1640–2 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 75 The voluntar contribution that is..collected within your bounds. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. I. § 4 (1699) 5 Seing man can only offend in what is voluntar to him.

Voluntariate. [ad. F. *volontariat* (1866), f. *volontaire* VOLUNTARY *a.*] Voluntary service, *spec.* of a military character. Also *attrib.*

1882 *Daily News* 7 June 6/4 To the [German] army at large the one year voluntariate has rendered the most precious service. 1888 *Times* 20 Nov. 5/3 In Vienna the medical students have drawn up a petition to the Reichsrath against the proposed changes in the one-year voluntariate.

Voluntarily (vɒ·lŏntărĭlĭ), *adv.* Forms: 4–5 **uoluntariely**, 5– **voluntarily**, 6 **-ilye**, **-ile**, 6–7 **-illie**; 6 **-elie**, **-ely**; 6 **-yly(e**, 6–7 **-ylie**. [f. VOLUNTARY *a.* + -LY [2].]

1. Of one's own free will or accord; without compulsion, constraint, or undue influence by others; freely, willingly.

In very frequent use from *c* 1530.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. XII. (1868) 103 Per may no man douten, þat þei ne ben gouerned uoluntariely. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 163 Wherefore sche thoughte..men wolde haue seide that sche consente to hym voluntarily. 1440 DK. GLOUCESTER *Manifesto* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) X. 766/2 To see the Worship, that God soe long hath eured hym with..shuld so voluntarily be put in likelyhed of total Perdition. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 299 Kyng Richarde..voluntaryly tooke vppon hym, and promysed to warre vpon Crystis enemyes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 196 b, Duke Maurice of Saxonye served in thys warre voluntarily. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 84 If the other churches..will voluntarily impart any thing to the supplie of his necessities. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 37 To these mariages, albeit with a king, she was rather haled perforce than voluntarilie assenting. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xiii. (1687) 87 At last he voluntarily, and without any compulsion but that of his Love, died upon a Cross. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 149 P 7 The happy Marriage is, where two Persons meet and voluntarily make Choice of each other. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. ix. 76 When Men act voluntarily, and do what they please, then they do what appears most agreable to them. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. 213, I know you do not go voluntarily, but I will give you a certificate..of my having obliged you to march. 1858 MASSON *Milton* I. 603 Milton..either voluntarily offered a contribution, or was invited to send one. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 160 Him who does no evil, voluntarily I praise and love.

b. Said of animals.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 161 Euery night..an assembly of dogs..meete voluntarily at an appointed houre, for the custody of the Temple. *Ibid.* 669 They vse to harden their ribs by rubbing them voluntarily vppon Trees. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* IV. 55 It..does sometimes happen, that..the horse..voluntarily presses on, until..he falls and dies.

2. Without other determining force than natural character or tendency; naturally, spontaneously.

1580 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Sickc Man* (1579) 21 The first of them is naturall, as when men do voluntarily sweat, without force of medicine. 1593 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 318 They plume themselues oftentimes, yea and the pendant feathers of their thighes..fal off voluntarily. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. i. 291 The Earth voluntarily and liberally yeeldeth her store. 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Arminia.* (1827) 68 Man being left to the mutability of his own will..would voluntarily incline to evil.

†3. At will, at pleasure; extempore. *Obs.*—[1]

1676 T. MACE *Mus. Mon.* Pref., The Hints and Directions which I have given, as towards the Procuring of Invention, or Playing Voluntarily.

Vo·luntariness. [f. VOLUNTARY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being voluntary, free, or unconstrained; absolute freedom or liberty in respect of choice, determination, or action; spontaneity: a. Of actions.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* II. 14 Vnto both which branches of his obedience, if you adde the voluntariuesse and freedome of both, the whole will appeare most perfectly meritorious. 1644 HAMMOND *Wilf. Worship* § 26 The voluntariuesse of an action is not able to defame it, if there be..no irregularity imputable to the action it selfe abstracted from the voluntariuesse. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Voluntary*, There are two Things..requir'd to the Voluntariness of an Action. 1782 J. BENSON in MacDonald *Mem.* (1822) 134 The Author attempts to show that liberty is voluntariness...We are said to be free when we act from choice. 1865 *Churchman* 14 Dec. 1400/2 The bare voluntariness which attaches to every act of a layman's religious life. 1881 J. MACPHERSON *Conf. Faith* xii. (1882) 73 The voluntariness of Christ's service is everywhere throughout the Scriptures made most clear.

b. Of persons.

1643 R. BAKER *Chron., Edw. I*, 125 This voluntarines in Prince Edward, won the King of France againe to grant quietly vnto him, all the Lands [etc.]. 1690 R. HOLLINGWORTH *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 7 Doth not their voluntariuesse and free complyance make the Usurpation compleater? *a* 1672 STERRY *Freed. Will* (1675) 49 God, where the highest Voluntariness and the highest Necessity meet. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Voluntariness*, the doing a Thing voluntarily, or without Constraint. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 490 All the faculties..will be developed..by any man,.. in proportion to the voluntariness—the good will with which they are exercised. 1890 *Quiver* July 693/2 Liberty and voluntariness..had no existence in the ancient world.

c. With pl. An instance of this. *rare.*

1618 H. AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* CX. 3 Thy people shall be voluntaries in the day of thy power,..a people of voluntarinesses or of liberalities. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* iv. 71 They shall be voluntarinesses, as willing as willingnesses itself.

†**Voluntarious**, *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *voluntārius* VOLUNTARY *a.*] Free, voluntary.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. viii. (Skeat) I. 116 Men, of voluntarious wil, withsitte that hevens governeth.

Hence †**Voluntariously** *adv. Obs. rare.*

1590 PAYNELL *Pithy Sayings Scripture* Pref., A diligent ensuer of his wil and steppes, moste pleasaunt and voluntariously to beare the yoke of his most comfortable..commaundementes. 1553 — tr. *Dares Phryg. Destr. Troy* H vij b, I opened my gate vnto him & voluntariously communicated al yt I had.

Voluntarism (vɒ·lŏntărĭz'm). [Irreg. f. VOLUNTAR-Y *a.* + -ISM. Cf. VOLUNTARYISM.]

1. = VOLUNTARYISM 1.

1828 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 386 Here..we behold, painted to life, the genuine workings of coarse tyrannical Voluntarism!

2. *Philos.* One or other theory or doctrine which regards will as the fundamental principle or dominant factor in the individual or in the universe.

1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 3 Sept., This voluntarism [of Alf. Weber] differs essentially from that of Schopenhauer, according to whom will strives for being and nothing else. 1900 CASE in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXX. 671/2 On the whole, his (Wundt's) voluntarism, though like that of Schopenhauer and Hartmann, is not the same.

Voluntarist (vɒ·lŏntărĭst). [f. as prec. + -IST.] An advocate or adherent of the voluntary principle or method in the Church or in philosophy.

Also, in recent use, an advocate of voluntary military service as opposed to conscription.

1842 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 361 'Bread for nothing'..is the hope of every Voluntarist, from sweet Mr. Gadsby's chapel to dear Mr. Fletcher's meeting. 1903 *Harvard Psychol. Stud.* I. 643 Phenomenalist and voluntarist thus do not see anything under the same aspect, neither the ideas nor the will.

Voluntaristic, *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Pertaining or belonging to the philosophical theory of voluntarism.

1903 *Athenæum* 30 May 694/1 Voluntaristic Idealism, on the contrary, lays primary stress on purpose and relevancy of purpose.

†**Voluntarity.** *Obs.* [f. VOLUNTARY *a.*: see -ITY.] Voluntariness, willingness, spontaneity.

1794–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) I. 94 The propensity to action, whether it be called irritability, sensibility, voluntarity, or associability. 1809 *Monthly Mag.* XX. 111 He was likely to make the surrender..with apparent complacence, equanimity, and voluntarity. 1819 *Ibid.* XLVIII. 43 A proof that great voluntarity of idea usually accompanies the individual.

†**Voluntarly**, *adv. Sc. Obs.* [f. VOLUNTAR *a.* + -LY [2].] Voluntarily.

c 1568 REGENT MURRAY in H. Campbell *Love-lett. Mary Q. Scots* (1824) App. 21 Sho..constituted me..Regent to his Grace;..and that voluntarlie. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 325 Frelie, voluntarlie, and with thair awin gude-will. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xliv, The saids ministers doe voluntarly expon .. ane portion of Scriptur. 1639 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Conv. w. B. Jonson* Wks. (1711) 224 He (Ben Jonson)..voluntarly imprisoned himself with Chapman and Marston.

Voluntary (vɒ·lŏntărĭ), *a.*, *adv.*, and *sb.* Also 5–7 **voluntarye**, **-arie**, 8 **-arie**; 7 **voluntarie**. [ad. OF. *voluntaire* (14th c.), *volontaire* (16th c.; mod.F. *volontaire* = It. *volontario*, It., Sp., Pg. *voluntario*), or ad. L. *voluntārius*, f. *voluntas* VOLUNTY.]

A. *adj.* I. 1. a. Of feelings, etc.: Arising or developing in the mind without external constraint; having a purely spontaneous origin or character.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 146 Moche comune mesyny, that have no considerascion but only to voluntary lustes withouten reson. *a* 1450 *Merlin* 187 in *Macro Plays* 8 Yf we wyll mortyfye owur carnall condycyon, And owur voluntarye dysyres. 1595 SHAKS. *John* V. ii. 20 Albeit we sweare A voluntary zeale, and an vn-urg'd Faith. 1633 R. HALL in *Bp. Hall's Contr. Medit.* Ded., The extemporanious of these voluntary and sudden thoughts of his. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. 1851 IV. 300 That voluntary Idea, which hath long in silence presented it self to me. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Liberty*, Tho' all natural Inclinations be voluntary, yet they are not all free. 1822 J. MACDONALD *Mem. J. Bunson* 167 It requires much voluntary faith to be an infidel. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 74 Unfaithfulness is the voluntary love, as ignorance is the involuntary reception, of a lie. 1884 RUSKIN *Pleas. Learn.* 78 Were faith not voluntary, it could not be praised.

b. Of actions: Performed or done of one's own free will, impulse, or choice; not constrained, prompted, or suggested by another.

Sometimes denoting 'left to choice', 'not required or demanded of one'.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. iv. 18 Before that..any voluntaris or wilful assignement of God was souen to the Iewis. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 548 The archebysshop..shewyd vnto them seryously the voluntary renouncynge of the kyng. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1206/2 Restitucion is ..a thing of such necessitie, that in respect of restitucion, almes dede is but voluntary. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* D v b, That is called voluntarie, which doth betoken any thing done freely. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. i. 16 The lottrie of my destenie Bars me the right of voluntarie choosing. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 7 Thy voluntary wandring, and vnconstrayned exyle. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* Ded., This voluntary Neglect of Honours has been of rare Example in the World. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. v. Wks. 1874 I. 84 All wickedness is voluntary, as is implied in its very notion. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legist.* viii. (1789) 79 *note*, By a voluntary act is meant sometimes, any act, in the performance of which the will has had any concern at all; in this sense it is synonymous to *intentional*. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 333 The horse..throwing high his heels, Starts to the voluntary race again. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. ix. (1876) 82 There must be some voluntary act transgressing some known law or there is no sin. *a* 1872 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* V. (1876) 187 Every action is voluntary, wherein the beginning of organic motion is the will of the agent.

c. Of oaths, etc.: Proceeding from the free, unprompted, or unconstrained will of a person; voluntarily made or given; *spec.* in *Law* (cf. next).

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iii. 23 Thy voluntary oath Liues in this bosome, dearely cherished. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Assumpsit*, is a voluntarie promise made by word. 1729 JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Oath*, A voluntary Oath, by the Consent and Agreement of the Parties, is lawful as well as a compulsory Oath. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 137 [The perjury] is no more penal than in the voluntary extra-judicial oaths. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. IV, The next day Miss Belfield was to tell her everything by a voluntary promise. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Voluntary affidavit or oath*, is one made in an extra-judicial matter. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 382 Oaths may be either voluntary or may be imposed by a political superior. 1883 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v. *Confession*, There existed also an ancient practice of voluntary confession in public of private offences and secret sins.

d. *Law.* Of documents, proceedings, etc. (see quots.).

1605 GLANVILLE *Voy. Cadiz* (1883) 29 A voluntary certificate from some of the officers..to prove her a defective Shipp. 1724 SALKELD *Reports* III. 274 He, as a Purchaser, shall avoid this Conveyance, because it was voluntary, and therefore fraudulent. 1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. ii. § 4 Voluntary [jurisdiction] was that which was exercised in matters that admitted of no opposition. *Ibid.* II. viii. § 17 If the wadsetter receive his money upon this intimation without compulsion,..the redemption is voluntary. 1782 J. T. ATKYNS *Rep. Cases* (ed. 2) II. 89 Even in voluntary settlements, if the words lean more strongly to the one construction than to the other, it must likewise prevail. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 521 The third mode of voluntary partition is, when the eldest makes the division of the lands; in which case she shall choose last. *Ibid.* IV. 401 Edward Bussey being possessed of a term for 59 years, by voluntary deed, conveyed it to trustees. 1845 POLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 848/1 A voluntary charter is granted by a superior *ex mero motu*. 1860 WHARTON *Law Lex.* (ed. 2) 757/2 *Voluntary Answer*, one filed by a defendant to a bill in equity, without being called upon to answer by the plaintiff. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* (1876) 373 Voluntary conveyances of estates in land, that is, conveyances without any consideration, such as money or marriage.

e. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Voluntary charge*, a document delivered with the purser's accounts respecting provisions.

2. *Physiol.* Of bodily actions: Regulated or governed by the volitional faculty; subject to the will. (Cf. INVOLUNTARY *a.* 1 b.)

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 29 Brawn is mand of fleisch, senewe, & ligamentis, & þei ben instrument [of] voluntarie meuynge. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 6 Voluntary motion depends upon the Nerves. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. vi. 23 Imagination is the first internal beginning of all Voluntary Motion. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Muscle*, The Muscles of Voluntary Motion .. have each of 'em their Antagonist

movement (movement from feeling). 1881 MIVART *Cat* 124 Amongst the voluntary movements are the various movements of the several members.

3. Of conditions, etc.: Assumed or adopted voluntarily or by free choice; freely chosen or undertaken.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22714 Kome forthe, and se an exanplayre Off poverte not voluntarye. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 63 Scipion of affrique..was so poure of voluntarie pouerte yt.. he was buried at yᵉ dispencis of yᵉ comyn good. 1582 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 45 b, The companie which we come into by chance, consisteth of many persons, but yᵗ which is voluntarie, which we ought to couet, consisteth but few felloe in it. 1583 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. XXXI. 154 Hee ended hys dayes in voluntarie exyle. 1621 BURTON *Anat.*

fi. 28 Let no man beguile you of your reward, in a voluntarie humilitie. 1611 T. Scott *Belg. Pismire* 1 The Creatures subjected to his gouernment, in their voluntarie obedience. 1752 Young *Brothers* III. i, I pretend 'twas voluntary flight To save a brother's blood. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxviii, They discover what nothing but voluntary blindness before had concealed. 1847 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 85 The inhabitants of the town and country took a voluntary share in all the changes. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* xv. 386 His exile was voluntary, not forced like Dante's.

transf. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 10 The dead are ..laid to sleep in a neat..dormitory, his Armolets, Bracelets, and voluntary shackles accompany him. *Ibid* 38 Many voluntary rings and fetters of Brasse.

b. Brought about by one's own choice or deliberate action; self-inflicted, self-induced.

1548 Elyot s.v. *Voluntarius, Mors voluntaria*, voluntarie death. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 246 *marg.*, Voluntarie death ought not to be attempted of any wise man. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 226 These make profession of voluntarie death: and .. when they are disposed to die at any time, they make a great funeral fire [etc.]. 1602 Shake. *Jul. C.* II. i. 300, I haue made strong proofe of my Constancie, Giuing my selfe a voluntary wound Heere, in the Thigh. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 101 His voluntary pains, severe and long, Would give a barb'rous air to British song. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 62 A law to contravene Voluntary passage from this life. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* ix, One of those creatures..who, in that age, so often took refuge from a depraved life in a voluntary death.

c. Entered into of free choice; also *spec.* (see quot. 1889).

1612–13 Sir H. Hobart *Reports* (1650) 149 We know well that the Primitive Church..were but voluntary Congregations of beleevers. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 158 In some districts..the ministers formed themselves into voluntary associations, for the purpose of mutual help and counsel. 1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Association, Voluntary association*, in *law*, a society which is unincorporated, but is not a partnership, in that the members are not agents for one another.

4. Done of deliberate intent or purpose; designed, intentional.

make voluntarye wast, as in pullinge downe of houses, or in cuttinge or fellinge of trees. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 281 Waste is either voluntary, which is a crime of commission, as by pulling down a house; or it is permissive. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 724 *Voluntary stranding*, the beaching or running a vessel purposely aground to escape greater danger.

(*b*) 1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Consyderyng that.. voluntary murders [are] moste highly to be detested and abhorred. ? *a* 1600 Perkins (J.), If a man be lopping a tree and his ax-head fall from the helve,..and kills another passing by; here is indeed manslaughter, but no voluntary murther.

b. *Law.* Of escapes: Deliberately permitted or connived at.

1660 Young *Vade Mecum* (ed. 6) 94 Voluntary [escape] is when one hath arrested another for felony or other crime, and doth afterwards suffer him to go whither he will. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 130 Voluntary escapes, by consent and connivance of the officer, are a much more serious offence. 1797 Tomlins *Jacob's Law Dict.* s.v. *Escape*, If the marshal of the King's Bench..or any other who hath the keeping of prisons in fee, suffer a voluntary escape, it is a forfeiture of the office.

5. Of gifts, etc.: Freely or spontaneously bestowed, rendered, or made; contributed voluntarily or by reason of generous or charitable motives.

1580 G. Harvey *Let. Spenser* S.'s Wks. (1912) 627/2 A small voluntarie Supplement of his owne..in commendation of hir..thrice excellent Maiestie. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. xvii. § 8. 490 He exhorted all others to a voluntary contribution. 1652 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xlii. 287 A common stock of mony, raised out of the voluntary contributions of the faithfull. 1682 Penn in Clarkson *Mem.* (1813) I. 321 Let the Lord have a voluntary share of your income for the good of the poor. 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Charity Schools*, are Schools erected and maintain'd in various Parishes, by the voluntary Contributions of the Inhabitants. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 359 Nor is it every contribution, called voluntary, which is according to the free will of the giver. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 335/1 Neither shall any subsidy be exacted from them,..what they furnish shall be voluntary. 1828 Crumb *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 46 The clergy were supported by the voluntary offerings of their flocks. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIII. 918/2 Voluntary contributions in aid of the national resources. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 2/3 You have got to go to the school whether you like to or not, whilst the 'voluntary' part of the maintenance is just twopence out of every shilling.

II. 6. †a. Of the will, etc.: Free, unforced, unconstrained. *Obs.*

1528 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* cxxx. Wks. (1876) 230 We knowe ..that almyghty god of his owne voluntary wyll and gracyous volunty..redemed vs. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 206 Duke Maurice serued themperour..of hys owne voluntarye mynde. 1563 Goldinc *Caesar* I. (1565) 33 b, Considerying he offered of his own voluntary wil, the thing he haidde before denied when it was requested.

b. *Voluntary faculty*, the will.

1667 Alden *Elem. Intell. Philos.* xxvi. 261 By the voluntary faculty, or the will, we mean simply the capacity of the mind to perform acts of volition.

7. Of persons: That is such of one's own accord or free choice; acting voluntarily, willingly, or spontaneously in a specified capacity; also, endowed with the faculty of willing.

1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 God did not worke as a necessary but a voluntary agent. 1621 Shake. *Cymb.* III. v. 158 That thou wilt be a voluntarie Mute to my designe. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xx. 203 No pity is to be shown to such voluntary cripples. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 61 Sending thee Mans Friend, his Mediator, his design'd Both Ransom and Redeemer voluntarie. 1734 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. iv. 50 The Soul is an active Being in Nothing further than it is a voluntary or elective Being. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* ii. I. 43 These voluntary exiles were engaged, for the most part, in the occupations of commerce. 1868 Huxley *Lay Serm.* iii. (1870) 46 The greatest voluntary wanderers and colonists the world has ever seen.

†b. Serving as a volunteer soldier; that is a volunteer; also, composed of volunteers. *Obs.*

1586 *Acts Privy Council* N.S. XIV. 53 A Commission..to levie..the number of 150 voluntarie footemen. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 5 b, The souldiors thereby being made voluntary, haue obeyed their Captaines no otherwise than hath pleased themselues. 1604 E. Grimstone *Siege Ostend* 30 The Arch-duke had caused..a voluntarie Gentleman..to be put in prison. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 350, I left Mr. Bruce with a Galley Captaine a voluntary Souldier. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 249 Sr Nicholas Slanning's, and Colonel Trevannion's Voluntary Regiments.

c. *poet.* Of a sword: Offered freely or willingly in aid of some cause.

1761 Gray *Epit. Sir W. Williams* ii, At Aix his voluntary sword he drew, There first in blood his infant honor seal'd. 1808 Scott *Marm.* IV. Introd., Eleven years we now may tell, Since..our hand First drew the voluntary brand.

†8. Favourably inclined or disposed (*to* do something); willing, ready. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5 iv, I am so voluntarye to communicate the same vnto certayne of my goode frendes. 1638 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 233 The greater parte of the Common Councell..beinge all voluntary tendered to lend [to] the towne for the expedicion of the towne's business att London. 1668 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 263 He should be so much more at liberty to show how voluntary and affectionate he was to your Corporation. 1741–2 Gray *Agrippina* 36 When yet a stranger To adoration,..and obsequious vows From voluntary realms. 1768 H. Walpole *Hist. Doubts* Pref. p. xv, When a successful king is chief justice, historians become a voluntary jury.

absol. 1621 Bible *Ps.* xlvii. 9 *marg.*, The voluntarie of the people are gathered vnto the people of the God of Abraham.

transf. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* I. (1626) 11 Other Creatures tooke their numerous birth And figures, from the voluntary Earth. 1632 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro, Mary Magdalene* xxi, That King..That thus can boast to be Waited on by a wandring mine, A voluntary mint, that strowes Warm syluer showres where're he goes!

9. Of institutions: Maintained or supported solely or largely by the freewill offerings or contributions of members or subscribers, and free from State interference or control.

1748 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 277 The education of poor children was all along taken care of by voluntary charities. 1837 M'Culloch *Acc Brit. Empire* II. 491 Private or Voluntary Schools. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 647/1 The United Presbyterian Church is..not only in practice, but also in theory, a voluntary church. 1868 *Ibid.* X. 631/1 They held that the same objections did not apply to voluntary organisations [for educational purposes].

b. Of or pertaining to, concerned or connected with, voluntaryism in respect of the Church or educational institutions.

1834 Graham in C. S. Parker *Life & Lett.* (1907) I. 198, I cannot favour in the least 'the Voluntary Principle'. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 646/1 A great controversy..known as the Voluntary Controversy (1829–1834). 1868 *Ibid.* X. 83/2 An important article in the Voluntary creed. 1892 E. Kinglake *Australian at Home* 51 The voluntary system ..is almost universal in Australia. The clergyman is the servant of his congregation, and must please them or go.

c. Of persons: Advocating or supporting the voluntary principle as opposed to State establishment and control.

1835 C. J. Brown *Ch. Establishm.* iv. 15 Voluntary Churchmen, out of an Establishment, talk of the independence of the Church—our fathers, within one, bled and died for it. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 24/1 Those known as Voluntary educationists reject the idea of any national system.

10. Of muscles, etc.: Acting or moving in response to the volition; directing or controlling voluntary movements.

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 702/1 The motions.., in a natural and healthy state, are subject to the will, and for this reason they are called voluntary muscles. 1843 Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xv. 186 A debility of the voluntary muscles. 1864 Webster, *Voluntary nerve*, nerve distributed to voluntary muscle. 1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 174 We see here that atrophy begins in the most voluntary limb, the arm.

b. *Physiol.* (See quot.)

1880 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1337/1 *Voluntary Motor Power*, ..the power exercised by the brain and nerves in volition, in distinction from the excito-motor power, or that which is peculiar to the spinal marrow and its nerves.

III. †11. Growing wild or naturally; of spontaneous growth. *Obs. rare.*

1600 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 130 The wilde or voluntary Strawberries, that I may so terme them. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N.T.* 4 Feeding on such homely and voluntary diet as that wild place would afford. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xiv. 396 Glad earth perceives, and from her bosom pours Unbidden herbs and voluntary flowers.

B. *adv.* = Voluntarily *adv.*

In early use perh. partly after L. *voluntarie*.

1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 435 All be forseid personnes ..tarye, & seid openly ther to be seid Maire, bat [etc.]. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 73 The said Henrie did ..bye with the said Maude, nor did cohabite voluntarie together. *c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 34 One of them voluntarie profered to goe with him into Englande. 1629 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 64 b, He did this voluntarie, according to the example of the ancient Decii. 1892 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* To Rdr., In excuse of my not voluntary undergoing..the burthen of this Translation. 1672 Milton *P. R.* II. 394 If of that pow'r I bring thee voluntary What I might have bestow'd on whom I pleas'd. 1710 Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* iii. 145 All should voluntary pay them in their Offerings at the Church. 1769 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* ii. (1876) 300 To go voluntary to a tribunal where he knows he must be humbled.

C. *sb.* I. †1. Free will or choice; = Volunty. In the phrases *of, out of, upon*, or *at* (a person's) *own voluntary, at voluntary*.

(*a*) 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 23 b, Of theyr owne voluntarie [they] came to surrender themselues. *Ibid.* I. xx. 25 The offer [was] made vppon his owne voluntary. 1590 Greene *Mourn. Garm.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 168 If you were to chuse husbands at your owne voluntary. 1606 G. Woodcock *Hist. Iustine* II. 16 After this the Spartans,..out of their own voluntary, inuaded the borders of their Empire. *a* 1617 Bayne *On Eph.* (1643) 317 How canst thou,..out of thy voluntary, converse with them who are not sanctified? 1633 J. Done tr. *Aristeas' Hist. Septuagint* 50 Vppon his owne voluntary, he came often to visite the workes.

(*b*) 1590 Greene *Never too late* Wks (Grosart) VIII. 71 Womens flatter.es [were] too forceable to resist at voluntarie. 1592 — *Conny Catch.* II. 11 He began to. rap out gogs Nownes, and pronounce, while at voluntarie he had sworne through the eight parts of speach in the Accidence.

2. †a. Music added at the will of the performer to a piece played or sung. *Obs.*

1565 Jewel *Reply Harding* (1611) 113 This is the plaine song, and may well stand for the ground: the rest is altogether descant and vaine voluntary, and the most part out of tune. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 126 To make two parts vpon a plainesong is more hard then to make three parts into voluntary. *Ibid.*, Rules which may serue him both for descant and voluntary.

b. A musical piece or movement played or sung spontaneously or of one's free choice, esp. by way of prelude to a more elaborate piece, song, etc.

1598 Florio, *Preludio*, a proheme in musicke, a voluntary before the song. 1628 Ford *Lover's Mel.* I. i, Upon his instrument he plays so swiftly, So many voluntaries, and so quick, That [etc.]. 1662 Playford *Skill Mus.* I. 60 He with his Harp..ending his excellent Voluntary with some choice Fancy upon this Phrygian Mood. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 154/2 The seuerall Beates or points of warre are these..4. A Voluntary before the March. 1754 R. Newton *Char. Theophrastus* 7 Something in the nature of a flourish, or of a voluntary before the tune. *a* 1785 T. Potter *Moralist* II. 134 He took up his flute, and touched a few notes of the voluntary he had heard the night before. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlviii, Sitting down to the piano, she rattled away a triumphant voluntary on the keys.

fig. and *transf.* 1603 Hynd *Mirrour Worldly Fame* v, Dancing is the voluntary, which is played before a passage is made to unlawful desires. 1629 Gaule *Holy Madn.* 155 Like a fantasticke Musician, he chiefly pleases himselfe; while he leaues the Grounds, to run upon the Voluntaries. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. viii. 253 The Lark and the Thrush sung their Voluntaries. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 504 P 1 These can..say you are dull to-day, and laugh a Voluntary to put you in humour. 1795 Burke *Let. to W. Elliot* Wks. 1842 II. 540, I have been told of the voluntary, which, for the entertainment of the house of lords, has been lately played by his Grace. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xliii, He..ran off in a wild voluntary of fanciful mirth. *a* 1881 Rossetti *House of Life* ix, This harp still makes my name its voluntary.

c. *esp.* A piece or solo, usu. consisting of two or more movements, played upon the organ before, during, or after any office of the Church; also, the music for this.

In-, Out-voluntary, those respectively played at the beginning and close of a religious service.

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 503 P 2 Now the Organ was to play a Voluntary, and she..kept time..with some Motion of her Head. 1732 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Music* (1871) 2 All psalm tunes, fuges, volunteries, and anthems that are usually sung in churches or chappells. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 193 Several voluntaries which he heard..the organist play at the Cathedral. 1802 Busby *Dict. Mus.* s.v., The voluntary was originally so called, because its performance, or non-performance, was at the option of the organist. 1827 Hood *Ode R. Wilson* 398 Let the solemn, swelling, organ greet, With Voluntaries meet, The willing advent of the rich and poor. 1870 Anderson *Missions Amer. Ed.* II. xxxviii. 344 A voluntary skillfully played..on the powerful organ belonging to the church.

fig. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 448 This scene..will form a choice voluntary as conclusion to our homily.

†3. A voluntary oath. *Obs.*[2]

1593 Bilson *Govt. Chr. Ch.* 270 In matters of religion that touch the peace and safetie of the whole Church of Christ, do you looke your voluntarie should bee received without all authoritie or testimonie to warrant it?

†4. An occurrence or event due to some person's voluntary action. *Obs. rare.*

1632 Gaule *Magastrom.* 83 Casualties and voluntaries, whose events are not so much as probable, as not having any such causes as aforesaid.

5. An extempore, optional, or voluntary piece of writing or composition.

1690 Temple *Ess., Poetry* Wks. 1720 I. 245 The *Priapeia* ..were little Voluntaries or Extemporaries, written upon the ridiculous Wooden Statues of Priapus. 1821 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 387 If I get Phillips to receive his voluntaries in the Monthly Magazine, he..will take the less pains. 1860 Mansfield *School-life at Winchester* (1870) 107 Prefects and Senior part also were encouraged to write..a copy of verses on any subject selected by themselves, which was called a 'Voluntary'. 1876 Lowell *Among my Books* Ser. II. 206 At school he wrote some task-verses..and also some voluntaries of his own.

6. A voluntary contribution.

1837–8 J. KEEGAN *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 80 [The heap of stones] at last assumed a size sufficiently large to attract the attention of every person who went the way, who, in their turn, added their 'voluntary' to the pile.

7. A parting of a rider from his horse without sufficient cause; an unwarranted fall. Freq. *to cut a voluntary.*

1863 G. A. LAWRENCE *Border & Bastille* II. 33 A conscript, who could keep his saddle, through an entire day, without 'taking a voluntary', was considered..a credit to the regiment. 1883 MRS. KENNARD *Right Sort* xxi, They will say I cut a voluntary...The stirrup-leather alone was to blame. 1890 *Field* 8 Feb. 177 The number of 'voluntaries' which are ever taking place in the hunting field.

8. A voluntary examination.

1894 J. PAYN *Gleams of Memory* 75 As an initial step to my becoming a divine, it was..necessary to pass 'the Voluntary'—a theological examination in my case very inappropriately named.

II. †9. One voluntarily, and usually without pay, serving as a soldier in a campaign, battle, etc.; = VOLUNTEER *sb.* I. *Obs.*

In very frequent use from 1600 to 1645.

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 67 Rash, inconsiderate, fiery voluntaries,..Haue sold their fortunes at their natiue homes,..To make a hazard of new fortunes heere. 1602 MOUNTJOY in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 138 Diuers worthy men..haue followed the warre here as voluntaries to their very great expence. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* I. vii. 25 Those Souldiers, which we call by the name of Voluntaries, being a ranke of men which voluntarily, and of their owne meere motion without any constraint at all, doe betake themselues vnto the Warres. 1638 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 195 The soldiers who went were all voluntaries, and had only their victuals provided, but demanded no pay. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* v. 219 Turkitel the Dane..got leave of the King, with as many voluntaries as would follow him, to pass into France.

fig. 1628 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 6 Let them now serue as voluntaries vnder the Captaine Iesus Christ.

transf. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Newy Land Ships* A ijb, There were 7. other needlesse Ships which were in the nature of voluntaries, or hangers on vpon the Nauy.

10. One who undertakes or engages in any kind of service, enterprise, etc., of his own choice or free-will; = VOLUNTEER *sb.* 3.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *2 Macc.* ii. 42 Then there was gathered to them the synagoge of the Assideans..,everie voluntarie in the law. 1612 H. AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* cx. 3 Thy people shall be voluntaries in the day of thy power. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Remembr.* III. 2307 That none durst become a voluntary, In such a Fire, for conscience sake, to tarie. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 146 Unto Esdras was granted ..licence to goe up unto Jerusalem, to carry with him all such voluntaries as would goe.

†11. One who is willing or ready to give way or withdraw. *Obs.*—[1]

1620 [G. BRYDGES] *Horæ Subs.* 25 If..they..could haue beene content to withdraw..it would haue expressed an excellent temper, and moderation. But few such voluntaries bee found.

12. One who holds or advocates that the Church (or educational institutions) should be maintained by voluntary contributions and be independent of State connexion or support. Cf. VOLUNTARYIST.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 418/1 The Governor was a Voluntary; but Lord Goderich granted [the congregation] the L. 100 from the colonial revenue. 1843 E. MIALL in *Nonconf.* III. 241 Where the truth has got hold of a man it makes him a real voluntary. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 651/1 Obstacles to the establishment of a national system [of education] more formidable than the opposition of the Voluntaries.

Voluntaryism (*vɒ'lɒntări,izm*). [f. prec.]

1. The principle or tenet that the Church and educational institutions should be supported by voluntary contributions instead of by the State.

Freq. from *c* 1850. (Cf. VOLUNTARISM.)

1833 (*title*), Picture of Slavery in the United States of America, with a Practical Illustration of Voluntaryism and Republicanism. 1845 J. MARTINEAU *Misc.* (1852) 146 The voluntaryism of the Independents,..the National endowment of Coleridge and Chalmers. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd. 8 They had not at least given in to schismatic rites, and were free from the errors of Voluntaryism. 1869 M. ARNOLD *Cult. & An.* (1882) 70 Abolition of church-rates, voluntaryism in religion and education.

2. Any system which rests upon voluntary action or principles.

In recent use with reference to military service.

1883 CHALMERS & HOUGH *Bankruptcy Act* Introd. p. lx, Official assignees..were..totally abolished, and the public entered once more on a system of voluntaryism.

Voluntaryist (*vɒ'lɒntări,ist*). [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who advocates or upholds the voluntary system of support and control in religious or (now more usually) educational institutions.

Also, in recent use, an advocate of voluntary military service. (Cf. VOLUNTARIST.)

1842 E. MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 305 The proceedings of voluntaryists hitherto..have not been on a commanding scale. 1869 *Spectator* 24 July 861 We are not Voluntaryists, ..but his Grace of Canterbury's remarks seem to us thoroughly intolerant..in the head of a national Church. 1888 T. W. REID *Life W. E. Forster* I. 311 A vigorous attack upon the voluntaryists,..showing how complete had been the failure of the voluntary system to meet the educational wants of the people.

attrib. 1893 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 3/5 At present parents of all children in School Board districts are contributors to the local rates, and voluntaryist parents receive nothing for what they contribute.

Voluntative, *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *voluntativus*, f. L. *voluntāt-*, *voluntas* VOLUNTY.]

A. *adj.* †**a.** (See quot. 1656.) *Obs.*—[2] **b.** *Hebrew Gram.* Of a verbal form: Expressive of a desire; desiderative. **c.** Having the ability to act or accomplish at will; voluntary.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Voluntative*, that proceeds from the Will, wilfull, or full of desire. 1870 tr. *Lange's Comm., Song Sol.* viii. 3 The following voluntative or jussive future. 1883 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* IV. 495 The simple solution seems to be that the conditioning of a purpose destroys its absolute voluntative power.

B. *sb. Hebrew Gram.* A verbal form expressive of a desire to do the action denoted by the verb; a desiderative.

1870 J. F. SMITH *Ewald's Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 160 The voluntative, or the expression of the desire that something may be, arises from the imperf. [etc.]. 1874 A. B. DAVIDSON *Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 50 By some grammarians this form is called Cohortative; others embrace both the long and short forms under the name voluntative.

Volunteer (*vɒlĕntī·ɹ*), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *α.* 7 voluntair(e, 7–8 voluntier, 8 volontier. *β.* 7– volunteer (7 -eere), 7–8 volenteer. [ad. F. *volontaire*, †*voluntaire* (= It. *volont-*, *voluntario*, Sp. and Pg. *voluntario*), ad. L. *voluntārius* VOLUNTARY *a.* The ending has been assimilated to the suffixes -IER and -EER.]

A. *sb.* **1.** *Mil.* One who voluntarily offers or enrols himself for military service, in contrast to those who are under obligation to do so, or who form part of a regular army or military force.

In early use freq. implying service without the pay given to the regular troops.

α. a 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 80, 6000 horse and voluntiers infinite accomodated with all provisions. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I.* (1655) 68 The enemy being about one thousand Horse and Foot besides Voluntiers, made a very gallant impression upon us. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 25 The Prince honor'd me with the leading of 2000 Horse, all Voluntiers. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* ix. (1766) I. 306 The earl of Montague..was then a voluntier and one of the Duke's Court. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VIII. Wks. 1813 III. 85 To every standard that was erected, voluntiers flocked from all quarters.

β. c 1600 DRAYTON *Miseries Q. Margaret* clxxvi, And with fiue thousand valient Volunteers, Of natiue French, put vnder her Command, With Armes well fitted she towards Scotland steeres. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* I. 14 With a handfull of Volenteers he defeated manie thousands of Reisters. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxiv. (1663) 261 He resolved by the means of ten thousand Volunteers, who had offered themselves unto him,..to attacque this fort. 1677 W. [illegible] offering to serve as volunteers in defence of the city, against the rebels. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 599/2 All this time the American army was increasing by the continual arrival of militia and volunteers from all parts. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* lviii. (1844) II. 242 He is then a volunteer, like all of their soldiers in war, and bound by no compulsive power. 1870 J. BRUCE *Gideon* xxii. 399 These discouraged Israelites who had deserted were here seen returning and flocking as volunteers now, round the triumphant standard of that mighty man of valour.

b. *spec.* A member of an organized military company or force, formed by voluntary enrolment and distinct from the regular army. In later use, a civilian forming part of the 'auxiliary forces' of a country as a member of such a body.

1642 *Exceeding Welcome Newes fr. Beverley* (title-p.), The Resolution of the Gentry and Commonalty of Yorkshire to joyn with the London Voluntiers, for the defence of the King and Parliament. 1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 435 To warne the watch of the voluntiers of the said Town whoe did dutie of watch twice [illegible] howres [illegible] Making their object known to government, they were, in 1794, embodied in a regiment, called The Royal Edinburgh Volunteers. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 418 At his house we met with the poet-laureat of the Inverness volunteers. 1818 MRS. LIFFE *Poems Sev. Occas.* (ed. 2) 23 Our tars shall keep the sea—our coast Be guarded by our volunteers. 1860 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 115 Every other man..I know..is a volunteer though. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 295/2 The personal equipment of the volunteers,..as a rule, is deficient for field service.

†**c.** In the phrase *to go* (also *serve*) *a volunteer.*

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* I. 24 Octavio Fornere..served a Volunteer against the French. 1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* 1, They will go voluntiers into a battle, but must be prest to marriage. 1718 PRIOR *Poems Sev. Occas.* Ded., In the first Dutch War He went a Voluntier under the Duke of York. 1760 *Cantions & Adv. Officers Army* 23 Whilst Suspicions only are against him, there is a possibility of wiping them out, and that is by desiring to go a Voluntier with the Grenadiers the first desperate Attack they are ordered on. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 215/2 He endeavoured to prevent the young men who offered to go volunteers from giving in their names. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Miss Mitford* I. i. 2 He had the resolution to part from what he loved, and to go a volunteer into the army.

†**d.** One voluntarily serving in the Navy. *Obs.*

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 18 What Discouragement gives not this to right-bred Tars from entering Volunteers. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4440/1 The Trumpeters, Quarter-Gunners,..Volunteers by Letter, and Marine-Soldiers. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. II. 122 King Charles II. then in exile, asked the Dutch to be received in their navy as a volunteer.

2. *fig.* (With direct allusion to sense 1.) **a.** Of things.

1636 QUARLES *Elegie* Wks. (Grosart) III. 12/2 But stay! what need, what need we presse a teare, When every eye becomes a Volunteire? 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. i. 359 More probable it is, that Hirams fancy..was not pressed in all particulars, but was left a volunteire for some descants of Art. 1716 CHAPPELOW *Right Way to be Rich* (1717) 167 There are abundance of full texts..which offer themselves as voluntiers in this service. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 88 Reason..Cares not for service, or but serves when prest,.. But honest Instinct comes a volunteer. 1733 DUCHESS OF QUEENSBERRY *Let. to Swift* 3 Nov., I..have not time to think of answering your letters. This is only a volunteer.

b. Of persons.

1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* III. ii. 295 They wilfully and obstinately persisted in their Rebellion, and were meer Voluntiers in the service of the Devil. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* V. P 25 They have generally gone higher, exhorted men to become voluntiers in vertues warfare. 1671 SHADWELL *Humourists* IV, If it be the Devil, Mr. Parson, we'll turn you loose to him; you take pay to fight against him, we are but voluntiers. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* II. Wks. 1757 IV. 150 The clergy are voluntiers; the aged are pressed by nature into the service of wisdom.

3. One who voluntarily offers his services in any capacity; one who of his own free will takes part in any enterprise.

a. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* xi. (1657) 301 He comes in as a voluntier upon his own confession. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* i. 3 Yearly are sent thither Missions..either of Voluntiers, Fryers Mendicants, Priests or Monkes, or else of forced Jesuites. 1677 *Auth. Life* in *Cleveland's Gen. Poems* A 6 b, Perceiving the Ostracism that was intended, he became a Voluntier in his Academick Exile. 1688 PENN in *Life* Wks. 1782 I. 112 Voluntiers are Blanks and Cyphers in all Governments. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 70 P 19, I do not know the names of any of the Voluntiers, to whom I have been greatly indebted. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 257 Such unauthorized voluntiers in violence are not ranked among open enemies.

Coachmen..do still ply as Volunteers Day and Night for the Good of their Country. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 413 There is a multitude of labourers in the vineyard, as well volunteers in dissertations and essays, as retained servants entered upon the steward's roll. 1794 SOUTHEY *Botany Bay Eclogues* ii, Anon the morning came, And off I set a volunteer for fame. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 50 Another party, likewise consisting of seven volunteers, were landed in Jan Mayen Island. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 17. 3 Are they come as volunteers, or have they been sent by their master? 1873 MOZLEY *Univ. Serms.* (1876) 168 The peculiar nature of the agency concerned in the Act..is..a guarantee to the willingness of the victim.. as being that of a volunteer from the first.

†**4.** A flower or tree which grows spontaneously. *Obs.*—[1] (Cf. 8 b.)

1697 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 172 Flowers,—some the Earth's own Voluntiers, some the structure of the Artist's hand.

†**5. a.** A deliberate lie. **b.** A voluntary gift.

1678 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* III. i, Now will he lie three or four rapping Voluntiers, rather than be thought ignorant in any thing. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 154, I think myself vastly obliged to dear Harry for his obliging voluntier.

6. *Law.* One to whom a voluntary conveyance is made; one who benefits by a deed made without valuable consideration.

1744 JACOB *Law Dict.* (ed. 5) s.v. *Voluntary*, Remainders limited in Settlements, to a Man's right Heirs, etc. are deemed Voluntary in Equity, and the Persons claiming under them are called Volunteers. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 135 There seemed no reason..why these general incidents..should be saved in favour of a devisee, or other volunteer, and not in favour of a wife. *Ibid.* IV. 276 Equity will relieve, even in favour of a volunteer.

B. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1. a. Of troops, etc.: Consisting or composed of persons undertaking military service as volunteers.

1662 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* (1911) II. 158 A Company of 100 Volonteere Horse which I drew together. 1662 DR. BUCKNM. in *Slingsby's Diary* (1836) 363, I have sent orders ..to get the volontier troopes in as great a readinesse as they can. 1798 HINDERWELL *Hist. Scarborough* 236 A Volunteer Corps of one hundred and eighty, raised in the town. *Ibid.*, Five Companies of Volunteer Infantry. 1811 *Regul. & Orders Army* 5 Officers of Yeomanry Cavalry and Volunteer Corps rank as juniors of their respective Ranks. 1820 *Act 3 Geo. IV*, c. 126 § 32 No Toll shall be demanded ..for any Carriage conveying Volunteer Infantry. 1832 SIR C. NAPIER *Def. Eng.* 13 With regard to your volunteer corps, I think each should consist of from one to four companies. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 169 The military spirit of the 'Volunteer' corps of London.

b. Of persons: Voluntarily performing military service; serving as a volunteer in the army († or navy). Also in predicative use (*b*).

(*a*) 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cccix, They dance and rore The expectation of a Muster; where They 'mroule themselues, Gentlemen volunteire. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xlvii, Nine thousand dragoons and a hundred and fourty thousand voluntier adventurers. 1698 T. FROGER (*title*), A Relation of a Voyage made..by the Sieur Froger, Voluntier-Engineer on board the English Falcon. 1710–11 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 127, I doubt the scoundrel was broke, and got a commission, or perhaps is a voluntier gentleman. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* CXXXI. (1819) III. 64 Compare the limbs of the volunteer soldiers in the metropolis with those of the rustic militia, or regulars.

(*b*) 1720 DE FOE *Col. Jack* xiv, I was not only insensibly drawn in, but was perfectly voluntier in that dull cause. 1724 — *Gt. Law Subordination* 143 You will blame the gentleman, perhaps, for engaging thus voluntier with his servant. 1728 — *Compl. Eng. Gent.* (1890) 24 The modern

Lord was a Man of Spirit, had serv'd Voluntier under the Fountain of Glory Gustavus Adolphus. 1744 M. Bishop *Life & Adv.* 57 There is a wide Difference between being press'd and going Voluntier.

c. Of or pertaining to a volunteer or volunteers.

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 136 Indeed it will be a volunteer war, said the king, for the northern gentry have sent me an account of above four thousand horse they have already. 1779 Sheridan *Critic* i. i, If you had the least spirit you would have been..trailing a volunteer pike in the Artillery ground. 1837 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1847) VI. 118 This was the Volunteer system and the general arming of the people.

2. Voluntarily performing any action or service; undertaking a service of one's own free will.

The predicative use (quot. 1727) is freq. in De Foe's works.

1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* 193 He is such a Volunteer Sinner, that he hath neither the Wit nor the Excuse of declining his Conscience in Complement to his Senses. 1727 De Foe *Hist. Apparit.* Introd. 7 It was a most incongruous Suggestion that the Devil should come Voluntier to an Atheist. 1759 Dilworth *Pope* 71 It was natural for them to be the volunteer-heralds of that translation's merit they had some share in bringing to perfection. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 179 Probably a volunteer artist. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Horace in Lond.* 125 How many a volunteer muse..Has met with her death in reviews 1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 249 James and John and Peter, who never heartily recognized the Volunteer Apostle.

transf. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 55. 353 There were many hundreds of Volunteer Links brought into this Protestant Illumination.

b. Of vegetation: Growing spontaneously.

1794 Vancouver *Agric. Cambridge* 44 A remarkably fine growth of volunteer ash, has lately been cut down. 1888 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 233 They had the year before last 80 acres of volunteer or self-sown oats. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 804/1 Crops are raised sometimes for twenty successive years, on the same fields, without the soils showing exhaustion, and what are called volunteer crops.

3. Of services, actions, etc.: Rendered or performed voluntarily.

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 55 The king desires no man's service but what is purely volunteer. 1779 Burke *Corr.* (1844) II. 284, I am not very fond of any volunteer modes of raising money for public service. 1794 Mathias *Purs. Lit* (1798) 252 Mr. Reeves will deter any man from volunteer effusions in favour of any Minister. 1873 Mozley *Univ. Serm* viii (1876) 167 It cannot be said that it is.. contrary to justice to accept a volunteer offer of suffering.

Volunteer, *v* [Back-formation from Volunteering *vbl. sb.*]

1. *intr.* To undertake military service voluntarily, esp. on a special occasion. Freq. const. *for.*

1755 Johnson, *To volunteer*, to go for a soldier. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s. v., In some instances soldiers volunteer for a limited period, and within certain boundaries. 1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 163 The Bengáli sipáhis..being asked, 'Do you volunteer?' replied, 'Yes, Saheb, we volunteer, but we don't go willingly'. 1859 Thackeray *Virginians* lxii, Sir John had volunteered for the expedition which is preparing. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. ii 15 They volunteered and were bound by honour to their leaders.

b. Const. *to* with inf. (esp. *to serve*).

1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The drafts from the militia in 1798, who volunteered to serve in Europe only. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 301 John Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave,..volunteered to serve at sea against the Dutch.

c. Const. *into* (a particular regiment).

1841 E. Costello *Adv. Soldier* i, At Londonderry..I volunteered into the 95th, since made the 'Rifle Brigade'.

2 To offer of one's own accord *to* do something.

1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 192 Our old acquaintance volunteering to be our guide, we made the round of the sights of the town. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xi. 292 My guide volunteered to cut the steps for me up to the pickets. 1881 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. ii. 186 No dean or tutor ever volunteered to help our inexperience.

b. To be thrown from a horse without sufficient cause. (Cf. Voluntary *sb.* 7.)

1890 *Field* 8 Feb. 177 There is scarcely a horseman of experience who will not confess to have been at some time or other taken unawares, and to have 'volunteered' in consequence.

3. *trans.* To offer (one's services) for some special purpose or enterprise.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 127 When I first volunteered my services on this important subject. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 49 Seven men volunteered their services. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* I. vi, Mrs. Bangham..had volunteered her services as..general attendant.

b. With vbl. sb. as object, or *refl.*

1806 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. iii. 94 One of the kindest was Lord Somerville, who volunteered introducing me to Lord Spencer. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prine.* xii. III. 270 He..gravely volunteered himself as silk-holder, while Miss Harriet..wound off, I know not how many skeins.

4. To offer to undertake or perform (something).

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vi, Mr. Lindsay..volunteered the perilous task of carrying a verbal message. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char* x. 271 One of the soldiers volunteers the office of interpreter. 1876 Miss Yonge *Womankind* vi, I had rather make Latin the schoolroom lesson, and leave German to be volunteered afterwards.

5. To communicate (information, etc.) on one's own initiative.

1839 Dickens *Nicholby* vii, He had grown thoughtful and appeared in nowise disposed to volunteer any observation. 1842 Mrs. Mozley *Last Breach* II. xiii. 99 This was what I call forward in a servant, to volunteer explanations. 1860 W. Collins *Wom. White* III. xi. (1861) 421, I did not feel called on to volunteer any statement of my own private convictions. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* ii, He volunteered no information about himself and his past life at Smyrna.

ellipt. 1893 H. Crackanthorpe *Wreckage* 278 When he started out late at night, he never volunteered where he was going.

6. To offer to give or supply.

1873 Tristram *Moab* i 6 A delegate of the Ta'amirah.., volunteered a guard of his tribe.

7. With *away*: To surrender voluntarily.

1807 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 82, I..do not wish to volunteer away that portion of tranquillity, which a firm execution of my duties will permit me to enjoy.

Hence **Volunteered,** **Volunteering** *ppl. adjs.*

1797 J. Symonds in *A. Young's Autobiog.* xii. (1898) 304 You justly reprobate volunteering infantry. 1864 Meredith *Sandra Belloni* xiv, In the end they deputed the volunteering Adela to sit with him in the library. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 791 With Godwin Shelley had opened a volunteered correspondence late in 1811. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* II. v. ii. 20 He was not forbidden to proceed upon his volunteered mission.

Volunteering, *vbl. sb.* [f. Volunteer *sb.* and *v.*] The action of serving, or offering one's services, as a volunteer.

1691 Dryden *K. Arthur* Prol. 47 If you Gallants lose, to all appearing You'll want an Equipage for Volunteering. 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux' Strat.* I. i, I warrant you, our Friends imagine that we are gone a volunteering. 1758 H. Walpole *Corr.* (1837) I. 381 Has he stolen to Southampton and slipped away a-volunteering..to conquer France in a dirty shirt and a frock? 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 199 Numbers of young nobility were willing to run a-volunteering in her defence. 1805 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* III. 316 We encourage volunteering to prevent enlisting. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xli, How strange it is of you to run down volunteering, when it's done to defend you..in case of need. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 112 The law permitting the volunteering from the merchant ship to a ship of war should be altered.

Volunteerism. [f. Volunteer *sb.* + -ism.] The system of having volunteer military forces.

1844 P. Harwood *Hist. Irish Reb. 1798* 26 The effects of volunteerism on national morals and manners.

†Volunteerly, *adv. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [f. as prec. + -ly ^{2}.] As a volunteer.

1715 *Battle of Sheriffmuir* iii. in *Jacobite Songs* (1871) 30 Volunteerly to ramble With Lord Loudoun Campbell.

Volunteership. [f. as prec. + -ship.] The condition of being a volunteer.

1796 A. Bell in Southey *Life* (1844) I. 527 His brother Verry has served me from his earliest volunteership.

Voluntive, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [Cf. next and -ive.] Volitional.

1832 J. Thomson *Life W. Cullen* I. 170 Comprehending the vegetative, sentient, and voluntive faculties of the mind ..under the common term Soul.

Voluntomotory, *a. Biol.* [Cf. next and Motory *a.*] Associated with voluntary motion.

1878 *Encycl. Brit* VIII. 167/2 The outer division [of the middle layer of the blastoderm], the *voluntomotory*, corresponding to the body-wall or somatopleure of more recent authors

†Voluntuous, *Obs.* Forms: α. 4–6 **voluntue** (5 -ue), 6 **wolunte, volounte**; 5 **voluntie**, 6–7 **voluntuous**. β. 5–6 **volente** (5 **uol-, voulente**), **volante**, 6 **volenty**. [a. OF. *volonte* (*voulonte, -unte*), *volente* (mod.F. *volonté* = It. *volontà*, Sp. *voluntad*, Pg. *vontade*), ad. L. *voluntāt-, voluntas* will, f. *vol-, velle* to will.] Will, desire, pleasure; that which one wishes or desires.

Rarely, the faculty of willing, volition.

α. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 681 (Kölbing), A forseyd deuel liȝt adoun & of þat wiif made a couioun, To don alle his volunte. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5276 For that he May not fulfille his volunte Fully, as he hath requered. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xi. 210 That this answere is a feyned and forgid thing bi pure volunte withoute eny for him sufficient evidence, Y proue thus. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* iv. 19 O curséd and false deceyuable auarice which blyndeth the voluntes humayn. *c* 1525 *Doctr. Gd. Servauunts* (Percy Soc.) 7 Seruauntes ought not to ensue Theyr owne wyll nor volunte. 1649 Evelyn tr. *La Vayer's Lib. & Servit.* Misc. Writ. (1825) ii. 11 Our volunty cannot (after some sort) embrace the evill, considering it as evill. 1652 — *St. France* 15 The handsomer to disguise and apparell these his volunties, and render them at the least specious procedures of Justice.

β. 1418–20 J. Page *Siege Rouen* in *Archæologia* XXI. 48 Byfore Rone that reche cyte Fore that he luvyde as hys own volante. *c* 1430 *Merlin* i. 22 Neuer shall I make thedothynge that shal be ageyn the volente of oure lord Ihesu Cryste. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 134 But as none as I was leyd in my bedd an euill volente or wil surprised me 1518 H. Watson *Hist. Oliver of Castile* (Roxb.) E 4 b, The knyght..sayd that al his volente was for to go there as he had specyfyed. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. xliv. 143 Syth it is your pleasure and volante yt I shall pursewe my wordes, I shall shewe you euery thynge as I knowe.

b. In the phrases *of (free) volunty, of* or *at one's (own) volunty.*

(a) *c* 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 299 The whiche..Of volunte, without more trespas, Myn accusers hath taken vnto grace. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23032 The space of xxxix yere I was bound of volunte, to obedience. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 70 The kyng..That..Into a virgyns wombe immaculate, Descendid..of fre volunte.

(b) *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 4453 Thow shuldest chese here tabyde..Of thin owne volunte, Syth thou hast swich lyberte. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 347/1 This that I here have promitted and sworn, procedeth of myne owne desire and fre volunte. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 3 Of my most hyest and myteyst volunte, I woll it be knowyn to al be word vnyversal. 1568 Fisher *Penit. Ps.* cxxx. Wks. (1876) 230 Almyghty god..of his owne voluntary wyll and gracyous volunty..redemed vs. 1633 Bellenden *Livy* iii. xli. (S.T.S.) I. 295 Pis Iulius, of his fre volunte & benevolence, remittit certane thingis to þe Iugement of peiplI.

(c) 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 20333 Bothe to abette and ik vnclose And as hym lyst, for to dyspose At ther owne volunte. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 58 They shall neuer haue power ouer me at her volunte. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 498/1 The same Letteres Patentes..to endure and be of force..at our pleasure and voluntie.

†Volupe. *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [app. a. L. *volup* with pleasure; but perh. a misprint for *volupt.*] = Volupt.

1669 *Address Yng. Gentry Eng.* 38 It becomes manna to all the guests by yielding the taste he put upon it, and he may easily be understood to have the volupe of his palat extended in all theirs.

†Voluper. *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 **voluper(e**, 5 **-peer**, 6 **veluper**; 5 **voly-, volipere, voly-, wolyper, wulpere.** [a. AF. *volupier* (Gower), f. OF. *voluper* (*volepar, veloper*, etc.), to wrap up: see Envelop *v.* OF. *envelopeur* occurs (in 1361) in a similar sense.] A form of head-dress worn especially by women; a kerchief.

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 55 The tapes of her white voluper Were of the same suyte of hir coler. — *Reeve's T.* 383 Whan she gan the white thyng espye, She wende the clerk hadde wered a volupeer. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 569 *Calamandrum*, a volupere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Volypere, kerche, *teristrum, calleintrum.* *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 776/27 *Hoc caliandrum*, a wulpere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 404/1 A volyper, *caliendrum.* 1552 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 404 For a hede lace and veluper for Mris. Margarett..xij d.

†Volupt. *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *volupte* or L. *voluptas*: see Voluptv.] Pleasure. Also *attrib.*, sensuous.

14.. *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxix. (Bodl. MS.), In þe lyuour is þe place of volupt. 1582 *Ibid.* viii. xxvi. 132/1 In mans body he disposeth to fairenesse, volupt and lyking. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 59 [They frequent the baths] aswel for their volupt pleasure as bodily health. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 205 It is the bontie of ane niychtie spreit, Vith monie guidlie qualitels repleit In vincusing voluptis ewell and vaine.

†Voluptable, *a. Obs.*$^{-0}$ [ad. L. (ante-classical and late) *voluptābilis*, f. *voluptas* Volupty.] (See quots.) Hence **Voluptableness.**

1623 Cockeram I, *Voluptable*, which brings pleasure. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Voluptable*, which brings pleasure, pleasurable, that causeth delight. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Voluptableness*, Delightfulness.

†Voluptary. *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [ad. L. *voluptāri-us*, f. *voluptas* pleasure.] = Voluptuary *sb.*

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, *Hed.* An excellent confection. *Cri.* And most worthie a true voluptarie.

Volupte, variant of Volupty *Obs.*

Voluptific, *a. rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. late L. *voluptificus.*] 'Making pleasure or delight' (Bailey, 1721).

Voluptuarian, *sb.* or *a.* [f. next + -ian.] = next.

1879 *Tinsley's Mag.* XXIV. 53 The feeblest and least reputable of his brothers, the voluptuarian Joseph.

Voluptuary (vŏlŭ·ptiuări), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *voluptuārius*, post-classical form of *voluptārius* Voluptary, f. *voluptas* pleasure, Volupty. Cf. F. *voluptuaire* adj.]

A. *sb.* One who is addicted to sensuous pleasures; one who is given up to indulgence in luxury or the gratification of the senses; a sybarite.

a 1616 Healey *Cebes* (1636) 126 Here are professed voluptuaries also. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 13 His very name signifies a favourer of learning, and (as it appeares by this allusion) it may likewise signifie a voluptuary. 1668 Dr. Hopkins *Serm., Vanity* (1685) 47 The most artificial voluptuaries have always allowed themselves an intermission in their pleasures, to recruit nature, and sharpen their sensual desires. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) I. 314 He was a great voluptuary, and companion of the high court rakes. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* vi. I. 149 A rational voluptuary adheres with invariable respect to the temperate dictates of nature. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxix, The admiration which her charms excited, when accident threw her into the power of that unprincipled voluptuary. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* ii. (1858) 238 We shall err widely if we consider this man as a common voluptuary, intent mainly on base enjoyments. 1869 M'Laren *Serm.* Ser. II. vii. 126 Remember that this cruel voluptuary is the sweet singer of Israel.

transf. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xv. 138 St. Clare, who was in his heart a poetical voluptuary, smiled as Miss Ophelia made her remark on his premises.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, characterized by, sensuous or luxurious pleasures.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 13 The Arts which florish ..while vertue is in declination, are voluptuarie : ..with Arts voluptuarie, I couple practises Iocularie. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* E 3 b, Leading a wanton and voluptuary life. 1662 Herbert *Body Divinity* 1. 308 Art is twofold, of 1. Body. 2. Soul. Either 1. Cosmetick,..2. Medicinal,..3. Athletick,..4. Voluptuary. 1779 Johnson *L. P., King* ¶ 8 He did not love..any kind of business which interrupted his voluptuary dreams.

Volu·ptuate, *v. rare.* [f. Voluptu-ous *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make luxurious and pleasant.

1661 Feltham *Resolves* II. xliv. 270 'Tis watching and labour, that voluptuates repose and sleep.

2. *intr.* To delight voluptuously; to luxuriate.

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 143 The eye voluptuates, if I may coin a word, on peach, and almond, and orange blossoms.

Volu·ptuise, *v. rare*[−1]. [Cf. prec. and -ise.] *intr.* = prec. 2.

1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* II. 136 If you would voluptuise in the full luxuriance of its perfect flavour.

Voluptuosity (vŏlŭptiɒ·sĭlĭti). Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 voluptuosite (5 -itee, 5–6 -yte, 6 -ytee), 5–6 voluptuositie (5 -itye), 7– voluptuosity. [a. OF. *voluptuosité* (= Sp. *voluptuosidad*, Pg. *-idade*), or ad. med.L. *voluptuositas*, f. L. *voluptuōs-us* : see next.] The quality or state of being voluptuous; voluptuousness.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 741 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 74 But þat pass is voluptuosite. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 280 Thurgh sotie and thurgh nycete, Of his voluptuosite He spareth no condicion Of ken ne yit religion. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 349 Thei scholde not giffe theire myndes to voluptuosite, but to theire doctrine. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 99 Epicurus,..if all he was a sewer of voluptuosite,.. neuer-þe-les he..said, þat appyle & oþer vile meatis suld be vsid. 1483 Caxton *Cato* I ij, Thou oughtest to flee dronkeship, and lechery and al her voluptuosites. 1515 Barclay *Eclogues* ii. (1570) B iv/a Voluptuositie Will haue of dishes chaunge & diuersitie. *c* 1520 — *Jugurth* (1557) 44 This discorde and takyng of parties bytwene them..began amonge them..by superfluous habundance of richesse, voluptuosite, and of other worldely delectations. *a* 1678 Woodhead *Holy Living* (1688) 113 The same action, that now is lawful, if continued, presently becomes unlawful (as..particular affection, into concupiscence; recreations, into voluptuosity).

Voluptuous (vŏlŭptiɒs), *a.* Also 5 voluptuouse, -tuose, *Sc.* voluptous. [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *voluptueux*, *-euse* (= Sp. and Pg. *voluptuoso*, It. *voluttuoso*), or L. *voluptuōsus* (Pliny, etc.), f. *voluptas* pleasure, Volupty. Cf. Voluptuous *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to, derived from, resting in, characterized by, gratification of the senses, esp. in a refined or luxurious manner; marked by indulgence in sensual pleasures; luxuriously sensuous:

a. Of desires or appetites.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1373 Love ne drof yow nought to don this dede, But lust voluptuous, and cowarde drede. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 4714 To soiourne in the Erbere ..Oonly ordeyned for delyte And voluptuouse appetyte. 1492 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 5/1 This techith us our sauyour for to kepe us from voluptuous desyres. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 82 b, Abstynence from the carnall voluptuous appetyte of the flesshe. *c* 1540 in Prance *Addit. Narr. Pop. Plot* (1679) 36 The supporters of our voluptuose and Carnal Appetite. 1697 South *Serm.* I. 32 God..has corrected the Boundlessness of his Voluptuous desires, by stinting his strengths, and contracting his Capacities. 1736 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 546 [Dancing girls, who] communicate, by a natural contagion, the most voluptuous desires to the beholders.

b. Of pleasure or pleasurable sensations.

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3022 Venus..goddesse is of al pleasaunce, Of lust, and fleshly appetyte, And of voluptuous delyte. 1503 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 242 Solyman..lay in great securitie,..passing his time in all voluptuous pleasure. 1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xiv, Because I believe you are desirous to know, how they receive and take in those voluptuous enjoyments. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* I. v, That smooth and voluptuous satisfaction which the assured prospect of pleasure bestows. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 476 If thou might'st dwell among the Gods the while Lapped in voluptuous joy? 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* i. 10 The long voluptuous dream came to a startling end. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 307/2 Excessive voluptuous sensations may be the result of peripheral or central causes.

transf. 1614 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 173 Out of a voluptuous loathnesse to let that taste go out of my mouth. 1875 Shelley *Alastor* 11 Spring's voluptuous pantings when she breathes Her first sweet kisses, have been dear to me.

c. Of modes of life or conduct.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 79 The luffe of the cuntre and elegance voluptuous deceyvide his grevous labors. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* x. 209 Hauing in these and suche other like voluptuous vanities consumed a great part of the treasure. *a* 1576 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 82 They suborne him quyitlie to disobedience, ..for by it they thocht they had ane voluptous lyfe. 1582 Bible (Genev.) *2nd Alph. Direct., Voluptuous* living, one of the thornes that choke the worde. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxvi. ii. 923 The very souldiours were led loose and given over to take voluptuous waies. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 211 He as easily surmounteth all his voluptuous irregularities, as he doth his most violent revels. 1685 Otway *Windsor Castle* 124 The Priests who humble Temperance should profess, Sought silken Robes and fat voluptuous Ease. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) II. 93 By his voluptuous unthinking course of life he ran in debt. 1829 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 75 The gallant warrior starts from soft repose, from golden visions, and voluptuous ease. 1827 Shelley *Constantia* iv, The breath of summer night, Which ..suspends my soul in its voluptuous flight. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* xxxviii. V. 89 A man of voluptuous habits, who desired power as an instrument of sensual indulgence.

d. Of fare or feasting.

1544 *Exhort.* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 569 Wholesome abstinence..from all delicious living in voluptuous fare. 1585 Lupton *Thens. Notable Th.* (1675) 77 Cleopatra, the last Queen of Egypt,..did drink one so voluptuous a draught as never any did before. 1638 Penkethman *Artach.* K 3 Excessive consumption and abuse of Wheat and other Victuals in voluptuous Feasts. 1707 [Dorrington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 14 These provisions being somewhat too voluptuous for an hermit. 1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist.* I. 78 The most voluptuous Part of Cookery. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 589 That dissolving jelly which is so voluptuous a rarity at European tables.

e. Of places.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 39 They tell a thousand other Fopperies of this voluptuous Paradise. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 171 Footless stands Within voluptuous chambers panting crawled. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* I. 4 A soft southern region, decked out with all the luxuriant charms of voluptuous Italy. 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* I. VI. 227 The army was permitted to revel for some time in the enjoyments which the most splendid and voluptuous of Eastern cities offered in profusion.

2. Addicted to sensual pleasure or the gratification of the senses; inclined to ease and luxury; fond of elegant or sumptuous living.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xviii. 333 (Add. MS.), The voluptuous flesshe, that beteth the fire of glotonye and lechery. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 20 Voluptuous and daintie louers of this world..doo without any feare at al heare Gods worde. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 121 Our Lord Iesus Christ himselfe, who was neither nice nor voluptuous. 1628 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 12 The voluptuous person, is a lour of his pleasure more then of God. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 240 The poore are not so voluptuous: they content themselves with drie ryce, herbs, roots. 1670 Clarendon *Life*, Tracts (1727) 166 The lustful and voluptuous Person, who sacrifices the Strength and Vigour of his Body to the Rage and Temptation of his Blood. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) II. 411 The key was a merry fellow, and, like other voluptuous Turks, had his buffoons to divert him. 1783 Johnson *Lett.* (1788) II. 298 A friend of mine, who courted a lady of whom he did not know much, was advised to see her eat, and if she was voluptuous at table, to forsake her. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* II. 172 The voluptuous and unwarlike people were protected by impregnable walls. 1848 Lytton *Harold* I. i, A large building that once had belonged to some voluptuous Roman.

absol. a 1688 Butler *Characters* (1908) 266 The voluptuous is very hard to be pleas'd. 1682 Burnet *Rights Princes* v. 160 As if it had been the Rich and Voluptuous, and not the Poor and the Hungry. 1760 *Charac.* in *Ann. Reg.* 13 His high relish of social enjoyment soon brought him into request with the voluptuous of all ranks. 1802 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 3/1 To the.. Splenetic—the Voluptuous—the Petulant—and the Proud,

transf. a 1822 Shelley *Calderon* III. 56 And, voluptuous Vine, O thou Who seekest most when least pursuing.

3. Imparting a sense of delicious pleasure; suggestive of sensuous pleasures, esp. of a refined or luxurious kind.

1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxi, And when Music arose with its voluptuous swell, Soft eyes look'd love to eyes which spake again. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 71 The poet succeeds less in the voluptuous and effeminate descriptions. 1844 Lever *T. Burke* xli. 307 The seigneur..had..mixed in the voluptuous fascinations of the period. 1877 Dowden *Shaks. Primer* vi. 87 The voluptuous moonlit nights are only like a softer day.

b. Suggestive of sensuous pleasure by fulness and beauty of form.

1839 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* (1847) II. 202 We recognise his spirit in the sylvan shades and voluptuous forms of Albano and Domenichino. 1841 Macaulay *Ess., Hastings* (1851) 649 There appeared the voluptuous charms of her to whom the heir of the throne had in secret plighted his faith. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 144 The voluptuous image of a Corinthian courtezan. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxvi, She was now twenty-six, but had lost none of her voluptuous loveliness.

transf. 1852 Tennyson *Ode Wellington* 208 He shall find the stubborn thistle bursting Into glossy purples, which outredden All voluptuous garden-roses.

Volu·ptuously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly[2].] In a voluptuous manner; so as to gratify or indulge the senses; luxuriously; sensually.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. x. (Skeat) I. 28 Heritykes, anyn they, chosen by-fore beatial, that voluptuously liven. 1549 Latimer *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 128 To eate and drincke in the forgetfulnes of goddes commaundement, voluptuously, in excesse and glotonnie. 1628 Fulbecke *Paradoxes* 78 The people of Sodom and Gomorra voluptuously mingling themselues with the women of the Moabites. *a* 1639 W. Whately *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 81 It is a sin to live voluptuously, to have none other calling but pastimes and vaine sports. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* V. 212 Alfred enjoying three years of peace, by him spent, as his manner was, not idlely or voluptuously, but in all vertuous employments. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XIII. vi, The Hopes of seeing Sophia at the Masquerade, on which ..he had voluptuously feasted during the whole Day. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 82 Vathek (voluptuously reposed in his capacious litter upon cushions of silk..) was soundly asleep. 1803 Wordsw. *Prelude* I. 251 Ah! better far than this, to stray about Voluptuously through fields and rural walks. 1847 Dickens *Dorrit* I. xx, She..composed herself voluptuously, in a nest of crimson and gold cushions, on an ottoman. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xlv, The cool, well-shaded, voluptuously-furnished room.

Volu·ptuousness. Also 7 voluptousnes, -tuosnesse. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being voluptuous.

1. Addiction to sensuous pleasures; indulgence in pleasure and luxury.

1598 Fenne *7 Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 12 Our prophete ..ferynge to offende almyghty god, sayth that afore tyme he was ouercomen by his owne voluptuousnesse. 1532 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* (1537) 48 Some call themselues dead, which lyue in all voluptuousnesse. 1580 Daustr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 56 b, They take your goodsand spende them wickedly in pride, riot and voluptuousnes. 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* IV. v. (ed. 2) 365 As their lines were burthened with voluptuousnesse, so they prepared for their deaths. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 340 They delight excessively in all sorts of games and voluptuousnesse. *a* 1702 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 122 No place in the World can promise the Beholder at a distance greater voluptuousness. 1780 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. x. 275 Complaints of their voluptuousness are without end. 1812 G. Chalmers *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 329 We became more luxurious, and, as our voluptuousness increased, our industry diminished. 1850 Adler *Prov. Poet.* xv. 328 The man who was tormented by voluptuousness was declared incapable of love. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* v. i. 170 Men of the English race are often grandly strong in resistance to every form of voluptuousness.

personif. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Extasie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 91/1 In summe shee was such as Voluptuousnesse With all her coulors cannot well expresse. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 15 There are more who haunt the Schoole of Voluptousnes, then that of vertue.

transf. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 243, I could with great voluptuousness of scorn have spit in his face.

b. The quality of expressing voluptuous ideas.

1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 129 The voluptuousness of Æolian poetry is not like that of Persian or Arabian art.

2. Luxuriance, luxury, or refinement tending to gratify the senses or to impart sensuous pleasure.

1652 Heylin *Cosmogr.* III. 12 The Countrey very plentifull of all manner of fruites, even unto voluptuousnesse. 1729 Shelvocke *Artillery* v. 354 He celebrated the Decennia with new Sorts of Games, with a new Kind of Pomp, and with the most exquisite Voluptuousness. 1800 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* IV. 380 The species of rustic voluptuousness his garden otherwise afforded. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. vi, Softened by the quiet beauty and voluptuousness around him, Walter's thoughts assumed a more gentle dye. 1893 E. F. Howe in *Voice* (N. Y.) 21 Sept., We have..the desert brought into voluptuousness by the development of great irrigation enterprises.

†Voluptuousty. *Obs.* In 4 -ouste, -oste, 5 -ostee. [f. as prec. + -ty. Cf. obs. F. *voluptuauté*] = Voluptuosity.

1382 Wyclif *Eccl.* xi. 10 Waxende age and voluptuouste ben veyn. 1382 — *Jer.* xxii. 28 Whether [is he] a vessel without al voluptuouste? *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4243 Se sold ioye eternale for vayne voluptuostee.

†Volupty. *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 volupte(e, 6 voluptie, 6– volupty. [a. OF. *volupte* (mod.F. *volupté*), or ad. L. *voluptāt-*, *voluptas* pleasure. Cf. Volupt.] Pleasure, delight. Freq. (esp. in earlier use) in pl.

(*a*) *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 380 So volupteis and rychesse of þe worlde maken þei to be loved. 1382 — *Titus* iii. 3 We weren sum tyme vnwyse, vnbileueful, erringe, and seruynge to desyris, and dyuerse voluptees. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. x. 52 Spiritual consolations passip all þe delices of þe worlde, & all fleshly voluptes. 1483 Caxton *Cato* 7 b, Seneque sayth that by voluptees and excesse comen foure euylles. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) C j, It is so, because they hee ever among volupties & pleasures, & banketing. 1541 Paynell *Catiline* xlii. 68 b, Syth ye at home giue your selfes to volupties and pleasures.

(*b*) 1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxxi. 9 Alle the trees of voluptee [1388 lust], that veren in paradise of God, sueden hym. 1538 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 55 Whan Adam was set in paradyse a place of grete pleasure volupty & rest. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 232 To haue the fruicyon, that is full volupte & pleasure of yᵉ same. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 137 For that the same caused in deede..delicious pleasure & voluptee. 1716 Bolingbroke *Refl. on Exile* (1752) 475 *note*, The doctrine of volupty taught by Epicurus. *c* 1730 — *Fragm.* Wks. 1777 V. 402, I will crayon out a picture in imitation of those Cleanthes used to draw when he disputed against the partizans of volupty. 1799 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 251 His poems are the sweetest blossoms of the rose-garden of volupty.

personif. c 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 206 Dame voluptie vith þ oud pernicious spreit.

‖Voluta (vŏlĭū·tă). *Arch. Obs.* [L. *volūta* scroll, properly fem. of *volūtus*, p.t. pple. of *volvĕre* to turn. In later use also from It. *voluta* (Sp. and Pg. *voluta*), of the same origin.] = Volute *sb.* 1.

1563 Shute *Archit.* D ij, The Abacus, that lieth vpon Voluta, is..flat like to a trencher. 1598 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* I. 92, 9 parties and an halfe: whereof one and an halfe makes abacus, and the other 8 downwards make voluta or the scrowle M. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 231 The Capitall dressed on each side, not much unlike womens Wires, in a spirall wreathing, which they call the Ionian Voluta. 1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* 128 The Voluta, or as we tearm it properly enough, the Scroul,..is the principal, and only appropriate member of the Ionic Capitel in imitation of a femal Ornament. 1722 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 6 Capelo's, Pilasters, Voluta's, Columns in several noble Structures. 1725 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 19 The hollow..of the Voluta is even with the body of the Column. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* ii. 17 The scroll or voluta, gradually lessening to its center.

transf. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* III. 57 In the parts thereof [*sc.* of plants] we finde Helicall or spirall roundles, voluta's, cortical sections, .. and frustums of Archimedes.

†Volutate, *v. Obs.*⁻ [ad. L. *volūtāt-*, ppl. stem of *volūtāre* to roll or wallow.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Volutate*, to wallow vp and downe.

Volutation (vɒlĭŭtē·ʃən). ? *Obs.* [ad. L. *volūtātiōn-*, *volūtātio*, noun of action f. *volūtāre* (see prec.), f. *volūt-*, *volvĕre* to roll.]

1. The action of rolling or causing to roll; revolution combined with progression.

c 1650 Sir C. HEYDON *Astrol. Disc.* (1650) 42 For whatsoever moveth another, it doth it either by impulsion, attraction, volutation, or vection. 1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 53 Every globular Figure placed upon a plane, in direct volutation, returns to the first point of contaction. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 47 In Volutation the whole circumference moves by a motion both progressive and circular; but the centre by the progressive only. 1755 JOHNSON, *To roll*, to move any thing by volutation, or successive application of the different parts of the surface, to the ground.

b. Applied to the motion of liquids or sound.

1640 Bp. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxi. 220 In the Sea when a storme is over, there remaines still an inward working and volutation. 1671 R. BOHUN *Wind* 192 When as the volutation of the waves so often changes the Superficies of the water. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II v. (1693) 203 The ebullition and volutation of the melted Materials. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* IV. iii. 120 But being hard, and curiously smooth and tortuous, sounds find an easy passage, with a regular Volutation and Refraction.

c. The action of rolling or turning over in a prostrate position: wallowing. Also *fig.*

1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. Pref. (1858) 6 A constant sensual Volutation or wallowing in impure thoughts and scurrilous conceits. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. § 37. 161 Not only our nictations..when we are awake, but also our nocturnal volutations in sleep, are performed with very little or no consciousness. 1721 BAILEY, *Volutation*, a rolling, tumbling, or wallowing.

2. *fig.* (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Volutation*, a tossing in the minde. 1649 J. H *Motion to Parl. Adv. Learn.* 35 Considering the..activity of his understanding, and the strange volutations of his affaires. 1806 H. K. WHITE *Let. to R. W. A.* 18 Aug., If these æthereal, aeronautical, mathematical volutations should displease you, perhaps it would not be amiss to saunter a few weeks on the site of Troy.

Volute (vɒlĭū·t), *sb.* [ad. L. *volūta* VOLUTA, or a. F. *volute* from the same source.]

1. *Arch.* A spiral scroll forming the chief ornament of the Ionic capital and employed also in those of the Corinthian and Composite orders.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Volute*, a part of the Capital of the Ionick, Compound, and Corinthian Order. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., There are also eight angular Volutes in the Corinthian Capital. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 34 On the top is an apex, with a volute on each side. 1789 SMYTH tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 16 The volutes of the capital were generally by the ancients made elliptic. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 377 To produce graceful effects in the foliage and contour of the volutes. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 174 Complete Doric fronts, with volutes and other decorations foreign to the order. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 344 The English capital was circular; the volute disappeared at once.

2. A spiral conformation; a convolution, twist, or turn; a thing or part having a spiral form.

1756 in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1793) I. p lxiii, The smooth volutes of Ammon's horn. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Cagouille*, a sort of volute or ornament. 1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 93 You may perceive by the drawing that they do not take such beautiful forms and volutes as a fine dry smoke usually does. 1832 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxvii. 203 We carefully pare off the volutes and spikelets (of the cacti). 1885 E. J. PAYNE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 286 The carving of the volute, and the double grooving of its back, are among the most difficult branches of the violin-maker's art. 1895 HOFFMAN *Begin. Writing* 129 Near the top of these are short volutes or commas, similar in type to the speech or voice commas.

attrib. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2714/2 *Volute-compasses*, a draftsman's compasses in which the legs are gradually expanded, so as to trace a spiral.

3. The spiral shell of a gastropod of the genus *Voluta*; also, the animal itself.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The Volute, variegated with two reticulated zones. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 238 These anemonies had been found on old volutes, called spindle-shells. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 282 The cowries are said to have eyes exhibiting both iris and pupil, as have some volutes. 1847 AGASSIZ *Anc. World* iii. 48 The numerous groups of flesh-eating gasteropoda (the murex, the cone, the volute, the cowry, and many others). 1874 J. G. WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 637 When young, the shell is very like that of a volute, having a prominent spire and a rather wide-spreading lip.

Volute (vɒlĭū·t), *a.* [ad. L. *volūtus*, pa. pple. of *volvĕre* to roll; or attrib. use of prec.] Having the form of a volute; forming a spiral curve or curves.

Volute spring, wheel, are described by Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2714/2 and Suppl. 932/1.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiii 288 Another was killed in the act of carrying to its hole a large volute shell. 1847 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 108. 67 The Corinthian capital ..was unfolded by an ingenious combination of the volute forms of the Ionic with freer and richer vegetable ornaments. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1872) 161 The beautiful volute and cone shells of the Eocene epoch. 1879 PENSCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 302 This plate has a volute spiral groove cut in its surface.

Comb. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6460, Cast-steel tyres, volute spring buffers.

Volu·ted, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

1. Spirally twisted or grooved.

1802 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 99 A table covered with green plush, the voluted legs of which seemed to have been produced as a great effort of art. 1806 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 281 Its voluted wreaths are doubtless in the natural horn; art could not produce them. 1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 201 An old high-backed arm chair, its voluted oak legs and framework blackened by Time.

2. *Arch.* Furnished with a volute or spiral scroll.

1810 *Rudim. Anc. Archit.* 15 (Jod.) The boldness of the voluted capital with the beauty of the shaft makes it eligible for portucoes, frontispieces, entrances to houses, etc. *c* 1878 Sir G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 302 The voluted capital was an accidental introduction from the East. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Aug. 14/1 Thus thing, with its huge voluted buttresses,..should serve as a warning to all who contemplate bridge building.

Volu·tiform, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *volūta* VOLUTE *sb.* + -(I)FORM.] Shaped like a volute.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 447/1 Glabella..Volutiform: the spire more or less conic.

Volution (vɒlĭū·ʃən). [f. L. *volūt-*, ppl. stem of *volvĕre* to turn, after *revolution*, etc.]

1. A rolling or revolving movement. Also *fig.*

1620 J. MASON *Turke* II iii. E 3, This..shall conduct him to the bed of Borgias: amidst whose waking plotts & state volutions, the amorous youth must needs be hartyly welcome. 1742 H. BROOKE *Constantia* 804 Wks. 1778 I. 306 Yet these the inanimate volution keep, And roll eliptic thro' the boundless deep. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 43 The [water-spout's] swift volution, and the enormous train, Let sages versed in nature's lore explain. 1819 SHELLEY *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) II. 216 To hear them over the earth, as the rapid volutions of a tempest have the ever-changing trunk of a water-spout. 1832 [MARY BERRY] *Soc. Life England & France* 295 The art of quickening..the motion of his heart he certainly possessed, as he made his pulse keep pace with the volutions of the divining rod.

2. A spiral turn or twist; a coil or convolution.

1732 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 132 At the head there stands a small conic clavicle, formed of about four volutions. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 208 The crane..has such a turning of the aspera arteria in the keel of the sternum; but the volution of this bird is round within the bone. 1786 *Ibid.* LXXVI. 161 It is generally coiled up into four volutions. 1842 POE *Marie Roget* Wks. 1864 I. 220 Two circular excoriations, apparently the effect of ropes, or of a rope in more than one volution. 1854 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 191 Nidamental ribbon rather wide, forming a spiral coil of few volutions.

3. A whorl of a spiral shell.

1884 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 262 Four specimens of a small Melania were collected..all eroded at the upper part of the spire, leaving only four volutions remaining.

Volutite (vɒ·lĭŭtait). *Palæont.* [f. VOLUTE *sb.* 3 + -ITE.] A fossil volute.

1820-3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 70 Whole strata full of .. turbinates .., as well as single volutites, entalites, and pieces of bone.

Volutive, obs. varinnt of VOLITIVE *a.*

Volu·tor. *rare.* [f. L. *volūt-*: cf. VOLUTION.] (See quots.)

1839 J. BOOTH (*title*), Description of the Volutor, an Instrument for Describing Spirals and Volutes. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6920, Volutors for tracing spiral curves.

Volutory, *a. rare*⁻¹. [Cf. prec. and -ORY.] Revolving, rolling.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 218 This second roller being hardened, and placed in an appropriate volutory press, is employed to engrave..the whole of its intended pattern.

Voluwe, ME. variant of FOLLOW *v.*

‖ **Volva** (vɒ·lvă). *Bot.* [L. *volva* (Pliny), f. *volvĕre* to roll, wrap.] The membranous covering which completely encloses many fungi in the early stage of growth.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Volva*, ..a membranous matter surrounding the bases of many of the fungi. 1784 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 423 This..vegetable production arises from a volva, which is buried six or eight inches deep in dry sandy banks. 1836 HENSLOW *Bot. Terms* 139 *Ring*,.. the debris left round the stipes of some agarics by the bursting of the volva. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 28 In Phalloidei the hymenium is at first enclosed within a sort of peridium or universal volva, maintaining a somewhat globose or egg-shape.

Hence **Vo·lvate** *a.* (In recent Dicts.)

†Volve, *v. Obs.* Also 5-7 volue. [ad. L. *volvĕre* to turn, roll, etc., or obs. F. *volver* (= Sp. and Pg. *volver*, It. *volvere, volgere*) from the same source.]

1. *intr.* To turn over, to roll.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Lyon & Mouse* 204 (Bann. MS.), Voluand (*v.r.* Welterand) about with hiddouss rowmissing, Quhyle to, quhyle fro, gif he mycht succour get.

2. *trans.* To turn over the pages of (a book). Also *absol.* (Cf. REVOLVE *v.* 5.)

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. Auth. Pref. 2 Whan this ymaginacyon came to me, I volued, tourned, and redde many volumes and bokes, conteynyng famouse histories. 1605 DANIEL *Ann.* To Rdr., I sedulously volued and revolued Characters of Kings and Peers, Letters, Consultations. 1638 R. CHAMBERLAIN *Noct. Lucubrationes* Ep. Ded., Many..Peeces of learning your Worship hath volved and revolved. 1677 P. A. *Pref. Poem* in *Cary's Chronol.*, Even so our studious Friend..is intent On Books and Reading, so doth chuse and pick, Volve and Revolve, and finally doth stick.

3. To turn over in the mind; to consider.

c 1530 BARCLAY *Jugurtha* (1557) 65 b, Somtyme he volued in mynd rather to subdue hymselfe..than to begyne war agayn. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sir. T.* IV. 297 Cambuscan ..voled, revolvd, in diepe perplexitie How to fix love and justice ...edie. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xx, I have been volving and revolving in my fancy..by what clean device I might..modulate them.

Volvelle (vɒ·lvel). *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also 5-6 volvell(e, 6 (9) volvell. [ad. med.L. *volvella* or *volvellum*, app. f. *volvĕre* to turn.] An old device consisting of one or more movable circles surrounded by other graduated or figured circles, serving to ascertain the rising and setting of the sun and moon, the state of the tides, etc.

14.. *MS. Ashmole* 191 fol. 199 The Rewle of the Volucelle. Now folowib here be volucelle that sum men clepen a lunarie. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cod.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Now folowib be thrid table þt is cleepid a volucelle or a lunary. 1502 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 239 A Castlew pagent wt a volvell by the which the xii signes moved about the Zodiak..and ouer that volucll Sat, in a stage or pynnacle, Raphaell the Arch angell. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1317 He turnyd his tirikkis, his voluell ran fast. *a* 1529 — *Sp. Parrot* 137 Tholomye and Haly were cunnyng and wyse In the volvell, in the quadrant, and in the astrolobye. 1543 in Dyce *Wks. Skelton* II. 336 A curious description of the volvell, with directions for its use. 1865 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 233/2 One volvelle and an accompanying table do the work quickly enough. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Sept. 6/2 A curious Kalender, with an astronomical volvelle of which the stylus had been preserved.

Vo·lvent, *ppl. a.* [ad. L. *volvent-*, *volvens*, pres. pple. of *volvĕre* to turn.] Turning round.

1808 MERRIDITH *Odes Fr. Hist., Napoleon* xi, Now had the Seaman's volvent sprite..Slung northward.

Volvocina·ceous, *a. Bot.* [Cf. next and -ACEOUS.] Resembling or related to the *Volvocineæ* (see next).

1874 H. C. WOOD *Fresh Water Algæ* 235 A peculiar condition of the Volvocinaceous Algæ.

Volvocinean, *a. Bot.* Also -ian. [f. mod.L. *Volvocineæ*, f. *Volvoc-*, VOLVOX.] Of or pertaining to the *Volvocineæ*, a family of microscopic confervaceous plants.

1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 836/1 Other Protozoa are known which are provided with chlorophyll corpuscles and..nourish themselves as do green plants. Such are the Volvocinean Flagellata and some of the Dinoflagellata. 1890 *Nature* 6 Feb. 318/2, I have cited the two Volvocinean genera Pandorina and Volvox as examples of the differentiation of homoplastids into the lowest heteroplastida.

‖ **Volvox** (vɒ·lvɒks). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. L. *volvĕre* to roll.] A genus of fresh-water organisms having a spherical form and provided with cilia which enable them to roll over in the water; an individual of this genus.

Volvox as the name of a vine-fretter in Holland *Pliny* (1601) I. 547 is derived from old editions of the *Nat. Hist.* XVII. XXVIII, which have *volvocem* in place of *volucrem*(*m*).

1798 *Tilloch's Philos. Mag.* I. 212 Girod Chantrans..even distinguished in one species of *conferva* a real *volvox*, which had some similarity to the *rotator* of Gmelin. 1864 H. J. SLACK in *Intell. Observer* V. 283 In one of my specimens I found a small volvox apparently uninjured. 1884 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 373 It would now seem that the celestial spaces have also their volvoxes and diatoms.

†Vo·lvulous, *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. L. *volv-ĕre* to turn, after *pendulous*, etc.] Twining.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 804 It is a lacteous, volvulous, scansory and smooth plant.

‖ **Volvulus** (vɒ·lvĭŭlŭs). *Path.* [med. or mod. L., f. L. *volvĕre* to turn, twist.] A form of intestinal obstruction caused by a twisting or knotting of the bowel. †Also in pl. *volvuli*.

1679 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revived* 247 When the Entrails are stopt that they cannot void, it is the Volvuli or wringing of the Guts. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Ileum*, Sometimes the Coats being doubled inward, the upper part of an Intestine sinks or falls with the lower, which makes the Illack-Passion, or Volvulus. 1753 A. MONRO in *Ess. Phys. & Lit.* (1756) II. 353 Remarks on..Intussusceptio, Inflammation, and Volvulus of the Intestines. 1799 *Med. Jrnl* I. 409 Pneumonic Inflammation,..Peritoneal Inflammation,..Volvulus. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Oper. Surg.* 396 The exact seat of the foreign body, volvulus, or strangulation. 1885 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 82/1 Volvulus is sometimes induced by violent muscular exertions, as in jumping or lifting. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 815 Under the gener l name 'volvulus' are included two distinct modes of obstruction. In one the bowel is so twisted about its mesenteric axis that it becomes occluded; in the other form two suitable coils of intestine are so intertwined or knotted together as also to cause an obstruction in their canals.

b. With *a*: An instance of this.

1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 287 There might be a *Volvulus Ibid.* 2.9 A *Volvulus* may be the Consequence of that Inflammation, and of the antiperistaltick Motion that succeeds it. 1867 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 156/2 Once a volvulus has become fairly established, it cannot spontaneously relieve itself. 1892 F. TAYLOR *Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) 387 Occasionally the small intestine forms a volvulus of the same kind as that described in the sigmoid.

Volwyshe, obs. Sc. form of WOLFISH.

Voly, obs. form of VOLLEY *sb.*

Volyer, variant of VOLLIER.

Volym, obs. form of VOLUME *sb.*

†Volymare, var. *folmare*, etc., FOUMART.

c 1450 *Bk. Hawkyng* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 303 The meve in this maner schal be sette, that no fucher no volymare enter in.

Volyper(e, obs. forms of VOLUPER.

Volxine, variant of VOLTZINE *Min.*

Voman, obs. Sc. f. WOMAN.

Vomating, obs. Sc. f. VOMITING *vbl. sb.*

Vomative, variant of VOMITIVE *Obs.*

†Vome, *sb. Obs. rare.* Also **voom, woom.** [f. next.] Vomit.

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxviii. 8 Alle forsothe boordis ben fulfild with the vome and filthi-, so that ther were no more place. 1382 — 2 *Pet.* ii. 22 An hound turned azen to his woom [*v.r.* vome, voom].

†Vome, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vomĕre*: see VOMIT *v.*] *trans.* and *absol.* To vomit. Also *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xviii. 25 Whos hidows synnes Y shal visite, that it caste [*early MSS.* vome] out his dwellers. — *Jer.* xxv. 27 Drinketh, and beth drunken, and vometh, and falleth. 1407 *Extra. W. Thorpe* in *MS. Ravl. C. 208* lf. 24 He & hise felowis mowen sore drede,..last þei ben sodeynli vomed out of þe noumbre of goddis chosen peple. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 67, I sau brume, that prouokis ane person to vome ald feume.

Hence **†Vo·ming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xix. 14 To erren thei maden Egipt..as erreth a drunke man and a vomende. — *Jer.* xlviii. 26 He shal hurtle the hond of Moab in his vomyng. — 2 *Pet.* ii. 22 A sowe waschun [returned] in the walewinge [*v.r.* vomyng].

Vome, southern ME. var. FOAM *sb.* and *v.*

†Vomент. *Obs. rare.* [Alteration of *vomet* VOMIT *sb.*] Vomit.

1482 *Monk of Evesham* xxi. (Arb.) 51 He drew out of his mowthe an horrable voment of venyne and cast hit al abrode. *c* 1510 *Gesta Rom.* (W. de W.) xxviii. (1879) 443 As a dogge whiche maketh a voment, and casteth out the mete that he hathe eten before.

Vomer (vōu·mər). [a. L. *vōmer* ploughshare.]

1. *Anat.* A small thin bone forming the posterior part of the partition between the nostrils in man and most vertebrate animals.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vomer*, is a Bone situated in the middle of the lower part of the NOSE. 1726 MONRO *Anat. Bones* 158 The Vomer divides the Nostrils, [and] enlarges the Organ of Smelling. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 26, I..found that the Roots of the Polypus adhered to the *Vomer*. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 66 The *Vomer* is an azygous bone, situated in the median line,.. forming the posterior part of the septum of the nasal fossæ. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 25 The skull of the Common Fowl differs from that of the Common Pigeon..in its possession of a rudimentary vomer.

2. *Ichthyol.* A bone forming the front part of the roof of the mouth, and often bearing teeth.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 405 Many pointed teeth along both jaws, the palate, and the tongue, but none on the vomer. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 170 The next, or fourth family of the Acanthopterygii..differ in not having teeth on either vomer or palate. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 469 Brook Trouts, ..distinguished from the true Salmons by a peculiar arrangement of teeth on the vomer.

3. *Ornith.* The large terminal bone in the tail of most birds; the pygostyle.

1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 37 The bones are few..and short, not projecting beyond the general plumage, and the last one, called *coccyx* or *vomer*,..is large and singularly shaped.

Vomerine (vōu·mərəin), *a.* [f. VOMER + -INE.]

1. Of or belonging to the vomer (esp. of fishes); composing the vomer.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 294 The natural segment which..is formed by the vomerine, prefrontal, and nasal bones, is very distinct in the ophidians. 1858 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 252 Teeth in vomerine bones in a transverse row. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 647/2 An extremely large basal bone, which extends from the vomerine region on to the anterior part of the spinal column.

2. Of teeth: Situated on the vomer.

1863 DANA *Man Geol.* 345 *note*, The species of Europe want these vomerine teeth. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* II 985 Here the vomerine teeth of the middle row are larger than the teeth of the other rows.

Vomero-, combining form of VOMER, as in *vomero-nasal*, *-palatine* adjs. (In recent Dicts.)

†Vomic, *a. Obs. rare.* Also **6 vomike, 8 -ick.** [ad. mod.L. *vomicus* in *nux vomica*.] *Vomic nut*, = NUX VOMICA.

The sense of 'purulent, ulcerous' given in later Dictionaries (from *c* 1884) appears to have been evolved from VOMICA 2.

1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 49 First I wil rehearse what he writeth of the vomike nut. 1751 J. HILL *Mat. Med.* 505 Vomick nut is the nucleus of a fruit of an East-Indian tree. 1794 WOODVILLE *Med. Bot.* Suppl. 89 *Strychnos Nux vomica*. Vomic nut, or Poison-nut.

‖Vomica (vɒ·mikă). Pl. **vomicæ** (-isī), and **vomicas.** [L. *vomica* boil, ulcer, f. *vomĕre* to eject, vomit. Hence also It., Sp., Pg. *vomica*, F. *vomique*, in sense 2.]

1. †a. A vent or opening. *Obs.*—1

1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* 11. 15 b, It should followe, that where such hote bathes were, there should bee vomica and a chimney, out of whiche that flame should bee expelled.

b. A place at which water issues.

1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 273/1 It is obvious that the conflux of the springs in the Beck, is greater than the unvarying quantity gauged at the vomica or source of each Spring.

2. *Path.* a. An ulcerous cavity or abscess in the substance of the lungs or (more rarely) some other internal organ.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vomica*, a fault in the Lungs, from Heterogeneous Blood. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 1. 387 If the Ulcer is not broke it is commonly call'd a Vomica. 1775 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1776) III. 204 The lungs become inflamed, a cough ensues, tubercles or a vomica are formed. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 639 Vomicæ or indurated tumours of whatever kind in the substance of the lungs. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 156 A vomica in the middle lobe of the right lung. 1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 196 The ulcerative cavities, vomicæ, result from a softening of the tuberculous and inflammatory cheesy material and its removal through the bronchi.

b. A sudden and profuse expectoration of purulent or putrid matter.

1893– in American dicts.

Vomicene, -in(e. *Chem.* [f. (NUX) VOMICA.] = BRUCINE. (In recent Amer. dicts.)

Vomico·se, *a. Path.* [f. VOMICA 2 a.] Abounding in ulcerous cavities.

†Vo·mish, *v. Obs.*—1 [ad. F. *vomiss-*, lengthened stem of *vomir* to vomit.] *trans.* To vomit.

1536 *Stories & Proph. Scripture* Svj, And the Lorde hath commaunded the whayle, and he hath vomished out Jonam vpon the lande.

†Vomishment. *Obs.*—1 In 5 **vomysch-**. [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *vomissement*, f. *vomir* to vomit.] The act or fact of vomiting.

a 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 2888 He schalt not þenne hys hosul take, For vomyschment & castynge sake.

Vomit (vɒ·mit), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 **vomyt** (5 **womyt, vomyght**), 5–6 **vomyte**, 5–7 **vomite**, 6 **vomitte**, 6– **vomit** (6 **womit**), 7–8 **vomitt**; 4–6 **vomet**, 5 **-ete, -ette**, 6 **womeit**, 7 **vomett.** [a. AF. *vomit, -ite*, OF. *vomite* (= It., Sp., Pg. *vomito*), or ad. L. *vomit-us*, f. *vomĕre*: see next.]

1. The act of ejecting the contents of the stomach through the mouth: a. With *a* and pl.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 85 Duke Edrik,..feynynge a vomet or brakynge, seide þat he was seek. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13545 The salt water sadly sanke in my wombe, þat I voidet with vomettes by vertu of goddes. 1484 CAXTON *Curial* 3 b, We ete so gredyly..that otherwhyle we caste it up agayn and make vomytes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 194 b, For very feblenes of nature caused by purgacious and vomites he dyed. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 437 Nvx vomica causeth a strong vomite. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, I haue pills about me Would giue him a light vomit. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 123 It gave them immediately such a Vomit, that they spewed forth most vile Corruption. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 158 They soon grow old, they have..Phrensies, choleric Vomits, and Fluxes. 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* p v, Vomits drive forcibly out of the upper part of the chyliferous Tube..its noxious Contents. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias' Descr. Greece* III. 172 He afterwards threw it up by a vomit. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 901 Vomiting in perityphlitis ..may occur repeatedly, or there may be only an initial vomit.

fig. 1422–3 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 272 Vnwise is he þat besy þoght ne dredeþ. In whom þat he his mortel venym schedeþ, But if a vomyt after folwe blyue, At þe port of despeir he may arryue. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 55 Others..stirred up the dregs of those rude humours, which by time..he sought to repose, or to give them all a vomit.

b. Without article.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1898 Hym gayneth neither for to gete his lif, Vomyt vpward, ne dounward laxatif. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 247 Vomyte purgyth the stomake of ill humours aboue, as a medecyne laxatyfe benethe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512/2 Vomyte, or evomyte, brakynge, *vomitus*. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* D iij, He shulde eate no maner of meates without his stomake be net, and purged of all yl humours by vomet. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 293 They remedy that surfecte by vomyte whiche they prouoke by eatynge of antes. 1564 HARDING *Answ. Jewel* 46 When the deacon had forced her to receine a litle of the cuppe, the yeax and vomite followed. *a* 1616 HEALEY *Cebes* (1636) 135 Which purgeth out all their ingulphed evils, as by vomit or ejection. *c* 1620 *Women Saints* 40 As often as she eate of the. meate, she by vomite cast it vp agnine. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 331/2 It is said to be Diaphoretick, and gently to provoke Vomit.

†c. With *the*, in specific use. *Obs.*—1

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 318 The weam-eill, the wild-fire, the vomit and the vees.

d. (See quot.)

1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 20/1 *Barcoo Vomit*, a sickness occurring in inhabitants..of the interior of Australia. It is characterized by painless attacks of vomiting.

2. Matter ejected from the stomach by vomiting; = SPEW *sb.* 1.

c 1390 *Wycliffite Bible* 2 Pet. ii. 22 An hound turned azen to his woom [*v.rr.* vomyt, womyt]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 278 (Harl. MS.), He may be likenide to an hound þat turnith azen to his vomyt. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxviii. 8 All tables are so ful of vomyte and fylthynes, yᵗ no place is clene. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 203 The Image of Bacchus with fat red cheekes, begrimed wyth vomets. 1632 R. BOLTON *Comf. Aff. Consc.* (1635) 307 As a loathsome vomit is to the stomacke of him that casts it out so are luke-warme Professours to the Lord Jesus. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 11 The vomit of a dog. 1820 SHELLEY *Œdipus* I. 353 Here The Gadfly's venom..Is mingled with the vomit of the Leech. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 655 The character of the vomit depends on circumstances. Generally, however, it comprises mucus..and bile. 1882 BALLANTINE *Exper. Barrister's Life* II. 20 A physician ..who was present when the vomit was analysed.

b. *Black vomit*, a blackish matter, resembling coffee grounds and due to hæmorrhage, vomited in severer cases of yellow fever; also, the disease of yellow fever itself.

1849 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 137 The black Vomit was not known at Cartagena..until the Years 1729 and 1730. *c* 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 146/2 The Yellow Fever..is the same with that called, from one of its worst symptoms, the *black vomit*. 1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 295 A fever, with yellow skin and black vomit in some of the cases, appeared among a party of forty men. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 199 On the third or fourth day, or later, the vomited matters..begin to contain blood..and they soon assume..a coffee-ground character, constituting the so-called 'black vomit'. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 427/1 Hands sent aboard..left on the next day, believing they had detected 'black vomit' in her hospital.

attrib. 1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 265 A black-vomit epidemic. *Ibid.*, The black-vomit fever of the West Indies.

c. (See quots.)

1886 *Pagge's Princ. & Pract. Med.* II. 808/1 Coffee-ground vomit in cancer of stomach. 1893 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Bilious vomit*, bile forced back into the stomach and ejected with vomited matter.

3. a. *fig.* (Chiefly in allusion to Prov. xxvi. 11 and 2 Pet. ii, 22).

(*a*) 1575 GARCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Argt., Wks. 1910 II. 5 The eldest (turning to their vomit) take their cariage with them, and travaile the worlde. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 80 Turne no more to the puddle and vomit of your filthye, ydle life. 1601 F. GODWIN *Abs of Eng.* 7 They likewise returned to the filthie vomite of their abominable idolatrie. 1642 MILTON *Apol Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 290 Now that ye have started back from the purity of Scripture..to the old vomit of your traditions. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 24 Returning back to his old vomit, he was at last prevailed with to forsake Philip. 1706 SIEVERS *Span. Dict.* I. *Bolver al vomito*, to return to the vomit, to relapse into sin.

(*b*) *a* 1583 POLWART *Flyting* 364 in *Montgomerie's Poems* (S.T.S 1910) 170 The loun man lik his womeit, and deny His schamelesschawis. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, 1 iii 99 Now thou would st eate thy dead vomit vp, And how'st not to finde it. 1608 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. iv. Dog ' I will make thee eate thy vomit up. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. *Misery* 20, I . Feed on those vomits of my heart.

b. Applied with contemptuous force to persons or things of a vile, loathsome, or disgusting character.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, Out you dog-leach, The vomit of all prisons. 1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* To Rdr., It is not the primitive Trueth of the Creation.., but a certaine preternaturall upstart, a vomit of Aristotle 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 532 The vomit of Jerusalem is coming 1889 J DICKIE *Words Faith, Hope & L* (1892) 272 Jesus speaks of him as a vomit, which He will have to spue out.

c. *transf.* Substance cast out by discharge or eruption.

1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* III. 65 The lab'ring Mounts Belch drossy Vomit out. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 473/1 Four companies..had to be detailed to capture it under cover of a mountain battery's vomit.

4. A powder, draught, or other medicine which causes vomiting; an emetic.

Freq from *c* 1600 to *c* 1800.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 51 in *Anglia* XVIII. 309 3if þou of vomites wylt hawe bote. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 18 Laxatiues & vometis ben nedeful to hem, þat han olde rotid woundis. 1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 100 Fain wold we haue some medicins, as purgacions & vomites, to pul down & auoid yᵗ we cram in to much. 1580 HESTER tr. *Fioravanti's Disc. Chirurg.* 37 The first thing that I gaue him was a vomitte that purged the stomacke. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xiii. 53 The extraction whereof maketh a very good and gentle vomit. 1664 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 19 A vomitt that I took of Mr. Alport, 1s. 6d. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 18 Sept., I have taken a vomit to-day, and hope I shall be better. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Emetic*, The great practice of the antient Egyptian physicians consisted in glysters, vomits, and abstinence. 1785 TRUSLER *Med. Times* II. 161, I told the scoundrel to make up a vomit, and he has made up a purge. 1803 REDDORS *Hygeia* IX. 155 The state of the stomach had been changed by absorbents, vomits or bitters. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 452 He saw from thirty to fifty gall-stones volded after taking only an oil vomit. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1337/2 *Vomit*, common term for an emetic draught or powder.

fig. 1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marf.* 20 Martin..poysoned her [*sc.* Divinity] with a vomit which he ministred vnto her, to make her cast vppe her dignities and promotions. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 13 The earth..is burdened with them, and cryes to me for a vomit to spue them out.

5. The hood or cover of a vomiting boiler.

1880 J. DUNBAR *Practical Paperm.* (1881) 29 [Rags] boiled with steam..for 10 hours in stationary boilers without vomit. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 220/1 [The] hot liquid..is dispersed all over the boiler by striking against a hood E at the top. This is technically known as the 'vomit'.

Vomit (vɒ·mit), *v.* Forms: 5–6 **vomyte**, 6–7 **vomite**, 6 **vomyt, -itte, womit**, 6– **vomit**; 6 **vomete, womet.** [a. L. *vomit-*, ppl. stem of *vomĕre* (whence It. *vomire*, F. *vomir*: see VOME *v.*), or ad. L. *vomit-āre* (whence It. *vomitare*, Sp., Pg., and Pr. *vomitar*, obs. F. *vomiter*), frequentative of *vomĕre* to vomit. Cf. EVOMIT *v.*]

1. *intr.* To bring up and eject the contents of the stomach by the mouth; to cast or throw up; = SPEW *v.* 1.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 245 If a man haue nede to vomyte, lete hit be done atte myde-day. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 322/1 Then shall ye sometime see..al their bodye shiuer for paine, and yet shall neuer vomete at all. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 36 Some..are prouoked to vomitte, euen as they were tossed on the sea. 1592 KYD *Murder J. Brewen* P 5 Immediatlie after he began to vomet exceedingly. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 127 Sir Herbert Croft..met him upon the water vomiting all the way. 1675 E. WILSON *Spadacer. Domestic.* 79 In case the Stomach be fowl, and the Patient..be apt to Vomit. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 67 The young Lady

complained she was not well; in a Quarter of an Hour more she vomited. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 294 The belly was always greatly swollen, when the animal began to vomit. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 231 She complained .. of extreme sickness, which produced frequent efforts to vomit. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* xi. 259 The monkeys in the Zoological Gardens often vomit whilst in perfect health.

2. *trans.* To bring up and discharge (swallowed food or drink) through the mouth; to cast out (a matter or substance) in this way; = SPEW *v.* 2. Also *fig.*

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Prov.* xxiii. 8 Thou shalt vomit thy morsels that thou has eaten. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Vomitus*, Matter of diuers colours vomited. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* III. i. 232 My bowels cannot hide her woes, But like a drunkard must I vomit them. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. vi. 45 Sluttery..Should make desire vomit emptiness, Not so allur'd to feed. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 149 His stomach became uneasy, and he vomited a small portion of the last dose. 1845 *Encyc. Metrop.* VII. 532/2 The matters vomited are merely the contents of the stomach, half digested. 1878 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 109 A lady vomited the contents of a very large swelling which had formed.

b. Freq. with advs., as *forth*, *out*, *up*.

1541 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 23 Yf by chance he espied any of them, he was therwith so greued, that he immediately wolde vomite vp colar. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Reijcere sanguinem*, to vomite out bloudde. *a* 1592 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866) II. 59 Then might the poor be fed with that which he oftentimes .. loathsomely vomits forth. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jonah* ii. 11 The Lord spoke to the fish: and it vomited out Jonas upon the dry land. 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* II. viii, I ha' vomited out..all my entrails. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. *Treat. Orange Trees* 43 The Juggler, who..Vomits up so many several sorts of Water, all differing in Colour, Taste, and Smell. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Cl.) 174 You must know it is a mortall sin to vomit up this morsell. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 247 Desire of food in great quantity, which is immediately vomited up. 1845 BIRCH in *Classical Museum* III. 420 The Jason vomited up by the serpent of the Fleece. 1904 SPENCER & GILLEN *North. Tribes Cent Austral.* xiv. 472 The natives say that once some men..became so ill that they vomited forth their livers.

3. *fig.* a. To eject, reject, cast *out* or *up*, esp. with abhorrence or loathing.

1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 54 That thai mot..womet out agane fra the ground thai bittir and tribulous seis of errouris. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Rev.* iii. 16 Because thou art ..neither cold nor hote, I wil begin to vomite thee out of my mouth. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. iii, They faine would cast And vomit him from off their government. 1636 SIR R. BAKER *Cato Variegatus* 94 Praise not too much; lest thou be forc'd in th'end To eate thy words, and vomit up thy friend. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead, Belgic Hero* Wks. 1711 IV. 67 A haughty Tyrant..was obliged to vomit up numberless Provinces and Towns, which he had dishonourably stolen. 1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* Introd. p. xcii, A stern admonition, that where such vices are practised, the very earth shall vomit out its inhabitants.

b. To give vent to, belch out, or utter (abusive or objectionable language); = SPEW *v.* 2 c. Chiefly with advs. (as *forth*, *out*, *up*) or preps.

1592 BRETON *Pilgr. Paradise* Wks. (Grosart) I. 22/2 Vp did start the heade of Gluttonie, Vomiting out theese wordes of villany. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* IV. ii, I hope This Senate is more graue, then to giue credit Rashly to all he vomits. 1639 S. DU VERDIER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 270 He .. made him vomit out a thousand outragious speeches against the perfidie .. of Babilas. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 96 All these abominable names Thou vomits forth so fluently. 1825 PARKMAN *Champlain* viii. (1875) 289 The Frenchman vomited against him every species of malignant abuse.

absol. 1640 SIR E. DERING *Carmelite* iv. (1641) 52 How bawdy..is unfit for any man to foul his pen with; more unfit for you..so to vomit against your dead Prince.

4. *transf.* a. To discharge, to give, send, or throw out (flames, water, etc.) copiously or with force.

1552 HULOET, Vomitynge or castynge out water, *vndinosus*. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 655 He and his curst crew..like the sons of Vulcan, vomit smoke. 1635 QUARLES *Emblems* I. xi. (1718) 45 Sol's hot-mouth'd steeds, whose nostrils vomit flame. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* v. 894 The silent plague [*sc.* fire] through the green timber eats, And vomits out a tardy flame by fits. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* ii. (1749) II. 47 Those grotesque heads..which the ingenious architect has represented in the act of vomiting out the rain, which falls through certain pipes. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 532 Many a million-peopled city Vomits smoke in the bright air. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xv, That huge black-mouthed sewer, vomiting its pestilential riches across the mud. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 84 The roar Of the dead salt sea that vomits Wrecks of the past ashore.

b. To discharge or emit, to send *out* or pour *forth* (persons or things, esp. in numbers) in a manner suggestive of vomiting.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 328 A scum of Brittaines,.. Whom their o're-cloyed Country vomits forth To desperate Aduentures. 1819 C'TESS SPENCER in *Lady Lyttelton's Corr.* viii. (1912) 213 If I find any Englishwoman going home by a diligence,..Mrs. Bishop may be vomitted out at the Black Boar, Piccadilly. 1820 *Ibid.* 222 All such as you see vomited out of the steam-vessel upon Ramsgate or Margate piers. 1834 S. E. BRYDGES *Autobiog.* I. 108 An incredible quantity of nonsense is vomited from the press. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xvii, There was Uriah's blue bag lying down and vomiting papers.

c. To eject or cast out by volcanic action; = SPEW *v.* 4 c. Also with advs., as *forth*, *up*.

1614 EARL STIRLING *Doomsday* II. lviii, The earth..Doth vomit mountaines, and doth swallow Townes. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 107 A little Rockie Island, which.. vomited up incredible Flames. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5128/8 Mount Vesuvius had vomited violent Streams of Sulphur. 1770 W. HODSON *Dod. Temp. Solomon* 4 Ætna vomits forth her livid Fires. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 76 A mouth of fire is opened in a low place..; that mouth vomits a quantity of burning matters. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. iv, Meats is changing into an explosive crater, vomiting fire, bevomited with fire! 1866 HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci.* (1867) 33 The opening of a chasm vomiting fire and red-hot stones and ashes. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 228 The fused rocks..which are vomited forth by volcanoes.

5. *absol.* Of emetics: To cause vomiting.

1652 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 172 You may have a Liquor in the morning which will vomit. 1681 tr. *Bolon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 30 Which Tincture does variously operate, sometimes purging, sometimes (though rarely) vomiting. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 284 The Mineral Bezoar will sometimes vomit. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 274 It [hemlock] seldom purges, very rarely vomits. 1820–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 57 Emetic tartar, when introduced into the jugular vein, will vomit in one or two minutes. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* iv. 50 When chemistry reveals why Tartar Emetic vomits.

b. *trans.* To cause (a person) to vomit.

1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 3 Yet will it vomit some, purge others, and make others sweat out of measure. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 34 We gave some Ipecacuanha, which vomited our Patient, and made her discharge several Membranes and Fragments of Eschars. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 141 Some having taken this water in a mistake,..it has vomitted and purged them. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 21 It is true, vinum antimoniale does not always vomit children. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xii. 131 Almost every dose vomited him.

c. Said of the person administering the emetic; or in passive of the patient.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 298 We presently proceeded to vomit him: for he was easy to vomit. 1727 SWIFT *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 158, I have taken involuntary purges, I have been vomited. 1756 *Med. Obs. & Inq.* (1776) I. xxi. 271, I proposed..to relieve her, by vomiting her in the most gentle manner. 1790 J. C. SMYTH in *Mem. Commun.* II. 478 He was vomited with tartar emetic. 1810 BYRON *Lett. to Hodgson* 3 Oct., The English Consul..forced a physician upon me, and in three days vomited and glystered me to the last gasp. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* lviii. (1844) II. 248 He is vomiting and purging his patients with herbs.

fig. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* III. ii, I took thee for my Soul's Physician, And dost thou vomit me with this loath'd Piece? 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 10 We'll vomit his purse, And make it the guineas disgorge.

6. *intr.* To issue, or come out, with force or violence; to rush *out*, to spout *up*.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 392 It impetuously vomiteth out, in an outragious Torrent. 1844, 1904 [see VOMITING *ppl. a.*]

Hence **Vo·mited** *ppl. a.*

1846 DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 393 A case in which urea was detected in the vomited fluid. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 46 In certain forms of dyspepsia they have been obtained from the vomited matters.

Vomit-, the stem of VOMIT *v.* used in a few combinations, as † **vomit-grass**, a grass causing vomiting in dogs; **vomit-nut**, = VOMIC NUT (Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, 1858); **vomit-wort** *U.S.*, Indian tobacco (*Lobelia inflata*).

1808 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 119 Your presence will be to them what the vomit-grass is to a sick dog.

Vomitary, variant of (or misprint for) VOMITORY *sb.*

1652 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 448 Much lesse vomitaries; for of all evacuations a vomit is the most grievous and dangerous. [*But p.* 338 vomitorica.] 1833 SIR C. NAPIER *Colonies* 3 The innumerable tributary rivers which send their waters through these mighty vomitaries into the ocean.

Vo·miter. [f. VOMIT *v.* + -ER. Cf. L. *vomitor*.]

1. One who spews or vomits.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Vomitor*, a vomiter. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een braker*, a Vomiter, or a Spewer. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 266 The Vomiter in no small Passion flew, But all in vain: 'Twas nothing but his Due, Instead of Laurel to be crown'd with Spue.

† **2.** = VOMITORY *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1634 P. LOWE *Chirurg.* 265 Purging the grosse phlegmatique humors by laxatives and vomiters. 1681 W. WALWYN *Physick* 4 Without any disturbance of Nature, by Loosners, Vomiters, Bleedings, Issues. 1717 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 262 Let blood if your stitch continue, and take a vomiter. 1743 *Scott. Forfeited Estates Papers* (S.H.S.) 190 To Mary Strang, a vomiter, £6 10. 0.

Vomiting, *vbl. sb.* [f. VOMIT *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The act of ejecting the contents of the stomach through the mouth; an instance of this.

1493 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* XVII. xxi. O ij b/1 This floure balaustia..hath also vertue to staunche spewyng & vomytynge. 1555 W. WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 73 When they are sicke, they heale them selues, eyther with fasting or vomiting. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunt. Cl.) 196 Oppin thy crop at morrowing, Cast out flowme, mak vomating. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 782 Inordinate passion of vomiting .. is nothing different from a keckish stomacke and a desire to cast. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. xiv. 249 The Water..has upon the gazer the operation of a rapid stream, and by making him giddy, hastens and facilitates his Vomiting. 1708 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 303 Such a nauseating and indigestion that great Numbers.. dyed..by violent Vomitings. 1742 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1914) XIV. 137 A Sudden Vomiting seiz'd her, which deprived her of ye Benefit of her Viaticum. 1829 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 593 A mild vegetable ailment, where ailment can be taken without inducing sickness, or exciting vomiting. 1885 PAYNE *Marvels* I. vii. A painful vomiting, which seemed to shake his body asunder.

b. Const. *of* (the matter ejected).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. Table, s.v., Vomiting of bloud out of the stomacke, how to bee cured. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. (ed. 2) 194 It .. induceth vomitings of bloud. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Colic*, A vomiting of bilious green Liquor. 1765 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 27 May (1827) III. 213 A young man, brought near death by a vomiting of blood. 1820–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 183 Gangrene..accompanied with a vomiting of matter resembling coffee-grounds. 1839 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1337/2 *Vomiting of Blood*,..common term for the disease *Hæmatemesis*.

c. With defining terms. (See quots.)

1794 B. RUSH *Acc. Yellow Fever* (ed. 2) 56 Several persons died without a black vomiting of any kind. 1856 MACGILLIVRAY *Trav. Humboldt* xxi. 300 The yellow fever or black vomiting is prevalent. *a* 1883 FAGGE *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) II. 130 'Irritability of the stomach,' or 'hysterical vomiting.' 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Morning vomiting*, the vomiting of drunkards, due to alcoholism; also, the vomiting of pregnant women.

2. *concr.* Matter which is vomited; = VOMIT *sb.* 2.

1727 SWIFT *Poisoning E. Curll* Wks. 1735 III. i. 149 The contents of his vomiting being as green as grass. 1794 B. RUSH *Acc. Yellow Fever* (ed. 2) 56 The matter which constitutes the fatal black vomiting.

3. *techn.* (See quot. and VOMITING *ppl. a.*)

1881 *Spons' Encycl. Industr. Arts* IV. 1486 The steam from the pipe A heats the liquor..and forcing it up the wide pipe C, causes it to strike against the dome or bonnet D...This is technically called 'vomiting'.

4. *attrib.*, chiefly in the sense 'causing vomiting, emetic', as *vomiting drink julep, pap, tartar*, etc.; † **vomiting nut**, = NUX VOMICA 1.

(*a*) 1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* 106 b, *Nux vomica*, the vomiting nutte. 1587 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 155, iij vomitinge nottes of puther. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xviii. 49 They are no bigger than a large vomiting Nut. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. I. iv. 210 The true Methel; or the Vomiting-Nut commonly so call'd. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 137 The Vomiting Nuts are round, flat Nuts, of divers Colours. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 53 They..pour strong Vinegar upon vomiting Nuts.

(*b*) 1647 HEXHAM I, A vomiting drinke or potion, *een dranck die over-geven doet*. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. viii. 189 That violent Vomiting Medicine.. called..Mercurius Vitæ. 1694 W. SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 363 2 A Vomiting Pappe. *Ibid.* 527/2 *Tartarum Emeticum*, Emetick, or Vomiting Tartar. 1737 *Med. Ess. & Observ.* IV. 33 An Essay towards ascertaining the Doses of vomiting and purging Medicines. 1769 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 191 A few spoonfuls of the vomiting julep, will generally answer this purpose.

(*c*) 1652 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 44 He that first found out the vomiting vertue of antimony. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 650 Again vomiting..is suggestive..of a tumour in the region of the vomiting centre.

Vo·miting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That vomits or causes to vomit.

Vomiting-boiler: (see quot. 1844).

1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 76 A 'vomiting-boiler', that is, a boiler so constructed that the water is made to vomit upwards from a pipe, and then to fall down on the cloth in the boiler. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 14/2 Fixed kiers with a vomiting-pipe. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Paperm.* (1881) 19 [Esparto grass] boiled for 10 hours in stationary vomiting boilers with 10 lb. steam pressure. 1904 R. J. FARRER *Gard. Asia* 248 From the wide plain leapt a vomiting cone of fire.

Vo·mitingly, *adv. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -LY².] In a manner suggestive of vomiting.

1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* 24 Take occasion (pulling out your gloues) to haue some Epigram..or Sonnet fastned in one of them, that may (as it were vomittingly to you) offer it selfe to the Gentlemen.

Vomition (vŏmi·ʃən). [a. obs. F. *vomition* (16th c.), or ad. L. *vomitiōn-is*, *vomitio*, noun of action f. *vomīre* to vomit.] The action of vomiting.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vomition*, a vomiting, casting, or parbreaking. 1676 GREW *Museum*, *Anat. Stomach & Guts* vi. 25 The use hereof with Vndulation, is for Vomition. 1701 — *Cosm. Sacra* III. ii. 98 If the Stomack had wanted the Faculty of Vomition, they had inevitably died. *c* 1714 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Mr. Scriblerus* I. x, He attended Dr. Woodward through a twelve months course of vomition. 1820 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 585 Prof. Hufeland distinguishes two species of vomition of the milk observed in infants. 1820–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 619 An emetic which..has the additional benefit of emulging the meseraic or mesenteric vessels by the act of vomition. 1908 *Edin. Rev.* July 200 Some of these..were relieved by a copious vomition and survived.

† **Vomitive**, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 7 **vomitif**, **vomitive**; 6 *Sc.* **womatine**, 7–8 **vomative**. [a. F. *vomitif*, *-ive* (= Sp., Pg., It. *vomitivo*), ad. med.L. **vomitīv-us*: see VOMIT *v.* and -IVE.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of medicines, etc.: Causing vomiting; vomitory; emetic.

1580 *Well of Woman Ilill*, *Aberdeen* 22 b, To vtheris it is womatiue. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 142 Being therein helped by certaine vomitive pils. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 337 From this vitriolous quality *Mercuries dulcis*, and vitriol vomitive occasion black ejections. 1668 *Hist. Thes* in *Harl. Misc.* I. 532 Now Thee itself, when given in a large dose,..does often prove vomitive. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 186 These nuts grow in Jamaica; they are not vomitive,..but called and eaten as Wallnuts. 1734 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 846 [Antimony] being in substance most violently vomitive.

2. Of or pertaining to vomiting.

1697 G. STANLEY *Helmont's Vind.* Ep. Rdr. 20 The true preparation of all Vegetals, takes away..the vomitive quality of them, except only in Opium. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. viii. 189 That Vomitive faculty, of Antimonial Glass. *a* 1692 — *Hist. Air* (1692) 233 *Antimonium Diaphoreticum*, being kept some Years,..acquir'd a Vomitive Quality.

B. *sb.* An emetic; = VOMITORY *sb.* 1.

1621 COTGR., *Vomitif*, a Vomitiue, or Vomitorie; any thing that prouokes vomiting. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* vii. (1704) 422 Physicians..make him sicker than he is..by vomitives. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 403 They gave her also Vomitives and Deobstruents. 1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, The *Ipecacuanha*..is also a gentle Vomitive. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 71 The second indication is to evacuate the morbid humour by vomitives or purgatives, or a cathartico-emetic. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 337 Vomits may be rendered purgatives, and purges vomitives.

fig. 1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* 192 Slowness in believing is a Vomitive that brings up secrets.

‖ **Vomito** (vǫ·mito). [Sp. (and Pg.) *vómito*, ad. L. *vomitus*, f. *vomĕre* to VOMIT.] The yellow fever in its virulent form, when it is usually accompanied by black vomit. Cf. VOMIT *sb.* 2 b.

1823 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 290/2 He even says that during the eight years preceding 1794, there was not a single example of the *vomito*. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 2 The season of the bilious fever,—*vomito*, as it is called,—which scourges these coasts. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 472 When paroxysmal fever and the true yellow fever or vomito were thought to own a common cause.

Vomitorial, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *vomitōria* (see VOMITORIUM) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a vomitorium or vomitoria.

1830 DOSELL *Roman* v. Poet. Wks. (1875) 59 From these wide And vomitorial windows, belched your tumult To me transgressing.

‖ **Vomitorium.** *Roman Antiq.* Pl. **vomitoria** (also 8 -iums, *erron.* -ies). [Neuter sing. of L. *vomitōrius* (cf. next); recorded only in pl. (Macrobius *Sat.* VI. iv).] A passage or opening in an ancient amphitheatre or theatre, leading to or from the seats. Usu. pl.

1754 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* I. 129/2 They were entered by avenues, at the end of which were gates, called vomitoriæ. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* II. 228 The remains of two galleries one over another; and two vomitoria or great gateways at opposite sides of the arena. 1837 *Antig. Athens* 48 Those numerous corridors and vomitoria which gave such free..access to all parts of a Roman theatre.

Vomitory (vǫ·mitŏri), *sb.* [ad. L. *vomitōri-um* (whence F. *vomitoire*, Sp., Pg., It. *vomitorio*): see prec. and next.]

†1. A medicine or the like which causes or induces vomiting; an emetic. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 252 This Tithymall is nothing so strong a vomitorie as the former. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* xix. (1672) 38 Having a power to force themselves a vomiting..by straining, or by other means in taking Vomitories privately. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 332/1 A most gentle Vomitory, Dejectory, and Diaphoretick. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Anacathartic*, Vomitories, sternutatories or masticatories.

fig. 1681 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. xxxiv. 338 So infirme..are all those things which are prescribed against this sort of poyson, but especially vomitories who do..offer great violence to Nature.

2. An opening, door, or passage in a theatre, playhouse, or the like, affording ingress or egress to the spectators; originally (and usually) = VOMITORIUM.

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 274 He had made the number of the Vomitories in the Middle full in the second Line. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xii. I. 351 Sixty-four *vomitories* (for by that name the doors were very aptly distinguished) poured forth the immense multitude. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 54 Low ranges of buildings, consisting of spacious halls with wide doors or vomitories opening into the square. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 629/1 Yonder are the vomitories through which..the tide of eager population flowed. 1861 MISS E. A. BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepulchres & Syrian Shr.* II. xxiv. 310 Near this are the remains of a once fine theatre..: some of the vomitories still remain.

3. A funnel, vent, or other opening through which matter is emitted or discharged.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 497 A low building, which is almost all chimney—it has indeed a wide-throated vomitory ..for so tiny an edifice. 1853 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xv. 307 From this vomitory, the old glacier poured into the plains ..that wonderful accumulation of mud. 1904 R. G. FARRER *Gard. Asia* 165 Those roaring vomitories [*sc.* volcanoes] of the underworld.

b. In fig. use.

1822 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 270 His tongue struck dumb in his cheek, and the vomitory of vociferation hermetically sealed. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 917 Our three great theatres, which Mr. Prynne..proved long ago to be vomitories of vice. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 276 The great vomitory of the London press. 1878 J. THOMSON *Pictur. Key* 25 Your shameless charlatans whose dirty tricks And frothy gab defile all politics..Retard sure progress—damn such vomitories!

Vomitory (vǫ·mitŏri), *a.* [ad. L. *vomitōri-us*, f. *vomĕre* to VOMIT: see -ORY².]

1. Of or pertaining to vomiting.

[illegible]

unto water, or wine, a purging and vomitory operation. 1672 GREW *Idea Philos. Hist. Plants* § 7 Whence one (faculty) becomes Purgative, another Vomitory, a third Diaphoretick. 1702 WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 61 If we will believe the ingenious Dr. Carr.. there is an Emetick Vomitory vertue in the Sea-water it self. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 684 Vomitory agonies, and spasms of the diaphragm.

2. Efficacious in promoting vomiting; causing vomiting; emetic.

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg. Wks.* XXVI. v. (1678) 632 Agarick, and other nauseous and vomitory Medicins. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 228 A Physician of the City offers him a vomitory potion, whereby he vomited twice every day. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 212 After taking a Medicine, whether sudorifick or vomitory. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), 1839 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1337/2 *Vomitorius*, .. causing vomiting; emetic;..vomitory.

†**Vomiture.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [f. VOMIT *sb.* + -URE.] Matter ejected by or as by vomiting.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i. 42 Long as the craftie Cuttle lieth sure In the blacke cloude of his thicke vomiture.

†**Vomiturient,** *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [Cf. next and -URIENT.] Characterized by a desire to vomit.

1666 H. STUBBE *Miracl. Conformist* 43 He was sick at Stomach, and seemed to be in a very vomiturient condition.

Vomituri·tion. [n. F. *vomiturition* or ad. med. or mod.L. *vomiturition-*, *vomituritio*, noun of action f. **vomiturire* to desire to vomit.] (See first quot.)

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Vomiturition*,..ineffectual efforts to vomit. Some authors mean..the vomiting of but little, or..without effort. [Hence in Worcester (1846) and later Dicts.] 1872 THUDICHUM *Chem. Phys.* 6 This can be collected in quantity by irritating the fauces with a feather, and producing vomituritions.

Von, ME. var. WONE *sb. Obs.* **Vond(e,** southern ME. var. *fond*, pa. t. of FIND *v.* **Vonde(n, -di-, -dy,** southern ME. varr. FAND *v.* **Vondir, Vondit, Vone,** obs. Sc. ff. WONDER, WOUNDED, WONE *v.* **Vonge,** southern ME. var. FANG *v.* **Vonnyn,** obs. Sc. pa. pple. WIN *v.* **Vonnyt,** obs. Sc. pa. t. WONE *v.* **Vont,** obs. Sc. f. WONT *a.* **Vonyng,** obs. Sc. pa. pple. WIN *v.* **Voo,** obs. Sc. f. WOE *a.*

Voodoo (vū·dū), *sb.* Also voudoo, voudou, vudu, voodu, and VAUDOUX. (Cf. HOODOO.) [African (Dahomey) *vodu.*]

1. A body of superstitious beliefs and practices, including sorcery, serpent-worship, and sacrificial rites, current among negroes and persons of negro blood in the West Indies and southern United States, and ultimately of African origin.

1880 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* xiv, Do this much for me this one time and then I will let voudou alone as much as you wish. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 20 Sept., The Voudoos of Louisiana..were recently viewed at the funeral of a negress, one of the Queens of Voudoo. 1888 *Daily News* 15 June 5/1 As generally understood, Voodoo means the persistence, in Hayti, of abominable magic, mysteries, and cannibalism, brought originally by the negroes from Africa.

2. One who practises voodoo; a negro sorcerer or witch.

1880 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* xii, She practised the less baleful rites of the voudous. 1880 *New Orleans Picayune* 30 May, The fool spends all her money to do us harm, thinking she is a voudou. 1888 *Daily News* 15 June 5/2 Accused, like the Voodoos, of serpent-worship.

3. *attrib.*, as *voodoo dance, doctor, priest*, etc.

1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 27 Aug. 2/4 Under the influence of some withered old mummy of a voudoo-doctor. 1887 LANG *Myth, Rit. & Relig.* II. 240 The Voodoo-dance is consecrated as the 'Jerusalem Jump'. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 4 July 13/2 An old negro woman who claims to be a great voudoo doctor. 1905 DU BOIS *Souls Black Folk* x. 198 The witch-woman and the voodoo-priest became the centre of Negro group life.

Hence **Voo·doo** *v. trans.*, to bewitch, to cast a spell over, by means of voodoo arts.

1880 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* xxix, It is true, as he says, that he is voudoued. 1880 *New Orleans Picayune* 30 May, She flung this over into my yard to voudou me... She would spend her last dollar to voudou me. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 227 Averring that they had been 'voudooed' and nearly killed by the..fish.

Voodooism (vū·dūiz'm). Also voudouism, vooduism, and VAUDOUISM. [f. prec. + -ISM.] The system of beliefs and practices constituting voodoo; the belief in, or practice of, voodoo as a superstition or form of sorcery.

1872 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. VII. 210/2 What is Voodouism? 1880 *New Orleans Picayune* 30 May, Finding that no affidavit could be made for voudouism. 1883 *Philadelphia Times* No. 3023 3 His mission is to supplant Voodooism and its kindred superstitions among the colored population. 1897 *Church Progr.* (St. Louis, U.S.A.) 28 April, A sort of refined Voodooism disguised in Christian phraseology.

Voog, variant of VUG.

Vool, -ish, southern dial. varr. FOOL, FOOLISH *a.*

1569 PRESTON *Cambyses* D iv b, I think the vool be mad. *Ibid.*, Has he plaid such a volish [*sic*] deed?

Voom, variant of VOME *sb. Obs.*

Voor. *dial.* [var. VORE ².] A furrow.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 334 A Voor, or Furrow of Land. [Hence in Ray, Phillips, etc.] 1889– in south-western dialects (*Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. FOOR *sb.*¹).

‖ **Voorlooper** (vōrlō·pai). *S. African.* [Du., f. *voor-* before + *loopen* to RUN (see LEAP *v.*).] A native boy who walks with the foremost pair of a team of oxen in order to guide them.

1852 C. BARTER *Dart & Field* vii. 49 Our driver and leader, or *voor looper*, were both Hottentots. 1878 ANDREW *Transvaal of To-day* ii. 18 *note*, Every team of bullocks has a leader, generally a native boy, who holds a tow-line fastened to the horns of the front oxen, hence the word 'Voorlooper'. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* i, A waggon, with a driver, a voorlooper, and a Kafir hunter.

‖ **Voortrekker** (vōrtrɛ·kər). *S. African.* [Du., f. *voor-* before + *trekken* TREK *v.*] One of the original Dutch emigrants into the Transvaal; a pioneer.

1878 AYLWARD *Transvaal of To-day* i. 3 Mr. Oliphant, ..in speaking of the Voortrekkers (advanced pioneers), says [etc.]. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Nov. 2/1 To prevent a large and respected portion of the English people from ever doing justice to the Transvaal Voortrekkers. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Swallow* Introd. § 2 Sympathy with the Voortrekkers of 1836 is easy.

attrib. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 61 In those days the 'voor-trekker' Dutchmen shot them [the natives] down like rabbits. 1899 FITZPATRICK *Transvaal* 26 The active party among the Boers, i. e. the Voortrekker party, the most anti-British and Republican.

Vor, southern var. FOR *prep.* and *conj.*, southern ME. pa. t. FARE *v.*

Vor-, southern ME. variant of FOR- *prefix.*

Voracious (vorē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *vorāci-*, *vorax*, f. *vorāre* to devour + -OUS. Cf. F. *vorace*, It. *vorace*, Sp. and Pg. *voraz*.]

1. Of animals (rarely of persons, or of the throat): Eating with greediness; devouring food in large quantities; gluttonous, ravenous. Also const. *of.*

1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 283 Well may they fear some miserable End,..Whose large voracious Throats have swallow'd All. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. 68 The King Carrion Crows.. are very voracious, and will dispatch a carkass in a trice. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 231 The Spaniards are.. cruel, inexorable, uncharitable, voracious. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 81 These [Cockroaches] are very troublesome, being voracious of most kinds of dressed victuals. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 88 All the Indians of South America .. are in general excessively voracious. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. ii. 616 All the species being extremely voracious. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 69 At the earliest introduction of fishes we find the voracious and highly organized tribe of sharks fully represented. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Calent.* 229 Yet are the *Ctenophora* very voracious, feeding on a number of floating marine animals.

transf. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* ii. (1872) 45, I had seen him about a year before,..and had noted well the unlovely voracious look of him.

b. *fig.* Of persons: Excessively greedy or eager in some desire or pursuit. Also const. *of.*

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. ii. 34 Circe's Cups.. Which with his Mates, voracious of their Woe, If he had blindly tasted [etc.]. 1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 571/2 A.. most voracious believer he is. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. iv, A voracious observer and participator in all things he likewise all along was. 1883 *Evangelical Mag.* Sept. 419 Mr. Rowlands..was a voracious reader.

c. *transf.* Of things.

1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 211 He will abhor the practice of sowing so voracious a vegetable after wheat. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 450 Twitch'd from the perch, He gives the princely bird, with all his wives, To his voracious bag.

2. Characterized by voracity or greediness. Also *fig.*

1635 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Very Old Man* in Hindley III. 22 All Creatures are Made for mans use, and may by Man be us'd, Not by voracious Gluttony abus'd. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xxvii. 709 This Miscreant thought of nothing else but how to glut his Voracious Appetite. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 62 He had such a voracious appetite that he would take with indifference either medicine or food. 1875 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 45/2 [The snail's] appetite is as voracious as its means of indulging it are perfect.

b. *fig.* Of desires, interests, etc.: Insatiable.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 452 P 5 They have a Relish for every thing that is News, let the matter of it be what it will; or, to speak more properly, they are Men of a Voracious Appetite, but no Taste. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. vii. 347 He took revenge for his transient fit of scepticism by a subsequent most voracious dogmatism. 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* x. (1857) II. 92 His appetite for argument was as voracious as his physical appetite.

Voraciously (vorē·ʃəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY ².] In a voracious manner; greedily, gluttonously, ravenously.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 382 All four of the species of this singular genus are fond of pepper, but this eats it most voraciously. 1776 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1862) II. 208 They came starved,..and eat their little dinner voraciously. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* v, The boys began to eat voraciously, and in desperate haste. 1864 C. GRIMM *Life in Woods* xi. (1874) 192 Even the bush people eat it voraciously. 1908 J. BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 73, I was voraciously hungry.

fig. 1840 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 126 Carlyle is reading voraciously, great folios.

Vora·ciousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] = next.

1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 255 P 3 Distinguishing himself by Voraciousness of Appetite. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 362 For some days before their change, the animal discontinues its usual voraciousness. 1726 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 29 The Caliph .. found himself incommoded by the voraciousness of his guest.

Voracity (vorē·siti). Also 6–7 voracite, -itie. [n. F. *voracité* (14th c., = It. *voracità*, Sp. *voracidad*, Pg. *-idade*), or ad. L. *vorācitas*, f. *vorāci-*, *vorax*: see VORACIOUS *a.* and -ITY.] The quality or character of being voracious; greediness in eating.

1528 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 99 b, Voracite or

gredynesse in eatyng...myth, O, how hungry I am. 1584 LODGE *Alarm agst. Usurers* F iij, What though you cloath your selues in simplicitie of Doues, and your inwarde habite be worse then the voracite of Wolues. 1625 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 18 Those that with the rarities of the earth do pamper their voracities. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 241 No people in the world have better stomacks, drinke more, or more affect voracity. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 64 This Army is like a great Animall which lives in continual voracity. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 399 The animal's voracity is greater than its feelings, and it never seizes without bringing down its prey. 1823 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 6 To me it appears much more probable, that..fishes have intervals more or less extended of fasting, after which they eat with great voracity. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* xvi. 264 Innumerable Anecdotes have been related regarding the voracity of this fish [the pike]. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxvi, Who is that extremely stout personage..who is devouring his dainties with such brutal voracity?

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Also const. *of.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 47 What a Nature is that which feedeth the most greedie voracitie in the whole world [*sc.* that of fire] without losse of it selfe? 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 274 In Iberia also and Armenia they entred with no lesse voracity. 1664 H. MORE *Apology* 406 The fierceness and voracity of what we ordinarily call *Fire*. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 62 The voracity of time..has left nothing but a few Foundations remaining. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 46 Pope's voracity of fame taught him the art of obtaining the accumulated honour both of what he had published, and of what he had suppressed. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 358 The eating quality of debt does not relax its voracity. *Ibid., Consid.* 421 Afflicting other souls..with ministrations to its voracity of trifles.

† Vorage. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *vorage*, or ad. L. *vorāgo* VORAGO.] A whirlpool, gulf, chasm.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* x. 39 On that other syde cam vpon theym Neptunus wyth all his vorages and wawes alle full of scume. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1537) A iv b, The famous Romayns whiche for to delyuer the towne of Rome..yelded hym selfe to the same vorage, that as than was sene in Rome. [1623 COCKERAM, *Vorage*, a Quagmire.]

† Voragеous, *a. Obs.*—[1] In 5 **voraygeouse.** [ad. OF. *voragieus.*] = next 1.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xviii. 67 The wyndes ben in their furye, the see full of tempest and of grete voraygeouse wawes.

† Vora·ginous, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *vorāginōs-us*, f. *vorāgin-*, *vorāgo* VORAGO. Cf. obs. F. *voraginеux*, It., Sp., Pg. *voraginoso*.]

1. Of or belonging to an abyss or whirlpool; resembling a chasm or gulf.

1624 T. SCOTT *Belg. Souldier* 8 More dangerous then the gaping and voraginous caue, wherein Curtius leapt. 1654 COKAINE *Dianea* III. 233 A voraginous place, about the banks of which those men appeare that have perished by a violent death. 1675 E. WILSON *Spadacr. Duuelm.* 23 The bottom of the Sea...is perforated with sundry voraginous inlets and patent mouths. 1747 MALLET *Amyntor & Theod.* I. 219 His secret seat,..deep amidst A cavern's jaws voraginous and vast.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1624 *Gag for Pope* 15 The Countrey villages know not what a Sermon meaneth, onely Masse and Matteins, with some voraginous deliuery of wonders. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. II. xlviii, For course of time voraginous With rapid force is violently just.

2. Having the receptive or swallowing power of a gulf or abyss; devouring, voracious.

1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I*, 165 This Voraginous appetite gaped after the possession of the Countrie. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 85 How it doth grieve me..that we think to get our admission under God with voraginous paunches, and soaked gulletts. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 376 No Nation in the World be more idle and voraginous than they. 1691 in C. R. Wilson *Old Fort William* (1906) I. 21 Provisions ..being extremely deer, made so by the Voraginous great Armyes near us.

Hence **† Vora·ginousness.** *Obs.*—[1]

1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Justine* IV. 74 Those Waves did bark, which the voraginousness of the devouring Sea did commit and clash together.

† Voragious, *a. Obs.*—[1] [Cf. VORAGEOUS *a.*] = prec. 2.

1665 D. DUDLEY *Metall. Martis* (1854) 38, I do not wholly compute the vast quantities of charcoles and wood spent in these voragious works.

‖ Vorago (vorē·gō). Now *rare.* [L. *vorāgo*, f. *vorāre* to devour. Cf. VORAGE.] An abyss, gulf, or chasm.

1634 HOWELL *Parthenea.* To Rdr. A [] b, The great *Vorago* or fiery Gulph..which rageth in the head of that Mountain [Vesuvius]. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 91 Earthquakes, Chasmaes, and Voragoes were at his command. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1028 The top of Ætna must about the same time have sunk down into its old Vorago or hole. *Ag.* 1836 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1876 VI. 430 Adultery and concubinage did you mention! Another vorago, two voragoes, Scylla and Charybdis, of national wealth. 1838 J. J. RAVEN *Hist. Suffolk* 152 Five years more, and Blythburgh Priory pe[illegible] in the general vorago.

Vorant (vō·rănt), *a.* [ad. L. *vorant-*, pres. ppla. of *vorāre* to devour.]

† 1. Devouring. *Obs. rare.*

1628 DRAKES *Ovides Almanack* 18 Lofty Lion (said Jove) I will thee clasps thy jawes, and shut the portall of that 1639 G. DANIEL *Rectus.* xxviii. 72 As the fierce Lyon from his cunning ward, It shall Surprise him; as the Veriest Pard, It shall destroy them.

2. *Her.* Of animals: (see quots.).

1766 PEGGE *Heraldry* Dict., *Vorant*, this term..is used in Blazonry to express the action of any Animal, Fish, Bird, or Reptile, devouring or swallowing up another creature. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. s.v., A serpent erect, in pale, vorant an infant. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* x. (ed. 3) 60 A Lion..may be Vigilant, or Vorant. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 95 *Trussing* has the same signification when applied to birds, as *Vorant* has to animals.

† Vora·tion. *Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *vorātio*, f. *vorāre.*] 'A devouring, or eating up greedily.'

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

† Voran·lite. *Min. Obs.* [f. *Vorau* in Styria + -LITE.] Named in 1806.] = LAZULITE.

c 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 481/1 Azurite. Klaprothite. Tyrolite. Vorauilite...Occurs in attached crystals and massive. 1852 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* (ed. 2) App. 1421 *Vorauilite*, a mineralogical name of the ferro-magnesian phosphate of alumina,...a species of *blue-spar*, or *lazulite.*

† Vorax, *a. Obs.*—[1] [a. L. *vorax* devouring.] Voracious, ravenous.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 442 This Alexander,..Of Badzenoch was callit all his dais The vorax wolf.

Vorbarn, -bede, -bisne, southern ME. varr. FORBURN *v.*, FORBID *v.*, FORBYSEN *sb.* **Vorbroide, -broyde,** southern pa. pple. of FORBRAID *v. Obs.* **Vord,** southern ME. var. FORD *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WORD *sb.* **Vordan, Vordily,** obs. Sc. ff. WARDEN, WORTHILY *adv.* **Vordrye,** southern ME. var. FURTHER *v.* **Vordy,** obs. Sc. f. WORTHY *a.*

† Vore[1]. *Obs.* [South-western var. FORE *sb.* 2. Used to render L. *vestigium.*] Track, trace.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 373 Þe pore man þonked hym, and vanschede sodenly awey, and noon wey [*MS.* y, non vore] was i-sene of his goynge. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* VII. 118 Freres folowen my vore fele tyme and ofte, And prouen vnparfit prelates of holy churche. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. viii. (Tollem. MS.), By þe opinion of þe comyn peple þis cercle, Galaxias, is þe vore of þe passynge of þe sonne. *Ibid.* III. xix. (1495) d vj b/2 Hondes ..folowyth the vores of bestes by smellinge.

Vore[2]. *dial.* [South-western var. (still in use) of *fore*, *furе* FURROW *sb.* Cf. VOOR.] A furrow.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1565 Þay..ne spared rigges noþer vores til þay mette þat pray. 1382 BATMAN *Barth. De P. R.* Catal. hard Words, *Vores*, forowes of land.

Vore, Voregoer, Voreward(e, southern ME. varr. FORE *adv.*, FOREGOER, FOREWARD *sb.*[1] **Vorfare, -fret, -gon, -gulte,** southern ME. varr. FORFARE, -FRET, -GO, -GUILT. **Vorie,** aphetic f. AVOWRY 2. **Vorke,** obs. Sc. f. WORK *sb.* **Vorlese,** southern ME. var. FORLESE *v.* **Vorloffe,** obs. var. FURLOUGH. **Vorme,** southern ME. var. FORME *a.* **Vorne,** southern ME. var. FERN *a.*; obs. Sc. f. WORN *pa. pple.* **Vorold,** southern ME. var. FOROLD *v.*

-vorous, *suffix*, forming adjs., after L. *-vorus* devouring, eating (cf. *vorāre* to devour) in *carnivorous*, *omnivorous* (both used by Pliny). The commoner English examples mainly date from the 17th cent., as *carnivorous*, *herbivorous*, *omnivorous*, *phytivorous* (also *granivorous*, *ossivorous*, *piscivorous*); later instances are *graminivorous* (1739), *metallivorous*, *effivorous* (1713), *serpentivorous* (1832), and *terrivorous*.

1837 MURRAY *Vital Princ.* 5 A very singular appetite..at once terrivorous and metallivorous.

Vorow, Vorre, southern ME. varr. FURROW *sb.*, FAR *adv.* **Vorschalde,** southern ME. var. FORSCALD (see FOR- *pref.*[1] 5). **Vorshipfull,** obs. Sc. f. WORSHIPFUL. **Vorst(e,** southern ME. varr. FIRST *a.*, FROST *sb.* **Vorsted,** obs. f. WORSTED. **Vort(e,** southern ME. var. FORT(E *conj.*

Vortex (vō·rteks). Pl. **vortices** (vō·rtisīz). [n. L. *vortex* (var. of *vertex* VERTEX) an eddy of water, wind, or flame, a whirlpool, whirlwind, f. *vort-*, *vertĕre* to turn. Cf. F. *vortex* (Anat.), Pg. *vortices* pl., It. *vortice.*]

1. a. In older theories of the universe (esp. that of Descartes), a supposed rotatory movement of cosmic matter round a centre or axis, regarded as accounting for the origin or phenomena of the terrestrial and other systems; a body of such matter rapidly carried round in a continuous whirl.

1653 H. MORE *Philos. Cabbala* App. i. (1713) 113 That there are infinite numbers of Atoms or Particles, different in magnitude and figure;..and that they are moved in the Vniverse after the manner of vortices. 1662 GLANVILL *Lux Orient.* xiv. 141 That great orb of fire..shall fly away out of this vortex, and become a wandring Comet. 1665 — *Def. Van. Dogm.* 69 The Cartesian Vortices will serve to account for the Phænomena, and teach a way of Theory not unserviceable to experiment. 1698 KRILL *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 283 It is no hard matter to prove, that the Vortices can never be the cause of the Celestial motions. *a* 1714 M. HENRY *Expos. O. & N. Test., Eccles.* I. 14 (1737) II, He saw..all within this vortex (to use the modern gibberish) which has the sun for its centre. 1728 SIR W. HAMILTON *Sci. Papers* (1918) I. 223 These will vanish like the Cartesian vortices, that soon gave way when better theories were offered. 1832 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 29 June, Descartes' vortices were not an hypothesis; they rested on no facts at all. 1865 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. 389 The false theory of the vortices or the true theory of gravitation.

b. In fig.

1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 251 Death, like a Star of superior Influence, drew him [Descartes] into his own Vortex. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Dial. Dead, Locke & Montaigne* 2d Edn., Those very Ideas changing, Lock may be led into a new Labyrinth, or sucked into another Vortex; and may write a Second Book in order to Disprove the first. 1792 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Edmd.* 402 Our benevolence extends at last to the whole race of mankind, like so many different vortices; the center of them all is self love. COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 140, I was a sharer in the general vortex, though my little world described the path of its revolution in an orbit of its own. 1825 BRAILEY *Ess., Poetry & Crit.* (1858) 197 That mighty ocean of intermingling, interacting vortices [*sc.* Time]. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Navk* xvii. 304 The spiral vortices fundamentally concerned in the production of epic poems.

c. In modern scientific use: A rapid movement of particles of matter round an axis; a whirl of atoms, fluid, or vapour.

1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 316 Descartes, taught by Gilbert's magnet, with its Vortex, spiral, and polarity. 1862 J. C. MAXWELL *Sci. Papers* (1890) I. 489 The theory of molecular vortices applied to statical electricity. 1872 PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* xix. 230 Friction between vortices of meteoric vapours and the Sun's atmosphere must be the immediate cause of solar heat. 1888 MINCHIN *Unipl. A inemat.* 184 If there is not vortical motion throughout the whole area, but only local vortices, this integral will reduce to a simple sum of terms equal in number to the number of vortices.

2. An eddying or whirling mass of fire or flame.

1652 J. HALL *Height of Eloquence* p. lxv, The Pits and vortices of the Aetna, whose eructations throw whole stones from its depths. 1827–39 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 1854 II. 62 Men, of course, read in this hurrying overhead of scintillating and blazing vortices, the announciation of some gigantic calamity going on in Liverpool. 1869 J. PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iii. 67 It continued to vomit forth from five different openings vortices of flame.

3. A whirl or swirling mass of water; a strong eddy or whirlpool.

1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Moham.* 77 In this place is much Danger without a fresh Gale of Wind, because it is a kind of Vortex, the Water whirling round, and is apt to swallow down a Ship. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. ix, [A coach] splashing and plunging..with such a vortex of mud and water moving along with it, round its axis. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 268 The noise of this dreadful vortex still farther contributes to encrease its terror. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* iv. (1818) 243 In crossing the river we passed through several whirlpools...These vortices are formed in an instant..and subside as quickly. 1839 T. BEALE *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* 181 Leaving nothing but a white-and-green looking vortex in the disturbed blue ocean. 1864 C. GRIEVE *Life in Woods* xiii. (1874) 366 The poor wretch was kept revolving, with each end of his support sunk in the vortex by turns.

b. Applied to a waterspout.

1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 37 Still round and round the fluid vortex flies, Scattering dun night and horror thro' the skies.

c. *elliptical.* A vortex water-wheel (see 7).

1853 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 4) II. 914 The vortex admits of several modes of construction. *Ibid.* 915 A low pressure vortex constructed for another mill near Belfast.

4. A violent eddy or whirl of the air; a whirlwind or cyclone, or the central portion of this.

a 1700 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 24 Now the North Wind the crazy Vessel sweeps, And in its rapid Vortex pris'ner keeps. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Vortex*, Whirlwind, in Meteorology, a sudden, rapid, violent Motion of the Air, in Gyres or Circles. 1838 REDFIELD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXIII. 59 A direct circuit of rotation in the form of a vortex or active whirlwind. 1845 A. THOM *Nat. Storms* 43 The *Margaret*, on the opposite side of the vortex, still had the 'hurricane strong' from S.W. by W. with a heavy sea. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* (Low) xix. 439 The vortex of a cyclone is often and aptly compared to a meteor. 1870 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. vi. 198 We seemed crossing the vortex of a storm.

transf. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. II. 123 The vortex of this night Hath whirled him hither to my sight.

b. In fig. context or use.

1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 23 Feb., The whirlwind of his eloquence nearly drew me into its vortex. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 160 In their rhythm is no manufacture, but a vortex, or musical tornado. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* I. 145 Bernard.. began life by drawing after him into the convent all his kindred..with the irresistible vortex of his own religious fervour.

5. *fig.* A state or condition of human affairs or interests comparable to a whirl or eddy by reason of rush or excitement, rapid change, or absorbing effect.

1762 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lv. 273 The distant parts of the kingdom, being removed from that furious vortex of new principles and opinions which had transported the capital. 1793 BURKE *Obs. Conduct Minority* Wks. 1842 I. 611 No man..may be justly suspected of secretly abetting this French Revolution, who must not be drawn into its vortex. 1826 A. HUNTER *Cullen* (ed. 3) 243 Lecturers, who delight in being continually whirled round in the vortex of new opinions. 1838 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 124, I value my peace of mind too highly to suffer myself to be drawn into the vortex of New York politics. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 237/2 The appointments are kept out of the vortex of party and parliamentary jobbing. 1863 S. WADDINGTON *A. H. Clough* 83 The vortex of religious excitement and discussion kept him idly moving in its ceaseless gyrations.

b. A constant round *of* excitement or pleasure.

[1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. vii. 268 That whirl of dissipation, which, like some mighty vortex, has swallowed up in a manner all conditions and characters.] 1790 A. YOUNG in *Mme. D'Arblay's Lett.* (1842) V. 329 A person

who is constantly moving in a vortex of pleasure, brilliancy, and wit. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Breakfast*, I feel that I cannot be at ease in the vortex of dissipation. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* I. 191 She and her husband lived in a vortex of gaiety.

c. A situation into which persons or things are steadily drawn, or from which they cannot escape. (Chiefly after sense 3.)

1779 J. Moore *View Soc. Fr.* I. i. 8, I thought it most prudent to remove.., that no chance might remain of my being..whirled round again in the vortex of dissipation and gaming. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Poet. Wks. (1904) 159/2 Let him hurl me anon, into Tartarus,..With Necessity's vortices strangling me down. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* x, I looked with horror on the gulf of penury before me, into the vortex of which not only I, but my whole trade, seemed irresistibly sucked. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civilis.* (1861) III. v. 336 Generation after generation passes away, successively absorbed in one mighty vortex.

†d. A design or figure representing or suggesting vortical movement. *Obs.*—1

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* Time Table, The Figures of Hoar Frost, and the Vortices on windows.

7. *attrib.*, chiefly in terms of physical science, as *vortex-atom*, *-filament*, *-line*, *-matter*, *-motion*, *-ring*; **vortex turbine** or **(water-)wheel**, a turbine in which the water enters tangentially at the circumference and is discharged at the centre.

1857 Sir W. Thomson in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIV. 15 (*heading*), On *Vortex Atoms. 1876 P. G. Tait *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* i. 24 Sir W. Thomson's splendid suggestion of Vortex-atoms .. will enable us thoroughly to understand matter. 1867 — (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 486 By *'*vortex-filaments*..I denote portions of the fluid bounded by vortex-lines drawn through every point of the boundary of an infinitely small closed curve. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* III. 203 The part of the body inside the tube is called a vortex-filament. 1867 Tait (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 486 By *'*vortex-lines*..I denote lines drawn through the fluid so as at every point to coincide with the instantaneous axis of rotation of the corresponding fluid element. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* III. 200 A curve such that its tangent at every point is in the direction of the spin at that point is called a vortex-line. *a* 1721 Keill *Maupertuis' Diss.* (1734) 21 As each Planet describes equal Area's in equal Times, it follows that the Beds of the *Vortex Matter have their Velocities in a reciprocal Proportion to their distances from the Center. 1867 Tait (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 491 We may..call the motions which have no velocity-potential, generally, *'vortex-motions.* 1876 — *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* xii. 290 The peculiar properties of vortex-motion were mathematically deduced..by Helmholtz. 1867 — (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 510 These *vortex-rings travel on,..and are widened or contracted by other vortex-rings. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* III. 205 Suppose that in a mass of fluid there is a single vortex ring of any form (i. e. a vortex-filament returning into itself). 1877 *Iron* 27 Oct. 516 The turbine manufactured by them is termed the '*Vortex'. 1884 *Athenæum* 16 Aug. 212/1 A description of the vortex turbine or inward-flow water-wheel. 1853 Glynn *Treat. Power Water* 146 Several machines derive their power from the reaction of water-pressure: such as Dr. Barker's mill,..the *Vortex-wheel, and others. 1859 *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 5) III. 928 The name of Vortex Wheel has been given to a modification of the turbine by Mr. James Thomson of Belfast.

Vorth, southern ME. var. Forth *adv.*; obs. Sc. f. Worth *sb.* and *v.* **Vorpere(more**, southern ME. varr. Further(more. **Vorthy**, dial. var. Forthy *a.*; obs. Sc. form of Worthy *a.*

Vortical (vǭ·rtikăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *vortic-*, *vortex* Vortex + -al.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of motion: Like that of a vortex; rotating, eddying, whirling.

1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 191 The Matter being coagulated..and set upon Vortical Motion, Light dawned out in infinite parts of the World. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* 226 This universal attraction or gravitation is ..not a magnetical power, nor the effect of a vortical motion; those common attempts toward the explication of gravity. 1746 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 43, I have never been able to discern that vortical Motion, by which this Effect was said to be brought about. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 316 Descartes, taught by Gilbert's magnet,..had filled Europe with the leading thought of vortical motion, as the secret of nature. 1881 G. Macdonald *Mary Marston* II. ii. 10 She made a sudden vortical gyration, and walked from the vile place. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 155 Twice the product of the area of the curve and the vortical spin inside it.

2. Moving in a vortex; whirling round.

1728 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* 231 The vortical fluid, by which he explains the motion of the planets. 1790 D. Lloyd *Voy. Life* 23 Till all their brain is vortical;—and wreck'd They sink o'erladen with anxiety. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 165 Vibrating cilia..are more developed on these organs, which are only pushed out at the will of the little animal, when they form strong vortical currents.

B. *sb.* A vortical motion.

1864 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 465/2 The summary of the author's theories is:— That the magnetic vortical can be excited by means of spiral currents of electricity generally.

Hence **Vo·rtically** *adv.*, in a vortical manner.

1872 Proctor *Ess. Astron.* xix. 230 If meteoric matter came in vortically around the equatorial parts of the sun. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 183 Energy of Vortically moving Liquid.

†**Vortice**, *sb* *Obs.*—1 [ad. stem of L. *vortex*.] A vortex.

1662 Boyle *Spring of Air* (1662) 97 Particles, agitated or whirled round,..whereby they are each of them enabled to drive or force out of their Vortice all such other agitated

Vortice, *v.* *rare*—1. [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To bring by vortical motion.

a 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 213 The heavier bodies..became outermost, and in their whirling vorticed the evil spirits into the centre.

Vorticel (vǭ·rtisel). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *vorticella*: see next. and cf. F. *vorticelle*.] = next.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 97 Some, as the vorticels, the wheel-animals by way of eminence, appear to have two wheels.

‖ **Vorticella** (vǭrtise·lă). *Zool.* [mod.L., dim. f. L. *vortic-*, *vortex* Vortex.] The typical genus of *Vorticellidæ* (cf. next); an individual belonging to this genus; a bell-animalcule. Also *attrib.*

1787 G. Adams (*title*), Essays on the Microscope, containing an account of the various species and singular properties of the Hydræ and Vorticellæ. 1806 Priscilla Wakefield *Dom. Recreat.* vi. 86 A most curious animalcule, called the wheel animal, or vorticella. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 90 Sometimes a rounded body, encircled by a ring of cilia but having otherwise the characters of a *Vorticella* bell, is seen to be attached to the base of the bell of an ordinary *Vorticella*.

Vorticellid (vǭrtise·lid). *Zool.* [Cf. prec. and -id 3.] An individual of the *Vorticellidæ*, a family of sedentary infusorians.

1864 *Intell. Observ.* No. 38. 102 The jerk of a Vorticellid. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 837 Encysted Vorticellids with many nuclei have been observed.

Hence **Vorticellidan** *a.* *rare*.

1865 H. James-Clark in *Mem. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* I. 127 This singular appendage of the Vorticellidan group. 1880 Saville Kent *Infusoria* I. 68 Members of the Vorticellidan family.

Vorti·cial, *a.* *rare*—1. [Cf. next.] = Vortical.

1848 Poe *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 203 Cyclic and seemingly gyrating or vorticial movements.

†**Vorti·cian**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. L. *vortici-*, *vortex*: see Vortex and -ian.] Of or belonging to the theory of a vortex or vortices.

a 1728 Keill *Maupertuis' Diss.* (1734) 23 This is all one of the greatest Men of the Age could say in Defence of the Vortician System. *Ibid.* 27.

Vorti·ciform, *a.* *rare*—1. [f. as prec.: see -form.] Having the form of a vortex.

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1228/1 When the vibratile cilia..are simultaneously effecting their vorticiform movements with rapidity and perfect harmony.

Vorticist (vǭ·rtisist). [f. as prec. + -ist.] An advocate of the theory of vortices.

1866 De Morgan in *Athenæum* 26 May 706/3 Giordano Bruno..was, as has been said, a vorticist before Descartes, an optimist before Leibnitz, a Copernican before Galileo.

Vorticity (vǭrti·sĭti). [f. as prec. + -ity] The condition of a fluid, etc., with respect to vortical motion.

1895 *Athenæum* 23 Nov. 722/2 [Math. Soc.] On the Propagation of Waves upon the Plane Surface separating Two Portions of Fluid of Different Vorticities.

†**Vo·rticle**. *Obs.* *rare*. [f. L. *vortic-*, *vortex*, after diminutives in *-cle*.] A little vortex.

1766 G. Canning *Anti-Lucretius* IV. 309 In the vast Vortex, that surrounds the Whole, Examine how the Vorticles must roll. *Ibid.* 317.

†**Vorticoʻrdious**, *a.* *Obs.*—1 [f. L. *Vorti-*, *Verticordia*: see Verticordious *a.*] Turning the heart.

1669 T. G[ale] *True Idea Jansenisme* 135 Then cap. 24 he proves more largely, That this medicinal Grace is Vorticordious or most potent.

Vorticose (vǭrtikǭ·s), *a.* [ad. L. *vorticōs-us* (It. *vorticoso*), f. *vortic-*, *vortex* Vortex: see -ose.]

1. Of motion: = Vortical *a.* 1.

1763 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. p. ii, At times..the motion was undulatory, and at others vorticose. *Ibid.* 194 The first shock ..was lateral, and then vorticose, and exceedingly violent. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 418 The wave-like motions, and those which are called vorticose or whirling in a vortex. 1839 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xvi. 376 The displacement at first appears to be owing to a vorticose movement beneath each point thus affected. 1881 C. A. Young *Sun* 173 Only a very small percentage of the spots show any trace of vorticose motion.

2. Resembling a vortex.

1870 Matt. Williams *Fuel of Sun* § 326. 214 The..orb would be twisted bodily into a huge vorticose crater. 1893 Howlett in Sir R. Ball *Story Sun* 147 They are illustrative of the development of two different and remarkable groups [of sun-spots]. The first is the elegant vorticose group.

Hence **Vorticoʻsely** *adv.*, in the manner of a vortex; vortically.

1882 *Nature* XXV. 291 There is a strong inflow of the air along the surface of the ground all round vorticosely towards the base of the whirlwind. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 131/2 The strong air currents which..converge vorticosely round the base of the column [of the dust storm].

Vorticular (vǭrti·kiŭlă), *a.* [Cf. prec. and -ular.] Of motion: Vortical, vorticose.

1838 Redfield in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXIII. 59 Were there no vorticular or whirling action already excited,.. there could then be no inequality of pressure to produce rotation. 1864 De Penning *Meteorol.* 65 This inward vorticular movement can only arise from the constant lateral pressure that is always maintained towards the partial vacuum of the vortex. 1892 *Atlantic Monthly* LXVIII. 68/2 They [*sc.* tornadoes] possess truly vorticular motion.

Vortiginous (vǭrti·dginəs), *a.* [f. L. *vortigin-*, *vortigo*, var. of *vertigo*: see Vertiginous *a.*]

1. Of motion: Vortical, vorticular.

1671 R. Boreh *Wind* 230 The spirit or Wind..whirls about in a Circle: for..the density and resistence of the Cloud, gives it an oblique or Vortiginous Motion. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scot. in 1772*, 75 Great circular hollows, the work of the Vortiginous Motion of the Water. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 102 The fist and rooted earth..with vortiginous and hideous whirl Sucks down its prey insatiable.

2. Moving in a vortex or vortices; rushing in whirls or eddies.

1791 Cowper *Iliad* XXI. 2 Where Xanthus winds His stream vortiginous. 1804 C. R. Brown tr. *Volney's View Soil U.S.* 168 In the same manner may water-spouts be explained, which are vortiginous masses of air and water, seen only in cloudy weather. 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXI. 137 The great, deep, and vortiginous Scamander had dwindled into a scanty rivulet.

Vorty, south-western dial. form of Forty.

1620 *Contention betw. Lib. & Prod.* I. iv. B ij, Cham sure chaue come, vorty miles and tweuty. *a* 1642 Suckling *Poems* (1646) 37 And there did I see comming down Such folks as are not in our Town Vorty at least, in Pairs.

Vorwe, southern ME. var. *forwe* Furrow *sb.*

Vory, obs. f. Worry *v.* **Voryef** (-yif), **-yet** (-yit), southern ME. varr. Forgive *v.*, Forget *v.* **Voss**, obs. Sc. and north. f. Voice *sb.* **Vostre, Vot**, southern ME. varr. Foster *v.*, Foot *sb.*

Votable, *a.* *rare*—1. [f. Vote *v.* + -able.] Capable, or having the right, of voting.

1754 in *New Princeton Rev.* (1887) IV. 253 The votable inhabitance convened in His Majesties name.

Votal (vǭ·tăl), *a.* [f. L. *vōt-um* vow, wish (see Vote *sb.*) + -al.]

†1. Existing in will or wish, though not carried out in fact. *Obs.*

1620 Boys *Wks.* (1629) 361 When not so much as priuate [baptism] may be well obtained, votall is enough. 1628 T. Adams *God's House* Wks. (1629) 624 He is not like those Debters, that haue neither meanes, nor meaning to pay. But though he wants actuall, he hath votall retribution. 1684 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 243 Retribution and requital..must be real, if it be possible: but at the least, it must be votal in the desire and endeavour.

2. Of the nature of a vow or solemn engagement.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* i. 5 And teare-rent Sophyre, Synon-like betrayd What votall oathes, loues sterne fort, ne'er bewrayd. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 886, I will shew how far and in what sort these Eucharistical and Votal Offerings have been used in the first ages of the Church. 1855 R. Boyle in *B. versus Wiseman* 47 My reasons for leaving the Society were purely conscientious, arising solely from strong objections to take any further votal obligations.

†3. Bound by vows; devoted to a religious life; appropriate to one under vows. *Obs.*

1636 R. James *Iter Lanc.* (Chetham Soc.) 159 Lord Thebith's daughter, whoe had promised..to liue aye A votall virgin till her dying daye. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 123 Threatned with speedy death, if she did not restore her daughter to the former mode of votall habiliments.

4. Of offerings: Associated with a vow; votive.

1846 R. Hart *Eccl. Rec. Gt. Brit.* 230 The mariner preserved from shipwreck presented a votal tablet on which was depicted the story of his escape.

Hence **Votally** *adv.*, with a vow, solemnly.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 484 He votally vndertooke..that ..I should haue all my money..restored me agayne.

Votaress (vǭ·tărĕs). Also 6 -esse, 7 -esse, **voteress**. (Cf. Votress 1.) [f. Votar-y + -ess.] A female votary; *esp.* a woman devoted to a religious life or to a special saint.

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxx. (1592) 133 The wrong must then by Phœbe be excused, Who, rescuing her Votaresse, did so preuent her brother. 1620 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 887 Neare this place, at Caspalia, dwelt a Votaresse, who being sicke and past recouery, sent her garment to the shrine. 1634 R. Codrington tr. *Justine* XLIII. 503 She seemed not so much to be a person condemned, as a Voteress elected. 1670 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 214 If a poor Votaresse there..should by chance steal a taste of forbidden pleasure. 1798 Sotheby tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 85 Thou heavenly maid Who bad'st this knight thy votaress defend. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xiii, Rather will Ellen Douglas dwell A votaress in Maronnan's cell. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* IX. iii, The same [book] which had charmed the circle at Hazeldean—..charmed now the wearied and tempted votaress of the world. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I. iii. 25 At length the votaress yielded to these prayers.

attrib. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 138 Ruled lips Befit a votaress Muse.

†**Vota·rious**, *a.* *Obs.*—1 [Cf. Votary and -arious.] Vowed to a religious life.

a 1582 Campion *Hist. Irel.* xii. (1633) 39 Where hee erected many Celles and Monasteries, replenished with votarious men and women.

Votarist (vǭ·tărist). [Cf. next and -ist.] One bound by a vow; a devotee, a votary.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. v. 5 Wishing a more strict restraint Vpon the Sisterhood, the Votarists of Saint Clare. *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* I. (1677) 12 Divers Virgins ..did in like sort apply themselves to the solitary life; not as the Votarists did that in after-times rose up, for they did not bind themselves by vows. 1696 S. Holland *Zeno* (1719) 44, I believe the Lady..is of too noble..a temper to welcome her Votarist with an affront. 1788 Eliz. Carter *Lett.* (1809) IV. 322 One of the nuns was kneeling very near the grate...If one of our fine dress ladies had been placed near this charming votarist [etc.]. 1798 R. Cumberland *Anecd. Emin. Painters* I. 60 In the fore ground of the groupe of Bachanals there is a young female votarist asleep. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* Notes v. 189 The language of the votarist is this. 1844 R. P. Ward *Chatsworth* II. 188 Like a spotless heifer..surrounded by the proud priests and senseless votarists in whose sight..it is presently to die.

1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* VII. 1506 So kneels a votarist, Weeds some poor waste traditionary plot Where shrine once was.

transf. 1886 H. Siddons *Maid, Wife, & Widow* II. 187 He is but a lukewarm votarist in the cause of truth and virtue, if he is to be thus ridiculed out of his integrity. 1832 W. Godwin *Thoughts Man* 200 There is still further advantage that belongs to the poet and the votarist of polite literature, which ought to be mentioned.

Votary (vōu·tări), *sb.* Also 7–8 vot'ry. [f. L. *vōt-*, ppl. stem of *vovēre* to vow + -ARY 1.]

I. 1. One who is bound by vows to a religious life; a monk or nun.

1548 Bale (*title*) The first two partes of the Actes or unchast examples of Englysh votaryes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 90 b, The controversie was, especially for the Masse, and Votaries, for herein woulde the Catholikes nothyng at all relent. 1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 17 Persons civilly dead, as monks, fryers, canons, professed nuns, and such other superstitious votaries. 1607 *Merry Devil Edmonton* v. ii. 166 Sirra, ride strait to Chesson Nunry,..the house, I know, By this time misses their yong votary. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 89 The heretickes..growing more outragious then ordinarily against Ecclesiastickes, and especially against Votaries. 1668 Owen *Animadv. Fiat Lux* v. Wks. 1855 XIV. 68 Monasteries of votaries under special and peculiar vows and rules. 1703 Addison *Italy* 494 The Abuse of Indulgencies, the Folly and Impertinence of Votaries, and in short the Superstition ..of the Roman Catholick Religion. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 16 So Christianity, corrupted by Gentile philosophy, has in like manner its privileged and its inferior order of votaries.

b. One who has made, or is bound by, a special vow.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 37 Who are the Votaries my louing Lords, that are vow-fellowes with this vertuous Duke? *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* III. ii. (orig. draft), The votarie that will not cut his haire, Vntill the expiration of his vow. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxviii. 20 *And Jacob vowed a vow*] The first holy votary that ever we read of. 1872 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxvi. 14 God in answer to his vow removed the distress, and now the votary desires to make good his promise.

2. One who is devoted to a particular religion, or to some form of worship or religious observance; a devotee.

1704 Locke *Toleration* iv. Wks. 1727 III. 464 Nor is there among the many absurd Religions of the World, almost any one that does not find Votaries to lay down their Lives for it. 1754 Sherlock *Disc.* (1759) I. i. 16 No other Religion can give any Security of Life and Happiness to its Votaries. 1777 R. Watson *Philip II*, VIII. I. 296 That method of justifying iniquity, of which the votaries of the Romish church have so often availed themselves. 1794 Paley *Evid.* I. i (1817) 32 The ancient religion of a country has always many votaries. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 334, I think of him as of some transmigrating votary of Indian legend. 1860 — *Cond. Life, Worship* ibid. II. 395 The religion cannot rise above the state of the votary.

b. A devout worshipper. (Cf. next.)

1823 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 291 A happier votary at a holier fane. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Lay St. Cuthbert*, In fact, when the votaries came there to pray All said there was nought to compare with it. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 41 In order to keep these convents up, the priests imagined the plan of causing the votary to pay according to his means at every shrine which he embraced.

3. A devoted or zealous worshipper of God, Christ, one of the saints, etc.

a 1700 Ken *Sion* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 388 True Christ-like Love all other Loves exceeds, By which to save a soul Christ's Vot'ry bleeds. — *On the Temptation* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 92 Jesus Satan of his Force bereft, And Conquest easy to his Vot'ryes left. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* III. 53 In propitious dreams (For dreams are thine) transfuse it thro' the breast Of thy first votary. ; 1779 J. Moore *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) II. xcv. 491 A supposed connection between the characters of the Saints and the votaries. 1829 Scott *Betrothed* xxvii, The Virgin of the Garde Dolourouse, that never failed a votary. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Odille*, I don't see, as a Saint, how she well could do less Than to get such a votary out of her mess. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xiv. 360 Harold implored the help of the relic whose sworn votary he was.

b. Used with reference to ancient or heathen deities, partly in fig. use.

? *a* 1690 Prior *To Earl of Dorset* I, Hear, Goddess, hear thy Votary. The meanest of thy Sons inspire. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XVII. 288 Daughters of Jove!..your votary restore: Oh be some God his convoy to our shore! 1766 [Annesley] *Bath Guide* III. 14 Come the Nymph of various Mien, Vot'ry true of Beauty's Queen. 1778 Bp. Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* Notes (1819) 340 Nor can they [the idols] answer, or deliver their votaries, when they cry unto them. 1877 L. Morris *Epic Hades* III. 242, I did not envy any goddess of all The Olympian company her votaries. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* XXXI, Silence and solitude Befit the votary of the Muse.

II. 4. One who is devoted or passionately addicted to some particular pursuit, occupation, study, aim, etc.

1591 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* III. ii. 58 We know (on Valentines report) You are already loues firme votary. 1738 Gray *Propertius* I. 2 Before the Goddess' shrine we too, love's vot'ries bend. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* I. § 8 If philosophy befools her Votaries,..let her be sent back to the infernal regions. 1771 Beattie *Minstr.* I. ix, The boundless store Of charms which Nature to her votary yields! 1826 H. K. White *Lett.* (1837) 319, I am..a rejected votary at the shrine of Health. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Phil.* I. i. 14 One of the great sources of delight which the study of natural science imparts to its votaries. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* VI. iv. 218 Science requires a certain inward heat and heroism in her votaries.

b. Const. *to* (now rare) or *of*.

(*a*) 1592 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* I. i. 52 But wherefore waste I time to counsaile thee That art a votary to fond desire? 1594 *Selimus* D j, I haue liu'd Almost a votarie to wantonnesse. 1748 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 79 I cannot be a Votary to this practice. 1821 Shelley *St. Irvyne* iii, He became..even a more devoted votary to gambling than before.

(*b*) 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 766 They .. do themselues for want of other worke, Vaine votaries of lassie loue professe. 1690 Temple *Ess., Heroic Virtue* Wks. 1720 I. 233 The usual Acceptation takes Profit and Pleasure for two different Things, and..calls the Followers or Votaries of them by several Names of busy and of idle Men. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* I. § 5 Are you then in earnest a votary of truth? 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wm.* I. iii. 90 Is it surprising to see the daughters of such become very early the votaries of Folly? 1783 Cowper *Valediction* 71 Vot'ries of bus'ness and of pleasure prove Faithless alike in friendship and in love. 1801 Hamilton *Wks.* (1886) VII. 218 The patriotic votaries of whiskey in Pennsylvania and Virginia. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* (1851) I. 82 That an enthusiastic votary of liberty should accept office under a military usurper seems..extraordinary. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xi. 40 Ground from which the votaries of devotion and art and history are bidden to turn away.

5. A devoted adherent or admirer of some person, institution, etc.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 36 It was not safe for any to live at their Houses, who were taken notice of as no Votaries to the Parliament. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 783, I come to prove How much I've suffer'd for your Love, Which (like your Votary) to win, I have not spar'd my tatter'd skin. 1682 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Chances* v. iii, I shall not be asham'd to own my self a Votary to all your Commands. 1713 Steele *Guard.* No. 18 P 4 One of the most successful Stratagems whereby Mahomet became formidable, was the assurance that Impostor gave his votaries, that [etc.]. 1817 Chalmers *Life* in Churchyard *Chippes* 46 He endeavoured to cultivate the patronage of Essex, even after it had ceased to be of any value to his votaries. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 464 The same virtues gained him a still nobler and more powerful votary; he became, as we have seen, the special friend of Earl Harold.

†**Votary**, *a. Obs.* [Cf. prec.]

1. Of persons: Consecrated by a vow; devoted to a religious life.

1564 *Brief Exam.* B iv b, The salarie..consecrated to theyr holy votaries virgins. 1611 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xix. (1614) 27/2 Elie, had in account for the repute and holinesse of votary-nunnes there residing. 1696 *Artif. Handsom.* 122 Having designed her daughter to be a votary virgin.

b. Of mode of life: Subject to vows.

1642 (*title*), The English Nunne, being a Dialogue, wherein the Author endeavoureth to draw young and unmarried Catholike Gentlewomen to embrace a Votary and Religious Life.

2. Of the nature of a vow.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 95 Had not I forsnaffled my mynde by votarye promise...Haplye this oane faulty trespas might bring me toe bending. 1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Custom & Educ.* (Arb.) 368 Onely Superstition is now so well advaunced that..votarie resolucion is made equipollent to Custome.

Votation (vōtē·ʃən). [f. Vote *v.* + -ation.] The action of voting in an election or at a meeting.

1816–30 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximised, Extr. Const. Code* 28 Modes of votation, two: the secret mode; then, before the result of the secret mode has been disclosed or ascertained, the open mode. 1848 *Times* 15 Jan. 4/6 A nominal votation was demanded,..that is, that each member should stand up in his place and give his vote,..at the same time calling out his name. 1877 T. A. Trollope *Life Pius IX*, II. iv. i. 113 The result of the votation of the population of Umbria.

Votoloth, southern ME. var. Footcloth.

Vote (vōut), *sb.* Also 7 voate; *Sc.* 6 voit, voitt, vott, 6–7 voite; 6 wote, woit, wott, 7 woatt. [ad. L. *vōtum* vow, wish, properly the pa. pple. neut. of *vovēre* to vow, desire. Hence also It., Sp., Pg. *voto*; mod.F. *vote* in sense 5 is from English. Before 1600 only in Sc. use.]

I. †1. A vow; a solemn promise or undertaking. *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. x. (S.T.S.) II. 182 Nochtwithstanding þat þai made solempne vote to appollo, 3it þai tuke mare regarde of ony vthir thing þan to..fulfil þe said vote. 1536 — *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 141 King Hungus .. maid solempnit vote, that he and his posterite sall use na ansenye in times cuming..bot the croce of Sanct Andro. 1728 M. Davies *Athen. Brit* I. 152 A Temporal Religious Pensioner, or what is vulgarly call'd a Galloping-Nun, without any Votes.

†2. A prayer or intercession. *Obs.*

1626 B. Jonson *Fort. Isles, Song* Wks. (Rtldg.) 651/1 All the heavens consent, With harmony to tune their notes, In answer to the public votes, That for it up were sent. 1633 Cowley *Constantia & Philetus* 146 Now at last the pitying God, o'recome By his constant votes and teares, fixt in her heart A golden shaft. 1656 J. Prideaux *Eucholegia* 226 Here may be taken in those interchangeable Votes of Priest and People, which are interposed, 'O Lord, arise, help us and deliver us for thy Names sake!' 1664 Fuller *Triana & Paduana* in *Wounded Consc.*, etc. (1867) 223 Being assigned but three hours of three several days, for the begging of the votes of mankind to help her in her extremity.

†b. A petition, a request. *Obs.*—1

1648 *Unhalowed Hasbane betw. two Fragr. Roses* 1 A most humble Vote, and serious desire to our..Assembly of Divines.

†3. An aspiration; an ardent wish or desire. *Obs.* (Common 1630–60.)

a 1626 Bacon *Hist. Gt. Brit.* Wks. (Bohn) 498 Queen Elizabeth..carrying a hand restrained in gift, and strained in points of prerogative, could not answer the votes either of servants or subjects to a full contentment, especially in her latter days. 1640 Harington *Edw. IV*, 169 N[illegible] more in the vote of the English; then to preserve [illegible] Lewys safe in his estate at home. 1656 Sanderson *Serm.* (1[illegible] 341 The Glory of God, is to be the Alpha and Omega of all our votes and desires. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. § 20 To breath out Moses's wish, O that men were wise; or if that be too hopeless a vote, O that men were not so destructively foolish.

II. †4. *Sc.* A formal expression of opinion by a member of a deliberative assembly on a matter under discussion; a decision or verdict. *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xlii. (S.T.S.) I. 76 Quhen þe maist parte & nowmer of senatouris war foundin of þe samyn votis as þe first has schewin,..it is accustumyt [etc.]. 1562 Winzet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 76 Quhat..wes the wocels and woteis of al [the bishops in council], bot that the thing quhilk wes techeit of auld suld be baldin? 1582 Bunne in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 154 Thair is na reasoune quhy he sould follow rather the voittis of your ministeris, nor ye the voittis of his bischopis.

†b. *Sc. In one vote*, with one consent, of one accord, unanimously. *Obs.*

1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 28 Tha all in ane vote conselit and consentit that my Lord Governour suld cause the said hous to be deliverit to the said Lord Maxwell. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 494 All in ane voit set thair Felicitie On future thingis, and Predestination. 1582–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 81 They all in ane voite [1825 vocel, voittit, declarit, and testified, that [etc.].

5. An indication, by some approved method, of one's opinion or choice on a matter under discussion; an intimation that one approves or disapproves, accepts or rejects, a proposal, motion, candidate for office, or the like.

Casting vote: see Casting *ppl. a.* 2.

c 1480 in *Liber Pluscardensis* (Skene) I. 394 Be electioune chosin men of gude,.. Quhilkis has the votis of al the commonis hale. 1552 in *Rec. Convent. Roy. Burghs* (1870) I. 3 To woit about throw that haill nowmer,..and he that gettis moryest wottis to be chosin and sworn incontinent. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 18 Lyk as he haid beine suppreme magistratt apprivit be the vottis of this realme. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot* I. 246 Malduin the fourt sone of King Donalde,..with al votis, is declaired king. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* II. 132 The crime being lawfully provin,..be the suffrages and voites of the estaites in parliament..he may be condemned. 1681 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* vii. § 14. 119 The civill Person sinnes not, but those subjects only by whose votes it was decreed for sinne. 1681 Wood *Life* 5 July (1848) 231 Both his dispensations for terms and absence from lectures were denied but by one vote. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 192 A young Prussian nobleman..was very near undergoing the same fate.., two votes only saving him from losing his head. 1823 *Local Act 4 Geo. IV*, c. iii § 8 Where the Number of Votes upon any Question shall be equal (including the Chairman's Vote) the Chairman shall have the casting Vote. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. vi. vi, That so, when the rotten hustings shake In another month to his brazen lies, A wretched vote may be gain'd. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 394 It is sometimes done by simply counting the single vote of the preferred person as equal to several votes.

b. In the phrase *to give* (in recent use also *to record*) *a* or *one's vote*.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 269 Lord Patrick Lyndsay that hes gevin the first woit. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (1689) 6 Bishops give not their Votes by Blood in Parliament, but by an Office annext to them. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Voting*, giving his Vote or Suffrage at the Election of a Magistrate, or making a Law, etc. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 165 If it were probable that every man would give his vote freely and without influence. *a* 1856 [see Record *v.* 9 b].

c. *transf.* (Cf. sense 9.)

1632 Crashaw *Poems* (1904) 189 Twixt pen and pensill rose a holy strife Which might draw vertue better to the life, Best wittes gave votes to that. 1667 Jer. Taylor *Dissuas. Popery* II. i. § 7. 217 But the events of salvation and damnation (blessed be God) do not depend upon the votes and tences of men. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 467 Profit and Pleasure, then, to mix with Art, T' inform the Judgement, nor offend the Heart, Shall gain all Votes. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. iv, You run, ride, leap too, better than anyone else, according to the votes of your comrades.

d. A means of signifying choice, approval, etc.; a voting tablet or ticket.

1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IV. xxii, Her voice, whose awful sweetness doth repress All evil,..And cast the vote of love in hope's abandoned urn. 1838 F. A. P[alev] tr. *Schömann's Assemb. Athen.* I. xi. 129 The citizens of each tribe cast their votes of condemnation or acquittal into one urn.

6. The collective opinion or assent of an assembly or body of persons. *To take a vote*, to ascertain the opinion of a meeting by formal reference.

1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 482 To beare the chargeis of provest, baillies, eldermen, and counsale of the said burgh, not being electit thairto be commoun consent and voit of the haill inhabitantis. 1597–8 *Rec. Earldom Orkney* lxxix. (S.H.S.) 173 Patrik, Erle of Orkney..sittand in judgement at the head court callit the Harmanstein.. befoir the haill voit of the countrie. 1624 Massinger *Renegado* Ded., With a full vote and suffrage it is acknowledged that the patronage and protection of the dramatic poem is your's. 1632 *Chron. Perth* (Maitl. Cl.) 33 Mr John row was admittit master of the gramer scole, be the provest, baillies, and counsall, without consent or woatt of ony wtheris. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 323 For so the popular vote Inclines, here to continue, and build up here A growing Empire. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 133 Nor can we wyt them, since they had our vote. 1821 Bysse *Two Foscari* v. i, Why would the general vote compel me hither? 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 76 The

law of the double vote had been..an implement of war directed against the throne. 1878 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 88 One is to be chosen by lot out of ten who are elected by ..... 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 394 A number of groups in each of which a separate vote is ta'

b. In the phrase *to put to the vote*, to submit to the decision of a meeting. Similarly (of a question), *to go to the vote*.

1599 *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1891) 234 It being put to vote .., the maist part voteit to the said incorporatioun. 1682 in *Acts Parlt. Scotl.* (1875) XII. 45/2 It was putt to the vote, If the Act should be delayed or not, and was carried in the negative. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* V. 87 Cato, however, before it was put to the vote, ascended the rostrum. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 244/1 He implored the House not to let the question go to the vote. 1827 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 58 He must then put it to the Vote whether the meeting 'approve' and 'confirm' the minutes. 1888 [see Put v.1 22 b].

c. The collective support of a special number or class of persons in a deliberative decision, election, etc. (Cf. 7 c.)

1851 Gallenga *Italy* 391 We must not, indeed, allow that it was the result of the Lombard vote that turned Sardinia's allies into enemies. 1884 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 July 1/3 Mr. Blaine will get the following 'votes'. The Hebrew vote, because he spoke severely about the persecution of the Jews in Russia; the Dynamite vote, because he is down on the ...

The right or privilege of exercising the suffrage; esp. in the phrase *to have a vote*.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* 683 (Laing MS.), They say þat wayage neuir luckin, quhair ilk ane hes ane woit. 1604 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1913) 130 It is to be carryed by most voyces, because every Councillor hath equall vote there. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 109 If every man of England has not a like vote and power in electing Members for the House of Commons, then cannot the House of Commons be the Representative of the Nation. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 5 Who has sufficient to drive a Trade that will bear an Imposition of Eight Crowns, has as good a Vote as he that Trades for an Hundred Thousand. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 165 Every member of the community ..should have a vote in electing those delegates. 1768 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. x. 229 The common people ceased to have votes. 1829 Macaulay *Mill on Govt.* in *Edin. Rev.* Mar. 177 On these grounds Mr. Mill recommends that all males of mature age, rich and poor, educated and ignorant, shall have votes. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I. 379 Each tribe, however feeble, had two votes in the deliberations of the congress. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xi, He ..was already a forty-shilling freeholder, and was conscious of a vote for the county.

b. A person regarded merely as an embodiment of the right to vote; also, a person possessing the right to vote; a voter.

1737 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 197 That from a Patriot of distinguish'd note, Have bled and purg'd me to a simple Vote. †*a* 1800 *Devonshire's Noble Duel* ii. in Child *Ballads* VII. 124/2 Then away to the Parliament these votes all went again, And there they acted like just and honest men. 1806 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Tritia* Wks. 1812 V. 298 Oh! had I been a vote, a borough vote, Then Fortune would have squeezed me by thy hand. *Ibid.* 299 To enter the votes' houses up and down. 1892 R. S. Hawker in C. E. Byles *Life* xiii. (1905) 220, I am not a vote, but a Man. The reverse is the general fact. People are not Men but votes.

c. The aggregate of voters, esp. of a certain class. (Cf. 6 c.)

1888 *Daily Chron.* 26 April (Cassell's) Alluding to the large amount of the illiterate vote in Ireland.

8. A resolution or decision passed by, or carried in, an assembly as the result of voting; an expression of opinion formally adopted by a meeting of any kind.

1642 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* II. 530/2 Resolved..That these Votes shall be printed; and attested under the Clerk's Hand. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 192 The distempers of the Houses (to see their former votes eluded and Presb[yterians] lately excluded now so numerous to carie all votes with a high hand) will grow suddenly to a great fire. 1688 A. Mudie *Pres. St. Scotl.* ii. 26 The Prerogatives of the Crown are great, as Power of..giving the Votes of Parliament, the Authority of Laws. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 2 P 7 That's the Gentleman who gained the first Vote [in the Senate] against Hannibal. 1714 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1738 IV. 62 Several smart Votes were printed. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 270 Pursuant to a Vote of the House of Commons, passed in the last Session. 1835 in Blaikie *Livingstone* lx. (1881) 189, I need not say that the award was made by an unanimous and cordial vote. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* ix. § 9. 700 Marlborough was..charged with peculation, and condemned as guilty by a vote of the House of Commons.

b. Const. *of*.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xlii, Then a vote of thanks was moved to the mayor for his able conduct in the chair. 1863 H. Cox *Institt.* I. vi. 44 Subsequently in the session a further vote of public money has been required. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 30 July 125/1 A majority, if it is good for anything, may be relied upon to reject a vote of censure.

†9. A declaration or statement of opinion. *Obs.*

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 206 [China] is by common vote, reputed the greatest Empire in the Orient. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 218 The Vote of the Proverb, for a handsome Woman, would have her English to the Neck, French to the Waste, and Dutch below. *a* 1680 Glanvill *Saddismismus* I. App. (1682) 179 That a thing should be, and yet not be anywhere in the whole Universe, is so wild and mad a vote..that it cannot be said by any man in his wits.

†b. Reckoning, estimate. *Obs.*

1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* The End 30, I blush to see our great Siracides Half to the Vote of a low I

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vote-victed* adj., *vote-monger*; **Vote Office**, the office from which Parliamentary bills and papers are issued to members of the House of Commons; **vote-recorder**, a mechanical contrivance for registering votes.

Also in recent use *vote-begging*, *-catcher*, *-getter*, *-seeker*, *-splitter*, *-winner*, etc.

1643 Sir J. Spelman *Case of Affairs* 28 Making them Vote-convicted State Heretickes. 1844 May *Treat. Parl.* ed. 312 The Vote-office is charged with the delivery of printed papers to members of the house. 1852 Disraeli *Ld. G. Bentinck* viii. (1872) 103 The interview by appointment took place in the Vote Office. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2715/1 Vote-recorder. 1887 Huxley in *Darwin's Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 195 In the form of a vote-catching resolution. 1887 *Amer. Missionary* July 195 Made tools of ..by corrupt vote-mongers. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Feb. 6/1 To expedite business by an electrical vote recorder.

Vote (vōt), *v.* Also 6 *Sc.* voitt, woit, wott; 8 whoat. [f. L. *vōt-*, ppl. stem of *vovēre* to vow, to desire, or ad. med.L. *vōtāre* to devote by a vow, from the same stem. Cf. It. *votare*, Sp. and Pg. *votar*, to devote, to vote, F. *voter* to vote (in older use from It., in mod. use from English). Before 1600 almost exclusively a Sc. word.]

†1. *intr.* To vow (to do something). *Obs. rare.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xv. (S.T.S.) I. 86 He voit to consecrate þe harnes and armoure of his Inemyis to þe god vulcane. *Ibid.* II. ix. 163 þe dictator..voit to edifie ane tempil in þe honoure of þe gud Castor.

2. *refl.* and *trans.* To assign by a vow; to devote religiously. Now *rare*.

Bellenden *Livy* v. xix. (S.T.S.) II. 211 All þe agit ..votit þame self wilfully to þe deith for þe wele of þere cuntre. 1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Prose Add. (1592) 195 The Queene..voted, euen in her better part, to the loue of Æneas. 1632 Gaule *Magastrom.* 55 In an impiety, or (at least) temerity, of invoking, provoking, voting, devoting, imprecating. 1864 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* I. xi. 123 To enumerate what met my eyes in the vases, which the common soldiers in their piety voted to the god,..would fill the page on which I write.

†b. To devote or consign *to* destruction. *Obs.*

1676 Glanvill *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* IV. 1 The Books of curious Arts, that were voted to Destruction by Apostolick Auth ority and Zeal.

3. *intr.* To give a vote; to exercise the right of suffrage; to express a choice or preference by ballot or other approved means.

1552 in *Rec. Convent. Roy. Burghs* (1870) I. 3 Thair sall convene in the Tolbuyth the auld counsale and new,..and thair to begyn at the litis of provestre, and to woit about throw that haill nowmer. 1637-50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 191 Because the brethren could not be fullie resolved for the present concerning the office of him who should vote in Parliament. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* vii. § 2. 110 A Councell .. of all the Citizens, (insomuch as every man of them hath a Right to Vote..) or of a part onely. 1727 Stukeley in *Mem.* (Surtees) 194 It will enable you however to whoat at our elections. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. i. 167 The statutes..direct..that no person shall vote in right of any freehold granted to him fraudulently to qualify him to vote. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 100 With a compelled appearance of deliberation, they vote under the dominion of a stern necessity. 1845 Gladstone *Corr. Ch. & Relig.* (1910) I. 343 The question on which they voted was chosen for them by the Board of Heads. 1887 Lowell *Democr.* 31 The right to vote makes a safety-valve of every voter.

b. Const. *against*, *for* (†*to*), or with inf.

1599 [see Vote *sb.* 6 b]. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xviii. 88 Every one, as well he that Voted for it, as he that Voted against it, shall Authorise all the Actions and Judgements of that Man. 1682 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 119 The fellows almost unanimously payd their obedience to his Majestys commands and voted for Finch. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* III. 86 All vote to leave that execrable shore. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* I. iv, Mrs. Wilkins..would have voted for sending the child immediately out of the house. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 244 I would humbly propose that each subscriber.. be qualified to vote for the election of a surgeon to a county hospital. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 451, I vote for the Abbé Sieyes,—whom do you vote for? 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* Introd. I. 8 Men were conscious of having not only the right to vote, but the chance of being voted for.

†4. a. To declare one's opinion. *Obs.*—1

a 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 268 [When] the lord Lyndsay had wottit in this maner, the haill lordis was contentit of this conclusioun.

†b. To decide, to judge. *Obs. rare.*

1643 Chas. I *Lett.* Wks. (1692) 230 Some finde fault with too much kindnesse to thes (thou maist easily vote from what constellation that comes).

5. *trans.* Of assemblies, etc.: To choose, elect, enact, or establish by vote; to ratify or determine by formal expression of will.

1588 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 74 The saidis bailliis votit the samin be fre electioun of the haill communite. 1593 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. Pref. 44 [The council] votit, thocht guid and expedient, that the Grey freiris place thairof, sal be resignit. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Henry VIII* (1683) 230 The Cardinal..was remov'd to a Chamber apart..till the main question of the marriage was voted and agreed. 1669 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 317 It is generally voted, agreed, thought fit, and so ordered, that the keeping of the fair here on St. Martin's day..shall..for this year be absolutely forborne and forbidden. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* IX. 298 They vote a message to their absent chief. 1782 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxviii. III. 73 Four respectable deputations were successively voted to the Imperial court. 1827 W. Selwyn *Laws Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1071 Having in common council voted a petition to the king. 1842 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 280 Next year a parliament was summoned which..voted a new bulla, 1885 *Jrnl. Anthropol. Soc.* III. 19 The following list of presents were read, and thanks were voted for the same.

b. Const. with inf., expressing the result of the decision.

1648 Winyard *Midsummer-Moon* 4 Thus Oxford, like the house of office at Westminster, is voted to bee reformed by those who sould it. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 168 Yett in hope of a party, they have voted the Papists to compound. 1678 F. Ld. Aungier in *Essex Papers* (Camden) 25 The House of Commons after a long debate vote the said persons to be sent to ye Tower. 1709 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 91 The motion..for voteing the aforenam'd persons to be free.

c. Const. *away*, *from*, *in*, *into*, *off*, etc.

1641 Sir E. Dering in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1692) III. I. 295 You have done exceeding well to vote away this Bishop. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xlvii. 126 Notwithstanding the Canon that had long before this time voted the Laity from having to do with Church matters. 1649 Milton *Observ. Peace Ormond* Wks. 1851 IV. 576 They had no privilege to sit there, and vote home the Author..of all our Miseries. 1835 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 530 *note*, Previous to his voting Agyrrius into office. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 162 The House met..and voted away their privilege in cases of libel by 258 votes to 133. 1890 *Longm. Mag.* July 255 My name has been voted off the list of your committee.

refl. 1914 *Times* (weekly ed.) 13 Mar. 218 The..delimitation of the areas which may vote themselves out of Home Rule.

d. With appositive predicate.

1649 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 443, I heare the Lords on Tuesday last voted all null since ye army siezed ye members. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 52 All the Kings commands in prosecution of the Laws, were Voted breaches of the Priviledges of Parliament. 1730 *Lett. to Sir W. Strickland rel. to Coal Trade* 21 The House of Commons, after an Enquiry..voted both Lightermen, Masters and Owners guilty of a Combination.

e. With cognate object.

1871 Browning *Pr. Hohenst.* Wks. 1897 II. 304/1 Divers hundred thousand fools may vote A vote untampered with by one wise man.

†6. To submit (a matter) to a vote; to vote upon. *Obs. rare.*

1580-8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 130 Eftir the reading of the quhilk supplicatioun, the heads quhairoff being reasonit and voitted, it was fund..that the Queene was compellit..to subscryve the said comissioun. 1689 in *Acts Parlt. Scotl.* (1875) XII. 57/1 It was voted if the Committie should be named be the plurality of the whole house or be the plurality of each of the three benches.

7. *To vote down*, to defeat, to put down or suppress, by a vote.

1642 Laud *Wks.* (1854) IV. 10 About the tenth of this month, the bishops were voted down in the Upper House. 1644-7 Cleveland *Char. Loud. Diurn.* 2 And, since the Stages were voted down, the only Play-house is at Westminster. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* II. § 5 (1716) 83 Old Truths voted down begin to resume their places. 1858 in Herndon *Life A. Lincoln* (1892) II. 115 The idea put forth by Judge Douglas, that he 'don't care whether slavery is voted down or voted up.' 1888 A. Bain *Jas. Mill* vi. 268 It is the aristocracy that must, in the House, vote down the Ministry.

8. To grant, allow, or confer by vote.

1710 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 352 The Tories are preparing complaints, among them one against the Admiralty for spending 500,000*l.* more than was voted. 1711 Swift *Examiner* No. 46 P 4 The Parliament voted Subsidies, and the willing People chearfully paid them. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. 91 They voted 1000 heavy infantry, 100 horse, and 50 galleys. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 510 Some among them talked of voting the revenue only for a term of years. 1873 C. Robinson *N. S. Wales* 83 The amount voted for public works in 1872 was £642,856; and this is about the amount voted by Parliament every year for public improvements.

transf. 1871 E. F. Burr *Ad Fidem* iii. 41 All the proprieties vote him a rest.

9. To declare by common assent; to characterise by an expression of opinion; to pronounce. Const. with simple compl. or inf.

1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* 221 The old ways are much decried, and the last invention is voted to be altogether Divine. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 305 We may.. safely vote him a true penitent. 1712 *Free-thinker* No. 62, 36 Last Night, I was voted a very Impudent Fellow. 1782 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* May, He..spoke no more during the whole debate, which I am sure he was ready to vote a bore. 1812 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 40 Shooting and sport of this kind being voted a rarity at Atworth. 1846 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* V. xv, Receiving some not very encouraging responses,..they voted her ladyship cursedly satirical. 1882 *Punch* 31 Dec. 309/2 The fair lady's dresses..were voted charming.

b. *colloq.* To propose, suggest.

1814 Scott *Way.* lxxi, I vote we should go to meet them. 1820 Shelley *Cid. Tyr.* II. 120, I vote, in form of an amendment, that Purganax rub a little of that stuff Upon his face, *Ibid.* 127, I vote Swellfoot and Iona Try the magic test together.

c. To agree in, decide on, sending (a person) to a place.

1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 432 So far are we from voting him to Coventry,..there are few of us who would refuse to march through Coventry with him.

10. To influence or control in voting; to cause to vote in a particular way.

1895 *Standard Dict.* s.v., He votes his employees.

Voted, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

†1. Vowed, devoted. *Obs. rare.*

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* I. ii, His wife and Sister..with Vesta seeke to shunne The voted fathers deadly doome. 1632 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* XII. (1640) 244 Of a voted Hart The Antlers from a pine he puls.

2. Established or assigned by vote.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 33 More greatly brooking writt'n exceptions against a voted Order, then other Courts. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 25 April 10 The right hon. gentleman estimated the expenditure..for the voted services £54,188,000.

Voteen (vōtī·n). *Irish.* [prob. f. DEVOTE *sb.*[1] or DEVOTEE; the equivalent Ir. *méidhin* is however connected with Ir. *méidhim* I dedicate or devote.] A very religious person; a devotee.

1830–2 W. CARLETON *Traits* (1843) I. 16 Up near the altar ..you might perceive a voteen, repeating some new prayer or choice piece of devotion. 1896 P. KENNEDY *Banks of Boro* (1867) 184 One of the class that is called in Scotland 'The anco guid', and 'Voteens' among ourselves. *Ibid.* 333 He had considered his neighbour a voteen and twaddler.

Voteless (vōu·tlĕs), *a.* [f. VOTE *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no vote. (Common from 1880.)

1872 R. MORE *Brief Reply* 87 The Lay Courtiers..were enabled to vote, when so many of the Reverend Clergy were by devices made vote-less. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xi, There was a way of using voteless miners and navvies at Nominations and Elections. 1884 *Forin. Rev.* Feb 212 Many artisans live voteless outside boroughs. 1888 *Co-operative News* 15 Dec. 1261 We only refer to their voteless condition in order [etc.]

Voter (vōu·tər). Also 6 *Sc.* **wottar.** [f. VOTE *v.*]

1. One who has a right to vote; *esp.* an elector.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 267 The lordis devyswit and chargit Lord Patrick Lyndesay of the Byaris to be chancellor and first wottar in the consall. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 191 As to the number of voters, that there should be fifty-one. 1767 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* II. 10 Every freeholder of forty shillings sterl. a year is a voter. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xlvii, He usually drove his voters up to the poll with his own hands. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng* xx. IV. 458 In the towns in which he wished to establish an interest, he remembered, not only the voters, but their families. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* lix IV. 311 Voters were dragged to the poll like slaves or prisoners.

b. One who gives a vote. *rare*—[1].

1701 SIR D. HUME *Diary Parl. Scot.* (Bann Cl.) 78 So by vote it was carried (Halcraig and I being no voters,) to send a macer ..to require them to attend the Council.

†2. One who is bound by an oath or vow. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol Soc.) I. 240 The Generall would passe noe other way than Balmore, as enformed of the said oath to try whether nowe or neuer they did proue true voters

Voteress, obs. var. VOTARESS. **Votesave,** obs. var. VOUCHSAFE. **Voth,** var. WOTHE *Obs.* **Vother,** southern ME. var. FOTHER *sb.*

Voting (vōu·tin), *vbl. sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* **votting**; 7 *Sc.* **woitting.** [f. VOTE *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. The action of giving a vote.

1575 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc* (1840) I 123 After lang resonyng, with votting past thairin...the last kirk hes ordanit (etc.). 1633 *Sc. Acts, Chas. I* (1870) V. 95/2 To haue voitt in parliament..and in all vther lawfull meittings..quhair burghes royall..hes place of sitting and woitting. 1649 OGILBY *Æneis* XI. (1684) 364 Let him not threaten, and make Voting free. 1721 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 121 The Commons voteing of the throne of England vacant. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 165 Some, who are suspected to have no will of their own, are excluded from voting 1822 A. RANKEN *Hist. France* IX. x. § 2. 259 The sittings and votings of the states should be together, or separately. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* App. III. 438 The voting was generally by the bean, or ballot in later times 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 4 7 The voting for the Chancellorship of Dublin University took place yesterday.

2. *attrib.*, as *voting-place*; **voting machine,** a vote-recorder; **voting-paper,** a paper on which a vote is recorded; a ballot-paper.

1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes on Virgil* Bucol. I. 34 *Saeptum* was originally any inclosure, whence the *Saepta* or voting-place of the tribes at Rome. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Voting-paper*, a balloting paper; a proxy. 1861 MILL *Repr. Govt.* 140 It is therefore provided that an elector may deliver a voting paper containing other names 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* lii. IV. 109 The voting-paper principle was abandoned. 1900 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 7/7 The adoption of the voting machine would do away with all the delay in counting and checking the ballot papers.

Voting, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].]

†1. Votive, dedicatory. *Obs.*—[1]

1630 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (ed. 2) 293 With Scythicke piety their aged Sier Let stripling's tumble from the voting bridge.

2. That possesses or exercises the right of suffrage.

1830 JAS. MILL in A. Bain *Life* vii. (1882) 331 They are the class by whom chiefly is the moral character of the voting class is formed. 1837 W. E. FORSTER in T. W. Reid *Life* (1888) I. 93, I saw some dreadful cases of voting drunken people, both Whig and Tory. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* v. LXXXVIII. III. 104 The voting population seemed determined to give its whole attention to the King for one day at least.

†Votist. *Obs. rare.* [f. VOTE *sb.* or *v.* + -IST.] One who makes a vow; a votary.

1613 CHAPMAN *Revenge Busy D'Ambois* III Plays 1873 II. 137 Trie *If* a poore woman, votist of reuenge, Would not performe it. 1709 G. HICKES *Te Kdr.* in *Devot. Anc. Way Offices*, Those stiff, morose, and saturnine Votists, who are so sparing of bodily Adoration, in our most solemn Services. 1722 — *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 107 A religious mystery, exhibiting one thing to the sense, and another to the understanding of the votist.

Votive (vōu·tiv), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vōtīv-us* performed, offered, etc., in consequence of a vow, f. *vōt-um* vow VOTE *sb.* Hence also It., Sp., Pg. *votivo*, F. *votif*, -*ive*.]

A. *adj.* †1. Of persons: Carrying out a vow; devout. *Obs. rare.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 57 That Sepulchre you see is but a thing built vp by Saracens to get money with, and beguile votiue Christians.

2. Dedicated, consecrated, offered, erected, etc., in consequence of, or in fulfilment of, a vow.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. XXX. § 2. 126 Which votiue Altar was erected by the Troupe of Horsemen surnamed Augusta Gordiana. 1626 B. JONSON *Poetaster, Dial. Hor. & Trib.* 57 So that the old man's life described, was seen As in a votive table in his linen. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. IV. § 23. 400 Those Last Dying words..wherein he required his friends to offer a Votive Cock for him to Æsculapius. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* (1726) 136 Sacred to Mars these votive spoils proclaim The fate of Asdrubal, and Scipio's fame. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 230 A marble boat placed before the church, and said to be a votive piece, as an acknowledgement for deliverance in a storm. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 152 The jewels given as votive offerings. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk* I. 233 It is a pious custom,..to honour the memory of saints by votive lights burnt before their pictures. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 343 In a third class, which embraces most of the votive pictures, the Virgin and Child are exhibited in glory. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-coll. Man.* XXIV. 357 The altars for Apollo were besieged with votive offerings for the staying of the pestilence.

b. Observed, practised, undertaken, etc., in consequence of a vow.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1] LXXXV. 246 Votiue Abstinence, some cold constitutions may endure. 1803 WORDSW. *Prelude* I. 181 Whence inspiration for a song that winds Through ever changing scenes of votive quest Wrongs to redress 1876 STEDMAN *Victorian Poets* 397 A knight tilting at a wayside tournament as he rides on his votive quest.

c. Of the nature of a vow. *rare*—[1].

a 1626 A. LAKE *Serm.* (1641) 116 The King bindeth himselfe to make good his duty with a Votive Oath.

3. Consisting in, expressive of, a vow, desire, or wish.

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* ix. 8 When I command, the people do obey, Submissive subjects to my votive will. 1629 J. GAULE (*title*), Practique Theories: or, Votiue Speculations upon Christs Prediction, Incarnation, Passion, Resurrection. 1641 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 537 The sence hangeth unperfect, unless we take in the former verse too. Both together contain a Votive Prayer or Benediction. 1824 WORDSW. *'O for a dirge'* 9 No tears of passionate regret Shall stain this votive lay. 1835 — *To Moon* 34 The fanes Extinct that echoed to the votive strains.

†b. = VOTAL *a.* 1. *Obs.*—[1]

1664 JER. TAYLOR *Dissuas. Popery* I. II. § 1 80 A man, by contrition is not reconcil'd to God, without their Sacramental or Ritual penance, actual or votive.

4. *Votive mass* (see quot. 1881).

1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Mass*, Votive Mass, is an extraordinary Mass besides that of the day, rehearsed on some extraordinary occasion. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. 161 The Catholic priest will find in his Missal..those votive Masses as they were..allotted each one to its own day of the week, by Alcuin. 1881 BRIDGETT *Hist. Holy Eucharist* I. 200 Masses have also been composed for special occasions, and are called votive masses, because said according to the votum, i. e. the intention or desire of the celebrant.

B. *sb.* A votive offering. *rare*—[1].

1646 SHIRLEY *To T. Stanley*, A palsy shakes my pen while I intend A votive to thy muse.

Hence **Vo·tively** *adv.*, in a votive manner.

1847 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 237 Fruits placed votively on the shrine.

Votmen, southern ME. var. pl. of FOOTMAN.

Vo·tograph, Voto·meter, recent U.S. names for special types of voting-machines.

Vo·tress[1]. Also 8–9 **vot'ress.** [var. of VOTARESS, after forms like *enchantress, protectress.*] A female votary.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. I. 125 His mother was a Votresse of my Order. *Ibid.* II. 164 The Imperiall Votresse passed on, In maiden meditation, fancy-free. 1607 *Barley-Breake* (1877) 21 What Nymph, what Nun, or what disdainefull Votresse, Shall not plucke downe and strike to thee the Sayle? 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 105 Ceres, the goddesse of husbandry, whose votresses none but chast women durst presume to be. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 225 Thy Votress from my tender Years I am. 1739 *Corr. betw. Ctess Hartford & Ctess Pomfret* (1805) I. 149, I do not wonder that you shed tears at the profession of the unhappy votress at Genoa, since I could scarcely restrain mine at the recital of her sufferings. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 28 P 6 Every one..has the pleasure..of hoping to be numbered among the votresses of harmony. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* IV, Surprise at the sudden appearance of these votresses, and the visionary manner in which they moved past him. 1866 J. B. ROBERTS. *Ovid's Met.* 27 A votress of the power Ortygian.

Vo·tress[2]. [f. VOTER + -ESS.] A female voter.

1894 *Daily Tel.* 23 Nov. 5/4 The votress insisted that she must plump for 'Annie Sinclair'. 1895 *N. Amer. Rev.* Sept. 267 Unable to conjecture what the results may be when women shall have become not only votresses but..alder-

Vou, obs. var. Sc. WOW *int.*

Voubet, obs. Sc. form of WOOBUT.

Vouch, *sb.* [f. next.]

†1. = VOUCHER *sb.*[1] 1. *Obs.*—[1]

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 126 Tell me, if hee will not stand amazed at your Vouches in Fines and Recoueryes.

2. An assertion, allegation, or declaration; a formal statement or attestation of truth or fact. Now chiefly *colleq.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* V. I. 156 My vouch against you, and my place i' th' State, Will no your accusation overweigh. [Also *Oth.* III. I. 247, etc.] 1686 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* To Rdr. p. iii, An Acte to saue Agaist com..with the fore vouch of the generall goodnesse of the Comand..haue on the poore Peasnt. 1692 &c, [illegible] Discrediting their vouches, by empairing their credits, calling their Honesty into question. 1832 HEYLIN *St.* 3 For having in the generall vouche and confessio Church, beene reckoned with the Saints departed.

Vouch (vouʧ), *v.* Forms: 4 **vooch-** (5 *St.* **wooche**), **fouche,** 4 **wowche,** 5–6 **vowch,** 4–6 **vouche,** 5– **vouch.** [a. AF. and OF. **vocher, voucher** (OF. also **voch-, vouchier, vongier, vouhier**), to call, summon, invoke, claim, etc., obscurely f. L. *vocāre* to call. Cf. AVOUCH *v.*]

1. *trans. Law. To vouch to warrant* or *to* (also †*for*) *warranty*, to cite, call, or summon (a person) into court to give warranty of title. (After AF. and OF. *voucher a garant.*)

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 fol. 47 3if pilke pat is [vochid to warant be in present ant mid wille wolle warand pe tenaunt. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 324/2 And over that, caused theym ..to vouche by covyn to warrant one John Smyth, whiche also by covyn entred into warrant. 1509–10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII* c. 29 *Preamble*, Margaret vouched to warranty your said Suppliant. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 34 Yf such tens be impleded by a Precipe quod reddat &c. and he voucheth hys lorde to warranty. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 136 The vouchee is he, whom the tenant voucheth, or calleth to warranty for the land irrdemaund. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 102 When the Tenant being impleaded within a particular Iurisdiction..voucheth one to warranty. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* I. vi. 130 If the Heir at Common Law be vouched for Warranty. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 360 If the vassal's title to enjoy the feud was disputed, he might vouch, or call, the lord or donor to warrant or insure his gift. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 382 When a person is vouched to warranty, and enters of his own accord into the warranty, the law presumes that he parted with his possession with warranty. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* (1876) 78 *note*, The person vouched to warranty might in his turn vouch a second person, and the second vouches a third.

absol. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. I. Fiv b, When the tenaunte in tayle hath vouched to warrauntye. 1865 F. M. NICHOLS *Britton* II. 258 If the defendant vouches to warranty, then the like process shall hold (etc.).

b. *ellipt.* (with omission of *to warrant*).

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 12 The wyfe of the feoffour brongeth an accyon of Dower gaynst the yssue of the feoffe, and he vouched the heyre of the feoffour. 1629 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 370 If the tenaunt vouch a dead man, the demandant may averre he is dead, or there is none such. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 386 b, If two men make a feoffment.., and the one die, the Feoffee cannot vouche the survivor only, but the heir of him that is dead also. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 359 If Edwards therefore be tenant of the freehold in possession,..Edwards doth first vouch Barker, and then Barker vouches Jacob Morland the common vouchee. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 395 This person being tenant to the *præcipe*, vouches the tenant in tail. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* (1876) 78 *note*, If at the time of the claim the vouchee were dead, the possessor of the thing claimed could 'vouch the tomb' of the vendor.

absol. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 20 If their copies were lost they may vouche and resort to the lordes court rolles. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 102 b, The partie, if he hath a Warrantie, shall not vouche, but haue his action of couenant, if [etc.]. 1642 tr. *Perkins Prof. Bk.* I. § 49 23 If a bastard signe is impleaded and vouch and the vouchee enters into warranty. 1672 [see VOUCHEE *sb.*[2] 4].

c. With *over.* Of a vouchee: To cite (another person) into court in his stead. Also *absol.*

1512–3 *Act 3 Hen. VIII*, c. 18 *Preamble*, In whiche.., accione the said tenauntes vouched to warrante Syre John Rysley Knyght and he vouched over to Warantie Thomas Fyssher. 1628 [see VOUCHER *sb.*[1] 1 b]. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* I. vi. 130 If the Heir at Common Law be vouched for Warranty, who vouches the Heirs in Gavelkind because of the Possession, they all shall vouch over. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 359 He vouches the tenant in tail, who vouches over the common vouchee. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 451 If a *præcipe* is brought against a tenant in tail, and his wife,..and they both vouch over in the usual manner, it will bar the estate tail. *Ibid.*, A common recovery, in which he and his wife vouched over the common vouchee.

2. To take or call (a person) to witness. †In early use with *to record*. Also *transf.* (quot. 1700).

c 1422 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1838 God of heuen vouch I to record, Pat..Thow schalt no cause haue more pus to muse. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 267/2 And yat ye same Wautier vouchath Baronez to recorde whiche bene present in yis Parlement, and wer present in yat Counseill. 1678 W. LONGUEVILLE in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) I. 125 Clarke.. quoted Basset's man, a bookseller in Fleet-streete; and ye yong bookseller vouch't Mr. Freake, a yong barrister of ye Middle Temple. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 22 The Sun and Day are Witnesses for me, Let him who fights unseen relate his own, And vouch the silent Stars, and conscious Moon. *Ibid.* 105 That it is not a Fable forged by me, ..I vouch ev'n Diomede.

b. To cite or appeal to (authority, example, doctrine, etc.) in support of one's views or statements or as justification for a course of action.

1532 ELYOT *Gov.* III. XXV, But the most catholike and renoumed doctours..vouche (as I nought say) to their sydes the authorite of the writars. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 30 Bycause I sayd that our Preachers do alleadge Scriptures onely: and yet within a whiles after I added, that they did vouche the authoritie of the Fathers also 1641 J. SMITH *Sermons & Memoirs* (1849) 295 He voucheth the example of Elias, how God, upon his prayer, shut and opened heaven. 1880 BISHOP *Script. Reg.* 363, I vouch every man's experience to warrant this truth. 1690 LOCKE *Toleration* Wks. IV. 215 So that you cannot vouch the Intentions of the Magistrate, whose Laws say nothing. 1884 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. D. 599 There is no such doctrine as that ..which has been vouched in order to take away the effect of this deed. 1885 LD. ESHER in *Law Times' Rep.* (N.S.) LIII. 451/2 A minister cannot vouch his privilege in such a case as this.

c. Similarly with reference to the citation of authors, works, etc.

1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 71 In the catalogue of the auctors, you haue omytted manye auctors vouched by chawcer. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. x. (1623) 651 For more credit to which assertion hee vouched sundry books and acts. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 239 We have truly vouched well nigh two hundred that consent with us. 1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Smectymnuus-mastix* 17 When he is vouched to serve their turns, he is set out with a more honorable encomium, be is then stiled A learned Jew, the famous Rabbi Maymonides. 1728 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* iii. 43 For the truth of this I vouch the mathematicians. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 45, I am not certain.. whether you will admit such authorities as it is possible I may vouch. 1831 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 73 No one now regards such writers as Ascham, Burton, Chapman..as obsolete, or would hesitate to vouch them to justify a word and keep its memory from oblivion. 1866 *Q. Rev.* July 261 As he vouches another person for his former charge, and speaks allusively only of the second, it is difficult to say how much weight he attaches to either of these.

d. To cite, quote, or adduce (a passage, etc.) out of a work in support of a view or statement.

1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 25 b, You recite at the last certeine of my wordes, vouched out of Augustine, which be as followeth. 1583 H. HOWARD *Defensative* Oo j b, Since I find a sorte of godly verses vouched out of theyr vessels, by the learned fathers of the church. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) [illegible] out of the ancient histo
His testimony vouch'd
assure[s] mee..that such a worke was in their times, recei as his. 1696 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 488 It would be too long to vouch Texts for each particular. 1842 S. R. MAITLAND *Remarks* 72 A statement, that Philpot vouched the major of his argument 'out of Vigilius, an ancient writer'.

†3. a. To put in evidence, to display. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1358 Þis bolde Baltazar bi-penkkes hym ones, To vouche on [= an] avayment of his vayne glorie.

†b. To announce or declare (a vow). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 165 Vchon glewed on his god þat gayned hym beste, Summe to Vernagu þer vouched a-vowes solemne.

†c. To cast the responsibility of (something) *on* a person. *Obs.*

c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 945 On hir bishop their warant [to] vouche, That is law of the decre.

4. To allege, assert, affirm or declare. Also const. *upon* or *against* (a person). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 295 Bot I spak nevere yit..That unto Cheste mihte touche, And that I durste riht wel vouche Upon hirself as for witnesse. *Ibid.* II. 24 For..sche myn herte toucheth, That for nothing that Slowthe voucheth I mai foryete hire. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 467/2 Thenne.. ye same Wauter seyth and voucheth, ye Parlement yat King Richard held at Westm' [etc.]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 228 b, From whence shall this mylde & charitable allegation..appeare at the length to be truly vouched agaynst Luther? 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 326 What can you vouch against him, Signor Lucio? Is this the man that you did tell vs of? 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 103 *Bra.* I therefore vouch againe, That with some Mixtures, powrefull o're the blood...He wrought vp on her. *Duke.* To vouch this, is no proofe. 1662 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 52 In that Power and Dominion that God gave Adam over the Creatures: In that he was vouched his immediate Deputy upon Earth. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. xxxi. 5 What we have done None shall dare vouch, though it be truly known.

†b. With complement. *Obs.*[-1]

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. v. 87 But like a timorous theefe, [I] most faine would steale What law does vouch mine owne.

5. To assert or affirm to be true or according to fact; to guarantee the truth or accuracy of (a statement, etc.); to attest or certify. Also const. *against* (a person).

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. 49 Diuerse miracles vowched by sundry persons terrifyed the mindes of men. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. ii. 5 Nay tis most credible, we heere receiue it, A certaintie, vouch'd from our Cosin Austria. 1700 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* (ed. 4) IV. xvi. § 8 When any particular matter of fact is vouched by the concurrent Testimony of unsuspected Witnesses, there our Assent is also unavoidable. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Matt. xxviii. 13 What an improbable and unlikely lie this was, which they put into the soldiers' mouths to vouch. 1780 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 117, I believe the saying of Pliny is very true, that there is no lie so impudent which is not vouched by authority. 1774 REID *Aristotle's Logic* vi. § 2. 237 They will..respect nothing but facts sufficiently vouched. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xv. II. 496 *note*, Boyer, in his History of the Reign of Queen Anne, p. 12, says [etc.]. ..I should be glad to have found this vouched by better authority. 1842 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 99 Other legends were vouched by grave citations from a certain Book of Martyrdoms. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 153 An idle story that Milton died a Roman Catholic..is not well vouched, being hearsay three times removed.

absol. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* I. vi, Further vouches not my lay, Save that such lived in Britain's isle. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 66 Go and see and vouch for certain.

b. With subordinate clause: To bear witness, to testify, *that* (etc.).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 262 Vouch with me Heauen, I therefore beg it not To please the palate of my Appetite. *a* 1806 BP. HORSLEY *9 Serm.* (1815) 138 Some few hours after, Peter vouches that he had seen our Saviour. 1818 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, The Prior of the Dominicans will vouch for me, that they are more than half heathen. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 24 That there are now occasional complaints on this score we can vouch from personal knowledge.

c. With complement to the object.

1684–5 SOUTH *Serm., Prov. xvi. 30* (1697) I. 358 If a man succeeds in any attempt, though undertook with never so much folly and rashness, his success shall vouch him a politician. 1893 — *Serm., Eccl. i. 18* (1842) V. 3 His [*sc.* Solomon's] judgment, whom God has hitherto vouched the wisest of men. 1903 *Times* 29 Jan. 13/4 The girl..had vouched the man Waugh as having been present.

6. To support or uphold by satisfactory evidence; to back with proofs of a practical or substantial character.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 3/1 That all they that teache, may vouch in deede, and of a trueth, that Iesus Christ speaketh by their mouth. *Ibid.* 458/1 To vouch our Godlinesse, that is to say, to shewe in deede & without dissembling that wee labour to serue God. 1662 GLANVILL *Lux Orient.* i. 3 Let us take some account of what the 2 first opinions alledge one against another..: now, if they be found unable to withstand the shock of one anothers opposition; we may reasonably cast our eies upon the third, to see what force it brings to vouch its interest. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 66 Mee damp horror chil'd At such bold words voucht with a deed so bold. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 281 If G. Whitehead cannot, by some better Miracles than these, vouch that Curse and Prophecy. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. French King* Wks. 1730 I. 50 A change so monstrous I cou'd ne'er have thought, Tho' Partridge all his stars to vouch it brought. 1778 *Hist. Eliza Warwick* I. 29 Say, Madam, how can I possibly relieve you..and my zeal in serving you will best vouch the sincerity of my words. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. ii. 49 He afterwards honourably vouched his words by his deeds. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* x. 304 The extreme antiquity of the building is vouched by the immense thickness of the walls. 1912 E. BEVERIDGE *North Uist* vii. 239 The general character of this site is fully vouched by traces of five or six old dwellings.

b. To attest or substantiate by written evidence.

1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. iii. i. 126 When I arrived at Scutari, they took my slave from me, as I had not the original writing by me to vouch the property of him. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 462 Either party may appeal to the superior court..except on bonds or notes vouched by two witnesses. 1886 *Law Times Rep.* LXXX. 297/1 All expenses so claimed must be strictly vouched.

7. To support by recommendation; to become sponsor for (a person or thing). *rare.*

1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Ep. Ded., Knowing you are such a Mecenas of learning, that you will as soone vouch with Augustus a few verses, giuen by a poor Greeke, as of the Arabian Courser. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* i, I want no Patrons for to vouch my Books. 1775 C. JOHNSTON *Pilgrim* 212 It was impossible to object to such a scheme, especially as the magistrate vouched the fellow's sagacity. 1906 A. NOYES *Drake* I. 82 Leicester vouched him; 'This man's tale is true!'

b. To affirm or guarantee (the truth of a statement).

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 5 Bid them repayre to th' Market place, where I..Will vouch the truth of it. 1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 112 One of our English Merchants there (of good repute, though I shall not vouch the truth of his story)..told us [etc.]. 1741 C. MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. vi. (ed. 3) 149 The three Tribunes..terrifying the City with forged stories..produced their creatures in the Rostra to vouch the truth of them to the people. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* III. 231 She had framed a novel against me,..so guarded at all points, that each part of it seemed to vouch the truth of the rest. 1805 EUGENIA DI ACTON *Nuns of Desert* II. 179 Willet..should be summoned to vouch the truth of his own despatches.

c. To give or pledge (one's word of honour) *for* something.

1898 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 4/7 M. Cavaignac has..insulted France by vouching his personal honour for a gross, clumsy, ..forgery.

8. *intr.* With *for*. a. To speak or bear witness in behalf of (a person); to be surety or sponsor for.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* Pref. c, As to the Englishing of this Work, since the Translator has no body to Vouch for him, he must e'en leave it to take its chance. 1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 215 The Salvo of Sir John Friendly's appearing at last, and vouching for Lord Foplington, won't mend the matter. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A Person is said to Vouch for another, when he undertakes to maintain or warrant him in a thing, or passes his Word in his behalf. 1781 COWPER *Lett.* 19 Feb., Mr. Hill knows me well enough to be able to vouch for me that I am not over-much addicted to compliments and fine speeches. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xviii, I dispute not the lad's qualities, for which your reverence vouches.

b. Of things: To supply evidence or assurance of (some fact).

1755 YOUNG *Centaur* v. Wks. 1757 IV. 222 What year, nay, what day, has passed unimpowered to vouch for his clement, and absolute reign? 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigon.* Pref. p. xxxv, The stories..would have appeared..altogether ridiculous, ..till antiquity had procured them credit, or a tradition been formed afterwards to vouch for them to the world. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. viii, The very incident vouches for its sweet seclusion. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 324 The plan which he formed, though not successful, seems to vouch for his generalship. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 276 The certainty of the law..is vouched for..by the results of experiment.

c. To give personal assurance of the truth or accuracy of (a statement or fact). Also with *accuracy*, *truth*, etc., as object.

1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. iii, A very clear account, truly! and I dare swear the Lady will vouch for the truth of every word of it. 1798 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. clx, I do not vouch for what I have said of the Bellerophon and Majestic. 1820 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 310, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of every minute particular, but am certain that the general statement will be found to be correct. 1842 LANE *Arab Nts.* I. 84 When he relates anything for the truth of which he can not vouch. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 176, I can vouch for the great frequency of these sources. 1880 MRS. BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. iv. 54, I love the country better than ever, I can vouch for that.

†9. *trans.* To assert a claim to (something). *Obs. rare.*

1488 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 108/1 Because þe said thomas claimit þe said landes to pertene to alane kynnard.., and that he walde woche thaim wi the perell: The lordis forefore ordanis þe said maister William to woche samekle of þe said landis as he plessis. 1492 *Ib. d.* 216/2 The said Johne allegiit þat all þe saidis landis wer his fee & heretage, & wochit þe samyn wip þe perell of law in presens of þe lordis. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Epistles. Par. 1 Cor.* 39 Howebeit this labor of myne, I vouche not as myne, but gyue al to goddes goodnes, by whose helpe all was wrought.

†10. To guarantee the title to, or legal possession of (something). *Obs. rare.*

1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 227 Will his Vouchers vouch him no more of his Purchases? *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. 64 If one ignorantly buyeth stolen Cattel, and hath them fairly vouched unto him,..he cannot be damnified thereby.

11. †a. To deign or think fit *to* do something; = VOUCHSAFE *v.* 6. Also with simple object. *Obs.*

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 51, I was..drawne..to.. affoord you such companie as a poore swaine may yeald without offence, which if you shall vouch to deigne of, I shall be..glad of such accepted seruice. 1590 LODGE *Euphues' Gold. Leg.* F 3 b, Marry, if you want lodging, if you vouch to shrowd your selues in a shepheards cotage, my house (for this night) shalbe your harbour. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* vii, Then must we all make suit..To Friar Bacon, that he vouch this task, And undertake to countervail in skill The German.

b. To condescend to grant or give; to allow or permit; = VOUCHSAFE *v.* 2 a.

1594 LODGE & GREENE *Looking Gl.* II. iii. 855 If that I meant not, Rasni, to forgiue,..I would not vouch her presence in my Courts. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. iv. 123 Our master Mars Hath vouch'd his Oracle, and to Arcite gave The grace of the Contention. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 200 Power And means vouched heretofore to some, and now To him who words the wonders he hath seen.

†12. *intr.* To deign to accept *of* something; = VOUCHSAFE *v.* 6 d. *Obs. rare.*

1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* Ded., Then..if my worke, treating of Cicero, seeme not fit for Cicero..yet I craue your Honour will vouch of it, only for it is written of Cicero. 1590 — *Never too Late* (1600) 6 This Palmer..returning me many thanks, voucht of my proffer, and was willing to take my house for his Inne. 1608 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* 6 But you kind friends, that loue your countries wealth, Vouch of my labours.

Hence **Vouched** *ppl. a.*, **Vou'ching** *vbl. sb.*

1573-80 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *Vouch*, Such vouching or constant affirmance. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 60 *Gon.* But the rariety of it is, which is indeed almost beyond credit. *Seb.* As many voucht rarieties are. 1611 COTGR., *Vouchement*, a vouching in law. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Kοινη* xi. 127 By the vouching of Theophylact I conceive they have gotten nothing. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry and Frances* (1767) IV. 76 A Gentleman had bought a Horse, some Time ago, which happened not to answer his Vouchings. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xxxvi, Aymer de Geraldin..who, by the less vouched, but plausible tradition..of the country, is said to have been descended from the Marmor of Clochnaben. 1832 *Rolls of Parlt.* Index 955/2 Collusive Sale of Land, and vouching by Warranty. 1894 A. BIRRELL *Ess.* i. 4 This side of the account needs no vouching; but there is another side.

†**Vou'chable**, *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Able to be cited or quoted in support of a statement, etc.

a 1642 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 544 For this opinion elder Authors are vouchable.

Vouched-safe, *ppl. a.* [f. VOUCHSAFE *v.*] Vouchsafed, granted.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxx. 347 His is the vice-royed, vouched-safe, sway of God.

Vouchee (vautʃī'). [f. VOUCH *v.* + -EE[1].]

1. *Law.* The person vouched or summoned into court to give warranty of a title. *Common vouchee*: (see quot. 1766).

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 293/2 The said Recoveries and Judgments.., and the Vouchees in the same and theire heires. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. i. F i b, And that vouche shal appere, and the demaundantes shall declare agaynst hym. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 52 A fine betweene the vouchee and the demaundant is good,..for that the vouchee is as it were tenant in law. 2607 COWELL *Interpreter* s.v., The party that voucheth in this case, is called the Tenent, the partie vouched is tearmed the Vouchee. 1628 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 370 In an assise of nouell disseisin and nusance, voucher lyeth not, vnlesse the vouchee be present in Court, and will by and by enter into warrantie. 1633 in Somers *Tracts* I. 503 By any Recovery or Recoveries had against him as Tenant or as Vouchee in any common Recovery. 1752 MCDOUALL *Inst. Law Scot.* II. 844 The writ is brought against the tenant in tail himself, who vouches the common vouchee. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 353 Upon this, Jacob Morland, the vouchee, appears, is impleaded, and defends the title. *Ibid.* 359 The cryer of the court (who, from being frequently thus vouched, is called the common vouchee). 1820–32 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 492 A..man of straw, under some such name as that of the common witness, or common vouchee. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 432 Because the wife was named..and appeared and vouched as joint tenant; and the vouchee entered into the warranty, admitting that he ought to warrant to them. 1873 [see VOUCH *v.* 1].

2. A person cited or appealed to as an authority for some fact or statement, or in evidence of some assertion. Occas. *common vouchee*, after prec.

1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 29 His Vouchee, Auior, or

Advocate (cal him wuch you please). 1673 Hickman *Quinquart. Hist.* 439 Making also the immortal Grotius his Vouchees for this opinion. 1809 Mar. Edgeworth *Manœuvring* xiv, He had wisely determined to obtain accurate and positive evidence from Captain Lightbody, who seemed in this case to be the common vouchee. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 271 Some respectable names are occasionally attached as vouchees. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 23 June 3/1 Poor Nausicaa! She is the common vouchee of every writer on every game of ball.

†b. A fact or circumstance cited in evidence or justification. *Obs. rare.*

1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi* Κοινή Pref. 8 Importunity of friends (the common vouchee to warrant publications). 1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* Addr. p. xi, Conceiving Reason and Philosophy sufficient vouchees of Licentious practices.

†3. An avouchment or assertion. *Obs. rare.*

1625 Bp. Mountagu *App. Cæsar* 119 It insisteth but upon some points only; and that not by or with a generall vouchee neither, but thus only, I see no cause. *a* 1641 — *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 256 Of what credit or authority this his vouchee is, I cannot tell.

Voucher (vau·tʃəɹ), *sb.*[1] [a. AF. *voucher* Vouch *v.*: see -er 4.]

1. *Law.* The summoning of a person into court to warrant the title to a property. *Voucher over* (cf. Vouch *v.* 1 c).

1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. iv. G v b, If suche a recouerye be had of rente with a voucher ouer, then it shalbe taken to be of lyke effecte as recouerves of landes be in suche maner as we haue treated of before. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 12 And he vouched the heyre of the feoffour, and duringe the voucher and not termyned, the wyfe of the feoffe bryngeth an accyon of Dower agaynst the heyre of the feoffe. 1570 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 5 Any Estate .. by reason whereof any Person .. shall use any Voucher in any Writ of Formedon. 1681 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 184 When thou..hast nayled all these with all the appurtenances, by fines, and vouchers, and entayls, as firm as law can make them, to thy child. 1695 [see Voucher 1]. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 358 This is called the voucher..or calling of Jacob Morland to warranty. 1768 *Ibid.* III. 299 Voucher also is the calling in of some person to answer the action, that hath warranted the title to the tenant or defendant. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 425 To the intent that a common recovery should be had and suffered against them, with voucher of the lessor. [1865 F. M. Nichols *Britton* II. 4 In this writ neither view nor voucher lies. *Ibid.* 98 In such case the tenant shall fail in his voucher.]

b. *Double voucher*: (see quot. 1628).

1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 136 In a recouerie with double voucher, the fine must be sued first to make him tenant at the time of the writ of Entre brought. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 114 His recognizances, his Fines, his double Vouchers. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 102 You shall finde in bookes a recouery with a single Voucher, and that is when there is but one Voucher, and with a double Voucher, and that is when the Vouchee voucheth over. 1752 M' Douall *Inst. Law Scot.* II. 944 The above is the procedure in a Common Recovery with a double voucher, and is the most common and safe way. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 359 It is now usual always to have a recovery with double voucher at the least. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 325 In a recovery with double voucher.

2. *transf.* A piece of evidence; a fact, circumstance, or thing serving to confirm or prove something; a guarantee.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. ii. 39 Heere's a Voucher, Stronger than euer Law could make. 1696 Whiston *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 191 Plutarch and Pliny attest it,..the last bringing Augustus's own Words for his Voucher. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 37 It has no Voucher but the Epistles of Phalaris, the very Book that's under debate. 1719 R. Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 436 The vouchers and proofs are such as will, I hope, be found sufficient. 1744 T. Birch *Life Boyle* 112 The philosophy of Des Cartes..had not the necessary vouchers of repeated experiments, purposely tried, to make it good. 1768 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* IV. xxix. 217 The collection of records..supplies good vouchers of the truth of all he advances. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. II. vi. 302 *note*, The Register of St. Andrews is the most ancient voucher for the death of Alpin. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxiv. 237 The destruction of the vouchers of the cruise..the log-books, the meteorological registers, the surveys, and the journals. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 June 5/2 The strength of the bias which these letters reveal..[is] a sufficient voucher for their genuineness.

b. A written document or note, or other material evidence, serving to attest the correctness of accounts or monetary transactions, to prove the delivery of goods or valuables, etc.

1696 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 28 At last it ended in appointing a committee to repair to the East India house and search their books, if they can find vouchers for the said accounts. 1732 in W. Hale *Prec. Causes of Office* (1841) 68 The vouchers and an estimate of the necessary expenses ..to be laid before the vestry. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 35 Keep all the Serjeant's Pay-Notes, and all Receipts, to be produced as your Vouchers when you settle Accompts with your Captain. 1780 Jefferson *Corr. Wks.* 1859 I. 245 The arms you have to spare may be delivered to General Gates's order, taking and furnishing us with proper vouchers. 1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, I. xi. 309 At his death, his family discovered that he..had kept no vouchers or any accounts whatever. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 183 When they have regularly to produce accounts, with vouchers, of all receipts and expenditure. 1866 Crump *Banking*, &c. iv. 96 Disputing the payment of a particular cheque, and alleging that all his paid vouchers had been destroyed.

c. A written warrant or attestation.

1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 274, I send along with this a voucher signed by the Mayor..who saw me make Net on this machine. 1862 R. H. Gronow *Remin.* I. 49 No one could obtain a box or a ticket for the pit without a voucher from one of the lady patronesses. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Sept. 5/2 The report..appears to have been sent direct from the Mudir to Cairo, without a voucher from Major Kitchener, who is at Dongola.

3. *attrib.*, as *voucher-card, form, number, system.*

1881 Miss Braddon *Asph.* xvii, Where the voucher system is so thoroughly carried out. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 7/2 As I get into the train the guard rushes up and hands me a voucher-card. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 46 The voucher form is printed on white paper for the office, and on tinted green paper for the agents. *Ibid.*, The 'key' to this voucher number.

Hence †**Vou·cher** *v. trans.*, = Vouch *v.* 5 b.

1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Rob. III*, 59 The tenant..sall woucher, that is, affirme, that he halds that land..be the tenour of the chartour quhilk is tynt.

Voucher (vau·tʃəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. Vouch *v.* + -er[1]. Cf. Vouchor.]

1. One who vouches for the truth or correctness of a fact or statement or corroborates another person in this respect; an author or literary work serving this purpose.

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 290 Without painting of phrases or collecting of great Authours for my Vouchers. 1679 Penn *Addr. Prot.* I. vi. (1692) 22 They would make him a Voucher of all their Falshood. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 252 Whether the Beams were of Cedar, it is not so fortunate as to have a Voucher of its own Nation. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 96 For the authenticalness of his Chymical MS. he produces no other Voucher than one Reinesius. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. v. 53 The Use he makes of Sayings of the Fathers, whom he quotes as his Vouchers. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* xiv, Tomkins..was in the habit of being voucher for his master. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* (1859) I. iii. 47 Heraclides and Socrates, the two vouchers of this story. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. ii 81 But here I am only concerned with its wealth, for which grave writers are the vouchers.

b. One who vouches for the respectability or good faith of another, or who undertakes to guarantee some procedure.

1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 103 Detaining suspicious persons till they brought good vouchers and cleared themselves. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 253 P 3 All the great Writers of that Age..stand up together as Vouchers for one another's Reputation. 1732 Swift *Let. to Barber* 14 Dec., Mr. Pilkington..says you will be his voucher that he still continues his modest behaviour. 1792 Mrs. Inchbald *Next door Neighb.* III. ii. 66 Mr. Manly, notwithstanding you are these people's voucher, this appears but a scheme. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 94 The only way that I know of is to make these old writers, as much as can be, vouchers for their own pretensions. 1829 Scott *Jrnl.* 9 Mar., The Solicitor was voucher that they would keep the terms quite general. 1872 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 362 Voucher of him last riseth a prey untimely devoted E'en to the tomb.

c. *transf.* Of things, in preceding senses.

1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* IV. 820 The Seas, and Earth, our Virtue shall proclaim, And stand eternal Vouchers for our Fame. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 553 Religion! the sole voucher man is man; Supporter sole of man above himself. 1835 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. xiii. 195 Nothing but past acts are the vouchers for future. 1838 Emerson *Addr. Cambridge, Mass.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 192 Speak the truth, and all things alive or brute are vouchers..to bear you witness. 1856 — *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Ibid. 84 The grand old halls scattered up and down in England, are dumb vouchers to the..broad hospitality of their ancient lords.

†2. A supporter or upholder of some practice or theory. *Obs.*

1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. iii. 56 This Practice must needs declare it self a notorious moral Wickedness!..and so bids fairer still for its great Vouchers claim unto that Title of the Man of Sin. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 31 A stout Voucher of the 4 Humours, tells how he read..that the Gout arose from Vapours.

†3. *Cant.* One who utters counterfeit coin. *Obs.*

1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 69 Gilts,..Runners, Padders, Booth-heavers, Vouchers and the like. *Ibid.* 191 The first was a Coyner that stampt in a Mould, The second a Voucher to put off his Gold. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Vouchers*, that put off False Money for Sham-coyners.

†4. *Law.* a. = Vouchee 1. b. = Vouchor. *Obs.*

1596 Bacon *Use Com. Law* (1635) 52 Which I. H. is one of the Cryers of the Common Pleas, and is called the Common Voucher. 1637 Cowell *Interpreter* s.v., The partie that voucheth in this case, is called the Tenent, the partie vouched is termed the Voucher. 1672 Manley *Cowell's Interpreter* s.v., He that voucheth is called Voucher, (*vocans*) and he that is [vouched is] called Vouchee, (*Warrantus*).

Vou·cheress. *rare*[−1]. [ad. AF. *vouchéresse*: see prec. and -ess[1].] A female voucher.

1865 F. M. Nichols *Britton* II. 272 The warrant is bound to defend the voucheress against the plaintiff.

Vouching *vbl. sb.*: see Vouch *v.*

†**Vouchment.** *Obs.*[−1] [a. OF. *vouchement* (15th c.), or f. Vouch *v.* + -ment.] The action of vouching; a solemn assertion or affirmation.

a 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 77 The Peers..lay not their Hand upon the Book, but upon their Breast; which is a Sign that their vouchment by their Honour in that Tryal is not an Oath.

Vouchor. *rare.* [AF., f. *voucher* Vouch *v.* Cf. Voucher *sb.*[2] 4 b.] One who calls another into court to warrant a title.

1628 Coke *On Litt.* 101 b. Hee that voucheth is called the Voucher .., and he that is vouched is called Vouchee. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 299 If the vouchee appears, he is made defendant instead of the voucher. 1865 F. M. Nichols *Britton* I. 59 If the warrant makes good his case, then let both the voucher and his warrant be acquitted. *Ibid.* 216, etc.

Vouchsafe (vautʃsē·f), *v.* Forms: a. 4–5 vowche-, 5 vowch-, 4–6 vouche- (4–5 voche-, 5 woche-, vousshe-), 4– vouch-, 6 voutchsafe, etc.; also 4 voteave, 6 voutsafe, vousaif, vowt-, voult-, 6–8 voutsafe, 7 voutchafe. β. 4–5 fowche-, fouche-, 5 frouch-, foche-, fuch(e)-safe, etc.; also 5 fucheef. γ. 4–5 woche- (5 woches-; whoche-), 5 woch-, 4–6 wouche- (5 woushe-), 6 wouchsafe, etc.; also 5 wot-save, 7 wow-, wouchaife, wounchaiffe. δ. 4 weche-, 5 wych(e-, wiche-, 6 wich-safe, etc.; also 5 wet-saffe, wytsaff, *Sc.* witsaufe, 6 -save, -saffe, -safe, wytsaue, -seve, -saufe; 5 *Sc.* wichsauf, wiche-, wichsauf, -saif, 5–6 witschaif, 6 withsaif, -seve, -schaif, wythsaue, -save; 5 witeselfe, 6 -safe, 6 wytsseave (5 wyȝt-). (For usual variants of the second element see Safe *a.*, and for special illustration of forms see sense 6 b.) [f. Vouch *v.* (in the sense of 'warrant') + Safe *a.* In early use still treated as two words, with normal inflection of the verb, and occasional inversion (*safe vouch*), or insertion of words between the verb and adj.]

I. †1. *trans.* To confer or bestow (some thing, favour, or benefit) *on* a person: a. With separable vb. and adj. (Freq. in 14th cent. romances.) *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6345 He vouchede hyt [*sc.* his property] saufe on vs, he seyd, þat we ȝaue hyt whan he deyde. *a* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) liii, And ȝe be a mon that wille wedde a wife, I vouche hur saufe, be my life, On ȝo that fayre may. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 453, I vowch hym wylle save on the, To do what thy wylle bee. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 103 Quhy suld man tak it fra thame sen God vouchis it sauf on thame. 1487 Harding *Chron.* I. in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1912) 742 Seth that prynce is gone..I vouche it sauf, wyth all benyvolence, On yow, gode lorde, hys sonne and hayre that bene. 1508 *Gest Robyn Hode* cccliiii. in Child *Ballads* III. 75/2 But yf I had an hondred pounde, I wolde vouch it safe on the.

†b. With vb. and adj. in juxtaposition or combination. *Obs.*

c 1330 *King of Tars* 336 Ich fouchesaf on him my blod, To him hese nis not to good, Though heo weore ten so briht. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arv.* 254 Is þer now neyþer worde ne chere Ye vowchensauff vpon myn hevynes-e? *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 222 Lorde, y have servyd yow many a day, Vowchesafe ye hur on mee. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 173 For yt ys nouhte ywys convenyent,..Alle forto holde that vnto yow ys brouhte, And as wrecches on other vouchesauf nouhte. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 604 But ayth þou wytyst saff a dyner on me, with pes and grace I entyr þi hows. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 10 Na rewaild desire I of your grace Bot to witchaif on me sa greit credence [etc.]. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. Pref. 102, You may see..what gracious priuileges and high prerogatiues were by diuers kings vouch-safed vpon them. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 210 What woman will you find..On whom his leisure will vouchsafe an eye Of fond desire?

2. To give, grant, or bestow in a gracious or condescending manner: a. Without const.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1391 Tas yow here my cheuicaunce, I cheued no more; I wowche hit saf fynly, þat feiþ hit were. *a* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxii, Sadyll, brydyll, and oder geyre, Fowre so gud thoffe hit were I woch hit save, bi Sen Jon! 1484 in R. R. Sharpe *Lond. & Kingd.* (1895) III. 369 Of þat þat your lordly clemence so beningly vouchep sauf..it excedeth inestimablich our power..to yeve you [illegible]es. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* Ded., And so vouchsafing [illegible]assing of a Winters weeke with desolate Cornelia, I [etc.]. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iii. 45, I haue assayl'd her with Musicke, but she vouchsafes no notice. 1642 Chas. I in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 480/2 There is hardly anything..that we shall not finde in our hart a willingnesse and readinesse to voutsafe it. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 881 Those indulgent Laws Will not now be voutsaf't, other Decrees Against thee are gon forth without recall. 1782 Cowper *Hope* 487 Nature indeed vouchsafes, for our delight, The sweet vicissitudes of day and night. 1838 Talfourd *Athenian Captive* II. i, Wilt thou not join thy fellows at the feast, And taste a cup of wine the king vouchsafes For merriment to-day? 1896 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. ix. iii. 138 Forms of glory come and go: gifts of subtlest discernment are vouchsafed. 1882 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 2 They ought not to lessen the glad song of praise for blessings formerly vouchsafed of love, of joy, and of happiness.

b. With indirect object. †Also (quot. 1595), to make a grant *of* something.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxxii. (1592) 515 Men voutchsafed them not so much as a Tombe to be buried in. 1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* iii. 19 Not Tubulcain,..but Tuball, whom Genesis voutsafeth honourable mention. 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 484 But say, who else vouchsafed thee of grace? They all (quoth he) me graced goodly well. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 158 On my knees I beggo That you'l vouchsafe me Rayment, Bed, and Food. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* To Rdr. 04 b, As for obscure Etymologies,..I have vouchsafed them no place in this worke. 1689 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxii. 1 They are vouchsafed that dignity. 1796 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1792) II. xxi. 136 Should I once more remind you of the promise you vouchsafed me yesterday? 1791 Cowper *Iliad* IV. 466 Them Tydeus vanquish'd easily, such aid Pallas vouchsafed him. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 315 Men who are not always vouchsafed the use of a church steps or stones of the street for their bed. 1857 'Ouida' *C. Castlemaine's Gage* (1879) 23 That is all you vouchsafe me.

c. Const. *to* (or *unto*).

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 40 His Lordship may be pleased..to vouchsafe a meetings..to Sir Walter Dungan. 1671 Marvell *P. R.* I. 490 Thy Father.. vouchsaf'd his voice To Balaam Reprobate, a Prophet yet Inspir'd. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 80 Whether they will vouchsafe any new memorial to their benefactor

time must discover. 1781 COWPER *Table-t.* 699 Nature.. But seldom..Vouchsafes to man a poet's just pretence. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxvii, I will be true to my word, while the exercise of my reason is vouchsafed to me. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. iii. 47 We have marked every dash of color which the great Painter in his benevolence vouchsafed to us. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 4 It is as yet but a partial revelation that has been vouchsafed to them.

d. To deign or condescend to give (a word, answer, etc.) in reply or by way of friendly notice.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiv. § 2 Vouchsafe me hereunto some short answer, such as..may..instruct me in the cause thereof. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 132 Vouchsafe a word, yong sister, but one word. 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* 22 Yet to a tyrant we hear him not voutsafe an humbla word. 1770 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 12 Lysicles..smiled at Crito, without vouchsafing any answer. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 163 So saying, he flung out of their presence without vouchsafing any further conversation. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. v, Twice the Duke paced the chamber without vouchsafing a word to either. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* iv. 40 All the reply that Tita vouchsafed was to wear a pleased smile of defiance.

ellipt. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. v, *Bob.* You were wish'd for, and drunk to, I assure you. *Mat.* Vouchsafe mee, by whom, good Captaine.

† 8. a. To condescend to engage in (some pursuit). *Obs.*

c 1581 LODGE *Repl. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Shaks. Soc. 1853) 20 Ask Josephus, and he will tel you that Esay, Job and Salomon, voutsafed poetical practises, for..theyre verse was Hexameter, and Pentameter. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 823 Nor other strife with them do I voutsafe.

† b. To receive (a thing) graciously or condescendingly; to deign to accept. *Obs.*

1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 136 Considering it [a letter] came from so honourable a personage as Lentulus, shee vouchsafed it. 1599 ? GREENE *George a Greene* D j, *Geo.* Why then, to honour G. a Greene the more, Vouchsafe a peice of beefe at my poore house. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* iii. 11 Whose singular affabilitie and clemencie.. [is] such, that shee will vouchsafe the speech of the meanest. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 313 Vouchsafe good morrow from a feeble tongue. 1607 — *Timon* I. i. 152 Vouchsafe my Labour, And long liue your Lordship.

† c. To be prepared to bear or sustain. *Obs.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 43 If your backe Cannot vouchsafe this burthen, 'tis too weake Euer to get a Boy.

† 4. To acknowledge (a person) in some favourable relationship or manner. *Obs.*

1580 in *T. Watson's Poems* (Arb.) 34 Let Britan beare your spring..That it hence foorth may of your faiuour boast, And him, whome first you heere voutsafe for hoast. 1584 LODGE *Hist Forbonius & Prisceria* K 4 b, He which whilome hated Forbonius, now vouchsafeth him his son in lawe. 1615 T. ADAMS *Two Sonnes* 73 It is no ordinary favour that God will vouchsafe thee his Servant; yet hath hee made us his Sonnes. 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* I. ii, If my princely mistresse Vouchsaf'd me not her servant, twere as good I were reduc'd to clownery.

II. † 5. To grant, permit, or allow, as an act of grace or condescension. Usually const. with clause introduced by *that*. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 260 Homage vp to ȝald, lordschip to forsake,..As ȝe haf mad present, þe Kyng vouches it saue. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1449 He prayeth, lord, vowchesauf þat his sone hire wedde. *Ibid.* 4152 Þat þe quen be ofsent sauf wol i fouche *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 315 Now vouchath sauf, that I may you devise How that I may be holpe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2002 My mouthe...to no vilayn was never couthe..For sauff of cherls I ne vouche That they shulle never neigh it nere. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. v. (1554) 74 Rehearce I will, so that ye sauf it vouch, A mortal wronge which the and me doth touch. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* Proheme a ij b, Truely yf they wyll call hym a physition,..I wytnaufe they so name me. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 72 War I gyltie or ȝit committit crime, I wald witschaif ȝe held me out this time. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. i. 30 Doe ye vouchsafe that thys victorious title Be not expired in Cornelias blood. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III i. 130 If Brutus will vouchsafe, that Anthony May safely come to him. 1639 SIR W. MURE *Psalms* xvii. 2 Wouchsafe furth from before thy face, My sentence may proceid.

b. To permit or allow (a person) *to* do something. † Also *ellipt.*, to allow to speak.

14.. LYDG. *Lyfe our Ladye* (1484) a viij b, And lord also on me sane thou vouche..That holy mayde to handyl and touche. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 282 Most mighty Duke, vouchsafe me speak a word. 1599 — *Much Ado* III. ii. 3 *Clau.* He bring you thither my Lord, if you'l vouchsafe me. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* v. Plays 1873 II. 244, 2. Truely we are not of his counsaile of warre. *Sen.* Nay but vouchsafe me, 3. Vouchsafe him, vouchsafe him, else there is no play in't. 1887 KEBLE *Chr. Y., St. Luke* xx, Be it vouchsaf'd thee still to see Thy true, fond nurslings closer cling

6. To show a gracious readiness or willingness, to grant readily, to condescend or deign, *to* do something: **† a.** In earlier types of usage (with verb and adj. still distinct).

(*a*) *a* 1350 *St. Stephen* 207 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 30 Gamaliell wouched safe To lay þat body in his awyn graue. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 339 For as Crist vouchi-saaf to clepe þis Chirche his spouse, so he clepiþ curiside men fendis. *c* 1400 *Prymer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1847) II. 23 The maker of mankynde takynge a bodi.. fouchide saaf to be born. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. vi. 69, I blesse þe, heuenly fader,..for þou vouchist saaf to haue mynde on me. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 376/1 Thou haste vouched sauf to comforte me youre cayiyt. 1545 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* (1548) 21 Who..hath vouchedsafe to cast a fauourable lye on me. 1555 W. WATERMAN *Fardle Factions* Ded. 3 The Emperours Maiestie..vouchedsauffe to receiue the presentacion therof. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1593) 81 In vouching safe to let Our sayings to our friendly eares thus freely come and go.

(*b*) *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* II. 73 Sit he fouchidde nevere saaf to fede hem þus wiþ a kide. *c* 1400 *Prymer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1847) II. 29 Fouche thou saaf to lizte eer hertis and bodies. 14.. LYDG. *Lyfe our Ladye* lviii. (1484) I ij, Glad mayst thou be that sauf [be] list to vouche ..To have pleasance thy brestis for to towche. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* Pref., He wouched not saufe to loke on them. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* I. (1593) 6 As Satyres.. Whom into heaven since that as yet we vouch not safe to take.

b. In ordinary later forms.

a 1. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 55 Lord, vouchesaf to kepe us þis day wiþouten synne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 373, I þonke God..þat he wole vouchesauf þis day to axe me þat he hab i-yeve me. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 He besought the Kyng of grace, And that he wold vouchesauf to praye the Lord the Roos, that he wold chese two Lordes of hys kyn. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 7, I you beseche frend ryht enterly That ye vouchesaf for me to preye. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* v. 24 Blanchardyn..prayed hym that he vouschesauff to helpe hym that he were doubed knyght wyth his armes. *c* 1539 in Ellis *Orig. Lett* Ser. I. II. 126 The most bountiful gifts.. wich your Grace hath vouchsavid to bestowe upon us. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 83 b, Diogenes..would not vouchesalve so muche as ones to aryse up from his taille. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love, Brief Desc.* 67 iij b, For the testimony of the truth hereof vouchsafe good reader to read the booke. 1624 *Trag. Nero* II. iii. in Bullen *O. Plays* I. 37 O Piso, that vouchsafest To grace our headlesse partie with thy name. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XI. 17 The only Thing Which Heav'n's peculiar Hand vouchaf'd to frame. 1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer-Bk.* 88 We had a conceit that you would have vouchseaved to treate with us personally in pres[illegible] *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 2 The many Deli[illegible]es and Preservations, which the Lord hath vouchsafed to work for me. 1765 GOLDSM. *New Simile* 31 Lastly, vouchsafe t' observe his hand Filled with a snake-encircled wand. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* III. 75 A Maid o er whom the blessed Dove Vouchsafed in gentleness to brood. 1826 CHR. WORDSW. *Misc.* (1879) I. 280 The Pope vouchsafed to give bulls of institution to the ecclesiastics named by the crown to fill the vacant sees. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* I, 177 She did not even vouchsafe to answer him.

a 2. 1548 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 85 Unles your Hyghnes wyll voutsafe to take our cause in hand. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist.* 116 That most louelygeast,..who was wonte to visit our bretherne, hath voutsafed this day to come to me also. 1577 FULKE *Answ. True Christian* Pref., If any one of these..shall voutsafe to reade this answere. *c* 1597 SIR J. HARINGTON *On Play* in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 206 Her Highnes can vowtsafe to play somtyme with her servantes. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 303 We count it ample honour when God voutsafes to make man the instrument and subordinate worker of his gracious will. 1667 — *P. L.* VII. 80 Since thou hast voutsaf't Gently for our instruction to impart Things above Earthly thought. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 176 They besought her Imperial Majesty, that she would voutsafe to acquaint 'em [etc.].

β. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 359 ȝif þat God wolde fouchesafe to ȝyve þes preestis of his grace, þat þei wolden mekeli leeve þis. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 18 Ich þonke ȝow a þowsand sythes..þat ȝe fowche-saue to seye me what hit bibte. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 2195 ȝyf God wold fouchesave to consent þerto. 1432-43 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1827) I. Introd. 24 That ye wold fuchesef of your benygne grace to graunte a writ of sub pena. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. 9 (Harl. MS.) Thei prayd him..that he wold fuchsafe to helpe hem ayenst theyre enemeys.

γ. c 1420-30 in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I 171 Þis syght is bot be tymes, wen god will woches-sawf for to gif it vnto a wrikande saule. 1448 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 18 My maistres ..pray yow that and ye wold vouchesaff to speke to my master Edmund. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 203 b/2, I prayed hym that he wolde wouabesauf to haue me in mynde. 1518 H. WATSON *Hist. Oiwer of Castile* (Roxb.) C 4, Wherfore I praye the that thou wouchesauf for to kepe the honour of my fader and me. 1530 PALSGR. 769/1 If he wyll nat vouchesaufe to do it, you lese your payne. *c* 1590 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* XXXIV. 2 Melpomene,.. Vouchsaiv to help a wrechit woman weep. 1639 SIR W. MURE *Psalms* cvi. 4 Wowchaife, O Lord, to visite me With thy salvation.

δ 1. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xv. 2332 To pray þis paip Bonyface That he wald witschaif of his grace .. Off þai iniuris to set remeid. 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 355 Beseching hyng you that ye woll weche saife to be her goode maistre. 1462 *Ibid.* II. 119, I beseche yow that ye wole wychesave to send me sume mony. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 356 Beseiching hyme he wold wichsaif to wende To camelot the Cetee. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 8 The caus na way we knaw Quhill ȝe your grace will witchaif for to schaw. 1585 *St. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 408/1 That our said souerane lord wald wischeaf ..To appoint [etc.].

δ 2. 1444 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 10 We counsaile..yhour lordschip..that..ybe witsaufe to louse and deliuer fiely the said Inglismen. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 28 Y blessyd our lorde and thankid him that he wolde white safe to chaste me..in a fadyily chastisment. 1509 BARCLAY *Skyp of Folys* (1874) II. 228 The Mast nowe meuyth, the taklynge and the sayle, O god wyth-saue the wayke shyp to socour. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 42 Most humbly beseching..that he wyll of his baboundaunt goodnes to wytsaufe to take me as I meane. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Prol. ** i, Prayse God that he wyll witesafe to worke faith in thyne herte. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 245 O Phebus,..Wouldst thou witsafe to slide a downe: And dwell with va.

† c. With omission of the connective *to*. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 26 The makere of mankynde takynge a body..fowchede sauf be bore. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 73/2 That they wold wochesaf, for the said considerations, pray and beseche our said Soverayne Lorde the Kyng [etc.]. 1445 *Paston Lett.* I. 357, I beseech your gode grace that ye will vouchesafe remember the premisses. 1502 in *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees) 52 We pray.., yᵗ thei woll voteseave, at our request & prayer, beald, succour, & relefe the said Ric' Hammyken.

† d. *intr.* To be pleased to accept *of* something. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. VOUCH v. 12.)

1587 GREENE *Penelope's Web* Ep. Ded., I hope your Ladyships will vouchsafe of Penelopes Web. 1587 — *Euphues Cens.* Ep. Ded., As Alexander did vouchsafe of Mirons rude and vnpolished picture of Mars. 1590 — *Mourning Garm.* Concl., So I hope..you will vouchsafe of my Mourning Garment.

† 7. *ellipt.* To grant; to agree graciously; to condescend. Chiefly in clauses introduced by *as* or *if*. *Obs.*

(*a*) *c* 1308 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 209 Whan hit is so, Ich vouchsave, Ic forgive the this gilte. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 234 'Yf þow see hur..þou most lese þyn een-syght.' Then sayde he: 'Syr, I vouchesaf wele, so þat I may se hur.' 1596 *Edward III*, IV. ii. 27 And if your grace no otherwise vouchsafe, As welcome death is vnto vs as life.

(*b*) 13.. *Northern Passion* (H.) 452 Lat þis palnes pas fra And noght anly als I will crawe Bot, lader, als þou vowchis saue. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3006 Þus sal þe saules, als God vouches save, For sere syns, sere maledys have. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 2344 No worldly goode more wold he have, But lyved as longe, as god vowche save.

(*c*) 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 3030 Gif me a place..that I may my wonyng haue, At myne ese, if ye vowchesaue. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 466 And þus ȝif god wolde fouche-saf, hooly chirche shulde be purgid of hereyes in þis mater. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 606, I haue do so as ye comanded me, And if ye vouche sauf ye may go see. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 17 Item I wyll that Maist' Thomas Harlowe sey the sermon at my interment, if he wochesaft. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* xii. 2, I praye the..that thou wilt desyre him, yf happlie he wil voutsafe, to take with him the half of all that we haue brought. 1736 SHERIDAN *Lett. to Swift* 25 Sept., If you pleased, or would vouchsafe, or condescend, or think proper, I would rather that you would..charge only five per cent.

† 8. *impers.* To be pleasing or agreeable to (a person) to do something. *Obs.*—1

1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 587 Thomas Trencharde.. went to the kyng, desyring hym (yf it would wite salfe hym) to take a lodging at his house.

Hence **Vouchsa·fed** *ppl. a.*, **Vouchsa·fing** *vbl. sb.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxii. (1634) 454 By that vouchsafing, whereof there is found no cause elsewhere than in God. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 100 My matter hath no voice Lady, but to your owne most pregnant and vouchsafed eare. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad Sect. ii. 22 His graces and all other his vouchsafings and descents into our hearts. 1755 JOHNSON, *Dogming*, a vouchsafing; a thinking worthy.

Vouchsafement (vautʃəˈfmənt). [f. prec. + -MENT.]

1. An act of condescension, grace, or favour; a boon, benefit, or blessing.

1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 135 It was a woundrous vouchsafement, that he who inioyed the highth of Diuinitie, should descend to the bottome of Humanitie. 1652 J. PAWSON *Vind. Free Grace* 22 Christ hath not purchased any such general vouchsafement to all the children of men. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* I. i. 59, I am prone to think the early discoveries of such great and important things, to be in God's account no mean vouchsafements. 1726 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 277 To make a judgment how far it will be proper to publish some extraordinary vouchsafements towards them. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) I. 287 A merciful vouchsafement from God to mankind. *c* 1800 R. CUMBERLAND *John de Lancaster* (1809) III. 231 That indeed..will be a happiness never to be exceeded, a vouchsafement never to be forgotten. 1822 E. IRVING *Lect.* in Oliphant *Life* (1862) I. vi. 135 But these things..delight me not, save as vouchsafements of my Maker's bounty. 1874 PUSEY *Lent. Serm.* 184 But by what giant progress in graces, by what undeviating correspondence to Divine vouchsafements in time, must that soul have been formed.

2. The action of conferring or granting some boon, favour, advantage, etc.

1666 GLANVILL *Serm. Luke xiii. 24* in *Discourses*, etc. (1681) 59 [He] believes..that God is in him of a Truth, in a special way of Manifestation and Vouchsafement. 1668 HOWE *Blest. Righteous* (1825) 82 Reducing them to a..dispair of relief, otherwise than by his merciful hand and vouchsafement. 1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* III. xxxiii. 52 God doth ascertain Conversion, by the vouchsafement of such Grace, as doth infallibly produce it. 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* xiii. 203 If thou standest astonished at the Vouchsafement of this Union. 1805 EUGENIA DI ACTON *Nuns of Desert* I. 229 Did he not duly administer pardon, and peace, and indulgence, to every one who applied properly to him, for such portions of Divine Vouchsafement? 1847 R. W. HAMILTON *Rewards & Punishm.* 316 The sovereign vouchsafement of mercy to some.

Voud(e, obs. Sc. f. WOOD *sb.* and *a.* **Voudoo, Voudou,** varr. VOODOO. **Vouge,** obs. f. VOGUE. **Vought,** obs. var. VAULT *sb.*[1] **Vougy,** var. VOGIE *a.* **Vouh,** southern ME. var. FAW *a.* **Voul,** southern ME. var. FOUL *a.* **Voulente,** var. VOLUNTY *Obs.* **Voulf,** obs. Sc. f. WOLF. **Voult(e,** obs. varr. VAULT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] **Voultour,** obs. f. VULTURE. **Voun** (in Sc. mining): see VEAL *sb.*[3] **Vound,** south-w. dial. var. *found* FIND *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WOUND *sb.* and *v.*

† Vounde, *a. Obs.*—[1] (Meaning obscure.)

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7063 Nought rought I..Though it were of no vounde stone, Wrought with squyre and scantilone.

Vounder, -ir, obs. Sc. fl. WONDER.

Vouning (in Sc. mining): see VEALING *vbl. sb.*[3]

† Vour, *v. Obs.* (exc. *dial.*). Also 4-5 vowre, 6 vower-. [Aphetic f. DEVOUR *v.*, perh. after L. *vorare*.] *trans.* To devour, to eat.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 109: 8 In þe water ..Als fisches inne foure-maners:..Ne þe fisches alle foure, Ne wyþ oþer meyne ne voure. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xii. 9 The heed with his beest and entraylis ȝe shulen vowre. 1420-50 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* V. 2644 He hath..made hir hern eate of

þe townis boundis To be vowrid of beith & of boundis. [*a* 1882 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* 42.]

Hence †**Vourer**, a devourer. *Obs. rare.*

1382 Wyclif *Luke* vii. 34 Lo! a man deuourere [*v.r.* voure], ether glotoun. 1531 Tindale *Supper of Lord* c vj b, I am here compelled to inculpe and iterat it wyth so many wordes, to satisfye..thys carnall fleshe vowrer and fleshly Iewes.

Vourd, obs. Sc. f. Word *sb.* **Voure**, southern ME. var. Four. **Vourson**, var. Vowson *Obs.* **Vourta3te, -tene, -ti**, southern ME. varr. Fortieth, Fourteen, Forty.

†**Voury.** *Obs.*—[1] [a. OF. *vouerie*, *vouerie* 'jurisdiction of a civil or ecclesiastical patron' (Godefroy): cf. Avowry 1.] (See quot.)

The privilege was obtained by a payment made to the Earl for his 'avowry' or protection.

?*c* 1600 in *Cat. Harl. MS.* (1808) II. 395/2 Of a Sanctuary-Way called the Vouryes, for Dettors: which is such a Priviledge, that a Man may goe all the sayd County of Chester ouer, at Liberty, without any Interruption of the Law.

Vous, southern ME. variant of Fous *a.*

†**'Vous**, *int. Obs.* Also a vous; and Wous. [Prob. for *avows* pl. of Avow *sb.*, by colloquial reduction of the phrase *I make* (*my*) *avows.*] Assuredly, certainly.

The speakers are represented as belonging to Wiltshire.

1674 J. Howard *Eng. Mounsieur* iv. i. 40 *Comely*. Is it not very hot to-day? *Will.* 'Vous Elsha. And I have reason to say so. *Ibid.* v. i. 55 *Comely.* But what think you of ..finding me your sweet heart instead of him? *Elsha.* No a vous Sir.

†**Vousing.** *Obs.*—[1] In 5 vowsyng. [f. OF. *vousser*, *vousser* to vault.] Vaulting.

1422-30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 654 I e fresche enbowyng, with vergis riȝt as linys, And þe vowsyng ful of babewynes, þe riche koynyng, I e lusty tablementis.

Vouson, obs. form of Vowson.

‖**Voussoir** (vū'swɑ, -ɑi). Also 4 vousore, 5 vow-, vau-, wawoer. [a. OF. *vaussoir* (*vaus-*), *vaussoir*, *vossoir*, etc., mod.F. *voussoir*:—pop.L. **volsōrium*, f. **volsum*, pa. pple. of L. *volvĕre* to turn: cf. Vousing. Found in ME., but in mod. use app. reintroduced in the 18th cent.] One of the stones which form part of an arch or a vault, usually having the sides slightly inclined towards each other.

c. 1359-60 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 193 In vj^{xx} ped. de vousoirs empt. prec. pedis iiij d. 2 *l.* 1421 *Acc. Norwich Cloister* in Parker *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) I. 513 Item, de vowcers xliij ped. pr' ped. vj.d. 1426-7 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 442, vj pedum de jambes et j Wawcer xiij^{s}. *Ibid.*, Pro vij^{xx}. pedibus vocat' sewlys et vaucers xvj^{s}.

β. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Vault*, The several *Voussoirs*, or Vault-Stones whereof it [an arch] consists. 1739 Labelye *Piers Westm. Bridge* 77 The Coins, or Voussoirs, or Arch-Stones. 1808 *Norfolk Tour, Norwich* 119 The voussoirs of the arch have their joints worked perfectly smooth. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 312 The masonry of domes differs from that of arching, in the figure of each voussoir. 1853 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* (1874) II. iii. 46 The keystone .. is of white marble, the lateral voussoirs of purple. 1886 E. C. Robins *Temple of Solomon* (1887) 8 Upon the lowest of these pavements the fallen voussoirs of the arch have been discovered lying.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 370/2 A brick made voussoir-shaped is known as a *compass*-brick. 1885 G. Schumacher *Across the Jordan* List Illustr. p. xi, Voussoir-stones of Arch. 1903 *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 727/3 The true voussoir arch was extensively used at Pagân.

Hence **Vou·ssoired** *a.* ..constructed with voussoirs.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 388/1 A tomb built up in the centre of the excavation,..covered by three stones as struts, over which was a perfectly formed voussoired arch.

Voust (vaust), *sb. Sc.* Also 5 wous, 6 voist, wost, woust. [Of obscure origin. Cf. next and Vousty *a.*] A boast, a brag, a vaunt.

a 1300 *Ratis Raving* 3030 Thai mak gret aithis for lytill thing, Great wous and gret mannasing. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* x vi. 80 And lo, as Pharon cryis and dois rowst With haltand wordis and with mekill woust. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 454 Sen sua it is that I heir þow produce Sic voust and vant of manlines and ruce. 1785 Forbes *Ulysses* in *Poems in Buchan Dial.* 23 Whare then was a' your windy vousts? Ye that is now sae kneef! 1804 Couper *Poetry* I. 159 Ye dames o' Scotland! sik your voust, And sik your fame sae sair.

Voust (vaust), *v. Sc.* Also 6 vost. [Cf. prec.] *intr.* (and *trans.*). To boast, to brag.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* xii. viii. 84 Hir brothir Turnus in his chair, Now brawland in this place, now voustand thar. 1742 Forbes *Ajax* 5 Yet as he did o' slaughter voust I ken'd him sik a dird. 1790 Shirrefs *Poems* p. vii, When e'en th' Apollo o' the class Milh voust upon it. 1794 W. Farquhar *Poems Sev. Occas.* 180 For my-sel', I sanna voust my kin. There's no ane here, but kens the Merchin' weil.

Hence **Vou·sting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 362 Euerie man hes left of vousting vant. 1580-90 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 130 Is it not vousting vaine to say to Men, Mend may all thing by help of guid venen? 1600 Hamilton *Facile Traictise* 37 This is..thair auin follache vosting to hane the libertie to reid their saluation in the scriptures. 1813 W. Beattie *Poems* 34 For a' your last nights Vousting.

Voustar (vau·stəɹ). *Sc.* Also 6 wo(u)stour, woistare. [f. prec.] A braggart or boaster.

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xiv. 41 Sic vant of wousteris with hairis in sinfull maneris. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. vii. 62 Bot war I now ..ȝing as ȝone wanton woustour [*v.r.* woistare]..I suld all reddy be. *a* 1568 *Nine Order Knawes* 28 in *Bannatyne MS.* 447 He is ane..he and prowd as ane vane woustour. 1670 Ray *Prov.* 276 Of ..upstarts. 1710 Ruddiman *Douglas's Æneis* Gloss. s.v. *Woistare*, Scot. *Voustar*, a boaster.

Vousty (vau·sti), *a. Sc.* Also 5 vowsty, 6 voustie, 7 vowstie. [Cf. Voust *sb.* and *v.*]

†**1.** ? Puffed up, tumid. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecile*) 536 A boss of wynd þat fillit ware, & with a prene mocht out be latine..and togiddire fal, & tyne þe vowsty blawing al.

2. Boastful, proud.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 219 Of quhilke victorie..the war sa vane and vousty, that [etc.]. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 4 Euery Nation seruing it selfe with the owne vowstie deuise. 1789 Beattie *To Alex. Ross* xvi, And chiels shall come frae 'yont the Cairn-a-mounth richt vousty.

Vout(e, obs. variants of Vault *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Voute, variant of Vult *Obs.*

†**Vouter.** *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic f. *avouter*: see Adulter.] An adulterer.

c 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 74 (Laned. MS.), [Better] han þis Somenour knewe a lic[h]our Or a vouter (*other MSS.* an avouter] or elles a paramour.

†**Voutry.** *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic f. *avoutry*: see Adultery.] Adultery.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xiii. 27 Thi shenshepe, thi vouteries, and..the hidous glte of thi fornycacioun. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 192 Myche thou hast usud voutry. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5142 þai were robbours and vsed voutrys.

Vouȝte, southern ME. var. pa. t. Fight *v.*

Vow (vau), *sb.* Forms: 3-4 vou (uuou, wou, wov), 5 woue (6 *pl.* woues), 6 voue; 4- vow (4, 5-6 *Sc.*, wow), 4-7 vowe (4 wowe, 5 vowhe); 4 *pl.* vouwes, -is, fouwes; 4 voo, 5 voye, *Sc.* woe. [a. AF. *vu(u, vou, vo*, OF. *vo, vou, vouz, veu* (F. *vœu*):—L. *vōt-um* Vote *sb.*, neut. of *vōtus*, pa. pple. of *vōvēre* to promise solemnly, to pledge, dedicate, etc. Cf. Avow *sb.*[1]]

1. A solemn promise made to God, or to any deity or saint, to perform some act, or make some gift or sacrifice, in return for some special favour; more generally, a solemn engagement, undertaking, or resolve, to achieve something or to act in a certain way.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9823 Vor þoru a vowe of him be sone bigan þat strif. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2888 He hys owne doghtyr alowe For a foly and a wykked vowe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 239 þer was louyng on lofte..on Moyses wyse, With sacrafyse vp-set, & solempne vowes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 66 To paie þe pope þe first froytys,..for assoiliyngis of wowes, & many feyned iapis. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 136 This was his vowhe, with gret humylite, Lik his entent in ful pleyn language. 1500 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. vii. 187 To haue knowlege of woues, of testamentes, of cases of aymesny, vseryes and other dyffyculties. 1550 Bale *Apol.* Pref. 12 Such are the rashe vowes of the ydolatrouse and mockynge papystes. 1563 tr. *Musculus' Common-pl.* 508 In a foule vow, alter thy purpose. Do not that which thou haste vnaduisedly vowed. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 151 The walls are round about hung with Images of men, ..which were offered to our Lady upon vow. 1645 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* v. 66 Make hast to pay what thy vow'd Promise owes; Destruction dwels in unperformed Vowes. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 775 With Vows and suppliant Pray'rs their Pow'rs appease. 1736-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 174 It was designed for St. Joseph, in consequence of a vow made by that emperor in the year 1702, on the happy return of his son Joseph..from Landau. 1822 Wordsw. *Eccl. Sonn.* III. xxi. 13 Shame if the consecrated Vow be found An idle form, the Word an empty sound. 1866 R. W. Dale *Disc. Spec. Occas.* 342 Those vows cannot now be cancelled or recalled. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* I. 144 The earliest form in which the duty of veracity is enforced is probably the observance of vows.

b. In phrases, as *to make, to hold, keep, pay* (or †*yield*), or *to break, a vow.*

(*a*) *c* 1290 *St. Fides* 51 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 84 For ich habbe to him mi vou i-maked. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28286 Ic ha made vous oft vn-right and halden þam efter my might. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2795 ȝyf þou madest awhare any vowe To wurschyp God for þy prowe. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2942 þan has þat man grete dreda in hert; He mas þan vowes, and cryes on Crist. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 81 Kyng Oswy made a vow þat ȝif he hadde þe victorie in þat bataille he wolde offre his douȝter Elfleda to God of hevene. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 1925 To gud and you a voye I make, I shal youre seruice neuer forsake. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 8 He made a woue that the Lorde Willowby schuld lese his hede. 1530 Palsgr. 619/2, I make a vowe to God and to Our Ladye that I shall never. slepe one night where I slepe an other, tyll I have sene hym. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Brennus* ix, I made a vowe to kill the man that causde me flye. 1601 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 70 He ..Makes Vow before his Vnkle, neuer more To giue th' assay of Armes against your Maiestie. 1700 Dryden *Iliad* I. 97 So may the Gods..accord the vows you make, And give you Troy's imperial town to take. 1728 [see (*b*)]. 1819 Scott *Anne of Geierstein* i, He proceeded to recount the vow which was made..to our Lady of Einsiedlen. 1867 W. Fleming *Moral Philos.* II. II. ii. 296 We may make a Vow, however, to our fellow-creatures, or even to ourselves.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24907 (Edin.), Do vou, Elis, and hald þi vow It sal te turn til mikel þru. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* CXV. 8 My wowis I sall ȝelde till lord in sight of all his folke. 1382 Wyclif *Job* xxii. 27 Thou shalt preyen hym..and thi vou wis thou shalt ȝelde. 1526 [see 1 c]. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Job* xxii. 27 Thou shalt make thy prayer vnto him,..and thou shalt render thy vowes. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* II. 248 Nor would [these men] pay Their own vows to thee. 1681 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xiv. 69 Being a thing unjust to pay such Vow. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* II. 22 They feigned it made For their return, and this the vow they paid. 1728 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 20 Mar., She firmly intended to keep the vow she had made. 1829 Wordsw. *Misc. Sonn.* I. xl. 5 How Shall Fancy pay to thee a grateful vow? 1859 Tennyson *Pelleas & Ettarre* 549 Have any of our Round Table held their vows? 1892 — *Harold* III. i, He did not mean to keep his v..

(*c*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10674 þe blaccop..Durst naght bir do hir vou to brake. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 88 Himself mihte a-soylen hem alle Of Falsnesse and Fastinge and of vouwes I-broken. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9, I hose avowet chastite. And..for I wold not breke my vow, prywely yn a nyght, I stale for þe yn pore wede. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 404/2 To breke Vowe, *denotare*, *denovare*. 1536 Elyot *Gov.* III. viii. 179 Only I wyl shewe..howe terrible a thynge it was amonge them, to breke theyr othes or vowes [*ed.* 1531 avowes]. 1596 Edward *III*, II. i. 335 To breake a lawfull and religious vowe. *a* 1641 Spelman *Tythes* xxvii. Wks. 1727 I. 231 So doubtless have we just Cause to fear the Dint of this Curse in breaking this Vow. 1781 Cowper *Iliad* I. 78 That we may learn By what crime we have thus incensed Apollo, What broken vow..He charges on us. 1889 Tennyson *Ring* 401 No pliable idiot I to break my vow.

c. Const. *of* (something).

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 170 Many preestis vowiely taken a vow of chastite. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 38 Bi þe vertu of his degre, he made þe vow of chastite. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 65 To..kepe theyr foure essencial vowes the better, that is, the vowe of chastite, the vowe of obedience, the vowe of wylfull poueste and the vowe of perpetuall inclusyon. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 102 The Law of Athens yeelds you vp..To death, or to a vow of single life. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 91 Sir, if I had made a vow of humility, you give me here a fair occasion to be proud for not breaking it. 1671 Milton *Samson A.* 319 Against his vow of strictest purity. 1776 Dalrymple *Ann. Scotl.* I. 109 Having made a vow of perpetual virginity. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 545 They bound to holy vows of chastity! Were I not woman, I could tell a tale. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 6. (1888) 144 The vow of Poverty was turned into a stern reality.

†**d.** *To take in vow*, to make a vow. *Obs.*—[1]

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 57 Ye & take it in vowe that thy delectacyon abolde be onely in the psanyes & paynes of Jesu Chryst.

2. *Eccl.* A solemn engagement to devote oneself to a religious life of a definite nature, such as that of a monastic or conventual order. Freq. in pl.; *to take the vows*, to enter a religious order.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 101 þerfor iuge religiouse men in þer consciens, if þei ground hem þus in her vowis. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 39 Men must be warned that they suffre not them selves to be bounden to Monkish vowes. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 71 Thow fals heretick hast taught plainlie againes the wowis of monkes freiris nunes and preistis. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 180 By the vow of mine Order, I warrant you, If my instructions may be your guide. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 376 Monks, and Friers, that are bound by Vow to that simple obedience to their Superiour, to which every Subject ought to think himself bound. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. xliv. 339 A late proclamation of the king that disallowed of the marriage of priests, and concerning the vows of religious persons, gave them disgust. 1783 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 172 Those who have chosen the better Part, and consecrated themselves by Vow to God. 1824 Scott *Lord of Isles* VI. iii, There Bruce's slow assent allows Fair Isabel the veil and vows. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 463 On his friends earnestly pressing him to take the vows, he ran away. 1849 James *Woodman* v, [One] who is very dangerous to all ladies not under vow.

3. A solemn promise of fidelity or faithful attachment. Also const. *of* (faith, love, etc.).

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 175 By all the vowes that euer men haue broke, (In number more then euer women spoke). 1596 — *Merch. V.* V. i. 18 In such a night Did young Lorenzo sweare he lou'd her well, Stealing her soule with many vowes of faith. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 73 By all your vowes of Loue, and that great Vow Which did Incorporate and make vs one. *a* 1761 Lady M. W. Montagu *Poems, Epit. to Mary Q. of Scots* 28 Men mock the idol of their former vow. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, Let me lead you to the first Altar that will confirm our vows. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* vi. 210 The fair oak, whose leafy dome affords A temple where the vows of happy love Are registered. 1829 Lytton *Disowned* xxvii, They stood beside the altar, and their vows were exchanged. 1833 Tennyson *Miller's Daughter* 119 O would she give me vow for vow, Sweet Alice, if I told her all?

4. An earnest wish or desire; a prayer, a supplication. (So F. *vœu*, L. *vōtum.*)

Not always clearly distinct from sense 1.

1563 tr. *Musculus' Common-pl.* 499 A vowe is oftentymes taken for a desyre, and prayer. So whan those thynges whyche we haue desyred, do fall oute accordinge vnto oure myndes, wee saye we haue oure wishe or vowe. *a* 1599 Spenser *F. Q.* VII. vi. 22 His brow (His black eye-brow, whose doomefull dreaded beck Is wont to wield the world vnto his vow). 1600 O. E. (M. Sutcliffe) *Regd. Libel* I. v. 125 They haue nothing more in their vowes, then her Maiesties ruine. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* III. 518 When.. priests with holy vows the gods adore. 1742 Hume *Ess., Stoic* I. xvi. (1777) I. 159 Even their own vows, though granted, cannot give them happiness. 1747 Hoadly *Suspicious Husband* Ded., To send up my warmest Vows..that your Majesty may long enjoy the fruits of [etc.]. 1794 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 232 You have my most ardent vows for an auspicious beginning. 1820 Shelley *Cenci, Tyr.* I. 16 Thou to whom Kings and laurelled Emperors..Offer their secret vows! 1892 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxix, At one dear knee we proffer'd vows, One lesson from one book we learn'd.

5. A solemn affirmation or asseveration.

1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 139 A dreadfull Oath, sworne with a solemne tongue! What instance giues Lord Warwicke for his vow. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 47 *Her.* Nay, but you will? *Pol.* I may not verely. *Her.* Verely? You put me off with limber Vowes. 1880 R. S. Hawker in *C. E. Byles' Life & Lett.* xvii. (1906) 386 Every Methodist Preacher or Minister must attest by Vow and Signature his

sacrament to a Paragraph in Wesley's xith Sermon on the Witness of the Spirit.

† 6. A votive offering. *Obs. rare.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xii. 6 (early MSS.), Zee shul come & offre in þat place brent sacrifises,..& vouwis & ziftes. 1535 Coverdale *Ibid.* 1611 Bible 1 *Esdras* viii. 58 The vessels are holy, and the golde, and the siluer is a vowe vnto the Lord. 1686 Burnet *Lett.* (1708) 126 The little Vows, that hang wthout the holy Chapel. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 21 May 1645, There is belonging to this Church a world of plate,.. and lamps innumerable, besides the costly vowes hung up, some of gold.

7. *Comb.*, as *vow-maker, -making, -pledged, -sanctifier, -sighing*; † **vow-fellow**, one who is bound by the same vow. Also **Vow-breaker**, etc.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 38 Who are the Votaries, my louing Lords, that are vow-fellowes with this vertuous Duke? 1598 Florio, *Votario*, a votarie, a vower, a promiser, a vow-maker. 1668 Clarendon *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 177 That these vow-makers should be thought so necessary, when every one of their three vows is directly against the health..of the kingdom. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* II. iii, Love you know, father, is a great vow-maker, but he's a greater vow-breaker. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* III. x. 14 Neither presents, nor vow-sighing strain. 1805 Wordsw. *Waggoner* III. 44 What tears of rapture, what vow-making! 1827 Lady Morgan *France* I. (1818) I. 97 The days of the vow-making Louis XIII. 1832 Motherwell *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 48 So the Vow-pledged One loved another.

Vow (vau), *v.*[1] Forms: 4–6 vowe (4 vouw-, 5 vowyn), 4– vow (5–6 *Sc.* wow); 4 vou, wou, 5–7 *Sc.* wou-. [ad. OF. *vouer, vower* (F. *vouer*), f. *vou* Vow *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To promise or undertake solemnly, *spec.* by a vow to a deity or saint; to swear: a. With subordinate clause (or equivalent).

The subject of the subordinate clause may be different from that of the verb itself.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10603 Þat yald hir to þe temple þan, Als þai voud had be-forn þat sco was of hir moder born. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 182, I vowe to Saynt Michael.. þat for wo ne wele hiþen ne salle I fare..tille þe castelle be taken. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 144 That veine gloire I schal eschuie, And bowe unto thin herte and suie Humilite, and that I vowe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 47, I vow to God,..he sall nocht be In to this realme, bot ane off we sall de 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 428 Gif tha wald nocht, he vowit tha sould half Sicilke reward as he gaif all the laif. *c* 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 88, I wow to the.. Thay sall not mys ane riche rewaird. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 442 She made me vow That I should neither sell, nor giue, nor lose it. 1785 Burns *Ep. to J. Lapraik* 21 Apr. vi, Quoth I, 'Before I sleep a wink, I vow I'll close it'. 1838 Arnold *Hist. Rome* VII. I. 118 Aulus..vowed that he would raise a temple to Castor and to Pollux,..if they would aid him to win the battle. 1839 Tennyson *Enid* 787, I vow'd that could I gain her, our fair Queen..should make your Enid burst Sunlike from cloud.

b. With infinitive.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2804 Zyf þou vowe to do foly..God wyl nat þou hold yt so þat þou by vowe yn wykkednes do. 14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* B. v. 388 (Ortel MS.), þanne gan gloton grete, and greet deel made .., And vowede to faste. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxii. 19 To that conditioun..That 3e had vowit to the Swan, Ane 3eir to be Johne Thomsounis man. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 23 To God he had vowit, with ane armie to invade the Saracenis gif he had lyfe. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* Prosm. 2, I defie your perfumd scorne: and vow to poyson your Muske cats, if their ciuet excrement doe but once play with my nose. 1642 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 78 Quhilk dyett [of parliament] the Kinge hes woued to keepe except sikenesse or deathe previne it. 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* I. xiv. 189 He that vows never to have an ill thought, never to commit an error, hath taken a course [etc.]. *a* 1768 Secker *Lect.* xx. (1769) I. 398 Vowing to do what there is no Use in doing, is trifling with our Creator. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* iii, He secretly vowed to defend her fame and protect her peace at the sacrifice of every other consideration. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, I do not recollect having vowed not to tell any secular persons. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xii, Some Greek..named Hippolytus, who had vowed to live a virgin life for Diana.

With direct object.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2805 Eusyl he vowed, and swore hys oth, þer-for with hym yn now god wroth. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc. 575 He..bydis man kep weill gif he ocht wowis 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 Lyfe..is as a pilgrymage, whiche we vowe and promese in our baptym. 1589 Wever *Epigr.* IV. xxii. Evl, Their sugred tongues..Say they are Saints..For thousands vowes to them subiectiue dutie. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. ii. 885/1 Such as hauing vowed their voiage and seruice for Ieru-salem, wore..vpon their backes a red Crosse. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xiv. 69 They that Vow any thing contrary to any law of Nature, Vow in vain. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 325/1 With solemn Curses and Imprecations upon themselves and Posterities, who should detract any of the Tythes so vowed and granted. 1753 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 174 He speaks not of such as have vowed Chastity, but of other Christians. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XXIII. 247 Then, Peleus' son..two Winds In prayer..invoked.., to each Vowing large sacrifice. 1819 Scott *Noble Moringer* ii, 'Tis I have vow'd a pilgrimage unto a distant shrine. 1848 Lytton *Pelham* II. xx, I fancied a perfection in her, and vowed an emulation in myself, which it was reserved for Time to ratify or deride. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 483 The whole French soul vowed from that moment the capture of Constantina.

d. With cognate object.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxxi. 2 Vow he vowed til god of Iacob. 1382 Wyclif *Judges* xi. 30 Passynge to the sonus of Amon, he vowede a vowe to the Lorde. 1535 Coverdale *Num.* vi. 2 To vowe a vowe of abstinence vnto the Lorde. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. ii. 22 'Tis not the many oathes that makes the truth But the plaine single vow, that is vow'd true. *a* 1626 Beaum. & Fl. *Wit Without Money* IV. iv, Vow me no vowes, he that dares do this, has bred himself to boldness, to forswear too. *a* 1711 Ken *Div. Love* Wks. (1838) 274 Whenever I voluntarily vow a vow to thee, give me grace to vow with all the due caution I can. 1818 Scott *Marmion* v. xxvii, For weal of those they love, To pray the prayer, and vow the vow 1829 — *Anne of G.* x, Overwhelming the priests with the wealth which they showered upon them, and, finally, vowing vows, and making pilgrimages. 1867 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 584 Yet we twain Had never kiss'd a kiss, or vow'd a vow.

2. To dedicate, consecrate, or devote *to* some person or service. (Cf. Avow *v.*[2] 2.)

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 98 b, [They] hath vowed all theyr lyues to god and to his holy seruyce. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66 A tumb to Troytoune and mouldy tempil aneereth Vowed to the godly Ceres. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 204 He tooke vpon him his voiage to S. Claude, to whom as you haue heard he was vowed. 1623 R. Harcourt *Voy. to Guiana* 47 Captaine Haruey,..who hath nobly vowed his time and fortune to bee imployed in the prosecution of this honourable action. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VIII. 796 The first inhabitants, of Grecian blood, That sacred forest to Silvanus vowed. 1725 Pope *Odyss* XI. 93 The victims, vow'd to each Tartarean pow'r, Eurylochus and Perimedes bore. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* IV. xiv, Connanmore, who vowed his race, For ever to the fight and chase. 1843 Wordsw. *Inscr. Mon. Crosthwaite Ch.* 16 He to heaven was vowed Through his industrious life. 1896 A. Austin *Eng. Darling* I. i, Virgins vowed to Heaven, Virgins as white as is the Yule-tide snow.

transf. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* June, Argt., This Æglogue is wholly vowed to the complayning of Colins ill successe in his loue.

b. *refl.* Also const. *into.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 292 Vryan & Guyon entred in to the see, & vowed themself to Jherusalem. 1581 G. Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) I. 8 b, Manie,..from their stately pallaces, haue vowed themselues to beggerlie Monasteries.

denied Christ and vowed themselues to the diuell." 1623 Cockeram III, *Decii*, three Roman Captaines,..who vowed themselues for their countrie. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 476 Some will lay so, thirty or forty rubbles into the Caback, vowing themselves to the pot, till the stock be spent. 1826 Scott *Talisman* ix, My safety, my lord,..I cast behind me as a regardless thing when I vowed myself to this enterprise.

† c. To dedicate by a ceremony. *Obs.*—[1]

1600 Holland *Livy*, etc. 1355 The temple..was called Capitolinum; and Tarquinius Priscus vowed it.

3. To make a solemn resolve or threat to inflict (injury), exact (vengeance), harbour (hatred), etc.

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* IV. i. 31 May it be that Bel-imperial Vowes such reuenge as she hath daind to say? *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* v. ii, Tell him, I never vow'd at Aulis' Gulf The desolation of his native Troy. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* V. v. 31 Great Achilles Is arming, weeping, cursing, vowing vengeance. 1685 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 105 Thay both then voued reveng if I cam in their power. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. v, The Empress.. could not forbear vowing revenge. 1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav. East* 49/1 In spite of the profound hatred which I had vowed to the pacha, I could not embrace the cause of the French. 1918 A. McCormick *Words fr. Wild-Wood* ii. 43 In vain did he protest and vow vengeance upon his rebellious subjects.

4. *intr.* To make a vow or solemn undertaking; to bind oneself by a vow.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxvi. 11 Vowe þ and 3elde þ to þe Lord, your God, 3e alle þat bringe 3iftes in his cumpas. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xx. 25 Falling is of men ofte to vouwe to seintis, and afţir the vouwis a3een drawe. 1560 Bible *Eccl.* v. 4 It is better that thou shuldest not vowe, then that thou shuldest vowe and not paye it. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 10 You are yet vnsworne: When you haue vowd, you must not spenke with men, But in the presence of the Prioresse. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xiv. 69 They that Vow any thing contrary to any law of Nature, Vow in vain. 1675 Owen *Indwelling Sin* xvii. (1732) 237 Knowing no other way to mortifie Sin, but this of vowing against it. *c* 1710 in *Lady M. W. Montagu's Lett.* (1887) II. 3, I had better not vow, for I shall certainly love you, do what you will. 1782 J. Brown *View Nat. & Rev. Religion* VI. iii. 608 They were capable to vow for themselves. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* VI. 250 She answer'd,..'I have not vow'd against the holy state'. 1867 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 270 Because the hall was all in tumult—some Vowing, and some protesting.

Vow, *v.*[2] Also 4 vouwe, 4, 6 vowe, 6 *Sc.* wow. [Aphetic f. Avow *v.*[1] In sense 2 sometimes not clearly distinguishable from Vow *v.*[1]]

† 1. *trans.* To acknowledge, admit. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 180 'If þou to non þat lyues,' said R. 'þou [*read* þi] cheue ne bowe, þi lond men salle gife tille one þat may it vowe'. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* vi. 38, I dar not preiss hir to present it, Ffor be scho wreth I will not wow it.

2. To affirm or assert solemnly; to asseverate, to declare. (Cf. Avow *v.*[1] 4.)

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 858 Than dede the douke com forth that may, And the steward withstode alway, And vouwed the dede tho. 1590 in J. Campbell *Balmerino* (1867) 176 Thou nor nane that appertenis to the dar stand up and vow that in my face. 1601 Ld. Mountjoy *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 123 If you haue any authority from the Queene to countermand mine,..it is more then you haue vowed to me to haue. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. x. 175 Yet the same party vowed to God, that he knew not that he could do it. *a* 1656 Br. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 47 These vow they will watch you. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Crook H.* 41 My wife vowed that a handsome look-[illegible] was a necessary of life to her. 1848 Thackeray *Fair* xxix, She vowed that it was a delightful ball,

1863 Kingsley *Herew.* xv, The knights of the neighbourhood..had all vowed him the most gallant of warriors.

refl. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* I. iv, Giue me thy hand, I vowe myselfe thy friend.

absol. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 90 Grace protested that it [the performance] was perfection, Mrs. Chatterton exclaimed, and the Colonel vowed.

b. *I vow*, used to strengthen an assertion.

In later use chiefly U.S., also in the minced forms vum, Vownz, and Vum.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iv. 18 Our selues in league of vowed loue we knit:..And for my part I vow, dissembled not a whit. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* IV. iv. 108 Else by loue, I vow, I should haue scratch'd out your vnseeing eyes. 1675 N. Lee *Nero* Prol., A bloody fatal Play you I see to night, I vow to God, 'thas put me in a fright. 1687 T. Brown *Salute in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 80 You'd break a man's sides with laughing, I vow and swear. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVII. ii, I vow I am afraid. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* III, I vow, child, you are vastly handsome. 1790 R. Tyler *Contrast* II. ii. (1887) 39, I vow I was glad to take to my heels and split home. 1849 Lowell *Bigelow P.* Ser. I. viii. 37, I vow my hull sheer o' the spiles would n't come nigh a V spot. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, I vow and declare I am half ashamed of myself for taking such an interest in you. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* III. v. 93 Robin came behind me, Kiss'd me well, I vow.

c. To make solemn assertion of (a feeling or quality).

1748 Gray *Adversity* 24 To her again they vow their truth, and are again believed 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III. i. 187 The children of despair and poverty..Do passionately vow their gratitude.

Vow (vau), *int. Sc.* [Prob. ellipt. for *I vow*: cf. Vow *v.*[2] 2 b.] An exclamation used to emphasize a statement. (See also Wow *int.*)

1787 Burns *What will I do* 4 My only beast, I had nae mae, And vow but I was vogie! 1814 W. Nicholson *Poems, Annandale Robin* iii, Hech me! but its lang since I saw you, And vow! ye're grown paudy and grand. *a* 1870 D. Thomson *Musings* (1881) 117 When I saw that ye were weel, Vow, man, but I was gled.

Voward, obs. form of Vaward.

† **Vow-breach.** *Obs.* [f. Vow *sb.* + Breach *sb.*] The breaking of a vow.

1647 Fanshawe tr. *Guarini's Pastor Fido* IV. vii. 150 If I should do That which the Satyr did advise me to, Accusing her of vow breach. 1647 Jer. Taylor *Lib. Proph.* xiv 205 The first was a punishment to Vow-breach and Sacriledge. 1651 — *Serm. for Year* II. xxxii. 342 Murder on one side, and vow-breach on the other. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 106 Thy early Falsehood; thy, till now, unpractised Sin of Vow-breach!

† **Vow-break.** *Obs. rare.* [Break *sb.*] = prec.

1646 Shirley *Poems, Curse* 2 Woman, I cannot call thee worse, For thy vow-break, take this curse

Vow-breaker. [Breaker *sb.*] One who breaks his or her vow.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 611/1 Faithful aduoutrers, faithful vowe breakers, faithfull theues. 1565 Harding *Confut.* I. v. 15 To teache the truth of his gospell by Apostates, vowebreakers, churchrobbers, and such other. 1681 Dryden *Span Friar* II. ii, Love, you know, Father, is a great Vow-maker; but he's a greater Vow-breaker. 1844 Mrs. Browning *That Day* iii, I stand by the river—I think of the vow—Oh, calm as the place is, vow-breaker, be thou!

So **Vow-breaking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1533 More *Apol.* vi. Wks. 858/1 The vndouted faith of the whole catholike churche full fyftene hundred yeare together agaynste these vowebreakynge brethren. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 97 A companie of base Rebels and vow-breaking Friers. 1644 Bedell *Lett* x. 124 As to his Vow-breaking lastly, if that Vow were foolishly made.., it was iustly broken. 1646 Fuller *Wounded Conse.* (1841) 299 Vow-breaking, though a grievous sin, is pardonable on unfeigned repentance.

Vowe, var. Vower *Obs.*

Vowed (vaud), *ppl. a.* [f. Vow *v.*[1] + -ed [1].]

1. Of persons: † a. Bound by religious vows.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* II. vi. Wks. 654/2 A man professynge once vowed chastitie, was for all that at hys lawefull lybertie to wedde a vowed professed nunne. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 140 One of those vowed virgins to God..had her departing shewed vnto her the same night in a vision. 1582 Allen *Apol.* 60 Incestuous mariages of vowed persons, spoile of Churches. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 134 One Isola Heton widow.. made sute to King Henry the sixth, that shee might be an Anchoresse, or vowed recluse. *a* 1708 T. Ward *England's Reform.* III. (1710) 55 How Durst you seize Church-Lands, Rob Priests and Poor, And turne the Vow'd Religious out of Doors?

absol. 1565 Harding *Confut.* II. viii 73 b, The vowed be forbidden marisge by expresse word of God.

b. Devoted to some service or cause.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 308 Neither hath there chaunced as yet any suche controuersie in the Counsell, that I neded any suche addicted and vowed men. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 82 Seeing thou hast made a rape of faire Samela, one of her vowed Shepheards is come..to challenge thee to single combate. 1655 Ld. Norwich in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 227 Your Ma[ties] all vowed and most obedient subiect and seruant. 1822 Scott *Talism.* i. The Crusader..as a vowed champion of the Cross, might have preferred the latter. 1826 Keble in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 105 The champions vow'd of truth and purity.

† c. United by vows; betrothed or wedded. *Obs.*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* L iij b, I crave it not for my selfe but for my vowed wyfe. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 353 He was absolutely taken with one Gabriella Estrosa, a Noble Woman, but led aside from the Embraces of her vowed Husband.

d. Confirmed (in hostility) by a vow or solemn resolve.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* T iv, Thy vowed enemie

Aurelia. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 19 The troubler of my happie peace, And vowed foe of my felicitie. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* 1. xix. (1821) 204 He was a vowed enemy to the English Government. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* v. v, Whence the bold boast by which you show Vich-Alpine's vow'd and mortal foe?

†c. *transf.* Pertaining to a devotee. *Obs.*—1

1665 T. MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 49 Others, after the old manner of Mourning, in a vowed Habit, promise and swear, Never to cut their Hair, untill they had revenged the Blood of those Noble-men.

2. Undertaken or performed in consequence of, or under the sanction of, a vow.

1532 [see 1 a]. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 25 Why do they wery themselues with vowed pilgrimages to visit those images wherof they haue like at home. 1626 DONNE *Serm., Luke ii. 29-30* (1640) 30 Nothing that countenances a vowed virginity, to the dishonour or undervaluing of marriage. 1712 P. METCALFE *Life S. Winefride* (1917) 7 S. Wenefride offer'd herself a Sacrifice, to preserve her Vow'd Virginity. 1790 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. xi. 280 That the Religious might not over-value themselves on Account of their Vowed Poverty. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 342 That mother Whom to outlive, and cheer, and make My wan eyes glitter for her sake, Was my vowed task.

†b. Solemnly consecrated or dedicated. *Obs.*

1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* xxiii. 16 Paul shoulde come out on the morrowe to be slaine, as a vowed sacrifice. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 603 Curtius..stiffy bent his vowed life to spill. *c* 1630 MILTON *5th Ode Horace* 13 Me in my vow'd Picture the sacred wall declares t'have hung My dank and dropping weeds To the stern God of Sea. 1692 tr. *Emiliannе's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 181 These Vow'd Pictures we generally find in all the Churches of Italy.

c. Confirmed by a vow or vows; solemnly promised or guaranteed.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 18 Our selues in league of vowed loue we knit. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 209 This is the hand, which with a vowd contract Was fast belockt in thine. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. xv. 111 She would not suffer the memory of their vowed love to be blotted out with absence. 1655 LD. NORWICH in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 259, I may without danger now present my humblest and all vowed duty to you. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 365 No fate my vow'd affection shall divide From thee, heroick youth! 1704 J. TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* v. i. 2544 Nor Fate, nor you, can my vow'd Faith control.

d. Solemnly sworn or threatened.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 8 Of his way he had no souenance, Nor care of vow'd reuenge, and cruell fight. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* v. 1063, I sought with joy The vowed destruction of ungrateful Troy. *Ibid.* XII. 1355 If thy vow'd revenge pursue my death. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* I. xxii, The vow'd revenge of Bughtrig rude, May end in worse than loss of hood.

†**Vowee.** *Obs.*—1 Also vowe. [Aphetic form of *avowé* AVOWE.] Advocate, patron.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 405 Ne were it for repreue, By Mahoun, þat ys my vowee [*v.r.* vowe], of þyn heued y wolde þee reue.

Vowel (vau·ĕl), *sb.* Also 4 wowel (6 -ell), 5–7 vowell(e. [a. OF. *vouel* (also *vouyel, voyoieul*) masc. :—L. *vŏcāl-em* or *vŏcāle*, masc. and neut. acc. sing. of *vŏcālis* VOCAL *a.* The later OF. *voielle*, mod.F. *voyelle*, Prov. and Sp. *vocal*, Pg. *vogal*, It. *vocale* are fem., after the L. sb. *vŏcālis*.]

1. A sound produced by the vibrations of the vocal cords; a letter or character representing such a sound (as *a, e, i*, etc.).

'A vowel may be defined as voice (voiced breath) modified by some definite configuration of the super-glottal passages, but without audible friction (which would make it into a consonant)' (Sweet *Primer of Phonetics*, ed. 2, § 32).

c 1308 *Sat. Kildare* iii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 153 Vis uers is imakid wel of consonans and wowel. *c* 1430 *Mankind* 490 in *Macro Plays* 28 Remembre my brokyn hede in þe worschyppe of þe v. vowellys. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 404/1 A vowelle, *vocalis*. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. p. xv, They forme certayne of theyr vowelles in theyr brest. *Ibid.* p. xvii, Any of the fyrst thre vowels *A, E* or *O*. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* G vij b, In these wordes there be foure vowels to be considered, and marked. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiv. (1592) 368 They drive their clauses to fall alike, they eschew nycely the meeting together of vowels. 1618 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 15 More specially to bee carefull, for the right pronouncing the fiue vowels. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 29 In all Vowels the passage of the mouth is open and free, without any appulse of an Organ of Speech to another. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 386 The sense is intricate, 'tis only clear What vowels and what consonants are there. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 209 It is the variety of configurations in these openings only, which gives birth and origin to the several vowels. 1769 COOK *Voy. round World* I. xix. (1773) 228 Their language is soft and melodious; it abounds with vowels, and we easily learnt to pronounce it. 1816 KEATS *Epist. to C. C. Clarke* 56 Spenserian vowels that elope with ease, And float along like birds o'er summer seas. 1867 ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* I. iii. 61 Salesbury does not always discriminate the long vowel, though .. he occasionally.. doubles the consonant sign to imply the brevity of the preceding vowel.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 175 This manner of profession is no Vowell in your Alphabet, is no flower in your Garden. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 11 Marcus Varro divideth his husbandry necessaries into three parts: vowels, where he puts his owne servants and such as he hireth; halfe vowels, where his working cattell be; and mutes. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Job* XXXII. 7 We use to say, That at meetings young men should be Mutes, and old men Vowels.

†**2.** A vocable; a word. *Obs.*

1578 T. N. tr. *Cong. West Ind.* (1596) 201 The Temple is called *Teucalli*, that is to say, Gods house, *Teuti* signifieth God, and *Calli* is a house, a vowel very fitte, if that house had bene of the true God. 1614 T. WHITE *Martyrd. St. George* C j, Nor of his Creed one vowell to recant. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 47 Mexico is as much as to say a spring or fountain, according to the property of the vowell or speech.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vowel-change, -consonant, -ending, -notation*, etc.; **vowel-point**, a sign used to indicate a vowel in certain alphabets (esp. the Hebrew, Syriac, and Arabic); also as *v.*, to supply with points in place of vowels. (Cf. POINT *sb.*[1] 3 b and *v.*[1] 3 c.)

1648 *Bagster's Analyt. Heb. Concordance* 37 The *Vowel-changes of Nouns. 1871 KENNEDY *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 9 Syllables may be strengthened by vowel-change. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 141 This is eminently seen in the *Vowel Consonants, *V, W*. 1882 W. R. SMITH *Old Test. in Jew. Ch.* ii. Notes 393 This use of the vowel-consonants is found even on the stone of Mesha. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 261 Nouns of the *n* declension often took the nunnation in the nominative in place of the usual *vowel-ending. 1879 SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 456+iv, The unaccented (ə) is dropped in rapid speech between consonants which combine easily, especially between points and *vowellikes. 1888 — *Hist. Eng. Sounds* 9 Those 'vowellike' or 'liquid' voiced consonants which are unaccompanied by buzz are often also syllabic. 1860 MARSH *Lect. Eng. Lang.* (1862) 484 In accordance with his general system of *vowel-notation. 1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 419 Nor is it to be wondered at, that, before the invention of the *vowel-points, the quiescent letters should have sometimes been suppressed. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 138 In fact, with a different notation, nearly all the labour of the vowel-points might be saved. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Reminis. Gt. Mutiny* 275 The Oordoo in the circular is printed in the Persian character without the vowel-points. 1845 BROWNING *Lett.* (1899) I. 26, I could not well *vowel-point my commonplace letters and syllables with a masoretic *other* sound and sense. 1844 R. GARNETT in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 263 The *vowel-prefix to certain past tenses (Sanscr. *a*, Gr. *e*). 1860 W. FOLKINGHAM *Brachigraphy* iv, In like sort and position are Letters placed apart in *Vowel Regions to imply interceding Vowels. 1878 GUEST *Hist. Eng. Rhythms* I. 316 The *vowel-rhime, or.. the assonant rhime, was common in the Romance of Oc. 1871 KENNEDY *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 9 § 12 *E* and *O*, introduced into most other languages as intermediate *vowel-signs, exist in Sanscrit only as diphthongs arising from *ai, au*. 1880–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1890) I. 544 The glottis..forms all the vocal or *vowel sounds. 1873 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 56 The strange names we give to our vowel-sounds. *Ibid.* 55 The consistency of our *vowel-system.

Vowel (vau·ĕl), *v.* [f. prec.]

†**1.** a. *intr.* To utter the vowels in singing. b. *trans.* To sing with vowel-articulation. *Obs.* (Cf. VOWELLING *vbl. sb.* 1 a.)

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 179 They ought to studie howe to vowell and sing cleane. 1646 MAYNE *Serm. Unity* (1647) 32 As if they [i. e. the Psalms] .had been tuned through his own loud Cymball, or had more softly been sung and vowell'd to his Harpe.

2. *trans.* To convert into a vowel; to vocalize.

1611 COTGR., *Vocaliser*, vowelled, made a vowell.

3. To supply with vowels or vowel-points.

1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 7 They did not know how to point them or vowel them. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 797/1 Some syllabics never take a vowel except for an unusual form,—the root and the ordinary derivatives never being vowelled.

†**4.** *slang.* To pay (a creditor) with an I O U.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 12 P 3 Do not talk to me, I am Voweled by the Count, and curiously out of humour. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. i, They will vowel you, from Father to Son to the twentieth generation. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., A gamester who does not immediately pay his losings, is said to vowel the winner, by repeating the vowels I.O.U. or perhaps from giving his note for the money according to the Irish form.

Vowel, southern dial. var. FOUL *a.*, FOWL *sb.*

Vowelism. [f. VOWEL *sb.* + -ISM.] A system of vowel-sounds; articulation in respect of vowels.

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 72 The voweliam of the Scotch is not altogether pure. In some instances it differs, alike from the classic A.-Saxon and from the Icelandic.

Vowelist. [f. as prec. + -IST.]

†**1.** One who gives undue study to the vowel-points of the Hebrew scriptures. *Obs.*

1655 SPURSTOWE *Wells of Salvation* 158 Vowalists and Letterists having little or no acquaintance with the deep things of God.

2. One who employs vowels for poetic effect.

1890 in *Athenæum* 6 Sept. 334/2 The *Glasgow Herald* says 'As a repetitionary vowelist Mr. Spratly is virtuous compared with Milton'.

Vowelize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To modify or produce by means of vowel-sounds. Hence **Vowelized** *ppl. a.*

1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 59 The vowelized softness of Greek, Italian, French,..proceeds from the same cause.

2. To render vocalic. In quot. *absol.*

1867 A. M. BELL *Visible Sp.* 87 Then vowelize or expand and tensify the configuration to remove the friction of the breath.

3. To supply with vowel-points or signs representing vowels.

1883 *American* VI. 314 'Tom Brown's School-Days' will be immediately issued in the easy reporting style [of shorthand], fully vowelized.

†**Vowellage.** *Obs.*—1 [-AGE.] Vowelling.

1860 W. FOLKINGHAM *Brachigraphy* To Rdr. A 4 b, All coniunctions of Characters will be meere Incorporations sans Implication of Vowellage or intrication of the Lecture.

Vowelled, *ppl. a.* [f. VOWEL *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Of language or words: Supplied or provided with vowels, esp. to an unusual extent. Also with qualifying term, as *well-vowelled*.

1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. (1674) 56 The Italian Language is more smooth and better vowelled than the English. 1684 DRYDEN *To Earl of Roscommon* 17 Pauses, cadence, and well-vowell'd Words. 1798 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) III. 142 My own exquisitely rich and harmonious language; the growing Latinity of which has already..rendered it sufficiently vowelled, sufficiently sweet, copious, and sonorous. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 200 While fluent Greek a vowel'd under-song Kept up. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* 67 The soft and vowelled undersong of modern Italian. 1909 MEREDITH *Lett.* 19 Dec. (1912) I. 198 Isn't there a scent of damned hypocrisy in all this lisping and vowelled purity of the Idylls? 1883 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct 431/2 By melodious juxtaposition, by artful alliteration, by vowelled breathings and consonantal crashes of harmony.

b. Having vowels of a specified kind or quality.

1783 J. BEATTIE *Diss.* 293 The long-vowelled emphatick syllable..and the short-vowelled emphatick syllable. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gipsy* I. 62 As full vowelled words Are new impregnate with the master's thought.

Vow·elless, *a.* [f. VOWEL *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no vowel or vowels.

1870 J. F. SMITH *Ewald's Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 163 A vanishing *e* usually reappears in connexion with the first of the two vowelless consonants which might arise. 1892 BRUCE *Apologetics* II. ix. 304 The Masoretic Hebrew text is thus only an approximately accurate translation by Jewish scholars of the vowelless original.

Vow·elling, *vbl. sb.* [f. VOWEL *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. †a. The articulation of vowels in singing. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Proverbis* in *Antiq. Rep.* IV. 406 Perfite vowellynge of a songe, to the eere is delectable. 1620 MASSE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 284 Shee performed both so sweetely, as well for the ayring of her notes, as the vowelling of her words.

b. The pronunciation of vowels in speech.

1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* XXV, The grand organ roll of it [*Paradise Lost*] losing nothing in the Scotch vowelling.

2. The insertion of vowels or vowel-signs.

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 95 It is reported of Ioab, that when his Teacher taught him to corrupt the text but in the vowelling, he slew him without ransome. 1870 *Athenæum* 11 June 785/1 Our E. V., following the vowelling assigned to the Hebrew by the Rabbins, renders them 'for ever'. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 797/1 The vowelling of Greek and Latin proper names shews that the vagueness of the vowels was not absolute.

Vow·ellish, *a. rare*—1. [f. VOWEL *sb.*] Of the nature of a vowel.

1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* I. iii. (1640) 40 The power [of the letter W] is alwayes Vowellish, even where it leades the Vowell in any Syllabe.

Vow·elly, *a.* [f. VOWEL *sb.* + -Y[1].] Having many vowels; characterized by vowels.

1718 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Perplexed Lovers* v. i, *Sir Reg.* This Italian is very vowelly, it runs much upon the o methinks. 1842 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 97 The Northmen, in the shock of their hard, redundant consonants, lost the vowelly confluence. 1883 *Advance* (Chicago) 6 Dec., In their soft, vowely tongue.

Vower[1] (vau·əɹ). [f. Vow *v.* + -ER[1].] One who makes a vow, or has taken vows.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. 13 He .. called vnto his Apostleship, not wyueless vowers, but marryed men. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 125 As touching monasticall vowes,..it might be obteined of the byshop, that none should be taken in yong, and before the vowers were of rype yeares. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 136 From whom also as being too rich for vowers of poverty, he tooke away at one clap above tenne thousand Crownes rent. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 179 This extent of the Vow is beyond the intent of the Vower. 1892 tr. *Emiliannе's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 407 Of all these Vowers of Chastity there are but a very few, and may be, none at all that observe it. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxix, Youthful vowers of eternal constancy. 1887 H. S. BOWDEN tr. *Hettinger's Dante* 306 *note*, The vower can only change the matter of his vow to some greater offering to God's honour.

†**Vower**[2]. *Obs.*—1 In 5 *Sc.* **wowar.** [Cf. Vow *v.*[2] and AVOUBE *sb.*[1]] A guardian, patron.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 184 Saynct Androw was, gaiff the that sueird in hand; Off sanctis he is wowar off Scotland.

†**Vower**[3]. *Obs.*—1 [Aphetic f. *devoure* DEVOIR *sb.*] Devoir, duty.

?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 145 When the[y] had done their vower [*v.r.* devour] A beaste shoulde come of greate power.

Vowerer, variant of VOUBER *Obs.*

Voweson, variant of VOWSON *Obs.*

Vowess (vau·ĕs). Now *Hist.* or *arch.* Also 6 voiesse, woye(s)e, vowes, wowes; 6–7 vowesse. [Cf. VOWER[1] and -ESS.]

1. A woman, *esp.* a widow, who has taken a vow of chastity for the remainder of her life.

1506 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 44, I Jane Harby of Lincoln, Wowe, mak my testament, [etc.]. 1512 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 453 Agnes Mellars, wydowe and vowesse. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. 13 And at hys departure in the mornynge, he neyther commaunded Peter to breake vp howsholde, nor yet to forsake hys wyfe and make her a vowesse. 1565 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 312 A lady, after her husband's death, was allowed to take the vow of chastity, and she was then called a vowess. 1875 HENDERSON *Liber Pontificalis Chr. Bainbridge* Pref. p. xl, At the Benedictio Viduæ, the Vowess in a blue dress with white hood..is kneeling before the Bishop.

2. A woman who makes a vow of devotion to a religious life; a nun.

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1060/1 Some vowesses peraduenture ther are, which as yet neuer intend to breake their vow. 1623 BACON *Reliquiæ Romæ* (1763) 37 b,

A certayne vowesse or professed nunne. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1080/2 Vpon which toome there laie a stone image of Edith in the habit of a vowesse holding a hart in hir right hand. 1612 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. vii. 227 She abandoned her Regencie, and built a house of deuotion in the Ile of Shepey, wherein herselfe became a Vowesse. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Ix. 660 A rich Tomb..with her image thereon, in the habit of a Vowess Crown'd.

† Vowgard. *Obs.*[-1] (Meaning obscure.)

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 380 Now is all in oureward, youre yeres ar ron, It is commen in vowgard youre dame mallison, To bynde it.

Vowght, obs. variant of VAULT *sb.*[1]

Vowing (vau·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vow *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb in various senses.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10692 Þe biscop..did þam sembled be, O þis vouing [*v.r.* vowing] of chastite For to ask o þaim sum rede. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 136 Where as he calleth geldynge or makynge chast for the kyngdome of heauen, a voweynge of the single lyfe, whych Christ neuer ment. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 21 That holy Pilgrims farre from dread of way That great Tombe might adore, and vowings pay. 1782 J. BROWN *View Nat. & Revealed Relig.* VI. iii. § 9 (1796) 505 Vowing is the making a solemn promise to God, in which we bind ourselves to do or forbear somewhat for the promoting his glory. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Blan's Requirem.* ii, Love me with thine open youth In its frank surrender: With the vowing of thy mouth With its silence tender. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II, 77 The drinking went forward again, and great was the vowing and boasting as the night went on.

Vowis, obs. Sc. pl. of WOLF.

Vow·less, *a.* [f. Vow *sb.* + -LESS.] Not bound by a vow or vows.

1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergy* I. xvii. Wks. (1628) 757 Hee hath done with their owne vowes, and now descends to vs, Whom hee confesses vowlesse.

† Vow·ly, southern dial. f. FOULLY *adv.* 5.

1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* I. ii, And the same day o' the moneth, as this Zin Valentine, Or I am vowly deceiv'd.

Vowne, altered f. Vow *v.*[2] 2 b. *rare*[—1].

1785 *Mass. Spy* 13 Oct. (Thornton), Ye yanking lads of our town, ye Axe brave fellows all, I vowne.

Vowre, south-western dial. variant of FOUR.

† Vow·son. *Obs.* Forms: 3-4 voweson, 5-6 vouson (5 vourson, -sone, wouson), 6 vowson. [Aphetic f. *avow(e)son* ADVOWSON.] Advowson, patronage.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9678 Þuf bituene tuele lewedemen were eni striuing..As vor voweson of churche weþer scolde þe churche ziue. 1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 18 A sute that he made ageyn the seyd priour of a voweson of the chyrche of Sprouston. 1426 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 74 Þe Maner Enwarle in Deuen, with þe voursone of þe chirche, And..þe maner of Thorncoffyn in Somerset, with þe vourson of þe church. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 520/2 Londes, Tenementes, Rentes and Wousons of Chirches. 1550 T. LEVER *Serm.* (Arb.) 115 Not able..to barcke agaynste pluralytyes, improperacions, byyng of vousons, nor against anye enyll abuse of the cleargies lyuynges. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 156 An other euill vse is to gene out vousons of benefices, as it were in a reuertion. 1570 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 361, I was informed that this Rycall was granted in vowson to one Mr. Hamond of Yorkshire.

Vowsyng: see VOUSING *Obs.* **Vowt,** var. VULT *Obs.* **Vowt(e,** obs. vars. VAULT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] **Vowtre,** obs. f. VULTURE.

† Vowtre. *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic f. *avoutre*: see ADULTERY.] Adultery. Also † **Vowtre** *v. intr.*, to commit adultery. † **Vowtriere,** an adulteress. † **Vowtry,** adultery. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Lell.* 21 And al oþer lawis þat semen to sey, þat man bow to curse for crime of ᵃvowtre, þeft, & swilk oþer. *Ibid.* 87 Þey kepe noiþer clene lif, ne wedding, but.. ᵃvowtrand, or doing a-vowtri. *a* 1400–30 *Alexander* 4532 To Venus þe ᵃvowtriere may noȝt ells a-vaile. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 72 Synne of lechery and of ᵃvowtrye. *Ibid.* 201, I hane made mony on to sle men, and forto syn yn lechery and yn vowtry.

Vowtur, obs. form of VULTURE.

I Vox (vɒks). [L. *vox* (pl. *vōcēs*), voice.]

1. *Vox populi,* the voice of the people; expressed general opinion; common talk or rumour.

The Latin maxim *Vox populi vox Dei* 'the voice of the people is the voice of God', is freq. cited or alluded to in English works from the 15th cent. onwards.

a 1350 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 409/1 A wonderfull sorte of selles, That *vox populi* telles, Of those bottomlesse welles. 1570 R. CONSTABLE in *Sadler's St. Papers* (1809) II. 388, I hard *vox populi* that the lord regent would not, for his owne honor,..deliver thearle. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* IX. 787 No publicke fame, nor *vox populi* Was ever knowen in vaine to die. 1672 E. HOWARD *Six Days Adventure* Pref. A 4 There being nothing more unstable or erroneous than *vox populi* in point of plays. 1774 (*title*), Vox populi, or Old England's Glory a Destruction in 1774. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* xcvi, 'O,..—just a wheen havers!' replied Bell—'cannay talk—Vox populi!' 1887 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 308 Well, but I believe in the Vox Populi of two hundred Years: still more of two thousand.

2. *Vox angelica, vox humana* (or † *humane*), varieties of organ-stops imitative of vocal sounds. Also *attrib.*

a 1726 TUDWAY in Burney *Hist. Music* (1776) IV. 355 These [stops] were the Vox-humane,...with some others I may have forgot. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Music* IV. 147 Of pipes then constructed are composed the stops called the Vox-humana, Regal,..and many others. 1832 SEIBERT *Organs* 61 In the seventeenth century several registers were..inserted, among which we may mention the vox humana, and the vox angelica. 1885 *Vox Humana* 3 The effect of the Vox Humana stop..is to make the organ sound like a choir of human voices.

Vox, south-western dial. var. FOX *sb.*; obs. Sc. var. VOICE *sb.*; obs. Sc. pa. t. WAX *v.*

Voyage (voi·édʒ), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–4 veage, 6 *Sc.* weage (wevage, weavage), 7 *Sc.* veadge; β. 3 veiage, 3–4, 6 voyage (6 *Sc.* woy-); 4–6 vaiage, 5, 6 *Sc.*, vayage, 5–6 *Sc.* wayag(e; 5 (9 *dial.*) vage, 5 vaig, 8–9 *north.*, 9 *Sc.* vaige, 9 *dial.* vayge, *Sc.* vae(d,ge. β. 4–8 (9 *dial.*) viage (5 uiage, viagge, 6 viadge, viegde), 4–6 vyage (4 uyage); 5 *Sc.* wiage, 5–6 wyage. γ. 5–7 voiage (6 voiadge, 7 voige), 5– voyage (6 voyaige, 7 -adge); *Sc.* 5 woyage, 6 wo(v)age, 7 woag. [a. AF. and OF. *veage, veiage, voyage,* and *voiage, -aige, voage, voiaige* (*F. voyage*), = Prov. *viatge,* Sp. *viage,* Pg. *viagem,* It. *viaggio*:—L. *viāticum* provision for a journey, VIATICUM.]

1. An act of travelling († or transit), a journey († or passage), by which one goes from one place to another (esp. at a considerable distance).

a. In the phrases *to take* or *make* (*a, the,* or *one's*) *voyage.* Now *rare.*

In early use including travel by sea as well as by land: for quotations in which the nautical sense is clear see 3 b.

(*a*) 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4920+85 Cadwal in Yrlonde ys eastȝarkede vaste & vor þ toward þys lond þe veage nome. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIV. 117 He his viage soyne has tane, And straucht toward the plas is gane. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 8 He hath himself conformed..To schape and take the viage Homward. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1960 Seint Ambrose legende seith, how he Ones to Rome-ward took his viage. *c* 1440 *Gesta Romanorum* 226 Now to this lady lete vs turne agayn, Whiche to Surry hath take hir viage. 1564 HAWARD tr. *Eutropius* IV. 41 The counsels toke then their viage to invade Carthage. *a* 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden, No. 36) 43 Thei..toke their viage toward Rome, destroying all thinges on everie side. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 76 b, We must take our voyage on foote the space of forty dayes by the waters side. 1647 HEXHAM I, To take a Viage, *peysen.*

(*b*) 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3746 To helle þou makyst þy vyage. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 54, I mac mi vaiage, Til sain Jam in pilgrimage. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXXIV. 152 It schuld be a lang tyme ere þat vaiage ware made. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* viii, To make better theyr vyage they were sworne ecbe one to the other that none of them bothe should leue other. 1590 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* XXIX. (1588) 291 A marchant man maketh far viages and great iourneis..for worldly and transitory gain. 1579 *Poor Knt.'s Pal. Priv. Pleas.* (Roxb.) B iij, This is shee..whom once within the Lake, I shewed vnto Robinson, as our viage wee did make. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. vii. (1592) 27 And Hercules to Caliden a Dismall viage makes. 1860 R. NOEL *Vac. Tour* 467 A voyage I made by a very unfrequented path from Cæsarea to Nazareth.

b. In other contexts. Now *rare.*

a. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 532 Swith, he sayd, wendes with me, Whoso wil that wonder se...Thar was none so litel page That he ne was fayn of that vayage. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 12 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Thir seuin Maisters thair voyage passing [etc.] *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherry & Slae* 625 (Laing MS.), Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1875 [W. ALEXANDER] *Sk. Life Ans Folk* 195 Mains of Puddleweal sent his carts on a weekly 'vaege' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

β. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 90 He went þat viage To William þe rede kyng, þer he was in Wales. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 792 That ech of yow to shorte with oure weye In this viage shal telle tales tweye. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Somde* (Caxton) II. xli. (1859) 46 Theyr iourney was fully adetermyned and theyr vyage endyd. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXVI. 140 (Harl. MS.), He thowte to visite þe holy londe,..and he ordeynid þerefore and made al thinge redy for his viage. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 108 Hit is a fowle thynge..whan a man is at ende of his iourney for to lengthe his viage. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 80 Latumo and his wife Tanaquill war passand in ane chariot, with þar gudis turait with þame in þare viage. 1552 T. BARNABE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 197 As for the realme of France besyde, I ought to knowe yt, for I have ben xxviij viages in France in poste for the Kings Majestie. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. xxiii. 14 It seemed sore to trot al afoote ouer the Pyrenees and Alpes, and huge long viages at amal ease in their armour. *a* 1672 WOOD *Life* (1848) 85 *note*, I humbly desire your H. to thinke that the ocasion of my stay hear is nott for any dislike of the viage.

γ. 1527 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 204, I have declared unto Your Grace the successes of al such thinges, as have chaunced in my voyage. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. 4 [It was resolved] that for the more seuretie of his voyage, he shoulde returne by Sea. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 133 For as much as..the trauellers are forced to rest all the day long, therefore twelve daies are set down for the whole voiage betweene Coptus and Berenice. 1612 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. ii. 285/1 Such as hauing vowed their voiage and seruice for Ierusalem, wore continually vpon their backes a red Crosse. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. xv. 32 Jesus took an Account of the first legation and voyage of his Apostles. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 147 Upon the mountains we passed over this voyage, we found a great number of plants we had not before met with. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. 201 The pasha was lately returned from his voyage towards Mecca. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* II. 178, I conceive that to be beneath the serious consideration of a man on a voyage of such a nature. 1824 W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 50 The utmost extent of her voyages [from home] had been about two and a half miles. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* II. ii. 28, I was just beginning to hope for an easy voyage, when Toodla and the Big Yellow gave way nearly together. 1887– in dial. glossaries (Chesh., Lancs.).

transf. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1596) 38 If Galen had considered the demeanure and voiages of the ant..he would haue taken astonishment to see little endewed with so great ingenuose.

† c. A pilgrimage. *Obs.*

1496 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) Men that makis vowis of vaigis for the luife of God. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* VII. 135 How the kynge Charlemagne made a vyage to saynte Iames in Galice. 1518 H. WATSON *Hist. Oliver of Castile* (Roxb.) P 4 He came towarde yᵉ kynge and sayd to hym that he dyde owe a vyage to Saynt Iames, and that he muste nedes do it withoutten ony companye.

† d. Without article: Travel, travelling. *Obs.*

1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1650) 11 All Nations have Entercknowledge of one another, by Voyage into Forraigne Parts, or by Strangers that come to them.

† 2. A journey or expedition undertaken with a military purpose; a warlike enterprise or undertaking; a march against an enemy. *Obs.*

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4509 Þo was þe king arþure vol of sorwe & sore..Þe veage toward Rome he bileuede vor þis cheance. *Ibid.* 8079 Sulue wimmen ne bileuede þat hii ne wende þuder vaste, Ne 3ong folc þei hii feble were, þe wule þe veage[=crusade] laste. 1492–3 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 102 Yt is so that the Kings grace hath appoynted my lord to wayt upon his grace, now at this his noble vage into France. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. XXI. (S.T.S.) I. 215 Þai..had þame þas fordwart..with gude werde, þat þe end of þare vayage mycht be respondent to þare begynnyng. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 337 Cardinal Egedie is sent frome Pape Honorie to Scotland, Legat, to require a gret soume of money..to helpe the veyage to Hierusalem.

β. 13 . *K. Alis.* 5075 (Laud MS.), A morowe þe kyng & his baronage Wenten forþ in her viage. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 315 To Scotland now he fondes to redy his viage, Wiþ þritti þousand Walsh redy at his banere. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 207 His spek discomfort thame all sua, That thai had left haill that viage, Na war a knycht of gret corage. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 204 Al this forsaydyn hostynges, viages, and trauaill done and fulfillid weryn in lytill more space than thre Monthes. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 51 It happed that..the squier come from a viage that he hadde ben atte. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 17 [He] had a gret discomfiture at the daunce of Agincourt, at his first viage. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clv. (1811) 143 Longe it were to tell all the circumstaunce of this vyage, & victoryes of the same 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 83 Thys yere the kynge made a grete army into Scotland by hys brother the duke of Glocester, in the wyche viage he wane Barwike. 1590 L. LLOYD *Dial Dates* Oct. 31 Mar. Scotus saith that he was slaine in his viage against the Parthians.

γ. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xv. 15 The kyng sent..a great ambassade to syr Iohn of Heynaulte, prayng hym..to kepe company with hym in his voiage agaynste the Scottis. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* Ep. 4 The longinquite of his martial voyaige, ande the grite forse of the oriental pepil. 1584 B. tr. *Herodotus* II. 97 b, Sesostris dying,..hys sonne..vndertooke no voyage of warre, but remayned quiet in his kingdome. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* D 4, If you be a souldier, talke how often you haue beene in action: as the Portingale voyage, Cales voiage, the Iland voiage. 1613–8 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 193 Godfrey of Bouillon..was the first that offered vp himselfe to this Famous Voyage. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. x. 235 The Simeonites second voyage against the Amalekites in Mount Seir.

† b. In the phr. *to make* (or *do*) *a voyage. Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 89 Mithridates..helde þe kyngdom þre and fourty 3ere, in þe whiche tyme he dede many viage, and many faire victories hadde. *c* 1490 HENRY *Wallace* III. 118 The knycht Fenweik conwoide the caryage; He had on Scottis maid mony schrewide wiage. 1548 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 76 Achabe kyng of Israel, when he intended to make a viage, and to take by force the country..of Ramoth Giliade. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroical Ep.* Notes (1599) 25 In the great voyage Edward the second made against the Scots, at the Lattell at Striuling [etc.] 1686 *Vey. Emp. China* in *Misc. Curr.* (1708) III. 179 The Emperour of China made a Voyage into Eastern Tartary, in the beginning of this Year 1682.

† c. *Voyage royal,* an expedition undertaken by a king in person. *Obs.*

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 80 When the king maketh a voyage roiall in to Scotland for to subdue yᵉ Scots. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 248 Euen now his [Edward IV's] Feuer tercian, of the whiche he had languished sore, sithe his voyage royall into Fraunce, was sodainly turned into a vncurable quartain. 1607 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commun.* (1603) 157 More to be dreaded for their..furious incursions, then..that they are able to raise, or undertake any voiage royal. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland,* etc. 44 For his [sc. Richard II's] first voyage in the eighteenth yeare of his raigne (which was indeed a Voyage-Royall) was made vpon another motiue. 1690 (*title*), The Royal Voyage: or, the Irish Expedition.

† 3. An enterprise, undertaking, or adventure of a private character (in early use implying the making of a journey). *Obs.*

13 .. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 535 Þen þenkkez Gawan ful sone, Of his anious uyage. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 732 Ek diane I the biseke That this viagge be nat to the loth. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 353 This worthi knist of his corage Hath undertake the viage. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2511, I am meved of pite,..þat ye of volunte..List take on yow þis marvellous viage. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* lii. 198 Madame, yf your wyll be, I shall gladli tak this vyage in hande, and I shall neuer rest noo where tyl that I haue founde blanchardyn. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* lv. 59 Sum vncouth viaige I purpoist prepare, Bot not as vncouth as was preparit for me. 1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. lxxxiii. 266 b, Takyng in hand an easie viage towardes thine ende. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 185 If hee should intend this voyage toward my wife, I would turne her loose to him. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* III. i, I thinke I fight with a familiar, or the Ghost of a fencer, Sh' has wounded me gallantly, call you this a lecherous viage?

† b. In the phr. *to do* (or *make*) *a voyage. Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 73 He..caste and knew in goode plyte was þe moone To doon viage and take his way ful soone Vnto his owene paleys ther hyeyde. *c* 1386 *Sir Perumb.* 804 Y for-bed hem..fro þonne þay no scholde go, Or ich hadde sum viage done & til hem come ageyn. 1567–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. v. (Skeat) I. 84 If thou deede make

langlores, thy viage to make, understand wel [etc.] 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. iv. 169 If you make your voyage vpon her, and giue me directly to vnderstand, you haue preuayl'd, I am no further your Enemy.

4. A journey by sea or water from one place to another (usually to some distant place or country); a course or spell of sailing or navigation, *spec.* one in which a return is made to the starting-point; a cruise.

Arising from contextual uses of senses 1 and 2, and clearly separable from these only after the M.E. period. For the phr. † *bonis, boun, boun voyage* see Boon *a.* 2.

a. c 1310 *St. Brendan* 152 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 324 'Wendeþ forþ a-godes name: þat þis veyage were ido!' Seint Brendan & his breþeren to schipe wende anon. 1555 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 495/1 That nane..cary ony victuallis tuilloun or flesche.. except samekill as salbe thair necessare victualling for thair voyage. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 121 The skipper of the schip..said 'God send vs better handsell and mair forder in our wayage.' 1641 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1870) V. 494/2 Ane impost..of tuo shilling scottes to be payed vpoun the tune of all shipes and vesshellis..be Natiues and four shillingis money foirsaid to be payed be straingeres for like veadge. 1784 *Bishoprick Garl.* (1906) 52 There was a poor little lad that had come a trial vaige to sea 1887 J. M. E. Saxby *Lairs of Lunda* (1888) 123, I don't think there will be much done at the haaf this vaige.

β. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8840 When he wyste why þat he cam [to Ireland], & so fer viage for stones nam, He scorned þem on his langage. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) Prol. 4 It is longe tyme passed, that ther was no generalle Passage ne Vyage over the See. 1442 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 60/2 [That] noon of the seid vesselles..attendyng to the same viage, be arrested for any viage of oure Souverain Lord ye King. 1490 *Act. Dom. Conc.* (1839) 275 þe profittis & dewiteis..of þe said auchtane parte of a hale Raise in seland..and als of half a danskin viage. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 206 To Thom.. Hathowy to furnis the Kingis schip in the Northland the secund viage, for tymir. 1579 Twyne *Phis agst. Fortune* I. i. 2 They that fare by Sea, they are caried away in the shyppe, and feele not howe, and many tymes are at their viage ende before they be ware. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1369/1 For want of vittels and other necessaries (needful in so long a viage)..[he] was inforced to set saile and returne for England. 1602 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 6 The Portugales whose viages beyond the cape of Good Hope..are more true than in reason likely.

γ. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 25 Paid..to John Cappe..after the said voinge into the parties of Lumbardie ..for the stopping of lekes & castyng balast. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. Pref. 102, There they shall read of Godredus the sonne of Olaus his voiage to the king of Norway. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geogr. Delineated* II. vii. (1635) 126 This North-west passage is a long voyage, and hath bin for a long time sought. 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* 12 The Navigation of the World (specially for remote Voiages) was greater then at this day. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 923 Where the Spanish Negotiation was short and safe, it enticed Seamen, by their good will, to avoid long Voyages. 1748 *Anson's Voy* Introd., A Voyage round the World promises a species of information, of all others the most desirable and interesting 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 346 Those who had set sail five months before, were not in the least farther advanced in their voyage, than those who waited for the favourable wind. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 165 Ships were sent out to different seas, and had prosperous voyages. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Voyage*, a journey by sea. It usually includes the outward and homeward trips, which are called passages. 1903 F. T. Bullen *Sea Wrack* 310 *note*, The round trip from home back to home again constitutes the 'voyage', all the port to port journeys are 'passages'.

fig. 1864 Browning *Jas. Lee's Wife* II. iv, With whom began Love's voyage full-sail.

b. In the phrases *to take* or *make a voyage*. Cf. 1 a. Also *transf.*

(*a*) *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 Wald Godd þat þer werldly lordes ware at gude accorde,'and wald take þis haly viage ouer þe see. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 22 The said king Edward..tooke his vyage to Cane withe xij^ti^ shippis. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 10 Thir men of weir tuk vayage and sailled to Scotland. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 233 Quhen S. Columba did sayl in Yrland, thay to the Ile of Jon tuik thair vaiage. 1819 Keats *Lamia* II. 180 Fifty wreaths of smoke From fifty censers their light voyage took To the high roof.

(*b*) 14.. *Sir Beues* (O.) 388 Ouer they made gode viage. The sayll they drew, the wynd was good. 1475 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 387 We..purpose..incontinent þerupon, as winde and weder wol serue, to make our viage into France. 1530 *Hickscorner* 820 For yf I myȝt make ill good vyages to Shoter's Hyl,..Than wolde I never trauell the sea more. *c* 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1914) 518 This viadge ys to be made in 3 wekes yf winde and wether serve. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 87 Cnute king of England about this time made a viage to Denmarke. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* II. 179 It is a full Commission By which he made this voyage. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* IV. I. 139 In five Voyages made before that way, [I] knew by Experience there is a Current.

† **c.** A (single or return) passage or trip on a canal-boat. *Obs.*

1774 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 145 From Manchester to Warrington..the third cabbin 12 for the passage or voyage upon the canal. 1805 *Z. Allnutt Navig. Thames* 15 The Toll of 4*d* per Ton a Voyage on all Barges. A Voyage, is a Trip to London and back again, being two Passages.

d. A flight through the air (or through space); *esp.* a trip in a balloon.

1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 431 So steers the prudent Crane Her annual Voiage, borne on Windes. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. ii. It was about ninety l——— distant, and our voyage lasted four days and an half. 1784 V. Lunardi *Five Aerial Voyages* (1785) 30 After a most delightful and glorious voyage of 46 miles, 36 over the water and 10 over land. 1826 *Blackwood's Mag.* VI. 283/2 An aerial voyage, remarkable for its duration, was accomplished at Paris on the 19th of September, 1784. 1880 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 644/2 Before they [*sc.* fire-balloons] became obsolete, several remarkable voyages were made in them. 1899 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 290 The Earth in its annual voyage round the sun.

e. *spec.* In marine insurance: (see quot.).

1848 Arnould *Marine Insur.* I. xii. I. 333 The voyage insured.., a technical term, which must be carefully distinguished from the actual voyage of the ship,..is a transit at sea from the terminus a quo to the terminus ad quem in a prescribed course of navigation..which is never set out in any policy.

f. *Voyage of discovery* (Discovery 3), in fig. use.

1857 Ducange Anglicus *Vulg. Tongs, Voyage of discovery*, going out stealing. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 227 After a voyage of discovery round the yard at full speed, [the cattle] saturn..into the lane.

5. Used *fig.* (in senses 1 or 4) to denote the course of human life (or some part of it), or the fate of persons after death.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 326 Fourtiene yer sche was of Age, Whan deth hir tok to his viage. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xv, As the schip that sailith steresles,..So standis thou here..And wantis that suld gyde all thy viage. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 98 Cristallyne water to hym so comfortable, Al his viage bothe in breede and lengthe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 122 b, Man receyueth by grace all thynges expedyent and necessary for hym in his vyage and pilgrymage. 1529 Sir T. More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 175/2 Yᵗ much more special assistence of god with his christen churche in their spirituall viage. 1602 Shake. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 220 There is a Tide in the affayres of men, Which taken at the Flood, leades on to Fortune: Omitted, all the voyage of their life, Is bound in Shallowes, and in Miseries. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* VI. 345 Blocks and stones our ghostly enemies cast in the narrow way that leadeth to heaven, to hinder our voyage. 1697 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* V. v, So, now I am in for Hobbes's voyage; a great leap in the dark. 1703 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* II. vi. 60 And what I say to Papists I say to all Protestants, if you like to be Priest-ridden, farewel—a good Voyage to you. 1772 Smollett *Humph. Cl., Let. to Sir W. Phillips* 18 July, Among our fellow-lodgers at Berwick, was a couple from London, bound to Edinburgh on the voyage of matrimony. 1779 Cowper *Human Frailty* 17 Bound on a voyage of awful length,..A stranger to superior strength, Man vainly trusts his own. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* IX. 174 Fear not then, Spirit, Death's diarobling hand..'Tis but the voyage of a darksome hour. 1877 Tennyson *Sir J. Franklin* 3 And thou.. Art passing on thine happier voyage now Toward no earthly pole.

6. † **a.** The navigation of a particular sea-route; the course or route (to be) taken by a ship. *Obs.*

1582 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 1087 Vnder yᵉ name of Tharsis (as some think) is signified some sea yᵗ was farre of, and whose voiage was very long. 1694 W. King *Animadv. Acc. Denmark* I. 7 Any Sea-man, who is acquainted with that Voyage, will tell you that he would ten times rather venture amongst the Rocks of Norway in a Storm, than the Sands of England. 1725 Magens *Insurances* II. 111 The Mate being unacquainted with the Voyage and declaring himself to be so, shall nevertheless be obliged to remain with the Ship, if the Master requires it.

b. A vessel as fitted out for sailing.

1826 Kent *Comm.* (1858) III. xlvii. § 209 When the voyage is ready, the master is bound to sail as soon as the wind and tide permit.

c. *Whaling.* (See quot.)

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 497 *Voyage*, among whalers, each man calls his share of the proceeds of the cruize, which he receives instead of wages, his voyage.

d. The quantity of fish taken in one trip or by one boat.

1897 *Clay & Co. Company Prospectus*, The daily arrival of vessels with voyages of live and fresh fish..The Pontoon where the voyages are landed from the vessels and sold.

7. A written account of a voyage, a book describing a voyage (or journey).

From the frequent use of the word in the titles of narratives of voyages.

1587 Hakluyt (*title*), A Notable Historie, containing foure Voyages, made by Certaine French Captaines into Florida. 1699 W. Hacke (*title*), A Collection of Original Voyages. 1704 Churchill (*title*), A Collection of Voyages and Travels, Some now first Printed from Original Manuscripts. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 21 Those of the same kind, which have been collected in the following Voyage, exhibit no regular difference from each other. *Ibid.* 284 The most authentic traditions of Historians, which I found in great numbers in the Voyage of Pausanias into Greece. 1877 Quaritch *Catalogue* 1476 De Bry's Collection of Voyages to the East and West Indies.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *voyage-writer*; † **voyage food, provision,** = Viaticum 1; **voyage policy** (see quot.).

1610 †Voyage food [see Viaticum 2]. 1848 Arnould *Marine Insur.* I. ii. § 2. I. 19 A †voyage policy is one in which the limits of the risk are designated in the policy by specifying a certain place at which the voyage is to begin. 1562 *Apol. Priv. Masse* (1850) 21 Their viaticum, as it is termed in the old canons, that is to say, their †voyage-provision. 1564 Harding *Answ. Jewel* IX. 123 So it be reuerently kepte for the viage prouision for the sicke, no catholike man will maineteine strife for the maner and order of keping. 1703 Addison *Italy, Pesaro* 165, I shall say nothing of the *Via Flaminia*, which has been describ'd by all the †Voyage-Writers that have pass'd it. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* 1 Apr., The manners of mankind do not differ so widely as our voyage writers would make us believe. 1737 Foote *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 137 Except Peter Hasty, the voyage-writer, he was as great a loss to the trade as any within my memory.

Voyage (voi·ėdʒ), *s.* Also 5 voiage, 5–6 vyage, 9 *dial.* v'yage, *Sc.* vaag. [ad. F. *voyage*, † *voiage* (13th c.), or f. Voyage *v.*]

1. *intr.* To journey by land; to travel. Now *rare.*

1477 Caxton *Jason* 26 His legges were Royde like a voyager that had alle the day to fore haue voiaged or goon a iourney. 1490 — *Eneydos* XV. 57 And in vyagyage thrughe the landes, (home) hideth her hede bytwyx the clowdes. 1640 Milton *Apol. Smect.* viii. 42 Although my life hath not lin unexpersive in learning, and voyaging about. 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* II. i. A gentleman, sir,..who has haunted the best conversations, and who, in short, has voyaged. 1778 Foote *Trip to Calais* I. Wks. 1799 II. 344 Nothing can be so vulgar in France, as voyaging about with one's wife. 1898 C. Lee *Paul Carah* ii. 30 Half over the States I've been, an' into Canady—v'yaged thousands o' miles, 'a b'lieve.

† **2.** To carry out an enterprise. *Obs.*—[2]

c 1500 *Melusine* 171 The maister [of Rhodes] recounted.., all thauentures that had happed to them. By my feyth' said the kyng, 'ye haue worthyly vyaged.

3. To go by sea; to sail or cruise; to make a voyage or voyages. Also in fig. context.

1624 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxi. 294 All that have voyaged thither, have been curious to carry seedes of all sorts, and all have grown. 1634 Donne *Ess. Div.* (1652) 37 Men which seek God by reason..are like Mariners, which voyage about the Coasts of the Mediterranean Sea, but never saile beyond the Pillars of Hercules. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1050 Sin there in power before, once voyag'd through This uncouth Pass. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 50 Some to the Seas and dreaded Sounding fly, To plow the Deep, and tempt the Stormy Sky. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 69 ⁋ 2 Those who voyage into the remotest parts of the World. 1718 Pope *Odyss.* I. 340 Voyaging to learn the ——— taint with deadly drugs the barbed dart. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 137 The Dutch ships, voyaging between New Guinea and Aroo,..frequently see flocks of birds of Paradise. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. xliii, He was a man of years, And long had voyaged through many a stormy sea. 1846 Hawthorne *Mosses* II. viii. (1854) 272 Having voyaged across the Atlantic for that sole purpose. 1875 *Chambers' Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 7 More than seventy merchant-ships, voyaging in almost every ocean.

fig. 1809 Wordsw. *Prelude* III. 63 His..silent face, The marble index of a mind for ever Voyaging through strange seas of Thought, alone. 1819 Shelley *Lett.* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 305, I have lately been voyaging in a sea without any pilot. *a* 1873 Lytton *Pausanias* III. i. (1876) 220 Voyagers that never voyaged thither save in song. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 300 It is not for food that the plant-world voyages into foreign spheres, but to perfect the supremer labour of life.

b. *transf.* Of things: To move through the water or air. Also *fig.*

1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* XVI. (1850) 243 In Britain.. it [the cholera] voyaged along the coasts with the speed of the trading vessels. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xliii. (1856) 402 We could see them many fathoms below, voyaging again to the upper world. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 42 A log comes floating on,..having voyaged..hundreds of miles. 1878 Stevenson *Inland Voy.* 178 Grand clouds still voyaged in the sky.

4. *trans.* To cross or travel over; to traverse; to sail over or on. Also *fig.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 471 Long were to tell What I have don, what sufferd, with what paine Voyag'd th' unreal, vast, unbounded deep Of horrible confusion. 1718 Pope *Odyss.* V. 361 Him, thus voyaging the deeps below, From far..The King of Ocean saw. 1793 Coleridge *Lines Autumnal Even.* 44 O heed the spell, and hither wing your way, Like far-off music, voyaging the breeze! 1849 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 259 Last time we voyaged the Loch you said a few words. 1890 *Century Mag.* Aug. 636/1 The Rhône of to-day must be something like the Rhine of fifty years ago, though much less voyaged now than that was then.

Voyageable (voi·ėdʒăb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -able.] That can be sailed over; navigable.

1819 Seager *Suppl. Johnson, Voyageable*..that may be sailed or travelled over. The existence, or at least the propriety, of this word may be inferred from Milton's use of Unvoyageable. 1882 Stevenson *Men & B.* 388 There ... between them, instead of the voyageable straits, that great gulf over which no man can pass.

Voyager (voi·ėdʒəɹ). Also 6 vyager, -eour, 6–7 viager. [ad. OF. *veagier, voi-, voyag(e)er* (F. *voyageur*), or f. Voyage *v.* + -er [1].]

1. One who journeys; a traveller by land.

1477 [see Voyage *v.* 1]. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 616/1 Them coumpte we styll for vyagers and pylgri towarde the same place..that we walke. 1686 Burnet *Trav.* 3 It may look like a presumptuous affectation to be reckoned among Voyagers, if he attempts to say anything upon so short a ramble, and concerning places so much visited, and by consequence so well known. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Lobre* 20 The Patache is a vehicle that the traveller..will frequently have occasion to. Its voyagers are a grade lower in society than those of the diligence. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 21 Such a voyager, if it has ever been his hap to turn his feet to Orleans. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Oct. 532/2 Let any student of life..go to a terminus when a train has come in, and watch the faces of the voyagers as they battle for 'their things'.

† **b.** *Knight voyager*, a knight errant. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 362 The kyng vnderstod by the report of som knightes vyageours, that there was in the grete Armanye a Castel.

2. One who goes upon, or takes part in, a voyage or voyages by sea; a navigator.

1620 Drayton *Poly-olb.* XIX. 298 Fenton next, and Jackman.., Both Voyagers, that were with famous Frobesher. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. xl. 32 You go on to prefer my Captivity in this Fleet to that of a Voyager at Sea. 1696 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Resurrect.* I, Not Winds to Voyagers at Sea, Nor Showers to Earth more necessary be, ..Than Verse to Virtue. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 34 ⁋ 5 It is usual with young Voyagers, as soon as they land upon a Shore, to begin their Accounts of the Nature of the People. 1787 W. F. Martyn *Geog. Mag.* II. 529 Voyagers..are much divided in their accounts of the natives. 1820 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xci, Long shall the voyager, with th' Ionian blast,

Hall the bright clime of battle and of song. 1880 Geikie *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 1 The Arctic voyagers have seen King Winter on his throne. 1879 E. P. Wright *Anim. Life* 119 The Sea Lion of voyagers in the southern seas.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*, in various applications.

1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 189 She prays for the little Infant Voyager, That he may so pass the Waves of this troublesome World as finally to come to the Land of Everlasting Life. 1819 Shelley *Lett.* Pr. Wks. 1880 IV. 147 Your boat will be to the ocean of water, what this earth is to the ocean of aether—a prosperous and swift voyager. 1826 *Mechanics' Mag.* VI. 286/2 In this region the voyager [in a balloon] sailed till half-past nine o'clock. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Humble Bee* 15 Insect lover of the sun,..Sailor of the atmosphere,..Voyager of light and noon. 1890 *S* 7 June 793/1 This rapid voyager [the dragon-fly] over you, proceeds beyond you..., then turns [etc.]

‖ Voyageur (vwayaʒōr). [F.; see prec.] In Canada, a man employed by the fur companies in carrying goods to and from the trading posts on the lakes and rivers; a Canadian boatman.

1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 18 In ascending the Longue Sault, a distance of three miles, my canoes were three times unladen, and, together with their freight, carried on the shoulders of the voyageurs. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 90 St Martin returned to Canada..[and] engaged as a voyageur with the Hudson's Bay Fur Company. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 17 Aug. 121/2 At the nightly bivouac, to the astonishment of the voyageurs, the noises continued.

attrib. 1903 *Daily Mail* 5 Sept. 5/6 The party was put into one of the large voyageur flat-bottomed boats.

Voyaging (voi·ĕdʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Voyage *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb (now usually of journeying by sea).

1611 Cotgr., *Voyagement*, a voyaging, trauelling, iourneying. 1647 Hexham 1, A viaging, *een reysinge*. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 8 He was Monarch of far more Territories than ever he touch'd at in all his Voyagings. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 165 Native of a port and given to voyaging. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xvii. 182, I deemed it best to keep up the appearance of ordinary voyaging. 1889 Clark Russell *Marooned* xiv. (1892) 97 The marine habits of thought I had carried away with me from my early voyagings.

attrib. 1853 Lynch *Self-Improv.* ii. 25 It is now hurrah! for outset on many a voyaging enterprise. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* xl, I have separated from my wife for personal, not voyaging, reasons.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. vii. vii, Our poor Convention, after such voyaging, just entering harbour, so to speak, has struck on the bar. 1848 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) I. 112 We will not listen when men tell us that we can reach Him by weary voyaging on the ocean of intellect. 1862 G. Long tr. *M. Aurelius' Thoughts* ix. § 30. 156 Look down from above on the countless herds of men and their countless solemnities, and the infinitely varied voyagings in storms and calms.

Voyal, var. Viol[2] *Naut.* **Voyd, -ance, -e(e**, etc., variants of Void *a.*, -ance, -ee, etc.

† Voye. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *voye, voie* (F. *voie*) :—L. *via* way.] Way.

1541 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) III. 389 They can pay no subcedy, for as moch as they be charged other divers voyes. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 12 Quhan he hes done, fast thy voyes vend To Athoill that most his cuntrie.

Voyed(e, obs. f. Void *v.* **Voymbe, Voyme**, obs. Sc. varr. Womb *sb.* **Voyol**, var. Viol[2] *Naut.* **Voys**, obs. f. Voice *sb.* **Voʒel, Voʒte**, southern ME. varr. Fowl *sb.*, *fought* Fight *v.*

‖ Vrae. *Obs.* Also 7 **vrack.** [F. dial. (Channel Islands).] The name given in the Channel Islands to a fish resembling a carp. Also *attrib.*

1673 *News from Channel* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) III. 505 A large fish we call a Vrack-fish. 1694 Falle *Jersey* ii. 75 But the most common, and to be had at all times, is a Fish we call Vrac, in shape and taste very much like a Carp, and may be called the Sea-carp, with several others. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) III. 341 Here [in Jersey] is the Mullet, red and grey, the Vrac, or Sea-carp, and the Bar.

Vrack, Sc. variant of Wrack.

‖ Vraic (vrē·ik). [F. dial. (Channel Islands) *vraic*, also *vrec, vrac*: see Wrack *sb.* and cf. Varec.] A seaweed found in the Channel Islands, used for fuel and manure.

1620 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. x. 30 Vraic or Orewood, (Alga Marina) is diuersly applyed for soyling. 1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Vraic*, a kind of Sea-weed, of which they make fuel in the isles of Jersey and Gernsey. 1694 Falle *Jersey* ii. 67 'Tis a Sea-weed; but a Weed more valuable to Us than the choicest Plant that grows in our Gardens. We call it Vraic;..and it grows on the Rocks about the Island. 1756 [W. R. Chetwood] *Voy. Vaughan* vii. II. 203 For Fuel..they make use of a Sea Weed, by the Inhabitants call'd Vraic [*printed* Vrah]. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 269 Their Manure is Sea-weed, call'd Vraic, of which we have taken notice above. *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *Song Seaweed* xxix, The Vraic! the Vraic! pile it on to the fire. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* IV. xx. 469 The load of fresh vraic is computed to give three bushels of ashes. 1881 B. Webber *In Luck's Way* I. i, Amid this wilderness of rock and vraic and wrinkled sand.

attrib. 1865 Mrs. L. L. Clarke *Common Seaweeds* Concl. 138, I have turned over the *vraic*-heaps as they were carted up from the lowest tide.

Hence **Vrai·cker**, one who gathers vraic. **Vrai·cking**, the gathering of vraic. Also *attrib.*

1835 H. D. Inglis *Channel Isl.* 64 At half tide, or low water multitudes of carts and horses, boats and vraickers, cover the beach. *Ibid.* 63 The vraicking parties consisting of eight, ten, or twelve persons. 1852 Lane Clarke *Guernsey & Jersey* iii. 57 For a walk or a ride to either of these bays on a vraicing day. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* I. vi. 123 It is only used..during the vraicking ——— *Ibid.* IV. xxii. 515 Vraicking in the Channel Islands is a custom that time has hallowed into an institution.

Vraik, obs. Sc. f. Wrack. **Vrail**, southern dial. f. Frail *sb.*[1] **Vraini**, southern ME. var. Frayne *v.*

‖ Vraisemblance (vrɛsɑ̃blɑ̃s). [F. (16th c.), *f. vrai* true + *semblance* appearance, semblance.]

1. An appearance of truth; verisimilitude.

1831 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., You remove from the mind the vraisemblance, the veracity, of the whole representation. 1841 Lady Blessington *Idler in France* viii. I. 170 There is a fearful *vraisemblance* in some of the scenes with all that one has read or pictured to oneself, as daily occurring during the terrible days of the Revolution. 1880 *Standard* 10 Dec., He would have given a greater air of fairness and vraisemblance to the story.

2. A representation, picture.

1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* III. ii, Miss Patty's taper fingers transferred to paper the vraisemblance of a pair of sturdy Bondagers.

Vraith, Vrak, obs. Sc. ff. Wrath, Wrack.

Vrakel, southern var. Frakel *a. Obs.*

Vram, southern ME. var. From.

Vrampol, southern var. Frampold *Obs.*

Vran, obs. Sc. var. Wren. **Vrang, us**, etc., obs. (or dial.) Sc. ff. Wrong(ous, etc.

† Vray, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *vray* (F. *vrai*), reduced form of *verai* Very *a.*] True.

1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 382/2 His derrest Cousyn Richard, vray and rightfull heire. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. ii. (1883) 89 And none may be vraye and trewe with oute other.

Vrayth, obs. Sc. form of Wrath.

Vrech, southern ME. var. Freck *a.*

Vrechit, -nese, obs. Sc. ff. Wretched, -ness.

Vrecliche, southern var. Freckly *adv. Obs.*

Vreend, southern dial. var. Friend.

Vreit, obs. Sc. form of Write *v.*

Vreo, Vret, Vridom, southern ME. varr. Free *a.*, Fret *v.*[1], Freedom.

‖ Vriester. *Obs.*—[1] [Du. and Flem. *vrijster*, f. *vrijen* to court, woo] A girl.

1652 Feltham *Low-Countries* (1659) 41 Not a Country Uriester but can handle an oar, steer a boat, raise a mast.

Vril. [Invented by Lytton.] A mysterious force imagined as having been discovered by the people described in one of Lytton's novels.

1871 Lytton *Coming Race* vii. 47 These people consider that in vril they have arrived at the unity in natural energic agencies, which has been conjectured by many philosophers. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 154/2 Just as..Tish saw the Ana voyaging in their vril-cars over the mountains and the valleys. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Dec. 4/1 If so,..we are within hailing distance of the discovery of vril.

Vrith, southern dial. variant of Frith *sb.*[2] 3.

Vrocht, obs. (or dial.) Sc. pa. t. Work *v.*

Vroefrien, southern var. Frover *v. Obs.*

‖ Vrouw, vrow (vrau). Also 7 **vroa.** [Du. and Flem. *vrouw* (cf. From *sb.*) = G. *frau* woman, wife, Frau.] A (Dutch) woman, matron, goodwife.

a. c 1620 [Fletcher & Massinger] *Trag. Barnavelt* IV. iv. In Bullen *Old Pl.* (1883) II. 285 Ten hundred thousand blessings To him and thee, my vroa. *a* 1700 *Songs Lond. Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 34 The Dutchman will go to the sign of the Vrow where each man may drink his flagon. 1701 Wolley *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 55 They seized each other's hair with their forefeet, and down they went to the Sod, their Vrows and Families crying out because they could not part them. 1824 J. Paterson in *Harp Renfrew.* Ser. II. (1873) 108 Till the riflemen..raised a din..Which nearly deprived the fair vrows of their breath. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 552 The drinking boors of Teniers or the Dutch vrows of Mieris.

β. 1791 Nairne *Poems* 129 And Roman dishes, made at Delf, To ornament an old vrouw's shelf. 1829 C. Ross *Four Yrs. S. Africa* 49 There is the farmer's tall powerful form, his vrouw—in general by no means a tempting lady. 1838 W. C. Harris *Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 14 His doating young vrouw received him with overflowing eyes and open arms. 1887 Rider Haggard *Jess* ii, The Boer and his vrouw treated the children fairly well.

Vry, southern ME. var. Free *a.*

† Vryoloth. *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning obscure.)

1532–3 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 157 Et Lionello Elmedayne 2½ uln., 5 die Mail, pro le vryclothe.

Vryday, southern ME. var. Friday.

Vryt(e, Vryter, obs. Sc. ff. Write *v.*, Writer.

V-shaped *a.*: see V 2 c.

† Vue, perh. an error for *beue* Bevy.

1472 in *Archæol.* (1836) XXVI. 278 There was a syde table at the whiche satte a greate Vue of ladyes.

Vuel(e, Vuemest, Vuen, Vuere, ME. varr. Evil, Ovemest *a.*, Oven, Over *a.*

Vug (vŏg). *Cornish mining.* Also **vugg, vugh, voog.** [ad. Cornish *vooga* (Williams); cf. Vogal.] A cavity in a rock; a cave, a hollow.

1818 W. Phillips *Geol.* 207 The sound which the miner hears, may reasonably be accounted for by presuming him to be at work in the immediate neighbourhood of a cavity, or as he terms it, a voog. 1838 Mrs. Bray *Tradit. Devon.* III. 256 It is not uncommon in deep mines, where there are what the miners term vugs..to hear loud and frequent explosions. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 92 Above this mixed mass, and in the level above, a great cavity (called by miners a *vugh*) was found. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 445/2 Dynamite..is very effective even in ground full of 'vughs' or cavities.

Hence **Vu·ggy** (also **vughy**) *a.*, full of cavities.

1864 W. W. Smyth *Catal. Min. Coll. Museum Pract. Geol.* 12 The lode is full of cavities, or 'vuggy' (as the Cornish miners term it). 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-M.* 273 *Vughy rock*, a stratum of cellular structure, or one containing many cavities.

Vuhal, southern ME. variant of Fowl *sb.*

Vuir, obs. Sc. variant of Over *a.*

Vul, southern ME. var. pa. t. Fall *v.*, var. Full *adv.*

Vulcan (vʊ·lkăn), *sb.* [ad. L. *Vulcān-us*, the god of fire, son of Jupiter and Juno. Cf. F. *Vulcain*, † *Vulcan.*]

I. 1. *Rom. Mythol.* The god of fire and of metal-working, corresponding to the Greek Hephæstus.

The lameness of Vulcan, and the infidelity of Venus towards him, are occas. the subject of literary allusions.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* VIII. vii. 122 Quhilk forgeis bene Vulcanus duelling call, And eftir Vulcane that cuntre nemyt all. 1579 Lodge *Def. Poetry* 20 Al lame men are not Vulcans, nor hooke nosed men Ciceroes. 1634 Milton *Comus* 655 Though he and his curst crew Fierce signe of battail make, and menace high, Or like the sons of Vulcan vomit smoak, Yet will they soon retire, if he but shrink. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 314 Stung to the soul, indignant through the skies To his black forge vindictive Vulcan flies. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supl.* pl., *Vulcanalia*, among the Romans, a festival in honour of Vulcan. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. III. v, His wig and gown are his Vulcan's panoply, his enchanted cloak of darkness. 1841 Borrow *Lavengro* LXXXIII, I never associate Vulcan and his Cyclops with the idea of a forge.

b. An image or picture of the god.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 160 There were in old times neere all Chimneys almost some earthen Vulcans set up, seeing that God was the president of these Arts wrought by fire. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Nov. 1644, In one of the chambers hang two famous pieces of Bassano, the one a *Vulcan*, the other a *Nativity*!

c. *fig.* A lame slow-moving person.

1688 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 20 (1716) 109 Many, who are sinistrous unto Good Actions, are Ambi-dexterous unto bad, and Vulcans in virtuous Paths, Achilleses in vitious motions.

2. a. *transf.* A blacksmith; an iron-worker.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 55 Cingis-chan..was at first by profession a Vulcan or Black-smith. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal x.* (1697) 255 His Sire, the blear-ey'd Vulcan of a Shop. 1704 R. North *Exam.* 20 Aug., in *Lives* (1890) III. App 252 This bearer is the Vulcan of our village, and one of the eaters of us farmers. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. vi, Those jingling sheet-iron Aprons, wherein your otherwise half-naked Vulcans hammer and smelt. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 15 Here the modern Vulcans, in shirt-sleeves and with unbroken legs, are still casting thunderbolts.

† b. A miner. *Obs.*—[1]

1668 J. Bargrave *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 122 When we came into the vast high vaults, where hundreds and hundreds of men or Vulcans were at work, one of the overseers..would have let us see their art by blowing up a part of the mine by gunpowder.

3. A hypothetical planet supposed to have its orbit between the Sun and Mercury.

1870 Proctor *Other Worlds* iii. 58, I would willingly pay some attention here to the story of Vulcan, were it not for the great doubt in which the existence of the planet seems enshrouded. 1879 Newcomb & Holden *Astron.* 310 They comprise Venus, Mercury, and, in the opinion of some astronomers, a planet called Vulcan.

II. † 4. A volcano. *Obs.* (Cf. Vulcan.)

In Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 319 and Maundeville (1839) 55 *Vulcane* and *Wulcanes* occur as a name for the Lipari Islands: cf. Vulcanian *a.* 3.

1578 T. N. tr. *Cong. W. India* 160 Then appeared the vulcan and concavitie which was about halfe a league in compasse. *Ibid.* 161 This vulcan is like unto the vulcan of Cecilia. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. li. 119 Of those which are in the Vulcans or mouths of fire at the Indies..I will speake in their order. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* xiii. 69 But they were not gone farre, when the Vulcan began to flash out flames of fire. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* xi. (1692) 41 The number of these may be much increased by those Vulcans, that have open Vents to discharge their Fumes. 1707 Funnell *Voy.* v. 111 These Vulcans send out Smoke sometimes.

† b. Const. *of* (the matter ejected). *Obs.*

1647 A. Ross *Mystag. Poet.* iii. (1675) 72 A Hill, on the top whereof were Lions and Vulcans of fire. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 179 The Town standeth on the backside of the Vulcan of water. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., New Spain* (1685) 553 The other Vulcan of Fire is more unpleasant.

5. Fire; a fire. Chiefly *poet.*

1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Eng.* 138 They make their *Vulcan* or fire near to a great Tree, upon the snags whereof they hang their kettles. 1708 Philips *Cyder* II. 142 Altho' Devonia much commends the Use Of strengthning Vulcan. 1728 Pope *Dunciad* III. 81 There rival flames with equal glory rise, From shelves to shelves see greedy Vulcan roll.

Hence † **Vulcan** *v. trans.*, to make into a Vulcan; to cuckold. *Obs.*

1623 Massinger *Bondman* I. ii, *Corisca.* To me You are a young Adonis. *Grasculo.* Well said, Venus! I am sure she Vulcans him.

† **Vu·lcanal.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *Vulcān-us* Vulcan *sb.* + -al.] An animal living in fire.

1637 Pinnell. *Philos. Reform.* 27 To the Fire or the Firmament doe belong the Vulcanals, Pennats, Salamanders.

Vulcana·lial, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *Vulcānālia*, neut. pl. of *Vulcānāl-is*, f. *Vulcānus* Vulcan *sb.*] *V. festival*, a Roman festival held in honour of Vulcan on Aug. 23. Also **Vulcana·lian** *a.*

1635 Lundie *Poems* (Abbotsford Club) 18 Seres glade prelats in feisting spent some day's, And pass'd some nichts

in Vulcanalian play's. 1654 Ogilby *Virgil, Bucolicks* iii. 17 *note*, The day before and after the Vulcanalial [1664 Vulcanalian] Festivals.

Vulcanian (vʌlkē·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 -eān. [f. L. *Vulcāni-us*, f. *Vulcān-us* Vulcan *sb.* Cf. F. *vulcanien*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, associated with, Vulcan.

1620 F. Hering tr. *Oberndorffer's Anat.* 5 They relect incomparable Galens learned Commentarie.., hauing found

Arc. iii. 908 With sounding axes to the Grove they go, Fell, split, and lay the fewel on a row, Vulcanian food. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xx. 154 Meantime the menial train with unctuous wood Heap'd high the genial hearth, Vulcanian food. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xxiii. 41 Many a sagginated boar bright-tusk'd, Amid fierce flames Vulcanian stretch'd to roast. 1854 H. E. J. Howard *Rape Proserpine* 15 The ponderous gates, the threshold, and the wall, Cast in Vulcanian mould, were iron all. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 45 An armour forged in diviner fire by Vulcanian force.

b. Fashioned or forged by Vulcan. Also *fig.*

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 42/1 God's feare, that strong Vulcanian Armor, must Guard such good Soules as doe regard it heere. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xii. 93 The..slinging Casts of the Vulcanian Thunderbolts. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* x. 1139 The Trojan Chief..On his Vulcanian Orb sustain'd the War. 1718 J. Trapp tr. *Virgil* (1735) I. Pref. to Æneis p. xlvii, Ornamental Sculptures upon Homer's Vulcanian Shield. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* iii. 287 Thunders, that shook the skies with dire alarms, And, form'd by skill divine, Vulcanian arms. 1792 D. Lloyd *Voy. Life* v. 99 Nor brazen walls, Nor bright Vulcanian shields, can stand before Th' intrepid aim of Resolution. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 166 The Vulcanian panoply which Achilles lent to his feebler friend. 1871 Lonsdale & Lee *Virgil* Gen. Introd. (1903) 8 Criticism is as powerless against the poet as the sword of the mortal hero against the immortal temper of the Vulcanian shield.

2. Sprung from, related to, Vulcan.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gl. Eater Kent* 4 The Vulcanean brood of blacksmiths, fire-men, colliers, gunners, gun-founders, and all sorts of mettle men. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* x. 758 Vulcanian Cæculus renews the fight, And Umbro born upon the mountain's height. 1749 G. West tr. *Pindar, 1st Pythian Ode* vi, But he, Vulcanian Monster, to the clouds The fiercest, hottest inundations throws.

† b. *sb.* One who resembles Vulcan. *Obs.*—1

1598 Marston *Pigmal., Sat.* ii, Yet Muto, like a good Vulcanian, An honest Cuckold, calls the bastard sonne, And brags of that which others for him done.

† 3. *Vulcanian Islands*, the Liparl Islands between Sicily and Italy. *Obs.*

1652 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. 72 On the West part of Sicil lie the Æolian or Vulcanian Ilands. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* II. 57 There are no volcano's in my opinion, that deserve our observation so much, as those that are in and about the Mediterranean Sea; there is a knot of them called the Vulcanian Islands, from their fiery eruptions. 1703 C. Pursball *Mech. Macrocosm* 83 The Vulcanian Islands in the Mediterranean Sea, are said to be of this sort.

4. Of, belonging to, or abounding with, volcanoes; volcanic. (Cf. Volcanian *a.*)

1656 [? J. Sergeant] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 126 Aetna, Lipara and Hecla.. and especially the Vulcanian Mountains of the new world. 1880 Proctor *Poetry Astron.* i. (1881) 18 If no vulcanian forces were at work to prevent submergence. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 575 Only by the action of her vulcanian energies can the earth maintain her position as an abode of life.

5. = Plutonian *a.* 2. (Cf. Vulcanist 3.)

1840 Smart. 1852 Ogilvie s.v. *Vulcanist*, The Vulcanian theory has been expanded and illustrated by Lyell. 1870 Brewer *Dict. Phr. & Fable* 939/2 The Vulcanian or Plutonian theory, which ascribes the changes on the earth's surface to the agency of fire.

Vulcanic (vʌlkæ·nik), *a.* [In sense 1 ad. F. *vulcanique*, It. (also Pg.) *vulcanico*, f. It. *vulcano* Volcano. In sense 2 f. L. *Vulcān-us* Vulcan *sb.*]

1. = Volcanic *a.* 2 b.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 94 The vulcanic districts of Auvergne and Velay..afford proofs enough of the truth of this opinion. *Ibid.* 97, I have already observed, that there are many vulcanic mountains of a totally different form from the common volcanos. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 80 Of such vulcanic breaches there are many in these limestone downs. *Ibid.* 81 The Belka chalk is changed by the vulcanic heat.

2. Of or belonging to, having the character of, Vulcan. (With initial capital.)

1807 *Europ. Mag.* LII. 469/2 What tho' with Vulcanic knocking Thou still may bring forth many a thought. 1866 R. S. Hawker in C. E. Byles *Life & Lett.* xxiii. (1905) 547 The great majority of Vassals of his own which exists in this Vulcanic [*i. e.* manufacturing] nation.

b. Of or pertaining to fire; fiery.

1866 Lowell *Carlyle* Prose Wks. 1890 II. 83 Even the burning of a meeting-house, in itself a vulcanic rarity, could not..tickle his outworn palate. 1867 J. B. Rose tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 224 Vulcan begot him—in vulcanic lair He breathed forth flame.

Vulcanicity (vʌlkăni·siti). [f. prec. + -ity, or ad. F. *vulcanicité*.]

1. = Volcanicity.

1873 R. Mallet *Palmieri's Eruption Vesuvius* Title-p., An Introductory Sketch of the Present State of Knowledge of Terrestrial Vulcanicity. 1882 E. Hull *Contrib. Phys. Brit. Isles* 21 Vulcanicity has also played its part in the formation of rock-structures. 1885 *Academy* 3 Oct. 225 He regards the thermal waters as representing a legacy of former vulcanicity.

2. The study of volcanic action.

1879 Rutley *Stud. Rocks* iii. 9 The branches of physical geology known as vulcanicity and seismology.

† **Vulcanio**, irreg. var. *vulcano* Volcano *sb.*

1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 762 This Fire keeping no analogy with other Vulcanio's in any of the particulars mentioned in these three quaries, I thought fit to answer them altogether.

Vulcanism (vʌ·lkănĭz'm). [ad. F. *vulcanisme*, var. of *volcanisme* Volcanism.] Volcanic action or condition.

1877 Le Conte *Elem. Geol.* III. (1879) 93 The sun may be regarded as a globe in an earlier and more active stage of vulcanism. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 280 The..strata which have been deposited..under the combined influences of internal vulcanism and external atmospherical influences.

Vulcanist (vʌ·lkănist). [In early use f. Vulcan *sb.* + -ist. In sense 3 ad. F. *vulcaniste*, var. of *volcaniste* Volcanist.]

† 1. One who works by fire; *spec.* an alchemist, a blacksmith. *Obs.*

1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 177 The Country affordeth sufficient proulsion of water, to encounter the terriblest Vulcanist, that brandisheth a burning sword, or a fierie tongue. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* II. 23, I perawade my selfe, that no philosophicall vulcanist, or perfect paracelsian, will ever finde any true magisterie, tincture, quintessence or Arcanum therein. 1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yeare* C 2 b, What Mechanicall hardhanded Vulcanist but perswaded himselfe to bee Maister of the Company.

2. One who is lame, as Vulcan was.

1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 60 Your Lame Charity doth not reprove, but pity those poor Vulcanists, who ballance the inequality of their heels, or badger leggs, by the art and help of the shoemaker.

3. = Volcanist 1.

1802 Playfair *Illustr. Huttonian The.* 3 Their followers have of late been distinguished by the fanciful names of Vulcanists and Neptunists. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 90 In addition to volcanic heat, to which the Vulcanists formerly attributed too much influence, we must allow for the effect of mechan cal pressure [etc.]. 1884 Sir L. Playfair in *Gd. Words* Feb. 93/1 Vulcanists of the old school would be equally perplexed, because petroleum is so volatile that..it would be dissipated.

Vulcanite (vʌ·lkănəit). [f. Vulcan *sb.* + -ite 1. Hence F. *vulcanite* (in sense 2).]

† 1. Pyroxene. *Obs.* (Cf. Volcanite 1.)

1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 190 Pyroxene. Augite, baikalite, .. vulcanite, asbestus in part. *c* 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 527/2 Vulcanite. Augite.

2. A preparation of india rubber and sulphur hardened by exposure to intense heat; ebonite.

1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) I. 602 Indian-rubber and vulcanite, or hard rubber. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 482 When a sheet of caoutchouc is..still further heated, [it] is converted into the black horny substance called vulcanite or ebonite, and used for the manufacture of combs, &c. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xii. 135 They..have about four feet of their length made of teak or vulcanite in order to break the continuity of the metal pipe.

b. *attrib.* Made of vulcanite.

1866 *Microscop. Jrnl.* VI. 168 You will oblige me by correcting an error in your report of my remarks on vulcanite cells. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 3 Dec. 273/1 The same effect may be produced by rubbing a vulcanite comb on the sleeve of a coat. 1879 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* II. 34 The vulcanite canula is good for constant use.

Vulcanizable, *a.* [f. Vulcanize *v.*] That can be vulcanized.

1887 *Sci. Amer.* (N. Y.) 96 Mar. 193/2 Asbestos and India rubber .. also other vulcanizable materials enter into its composition.

Vulcanization (vʌlkănəizē·ʃən). [f. next. Hence F. *vulcanisation* (also *volc-*).] The method or process of treating crude india-rubber with sulphur and subjecting it to intense heat, by means of which it is rendered more durable and made adaptable for various purposes.

The history of the process is related in detail in *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 5) 1860) I. 589–92.

1846 Hancock *Patent Specif.* No. 11135. 2 Without the process of vulcanization. 1857—*Pers. Narr. India Rubber Manuf.* 107 It appeared desirable to give the material a more definite name..; and whilst discussing the subject amongst my friends, Mr. Brockedon proposed the term 'Vulcanization'. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 370/2 The mineral ingredients..are necessarily subject to the action of the sulphur employed to effect the vulcanization. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 949 Carbon bisulphide is used to soften india-rubber so as to allow of its penetration by sulphur in the carrying out of what is known as vulcanization.

Vulcanize (vʌ·lkănəiz), *v.* [f. Vulcan *sb.* Hence F. *vulcaniser* (in sense 2).]

1. *trans.* To commit to the flames.

1827 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 41 That great exploit, which ..drew upon him so libellous an imputation in certain verses which have long since been vulcanised.

2. To subject (india-rubber, etc.) to the process of vulcanization.

1846 Hancock *Patent Specif.* No. 11135. 2 When cold I remove them from the moulds and afterwards vulcanise them to make their form permanent. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) I. 591 It appears not to be an easy matter to vulcanise large masses of caoutchouc. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 360/1 The time and heat required to vulcanise or harden the compound.

3. *intr.* To undergo vulcanization.

1890 *Sci. Amer.* 2 March LXII. 140/1 Rubber vulcanises at 276° Fah.

Vulcanized, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed 1.] Affected or altered by the process of vulcanization.

1845 *Mech. Mag.* Feb. 112 The exhibition by Mr. Brockedon of some specimens of Mr. Thomas Hancock's patent 'vulcanized' india-rubber. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* I. § 2. 16 Gentle suction is then to be effected by means of a tube of vulcanised caoutchouc. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 2/1 Vulcanized rubber is also extremely useful for cleaning off drawings.

transf. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 931/2 *Vulcanized Fiber*, paper, paper pulp, or other vegetable fibrous substance that has been so prepared..as to give it in a measure metallic toughness and strength.

Vulcaniser. [f. as prec. + -er 1.] One who or that which vulcanizes; esp., the apparatus used in vulcanizing india-rubber.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3520, Improved gas vulcaniser for dentists. 1862 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* X. 328/2 An iron frame is then secured round the whole, and it is placed in a small vulcaniser, heated by gas. 1883 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 2/2 The roll being bound round with a wet cloth bandage, is ready for the 'vulcaniser'.

Vulcanizing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] The action of the verb. Also *attrib.*

1846 Hancock *Patent Specif.* No. 11135. 2 In all the compounds .. I employ sulphur and heat .., which process is now commonly designated vulcanising. 1855 Goodyear *Gum-elastic* (New Haven) 177 Soon after the discovery of the heating or vulcanizing process. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 931/2 The heating or vulcanising is conducted in strong cast-iron cylinders.

Vulcanizing, *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That vulcanizes or is used in the process of vulcanizing.

1862 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* X. 326 The dough is..put into moulds of the desired form, and exposed in a vulcanising oven to a heat of from 240 to 260 degrees Fahr. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 287/2 The hose is finished by immersing it in a vulcanising solution.

Vulcano, obs. variant of Volcano.

Vulcanolo·gical, *a.* [See Vulcanology and -ical.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with vulcanology.

1888 *Nature* 30 Aug. 410/1 Seismology .. is usually treated .as a branch of vulcanological science. 1899 *Ibid.* 11 May 27/2 A..very readable account of the present state of vulcanological science.

Vulcanologist. (Also Volc-.) [See Vulcanology and -ologist.] One who studies or is expert in volcanic phenomena.

1858 Mallet in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 133 The subject appears to me worthy of more examination at the hands of Vulcanologists and Seismologists. 1881 Judd *Volcanoes* ii. 37 Vulcanologists have only just commenced those series of exact and continuous observations.

Vulcanology. (Also Volc-). [f. *vulcan-* (cf. Vulcanic, etc.) + -ology.] The science or scientific study of volcanoes.

1858 Mallet in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 117 Books on Earthquakes and Vulcanology in the Gottingen University Library. 1880 *Academy* 17 Jan. 49 The part relating to vulcanology would be considerably improved by a detailed account of some one seismological observatory.

Vulgar (vʌ·lgăl), *sb.* Also 5–6 **vulgare.** [Absolute use of Vulgar *a.*, after similar uses of med.L. *vulgaris*, OF. *vulgaire* (also *vulgar*), It. *volgare*.]

† 1. The common or usual language of a country; the vernacular. *Obs.*

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* IX. xxxvi. (MS. Bodl. 263) 441/1 Whos kyngdom hool, as maad is mencioun, In that vulgar ..Of Malliogres pleynli bar þe name. *c* 1450 *Chaucer's Compl. Pite* (Harl. MS.) *heading*, Geffrey Chaucier þe aureat Poete þat euer was fonde in oure vulgare to fore [t]hese dayes. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* II. xvii, 3it saw I thair.. Geffray Chaucier, as *a per se* sans pair In his vulgare. 1586 Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 2 An Epistle therefore is that which vsually we in our vulgar doe tearme a Letter. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. iv. (Arb.) 86 Before Sir Thomas Wiats time they were not vsed in our vulgar. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* p 8 For the behoofe and edifying of the vnlearned .. they prouided Translations into the vulgar. 1665 G. Havers *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 144 The Canara-Language, which is the vulgar in Ikkeri and all that State.

2. † a. *pl.* Persons belonging to the ordinary or common class in the community, esp. the uneducated or ignorant. *Obs.*

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* Prol. 84 Some small treatyse to wryte breuely To the comyn vulgares they myght be satisfy. 1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* G j, He preferred also the Ideote and simple vulgars, before other learned and reputed persons. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Eunuch* II. ii, I can nothing at all away with these vulgars, wherein there is no excellencie of beautie. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* VI. 425 For these vile vulgars are extreamly proud, And fouly languag'd. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 1129 He therefore sent out all his Senses, To bring him in Intelligences, Which Vulgars out of ignorance Mistake, for falling in a Trance.

b. A person not reckoned as belonging to good society.

pl. 1763 G. Williams in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 264, I have named you those whom you know; the rest are numerous, but vulgars. 1766—*Ibid.* II. 32 Lord Lincoln exhibited his person yesterday on the Stein, to the surprise of all the vulgars. 1796 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Pindariana, Ode to Sun* viii, The great retire from routs..And cry,.. 'Vulgars! that never wax-lights handle!' 1825 *Zeluco* I. 339, I think I told you there was quite nothing but vulgars at the two last balls. 1828 Landon *Imag. Conv.* III. 147 She associated and assimilated with the very worst in the polar circle of both vulgars.

sing. 1767 Lady S. Bunbury in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 191 A Mr. Drereton (a sad vulgar). 1782 Bucovne *Ld. of Manor* II. 1, It would be as low to accept the challenge of a vulgar as to refuse it to an equal. 1824 C.

Whitehall Evg. Spy II. 97 The housing a gods...All these were am artifex.

3. *The vulgar*, the common people. Also with a, 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 4 To the vulgar beckning with his hand, In signe of silence, as to heare a play. 1592 — *Teares Muses* 194 All places they with follie haue possest, And with vaine toyes the vulgare entertaine But me haue banished. 1614 Gondes *Lucan* II. 66 The vulgar most to Pompey bends. *Ibid. marg.* The vulgar do more affect Pompey then Cæsar. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Van. Dogm.* 57 Which saying holds not only in Morals, but in all things else which the Vulgar use to judge in. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* ii. 46 This is directly levell'd against the gross Idolatry of the Vulgar. 1778 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 77/1 Her enlightened Horn is turn'd towards the Horizon, or, as the Vulgar speak, The Moon lies on her Back. 1783 Hailes *Antiq. Chr. Ch.* vi. 182 *note*, The heathen vulgar might have inferred the likelihood of an approaching apotheosis. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* ii. (1876) I. 86 The mysteriousness of an unknown dialect served to impose on the vulgar. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* Introd., We talk of a credulous vulgar, without always recollecting [etc.]. 1835 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IX. vii. IV. 126 Nor was this the suspicion of the vulgar alone; it seems to have been shared by the clergy 1839 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 804 The growths .. render the patient a remarkable and hideous object, exhibited for gain to the gaze of the vulgar.

transf. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I. 266 The Leaders [of the herd] first He laid along, and then the Vulgar pierc'd.

† b. A common sort or class (*of* persons). *Obs.*—[1]

1643 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 260 There is a vulgar also of teachers, who are blindly by whom they fancy led, as they lead the people.

† 4. *pl.* Sentences or passages in English to be translated into Latin as a school-exercise. *Obs.*

1520 Whittinton *Vulg.* (1527) 25 b, Hast thou wryten all the vulgares that our mayster hath given vnto vs this moneyage. 1545-7 in *Arch. hæologia* (1832) XXXIV. 41 The thrid forme..hath throwgh the weke overwyght a verbe set up to be examyned in the mornyng, and makith vulgares upon yt. 1580 T. M. in *Baret's Alv.* To Rdr. xiv, A booke for such, that can peruse it right, Of profite great, when they their Vulgars write. 1622 Bingley *Lond. Lit.* 148, I haue given them vulgars, or Englishes, such as I haue deuised, to be made in Latine.

† b. A vernacular or con ession. *Obs.*

1530 *Gower's Conf.* Ep. Ded. as ij b, For the plenty of englyshe wordes and vulgars,..whiche olde englyshe wordes and vulgars no wyse man, because of theyr antiquite, wyll throwe awyde.

† 5. = Vulgate *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.* (Cf. Vulgar *a.* 2 b.)

1613 Day *Festivals* v. (1615) 110 So the Vulgar doth read it to, Nisi baptisentur, etc. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* ix. 28 God calls the Church, the beloved of his soul, or (as the Septuagint and Vulgar reade it) his beloved soul. 1699 T. Baker *Refl. Learn.* xvi. 201, I should be as glad, and would go as far to meet with the Ancient Vulgar of the New Testament, as any Man should do; but [etc.]. *Ibid.* 202 St. Jerome's manner of reforming the Ancient Vulgar was, by comparing and reducing it to the Greek Original. 1711 G. Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 62 Which expression is also wanting both in the original and in our translation, and in the vulgar.

† 6. Common or mean character. *Obs.*—[2]

1685 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* I. 27 The Gentleman told his bed-fellow, that his gallant Garb and Countenance, wherein he perceived nothing of Vulgar, was the charm that had won his affection.

Vulgar (*vu*lgăl), *a.* Also 4-6 vulgare, 6 *Sc.* vlgare, wlgair -ar; vulguar, wulguar, voulger, 7 vulger. [ad. L. *vulgār-is*, f. *vulg-us* the common people. Cf. OF. and F. *vulgaire*, Sp. and Pg. *vulgar*, It. *volgare*.]

I. 1. Employed in common or ordinary reckoning of time, distance, etc.; esp., in later use, *vulgar æra*, the ordinary Christian era.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 9 The day vulgare, that is to seyen, from spring of the day vn-to verrey nyht. *Ibid.*, The same maniere maistow worke to knowe the quantite of the vulgar nyht. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 142 The way from Rome to Sienna is thus vulgarly noted..In all..ninetie sixe miles. I will follow my Italian consorts..who doe not much differ from this vulgar number of miles. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* I. (1687) 8/2 They .. confound .. the true Epocha of the Olympiads with the vulgar. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iii. § 1 The vulgar account of years from the beginning of the world. 1716 Prideaux *Connect. O. & N. T.* I. I. 2 The vulgar æra, by which we now compute the years from his incarnation. *a* 1727 Newton *Chronol. Amended* I. (1728) 80 Seven hundred forty and seven years before the Vulgar Æra of Christ. 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* III. xiv. 117 The vulgar Christian Æra answers the same purpose as effectually. 1839 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* (1847) App. I. 169 The fifty-seventh year of the vulgar computation. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 345 Owing to constant migrations..throughout the fourth and fifth centuries of the vulgar era.

b. *Vulgar fraction*: see Fraction *sb.* 5 a.

1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 279 Simple Cossical Fractions .. are expressed like Vulgar Fractions. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vulgar Fractions*, the ordinary Sort of Fractions, distinguished from Decimal Fractions. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Fraction*, Vulgar Fractions, called also Simple Fractions, are always expres'd by two Numbers, the one wrote over the other, with a Line between them. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1806) I. 51 Of Vulgar Fractions. 1826 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 441/2 Rules are also given for the reduction of vulgar to decimal fractions by a simple proportion. 1873 J. Hamblin Smith *Arith.* (ed. 6) 83 A Vulgar Fraction may be converted into a Decimal Fraction.

† c. *Vulgar arithmetic*, ordinary arithmetic as opposed to decimal. *Obs. rare.*

1683 N. Bion[n]e (*title*), Vulgar Arithmetique, explaying the Secrets of that Art. 1694 J. Salden (*title*), The Tradesman's Help. An Introduction to Arithmetick both Vulgar, Decimal, and Instrumental. *c* 1708 Dr Fox *Compl. Eng. Gent.* (1890) 220 How many noble artists have we in the greatest and best branches of the Mathematicks (viz.), in Astronomy, in Geometry, in Arithmetick as well vulgar as decimal.

2. In common or general use; common, customary, or ordinary, as a matter of use or practice.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 87 Isys in Egipt fonde a diversite Of sundry lettres parted in tweyne; First to pristes, and to the comunalte Vulgar lettres he dide also ordeyne. 1532 Huloet, Vulgar, or much vsed, *usitatus*. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* I. xxvii. (1597) 33 b, As minutes, seconds, thirds, fourthes,..marked with strokes and vulgare numbers. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 11 Wee neither omit it..nor altogether make it so vulgar as the custome heretofore hath bene. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. i. 40, I could produce many examples euen to this day; were not the vse heereof so vulgar. 1699 H. Thorndike *Wks.* (1846) II. 458 The solemn times..cannot..have been settled till Christianity was grown very vulgar. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 175 Another thing very ordinary in the vulgar Method of Grammar-Schools there is, of which I see no Use at all. 1709 T. Innes *Anc. Inhab. N. Brit.* I. 28 So the vulgar version of Ziphilin's abridgment of Dio hath it. 1795 Burke *Th. Scarcity* Wks. 1842 II. 252 Compelling us to diminish the quantity of labour which in the vulgar course we actually employ. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* IV. ii, We talk ..as often about our enemies, at least those who have any; which, in my opinion, is the vulgarest of all possessions.

† b. Used to designate the Vulgate version of the Bible. *Obs.* (Cf. Vulgar *sb.* 5.)

1535 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 46 Tindale]..ministreth a shrewd occasion..by vntrwly translating this sentence *et vndecimpne semissium dat dens suum or proprium corpus* (as hathe the vulgare texte). 1538 Coverdale *New T.* (title-p.), After the vulgare text communely called S. Jerome. 1589 Fulke *Def. Tr. Script.* xvii. 447 That S. Hieronyme was author of the vulgar Latine interpretation, of the olde Testament. 1630 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 31 So they are expressed in the vulgar Edition, out of the Hebrew Original, which is lost. 1674 Owen *Holy Spirit* I. iv. § 6. 71 The Vulgar Latine in this Place renders the Word by *Ornatus eorum*. 1677 — *Justif.* iv. 185 All which things prefer the Complutensian, Syriack, and Arabick, before the vulgar reading of this place. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 51 Contrary to the express words of the Vulgar Translation. 1883 A. Small *Rom. Antiq. Fife* v. 102 The vulgar Latin [reads] thus.

3. Of language or speech: Commonly or customarily used by the people of a country; ordinary, vernacular.

In common use *c* 1525-1650; now *arch.*

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* I. xvii. 16 Whiche felde or Countre where ye sayd Morgan faughte..is to this daye called Glanmorgan, whiche is to meane in our vulgare tunge, Morgan bys lande. 1530 Palsgr. 17 Suche as writte farcis & contrefait the vulgare speche. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xix. 133 b, They celebrate their office.. in the Armenian tongue,..[and] the standers by..answere them in the same vulgare language. *c* 1620 E. Bolton *Hypercritica* in. § 2 Mr. Hooker's Preface to his Books of Ecclesiastical Policy is a singular and choice Parcel of our vulgar Language. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 84 To treat..of this noble Art..in a plain manner, and our vulgar tongue. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 141 P 2 To be instructed in their Duties in the known or vulgar Tongue. 1707 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. vii. (1710) 204 There were..more good, and more bad Books printed and published in the English Tongue, than in all the vulgar Languages in Europe. 1833 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. IV. 185 They read the Gospels, they preached, and they prayed, in the vulgar tongue. 1873 Hale *In His Name* ii. 8 Bits of Paul or Matthew or Luke which had been translated into the vulgar language.

b. Used to qualify the name of the language.

1483 Caxton *Knt. de la Tour* Prol., To translate & reduce this said book out of frensh into our vulgar Englissh. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VI. xii. 530 They are much addicted to Poetrie, and make long Poems of their warres, huntings, and loues,..in rithme, like the vulgar Italian Sonnets. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 102 Though several of them understand Italian, yet their usual Language is the vulgar Greek, which is for the most part but the literal Greek corrupted. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 404 Which we are sure..continued to be pure and Vulgar Syriac for 2000 Years. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Pope* 1 Apr., The vulgar Turk is very different from what is spoken at court. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Surveying* 7 E 2/2 This in vulgar English may be called a corner. 1828 Hallam *Mid. Ages* IX. (1868) 501 We cannot..ascertain in what degree the vulgar Latin differed from that of Cicero or Seneca. *a* 1873 Deutsch *Lit. Rem.* (1874) 358 The Samaritan Dialect, a mixture of vulgar Hebrew and Aramæan.

† c. In predicative use; also const. *to*. *Obs.*

1565 Jewel *Reply Harding* (1611) 383 Hebrew, Greek, and Latine,..as they were once natiue, and vulgar to those three peoples, so now to none be they natiue, and vulgar. 1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 2 The Greek tongue.. although it belonged originally to Hellas alone, yet in time it became vulgar to these also. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* I. i. § 4. 5 After the Captivity the pure Hebrew ceased to be Vulgar, remaining onely amongst learned men. 1699 T. Baker *Refl. Learn.* ii. 23 The Greek Tongue had the same Fortune with the Latine, tho it continu'd vulgar longer. 1712 Swift *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. i. 183 Neither was that [*sc.* the Latin] language ever so vulgar in Britain, as it is known to have been in Gaul and Spain.

4. † a. Written or spoken in, translated into, the usual language of a country. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneid* I. Prol. 498 Thair may be na compair Betwixt his versis and my style wilgair. *Ibid.*, *Ane Exclamatioun* 37 Go, wilgar Virgill, to euery churlich wycht Say, I avow thou art translatit rycht. 1596 Record *Cast. Knowl.* Contents, With sundry..newe demonstrations not Written before in any vulgare woorke. 1599 G. Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 115 They have called all [*sc.* Poets] straightly in question. 1627 Moryson *Itin.* III. 30, I had some skill in that Language, especially for vulgar speeches. 1660 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 39 Never learning anything but reading and writing, and certain vulgar prayers.

b. Of words or names: Employed in ordinary speech; common, familiar.

1676 Hobbes *Iliad* Pref. (1686) 2 Forein words, till by long use they become vulgar, are as in Religion to them. 1776 Sir D. Dalrymple *Ann. Scot.* I. 3 *note*, I suspect that Lulach was rather his vulgar surname, than his name. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* Introd. (1794) 2 These plants had a different vulgar name in every province. 1800 Bewick (*title*), Figures of British Land Birds, to which are added, a few Foreign Birds, with their Vulgar and Scientific Names.

5. Common or customary in respect of the use or understanding of language, words, or ideas.

1583 Wilson *Rhet.* 94, I might tary a longe tyme in declaryng the nature of diuerse Schemes, whiche are woordes or sentencies altered..contrarie to the vulgare customs of our speache without chaungyng their nature at all. 1612 T. Bodley in Macray *Ann. Bodleian* (1880) 410, I make request y^t all my words be construed directly and in vulgar sense. 1634 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 48 My expressions too (at least in my intention, opinion, and vulgar acceptacion), are innocent and sincere. 1696 Whiston *The. Earth* II. (1722) 161 By a Month, in the vulgar way of speaking, is meant 30 Days. 1727 Dr Fox *Syst. Magic* I. I. (1840) 25 The people called magicians, in the present vulgar acceptation of the word. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* I. iii. (1762) 14 The word Necessity, in its vulgar and common Use, is relative. 1798 Bay *Amer. Laws Rep.* (1809) I. 85 The vulgar meaning of the words dying without issue. 1862 Burton *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 5 The vulgar everyday-world way of putting the idea. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* I. § 39. 57 The doctrine of the resurrection in its vulgar acceptation could not possibly be true.

6. Commonly current or prevalent, generally or widely disseminated, as a matter of knowledge, assertion, or opinion: a. Of sayings, statements, facts, etc.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* Epist. 7 Fra this exempil cummis ane vigare adagia. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lxxviii. 99 Neither was there any thing more vulgare in euery mans mouth. 1607 T. Rogers *Sp Art.* Pref. § 20 Bookes, and open speeches..made vulgar within a yeare, and little more after his happy ingresse into this kingdome. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 6 But I shall answer in that vulgar and rustical Proverb, it is a good Horse that never stumbles. 1693 Dryden *Persius' Sat.* i. 244 *note*, The Story is vulgar, that Midas King of Phrygia, was made judge betwixt Apollo and Pan, who was the best Musician. 1830 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 72 One vulgar pas-age from the writings of that philosopher. 1892 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 5/4 It set the seal, however, on his vulgar, as distinct from his professional, fame.

b. Of discourse, rumour, etc.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 100 If by strong hand you offer to breake in,..A vulgar comment will be made of it. 1595 *Locrine* IV. i. 138 What would the common sort report of me, If I forget my loue, and cleaue to thee? *Loc.* Kings need not feare the vulgar sentences. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxii, Your loue and pittie doth th' impression fill, Which vulgar scandall stampt vpon my brow. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 20 Of late (according to vulgar speech) he had displeased the Earle of Essex. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 323 The then vulgar talk was, the Devil came to take away Oliv. Cromwell, who then lay on his death-bed. 1818 Shelley *Julian* 362 Believe that I am ever still the same, ..Nor dream that I will join the vulgar cry. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 302 They did not join in the vulgar cry against the Dutch.

c. Of knowledge, opinions, notions, etc.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 210 b, Notwithstandyng the vulgare opinion..the wisedome of this world is folishenes before God. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* vii (1628) 299 To giue the reader some knowledge more then is vulgar. *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 125 He was become careless, following in many things the vulgar opinion. 1655 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* XI. iv. 33 That vulgar difficulty which is controverted by almost all Writers. 1702 Swift *Contests Nobles & Comm.* v, This is a truth of vulgar knowledge and observation. 1794 Hutton *Philos. Light*, etc. 127 According to the vulgar notions of things, cold is considered as absolutely subsisting in bodies, in the same manner as heat. 1832 Palmerston *Opin. & Pol.* (1839) 219 Taking the meanest and vulgarest view of the matter. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* V. i. II. 20 Mohamm[illegible]stein negation..of the vulgar polytheism which prevailed among the ruder Arab tribes. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., Spinoza* (1875) 375 This mode of interpreting Scripture is fatal to the vulgar notion of its verbal inspiration.

d. Of errors, prejudices, etc.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 546 This is but a vulgar errour. 1670 W. Perwich *Dessin* (Camden) 92 A vulgar mistake of the death of the Duke of Lorraine instead of that of the Great Duke of Florence. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xxiii, The idle conceit of the Fish Remora, which means sottishness hath made a vulgar one. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* I. i. 221 May natural judgement not be a vulgar error? 1798 Fermor *Illustr. Sterne* vi. 265 Mr. Shandy has passed a similar condemnation on some English names, to which vulgar prejudices are attached. 1845 Foss *Handbk. Spain* I. 5 One of the old vulgar superstitions in Spain. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 392, I satisfied myself that it was a vulgar prejudice to regard the liver of the bear as poisonous. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* I. v. 104 One of the vulgarest fallacies of statecraft.

† 7. Of common occurrence; not rare. *Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 121 Other things I omit concerning this beast [the cony], because as it is vulgar, the benefits thereof are commonly known. 1699 S. Fuschius *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 7 The Chameleon, a vile (and in many Countries a Vulgar) Creature.

8. Of or pertaining to the common people.

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 90 An habitation giddy and vnsure Hath he that buildeth on the vulgar heart. 1605 *2nd Pt. Jeronimo* 436, I will buse Andreas landing, Which, once but crept into the vulger mouthes, Is hurryed heer and there, and sworne for truth. 1620 Pracham *Compl. Gent.* I. 13 Those [apples] of Hesperides, golden, and out of the vulgar reach. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. v. 17 Though a weakneese of the Intellect, and most discoverable in vulgar heads, yet hath it sometime fallen upon wiser braines. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 5 The more he was with vulgar hate oppressed, The more his fury boiled within his breast. 1763 W. Thomson *Watson's Philip III*, VI. (1793) II. 152 A veil of pomp...concealed from the vulgar eye the symptoms of its decay. 1796 Br. Watson *Apol. Bible* 209 You have merely busied yourself in exposing to vulgar contempt a few unsightly shrubs. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* III. xxvi, Grey Superstition's whisper dread Debarr'd the spot to vulgar tread. *Ibid.* v. xxx, With like acclaim, the vulgar throat Strain'd for King James their morning note. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 561/1 He was in a coop protected from the vulgar gaze, by a covering of green baize. 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* xxvii. 237 All observations. negative the idea that there can be any such influence as the vulgar mind attributes to the moon.

II. 9. Of persons: Belonging to the ordinary or common class in the community; not distinguished or marked off from this in any way; plebeian:

a. With collective terms, as *people, sort.*

1530 Palsgr. 369 *Septante, octante, nonante*, be never used of the voulger people. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* A 3 b, Diuerse learned men..haue with most earnest trauaile marde euery of them familiar to their vulgare people. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 193 To circumuent the common people, he spared no coloured pretence to allure the vulgar sort. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Jer.* xxvi. 23 He cast forth his carcasse in the sepulchers of the base vulgar people. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 26 They of the vulgar kind are both ignorant, sluttish and greedy. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* 13 The last Will of Cæsar being read to the people, and what Legacies he had bequeath'd them, wrought much in that Vulgar audience to the avenging of his death. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 34 Instead of numerous Guards, and triumphal Chariots, and costly Preparations, we find only the Attendance of a Vulgar and despised Crowd. 1718 Prior *Solomon* I. 681 One [elder], in whom an outward Mien appear'd, And Turn superior to the vulgar Herd. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 12 He [Shakspeare] was not something sacred and aloof from the vulgar herd of men. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* v. i, 'Tis easy to astonish or appal The vulgar mass which moulds a horde of slaves.

b. With individual designations (in *sing.* or *pl.*).

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. ix. 121 The vulgare Arabians doe cal it Rabach. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. i 127 Rather let my head Stoope to the blocke,..Than stand vncouer'd to the Vulgar Groom. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 188 If any vulgar fellow meet them, they presently shake and vibrate their swords vpon their Shields, crying aloud Naytoe. *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XXI. 11 Thou seest with what exact Obedience all My vulgar Subjects on their shoulders take My heavyest yokes. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxix. 406 This letter..may deserve an English translation of it, for the sake of vulgar readers. 1765 H. Walpole *Otranto* i, Some of the vulgar spectators had run to the great church which stood near the castle and came back open-mouthed. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Milton* Wks. II. 168 The vulgar inhabitants of Pandæmonium, being incorporeal spirits, are at large..in a limited space. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 300 Credulity is..the characteristic of the vulgar Italians. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* v. 140 How many a vulgar Cato has compelled His energies..To mould a pin, or fabricate a nail!

transf. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 577 Where the great Luminarie Alooff the vulgar Constellations thick .. Dispenses Light from farr.

† c. Holding an ordinary place in a certain class; esp. of soldiers. *Obs.*

1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Marr. & Single Life* (Arb.) 268 Demosthenes..observed not the vulgar Oak in those parts

1762–3 W. F. Martyn *Geog. Mag.* 704 Those of an inferior rank make use of the foliage of some more vulgar tree. 1829 G. Ellis *Let. to Scott* 3 Oct., We possess a vulgar dog (a pointer), to whom it is intended to commit the charge of our house during our absence.

c. Of qualities, actions, etc.

1559 Knox *First Blast* App. (Arb.) 60 Neyther yit wold I that ye should esteam that mercy to be vulgar and commone which ye haue receaued. 1581 Eden *Arte Nauig.* Pref., I thynke that he was a man of no vulgare iudgement. 1596 *Edward III*, II. i. 314 Those are the vulgar tenders of false men, That neuer pay the duetie of their words. 1600 *Ld. Cromwell* III. iii. 9 Thou art a man differing from vulgar forme. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 144 Many Lawes were made, of a more priuate and vulgar nature then ought to detaine the Reader of an Historie. 1649 F. Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 310 Here are not vulgar but extraordinary Histories. 1726 Gay *Trivia* II. 302 Yet let me not descend to trivial song, Nor vulgar Circumstance my verse prolong. 1754 Gray *Progr. Poesy* 122 Yet shall he mount, and keep his distant way Beyond the limits of a vulgar fate. 1795 Burke *Th. Scarcity* Wks. 1842 II. 248 Philosophical happiness is to want little. Civil or vulgar happiness is to want much, and to enjoy much. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 366 That is assuredly a very vulgar policy, and one within the scope of the most ordinary capacities. 1867 Maurice *Patriarchs & Lawg.* v. (1877) 104 A history which exhibits God as an actual personal Being, without whom the vulgarest affairs of men are unintelligible and anomalous.

† d. Of persons. *Obs.*

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* *ij, Vulgar Practisers haue Numbers, otherwise, in sundry Considerations. 1609 Bible (Douay) *1 Chron.* i. *comm.*, We will present to the vulgar reader, certaine cleare and ordinarie rules, by which the learned Diuines do reconcile such apparent contradictions. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 43 We need not so much wonder with the Vulgar Philosophers, how so clear and glorious a body ..should be made of so durty..Materials. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 653 No vulgar god Pursues thy crimes, nor with a common rod. 1709 T. Innes *Anc. Inhab. N. Brit.* I. Pref. p. vii, These considerations..made me..resolve to.. leave to others the invidious task of reforming our vulgar historians. 1752 Hume *Pol. Disc.* x. 224 The most vulgar slave cou'd yield by his labour an obolus a day, over and above his maintenance. 1794 Burke *Let. to Dk. Portland* (1844) IV. 235 It will not do for you to be vulgar, commonplace ministers.

11. Of an ordinary unartificial type; not refined or advanced beyond the common.

1580 G. Harvey *Let. to Spenser* S.'s Wks. (1912) 632/2 It is the vulgare and naturall Mother Prosodye, that alone worketh the feate. 1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 2 Omit for the present, all Astrological Observations ..: Onely insist upon the vulgar and manifest Observations; as whether they were born by Night or by Day. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* I. 2 As also the whole Band of the Chymists, both mystical and vulgar, do sufficiently testifie. 1725 Watts *Logic* I. iii. § 4 Ideas are either vulgar or learned. A vulgar Idea represents to us the most obvious and sensible Appearances that are contained in the Object of them. 1748 Hartley *Observ. on Man* I. i. § 1. 35 Medicinal Bodies appear, from Observations both philosophical and vulgar, to be endued with more active Properties than common Aliments.

† b. Adapted to ordinary minds or comprehensions. *Obs.*

1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 45 Unspeakable mysteries in the Scriptures are often delivered in a vulgar and illustrative way. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* Ep. Ded., If it be sound, if it be useful, if it be vulgar; I humbly offer it to your Lordship. *a* 1692 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* VI. 283 Speaking to the weakest sort of men in the most vulgar sort of dialect.

† 12. Common in respect of use or association. *Obs. rare.*

1593 Shaks. *John* II. 387 I'de play incessantly vpon these Iades, Euen till vnfenced desolation Leaue them as naked as the vulgar ayre. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iii. 61 Be thou familiar; but by no meanes vulgar.

13. Having a common and offensively mean character; coarsely commonplace; lacking in refinement or good taste; uncultured, ill-bred.

a. Of actions, manners, features, etc.

1643 J. M. *Sov. Satire* 13 Are not such instances [of time-serving] as vulgar as the spirits that furnish us with them? 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 86 To Intangle all those .. who were transported with those vulgar and vile Considerations. 1699 Pomfret *Fast. Est.* 134 Nay, all affronts so unconcerned she bore, .. As if she thought it vulgar to resent. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sens.* XXI, The vulgar freedom and folly of the eldest left her no recommendation. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 201 So, the word *vulgar* now implies something base and groveling in actions. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. i. 17 There is something very coarse and vulgar in their countenances. *Ibid.* II. iv. 90 His features were vulgar, his lips thick and coarse. 1853 Maurice *Proph. & Kings* I. 7 This would be a low, paltry, vulgar way of accounting for his acts. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 315 The vulgar sort of trade which is carried on by lending money.

b. Of persons.

1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* 40 The mean malice of the same Vulgar Scribler, hired by the Conspirators at so much a sheet. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* XVII, Miss will think us very vulgar..to live in London and never have been to an Opera. 1819 Malkin *Gil Blas* III. iv. P 7, I see the vulgar dog in an alnahouse. 1835 Willis *Pencillings* I. ii. 18 A vulgar Marseilles shopkeeper. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* I. § 28 It is in the blunt hand and the dead heart, in the diseased habit, in the hardened conscience, that men become vulgar. 1881 'Riva' *My Lady Coquette* III, How hot and vulgar she looks with all that colour.

c. Of the mind, spirit, etc.

1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 295 In wild excess the vulgar breast takes fire, Till, buried in debauch, the bliss expire. 1766 [Anstey] *Bath Guide* II. 4 A Gesse, an Air, a Taste refin'd, To vulgar Souls unknown. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 113 It is so ____ to the pride of a vulgar mind, to be persuaded that it knows what few others know. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* v, In all baseness and impostare there is a coarse, vulgar spirit. 1880 Bain *Ment. & Mor.* vi. 288 Executions and death-scenes are great things for vulgar minds.

d. Of language, etc.

1708 Gay *Trivia* I. 187 Let not such vulgar tales debase thy mind. 1823 *Salem* (Mass.) *Gaz.* 12 Mar. 2/4 To pronounce him a friend to Great-Britain; or, in their language of vulgar abuse, a British Tory. 1869 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., Joubert* 224 *Saugrenu* is a rather vulgar French word, but, like many other vulgar words, very expressive. 1871 Farrar *Duriton. & Darwin* x, They said..that—you—were—dare I speak the vulgar word?—a Christian.

e. Of material things.

1822 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr.* xii. 75 I've heard our front that faces Drury Lane Much criticised; they say 'tis vulgar brick work. 1827 Chalmers *Astron. Disc.* ii. (1852) 45 While all the vulgar grandeur of other days is now mouldering in forgetfulness. 1905 G. Thorne *Lost Canoe* iv, A wilderness of mean little houses and vulgar streets.

14. *Comb.*, as *vulgar-like, -looking, -reasoning, -sounding*; *vulgar-minded, -spirited, -viewed* adjs.; *vulgar-wise* adv.; also quasi-*adv.* in † *vulgar plain.*

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1090/2 A certayn seuere & graue grace, which I wished oftentymes to haue bene more popular & °vulgarlike in him. 1823 Scott *Guy M.* xxxix, What that °vulgar-looking fellow said after the funeral. 1826 *Remarks Eng. Mann.* 37 Not discriminating between real gentlemen who require no such hint, and °vulgar-[illegible] who do. 1846 Hare *Mission Comf.* (1850) 396 The vulgarminded in all ages have been incapable of conceiving that a man can be actuated by any but [illegible] feelings. 1869 Geo. Eliot in *Cross Life* III. 100 The vulgar-minded genius that ever produced a great effect in literature. 1554–9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 6 Good maners unto all degrees Ys mete for to be °vulgar playne. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 321, I am none of those °vulgar-Reasoning Despisers of that Sex. 1797 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) IV. 302 His °vulgar-sounding word, belaugured, once used in the Paradise Lost, offends us continually in this new epic. 1826 Earle *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 70 A °vulgar-spirited Man is one of the heard of the World. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 234 The passions, and affections of the Vulgar-spirited. 1832 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 249 She was not °vulgar-viewed, her thinkings took The selfsame tenor. 1846 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 21 One bird roasting aristocratically upon a wooden spit, and the other, broiling °vulgar-wise, upon the embers.

Vulgarian (vælgē·rian), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -IAN.]

A. *adj.* = Vulgar *a.* (in later use in sense 13).

c 1650 Denham *To Sir J. Mennis* i, All on a weeping Monday, With a fat vulgarian sloven, Little Admiral John To Boulogne is gone. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 625 Compare this with the vulgarian twaddle of the old Blackingman. 1876 *World* V. No. 214. 3 A position in the scale of popular amusements precisely analogous to the vulgarism paradise known as the music-hall.

B. *sb.* A vulgar person; freq., a well-to-do or rich person of vulgar manners.

1804 Mar. Edgeworth *Essays* VI, The man is married, to some vulgarian, of course. 1821 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 66 (1822) II. 206 You are thought little better than a vulgarian. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* V. ix, Did you not marry a low creature—a vulgarian—a tradesman's daughter? 1888 *Athenæum* 21 July 93/1 One of the most repulsive vulgarians we have ever met with out of real life.

† Vu·lgarily, *adv. Obs.*—[1] [f. Vulgar *a.* + -(I)LY [2].] Commonly.

1655 Fuller *Hist. Camb.* 120 Thomas Lord Audley of Walden..changed Buckingham, into Magdalen, (vulgarily) Maudlin College.

Vu·lgarish, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat vulgar.

1860 Thackeray *Lovel* V, Low, vulgarish sort of man, he was.

Vulgarism (vʊ·lgăriz'm). [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ISM. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *vulgarismo*, It. *volgarismo.*]

† 1. A common or ordinary expression. *Obs.*—[1]

1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 13 An ineffable latitude of significations: whose vulgarismes, varied through such multiplicity of senses, are of that note and consequence, that [etc.].

2. A vulgar phrase or expression; a colloquialism of a low or unrefined character.

1746 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 28 Mar., The Countess.. has entertained the town with an excellent vulgarism. 1758 L. Temple *Sketches* (ed. 2) 43 The Sentiments..cannot be express'd with too much Plainness and Simplicity; provided all Vulgarisms are as much as possible avoided. 1798 *Brit. Critic* XI. 236 It took him, is a gross vulgarism. 1822 Mrs. Shelley in Dowden *Shelley* (1887) II. 382 We hear that she leads him and his mother (to use a vulgarism) a devil of a life. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. (1882) 449 The oilpshod vulgarisms of the shopkeeper of to-day.

b. A popular corruption *of* a name. *rare*—[1].

1892 Miss Yonge *Cameos* (1877) I. xix. 136 This romantic story,..celebrates the Saracen lady by the extraordinary title of Susy Pye, perhaps a vulgarism of her original Eastern name.

3. The quality or character of being vulgar; vulgarity.

1749 Chesterf. *Lett. to Son* 27 Sept., Vulgarism in language is the..distinguishing characteristic of bad company, and a bad education. 1772 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* iv. (1876) 343 Familiar and interesting to all Europe without being degraded by the vulgarism of ordinary life in any country. 1788 Mrs. Hughes *Henry & Isabella* I. 168 They were generally written in a style of pretence and sometimes vulgarism. 1819 Keats *Lines to Fanny* 24 Shall I gulp wine? No, that is vulgarism. 1832 *Examiner* 456/2 We are..struck by the absence of vulgarism in the performance.

b. An instance of vulgarity; a vulgar action, practice, habit, etc.

1785 G. A. Bellamy *Apology* (ed. 3) IV. 148 The complaints of having nothing to do, is such a vulgarism, that I wonder any persons..can degrade themselves by the acknowledgement. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansfield Park* xlvi, Visions of good and ill breeding, of old vulgarisms and new gentilities were before her. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 54/1 Since the scent of that flower has been voted a vulgarism!

Vu'lgarist. [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ist.] A vulgarian.

1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 53 In the every-day pursuits of the vulgarist there is a link connecting them.

Vulgarity (*vʊlgæ·rĭti*). [ad. L. (post-classical) *vulgāritas* the mass or multitude (f. *vulgār-is* Vulgar *a.*), or f. Vulgar *a.* + -ity. Cf. F. *vulgarité*, It. *volgarità*, Sp. *vulgaridad*, Pg. *-idade.*]

†1. The commonalty; the common people. *Obs.*

1579 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 73 The eternall God hath appoynted & diuided his Church militant into four parts: first, into principalitie; seconde, into nobilitie; thirde, into pastoralitie; fourthly, into vulgaritie. 1616 J. Lane *Contin. Sqr.'s T.* viii. 330 So these condemnd, thence garded weare to dye, lothd, skornd, revild, cursd of th' vulgaritie. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* ix. 421 A proud Nobility, a familliar and manly Gentry, and a ruvidous vulgarity. 1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* Pref. 3 The meere vulgarity (like Swine) are prone to cry out more, for a little bite by the eare, than for all the sordidnesse of sin.

†c. Used as a mock-title to designate one of the common people. *Obs.*—1

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 11 For true it is, (and I hope shall not offend their vulgarities) if I say they are daily mocked into errour.

†2. General use; common diffusion. *Obs. rare.*

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 33 It may well seem that the Roman tongue became not the vulgar language in any of these parts of the empire, which yet are specially instanced, for the large vulgarity of it. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 387 The Latin or primitive Roman tongue,.. though living yet in the Schools,..may be said to be defunct in point of vulgarity, any time these 1000 years passed.

†3. The quality of being usual, ordinary, or commonplace; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 12 Although their condition and fortunes may place them many Spheres above the multitude, yet are they still within the line of vulgarity. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulgarity*, the common manner or fashion of the vulgar people. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 228 In these Vulgarities we may..trace out the cause and nature of Light, as in Jewels of greatest value. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 24 He..was answer'd that he never differ'd any thing to the Morrow, or some such thing to the same learned purpose of Dissenting Sermons, which are often full of such Unscholar-like Vulgarities.

4. The quality of being vulgar, unrefined, or coarse; an instance of this.

a 1774 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 681 It seems too narrow a vulgarity in those who value themselves upon being raised above the vulgar, to despise every old woman..because she does not understand Latin, and has no interest in the county. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* xlvii. (1819) I. 257 Verses.. now admired for that artless simplicity, which once obtained the name of coarseness and vulgarity. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr.* x. (1873) 92 The auditor..compares incipient grandeur with final vulgarity. 1833 Coleridge *Table-t.* 20 Jan., The ignorant zealotry and sordid vulgarity of the leaders of the day! 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. vii. § 23 We may conclude that vulgarity consists in a deadness of the heart and body, resulting from prolonged, and especially from inherited conditions of 'degeneracy'. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 260 Our imagination of him has dwelt securely in ideal remoteness from the vulgarities of life.

Vulgarization (*vʊlgărəizē·ʃən*). [See next and -ation. So F. *vulgarisation*, Sp. *-isacion*, Pg. *-isação*, It. *volgarizzazione.*]

1. The action of making usual or common; the process of rendering familiar or popular; general dissemination.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulgarization*, a making common or vulgar. 1807 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XI. 43 She has raised a barrier against the vulgarization of the hump, which cannot be broken down, either by love or money. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 148/1 Professional exclusiveness for centuries opposed the vulgarization of such knowledge. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* III. vi. 204 The vulgarization of rudiments is not the advancement of Knowledge.

2. The action or process of rendering coarse or unrefined.

1819 W. S. Rose *Lett.* I. 205 From the first appearance of this race..down to their vulgarization under Leopold,..we may remark this preponderating feature. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Oct. 12 George Sand has not only consented to the vulgarization of her thoroughly beautiful novel, she has actually lent a hand to the gentleman who has vulgarized it. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 334 There is no fear that the steam-engine will bring about that hopeless vulgarisation of the country which usually follows in its track.

Vulgarize (*vʊ·lgărəiz*), *v.* [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ize, perh. after med.L. *vulgarisare* (1305), F. *vulgariser* (16th cent. and mod.), Sp. *vulgarisar*, Pg. *-isar*, It. *volgarizzare*]

1. *intr.* To act in a vulgar manner; to become vulgar.

1603 Daniel *Epist. Lady Anne Clifford* vi, Honour..cannot stray and breake abroade Into the priuate wayes of (

lasnesse; Nor euer may descend to vulgarize, Or be below the sphere of her abode. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Char.* (1852) 96 A man having too much regard for his complexion to infringe upon the wine-cellar, and too much interest in his slimness to vulgarise on ale.

2. *trans.* To make common or popular; to reduce to the level of something usual or ordinary.

1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* Introd. 6 To Vulgarize and to Allegorise the Scripture, are equally of evil Consequence to Religion. 1786 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* xiii. Wks. 1797 I. 273 To find proper foundations for science is neither to narrow or to vulgarise it. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 145 The great bards..Men who have vulgarized sublimity, And bought up truth for the nations. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 154 The invention of printing, without yet vulgarizing letters, had made the thought and history of the entire past contemporaneous. 1872 Browning *Fifine* lxxv, Change yourself, dissimulate the thought And vulgarize the word.

3. To make vulgar or commonplace; to debase, degrade.

1756 Mrs. F. Brooke *Old Maid* No. 32. 262 Its being the religion of the whole nation has made it too common, and, if I may be allowed the expression, vulgarized it. *a* 1774 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 89 It would vilify, and, I may say, vulgarize the Almighty, to imagine Him..engaged among the trifling scenes that occupy our notice. 1820 Hazlitt *Table-t.* (1824) II. i. 7 They vulgarise and degrade whatever is interesting or sacred to the mind. *a* 1821 V. Knox *Winter Even.* xxxviii. Wks. 1824 II. 478 Learning sullied with pedantry, exhortation vulgarized by low wit. *a* 1843 Robertson *Lect., Wordsw.* (1858) 244 It seemed as if all that noise was vulgarizing the poet. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) ii. 64 Some..peak, not yet vulgarised by associations with guides and picnics.

b. *absol.* To cause or produce vulgarity.

1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* vi, Family jarring vulgarises—family union elevates.

Hence **Vu'lgarised** *ppl. a.*; **Vu'lgariser**, one who vulgarizes or makes popular; **Vu'lgarising** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1847 De Quincey in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) I. xv. 349 The absolute realities of *vulgarised life as it exists in plebeian ranks amongst our countrymen. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 568/2 The vulgarized phrase, a gentleman. 1899 *Athenæum* 28 Jan. 105/3 He [Albert Smith] was the *vulgarizer of Switzerland. 1832 Mrs. Hemans in Chorley *Mem.* (1836) II. 236 Braham's singing was not equal to the instrumental part, but he did not disfigure it by his customary and *vulgarizing graces. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) xii. 280 The eternal mountains..never recall.. the vulgarising association of old days.

Vulgarly (*vʊ·lgărli*), *adv.* Also 6 **vulgarely**(e, **vulgarlie.** [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. In common or everyday speech; vernacularly, colloquially: †a. With verbs of speaking, discoursing, etc. *Obs. rare.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 1513 And, vulgarly to speken of Substaunce, Of Tresour may we bobe with vs lede, Y-nowh to lyue in honour and pleasaunce. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xi. 17 And he is the best preacher, saith Luther, that delivereth himself vulgarly, plainly, trivially. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* i. 1 Annot. 6 The Hebrew [word]..vulgarly signifies the result of the consultation.

b. With verbs of naming, esp. in *vulgarly called, styled*, etc.

1553 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 160 A greate assemblie of estates of Fraunce, vulgarlie called a Parlyament, wherein the three estates of the Realme were present. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 28 b, The societe of sayncte George vulgarely called the order of the garter. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. 1, The mount Rhodope vulgarly called the mountes of siluer. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 50 The chiefest..is called Teucria, but they are vulgarly called the Iles of Diomedes. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxviii. 108 That [river]..enters into the sea in the Empire of Sornaan, vulgarly stiled Siam. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 331/2 For the Pitchfork (or Pikel, which we vulgarly call it) it is an Instrument much used in Husbandry for their Loading and Stacking of Hay and Corn. *a* 1718 Penn *Life* Wks. 1726 I. 16 Being the Fourth Instant, vulgarly called Sunday. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* II. iv, The chandler's shop, the known seat of all the news, or as it is vulgarly called, gossiping. 1774 J. Hutchins *Dorset* I. 589 The parsonage house, vulgarly called the vicarage house, stood about the middle of the island. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 406 He was what is vulgarly called a disinterested man. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 42 This original factory and staple of the German merchants, vulgarly called 'The Steelyard',..still stands on the banks of the Thames. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 95 Many of the species..are here known as fire-flies, or, more vulgarly, lightning-bugs.

2. Among or by the people generally; commonly or ordinarily: a. As a matter of knowledge, belief, etc.

1597 *Justes Monathe May & June* 59 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 123 Hye magesty . Knowen is in euery realme vulgarely To his honoure. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 275 Which I purposely auoided, as not so vulgarly familiar. 1622 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvii. (1623) 885 Where the Corps is now laide is not vulgarly knowne. 1628 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* i. 82 What I report thus..is truth, and differeth much from what vulgarly is receiued. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 19 Whose luxurious liues are vulgarly promulgat in this..prouerbe. *a* 1688 Cudworth *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 94 Though they be very different,..yet they are vulgarly mistaken for one and the same thing. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 462 P 5 The many good-natured Condescensions of this Prince are vulgarly known. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Bulb*, It is vulgarly considered as a root, and was called so by Botanists till Linnæus corrected the error. 1865 Mozley *Mirac.* ii. 42 The inductive principle is only this unreasoning impulse applied to a scientifically ascertained fact, instead of to a vulgarly ascertained

b. As a matter of use or habit.

1627 Mortson *Itin.* III. 135 They vulgarly eate harth Cakes of Oates, but in Cities haue also wheaten-bread. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* Annot. 2 Not from any sensual pleasure, such as men vulgarly take in Musick. 1697 Bentley *Phal.* (1699) 142 The middle Verse, as it is vulgarly read, is an instance against me. 1866 A. Knox *Rem.* (1844) I. 62 The dread of Popery and the consequent prejudice against everything vulgarly branded with that stigma. 1841 Emerson *Ess., Over-Soul* (1876) 233 Our religion vulgarly stands on numbers of believers. 1859 Mill *Liberty* i. 13 The tyranny of the majority was at first, and is still vulgarly, held in dread.

†c. With reference to speech: As a vernacular tongue. *Obs.*

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 8 These were the places, where the Greek tongue was natively and vulgarly spoken. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 116 They speake vulgarly and Maternally here the Hebrew tongue. 1698 Hearne *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 72 The Latin Tongue ceases to be vulgarly spoken in Italy [in] 587.

†3. Publicly; in the eyes of the world. *Obs. rare.*

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* III. iii, Seeke not to eclipse my reputation thus vulgarly. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 160 First for this woman, To iustifie this worthy Noble man, So vulgarly and personally accus'd.

†4. a. In a commonplace manner. *Obs.*—1

c 1600 *Timon* iv. ii. (1842) 63 *Gelus.* Doth shee loue mee? *Blat.* I knowe shee dothe, and that not vulgarly.

† b. By ordinary arithmetic. *Obs. rare.*

1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4825/4 Each Proposition being wrought Vulgarly, Decimally,..and Instrumentally. 1762 Ramsbottom *Fractions Anat.* 74 Let us now divide 20 Shillings Vulgarly, and then 6*d.* by 6*d.* Decimally, a Pound the Integer.

5. In a vulgar, coarse, or unrefined manner.

1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* vii, The superstition of the Egyptians—vulgarly gross in its literal meaning..—was disowned by the principles of general toleration. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* II. x. 232 It is too hard, and bold, and vulgarly pretty. 1881 H. James *Portr. Lady* xxii, He lives on his income, which I suspect of not being vulgarly large.

Vu'lgarness. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ness.]

1. = Vulgarity 2 and 3.

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 10 At this day, the Greek tongue is very much decayed, not onely as touching the largness, and vulgarness of it, but also in the pureness and elegancy of the language. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* Pref., And for the Vulgarnes of them: true Axiomes must be drawne from plain Experience. 1648 Hexham II, *Ongemeynigheydt*, Rarity, not Vulgarnesse, or Commonnesse.

2. = Vulgarity 4.

1642 Rogers *Naaman* 386 All such indecency and vulgarnesse of carriage. 1721 Bailey, *Vulgarity*, Vulgarness, the manner of the common People. 1759 *Compl. Lett.-writer* (ed. 6) 226 First come, first serve; I detest such vulgarness. 1796 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) IV. 206 Alleging that immorality, vulgarness, bombast, and even obscurity, pervaded all my writings.

Vulgate (*vʊ·lgēt*), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vulgāta* (sc. *ĕdītio* or *lectio*) and *vulgāt-us* (sc. *textus*), fem. and masc. pa. pple. of *vulgāre*: see next. Cf. (in sense B. 1 b) F. *Vulgate*, It., Sp., Pg. *Vulgata.*]

A. *adj.* 1. In common use as a version of the Bible (or portion of this); employed or occurring in one of these versions.

Ordinarily limited to the versions specified in B 1, and particularly to St. Jerome's. In various contexts the adj. coalesces with attributive uses of the sb.

1609 Bible (Douay) To Rdr p. iii b, So that the old Vulgate Latin Edition hath bene preferred, and vsed for most authentical aboue a thousand and three hundered yeares. 1727 Blackwall *Sacred Classics* II. Pref. 16 The Latin vulgate Bible was declar'd authentic and canoniz'd by the council of Trent, A.D. 1546. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., M. Simon calls the Greek Version of the Seventy..The antient Vulgate Greek. 1782 V. Knox *Lord's Supper* xvii. Wks. 1824 VII. 423 At this hour it stands so translated in the Vulgate Bible, for ages the only Bible of the people. 1828 Hallam *Mid. Ages* ix. 1. (1819) III. 338 The vulgate Latin of the Bible was still more venerable. 1863 W. A. Wright in Smith *Dict. Bible* I. 857/2 The Vulgate rendering of Prov. xxvi. 8. 1872 (*title*), The Vulgate New Testament, with The Douay Version of 1582, in Parallel Columns.

2. Forming (part of) the common or usual version of a literary work.

1861 Paley *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Prometh.* 966 *note*, His objection to the vulgate reading and interpretation . appears quite groundless. 1894 *Athenæum* 26 May 681/2 [The papyri,] as is generally the case with Homer papyri of this period, support the vulgate text.

B. *sb.* 1. a. The old Italic version of the Bible, preceding that of St. Jerome.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The antient Vulgate of the Old Testament, was translated almost Word for Word, from the Greek of the Seventy. 1885 *Cassell's Pop. Bibl. Educator* II. 39/1 At that time the old Itala was the Vulgate, or Common Version.

b. The Latin version of the Bible made by St. Jerome (completed in 405).

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Septuagint*, The Chronology of the Seventy, is..very different from what is found in the Hebrew Text, and the Vulgate. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* v. i. (1869) II. 352 The Latin translation of the Bible, commonly called the Latin Vulgate. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 465 All the Romish translations of the Bible into the modern languages profess to have been made not from the Greek and Hebrew, but from the Vulgate. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. ii. 63 The answer of the priest..was to repeat..the following passage of Scripture from the Vulgate. 1881 Westcott & Hort *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 121 The name Vulgate has long denoted exclusively the Latin Bible as revised by Jerome.

c. The usual or received text or version of the Bible or of some portion of this.

1813 F. Nolan (*title*), An Enquiry into the Integrity of the Greek Vulgate, or Received Text of the New Testament. 1863 *Smith's Concise Dict. Bible* 992 But both the Greek and the Latin Vulgates have been long neglected. 1883 *Athenæum* 28 Dec. 809/2 This pre-Lutheran Bible version has been fittingly termed by Gefficken the 'German Vulgate'. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 824/1 The so-called Pâshîttâ,...the Syriac vulgate.

d. An edition of the Vulgate.

1863 *Smith's Concise Dict. Bible* 994 The splendid pages of the Mazarin Vulgate. *Ibid.* 995 The Sixtine and Clementine Vulgates.

2. The ordinary reading in a text; the ordinary text of a work or author.

1851 Paley *Æschylus* (ed 2) *Supplices* 61 *note*, This is ingenious; but he fails to show that the vulgate is wrong. 1886 Leaf *Iliad* I. Introd. p. xiv, The conclusion is..that the edition of Antimachos was in the main the same as our present vulgate.

3. Common or colloquial speech.

1845 J. E. Cooke *Virginia Comedians* I. xiii. (Cent.), 'Here's a pretty mess', returned the pompous gentleman, descending to the vulgate; 'you threaten me, forsooth!' 1883 D. H. Wheeler *By-Ways Lit.* ix. 176 There is always 'a free and easy' vulgate for the street, the market, and the fireside.

†Vu·lgate, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **wlgat.** [ad. L. *vulgāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vulgāre* to make public or common, f. *vulgus* the common people.]

1. (See quot. 1656.)

1513 Douglas *Æneid* I. vii. 69 The famous battellis, wlgat throw the warld or this. 1530 Palsgr. 770/1 This thyng is vulgate nowe howe so ever it happeneth. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulgate*, published abroad, commonly used, set out to the use of all men.

2. Rendered common; vulgarized.

1863 Lytton *Caxtoniana* I. 127 What delicate elegance he can extract from words the most colloquial and vulgate.

Vu·lgate, *v. rare.* [f. L. *vulgāt-*, ppl. stem of *vulgāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To put into general circulation. Hence **Vu·lgated** *ppl. a.*

1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* II. 309 Amongst the untruths..few are more detrimental to truth than the epithets vulgated upon Sovereigns. 1857 *Ibid.* III. 90 Amongst the vulgated traditional anecdotes floating about the world.

Vulgara·lity. *nonce-wd.* = Vulgarity 3.

1684 J. Lacy *Sir H. Buffoon* III. i, *Over.* My lord! No, the word lord is too common; it tastes of vulgerality. *Aim.* God's so, there's a fine word! Vulgerality is your own coining, sir? *Over.* Stamped in my own mint, sir.

Vulgivagant: see Volgivagant.

‖ Vulgo (vʊ·lgo), *adv.* [L. *vulgō* adv., abl. of *vulgus* the common people.] Commonly, popularly. Also *Comb.*

a 1623 Buck *Rich III*, I. (1646) 8 The Signiory of Penrith, vulgò, Perith in Cumberland. 1644 Symonds *Diary* (Camden) 74 Pelynt, *vulgo* Plynt Church, com. Cornub. 1731 P. Miller *Gard. Dict.*, *Siliqua*, *adulis*, C. B. P. The Carob-Tree, or St. John's-bread, *vulgò*. [1753 *Lond. Mag.* Sept. 396/2 Hang a small bugle cap on, as big as a crown, Snout it off with a flow'r, *vulgo dict.* a pompoon.] 1872 *North Oxfordsh. Archæol. Soc., Notes Excurs. to Duckl*ington, etc., 28 It is called Yelford, but that is vulgo, it being Eleford, in correct orthography.

‖ Vu·lgus [1]. [L.] The common people; the ordinary ruck.

a 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* Pref. (1690) a b, The Fire at London, and Disaster at Chatham, have begotten Opinions in the *Vulgus* of the World to our Prejudice. *a* 1734 North *Examen* II. v. § 128 (1740) 394 As for the *Vulgus* o tion, we know very well what their Employ was.

Vulgus [2] (vʊ·lgŭs). [Prob. an alteration of *vulgars*: see Vulgar *sb.* 4.] In some public schools, a short set of Latin verses on a given subject.

1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. iii, The three fell to work with Gradus and Dictionary upon the morning's vulgus. 1870 Mansfield *School Life Winchester* 107 We were always excused..Vulgus when the next day was a Saint's-day. 1887 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* I. v. 118 This was independent of a weekly 'verse task' of greater length, and was called a 'vulgus'.

attrib. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. ii, Tom was the upholder of the traditionary method of vulgus doing. He carefully produced two large vulgus-books, and began diving into them.

Vull, southern ME. and dial. var. Full *a.*, etc.

Vuln (vʊln), *v.* [Irreg. ad. L. *vuln-erāre*, f. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound.]

†1. *trans.* To wound. *Obs.*—1

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* S iij, The Lion, who being vulned, taketh such heede, that hee knoweth who first smote him.

2. *Her.* (See quots., and cf. next.)

1780 Edmondson *Her.* II, *Vulning*, i.e. wounding, a term applied in Heraldry to the pelican, which is always drawn picking or wounding her breast. 1889 Cassan *Bps. of Bath & Wells* 67 A Pelican in her Nest vulning herself. 1893 Cussans *Her.* (1893) 93 Some writers make a distinction between a Pelican vulning herself, and in her piety.

Vulned, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. *Her.* Of animals, etc.: Represented as wounded or pierced by a weapon.

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 43 b, N. beareth Gules, a Lyon Rampant d'Or, vulned with a darte d'Argent. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xxv. (1611) 273 Hee beareth argent, a fesse Gules betweene three Hearts vulned and distilling drops of blood. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 144/1 The ..*Vulned*, wou..., when any part is wounded, or made bloody. 1780 Edmondson *Her.* II. s.v., A hind's head couped, pierced through the neck with an arrow, vulned proper. 1890 W. D. Cooper *Hist. Winchelsea* 132 Crest, A halbert erect or, on the point a flying dragon (or wivern) or, without legs, tail nowed sa. besantée, vulned gu.

†2. *fig.* Of conscience: Wounded. *Obs.*—1

1608 Feltham *Resolves* II. [I.] lxiv. 183 Let them that deny the Immortality of the Soule, bee immerged in the horrours of a vulned conscience.

Vulnerability (vʊlnĕrăbi·lĭti). [f. next + -ity.] The quality or state of being vulnerable, in various senses.

1808 Han. More *Celebs* ix. I. 108 For fear, however, that your heart of adamant should hold out against all these perilous assaults, its vulnerability was tried in other quarters. 1864 *Reader* 31 Dec. 829/1 Up to the last, however, the self-blinded rulers of China refused to believe in their vulnerability. 1869 Reed *Our Iron-Clad Ship* xi. 253 This report also bears testimony to the vulnerability of the low decks.

b. *spec.* in *Path.* (see quot. 1880).

1880 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* 92 The term *vulnerability* has been, of late, applied to a condition of the system favorable for the morbific operation of any causes, either ordinary or specific. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 176 A fact which points to the existence of a special vulnerability of this part of the lung itself.

Vulnerable (vʊ·lnĕrăb'l), *a.* [ad. late L. *vulnerābilis* wounding, f. *vulnerāre* (see Vuln *v.*), but taken passively in accordance with the more usual sense of -able: cf. *invulnerable* and F. *vulnérable*, Sp. *vulnerable*, Pg. *-avel*, It. *-abile.*]

†1. Having power to wound; wounding. *Obs.*—1

1609 *Ambassy Sir R. Sherley* 13 The male children practise to ride greate horses, to throw the Vulnerable and Inequitable darte.

2. That may be wounded; susceptible of receiving wounds or physical injury.

1603 Shaks. *Mach.* v. viii. 11 Let fall thy blade on vulnerable Crests, I beare a charmed Life. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Vulnerable*, that may be wounded. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* IV. 606 Turn, turn, ye Trojans! face your Grecian foes. They, like yourselves, are vulnerable flesh, Not adamant or steel. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 217 [Alligators having] plates or scales, said to be impenetrable..except about their heads and just behind their fore legs, where they are vulnerable. 1820 Southey *Kehama* IX. xii, Thrice through the vulnerable shade The Glendoveer impels the griding blade, The wicked Shade flies howling from his foe. 1857 J. B. Rose tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 151 The vulnerable heel Of dread Æacides.

b. *fig.* Open to attack or injury of a non-physical nature; *esp.*, offering an opening to the attacks of raillery, criticism, calumny, etc.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* Pref., We had further Observed it, to have been the Method of our Modern Atheists, to make their First Assault against Christianity, as thinking that to be the most Vulnerable. 1769 *Junius Lett.* vii. (1788) 59 Reproaches and inquiries have no power to afflict either the man of unblemished integrity, or the abandoned profligate. It is the middle compound character which alone is vulnerable. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII. iii, There, alone, is he vulnerable. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* vi, 'How delighted I am,' she said, 'that I have found out where you are vulnerable!' 1863 Mary Howitt tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xvi. 147 His witty tongue was too keen for the easily vulnerable gods of Delphi. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1873) I. i. 5 Modern society, growing more and more vulnerable.., is made to tremble by the mere rumour of an appeal to arms.

c. Similarly with *part*, *point*, *portion.*

1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 357 Yet even calumny is sagacious enough to discover and to attack the most vulnerable part. 1789 Belsham *Ess.* II. xxxvi. 290 In this vulnerable part, only, can the shaft of the Satirist find an entrance. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* III. xviii. 85 His private life presented some vulnerable points, through which his adversaries were able to strike more dangerous blows. 1847 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* ix. (1857) 358 Now this physical department has ever proved the vulnerable portion of false religions. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* x. 290 There is a human sub-species..to a certain extent penetrative...It has an instinct which guides it to the vulnerable parts of the victim on which it fastens.

3. Of places, etc.: Open to attack or assault by armed forces; liable to be taken or entered in this way.

1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 104 The immense expence the Spaniards have since been at, to fortify the city on that side, shews it to have been vulnerable then. 1797 St. Vincent 16 Aug. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) II. 434 *note*, The Tower of Santa Cruz in the Island of Teneriffe, which, from a variety of intelligence, I conceived was vulnerable. 1809 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) IV. 331 In the action of yesterday, our position was vulnerable only on the right. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* iii. (1868) I. 65 She felt herself vulnerable in Ireland, and on the Scottish border. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 May 5/1 We should find it easier to hold [Russia] in check in the far East if she had vulnerable possessions nearer home.

b. Similarly with *part*, *point*, *side.*

1798 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 8 A vulnerable part of the frontiers of the Company's territory. 1820 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* v. 210 Every vulnerable point was guarded. 1852 Gallenga *Italy* 52 Even within those limits her Lombard subjects had discovered her vulnerable side. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. viii. 277 Charles..was looking for the most vulnerable point at which to strike.

Hence **Vu·lnerableness:** **Vu·lnerably** *adv.*

1729 Bailey (vol. II), *Vulnerableness*, Capableness of being wounded. 1837 *Foreign Q. Rev.* XIX. 30 We do not think a passage can be quoted to which criticism can be vulnerably attached. 1842 Maurice *Serm.* v. (1848) I. 69 There comes over us what I may call a vulnerableness of mind. 1894 Mrs. H. Ward *Marcella* I. 166 The inner vulnerableness, the inner need of her affection and of peace with her.

†Vu·lneral, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound.] = Vulnerary *a.*

In the first quot. apparently an intentional distortion of *Amoral.*

1589 [? Lyly] *Pappe w. Hatchet* E ij, Hee slues one, has a fling at another, a long tale of his talboothe, of a vulneral sermon, and of a fooles head in souce. 1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Vulneral*, medicines belonging to wounds, viz., plaisters, salves, &c. and inward potions, diet-drinks, &c.

Vulnerary (vʊ·lnĕrări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **-arye**, 7 **-arie.** [ad. L. *vulnerārius* adj. and sb. (Pliny), f. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound: see -ary. So F. *vulnéraire* (16th c.), Sp., Pg., It. *vulnerario.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Useful in healing wounds; having curative properties in respect of external injuries; a. Of applications or potions.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 199/2 Applye thereon a good boneplaister, and let him drinck a vulnerarye potione. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 160 The oile..made of the flours of the wild vine serveth in good stead for vulnerarie salves and plastres. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 77 The same method of cure, by ordinary Balsams, or common vulnerary plasters. 1693-4 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 43 Which did sufficiently denote this Vulnerary Powder (as it's called in a late Publick Paper) to be a violent Caustick. 1709 *Ibid.* XXVI. 388 A Compress..dipt in a Mixture of four Ounces of Plantain-water, and two Ounces of a Vulnerary Water. 1754-64 Smellie *Midwif.* I. 385 Large tents or dossils dipped in vulnerary balsams. 1777 G. Forster *Voy. round World* I. 578 A species of night-shade, which is made use of..as a vulnerary remedy. 1818 *Art Preserv. Feet* 229 They may even find some advantage in a lotion called Theden's vulnerary wash. 1846 Gilly in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 177 Geranium molle and robertianum are added to vulnerary potions.

b. Of herbs.

1601 Holland *Pliny* XXVII. lv. II. 273 It is..a good vulnerarie hearbe besides, and stancheth the bleeding of wounds. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 171 To gather vulnerary Plants. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 421 To give a full account of that Vulnerary Root, called *Wichacan.* 1718 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 154 The Flowers are vulnerary; the Seed pectoral. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 47 ¶ 2 The wounded stags of Crete are related by Ælian to have recourse to vulnerary herbs. 1788 *Gentl. Mag.* LVIII. i. 103/2 Golden Rod ..generally appears among the vulnerary or restorative simples. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxxiii, So efficacious were the vulnerary plants and salves with which it had been treated. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 60 Another species of the same genus [Lythrum] is accounted in Mexico astringent and vulnerary.

c. Of qualities.

1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 61 Turpentines, however famous for their vulnerary and detergent qualities. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 343 It will be proper to hold medicines, almost continually, in the mouth, of a subastringent and vulnerary nature. 1783 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 105 The herb was, in former times, esteemed for its vulnerary virtues. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 654/2 The plant is further credited with the possession of vulnerary and astringent properties.

†2. Skilled in curing wounds. *Obs.*—1

1601 Holland *Pliny* XXIX. I. 345 Called he was (by report) The vulnerarie Physician or Chirurgian.

3. Causing a wound or wounds; wounding. Also *fig.*

1615 H. Crooke *Body of Man* 26, I call it Artificiall, to distinguish it from that which is rash and at aduenture, which Galen calleth Vulnerary Dissection. 1661 Feltham *Resolves* (ed. 8) II. lvi. 302 The aspect of his eye alone, does sometimes become not only vulnerary, but mortal. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 35 All those who have been either struck, or struck at, by the instrument thus vulnerary to sentimental feelings.

B. *sb.* 1. Any preparation, plant, or drug used in the cure of wounds.

1601 Holland *Pliny* XXVII. lv. II. 274 Highly commended by Hicesius a Physician of great name and authoritie, also by Aristogiton, for an excellent vulnerarie. 1689 Moyle *Sea Chyrurg.* I. 61 If..you expect wounds and broken Bones, then you must carry more quantity of Vulneraries. 1713 P. Blair *Misc. Observ.* (1721) 109 *Hypericum vulg.* is said to be astringent and a good Vulnerary. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 88 This is the grand Indian vulnerary, for wounds [etc.]. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 477 Externally, they use the fresh juice to cicatrize wounds. As a vulnerary, I can myself affirm, it possesses such powers, that [etc.]. 1880 *All Year Round* No. 47. 484 Once upon a time surgeons did not believe that wounds were to be healed properly without vulneraries, balsams, and charpies. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* xx. 279 The yellow resin found at the roots of old [gamboge] trees is used as a vulnerary and diuretic.

†2. A curer of wounds. *Obs.*—0

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulnerary*, he that healeth wounds, a Chyrurgeon.

†Vu·lnerate, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *vulnerāt-*, ppl. stem of *vulnerāre* to wound.] *trans.* To wound. Also *Her.* (cf. Vulned *ppl. a.* 1).

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 54/2 If any bodye weare vulnerated in the Eyes, insparge, and strewe this poulder in his Eyes. 1603 Dekker *Patient Grisill* 1327 He..inuaded my Rapier hand,..and in that passado vulnerated my hand thus deepe. 1638 T. Whitaker *Blood of Grape* 60 For the strongest poyson of Animalls or minerals can but vulnerate the flesh. *a* 1692 Ashmole *Antiq. Berks.* (1719) I. 145 The Crest is a Stag Couchant, vulnerated through the Neck by a broad Arrow. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 48 So as to blunt the edge of it, and keep it from vulnerating any part of the bladder.

Ag. 1612 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 20/1 Hedg'd in with cares,..Whose piercing prickes the

minde doe vulnerate. *a* 1618 — *Witte's Pilgr.* lxxxiv, I can proue Where thou thy Chastitie did'st vulnerate. 1692 Kirkman *Clerio & Lesia* 124 Without their being vulnerated by the thorns of compassion.

Hence **Vu·lnerated** *ppl. a.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 44/2 We must allso harder binde on the vulnerated parte than on any of the adioyning partes. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Phys.* 303/1 When you are..sente for to a vulnerated, and wounded Person. 1615 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 208 It is enough for me that *de facto* there is such an entercourse between the Magnetick unguent and the vulnerated body. 1706 C. D'Anvers *Craftsman* No. 39 (1727) 370 The violent rackings and corrosions of a vulnerated conscience.

† Vulnera·tion. *Obs.* [nd. L. *vulnerātio*, n. of action f. *vulnerāre*: see prec. So F. *vulnération*, Sp. *vulneracion*, Pg. *-ação*.] The action of wounding; the fact of being wounded.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* c iij b/2 The vulnerations of the bullete, which hath brokene the Legge. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 210/2 If in anye Vulnerationes, the membre doe chaunce to wither, applye as then theron a Sparadrape, which must in this sorte be made. 1659 Pearson *Creed* iv. 409 He speaks of the Son of God, which was to be the Son of man, and by our nature liable to vulneration; and withal foretells the piercing of his body. *a* 1688 G. Stradling *Serm.* (1692) 127 The Son of Man, who alone was liable to Vulneration, and could be pierced.

Vu·lnerative, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. as Vulnerate *v.* + -ive.] Causing a wound or wounds.

1618 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXV. 494 With a sort of hedgehog hostility, which points its vulnerative quills in every direction alike.

Vulnero·se, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound + -ose.] Full of wounds.

1721 Bailey. [Hence in later Dicts.]

† Vulni·fic, *a. Obs.*⁻⁰ [ad. L. (poet.) *vulnificus*, f. *vulnus* wound. Cf. OF. *vulnifique* (15th c.).] (See quot.) Also † **Vulni·fical** *a. Obs.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulnifical*, which woundeth, or makes wounds. 1721 Bailey, *Vulnifick*, that maketh or causeth Wounds.

Vulning *Her.*: see Vuln *v.*

Vulpanser (vʌlpəːnsər). *Ornith.* [mod.L., f. *vulp-ēs* fox + *anser* goose, after Gr. χηναλώπηξ.] The sheldrake (*Anas tadorna*). Also *attrib.*

1726 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vulpanser*, the Bergander, or Burrow-duck, a Bird of the kind of Geese. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Vulpanser*, in zoology, a name given by some authors to the shell-drake, or burrow-duck. 1839 W. C. Taylor *Anc. Hist.* i. § 2 (ed. 2) 24 Wild and tame fowl abounded; the vulpanser goose of the Nile, bustards, partridges, quails, and widgeons, frequented the skirts of the desert, and the valley of the Nile. 1910 Thompson tr. *Aristotle's Hist. Anim.* 559 Wind-eggs are laid by a number of birds: as for instance the common hen,..the goose and the vulpanser.

Vulpecidal, -cide, -cidism, common varr. of Vulpicidal, etc.

‖ Vulpecula (vʌlpe·kiŭlă). *Astr.* [L. *vulpēcula*, dim. of *vulpēs* fox.] A small northern constellation lying between Hercules and Pegasus.

More fully called *Vulpecula et anser* (fox and goose) or *cum anserc.*

1866 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* 407 Another remarkable example of these optical transformations. is furnished by a nebula situated in the constellation Vulpecula.

Vulpe·cular, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. prec. + -ar.] 'Of or pertaining to a fox; vulpine.'

1884 *Imp. Dict.* (hence in later Dicts.).

† Vulpe·oulated, *pa. ppls. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. as prec. + -ate.] Robbed by a fox.

1671 T. B. *Let. to T. D.* (1705) 64 The Night before Widdow Wamford was vulpeculated of her brood goose.

Vu·lpic, *a. Chem.* [f. L. *vulp-ēs* (see def.) + -ic.] *Vulpic acid*, an acid occurring in the lichen *Cetraria vulpina*, and extracted from this or obtained artificially. (Also called *vulpinic acid.*)

1896 Mosley *Outlines Organic Chem.* 349 Hydric Phenylacetate..obtained..by boiling vulpic acid..with baryta. 1894 Morley & Muir *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 859/2 Vulpic acid is also formed by dissolving pulvic anhydride in a solution of KOH in MeOH.

Vulpici·dal, *a.* Also vulpe-. [f. next + -al.] Committing or taking part in, connected with, of the nature of, vulpicide.

The common spelling of this and the following words with *-e-* is not justified by analogy.

1826 J. Cook *Fox-hunting* 123 A known vulpicidal character. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* iii. You would be astonished at the immense collection I had of brushes, pads, and chops—a perfect museum—a vulpecidal curiosity. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 22 May 11 If ever the progress of a vulpecidal agriculture should prove fatal to the last of our foxes.

Vulpicide[1] (vʌ·lpisəid). Also vulpe-. [f. L. *vulpi-*, *vulpēs* fox + -cide 1.] One who kills a fox otherwise than by hunting it with hounds.

1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 367 Would that all the pheasants of all the Vulpecides..were heaped up on one pile. 1828 *Ibid.* XXII. 23, I mean man-kind, always save and excepting vulpecides. 1841 Phillipps-Wolley *Sport in Crimea & Caucasus* 43 The absence of fences to make a run interesting. If runs took place in this land of vulpecides. 1887 A. C. Smith *Birds Wiltshire* 357 Perhaps in the eyes of some as odious an appellation as that of regicide, or even vulpecide.

Vu·lpicide[2]. Also vulpe-. [f. as prec. + -cide 2.] The act of killing a fox otherwise than by hunting with hounds.

1873 H. Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* x. (1877) 243 Vulpicide, committed in defence of property and condemned neither by religion, nor by equity, nor by any law save that of sportsmen. 1888 *Land & Water* 13 Oct. 427/2 Dandie Dinmont doubtless excelled in sportsmanship,..yet his method would be denominated vulpecide in any of the shires to-day.

Vu·lpicidism. Also vulpe-. [f. as Vulpicide[1] or [2] + -ism.] The practice of fox-killing.

1865 *Murray's Handbk. Russia*, etc. 44 Vulpecidism is not here considered a crime, and many is the gallant fox who has fallen before the deadly barrel in a battue. 1880 *Yorkshire Post* 24 May, The discovery of a dastardly act of vulpecidism.

† Vu·lpinariness. *Obs.*⁻⁰ [f. L. *vulpīn-us* Vulpine *a.*] (See quot.) Also † **Vu·lpinary** *a.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulpinariness*, craftiness, deceipt. 1721 Bailey, *Vulpinary*, crafty, subtile, wily. 1820 *Edinb. Mag.* Aug. 129 The name by which this vulpinary veteran of the black art was universally known.

† Vu·lpinate, *v. Obs.*⁻⁰ [f. as prec.] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram i, *Vulpinate*, fox-like to deceiue. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulpinate*, to play the Fox; to deceive with crafty wiles or deceits.

Vulpine (vʌ·lpəin), *a.* [ad. L. *vulpīn-us*, f. *vulpēs* fox: see -ine[1]. So obs. F. *vulpin* (16th cent.), Sp. *vulpino*, It. *volpino.*]

1. Characteristic of a fox; similar to that of a fox.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. (1.) xii. 34 There is an innocentiall prouidence, as well as the slynesse of a vulpine craft. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* lxix, Round those vulpine retreats was a labyrinthean maze of wrinkles, vulgarly called crows feet. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* 1. i. 12 A very close vulpine nature, all eyes, all ears, may succeed better in deceit. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 146/1 Men of business glide about in glossy black cloth, with vulpine features, and hands as brown as a mummy. 1894 J. A. Steuart *In Day of Battle* i, A vulpine calculation and duplicity marked all his doings.

2. Resembling a fox; *spec.* in *Vulpine Opossum* or *Phalanger.*

1789 Phillip *Voy. Botany Bay* xv. 150 Vulpine Opossum. This is not unlike the common fox in shape, but considerably inferior to it in respect to size. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 459/2 The Vulpine Phalanger (*P. vulpina*), also called the Vulpine Opossum. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 225 The Vulpine Phalanger, an animal with long loose fur, which inhabits New South Wales, Western Australia, and North Australia.

b. *fig.* Cunning, sly.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 599 How cunningly the vulpine Cantab has shapen his phraseology.

3. Consisting of foxes.

1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* vi. (1850) 56 Which [food] soon brought numerous lupine and vulpine visitors. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 233/2 Sparrow Gorse..seems to offer small inducement to the vulpine fraternity.

4. Of or pertaining to a fox or foxes.

1854 Thoreau *Walden* (1884) 293 Sometimes one came near to my window, attracted by my light, barked a vulpine curse at me, and then retreated. 1885 *Field* 3 Oct. 501/1 A singular instance of vulpine sagacity and daring was witnessed.

Hence **Vu·lpinism,** foxy character.

1851 Carlyle *Excurs. Paris* in *Last Words T. C.* (1892) 187 A healthy Human Animal, with due beaverism (high and low), due vulpinism, or more than due. 1898 — *Fredk. Gt.* IX. v. (1865) II. 437 He was without guile, and had no vulpinism at all.

Vulpinite (vʌ·lpinəit). *Min.* [f. *Vulpino* (*Volpino*), near Bergamo in Lombardy + -ite[1] 2 b. Named by C. F. Ludwig, 1804.] A granular variety of anhydrite.

1823 W. Phillips *Elem. Introd. Min.* 174 Siliciferous Anhydrous Gypsum,.. Vulpinite. 1850 Ansted *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. § 388 Anhydrite, Muriacite, Vulpinite, Anhydrous sulphate of lime. 1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1011 The vulpinite from Vulpino, near Bergamo in Italy, takes a fine polish, and is used for ornamental purposes.

Vulpone, -ony: see Volpone.

Vulsella, obs. form of Volsella.

‖ Vulsellum. *Surg.* [ad. L. *vulsella* (*volsella*) fem., but taken as neut. pl., f. *vuls-*, ppl. stem of *vellĕre* to pluck.] = Volsellum. Also *attrib.*

1863 Weiss *Catal. Surg. Instr.* Pl. xxix, Spring Forceps with Vulsellum Points. *Ibid.*, Long Vulsellum Forceps. 1872 Cohen *Dis. Throat* 128 A much more satisfactory plan consists in drawing the enlarged gland out from its bed by means of a double vulsellum.

† Vu·lsion. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vulsio*, n. of action f. *vellĕre* to pluck.] (See quots.)

1552 Cooper *Elyot's Dict.*, *Apospasmus*, a vulsion. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulsion*, the twinging or pulling of the cramp, or any other thing.

Vulsten, southern ME. var. Filst *v.*

† Vult. *Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5–6 wlt, wult, 5 vilt, 6–7 volt; 5 voute, vowt, woust. [a. OF. *vult*, *volt*, *voult*, *vout* (= It. *volto*, Sp. and Pg. *vulto*) :—L. *vult-us* face, etc.] Face, countenance; esp. expression of the features, cheer or bearing.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 330 Sancte Iohne..croyxit it, & drank al oute but rednes with blith wlte. *Ibid.* xxv. (*Julian*) 705 A laydy .with blyth wlt,..sad to bame bat stud about. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 237 Pe voute of bi venge has woundyde us alle! *Ibid.* 3054 He weres his vesere with a vount noble. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 3539 Payr of fassoun and of face,..Part of vult and eloquent. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1278 To that lordly on loft that lusty can lout,..Saluist the bauld berne, with ane blith wost. *c* 1490 Henry *Wallace* x. 77 Quha couth behald thair awfull lordly wult, So weill beseyn, so forthwart, stern, and stult. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* xii. xi. 93 In the thar wlte, in the thar ene, but failt, The Latyn pepill dresalt hes alhailt. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 497 He was nathing content of this estate; howbeit, he schew gud vult for the time. 1580 *Well of Woman Hill, Aberdeen* A iij b, This watter, being drunkin, cuirand..prolapsion of the vult, and dolour of the Tonsallis. *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 70 She welcomed me with a merry volt, and thanked me for the diligence I had used in hasting to give her that intelligence.

† Vultuo·sous, *a. Obs.*⁻⁰ [f. L. *vultuōs-us* having an affected look, f. *vultus* Vult.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vultuosous*, of a grave and solemn countenance, or of a heavy and sad look.

So **† Vu·ltuous** *a. Obs.*⁻¹

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 3 When we delight in discord, our assemblings are dissemblings, our convocations provocations, every man vultuous. 1721 Bailey.

Vulture (vʌ·ltiŭr), *sb.* Forms: α. 4 volture, 5 vowlture, 4– vulture (5 fulture), 5 voultour, 7 vultour. β. 4–9 vultur, 5 wltur, fultur, vowtur. γ. 4 vultre, 5 w(u)ltre, vowtre; 4, 6–7 vulter, 6 voulter, vultar, 7 volter. [a. AF. *vultur* and *voutre*, OF. *voltour*, *voultoir*, *voutour* (F. *vautour*), or L. *vultur*, or ad. L. *vulturius*. The OF. forms, like Pr. *voltor*, *voutor*, and It. *avoltore*, *avoltojo*, represent L. *vulturi-us*, while AF. *voutre*, Sp. *buitre*, and Pg. *abutre* are from L. *vultur.*

In Maundeville (1839) xxii. 237 the form *wouteur* is prob. inexact for *wouteour.*]

1. One of a number of large birds of prey of the order *Raptores* which feed almost entirely upon carrion and have the head and neck altogether or almost featherless.

The American vultures belong to different genera from those of the Old World.

α. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 788 Ticius yn helle, Whos stomak fouglides tiden euere mo, That highte volturis as bokes telle. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), The vulture hab þat name of slowe flizt. *Ibid.*, Whan manye vultures comeþ and fleeþ togedres hit bodeþ bataille. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 153 Vowltures, egles, rauyns, and oþer fewler of rauyne. 1456 Sir G. Hayr *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 41 Grete foulis lyke ernis callit voultouris. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 28 Qvandias is a stone..It is found in the Vulture his heade. 1584–7 Greene *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 115 The Vulture is mortal enimie to the Eele. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* xi. 784 On his bosome sat Two Vultures, digging through his caule of fat. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 11 The destruction of men and women..better contenting them, whose dead carkasses they devoure with a vultures appetite. 1679 Collier *Ess.* II. (1703) 129 [Despair] preys upon the vitals, like Prometheus's vulture. 1721 Young *Revenge* IV. i, Give them the vultures, tear them all in pieces! 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 59 The Vulture..is indelicately voracious, and seldom attacks living animals when it can be supplied with dead. 1834 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 118 The vultures have eyes flush with the head, and reticulated tarsi,..an elongated beak,..and a greater or less portion of the head, or even of the neck divested of feathers. 1843 Yarrell *Brit. Birds* I. 9 Vultures are most numerous in warm countries, where a high degree of temperature induces [illegible] 1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* II. v. 84 There wheels a vulture, giving to the blue The shade or sparkle of his slanted wings.

β. 1388 Wyclif *Job* xxviii. 7 The ize of a vultur [*v. r.* vowtur], ethir rauenouse brid, hibelde it not *c* 1420 *Pr. Life Alexander* 71 In þe mornenynge arely þare come many fewlis als grete as wlturs, reed of colour. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xii. ii. 410 That egle..dredyth the Fultur. 1580 G. Harvey *Three Proper Lett.* 36 A Vulture smelling, Apes tasting, sight of an Eagle. 1698 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 282 When the Vultur in his crooked clawes Shall graspe the locust. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 432 As when a Vultur on Imaus bred..flies toward the Springs Of Ganges or Hydaspes. 1695 Prior *Ballad on Taking Namur* ii, Too like a Vultur Boileau flies, Where sordid Interest shows the Prey. 1757 W. Wilkie *Epigon.* I. 20 No doves are hatch'd beneath a vultur's wing. 1828–32 Webster s.v., The vultur is one of the largest kinds of fowls.

γ. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 57 Seuen foules schewede hem to Remus, þat beeþ i-cleped vulterus. *Ibid.*, Fourtene vulteras [*v. r.* vultres] schewed hem to Romulus. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3945 Þan come a flizir in of fowls.. To vise on as vowtres. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* I. i. (1883) 10 Thre honderd birdes that men calle vultres. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxv. 918 Whrees egges be grete as Egles egges. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Vultur*,.. a rauenous birde called a voulter or geyre. 1589 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 133 Doth not the Lyon for strength..excell man? Doth not the Eagle see clearer, the Vultur better? 1687 *Good Advice* 44 Spare, Claws and Bills that made her look more like a Vulter then a Dove.

b. With distinguishing terms.

The number of these is very large, and only some of the more important are here recorded. See also Auriculated *ppl. a.*, Crane *sb.*[1] 7, Griffin[1] 4, Maltese *a.* 2, Secretary *sb.*[1] 7, Sociable *a.* 1 b.

1758 Lathan *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 22 *Alpine Vulture: *Vultur percnopterus.* 1820 Scott *Anne of Geierstein* II, One of this..flight chanced to be a lammer-geier, or Alpine vulture. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 461 The small Alpine Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), with naked head and very long, thin beak. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 36 *American Vulture. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 8 *Arabian Vulture]. According to Edwards, the size exceeds that of a common eagle, by one third. 1829 *Orr's Circles Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 374 The *Vultur monachus*, or Arabian Vulture. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 16 The *ashe-coloured Vulture

is the most large byrde of prayye that is to be founde. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 64 *Vultur Cinereus*, the ash-coloured Vultur. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 252 In this tribe we may range..the ash-coloured..vulture. 1790 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 106 The *Bearded Vulture. This Bird is of the Bigness of an Eagle. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 13 From which circumstance the name of Bearded Vulture is particularly applied to the present species. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 243/2 Lämmergeyer..or Bearded Vulture,..one of the grandest birds-of-prey of the Palæarctic Region. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 16 There are two sortes,..the ashe mayld, or *blacke Vulture, and the browne or whitish Vulture. 1602 Holland *Pliny* x. vi. I. 274 The blacke vultures are the best. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 31 Black Vulture..This bird is described as larger than the Golden Vulture, and of a black colour. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 825/2 The Black Vulture (*C. atratus*) is a darker and smaller species. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 10 *Californian Vulture. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 222 Californian Vulture. Brownish-black, lustrous above, paler below. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 302/1 *Pseudogryphus*, the great Californian Vulture. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 9 *Carrion Vulture. The size of this species is about that of a Turkey. 1849 Tennyson *'You might have won'* 35 For whom the carrion vulture waits—To tear his heart! 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 461 The smaller Carrion Vulture (*Catharistes*). *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 67 The *cinereous or ash-coloured Vulture. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 14 Cinereous V[ulture]..The size is that of an Eagle, or rather

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Black Vulture..is a very large bird. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 824/2 The *Eared Vulture (*V. auricularis*) is an African species of a blackish colour, with a fleshy crest on each side of the head under the openings of the ears. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 13 *Egyptian V[ulture]..is said to be of a rufous ash-colour, spotted with brown. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 825/2 Egyptian Vulture (*P. leucocephalus*)..also, from its abundance in Egypt, called 'Pharaoh's chicken'. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 300/1 One of them [sc. *Nephrotinus*] is the so-called Egyptian Vulture or Pharaoh's Hen, *Neophron percnopterus*. *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 67 *margin*, Our *Fulvous Vulture, like Bellonius his Chesnut one. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 27 The Fulvous or Golden Vulture is one of the largest of the genus, exceeding the size of the Golden Eagle. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 165 The Fulvous Vulture..is the most widely-diffused species, inhabiting the mountainous parts of the whole ancient continent. *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 67 Viewing the skin of the *Golden Vulture, sent me once out of the Alpine Country of the Grisons,..I thus described it. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat Hist.* (1824) II. 252 The Golden Vulture seems to be the foremost of the kind. 1809 [see *fulvous vulture*]. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 7 *King V[ulture]..is about the size of an hen Turkey. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 374 Another species of the genus *Sarcorhamphus*, is the King Vulture (*S. papa*), which is not uncommon in Brazil and Guiana. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 19 *Tawny Vulture..inhabits Falkland Islands. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 824/1 The Tawny Vulture (*V. fulvus*) is a large bird, and has been long known to natural history. *Ibid.* 825/2 The *Turkey Vulture (*C. aura*) is another American species of smaller size. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 375 The common American Vulture is the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), or Turkey Buzzard. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 461 The large *White-headed Vulture (*Vultur fulvus*).

c. *King of the vultures*, the king-vulture (*Sarcorhamphus papa*).

1743 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* I. 2 The King of the Vultures. This Bird is about the Bigness of a Hen-Turkey. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 254 There is one of the kind, called the King of the Vultures, which from its extraordinary figure deserves a separate description. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xxvii. 299 The bird called the king of the vultures is not very common in Surinam. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 375 It is from this that he derives his title of the King of the Vultures.,

2. *fig.* a. Something which preys upon a person, the mind, etc., after the manner of a vulture; *esp.* a consuming or torturing passion.

Commonly in allusion to the punishment inflicted on Tityus (*Odyss.* XI. 576).

1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* li, A Vultur worse then his teares all my vaines. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 30, I am Reuenge sent from th' infernall Kingdome, To ease the gnawing Vulture of the mind. *a* 1632 Donne *Serm., Ps. xc.* 14 (1640) 813 That fearfull Vulture, the Inquisition, hovers over them. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Summers Trav.* (1873) 33 The Client having Tityus empty maw (His guts tormented with the Vulture Law). 1748 Gray *Eton* 62 These shall the fury Passions tear, The vultures of the mind, Disdainful Anger, pallid Fear, And Shame 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. lix, And could the ceaseless vultures cease to prey On self-condemning bosoms, it were here. 1861 C. Reade *Cloister & Hearth* lxv, The bereaved heart lay still heavy as lead within his bosom; but now the dark vulture Remorse sat upon it rending it. 1883 Macfadyen in *Congregat. Y'ear Bk.* 77 The nation seems preyed upon by vultures of lust and superstition.

b. A person of a vile and rapacious disposition.

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* III. ii, Time shall mature..what we, with so good vultures, haue begunne. 1613 Beaum. & Fl. *Honest Man's Fort.* II. i, Ye dregs of baseness, vultures amongst men, That tyre upon the hearts of generous spirits. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 38 P 10 He..will be at last torn to pieces by the vultures that always hover over fortunes in decay. 1848 Lytton *Pelham* III. ii, Before midnight I was in high fever; they sent for the vultures of physic—I was bled copiously. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Sept. 4/2 Lord Ripon..showed that India was not merely the favourite hunting-ground of English vultures.

3. *Astr.* One or other of two northern constellations, distinguished as the *falling vulture* = Lyra 2, Harp *sb.*[1] 3, and *flying vulture* = Eagle *sb.* 4.

1638 Chilmead tr. *Naud' Treat. Globes* II. iii. (1[illegible] ninth is Gallina or Cygnus, the Hen or Swan, and is called in Arabique..the flying Vulture. 1673 F. Lamb *Astrosophium* 6 The Harp, otherwise called the falling Gryps, or Vulture. *Ibid.* 10 The Eagle, by some call'd the flying Gryps or Vulture, consisting of 12 stars. 1901 J. F. Hewitt *Alykmaking Age* I. I. 8 When Vega in the Constellation of the Vulture or Lyra became Pole Star.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib. with *beak, claw, eye, feather*, etc., denoting either 'of a vulture' or 'like that of a vulture'; also **vulture-feather**, a species of moth.

1834 W. Howitt in *Tait's Mag.* I. 375/2 With a heart free from the *vulture-beak of care. 1887 Blouris *Jason* v. 255 Within her filthy *vulture-claws clutched tight. 1593 A. Chute *Beautie Dishonoured* (1908) 210 When coward death..Lookes on her fayre face, with a *vultar eye. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxiv, Under the eagle, or rather the vulture eye of the Baron. 1832 J. Rennie *Compl. Butterfl. & M.* 208 The *Vulture Feather[—*Gryphipennella*) found amongst grass. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vulture-feathers*, feathers of species of *Accipitres*, imported from Bombay, and sold for stuffing beds, &c., the larger ones for making artificial flowers, &c. 1883 *Ibid., Vulture feathers*, a commercial name for those of the *Rhea* of South America. 1885 Rider Haggard *King Solomon's Mines* ix, She turned her bald *vulture-head towards us. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 128/2 *Vulture-hocks [in Cochin China cocks] are a matter of taste. 1855 *Ibid.* III. 348/2 The boots, or as Shanghai fanciers would style it, the vulture hock, must be white. 1847 Tennyson *Prine.* IV. 344 Thereat the Lady stretch'd a vulture throat. 1872 J. Hay *Pike County Ball.* (1880) 86 Cast from the hovering *vulture-wings of one dark thought of woe and doom.

b. Attrib. with nouns of quality or action.

1593 A. Chute *Beautie Dishonoured* (1908) 105 To vultar greedinesse of an easie crowne. 1820 Campbell *Scene in Bavaria* xiii, Who shuns a warring world, nor woos The vulture cover of its wing. 1826 T. Maurice *Fall Mogul* II iv, All our treasures His vulture-grasp has seiz'd. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 940 Victorious Wrong, with vulture scream, Salutes the rising sun.

c. Appositive, also in fig. use (cf. sense 2).

1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 551 Whose vultur thought doth pitch the price so hie. *a* 1639 T. Carew *Mediocritie in love Rej.* ii, If it prove Disdaine, that torrent will devoure My Vulture-hopes. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 85 The eagle kind, the hawk kind, the vulture kind. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 2 The chief of the Vulture tribe..is undoubtedly the Condor. *Ibid.* 13 One of the principal distinctions between the Eagle and the Vulture kind. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 620 Cursed, cursed Circe! O vulture-witch, hast never heard of mercy? 1843 T. Edmonston in *Zoologist* I. 38 The vulture-eagle lay in her own nest, bound, gagged, and powerless.

d. In instrumental and similative combs., as *vulture-gnawn, -rent, -torn, -tortured*; *vulture-hocked* (see 4 a), *-like* adjs.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Colonies* 298 The Vulture-rented Prometheus, 'mong the Greeks had fire invented. 1623 G. Daniel *Sons.* xv, To her that..laies to view My Vultur-gnawne hart open. 1644 Digby *Nat. Soul* Concl. 456 The ravenous inclemency, and vulturelike cruelty. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 418 These rush upon thee; Thy vitals seize, and vultur-like, devour. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* II. xiv. 10 Where vulture-tortured Tityus lies. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 589 To be like poor Prometheus, vulture-torn. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 84/1 They are well hooted, or as the Shanghae fanciers style it, 'Vulture-hocked'.

Hence **Vu·lture** *v. trans.*, to tear like a vulture. *rare*[—1].

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [1.] xxv. 80 Though pleasure merries the Sences for a while: yet horror after vultures the vnconsuming heart.

†**Vultu·rian**, *a. Obs.*[—1] [f. Vulture *sb.* + -ian.] = next.

1659 T. Pecke *Parnassi Puerp.* 38 A Treasurer, whom Vertue makes to hold, Vulturian Talons, from the Regal Gold.

Vulturine (vʊ·ltiŭrəin), *a.* [ad. L. *vulturinus*, f. *vultur* Vulture *sb.*: see -ine.]

1. Of or belonging to the vulture tribe; resembling a vulture: a. In names of birds.

1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxiv. 28 The vulturine eagles especially..follow armies, and feed on carcases. *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 64 The Vulturine Eagle of Aldrovandus, called *Percnopteros*. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 58 Vulturine Eagle, *Falco vulturinus*. *Ibid.* 343 Vulturine Raven, *Corvus vulturinus*. 1849 *Sh. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* III. 48 The vulturine eagle..makes the mountain precipices its abode. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 21 A little orbital space is bare in many birds, as the vulturine hawks, and some pigeons. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 313 On the coast the chief enemy of the Parrots is the Vulturine Sea-Eagle (*Gypohierax angolensis*).

b. In general use. Also *fig.*

1721 Bailey, *Vulturine*,..rapacious. 1790 Pennant *Tour Scotl.* I. 58 He..sells it at five shillings,..thus happily disappointing the rapacity of the vulturine monopolizer. 1843 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 II. 229/1 Even the petticoated torch-bearers from rotten Rome, If more blustering,..were less bitter and vulturine. 1880 Swinburne *Study. Shaks.* 207 But the virtuous critic, after the alleged nature of the vulturine kind, would appear to have eyes and ears and nose for nothing else. 1886 Guillemard *Cruise Marchesa* II. 219 The rare Pesquet's Parrot,..half vulturine in appearance and with the face and throat bare.

2. Of or pertaining to a vulture or vultures; characteristic of, like that of, a vulture.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulturine*, pertaining to the ravenous Bird called a Vulture. 1658 Phillips, *Vulturine*, belonging to a Vultur or Geyr. 1892 *Zoologist* X. 3646 It has..the real vulturine fondness for carrion. 1855 Kingsley *Misc., Raleigh* (1859) I. 31 There is no more to be discovered in the master, save by the vulturine nose which smells a carrion in every rose-bud. 1880 E. O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* II. 130 An uneasy, vulturine expression of the eye, the pupil being quite surrounded by the white.

Vulturish (vʊ·ltiŭrĭʃ), *a.* [f. Vulture *sb.* + -ish.] Somewhat vulture-like.

1826 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 435 That the majority of the flock thought it essentially vulturish to exclude one third of their numbers from the blood and entrails 1841 [see Hawkish *a.*]. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, Valiant Wisdom ..escorted by owl-eyed Pedantry, by owlish and vulturish and many other forms of Folly.

Vulturism. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ism.] Vulturine character or habits.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, Lawyers too were poets, were heroes..Their Owlisms, Vulturisms,..will disappear.

Vu·lturizing, *ppl. a. rare*[—1]. [f. as prec. + -ize + -ing[2].] Acting like a vulture.

1650 *Descr. Future Hist. Europe* 12 The feet part of Iron and part of Clay, denoted the declining Estate of the Roman Empire..under the present Papacy and now-vulturizing house of Austria.

Vulturous (vʊ·ltiŭrəs), *a.* Also 7 vulterous. [f. Vulture *sb.* + -ous.]

1. Resembling that of a vulture; ravenous.

1603 Webster *Duchess Malfi* II. i, There's no question but her techiness and most vulturous eating of the apricocks are apparent signs of breeding. 1647 Hammond *Christ Oblig.* (1649) 15 And when..he was shut up alone in the bladder, his vulturous stomack less loose upon himself, and within few minuits more, one half of him devoures the other. 1672 Penn *Spir. Truth Vind.* 14 [It] is invisible to his vulterous Eye, who so disdainfully writes against it. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. iv, With such a vulturous hunger for self-indulgence. 1870 Talmage *Crumbs Swept Up* (1871) 278 They watch about the door for new-comers,..invite him to drink,..and plunge their vulturous beaks into the vitals of his soul.

2. *fig.* Resembling a vulture in appearance or character.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* IV. i, The battle, with various weapons, of vulturous Quack and Tyrant against vulturous Tyrant and Quack. 1864 — *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. I IV. 243 The Owleries and the vulturous Law-Pedantries. 1885 Tennyson *Dead Prophet* vii, Then glided a vulturous Beldam forth, That on dumb death had thriven.

‖ **Vulva** (vʊ·lvă). [L. *vulva* (*volva*), wrapper, uterus. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *vulva*, F. *vulve*.]

1. *Anat.* The external organ of generation in the female; *esp.* the opening or orifice of that organ.

1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* ix (1888) 77 By it goeth forth the vrin, or els it should be shed through out al the Vulua. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* IV. xvi. (1631) 237 The last dissimilar part of the womb [is called] of some *Vulva*. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 708/1 Anoint the Vulva and Womb with this Mixture. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 355 It is formed of two planes of fibres, which .. are interlaced, between the anus and vulva. 1841 Ramsbotham *Obstetr. Med.* 53 The whole of the external parts together, as well those that are lined by mucous membrane, as those covered by the common cuticle, are called the vulva. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 274 Anteriorly, each pair of tubes opens into the oviduct of its side, which passes down along the side of the body to terminate at the vulva.

2. *Conch.* An impression behind the umbones of Venus-shells.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 379 The ligament often leaves, behind the beaks, an elliptical impression, to which the term *vulva* has been applied.

Hence **Vu·lval**, **Vu·lvar** *adjs.*, of or belonging to the vulva.

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 706/1 From the centre of the vulvar orifice to the end of the fornix. 1866 J. M. Sims *Uterine Surg.* 328 The whole vulval or outer face of the hymen is sensitive. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 604/1 Such irritation may lead to excoriation of the vulvar mucous membrane.

Vulve, obs. form of Wolf *sb.*

Vu·lviform, *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [f. L. *vulvi-* Vulva + -form.] (See quot.)

1849 Craig, *Vulviform*, in Botany, like a cleft with projecting edges. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Vulva*, The oval or vulviform conformation presented by certain bivalve shells.

‖ **Vulvitis** (vʊlvəi·tĭs). *Path.* [f. Vulv-a + -itis.] Inflammation of the vulva.

1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1338. 1864 Bumstead *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 209 Their effect..is so slight that they are not to be recommended in vaginitis or vulvitis. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 604/1 In catarrhal vulvitis the pain and redness of the mucous membrane are slight.

Vulvo- (vʊ·lvo), combining form on Gr. models of L. *vulva* Vulva, occurring in a few anatomical or pathological terms, as *vulvo-scrotal, -uterine, -vaginal, vaginitis*.

1849 Craig s.v. *Vulva*, The vagina or vulvo-uterine canal. 1857 Bullock *Caseaux' Midwif.* 46 The Vulvo-vaginal gland had been completely lost sight of by modern anatomists. 1893 D. J. Cunningham *Man. Pract. Anat.* I. 380 The two fascial pouches, are sometimes spoken of as the vulvo-scrotal sacs. 1897 *Trans Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 113 The urine may be so irritating as to cause a vulvo-vaginitis in the female infant.

Vum (vʊm), *v. U.S. colloq.* [Alteration of Vow *v.*[2]] *intr.* To vow, swear.

1785 *Mass. Spy* 13 Oct. 2/2 We all must dreadful mindful be That we must fight for liberty And vum we'll spend it, if we die. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* I. xii, 'I vum,' said he, 'what is the matter?' 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi. (1891) 253 But the Deacon swore (as Deacons do, With an 'I dew vum', or an 'I tell yeou').

Hence **Vum** *sb.*

1881 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 249 Darius was piqued, and he said, with a vum, 'I'll pay for the wood, if you'll send it hum'.

†Vumbard. *Obs.*—[1] [app. a late form of VAMWARD: for the sense cf. VANTGUARD 2.] ? A front guard.

1464 *Manx. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 195 My mastyr lent hym a payr of smale curas wyth gardys and vumbarde.

Vunde, southern ME. pa. t. FIND *v.*

Vur, Vurness, Vurther, southern dial. vars. FAR *adv.*, etc., FARNESS, FURTHER.

†Vusse. *Obs. rare.* [? Alteration of FAITH *sb.*] *By my vusse,* used as an asseveration.

1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* F ij b, But are you my vncle indeed? By my vusse I am sayes the old man. Then vncle by my vusse welcome to Court.

Vuste, southern ME. variant of FIST *sb.*[1]

Vuseer, variant of VIZIER.

1847 *Gentl. Mag.* March 299/2 The Vuzeer Lall Singh .. has been deposed... Unable to select a Vuzeer from among their own number [etc.].

Vus(s, southern dial. variant of FURZE.

Vy, obs. form of VIE *sb.*[3] and *v.*

Vyall, obs. form of VIOL *sb.*

Vyalett, obs. form of VIOLET *sb.*[1]

Vyce, obs. Sc. form of WISE *a.*

Vych, Vychon, southern ME. varr. EACH (*one*).

Vychancellour, obs. f. VICE-CHANCELLOR.

Vyche, obs. form of WITCH *sb.*

Vycht, obs. Sc. form of WIGHT *sb.* and *a.*

Vychtie, obs. Sc. form of WEIGHTY *a.*

Vyckyr, obs. form of VICAR.

Vycle, southern ME. var. FICKLE *v.*[1]

Vycytar, obs. form of VISITER.

Vycyte, obs. form of VISIT *v.*

Vy'd, Vyde, obs. ff. VIED *ppl. a.*

Vyd(e, obs. Sc. forms of WIDE *a.*

Vydam(e, obs. forms of VIDAME.

Vydele, southern ME. variant of FIDDLE.

Vydour, obs. Sc. form of VOIDER.

Vye, var. VIE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *sb.*[3] *Obs.*; obs. f. VIE *v.*

Vyend, southern ME. var. FIEND.

Vyer, occas. printed for *vþer* OTHER *a.*

Vyf(e, Vyff, obs. Sc. ff. WIFE *sb.*

†Vyfnes. *Obs.*—[1] [f. F. *vif* VIVE *a.* + -NESS.] Liveliness, vivacity.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 4 Therfor..every man in hym silf let the passions of dolours be turned and empressid into vyfnes of here spiritis.

Vyftene, -teope, southern ME. vars. FIFTEEN(TH. **Vygne,** obs. f. VINE *sb.*

Vyhs, obs. form of VICE *sb.*[1]

Vyhte, southern ME. var. FIGHT *sb.* and *v.*

Vyijs, Vyild, obs. Sc. f. WISE *sb.*, WILD *a.*

Vying, obs. form of VIEING *vbl. sb.*

Vyir, occas. printed for *vþir* OTHER *a.*

Vyiss, variant of VISE *v. Obs.*

Vyis(e, Vyit, Vyl, Vyld(e, obs. Sc. ff. WISE *sb.* and *a.*, WITE *sb.* and *v.*, WILL *sb.*, WILD *a.*

Vylarde, variant of VIELLARD *Obs.*

Vylence, -ens, variants of VILLAINS *a. Obs.*

Vyleny(e, etc., obs. forms of VILLAINY.

Vylette, southern ME. variant of FILLET *sb.*

Vylie, obs. form of VILELY *adv.*

Vylie, Vyling, obs. Sc. variant of WILY *a.*, WILING *vbl. sb.*

Vylney, obs. form of VILLAINY.

Vyloyns, variant of VILLAINS *a. Obs.*

Vyn, southern ME. var. FIN *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WIN *v.*, WONE *v.*

Vynacre, -eker, obs. variants of VINEGAR.

Vynd, obs. form of WYND *sb. Sc.*

Vyndage, variant of VENDAGE *Obs.*

Vynde, southern ME. var. FIND *v.*; obs. f. VINE *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WIND *sb.*

Vyndle, obs. Sc. form of WINDLE *v.*

Vyndok, obs. Sc. variant of WINDOW.

Vyne, obs. f. VINE; obs. Sc. f. WIN *v.*, WIRE.

Vynet(t, Vyniet, variants of VINET *Obs.*

Vynetree, obs. form of VINTRY.

Vynk, obs. Sc. form of WINK *v.*

Vynne, southern ME. variant of FIN *sb.*

Vynnett, variant of VINET *Obs.*

Vynour, obs. variant of VINER[2].

Vyntre, obs. form of VINE-TREE, VINTRY.

Vynued, variant of VINEWED *a. Obs.*

Vyny, Vynye, obs. var. VINE *sb.*, VINNY *v.*

Vynyette, variant of VINET *Obs.*

Vyral, obs. form of VIRL *sb.*

Vyrchippe, obs. form of WORSHIP.

Vyre, variant of EURE *sb. Obs.*, VIRE *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

Vyrelle, -ille, obs. forms of VIRL *sb.*

Vyrk, obs. Sc. form of WORK *v.*

Vyrne, variant of VERNE *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

Vyrre, southern ME. variant of FIR.

Vyssard(e, obs. forms of VISARD.

Vyscele, obs. Sc. form of VESSEL *sb.*

Vyse, obs. var. USE *v.*, VICE *sb.*, VISE *v.*, VISS, WISE *sb.* and *v.*

Vysenamy, obs. form of VISNOMY.

Vyseuase, Vysiare : see VISENASE, VISIERE.

Vysilie, Vysly, obs. forms of WISELY *adv.*

Vyss, Vyssyon, obs. ff. VICE *sb.*[1], VISION.

Vyss, Vyssare, Vysycyon, southern ME. varr. FISH, FISHER, PHYSICIAN.

Vyt, Vytch, Vyte, obs Sc. ff WIT, WITCH, WITE.

Vythulare, Vythule, southern ME. variants of FIDDLER, FIDDLE.

Vyue, southern ME. var. FIVE; obs. f. VIVE *a.*

Vyuer, Vyver(e, obs. forms of VIVER[1].

Vyveri, obs. variant of IVORY.

Vywe(r, obs. forms of VIEW *sb.*, VIEWER.

W.

W (*dŭbˈlˌyū*), the 23rd letter of the modern English alphabet, is an addition to the ancient Roman alphabet, having originated from a ligatured doubling of the Roman letter represented by the U and V of modern alphabets. When, in the 7th c., the Latin alphabet was first applied to the writing of English, it became necessary to provide a symbol for the sound (w), which did not exist in contemporary Latin. This sound, a gutturally-modified bilabial voiced spirant, is acoustically almost identical with the devocalized (*u̯*) or (u), which was the sound originally expressed by the Roman U or V as a consonant-symbol; but before the 7th c. this Latin sound had developed into (v). The single *u* or *v* therefore could not without ambiguity be used to represent (w), though this was occasionally done, and in some Northumbrian texts was the regular practice. The ordinary sign for (w) was at first *uu*, but in the 8th c. this began to be superseded by ƿ, a character borrowed from the Runic alphabet, in which its name was *wyn* (Kentish *wen*). Eventually the use of ƿ became almost universal, but in the mean time the *uu* was carried from England to the continent, being used for the sound (w) in the German dialects, and in French proper names and other words of Teut. and Celtic origin. In the 11th c. the ligatured form was introduced into England by Norman scribes, and gradually took the place of ƿ, which finally went out of use about A.D. 1300. The character W was probably very early regarded as a single letter, although it has never lost its original name of 'double U'.

In OE. the sound (w) occurred initially not only before vowels but also before (l) and (r). The combination *wl* became obsolete in the 15th c. (in Sc. poetry *wlonk*, alliterating with *w-* words, was used in the 16th c.); *wr* is still written, but the *w* is silent in standard English, though in some dialects it is sounded as (w) or as (v). OE. had also the initial combination (hw), written *hu(u, hƿ*, and subsequently *ƿh, wh*; for the later development of this phonetic combination, and the history of the associated symbols, see WH.

The chief etymological sources of the Eng. (w) are: (1) OE. (w), mainly representing Indogermanic *w, gh*^{w}, *kw*, or *k*^{w}; (2) ON. (w) of the same origin (in cited words expressed by *v*, according to Icelandic usage); (3) OF. (w), retained in north-eastern Fr. dialects, but elsewhere becoming (gw) and ultimately (g), whence in English such doublets as *wage* and *gage*, *warranty* and *guaranty*. The sound also occurs, represented otherwise than by *w*, in words of Latin origin containing the combinations *qu* (kw) and *su* (sw), as *question*, *suavity*, *persuade* (in 16–18th c. often written with *sw*); also in a few Fr. words, as *reservoir* (-vwɑ̄).

So far as it remains a consonant-symbol, the letter never denotes any other sound than (w), but in a few words it has ceased to be pronounced, though still written, as in *answer*, *sword*, *two*, and in the combination *wr* referred to above. In the unstressed second element of a compound, (w) tends to be elided in colloquial speech. This contracted pronunciation is in some words a mere vulgarism (marked as such by spellings like *back'ard*, *forrard*, *allus* for *always*); in *Norwich* and some other place-names in *-wich* it is the only one regarded as correct, and the same may be said with regard to the nautical term *gunwale*; in *midwife* the contraction (midˈdif), formerly general, is now rarely heard. The tendency to elision of *w* beginning an unstressed second syllable is shown also in the change of *housewife* into *hussif, hussy*, where the spelling has followed the pronunciation, though the uncontracted form is now restored exc. in a special disparaging sense.

In some ME. MSS. (northern and north midland), and in many Scottish texts of the 15th and 16th centuries, *w* is written for *v*, and vice versa. In the 16th and 17th c., books printed from continental type often have the letter in the divided form VV, vv.

In ME. a new (w) arose from the development of intervocalic or final (γ), inherited from OE., as in *bowe*:—earlier *boȝe*:—OE. *boga*. This sound, however, has not survived as a consonant, because every (w) after a stressed vowel became a *u*-glide, the terminal element of a diphthong. From the early ME. period *w* was often substituted for *u* in vowel-digraphs (whether denoting diphthongs or simple vowels). In modern spelling *aw, ew, ow* are phonetically equivalent to *au, eu, ou*, though *ow* never stands for (*ū*), as in the older *yow* = *you* (except in the surname Cowper); the choice between *u* and *w* has been determined to some extent by etymological tradition, but is mainly arbitrary; at the end of a word *w*, not *u*, is used all but invariably. The traditional statement of grammarians that 'W is a vowel as well as a consonant' refers to its use in these digraphs; but in the 14–15th c., and in Sc. also in the 16th c., *w* occasionally represents (*ū*), as in *trw* = true, *swne* = soon, *swth* = sooth.

In south-eastern dialects (w) is regularly substituted for (v), and many writers of the first half of the 19th c. attribute to the Cockney dialect the habit of misusing (v) for (w) and (w) for (v) on all occasions. No trace of this survives in present-day London speech; and although there is no doubt that the Kentish (w) for (v) at one time extended to London, it is probable that the reverse substitution was merely an occasional (if perhaps rather frequent) result of the endeavour to speak correctly.

1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. (1764) 21 *Sneak.* Yes, werry like Venus. 1803 PEGGE *Anecd. Engl. La g.* (1814) 77 The.. most offensive error in pronunciation among the Londoners ..lies in the transpositional use of the letters *W* and *V*, ever to be heard where there is any possibility of inverting them. Thus they always say, *W*eal, instead of *veal*; and *W*inegar, instead of *vinegar*; while, on the other hand, you hear *V*icked, for wicked—*V*ig, for wig; and a few others. 1809 T. HARRAL *Scenes of Life* III. 26 'Last night thou gavest me to a willain's arms!'—'A villain?'..'Ay, a willain!' 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, 'Do you spell it [Weller] with a V or a W?'..'I spells it with a V'...'Quite right too, Samivel...Put it down a we, my lord'. 1844 T. H. KEY *Alphabet* 107 London too is remarkable for the confusion of the sounds, though this confusion does not seem to arise from any inability to pronounce either a *w* or a *v*, each being substituted for the other with a most amusing perversity.

A mispronunciation of (w) for (r), in some persons due to a physical defect, has sometimes been a fashionable affectation.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, 'Gwacious heavens!' said his lordship. 'I thought evewebody had seen the new mail-cart; it's the neatest, pwettiest, gwacefullest thing that ever wan.' 1844 T. H. KEY *Alphabet* 93 The letter *r* is at times confounded with *w*. Thus it is not a very rare variety of articulation that *rubbish* is pronounced *wubbish*.

1. The letter, its sound or name.

c 1465 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 8 A Doble W. for Warwike, þat god be his gide. 1552 HULOET Kk ij b, Because there is a diuersitie betwene the single V and the dowble W, therfore the alphabet of them shalbe set diuersly. [The sequence is: *Va, Wa, Vd.*] 1580 W. BULLOKAR *Bk. at large* 8 W. I account also misnamed to call it double: v: for then shoulde we sounde it: v v: but his sounde agreeth to the olde name of y: (which is wy). *c* 1595 R. CAREW in G. G. Smith *Elizab. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 286 For letters, wee haue Q. more then the Greekes; K. and Y. more then the Latynes; and W. more then them both, or the French and Italians. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 65 The latyne, Italiane, frenche, and spanyshe haue no doble W. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Engl. Gramm.* iii. (1640) 40 W, Is but the V. geminated in the full sound, and though it have the seate of a Consonant with us, the power is alwayes Vowellish, even where it leades the Vowell in any Syllabe: as if you marke it, pronounce the two *uu*, like 8. quicke in passage and these words: 8-line. 8-ant. 8-ood. 8-ast. 8-ing. 8-am. Will sound wine. want. wood. wast. swing. swam. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded. (a) 2, [In the English *Aeneis*] where a Vowel ends a word, the next begins either with a Consonant, or what is its equivalent; for our W and H aspirate..are plainly such. 1704 *Expert Orthographist* in Ellis *E. E. Pron.* I. iii. (1869) 160 All polysyllables ending in obscure *e* have *w* added for ornament's sake as *arrow, bellows*, &c. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 454 One would wonder how the *w* could ever come to be a letter in our language, for it is plainly nothing else but the *u* ..... for..*will* spells will, as much as *will*. 1836 CAP. B. SOUTHEY *Birth-days* I. 37 And sprawling W's, and V's, and Y's, Gaped prodigiously. 1869 ELLIS *E. E. Pron.* I. iii. 287 In Europe (*w*) is thought to be peculiar to England..In Arabic however (*w*) is quite at home. *c* 1890 W. B. SCOTT *Autob.* (1892) I. ii. 29 He went over the letters, giving them the broad old Scotch pronunciation: A was *awe*, B was *bay*, C was *say*, and so on, ending with U sounded like *oo* in good, W as *dubloo*, Z as *izzid*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 449 *note*, The voiceless *W* and the voiceless *Z* have been given above within brackets, the former being now almost confined to Scotland and the latter being peculiar to Wales.

2. The letter considered with regard to its shape. Also *attrib.*

1798 *Hull Advertiser* 28 July 2/1 Chairs in sets..with W, tabl-au and X backs. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 266 The molars show sharp tubercles separated by transverse furrows, generally producing a sort of W-like pattern on each tooth. 1880 FLOWER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 17 The walls..are.. rendered ornamental by triangular recesses fitting one into another like an endless W, each triangle being filled up with lines of smaller W's.

3. Abbreviations. W. = various personal names, as William, Walter, Winifred; † W. (*Calendar*) = Whitsunday; W. = West (W.N.W. west-north-west, W.S.W. west-south-west; W.C. the West Central postal district of London); W (*Chem.*) = tungsten (mod.L. *wolframium*); W (*Electr.*) = watt; W.C. = water-closet; W.I. = West Indies; W.S. (*Scotland*) = Writer to the Signet.

1513 SIR E. HOWARD in *Lett. & Papers Hen. France* (1897) 94 The wynd feeryd owt off the W.N.W. into the E.N.E. *c* 1565 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) Calendar 1 2 b, Ye shal finde..at the 29. of April this letter W where begine for Whitsonday. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 We came to an Anchor about Noon, the Wind at W. by S. 1778 *Engl. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Fale*, It rises about 2 miles W. of Roche Hills. 1815 *Corr. W. Fowler* (1907) 330 Apparatus for W.C. at Normanby, which had to come from London. *a* 1894 R. CHAMBERS in *Cassell's Lit.* Ser. II. I. 262/1 Served a regular apprenticeship to a double-you-ess. 1891 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* v, The..compass was about W. S. W. 1892 EMINSON *Epidemic Pneumonia at Scotter* 21 No W.C. or slaughter-house drains into them.

W, obs. form of How *adv.*

Wa: see WAW, WAY, WHA *int.*, WOE.

Wa', Sc. form of WALL.

Waa, north. form of WAY, WHA *int.*, WOE.

Waaffery, Waale, obs. ff. WAFFERY, WALE *sb.*[1]

Waam, var. WAME, north. form of WOMB.

Waam(m)le, var. WAMBLE *v.*

Waand, var. WONDE *v. Obs.*, to fear, hesitate.

Waar, -ness: see WARE, -NESS.

Waarnyng, obs. form of WARNING.

Waast, obs. form of WAIST, WASTE.

Waat, obs. pa. pple. of WET *v.*

Wab, north. form of WEB.

Wabain, Wabaio: see OUABAIO.

Wabble: see WOBBLE.

Wabble, var. WARBLE.

Wabster, north. form of WEBSTER.

Wac, obs. form of WEAK *a.*

†Wacadash. *Obs.* Also 7 wacca-, waka-, wag(g)adash, wakedas(a)h. [a. Japanese *wakizashi*.] A Japanese short sword.

1613 W. EATON in W. Foster *Lett. recd. E. Ind. Co.* (1897) II. 20 He had given her his wacadash or little cattan. 1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 124 Next those weapons resembling a Welch-hooke called Waggadashes. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (1883) I. 81, 10 pike heades, 100 arow heades, and three waccadashes. 1615 W. ADAMS *Log-bk.* (1916) 34 Kattannes wakedashes and pikes. 1620 *Will of W. Adams* in *Athenæum* (1910) 21 May 620/1, I..bequeath vnto. Richard Cocke..my best Cattane the other of my Cattans and wagadashes I..bequeath vnto my aforesaid sonne Joseph.

Wacance, -and: see VACANCE, VACAND.

Wacche, -man, obs. forms of WATCH, -MAN.

Wace, obs. f. *was*, pa. t. of BE *v.*

Wace, Wach: see WAX *sb.*, WASH *v.*

Wach(e, -man, obs. forms of WATCH, -MAN.

Wachel, wachle, var. forms of WAUCHLE.

Wachet(t, obs. forms of WATCHET.

Wacht, obs. f. WAUGHT *sb.* and *v.*, *Sc.* and *north.*

Wacke (wæ·kə). *Geol.* Also 9 wacca, wake, wacké. [a. Ger. *wacke*, dial. *wake* (MHG. *wacke* large stone, OHG. *waggo* pebble), a miners' word, adopted by Werner as a geological term.] A sandstone-like rock, resulting from the decomposition of basaltic rocks *in situ*. Cf. GRAUWACKE, GREYWACKE.

1803 tr. *Pallas' Trav.* II. 215 The calcareous rock above described..sometimes also occurs under the form of Wacca, which is again composed of gritty fragments, caused by the destructive effects of past ages. 1811 PINKERTON *Petrol.* I. 171 Two [German] papers..'On argillaceous schistus, hornslate, and on wake'. 1826 P. CLEAVELAND *Min.* 284 Basalt often forms one member of a series, beginning with gravel, sand, and clay; this clay gradually becomes less sandy and harder, till it passes into wacke, and the wacke is by insensible degrees lost in Basalt. 1839 MURCHISON *Silurian Syst.* I. xxxvi. 499, The chief portion of the hill consists of a dull

†Wa·cken. *Geol. Obs.* [app. a. G. *wacken-*, combining form of *wacke*: see prec.] = WACKE.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 219 [Basaltine] is most found in basalts, wacken, and lava. 1800 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 67 The wacken, mullen and crag of Kirwan.

b. Comb.: **wacken porphyry.**

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 355 Wacken Porphyry. 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 61 The hills at the head of Glencloy are composed of wacken porphyry.

Hence **Wacken·i·tic** *a.*, of the nature or composition of wacke.

1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Classified* (1878) 88 We shall use the adjective 'wackenitic' to designate this [decomposed] state of these rocks.

Wacker, var. WHACKER.

Wackerell, var. WAKERELL, Sanctus bell.

Wad (wɒd), *sb.*[1] Also 7 wadd(e, wade. [Of obscure origin; the identity of the word in all the senses is not quite certain.

With sense 3 cf. mod. Sw. *vadd*, G., Du. *watte*, Fr. *ouate* (whence It., *ovatta*), wadding; the etymology and mutual relation of these words are unknown.]

1. A bundle of hay or straw (occas. of hemp, etc.); esp. a small bundle of hay, peas, beans, vetches, etc., made at the time of cutting or reaping; a portion of a sheaf of cereal plants or of reed. Now *dial.*

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* XI. 26 Hereon the lad aloft on wad of cuntrey straw they lay. 1596 SPENSER *Hymne Heav. Love* 226 Where he encradled was In simple cratch, wrapt in a wad of hay. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. ix. I. 508 When it [a crop of lupines] is cut downe, to make it into wads or bottles, and so to burie them at the roots of trees. 1660 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* ix. 63 Laying before the Plow long roules of the straw of Lupyns, Pease, or else Fetches,...you shall turne the furrowes..vpon the waddes. 1682 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Arrant Thief* (1623) C 2, A wisp of Rushes, or a clod of land, Or any wadde of Hay that's next to hand They'l steale. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Cor.* vii. 31 In the Popes inthronization,..a piece of tow, or wad of straw is set on fire before him, and one appointed to say, *Sic transit gloria mundi.* 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict., To wrap up Plants, or tender Trees with Wads or Wisps of Straw. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* III. i, You shall find her upon a Wad of Straw, with one Brat at her Breast. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 84 The reapers lay it on the land in wads as they call them, or parcels about the quantity of half a sheaf of wheat unbound. 1799 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Nil Admirari* III. iii. Wks. 1816 III. 447 At times she finds of hemp a little wad, Begs some young Levite spin it. 1807 SIR R. C. HOARE *Tour Irel.* 300 A wad of straw, or perhaps heath laid on a damp clay floor. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 123 A cylindrical pearl barley machine, is also used to cleanse the wad of its smut. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Wad*, a bundle of straw tied up by a thatcher....A bundle or reed less than a full sheaf of 28 lbs. weight is also called a wad.

fig. 1607 HEYWOOD *Fayre Mayde Exch.* I. C 2 b, Yoader bundle of sighes, yonder wad of grones.

b. A heap; also, a swath. *dial.*

1750 ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* IV. iii. 51 [To mow vetches] cock them in little wads as we do the Clover-grass. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 389 It is the usual practice to put them [cut pea crops] up into small heaps, termed wads, which are formed by setting small parcels against each other. 1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 726 *Wad*, a heap of beans or pease laid out to dry, previous to binding. In the county of Devon, applied to a handful of thatch. 1906 *Times* 25 June 14/4 The wet wads formed by the horse rake are avoided.

2. A small bundle of a soft, flexible material; esp. for use as a plug, pad, or rubber.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Torche*..a wad of strawe or clowtes that wenches vse to put on their heds when they cary any thing. 1602 MARBE tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 333 It was inioyned me..of old ends of Ragges, or of Flax and Tow, to make wads and wisps for those that goe to the Long-house. 1732 SIR H. BEAUMONT *Crito* 27 The vast Wad of Linen that they [women] carry upon their Head. 1782 HAYLEY *Tri. Temper* IV. 85 She on the types her inky wad let fall. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads* 173 The neck of the flask being closed with only a mere wad of cotton. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 398 I've to go about with wads of cotton-wool ready in my pocket for my two ears.

b. Something rolled up tightly, as a roll of bank notes. Chiefly *U.S.*

1778 *Exmoor Scolding* Gloss. (E. D. S.) 251 A garment rumbled [*sic*] up to a Wad, with many Plaits and Wrinkles. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., A little wallet containing one or more dollar bills, or at least a wad of fractional currency. 1888 *Bow Bells Weekly* 22 June 396 Never roll gloves into each other in a wad, for they will never look as well after. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* II. (1892) 84 Handing Everett a wad of greenbacks. 1899 MRS. F. H. BURNETT *De Willoughby Claim* x. 132 He..finally rolled his paper into a hard wad and threw it at the counter. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* iii, MacWalter pulled a thick wad of bank notes out of his pocket. 1908 S. E. WHITE *Riverman* xix, Dabbing at her eyes with a handkerchief dampened into a thin wad.

transf. 1895 HOWELLS *Impress. & Exp.* (1896) 164 Such a small, dull wad of out-worn womanhood!—her grey old head bent upon her knees, and her withered arms wound in her thin shawl. 1923 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Mar. 365/2 He will find them well padded by wads of extracts from second-hand authorities.

†3. A material composed of matted fibres of silk, raw cotton, etc. = WADDING 3. *Obs.*

1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII* c. 14 Item for every tonne Toloze wadde accompting viij hole bales..for a tonne xx s. 1695 P. MOTTEUX *St. Olon's Morocco* 139 The Traffick of Provence consists in..Velvet, Cottons, Wadds [Fr. *cotteonines*], and other Commodities from the Levant. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wad*, a sort of Flocks of Silk, course Flannel, or Cotton. 1761 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 132/1 The plant known by the name of..*Asclepias*...From the silky wad it affords we [in France] call it *Soyeuse.*

4. A plug of tow, cloth, etc., a disk of felt or cardboard, to retain the powder and shot in position in charging a gun or cartridge.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 476 Another [experiment]..is a Wooden Tampion..hollow'd towards the Bullet,..and.. hollow likewise towards the Powder, and serving instead of a Wadd. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 68 Put the Powder home gently, and after put in a good Wad..; then put in the Shot..; and after him another Wad. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Wad*, a quantity of old rope-yarns, hay, &c. rolled firmly together into the form of a ball, and used to confine the shot or shell..in the breech of a piece of artillery. 1836 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. i. ii. § 5. 24 After using the powder-flask..drive down..a single piece of wadding; then pour in the charge of shot, drive down another wad, [etc.]. 1860 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (ed. 9) 212 No. 5 serves No. 3 with projectiles, wads, if necessary, and traverses. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 194/1 The escape of gas was prevented by means of a felt wad attached to the back of the cartridge. 1882 GREENER *Gun* 300 Wads are punched out of sheets of various materials by cutters fixed in a press. Those most commonly used are made of felts, cardboard, or jute. 1890 D. DAVIDSON *Mem. Long Life* ii. 34 We..rowed too closely past the *Victory* as she was firing her royal salute, and one of her wads just cleared our heads.

5. A lump of a soft or plastic substance. *rare.*

1778 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. vii, Eyes like two dead beetles in a wad of brown dough! 1838 THACKERAY *Fashnable Fax* Wks. 1900 XIII. 254 The haldermin, who was helpin the tuttle, puts on Bifeter's plate a wad of green fat.

b. A mass, heap, large quantity. *Sc.* and *north.*

1808 *Craven Gloss., Wad*, a large quantity. 'We've a wad o' hay to year.' 1915 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 12 June 447/1 True, we haven't got a great wad of it on hand; but I don't like the idea of that silver being on the premises.

6. *Ceramics.*

1829 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 468 When a sagger is filled with clay ware, on its outer edges are placed thick pieces of coarse clay, called *wads* from their being employed to wedge or closely join the interstice between two saggers. 1892 *Century Dict., Wad*, 3. In *ceram.*, a small piece of finer clay used to cover the body of an inferior material in some varieties of earthenware; especially, the piece doubled over the edge of a vessel.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: (sense 4) as *wad gauge, punch, room*; **wad hook**, (*a*) a spiral tool for withdrawing wads or charges from guns; (*b*) *Mining* (see quot. 1881).

1808 SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 73 'Wad Gauges. 1611 FLORIO, *Canafiesso*, Gunners call it a 'wad-hooke. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 344 Rammers, hand-spikes, wad-hooks. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 199 The shell extractor and wadhook [are placed] outside the pit. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Wad-hook*, A tool with two spiral steel blades for removing fragments from the bottom of deep bore-holes. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Wad-punch*, a tubular steel punch used for cutting gun-wads, etc. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 426 His gunner concealed 43 barrels of powder in the 'wad room, covering them with wads and lumber.

Wad (wɒd), *sb.*[2] In 7 wadd. [Perh. cogn. w. ON. *vað-r* masc., measuring line, MSw. *vapi* wk. masc., boundary-line between properties (cf. sense 2 below), or with OE. *wadan* to go, WADE *v.*]

1. *Surveying.* A straight line taken in measuring from one mark to another. *? Obs.*

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Feudigr.* II. iv. 53 These dimensions are found or performed either *Cominus* or *Eminus*...The first..needes no amplification, but for precise keeping in the Wadd or right line. The Wadd is delineated either to a marke in sight or out of sight. If the First; let the Chaine-leaders Wadd vpon the marke by some intermediall eminence and at the setting down of euery pricke, let each man waue his mate into the right Wadd.

2. *dial.* 'A line, esp. one marked out between two parcels of land' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); also see quots.

1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Wad*, a line or rank. 1886 *S. W.* &c.

b. Way or course of travel, track. *lit.* and *fig.*

1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Wad.* 3. A way or beaten track, a line of conduct pertinaciously adhered to. 'He goes on in the old wad,' i.e. in the same manner as formerly.

3. *Comb.*: **wad-staff, -stick** (see quots.).

1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 726 *Wadstaff*, (Notts.), guide staff to plough by. 1889 *N. W. Line. Gloss., Wad-staff, wad-stick*, a tall white wand painted with rims of various colours, used as a mark for ploughmen in setting out furrows.

Wad (wɒd), *sb.*[3] Also 7 wadt, 8 wadd. [Of obscure origin.]

1. A local name for plumbago or black lead; also called *black wad.* Also *dial.* a black-lead pencil (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1824 in *Mem. Lit. & Philos. Soc. Manch.* Ser. II. (1829) III. 169 Except the wad holes and wad, commonly called black cawke, within the commons of Seatollor, or elsewhere within the commons and wastes of the said manor [of Borrowdale]. 1698 PLOT *Black-lead* in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 183 The Mineral Substance, called, Black Lead..found only at Keswick in Cumberland, and there called, *Wadt*, or *Kellow.* 1856 *Penny Cycl.* V. 225 (Borrowdale) The most remarkable product of the valley is graphite, plumbago, or black-lead (provincially wad). 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 129 The lead, or plumbago, locally termed 'wad,'..is the best material ever discovered for making lead pencils.

2. An impure earthy ore of manganese.

1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 284 Some Experiments upon the Ochra fusibilis nigro fusca of Da Costa..; and called by the Derbyshire, Black Wadd. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 465 Mr. Wedgwood dissolved a quantity of black wadd in a large quantity of nitrous acid heated. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts, Wadd*, is the provincial name..of an ore of manganese in Derbyshire, which consists of the peroxide of that metal, associated with nearly its own weight of oxide of iron. 1884 *Athenæum* 16 Aug. 212/3 The not very interesting manganese mineral wad.

3. *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *wad-hole, -lead, -mine, -pencil.*

1614 'Wad hole [see 1]. 1780 G. JARS *Voy. Metall.* II. 354 (*Philol. Soc. Trans.* 1908, p. 148) Mine de plomb pour les crayons nommés Black-lead or 'Wad-Lead. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 583 'Wadd mines in the Cumberland Dialect, signifies the black-lead mines. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 225 (Borrowdale) The wad mine. 1849 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v., A 'wad pencil.

†**Wad,** *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare*[-1]. Origin and obscure: only in proverbial phrase, app. meaning 'in that course there is danger'.

1524 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 92 Praying you ofsoones, that the erection of the yong King be not dilayed by any diet to be kept upon the Bordre or other commessacion; for in that pad there lyeth a wad.

Wad (wɒd), *v.*[1] Also 6 wadde. [f. WAD *sb.*[1]]

I. To form into a wad.

1. *trans.* To lay up (the cut haulm of beans, peas, etc.) in bundles.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* ix. § 101. 256 After the sithe they wad both Beans and Pea. 1732 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 341 They take care to Wad them [*sc.* beans] as soon as Mown, and put them into single small Parcels. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 93 In dry weather, Pease properly wadded with a Prong are much sooner ready to carry than those left in hard bundles by the Foot and Sithe. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 891 When..crops of this sort that have run to seed,...are left..it is the usual practice to cut and wad them in the same manner as for peas. 1813 T. BATCHELOR *View Agric. Bedfordsh.* 208 (E. D. D.) The process of wadding, and gleaning beans..is rather a tedious one.

2. To press (loose or fibrous material) into a small compass or into a close, compact mass; *U.S.* to roll up tightly. Also with *up.*

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1776) 74 If you lay about them [*sc.* the roots] any fern-brakes or other trash capped with a little Earth..let it not be Wadded too close. 1856 *N. Y. Weekly Witness* 23 Dec. 26/4 A most peculiar cholera-remedy was in use in Persia. It consisted in wadding-up a leaf from the Koran and forcing it down the patient's throat. 1915 MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *M. O'Halloran* viii, 'Can you help me?' 'Sure!' said Mickey, wadding his cap into his back pocket.

3. *transf.* To pack (persons) closely.

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lviii, An honest holiday-maker with his family wadded into a tax-cart.

II. To furnish with or as with a wad or wadding.

4. To put a wad in (a gun, a cartridge).

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 113 His Gunner..to wadde and ramme, to cleanse, scoure, and coole the Peeces. 1882 GREENER *Gun* 301 When loaded with shot, the cartridges are wadded in the Erskine machine. 1894 CROCKETT *Mad Sir Uchtred* 83 He had wadded it [*sc.* a gun] with three leaves of the Bible.

5. To line, fill out, pad, as with wadding; to quilt.

1759 J. G. COOPER *Ver-Vert* IV. 212 His skin with sugar being wadded, With liquid fires his entrails burn'd. 1782 COWPER *Gratitude* 22 This wheel-footed studying chair,... Wide-elbow'd, and wadded with hair. 1848 THACKERAY *Miss Tickletoby's Lect.* iii, Straight the King's great chair was brought him..Languidly he sunk into it, it was comfortably wadded. 1848 — *Bk. Snobs* xiv, Lord Glenlivat..playfully wadded the insides of the boots with cobbler's wax. 1848 — *Lett.* 1 Nov., You say your prayers in carved stalls wadded with velvet cushions. 1860 C. A. COLLINS *Cruise upon Wheels* xxiv. (1863) 423 My thick flannel dressing-gown, lined and wadded. 1883 MISS M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* XXIII, She wore a loose gown of crimson satin, wadded after the fashion of the olden time.

fig. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xx, If we had a keen vision and feeling of all ordinary human life,..we should die of that roar which lies on the other side of silence. As it is, the quickest of us walk about well wadded with stupidity.

†6. ? To rub with a wad. *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 284/2 Wad or wash him [*sc.* a horse] round.

7. To plug (the ears) with wads.

1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* iii, They have wadded their ears and..would not hear.

Wad (wɒd), *v.*[2] In 7 wadd. [f. WAD *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To walk with the chain in a straight line from one mark to another in land-surveying.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Feudigr.* II. iv. 53 Let the Chaine-leaders Wadd vpon the marke by some intermediall eminence. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 139/2 Geometrical Terms used in Surveying and Measuring of Lands...*Wadding*, keeping in a right Line. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Wad*, to set out a line, in land-surveying or engineering, by putting in a series of stakes or staths.

Wad : see WED, WOAD; also WILL *v.*

Wadable, wadeable (wē·dăb'l), *a.* Also 7 *Sc.* weadable. [f. WADE *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be waded.

1621 FLORIO, *Vadastile*, foordable, wadable. 1621 COTGR., *Gayer*, a Foord, or wadeable passage ouer a riuer. *Ibid., Guenble*, wadeable; fit, likely, or easie, to be waded ouer. 1622 MOLLE *Camerar. Law. Lex.* IV. xx. 313 Vnderstanding that the Marishes were wadeable. 1699 J. FRASER in *N. Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S. H. S.) II. 218 Severid by a smal streame weadable sometymes when it is low water. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xxii. As soon as the fugitives were within wadeable reach of the bank, they jumpit out of the boat. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. vi. (1873) VII. 62 Where the Brook withal is of firmer botto—

[**Wadage.** A spurious word, repr. AL. *vadia* 'wages' in the writ appointing a serjeant; the other words represent *feoda* 'fees', *vesturas* 'vestures' and *regardas* 'rewards'.

1879 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 12) 262 Out of the Sergeants afore-mentioned, the King by Writ, usually calls some to be his Council at Law, allowing each one Wadage, Feodage, Vesturage, and Regardage.]

Wadd, obs. f. Wad; dial. form of Wold.

Wadded (wɒ·ded), *ppl. a.* Also 6 wadid. [f. Wad *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Lined with wadding.

1595 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 317, I pece wadded buffinge. *Ibid.* 281 Ite' 1 pece blacke wadid buffinge. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 245 P 2 A thick wadded Callico Wrapper, [etc.]. 1835 *Ladies' Cabinet* Jan. 65 Wadded pelisses are expected to be very generally adopted. *Ibid.* Oct. 269 A white *gros de Naples* slip, which..had a deep wadded hem. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 20, I thought Miladi was made..in Giroux's shop, and was kept in a wadded box when her mechanism was not wound up. 1890 D. Davidson *Mem. Long Life* viii. 196 His costume..consisted of a hunting cap with a white wadded cover.

Wadder[1] (wɒ·dəɹ). [f. Wad *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

†1. An implement for wadding a gun. *Obs.*

1579 Digges *Stratiot.* 115, I mighte here adioyne sundrye Tables..what Bullets, Wadders, Rammers, Ladles,..were conueniente to bee hadde in readinesse.

2. One who lays up (the cut haulm of beans, etc.) in bundles or 'wads'.

1763 *Museum Rust.* (ed. 2) I. 276 This..lays the beans in regular rows, and saves the expense of a wadder.

†**Wa·dder**[2]. *Land-surveying. Obs.* [f. Wad *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who is engaged in determining a 'wad' or line of direction.

1620 W. Folkingham *Feudiger.* II. iv. 53 If out of sight..place two Assistants, the one at the marke, and the other at the eminentest Medium, and then your selfe standing at ..the station giuen, and the first Assistant erecting some visible obiect, waft the Wadders into the Wadd.

Wadder, obs. Sc. form of Wether.

Waddie, Waddin, var. ff. Waddy, Waldin.

Wadding (wɒ·din), *vbl. sb.* [-ing[1].]

1. The action of Wad *v.*[1]

1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 14 Sept. 1776, Whether the crop be thick or thin, Wadding puts it equally out of harm's way.

2. *concr.* Any soft, pliable material from which gun-wads are made; also, a wad.

1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* xiv. 66 Waddings is Okum, old clouts, or straw, put after the powder and the Bullet. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 8 Nov., To the Office of the

of the Piece. 1815 Croker in *Croker Papers* (1884) I. iii. 73 The whole of the extent..was strewed with the cartridges and waddings of the cannon. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 31 The recruit is to be instructed..to ram the paper, as wadding, home. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* liv, I found the wadding of the pistol with which the deceased Mr. Tulkinghorn was shot.

3. Any loose, fibrous material for use as a padding, stuffing, quilting, etc. Now chiefly, cotton-wool formed into a fleecy layer.

1734 *Grub St. Jrnl.* 2 May 4/1 Handsome Gowns for Ladies, with Silk Waddings. 1737 Dyche & Pardon *Dict., Wadding*, a thin, coarse, woollen Manufacture made to line Men's Morning Gowns, the Plaits of their Coats, &c. 1785 Johnson, *Wadding*, a kind of soft stuff loosely woven, with which the skirts of coats are stuffed out. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 31 A generation more refin'd Improv'd the simple plan;..And o'er the seat, with plenteous wadding stuff'd, Induc'd a splendid cover. 1880 M. Cutler in *Life, Jrnls. & Corr.* (1888) II. 113, I presented him a specimen of wadding for Ladies' cloaks. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* s.v., Wadding [for garments] is now made with a lap or fleece of cotton prepared by the carding-engine, which is applied to tissue paper by a coat of size. 1865 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 493 A small ball of cotton wool or wadding enclosed in a piece of linen rag. 1902 Hannah *Textile Fibres* 54 The raw material..when beaten out soft is used for wadding in clothing and coverlets. 1904 *Woollen Draper's Terms* in *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug. 480/2 Wadding: A loose fibrous material made of cotton waste; one side is finished with paper face; used for padding purposes.

fig. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Diogenes & Plato* Wks. I. 455/1 Aristoteles, and all the rest of you, must have the wadding of straw and saw-dust shaken out, and then we shall know pretty nearly your real weight and magnitude.

Waddle (wɒ·d'l), *sb.* [f. Waddle *v.*]

1. The action of waddling; a waddling gait. Also, rate of progress by waddling.

1692 Shadwell *Scowrers* II. i. 15 That must be my sweet Duckling—I know her by her pretty Waddle in her Gate. 1853 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* II. 38 A fisherman's natural waddle is two miles an hour. 1857 Kingsley *Two Yrs. Ago* xxv, The lighter woman's step was inaudible to Tom; but the heavy deliberate waddle of the banker was not. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 768/2 In the *Natatores*..the great interocotyloid distance gives to their gait its peculiar waddle.

fig. 1827 Hood *Mushey-Martyr* 50 Striding with a step that seem'd design'd To represent the mighty March of Mind, Instead of that slow waddle Of thought, to which our ancestors inclined.

†2. The wane of the moon. *dial. Obs.*

[Perh. a distinct word: cf. OHG., MHG. *wadel*, MLG. *wadel* (—**wadlo-*) phases or change of the moon.]

Ray's Prov. (ed. 2) 263 *Sow* or set beans in ..*i.e.* Wane of the Moon.

Waddle (wɒ·d'l), *v.* Forms: 5 wadill, 6–8 wadle, 7– waddle. Also *quaddle*, Quoddle. [freq. f. Wade *v.*: see -le.]

†1. *intr.* ? To fall heavily or as an inert

c 1400 *Sowdone of Babylone* 902 He rent hym vnredily ouyn to the saddil: on ether sid of his horse doun did he wadill.

2. To walk with short steps, swaying alternately from one leg to the other, as is done by a stout short-legged person.

1590 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 37 Then she could stand alone, nay bi' th' roode she could haue runne & wadled all about. 1620 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Iacke a Lent* B 1 b, Alwayes before Lent there comes wadling a fat grosse burstengutted groome, called Shrouse-Tuesday. 1681 T. D'Urfey *Progr. Honesty* xii. 13 Next a fat Author wadled into view. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxviii, This great man is short of stature, is fat, and waddles as he walks. 1829 Mackay *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 10 The old procureus waddled out of sight. *c* 1880 B. Harte *Arctic Vision* 1 Where the short-legged Esquimaux Waddle in the ice and snow. 1893 F. Espinasse *Lit. Recoll.* ii. 14 So fat that he waddled rather than walked.

b. said of animals; esp. of ducks or geese.

1611 Cotgr., *Canetter*, to waddle, or goe, like a ducke. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2686/4 She (a mare) wadles in her Trot. 1728–42 Pope *Dunc.* II. 63 As when a dab-chick waddles through the copse On feet and wings. 1819 Crabbe *Tales of Hall* xiii. 316 And a fat spaniel waddled at his side. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xv, Ducks and geese..waddling awkwardly about the edges of the pond. 1845 J. Coulter *Adv. in Pacific* ix. 115, I caught sight of a huge seal waddling up out of the water. 1888 F. Hume *Mune. Midas* II. i, The parrot..waddled clumsily across the table to the inkstand.

c. *transf.* said of things.

1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 172 Like bias to the bowl, Which, as more pond'rous, made its aim more true, Obliquely waddling to the mark in view. 1858 *Strwith's Fortif. & Artillery* (ed. 7) II. 121 The nave need not be more than 12 or 14 inches in length; if too short, the wheel would waddle (or, as it is sometimes called, wabble).

†d. *Stock Exchange slang.* To become a 'lame duck' or defaulter (see Duck *sb.*[1] 9). In full, *to waddle out. Obs.*

1772 Garrick *Prol. to Foote's Maid of B.* 32 Change-Alley bankrupts waddle out lame ducks! 1799 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* III. 72 A *bear* who pretends to sell what he is not possessed of, and is obliged frequently to *waddle out* at a great loss. 1814 *Stock Exch. Laid Open* 20 A Jobber was never known to waddle (to be a lame duck). 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf, &c.*, Jobbers, usually brokers, who cannot make good their engagements for the delivery of stock, or run short in funds to pay for what they have bought,..become lame ducks and waddle out. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* lxv, He's been neither bull nor bear for these three years. He was obliged to *waddle*.

†3. *trans.* ? To cause to wallow *in. Obs.*

1569 Crowley *Sophistrie Dr. Watson* ii. 26 We, whom you would haue men thinke to be defiled with it, are cleare from it, and you your selfe most filthily wadled in it.

4. Of animals: To trample or tread down (grass). Now *dial.*

1627 Drayton *Moon-Calf* Batt. Agincourt, etc. 283 They tread and waddle all the goodly grasse, That in the field there scarse a corner was Left free by them.

†5. ? To delude, befool. *Obs.*

1606 N. B[axter] *Sydney's Ourania* I 4, Browne Paper, Lute-strings, buckles for a Saddle, Perwigs, Tiffany, Paramours to waddle.

Waddle, obs. and dial. f. Wattle.

Waddler (wɒ·dləɹ). [f. Waddle *v.* + -er[1].] A person or animal that waddles.

1808 *Lights & Shades* II. 121 A basket containing half a doren defunct waddlers (ducks). 1830 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 849 A flock of those noisy waddlers (geese). 1839 *Sporting Mag.* July 3 Many thought Musjid (a race-horse) a 'waddler' with his hind legs. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* I. 143 These waddlers had waddled sufficiently.

b A defaulter (see Waddle *v.* 2 d).

1832 *Westm. Rev.* XV. 208 Were he of the Stock Exchange he would rail against waddlers and men of straw.

Waddling (wɒ·dliŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing[2].] That waddles (see the verb).

1668 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* III. verse 17. xii. § 3. 90 Thus the little wadling child comes to go strongly, by going often. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* iv. 1, You..Addle-pated, wadling brace of Puppies. 1714 Gay *Shpk. Week* iii. 62 Let the fox..join in wedlock with the waddling goose. 1729 T. Cooke *Tales*, etc. 96 A short squad Figure, with a wadling Pace. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* lvi, She saw..a little child ..pause from a waddling run and look around him.

Hence **Wa·ddlingly** *adv.*

1882 O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. I. 23 Great flocks of wild geese marched waddlingly on either side.

Waddy (wɒ·di). *Austral.* Also 9 waddie, whaddie. [In use among Australian aboriginals; perh. a native word, but possibly a corruption of Eng. *wood*.] An aboriginal war-club.

'The word is sometimes used for a walking-stick' (Morris).

1824 Flinders *Voy.* II. 289 Something resembling the *whaddie*, or wooden sword of the natives of Port Jackson. 1828 Oxley *Jrnls. Two Exped. N. S. Wales* (1820) 296 After beating their spears and waddies together for about a quarter of an hour,..they went away. 1832 Murray *Own Antipodes* iv. (1853) 102 The waddy is a heavy, knobbed club, about two feet long. 1840 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xviii, Blows from the unerring waddy. 1852 J. Fraser *Aborigines of N. S. Wales* 74 A general name for all Australian clubs is 'waddy', and, although they are really clubs, they are often used as missiles in battle.

attrib. 1904 W. Craig *Adv. Austral. Golds.* 283 The waddy blows inflicted..resulted in terrible injuries.

Hence **Wa·ddy** *v. trans.*, to strike, beat, or kill, with a waddy.

1845 Lp. Sermonensis *Pastor* (1865) 100 The black thieves ..My ... by waddied, my cattle ...

speared. 1890 Huxley *Let.* 25 June in L. Huxley *Life & Lett.* (1903) I. xiii. 232 The fellows who waddled the Amphitheriun and speared the Phascolotherium. 1892 *Melbourne Argus* 16 Aug. 4/8 He ...ddled ... to death when he got to camp that night.

†**Wade,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [= MLG. *wade*, MHG., mod.G. *wate* fem., seine; cf. ON. *vað-r* masc., fishing-line, Sw. *vad* masc., Norw. *vad* neut., Da. *vod* seine.] Some kind of fishing net. Also *wade-net.*

1388–9 *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon* (Camden) 87, j rete vocatum wade at j flowe, cum alio rete vocato chanepet. 1830 in *Bunnell's Descr. Thames* (1738) 73 Nor shall fish ..except with a Wade Net for Bait only.

Wade (wēd), *sb.*[2] *rare.* [f. Wade *v.*] An act of wading.

1865 Brathwait *Comment Two Tales* 166 It is a deep wade, when your Life lies upon the last Stake. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 7 May 5/2 The Japanese..have already begun to erect piers so as to avoid the necessity of that long wade.

Wade (wēd), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **waded.** Forms: 1 wadan, 4–6 *Sc.* waid, vaid, vayd, 8 *Sc.* wide, 6 waade, 3– wade. *Pa. t.* 1 wód, 3 wode, (4 woude), 4–6 wod, 6 *Sc.* woed, woide, woyd; 6– waded. *Pa. pple.* 4 waad, wad, 8 *Sc.* wid, 7 wade, 6– waded. [A Com. Teut. (orig. strong) verb (not recorded in Gothic): OE. *wadan* (also *gewadan*), pa. t. *wód*, pl. **wódon*, pa. pple. **gewaden*, corresp. to OFris. *wada* str. vb. (WFris. *wdsje* wk., NFris. *waar* str., to wade), MDu. *waden* str., later wk. (Du. *waden* wk.) to wade, MLG. *waden* str. and wk. (LG. *waden, woren* wk.) to wade, OHG. *watan* str., to go, press forward, wade (MHG., mod.G. *waten* wk., to wade), ON. *vaða* str., to go through, wade (Norw. *vada, vadda, vas* str., Sw. *vada*, Da. *vade* wk., to wade), f. OTeut. **wad-*: **wōd-*:— pre-Teut. **wədh-* = L. *vādere* to go, proceed, walk. The root, which occurs only in Teut. and L., is represented also by the sb. OE. *wæd*, ON. *vað*, L. *vadum* neut., ford, shallow water.

The mod. Eng. specific sense, 'to walk in water', though prominent in the other Teut. langs., is not recorded in OE. (unless perhaps in the compound *ofer-wadan* Overwade *v.*). In OE. the vb. is almost confined to poetical use.

The strong inflexion became obsolete in the 16th c.]

1. *intr.* To go (physically). †a. Of persons and animals: To go, advance, move onward; *chiefly*, to go *over* or *through* something. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2661 [He] wod þa durh done wælmere. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1271 (Gr.) Da com halelha þrist wadan. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 250 Þi mawmentis.. garris in hel þare makaris wad. *Ibid.* xxix. (*Thaisis*) 730 As he towart me cuth wad, a gredy wolf hynt me. *a* 1400 *Alexius* (MS. Laud 622) 548 Alexius fer and ner gan wade, For nouȝth wolde he spare. 1581 Styward *Mart. Discipl.* I. 85 You maie send certaine rankes of Pikes vnto the Front towards the enimie, which shall wade through to strengthen the battaile. *c* 1648–50 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* IV. (1818) 153 Farewell..Steepy wayes by which I waded, And those trugs with which I traded.

†b. Of inanimate things, esp. of a weapon: To go *through*, to penetrate *into* something. *Obs.*

993 *Battle of Maldon* 157 Ord in gewod. *c* 1250 *S. Eng. Leg.* 69/521 Þe harde scourgene in is tendre flechs deope ine wade. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2643 He..bi þe shuldre blade iarpe sword let wade þorw the brest unto þe herte. 13.. *Northern Passion* II. 138/1210 *a* Þe bornes wode in his flesse. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 504 Whan myght is ioyned vn-to cruelitee Allas to depe wol the venym wade. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 478 Thurgh the horse schuldirs the swerde gan wade.

†2. *fig.* To go (in action, thought, or discourse); to proceed. *Obs.*

Often difficult to distinguish from 3 c, in which it ultimately merged.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 130 They..gonnen wade In meny an uncouthe glad and depe matere, As freendes don, whan they ben met yfere. ... 1420 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 1762, I holde hym eke vnable ... acceptid..Whan I at her tonge wadeth on þe lye. *c* 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* 1624 What wil þe ferthere in this matter wade? *c* 1535 Fisher *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 441 To rehersse his reasons, and so wande in this matter with them, it were inough for an holle daye. 1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 1069 Lucifer I made So hyghly to wade To God be wolde be equall. 1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 22, I might seme.. to take this parte of scripture because I wouide wade enallye awaye there wyth, and dryue my matter at my pleasure. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 877 Which secret Serpent caused their furie to wade farther then reason could retract or restrayne. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxv. (1617) 484 Well may mans skill wade into weekes & moneths: but considering the vncertainty of worldly matters, it can neuer wade into yeeres. 1589 R. Robinson *Golden Mirr.* (Chetham Soc.) 60 Thy grace extend to guide my feete Least I should wade awry. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* vi. (1628) 136 Martin Luther wadeth further, and will haue England also to be a part of Germany. 1626 Jas. I *Sp. Star-Chamb.* 20 June D 2, That which concernes the mysterie of the Kings power, is not lawfull to be disputed, for that is to wade into the weaknesse of Princes. 1642–7 H. More *Song of Soul* II. iii. iv. xxxiv, If this Out-world continually hath wade Through a long long-span-time. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 279, I have sufficiently waded in this various Doctrine. 1691 Ray *Creation* I. (1704) 64, I will not wade further into this Controversie. 1709 J. ... *Hist. Sac. Mem.* X. 581 Then the ... parts of his conduct in relation to the Proprietor.

†b. To 'go', be (in a certain condition), 'go about' (in certain attire). *Obs.*

1593 Nomotor *Spec. Brit.*, *Essex* (C...) Introd. p. ... Husbandmen..who wade in the woode

FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 335 In the want of which two thinges you doe not wade, as wise men hould opinion. 1598 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 53 My hart gan throb And wade in doubt what best were to be donne.

†c. *To wade out of*: to escape from. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 440 But lat us waden out of this matere. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxxviii [cxxiv]. 363 Therby shall you wade out of all sclaundre. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 91 Not with standing it waded out of all these daungers at the length [L. *et tamen ex his omnibus malis emersisse tandem*].

†d. To continue discussion *with* a person. *Obs.*

1527 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 203 And thus, wading further with the said Ambassadour, he shewed unto me, that [etc.]. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 176 Further wading with hym, he hath shewed unto me that [etc.]. 1540 HEN. VIII in *St. Papers* VIII. 362 That you shall likewise wade with the sayde Ambassadour of Portugall, to fynde out the very auctours of his sayngea. 1546 MASONE in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 109 This I tell you..to thintent that before yow shall to farre wade wyth him in your instructions, you may [etc.]. 1558 SIR F. KNOLLYS in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 245 Thus farr I waded with hyr Grace to make hyr cawse disputable, but whan I sawe hyr tears, I forbayre to prosequte myn objection.

3. To walk through water or any liquid or soft substance which impedes motion. Formerly often, to pass *over* a river, etc., on foot (now *rare*). Phrase, *to wade (up) to* (the knees, armpits, etc.).

[*c* 893 see OVERWADE *v.*] *c* 1250 *Bestiary* 357 Oc on swimmeð bi-forn, and alle ðe oðre folezen, weðer so he swimmeð er he wadeð. *c* 1305 *Land Cokaygne* 179 Seuen yeanis in swinels dritte He mot wade..up to be chynne. *c* 1307 *Song on Exec. Sir S. Fraser* 100 in Wright *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 217 He wod into the water his feren him bysyde to adrenche. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 58 Wade þ in þat water, wasch þeb ow wel bere. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 356 Till at the last he fand a place, That men mycht to thair schulderis vaid. *Ibid.* 388 He weill our woude, Bot till his throt the vattir stude. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 376 He [*sc.* Cirus] made that the ryuer was so smal That wommen myghte wade it ouer al. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 234 This Geant..tok this ladi up alofte..And in the flode began to wade. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7262 Men myght with-Inne a wyle wade A-mong the hors vp to the hamme. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xxvi. 156 He drofe hym in to a water but the gyant was soo hyghe that he myghte not wade after hym. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xiii. 23 The hydduus Oryon Quhen he on fute woyd throu the mekle see. 1532 PALSGR. 770/1 The ryver is nat so depe as you take it, for a man may wade it over. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* clv. 587 Huon and the duches waded to the londe 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 230 They were forced to wade a great way vp to the knees in water. 1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* x. 99 In small Brooks you may angle upwards, or else in great Rivers you must wade. 1684 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 159 The Waters were risen so high that men waded to their middle in most of the Streets. 1727 [DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 7 Finding it..but breast high, we..waded to the other side. *a* 1728 RALEIGH *To W. Stanrad* 30 Aft have I wid thro' glens with chorking feet, When neither plaid nor kelt could fend the weet. 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw.* lx, Through a deep and muddy lane, he at length waded on to the place 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxi, A rill of water, through which we were compelled to wade as high as the knee. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvi. 215 The men wading through the snow appeared as if climbing up a wall. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 307 Pilgrims wading knee deep in the river mud, walk round the holy city in sun-wise circuit. 1894 J. PAYN *Gleams of Memory* 97 The gentlemen waded and carried the ladies on their shoulders.

indirect passive 1388 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xlvii. 5 The depe watris of the stronde hadden wexe greet, that mai not be waad ouer [1382 be ouer wad]. 1544 BETHAN *Precepts War* I. cxciii. I v, What is to be done when waters can not be waded ouer. 1672 J. LACY tr. *Vacquett's Milit. Archit.* 21 It cannot be less than six feet, otherwise a wet Ditch might be waded over.

¶ *transf.* (in nonce-uses).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 787 Þe walle wod in þe water wondenly depe 1744 M. BISHOP *Life & Adv.* 255 The *Edgar* ..was blown up..after wading through those hazardous Seas that we had just arrived from.

b. in figurative context, esp. *to wade through blood, slaughter, etc.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5082 To wynne the ioy that is eterne, Fro which go bakward youthe hir made, In vanite to droune and wade. 1463 ASHBY *Poems* li. 46 For I cannat swym, I stand on the brynk Wadyng no forther, but as Crist Iesus Sendith me konnyng. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Apol. Poetrie P vj b, As one writes very prettily, that children do wade in Virgill, and yet strong men do swim in it. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxvii. § 4 They had..a sea of comfort and ioy to wade in. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 137, I am in blood Stept in so farre, that should I wade no more, Returning were as tedious as go ore. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 21, I will carry you along to wade through that *Acheldamna*,..when the Dogge-star..of Persecution so raged. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. 3 To encourage a man who is to wade into her favour (this was his expression) through the blood of her brother. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 67 To wade through slaughter to a throne. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xvi. (ed. 3) 150 When France..went back for a time to the old form of legitimate monarchy which she had waded through seas of blood to destroy.

c. *fig.* (Now chiefly, to go *through* a tedious task, a long or uninteresting book.)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* I. (1495) 8 It is p-ryllouse.. to wade depe in thyse materes of dyuynyte. *c* 1530 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* Wks. (1573) 59/1 Me thinketh also that he wadeth to deepe to descende to purgatorye by thys text. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXV. xi. II. 2 Since we are waded so far into the deepe secrets of Physicke. *c* 1624 ROWLEY etc. *Witch Edmonton* I. ii. (1658) 12 On every side I am distracted: Am waded deep into mischief, then vertue can avoid. But on I must. 1736 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. Pref., The griping critic..wades through massive volumes in search of faults.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* xvii. P 2 Six-pence a day for the pleasure of wading through 16 columns of dull lies. 1809 BROUGHAM *Contrib. Edin. Rev.* (1856) II. 300 From the large mass of matter through which we have been obliged to wade,..we have selected the publications mentioned in the title. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* ii, I warn you that you're wading deep. I wouldn't put myself in your place. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 375 Wading through the endless tangle of their accounts.

†d. To persevere *under* difficulties. ? *nonce-use.*

1714 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 29 We found the Exercise of the day heavy enough to wade under.

4. *transf.* Of the sun or moon: To move (apparently) *through* clouds or mist; to be clouded. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4141 Þe son wadis..& þe wedire gloumes. 1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* xviii. 23, 121 We must, when aspersed, labour as the eclipsed Moon, by keeping our motion, to wade out of the shadow. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 18 After the Moon had waded through the dark shadow of the Earth..the two Companies marched on. 1785 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, The sun was wading thro' the mist. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iii, The moon..was, in the phrase of that country, wading or struggling with clouds. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 293 When the sun is more or less obscured,..and when he is said to be wading in the cloud, rain may come. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xiv. 247 The pale light of a crescent moon wading among the black and lowering clouds.

5. *trans.* To walk through (water, etc.). †Also *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8564 Sco lift hir skirt..And barfote wode sco þat burn. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 760 The mekill mos ..That wes so hydwis for till waid. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Paddok & Mouse* 38 Thocht the brym be perillous to waid. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. x. 31 Nor the deip see Ionium, for all his hycht, Ne mycht he waid equallie wis to areat. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 18 b, The Englishmen in the forefront waded the dyche. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 849 b, Whiche was he sayde, a matter that he hadde diligently waded auncient authors bothe greeke and latine for. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* X. (1599) 437 Three thousand footmen.. afterwardes waded the foord of Myncia. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VII. xiii, The Danube could not well be waded. 1859 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 291 Our guide..made a detour into the mountains to avoid wading the stream. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 20 For wading the bars he uses a much longer rod.

transf. *a* 1891 MORRIS *Poems by the Way* 122 When we wade the tangled wood.

6. To cause (a horse) to walk through water.

1838 MRS. BRAY *Tradit. Devon.* I. 262 Hence we again waded our horses.

Wade, rare spelling of VADE *v.*

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 946 To wade, *flaidrir.*

Wade, obs. var. WAD *sb.*[1], WED, WOAD.

Wadeable: see WADABLE.

Wader (wē·dəɹ). [f. WADE *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who wades.

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 120 So great a wader in discoveries..might be..employ'd in groping for the head of Nile. 1895 TENNYSON *Brook* 117 James Made toward us, like a wader in the surf, Beyond the brook, waist-deep in meadow-sweet. 1905 J. B. FIRTH *Highw. Derbysh.* XXV. 372 Muddy channels..in which a wader would sink to his waist.

b. said of a bird; *esp.* as the distinctive appellation of those long-legged birds (as the heron, plover, snipe, etc., constituting the former order *Grallæ* or *Grallatores*), which wade in shallow water.

1772 EDWARDS *E. Indian Bird* in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 55, I judged it to be no wader in the water. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 32 *Waders* (*Grallæ*). These have a roundish bill, a fleshy tongue; and the legs of most of the species are long. The principal genera are the Herons, Plovers, Snipes, and Sandpipers. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 312, 6th Order.—Grallatores (or Waders). 1860 EMERSON *Coud. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 325 Ducks take to the water, eagles to the sky, waders to the sea margin. 1903 *Spectator* 23 May 707/1 Another wader, rather smaller than the redshank,..which the present writer has not been able to identify.

attrib. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* xi. (1874) 201 Birds of the wader family.

2. *pl.* Waterproof boots reaching above the knee, used by anglers for wading.

1841 J. T. J. HEWLETT *Peter Priggins* I. I 30 Mud-boots, waders, and snow-boots. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 58 Fishing Waders, very light, requiring no separate Brogues. 1904 GALLICHAN *Fishing in Spain* 210 Short mackintosh coats to reach the waders will be required.

Wadge (wædʒ). *dial.* [Cf. WAD *sb.*[1] 2 b.] 'A large loose bundle' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*, s. v. *Wedge*).

1860 *All Year Round* 28 July 368/2 The unhappy children [Blue-coat boys]..are compelled..to turn their skirts up and gird them in a great hot wadge about their loins. 1862 C. A. COLLINS *Cruise upon Wheels* xxiv. (1863) 413 That monstrous wadge of a dressing-gown.

Wadge, obs. f. WAGE *sb.* and *v.*; dial. f. WEDGE.

Wadger, obs. var. WAGER.

‖ **Wadi, wady** (wā·di). Pl. **wadies, wadis, wadys.** [Arab. وادي *wādī*.] In certain Arabic-speaking countries, a ravine or valley which in the rainy season becomes a watercourse; the stream or torrent running through such a ravine.

1839 KINNEAR *Cairo, Petra & Damascus* III. (1841) 93 Our route..continued among narrow rocky wadies of a less desolate appearance. 1843 WHITTIER *Patucket Falls* Pr. Wks. 2889 I. 360 It resembled..some Arabian wady, exhausted by a year's drought. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* I. (1853) 3 Some of the former occupied the fertile wadies, or valleys, scattered here and there among the mountains. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* I. II. 70 A stair of rock brought us into a *wâdy* (wâdi), enclosed between red granite mountains. .I cannot too often repeat, that these *wâdys* are exactly like rivers, except in having no water. 1902 S. R. DRIVER (transl. of *Judg.* V. 21) in *Expositor* Feb. 122 The wady Kishon swept them away, The on-coming wady.

Wading (wē·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb WADE.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 56 Bot sum men sais, this eschaping Apon ane other maner fell Than throu the vading. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* lii. 124 Whereof more then the one halfe dyed with famine, and continual wading through Rivers and waters. 1823 [LEIGH HUNT] in *Examiner* 19 Apr. 242/2 So many creepings in dust and wadings through mire. 1870 KINGSLEY in *Good Words* 1 June 380/2 We were glad to cool ourselves [in fancy] by talking over..wadings in icy streams beneath the black pine-woods.

b. *attrib.* as in *wading-place*; also in names of waterproof articles of attire for wading, as *wading-boots, -brogues, coats*, etc.

1598 FLORIO, *Vadetti*, narrow wading places or foards. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 58 Wading Stockings. Wading Trousers. Wading Brogues. Wading Coats. Wading Boots. 1888 W. E. NORRIS *Chris* vi, Prawning is not bad fun for those who have taken the precaution to put on wading-boots.

Wading (wē·diŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That wades. *Wading bird* = WADER 1 b.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclxxxv. 677 It may be called *Sedum aquatile*, or water Sengreene..in English water Housleeke, Knights Pondwoort, and of some..wading Pondweed. 1867 LYELL *Prine. Geol.* (1875) II. III. xli. 405 Of all families even of wading birds the woodcocks are perhaps the most migratory. 1892 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVII. 67 A new fossil wading bird has been found in the cretaceous rocks of Sweden, and named *Scaniornis Lundgreni*.

Wadle, obs. form of WADDLE.

Wadle, Wadling, obs. ff. WATTLE, WATTLING.

Wadmal (wɒ·dməl). Forms: *a.* 4, 6, 7 **wadmoll**, 5, 6 **-male**, 5, 6, 8 **-mole**, (5 **warde-**), 5, 7 **waddemole**, (6 **watmol**, 7 **wadmol**, **-nall**), 6, 7 **wadmell**, 9 **-mel**, 7, 9 **-mall**, 9 **-maal**, **-mail**, 7, 9 *dial.* **-meal**, 8 **-miel**, 9 **-mil**, 5, 8, 9 **wadmal**. *β.* 5, 6 **wedmole**, 6 **-mell** (**-moll**), (7 **-meill**, **-nel**). *γ.* 6, 7 **woodmal(e**, 7, 9 *dial.* **woadmell** (7 **-mal**, **woddenell**, 8 **woodmell**), 9 *dial.* **woodmail**. *δ.* 8 *corruptly* **wadmus**. Also VALMAL, **-MEL**. [a. ON. *vaðmál* (Norw. *vadmaal*, with many dial. variants; MSw. *vapmal*, *-maal*, Sw. *vadmal*, Da. *vadmel*) believed to represent an earlier **vāðmál*, f. *vāð* cloth (= OE. *wād* WEED *sb.*[2]) + *mál* measure.]

1. A kind of woollen cloth.

a. In England, a coarse woollen material used principally for covering horse-collars, and other rough purposes; also (esp. in the s.-w.) for petticoats, mittens, etc. *Obs.* exc. in *wadmiltilt* (see 2).

In the 16–17th c. mentioned as manufactured in Wales and at Witney (Oxon).

1392 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 138 Pro iiij[xx] viij vergis wadmoll ad ij d. ob. pro saccis. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 395 Item j pannus de wadmale pro rebus cariandis. 1483 in *Rolls Parlt.* IV. 241 Item, iij peces de Wadmole rouge, contenantz xx alnas di., pris. vs. 1485 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1695) 574 In v. virgatis de Waddemole emptis pro coleris equinis..ii sol. i den. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 160 [Imports from Spain] Iren, wolle, wadmole, gotefel, skydefel also. 1485 in *Compotus Rolls Obedient. St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 383 Et in solutis pro le Wedmole ad cooperiendum coleres equorum xvjd. 1500 *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 81 For dyeng of cclxxij yerdes of wardemole blewe and murrey for the Quenes barge. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccxv. 274 b, Many had no armure, but their cootes of wadmoll [Fr. *de gros bureaulx*]. *c* 1580 *Direction for divers trades of merchaundize* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 516 Item, for all the partes of Galicia..flaninge and wedmoles of Wales. 1598 STOW *Surv.* (1603) 286 A market house for the sale of Woolen bayes, Watmols Flanels and such like. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* vi. 27 Which is what you call a Tilt, couered with wadmall in your Wherries. 1662 *Ir. Act* 14 & 15 *Chas. II*, c. 8 *Bk. Rates*, Mittins of Wadmol the dozen pair, 00 09 00. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 279 Of their worst [tail wool] they make Wednel [at Witney] for Collarmakers. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq., Gloss., Waddemole*, now called Woadmel, and in Oxfordshire Woddenell, a course sort of stuff us'd for the covering of the collars of cart-horses. 1720 D. HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 119 Sedge Collars [for plough-horses] are by much the lightest and coolest, indeed not so comely as those of Wadmus, but will serve a good Team well enough. 1782 C. KING *Bota. Merch.* I. 291 Wadmole *alias* Wadding, 830 Yards. 1788 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor* 189 *Woodmeil*, a hairy course Stuff made of Island Wool, and supplied to the Carpenters of Ships..for lining of Ports, &c. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wadmal*, a very coarse and thick kind of woollen manufacture.

b. In Scotland, a woollen fabric woven in Orkney and Shetland. Now only *Hist.*

Down to the 17th c. the taxes of Orkney and Shetland were paid in wadmal and other commodities.

1527 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1575, 642/2 (Zetland', 12 den. pro qualibet ulna sive cuttella 24 cuttellarum panni lanei, vulgo wadmell. 1577 in D. Balfour *Oppress. Orkney & Zetland* (1859) 18 Thair clayth, callit Wadmell, quhilk is ane dewitie thai pay to the Kingis Majestie..yrirlie. 1654 *Blaeu's Atlas, Scotia* 148 Pannus quidam ipsis [Hethlandicis] est crassa ex lana confectus, patrio idiomate vo Wadmeal dictum. 1774 E. GIFFORD in *G. Low's Orkney*, etc. (1879) 243 Payment to the Crown was called Scatt, which was paid in butter, oil, and a sort of very coarse cloth called Wadmal. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* v, Her upper garment..was of a coarse

dark-coloured stuff, called wadmaal, then much used in the Zetland islands, as also in Iceland and Norway. 1884 Sheriff Rampini in *Good Words* Nov. 746/2 All the women ..in scarlet petticoats of Shetland 'wadmal'.

c. A woollen fabric worn by country people in Scandinavia and Iceland. Sometimes in mod. Sw. or Da. form: see Vadmal, -mel.

c 1688 J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 84 The general Employment of the People [in Iceland] is either Fishery or the making of Wadmoll, which is a coarse sort of woollen Cloth, made of their Sheepes Wool. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 10 (Iceland) They likewise manufacture a coarse kind of cloth, which they call wadmal. 1845 [C. H. J. Anderson] *Swedish Br.* 114 The scarlet kerchiefs, mingling with the bluish-grey of the wad-meal or striped tartan. 1894 *Field* 1 Dec. 838/1 No day is too long..for poor old Niels in his one garment of coarse wadmal.

2. *attrib.* or quasi-*adj.* chiefly in sense 'made of wadmal'; **wadmiltilt** (see quot. 1898 and cf. quot. 1627 in 1 a).

1542 *Will J. Norman* (Som.), My dau. Margerie one wedmole petycote. 1544 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 206 Ane schip of fyr..with hir hale sailis of wadmale claith. 1598 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 367/1 Malcolme..to have the wedmell dett thairof becaus he wantit the samin at his entrie. *a* 1720 in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colon. Times* (1894) 253 Wadmoll mittens..a woadmell petticoat. 1821 Scott *Pirate* x, Her dark wadmaal cloak. 1828 Spearman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 23 Wadmiltilts. 1898 Visct. Dillon in *Archæol. Jrnl.* (Inst.) Ser. II. V. 296 *note*, In artillery inventories of to-day will be found wadmiltilts, a kind of tarpaulin covering for stores.

Wadna, Sc. pronunciation of *would no* = would not: see Will *v.*

Wadrop, obs. form of Wardrobe.

Wadset (wɒ·dset), *sb.* *Sc.* Now *obsolescent.* Forms: 5–7 **wedset**(t, 6–8 **wodset**(t, 7 **waddset**, 8 **wadsett**, 6– **wadset**. [f. Wadset *v.*]

1. *Sc. Law.* 'The conveyance of land in pledge for, or in satisfaction of, a debt or obligation, with a reserved power to the debtor to recover his lands, on payment or performance' (Bell). Phr. (*to have, lie*) *in wadset.* Cf. Mortgage *sb.*

There are two kinds of *wadset*, *proper* and *improper* (see quot. 1768).

1449 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 35/2 Quha sa has tane or takis landes in wedsett. 1500 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 196 That the aucht over buthis of thair Tolbuith on the north syde be laid in wodsett vpoun the soume of ix^li and iij^xx frankis vnder ane reuersion. 1527–8 *Ibid.* 233 The commoun buithis quhilk he hes in wedsett of the guid toun. 1536 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 90 The lowsing and rademyng of his place that lyis in wedset to Jhon Gybson of the xl pwnd of monye. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* Table 104 b, The saidis profits, and frutes..sall be payed zeirly to him, quha has the wadset. 1644 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1819) VI. 143/2 The Landis, Anual-rentis, Wodsetis, and others holden by them of the saids forfeited persons. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. vi. 521 The Scottish Wadsets and Reversions answer to the English Mortgages and Defeazances. *a* 1768 Erskine *Inst. Laiv Scot.* II. viii. § 26 A proper wadset is truly of the nature of a redeemable right of property, and not barely of pledge; by which it is covenanted, that the use of the lands possessed by the wadsetter shall, during the not redemption, go for the use or interest of the money lent by him to the reverser. ..An improper wadset is nothing more than a *pignus*, or right of security; in which the wadsetter is accountable to the reverser for the neat yearly sums which he hath, or might have, received out of the wadset-lands. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xlii, There was little time to get the wadset made out. 1873 Burton *Hist. Scot.* lvii. V. 193 The poor man asked leave to raise money by 'wadset' or mortgage of his estates.

2. A thing pledged.

1796 Burns '*Wha will buy my troggin?*' Here's a little wadset, Buittle's scrap o' truth, Pawn'd in a gin-shop Quenching holy drouth. *a* 1800 in Cromek *Rem. Nithsdale Song* (1810) 90 Our guidwife coft a snip white coat,..But it's a wadset i' the town.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1630 in *Inchaffray Reg.* (Bannatyne Club) 106 Christiane Murray..wodsett haver of the landis under written. 1665 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 62 Free of any such wadsett ryt. *a* 1728 J. Spottiswoode *Hope's Minor Practicks* (1734) 241 This, for many Years, was the common and ordinary Reason of Reduction of Wadset-rights. *a* 1768 Erskine *Inst. Laiv Scot.* II. viii. § 19 This instrument..subjects the wadsetter to account for the rent of the wadset-lands, from the time the order was used. *Ibid.* § 28 A back-tack of them [the lands] to the reverser..is made to continue during the not redemption of the wadset, for payment of the interest of the wadset-sum.

Wa·uset, *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wadset, -setted.** Chiefly *Sc.* ? *Obs.* Forms: 4, 5 **wed-(de)sette**, 4–7 **wedset**(t, 6, 7 **wodset**(t, 6–8 **wadset.** [Sc. form (with *wad* Sc. var. of Wed *sb.*) of ME. *wedset*, f. Wed *sb.* + Set *v.*; prob. developed from an OE. phrase **tó wedde settan* 'to set to pledge', to pawn, mortgage. (The recorded OE. phrases are *tó wedde lecgan, sellan*; cf. 'Mi lond ich wulle sette to wedde', Layamon 25172. OE. and ME. had also *wed settan, to sette wed* = to deposit a pledge.)] *trans.* To put (land, clothes, etc.) in pledge; to pawn, mortgage.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11796 Al my lond schal y wed-sette ffor gold & seluer. *a* 1400 *Burgh Laws* lxxix. (*Sc. Stat.* I), Of lande þat is wedset wythin burgh. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 346 A place here beside, lorde, wolde I wedde-sette. 1508 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 176 A Lettre of Licence..to analy or wedset to quhasumever person or persons he ples ony xll merkis worth of land. 1508 Kennedy *Flyting w. Dunbar* 443 Thou drank thy thrift, sald and wedset thy clais. 1572 *Satyr. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 54 All our gay garmentis..We shame wedset, our bodyis to sustene. 1846 Z. Boyd in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 321/1 The said Laird wodset sold and disponed to us..the lands. 1676 [see Wadsetter 2]. 1775 L. Shaw *Hist. Moray* 33 These, and some other possessions, are now wadsetted by William Gordon. 1839 *Bk. Thanes of Cawdor* (Spalding Club) 420 There follows..a list of the wadsets, from which we learn that Budgate was wadset to Mr. William Dallas for 10,000 marks.

fig. 1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 366 Blood, and the blood of God shed, cannot wadset ancient loue.

Hence †**Wa·dsetting** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wedsettynge, *impignoracio.* 1509 *Reg. Priv. Seal Scot.* I. 405/2 The quhilk alienatioun or wedsetting the [King] willis..sal be na hurt..to the biaris. 1654 Lamont *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 72 No money lent, or bargaine in sailling or wedsetting of land..was to be allowed.

Wadsetter (wɒ·dsetəɹ). *Sc.* Also 7 **wodsetter.** [f. Wadset *v.* and *sb.* + -er 1.]

1. One who puts his land to wadset; a mortgagor. *rare.*

1629 in Ld. Durie *Reports* (1690) 43 He had Comprised the Reversion of the same Lands, which he had in Wodset of before, from the Wodsetter. 1864 Ld. Deas in *Scots Revised Rep.* Ser. III. (1902) III. 330 The right of property in the lands remained with the wadsetter, subject to the burden of the wadset; and when the wadset was subsequently discharged, that burden was effectually wiped off.

2. One who holds by a wadset, a mortgagee.

1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxiv. § 1v. (1699) 128 The Wadsetter runs all hazard of the Lands Wadset to him. 1758 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 67 James and George Neasmyths wadsetters of a part of Ardblae. 1799 R. Bell *Syst. Forms of Deeds Scot.* II. 23 The purpose of this act was to preserve the right of the reverser, who, by these absolute rights had been exposed to the acts of the wadsetter. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xx, The elders of his own tribe, wadsetters and tacksmen, as they were called, who occupied portions of his estate as mortgagers or lessees. 1889 Lockhart *Ch. Scot. 13th Cent.* 104 *note*, His father..being a wadsetter at Drumgask.

Wadt, Wadth: see Wad *sb.*3, Wath.

Wady: see Wadi.

Wadyr, obs. form of Water.

Wae, obs. or dial. form of Woe.

†**Waedle**, *sb.*1 *Obs. rare*—1. In 3 **wælde.** [OE. *wǽdl* str. fem., *wǽdle* wk. fem., related to next.

It is doubtful whether the *wælde* of the Layamon MS. is a scribal error or a genuine metathetic form.]

Poverty.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvi. § 2 Sio mennisce wædl ðe næfre gefylled ne bið wilnað ælce dæg hwæs hwuzu þysses worulde welan. *c* 1205 Lay. 1002 For al þat god of þisse londe we scule leden mid us & heo bi-læuen wrecches & wælde heom scal fulien.

†**Waedle**, *a.* and *sb.*2 *Obs.* Also **waedle.** [OE. *wǽdla*, Mercian *wǽdla*.] **a.** *adj.* Poor, needy. **b.** *sb. pl.* The poor.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark x. 46 Timeus sunu bartimeus sæt blind wiþ þone weg wædla. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Surtees) cviii. 17, & oehtende wes mon þearfan & wǽdlan. *c* 1200 Ormin 5638 All wrecche & wædle & usell mann. *c* 1205 Lay. 427 Wapnen & wifmen, þa weolezen & þa wædlen, alle he heom sumunde. *Ibid.* 5872 For her scullen þe wædlen alle i-wurðen riche.

Wael, obs. form of Wale *sb.*1

Wael: see Wal (slaughter), Weal.

Weald, Wealden: see Weald, Wield *v.*

†**Wa·ling**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs. rare*—1. [? f. ON. *véla, véla* to defraud, trick (mod.Norw. *vela* to tempt, flatter, woo) + -ing 1.] In Comb. *waling-word* pl., words of temptation or courtship.

c 1200 Ormin 2192 Full wel birrþ ure mazzdenn ben Forrshamedd, 3iff mann brinnegeþ Biforenn hire unnþæwfull word & wælinng word þurrh scaldess.

Waer, obs. form of Ware *a.*

Waest, obs. form of Waste.

Waesuck(s (wē·sʌk, -sʌks), *int.* *Sc.* [f. *was*, Sc. form of Woe; the ending app. represents *sake*(*s*: see Sake *sb.*] Expressing commiseration: Woe is me! Alas!

a 1774 Fergusson *Braid Claith* 13 Waesucks for him wha has nae feck o't. 1786 Burns *Holy Fair* xxv, Waesucks! for him that gets nae lass, Or lasses that hae naething. 1806 [J. Black] *Falls of Clyde* 133 Ye trust, waesucks! in works. 1867 J. K. Hunter *Retrosp. Artist's Life* xxviii. (1912) 291 Waesucks for the back places about London.

Waet, obs. Sc. f. Wot *v.*

Waf, obs. pa. t. of Weave *v.*

Wafe, obs. f. Waif, Wave; var. Waive *v.*2 *Obs.*

Wafer (wē·fəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **wafre**, 4–5 **waffre**, 5–7 **waffer**, 8 *Sc.* **waffor, weffer**, 5 **wafler, wafir, wayfire, wafyre**, 6 **wafyrre**, 5–6 **wafur**, 5–7 **waiffur**, (5 -er), 6 **whafer**, 7 **wapher**, 5– **wafer.** [ME. *wafre*, a. AF. *wafre*, ONF. *waufre* (= Central F. *gaufre, gofre*, whence Gofer), adopted, with change of *l* into *r*, from MLG. *wāfel* (mod. LG. *wāfel, wafel*) = early mod.Du. *waefel*, now *wafel* (WFris. *wafel*), whence Waffle; the mod.G. *waffel*, Sw. *våffla*, Da. *vaffel* are from LG.

As the F. *gaufre*, wafer, waffle, has also the sense of honeycomb, it is inferred that the Teut. word had this meaning, and is cogn. w. OHG. *wabo*, MHG., mod.G. *wabe*, honeycomb; but neither Du. nor LG. seems to have preserved this sense.]

1. A very light thin crisp cake, baked between wafer-irons; formerly often eaten with wine, now chiefly with ices; in later use sometimes rolled, sometimes serving as the under part of a macaroon. Cf. Wafron.

The simile 'thin as a wafer', originally belonging to this sense, is now commonly associated with sense 3.

[1295 *Will N. Longespee* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1900) July 524 Tria paria ferrea ad wafras, neulas, et galettas faciendas.]

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 264 [A waferer says:] Alle Londoun I leue liketh wel my wafres. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 193 He sente hire..wafres pipyng hoot out of the gleede. 1442 in *Bekynton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 233 Ro. Savage, et Robertus serviens domini Regentis, portaverunt waiffers et poma. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 123 For þese may marre many a man changynge his astate, but 3iff he haue aftur, hard chese, wafurs, with wyne ypocrate. *c* 1500 *How to serve a Lord* Ibid. 368 Thenne aftur wafers and frute spended, all maner thinge shalbe take uppe and avoyded. 1530 Tindale *Exod.* xvi. 31 The taste of it [*sc.* manna] was lyke vnto wafers made with honye [so 1611]. 1546 Wriothesley *Chron.* (1875) I. 165 My lord major did elect and chose that dale when he was at waflers and ipocras Mr. Richard Jervis. 1572 Huloet (ed. Higins), Wafre, suche as they geue to younge children, *crustulum.* 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod* etc. P j b, Yea, yea, she treades so nice, she would not wafers breake. 1608 Bonham in *Topsell's Serpents* 318 The people of India..doe make of these Wormes diuers iuncats, as we doe Tarts, Marchpanes, Wafers, and Cheese-cakes. 1619 Drayton *Idea* viii, Thy Lips, with age, as any Wafer thinne. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Chances* II. i, A womans oathes are wafers, breake with making. 1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* I. i. (1682) 2 The inner Coat [of the bean]..so far shrinking up, as to seem only the roughness of the outer, somewhat resembling Wafers under Maquaroons. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 277 To make Wafers. Take two spoonfuls of cream, two of sugar, the same of flour, and one spoonful of orange flower water, beat them well together for half an hour, then make your wafer tongs hot...bake them on a stove fire, as they are baked roll them round a stick like a spiggot, as soon as they are cold, they will be very crisp. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xi III. 251 The Major having finished the bottle of claret,..together with a large plate of wafers. 1834 Esther Copley *Housekpr.'s Guide*, Wafers. —Sweeten dried flour with loaf sugar;..make it into a stiff batter with cream. There are irons for the purpose of baking them...They are used for the bottom of maccaroons and some other cakes. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 155/2 (Confectionery) Wafers.—Take 4 oz. sugar, 4 oz. butter, 8 oz. flour [etc.]. *Ibid.* 156/1 Close the tongs immediately; put them on the fire, turning them occasionally until the wafer is done.

2. The thin disk of unleavened bread used at the Eucharist in the Western Church before the Reformation, and subsequently in the ritual of Roman Catholics, Lutherans, and some Anglicans. Cf. Oblet.

1539 Q. Eliz. *Injunct.* D 3 b, The vsuall bread and wafer, heretofore named singing Cakes, which serued for the vse of the priuate Masse. 1570 Gilby in *Part of a Register* (1593) 16 The adoration of the Sacrament, in the Countrey where they knocke and kneele to a Wafer, is a popishe pollicie. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 94 The Widow..bestows Holway, a kind of Sacramental Wafer. 1719 Swift *Altstr. Hist. Eng., Stephen* Wks. 1768 IV. 297 The English, upon a certain engine, raised the mast of a ship, on the top whereof, in a silver box, they put the consecrated wafer. 1853 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. xix. 249 To tremble before a consecrated wafer is spurious reverence. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* I. 85 As they went To eat the bishop's wafer at the church. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 159 Many of these unbelievers..obtained and outraged consecrated wafers.

3. A small disk of flour mixed with gum and non-poisonous colouring matter, or of gelatine or the like similarly coloured, which when moistened is used for sealing letters, attaching papers, or receiving the impression of a seal.

[1638 : see *wafer-seal* in 6.] 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 305 P6 Pen and Ink, Wax and Wafers, with the like Necessaries for Politicians. 1749 Johnson *Let. to Miss Porter* 12 July, You frighted me with your black wafer, for I was afraid your letter had brought me ill news. 1797 W. Johnston tr. *Buchanan's Hist. Invent.* I. 296 Mr. Speiss [Ger.] has made an observation..that the oldest seal with a red wafer, he has ever yet found, is on a letter written by D. Krapf, at Spires, in the year 1624, to the government at Bayreuth. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Belinda* xv, Lady Delacour..began ..to put wafers into several notes which she had been writing. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 729 In every kind of tracing, the different papers which are employed upon each other, should be fastened together by wafers. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* liii, Poor men always use messengers instead of the post. Who has not had their letters, with the wafers wet, and the announcement that a person is waiting in the hall? 1863 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* I. 15 To put a wafer on a letter was a thing seldom done.

b. *transf.* Applied to a round spot.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxviii. (1856) 236 Deck covered in with black felt, the frozen condensation patching it with large white wafers of snow. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 543/1 The Dalmatian, or 'coach dog,' white with black wafers stuck all over him.

4. *Med.* A thin leaf of paste, used to form a cachet for the administration of a powder.

1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 609/1 Wafers are of two forms. One style consists of two watch-glass shaped bodies, whose edges, upon moistening, will cohere, leaving a central space for enclosure of the powder...The other style consists of a single large, thin, circular sheet of wafer-material. Such sheet dipped into water, becomes flexible, and ..is used as a literal wrap for the dose of powder. 1913 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Laddie* iv. (1917) 74 She looked exactly as she does when the wafer bursts and the quinine gets in her mouth.

8. *Gunnery.* A kind of primer.

1867 J. T. HEADLEY *Farragut & Naval Commanders* 73 Not a gun went off...The gunners had removed the 'wafers' by which they were discharged.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1') ***wafer-baker, -maker, roller***; ***wafer-like*** adj.; (sense 3) ***wafer-seal***; also ***wafer-sealed, -torn*** adjs.; **wafer-biscuit** = sense 1; **wafer-bread**, unleavened bread to be used at the Eucharist in the form of wafers; **wafer-cachet** (see sense 4); †**wafer-god**, an opprobrious term for the consecrated host; **wafer-iron**, an apparatus for baking wafers, consisting of two iron blades between which the paste is held (also *pair of wafer-irons*); † **wafer pancake**, a kind of pancake made thin like a wafer; †**wafer-paper**, a preparation of paste in thin sheets, used in cookery and pharmacy (see 4); **wafer stamp**, a hand-stamp for impressing a device on wafers; **wafer-tongs** = *wafer-iron*; † **wafer-wall**, *nonce-wd.*, a wall flimsy as a wafer; †**wafer-woman**, a woman who sold wafers (cf. WAFERER, WAFERESTRE); †**wafer-work**, a kind of ornamental work in which wafers were used to form a pattern. Also WAFER-CAKE.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Oublieur*, a *wafer baker. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliv, The hulking fellow carrying the *wafer-biscuits. 1568 ABP. PARKER *To Sir W. Cecil* 30 Apr., in *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 240 These were the orders which they must observe: to wear the cap appointed by Injunction,..to communicate kneeling in *wafer-bread. 1637 *Bk. Comm. Prayer Ch. Scot*, *Communion*, rubric, Though it be lawfull to have wafer bread. *c* 1890 M. CREIGHTON in *Life & Lett.* (1904) II. 57 The use of wafer bread is undesirable and should be discontinued. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 992 Chloralamide..may be given in doses of 10 to 30 grains in *wafer cachet. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 17 Certain Thieves having stolen the Silver Box wherein the *Wafer-Gods use to lie. *a* 1743 SAVAGE *Epist. to Walpole* 79 Lo! the priest's hand the wafergod supplies. 1857 PUSEY *Real Presence* iii. (1869) 330 People have profanely spoken of 'wafer-gods'. They might as well have spoken of 'fire-gods', of the manifestation of God in the flaming fire in the bush. 1489 *Paston Lett.* I. 490 Item, ij. payre *wafer irons. 1551 *Will T. Fletcher, Glastonb.*, Oon whafer yron. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Wafer*, The Wafer-Iron is to be heated and rubb'd on both sides..with fresh Butter. 1879 Miss BRADDON *Vixen* III. 302 Coaxing her to eat a *waferlike slice of bread-and-butter. 1906 'A. HOPE' *Sophy of Kravonia* I. v. 56 Of course the mention of the waferlike ..puts her identity beyond question. 1911 J. WARD *Roman Era Brit.* xii. 220 Wafer-like bone discs..are also of common occurrence. 1530 PALSGR. 286/1 *Wafyrmaker, *wanfrier*. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. *Pantagr. Prognost.* v. 235 Clergy-Taylors, Wafer-makers, Rosary-makers. 1852 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc. Suppl., Wafers are coloured with various materials...The wafer makers are very unwilling to show the process. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 165 To make *Wafer Pancakes. 1718 MRS. EALES *Receipts* 70 Then lay 'em in Lumps on *Wafer-Paper, and set 'em on Papers in an Oven. 1773 G. A. STEVENS *Trip to Portsmouth* ii. 27 That ever any school-fellow of mine should play truant from old port, and good roast beef, to live upon whey, and wafer-paper! 1860 R. FOWLER *Med. Vocab., *Wafer-paper*, an article of confectionary, now employed for the exhibition of nauseous electuaries, &c. 1889 R. WELLS *Bread & Biscuit Baker* 46 Cover the tins or wires with wafer

the sole makeing of the *wafer seales and he wilbe bound to sell one hundred of them for a penny. 1728 FIELDING *Love in several Masques* III. iii. 33 'Tis but *Wafer-sealed. I'll open it and read it. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXXIX, He took up the *wafer-stamp, and began stamping capital F's all over his legs. 1763 *Ockterlyre House Bk.* (S.H.S.) 230, 1 pair *weffer tongs. 1769 [see 1]. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 156/1 Make the wafer-tongs hot over the hole of a stove or clear fire. 1832 *Boston Herald* 29 May 4/4 The error arose from our letter being *wafer-torn where the figures were written. 1620 QUARLES *Feast for Worms* Introd. B 2 b, Thy *Wafer-walles at dread Iehouahs blast Shall quake. 1607 BEAUMONT *Woman-Hater* II. i, 'Twas no set meeting certainly; for there was no *wafer-woman with her these three days on my knowledge. 1683 FLETCHER, etc. *Maid in Mill* I. iii, Am I not able..to deliver A Letter handsomly? Is that such a hard thing? Why every wafer-woman will undertake it. 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) II. 169 Miss Ludford's ingenious productions in shell-work, in *wafer-work, in filigree and coloured paper. 1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Harrington* vi, She ant at some fashionable kind of work—wafer work, I think it was called, a work which has been long since consigned to the mice.

Wafer (wē·fəɹ), *v.* [f. WAFER *sb.*] *trans.* To fasten with a wafer. Also with *on, up*.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 243 Wafer'd on, as an after-written introduction to the paragraphs which follow. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 4 Mar., My father..wafered the paragraph upon a sheet of paper, and sent it to his lodgings. 1822 BP. RYDER in Mrs. Crane *Rec. Life W. H. Havergal* (1882) 34, I enclose..a letter which you may read and then wafer or seal. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Private Theatres*, Such are the written placards wafered up in the gentlemen's dressing-room. 1848 THACKERAY *Rounabout Ride* Wks. 1898 VI. 588 Cards of lodgings wafered into the rickety bow-windows. 1861 SALA *Dutch Pict.* xiii. 202 [He] had wafered the page of the book containing his lesson against the doctor's desk. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. David* xci. 9, 10, IV. 235 My curiosity led me to read a paper which was wafered up in a shoemaker's window.

†**Wafer-cake.** *Obs.*

1. = WAFER *sb.* 1.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclat.* 84/2 *Crustulum*,..a *wafer cake. 1599 *George a Greene* (1599) D 2, You shall haue wafer cakes your fill.

b. *fig.* as a type of fragility.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 53 Trust Strawes, meane faiths are Wafer-Cakes.

2. = WAFER *sb.* 2. Chiefly in hostile use.

c 1560 tr. *Latimer* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. II. 90 The Papistes..wolde conteyne the natural Body which Christe had (Synne excepted) agaynst all Truthe, into a Wafer Cake. 1584 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* (1880) VI. 715 A super-altar, a pyx, a box of wafer cakes. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. vi. § 1 The vse of wafer-cakes, the custome of godfathers & godmothers in baptisme, are things not commanded nor forbidden in the scripture. 1630 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 476 Hee must..conge to the ground with his head, as Priests doe to their Wafer-cakes.

Wafered (wē·fəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. WAFER *v.* and *sb.* + -ED[1].]

1. Sealed, fastened, or attached with a wafer or wafers.

1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 17 Apr., Free from wafered letters,..notes of hand wanted, and all the worry of an embarrassed man's life. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 261 'All the ladies of the ballet at ten.'..So may run the wafered announcements signed in the fine Roman hand of the..stage-manager.

2. Of bread: Made into wafers (see WAFER *sb.*[2]). Also (*nonce-use*), touched by the sacramental wafer.

1827 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) IV. 286 Our ancestors, who saw peril in wafers and in wafered lips. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Aug. 6/3 The..parishioners..complained of the following practices:—Using water with wine, using wafered unleavened bread [etc.].

Waferer, *sb. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 **waferare, -ere,** 4–7 **wafrer, waffrer.** [a. AF. *wafrer*, f. *wafre* WAFER *sb.* Cf. AL. *waferarius*.] A maker or seller of wafers or thin cakes.

The itinerant wafer-sellers of both sexes had the repute of being ready to act as intermediaries in amatory intrigues. Cf. WAFER-*woman*, WAFRESTRE. In royal and other great households there were one or more 'waferers', whose duties probably included the making of confectionery in general.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 120 'I-wis,' quaþ a waferer, 'wost þi þis for soþe, Schulde I neuere forþere a fote for no freres prechinge'. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XVI. 299 Mynstralcie can ich nat muche, bote make men murye, As a waffrer with waffres. *c* 1480 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 12 3if þei [the religious] ben made wafreris, 3euynge lordes, ladies and riche men a fewe peris, appelis or nottis to haue huge 3iftis to be couent, euyl þei coueiten here neyeboris goodis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 151 Syngeres with harpes, Baudes, wafereres. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 72 Offyce of Wafere[r]s, hathe one yoman making wafyrs. *c* 1525 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 9 Yermongers, py-bakers, and waferers. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 2 Fyrste was he hosteler, and than a waifrer. 1679–88 *Moneys Secr. Serv. Chas. II & Jas. II* (Camden) 207 To William Clopton, in lieu of all fees claimed by him as waferer to his said Majestie on the day of the coronation 30 0 0. 1861 *Our Engl. Home* 70 The brilliancy of a mediæval feast was chiefly due to the ingenuity of the waferers, or confectioners.

So †**Wa·frestre** [*-estre*, -STER], a female waferer.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B v. 641 'Wite god,' quod a wafrestre [*A text* waferere], 'wist I þis for sothe, Shulde I neuere ferthere a fote, for no freres prechynge.'

Waferish (wē·fəriʃ), *a.* [f. WAFER *sb.* + -ISH[1].] Like a wafer, very thin.

1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xx. 330 A thin waferish slice of toasted rusk.

†**Wa·fern,** *a. Obs.* [f. WAFER *sb.* + -EN.] Of bread: Having the composition of wafers.

1570 in Gutch *Collect. Cur.* (1781) II. 4 For iiij doz. of waferne bread, for the bottomes of the marche paynes.

Wafery (wē·fəri), *sb.* Also 5 **waaffery,** 6 **wafrie, waferye, waffrey, wafarie,** 7 **wayfary.** [a. AF. *wafrie*, f. *wafre* WAFER *sb.*]

1. A room or building in which wafers or thin cakes are made; the department of the royal household occupied with the making of wafers. Also † *wafery-house*.

1485 *Househ. Hen. VI* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 322 The waaffery—William Overton, Yoman, [etc.]. 1553 in *Archæologia* XII. 362 The Waferye. Adam Alee, yeoman. *a* 1558 in Gutch *Collect. Cur.* (1781) II. 1 Item, flore for the pastre, and wafery, and seller, as nedithe. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 24 In the chaundrye, iii persons: in the wafery, iii. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 43/2 Officers and Servants in the Kings Majesties Houshold...The Waffrey-House. Yeoman,..Groom,..[etc.]. *Ibid* IV. xii. (Roxb.) 499/2 Then followed the Groomes of..The Wafery. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 272 Not unless you come to him from the wafery, the pantry, the cellerage or the larder. 1830 NICOLAS in *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* 229/1 The Wafery ..still is one of the offices of the royal house-hold.

†**2.** Wafers collectively, light pastry *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 170 b, He..hidde theim to kepe a corner of their stomakes for the tartes, wafrie, and iounkettes, that wer to bee serued..after the meate.

Wafery, *a. rare.* [f. WAFER *sb.* + -Y.] Like a wafer, extremely thin.

1880 J. P. STRUTHERS *Life & Lett.* V. (1918) 97 A very thin wafery idea. 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v., A wafery thinness.

Waff (waf), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Also 7 **vaiffe, waffe,** 9 **wauff** f. [f. WAFF *v.*[1] Cf. WAFT *sb.*, WEFT, WAIF *sb.*[2], WAVE *sb.*[2]]

1. A waving movement; esp. waving of the hand or something held in the hand: cf. WAFT *sb.* 2, 6.

1678 *Rec. Justiciary Edin.* 33 Sept. in H. Arnot *Hist. Edin.* (1779) 194 *note*, The devil..baptised you upon the face, with an waff of his hand like a dewing. 1722 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1728) 296 With orders, if they saw 3 sail in the offing, to make 3 waffs with their colours. 1892 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 III. 177 Beggars!..that wadna understand the repulse,..e'e a waff o' the haun to be awa wi' theirsells.

1897 HALLIWELL, *Waff*, the movement of a large [illegible] side to side. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Waff*, a wave of the hand. The kind of flag or signal used at sea for assistance to the ship from the shore. 1886 'H. HALIBURTON' *Horace in Homespun* (1900) 93 Wi' the waff o' my wings I soar A mile abane the city's roar. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 89 These ..youths..first extinguishing his light. This one of them did by a smart 'waff' of his bonnet.

b. *To put out* or *set forth a waff*: to wave something as a signal. Cf. WAFT *sb.*[1], 6 b, WAIF *sb.*[2] 2.

1600 in Earl Cromarty *Acc. Conspir. Earls Gowry & R. Logan* (1713) 105 And when you are about Half a Mile from Shoar, as it were passing by the House, to gar set forth a Waff. 1685 J. BLANCLAY tr. *A. Skene's Surv. Aberd.* 225 And as soon as ye come to the Road, ye can allwayes have a Boat for putting out a Vaiffe at all occasions, for Piloting you into the Harbour.

2. A puff, passing gust, sudden blast (of wind or air). *lit.* and *fig.*

1686 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Script.* II. ii. (1726) 268 A waffe as it were of the glorious God doth go by to the discerning of others. 1787 P. WALKER *Life R. Cameron, Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) 294 [He] got a Waff of that murthering East-wind in the 1679. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, This increase of profit at Saint Leonard's Crags may be a cauld waff of wind blawing from the frozen land of earthly self. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* II. xvii. 162 We maun gie something to the young woman and the bairns, that we may get a waff o' their good will likewise. 1836 *Scott. Mag.* July 108 It was not the Highland strength turn'd them that day, But the waff o' the broad-swords that blew them away. 1897 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., 'The waff o' the train'—the rush of air caused by a passing train.

b. A whiff (of perfume), an odour. Cf. WEFF.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 29 A canny waff o' sweet perfume Was blawn in breeses throo' the room. 1887 SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* III. ii. 245 The waff of the wild roses..cam in stoons of sweetness alang the air.

3. A slight blow, esp. one given by something in passing.

a 1754 E. ERSKINE *Serm. Abraham rejoicing* Wks. 1795 II. 536 A very little waff of any thing will do it [*sc.* the eye] hurt. 1808 JAMIESON, *Waff*, 3. A slight stroke from any soft body, especially in passing.

b. A slight attack or 'touch' (of illness, esp. of cold).

1808 JAMIESON, *Waff* 4. A sudden affection, producing a bodily ailment. Thus..it is said that one has *gotten a waff* or *waf of cauld*. 1822 GALT *Steam Boat* vii, I found myself in a very disjasked state..with a waff of cold that had come upon me.

4. A passing view, a glimpse.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* li, I sought every glen and clench ..but tell a wauff of his coat-tail could I see. 1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 28 That the bauld-bosom'd clerk smith get A waff o' his face ere aff he set. 1887 SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* III. i. 249 It is but seldom,—only at meal times, and often no' then,—that we get a waff of him ava.

5. An apparition, wraith. = WAFT *sb.*[1] 7.

1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* 99 There is a similar Superstition among the Vulgar in Northumberland: They call it seeing the Waff of the Person whose Death it foretells. 1825 *Dangerous Secr.* II. 163 Your honour forgets I fand my dear maister mysel, an' saw him laid in the cauld grave. It's been his waff. 1884 BESANT *Dorothy Forster* xiii, There is the wauf, or figure of the person about to die seen by another person.

Waff (waf), *a. Sc.* Also **waf, wauf.** [var. of WAIF *a.*]

1. Of an animal: Wandering, stray. Also of a person: 'Solitary'; said 'of one who is in a strange place where he has not a single acquaintance' (Jam. 1808).

1720 RAMSAY *Patie & Roger* 127 She..then bade me hound my Dog To weer up three waff Ews were on the Bog. 1776 *Herd's Coll. Sc. Songs* II. Gloss., *Waff*, wandering by itself.

2. Of a person, condition of life: Of no account, worthless.

1788 PICKEN *Poems Scot. Dial.* 248 Gloss., *Waff*, little worth. 1808 JAMIESON, *Waff, Waif, Waff*, adj. .. 3. Worthless. *A waff fellow*, one whose conduct is immoral; or whose character is so [illegible] that those, who regard their own, will not associate with him. 1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXXIX, Is not it an odd-like thing that ilka wauf carle in the country has a son and heir, and that the house of Ellangowan is without male succession? 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. viii. 306, 'I dinna think there's a waufer (sbabbier) thing in the world than to be a lassie, to sit boring at a clout'. *a* 1884 J. RUTHERFURD *Remin. Jarrow* I. (1894) 7 A wauf hand [*i.e.* a bad preacher].

b. Comb.: **waff-like** *a.*, shabby-looking; having a suspicious or disreputable appearance; feeble, of little account.

1808 JAMIESON, *Waff-like*, one [*sic*] who has a very shabby or suspicious appearance. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* lxxix. III. 180 Though the folk afore the house are but a wee waff-like. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 46 A coat o' rusty black The wauflike wretch has on his back. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxiii, I came upon a lane of lighted houses, the doors and windows thronged with wauf-like painted women.

Waff (waf), *v.*[1] Chiefly *north.* Also 5–7 **waffe,** 9 *Sc.* **whaff.** [var. of WAIVE *v.*[2] or of WAVE *v.*, with onomatopoeic modification. Cf. WAFT *v.*[2]]

†**1.** *trans.* To put *away* with a wave of the hand. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXII. 34 Pir wise wordis ware noght wroght in waste, To waffe and wende away als wynde.

3. *trans.* Of the wind: To cause (something) to move to and fro.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 26 (1553) 16 b, Venus..With wind waffing [*v.r.* waving] hir haris lowsit of trace. *Ibid.* VI. viii. 113 Quhidder wafft vilsum by storm of the se, Or at command of goddis, come thow, quod he?

b. *intr.* To wave to and fro; to flutter in the wind; also *trans.* of a bird, to move (the wings) in flight.

1634 J. WILSON *Nect. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 IV. 97 Rover begins snookin and twinin himsel in a serpentine style,...wi' his fanlike tail whaffin. 1896 J. BALLANTINE *Poems* 59 The rags waffin' round her wud wauken ruth In a mair stievebreasted chield than me. 1861 R. QUINN *Heather Linties* (1863) 72 Aff they set on tiptas flicht, Waffin' their wee bit wings wi' micht.

4. *intr.* To produce a current of air by waving something to and fro. Also *trans.*, to direct a current of air against, to fan.

HOLME *Armoury* III. 91/1 [Among goldsmiths and [illegible] 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 63 To *Waff*, or *Waft*, to fan out. Firedamp was formerly expelled from the working rooms by

†Waff, *v.*[2] *Obs.* [Alteration of WAFT *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To convey by sea. *Obs.* = WAFT *v.*[1] 2.

1620 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III. xviii. 84 He waffes an Armie out of France, and Voada pursues. *Ibid.* Epit. 374 He imbarked for Normandie to waffe them into England. 1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* v. 137 Those huge Vessels [Junks] are ..made exceeding big, on purpose to waff passengers forward and backward.

2. *intr.* To sail. Also *trans.* To sail (the seas).

1621 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brt.* VI. i. § 3. 183 Volusenus returned, having waffed vpon the coasts of Britaine so far, as with safety he might. *Ibid.* VII. xxxviii. § 6. 364 His nauie waffing along those seas. *Ibid.* VII. xlii. § 6. 370 His Nauie roiall..he diuided into three parts, appointing euery of them to a seuerall quarter to waffe the Seas.

Waff (waf), *v.*[3] Now *dial.* In 7, 8 **waugh.** [Echoic.] *intr.* Of a dog, esp. of a puppy: To yelp.

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. Irel. 188 Women too throughout the same County barked like big dogges: but the children and little ones waughed as small whelpes. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Waughing*, barking. Probably from the sound. N. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss., Waff*, or *waffle*, to bark, yelp. A dog ran waffing out. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., A dog 'woughs', but a puppy waffs.

†Waffer. *Mining. Sc. Obs.* In 6 **vaffer.** App. an engineering work of some kind; ? a fan (cf. WAFF *v.*[1] 4).

1599 in R. W. Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 80 It is noch possible to men to myn cast sinkes vaffers big myis quha never saw ony siclyk.

Waffet, obs. form of WAFT *v.*

Waffle (wa·fl). *Sc.* Also **wauffle.** [f. WAFF *a.* + -LE.] A worthless person, a vagabond.

1808 JAMIESON, *Waffie*, a vagabond. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 524/2 Gypsies have actually among themselves outcasts and vagabonds..by them termed *waffies*. 1896 'IAN MACLAREN' *Kate Carnegie* xxi. 353 A' the wauffes in the countryside come here.

Waffinger, var. WAVENGER.

Waffle (wɒ·fl), *sb.*[1] *U.S.* [a. Du. *wafel*: see WAFER *sb.*] A kind of batter-cake, baked in a waffle-iron, and eaten hot with butter or molasses.

1817 M. BIRKBECK *Notes Journ. Amer.* (1818) 64 Waffles (a soft hot cake of German extraction, covered with butter). 1870 D. MACRAE *Amer. at Home* I. 291 The Americans are all fond of molasses; using them regularly at breakfast and supper to their buckwheat cakes and waffles. 1893 T. N. PAGE *In Ole Virginia* 221 He ordered waffles and hoe-cakes for breakfast.

b. Comb., as *waffle party*; waffle-iron, an iron utensil for baking waffles over a fire.

1868 in *Scribner's Mag.* (1887) II. 283/2 They are going to have a fine *waffle* party on Tuesday. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 666/1 She tells him of 'little waffle parties' formed by her intimates. 1888 E. EGGLESTON *Graysons* xxxi. 334 She took down the long-handled waffle-irons. 1890 *Academy* Feb. 184/1 Toasting-forks and waffle-irons had long h so make endurable the blaring heat of the great logs.

Waffle, *sb.*[2] [f. the verb.]

1. *dial.* 'The bark of a small dog' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

2. *Printers' slang.* 'Twaddle, gossip, or "jaw"' (Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 1888).

Waffle, *v.* Now *dial.* Also **whaffle.** [Freq. of WAFF *v.*[3]] *intr.* To yelp. Hence **Waffling** *ppl. a.*

1698 *Christ Exalted* § xcv. 77 His branding all that dissent from the Writings of Mr. Williams to be Whaffling Whelps, that can bark and not bite. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 23 Waffling curs and shepherd-dogs pursue.

†Waffore. *Obs.*[-1] ? A drone.

1456 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 174 They ..souketh the theryfte awey oute of oure hondes, As the waffore (*v.r.* waspe] souketh the honye fro the bee.

Waffrestre: see under WAFFERER.

Wafrie: see WAFERY.

†Wafron. *Obs.* Also 5 **wafrun,** 6 **waffron,** 5–6 **wafroun** (*Sc.* **vafrown**). [a. AF. **wafron*, augm. of *wafre* WAFER *sb.*] = WAFER *sb.* 1.

?*c* 1390 *Forme of Cury* (1780) 8 Take obleys other wafrouns in stede of losyns, and cowche in dyshes. *c* 1440 *Liber* [1562] 22 Take obles and wafrons. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* [illegible] 789/1 *Hec nebula, Hec gaufra*, a wafron. *Wisc.* (Surtees) 57 And y' schall it straw by cyall to be made of waffrons in maner of snaw. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 303 Item,...pilin to a man that brocht wafrounis to the King, IXs. 1530 J. JONES *Bathe Buckstones* 9 b, And into diuers formes these graines may be reduced,.. some betwene prons, as wafrons.

attrib. 1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 398 Item, to Disart wafrone seller, xiiij s. 1538–9 *Ibid.* VII. 140 Item, deliverit to Murdo Scriveling, pateser, to by foure wafrown irnis to the quenis grace, vj li.

Hence **†Wa·froner** = WAFERER.

1457–8 *Mem. Fountains* (Surtees) III. 39 Rob^to Waf. roner, vj *d.*

Waft (waft), *sb.*[1] Also β (senses 1, 5–6), 6–7, 9 *Sc., dial.* and *Naut.* **weft,** (**7 weafte, waift**), **9 wheft, whift.** [Probably two or more formations: in part certainly a noun of action f. WAFT *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]; but sense 1 is recorded more than a century earlier than any sense of the verb that could give rise to it; and the β forms of the sb., which do not occur in the verb, seem to indicate a different origin. Cf. WAFF *sb.*, WEFF; also Sw. *vifta*, Da. *vifte*, fan, Sw. *vifta*, Da. *vifte* to fan, Norw. *veift* puff of wind.]

1. a. A taste or flavour, esp. an ill taste, a 'twang'. Now *dial.* Cf. WEFF.

a. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* IV. iii. F 4 b, A strumpets loue will haue a waft i' th end, and distrust the vessell: I can hardly beare this. 1866 BROGDEN *Provinc. Lincolnsh., Waft*, a disagreeable flavour.

β. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* x. (1870) 256 Ale..muste not be ropy nor smoky, nor it must haue no weft nor tayle. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Weft*, a musty taste, generally applied to beer or wine that tastes of the cask. 'The beer has a weft of the barrel.'

fig. 1627 S. WARD *Serm. & Treat., Coal from Altar* 17 Spices and wefts of these evils may be found in the sincerest Christians.

b. A scent or odour passing through the air or carried on the breeze. = WAFF *sb.* 2 b, WEFF.

a. 1612 COTGR., *Odeur*, an odor, sent, smell, waft. *Puant*, ..that hath an ill waft, or smell. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1776) 70 Aloes and other Sedums..send forth their aromatic Wafts at considerable distance. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxii. 273 It is not a sensitive discerning or perception in it of the difference of Wafts and Smells. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s. v., Sitch a waft o' stinkin fish. 1889 AMELIA E. BARR *Feet of Clay* II. 37 The salt savour..was crossed by a waft of hayfields.

β. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 833 The Strongest Sort of Smells are best in a weft, a farre off. 1640 SHIRLEY *Arcadia* III. ii. E 3 b, If this be gold 'tis liquid and yet too thicke to be potable as they say, it has a kinde of weft me thinks if I have not lost a sence upon the sudden, I smell.

2. A current or rush of air, a breath of wind; a blast; the 'wind' of a projectile.

1643 MRS. THORNTON *Autobiog.* (Surtees) 33 A cannon bullett flew soe nigh the place where I stood that..the wafte tooke my breath from me for that present. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cccv, Chaine-Bullette of his will Run through all Streets, and in the Waft, they kill. 1650 D. HOTHAM tr. *C. Hotham's Introit. Tent. Philos.* To Author A 3 b, Me thought the reading of him was like the standing ..by a Canon shot off, the waft of them lickt up all my brains. 1863 W. THORNBURY *True as Steel* II. 66 A waft of air scattered them [the ashes] apart for ever. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Gladys* 603 The air was full of voices, and the scent Of mount in blossom loaded all its wafts. 1884 SLADEN *Poetry of Exiles* 55 Reading sweet verse or inhaling a waft of the harbour breeze.

b. *fig.*

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 166 Riot's a barke in th' mindes vnconstant maine, Tost too and fro with wafts of appetite. 1658 G. FOX *Jrnl.* (1852) I. 345, I saw and felt a waft of death go forth against him. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* II. xxxvi. 321 If I get a favourable waft o' your good will, I can bide a wee for an answer. 1873 GOSSE *On Viol & Flute* 59 Out of grieving at a present blight, Come sweeter wafts of garnered memory. 1880 SHORTHOUSE *John Inglesant* xxxvi, A waft of peace and calm, like a breeze from paradise, fell upon Malvolti's heart.

c. A sound carried by the breeze. Also (*nonce-use*), a transitory gleam (of light).

1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* v. 67 D'ye hear, Trumpets? When the Bride appears, Salute her with a Melancholy Waft. 'Twill suit her humour. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* 214 Sudden and soft, too, like a waft of light, The beautiful immortals come to me. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *Heathercat* II. Lay Morals, etc. (1911) 319 The voice of the preacher came to him in wafts, at the wind's will, as by the opening and shutting of a door.

d. A puff (of smoke or vapour).

1896 JANE BARLOW *Mrs. Martin's Comp.* 8 'Twas just the one way wid her as wid the waft of smoke there up in her ould chimney that went fluttherin' out on the width of the air, and sorra another breath anywheres nigh it. 1897 BLACKMORE *Daniel* XII, Clusters of stars..and loose wafts of vapour ever ready to flout them.

3. An act of wafting or carrying off as the wind does.

1727–46 THOMSON *Winter* 271 Oft the whirlwind's wing Sweeps up the burden of whole wintry plains In one wide waft.

4. An act of transporting or carrying over water; a passage across the sea. ? *Obs.*

1634 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. vi. 106 They came to a Bury, which was at that time overflown with water, there Jany and Jocky stood gaping..untill a Traveller passing that way, profer'd the courtesie of a waft successively to them both. 1637 DAVENANT *1st Day's Entertainm. Rutland Ho.* 72 [He] with his long pole gives us a tedious waft, as if he were all the while poching for Eels. 1706 BUTLER *Hud. Dogs* 156 Or may be in a frolic dash, To Hague or Calais take a waft.

5. An act of waving (the wings or something held in the hand); a

a. 1692 S. PATRICK *Funeral Serm. J. Smith* in *Smith's Sel. Disc.* (1660) 405 He was all in a desire, as if the Angels that fetcht his Father, had lent him a watt of their wings, whereby he strove to fly with him to Heaven. 1885 TENNYSON *Capdain* 72 And the lonely seabird crosses With one waft of the wing.

β. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* ii. 203 The *crevisse* was a sort of scarf...The use the Deacon had for it.. was to give notice to the people and clerks what they were to do or say, by the several wafts or motions that he made with it.

6. *Naut.* A flag (or some substitute) hoisted as a signal; the act of displaying such a signal. (See quot. 1867.) Cf. WAFF *sb.* 1 b.

a. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-Mans Dict.* s. v., Also wafts are used for signes to have the boate come a-board (which is Coate, Gowne or the like, hung-up in the shrowdes) also it is a common signe of some extremetie, when a ship doth hang a waft upon the maine-stay, either that it hath sprung a-leake, or is in some distresse. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 328 We immediately spread our Antient to let them know we saw them, and hung a Waft out as a Signal for them to come on board. 1744 J. PHILIPS *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 125 This Day the Gloucester made us a Signal by a waft of her Ensign. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Waft*, a signal displayed from the stern of a ship..by hoisting the ensign, furled up together into a long roll, to the head of it's staff. 1854 G. B. RICHARDSON *Univ. Code* v. (ed. 12) 6394 Hoist a waft.

β. 1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 49 We had sight of a weste ashoare. 1697 *Admiralty Exam.* (MS.) Bundle 81 fol. 171 A weft hung out for her company to come on board. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mariner* II. i, The Sun came up upon the right..: And broad as a weft, upon the left, Went down into the Sea. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* XXIII. I have been looking for an English ensign to hoist over the French, but cannot find one; so I will hoist a wheft over it,—that will do. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 266 The wrecked boat..with two whifts flying as a signal of distress. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Waft*, more correctly written *wheft*. It is a flag or ensign, stopped together at the head and middle portions, slightly rolled up lengthwise, and hoisted at different positions at the afterpart of a ship. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 96 A signal of distress..is accentuated by making it into a 'weft,' which is done by knotting it in the middle.

b. *To make a waft*; to hang out a flag (or substitute) as a signal.

a. 1673 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 819/4 Being driven near the Shore, they made a waft, and thereupon a Fisherboat went off. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 3 He is to make a Waft with his Jack or Ensign. *Ibid.* 455 We made a Waift. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 264 We saw her make a Waft with her Antient, as a Signal for the Boat to come on Board.

β. 1633 in J. S. Corbett *Fighting Instr.* (1905) 99 Upon the discovery of a fleet, receiving a sign from the general, which is to be..making a weft, two frigates..are to make sail. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxix, There have already been made two wefts from the warder's turret, to intimate that those in the castle are impatient for your return.

7. An apparition, wraith. Cf. WAFF *sb.* 5.

1897 *Longm. Mag.* July 252 I'm bound to die afore t' year is out...I seed my own waft (wraith) go into the kirk last St. Mark's Eve, and it never cam' out no more.

†Waft, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [? var. WEFT *sb.*] (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 99/1 Waft, or Finger Bread [= braid], are kind of Purse strings woven on the Fingers either round or broad.

Waft (waft), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wafted.** Also 6 **?waffet, wafft,** 6–7 **wafte** (? *pa. pple.* waft). [Back-formation from WAFTER.]

†1. *trans.* To convoy (a ship or fleet of ships, persons sailing). *Obs.*

1513 W. GONSON in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1897) 130 A letter..in the wyche he comaundyth me thatt..I shall conducte and wafftt hys vytellars to hys grett army in the water of Brest. I..made hys Grace answer..I wolld go my selffe in the smallist of the 3 Spanyards sentt forthe wit me..and leffe John Yeame and Rychiard Barkeley in the other 2 Spanyiards shyps to waftt over the Zeland fleett. 1513 ECHYNGHAM *Ibid.* 150 Sir Weston Brown..hath yeven me and Harper in commaundment for to go to Hampton for to waffe the vytlers unto theym. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 26 Because certain pyrates..were lurkyng at the Temmes mouthe..Thomas Lord Camois with certaine shippes of warre was appointed to wafte over the kyng. 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Politique Platt* c iiij, That two of her graces Shippes of warre, suche as yeerely be appointed to wafte the Marchants male continewe vpon her Maiesties Seas..for two yeares: for the defence of these fishing Shippes. 1620 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 210 Don Faderique de Toledo, who is gone to waft the West India fleet homeward. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-Mans Dict.* s. v., To waft, is to guard any ship, or fleete at sea. 1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivid* 270 T[illegible] agreed amongst themselves to pay a Dollar upon every last of Herrings, towards the maintenance of certain Ships of Warr, to Waft and secure them in their Fishing.

†b. *transf.* To guide or direct the course of (a vessel, a swimmer, a floating object, etc.). *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 360 A little Fish, that swimming still before, Directs him [the Whale]..: Much like a Childe that loving leads about His aged Father when his eyes be out: Still wafting him through every way so right.

2. To convey safely by water; to carry *over* or *across* a river, sea, etc. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 124, I go of Message from the Queene to France: I charge thee waft me safely crosse the Channell. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 253. *Ibid.* V. vii. 41 Away with her, and waft her hence to France. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* E 2, And as by water I was wafted in, I thought that I in Charons Boate had bin. 1628 BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 260 We all landed safely..and the next morning I dischardged Capt Jones.. who I hired to waffe me over. 1639 *Act* in *Arch. Maryland* (1889) I. 78 No person..other then the owner of the said ferry any person over the said River.

1699 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 731 Nor woo'd th' Infernal Ferry-Man once more He brib'd, to waft him to the farther shore. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europ.* 32 Great bodies of the Asiatic troops were continually wafted over to the European side of the Helle-pont. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 9 Apr. 3/2 An elegant barge is building to waft the great Washington across the Hudson. 1817 Moore *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* I. 450 Again she sees his pinnace fly, Wafting him fleetly to his home. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lx. 4 Fair ship, . . Spread thy full wings, and waft him o'er.

fig. 1616 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* Prol., Plays.. Where neither *Chorus* wafts you o're the seas; Nor creaking throne comes downe, the boyes to please. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* I. 5 That fond invention that wafted hither the fifty daughters of a strange Dioclesian King of Syria.

refl. 1633 Holcroft *Procopius* Pref. A 2 b, He could gain no footing in Italy, but in all that time was forced to waft himself by stealth from one Port-town to another. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 27 They, taking the advantage of a low tide, either waded over . . or else wafted themselves over upon small Rafts of timber.

b. Of the sea or waves: To carry, transport. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1613 Day. *Festivals* v. (1615) 129 Now the Red-Sea of Baptisme . . hath conveyed us, and waft us over. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 104 A calmer voyage now Will waft me. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 310 Where, ens'd of Fleets, the Adriatic main Wafts the smooth Eunuch and enamour'd swain. 1748 Young *Nt. Th.* I. 153 A soul immortal . . Thrown into tumult . . At aught this scene can threaten . . Resembles ocean into tempest wrought, To waft a feather, or to drown a fly. 1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* II. lii. 69 The waves of earth are wafting to and fro The ashes of great lives.

†c. *intr.* To sail *about, off, to and fro, up and down*; to cross *over* by water. *Obs.*

a 1582 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (Kelmscott Press) 150 Ther was no lesse than a thousand botts . . waffetyng uppe and down in Temmes, expectyng my lord's departyng. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1187/1 Maister William Winter . . made Saile towards Scotland, and wafting along the coast in Januarie came into the Forth. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* Ep. Ded., He had not played long in the Sea, wafting too and fro, at his pleasure, but he returned agayne, stroke sayle, [etc.]. 1628 Bolton *Florus* IV. viii. (1636) 325 And now his Navie wafted up and down in the middle of the Sea. 1632 Anchoran *Communis' Gate Tongues* 98 Where there is no foord or shallow place they passe, or waft ouer with a wherrie or ferrie boat. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 89 When all these of the Fleete were returned . . fifteene of them wafted off towards Porto di Torre. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* xxi. 190 We as prisoners were wafting up and down the sea with them. *Ibid.* 200 We that day wafted about for a good wind. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1042 Satan . . Wafts on the calmer wave by dubious light And like a weather-beaten Vessel holds Gladly the Port. 1700 Dryden (*Ovid's Met.* I. 432 High on the summit of this dubious Cliff, Deucalion wafting, moor'd his little Skiff. 1774 Beattie *Minstrel* II. xlix, He braves The surge and tempest . . And to a happier land wafts merrily away! 1814 Capt. Scobell *Jrnl. of the 'Thais'* in *Tuckey's Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* (1818) Introd. p. xiii, I met several floating islands . . which . . wafting to the motion of the sea, rushed far into the ocean.

†3. *trans.* To buoy *up*. *Obs. rare.*

1643 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. vii. 196 Some alledge that spirits are light substances, and naturally ascending do elevate and waft the body upward. 1650 *Ibid.* IV. vi. (1658) 247 Whether Cripples and mutilated persons . . who have lost the greatest part of their thighs, will not sink but float, their lungs being able to waft up their bodies.

4. Of the wind: To propel (a vessel) or convey (a navigator or passenger) safely.

Originally a mere contextual use of sense 2. The frequency of examples in which the verb denotes the action of the wind gave rise in the 18th c. to the notion that the essential meaning of the verb had reference to this agency, and to the identification of the word with the etymologically distinct Waft *v.*[2] The older sense 2, so far as it survives, is coloured by association with this sense.

a 1707 Prior *Song, 'In vain you tell'* 2 In vain you tell your parting Lover You wish fair Winds may waft Him over. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* 18 The Sea, and the Land-Breezes; the one serving to carry the Mariner in long Voyages from East to West; the other serving to waft him to particular Places. 1773 Hawkesw. *Cook's 1st Voy.* III. iii. III. 535 The gale that afterwards wafted us to the shore, would then certainly have beaten us to pieces. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* I. ii. 70 While favouring breezes waft his blessed ship Far from the Plague. 1819 Heber *Hymn, 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains'* iv, Waft, waft, ye winds, His story. 1842 Tennyson *'You ask me, why'* 25 Yet waft me from the harbour-mouth, Wild wind!

fig. 1633 Jer. Taylor *Serm.* I. viii. 98 The sighs of their fears, and the wind of their prayers waft them safely to their port. 1884 *Daily News* 26 May 5/1 The Conservatism of the present is waiting for a wind! . . Will it waft and bear to enterprise and rough seas and daring adventure? 1885 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* iii, What wind of utter despair had wafted her to that place of all places.

5. To carry (something) through the air or through space. a. with sound, scent, infection, etc. as object: said of the wind. Also with *away, by, round.*

1704 Pope *Pastorals, Summer* 80 Your praise the birds shall chant in ev'ry grove, And winds shall waft it to the pow'rs above. 1782 Cowper *Heroism* 35 The self-same gale that wafts the fragrance round Brings to the distant ear a sullen sound. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 136 Assuredly, then, this affection [influenza] has been rather wafted on us, than communicated to us in the way of personal intercourse. 1822 Shelley *St. Irvyne* I. ii. 4 And low, chilling murmurs, the blast wafted by. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. xxii. 2 And the woodbine spices are wafted abroad. 1887 Bowen *Aneid* I. 417 Where sweet scents are wafted from garlands ever in bloom.

b. with material object.

1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 425 Nitrous and sulphureous particles . . are wafted in the air by diverse winds. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 540 And ev'n the breathing air Wafts the rich prize [pollen] to its appointed use. 1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor* 457 Our Table Cloth . . was in the act of being wafted overboard. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Vauxhall-Gardens*, The balloons were wafted gently away. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 190 Dense showers of such dust have been wafted by winds for even hundreds of miles.

c. To send (a sound, fragrance, etc.) through the air; to 'blow' (a kiss).

1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 265 Thames wafts it [the sound] thence to Rufus' roaring hall And Hungerford re-echoes bawl for bawl. 1815 Byron *Hebr. Mel.*, *'The harp the monarch'* 12 It [the harp] told the triumphs of our King, It wafted glory to our God. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xi, And many a kiss did Mr. Snodgrass waft in the air, in acknowledgment of something very like a lady's handkerchief. 1855 B'ness Bunsen in Hare *Life* (1879) II. iv. 181 At the year's beginning and end, one is peculiarly moved to . . waft wishes and kind thoughts to many a far-removed locality. 1871 J. R. Macduff *Mem. Palmes* v. 62 This Tree with its perennial fruits, wafting immortal fragrance and distilling immortal balm.

d. To carry in flight: said chiefly of angels.

a 1718 Prior *Danistonus' Ad Amicos Invit.* 12 Glad I release it from it's Partner's Cares; And bid good Angels waft it to the Stars. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* v. 925 Swift as her pinions waft the dove away. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III. ii, O Heaven protect my faithful Isabel, And waft her safe, as on an angel's wing, To that sweet lake. 1817 Moore *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* I. 961 Oft . . I've wish'd that little Isle had wings, And we, within its fairy bow'rs, Were wafted off to seas unknown. 1845 E. Fitzball *Maritana* II. Aria, Oh! that angels now might waft him To the mansions of the blest!

e. *fig.* To transport instantaneously, as by magic or in imagination.

1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 592 Hopes of heav'n, bright prospects of an hour, That come to waft us out of sorrow's pow'r. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 4 With what longing eyes would I gaze after their lessening sails, and waft myself in imagination to the ends of the earth.

6. *intr.* To pass through the air or through space; to float upon, come or go with the wind or breeze.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 3 Small hairs . . which (by blowing upon) you might see waft to and fro. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* III. i, Those Trumpets his triumphant Entry tell. And now the Shouts waft near the Citadel. 1690 — *Amphitryon* II. i, There is an ill savour that offends my Nostrils; and it wafteth this way. 1717 Pope *Eloisa to Abel.* 214 Tears that delight, and sighs that waft to heav'n. 1802 Marian Moore *Lascelles* II. 9, I recognized his charming voice in the delightful strains which wafted on my ear. 1890 *Daily News* 7 July 6/2 Great green boxes [of roses] were being opened with very perceptible whiffs of perfume wafting from them.

†b. Of a bird, winged insect: To pass by flying. *Obs.*

1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 24 Then wafting at one Reach, they proudly Pearch On highest Pinnacle of the fatal Church! 1712–14 Pope *Rape of Lock* II. 60 Some to the sun their insect-wings unfold, Waft on the breeze, or sink in clouds of gold.

c. Of the breeze: To blow softly.

1804 *Something Odd* II. 26 In vain . . did the soft breezes of an approaching summer waft around him. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* xvii. (1856) 176 There wasn't a breath of air yet, either, save what seemed now and then to waft out of the thick woods.

7. *trans.* To move, drive, or carry *away* (something) by producing a current of air.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 636 A sort of winnowing machine, which wafts away the finer and lighter parts. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xviii, It seems to you that it is not the donkey, but the donkey-boy who wafts you along with his shouts.

†**Waft**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* [App. an alteration of Waff *v.*[1], perh. due to the pa. t. or pa. pple. *waft*.]

1. *trans.* To wave (the hand or something held in the hand), esp. as a signal.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Ind.* VII. xvi. 340 They were accustomed in their elections to make great feasts and dances, where they wafted many lighted. 1636 Heywood *Loves Mistr.* I. i, Shee now hath climb'd the Rock, And wafts her hand.

absol. *a* 1648 *Edw. Death* in *Bacon's Remaines* 10 These wait upon the shore of death, and waft unto him to draw neer.

b. To signal to (a person, etc.) by waving the hand or something held in the hand. Also, of a flag.

1578 G. Bret in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 63 We espied certaine of the countrey people . . with a flag wafting vs backe againe. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 111 But soft, who wafts vs yonder. 1592 Kyd *Sol. & Pers.* I. iii. 116 Hee that will try me, let him waft me with his arme. 1606 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* I. ii. 177 Till you can directly boord him, Waft him aloofe with hats and other favours. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 70 One do I personate of Lord Timons frame, Whom Fortune with her Iuory hand wafts to her. 1608 Middleton *Mad World* III. iii. F 1, The hayre about the hat is as good as a flag vppo' th pole at a common Playhouse to waft company. 1645 Stapylton tr. *Musæus* A 4 b, The Tow'r where Sestian Hero lay, And held the Torch, wafting Leander o're. 1670 Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 49 They saw seven people . . making a noise and wafting them to the ship. *a* 1719 Garth *Ovid's Met.* XIV. Wks. (1790) 134 At length a sail I wafted, and aboard My fortune found an hospitable lord.

c. To move (something) *aside* with a wave of the hand.

1781 Cowper *Hope* 370 Now, truth, perform thine office; waft aside The curtain drawn by prejudice and pride.

2. To turn (the eyes) aside with a disdainful movement. *nonce-use.*

1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 372 When hee Wafting his eyes to th' contrary, and falling A Lippe of much contempt, speedes from me.

3. *intr.* To move to and fro, to wave. *Obs.*

1630 Jer. Taylor *Funeral Serm. C'tess Carbery* 4 The face of the waters wafting in a storm, so wrinkles it self, that it makes upon its forehead furrows.

Waftage (wɑ·ftédʒ). Also 6 **waiftage**. [f. Waft *v.*[1] + -age.]

I. The action of wafting.

†1. The action of conveying merchant-vessels.

1558 Q. Eliz. in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) I. iii. 197 To advertise the Admirall . . that order might be taken for his waftage over with the treasure. 1563 Gresham *ibid.* II. 42 Sir Thomas Cotton seant the barck of Bollen with me, for my better waftage. 1563–4 *Admiralty Exam.* (MS.) Bundle 98, 13 Mar., ij frenche men of warr who then had in their company and under ther wafftage ij Flemishe hoyes. 1628 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* lviii. 132 Hee had beene many yeares Generall of the south Sea, for the carriage and waftage of the silver from Lyma to Panama.

2. Conveyance across water by ship or boat.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 95 *Ant.* What ship of Epidamium staies for me. *S. Dro.* A ship you sent me too, to hier waftage. 1606 G. W[oodcock] *Hist. Iustine* xxii. 84 Agathocles in the same ships that he had waftage ouer out of Sicil, was transported into Syracuse. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* 13 The Ships appointed wherein they should goe, And Boats prepar'd for waftage to and fro. 1655 Fuller *Hist. Cambr* 3 The Ferrie over the river Grant was a vagrant before (even any where, where passengers could get waftage over). 1673 H. Stubbe *Further Vind. Dutch War* App. 132 There was paid . . 300000 l. in one year; besides the Tenth fish and Cask, paid for Waftage.

b. Conveyance over the Styx.

Very common in 16–17 c. poetry and drama.

1592 S. Daniel *Delia, Rosamond* ii. H. 3 Caron denies me waftage with the rest. 1606 Shaks. *Troylus* III. ii. 12. 1630 G. Daniel *Pervicensis* 24 Wks. (Grosart) I. 128 The infernall Foorde; Where happie Soules get waftage, with a Worde. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 76 The crazy bark of old Charon, only fitted for the light waftage of ghosts.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* VI. vi. 356 The *Pleura*, giueth also to the vessels a safe waftage and a kinde of stability. 1615 T. Adams *Spir. Navigator* 9 Praising God . . for their safe waftage ouer the sea of this world. 1668 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* III. verse 17. v. § 2. 36 Afflictions . . are as necessary for our waftage to glory, as water is to carry the Ship to her Port. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 69 Is this the Elysium after a tedious Waftage?

3. Passage through the air or through space.

a 1658 Cleveland *Let.* Wks. (1687) 119 As if their Travel (like Witches in the Air) were nothing but the Waftage of a deluded Phantasie. *a* 1700 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 132 A Chariot for his Waftage was decreed, With long-wing'd Horses of Cœlestial Breed. 1834 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 775 Forest flies, ephemerals all like ourselves—but happier far in their airy waftage or watery voyaging, than the vain race of man! 1885 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* May ii, The solitary rock where she was left; And thence in dark and airy waftage reft, How on the flowers she had been disburden'd light.

4. The action or power of propulsion which the wind or breeze has; also, conveyance by such propulsion.

1651 Sherburne *Salmacis* 327 She . . Sent him by the light waftage of the Wind, A sigh, an Ah Mee, Nuncios of her Mind. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 5194 In their [the snow flakes'] continual motion and waftage to and fro touching upon each other. 1861 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 758 Then there comes fitfully on the feeble waftage of the awakening night-breeze an uncertain wail of music. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* IV. v, Let us give ourselves to waftage of the winds.

II. A means of wafting.

†5. Vessels for the conveyance of merchandise or passengers by water. *Obs.*

1650 T. B[aylev] *Worcester's Apoph.* 107 Passes granted unto him, both by Land and Sea, with carts by Land, and waftage by Sea. 1659 Harrington *Art Lawgiving* III. iv. 106 For these [men] the Commonwealth in her Sea-guard hath always at hand sufficient waftage.

†6. A means of conveyance through the air. *Obs.*

1636 W. Strode *Floating Isl.* III. iii, Nothing to carry me but Barges, Coaches? Sedans, and Litters? through the Aire I'd passe By some new waftage.

Wafte, pa. t. of Waive *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Wafted (wɑ·ftĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Waft *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Carried or driven by the wind.

1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 68, I again perceive The soothing influence of the wafted strains. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiii. 166, I could see the wafted snow gradually melt away.

†**Wafter**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 5 **waughter**, 6 **waghter**, 7 *Sc.* **waughtar**, **-er**. [App. a. Du. or LG. *wachter*, lit. guard, f. *wachten* to guard: but the specific use has not been found in Du. or LG.]

1. An armed vessel employed as a convoy.

1484 in *Lett. & Papers Ric. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 287 We understande that certain of you entende hastely to departe towardes Island, not purveied of waughters for your suertie. *Ibid.*, That ye gadre and assemble your selff . . and . . departe alle togider toward Humbre, to attende there upon our shippes of Hull as your waughters, for the suretie of you all. 1524 Wolsey in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 89 It appereth that 7 prises and oone wafter of the Island flete be lately taken by 9 shippes of Lubbe. 1524 — Ibid. VI. 976 Considring what tract of tyme it shalbe, before waghters may be put in redynes and sent from hens for your conduytyng. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 210 b, Co[n]dement was geuen to the Haberdashers . . that they should prepare a barge . . with a wafter and a foyst garnished with banners. *c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 58 Shee was a man of war and a wafter either to theire Byskin fleet of fishermen for Newfoundlande or bounde to meet theire Indian fleet now comminge home. 1620 R. Whitbourne *Newfoundland* 53 These ships thus sent to guard their [*sc.* the Hollanders'] Fleets, which are called

Wafters, doe continually breede many fit serviceable Seamen. 1623 *Melrose Papers* (Abbotsf. Club) II. 489 The lyke charge being execute agaynis the captaines of the waughtaris at Abirdeene. 1670 J. Smith *Engl. Improv. Revivʼd* III. 237 There were about 80 Wafters, as they callʼd them, which were Ships carrying about 30 Guns a piece, being the Convoys of the Fleet of Busses.

2. The commander of a convoying vessel.

1482 *Pat. Roll* 22 *Edw. IV* m. 2 (1802) 326 Certi conductores sive waftores [*printed* wastores] piscatorum Reg' in partibus Norff' et Suff'. 1513 T. Howard in *Lett. & Papers Wars France* (1897) 163, I shall..send all the vitellers there forth to Hampton warde and with them Antony Poynes, Wiseman and Draper for wafters. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 75 The reuerend lord great master..sent vessels called brigantines, for to cause the wafters of the sea to come into Rhodes for the keeping and fortifying of the towne. *Ibid.* 76 The lord master seeing that the Turkes hoste drew neere, and that he had the most part of the wafters within the towne, he caused generall musters of men of armes to be made. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* iv. 9 The Vice-admirall, and other Wafters [*printed* Wasters] that should be the Shepheards to guard and keepe their flocke,..were..the Men who made most hast to flie from the Wolfe.

Wafter (wɑ·ftəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. Waft *v.*[1] + -er [1].] One who wafts.

1619 Fletcher *Mad Lover* iv. i. Song, Charon o Charon Thou wafter of the soules to blisse or bane.

†**Wafter,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 5 **waftyr.** [f. the root of Wave *v.* Perh. immediately f. a sb. **wafter*, formed with suffix as in *laughter*. Cf. Wafture.] *intr.* To wave.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 273 When þe bestys þat droghen þe cart seen hys mantell waftyr wyth þe wynde.

†**Wafter,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Wafter *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To convoy (a vessel): = Waft *v.*[1] 1.

1613-6 *Privy Council Reg.* 7 Feb. (MS.), The eastern counties petitioned 'for two of H. M. small shippes to wafter and defend them from the said pirattes'.

Wafter: see Wafture.

[**Wafter,** error for Waster foil, singlestick.

The error originated with Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) II. 144. The word occurs in a quot. of 1455; it was not a mere misprint, for Meyrick attempts an etymological explanation from the verb *waft*. Hence in recent Dicts.]

Wafting (wɑ·ftiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing [1].]

1. The action of Waft *v.*[1]; esp. † the action of convoying or of transporting by sea (*obs.*).

1559 Grebham in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 263 [He recommends that Queen Elizabeth should send] three or four of her best ships of war that are out, for the sure wafting of this munition and armour. 1577 Harrison *England* II. xiii. 87 b/1 in *Holinshed*, [He] employed them [*sc.* his ships] wholly to the waftyng in and out of our marchauntes. 1651 Jer. Taylor *Holy Dying* iii. § 4 (1676) 74 So I have seen the rays of the Sun or Moon dash upon a brazen vessel..; but being turned back and sent off with its smooth pretences or rougher waftings, it wandred about the room. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xii. 435 A death like sleep, A gentle wafting to immortal Life.

2. Something wafted or carried by the wind.

1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 178 And the wild north winds of the winter's day Bring keen fresh waftings from the far-off seas.

Wafting, *ppl. a.* [-ing [2].] That wafts.

1869 Jean Ingelow *Tired* x, She spread her wafting wings, The ship—and weighed her anchor to depart. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* xxxiii, The countess was not so much a persuasive lady as she was, in her breath and gaze, a sweeping and a wafting power.

Wafture (wɑ·ftiúɹ). In 7 **wafter.** [f. Waft *v.*[2] and *v.*[1] + -ure. Cf. *cleфture, raisure*; with the spelling *wafter* cf. *jointer* for *jointure*.

It seems most probable that Rowe was right in regarding *wafter* in the former edd of Shaks. *Jul. C.* as intended for *wafture*. There is, however, a possibility that *wafter* is a word of Shakspere's native dialect, related to Wafter *vb.* to wave (Myrc *a* 1450). Since the publication of Rowe's ed. of Shaks., *waftures*, of which no earlier examples are known, has been somewhat common in literary use.]

1. a. The action or an act of waving (the hand or something held in the hand).

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* ii. i. 246 You answer'd not, but with an angry wafter [*ed. Rowe* 1709 *and later edd.* wafture] of your hand, Gaue signe to me to leaue you. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ii. 545 Caught by the wafture of a golden lure. 1782 Eliz. Blower *Geo. Bateman* I. 52 'Go!' cried she, with an indignant wafture of her hand. 1875 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* II. v. 73 A few mysterious waftures of the hand of his lord set him trembling.

b. The waving (of a wing or wings).

1796 H. Boyd *Shepherds of Lebanon* i. Poetical Reg. (1812) VII. 127 The northern Eagle rous'd, and shook his plumes Tremendous: at the wafture of his wings The clouds disperst. 1845 F. W. Faber *Rosary*, etc. 62 With a murmuring, Soft as the wafture of a stockdove's wing. 1878 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* viii. 292 Light as the wafture of an insect's wing, that motion might have been.

c. The waving or undulation (of a garment).

1880 A. Smith *Summer in Skye* 209 How we would..note the wafture of your garments!

2. The action of wafting (Waft *v.*[1]); propulsion by air or current.

1798 J. Hervey *Theron & Aspasio* xii. II. 204 Where the Wafture [of the blood] is to be speedy, the Channels either forbear to wind in their Course, or to lessen in their Dimensions. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. i. *Witches*, The gentle Thames, which landed me, in the wafture of a placid wave or two,.. somewhere at the foot of Lambeth palace. 1842 Sir H. Taylor *Edwin the Fair* iii. i, The wind..Descended with a wafture and a swoop.

3. Something wafted or carried by the breeze.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 72 What waftures of incense are filling the air! 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 197 Gratification seemed to breathe in every wafture of the new-mown fragrance.

Wafty (wɑ·fti), *a.* [f. Waft *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] + -y.]

†**1.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Vapide*, waftie, or wafted; that sends vp an ill iume, that yeelds a stinking vapor.

2. Of the wind: That wafts a perfume.

1863 Dobell *Autumn Mood* Poet. Wks. 1875 II. 333 Oh, old old Minstrelsy, oh, wafty winds of Romaunt, Blow me your harps!

Wawful(l(e, obs. forms of Woeful *a.*

Wag (wæg), *sb.*[1] Also 6 **wagge.** [f. Wag *v.*]

1. An act of wagging (the tail, hand, tongue, etc.).

1589 Lodge *Scilla's Met.* B j, When first with [*printed* which] fingers waggе he gan to still them. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, *Amo.* You become the simper, well, ladie. *Mer.* And the wag, better. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., There was..more..sympathy in the wag of old Trusty's tail, than if [etc.]. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xi. With ..a scarcely perceptible wag of his head. 1870 E. H. Pember *Trag. Lesbos* iii. 68 One wag of thy fool's tongue at her or me, And by the head of Hecate, thou diest! 1883 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* viii, But recognising her, he gave a faint wag of the tail and sank down again to doze. 1891 *Field* 28 Nov. 835/1 The most silent of us are apt to let our tongues wag, or to listen complacently to the wag of others.

b. Power or disposition to wag.

1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xiii. 127 The old house-dog crawled towards him, with no wag in his tail. 1881 *Century Mag.* XXIII. 932/2 [They] stroked his [the dead ass's] long ears out of which the wag had gone forever.

†**2.** *To hold* (a person) *wag*: to keep at bay, defy. *Obs.*

c 1540 J. Heywood *Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) 12, I say, nay I—and wyll so envey, That I wyll hold ye wagg a nother way. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xvi. cvii, 415 But who against that Ages Mars first Edward might hold out? Yet twice this Lewlin held him wag.

Wag (wæg), *sb.*[2] Also 6–7 **wagge.** [Prob. f. Wag *v.*

Possibly (as suggested by Wedgwood) a shortening of Waghalter, applied playfully to a child or to a joker. But it may have originated from the verb in other ways.]

†**1.** A mischievous boy (often as a mother's term of endearment to a baby boy); in wider application, a youth, young man, a 'fellow', 'chap'. *Obs.*

a 1553 Udall *Royster D.* II. iv. (Arb.) 38, I will rather haue my cote twentie times swinged, Than on the naughtie wag not to be auenged. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 177 For euerie trifle leaue ianting thy nag, but rather make lackey of Jack boie thy wag. 1584 Lyly *Sappho* v. ii. 55 [Venus says to Cupid:] Vnhappy wag, what hast thou done? 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 27 Mothers wagge, pretie boy. Fathers sorrow, fathers ioy. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, i. ii. 66 But I pry thee sweet Wag, shall there be Gallowes standing in England when thou art King? 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* iv. iii, But if Cypris once recouer The wag; it shall behouse her to looke better to him. 1607 Heywood *Fair Maid Exch.* H 4, Thou maist..Learne to entice the affable yong wagge. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* i. 87 Nor was he let down till the Master had planted a Grove of Birch in his back-side, for the Terrour..of all Wagges that divulge the Secrets of Priscian.

2. 'Any one ludicrously mischievous; a merry droll' (J.); a habitual joker. (In early use often combined with sense 1.) Phrase, to *play the wag.*

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches.* xiii. xxiii. 324 How to rap a wag vpon the knuckles. *c* 1585 *Fair Em* i. iii. 59 The little boy hath played the wagg with you. 1592 Lyly *Endymion.* iii. iii, Heere commeth two wagges. Enter Dares and Samias. 1604 Breton *Grimellos Fort.* (Grosart) 9/2 Hauing wit enough, vpon a litle warning, to plaie the wagge in the right vaine. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* v. i, *Just.* Go to, go to, you have a merry meaning, I have found you, sir Ifaith, you are a wag, away. 1635 *Life Long Meg of Westminster* 37 The little boy, that was a wag, thought to be merry with the miller. 1640 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. vii. 100 Some wagg or other hath sett over the parliament doore pray remember the judges as if they had been too long forgotten. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 136 We were daily playing the Wag, and as jocular as ever Men were all the time we stayed there. 1745 *Joe Miller's Jests* 61 The same Wagg..said, Taylors were like Woodcocks, for they got their Sustenance by their long Bills. 1779 *Mirror* No. 23 P 3 He took in succession the degrees of a wag, a pickle, and a lad of mettle. 1787 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* June, Colonel Goldsworthy is the wag professed of their community. 1848 Ford *Handbk. Spain* i. 21 The Inns of Spain are divided by wags into many classes—the bad, the worse, and the worst. 1849 W. Irving *Goldsmith* i. 29 One Kelley, a notorious wag. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 358 Some wag cried out, 'Burn it; burn it;' and this bad pun..was received with shouts of laughter.

3. *To play* (*the*) *wag*: to play truant. *slang.*

1851–62 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 87 Used by schoolmasters for the correction of boys who neglect their tasks, or play the wag. *Ibid.* 207 They often persuaded me to 'hop the wag,' that is, play truant from school. 1889 Jerome *Three Men in Boat* xvii. 284 A boy, when he plays the wag from school. 1900 'H. Lawson' *Over Sliprails* 134 Oh! why will you run away from home, Will, and play the wag, and steal, and get us all into such trouble?

Wag (wæg), *v.* Inflected **wagged, wagging.** Forms: 3–7 **wagge,** 4, 6 **wagg,** 6–8 **wagg,** 4– **wag.** [ME. *waggе-n*, f. root of OE. *wagian* (ME. *wagie-n*) to oscillate, shake: see Waw *v.*

The verb may be regarded as an iterative or emphatic form of *wagian* Waw *v.*, which is often nearly synonymous; it was used, e. g., of a loose tooth, and (ME.) in the proverb 4 c. Parallel formations from the same root are ON. *vaggа* wk. fem., cradle (Sw. *vagga*, Da. *vugge*), (Mlim.) *waggе* to rock a cradle, early mod.G. *waggen* (mod.HG. dial. *wackеn*) to waver, totter. Cf. Waggle *v.*]

I. Intransitive uses.

1. To be in motion or activity; to stir, move. Now *colloq.* (chiefly in negative context), to stir, move one's limbs.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 374 Þis wrastlunge is ful bitter to monie þat beoð ful uorð ibe weie touward heouene; for þe þet fondunges..wagged oðer hwules. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 226 Vnethes may I wag, man, for wery in youre stabill Whils I set my stag, man. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 196 Ane horne he [*sc.* Mars] blew..Quhilk all this warld with weir has maid to wag. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 939 To brawle or to wage, *brauster*. 1582 Fetherstone *Dial. agst. Dancing* A 4 b, The wofull wayling of the widowe doeth not once make him [the rich man] wagge. 1585 — tr. *Calvin on Acts* i. 4. 6 Warlike discipline requireth this, that no man wagge, vnlesse hee be commaunded by the captaine. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* 52 [He] did feele a thing by happe, Within her wombe to wagge, and beat against her brest. 1593 Bilson *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 289 Binde them fast to their chaires that they shall not wagge. 1632 [Marbe] *Celestina* xix. 189 Our unfortunate Master is falne from the ladder, and neither speakes nor wagges. 1636 Featly *Clavis Myst.* xxiii. 297 Driven to fly with her heavie burden with which she is scarce able to wag. 1650 T. B[ayley] *Worcester's Apoph.* Ep. Rdr. 2 Some..field-Chaplains..envying that a loyall pen should wagge, where they [etc.]. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiv. 91 Which gave us such an alarum, as not daring scarce to wag we got out againwith all secrecy 1692 R. L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* vi. v. (1733) 138 The miserable Distress of their Condition drew Tears and Pity wherever they came, but not a Creature durst so much as wag to help them. 1850 Whyte Melville *Market Harb.* xli, I've a hack here at Welford..He's short of work, poor devil! and could hardly wag coming up the hill.

†**2.** To totter, stagger, be in danger of falling.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 166 M[an] sliduth vp-on hyse, W[oman] waggi[th] [Fr. *crcule*; error for *croule*] and falluth lowe. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 62 Þe wal wagged and clef and al þe worlde quaued. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Harl. MS.) 110 Þey [*sc.* two beasts] gnowe at the Rote of the tree ..to throwe it downe, in so muche that the wrecchid man felte it wagge. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* vii. xvii. 238 And thenne they stode wagyng and scateryng [1529 stakeryng], pontyng, blowynge and bledynge.

3. To oscillate, shake, or sway alternately in opposite directions, as something working on a pivot, fitting loosely in a socket, or the like. Of a boat or ship: To rock.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. viii. 32 Þe wynde and þe water and þe bote waggynge Maketh þe man many a tyme to falle and to stonde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 219 Yet saugh I neuere, by my fader kyn, How that the hopur wagges til and fra. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 226 His chyn wiþ a chol lollede..þat all wagged his flesh as a quyk mire. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xlv. (Bodl. MS.) Iuce þerof hette wiþ vynegre fastene[þ] to' e þatt waggen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Waggon', or wavaron', or stere be hyt selie as a thynge hangynge, *vacillo*. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1821, I sawe a wethercocke wagge with the wynde! *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks 1846 I. 147 Syd gounis mycht have bene sein wantonly wag from the one wall to the other. 1640 Wilkins *New Planet* v. (1707) 196 It could not wag with the least kind of Declination. 1654 Whitelocke *Swed. Ambassy* (1772) II. 371 *Mar.* She wagges! she wagges!..My lord, uppon my life the ship did wag; I saw her move. 1788 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Tunnel*, There should be a Stick..to keep up the Head and Tail [of a stalking horse], which last should be at some distance from the Body, that it may wag in moving. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xviii, Better a finger aff as aye wagging.

†**b.** Of leaves, corn, reeds, etc.: To waver, shake. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. vii. (1495) 607 A rede ..wagyth wyth the wynde. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8968 As levis wagges with the wynde. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lx, Bot blawe wynd, blawe,..That sum twig may wag, and mak hir to wake. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* I. 7 The little boye espying the bush to wag,..imagined that there lay some wilde beast. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* iv. i. 113 Binde [the Vines]..with strings or things, that they may be surely stayed from wagging up and down. 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* xxxvi. (1687) 457 If a leaf wagged, it was by the sweet breath of those Musicians which sate among the branches. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 243 No grass of any other kind did wag.

Proverbial phrase. 1596 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 362 The King..lyked of nan that wald nocht wag as the bus [= bush] waggit.

†**c.** *fig.* To waver, vacillate. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 321 Kobard, waggynge as a reed, assented anon. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* i. i. A v, Thy mynde it waues and wagges.

†**d.** To dangle on the gallows, be hanged. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iii. xvii. (1869) 144 It is þe hand þat maketh the feet to wagge [Fr. *baller*] and þe eres to be kitte. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* § 151 Let them beware of wagging in the Galowes. 15.. *A pore Help* 256 in Hazlitt *E. P. P.* (1866) 261 Your happe may be to wagge Upon a wodden nagge.

4. Of a limb, the head or tail, etc.: To be moved briskly from side to side.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* iii. xvii, [The ape said to the fox] What auayleth to the soo long a tayle, hit doth but wagge. 1601 Holland *Pliny* ix. x. I. 241 The Troglodites have among them certaine Tortoises, with broad bornes like the pegges in a Lute or Harpe, and the same will wagge and stirre so, as in swimming they helpe themselves therewith. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 190 Why I will fight with him vpon this Theme Vntill my eielids will no longer wag. 1698 *Humours Town* 92 Their Elbows wag faster than their Tongues. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* i. 23 A humourist, who planted himself..with his eyes riveted on the ..bronze lion that graces the front of Northumberland-house ..., and having attracted the attention of those who looked at him by muttering 'By Heaven it wags!' [etc.]

b. Of the tongue, †lips: To move briskly in animated talk: often with an implication of foolish or indiscreet speech.

1590 *Tarlton's Newes Purgat.* 24 When her tung could not wag'e, she beasted her hands about water. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii, For the solemne Addresse, two Lips wagging, and neuer a wise word. 1604 BRETON *Crimelles Fort.* (Grosart) 13/1 Being one that loued to heare a tongues wagge, either her owne, her Gossips, her Maides, or her Pyes. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ii, 'Daughter,' said Simon, 'your tongue wags too freely.' 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* x, Boys whose tongues were used to wag in concert at the most brutal street games. 1883 FRANCES M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxvii, I know you will be careful not to set tongues wagging.

c. *Proverb.*

[13..: see WAW v.] *c* 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 138 It is a common proverbe, it is merry in hall when beardes wagges all. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 109. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 126. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 37. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 170.

d. To sway the body from side to side; (of a dog) to walk with a swaying movement.

1726 GARRETSON *Sch. Manners* 36 Run not hastily in the street, nor go too slowly: wag not to and fro, nor use any antick or wanton posture either of thy head, hands, feet or body. 1868 JULIA KAVANAGH *Dora* xxi, They all left the inn.., Eva as usual clinging to Dora's side, and Fido wagging slowly behind her.

†5. To move about from place to place; to wander. Also, to drift (in water). *Obs.*

c 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* 190 in *Pol. Songs* (1839) 332 He wole wagge aboute the cloistre and kepen hise fet clene in house. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxviii. 41 Who maketh redi to the crowe his mete, whan his briddis crie to God, hider and thider waggende (Vulg. *vagantes*). *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13540 Thus I skope fro the skathe with skyrme of my hondes, And with wawes of the water wagget to bonke. *c* 1535 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 251 The head thus being above, the body beneath in water, wagging and removing to and fro.

†6. To move, budge *from* a place. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5875 Thei myght onethes a-wey wagge With siluer and gold. 1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* xvi. 27. 402 Though his bands wer loosed, he did not once wag from his place. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 240 It is said by manner of a prouerbiall speech that he who findes himselfe well should not wagge. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 9 As many [bees] as are stricken, within an hour after, will not be able to wag out of the place. 1666 GLANVIL *Consid. Witches* (1667) 20 The separated souls of the wicked..cannot possibly wag from the place of their confinement. 1675 WYCHERLEY *Country-Wife* IV. iv, *Mrs. Pin.* Sir go we'l follow you. *Spar.* I will not wag without you. 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 133, I cannot wag out of Oxford till the Term is ended. 1730 FIELDING *Rape upon Rape* III. xi, I'll not wag without you.

7. To go, depart, be off. Now *colloq.*

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. i. 58 But let mee bee wagging. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 7 Discard (bully Hercules) casheere; let them wag; trot, trot. 1599 — *Much Ado* v. i. 16 If such a one will smile and stroke his beard, And sorrow, wagge (*read* Bid sorrow wagge), crie hem, when he should grone. 1602 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* IV. i. (ROXB.) 47 My gentleman, let him wagge, whither he please, in the name of Jehoua. 1632 A. ROSS *Hist. World* II. iv. 64 He [Heliogabalus]..never would wag any where without 60 Chariots. 1779 COWPER *Yearly Distr.* 50 Come, neighbours, we must wag.

b. To travel or make one's way; to 'jog *along*'. *lit.* and *fig.*

1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 183 They made a pretty good shift to wagg along. 1798 J. JEFFERSON *Let. to Boucher* 23 Feb. (MS.), People in Hampshire not only wag the head or hand, ..but they wag out, when they take a walk.—It always puts me in mind of a Duck. 1840 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* III. vi, Thus I wag through the world, half the time on foot, and the other half walking. 1903 MCNEILL *Egregious Engl.* 28 So he wagged along and helped to build up the commercial greatness and probity and honour of his country.

c. In proverbial phrases with 'the world' as subject. *How the world wags*: how affairs are going. *To let the world wag* (*as it will*): to regard the course of events with unconcern. (For other expressions analogous to these, see the quots.)

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 90 In flattryng fables men fynde but lyttyl fayth: But *mouetur terra*, let the world wag. 1538 LATIMER *Let. to Cromwell* Serm. & Rem. (1845) 396 By this bill inclosed your lordship can perceive something, how the world doth wag with Warwick college. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 361 Let the worlde wagge, we must neades haue drynke. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 63, I warrant thee woe two will liue howe soeuer the world wagge. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 23 Thus may we see (quoth he) how the world wagges. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Gallere*, *Vogue la gallere*, let the world wag, slide, goe how it will; let goe a Gods name. 1637 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1684) II. 73 Solomons sluggard,..who foldeth his hands together, and letteth the world wag as it will. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 130 Let us then go and see how the World wags in the City Circle. 1702 *Secret Mercury* 8–9 Sept. 2/1, I retir'd to my Lodgings and let the World wagg for that Night. 1720 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 103 Let the world wag as it may. 1791 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* July, I shall not, I hope, be forgetful, when the world wags ill, [etc.]. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxv, 'I will have a rouze with Dunois,' said Crèvecœur, 'wag the world as it will.' *c* 1845 C. BRONTË *Professor* i, But you shall hear ..how the world has wagged with me. 1881 *Congressional Globe* 28 Feb. 967/3 But I believe the world has wagged along about the same after as they did before the resolutions passed. 1877 W. BLACK *Green Past.* xlii, Let the world wag on as it may.

†d. To 'get on', associate *with*. *Obs.*

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxiv. 89 Ye wantoun wowaris waggis With thame that has the cunye. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 90, I with ale, and ale with me wag away.

8. *slang.* To play truant. Also *to wag it*. Cf. WAG *sb.*[2] 3.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, 'My misfortunes all began in wagging, Sir; but what could I do, exceptin' wag?' 'Excepting what?' said Mr. Carker. 'Wag, Sir. Wagging from school.' 'Do you mean pretending to go there, and not going?' said Mr. Carker. 'Yes, Sir, that's wagging, Sir.' 1901 W. S. WALKER *In the Blood* i. 13 They had 'wagged it' from school, as they termed it, which..meant truancy in all its forms.

II. Transitive uses.

†9. To set in movement, cause to quiver or oscillate; to shake or stir by force. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 41 And þanne fondeth þe fende my fruit to destruye, With alle þe wyles þat he can and waggeth þe rote. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 289 Centauri, as it ___ hundred wynde waggers: for þey wagged wel þe wynde faste in hir ridynge. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. Prol. 90 Ouer that he had power of strength to pull vp the spere, that Alisander the noble might neuer wagge. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1943 in *Macro Plays* 135 Þis worthy, wylde werld, I wagge with a wyt. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 212 Than he began a lityll and a lityll to wagge the ston and to sake the ioyntures that helde hit. 1568 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 18 The lefe that with a lytell wynde is wagged and blowen doune. 1580 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ix. 25 b, They adiudged that the gabell [*i. e.* cable] had bene wagged or shaken by a kinde of Fish called a Tunnie. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 14 But how much more the louer made his mone,..The more shee sate vnmoued, like the stone, Whom waues do beat, but wag not from his place. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 51 The Place..must be kept close and quiet; free from noise and noisome cattel, that may either wag or wake them. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Polyolb.* i. 16 So great, that many men's vnited strength cannot remoue it, yet with one finger you may wagge it. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* xiv. Wks. 1687 I. 202 A small transient pleasure, a tickling the ears, wagging the lungs, forming the face into a smile [etc.].

†b. To nudge. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 199, I wondred what þat was, & wagged conscience, And was afered of the lyȝte.

10. To brandish (a weapon). Also, to wave (something) defiantly, as a signal, or to attract notice. *Obs.* exc. in jocular use (cf. *flag-wagging*).

c 1300 *Havelok* 89 He was te beste knith at nede, þat heuere mi:the..wepne wagge, or folc vt lede. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* x. 24 Be not afrayde for the kinge of the Assirians: He shal wagg his staff at the,..But [etc.]. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. ix. 181/1 in *Holinshed*, The other ..wagging a scroll which he had in his hand before the iudge. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iv. 18 So these two champions..in their hands their idle troncheons held, Which neither able were to wag, or once to weld. 1806 SCOTT *Health Ld. Melville* vii, While there's one Scottish hand that can wag a claymore, sir.

11. To move (a limb or part of the body attached by a joint) to and fro, up and down, or from side to side: usually implying rapid and repeated movement. †Also, to blink repeatedly with, 'bat' (the eyes).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1484 As þay with wynge vpon wynde hade waged her fytheres. 1530 PALSGR. 770/1 Do you nat se hym, he waggeth his hande at you. 1542 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 111 What a blyndnes is it to thynke my sinnes forgeuen me, when a prest..hath wagged two or thre fyngers ouer my head? 1574 *Withals' Dict.* 67 b/2 *Patus*, he that waggeth the eyes. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. i. 324 Achates, see King Priam wags his hand, He is alive, Troy is not ouercome. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 3/3 When the patient may easylye waggе his lower chawe bone. 1611 COTGR., *Gambayer*, to wag the legs in sitting, as children vse to do. 1612 CORYAT *Crudities* 229 They wagge their hands vp and downe very often. 1768 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* I. II. xxviii. 202 Nothing can be more harmless than wagging your finger considered in itself, yet if the finger rest against the trigger of a loaded musket and a man stand just before, you cannot do a wronger thing, and why? 1820 SOUTHEY *Ballad St. Antidius* 35 He wagg'd his ears, he twisted his tail, He knew not for joy what to do. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxvi. (1856) 326 [He] had to wag his leg half an hour by the dial.

transf. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 76 You may as well forbid the Mountaine Pines To wagge their high tops.

b. (Chiefly in negative context, typifying the minimum of exertion.) To move, stir (a limb, finger, etc.) Now *colloq.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. i. 22 He found him selfe, vnwist, so ill bestad, That limb he could not wag. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 181 Travelling on the sands his hoof will burn and cleave, so as 'tis impossible to get him wag a foot. 1671 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Pract. Phys.* 149 For some hours she would be as seemingly dead, and could wagg neither arm or leg. 1697 R. PIERCE *Bath Mem.* I. vi. 125 He told me (with great joy) that he could wagg one of his Toes. 1885 PLANCHÉ tr. *Cte de D'Aulnoy's Fairy Tales* (1858) 16 I'll wager, now, that this idle beauty hasn't wagged one of her ten fingers. 1866 C. READE *Cloister & H.* lxxi. (1896) 207 Had it been any but you, believe me I had obeyed you and not wagged a finger. 1898 F. HARRISON *Autob. Mem.* (1911) II. xxx. 190, I most positively declined to ask him or anyone to wag a finger to get me there.

c. To shake (the head); to move (the head) from side to side.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 6 Þai spake with lippes and wagid þe heued. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xiii. 19 'Owh! how!' quaþ Ich þe and myn heed waggede. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xix. lx. 787 And thenne the queene wagged her hede vpon sir Launcelot, as though she wold mye thyn hym. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* cxxiii. (1533) 147 Robert had harde that message to the ende, he wagged hys hedde, as he that conceyued some doublenesse in thys reporte. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 39 They that passed by reuyled hym, waggynge [Gr. κινοῦντες] their headkes. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. B iv, Why waggest thou thy head, as though thou were very angry. 1596 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 277 These extreme passions of mynde,..when Democritus had heard,..he..wagged his head too and fro: wherein he had some meaning. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Funerall Elegy* Wks. (Grosart) II. 291 O! Who so constant, but would grieve and grudge (If not a Christian) at th' All-ordering Iudge; And wag his head at Heav'n,—weak earthly worm! 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* ii, The poor parents were encouraged to hope that their bairn, as they expressed it, 'might wag his pow in a pulpit yet.' 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cat* June, We were introduced instantly..: the little lord wagged his head, my wife bowed very low, and so did Mr. Coddler. 1841 — *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* vii, Tidd at this looked very knowing; and, as our host sunk off to sleep again,..wagged his head at the captain. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* vi, When once a man is obliged to do something besides wagging his head. 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. *Cobbler of Hagenau* 92 The cobbler..wagging his sagacious

d. To move (the tongue, †lips) in animated speech: esp. with implication of indiscretion or malignity. Also of the tongue: To utter (words).

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* lxii. 91 b, They drawe deepe sighes from the harte: and wagging their lippes doo laigne to saie prayers. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 33 No Discerner Durst wagge his Tongue in censure. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* cix. 2. II. 860 There is nothing more easie, than to wag a wicked tongue. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* iv, The faithful Tibb and Dame Elspeth, excellent persons both, and as thorough gossips as ever wagged a tongue. 1827 — *Jrnl.* 10 Mar., It is brave to see how he wags his Scots tongue. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 36 Not a tongue was wagged in his praise. 1871 DIXON *Tower* III. xviii. 196 Every one who owed him grudge would eagerly begin to wag his tongue. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Random Itin.* 160 When they spoke, they simply left their mouths ajar, and allowed their tongues to wag the maimed words of an unknown dialect.

e. Of an animal: To move (its tail) from side to side: in dogs usually an indication of pleasure; in cats often a sign of anger.

c 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xiii, And whan þei se her maister þei wole make hym chere and wag hir tayles vpon hym. 1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Agere caudam*, to wagge his tayle. 1599 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. (1602) F 2, Tis an old horse can neither wighy, nor wagge his taile. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* C 2, All the Dogges in the Towne, doe wagge their tailes for ioy. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim & Min.* 88 They [*sc.* lambs] wagge the taile whilest sucking. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 231 P 2 The poor Cur looked up and wagged his Tail. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 245 POZZO..asserts, that it [a toucan] leaped up and down, wagged the tail, and cried with a voice resembling that of a magpie. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* x. 264 They..Paw'd them in blandishment, and wagged the tail. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iv, And there..lay five or six great salmon,.. wagging their tails, as if they were very much pleased at it. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* lxii, The dog came wagging his tail.

†f. To flap the wings). *Obs.*

1496 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 577 Litell small been, þat al aboute fleen, They waggen their whyng. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* xi. vii. 195 Birds..in what sort they wag their wings. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Heav. Love* 24 Ere flitting Time could wag his eyas wings About that mightie bound.

†g. To sway (the body) about. *Obs.*

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 191 After the Eastern mode they wagg'd their Bodies, bowing their heads [etc.].

III. 12. Combinations: **wag-at-the-wall** *Sc.* and *north.*, a hanging clock with pendulum and weights exposed (also *attrib.*); also, 'a spectre supposed to haunt the kitchen..wagging backwards and forwards before the death of one of the family' (Jam.); †**wag-feather**, a swaggering coxcomb; †**wag-pasty**, a mischievous rogue; †**wag-string** = WAGHALTER; **wag-tongue**, a malicious chatterer; †**wag-wanton**, a wanton; †**wag-with** [? WITH *sb.*] = WAGHALTER. Also WAGHALTER, WAG-LEG, WAGSTART, WAGTAIL.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, '*Wag-at-the-wall*, *Wagger*, a cheap wooden German clock. Perhaps from the pendulum being exposed; or, provincially, seen wagging against the wall. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Baptist Lake* 82 'It's nearly half past four,' said he, looking at a wag-at-the-wall that hung behind him. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xix, When I entered, the wag-at-the-wa' clock had again possession of the kitchen. 1611 COTGR., *Coqueluchonnet*..a '*wag-feather*'. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. ii. (Arb.) 40 A lusty '*wagpastie*'. A deceiuer of folkes, by subtill craft and guile. *c* 1565 *Jacob Jugler* (ROXB.) 28 Truelye this wage pastie is either drunken or mad. 1620 MASSE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 278 That sculdiers boy, who playd the wagge-pasty with his Masters pasty;..opened the lid of the pastie,..and supt vp all the sirrop. 1578 H. WOTTON *Conceitie Centvrie.* 301 The boy..bethoughte hym of a knauerye fitte for a '*wagstring*. *a* 1592 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 223 [We say,] when we see a graceless boy, Thou wilt proue a wagstring, if thou liue to be elder. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* IV, Oh thou crafty Wag-string. 1908 C. HEADLAM in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 466 A chatterbox she is, and worse,—a regular woman '*wag-tongue*. 1620 DEACON & WALKER *Amem. Daret* 70 Euery little childe that playeth '*wag-wanton*. 1624 BRETON *Grimellos Fort.* (Grosart) 8/2 Thou wouldest neither carrie a ring, cleaue a beake, plaie on both hands, be no wagge-wanton, with thy mistresse, nor Iudas with thy maister. 1621 J. DARELL (Herald) *Panegyr. Verses Coryat's Crudities* 13 b, While he most like a 'Wag-with Teales of his Grapes as much as he could wag-with.

Wagadash, Wagan: see WAGADASH, WAGON.

† **Wagand**, var. *vagand*, pr. pple. of VAGUE *Sc. Obs.*; also as *sb.* a vagrant.

1614 in J. Davidson *Inverurie* (1878) 196 Giff ony towne's peopill beis found wagand on the gaitt after the hour of ten, the person fund wagand sall be poyndt as if they wer wagands.

Wage (wēdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4 *Sc.* vag, 4 *Sc.*, 6 wag, 6 waige, wayge, *pl.* wagies, *Sc.* vaig(e, wage, 6–7 wadge, 4– wage. [a. AF., OF. (north-eastern) *wage* (AL. *wagium*) = Central OF. *guage*, *gage* (mod.F. *gage*), Prov. *gage-s*, It. *gaggio*:—popular L. **wadium*, of Teut. origin: see WED *sb.*]

†**1.** A pledge or security; = GAGE *sb.*[1] 1. Phr. *to hold, lay in wage. Obs.*

[1183 *Pipe Roll* 29 *Hen. II* (1911) 61 Henricus dec' de Wallebi debet .v. *m.* quia renuit dare wagium et plegium justiciariis.] 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 139 He sesed fiue castels, & held pam in wage. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Agnes*) 400 Here-of in witnesyng remanis ay þe forsad ryng one þe fyngire of þat ymag of vad of weding in-to vag. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 132 Or thai thar land sul los or vassalage Thai had far levir lay thar lyf in wage. 1530 o SPENSER *F. Q.* at warlike wage,

†**b.** A challenge or engagement to fight. In full, *wage of battle*. Cf. GAGE *sb.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8476 So it was seyde to the Emperoure..How fight was taken hem be-twene, And no man myȝt here ire a-swage And thei hadde ȝeuen to-gedur wage. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxvii. 113 And yᵉ same season ther was a wage of batel before the french king, betwene two noble and expert knightes.

2. A payment to a person for service rendered. Formerly used widely, e.g. for the salary or fee paid to persons of official or professional status. Now (exc. in rhetorical language) restricted to mean: The amount paid periodically, esp. by the day or week or month, for the labour or service of a workman or servant.

Commonly in pl. (after F. *gages*). The sing. is now either *dial.* or has a rhetorical flavour; but it has sometimes a special convenience with reference to a particular instance or amount (see e.g. quot. 1776 in a).

a. *sing.* (For *living wage* see LIVING *vbl. sb.* 7.)

13.. *Coer de L.* 4264 Ther was non so lytyl page, That ne hadde to hys wage, Off gold and sylvyr [etc.]. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 319 Ilk man þou reft his wage. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wage, or hyre, *stipendium, salarium.* 1530 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 73 Lewed & evyll disposed persons..to whom..the seid Prioure gave wage vjd by the day. 1568 *World & Child* (facs.) A iij, Whan I was seuen yere of age I was sent to the worlde to take wage And this seuen yere I haue ben his page. 1621 SCLATER *Quæst. Tythes* (1623) F 5, Dreames any man hee meant it to the Lord as a Wage for his Worke. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. x. I. 177 When masters combine together in order to reduce the wages of their workmen, they commonly enter into a private bond or agreement, not to give more than a certain wage under a certain penalty. 1855 W. G. CLARK in *Cambr. Ess.* 287 Millions of children..must needs commence their life of toil in the factory or the field, as soon as their physical strength enables them to get a day's wage for a day's work. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 204 The labourers, having little heart in work for which they had no wage.

b. *pl.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XI. 283 He þat toke ȝow ȝowre tytle shulde take ȝow ȝowre wages. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 338/2 Ye seide Lord Talbot, servid the Kynges Fader..withoute takyng of any wages. 1444 *Ibid.* V. 110/2 To arrere the wages of the Knyghtes of the shires. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xv. (1885) 146 It shall not be necessarie, þat the xij spirituell men off this covnaell haue so gret wages as the xij temporall men. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 107, I will that a prest synge for my fayther..and he to have for his wadges vij markes in the yere. 1588 KYD *Housch. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 265 Gyuing euery one hys sallary or day wages. 1642 J. M[ARSH] *Arge. conc. Militia* 17 By the Law it is enacted, that no Knight Citizen or Burges, absent himself under the paine of the losse of their wages. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. viii. (*Intr.*) I. 78 The produce of labour constitutes the natural recompence or wages of labour. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. xv. 169 A member would be thought not to earn what are called his wages. These wages amount to two dollars per diem. 1849 CARLYLE *Jrnl.* in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 83 Thus we have private individuals whose wages are equal to the wages of seven or eight thousand other individuals. 1872 RAYMOND *Mines* 282 Wages are still low, $2 per day and board.

¶ The pl. was formerly often construed as sing.

1388 [see 2 c]. 1539 in *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 128 Everilk ane to half ane lyik waigis. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. ix. (1895) 302 Theire dayly wages is so lytle that it will not suffice for the same dayes. 1621 SCLATER *Quæst. Tythes* Introd. (1623) B 1, How easie is it to answer, that Tythes was that inheritance, and Tythes is this wages. 1679 L. ADDISON *1st St. Mahumedisme* 23 As for his wages, it amounted to so little, that it would not do him much service. 1731–9 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* Notes on Pref. (1822) 321 As their wages is supposed to be low, their masters find them in tools to work with.

†**c.** *spec.* The pay of a soldier. Chiefly *plural*. *To take wages*: to enlist, take service (*with* or *under* a commander). *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 163 A hundreth knyghtes me ..& fiue hundreth o fote, to whilk I salle pay Ilk day per pes. 1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 499/1 Wages of Warre for the said Soudeours. *c* 1440 *Gesta Romanorum* 244 With the Sowdon he will take no wage. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 226 He..wende that it had ben straunge knyghtes that were me vnto hym to take wages. 1533 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* iii. Kynge Antiochus..opened his treasury, and gaue his ost a yeares wages in hande. 1562 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 250 b, They also, which..take wages under them in this war. 1691 HOSKINS *Landmark.* 12, xxx. 182 The Wages, due to them that hold the publique Sword.

†**d.** Phr. *At wage, under wages, at* or *of* (a person's) *wage* or *wages, in* (a person's) *wages*: in the pay or service of another. *To put out of wages*: to discharge, cashier. *Obs.*

†*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 302, I salle the forthire..Fifty thowsande mene,..Of my wage for to wende, whare so the lykes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 38 The Soudan may lede out of Egipt mo than 20000 Men of Armes...And alle tho ben at his Wages. 1420 WATERTON in Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) IX. 883 To come ovyr to sowe at sour Wage, Armyd and Arayde, as langys to theire Estate to do sowe Service. *c* 1450 *Wallace* v. 909 XXXV with him off nobill men at wage. 1534 BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* let. v. (1537) 110 And fynally, ..ye entre newely into the wages of the worlde. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 187 When he espyed one of the souldiars.. trymmyng a strop or loope to sette on his darte, he putte out of wages, and discharged of his rowme. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 88 b, Many of the Britons..submitted themselues to the lorde regent..whom he gentely accepted and put them in wages. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. viii. (1895) 253 For them, whomewyth they be in wayges, they fyghte hardelye, fyersdye, and faythefullye. 1583 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* P 1, The Greakes yᵗ were in Darius wagies. 1594 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 318 The King, with companies of horsmen and futtmen under wages. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 73 A mutiny for want of pay: which was an unavoydable evill in those parts, though in wages under a most wealthy King.

e. *fig.* Reward, recompense.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 396 þat þou schal seche me þi-self.. & foch þe such wages As þou deles me to day. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 139 Fere mare loyful victorag þu sal resawe syne to þi wag. 1388 WYCLIF *Rom.* vi. 22 The wagis [1382 hyris] of synne is deth. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3886 Ne were that ȝe come in message, Veleyns dethe schulde be ȝoure wage. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xii. 175 Na for small wagis thai debait and stryfe, But apoun Turnus blude schedding and lyfe. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Pet.* I. 3–9 They yᵗ seiue the world goe about to haue rewardes yᵗ are transitory & wage that is slyppery. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 303 All Friends shall Taste the wages of their vertue. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1787) I. vi. 122 Yet we may shew the same temper..by loving our religion and liberties better than the wages of slavery and iniquity. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 2203 The gods give thee fair wage and dues of death. 1915 A. SMELLIE *Lift up your Heart* I. 31 He, our Kinsman and Redeemer..bears no relationship to sin any more. He has shaken off its wage and tyranny.

†**3.** A payment for the use or possession of property. *Obs. rare.*

1447 BOKENAM *Seyntys, Margt.* 232 If she be bonde and vndyr seruage:..Hyr lord wyl I yeue ryht good wage And to my paramour hyr vndyrfonge. 1562 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* xxvii. (1709) 206 The said incumbents paying to the owners, by the wage of a yearly pension, the yearly rent of all such impropriations. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* I. § 25 Letting and hyring..is a Contract by consent of the making or vsing of some thing for a certeine rent, hier or wage. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theorics* (1629) 183 How grossely doth hee [*sc.* Judas] vndervalue him in this sale, and wage, and rate?

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (usually in sing., *wage-*). **a.** simple attrib., as *wage-labour, -rate, -slave, -slavery, -work, -worker*; **b.** objective, as *wage-earner, -earning* vbl. sb. and ppl. adj., *-paying, -winner*; †*wages-taking* ppl. adj.; also †**wages-fellow**, *contemptuously*, one who receives wages; **wages-fund** *Pol. Econ.* (also *wage-fund*), that part of the total capital of a community which is available for paying wages; **wages-man** *Austral.*, a man who works for wages; **wage(s-sheet**, the list of wages paid by an employer of labour.

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 5/1 Trade will always fluctuate, *wage-earners will always suffer as a consequence. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Aug. 203 The *wages-earning and beef-eating qualities of the Briton. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 20 Oct. 7/2 To turn their young children into wage-earning machines. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 402 Education..may do much to..raise the power of wage-earning. 1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* IV. i. (1652) I 3 b, That she should sleight me, and run away with a *wages-fellow, that is but a petty Clerk and a Serving-man. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. xi. § 1. 1. 402 There is unfortunately no mode of expressing by one familiar term, the aggregate of what may be called the *wages-fund of a country. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. viii. 241 The remark has frequently been made that the capital of the country provides its wage-fund. This wage-fund is distributed amongst the whole wage-receiving population, and, therefore, the average of each individual's wages cannot increase unless either the number of those who receive wages is diminished, or the wage-fund, which, in other words, may be described as the capital of the country, is increased. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, Those who cultivate some scrap of ground, or follow some petty occupation, which prevents their depending entirely on *wage-labour. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxvi, They took up a claim...Then they got a *wages-man to help them, and all four used to work like niggers. 1890 — *Miner's Right* iii. 23 One would think I was a wagesman, the way you three cows bosses it over me. 1868 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* (1872) 7 This principle of regular *wage-paying. 1898 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 278 'Wage-rates are.. the chief cause of trade disputes. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 9 July 4/4 The cotton spinners..had to diminish their output and the *wage-sheet. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 10/1 Mr. Farrell quoted figures from his wages-sheet to prove that ability and competence..have to be paid for. 1886 MALLOCK *Old Order Changes* II. 29 The hands, as you call them, the poor jaded underfed *wage-slaves. 1903 *Daily Chron.* Oct. 243 The attitude taken up by the Pope..in regard to *wage-slavery. 1892 HULOME, *Wages takyng, *stipendiatus*. 1901 J. P. STRUTHERS *Life & Lett.* (1918) 253 They were the chief *wage-winners in the house. 1870 TENNYSON *Coming of Arthur* 417 Dark sayings..echo'd by old folk, beside their fires, For comfort after their *wage-work is done. 1888 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 17 July 2/3 Free trade's bitterest foe is the American *wage-worker.

Wage (wēdʒ), *v.* Inflected **waging, waged.** Also 4 **wagge**, 5–7 **wadge** (*pa. t.* **waged**), (5 *Sc.* **vage**), 7 **waidge**. [ME., a. ONF. *wagier*, *waagier* (Central OF. *guagier*, mod. F. *gager*: see GAGE *v.*):—popular L. type **wadiāre*, L **wadium* WAGE *sb.*] **I.** To gage, pledge.

†**1.** *trans.* To deposit or give as a pledge or security. Also with *down*. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1011 He waged him aring, Tristram þe batayl toke. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 285 þat shal delyuery ous soen day out of þe deueles powere, And betere wed for ous wagen þan alle we been worthi. 1498 *Forman's Monument. Christ's Hosp., Abingdon* 80 Few folke there were coude that wey wende, But they waged a wed or payed of her purse. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Ago*, *Ex sponsione sine ex sponsu agere*,..to sue a man in the action, that is by wagynge downe of a somme of money. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1453 Impleidging and waidging Baith twa thair lyves for myne.

†**b.** To offer as a gage of battle. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1368 Therfore sche hath takyn a day, Certenly, ox y yow say, And waged hur glove for to fyght.

†**2.** *fig.* To offer (one's oath, etc.) as security for the fulfilment of a promise, etc.

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3264 His othe he waged redille. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XXX. (1592) 476 Or, if he serued not God, how was it possible that the name of God should be waged by a mortall man, against the glory of God?

†**3.** To give pledges or pledge oneself for the fulfilment of (something promised). *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 87 For he hab waget me a-mendes as wisdam him tauhte. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8006 He sent out his Messanger..Trewes to aske, and trewes to wage. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2172, I said, that I sold find a Knyght That sold me mayntene in my right, And feght with tham al thre, Thus the batayl wajed we.

†**b.** with obj. a clause. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 84 For Ichul wage for wrong he wol do so no more. *c* 1400 *Plowghman's Tale* (Skeat) 1208, I trow they do the devell homage In that they weten they do wrong; And thereto I dare well wage, They [Sathan for all her song.

4. *spec.* in *Law.* Now only *Hist.* **a.** *To wage battle* [= AF. *gager bataille*, Law Latin *vadiare duellum*]: To pledge oneself to judicial combat; = GAGE *v.* I c.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 292 He offered to wage his battayle with the sayde Duke in the court of the French king. 1629 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* xxxi. 82 b, It is statute, that the defender sall first wage the battell, and thereafter sweare. *a* 1685 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 25 Brothers or cosins shall not wage battell in a writ of right. *a* 1634 COKE *3rd Inst.* lxxii. (1648) 158 In a Writ of right, if the tenant wage battail by his Champion. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxii. 339 When the tenant in a writ of right pleads the general issue, ..and offers to prove it by the body of his champion,..the tenant in the first place must produce his champion, who, by throwing down his glove as a gage or pledge, thus *wages* or stipulates battel with the champion of the demandant. 1819 *Act* 59 *Geo. III*, c. 46 § 2 From and after the passing of this Act, in any Writ of Right..the Tenant shall not be received to wage Battel, nor shall Issue be joined nor Trial be had by Battel in any Writ of Right.

b. *To wage one's* (or *the*) *law* (AF. *gager la ley*, Law Latin *vadiare legem*): (*a*) to defend an action by 'wager of law' (see WAGER *sb.*[2] § a.). ¶ (*b*) In erroneous popular use: to go to law (cf. 10).

(*a*) 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 326/2 All ye lawes aforesaid so waged and deon. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 407 Gunnore hath waged his lawe of that he haude his day to wage it of, &c. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 § 1 In which suite..the Defendaunt or Defendauntes shall nat be admytted to wage ther Lawe. 1531 tr. *St. German's Doctor & Stud.* I. xviii. 42 Yf the defendaunte wage his lawe in an accyon of dette broughte vpon a trewe dette. 1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 238 b, Ley gager. Wager of lawe, is when an action is brought against one without especialtye shewed or other matter of recorde,..then the defendaunt may wage his lawe, that is to say, sweare vppon a booke, and cartaine persons with him, that he oweth nothing to the plaintife [etc.]. 1621 COTGR., *Venir à la loy*, to be receiued, or admitted, vnto the waging of his Law. 1716 W. HAWKINS *Pleas Crown* II. x. (1726) 61 The Defendant shall not be suffered to wage his Law in any such Action. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxii. 345 It is only in actions of debt upon simple contract, or for an amercement in actions of detinue, and of account, where the debt may have been paid, the goods restored, or the account ballanced, without any evidence of either; It is only in these actions, I say, that the defendant is admitted to wage his law: so that wager of law lieth not, when [etc.]. 1824 BARNEWALL & CRESSWELL *Cases K. B.* II. 538 *marg.*, Where, in debt on simple contract, the defendant waged his law, the Court refused to assign the number of compurgators with whom he should come to perfect his law.

(*b*) 1529 in Mary A. E. Wood *Lett. Roy. & Illustr. Ladies* (1846) II. 32 If so be there be no way..to obtain it, but only by the common law..I am in that poverty I am not able to wage any law with him. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 127 Oft-tymys the vniust cause preuayleth, in so much as the one party ys not peraventur so abul as the other to wage hys law. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 60 And in case that at the length we haue sentence on our side, yet.. we shal, for the most parte, spende more money in wagynge of the law, than we shall gayne by the sentence. 1559 HABN *Newes out of Powles* (1872) II ij, Or else to worke their neighbors woe, by waging sutes at Lawe. 1620 MAIDE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 325, I wanted money to be able to draw out my thread to it's length, and to wage Law with them. 1629 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. i, I am not able to wage Law with him, Yet must maintaine the thing, as my purse riphe.

† c. *To wage deliverance*: = GAGE *v.* 1 b. *Obs.*
1607 COWEL *Interpr.* s. v. *Gage*, To wage deliuerance, that is, to giue securitie that a thing shall be deliuered. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Wage*.

5. To put to hazard, venture or risk the loss of.
†a 1400 *Morte Arth* 3967, I salle wage for that wye alle that I welde. †c 1650 WEBSTER *App. & Virg.* III. i. (1654) 25 If you will needs wage eminence and state, chuse out a weaker opposite. 1819 SCOTT *Talism.* ix, Therefore have you me, and many better Scottishmen, making war against the infidels under your banners... If their numbers are now few, it is because their lives have been freely waged and wasted.

† b. *refl.* To throw oneself on the mercy of another. *Obs.*
c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. xv. 11 Ther nys leon ne cruel leoneesse soo fyers..that theyr malyce attempren.. ne wyl..to tho that lowely wyl them seluen wage with meke herte.

† 6. *esp.* To agree to forfeit in some contingency; to stake, wager, bet. *Obs.*
1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* xviii. b vj, I ete laye a wager, that whiche wyf of vs thre that obeyeth best her husbond.. that he wynne the wager: wherupon they waged a jewele. 1598 R. WRAG in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 309 And holding them [the wives and children of their poor tenants] in such slauery as though they had beene no better then dogges, would wage them against a grayhound or spaniell. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 69 The Indians..make no small reckoning of these beastes (..their..Oxen), for they wil runne a race as fast as any horse:..waging both Gold and Siluer vpon their heads. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacrif.* I. ii, I dare Wage a thousand Ducats not a man in France Outrides Roscilli. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Sheph.* II. i, They shall rin after yee, and wage the odds, Upo' their owne deceived sights, yee' are her l *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 386 And hee.. being confident shee went with a son, offered to wage with her ten pound to thirty pound, that soe it was. 1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 10 Our Author..wages his reputation in the case. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. 222 That famous Timotheus Graecus, who having waged his Beard about the Dispute of a Syllable with Francisco Filelfo, upon the loss of the Wager very willingly submitted to have it cut off. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 60 I'd wage a hundred thousand Pounds. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. xii, If I walked alone,..I would wage a shilling that the pedestrian outstripped the equestrian travellers.

† II. 7. To engage or employ for wages; to hire: a. for military service. *Obs.*
c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3172 [Brenne] waged soud rs. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xxi. 258 If i sei wage men to werre, bei write hem in noumbre. †a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 333 And I salle wagge to that were of wyrchipfulle knyghtes, ..Twa thousande in tale. 1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 478 Fresche men wagede for men that were sleyne. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 148 A man of armes that is wagit with a lord for all the3ere. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Rivers* liv, For hys defende great store of men I waged, Doubtyng the stormes which at such tymes betyde. 1596 LODGE *Wits Misery* 86 The Turke..hath alwaies in priest for the war 130 thousand Timariots [*sic*] (who are waged by lands which the Turke hath giuen them..) he hath beside them 14 thousand Ianisaries, and 36 thousand Spaies, continually waged by mony. 1599 HAYWARD *1st Pt. Life Hen. IV*, 68 Assone as the Duke was come into Brittaine he waged certaine souldiours, and presently departed to Calice. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 1 As for the Grecians, he waged them as secretly as he could, to the intent to take his Brother altogether vnprouided. 1652–62 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 63 He wageth mercenary Souldiers of other Nations.
fig. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 40 Till at the last I seem'd his Follower, not Partner: and He wadg'd me with his Countenance, as if I had bin Mercenary.

† b. *gen. Obs.*
1465 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 88 If my servauntis falle I had lever wage some other man, for a Jorny or a season, thanne my mater should be on sped. 1468 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 327, I have wagyd for to helpe yow and Dawbeney to kepe the place at Caistr, iiij wel assuryd and trew men. 1523 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 98 He..waged Zenophantus to enflame and enrage his courage with the furious notes of Battail. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commons.* (1603) 234 Mahumetan princes..to secure their estates doe never trust their home-bred subiects, but wage strangers and slaues, unto whose fidelity they commit their persons. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 497 Such things which a man is waged or hired to keepe.

† c. To bribe. *Obs.*
1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 478/1 Convened with the same Scotts, procuryng, desiring and wagyng theym to enter. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 88 Thei wil be waged by the rich, eyther to geue sentence agaynste the poore, or to put of the poore mannes causes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 348 b, The clearcy of Maidenburge..had waged him with great rewards and promesses. 1583–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 441/1 Neither could the darke night serue them to that purpose, nor anie intreatie nor waging them with monie, which were appointed for watchmen. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxv. 442 As though Cyrus had bene bent of set purpose to verifie the Prophesie, or as though hee had bene waged by the Prophet. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxv. 73 The Iudgement of a man that is waged and bought. *a* 1800 PROOK *Suppl. Grose, Wag'd*, hired, bribed: They wag'd him to do it. North.

† d. *intr.* To make an agreement for wages. *Obs.*
1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 497 He waged with Iakob to keepe his sheep.

† 8. *trans.* To put out to hire. *Obs. rare*—1.
1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 18 Thou..must wage Thy workes for wealth, and life for gold engage.

9. To pay wages to. Now *rare* or *Obs.*
1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 192 And lich dar legge my lyf that Loue wol lene the suluer, To wage thyne, and help wynne that thow wilnest after. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 300 Take a thausande pounde of Frankis fyne, To wage wyth the pepil newe. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 99 Also in pley of lande and als wele wagyd as be fore. 1466 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 300 Thei were receyved by the duke of Burgundi ful worchipfully, and waged sufficiently. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxi. [lxiv.] 79 b, The kynge of Aragon sware and sealed..to sende vnto hym as moche money as shoide wage fyue hundreth speres. 1530 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 288, I will that a prest be wadgyd to pray for the helth of my saull..and to have yerely for his wadges eight marces. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 6 Th the said licences..and in conductyng solicitours..have be grevous and excessive. *c* 1550 R. BIRSTON *Bayte Fortune* A iiij b, Who wageth the seruaunt, who paieth the souldeour. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincs.* v. (1562) 102 At oure tyme, phisike is a remedy prepared only for riche folkes, not for poore: for the poore man is not able to wage the phisicion. 1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 138 The laboryng man would for his payn, Be wagde with double hyre, Or els would loyter, and not worke At any mans desyre. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 796 Knowing his treasurie at home to be so voyde and faynt, that it was not able long to wage his Soldiours. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxii. 112 b, Besides that which is giuen vnto them of almes, they are waged either publikely, or of som in particular. 1640 SIR T. STAFFORD in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 158 There proposition of requiringe 4000li monthlie to wadge there Army. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* v, It is an art this French King of ours has found out,..to wage his soldiers out of other men's purses. 1833 I. D'ISRAELI in *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVII. 203 The master dresses and wages highly his pampered train.

† b. Ironically, to reward (for evil). *Obs.*
1418–20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* III. 2419 With his sword..þorus he brest, & some þorus þe side He percid hath, and waged hem for euere. *Ibid.* 3362 To whom Hector bad he shulde goon To þe furies depe doun in helle,..And þus whan he was wagid for his mede, Anon his broþer..Swiche sorwe made.. þat pite was for to sen and here.

† c. To pay wages for. *Obs.*
1638 HEYWOOD *Wise Woman* II. i, When I receive thee gladly to mine house And wage thy stay, thou shalt have Graciana.

¶ d. *absol.* (*fig.*) ? To bring reward.
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 416 My lorde þe lombe..Corounde me quene in blysse to brede, In lenghe of dayes þat euer schal wage.

III. 10. To carry on (war, a contest).
Developed from sense 3: cf. 4a.
1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 255 To vage bataill in lissis.., that is to say in barreris. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 95 b, How bytter, sharpe, and fearfull is the conflicte to wage batayle & fyght with pryde. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* II. cxvii. 62 Then hadst not thou, deare Countrie, com'n to wage Warre with thy selfe. 1632 GOUGE *God's Arrows* v. § 6. 415 [They] waged many battels valiantly and victoriously. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 121 To wage by force or guile eternal Warr. 1697 PRIOR *A Satire* 118 He should be kept from waging War with Words. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LVI. i, My Foes continual battles wage. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) II. 44 It does not follow that Christians may not wage war against their Enemies. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVII. 576 Thou, therefore, the resplendent reins receive,..while I, diamounting, wage the fight. 1799 COLERIDGE *Ode to Duchess Devonshire* 33 And some, perchance, might wage an equal strife. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* XIII, I had thought the Delawares a pacific people,..and that they never waged war in person. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* IV, That lady's mother..resided with the couple and waged perpetual war with Daniel. 1845–6 TRENCH *Hulsean Lect.* Ser. I. viii. 128 Those..conflicts, which the Church..must one day wage with those forms of untruth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 633 As they had been levied for the purpose of waging war on an infidel nation, they bore on their flag..the Paschal lamb. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* LXXXII, I wage not any feud with Death For changes wrought on form and face. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* II. iii. 232 How idle, then, is that warfare which reformers are too apt to wage. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 7. 95 In his old age he waged his bitterest war against his son. 1887 HOWEN *Virg. Æneid* VI. 828 Ah! what battles the twain must wage, what legions array.
¶ *transf.* (*nonce-use*). *a* 1648 *Ess. on Death* in *Bacon's Remaines* (1648) 12, I..could wish that like peace to all those with whom I wage love.

b. To contend for (a cause). *rare.*
1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 65 In Thy name we shall O'ercome, for we will only wage the right.

† c. *intr.* in various nonce-uses: To struggle, contend *against*; to struggle *through* difficulties; to contend in rivalry. *Obs.*
1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 212 No, rather I abiure all roofes, and chuse To wage against the enmity oth'ayre. 1608 — *Per.* IV. ii. 34 The commoditie wages not with the daunger. 1656 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 558 My troubles are many, yet..I indifferently wage through them. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 187 If there were no others to wage with us, we might..make our own Markets; but as the case now stands, that all the World are striving to engross all the Trade they can [etc.].

11. *trans.* To wield (a weapon, etc.). *rare.*
1836 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 17 Mr. Kenrick was mounted on the top of the hay, waging a water-pipe in full play. 1865 SIR J. K. JAMES *Tasso's Jerus Deliv.* X. lxix. I. 321 Pagans become, and for our kingdom wage 'Gainst impious Godfred, your avenging swords.

Wage, obs. form of WEDGE.

† **Wa·geable**, *a. Obs.* [f. WAGE *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be hired for military service, mercenary.
1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* v. ii. § 8. 416 The Gessates, Nations about Rhodanus, wageable as the Switzers in these times.

Waged (wēdʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. WAGE *v.* + -ED 1.] Hired for wages; paid by wages. † Of soldiers: Mercenary (*obs.*).
c 1440 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* (1896) 23 We come not into this londe as wagid men. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 193 So weel wagid bischopis. 1482 J. PASTON in *P. Lett* II. 121, I may get leve for to send non of my wagyd men home ageyn. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xlvi. 21 Hir wagied souldyers that be with her, are like fat calues. 1579 MORVIN *Mem. Affairs Scot.* (Bannatyne Club) 21 For the quhilk effect theare wer ilk wadged men teane vp vpone the Kingis expenssis. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 123/2 Let us mark ..that we may be watchfull to fight against Sathan, and his waged men. 1590 BARROW & GREENWOOD in *Confer.* 46 You stand a waged Minister vnder them. 1627 MONTSON *Itin.* II. 92 Florence mac Carty..refused to give his son for pledge, lest his waged souldiers should cast him out of his Countrey. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxxv, Wouldst thou aid the enemy of the lord under whose banner thou servest, against his waged soldiers? 1870 *Daily News* 18 June, The continued want of employment among those who live by waged labour.

† b. In bad sense: Bribed. *Obs.*
1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 290 Yᵉ leud babblers which do let out to hier the seruice of their waged tonge.

Wa·gedom. [f. WAGE *sb.* + -DOM.] The economic system under which wage-earners live.
1885 *Daily Chron.* 7 Sept. (Cassell), By the substitution of industrial partnership in place of wagedom. 1886 W. DONISTHORPE *Basis Individualism* 19 Such is the modern system of wagedom. The wage-receiver gets just enough to keep himself alive for the use of his employers. 1910 *Dubl. Rev.* Oct. 375 The positive translation of wagedom into partnership.

Wagel, waggel (wæ·gĕl). *dial.* Also 7 **wagell**, 9 **waggle**. [Perh. Cornish.] A name for the Black-backed Gull, *Larus marinus*, in its immature state, when the plumage is mottled grey and white; formerly supposed to be a distinct species.
a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* III. ii. § 3 (1676) 266 Wagell *Cornubiensium*,..The great gray Gull. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl., Wagel.* 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. ii. 375 Wagel Gull. 1885 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* XIII. 187 Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus Marinus*)..Wagel Gull. 1843 JARDINE *Birds Gt Brit.* IV. 299 Larus marinus, Linn.. Great Black-backed Gull of British authors.—(L. nævius, the Wagel, young). 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss., Wagel*, a grey gull. 1893–4 *Northumb Gloss., Waggle-gull*, the young of the greater black-backed gull *Larus Marinus*, L.

Wageless (wē·dʒlĕs), *a.* [f. WAGE *sb.* + -LESS.]
† 1. That does not pay a wage or recompense.
1615 [see TAXLESS *a.*].
2. That does not earn or receive wages. Also *wagesless* (rare). Hence **Wa·gelessness.**
1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xlix, Some intrusive, ragamuffin, wageless lackey. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. xii. (1858) 232 By unwearied, valiant, and were it wageless effort, in my Parliament, and in my Parish, I would aid [etc.]. 1853 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxiii. (1893) 335 In came Peter, one of the wageless footmen, with candles. 1889 GISSING *Nether World* II. 18 Employed on piece-work, they might at any moment find themselves wageless. 1913 *Spectator* 14 June 1004/2 It is impossible..to make up the amount..after several weeks of idleness and wagelessness.

† **Wa·geling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WAGE *sb.* or *v.* + -LING.] A hireling.
a 1547 BALE *Image Both Ch.* xiii. (1550) e viij, These are the verye false Prophetes,..wolues, wagelynges, Iudasses,.. [etc.]. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 136/32 A Wageling, *mercenarius*.

Wagen, obs. form of WAGON.

‖ **Wagenboom** (vā·gənbōm). *S. African.* Also anglicized **wag(g)on-boom**, and corruptly **vaboom.** [Du., f. *wagen* WAGON + *boom* tree.] (See quots.)
1822 BURCHELL *Trav. S. Afr.* I. 123 We passed some large trees of *Wagenboom* (*Protea grandiflora*), so called by the colonists because the wood of it has been found suitable for making the fellies of waggon-wheels. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* xi. 258 Cone-like fruits belonging to the Proteaceæ (..wagenbooms, etc.). 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Variety* 267 The..Eocene flora..as evidenced by the London Clay drift beds..shows fruits of..Australian banksias, silver-trees, wagonbooms. 1897 DU TOIT *Rhodesia* 126 This region cannot be unhealthy, for the 'sugar-bosch' and 'waggon-boom' grow everywhere. 1907 SIM *Forests Cape Colony* 59 [Used for tanning:] The bark and leaves of various *Proteaceæ* (Sugar bushes, Kreupelbooms, Vabooms, and Amandel).

† **Wa·ger,** *sb.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* In 4–6 **wageour, vageour, 6 waeger, waigeour, vager.** [f. WAGE *sb.* + -ER 1 (spelt *-our* after words from AF.).
While the known instances are exclusively Sc., the surname *Wager* ('Ricardus le Wager' *c* 1275 in *Shropsh Arch.* I. 126) suggests that the word may at one time have been current in the south.]
A mercenary soldier.
1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 48 And off tresour so stuffit is he, That he may vageowris haf plente *c* 1400 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 679 Thre hundyr thousande he had by Off wageouris armyt al at richt. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 87 In the samyn cas, say I of a knycht that is wageour till a king or a lorde. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 755 Thai wageours sone he put to confusion. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. Prol. 71 Gif thou be aganist God, Than art thou wageour onto Lucifer. 1532 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 144 The furnesing of certane waegeris to conuoy our souerane lordis artaillery. 1558 *Ibid.* 309 To furneis vageris extraneuris to the nummer of ane hundreyth men. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 273 The men of weir waigeours, quhom he commandes to bring the gret gunis.
b. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* Mercenary, bribed.
1587 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 182 Thocht wageour Freiris faine wald lie, The treuth will furth.

Wager (wē·dʒəɹ), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4–5 **waiour** (= **wajour**), 5 **wayoure**, 5–6 **wageour** (5 **-or, -oure, wagour**, 7 **wadger**, 8 **waiger**), 5– **wager.** [a. AF. *wageure* (= F. *gageure*), f. *wager* WAGE *v.*[1]: see -URE. In the legal use 5, prob. in origin a distinct word, f. WAGE *v.* + -ER 2; one of the technical nouns of action framed by lawyers in the 16th c. in imitation of Law French infinitives used

subst.; the spelling *wageour* in quot. 1533, however, shows that it was already confused with the ordinary word.]

I. †**1.** A solemn pledge or undertaking. *Obs.*

1306 *Extr. Sir S. Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (1839) 218 A wajour be made, so hit wes y-told, Ys heved of to zmhyte 3af me him brohte in hold wat so bytyde.

2. Something (esp. a sum of money) laid down and hazarded on the issue of an uncertain event; a stake. Now *rare* exc. in phr. *to lay, win, lose a wager.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3506 A waiour dar y wyth 3ow ley, Pat y shal haue some gode at hym. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wayoure, *vadium, vadimonium. c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 192 For a waiour I schal gon & askyn almes of Perys tollere,..he waiour was leyde. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtayse* 297 in *Babees Bk.* 306 Ne waiour non with hym þou lay. *a* 1533 Berners *Huon* liii. 180 As for the wager that I sholde wyn therby, I am content to relese it quyte. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 69 *Hort.* Content, what's the wager? *Luc.* Twentie crownes. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* iii. 78 They never play at Dice, seldome at Cardes, and that for small wagers. 1782 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1881) II. 295 Several Lords laid wagers which could out swear one another. 1691 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 207 They being grown so bold and insolent as to offer wagers that Cork will be out of our possession by the last of May. 1708 *Lond. Post* 7–9 Sept. 2/1 Great Wagers are laid in this City, that Cadix is already in our Hands. 1722 N. Blundell *Diary* (1895) 191. I layed a Waiger, and Mr. Jo. Poole held the stakes. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 6 P 11 By this performance, she won her wager. 1817 Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1296 It may be proper to state in what cases an action will lie for enforcing the payment of a wager 1817 Byron *Beppo* xxvii, Most men..Will back their own opinions with a wager. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Black Monsquetaire* 284 The Captains and Majors Began to lay wagers How far the Ghost part of the story was true. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, There was a fire last night, there are two to-night, and you may lay an even wager there will be at least one, to-morrow. 1851–61 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 116, I won the match, and beat the dog by four minutes. The wager was five shillings, which I had. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* vii. (1878) 118 He would go down the underground stair.. for the wager of a guinea.

†**b.** The prize to be won in a contest. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Brut* ccxliv. 378 For our archers..schet þat day for a wager. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. Prol 10 At the begynning, the wageouris by and by, And the rewardis, in myddis of the field Befoir thair ene war sett. 1546 Langley tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* II. ix. 53 At the other ende was the wager sette, that they ranne for. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 246 He that giveth most Cotes or most turnes winneth the wager. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* vii. 36 And let any hooke draw you either to a Fencers supper, or to a Players that acts such a part for a wager. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 24 Apr., There the girls did run for wagers over the bowling-green.

fig. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 167 For Kyng Henry ..and Richard duke of Yorke..wresteled for the game, and strove for the wager.

3. An agreement or contract under which each of the parties promises to give money or its equivalent to the other according to the issue of an uncertain event; a betting transaction.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 7 Certayn noble men made a wager to runne at the ryng. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xiv. (1912) 93 Love and mischeefe having made a wager, which should have most power in me. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. vii. 136 (1604 Qo.) Wee'le make a solemne wager on your cunnings 1611 — *Cymb.* I. iv. 187, I will fetch my Gold, and haue our two Wagers recorded. 1641 Evelyn *Diary* 4 Oct., One who, upon divers greate wagers, went to and fro betweene that Citty and Antwerp on foote. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 302 Wagers were very rife among us, who should come first to the shore of Patagonia. 1762 Burrow *Cases K. B.* (1766) II. 1171 There are many Conveniences from allowing valued Policies: But where they are used merely as a Cover to a Wager, they would be considered as an Evasion. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) II. 118 He was interrupted by a call from the company to discuss the affair of the wager. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xvii, I could venture to accept your wager, my lord, ..but there is no time for foolery. 1876 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* I. 9 If one man makes a wager with another, the occurrence of the event on which the wager depends, does involve loss and gain.

†**b.** *An equal, even wager*, an even chance. *Obs.*

1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. iv. § 57 224 It were an even wager there were none such! 1706 Hearne *Collect.* 25 Mar. (O. H. S.) I. 209 But 'tis an even Wager whether his Book proves himself or me a schismatick. 1742 Hoyle *Whist* xviii. 84 It being an equal Wager that your Partner has a better Card in that Suit, than the last Player

†**c.** *To lie upon the wager*: to be at stake. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 18 Full fast she fled, ne euer looked behind, As if her life vpon the wager lay.

d. An act of putting to hazard, a risk.

1833 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 220 Nothing could be more natural than that, for the very smallest chance of recovering the three kingdoms..he should be willing to stake what was not his own, the honour of the French arms..[etc.]. To a French statesman such a wager might well appear in a different light.

e. A contest for a prize.

1615 [illegible]
prepare
John B[illegible]
of sculls were entered to compete for the prize (a purse of 60 sovereigns). It was what would be termed in the aquatic circles, a double-sculled wager, viz., two pairs in each boat.

4. Something on the issue of which bets are or may be laid; the subject of a bet or bets.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. vii. (1912) 193 Their ruine was the wager of the others contention. 1629 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. xvii. 391 But what, thinke she, if they cast Lots for men, as for a trivial or base wager? 1678 Temple *Let. to Hyde* Wks. 1731 II. 474, I would be glad likewise to know your Conjectures there, whether France will come to

[illegible]
boy of these colored laborers was working as at a wager.

II. 5. *Law* (now *Hist.*). The action of Wage *v.* (4 a, b).

a. *Wager of law*: an offer to make oath of innocence or non-indebtedness, to be supported by the oaths of eleven compurgators. **b.** *Wager of battle*: a challenge by a defendant to decide his guilt or innocence by single combat.

a. 1522–8 *Ir. Act* 13 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 (1621) 73 The partie or parties defendants shall haue none essoine, protection, ne law wager. 1533 More *Debell. Salem* II. xv. 33 Lyke as in the wagesur of a lawe, they shall not swere that the defendaunt oweth not the money, but that they byleue that he sweareth treuth. 1536 *Ir. Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 (1621) 102 Wherein no wager of law, essoine ne protection shall lye. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* § 514. 295 b, The like oath shall bee made in an Attaint and in battaile, and in wager of Law [Litt. *en Battaile & en ley gager*]. 1696 Ventris *Reports* (1701) 261 In this case the Court overruled the Wager of Law. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxii. 342 A sixth species of trial is by wager of law, *vadiatio legis*. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 42 § 13 And be it further enacted, That no Wager of Law shall be hereafter allowed.

incorrect use. 1792 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. 1808 VI. 142 In this part, his defence will not be made by argument, but by wager of law.

b. *a* 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) The Table, Wager of battell shall not be by Cosins in a writ of right. 1716 W. Hawkins *Pleas Crown* II. xlv. (1726) 427 He may counterplead the Wager of Battel. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxii. 337 The trial by wager of battel. 1819 *Act* 59 *Geo. III.* c. 46 (*title*) An Act to abolish Appeals of Murder, Treason, Felony or other Offences, and Wager of Battel.

transf. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* I. 150 Having accepted the wager of battle, our champion began forthwith to collect his forces. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xi. 5 When Harold and William met face to face in the great wager of battle.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in sense 'done for a wager', as *wager-fight, -shooting, -smoking*; also **wager-boat**, a light racing sculling-boat used in contests between single scullers; **wager-cup**, a 'cup' offered as a prize in a contest; †**wager-hall**, ? the hall of the imaginary guild of betting men; **wager-insurance** = *wager-policy*; †**wager-office**, a place for recording wagers; **wager-policy**, an insurance-policy partaking of the nature of a wager.

1844 A. A. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* ix. (1886) 99 [He] began talking about the sweet *wager-boat which his friend ..had bought at Searle's. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* IV. i, It was an amateur sculler..in so light a boat that the Rogue remarked: 'A little less on you, and you'd a'most ha' been a Wager-but.' 1878 W. J. Cripps *Old Engl. Plate* x. 208 The well-known cups, sometimes called '*wager cups', in the form of a woman holding a smaller cup over her head with outstretched arms. 1826 Hor. Smith *Tor Hill* II. 283 The *wager-fight between the English and Italians was to be a combat of three and three in succession. 1692 Dryden *K. Arth.* Prol. 31 Betts..[are] grown a common Trade for all, And Actions, by the News-Book, Rise and Fall; Wits, Cheats, and Fops, are free of *Wager-Hall. 1824 Benecke *Mar. Insur.* 142 The statute 19 Geo. II. c. 37, by which *wager insurances have been declared illegal. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 54 One Stewart..kept a *wager-office and insurance. 1762 Burrow *Cases K. B.* (1766) II. 1171 A valued Policy is not to be considered as a *Wager Policy. 1787 J. A. Park *Law Marine Insur.* 294 Of Wager-Policies. 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of Sea* vi. 166 They'll pay premiums reckless and regardless 'ow Lloyd's runs rates up on 'em rapid when they starts wager policies on 'er. 1892 Greener *Breech-Loader* 235 The 'Red House' at Battersea was..the favourite metropolitan resort for *wager shooting

Wager (wē·dʒəɹ), *sb.*[3] *rare.* [f. Wage *v.*[1] + -er [1].] One who wages (war).

1612 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. v. § 46. 481 But the wiser amongst them vnwilling to bee wagers of new warres.. denied his request.

Wager (wē·dʒəɹ), *v.* [f. Wager *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** *intr.* To contend for a prize. *Obs.*

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 42 None shall bee crowned sauing he that wagereth lawfully.

2. *trans.* To stake or hazard (something of value) on the issue of an uncertain event or on some question to be decided, to bet.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 182 Whereat, I..wager'd with him Peeces of Gold, 'gainst this, which then he wore Vpon his honour'd finger, to attaine In suite the place of 's bed, and winne this Ring By hers, and mine Adultery. *a* 1626 Bacon *Apophth.* Wks. 1879 I. 326 He would wager twenty shillings with him upon that. 1694 *Gent. Tongue* xi. 201 He that will lay those [his truth and reputation] to stake upon every flying story, may as well wager his estate which way the wind will sit next morning. 1820 Wordsw. *Brothers* 283 I'd wager house and field That, if he is alive, he has it yet. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xvii. I will wager a hundred merks with you, that [etc.] 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 137 Everything dear to nations was wagered on both sides. 1887 Gunter *Mr. Barnes* xii. 85 The stake he plays for is not generally wagered on the tables of the Casino.

b. *fig.* To offer (one's head, etc.) as a pledge, guarantee, or forfeit.

[illegible]
for Eubulus cause To be [illegible]d.
Worthy to wager heart with mine, accept it. *a* 1704 Brown *Two Oxf. Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 3, I'll wager my head against thee. 1892 Hy. Martineau *Honour Adv.* iv. 63 Ellen could give no better reason than that she could wager her life upon it.

6. To offer to put to the issue of a contest, to venture.

1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxv, We hold ye as robbers and traitors, and will wager our bodies against ye in battle, siege, or otherwise. *Ibid.* xxxvii, 'That is but brief space,' answered Rebecca, 'for a stranger..to find one who will do battle, wagering life and honour for her cause, against a knight who is called an approved soldier.'

8. *intr.* To offer or lay a wager, to make a bet.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. vii. 135 Wee'l..bring you in fine together, And wager on your heads. 1614 B. Jonson *Volpone* iv. 1, If I had But one to wager with, I would lay odds now, He tells me instantly. 1722 Wollow *Corr.* (1843) II. 647 It seems certain that an assassination was designed; and I hear the Jacobites..were wagering on it some weeks ago. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xxi, He hath wagered deeply for a son of Diarmid.

b. With clause or inf.: To make a wager, to bet *that* . . .

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. ii. 12, I durst (my Lord) to wager, she is honest; Lay downe my Soule at stake. 1608 — *Per.* v. i. 43 We haue a maid in Metiline, I durst wager would win some words of him. 1667 *Lanthermore: Advice conc. Gaming* (1668) 8, I'le wager the Box shall have 1500 *l.* of the Money, and that 18 of the 20 persons shall be losers. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* ii, I'll wager that your stopping here to-night would please him better than it would please me. 1848 G. F. Ruxton in *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 441 One may safely wager to see a dozen coyotes or prairie wolves loping round.

¶ **4.** Misused for Wage *v.* 7. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1590 *Arden of Feversham* I. 524 Indaunger not your selfe for such a Chuile, But hyre some Cutter for to cut him short, And heer's ten pound to wager them withall.

Hence **Wagered** *ppl. a.*; **Wagering** *ppl. a.*

1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* s. v. *Wagers*, There are 'wagering kiddies'—or fellows who lay quirking bets on equivocal subjects. 1876 Morris *Æneids* XII. 151, I may not look upon the fight, or see the wagered field. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Apr. 6/3 Mr. John Alcock, aged sixty-two, yesterday walked backwards from Macclesfield market-place to the Crescent, Buxton,..15 min. 15 sec. under the wagered time.

Wager: see Wagger *v.*

Wagerell, variant of Wakerell.

Wagerer (wē·dʒərəɹ). [f. Wager *v.* + -er [1].] One who wagers or makes or lays wagers.

1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 166 They made the wagerers part stakes. 1691 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 207 The attorny general hath orders to prosecute some of the late wagerers 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 72. 2/1 We would ..advise the Wagerers to draw Stakes. 1730 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 1 Sept., When they were going to bleed him, the wagerers for his death interposed, and said it would affect the fairness of the bet. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* lxxvi. (1901) II. 267 Making a mental bet with himself—for he was a bit of a wagerer—on the double event of [etc.]. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 866/2 A silent ring of watchers and wagerers press closely about the table.

b. *Marine Insurance.* The holder of a wagering policy.

1718 *Mod. Reports* I. 78 Surely the law would not put an insurer *non bona fide*, or a wagerer, in a better condition than one that insured *bona fide*.

Wagering (wē·dʒəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing [1].] The action of the vb. Wager; an instance of this.

1691 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 473 Sir Henry Fonnace, eminently known for wagering, has laid 500*l.* to 400*l.* that the seige of Namur by this time is raised. 1697 De Foe *Ess. Projects* 171 Wagering, as now practised by Politics and Contracts, is become a Branch of Assurances; it was before more properly a part of Gaming. 1746 *Act* 19 *Geo. II*, c. 37 § 1 By introducing a mischievous kind of Gaming or Wagering, under the Pretence of assuring the Risque on Shipping, and fair Trade. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) II. 160 He..resolved..to be more cautious in his wagerings than he had hitherto been. 1845 *Act* 8 & 9 *Vict.* § 109 § 18 All Contracts or Agreements, whether by Parole or in Writing, by way of gaming or wagering, shall be null and void. 1888 *Daily News* 15 Sept. 3/4 The feature of the wagering on the Cesarewitch was the advance of Kenilworth..to 8 to 1.

b. *Comb.*: **wagering-policy** = *wager-policy* (see Wager *sb.*[2] 6); †**wagering-post**, ? the post at which bets were made.

1758 Burrow *Cases K. B.* (1766) I. 492 The Act of 19 G. 2. c. 37 (made..for Prevention of *wagering Policies). 1896 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3215/4 The Horses to be shown at the *Wagering Post the 3d Wednesday in September.

Wagesless: see Wageless *a.* 2.

Waget(t, obs. forms of Watchet.

Waggable (wæ·găb'l), *a.* [f. Wag *v.* + -able.] That can be wagged.

1884 H. Strickland *Travel Thoughts* 12 By unremitting and persevering agitation of the young caudal shoot, a real waggable tail may be the result.

Waggadash: see Wagadash.

Wagge, obs. form of Wag, Wage *v.*[1]

Waggel, Waggen: see Wagel, Wagon.

Wagger (wæ·gəɹ), *sb.* [f. Wag *v.* + -er [1].]

†**1.** One who agitates or stirs. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 289 And so þat name was to hem I-schappe Centauri, as it were an hundred wynde waggers: for þey wagged wel þe wynde faste in hir ridynge.

b. One who wags (his head).

1644 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 249 Thes revylers, waggers of their head, mockers, thelves against Christ on the cross.

2. An animal that wags its tail.

1887 MEREDITH *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 346 Should they once deem our emblem Pard Wagger of tail for all save war.
1911 MAX BEERBOHM *Zuleika Dobson* vi. 89 Corker [a bull-dog] had ever been..effusively grateful for every word or pat, an ever-ready wagger and nuzzler.

3. *pl.* The divining-rod. *dial.* ? *Obs.*

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* X 3, No one..could affirm that there were this or that particular Mine, that owed its Discovery to his Waggers,(for by that Name they then called them) some Miners told me that by his Waggers he could find out a Vein.

† **Wa·gger,** *v. Obs.* In 4–5 **wager.** [Frequentative of WAG *v.*: see -ER[5]. Cf. WAGGLE *v.*; also AF. *wa(l)crer* = sense 1.]

1. *intr.* To wander, have no settled abode.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 154 Mannys spirit þat is wageringe aboute desire of worldli þingis. 1382 — *Hos.* ix. 17 Þei shulen be wageringe in nacions [Vulg. *erunt vagi in nationibus*]. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23091 (Trin.) Quen I [Christ] was wagering out of rest godely toke ze me to gest.

2. To stagger, totter.

1382 WYCLIF *Eccles.* xii. 3 Whan..the most strong men wageren [Vulg. *mutabunt*]. — *Ecclus.* xxxvii. 16 Who euere shal wageren in dercnesses, shal not togidere sorewen to thee. — *Isa.* xxix. 9 Bicometh alle stoneid, and wndreth; flotereth, and wagereth [Vulg. *vacillate*].

Hence † **Wa·ggering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xl. 4 Enuye, noyse, wagering [Vulg. *inquietudo*], and dred of deth. *c* 1430 *Hymnes Virg.* (1867) 89 It is rabir to bilesue þe wageringe wiinde þan þe chaungeable world þat makiþ men so blinde.

Waggerell, variant of WAKERELL.

Waggery (wæ·gəri). [f. WAG *sb.*[2] + -ERY.]

1. The action or disposition of a wag; drollery, jocularity; in early use chiefly, mischievous drollery, practical joking.

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. i. 2 Now, if I could meete with Risio, it were a world of waggery. 1611 COTGR., *Droloris*, rya, waggerie, good roguerie. 1690 COWLEY *Guardian* I. i, The Colonel's as full of waggery as an egge's full of meat. *c* 1696 SIR H. CHOLMLEY *Mem.* (1787) 35, I, out of folly and waggery, began to kick one of them. 1737 CHESTERF. in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) II. 163 Since which he has contented himself with a little general waggery, as occasion offers, such as snatching the bread and butter out of a girl's hand [etc.]. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 199 The misapprehension of the second agent, or the ignorance or waggery of the third. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* I. 232 He was so good a fellow, so full of fun and waggery! 1832 T. CREEVEY in *C. Papers* (1904) II. x. 243 She has a great deal of natural waggery. 1848 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs., Locke & Sydenham*, etc. 420 Excited by..the waggery of his more intellectual neighbours. 1894 J. KNIGHT *David Garrick* xiii. 252 One friend..perpetrated a harmless piece of waggery on the subject.

2. A waggish action or speech; in early use, a piece of mischievous jesting; a practical joke.

1604 BRETON *Grimellos Fort.* (Grosart) 9/2 If I should tell you the tenth part of the waggeries, that I passed through. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table Talk* (Arb.) 97 An Ape when he has done some waggery. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* III. 69, I must needs passe by severall pretty waggeries, which I committed during this my Non-age. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 183 John Birkenhead..pleased the generality of Readers with his waggeries and buffoonries. 1776 S. CRISP *Let.* 8 Dec. in Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* (1891) I. 93 In most of our successful comedies there are frequent lively freedoms (and waggeries that cannot be called licentious, neither). 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* liii, In fact they indulged in a hundred sports, jocularities, waggeries, and *gaîtés jeux innocens*. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxix. 344 Not being a man given to little waggeries.

Waggin, rare obs. form of WAGON.

Wagging (wæ·giŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb WAG in its various senses.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* IX. 26 And þe wint and þe watur and þe waggyng of þe Bot Make þ þe Mon Mony tyme to stomble and to falle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Waggynge, or wauerynge, *oscillacio*. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 100 Byrdys vse the waggynge of theyr rumpe, to gyde theyr flyght: as doth the sterne of a shyp to gyde the saylynge. 1530–77 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 331 in *Babees Bk.*, Vse not much wagging with thy head. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 129 The meanyng herof, differth not twoo pins, Betweene waggyng of mens beardes and womens chins. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. xii. I. 514 As for the white Poplar or Aspen tree..the leaves keepe such a wagging and trembling, and never hang stiff. 1612 *Two Noble K.* II. ii. 13 The wagging of a wanton leg. 1633 [V. GOOKIN] *Gt. Case Transplantation in Irel.* 25 Can it be imagin'd that a whole Nation will drive like Geese at the wagging of a hat upon a stick? 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlviii, Diogenes..had expressed that conflict of feeling by alternate waggings of his tail, and displays of his teeth. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lxvi, A buzz, a hum,..a meeting of bonnets and wagging of feathers and rustling of silks ensue. 1903 *Times* 9 Mar. 4/5 Did not he..stop the wagging of censorious tongues?

† **b.** *Proverbial phrase. Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Tr. & Cr.* II. 1745 In tiferyng and pursuyte and delayes The folk denyne at waggynge of a stre. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1026 Somtyme I wepe for a gew gaw; Somtyme I laughe at waggynge of a straw. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lviii. 80 They murmured & were redy for waggyng of a ryasbe to make debate and stryfe. 1558 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1585) 50 As fearefull Hares they flee at the wagging of euerie leafe. 1633 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trew. of Uncert. Journ.* Wks. 1870 III. 8 They quarrel not for wagging of a straw. 1682 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 595/1 He fears the wagging of every straw.

Wagging (wæ·giŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WAG *v.* + -ING[2].] That wags (in the senses of the verb).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. P. R.* XVII. CXXXVII. (Bodl. MS.), Poudre þereof..fastneþ waggynge teþe þat beþ in peynte falle. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3660 Fro þe waganda wyn ourte of be weste rymes, Brethly bemonnes with byrre — — — 1541 *Bk. Properties Herbs* C iv b, Yf a man eathe and he eate of this herbe, they shall fasten agayne. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Pastus*,..be that hath waggynge and stirrynge eyes. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iii. *Law* 1336 So that a wagging leaf,..Yea, the least crack shall make thee turn thy back. 1823 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Ajax* 149 Whose scornful wagging tongues to thee Are grievous. 1888 MEREDITH *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 570 There lived with us a wagging humourist [*sc.* a dog]. 1918 *Sunday at Home* June 609/1 A herd of pigs went by or goats with wagging beards.

Waggish (wæ·giʃ), *a.* [f. WAG *sb.*[2] + -ISH[1].]

1. Of a person: Having the qualities of a wag; playfully mischievous. † Also, wanton, loose.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 240 And therefore is Loue said to be a childe, Because in choise he is often beguil'd, As waggish boyes in game themselues forsweare. 1607 ROWLANDS *Famous Hist.* 13 Fair Hellen was a waggish wench of Greece. 1664 H. MORE *Apology* 562 Certainly some very waggish Master of the Ceremonies has taught you this ill manners. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 91 When waggish boys the stunted beesom ply. 1729 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* VI. ix. 120 If [the tree died] by being shaken or loosen'd at the first sprouting, by waggish People. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. Two Orphans* IV. 130 But, O fortune! what a waggish damsel art thou! 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* I, The stranger looked sternly at the waggish apprentice. 1836 HOR. SMITH (*title*), The Tin Trumpet; or, Heads and Tails, for the Wise and the Waggish. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. vi. (1879) 307 A long series of ludicrous replies..spelled out..by the direction of waggish questioners. 1904 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Univ.* 63 Certain waggish undergraduates..sowed mustard seed after dark.

2. Pertaining to or characteristic of a wag. Of an act, speech, etc.: Done or made in a spirit of waggery or mischievous fun; prankish.

1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII 107, I pray you tell me whereof are womens hearts made?..Venus hearing his son make such a waggish demaunde, beganne thus to reply. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit Concern.* 18 Had I bene complained of for doing shrewdnesses in the time of my waggish youth. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 160 You must forget to be a Woman; change..Feare, and Nicenesse..into a waggish courage. 1616 CHAPMAN tr. *Museus* Annot. H 5, The word vnhappie in our Language hath diuers Vnderstandings: as waggish or subtle, &c. 1617 R. WHITE *Cupid's Banishm.* in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) III. 287 Boye, leave your waggish wit; Putt up your arrowes in your quiver and bee gone. 1699 WOOD *Life* 26 Sept. (O. H. S.) I. 283 Some of the company, who knew the design to be waggish, fell a laughing, and betray'd the matter. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* I. 17 And own, the Spaniard did a waggish thing, Who crept our Ears, and sent them to the King. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 262 The passing .was equivalent among boatmen to the crossing of the line among sailors, and was celebrated with like ceremonials of a rough and waggish nature. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, She..cried, with a waggish shake of her head: 'Aha! Caught you spying, did I?' 1904 *Athenæum* 20 Aug. 234/1 Mr. Tarkington writes in..a vein of waggish farce.

Waggishly (wæ·giʃli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2]] In a waggish manner.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* V. i, *Cler.* Faith, now we are in priuate, let's wanton it a little, and talke waggishly. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* II. i, I have observ'd him Waggishly witty. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI § 32 One while waggishly smiling, another with a grave mouth and ludicrous eyes. 1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May, She..rather waggishly asked me who wrote to me with such elegant attention? 1831 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 19 Oct., [He] used to say, waggishly, that there was nothing so accommodating as a naval captain on shore. 1854–5 THACKERAY *Newcomes* XXXVI, Other persons in society inquired waggishly why Jack Belsize was not present to give Lady Clara away.

Waggishness (wæ·giʃnés). [f. WAGGISH *a.* + -NESS.] The state or character of being waggish; sportive mischief; jocularity of speech or behaviour. Also, † wantonness, licentiousness.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Travessura*, frowardnesse, wantonnesse, waggishnes. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Goodness* (Arb.) 501 A Christian Boy in Constantinople, had like to haue been stoned, for gagging, in a waggishnesse, a long Billed Fowl
Ovid,
1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. XXXIV. 290 gishness..generally to be found among minor canons. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Feb. 3/2 It is only in a spirit of waggishness that this could be said of Sir John Gilbert.

Waggle, *sb.* [f. WAGGLE *v.*] The action or an act of waggling; *spec.* in *Golf* (see quot. 1897).

1883 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 199 With a friendly waggle of the hand. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 464 (Golf) In taking aim or addressing the ball, it is the almost invariable practice to pass or flourish the club head a few times backwards and forwards over the top of the ball in the direction of the proposed stroke. This is called the 'waggle'.

Waggle (wæ·g'l), *v.* Also 6–7 **wagle,** 9 *Sc.* **weegle, waigle.** [A frequentative of WAG *v.*; not found before the last decade of the 16th c., but possibly much older. Equivalent formations in Continental Teut. are WFris. *waggulje* to totter, Du. *waggelen* to stagger (early mod. Flem. *waeghelen, waggheleu*: also *trans.* to shake); (M)LG. *waggeln*, G. *wackeln* to stagger, totter (whence prob. Sw. *vakla*, Da. *vakle*); Norw., Sw. *vagla* refl. to rock, sway. Cf. ME. *wagre* WAGGER *v.*; also WIGGLE, WIGGLE-WAGGLE *vbs.*]

1. *trans.* **a.** To move (anything held or fixed at one end) to and fro with short quick motions, or with a rapid undulation; *esp.* to shake (any portable part of the body). In sports or games often (*colloq.* or *humorous*), to wield or manipulate (a bat, oar, etc.).

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* E 2 b, A third [man] waueed & wagled his head, like a proud horse playing with his bridle. 1599 — *Lenten Stuffe* 37 Our moderne phisitions, that to any sicke languishers if they be able to waggle their chaps, propound veale for one of the highest nourishers. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 27 If to rigor ouslye we waggle the tooth vp or downe. 1829 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 17 And, as she said, She weeglit her wing-wavin' shoon. 1843 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 316 Thou, Pincher, farewell too! in vain Dost thou waggle thine innocent tail! 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* iv. (1861) 165 She hinted, she sighed, she waggled her head at me. 1871 C. GIBSON *Lack of Gold* viii, The swarms of geese and milk-white ducks..would step out to the bank and waggle their tails with satisfaction. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* (1895) 98 When the old man waggles his head and says, 'Ah, so I thought when I was your age,' he has proved the youth's case.

b. *absol.* Chiefly in *Golf* (cf. WAGGLE *sb.*): To swing the club-head to and fro over the ball in the line of the intended stroke.

1897 *Outing* Aug. 423/1 On the other hand, another player, probably quite as good,..Mr. Horace Hutchinson, waggles, and waggles, as he addresses his ball, before each shot.

c. *U.S. slang.* To get the better of, overcome. In recent Dictionaries.

d. *nonce-use.* To indicate by waggling the head.

1852 READE *Peg Woff.* xiii. 198 They all nodded and waggled assent.

2. *intr.* **a.** With *advs.* or advb. expressions denoting motion: To shake or wobble while in motion; to walk or move shakily; to waddle.

1611 COTGR., *Triballer*, to wagle, or dangle vp and downe; to goe dingle dangle, wig wag. 1625 JACKSON *Creed* V. v. 42 Apt they are not to mone many wayes, either vpward or downeward, but onely to waggle to and fro within a narrow compasse. *Ibid.* X. xxiv. 308 Like to a Pair of Scales which never came to any Permanent Stay or constant Setting upon the right Center, but have one while wagled this way, another while that way. 1627 MAY *Lucan* V. 3, Nor that the crow waggling along the shore Dives downe, and seemes t' anticipate a showre. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccii. 194 Why do you go Nodding, and Waggling so like a Fool, as if you were Hipshot? says the Goose to her Gosselin. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 82 This said, the host wi' richt guid will Begoud to waigle down the hill. *c* 1820 COLMAN *Broad Grins* etc. (1872) 323 A well-fed maggot ..In some deep fruit-plate heaves, from snout to end, And works, and slips, and writhes, and waggles to ascend. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* iii, The tall, red, lurid candlewick waggling down, the flame flickering pale upon Miss Caroline's pale face. 1864 M. EVRE *Lady's Walks S. France* xiii. (1865) 160 The little lizards..waggled off as fast as they could. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* i, The men dance in a circle, stamping the time; the women waggle round and round the circle, outside it.

b. Of things held or fixed at one end: To move backwards and forwards with short quick motions, or with a rapid undulatory movement.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Waggle*, to joggle, or move up and down, to be always in Motion. *c* 1820 COLMAN *Broad Grins* etc. (1872) 162 Harsh creaked the rope in its descent, And waggling down the bucket went. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Jackdaw Rheims* 238 His tail waggled more Even than before; But no longer it wagged with an impudent air. 1862 DARWIN *Orchids* V. 171 When the flowers of this latter species were blown by a breath of wind, the tongue-like labellums all waggled about in a very odd manner. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. 129 'Tut, tut,' he replied, shaking his great head till his cheeks waggled.

Hence **Wa·ggling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. iv. (1912) 167 A Hearne..getting up on his wagling winges with paine. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 217, I know you by the wagling of your head. 1907 *W. estm. Gaz.* 20 Aug. 3/2 That 3lb. bat of his must take a bit of 'waggling'.

Waggle, variant of WAGEL.

Waggly (wæ·gli), *a. colloq.* Also **waggley.** [f. WAGGLE *v.* + -Y.] Waggling, unsteady; in quots. *transf.*, having frequent irregular curves.

1894 ELIZ. BANKS *Camp. Curiosity* 135 They keep in the path, even in its most waggly parts. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 303/2 A mud fort it was,..with a deep waggley narrow trench running all round.

Waggon: see WAGON.

Wagh: see WAUGH *int.*, WAW.

† **Wa·ghalter.** *Obs.* [f. WAG *v.* + HALTER *sb.*[1] Cf. *wag string, -with* s.v. WAG *v.* 12.] One who is likely to swing in a halter; a 'gallows-bird'.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 80/39 A Waghalter, *furcifer, pertitus*. *c* 1570 *Misogonus* IV. ii. 6 Stand out of my way wagghalter or I will britche the nakta. 1621 COTGR., *Baboin*,..a crack-rope, waghalter, vnhappie rogue. 1620 SHELTON *2nd Pt. Don Quix.* iii. 16 This Bachelour..was..a notable Wag-halter, *alitrib* 1546 [see SLIP-STRING 1]. 1638 FORD *Fancies* I. ii, *Nit.* What a terrible sight to a lib'd breech is a sow gelder? *Spa.* Not so terrible as a crosse tree that never growes, to a wag-halter-Page.

Waghe: see WAW, WOE.

Waghen, -scot, obs. ff. WAGON, WAINSCOT.

Waght(e, Waghter, obs. ff. WEIGHT, WAFTER *sb.*[1]

Waging (wē·dʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].]

1. The action of WAGE *v.*[1]

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 146 Na in his condicioun of feyng was diuisiowa maid of his wageing. *Ibid.* 158 In how many syndry cais law tholis vageing of batail. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 355 Of whome the kynge

receyuyd..iiii. M. li. sterlynge towarde the wagynge of his knyghtis. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 36 b, For the lealyng, dischargyng, entertainyng, and wagyng, of men of Warre. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Pleyteria*, a sute in law, waging of lawe. *a* 1674 Milton *Hist. Moscovia* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 478 By which means the waging of War is to the Emperor little or nothing chargeable. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xiii, Such a scrimmage as was here fou't atween the Mohicans and the Mohawks, in a war of their own waging.

† **2.** The excrement of a fox. *Obs. rare.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Of hares and of conynges he shall say bel croteth, and of be fox wagynge.

Waging, obs. variant of Wedging *vbl. sb.*

† **Wag-leg.** *Obs.* Also 7 wagge-legge. [f. Wag *v.* + Leg *sb.*] A gadfly.

1589, 1611: see Long-leg 1. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 645 The milke of sheepe being hot, is of force against al poisons, except in those which shal drinke a venemous fly called a Wag-legge, and Libbards bane.

Wa·gling. *nonce-wd.* [-ling.] A little wag.

1837 T. Hook *Jack Brag* iii, The sprightly, pert, impudent-looking wagling.

† **Wagmoire,** variant of Quagmire.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 130 For they bene like foule wagmoires ouergrast.

Wagnerian (vāgnī·ə·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [-ian.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the German operatic composer Richard Wagner (1813–83), his music and theories of musical and dramatic composition.

b. *sb.* An admirer or adherent of Wagner.

1873 *All Year Round* 5 July 225/1 The Wagnerian opera ..presumes that the singer of average ability shall be capable of doing justice to the music. 1882 Hime *Wagnerism* 23 But the marriage of near relations was the custom in primitive times, say the Wagnerians. True, no doubt; but that does not make their customs fit subjects for the representations of Art. 1889 G. B. Shaw in *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* Oct. 49 Richter's great superiority to Herr Levi as a Wagnerian conductor.

Hence **Wagne·rianism,** Wagnerian theories, etc. Also **Wagnere·sque** *a.*, resembling the style of Wagner. **Wa·gnerism,** Wagner's theory and practice in the composition of music-dramas; the influence or cult of Wagner. **Wa·gnerist, Wa·gnerite** = Wagnerian b. **Wa·gnerize** *v.* (*a*) *trans.* to make Wagnerian; (*b*) *intr.* to follow Wagner.

1884 Haweis *My Musical Life* 671 Even Verdi had drunk deep, many portions of 'Aïda' being quite *Wagneresque. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 448 A number of Wagner caricatures, which really are very valuable documents in the history of *Wagnerianism. 1869 *Daily News* 20 Dec., Many of us may like to hear of anything, even in the shape of *Wagnerism, which can hold its head in Paris by way of opposition to the previ'iling taste for Offenbachanalian music. 1889 G. B. Shaw in *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* Oct. 49 Hero-worship of Wagner, or adept Wagnerism. 1892 *Century Dict.*, *Wagnerist. 1873 *Nation* (N.Y.) 22 Feb. 166/3 Nor is there any reason why a *Wagnerite should refuse to admire the operettas of Strauss. 1888 *Standard* 13 Jan., It would, of course, be premature to affirm that the musical mind of England has become completely *Wagnerised. 1891 Meredith *One of our Conq.* I. xiii. 252 The Italians don't much more than Wagnerize in exchange for the loss of melody.

Wagnerite (wæ·gnĕrəit). *Min.* [Named by Fuchs (*wagnerit*) in 1821, after F. M. von *Wagner*: see -ite.] A fluophosphate of magnesium and iron, found in yellow crystals.

1825 Haidinger tr. *Mohs' Treat. Min.* III. 160. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.* etc. I. 182. 1883 *Scient.* I. 341/2.

Wagon, waggon (wæ·gən), *sb.* Forms: 6 **wagan(e, waghen, wagen,** 6–7 **waggen,** 7 **waggin,** 6– **waggon, wagon.** [Early mod.E. *wagan, waghen*, a. Du. *wagen* (formerly also written *waghen*) = OE. *wægn* Wain.

In Du. (as in Ger.) *wagen* has always been the most general term for a wheeled vehicle; in the 16th c. it was adopted into Eng in this wide sense (see 2 below) as well as in the specific military application (sense 1) learned in the continental wars.

The Eng. dicts. of the 18th c. have the spelling *waggon*, exc. Johnson, who gives *wagon* without remark, though all his examples have *waggon*. Todd 1818 prefers *wagon* for

1836 gives *waggon* as the current form, and *wagon* ! used spelling'. Stormonth 1884 and Cassell 1888 have *waggon, wagon*; later dicts. *wagon* either alone or in the first place. In Great Britain *waggon* is still very commonly used; in the U.S. it is rare.

The Eng. word has been adopted in Fr. as *wagon, vagon* (vagoh) in the sense of 'railway coach or carriage', a meaning which is now obsolete in Eng. (see quot. 1847 in sense 5b). So also G. *waggon* (pronounced as *Fr.*).]

1. A strong four-wheeled vehicle designed for the transport of heavy goods. In *Mil.* use chiefly with qualifying word, as *ambulance, ammunition, bread, forge wagon* etc., for which see those words.

1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. lxii. 84 And when these lordes sawe none other remedy, they trussed all their harnes in wagones [Fr. *en voicturez*], and retourned to the hoost before Tourney. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 46 b, The Flemmynges..made purviaunce for wagans, vitaile and other thynges. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* d j, As, the force which one

the waggon and chariot with foure wheeles [L. *ostiorum suum quatuor rotis*]. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xlv. 19 Take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wiues. 1693 Holcroft *Procopius, Goth. Wars* I. 4 Theodoricus..went into Italy with all the Goths, putting their Wives and Children in Waggons, and all the Goods they could carry. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 439 The plaines Of Sericana, where Chinaeses drive With Sails and Wind their canie Waggons light. 1671 — *P. R.* III. 336 And Waggons fraught with Utensils of war. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 317 Thy well-breath'd Horse..—— to Belgian Waggons. 1727 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* (1841) II. xlvi. 173 From those barges they [the coals] are loaded into carts and wagons, to be carried to the respective country towns. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xv, The numerous waggons that accompanied them contained the rich spoils of the enemy. 1820 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 300, I shall endeavor to send you some spring and commissariat waggons. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. 75 They [the Indians] had dogged it [Captain Bonneville's party] for a time in secret, astonished at the long train of waggons and oxen. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. i. 2 The waggons of a trader generally contain every requisite for a farmer's establishment.

b. *transf.* The constellation Charles's Wain.

Quot. *c* 1511 is from a work translated into English by a Fleming, and contains many Flemish words. The quot. therefore does not prove the existence of the word in Eng. at the date of the book.

[*c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 The northe sayle sterre or poltomarticum, or the waghen called.] 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* s.v. *Ursa major*, The common names throughout Europe for these seven stars are 'the Plough', 'Charles's Wain', 'the Wagon'. 1889 *N. W. Line. Gloss.*, Waggon and Horses. *Ursa Major*, the Great Bear.

† **2.** A carriage of any kind for the conveyance of persons, their luggage, etc. *Obs.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 157 b, Speusippus beeyng ympotente..was carryedin a wagen [L. *vehiculo*] towarde the schoole called *Academia*. 1555–6 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 253 One Wagon of tymbre work for Ladies and Gentlewomen of our Prevye Chamber. 1582 in T. Phillips *Hist. & Antiq. Shrewsb.* (1779) 46 This yeare 1582,..the right honorable Lady Mary Sidney came to thys towne of Salop, in her wagon. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Trav. Lond. to Hamburgh* Wks. (1630) III. 88/1, I appointed a Waggon ouer night to bee ready by three of the Clocke in the morning.

† **b.** A war-chariot; = Chariot 1 c. *Obs.*

1591 Savile *Tacitus, Agricola* 244 Some cuntreyes make warre in wagons also [L. *quadam nationes et curru pugnantur*]. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 30 Their fight is..with wagons and chariots [L. *bigis et carribus*]. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* IV. ii. § 20 II. 206 He..sends his Brother Hagis with..a hundred armed waggons to entertaine him. Each waggon had in it foure to fight, and two to guide it.

† **c.** *post.* = Car *sb.*[1] 1 b, Chariot *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 118 And two stately lyons this fine dame gilt wagon haled. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* V. ii. 51 Prouide thee two proper Palfries, as blacke as Iet, To hale thy vengefull Waggon swift away. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 28 Then to her yron wagon she betakes. *Ibid.* I. v. 44 Whilst Phœbus pure In westerne waues his wearie wagon did recure. *c* 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 122 The sunne in wagon makes th' horizon cleare. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 61 The Poët stepping with Phaëton upon the waggon hath noted [etc.].

3. An open four-wheeled vehicle built for carrying hay, corn, etc., consisting of a long body furnished with 'shelboards'.

(In the 16th c. app. distinguished from *wain.*)

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 35 Horse, Oxen, plough, tumbrel, cart, waggon, & waine. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 13 There stands my Heybarne, which hath in the vpper roomes my Hey, and beneath, Waynes, Cartes, Carres, Waggons, Coaches, [etc.]. 1600 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 226 One wagon and wagon harnesse three plowes [etc.]. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 244 The tow'ring height Of Waggons, and the Cart's unweildy weight. 1789 W. Marshall *Glouc.* I. 37 The Gloucestershire waggon is..the best farm-waggon I have seen in the kingdom...The wheels run six inches wider than those of the Yorkshire waggon. 1803 Jane Porter *Thaddeus* II. (1831) 16 Concealing their arms in waggons of hay. 1826 J. C. Morton *Farmer's Cal.* (ed. 2) 415 The carrying of our grain crops..is done differently in different districts. In the South the use of the two and three horse waggon is almost universal. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life* VI. 115 A waggon..is the pride of the craftsman who builds it, and who is careful to reproduce the exact 'lines' which he learned from his master as an apprentice.

4. A covered vehicle for the regular conveyance of commodities and passengers by road. (? Now only *colonial.*)

See also Post-waggon (1677–), *stage-waggon* (1761–) s.v. Stage *sb.* 13.

1613 Stow *Ann.* 867/2 In the yeare 1564 Guylliam Boonen, a dutchman,..brought the vse of Coaches into England... And about that time, began long wagons to come in vse, such as now come to London, from Canterbury, Norwich, Ipswich, Glocester, &c. with Passengers, and commodities. 1641 Evelyn *Diary* 20 Sept., I took waggon for Dort. *Ibid.* 10 Oct., I went by wagon..to Dynkirk. 1660 Sir W. Dugdale *Diary* 13 Mar., In *Archæologia* XX. My dau. Lettice went towards London in Coventre [wo] London waggons came in with sixteen —— horses. 1776 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 16 July 354/1 A number of Waggons with Teams are wanted for the public service immediately. 1824 Barnewall & Cresswell *Rep. K. B.* II. 717 The following evidence..was then set out; that defendant was a common carrier, and that his waggon stopped in the parish of Elden. 1839 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* V. xxxvi, She heard the rumbling of heavy wheels behind her; a covered waggon was coming, creeping slowly along. 1840 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvi, An express waggon with a driving seat. *Ibid.*, He is like to turn back..if he journeys with us in the ——

5. a. *Mining.* A truck used to convey minerals along the roadways of a mine, or from the mine to the place of shipment. (See also quot. 1886.)

1649 [W. Gery] *Choregraphia* 23 Waggons with one Horse to carry down Coales, from the Pits, to the Staithes, to the Rives, &c. 1707 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* (1841) II. xlvi. 273 [The coals] are then loaded into a g—— wagon; which..goes..to the nearest river or water carriage. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 51 *Chaldron* 53 cwt. The waggons which convey the coals from the pit to the place of shipment carry the above quantity, and are called chaldron waggons. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 148 Certain requirements, in connection with the raising of the mineral in the shafts, necessitate the use of particular kinds of waggon. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Waggon*, a measure of weight equal to 94 cwt. Coal sold for delivery in carts is usually sold by the waggon of 24 cwt.

b. An open truck or a closed van for the transport of goods on a railway. † Formerly applied also to the open carriages used for conveying passengers at the lowest fares, and as the general term for any kind of railway vehicle.

1756 Abiah Darby *Diary* 31 Jan. in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1913) X. 83 First Waggon of Pigs [*sc.* of iron] came down the Railway [in Coalbrookdale]. 1824 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 637 The weight of the engine and 16 waggons is equal to 154,560 lbs. 1840 F. Whishaw *Railw. Gt. Brit. & Irel.* 493 The ordinary train would consist of two wagons, or trucks, of merchandise, &c. placed next to the engine, then the passenger-wagon [3rd class], and lastly the passenger-carriage. 1847 S. C. Brees *Railw. Pract.* 4th Ser. I. 1 The name of wagon is given to vehicles of every description employed on railways. 1872 Helps *Life T. Brassey* V. (1878) 77 A 'set' is a number of wagons—in fact, a train.

6. *U.S.* A light four-wheeled vehicle used for various business purposes; also, loosely, a similar vehicle used for pleasure. *Dearborn wagon*: see Dearborn.

1837 Haliburton *Clockmaker* Ser. I. v. 34 People soon began to assemble, some on foot, and others on horseback and in waggons. 1841 [see Dearborn]. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xvii, Will you take me out in the trotting waggon with Puck?

7. A covered four-wheeled vehicle used as a living house by gipsies, travelling showmen, travellers, etc.

1851 [see Living *vbl. sb.* 7]. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 298 The mess-waggon is always an important feature when an outfit starts on the 'trail'. *Ibid.*, During a halt he never left the waggon, but hung around [etc.].

8. *U.S.* A baby-carriage.

1847: see *wagon-frame* in 11 a. 1887 Cabot *Mem. Emerson* II. 282 The whole town assembled, down to the babies in their wagons.

9. Short for *dinner-wagon* (see Dinner *sb.* 2). Cf. *wagon-table* in 12.

1906 Charlotte Mansfield *Girl & Gods* VIII, Margaret proceeded to cut the wire of a bottle, and then fetched glasses from a wagon.

10. *Bookbinding.* 'A tool having four edges of cane mounted in a frame, and used to trim the edges of gold-leaf to a size for a book'.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

11. *attrib.* and Comb.: **a.** attributive, as *wagon-cover, -frame, -hire, -horse, -ox, -pole, -rut, -sail, -shed, -spoke, -spoor, -sprag, -tilt, -tongue, -wheel, whip.*

frame." 1553 in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) I. iii. 141 And to [be] layd upon every waggon iij dry fatts, for the avoyding of the great charge of *waggon-hyre. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 40/2 *Iumentum plaustrarium*,..a cart horse, or *waggon horse. 1819 Scott *Anne of G.* xiv, A city-bred burgher of Ghent, Liege, or Ypres, is as distinct an animal from a knight of Hainault, as a Flanders waggon-horse from a Spanish jennet. 1864 Kingsley *Roman & T.* I. (1875) 7 The horse of the *waggon-oxen. 1708 E. Holdsworth *Virgil* 154 It is very common at this time, in several parts of Italy, to cover the end of the *waggon-pole with plates of brass. 1660 Herman 11, *Ern waggon-lasse*, a *Wagon-rut. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xv, The new streets that had stopped disheartened in the mud and waggon-ruts. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. vii. 140 These mats are also used instead of *waggon-sails, and are very effectual in resisting both sun and rain. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xvi, We have put our waterproof sheets ready on going to bed, and sometimes have spread the waggon-sails over the waggons. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Waggon-shed*, a shelter for carts and wagons. 1886 Hardy *Woodlanders* iv, The daylight revealed the whole of Mr. Melbury's homestead, of which the waggon-sheds had been an outlying erection. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 59 Her *Waggon Spokes made of long Spinners legs. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vi. 174 On reaching the road, I saw fresh *wagon-spoor. 1885 *Times* 31 Oct. 8/3 The railway are ..armed with sticks and *waggon 'spraggs', then advanced upon the criminals' place of concealment. 1892 *Planting* 90 In *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. The lower ends of ash poles cut from six to eighteen feet long...They are cleft for the use of the cooper. *waggon-tilts, &c. 1860 Mayne Reid *Hunters' Feast* xvii, The breaking of our *waggon-tongue.. delayed our journey. 1598 Shaks. *Tit. A.* V. ii. 54, I will dismount, and by the *Waggon wheele, Trot like a Seruile footeman. 1880 Emerson *Cond. Life, Considerations* Wks. (Bohn) II. 418 But who dares draw out the linchpin from the wagon-wheel? 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxv, Their rude drivers ..began to debate precedence with their *waggon-whips and quarter-staves.

b. objective and obj. genitive, as *wagon builder, driver, maker, making.*

1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. i. 4 A capital waggon..requires the hand of a skilful *waggon-builder. 1900 Hulbert, *Waggon driver, inquiries.* 1850 R. G. *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. i. 24 A waggon-driver..

a stout active Hottentot. 1798 in Feuilleret *Roads Q. Eliz.* (1908) 51 Skinners Sadlers *waggon makers. 1873 J. Richards *Wood-working Factories* 181 Wagon and carriage makers mainly use parallel iron vices.

c. instrumental, as *wagon-travelling*; d. similative, as *wagon-shaped* adj.

1837 Herbert *Englin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 742 The kind of boiler attached to this engine is of the waggon-shaped kind. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* viii. 304 The natural concomitants of wagon-travelling.

12. Special comb.: **wagon-bed**, the body of a wagon; also, the bottom of the body; **wagon-boiler**, a form of engine-boiler (see quot.); †**wagon-borough** [ad. Du. or G. *wagenburg*], a defensive enclosure or barricade formed of baggage-wagons placed close together; **wagon-bow** (see quot.); **wagon-breast** *U.S.*, a breast or working place in a coal-mine in which the wagons are taken up to the working face; **wagon-ceiling** *Arch.* (see quot.); †**wagon-coach** = Post wagon; **wagon-corps** *Mil.* = *Corps of Wagoners* s.v. Wagoner 1 1; **wagon-coupling** (see quot.); **wagon-drag**, a shoe-brake for a wagon; **wagon-drift** *S. Afr.*, a passage for wagons across a river; **wagon-gallery**, a gallery in a mine along which the wagons run; **wagon-hammer** (see quot.); **wagon-house**, a house, shed or shelter for wagons; †**wagon-hunter** *cant*, an agent of a brothel-keeper who for base purposes visited the inns at which the stage-wagons stopped; **wagon-jack, -lock** (see quots.); **wagon-man**, the driver of a wagon, a wagoner; **wagon-master**, a person who has charge of one or more wagons; spec. *Mil.*, an officer commanding the wagon-train; **wagon-road**, a road for the passage of wagons; spec. in *Coal-mining*, a prepared road or railway for the haulage of wagons; **wagon-roof** = *wagon-vault*; **wagon table** (see quot. and sense 9 above); **wagon-tipper** (see quot.); **wagon-top**, the part of a locomotive-boiler, over the fire-box, which is elevated above the rest of the shell to provide greater steam-room (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **wagon-track**, the track made by the passage of wagons; **wagon-train** *Mil.*, a train, collection, or service of transport wagons; also, a train of wagons used by colonial settlers; **wagon-tree** = Wagen-boom; **wagon-vault** (see quot. 1892); hence **wagon-vaulted** *a.*; **wagon-work**, the construction and repair of wagons; **wagon-wright**, a maker or repairer of wagons; a wainwright; **wagon-yard**, a depôt for wagons used on a road or railway. Also Wagon-head, Wagon-load, Wagon-way.

1885 Howells in *Century Mag* Sept 672/1 In the grassy piazza two men had a humble show of figs and cakes for sale in their *wagon-beds. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 179 For though the river was fordable with care, the water came over the waggon-bed. 1837 Herbert *Encyclin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 197 Those known by the term of '*waggon boilers', from their shape, formed one of the many improvements of the steam engine introduced by Watt. 1548 W. Patten *Exped. Scot.* F 1 b, [Fearing a night attack we] entrenched our cariages and *waggon-boorowe, had good skout without and sure watch within. 1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wagon-bow*, an arched-shaped slat with its ends planted in staples on the wagon-bed sides. Used to elevate the tilt or cover. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Wagon-breast. A breast into which wagons can be taken. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 475/2 *Waggon-Ceiling*, a boarded roof of the Tudor time, either of semicircular or polygonal section. It is boarded with thin oak, and ornamented with mouldings forming panels, and with loops at the intersections. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1047/4 Lost..out of the *Waggon-Coach, passing from Hertford to London, a Letter. 1676 Lady Anne Fanshawe *Mem.* (1829) 126 We hired a waggon-coach, for there is no other at Calais. 1810 C. James *Milit. Dict.*, Corps of Wagoners, or royal *Wagon corps. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 279 The Austrian waggon corps. 1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wagon-coupling*, one for attaching the hind axle to the fore. *Ibid.*, *Wagon-drag*. 1810 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* II. xxx. 284 We held thither at a sharp trot, holding for the old *waggon drift. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 853 The ores are raised in these shafts to the level of the *waggon-gallery (*galerie de roulage*) by the whims provided with ropes and buckets. 1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wagon-hammer*, the vertical bolt which connects the double-tree to the tongue, and upon which the double-tree swings. 1660 Hexham II, *Een wagen-huys*, a *wagon-house. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* I. 70/2 He..made him up a bed of straw in the waggon, under the waggon-house. 1886 Hardy *Woodlanders* iii, This erection was the waggon-house of the chief man of business. *c* 1766 *Cheats of Lond. Exposed* 46 *Waggon-hunters. 1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wagon-jack*, one for lifting the wheels of a wagon clear of the ground. *Ibid.*, *Wagon-lock*, a device to bring a friction on the wheels of a wagon to retard its motion in descending hills. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 484 The *wagon-man that had charge of me set an Indian carpenter a worke to mend the wheele. 1764 *London Mag.* Mar. 144/2 What the waggon-men call a bye-way, made for the unloaded waggons to be drawn to the pitts. 1645 in *Papers rel. Army Solemn League & Cov.* (S.H.S.) II. 302 *Waggonm^n of the Army. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xix (Roxb.) 163/2 Wagonmaster generall 10 s. per diem. *Ibid.* 164/1 The Waggon maister 5 s. Waggoners each 2 s. 1757 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1889 I. 492 The commissary used to act as wagon-master. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 20 Aug. Suppl. 2/3 To the latter there is a good *waggon road already opened. 1884 Jefferies *Life of Fields* 38 A white butterfly follows along the waggon-road. 1893 Silous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 371 Assisting the pioneers to make the waggon road. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* xi. 152 The low *wagon-roofs of the cross-naves. 1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. of West* I. ii. 35 In a good many cases the waggon roofs are but called cradle roofs. 1844 T. Webster *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* 240 Moving sideboards, or *waggon tables. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wagon-tipper*, a device for tilting a wagon in order to dump its load. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* II. xx. 76 The larger of these caves is situated on the west side of the *waggon-track. 1884 Jefferies *Life of Fields* 37 Leverets play in the waggon-track. 1810 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 302, I shall endeavor to send you..some horses and drivers belonging to the *waggon train. 1888 J. C. Harris *Free Joe*, etc. 181 For years and years before the war it had been noted as the meeting-place of the waggon-trains by means of which the planters transported their produce to market. 1822 Burchell *Trav. S. Afr.* I. 123 *heading*, The *Waggon-tree. 1835 R. Willis *Archit. Mid. Ages* vii. 72 Amongst the various forms of vaulted apartments... rectangles are of frequent occurrence, and these for the most part are covered with a *waggon vault. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Waggon roof* or *vault*. A roof, semi-circular in section, but somewhat higher than a semicircle or barrel roof, by rising from vertical sides. 1835 R. Willis *Archit. Mid. Ages* vii. 68 *Waggon-vaulted apartments. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. i. 16 *note*, Several coarse chisels for *waggon-work. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 378 Wood tough, used chiefly for wagon-work. 1898 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Waggon-wright, a maker and mender of wagons. 1850 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 66 [Newcastle terms.] *Waggonwright*, a man who makes and repairs the chaldron waggons. 1827 E. Mackenzie *Hist. Newcastle* II. 722 A waggon set out for London from the general *waggon-yard..every day.

Wagon, waggon (wæ·gən), *v.* [f. Wagon *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To travel in a wagon; to transport goods by wagon. Chiefly *U.S.*

1606 N. B[axter] *Sydney's Ourania* D 1, She waggoneth to Neptunes Pallace than. 1828–32 Webster, *Wagon*, v.i. To practice the transportation of goods in a wagon. The man wagons between Philadelphia and Pittsburg. *a* 1904 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* ix. 129 It was a hundred miles to wagon from the freight point where we got our supplies. 1907 'C. E. Craddock' *Windfall* vi. 103, I can't figure out how the'lydy managed to stay so stiff and starched these seven miles and more, waggoning down from the mountain.

2. *trans.* To put into a wagon for conveyance.

1649 Davenant *Love & Hon.* I. i. 1/2 Is all our pillage waggond? *Ibid.* 3/1 See him well waggond, and provide A surgeon to attend his cure. 1795 *Sporting Mag.* V. 35 Our party .bagged, or rather waggoned 876 hares. 1812 J. Flaxman *Let. W. Hayley* 20 Feb. in *Pearson's Catal.* (1886) No. 60 Resignation is at length in, waggoned for Feltham.

3. *U.S.* To transport (goods) in a wagon or by means of a train of wagons. Also with *up*.

1755 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1889 I. 187 The quantity is too great for the present consumption, and to wagon it up can never answer the expense. 1779 Jefferson *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 216 They have bought quantities of flour for these troops in Cumberland, have ordered it to be wagoned down to Manchester, and wagoned thence up to the barracks. 1782 — *Notes State Virginia* (1787) 39 The ore is first waggoned to the river. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* v. 321 Sometimes they had had to buy corn at a dollar a bushel, and wagon it home from Raleigh.

Wagonage, waggonage (wæ·gənédʒ). [f. Wagon *sb.* or *v.* + -age.]

1. Conveyance or transport by wagon.

1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 137 The great losses they had by waggonage and other carriage. 1611 Cotgr., *Charriage*, waggonnage; the riding in, or carrying by, wagons, &c. 1756 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1889 I. 309 The demands he has had on account of..wagonage of all the flour and stores from Conococheague. 1770 in M. Cutler *Life, Jrnls. & Corr.* (1888) II. 403 In Pennsylvania, where wagonage is cheaper than in any other part of North America.

2. Money paid for conveyance by wagon.

1757 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1889 I. 491 The amount of waggonage and other charges of transporting these provisions..will exceed the whole cost of the provisions. 1779 Jefferson *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 216 Wagonage, indeed, seems to the commissariat an article not worth economising.

3. A collection or train of wagons.

1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xvi. xiv. IV. 479 Wagonage, provender, and a piece or two of cannon.

Wagoner, waggoner 1 (wæ·gənəɹ). Also 6 **wagenner**, 7 **waggonere, -ier, waggouner.** [f. Wagon *sb.* + -er 1; perh. orig. a. Du. *waghenaer* (now *wagenaar*) of equivalent formation.]

1. One who has charge of a wagon as driver.

Corps of Wagoners (Mil.): see quots. 1802, 1810.

1544 in Rymer *Foedera* (1719) XV. 57 Dyvers Carts taken ..and Wagenners slain. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 47 Thei wer in numbre had .lx. M. horsemen..beside footemen pages and wagoners. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* IV. 104 b, In the meanewhile the wagoners withdrawe themselues somewhat out of the battell, and set their wagons in such order, that [etc.]. 1645 *Papers rel. Army Solemn League & Cov.* (S.H.S.) II. 302 Williame Rosse waggoun^r. *Ibid.*, Payed ..for the mantanence of the train of waggoniers and horses 0,008 12 00. 1732 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 561 Two waggoners were run over by a waggon loaded with stone. 1810 C. James *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Wagoner. Corps of Wagoners*, a body of men employed in the commissariate, so called. 1812 *Ibid.* (ed. 3), *Corps of Wagoners, or royal Wagon corps*, a body of men originally employed in the train under the board of ordnance. It now forms a part of the regular army, and is subject to the quarter-master general. 1824 Barnewall & Cresswell *Rep. K. B.* II. 718 It was impossible for the said S. C. Marsh, if his waggoner or book keeper put any thing in the waggon at Thetford or on the road, to know of it. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 620 The waggoners drove off at full speed, and never stopped till they were many miles from the field of battle. 1870 *Daily News* 3 Oct., Carters and waggoners of every sort were helping the good work.

attrib. 1898 'Maxwell Gray' *Ribstone Pippins* iii. 79 Oh, the waggoner boy hath a life of joy.

b. *jocular.* The driver of a vehicle.

1841 J. T. J. Hewlett *Peter Priggins* I. ii. 39 'Now, said Tom, 'tumble in, old fellow: I'm waggoner—you pay pikes.' 1850 Smedley *F. Fairlegh* xiii, We hired a drag... The first day we went out they elected me waggoner, and a nice job I had of it.

c. Used as the designation of a particular class of farm servant, whose special duties include the driving of a wagon; see quot. 1908. Also called a *carter*.

1790 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. Midl.* II. 443 *Waggoner*; an upper man servant; carter. 1804 A. Hunter *Georgical Ess.* V. 501 (E. D. D.) The waggoner or head ploughman pays an early regard to his horses. 1817 J. Bradbury *Trav.* 316 The waggoners travel with great economy. 1908 *Daily Mail* 6 Apr. 6/5 The chief duty of the 'wagoner' [Lincs.], despite his name, is to cultivate the arable land...Wagoners also take the threshed corn to the nearest town in wagons (the occupation from which they take their name, though it is one of their least important duties).

d. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Waggoner*, a man in charge of a horse who arranges railway trucks in pit sidings. 1900 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 3/2 Sometimes the lads and youths who look after the trucks in the main roads are called waggoners.

†**2.** The driver of a chariot, a charioteer. Chiefly with mythological reference. *Obs.*

Frequently applied to Phœbus or to Phaethon as charioteer of the sun.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 48 And then Ile come and be thy Waggoner, And whirle along with thee about the Globes. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 64 Her Waggoner, a smal gray-coated Gnat. 1603 Dekker & Chettle *Grissil* (Shaks. Soc.) 9 Look how yon one-eyd waggoner of heaven Hath by his horses' fiery-winged hoofs, Burst ope the melancholy jail of night. 1614 Bp. J. King *Vitis Palatina* 8 Elias, *auriga in aëre*, was a waggoner in the aire, rode in a chariot, through the cloudes. 1636 Fitz-Geffrey *Holy Transport.* (1881) 169 Now seemes the Sunnes vnwearied Waggonere, Who every day surrounds this earthly sphere, To make a stand. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 61 The fierce winged beasts..throw the unexperienced waggoner headlong downe with waggon and all.

fig. 1621 T. Bedford *Sin unto Death* 29 Spurred..on by two most passionate Waggoners, Feare and Envie.

3. a. The northern constellation Auriga. †b. Applied to the constellation Boötes, viewed as the driver of 'Charles's Wain'. *Obs.*

a. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 248, I might conclude the discourse of Kiddes with a remembraunce of their constellation in the Waggoner, vppon the Bulles Horne. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 486 The ancient Constellations [include]..Auriga, The Waggoner. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed 3) 382 [The Milky Way] afterwards bears away under the form of a single and narrow branch, which traverses Cassiopea, passes by the Waggoner [etc.]

b. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 1 By this the Northerne wagoner had set His sevenfold teme behind the stedfast starre. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 318 Begin when the slow Waggoner descends, Nor cease your sowing till Mid-winter ends.

4. A wagon-horse; in quot. a depreciatory term for a racehorse.

1899 *Sporting Mag.* Oct. 241 Magnum, the Baron's chestnut waggoner, wore huge blinkers.

Wagoner, waggoner 2 (wæ·gənəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Anglicized form of the Dutch surname *Waghenaer*: see below.] Originally, the atlas of charts published by Lucas Janssen Waghenaer in 1584 under the title *Spieghel der Zeevaerdt* (Eng. trans. *The Mariners Mirror*, by Sir A. Ashley, 1588). Hence *gen.* a book of charts for nautical use.

1687 W. Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 246 Y^e Shippe *Providence* ran aground, her Commander designing to go between ye Islands Sardinia and Palma de Sol, where ye English Flatts and Wagones [*read* Wagoners] make a large passage; but in truth there is none. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 98 In the East India Waggoner or Pilot-book there is mention made of large Fowls. 1775 Romans *Hist. Florida* App. 77 The compilers of the quarter waggoners...have corrupted it into Ponio bay. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Waggoner*, is also used for a routier, or book of charts, describing the seas, their coasts, &c. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* July 180 [Sailing directions] have been called by many names—Periploi, Portulane, Rutters, Waggoners [etc.]

†**Wagoness.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 **wagonnesse.** [f. Wagoner 1: see -ess 1.] A female charioteer.

c 1622 Chapman *Iliad* v. 348 His chariot (perplext with her late harme) She mounted, and her wagonnesse, was she that paints the aire. *Ibid.* 838.

Wagonette, waggonette (wægone·t). Also 9 **waggonet.** [f. Wagon *sb.* + -ette.] A four-wheeled carriage, made open or with a removable cover and furnished with a seat or bench at each side facing inwards and with one or two seats arranged crosswise in front.

1898 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Waggonette*, a carriage to carry six or eight persons. 1866 Mrs. H. Fresenfield *Tour Grisons* iv. 58 At half-past five the wagonettes (to give a fashionable name to our primitive vehicles) were in readiness. 1864 J. Gilbert & G. C. Churchill *Excurs. Dolomite Mts.* 93 We..engaged a long-bodied waggonet to Reutte, in Tyrol. 1873 Black *Princess Thule* i, There was a large waggonette, of varnished oak, and a pair of small, powerful horses waiting for him there. 1875 S. Sidney *Bk. Horse* ii.

23 The wagonette..did not come into general use until some years after the International Exhibition of 1851, although, according to the Report on the Carriage Department of the Exhibition of 1862, 'the first wagonette was built in 1846.'

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wagonette-driver*; **wagonette omnibus**, a motor-omnibus with accommodation resembling that of a wagonette.

1877 'C. Bede' *Figure at Hastings* 50 The wagonette-drivers, with uplifted whip-hand, hailing me with 'Now for Fairlight and the Lover's Seat!' 1903 *Motoring Ann.* 244 A waggonette omnibus. A little waggonette 'bus,..capable of seating about a dozen persons, has been plying on the Putney to Piccadilly route for more than a year.

Wagonful, waggonful (wæ·gənful). Also -full. As many persons, or as much baggage, etc. as will fill a wagon.

1846 Dickens *Pict. Italy* 179 A waggon-full of madmen, screaming and tearing to the life. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Squatters* 121 Hanson arrived, with a waggonful of our effects. 1902 Owen Wister *Virginian* xviii, The wagonful of guests whom he had evidently been driving upon a day's excursion.

Wagon-head, waggon-head. *Arch.* A cylindrical ceiling, roof, or vault.

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 430 Ceilings, formed simply of cylindric surfaces, are termed, by mechanics, waggon-heads. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 215 The best general form is that of a polygonal 'waggon-head' of five or seven sides.

b. *attrib.* or as adj.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 482/2 Watt adopted a long rectangular form, with a semi-cylindrical top..From this form it is termed the waggon-head boiler. 1870 M. A. Lower *Hist. Sussex* I. 242 The whole of the building has now a waggon-head ceiling in pannelled oak.

Hence **Wagon-headed** *a.*

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 114 Lunettes..are made either in waggon-headed ceilings, or through large coves. 1897 F. J. Burgoyne *Library Constr.* 192 A richly moulded waggon-headed roof.

Wagoning, waggoning (wæ·gənin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wagon *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of travelling or conveying by wagon.

1856 Olmsted *Slave States* v. 339 More than thirty miles of wagoning is required to bring the spirits of turpentine to a rail-road. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xviii. (1873) VIII. 59 The greatest activity and wagoning now visible there. 1877 A. Doual *Better Times* (1884) 15 Already in the earliest, darkest ages were invented the arts of..navigating and wagoning.

b. *colloq.* Coach-driving.

1875 Reynardson *Down the Road* 49 Tom Hennesy, who was always fond of giving me a lesson in 'waggoning', and by whose side I was sitting on the box. 1896 Conan Doyle *Rodney Stone* viii, It's a fine day for a little bit of waggoning.

‖ **Wagon-lit** (vagonli). [Fr.: *wagon* railway coach (a. Eng. Wagon *sb.*) + *lit* bed.] A sleeping coach on a Continental train.

1884 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 3/4 The wagonlit was abandoned, and our journey was continued in an ordinary carriage. 1904 B'ness von Hüttken *I am* 39 The child was quite used to strange quarters and *wagon-lits*.

What, do they bring their money by waggon loads to market still? 1728 Young *Love Fame* I. 87 Imperious some a classic fame demand, For heaping up with a laborious hand, A waggon-load of meanings for one word. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 471 A waggon-load [of wheat] is 12 or 14 barrels; each barrel 196 lib. weight. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* v, He wouldn't shy if he was to meet a waggin-load of monkeys with their tails burnt off. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 66 He carries with him..a waggonload of plate. 1913 J. G. Frazer *Golden Bough* VII. *Baldur* I. iv. 118 The butchers were rewarded with a waggon-load of wine.

Wagonry, waggonry (wæ·gənri). *rare.* [f. Wagon *sb.* + -ry.]

†1. ? Chariots collectively. *Obs.*

1595 Chapman *Ovid's Banq. Sence* C 2, Like the fire Stolne from the wheeles of Phœbus waggonrie To lunips of earth, can manly lyfe inspire.

2. Conveyance or transport by wagon.

1642 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. i. 5 So long as the Church is mounted upon the Prelaticall Cart..it will but shake and totter, and he that sets to his hand to hinder the slogging of it, in this unlawfull waggonry wherein it rides, let him beware [etc.]. 1845 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xx. vi. (1873) IX. 218 Provisions..were not to be had by force of wagonry.

Wagon-way, waggon-way.

1. An artificial road or a line of rails in a colliery upon which the coal wagons are run.

1727 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* xlvi. (1841) II. 273 [A coal wagon] which by the means of an artificial road, called a wagon-way, goes with the help of but one horse..to the nearest river. 1837 Hebert *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 375 The intended rail-road, or 'waggon-way', as it was termed. *attrib.* 1764 *London Mag.* Mar. 145/1 If the waggon-way-rails..be wet sometimes, a man cannot stop the waggon.

2. A road made for the passage of wagons; also a track made by wagons.

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. iii. 148 A Letter..on the Advan-

heavy machinery has been hauled over.

†**Wa·gship.** *Obs.* [f. Wag *sb.*2 + -ship.]

1. Waggery, waggishness.

1607 Middleton *Ram. Love* II. (1608) B 4 b, No rather lets pierce the Rundlets of our running heads and giue them a neate cuppe of wagshippe, to put downe their Courtship.

2. Used jocularly, with possessive pron., as a title for a wag.

1607 Marston *What you will* III. i. E 4, Pleaseth your excellent wagship to bee informed that [etc.]. 1640 Brome *Antipodes* II. ix. E 3 b, You shall to schoole, away with him; and take Their wagships with him.

Wagsome (wæ·gsŏm), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Wag *sb.*2 + -some 1.] Waggish, addicted to waggery.

1809 W. S. Gilbert *Bob Ballads, Peter the Wag* 37 Still humoured he his wagsome turn.

†**Wa·gstart.** *Obs.* Also 5 -sterd, -styrt, 5–6 -stert. [f. Wag *v.* + Start *sb.*1 Cf. MLG. *wage-, wakstert*; also Da. *vip-*, Sw. *vippstjert*, Du. *kwikstaartje*.] = Wagtail.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wagstert [*Winch. MS.* Waggestert], byrd, *tuda, vel tuda. c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 763/2 *Hic tradus*, a wagstyrt. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 33/42 A Wagstarte, *motacilla*.

Wagtail (wæ·gtēil), *sb.* [f. Wag *v.* + Tail *sb.*1 Cf. prec. and F. *hochequeue*.]

1. A small bird belonging to one of the species of the genus *Motacilla* or the family *Motacillidæ*, so called from the continual characteristic wagging motion of the tail. In Great Britain chiefly applied to *M. lugubris*, 'the Pied Wagtail of authors' (Newton), called also *water wagtail*.

1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C vj, *Motatula*, a wag tayle. *a* 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 392 The goldfynche, the wagtayle. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* xxxviii. (Copland) N vij, A special remedy [for the stone] after Aulcen, is a wagtayle. 1604 [? Chettle] *Wit of Woman* C 2, I..had my spirit as full of life as a wagtayle, but now the case is altered. 1658 Rowland tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 946 All those Birds called Wagtails (if I am not deceived) live upon Flies. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 84, I always illustrated my Eagleship..by disdaining to make a stoop at wrens, phyl-tits, and wag-tails. 1773 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 9 Nov., Wagtails, all sorts, remain with us all the winter. 1876 Smiles *Scotch Natur.* xiii. (ed. 4) 260 The melancholy note of the Wagtail.

b. With qualifying words, indicating native country, colour, habits, etc.

Chiefly species of *Motacilla*, or species formerly referred to that genus.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 90 *Motacilla Flava*, the Yellow wagtail. *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* II. xvii. (1676) 172 *Motacilla cinerea*...The grey Wagtail. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* II. xvii. 237 The white Wagtail. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. II. 396–402 [*Mentions* Collared, Pied, Indian, Yellow, Yellow-headed, Cape or African Wagtail]. 1802 G. Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* s.v., Wagtail, Grey...Provincial. Winter Wagtail. *Ibid.*, Wagtail, Yellow...Provincial. Spring, or Summer Wagtail. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 332 A coppice of birch, among which darted the redwing and white wagtail. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 284 *Motacilla ocularis*. Siberian Wagtail. 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 1028 The so-called Grey Wagtail of Britain.

2. Applied to other birds. a. *U.S.* One of the water-thrushes, *Seiurus naevius* or *S. motacilla* (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1888 J. Burroughs *Wake-robin* viii. (1884) 196 The two species of water-thrush or wagtails, and the oven-bird or wood-wagtail.

b. *Austral.* The black-and-white fantail, *Rhipidura tricolor*, also called the wagtail flycatcher (Morris *Austral English*, 1898). c. *dial.* The dunlin (Montagu *Ornith. Dict.*, 1802).

†3. *transf.* A familiar or contemptuous epithet or form of address applied to a man or young woman. *Obs.*

1603 Shake. *Lear* II. ii. 73 This ancient Ruffian Sir, whose life I haue spar'd at suite of his gray-beard... Spare my gray-beard, you wagtaile? 1607 Middleton *Mich. Term* III. 211 Wagtail, salute them all; they are friends. 1656 Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 193 A wagtail or busibody desiring to know many things beyond measure, and being unable to bee satisfied with enquiries. 1732 Fielding *Debauchees* I. i, Good morrow, my little wagtail—my grasshopper, my butterfly. 1763 O'Keeffe *Birth-day* 30 To dangle, frisk, and hop about like an impertinent wag-tail as you are.

†b. *esp.* A contemptuous term for a profligate or inconstant woman; hence, a harlot, courtesan. Common in the 17th c.

1592 Lyly *Midas* I. i, If therefore thou make not thy mistresse a goldfinch, thou mayst chance to find her a wagtaile. 1608 Middleton *Trick to Catch Old One* II. i. 84 If men be wags, are there not women wagtails? 1633 Shirley *Traitor* II. i, Join to make her Supple and pliant for the Duke; I hope We are not the first have been advanced by a wagtail. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. Prognost. v. 237 Hedge-whores, Wagtails, Cockatrices. Whip-sters. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 25. 3/2 Like Paris with his Gleek of Wagtails on Ida.

4. An artificial minnow used in trout-fishing.

1906 *Macm. Mag.* Nov 26 Shortly after there was a pull at the rod from which the wagtail was fishing.

5. *Comb.*, as *wagtail-family*, *-minnow*; **wagtail flycatcher** = 2 b; **wagtail-warbler** = 2 a.

1882 *Proc. Boston Nat. Club* IX. No. iii. 304 Of the Wagtail family, the Pied Wagtail, and the Grey and Yellow Wagtail, visited the Lake. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 309 *Siurus naevius*. Wag-tail Warbler. *Ibid.*, *Siurus motacilla*. Large-billed Wagtail Warbler. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 65 A green and silver wagtail minnow.

†**Wa·gtail,** *v. Obs.* [f. Wagtail *sb.*] *intr.* To flutter.

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Triumph* 237 Even as a paire of busie chattering Pies..feel a chill fear, From bush to bush, wag-tayling here and there. *c* 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 118 From bush to bush they in a panick feare, Wagtayling goe.

†**Wagtailed,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Wagtail *sb.* (as if 'wagging tail') + -ed 2.] Tail-wagging; also *fig.* wanton.

1648 Herrick II. *Gewipstert*, wagg-tailed, or that moves the Taile. 1696 S. Holland *Zeus* (1719) 64 You spend your Lives, With wag-tail'd Wives.

Wah (wā). [Native name.] = Panda.

1838 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Ailurus*, *A. fulgens*, the Wah or Panda...It derives its name *Wah* from its cry. 1839 J. G. Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 490.

Wah, early form of Waw *sb.*, wall.

Wahabi, Wahabee, Wahhabi, -bee (wähā·bi). Also 9 Wuhabee, Wahaby, -hebbi. [a. Ar. *Wahhábí*, f. *Wahháb* (see below).] A follower of Abd-el-Wahhab, a Mohammedan reformer (1691–1787) whose sect flourishes in central Arabia.

1807 E. S. Waring *Tour to Sheeraz* 119 The founder of the religion of the Wuhabees. 1820 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 374 The Wahebbis, as we shall, consequently, style the Nedjedis. *a* 1827 Burckhardt *Trav. Arabia* (1829) I. 25 During the predominance of the Wahabis, Djidda has been in a declining state. *Ibid.* 354 The Wahabys. 1857 C. Mills *Hist. Mohammedanism* vii. 375 The tenets of the Wahabees became established all over the peninsula of Arabia. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Journ. Arabia* II. 9 Himself a bitter Wahhabee, and a model of all the orthodox vices of his sect. 1881 W. S. Blunt in *Lady A. Blunt's Pilgr. to Nejd* II. 257 Abdallah..was acknowledged, without opposition, chief of the Wahhabis.

b. *attrib.* and *adj.*

1807 E. S. Waring *Tour Sheeraz* 119 The Wuhabee Arabs. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Journ. Arabia* I. 445 These differences give Wahhabee worship a peculiar type. 1881 W. S. Blunt in *Lady A. Blunt's Pilgr. to Nejd* II. 254 Southern Nejd alone seems to have been fanatically Wahhabi.

Hence **Waha·bitism, -beeism, -biism, Waha·bite** [see -ism, -ite].

1820 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 298 The attempts of the Wahebites to reduce their theory to practice. *Ibid.* 376 The Wahebite clan. 1826 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) III. 383 Wahabeeism is Arabia marshalled against Turkish domination. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Journ. Arabia* I. 294 If ordinary Islam proved too strait-laced for Arabia, Wahabeeism is of necessity even more so. 1881 W. S. Blunt in *Lady A. Blunt's Pilgr. to Nejd* II. 251 The rise and decline of Wahhabism in Arabia. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 773/2 The rise of the Wahhábite power. *Ibid.*, 'Oneiza aided with the Wahhábites. 1902 Skeine *Sir W. W. Hunter* xi. 198 In the darkest days of Wahabiism.

†**Wahahowe,** *int. Obs.* Also wa ha ho, wa'hoh. = Halloo.

c 1595 R. Carew *Excellency Engl. Tongue* in G. G. Smith *Elizab. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 267 In detestation wee saye *Phy..*; in calling, *whoupe*; in hallowinge, *wahahowe*: all which (in my eare) seeme to be deriued from the very natures of those seuerall affections. *c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 194 Wa, ha ho, man! Your buzzard is a kynde of byrde of prey. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Little Fr. Lawyer* IV. iv, *La-whirt*. So ho? our weapons. *Sam.* Wa, ha, ho, our weapons? 1633 B. Jonson *Tale of Tub* I. i. 23 *Hug.* The Vicar of Pancrace, Squire Tub! wa' hoh! *Tub.* I come, I stoop unto the call; Sir Hugh!

Wahoo (wähū·). Also waahoo, whaheo. [Indian name.] The N. American shrub *Euonymus atropurpureus*.

1860 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* 81 *Euonymus atropurpureus*.. Burning-Bush, Waahoo. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Wahoo. 1903 Nancy H. Banks *Round Anvil Rock* 158 The bright wahoo with its graceful cluster of flame-coloured berries.

Waht, Wai, Waiche, obs. forms of What, Way, Woe, Watch.

Waicht, obs. Sc. form of Weight.

Waid, Sc. form of Wade *v.*, Woad.

Waidge, obs. Sc. form of Wage.

Waie, obs. form of Way, Weigh *v.*

Waif (wēf), *sb.*1 (and *a.*) Pl. **waifs.** Forms: 3–7 wayf, 4–9 waife, 5 wayffe, 5, 7 weif, 6 wayfe, wayff, 6–7 weife, 7 wafe, waiefe, weyfe, wayve, waive, wave, 9 waiff, 6– waif. Also *pl.* 5, 7 wayves, 5 weyves, 6 wavys, 6–7 waives. See also Weft. [a. AF. *waif, wayf* (Sk.), *weif, weyf* (Britton), *gwayf* (in Kennett), (Anglo-L. *waivum, wayvium, weyvium*) = OF. (Norman) *gaif, gayf* (fem. *gaive, gayve*) sb. and adj.; early mod.F. (Cotgr.) *vuayves* (sb.), and (*choses*) *guerves* or *guyves*; prob. of Scandinavian origin, with the primary sense 'something loose or wandering'; cf. ON. *veif* something flapping or waving (cf. Waif *sb.*2), related to *veifa* trans. to wave, vibrate. Cf. Waive *v.*] **A.** *sb.*

1. *Law.* A piece of property which is found ownerless and which, if unclaimed within a fixed period after due notice given, falls to the lord of the manor; e.g. an article washed up on the seashore, an animal that has strayed. Often *waif and stray* or †*straif*: cf. Stray *sb.* 1, Straif.

Not evidenced as Eng. before 1377; the bracketed quots. represent the AF. use of 13–15th c., in which the word is often collect. sing. meaning lost property collectively or the right of the lord to such property.

[1293 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) II. 275 Recognitum est..quod ad nos spectat le Gwayf &c in terris nostris. 1298 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 92 Wrak, weyf, stray, morchet. *c* 1290 *Fleta* I. xlvii. (1647) 60 Illi quis..libertatem Weyvil habere clamans, animal vagans in feodo suo invenerit. 1299 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 113/2 Omnia Animalia que dicuntur Wayf,

——— a predictis terris. 1378 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) II. 151 Dicte xix marce asinte fuerunt ibidem tanquam Wayf in manum prioris. 1400 in *Liber Custum.* (Rolls) 486 Quod predictus Dux..haberet..omnimoda catalla vocata 'Wayf' et 'Stray'.]

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 94 Of wardes and wardmotes, weyues and strayues. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 126/2 All maner Wayffes and Strayes, and other godes forfeted. 1447 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 99 He and his predecessours.. have had view of Frank Plegge waif and straif and all other profits longing to a view. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 321/2 Wrecke of the Sea, Weyves, Estrayes. 1546 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 148 The sayde Leonard Sumpter fyndynge the sayde shyppe..dryvynge with the streamys as a wayfi and forsaken of all creatures toke and seased uppon the same as lawfull wayff and thynge forsaken. 1547 in J. H. Glover *Kingsthorpiana* (1883) 93 That all wavys and strays from hense forthe shalbe delyvered to the Baylie by the Thurbarrowes. 1628 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 22 When an owner cannot be found, the Common Law gives it *Domino Regi*, as Waifs, Strays, Wreck of the Sea. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 292 Wrecks, treasure trove, waifs, and estrays, may be granted by the king to particular subjects, as a royal franchise: and indeed they are for the most part granted out to the lords of manors. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* ii, Sir Henry Lee is keeper of Woodstock Park, with right of waif and stray [etc.]. 1852 Ida Pfeiffer *Journ. Iceland* 85 He has a right to all the waifs, which is a privilege of some importance, on account of the wood drifted from the American continent. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* vi, The country folk, who were prowling about the shore after the waifs of the storm.

incorrect use. 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* I. iii. 18 Hearing that a considerable treasure of ancient coins and medals has been found in the lands of Vidomar, Viscount of Limoges, King Richard sends forthwith to claim this waif for himself.

† **b.** (See quots.) *Obs.*

1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 186 Wayfe is when a theefe hath feloniously stolne goodes, and beinge neerelye followed with hue, and crye,..flieth away and leaueth the goods..behind him, then the queenes officer or the Reeue or Baillife to the Lord of the manour..may seyse the goodes so wayued to their lordes vse. 1620 W. Folkingham *Feudigr.* iii. iv. 71 Waiues, Weifes, or waiued goods, import all goods and chattels, which being stolne, are left or forsaken by the thiefe in his flyeade. 1660 J. Wilkinson *Courts Leet* 125 Waiefes are cattell stolne and waived out of the possession of him that stole them. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 286 Waifs, *bona waviata*, are goods stolen, and waived or thrown away by the thief in his flight, for fear of being apprehended.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1624 Donne *Devot.* xiii. (ed. 2) 312 What a Wayfe, and Stray is that Man, that hath not thy Marks vpon him? 1676 Marvell *Mr. Smirke, Hist. Ess.* 49 Whensoever a Christian transgresses these bounds once, he is impoundable, or like a wafe and stray whom Christ knows not, he falls to the Lord of the Mannor. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 143 We are faln into our Lords hands, as wafes and strays; the Lord of the Mannor seizeth on us for not paying our fines. 1785 Burns *Twa Herds* i, Or wha will tent the waifs and crocks, About the dykes? 1823 Scott *Peveril* xxxix, You are here a waif on Cupid's manor, and I must seize on you in name of the deity. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* liii, I had no scruples of conscience in suffering all the waifs and strays of that conversation to float to me as freely as they would. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 199 Rol'ing in his mind Old waifs of rhyme. 1877 Symonds *Sk. & Stud. Italy* (1879) 300 A *chiffonnier* of Paris,..when the night has fallen, goes into the streets..to rake up the waifs and strays a day of whirling life has left him. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxiii. 398 He was now flung as a waif on the shore of a foreign land. ‹ 1928 F. Wood-Jones *Probl. Man's Ancestry* 42 The whole fauna of Australia consists (with the exception of a few waifs) of pouched animals.

b. *esp.* A person who is without home or friends; one who lives uncared-for or without guidance; an outcast from society; an unowned or neglected child.

1784 Cowper *Task* iii. 80 'Twas hard, perhaps, on here and there a waif, Destrous to return, and not receiv'd. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* iv. I. 96 It's no possible..that such poor waifes could be guilty of any thing like that. 1857 Mrs. Mathews *Tea-Table T.* I. 203 Some blest Alastia wherein to gather up the waifs and strays that abound in the bye-ways. 1860 'Shirley' (J. Skelton) *Notes Crit.* iii. 159 They are the waifs and strays, and cast-aways of society. 1878 *Children reclaimed for Life* 82 Little Jem Jervis was simply a friendless waif. 1916 *Whitaker's Almanack* Advt. 114 Church of England—Waifs and Strays Society needs help for its large family of over 4,600 children...Over 20,000 Children Rescued.

3. *Comb.*, as *waif-wise* adv.

1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve of Revol.* 63 Whose multiplying hands Wove the world's web with divers races fair And cast it waif-wise on the stream.

B. *attrib.* and *adj.*

1. *attrib.* or *appositive* (indicating lost property, a strayed animal, a homeless person, etc.).

1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Treat.* 155 Ane wafe beast, after seare and day, is escheit to the King. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xix. § iv. (1699) 98 He who finds a waife Beast, which hath strayed from the owner. 1681–2 *Radcliffe Household Bks.* in *Northumb. Gloss.*, Mantayning a wave child in Dilston, 11. 8d. 1784 Erskine *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 117 Where one finds strayed cattle, or other moveables, which have been lost by the former owner (waif goods). 1898 F. D. How *Waltham How* xix. 267 A Home for Waif Boys had been established.

2. *adj.* (*Sc.*) **a.** Stray, wandering, homeless: = Waff *a.* 1.

c 1730 Ramsay *Vision* I, Mylane I wandert waif and wae. 1826 R. Jamieson *Remer Hafinand* iv. *Pop. Ballads* II. 203 And waif and waff for eight lang years They sail'd upon the sea.

b. Applied to a report or saying: Floating, current. *Sc. rare.*

1753 *Stewart's Trial* Append. 100 Depones, That he heard a waif report in the country, that [etc.]. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xvii. 162, I have heard a waif word in the country ..that you were a hard man to drive.

c. Poor or inferior in quality: = Waff *a.* 2.

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inherit.* III. 264 It will be but a waif kind of happiness.

Waif, *sb.*[2] [? a. ON. *veif*, something waving or flapping.]

† **1.** ? A convolution, coil. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. vii. 25 The grisly serpent semyt sum tyme to be About hir hals a lynkyt goldin cheyne; And sum tyme of hir curche, lap with a wail, Becum the selvage or bordoure of hir quayf.

2. A small flag used as a signal: = Waff *sb.* 1 b, Waft *sb.* 6. Now *Naut.*

1530 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 446 And the watch that beis in Sanct Nicholace stepill to pyt on the waiffs that he hes, to the part of the toun he seis thame cumand to. 1850 Scoresby *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xiv. (1858) 213 Two waifs, or flags, were immediately set as a signal of distress. 1874 C. M. Scammon *Marine Mammals* 58 (Cent.) The officer who first discovers it [a whale] sets a waif (a small flag) in his boat, and gives chase.

Waif (wēf), *sb.*[3] [Cf. Weff, Waff *sb.*] Something borne or driven by the wind; a puff (of smoke), a streak (of cloud).

1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 18 The sunny wind that..shaped the clouds in waifs and zones. 1879 R. H. Elliot *Written on their Foreheads* xxxiii. II. 1 The first waifs of the hot-weather sea-borne breeze had in the evening begun faintly to fan the topmost heights of the border hills. 1886 Parry *Stud. Ct. Composers, Schubert* 230 Nothing but waifs of cloud and howling of wind.

Waif (wēf), *v.* [i. Waif *sb.*[1] Cf. Waive *v.*[1]] In *passive*: To be thrown up or cast away as a waif.

1848 Lytton *Harold* IX. i. 291 He hath right of life and death over all stranded and waifed on his coast.

Waif, obs. form of Waive, Wave *vbs.*

Waifingir, var. Wavenger.

Waift: see Waft, Weft *sb.*[2]

Waiftage, obs. form of Waftage.

Waige, Waigh: see Wage, Weigh.

Waight, obs. form of Wait, Weight.

Waigie, Sc. form of Waggle.

Waik: see Vake, Wake, Weak.

Waikin, obs. Sc. form of Waken *v.*

Waikrife, obs. Sc. form of Wakerife.

Wail (wēl), *sb.* Also 5–6 **waile, wayle.** [Belongs to Wail *v.* Cf. ON. *vél* neut.]

1. The action of wailing; expression of pain or grief by prolonged vocal sound.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13979 Miche wepyng & wail, wetyng of lere. 1726–46 Thomson *Spring* 725 Till..the woods Sigh to her song, and with her [the bereaved nightingale's] wail resound. 1811 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 93 What accents slow, of wail and woe. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* I. i, Ah! a voice of wail! 1830 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. II. iii. (1864) 35 He had an ear open for every tone of wail. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XI. i. (1873) IV. 2 A thousand children..with shrill unison of wail, sang out: 'Oh, deliver us from slavery!' 1865 Tom Taylor *Ballads & Songs Brittany* (Rtldg.) 55 There was weeping and wail from young and old.

b. *esp.* Sound of lamentation for the dead.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8719 The dole for þat doghty of hus dere fryndes Of wepyng & wayle & wryngyng of hondes..no lettur might tell. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxvii, The wives o' the house of Glenallan wailed nae wail for the husband, nor the sister for the brother. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Rom. Page* xx, Wail shook Earl Walter's house; His true wife shed no tear. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xc, The dead, whose dying eyes Were closed with wail. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. v. 102 'There was a great cry in Egypt,' the loud, frantic, funeral wail, characteristic of the whole nation.

2. A cry of pain or grief, esp. if loud and prolonged.

1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* vi, Every time we..directed our eyes towards it, our guide set up a wail. 1882 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* I. 2 The newborn babe begins his earthly course with a wail. 1900 F. T. Bullen *With Christ at Sea* xii. 223 Six of them died..and were dropped overboard amid the piercing wails of their companions.

b. *fig.* A bitter lamentation.

1867 Smiles *Huguenots Eng.* ix. (1880) 154 A long wail of anguish was rising from the persecuted all over France. 1872 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 104 The record, or rather the wail of the native writer is more than borne out by [etc.]. 1873 Emma J. Worboise *Our New Home* xv, And still all her wail was, 'Oh, that I had died in Windermere!'

3. *transf.* A sound resembling a cry of pain.

1825 Longf. *Hymn Moravs. Nuns* 13 When the battle's distant wail Breaks the sabbath of our vale. 1858 N. J. Gannon *O'Donoghue* I. 10 Varied by fox's bark, the wail Of plover, or the pipe of quail. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxv. 185 The storm..with a melancholy wail,..bade our rock farewell. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* vii. 195 Hark that thin plaintive cry! It is the wail of a night-wandering jackal. 1882 Mrs. A. Edwardes *Ballroom Repent.* I. 219 A cantata ..with a subtle wail of pain underlying the surface joyousness of the centric melody. 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of the Sea* xviii. 419 He made the whistle give a melancholy wail.

† **4.** A state of woe. *Obs. rare.*

1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. xxiii. (1716) 215 Dream not of any kind of *Metempsychosis*.., but into thine own body, and that after a long time, and then also unto wail or bliss, according to thy first and fundamental Life.

Wail (wēl), *v.* Forms: 4–5 **weyle, weile,** 4–7 **wayle,** 5 **waille,** 6 **waill, wale (weale),** 4–7 **waile,** 6– **wail.** [Prob. a. ON. **væila* (cf. *veilan* wailing, Fritzner), f. *vei* int.: see Woe. The recorded ON. word is *véla* (whence *vél, vélan* wailing), f. *vá* int., synonymous with *vei*. Cf. Sw. dial. *väla*, Norw. *væla* to bleat.]

1. *intr.* To express pain or sorrow by prolonged piteous cries. Often with reference to funeral lamentations.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2563 Al þat folk he herd waile For þat erl of Cornewaile. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 261 A bousent of men þo þrongen to-geders, Weopynd and waylyng for heore wikkede dedes. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xi. 17 We han mourned to you, and ye han not wailid. 1393 Gower *Conf.* II. 383 Anone ache gan to wepe and weile. 1422–30 Lydg. *Troy-bk.* IV. 3625 ; e faire quene Eleyne Wailleth, crieth wib a dedly chere. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. v. 61 With that word ache brist out mony a teir, And wailit so that pietie was to heir. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* G iv b, Then may I wake and wayle the night, my bed wt teares besprent. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 7 Then gan she waile and weepe, to see that woefull stowre. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 7 My Mother weeping: my Father wayling: my Sister crying. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* x, Where ye shall weep and wail for evermore. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, Alexander Mac Stinger who had stopped in his crying to attend to the conversation, began to wail again. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 371 To address you, weeping and wailing and lamenting.

b. To cry piteously *for* (something desired).

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 198 And God the holy Ghost, the soule of man doth winne, By mooning hir to waile for grace, ashamed of hir sinne. *a* 1771 Gray *Dante* 45, I heard 'em wail for Bread.

† **c.** *transf.* Of the eyes: To weep. *Obs. rare*[–1].

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1508 An humble gate, calme looks, eyes wayling still.

2. *transf.* Of birds, inanimate things: To give forth mournful sounds.

1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 23 Whilest thou wast hence,..The woods were heard to waile full many a sythe, And all their birds with silence to complaine. *a* 1605 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* (revision) 11, The turtle wails on witherit treis. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* III. 100 O tell me, lonely Goddess! by thy harp, That waileth every morn and eventide. 1845 Dickens *Chimes* I. 2 As one not finding what it seeks,. it [*sc.* the night-wind] wails and howls to issue forth again. 1890 Bridges *Shorter Poems* I. iv, A flock of gulls are wheeling And wailing round my seat.

b. Of music, etc.: To sound like a wail.

1852 Tennyson *Ode Death Wellington* 267 The Dead March wails in the people's ears. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 77 While the pibroch wildly wailing tells how all was lost and won.

3. To utter persistent and bitter lamentations or complaints. With clause or quoted words: To say lamentingly.

13.. *K. Alis.* 4653 (Laud MS.) Often he crieþ, and often gynneþ waile, He wolde al Perse habbe ysiue And he miȝth haue his lyue. *c* 1388 *On the 25 Articles* in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 481 As helpen men skorned þo sabbatis of Jerusalem in þer conquestis..as Jeromy weyleþ. 1555 Phaer *Æneid* I. (1558) A iv b, And therwithin on armour heapes sitts Batail rage, and wailes With brasen cheines a hundred bound his wrastling not auailes. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xii. 138 He went on wailing, complaining of his lot as a child complains. 1894 Baring-Gould *Kitty Alone* II. 75, 'I wish I was dead,' wailed the poor creature. 1913 *Times* 30 Sept. 10/2 'But I was going with him!' she wails.

4. To grieve bitterly.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 556 Art now falle in som devocioun And waylest for thy sinne and thyn offence? *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm. Matt. v.* Sel. Wks. I. 408 Blessid be þei þat weilen. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxiii 132 (Add. MS.) There the synner waylithe, or is sory for his synne, he shalle be saf. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1176/1 Thei wayled and dydde paynefull penaunce for theyr synne to procure god to pitie them. 1554–9 *Songs & Ballads Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 13 For thos that be leale, He makys them to weale, For faute of a meale, And good sustinance. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* E j b, Though foolishnes it be, For treasure lost, to waile, or make great sorrow. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1687 III. xxiii. 268 To fret and wail at that, which, for all we can see, proceedeth from good intention, and tendeth to good issue, is pitifull frowardness. 1865 Neale *Hymns Parad.* 4 While she wails for her condition. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* ii. 27 Yet it is held no impiety ..for a man to wail that he was not the son of another age and another nation.

5. *trans.* To bewail, lament, deplore. Now *poet.* or *rhetorical.* **a.** To lament, manifest or feel deep sorrow for (sin, misfortune, suffering, whether one's own or that of others).

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 94 Ac for his wynnynge I wepe and weile þe tyme. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (E. E. T. S.) 122 Dayly waylyng your synnes. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxxviii. (1859) 65 Yet weyle I more the lesyng of the kynges worship, than of myn awn dysese. 1485 Caxton *St Wenefreyde* 3 Waylyng the deth of their doughter. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 133 b, O, how they wyll wayle & wepe theyr negligences, & wyshe that they had neuer slepte so longe. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse of Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 58 We should be greeved, when as we heare them grone, And wayle their wantes. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* III. i. 123 Yet I must not..but wayle his fall, Who I my selfe struck downe. 1607 May *Lucan* II. C 2, Who now has time to waile Plebeian fates? 1671 Milton *Samson* 63 Strength.. proves the source of all my miseries; So many, and so huge, that each apart Would ask a life to wail. 27.. *Auld Goodman* I. in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1724) 221 Ay she wail'd her wretched life, And cry'd ever, Alake, my auld goodman. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. vi, To wood and stream his hap to wail. 1813 — *Rokeby* III. vi, For never felt his soul the woe, That wails a generous foeman low. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. I. 418 Well then might Psyche wail her wretched fate. 1898 Meredith *Napoleon* v. Poet. Wks. (1912) 481 A broken carol of wild notes was heard As when an ailing infant wails a dream.

b. To lament, mourn bitterly for (the dead); to lament the absence or loss of.

1388 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxxv. 25 Al Juda and Jerusalem weileden hym [Vulg. *lugerunt eum*], Jeremyas most. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 309 They neither esteemed him while he was living, nor wailed him at all, after that

be was dead. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 216 If no more her absent Lord she wails. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xvi, The voice of the weeper Wails manhood in glory.

† c. To deplore the lot of. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6071 If ther be wolves of sich hewe Amonges thees apostlis newe, Thou, hooly churche, thou mayst be wayled!

Hence **Wailed** *ppl. a*, lamented.

1580 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 1398 Like as there is no weale, but wastes away somtime, So every kind of wayled woe will weare away in time. 1588 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 51 To bring vnto the wailed graue, this Countesse courteous corse.

Wail: see VAIL *v.*[1], VEIL *sb.*[1], WALE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *v.*[1]

Wailaway, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

† **Waile**[1]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? Alteration (for rhyme) of *welde* rule: see WIELD *sb.*]

13.. *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5334 + 8 (Petyt MS.) Tenuacius..had þe regne all in his waile.

† **Waile**[2]. *Sc. Obs. rare*—[1]. ? A willow.

a 1310 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 311 Thocht I be quhylum bowsum as ane waile [*rhymes* begyle, quhyle, oursyle], I sal be cruikit quhill I mak [him fule].

Waile, ? obs. var. QUAIL *v.*[1]

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 81 There be men also of v. cubites, whiche dye not, neither waile [L. *nec languescunt*].

Waile: see VAIL *sb.*[1], VEIL *sb.*[1], WALE *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2], WEAL.

Wailer (*wē*·lər). [f. WAIL *v.* + -ER [1].] One who wails; *spec.* a professional mourner.

1647 HEXHAM I, A wailer or bewailer, *een kermer*. 1820 SCOTT *Peveril* xlvii, Those dangers from which the poor blushing wailers of my sex shrink. 1851 G. W. CURTIS *Nile Notes* xii. 54 Before us a funeral procession was moving to the tombs, and the shrill melancholy cry of the wailers rang fitfully. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* XIX. 324 A funeral with a train of wailers goes out presently towards the burial-ground. 1915 *19th Cent.* Nov. 1147 These 'howls' have been practised from childhood; they are led in chorus by a professional 'wailer'.

Hence † **Waileress**, a female wailer.

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* ix. 17 Clepe 3e wymmen that weilen [*v.r.* weilere-sis].

Waileway, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

Wailful (*wē*·lfŭl), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. WAIL *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Of cries, complaints, speeches: Having the character of a wail, expressive of grievous pain or sorrow. Of sounds: Resembling a wail, plaintive.

1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* I. clxiii. H vj, Suche owtecryes and waylefull lamentation of women. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. Eclog. (1912) 348 Zelmane, whose harte better delighted in wailefull ditties. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. ii. 69 You must lay Lime, to tangle her desires By wailefull Sonnets. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Bunuli's Eromena* 105 A voice not shreeking or displeasing, but moaning and wailefull. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* iv. 28 Then..Shall..Innocence indulge a wailful cry. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy*, etc. II. 283 Her maids sang tirannas with a wailful monotony that wore my very soul out. 1899 WHITING *No. 5 John Street* xiv. 140 The wailful sweetness of the violin Floats down the hushed waters of the wind. 1906 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Mar. 361/1 Everyone..was indulging in the vociferous brogue and wailful Irish melody.

2. Full of lamentation, sorrowful.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 82 Thy Ewes..Like wailefull widdowes hangen their crags. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Love & Honour* 21 She, she alone, amid the wailful train Of captive maids, assigned to Henry's care. 1885 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* I. 176 Then must he not regard the wailful ghosts. 1865 MEREDITH *Farina* 6 A wailful host were the wives of his raftsmen widowed there by her watery music!

b. *transf.* Of animals or inanimate things: Producing plaintive sounds.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 450 A wailful gnat. 1820 — *To Autumn* 27 Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn. 1872 G. MACDONALD *Wilfrid Cumb.* I. xii. 176 A wailful wind made one moaning sweep through the trees. 1885–94 BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Sept. 16 Or e'er he join'd his wailful flock. 1887 MEREDITH *Ballads & Poems* 157 The tremulous Ever-wailful trees bemoaning him.

† 3. Of mournful aspect. *Obs.*

1557 PHAER *Æneid.* VII. (1558) T iv, This dolefull dame vpsterres, with wayfull wynges [*fuscis..alis*]. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* E iij, With wailful weeds I clad my corps. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. *Hist. Eng.* 39/2 They fearing punishment..with wailefull countenance craued mercie.

† 4. That is to be bewailed, lamentable. *Obs.*

a 1547 SURREY *Eccles.* iv. 10 That neuer felt the waylfull wronge that mortall folke receue. — *Æneid* II. 6 The Phrygian wealth, and wailful realm [L. *lamentabile regnum*] of Troy. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* I. i. 12, I must to thee recompte The wailefull thing that is already spred. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* Ep. Ded to Baynes, Who knew my cares, who wist my wailefull woe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 38 Farre better I it deeme to die with speed, Then waste in woe and wailefull miserie. *c* 1600 BRETON *C'tess Pembroke's Passion* (Grosart) 5/2 But if these wept to see his waylefull case: Why dye not I to thinke on his disgrace?

Hence **Wai·lfully** *adv.*

1611 COTGR., *Dolourusement*, dolourously; heavily, sorrowfully, wailefully, most wofully. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* II. 217 The glass did not say so, but the shrunken heart within him did, and wailfully too. 1904 SMITH *Broke of Cov.* 285 No voice crying in the wilderness can sound more wailfully to human ears.

Wailing (*wē*·lĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WAIL *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb.

Ps. XXXVIII. 8 (1895) 39 I sorid for þe wailyng of myn herte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7155 Myche weping & wo, wayling of teris. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. viii. 83 With dulefull scrike and wailing all is confoundit. 1532 FRITH *Mirr. to know thyself* iii. Wks. (1573) 90 When he saw the shepheard so sore lamenting, he reynde hys horse, & asked him the cause of his great wayling. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlii. 107 The..pioling of Pellicanes,..and wailing of Turtles. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. XXV, Her tears were few, her wailing never loud. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, The child is cold and hungry, and its low wailing adds to the misery of its wretched mother. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* iii. 82 Our travellers proceeded to the 'Place of Wailing' of the Jews, who assemble every Friday to weep and pray for the restoration of their own country.

b. Often *plural*.

13.. *K. Alis.* 8360 (Laud MS.), Michel woo & grete wailynges Was made for þoo 3ongelynges. 1486 CAXTON *Curial* 11 To seche to gete them after wyth grete wayllynges and sorow. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* title-p., The Wailynge of the Prophet Hieremiah, done into Englyshe verse. 1695 PRIOR *Ode after Queen's Death* xxiii, To Earth her bended Front she bow'd, And sent her Wailings to the Skies. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 116 She again set up her wailings. 1801 SCOTT *Glenfinlas* xxiv, I bade my harp's wild wailings flow. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 24 The deposed Laureate..continued to complain piteously.. of the losses which he had not suffered, till at length his wailings drew forth expressions of well merited contempt from brave and honest Jacobites. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 July 6/2 The debate..ended partly in grotesque remedies and partly in wailings of despair.

c. *attrib.* **wailing place** *spec.* in *Jews' Wailing Place*, the usual designation of part of the Solomonic wall in Jerusalem where the Jews assemble to lament the destruction of the Temple (also occas. *wailing wall*); **wailing robes** *nonce-use*, mourning garments.

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. i. 86 Away with these disgracefull wayling Robes. 1919 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 328 To the Jews the principal Holy Place is the Wailing Wall, the fragment of the Wall of the Temple at which the Jews perpetually mourn for their lost glories and pray for the restoration of them.

Wailing (*wē*·lĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WAIL *v.* + -ING [2].]

1. That utters mournful cries.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* ix. 17 Beholdeth, and clepeth weilende wymmen [Vulg. *lamentatrices*]. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 45 Whan for defawtynge of his hert the vtteryng of his voice beganne to breke, beholde, aforne the weylyng man seynt Barthilmewe stoid. 1742 COLLINS *Dirge in Cymbeline* 5 No wailing ghost shall dare appear To vex with shrieks this quiet grove. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xviii, A wailing baby, and a widow's heart, was a' he left me. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* vi, See that every preparation is made for a royal funeral, and that the flute-players, the wailing-women,..be all in readiness.

2. Of cries, words: Expressing lamentation. Of sounds: Resembling a wail.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 128 With wailing words and mourning notes. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXVIII. XXV, No widow left to use her wailing voice. 1790 BURNS *Elegy Capt. M. H.* 18 Come join, ye Nature's sturdiest bairns, My wailing numbers! 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXIII, I only heard..the wailing and prolonged sound of their trumpets. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XVI. 112 Through the gaps..the wind rushed with a loud, wild, wailing sound. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 274 Chanting, as they went, a shrill wailing dirge.

Hence **Wai·lingly** *adv.*

1836 LYTTON *Athens* (1837) II. 37 The wide earth echoes wailingly. 1848 S. CARTER *Midnight Effus.* 216 Now tremulous and wailingly Its liquid notes are rushing. 1900 ELIZ. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 159 She sang the song of Dixie, sorrowfully, wailingly.

† **Wai·lish**, *a. Obs.* [f. WAIL *sb.* or *v.* + -ISH [1].] Given to wailing, querulous.

c 1550 *Vertuous Scholehouse* B 7 b, Yf I knewe the not, I shoulde thinke the a waylyshe woman.

Waill(e, obs. Sc. forms of VAIL, VALE, WALE.

Waill(e)ant, obs. forms of VALIANT.

c 1475 *Partenay* 3354 Thay were good knightes, waillant & worthy.

† **Wai·lment**. *Obs.* [f. WAIL *v.* + -MENT.] Wailing, lamentation.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 12 b, If thou hadst neuer seene the light, thy walking in darknes would haue brought thee no waylement. 1594 R. CLAREW *Tasso* (1881) 47 That Asias waylments so take breath at last. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 224 O day of wailment to all that are yet unborn!

Wailoway, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

Wailsome (*wē*·lsŏm), *a. rare.* [f. WAIL *sb.* or *v.* + -SOME.] † a. That is to be bewailed. *Obs.*

b. Having a wailing sound.

1566 STUDLEY *Seneca's Medea* V. (1581) T 5, And this with wailesome murther like shall lose her tender life. 1892 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* vi. (1892) 36 Another wilderness of shut-up houses, wherein it seems that people do continually and feebly strum stringed instruments of a plaintive and wailsome nature.

† **Wai·lster**. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. WAIL *v.* + -STER.] A female wailer.

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* ix. 17 Biholde 3e, and clepe 3e wymmen that weilen (*MS. I* weilsteris).

Wailly (*wē*·lli), *a. rare.* [f. WAIL *v.* + -Y.]

1906 KIPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* 286 He had a voice that changed its tone..sometimes deep and thundery, sometimes thin and wally, but always it made you listen.

Wailzie, obs. Sc. form of VAIL *v.*[1]

Wailseant, obs. Sc. form of VALIANT.

Waim: see WEAM *pleon.*, WAME *north.*, belly.

Waiment, var. WAYMENT *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

† **Waiming**. *Obs.* Also 4 wamming, 5 waymynge. [Perh. a corruption of WAYMENT *sb.* or WAYMENTING *vbl. sb.*, perh. an alteration of *moising*, WONING *vbl. sb.*] Lamentation.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3721 He herd þair waiming and vn-quiet. *Ibid.* 14314 Iesus þair wamming [*Gött.* waining] vnderstod. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 87 (Douce MS.), His paules, his panneres, with waymynges wete.

Waimto, obs. form of WAME-TOW.

Wain (*wēn*), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **wæn**, (**wæm**), **wagen**, **wén**, 2–3 *Orm.* **wagn**, 3–7 **wayne**, **waine**, 4–7 **wayn**, (5 **wayen**, 6 **waayne**, 4 *Sc.* **vayn**), 4–5 **weyne**, (5 **wene**, 6 **weene**, **weane**, 7 **wean**, **whene**), 5–7 **wane**, 3– **wain**. [OE. **wægen**, **wæn**, str. masc. = OFris. **wein** str. masc. (mod. WFris. **wein**, **woin**, **win**, NFris. **wein**, **wö(ĕ)nj**), OLow Frankish **reidi-wagan** (MDu. **waeghen**, Du. **wagen**), MLG., LG. **wagen**, OHG. **wagan** str. masc. (MHG., G. **wagen**), ON. **vagn** str. masc. cart, barrow (Norw. **vagn** the Great Bear, **vogn** cart, Da. **vogn**, Sw. **vagn** cart): —OTeut. **wagno-s*: —pre-Teut. **woghno-s* f. Indogermanic root **wegh-*, **wogh-* to carry, etc.: cf. WEIGH, WAW *vbs.*, WAY *sb.* Outside Teut. cognate words of similar meaning are Irish *fén* (: —pre-Celtic **waghno-s*) wagon, Gr. ὄχος (Fόχος: —**wogho-s*), chariot, Skr. *vahana* neut., *váhana* neut., chariot.

The pre-Teut. form may possibly have been **waghno-s*, corresponding with the p.-Celtic form; there is some evidence of an OTeut. change of *w*- to *wa*- before consonant groups.]

1. A large open vehicle, drawn by horses or oxen, for carrying heavy loads, esp. of agricultural produce; usually four-wheeled (but see 1 b); a wagon.

The word does not occur in the Bible of 1611, though Wyclif and the 16th c. translators use it. As a colloquial word it survives only in dialects, but in poetry it is commonly used instead of *wagon*.

Beowulf 3134 þær wæs wunden gold on wæn hladen. *c* 725 *Corpus Gl.* (Hessels) U 143 *Uenículum* [read *Uehículum*], wæġn. *c* 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 2362 He bad cartes and waines nimen, And fechen wiues, and childre, and men, And gaf hem ðor al lond gersen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8396 Þat þer nas non so heuy charge of wayn ne of oþer þinge þat me ne miȝte ouer grete wateres bobe lede & bringe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5229 His sunes all and þair flitting,..In weynis war þai don to lede. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 164 That apon his cowyn gat he Men that mycht [ane] enbuschement ma, Quhill that he vith his vayn suld gb Till lede thaim hay in-to the peill. *Ibid.* XI. 24 A litill stane oft, as men sayis, May ger weltir ane mekill wane. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxxii (1495) 646 And at the laste beye is led home in cartes and in waynes and brought ate to bernes for dyuers vse and nedes. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 137 Thei haue noo howes, caryenge theire wyfes and children in waynes [L. *in plaustris*]. 1449 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 92 For custom for our wene to Bristowe warde comyng and goyng, iiij d. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 182 The said tenandis..sal led to the abbay vili acre of fuderis of petis the abbai fyndand wanis melt and drink to the ledaris. 1521 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 88 To William my son my bonden wane, ij oxen that cam from Hornecastell, [etc.]. 1523 34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 And or he shall lode his corne, he muste haue a wayne, a copyoke, [etc.]. 1576 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 10 § 1 Everye person..shalbe charged to finde..one Carte Wayne Tumbrell..Cartes or Dragges furnished for thamendment..of the Highe wayes within the severall Parishes. 1588 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 366 For viij weanes of Pilleseley which ladd Timber from Pentiridge, xvj d. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 19 Alexander the great set on fier with his owne hands the wanes of carriage taken from Darius. 1627 MAY *Lucan* V. 11, The horses trample ore Safely where ships haue saild; the Bessians Furrow Mæotis frozen-backe with waines. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 46 Wee leade in our winter corne usually with three waines. 1688 W. SCOT *Hist. Nauus Scot* I. (1894) 85 According to the old Proverb, They but fell from the Wains tail. 1721 T. BOSTON *Mem.* vii. (1899) 106 On Thursday..came the wains with the household-furniture from Dunse. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 296 From the sun-burnt hay-field, homeward creeps The loaded wain. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* I. 29 That far-off tinkling's drowsy cheer,..The Wain announces. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXV, The highways..were choked with loaded wains, whose axle-trees cracked under their burdens. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 210 A few large wains or waggons. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 608 The wains which carried the ammunition remained at the entrance of the moor. 1892 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXXI, The team is loosen'd from the wain, The boat is drawn upon the shore. 1892 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 565 *Wain*, the obsolete form of wagon, is still in daily use in some parts of the United States, e.g. in the peninsula east of the Chesapeake. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 5 197 To the lesser nobles..

b. In local uses, applied to some particular kind of wagon or cart.

1534 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 208 One weene with two whyles. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Cart*, It is a Cart when drawn by Horses, having two sides called Trills; but a Wain when drawn by Oxen, and having a Wain-Cope. 1796 W. MARSHALL *West Eng.* II. 7 A singular kind of two-wheel carriage, for Horses or Oxen, is here [*sc.* Cornwall] in common use;..it is called a 'wain'; and it is a hay cart, or wain, without sides, having only two arches bending over the wheels, to keep the load from bearing upon them! with a wince behind. 1850 *Scarcely Farm Rep.* 4 In *Libr. Useful Knowl., Husb.* III, The wain, a large cart upon broad wheels, with a pole, and drawn by a pair of oxen, is much

my fader shal come, and I shal see Jacob. *a* 1400 *Pryvate*

used at Scoreby. 1868 Atkinson *Cleveland Gloss.* s.v., The veritable Wain, now never seen, was a narrow, long-bodied vehicle, with two wheels only, and these at the hinder end. The front or foremost end trailed along the ground.

c. *poet.* A car or chariot. Chiefly *fig.* or in mythological use. In ME. often applied to the Four Gospels, symbolised as a four-horsed chariot (= L. *quadriga*).

c 1200 Ormin Pref. 81 þatt wass̄n las nemmnedd quaþþrigan þatt haſeþþ fowwre wheles. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21264 Four ar þai tald, þe wangelistes þat drawes þe wain þat es cristes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 258 See now þe secunde wheel in þis deuelis wayn. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 630 Wher halved is þe standyng estyval Of fresche Appollo with his golden Wayn. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 74 Phœbus gan auaile, His weary waine. 1590 — *F. Q.* I. iv. 19 May seeme the wayne was very euill led When such an one had guiding of the way, That knew not, whether right he went, or else astray. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 86 Not when the moon accomplishing her way Upon her silver wayne..presents the day. 1706 De Foe *Jure Divino* II. 239 [They] jointly drive the Wain of Government. 1714 *Steele's Poet. Misc.* 112 He..charm'd the Wain of Night along, With his soft harmonious Song. 1885–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* April xx, They set on high upon the bridal wain Her bed for bier, and yet no corpse thereon.

Proverb. 13.. *All too Late* 7 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 250 Al to late, al to late, þen is te wayn atte yate. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. 640 Than to cry mercy is to lait, The wane þan standis at þe gate.

d. A wain-load, wagon-load.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* IV. x. (1614) 395 Thither they bring euery yeare an hundred and fiftie waines of twigges.

† e. poet. *Winged wain*, a ship. *Obs.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. I. III *Furies* 194 The Masters skilfull most, With gentle gales driv'n to the wished Coast, Not with lesse labour guide there winged wayns On th'azure fore-head of the liquid plains.

2. The group of seven bright stars in the constellation called the Great Bear: more fully Charles's Wain. *Lesser Wain*: the similarly shaped group of seven stars in the Little Bear.

OE. had *wænes steal* or *stela*, 'pole or poles of the wain'. With Scott's 'Arthur's slow wain' cf. 'Arthouris Plowe', Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 682; Arthur here represents Arcturus, regarded as the teamster or wagoner of the plough or wain.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 3 Swa swa tunglu..þe we hatað wænes steala. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. met. v. 5 Who so þat..wot nat why þe sterre Bootes passeþ or gadereþ his weynes. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 289 We iudged them to bee the chariotte or wayne of the south. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VI. xxii. I. 130 The starres about the North pole, called Septentriones, the Waines or Weares. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VI. 95 The..two Bears..Whose hinder parts and Tails contain The lesser and the greater Wain. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 521 When clouds conceal Bootes golden wain. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xvii, Arthur's slow wain his course doth roll In utter darkness round the pole. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* XIII. 7 The wain, that, in the bosom of our sky, Spins ever on its axle night and day. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cl, At noon or when the lesser wain Is twisting round the polar star. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 437 *The-wain-and-horses*, sb., Ursa Major. 1887 Bowen *Æneid* I. 744 Bright Arcturus, the showery Hyads, the Bear, and the Wain.

¶ 3. A rendering of L. *plaustrum* (lit. 'wagon') used in the Vulgate for a kind of thrashing instrument with wheels.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xli. 15, I haue set thee as a newe wayn [1609 *Douay*, a newe threshing wayne] thresshende. 1728 Lowth *Isa.* xxviii. 27–28 Nor is the wheel of the wain made to turn upon the cummin: But the dill is beaten out with the staff; And the cummin with the flail: but the bread-corn with the threshing-wain.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Obvious combinations, as † *wain-axtree*, *-blade* (Blade *sb.* 10 b), *-body*, † *-cart*, *-driver*, *-fallow*, † *-folk*, *-gear*, *-head* (also attrib.), *-horse*, *-load*, *-wheel*.

1389 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 136 One pare of newe car wheles, both *wane axle tres [etc.]. 1557 *Ibid.* 101 A pare of *wayne blayds. 1390–92 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 392 In factura unius *waynbody, 6 d. *a* 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & P.* (facs.) F ij, One preached of late not farre hence, in no Pulpet, but in *Waayne carte, That spake enough of this. 1552 Huloet, *Wayne dryuer, *ingurius*. 1360 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. liii, j gange de *waine-felies de fraxino. 1558 *Wills Northern C.* (Surtees) I. 162 Twoo gang of wayne fellowes wth heades and moldeboardes. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 53 It is a greate furtherance to have one to teame the waines whiles that the *waine-folkes are att breakefast. 1538 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 75 All maner of.. *wayne geir. 1557 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 128 Waynes and wayne geare. 1551 *Kmaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 59 One *waynebedeyoke, one bolt and one shakill. 1557 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 101 One yron bound wayne..with wayne hed, [etc.]. 1562–3 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) III. 28 An yrone bounde wayne with a turne teame and a waine head shakle. 1707 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 71 The Steward should see that the *Wain-Horses and Oxen be muzzled, to prevent their cropping the young Springs. 1800 Hurdis *Favourite Village* 57 The stout wain-horse of encumbrance stript. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 101 b, An other [oak] in an other place, that being cutte out, made a hundred *Wayne lode. 1700 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1885) IV. 238 A wainload of timber, 8 oxen and an horse. 1559 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 136 One pare of newe *waine wheles.

b. Special comb.: † **wain-beam**, the pole of a wagon (used to translate L. *temo*); † **wain-clout**, the iron covering for the axle-tree of a wagon (see Clout *sb.*[2] 2); † **wain-coope** (see quot. and Cope, Cop *sb.*[4]); **wain-flakes** *dial.* [= MLG. *wagenvlake*], the movable side-boards of a wagon, used to increase its carrying capacity; † **wain-fork**, a fork used in the loading of a wagon; † **wain-gate**[1] [Gate *sb.*[1]], a gate for wains to pass through; † **wain-gate**[2] [Gate *sb.*[2]], a cart-track, wagon-road; **wain-house** (*obs.* exc. *dial.*), a wagon-house, cart-shed; † **wain-money**, ? tolls collected from wains (*E.D.D.*); † **wain-rake**, a rake used in the loading of a wagon with hay, etc.; † **wain-shackle**, ? a coupling for a wagon (see Shackle 6 a); **wain-stang** *dial.*, the projecting pole of a cart on either side of which oxen or horses may be yoked; † **wain-string**, ? = Wain-rope; † **wain-stroke**, a curved segment forming part of the iron rim or tire of a wagon wheel (cf. Stroke *sb.*[4]); **wain-trees** *dial.*, the axle-beams supporting the wagon; † **wain-way**, a wagon-road; † **wain-weight**, ? a wagon-load.

1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* III. 42 Let it creake afterwards, and let the brasen *wainbeame strong Draw both the wheels together ioind. 1630 Horn & Ros. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lang. Unl.* Foundat. T 9 One overcom with wine guid's the wain-beam [L. *temonem*] rashly. 1464 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 149, ij *wayneclowtes. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 5 The wheles..must haue an axiltre, clout with xviii. waincloutes of yren. 1596 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 259, v teames, (j horse-teames.., vij wayne cloutes [etc.]. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 339/2 The *waine Cop, that part which the hinder Oxen are yoked unto to draw the Waine. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Cart*, The Wain-Cope, is a long piece that comes out from the Wain-body, to which Oxen are fasten'd. 1570 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 101 In the yard and parke..a pare of *wayne fleaks. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Wainfleaks*, the moveable side-boards of the wagon, adapted to heighten it. 1642 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 46 Allowinge to each waine two folkes, viz., a forker and a loader; and theire implements which they are to carry to field with them is a *waine-forke and a waine-rake; theire waineforke should bee in length aboute two yardes and a quarter. *c* 1680 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* (1849) II. 108 Richard Butcher..took out of ye highway well nigh an acre of land, and made an enclosure of it, and set up a *wean gate and horse gate. 1596 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1601, 414/1 Cum lie cairt and wane gait ad easdem [moras]. 1662 *Reg. Gt. Seal Scot.* 18/2 Therefra alongst ane old waingate till you come to the Seggiesyke. 1569 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 34 With other out howses as followith..the furmost barne..the *wayn howse [etc.]. 1792 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. I. 216/1 After supper, the company all attend the bailiff (or head of the oxen) to the Wain-house. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Wain-house*, wagon house or cart house. 1626 *Gateshead Church Bks.* (E. D. D.) Receaved of the hie ward ffor *wane money, 16s. 1642 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 46 Theire *wainerakes haue (for the most parte) theire shaftes made of saugh, theire heade of seasoned ashe, and theire teeth of iron. 1559 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 136, ij *waine shackles. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Wainstang*, the pole projecting in front of the wagon for carrying stone blocks. 1464 *Inv.* in *Feodar. Priorat. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 120, 1 cowpe-wayne cum *waynstrynges, precium iij.s. 1596 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 259, vij wayne cloutes, ij hay spades,..a *waine stroke [etc.]. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Waintress*, the axle-beams supporting the wagon. 1579 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 189 The *whene waye goinge vpp they hill. 1642 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 38 The waine-way into this close is aboute the middle of Pinder lane, wheare yow are to pull downe a gappe. 15.. *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 241 Item of a *wayne weicht of leid, that is to say xxii.lj futemellis, iiij d.

† **Wain**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **wayne**, 4 **wayn**. [a. OF. *wain* masc., *waaigne* fem., dial. varr. of *gain*, *gaaigne*: see Gain *sb.*[2]]

1. Profit, advantage.

c 1325 Shoreham *Poems* I. 2207 Þe fyfte, þat hys Elyynge, Cryst onleke to oure wayne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 43 Hiim ne dret naȝt to done..grat harm to oþren uor a lite wayn oþer uor ureme to him.

2. Conquest, possession gained by conquest; also, booty, spoil.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1481 Þeyr fflote wyþ al þer wayne Turnede fro þe lond of Spalgne. *Ibid.* 1857 Albion was Brutes wayne, Þerfore he dide hit calle Brutayne. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 257 We rede ȝe sende to þe kyng of Almayn, & ȝour londes to defende, & reue Philip his wayn. *Ibid.* 297 Þe Scottis bare þam wele, þe Waleis had þe wayn, als maistere of þat eschele.

† **Wain**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* In 5 **wayn(e, wayyn**. [Of obscure origin.] A hem, border.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wayne, of a garlement [*v.r.* wayn, wayyn, *Pynson* of a garment], *lacinia*.

† **Wain**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 2–3 *Orm.* **wa33-nenn**, 4 **vayne**, 4–6 **wayne**, 6 **waine**, 7 **wein**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To transport in a wain or carriage.

c 1200 Ormin Pref. 37 Goddspell forr þatt illke þing Iss Curras Salomonis, for þatt itt .Wa33neþþ soþ Crist fra land to land. *Ibid.* 59-29 Þær iss þe Laferrd Crist himm sellf, & tiderr iss he wa33nedd Uppe þatt hallȝhe wa33n. 1531–2 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 62 Pro navigacione ultra aquam cum le waynnyng 1 but malvasell, 6 d. 1608 Bernie *Kirk-Burniall* (1833) 10 Before that by the Libitinarian cure the dead was weind, the Pollinctors inbalmed the corps of the great.

2. To carry, bring, convey.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2459 Ho wayned me þis wonder, your wyttes to reue. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 249 What wyrde has hyder my iuel vayned. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* III. ii. O ij, Pamphagus wold wayne or bring no geste to Sannios howse, but he were riche. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 107 Then neighbour..if any you see, good servant for dairie house, waine her to mee.

b. ? To bring a report of.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11500 He comet at the kyng,..Eneas ethnesses þat erand for to wend..All þere wille for to wete & wayne at þe last.

3. *intr.* To go, rush. [Perh. a different word: cf. ON. *vegna* to proceed, go on.]

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7621 A thondir with a thicke Rayn thrublit in þe skewes,..As never water fro the welkyn hade waynit before. *Ibid.* 7635 Ector, wrathed at his wordis, waynit at the kyng, þat he gird to þe ground and the gost yald. *Ibid.* 13796 [Ho] Waynyt vp to the welkyn, as a was clowde.

Wain: see Vain *a.*, Wane *sb.*[1], *v.*, Wean *v.*

† **Wai·nable**, *a. Law. Obs.* [AF. dial. var. of *gaignable* Gainable.] = Gainable.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wainable*, (in old Deeds) that may be Manured, or Ploughed; Tillable.

Wainage (wē·nĕdʒ). *Hist.* Also 6 **waynage**. [ad. Anglo-L. *wainnagium*: see Gainage.]

1. = Gainage 3 (q.v. with regard to erroneous interpretations).

c 1300 tr. *Ct. Charter* in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 217 A villayne other than ours the same wise shalbe amerced, sauyng his waynage yf he falle into our handis. *a* 1628 Coke *Inst.* II. xiv. (1648) 28 It was great reason to save his wainage, for otherwise the miserable creature, was to carry it on his back. 1700 J. Tyrrell. *Hist. Eng.* II. 814 His Wainage (i.e. his Carts and Implements) to Till his Land.

2. Land under cultivation.

1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. xii. 520 That they would..declare how many carucates, or what wainage for ploughs, there were in each township. 1858 W. Farrer *Cartul. Cockersand Abbey* II. 1. 362 With acquittance of multure at the grantor's mill of his house and wainage.

† **Wainbote**. *Law. Obs.* Also **weane-boot**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + *bote*, Boot *sb.*[2] Cf. MLG. (13th c.) *wagenbote*.] The allowance of timber which a tenant had the right to cut for the repair of his wains.

1772 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 61 (Customs of Manor of Batell) Plough boot and weane-boot. 1828–32 Webster.

Waincot, obs. form of Wainscot.

Waine: see Vain *a.*, Wane *sb.*[1], *v.*, Wean *v.*

Wainer (wē·nəɹ). *rare.* In 5 **wenyher**, 6 **weyner**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + -er[1] (in 15th c. -yer).] The driver of a wain, a wagoner.

a 1500 *Tretyce* in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 50 Se þat yᵒʳ wenyheris haue no poketes betwene þer legges to stelle withe. 1566 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) I. 1. 35 Weyners. 1840 Galt *Demon of Destiny* 77 Aghast the wainers stood.

Wainescot, obs. form of Wainscot.

Wai·nful. *rare.* [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + -ful.] As much as a wain will hold, a wain-load.

1723 Lady G. Baillie *Househ. Bk.* (S. H. S.) 246 For a wainfull Dails bringing from Berwick, 0 6 10.

† **Wai·ning**, *vbl. sb. Obs.*[-ᵒ] [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 385/2 *Versura*,..the waining or turning at yᵉ lands end, where one furrow endeth and another beginneth. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Reversure*.

Waining, obs. f. Waning; var. Woning *Obs.*

Wainman (wē·nmăn). Also 4 **waynesman**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + Man.]

1. = Wainer. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1392 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 280 Duobus waynemen de Dansk pro eodem viagio, iiij marcz. pr. Cuidam waynesman de Dansk pro eodem viagio, ij. marcz. pr. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5833 þe wayne men wer nogt ware. 1580 H. F. *Pelegrom. Syn. Sylva* 42 A Carter, a Waine man. *Auriga* [etc.]. 1609 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 154 Item paid to the wainmen that brought the lyme and sand for there drinkes, ix d. 1627 *Act* 3 *Chas. I*, c. 2 § 1 No Carrier with any Horse or Horses..nor Waynemen with anie Wayne or Waynes..shall..travell upon the said Day. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 193 The leaves..yield a strong thready substance..which is commonly used in ropes and whips by the wainmen in that part of the world. 1880 F. G. Lee *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* I. 13 At Canterbury..a holy-oil stock was emptied of its sacred contents, in order to grease the creaking wheels of a wainman's cart.

† 2. The constellation Bootes, regarded as the teamster of 'Charles's Wain'. *Obs.*

1588 A. Ashley *Mariners Mirr.* A 6 b, A catalogue of the more famous fixed starres...The Wainmans right shoulder. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. I. 69 And now the sleepie Wainman softly droue His slow-pac'd Teeme. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 890 Besides these Twelve, toward the Artick side, A flaming Dragon doth Two-Beares divide; After, the Wainman comes, the Crown, the Spear [etc.].

Wainny, obs. form of Waney *a.*

Wain-rope. *Obs.* or *arch.* a. A rope used as a trace for drawing a wain. (Cf. *cart-rope*.) b. A rope used for binding or securing a load on a wain.

1371 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 129, ij waynraps novi. 1441–2 *Ibid.* 79 Item in 2 Waynrapes at 4 helteres empt., 12 *d.* 1583–84 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 5 And or he shall lode his corne, he muste haue a wayne, a copyoke, a payre of sleues, a wayne rope, and a pykforke. 1581 *Inv.* in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Arch. Soc.* X. 40 Item Waine Ropes, xvj *d.* 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 64, I thinke Oxen and waine-ropes cannot hale them together.

Wainscot (wē·nskɒt, -skɒt), *sb.* Forms: a. 4–5 **waynescot**, (4 -scote), 4–7 **waynscot**, 5–6 **wayn(e)scotte, wayneskote, weynscot**, (5 -scotte, 6 -skot), 5–7 **waynscote**, -scott, (5 **wenscote, wanegwaste, waneskott, waynskote, waynscowttes** (*pl.*), *Sc.* **wanskoth**), 6 **wayn(e)skott, wenskot(te, weinscot, waine-scot**, (**weanscott, wainscoate, wanskot(t, wenskett**, *Sc.* **wynscott**), 6–7 **wa(i)nscote, wain-skot, wanescot**, (6 -skot, 7 -scott), 6–8 **wain-**

scott, wanscot, (7 vain-, *Sc.* **vandscott, weanscot, waynskot, wayn-scote, wainoot**), 7–9 **wainscoat,** (8 **wanscoate**), 6– **wainscot.** *β.* 4 *north.* **vayneschots, wandschoth,** 5 **weynshet,** 6 **wa(y)ne-, weyneschot.** [ad. MLG. *wagenschot* (1389 in Schiller and Lübben), app. f. *wagen* carriage, WAGON + *schot* (of uncertain meaning; cf. *bokenschot*, mod.LG. *bökenschot*, beechwood of superior quality). Cf. 16th c. Flemish *waegheschot, waeghenschot* (Kilian), WFlemish *wageschot* (De Bo), Du. *wagenschot*, WFris. *wagenskot*. The synonymous Flem. or Du. *wandschot* (Kilian), which may be the source of some of the Eng. forms, is either an etymologizing perversion of *wagenschot* or an independent formation on *wand* wall of a room. The Eng. examples of the word are earlier than those given in the MLG. and MDu. dicts., and the first element appears already in the earliest instances assimilated to the Eng. WAIN *sb.*[1]

The etymology as above stated does not clearly account for the meaning, and these have been attempts to explain the first element differently. Kilian (1598) identifies it with Flem. *waeghe* wave, taking it to refer to the undulation in the grain of the wood. Some modern scholars regard it as an alteration of MDu. *weeg* wall (= OFris. *witch*, OE. *wah*, WOUGH). These suggestions are however open to strong objection, and the probability is that the first element is really *wagen*, though the original meaning of the compound remains for the present obscure.]

1. A superior quality of foreign oak imported from Russia, Germany, and Holland, chiefly used for fine panel-work; logs or planks of this oak; oak boarding for panel-work. Now only *technical*.

1352–3 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 153 Item solut. pro cc et dimid. de Waynescot empt. ad Lenne prec. de cent. xvs. xd. i^{l}. 19^{s}. 7^{d}. 1392–8 *Norwich Sacrist's Roll* (MS.), Pro tabulis de Waynscot. 1404 in *Royal & Hist. Lett. Hen. IV* (Rolls) I. 262 Nova navis cum tritico, braseo, farina..et lignis voaghenschot [? *read* waghen-] onustata. [1407 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 173 The said marchants [of the Hans of Almaine] doe alleage, that the customers & baillifs of the town of Southhampton do compel them to pay..for ech hundreth of bowstaues & boords called *Waghenscot*, s. d.] *a* 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 238 De chescun c du bord appelle 'weynscotte' obole. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 66 Also for wayneskote, vj d. 1483 *Churchw. Acc. S. Mary Virg., Oxford* in *MS. Wood D.* 9 fol. 260 De 4 s solut pro 4 asseribus vocat: weynshet. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 270 Chayres of waynescotte. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 290 Item, for xxiij burdis callit wanskoth, xvj s. viij d. 1522 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 117 A brode cheste of wayneskott. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 60 The Dutchemen bryng ouer Iron, Tymber, lether and Weynskot ready wrought. 1550 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 104/2 Exceptis..300 asseribus querneis *lie waneschot* nuncupatis. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij b, Playing tables Flaunders making of wainscot the dosen xvs. 1589 [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrat* 1 A brother in Christ of his..kept his wainscot from waste, and his linnen from wearing; sufficeth he tombled his wife naked into the earth at high noone. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 231 In the midst of the Synagogue they haue a round seat made of Wainscot. 1658 URQUHART *Jewel* 152 Seeing a wedge of Wainscot is fittest and most proper for cleaving of an oaken tree. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 108 An unlearned rout of contemptible people ..who perhaps shall understand very little more than a hollow pipe made of tin or wainscot. 1732 M. GREEN *Grotto* 161 As spiders Irish wainscot flee. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. Archit.* § 1686 The wood [of *Quercus robur*] is tolerably straight-grained and pretty free from knots, in many instances resembling the German species called wainscot. *Ibid.* 1689 There is a species of oak..imported from Holland, known under the name of Dutch wainscot, though grown in Germany, whence it is floated down the Rhine for exportation.

† **b.** A piece or a board of wainscot oak. *Obs.*

1388 in Nicolas *Hist. Royal Navy* (1847) II. 476 Parcels in the store-house..'xxiii. barrell de tarre,...cc. wayneschots'. 1396 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 123 Et in iij vayneschotes emp. pro j selour et j reredos..18 d. 1486–7 *Priory of* [illegible]

wainscots, 66*s.* 8*d.* 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 515/2 IIk geist, corball and waynescott..ane penny. 1642 S. SMITH *Royal Fishings* 4 Wayneskots, Clapboards, Deale.

† **c.** Furniture made of wainscot. *Obs.*

1589 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) 244, I will my wainscott, as well chamberes and parleres, all wainscot beddes covered with wainescott. 1597 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 227, I give to my sonne..all the waynescott glasse painted clothes borders above the waynscott tables.

2. Panel-work of oak or other wood, used to line the walls of an apartment.

1548 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 132 Item the wayneschot of the rode loft that was taken downe. 1585 EDEN *Dkades* (Arb.) 194 Chambers boarded after the maner of owre waynescotte. 1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 154 The greedy Burglarer is lesse patient of stay..when he..perceiveth only some partition of wane-skot or the like, betwixt his fingers and the cofers or money bags. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. i. 88 This fellow wil but ioyne you together, as they ioyne Wainscot, then one of you wil proue a shrunke pannell. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 244 In the Quire the whole history of S^t. Bennet is very curiously made in Wainscot. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ess., Greatness* (1678) 432 A convenient brick house, with decent Wainscot, and pretty Forest-work hangings. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 77 It was carv'd in such a manner, as to resemble a piece of wainscot. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 235 P 2 A certain Person..who when he is pleased with any Thing that is acted upon the Stage, expresses his Approbation by a loud Knock upon the Benches or the Wainscot. 1725 — *Drummer* I. i, Like a rat behind a wainscot. 1730 W. WARREN *Collectanea* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 205 The Stair-case new Ra'd with Deal wainscot painted. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1852) I. 290 When we look upon the wainscot of a room where the panels are painted of a different colour from the stiles and mouldings. 1782 COWPER *Conversat.* 216, I twirl my thumbs, fall back into my chair, Fix on the wainscot a distressful stare. 1823 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlii, The great oak-parlour, a long room, panelled with wall-varnished wainscot. 1830 TENNYSON *Mariana* vi, The mouse Behind the mouldering wainscot shriek'd. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 613 The Jacobite country gentlemen..burned their commissions signed by James, and hid their arms behind wainscots or in haystacks. 1875 MISS BRADDON *Strange World* II. i. 3 The wainscot was almost black with age.

† **3.** *transf.* and *fig.* (Cf. 5 b.) *Obs.*

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 31 His face is made of seasoned wainscot, and wil lie as fast as a dog can trot. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* III. iii, Cedars to make good wainscot in the House of Sincerity. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & No King* v. i, This Rascal feares neither God nor man, he has been so beaten: sufferance has made him Wainscot. 1630 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-Deceiving* 374 Howsoeuer sometimes this kind of men haue faces of wainscote. *a* 1699 OSBORN *Charac. &c.* (1673) 640 How a few years hath changed Alabaster into Wainscot, and ruffled her Neck like a walking Buskin.

4. A book-name for several moths. (See 5 c.)

1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 399. *Ibid.* 419. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 87.

5. *attrib.* passing into adj. **a.** Made of wainscot. Of a room, lined with wainscot panelling.

1378 in *Archæologia* XXX. 8 Item..ij waynescot chaires viij^{s}. *Ibid.* 14 Item a waynescott cheste, v^{s}. 1580 *Ibid.* LXIV. 357 To mak..tow dores on for the portall and on other for the lytle wayneschot chambre. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 229/2 *Mensa undulata undatim crispa*,.. a wainscot table. 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* iv. 91 The loftie Pines were presently hew'd downe, And Men, Sea-Monsters, swam the bracky Flood, In Wainscote Tubs to seeke out Worlds vnknowne. 1594 NASHE *Terrors Ni.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 265 Through him my tender wainscot doore is deliuered from much assault and battrie. 1649 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* III. iii. 124 Look for one of my cheek teeth That dropt under the wanscote bed. 1702 *Post Man* 6–8 Jan. 2/1 Advt., At Stanmore..is a fair House to be let, 4 Wainscot rooms on a floor, with a Kitchin, [etc.]. 1712 in G. Lorimer *Leaves fr. Bk. West Kirks* vii. (1885) 64 Item,..a green pulpit cloath with silk fringes, six wanscot stools for the Collections. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. 203 They all remained in the next parlour, a wainscot partition only parting the two. 1796 J. OWEN *Trav. Europe 1791–8* I. 85 Those sculptural vagaries, in which a human figure is often made..the support of a wainscot pulpit. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vandeleur & S.* i. 6, I am in the wainscoat parlour to-day. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* liii, My room..was divided from the Manager's room by a wainscot partition. 1851 W. LAXTON *Builder's Price Bk.* (ed. 28) 58 Wainscot floors. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5719, A wainscot sideboard. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* July 14/2 The room..had..a wainscot table, rosewood chairs [etc.].

† **b.** Resembling wainscot, hardened or coloured like old wainscot. *Obs.*

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* K ij b, Your wayneoot face and brasen countenaunce 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. (1595) 91 b, Audacious and wainscot impudencie on the other side returneth the greatest impediment in anie thing to bee obtained. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 117 But it is not the wainscott forhead of a Rudhuddibras, that can arreare such an huge opinion. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 47 If you marke it, mustard looks of the tanned wainscot hue, of such a withered wrinklefaced beldam as she was, that was altred thereinto. 1626 MIDDLETON *Quiet Life* IV. ii, How does thy Mistriss that sits in a Wainscot Gown, like a Citizens Lure to draw the Customers? 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 469 They are Wainscot Faces compair'd with white men. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Dick, a Maggot* 11 'Tis beyond the pow'r of meal The gypsey visage to conceal; For, as he shakes his wainscot chops, Down ev'ry mealy atom drops.

c. In book-names of certain moths: see 4.

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 187.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib., as *wainscot board, colour, log, oak, rafter, timber, work*; **b.** parasynthetic, as † *wainscot-faced* adj.; **c.** similative, as *wainscot joined* adj.

1420 in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI*, G/2 In diuersis pecijs maeremij

[illegible] npan[illegible]

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* III. 525 Most Rooms are now Painted *Walnscot Colour. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 30 Our impudent, shamelesse, and *wainscote faced bishops. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 22 But now mee thinkes I spie againe a Sunn burnt wainscot-fac'd Satyr. 1564 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 164, viij targettes of tree shelboard of *wayncoct ioyned fair worke for the said maskers. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* 249 *Wainscot logs, 8 inches square or upwards, are charged by the load of 50 cubic feet. 1832 *Planting* 130 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, That which is brought down the Rhine from the forests of southern Germany, and imported into this country by the name of *wainscot oak. *c* 1560 *Aberd. Reg.* (MS.) XXVI. (Jam.) *Wynscott rauchter. 1875 T. LASLETT *Timber* xvi. 96 Riga *wainscot timber passes through the process of bracking prior to its being shipped. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 198/2 *Wainscot or seeling works. 1609 *Acc. Balliol Coll., Oxford* *Wainscot or seeling works. 1620 *Acc. Balliol Coll., Oxford* (MS.), Item, for 2 seates, and wainscott works, in the librarie, 5 *li.*

Wainscot (*wē*·nskɒt, *-skə*), *v.* Inflected **wainscot(t)ed, -ing.** Forms: see the sb. [f. prec. Cf. Flemish † *waeghenschotten* (Kilian).]

1. *trans.* To line (a wall, roof, etc.) with panel-work of wood.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 177 To Wayneoote, *contabulare*. 1899 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1905) IV. 415 For waynscotting the roofes of his chamber, xxs. *a* 1692 BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* (1652) 121 To mend this [illegible] the English did wainscot those walls with [illegible]

1676 GLANVILL *Eccl. Philos. & Relig.* vii. 3 He led me into an handsome square Chamber wainscoted with Cedar. 1678 M[illegible] *Rooms. Ibid.* I[illegible] most part, but two [illegible] to be Wainscoted be above ten foot high. 1730 W. WARREN *Collect.* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 292 The Treasury..is wainscotted with Deal. 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, This apartment..was now beautifully wainscoted with dark foreign wood. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* III. iii. Fr. Wks. 1886 II. 160 It was a large room..wainscoted with pine. 1883 G. MOORE *Mod. Lover* xiv, [The room] was wainscotted in light oak.

transf. and fig. context. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Quakers Grace* Wks. 1730 I. 107 That we..may live to be saw'd out into deal-boards, to wainscoat thy New Jerusalem.

b. To grain in imitation of oak.

1823 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, The house..was fresh painted and papered from top to bottom; the paint inside was all wainscoted.

2. *transf.* To line (the walls of an apartment) with marble, tiles or the like; to panel (a wall with mirrors or pictures).

1613–39 I. JONES in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 30 To wainscot their Buildings with rich Stones. 1620 DONNE *Serm.* 2 Apr. (1661) III. 138 The Scriptures are as wainscotted with looking-glass, we see all at once. LASSELS *Italy* (1698) I. 93 Witness those chambers..wainscoted with great Looking-glasses and rich gilding. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., The winter apartment was wainscoted with inlaid work of mother of pearl. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. ii. i. 5 The east side of it within is wainscotted with jasper and beautiful marbles. 1775 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 14 Oct., The ladies' closet wainscotted with large squares of glass over painted paper. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* xviii. viii. (1826) 154 But enough..of Portraits; though, in truth, the walls are wainscotted with them.

Hence **Wai·nscot(t)ed** *ppl. a.*

1603 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* N 8 b, God grant me alwaies the key of the fieldes, I would like it better, then to be in bondage in the fayrest wainscotted or tapistred Chamber. 1694 WESTMACOT *Script. Herb.* 40 Solomon and others..did build their Magnificent Houses,..and Wain-scotted Rooms therewith [Cedar]. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lv, The apartment of Colonel Talbot..was divided from his own by a wainscotted partition. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, The little wainscoted back parlour. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xiii, They were taken..into a wainscoted parlour.

transf. and fig. 1620 F. H[ERING] tr. *Oberndoerffer's Anat. True Physit.* f, This lost Companion [a quack], hauing a Foxes Head and an whorish and wainscotted Face.

† **Wainscotage.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WAINSCOT *v.* + -AGE.] Wainscot-work, wainscoting.

1677 tr. *Tavernier's Gr. Seignor's Seraglio* xv. 73 Yet is there a delicate piece of Wainscotage, of about the height of a man's waste, carried quite round the Room.

Wainscot(t)ing, (*wē*·nskɒt(t)iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WAINSCOT *v.* + -ING[1].] The action or process of lining a room, its walls, etc. with wainscot; also *concr.*, panelling of wainscot; also, wainscots collectively.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Lambris*, a seeling, wanscotting. 1611 COTGR., *Lambrissage*, a wainscotting, or seeling: also, an embowing, or frettising in wainscot. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 870 He..bestowed 200. markes vpon wainscotting of the Library there. 1688 BURNET *Life Hale* 39 He laid by all his Collections.., and that they might not fall into ill hands, he hid them behind the Wainscotting of his Study. 1727 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesm.* xxii. (1841) I. 206 He must sink perhaps a third part, nay, half his stock, in painting and gilding, wainscoting and glasing. 1764 HANMER *Observ.* iii. § 8. 97 Their carved wainscottings of wood heightened with painting and gilting. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Doctor's Commons*, An old quaint-looking apartment, with sunken windows, and black carved wainscotting. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* i, The afternoon sun was warm on the five workmen there, busy upon doors and window frames and wainscoting. 1869 'LEWIS CARROLL' *Phantasmag.* 37 But after twenty years or so The wainscotings begin to go.

Waint, obs. Sc. form of VAUNT *v.*

1563 WINJET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* xvi. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 37 Bot Apollinaris in a manere crakis and waintis that he consentis in deid to the vaitle of the Trinitie.

Wainwright (*wē*·nroit). [f. WAIN *sb.*[1] + WRIGHT. In OE. *wægn-wyrhta*. Not found in ME., but its existence is attested by the surname *Wainwright*.] A wagon-builder.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 112 *Carpentarius*, wænwyrhta. 1825 HYDE CLARKE *Dict., Wainwright*, wagon-wright. 1892 MEREDITH *One of our Cong.* xix, A rill, that was lured a little further down through scoops, ducts, and scaffolded channels to serve a wainwright.

Wainy, variant of WANEY *a.*

Waipone, Waippin, obs. Sc. ff. WEAPON.

† **Wair,** *sb. Obs. rare*[−1]. A piece of timber two yards long and one foot broad.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxix. 85 A Tree [an oak]..which yielded of sawn Wair fourteen hundred, and by estimation, twenty Chords of wood. A Wair is two yards long, and one foot broad, sixscore to the hundred: so that, in the said Tree was 1080 foot of Boards. Hence 1694 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), and in later Dicts.

† **Wair,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*[−1]. ? Wild, stormy.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Prauncb. Swallow* xii, Bewis bene are laitit bair of blis, Be wickit windis of the winter wair.

Wair, obs. form of *were*, pa. ind. pl. of BE *v.*

Wair(e, Waird, Wairding, Wairdour, Wairdrope, Sc. or north. ff. WARE, WEIR, WARD, WARDING, WARDER, WARDROBE.

Wairn, obs. Sc. form of WARN.

Wairnche, wairnh, var. ff. WERSH *a.*

Wairstall, -staw, var. ff. WARESTALL *Sc.*

Wais: see WALL, WASE, WAVE, WAY.

Waisall, waissel, var. ff. WASSAIL.

Waische, waisshe, obs. forms of WASH *v.*

Waiscot, obs. form of WAISTCOAT.

Waist (wēst). Forms: 4–6 waast, 4–7 wast, 4–8 waste, 6 *Sc.* west, 7 wayst, 5, 7– waist. [14th c. *wast*, believed to represent an OE. **wæst*, **waahst*, corresp. to ON. **wahstu-r* (Icel. *vǫxt-r*, Sw. *växt*, Da. *væxt*), Goth. *wahstu-s*, growth, size, f. Teut. root **waxs-*: see WAX *v.*[1] With regard to the form cf. OE. *westm*, growth, fruit:—OTeut. type **waxtmo-s* from the same root. With regard to the meaning cf. F. *taille*, where the sense 'waist' appears to be developed from the sense 'size (of body)'. The word (in the form *wacste*, which may be either native or Scandinavian) app. occurs with the sense 'greatness' in the following quot.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Þe fader is ine þe sune on þre wise. On wæcste [*Trin. Hom.* iv. on westme], for he is muchel and mihti ouer alle þing.

The spelling *waist* was rare until it was adopted in Johnson's Dict. 1755.]

1. The portion of the trunk of the human body that is between the ribs and the hip-bones; the middle section of the body, normally slender in comparison with the parts above and below it.

In quot. *c* 1480 humorously misused.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 144 Bot his wombe & his wast were worthily smale. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* Prol. 10 He in the waiste is shape as wel as I. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 373 Whan I beclippe hire on the wast. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9902 Dyomede..Halfe-lyueles..felle, With a wicked wound thurgh the wast euyn. *c* 1440 *Anturs of Arth.* 578 (Douce MS.) He bronched him yne withe his bronde..þorghe þe waast of þe body. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Waste, of a mannys myddyl..*wastilus*, Cath. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. xiii. 589 There he fond a knyght that was bounden with a chayne faste aboute the wast vnto a pyller of stone. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Husbandman* 192 The tod lap on land..And left the wolf in watter to the waist. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXII. 89 He grippit hir abowt the west. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleasure* XXIX. (Percy Soc.) 135 His necke shorte,..His breste fatte and bolne in the wast. 1571 R. BANNATYNE *Memor.* (Bannatyne Club) 170 Culan and his men..waide to their waste beloir thei come to dry land. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 134 Gird in your waste..with a tawdrie lace. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 127 Downe from the waste they are Centaures, though Women all aboue. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* XX. (1653) 338 Young Virgins..who thinking a slender waste a great beauty, strive all that they possibly can by streight-lacing themselves, to attaine unto a wand-like smalnesse of waste. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1113 Those Leaves They gatherd..And..together sowd, To gird thir waste. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 89 Over the Dolliman, they gird themselves about the small of the waste with a Sash. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 260 He was so tall, that the Spaniards only reached his waist. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 105 And, lo! half of him, from his waist to the soles of his feet, was stone. 1886 TYNDALL *Gluc.* I. xviii. 131 Hitherto my guides in dangerous places had tied the ropes round their waists also. 1891 *Figure Training* 17 It is not to be wondered at that ten years ago a waist of sixteen inches in circumference, for a lady of average height, should be regarded as a..much-to-be-admired achievement. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 5 She made her waist fifteen inches round.

† *Proverbial phrase.* 1611 CHAPMAN *May-day* V. Wks. 1873 II. 401 Hauling chaster and simpler thoughts then Leonore imagines because he measures my wast by his owne.

b. Applied to the corresponding part in an insect.

1713 J. WARDER *True Amazons* 3 The Bee is..very slender in the Waste [1742 p. 15 Waist] or middle part. 1871 STAVELEY *Brit. Insects* X. ii. 155 The insects belonging to these two subsections can at once be distinguished from each other by their waists being large or small.

c. *transf.* The middle narrower part (of something compared in shape to the human body). Cf. 4.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* VI. 104 That part of Wales,.. Which (as her very waste) in breadth from East to West In length from North to South, her midst is every way. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. i, Mont Blanc is the monarch of mountains,..Around his waist are forests braced. 1861 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxi. (1865) VII. 325 He had quitted the waist and had here reached the neck of Britain.

2. † **a.** A girdle. *Obs.*

1350 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 2315 Hyr mydle braced in as smal as a wande; And some by wastes of wyre at the paste wyfes hande. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 77 They do weare wastes or girdels imbossed with gold. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 183 Sir Robert could doe well: marry (to confesse) could get me sir Robert's land: Mary he could not, therefore he gaue it me, And wherefore should I then deny his land? 1599 — *Hen. V*, III. vi. 107 Bardolph, stand my friend: And here is foure Harry ten shillings French crownes for you. In very truth sir, I had as liefe be hang'd sir, as goe: and yet for mine owne part sir, I do not care; but rather because I am vnwilling to leaue my ancient Pistoll. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 10 Thou losest here a better where to finde. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 220 Thou hast it ample and fruitfull in the praise, That makes the praised loose the dole of praise. 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 6 Those wag-hallooes, eighteene-pences, your swearing ancients, that stand vpon the Principalities of other mens mouthes. 1611 — *Cymb.* II. iii. 124 Thou shalt haue a Cressed Lion rampant for the drinking Cup: you are a Gentleman, and haue a gift to know Gentlemens qualities. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 14 Let me haue three Ounces of Gold: 'tis fit I enter with some Port. 1611 — *Hen. VIII*, V. iii. 19 Let me haue Your Princely Hand to kiss: I did expect it From thence you came. 1611 — *Tr. & Cr.* V. iii. 39 Let me haue your Gauntlet. 1611 — *Timon* I. i. 19 Let me haue thy hand. 1611 — *Ven. & Ad.* 1 Let me haue Some of your helps. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 14 Let me haue three Ounces of Gold: 'tis fit I enter with some Port. 1611 — *Hen. VIII*, V. iii. 19 Let me haue Your Princely Hand to kiss: I did expect it From thence you came. 1611 — *Tr. & Cr.* V. iii. 39 Let me haue your Gauntlet. 1611 — *Timon* I. i. 19 Let me haue thy hand. 1611 — *Ven. & Ad.* 1 Let me haue Some of your helps. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 14 Let me haue three Ounces of Gold: 'tis fit I enter with some Port. 1611 — *Hen. VIII*, V. iii. 19 Let me haue Your Princely Hand to kiss: I did expect it From thence you came. 1611 — *Tr. & Cr.* V. iii. 39 Let me haue your Gauntlet. 1611 — *Timon* I. i. 19 Let me haue thy hand. 1611 — *Ven. & Ad.* 1 Let me haue Some of your helps.

1599 thee for thy paines Tenne siluer sickles and a golden wast. 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 264 A faire well glossed purple waste [ζωστῆρα..φοίνικα φαεινὸν].

transf. and *fig.* 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* IX. 478 The enemies abandoned suddeinly the towne wherein the french being bestowed, planted their artillerie against the first wast [It. *contro al primo procinto*]. 1591 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 20 Speare to the rescue of the Noble Talbot, Who now is girdled with a waste of Iron. 1599 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 12 Weale girt them with an ample waste of love.

b. The part of a garment that covers the waist; the narrowed part of a garment corresponding to the narrowing of the body at the waist (but sometimes, in accordance with fashion, worn higher or lower than the position of this); the place in a woman's dress where the bodice and skirt meet.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* App. (1653) 539 The waste (as one notes) is now come to the knee; for, the Points that were used to be about the middle, are now dangling there. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 109 P 4 The Modern (petticoat) is gather'd at the Waste. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xix, They loaded the pistols, took a pair each and put them in their waists. 1891 *Figure Training* 25 Ladies of fashion in England might be said to have at that period [*c* 1806] abandoned *waists* altogether. 1889 *Fairholt's Costume Engl.* I. 405 In 1794 short waists became fashionable. *Ibid.* 408 Open gowns were discarded, and waists about 1798 became longer, until at the end of the century they regained their proper shape.

c. The part of a garment between the shoulders and the 'waist' or narrowed part (see 2 b).

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* III. i, What fashion will make a woman haue the best bodie Taylor? *Tay.* A short dutch waist with a round cathern-wheele fardingale. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'Rather short in the waist, an't it?' said the stranger, screwing himself round to catch a glimpse in the glass of the waist buttons which were half way up his back. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* vi, Ladies haymaking, in short waists, and large hats tied under the chin.

fig. 1590 NASHE *1st Pt. Pasquil's Apol.* C iij, Theese places are too short in the waste to serue hys turne.

d. A bodice, blouse. Chiefly *U.S.*

1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 189 A lady observing her neighbour in a public room, dressed very tawdrily in a satin waist, drily remarked, it was a waste of satin. 1878 H. JAMES *Europeans* II. ii. 44 She wore a white muslin waist with an embroidered border. 1893 MRS. CUSTER *Tenting on Plains* 85, I had exchanged the waist for a jacket, and left it under a tree. 1908 W. CHURCHILL *Mr. Crewe's Career* xix. 317 Mrs. Fitch..had run from the wash-tub to get into her Sunday waist.

e. *U.S.* 'An undergarment worn specially by children, to which petticoats and drawers are buttoned' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1893 HELEN CAMPBELL in *Arena* 435 Two and a half cents each is paid for the making of boys' gingham waists.

3. *Naut.* The middle part of the upper deck of a ship, between the quarter-deck and the forecastle.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 194 Stone gonnes of yron in the Wast of the seid Shipp. 15.. *Batayll of Egyngecourts* 90 A ij, These goodly shyppes lay there at rode.. The wastes decked with serpentynes stronge. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Waste of a shyppe, *cors de nauire.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxiv. § 5 Already it [the fire] did embrace and deuoure from the sterne, to the wast of the ship. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 197. *c* 1628 MORYSON *Itin.* IV viii. (1903) 136 Being built large in the Wast and Keele for Capacitye of Marchandize, they are vnfitt to fight at Sea. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iii. (ed. 4) 41 The waste of the ship was filled with live cattle. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* I. 18 Neptune will presently be here, And as his godship is in haste, Muster the people in the waste. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 9 *Q.* Which is the waist? *A.* That portion of the upper deck contained between the fore and main hatchways. 1915 BADEN-POWELL *Ind. Mem.* I. 5 The heavy seas had..carried away the ladders leading from the upper deck into the waist.

b. In occasional uses: (*a*) pl. = *waist-rails*; (*b*) each of the two sides of the waist.

1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 127/4 She has been 32 dayes beating at Sea in fowl weather, in which she spent her Main-Top-Mast and her Wasts. 1679 A. LOVELL *Indic. Univ.* 199 The waste, or defences of the sides of a 'Ship'. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 196 A ship having seven boats carried one at each waist.., two at each quarter.., and one across the stern.

4. Applied to the narrowest or slenderest part of an object which is smaller in breadth or girth near the middle than at the extremities; esp. of a bell, a violin or similar instrument, a boot or shoe.

1612 S. RID *Art of Jugling* E 2, A peece of lether..which being thrust vp hard to the middle or waste of the said bell, will sticke fast. 1676 MOXON *Print Letters* 26 Describe the outer Arch under the Waste of g on the left hand. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* (1793) § 80 It also seemed equally desirable, not to increase the size of the present building in its Waist; by which I mean that part of the building between the top of the rock, and the top of the solid. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxvii. 51 The 'Cremerian boot', with elastic spring in waist or arch of foot. 1870 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* viii. In *Ch. Bells Devon* 407 The waist of the bell is studded with stars. 1874 J. D. HEATH *Croquet Player* 26 The amount of spring or elasticity in the handle varies according to the thickness of the waist or thinnest part of it. 1895 HASLUCK *Boot Making* viii. 132 To make a square waist, an iron similar to a double iron is used; for other waists, irons are used according to the shape required.

¶ **5.** Affectedly used for: Middle (of day or night). *Obs.*

1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 198 In the dead waste [Qq. 1, 5, 6 vast] and middle of the night. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* II. v. D 3 b, Tis now about the immodest waste of night. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Merrie-Wherrie-Ferrie Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 7/1 About the waste or Nauell of the Day [*sota*, Noone if you'l take it so]. 1644 — *Crop-eare Curried* 1 About the Waste or Navel of the night, Drowsie Somnus came stealing to me. 1652 *Loves of Hero & Leander* (1653) 2 This was about the wast of day: The middle, as the vulgar say.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** With sense 'intended to be placed, or worn, on or round the waist', as *waist-belt*, *-buckle*, *-cloud*, † *-doublet*, *-girdle*, *-piece*, *-plate*, *-pocket*, *-scarf*; with sense 'outlining or following the contour of the waist', as *waist-line*; objective, as *waist-gripping*, *-hold*, *-pressing*, *-tightening*; with adjs., as *waist-deep*, *high*.

1692 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* Prol. 20 I' a Play, sayes one, for I have got A broad-brim'd | *waistbelt towrds a Plot. 1688 *Queen's Regul.* § 12 The straps of the havresack are to be worn outside the waist belt, so that the havresack may be easily shifted. 1893 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 304/2 Her Majesty has recovered a diamond *waist-buckle which she had lost, and for which 10 guinea reward had been offered for the recovery. 1884 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 4 The merest *waist-clout of modesty. 1763 the sea Waist-deep. 1895 TENNYSON *Brook* 118 Waist-deep in meadow-sweet. 1853 in J. C. Jeaffreson *Middlesex County Rec.* (1886) I. 14 Unum diploidem vocatum a *waist-dublett. *Ibid.*, Duos velvet *wast gyrdles. 1908 SIR H. JOHNSTON *Geo. Grenfell & Congo* II. XXIII. 589 A waist-cloth is worn all round the body from below a waist-girdle, down to the knees. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XI. XXVII, *Waist high Argantes shew'd himselfe withall. 1875 MEREDITH *Beauchamp's Career* xii. (1877) 95 A fence waist-high enclosed its plot of meadow and garden. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 12 Jan. 6/4 Two minutes passed before the men sought the mat, and then Cherpillod got a *waist hold, but failed to turn the American over. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Sept. 3/2 The most critical place in the shirt and skirt costume is the *waist-line...One rule is universal in every well-made French gown—that the waist-line slopes downward to the front. 1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 228 *Waistpiece, or great brayette (Vorderschurz) belonging to a Gothic suit of the fifteenth century. 1900 *New Reg. War Office* 58 *Waist-plate. Frosted Gilt Rectangular Plate with Burnished Edges. On the Plate the Royal Cypher and Crown in Silver within an Oak-leaf Wreath. On the lower part of the Wreath a Scroll inscribed 'Dieu et mon droit'. 1858–62 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* v. (1870) 109 His snuff he kept..in a leathern *waist-pocket. 1842 LEVER *C. O'Malley* XXXV, And the free and easy chuck under the chin, cherishing, *waist-pressing kind of a way we get with the ladies. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* XXX. (1856) 264 A long *waist-scarf, worn like the kummerbund of the Hindoos, is a fine protection while walking, to keep the cold from intruding at the pockets and waist. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* XXI, The Professor was already come to the period of *waist-tightening.

7. Special comb.: **waist-anchor** *Naut.*, an anchor stowed in the waist of a vessel, a sheet-anchor; **waist-board** *Naut.* (see quots.); **waist-boat** *Naut.*, a boat carried in the waist of a ship, *esp.* of a whaling-vessel; hence **waistboater**, the officer in charge of such a boat; **waist-hammer, -iron**, shoemakers' tools (see 6); **waist-nettings** *Naut.* (see quots.); **waist-panel** (*carriage-building* (see quot.); **waist-torque** (see quot.). See also WAISTBAND, -CLOTH, -COAT, etc.

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.*, **Waist-Anchor*, a spare bower anchor in a ship of war. 1891 H. PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 260 Sheet Anchor, the anchor carried in the waist on board men-o'-war. It is the same in weight as the bowers; sometimes called the waist anchor. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ii. 9 The *Waist boords are set vp in the Ships waist, betwixt the Gun-waile and the waist trees, but they are most vsed in Boats, set up alongst their sides to keepe the Sea from breaking in. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 326 A kind of waste board, about two feet high, built up on the sides, without any calking or pitching, or anything to keep out the water. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waist-boards*, the berthing made to fit into a vessel's gangway on either side. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Waist-boat*, a boat carried in the waist of a vessel; specifically, in whaling, the second mate's boat, carried in the waist on the port side. *Ibid.*, *Waistboater*, the officer of the boat carried in the waist of a whaler; the second mate. 1895 HASLUCK *Boot Making* vi. 89 The waist..should be treated with a *waist- or cramp-hammer. *Ibid.* viii. 130 The *waist-iron. 1849 TER RENHORST *Mariner's Friend* 108 *Waistnetting. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waist-nettings*, the hammock-nettings between the quarter-deck and forecastle. 1884 FORNEY *Car-Builder's Dict.* (Cent.), **Waist-panel*, the panel immediately above the lowest panel on the outside of a carriage-body. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Waist-torque*, a girdle, properly one of twisted or spiral bars, worn by the northern nations in the early middle ages.

Waist, obs. form of WASTE.

Waistband. Also 6–7 wastband, waste-bande. [f. WAIST + BAND *sb.*[2]]

1. Anything in the fashion of a girdle intended to go round the waist.

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 14 Herewith also were offered the chaynes of the Queene his wyfe, not sparing so much her girdles & wastbands, al which he caused to be dedicated at Delphos. 1684 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Feb. 3/2 The..messages from Gordon..were..concealed in a quill thrust into the hair or sewn on the waistband of the natives employed.

2. *esp.* A band fitting about the waist that forms the upper part of a lower garment (skirt, pair of trousers or drawers, or the like) and serves to stiffen or maintain it; sometimes used as a receptacle for money, etc.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 294 He only took him up by the wastband of his breeches, and hung him upon one of the hooks in the shambles. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 134, I pulled it out of the waistband of my drawers. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. v, For the most part reclining with his hands in his waistband, looking at the fire. 1882 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* I. 43 A labourer that had got his wages in his waistband.

Waist-cloth.

† **1.** *Naut. pl.* Coloured cloths hung about the upper works of a ship as an adornment on occasions of ceremony, or on going into action, when they also served to screen the men aboard. *Obs.*

1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 31 The China Capt. ready to goe for Goto, I lent hym our boate and wast-clothes, and delivered hym back 120 Rs. of 8. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xiii. 59 Out goes his flag and pendants, also his waste clothes and top armings, which is a long red cloth..that goeth round about the ship on the out sides of all her vpper workes fore and aft, [etc.]..as

well for the..grace of the ship, as to cover the men for being seene. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 16 May, We..had our guns ready to fire, and our scarlet waist-cloathes out and silk pendants. 1840 HOR. SMITH *O. Cromwell* I. 284 Hundreds of lighters, pinnaces, and longboats, dressed up with waist-cloths and with ——

2. *Naut.* A hammock-cloth stowed in the waist of a vessel.

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Waist-cloths*, coverings of canvas or tarpaulin for the hammocks, which are stowed on the gang-ways, between the quarter-deck and fore-castle. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waist-cloths*, the painted canvas coverings of the hammocks which are stowed in the waist-nettings.

3. A loin-cloth that the natives of hot climates wear round the waist, either hanging down in front or passed between the thighs.

1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 247 The dress of the *doby* is generally very plain, consisting of a turban, a *dotee*, (or waist-cloth,) and a *chudder*, (or sheet). 1833 *Court Mag.* VI. 65/2 Sometimes black glazed jackets formed part of their attire; but generally it consisted of nothing more than a blue chequered dotee, or waistcloth. 1888 DE WINDT *Equator* 81 The deceased is then brought up attired in his waistcloth and ornaments.

Waistcoat (*wĕ*ˑs(t)kŏut; *colloq.* or *vulgar* we·skat). For forms see WAIST and COAT *sb.* also 6 **waascoat**, 7 **waiscot**, **waascoat**, **-cote**, **waascote**, **-cot**, **-cote**, **-cott**.

In representations of vulgar pronunciation written *weskit*, *weskit*, etc.

A garment covering the upper part of the body down to the waist.

1. A garment forming part of ordinary male attire, worn under an outer garment (a doublet, later a coat, jacket, or the like), and intended to be partly exposed to view when in wear.

The earliest waistcoats, intended to show through the slashings and other openings of the doublet, were often extremely elaborate and costly. They were sometimes provided with sleeves, and appear to have reached to or below the hips. The waistcoat has now armholes, but not sleeves; it may be made of the same material as the coat, or of different materials, and is sometimes embroidered or otherwise ornamented. The back is now of inferior or thinner material.

1519 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 354 For makyng of a waste cotte. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, Hee has a rich wrought wast-coat to entertaine his visitants in. 1649 *K. Chas. Sp. Scaffold* 7 The King. being in his Wastcoat, put his Cloak on again. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 20 June, I have of late taken too much cold by washing my feet and going in a thin silke waistcoate, without any other coate over it, and open-breasted. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 28 Nov., Domville saw Savage in Italy, and says he is a coxcomb, and half mad: he goes in red, and with yellow waistcoats. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1781, 1 Apr., Sir Philip Jennings Clerk..wore..an embroidered waistcoat, and very rich laced ruffles. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* x, He was habited in a coarse-striped waistcoat, with black calico sleeves, and blue glass buttons. 1869 'LEWIS CARROLL' *Phantasmagoria* 72 He would keep his right-hand buried (Like Napoleon) in his waistcoat.

† **b.** Applied to a plainer and less costly garment, usually of knitted wool, worn chiefly for additional warmth. *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 162/2 *Indusium*,..a waste coate, or wollen peticoate. 1598 FLORIO *2nd Frutes* 5 *T.* Giue me my wastecote. *R.* Which will you haue, that of flannel? *T.* No, giue me that which is knit. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 68, I hasting for the cold at Dantzke, in the beginning of September, put on a wollen wasecoat, was forced now at the entring of Italy, for the great heat in the end of October, to put off the same. 1698 *Ogilby's Brit., Itin.* 4/2 Doncaster...Enjoys a good Trade for Stockings and Knit Wastcoats, &c. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 5 Oct., It grows bloody cold, and I have no waistcoat here.

c. phr. † *In one's waistcoat*; *esp.* as the typical undress of exercise implying the casting aside of an upper garment (cf. mod. *in one's shirt-sleeves*). (obs.) *Under one's waistcoat*: in one's breast.

1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* IV. v. I 2 b, Enter Astor and Philippo in their wast-cotes with rackets. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXXIX, With all our vanity and absurdity, we Irish have good warm hearts under our waistcoats.

† **d.** Applied to a child's first garment. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Crepundia*..the fyrst apparayle of chyldren, as swathels, wastcootes, and such lyke.

e. *transf.* Applied to the plumage of birds, or the coat of animals, about the breast or stomach, *esp.* where this is strikingly different in colour or marking from that of the rest of the body.

1898 J. D. REES in *19th Cent.* June 1004 A woodpecker with black wings, a white waistcoat, and a crimson crest.

† **2.** A short outer coat or jacket; a 'jersey'.

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Life Sidney* (1652) 84 His wast-coat..not unlike the best sort of those woollen knit ones, which our ordinary watermen row us in. 1765 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec.* App. II. 134 Floats made of cork in the form of seamen's waistcoats..to prevent drowning.

3. A short (woollen) garment worn next the skin.

1696 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 75 In winter time clad he went against the colde with foure coates, together with a good thick gowne, and his Wastcoate or Petticoate bodie of woollen. 1769 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 347 A flannel waistcoat worn next the skin has often a very good effect in the dysentery. 1826–9 J. BADCOCK *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. § 32 Putting on a cold shirt, for the first time after throwing off the under flannel waistcoat.

4. As an article of feminine attire.

† **a.** A short garment, often elaborate and costly, worn by women about the upper part of the body (usually beneath an outer gown, but so as to be seen). *Obs.*

In the 16th and early 17th c. the waistcoat was one of the normal garments of women, having superseded the *placcard* and *stomacher*. Later in the 17th c. (when going out of fashion), *esp.* if worn without an upper gown, it appears to have been considered a mark of a low-class woman of ill-repute (see WAISTCOATER 2).

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* CCXXVIII. (1557) 52, I cause a man to lye in his doublet, and a woman [—]r waste cote. 1603 DEKKER *Batch. Banq.* iii. C 2 b, Then comes downe mistresse Nurse, as fine as a farthing fiddle, in her petticoate and kertle, hauing on a white wastcoate, with a flaunting cambricke ruffe about her neck. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 95/1 Wastcoat or Waistcoat..is an Habit or Garment generally worn by the middle and lower sort of Women. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 15 P 4 A Furbelow of precious Stones, an Hat buttoned with a Diamond, a Brocade Waistcoat or Petticoat, are standing Topicks.

† **b.** Applied to garments of foreign women that resembled the contemporary feminine waistcoat.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 369 The [Indian] women weare of the sayd Turqueses at their nostrils and eares, and very good wast-coats and other garments. 1648 GAGE *West. Ind.* xii. 56 Their Wascoats made like bodies, with skirts, laced likewise with gold or silver. 1653 GREAVES *Seraglio* 130 They [the women] likewise sleep as the men do, in their linnen breeches, and quilted waste-coats. 1707 FUNNELL *Dampier's Voy.* ix. 254 [The Malayan women] wear a Linnen Waste-coat, which reaches no lower than the lower part of their Breasts.

† **c.** A short (sleeveless) undergarment worn about the upper part of the body; a camisole. *Obs.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Vne Chemise de drap*, or *chemisette*, a wastcoat. 1747 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Town Ecl., St. James's Coffee-house* 75 Her night-cloaths tumbled with resistless grace, And her bright hair play'd careless round her face; Reaching the kettle, made her gown unpin, She wore no waistcoat, and her shift was thin. 1763 MISS FIELDING *Ophelia* I. vii, I [a woman] had never worn any thing round my waist but thin waistcoats.

d. A garment or a bodice-front designed in imitation of the masculine waistcoat.

1711 TICKELL *Spectator* No. 104 P 3. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xvii, Trolloping things our mothers must have looked [in riding dress of the 18th c.], with long square-cut coats,..and with waistcoats plentifully supplied with a length of pocket, which [etc.]. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 768/2 The bodice had a sweet little waistcoat, over which the edges of the embroidered linen almost met. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 134 p. ii./1 Waistcoats [for ladies] are growing more and more in popularity, and the waistcoat blouse is one of the latest novelties.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *waistcoat button*, *-piece*, *-pocket* (hence *-pocketful*), *-string*.

1787 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec.* App. II. 178 Of a new method of making..Coat and *Waistcoat Buttons. 1829 *Habits of Gd. Society* iii. 142 Elaborate studs, waistcoat-buttons, and wrist-links, are all abominable. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* i. (ed. 4) 12 There is not a shop within twenty miles that would furnish me with such a *waistcoat-piece as I should choose to wear. 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 95 P 12 He now openly declares his Resolution to become a Gentleman;..carries Silver, for Readiness, in his *Waistcoat pocket. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 133 The portress receiving a sort of dirty flattened sixpence..and returning me a waistcoat-pocketful of the loveliest clean-struck centimes. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Mr. Watkins Tottle* ii, Watkins falling bump on his knees, and breaking two brace-buttons and a *waistcoat-string in the act.

Hence **Wai·stcoatful** *nonce-wd.*, as much (of anything) as would fill, or cover, the waistcoat. **Wai·stcoating**, a textile fabric made esp. for men's waistcoats. **Wai·stcoatless**, *a.*, wearing no waistcoat.

1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Car. Puntomichino & Mr. Talcranagh* Wks. 1853 I. 271/2 The people..would have added new decorations to his *waistcoatful of orders. 1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Tales Fash. Life* II. *Dun* 315 Mrs. Carver bespoke from him two pieces of *waistcoating. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4071, Fancy waistcoatings and skirtings. *a* 1876 M. COLLINS *Pen Sk.* (1879) I. 20, I sat in his courtyard, coatless and *waistcoatless.

Waistcoated (*wĕ*ˑs(t)kŏutĕd), *a.* [f. WAISTCOAT + -ED 2.] Provided with a waistcoat.

1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* I. 27 He..was pantaloned and waistcoated after the very newest fashion. 1807 MARIE CORELLI *Ziska* I, His paunch..a kind of waistcoated air balloon.

b. with defining word prefixed.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* II, As I purpose to show in the sequel whether the white-waistcoated gentleman was right or not. 1856 R. B. MANSFIELD *Chips* 224 Magpies..the black-coated and white-waistcoated gentry.

Waistcoatee·r. Also 7 **waste-coateer**, **-coater**, **wastcoateer**, **-coatier**, **westecoateer**, 8 **waste-cateer**, 9 **waistcoasteer**. [f. WAISTCOAT + -EER.]

† **1.** A low-class prostitute. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a 1626 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without Money* IV. iv, *Luce*. Doe you thinke you are here sir amongst your wastcoateers, your base Wenches that scratch at such occasions? 1675 *Char. Town-Gallant* 3 Every thing with him is an Incentive to Lust, and every Woman Devil enough to tempt him, Covent-Garden, Silk-gowns, and Wapping Wastcoatiers, are equally his Game. 1820 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, 'I know the face of yonder waistcoateer', continued the guide.

2. *nonce-use.* A person wearing a waistcoat of a specified fashion.

1894 T. L. BENEDIX *Lyt.* 11 Jan. (1894) 49 Here followed a long Brutus & Cassius discourse between a r of s porter and myself.

Waisted (*wē*ˑstĕd), *a.* [f. WAIST + -ED 2.] Having a waist (usu. of specified size or form). For parasynthetic formations, as *deep-*, *fair-*, *-*, *short-waisted*, see the first element.)

STANYHURST *Æneis* etc. (Arb.) 142 Shee limps in the ..And as a cow wasted plods on, with an head like a as. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* XI. 124 Beautiful as youth; Waisted like Hebe; and with Diana's step. 1913 E. T. LAMB *Archæol. Anglo-Sax. Settlements* vii. 230 A peculiar waisted beaker with rounded base often terminating in an excrescent knob.

Waister (*wē*ˑstəɹ). *Naut.* [f. WAIST + -ER 1.] (See quots.

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Waisters*, a name given, to the men stationed in the waist in working the ship. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.*, *Waisters*, 'green hands, or broken-down seamen', placed in the waist of a ship of war, to do duty not requiring a knowledge of seamanship. 1890 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. iii. 12 Then, there are the Waisters, always stationed on the gun-deck. These haul aft the fore and main-sheets, besides being subject to ignoble duties; attending to the drainage [etc.]. 1894 J. HANNAY *Sand & Shells* 13 Mr. Crabb relieved his feelings by pegging into an idle 'waister' with his 'colt'.

Waistless (*wē*ˑstlĕs), *a.* [f. WAIST + -LESS.] Having no waist; having the appearance of being without a waist.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 97 Full meny a waistles wallydrag With wamis vnweildable, did furth wag, In creische that did increas. 1796 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 185 To conform to fashion's sway, Betsey is become waistless. 1870 Miss BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 126 Their little, bustless, waistless, hipless figures. 1920 SUFFLING *Eng. Ch. Brasses* 128 It is a life size figure, habited in a long flowing gown, waistless and without ornament of any kind.

Waist-rail.

1. *Naut.* (See quot. 1867.)

1804 DUNCAN *Mariner's Chron.* Pref. p. xlx, Drift-rails, fife-rails, sheer-rails, waist-rails, &c. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waist-rail* the channel-rail or moulding of the ship's side.

2. *Carriage-building.* (See quot.)

1884 FORREY *Car-builder's Dict.* (Cent.), *Waist-rail*, a horizontal piece in the framing of the side of a passenger-carriage.

Waist-tree. *Naut.* (See quot. 1846.)

1485 *Nav. Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 50 Wast trees..ij. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ii. 9 The Waist boords are set vp in the Ships waist, betwixt the Gun-waile and the waist trees. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Waist-Trees*, are those Timbers of a Ship which lie in the Waste. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.*, *Waist-Tree* or *Rough-Tree*, a spare spar placed along the side of a ship's waist where there happens to be no bulwark, in order to protect persons from falling overboard.

Wait (*wē*t), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 **wayte**, **waite**, (5 **wayet**, **whayte**), 4–7 **wayt**, 4, 7 **weyte**, (6 **weytte**, **wette**), 5–6 **wate**, (5 **watte**), 6 **waytte** (**waitte**, **waycht**, **weycht**, **wyethe**, **whet**), 7 **waight**, (**weight**), 4– **wait**. [Partly a. ONF. **wait*, *wet* masc. (= OF. *guait*, *gait*, *guet*, mod.F. *guet*, Pr. *gach*, *gait*), vbl. noun f. *waitier* (see WAIT *v.*) and ONF. *waite* fem. (OF. *guaite*, *gaite*, mod.F. *guette*, *gute*, Pr. *gacha*, *gaita*); it is uncertain whether the fem. sb. is f. the vb., or a direct adoption from Teut. (cf. OHG. *wahta*, Goth. *wahtwō*): see WAIT *v.* The word adopted from Fr. has coalesced with an Eng. formation on WAIT *v.* Cf. AWAIT *sb.*

Many apparent examples of this word in texts of 14–16th c. really belong to the synonymous AWAIT *sb.*, which, like other words beginning with a prefix, was often written as two words. It is possible that the *a* was in the 16th c. sometimes apprehended by writers and readers as the indefinite article, but distinct evidence of this is wanting.]

I. The action of WAIT *v.*[1]

1. In various phrases with the general sense: To take up a concealed position in order to make an unforeseen attack, or to be in readiness to intercept one's enemy or intended prey in passing; to lurk in ambush.

† **a.** *To sit in wait(s.* *Obs. rare.* (cf. AWAIT *sb.*)

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* IX. 29 He sites in waites [Vulg. *in insidiis*] with riche of land In derne, to sla þe vndarand. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 805 Why sitst thou like an enemie in waite Here watching at the head of these that sleep?

b. *To lie* (or † *lay*) *in wait.* † Also, *to lie at* (*the*) *wait*, *to lie on wait.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 157 For moldywarpes cattes is to kepe To ligge in wayte to touche hem with her cle. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xix. 123 As if peraventure is oon of thilke weies a man liggith in wait for to sle my seid seruaunt. 1492–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 312 The feythful sayngs of the crede chaseth away fendes whiche lye on wayte to hynder men. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 36 Preamb., Stanhop..lay in wayte uppon the seid sir William and hym grevously wounneded. 1530 PALSGR. 605/2, I ley in wayte of one to do him a displeasure. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 31 Or eyir he culd persawe the chancellaris folkis lyand in the wait for him he was invironit and circumit round about with thame. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* x. 9 He lieth in waite secretly as a lyon in his denne, he lieth in wait to catch the

1. 123 Some of their partie were upon London road neare Theale to lay in wait for provision or wine that came from London towards Aylesbury. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 34 P 5 The five Fields where the Robbers lie in wait. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXVIII, His friend advised that

they should lie in wait for the enemy. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ. IV.* 95/2 Full of rage, he lay in wait for Rosen, and as the latter left the Senate, he rushed upon him sword in hand. 1924 LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* II. 342 Lying in wait for dowagers' coaches in tortuous lanes.

Ag. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 34 May no man lang in welth indure, For wo that evir lyis at the wait. 1553 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 118 To the intent to prevent the marchaunts, bothe strangers and Englishe, who allwayes lay in wayte to prevent my devisses. *a* 1623 OVERBURY *Characters, Meere Fellow* Wks. (1856) 129 His religion lies in wait for the inclination of his patron. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* ii, A ring of disciples, who lie in wait to catch up their droppings. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 553 Ten thousand dangers lie in wait to thwart The process. 1785 T. BALGUY *Disc.* 47 He is constantly lying at wait to correct them. 1791 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Celestina* III. 212 He..had indeed no other design than to lay in wait for traces of that involved mystery. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, The habit..had given him a suspicious manner, or a manner that would be better described as one of lying in wait.

† c. *To lie wait. Obs. rare.*

1448 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 Ambicion..which evir lyeth waite at chambir dorys. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 55 Thair followit na thing bot slaughter..; ilk ane lyand wait for wther as they had ben settand tinchellis for the murther of wyld beistes.

d. *To lay wait, † lay one's wait.*

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* x. viii. 206 But God being the friend..of Constantinus brought to light the wayte layde for him in secret. 1586 THYNNE *Contn. Ann. Scot.* 457/1 in *Holinshed*, But, hauing wait laid for him by an ambush of his enimies, he was in his iorneie towards his castell intercepted. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 333 Wherefore thuy layed wait for him as hee came one day from hunting, and murdered him. 1633 J. MAYER *Expos. Ps.* xxxi. 4 When wait was layd for him to kill him in his house. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Lmo-C. Wars* 169 Although they could escape all the wait laid for them by Pirates. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* iii, They were known to lay wait in all the principal passes, both of Piedmont and Savoy.

transf. and *fig.* 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* xx. 19, I haue..serued ye Lorde..with many teares and tentacions, which happened vnto me by y' layenges of wayte of the Iewes. 1599 T. STORER *Life & D. Wolsey* G 2 b, Those vnbaptised sacrilegious hands, That onely for Gods vestrie lai 'e their waite. 1612 BIBLE *Jer.* lx. 8 One speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his waite. 1755 *Monitor* I. 27 Can a free constitution be out of danger, where one part of it lays wait to destroy the energy of another? 1799 E. DU BOIS *Place Family Biog.* II. 42 By laying wait for a favourable moment, she might ultimately obtain the enjoyment of her criminal passion. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Nov. 563/2 Their..followers laid perpetual wait to steal.

† e. *To take under wait*: to capture or surprise by an ambush. *Obs.*

1513 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 180 Pai war na less astonist þan þai had bene tane vnder wait [*haud secus quam si in insidias incidissent*].

† f. The sb. used without the phrasal context: Ambush. *Obs. rare.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 149 Als sone as hermyneus herde the noyis of Valerius cuinpany, he lychit with his buschement haistely fra þe wate [*concurrit ex insidiis*]. 1788 BURNS *Written in Friars-Carse Hermitage* 20 Check thy climbing step, elate, Evils lurk in felon wait. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IV. 375 He was..always in wait to converse with her when she was seated.

2. The action of watching.

† a. In phrases. *At (the) wait*, on the watch. *To do, make wait*, to keep watch. *To have in wait*, to have under observation. Also, *to lie in great wait, lay good wait* (cf. 1), to be carefully on the watch. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Partenope* 6745 (B. M. MS.) His ffrendes had nym so in waite..That his purpose myght not be Atte Bleys parfoureined. *c* 1460 in *Archæologia* XXIX. 339 þe Fisshe drewe nere vnto þe bayte; Nede haþe no lawe,..þe Egle þerto euer layde goode wayte. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 379 A suttell knycht tharat had gret despyt, Folowyt at wait. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 21 And in thir termis can thai say, Do wait, and lat him nocht away. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 293 Her sobre temperaunce..wherin she lay in as grete wayte of herself as ony persone myght. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xiv. 83 Quhen as ane Arune, by hys mortal fait Onto myschewos daid predestinate, Circulis at the wayt. *c* 1520 *Everyman* (facs.) B j, I haue a great enemy that hath me in wayte Whiche intendeth me for to hyndre. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxii. 144/2 The moost parte of the state of the prince..was well knowen with the kynges there about..for they layed great wayte to knowe it. 1533 HEN. VIII in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* 1733 I. App. liv. 141 That they..do make & cause te be made diligent search, wait & espyal, whether the said Bps. & Clergy do..executs..their said charge.

† b. Watchfulness. *Obs.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 18 It was a sport very pleasaunt ..to see..the nimbleness and wayt of the dog too take his auauntage.

3. a. (*Day's*) *wait*: the duty of keeping guard by day performed by the warders of the Tower.

1694 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. 608 The Yeoman Warders of the Tower are 40 in number...Ten of them are usually upon the Days-wait. 1728–47 in Pegge *Curialia* III. (1791) 103 When the Man waiting for another hath performed such Wait, he shall not be permitted to wait again, so as to continue his Wait for divers Men one after another.

b. The period of attendance at court of a lord- or lady-in-waiting.

1884 *World* 20 Aug. 10/2 The Queen always likes the yearly rota of waits to be arranged so that her favourite ladies shall be with her at Balmoral. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 July 2/2 He will have no duties..as his appointed 'wait' is from October 3 to 17, when the Queen will be at Balmoral, where the attendance of a Lord-in-Waiting is always dispensed with.

4. The state or condition of waiting or remaining expectant. *At wait*: in an expectant attitude. *In wait*: waiting, remaining in a place in expectation of some one coming. *rare.*

1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. *Mother's Ghost* xviii, When she came to the castle gate, There stood her eldest daughter in wait. 1875 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* 344 Next to this we find a sudden sunny bank in the dim depth of a wood, with a wolf at watch and a rabbit at wait.

5. A period of waiting; spec. *Theatr.*, the time of an audience's waiting between the acts, or of an actor's waiting between his appearances in the piece.

1855–6 DICKENS in Forster *Life* (1874) III. v. 207 The waits between the acts being very much longer than the acts themselves. 1863 LE FANU *House by Churchyard* III. ix. 93 This was said after a wait of nearly ten minutes. 1876 *Daily News* 27 Oct. 5/6 What a long, tedious wait it was up there on the edge of the wood while we listened..for some sign of Graf Keller's approach. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Oct. 5/4 The audience..passed a long wait pleasantly in singing a number of political songs. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London To-day* iii. (ed. 3) 50 The Criterion has a chorus of glee singers to wile away waits through the courses.

II. A person who watches or waits.

† 6. A watchman; a scout, spy. *Obs.*

a. A military watchman, sentinel, or look-out; also a scout, spy; esp. a watchman in a camp, castle, or fortified place who was furnished with a horn or trumpet to sound an alarm or to make a signal.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11541 He [Herod] sett his waites bi þe stret, If þai moght wit þan kinges mett, He commandid son þai suld be slan. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4312 Theo knyghtis heore body dubbeth; The waytes bleow, the belle rynges. *c* 1325 *Coer de L.* 2981 The wayts of that host that did espie, And ful loud began to crie: We are betrayd and y-nome! 1340 *Ayenb.* 121 Pet is þe wayte of þe castele þet neure ne sleepþ. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 395 þe holy prophete Ezechiel saiþ: 'If þe wayte or þe waccheman se ennemys cum [etc.]' 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 191 A knyghte þat highte Simbo stode in a weytes place. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* v. v. (1495) 108 And for the eye is in stede of a wayte, kynde settyth hym in the hyghest place of the body. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7222 Euery man to his In owe, The wayte be-gan nyght to blowe. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1065 Waytes on the walle gan blowe, Knyghtis assembled on a rowe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wayte, *speculator* (v. r. *explorator*). 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* lxi. 37 Loke thou haue good waytes and aspies in thyn oste. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxxi. 263 At the last by fortune he came to a Castel and there he herd the waytes vpon the wallys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iv. 60 Mysenus, the wait, on the hie garret seyis, And, with his trumpet, thame a takin maid.

transf. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxx. (1495) 721 A vynyerde is ofte vysyted and ouerseen of the erthe tylthers and kepers of vynes and a wayte is there set in an hyghe place.

b. A watchman attached to the royal household who sounded the watch, etc., by the blowing of a pipe, trumpet, or other wind-instrument.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7769 When theo table was y-drawe, Theo wayte gan a pipe blawe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xlvii. (1869) 198 The ladi that thou hast herd pleye with instrumentes and bereth an horn that is the waite that awaketh the king alle times that he slepeth bi hire blowinge. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 1097 Grete lordys were at the assent; Waytys blewe, to mete they wente. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 48 A Wayte, that nyghtly, from Michelmasse till Shere-Thursday, pipeth the watche within this courte fower tymes,..and he to make bon gayte, and [? *read* at] everey chambre door and office, as well for fyre as for other pikers or perelles...And under this yoman, a groome wayte. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* (1826) I. 185 And thus it kept, until the wayte piped his second watch in all the courts.

c. A municipal watchman.

1428 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 11, no. 3, [Ordered, by consent] ballivorum et magnatum ville, in defectu ministrorum alias dictorum waytes, quod quedam campana ecclesie Omnium Sanctorum et alia campana ecclesie Sancti Petri congruis horis noctis pulsentur, viz., in mane Daybell, et in vespere Curfewe. 1429 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 646 Quod quelibet Porta custodiatur per diem per duos homines bene armatos, et de nocte claudetur per Servientem eam inhabitantem; et quod quilibet Serviens habeat unum Wayte, sumptibus suis proprijs.

† 7. *collect.* A body of guards. *Obs.*

1704 in Pegge *Curialia* III. (1791) 82 Which Twelve Men [of the Guard] are to be chosen by the Six Waits then out of Waiting. 1747 *Ibid.* 104 Upon Forfeiture of his or their share of such Bounty-Money among the rest of the Wait then and there in waiting.

8. † a. *pl.* A small body of wind instrumentalists maintained by a city or town at the public charge. Also *sing.*, a member of this body. *Obs.*

They played for the daily diversion of the councillors, on ceremonial and festive occasions, and as a town or city band they entertained the citizens, perambulating the streets, often by night or in the early morning.

1298 [see *Westmeal*]. 1438 in *Cov. Leet Bk.* 189 Hyt is ordeyned that they [*sic*] Trumpet schall hane the rule off the whaytes, and off hem be Cheffe. 1467 *Ibid.* 335 Also þat þe Waytis of þis Cite..shall not passe þis Cite, but to abbottis & priours within x miles of þis Cite. 1469 in W. Kelly *Notices Illustr. Drama* (1865) 189 Thomas Wylkyns Wayte. 1542 *Ibid.* 191 Item paed to Thomas Goldsmyth ffor mendyng of the Towne Waytes Collars iij^s. iiij^d. 1548 *Ibid.* 193 Item p^d to Mr. Gyllott for the Wayghts gownes xxxv^s vj^d. 1553 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 47 The new Lord Mayor went] toward Westmynter [attended by the] crafftes of London.. with trumpets bicbyng and the whets playing. 1571 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 118 Lewis Lookwood, Bagpiper was admitted Wayte of this town. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Hollinshed* III. 289/2 The waits of the citie were placed with lowd musicks, who cheerefullie & melodiouslie welcomed hir maiestie into the citie, this song being soong by the best voices in the same. 1589 (? NASHE) *Almond for Parrat* 2 Who hearing the waites play vnder his window very early, insulted..that [etc.] *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* (Malone Soc.) 944 Where are the waytes? goe, bid them play, to spend the time awhile. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* I. i, 7 *vv.* A Trumpet should fright him terribly, or the Hau'-boyes? *Cle.* Out of his senses. The Waights of the citie haue a pension of him, not to come neere that ward. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. iv. i. (1903) 302 In like sorte many Cittyes mantayne at publike charge Musitians, vsing Sagbutts, Hoboyes, and such loude Instruments, which wee call the waytes of Cyttyes, and these play at the publicke house of the Citty each day at Noone, when the Senatours goe to dinner, and at all publike Feasts. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Captain* II. ii, *Jac.* Hark, are the Waits abroad? *Fab.* Be softer prethee, 'Tis private musick. ..*Jac.* Well I will hear, or sleep, I care not whether. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 189/1 The Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of this Town, after a Sermon Preached to them, went to the Market-Cross in their Formalities, the Waytes playing before them. 1670 *Mornl State Eng.* 132 The Weights of the Town who played upon Cornets and Haut-bois. 1687 WOOD *Life* 3 Sept. (O.H.S.) III. 230 When he came to Quartervois he was entertaind with the wind musick or waits belonging to the city and Universitie. 1732 FIELDING *Letter Writers* II. ii, You are a couple of wretched Scrapers, and play ten Degrees worse than the University Waits. 1736 F. DRAKE *Eboracum* L. vi. 197 [The sheriffs] are preceded by the city's waites, or musicians, in their scarlet liveries and silver badges playing all the way through the streets. 1760 GOLDSM. *Nash* (Globe) 524/1 Upon a stranger's arrival at Bath he is welcomed by..the voice and music of the city waits. 1764 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 202 Ordered that John Bolton and John Langhorn be appointed two publick Waites of this town.

b. *pl.* A band of musicians and singers who perambulate the streets by night at the approach of Christmas and the New Year playing and singing carols and other seasonable music for gratuities.

1773 *Archæologia* II. 66 What we at present call the Waits, or the music on the nights of the Christmas holydays. 1802 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Waysghtes*, Those persons who annually, at the approach of Christmas, salute us with their nocturnal concerts, were, and are to this day, called *Waysghtes*. 1820 IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 37 The sound of the Waits,..breaks upon the mid-watches of a winter night. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 375 *Waits, The.* A name given, from time immemorial, to the little bands of rustic Musicians who sing and play Carols, by night, in country places, at Christmas-time.

† c. *gen.* A player on the flute, hautboy, trumpet, etc. *Obs.*

1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Div, *Tibicen*, a wayte. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 501/1 *Spondiales vel spondiauli*,..such as plaied vpon long pipes at diuine seruice, they may be called the waytes. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XVII. Brev. 390 That..as he returned home to his owne house, the waits should sound the hautboies all the way [*tibicine canente*]. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 22 Whom travelling, Indian Waites and Trumpets should accompany.

† 9. One who waits in service, an attendant. *Obs.*

1632 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XI. XXX, Still to have toting Waits unseel thine Eyes, In Bed, at Board, when sit, when rise: Such, Card'nal-like, their Raris prize 'bove Paradise.

† III. 10. [Originally a transferred use of 8 c.] *pl.* Wind instruments, either hautboys, shawms, or flutes. Also *sing.* (rare). *Obs.*

[Cf. Sp., Pg. *gaita*, a kind of flute; the word seems to have been adopted from OF., though no examples of the sense have been found in French of any period.]

1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wayte an instrument, *hauboys*. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 68/2 The trumpet or waytes, *tuba*. 1592 *Doctor Faustus* in Thoms *E. Eng. Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 178 Lutes, viols, citterns waits, and all manner of other instruments. 1600 SHELTON *and Pt. Quixote* XXVI. 173 For amongst Moores you haue..a kinde of Shaulmes that bee like our Waytes. [1703 MOTTEUX, like our Waits or Hautboys.] 1636 C. BUTLER *Princ. Mus.* II. i. 93 [Wind-instruments, as] Waits or Hobois. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 634 Waits are under the dominion of Jupiter, in the Sign Libra; the Sounds and harmonious Consorts of this Instrument are great, noble and pleasing to Nature.

IV. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wait-pipe, player, -song*; † **wait captain**, the chief of the municipal waits; † **wait fee** (see quot. 1706); † **wait-layer**, one who lies in wait; † **waitmeat**, food supplied to the municipal waits.

1565 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1888) II. 35 Mr. Mayor called James Atherby then being *Waite Captain. 1563 in Spelman *Gloss.* s.v., Per redditum 14*s.* pro *Wayte fee, and Castle garde. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wayt-fee*, (old Law-word) Ward-penny, or a Fee anciently paid for keeping Watch and Ward. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XL. xli. 1067 He..will..have the world beleeve that I play the part not onely of a secret and cunning *wait-layer, but of an open theefe. 1632 — *Cyropædia* 30 Who ever shall effect this, had need be a waitlayer, a deepe dissembler. 1898 *Yorks. Inquisit.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc. 1900) III. 84, 2*s.* for *Waytemets and Schirrefstuthe. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 694/40 *Hec colemaula*,..*waytepype. 1620 in T. Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 210 Every Maior shall pay to the *waite players iiij d. 1872 WHITTIER *Penn. Pilgrim* 301 On frosty Christmas eves..he..closed his eyes, and listened to the sweet Old *wait-songs sounding down his native street.

Wait (*wēt*), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **waited.** Forms: 2–7 **waite**, 3–8 **wayte**, 4–7 **wayt**, (4 *errou.* **whaite, whayte**), 3–4, 6 *Sc.* **waitte**, 4–6 *Sc.* **vaitte**, 5 **waytte**, 6–7 **waight**, 4–6 *Sc.* **watte**, 8 *dial.* **watt**, 3–4 **weite**, 4–6 **weyte**, 7 **weight**, 3–6, 8 *dial.* **wate**, 4 **wete**, 4– **wait.** [Early ME. *waite-n*, a. ONF. *waitier* (Central OF. *guaitier, gaiter*, mod.F. *guetter*) = Prov.

guitar, It. *guatare*, to watch, lie in wait for; a. OHG. *wahtôn* (mod.G. *wachten*) to watch, guard, f. *wahta* fem. (mod.G. *wacht*) watch, f. OTeut. **wah-*: see WAKE *v.*]

I. The simple verb.

†1. *trans.* To watch with hostile intent; to spy upon; to lie in wait for. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 103 Þat bið ðo werewede gostes ðe waitið ðo soules hiser buuen on ðe wolkne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 43 For ure gult god man bicom and ure eldre waiteden him to deaðe. *Ibid.* 87 Þanne ferde þe fule goat and seuene oðre gostes mid him forcuðere þen him self were, and bitrumede þat child, and waiteden hit on eche wise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23731 Euer he wates vs þat fede, es nathing certainur þan dede. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 522 He may [me] waiten for to slo. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. C.* 1186 His despisers he waytes ay, Als shadow to tak to his pray. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Peter*) 22 In Jerusalem he wes bofte, spyit, waltit, and bundyn ofte. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 3068 (MS. Cott.) Ane erl of his companny Waytit Traen sa besely þat wiþe a buschement he has [slayn] Traen. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 74 Sir agravayne at home is he, nyght & day he waytes vs two. 1530 PALSGR. 770/2, I wayte, I lye awayte for one to hurte hym, or to spye what he dothe. *Je guette.* I wyll wayte him here tyll to morowe but I wyll have him. 1596 DALRYMPLE *tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 22 He thairfor appoynted certan cutthrots to wayt thame as fra the Banquet thay return. 1597 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 421 They steir upe and incitats four deboshit young limmers, and wattes.. James Smithe, as he was coming ham at night from the cost syde.

† b. *intr.* To keep hostile watch; to lie in wait. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Ine wildernesse heo aspieden [*MS. C.* in þe wildene weiteden] us to slean. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lx. 30 He waites [Vulg. *insidiatur*] in hidel als lioun in den. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 839 Þou sal waite womman for to sting, And sco sal yiet þi hede þring. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 149 To kepen him.. From wastors þat wayten winners to schende. ? 1404–8 *Wyt & Wille* 30 in *26 Pol. Poems* 23 Echon wayte oþer for to kille. 1535 COVERDALE *Obad.* i. 14 Nether shalt thou stonde waytinge enymore at y^r^ corners of the stretes, to murthur soch as are fled. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 125 Lay pease vpon stacke,..And couer it straight, from doues that waight.

†2. *trans.* To be on the watch to inflict (injury): = AWAIT *v.* 2. *Obs.*

The sense is app. due to the confusion of this vb. with WAIT *v.*[3]

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13012 Noght warre of the weghes, þat waited his harme, [He] past furth thurgh the pase with his proude knightes.

†3. To watch, keep one's eye upon, observe constantly; to look out for, watch for. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13285 At see sant Iohn and Iam he fand, Quils þai þair lines war waitand. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1754 And bad him..Hauelok wel yemen..And wel do wayten al þe nith. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 99 Fechez mo gesteȝ, Wayteȝ gorsteȝ & greueȝ, if ani gomez lyggez, fechez hem hider. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 191 He wayted many a constellacion Er he had doon this operacion. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8888 Wemen waited hym well, hade wondur of hym one, That of shap for to shew was shene to beholde. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 863 And when so we ȝern ony thing þat may fall vnto flesch likyng, Thinke we god waites vs weterly. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1698 Whethir þou wayted our nyght wayes? *Ibid.* 3761 A monk to wayte þis taken stode.

†b. To watch mentally, observe, consider attentively. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Phil.* iii. 17 Britheren,..wayte ȝe [Vulg. *observate*] hem that walken so as ȝe han oure foorme. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 45 Ther nys no gouernour on þe grounde ne sholde gye him þe better..ȝif he waite well he wordis, and so werche þerafter. *c* 1430 *God's Complaint* 57 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 165 Waite what y dide to marie maudeleyne, And what y seide to thomas of ynde.

†c. To watch over, take charge of, care for (a person's interests). *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 5416 (Gött.) Þus coude Ihoseph, I said ȝou, waite his lauerd þe kinges prou. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 37, I haue ben his felawe þis fiftene wynter..With-Innen and withouten I-wayted his profyt. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 164 If thou my wyrchipe wayte..Thou salle haue gersoms fulle grett. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2471 Þeir awn winyng þai sal not wayt, þat oþer win þai sal counyt.

†d. To search for. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 808 Hee wendes too a wildernes & waites him erbes. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 494 Þe Pardonere, þat drewe apart, & weytid hym a trest ffor to hyde hym selff.

†4. *intr.* To keep watch; to look intently. Also with adv. or phrase, *to wait about, about one, on every side*, etc. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 120 Hir frendes fulle fast waited aboute & woke, & Maid at þe last kyng Steuen scho toke. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2163 Þenne he wayted hym aboute. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1423 He waytez onwyde, his wenches he lyholdes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 128 And þorw heore wordes I awok and waitide [*MS. V.* lokede] aboute, And sauh [etc.]. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XIII. 343, I wayted wisloker, and thanne was it solled With lykyng of lecherye, as by lokyng of his eye. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 876 He waites vmbe hym wightly, & was ware sone Of þe orible oxin. *c* 1400 *Pseudo-G Gaw.* 1815 Sho..waited obout fer and ner. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1585 And as he waytis in a wra, þan was he ware sone Of þe maister of þat menyȝhe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. XVI. 209 Ther with he wayted aboue hym and vnder hym, and ouer his hede he sawe a rowsepyk. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* 230 On euerilk syde full warlie couth he wait. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 106 Wherfore about I waited busily On every syde, if I her mighte see.

†b. To act as a watchman. *Obs.*

1436 *Siege of Calais* in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) II. 253 The porters kept the gattes full manly,..To wate they wer not frit. *c* 1440 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXVIII. xii. To castell Pilgrym ..there was no waye but one full straite, On a cawsey.. Strongly walled, with towres on to wayte. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 3, I am come to suruey the Tower this day; ..Where be these Warders, that they wait not here? 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* x. (1628) 327 Wee call him that waiteth at the Towre one of the ward, or a warder.

†c. To observe carefully. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 128 3it swiche flreashe floodis beth..ffor her digneasse endaunted of dullisshe nollis, And, if þou well waite, of no wight ellis.

†d. With indirect question: To watch, observe carefully *what, when, how*, etc. *Obs.*

c 1275 LAY. 23077 Þis lleue3 Bruttus þat he wole come þus and loke3 and waite3 wane he come to londe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 268 Euere he waytede, 3if ore louerd ani grace him wolde sende. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1495 He sente knyghtes & squiers To waite who made on hym pres. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1821, I wol..waite 3if any weiȝ comes wending alone. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 25 Now yif so be þat the semith to long a tarienge.., thanne whaite whan the sonne is in any other degree of the sodiak. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 901 A suerd he drew, rych manlik him to wer, Ay wayttand fast gyff he can get a sper. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence* (1607) *Andria* I. i, *Observes illum quid agat: quid captet consilii.* Watch him what hee doth, wait what he intendeth.

†e. To take precautions, be watchful or cautious. In imperative: Take care, see to it that.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 292, I schal wayte to be war her wrenches to kepe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 571 Algate he wayted so in his achat That he was ay biforn and in good stat. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 436 in *Babees Bk.*, Euer of a sharpe knyff wayte þat ye be sure. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. ii. 37 But wayte ye make not many questions with her nor her men, but saye ye are diseased, and soo hye yow to bedde. 1522 *World & Child* (facs.) A iv, Wayte well that thou suffre no shame.

5. *trans.* To look forward (esp. with desire or apprehension) to (some future event or contingency); to continue in expectation of. Now somewhat *rare*: usually superseded by AWAIT *v.*

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 327/80 3if þou waxe pore he wol skorne þe—Wayte of him neuere oþer bounte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3328, I wot, sir, witterly, will I or noght, Your wille I moste wirke, waite I non other. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXIX. i, Waiting aid, with ernest eying. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Wom.* IV. i, *Ped.* I thank ye, And soon I'll wait your promise. 1672–8 SIR C. LYTTELTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 75 Wee waite much wht^h^ ye Spaniards will returne to ye King of France message. 1706 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. XVIII. 21 Admitted as an humble Guest, Where Men of Money break their Jest, He waits the Nod, with Awe profound, And catches, ere it reach the Ground, The falling Joke. 1800 H. MARTIN *Helen of Kilmeross* II. 57 If Harry really loves me.., bid him wait futurity with composure. 1830 TENNYSON *Adeline* iv, What aileth thee? whom waitest thou? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. i, Or they that in the Bicêtre Hospital, 'eight to a bed', lie waiting their manumission. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xl, She took up her residence with Mr. Bowls..and waited the result of the advertisement. 1885 J. H. DELL *Dawning Grey, Higher Creed* 6 We wait the harps of sounder string, 'I han [etc.].

b. *intr.* (Chiefly to *wait for* = sense 5).

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socr.* I. xix. 245 When the woman perceaued her selfe to be daungerously sicke, and wayted for no other then present death. 1582 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 266, I knaw thou waittis Lieutenentis place to haue. *a* 1592 H. SMITH *Serm., Noah's Drunk.* (1602) G 4 b, The ground..wayted for nothing now, but a paynefull labourer to till and dresse it. 1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* xi. 5. 297 And hee that waiteth for olde mens shoes, may happily goe bare foote in the meane time. 1642 MILTON *Reform.* II. 87 These importunate Wolves, that wait and thinke long till they devoure thy tender Flock. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 374 We wait with anxiety but not with impatience for the succeeding numbers. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* XXVIII, Dimly I could descry The stern black-bearded Kings.., Waiting to see me die.

c. To remain for a time without something expected or promised.

1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 935 If thou be a mans atturney, ..Let him not waite and spende money, If his dispatch do lie in the. 1897 HALL CAINE *Christian* x, That was the only condition on which he would agree to wait for his money.

6. *trans.* To continue stationary or quiescent, in expectation of (a person or thing, an event); to defer departure or action until the arrival or occurrence of. Now *rare*: superseded by *wait for* (see 7) and AWAIT *v.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 36 Tharfor thair cummyng vatit he, And met thame at thair ariving. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 273 Mary hys moder went þe weye To caluery þer he xuld deye, And waytyd þer here chylde. 1578 in Feuilleraz *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 297 To waight my Lord Chamberlaines comyng thither. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 59 From thence he went to a place called Lothra, where he builded another Monasterie, and lyeth there wayting the generall resurrection. 1660 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 2 That where there were any other evidences, that the Prophet spake by Divine Revelation, there was no reason to wait the fulfilling of every particular Prophecy before he was believed as a Prophet. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* I. i, This Tide will bring them from Gravesend. You had best let your man go, as from me, And wait them at the Stairs in Durham-yard. 1772 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* II. 253 We had before agreed to wait the return of the chancellor's messenger at St. Omers. 1797 HY. LEE *Canterb. T., Frenchm. T.* (1799) I. 293 Without waiting her answer..he would have led her down stairs. 1800 *Noble Wanderers* II. 128 One of the slaves, whom he had commanded to wait his return. 1808 PIKE *Sources Missis.* II. App. 22 We were requested to halt and wait the arrival of the chief, who was half a mile from us. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXVIII, Lady Emily's servant was waiting orders in the kitchen. 1829 — *Lay. Montrose* XXIII, She now waits you at the altar. 1883 WARREN *Sophocles, Philoct.* 723 Now then remain, and wait his coming here, Whilst I go hence. 1899 QUILLER-COUCH *Ship of Stars* XXVI, The Vicar clambered out to wait it [the coffin].

b. *transf.* Of things: To remain in readiness for, to await; to be in store for, to be reserved for. Cf. AWAIT *v.* 8 a.

1745 *Sc. Transl. & Paraphr.* LI. 1, But better mansions wait the just, prepar'd above the sky. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 512 Public Contempt shall wait the Public Fool. 1890 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xviii. (1853) 233 The same ..calculations wait us when we bend our eyes on that which is to come. 1894 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* XI. (1901) II. 36 'Tea and coffee wait your pleasure in the drawing-room', observed the stiff-necked footman.

7. *intr.* or *absol.* Often *to wait for* = sense 6.

a. To remain in a place, defer one's departure until something happens.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 71 And certes lord, to abyden youre presence Heere in the temple of the goddesse clemence We han ben waitynge al this fourtenyght. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* X. 6 Now whan she came to the porte of the cite, she founde Osias and the elders of the cite waitinge there. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 642 But he was espyed by diuerse watermen..which wayted for his foorthcomyng on the Thamys. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. iii. 17, I must bee sad when I haue cause, and smile at no mans iests, eat when I haue stomacke, and wait for no mans leisure. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* III. i, At the back dore Tatter-demallians waite, who know not how To get admittance. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 132 P 1, I. dressed immediately, that I might make no one wait. 1779 *Mirror* No. 37 Allowing ladies to go unattended to a public place, to wait there four hours in expectation of the gentlemen with whom they were to dance. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, The old adage, 'time and tide wait for no man'. 1856 RUSKIN *King Golden River* i. (ed. 3) 12 What did you hope us waiting in the rain for? 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXII. 152 At the summit of these rocks I again waited for him. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* XXII, Sir James Ovington's carriage was waiting without. 1908 R. BAGOT *Passport* XI. 104, I must drive back to Genzano. I told the *vetturino* to wait.

b. colloq. *To wait about*: to linger expectantly, 'hang about' where something is likely to happen. Also (chiefly *U.S.*) *to wait around.*

1879 MISS BRADDON *Clown's Foot* XXIX. II. 268 'What has become of your brother?' Laura asked, as she and Celia waited about, side by side, watching the assembly of the field. 1886 BESANT *Children. Gideon* II. XXX, The street was, however, well enough lighted for Claude to see a figure waiting about on the pavement. 1893 M. HALSTEAD *Hundred Bear Stor.* 57 It grew sort of monotonous waiting around. 1899 J. L. WILLIAMS *Stolen Story* etc. 175, I suppose they're waiting around till it stops raining.

c. To defer action until some event has taken place; also with inf., to delay to do something.

a 1633 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 25 Hee puls with a long rope, that waights for anothers death. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 460 To wait 'no longer than ten or fifteen minutes for the efforts of nature', is a position which cannot be too strongly reprobated. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* III. XXI. 342 If we wait till all the world are worshippers, we must wait till the world is new made. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. XV, A whole Eternity I waited to be born. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. VIII, Beatrix..waited even to burst out a-crying until she got to the door. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* VIII. § 6. 519 He had shown he knew how to wait, and when waiting was over he knew how to act. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 434 A man should wait, and not take his own life until God summons him. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Philoct.* 837 Thou seest, now is the time. Why should we wait to do this deed?

d. *To wait on*: (*a*) *Sc.* to linger about a place; (*b*) *Sc.* also, to linger in expectation of death; (*c*) *Hawking* (see quot. 1891).

(*a*) 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* XII, It's a sair thing to hae to do wi' courts of law, unless it be to improve one's knowledge ..by waiting on as a hearer.

(*b*) 1836 *J. M. Wilson's Tales Borders* II. 377, I did hear tell that his father was waitin on, but I hope he's no that far gane yet.

(*c*) 1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Falconry* 158 If your hawk wait well on at her being first entered. 1828 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Hawking* (1828) 17 He [the hawk] may thus be made to follow the falconer wherever he pleases; this is called *waiting on.* 1891 HARTING *Bibl. Aucupitr.* 231 A hawk is said to 'wait on' when she soars in circles over the head of the falconer, waiting for the game to be flushed.

e. Racing. *To wait off*: to allow oneself to be distanced by other competitors in order to 'romp in' when their energies are exhausted. Cf. WAITING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2 c.

1856 'DRUID' *Post & Paddock* VI. 92 He patiently waited off, while Sancho forced the running.

f. *To wait up*: to defer going to bed in expectation of the arrival of some one.

1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* XVIII, Dr. Grantly..and Mrs. Grantly..are waiting up for you. 1892 *Temple Bar* Oct. 169 Don't wait up for me.

g. *To wait and see* (with indirect question or ellipsis of this): to await the course of events.

Recently often used with allusion to MR. H. H. Asquith's repeated reply of 'Wait and see' to a succession of questions in parliament.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 267 However, we had no Remedy, but to wait and see what the Issue of Things might present. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scotland-Yard*, The tailor..bid them wait and see what happened. 1848 — *Dombey* XXXV, Mr. Towlinson..says wait and see. 1883 Miss M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* VIII, When we have had dinner, we will do something better than have stories. Wait and see.

absth. 1925 F. S. OLIVER *Ordeal by Battle* I. VII. 80 History..shows us at every other crisis of this sort always the

same triangle of forces—a War party, a Peace party, and a Wait-and-See party.

h. *transf.* Of a thing: To remain in readiness for some purpose. Also, to remain for a while neglected.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iii, 'So you are come for your daily lesson?' 'Yes; but Tasso can wait if [etc.].' 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* I. ii. 14 John's gospel is waiting until the Church becomes mature enough to understand it. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* VI. xvii, There was a letter waiting for Philip at home. *Mod.* This letter must be answered at once; the others can wait.

i. quasi-*trans.* To postpone (a meal) in expectation of the arrival of some one. *colloq.*

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* ii, 'It's a trying thing waiting supper for lovers,' said Mr. Grimwig, waking up. 1886 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xxi, Who asked you to wait tea till near eleven o'clock?

8. Phrases. *To wait one's* (or *the*) *time, hour, opportunity,* etc. †a. (sense 3) To watch, look out for an opportunity (*obs.*). b. (sense 6) To defer action until a fitting season or opportunity shall present itself.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19715 þair redes þar-for can þai run, ..Night and dai to wait þe time Quen þai moght cum to murther him. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 825 Weyte þy tyme, and be not þe last To come whan holy watyr ys cast. 1338 — *Chron.* (1725) 94 To triste was he sette, forto waite þe chance. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 523 He hame till his house is gane, And vailt oportunite For to fulfill his mawite. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 535 Nyght and day he spedde hym þat he kan To wayten a tyme of his conclusion. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xiii. 2220 (MS. Cott.) Twa men he bade in prewate To wayt ane oportunyte, And stal þat barn. 1426 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 Waytynge theyr vauntage whan they may smyte the & slee the.

b. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 999 þe bischope had gret will his fallone lust to fulfill, waitand bot lasare quhen he mycht purchess oportunite. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. ii, Well, Sir, I'll wait a better season. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome, Marcus* iv. 59 Cassius was obliged to wait his opportunity. 1799 DUNDAS in Owen *Wellesley Desp.* (1877) 644 We cannot at present materially meliorate his government, but must wait favourable opportunities. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. xxix, She comes not—He will wait the hour, When her lamp lightens in the tower.

9. To be in readiness to receive orders; hence, to be in attendance as a servant; to attend as a servant does to the requirements of a superior. Chiefly const. *on*; see *wait on*, 14 j.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* ix. 13 They which wayte att the aulter are parttakers with the aultre. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 49 Yea, his Lordships very Grayhound, likewise vsing to waite at his stirrop, was shot through the body. *c* 1665 MILTON *Sonn.*, *'When I consider'* 14 They also serve who only stand and waite. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xviii, He..dropped a little behind the lady, at whose bridle-rein he had hitherto waited with such devotion.

b. To serve as an attendant at table; to hand food and drink to persons at a meal. Phr. *to wait at table* (cf. 14 j), † *to wait at a trencher.*

1528 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* 36 b, (*Iache shewes his qualities*) Yee and ich can, if needs be than, waight at the table well. *Ibid.*, Where ich did waite, at euerye baite. 1592 in *Sir J. Harington's Nugæ Antiq.* (1804) I. 106 Item, That no man waite at the table, without a trencher in his hand. 1605 BRETON *I pray you* (Grosart) 8/2 To spend my time.. onely for..waighting at a trencher, looking on a faire house. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. ii. (1903) 90 These gentlemen servants waite with their hatts on, and sett at their masters table, both at home and abroad where their masters are invited. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. ii, Joey was now preferred from the stable to attend on his lady, to..wait at her tea-table [etc.]. 1796–7 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* ... waited, and dropped everything on the table wherever it happened to go. 1905 E. T. THURSTON *Traffic* v. iv, 'Is she a musician then [at the restaurant]?' asked Mr. Puckle. 'No—she waited.'

†c. *To wait up*: to be in attendance at the head of the table. *Obs.*

a 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. i, As for the Chambermaid and my self, we will take our places at the neither end, the Jester is to wait up, and live by the crums that fall from the Emperours trencher.

d. quasi-trans. *To wait* (*the*) *table* = to wait at table. *Sc.*

1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 152 She waited the table with a heavy placable nonchalance. *a* 1894 — *St. Ives* xi. (1898) 82 We had a good many pleasant passages as she waited table or warmed my bed for me.

†e. quasi-trans. *To wait attendance*: to remain in attendance. *Obs.*

1590 [see ATTENDANCE 5]. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 161.

†10. *trans.* To attend or escort, to accompany for the purpose of rendering service or showing respect. *Obs.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1269 This Troyan, that..can so well doon alle his obeisaunces, And waytyn hire at festis & at daunces. 1598 GREENE *Jas. IV*, v. i, I must to Edenbourg, vnto the King, There to take charge and waight him in his warres. 1633 MASSINGER *Guard.* II. i, *Jol.* Waite me. *Calypht.* As your shadow. *Exeunt Jol. Calyp.* 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 557 She made a mannerly excuse to stay, Proffering the Hind to wait her half the way. 1697 — *Æneis* VIII. 734 Steeds are prepar'd to mount the Trojan Band; Who wait their Leader to the Tyrrhene Land. *Ibid.* XI. 92 He..chose a thousand Horse..to wait the Funeral. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 61 Refresh'd, they wait them to the bow'r of state. 1726 — *Dunc.* I. 265 She bids him wait her to her sacred Dome: Well pleas'd he enter'd. 1826 L. HUNT *Rimini* I. 242 His shield Borne by the squire that waits him to the field.

† b. *absol. Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, One, that hath newly entertain'd the begger to follow him, but cannot get him to wait neere enough.

†11. To attend as a concomitant or consequence.

1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 330 Prudence consists most in attempting the business, for it will go on, and is ever waited with success when undertaken. *a* 1726 PRIOR *First Hymn Callimachus* 64 Swift Growth and wond'rous Grace, O heav'nly Jove, Waited Thy blooming Years.

II. Special constructions with preps.

†12. Wait after—. a. To expect, look forward to; to be ambitious or desirous of, seek for. *Obs.*

1383 GOWER *Conf.* III. 323 This Leonin..waiteth after gret beyete; But al for noght. 1388 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* II. 124 Hewes in þe halyday after hete wayten. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2440 He is descendid of an high lenage, And..waytith after right grete heritage. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. i. 135 That we waite not aftir to be hoosilid with the sacrament of the auter. *Ibid.* v. ii. 489 Certis he may not waite aftir that the conclusioun of this argument be proued or be trewe. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 423 It is not for vs to wayte after pyte of hym, for he is over cruell a kyng vpon us. 1533 tr. *Erasm. Comm. Crede* 52 b, They do wayte after a kynge plentuously appoynted with ryches, with armies or hostes of men, and with other worldly aydes.

† b. To look out for; to watch, keep in observation. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1580 Beryne clepid a Marynere, & bad hym 'sty on lofft, And weyte aftir our four Shippis, [þat] aftir vs doith dryve.' 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xx. 54 He sawe a fende that..wayted byselye after all letters, and sylables, and wordes, and faylynges, that eny made. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXVI. 553 Thenne they set theymselfe doun vpon the fayr grasse, waytynge after theyr aduerse party.

Wait for—: see 5 b, 7.

13. Wait of—.

† a. To execute the commands of. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xi. (1912) 69 He would extol the deeds of Philoxenus, who indeede had but waited of him therin. *Ibid.* v. (1598) 465 A Counseller, who hath..the reasonable excuse of a seruant, that did but wait of his mistresse.

† b. To escort, accompany on the way, as a mark of honour: = *wait on*, 14 k. *Obs.*

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 860/1 This deponent..receyued the kynges maiesties Visitors at Chichester,..and conducted and wayted of them into the dioces of Wynton. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gent. Usher* III. ii. 77 Waite of Master Usher to the doore. 1709 N. BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 78, I Wated of ye Duke and Dutches of Norfolk &c. out of Wigan part of their way towards Preston. 1724 *Britton* No. 25. 110 Footmen..return when the Play is done to wait of them home. 1734 ADM. GORDON in *30th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 193 At 9 acloake I sent my pinnace to wayte of General Lacy.

† c. To pay a respectful visit to: = *wait on*, 14 m. *Obs.*

1555 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 211 Trustyng shortely to wayte of yor Lordshyppe. *c* 1673 W. MOUNTAGU in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 320 My Lord and his sons have been to see me at my chamber, but I had the misfortune to be abroad; and upon that score..I will wait of them again. 1677 *Ibid.* 324, I..shall acquaint his Lordship myself with it on Saturday, before which I cannot wait of him. 1707 N. BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 55, I went to Bold to wate of Mr. Molin[eux] but he was gon a hunting.

d. = *wait for*: see 7 a. Now *dial.*

1712 TYLDESLEY *Diary* (1873) 93 Stayed alday at Dick Jackson's watting of Mr. Blackborne, who came not till after nine att night. 1828 *Trial Wm. Dyon at York Assizes* 8, I was up waiting of my master until two o'clock.

14. Wait on or upon—.

† a. To observe, watch; to fix one's eyes upon, gaze at. *Obs.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 342 For though your loue laste a seson, Wayte vpon the conclusyon. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 361 þei wilneþ worshipes—but waite on her dedes! *c* 1400 ... waite on þat worthy went þai belyue. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6344 Anoon Jewel to his ship sent To warn his men to be redie, On his comyng to waite and spie. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Inspecto*, to behold attentiuely, to wayte on.

† b. To lie in wait for. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 349 Of his men a gret partie He made in buissehement abide, To waite on him in such a tide That he ne mihte here hond escape. 1595 *Locrine* IV. i. 783 Millions of diuels wayt vpon thy soule! 1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* II. (1629) 128 As they sayled along the shore, Phormio waited on them till they were out of the streight, intending to set vpon them in the open Sea.

† c. To secure, protect (oneself). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12722 þan he counseld Clunestra,..To be war of þat wegh, & wait on hir-seluyn.

† d. To attend to (a business, a duty). *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xii. 7 Let hym that hath an office, wayte on his office. [Similarly in later versions.]

† e. With clause as obj.: To take care *that*. *Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 235 He wayted weill onn, be all meines possible, that nathyng dekayet of Justice in his Realme.

† f. To await, expect with desire or anxiety. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7944, I wot the in witte to waite on myn end. 1608 *Yorks. Tyag.* viii. 93 Was this the answear I long waited on? 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 37, I perceave how hopelesse it will be to reach the heigth of their prayses at the accomplishment of that expectation that weights upon their noble deeds.

† g. To await the action of; to look to (a person) *for* something. *Obs.*

1582 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 253 That the Prince that lay in the Leaguer without the Walk, waited upon them [the townsfolk] for an answer.

h. In Bible phrase, to place one's hope in (God). Very common in the Bible of 1611; rendering several Heb. verbs of identical meaning.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxii[i]. 1 My soule waytith only vpon God, for of him commeth my helpe. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* XXV. 3 Let none that wait on the be ashamed.

†i. To remain in one place in expectation of = *wait for* (7 a). *Obs.*

1694 tr. *Martin's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 7 We were forced to wait on him above half an hour, before he came from underneath the Ice.

j. To attend as or in the manner of a servant to the personal requirements of; to minister to the comfort of. † Also in phrases, *to wait on the cup, the trencher, the table* (cf. 9 b).

To wait on (a person) *hand and foot*: see HAND *sb.* 56.

1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 1 No servyng manne waytyng vppon his maister..were eny garded Hose. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Mast.* iv. 11 Then let yº deuel him go, and lo angels cam vnto him and waited on him. 1552 HULOET, Wayte on the cup, *ad cyathos stare.* 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 66 Wee should have beene fayne to wayte on the table, and to bee contented with their leauings after supper. 1600 *Kyd's Sp. Trag.* II. v. (Addit.), His Maiestie the other day did grace him With waiting on his cup. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 80 When they grow old, they most grow contemptible, being put to do the drudgeries of the house, and many times to waite on their children. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. xv, It is not my business, answered the Drawer, to wait upon the Chambers. If you come to that, answered the Maid, it is not my business to wait upon Gentlemen. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. New Forest* iv, You can have no servants to wait upon you. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *Mildred Arkell* xi, When I was only six years old I had to wait on Mamma and Charlotte. 1901 ALLDRIDGE *Sherbro* xiii. 114 He is waited upon hand and foot.

k. To accompany on one's way (as a mark of respect or to render service or assistance); to escort. Now *rare* (? exc. *U.S.*).

1450 W. LOMNER in *Paston Lett.* I. 124 With other shippis waytyng on hym. 1481 *Cov. Leet Bk.* (1908) 486 There shuld be xl sowdyers mo waged for a quarter of þe town wages to make vp a C men to wayte vppon the kyng in þis viage etc. *c* 1530 TINDALE *Jonas Prol.* A vj b, Ande one yᵗ cast out deuels in Christes name they forbade because he wayted not on them. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 517/1 *Pronuba*,..a bridemaid, or she that trimmeth and maketh ready the bride, and waiteth vpon her homeward to her husbands house. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 98 Let it be so, and you my noble Prince,..Shall waite vpon your Fathers Funerall. 1602 LD. MOUNTJOY *Let.* 13 Nov. in *Moryson's Itin.* II. (1617) 155 We entertained them so well, that we waited on them to the walls of the Towne, and made them leave some of their dead bodies behind them. 1628 T. BALL *Life Preston* (1885) 175 His friends at Cambridge, who did highly honour him, and desired nothing more then to have wayted on his dust to his long home. 1654 EVELYN *Diary* 4 July, On a letter from my wife's uncle, Mr. Pretyman, I waited back on her to London. 1723 TYLDESLEY *Diary* (1873) 207 Then went to wate on Judge Dorm' out off the toun. *Ibid.* 225 He waited on her home. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* iii. (1860) 51 On landing we were waited upon to our lodgings ..by a vast and respectable escort. 1880 P. LUDLOW *Nick Hardy at College* vi. (1888) 29 Nick complied, and was waited on into the drawing-room.

transf. 1692 TATE *Petty's Pol. Anat.* Ded. to Dk. Ormond, Be pleas'd to permit this useful Treatise to wait on you to the Camp.

l. Hence (?) in Hunting, *to wait close upon*: to keep close to (the horse immediately in front).

1861 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Market Harb.* XXV, Crasher..and Sawyer take their leaps abreast, the latter riding very quietly and carefully...Luxury is waiting close upon them.

m. To pay a respectful visit to; to call upon with the intention of showing respect, asking a favour, or the like.

1502 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 161 Also I shall wate one you at Nottingham one sunday next, except ye comand me contrary. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 5 God willing he shall one day waight vpon you to better his knowledges. 1638 in *Harvey Mem.* (1809) I. 279, I have A greate ambition yᵗ you would please to honour me so farre as..to admitt me to waite upon you. 1664 SIR A. BATEMAN in *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 215 It is my Lord Chancelors comaund to mee, that I waite vpon your Honor to deliuer this inclosed letter to you. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 107 ₱ 3 She will wait upon any Lady at her own Lodging, and talk by the Clock after the Rate of three Guineas an Hour. 1765 R. GEM in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 367 The Baron D'Olbach and I intend ourselves the pleasure of waiting on you to dinner to-morrow. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* XXX, A person of distinction..sent his respects to the gentleman that was with us, and begged to know when he should think proper to be waited upon. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXVI, I took the liberty of waiting on her..to inquire if she could charge me with any little commission. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 474 The Primate and the few Spiritual Peers who happened to be then in London had orders to wait upon the King. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 July 4/7 A deputation had waited upon Lords Salisbury, Redesdale, and Roxburghe.

† *transf.* 1780 WILKES *Let.* 21 Sept. (1769) I. 15 Sunday's post brought me your lordship's [letter] of the 17th, and by the return of it this waits on your lordship.

n. Of things: To accompany; to be associated with; to attend as a concomitant or consequence.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 32 For no man is so..simple witted, as to bring into so povre and meane houses, bedsteads with siluer feete, imbrodered coueriets.. nor such other like costly furniture and finenesse, as those things require to waite vpon them. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. 44 Letting I dare not, wait vpon I would, Like the poore Cat i' th' Addage. 1611 — *Wint. T.* V. i. 140 Infirmitie

(Which waits vpon worme times). 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Fearne. Tower Bottles* A 7, For 'tis a Maxim held in every Nation, Great men are wayted on by Adulation. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* 33 To them shee gave the first and fairest Beame That waited on her Birth. 1697 HEYLIN *Eccles. Vind.* II. iii. § 6. 146 Prayer..being an action meerly moral, was notwithstanding to be waited on with such rites and gestures. 1698 PRIOR *Ode Imit. Hor.* xi, Justice and Freedom on his Conquests wait. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 60 Her form was symmetry itself; every elegance breathed in her air; and all the graces waited on her motions. 1848 LOVER *Handy Andy* i, Disappointment waited on all affairs in which he bore a part. 1859 MILL *Liberty* i. (1864) 2/2 Elective and responsible government became subject to the observations and criticisms which wait upon a great existing fact. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 299 Retribution is the suffering which waits upon injustice.

†**o.** To support the opinion of. *Obs.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. v. (1640) 175 The Master of the Sentences (waited on herein with other learned men) is of opinion, That [etc.].

†**15. Wait over—.** To watch over. *Obs.*

Cf. OVERWAIT *v.* (= supervise, Pecock).

1639 HAMMOND *Paraphr. Ps.* lxxviii. 52 His..providence ..continually waited over them, and provided supplies for all their wants.

†**16. Wait to—.** To keep watch upon, attend carefully to. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 253 Sira, waites to þer wightis þat no wiles be wrought. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xviii. 405 And skile whi al this is trewe may be perceyued weel ynowȝ of a diligent considerer, waiting weel to ech word which is now bifore here seid. 1508–23 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 270 And wayte well to yᵉ sewer how many dysshes be couered.

III. 17. Comb.: †**wait-gleed** [= OF. *gaitetison*], one who sits lazily watching the fire.

c 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 47 Me calleth me fulle fiet, ant waynoun wayte-glede.

†**Wait,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 4 **weyte, waite, wayte.** [app. a. ON. *veita* to show or do (kindness, etc.), less frequently to do (an ill turn), = OHG. *weitan*:—OTeut. type **waitjan*, f. **wait-* abl.-var. of **wit-*: see WIT *v.* Confused with WAIT *v.*[1]: : AWAIT *v.* 2.]

1. *trans.* **a.** With thing as direct obj. and dative of person: To show (unkindness) to, to put (disgrace, suffering, etc.) on. **b.** In similar sense, but with changed construction: To treat (a person) *with* (unkindness, cruelty, etc.), to affect *with* (disgrace, suffering, etc.).

a. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5987 Þeft he wyl vpon hym wyte, Or ouþer skaþe he wyl hym weyte. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 358 Ac ferst þai sworen him an oþ, þai schuld him neuer waite loþ. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 148 He.. þouȝt..he wold..wayte hire sum wicked torn. *Ibid.* 4051 þat no burn nere so bold..to waite þe werwolf no maner schaþe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3938 Therfore close I shall the wese Fro hem that..come to wayte me vilonye. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 296 Certys hyt were a traytory, For to wayte hym velany. 1450 *Rolls of Parll.* V. 183/2 Ye shall not shewe nor wayte..noo malice..to any persone. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iv. 23–5 Sum came for malice with a mynde to wayte displeasure. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. lxxiv. I. 308 The bird Ægithus, (the least in manner of all others) waiteth the Asse a shrewd turne.

b. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4330 Sco waited him wit a werr turn. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4186 Whan þys Iudas.. weytede Ihesu with treasun. *c* 1330 *Sir Tristr.* 2175 Meriadok wiþ ille Waited hem fúl neiȝe Of her dede. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7122 For þou art no knyght of armes, Þe more þey wayte þis lond wyþ harmes. 1352 MINOT *Poems* i. 64 Ay er þai boune To wait Ingland with sorow and schame. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 99 Was noȝte the rede knyghte so rathe For to wayte hym with skathe. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 201 Yf ye be so hardy To wayte me, wyth velanye. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 900 We sall be bundyn yow to,..nocht offtyr to wait yow with na ill. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 913 'Sa thriue I', said the Sarazine, '..Quha waitis the Cristin with cair, my cusingis ar thay'. 15.. *Murning Maiden* 81 in *Maitl. Fol. MS.* (S.T.S.) I, And heir to ȝow my treuth I plycht That I sall nowder day nor nycht No wyld beist wait with wrang. 1582 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. 83 Did sho not wait him with sic foule inuy.

2. Comb. **wait-scathe** (as a nickname or quasi-proper name), a perpetrator of mischief.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 70 Ther is prentout, wayte scathe, and other of my frendis and alyes. *a* 1500 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* 54 Freir Wolf Waitskaith.

Wait, obs. and dial. f. WET, WITE, WOT.

Wait-a-bit. Also **wait-a-while.** [tr. Cape Du. *wacht-een-beetje.*] Usually *attrib.* with *thorn, thorn-tree,* etc.

a. A name given to various S. African plants and shrubs with humorous reference to their hooked and clinging thorns; e.g. various species of *mimosa.*

1763 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. H.* I. 236 A new species of *callaphyllum,* which from its catching..fast hold of the traveller with its hooked prickles..is commonly called here *wait een beetje,* or *wait a bit.* 1820 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 232 This variety of mimosa is waggishly termed by the Boers 'vyacht um bige', or wait-a-bit thorns; as they continually inflict the passing traveller not to be in a hurry. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* iii. 61 The 'wait-a-bit thorn', or *Aacacia detinens.* 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 239 The Kaffirs throw in the most virulent 'wait-a-while' thorn branches into the pits, to prevent the oxen from trampling. 1893 BERTRAND *Kinged. Bantu* 48 Various species of thorn, of which the most formidable is the 'wacht-een-beetje', appropriately interpreted as the 'wait-a-bit', a crooked, sharp, re hook of a thorn, that stops and tears everything in its way. 1913 PETTMAN *Africanderisms, s.v. Wacht-een-beetje,* The familiar *Zizyphus* ..... *nus, W.*, is popularly known all through Kaffraria and the Eastern Districts as the 'wait-a-bit thorn tree'.

b. Applied by travellers to different plants of similar character in other parts of the world.

1865 TRISTRAM *Land of Israel* 502 The principal tree was the zizyphus spina-Christi..with long pointed and rather reflex thorns, very strong,—a true wait-a-bit tree. 1894 DENNYS *Dict. Malaya* 415 Wait-a-bit. A name conventionally applied to a species of rattan armed with powerful curved thorns.

Waitchfull, obs. Sc. form of WATCHFUL.

Waite, obs. form of WITE.

Waiter (wē·tər). Forms: 4 **weyter,** 4–5 **waytar,** 4–7 **wayter,** 5 **waytere,** 5–7 **waitor, waytor,** 6 **waighter, waitour, water, weighter,** (*Sc.* **vyttar**), 6– **waiter.** [Orig. a. AF. **waitour,* OF. *waiteor, gaiteor,* agent-n. f. *waitier, gaitier* WAIT *v.*[1] In later use f. WAIT *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

I. †1. One who watches, or observes closely; one who is on the look-out. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *2 Sam.* xiii. 34 And the child weyter [Vulg. *puer speculator*] heuede vp his eyen and bihelde. *c* 1420 *Wyclif Bible, Pref. Epist. St. Jerome* 70 Sophonyas the wayter [L. *speculator*] and the knower of the priuetees of the Lord, berith a cry. 1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 John* i. 124 Euen the thing which we yᵗ were continual waitours heard with our eares, saw with our eies. 1554 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 281 That the saidis baillies suild..apprehend the said John Chalmer, and put him in custodie..with vyttaris and waychearis to awyt and keip him fra doing of skayth. 1672 SWINNOCK *Life T. Wilson* 21 Accordingly, he thus clad came forth, not knowing but that the Waiter was still at the door. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 285 The Health-boat came, and put Waiters on board of us, to keep the People of the Town from mingling with us.

2. †a. A watchman at the city gates. *Sc. Obs.*

1684 in G. Sinclair *Satan's Invis. World* (1685) Postscr. P 2 b, He had..some charge over the Waiters at the Ports of Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vi, During this parley the insurgents had made themselves masters of the West Port, rushing upon the Waiters (so the people were called who had the charge of the gates), and possessing themselves of the keys.

b. A warder of the Tower of London. More fully *yeoman waiter.*

1552 T. WILSON *Logic* N viij b, Yeomen of the gard, and all other waiters. 1592 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 6/2 [Ralph Smythe] one of your highness ordinary yeomen waiters. *c* 1600 in Peck *Desid. Curiosa* (1732) I. ii. 16 The Towre..Yeoman Waighters or Warders.

†c. An officer in the employ of the Customs. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* See COAST-WAITER, TIDE-WAITER.

1473 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 134 For þer be so many wayters and controllers. 1556 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1892) V. 295 They have, nevertheles of late byn troubled and disquieted by diverse Wayters at the portes in London. 1561 CLOUGH in Burgon *Life Gresham* (1839) I. 407 So many Quays crowne-serchers, wayters, and other powlyng officers. 1612 *Proclam. Transport. Corn* 19 Jan., All our Customers, Comptrollers, Searchers, Waitors, and other the Ministers of our Ports. 1685 *Sc. Proclam.* 28 Apr. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2032/3 We hereby Require and Command all Our Collectors, Customers, or Waiters, to make strict and diligent Search and Inquiry in all Ships. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, Some tuilzies about run goods wi' the gaugers and the waiters.

†**3.** An observer in secret. **a.** A spy, scout. *Obs.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 133 Diuerse espies and waytars that were sent out..to see and to descouuere the state..of their enemyes.

†b. In *Hunting,* one set to watch the movements of the intended game. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, Þei shulde goo forthe þider as þe deere is herbowred and sette redy wayters aboute þe quarter, or þe wode þat þe deer is Inne to se what commeth oute.

†c. One who lies in wait. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xii. (1869) 79 An espyour of weyes, and a waytere [*agueteur*] of pilgrimes.

II. 4. One who waits expectant of some event, opportunity, appointed time, etc.

1655 R. CAPEL *Tentations* IV. iii. (ed. 5) 124 The expectation of the waiter shall not fail for ever, that is, never. 1870 R. BUCHANAN *Bk. Orm* II. ii. 50 O Shadow sad, Monitor, haunter, waiter till the end. 1900 F. G. KENYON in *Egypt Explor. Fund, Archæol. Rep.* 45 Students of papyri will indeed be expectant waiters for gifts from their rich table for a long time to come.

b. *Waiter upon God* (see WAIT *v.*[1] 14 b). † *Waiter upon time* (obs.), *waiter upon Providence,* one who awaits the turn of events when required by duty or honour to come to a personal decision; a temporizer.

1592 BACON *Observ. Libel* Resusc. (1657) 132 The Spaniards are great Waiters upon Time, and ground their Plots deep. 1656 MARQ. LONDONDERRY in Dk. Buckhm. *Mem. Crts. Will. IV & Vict.* (1861) II. 228 Such as are rats, and waiters upon Providence, who have now deserted us. 1907 P. T. FORSYTH *Positive Preaching* vii. 231 It is the waiters on God that renew their strength.

III. †5. One who waits in the presence of another (of superior rank); one who visits, or pays court to a superior.

1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wayter, *qui baille attendance.* 1540 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 41 b, Diogenes called Aristippus the kynges hownde, because he was a dayly waiter, and gaue contynuall attendeance in the Courte of Dionysius. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 200 Being admitted to the princes presence, and received with a short salutation and no mselfe with the rest of the wayters [*turbæ*

coronantium immistus est]. 1621 BIBLE *Judith* xiii. 1 Bagoas shut his tent without, and dismissed the waiters from the presence of his lord.

†b. *Waiter at the table*: a parasite. *Obs. rare.*

1552 HULOET, Wayter at the table as vncommaunded to yᵉ ement to get hys dynner, *parasitaster.*

†6. A man (more rarely, a woman) whose office or privilege it is to attend upon a superior. **a.** A regular member (often a person of high rank) of the retinue or household of a royal or noble personage. *Obs.*

14.. *15th Cent. Courtesy Bk.* (1914) 14 Then shall be þer redy yeuues of the chaumbre yef it be þer, yemen waytors yef it be in þe hall, to take away stoles and bordes and trestelles. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII,* 12 The kyng & his three felowes entred into the felde their bardes and bases of Crimosyn and blew Velust..and all the waiters in sylke of the same colour. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 45 When he came to the gallerye's end, he satt hyme down vppon a forme that stode there for the wayters some tyme to take ther ease. 1594 R. CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 228 The sixt thing which honoureth a man, is the seemely ornament of his person, and his going well apparelled, and attended with manie waiters. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 142 They which were wont to be called Panters, Tasters and Carvers, are now called Gentlemen Waiters of the Court. 1678–9 DRYDEN & LEE *Œdipus* II. i, Each trembling Ghost shall rise, And leave their grisly King without a waiter.

†b. An attendant upon the bride at weddings; a bridesmaid. *Obs.*

1537 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII,* XII. i. 21, 3 goodly ladies in cloth of gold gorgeously decked following as waiters of the bride. *c* 1580 *Rem. Ballads* (1891) VII. 458 Then come let us be, blithe, merry and free, Upon my life all the waiters are gone!..The Bride-Maids that waited are gone.

†c. = ACOLYTE. *nonce-use.*

1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 275 Thei do reckon up, dore keepers, readers, conjurers, wayters [L. *acolyti*], subdeacons, deacons, and priestes, whiche all thei do call clerkes.

†d. One who out of courtesy waits at table on special occasions. (Cf. sense 7 c.) *Obs.*

1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Wise Sp.* 196 The Archebishop of Yorke saide vnto the yoong king..'there is never a Prince in the world that hath this day such a waiter at his Table [viz. K. Henry II] as you have'. *a* 1642 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 434 The waiters are all free men, who willingly proffer attendance at such feasts;..their waiters are clad in long loose garments to distinguish them from servants. *a* 1714 PARNELL in Steele *Poet. Misc.* 63 Each sweet engaging Grace Put on some Cloathe to come abroad, And took a Waiters Place.

†e. *Waiter at the altar*: (*a*) *gen.* (after 1 Cor. ix. 13), a priest or other minister of the altar; (*b*) one in minor orders (cf. 6 c).

1548 FAMMAWE *Il Pastor Fido* IV. iii. 137 The waiters at the altar [It. *i ministri minori*]. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 70 Ministers about holy things, and waiters at God's altar.

7. A man (rarely a woman) of lower rank employed as a household servant.

†a. A servitor, groom, footman, etc. *Obs.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 41 Dayly till other of these groomes, called wayters, to make fyres, to sett up tressyls and bourdes. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXII. i, Right as a waiters eye on a graceful master is holden. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* II. (1620) 24 What sawcy grooms knocks at this dead of night, where be our waiters? 1625 E. TERRY *Voy. East India* xiii. 244 Death made many breaches into my Lord Ambassadors family, for of four and twenty wayters, besides his Secretary and my self, there was not above the fourth man returned home. 1788 *Massachusetts Sity* 29 May 3/4 A considerable number of the respectable inhabitants of Princeton, consisting of 37 gunners and their waiters, spent the day past in hunting.

†b. A waiting-woman. *Obs. rare.*

1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* I. i, Bid your wayters [two waiting-women] Stand farther off.

c. *esp.* A servant (in a private house) whose particular duty it is to wait upon those seated at table. *Obs.* (? exc. *U.S.*); cf. sense 8.

1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 98 Then proll the servynge offic With their yemen that be wayters. So that their levettis but thynne. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 64 b, Butlers, carvers, yeomen of the cellar, wayters at the table. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* v. Wks. 1851 VIII. 307 In dinner time he twice chang'd his Crown, his Waiters thrice thir Apparel. 1856 MRS. STOWE *Dred* xi, She was in the middle of the saloon again, just as the waiter announced dinner.

8. A man employed, at inns, hotels, eating-houses, or similar places, to wait upon the guests (*esp.* during meals). Also a man hired for a similar purpose on special occasions to supplement the staff of a private household.

This sense probably arose in England about the middle of the 17th c., and superseded the older term *drawer.* From the 18th c. onwards it appears to have been the most usual sense of the word.

a 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* III. v. (1664) 120 *Drawer.* ..The sum is six pounds, and be pleased to remember the Waiters. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 508 P 3 We change our Taverns according as he suspects any Transonable Practices in the settling the Bill by the Master, or sees any bold Rebellion in point of Attendance by the Waiters. 1779 *Mirror* No. 26 But there is another set of persons still more exposed to be treated roughly than even domestic servants, and these are, the waiters at inns and taverns. 1828 HAZLITT *Table-t., Knowl. Character.* (1820) II. 231 After a familiar conference with a waiter at a tavern. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, The White Hart hotel..where the waiters, from their costume, might be mistaken for Westminster boys. 1874 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xlviii. IV. 271 Presently afterwards, an evidently German-importation of waiter brings me up my breakfast.

IV. A contrivance to supply the place of a waiter or facilitate waiting.

†**9.** = DUMB-WAITER 2.

1823 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1474 In lofty Inns, we have often thought that it might be desirable to have an ascending and descending platform, on the principle of the ascending and descending cupboards or waiters. 1861 *Our Engl. Home* 184 Loriot invented, for the salons of Choisy, tables called waiters, which, on touching a spring, sank through the floor, to reappear laden for a repast.

10. A salver, small tray (cf. *waiting-board, -salver*).

1738 *Will of Frances, Lady Colepeper*, I give unto my said niece..my dumb waiter and the rest of my waiters. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. 205 Just then the servant brought Lady Louisa a note upon a waiter. 1800 MRS. SHERWOOD *Susan Gray* 90 She placed a waiter in my hand, and ordered me to carry the tea to the Captain. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nickleby* xvii, A heterogeneous litter of pastrycook's trays, lamps, waiters full of glasses, and piles of rout seats. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* xxxviii, Hetty took the..missive..from the old massive silver waiter.

†**11.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1779 INGENHOUSZ *Electricity* in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 669, I began first by making use of one of those glass stands, which they call a waiter, and which has a glass support fixed at right angles to its center.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Wai·terage**, the performance of a waiter's duties. **Wai·terdom**, waiters considered as a class. **Wai·terhood**, the state or condition of a waiter. **Wai·tering**, the occupation of a waiter.

1849 CARLYLE *Remin. Irish Journ.* (1888) 38 All was done for me then that human waiterage in the circumstances could do. 1860 *All Year Round* IV. 79 Enter the dusty travellers;..round whom dance expectant gnats and midges in the shape of fluttering waiterdom. 1862 DICKENS *Somebody's Luggage* I, What is the inference to be drawn respecting true Waitering? You must be bred to it. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* IV. iv, An innocent young waiter..as yet unversed in the wiles of waiterhood. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 7 Apr. 388/1 Waitering admits of variation, and can be accommodated to circumstances.

Waitership (*wē·təɹʃip*). [f. WAITER + -SHIP.]

†**1.** The office of warder, or watchman. *Obs. rare.*

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 364/2 The Office of Portershipp of the Castle of Knaresboro, with the Waytershipp of the same.

2. A position as a waiter in an inn, etc.

1889 *Catholic Housek.* 4 May 9 Workhouses and waiterships are the prizes in life for those who distinguish themselves.

†**Waith,** *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: [? 1 *wǽ̆þ*], 3–5 **waith, wayth,** 3–6 **waithe,** 4 **wath,** 5 **wathe,** 8 **veth.** [a. ON. *veið-r* fem., hunting, fishing, catch of game or fish = OE. *wāð* fem., hunting (also wandering), OHG. *weida* (MHG., mod. G. *weide*) hunting, fishing, food, pasture (also wandering, roaming):—OTeut. **waiþō*, **waiþi-z*, f. root **wai-* perh. cogn. with L. *vēnārī* to hunt. It is possible that the OE. form *wāð* may have coalesced with the Scandinavian word.]

1. The action or practice of hunting or fishing; chiefly, unlawful taking of game; also, the right to hunt game.

[*a* 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* xxvii. 13 Deaš..egeslic hunta, a blš on waše.] *c* 1400 *Awntyrs Arth.* xxxiv, We arene here in the wode, walkande one our wathe. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. 235 For in his waith son eftyr þat Thre hundyr foxis qwyk he gat. *Ibid.* 533 Qwhar þat he trawalit mony day In waithe [*v. r.* weyth], in ware and in bargan. 15.. *Murning Maiden* 94 in *Maitl. Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) I. 362 Your deir may walk quhair euir þai will, I win my meit with na sic waithe. 1707 [see VEAT *sb.*[1] 2].

2. Game for or obtained by hunting; spoil of the chase; also *gen.* spoil, booty.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3502, 3524 Esau went for till hunt,..Bot þat dai wayth [*Fairf.* waipe, *Gött., Trin.* gamen] þan gatt he noght, For haf man neuer sa gode graith It es noght ilk dai, dai o waith. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1382 Here is wayth fayrest þat I se3 þis seuen 3ere in sesoun of wynter. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3233 That I ne wiste no waye whedire that I scholde, flore wolues, and whilde swynne, and wykkyde bestes; walkede in that wasternne, wathes to seche. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2330 Till mydday and more nyght we not fynde, flor to wyn as for waithe in þat wode brode. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 486 *Noe*, I will cast out also Dowys oone or two: Go youre way, go, God send you som wathe! *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 388 Waith auld be delt, in all place, with fre hart. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 7 The vther wynnit Uponland..Quhylis in the corne, and vther mennis skaith, As outlawis dois and leuis on thair waith.

†**Waith,** *sb.*[2] *Sc.* (chiefly *Orkney* and *Shetland*). *Obs.* [? Altered form of WAIF *sb.*] = WAIF *sb.*

1478 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 281 Terras dominiorum de Orknay et Zetland..unacum *le Wrak, Wattall, Waithe* et *Hasswaith*, et cum consimilibus proficuis [etc.]. 1615 *Acts Sheriff Orkney* § 15 in *Edin. Antiq. Mag.* (1849) 8 No person..sal hyde nor conseall any kynd of thift,..injurie, robrie, nor oppressioun in wraik or waith. [1897 D. J. ROBERTSON in *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 333 Through the heaped mysteries of waith and wrack, When the long wave from the long beach draws back.]

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* (Cf. WAIF *a.*)

1691 *Shetland Docum.* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 194 To..secure all wrack and waith goods.

Ag. 1833 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 68 Virgilis sawis..aucht nocht be hald wagabound nor waith.

†**Waith,** *sb.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* Also 8 **weath.** [? a. ON. *vāð* = OE. *wǽd* WEED *sb.*[2]] ? Cloth, clothes: chiefly in phrase *claith and waith* (see quot. 1825).

1603 *Philotus* xl. (Bannatyne Club), Philotus to..Ane ground-riche man and full of graith: He wantis na jewels claith nor waith. 1768 Ross *Helenore* I. 48 Bannocks and kebbocks knit intil a claith She had laid by, an' row'd up in her waith. *Ibid.* II. 74 The worth o't twice, in claith or weath ye'a get. *Ibid.* II. 75 Your claith an' waith will never tell wi' me. 1825 JAMIESON *s.v.*, *Claith nor waith* seems to have been a Prov. expression; perhaps q. 'neither cloth in the piece, nor cloth made into garments'.

†**Waith,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 ? **waithe,** 7 **weath.** Of a horse: See quot. 1710.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. 1035 Sa waiche [? *read* waithe] and wold þan ar þa hors þat [etc.]. 1662 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 623 The Devill will be with hir and ws all lyk a weath-horse efter mearis. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. to Douglas's Virg.* s. v., *Scot.* they say, a waith horse, i.e. a horse that wanders in pursuit of mares. *a* 1828 *Blanche flour & Jelly-florice* xviii. in P. Buchan *Ballads* (1828) I. 128 Ye'll take out yon wild waith steed, And bring him to the green.

Waithe, obs. form of WEIGHT.

†**Wai·thing,** *Sc. Obs.* [f. ON. *veiða* to hunt, catch fish (related to *veið-r* WAITH *sb.*[1]) + -ING[1].] Fishing; a catch of fish.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 387 He bad his child, 'Gyff thaim of our waithyng'. 1592 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1610, 117/2 My 3 merkland..with..gers, wair, fischingis, waithing.

†**Wai·thman.** *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON. *veiðimann-, veiðimað-r*, f. *veiði-, veið-r* WAITH *sb.*[1]] A hunter; esp. applied to forest outlaws.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. 1446 Þis Menbrot [*i.e.* Nimrod] stalwart was of pythe And waythe man he was þar wip. *Ibid.* VII. 3526 Litil Iohun and Robert Hude Waythmen war commendit gud. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 354 The waithman, Robert Hude.

attrib. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 8 Me thocht a Turk of Tartary..lay forloppin in Lumbardy, sfull lang in waithman weid. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 144 Quhill force did faill, and than I saw thame fane To cry 'Peccaui' with the waithman nolt. 15.. *Murning Maiden* 64 in *Maitl. Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) I. 362 In waithman weyd Sen I 3ow find In þis wod walkand 3our alone.

Waiting (*wē·tiŋ*), *vbl. sb.*[1] [-ING[1].]

1. The action of WAIT *v.*[1] in various senses.

†**a.** A lying in wait, ambush. Also *waiting for.* Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Shruded eow mid godes wapne, and werieð eow wið deofles waitinge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 15 Zuo heþ þe dyeuel diverse maneres of waytinges. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Waytynge to don harme, *insidie*. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxi. 21 The lorde hath..delyvered me..from all the waytynge fore of the people of the iewes.

†**b.** Watching, observation. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Luke* xvii. 20 The kyngdom of God commeth not with waytingefore.

c. Expectation; remaining stationary or quiescent in expectation of something. *In waiting* (predicatively): in a state of expectancy, remaining in one place or condition so as to be ready for some expected event: = *waiting* pres. pple.

1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 24 When the Princess asked him, who taught him so? he said, Lewis; then, said her Highness, Lewis shall be turned out of waiting. 1709 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 620 The dutchesse of St. Albans being made one of the ladies of the bedchamber to the queen..begun her first waiting on Monday. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, His Majesty sent for three great scholars, who were then in their weekly waiting, according to the custom in that country. 1730 R. GALE in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 235 Lady Pembroke is in waiting at Windsor. 1765 EARL COVENTRY in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 402 The letter I had from Lord March..offering to take my waiting the first of next month, in exchange of his own, which is not till the 29th. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 433 The prelates who were in waiting had from the first exhorted him to prepare for his end. 1922 MRS. H. WYNDHAM *Corr. Sarah Lady Lyttelton* xl. 285 This is the last letter of interest during Lady Lyttelton's first waiting.

2. *attrib.* a. Consisting of, or characterized by, waiting (in various senses of the verb WAIT). Sometimes hyphened to the sb. qualified.

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 25 [They] distributte their waiting dayes after this order. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country Maid* (1741) II. 366, I had hired a Waiting Job, by the month. 1903 *Times* 6 May 14/3 Consumers..contend..that a waiting policy may bring some relaxation in coach was in waiting, and they all stood on the hill. 1818 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 17 July, I am still in waiting for Hanson's clerk, but luckily not at Geneva. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxiii, I thought..I would ask Richard to be in waiting for me at the coach-office, that we might have a little talk together. 1885 PAYN *Talk of Town* II. 147 A closed carriage, well appointed, was at the door, in waiting for her, and they took their seats. 1889 BRIDGES *Growth Love* lxiii, I abide and abide, as if more stout and tall My spirit would grow by waiting like a tree.

d. Attendance *upon* a superior.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxvi. 61 Thay wald haif wating on alway, But gwerdoun, geneild, or regaird. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 102 Camillus had the name of Hermes from the similarity of his office, which was waiting upon the Gods.

e. Official attendance at court; one's period or term of such attendance. *In waiting*: on duty, in attendance (said e.g. of a maid of honour, a lord- or lady-in-waiting, a court official).

For *groom-in-waiting, lady-in-waiting, lord-in-waiting*, see the first element.

1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 24 When the Princess asked him, who taught him so? he said, Lewis; then, said her Highness, Lewis shall be turned out of waiting. 1709 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 620 The dutchesse of St. Albans being made one of the ladies of the bedchamber to the queen..begun her first waiting on Monday. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, His Majesty sent for three great scholars, who were then in their weekly waiting, according to the custom in that country. 1730 R. GALE in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 235 Lady Pembroke is in waiting at Windsor. 1765 EARL COVENTRY in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 402 The letter I had from Lord March..offering to take my waiting the first of next month, in exchange of his own, which is not till the 29th. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 433 The prelates who were in waiting had from the first exhorted him to prepare for his end. 1922 MRS. H. WYNDHAM *Corr. Sarah Lady Lyttelton* xl. 285 This is the last letter of interest during Lady Lyttelton's first waiting.

2. That waits for some person or thing; expectant; remaining stationary, or deferring action, expectantly.

1654 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 12 The present effect is startling to all nacions round about, all in a waiteing frame where this cloud will light. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* I. i, Thy waiting Bride ev'n chides thee for delaying. 1720 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 24 As little bairns frae winnocks high Drap down saip-balls to waiting fry. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 672/2 All noise and movement gradually ceased, and a waiting stillness followed which was solemn and impressive.

Hence **Wai·tingly** *adv.*

1888 C. E. TURNER in *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 478/1 [She] lived waitingly and hopefully 'on the eve' of an active career. 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* 26 The Marrow minister.. looked waitingly at the young man.

Wai·ting-maid. [WAITING *ppl. a.*] A superior female servant in personal attendance on a lady.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. iii. § 7. 80 b, Will dothe accompanie it [*sc.* Grace] and not leade it, as a waytinge maide after it & not a forgoer. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* II. ii, A Ribbon or a Glove. *Cla.* Nay those are tokens for a waiting-maid To trim the Butler with. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 59 Here is Mr. B—, with such and such an Estate, has married his Mother's Waiting-maid. 1878 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 76 'Milady is very generous,' said the waiting-maid.

†**Wai·ting-man.** *Obs.* [WAITING *ppl. a.*] A male servant who waits or attends upon his employer or on an official.

Ibid. 19 Oct. 5/2 Rumania will..order the mobilization of these Army Corps, abandoning her waiting

b. Intended to be used or occupied while waiting, as *waiting-chamber, -lobby*; also WAITING-ROOM.

a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 102 The first *waytyng chamber was hanged with fynne arras. 1912 HODLEY *Card. Manning* 19 For Newman the Oriel Common-room was a home. For Manning the Merton Common-room was an unfamiliar waiting-chamber on the road to a profession. 1897 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 7/1 By suspending them in the *waiting-lobbies, the impatient moments of parties might be close occupied.

c. Special comb.: †**waiting board, salver,** a tray intended to be carried by one waiting at table; **waiting game,** used to describe the tactics of a player who abstains from attempting to secure advantages in the earlier part of the game, with a view to more effective action at a later stage; also *fig.*; **waiting race,** a race in which the superiority of the winner is designedly not displayed till near the end of the course; also *fig.*; †**waiting Sunday,** ? a Sunday on which the town-council publicly attended the mayor to church.

1770 LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* 19 June (1892) III. 247, I bought tea, fans, japan *waiting board, walking sticks, &c. 1890 *Times* 27 Dec. 9/1 The best policy seems to dictate a *waiting game. 1914 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 256 The precarious health of Elizabeth..made it desirable to play a waiting game in the east and to shower blows on Bohemia and Moravia. 1883 MRS. E. KENNARD *Right Sort* xx, Mrs. Forrester will ride a *waiting race throughout. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vi, You can do no good,—as they didn't find her within the first week it will just be a waiting race. 1886 EARL SUFFOLK & BERKSH. *Racing* xiv. (Badm. Libr.) 224 The style in which Buckle..particularly shone was in riding a waiting race..'None of your lying off and winning in the last stride for me', would the owner of Euclid exclaim. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6286/4 Two *waiting Salvors. 1767 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 107 The future dress..for the Aldermen, to be by them worn only on the *Waiting Sundays and other public state days.

†**Wai·ting,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [Prob. a. ON. *veiting* (not recorded in this sense, but cf. mod. Icel. *veitingar* pl., entertainment, *veitinga-hús* restaurant), f. *veita* to give a feast (a special use of *veita* WAIT *v.*[2]).] Entertainment, feasting.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3344 Ilk man gaue he [*sc.* Abraham's servant, *Gen.* xxiv. 53] sumkin thing, And batuel made fair waiting [*Gött.* gestning]. *Ibid.* 12544 Ai quen iosep was wont at weind, Til ani waiting wit sum frend, His suns war ai wit him bun.

Waiting (*wē·tiŋ*), *ppl. a.* [WAIT *v.*[1] + -ING[2].]

1. That waits upon, or attends to, another; that acts as an attendant, or waiter. Often hyphened to the qualified sb. as in *waiting-gentlewoman, -lady*, WAITING-MAID, -MAN, -WOMAN, etc.

1538 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees) 159 To every one of my wayting servauntes vj s. viij d. the pece. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. i. 122 When your Carters, or your waiting Vassalls Haue done a drunken Slaughter. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. ii. 24, I thinke I told your Lordship..how much I am in the fauour of Margaret, the waiting gentlewoman to Hero. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. ii, If one should sewe For Lesbias loue, hauing two daies to wooe..and should imploy those twaine The favour of her wayting-wench to gaine, Were he not mad? 1620 tr. *Boccaccio's Decam.* II. vi. 1. 47 This Gentleman..one especiall day, with his wife, seruants, and waiting hounds [It. merely *con suoi cani*], wandred vp into the Iland. 1723 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) IV. 76 Her little waiting Dogg was got under her Clothes. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. ix, Certain pecuniary civilities, which are by custom due to the waiting-gentlewoman in all love-affairs. 1819 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxi, That dressing my mistress is the only part of a waiting-lady's life that I have the least fancy for. 1861 MEREDITH *Poems, Patriot Englin.* 35 Why, there's the ale-house bench:..And there's my waiting-wench, As lissome as a hound. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. v. 268 It would, after all, have perhaps been more difficult to find waiting-boys who could speak English.

2. That waits for some person or thing; expectant; remaining stationary, or deferring action, expectantly.

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Wai·ting-maid. [WAITING *ppl. a.*] A superior female servant in personal attendance on a lady.

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†**Wai·ting-man.** *Obs.* [WAITING *ppl. a.*] A male servant who waits or attends upon his employer or on an official.

1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 155 Concernyng the waytyngmen, it is thought that the same fees cannot be myntyshid. 1552 HULOET, Waytyng man, *assecla*. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 518/2 *Antesambulo*,. a waiting man, or he that goeth before his maister and mistresse, or conducteth them. 1776 *Pennsylv. Even. Post* 15 Feb. 82/2 An active young man.. wants employment. He has served in the capacities of a waitingman, gardener, and groom.

Waiting-room. [WAITING *vbl. sb*] A room set apart for those who are obliged to wait (usually in a public building, now *esp.* in a railway-station; also at a doctor's or dentist's).

1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 3 There are ten steps up to the first story (which is hall or dining-room, withdrawing-room, bed-chamber, and waiting-room). 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* lii, I had called to pay my respects at the Admiralty, previous to joining, and was kicking my heels in the waiting-room. 1839 *Bradshaw's Railway Companion*, Sufficient time being allowed at the Birmingham Station, where refreshments are provided, and waiting rooms, with female attendants. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew* etc. ix. (1878) 50 A club waiting-room is always a gloomy, unpromising place for a confidential conversation. 1888 *Manch. of To-day* 175 A rich-toned musical box is continually playing in the [dentist's] waiting-room.

attrib. 1853 MISS YONGE *Langley Advent.* 257 They offered to make her a waiting-room woman as soon as there was a vacancy.

Waiting-woman. Now *arch.* [WAITING *ppl. a.*] A female servant, or personal attendant.

1563 in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) II. 391 Suffring only one waiting wooman to attende upon her. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 91 By all Dianas waiting women yond: And by her selfe, I will not tell you whose. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. v, Being now left alone with her maid, she told her trusty waiting-woman, That she never was more easy than at present. 1831 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* Introd., Neither the Highland cicerone MacLeish, nor the demure waiting-woman, were drawn from imagination.

Waitress (wē·trés). Also 6 **waitresse.** [f. WAITER + -ESS.]

†1. A waiting-maid, handmaid. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXIII. i, Unto thee.. lift I my earthy seeing.. As the look of waitresse fixed on a lady lieth.

2. A woman who waits upon the guests at a hotel, restaurant, etc. Also one hired for a similar purpose on special occasions to supplement the staff of a private household. (Cf. WAITER 8.)

1834 *Drabard's Stamford News* 4 Nov., A waitress who lived at Alconbury hill. 1836 HOOD *Let.* Mem. (1860) I. 234, I board-d at the chateau, and only slept and breakfasted at the inn. I had the prettiest girl in the place for my waitress. 1854 DE QUINCEY *Autob. Sk., Coleridge* Wks. II. 188 *note*, Waiter:—Since this was first written, social changes in London.. have introduced a corresponding new word—viz., *waitress*; which word, twenty-five years back, would have been simply ludicrous. 1872 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* III. i. 27 A buxom waitress from the inn.

Waivable (wē·văbl), *a Law.* [f. WAIVE *v.*^{1} + -ABLE.] That may be waived.

1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 238 Her estate was originally waivable.

†**Waive,** *sb. Law. Obs.* [a. AF. *waive, weyve*; prob. to be read as *weyvé* (= *weyves*), pa. pple. of *weyver* WAIVE *v.*^{1}] See quots.

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* xi. 43 A woman that is outlawed is called a wayue. [Fr. Sicome home que est vtlage est dit vtlage et feme que est vtlage est dit wayue] 1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 187 Waiue is a woman that is outlawed, and she is called waiue as left out or forsaken of the law, and not an vtlawe as a man is.

Waive (wēv), *v.*^{1} Forms: 3–4 **weive,** 4–6 **weyve,** (5 **weyfe,** 6 *pa. pple.* **waifed, weft**). 4–7 **wayve,** (4 **wayvye**), 5–9 **waive,** 5– **waive.** [ME. *weyve-n*, a. AF. *weyve-r* (whence Law-Latin *waiviare, waviare*), dial. var. of OF. *gaiver, guesver* (early mod. F. in Cotgr. *guyver, guesver, guever*) to allow to become a 'wnif', to abandon, f. AF. *weyf* (fem. *weyve*), OF. *gaif* (fem. *gaive, gueive*, etc.) *adj.* and *sb*: see WAIF *sb.*^{1}

Johnson 1755 spells this verb as *wave*, and places it as a sense of WAVE *v.*^{1}, though (following Skinner) he assigns to it a separate derivation from 'Fr. *guerver*.']

1. *trans. Law.* To deprive (a person) of the benefit and protection of the law as a punishment; to outlaw. Chiefly in *passive.*

In AF. *weyver* had the sense 'to abandon, disclaim ownership of (a serf)': see Britton I. xxxii. § 8.

†a. *gen.* = OUTLAW *v. Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10823 He let al so uor is loue deliuerí of prison Sir hubert de boru & opere pat in prison were ldo & hom þat iweiued were is pes he 3ef al so.

b. In restricted application: To outlaw (a woman). ? *Obs.*

[The expression 'to be outlawed' (AF. *estre utlagé*) was held to be in strictness not applicable to a woman, for the reason given in the following quot.:

c 1290 BRITTON I. xiii. § 3 Femme neqedent ne peut estre utlagé propresment, pur ceo qe ele ne est mie ordeyné a direyne, ne a la ley, mes weyvé, qe vaut utlagerie.]

1457 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 303 þat no shirrif of þis Cite frohensfurth take of eny person.. beyng outlawed or weyued, for fyne to be eased for a hole 3er but xl d. 1543 tr. *Act 7 Hen. IV*, c. 13 Where as many of the kinges liege people be outlawed, and many wayued by erronyous processe. 1609 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 242 When a woman is outlawed, shee is said to be waued and not outlawed, because shee is neuer sworne to the Law. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* I. vi. 116 The Process continued till the Uncles were outlawed, and the Niece waived. 1826 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 185 Persons outlawed, or waived in personal actions, may alien by fine.

2. *Law.* To abandon (stolen goods). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1532 tr. *St. German's Dial. Doctor & Stud.* II. lii. 8 b, Goodes stolen, and waued for the kynge or wayued be forfeite onelesse appele or enditement be sued. 1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 186 b, The queenes officer or the Reeue or Baillife to the Lord of the manour.. may seyse the goodes so wayued to their lordes vse. *Ibid.* 187 If a man bee pursued..as a felon, and hee flyeth, and leaueth his owne goodes &c. these shalbe taken as goods wayued, & forfait as if they had bin stolne. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 51 Vpon notice giuen to the said B. that such like cloth was wayued within his Manor of Fulham, and left in a ditch there, and no owner knowen, hee ..appoynted the same to be watched. 1639 *Nuisance to Private Houses* 16 If any goods be wayued in any manner, and if any man take them, that then it shall bee lawfull for mee to destraine. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 286 Waifs, *bona waviata*, are goods stolen, and waived or thrown away by the thief in his flight, for fear of being apprehended.

†3. *gen.* To abandon, leave, desert, forsake (a person, place, thing). *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 10185 Al þe contre gan þey weyue & fledde a-wey vn to Murreyue. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 315 The lond was thanne sone weyved. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 907 Pen will he wed anopire wife, & wayue me for euer. *Ibid.* 2469 Bot bowis first fra 3our bargis & blythly þaim wayfe [*MS. Dublin* woydez]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3793 Pe hors wayuand sone, he left, And lokyd how he myght fle eft.

†b. To cast aside, relinquish, forsake (the truth, one's faith or god, a state or condition, etc.).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6597 Forsake lew at alle þy myȝt, But ȝyf þou hope þat he wul weyue Hys lawe, and cryستendom receyue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. Prol.* 33 For Paul that writeth vn-to Thymothee Repreueth hem that weyueth soothfastnesse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 180 So that baptesme thei receiven And alle here false goddes weyven. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 685 Falshed of freres ha›..maid hem to ..wayuen þe trewþe. *a* 1637 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 235 They wav'd the Kings party, and adher'd to this.

†c. To abandon, lay aside, forsake (a habit, custom, sin, etc.). *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 88 And of hire herte alle senne to waynye (*read* wayuye). *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. vii. (1868) 89 Weyue þou lole, drif fro þe drede. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 530 Wycliff..grayþliche hem warned To wayuen her wikednesse. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1442 Hem hoghte to be mirours of sadnesse, And wayue lolitee and wantonnesse. *Ibid.* 3385 For to hem longith it, for goddes sake, To wayue cruelte and tyrannye. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* I. 8 The Ægyptians were afraid of fire..And from such Ægyptian scruples imbibed by Pythagoras, it may be conjectured that Numa and the Pythagoricall Sect first waved the fiery solution.

†d. To abandon, give up (a task); to resign (an office). Also with inf. as obj. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 2256, I seye that though .. ye weyue to perfourne thilke same emprise by luste cause men sholde nat seyn therfore that ye were a lier ne forsworn. *Ibid.* P 2406 Lest that the charge oppresse thee so soore that thee bihoueth to weyue thyng that thou hast bigonne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 238 This innocent, which was deceived, His Papacie anon hath weyved, Renounced and resigned eke. *Ibid.* I. 363 Fro ferst that holi cherche hath weyved To preche, and hath the swerd received. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Bucks* (1662) 135 Walter Haddon was..chosen Vice-Chancellour of Cambridge 1550. Soon after he was made President of Magdalen-Colledge in Oxford, which place he waved in the reign of Queen Mary.

†e. To abandon or withdraw formally (legal proceedings, a motion); also, to defeat (a proposal) on a vote. *Obs.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 104 Though there might be some reason for their [the bishops'] absence when the trial was, according to law, before and by his peers only, yet when that judgment was waived, and a bill of attainder brought up against him, their votes in that bill were as..essential as of any other of the lords. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 14, I was before for bounding, but that was not relished. It is not for our honour to recede to what we have waved. *a* 1662 HEYLYN *Laud* II. (1671) 295 Others conceived, that they had very well performed their duty..by waving all Proceedings against them. 1692–3 WOOD *Life* 24 Jan. (O.H.S.) III. 414 It was then discussed or proposed that Dr. William Lloyd's book..be burnt also; but waved only by eleven votes. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 24 Mar. (O.H.S.) I. 208 The Prolocutor of ye Lower House of Convocation..had a great mind to have propos'd..ye publick thanks should be return'd to Mr. Wall . but this seeming a little unpresidented, 'twas wav'd. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 441/2 For this Reason, he hoped, the Hon. Gentleman would..wave the Motion he had made.

f. To abandon, relinquish, give up (an intention). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 228 Be no more blynde, but weynyth [*read* weyuyth] youre wille. 1700 in *Pepys' Diary* (1875) VI. 231 He designed to have mounted on horseback at some distance from the town,..but seeing the crowd and dust he had to encounter with, very prudently waved it. 1767 *Mirror* 10 He once entertained a desire of taking a tour to Scythia; but waved it. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. i. 7 He waved his intention of landing on that island, and steered for Ternate.

†4. intr. *To waive from* = 3 b. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 235 Poure he to-day fro hyr god weyue, To-morwe hyn god wyl hym receyue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 839 But þat ye been so ful of sapience That yow ne liketh for youre leighe prudence To weyuen fro the word of Salomon. *c* 1386 — *Squire's T.* Prol. 6 From a sooth euere wol they [*sc.* women] weyue.

5. *trans.* a. *Law.* To relinquish (a right, claim, or contention) either by express declaration or by doing some intentional act which by law is equivalent to this; to decline to avail oneself of (an advantage); to refuse to accept (some provision made in one's favour).

AF. *weyver* with this sense is very frequent in law-books from Britton (*c* 1290) onwards.

To waive the tort, said in common-law pleading of a plaintiff who, having the choice of framing his action in contract or tort, elected to sue in contract.

c 1469 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 103 þe title of Jobury is by his owne Counsell wayued and taken for nought. *c* 1530 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 70 But that ech partie would have his reason, to prove their iaune..And weyven would no point for them might fal. 1686 H. JACKSON in *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 248 They..altogether waved that for which at first they pretended to commit mee. 1689 KEBLE *Rep.* I. 225 *Nota, per Curiam* after special Issue joyned, the parties cannot waive it, and plead general Issue without motion in Court. 1776 G. WILSON *Coke's Rep.* III. II. 26 If lands be given to husband and wife in tail, or in fee, and the husband dies, there the wife cannot devest the freehold out of her by any verbal waver..As if before any entry made by her, she saith that she utterly waves and disagrees to the said estate,..yet the freehold remains in her. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 177 In cases of this kind the wife cannot waive the provision thereby made for her, and claim dower at common law. 1826 BELL *Comm. Laws Scot.* (ed. 5) I. 402 The parties may, by anticipation, waive the rules of negociation (of bills). *Ibid.* II. 96 Lien may be waived by agreement before the possession begins. 1839 J. L. ADOLPHUS *The Circuiteers* in *Law Quart. Rev.* (1885) I. 238 Thoughts much too deep for tears subdue the Court When I *assumpsit* bring, and god-like waive a tort. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* x. § 1. (1876) 382 If however the lessor, after knowledge of the happening of the event, continues in any way to treat the lessee as his tenant,..he is said to waive the forfeiture, and can no longer take advantage of it.

b. To refrain from insisting upon, give up (a privilege, right, claim, etc.); to forbear to claim or demand.

1625 DONNE *Bp Serm.* (1640) III. 22 He takes the name of the Son of a woman, and waives the glorious name of the Son of God. 1632 T. GERARD *Descr. Somerset* (1900) 185 A thing euen usuall in those times for a man to wave his own armes and take his mothers. 1660 COKE *Power & Subj.* 243 If the Parliament..did endue the Queen with such plentifull power, as to make her supreme Governor (the title of Head was waved) in all causes. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xv. 143 The Jurisdiction of this Lord Chief Justice is very great..the Lords sometimes waving their own Power, have directed him to send his Warrant to seize Persons suspected of Capital Crimes. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 84 P 13 Congreve waved his title to dramatic reputation and desired to be considered only as a gentleman. 1767 COWPER *Bill Mortality* 12 This annual tribute Death requires, And never waves his claim. 1805 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 108 Perhaps Lieutenant Hewson would waive his rank to be in a Flag Ship. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 128 He lays aside his distance and reserve, and is glad to wave the distinctions of rank. 1836 MARRYAT *Miash. Lucy* xviii, But you just now asserted that you would waive your rank. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 679 Marlborough consented to waive part of his rights, and to allow precedence to the Duke on the alternate days. 1886 G. ALLEN *Darwin* vi. 82 The younger [naturalist]..waived his own claim..in favour of the elder. 1918 *Throne* 7 Aug. 240/1 The long outstanding appeal to the Union Government to waive a portion of the 60 per cent. tax was likely to be successful.

c. To forbear persistence in (an action or course of action); to refrain from pressing (an objection, a scruple, an argument).

1681 *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 38 And of yor regard to yor owne and future good of yor posterity makes mee to wave all objections of ye nature. 1706 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 284 He was willing to wave all resentm^{ts}. 1796 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 76, I submit to the Condition, and though I have a notorious Advantage before me, I wave the Pursuit. 1774 J. WALKER *Gen. Idea Pronounc. Dict.* 8 If, therefore, every argument for the improvement of language were waved, but what arises from the superior harmony and beauty of an uniform and well-polished tongue, we might with reason conclude, that [etc.] 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxix, A contract must be supposed to be given up, when the party waves insisting upon it. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 89 We trust that the example of so many of those engaged in the same trade, will induce the manufacturers of Leeds and Norwich to wave their opposition to this measure. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 54 Yet the king is willing to waive his objection. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. vi, As he had eaten nothing for two days, he was induced to waive this scruple, and presently made a hearty meal.

d. To dispense with (formality, ceremony, etiquette).

1782 COWPER *Let.* 7 July, Lady Austen, waving all forms, has paid us the first visit. 1820 S. GREEN *Reformist* I. 20 You, it is true, are my servant; but wave all ceremony, all diffidence. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Grace bef. Meat*, The supplementary or tea-grace was waived altogether. 1833 LYTTON *Godolphin* I. xxii. 266 'A few persons come to me to-morrow evening', said she; 'do waive ceremony, and join us'. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xxviii. (1872) 239 Penn was with the Quakers, who agreed to waive the ceremony of the hat.

†e. To forgo, deny to oneself (some advantage). *Obs.*

1669 BOYLE *Cont. New Exp.* I. xxxviii. (1682) 189 To make the Trial more accurate, I wav'd the use of other Bellows. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 110 Therefore you wisely scorn your Stile to humble, Or for the Sense's Sake to wave the Rumble. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* II. vi. (1823) 173 He had prevailed on himself to waive that pleasure. 1785 *Epitaph to Cath. Clive* in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Oct. (1887) 12/2 Content with Fame, ev'n affluence she wav'd.

f. *refl.* To put aside one's own interests. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xiii, She could not claim the pleasure of having waived herself to please him.

†6. To shun, avoid; to elude, escape; to dodge (a blow). *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2391 Obrers men ogh to weyue, Jeue hem noght, ne of hem receyue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 58 So that he hath the wordes weyved And thurgh his Ere is noght deceived. 1446 Lydg. *Two Nightingale Poems* i. 306 The fende .Goth fast a-beute..Leying hys lynes and..Wayngе his hokes, on theym you to receyue, The which thus lygthly ye may eschewe & weyfe. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iv. 36 Ne of thy late life memory is left, Ne can thy irreuocable destiny be weft. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 458 In the fight Jonathan reached forth his arme to strick Bacchides, but he warily waved the blow.

b. To decline (combat). ? *Obs.*

1664 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 578 Both thought It was their wisest course To wave the Fight, and mount to Horse. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 95 Refuse me not this one, this only Pray'r, To wave the Combat, and pursue the War. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XXIII. 689 Not but (my Friend) 'tis still the wiser way To wave Contention with superior Sway.

c. To evade (doing something). † Also with *inf.* as obj.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 866 Folis with hond to touche a corser weyueth. 1646 E. Winslow *Hypocr. Unmasked* 101 Furthermore in the Government of Plimouth, to our great griefe; not onely the Pastor of a Congregation waveth the administration of baptisme to Infants, but divers of his Congregation are fallen with him. 1657 J. Sergeant *Schisme Dispatch'd* 548 They..confess themselves to seek in those points, as wee have seen lately, and as Mr Fuller tacitly grants by waving to patronize it. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reff.* Introd. Prof. *a* b, That I may have the greater Opportunity to bear other mens Opinions, and the less Temptation to wave the complying with those that shall seem Reasonable. 1768 Boswell *Corsica* ii. (ed. 2) 82 The judge could wave the pursuit of justice by saying, 'Non procedatur'. 1793 Mme. D'Arblay *Lett.* 82 Feb., I have waived and waived acceptance almost from the moment of Madame de Staël's arrival. 1823 Scott *Peveril* IX, He calmly waved receiving the paper which Sir Jasper offered to him. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 334 There appears to be no concealment on the part of the officers in thus waiving the exercise of their duty.

d. To put aside, avoid (a subject, a discussion).

1746 Hervey *Medit* (1818) 71 [My mind] has studiously waved the fearful subject, and seems unwilling to pursue it even now. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) II. XXX. 186 To my surprise, he waved everything that would have led to the subject. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* I. XXVI. 144, I would fain have waved the subject. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* XXXI, Which..they considered as the most effectual mode of solving all difficulties and waiving all discussions. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. ii, Tancred..waived the subject.

† 7. To refuse, reject (something offered). Also with *clause* as obj. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 2308 Thou shalt chese the beste and weyue all othere thynges. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 276 [Constantine proclaimed] Up peine of deth that noman weyve That he baptesme ne receive. 14.. Hoccleve *Minor Poems* XXI. 103 Many a man this day, but they gold wey, of men not wole it take ne receyve, and yf it lake his peis, they woll it weive. *c* 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* 510 If it [sc. a proposed statue] myght kepe my flesh in swiche degree It shulde not rote, I wolde it neuere weyue.

b. To put aside, avoid acceptance of (an offer, something offered); to decline (an honour), deprecate (praise). ? *Obs.*

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xviii. 118 The neighbour gentry court him for his acquaintance, which he either modestly waveth, or thankfully accepteth. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) I. II. lv. 73 They offer'd the Crown to the Duke of Saxony, and he waving it, they sent Ambassadors to the Palsgrave. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* III. VII. 449 He for some time desired leave to wave the honour they offered him. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* III. xii. (1781) 90 The Doctor very modestly received the compliment, and, to wave our praises, gave us [etc.].

† 8. To treat with neglect, ignore, disregard, overlook; to let pass (an opportunity). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17320 The kyng answered..For ȝe wot wele..That I haue done ȝoure consayl here, In al my lyff I wayved hit neuere. 1586 in Motley *Netherl.* (1860) II. I. 43 [Lord Burgh] in a most vehement passion, waived the countermand [and his insubordination was very generally imitated]. 1646 M. Hopkins *Let.* in Gaule *Cases Consc.* To Rdr., I would certainely know afore whether your Town ..[is] willing to give us good welcome..., else I shall wave your Shire. 1650 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 169 It is no hard matter in like manner to wave the Autoritie of those of later time, that oppose a Dominion. 1697 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 228 This perswasion of that unfortunate lord occasion'd his majesty to wave the advice of Lilly and others, &c. 1668 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 82 But there are strange reasons and junctures at Court in all businesses, which must be catched or waived. 1672 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. 77 The Courts of the Archbishop of Canterbury, where any Ecclesiastical Suits between any persons may (waving all inferior Courts) be decided. 1675 tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* XIX. (1883) 129 The Soldan being wholly in the power of the soldiers, it is convenient that he also waive the people and insinuate with the army. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. XXIII. 264 God,..respecteth not onely the good of this or that person,..but often (in some degree waving that, or taking care for it in a less remarkable way) hath a provident regard to the more extensive good of a whole people. 1713 C'tess Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 163 Receive it then, t'expel these mortal Cares, Nor wave a Med'cine, which thy God prepares.

b. To put aside, refuse to defer to (another's scruples). *rare.*

1833 Ht. Martineau *Fr. Wines & Pol.* IV. 53 Being under promise, however, to purchase such and such quantities of wine, he must waive their polite scruples.

9. To refrain from applying or enforcing (a rule, law), to make an exception to.

a 1665 J. Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* II. (1670) 32 And (doubtless) it was the very intention, of the Law-makers themselves, that their Law, calculated for the regulating ordinary cases only, in such cases as these (I mean extraordinaries) should be waved. 1669 Stubbe *Mariner's Mag.* VI. III. 127 So with reason wave the Rule, as occasion requireth. 1849 Miss Mulock *Ogilvies* XIX, But in the present case we will waive the aforesaid excellent rule.

10. To abstain from entering upon (an action, inquiry, a discussion, subject of consideration). Often with some notion of reserving for a future opportunity: To allow to stand over, put aside for the present, defer.

In the 17th c. very often with vbl. sb. as obj.

1630 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* XXIII. (1653) 452 Upon which a Quære might be raised..But this, as being not properly appertaining to our Designe, we shall wave it for the present. 1694 F. Bragge *Disc. Fairables* III. 100, I shall wave the enquiry how far religion is conducive to these things. 1696 Whiston *Theory Earth* II. 154 Now verbal Descriptions..being of small advantage..I shall wave more words about it. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 267 P 1 For this Reason I shall wave the Discussion of that Point. *a* 1726 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 210 A Reason why he wav'd concerning himself to decide this Difference, might be, because the Man came to him..as to a Person invested with secular Power. 1729 Dilworth *Pope* 76 For our part we shall wave entering into a disquisition about the English translation of the *Iliad*. 1774 Mitford *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 207, I shall wave all farther remarks. 1797 Hr. Lee *Canterb. T., Poet's T.* (1799) I. 74 Let us wave further conversation. 1870 Ruskin *Lect. Art* i. 22, I waive discussion of this to-day. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-Cap* 1529 Well now, waive nonsense, you and I are boys No longer.

† b. To refrain from dealing with in statement or narrative; to omit, leave out. *Obs.*

1651 Davenant *Gondibert* I. XXIII, In pity thus, her beauty's just renown I wave for publique Peace. 1665 Bunyan *Holy Citie* (1669) 130 John tells us this Wall is an hundred forty four Cubits, (and waves the manner of the measure of Ezekiel). 1684 J. Morrison tr. *Struys' Voy.* Pref. 1 A Person, whose sufferings (waving other discouraging circumstances) might have very well excused from observing. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 19 But wave what-e'er to Cadmus may belong, And fix, O Muse! the barrier of thy song At Oedipus. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. XXXV. 354 Then followeth his Answer...Which being very long I was in some suspense about inserting it, inclining to abreviate or wave it wholly. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. ii, To wave therefore a circumstance, which..is not greatly material.

¶ 11. [Confused with Wave *v.*] To put (a person or thing) *aside*, *away*, *off* with or as with a wave of the hand.

1832 Ht. Martineau *Ella of Garv.* vi. 80 You should have seen him waive us off with his cane. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* ii. 50 Both of whom [St. Peter and St. Paul], having given their clear testimony to facts..are now..contemptuously waived aside as idle dreamers. 1877 — *Marlb. Serm.* XXII. 210 And pure Faith..will here take you by the hand and waive off each baser temptation. 1897 Bp. M. Creighton in *Life & Lett.* (1904) II. vii. 258, I cannot waive away all the teaching of history.

† **Waive**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 wayfe, weyve, wave, (4 weive), 4–6 wayve, 4 *north.*, 5–6 *Sc.* waif, 5 waive, (wafe); *pa. t.* 4–5 wayved, weyved, (4 *Sc.* wavit), 4 wafte, 5 waivet. [a. ON. *veifa* (Norw. *veiva*) to wave, swing (trans. with obj. in dat.; also rarely refl.), corresponding to MDu. *weiven* to wave, swing, also (= mod.Du. *wuiven*) to beckon, signal (? whence Weave *v.*[2] *Naut.*), and OHG. *-weiben* (in *siweiben* to destroy, disperse, *ungeweibet* unbroken):—OTeut. **waibjan*. A parallel formation, OTeut. **waibōjan*, is represented by OIIG. *weibōn*, MHG. *weiben*, to move hither and thither, wander, waver; these senses (cf. branch II below) may, though not recorded, have belonged to the ON. word. The root, OTeut. **wīb-*:—Indo-Eur. **weip-*, is a variant of OTeut. **wīp-*:—Indo-Eur. **weib-* as in L. *vibrāre* (see Vibrate *v.*). Both these roots are represented, with the general sense to wave or swing, to shake, both in Teut. and other langs., and each of them has a variant with prefixed *s*: see Swerp *v.*, Swift *a.* (The Indo-Eur. **weip-*, **weib-*, to wind, represented, e.g. by OE. *wefan*, Goth. *biwaibjan* to wrap, clothe, are probably unconnected.)

Cf. ME. *wive-n*, Weve *v.*, which is of cognate if not identical origin, and has most of the senses below. In some contexts it is difficult to distinguish between *waive* *v.*[1] and *v.*[2], and probably some shades of meaning may have originated from confusion between the two. See also Wave *v.*, the relations of which to this verb are to some extent uncertain.]

I. *trans.* 1. To move to and fro or from side to side (the beard, hand, or something held in the hand); to wave, wag.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 240 Per pancals þei weyued. 13.. *Gaw & Gr. Kn.* 306 [He] Wayued his berde for to wayte quo-so wolde ryse. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2367 Cuthbert wayued his hand on þaim. 1590 Levins *Manip.* 204/15 To Wayue, wag, *agitare.*

2. *To waive up*: to throw open (a window, a wicket, etc.). Cf. *to weve up*, Weve *v.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 453 þenne wafte he [Noah] vpon [? *read* vp] his wyndowe, & wyged þer-oute. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXV. (*Julian*) 315 With þat þe curtyng vpe he wauit. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 611 Biddeth amende-ȝow make him til his maistre ones, To wayue [? *read* wayue] vp þe wiket þat þe wommen shetten. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 945 (Dubl. MS.) Than passyd forth þe prouude whene into a prevay chamer, Wayfas vp a wyndow & waytes þar-owt. *c* 1440 *Destr. Troy* 676 Medea..Waynet [? *read* wayuet] up a window, the walkyn beheld. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Arth.* 408 (Douce MS.) He wayued [? *read* wayued] vp his viser for his ventaile.

3. To remove, put away, banish. (Cf. Waive *v.*[1] 12, of which some of the quots. here may be fig. examples.)

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 167 And elde hent good hope and hastiliche he shifte hym, And wayued awey wanhope and with lyf he fyȝteth. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 210 Thou knyttest thee, ther thou art nat receyued; Ther thou were weel, fro thennes artow weyued. *c* 1440 *Destr. Troy* 9783 Hit is wit soche wildnes wayne [? *read* wayue] out of mynd. 14.. Hoccleve *Minor Poems* I. 192 [The Virgin says] O Iohn,..an heuy sone Haue I of thee; deeth hath myn othir weyued! *Ibid.* VII. 79 Thy might, I woot wel, is my gilt to weyue. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5321 Thy..iiij. wyttys thow hast lost. Ther myght, ther force, ar fro the weyved. *c* 1440 *Towneley Myst.* XVI. 247 A-way let ye wafe all sich langage. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Christ's Entry Jerus.* 52 Though I be wretched and vnworthy, wayve me not from thy woune! *Ibid., Magi's Obl.* 211 By Myrre, that waues Corruption.

4. a. To cast off (a garment: cf. Weve *v.*). b. To cast *away* (money).

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15388 Fro his necke his mantel he wayued. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXII. 328 þis money..þat Judas in a wreth has wauyd away.

5. To send or dispatch.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1175 Him moneste as a maister him..all þe trouage þare to him tittly to wayne [*read* wayue; *MS. Dubl.* wayfe]. *Ibid.* 1716 (Dubl. MS.) Suche presandes owt of perse he to þe prince wayfes. *Ibid.* 1728 For it is wayved to vs to wete þat wickidly þou haues,.. Purnayd þe pletours oure partis to ride. *Ibid.* 2316 And slike a word he þaim wayues be writ fra him-self. *Ibid.* 2695 Sire, we haue wayued to ȝow writtis.

6. To cause to pass; to divert. *To waive* (*one's*) *wit*: to change one's mind.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 225 Be whom he was deceived Of love, and from his pourpos weyved. *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtayse* 322 in *Babees Bk.*, Be stabulle of chere and sumwhat lyat, Ne ouer alle wayue þou not thy wyst. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9930 Oft he waivet hir wit & hir wille chaunget. And meuyt hir mynd, as maydons done yet. 1429 in *26 Pol. Poems* XVI. 100 þat freek may wel be holden a fool, þat wayueþ wit, and worcheþ by wille.

II. *intr.*

7. To wave, move to and fro in the wind; to be tossed about; to totter.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13121 Wend yee þar þe rede to find þat besides waifand wit þe wind? 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 159 R. was perceyued, þei were renged redie, & how þer pencels weyued. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 422 Wheder-warde so þe water wafte, hit [the ark] rebounde. *c* 1400 *Gawayne* 860 The Justice and the scherreve bothe honged hye, To weyven with the ropes and with the winde drye. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14682 Til thei se Gregeis oute comande With brode baneres a-boute wayvande. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9513 For the smorther, & the smoke of þe smert loghes, þat waivet in the welkyn..All the Citie might se the sercle aboute. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 246 And the knyght be there assente Schulde wayue wyth the wynde. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* IV. 1377 Looke on your goddis how þei toumble and waue Right whan men sweps hem—so litil is her myght! *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4702 þe schip weyued hidir and þidir. *c* 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 440 Wourthy to be Hingit heigh on ane tre,..To waif with the wynd. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. v. 124 The south wind Nothus thre dayis me draif Throwout the see, with violent wallis waif. *Ibid.* X. iii. 102 Lyke as first, or wyndis blast be persave, The swouch is hard wythin the woddis waif. *Ibid.* XI. xv. 66 Bot for the tother part, suyth to say, He leit do waif with the swift wynd away. 1535 Lyndesay *Sat.* 3973 To hunt cattell ȝe war ay speidie, Thairfoir ye sall weaue [*Bann. MS.* waif] in a widdy.

8. To wander, stray.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2386 Many a bold burn after þat best prike,..þat noiþer burde ne barn bi-laft at þe quarrer, but went after þe werwolf & wayned [? *read* wayued] from þe berne. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 338 Here lieges wolde hem noght receive, So that thei mote algates weyve To seche lond in other place. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 560 Weryd worthe the wyghte ay, that the thy wytt refede, That mase the to wayfe here in thise wylde lakes! *c* 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* III. 593 Ye wolde be with hym euere and neuere fro hym waue. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* II. 430 The kyng will that thay be safe...At thare awne will let tham wafe. *Ibid.* XXI. 103 If he abowte waue Any langere, his warkys may we ban.

b. *fig.* To stray, wander in purpose.

c 1485 *Cast. Perseu.* 380 in *Macro Plays* 88 Whom to folwe, wetyn I ne may;..as wynde in watyr I wave. *c* 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* III. 199, I wyl the telle pleynly, I wil not waue, I wil not varye. *Ibid.* V. 390 Fro this decree shal I neuere-more waue.

9. To go by, pass.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 318 And whan the presse of poeple is weived, He takth his hoste unto him tho, And seith, [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 444 And sone when þat scho mai persaiue þair syn, lat noght þe tym ouer wayue, Bot chaistese þam & tery noght.

Waive, obs. form of Waif *sb.*[1]

Waived (*wēivd*), *ppl. a.* [f. Waive *v.*[1] + -ed [1].] In senses of the vb.: see quots.

1877 Grange *Golden Ashford.* C ij b, I..persuaded my selfe it was some wayued [*printed* wayned] Becke, whiche of late had strayed from the lodge of my forest. 1889 Cooper *Admon.* 53 And so is it for waiued goods, as was this cloth. *c* 1640 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 438 Wayved goods, Estrayes, Treasure trove. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Waived Goods*, are such as a Thief, leaves behind him in his Flight; which are forfeited to the Lord of the Manour, unless [etc.].

Waiver (*wēi-vəɹ*). Also 8 waivure, 9 waver. [a. AF. *weyver* (Britton, 13th c.), subst. use of the inf. *weyver* Waive *v.*[1]: see -er [4].]

1. *Law.* The action or an act of waiving; dispensing with a requirement, an express or implicit declining to avail oneself of a known right or to assert a claim.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* § 660. 348 b, It appeareth, that the right of the Estate taile discending to him either within age, or of full age, shall worke a Remitter in him, for that the waiuer of the state should haue bin to his losse and preiudice. 1673 SHEPPARD *Grand Abridgm.* IV. 292 This word Waiver is sometimes applyed to an Estate, or something that is made or conveyed to a man, and so it signifieth nothing else but the Refusal to accept of the thing so made and conveyed. And sometimes it is applyed to a plea, and then signifieth a Refusal to stand to a former Plea pleaded, and the pleading a new. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* vi. 216 But the Court held, that the Parol ought not to demur, for that the Infant is out of Court, and by the Waiure the Original is determined against her. 1818 BROUGHAM *Sp. Orders in Council* Wks. 1873 X. 50 That a conduct like this would..throw a single obstacle in the way of exerting on the morrow the very same rights, of which next Saturday's Gazette should contain the waiver. 1817 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 677 Where rent is usually paid at a banker's, if the banker, without any special authority, receives rent accruing after expiration of notice to quit, it will not operate as a waver. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 335 The taking such subsequent estate was his own folly, and shall be looked upon as a waiver of his prior right. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 849 That in this instance the express consent of the tenant amounted to a waiver of the statutory warning. 1846 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* cviii. IV. 127 *note*, Hallam is of opinion that the first two Georges, by their frequent visits to Hanover, made a bad return for the waiver of the condition on which they were invited to the throne. *a* 1850 J. C. CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) IV. 480 It is well understood that a compromise involves not a surrender, but simply a waiver of the right or power. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 9. 685 It was necessary to bribe the two rival claimants to a waiver of their claims. 1908 *Times* 27 Aug. 11/5 As to the point as to waiver, it had long been decided that every trifling breach of a covenant was not to be taken as a waiver.

b. Comb.: **waiver clause**, a clause in the prospectus of a joint-stock company, by which the subscribers are made to contract themselves out of the provision of the Companies Act requiring that the prospectus shall contain certain particulars respecting the contracts made with the promoters.

1894 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Dec. 5/3. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 10/2 It is becoming quite refreshing to find a prospectus without the objectionable waiver clause.

¶ **c.** The alleged use of the word as synonymous with WAIVERY appears to be unauthenticated.

1830 OGILVIE, whence in later Dicts.

2. In non-technical use: An act of waiving or dismissing from consideration. *rare.*

1823 E. C. STEDMAN in *Century Mag.* XXVI. 940 There is something exasperating to serious minds in his placid waiver of things grievous or distasteful.

Waiver: see WAVER *sb.*

Waivery. *Law. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [a. AF. *weiverie* (14th c. in *Liber Albus*, p. 190), f. *weive* (fem. of *weif* adj.: see WAIF *sb.*[1]): see WAIVE *sb.*, WAIVE *v.*[1], and -ERY. (In Law Latin *waivaria.*)] (See quot.)

1903 *Cal. Lond. Let.-Bk. E.* p. xxix, Proceedings of outlawry, or 'waivery' (the technical term in the case of women), had been taken against Agnes Westhalle.

Waiving (wē·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WAIVE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of WAIVE *v.*[1]

1596 BACON *Use Com. Law* (1630) 76 A Thiefe hauing stolne goods, being pursued flyeth away and leaueth the goods. This leauing is called Wayuing. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* iv. (1661) 62 This was not a conquest, but a plain waving of his sentences from Rome and a yielding of the question. 1826 BELL *Comm. Laws Scot.* (ed. 5) I. 422 If the drawer say to the holder before the bill falls due,.. that he will call and see whether the bill has been paid by the acceptor, it is a waiving of notice. 1914 B. H. STREETER *Restatem. & Reunion* iv. 191 In the minds of a minority, any waiving of the Rubric seems to involve a point of principle.

Waivling, var. WAVELING *a. Sc.*

Waivode, waiwode: see WAYWODE.

†Wak, *a.* and *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also 6–7 **wack**, 6 **vak.** [a. ON. **wakw-* (Icel. *vǫk-r*) moist, damp = (M)Du. *wak*:—OTeut. **wakwo-*, cogn. w. Gr. *βγρός*, L. *ūvidus* (:—**ugvidus*) moist.]

A. *adj.* Moist, damp.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 2 Quhen Aurora the wak nycht did arest, And chais fra hevin with hir dym skyis donk. 1598 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 388 First, to the Mone,.. Quene of the see,..Off nature wak and cauld, and no thyng clere. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. xxii. (S.T.S.) II. 224 Pai ar nurist with wak humouris and Caldnes. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 2 3e vāpurs wak, and watters in the air! *c* 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 215 And till eschew nocturnall vapor vak. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Chalm. Air* xxv. 153 b, They make the claith wak and donke. 1666 *Despauterii Gram. Institit., Lib. VII.* E 7 b (Jam.), *Madeo*, to be wack or drunk. *Permadeo*, to be very wack. 1776 *Herd's Coll. Sc. Songs* II. Gloss., *Wak*, moist, wet.

Hence **Wa'kness**, moisture.

c 1550 NISBET *N. T. Scots* Luke viii. 6 Ane vthir fell on staan; and it sprang vp and dryit, for it had nocht moistour (or wacnes). 1598 LYNDSAY *Dreme* 460 Than past we vp quhare Jupiter the kyng Satt in his speir,..Complexionate with waknes and with hait. 1563 KNOX *Reasoning betw. Abbot Crossraguell & K.* (1812) Prol. ij b, The earth bringeth forth the tree, it groweth by moistour, and natural wackness. 1595 DUNCAN *Apol. Etymol., Mador*, 1808 JAMIESON, *Waknes*, humidity.

B. *sb.* Moisture.

1496 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 76 Quhen it [the moon] is full, all thingis..that ar governyt be wak or moystnes, ar mare forssy and vigorous na quhen it is wane.

Wak, Wakande: see WEAK *a.*, VACAND.

Wake (wēk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 **wak, woke**, *Sc.* **walk**, 6 **wacke**, also *pl.* (sense 4) **waakes, wakeasses, waka**, 2– **wake.** [In form the word corresponds to OE. **wacu* str. fem., occurring once in *nihtwaco* night-watch. Compare also the wk. fem. forms, MDu. *wake* (Du. *waak*), MLG. *wake*, OHG. *wacha* (MHG., modG. *wache*), wakefulness, watching, watch, ON. *vaka* (MSw., Sw. *vaka*, Norw. *vaka*) watch, vigil, eve of a feast; related to WAKE *v.* In the sense 'state of wakefulness', the sb. is prob. in part a new formation in ME. on the stem of WAKE *v.*, on the analogy of *sleep* vb. and sb. In sense 4 adoption from ON. is possible; the sense 'merry-making' is found in ON. and Norw.; cf. ON. *Jónsvaka*, Norw. *Jons(v)oka* St. John's Eve, Midsummer festivities.]

1. The state of wakefulness *esp.* during normal hours of sleep. *Obs.* exc. in *sleep and* (*or*) *wake, wake and dream.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1590 Al for hire louerdes sake Haueþ daies kare and nigtes wake. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 219 Making such difference betwixt Wake and Sleepe, As is the difference betwixt Day and Night. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* s. v., At Bristol one eye is ever upon the wake while the other napperh. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Bronn Rosary* 11, Repent the vow—declare its cause and kind Which, not to break, in sleep or wake, thou bearest on thy mind. 1898 J. B. CROZIER *My Inner Life* I. iv. 33 In that half-conscious state between sleep and wake. 1913 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 194 Their beauty is the beauty of a kind of mirage that haunts the borders between wake and dream.

†b. A state or period of wakefulness. *Obs.*

1621 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* II. (1620) 22 What thinke you of a pleasing dreame to last till morning? *Gal.* I shall chose my Lord a pleasing wake before it. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. v, That youth, and shape, which in my dreames and wakes, I haue so oft contemplated.

†c. The act of awaking. *Obs.*

1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* v. i, Who follow'd me, but as the Swallow Summer, Hatching her young ones in my kindly Beams, Singing her flatt'ries to my morning wake.

†2. Abstinence from sleep, watching, practised as a religious observance: often coupled with *fasting.* Also, an instance of this; a night spent in devout watching (on the eve of a festival, of the reception of knighthood, etc.); a watch, vigil.

c 1200 *Vices & Vertues* 125 Mid fasten, oðer mid wake. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10302 O-mang þir hirdes duelland þare, In praier, wak, and weping sare. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 59 & hyme abondonit yhanly in prayere, fastyng, & in wake, hyme-selfe seruand to god to mak. 1599 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. xvi. 48 Moreover, the Common Watchings, or Wakes, of Men and Women at the Martyrs Graves..was afterwards abrogated and rejected. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* xxv. 105 b, They haue also 3 Vigils, or Wakes in their great Lent, which they cal *Stoiania.* 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 175 As many as the place would receive watched and praied in the said Temple, But the Prince of Wales, held his wake..within the Church of Westminster. *a* 1642 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 434 After this Supper ended followes [among the Essenes] a sacred wake, or vigill, kept in this manner.

3. The watching (*esp.* by night) of relatives and friends beside the body of a dead person from death to burial, or during a part of that time; the drinking, feasting, and other observances incidental to this. Now chiefly *Anglo-Irish* or with reference to Irish custom. Also applied to similar funeral customs in other times or among pagan peoples.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 3261 What shulde I now any lenger dwelle..for to telle..of þe pleies called palestral, Nor þe wrastelyng þat was at þe wake? *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparrow* 437 The goose and the gander, The ducke and the drake, Shall watche at this wake. 1572 *Inv. Kelthange* (Somerset Ho.), Her wacke and buriall xiiij[li]. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 998 The warlike Wakes continu'd all the Night, And Fun'ral Games were played at new-returning Light. 1724 SWIFT *Acc. Wood's Exac.* Misc. (1735) V. 317 When he was cut down, the Body was carried through the whole City to gather Contributions for his Wake. 1726–31 WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 60 When a person dies, several of his acquaintance come to sit up with him, which they call the Wake. 1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 210 The series of ceremonies used on the night,..that the corpse remains unburied, is what they call a wake. 1814 W. S. MASON *Statist. Acc. Irel.* I. 506 The Presbyterian wake is conducted with profound silence and great decorum...The wakes of the members of the established church differ little from those in other parts of Ireland. 1827 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xxiii. 468 A poor man and his wife were accused of having bewitched the man, whose wake was now held in the village. 1874 C. E. NORTON *Lett.* (1913) II. 40 Sumner is dead. We have had a great wake over him, and the echoes of it have scarcely yet died away. 1894 GLADSTONE *Odes Hor.* II. xviii. 18 New contracts for new marbles thou dost make, But thou art near thy wake.

4. The vigil of a festival (and senses thence derived).

In this use *wake* is a translation of Eccl. L. *vigilia*, to the rule of the early church that certain feast-days should be preceded by services lasting through the night. When this rule had ceased to exist, the vigil continued to be a pretext for nocturnal festivity, and the use of the word *wake* was extended to denote not only the eve but also the feast-day itself, and the whole period during which festivities continued.

a. The vigil or eve of a festival, and the observances belonging to this. Also, a festival. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

15.. *Part of a Register* (1593) 64 Their Saints dayes and their prescript seruice. Their wakes, and Idolatrous bankets. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. clxix. 207 Great solempnytes were made in all churches, and great fyers and wakes, throughout all Englande. 1620 SURFLET *Country Farme* II. xliii. 976, I knowe well that the common sort doe verily thinke and assure, that this seede cannot be gathered but on the night of the wakes of S. Iohn in sommer. *a* 1629 HIERON *Jy. Brown* xxix. (1642) 89 Their Wakes and Vigils, in all riot and excesse of eating and drinking. *a* 1806 H. K. WHITE *Poems* (1837) 136 Such is the jocund wake of Whitsuntide. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss., Wake*, casually employed in Mid-Yorks. and the north, for vigils, or the superstitious rites performed on the eves of St. Agnes and St. Mark.

b. The local annual festival of an English (now chiefly rural) parish, observed (originally on the feast of the patron saint of the church, but now usually on some particular Sunday and the two or three days following) as an occasion for making holiday, entertainment of friends, and often for village sports, dancing, and other amusements.

In modern rustic use chiefly *pl.* in sing. sense and often with sing. construction (cf. the double pl. *wakeses*, in 16th c. *wakeasses*). The word is now current only in certain districts, mainly northern and west midland; elsewhere the equivalent term is *feast* or *revels.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Heo hefde ileanet one wummone to one wake on of hore weaden. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 423/382 Formest he gan haunti wakes: and for compaygnie he wax a syntor of tauernes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28526 At wrestelyng, at wake, rengd haf i and folud wit lust all luchery. 1560 *Child-Marriages* (1897) 116 She had lent the crosse to a younge woman callid Anne Barker, to go to a weddinge or a wake. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. M 6, The maner of keeping of Wakes-es, and feasts in Allgna. 1621 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 109 He haunts Wakes, Faires, and Beare baitings. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. IV. i. (1624) 424 The very rusticks..Instead of..Tilts, Turnaments, &c. they haue their Wakes, Whitson-ales, Shepherds feasts. 1633 CHAS. I *Decl. Lawfull Sports* 16 Wee finde..there hath been a generall forbidding..of the Feasts of the Dedication of the Churches, commonly called Wakes. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi. § 10 Vulgar Notions suit vulgar Discourses, and both..serve pretty well the Market and the Wake. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* IX. 610 The institution of these Church Encaenia or Wakes, was no question on good and laudable designs. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 P 8 Had you MASTER there a few Days longer you would have seen a Country Wake, which you know in most Parts of England is the Eve-Feast of the Dedication of our Churches. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Stretton*, Here used to be a wake on the Sunday after All-Saints-day. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. 75 Wrestling, at present is seldom seen except at wakes and fairs. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* ii. (1862) 97 Every town had its fair, every village its wake. 1879 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine* 9 Neither could she consort with gentry who seemed to her little better than the boors of a country wake. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 2 Sept. 5/2 The wakes in more than one place in the district had closed the workshops. 1893 H. VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. x. 190 It chanced to be the annual wake or holiday at Castleton.

†c. *transf.* Applied to similar periodic festivals or revels of other countries or periods. Also occas. in *pl.*, nocturnal revels. *Obs.*

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* VIII xxix. 171 About the thirde Nones of March, when the citizens of Cæsarea celebrated their wakes, vpon the day of reuells, Adrianus was throwen at the feete of a fierce lion. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Logike* I. xix. 66 b, Those men, saith Plato in Protagoras, that use the authoritie of others instead of argumente, of their owne, are like to needy soules of the country, when they keepe their wakes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 121 By dimpled Brook, and Fountain brim, The Wood-Nymphs..Their merry wakes and pastimes keep. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 89 And most honourable commemoration hath been made of you in all our innocent disorderly wakes [*en toutes nos innocentes débauches*].

¶ **5.** Used by Hogg for: A serenade. nocturnal song. (App. associated with WAIT *sb.* 7 b.)

1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* Introd. (1814) 5 Those wakes now played by minstrels poor, At midnight's darkest, chillest hour, Those humble wakes, now scorned by all, Were first begun in courtly hall. *Ibid.* ii. 139 The lake-fowl's wake was heard no more; The wave forgot to brush the shore. *Ibid.* 336 So low has the character of the minstrels descended, that the performers of the Christmas wakes are wholly unknown to the most part of those whom they serenade.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (senses 3 and 4), as *wake-feast, -game, -light*, †*-meat*, †*-play, Sunday, -week*; also with plural, *wakes time, week.*

1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 207 The wine bottles were replenished, and the company gathered round to partake in eagerness of the first *wake-feast, a goodly number of which would follow the decease of the thus honoured and lamented individual. 1912 K. TYNAN *Peers Kath.* ii. 28 It was enough to bring Tom Duncan out of his grave,..to see the class of people who played *wake-games in his dining-room, and drank his whisky. 1823 HOGG *Queen's Wake* II. (1814) 147 Her sail was the web of the gossamer's loom, The glow-worm her *wakelight. 1849 WHITTIER *Kathleen* 57 Get up, old man! the wake-lights shine! *a* 1400 *Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 6 *Obsonium*, a *wakemete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 1102 Ne how that liche-wake was yholde Al thilke night, ne how the Grekes pleye The *wake pleyes, ne kepe I nat to seye. 1889 *St. James's Gaz.* 20 June 6/1 The farmers..also keep an annual holiday which they call 'Wake Sunday..on the first Sunday in August. 1863 BRIERLEY *Waverlow, Trevor Hall* I. 27 They were the Waverlow church bells that were ringing, for it was '*wakes time'. 1890 'OUIDA'

Puck I. vi. 105 It was '*wake-week' at a little town some twelve miles away. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v. *Wake*, It is customary for friends from a distance to visit each other during '*wakes week'.

7. Special comb.: †**wake-day**, the day on which a wake (senses 2, 4) was held; †**wake-fire**, a (? ceremonial) fire by which a night-watch was kept; **wake-house**, † (*a*) ? a house of vigil, or prayer; (*b*) *Anglo-Irish* (see quot. 1814); †**wake-word** = WATCH-WORD.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Exsuiales feriæ*, *wake dayes. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 181 To morow thy father his wake day will keepe. Then euerie wanton may daunce at his will. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* v. ii. 107 Except the twelue-daies, or the wakeday-feast. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 596 Amongst Christians, the consecration, or wake-days of our churches. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 182 Anoþer ys of clene wod and no bonys, and ys callyd a *wakefyre, for men syttyth and wakyth by hyt. 1578–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 233 Beinge the awake night, the said Percivall and Margarett the wyfe went to the waike fyere. 1677 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 308 This Church or *Wake House stands upon Ground Given to ye Church. 1814 W. S. MASON *Statist. Acc. Irel.* I. 318 Whenever a person of any respectability dies, two wake houses are laid out, in one of which is placed the deceased,..in the other are assembled all the young people..who entertain themselves with every species of frolic and amusement. 1856 P. KENNEDY *Banks Boro* xiv. (1867) 66 The wake-house drama of *Old Dowd and his Daughters*. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Diij b, *Symbolum*, a *wake worde.

Wake (wēk), *sb.*[2] Also 6 ?**walk**, 7 **wack**. [Not found before the 16th c., but possibly much older; either directly or mediately a. ON. (**vaku*) *vpk* str. fem., *vaka* wk. fem., hole or opening in ice. The ON. word was probably applied to the path made for itself by a vessel through ice, and from this use the sense 'trace or track of a vessel in the water' may have been developed by Scandinavian navigators in British seas. Sense 5, 'line of hay', if it really belongs to the same word, may be a transferred use of the nautical sense.

The word is represented in all the Scandinavian dialects, and has been adopted in Du., Fris., and Ger. The sense 'track of a vessel' is found, outside Eng., only in Norw. *vak* (dial. *vaak*), NFris. (Sylt) *waak*; the older sense, 'hole or channel in ice' (sometimes, 'a piece of water kept unfrozen by wind or current') belongs to MSw. *vaak*, *vak*, Sw. *vak* (cf. Sw. *vaka* to cut a hole in ice), Norw. *vak*, Da. *vaage*. WFris. *wek*, *wjek(ke)*, Du. *wak* neut., MLG., LG. (whence mod.G.) *wake* fem.

The word is commonly supposed to be connected with ON. *vpk-r*, Du. *wak*, moist, damp: see WAK *a.* This view involves some difficulty, as the ON. adj. has the stem *vpkv-*, while the sb. has genit. *vakar*, pl. *vakar*, *-ir*. Connexion with WAKE *v.* and *v.* seems not impossible: the freeing of the water from ice may have been regarded as an awakening.]

I. 1. The track left on the water's surface by a ship (in the sea often marked by a smooth appearance).

[*a* 1547: see 4 a.] 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ix. 42 The wake of a ship is the smooth water a sterne shewing the way shee hath gone in the sea. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. i. 97 In the Wake of the Ship (as 'tis call'd) or the Smoothness which the Ship's passing has made on the Sea. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 412 The wake of a ship, (by which, I think, the sailors understand the stream drawn after the stern by its motion,) follows the ship throughout her voyage. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Regions* II. 240 An 'eddy' having somewhat the resemblance of the 'wake' or track of a ship. 1852 CLOUGH *Poems*, '*Where lies the land*' 8 Or, o'er the stern reclining, watch below The foaming wake far widening as we go. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* liv, Both steamers were drifting away from us, and we were rising and falling in a troubled wake of water. 1882 W. H. WHITE *Naval Archit.* (ed. 2) 553 The actual wake of a ship combines the stream line motions with those due to the frictional drag of the skin upon the water. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Nov. 506 Her wake was without foam and closed sluggishly behind her.

attrib. 1866 MACGREGOR '*Rob Roy*' *Baltic* 229 A canoe was pulled at a rapid pace in the two wake waves astern of this great smack. 1909 BRIDGES *Paraphr. Virg. Æn.* I. 342 What God..Pluckt you away and drown'd i' the swift wake-water abandon'd?

†b. Phrases. *To fetch* (*get*, *get into*, *have*) *the wake of* (a pursued vessel): to get so close to her as to be able to see, and steer by, her wake. *To stay a weather of a wake*: see quot. 1706.

1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 113 In chaseing they say, we have got her wake, that is, we are got as far into the wind as she, and so goe right after her as she goes. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 19 The Chase is about, come fetch her wack, and we will be about after her. We sail far better than she; we have her Wack. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., A Ship is said *To stay a Weather of a Wake*, when in her Staying she does it so speedily, that she don't fall to the Leeward, but that when she is tacked, her Wake is to the Leeward; which is a sure Sign that she feels her Helm well, and is nimble of Steerage. When a Ship being in Chace of another, has got as far into the Wind as she, and sails directly after her; the usual Saying is, *That she has got into her Wake*. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 377 About noon the Commodore was little more than a league from the galeon, and could fetch her wake, so that she could not now escape.

2. *transf.* Anything compared to the wake of a vessel. a. The disturbance caused by a body swimming, or moved, in water.

1733 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 338 There were numbers of visible animalcules; but I was sure there were likewise some which I could not see; for the wake they made in swimming to and fro was very visible. 1818 *Ann. Reg. Chron.* 561 He [*sc.* the whale] swims with an astonishing swiftness..leaving a track in the sea, like a great ship; and this is called his wake. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* (1879) 39 The tracks of the penguins were marked by a fiery wake. 1892 A. LANG *Angling Sk.* 68 The dry fly is difficult to use on a loch, as there is no stream to move it; and however gently you draw it, it makes a 'wake'—a trail behind it.

b. The air-currents behind a body in flight.

1851 ROSSETTI *Sister Helen* viii, Outside it's merry in the wind's wake,..In the shaken trees the chill stars shake. 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* vii. 72 The only chance of safety for the rook appeared to be his getting directly in the 'wake' of the falcon, and by this means the bird escaped for a long time. 1891 *Spectator* 28 Feb., The probable object of the wedge-formation when advancing against the wind is, that each bird avoids the 'wake' of its neighbour.

c. A trail of light behind a luminous object (in motion), or its broken reflection in water. Also *fig.*

a 1721 KEN *Prepar.* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 74 Fly up, my Soul, along the Wake, Which down from Fonial Love they make, No Lover led by Love's sweet Ray 'Ere lost his Way. 1819 MONTGOMERY *Greenland* I. 14 The pageant glides through loneliness and night, And leaves behind a rippling wake of light. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 1 Morn in the white wake of the morning star Came furrowing all the orient into gold. 1889 STEVENSON *In South Seas* II. ii. (1900) 152 The harbour lantern and two of the greater planets drew vari-coloured wakes on the lagoon. 1906 E. A. ABBOTT *Silanus* XXV. 237 They depart. There is a momentary wake of light. It disappears. Then we have to wait for a new torchbearer.

d. A track or trail on land. *rare.*

1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xi, Twice or thrice..a water-cart went along by the Pyncheon-house, leaving a broad wake of moistened earth. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* v. iv, Thus they had left a wide, discoloured wake upon the snow.

3. A course, or general line of direction, that a ship has taken, or is to take.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 52 Wee..altered that course and bare for the coste of Florida ..to lie in the wake of the fleet of the West Indies bounde for Spaine. 1720 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 190 They were.. quite out of the wake of the Bermudas. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. v. 279 And from the shore to swifter wakes The willing sea the vessels takes.

4. **In the wake of.**

a. *Naut.* or quasi-nautical. *In the wake of* (*a vessel*); *in her* (*its*) *wake*, etc.: immediately behind, and (properly) in the actual track made by, a vessel; immediately backward and along the track made. Also used of any person or persons aboard, as *in his, our*, etc., *wake*; behind his, our, etc., vessel.

a 1547 *MS. Harl.* 309 f. 4 No ship to ride in another's walk. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., A ship is said to be in the wake of another, when she follows her on the same track. 1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav.* 22/1 The frigate, which has us in tow, hollows out ahead of us a level and murmuring path, along which we glide in her wake. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 323 [They] fell on his little troop whenever he attempted to land, and followed in his wake for miles in their canoes. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 193 The *Mysticetus*' best point of view is right behind, or 'in his wake', as we say.

b. *Naut.* in transferred uses: (*a*) In the direct line aft from (any object on board ship, or any specified part of her). Usually *in wake of*. (*b*) In the line of sight of (an observed object). (*c*) In the line of recoil of (a gun).

(*a*) 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 44 The Timbers to be equally scarfed, the Middle of one Timber being in the Wake of the Head and Heels of the others. 1748 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 138 We found our own Main-top-mast sprung in the Wake of the Cap. 1869 E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* I. 5 The bottom was strengthened by doubling the whole of the inner plates up to the turn of the bilge for 50 feet in wake of the engines. 1879 W. H. WHITE *Ship-Build.* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 61/1 These longitudinal tie-plates form excellent strengthenings to the deck in wake of the principal hatchways. 1896 *Daily News* 4 Nov. 2/4 The deck, which was also found to be started in the wake of the mast.

(*b*) 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., Two distant objects observed at sea are called in the wake of each other, when the view of the furthest is intercepted by the nearest.

(*c*) *c* 1850 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 69 They give.. support to the beams in the wake of the guns. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* xviii. § 288. 303 In the wake of the explosion of the heavy guns, as at the embrasures, etc., the whole of the frames are of the larger size.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* (*a*) With nautical metaphor (often jocular): Following close behind (a person compared to a ship). (*b*) In wider use (cf. 2): In the train or track of, behind (a moving person or object); in imitation of; following as a result or consequence.

(*a*) 1806 CUMBERLAND *Mem.* 114 A great man in office is like a great whale in the ocean; there will be a sword-fish and a thresher, a Junius and a John Wilkes, ever in his wake and arming to attack him. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall* II. 19 He was swept off in the vortex that followed in the wake of this lady. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* ii, She found herself ..following in the wake of her stately parents. 1901 MEREDITH *Reading of Life* 1 Each claims worship undivided in her wake would have us wallow.

(*b*) 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlv, Night, when carts came rumbling by, filled with rude coffins..; when orphans cried, and distracted women shrieked and followed in their wake. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* v, Such love does not bring peace in its wake. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxxx. (1877) 683 Wealth followed in the wake of traffic. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxii. 256 Brown dust that came rolling in the wake of our carriage. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 214 [A man], when he talks of the hum of machinery or the boom of the cannon,..is following in the wake of the inventors of Language. 1912 G. MACDONALD *Roman Wall Scot.* x. 351 A proof that Eastern traders had found their way as far north as the Caledonian frontier in the wake of the Roman army.

II. 5. A line of hay prepared for carting. *dial.*

1847 HALLIWELL *Wake*, hay placed in large rolls for the convenience of being carried. *West. Ibid.*, *Wakes*, rows of green damp grass. 1872–4 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 259 The waggon safely jolted over the furrow, and on between the wakes of light-brown hay. 1879 — *Wild Life in S. Co.* vii. 143 Watching that the 'wallows' may be turned over properly, and the 'wakes' made at a just distance from each other.

III. 6. An open hole, or unfrozen place in the ice. *dial.* (East Anglia.)

1895 P. H. EMERSON *Birds* etc. *Norf. Broadland* II. xiii. 379. I passed a 'wake'—or open space in the ice—where the swans were swimming like sentries on duty.

†**Wake**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Possibly a. some native African word, but evidently regarded by Jobson as onomatopœic.] A North African bird.

1623 JOBSON *Golden Trade* 135 The next [bird] in greatnesse, is called a Wake, in regard of the great noyse hee makes when hee flyeth, which resembleth what he is called by:..[it] is a bird of great stature, hauing the vpper part of his head carrying a beautifull shew, with a pleasing tuft on his Crowne, which I haue seene worne by great personages here at home.

Wake, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [? Aphetic var. of AWAKE.] Not sleeping, awake. (Only *predicative.*)

1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 16 Er ryghtwysnesse be fully wake. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 87 Well couth he..tell vs merry tales, to keepe vs wake. 1745 W. THOMPSON *Sickness* III. 205 [IV. 288] What guilt is mine, that I alone am wake, Ev'n tho' my eyes are seal'd, am wake alone?

Wake (wēk), *v.* Forms: Inf. and Present stem. *a.* (? 1 *wæcnan*: see WAKEN *v.*) *β.* 1–2 *wacian*, 1 *wacigan*, *wacigean*, *wæcian*, 1–2 *wacyan*, 2 *wacygan*, 2–3 *wakian*, *wakien*, *wakegen*, 3 *wakenn* (*Orm.*), 3–5 *waken*, 4 *waki*, *waky*, 4–5 *wakke*, *waake*, 3– *wake*. *north.* and *Sc.* 4 *wack*, *vak* (*pr. pple.* *vakand*, *waoand*, *quakand*), 4–5 *wak*, 4–6 *waik*, *valk*, 4–8 *walk*, 5 *waulk*, 6 *vaik(e*, *walke*, 8 *wauk*, *wawk*. Pa. t. *a.* 1 *wōc*, 3–4 *woo*, 3–5 *wok*, 4–6 *wook(e*, 7 *wake*, 9 *'woke*, 3– *woke*; *pl.* 3 *wokenn* (*Orm.*), 4–5 *woken*, *-yn*, 5 *waken*. *north.* and *Sc.* 4 *wook*, 4–6 *wouk(e*, *woik(e*. *β.* 1 *wæcade*, *waoode*, *pl.* *waoedon*, *-odon*, 2–4 *wakede*, 4–5 *wakid*, *walkid(e*, etc., 4–6 *Sc.* *walkyt*, *-it*, 6 *wakt(e*, 6–7 *wak't*, 7–8 *wak'd*, 4– *waked*. Pa. pple. *a.* 4, 6 *waken*, 5 *wakyn* (?), 7, 9– *woken*, 8– *woke*. *β.* 4 *i-waked*, *Sc.* *walkit*, 4–6 *wakid*, *-yd*, 6 *dial.* *wayket*, *Sc.* *walked*, 6–7 *wakt*, 7 *wak't*, 7–8 *wak'd*, 3– *waked*. [Two distinct but synonymous verbs from the same root coalesced in early ME.:

(i) The strong verb OE. (? *wæcnan*), *wōc*, *wōcon*, **wacen*. (The present-stem is wanting, unless it be presented by *wæcnan*: see WAKEN *v.*) The strong pa. t. is found only in English; the strong pa. pple., not recorded in OE., but found in later periods, occurs in ON. *vakenn*, and as adj. ('awake') in MSw. *vakin*, Sw., Norw. *vaken*, Da. *vaagen*; NFris. *waaken* is prob. from Scandinavian.

(ii) The weak verb OE. *wacian*, corresponding to OFris. *wakia*, *waka* (mod. WFris. *weitsje*, NFris. *waake*), OHG. *wahhên*, *wachên*, *-ôn* (MHG., mod.G. *wachen*), ON. *vaka*, pa. t. *vakða* (Norw., MSw., Sw. *vaka*, Da. *vaage*), Goth. *wakan* :—OTeut. **wakējan* (whence also the OE. doublet *wæccan* WATCH *v.*), or to OS., OLow Frankish *wakôn* (MDu., Du., MLG., LG. *waken*), OHG. *wachôn* :—OTeut. **wakōjan*.

The Teut. root **wak-* (< **wōk-* in Goth. *wōkeins* wakefulness, and, with different sense, in Goth. *wōkr-s*, OE. *wōcor*, ON. *ókr* growth, increase, usury: see OCKER *sb.*) represents a pre-Teut. **weg-*: **weg-*; cf. L. *vegēre* to rouse, excite, also intr. to be lively or active, *vigēre* to be vigorous, *rigēre* wakeful, Skr. *vijas* neut. vigour; perh. to be referred to the Indo-Eur. root **aueg-*, represented by L. *augēre*, Goth. *aukan* to increase, OE. *ēacan* to grow (see EKE *v.*), and with *-s* extension by Gr. *αὐξάνω* to increase, OTeut. **wahs-* to grow (see WAX *v.*).

In OE. the strong verb had probably the sense 'to become awake', though this is evidenced only in the compound *on-wæcnan*, the simple verb being found only in the sense 'to come into being', which may either be a figurative use of the sense 'to awake', or represent a different application of the original wider sense of the root. The weak verb had the static sense 'to be or remain awake'. In ME. the strong and weak forms came to be used indiscriminately in both senses. Out of the sense 'to become awake' there was developed a causative sense, 'to rouse from sleep', in which the word superseded WEDCHE (OE. *wæccan* :—OTeut. **wakjan*). The sense 'to remain awake, watch' gave rise to a transitive use = 'to watch

(over)'; but in the modern Eng. period the static sense, both intr. and trans., has become almost obsolete, the usual meanings of the word being 'to become or cause to become awake'.

The mod. pa.t. *woke* (wōʊk) does not regularly represent the OE. *wōc*, which would have yielded *woak* (wuk). Apparently the mod. *woke* is a new formation or modification on the analogy of *broke, spoke* (for the irregularity in the vowel cf. *stove* pa.t. of STAVE v.). When this came in is uncertain, for in ME. and prob. in early mod.E. the spelling *woke* represents the regular phonetic descendant of the OE. *wōc*. The pa. pple *waken* has always been rare, and now survives only in dialects in adjectival use. From the 17th c. onwards the forms *woke, woken* (after *broke, broken, spoke, spoken*, etc.) have been more or less current for the pa. pple.; *woken* seems obsolescent, but *woke* is at least as frequent as *waked*. No strong forms either of pa. t. or pa. pple. are found in Shaks., the Bible of 1611, or Milton's verse.]

I. To remain awake.

1. *intr.* To be or remain awake; to keep oneself, or be kept, awake. Also, to be still up and about (at night). Now *rare* exc. in *waking* (pr. pple. and ppl. a.).

a. c 1290 *Beket* 687 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 126 On of is seriaunz sat a niȝt, þe ȝwile þat men woke, In his chaumbre at caunterburi. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20127 Scho wrok wil mar þan scho slepp. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodora*) 448 To þat worde gud tent he tuk, & þat nycht mekyl woike. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* IV. 303 Whanne Cinna his tresoun was i-knowe Cesar wook al þat nyȝt [*MS. B* wakid, γ wakede]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 223 þay madyn her bed, and dydyn hur þeryn,..and wakan tyll hyt was mydnyght; then all fellyn on slepe saue þe apostols. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 34 Langour..That nevir sleipit bot evir wouke. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 358 So greit displesour in the tyme he tuik, But meit or sleip rycht lang fastit and woik. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, Whether he woke or slept his friends did not very much miss him.

β. c 900 *Beda's Hist.* II. xii. (1890) 128 Đa fræm þa hine, hwæt þæs to him lumpe, hwæðer he wacode þe slepe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 6 Þonne sceal se man wacyan ealle þa niht þe ðone drenc drincan wille. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Þet teche ð al hu me schal..eten, drincken, werien, liggen, slepen, wakien [*sic MS.*; *printed* walkien] *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 182, I wol ben hirs whethir I wake or wynke. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xv. 88 To slepe, quod þe eyȝe, we may not wynne, þe wrecched wumbe so doþ vs wake. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2791 þe seke man to slepe lyse; he had lang waked beforne. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 7 He..knew nat yf it was daylight or nyght, ne yf he slept or wakked. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritit Wemen* 213 Than I y I walkand for wa, and walteris about. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* II. vi, I cannot force myselfe to wake. (*sleepe*). 1640 tr. *Veritere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 23 The extream desire that he had to see her, made him to wake when others tooke their rest. 17.. *Auld Man's best Argt.* in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1763) 134 O Wha's that at my chamber door? 'Fair widow, are ye wawking?' 1784 R. DAGE *Barham Downs* I. 32, I threw myself dressed upon the bed, and—waked all night. 1790 BURNS *Ay waukin O*, When I sleep I dream, When I wauk I'm eerie. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxx, They cannot..be waking at this late hour. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 217 In all places, at all hours, whether he waked or slept. 1901 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep Stealers* ix, Waking and sleeping she had pictured his arrest.

fig. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* III. i, Reason,..the twinkling Lamp Of wand'ring Life, that winks and wakes by turns.

b. with advb. obj. *the night, a night* (poet.). Also, *to wake it.*

a. c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cresseid* 471 Weping, scho wolk the nicht fra end to end.

β. a 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 221 To waile the day and wake the night continually in paine. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 58 These have nothing to do but to sleep it, to wake it. 1787 BURNS '*My heart is sair*' i, I could wake a winter night For the sake o' somebody. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* vii, So once more he had wak'd and anguished A dreary night of love and misery.

c. quasi-*trans.* with complement.

In the first quot. the omission of some such word as Theobald's 'blind' seems certain.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 104 He wake mine eye-balles [blind] first. 1766 C. BEATTY *Tour* (1768) 37 Sleeped and waked the night away as well as we could.

†d. With unfavourable implication: To sit up late for pleasure or revelry; to turn night into day. *Obs.*

a. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1085 For-þy wonderly þay woke, & þe wyn dronken.

β. 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Þet uolk þet late louleþ to soupi and to waki be niȝte. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 54 Suche there ben..that til midnight and more wol playe and wake, but in the churche at matins he is behynde. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bowge of Courte* 382 Thou muste..wake all nyghte, and slepe tyll it be none. 1600 SHAKS. *Hum.* I. iv. 8 The King doth wake to night, and takes his rouse.

2. To stay awake for the purpose of watching or tending; to keep watch while others sleep, be on guard at night. Const. *on, upon, over, for, against*; also *to* (do something). Also with cognate obj., *to wake watch.* Now only *dial.*, to sit up at night *with* a person, esp. one who is sick.

In 16th c. Sc. use *wake and ward* (see WARD v.) = 'to keep watch and ward,' as a duty incumbent on the freeman of a burgh.

a. c 1200 ORMIN 3752 Hirdess wokenn o þatt nahht þatt Crist was borenn onne. *c* 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 1287 Grete lordes riste toke, & nyghte wache full worthily wooke. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. vii. (1554) 79 b, And lyke a mother to bryng thee aslepe, I woke ful oft. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 284 By this gardyn is vnderstonde the yle. By the serpent wakyng, the subtyll geant commyseld to kepe hit that nilway wook at the pass.

β. Beowulf 660 Waca wið wrabum. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* CXXVI. 1 *In vanum vigilant qui custodiunt eam*, in idelnisse wæciað ða haldað hie. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Þe herdes þe wakeden ouer here oref. *c* 1330 *Leg. Rood* 76/305 And seker men he sett to wake, So þat þai suld no harmes take. *c* 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 62 Alle the weyes about the said toun off Bury..were kept with gret multitude of peple of the cuntre, wakyng day and nyghte. 1521 in Marwick *Edin. Guilds* (1909) 65 The communitie of the wobstaris walkis, wardis, extentis, and beris all other commoun chargis within this toune. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 32 Watchmen, whiche wake al ye night. 1580 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 90 All..to cum duell..within the burgh quhair they ar frie, bald stob and staik within the samyn, scatt, loitt, watche, walk and waird with the inhabitantis thairof. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 368 Let Eve..Here sleep below while thou to foresight wak'st. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 195 Only let one wake with me, to rend to me. 1754 SHENSTONE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 22 She determined to wake by his Bed-side all Night. 1811 WILLAN *West Riding Words* in *Archæologia* XVII. 162 *Waits, and Wake*, v. to sit up with a person all night, or to watch by a corpse. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XXV, You promised to wake with me the night before my wedding. 1863 *N. & Q.* Ser. III. VII. 84/1 'They have waked with him for several nights', is a common expression in Lancashire. 1883 *Almondbury Gloss., Wake*, to watch with a sick person; to work by candlelight.

†b. *fig.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. XXIV. 42 Wacigeð [*v.rr.* Waciað, Waciaþ] witodlice, forþam þe ge nyton on hwylcyre tide eower Hlaford cuman wyle. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Ðus ȝæn alle gode herdes to wakenen gostliche. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3792 To frofrenn þa þatt wakenn wel Onnþanness laþe gastess. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 130 þe walder of wyt ..þat ay wakes & waytes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 142 Þo fende is a theef to wake on mon bothe day and nyȝt. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Sweitlow & other Birds* 304 Exhortand folk to walk and ay be wair Fra nettis of oure wickit enemie. 1562 WINȜET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) I. 6 War ȝe commandit in vaine of God..to walke attentlie and continualie vpon ȝour flok?

†c. said of the eyes, the brain. *Obs.*

1601 SIR J. OGLE in Sir F. Vere *Comm.* 152 He had his head and his hands full; ours had not aked now, had not his waked then..for our safeties. 1621 B. JONSON *Poetaster, Envie* 4 This is it, That our sunke eyes haue wak't for, all this while. 1639 DU VERDIER tr. *Camms' Admir. Events* 122 The power of heaven, whose eies are ever waking on miserable creatures. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 44 Heav'n wakes with all his eyes, Whom to behold but thee, Natures desire.

3. To stay awake or pass the night in prayer; to stay up during the night as an exercise of devotion; to keep vigil (in church, by a corpse, etc.). Const. *in, on. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8043 Þe toþer nyȝt þat þe chyldryn woke, At þe mydnyȝt þe bere quoke. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (Add. MS.) 761 Thei leide þe bodi in a stone..And woke þer al þat nyȝt With many torches & candle lyȝt. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 191 He..wook al þat nyȝt in his prayers. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 87/3 He woke in prayers and made hys body lene.

β. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXI. 290 Hwilon wacodon menn awa awa hit ȝewunelic is ofer an dead lic. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Bihold, holie men þet weren sumeh wules, hwu heo uesten, & hwu heo wakeden. *c* 1290 *St. Scholastica* 8 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 198 He..teiȝte hire penaunce forto don, to faste and to wake. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 368 Tyl contricioun hadde clene forȝeten to crye & to wepe And wake for his wykked werkes as he was wont to done. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 182 Men and woymen..wakyd in þe chyrch al þe nyht yn hor deuocions. 1500 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* XXVI. (1905) 333 Soon as he is dead, you are to come with your folk to wake beside the body.

†4. To stay awake for any work or active occupation; to pass the night in work, study, etc. Const. *in, for, on* or *upon, to. Obs.*

a. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* I. ix. in Ashm. (1652) 131 For thys I wooke: Many a nyght or I hyt wyst. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* CLXXIX. 264 They woke al the nyght as wel they as theyr peple, in such wyse that theyr engyns were alle ioyned and reysed vp byfore day. 1517 *Acc. L.d. High Treas. Scot.* V. 157 Item, to the franche talbanaris and menstralis that woik and playit all that nycht, in aile, viij s.

β. c 900 *Beda's Hist.* IV. XXV. (1890) 354 Alle..oððe befixe slæpe syndon, oððe to synnum wacedon. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2999 þat like of you..Seye a pater-noster stille For him þat haueth þe rym maked, And per-fore fele nihtes waked. 1352 MINOT *Poems* I. 51 Many nightes als haue þai waked To dere all Ingland with þaire dede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 168 Absolon his gyterne hath ytake, For paramours he thoghte for to wake. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. v. 17 They waked & studyed many nyghtes and many dayes. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Massacre at Paris* 105 (Brooke) For this, I wake, when others think I sleepe. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 249 Watch thou, and wake when others be asleepe, To prie into the secrets of the State.

†b. *fig.* To be active, alert, stirring, vigilant. *Const.* as above; also, to be diligent, exert oneself *to* (do something). *To wake over*, to occupy one's mind with. *Obs.*

a. 1352 MINOT *Poems* IX. 33 Wele haue þai waked, For syr Dauid þe Bruse was in þat tyme taken. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Machor*) 146, & fra þat he sic charge tuk, he trawalyt besyly & wok till his discipulis for to preche, & als þe pupile besyly teche.

a. c 897 ALFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lxiv. 461 Se hoke.. beſð up his ſlǽru, & wæc ð hine ſelfne, ðæt he wacie on ðære ȝeornfulnesse godra weorca. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 142 Myche more in state of synne schulde mon wake in Gods servise. *c* 1383 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1911) Oct. 749 Prelatis & seculer lordis shuldun wake diligentli [*diligenter vigilarent*] to ordeyne able preistis & curatis. *c* 1490 HENRY *Wallace* V. 655 On other thing he maid his wist to walk. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* IX. xviii, All thir on Venus seruice walkis. 1572 GOLDING *Hist. Eng.* IV. 77 He incessantly waked over the schemes of contending kings and nations. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* v, I have other things to wake over than making love to you.

†c. With clause: To take care *that* (something be done). *Obs.*

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule*, etc. 38 Perfore wake þe þat þe putte nost ȝoure hand to þis but in gidyng clisteris.

†d. quasi-*trans.* To give diligent heed to, be active in (a matter). *Obs.* (Cf. SLEEP v. 7.)

1529 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. cxiii [cix]. 326 The emperour..slept nat his busynes, but waked the mater, as ye shall here.

5. Phr. *To* † *hold* or *keep waking*; earlier, † *to hold waken*: To prevent from sleeping; to keep watchful or on the alert. †Formerly: To keep (a person, esp. an enemy) occupied, 'give (him) plenty to do', allow (him) no rest; to trouble, harass; also *refl.* to be on the alert.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9196 When þe Bretons þe hil had taken, Wyþ sege þe Payens held þem waken. *Ibid.* 9914 No scape ȝit þe toun had taken, For þey wyþynne held þem wel waken. 1352 MINOT *Poems* IX. 30 He wakkind þe were þat held him self waken. *c* 1410 *Lantern of Light* 52 Þei..holden waken her ynward ije. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. XXVI. (S. T. S.) I. 238 [He] cauſit horſmen with swasche and taberne to play all nycht about þe tranchis, to hald þame inemyis walkand to þe morow. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* LXXVI[I]. 4 Thou beldest myne eyes wakynge. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 6 ȝour nobil ſadir beid the grit armye of enemeis valkand on ther tothir ſyde, throucht the grit aſsaltis ande eſcarmuſchis that he maid contrar them. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I 366 Then to followe the Frenche men, but not immediately to fight with them, and to harry them and keepe them waking. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1136 Whiles against a thorne thou bear'st thy part, To keepe thy sharpe woes waking. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. iii. 67 Have I not kept thee waking like a hawk? And watch'd thee with delights to satisfy thee. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 2 Thus they lived as outlaws, oppreſsing the countrie,..and openly avowed they had tane this course to gett their own poſsessions again, or then hold the country walking. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 162 This confusion of my Thoughts kept me waking all Night. 1793 *Minstrel* I. 87 She was heard by the person who lodged in a room adjoining the closet, and who had been kept waking by ill health.

6. *trans.* To watch or guard (one who sleeps); to watch or guard (a person or thing) at night or while others sleep; to keep watch upon or over. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a. c 1200 ORMIN 3773 Þa wakemenn þatt wokenn heore faldess. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* II. (*Paulus*) 355 He set it vpe beside his falde, quhare þat he wok his ſe one nycht. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiii. 145 O tyme befelle, that a Kyng of Ermonye..woke that Hauk sum tyme. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 53 On a nyȝt as he wooke his dyche of colys. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Husb.* 144 He chaippit frome thair ill, And on his feit wouke [*v.r.* woke] the dure quhill day. 1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 424 Item, to the man that woke the ſald all ȝeir quhair the deir was tane, xiiij s.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18660 Ne ieuus..Moght neuer del.. Ne slepe, þat has to wak us all. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 85 Þen þay cayred & com þat þe cost waked. 1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 279 May I trast the me to walk, Till I a litill slepyng tak? *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3591 Lordyngis, a whyle I rede we lende And oure worthy wallys wake. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparrow* 668 How Scipion dyd wake The cytye of Cartage. 1543–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 250 Item, to thre men quhilk be the ſpace of tua nychtis walkit the ſaidis boittis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 389 The people was compellit to wake the barnes. 1790 BURNS *Tam Glen* vii, The last Halloween I was waukin My droukit ſark-sleeve, as ye ken.

b. To keep watch or vigil over (a dead body) until burial; to hold a wake over (see WAKE *sb.*1 3). Now only *dial.*

a. c 1300 *Beket* 2213 In a bere faire hi hit leide and tofore an auter hit woke. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 187 Hyre sone, a munke, & here dowȝter, a nunne, wokyn here body iij. nyȝtes in cherche.

β. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2516 Hise liche was spice-likes maked, And longe egipte-like waked. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8034 To wake here body were þey set: Þe fyrst nyght þat þey shulde here wake, At mydnyȝt þe bere gan to quake. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 513 Than till a kirk be gert hym be Brocht, and walkit all that nycht. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1506 The cornes, which with torche light, They waked hadde there all that night. 1548 *Lancs. Wills* (1860) II. 109 My dettes tayknye vppe and payde and my bodye extynguusshed honestly wayket broghfurth and buryd. 1819 W. S. ROSS *Lett. N. Italy* I. 250 They wake their dead the night before interment, performing certain games about the bier. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet Let.* XI, Nasbody cared to wake Sir Robert Redgauntlet like another corpse. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* II, May you die of a good old age ..and be waked handsomely.

†c. ? To pass the night by (a well) as a superstitious observance. *Obs.*

c 1450 in *Rel. Antiq.* I. 2, I have forsworne bit whil I life, to wake the well. The last tyme I the wel woke, Sir John caght me with a croke.

†d. To be confined in (prison). *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 160 If he of his mot take ou'er erle or baroun, His prison suld be wake, þat wer deppest donjoun.

II. To become awake.

7 *intr.* To come out of the state of sleep or unconsciousness; to be roused from sleep, cease to sleep. Const. † *of* (obs.), *from, out of* (sleep, etc.); *to* (a condition or state), *to* (do something). Cf. AWAKE v. 1.

a. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2111 Đe king abraid and woc in theght. *c* 1275 LAY. 25386 Þo he woc [*c* 1205 awoc] of sleepe,

c 1300 *Havelok* 2093 Aboute þe middel of þe with Wok Ubbe, and saw a mikel lith. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 411 He.. wook of his sleep, and heet brynge liȝt. *c* 1425 *Voy. Portugal* 280 Ye, seyd Torrent, ore he be wakyn, I schall the tell soche a tokyn. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lion & Mouse* 97 Till at the last the noble lyoun woke [*v.r.* wouk]. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. ccccxii. 501 The watchmen were halfe aslepe, and herde the noyse and woke. 1603 Harsnet *Popish Impost.* 196 This exam[inant] confesseth, that diuers of them were such toyes, as came into her head being woken. 1669 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 214 About two or three o'clock in ye morning Ilee wake. 1833 J. H. Newman *Let.* 23 Jan. (1891) I. 334, I..have almost ever since woke at that hour and fancied it morning. 1869 Thirlwall *Rem.* (1878) III. 400 He woke, we trust, from that ghastly nightmare to find himself in the light of a Father's countenance. 1901 Rider Haggard *Lysbeth* xxv. 404 He had woken in the night and seen it standing at his bedside.

β. *c* 1275 Lay. 28082 Þo gan ich to wakie [*c* 1205 iwakien]. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 444 Rymenhild..Wakede of hire swoȝning. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 3 Penne wakede I of my wink. 1580 Rolland *Seven Sages* 54 This gud bound rais, and of his sleip did walk. 1585 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 158 When I waked, as it were oute of a greate slumber. 1611 Chapman *May-day* v. 76 Imagining when shee wak't shee had something to say to me. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 208, I wak'd with this Thought. 1787 Burns *'Again rejoicing Nature'* iii, A dream of ane that never wauks. 1880 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 232, I waked to find the six horses resolutely refusing..to move the diligence. 1919 J. D. Beresford *Jervaine Comedy* xv. 268, I came down from my clouds with..a sense of waking from perfect dreams to the realisation of a hard, inimical world.

b. with *up*.

α. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxviii, 'Oh, you've woke up at last, have you?' said Sam. 1864 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 288 Next morning Bard woke up to find Haldor busy packing up his baggage.

β. 1533 Gau *Richt Way* (S. T. S.) 68 Thair sal mony vaik wp of thayme quhilk slepis in the ȝeird. 1535 Coverdale *Joel* i. 5 Wake vp ye dronckardes, & wepe. 1850 Susan Warner *Wide World* xxii, Ellen barely waked up to feel herself lifted from the floor. 1879 *Leisure Hour* 748/1 He had been asleep and had waked up. 1901 F. Harrison *Autob. Mem.* (1911) II. 203 Ah! when the dream is over—and I wake up to find myself an average magazine writer.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*, esp. of inanimate things. Of persons (usually with *up*): To become animated, alert, or lively, to throw off lethargy.

It may be noted here that the only recorded sense of OE. *wæcnan* is 'to come into being, be born'.

a. *a* 1814 *Gonsenga* I. ii. in *New Brit. Theat.* III. 104 The sleeping sephyrs woke to fan her bosom. 1844 S. Wilberforce *Hist. Prot. Episc. Ch. Amer.* (1846) 46 Whenever this [sc. conscience] awoke, the struggle followed between him in whom it woke, and those who sought to keep it sleeping. 1859 FitzGerald *Omar* viii, A thousand Blossoms with the Day Woke. 1898 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 8/1 Even little Tasmania has woken up.

β. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. cccxlviii. 556 Johan Lyon was well aduertysed of all these matters: than he began a lytell to wake. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* li. 9 Wake vp, wake vp, & be stronge: O thou arme of the Lorde. 1646 Crashaw *Steps to Temple* 43 Newly they Peep't from their buds, shew'd like the Gardens eyes Scarce wak't. 1849 M. Arnold *In utrumque paratus* ii, O waking on a world which thus-wise springs! Whether it needs thee count Betwixt thy waking and the birth of things Ages or hours: O waking on Life's stream! 1903 R. Bagot *Passport* xvii. 253 The landscape ..waking up to a new day.

d. *To wake to*: to become conscious or aware of; to become 'alive' to. Cf. Awake *v.* 3.

a. 1836 Lytton *Atheus* (1837) II. 229 When the Greeks first woke to the certainty, that the vast preparations of Xerxes menaced Greece as the earliest victim. 1862 J. F. Stephen *Ess. Barrister* 108 The great standing controversies which have exercised the intellect of mankind ever since it first woke to consciousness of its powers. 1863 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) I. 312 The Church..had woke up to the sense of her true position.

β. 1825 W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett. E. A. Freeman* I. 120 Men's minds, however, had at last waked to the fact that Greece and Rome did not exhaust the world's stock of wisdom and greatness.

e. *fig.* Of things, conditions, etc.: To be stirred up or aroused; to be put in motion or action. Also with *up*.

a. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. i. 9 The voce thus wise throw out the ciete woik. 1863 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) I. 325 The troubles in his diocese which woke up under the subsequent development of ritualistic fervour. 1864 *Ibid.* 363 The loud clamour woke up that he was treacherously [etc.].

β. *a* 1430 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 1542 Leste for þe penaunce sake Wo & wrathe by-twene hem wake. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 94 Gentle Aires due at thir hour To fan the Earth now wak'd. 1807 Wordsw. *Ode, Intim. Immortality* 159 Truths that wake, To perish never. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxviii, Porphyro..listen'd to her breathing, if it chanced To wake into a slumberous tenderness. 1885 Mrs. Alexander *At Bay* viii, You are looking better, as if some life was waking up within you.

III. Causative uses.

8. *trans.* To rouse from sleep or unconsciousness. Also with *up*. Cf. Awake *v.* 5.

a. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xl. (1908) 221 After this prayer oure lorde Jesu tornede aȝeyn to his disciples, and woke ham. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. ccclxx. 608 Whan the englyshmen parceyued howe they of Nantes woke them so often, than they tooke counsayle to kepe better watche. 1763 [H. Kelly] *Babler* (1767) I. 126 My woman woke me in the morning with the following letter. 1778 Susan Burney in *Fr. Burney's Early Diary* (1889) II. 238 This morning..I was woke by a noise in the next room. 1822 Milman *Belshazzar* 83 Sleep that shall be sweetly broken When the God his bride hath woken. 1888 'Ouida' *In Maremma* I. ii. 40 She was woke by neighbours' voices. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* May 608/1, I was woken up to take a

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7990 Þou slepes danid, now I þe wak. *c* 1380 Chaucer *Bk. Duchesse* 294, I was waked With smale foules a grete hepe That had affrayed me out of my slepe. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 92 þe disciplis comen and wakiden him. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 200 þan waked God Adam, and sette þe wommman before hym. 1535 Coverdale *Luke* viii. 24 Then wente they vnto him, and waked him vp. 1580 *Medl. Club Misc.* III. 207 Sche mis beand walked be Margaret. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 361 She hath often dreamt of vnhappinesse, and wakt her selfe with laughing. 1715 Watts *Div. Songs, Sluggard* 2 You have wak'd me to ——— I must slumber again. 1759 Goldsm. *Bee* No. 2. 12 Every morning waked him to a renewal of famine or toil. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. viii, It's enough to startle any one to be waked up with such a noise. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xvi. 107, I had not the heart to wake him.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* in obvious uses. Also, to disturb (silence), make (a place) re-echo with noise.

a. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* v, Shrill cries..woke up his pleasant reverie. 1855 M. Pattison in *Oxford Ess.* 308 The system that woke us to life. 1864 Kingsley *Rom. & Teut.* 120 What woke him from his dream? The cry of his starving people. 1919 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 6 Nov. 627/2 Far from falling asleep over her pages..we feel that we have been completely woken up and set gossiping.

β. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 132 To wake our peace, which in our Countries cradle Drawes the sweet infant breath of gentle sleepe. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* I. 437 The sprightly lark's shrill Mattin wakes the Morn. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. xxvi, No murmur waked the solemn still. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxix, The [law-]suit does not sleep; we wake it up, we stir it, we walk it about. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 146 No wind waked the wood. 1928 Macalister *Hist. & Civilis. Palestine* iii. 31 Those great civilizations of Crete and the Aegean, that have slumbered forgotten till waked to life again in our own days.

c. *To wake snakes* (U.S. slang): 'To cause trouble or disturbance' (Thornton).

1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* I. ii. 104 An' of it worn't fer wakin' snakes, I'd home agin short meter. 1872 *Punch* 20 Jan. 25/2 The archbishops of the Roman obedience appear to be waking snakes.

9. To rouse to action, activity, alertness, or liveliness. Const. *to*, *into*. Also with *up*.

a. 1892 E. FitzGerald *Euphranor* 66 Clearly as the trumpet that woke the Greeks to battle.

β. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. xix. (1495) 46 The fende taketh a body of the ayre, that the lyf of men be haunted and wakid to beynesse by his dooynge. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* III. xxvi. (1554) 97 Cyrus than, furious as Lion, His aduersaries gan mortally to wake. 1535 Coverdale *Joel* iii. 9 Proclame warre, wake vp the giauntes, let them drawe nye. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. vi. 31 Thither Macduffe Is gone, to pray the Holy King, vpon his ayd To wake Northumberland, and warlike Seyward. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 48 Hands, that the rod of empire might have sway'd, Or wak'd to extasy the living lyre. 1884 H. Chol.mondeley-Pennell *From Grave to Gay* 85 As when waked to sudden speed Darts from the throng the flying steed. 1901 R. Garnett *Ess.* iii. 72 The highest criticism is..unoriginal in this, that it must be waked into activity by another mind. 1901 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xxiii. 111 We are so terribly dull, and anything will serve to wake us up a bit.

b. *To wake* (*up*) *to*: to arouse to the consciousness or enjoyment of. Cf. 7 d.

1868–70 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 234 He felt as one who, waked up suddenly To life's delight, knows not of grief or care.

10. To bring into being, raise, stir up (war, strife, woe, etc.); to arouse, excite (an activity, feeling, emotion); to evoke (a sound, echo, etc.). Also with *up*.

1793 *Minstrel* III. 136 A voice whose well known tunings thrilled through my soul, and woke every dormant passion. 1798 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 59 Your account of poor B. woke in me the recollections, and almost the feelings, of old friendship. 1862 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) I. 305 The controversy, which the publication of 'Essays and Reviews' woke up. 1879 Green *Stud. Eng. Hist.* I. viii. 34 This woke rivalry and dissension among the other nobles. 1903 W. A. Ellis *Glasenapp's Life Wagner* III. 67 [It] has woken an ambition in me.

β. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 360 Du hanes ðe sorȝes sigðe waked. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8294 [The Britons] bretten Hengist to wake hys wough. *c* 1400 *Rel. Pol. Poems* xvi. 29 He is a fool, þat werre wole wake, þat may not maynten it wiþ mede. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. iii. 30 To wake and wage a danger profitlesse. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* I. 10 This waked the Curates curiosity to descend. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 739 Meanwhile the hour of Noon drew on, and wak'd An eager appetite, rais'd by the smell So savorie of that Fruit. 1741–2 Gray *Agrippina* 103 And a call, Like mine, might serve belike to wake pretensions Drowsier than theirs. 1808 Scott *Marmion* VI. vi, But far more needful was his care, When sense return'd to wake despair. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* iii. 164 In every melody that wakes the echoes. 1896 *McClure's Mag.* VI. 423/1 Never a creak did I wake out of that staircase till I was almost at the first landing.

Hence **Wa'ked** *ppl. a.*

1582 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 165 They keepe the watche, they stand with waked sprites. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 363 Thou had'st bin better haue bin borne a Dog Then answer my wak'd wrath. 16.. ? Chapman *Revenge for Honour* III. i. (1659) 34 And on this vicious Prince like a fierce Sea-breach my just wak'd rage shall riot. 1646 Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 40 The discovery of things to come, in sleepe above the prescience of our waked senses.

Wake, variant of Wacke *Geol.*

Wake: see Vake *v.*, Walk *v.*[3], Weak *a.*

‖ **Wakeel** (wăkī·l). *Anglo-Ind.* Also **wakil.** [See Vakeel. (Properly the spelling with *v* should represent the Persian and Indian forms, and that with *w* the Arabic; but this is not observed in our examples).] = Vakeel 1, 2.

1803 Sir J. Malcolm in Kaye *Life* (1856) I. 240 The Wakeels of Scindiah had yesterday a long audience. 1834 *Bodoo* I. xvii. 296 (Stanf.) Even those who plead my causes; my wakeels, my agents. 1923 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6 Those among the students [Cairo] who have pursued the laical side of their studies become 'Wakils' (lawyers) or 'Katibs' (public or private accountants and writers).

Wakeful (wē·kfŭl), *a.* [f. Wake *v.* + -ful.]

1. Keeping awake, esp. while others sleep, not yielding to sleep.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Col.* iv. 2–4 Continue in prayer, not as dull & heauy people by reason of any surfetyng, but as sober & wakefull. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 30. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 736 As wakefull Students, in the Winter's night Against the steel,. Strike sudden sparks into their Tinder-box. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 38 The wakeful Bird Sings darkling, and in shadiest Covert hid Tunes her nocturnal Note. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 202 P 10 One of the most wakeful of the Soporifick Assembly. 1729 T. Cooke *Tales*, etc. 44 If the Soul..still bids the wakeful Eye of Sorrow flow. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal* III. ii. 389 Saint Mark's great bell at dawn shall find me wakeful!

2. Habitually keeping awake; *fig.* keeping on the alert, vigilant, watchful.

15.. in Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 230 When Prince for his people is wakefull and wise. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit* IX. xx. (1623) 959 These dangers..did worthily make the King wakefull euen ouer smaller accidents. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* s.v. *Wake*, The Scot considers no man awake or wakeful, who is not alive to his own interests. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* vi, He..had in all things shown himself a daring and wakeful captain.

b. of dispositions or actions.

1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* I. ii. 293 The brother, that shoulde be the brothers aide, And haue a wakefull care for his defence, Capes for his death. *a* 1639 W. Whately *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 91 God..hath disposed of things so by his wakefull providence. 1742–8 Gray *Agrippina* 190 We could not have beguil'd With more elusive speed the dazzled sight Of wakeful jealousy. *c* 1800 H. K. White *Sonn. Dermody*, The pale pilot,..as he plies His wakeful task. 1867 Chalmers *Astron. Disc.* v. (1852) 116 Bending a wakeful regard over the men of this sinful world. 1892 J. R. Macduff *Mem. Patmos* v. 57 His unresting, wakeful vigilance.

c. *transf.* Of inanimate agencies: Continually active, never ceasing or resting.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* IV. 289 A hundred Altars fed with wakeful Fire.

3. Unable to sleep, restless.

1675 Dryden *Aurengz.* II. (1676) 23, I shrink far off—Dissembling sleep, but wakeful with the fright. The day takes off the pleasure of the night. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxix, Her spirits were wakeful and agitated; and finding it impossible to sleep, she determined [etc.]. 1853 M. Arnold *Sohrab & Rustum* 6 All night long He had lain wakeful, tossing on his bed. 1860 Thackeray *Lovel* vi. (1861) 220 Tick—tock! Moment after moment I heard on the clock the clinking footsteps of wakeful grief.

4. Marked by absence or want of sleep.

1628 Pemble *Worthy Rec. Lord's Supper* 48 Sometimes a wakefull bed calls upon us to examine our hearts. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 220 They..pass the wakeful Night in Feasts and Play. 1870 R. S. Hawker *Footpr. Far Cornw.* 208 That night an inspiration visited me in my wakeful bed.

5. Said of dreams, or what is normally characteristic of sleep: Waking.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 22 Among our idle hopes and wakefull dreames, these Images do follow us so close. 1641 Denham *Sophy* I. ii, All thy feares, Thy wakefull terrors, and affrighting dreames,..have now Their full rewards. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxvii, In sort of wakeful swoon, perplex'd she lay. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* II. iv. v, In a wakeful doze I sorrow For the hand, the lips, the eyes, For the meeting of the morrow. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 316 Following the wayward turn of wakeful fancies.

†**6.** Rousing (one) from sleep, awakening. *Obs.*

1649 Milton *Christ's Nativity* xvi, Yet first to those ychain'd in sleep, The wakefull trump of doom must thunder through the deep.

Hence **Wa'kefully** *adv.*, **Wa'kefulness.**

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. iv. (1912) 374 Making the cowardly Clinias to have care of the watch, which he knew his own feare would make him very wakefully performe. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 925 There be other Perfumes, that are fit to be vsed in Burning Agues,..and too much Wakefulnesse. 1753 *Adventurer* No. 39 P 11 So, perhaps, to each individual of the human species, nature has ordained the same quantity of wakefulness and sleep. 1776 Johnson in *Boswell* (1904) I. 654 He should have a lamp constantly burning..and if wakefully disturbed, take a book, and read. 1830 Coleridge *Table-t.* 1 May, If he had relaxed the stern wakefulness of his reason for a single moment. 1847 Evanson & Maunsell *Managem. & Dis. Childr.* (ed. 3) 230 Wakefulness is a very prominent character of nervous irritation in the child, and should always arrest attention. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* 25 Nov. 6/6 England stands firmly and wakefully on guard behind the line up to which the Russians have seen fit to advance.

†**Wake-goose.** *Obs. rare*[1]. [? Corrupt form of Waygoose.] = Waygoose.

1739 *Brit. Chron.* 27 Sept. 267 The Season comes, in black to dress the year, But with it brings the Wake-Goose, and good Cheer.

Wakeless (wē·klĕs), *a.* [f. Wake *v.* + -less.] Without awakening, unbroken, undisturbed.

1824 Moir in *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 279 There is no prospect, save a wakeless sleep. 1834 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 64 Though sights and sounds like these circled my bed, Wakeless and heavy would my slumbers be.

Wa'keman. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 5 wak-, wayk-, walkman. [f. Wake *sb.*[1] + Man. Cf. ON. *vǫkumaðr* (-*menn*).]

1. A watchman.

c 1000 Orosius 382/28 All all swa summ þa e

wæruum..off batt engeles alhhe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 þe ilke witnes, þet wited þa heorte alse wakemen hwarse heo beoð treowe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. v. (1495) 32 Angels ben called walkmen and wardeyns for they warne men of perylles that maye falle. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1443 As thay spoken lowde togyder, The wakmen herde and come thydyr. 1468 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 301 The gaylere and the wakman of the saide citie..shal have the measuring of salte and corne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 A Waykman, *nactivagus, pervigil, pernox, vigil* (A.). 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees) 59 Churchewardens.. wakmene and inhabitantes of the same parishe [Beverley, St. Nicholas]. 1905 W. WATSON *Ballad Summerwater* Poems I. 193 King's tower and queen's bower, And the wakeman on the wall.

2. In the borough of Ripon: a. In the 15–16th c. the designation of a class of municipal officers, whose duties included attendance on the shrine of St. Wilfrid. (Cf. quot. 1552 in 1, relating to one of the parishes of Beverley.) b. The title of the chief magistrate of the borough until 1604, when it was exchanged for the title of mayor.

Lists of the 'wakemen' of the borough from 1400 to 1604 are extant, giving as a rule one name for each year, and ending with Hugh Ripplaye (see quot. *c* 1605). It is commonly assumed that the 'wakeman' who was chief magistrate was the head of the body of 'wakemen' referred to in quots. 1478 and 1511, but there is no evidence of this.

1478 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 259 Et in denariis sol[utis]. ministris villæ Ripon vocatis Wakemen, deservientibus feretro in festo Ascensionis Domini et per iij dies precedentes, cap per diem 4*d.*, 16*d.* 1511 *Ibid.* 277 De 56*s.* 1*d.* similiter per ipsum receptis de diversis personis electis in officium les Wakeman. *c* 1605 *Acct. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 213, 1604. Heughe Ripplaye. The laste wakeman and first maior [of Ripon]. 1733 GENT *Hist. Rippon* 139 A List of the Wakemen of Rippon, from the year 1400 (the rest of the Corporation were then called Elders) 'till King James I alter'd their Government, Anno Dom. 1604. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 583 The jurisdiction was exercised [at Ripon] by the bailiffs.., and the elective wakeman.

Waken (wē·k'n), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wakened.** Forms: 1 **wæcnan, wæcnian,** 3 **waken-en, -in,** *Orm.* **wacon-enn,** 3–4, 6 *Sc.* **wakne,** 3–5 **wakin, wakken, wacken,** 4 **wakan, wakkin,** *Sc.* **vakyn,** 4–5 **wakyn, -on, wackyn, -on,** *Sc.* **valkyn,** 4–6 *Sc.* **walkyn,** 5 **waykyn, wokyn** (?), 5–6 *Sc.* **walkin,** 6 *Sc.* **walkne, valkin,** 6–7 *Sc.* **walken, waikin,** 8–9 *Sc.* **wauken,** *dial.* **waoken, wakken,** 3– **waken.** [OE. *wæcnan* (also *-wæcnian*, ? once *wacnian*) = ON. *vakna* (Norw., Sw. *vakna*, Da. *vaagne*), Goth. *ga-waknan* (found only in pr. pple.), f. root **wak-* (see WAKE *v.*) + *-n-* suffix of inchoative verbs of state.

The suffix in Teut. verbs of this class was originally confined to the present stem; cf. Goth. *fraſhnan, frah, frēhum*, also *hrinan*, pa. pple. *hijans*. The original conjugation in OE. may have been *wæcnan, wōc, wōcon, *wacen*, but the conjugation of *wæcnan* as a regular weak verb goes back to the earliest known period of the language; in ON. *vakna* is weak, the strong pa. t. being wanting.]

I. Intransitive senses.

1. To cease to sleep; to become awake. Const. † *of* (obs.), *from, out of* (sleep, etc.), *to* (a state of things, etc.). Also with *up*. Cf. WAKE *v.* 7.

c 1300 *Havelok* 2164 So þat he bigan to wakne, And wit hem ful sore to blakne. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 270 He valknyt, and rais all desaly. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 133 When Charls wakenede of his drame. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 2167 Þan þe Romanys suddandly wayknyt qwhar þai slepande lay. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVII. 103 Quhairthrow I walknit of my trance. 1582 RICH *Farewe.* (Shaks. Soc.) 166 He bidde her goe againe, and shake her till she did waken. 1616 S. S. *Honest Lawyer* IV. G 3, Whilst thou wakendst with the chimes, Because thou wentst to bed betimes. *c* 1618 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* v. iv, Looke with the eyes of heaven that nightlie wnken, To view the wonders of my glorious Maker. 1760 *Impostors Detected* IV. vi. II. 211 At that very instant Don Vulpez wakened from his trance. 1787 BURNS *'Again rejoicing Nature'* vi, When the lark, twean light and dark, Blythe waukens by the daisy's side. 1815 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxi, An he sleeps in this damp hole, he'll maybe wauken nae mair. 1856 Miss YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. x, Etheldred's dream was over. She had wakened to the inside of a Great Western carriage. *a* 1874 R. BUCHANAN *Dead Mother* 5, I waken'd up in the dead of night.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*, of inanimate things, etc. † Of a condition, state of things: To come into existence, become manifest or active, be stirred up or aroused; also with *up*. Of wind: To begin to blow or rage. Cf. WAKE *v.* 7 c, e.

Beowulf 85 Ne wæs hit lenge þa gen þæt se ecghete..æfter wælnīðe wæcnan scolde. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12223 All þe flæshess fule lusst Waccnedþ þurrh gluterrnesse. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 12 Þu art walle of waisdom, ant euch wunne wakenes ant waxes of þe. *a* 1250 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 152 Ther wakeneth in the world wondred ant wee. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 132 Þay [ac, winds] wakened wal þe wroþeloker, for wroþely he cleped. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* vi. 10 When all yowre wele es went 3owre wo wakkins ful wide. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5046 Now wackons vp werre as ye shall note after. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1803 Than by4an to wakken wo. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 245 And so though vengeance slept a while, yet at length it wakened. 1634 BASSETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 4 It was then a great calm, about an hour, and afterwards the wind wakened. 1839 T. T. STOUDART *Songs & P.* 22 O waken, winds, waken! 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. vii. We forget nothing. The memory sleeps, but wakens again. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* p. [illegible] When..the fig-tree crescents have flamed to green, And wi[illegible]r wakened, and tulip blown.

c. Of a person: To be lively, animated, or stirring; usually with *up*. Also, to become 'alive' *to* (a situation, etc.). Cf. WAKE *v.* 7 c.

1825 JAMIESON, *Wauken*, ..2. To become animated..; as, 'He wauken't on his sermon'. 1892 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* xii, The rider going pretty patient like myself, but beginning to waken up. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Dec. 2/1 Mr. Collins is wakening to the necessity of a more refined type of Christmas entertainment.

†2. To remain awake, refrain from sleeping, keep watch or vigil; to remain alive. *Obs. rare.*

1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 430 And dost thou know why I..do still suffer Diabolonians to dwell in thy walls, O Mansoul? it is to keep thee wakening, to try thy love, to make thee watchful.

II. Transitive senses.

3. To rouse (a person or animal) from sleep or unconsciousness. Also with *up*. Const. † *of* (obs.), *from, out of* (sleep). Cf. WAKE *v.* 8.

c 1200 ORMIN 5843, 5845 & o þe þridde dazz itt [the lion's whelp] iss Waccnedd off slæp & rezzedd, þurrh þatt te faderr [illegible]arto & stirebþ itt & waccneþþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14401 [illegible]ll him weind it es time For to wacken him of his suime. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 104 Than his twa men in hy send he To warne & walkyn his menze. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 681 [She] Waknet vp a wydow, þat hir with dwellit. *c* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 381 The Quene is walknit with ane fellown fray. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* B iij b, At length, well wakened from that pleasing slumber. 1621 BIBLE *Zech.* iv. 1 As a man that is wakened out of his sleepe. 1673 *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 23 The paltry cur wakened me last Sunday of a good nap. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxix, May ye a' sleep till the hangman wauken ye. 1853 Mrs. GASKELL *Ruth* xxii, Her dream..was one of undefined terror ..so great that it wakened her up. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1034 O Sun, that wakenest all to bliss or pain.

b. *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 167 Lord, where sleepis þis gode lawe, and when schal hit be wakened? 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 124 Your sleepie thoughts, Which here we waken to our Countries good. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* I. v, Fresh as Pygmalions Mistresse newly wakened Out of her Alabaster. 1820 SHELLEY *Ode West Wind* 29 Thou who didst waken from his summer dreams The blue Mediterranean. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xi, A loud high-pressure blast; enough, one would think, to waken up the host of Indians who lie buried in a great mound yonder.

4. To rouse to activity, alertness, or liveliness; to stir up, excite. Const. *to*, † *into*; *to* (do something). Also with *up*. Cf. WAKE *v.* 9.

c 1420 *Destr. Troy* 3610 þerfore wackon þi wills into wight dedis. *c* 1440 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xxii. 20 Man sal wakin þaim faire til godis seruise. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 166 The men that I led with me to wakyn 3ow to do me reson. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 92 God almychty valknit vithit his grace the hartis of 3our predecessours. 1577 *St. Augustine's Man.* Pref., That when we bee shrunke away, we may bee wakened to run backe agayne to our true God. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl.* To Rdr. (Arb.) 97 It is the Kings part ..to waken them vp againe, to be more diligent in their Offices. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 43 P 3 It was therefore necessary that this universal reluctance should be counteracted, and the drowsiness of hesitation wakened into resolve. 1851 G. BRIMLEY *Ess., Wordsw* (1858) 110 Where the vanity of social distinction..wakens the harp of the poet. 1877 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 6 It has been the one purpose of all..divine revelation..to waken us up out of this perpetually recurring tendency to fall back into ourselves.

5. To summon into existence, raise, stir up (war, woe, wind, etc.); to kindle (fire, flame); to arouse, excite (an activity, emotion); to evoke (music, sound). Also with *up*. Cf. WAKE *v.* 10.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8558 Now hany take oure moste to þat haþ vs wakned many wo! 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 323 For I schal waken vp a water to wasch alle þe worlde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2274 Yff we wackon vp werre with weghes so fele. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 460 Scho feired that he..suld in Scotland agane be the raiser of a newe bleise, and wakne vp a new flame. *a* 1626 BEAUM. & FL. *Little Fr. Lawyer* v. ii. 16 Speake to that Lion Lord, waken his anger. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 369 They introduce Thir sacred Song, and waken raptures high. 1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* xix, It kindles Wit, it wankens Lear. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* II, What a crowd of emotions were wakened up in his breast. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. Proem 16 The sunlight and shadows bring their old beauty and waken the old heart-strains at morning, noon, and even-tide.

6. *Scots Law.* To revive (a process) which, after calling a summons, has been allowed to 'sleep' for a year and a day.

1560 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 234 The cause..suscitate and newlie walkynnet. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 680 The mater being walkynnit of new, and all the partis comperand personalie. 1609 SKENE *Reg Maj., Quoniam Attach.* c. 55 And then the principall pley (betwix the pursuer and the defender) sall be walkned. 1711 J. SPOTTISWOODE *Forms of Process* (1718) 80 In case Protestation has not been sought within Year and Day,..no Protestation can be granted, till the Advocation; which on that Account, is said to be sleeping, be wakened. 1790 *Collect. Styles* III. 295. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Waikening.*

7. To watch, watch over, keep an eye upon. *Sc.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 12 This ilk Angus in Quhiterne than tuke girth, Quhair he wes walknit all tyme round about, That he no way that tyme be mycht wyn out. 1865 TESTER *Poems* 136 (E.D.D.) On summer nichts, wauken the class WT maidens fair.

Hence Wa'kened, Wa'kening *ppl. adjs.*

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxvii. 12 But shoose not at me in your wakened hate. 1633 D. DICKSON *Heb.* xii. 24. 304 The wakened Conscience, lying in.. feare of the offended Iudge. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. 45 He therefore with a wak'n'd spirit, to the extent of his Fortune dilating his mind. 1823 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. i, And the rich dale, that eastward lay, Waited the wakening touch of day. 1877 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Veiled Prophet* I. 166 Ere Peace can visit them, or Truth let in Her wakening day-light on a world of sin! 1892 MEREDITH *Poems, Ode Comic Spirit* 72 Thou, soul of wakened heads, art armed to warn.

Waken, obs. form of WEAKEN.

Wakener (wē·k'nəɹ). Also 6 *Sc.* **walk(y)nar, wakenar.** [f. WAKEN *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. A person or thing that wakens or arouses. Also with *up*.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 109 Quhay ar wirkaris of this weir, quha walkynaris of wa. 1597 JAS. VI *Daemonol.* III. iii. 67 The procurer & wakener vp of these two naturall qualities. *a* 1663 Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 32 A verse, which..served for a wakener for to rouse me from..sleep. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 689 The-e are the genuine wakeners or exciters of the Ferment of the Stomach. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* xii. 333 The soul's wakener is always Christ. 1887 SMILES *Life & Labour* 269 Tea is another wakener-up. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. xvi. 183 Delivering a wakener [*i.e.* a rousing blow] in unexpected quarters.

† b. *spec.* An alarm attached to a clock.

1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 308 Ane lytill knok, with ane walknar ouregit.

2. One who awakes. *rare.*

1857 Mrs. GASKELL *C. Bronte* vi. (1860) 78 She remembered the times when watchers or wakeners in the night heard the distant word of command.

† **Wa'keness.** *Obs.* [f. WAKE *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being awake; (one's) waking hours.

1585–92 LYLY *Gallathea* III. i. 48 (Bond) My sleepes broken and full of dreames, my wakenesse sad and full of sighes.

Wakening (wē·k'niŋ). *vbl. sb.* [-ING 2.] The action of the verb WAKEN; a rousing or being roused from sleep, torpor, etc.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8431 At hir wakonyng. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1660 A sorowfull wakenyng had sche thore. 1677 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. III. V. 263 Threatenings..to give the petitioner and his familie ane hott walkening. *a* 1796 BURNS *'Jockey's ta'en the parting kiss'* III, Sweetly blithe his waukening be! 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Morning* vi, New every morning is the love Our wakening and uprising prove. 1856 Miss YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. xxv, Her first wakening to the knowledge that Margaret was gone. J. H. MORRISON *On Trail of Pioneers* xxiii. 112 The wakening of China was quickened by a generation.

b. *Scots Law.* (See WAKEN *v.* 6.)

1584 in Littlejohn *Aberd. Sheriff Crt.* (1904) Introd. 44 This day being assignit be ane walkining to pronunce Interloquitor in the said caus. 1608 *Melrose Regality Rec.* (S.H.S.) I. 62 Lawrence Scott..producit ane precept of wakning aganis the haill persons, fewaris, [etc.]. 1768–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* IV. i. § 62 Consequently the decree may be extracted, after the year is elapsed, without the necessity of a wakening. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 100 § 95 It shall be competent for any of the parties..to lodge a minute craving a wakening of the cause.

Waker (wē·kəɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. WAKE *v.* + -ER 1.]

† 1. One who 'wakes' or abstains from sleep.

c 1290 *St. Michael* 691 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 319 Hardi and lijt and stalewarde and wakiare wel guod. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXX. (1887) 113 The spare feeder or great waker, needeth not any such kinde of physicke.

2. One who awakes (early, etc.).

1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* I. vi, Late Watchers are no early Wakers, Madam. 1851 Mrs. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 159 Men who will not fear The baptism of the holy morning dew (And many of such wakers now are here). 1893 A. MACKENZIE in *Independent* (N. Y.) 19 Oct., The early waker.

† 3. One who watches; a watcher, watchman. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* IV. 10 [13] And loo! the waker, and holy came doun from heuen. 1388 — *Song Sol.* III. 3 Wakeris, that kepen the citee, founden me. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xvi. (1495) 424 Cranes ordeyne watches and the opynly, in syȝt of alle here wakerys, & roryng went out at þe cherche-dore. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wauker*, a watchman, one who watches clothes during night.

b. *dial.* One who sits up with a sick person.

1796 W. HUTTON *Life* 68, I had left her as usual with the waker and my daughter, and had slept two hours.

4. One who rouses another from sleep; *fig.* one who excites or stirs up (some feeling, etc.).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 107 That is for I se hire noght, Which is the wakere of mi thoght. 1591 SOUTHWELL *Maria Magd. Funerall Teares* Ded. (1594) A 3 b, Sorrowe is the sister of mercie, and a waker of compassion. 1722 W. Andrews *Curios. Ch.* (1890) 181 Paid to sleggard waker, 0 10 0. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 15 Dec. 5/2 In the districts where London working men live..sixpence a week from each client is the usual 'waker's' wage. 1913 DITCHFIELD *Parish Clerk* (ed. 2) 264 One Sunday the 'waker' sighted his prey.

5. One who wakes (a corpse).

1808 MOORE *Corrupt.* 172 Nay, when the Constitution has expir'd, I'll have such men, like Irish wakers, hir'd To chant old 'Habeas Corpus' by its side.

† **Wa'ker,** *a. Obs.* Also 1 **wacor, wæcor,** 4–5 **wakir(e, wakyr** (§ *Sc.* **walkyr**), (§ **wakare**). [OE. *wacor* = WFris. *wakker* wakeful (also as adv. very), MDu., (M)LG. *wacker* (Da. *vakker*), OHG. *wacchar, wakkar* (MHG. *wacker, wacher*, mod.G. *wacker* valiant), ON. *vakr* wakeful, alert (Da. *vakker*, MSw. *vakar* watchful, Sw. *vaker* handsome);—OTeut. **wakro-* f. **wak-*; see WAKE *v.* Unsleeping, watchful, vigilant. Also *fig.*

› *Lawe Cnut* I. xxvi, Þonne moton þa hyrdas beon swyðe wacore. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 De bridde [werke of brihtnesse] is þat man be waker and liht and snel and sell and erliche rise. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 164 Ant Seint Peter ..bit us te beon wakere & bisie ine holi beoden. *a* 1272 *Lumb Ken* 150 in *O. E. Misc.* 97 Wyþ þeoues,..þu most beo waker and snel. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 358 The wakyr goos, the cokkow most onkynde. *c* 1420 *Lanterne of Light* 25 Wel auȝt suche a man to be waker & wise þat hab þe greet God Lord of Israel dwelling in hise soule. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 301 Thai war better, mare wakir, and hable to the weris..throu hardness of lyfing. *c* 1530 *Prov.* in *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 60 Wake bowndes been profitable. 1560 tr. *Æn. Sylvius' Lucres & Eurialus* F viii b, The waker dragon dyd neuer keepe so well the golden fleece.

Waker, obs. Sc. form of WALKER [2].

† **Wa'kerell.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **wakerrell**, 6 **wag(g)erell**, **wak(e)rell(e, (wakeryng)**, 7 **wackerell**. [App. f. WAKER *sb.* + -EL.] The name given in Kent to a church bell (? the sanctus bell). Also *wakerell bell, rope*.

1485 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.* in *Archæol. Cant.* XVI. 292 Item for a rope for the wakerrell, iij d. 1545 *Ibid.* XVII. 207 Item payde for ye wakerell rope, v d. 1552 *Ibid.* VIII. 115 Item iij bells in the Steple & a waggerell bell. 1620 *Church-w. Presentm.* in *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VIII. 405/2 We want one bell and a wackerell, which were sold away [etc.].

Wakerife (wē·krəif), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6 **wacryff**, **walkrife (walkryfe, walcryif)**, 5–7 **walkryf(e**, 6–7 **wakryff**, 8 **wakryfe**, 9 **-rife**, 8, 9 **waukrife**, 6– **wakerife**. [f. WAKE *sb.* + RIFE *a.*: cf. CAULDRIFE.] Indisposed to sleep, wakeful, vigilant. Also *fig.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 103 Oure walkryfe watche, vs for to warne and tell, Quhen that Aurora,..Put vp hir heid betuix the nicht and day. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. v. 17 Mony walkrife ene lurkis ther ondir. 1594 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 313 Acknawlaging thairin the speciall benefeit of God's providence in steiring up the spreits of his servants to be wacryff, cearfull, and curagius. 1620 HANNAY *Nightingale*, etc. 25 When pleasing Progues longing love For Philomelas sight Grew wake-rife. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Cortifal* V, When thou waukrife art or dry. 1786 BURNS *Epist. Major Logan* x, The witching, curs'd, delicious blinkers Hae .gart me weet my waukrife winkers Wi' girnin spite. 1875 W. ALEXANDER *Sh. Ain Folk* 184 Eh, ye waukrife mannie: arena ye sleepin' yet? 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* II. 14 Being an old man, he was somewhat wakerife in the morning.

Hence **Wa'kerifely** *adv.*, **Wa'kerifeness.**

1606 tr. *Kellach's 1 Thess.* 126 (Jam.) So long as the diuell is in the world, so long there is necessity required of walkryfeness. 1633 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) I. 99 Therby I sau God recalling me from impenitence to repentance..from securite unto wakraifnes. 1825 JAMIESON, *Walkrifelie, waukrifelie, adv.*, wakefully. S. 1891 H. JOHNSTON *Kilmallie* II. 19 During this period of wakerifeness he had longed for action of some sort, but could not well get up in the dark.

† **Wa'kerly**, *a. Obs.* [f. WAKER *a.* + -LY [1].] Wakeful, watchful.

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xl. (1908) 224 Sothely he, as a good herde, was ful wakkerly and besy vppon the kepynge of that litell flok, his byloued disciples. *Ibid.* lxii. 285, I wole that thou be wakerly and quikke in thy soule. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* O iv, If he wiste..how his crosiers staffe admonished him of the wakery [? *read* wakerly] charg he shoulde take ouer his flocke.

† **Wa'kerly**, *adv. Obs.* In 4 **wekyrly**. [f. WAKER *a.* + -LY [2].] Nimbly.

‖ *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2104 Qwarelles qwayntly swappes thorowe knyghtes With iryne so wekyrly, that wynche they

Wa'ke-ro'bin. [App. f. WAKE *v.* + ROBIN.]

1. The plant *Arum maculatum*, also commonly called cuckoo-pint, lords-and-ladies, etc.

1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wakerobyn an herbe. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, Addit., *Aron*, an herbe callyd wake Robyn. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccc. 684 There be diuers sorts of wake Robin or Cockow pint. 1601 LYLY *Love's Metam.* I. ii, They haue eaten so much wake-Robin, that they cannot sleepe for loue. 1785 *Bradley's Family Dict., Wake-robin* or *Calvesfoot*, in Latin *Arum*...The Root of this plant is purgative and penetrating; they prepare a powder of it that is used in Asthma's, Dropsy, and Hypocondriac Melancholy. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 255 The root of the *arum maculatum*, or wake-robin.

b. *dial.* The purple orchis, *Orchis maculata*.

c. The red campion, *Lychnis diurna*.

1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

2. In *U.S.* applied (*a*) to certain araceous plants, esp. *Peltandra undulata* (or *virginica*, formerly called *Arum virginicum*), arrow-arum, TUCKAHOE; (*b*) to liliaceous plants of the genus *Trillium* (*esp.* the white-flowered species).

c 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* I. i, In South Carolina..It Flowers in June and July, and is called by them Wake-Robin. *Ibid.* VI. lx, A whitish flowred Arum or Wake Robin, with cordated narrow pointed Leaves. 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 125 The Virginian Wake robin, or Arum Virginicum, grows in wet places. 1871 BURROUGHS *Wake-Robin* Pref. (1884) p. vi, Wake-Robin—the common name of the white Trillium. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 143 Wake-Robin, American, *Arum dracontium*, *Trillium grandiflorum*, and *T. cernuum*. 1915 MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *M. O'Halloran* II. 32 So long as I could find a scrap of arbutus, a violet or a wake-robin from the woods.

3. In the West Indies and tropical America, applied to certain araceous plants of either of the genera *Anthurium* (tail-flower) and *Philodendron*.

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Wake-robin, *Anthurium* and *Philodendron*.

Wakesses, obs. pl. of WAKE *sb.*[1]

† **Wake-wort.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. Some plant.

1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wakeworte an herbe.

Wakien, obs. form of WEAKEN *v.*

Waking (wē·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].] The action of the verb WAKE.

1. The action of remaining awake or of sitting up at night.

1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Efterward ine zuyche wakinges me deb manye kueades, ase playe ate ches oþer ate tables. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 22 The tyme..steleth from vs, what pryuely slepynge And what thurgh necligence in oure wakynge. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 247 Myche wakynge makyth the body lene. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 33 Of thought cometh the wakyngis and unrestis. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 19 Ne're was dreame So like a waking. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. iii, I am not So weary of th'authority I hold Over mine owne contents in sleepes and wakings. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. XXXII. 196 To say he hath seen a Vision..is to say, that he dreamed between sleeping and waking. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. XXXI, Days of danger, nights of waking. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv. Her eyes were..red with waking and crying.

b. *spec.* Keeping vigil as an act of devotion.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 Vre rihte leue, god, cume to þe þurh festing and þurh wacunge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 238 Hire behoueþ wel wysliche his uleas ouercome..be uestinges, be wakinges and be benes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* P 1038 Bodily peyne..stant in preyeres, in wakynges, in fastynges. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* XXVII. (1908) 141 He..doth his tendre body to penaunce, and waketh long wakynges. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 1030 in *Macro Plays* 69 Lo, wakynge ys a holy thynge! 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* June (1744) 81 Waking in the Church was left off because of some Abuses.

2. The action of watching, or keeping watch and ward; *dial.* a keeping watch or holding a 'wake' over a corpse.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/1 Wakynge, or wetche, *vigilia*. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVIII. 357 Oure wakyng, lorde, without-outen wene is worthed to nost. 1529 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* 30 Exemand hir fra all walking, warding, and paying of stent within the burgh of Edinburgh or outwith. 1572 *Inv. Ketshanger* (Somerset Ho.), For kepinge of her and wackinge of her lift. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Sang I. *Tune*, The wawking of the faulds. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* s.v. *Wake*, In England the body is sometimes placed in a coffin; in Ireland, seldom so, the waking being usually called for the purpose of procuring one. 1891 STEVENSON *In South Seas* IV. v. (1900) 311 Of home life we had but the one view: the waking of a corpse.

† b. One of the 'watches' or divisions of the night (L. *vigilia*). *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiv. 25 In the fourthe wakyng of the nyȝt [Vulg. *quarta vigilia noctis*]. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* XXVII. (1908) 143 At the ferthe wakynge of the nyȝt.

3. The action of becoming awake or conscious, of ceasing to sleep. Also with *up*.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 2 Ac after my wakyng it was wonder longe Ar I couth kyndely knowe what was dowel. 1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wakyng after slepe, *reueil*. 1553 BRADFORD *Serm. Repent.* (1574) G ij, In this his syn, though a great while he lay a sleepe (as many do nowe adayes, God geue them good waking). 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 116 (3rd Qo.) He and I Will watch thy waking. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 97 Their slumbers are sound, and their wakings chearful. 1866 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 63 My own wakings up some twenty or thirty times every night. 1864 G. A. LAWRENCE *M. Dering* II. 119 But, if Dering rested well, his waking was not so enviable.

4. The action of rousing (a person or animal) from sleep; † a night-attack. Also *fig.*

1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. xlix. 168 To close in theyr felde, to lodge therin more at theyr ease, without waking or skries. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 24 It is euyll wakyng of a sleepyng dog. 1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 238, I took this as a warning and waking and alarum from the Lord to me.

5. *Comb.*: † **waking-silver**, ? a payment in lieu of keeping watch and ward.

1390–91 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 597 Item Will'o Patonson pro Argent. sibi dato, et sociis suis pro Wakyng silvyr, vij s. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 172 To the Kynges Majestie for waykyng sylver payd..to Pontfret Castell.

Waking (wē·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WAKE *v.* + -ING [2].]

1. That remains awake; that keeps watch; *fig.* that continues on the alert, vigilant, watchful.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Dribten bi-hat þon wakiende ane crune. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 649 Bes wakond and warly. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 715 In your counsail be quick and ay wakyng. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 154 The Mastie that keepeth the house..must..be..very waking. 1601 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* (1880) VI. 735 He was thought negligent, and therefore they sent a wakinger spirit. 1620 T. MAY *Heir* II. (1620) C 3, Were there a thousand waking Dragons set To keepe that golden fruit. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. i. § 11 The Soul in a waking Man is never without thought, because it is the condition of being awake. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* V. xv, The screech of the waking owl.

2. That ceases to sleep, that becomes awake.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vii, The breeze that ..swells the melody of waking birds.

3. 'Rousing from sleep; exciting into motion or action'. 1828–32 WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

4. *transf.* Belonging to, characteristic of, one who wakes or is awake.

1567 TUBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 66 b, And if in dawning chaw some drouping sleepe to light Upon the carefull Corse: thus hath spent the waking night. 1624 DONNE *Devot. Med.* xv. (ed. 2) 350 Hee may bee ashamed of his waking dreames. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 263 Such sober certainty of waking bliss I never heard till now. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 908 Thus haunting Ghosts appear to waking Sight. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 261 Realizing to his eyes the scenes of many a waking vision. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Ireland by Loire* 198 Our waking existence is made up almost entirely of anticipations and regrets. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXXIX, Captain Cuttle could hardly believe it..though he saw it done with his waking eyes. *a* 1899 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XXIII. V. 94 The subject.. was never, during two waking hours together, out of his thoughts.

Hence **Wa'kingly** *adv.*

1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XLII. 17 And thou schalt wake. [*Gloss.*] And in this thou schalt haue thee wakingli and diligently. *c* 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 54 Hys father had apperyd .iij. nyghtis to gedyr to hys moeder wakyngly as ofte was yn her prayers at home yn her chambyr. 1552 HULOET, Wakyngly, *vigilanter*.

Waking take, rare var. WAPENTAKE.

Wakiup, var. WIKIUP, an Indian hut.

Wakke, obs. form of WAKE *v.*

‖ **Wakon** (wā·kən). [Dakota *wakaŋ* 'a spirit, something consecrated; *takuwakaŋ* and *wakaŋ tanka*, the Great Spirit'; subst. use of *wakaŋ* adj., 'spiritual, sacred, consecrated' (Riggs *Gram. & Dict. Dakota Lang.*). J. F. Cooper (*Prairie* XXVIII) has the form *wakondah*.] Among some American Indians, a spiritual being that is the object of religious reverence; also, a fetish: = MANITOU.

1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xiii. 381 The Chipéways call this being Manitou or Kitchi-Manitou; the Nadowessies, Wakon or Tongo-Wakon, that is, the Great Spirit. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 299 They believe..in the spirits, gods, or manitos, whom they denominate wakons. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. liv. 166 On the surface of the rocks [are seen] their sculptured hieroglyphics—their wakons, totems, and medicines.

b. *Comb.*: **Wakon-bird**, a fabulous bird venerated by the Indians.

1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 473 The name they have given it is expressive of its superior excellence, and the veneration they have for it; the wakon bird being in their language the bird of the Great Spirit. 1806 MOORE *To Lady Charl. Rawdon* 75 Swift upon the purple plume Of my Wakon-Bird I fly Where [etc.].

Wakrell(e, variant ff. of WAKERELL.

Wakrife, -ryfe, variant ff. of WAKERIFE.

† **Wa'krong**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [? f. WAKE *sb.*[1] + *rong*, KANK *a.*] Wakeful.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 537 Þat þou..mihtest..maken to sclepe Tricerberus þe helle-hound þat holden is kene Bope wakrong & wikke & wardain of paine.

Waks, obs. form of WAX.

† **Wa'ky**, *a. Obs.* [f. WAKE *v.*[1] or *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Wakeful.

a 1542 WYATT *Poems*, '*Myne olde Enmye*' 58 And eke, the waky nyghte the bannyshed slepe may no wyse recouer. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Sol.* XVIII. 17 Keeping their waky and their sleepy places.

† **Wal.** *poet. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wæl**, 3 **wal(e**, **wal(e**, **wel.** [OE. *wæl* neut. = OS. *wal-* in *waldâd* murderous deed, OHG. *wal* neut., *walu-* (MHG. *wal* neut., masc., *wale* ? masc.), ON. *val-r* masc. (whence *valkyrja* VALKYRIE):—OTeut. **walo-* (? **walu-*), perh. cogn. w. L. *volnus*, *vulnus* wound.] Death, slaughter. (In OE. also *collect.* the slain; *rarely* a slain person.)

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* IV. xv. (1890) 306 Mid grimme wæle & herige. *c* 1205 LAY. 404 Þar aros wale & win. *Ibid.* 4111 Þat wæl wes þe more.

b. *Comb.*: **wal-kemp**, a warrior; **wal-slaught**, deadly battle; **wal-spear**, a battle-spear.

c 1205 LAY. 565 Antigonus..mid his *wæl-kempen swenden toward Brutun. ? *a* 900 *O.E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 899 Her wæs micel * wælsliht on Lundenne, and on Cwantawic, and on Hrofesceastre. *c* 1205 LAY. 1369 Þa Grickes hit biwnnan mid heora wæl slahte. *a* 1000 *Byrhtnoth* 322 (Gr.) Oft he gar forlet, *wælspere windan on þa wicingas. *c* 1205 LAY. 28577 Arður [wes] forwunded mid wal-spere brade.

Wal: see WALE, WALL, WAW, WELL.

Wala, obs. Sc. form of VALLEY.

Walach, Wallach (wo·läk). Also 8 **Wolock**, 9 **Wallack**. [See VLACH.]

1. A member of a Romanic-speaking race widely disseminated in south-eastern Europe, principally in Rumania: = VLACH.

1786 tr. *J. R. Forster's Hist. Voy. North* 101 *note*, The Walachs, or Wolocks. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 730/1 The Wallacks [are] scattered over the whole province [of Transylvania]. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 146 A few Wallachs, Armenians, and Franks. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 179 It was he (being a Wallack, just as Jano is), who instigated the Wallacks on our estate when they robbed and devastated the country in the Rebellion.

b. *attrib.*

1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 313 A petty Walach chief of Transylvania. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 26 A Wallach shepherd was tending his flock of goats. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 May 8/2 Full liberty is granted for the use of the Wallach language in schools and churches.

2. The language of the Walachs.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Walachian, Wallachian (wɒlē·kiăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 Valachian, 9 Vallakhian. [f. *Walachia* (in med.L. the country of the Walachs or Vlachs; in mod. use with narrower application, one of the two principalities which united to form the kingdom of Rumania) + -AN.]

A. *sb.*

1. = WALACH 1. Also, a native of Walachia.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 904 Balaset thus at once inuaded..Europe,..conuerting his forces against the Valachians. 1789 CONSETT *Pres. State Russia* 446 To leave his Allies the Walachians and Moldavians to the Resentment of the Turks for their intended Revolt to the Tsar. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. (1782) I. 357 *note*, The Walachians still preserve many traces of the Latin language. 1838 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIV. 154/1 The neighbouring mountains are inhabited by Servians and Vallakhians. 1888 EMILY GERARD *Land beyond Forest* II. 30 This Wallachian was a still greater sorcerer in weather-making than the Wermesch peasant.

b. A Walachian sheep.

1837 YOUATT *Sheep* v. 138 The Wallachians are about the size of the Dorset sheep, but not so tall

2. The language spoken by the Walachians.

1864 MAX MULLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. II. iv. 182 Their language still lives in the modern Wallachian. 1877 *Quaritch's Catal.* Suppl. 227 Rouman or Wallachian.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Walachia or the Walachians.

c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 712/1 There are four languages spoken..the German, Sclavonian, Wallachian, and Latin. 1804 E. JONES *Lyric Airs* Introd. 2 Matrâki, or, The Wallachian Dance. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 34 According to Thunman, one half of all the Wallachian words are Latin *a* 1901 W. BRIGHT *Age of Fathers* (1903) I. xxv. 503 The Gothic king..had flung St. Sabas into the waters of a Wallachian stream for refusing to taste idol-meats.

Waladay, obs. form of WELLADAY.

Walageous, variant of VOLAGEOUS.

Walap, obs. form of WALLOP *v.*

Walaway, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

Walcar, Sc. variant of WALKER (fuller).

Walcheren (vælxərən). [The name of a Dutch island at the mouth of the Schelde.] Used in comb., as *Walcheren ague, fever.*

1810 DAWSON (*title*) The Walcheren Fever. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvii, The hottest suns of India never heated his temper; and the Walcheren ague never shook it. 1879 *Mayne's Med. Voc.* (ed. 6) 473 *Walcheren Fever*...An endemic remittent fever.

Walchowite (wæ·lkoɹait). *Min.* [Named by Haidinger 1845 from *Walchow* in Moravia where it was found: see -ITE.] A honey-yellow resin similar to amber.

1849 J. NICOL *Man. Min.* 520. 1852 H. J. BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Introd. Min.* 629.

Walcryif, obs. form of WAKERIFE.

† **Wald**, *conj. Obs. rare.* [OE. *wealdl*, perh. derived from a use of *weald* imper. of *wealdan* to govern (see WIELD *v.*).

A transitional use is seen in *weald hit* = *lǽt a hit* 'however' (*Andreas* 1355): see LOOK *v.* 4 b.]

Followed by or with ellipsis of *if*: In case that. (In OE. chiefly with *þeah* or indef. pronoun.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 316 Namon ða to wæde, þæt him wǽllicor wære, þæt hi sumne dæl heora landes wurðes æthæfdon, weald [? hwæt *omitted*] him getimode. *Ibid.* II. 340 Nyte ge ða micclan deopnysse Godes gerynu? weald þeah him beo alyfed gyt behreowsung. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 930–1 To schryue hym wanne he seneȝed heþ Wel syker þing hyt were..Wald ȝef he sodeynlyche deiþ And wald he hyt forȝete.

Wald, obs. f. WEALD, WELD, WIELD *v.*, WOLD.

Wald, obs. form of *would*: see WILL *v.*

Wa·ldemar. ? *U.S.* 'A variety of velveteen, or cotton velvet, apparently a superior quality of fustian' (*Cent. Dict.*, 1891).

† **Wa·ldend.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **waldend**, **wealdend**, 2 **weldende**, 2–3 **wealdende**, 3 **walden(de)**, **wealdent**, **weldent**. [OE. *waldend*, *wealdend*, subst. form of pres. pple. of *waldan*, *wealdan*, to control (see WIELD *v.*).] A ruler, governor (rare except in periphrases for God).

Beowulf 17 Him þæs lif-frea, wuldres wealdend, woroldare forgeaf. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. 2 Þa sint eowere hlafordas & eowere waldendas, næs ge heora. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Scuppende and weldende of heouene and of eorðe and of alle isceafte. *c* 1205 LAY. 3059 Nu þu eært londes weldent. *Ilid.* 25569 Lauerd drihten crist, domes waldende, middelarde mund..walden senglen, let þu mi sweuen to selþen iturnen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1235 Ah þe witti weldent ant te rihtwise bireadde hit awa swi·e wel, þ he þouercom mon, were akast þurh mon. *Ilid.* 2065 Hwerto wultu wreastlin wiþ þe worldes wealdent?

† **Waldeneie.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [app. an alteration of *wald-eye*, WALL-EYE, influenced by **walden* repr. OE. *gewealden* small. Cf. WOLDEN-EYED *a.*] An alleged name of the hare.

13.. *Names of Hare* in *MS. Digby* 86, fol. 168 b, Þe purblinde..þe waldeneie, þe sidlokere.

Walde·nse. *rare.* [Singular f. next, taken as Eng. plural.] A Waldensian. *rare.*

1888 J. KER *Lect. Hist. Preaching* vii. 126 *note*, Tauler..was strongly influenced by Nicolas von Basel, a Waldense.

Waldenses (wɒlde·nsīz), *sb. pl. Eccl. Hist.* Also (6 Waldenses), 7–9 Valdenses. [a. med.L. *Waldenses* (*Valdenses*), app. f. *Waldensis*, a variant form of the cognomen of Peter Waldo: see below. Cf. the Fr. form VAUDOIS.] The adherents of a religious sect which originated in the south of France about 1170 through the preaching of Peter Waldo, a rich merchant of Lyons. They were excommunicated in 1184, and eventually became a separately organized church, which associated itself with the Protestant Reformation of the 16th c., and still exists, chiefly in Northern Italy and the adjacent regions.

[*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. iii. 501 Also the sect of Waldensis.] 1537 *Doc. & Speynges of Sectes* Contents, Waldenses secte. *Ibid.* 48 The order of Waldenses or Picardes. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 594 He adioyneth Anno Do. 1160. the Waldenses, whome hee calleth beggers of Lyons. 1579 — *Heskins's Parl.* 89 Valdo..caused Bookes of scripture to be translated, and so beganne the sect of Valdenses, or Pauperes de Lugduno. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xvii. 159 If we may beleeve what the Papists themselves have writt'n of these Churches, which they call Waldenses. 1774 FLETCHER *Hist. Lit.* Wks. 1795 IV. 13 The true Quakers..made as firm a stand against the Antinomians, as the Valdenses did against the Papists. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 383/1 The Waldenses, under their more modern name of the Vaudois, have survived to the present day in the valleys of Piedmont.

Waldensian (wɒlde·nsiăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7–9 Valdensian. [f. WALDENS-ES + -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Waldenses.

c 1648 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 23 Ther are divers sorts of these Polonian Protestants, som embracing the Waldensian ..and som the Helvetian Confession. 1887 (*title*) Authentic Details of the Valdenses..with..The Ancient Valdensian Catechism. 1832 W. S. GILLY (*title*), Waldensian Researches ..With an Introductory Inquiry into the Antiquity and Purity of the Waldensian Church. 1888 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 430/1 Only after Luther's declaration in favour of clerical marriage did the ascetic life cease to be a part of the Waldensian doctrine.

B. *sb.* A member of the sect of the WALDENSES.

1885 *Athenæum* 7 Feb. 177/2 The contents of this part are ..the Aldus and the Waldensians, [etc.]. 1888 *Ibid.* 7 Apr. 429/3 The Waldensians were far more likely to adopt an existing Catholic translation than to originate one for themselves.

Walder (wɔ̄·ldəɹ). *dial.* ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin; perh. some error.] Some weed found abundantly in cornfields.

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 306 One particular piece of the sandy ground..vastly subject to what we call walder, and buddle, bodle, or gould, as some call it. 1765 *Ibid.* IV. 144, I had great plenty of straw, and it was clear from walder and buddle.

Waldflute (wɔ̄·ldflīt). Also in Ger. form. [ad. G. *waldflöte*, lit. forest flute.] (See quots.)

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 110 Wald flute..is an open flue-register. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Waldflute*, *Waldflöte*, *Waldpfeife* (*Ger.*)..An organ stop of 4 ft. pitch. 1878 J. HILES *Catech. Organ* (ed. 2) 62 *Waldflöte*, Forest-flute. In Germany this is a 2 feet stop, formerly also of 8 and 4 feet...The English *Waldflute*..is always of open wood 4 feet pipes..full toned and powerful.

many, an officer having jurisdiction over a royal forest. (On the lower Rhine, the title was hereditary in certain families of the higher nobility.) Hence **Wa·ldgravine**, the wife of a waldgrave.

In recent Dicts.

‖ **Waldhorn** (va·ldhɔ̄ɹn). [G. *waldhorn*, forest or hunting horn, French horn] (See quot.)

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 110 Wald horn. 1889 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* IV. 375 *Waldhorn* (that is, Forest horn), *Corno di caccia*. The old 'French horn,' without valves, for which Beethoven wrote. The valve horn..is fast superseding it.

† **Wa·ldin**, *a. Sc. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **waldin**, (5 **waldyne**, **waddin**). [Pa. pple. of *wald*, WIELD *v.*, used in the sense '(easily) controlled'. (In OE. the ppl. adj. *gewealden* had the senses 'subject, under control', 'moderate in amount or size').] Easy to manage. Chiefly of the body or limbs: Pliant, supple; freq. in phr. *waldin and wicht*. Also *fig.*, yielding or tractable in bearing or disposition.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. 93 The quhilk sa waldin wes in fecht That baith þe left hand and the rycht He evinlike vait. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princes* (S.T.S.) 122 And thus sall all thy body be mare waldin, and esy to dispone the till all thyne operacionis. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Age & Youth* 19 This ȝowng [man] lap apone þe land ful lycht,..' waldyne [*v.rr.* waldin, waddin] I am,' quod he '& wondir wycht.' 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 55 For twentie ȝeir and foure he wes of age; Waldin and wicht. *Ibid.* 499 Waldin thai war, and wicht as ony hors. *Ibid.* II. 195 Als fierce & waldin than as ane elfi. *Ibid.* III. 163 He maid thame all als waldin as ane wand, For to obey and bydeat his command. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.*, *Descr. Alb.* xvi. (1821) I. p. lvi, Thair hois war maid of smal lynt or woll, and yeid nevir above thair kne, to make thaim the mair waldin and sowpyll.

Walding, Sc. form of WELDING, WIELDING.

Waldism (wɔ̄·ldiz'm). *rare.* [f. *Waldo* (see WALDENSES) + -ISM.] The doctrine or tenets of the Waldenses. Cf. VAUDISM.

1888 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 429/2.

Wale (wēl), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 **walu**, 5–6 *Sc.* **wall**, 6–7 **waile**, 7 **wayle**, (**waule**, **wael**, **weale**), 6 *Sc.*, 8–9 **wail**, (6 *Sc.* **vale**), 8–9 **whale**; 5 **walle**, 6–8 **wall**; 4– **wale**. [OE. *walu* str. fem. (also wk. pl. *walan*), mark of a lash, weal; also, in charters, used as a topographical term, perh. ridge, bank (of stone or earth). A sense 'stripe' appears to be implied by the derivative *walud* (tr. L. *distriatus*, app. mistaken for *striatus* striped).

Cf. LG. *wale* (*weale*, *wal*, Doornkaat-Koolman), Du. dial. *weal*, mark of a lash, weal (= sense 2). The other senses below are peculiar to Eng. The identity of the word in its various senses is not quite certain, but the assumption of 'raised line or strip' as the primary sense plausibly accounts for all the recorded applications. The relation of the word to O Teut. **wadu*-a rod, wand (Goth *wadu-s*, ON *vqðr*, MSw. *vad*, OFris. *wath*, NFris. *waale*) is uncertain.]

† **1.** A ridge (of earth or stone). Only OE.

1004 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 31 Of ðam beorge suþ on ða ealdan wale, swa on corf gates westran cotan of ðam cotan suþ be wale on ðære dice byrnan. 1045 *Ibid.* IV. 98 Ofer ðone hæðfeld in stanwale; andlang ðære wale on ðone portweg. *Ibid.* V. 334 On ða eastlangan dicwale.

2. The mark or ridge raised on the flesh by the blow of a rod, lash, or the like. = WEAL *sb.*²

The form *weal*, now more usual, is due to confusion with WHEAL a pustule, swelling, which is often misused for *wale*.

a 1100 *Aldh. Glosses* in Napier *OE. Gl.* 3466 *Ubices*, *i. werbera*, *walan* *Ibid.* 4487 *Ubices*, *wala*. *Ibid.* 4759 *Ubices*, *wale*. *Ibid.* 5365 *Asperæ inæquationis*, *stiðra wala*. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxxiv. (1869) 110 3, I keepe him that he haue no peyne and that ther be no wales in the bondes. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 123 Sayntt Bernard yn Cristys person.. sayth þus:..I haue my body for thy loue full of gret walus. 1521 WHITINTON *Grammat.* (1523) C iij, *Vibex*, a wale of a rodde. 1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wall of a strype, *enflure*. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i, Shall then that foule infamous Cyneda hide Laugh at the purple wales of others side? 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* liii. 5 With the wails of his stripe [Vulg. *livore ejus*] we are healed. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 232 He.. strooke, his backe and shouldcrs so, That bloody wales rose. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 101 Ye shall have him as proud of the Wales on his Back, as a Holy Land Pilgrim is of a Jerusalem Print. 1797 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* I. 106 The..lower limbs..are found covered with large wales, resembling those arising from the sting of nettles. 1867 PUSEY *Eleven Addresses* vi. (1908) 63 The traces of the Crown of thorns,..the wales of the scourges. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 384 His back was striped with the wales of such frequent scourging.

fig. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 558 The wales, marks, scarres and cicatrices of sinne and vice remaine to be seene.

† **b.** Misused for WHEAL. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1589 [R. HARVEY] *Pl. Perc.* 5 What, what, latine in the mouth of a plaine fellow? Nay I wot neere, but it hath left behind it a wale in my throate like a strange bodylouse in an vnknowne pasture. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wale*, (9) A tumour or large swelling. *Kent.* 1887 in *Kentish Gloss.*

3. *Textile-manuf.* A ridge or raised line (consisting of a thread or threads) in a textile fabric; also *collect.* with epithet, as indicating the texture of a particular fabric. Cf. WALED *a.* and *waling glass* s.v. WALE *v.*¹

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 94 To lay down the wooll so close, as you can hardly see any wale. 1604 W. TERILO *Friar Bacon's Prophesie* xxxiv. C 2 b, A Hose with a good waile. 1607 MIDDLETON *Mich. Term* II iii. D 2 b, By my troth exceeding good cloath, a good wale t'as. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 120 It does not at all concern the tissue, Tenor or range of the Threads and *Wales* (as they call them) which is easily imitated. 1668 T. ROBERY *Let.* 28 Sept. in *Mem.* (Surtees Soc.) 16 My wife desires to fix you either to a farandine or a mohaire with a small weale [for a gown]. 1675 *Lit. fr. E. I. Co. to Factors Fort St. George* Dec. (MS.). Their Musters You now Sent Us appeare to be all Taffaty Wale. 1684 *Patent Office* No. 241 Lines or creases resembling the Wale of Tabby or Mohaire. 1696 J. F. *Merch. Ware-ho. laid open* 13 A sort of Callico-Dimetty.. Wove with a Wale like a plain Dimetty. 1755 JOHNSON, *Wale*, a rising part in the surface of cloth. 1808–32 WEBSTER, *Wale*, in cloth, a ridge or streak rising above the rest. We say, cloth is wove with a wale. 1886 BECK *Draper's Dict.*, *Wale*, a ridge on the surface of cloth.

fig. 1587 GASCOIGNE *Herbs* Posies (1907) 329 The feeble thred which Lachesis hath sponne, To drawe my dayes in short abode with thee, Hath wrought a webbe which now (weneare) is donne, The wale is worne. 1611 BEAUMONT & FL. *Four Plays* (1647) 271 Thou art rougher far, and of a courser wale, fuller of pride.

b. *transf.* A stripe (of colour).

1892 HARDY *Tess* xlvi, The wide acreage of blank agricultural brownness..was beginning to be striped in wales of darker brown, gradually broadening to ribands.

4. *Naut.* a. A piece of timber extending horizontally round the top of the sides of a boat; the gunwale.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12062 Cordes, kyuiles, stached þe wale. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 740 Wyghtly one the wale thay wyre vp thaire ankers. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* 640 As with-inne the wale Of a stronge ship a man is bore a-loft. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/1 Wale, of a schyppe, *ratis*. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 134 Her on the wall ner by the I sall stand. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. iv. 76 With as strang rowthis apon athir waill, The mychty kervell schuddernit at euery straik. 1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wall of a shyppe, *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 231 Schoe was ten fute thik in the waill. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4510/7 The Hoy Burthen 9 or 10 Tun...with a clean Tall, a round-Wale. 1726 R. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II.

[illegible] in a ship would be called the..upper edge of the wale. 1887 [COLQUHOUN] *Comp. Oarsman's Guide* 28 The narrow piece of wood running round the sax-board outside, but now generally disused, is called a wale.

b. *pl.* The horizontal planks or timbers, broader

and thicker than the rest, which extend along a ship's sides, at different heights, from stem to stern; also called *bends* (see BEND *sb.*4 6); also *sing.*, each of such timbers.

For *chain, channel, main, sheer wales*, see CHAIN-WALE, CHANNEL *sb.*2 2, MAIN *a.* 11, SHEER *sb.*2 3.

1294 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/8 m. 8 Empcio meremii..Et x. d. in ij Wales emptis de Anselmo Carpentario. 1336-7 *Ibid.* 29/32 m. 5 Lt in vj. lignis emptis ad eandem pro Wales et bindes inde faciendis..vj. s. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 292 Tymbre for bemys wal[e]s & other Necessaries in the seid Ship. 1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 233 For valis to cover abone the bolt, viij d. 1536 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Adm.* I. (1894) 58 The sterne of the same cock bote was faste under on of the wales of the said catche. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ii. 6 From bend to bend, or wale to waile, which are the outmost timbers on the ship sides. 1664 E. BUSHNELL *Shipwright* 7 The next Wnale parallel to the lower Wnale. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. lii. 429 Bends and Walls [Fr. *rambades*] of his Carricks. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 158 They found her wales and outside planks extremely defective. 1844 J. F. COOPER *Pilot* xxiv. II. 303 Such a point-blanker would have torn off a streak of our wales. 1881 HARDY *Trumpet Major* xxvi, Boats built of wood which was greenly growing..three days before it was bent as wales to their sides. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 11 Q. What are bends? A. The thickest and strongest planks on the outward part of a ship's side,.. They are more properly called wails.

5. Each of the horizontal timbers connecting and bracing the piles of a dam, etc.

1754 T. GARDNER *Hist. Acc. Dunwich* 179 Except Plank upon the Head of the Key, and under the upper Wale, and Plank to join the piles. 1837 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 33/1 The wales are to be in two thicknesses, of half-timbers, ..bolted to the gauge piles. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 80 These are called guide piles, and to these horizontal timbers are attached, called wales.

6. *Basket-making.* Each of the horizontal bands round the body of a basket composed of rods intertwined as a finishing-off course.

1907 T. OKEY in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 11 Jan. 190/2 A wale is three or more rods woven one after and over the other to form a binding or string course. *Ibid.*, I was interested to find [in an old Egyptian basket] the same strokes—the fitch, the pair, the border, slath, and wale—I had been using yesterday.

7. A ridge on a horse's collar: see quot. 1704.

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 139 The Neck Collar is a padded collar made to fit and sit easy round the horse's neck—it has a wales or risings on the outside, called the fore and back wales. 1847 HALLIWELL. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss.* 1908 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. X. 146/2, I was told by one of the workmen that the rolls or ridges of a horse-collar between which the hames lie are called respectively the fore-wale and the after-wale.

8. Comb.: **wale-piece**, †(*a*) a piece of timber to serve as the gunwale of a boat; (*b*) a horizontal timber connecting and binding the piles or posts of a bridge, dam, etc.; †**wale-reared** *a.* = WALL-*sided*; †**wale-stock, -tree**, ? a piece of timber to serve as a gunwale; **wale-streak**, the gunwale of a boat.

1350 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 25/32 (P.R.O.) En xxxvij piec' de mesrime achat' pour *wale piecen, wale stockez et fotwalen. 1739 LABELYE *Piers Westm. Bridge* 20 The Plates, Whale-Pieces, Ties and Braces that had been contrived to keep them steady. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 432/1 Allowing a space of not less than 12 inches wide between the wale pieces, for the piles to fill up the bays between the wale pieces. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685), *Wale reared. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 113 *Wale-reared*, that is, when a ship is built right up, after she comes to her bearing. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Wale-reared*, an obsolete phrase, implying *well sided*. 1350 *Wale stockes [see *wale piece* above]. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. viii. iii. 474/2 Here he [the coxswain] must sit cross-legged..with a hand on each gunwale or *wale-streak. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 72 *Wale trees..ij, Hausers..ij. 1488 *Acc. & Inv.* 72 (P.R.O.) Waletrees.

Wale (wēl), *sb.*2 *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 3 wal, 4 wall, 5 wail, 5–6 waill, 6 waylle, 8–9 wile, 9 walle, 3– wale. [a. ON. *val* neut., corresponding to OHG. *wala* (MHG. *wal*, mod.G. *wahl*) str. fem., f. Teut. root **wal-*, **wel-*: see WILL *v.*]

1. The action or an act of choosing; choice. Also, scope for choice, plurality of things to choose from.

Before the 17th c. recorded only *poet.*, chiefly in certain set phrases: *At, to wale*, at one's choice, in abundance; *men of wale*, men of high merit; *worthy in* or *to wale*, of approved valour. (By some writers of the 15–16th c. *to wale* in the last phrase seems to have been taken as the inf. of WALE *v.*[1])

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4353 If..þat þou mi lefe wald be; O werldes wel.h to wale and wan Sal þou haf mare þan mai be gan. *Ibid.* 5375. *Ibid.* 7629 And of a thusand men o wal, He made him ledder and marscal. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* v. 77 Sir Edward, onre gude King wurthi in wall. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1587 When he had tolde this tale..He hade wordis at wale To thame ilkane. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11952 He russhit vp full radly, raght to his clothes, Soche as heopit hym to hent, hade he no wale. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 55 Als ye I haue honours in alkyn welth to wale. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Houlate* 447 With lordis of Scotland, lerit, and the laif As worthy, wysest to waile, in worschipe allowit. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 211 Wynis went within that wane, maist wourthy to vaill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xii. 37 Thar wes na strenth of valeant men to waill. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett. to Lady Kenmure* (1664) 89, I will have no other tutor, suppose I could have waile & choise of ten thousand beside. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., *He gaif me the wale*, he allowed me to choose. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Notes on Landor* Wks. 1859 IX. 297 Our Arab friend, however, is no connoisseur in courts of law: small wale of courts in the desert. 1858–62 RAMSAY *Remin.* (1867) 167 There's nae wale o' wigs on Monrimmon Moor. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxxiii, She's a wonderfu' woman, the mistress; no the like o' her in the three counties. She micht hae had the wale o' the men.

b. Coupled with *will.*

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxvii, With alle welthis to wille, and wynus to wale. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 147 [He] mycht in the time that he feit him have had otheris at will and wale. 1742 R. FORBES *Ajax* (1753) 21 Let him than now tak will an' wile. 1836 J. ANELEY *Poet. Wks.* 82 (E. D. D.), I've sheets and blankets, will and wale, I'm nae deaf nit.

2. That which is chosen or selected as the best; the choicest individual, kind, specimen, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. v. 188 The King Latyne, but faill, Gart cheis of all his steidis furth the waill. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 309 Ane great airme..to the number of l^m men the waill of all Ingland. 1727 RAMSAY *Elegy on Lucky Wood* xi, She was the wale of a' her kin. 1786 BURNS *Ordination* vi, For lapfu's large o' gospel kail Shall fill thy crib in plenty, An' runts o' grace the pick an' wale. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lv, The Bertrams were aye the wale o' the country side! 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 262 The best way to get one, and the wale of them, is to intercept one of the packs which are driven from the northern markets. 1887 STEVENSON *Merry Men* v. Wks. 1895 VIII. 166 It's the pride of the eye, and it's the lust o' life, an' it's the wale o' pleesures.

† **Wale**, *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* [? var. of WEEL *sb.*:—OE. *wǽl.*] ? A wave, current.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. 16 And Doris with hir daughters all: of which some cut the wales [1587 wals; *rhyme* whales] With splaied armes. 1636 JAMES *Iter Lanc.* 323 (1845) 21 Threescore miles from wale Of sea at Conyngton was found a whale Vppon a high downes.

† **Wale**, *a. Obs.* Also 3 wal, 4 walle. [f. WALE *sb.*2] Used as a general laudatory expression: Chosen; choice, select; excellent, noble, goodly.

a. of a person, his attributes, actions, etc.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 888 Sodomes king in kinge dale, Mette abram wiþ feres wale. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1010 Bot 3et I wot þat Wawen & þe wale burde Such comfort of her compaynye caȝten to-geder. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 294 'Can will I,' quod he wale qwene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1329 The Troiens..blody beronyn, Wyde woundes & wete of hor wale dyntes. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* etc. (E. E. T. S.) iii. 149 And wander in A winter tyme wyth full wale knychtis. 1525 *Scottish Field* 385 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), It is a losse to the lande,..For his witte and his wisedome, And his wale deedes. 1790 J. FISHER *Poems* 102 Ae simmer e'en baith wale an' trig,..doun the rig A lad cam' to the Fitman-brig.

absol. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 38 A wayle whyt as whalles bon.

b. of a thing.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3635 Bokes he wrot of lore wal, Hu ?is folc hem riȝt leden sal. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1716 Bifore þe baraunz has hom broȝt, & hyrled þerinne [*sc.* the holy vessels] Wale wyne to þy wenches. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 741 By wytt of the watyre-mene of the wale ythez, ffrekes one the forestayne fakene theire coblez. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 75 Þan was a wardan ware oute in þe wale stremys Of all þe naue & þe note. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 694 She went from þat worthy into a wale chambur. *Ibid.* 1943 He..wound vp full wightly all his wale Ancres.

Wale (wēl), *v.*1 *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–6 walle, 4–5 weyle, 5–8 waill, 5–9 wail, 6 vale, vaile, weale, 7 wayl, weil, wehl, weal(l, 6–9 wyle, 8–9 wile, 9 wyell, 4– wale. [f. WALE *sb.*2 Cf. WELE *v.* (The form *wehl* was prob. due to G. *wählen*, † *wehlen.*)]

1. *trans.* To choose, select, pick out, sort. Also with *out, through.*

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 33 Mostl ryden by Rybbesdale, Wilde wymmen forte wale, ant welde wuch ich wolde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 999 Iasper hyat þe fyrst gemme, þat I on þe fyrst hasse con wale. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 103 That worthy hade a wyfe walit hym-seluon. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1014 Wale 30w oþer werriouris þat wiȝt ere & ȝonger. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 895 In gret ire he apon thaim sadly socht, Wailland a place quhar he mycht bar,ane mak. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 319 It m., giffin to Johne Mawre, to pas to Clidisdale, to the woddis to wale tymmyr for the artaiȝeri, ix s. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 530 Of ther thre wantoun wiffis, that I haif writtin heir, Quhilk wad ȝe wail to ȝour wif? 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. I. 10 Of chost men ayne, walit by cutt, thai tuik Ane greit nwmir. 1537 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XVII. 741 That ye cause..Patrik Tennent waill our sa[i]d woll, sort, and pak the samin. 1685 A. GIL *Sacr. Philos.* xii. 192 The Poet gives you an example of a Gardiner, wehling his seeds being mingled together. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kenmure* (1664) 30 But more I can neither wish, nor pray, nor desire for to your Lat then Christ singled and wailed out, from all created good things. 1674 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* (1907) Jan. 202 Buy me a good handsom Caudibeck batt . pray sie that it be good and weall wyled. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* ii. 35 (1750) 7 A lass that has mony wooers aft wales the warst. 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Saturday Nt.* xii, Those strains that once did sweet in Zion glide, He wales a portion with judicious care. 1821 CARLYLE *Lett.* 17 Nov., *Early Lett.* (1886) II. 4 To beg that you will accept the brown pair of spectacles which I have *waled* for you. 1832 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xii, Come away, chap—come away, gentle chap—nae time to be picking and waling your steps. 1873 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* xi, I said I would wait a man for you myself. 1886 D. GRANT *Sc. Stories* 30 A bodie canna aye wyle his words. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., Wale me an orange..To wale one's way.

b. *To wale by*, to choose and put by.

1789 ROSS *Helenore* I. (ed. 3) 53 Bannocks and kebbocks knit up in a claith, She had wiled by, and row'd up in her waith.

c. *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1881.)

1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss., Waling*, cleaning the coals. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Wale*, Newc. To clean coal by picking out the refuse by hand.

2. *intr.* To make choice.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1276 'I-wysse, worþy,' quoth þe wyȝe, 'ȝe haf waled wel better'. 1786 BURNS *Halloween* iv, They steek their een, an' graip an' wale For muckle anes, an' straught anes. 1826–30 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* III. cxvi, Through and through the bowl they wyell—For raisins, how they stritch and strive!

† **3.** *trans.* ? To seek. *Obs. rare*[–1].

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 398 Where schulde I wale þe, quod Gauan, where is þy place?

Hence **Wa'ling** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.* **waling glass** (see quot. 1880).

1685 A. GIL *Sacr. Philos.* i. 12 Every seed encreaseth by the earth and moisture thereof, which cannot be but with a wehling out, or choice of things that are homogeneous, or of parts like thereto. 1634 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kenmure* 29 Apr., It should be of your wailing and not of his. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Waling glass*, a weaver's counting glass, which magnifies a small portion of the surface of linen, and thus enables the set or count to be ascertained.

Wale (wēl), *v.*2 Also **whale.** [f. WALE *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To mark (the flesh) with wales or weals.

14.. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 245 A wycked wound hath me walled [*rimes* called, halt, salt], And traveyld me from topp to too. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempt. N. T., Christ bef. Pilate* 263 O my blessed Saviour, was it not enough that thy sacred body was stripped of thy garments, and waled with bloudy stripes? 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxxxv. (ed. 8) 375 Would the Horse..suffer his lazy Rider to bestride his patient back, with his hands and whip to wale his flesh?

2. 'To fasten, secure, or protect with a wale or wale piece' (Webster 1911).

1909 *E. Essex Advertiser* Aug., Suppl. 4/3 The wharf..is..built with piles and strongly whaled.

3. **a.** *Mil.* To weave or wattle (a gabion, hurdle). **b.** *Basket-making.* To intertwine (rods) in making a wale (see WALE *sb.*1 6); also 'to furnish (a basket) with a wale or wales' (Webster 1911).

1842 BURN *Naval & Mil. Techn. Dict., Clayonner*, to wattle, wale. 1892 FOX IRWIN *Notes Fortif.* (ed. 2) 60 To make a Wickerwork Gabion...Wale the web by passing each rod in succession over the other two..till the waling is 6-in. high. 1907 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 11 Jan. 190/2 The foot rods are waled and then laid down as in a border.

Hence **Waled** *ppl. a*, marked with weals. **Wa'ling** *vbl. sb. Mil.*, the process of making a gabion or hurdle; also, the basket-work thus made,; also *attrib.* as *waling rod.*

1842 BURN *Navy & Mil. Techn. Dict., Clayon*, a..waling-rod. *Clayonnage*, wattling:..waling. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 31 Mar. 6/2 A horrible vision of a waled back would come before my eyes and the swish of that terrible whip would sound in my ears. 1892 G. PHILIPS *Text-bk. Fortif.* III iii. (ed. 5) 88 In brushwood gabions the basket work is called the web, and the process of making it is termed waling. 1892 [see 3 above].

† **Wale**, *int. Obs.* [repr. OE. *wá lá*: see Wo, Lo, and WELLAWAY *intr.*] Alas! woe is me!

c 1205 LAY. 12952 Ah wale þat hit nusten Costantines cnihten. *Ibid.* 25859 Wale [*c* 1275 wola] þat ich wes iboren.

Wale: see VALE *sb.*1, VEIL *sb.*1, WAIL *v.*, WALL *sb.*1, WELL *sb.*, WHALE.

† **Waled**, *a. Obs.* [f. WALE *sb.*1 + -ED 2.] Striped. *Open-waled*, having an open texture.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 416/23 *Histriatarum* [understood as = *striatarum* (1 Kings vii. 24)], waledra. 1600 *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1863) II. 95 One waled matterice v[i] s. viij *d.* 1611 COTGR., *Linomple*, a fine, thinne, or open-waled linnen, much vsed in Picardie..for womens kerchers. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 6 Fine waled Silk, or Taffety.

Waled (wā'ld), *ppl. a.*1 *Sc.* and *north.* [f. WALE *v.*1 + -ED 1.] Chosen, selected, picked. Cf. HAND-WALED.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 386 Walid wyne for to wete wantid þai none. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 2219 Fyfty ladyis was in hyr cumpany, Wallyt off wit. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 64 Thair walilit weid, and stature to descriue, I can not gif perfite affirmatiue. ?*c* 1640 R. SEMPILL *Piper Kilbarchan* 43 He counted was a weil'd Wight-man. 1649 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Mrs. Gillespie* 14 Aug., Let not your heart say, it is an ill wailed dispensation. 1681 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Script.* III. iii. (1726) 376 What choice and wailed instruments such were, who were thus called forth. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, Gude and waled Christians they were too. 1888 *Craven Gloss., Il caled*, picked, chosen.

Waled, *ppl. a.*2: see WALE *v.*2

Walee, Wale-knot: see WALI, WALL-KNOT.

Walentyne, obs. Sc. form of VALENTINE.

Walenut, obs. form of WALNUT.

Waler [1] (wē'lə). [f. WALE *v.*1 + -ER 1.]

1. *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1885 E. MACKENZIE *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 91 Wailers are boys employed to pick out slate, pyrites, and other foul admixtures from the coal. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) [Newcastle Terms], *Waler*, boys who pick the refuse from the good coals.

† **2.** 'A handloom silk-weaving term: a man employed to determine the number of "picks" in a piece and to see that uniformity is maintained' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). *Obs.*

Waler [2] (wē'lə). *Anglo-Indian.* [f. *Wale-s* (for New South Wales) + -ER 1.] A horse imported from Australia, esp. from New South Wales.

1849 *New South Wales* vii. 65 The colonial-bred horses

or Wālers, as they are called in India. 1888 Kipling *Plain T., Rout of White Hussars* (ed. 3) 217 The Drum-Horse.. is nearly always a big piebald Waler.

attrib. 1873 *Madras Mail* 23 June (Yule), For sale, a brown Waler gelding. 1888 Kipling *Plain T., Rout of White Hussars* (ed. 3) 217 Yale had a big, old, white Waler trap-horse

† Wa'lesman. *Obs.* [f. *Wales* + Man *sb.*] = Welshman.

1391 *Canterb. Marriage Licences* Ser. I. (1890) 363 Hugh Evans of Lambeth, Walesman.

Walet(t, Walew, obs. ff. Wallet, Value.

Waleway, var. Wellaway *int.*

Walewe, obs. ff. Value *sb.*, Wallow *v.*

Waleys, obs. : see Welsh.

Walfair, obs. form of Wallflower.

Walhalla, var. Valhalla.

Walhwe, obs. form of Wallow *a.*

1 Wali (wā·li). Also **wilee, waly.** [Arab. والي *wāli* (classical Arab. وَالِي *wālin*), subst. use of pres. pple. of *wala* to be foremost.] The governor of a province : = Vali.

1811 tr. *Niebuhr's Trav. Arab.* lxxxiv. in J. Pinkerton *Coll Voy.* X. 107 Every petty district..has its governor. If not a prince, or one of the higher nobility, this governor is called Wali and Dola. 1839 E. W. Lane *Arab. Nts.* (1859) I. v. 350 The Wálee inflicted upon him a hundred lashes, and banished him from the city. 1857 W. K. Tweedie *Rivers & Lakes of Script.* 24 And how comes it to pass that a Mohammedan Wali disfigures the scene? 1883 Schaff-Herzog *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 2164 (Stanf.) Jerusalem is the seat of a *mutasarrif* under the *waly* of Syria.

Walidrag, variant of Wallydrag *Sc.*

Walie, var. Wally *a.*2 *Sc.*, Waly *int. Sc.*

Waling (wē·lin). Also *erron.* **whaling.** [f. Wale *sb.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The wales or horizontal timbers with which piles are braced ; also, one of such timbers, a wale. (Cf. Wale *sb.*1 5 ; also Foot-*waling*.)

1837 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 22/1 To these piles will be fixed three tiers of waling of whole timbers. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 592 After the timbers are fixed, they are braced by what are called 'walings'.

Comb. 1837 Whittock *Bk. Trades* (1842) 202 Oaken piles driven down close to the embankments, with their upper ends crossed by strong 'whaling-boards' of oak. 1916 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Jan. 68/2 He worked his way along..till he reached the edge of the wharf and found footing on the walling [*sic*] strips against which the ship's hull rested.

2. *Naut.* The timbers forming the wale of a boat ; in comb. *waling-piece*, ? = *wale-piece* (*a*).

1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Jan. 7/4 Some of the survivors saved themselves by seizing the collier's whaling-piece.

Walisc, Walisohe, obs. forms of Welsh.

Walise, Sc. form of Valise.

Walk (wȫk), *sb.*1 Also 4-7 **walke, 6 walok, whalke.** [f. Walk *v.*1]

I. Action or manner of walking.

1. An act or spell of walking or going on foot from place to place ; *esp.* a short journey on foot taken for exercise or pleasure. Phrase, *to take* (†*fetch*, rarely *make*) *a walk*, also (somewhat *arch.*) *to take one's walk*(*s*.

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 461 And in hir walk this blynde man they mette. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 410 You haue your fine walkes, in places of pleasure, and therewithall communication seasoned with the leuen of learning. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 23 When as ye green eyed Goddesse thus had heard dame Iunoes talk, To finde the wilie Ulysses straight downe she tooke hir walke 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 48 See here the decree of a country Philosopher, and Matter of Meditation for one of your walkes at Yssy. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 79 The unfortunate Lady Agarida took a walk by a little Rivers side. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 130 His most usual walks being upon Giulfa side. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxi, Some kind Wave will throw it [my will] ashoar,..and some King's Daughter, going to fetch a Walk in the fresco on the Evening, will find it. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 Sept. 1633, In my walkes I stepp'd into a goldbeaters work-house. 1737 *Common Sense* I. 205, I am not absurd enough, even to hint the usual rural Recreations, of fetching a Walk. 1753 [see Walk *v.* 5 d]. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* I. Pref. p. iii, If..a man should, in his walks, meet with an animal, the name..of which he desires to know. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prince.* xiv. III. 338 She delighted in little dances, and *walks home* after them, and what are called walks out in the morning, to be met somewhere and joined by her beloved. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* I. I. vii. 61 My mistress, Sir, to please you, takes her walk Along the garden terrace, and desires [etc.]. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxvii, At dinner they met again, after a five-and-twenty mile walk. 1865 E. Burritt *Walk Land's End* I. 38, I shouldered my knapsack again and made an evening walk to Kingston. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* I, We have only ten minutes left for our walk back. 1910 A. Lang in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 135/1 A man, in fun, called to a goat to escort his wife on a walk.

† b. In wider sense : Travel, wandering. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 404 The warliest wane..That euer I vist in my walk, in all this warld wyde. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 773 For not the Gods, nor angry Jove will bear Thy lawless wand'ring walks in upper Air.

† c. Line of march or movement (in quots., of an army, a chess-man). *Obs.*

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3799 *Pai* droge furth be diuert & drinkles pal spill, Was nouthire waldis in bar walke ne watir to tynde. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 238 And by land,..burnyng and destroiyng euery pile, fortresse and village that was in their walke. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in *Lyly's Whs.* (1902) III. 395 He shall knowe what it is for a soaddle pawne, to crosse a Bishop in his owne walke.

d. *fig.* in various uses : † Expatiation, extended discourse (*obs. rare*) ; an act or a practice of walking, in any metaphorical sense of the verb.

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 16 b, Now in speakyng of honestie, I may by deuision of the vertues make a large walke. 1592 Breton *Pilgr. Parnas.* (Grosart) 19/1 From care, and cost, fancy, and wisedomes folly, He tooke his walke vnto a wise more holly. 1772-8 Cowper *Olney Hymns* I. iii. 1 Oh ! for a closer walk with God. 1820 Wordsw. *Sonn. Liberty* I. iv, And the talk Man holds with week-day man in the hourly walk Of the mind's business. 1885 Lang *Mist Ser.* II. *Barbara S——*, Perhaps from the pure infelicity which accompanies some people in their walk through life. 1886 Mrs. Browning *Little Mattie* 2 Short and narrow her life's walk.

2. a. A procession, ceremonial perambulation.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation-wk.* IV. 248 b, Yet haue we occasion secondarylye geuen vs in our walkes on these dayes, to consider the old auncient boundes & limittes belongyng to our owne Towneship *a* 1610 Bp. Hall *Epist.* VI. v. 45 You may as well challenge the Trumpets of Rammes-hornes, and seauen dayes walke vnto euery siedge. 1888 Barrie *Auld Licht Idylls* (1892) 23 It is nearly twenty years since the gardeners had their last 'walk' in Thrums.

† b. An official perambulation. Cf. sense 10.

1626 Breton *Fantasticks* (Grosart) 13/1 The Forresters now be about their walkes, and yet stealers sometimes cosen the Keepers.

† 3. *pl.* Ability to walk. *Obs. rare*—1.

1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 103 That God which giueth eyes to the blind, and walkes to the lame.

4. An act of walking as distinguished from other more rapid modes of locomotion on foot (see Walk *v.*1 7) ; the slowest gait of a land animal ; a rate of progression which belongs to this gait, a walking pace.

a. of a horse or other quadruped (opposed to *trot, amble, gallop*, etc.).

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 150/2 Walk, is the slowest pace a Horse doth go ; it is used to cool a Horse after hard Riding. 1788 Mrs. Hughes *Henry & Isabella* I. 50 If the road was in the smallest degree rough..the horses were never suffered to go off a walk. 1832 *Prop. Reg. Instr. Cavalry* II. 15 The rate of walk not to exceed four miles an hour. 1804 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* VI. 187 If the distance is above a mile, they will suffer, unless it is walk all the way. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvi, He rode near Mr. Dombey's house ; and falling into a walk as he approached it, looked up at the windows. 1902 'Violet Jacob' *Sheep-Stealers* xiv, He did not once let his horse go out of a sober walk.

b. of a human being (opposed to *run*).

1601 Shake. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 138 My verie walke should be a iigge. 1838 Dickens *O Twist* xiii, Exchanging her faltering walk for a good, swift, steady run. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* lxxiii (1901) II. 255 He..rounded the corner into Red Lion Street at something between a walk and a run.

c. Applied *spec.* to a firm and regular gait. *nonce-use.*

1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 639 He stands erect ; his slouch becomes a walk ; He steps right onward, martial in his air.

d. A walking race ; a pedestrian contest in which running is not allowed.

1887 *Sporting Life* 2 July 3/3 Clarke should win the Walk, with Lange second, and Ockelford third.

5. A manner of walking ; *esp.* the distinctive manner of walking of an individual, as recognizable by visible appearance.

a 1656 R. Cox *Actæon & Diana* 35 Who's this..? the clothes and walk of my dear husband. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* I. 561 In length of Train descends her sweeping Gown, And by her graceful Walk, the Queen of Love is known. 1705 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. 1711 III. 382 The Mandrake only imitates our Walk And on two legs erect is seen to stalk. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 28 Sept. Suppl. 1/1 Run away..an Irish servant man,..slender made, long visage, small legs, and hath a clumsy walk. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xiii, It was impossible to mistake her figure and her walk. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 438 Who has a walk that can be named with that of the Arab ?

† b. *To diminish one's walks* : ? to walk mincingly. *Obs.*

1609 Dekker *Gull's Hornbk.* iv. 17 That true humorous Gallant that desires to powre himselfe into all fashions.. must as well practise to diminish his walkes, as to bee various in his sallets, curious in his Tobacco, [etc.].

6. *fig.* a. In religious language (cf. Walk *v.*1 6 a) : Manner of behaviour, conduct of life.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxix. ii, Whom in walk Gods way directeth, Sure them no sinnfull blott infecteth Of deed or word. 1760 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass. Bay* iv. (1765) 421 The irregular walk or demeanor of any one church. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* x, In this proposal there was much that pleased old David,..the lassie would be under Mrs. Saddletree's eye, who had an upright walk. 1831 Carlyle *Ess., Early Ger. Lit.* (1840) III. 186 Tauler..a man of antique Christian walk. 1845-6 Trench *Huls. Lect.* Ser. II. vii. 263 What do they require of us but a walk corresponding ? 1871 Morley *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 237 The most important question that we can ask of any great teacher, as of the walk and conversation of any commonest person, remains this, how far has he [etc.].

† b. A course of conduct. *Obs.*

1770 Burke *Let.* 17 Nov. *Corr.* (1844) I. 378 None of our friends are to blame for this rejection of that idea... It was impossible at that time to take a separate walk from them. 1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 20 Dec., I was ashamed to appear the leader in a walk so new as that of leaving the Lodge in an evening.

† 7. *Theat.* ? The course of one person of a drama. *Obs.*

— nant ape 2 of 'the underwalks (or lesser Intrigues) of persons'.

1681 Davenant *Gondibert*, Pref., To these Meanders of the English Stage I have cut out the Walks of my Poems. 1693 Br. S. Parker *Reproof Rel. Transp.* 10 You sum up your Charge in Six Heads, which you sometimes entitle Playes, sometimes Hypotheses, sometimes Aphorisms ; and why not Plots, and Scenes, and Walks, and under-walks, &c.?

II. Place or path for walking.

† 8. The usual place of walking, the haunt or resort (of a person or animal). *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 211 The gardyn..Ther as this fresshe Emelye..Was in hire walk, and romed vp and doun. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2305 Thus shalt thou..gete encheeson to goon ageyn Vnto thy walk, or to thy place, Where thou biseid hir fleshly face [Fr. *d'oler Dex chief encore en la rue Ou* etc.]. *a* 1450 *Merl's Festival* 55 But þus he [*sc.* the hunter] wole aspye wher hys [*sc.* the unicorn's] walk ys, and þer he setteþe a woman þat ys clene mayden. 1468-9 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 59 Sir, I wold advise your mastership cause William Scargell to take good regard to himselfe & not to use his old walkes ; for & he doe, he wilbe taken. 1530 Palsgr. 436/2 Beware, come nat in his walke lest he arrest the : *garde toy de te trouuer la ou il hante.* 1593 Marlowe *Edw II* (Brooke) 1804 Edmund away.. Proud Mortimer pries neare into thy walkes. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 340 If any male or other stone Horse come within their walke, then presently they make force at him. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* x. (1906) 88 For with the weeds there are delicate flowers in those walkes of Venus [Ovid's *Amores*, etc.]. 1708 Rowe *Ambit. Step-Mother* I. i, With heedless steps they unawares Tread on the Lyons walk.

† b. *transf.* The region within which something moves. Also *fig. Obs.*

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* 2 (Arb.) 73 Meanynge therby, that no man .came in their [*sc.* the arrows] walke, that escaped without death. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxi § 16 Those coulorable and suttle crimes that seldome are taken within the walke of humaine Iustice. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Praise Pindar* iv, Lo, how th' obsequious Wind, and swelling Ayr The Theban Swan does upward bear Into the walks of Clouds, where he does play. 1692 Ray *Disc* II. ii (1732) 101 The middle region of the Air where the Walk of the Clouds is. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 102 Far as the solar walk or milky way.

9. A place prepared or set apart for walking.

a. In a church or other public building : An ambulatory ; a place where people can walk, a cloister, aisle, portico, or the like ; *esp.* in the Royal Exchange, each of the portions of the ambulatory formerly allotted to different classes of merchants ; designated by special names, as *East India, Virginia, Jamaica, Spanish* etc. *walk* (see Entick *London* ed. 1766, IV. 102).

1530 Palsgr. 286/2 Walke to walke up and downe in, *parult.* 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 42 A walke, galery, or porche to walke in, *porticus*. 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) F iij, Here, in this Church a walck there is where Papistes doe frequent To talke of newes among themselues 1593 Norden *Spec Brit.* I. *Mdx.* 35 Royall exchange...The form of the building is quadrate, with walks round the mayne building supported with pillers of marble. 1595 Stow *Surv.* (1603) 404 They resort all to the said Temple Church, in the round walke whereof [etc.]. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 42 (1810) 48 In one of the walks of the church there is a stone. 1661 in M. Sellers *Eastland Co.* (Camden) Introd. 75 Our deputies will meet theirs at London upon the Exchange Munday and Tuesday come sennett at noone in the Eastlands Walke. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4708/4 Inquire at the..Royal Exchange East Country-Walk in Exchange Time. 1725 *Ibid.* No. 5341/4 The Spanish Walk in the Royal Exchange. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks* (1871) II. 101 The great cloister ..has a walk of inter-ecting arches round its four sides. 1884 *19th Cent.* Jan. 104 The cloister arcade was said to have four walks.

b. An avenue bordered by trees.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. x. 25 And all without were walkes and alleyes dight With diuers trees, enrang'd in euen rankes. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 93 Quinces here are of an incredible bignes. Their vines dispersing themselves vpon the boughes of trees doe make most pleasant bowers and walkes. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov. by Sea* C 2 b, There hath he made Walkes, hedges, and Arbours, of all manner of most delicate fruit Trees. 1626 *Tobs* (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) fol 58 Quicksett for the further end of the wake in the new orchard 1693 Motteux *St Olon's Morocco* 8 A fiery Horse, that ran away with him.. as he wheel'd about under a Walk of Orange Trees. 1712 Addison *Spect* No. 110 P 1 There is a long Walk of aged Elms 1843 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The old lime-tree walk was like green cloisters.

c. A broad path in a garden or pleasure-ground. Also, a way set apart for foot-passengers at the side of a street or road ; a footwalk, sidewalk.

1533 *MS. Rawl.* 776 lf. 271 b, For that Chylderne shall not cast Rubbysh vnto the Kynges new Whalke. 1601 Shake. *Twel. N.* II. v. 29 Get ye all three into the box tree : Malvolio's comming downe this walke. 1667 Primatt *City & C. Builder* 153 It is decent to have fine gravel Walks in the Garden. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 218/2 Alleys, or Walks well Gravelled. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compt. Gard.* I. 44 A Walk must be broad enough for two Persons to walk a-breast at least,..without which it would no longer be a real Walk, but a large Path. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 332 We tread the wilderness, whose well-roll'd walks, give ample space To narrow bounds. 1848 Thackeray *Van Fair* xxxix, The looked out on the front walk and park. 1894 Surtees *— Cr.* xii. (1901) II. 38 That's one of the few pulls — grates have—I keep my avenue in repair and my walks weeded by the vagrants. 1903 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Laddie* xviii. (1917) 366 Mr. Pryor lay all twisted on the walk. *collect.* 1894 *Englishman's Guide Bk. U.S.* 23 There are in it [the Central Park, New York] about 9 miles of carriage drive, 4 of bridle road, and about 25 miles of walk.

d. A public promenade in or near a town.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xliv, In the public walks and lounges of a town, people go to see and to be seen. 1842 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Pilgr. Auvergne* II. iii. 43 This public walk is prettily arranged on the site of a Roman amphitheatre.

e. The circular pavement on which the mill-horse walks in driving the mill.

1734 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 403 Their Muscles and Tendons..are unequally strain'd, as the Duty is hardest on one Side, even tho' their Walk is large. 1744 DESAGULIERS *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 536 Those plain and simple Instruments used at the Coal-pits, call'd Barrel-Gins, where an Horse going round in a sufficiently large Walk draws round an *Axis in Peritrochio*. 1834-6 BABLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 91/1 The diameter of a walk for a horse mill ought to be at least 25 to 30 feet.

f. = ROPE-WALK.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 54 *A Capstern*..is fixed in the ground at the lower-end of the walk. *Ibid.* 56 *Rope-house-ground*, or *Walk*, should be four-hundred yards long. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1070 (*Rope-making.*) As soon as he has reached the termination of the walk, a second spinner takes the yarn off the whirl, and gives it to another person to put upon a reel.

10. A tract of forest land comprised in the circuit regularly perambulated by a superintending officer (cf. 3); a division of a forest placed in the charge of a forester, ranger, or keeper.

1541 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 190 To poor housholders and other honest people within my walkes within the forest of Wyndesore. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. ii. 24 My Parkes, my Walkes, my Mannors that I had, Euen now forsake me. 1642 *Decq. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 330 The Office of Keeper of the lower walke of the great Parke of Windsor. *Ibid.* 338 The Offices of the foure Bayliwickes or eight walkes, and of Ranger and Launderer of the Forrest of Whichwood. 1679-88 *Moneys Secr. Serv. Chas. II & Jas. II* (Camden) 125 To Sr Eliab Harvey, Lieut. of Waltham forest..for the repayres of Low-Layton Lodge, wherein he lives, being under-keeper of that walk. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Oct. 1686, Went with the Countesse of Sunderland to Cranbourn, a lodge and walke of my Lord Godolphin's in Windsor Parke. 1778 *Engl. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *New Forest*, There are 9 walks in it; and to every one a keeper, under a lord-warden, besides 2 rangers, and a bow-bearer. 1810 J. EVANS & BRITTON *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XI. Northampt. 32 The Forest of Whittlewood..The whole is divided into five walks, viz. Hazleborough, Sholbrook, Wakefield, Hanger, and Shrobb. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii, If the Normans drive ye from these walks, Rowena has forests of her own, where her gallant deliverers may range at full freedom.

†b. *Agric.* A tract of land used for corn-growing.

1797 in A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 39 A walk that is laid down with plenty of seeds for two years, never grows so much corn as when first broke up again.

c. *West Indian.* A plantation.

1793 *Ann. Reg., Nat. Hist.* 310 The usual method of forming a new piemento plantation (in Jamaica it is called a walk) is nothing more than to appropriate a piece of woodland, [etc.]. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 June 2/3 Many sugar estates in the West Indies have of late years been converted into banana walks.

11. a. An enclosure in which poultry or other birds are allowed to run freely; a fowl-run. Also (cf. sense 13), a place to which fowls are sent in order that they may have more space to run about than can be allowed them where they are bred: in phrase *at walk*.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Vivarium*, a place, where wylde beastes, byrdes, or fyshes be kepte. It may be callyd as welle a ponde, as a parke, a coulmyngar, a walke for byrdes. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xvi. 107 Likewise you must not let them [geese] lay out of their walke or fold. 1880 JESSOPP *Arcady* i. (1887) 10 He eats the eggs for breakfast and the chickens for dinner, goes in for fancy breeds [of fowl], and runs up an ornamental 'walk' for them.

¶ b. *A walk of snipes* (†*snites*). In the early lists of 'proper terms' the meaning is uncertain; later writers interpret it as a 'company term' (cf. 'congregation of plovers' in the same lists).

c 1450 *MS. Egerton* 1995 fol. 19 A Walke of Snytys. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* I. ii. 33. 1899 FOLKARD *Wild Fowler* i. 6 A walk of snipes.

c. The place in which a game-cock is kept. *Cock of the walk* (fig.): a person whose supremacy in his own circle is undisputed (see COCK *sb.*[1] 7).

1615 T. SAVILE in J. J. Cartwright *Chapters Hist. Yorks.* (1872) 350, I have..borowed my father's cocks...I go..to get walkes for them. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 251/2 The Cocks Walk is the place where he is bred, which usually is a place that no other Cock comes to. *c* 1770 T. FAIRFAX *Compl. Sportsm.* 4 Let the cock chickens go with their hens, till they begin to fight one with another; but then separate them into several walks, and that walk is the best, that is freest from the resort of others. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. Egan), Cock, or Chief Cock of the Walk. The leading man in any Society or body; the best boxer in a village or district. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Walk* (in cocking) —the ground for keeping them. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xvii. heading, Who shall be cock of the walk? 1875 WHYTE MELVILLE *Katerfelto* i, Mr. Gale, to use his own phraseology, was accustomed to consider himself Cock of the Walk in every society he frequented.

12. Land, or a tract of land, used for the pasture of animals, esp. sheep. *Obs.* exc. in SHEEPWALK.

1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 40 He had walke for a hundred shepe, and my mother mylked xxx. kyne. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 62 The housing of cattel while winter doth hold..spareth the pasture for walke of thy sheepe. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I. 254 A large walke for sauage beastes, but nowe more ——— to the civill habitations of many gentlemen. 1808 JAMIESON, *Gang*,..a pasture or walk for cattle.

13. A farm or cottage to which a young hound is sent in order to get accustomed to a variety of surroundings. Phrases, *at walk, to put to walk*.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. Argt., Of the litter of whelps..of setting them out to their several walks. 1781 P. BECKFORD *Thoughts Hunting* v. 60 The distemper makes dreadful havoc with whelps at their walks. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* IV. v. § 3. 474 Hounds are usually named at the time they are sent out to their walks. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* ii. 36 There is a difference of opinion whether the [greyhound] whelp should be kept in the kennel and subjected to its regular discipline, or placed at walk in some farm-house. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* (1901) I. i. 4 The hounds were still kept at walks during the summer. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. iv. § 340 The Walks for the Young Hounds should be chosen in such situations as that they shall be accustomed to all sorts of company from children to horses. 1881 E. D. BRICKWOOD *Hound* in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 315/2 When about ten or twelve weeks old [foxhound] puppies are sent out to walk.

14. The 'beat', round, or circuit of an itinerating official, workman, tradesman, beggar, etc.; the district within which a person is accustomed to practise his occupation without interference from a rival. ? *Obs.*

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3910/4 Making use of the Company's Pavior of that Walk to Dig the same. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 98 The last and most contemptible Office is that of Under-Fiscal, commonly called by us, Auditor, though in his Walks, Informer, as he really is no better. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xii, The old man [the blind fiddler] struck the earth with his staff..' The whoreson fisher rabble! They have brought another violer upon my walk!' 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 571 Milk people of less profitable walks. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 97 Beat, a watchman's walk. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 435/2 'My father had a milk-walk', he said. *Ibid.* (1861) II. 8/2 He had thoughts at one time of trying to establish himself in a cats'-meat walk.

15. A distance or length of way to be walked; esp. such a distance as defined by a specified length of time spent in walking. (Often in phrases used *advb.*)

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 79 Dwellyng a good walke from hir at the townes eende. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Sept. 1685, Her house being a walke in the forest, within a little of a quarter mile from Bagshot towne. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* I. i. 59, I agreed to go every morning to his house, which, being at the extremity of Prince's Street, New Town, was a walk of two miles. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.*, 'A cheerful musical home in a select private family, residing within ten minutes' walk of'—everywhere. 1859 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 4 Within a quarter of an hour's walk of it. 1875 RUSKIN *Morn. Florence* I. 5 A few hundred yards west of you, within ten minutes' walk, is the Baptistery of Florence. 1883 C. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 3) 123 Beginning with a 4 *m.* walk out of the town, it is an almost continual ascent for 7 *m.* *Ibid.*, There is a mile run down to the railway, followed by a mile walk up into Stow.

b. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1902 P. FOUNTAIN *Deserts N. Amer.* vii. 118 The Indians had a singular custom in parting with their land. They sold it by the 'walk'. *Ibid.* 119 The duration of a walk was always a day in time, no matter what the distance.

16. A course or circuit, in the country or in a town, which may be chosen for walking.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 32 In the valley under this Mountaine of Goates, towards the City, is a pleasant walk, of the sweetnes called the Phylosophicall way. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 28 Though the Countrey about Constantinople be not so delightful, nor so well peopled, as in France; yet it is not without pleasant Walks. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Metam.* XIII. *Acis* etc. 51 A Promontory..over-looks the Seas: On either side, below, the water flows: This airy walk the Giant Lover chose. 1757 MRS. P. L. POWYS *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 32, I..thought myself most happy when I got into the grove, one of the sweetest walks in Matlock. 1766 COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 9 Dec., Weston is one of the prettiest villages in England, and the walks about it at all seasons of the year delightful. 1850 J. MARTINEAU in J. Drummond *Life* (1902) I. 337 We can find walks that will vie with the Thiergarten even in this desolate country. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xv. 100 This walk was full of instruction and delight.

III. Department of action.

17. A department of action; a particular branch or variety of some specified activity, e.g. trade, literature, science, etc.; a special line of work.

1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 145 Two thirds were to be a quorum in the upper walk of business, and one third in the lower. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. Pref. p. vii, It would be difficult..to assign a physical reason, why a nation that produced Shakespear, should owe its glory in another walk of genius to Holbein and Vandyck. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Dissert. 167/1 However superior Voltaire may be in the other walks of poetry, certain it is, no originality, no strength of colouring, shines in the Henriade. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* vi. Introd., As you appear to have a peculiar kindness for Inns, I will treat you with a choice sample of satisfactions in that walk of enjoyment. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xiii. P 9 He had..taken upon himself to eclipse the best writers each in their own favourite walk. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 147 Three sisters..displayed much talent in pursuing this walk of literature. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. Educ.* I. (1860) 12 He seeks to renew that elevated walk of study at all opportunities. 1823 CRABBE *Const. Hun* (1835) I. ii. 137 Each affection has its peculiar walk of enjoyment. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. xix. II. 293 A similar impulse was felt in the other walks of science. 1856 MASSON *Ess.* iv. 112 Butler had shewn the more original vein of talent in one ——— lar walk. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. vi, 'Does Mr. Gowan paint—he—Portraits?' inquired Mr. Dorrit. ——— that he painted anything, if he could get the job. 'He has no particular walk?'..'No speciality?' said Mr. Dorrit. 1886 CRUMP *Banking* ii. 48 It is one of the most singular peculiarities in connection with men who have had much experience in other walks of trade, as merchants, &c. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xcviii. III. 370 When he [a lawyer] has attained real eminence he may confine himself entirely to the higher walks.

18. *Walk of life* (more rarely *walk in life*): a. A social grade, station of life, rank. Also *walk of society*. b. A trade, profession, or occupation.

a. 1752 FIELDING *Covent-Garden Jrnl.* No. 56 P 9 Both of these [*sc.* characters of humour] will be almost infinitely diversified according to the different..natural dispositions of each individual; and according to their different walks in life. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Young Women* (1767) II. xlii. 247 Those who are placed in the higher walks of life. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* Pref., The term 'genteel comedy' was then unknown amongst us, and little more was desired by an audience than nature and humour, in whatever walks of life they were most conspicuous. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 97/2 The walk of life from which writers are to come should be duly weighed as they are in future, perhaps, to become directors, and probably legislators of India. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* No. 5. 66/2 Nature, enriched by art, had rendered the late Mr. Emery a man not often to be met with in the walks of society. 1899 *Ch. Times* 13 Oct. 413/2 But according to the fashion of dress of to-day, it is not easy to tell from what walk in life women may come.

b. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 3 In what is termed the 'walks of life'. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 307 They found every walk of life towards which men of their habits could look for a subsistence closed against them with malignant care. 1861 BRIGHT *Sp. India* 19 Mar. *Sp.* (1868) I. 119 Of course there are men of genius in very objectionable walks of life. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xcviii. III. 378 The lawyers outnumber the persons belonging to other walks of life. 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 18 May 615/1 Emolument far greater than what was possible for them in any other walk of life.

19. (= *walk of life*, 18 a and b). a. Social grade or station; b. trade or profession. *rare.*

a. 1847 MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xiii. 251, I met a funeral, the first I had seen in England. It was apparently that of a person in the middle walks. 1864 — *Sk. & Schm.* (1858) 246 To those who move in the upper walks, the superiority in status of the village shop-keeper over the journeyman mason may not be very perceptible.

b. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, First of May*, Certain dark insinuations..to the effect that children in the lower ranks of life were beginning to choose chimney-sweeping as their particular walk.

IV. 20. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense 1) as *walk-companion*; (sense 9 c), as *walk making*, *-side*; (sense 14) as *walk-rotation*; (sense 12) as *walk-land*; also **walk-clerk**, a banker's clerk whose duty it is to collect payment of cheques in a particular district; **walksman**, an officer charged with the care of a certain length of the banks of a river or canal; **walkway** *U.S.* = sense 9 c.

1890 H. PRICE *Lond. Bankers* 35 *note*, The following misfortune that befell a *walk-clerk. 1833 LAMB *Let. to Wordsw.* May, I am about to lose my old and only *walk-companion, whose mirthful spirits were the 'youth of our house'. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 108 Ten loads..an acre upon good land, a middling crop; but upon *walk-land (poor sheep-walks ploughed up) less. 1849 J. FORBES *Physic. Holiday* I (1850) 1 They..indulge in farming, gardening, tree-felling, *walk-making, or [etc.]. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* iii, A pleasant gabled house set by the *walkside among some brave young woods. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 8 June 7/7 The alleged attempts of the [Post Office] department to reduce the value of Christmas boxes by the introduction of a system of '*walk-rotation'. 1794 *Ann. Reg., Nat. Hist.* 311 For the care of the banks [of the New River], a *walksman is appointed to every two miles. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 17 Mar. 9/3 A 'walksman' in the service of the New River Company. 1911 H. S. HARRISON *Queed* xvi, He went down the broad steps of the Capitol, and out the winding white *walkway through the park.

†**Walk**, *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [repr. OE. *wolc*, var. of *wolcn*, *wolcen*: see WELKIN.] A cloud or clouds.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. viii. 155 The mone wes vndir walk, and gaif na lycht. *c* 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 73 Sa as thir twa togidder was at talk, The Mone wox dark, and hid was vnder walk.

Walk (wǭk), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **walked** (wǭkt). Forms: *Inf.* and *pres. stem*: 1 **wealcan, wealcian**, 2, 3 **walki-en**, 4 **wale**, 2–7 **walke**, 6 **walok(e**, *Sc.* **valk**, 8–9 *Sc.* **wauk**, 4– **walk**. *Pa. t. a. strong* 1 **wēolc**, 3–5 **welk(e**, 5 **walke, wilke**; *β. weak* 1 **wealcede**, 4 **welkide, walkit**, 5 **walkude, walkyd**, 6 **walokt(e**, (6 *Sc.* **valkit**), 4– **walked**. *Pa. ppls. a. strong* 3 **i-walken, walke**; *β. weak* 5 **walkude**, 3– **walked**. [OE. had two forms: (1) *wealcan* redupl. str. vb. (pa. t. *wēolc*, pa. pple. *gewealcen*), to roll, toss (trans. and intr.); (2) *wealcian* weak vb., occurring only twice, in the senses 'to muffle up' (gl. *obvolvere*), to curl (hair: gl. *calamistrare*). One or both of these vbs. may have had also the sense 'to full (cloth)': see WALK *v.*[2] The corresponding forms in the other Teut. langs. are: OHG. *walchan* str. vb., recorded only in pa. pple. *giwalchen, firwalchen*, felted, matted (said of hair: gl. *concretus*); MHG. *walhen* (pa. t. *wielc*, pa. pple. *walhen*; later conjugated weak), to knead, to roll (paste) into balls in the palms of the hands; *rarely*, to move about (trans. and intr.), to turn into something; *usually*, to full (cloth), whence to cudgel, drub; mod.G. *walken* wk. vb., to full, to cudgel;

(M)LG., (M)Du. *walken* wk. vb., to full, to work (felt), to cudgel; ON. *valka* (Icel. *valka*, mod. *volka*) wk. vb., to drag about, to torment, refl. to wallow; MSw. *valka* wk. vb., to roll (a morsel) about in the mouth, Norw. *valka* wk. vb. to crumple in the hand, MDa. *valke* wk. vb. to torment; the mod.Sw. *valka*, Da. *valke* (wk.), to full, prob. take their sense from LG.

The strong pa. t. survived into the 15th c.; the weak conjugation, recorded from the 13th c. onwards, may perh. not be a survival of the rare OE. *wealcian* but an instance of the frequent change of inflexion from strong to weak. The corresponding weak vb. in continental Teut. is prob. to be explained in this way.

It is remarkable that to the end of the OE. period the sense of the str. vb. was 'to roll', and that from the beginning of the ME. period it was 'to move about, travel'. The explanation of this apparently sudden change may be that the ME. sense had arisen in OE. as a colloquial (perhaps jocular) use, and that when the literary tradition was interrupted after the Conquest, and people wrote as they spoke, the original meaning of the verb was no longer current.

The OTeut. root **walk-* has no certain affinities in any other branch of the Indogermanic family; phonologically the Skr. *valg-* to leap, dance, and the L. *vulgus* bow-legged, might be related, but there is no clear similarity of meaning.]

†**I. 1.** *intr.* **a.** In OE. (str. vb.). Of the waves: To roll, toss. **b.** In early ME. of persons: To toss about restlessly. *Obs.*

In OE. also *trans.* (str. vb.) to turn over, roll; also *fig.* to turn over in one's mind, consider; (wk. verb) to curl (hair); to press together (cf. WALK *v.*[2]). For examples see Bosworth-Toller.

a 1100 *Aldh. Glosses* in Napier *OE. Gl.* i. 2474 *Feruentis oceani*, wealcendre sæ. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 240 Ho [*sc.* souls in hell] secheð reste þer nis nan walkeð weri up and dun, se water de> mid winde. ¶ *a* 1200 *Body & Soul* (Phillipps) 5 He walkeþ & wendeþ & wone >..þes, he sseiþ on his bedde, wome þæt ic libbe, þæt sseffre [etc.]. 1398 W. PARIS *Cristine* (Horstm.) 394 Fyve daies..Sche welkide þerin [an oven] to & froo. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 329 in *26 Pol. Poems* 131 Allas, I walke in a lake Of dedly synne that doth me tene.

II. *intr.* To journey, move about, esp. on foot.

†**2.** To go from place to place; to journey, wander. Also with cogn. obj., to go (one's way).

In quot. *a* 1000 the sense appears to be 'to pass over'; if so, the gloss is the only example within the OE. period of any anticipation of the ME. development of the meaning of the word; but it may be significant that the reference is to motion on the sea.

a 1000 *Prudentius Glosses* in *Germania* XI. 400 *Emensus*, gewealcon ['*Emensus et multum freti*' Prud. *Peristeph.* v. 471]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Þat israelisshe folc was walkende toward ierusalem on swinche and on drede and on wanrede. *c* 1205 LAY. 112 Heuede Eneas þe duc mid his drihte folcke widen iwalken. *c* 1250 *Meid. Maregrete* xlix, Muchel ic habbe iwalken bi water ant bi londe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6359 Queder-sum he welk her or þare, þis wandes euer he wit him bare. *Ibid.* 21685 Quen þe nedders..þe folk stanged of israal, Quen þai welk in þe wildernes. 13.. *Ibid.* 22063 (Gött.) Þe angel..in þe pitt [þe deuil] sperd fast..for to be laised at þe last quen þat thousand 3ere war past, to walk his wai [*Edinb. MS.* to walc his waiis forthe] fra þat quile. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 498 Vs is likful and lef in landus to walke, þere won walle> of water in þe welle-springus. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VIII. 14 Þei ben men on þis molde þat moste wyde walken. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1893 Þai þat sal walk bi way, or wirk, And may not cum to haly kirk,..Þeir seruyse sal þai not for-gete. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. x. 29 And for ilk menge A capitane walkis rewland all his rowt.

3. Of things.

†**a.** Of time: To pass, elapse. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 568 An hundred winter..welken or it was ended wel.

†**b.** Of reports, fame, also of letters, money: To circulate, pass from one to another; also with *about*. Also said of the person whose fame is spread abroad. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1521 Your worde & your worchip walkez ay quere. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* viii. 29 Þe word of him walkes ful wide. 1387 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vii. (Sk.) 95 Loke now what people hast thou served; whiche of them al in tyme of thyne exile ever the refreshed, by the value of the leste coyned plate that walke>h in mony? *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 252 The worde of him walkit baith fer and ner. 1533 MORE *Let. to Cromwell* Wks. 1422/1 An vnknowen heretike which hath sent ouer a worke that walketh in ouer many mens handes named the Souper of the lord. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 111 Ther was brybes walking, money makynge, makynge of baindes. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & P.* (facs.) B iv, And I vp and downe, Go seekyng to learne what Newes here are walkyng. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 73 If any man that hath freends and mony..chance to haue committed neuer so flagicious a deed,..then letters walke, freends bestir them, and mony carrieth all away. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. v. 77 For he shall weepe, and walke with euery tongue Throughout the citie, infamously long. *a* 1626 BACON *War with Spain* (1629) 42 A wonderfull erroneous observation that walketh about. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 120 This Prince..never left praying and importuning; every day she had a Page, letters were continually walking [Fr. *les lettres marchoient à toutes heures*]. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1089, I..now am come to see of whom such noise Hath walk'd about. 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Dissenter* 22 There may be Money Walking on the One Side as well as on the Other.

†**c.** Of crime, vice, or virtue: To be rife, spread abroad. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 79 In hym þat taketh is þe treccherye, if-any treason wawe (*rynd* walke (*with 3 MSS.*)]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 169 >ane men..beeþ I-woned to haue the victorie..in euerich fiȝt wher no treson is walkynge [L. *nisi fraus obfuerit*]. *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 140 Ther whas so moch treason walkyng that men wist not what to do. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 101 Thair violence and wrang walkis full wyde. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 53 Then haste knew no way to the palace of Cæsars, then alsitinence walked in the market place, then all Rome was chast. 1626 BRETON *Pasquils Mad-cap* (Grosart) 8/2 Wealth is a witch that hath a wicked charme, That in the mindes of wicked men doth walke.

†**d.** Of drink, etc.: To be handed round, pass, circulate. *Obs.*

1555 R. SMITH in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1234/1 My Lorde mayre being set with the bishop and one of the shriues, wine was walking on euery syde, I standing before them as an outcast. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (Shaks. Soc.) 32 How the pottes walke about! their talking tounges talke at large. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* 1858 G.'s Wks. 1905 I. 201 Frolicke, my Lord[a]; let all the standerds walke; Ply it till euery man hath tane his load. 1596 RALEIGH *Guiana* 85 Wee found them all as drunke as beggers, and the pottes walking from one to another without rest. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 216 The pott continually walking, infused desperate and foolish hardinesse in many. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 157 This Hicks..was also Author..of other little trivial matters meerly to get bread, and make the pot walk.

†**e.** Of various material things, e. g. a pen, a weapon, an instrument, a heavenly body: To move, be in motion. Of leaves: To come out. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* li. 753 in *Anglia* XVIII. 325 At euery knot ij lewys owt walke. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Wether* (1903) 686 Whan the wynde doth blow the uttermost Our wyndmylles walk a-mayne in every cost. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 25 And then bothe ploughes not walkyng, nothyng shoulde be in the common weale but honger. 1550 — *Serm. Stamford* (1562) 103, I hearde a penne walkynge in the chimney behynde the cloth. They hadde appoynted one there to wryte al myne aunsweres. 1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 130 The great Beare..Whych wyth the small Beare euermore Doth walke the pole about. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Making of Verse* § 1, I would..finde some supernaturall cause whereby my penne might walke in the superlatiue degree. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Curing Horses Dis.* xi. 6 Of the Feuer which commeth of rawe digestion..The Horse will blowe at the nose..you shall see his flankes walke and his backe to beate. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 45 From euery coast that heauen walks about, Haue thither come the noble Martiall crew. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxii. 663 Now English Bowes, and Bills, and Battle-axes walke, Death vp and downe the field in gastly sort doth stalke. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 115 They did not like working, so that the Cudgel was forc'd to walk now and then to quick'n their Laziness. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, [They] got me down, and knevelled me sair aneuch, or I could gar my whip walk about their lugs.

†**f.** Of a vehicle: To make regular journeys.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 671, ij. cartis the which they had every day walkyng to busshyng in his wode of Shottore.

†**g.** Of the tongue, the jaws: To move briskly.

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 908 No man shal fynde a tyme to speake, so faste theyr tonges shal walke. 1590 SIR NEVILLE *F. Q.* II. iv. 5 And, ever as she went, her toung did walke In foule reproch and termes of vile despight. 1609 DEKKER *Guls Horne-bk.* v. 24 It will adde much to your fame to let your tongue walke faster then your teeth. 1609 — *Lanth. & Candle light* x. Wks. (Grosart) III. 277 If then..his chappes begin to walke as if he were chewing downe a Horse-loafe. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 231 He could make but little defence with his hands; but his tongue walked, he stormed, raged and threatened.

h. *Naut.* Of a ship: To make progress.

power to keep this here Spitfire [the ship's name] awalking.

†**i.** *fig.* (*a*) ? To be successful. (*b*) To be a substitute, 'pass', 'go' *for*. *Obs.*

(*a*) *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 48, I doubt not but this geare shall on my side walke.

(*b*) 1557 PHAER *Æneid* v. (1558) O iv, One only man shall be, whome lost in depe seas he shall seke, One poll shall walke for all [L. *unum pro multis dabitur caput*]. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 299 That now, writtes walk for words.

†**4.** To go about in public, live, move (in a place or region). Also of animals: To range, be found (in a place). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17800 In mi cite of aramathi þar ar þai [*sc.* the risen dead] walkand witerli. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 302/310 Þer is a ffisch..Þat in þe see is walkynge; Euere he slumbreþ and eke slepeþ. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4734 Þys feste day..Were offred..þre þousand hyndes, Wylde walkande by wode lyndes. *a* 1340 *S. Lucy* 121 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 18 Whils he welk in þis werld here, He said to his appostels in-fere. — *S. Thomas* 2 (Ibid. 29) Saint Thomas, þe apostill trew, Þat welk in werld here with Jhesu. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 244 Men suld nocht lichtly traist in na sauf conditis, and namely in the warld that walkis now. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 289 He sawe full feill bestis abide, Off wylde and tayme walkand habound-andlye. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 40/1 Robbers and riuers walking at libertie vncorrected. 1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. x. 28 Upon the which Place St. Augustine wryteth thus, Christe tooke Fleshe of the blessed Virgin his Mother, and in the same he did walke. [1856 AYTOUN *Bothwell* I. v, And yet—he bandies texts with Knox, And walks a pious man!]

†**b.** To be, live *in* a certain condition. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 735 Adam 3ode walkand in þat weith þat halden was in mictil elth. 1493 *Will E. Bonde* (Somerset Ho.), I Edward Bonde in hole mynde walking & some what syke.

†**c.** To busy oneself, be active *about* something. *Obs.* (Cf. WAKE *v.* 4 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7510 Dauid..toke hot a staf and a sling þat he was went to bere in hand Abute his flocke o scep walcand. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 84 And þ[e]se folke þat han ben bysy erly and late to walke aboute worldely good, now schuld be bysy, alsoo, to vysyt pore and seke.

d. With complementary adj. or phrase: = Go *v.* 6. Now *rare* or *obs.*

1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. Tobacco* (Arb.) 100 Why doe we not as well imitate them [the Indians] in walking naked as they doe? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Custom Country* II. (1647) 8/1 How long might I have walkt without a cloake, Before I should have met with such a fortune?

5. To travel or move about on foot. Also with advs. *about*, *on*, etc.

To walk with (a stick): to use it as a partial support in walking. *To walk on crutches*: to support oneself by crutches in walking.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 953 Ich habbe walke [*other texts* walked] wide Bi þe se side; Nis he nowar ifunde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+ 127 Þese thre maries come þiderward, for drede þai stynted oft For ferd of þe Jews, and sithen walk ful soft. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 550, I saugh a man, þat welke al solitarie. *a* 1535 *Freres & Boy* (Ritson) 62 An olde man came hym tyll, Walkynge by the waye. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* III. xlii. (1568) 71 Thow walkest by the thornes: and wylt not that thy gown bee torne. 1697 COLLIER *Ess.* II. (1703) 99 To walk always upon crutches, is the way to lose the use of our limbs. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Miss Evans & Eagle*, They all walked on together, talking, and laughing. 1836 *Ibid.*, *Vauxhall-Gardens*, We walked about, and met with a disappointment at every turn. 1900 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* viii, He carried a stick, but he did not use it to walk with. 1907 'C. E. CRADDOCK' *Windfall* iv. 75 Why, I'll feel so old whenst I'm twenty that I reckon I'll hev ter walk with a stick by then.

†**b.** with *off*, *on*.

c 1480 *Godstow Reg.* 16, I wil now me walke from sege to sege, And pray to help me now euery saynt. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (1845) 119 As I went walkyng my selfe to and fro, Full sodaynly Venus wrought me such wo.

¶ **c.** conjugated with *to be*. Also *pa. pple.* in intr. sense.

1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* VI. v. II. 202 Mrs. Stapleton inquired after Lady Clayton; Miss Clayton said she was walked out. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXXII, I shall never forget how frightened I was when I took him for the picture of old Sir Malise walked out of the canvass.

d. with cognate obj.; also, with advb. accusative of distance. Phrase, *to walk a turn*, to walk once up and once down.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXVIII. 267 With lucas and with cleophas he walke a day lurnee. 1548 [see f] 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 162 A turne or two I le walke To still my beating minde. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Pers. Wars* I. 6 They prayed the King to walk some turns with Arsaces in their presence, to be witnesses of what passed. 1783 JANE COLLIER *Art Torment.* II. iv. 177 Strange disorders in her head, for which she is advised to walk long walks. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXIV, They walked a turn thro' gh the hall. 1833 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Minns*, I've walked all the way from Stamford-hill this morning. 1836 *Ibid.*, *Criminal Courts*, They walked a few paces, and paused. 1895 J. WINSOR *Mississ. Basin* 239 A scandalous act of Thomas Penn some years back (1737) had asserted inordinate claims by virtue of what was known as the 'Walking Purchase'. The extent of the concession was dependent on the distance a man could walk in a day and a half by an honest tramp.

Proverb. 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* M 6 b, After Dinner sit a while: After Supper walke a mile.

e. In express or implied contrast with *ride*. Also colloq. *to walk it.*

1668 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Sept., Walking it to the Temple; and in my way observe that the Stockes are now pulled quite down. 1712 STEELE *Spectator* No 434 § 6 When I resolved to walk it out of Cheapnese. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* x, I therefore walked back by the horse-way. 1805 T. HOLCROFT *Eryan Perdue* III. 185, I was obliged to walk the journey. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vi, We alighted and walked up all the hills. 1883 C. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 3) 84 A dangerous descent, best walked down into Banwell. *Ibid.* 230 A long stiff ascent..which most tourists will walk up. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 466 He had ridden and I had walked before him.

f. More explicitly, *To walk on foot*, also (now rarely) *afoot*. †Also *transf.* of a stream: To flow slowly (*obs.*).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 1 (MS. H.) Now riden þis folk & walken on fote to seche þat seint in seicoube londis. *c* 1375 (*cursor M.* 18548 (Fairf.)] a iewes sagh þis ilk man..a pon þe see wiþ-outen wete dry to walke a-pon his fete [*Cott.* and *Gött.* Gangand als apon a strete]. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xii. 22–16 Where as before he was wonte to walke his iourneyes on foote. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 114 The said..bishop Chadde was wonte alwaies to..doo the worke of the ghospell more walking a fote wher he went, than on horselacke. 1621 H. KING *Serm.* 37 But Kings haue walkt a'foote whilest the Pope hath rode. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 252 When it [the blood] walks a Foot, in an even, regular Peace, every Faculty coincides. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. vi, How comes it, that such a great Gentleman walks about the Country afoot? *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 221 The King walked on foot among the infantry. 1810 S. GREEN *Reformist* II. 37 When he quitted Ellingford, he resolved always to walk on foot. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 561 The prisoner..walked on foot, bareheaded, up the whole length of that stately street which..leads from Holyrood House to the Castle.

g. With advs. *in*, *up*, †*forth*, and const. *into*, the use of this vb. instead of the indefinite *come* or *go* sometimes implies an additional notion of absence of pausing or hesitation. So, 'in the ceremonious language of invitation' (J.), *Walk in* = 'come in' (now chiefly in rustic use). Similarly in the showman's 'Walk up! walk up!' when the show is on a raised platform.

In general, the tendency to substitute 'come' or 'go' for

this verb has become much more prevalent since the 16-17th c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19737 Paulus þan welk forth her and þar, And spelled fast wit-vten spar. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 111 Than we welk forthe, and desyryd an answer of hem. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. i. 291, I pray you Sir walke in. 1614 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* B 2 Pre thee, walke in, what you bargaine for, Ile discharge. 1696 Vanbrugh *Relapse* IV. v, If your Lordship please to walk in, we'll help you to some Brown Sugar-Candy. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xxx, Mrs. Jennings..opened the door and walked in with a look of real concern. 1804 J. Tobin *Honey Moon* I. i. (1805) 12 Of as tried a courage As ever walk'd up to the roaring throats Of a deep-rang'd artillery. 1834 Mary Howitt *Spider & Fly* 1 'Will you walk into my parlour?' said the Spider to the Fly. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate,* 'Won't you walk in, sir?' said the servant. 1838 — *Nicholeby* liii, The voice replied that the gentleman was to walk up. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Close here, sir, if you please to walk this way. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. viii. 149 Men walk up composedly to the most perilous enterprises. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* Pref. p. vi, Every American's house cannot be walked into, like the President's; but [etc.]. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* ix. 101 Rather foolishly, I at once scrambled down from the tree and walked up towards him [the lion]. 1909 In I. G. Sieveking *Francis W. Newman* vi. 126 The door opened and the Professor walked in.

h. To move about or go from place to place on foot for the sake of exercise, pleasure, or pastime; to take a walk or walks. † Also with *abroad*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4778 Jacob yode walcand be þe nile. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* ix. 54 And as I wente bi a wode walkyng myn one, Bliue of þe Briddes made me to Abyde. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 207 Forth welk I tho mi seluyn to solace. *c* 1400 *Parce Mihi* 1 in *Rel. Pol. Poems* 143 By a forest syde, walkyng as I went, Disporte to take. 1569 Spenser *Vis. Petrarch* 73 On hearbs and flowres she walked pensiuely. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 42 Saue sawe dust, and brick dust, and ashes as fine, for alley to walke in, with neighbour of thine. 1617 S. H. *Engl. Mans Doctor* II. (1624) 41 When you arise in the morning:..remember to powre fourth your prayers vnto God..Then walke ye gently. *a* 1626 Bacon *Med. Rem.* Baconiana (1679) 161 Stir up the Pouder when you drink, and walk upon it. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 120 Carinda said he, being gone out to walk in the garden. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 192 And as touching walking abroad, some of the Ancients have been large. 1685 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 153 [At Spa] There is a pleasant garden of the Capucinera, where drinkers of the waters generallie walk. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., She asked me to..walk in her garden. 1748 Eliza Haywood *Female Spect.* XII. (1748) II. 9 That monarch being walking in the Mall one day, was infinitely charmed with the beauty of a young lady who happened to be there. 1830 *Portugal; or Eng. Travellers* 239 As he spoke, Mr. Grey rose from table and invited them to walk. 1857 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxi, 'Stay, Salome! Where are you going?' 'To walk.'

† i. *transf.* To take air and exercise (on horseback). *Obs.*

1542 Wyatt *Def.* in H. Walpole *Misc. Antiq.* II (1772) 49 There be maynie men in the towne and most of them gentlemen, wch walke upon there horses, and here and there tawlke with those ladies.

j. *To walk* (*out*) *with, to walk together*: in rustic use said of a young man and young woman 'keeping company' with a view to marriage.

1876 Miss Yonge *Womankind* xxiii. 195 There is a semi-engaged state of 'walking' with a man on trial. 1886 Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* xx, She no longer said of young men and women that they 'walked together' but that they were 'engaged'. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xxv, Rose Harland on her Sundays out Walked with the better man. *Ibid.*, When Rose and I walk out together. 1900 W. W. Jacobs *Lady of Barge* (1908) 5 A certain young woman I'm walking out with. 1905 Jerome *Idle Ideas* xx, 'You are not engaged, I 'ope?' 'Walking out, ma'am, do you mean?' says Emma. 1906 *Times* 26 Nov. 3/6 Her sister knew him in the way of business, but had never walked out with him.

† k. Followed by *a* (= *on*) and vbl. sb.: = Go *v.* 32 e. *Obs.*

1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks 1076/2 Like as if a ryght great man wouldе wantonly walke a mummyng, and disguise hymself.

l. In various phrases. † *To walk at rovers*: to have no settled abode (cf. Roven 1 2). *To walk Spanish*: see Spanish C. *To walk upon air*: to be in an exultant state of mind. † *To walk will of one's way* (Sc.): to go astray, lose oneself.

c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 73 Or ony vther gude fallow that I heir fand Walkand will of his way. *Ibid.* 106 In wickit wedderis and weit walkand full will. 1528 More *Dial. Heresyes* III. Wks. 228/1 The order is rebuked by priestes begging and lewde liuing, which either is fayne to walke at rouers and liue upon trentalles or worse or els [etc.]. 1887 Stevenson *Mem. & Portr.* iv. 72, I went home that morning walking upon air.

m. *Racing.* Of a jockey: To weigh (so much) when going on foot.

1858 'Druid' *Post & Paddock* v. 83 He was about 5 ft. 5 in. in height, walked about 9 st. 5 lbs. in the winter months, and could ride, if required for a great race, 7 st. 12 lbs. to the last.

n. quasi-*trans.* with complementary adj., adv., or phrase. *To walk off*, to get rid of (the effects of liquor, an ailment) by walking exercise. Also in nonce-uses: *To walk down*, to counteract (poison) by walking; to exhaust (a companion) by walking; *to walk out a sermon*, to continue walking till it has ended.

1669 Pepys *Diary* 8 May, Thence with them to White Hall, and there walked out the sermon with one or other. 1805 Scott *Quentin D.* iii, I have walked my clothes dry, or nearly so. 1860 Sala *Baddington Peerage* I. vii. 132 Perhaps he wished to walk off the fumes of the punch and tobacco. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xix, He would have liked..to have..walked himself dead with fatigue. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 302/2 A walker who gives promise of great things if he doesn't walk his short legs off within the next two or three years. 1884 Tennyson *Cup* II. 260, I pray you lift me And make me walk awhile. I have heard these poisons May be walk'd down. 1894 Frances P. Cobbe *Life* I. 341, I do believe I could walk down anybody and perhaps talk down anybody too!

o. *Naut.* To turn (the capstan) by walking round it; to haul by walking round the capstan or by walking away with a rope.

1836 Marryat *Pirate* viii, The men..walked the anchor up to the bows. 1880 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 118 Walk the yard up to the derrick head with the hawser. *Ibid.* 203 Walk the anchor up the bow. *Ibid.* 172 Walk back the capstan.

6. *fig.* a. Chiefly in religious use, after Bible examples: To conduct oneself, behave (ill or well, wisely or unwisely). Sometimes with reference to a metaphorical 'path' or 'way'. *To walk with God* (Gen. v. 22), interpreted to mean 'to lead a godly life' (so rendered by Coverdale, after Luther; later versions retain the Heb. phrase), or to have intimate communion with God.

Cf. Heb. *hâlak*, Gr. περιπατεῖν, Vulg. *ambulare*.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 213 O man (sayth scripture) walke in yᵉ wayes of thy herte as moche as thou wylte, but [etc.]. 1526 Tindale 2 *Thess.* iii. 6 We requyre you.. that ye withdrawe youre selves from every brother that walketh inordinatly [Vulg. *ambulante inordinate*]. 1550 Crowley *Last Trump.* 516 And then, lyke a good Christian, Thou doste walke forth in thy callynge. 1582 J. Hamilton *Cath. Traict.* Epist. 8 b, To..trauell to reduce ȝame to ye treu way quhairin all ȝair forbearis to walk it ȝir mony hundreth ȝeris bygane. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* III. xiii. [xiv.] 13 Be more aduisde, walke as a puritan, And I shall thinke you chaste, do what you can. *a* 1629 Hinde *tr. Bruen* xliv. (1641) 140 It was the desire and delight of his soule to walke with God. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* 2 If all..had but the knowledge of what they should know, they might prevent this loss and damage, and walk safely. 1681 Flavel *Meth Grace* xxx. 323 When a man walks suitably to his place and calling in the world, we say he acts like himself. 1853 Maurice *Proph. & Kings* vi. 93 If he walked in God's ways he would establish a sure house. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 11 Those do best who walk most warily.

b. To direct one's conduct *by*, *after* a rule, etc.

1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. ii. (1588) 113 Many other wayes there bee, after which the Iustice of Peace may walke in taking of this kind of Recognisance. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 39 He is the great Exemplar they walk by. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 25 P 4 Give me more certain Rules to walk by than those I have already observed. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxv, I give thee way, good imp, and will walk by thy counsel. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 46 We judge a stranger by our home-bred ways, Who, may be, walks by other rule of right.

† c. To be associated, act harmoniously *with*. Also *to walk together*. *Obs.*

1600 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Ja k a Lent* Ep. A 3 b, And though it be written in a mery stile, yet I dare presume that mirth and truth walke together in it. 1650 H. Ellis *Pseudochristus* 7 After this, he walked sometime in fellowship with that Congregation. 1657 *Docum. S. Paul's* (Camden) 155 The congregation yᵗ wallke wᵗʰ Mr John Symson. *a* 1709 J. Lister *Autobiog.* (1842) 50 My wife and myself, were admitted into the church at Kipping, with which we walked satisfyingly many years. *Ibid.* 51 Some of his hearers left him [the pastor], and others walked with him till new matters of dissatisfaction broke out. *Ibid.*, After he was gone, the church at Kipping was again united, and walked sweetly together, but could not get a pastor.

† d. *To walk wide in words*: to argue at cross purposes. *Obs.*

1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xviii. 23 Wythout whych we were lyke to walke wyde in wordys.

† e. To proceed, 'go' *upon* (grounds). *Obs.*

1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 252 What grounds of probability have we to walk upon that the present negroes..would act otherwise.

7. To go on foot at a walk: see Walk *sb.*¹ 5.

a. Of human beings or other bipeds: To progress by alternate movements of the legs, so that one of the feet is always on the ground: contrasted with *run*, *hop*, etc. *To walk through* (a dance) = 7 e; similarly of an actor, *to walk through his part* (cf. quot. 1824).

1762 Foote *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 193 Soft and fair; we must walk before we can run. 1815 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 65 The progressive motion of this bird is not by walking but hopping. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xix, That caprice which so often tempts painters and musicians and great actors, in the phrase of the latter, to *walk through* their part, instead of exerting themselves with the energy which acquired their fame. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* v. 206 'Steps,' as the *chasseur* of the quadrille is called, belong to a past age, and even ladies are now content to walk through a quadrille. 1861 Whyte Melville *Kkt. Hard.* v, It must have been a fine run; but slow...It's labour and sorrow, walking after hounds, to my mind. 1868 J. Burroughs *Wake-robin* viii. (1884) 195 Among the land-birds, the grouse, pigeon, quails, larks, and various blackbirds, walk. 1894 *Daily News* 10 Aug. 5/3 A bluejacket never walks, when an order is given, but does everything at the double.

b. Of a horse, dog, or other quadruped: To advance by a gait in which there are always two feet on the ground, and during a part of the step three or (in slow walking) four feet: opposed to *amble*, *trot*, *gallop*, etc. Also said of a rider.

1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1730/4 Lost.. 14 hands high,..Walks, Trots, and [illegible] in going, but will leap very well. 1822 Ravenswood walked on with equal deliberation until he reached the head of the avenue...When he had [illegible] the upper gate, he turned his horse. 1883 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vii. 232 It was only the dogs walking among the dead leaves.

c. *To walk over* (*the course*): of a horse, *literally*, to go over the course at a walking pace, so as to be accounted the winner of a race in which there is no opposition; *transf.* and *fig.* to win a race or other contest with little or no effort. *To walk away from*, to outdistance easily in a race (in quot. *fig.*). Also (U.S. colloq.) *to walk round* (an opponent): to beat easily.

1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 245 A little on this side the park is Sir John Thorold's, who, you see by the papers, is walking over the course for the county. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* s. v.. 'To walk over' another, is ..to set him at naught, as a racer which is so vastly superior to other cattle that none dare start, and he walks over the course. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 217/2 At Knutsford..he won the Gold Cup..; and walked over for the Pengwern Stakes at Holywell. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* V. 26, I was promptly assured that..I should be elected without opposition..; in short I should walk over the course. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* IV. iii, 'Beaten by a banjo!' says she tragically; 'if it had not been for the banjo I should have *walked* away from her.' 1890 *Rules of Racing* § 142 in *Encycl. Sport* (1898) II. 227 When one horse pays forfeit for a match the other need not walk over. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 June 9/3 To use a colloquial expression, they 'walked round' Gamble and Davies.

¶ d. *transf.* Of a vehicle, a ship, a stream: To go very slowly. *nonce-uses.*

1827 Pollok *Course T.* I. 346 Round his sacred hill, a streamlet walked, Warbling the holy melodies of heaven. 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 200 Our steamer ran, or rather walked—for she could make no running—plump upon a rock off Bradley's Head. 1865 Emerson *Lett. in Harper's Mag.* (1884) Feb. 464/1 The train *walked* all the way.

e. *trans.* To go through (a dance, esp. a minuet) at a walk.

1810 [see Minuet 1]. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* xl, They just walk a quadrille or spin a waltz,..hang dancing, 'tis so vulgar. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* v. 207, I do not attempt to deny that the quadrille, as now walked, is ridiculous. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks Char.* xiv. 362 He walked his minuet in life, and he danced out of it with a caper.

8. To go away. a. *simply* or † with *away*, *forth*. Formerly often in imperative = 'begone', with a vocative of some term of opprobrium (sometimes retained in indirect narration). Now only *colloq.*, to go away perforce, be turned out; also *slang*, to die.

c 1480 *Towneley Myst.* ii 106 Leif brother, let vs be walkand. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 140 b, Yf than the porter wold come forth sodeynly & all to beet vs, & bydde vs walke forth vnthryftes with sorowe. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 60 Sche prailid yow walke, on Goddes halfe! 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xiv. 18 b, He bad hym walk faytoure. And made hym be sett openly in yᵉ stokkys. 1530 Palsgr. 770/2 Walke, pyke you hence: *tire avant.* 1530 Tindale *Pract. Prelates* G v b, The Cardinall bad him walke a vilayne. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* II. iv. (1867) 52 Walke drab walke. Nay (quoth she) walke knaue walke. 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* I. B 4 b, I like his learning well, make him your heire, And let your other walke. 1607 Middleton *Mich. Term* II. iii. 169 It stands upon the loss of my credit to-night, if I walk without money. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Dec., Lord Bolingbroke told me I must walk away to-day after dinner, because lord treasurer and he and another were to enter upon business. 1858 Trollope *Dr. Thorne* iv, If the governor were to walk, I think Porlock would content himself with the thirty thousand a-year. 1901 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* xxviii, If I want to discharge a man, he walks without any question.

† b. *transf.* Of animals: To be stolen. Of a thing: To be got rid of; to be carried off. *To let* (something) *walk*: to dismiss from attention. *Obs.*

c 1440 Capgrave *Life St Kath.* 672 Lete argumentys walk, þei ar not to our be-houe. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 141 There horse being tide on a balke, is readie with theefe for to walke. 1596 Sir Kerker *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 619/2 When he comes foorth, he will make theyr cowes and garrans to walke, yf he doe noe other mischeif to theyr persons. 1621 Chapman *May-Day* I. ii, Nay, they [*sc.* houses] shall walke, thats certaine, Ile turne 'em into money.

c. With *off*: To depart suddenly or abruptly. *To walk off with*: to carry away as a prize or plunder.

1604 Marston *Malcontent* III. v. E 4 b, I am beside, walke of, I shall talke in my sleepe, walke of. *Exeunt Pages.* 1705 Vanbrugh *Mistake* iv. 1, *Jacin.* Have a care he don't rally, and beat you yet tho'; pray walk off. 1836 Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 207 A green sub..had walked off with my portmanteau. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Apr., I gave Master Baron that day a precious good beating, and walked off with no less than fifteen shillings of his money. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* ii, Mr. Chick..said no more, and walked off. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 147 Why dost thou not depart with the rest? Walk off. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* ix, And then she gave another sniff and walked off to the drawing-room again. 1889 Conan Doyle *Sign of Four* ix, Wait a bit, my friend,..You have important information, and you must not walk off. We shall keep you, whether you like or not, until our friend returns.

9. Of a ghost, spectre, fiend: To be seen walking, to appear. Of a dead person: To 'come back' as a ghost. Also † *to walk out.*

For *the ghost walks* (Theat. Slang), see Ghost *sb.* 8 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25611 Quen sal scine [= shine] þe he-

wannes open, þea warlaus all aa walk þea vte. *a* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 408 (Add. MS.) All the chambres were take vp, safe oon, in the which was a sperle walkyng. *a* 1533 *Fabyan's Chron.* clxxix. (1533) 105 He also for that the munkes of wynchester sayd that his father Alurede walkyd, caused hym to be removed vnto the new abbay. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 111 b, Sore sublecte to the terrours of buggues, and spyrytes, or goblyns, that walken by night and in places solitarie. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 101 We reade in Lucan how that the soules of Silla and Marius..were alwayes

[illegible] for a certaine terme to walke the night. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* IV. iii, There's a talke, thou know'st, that the Ghoast of olde Montfarers walks. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* III. v, I make your Grace my Executor, and I beseech ye See my poor Will fulfill'd: sure I shall walk else. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* x. 201 Such a courage..would.. lay all the devils that ever walked. 1801 SCOTT *Glenfinlas* xlvi, Alone, I dare not venture there, Where walks, they say, the shrieking ghost. 1880 A. JESSOPP in *19th Cent.* Nov. 737 Everybody knows that it's an awful thing for a dead man to *walk*. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* Prol. 12 Would ye rob the man before his body? Nay, he would walk!

10. 'To act in sleep' (J.); to walk about or perform other actions as a somnambulist. *rare* exc. in the full phrase *to walk in one's sleep*.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. i. 3 When was it shee [Lady Macbeth] last walk'd? *Ibid.* 66 Yet I haue knowne those which haue walkt in their sleep, who haue dyed holily in their beds. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* III. E 1 b, My mistris makes her husband believe that shee walkes in her sleepe. 1728 *Chambers' Cycl., Somnambuli*, an Appellation given to People, who walk in their Sleep. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxix, Some uneasy ideas that he must be walking in his sleep, or that he had been troubled with phantoms,..beset the Captain at first.

11. To go on foot in procession; also, to go in a regular circuit or to and fro over a prescribed track in the course of official duty. Also with cognate accus., as in *to walk one's round(s, the round, a round*, said esp. of a sentinel.

1594–1600 *Min. Archdeaconry Colchester* (MS.) 99 b, 29 Apr. 1596. Our perambulacion was not walked through the defalte of our vicar. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 679/2 The sheriff of the shire, whose peculiar office it is to walke continuallye up and downe his baly-wick,..to snatch up all those runnagates [etc.]. *Ibid.*, The sherriff may doe therin what he can, and yet the marshall may walke his course besides. 1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 102 Octavian coms accompanyed with his friend Leobell to walke his accustomed round. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Sept. 1641. I was permitted to walk the round and view the workes. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xviii, If the lovers have agreed, Agelastes, it is probable, walks his round, to prevent intrusion. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxii, He..was to walk in procession as Latin secretary.

transf. and *fig.* 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* II. i, Dreames and phantasticke visions walke the round About my widdowed bed. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxiv. (1857) 351 He continued to walk the round of his duties.

†**b.** *Oxford University.* (*a*) Of a proctor or pro-proctor: To perambulate the streets at night, in the exercise of his function. (*b*) Of the proctors: To march to and fro in the Convocation House, as part of the ceremony of conferring degrees.

1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 77 It was proved that the ij Proctors servaunts walkyd w^t other persons as plesyd them, and theyr maisters walkyd not nor noe other for them. 1677 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 384, I [a Pro-proctor] walk by the authoritie of the vice-chancellour. *Ibid.* 391 Dr. Nicholas..verie active in walking and hauling

Ibid. 9 It is currently believed that the Proctors walk in order to give any Oxford tradesman the opportunity of 'plucking' their gown and protesting against the degree of a defaulting candidate.

12. Walk into—. (*Colloquial* or *slang.*) **a.** In phrase *to walk into* (a person's) *affections*, to win the love of (a person) at once and without effort. Sometimes used jocularly for b or c.

1858 in K. Young *Delhi 1857*, App. 328 Major Erskine was fearful that the jolly 50th would have walked into the affections of the Madrassees, and then all would have gone a regular smash.

b. To make a vigorous attack upon.

1794 LD. HOOD 14 July in Nicolas *Disp. & Lett. Nelson* (1845) I. 438 *note*, From your rapid firing last night I fluttered myself it was intended to walk into the Mozelle as this

[illegible] d assuredly have walked i[illegible]

Verdant Green I. xi, His claret had been repeatedly tapped, his bread-basket walked into, his day-lights darkened.

transf. 1840 COCKTON *Val. Vox* xiii, The carver walked into the pie and bounteously helped each man, woman, and child, to a share. 1846 DE QUINCEY *Syst. Heavens* (1862) III. 285 A call was heard for Lord Rosse! and immediately his telescope walked into Orion; destroyed the supposed matter of stars; but, in return, created immeasurable worlds.

c. To assail with invective or reproof.

1859 LAND *Wand. India* 399 His Excellency 'walked into' the President, and recommended him to study some catechism of the Law of Courts Martial. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ix, He walks into us all as if it were our faults.

d. To eat or drink heartily of, to 'make a hole in'.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, I wish you could ha' seen the shepherd walkin' into the ham and muffins. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* xxvi. 180 Look at that little fellow—how he is walking into the mixed pie, and how ill he will be to-morrow! 1850 SHIRLEY *F. Fairleigh* xiv, I must walk into old Coleman's champagne before I make a fresh start. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* III. iii. 78 He..with most voracious swallow Walks into my mutton chops.

e. To make large inroads on (one's stock of money).

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xv, 'And you've got her money?' 'Yes,' he said; 'but I've been walking into it.'

III. *trans.* To perambulate, traverse: = *walk over, upon*, etc.

†**13.** To travel over (a country, etc.). Cf. 2. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 519 Sire, þer sall borne be a barne of þi blithe lady, þat driztyn efter þi day haa destaned to regne, þe quilke sall walke all þe werd & wyn it him selfe.

14. Of fame, etc.: To pervade (a country). Cf. 3 b. *Obs.* exc. as transferred use of 17.

c 1350 *St. Johan* 43 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 35 Þe word of him walk al þe land. 1806 WORDSW. *Char. Happy Warrior* 77 Whether praise of him must walk the earth For ever, and to noble deeds give birth, Or he must fall, to sleep without his fame.

15. To go over or traverse on foot.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3135 He welk þat fell ner dais thre To sek þe sted quar he wald be. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 108 Beware (I say) least whiles we walke these woods...Some harmfull hart entrap your harmlesse moodes. 1748 JOHNSON *Van. Hum. Wishes* 38 The needy traveller, Walks the wild heath. 1763 P. COLLINSON in Darlington *Memorials* (1849) 257 They [Indians] were notoriously..cheated out of their land in your province [Penn.], by a man's walking a tract of ground in one day, that was to be purchased of them. 1871 SIMPSON *Recit.* 9 Hundreds of diggers daily then were walking Melbourne town with their pockets filled with gold. 1888 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* x. 360 When man walks the garden of this world For his own solace.

b. in contrast with *ride*.

1864 *Good Words* 516/2 Devonshire, to be properly seen, should be walked.

c. Of a stallion: To travel over (a tract of country) serving mares.

1898 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 4/4 The judging yesterday began with stallions that are to walk the Eastern and Midland counties.

16. To walk on or along (a road). *To walk the street(s*: see STREET *sb.* 2 f.

1530 PALSGR. 770/2 In dede you walke the stretes. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* etc. Pj, They onely walke the streates, to see and to be seene. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 10 All..take delight With many rather for to go astray.. Than with a few to walke the narrow way.

b. in contrast with *ride*.

1883 C. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 3) 3 The very steep ascent of Chatham Hill, which most riders will walk. *Ibid.* 134 A very bad hill leading down into Rickmansworth, which is best walked.

17. To walk about upon (a surface, the ground, the sea, etc.). So *Naut.*, of an officer, *to walk the deck, the quarter-deck*.

To walk the plank: see PLANK *sb.* 6.

1634 MILTON *Lycidas* 173 'I brough the dear might of him, that walk'd the waves. 1667 — *P. L.* v. 200 Yee that in Waters glide, and yee that walk The Earth, and stately tread, or lowly creep. *Ibid.* VII. 503 Aire, Water, Earth, By Fowl, Fish, Beast, was flown, was swum, was walkt. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 7 It must be a great Change of Weather indeed, when he deigns to walk the Quarter-Deck. 1824 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* IV. xvi, Edward, who walk'd the deck apart. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* vi, He was walking the deck. 1849 AYTOUN *Poems, Heart of Bruce* V, The good Lord Douglas walk'd the deck. 1872 M. COLLINS *Two Pinnges for Pearl* III. 72 He walked the moorland as if it were his native earth. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* xiii. 197 He continued to walk the pavements.

transf. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. iii, She [the ship] walks the waters like a thing of life. *a* 1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 3 At five P.M. we found ourselves..on board the Isaac Newton, a great, ugly, three-tiered box that walks the North River.

18. To walk along (a line); to perambulate (a boundary). Cf. 11.

To walk the chalk (slang): to walk along a chalked line (as a proof of being sober). *To walk one's chalks* (slang): see CHALK *sb.* 6 b.

[illegible] discover which is drunkest. 1842 *Punch* II. 80 Kre death her charms should fix, Gladly I'd walk my chalks or cut my sticks. 1876 FARRAR *Marib. Serm.* xxiii. 226 You cannot walk the dim borderland between vice and virtue without knowing it.

†**19.** To attend, frequent (the exchange, a market). *Obs.*

1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* I. (1906) 15 In Venice likewise, every Mechanique is a *Magnifico*, though his magnificence walketh the Market but with a *Chequin*. 1649 W. BULLOCK *Virginia* 43 Let him then enquire of the principallest straights and Spanish Merchants, walking the Exchange. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 182 P 6 To walk the exchange with a face of importance.

b. *To walk the hospitals* or *a hospital*: to receive regular clinical instruction and assist in surgical work.

1782 G. WHITE *Let. to S. Barber* 26 Nov., I have not yet heard—whether he will walk the hospitals in town. 1807 *Picture of Lond.* (ed. 8) 235 The combined method of walking the hospitals and attending lectures. 1820 *Ibid.* (ed. 12) 212 A number of young men, who *walk the hospitals*, as it is termed. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 333 He became..a medical student, came up to London to walk the hospitals.

20. *Shooting.* To start (game-birds) by beating up the ground with pointers or setters. Usually *to walk up*.

1873 G. S. BADEN-POWELL *New Houses* 233 A good dog for putting them [sc. quail] up would be very valuable, but [etc.]. Walking up quail, even with the help of a chain, is equally unsatisfactory. 1900 G. C. BROMWICK *Mem. & Impressions* 8 Year in and year out they lived at home,..walking up their own game with the aid of pointers. 1913 *Times* 12 Sept. 12/6 Now voices are raised in favour of a return..to the use of pointers and setters, in conjunction with the system of walking-up the birds. *Ibid.*, Walked or driven, moreover, the partridge gives more enjoyment to many keen shots than all the pheasants in a beat.

IV. Causative uses.

21. To lead, drive, or ride (a horse) at a walk; to exercise (a horse, a dog) by causing it to walk. Also with *out*.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. ix. 176 A man armed walkynge his hors easyly by a wodes syde. 1560 *Child-Marriages* (1897) 80 'I his deponent scarslie rested walkinge the horses at the doore, half or quarter of an howre, when one callid hym in to his Mistris. 1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* IV. ii. (Roxb.) 48 Sirrha Rooke, take my Nagge, and see you walk him faire and soft to Colchester. 1613 G. MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. vii. 103 Touching ayring or walking of grey-hounds,..it must dewlie be done euerie morning before sunne-rise, [etc.]. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 32 (1713) I. 206 Let's walk them a little; for they have run Heats, and must be rubb'd down well. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* I. vii, As he walked his cob [he was riding] back from the fields. 1835 H. HAREWOOD *Dict. Sports* s.v. *Training*, Taking care that he [the horse] is walked for some time afterward, that he may become rather cool before he returns to the stable. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xvii, You may walk your bloodhound over his grave to-morrow without finding him. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* vi, We had walked the horses nearly to the end of the pleasant stretch of beechwood. 1902 A. E. T. WATSON *Hunting* in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIX. 365/2 The kennel huntsman is generally called the 'feeder'. It is his business to look after the pack which is not hunting, to walk them out, to prepare the food for the hunting pack.

transf. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* S j, If you be chafed you shal be walked, if you be hot you may be cooled.

22. To cause or induce (a person) to walk; to conduct on a walk. Also with advs., *off, out*, etc. †*Walk your body* (Sc.) = take yourself off, begone (*obs.*).

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater of Kent* Wks. I. 144 Now Gentlemen, as I haue walked you amongst the Trees, and thorow the Wood, I pray set downe, and take a taste or two more of this Banquet. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 24 July, Then I carried them to see my cosen Pepys's house; and then I walked them to the wood hard by. 1727 BERKELEY in Fraser *Life* (1872) 347 He walked us round the town. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *To Æolus* 21 Pray wauk your body, if you please, Gae gowl and tooly on the seas. 1828 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 448 He walked me backwards and forwards before the President's door for half an hour. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, She slaved, toiled..for old Sedley, walked him out sedulously into Kensington Gardens. 1883 MISS YONGE *Armourer's Prent.* ii, Stephen and Ambrose found themselves walked out of the cloister of St. Grimbald, and the gates shut behind them. 1912 J. S. FLETCHER in *Throne* 7 Aug. 224/2 He soon drew me out of the office to walk me off in the direction of Gray's Inn Road.

b. To force to walk (by holding the arms or pushing before one). Also, to help to walk.

To walk (a person) *Spanish*: see SPANISH C.

1809 R. K. PORTER *Russ. & Swed.* (1813) II. 21 The poor wretch, attended by the police, had been walked through the streets; in order to shew him to the populace. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xii, Mr. Feeder himself held a glass of water to his [the boy's] lips, and the butler walked him up and down several times between his own chair and the sideboard. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xxii, Thirdly, Mr. Bucket has to take Jo by the arm a little above the elbow, and walk him on before him. 1918 F. HACKETT *Ireland* viii. 230 Good bewildered people who never knew they were deemed blameworthy until they were walked out to the guillotine.

23. **a.** To take charge of (a puppy) 'at walk' (see WALK *sb.* 13). **b.** To keep (a game-cock) in a 'walk'.

a. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* iii. 73 Whelps *walked*, or taken care of, at butchers' houses..are apt to be heavy-shouldered and throaty. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 299/1 The practice of walking puppies is not quite so prevalent as it used to be. 1907 *Times* 3 Oct. 4/4 Defendant said he had walked puppies for the Southwold Hunt for 25 years.

b. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 474 Formerly when cock-fighting was more practised, every farm-yard walked a game cock or two. 1889 *Archæol. Æliana* N.S. XIII. 314 'Walking a cock' was the feeding and tending of a game cock.

24. With a thing as obj.

†**a.** To send round (drink). Cf. 3 d. *Obs.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 14 A seemely sight it was to see the semmen plye their teeth, Wherewith the Cups apace they walke.

b. *Cribbage.* (See quots.)

1803 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 306 Walking the pegs—at cribbage, means either your adversary putting his own pegs forward, or those of your's back. 1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, '*Walking the pegs*,' a method of cheating at the game of cribbage by a species of legerdemain, the sharper either moving his own pegs forward, or those of his antagonist backward, according to the state of the game.

c. *Bell-ringing.* (See quot.)

1671 [STEDMAN] *Tintinalogia* 53 All changes are to be Rang either by *walking* them (as the term is) or else Whole-pulls, or Half-pulls. By *walking* them, is meant, that the bells go round, four, six, eight times or more, in one change, which is commonly used by young Practisers.

V. 25. The verb-stem in combination: walk-around (*a*) *Colonial*, a kind of rotary mill turned by

ozen; (*b*) *U.S.*, among negroes, a dance in which the performers go round in a large circle; a song or piece of music to accompany such a dance; **walk-away**, a race in which the winner 'walks away' from his competitors, i.e. leaves them far behind; **walk-on** *Theat.*, a part in which the performer merely comes on and goes off the stage with little or no speaking; **walk-out**, a strike of workmen; †**walk-street**, one who walks the streets. Also WALK-OVER.

1886 *Official Catal. Colonial & Ind. Exhib.* (ed. 2) 462 Their sugar plots are confined to one or two small green pieces in Tortola, worked by a '*walk-around' or cattle-mill. 1888 B. MATTHEWS *Pen & Ink* 153 'Dixie' was composed in 1859, by Mr. Dan D. Emmett, as a 'walk-around' for Bryant's minstrels. 1888 *Daily News* 16 July 3/6 The final heat was of course a *walk away for Thames, who won by three lengths. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 3/7 The actress, too, frequently is glad to accept 12s. a week for a *walk-on with half a dozen words. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* v, The part just now is a walk-on, with an understudy of one of the principals. 1919 *New Solidarity* (Chicago) 18 Jan. 1/1 The date..contemplated as the day for a general strike, or *walk-out. 1622 COTGR., *Bateur de pavez*, an idle or continuall 'walke-street..a lasciuious, or vnthrifty, night-walker.

Walk (wȫk), *v.*[2] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **walked**. Now only *dial.* and *Hist.* Also 5 **walke**, 6 **woke**, 7 **wak**, **wack**, 8 **wawk**, 9 **waulk** (*dial.* **wauk**, **wack**, **wake**: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Orig. identical with WALK *v.*[1]; here separated from that vb. because the sense 'to full (cloth)' is not recorded in Eng. before the 14th c. (see WALK-MILL [1]), though prominent in other Teut. langs.

OE. had the agent-n. *wealcere* WALKER [2] (a Com. WGer. formation), but it is possible that the corresponding sense of the Teut. vb. had not survived into OE., and that the late ME. *walke* is either a back-formation from the agent-n. or an adoption from MLG. or MDu. *walken*.

The Teut. vb. in the sense 'to full' is the source of It. *gualcare* and OF. **gaucher* (inferred from med.L. *gaucheterium* fulling-mill).]

1. *trans.* To subject (woollen cloth) to the operation of beating or pressing (together with other processes, as moistening and heating), in order to cause felting of the fibres and consequent shrinkage and thickening: = FULL *v.*[1].

14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* B. xv. 447 (MS. C) Y walked [*other MSS.* Ytouked]. 1437 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 187 That euery walker withe-in this Cite ffro this tyme ffoorwarde walke no Cloth & wete hym, but yeff [etc.]. 1467 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 383 To dye, carde, or spynne, weve, or cloth-walke, withyn the seid cyte. 1512–13 *Act 3 Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 The Walker and Fuller shall truely walke fulle thikke and werke every webbe of wollen yerne. 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 41 It is weill walkit, cairdit, and calkit. 1596 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 107 For wokinge and ditchinge [i.e. dighting or dressing] of the said clothe iiij[s] x[d]. 1669 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) I. 150 The Magistratis ordaines the thesaurer to by thrie scoir elnes of plaiding and caus wack and lit the samen reid to be coittis to the seioris. 1773 BOSWELL *Tour Hebrides* 12 Sept. (1789) 205 Last night Lady Rasay shewed him the operation of *wawking* cloth, that is, thickening it in the same manner as is done by a mill. Here it is performed by women, who kneel upon the ground, and rub it with both their hands. 1797 W. JOHNSTON tr. *Bechmann's Invent.* III. 266 The fullers received the cloth as it came from the loom, in order that it might be scoured, walked, and smoothed. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 24 Aug. in *Lockhart*, In a cottage..we heard the women singing as they *waulked* the cloth by rubbing it with their hands and feet.

absol. 1608 in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. XI. 202/1 That none of the inhabitants..doe washe anie clothes or walk at the well.

b. To mat together, felt. Also *Sc.* 'to render hard and callous, as the skin of the hand by hard work' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1642 BEST *Farming Bks.* (Surtees) 80 When woll is well risen from the skinne, the fleece is as it weare walked togeather on the toppe.

†2. *transf.* To beat, drub (a person). Also, *to walk* (a person's) *coat. Obs.* [So G. *walken*.]

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Johan & T.* & *P.* (Brandl) 40 Than I thynke he will say by and by, Walke her cote, Johan Johan, and bete her hardely. *Ibid.* 667, I thank god I haue walkyd them well And dryuen them hens. 1596 J. OLDE tr. *Walther's Antichrist* 151 b, The rebellious stubburne fleshe must nedes be walked with a good cudgell. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 117 Thou wilt foole by walkt with a waster. *c* 1563 *Jack Juggler* (facs.) C iv b, Thou..drunken sote Yt were an almes dyde to walke thy cote. 17.. in R. Chambers *Scott. Songs* (1829) II. 279 We'll wauk thier hides, and fyle their fuds.

3. *Comb.*: **walk-apron** *Hat-making* (see quot. 1886); **walk-pin** *Hat-making* (see quot. 1831–3); †**walk-stook** [cf. G. *walkstock*] = FULLING-*stock*. Also WALK-MILL.

1885 *Cheshire Gloss.*, **Walk apron*, batting term, the apron used by workmen to keep them dry while working at the kettles. 1831–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 761/2 The felt is worked and squeezed by means of a rolling pin, called a *walk pin. 1434–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 232 In carriacione de le *walkstoke. 1460–1 *Ibid.* 248 Pro factura unius walkestocks pro molendino ibidem [fulling-mill at Rilly] vjs.

Walk, obs. form of WAKE.

Walkable (wȫ·kăb'l), *a.* [f. WALK *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] a. Of a road, country, etc.: Suitable or fit for walking on. b. Of a distance: That may be walked. c. Of a person (*nonce-use*): Capable of walking.

a. 1736 SHERIDAN *Let. to Swift* 12 May, Our country is now in high beauty, and every inch of it walkable. 1738 SWIFT *Let. to Sheridan* 15 May, We were much disappointed that..your now walkable roads had not roused your spirits. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 727 The square of St. Mark's..is the only walkable spot in Venice. 1887 *Tahen-in* 58 The deck was not walkable, being wet and slushy.

b. 1799 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 82 Eleven miles is a very walkable distance.

c. 1827 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* xx, Mrs. Stubbard came quite alone, for her walkable children—as she called them—were all up at the battery.

Walked (wȫkt), *ppl. a.* Now *dial.* and *Hist.* [f. WALK *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] a. Of cloth, etc.: Fulled. b. Felted, matted. Also *Sc.* thickened, rendered callous by hard work.

1651 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Club) I. 289 Walter Hay, merchand, ordanit to buye 16 elnes of whyte walked cloath. 1652 in *New Mills Cloth Manuf.* (S.H.S.) Introd. 86, 33 ells raw will yeeld of waked or drest cloath 23 or 23½ ells. *c* 1750 in Smiles *Lives Engin.* II. 97 Cloth made of waulked plaiding. 1786 BURNS *Vision* I. 32, I..heav'd on high my wauket loof, To swear by a' yon starry roof.

Comb. 1829 HOGG *Shaph. Cal.* I. ii. 45 A waukit-woo'd wedder.

Walken, obs. Sc. form of WAKEN *v.*

Walker (wȫ·kəɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. WALK *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

I. One who walks.

1. With the construction of the verb in various senses, e. g. One who walks *in* (a place), *on* (a surface), one who walks *about*.

† *Walker on ropes*, a rope-walker, funambulist.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 102 And Riht so walkers þat walken A-bouten From Religion to Religion Recheles ben þei euere. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 89 He [Paul. *Phil.* iii. 18] seyde..Wepyng, y warne 30w of walkers aboute. *c* 1530 *Hickescorner* 373 Walkers by nyght. 1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Neurobata*, walkers on cordes or ropes. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* iii. (1592) 39 Calling him the euerlasting Father, the Walker vpon the Heauen of Heauens. *c* 1618 MONTSON *Itin.* IV. v. iii. (1903) 476 Not to speake of frequent spectacles in London exhibited to the people by Fencers, by walkers on Ropes, and like men of actiuity. 1642 SIR K. DIGBY *Sp. on Relig.* i. 2 So said one of the vsuall blacke walkers in Westminster Hall. Another of our Parliament-pressing Ministers..told me plainely, That my conscience was not so good as in the beginning of the Parliament. 1866 R. S. CANDLISH *1st Epist. John* viii. 80 He was no privileged walker amid earth's dark scenes of misery and sin.

b. in transitive senses of the vb.: const. *of*.

1611 BIBLE *Judg.* v. 6 The trauellers [*marg.* walkers of paths] walked thorow by-wayes. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, A poetical walker of the hospitals.

†2. A traveller. In quot. *fig. Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xiv. (1869) 9 Ther of certeyn hauen gret neede alle pilgrimes and alle walkers that passen bi this eerthe.

3. A person (or animal) that journeys or goes about on foot; one who takes walking exercise. Often with an epithet, as *good*, *quick*, *slow* etc. *walker*.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 300 Hee..conducted them vnto the place where the collation was prepared for the walkers. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 25 And shadie seates, and sundry flowring bankes, To sit and rest the walkers wearie shankes. 1653 RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 193 If the walker go to visit any one,..he shall meet the party. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 6 P 5 He gives Plates for the best performing Horse..for him that trots best,..for the best Walker, [etc.]. 1786 REYNOLDS *Disc. R. Acad.* xiii. Wks. 1797 I. 287 The forms and turnings of the streets..are produced by accident, without any original plan or design: but they are not always the less pleasant to the walker or spectator, on that account. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, The cool breeze served only to freshen, not to chill, the fair walkers. 1858 MRS. PAUL *Maiden Sisters* xxiii. 210, I am the worst walker of the three, and I am not the least tired. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* xxiii, She was an excellent walker.

b. One who takes part in walking-matches or walks for a wager.

1778 *Ann. Reg.* 210 Mr. Powell, the noted walker, started from Lee-Bridge, to run two miles in ten minutes. 1866 *Athlete* 120 The long distances being of too serious a character for the ambition of the amateur walkers of the present day.

c. A colporteur or tract-distributor.

1846 JAMES *Step-mother* xl. II. 120 'A walker of the Tract Society', said Mr. Prior to himself, as he eyed him.

d. *dial.* An itinerant beggar or vagrant.

1850 DENHAM *Pop. Rhymes* etc. *I. of Man* Tracts (1892) I. 193 It is customary for these walkers, as they are called, to enter a house without knocking, and take a seat by the fire..Some still retain the good old custom of keeping up a bed for the walker.

4. One who acts in a particular manner or pursues a certain line of conduct: with adj. corresponding to the advb. qualification of the verb (see WALK *v.*[1] 6 a). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1680 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix.* 56 (1725) 300 But a close walker, that waits upon God in an humble and constant Obedience, shall have sufficient encouragement even in this Life. 1683 H. COMPTON *Episcopalia* (1686) 66 There is another sort of disorderly Walkers who still keep amongst us. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 8 They would be cast out of the..Communion of the Faithful as disorderly Walkers.

†5. A keeper or ranger who had a specified 'walk' in the forest, a gamekeeper. *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Housh. Bks.* (Roxb.) 295 Item, to the parker of Neylond xx.d. Item, to the walkeres, viij.d. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 1 Any of the said foresters rulers walkers or fermers. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Revenue* 42 Walker about the pales of the Chace: Fee 6. 1. 8. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

†6. An officer of the New River Company, having the charge of a 'walk' or section of the bank. *Obs.* (Cf. *walksman*, WALK *sb.*[1] 20.)

1613 MIDDLETON *Manner Entert.* (Opening of New River) 3 First here's the Ouer-seer,..[then various workmen] The Labourers next, Keeper of Amwell-head, The Walkers last.

7. *Sport.* One who 'walks up' partridges.

1913 *Times* 12 Sept. 12/6 The walkers then will soon be manœuvring to keep their coveys in hand.

8. †a. (See quot. 1658.) *Obs.* b. A bird, insect, etc. characterized by walking, as distinguished from other modes of progression. Also a stick-insect (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Insects* 1035 Now we proceed to walkers about. We call those walkers, who have no certain houses or food; wherefore they do something superstitiously wander like pilgrims,..wherefore the English call them Palmer-worms, namely for their wandring life, for they dwell no where. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxii. II. 277 The next order of walkers amongst apodous larvæ are those that [etc.]. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 44 It is among the Cursores, or walkers, and especially wading birds, that the crus is most naked. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 4 Nearly all the Crows are 'Ambulatores' or 'Walkers', that is to say, they do not hop.

†9. a. *pl.* (A person's) legs or feet. b. *slang.* The feet. *Obs.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xx. 36 And with them halted downe ..lame Mulciber; his walkers quite misgrowne, But made him tread exceeding sure. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 130/2 *note*, But her owner,..the Colonel, from his 'upper crust' down to his 'walker', is a match for all England against any thing.

Hence †**Wa·lkership**, the office of a walker of the forest.

1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 47 Com. Leicester. Keeper of the Walke, *alias* Walkership: Fee, 2. 0. 0. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) II. i. 481 The King..gave to..Sir John Gates the keepership and walkership of two good walks in Waltham forest.

Walker (wȫ·kəɹ), *sb.*[2] ? *Obs.* Also 4 **walkere**, 5 **-ar**, 5–6 **walkar(e**, *Sc.* **walcar**, 7–8 *Sc.* **wakar**, **-er**, **wau(l)ker**. [OE. *wealcere* (once, gl. *fullo*) = (M)LG., (M)Du. *walker*, OHG. *walkari* (MHG., mod.G. *walker*), agent-n. f. OTeut. **walkan* WALK *v.*[2] The Teut. word is the source of It. *gualchiere* fuller.] One who fulls cloth, a fuller.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 407/29 *Fullones*, wealceres. *c* 1300 *Beket* 2135 To Lincolne he com. At a walkeres house his in he nom there. 1379 *Poll. Lax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* V. 25 Johannes Louot' & Alicia vx' ejus, Walkere, xijd. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 409 þey smyte out his brayn wiþ a walkere his perche [L. *pertica fullonis*]. 1435 *Coventry Leet Bk* 172 No walker off the Cite of Couentre..Shall Rakke no Clothe on the Tey[n]tur that schall be solde ffor wette-clothe. 1512–13 *Act 3 Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 The Walker and Fuller shall truely walke fulle thikke and werke every webbe of wollen yerne. 1560 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 227 Williame Cowpar ane walcar dwelland in Edinburgh. 16.. *Boy & Mantle* 53 She curst the weaver and the walker, That clothe that had wrought. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 149 They..scour'd their din skins as a wauker does worsted blankets. 1871 J. H. THOMSON in *Cloud of Witnesses* 566 *note*, John Parker was a waulker in East Kilbride. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.*

b. *attrib.* (and later, in possessive compounds), in names of implements, materials, etc. used in fulling cloth. *Walker('s earth*, *clay* (now *dial.*) = FULLER'S *earth*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 21144 (Gött.) A wicked iuu..smate him wid a walker staag. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 213 Pane ane, a walkare perk, hynt & gafe sancte Iamis sic a dynte þat he þe harne-pane brak in twyn. 1403 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 80 Unum stryk de walkerherth. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21144 (Trin.) Þei..Siben smoot him with a walker staue. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 140 Þerwyth a cursed man of hom wyth a walkerys staf smot hym on þe bed. 1497 in *N. Riding Rec.* N. S. (1894) I. 188 A payer Sheres, called Walkar Sheres. 1583 L. M[ASCALL] *Profit. Bk.* A ij b, Then take a quantity of walkars claye, called Fullars earth. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. lvii. 393 Walkers earth, or other scouring earth. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E. D. S.), Walker's earth for scowring the cloth. 1847 *Archæol. Jrnl.* IV. 147 A species of fuller's earth called 'walker's clay'.

Walker (wȫ·kəɹ), *int.* More fully **Hookey Walker**. [Always written with initial capital; prob. a use of the surname *Walker*.

It is not unlikely that *Hookey Walker* may originally have referred to some hook-nosed person named Walker; but the various stories told to account for the origin of the expression have probably no foundation.]

An exclamation expressive of incredulity. Also occas. as sb. (= 'humbug'), as in 'That is all Walker'.

1811 *Lex. Balatronicum*, *Hookey Walker*, an expression signifying that the story is not true, or that the thing will not occur. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Walker*, an ironical expression synonymous with *bunder* and used in the same manner. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* IV. 297 Professor Ketch suddenly interrupted the proceedings by exclaiming, with great excitement of manner, 'Walker!' 1841 BARHAM *Ingel. Leg., Old Woman in Grey*, For mere unmeaning talk her Parched lips babbled now—such as 'Hookey!'—and 'Walker!' 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Oct. 1/1 To which assurance..one may best reply 'Walker'.

Walkerite [1] (wȫ·kərəit). [f. the proper name *Walker* (see below) + -ITE.] A member of an extreme Calvinistic sect founded in Ireland by John Walker (1768–1833). Also *attrib.*

1830 COLMAN *Table-t.* (1917) 88 The Walkerite creed, or doctrine of the New Church, as it is called, appears to be a miscellany of Calvinism and Quakerism.

Walkerite [2] (wǫ̓·kərait). *Min.* [Named by Heddle 1880, after Prof. John *Walker* (1731–1803) who discovered it + -ITE.] = PECTOLITE.

1880 HEDDLE in *Min. Mag.* IV. 122.

Walkin, obs. Sc. form of WAKEN *v.*

Walking (wǫ̓·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [-ING [1].]

1. The action or an act of the vb. WALK [1].

a. The action of moving on the feet at any pace short of breaking into a run or trot; the action of taking pedestrian exercise. Phrase, *to go a-walking.* Also the manner or style in which a person walks.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lxiv. 42 If I suilde make my herdis to labur to mikil in walkyng, þai sal alle die on one day. *c* 1430 *Dictarium* 18 in *Babees Bk.* 54 Cleer eir and walking makiþ good digestioun. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 288/1 *Hypæthra ambulatio*...a walking in an open gallerie. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 127 There is no sturre, or walking in [illegible]

like the walking of the gods. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. II. 306 The mode of their walking depends upon the number and kind of their legs. 1821 CLARE *Village Minstr.* I. 195 As thou goest a walking. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlix, They must have devoted the greater part of their long and arduous lives to pedestrian exercises, and the making of matches. 1883 C. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 3) 115 The surface is very rough and scarcely rideable and much walking will be necessary.

b. With advs. as *walking about, -out, -up,* nouns of action corresponding to verbal phrases.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Walkynge abowte, or goynge, *deambulatio, spaciatus.* 1893 A. J. STUART-WORTLEY *Partridge* 150 Walking up, or shooting partridges over dogs, is.. the finest training of all for a young shooter.

attrib. 1905 WELLS *Kipps* I. ii. § 5 It is considered..as savouring of the 'walking-out' habits of the servant girls.

c. *fig.* Manner of conducting or behaving oneself. Also † with *a* and *pl.*

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2994 For this skylle in my walkyng, As she that hath most maistry, I bere thys bowe of yvory. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 35 If chastyte be a perfeccyon, and a walkynge in the lawes and ordynaunces of God wythout reproue. 1613 DAY *Festiv.* ix. (1615) 257 The Apostle to the Phi ippians makes speciall mention of both these Walkinge. 1675 J. OWEN *Indwelling Sin* xv. (1732) 211 The Observation of the Ways and Walkings of others. 1854 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1855) II. 14 That wary walking which all his early life required.

†d. Passing (of money) from hand to hand. Cf. WALK *v.*[1] 3 b. *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 143 Ther was walkynge of angelles betwene them.

e. The action of a somnambulist.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. i. 13 In this slumbry agitation, besides her walking, and other actual performances, what (at any time) haue you heard her say? 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* III. E 2, I will finde a remedy for this walking [*sc.* in sleep] if all the Doctors in towne can sell it.

f. The action of appearing as a ghost.

1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* x. 200 Spirits who visit people, as well by night as by day, this we call walking and apparition.

†g. A going in procession. *Obs.*

1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iv. xviii. 268 They shall banish also out of their Churches all sorts of Musick:.. all Walkings, Noises and Clamours.

2. A walk or journey on foot, the distance covered at or in a certain time.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 Yf thou stretch yᵉ walkynges that thou vsest at home, & laye theim on length by the space of fiue or sixe dayes together, yᵘ shalt easyly reach to Olympia. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 30 The circuit of the City is three houres walking. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 217 We were about four hours' hard walking on foot from the wagons. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 9/2 His walkings exceed nine times the globe's circumference.

3. The condition of a path or road for walking on.

1631 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 127 Lest the walkings should be all myrie and dirtie. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Walk,* From this there may be a communication with the side walks, whereby there may be dry walking all round the garden. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xlix, Empty heads and tongues a-talking Make the rough road easy walking.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *walking* † *alley,* † *camp, distance, exercise, ground, match* (hence *walking-matching* vbl. sb.), *pace, powers* pl., *race, tour*; also with sense 'adapted for or used in walking', as *walking boot, cane, dress* etc., *weather.*

1552 HULOET, *Walkinge aley, or place of pleasure in a gardayne with quyoke suttes, *topiarium.* 1828 D. WEBSTER *Angler & Loop-rod* 14 The boots are..a size or two larger than ordinary *walking-boots. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 784 The measure and distance of their ambulatorie, and *walking campe. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* Suppl. ix. 178 Rattans and *Walking-Canes. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. v, Did I not give the last guinea I had about me for a walking-cane yesterday? 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* I. (1818) I. 30 The chateau ..was but at a *walking distance. 1822 *Repos. Arts* etc. 1 Nov. 297 *Walking Dress. 1835 H. HAREWOOD *Dict. Sports* s.v. *Training,* A horse..requires a great deal of *walking exercise and careful feeding. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, I wandered..to the College-yards, or *walking ground. 1826 SYBIL *Winter in Lond.* II. 83 For *walking-hats, and hunting-hats, there was not a superior shop in London. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 133/2 In a *walking match..he went four miles in thirty-two minutes and half a second. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, Ever since I took to bird-catching and *walking-matching. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. II. 309 Insects vary much in their *walking paces. 1830 JAMES *Darnley* xxxviii. III. 213 Thus marched on the procession at a walking pace. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. ix. 100 We..carried nothing except..a *walking-pole. 1866 *Athlete* 8 *Walking Race, Seven Miles. *c* 1730 *Heir of Linne* xxii in Child *Ballads* V. 17/1 Wi *walking rod intill his hand, He walked the castle roun. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. vi, It is a young lady's *walking-shoe. 1864 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Barbara's Hist.* xx, Mrs. Churchill and Hilda made an elaborate *walking-toilette. *a* 1882 BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) Pref. p. xix, They..frequently went abroad and on *walking-tours together. *c* 1825 LAMB *Let. to B. W. Proctor,* We will expect finer *walking weather.

b. Special comb.: as **walking-beam** = BEAM *sb.*[1] 11; **walking-day,** a day on which schoolchildren walk in procession; **walking-go** *colloq.* a walking-match; † **walking hymn,** a processional hymn; † **walking-mate,** one's companion in walking; **walking-orders, -papers** *pl., U.S. slang,* a notice of dismissal; **walking party,** a party formed for an excursion on foot; † **walking-path** = FOOT-WAY 1; † **walking-place,** a place for walking in, a walk, an ambulatory; **walking-possession,** a nominal form of distraint in which the man in possession may go away but with right of re-entry; **walking-rapier, -sword** (now *Hist.*) a rapier or sword such as was worn by gentlemen in civil life; **walking-ticket** *U.S.* = *walking-orders* (above). Also WALKING-STAFF, -STICK.

a 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.* etc. (1865) 97 The crank giving motion to a *walking-beam, at the end of which boring tools or pump rods are attached. 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 784 That particular Thursday in this month [June], which is known all over the world of charity-schools by the name of '*walking day'. 1906 *Church Family Newsp.* 29 June 458/2 Warrington to-day observes its old-time festival known as 'Walking Day'. All the principal streets of the town.. will be given over entirely to the children attending the Sunday-schools. 1800 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 199 Y[illegible] provincial news must take in all the bye races, cock matches, *walking-goes, and every thing that's worth knowing. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 179 Their *walking hymns at solemne Matins and Vespers. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* L 4, Not the poorest *walking-mate, or thred-bare cut-purse in a countrey, that can well be without them [*sc.* almanacks], be it but to know the Faires and Markets when they fall. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* v. 70 Rashnesse is his continuall walking mate. 1835 *Col. Crockett's Tour* 170 (Thornton) He got his *walking orders, and Taney was taken into his place. *Ibid.* 80 The first course he took was to give *walking papers to every man in office who had dared [to oppose him]. 1800 MRS. P. L. POWYS *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 337 After our repast the ladies made *walking parties to different places in the forest. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 77 The stone whereon with the *walking paths of Westminster Bridge were laid. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 *Walkynge place, *deambulatorium.* 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Adelphi* IV. ii, Come backe againe into the walking place I told you of [*in porticum rursum redi*]. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* v. 367 The chief Walking-place in the whole Town: whither they went not only to take the Air, but to converse with Men of Learning, to hear the News [etc.]. 1703 T. N. *City and C. Purchaser* 12 A long kind of Galleries, or Walking-places. 1897 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 3/2 Defendant's man was in what was called '*walking possession' of the furniture. 1613 ROWLANDS *Paire of Spy-Knaues* (1872) 8 Bid him trim vp my *walking Rapier neat. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, Soldiers, get out of fashion in peace time, and satin sleeves and walking rapiers bear the bell. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1198/4 A small Cousteau *walking Sword. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 250/2 The walking-sword, fit for a gentleman's side, was..the small-sword of Versailles pattern. 1835 *Col. Crockett's Tour* 162 (Thornton) He received his *walking ticket. His services were no longer required.

Walking (wǫ̓·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [-ING [1].] The action of WALK *v.*[2]; fulling.

1582 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1599) II. 162 The faults in Walking, Rowing, and Burling,..are to be knowen to the merchant. 1688 [See b.]

b. Comb.: † **walking-mill** = WALK-MILL [1]; † **walking-pin,** in hat-manuf. (see quot.); † **walking-staff,** a fuller's staff.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 54 Case Hardning..is used for Tobacco Boxes, Cod-peece Buttons, Heads for walking staves, &c. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 291/1 The Walking-pin is a four square Iron,..with pointed ends; upon this the Workman rowls his Hat often times, and makes use of it as a rowling-pin, to lay his stuff close together in the walking of the Hat. 1839 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 218 Like the thud o' a waukin mill beetle.

Walking (wǫ̓·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WALK *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That walks, in senses of the verb.

1. Moving about from place to place, travelling, itinerant. Now only with implication of sense 3.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 17478 (Trin.) In þat tyme out of lude Of walkynge men were comen þre To þat folke tolde þei al bidene þat þei had with her eyen sene. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. vi. (1869) 4 For it is thing wel sittinge to echo walkinge pilgrime. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 67 A Walking Mort. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. xv. (1614) 491 Townes they [the Tartars] plant none nor standing villages, but haue walking houses built vpon wheeles, like a Shepheards Cottage. 1653 WALTON *Angler* vii. 149, I call that [bait] a lodger which is fix'd, or made to rest in one certaine place..and..I call that a walking bait, which you take with you, and have ever in motion. 1720 C. SHADWELL *Hasty Wedding* III. i, I am what they call a Walking-Merchant, one that gets my Living by the Sweat of my Brows.

† b. Leading a wandering life, vagrant, strolling. *Obs.*

1491 *Anc. Deed* A. 7494 (P.R.O.) The said Robert ordeand ther J. badd for poor walkyng peopll to be harborowed therin. 1590 *Goudhurst Parish Reg.* (MS.), Buried a poore old walking man. 1620 CAREW *Cornwall* II. 131 b, Widenlakes scope led a walking life with his harpe, to Gentlemens houses. 1628 *Lydd Parish Reg.* (MS.), John, the sonne of a walkinge woman, christened. 1641 BROME *Jouiall Crew* II. (1652) G 1, See in their rags, then, dauncing for your sports, Our Clapper Dugeons and their walking Morts.

c. Having a roving commission, going about from place to place. *Walking delegate,* a trades-union official who visits sick members, interviews employers, etc.

1863 GEISLER *Counsel* 59 The King told him he would have no walking Master Workman. 1892 HOWELLS *Mercy* 131 She decided that he must be a walking-delegate, and that he had probably come on mischief from some of the workpeople in her father's employ. 1897 *Encycl. Soc. Reform* 1381 *Walking delegate.* 1901 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* iii, I think M. & D. is rather full up just now...I'm walkin'-boss there.

† 2. Of a disease: Migratory. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 79 A walkynge vlcus [marg. *vlcus ambulatiuum*] is þat walkiþ hidirward & ‡ idirward, & nebeles he profoundiþ nouȝt depe into þe ground.

3. That travels or goes about on foot by moving the legs alternately without running.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 852 Oft from the Rocks a dreadful Prospect [I] see Of the huge Cyclops, like a walking Tree. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* I. 5 The walking statues at Autium. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vi, It was a simple walking funeral. 1899 JEPHSON *Brittany* iv. 42 A walking Englishman was, no doubt, a curiosity.

† b. Funambulatory. *Obs.*

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 321 The walking Elephants on Ropes.

c. *Walking sickness,* an illness in which the person is still able to get about and is not confined to bed.

1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* II. 571 In other chronic diseases, slow inflammations of internal organs, reduced dislocations, rheumatisms, ulcerations, the patient can attend partially to his business; he is in possession of half his faculties...This is walking sickness.

4. Theat. *Walking gentleman*: an actor playing a part requiring gentlemanlike appearance, but with little or nothing to say. Similarly *walking lady.*

1821 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet C.* iii, A sort of serious comedy walking gentleman's face. 1825 *Colburn's New Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 360 The respectably-dressed and well-looking young fellows in comedies are called walking gentlemen, and this is the probationary line of business usually assigned to young actors. 1865 W. DONALDSON *Recoll. Actor* 176 Miss Smithson..was neither more nor less than the 'walking lady'. 1885 JEROME *On the Stage* 132 R——, our Walking Gent., got his eye cut out.

fig. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvi, A d—d cake-house, the resort of walking gentlemen of all descriptions—poets, players, painters, musicians, who come to rave..about this picturesque land of ours. 1827 BARRINGTON *Pers. Sk.* I. iv. 62 Nothing..could induce me to remain a walking gentleman: and so, every occupation that I could think of having its peculiar disqualification, I remained [etc.]. 1867 GOLDW. SMITH *Three Eng. Statesmen* (1882) 130 George III. tried unconstitutional monarchy, first by Lord Bute, a walking-gentleman, and failed.

5. That goes about in the semblance of a human being. Often in figurative or similative expressions; e.g. *walking corpse,* applied to a person hardly distinguishable from a corpse save by the power of movement; *walking dictionary, encyclopædia, library,* etc., said of a person who has great stores of information at command.

Cf. Eunapius *Vitæ Sophi.,* Δογγῖνος βιβλιοθήκη τις ἦν ἔμψυχος καὶ περιπατοῦν μουσεῖον.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. v. 24 Life's but a walking Shadow, a poore Player, That struts and frets his houre vpon the Stage, And then is heard no more. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* III. i, Alas! I am nothing but a multitude of walking griefes. *a* 1649 FLETCHER *Captain* II. ii, [His body is] a Trunk-cellar, to send wines down in, Or a long walking-bottle. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 337 Mathew Slade..was a stiff Enemy to the Socinians, and a walking Library. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* I. 401 Wherever these walking Corpses, (these Carkasses) were to be seen. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. vii, Dare such a thing as you pretend to talk of beauty? A walking rouleau! a body that seems to owe all its consequence to the dropsy! 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ii, Looking like a moving and walking corpse, while yet an inhabitant of this world. 1838 LYTTON *Gipsy* v, Heaven deliver me from the proximity of a walking dictionary of technical terms!

6. Of a spectre: That 'walks' or appears.

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* III. E 1, Was there euer any walking spirit, like to my wife? 1709 PENN in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 354, I have my old order of ..1685..ratified and confirmed, which has laid those walking ghosts.

7. Of a bird: That walks, as distinguished from one that hops. *Walking tyrant:* a South American tyrant-flycatcher, *Machetornis rixosa.*

1837 W. SWAINSON *Nat. Hist. & Classif. Birds* II. 225 *Chrysolophus,* Sw. Walking Tyrants.

8. *Walking Fern:* (*a*) a club-moss (see quot. 1829); (*b*) a small tufted evergreen fern, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus,* native of eastern North America (*Cent. Dict.* 1891): = WALKING-LEAF 1 b. *Walking Orchid:* see quot.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 890 Lycopodium alopecuroides. Walking Fern. 1900 *Friar Park, Henley, Guide* (ed. 3) 244 *Orchis maculata.* The Walking Orchid. This Orchid, like several other species, seeks new past every year.

Walking-fish (wɔ̄·kiŋ,fiʃ). [WALKING *ppl. a.*]
1. A name given to various fishes (see quots.).
1863 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 289 Walking-fish.—*Antennarius hispidus.* 1883 F. DAY *Ind. Fish* 36 A walking-fish (*Ophiocephalus*). 1885 E. BALFOUR *Cycl. India* (ed. 3) III. 1041 Walking Fishes of India are species of Ophiocephalidæ. The hissar, or walking fish of S. America, is a species of Callichthys.
2. = SILVER-FISH 2 (Cent. Dict. 1891).

Wa·lking-leaf. [WALKING *ppl. a.*]
1. † a. Some unidentified plant. b. An American evergreen fern, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus.*
1629 LOVELL *Herball* 325 Walking leaves, *Arbor foliis ambulantibus*, it seemeth to creep on the ground, and being touched it will presently move it selfe. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 593 *Camptosorus*, Link. Walking-Leaf.
2. A phasmid insect belonging to the genus *Phyllium* or some related genus. Also *walking-leaf-insect.*
1826 SAMOUELLE *Direct. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 32 This

Wa·lking-staff. Now *rare.* [WALKING *vbl. sb.*1] A staff or long stick which one carries in the hand for support or aid in walking. Also *fig.*
1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 21 Now I well understand The walkyng staffe hath caught warmth in your hand.
1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 151 Ile giue..My Scepter, for a Palmers walking Staffe. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 365 A person was taken in St. James Park with a pistolls laden in his pocket, his walking staffe being a gunn. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i. The farmer..took a piece of a small straw, about the size of a walking-staff. 1784 BLAKE *Poet. Sk., Song Old Sheph.*, Virtue is our walking-staff. 1846 KNIGHTLEY *Notes Virg.*, Flora 383 It (*Ferula communis*) is common in Apulia, where the shepherds make walking-staffs of it. 1876 ROCK *Textile Fabrics* 9 Returning, they brought with them a number of eggs [of silkworms] hidden in their walking-staves.

Wa·lking-stick. [WALKING *vbl. sb.*1]
1. A stick or short staff carried in the hand when walking.
1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Baguette*, a white rodde, a walking sticke. 1620 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* v. i, You may take me in with a walking sticke, Even when you please, and hold me with a pack-threed. 1788 BARKER *Growth of Trees* in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 413 No. 21. was about as thick as a walking-stick in 1730. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Shops & Tenants*, A tobacconist, who also dealt in walking-sticks and Sunday newspapers. 1915 W. P. LIVINGSTONE *Mary Slessor* IV. vi. 216 One man..was dressed in a hat, a loin-cloth, and a walking-stick.
b. The name of a plant (see quot.).
1910 *Friar Park, Henley, Guide* (ed. 3) 184 Walking-stick or Elk-horn (*Opuntia arborescens*), the woody stems are made into walking-sticks.
2. Any insect of the family *Phasmidæ* (see quots.). Also *walking-stick insect.*
1760 G. EDWARDS *Gleanings Nat. Hist.* II. 168 Fig. 4...represents..the Walking-stick. It is so much like a dry stick, that it is supposed to deceive birds and other animals, that prey upon insects. 1872 DARWIN *Orig. Species* (ed. 6) vii. 182 As in the case..of a walking-stick insect (Ceroxylus laceratus). 1883 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 146 The walking-sticks..resembling the twig upon which they rest.
3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly with the sense 'made to resemble a walking-stick', as *walking-stick gun, stand, stool.* Also **walking-stick palm**, an Australian palm, *Bacularia monostachya*, the stem of which is used for making walking-sticks.
1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Kentia* (*Areca*) *monostachya*, Whip-stick, or Walking-stick, Palm. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 45 Such weapons as walking-stick guns. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 387 Walking Stick Stand. 1907 *Gentl. Mag.* July 38 Young gentlemen seated at their ease on patent collapsible walking-stick stools.

Wa·lking-wheel. [WALKING *vbl. sb.*1 and *ppl. a.*] a. = PEDOMETER. † b. (See quot. 1744.)
1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Perambulator*, a walking-wheel, a rolling Wheel made of Wood or Iron, with a Movement, a Face divided like a Clock and Indexes, to shew how many Yards, Poles, Furlongs and Miles one goes in driving it before him. 1744 DESAGULIERS *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 427 Then the Wheel being also a walking Wheel, the same Men get into it, in which case they have Power sufficient to raise the small Goods 5 or 6 times faster than the heaviest. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Walking-wheel*, a pedometer.

Walkist (wɔ̄ kist). *Sporting slang.* [f. WALK *sb.*1 or *v.*1: see -IST 4 b.] An athlete who takes part in walking-matches, a pedestrian.
1879 H. C. POWELL *Amateur Athletic Ann.* 17 The reappearance on the path of J. Gomersall, at one time the champion walkist of the 'north countree'. 1880 L. J. JENNINGS *Rambles among Hills* 172 A professional 'walkist' who goes along seeing nothing.

Wa·lk-mill1. Now *rare.* [f. WALK *v.*2 + MILL *sb.* Cf. G. *walkmühle.*] A fulling-mill.

stand fre to the abbay. a 1598 LINDSAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 312 [The flood] buir away the walkmylnes. 1610 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. xl. II. 550 Simus took pleasure in painting a yong m i lyng pe in a waulke mill or Fullers worke-house. 1710 in *Notes & Queries Fam.* (1874) 153 With multures walkmilln and pertinents thereof. 1894 R. S. FERGUSON *Hist. Westmorld.* 165 The 'steads' or sites of many diseased 'walk mills' or fulling mills upon the Kent.
b. *Comb.*
1344 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 141 Jacens in le Walkmylne-banke. c 1480 *Tournoley Myst.* XXX. 314 His baddekkys thai lowke like walk-mylne cloggys.
Hence **Wa·lk-miller.**
1730 in *Scots Mag.* (1733) July 338/1 Angus Macdonald waulk-miller in Anchofragus.

Wa·lk-mill2. [WALK *v.*1 or *sb.*] A mechanical contrivance or machine, the driving power of which is furnished by the walking of a horse, etc.
1772 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 286 List of Machines &c...Walk-mill. 1892 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 3/1 If there is no wind to supply the necessary power, the leader hopes that twelve men will be able to furnish it by means of a walk-mill, arranged on deck.

Walkne, obs. form of WAKEN *v.*, WELKIN.

Walk-over. [f. vbl. phrase *walk over*: see WALK *v.*1 7 c.] A race in which through absence of competitors the winner has merely to 'walk over'; also in extended sense, a contest in which through the inferiority of his competitors the winner has practically no opposition.
1838 *Times* 29 June 8/3 [Election at Cashel] I think it not unlikely that Mr. Richard Moore may have a walk over. 1861 *Sporting Rev.* Oct. 249 Kettledrum's walk-over was quite a little tit-bit for the Yorkshiremen. 1889 *Century Mag.* July 403/1 That's the bay stallion there,..and he's never been beaten. It's his walk-over.

Walkrife, -ryf(e, obs. forms of WAKERIFE.

† **Wa·lkripe,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. WALK *v.*1 + RIPE *a.*] Of an ulcer: see quot.
1585 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* III. XXV. Wks. (1633) 273 Of the filthie and putrified Vlcer...If the malice of this ulcer, grow walkeripe, that is, fall a creeping, it turneth to *Sphacelus*, and so to the death of the partie.

† **Wa·lkster.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. WALK *v.*2 + -STER] A walker or fuller.
1599 in Cramond *Rec. Elgin* (1908) II. 72 Johne Stewart, walkster, accusit for playing at the bowallis on the calsaye the tyme of the evenyng prayeris. 1721 in J. F. S. Gordon *Chron. Keith* (1880) 97 David Clerk, walkster at Keith.

Walkyn, obs. Sc. spelling of WAKEN.

Walkyne, obs. form of WELKIN.

Walkyrie (wɒlkiˑri). [repr. OE. *wælcyrie, -cyrge* wk. fem., lit. 'chooser of the slain', f. *wæl* WALE *sb.*1 + **cur-* ablaut-root of *céosan* CHOOSE *v.* Cf. VALKYRIE.]
1. *OE. Mythol.* The designation of a class of goddesses or female dæmons supposed to hover in or ride through the air over battle-fields and decide who should be slain: corresponding to the Scandinavian VALKYRIE.
The OE. word (apart from the transferred sense 2) is found only as the rendering of L. *Bellona*, the goddess of war, or of names of the Furies and Gorgons of classical mythology. Possibly the conception may have been less definite in Old English heathendom than in the Scandinavian belief of later times, according to which these 'war-maidens' were twelve in number. (The Ger. *Walküre*, widely known from Wagner's dramas, is from ON., not from OE.).
c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E 351 *Eurynis*, walcyrge. *Ibid.* H 87 *Herinis*, walcrigxe. *Ibid.* T 159 *Tesifone*, ualcyrge. c 1050 in Cockayne *Narrationcula* (1861) 34 þa deor habbaþ eahta fet and walkyrian eahan [L. *oculos Gorgoneos*]. c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 360/3 *Bellona*, wælcyrge. *Ibid.* 533/26 *Allecto*, wælcyrge.
attrib. 1915 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 379 It [Napoleon's overrunning Europe] was a romantic, almost Walkyrie dash.
† 2. Used for: A witch, sorceress. *Obs.*
a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 298/18 Wyccan and wælcyrian and unlybwyrhtan. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1577 Wychez & walkyries wonnen to þat sale.
Hence **Walky·rie** *a.* [-IC], of or pertaining to the Walkyries.
1913 A. HARRISON in *Engl. Rev.* Aug. 120 Thompson's odes read like Walkyric word-battles.

Walkys, obs. pl. of WELK.

Wall (wɒl), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 weall, weal, wall, 3–7 wal, walle, 4–7 wale, 4–6 *Sc.* vall, 6 *Sc.* val(e, (5 whalle,) 6 waule, (wawle), 8–9 *Sc.* wa', 3– wall. [OE. *wall* (WS. *weall*), corresp. to OFris. *wal*, OS. *wal(l*, (M)LG., (M)Du. *wal*, MHG. *wal* from MLG. (mod.G. *wall*), a Saxon and Anglo-Frisian adoption of L. *vallum.* The Sw. *vall*, Da. *val*, are from LG.]
I. 1. A rampart of earth, stone, or other material constructed for defensive purposes. [= L. *vallum.*]
In OE. frequently used with the meaning 'a natural rampart, hill, cliff': see HOLW.-TOLLER.
c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* I. ix [xii]. (1890) 46 þæt hi gemænelice fæsten geworhten him to sæs yldnesse, stænene weal rihtre stiþe fram eastan oð westan. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xiv. 22 And þæt water stod an twa healfa þære straate swilce twegen hege weallas. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 789 Þa xe wrohte he weall mid tuifum & bred weall ðær on ufon fram sæ to sæ Iktitwalsan to xebeorge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2184 Þat folc þo of þis lond..Bigonne to rere þos stronge wal. c 1450 *Mirk's Festival* 6 Þe watyr schall be hear than ayny hyll, by xl[ti] cubytys, stondyng styll yn her styd, as hit wer a wall. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Catech. Trwict.* 34 Moyses..causit the valter stand vp als ferme as ane vall qahil the Israelites past throu. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 26 Their carriages were so many, that therewith they intrenched their camps, like a wal. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron.* 2 The Emperor Adrian...who made a great wall of earth between England and Scotland. 1699 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* (ed. 2) 38 Agricola began...a Wall or Vallum, upon that narrow space of Land that lies between the two Frythe. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 76 He, whose long wall the wand'ring Tartar bounds. 1785 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1778 (1904) II. 203 He expressed a particular enthusiasm with respect to visiting the wall of China. 1850 *Smith's Class. Dict.* s.v. *Serica*, The Great Wall of China is mentioned by Ammianus Marcellinus under the name of Aggeres Serium.
transf. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 141 They of those Marches..Shall be a Wall sufficient to defend Our in-land from the pilfering Borderers.
b. An embankment to hold back the water of a river or the sea. Cf. SEA-WALL.
1330 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 36/2 De faire & de garder les Walles contre l'ewe de Tamys. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 209 b, At whiche season was suche a spryng tide, that it brake the walles of Hollande and Zelande. 1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Mdsex* I. 17 Blackwall...The place taketh name of the blackenes or darkenes of the water bankes, or wall at that place. 1697 DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 121 In our Marshes and Fens..where great Quantities of Land being ..recovered out of the Seas and Rivers, and maintain'd with Banks (which they call Walls). 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5122/2 Two Pieces of Thames Wall, with the Ozier Ground and Foreland thereto belonging,..are to be Sold. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* IV. 49 *foot-note*, 'Wall,' in fen lands, the artificial bank or ridge of clay raised to keep back river,

He stopped, and looked along the rosy dike, uttered a hasty exclamation, and ran down the wall.
2. A defensive structure enclosing a city, castle, etc. Chiefly *pl.*, fortifications. [= L. *mœnia.*]
c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xvii. 30 In gode minum ic ofergan wall. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lix. 8 Hwylc gelædeð me leofran on censtre, weallum beworhte? a 1200 *Moral Ode* 41 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 163 Þes riche Men wenеð bon siker þurh walle & þurh diche. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11433 Aȝen alle halwe churche þe verste dich hii nome & brake þe oteinoste wal. a 1300 *K. Horn* (Hall) 1048 In strong halle, Bi inne castel walle. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 326 The engyns with oute, to kast were bei seitte, Walls & kirnels stoute, þe stones doun bette. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 445 Thai sparit the ȝettis hastely, And in hy to the vallis ran. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XXI. 292 Brynston boilaunt brennyng out-caste, hit Al hot [on] here heuedes þat entren ay|e walles. c 1450 HENRY *Wallace* V. 1136 Tre wark thai brynt., Wallis brak doun that stalwart war off stanys. 1490 (*at. Ann. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 371 For the kepyng of every ȝate of the walleys of this citte 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 110 Then Scipio comes, that Carthage waules did race. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 2 Go to the Gates of Burdeaux Trumpeter, Summon their Generall vnto the Wall. *Ibid.* V. iii. 127 At your Fathers Castle walles, We'l craue a parley. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 657 Others from the Wall defend With Dart and Javlin, Stones and sulfurous Fire 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 456 To..rush undaunted to defend the Walls. 1791 MRS RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* I, Madame de la Motte gave a last look to the walls of Paris. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Poor Relations*, He was among the first who perished before the walls of St. Sebastian. 1827 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 468/2 Towards the east the external wall [of Ephesus] crosses a hill, called Lepre...Other internal walls extend further south. 1847 GROTE *Greece* (1862) II. xiv. 470 Babylon..was surrounded by walls three hundred feet in height.
fig. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* I. 47 Sweete words are fittest engines To race the flint walles of a womans brea-t.
b. *Within the walls*: within the ancient boundaries (of a city) as distinguished from the suburbs; hence *fig.* within the limits (of the Church, † Europe, † Christendom, etc.).
1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. iii. (1600) L 4 b, I think him the tall..st man living within the walls of Europe. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Navy of Land Ships* D 3, In a place which I could name within the Walles of Christendome. 1667 *Observ. Burning Lond.* 15 The City of London within the Walls was seated upon about 460 Acres of Ground. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 6 To the great Affliction of the City, one died within the Walls, in the Parish of St. Mary-Wool-Church. 1860 WARTER *Sea-b and* II 468 The devout on earth will ever be found within the Church's walls.
c. *Her.* A representation of an embattled wall used as a bearing.
1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 400/1 He beareth Argent..a Wall corniced, with two Towers upon it. 1889 ELVIN *Dict. Her.* 131 Wall embattled in bend sinister.
3. *fig.* a. Applied to a person or thing that serves as a defence.
1412–20 LYDG. *Troy-bk.* IV. 1958 For he of Troye is |e myȝti wal And diffence, now Hector is |a-goon. 1560–80 DUNBAR *Poems* LXXXV. 73 Imperiall wall, place palestrall,.. Aue Maria, gratia plena! 1585 ALLEN *Defence Engl. Ward.* xvii. 281 One common engine they haue..for the sore shakinge of the weake waules of the simples faithe. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* III. 52 It is Aiax the strong, Who is best hope, defence and wall, that to the Greeks belong. 1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. i. 68 The Heauens hold firme The walls of thy deere Honour. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* V. i, We will leave our homes unguarded —our hearts shall be their wall!
b. Applied to the sea, the navy or shipping (as Britain's external defence); also to an army (as the safeguard of a country).
Wooden walls (applied to ships): see WOODEN *a.*
1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 203 Kepte [*p.r.* kepe] than the sea abought in speciall, Whiche of England is the rounde walle; As thoughe England were lykened to a cite. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm.* 12–19 July 3 The ships which are the wals of the Kingdome. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron.* 2 At which time [of Julius Cæsar] the Island was yet but in manner of a Village, being without Wals, as having no shipping, (which are indeed the true Wals of an Island). 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Esrra* ix. 9 'To give us a wall'—Protection and safeguard, as the Walles of Sparta was their Militia, and the Walles of England, is our Navy. 1697 SIR M. BECKMAN in *Sydney Papers* I. 171 The Army by Land, and the Fleet, was accounted the Walls of England.
4. An enclosing structure composed of bricks, stones, or similar materials laid in courses.

Hollow wall, a wall built with an interior cavity between two layers of hollow bricks. For *blind, boulder, cob, dead, hot, list, rubble wall*, etc., see those words; also BRICK WALL *sb.*¹, MUD WALL, PARTY-WALL, STONE WALL.

a. Each of the sides and vertical divisions of a building.

To stand to the wall (Sc.): of a door, to be wide open. *Walls have ears* (Prov.): see EAR *sb.*¹ 3.

*c*900 *Bæda's Hist.* II. xi [xiv]. (1890) 138 Æfter þeo seo heannis þæs ærnes [*sc.* of a church] gefylled wæs mid geondsad. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19313 We find ur prisuns all a-wai, þe dors sperd, þe walles hale. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 61 Þe wal wagged and clef and al þe worlde quaked. *c* 1438 *Torr. Portugal* 244 Sone hard he within a whalle The syghyng of a lady smalle, Sche weppte, as ache were wod. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Of the whiche bayldynge..the foure walles be the foure cardinall vertues. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 49 In Iron Walls they deem'd me not secure. 1596 — *Merch. V.*, II. ix. 29 Which..like the Martlet Builds in the weather on the outward wall. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* Ep. Ded., To make use of that, which in your service, and within the walls of your own house, I had produced. 1649 LOVELACE *To Althea fr. Prison* iv, Stone Walls do not a Prison make. 1708 RAMSAY *Fables, Monk & Miller's Wife* 256 Wauk forth, the door stands to the wa'. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 188 Like some lone Chartreux stands the good old Hall, Silence without, and Fasts within the wall. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* vii, Look at the burnt wa's of our kinsman's house. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 307 Walls of stone may be made one-fifth thinner than those of brick. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xl, Mr. Pickwick found himself, for the first time in his life, within the walls of a debtor's prison. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 447/2 The inclined roof of a building, spanning from wall to wall, tends to thrust out the walls.

In figurative context (after ACTS xxiii. 3). 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 173 If Pierce I happen to touch some painted walles, and godly hypocrites.

b. An enclosing structure built round a garden, field, yard, or other property; also, each of the portions between the angles of such an enclosure.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8233 A wall a-bote dide for to rais, And planted tres þat war to prais. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Hogges* (1596) 263 It were good to make the walles or hedges of your sties of foure foote hie. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. i. 5 He ran this way and leapt this Orchard wall. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 7 A most stately Grove of Cocoes and Oranges..surrounded by a Wall. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 865 On dry banks, trunks of trees, and walls. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* I. ii, Four gray walls, and four gray towers, Overlook a space of flowers.

†c. *Wall of timber*: a wooden partition, a fence.

1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 20, I will yᵗ my newe hous..be desseverid..with a walle of tymbyr fro the hefd place.

†d. As a place or means of torture. *Obs.*

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 149 And when they crye furiously hold the heretikes vnto the wall and if they will not revoke burne them. 1590 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1908) V. 179 Another warrant..to commytte them..unto such torture upon the wawle as is usuall.

e. The inner side of a sidewalk or pavement; the side next the wall. (Cf. the phrases *to give, take the wall* in 16.)

1606 *Chaste, Chance*, etc. (1882) 70 Snuffes vp the Nose, and swaggers for the wall. 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milkmaids* II. F 2, But now I will giue no man place at Wall or Kennell. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 250 P 11 All such as have been defrauded of their Right to the Wall. 1732 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 234 Behold a rev'rend sire..Shov'd from the wall perhaps, or rudely press'd By his own son.

f. (*a*) In the phrase *at the wall*, designating a species of football peculiar to Eton played against a wall, as distinguished from that played 'in the field'. (*b*) Applied to each of the players who form the 'bully' or scrimmage against the wall.

1864 [B. HEMYNG] *Eton School Days* xxiii 254 But give me, for real enjoyment..a good game of football at Eton, either at the wall or in the open field. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Dec. 699 Football 'at the Wall' takes its name from being played against the brick wall which divides the Slough Road from the Lower Playing Fields. *Ibid.*, Three of the players on either side, known as 'walls', form a line against the rough bricks. 1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics & Football* (Badm.) 280 The game is begun by a 'bully' in the centre of the wall. The 'wall' whose turn it is to 'go in', forms down with his shoulder against the wall,..the two other 'walls' back him up...The ball is placed against the wall between the feet of the two first opposing 'walls', and the game begins.

5. *fig.* Something which is a barrier or impediment to intellectual, moral, spiritual, or social union or intercourse; also more definitely *wall of partition*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 262 And 3et, 3e habbeð þet like blod, & tet ilke bliſsfule bodi..niht & dei bi on. Nis þer buten a seal bitweonen. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 287 Mine sunnen beoþ wal bi-tweone me & þe. ? *a* 1300 *Chester Pl., Fall Lucifer* 253 Alas! that pride is the wall of lewtye. 1582 WHITGIFT *Cert. Tractatis* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 87/4 To attempt sic proude misordour sall..big vp ane wal betuix vs and you in religioun. 1766, 1870 Wall of partition [see PARTITION *sb.* 2]. 1843 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 17 A wall of tradition, which may not be broken through. 1900 ST. BARBE *Mod. Spain* 16 He..barricades himself behind an unassailable wall of self-sufficiency.

6. A wall considered with regard to its surface.

a. The interior wall of an apartment.

The writing on the wall (after Dan. v.): see WRITING *vbl. sb.*

Beowulf 326 Sotton sunnebe side scyldas, rondas regnhearde, wið þam recedes weal. *c* 1290 *St. Dunstan* 142 In *S. Enc. Leg.* 23 Þe harpe song al bi hire-self as heo heng bi þe walle. *c* 1450 in *Babees Bk.* 87 Aȝen þe post lete not þi bak abide, neiþer make þi myrrour also of þe wal. *c* 1555 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 949 To sile a wale, *lambrir*. 1586 A. BACON *Remonst. & Jul.* 1870 She thinkes to speake to Iuliet, but speaketh to the walles. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 172 All the inrolled penakles Which haue (like vn-scowr'd Armor) hung by th' wall So long. 1607 — *Cor.* I. iii. 19. *a* 1629 HUME *Y. Brunen* xxvi. (1642) 80 They, who have sought for Christ and his Apostles, not in the holy Bookes of God, but in painted walles and windows. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part of Summers Trav.* Wks. III. (1870) 43 In the mean time, the Preacher speaks to the bare walls. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 20 Is there, who, lock'd from ink and paper, scrawls With deep'rate charcoal round his darken'd walls? 1781 COWPER *Charity* 532 Guns, halberts, swords, and pistols, great and small, In starry forms dispos'd upon the wall. 1782 — *Hope* 346 From stucco'd walls smart arguments rebound. 1839 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xix, The walls were decorated with coloured prints and drawings. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 79/1 This almanack has been familiar for many years on the walls of barristers, solicitors, and public offices.

b. A garden- or house-wall upon which fruit-trees and flowering trees are trained.

1699– Fruit wall [see FRUIT *sb.* 9]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 527 Having occasion to find fault with the common sort of Walls for Fruits, it gives me an opportunity of recommending..sloping Walls. 1734 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 146 And grapes, long ling'ring on my only wall. 1782 COWPER *Retirem.* 494 Like bottled wasps upon a southern wall. 1784 — *Task* III. 408 Proud of his well-spread walls, he views his trees. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 336 Yet he sent ..garden-herbs and fruit, The late and early roses from his wall.

in fig. context. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* I. xix. 287 They habitually looked on the sunny side of the wall. 1858 — *Dr. Thorne* I. vi. 141 Women grow on the sunny side of the wall.

†7. Walling. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 70 This lymestone..is putt into a kill made of wall.

II. Transferred uses.

8. Something that resembles a wall in appearance; a perpendicular surface forming an enclosure or barrier.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 567 Huge Oxen stand inclos'd in wint'ry Walls Of Snow congeal'd. 1738 GRAY *Statius* II. 14 The theatre's green height and woody wall. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 20 Nailed to this wall of eagle-baffling mountain. 1842 TENNYSON *Day-Dream* 65 A wall of green Close-matted, bur and brake and briar. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xlvi, The black wall of forest beyond. *Ibid.* xlviii, A wall of water, looming high above her main-yard, came rushing and booming along. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 143 Midway down the spur I lighted upon a transverse wall of rock. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 2 The in-rolling walls of the fog.

†b. Mil. *In wall*: of battalions, extended in one continuous line like a wall. *Obs.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 741/2 The enemy's army ..is in two lines, the first of which is formed in wall..; the second is formed with large intervals.

9. Something that confines or encloses like the wall of a house, prison, etc.; chiefly *pl.*, the containing sides of a vessel, the vertical sides of a tent, and the like.

1594 *Selimus* D 1 You thinke it strange..To see me low laie off effeminate robes, And arme my bodie in an Iron wall. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iii. 20 Within this wall of flesh There is a soule counts thee her Creditor. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 57 The walle or neting the king caused to be made to fish was borne downe in the night with the force of the tide. 1690 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xx. (1653) 327 The walls..of the Breasts [of infants], are..depraved by Nurses, while they..do overstrictly bind them. 1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Midl.* II. 445 Wall; the stem of a rick is called the walls. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* vi. 89 The walls of a closed vessel containing air are pressed outwards by the elastic force of the confined air. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 251/1 The drift-net..forms a long wall or barrier of netting hanging for a few fathoms perpendicularly in the water. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 375/1 [A tent] which has walls at least three feet high, should answer.

10. *Mining.* a. The coating or crust of a lode or vein; also, the side of a mine next to this.

For *foot-wall, hanging wall* see FOOT *sb.* 35, HANGING *ppl. a.* 6.

1728 *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 404 Sometimes,..the Mine is lined with an intermediate Substance between the Load and it self. This is (properly speaking) the Wall of the Load; Though, in the Common Acceptation of that Term, it signifies either such intermediate Substance, or the Side of the Mine, where the Load immediately unites it self to it. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 39/1 The capels or walls of the lode. 1828 W. PHILLIPS *Geol.* 210 A..crust occasionally covers one or both sides of the vein, technically called the walls of the load. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Wall.* 1. The side of a level or drift. 2. The country-rock bounding a vein laterally.

b. *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1883.)

Long wall: see LONG *a.*¹ 18. *Stinting wall*: see STINTING *sb.*

1750 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 124 Carrying Coals from the Coal Walls where they are dug to the bottom of the Pit or Shaft. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 979 The first set [of workmen] carves or pools the coal along the whole line of walls. 1883 GREELEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wall.* 1. The face of a long-wall working or stall, commonly called the coal-wall. 2. (North of Eng.) A rib of solid coal between two boards. *Ibid., Walls* (Scot.) Short working faces or stalls (also headings 6 ft. in width) from 20 to 30 yards wide.

c. *To the wall*: see quot.

1883 GREELEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wall* ('To the Wall') (North of Eng.). A term signifying broadly the size of pillars in the system of working and Stall.

11. *Engraving.* (See quots.)

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 742/1 (*Etching*), A border of wax..must be fastened round the plate about an inch high in the form of a little wall or rampart, to contain the aquafortis. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 367 The plate is surrounded with a border or wall, about an inch high, composed of bees' wax. 1839 CHATTO & JACKSON *Hist. Wood-engraving* 715 The plate is surrounded with a wall, as it is technically termed, and aquafortis being poured upon it, all the unprotected parts are corroded, and the drawing left in relief.

12. *Anat.* and *Zool.* The membranous investment or lining tissue (of any organ or cavity of the body, of a vesicle, tumour, and the like). Also *Bot.*, the cellulose membrane (of a cell).

1677 GREW *Anat. Fruits* iv. § 5 As by Refraction, Objects of all Sizes are represented on the Walls of the Eye. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 85 These [adipose] vesicles are so thin that it is impossible to distinguish their walls. 1878 BINSTOWN *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 889 The walls of ovarian tumours consist mainly of connective tissue. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 469 He then cut diagonally across, and actually lifted the wall of the chest, and groped about among the vitals for the bullet.

b. The outer horny covering of the foot of a horse.

1830 J. HINDS *Osmer's Treat. Horse* (ed. 5) 7 *note*, This is the earliest mention we can find of the crust or hoof proper, being denominated the wall of the foot, a term which has now become general among us. [The passage referred to (Osmer, ? 1756) reads 'like a wall'.] 1832 YOUATT *Horse* xv. 280 The crust or wall of the hoof..is that portion which is seen when the foot is placed on the ground.

III. Phrases.

13. *To go to the wall* (or †*walls*): a. to give way, succumb in a conflict or struggle

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* A iiij, They neuer went to the wall, till they grewe to be factious. 1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 111 Wee should go to the wallss, be wronged and exacted vpon euery whare. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxix, Sam and Mayford are both desperately in love with her, and one must go to the wall. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xx. 385 It is easy to see which power will go to the wall if a conflict occurs. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* xliii, In all these struggles Crosbie had had the best of it, and Butterwell had gone to the wall.

Proverb. [1535: see WAW]. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1642) 53 When brethren agree not in a house, goeth not the weakest to the walls? 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 53 The weakest must still to the wall. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 18. 1651 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 80 You know the old proverb, The weakest goes to the Walls.

b. Of a business, matter, etc.: To give way or give precedence (to something else).

1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 519 Here is another case of metre against history, and in all such cases history must go (as is said) to the wall. 1880 M'CARTHY *Four Georges* II. 45 Where political interests interfered family arrangements went to the wall.

c. To fail in business.

1848 THACKERAY *Miss Tickletoby's Lect.* vi. Wks. 1886 XXIV. 37 It was better for all parties that poor Shortleg should go to the wall. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* lxxii. (1901) II. 253 He had been the property of some East-end Bowker, who, in classical language, had 'gone to the wall'. 1879 SPENCER *Data of Ethics* xv. § 103. 266 Others of his [a merchant's] debtors by going to the wall may put him in further difficulties. 1892 *19th Cent.* Dec. 861 In Berlin a newspaper would very soon go to the wall if it did not present its subscribers with light entertainment.

14. *To* †*set*, †*thrust*, or *send to the wall*: to thrust aside into a position of neglect.

1583 BABINGTON *Commaundm.* 334 God knowes..how often they are wrecked and wronged and set to the wal by cruell ..and hard hearted men. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 20 Women being the weaker Vessels, are euer thrust to the wall. 1901 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 412/1 During the later fifties he was sent to the wall by the superior talents of the late Robert Prowse.

15. *To drive* (or *push*) *to the wall*: to drive to the last extremity.

With or having one's back to the wall: see BACK *sb.*¹ 23.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 58 That deede without woords shall driue him to the wall. And further than the wall he can not go. 1644 PRYNNE & WALKER *Fiennes's Trial* 34 The Colonell thus driven to the wall and worsted on every hand, used two pleas more for his last reserve. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxii, I see what you are driving me to the wa' about. 1828 NAPIER *Penins. War* III. iii. I. 336 The commissaries pushed to the wall by the delay, offered an exorbitant remuneration. 1880 L. HARCOURT *Diaries G. Rose* II. 30 Being..driven to the wall, Addington complied.

16. *To give a person the wall*: to allow a person the right or privilege of walking next the wall as the cleaner and safer side of a pavement, sidewalk, etc. Similarly, *to have, take the wall* (*of* a person), to have, take the inside position.

? 1537 *Thersytes* 150 Yes, yes, god wote they geve me the wall, Or elles with my clubbe I make them to fall. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. i, I haue made some go vppon wodden legges for taking the wall on me. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 95 The Persians had a law enioyning all men ..to giue him [an elder] the wall when they meet him in the streetes. 1629 *Rules Civility* 21 Giving.. the Right-hand or Wall in the Street. 1773 JOHNSON in Boswell *Tour Hebrides* 20 Sept., In the last age,..there were two sets of people, those who gave the wall, and those who took it; the pancenibs and the quarrelsome...Now, it is fixed that every man keeps to the right; or, if one is taking the wall, another yields it, and it is never a dispute.

1582 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 76 b, I weigh it little, that my equall, hauing the wall of me, should goe from it to giue me place. 1629 HEYWOOD *If you know not Me* E 1 b, *Enter the Englishman, and Spaniard. Spa.* The wall, the wall. *Eng.* Blood Spaniard you get no wall

here,..but since you will needs Haue the wall, Ile take the paynes to thrust You into the kennell. 1859 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxv, The Spaniards..had..no room, in that narrow path, to use their pikes. The English had the wall of them; and to have the wall there, was to have the foe's life at their mercy.

1587 Greene *Penelopes Web* Wks. (Grosart) V. 201 The wife of a poore Smith meeting the Empresse Faustina, tooke the wall of her in the streetes. 1617 Monyson *Itin.* III. 28 Nothing was more common with them then to fight about taking the right or left hand, or the wall. 1757 Foote *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 235 He wou'd take the wall of a Prince of the Blood. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* iv, To..quarrel in her cause with any flat-capp'd thread-maker that would take the wall of her. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxi, The parlour window..is so close upon the foot-way that the passenger who takes the wall brushes the dim glass with his coat sleeve.

b. *fig.* (In early use sometimes without article, *to give, take wall.*)

1592 Nashe *Wonderf. Prognost.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 157 The Bakers Basket shall giue wall vnto the Brewers Barrell. 1608 Dr. Hall *Serm. Pharisaism* Wks. (1625) 413 Some Traditions must haue place in euery Church; but, Their place; they may not take wall of Scripture. 1652 — *Invis. World* III. § 1 If a supposed and self respective good be suffered to take the wall of the best and absolute good. 1679 R. W. *Cromwell's Ghost* 2 Though old in Artful Wickedness I be, Yet Rome, I now Resign the Wall to thee. 1778 L. Temple *Sketches* (ed. 2) 57 According to nice Herald-like Ceremony, the Son, as the better Gentleman, ought to take the Wall of the Father.

† 17. *To lie by the wall* (or *walls*), to lie on one side, remain idle or unused; of a ship, to lie up (in dock or harbour); also *to lay by the walls. Obs.*

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 46/2 And the law in the meane time must lye by the walles [Fr. *demeure là*]. 1636 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 82, I am glad the mariners are so sensible of the laying of our English ships by the walls. 1658-9 *Ibid.* III. 462 Our ships lie by the walls, and theirs ride. 1670 Wallis in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 529 To put forth what France is not willing to venture upon, provided that it do not hinder the printing those of our own nation,..which lie by the wall for want of publishing. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 66 He walked towards that part of the Creek, where..three of their largest ships lay by the walls. 1787 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* s.v. *Wall*, He lies by the wall. Spoken of a person dead but not buried. Norf. and Suf.

18. (To be able) *to see*, etc. *through* or *into a* (*brick, mud, stone*) *wall*: to be endowed with great keenness of perception or understanding.

1598 Marston *Pygmal., Sat.* ii, Thou know'st I am sure, for thou canst cast thine eie Through nine mud walls, or els old Poets lie. 1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Feb. 136/4 Lord Sherbrooke..can see as far as most people into a stone wall.

19. *To turn one's face to the wall*: said of a person on his deathbed conscious of the approach of the end (? after 2 Kings xx. 2, Isa. xxxviii. 2).

1579 in *Narratives Reform.* (Camden) 35 He turned his face to the walle in the sayd belfry; and so after his prayers sleapte swheetly in the Lorde. 16.. *Barbara Allen's Cruelty* ix. in Child *Ballads* II. 277 He turnd his face unto the wall, And death came creeping to him. 1856 Knight *Pop. Hist. Eng.* I. xxi. 304 He [Henry II] turned his face to the wall, and exclaimed, 'Let every thing go as it will'. [Cf. Girald. Cambrens. (Rolls) VIII. 295 *iterum se lecto reclinans faciemque suam ad parietem vertens.*] 1876 'Mark Twain' *Tom Sawyer* lii, He would turn his face to the wall, and die with that word unsaid.

IV. 20. Short for a. *wall-tree*, b. Wallflower, c. *wall butterfly.*

a. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 322 Your Trees being grafted.. the next thing to be consider'd, is which are to be for Dwarfs, Walls and Standards.

b. 1825 R. P. Ward *Tremaine* I. xvi. 100 There was a regular return of the same flowers..such as walls, and provence roses, convolvolus, and sweet-william.

c. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 12 The Wall (*Hipparchia Megæra*, Leach). The Brown Wall (*H. Phædra*, Stephens).

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

21. a. simple attrib., as *wall arch, -coping, -mosaic, -nook, -side, -tiling, -top*; with the meaning 'set or fixed against a wall', as *wall candlestick, -case, -clock, -map, -plug, -press, -sconce*; with the meaning 'growing upon or against a wall', as *wall-berry, -plant, -plum.*

1886 C. E. Pascoe *Lond. To-day* xxx. (ed. 3) 268 On the wall of Westminster Hall..there are plainly visible the traces of *wall arches erected by Richard II. 1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 313 Perhaps it had earlier been busy upon the *wall-berries. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 381/2 *Wall or Hanging Candlesticks. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III. 181 *Wall-cases were provided, and the collections were removed from the Old Museum. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Wall clock. 1887 J. G. Andrew *Mem. W. Graham* vii. 153 Above the *wall-coping..appeared an endless row of peering sorrow-stricken faces. 1907 T. C. Middleton *Geogr. Knowl. Discov. Amer.* 20 The *wall-map of the world, painted in his banquet-hall at the Lateran. 1913 Eden *Ancient Glass* 26 Glass *wall-mosaics for interior decoration. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* iii, The ground-ivy mantling old *wall-nooks. 1886 *Archæol. Cant.* XIII. 26 The singular thickness of the *wall-piers causes the central body of the crypt to be narrower. 1873 Mary Somerville *Recoll.* xviii. 272 The Trachelium cœruleum, a pretty *wall-plant. 1914 Batstone *Electr.-Light Fitting* 121 *Wall Plugs. 1876 Shadwell *Virtuoso* IV. 72, I have observ'd upon a *Wall-plum..at first beginning to turn blue [etc.]. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 985 A *wall-press..is necessary in a corn-barn. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 862 She went vp wightly by a *walle syde To the toppe of a toure. 1887 P. M'Neill *Blanserie* 176 Many alterations on the roof and wall-sides would have to be made. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 83/2 Decorative *wall-tiling. 1849 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 372 It is found under..lichens on *wall-tops.

b. objective, and objective genitive, as *wall-builder, -building, -peeler*; *wall-like, -loving* adjs.; instrumental, as *wall-bound, -fed, -girt* adjs.

1878 Dosw. Smith *Carthage* 375 Hannibal..taking his place..among the *wall-builders and wonder-workers of Eastern history and legend. 1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 221 Paving and *wall-building. 1866 W. Barnes *Dorset Dial.* II. 78 There, in the geärd'n's *wall-bound square. 1898 *Athenæum* 23 July 137/3 The clinging *wall-fed ivy. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 876 Gray *wall-girt stillness. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 168 *Wall-like masses are partially detached from the cliffs. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 120 Walls..of loose, dry stones, affording in the crevices root-space for many *wall-loving plants. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 432 P 3 These craving Damsels, whether ..Coal-Scranchers, *Wall-peelers, or Gravel-diggers.

22. Special comb.: **wall-arcade** *Arch.*, an arcade (see Arcade *sb.* 3) used as a decoration of a wall; hence **wall-arcading**, the stonework composing a wall-arcade; **wall-bearing** (see quot.); **wall-border**, a garden-border at the foot of a wall; **wall-box** (*a*) an aperture made in or through a wall to accommodate a wall-bearing; (*b*) a postal collecting box affixed to a wall as distinguished from a pillar-box; †**wall-break** *a.*, that breaks down walls; **wall-casing**, the lining or superficial exterior covering of a wall; † **wall-chalker** (see quot. 1823); **wall-clamp, -coal** (see quots.); **wall-crook** *dial.*, ? a wooden hook for driving into cob walls; **wall-cutting, -dock** (see quots.); **wall-dormer** *Arch.*, a dormer whose front is part of the main wall of the building carried up to the required height; **wall-earth** (see quot.); **wall-engine**, a small vertical steam engine bolted to a wall; **wall-face** (*a*) the working face in a coal-mine; (*b*) the surface of a wall; †**wall-fast** *a.*, secure within walls; **wall-fight**, a siege; **wall-fruit**, the fruit of trees grown against a wall; also a fruit tree so grown; also *attrib.*, as *wall-fruit tree*; **wall-game**, the Eton game of football played 'at the wall' (see 4 f); **wall-grenade**, a bombshell thrown from the walls by hand or by means of a small mortar called a hand-mortar (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **wall-gun**, a large hand-gun supported on a tripod or crutch, for firing over a rampart; **wall-hangings**, tapestry hangings for walls; **wall-head** *Sc.*, the top of a wall, esp. of a house-wall; also the space on the top of a wall between the roof-beams, used as a receptacle or shelf; also *attrib.*; **wall-hold**, the end (of a beam, etc.) which is inserted in a wall as a bearing; **wall-hook**, † (*a*) a grappling-hook (*obs.*); (*b*) a hook-shaped holdfast for fastening wire, piping, etc. to a wall; † **wall lecture** *Oxford Univ.*, a lecture delivered, according to statute, by a regent-master (to empty benches); **wall-lining**, a covering for the interior surface of a wall; **wall-nail**, a kind of nail made for driving into walls; **wall-net**, a vertical fishing-net forming the wall of an inclosed space (*Cent. Dict.*); † **wall-observer**, one who is addicted to reading placards; **wall-post** *Arch.* = Pendant *sb.* 6 a; †**wall-rase** *Sc.* [cf. Rasen, Raising-piece, *-plate*] = Wall plate; † **wall-reared** *a.* = *wall-sided*; † **wall-reeve**, an official charged with keeping embankments in repair; **wall-rib** *Arch.* (see quots. 1835–50); also *attrib.*; **wall-rock** *Mining*, the rock forming the walls of a vein; **wall-saltpetre** (see quot.); **wall-shaft** *Arch.*, in *engaged wall-shaft*, a shaft or column partly let into the wall (cf. Engaged *column*); **wall-sided** *a.*, having perpendicular sides like a wall; **wall-strap** (see quot.); **wall-string**, the string-board of a staircase which is next the wall; **wall-tent**, a tent with perpendicular sides; **wall-tie**, each of the pieces of iron, slate, or other material used to bind together the two parts of a hollow wall; **wall-tile** (*a*) a tile used for lining a wall; † (*b*) *north.*, a brick as distinguished from a roofing tile; † **wall-tooth**, a cheek-tooth, grinder; **wall-tower**, a tower forming part of a fortified wall (*Cent. Dict.*); † **wall-town** *Sc.*, a walled or fortified town; **wall-tree**, a fruit-tree planted against and trained upon a wall; also *attrib.*; **wall-wash**, liquid distemper applied to the surface of a wall; **wall-wise** *adv.*, after the manner of a wall; **wall-work**, † (*a*) work done in building a wall (*obs.*); (*b*) a defensive work consisting of walls. Also **Wall-paper, Wall-piece, Wall-plat, Wall-stone.**

1880 G. E. Street in *Archæol. Cant.* III. 133 The *wall-arcades in the two churches. 1883 Sir G. Scott *Gleanings. Westm. Abb.* (ed. 2) 33 The spandrels over the *wall-arcading are exquisitely beautiful. *a* 1898 — *Lect. Archit.* I. 97. 1875 *Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wall-bearing*, a bearing for receiving a shaft when entering or passing through a wall. 1907 Mortimer *Husb.* 461 They are..transplanted into some *Wall border towards the South and East. 1851 in *Buck's Florist* 128 A shrubbery or wall-border some four or five feet broad 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wall-box. 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1890) 34 A neat appearance is given to the opening..by building into the wall a wall box. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 727 Fell, *wall-break (all break) Famine..Howls hideously. 1898 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 28 *Wall-casings of rich, polished marble. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf*, **Wall-chalkers*—fellows who..scrawl balderdash upon garden walls...Others chalk up their trades—as 'try Warren's

walls together, or the two parts of a double-wall, to prevent spreading. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 **Wall-coal*, breast coal; the middle division of three in a seam, the other two being terms: top coal and ground coal. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xxxviii, I worked..in the copse of young ash,..making spars to keep for thatching, *wall-crooks to drive into the cob, [etc.]. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 **Wall cutting*, side cutting or shearing the solid coal in opening out working places; trimming the sides of a sinking pit. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 985 The *wall docks (plugs of wood) are not to be more than 16 inches apart. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III. 551 The roof dormers very soon became *wall-dormers, rising in a line with the main walls of the buildings. 1723 *Phil. Trans.* XXXII. 420 The lower half of the Layers of Fullers-Earth, they call the *Wall-Earth. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts*, etc. 982 The instant each corve arrives, from the *wall face,..it is lifted from the tram by a crane. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 241 In some of the Byzantine remains.. they have architecturalised by mouldings and enrichments only just so much of the arch-stones as was needful for beauty, and left the rest to go as mere wall-face. 1593 *Extr. & Mon. Durham* (Surtees) 52 She..laid those two without the doore that before was maid *wall-fast within her house. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxiii. (1862) V. 457 Alkibiadês warned the assembled seamen that they must prepare for a sea fight, a land-fight, and a *wall-fight, all at once. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 266 Nail and trim *Wall-fruits. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2550/4 Good Gardens and Orchards planted with all sorts of choice Wall fruit. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Mar. 1688, The wall fruit trees are most exquisitely nail'd and train'd. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 582 The wall-fruits of Britain include all those which in the central districts of England require the aid of a wall to bring them to perfection. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Dec. 695/2 The *Wall Game [at Eton]. 1812 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 63 We then fired with slugs (Colonel Douglas with a Spanish barrel, and I with a huge *wall gun). 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* x, They found themselves..exposed to a fire both of musketry and wall-guns. 1865 Carlyle *Frederick Gt.* XIX. iv. V. 473 Wall-guns brought from Cüstrin. 1896 Lina Eckenstein *Women under Monasticism* 233 The great work of her life was the manufacture of *wall-hangings. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 83 [They] laid him on the *wall heid, that all might sie him deid. 1636 in *Scottish Jrnl. Topogr.* (1848) II. 121 Item, for ten hundreth of diffeit [= divot] riggine and wae-heid towrs [= turfs). 1898 Ld. E. Hamilton *Mawhin of Flow* xvii. 226 Here, Rob, rax me that bit rope that's lying in the wall-head yonder. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 919 The inside lintels are..to have at least 12 inches of bond (or *wall-hold) on each end. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 170 The steps should be droved 3 feet 6 inches clear of the wall, with 6 inches of wall hold. 1682 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 739 A *wall-hook or drag; *Lupus, harpago.* 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 408 Fastening the pipes to the wall by means of wall-hooks of iron. 1888 Christy *Joints* 194 A strip of 5 lb. lead..secured along one edge to the wall with wall hooks. 1662 Wood *Life* 22 Dec. (O.H.S.) I. 464 Wherus they were left of after the king was restored and *wall lectures onlie read in their places, declamations were now setled and wall lectures too. 1691 — *Ath. Oxon.* (1721) II. 796 He did also sometimes repair to the Ordinaries (commonly called Wall Lectures from the paucity of Auditors). 1767 J. Penn *By Way of Precaution* To Clergy p. i, Dry Morals and musty Doctrines have turned Sermons into Wall Lectures. 1860 G. E. Street in *Archæol. Cant.* III. 132 A great deal of chalk is used for *wall lining. 1891 *Dict. Archit.* (Archit. Publ Soc.), *Wall-lining*, a thin internal wall of brick for keeping dry the interior surface of a house in exposed places. 1344-5 *Exch. Acc. K. R.* 492. 24 (MS.), In M¹ de *Walnail empt. vjd. ob. 1884 Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 224 Next stood a box of shreds and wall-nails. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Reh.* 76 The avenue-readers, the *wall-observers, and those that are acquainted with stall-learning. 1872 T. Morris *Brit. Carpentry* 85 The situation of the *wall posts would seem to indicate a purpose of concentrating the weight. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 220 Item, for ij *wall rasis put undre the cuppill feit,..Item, for v coibalis of stane..for bering to the tua wall rasis. 1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* xi. 53 We say a Ship is..*wall reared when she is right built vp, after shee comes to her bearing. 1326 *Placitorum Abbrev.* (1811) 352 Et dicunt qd idem dñs & curia sua de Stebenhethe..ordinavit..duos homines qui vocantur *Walreves ad supervidendum wallias fossata seweras & gutteras praedicta. 1835 R. Willis *Archit. Mod. Ages* vii. 82 If the compartment be bounded by a wall as in the case of the clerestory, the rib which is placed at the intersection of the vault with the wall may be called the *Wall Rib. 1850 Inkersley *Inquir. Archit. France* 309 The union of the wall-rib-shaft..with the spring of the window-arch-way. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 349 On it a shaft has been sunk, showing a continuous vein with well-defined *wall-rock. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 942/2 *Wall-saltpetre or lime saltpetre, calcium nitrate, $Ca(NO_3)_2$, is found as an efflorescence on the walls of stables; it is now manufactured in large quantities. 1865 G. E. Street *Gothic Archit. Spain* lx. 191 There are three-quarter engaged *wall-shafts between the windows. 1911 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 165 *Wall-sided. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780). 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 180 A deep wall-sided valley. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxix, She was a good, substantial ship,..wall-sided and kettle-bottomed. 1868 Huxley *Prehist. Rem. Caithn.* 88 The transverse contour of the skull inclines to be pentagonal and wall-sided. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 903 The *wall-straps (battens, or

pieces of quartering on which to nail the laths) are to be 1 inch and a quarter thick. 1849 *Wall string [see STRING sb. 26]. 1882 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* (1870) 19 Two *wall-tents being placed end to end, for office and bedroom. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 86/1 We had a single wall-tent, ten by twelve. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 81/2 Section of Hollow Brick Wall, showing our patent cast and wrought *wall-ties. 1398 *York Mercers* etc. (Surtees) 15 Pro xx mille de *Walteghill, vj *li.* 1465 in *Paston Lett.* II. 294 A thousand waltyle that his fadir had fro ye selde Williams wyfes place. 1790 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* Suppl., *Wall-tiles*, bricks; opposed to tiles, called Thack-tiles. North. 1882 CHRISTY *Joints* 68 Wall tiles are sometimes bedded in fine plaster. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 748/7 *Hec maxillare*, a *walthothe. (? Hence) 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wall-teeth*, a large double-tooth. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 699 This war the best off all, To kepe our strynth off castell and off *wall toun. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Testim. & Man* 7 Wal-townis, castellis, towiris, neuir so wicht, may nocht resist quhill it be at his hert. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 66 As concerning the distance of *Wal-trees. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 42 For wall-tree cherries, plums, pears, etc. allot a portion of the earliest..varieties for south walls. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 493 Another [nest] was completed in an adjoining wall-tree. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 511 We discovered arsenic in large quantity in the green unsized *wall-wash of her own sitting-room. 1596 S. FINCHE *Let.* 26 Feb., in Ducarel *Hist. Croydon* (1783) App. 155 We have made up that angle.. *wall-wyse with stone and morter. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Thorpe) II. 166 Þa gebroðra eodon to ðam *wall-weorce. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* A vj b, Our dutie hadd bene to direct the buildyng of our Religion by this lyne and leuell, and to ramme fast the wallworkes hereof with this cemente and morter. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 468/1 Other internal walls..communicate with wall-works running east and west.

b. In the names of animals frequenting or living in walls, as **wall-bee** (see quot.); **wall-bird**, a dial. name of the Spotted Flycatcher, *Muscicapa grisola*; **wall-brown**, a common British butterfly, *Satyrus megæra = brown wall* (see 19 c); **wall-butterfly** (see quot.); **wall-carpet**, a variety of the carpet-moth (see CARPET *sb.* 5); **wall-creeper** (see quot. 1888); **wall-fly** (see quot.); **wall-gecko** (see quot.); **wall-lizard**, a lizard of the species *Lacerta muralis*; **wall-louse**, † (*a*) the bed-bug, *Cimex lectularius*; (*b*) *dial.* the woodlouse; †**wall-newt**, ? = *wall-lizard*; **wall-usher**, a variety of moth (see quot.); **wall-wasp** (see quot.).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 94 The *Wall Bees are so called, because they make their nests in walls. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2186 The spotted flycatcher is the '*wall-bird'. 1846 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 171 Not a single specimen has been observed of the..*Wall Brown, or the Dark Green Aglaia. 1860 W. S. COLEMAN *Brit. Butterfl.* 98 The *Wall Butterfly (*Lasiommata Megæra*). *Ibid.* 99 It is called the Wall Butterfly from its frequent habit of choosing a road-side wall for a perch. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 111 The *Wall Carpet (*Alcis muraria* Curtis). 1667 C. MERRETT *Pinax* 177 *Picus murarius*, the Creeper, or *Wall-Creeper. 1678 [see SPIDER-CATCHER 2]. 1764 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* III. 284 The Wall-creeper of Surinam 1888 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 534/2 Allied to the Tree-Creeper [*Certhia*)..is the genus *Tichodroma*, the single member of which is the Wall-Creeper (*T. muraria*) of the Alps and some other mountainous parts of Europe and Asia. 1653 WALTON *Angler* ii. 54 Nay, sometimes a worm, or any kind of fly; as the Ant-fly, the Flesh-fly, or *Wall-fly [cf. ed. 3 (1661) 63, the black Bee that breeds in clay walls]. 1886 *Cassell's Dict.* s. v. *Platydactylus*, *P. fasciculatis* or *muralis* is the *Wall Gecko. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 274 The lively little *Wall Lizard, *Lacerta muralis*. 1540 *Septem Ling. Dict.* D vj, Cimices..*wallyse. 1598–1687 Wall louse [see PUNAISE]. 1673 [see CHINCH *sb.*1]. 1693 S. DALE *Pharmacol.* 331 CIMEX..The Wall-Louse or Bugg. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, s.v. *Kirk louse*, *Wall louse*, *Slater*, woodlouse, millipede. *Ouiscidæ*. 1603 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 135 Poore Tom, that eates..the Tod-pole, the *wall-Newt, and the water. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 88. 2/1 Like the Body of a Red *Wall-Spider. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 102 The *Wall Usher (*Anisopteryx Æscularia*, Stephens) appears on palings and trunks of trees the middle of March. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 372 The *Wall Wasp (*Odynerus parietum*)..may be almost constantly seen haunting sunny walls during the months of June and July.

c. In the names of plants growing on or by walls and in dry or stony places, as **wall barley**, the wild barley, *Hordeum murinum*; also **rye-grass**, *Lolium perenne*; **wall bugloss**, a plant of the genus *Lycopsis*; **wall cabbage** (see quot.); **wall-cress**, the genus *Arabis*; also (see quot. 1796); **wall fern**, the common evergreen fern, *Polypodium vulgare*; **wall gillyflower**, the WALLFLOWER; **wall grass**, the stonecrop, *Sedum acre*; **wall hawkweed**, *Hieracium murorum*; **wall moss**, (*a*) the yellow lichen, *Parmelia parietaria* (Cent. Dict.); (*b*) *Sedum acre*; (*c*) see quot. 1855; **wall mustard** = *wall-rocket*; **wall pellitory** = PELLITORY 2; † **wall penny grass**, **wall pennywort** = PENNYWORT 1; **wall pepper**, *Sedum acre*; **wall pie** = *wall rue*; **wall-rocket**, *Diplotaxis tenuifolia*; **wall rue**, a small fern, *Asplenium Ruta muraria*; **wall sage**, † (*a*) a species of *Sideritis*; cf. GLIDEWORT, IRONWORT; (*b*) = PELLITORY 2 (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); **wall speedwell**, *Veronica arvensis*; **wall spleenwort** = *wall rue*; **wall weed**, ? mother-of-thousands, *Linaria Cymbalaria*. Also WALLFLOWER, WALLWORT.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 43 Phœnices or Herdeum murinum of Plinie, in the *wal Barley, whiche groweth on mud walles. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. li. 71 Red Darnell is called..in Latin *Lolium rubrum*; and *Lolium Murinum*; in English Wall Barley. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 333 The Wall barley, or way bennet, as some people improperly term it. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* I. 397/1 We all remember how in our youth we put inverted spikes of the Wall Barley up our sleeves and found them travel to our shoulders. 1630 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 36 Echium alterum, *Dod.* Lycopsis Anglica, *Lob.* in agris siccioribus & muris. *Wall Bugloss. 1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Wall-Bugloss. Common name for the *Lycopsis*. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 593 [Brassica muralis] Sisymbrium *murale*. Linn...*Wall Cabbage. Old walls and rubbish. *Ibid.* 589 *Turritis hirsuta*..*Wall Cress. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 83/2 Wall-cress, the English name [of *Arabis*] has similar reference to the usual place of growth. 1548 *Grete Herbal* cccxlix. (1529) Tv, De polytryco. *Walfarne. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 214 Walfarne. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 80 Viola alba...There are diuerse sortes... One is called in englishe Cheiry, Hertes ease or *wal Gelofloure, it groweth vpon the walles, and..hath yealowe floures. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 94 The butter-flower of the meadow, and the wall gilly-flower. 1882 H. FRIEND *Devonsh. Plant-n.*, *Wall Grass. *Sedum acre*, L. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 674 *Wall hawkweed. 1855 ANNE PRATT *Flowering Pl.* II. 324 *Wall-moss (Dicranum murale). 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Wall Moss. *Sedum acre* L.—N. and E. Yks. 1904 *Wall-mustard [see *wall-rocket*]. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 169, I knowe no English name for it [*Umbilicus veneris*]: but lest it should be wythout a name I call it *wall penny grasse. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. XXV. 37 *Cotyledon vera*. *Wall Pennywurte. 1579, 1736 [see PENNYWORT 1]. 1855 ANNE PRATT *Flowering Pl.* II. 300 *Cotyledon Umbilicus* (Wall Pennywort). 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. LXXVII. 113 Of Houselyke and Sengreene...The fourth is called..in English Stone Crop,..& of some it is called *Wall Pepper. 1881 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* III. (ed. 4) 238 We find the *Sedum acre*, or yellow stone-crop, often called wall-pepper. 1855 ANNE PRATT *Flowering Pl.* I. 252 *Sinapis tenuifolia* (*Wall-rocket). 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Oct. 10/1 This is the wall-rocket or narrow-leaved wall-mustard (*Diplotaxis tenuifolia*), a glaucous plant, one to one and a half feet high, with pale lemon-yellow flowers. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 86 Saluia vita or Ruta muralis..maye be called in englishe Stone Rue, or *wal Rue. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. iv. 243 Leaves of Wall-Rue 4 Ounces. 1906 J. VAUGHAN *Wild-Fl. Selborne* 92 The little wall-rue fern. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 73 Sideritis prima..may be called in englishe *walsage or stonisage. 1651 J. F[RAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* I. xvii. 40 Geese, Ducks, and such like watery fowle, cure themselves with the Hearb called wall-sage [L. *herba sideritide*]. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 13 *Veronica arvensis*..*Wall Speedwell. 1866 SWINBURNE *St. Dorothy* Poems & Ballads 288 Green blossom cleaves To the green chinks, and lesser *wall-weed sweet, Kissing the crannies that are split with heat.

† **Wall**, *sb.*2 *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 vall, wal. [var. spelling (with silent *l*) of WAW *sb.*] A wave (of the sea).

c 1480 *Wyntoun's Cron.* I. vii. 399 (MS. E.) Of wallis wawerit wallis wid. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 180 The watter is the warld, ay welterand With mony wall of trubulatioun. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1316 Thi schip, that goth apone the stormy vall. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. viii. 60 Within the havin goith loune, but wind or wall. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 39 The suelland vallis of the brym seye. 1899 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* vii. 89 The waltering wals, and raging windie blast.

† **Wall**, *sb.*3 *Obs.* Also 7 whall. [Back-formation from WALL-EYE.] *Eyes of wall* (nonce-phrase) = 'wall eyes': see WALL EYE. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*, as in *wall speck*; *wall-coloured* adj.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Oeil, Oeil de chevre*, a whall, or ouer-white eye. 1633 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 27 The apple [of the eye] is half blew, and all about wall-coloured. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 424 The Beast was sturdy large and tall, With Mouth of Meal and Eyes of Wall. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4285/8 Stolen..a white Horse, with..a wall Speck in one of his Eyes.

Wall (wǭl), *sb.*4 *Naut.* Short for WALL-KNOT.

1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* vi, 'How is this to be finished off sir?' inquired a sailor of the boatswain. 'Why,..it must be with a double wall.' *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 30 Make a single wall. *Ibid.* 56 A 'double wall' or deck stopper-knot is made...close up to the wall. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Wall and Crown*. This knot should be finished with a crown.

Wall (wǭl), *sb.*5 = LABLAB.

1884 *De Candolle's Orig. Cultiv. Plants* 346 Lablab, or Wall..*Dolichos Lablab*, Linnæus. This species is much cultivated in India and tropical Africa. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 322 'Wall' of India (*Dolichos Lablab*, L.) A climbing perennial largely cultivated in the Tropics for its unpalatable seeds.

Wall, *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 weallan, 2–5 walle-n, 7- wall. *Pa. t.* 1 wēol(l, 3 weol, wul, 4 wel; *weak* 4 wallede, 7- walled. [OE. *weallan* redupl. str. vb. (pa. t. *wēoll*, pa. pple. *gewallen*) corresp. to OFris. *walla* to well up (WFris. *walle* to boil), MFlem. *wallen* (Kilian) to well up (mod.Flem. to boil), OS. *wallan* str. vb., to boil up, gush forth (MLG. *wallen*), OHG. *wallan* str. vb., to boil, gush forth (MHG. *wallen* str., mod.G. wk., to boil, be agitated, swarm, etc.).

The transitive uses do not occur in OE., and as they are found only with the weak conjugation, it is possible that they descend not from OE. *weallan*, but from *wallen* var. of *wiellan*, *wellen* WELL *v.*; cf. mod. Sc. *wall* (WELL *sb.*) repr. OE. *wælla* var. of *wielle*. The transitive senses below are closely paralleled by those of WELL *v.* and its equivalents in other Teut. langs.

The Teut. **wallan* (=-**walw-*) redupl. vb. with the sense 'to boil, bubble up' is confined to WGer.; but a cogn. and synonymous **wellan* str. vb. exists in ON. *vella* (*vall, ollum*), MSw. *vælla* str. vb. (Sw. *välla*, Da. *vælde* wk. vbs.), and a causative type **walljan* wk. vb. in ON. *valla* (Sw. *välla*) to boil (trans.), to weld = MHG. *wellen*, OE. *wiellan*: see WELL, WELD vbs. For other Teut. derivatives of the root in the same specific sense see WALM, WELLAB.; cf. also Goth. *wulan* to be fervent. It is probable that the sense 'to boil, bubble, well up' is developed from the sense 'to roll', which belongs to the root **wel-* in Teut. and Indogermanic (see WALLOW *v.*) ; for the form **wal-* cf. OHG. *walla* roller, axle (MHG., mod.G. *walle*), *wallan* str. vb. trans. to roll.)

† **1.** *intr.* Of a liquid: To boil. Also of a person: To be in boiling liquid. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 358 Do ofer fyr, awyl þonne hit wealle, sing iii. pater noster. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 249 (Trin. MS.) Þar is pich þat afre walleð [*MS. Egerton* wealð]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10507 To bærnnenn & to wallenn Wiþþ deofless dun in hellegrund. *c* 1250 *Song Passion* 45 in *O.E. Misc.* 198 Wallen in helle dep nere neuere so swet wit alle.

† **b.** *fig.* To 'boil' with passion. (Cf. WALLING *ppl. a.*) *Obs.*

Beowulf 2
worn gemu
inwiþ of w
heorte wall...

† **2.** Of liquids: To bubble up; to well up, flow abundantly. Of the sea, waves: To boil up, rage.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. iii, Mon geseah weallan blod of eorþan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 At eche wunde wul ut atter. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 662 As þe water deþ vp walle. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* III. 28 Syker þou myst be of þat lond þar melke and hony walleþ. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 1087 Þe blod out of his wounde wel. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 72 Venim or vernisch or vinegre, I trouwe, Walleþ in my wombe or waxeþ, ich wene. *c* 1490 *Mirk's Festial* 9 Out of þe wbech tombe manna and oyle walleþ out yfere. *fig.* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. iii. 432 Thes..causis, out of whiche wallen the seid yuelis.

† **b.** To swarm (with vermin). *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iv. 212 On blindum cwearterne ..þær manna lic lagon, þe wæran ær acwealde..þa weollon eall maðon. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 531/22 *Scatens*, weallende [gl. Aldh. *Laud. Virg.* (poet.) LXXXIX, *scatens vermibus*]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 235 He wallede ful of wormes [L. *vermibus scatens*].

3. *trans.* To boil. Cf. WELL *v.*

See *pot-walling*, quot. 1456 s. v. POT-WALLOPING.

c 1320 *S. Margaret* 287 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 232 Takeþ and walleþ oyle and lete opon hir renne.

b. *absol.* To boil brine in salt-making.

1600 [Implied in WALLER 2]. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1063 They seldom Wall, that is, make Salt, in above 6 Houses at a time.

4. *intr.* To weld, become welded; *fig.* to blend. Cf. WELL, WELD *vbs.*

1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 1692 Pleasure in Him and fleshlie pleasure fall So foull at strife, they can, nor mixe, nor wall.

Wall (wǭl), *v.*2 Pa. t. and pa. pple. **walled** (wǭld). [OE. **weallian* (only in pa. pple. *gewallod*), *f. weall* WALL *sb.*1 Cf. LG. *wallen*.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with a wall.

a. To enclose, surround, or divide with a wall or walls; to provide (a town, etc.) with fortified walls.

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* xiii. 29 Micele burga þær sind and maerlice geweallode.] *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 435 He ches a stede toward eden, And..Wallede a burȝ, e-no bi name. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 138, I saugh a Gardin.., Enclos it was, and walled wel, With hye walles enbatailled. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 339 Þe citee of Þork, þat was not ful i-walled. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 272 Laomedon the kynge of Troye was besy to walle and mure his cyte with mures and towres. 1589 BIGGES *Summaria Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 39 The same [Priorie] being walled with a wall of stone. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iii. 14 Close by the battell, ditch'd, & wall'd with turph. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron.* 13 King Athelstan..new walled and beautifyed the City of Exceter. 1794 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XII. 201 The expence of walling the forty-two acres was seventy-eight pounds. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, The House of Correction..is not walled, like other prisons, but is palisaded round about with..stakes. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 295 Some lands near the river..have risen immensely in value, being now trenched and walled. 1881 *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* (N.S.) III. 31 The town of Shonga..is walled and ditched.

b. with *about*, *round about*, *round*. *To wall in*, to enclose with a wall. *To wall off*, *out*, to shut off or out with a wall.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1169 Þe vif tounes of þe vif pors he let walli aboute. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 220 Till Perth then went thai..That then was wallyt all about. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. 1303 (Cott.) He gert wal in al þat stede Qwhar Criste his passion tholit of dede. 1483 CAXTON *Reynard* v. (Arb.) 10 They..wente in a yerde whiche was walled round a boute. *c* 1530 TINDALE *Jonas* Prol. B viij, Enuironed it and walled it aboute on euery syde with ye feare of god. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VII. XIX. 834 Their parkes therefore must bee walled about. 1633 *Stowe's Surv.* 761 He round walled the Church-yard. 1691 J. GIBSON in *Archæologia* XII. 189 The garden not being walled about they have less summer fruit. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 564 It was a low marshy Ground, wall'd round with a Stone-wall. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 28 A gravel-walk that was walled in on the left hand. 1799 WELLINGTON *Let. Lieut. Col. Close* 21 Dec., in Gurwood *Disp.* (1844) I. 47 What I should propose would be to wall off that part occupied by him. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, Traffic was walled out. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 19 A space for cooking walled off from the sleeping-room. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE

Journ. Central & E. Arabia II. 302 The town is walled in, but not strongly, on the land side.

c. To furnish (a building) with side and partition walls; to build the wall or walls of. Also with *up*.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* XIX. 303 And þere-with grace bigan to make a good foundement, And wattesed it and walled it with his peynes & his passioun. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 264 And all was walled þat wone. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. ccix. 208 b/2 Therein was a square toure thick walled. 1692 Dryden *K. Arthur* II. 19 That Castle, were it wall'd with Adamant, Can hide thy Head, but till to Morrow's Dawn. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 78 The Towers..ought not to be open on the inside, but walled up quite round. 1799 A. Young *View Agric. Lincoln.* 34 The old buildings are of timber, walled with clay. 1911 G. Macdonald *Roman Wall Scot.* xii. 401 Perhaps it was now that Castlecary was walled with stone.

d. To line (a well, cistern) with a wall. Also with *round*.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 299 A Cistern of Clay walled within with Bricks. 1833 Jas. Davidson *Brit. & Rom. Rem. Axminster* 84 A hole in the natural soil..walled round in a circular form with flint stones.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To enclose, defend, bound, or divide as with a wall, or as a wall does.

c 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's T.* 219 My sone, god..Walled a tonge with teeth and lippes eke for man shulde hym auyse what he speeke. 1598 A. Jenkinson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 331 We feared nothing being walled with the said riuer. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 24 On either hand thee, there are squadrons pitcht, To wall thee from the liberty of Flight. 1595 *Polimanteia* in Brydges *Brit. Bibl.* I. 278 Yet both of you [Oxford and Cambridge] so deare to me,..so walled with priuiledges, so crowned with all kinde of honor. 1603–4 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. v. 122 (QQ 1, 2) There's such diuinitie doth wall [*Fol.* hedge] a king, That treason dares not looke on. *c* 1620 Fletcher *False One* v. iv. 26 My free mind, Like to the palm-tree walling fruitful Nile, Shall grow up straighter. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 165 Either side is wall'd with an amazing hill. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. vii. 179 They..onely spoiled poore villages, which counted themselves walled with the truce as yet in force. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 721 Each [star] had his place appointed, each his course, The rest in circuit walles this Universe. 1818 L. Hunt *Hero & Leander* II. 7 The struggling flare Seem'd cast; but then he knew his Hero's care, And that she only wall'd it with her cloak. 1834 Lo. Houghton *Mem. Tour Greece* 93 The tall white rock, Walled the far waste of silent sea. 1878 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 6/1 The enclosures were walled with Union Jacks. 1889 Bridges *Prometheus* 14 Where the path Is walled with corn I am found. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 59 On the right hand, walling the street, [is] the great monastery to the Passion of Christ.

b. with *about*, *across*, *along*, *in*, *round*.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xx. (1869) 15 This closure that cloweth yow and walleth yow in, disseueringe yow from the world. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 3 A Lady wal'd about with Diamonds. 1593 — *Rich. II*, III. ii. 167 As if this Flesh, which walls about our Life, Were Brasse impregnable. *a* 1626 Bacon *War with Spain* (1629) 43 The Spaniards..casting themselues continually into Roundels, (their strongest Ships walling in the rest). 1642 Denham *Sophy* I. 1 'Tis his single vertue And terror of his name, that walls us in From danger. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 38 A weekly sabbath walls in our wild natures. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* I. 475 At length I heard of Orleans, by the foe Wall'd in from human succour. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 207 The high precipices which had hitherto walled in the channel of Snake river. 1845 J. Coultas *Adv. in Pacific* xi. 132 The..upper part of the clearing, which was walled along for several hundred yards by solid rock. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* Prol. 3 World—how it walled about Life with disgrace. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 39 A canyon..was here walled across by a dump of rolling stones. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xiv, The..landlocked bay, with..a grand sandstone bluff guarding and walling-in the farther point like a grim jealous giant.

c. To form the sides of (a room) like walls; to line the walls of (an apartment).

1832 Lytton *Eugene Aram* I. iii. 20 The rest of the room was walled from the floor to the roof with books. 1846 G. B. Cheever *Lect. Pilgr. Progr.* x. 126 It does not take long in such employment to make the room seem walled with retributive flames. 1910 G. W. E. Russell *15 Chapters Autob.* (1914) vii. 149 The great gallery, walled with the canvases of Rubens.

3. To shut up (a person or thing) within walls, to build up or entomb in a wall, to immure. Chiefly with *up*.

1530 Palsgr. 770/2, I wall, I shyt up, or close up, within walles. *Je murre*...It is a harde relygyon to be an anchre, for they be shytte up within walles and can go no farther. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 243 They were walled vp within their monasterie. *a* 1618 Fletcher *Mad Lover* I. i, In three [battles] he beat the Thunder-bolt his Brother, Forc'd him to wall himself up. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 133 After the sight of one dead, the other wall'd to certaine death,..what could they say? 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1892) II. xii. 285 The feather bedds that were walled up are much eaten with Ratts. 1729 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) VI. 87 But if ne'er so close you wall him,..Blind Love..Will find out the way. 1737 W. Cowper in F. Peck *Mem. O. Cromwell* etc. II. (1740) 88, I am apt to think the person found in the vault was betrayed and walled up alive by them he trusted. 1845 Poe *Black Cat* (end), I had walled the monster up within the tomb!

transf. 1867 G. Macdonald *Poems* 87, I will be a knight Walled up in armour black.

¶ b. An alleged synonym of Gate *v.*[1]

1860 C. Benson *Mr. Bedlow, Remin. Amer. Coll. Life* in *Macm. Mag.* II. 222/1 To 'gate' or 'wall' a refractory student would be simply impossible, for want of the material masonry. 1871 Hoppe s.v. *Gate* gives the prec. quot.; hence the sense appears (as 'Oxford university slang') in Barnhart & Leland *Slang*, in Farmer, and in recent Dicts.

4. To close (a gate or other aperture) with or as with a wall. Chiefly with *up*.

1503 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees 1890) 30 John Mitteley & his heires frome now forthe shall wall up..the utter west syde of his swynstye. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* v. 47 They that were in the cite, wolde not let them go thorow, but walled vp the portes with stones. 1605 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 168 A waller, one day wallinge uppe the dowre..iiij^{s}. 1667 *Observ. Burning Lond.* 23 [They] were talking of walling the Gates to prevent the coming in of the Tartarians. 1707–27 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 192 Wall up the sides with Brick. 1848 H. Greville *Leaves fr. Diary* 1 July (1883) 280 The door has been walled to prevent surprise. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* viii, Some of the windows had been walled up. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* II. 225 Bishop Alcock..walled up the arches and inserted in each of them a window.

5. To build (stone) into a wall. Also of stone, to make (a specified length) of walling.

1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 251 P'd for soe many stones as walled nyne y'des, ij^{s} iij^{d}. 1792 Smeaton *Edystone L.* (1793) § 209 When it [Bath Free Stone] is walled with this kind of mortar,..the joints are more permanent. 1848–9 *L'Instl. Archit. Soc.* (1852) II. 190 It [the rubble] may be walled with or without mortar.

6. *absol.* or *intr.* To construct a wall or walls; to build walling.

1588 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 44 Towe mene for wallinge towe days, ij^{s} iij^{d}. 1598 *Ibid.* 218 Towe workemen, for waullynge and daubynge in the bru howse..xvj^{d}. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 47 We may be said rather to wall than only to fill up.

7. *trans.* To chalk up (a score) on the wall. *slang.*

1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 129 *Wall it*, chalking a reckoning up at a public house.

† **Wall**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* [OE. *weallian* = OHG., (M)LG., MDu. *wallen*, OHG. *wallôn* (MHG., mod.G. *wallen*) :—Wtter. **wallôjan*.

By some scholars referred to the root of Wall *v.*[1]; others regard it as a contraction of **waþlôjan* (cf. OHG. *wadalôn* to roam about).]

intr. To go on pilgrimage.

a 1000 *Canons Edgar*, *Of Penitents* § 10 in Thorpe *Ags. Laws* II. 280 Deoplic dæd-bot biŏ þæt læwede man his wæpna alecge & weallize bær-fot wide. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1848 With me xall ȝe wall to have more eloqnens & goo vesyte þe stacyons by and by.

Wall (wɔ̄l), *v.*[4] Now only *U.S.* Also 5–9 *Sc.* **waul**(**e**, **wawl**(**e**, 5–6 *Sc.* (? *errors.*) **waill**. [MSc. *wawle* :—**waʒle*, related to *waʒl-* in Wall-eyed *a.*] *trans.* To roll (the eyes). Also *absol.*, and *intr.* of the eyes. Hence **Wa'lling** *ppl. a.* (Sc. *waulen*').

c 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 469 The Cok..Vnwarlie winkand, wawland vp and doun. *c* 1500 in *Maitland MS.* (S. T. S.) iv. 27 Cuttis for þi cot þai kest..out throw þi harnis þe pykis of thorne apliit, wawland [*MS. Arundel* wailland] þi ene. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. vii. 154 In the breist of the goddes graif thai Gorgones heid,..Wyth ene wauland [L. *tortentem lumina*]. 1818 *Edin. Mag.* Oct. 328/2 The aicht forbow't her waulen' een, Sho lay in the deadthraws. 1821 Scott *Pirate* XXX, But presently recovering himself, he wawls on me with his gray een, like a wild-cat. 1817 Hogg *Gude Greye Katt* XXVII. in *Poetic Mirror* (1817) 196 Quhill ilken bosome byrnit with lufe, And waulit ilken ee. 1876 'Mark Twain' *Tom Sawyer* v, The ladies would lift up their hands,..and 'wall' their eyes, and shake their heads. 1883 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Soc.* 55 *Wall the eyes*, that is, 'to roll the eyes so as to show the white.' I can remember this as a very common way among the little negroes in South Carolina of showing displeasure.

Wall (wɔ̄l), *v.*[5] *Naut.* [f. Wall *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To make a wall-knot on (a rope).

1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 122 The end [of the rose-lashing] is finished off by crowning and walling the end close to the crossing turns.

Wall: see Wale *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2], Waw, Well.

Walla, variant form of Wallah.

Wallaba (wɒ'lăbă). [? a. native name.] A large South American timber-tree (*Eperua falcata*). Also *attrib.*, as *wallaba oil*, *tree*.

1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* I. (1903) 17 Here the.. wallaba, purple-heart,..and mora, are met with in vast abundance. 1845 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* (1846) 550 Eperua falcata is the Wallaba-tree of Guiana. 1866 *List Centrib. fr. B. Guiana to Lond. Exhib.* in Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 122 Wallaba Oil. *Ibid.* 137 Wallaba...Used for house-frames, shingles, staves, palings, and posts. Yields an oil and gum resin having medicinal properties. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* VII, I passed the great Australian Blue-Gum which overhangs the road, and the Wallaba-tree.

Wallaby (wɒ'labi). Also **-bi**(**e**, **-bee**, **walloby**, **whallabee**. Pl. **wallabies**, † **-bys**. [Native Australian: spelt *wal-li-bah* by D. Collins *Acc. Eng. Colony N.S. Wales* 614, 1798. Morris suggests derivation from *walla* to leap.]

1. A kangaroo belonging to any of the small species of the genus *Macropus*, formerly grouped as the sub-genus *Halmaturus*, or of the genera *Onychogale* ('Nail-tailed Wallaby'), *Petrogale* ('Rock Wallaby'), *Lagorchestes* ('Hare Wallaby') and *Lagostrophus* ('Banded Wallaby'). All the species are confined to Australia and the neighbouring islands.

The sing. form is used in sporting language as collective plural.

1826 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) I. 289 The wallabee and paddymalla grow to about sixty pounds each. 1830 R. Dawson *Pres. State Australia* III. (1831) 111 A species of small kangaroo..which the natives call the 'Wallaby'. 1832 Buckmaster *Van Diemen's Land* II. 28 The wallabee is not very common. 1843 J. E. Gray *List Specim. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 89 The Wallabee. *Halmaturus Ualabatus* [etc.]. 1845 J. O. Balfour *Sk. N. S. Wales* 25 The wallaby, or rock kangaroo, is of a dark-grey colour [etc.]. *Ibid.*, The wallabya are to be seen only on the hottest days. 1846 J. L. Stokes *Discov. in Australia* I. ix. 267 The Wallaby are numerous on this part of the island [Tasmania]. 1860 G. Bennett *Gather. Naturalist* xiv. 286 A species of Wallaby Kangaroo was found about the rocky ranges at the Nepean. 1867 W. Richardson *Tasmanian Poems* 18 Go to the country a week to shoot wallaby. 1884 'R. Boldrewood' *Melbourne Mem.* iii. 84 Violet was so fast that she could catch the brush kangaroo (the wallaby) within sight. 1893 Mrs. C. Praed *Outlaw & Lawmaker* II. 35 The scared rock wallabies darted out of their holes.

2. *On the wallaby track*, hence shortened *on the wallaby*: on tramp; wandering about on foot, whether in search of work or aimlessly as a vagrant.

1869 Marcus Clarke *Peripatetic Philosopher* 42 (Morris) An old bush ditty, which I have heard sung when I was on the 'Wallaby'. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* ix, What is the meaning of 'out on the wallaby'?..It's bush slang, sir, for men just as you or I might be now, looking for work or something to eat. *Ibid.* XXVII, He wanted a summer on the wallaby track to open his mind. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Lost Legion* ii, And some of us hunt on the Oil Coast, And some on—the Wallaby track.

3. *attrib*, as in *wallaby skin*, *tail*; **wallaby (-proof) fence**, a fence intended to keep out wallabies; **wallaby-grass**, an Australian grass, *Danthonia penicillata*.

1852 Mundy *Antipodes* II. 43, I found myself..swallowing with relish, a plate of wallabi-tail soup. 1881 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 56 A portion of this station was fenced with wallaby-proof fence—a high, close paling, reminding one of an English park. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 13 June 6/2 A wallaby-skin rug. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 238/2 Down the wallaby fence..the emus turned at a hurricane gait.

Wallace, variant of Wallis.

Wallach, **Wallachian**: see Walach, -ian.

Walladay, obs. form of Welladay.

Wallah (wɒ'lă). *Anglo-Indian.* Also **wal**,**l**)**a**, **wollah**. [a. Hindī *-wālā*, a suffix, forming adjs. with the sense 'pertaining to or connected with' what is denoted by the sb.; hence forming sbs., as in *nāo-wālā* boatman, *Dillī-wālā* inhabitant of Delhi. The suffix in this function may be compared to *-ER*[1]; Europeans have commonly apprehended it as a sb. equivalent to 'man', 'fellow'.]

a. In certain Hindī or Hindustānī words adopted in Anglo-Indian use or cited in popular Anglo-Indian spelling, as *Agra wallah*, native of Agra, *banghy-wallah*, a porter who carries loads with a *banghy* or shoulder-yoke, *howdah-wallah*, an elephant accustomed to carry a howdah, *jungle-wallah*, man of the jungle. See also Lootie-wallah, Punkah-*wallah*. Topi-wallah.

Mrs. Sherwood's *purdah-walla* (see Purdah 3), applied to a woman, is a misuse.

1776 *Trial Nundocomar* 25/1 They were both Agra Walla's ..by Agra, I mean the place he came from. 1810 T. Williamson *E. India Vade-M.* I. 325 The bangy-wollah, that is, the bearer who carries the bangy. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xvi. 146 The murderous old deceit and his Jungle-wallah of a servant. 1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* v. (1864) 113 My suite comprised sixteen bearers,..and four banghy wallahs. *Ibid.* vi. 176 Strange stories these old howdah-wallahs could tell us, if they had the gift of speech!

b. Used as sb. with Eng. word prefixed attrib., in imitation of native derivatives with the suffix, as in *box wallah* (Box *sb.*[2] 24), *competition wallah* (Competition 3).

1765 in Seton-Karr *Sel. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 93 A band of good Patriot-wallahs. 1834 [A. Prinsep] *Baboo* II. iii. 55 (Stanf.) These chits of 50, 50, and 200 rupees to box-walas from Mrs. Title. 1853 W. D. Arnold *Oakfield* I. 66 'Were you ever in the Lakes?' 'No, I'm a Suffolk walla.' 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 193 'The Inseparables' ..came in to superintend his toilet, accompanied by a ready-made clothes wallah and a barber. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 299/1 Now, those fellows..those big-ship wallahs —they're only just beginning to take Us seriously.

c. Short for *competition-wallah*.

1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* i. (1864) 9 Stories against the Competition Wallahs,..are told..For instance: *Story showing the Pride of Wallahs.*—A Wallah being invited to dinner by a Member of Council, went out before the whole company. 1872 'Alifh Chkeh' (Yeldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 142 Each unemployed wallah so surely applies To be kindly allowed in that Station to stay, Doing his nothing, and drawing his pay. 1921 Sir W. F. Butler *Autob.* iii. 45 M. sleeps. Enter the wallahs and servants.

† **Wa'lland**, *a. dial. Obs.* [Of obscure origin. The E. Anglian glossary is prob. correct in reading *walland* as one word, not *wall and* as printed in Bloomfield's poem. Cf. the Yorkshire *wallband whip*, 'a whip of plaited leather thongs' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).]

(See quot. 1845.)

1820 Bloomfield *Rur. Tales, Richard & Kate* 29 She straight slipp'd off the Wall and Band. 1825 *E. Angl. Gloss.* (citing Rev. E. S. Taylor), *Walland band*, the leather used in spinning.

Wallaroo (wɒ'lărū). Also 9 **wallooroo**, **wolloroo** (see Morris *Austral Engl.*), **wallaru**. [Native Australian *wolaro*: cf. Wallaby.] A large species of kangaroo, *Macropus robustus*; in Queensland and New South Wales applied chiefly to the black variety. Also *wallaroo kangaroo*.

2827 P. Cunningham *Two Years N.S.W.* I. xvii. 309 The wallaroo, of a blackish colour, with coarse shaggy fur, inhabiting the hills. 1845 J. O. Balfour *Sk. N.S. Wales* 25 The wallaroo kangaroo is of a darkish red colour, and weighs about 60 lbs. 1847 Leichhardt *Jrnl.* xiii. 458 He had been guided by a beaten track of Wallaroos. 1850 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* v, The southern forest where ..the forester kangaroo and the wallaroo alone run.

Wallat, obs. variant of Wallet.

Wallaway, obs. form of Wellaway.

[Wall-can: perh. a misprint for **walk-can* : cf. *walk-pin*, Walk *v.*[2] 3.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 386/1 An Hatters Wall-Can,.. a Can by which the Felt-maker bears his Liquor from the Furnace to the Bench.]

Walle: see Wale *sb.*[1], *a.*, *v.*[1], Well.

Walle, obs. Sc. variant of Valley.

c 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. 73 In þe feild of Damask faire.. Or in a walle of Ebron.

† Walled, *a. Obs.* [f. Wall *sb.*[2] + -ed [2]. Cf. Wall *v.*[4]] Of a horse's eye: Affected with 'wall-eye'.

1577–8 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 396 One grey trotting curtoll mare, crapped on the further yeare, and the neare is walled. 1672 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 713/4 A dapple gray Gelding, near 15 hands high, both eies walled. 1703 *Ibid.* No 4182/4 A brown bay Mare,..one walled Eye, the other about half walled.

Walled (wɔ̄ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Wall *v.*[2] + -ed [1].]

1. Furnished with or as with a wall, enclosed with a wall. Of a town, etc.: Surrounded or protected with fortifications. Of a well, cistern, pond, the sides of a cavity, etc.: Lined or faced with masonry.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelm.) xxx. 27 [22] On ceastre gewealledre [Vulg. *in civitate munita*]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6068 They haden wallid cite townes, In dalis, and eke in clownes. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 72 Cytyes and Castelles and walled townes. 1592 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. iv. 7 Twelue Cities, and seuen walled Townes of strength. 1605 — *Lear* v. iii. 18 And wee'l weare out In a wall'd prison, packs and sects of great ones. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 92 Each Town or City wall'd On this side the broad lake Genezaret. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 191 On one side of this cathedral is a walled terrass. 1789 *Ir. Act* 29 *Geo. III*, c. 33 § 25 Walled deer-parks, and planted avenues excepted. 1819 W. S. Rose *Lett. N. Italy* II. 85 *note*, Oblong pieces of walled ground, planted with fruit-trees. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts*, etc. 820 [These] have led to the contrivance of surrounding the area on which the roasting takes place with three little walls or with four...This is what is called a walled area. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 376 A walled Bulgarian village. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 130 A succession of..terraced gardens...Their walled sides are thickly clothed with Calceolarias, Celsias [etc.]. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 237/2 Neptune's Grotto is an enchanting, walled fish-pond.

fig. 1907 Raleigh *Shakespeare* 201 Bereavement or crime breaking in upon the walled serenity of daily life.

b. with qualifying word prefixed.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 24 Þe whilk es a strang citee and a wele walled. 1871 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 267 A great double-walled dyke. 1901 C. Holland *Mousmé* 18 Our little fragile-walled house on the hillside at Nagasaki.

2. With advs. **a.** *Walled-up,* closed or blocked up with masonry.

1826 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 118 A..large walled-in garden. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* I. 219 The third chamber has another old walled-up window. 1903 F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* 103 Like wine found in a walled up cellar. 1906 C. Bigg *Wayside Sk. Eccl. Hist.* i. 12 In front of the church was a walled-in court.

b. *Walled-in, -up,* entombed in a wall.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. ix, Crowds..gaze on the skeletons found walled-up. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 11 Feb. 3/6 The remains of a walled-in nun were discovered.

3. *Anat.* and *Zool.* Furnished with a 'wall' or investing structure: chiefly in parasynthetic formations. Also *walled-off,* separated by a 'wall'.

1873 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 201 The atrium: thin-walled, rounded, lies on the dorsal aspect of the truncus and ventricle. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 362 It was a smooth walled cavity,..about the size of a small marble. 1906 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 13 Jan. 70 A small walled-off pocket of pus.

4. Of the nature of a wall, made of stone-work.

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 115 Where stones can be easily procured,..walled fences may be preferable.

Waller [1] (wɔ̄·lər). [f. Wall *v.*[2] + -er [1].] One who builds walls (see quot. 1908).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/1 Wallare, *murator, machio.* Wallare, þat werkythe wythe stone and morter, *cementarius.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. i. 12 Fra quhame..Come..the valleris of greit Rome. *c* 1565 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 30 Four masonis and viij wallaris: viij quarriouris. 1612 *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 253 Oswald Collyaou waller or rough mason. 1623 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington,* etc. (Surtees) 341 To the wallers for work and plastering, 11. 8s. 1890 *Lincoln Gas.* 30 Aug. 4/1 Choppers, Wallers, and Masons for Ancaster Stone Wanted. 1908 *Reminn. Stonemasons* 89 He himself was what is called a 'waller'—that is, he did not dress stones, but set them on the walls when dressed, or also built walls of rough, unhewn stone.

Waller [2] (wɔ̄·lər). [f. Wall *v.*[1] + -er [1].] In the Cheshire salt-works, a brine-boiler, a worker who attends to the salt-pans. Also *lead-waller* (cf. *lead-walling,* Lead *sb.*[1] 12).

1660 Cowell *Brit.* (ed. 3) 543 Et muliercula (Wallem vocant) vasculis ligneis è fundo salem educunt. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Lead-wallers,* commonly abbreviated to *Wallers. Waller,* a salt-maker or boiler. At present the men call *boilers* those who make *stewed* and *butter-salt,* and the others *wallers.* 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Waller,* a local term, applied to salt boilers, i.e., those who look after the boiling of the salt. It is applied to the men who look after the making of any white salt, whether the pan is required to boil or not.

Waller [3] (wɔ̄·lər). [f. Wall *sb.*[1] + -er [1].]

1. A wall-tree.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 87/1 Wall-Trees, called Wallers, are such as are planted at Wall sides, and are pinned up to the Wall.

† 2. A 'keeper of the walls'. Hence Wallership. *Obs.*

1578 in *Hemsh. Ord.* (1790) 264 Keeper of the Walles, alias wallership; fee *a.* 5. 4.

3. (See quots.)

1904 *Daily Chron.* 15 Apr. 8/2 'Wallers'..are men who find casual employment as law-writers, and have been facetiously christened 'wallers', because they are generally to be found lounging against a wall in Cursitor-street waiting on an engagement. 1908 *Ibid.* 3 July 6/7 'Waller,' as applied to a man who does law writing...They were called 'wallers', as a term of contempt, by the regular writers.

Wallerian (wɒlɛ·riən), *a. Phys.* [f. the name of A. V. *Waller* (1816–70) + -ian.] Of or pertaining to Waller, or to the kind of degeneration of tissue discovered by him.

1877 M. Foster *Physiol.* III. i. (1878) 392 This method of diagnosis is often spoken of as the Wallerian method, after A. Waller. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 863 The part of the nerve-fibre between the rupture and the muscle now undergoes Wallerian degeneration. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 492 The more active or Wallerian degeneration ensues. *Ibid.* 495 The operation of the Wallerian law.

Wallet (wɒ·lĕt). Also 4–6 **walet,** 5 **wallett(e,** 6 **walett, wallyt,** 6, 7, 9 *dial.* **wallat.** [Of obscure origin; the stress *wale·t* (beside *wa·let*) in Chaucer is unfavourable to the current theory that the word is a metathesis of *watel* Wattle *sb.*

Possibly a. OF. or AF. **walet,* which might be derived from Teut. **wall-* to go on pilgrimage (Wall *v.*[2]) or **wallo-* to roll up (see under Wall *v.*[1])

1. A bag for holding provisions, clothing, books, etc., esp. on a journey either on foot or on horseback; a pilgrim's scrip, a knapsack, a pedlar's pack, or the like.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 681 But hood, for Iolitee, wered he noon, For it was trussed vp in his walet (*rhyme* let). *Ibid.* 686 His walet [lay] biforn hym in his lappe, Bret ful of pardon comen from Rome al hoot. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) 106 Yet have I ensample to gadere the smale crommes, and fullen my walet of tho that fallen from the borde among the smale houndes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/1 Walette, seek, or poke, *sistarcia.* 1506–7 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 372 Item, for ane wallat to John of Bute xij d. 1514 A. Barclay *Eglogue* iv. 9 Within his wallet were meates good and fine. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 141 Take hede..what maner of people resorte and comme to thy house ..and specially if they brynge with them..bottelles, bagges, wallettes, or buwshell-pokes. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 461 Another brought two goslynges..She brought them in a wallet. 1535 Coverdale *Judith* xiii. 10 She..delyuered the head of Holofernes vnto hir mayden, and had hir put it in hir walett [Gr. *εἰς τὴν πήραν τῶν βρωμάτων αὐτῆς,* Vulg. *in peram suam*]. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 b, Husbandry necessaries..the smaller sort be these..Sacks, Wallets, Bottels, [etc.]. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* i. 7 Neither..the Switzers blistred Cod-peece, nor the Danish sleeue, sagging downe like a Welsh wallet. 1617 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington* etc. (Surtees) 292 For makinge of a wallet to put the challenc and a bottle in, 1 d. 1620 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Seas* xxvii. 62 Their Childe they carry in a Wallet about their necke, ordinarily vnder one arme, because it may sucke when it will. *c* 1670 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 39 A wallet to cari books. 1712 *Spectator* No. 289 ₱ 9 Having looked about him for some time, he [a Dervise] enter'd into a long Gallery, where he laid down his Wallet, and spread his Carpet, in order to repose himself upon it. *a* 1721 Prior *Cupid turned Plowman* 2 A rustic wallet o'er his shoulders ty'd. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxii, With her scanty wardrobe packed up in a wallet, she set out on her journey on foot. 1791 A. Wilson *Pack* Poet. Wks. 1876 II. 30 My pond'rous Pack apo' the ground I carelessly had flung; A wallet green, wi straps fast bound. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xii, The old man had forgotten a kind of wallet which contained the light burden he had to carry. 1849 Thackeray *Virgin.* lxii, I have heard he came up to London himself as a young man with only his tragedy in his wallet. 1904 Bridges *Demeter* 502 Approach him with a gift: this little wallet. (Giving a little bag of seeds.) 1914 *Misc. Rec. U. F. Ch.* Jan. 3/2 The Highlands, where there is no more welcome visitor than the colporteur with his wallet of healthy and inspiring literature.

Proverb, *To brew in a bottle and bake in a wallet*: ? to attempt enterprises beyond one's means.

c 1540 Boorde *Bk. for to Lerne* B iv, These men the whiche doo brewe in a botell and bake in a walet.

b. *spec.* A bag having the opening in the middle and a receptacle at each end.

Some of the instances above may belong to this specific sense. The wallet 'with two pouches in it' was prob. originally slung across the horse, or over the shoulder of the pedestrian.

1528, 1638 [see 1 c]. 1674 *Jackson's Recant.* A 4 b, Being thus early up, I timely met with a long Purse lying neglected in the Street, whose entrance was on the middle like a Wallat. 1726 Pultney [ed. Kersey], *Wallet,* a kind of Bag with two Pouches to it. 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estate* 141 The wallet is almost unknown even in farmsteads now; it is a kind of long bag closed at each end, but with a slit in the centre for the insertion of things. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Wallet* or *Wally,*..As a hatting term it is a work trance in the centre and made up at each

c. *fig.*

The fable here alluded to (Phædrus IV. x) says that Jupiter gave to every man two bags, one of which, containing his own faults, hangs at his back, and the other, containing those of his fellows, hangs at his breast.

[illegible]'t If we wold once ken..... oure wallets..and the bagge with other folkes faultes cast at oure backe, and caste the bagge that hereth [illegible]ites ..before vs at our brest. 1570 B. Googe *Pop. Kingd.* 60 But sure the wallet them beguiles, that their backs. And better others faultes they see, than what themselues doe lacke. 1589 Cogan *Almesbit.* (Arb.) 18 They looke not into their owne doinge: they cast that end of the wallet behinde them, wherein their owne faultes are wrapped. — Sanderson *Serm.* (1682) II. 118 Neither of both..w[illegible] willing enough to look into the other end of the wallet, and to examine throughly their own spirits.

d. A beggar's bag. † Phrases, *to bear the wallet,* to be a beggar. [= Fr. *porter la besace.*]

1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 19 Bringing them vp other to bear wallettes, other els, if thei be sturdy, to stuffe prisons. 1561 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiake* v. N vj, And as thy goodes they not decrease but may augmented be, Least in thy age the wallet come. 1608 Dekker *Belman Lond.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 85 Thou art likewise to Giue way to any of vs that haue borne all the Offices of the Wallet before thee. 1622 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 6 (1619) 405 Needs must he beare a wallet, and die a beggar. 1625 Bacon *To King* Wks. 1874 XIX. 386 Pity me so far, as I that have borne a bag be not now in my age forced in effect to bear a wallet. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 30 Without House or Land, or so much as a Wallet to go a begging with. 1665 *Surv. Affaires of Netherlands* 33 They coyned Meddals with the Kings Picture, on the one hand a Wallet, and a Dish on the other, with this Inscription, Faithful to God and the King, even to bear the Wallet. 1792 Cowper *Odyss.* xvii. 237 So saying, his tatter'd wallet o'er his back He cast. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Hill & Valley* ix. 135 Without a crust in my wallet, as beggars usually have. 1896 [Hooton] *Bilberry Thurland* I. vi. 124 Their appetites were now recovered, and the contributions of their collected wallets were found insufficient for the whole. 1879 Maclear *Celts* viii. 125 Itinerant beggars, who went about with wallets, were not regarded with favour.

fig. 1608 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 145 Time hath (my lorde) a wallet at his backe Wherein he puts almes for oblivion.

e. A lawyer's bag. ? *Obs.*

1645 Milton *Colast.* 17 A meer and arrant petti-fogger, who lately was so hardy, as to lay aside his buckram wallet, and make himself a fool in Print.

f. *Her.* (See quot.)

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Wallet,* a scrip, or pilgrim's pouch.

† 2. *transf.* Something (in an animal's body) protuberant and swagging. Cf. Wattle *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

1612 Shaks. *Temp.* III. iii. 46 Who would believe that there were Mountayneeres, Dew-lapt, like Bulls, whose throats had hanging at 'em Wallets of flesh? 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 137 Since the great Bulk or Wallet of those Intestines must incline and swag towards the Diaphragm.

3. A flat bag, usually of leather, closed by a flap fastened with a button or clasp, or secured by a band. Orig. *U.S.*

a. A pocket-book for holding paper money without folding, or documents.

1845 N. P. Willis *Dashes at Life* II. 245 Our several borrowings were thrust into a wallet which was sometimes in his pocket, and sometimes in mine, as each took the turn to be paymaster. 1854 Webster, *Wallet,*..also, a pocket-book or place for keeping money about one's person. 1884 *Advt.,* Thin Pocket Diary, for Wallet. 1888 Cassell [as 'American']. 1903 *Daily News* 1 Nov. 7 The plaintiff, a diamond merchant, was carrying a wallet containing £370 in bank-notes, brilliants value £320, two necklaces..., a diamond pendant cluster, [etc.]. 1914 *Ibid.* 29 Jan. 2 He put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a leather dollar wallet and examined its contents.

b. A cyclist's tool-bag.

1887 Vinct. Bury & Hillier *Cyclist* 432 The wallet, or tool-bag, is generally supplied with the machine.

c. 'A small kit carried by anglers,' containing 'thread and needles, awl, waxed ends, . . a pair of small pliers, a file, etc.' (*Cent. Dict.*). ? *U.S.*

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *wallet-bearer, book*; † *wallet-ways* adv.; **wallet envelope,** an envelope with a broad flap like that of a wallet.

1611 Cotgr., *Besacier,* the bag-bearer, or wallet-bearer of a begging, or beggarly companie. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. i. 69 You may perchance thinke it improper to behold me upon thy asse hanging Wallet-wayes. 1832 Gillies *Aristotle's Rhet.* III. ii. 372 In this way Iphicrates insulted Callias, by calling him the wallet-bearer of the goddess, instead of her torch-bearer. 1863 J. C. Bruce (*title*), The Wallet-book of the Roman Wall.

Walleteer (wɒlĕtī·r). *rare*[1]. [f. Wallet + -eer.] One who carries a wallet.

1778 Tollet in *Shaks. Wks.* V. 428 At his girdle hangs a wallet for the reception of provision, the only revenue of the mendicant orders of religious; who were named Walleteers or budget-bearers.

Wallett, obs. Sc. form of Valet.

Wall eye, wall-eye (wɔ̄·l,əi, wɔ̄·l,əl). Also 6 walowe yee, whal eie, 7 whall, waled eye. [Back-formation from Wall-eyed *a.* In 1 pronounced with level stress, the first element being apprehended as an adj.]

1. An eye the iris of which is whitish, streaked, particoloured, or different in hue from the other eye, or which has a divergent squint. (See Wall-eyed *a.* 1.) **a.** in human beings.

1598 *Hundred Merry Tales* (1866) 91, I have a wall eye in

my hed, for I never loke ouer my sholder this wyne but I lyghtly espye a knaue. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, Two Wall-eyes, in a face forced. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2965/4 He had..one Eye bigger than the other, and divers in colour, being a Hazel or Wall Eye. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxv, Whose gaunt visage and wall-eyes assumed a most hostile aspect. 1826 — *Woodst.* xi, Desborough was a stout jolly-looking old warrior with a wall eye. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 61 He was deeply pitted with smallpox, and had, too, a wall eye. 1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. of West* I. vii. 110 She was an ill-favoured person, with a wall-eye.

b. in horses, etc.

1523 *Will of Burton* (Somerset Ho.) A blak mare with one walowe yee. 1577 B. Goode *Herresbach's Husb.* III. 115 A wall eye is very good, such as they say Alexanders Bucephalus had. 1616 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 147, no. 6 A hewen [=hue and] cry sent out from Colchester [for] two randed geldings one of them with a waled eye. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* I. 16 They are for the most part pied, with white legges, and wall eyes. 1700 *Post Man* 6–8 Jan. 2/2 Stoln out of a Stable,..a black Gelding,..a white face, Wall Eyes, and 4 white Feet. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 207/4 Lost.. a Yorkshire Buck-hound, having black spots upon his back, red ears and a wall-eye. 1787 'C. Gambado' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 23 A bald face, wall eyes, and white legs (if your horse is not a grey one) is to be preferr'd. 1822–9 Good *Study Med.* IV. 208 In horses, this want of pigment constitutes what is called a wall-eye. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xx, 'I know your mark.' 'My roan, with the wall-eye. You don't mind a wall-eye?'

¶ c. App. misused for 'blind eye'.

1886 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Aug. 269/2 Honour..never goes about apparently without one wall-eye, and it is a chance and an accident on which side of the road the wall-eye may be fixed.

2. The condition of being wall-eyed.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 428/1 *Glaucoma*,..a disease in the eye,..some think it to be a whal eie.

3. An animal that is wall-eyed. In the U.S. a name for various fishes: see Wall-eyed 3.

[13..: see Waldenese.] 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 17 The Wall-eye does not often exceed ten pounds in weight.

Wall-eyed (wǭl,əid), *a.* Forms: α. 5 wawil-, waugle-, 6 whaule-, 7 whale-, 6– wall-eyed; β. 5 wald-eȝed. [The surviving form descends from ME. *wawil-eȝed*, a. ON. *vagl-eyg-r*, occurring only once, and explained in the context to mean 'having speckled eyes'. The second element, *-eygr*, is regularly f. *augn* Eye *sb.* The first element, *vagl*, is of obscure origin; it coincides in form with *vagl* beam of wood, roost, perch (Da., Norw. *vagl*, Sw. *vagel*) which is used in the Icel. New Testament of 1540 for the 'beam' in the eye spoken of in Matt. vii. 3–4; it is, however, prob. a distinct word, not recorded separately in ON., but surviving in mod. Icel. *vagl* film over the eye, Sw. *vagel* sty in the eye.

Beside *wawil-eyed* ME. had a synonymous *wald-eyed*. This is commonly believed to be a. ON. *vald-eygð-r*; but that word is only a conjectural reading for *valdeygðr*, occurring in a series of adjs. designating certain defects that a horse may have; the context does not show whether a physical blemish or a fault of temper is referred to, and if *-eygðr* be correct it must app. mean '-scared'. A strong point in favour of the correction to *valdeygðr* is the coincidence with the ME. form; but the meaning of *vald-* remains obscure. Cf. mod. Slesvig dial. *valdoist* having a running from the eyes (quoted by Molbech from Outzen's MS. collections), which Outzen would derive from *valde* dial. var. of Da. *valle* whey.

The rare ME. Woldenered seems to be synonymous with *wawil-eyed*, *wald-eyed*, and if so is prob. an alteration of the latter form due to the influence of ME. **woalden*, OE. **gewealden* small (preserved, with different sense, in Sc. Waldin *a.*). See also Walnyed *a.* Cf. Waldeneie, prob. a similar variant of Wall-eye.]

1. Having one or both eyes of an excessively light colour, so that the iris is hardly distinguishable from the white. In ME. and in modern dialects (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), also in other senses: Having eyes of differing colour; having eyes or an eye streaked or particoloured. Also, having a divergent squint, which exposes an excessive proportion of the white of the eye.

In many examples the sense cannot be determined.

a. of human beings.

[13.. see Wolden-eȝed.] *a* 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 608 And he [Alexander] wald-eȝed was, as þe writ schewys, ȝit.. [Lines 606–7 say that one eye was black and the other yellow]. *Ibid.* 1706 A wawil-eȝed [*Dubl.* waugle-eghed] shrewe. 1552 Huloet, Whaule eyed, *glaucidus*. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 44 Say wall-ey'd slaue, whether would'st thou conuay This growing Image of thy fiend-like face? 1601 Holland *Pliny* xi. xxxvii. I. 334 Augustus..had red eies like to some horses: and indeed wall eied he was, for the white thereof was much bigger than in other men. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. § 23 Wall-eyed portraits in mildewed crayons. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* iii, Captain Deadeye was a staid, stiff-rumped, wall-eyed ..veteran. 1866 Livingstone *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. i. 23 A wall-eyed ill-looking fellow.

b. of horses. (See quot. 1831.)

1590 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 184 To..my brother-in-law, one bale stagge, wall-eyed. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* II. 6 The Horse that is whale-eyde, or white eyed, is for the most part shrewd, craftie, full of toyes, and dim sighted. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3837/4 A small black Gelding,..Wall or Silver-Ey'd. 1714 J. Walker *Suffer. Clergy* II. 281/2 He had called those Wall ey'd Horses that would not come to the Rails to receive the Communion. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 96 The moon's beams..are very apt to make him wall-eyed and to give him grie[illegible] 1766 Golden. *Vicar W.* x, I objected that walking would be twenty times more genteel than such a paltry conveyance, as Blackberry was wall-eyed, and the colt wanted a tail. 1831 Youatt *Horse* vi. 93 Horses perfectly white, or cream-coloured, have the iris white, and the pupil red. When horses of other colours..have a white iris and a black pupil, they are said to be wall-eyed. Vulgar opinion has decided that a wall-eyed horse is never subject to blindness, but this we believe to be erroneous. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xvii, He shewed the whites of his eyes like a wall-eyed horse. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* vi. vi, Mounted on a white mule, wall-eyed and of hideous form. 1871 M. Collins *Mary & Merch.* III. iv. 107 He was a wall-eyed horse.

c. *transf.*

1838 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxix, A little, pale, wall-eyed, woe-begone, inn. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* III. xvi, The counting-house was a wall-eyed ground-floor by a dark gateway. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Deronda* ix, Diplow Hall..which had for a couple of years turned its white window-shutters in a painfully wall-eyed manner on its fine elms and beeches,..was being prepared for a tenant.

¶ d. Used for: Dim-sighted, purblind.

1873 *Punch* 3 May 182/1 Wall-eyed people who stick their noses to each picture as though they wished to smell it.

e. *slang.* (See quot.)

1847 Halliwell s. v., Any work irregularly or ill done, is called a wall-eyed job. It is applied also to any very irregular action.

†2. ? Having glaring eyes (indicative of rage or jealousy).

Quot. 1613 may be an echo of Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 24, '[His] whally eyes (the signe of gelosy).'

1595 Shaks. *John* IV. iii. 49 The vildest stroke That euer wall-ey'd wrath, or staring rage Presented to the teares of soft remorse. 1613 ? Marston *Insat. Ctess* I. A 2 b, Hee.. mued mee vp like Cretan Dedalus, And with wall-ey'd Ielousie kept me from hope Of any waxen wings to flye to pleasure.

3. *U.S.* Of fishes: Having large prominent eyes. *Wall-eyed pike*: see quots.

1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 330 The wall-eyed pike, (*Lucio perca*). 1883 Goode *Fish. Industr. U.S.* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 72 Many millions of eggs of the white-fish, lake-trout, and wall-eyed pike are obtained in the waters of Lake Erie. 1888 — *Amer. Fishes* 13 The largest and most important form is *Stizostedion vitreum*, generally referred to by recent writers upon fishes as the Wall-eyed Pike.

†**Wall-fair.** *Obs.*—1. In 5 **walfair.** [f. Wall *sb.*1 + Faie *a.*] = Wallflower.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 191 Violaria habet florem aurosum, an[glice] walfair.

Wallflower (wǭ·l,flaʊəɹ). [f. Wall *sb.*1 Cf. G. *mauerblume*.]

1. A plant of the genus *Cheiranthus* (N.O. *Cruciferæ*), esp. *C. Cheiri*, growing wild on old walls, on rocks, in quarries, etc., and cultivated in gardens for its fragrant flowers (normally yellow or orange, though other colours are produced by cultivation). Also called Gilliflower.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. iii. 150 In English Yellow Gilloflers, Wall floures..in French Violes iaunes,..in high Douche Geel veiel. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxiii. 370 The stalkes of the Wall flower are full of greene branches. 1615 W. Lawson *New Orchard* (1623) 12 Dry wall of earth..whereon at Mighill-tide it will be good to sow Wall-flowers. 1650 T. Bayly *Herba Parietis* Ded. 1 The Wall-flower hath been called (as the most sacred Compellation) by the Herballists, Dames-Violets, Damasen or Matron-Violets, or Queenes Gillyflowers. 1697 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Insects* I. xv. 93 Double..Wall-flowers. 1707–27 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 245 Wall Flowers are of several sorts, as the common Ones, the great single Ones, the great double Ones, the single White, the double White, the double Red, and the pale Yellow. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 532 The yellow wall-flower, stain'd with iron brown. 1779 Sheridan *Critic* II. ii, The vulgar wall-flower, and smart gillyflower. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* III. i, The wall-flower waves not on the ruin'd hold. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. cvii, Cypress and ivy, weed and wall-flower grown Matted and mass'd together. 1838 Dickens *Nicholby* xl, There is a double-wallflower at No. 6 in the court, is there? 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 138 *Wall-flower*..The single varieties, which are the most odoriferous, are raised from seed. There are yellow, brown, and purple Double Wallflowers, propagated by cuttings. 1858 Glenny *Everyday Bk.* 266/1 Wallflowers and Sweetwilliams may be planted out in beds. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 83 There were lavender and a few homely stocks and wallflowers growing in the poor soil about the fences of the houses.

b. *German wallflower.*

1828 *Garden* 25 Feb. 135/1 Double German Wallflowers.. are now useful pot plants.

c. Applied to plants of other genera. *Native wallflower*, the Tasmanian plant *Pultenæa subumbrosa* (N.O. *Leguminosæ*); also, in Australia, one of the Poison-bushes, *Gastrolobium grandiflorum* (Morris *Austral Engl.*, 1898). *Western wall-flower*, a name for certain American species of *Erysimum* (Treas. Bot., 1866; *Cent. Dict.*, 1891).

2. *slang.* (See quots.) ? *Obs.*

1824 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 220 A coat suspended on a peg in Monmouth-street is called a wall flower. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 129 *Wall flowers*, old clothes exposed for sale.

3. *colloq.* A lady who keeps her seat at the side of a room during dancing, whether because she cannot find a partner or by her own choice.

1820 Pearl *County Ball* 148 The maiden wall-flowers of the room. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 340 He..dances quadrilles with every wall-flower in the room. 1881 H. James *Portr. Lady* xliii, 'Are you not dancing?' 'As you see, I'm a wall-flower.' 1886 F. Hunt *Mme. Midas* II. ix, She has not your capability at playing wallflower.

4. *attrib.* in designations of colour, as *wallflower brown*, *red*; also separately as a colour-name. Also Comb. *wallflower-leaved* adj.

1726 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* Arrangem. 19 Hardy Annuals..Stock gilliflower,..White wallflower leaved. 1883 *Daily News* 17 May 6/1 Lined with silk..in some decided colour, such as old gold, wallflower red, French grey, or pale blue. *Ibid.* 22 Sept. 3/3 A wide bias band of wallflower velvet. 1913 *Daily Graphic* 24 Mar. 13/1 The most notable colours in the crowd included the following:..Wallflower and café au lait browns.

†**Wall-hot,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wall *v.*1 + Hot *a.*] Boiling hot. Also *fig.* fervent. Cf. Walm-hot.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 256 Acele ðu wealhat isen ðonne hit furðum sie of fyre atogen on wine oþþe on ecede. *c* 1000 Ormin 14196 Wiþþ wallhat herrtess lufe. *a* 1225 *Juliana* (Bodl. MS.) 31 Eleusius..bed billiue bringen forð brune wallinde bles, & healden hit se wal hat hehe up on hire heaued, hat [etc.].

Wallicoat, variant of Wyliecoat *Sc. Obs.*

Wallidrag, var. Wallydrag *Sc.*

Wallie, var. Wally.

Wa·lling, *vbl. sb.*1 Now *dial.* [f. Wall *v.*1 + -ing 1.] The action of boiling brine in salt-making. (See also quot. 1674.) Also *attrib.*, as *walling-house*, *shed*; **walling-lead,** a salt-pan.

1556 *B.N.C.* (Oxon.) *Munim.* 20 No. 47 (MS.) Houses, cottages, salthouses, wallingehouses, places where any salte-house or wichehouse hath heretofore been [Middlewich]. 1611 *Inventory* in *Chesh. Local Gleanings* (E. D. D.), li Walling Leads. 1669 Dr. W. Jackson in *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1061 The bank..[is] accidentally raised by rubbish of long making Salt, or Walling, as they call it. 1674 Ray *Coll. Words, Making of Salt* 142 A Lead-walling is the Brine of twenty four hours boiling for one house..They have four sworn Officers chosen yearly, which they call Occupiers of Walling, whose duty it is to see equal dealing between Lord and Tenant, and all persons concerned. 1894 Baring-Gould *Queen of Love* II. 15 The white cloud filled the walling (boiling) house. *Ibid.* 16 The coils of steam turned and rolled and clung in the walling shed.

Wa·lling, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Wall *v.*2 + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb; the making of walls, furnishing or fortifying with a wall.

1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 463 Yf part of eny olde wall or yate sodenly fall, hit of reason owe first to be made and to be preferred a-fore oþer wallying. 1532 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* fol. 108 b, iiº rodds wallynge marisci vocati pontmer-mershe. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 194 He gaue fiue hundred pounds to the walling of that towne. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 66 The same method for walling of Towns will not serve in all places. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 547 In walling,..when the work is required to be firm, the best mortar must be used. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 20 Sept. 1/3 When a suitable building plot had been prepared the walling of a structure was a very simple process.

b. with advs. *in*, *out*, *up*.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 199/1 The somme of xx li., which we have graunte yerely unto the wallyng oute of oure foreseide Towne. 1732 Sir W. Fownes in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 169 The walling-in of the piece of ground..may go on as the fund will bear. 1913 M. Barrett *Scott. Monasteries* iv. i. 203 They manage to convert it into an inhuman walling-up alive of the wretched monk.

2. *concr.* Wall-work; also, walls collectively; also, the materials of which a wall is made.

1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxxvi. 4 These thingis saith the Lord God..to desert wallingus [Vulg. *parietinis*], and to forsaken citees. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. viii. 234 So shalt þow come to a court as cleer so þe sonne,..Al þe wallynge ys of wit. 1518 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 664 He & his assignes schall kepe the said yate-house clene, & with ffloryng & wallyng. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 343/1 The Plumb Rule sheweth him whether his Walling doth both range straight, and stand upright. 1792 Smeaton *Eddystone L.* (1793) § 212, I found the mortar joints of the brick walling very compleat. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 352 This plaster..having straw well chopped up amongst it..makes a hard and cheap walling for light buildings. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 119 A length of walling, four feet thick, was discovered. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Walling*, the built sides of a shaft.

transf. 1880 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 416 Not to the exclusion of old things, which we must carry and stow, especially wallings of books.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *walling material*, *stone*.

1796 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* II. 130 Beside being burnt into Lime, it is used as a walling material. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 2/1 The remaining fronts are to be faced with neat hammer dressed walling stones. 1846 *Jrnl R. Agric. Soc.* VII. I. 40 The rest of this district consists of..some very thin-skinned, hungry gravel, and sand, on a dry, thirsty, walling-stone.

†**Wa·lling,** *ppl. a.*1 *Obs.* [f. Wall *v.*1 + -ing 2.]

1. Boiling: said of liquids, molten metal, etc. In OE. often *fig.*, fervent. Also in phr. *wallande hat*, boiling hot, *walling wood*, raging mad.

c 1000 Ælfric *On N. T.* (Gr.) 16 Se het ȝenyman þone halgan apostol and on wealliendum ele he het hine babian. 12.. *Moral Ode* (Egerton MS.) 218 His bæþ sceal beo wealliende pich his bed barnende glede. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Þu hauest forschalded, he seiδ, þe drake heaued mid wallinde watere, þet is, mid hote teares. *a* 1225 *Juliana* (Royal MS.) 30 Elewsius..bed..wallinde breas..healden on hire heauet þat hit urne endelong hire leofliche bodi. *Ibid.* 70 Hit [the boiling pitch] colede anan..ant leop wallinde hat up ayein þeo ilke þat hit hefden iparket. *c* 1275 *xi Pains of Hell* 75 in *O. E. Misc.* 149 Fyrþer þer is a water wallinde hot. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1622 (W.) With hot water and wallyng metal They defendid heore wal. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1726 Wyf wallande loye warmed his bert. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 943 Ayeyn o draust þei drinke ouer-mucche þei schul han ȝve or two Of hot led and walled (? *rvsed* walleand) bras. *c* 1450

Mirk's Festial 147/21 Per was a tonne of bras, full of wallyng eyle. 16.. *Leger & Grime* 1037 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 387 Gray-Steele went walling woode.

2. Of the sea, waves: Boiling up, raging. Of water: Welling up, flowing abundantly.

Beowulf 546 (Gr.) Oþ þæt unc flod todraf wado weallende, wedera cealdost. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 365 My herte was al with myrnes remorde, As wallande water gos out of welle.

b. Abundant.

a 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13180 Of all his wallond wele walt he no gode.

Wa·lling, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. WALL *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] That forms a wall.

1893 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* II. 89 In the strait passage, .. Where the road issues between walling rocks.

Walling, *ppl. a.*[3]: see WALL *v.*[4]

Wallink, variant of WELLINK.

Wallis (wɒ·lis). Now *dial.* Also **wallace.** [Of obscure origin: cf. WARRIDGE.] The withers of a horse.

1886 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2181/4 The 6th Instant a proper Gentleman .. rode away with a black brown Gelding, .. bare of flesh, hath had a hurt on the Wallis. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norf.* (1795) II. 391 *Wallace*, the withers of a horse. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wallis*, the withers of a horse.

Wallise, Sc. form of VALISE.

Wallish-bill, variant of WELSH-BILL *Obs.*

Wall-knot (wɔ̄·lˌnɒt), **wale-knot** (wēi·lˌnɒt). Also 8 (*? erron.*) **walled knot.** [The first element is of obscure origin. The word is found in mod. Scandinavian langs.: Sw., Norw. *valknut*, Da. *valknude*, double knot, secure knot (not confined to nautical use); in Norw. also the gammadion or swastika. Cf. Ger. *waldknoten* (as if 'wood-knot', prob. a popular etymology), in hunting language, a double knot.] A secure knot made on the end of a rope by unlaying and intertwining the strands.

1627 Capt. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* v. 27 The Wall knot, .. is a round knot, so made with the strouds [*read* stronds] or layes of a rope, it cannot slip. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 70 *Nippers* are small roapes .. with a little Truck at one end (or some have only a wale-knot). 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Wale-knot*, or *Wall-knot*, a particular sort of large knot raised upon the end of a rope, by untwisting the strands. 1773 EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 166 A wale knot is made with the three strands of a rope, so that it cannot slip. 1788 CLARKSON *Impolicy of Slave Trade* 46 A rope .. with nine tails at one end of it, and a double walled knot of nearly eight inches in circumference at the other. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Double Wall-knot*, with or without a crown, or a double crown, is made by intertwisting the unlaid ends of a rope in a peculiar manner. 1883 *Man. Seamanship* (1886) 121 A single-wall knot... A double-wall. .. A double wall, double-crowned.

Wall-less (wɔ̄·lˌlés), *a.* [f. WALL *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no wall.

1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* VII. lxii, And wall-less towns secure, Rise from the donjon sites of antique days. 1863 *Life in South* II. 156 We were roasted by the stove on one side, and frozen through our wall-less tenement on the other. 1912 MACALISTER *Hist. & Civiltis. Palestine* viii. 97 The walled cities are being deserted, and people are settling instead in wall-less villages.

Walloby, var. WALLABY.

Walloon (wɒlū·n), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 Vallon, 8 Waloon, 6– Wallon. [a. F. *Wallon* (fem. *Wallonne*), *sb.* and *a.* :—med.L. *Wallōn-em*, f. Teut. **walah*, *walh*, foreigner (OE. *wealh*): see WELSH *a.* The name represents the appellation given by the Teut. Flemings and Franks to their Romanic-speaking neighbours.] **A.** *sb.*

1. A man or woman of the race, of Gaulish origin and speaking a French dialect, which forms the chief portion of the population of the south-eastern provinces of Belgium.

1567 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) II. 208, I sawe never men so desperate, willing to fight: and specialllie the Vallons. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1145/1 A rumor. .. he Lantgraues capteine should be slaine by some Wallons. 1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 137 A base Wallon .. Thrust Talbot with a Speare into the Back. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 41 The Regent, beside the German Souldiers, .. commanded another Regiment of Walloons to be forthwith raised; for by that name, the people in that part of the Netherlands, which borders upon France, are called, and are distinguished from the others, by the use of the French Tongue, and beside, are more valiant, and not so dull-witted as the rest. 1680 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* IX. 54 Some companies of Wallons were also ordered to bring scaling-ladders. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 209 Fifty companies of Spaniards, and one hundred and fifty of Walloons, and other natives of the Netherlands. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 332/2 The Wallons .. are thus Romanised Gauls. 1916 *19th Century* Oct. 717 In the defence of their national territory Flemings and Walloons have alway been so closely united that it would be impossible to distinguish them.

2. The language or dialect of the Walloons.

1642 HOWELL *Instr. For. Trav.* x. (Arb.) 48 The French have three dialects, the Wallon (vulgarly called among themselves Romand), the Provensall, .. and the speech of Languedoc. 1825 R. B. BERNARD *Tour France* etc. 292 The lower orders in this city speak a jargon called Walloon, which is completely unintelligible to the higher classes. 1914 E. GOSSE in *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 314 The less known .. new school of authors, composing ardently in Flemish and even to some extent in Walloon.

Comb. 1918 *19th Century* Nov. 833 A few Walloon-speaking villages along the German frontier.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to the Walloons.

1330 PALSGR. 35 The kynde of speche nowe called Vallon or Romant. *Ibid.* 286/2 Wallon tonge, *Romant.* *a* 1600 *Hist. Fryer Bacon* in Thoms *E. E. Pr. Rom.* (1858) I. 206 He hyred a Walloon souldier. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 73 P 2 Monsieur Bonnage, Minister of the Walloon Church at Rotterdam. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xiii. 97 One of my comrades of the Walloon Guard. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 332/2 The Wallon domain comprises the four provinces of Hainault, Namur, Liége, and Luxemburg. 1911 G. P. GOOCH *Hist. Our Time* x. 236 Where the Walloon miners and factory-workers of the South confront the Catholic Flemings of the North.

Walooroo, variant of WALLAROO.

Wallop (wɒ·lɒp), *sb.* Also 5 **valop, walop,** 6 **wallope,** 9 **wallup,** w(h)ollop, etc. [a. ONF. *walop* (found in 13th c. in pl. *walos*) = F. *galop*, related to *galoper* to gallop: see WALLOP *v.* There is nothing to show whether the verb or the sb. is the earlier formation in OF. Both were introduced together into ME. in sense 1, appearing first in the 14th c.; but in later use in all senses the sb. is more often to be regarded as newly formed from the verb in its later applications, and with its onomatopoeic and humorous connotation. The form GALLOP appears first in the 16th c. and replaces *wallop* sb. in the original and more elevated sense, in which, however, WALLOP *v.* continues to be evidenced.]

†**1.** A horse's gallop. Only advb. phr. (tr. or imitations of French) (*to ride, go*, etc.) †*a wallop*, at the gallop; †*a* (or *the*) *great wallop*, in full gallop. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1770 Þei went a-wai a wallop as þei wod semed. *c* 1450 *Merlin* viii. 127 And than he rode a walop after Vlfyn, gripynge his spere. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxii. 69 So he rode a grete wallop tyll he cam to the fontayne. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 209 Foulques of morillon cam afore all the other, well horsed .. the grete valop agenste Reynawde.

b. A ride at this pace. *rare*[1]. (? *Jocular.*)

1896 E. CRAWFORD *Jo of Auchenderaas* 201 Famous place this for your morning wallop.

†**2.** The series of noisy bubbling motions made by water, etc. rapidly boiling, or approaching boiling point. Usually in phr. †*to boil* (*seethe*) *a wallop, a full wallop*: to boil with a rapid noisy bubbling, to 'gallop'. *Obs.* Cf. WALM *sb.*[1] 3.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1593) 160 The medcine seething all the while a wallop in a pan Of brasse, to spirt and leape aloft and gather froth began. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxix. 230 Put a glasse full of white wine to them, and let them boyle therein, a whalme or a wallop in a pewter pot. 1591 A. W. *Bk. Cookrye* 17 When it seetheth a full wallop, put in your Shrimpes faire washed.

†**b.** One such bubbling motion (as a vague measure, in cooking, of the time anything is allowed to boil). Only in phr. *to boil* (or *seethe*, trans. or intr.), *to have, so many wallops. Obs.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 130 b, Seethe them [herbs] togeather three or foure wallops, and geue it him bludwarme. 1611 COTGR., s.v. *Onde*, *Bouillir vne onde*, to boyle a whyle, or but for one bubble, or a wallop or two. 1682 HARTMAN *True Preserver Health* 11 Let it only boil five or six wallops. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* IV. (ed. 2) 267 Put as much Salt, and Nothing else, as will lie on a Crown-Piece, into a Copper .. and as it heats and the Scum rises, take it off before it boils in; then, when it has had a Wallop or two, lade two Pailfuls. 1790 ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* III. 1. 128 (E. D. S.) Boil the cream a wallop or two to preserve it.

3. *dial.* (esp. *Sc.*) and *colloq.* A violent, heavy, clumsy, noisy movement of the body; a plunging, floundering, lurching, etc.

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XV, Some caprioles of the hobby-horse, and some wallops of the dragon. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xviii, He made the most laughable wallop imaginable, intended for a bow, but more like the gambol of a porpoise. 1842 J. WILSON *Recr. Chr. North* (1857) I. 4 The yellow trout forsakes his fastness beneath the bog-wood; and with a lazy wallop, and then a sudden plunge [etc.]. 1890 D. DAVIDSON *Mem. Long Life* xi. 269, I put a bullet in the centre of his head, when he [the shark] gave a tremendous wallop and sank.

b. Used onomatopoeically and quasi-adverbially with verbs of motion to represent the noise of such movements. *To go* (*down*) *wallop*: to fall noisily.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. I. N iv b, Nowe hath this gredy gutte meat inough to swalow down, by his wide throte, with a choppe and a wallop. 1885 TOWERS *Poems* 182 (E. D. D.) Souple Tam Gaed wallop ower the stile. 1896 *Warwick. Word-bk.*, *He went wallop* = he fell down all of a heap. 1915 *Scot at Home & Abr.* 1 July 2/1 Then gallop, gallop, gallop, wallop, wallop, wallop. Though I fall at the high jump, an' onlookers quiver, McGregor, the jockey, will ride on for ever.

4. *colloq.* and *humorous.* A heavy resounding blow; a whack. Also (in boxing slang) the capacity to deliver such a blow.

1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Wallop*, a random hit, any where. 1827 HARDMAN *Battle Waterloo* 10 Be ready, when the 10th retire, to give the French a wallop. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* II. viii. 146, I took up a walking-stick, and says to her, 'Here, Kitty; lay hold of this, and fetch me a great whollop on this soft head of mine.' 1838 *Brut-ley's Misc.* III. 459 To each blow of the brass weapon, Sam returned a wallop of a pewter vessel. 1884 D. GRANT *Love & Law North* (1908) 209 Thus Davie end the kelpie guide, Wi' mony a wallop on his hide. 1914 *Varsity* 24 Feb. 23/2 (Boxing) His opponent .. has a prodigious 'wallop'; but no great amount of skill.

b. *dial.* (*Sc.*) A (violent) beat of the heart or of the [illegible]

1787 BURNS *Addr. Unco Guid* iv, Think, when your castigated pulse Gies now and then a wallop, What ragings must his veins convulse, That still eternal gallop. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallov. Encycl.* 484, I thought it (my heart) wad hae jumped clean out o' my briaket; lord! what wallops it gaed.

5. A flapping or fluttering rag. *Sc.*

1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* XXXIV, Beggars they come in geiore, Wi' wallops flapping in great store. 1886 GENGOE *Banffsh. Gloss.*, *Wallop*, a rag hanging loose and fluttering.

Wallop (wɒ·lɒp), *v.* Inflected **walloped** (wɒ·lɒpt), **walloping.** Forms: 4–5 **walop(e,** 5 **walloppe,** 5–6 **walap, wallope,** 5–7 **walopp(e,** 9 **wallup, whallup, wollup,** 6– **wallop** [a. ONF. **waloper* = F. *galoper* (see GALLOP *v.*[1]). The existence of this form is evidenced in addition to the English forms by OF. *walos* sb. pl. and the adopted form Flem. *walop(pe*, MHG. *walop, -ap* *sb.* MHG. *walopiren* vb., and probably by mod. Walloon (Sigart) *waloper* to rinse linen in water. Cf. Norw. (Aasen) *val(l)hoppa* vb., app. an etymologizing alteration, after Norw. *hoppa* to leap, dance.

A satisfactory origin for this word in French has not been suggested. It is probably purely echoic, or an echoic alteration of some Teut. element or elements. The Provençal form *galaupar* has suggested Teut. **ga-hlaupan* (OE. *gehlēapan*, f. *ge-* Y-prefix + *hlēapan* to LEAP), but the evidence for original *w-* precludes the comparison of the initial element.

In English the onomatopoeic suggestion of the word has lent itself to varied extension of meanings and to a vague (usually colloq. and humorous) application to violent noisy movements, more especially since the form GALLOP ousted it from the more elevated uses (in the course of the 16th c.).

The sense 'to boil rapidly' is probably derived directly by transference from sense 1 (cf. GALLOP *v.*[2] to boil) in spite of the close resemblance of the word to WALL *v.*[1] + UP (cf. *well up*, and Du. *opwellen*). The relation of POTWALLOPER to POTWALLEN indicates that some such association was active.

The sense 'to beat' may be ultimately due to the causative use (sense 2, and cf. F. *galoper* trans.), or may be entirely due to onomatopoeic extension.]

†**I. 1.** *intr.* To gallop. *Obs.*

a. of horses.

a 1400 [see WALLOPING *ppl. a.*]. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3642 Al this folk of myche price in feire armes, and helmes shene, .. withe feire stedes walopand. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Waloppon, as horse, *velopto*. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 346 Cam there kyng charlemagn, as fast as his horse myghte walop. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. x. 93 (1710), He [the courser] aprentis furth, and ful proude waloppis he, His strekand vp his hede with mony ane ne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 169/34 To gallop, *fundere gradum*, to Wallop, *idem, curritare*.

b. of a rider.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 440 To this word thai assentyt all, And fra thaim walopyt owyr mar. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 834 (Cott.) Þe cursoure he straik wiþe þe spuris, And walapande our floyis and furis Al befor þe ost he rade. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3305 He founde anon The kyng of kynges vppe and down rideng, And he anon to hym com waloping. *c* 1500 *Melusine* XXI. 130 And thenne the Knight brochid hys hors, and waloped toward hys felawes. 1549 LYNDESAY *Compl.* 179 And sum, to schaw thare courtlie corsis, Wald ryid to leith, and ryn thare horsis, And wychtlie wallope ouer the sandis. 1721 RAMSAY *Up in Air* I, And witches wallop o'er to France, Up in the air On my bony grey mare.

†**2.** *trans.* To let gallop, put to the gallop. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. GALLOP *v.*[1] 3.)

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xl. 42 Blanchardyn wyth a glad chere waloped his courser as bruyauntly as he coude. 1490 — *Eneydos* lxi. 161 A knyghte .. came ayenste hym as faste as he myghte spore and waloppe his horse.

II. 3. *intr.* To boil violently and with a noisy bubbling. Also *fig.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 191/2 Oure affections boyle within vs, & wallop, frothing as a seething potte. 1617 J. MOORE *Mappe Mans Mortalitie* I. iii. 25 This corruption .. sendeth out the filthy scum of all vncleannesse, which continually broyleth and walloppeth in our nature. *a* 1649 S. CROOKE *Div. Charact.* I. XXXIII. (1658) 499 There is little to choose between a boyling pot unscummed, and the pot that, for want of heate, hath no scumme raised .. that wallops as the Sea about Leviathan; and this, paves it with stone. 1726 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 94 We do not measure Milk when it Wallops and Seeths, but when it is Cold. 1787 JOEL BARLOW *Hasty Pudding*, The yellow flour .. thickens to a paste, Then puffs and wallops, rises to the brim, Drinks the dry knobs that on the surface swim. [1825: see WALLOPING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* II. 233 We beheld an immense pot over the fire, surging and wallowing with some kind of a savory stew.

III. 4. a. To make violent, heavy movements (accompanied by noise); to move clumsily or convulsively; to flounder, plunge. *colloq.* and *dial.*

1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. x, The lasses babb'd about the reel, Gar'd a' their hurdies wallop. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XIV, The dragon walloped and hissed, and the hobby-horse neighed. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wallop*, (1) To move as fast as possible, but not without much effort and agitation. .. The gallop of a cow or a cart-horse is a good specimen of walloping. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Mar. Trumpeter gone clean from under me, and walloping and floundering in the ditch underneath. 1846 LANDOR *Pentam.* III. Wks. 1853 II. 334/2 They should not waddle and wallop in every hollow lane, nor loll out their watery tongues at every [illegible]

1889 W. C. RUSSELL *Marooned* XXXII, All was now bustle; the negroes walloped about, tumbling into the boat, bawling out like school-boys at play. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 344/1 In

...ssment he [a pup] caught sight of his mother and walloped ...ir to her. 1906 Helen Mathers *Tally Ho!* I. i, Sir George Freeling came walloping up on his big ——— horse. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 650/1 The puppy..wallops clam round trying to get a bit out of every one else's share.

b. Of the heart, the blood: To pulsate (violently). *Sc.* Cf. Wallop *sb.* 4 b.

1766 A. Nicol *Poems* 21 (E.D.D.) My heart will..wallop. 1807 Tannahill *Soldier's Return* I. i, Odsaffs! my heart did never wallop cadger, Than when the Laird took Harry for a sodger. 1823 Picken *Poems* I. 97 (E.D.D.) When the tide o' youthfu' blaid Thro' a' yer heartstrings wallops.

5. To dangle, flap, 'flop about', wobble. *colloq.* and *dial.* (esp. *Sc.*).

1820 Hogg *Sleeps Rasd.* xiii, Tales & Sk. VI. 238 Saluting the far loin of his mare..with an energy that made all his accoutrements wallop. 1843 *Commissioner: or De Lunatico Inq.* 218 His fat sides shook and walloped. 1887 P. McNeill *Blawearie* 15 Wee Connie Rogan, the ingenuity of whose parents it altogether surpasses to know how to keep his nether garments from walloping behind him. 1890 'H. Haliburton' *In Scottish Fields* 32 His West-of-England frock-coat so rent..that the loose half walloped in the dust or mud all the way behind him.

b. Phr. *To wallop in a tow* (or *tether*): to be hanged. *Sc.*

1785 Burns *To W. Simpson* xvii, Now let us lay our heads thegither, In love fraternal; May Envy wallop in a tether, Black fiend, infernal. 1792 — *Weary Pund o' Tow* iv, And 'or I wad anither jad, I'll wallop in a tow. *a* 1835 W. Robertson in W. Walker *Bards of Bon-Accord* (1887) 607 I'd rather wallup in a tether Than lightly thee.

IV. 6. *trans. colloq.* To beat soundly, belabour, thrash; also occas. used as humorously for Beat *v.* in fig. senses, e. g. to get the better of, surpass.

1824 Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.*, To *Wallup*, to beat. 1837 Lover *Rory O'More* I. ii. 46 'Than what does he [the priest] want the heavy stick for?' 'For wallopin' his flock, to be sure,' said Rory. 1865 Meredith *Rhoda Fleming* xxiv, Walloping men is poor work, if you come to compare it with walloping Nature. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxx, He's always up to tricks; and if you wallop him, likely as not, next night, he'll take and spoil your best trick out of revenge. 1916 E. Phillpotts *Faith Tresilion* xiii, If I've got to go about walloping the fear of God into everybody who offered for Faith, I shall be busier than I want to be.

Walloper (wɒ·ləpəɹ). *colloq.* or *jocular.* [f. Wallop *v.* + -er 1.]

1 a. One who thrashes. b. Anything with which one administers a thrashing; a stick.

1830 Barrington *Personal Sk.* III. xviii. 256 Armed with his 'walloper' (as they called their cudgel).

2. *dial.* Anything strikingly large or big; a 'thumper', 'whopper'; e. g. an astounding lie. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

3. As second element in compounds. *Cod-walloper*, a cod-fishing vessel (Cent. Dict.); *dock-walloper*, see Dock *sb.*3 7. Also Potwalloper.

Walloping (wɒ·ləpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Wallop (in various senses).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Waloppynge, of horse, *volopticio.* 1686 G. Stuart *Joco-ser. Disc.* 48 Oh—! Wae betide this galloping! I've got my fill of wallopping! 1837 Lover *Rory O'More* I. ii. 47 'And what is all this walloping for?' 'Why, sir, when we have a bit of a fight, for fun,..his reverence sometimes hears of it, and comes av coorse.' 1843 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xvi. (1859) 391 The water in the immediate neighbourhood seemed quite alive, from the rushing and walloping of numberless fishes. 1871 C. Gibbon *Lack of Gold* ii, Your father gied you a walloping for telling a lie.

Walloping (wɒ·ləpiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.]

1. That wallops. Now chiefly (*colloq.* or *dial.*), that moves with a clumsy irregular gait.

† *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2247 Sweltand knyghtes Lyes wyde opyne welterande one walopande stedez. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* (1839) I. 305 There were black women ploughing in the field, with..their wolloping gait and vacant countenance. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. i, She graduates the walloping syrup when it is likely to overflow.

2. *dial.* Strikingly large, powerful, etc.; 'thumping', 'whopping'. Often reinforced with *big, great.* (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1847 Halliwell, *Walloping*, great. *var. dial.*

Wallow (wɒ·lou), *sb.* In 6 walow. [f. Wallow *v.*]

1. The act of wallowing or rolling in mud or filth; also *fig.* Also *concr.*, the filth in which swine wallow.

a 1592 H. Smith *Serm., Jacob's Ladder* (1601) 345 Let the dog turne to the vomit, and the swine to the walow. 1896 G. S. Ogilvie *Sin of St. Hulda* II. 40 Thou'st called me from the filthy byre of swine, The wallow of indulgence and gross deeds. 1898 *Advance* (Chicago) 3 Mar. 284/1 Poor wretches who are converted a dozen times in a winter only to return to their wallow and cups. 1913 Sir H. Clifford in *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 479/2 After a heart-breaking attempt to cleanse the sweat of travel by a wallow in a mud-hole.

b. A mud-hole or dust-hole formed by the wallowing of a buffalo, elephant, or rhinoceros.

1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xxxi. I. 249 'A bull in his wallow'..has a very significant meaning with those who have ever seen a buffalo bull..endeavouring to cool his heated sides, by tumbling about in a moist puddle. 1882 *Century Mag.* Aug. 529 The wallows are saucer-like depressions in the ground, made by the buffaloes rubbing themselves. 1910 Pollock & Thom *Sports Burmese* v. 167 One rhinoceros may have two or three wallows, or mud-holes, which he visits in turn.

2. †a. A rolling walk or gait. *Obs.*

1676 Dryden *Etherege's Man of Mode* Epil. 22 His various Modes from various Fathers follow; One taught the Toss, and one the new French Wallow.

b. The roll or swell of the sea. *poet.*

1869 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. Prol. 31 And much ado had we To ride unspilt the wallow of the sea.

3. *dial.* The line into which hay is raked before being carted or cocked.

1874 Jefferies *Toilers of Field* (1892) 119 Twenty women ..turning a 'wallow', or shaking up the green swathes left by the mowers.

Wallow (wɒ·lou), *a.* Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) Forms: 1 wealg, 3 walh, 5 walhwe, walow, 6 walowe, 9 wallow. See also Waugh *a.* [OE. *wealg* (**walg*) = LG. *walg*, insipid (cf. MDu. *walghe* 'nausea, fastidium'), Norw. *valg* tasteless:—OTeut. **walwo-*:—pre-Teut. **wolgwo-*.

The diaylabic *wallow* represents the inflected form *wealg-*; in the uninflected form the final (γ) became (χ), yielding the mod. northern Waugh.]

Tasteless, insipid; sickly.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* lviii. 447 Se wearma welð on godum cræftum, ðylæs he sie wealg for wlætnesse, & fordæm weorðe utaspiwen. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 þi muð is bitter, & walh al þat tu cheowest. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words, Wallow*, insipid. 1886 *S. W. Line. Gloss.* s. v., Oh, mother, how wallow this here bread is!—Why, bairn, I'd gotten no salt to put in it; it maks it a bit wallowish.

b. *Comb.*: †wallow-sweet *a.*, ?cloyingly sweet.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Walhwe swete [*Winch.* walow-swete], *suâra in* bytter swete. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Pref. E e iij b, The olde holsome wyne..[doth] offend theyr dronken taste, bycause yt is not so walow swete but drynketh more of ye verder. 1534 — *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1274/1 But the walowe sweete pleasure of that fruite, soone tourned to displeasure and payne.

Wallow (wɒ·lou), *v.*1 Forms: 1 wealwian, weal(o)wigan, 3 weolewe, 3–5 walewe, walwe, 4 *Sc.* valou-, 4–5 wolow, walu-, 4–7 walow(e, 5 walo-, 5, 7 wallo-, 5–7 wallowe, 6– wallow. Also 3–4 welu-, 5 welwyn, welowyn. [OE. *wealwian*:—OTeut. **walwôjan*; a parallel OTeut. **walwjan* occurs in Goth. (*af-, at-, faur-*) *walwjan*, OE. *wielwan*, to roll (trans.); cf. Goth. *walwisôn* to roll (intr.).

The Teut. **walw-*; **walw-* represents Pre-Teut. **welw-*, **welu-*, whence Gr. ἑλινδέω rolled, wrapped, ἕλυτρον wrapper, case, L. *volvere* to roll.]

I. Intransitive senses.

†1. Of a round object (a stone, a wheel): To roll (along the ground); to move by revolving or rotating. Only in OE. Hence *fig.* of a thought: To revolve or be turned over in the mind. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vi, Donne þeer micel stan wealwiende of þam heohan munte oninnan fealð. *Ibid.* xxxix. § 7 Þa felza þeah hongiað on þæm apacan, þeah hi eallunga wealowigen on þære eorðan. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 301, I praye þat it greve 30w nouȝt..þey3 I telle 30w openliche what haþ longe tyme i-halowed [*v.rr.* walwed, ywalwed] in myn herte [L. *quod animus meus diu volutaverit*].

2. Of a person or animal: To roll about, toss or tumble from side to side, while lying down or stretched out. Now *rare* exc. as in 3.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. ix. (1890) 178 [Dæt hors] ongon wealwian & on eȝhwæðre siðdan hit ȝelomlice oferwearp. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T.* 829 Whan he was with his wyf abedde ybroght, He walweth and he turneth to and fro. 1388 Wyclif *Mark* ix. 19 [20] He was throw doun to grounde, and walewide, and fomede. 1480 Caxton *Myrr.* II. xv. (1913) 102 The byrchon, whan he fyndeth apples beten or blowen doun of a tree, he woloweth on them tyl he be.. laden wyth the fruyt stykyng on his pryckes. 1530 Palsgr. 771/1, I wallowe, I tourne to and fro. *Ye me voyaire.* What wylte thou gyve me, and I wyll walowe from this hyll toppe down to the grounde. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Volute*, to tourne lyinge, to walow. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 231 The fyssbe ..waloweth on euery syde and about the shyppe.

Carew *Cornwall* I. 3 b, Where the Horse walloweth, haires will still remaine. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* v. (1840) 94 Some that were wounded and lame, who lay wallowing and screaming..upon the ground. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 127 The dead lay as they had died, one upon another, while others hardly alive wallowed [ἐκκαλινδούμενοι] in the streets.

† b. said of persons wrestling together. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 358 And in the floor, with nose and mouth to-broke, They walwe, as doon two pigges in a poke. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1142 Wrothely thai wrythyn and wryssttill to-gederz, Welters and walowes ouer with-in thase baukez. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* V. v. 268 Thenne Arthur weltred and wrong, that he was other whyle vader and another tyme aboue, And so weltryng and walowynge they rolled doune the hylle.

c. To move about heavily or clumsily; to go along with a rolling or floundering gait.

1570 Dalby *Serm.* B viij b, Pope Leo that was so forgrowen with fatte, that he couldde not wallowe vp two staires in the Capitall. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* lxxvii. 216 They [*i. e.* bears] go somtimes a galloppe, & somtimes an amble: but when they wallow then they go at moste ease. 1599 Markham *Ant. & Mel.* v. (1602) I 2, When I see..another wallowe in a greate sloppe, I mistrust the proportion of his thigh. 1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yr.* F 2, My gorbelly Host..out of the house he wallowed presentlie. 1609 W. *M. Man in Moone, Glutton* E 2, Now he approacheth wallowing like a woman with childe. 1625 S. Judd *Margaret* II. i, Toads..shrugged and wallowed up from their torpid beds. 1664 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 230 In a moment you [in the diligence] are rattling and rumbling and wallowing down into the valley. 1876 J. Weiss *Wit, Hum. & Shaks.* iv. 130 This rotund earth that goes wallowing eastward is an aboriginal!

†d. To flounder in speech. *Obs.*

1[illegible] *Bk. Curtayne* 63 In *Babees Bk.* 302 Yf any man speke ...r mouth is over-full] to the, And þou ...onware, bit ... not be But wakeande, and a-byde ...ast.

3. To roll about, or lie prostrate and relaxed in or upon some liquid, viscous, or yielding substance (e. g. mire, blood, water, dust, sand). Often implying sensual enjoyment or indifference to defilement. Usu. with *in*.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* liv. 421 He wealwode on ðæm ȝedrofum wætere. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Þan hie [swine] fulle beð, hie sechað to þe fule flodðri and þaron walewað. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 41 Ich hit am þe reafde þe riche Job his ahte, awa þat he weolewede of wontreðe ihe mixne. *c* 1280 *Sir Fernumb.* 2326 Þe Amyral..walweþ þanne on þe dyche. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxxvii. (1495) 836 Whan swyne ben ayke they walowe in fenne and in puddels. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 206 Loþe had he byn forto haue seen wormes and grubbes walewe yn þat blessyd full wombe. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 149 A marrishe is to be preferred before a dry ground, that they [swine] may..wallowe in the myre, and toomble in the puddels of water. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 298 Or Wallow naked in December snow. 1621 Bible *Sam.* xx. 12 Amasa wallowed in blood in the mids of the high way. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vii. 411 Part huge of bulk Wallowing unwieldie, enormous in thir Gate Tempest the Ocean. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. iii. v. 48 'Tis reported the Commanders do keep Bathing-Troughs full of Water to lye and wallow in. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* x. 391 Hence—seek the sty. There wallow with thy friends. 1819 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. i. 139 They [Galinaceæ] are fond of wallowing in the dust. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* viii, Little knots of houses, where drunken men and women were positively wallowing in filth. 1878 H. S. Wilson *Alpine Ascents* ii. 53 We wallow in soft rotten snow above our knees.

4. Of a ship: To roll from side to side; to sail with a rolling motion; to roll helplessly in the trough of the waves. †Of a floating object: To be tossed about.

c 1300 *St. Gregory* 371 in *Archiv. Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 63 Hij seien a hat come walwynge. *c* 1330 *Northern Passion* II. 128 (MS. Rawl.) Þar nettes walweþ þat saolde hem fede. *c* 1590 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. ii. 163 Which caused our ship to rowle and wallow. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 79 Which made her swag and wallow in her Docke. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* vi. 247 It were an endless work to relate how they [the Danish ships] wallow'd up and down to every particular place. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* ii. (1840) 33 She wallowed so in the sea, that we..thought she would at last wallow herself bottom up. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 93/2 The *Bussorah* was not a good boat, and she pitched and rolled and wallowed all through the Bay.

5. Of the sea, waves: To roll, surge, heave, toss. Of wind: To whirl, blow gustily. Of a liquid: To spout, gush; to spring or well *up*. Of flame, smoke, vapour: To surge *up*.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 71 Venim or vernisch or vinegre, I trouwe, Walleþ [*v.rr.* walewiþ, walweþ] in my wombe. *Ibid.* ix. 30 Þe goodes in his world ben lyk þis grete wawes, Riht as wyndes and watres waleweþ aboute. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. vi. (1886) 40 They don as grete damages and destruccioons as doth the flaumbe of the mountaigne ethna whan the flawmbe walweth vp. *c* 1386 — *Miller's T.* 430 Hym thynketh verrally that he may see Noees flood come walwynge [*v. r.* walkyng] as the see. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. x. 17 To se that great water cum walowynge vp agaynst ...205/2 At the ebbe and fall of tide it [the well] walloweth up amaine. 1848 Lowell *Sir Launfal* II. Prel. 43 Through the deep gulf of the chimney wide Wallows the Yule-log's roaring tide. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Nov. 514 The smoke-funnel tottered, then fell thundering upon the deck...Enormous clouds of steam wallowed up from below.

6. *fig.* (cf. sense 3). a. To remain plunged in the mire of sensuality, degraded habits, or the like; 'to live in any state of filth or gross vice' (J.); to take delight in gross pleasures or a demoralizing way of life. Usu. with *in*.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 23 Þa ilke sari wrecches, þat i þat like fule wurðinge, unweddede, walewið. 1340 *Ayenb.* 126 We waleweþ nee zuyn hyer benebe ine þise wose of þise wordle. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 217 To walwe in glotonye & drounkenesse as swyn in þe feen. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vi. cxcviii. (1811) 204 He walowed in lechery. 1577 Welton *Cast. Christianes* H j, Some of them..do wallowe and tumble in al kinde of wickednesse. 1621 Bible *Ecclus.* xxiii. 12 The godly..shall not wallow in their sinnes. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 149 To purifie and renew his Church that lay wallowing in Idolatrous pollutions. 1720 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 280, I wallowed in sloth and voluptuous ease. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 81 The corrupted nature would fain wallow like a quadruped in ———

† b. To be involved *in* (error, self-will); to be immersed or engrossed *in* (some occupation, activity, etc.); to go in and out, be busy *among* (a body of persons). *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 261 Þerfore nathanus ordeyned þes newe sectis..to walwe among þe peple & stire hem bi word & ensaumple to be vnstable in þe feiþ. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* I. 97 Oracles gestis..That..walwed in her wilde, for-weyned in here youthe. 1415 Hoccleve *To Sir Y. Oldcastle* 318 Þat yee aryse out of your errour acone, þat thers-in walwid han goon in ful yore. 1632 G. Herbert *Priest to Temple* xiv. (1671) 49 There he shall find his flock most naturally as they are, wallowing in the midst of their affairs.

c. To abound or 'roll' *in* (wealth, possessions). Chiefly with contemptuous implication. † *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 4303 (Trin.) Mon þat walweþ al in welle [*Cott.* waltres in his welee]. 1564–78 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 83 This fellow walloweth in benefices, as the

Hedgehog doth with apples upon his prickles. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 742 Egelsricke..found such a mighty masse of money buried within the ground..that, wallowing now in wealth, he gave over his Bishopricke. 1679 Shadwell *True Widow* III. 37 My Lady wallows in money, she knows not what to do with it. 1765 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) III. 238 A man that wallows in gold and ...

d. *jocular.* To give oneself up unrestrainedly to enjoyment; to revel *in*.

1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* xxiii, I mean to wallow in strawberries and cream for the rest of the evening. 1905 Vachell *The Hill* v. 121, I used to buy the *Police News* when I was a kid, and simply wallow in it.

II. Transitive senses (chiefly causative).

† 7. To cause (a rounded object) to roll on the ground; to trundle. Also with adv., as *away*, *to*. Also, to carry *forth*, transport. *Obs.*

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 1331 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 84 His messagers gret giftus zauen Seint Austines bodi forte hauen, And forþ wiþ hem þei gonne it walwe, Til þei come to þe toun of Janwe. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxvii. 60 He walowid to a grete stoon at the dore of the biriel. — *Mark* xvi. 4 And thei biholdinge syʒen the stoon walewid awey. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/2 Welwyn', or rollyn' al thyngys þat may not be borne, *volvo*. 1562 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 18, I clearly beheld, that Reason is wallowed up and down, among thick darknesses.

† 8. To cause (a person or animal) to roll or toss about; to cause to lie prostrate or immersed (*in* some liquid or sticky substance). Chiefly *refl.* and *pass.* Also *fig.* *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 467 Ay valouand me in þat syne, as sow a medynge dois vithine. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* ix. 19 [so] And he cast doun in to the erthe, was walewid fruthinge [Vulg. *Et elisus in terram volutabatur spumans*]. *a* 1400 Chaucer *To Rosemounde* 17–18 Nas neuer pyk walwed in galauntyne As I in loue am walwed and I-wounde. 1553 Wilson *Rhet.* 216, I was merye here upon this bancke wyth an other prieste, and wallowynge me downe upon the grasse, I said these wordes. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 122 A horse that is weery.. wylbe woonderfully refreashed..yf he may wallow him selfe eyther in the stable, or other dry place. 1611 Bible *Jer.* vi. 26 Gird thee with sackcloth, and wallowe thy selfe in ashes. 1618 Bolton *Florus* IV. ii. (1636) 281 The yong Kings body was found as it lay wallowed under mud. 1673 *Lady's Call.* Pref. 3 How can a soul that remembers its celestial extraction, wallow itself in the mire.

† 9. To cause (the sea) to roll or toss. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. vii. (1886) 19 Yif the trowble wynde þat hyht Auster, turnyng and waluynge the see medleth the hete.

† 10. With complement: ? To make (dirty) by wallowing. *Obs.*

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 191 All dirt and mire some wallow bed, as spanniels vse to doo.

Hence **Wa'llowing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* **Wa'llowingly** *adv.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 294 þet, of þe walewing, rug & side & wombe orn al o grure blode. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 517 Þe wrastlinge [*v.rr.* walewinge, wallowynge] bitvene hom was somdel tozt. 1382 Wyclif *1 Pet.* ii. 22 A sowe waschun in the walewinge of cley [Vulg. *in volutabro luti*]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4064 Wele seldom is þe see with him-selfe turbild Bot with þir walowand windis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/2 Welwynge, *volutacio*. 1552 Huloet, Wallowyngelye, *volutatim*. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 16 Their passe in goyng is somewhat alowe & walowinge. 1595 Watreman *Fardle Facions* Pref. 18 To cutte through the wallowyng seas. 1598 Nashe *Strange Newes* G 3, Master Stannyhurst..trod a foule lumbring boystrous wallowing measures [*sic*] in his translation of Virgil. 1606 Chapman *Mons. D'Olive* II. i. D 1 b, There saw I our great Galliasses tost Vpon the wallowing waues. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 317 We cry out Sacrilledge and misdevotion against those who in zeale have demolish't the dens and cages of her sncleane wallowings. 1682 R. L'Estrange *Sel. Colloq. Erasm.* 8 The wallowing of the great Ship overturn'd it. 1684 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 1906/4 She [a mare] hath a wallowing pace. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* XII. 219 Drive thou thy ship aloof through the reek and the wallowing sea. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. lxviii. 532 The ringsters of both parties return to their wallowing in the mire. [Echoing *2 Pet.* ii. 22.] 1903 H. Clifford *From Lance* x. 82 She rose and plunged and rolled wallowingly.

Wallow (wɒ·lǝʊ), *v.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 wealwian, wealowian, -uwian, -owigan, 3–4 weolewe(n, welyhe, *pa. ppls.* welud, walud, 3–5 welowe(n, welwe(n, 4–5 welowe, walow(e, welwye, wolwe, 5 wellow, walwyn, *pa. ppls.* walluid, waleyt, 5– wallow. [OE. *wealwian*, f. Teut. root **walχw-*, **walχʷ-*, whence *weald* Wallow *a.* The ME. *we(o)lewe*, etc. may represent a different ablaut-grade. Cf. Welk *v.*, which may be remotely connected.] *intr.* To wither, fade; to waste *away*. *lit.* and *fig.* Often conjugated with *be*.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxi, On leasctan hit greneð, & on hærfest hit wealwað. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1326 O þe steppes vnthoght he þan þat welud war for ain of man. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 50 Such serewe hath myn aldes thurhsoht, That al y weolewe a-way to noht. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xix. 6 The reed and the reushe shal welewen. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 477 þis land wiþ his kyng..welwes away. *c* 1400 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. Prol. 123 To þis my wit is wallowit dry, Bot floure or froyte. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 216 The fayrenesse of the worlde was welwed wyth brennyng of thre fyres. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 64 Hurtis, desyris, and gapnis wallowit away. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 20 Now is he wallowit and wask as ony wand. 1590 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xv. 24 In earth, ye sweit flouris, tak na rute, But wallow altogidder! *a* 1599 Kirkton *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1817) 269 Indeed after that day his flower begane to wallow. *a* 1790 *Geordie* iii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 127/1 When first she lookd the letter on, She was baith red and rosy; Syne she had na read a word but twa, Till she wallowt like a lily.

Hence **Wa'llowed** *ppl. a.*, withered, faded, discoloured. **Wa'llowing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Al is, wiȝ a welewunge [*v. r.* wenlewunge], þi wlite ouer warpen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12913 He þat þe walud wand moght ger In a night leif and fruit ber. *a* 1437 Jas. I *Good Counsel* 11 Of grene gress sone cumis wallowit hay. *c* 1490 *Mirk's Festial* 256 Roses and flowres wythout welewyng. 1583 *Cath. Angl.* 413/2 Wellowynge, *factor*, *fractencia*, *Marcor*; *Marcescibilis*, *Marcibilis*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. viii. 11 With wallowit wyngis [L. *fuscis alis*]. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* xiv. 16 How lur þe rusy gowlis Passis the wallowit weidis in þe vaill. 1719 *Hardyknute* I. 297 in Pinkerton *Sel. Sc. Ballads* (1783) I. 23 In thrauis of deths, wi wallow'd cheik,..The bleiding corps of warriours lay. 1843 *Whistle-binkie* Ser. v. 117 Our dochters..Can thow the icy tags that hing About our wallow't hearts.

Wallow, obs. Sc. form of Value *v.*

Wallowae, -way, obs. Sc. ff. Wellaway.

Wallower (wɒ·lǝʊǝr). [f. Wallow *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

1. A person or animal that wallows.

1621 Cotgr., *Veautrene*, a wallower, or tumbler in the mire. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 61 What miry wallowers the generality of men of our class are in themselves. 1767 T. Neville *Imit. Juvenal* xiii. 134 Lust's Votaries who live and die, Eternal Wall'wers in Circean sty. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxii, Ye porkers of Liege! ye wallowers in the mud of the Maes! 1876 Morris *Sigurd* II. (1877) 112, I knew that the Worm was Fafnir, the Wallower on the Gold. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 15 He knew ..what raised This wallower in old slime to noblest heights.

2. *Mech.* A trundle, lantern-wheel. Also *wallower-wheel*.

1548 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 493 Paid to Smaley for a newe waloer, iiij[d]. 1734 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 404 By enlarging or diminishing the fix'd Wallower, you obtain a Stroke of any required Height. 1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Wallower*, a trundle upon a horizontal axis. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 97 The vertical shaft FE carries the two equal wallower-wheels E and F. 1866 C. W. Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* I. 203 The usual face wheel..gears into a main pinion or 'wallower'.

Wallowish (wɒ·lǝʊiʃ), *a.* Now *dial.* Also 6 **walowyshe**, -(e)ish, 7 **wallouish**. See also Walsh *a.* [f. Wallow *a.* + -ish.] Insipid, tasteless, flat; also, ill-tasting, nauseous, esp. through being over-sweet.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par.* Pref. to King a vj, Honey is waloweishe and ouercasteth the stomake. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xvi. (Sommer) 178 b, Like the sicke man, to whom the Phisition sweares, the ill-tasting wallowish medicine he profers, is of a good taste. 1598 Florio, *Disapito*, vnsauorie, tasting of nothing, wallowish. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiv. i. II. 176 Salt giveth a good reilish to any meat that is over sweet, and tempereth those that have a lushious and wallowish tast. 1687 R. Logon *Barbadoes* 80 This fruit [the water-melon] is..waterish, and wallowish. 1686 W. Harris tr. *Lemery's Course Chym.* (ed. 3) 557 The wallowish sweetness of Musk. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* 78 In the South we say *wallowish*, meaning somewhat nauseous. 1886 (see Wallow *a.*).

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* iv. 7–17 Therfore who so euer backbiteth his neighbour, he either condemneth the lawe,..or backbiteth it as though it were to muche myngle mangled, and walowyshe, the office wherof the backbytour taketh vpon hym. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xiii. 148 He is a foole, his taste is wallowish and distracted. *Ibid.* III. x. 610 My maners are mustie, rather wallowish then sharpe. 1609 G. Benson *Serm.* 7 May 13 Though those sixe petitions deliuered by our hearts and tongues (by reason of the mixture of our vanity) bee full of water, weake, wallowish.

c. *Comb.*: **† wallowish-sweet** *a.*, so sweet as to cloy, sickly.

1576 Turberv. *Venerie* lxviii. 189 Few hounds will eats of a Foxes fleshe, but a Badgerdes is wallowish sweet & rammish. 1577 Eden *Hist. Trav. W. & E. Indies* 328 b, Theyr milk is walowish sweete.

Hence **Wa'llowishly** *adv.*, **Wa'llowishness.**

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xii. 349 The distasted impute wallowishnesse vnto Wine. *Ibid.* III. xii. 631 There are some beauties,..pleasing-sweete and yet wallowishly tasteless. 1611 Cotgr., *Affadissement*, wallowishnesse, vnsauorinesse, tastlessnesse.

Wa'll-paper. Paper, usually printed in ornamental designs, used for covering the interior walls of buildings; paper-hangings.

1828 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Wall-paper.* See *Paper-hangings.* 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. xxx. 13 Block-printed chintz furniture and wall paper. [Elsewhere usually called 'paper hangings'.] 1879 Black *Macleod of Dare* xli, That was the guide she turned to—the woman-man, the dabbler in paint-boxes, the critic of carpets and wall-papers. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 578/2 Should the new wall-paper be plain or gilded? 1904 Louise Creighton *Life & Lett. M. Creighton* I. 83 He is spoken of as being the first to..introduce the inhabitants of Falmouth to Morris's wall-papers. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* II. viii. § 3 Revel came last,..politely admiring in a flute-like cultivated voice the mellow wall-paper of the staircase.

So **Wall-papering** *vbl. sb.*, wall-papers collectively.

1864 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. ix, A young lady..who was better worth staring at, it occurred to Sloppy, than the best

1. *Mil.* (See quot. 1876.)

1778 R. Rogers *Jrnl.* (1765) 5, I embarked..with a party of thirty men, in four battoes, mounted with two wall-pieces each. 1774 *Ann. Reg.* 244 We..at proper intervals kept firing our wall-pieces, as signals to the center. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 29 Sept. 2/4 The vessel..mounting twelve eighteen pounders..twelve long wall-pieces, and four swivels. 1824 *Naval Chron.* XII. 381 On the taffrel were two large wall-pieces,..loaded..with musket balls. 1826 Scott *Woo* xvii, The malignants shooting their wall-pieces at us, had so much the advantage, that [etc.]. 1880 J. Hewitt *Anc. Armour* III. 748 The various fire-arms in use at the close of this [17th] century are enumerated..by St.-Remy. There were wall-pieces (*mousquets de rempart*), both match and flint lock:..the match-lock musquet [etc.]. 1896 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wall-piece*, an enlarged firelock or firearm mounted on a swivel, and placed on the walls of a fort or other fortified place. It may be said to be obsolete, though sometimes issued in India to an expedition proceeding on service. 1884 *Milit. Engin.* I. II. 213 Machine guns and wall-pieces (the latter being of great advantage when the besieger has to resort to sapping) should also form part of the armament.

2. *Arch.* A pendant or pendant-post.

1860 R. & J. A. Brandon *Open Timber Roofs* 26 The wall-piece is tenoned into the underside of the principal rafter. 1880 *Archæol. Cant.* XIII. 435 The stone corbels which support the wall-pieces.

Wa'll-plat. *dial.* Also -plot, -plit. [f. Wall *sb.*[1] + Plat *sb.*[2] 3; app. an alteration of Wall-plate.]

1. = Wall-plate 1.

1480 *Searchers' Verdicts in Surtees Misc.* (1890) 17 That William Selby hafe abouen the same walle, space to ryst his walleplat apon. 1617 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 203 The roofe..to stand on wall plotts of calx. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 468 *Wall-plit*, the piece of timber which is placed on the top of a wall for the purpose of fastening roof-rafters to,—the wall-plate.

b. A shelf fixed in the wall.

1841 Hartshorne *Salopia Antiq.* 608.

2. The spotted fly-catcher: = Rafter *sb.*[1] 2, Rafter-*bird*.

1841 Hartshorne *Salopia Antiq.* 608 *Wall-plat* 2. The Flycatcher: *Muscicapa*. Linn.

Wa'll-plate. Also 4–6 wal-, 5 walle-, 6 wall-, wayl-. [f. Wall *sb.*[1] + Plate *sb.* 7.]

1. *Building.* A timber placed horizontally on or in a wall, to form a support for joists or rafters.

1394 *Acc. Manor of the Savoy* in *Archæologia* XXIV. 307 Et in stipendio ij sarratorum sarrantium meremium pro walplates et bemes, et plauncheborde et plegges. 1395–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 103 Imposicionem unius wall-plate. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xxix. 45 If the Plane of the Ceiling of the Wall is interrupted, and made irregular by Beams, Wall-plates, Cornishes, [etc.]. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 368 Just beneath the abovementioned hole at the end of the angle-tie, is the extremity of the wall-plate which lies upon the eastern wall of the east flank. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 380 The wooden caps always give, or seem to give, a more secure bearing for the wall-plate or architrave. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* i, He...cut every post and wallplate and rafter ...

2. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Wall-plates*, Corn. The two side-pieces of a timber frame in a shaft, parallel to the strike of the lode when the shaft is sunk on the lode. The other two pieces are the end-pieces. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Wall-plate*, vertical strips of wood supporting the ends of the buntons in a wood-lined shaft.

Hence **Wall-plating,** wall plates collectively.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1804 The wall-plating and boud to be dovetailed and halved at their angles.

Wallsend (wɒ·lzend, wɒ·lsend). The name of a town in Northumberland, so called from its situation at the end of the Roman wall. Used *attrib.* (and *ellipt.* as sb.), originally as the designation of coal obtained from a local seam now exhausted; subsequently as the trade name for coal of a certain quality, and in pieces too large to pass through a sieve with meshes ¾ inch in diameter.

1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 24 Wallsends are rising in price. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* i, Three tons of the best Walls-end. 1897 Allbutt in Edith Sichel *Life & Lett.* (1906) 289, I have a pound or two of best Walls-end wandering about in my Bronchial cavities.

Wallsman, obs. form of Welshman.

Wa'll-stone. A stone for building; a stone forming part of a wall. Also, in generalized sense, masonry; stone suitable for building; *spec.* see quot. 1870. Also *fig.*

a 1000 *Crist* 2 (Gr.) Ðu eart se wealstan, þe ða wyrhtan in wiðwurpon to weorce. *a* 1000 *Ruin* 1 (Gr.) Wrætlic is þes weal stan. 1610 R. Vaughan *Water-Workes* K 2 b, Hauing..Wall-stone, Tyle, Lime, and Bricke, as necessary as any man liuing. 1630 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 409 Thair is licence grantit to Sir Robert Douglas to gett ane hundrethe kairtis of wall stones out of the townes quarrell. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid.* xvii, For a' the folk I see here are as hard as the wa' stanes. 1847 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 72/2 Below the rag is the block stone, [used] for common walls, and usually called wall stone. 1870 Gatherwell in *Jrnl. Ethnol. Soc.* (N. S.) II. 403 This [stratum of flint] is called by the present flint-workers the 'wall-stone', from its being used for building purposes.

attrib. 1847 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 72/2 The block, or wall-stone seam, is in this quarry about 10 or 11 feet thick. *Ibid.*, In Yorkshire the workmen calculate all wall-stone work by the rod of 7 yards.

† Wall-tiding, *a. Obs.* [f. Wall *v.*[1] + Tide *sb.* + -ing[2].] Welling up with the tide: said of the reputed 'ebbing and flowing well' at Tideswell.

1636 R. JAMES *Hist Lancastr.* (Chetham Soc.) 37: [Wonders of the Peak] The leadmens grooues..The loftie Winyates, and wall-tiding springs.

Wallup, variant of WALLOP.

†**Wallure.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WALL *sb.*[1] + -URE.] Walls collectively.

c 1475 *Partenay* 2152 Wel was A-cheued this castel beauteuous, Al A-boute reised wonder by wallure. *Ibid.* 5504 Thys chambre wall depeynted was fro foote of wallure the cuise vnto.

Walluru, variant of WALLABOO.

Wallwort (wǭ·lwɜt). Forms: 1 walh-, weal-, wal-, wælwyrt, wealvyrt, 3, 6 walwurt, 4–7 walwort (5 -wourte), 6 walworte, -woort, (wolworte, walworth), 5 welleuort, wallewort, 6 wallwurte, 6– wallwort. [OE. *wealhwyrt*, f. *wealh*, a (Celtic or Roman) foreigner, a 'Welshman' (see WELSH *a.*) + *wyrt* herb, plant, WORT *sb.*[1]

It is very unlikely that *wealh* in this word has the same import as in *wealh-hnutu* WALNUT, where it is equivalent to 'exotic'; no reason can be shown why the Dwarf Elder should have been called 'the foreign herb'. More probably the name, like its later synonyms DANEWORT, DANES'-BLOOD, DANEWEED, expresses the popular belief that this plant was a product of soil fertilized by the carnage of battle. When the 'Welshman' was succeeded by the Dane as the foe on English soil, the plant supposed to be a native of battlefields received a new name. It is possible, though not certain, that the occasional OE. form *wælwyrt* is not a variant of *wealhwyrt*, but a separate word, f. *wæl* slaughter, the slain in battle (see WAL). Cf. LICH-*wort* (literally 'corpse-plant'), which in the earliest known example (*c* 1450) denotes the Dwarf Elder, though it was soon afterwards misapplied (through misinterpretation of its synonym *wallwort*: cf. 2 below) to the Pellitory of the Wall. It is very remarkable that in Swedish the Dwarf Elder is locally called *Danblodad* (Danes' blood), *mannablod* (men's blood), *mannaört* (*ört* = WORT *sb.*[1]) and *valört*; in the last name the first element may correspond either to OE. *wealh* 'Welshman' or to OE. *wæl* slaughter; the latter is the more probable supposition, as the early battles of the Swedes were not fought against Celts or Romans. Kilian's alleged obsolete Flemish *walewerte* is suspicious, because Kilian cites the English word.]

1. The caprifoliaceous plant *Sambucus Ebulus*, also called Dwarf Elder, Ground Elder, Danewort, Danes' Blood, and Daneweed. It has a nauseous taste and an offensive odour, and was formerly valued as a styptic.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E 12 *Ebulum* walhwyrt. *Ibid.* I. 184 *Iutula*, uualhwyrt. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 30 Wið beore, ealtre, wælwyrt, weoduwæxe [etc.]. *Ibid.* 302 *Ebule* vel *eobulum*, Veal vyrt *vel* ellenvyrt. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 555/10 *Ebulum*, *i.* eble, i. walwurt. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 185 Lasse walwourt (*ebullus minor*). *Ibid.* I. 304 in *Anglia* XVIII. 308 Take..wa of walwort & of morele. *Ibid.* 321, 323 Take walwort-rotys, styf & starke. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. (1910) 31 Þer is a naturel vertu in walwort þat moste wele restreyneþ blode of woundes. *c* 1430 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 51/2 *Ebulus* uel *Ebula*, gall. eble, angl. welleuort. *a* 1491 J. ROUS *Hist. Reg. Angl.* (1716) 104 Videre etiam possumus..in villagiis juxta Warwicum, ubi circa maneria populi erant trucidati [by the Danes in 1016], ex sanguine hominum ibi interfectorum herbam ebuli, id est, Walwort, habundanter crescere, quæ ex ebullitione sanguinis humani naturaliter originem trahit. 1541 *Bk. Properties Herbs* C vij, Ebulus minor. Thys is the less Wolworte. It is somewhat like to Walworte. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 35 Ebulus Chamæacte, sive Sambucus humilis, in agris & cœmeteriis. Wallwort, Dwarfe Elder, or Daneweed. 1778 G. WHITE *Selborne*, *To Barrington* 3 July, *Sambucus ebulus*, dwarf elder, walwort, or danewort.

¶ 2. *Erroneous uses.* Through misunderstanding of the first element (as if WALL *sb.*[1]) the name has been applied in Herbals, Dictionaries, etc. to the Pellitory of the Wall, and other plants growing on walls. As the word PELLITORY has a double origin, partly repr. L. *parietária* (f. *parĭes* wall) and partly repr. L. *pyrethrum*, the mistaken identification of *wallwort* with the Pellitory of the Wall led to the further error of applying the name to the Pellitory of Spain (*Anacletus Pyrethrum*). The application of the name to the Comfrey (*Symphyton*) in quot. 1567 is due to confusion with G. *wallwurz* (said to be from *wallen* to heal wounds), whence Du. *waalwortel*, Sw. *vallört*, *vallgras*.

1562 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 43 Let hym take the roote of Piretrum, that is Walworte in hys mouth, and chawe it. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 63 Walwort the Greekes cal Symphyton..It helpeth and putteth away bloud spitting. 1657 ANNE PRATT *Flower Pl.* V. 33 Common Pellitory..The herb was formerly called Wall-wort.

†**Wa·lly**, *a.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* In 6 **wallie.** [f. WALL *sb.*[2] + -Y.] Of the sea: Tempestuous.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. XXXV, Throw countreis seir, hottis and roches hie, Quir vailis, plania, woddis, wallie sey. 1721 RAMSAY *Poet's Wish* ii, Wha to the Indian plain Successfu' ploughs the wally sea.

Wally, waly (wǭ·li), *a.*[2], *adv.*, and *sb. Sc.* Also **walie, wallie, waulie, wawlie.** [Of obscure origin.] **A.** *adj.* Used as an indefinite term of admiration: Handsome, fine; large, ample.

If quot. 1637–50 is correctly placed here the use is ironical.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* LXXV. 45 Quod he..My kyd..My tandir gyrle, my wallie gowdye. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 431 In the beginning of March 1618, he said to his wife, 'Spouse, this wallie March will make an end of all thir things!' and so it was, for he deceased March 31. 1721 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* i. 83 She was a winsome Wench and waly, And cou'd put on her Claiths fu' brawly. 1732 ALEX. NICOL *Nature without Art* 22 Ilk merry Look and wally Taste Gies Health unto the gamesome Jest. 1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* vii, Clap in his walie nieve a blade, He'll mak it whissle. 1791 — *Tam o' Shanter* 164 [echoes quot. 1721]. 1839 *Whistle-binkie* Ser. II. 50 Auld Souter Rabby, that dresses sae brawly; Auld Barber Watty, sae smirky an' waly. 1896 LUMSDEN *Poems* 142 Our Wee Toun's wally offspring.

† b. *Comb.* **Walliman** (*Orkney*): see quot.

1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* (1903) III. 103 The devill appeirit to you, Quhom ye called Walliman, claid in quhyt cloathis with ane quhyt head [etc.].

B. *adv.* Finely. † With impersonal vb. used optatively, *Wally fall*, fair fall, good luck to.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2434 *Iohne to the King.* Gude day, gud day! Grit God saif baith your grales! Wallie, wallie fall they twa weill-fairde faces! 1847 H. S. RIDDELL *Poems* 193 For a' gangs wally wi' them, Wha thus live in their native land, Wi' them that's dearest to them.

C. *sb.* 'A toy, a gewgaw' (Jam.).

1728 RAMSAY *Twa Cut-purses* 4 Baith Lads and Lasses busked brawly, To glowr at ilka Bonny-waly. 1728 — *Poems* II. 404 Gloss., *Bonywalys*, Toys, Gu-gaws. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Hallowfair* 89 Here chapman billies tak their stand, An' shaw their bonny wallies [*rhyme* fallows]. 1821 A. SCOTT *Poems* 96 What bonny lassies flock to Boswell's fair, To see their joes, an' shaw their wallies there! 1826 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxix, Glenallan House, wi' a' the pictures and black velvet and silver bonny-wawlies belanging to it. 1821 — *Pirate* xviii, Bonny-wallies baith of silver and gowd.

Wally, var. WALY *int.*

Wa·llydrag, wa·llydrai·gle. *Sc.* Also **wal(l)idrag, -draggle, -dragle, -tragle, warydraggel, -draggle,** etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Cf. DRAG, DRAGGLE *vbs.*]

1. 'A feeble, ill-grown person or animal; a worthless, slovenly person, esp. a woman' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1508 KENNEDY *Flyting w. Dunbar* 43 Waik walidrag, and werlot of the cairtis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 97 Full mony a waistless wallydrag, With wamba vnweildable, did furth wag, In creische that did incress. *a* 1508 — *Twa Maritit Wemen* 89, I haue ane wallidrag, ane worme, ane auld wobat carle. 1817 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXIV, That canna be said o' king's soldiers, if they let themselves be beaten wi' a wheen auld carles that are past fighting,..and wives wi' their rocks and distaffs, the very wally-draigles o' the countryside. 1818 — *Hrt. Mid.* xviii, We think mair about the warst wally-draigle in our ain byre, than about the blessing which the angel of the covenant gave to the Patriarch. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 142 Yon bit pernickety wallydraggle! He'll dee some service, or than no.

2. (See quot. 1808.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Wallidrag*...It appears primarily to signify the youngest of a family, who is often the feeblest. It is sometimes used to denote the youngest bird in a nest. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* XXXVII, It's just like a cuckoo dabbing a wallydraigle out o' the nest.

Wally-dye, Sc. form of WELLADAY.

Wallyt, obs. form of WALLET.

Wally-wae, Sc. form of WELLAWAY.

†**Walm,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 wælm, 2–walm, 6 (? qualme), wawlme, wawme, whalme, 6–7 walme, waulm(e, waume, 8 waum. *β.* 1 welm, (wi(e)lm, wylm), 4 welm(e. [OE. *wælm* (*wielm*, etc.; also in *ǽd-wielm* spring), str. masc. a gushing, swirling of (boiling) liquids; boiling; heat, etc. = mod. WFris. *wâlm*(*e* smoke, vapour, mod.Flem. (dial.) *walm*, *volm*, wave bubble, a ishing, etc., Du. *walm*, LG. *walm* smoke, OHG., HG. *walm* str. masc. heat, passion, G. (dial.) *walm* ebullition, boiling, whirlpool, MDan. *valm*, *volm* heat:—OTeut. **walmi-z*, a derivative of **wel-* (cf. ON. *ylmr* raging:—**walmo-*, *ylja* to warm:—**wulj-an*, *ylr* warmth, affection:—**wuli-z*, Goth. *wulan* to be fervent), the radical sense of which is doubtful.

In the sequence of senses here adopted it is assumed that

roll, see WALLOW, etc. It is possible that two originally distinct radical elements became confused in Teut. See WALL *v.*[1], to which this word serves as a noun of action.]

1. a. (In OE. only.) Surging or heaving movement (of waves). Chiefly in phrases like *wæteres, ýða wielm*, often used poet. for 'sea' or 'waves'. Hence b. A wave, billow.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. xv. (1890) 200 Nestilde seo sæ fram ðam wylme. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 452 He ýðum stilde, wæteres wælmum. *c* 1325 *Songs on Learning Music* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 292 Me is wo so is þe þat belles in þe walmes. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* VIII. (1562) Aa ij, Ye liuelong night did Tiber flood his streames down couch & calme..y^t nether mouing made of waue nor walme. 1582 STUDLEY *Seneca's Hercules Œtæus* II. 195 b, I smoothed haue the wrastling waues, and layde downe euery walme. 1590 WYRLEY *Armorie*, *Ld. Chandos* 84 The wanton Dolphin dallieth on ech walme.

2. A gushing forth, or upwelling of water; a spring, fountain, water-source; the water of such.

Beowulf 2546 Wæs ðære burnan wælm heaðofyrum hat. *a* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* (1871) 373 He drincð of ðæm wielme his agnes pyttes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 141 Þe stan to-clean and fouwer walmes of watere sprungen ut þer of. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3592 Al to-hewe was his helme, þe blod ran out als a welme. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 429 In þe welmes ofter þan ones Is y-founde reed splekked stones; In tokene of [þe] blood reed, þat þe mayde Wynefride Schadde at þat putte.

3. a. The bubbling and heaving of water, etc. in process of boiling (melting, etc.). Also, one such motion; a 'wallop', a bubble.

a 1000 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 583 In ðam leades wylm scufan. *c* 1440 *Seven Sages* (P.) 2363 Þys sevene walmes sygnyfye Seven devels in thy Companye, That ben thy seven clerkys. *a* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lvi. 397 That water that Cold was before, Anon brenneng hot it be-Cam thore, and with grete walmes it boylledeso faste, that the dewkes hondis it brende. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. lix. 333 Euen as fire causeth water to swell and to send forth great waumes. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 28 Let it have a little walm of heat after it. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 85/2 Walm, a little seething or boiling up of Liquor in a Pot.

b. In advb. phrase, (*to be, set*) *a walm*: in a boiling condition. Also used *fig.*

1629 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Humours Heav.* (Grosart) 46/2 He was a walme, he could not stay impeaching, Who smoakt with heat; and chokt all with the smother. *c* 1632 — *Wit Fitz.* (Grosart) 28 The Seas vnfit to saile on, if too calme: As it is when it is too turbulent: Then, the meane motion sets it so a walme As doth the Sailors Eare, and Eye content.

c. A spell of boiling: = WALLOP *sb.* 2 b.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 63 b, Let them boile at eche time but onelye one wawme. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* LXXIX. 230 Let them boyle two or three whalmes vpon the fire. *Ibid.*, Let them boyle therein, a whalme or a wallop in a pewter pot. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 15 Put in good store of Sugar, & seethe it a walme or two. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 41 Let it seeth on the fyer one qualme or two. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. ii. 11. 157 These togither in a kettle they did set to boile, and let them have ten walms over the fire. 1653 T. BRUGIS *Vade Mecum* (ed. 2) 170 Boyle them a walm or two. 1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 145 Stir them together, and give them a walm. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Medicin. Exp.* VII. (1693) 62 Stop the Bottle, and keep it in boiling Water, till the Water has made three or four walms. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Dispens.* X. (1734) 245 Boil..in five Pints of Whey made of Cow's Milk, and after two or three brisk Waums, remove..from the fire. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (1750) 88 Put them in the pot when the water boils, and let them have four or five walms.

4. *Salt-making.* 'A certain measure of salt after boiling' (Leigh *Chesh. Gloss.*, 1877); in quots. a vessel of some kind holding this quantity.

The identity of the word, and the correctness of Leigh's interpretation, are somewhat doubtful.

1634 BREERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 16 The salt made is not disposed into sacks, walms, or any other measures, but lieth in huge great heaps. 1693 *Act 5 Will. & Mary* c. 7 § 23 Salt made..in the County Palatine of Chester when taken from the Pans is put into Walms Baskettes or Vessells.

5. Comb.: *walm-hot* adj. blazing-hot, boiling-hot. (Cf. *walming hot.*)

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2584 Him brego engla wylmhatne lig to wrece sende. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 68 He het fecchen a uæt and wið pich fullen, and wallen hit walmhat.

†**Walm,** *sb.*[2] Var. of QUALM *sb.*[1], killing, execution.

c 1205 LAY. 22124 And wulc mon swa wurs dude þene þe king hafde iboden he wolde i ine ifusen to ane bare walme, and 3if hit weore la8 mon he sculde hongie for þon.

†**Walm,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4–7 walm(e, 6 ? qualm, 7 waulm. *β.* 4 welm-, 7 welm, whelm. [t. WALM *sb.*[1], possibly repr. an unrecorded OE. derivative **wælman* (**wielman*, etc.). Cf. mod. Flem. (dial.) *walmen* to boil, bubble, Du. *walmen* to smoke, G. (dial.) *walmen* to boil, *welmen* to undulate, well up, flame up.

This verb appears to have become confused (*esp.* in the β forms) with WHELM *v.* (*q.v.*). The relationship of WAMBLE *v.* is obscure but may depend upon a transposition of the *l*. Cf. *wamble, whammel, whemmel* etc. = WHELM *v.*]

1. *intr.* a. Of water: To well up, gush or spout forth. Usually const. advs. *forth, out, up*, etc.

a 1300 *Floris & Bl.* (Hausknecht) 719 [Þe wal] He welmeþ up so he were wod And chaunge[þ] fram water in to blod. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1561 The water is evere fresh & newe, That welmeth up with wawis bright. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) b v, As a thynge y^t boyllyth by strengthe welmyth & lepyth, and throwyth & shedyth itself all abowte. 1582 BATMAN *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. I. 190 Other waters spring and walme out of the inner parts of the earth, as well water and pit water. 1606 HOLLAND *Suetonius* 75 He lay with his bed chamber dores open, and oftentimes within a cloisture supported with pillers, hauing water walming out of a spring, or running from a spout in a conduit. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 505 A place..out of which there walme Springs in great plenty. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* (1714) II. 83 Here is a Pond..maintained by Springs, which continually welm and boil up. *Ibid.* 340 But of certain Pits, in the Moors of this Parish, brackish Water whelmeth forth. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* x. (1689) 100 On the very top of Cadier Arthur Hill in Brecknockshire, there walmeth forth a spring of water.

b. *fig.* To abound; be plentiful.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 114 Þe wikkid werchinge þat walmed in her dales, And 3it woll here-after.

c. Of smoke, vapour, etc.: To swirl, billow; to issue forth in such a manner. *rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xliii. I. 91 A smokie fume walmeth up with many turnings like waves. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* XVII. i. 80 They saw afarre off a mightie deale of smoke waulming up into the aire.

2. To swell, bubble, as in boiling; to boil.

[1599: see QUALM *v.*[2]] 1600 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 235 The waters boile, and walme to our desire.

Hence **Wa·lming** *vbl. sb.*[1] **Wa·lming** *ppl. a.*, glowing, seething; also in phr. *walming hot.*

c 1350 *Judic. Urinæ* II. ii. 18 By reason of rollyng and walmyng of the blode about in the veynes of ye body. 1601

Holland *Pliny* II. cill. I. 46 At the very foot of Ætna...for ..an hundred miles, the waulming round bals and flakes of fire cast out sand and ashes. 1820 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 681 The Stuples did send away a waulming hote vapor.

†**Wa·lming**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [Perh. merely a variant of *wamlyng* (see Wamble *v.*), which also occurs in the Promp. Parv. Cf. Qualm *sb.*[2].] Turning (of the stomach), nausea.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Walmynge, of the stomake.. *nausea.*

Walnut[1] (wǫ·lnst). Forms: 1 **walhhnutu**, 4–6 **walnotte**, 5 **wallnott**, 5, 6 **walnutt**(e, 6–8 **wall-nutt**, 7 **walenotte**, 7–8 **wallnut**, 6– **walnut**. See also Walsh-nut. [OE. *walhhnutu* str. fem. = WFris. *walnút* (NFris. *walnödd* from Da.), MDu. *walnote* (Kilian *walnoot*), Du. *walnoot*, MLG. *wallnot*, *-nut*, LG. (Bremisch. Wörterb. *wallnutt*) *walnut*, G. *walnuss* (earlier *wallnuss*), ON. *valhnot* str. fem. (Norw. *valnot*, Sw. *valnöt*, Da. *valnød*). The first element is OTeut. **walχo-s* (OE. *wealh*, OHG. *walah*) 'Welshman', i.e. Celtic or Roman foreigner; see Welsh *a.*

The solitary OE. example (in a glossary *c* 1050) is the earliest known appearance of the word in any language. The word must, however, have come to England from the Continent, but there is no evidence to show whether it belonged to the primitive OE. vocabulary, or was introduced at a relatively late date. It seems to have belonged originally to the LG.-speaking district; etymologically it meant the nut of the Roman lands (Gaul and Italy) as distinguished from the native hazel. It is noteworthy that in the languages of these countries the word descending from L. *nux*, when used without qualification, denotes the walnut. In HG. the word appears first in the 16th c. (adapted from LG.); but MHG. had the equivalent *welhisch nuz* (mod.G. dial. *welsche nuss*, *welschnuss*): see Walsh-nut.

The ONF. *noiz gauge*, *gaugne*, walnut (which survives in mod. Picard and Norman dialects) app. represents a popular L. **nux gallica*, a translation of the Teut. word.]

1. The nut of the common walnut-tree, *Juglans regia*, consisting of a two-lobed seed (the edible kernel) enclosed in a spheroidal shell covered with a green fleshy husk.

The seed of the mature fruit is eaten like any other nut, and the soft unripe fruit is used entire for pickling.

French walnut: the nut (much larger than the ordinary kind) of a variety of the common walnut tree, *Juglans regia maxima*.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 452/34 *Nux*, hnutbeam oððe walhhnutu. 1358–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 124 Et ij M. de walnottes, prec. millene 15*d*. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 251 As on a walnot with-oute is a bitter barke, And after þat bitter barke..Is a kirnelle of conforte kynde to restore. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 109 (Ashm. MS.) Take curnylles of walnotys. 1580 Blundevil *Curing Horses Dis.* xcix. 46 Me thinkes that the quantitie of a Walnut were too little for so much wine. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 171 Let them say of me, as iealous as Ford, that search'd a hollow Wall-nut for his wiues Lemman. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* 276 Make it up into pils somewhat bigger than a French Walnut. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Bacon* 6 Their quantity is from a Pease to a Wall-nut. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 498 P 3, I was diverting my self with a pennyworth of Walnuts. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 223 To preserve Walnuts white. Take the large French walnuts full grown, but not shelled, pare them till you see the white appear, [etc.]. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 187 Walnuts will not bear a long voyage without being kiln-dried.

b. Often referred to as eaten with wine after dinner.

1824 Pyne (*title*), Wine and Walnuts. 1833 Tennyson *Miller's Dau.* 32 In after-dinner talk Across the walnuts and the wine.

c. Used for *walnut-juice*.

1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 501 Black Soot, or yellow Walnut shall disgrace This little Red and White of Emma's Face.

d. *Oil of walnuts*: the essential oil expressed from the kernels of walnuts.

1634 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xiii. (1906) 230 Then use the oyle of Walnuts. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 297 Olive-oil, oil of wallnuts, oil of colza..are all used in the arts for making soap.

¶ e. Applied to the cow-nut.

1553 Eden *New India*, *1st Three Bks. on Amer.* (Arb) 19 This tree..beareth a kynde of walnuttes [L. *iuglandes*] most delicate to be eaten.

2. The nut-bearing tree *Juglans regia* (N.O. *Juglandaceæ*). Also applied to other species of *Juglans* and related genera: see 2 b. In the U.S. the word often denotes the Hickory (*Carya*).

1600 Fairfax *Tasso* III. lxxvi, The broad-leav'd Sicamore, The barraine Platane, and the Wall-nut sound. 1660 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IV. 228 Vpon this mountaine are many springs, and woods abounding with walnuts. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 12 Oct. 1677, Innumerable are the plantations of trees, especially wallnuts. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 266 There are but few trees, only a few poplars, and a walnut or two.

b. With defining adj. Common Walnut (in British use), *Juglans regia*, called in the *U.S.* English Walnut. Black Walnut, the American species, *Juglans nigra*; Grey or White Walnut, the Butternut of the U.S., *Juglans cinerea*.

1754 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* etc. I. 67 The Black Walnut. Most parts of the Northern Continent of America, abound with these Trees, particularly Virginia and Maryland. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Walnut, Jamaica, *Nuces*. 1763 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxviii. (1794) 429 Common Walnut is distinguished by having the component ——— oval, smooth, sometimes a little toothed, and almost equal. 1837 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 133 Heart-wood..is generally of a different color,..brown in Black-Walnut, black in Ebony, etc. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Walnut, Jamaica, *Picrodendron Juglans*. Walnut, Otaheite, *Aleurites triloba*. 1882 *Garden* 7 Jan. 1/2 Besides these there are already fruiting..English Walnuts, Persian Walnuts (Kaghazi), Almonds, American Black Walnuts, &c. *Ibid.* 16 Sept. 251/1 The Grey Walnut or Butternut..is smaller in growth and more spreading in habit [than the Black Walnut].

3. The wood of the walnut-tree.

a 1585 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 527 The comodities thence ar..Boordes of chestnuttes and walnuttes. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* II. 25 The wood that is most common is Oke and Walnut. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, How pleasant then, to be bound to no particular chairs and tables, but..to fit from rosewood to mahogany, and from mahogany to walnut,..as the humour took one. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 15 The museum has been partly filled with absolutely dust-proof cases of solid walnut shaped in the best style of the art. 1892 *Joseph Gardner & Sons' Monthly Circular* 1 Oct., Walnut—American.—Imports: 394 Logs into Liverpool. *Ibid.*, Walnut—Circassian —No Imports.

†b. As material for gun-stocks. Hence colloq. *To shoulder walnut*: to enlist as a soldier. *Obs.*

1838 D. Jerrold *Men of Character* (1851) 10, 'I tell ye, Cuttles, it's no use. I'll shoulder walnut first.' 'Walnut!' 'Ay, go for a soldier.'

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. obvious combinations, as (sense 1) *walnut-kernel*, *-ketchup*, *-oil*, *-peel*, *-trade*, *-wine*; *walnut-stained* adj.; (sense 2) *walnut avenue*, *garden*, *leaf*, *-wood*; (sense 3, quasi-adj. 'made of walnut') *walnut bed*, *sideboard*; *walnut-framed* adj. b. special comb.: **walnut-brown**, the brown colour produced by the application of walnut-juice to the skin; **walnut-juice**, the juice expressed from the green husk of the walnut; used by gipsies as a brown stain for the skin; † **walnut-water** (see quot.).

1898 Miss Yonge *Keble's Parishes* III. 44 There were two *walnut avenues planted about this time. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* xi, This amiable pair were lying in a large *walnut bed. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xxx, If William's French grooms got hold of you, Torfrida, it would not be a little *walnut-brown which would hide you. 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* xiv, The *walnut-framed photograph. 1873 Kingsbury *Comm. Song of Sol.*, *Speaker's Comm.* IV. 671/2 She relates to the Chorus how in early spring she had first met the King in a *walnut-garden in her own country. 1912 E. Thomas *Geo. Borrow* v. 44 They colour his face with *walnut juice so that he looks a 'true son of an Egyptian'. 1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 9 A string of *walnut kernels. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 32 One meat spoonful of *walnut catchup. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Gard.* (1861) 166 Walnut ketchup, is obtained from the outer husk of the ripe fruit. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Ulcer*, A Decoction of *Walnut Leaves in Water, with a little Sugar. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 609 Slugs and earth-worms may be effectually destroyed by..a decoction of..walnut leaves. 1649 W. Bullock *Virginia* 12 Pot-ashes, Rape, and *Walnut Oyle, and other Staples. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 543 *Walnut-peels managed as for wool, form a cheap and durable brown for silk. 1823 *Veget. Subs. Materials of Manuf.* xxiii. 404 Fawn colours. Sumach—Walnut-peels—Henna. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5731, A *walnut sideboard, Renaissance style. 1906 T. Watts-Dunton *Thoreau's Walden* Introd. p. xi, One of those masquerading 'children of the Tent'..who think it fine to play the Man of the Woods, in order that they may..write books with *walnut-stained fingers. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 509 P 3, I must repeat the Abomination, that the *Walnut Trade is carry'd on by old Women within the Walks. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xx. 238 To distill *Walnut-water. Take a Peck of fine green

l. vi, An old corner cupboard of *walnut-wood.

Walnut[2]. *Naut.* Corrupt form of Wall-knot, associated with Walnut[1] 1. Also *walnut-knot*.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Knot*, There are several sorts of knots..: the principal of these are the diamond-knot, the rose-knot, the wall-knot or walnut. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 213 A double-walnut-knot,..called a button-and-loop.

Wa·lnut-shell.

1. The hard shell enclosing the seed of the walnut; also, either of the boat-shaped halves of this.

[*c* 1384: see Walsh-nut.] 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 93 There wyll ryse pymples as moche as halfe a walnutshell. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 66 Heere is the cap your Worship did bespeake...Why 'tis a cockle or a walnut-shell

boat had been crushed by one blow of the sea like a walnut-shell. 1889 Sir W. Harcourt in S. Gwynn *Life Dilke* (1917) II. 287, I therefore spoke like a cat in walnut shells.

†b. Applied to the outer husk of the walnut.

1552 Huloet, Walnut shele, *gulioca*. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 128 They were a gang of gypsies..rubbing or dyeing a fine young girl, about seventeen, with walnut-shell.

c. In phrases implying extreme calmness of the sea. (Cf. 2.)

1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 6 The sea breaks upon them [*sc.* the Edystone rocks] in a frightful manner..when, figuratively speaking, you might go to sea in a Walnut-shell.

2. *transf.* Applied to a boat, as a hyperbolical expression for extreme lightness and fragility. († In the 17th c. app. used as the actual name of a fragile kind of boat.)

1824 Gentleman *Eng.* to *Westk* 27 The Fleet of Hollanders..that go in t..wood-pinks,..Walnut-shels, and great and small Yeuers, 100, and 200. Sailes at one time other. 1836 E. Howard *R. Rhymer* xxxiv, Our little ——ll got on the top of one [wave]. 1903 E. Childers *Riddle of Sands* xii. 125 Davies nursed our walnut-shell tenderly over their crests.

3. *slang.* A very light carriage.

1860 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 232 Drawing a walnut-shell over a level road.

4. *attrib.*

1580–70 *Bk. Quinte Essence* 20 Of þis watir yone to þe pacient, morowe and euen, a walnot-schelle ful at eonys. 1793–4 [Aikin & Mrs. Barbauld] *Even. at Home* (1809) II. 36 The pond where I used to sail my walnut-shell boats.

Wa·lnut-tree.

1. The tree that bears walnuts.

a 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 657 *Tremuler vuper et grenller*, Aspe walnotestre and theuthorne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 407/1 Walnott tree, *amellanus*. 1579 Spenser *Shep. Cal.* Dec. 34 How haue I wearied with many a stroke, The stately Walnut tree, the while the rest Vnder the tree fell all for nuts at strife. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. xiv. 392 The Wild Nutmeg-tree is as big as a Walnut-tree; but it does not spread so much. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 280 Under it is found a soft oozy earth, made up of vegetables; and at twenty-six feet depth, large trees entire, such as walnut-trees. 1820 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 115 At the last meeting of the Entomological Society, Mr. W. L. Distant exhibited..a branch of a walnut-tree on which was a mass of eggs laid by a butterfly belonging to the Lycænidæ.

Proverb. 1550 Coverdale *Spir. Prob* xii. 102 A walnut tree ye more it is beaten, the better it is, & not the worse. Euen so man thorow many stripes and much aduersity turneth from il and waxeth good.

b. *attrib.*

1536 *MS. Rawl. D.* 780 lf. 66, xxiiij^ti loodes of walnottry and hasshen tymbre. *Ibid.* lf. 69 b, Wallnotry Tymbre hayssheu tymbre and ellym tymbre. 1729 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4007/4, 10 Dozen of Walnut-Tree Planks. 1738 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Ulcer*, This is no more than a decoction of walnut-tree-leaves in water, with a little sugar. 1820 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 74 *note*, The *Salmoni*, or *Salmonti* tree,..affords a most beautiful wood; it resembles walnut-tree wood in colour. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *Lond. To-day* (ed. 3) 26 The pleasant walnut-tree walks..of his [Addison's] time.

†2. The wood of this tree. = Walnut[1] 3. *Obs.*

1587 *B. N. C.* (Oxf.) *Docum., Inventory* A^2. 31 A bedsteed of wallnuttrye, in Ladies' chamber. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 162 The seates of the Chauncell are of Walnut-tree curiously carved. 1736 Mrs. P. L. Powys *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 8 The chimney-pieces, tables, &c. are of green marble from Sweden; all the doors solid walnut-tree, off the estate. 1826 Scott *Old Mort.* xi, A grey doublet and cloak..which Mrs. Wilson produced from a chest of walnut-tree.

†b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Made of walnut.

1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2231/4 A drawing Walnut-Tree Box, with two Drawers in it,..to put Mathematical Instruments in. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3806/8 A Large Parcel of French Walnutt-Tree Veneers will be exposed to Sale..on Thursday. 1726 *Ibid.* No. 6402/4 A Fowling-Piece with a Walnut-tree Stock. 1728 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Candle*, Roll them upon a Walnut-tree Table. *a* 1841 T. Hook *Ned Musgrave* I, Sitting in a walnut-tree arm-chair. 1907 *Vernay Mem.* I. 11 Chairs with walnut-tree frames.

† **Walnyed**, *a. Obs.* [† var. of WoldenEyed, Wall-eyed.] Of a horse: ? Light grey.

The meaning is obscure, as the colours are not enumerated in the same order in the original and the translation. A note in the MSS. of the translation has *glaucus*, which does not occur here in Palladius.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 827 The walnyed is good, also the blake is fyn colour, the falow and harthued.

Walon, Walop: see Walloon, Wallop *n.*

Walour(e, obs. Sc. forms of Valour.

Walow, obs. form of Value, Wallow.

Waloway: see Wellaway.

Walowe yee, obs. f. Wall eye.

Walrus (wǫ·lrŭs). Also 8 **walrous**, **wallross**, *pl.* **walrosses**, 9 **-russes**. [probably a. Du. *walrus* (*walros*). Compare (i) LG. *walross*, G. *walross* (earlier also *walrust*, *walrusch*), Sw. *hvalross*, *valross* (*valruss*), Da. *hvalros* (earlier also *hval-rusk*), walrus; (ii) OE. *horschwal*, early mod.G. *rosswal*, *russwal*, Norw. *russhval*, walrus, ? OFr. *rohal*, *rohart*, *rochal* (whence med.L. *rohanlum*, *-allum*) walrus-ivory; see Rubl.

The forms under (i) appear to be later than those under (ii) from which they perh. arose (? in Du.) by metathesis on some analogy such as that of Du. *walvisch* whale.

The interpretation of formation (ii) as 'horse-whale' (zoologically improbable) appears to be only one of the various popular etymologies that have influenced the forms of the word. Ultimately a confusion, either within or outside the Scandinavian languages, has perhaps taken place between ON. *hrosshvalr* a kind of whale, and *rosmhvalr* walrus. The latter is related obscurely to ON. *rosmali*, Norw. *rosmaal*, *rosmaar*, Da. *rosmar*, *-ar*, *-or* walrus, whence the scientific specific name *rosmarus*. See Rosmarine[1]. Some scholars have connected *rosm-* with ON., Icel. *rostungr* walrus, and assumed relationship of both with ON. *raudr* Red, (Cf. Robqual and OHG. *ruo(z)mo* redness.) This is zoologically possible, but it seems more likely that *rosm-* is a corruption of some non-Teut. word: cf. Mossa.]

1. The sea-horse, or morse (*Trichechus rosmarus*), a carnivorous pinniped marine mammal allied to the *Phocidæ* (seals), and *Otariidæ* (sea-lions), and chiefly distinguished by two tusks (exserted upper canine teeth). It inhabits the Arctic seas. A variety found in the N. Pacific has sometimes received the distinct specific name *obesus*.

[*a* 825 *Alfred Oros.* I. I § 15 For þam horschwalum, for

Inem his habbaß swiþe ofride bun on hiora tojtem. 1893 O. Weme *Mus.* 211. xv. 289 *Animal*..quod Anglis & Russis Walrus, aliis Mors, Danis & Islandis Rosmarus vocatur. 1893 RAY *Syn. Anim. Quadr.* etc. 291 *R* ___ Mors à Russis mutuato nomine? Belgis Walrus...The ___ or Sea-Horse.] 1708 J. WOODWARD *Catal. Fossils* II. *Foreign* 2. 20 A Tusk of the Morse, or Walrous, call'd by some the Sea-Horse. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 553 The Phoca, with the canine teeth inverted. The Walrus. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 75 The seals, walrooses, and cod, caught in the Russian ___, are likewise very important articles. 1823 Sir C. BELL *Hand* (1834) 109 The bones of the ___ or walrus..... markably complete, if we consider the peculiar appearance of the feet in the living animal. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xiii. 140 The last remnant of walrus did not leave us until

† 2. *Indian walrus*: the DUGONG. *Obs.*
1771 PENNANT *Syn. Quadr.* 338 Indian Walrus.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *walrus-beef*, *-boat*, *calf*, *fishing*, *-hide*, *-ivory*.
1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxviii. 366 Ladies with..as much *walrus-beef..as would pay for their board. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 25 Aug. 6/1 Each *walrus-boat carried six men. 1856 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 356/2 Old Ickwa put his hand on me, at the same time pointing to the *walrus calf, and said 'pee-yuk!' 1880 W. SCHERZER *Acc. Arctic Regs.* II. 5 *Walrus-fishing in succeeding years in high northern latitudes. 1880 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4638, Patent *walrus-hide belting. 1875 MASKELL *Ivories* 2 In quality and beauty of appearance *walrus ivory scarcely yields to that of the elephant.

Wals, Walsch(e, Walse, obs. ff. WELSH.

Walse, var. WALTZ *sb.* and *v.*

Walsh, *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 welsshe, 7, 9 welsh. [? contracted f. WALLOWISH *a.* Cf. WASH *a.*, WASSH *a.*] Insipid, tasteless, ill-tasting; having a sickly taste, nauseous.
1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vii. 79 To pas..By gousty placis, welsche savorit, mist, and hair. *c* 1687 in C. K. Sharpe *Witchcraft in Scot.* viii. (1884), It was not blood, but red as blood,..it had a welsh taste. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 78 *Walsh*, insipid, fresh, waterish. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, *Welsh*, insipid...Broth and water, and pottage without salt, are *welshy or washy. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Walsh*, ___ 'As walsh as the white of an egg'.

Hence **Wa'lshness,** insipidity.
1808 JAMIESON. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Walshness*, want of flavour; insipidity.

Walsh(e, obs. forms of WELSH.

† **Walsh-nut.** *Obs.* In 4 walsnote, walsh(e)-note, welshnote, 6 walshe nutte, 7 walsh-nut. [Corresponds to MHG. *welhisch nuz* (mod.G. dial. *welsche nuss*, *welschnuss*), early mod. Flemish (Kilian 16th c.) *walsche noot*, 'Welsh' (i.e. Italian or Gaulish) nut: see WALNUT. The word was prob. adopted in ME. from MDu. or MLG., though documentary evidence of its existence in those dialects is wanting.] = WALNUT 1. Also *attrib.*
1362–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 571 ___ de Walsnotes in precio 2*s.* 6*d.* *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1281 (Fairf. MS.) Y sawgh him carien a wyndmelle Vnder a walsh note [*MS. Bodley* welshnote] shale. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 99 With wardons wialick and walshe notes newe. 1508 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 163 Yf thou wylt plante an almaunde tree or a walsh nott tree or a chery tree. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lvi. 731 The fruite is called..in Englishe, Walnuttes, Walshe Nuttes, and of some Frenche Nuttes. 1600 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 132 The dry Walnuts, or Walsh nuts, are hot and dry in the second degree. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* I. xvii. 68 Amongst all these [Nuts], the Wall-nut, or Walsh-nut, beareth away the bell.

Walsman, obs. form of WELSHMAN.

Walsse, Walsshe, obs. forms of WELSH.

† **Walt,** *sb. Sc. Obs. rare*[1]. ? Beaten clay.
1488 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 2 Item, to Jok Inglis for makyn of walt and clayng of the flur, iij days, ijs. iijd.

† **Walt,** *a. Naut. Obs.* Also 6–7 walte. [OE. **wealt*, found only in *unwealt* steady; related to WALT *v.*] Of a ship: Unsteady, crank.
1589 *Adm. Ct. Exam.* 4. 7 Dec., The said boate was very walte & very evyll made. 1627 Capt. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xi. 53 We say a Ship is walt when shee is not stiffe, and hath not Ballast enough in her to keepe her stiffe. 1696 BASSANDYNE *Plymouth Plant.* II. (1856) 292 For covetousnes sake [they] did go over lade her,..as she was could not beare sayle. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxiii, our humane Vessels might not breed, or be walt, but well trimm'd and stiff. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Walt*, an obsolete or spurious term signifying *crank*.

Walt (wɔlt), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 3–5 walte, 6–8 wolt, 9 *dial.* waut. Contracted pa. t. and pple. 4–5 walt. [early ME. *walten* = OHG. *waltan*, MHG. *walten* (strong) to roll, revolve (intr. and trans.); the OTeut. root **walt-* appears to be an extension of **wal-* (**wel-*) to roll: see WALLOW *v.* Cf. WELT *v.*]

1. *trans.* (with obj. clause). To revolve in the mind, consider. [So OHG. *waltan*.]
c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Witte wel hwat þu hauest walte hwat þe side.

2. To throw, cast, toss *out*, *over*, *up*, etc.; to fling to the ground; to overturn, upset.
Cf. ROOT-WALT *v.* (1530–).
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1734 [Tekel] To teche þe of techal, þat turne þus menes, þy wale rengne is walt in heng, & is funde ful fewe of hit fayth dedes.
Gr. Knt. 1536 þay..grayþely departed þe ¹ wryst-hole, & walt out þe gutter. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4633 The storme..walt vp the wilde se vppen was billes. *Ibid.* 5888 [Thai] wounde hom wikkedly, walt hem to ground. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 351 Or y so þe walles schal wande & walken alle ouere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vii. 13 Ane part haistis to beild the wallis wicht, And sum to..wirk wp stanes to the werk on hie. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 52 To *Walt*,..to overthrow. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, To *Walt*, or *Welt*, overturn Cart or Wain. 1875 *Lancs. Gloss.*, *Waut*, to upset; to turn completely over. 1883 *Almondbury Gloss. Walt*, to turn over...'Nay, lad; it sd walt ma table ovver'.

3. *intr.* To be thrown down, fall over, be upset or overturned; to totter; to lean to one side.
c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 909 As þe welkyn shold walt, a wonder-full noyse Skremyt vp to the skrow. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 69 Ouer wilde wawes he wende, as alle waltz schulde. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Ador. Sheph.* 268 Ware lest thou walt here by the wall. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 52 To *Walt*, to totter, or lean one way. 1875 *Lancs. Gloss.*, *Waut*...to fall on one side. 1883 *Almondbury Gloss.*, *Walt*, to totter, or fall over.

b. With *open*: To be opened; to gape wide.
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 501 Pen went þay to þe wykket, hit walt vpon sone. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1145 So depe wondes þat day þay dalt, þat many on wyde opyn walt, þat wikkidly wondede was.

c. *fig.* To fall, *into* (anger, madness).
c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1036 Nestor anone noyet þere with, And walt at his wordes into wode yre. *Ibid.* 8685 Sum walt into wodenes, & of wit past.

4. To gush *out*, pour, flow.
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 364 Waltes out vch walle-bened, in full wode stremes. *Ibid.* 1037 þer waltes of þat water in waxlokes grete, þe spommande aspaltoun þat spyseres sellen.

Walt(e, obs. forms of WELT.

Walte, var. VULT *Sc. Obs.*
1524 ARRAN in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 157 [His] Gracis maist noble jocund wakis,..manlyes and ferme contenance.

† **Wa'lter,** *sb. Obs.* Also *Sc.* 6 volter, woltir, 6–7 wolter. [f. WALTER *v.*[1] Cf. WELTER *sb.*]

1. The rolling of the sea in a storm.
c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3699 So þe bre and the brethe barbelit to gedur, þat hit spirit vp spitiously fyne speire lenght With walter and wawes.

2. The act of wallowing (in mire); in quot. *concr.*, a wallowing-place.
1577 KNEWSTUB *Confut.* (1579) To Rdr. **1 The Lord..reuengeth the shameful contempt and neglect of his truth: by sending numbers to their stie or walter againe.

3. An upset, upheaval, overthrow. *lit.* and *fig.*
1563 WINZET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) I. 49, I began nocht litill to merwel at sa haisty and sa subdane a wolter of this warlde in sa mony grete materis. 1583 RANDOLPH *Let. to Cecil* 10 Apr. in *Cal. Scott. Papers* II. 5 Yf ther come such a volter in thys realme, that ever that man come agayne into credyt. 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 221 He spak mekle of the Weltir of the religioune [L. *de religionis apud nos inversione*]. 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 379 (Scott. Prov.) If I can get his cart at a wolter [1670, p. 28a at a whelming], I shall lend it a put.

Walter (wɔ·ltəɹ), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4–6 waltre, 4–7, 9 *dial.* walter, 5 waltyr, 6 waulter, -tre, *Sc.* woltre, valter, 6 *Sc.*, 8–9 *dial.* wolter. [Freq. of WALT *v.*: see -ER 4. Cf. WELTER *v.*]

I. Intransitive senses.

1. To roll to and fro, move from side to side; to tumble or toss about; to lie sprawling on the ground, *in* mire, etc.
c 1400 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 203 He feled a þing þat was mysti and þicke waltre and turne atwixe hym and his wif. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 735 Litel he slepiþ, Bot walwyþ & wyndiþ & waltreþ a-boute. *c* 1480 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 236 [She] lyys walteryng..by the fyere. 1500 [see TOLTER *v.*]. 1530 PALSGR. 771/1, I walter, I tumble. *Je me voytre.* Hye; your house is walteryage yonder, he wyll breake his but more happe be. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. greit terrour in his mynd he tuke, That all that nycht he wolterit and he woik. 1598 WITHALS *Dict.* 20 b/a *Voluto*, to turne or walter in myre as hogges doe. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Curing Horses Dis.* xcii. 42 b, The horse will forsake his meate, and lie downe and wallow, and walter vpon the ground. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1276 Sardanapalus..tumbling and lying along, waltring among a sort of concubines. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. ii. (1693) 87 The Globe cannot walter or reel towards any side. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Walter*, *wolter*, to roll and twist about on the ground; as corn laid by the wind and rain; or as one who is rolled in the mire. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v., 'The potatoes lie down and walter on the ground', *i. e.* they remain lying.

b. Of a ship: To roll or be tossed on the waves.
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 415 Hit waltered on þe wylde flod, went as hit lyste. 1580 ROLLAND *Seven Seges* 18 Upon the sey thay sufferit great perrell,..Walterand with wind out throw þe moudy wawis.

c. Of the stomach: To be upset or disturbed.
1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four PP.* 600 It..maketh your stomake sore to walter.

2. *fig.* To wallow or revel *in* (prosperity, pleasure, sin).
c 1375 *Cursor M.* 4503 (Fairf.) Man þat waltenes [*Cott.* weltres] in his welia. 1398 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 62 They are ..lyke to brut beastes and swyne, Walteryng ___ synfull wretchednes. 1553 BRADFORD *Serm. Repent.* ( ) H iij b, Trow you that such a one..wyl ___ in his wylful lustes, pleasures, and ___ *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 76 If a man..walter in filthines like a Swyne. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Serm.* xi. (1606) 108 The naturall man walowring and wallowing in sinne.

3. To swing or float to and fro. Also *fig.*
c 1390 *Wil. Palerne* 947 þou waltes al in a weih & wel ___ stande whider þe belannce bremliest bouwes al-gate.
c 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 1663 in *Macro Plays* 156 Nedys, my lose must on hym lande, With Cowrytyne to walter & wave.
c 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1036 And some I wake in a rope to totter and walter. *c* 1568 ? COVERDALE *Carrying Christ's Cross* iii. 29 The arragein gatherynge together þe wicked wretches (which now walter and wallowe as the worlde and wyande bloweth) to be tyed in bondels, and cast into the fier. 1580 ROLLAND *Seven Seges* 44 He signifyis a mannis persoun, That walteris betuix wynde and wauy liste this warld ay vp and doun.

4. To move or go unsteadily; to totter, stumble. Also, to go with a rolling gait, to waddle.
1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 189 So tymed lemes were leyde all aboute,..þat where so þey walkid, þey walkrid dounwardis. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XI. ii, He [Silenus] was, ait that tyme, in Frygye, waltrynge and swarayng what of wyn and of age. 1577 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 286 [An adder and her young] She..suffereth them to hang upon her back, and so walketh to her hole. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, *Walter*, as welter [' to goe aside, or heavily, as Women with Child, or Fat People' (Ray 1691)].

5. Of waves: To surge or roll high. Of water, etc.: To flow, gush. Of a humour: To wander or ooze about the body.
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 142 þe wawes fal wode waltered so hije. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 684 Wel much was þe warme water þat waltered of yzen. 1555 PHAER *Æneid* II. (1558) E ij, The fomy floud..waltring down the vales. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 23 The unnaturall or evell sweate is it that..waltereth only about the harte. *Ibid.* 36 Somtyme growe apostemes in the loynes of humors that are waltering and straying in the body. 1577 J. BRIDGE *Beautif. Blossoms* xvii. 84 Streames of teares waltering downe his cheekes.

II. Transitive senses.

6. To roll about, toss to and fro. Also *fig.* Also *refl.*, to sprawl or wallow (on the ground, in the mire, etc.).
c 1375 *Cursor M.* 21113 Quilk þal hane his bodi tisine & waltered him in barli chaf. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 204 And he [*sc.* the demoniac], cast doun in þe erþe, was waltid and frobid [Vulg. Mark ix. 19 *volutabatur spumans*]. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, þei smyteth þe grounde with the foote and walters hem as an horse. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* 342 The fete..ar ful wete, Walterid in blood. 1568 FISHER *Penit. Ps.* Wks. (1876) 204 Euen as an hors the softer myre or claye he waltreth hymselfe in the more easely he lyeth. *Ibid.* 358 The Sowe..waultering hir self in the myerie puddle. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (PITSCOTTIE) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 23 Quhill the cuntrie was waltirit to and fra in this maner. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 92 In seas far waltred, he groyleth.

7. To overturn, overthrow.
1571 SIR J. MAITLAND in *Satir. Poems. Reform.* xxvii. 72 Bewar! we may be waltirit [*v.rr.* weltred, woltezit] or we wit, And lykwayis Loss our land and libertie.

8. *dial. uses* (see quots.).
a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Walter*, *Welter*, to cause extreme fatigue...'I am right-on waltered out, by my day's work'. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Waltshered*, mixed or stack in a boggy road, or swampy place. 'Whiles in the mornin' I find the branches of the trees all waltshered and smashed', broken down into the mire.

Hence **Wa'ltering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 247 A wylde walterande whal..þi þat bot flotte. 1502 DOUGLAS *Pal Hon.* III. viii, Innumerabill folk I saw flotterand in feir, Quhilk pereist on the walterand wallis weir. 1508 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 128 Quhare I myght se The woltryng (*v.r.* waltreyng) of the wallis vp and down. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 267 Whoes waltring tonges did lick their hissing mouthes. 1552 HULOET, Waltryngе or full of wallowynge, *volutabundus*. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* XXXVI. 99 So pride hath hym puft by his waltering wealth. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtike Controv.* 44 As a man dimie with the waltering of a vessel, tossed by the hollowe waues of raging seas. 1588 T. HUGHES *Misfort. Arthur* III. Chor. 42 The windes, that sweepe the waltering waues.

† **Wa'lter,** *v.*[2] *Sc. Obs. rare*[1]. *trans.* To be without, lack.
1463 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 82 The said Johne [sall remane] at the dous of the said myln and vesy thame daylie at thai walter nocht na behuifull thing to thame that he aucht to find, and gif at thai walter acht in his default, as that thairthrow the myle be ydill [etc.].

Walter, obs. form of WATER.

† **Wa'lterer.** *Obs.* In 6 *Sc.* -ar. [f. WALTER *v.*[1] + -ER.] One who overthrows.
1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXII. 230 Behald now how þe do the mater gyde, To caus my Sisters France and Ingland scorne 3ow, That walterars of Courts þe lat suborne 3ow. 1582 in *R. Bannatyne's Jrnl.* etc. (1806) 300 Sklaidrie ..that war the kingis enemeis, walterars of his kingdome, and enemeis of religione.

Walterot, Walth : see WALTEROT, WEALTH.

† **Wa'ltham.** *Obs.* [The name of *Waltham* Chase, Hants.] Used *attrib.* in allusion to the disguise adopted by the poachers called 'Waltham Blacks': see BLACK *sb.* 6 b.
1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 191 Such mean devices, such artful, such worse than Waltham disguises put on, to obtrude himself into my company.

Waltir, obs. Sc. form of WATER.

Waltonian (wɒltōˑniăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the name of Izaak *Walton*, author of *The Compleat Angler* (1653): see -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Izaak Walton. B. *sb.* A disciple of Walton, an angler.
1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 314/2 The Waltonians, the Cottonians, and the Saltonians (for Walton, Cotton, and Salter, are their text-books). 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* xlix. (1845) 438/2 This little group of Walto[illegible] Lord Somerville's preserve. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. Pacific* II. 22 Exhibiting a sized fish that any Waltonian might well et. 1888 (*title*) Rules of the true Waltonian Society

at the Crown Tavern, Pentonville Hill. Established 1830. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 12/1 He..is an ardent devotee of the Waltonian art.

So **Waltonising** *vbl. sb.*, angling.

1842 J. T. J. Hewlett *Peter Priggins* I. i. 25 A landing-net, minnow-can, casting-net, and half a hundred more requisites for Waltonizing. 1882 H. S. Leigh *Strains fr. Strand* 2 No sign was near of pebbly brook,..Where patient swains with rod and hook In Waltonising dabble.

[Waltron, a misreading in Johnson's Dict. for *walrous*: see quot. 1728 s.v. Walrus 1.]

† Waltrot, walterot. *Obs. rare*—1. [Of obscure origin.] *A tale of waltrot*, an idle tale, a piece of absurdity.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 149 'þat þow tellest' quod treuth 'is but a tale of waltrot' [C. xxi. 146 walterot, *v.rr.* walter, walteret].

Waltsom(e, erron. forms of Wlatsome *a. Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iv. x. (1495) f v, There is.. waltsomnes w^t coleryk, spewynge, dryenes of tongue. *c* 1492 *Chaucer's Nun's Priest's T.* 233 (Pynson), Murdre is so waltsom [Thynne 1532, Stowe 1561 waltsome] and abhomynable. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* xxx, O waltsome murther, that attaynteth our fame.

Waltt, ? obs. Sc. form of Vault *v.*[2]

1722 in E. D. Dunbar *Soc. Life* (1865)^ 43, I am also rejoysed to hear that you are clever and can voltige and waltt a little as to your former way.

Walty (wɒ·lti), *a. Naut.* [f. Walt *a.* + -y.] = Walt *a.*

Prob. *Obs.*, the knowledge of the word being derived, through Longfellow, from quot. 1702.

1702 C. Mather *Magn. Christi* I. vi. 25 A New Ship, built at Rhode-Island, of about 150 Tuns; but so walty, that the Master..often said she would prove their Grave. [1850 Longf. *Birds of Passage, Phantom Ship* iv, This ship is so crank and walty, I fear our grave she will be!] 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Merchantmen* iv, By sport of bitter weather, We're walty, strained, and scarred. 1904 F. T. Bullen *Cruise Sea* xxiv. 362 In spite of the walty state of the almost worn-out vessel.

Waltz (wɒ̄lts, wɒ̄ls), *sb.* Also 8 **valse, waltze,** 9 *pl.* **waltzes,** 8–9 **valtz, walse.** See also Valse. [ad. G. *walzer*, f. *walzen* to roll, revolve, dance the waltz.]

1. A dance performed to music in triple time by couples who, almost embracing each other, swing round and round in the same direction with smooth and even steps, moving on as they gyrate.

1787 Twining in *Select. Papers T. Family* (1 found on inquiry that this was a favourite Germ called a walz. 1796 *Campaigns* 1793–4, II. i. 6 All these fair Flammandes gain force, In the Valtz, as they spin in their whirligig course. 1798 Helen M. Williams *Tour Switzerland* I. 34 The waltze, which is now never forgotten at a Paris ball. 1812 Byron (*title*) The Waltz. 1825 W. Hamilton *Hand-bk. Terms Arts* etc., *Waltz*, in Music, the name of a riotous and indecent German dance. 1870 E. Braddon *Life in India* iv. 145 She will be able to reward the virtuous youth who is fast and smooth in the *valtz*. 1881 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* i, The very memory of those waltzes makes my arms ache.

fig. 1820 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 403 The ghosts of his departed guiness dance an ugly waltz round my idea.

attrib. 1826 [Sherer] *Notes & Reft. Ramble in Germany* 37 My steps were arrested..by the sound of soft waltz music.

2. A piece of music to accompany this dance, in the same time and rhythm.

1816 Jane Austen *Emma* xxvi, Mrs. Weston..was seated, and beginning an irresistible waltz. 1837 Marryat *Dog-Fiend* ix, The band..played a waltz.

† 3. A party or soirée for waltzing. *Obs.*

1820 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* VI. 192 If men and women of fashion will come forward, and..give balls, waltzes, and suppers.

Waltz (wɒ̄lts, wɒ̄ls), *v.* Also 9 **valtz, walse, walze.** [f. Waltz *sb.* or directly ad. G. *walz-en.*] *intr.* To dance a waltz. Also, to be addicted to, or practised in, the waltz; to dance the waltz in a specified manner.

c 1794 *Search after Perfect.* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* (1824) III. 56 The sight of a lady waltzing. 1812 Byron *Waltz* To Publ., 'Lord! Mr. Horneem, Can't you see they're valtzing?' or waltzing (I forget which). 1841 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. v. 93, I waltzed one waltz. 1870 Furnivall *Barde's Introd. Knowl.* Forewords 120 Oh fair-haired Alice, how well you waltz!

b. *transf.* To move lightly, trippingly, or nimbly. Chiefly *slang.*

1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xiv. vii. (1872) V. 237 Big war-clouds waltzing hither and thither, occasionally clashing

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wind she waltzed beautifully round the coast.

c. quasi-*trans.* (with advb. extension): To move (a person, oneself) as in a waltz.

1837 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii, We are always..revolving about the Lord Chancellor and all his satellites, and equitably waltzing ourselves off to dusty death, about Costs. 1881 Mary C. Hay *Missing* II. 237 How Edgar laughed as he waltzed me through the hall! 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 600/2 He seized me and waltzed me around the little dining-room.

Hence **Wa·ltzing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

Waltzing measure = Waltz 2 b.

1812 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 20 Her waltzing is the prettiest thing that can be seen. 1821 Ld. Glenbervie *Jrnls.* (1910) I. 49 Mr. and Mrs. Johnstone, whose splendid dresses and waltzing balls we partook of at Brighton. 1829 *Metropolis* I. 203, I suppose she is disappointed of her

waltzing partner. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii, The Lord George Gaunt was desired to return from Vienna, where he was engaged in waltzing and diplomacy. O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. iv. 75 They commenced t[o] sound the ring with a peculiar waltzing step. 1886 *Fancy Mice* (ed. 4) 45 Waltzing Mice. 1904 *Biometrika* Jan. 4 Japanese waltzing mice.

Waltzer (wɒ̄·ltsəɹ). [f. Waltz *v.* + -er 1.] One who dances the waltz.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 200 The music at first is slow, but, as the Waltzers get animated, it rises to a jig. 1812 Ld. Glenbervie *Jrnls.* (1910) 139 Both great waltzers, and insufferable coxcombs. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii, My Lord George Gaunt..was one of the finest waltzers in Europe. 1912 *Times* 28 Sept. 11/3 Special prizes are given this season for the best waltzers.

b. A name for a breed of domesticated mice which have the habit of spinning round rapidly; = *waltzing mouse.*

1904 *Biometrika* Jan. 6 All the waltzers used were of pure strain. *Ibid.*, The offspring produced by crossing a Japanese waltzer with an albino.

Walue, obs. form of Value.

Walx, obs. Sc. form of Wax *sb.*[1]

Waly (wɒ̄·li), *int. Sc.* and *north.* Also **wally, walie.** [Of obscure formation; ? cognate with Woe, Wellaway.] An exclamation of sorrow.

1724 '*O waly, waly*' in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1775) I. 'O waly, waly up the bank, And waly, waly down the brae. 1883 *Gateshead Alm.* (E.D.D.), Wally! Wally! it's a' ower noo! 1894 J. W. M'Laren *Tibbie & Tam* 42 (E.D.D.) But walie! the sight gar'd even puir Baudrons..jump nearly four feet wi' fricht.

Hence **Waly-walying,** lamentation.

1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* xvii. 161 Such a wally wallying as the news of this caused at every door.

Waly, variant of Wali, Wally *a.*[2]

Walycoat, var. Wyliecoat *Sc.*

Walyasshe, Walywe, obs. ff. Welsh, Value.

Wals, -er, -ing: see Waltz, etc.

† **Wam.** *Sc. Obs.* In 6 **wam(me, vam.** [App. repr. OE. *wam(m, wæmm(m*, masc. and neut., spot, blemish (chiefly *fig.*) = OFris., OS., OHG. *wamm*, ON. *vamm*, Goth. *wamm*. But cf. Wan *sb.*[1] A scar. Cf. Wem *sb.*

Beowulf 3073 Wommum gewitnad. *a* 1000 *Kentish Gl.* in Wr.-Wülcker 64 *Maculam*, wam.

a 1585 Polwart *Flyting* in *Montgomerie* 570 (Tullibardine MS.) His peild pallat The fowsome flokis of fleis dois overflow With vamis [*MS. Harl.* wames] ed. 1639 wams) and wondis. 1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.) *Cicatrix*, a wamme.

Wam, obs. form of Whom, Womb.

Wamara (wămā·rā). [Native name.] The brown ebony of British Guiana.

1840 Schomburgk *Descr. Brit. Guiana* 33 Wamara..is hard and cross-grained, consequently not apt to split. 1862 *List Contrib. fr. Br. Guiana to Lond. Exhib.* in *Vi Ed Dorado* (1866) App. 136 Wamara, or Brown Ebony. Used for ship-building and furniture. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Wamb, obs. form of Wame, Womb.

Wambais. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also **wambas, -us.** [a. OF. *wambais*: see Gambeson. Cf. Wamus.] = Gambeson.

[1181 *Assisa of Arms* in Bened. Peterb. *Chron.* (Rolls) I. 278 Omnes burgenses..habeant wambais et capellet ferri et lanceam.] 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. ix. 196 All burgesses were to have..a wambais; that is, a coat quilted with wool, tow, or such-like materials. 1792 H. H. Brackenridge *Mod. Chivalry* (1846) 189 It will be best to present him just as he is in his brogues and wambus. 1821 Meyrick & C. H. Smith *Costume Orig. Inhab.* 58 The [Danish] king is habited in a corslet of leather (wambas) passing over his rock or tanic. This wambas was of painted elk or stag-skin, and was a kind of half armour. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1897) I. xiii. 633 The Assize of Arms in 1181..directed that..all burghers..[must possess] a wambais, head-piece, and lance.

Wambe, obs. form of Wame, Womb.

Wambetowe, obs. form of Wame-tow.

Wamble (wɒ·mb'l), *sb.* Also 8– **wemble.** Now only *colloq.* or *dial.* [f. Wamble *v.*]

1. A rolling or uneasiness in the stomach; a feeling of nausea; spec. see quot. 1899.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* iv. 701 Our meat going downe into the stomacke merily, and with pleasure, dissolveth incontinently all wambles. 1865 J. Sleigh *Derbysh. Gloss.* (E.D.D.), *Wamble*, faintness. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Wambles*, an old popular term for Milk fever. 1902 C. N. & A. M. Williamson *Lightning Conductor* 48 There's another thing which gives me the 'wambles'.

† 2. An act of seething or bubbling up when brought to boiling-point. *Obs.* Cf. Walm *sb.*

1660 Venner *Via Recta* ii. 44 If you also boyle in it a quantity of ginger, three or foure wambles about,..it will be much the better. 1682 *Sober Disc. betw. Stafford & the Lords* 2/2 (*Stafford*, as a ghost from Hell *loq.*) Here is a parcel of cold Comfort, but I fear me not enough to mitigate one wamble of the great Lake. 1732 W. Bunnon *Gentl. Pocket-Farrier* 26 Set it on [the fire] again, and give it two or three Wambles.

3. An unsteady movement (of a person or thing); a roll of the body; a rolling or staggering gait. *On or upon the wamble*, staggering, wobbling.

1824 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 57 When Knight's *Quarterly Magazine* took a pain in its head, and gied a wamble ower the counter in the dead-thraw. 1888 *Blackwood's Christopher* II. The jump of the horse gave a jerk to the shaft, and this..gave a lollop to the near wheel, already on the wamble. 1887 [see Shaft *sb.*[2]].

4. Comb.: **wamble-cropped** (now *U.S.*), † **-stomached** *adjs.*, affected with nausea, sick (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1590 Huloet, *Wamble cropped, stomachifelus.* *a* 1600 Healey *Theophrastus* (1636) 14 And yesterday, hee sayde, I was wamble-cropt, and (saving your presence) parbrak't. 1798 *Massachusetts Spy* 5 Sept. 1/2, I feel a good deal wamblecropped about dropping her acquaintance. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* I. xxiii, It makes me so kinder wamble-cropt, when I think on it, that I'm afeared to venture on matrimony at all. 1844 'Jon. Slick' *High Life N. York* I. 44, I got back to the sloop and turned in awfully wamble-cropped. 1552 Huloet, *Wamble stomaked to be, nauseo.*

Wamble (wɒ·mb'l), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 4–5 **wamel, wamle,** (4 **wemel,** 5 **wam(m)il, wamylle**), 6 **wambel,** 5, 9 **womble,** 8 **waumble,** 9 **wam(m)le, wammel, wamell, wemble, wommle,** 4– **wamble.** [Prob. two or more verbs have coalesced. In sense 1 the word may correspond to Da. *vamle* to feel nausea, a frequentative formation on the Teut. root **wem-*: **wam-* (:—Indogermanic **uem-*: **wom-*; cf. L. *vomēre*, Gr. *ἐμεῖν* to vomit), whence MSw. *vami* nausea, *vomil* nauseous, Sw. *vämja* refl. to feel sick. A distinct root of identical form seems to be represented in senses 2–4, with which cf. Norw. *vamla, vamra*, to stagger, OHG. *wimidôn, wamezzen* to move, stir, mod.G. *wimmeln* swarm. In sense 5 there may be mixture of a metathetic form of Walm *v.*; on the other hand in some uses *walm* may be a metathesis of *wamble.*]

I. 1. *intr.* To be qualmish, feel nausea.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 300 For þat mote in his mawe [Jonah in the whale's belly] mad hym, I trowe, þaz hit lyttel were, hym wyth to wamel at his hert. 13.. *W. de Bibbesworth* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 84/2 Wambles, *laumber.* *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 268 Homme lambeis pur ordure. M. wemelith for fulthe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Wamelen', yn the stomake (wamlyn, P.), *nause.* 1498 Sir G. Hay *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 129 He that has a wayke calde stomak..oft tymis gantis and wambleis, bollis, with hevy snollyn eyne. *c* 1580 Henryson *Cock & Jasp* xii, His hart wammillis wyse argument to heir. 1583 *Coth. Angl.* 407/2 To Wamylle, *illacero, nauseo.* 1590 *Ortus Vocab.* (W. de W.) B b v, *Nauseo*..to wamble.

b. Of the stomach or its contents: To be felt to roll about (in nausea).

c 1512 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1617 A, howe my stomake wambleth! I am all in a swete. 1533 More *Answ. Poisoned Bk.* I. xii. 43 Theyr fore fathers murmured in desert agaynst Moyses for manne, and mayed that theyr stomake wambled agaynst that lyght meate. 1534 — *Treat. Passion* Wks. (1557) 1274/1 Scant was the fruite passed downe both theyr throtes, when it so began to wamble in their stomakes. 1622 Cotgr., *Allocher*, to wamble, as a queasie stomache doth. *c* 1628 Fletcher *Mad Lover* I. i, When..y without salt or vineger Be wambling in your [illegible] Dryden *Amphitryon* III. i, I was never good at swallowing Physick; and my Stomach wambles at the very thought of it. 1738 Swift *Love Poem fr. Phyz.* 72 My Bowels wambling make me spew. 1782 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 148 This word..completely turned his stomach that had already begun to wamble at the sight. 1824 Landor *Examn. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 266/1 No wonder, Master Ephraim, thy entrails are moved and wamble.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* (Cf. 5.)

1591 Lyly *Endymion* IV. ii, He is resolued to weep so[me] or foure payle-fals, to asoyde the rume of loue that wambleth in his stomacke. 1594 Middleton *Game at Chess* IV. ii, [My soul] can digest a Monster, without crudities, A Sin as weightie as an Elephant, And neuer wamble for't. 1667 Dryden, etc. *Sir M. Mar-all* v. ii, I have such a Plot;..Shall I speak, dear Warner? let me now; it does so wamble within me, just like a Clyster. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. i. 144 Vast Fires Subterranean..work and wamble in the Bowels of the Earth. 1828 Mor *Mansie Wauch* xxiii. [xxvi.] 350, I still saw the unleavened pride of womankind wambling within her. 1898 J. M. Corban *Angel of Cot.* xv. 168 The pains o' love 'll work and wommle in the inside of ye like a knot o' adders!

II. 2. To turn and twist the body about, roll or wriggle about, roll over and over. Also with *about, over, through.* Also *fig.*

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3213 When þat litell chylde was leyde a-doune byfore þe tombe..He womblede & tomblede on bak & wombe. 1785 R. Forbes *Ajax* 20, I lea'd him sik a dird, As laid him amelins on his back, To wamble o' the yerd. 1819 [see Wame *sb.* 1]. 1824 J. Wilson *Lect. in Mem.* viii. (1859) 305 The cod-fish..laid their heads over each other's shoulders, and wambled about like a set of puppy dogs. 1826 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 736, I made an experiment on the log and found I could not get my chin six inches above the water level without wembling over. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* xliii, He have left off talking now for two days only to moan and to wamble.

3. To roll about in walking; to go with an unsteady gait. Also *fig.*

1821 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* (Grosart) 43/1 'Neadz makes the olde wife trot!' Nay she but wambles. 1876–7 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. 1875 II. 300, I can not but wonder that ..you should so soon begin to wamble, which is enough to discourage or turne giddy one of so weak a braine and experience. Surely, Brother, it is the best to steare steddy. 1820 Galt *Provost* xxxii, The abominable and irreverent creature was so drunk, that he wambled to and fro over the drum, as if there had not been a bane in his body. 1861 G. H. Kingsley *S.A. & Trav.* (1900) 362 A long row of unfortunates are drawn up on each side of the quarter-deck, wambling and shambling and sniggering. 1892 W. E. Norris *Stories Down & Corners.* (1900) 36 As he was gwain down awver Bodmin Hill I nimmed the 'oss begin to wommle 'bout a bit. 1894 *Northumbrld. Dial.* s. v., He wammelt up the stairs wi' the sack o' flour on by his back, anyhow.

b. Of things: To totter, waver; to move unsteadily, stagger, reel.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Scholast.* 1. 1614 To wamble, or wag to and fro, as a crooked arrow wil doe, being shot out of a bowe, *vacillo, titubo.* *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 20 Like to a tower wambling on the sea. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 161 How the wall',..Hing's waumlan at a tether I' the air. 1825 J. JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.*, To *Wammel*, To *Wamble*, to move to and fro in an irregular and awkward manner; to move out of a regular course or motion. Applied chiefly to mechanical operations. 1826 CROCKETT *Grey Man* I. 7 His feet wambling one over the other like those of a mummer's bear.

4. *trans.* To twist or turn (something) over and over; to turn (a thing) round or upside down.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 13 Let him hold it awaye a litle in the mouth, and wambel it round about in the mouth. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 23 Take..a farthing worth of flower to white him ouer and wamble him in. 1828 [W. CARR] *Craven Gloss.*, *Wamble*, to roll the meat in the mouth, when too large to swallow. 1847 HALLIWELL *Wemble*, to turn a cup upside down in token of having had enough tea. *North.* 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., He wammelt his shillin.

III. †5. *intr.* Of water, the blood: To seethe, boil. = WALM *v.* 2, WALL *v.*[1] 2.

1636 DAVENANT *Wits* II. i, Now does my blood wamble. You, Sucket-eater! (*Offers to follow her.*) 1677 COLES *Dict. Eng.-Lat.*, To Wamble [as a pot] *bullio.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Wamble*, to rise up as seething Water

†6. To swarm (with vermin): = WALL *v.*[1] 2 b. *Obs. rare.*

1485 *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) V. 235 (Caxton) He wambled [*earlier texts* wallede, wellede] ful of wormes [L. *vermibus scatens*].

Hence **Wa·mbling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Wa·mblingly** *adv.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. de P. R.* VI. xx. (1495) 207 To moche meete encreasyth humours and postumes and makith wamlynges and spuynges. 1486 SIR G. HAY *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 124 Gif it hapnis the ony hert wamblyng, egirly tak a vomyt of water and vinager. *c* 1528 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1620 Ofte tymes suche a wamblynge goth ouer my harte; Yet I am not harte seke. 1564–78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.*

for the, such as beste lykes thy quasye wamblynge hearte. 1581 STUDLEY *Seneca's Herc. Œtæus* II. 193 For my sake Achelos Did let his streaming bloud amid his wambling waues to floe. 1613 S. WARD *Coal fr. Altar* 78 If wee should make good their resemblances, how then should we please the stomacke of God? who hath indeede brooked and borne vs a long time, I doubt but wamblingly. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 18 If any one be quessie, or doe feele a wambling in the Gizzard. 1680 BETTERTON *Revenge* v. ii, Yes faith have I [been in love], and have felt your Flames and Fires, and Inclinations, and Wamblings. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. ix. 283 Warmth.. cast into a boyling Pot,..allayes the wambling of the Liquor. 1745 BAKER *Don Quix.* I. i. iv. 24, I perceive by the many and powerful wamblings of my Brain, that I shall soon fall a-sleep. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 124, I am amazed at the repetition of thy wambling nonsense. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 128 We were obliged to cast anchor; which was no sooner done than every one fell a wameling as the ship did. 1899 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xlvii, I feel the queerest wambling in my innards, as we used to say in Devon, at the sight of so many old faces. 1893 'Q.' (Quiller Couch) *Delect. Duchy* 217 Her reckoned you'd veel a wamblin' in the stommick. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. iii. iii, The retreating-way, Along which wambling waggons since the noon Have crept in closening file.

Wambly (wɒ·mbli), *a. dial.* Also **wambley, wombly.** [f. WAMBLE *sb.* or *v.* + -Y[1].]

1. Affected with nausea.

1870 *Hartley's Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. I. 104 He wor takken varry wamley for want ov a bit ov a bitin on. 1892 MRS. S. BATSON *Dark* I. iv. 75 If they went without their meal they would be 'wombly' all the morning.

2. Causing nausea.

1899 'ZACK' *On Trail* xxiii. 220 He lies that heavy on the gorge o' me I'd a deal liefer spue the wambly gawkin out and be done wi' un.

3. Shaky, tottering, unsteady.

1887 E. WAUGH *Lanc. Life* 106 Eh! he used to be as limber as a treawt when he're young; but neaw he's as wambley an' slamp as a barrow full o' warp sixin'. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xi, I was still so wambly on my legs that I cowped upon the top of him.

Hence **Wa·mblíness.**

1900 E. PHILLPOTTS *Sons of Morning* I. ix. 90 It do bring him a wamblíness of the innards to do or say ought as may draw the public eye upon un.

Wambrace, -braiss, -bras: see VAMBRACE.

1416 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) II. 209, i par de wambras.

Wambtoue, -tow(e, obs. ff. WAME-TOW.

Wambus, variant of WAMBAIS.

Wamclowte, variant of WOMBCLOUT *Obs.*

Wame (wēm). *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 5–6 **waym**e, 6 **weyme**, 6–7 **weame**, 6 **waymb**, **wamb**(e, 7 **weamb**, 7–8 **wem**, **wemb**, 8 **weme**, **weem**, **wyme**, 9 **waim**, 7– **weam**, 4– **wame.** For mod. dial. forms see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Northern form of WOMB.]

1. The belly, abdomen: = WOMB in obsolete senses. Cf. BELLY *sb.* 1–3.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. 45 Pan Ayot tit out smertly His ——e..And put it in his wayme sa fast Qwhil hilt and plumat bath in past. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 677/24 *Hic venter*, *Hic abdomen*, a wame. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvi. 92 The fowll monstir Gluttony, Off wame vnsaisable and gredy. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 138 Sum wald haue welth at thair will, and sum thare wame sow. *Ibid.* XI. xv. 105 His taill, that on hys ryg befor tymes lay, Vnder hys waymb [he] lattis fall abasitly. 15.. *Sir Andrew Barton* lvi. in *Ballads* IV. 503/2 Then Hursley with a broode-headed arrowe, Stroke then Girdon throughe the weame. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xiv. (S. T. S.) I. 184 Þare hail sollicitude..was direkkit to na vthir fyne, bot alanerlie for the plesere of þe wame. 1566 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1875) III. 226 The saidis flescheouris pullis the haill [sheep] skyn fra the hals doun to the taill throw al the wambe thairof. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* v, Food fills the wame, an' keeps us livin. 1817 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxi, It would be a daft-like thing to see me wi' my fat wame in a short Hieland coat. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 63 At Diston's feet he lichtet fair, Wayme uppermost, and wamblit there. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *St. Ives* xxxvi. (1898) 310 He's in bed this hour past with a spoonful of peppermint in his little wame.

phrase. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, But when he tauld his story, he got but the worst word in his wame—thief, beggar, and dyvour, were the saftest terms.

b. The womb, uterus; = BELLY *sb.* 7. †*Great wame* pred. phr. = great (with child).

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 2878 Gret wayme wi'he barne þe lady was. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 40 [He] was in his moderis wame quhen his fader deid. 1508 DUNBAR *Twa mariit wemen* 131 Quhen that caribald carll wald clym on my wambe. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Sc. Poems* 35 (E. D. D.) Man naked comes frae Minnie's wyme.

c. (See quot.)

1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 161 Salmon-roe as a bait for angling with..is either cured entire, that is, as it is taken from the fish in the form of what is provincially termed the *wame*; or..reduced to a paste.

†2. In the 17th c. the dial. word seems to have been adopted (in the forms *wem*, *wemb*, *weamb*) in southern use as a jocular substitute for 'belly'.

1621 L. BARRY *Ram Alley* v. i. H 3 b, I will home..and drinke some Aquauita To sweeten breath, and keepe my weame from wambling. 1631 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) L 2, Agrippa's Cur sure kennels in thy weamb, Thou yelpest so and barkest in a dream. 1691 *Long Vacation* 6 If not their Purse, their Wems they fill. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem., Lond.* 37 Stuffing their Wembs at Churchings. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Examiner* No. 4 P 2 He clapped his hand to his sword, and told him, were he a man..he would have run him through the wemb. 1729 OZELL tr. *Misson's Trav. Eng.* 205 For two and thirty Days they satisfy'd the Decree of the Oracle, without being oblig'd to expose any human Creature to the Monster's Wem. 1730 SWIFT *Descr. Irish Feast* Misc. 1735 V. 17 A Blow on the Weam. 1764 T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* (1797) II. 417 And in his weem he felt a motion As if he'd ta'en a purging potion.

3. *transf.* The cavity, or the protuberant part of a thing: = BELLY *sb.* II, 12.

a 1766 *Northumberland betrayed by Douglas* xxi. in Child *Ballads* III. 412/2 Shee let him see thorrow the weme of her ring. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vii, And here or yonder—at the back o' a dyke, in a wreath o' snaw, or in the waine o' a wave, what signifies how the auld gaberlunzie dies?

†4. The belly-piece of a fur-skin. *Obs. rare.* Cf. WOMB.

1374 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* II. 466 In empcione de xlij wamys de menyvaire.

5. Comb.: **wame-ill** †(*a*) an epidemic disease affecting the stomach; (*b*) = STOMACH-ACHE.

c 1500 *Auchinleck Chron.* (1819) 4 Þe wame Ill was so violent, þt thar deit ma þt 3ere þan euir thar deit ouder euir that deit ouder in pestilens. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 318 The weam-eill, the wild-fire, the vomit and the vees. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Wame-ill*, an ache or pain in the intestines.

Wamed (wēmd), *a. Sc.* [f. WAME + -ED[2]: see WOMBED.] Having a belly (of a specified kind); in combs. *great-wamed, yellow-wamed.*

c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. lxxxvi. 1906 Gret wamyt wiþ child þis lady wes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. iv. 68 The fatale monstour..Greit wamit, and stuffit full of armyt men. 1836 *Wilson's Tales of Borders* IV. 176 He can.. lurk in the green moss like the yellow-wamed ask.

Wameful (wē·mful). *Sc.* [f. WAME + -FUL. Cf. *wombful* (Trevisa).] = BELLY-FUL.

[1513: see WAME 1.] 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* IV. 39 To drink his wamefu' o' the sea. 1786 BURNS *Ded. G. Hamilton* 12 This may do..wi' them wha Maun please the Great-folk for a wamefou. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* x, A wame-fu' is a wame-fu',..whether it be of the barleymeal or the bran. 1864 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xviii. 176 He..had gotten his wamefu' o' guid whey-whullions.

Wamel(l, Wament: see WAMBLE, WAYMENT.

Wame-tow. *north.* Forms: 4 **wambtoue**, 5 **-tow**, 4 **wamb(e)towe**, **waimto**, **wamtow**, **wametoue**, 6 **waymae-**, 5– **wametow.** [f. WAME + TOW *sb.*[2]] A girth or belly-band for a horse.

c 1310 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 511 Empt...8 Wambtoues et Rigtoues. 1337–38 *Ibid.* 34 In emendacione.. Wambtowes, vida, a webbe pro cingulis. 1411 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. clvii, ij wametowes. 1663 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 100 Another..did thearupon cutt the wametow and tooke off the pack cloaths. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3), Wame-towe. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss*, *Wametow*, a belly-band or girth.

attrib. 1398 *Cartul. Abb. de Whiteby* (Surtees) 614 Pro iiij pese de Waimto webe, xx.d. Item pro ij dosan wamtow schafts, ij.s. 1536–37 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 697 Pro ..i dd. wametowshaftes ad *vel.*, 2*s.*

Wa·mfie, *v. Sc.* [? Phonetically symbolic: cf. WAMPISH *v.* and WAMBLE *v.* 3 b.] *intr.* To go about with flapping garments. Of garments, etc., to flap, flutter (in the wind).

1808 JAMIESON, To *wamfle*, to move like a tattered mallion; conveying the idea of one moving about, so as to make his rags flap. Fife. 1825–80 *Ibid.*, It is also said of a vessel at sea; 'Her sails were wamflin i' the wind'. Fife. 1864 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* ix. 87 Had she gotten a glisk o' my solitary swallow-tail, wamflin' in the wind. 1890 SERVICE *Notandums* iv. 20 The ladies o' his sark were wamflin' in the win'.

Wamfler (wɒ·mflər). *Sc.* ? *Obs.* Also 6 **wanfler**, **-ar.** [? f. prec. + -ER[1].] ? A beau, gallant.

15.. R. SEMPLE in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunterian Club) 352 Caitiois [= Cotytto's] clerkis quhois college ye frequentit, Quhen ye wor wanfleris of hir wantoun band. 1580 HAY *Demandes* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 62 Quhether it becomes ecclesiasticall men..to have ane certain apparell quhairbe thai may be knawin be the laical people, or to be cled as wanflars. 1583 *Philotus* xvi. (Bannatyne Club), With him mair treitment on ane day, And geet mair making off ye may, Nor with ane Wamfler, suith to say, Quhen twentie pairis ar spent. 1836 J. STRUTHERS *Dychmont* IV. 412 We joy to see Thee from such wicked wamflers free.

Wamle, var. WAMBLE.

Wam-lock. *dial.* Also 5 **wamloke**, 6 **wemlocke**, 9 **wamloke**, **wemlock.** [f. WAME + LOCK *sb.*[1]] A twisted or tangled lock of wool from under the belly of a sheep.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 407/2 Wamloke, *succida.* 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Vne touffe de cheveaux retors les vns entre les autres*, a wem-locke or locke of haire. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wamlokes*, unwashed wool. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Wemlocks*, the loose locks of wool under the sheep's belly.

Wammel, obs. form of WAMBLE.

Wammera, var. WOOMERA.

Wammil, -mle, obs. forms of WAMBLE.

Wammus, var. WAMUS.

Wampam, Wampe, obs. ff. WAMPUM, VAMP.

Wampee (wɒmpē·). Also **whampee.** [a. Chinese *hwang-pī* (*hwang* yellow, *pī* skin).]

1. The fruit of an Asiatic tree *Clausena Wampi*, also the tree itself.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 124 The Wampee, a fruit highly esteemed in China and the Indian archipelago, is the produce of Cookia punctata. 1887 *Standard* 16 Sept. 5/3 To how many is the wampee familiar?

2. In the southern U.S. = PICKEREL-WEED 2. [? A different word.]

1891 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Pontederia.*

Wa·mpish, *v. Sc.* [Cf. WAMPLE *v.*] a. *intr.* To wave to and fro. b. *trans.* To wave or toss (one's arms) about. c. *intr.* To make waving movements (with the arms).

a. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlix, Put by the siller, and dinna keep the notes wampishing in your hand that gate.

b. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxix, It's fearsome baith to see and hear her when she wampishes about her arms, and gets to her English, and speaks as if she were a prent book.

c. 1895 MACEWEN *Life Cairns* 214 'Oor John', said his anxious mother, 'wull aye be wampishin' wi' his airms.'

†**Wa·mplate.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. WAME + PLATE *sb.*] ? An ornamental plate on harness to be put below the belly of a horse.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 129 Item, for purphaling for wamplates, taggis for harnes, j Birge spounge, ij handis to renȝeis [etc.].

Wampum (wɒ·mpəm). Also 7 **wompam**, 7–8 **wampam**, **wampom**, 8 **wompom.** [See WAMPUMPEAG. Cf. F. *wampoum* (Littré Suppl.).]

1. Cylindrical beads made from the ends of shells rubbed down, polished, and threaded on strings, which were often combined to form bracelets, belts, collars, etc. See PEAG, ROANOKE, SEAWAN.

a. Serving as currency for the N. Amer. Indians both among themselves and in dealings with Europeans; also, in early colonial times, between Europeans for the payment of small amounts. See quot. 1643, and further quots. under WAMPUMPEAG.

1636 WINTHROP *New-Eng.* (1825) I. 193 The trade of beaver and wampom was to be farmed, and all others restrained from trading. 1643 R. WILLIAMS *Key Lang. Amer.* xxiv. 144 Their owne [money] is of two sorts: one white, which they make of the stem or stocke of the Periwinkle,.. and of this sort six of their small Beads..are currant with the English for a peny. The second is black, inclining to blew, which is made of the shell of a fish, which some English call Hens, Poquauhock, and of this sort three make an English peny. *Ibid.* 147 Their white [money] they call Wompam (which signifies white), their black suckauhock (*suchi* signifying blacke). 1648 T. SHEPARD *Clear Sun-shine of Gosp.* 2 They..would..take away..your Wampam from you. 1753 S. HOPKINS *Hist. Mem. Housatunnuh Indians* (1911) 18 *note*, A Wompum is a small cylinder of about one-third of an inch long...A number of these, strung upon small threads and knit together in the form of a belt, are called a Belt of Wompum. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 234 It is incumbent on the survivor to replace him, by presenting to his family either a scalp, a prisoner, or a belt consisting of some thousands of wampum. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Poet* Wks. (Bohn) I. 161 Life, which can dwarf any and every circumstance, and to which the belt of wampum, and the commerce of America, are alike. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* II. xxvii. 183 The farmers and seamen of Massachusetts nourished its college with coin and strings of wampum, and in every village built the free school.

b. Worn as ornamental garments or jewellery.

1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xl. 362 These belts are made of

shells found on the coasts of New England and Virginia, which are sawed out into beads of an oblong form... Being strung on leather strings, and several of them sewed neatly together,..with fine sinewy threads, they then compose the same, what is termed a Belt of Wampum. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* ix. 188 The shafts of Hiawatha Harmless hit the shirt of wampum.

c. Serving (as a substitute for writing) a mnemonic or symbolic purpose according to the arrangement of the beads, and so used in intertribal messages, treaty-records, etc. among the N. Amer. Indians.

1751 C. GIST *Jrnls.* (1893) 43 The Speaker with four Strings of Wampum in his Hand stood up. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 480 This declaration they confirmed with belts of wampum. 1778 JOHNSON *N. Amer. Indians* in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 145 This chief of a whole nation has the custody of the belts of wampum, &c. which are as records of public transactions. 1823 [G. PROCTOR] *Lucubr. H. Rawlin* 354 Tecumthé..holding in his hands a belt of wampum, or beads, which by their colours and arrangement, form the Indian record for past events. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 227 The art of picture-writing..was supplemented among the North American Indians by the 'wampum'.

†2. *Conch.* Used as the name of a particular kind of shell. *Obs.*

1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wampum, *Venus mercenaria.*

3. *transf.* (jocular). a. (After 1 a) Money. b. (after 1 b) *Wampum and warpaint*, evening dress.

a. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 367/2, I laid some of their own miserable, smelly, garlicky, paper-wampum upon their official.. desk, saying, as I did this: 'You can keep the change'.

b. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xv, He arrayed himself in the wampum and warpaint proper for such engagements as manufactured by Mr. Poole, of Saville Row.

4. Short for *wampum-snake* (see 5). *Striped wampum*, the N. American snake *Abastor erythrogrammus* (Cent. Dict.).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wampum-beads, belt, collar, record*; also **wampum-snake**, a name applied to certain colubrids of the southern U.S.; †(*a*) a blue-and-white snake (*obs.*); (*b*) the red-bellied snake, *Farancia abacura* (Cent. Dict.); **wampum-wise** *adv.*, (threaded) after the manner of wampum.

1766 C. BEATTY *Tour* (1768) 88 A string of *wampum beads. 1910 A. J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 470/1 European-made wampum-beads affected native art in the 17th century. 1762 FOOTE *Liar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 286 He shall present you with the *wampum belt, and a scalping knife. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* I. v, Sheepskin cloaks and wampum belts. 1865 PARKMAN *Champlain* (1875) 178 Copper bracelets and *wampum collars, lynx-skins. 1895 HOFFMAN *Begin. Writing* 24 *Wampum records are purely mnemonic. 1736 MORTIMER *Nat. Hist. Carolina* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 258 The *Wampam Snake; so called from the Resemblance it hath in its Colours to the Wampam, or Indian Money, made of Pieces of Shells blue and white, strung together. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 463 Wampum Snake. Coluber Fasciatus. 1790 *Proc. African Assoc.* 36 The beads are worked *wampum-wise.

Wampumpeag (wɒ·mpəmpɪg). Now *rare*. Forms: α. 7 **wampampeag, -peague, -peague, -peak(e, wampam pieg, wampanpeage, -peak, wampompeag(e, -peke, wampumpeage, -peak, wauompeg, wompampeag, wompompeag**, 7–8 **wampompeak**, 8 **wampomeag, wampompag, wampumpeg**, 9 **wampumpeag**. β. 7 **wampompeal**. [Adopted (in 16–17th c.) from the northerly dials. of the Algonkin language. At the time of the earliest colonization these were spoken in the East of the continent from Nova Scotia to Virginia. The ultimate forms indicated are **wampampiak*, **wampampial*, signifying 'string of (white) beads'. Cf. Rasles, *Abnaki Dict.* (1691), *wambambi*, pl. *-ak*, 'grain blan de porcelaine', *wambambiar* 'chapelet'; Delaware (Zeisberger) *wapapi* white wampum (*woapaschapiall* white beads).

The word is in form a compound of two elements meaning respectively 'white' and (probably) 'bead' with the ordinary Algonkin plural endings *-ak* (*-ag*), or *-al* (*-ar*) added. For the first element cf. Natick *wompi*, Delaware *wɨpi*, Abnaki *wambi-*, etc. white. An ending *-ampi* occurs in Rasles' *Abnaki Dict.* in a large number of words descriptive of strings, etc. See Rasles s.v. *chatne, colilier, corde, tresse.*

The variations between *-b, -g*, and between *womp-, wamp-*, are probably due to native dialectal differences, but the remaining variations are due to fluctuating orthography and pronunciation after the word had been adopted into English.

The division into WAMPUM and PEAG appears to be a false analysis due to Europeans.

The specific words for 'black bead-money' were never adopted into English, and perh. the tendency to generalize the name of the commoner white variety was already present in the native languages.]

= WAMPUM.

1631 WINTHROP *New-Eng.* (1825) I. 61 Mr. Shurd..sent home James Sagamore's wife, who..writ that the Indiands demanded [blank] fathom of wampampeague..for her ransom. 1635 *Relat. Maryland* v. 36 The Indian money of those parts..is of two sorts, Wompompeag and Roanoke.. Wompompeag is of the greater sort, and Roanoake of the lesser, and the Wompompeag is three tines the value of Roanoake; and these serue as Gold and Siluer doe heere. 1643 in *Gen. Laws Massachusetts* (1672) 154 Wampampeag shall pass current in the payment of Debts, to the payment of forty shillings, the white at eight a penny, the black at four, so as they be entire without breaches or deforming spots. 1683 POYNTS *Pres. Prosp. Tobago* 22 The Cunck is a Shell Fish..; whose Shell has the tincture of Pearl colour, flame colour, and white, some part thereof being taken out, the Indians make of it their Wampam Pieg; which Shell is a staple Commodity. 1698 LOCKE *Further Consid. Value Money* 27 Among the Indians, when it [*sc.* Corn] will sell for more yards of Wampompeal, which is their Money. 1790 T. M. *Bacon's Rebellion* (1835) 24 The Queen of Pamunky ..having round her head a plat of black and white wampum peage three inches broad in imitation of a crown. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Col. Mass. Bay* v. (ed. 2) 472 Good store of wampompag to purchase some peculiar favors or privileges. 1875 JEVONS *Money* iv. 24 The wampumpeag of the North American Indians is a case in point, as it certainly served as jewellery.

Wamtow, Wamtye, obs. ff. WAME-TOW, WANTY.

Wamus (wɛ·məs). *U.S.* Also **waumus, wammus**. [a. Du. *wammes*, contracted f. *wambuis*, a. OF. *wambois, -eis*: see WAMBAIS, GAMBESON. Cf. G. *wams, wamms*, woollen jacket (MHG. *wambes, -eis*, jacket worn under the armour).] In southern and western U.S., a warm knitted jacket resembling a cardigan.

1805 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* 934, I got up, and found that my waumus was bloody. 1854 H. H. RILEY *Puddleford* 14 (Thornton) He was attired with a red flannel 'wamus'. 1887 *Philadelphia Telegraph* 6 July 6/6 His attire was characterized by a long linsey 'wamus'. 1888 E. EGGLESTON *Graysons* xxviii. 309 This [wagon-spoke] he put into the baggy part of his 'wamus', or hunting-jacket.

Wamylle, obs. form of WAMBLE.

†Wan, *sb.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* 6 *pl.* **wannis, wannys**. [Perh. a subst. use of WAN *a.*[1] But cf. WEN.] A dark or livid mark produced by a blow; a bruise.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 167 He..had done grete vassalege baith for þe honoure & defence of þe cete, as weil apperit be sindri wannys & markis in his face and vther partis of his body. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 59 The knicht..fand his sone withouttin wan or wound. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ballatis* (S.T.S.) 32 He it is, quhilk geuis wan and wound, And suddanlie he will mak haill and sound.

†Wan, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 7 **wanne**, 8–9 *errón.* **wand**. [? a. Du. *wanne* (now *wan*): see VAN *sb.*[1]]

1. A winnowing fan: = VAN *sb.*[1] 1.

1625 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XI. 163 What dost thou with that wanne [Gr. ἀθηρηλοιγόν, winnowing fan], vpon thy necke?

2. The sail of a windmill: = VAN *sb.*[1] 5.

Commonly spelt *wand*, the word being wrongly supposed to be a corruption of WAND *sb.*

1766 *Ann. Reg.* 77 The sails or wands of the mill..struck her so violently on the head, as to fracture her skull. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wan*, a corruption of wand. 'A *yard-wan*.'—' A *mill-wan*.' 1846 M. A. RICHARDSON *Borderer's Table-bk.* V. 97 The wands of the..wind mill..were forced round with such velocity, that by the friction of the machinery, the mill was set on fire. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Wands* pl., long flexible rods. The sail frames of a windmill.

Wan (wɒn), *a.* Forms: 1 **wan(n, won(n, 3–wan, 3–4 won, 4–5 wane, wonn, 4–6 wann(e, 5 wonne**. [OE. *wann* (*wonn*), dark, gloomy, black. Not found in any of the other Teut. languages. Its original sense appears to have been 'dark in hue', with especially frequent application to things of gloomy unpleasant associations.

Relationships to WIN *v.* (OTeut. **winnan* to strive, toil, suffer, etc.), or to WOUND *sb.*, or WEN, present difficulties of sense-development or form. Relationship to WANE etc. is possible (cf. Celtic **vanno-*, OIr. *fann*, Welsh *gwan* faint, weak, feeble), but association of the two words in later (ME. and ModE.) periods is more probable than ultimate connexion.

In addition to this association the application to heavenly bodies, when obscured, or when compared to others more bright, possibly aided the general application to pale things. The application to the human face etc., when of unwholesome or unusual colour (through various emotions, disease, or death), also provided a possible occasion of sense-change. The senses 'livid,' 'sallow', and 'pale, sickly' are often indistinguishable.]

†1. Lacking light, or lustre; dark-hued, dusky, gloomy, dark. *Obs.* Chiefly *poet.*

Beowulf 702 Com on wanre niht scriðan sceadugenga. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xi. 62 Hwæt, þa wonnan niht mona onlihteð. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 43 Ant tah is betere a briht iacinct þen a charbucle won. *a* 1300 *Signs bef. Judgm.* 43 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 8 As fair and brizte as þou seest ham bi worþ be-com as blak as cole and be of hiwe durke and wan for man-is sin þat hi sul þole. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 303 So dang he þat dog with dynt of his wappon, þat þe warlag was wete of his wan atter. *Ibid.* 6000 Mony chivalrous Achilles choppit to dethe: All his wedis were wete of baire wan blode. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 488 In the furd weill, that was bath wan and depe, Feyll off thaim fell. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 62 In froist, in snaw, in wedder wan and weit. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 910 With vysage wan As swarte as tan. 1592 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* 244 The Ocean bringeth forth pearle also, not orient, but duskish and wanne.

b. *esp.* in conventional application in poetry to the sea (waves, etc.) or other waters.

The original significance was perh that of 'dark-hued', but the sense often approaches, or is blended with, the next.

In more recent poetry the word is probably (exc. by conscious archaism) to be understood rather as 'grey, pale', but the gloomy connotation remains.

Beowulf 1374 Þonon yðgeblond up astigeð won to wolcnum. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1598 Myn is the drenchyng in the see so wan. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 492 Wery to the wane see they went alle att ones. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4633 The storme..walt vp the wilde se vppon wan hillis. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 814 Her is na gait to fle youre pople can, Bot rochis heich, and wattir depe and wan. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. liii, Owir watsrs was, throw worthie weddis grene. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 9 Quhair that tyme almost the had all bene lost, Throw wan tydis so stark ran by the land. *a* 1580 *Johnie Cock* xvii. in Child *Ballads* III. 471 She'd ha wet her foot ith wan water, And sprinkled it oez my brae. 1869 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 33 Do you yet mind at landing how the quay Looked like a blind wet face in waste of wind And washing of wan waves? 1885 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xviii, Looking outside across the wan water for the sails which never came.

†c. Applied to lead, or things compared to it (in colour). *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xx. (1495) 876 Leed is whyte by kynde though it be wan wythout. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashmole (1652) 36 Colour wan as Lead. 1580 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 2 His lyppes be as wanne as lede. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 183 A wan leadish colour.

†2. *transf.* or *fig.* Sad, dismal; also awful, fearful, deadly, cruel, wicked, etc. (Cf. uses of *dark, gloomy.*) *Obs. post.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3602 There is no worship in weping, ne in wan teres! *c* 1440 *York Myst.* vii. 38 Me for to were fro warkes wanne. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 407 Gratius God that hes all thing in erd, At his weilding to weill or ȝit wan werd.

†3. Of an unhealthy, unwholesome colour; livid, leaden-hued. Applied *esp.* to wounds, to the human face discoloured by disease, and to corpses. *Obs.*

c 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 576 *Livida toxica*: tha uuannan aetrinan. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 24470 (Fairf.) þi bodi is wanne as þou ware dede. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* ii. 24 And he hym silf bar oure synnes in his bodi on a tre, that we be deed to synnes, and lyue to ryȝtwisnesse, bi whos wan wounde ȝe ben heelid. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. XXXVIII. (1495) 625 Powder of comyn wel medlyd wyth wexe dooth away wanne colour that comyth of smytynge. *Ibid.* XIX. XXI. 876 Wanne [illegible] *Poems* LXXXVI 35 Thy sone Jhesu, with his woundis wan, Quhilk deinȝeit him for our trespass to de. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 257 And those moost beautyfull & fayre chekes, all bloo & wanne, with buffettes & bestynges. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* XXXIII. 16 Evill lyfe, and langour but releif Off woundis wan. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 80/21 Wan,..*liuidus.* 1615 SYLVESTER tr. *H. Smith's Micro-cosm.* 71 The Nobler states with Enuy wan, Without end are torne and tost. 1685 CULPEPPER etc. *Riverius* ix. ix. 273 If..the wan and deadly color of the Face..be restored, there is hope of Health.

4. Pallid, faded, sickly; unusually or unhealthily pale. Most frequently applied to the human face (or to things with conscious metaphor from this application).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4547 For lene he was, and wan þe face. *Ibid.* 24471 þi face es wan as ros vnrede. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Nihtes when y wende ant wake, for-thi myn wonges waxeth won. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 419 Thenne awakyde he wel wan and wolde haue ydronke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8034 All wan was the weghe for his wete teres. *c* 1440 in *Retrosp. Rev.* (1853) Nov. 204 On a greene hylle he sawe a tree,..Pale hyt was and wanne of blee. 1530 PALSGR 328/2 Wanne of coloure, *pasle, yndeux, blesme.* 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 120 One .. opposed Diogenes with this question, for what cause golde looked to the ye somewhat pale and wanne of colour? 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O j, In like manner where shee is somewhat fatter or leaner than reasonable sise, or wanner, or browner, to helpe it with garmentes. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 77 Theire face wan withred in hunger. 1599 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* Prol. 3 The wan bleak cheek of the numd earth. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Th.* (1629) 360 His Body was now cold, and wanne, stiffe, and still. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 773 So thin, so ghastly meagre, and so wan, So bare of flesh, he scarce resembled Man. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 275 The wan and meager countenances of the crew. 1800 COLERIDGE *Christabel* II. 621 Why is thy cheek so wan and wild, Sir Leoline? 1803 SCOTT *Cadyow Castle* xxiii, There, wan from her maternal throes, His Margaret, beautiful and mild, Sate in her bower, a pallid rose. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. v, The hangings were wan and colourless. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlvii, The crowd of wan, emaciated faces. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 120 Dawn broke at last, wan and blear in the south. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 329 The thickening of the blood in cholera is sufficient to account for the fall of arterial pressure, the diminished size of the pulse,..and the wan appearance of the patient.

fig. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 68 Envy wan, and faded care. 1747 COLLINS *Passions* 25 With woful Measures wan Despair Low sullen Sounds his Grief beguil'd. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. viii. 93 Why failed his thoughts to pierce the wan regret Of love within that look?

b. *esp.* in phr. *pale and wan* (*wan and pale*).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 531 He for wo was pale and wan. 1447 BOKENAM *Seyntys, St. Faith* 375 Bryht of ble He was & of colour nebir pale ne wan. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xiii. 4 Thar feris fieand pail and wan haue thai sene, And thar cheif ennemy closyt in thar wallis. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 90 Why doth your Highnes looke so pale and wan? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 22 As pale and wan as ashes was his looke. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVIII. ix. II. 321 Drusus sometimes a Tribune of the Commons in Rome, dranke (as it is reported) Goats bloud, to make himselfe look pale and wan in the face. 1679 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 333 He was grown pale, wan, lean and long-visaged. 1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, Blank (pale and wan), *pallens, pallidus.* 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 675 Yes, many a visage wan and pale, Will hang at midnight o'er my tale. 1867 MISS BRADDON *Rupert Godwin* I, Clara Westford's noble face is pale and wan this sunny morning.

c. *A wan smile*, a faint or forced smile (as of one sick or unhappy).

1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 217 With a wan smile as she sees her friend's grieved face. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Exploits Gerard* v. (1903) 190 'But,' he added, with a wan smile, 'my Lenten fare is always somewhat meagre'.

d. Applied to the (light of) heavenly bodies,

etc.: Faint, sickly, partially obscured. Also, of white objects, etc.: Dull, lustreless.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xxx. I. 17 In the warres of Antonie, the Sunne continued almost a yeere long with a pale and wan colour. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XI. i, The Moon grows wanne, and starres flie all away, Whom Lucifer locks up in wonted folds. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 412 The blasted Starrs lookt wan. 1771 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. xxv, Ye mildews wan. 1798 WORDSW. *Night-piece* 3 The sky is overcast..Heavy and wan, all whitened by the Moon. 1861 J. THOMSON *Ladies of Death* xxii, Moonless nights when stars are few and wan. 1873 W. BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxv, There were wan glimmerings of sunshine across the sea. 1889 BRIDGES *Sonn.* lvii, In autumn moonlight, when the white air wan Is fragrant in the wake of summer.

†e. Of colour: ? Pale, light. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 3 b, Whose interchanged greene colour resembleth almost the wan and yelow colour of Golde.

5. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*) Wan hue, wanness. *poet.*

1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Lady G. Baillie* ix, She saw a faint glow tinge the sickly wan. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 9 Melissa, tinged with wan from lack of sleep.

6. *Comb.*: chiefly parasynthetic, as *wan-coloured, -faced, visaged*; also complementary and advb., with pples., as *wan-looking, -silvering, -worn*; rarely qualifying other adjs. descriptive of colour, as *wan-sallow*, †*-white*.

1800 WODARCH *Introd. Conchol.* 12 Which..seldom exhibits any other appearance than that of a livid or *wan-colored surface. 1881 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* x, It is a sorrowful, *wan-faced girl. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 281/1 Wan-faced men and towsel-haired women. 1880 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 58 Wasted and *wan-looking folks. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 443 A man of mien *Wan-sallow as the plant that feels itself Root-bitten by white lichen. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* v. i, *Wan-silvering through the bush, the cresset shone O'er the arch seer. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 101 *Wan wisaged widdefow, out of thy wit gane wyld. *c* 1530 *Judic. Urines* III. xix. 61 And sume Auctours saye that *wan-whyte colour in vryn..sheweth begynnyng of digestyon. 1609 W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 141 To haue her painting wiped from her riueld browes and *wan-worn cheeks.

Wan (wǫn), *v.* Inflected **wanned, wanning.** Also 3 **wonne.** [OE. *wannian*, f. WAN *a.*]

†1. *intr.* To become dark, discoloured, or livid.

c 1000 *Vercelli MS.* 23 b/7 Þonne wannað he & doxaþ; oðre hwile he bið blæc & sehiwe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Þine ebnen schulen doskin & under þon wonnen. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4142 Þe son wadis, þe werd wannes at a wap & þe wedire gloumes. *Ibid.* 4697 Quen it [gold] walows & wannes all oure theatres, ȝet ere we toghid to & fra be turnyng of eldris.

2. To grow pale. *poet.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 118 Al her visage waning with murder aproching [L. *pallida morte futura*]. 1599 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. (1602) E 4, I haue a good head of haire, a cheeke Not as yet wan'd. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 580 (Q 1604) Is it not monstrous that this player heere..Could force his soule so to his owne conceit That from her working all the visage wand [*Folio* warm'd]. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 142 Psyche flush'd and wann'd and shook. 1855 — *Maud* I. I. iii, And ever he mutter'd and madden'd, and ever wann'd with despair. 1866 CONINGTON *Æneid* IV. p. 128 The queen,..wanning o'er with death foreseen. 1901 HENLEY *Hawthorn & Lavender* xlvi. 62 And by and by The wide-winged sunset wanned and waned. 1906 F. THOMPSON *To English Martyrs* 18 The troubled heavens do wan with care.

Hence **Wanned** *ppl. a.*, **Wa·nning** *vbl. sb.*

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 683 Whoom deth soo stern wyth his wannyd hewe Hath now pursuyd. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. &* ... the visage is a common..accompaniment of imagined terror.

Wan: see ONE, WAND *sb.*, WHEN, WHENNE, WHOM, WIN *v.*, WONE *sb.*

Wan- (wǫn), a prefix expressing privation or negation (approximately equivalent to UN-[1] or MIS-), repr. OE. *wan-, won-*, corresponding to OFris. *wan-, won-*, OS. *wan-* (only in *wanskefti* misfortune = OE. *wansceaft*), MLG., MDu. *wan-* (mod.Du. in many new formations, esp. in the sense 'wrong', 'mis-', as in *wanbestuur* misgovernment, *wanluid* discordant sound), OHG. *wan-, wana* (only in *wanwâfan* unarmed, *wanaheil* unhealthy, infirm, *wanawizzi* lacking wit, insane), MHG. *wan-* (only in *wanwitze* inherited from OHG.), mod.G. *wahn-* (in *wahnwitz, wahnsinn* insanity, commonly apprehended as compounds of *wahn* sb., delusion; also in some dialect words, chiefly adopted from LG.); ON., Sw., Da. *van-* (in many old formations, to which mod.Sw. and Da. have added many more, chiefly adopted from LG.). The prefix is in origin identical with WANE *a.*

In OE. the number of words formed with the prefix is considerable, but none of them has survived into modern English, and only one (*wanspêd*, ill-success) into ME. Of the many new formations that arose in ME., only *wantowen*, undisciplined, WANTON, still survives in use (with no consciousness of its etymological meaning); *wanhope* and *wantrust* may have been suggested by the equivalent MDu. forms. It was in the north that the prefix was most prolific, and it probably continued to be productive far into the modern period. The following words, peculiar to the Scottish and northern dialects, are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, mostly with examples (or references to glossaries etc.) from the 18th c., but ...

wanworthly adj., WANEASE, WANFORTUNE, *wanfortunate*, adj. WANHAP, WANLIESUM, *wanlit* adj., *wanluck*, *wanown'd* adj. = unowned, *wanrock* 'mischance, ruin', WANREST, WANTHRIVEN *a.*, *wanuse* misuse, waste, WANWEIRD, WANWORTH adj. and sb.

Wana, obs. form of IGUANA.

Wanacoe, obs. var. GUANACO.

1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xvi. 12 Another monkey..which is in Surinam called the *wanacoe*.

†**Wa·nal**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 **wainal.** [f. WANE *sb.* + -AL.] Of the moon: Waning.

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 24 Blockheads, who cannot speak three words of their own Trade, without intermixing the Full and Wainal-Moon.

†**Wanbeleve.** *Obs.* [f. WAN- + *beleve*, BELIEF.] Unbelief. Also **Wanbeleveness.** So **Wanbeliever**, an unbeliever; **Wanbelieving** *sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Wanbeleue, or wanbeleuenesse (*v.rr.* wanbeleuynge, wanbeleve), *perfidia, diffidencia. Ibid.*, Wanbeleuare, *perfidus, perfida.* *a* 1470 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) I. xl. 60/2 Make hym soo afered that he sholde lese his wytte & falle in wanbyleue.

†**Wanbode.** *Obs.*[−0] [f. WAN- + OE. *boda* agent-n. to *bêodan* to BID (recorded only in sense 'messenger', etc.: see BODE *sb.*[1]).] (See quot.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Wanbode [*v.r.* wambode], he þat byddyth lytylle for a thynge [*v.rr.* he that bedyt nowt to þe worthe,..þat bydyt nowt to wurth or valv], *invalidus licitator*.

†**Wanbody.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WAN- + ? BODY *sb.* (But the rhyme suggests that the word may be a scribal error for prec., in some obscure use).] ? A 'miscreant', infidel.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6159 Þe sarazyns and oþer wanbodyes, Þer-of [*sc.* of gold and silver] þey make þat are here goddes.

†**Wanchance.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. WAN- + CHANCE *sb.*] Ill-luck, misfortune.

1599 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymn* iv. 78 For after death na mischiefe may befall, Bot wo, wan-chance, and perrels all are past.

Wanchancy (wǫnˌtʃænsi), *a. Sc.* (now *literary*). Also **-cie.** [f. prec. + -Y. Cf. UNCHANCY *a.*] Unlucky, dangerous; also, eerie, uncanny.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* etc. *Rock & wee pickle Tow* 60 A mutchkin of linseed I'd in the yerd fling, For a' the wan chansie [1789 wanchansy] beginning o't. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Mutual Compl.* 34 My travellers are fley'd to deid Wi' creels wanchancy, heap'd wi' bread, Frae whilk hing down uncanny nicksticks, That [etc.]. 1786 BURNS *Puir Mailie* 38 Wae worth that man wha first did shape That vile, wanchancie thing—a raep! 1824 SCOTT *Wav.* lxiv, Some wanchancy person..fired a shot at him. 1827 — *Two Drovers* ii, [A dirk] is a wanchancy weapon in a Highlandman's hand. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, The tither [boat] lay whaur it was and watched the wanchancy thing on the brae-side.

Wanclen: early ME. pl. of WENCHEL.

†**Wancraunt**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [Perh. to be read *waucraunt*, a. AF. *wakerant, walkerant*: see VAGRANT.] Given to wandering.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secr.* xlix. 212 Precious and dere as an oliphaunt, lytill worth and dull as an asse, Prophitable as a hede, wancraunt and dyssolate as a goote.

Wand (wǫnd), *sb.* Forms: 3–5 **wond,** 4–5 **wonde, wende,** 5 **won,** 4 **waande,** 4–6 **wande** 4 **vande,** 6 **vand),** 8–9 *dial.* **wan,** 9 *Sc.* **whand,** 3– **wand.** [a. ON. (**vandu-r*) *vǫnd-r* (MSw. *vand-er*, Sw. *vand*, Da. *vaand*, Norw. *vona*) = Goth. *wandu-s*:—OTeut. **wandu-z* (not found in WGer.), prob. f. the root **wend-*: **wand-* (to turn, wind (see WIND *v.*), so that the etymological connotation is that of suppleness or flexibility).] A stick or rod. The word has little colloquial currency exc. in Sc. and northern dialects, in which it suggests the notion of suppleness; as a literary word it is usually apprehended (by southern readers) as denoting something rigid. In the Bible of 1611 it occurs only once (Ecclus. xxxiii. 24); the Revised Version (1894) substitutes *stick*.

1. A straight slender stick. Now Sc. and *dial.* In Scottish use, chiefly a slender pliant stick cut from a stem or branch of a shrub or young tree.

The early examples occur chiefly in biblical references, where mod. usage follows the Bible of 1611 in substituting *rod*; applied, e.g., to the 'rod' carried by Moses, to Aaron's 'rod' that budded, etc.

c 1200 ORMIN 16178 Þatt he swa swiþe mikell folle Draf all ut off þe temmple, All att hiss wille wiþþ an wand. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2923 And worpen he ðor wondes dun, fro euerilc ðor crep a dragun. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi 43 In þat ark ware Moyses tables,..and Aaron wand, and þe ȝerde of Moyses. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 247 *Moyses*...My Wand he bad, in thi present, I shuld lay downe, and the avyse how it shuld turne to oone serpent. 1587 HARRISON *England* I. xviii. 109/2 in *Holinshed*, If it..be accompted good soile, on which a man may laie a wand ouer night, and on the morrow find it..ouergrowen with grasse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIV. vi. II. 492 [He] made no more adoe, but with a wand or rod that he had in his hand, drew a circle about the king, and compelled him perforce to give him his answere before he stirred his foot without that compasse. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 487/2 Reddendo unam virgam agrifolii (ane greene holene wand) nomine albe firme. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 35 He that desires to breake a bunch of wandes, Must not take all at once into his handes. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 49 Moses holding a wand in his hand, did cast it from him, and it became a serpent. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* IV. 157 Sigebert..they..carried by force out of the Monastery into the Camp; where acting the Monk rather then the Captain, with a single wand in his hand, he was slain with Egric. 1490 HOLLAND *Houlate* 752 Thow seker treue of ...

b. As a type of slenderness or straightness.

1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 63 Ane hundreth ladyes..With..myddlis small as wandis. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 23 Now sir, this staffe is my sister: for, looke you, she is as white as a lilly, and as small as a wand. [1608: see *wand-like* in 13.]

†c. A light walking-stick, cane. *Obs.*

1548 UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* vi. 6–9 For he geueth them leaue to vse eche one a wande, and a payre of sandals. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 200 Bringing him into the corne field, and smyting off, with a wand that I helde in my hande, the eares of wheate. 1607 *Peele's Jests* (*c* 1620) 4, I thank you sir, quoth the barber, so on goes George with him in his green Jerkin, a wand in his hand very pretty. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 294 His spear, to equal which the tallest Pine Hewn on Norwegian hills, to be the Mast Of some great Ammiral, were but a wand, He walkt with. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xiii, From hence our conductor led us through several dark walks.., talking to himself, and flourishing a wand which he held in his hand.

d. A stick used as a pointer.

1589 [see WANT *sb.*[2] 5 b]. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxviii, Mrs. Jarley..formally invested Nell with a willow wand, long used by herself for pointing out the characters.

2. A young shoot, a slender stem of a shrub or tree, a sapling; a slender branch or twig. *Obs.* exc. *poet.* (*rare*) and *dial.* †*Under the wand*: in the greenwood.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1428 Þe pipins war don vnder his [Adam's] tung, Þar ras o þam thre wandes yong. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1161 At vche wende vnder wande wapped a flone. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1213 Þe Messangere bare a wande Of ane Olefe in his hande. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xv. 60 For al þe body beren þay [*sc.* man's legs], As a tre þat bereþ wandes. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xii. 78 Vpponne þat wande sall springe a floure. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 537 A toppe of hit [the fig] to sette other a wonde Is holdon best right in Aprille ende. 1457 HARDYNG *Chron.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 746 Men chastyse ofte grete couraurs by bakenayse, And writhe the wande while it is yonge and grene. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Town & C. Mouse* iii, Scho tuik in mynde hir sister vponland, And langit..To se quhat lyfe scho had vnder the wand. 1550 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1565 390/1 Rungis and wandis of hissill and sauch. 1592 GREENE *Disput.* 26 They..bent the tree while it was a wand. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ix. 17 Into a bird it chaung'd, and from him past, Flying from tree to tree, from wand to wand. 1596 *Edw. III*, V. 143 A Hasle wand amidst a wood of Pynes. 1850 ALLINGHAM *Poems, Music-Master* I. xxiv, The heart is new As the green wand fresh budded on a fir. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 645/1 The stem bends like a hazel wand.

b. as a type of suppleness.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 2472 And with hym brouȝt ..His slepy ȝerde as plyaunt as a wonde. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Age & Youth* 13 His eyne wes hol, his woce wes hace hostand, walowit & wane, waik as ane wand. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 381 Leicht as ane leif, and waldin as ane wand.

3. A young shoot of willow cut to be used in basket-making, wattled buildings, or the like. Also *collect.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1672 First bind it wele wit balk and band, And wind it siþen well wit wand. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6900 A litil chapell of wandes þai made. 1457 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 365 Peid to a man for bondyll wandus jd. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 375 Cowpe waynes of wandes. 1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. i. 14 Which seats would bee either boorded, or watled with stakes and small wands on the sides to hold vp the earth from falling. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 29 Ane auld kist made of wands. 1770 *J. Cootes's Coll. Poems* 21 The light machine [the cradle] with decent neatness stands, The jetting sides compos'd of slender wands. 1796 W. MARSHALL *Planting* I. 187 In Yorkshire, the 'wands' are sold by the bundle: but in Glocestershire, where Ozier grounds abound.., t are let..to basket makers. *a* 1803 *Lord William* ix. in *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* III. 267 Your cage shall be of wiry goud, Whar now it's but the wand. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wan*, a long rod to wave into a wattled hedge.

†4. A rod, stick, or switch for chastisement; also *fig.* (in religious use) *Obs.* Also *dial.* a 'rod' or bundle of twigs for flogging.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5888 ȝerd ne vond heo preste non þat child uorto bete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2612 Abram said ..Þou chasti hir sco [*read* þou] has þe wand. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5878 'Þe wande', he says, 'of discyplyne smart, Sal chace foly out of þe childes hert'. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxiv. 48 To ȝerde of loue y moste me boun; Lord, me chastice wiþ þat wande. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 29093 (Cotton Galba MS.) þe first [discipline es]..Als wering of haire and oþer thing..Þat oþer point to vnderstand, Es kneling and beteing with wand. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 23 Quhildir that this dolorus afflictione be ane vand of the fadir to correct & chestie the sone be mercy, or [etc.]. 1650 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) I. 46 If I..had humbled myselth unto the Lord whil the wand was above my head, the Lord would haive spaired. 1808 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wand*, a rod, a collection of twigs, used for correction.

†b. *Under the wand*: liable to corporal correction. Hence (with influence of sense 6), subject to (the) rule (*of* a person): = med.L. *sub virga*. Cf. YARD *sb.* 4. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* ii. 6 Wide summe sal tu faire spake, and summe gate wid chastiment & hane ǀam under wand. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 226 The Emperour has mony syndry kynde of peple under his wand. 1578 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* I. 125 Their is nane brother quhilk ar necht under the vand of the provest and bailyeis of the burgh. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* xx, Sa lang as her husband was livand, she was vnder his wand and power.

5. A stick or switch for urging on a horse. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1450 Mauncev. (Roxb.) xxvi. 120 þai haue owþer in þaire hand a whippe or a wand. 1549 Lyndesay *Compl.* 180 [They] nother spaire spaynis nor wandis. 1587 Marcall *Govt. Cattle, Of Horses* (1596) 189 If your horse chance to tyre on the way, if sparre, and wande will not profit, ye shall put three or foure rounde pebie stones into one of his eares. 1607 *Puritan* III. v. 81 He haue an Hackney-mans wand siluered ore a purpose for you. 1629 Bible (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxiii. 25 Fodder, and wande [so 1582]; Coverdale 1535, Geneva 1560 whippe; 1894 R. V. stick; Gr. *βάβδον*. Vulg. *virga*], and burden for an asse.

†6. A sceptre. *Obs.*

a 1300 [see King 28. 14]. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 909 Rohand he gaf be wand And bad him sitt him bi. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* lxxx. 62 He had in his hand a golden wand of þe kynges. a 1500 *Lancelot* 1891 For he [God] forsuth haith hym hyne hyme the wond To Iustefy and Reull in pece his lond.

7. A rod or staff borne as a sign of office; esp. a tall slender rod of white wood, sometimes of ebony or silver, carried erect by an officer of the royal household or of a court of justice, by a verger or beadle, or by an official whose duty it is to walk before a judge or other high dignitary on occasions of ceremony.

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 1327 That day in stede of a white wonde A staf he bare thoo in his honde. a c 1472 *B. N. C.* (Oxf.) *Alusim., Coldenorton* Bdl. G. 18 A won of the bullard of the place. 14.. *Sir Beues* 3343 (Pynson) Delyuer me thy wande, For Guy, his fader, was my marchal, And so syr Beuys, hys son, shal! 1573 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 200 Poles and Wandes for the Lictors. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 28 Me thought this staffe mine Office-badge in Court Was broke in twaine And on the peeces of the broken Wand Were plac'd (etc.]. 1598 Drayton *Heroical Ep.* xiii. (*Elinor Cobham to Dk. Humfrey*) 62 Do shamefull penance, ..Rong with a bell, a Taper in my hand, Bare-foot to trudge, before a Beedles wand. 1610 in J. Davidson *Inverurie* vi. (1878) 194 Comperit Patrick Leslie, John Johnston, ..bailzies, and freely dischargit thame of their offices of bailzies, and jurisdiction thereof, be deliverance of the wand in the hands of the clerk and consall. a 1628 Raleigh *Prerog. Parl.* 19 What say you to the Parliaments of the White Wands in the three and thirtieth yeere of the King? 1713 Swift *Faggot* Wks. 1755 IV. 1 8 Stewards..who in solemn sort Appear with slender wands at court. 1728 Young *Love Fame* I. 207 Some lords it bids admire their wands so white, Which bloom, like Aaron's, to their ravish'd sight. 1776 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 9 Apr. 178/2 His Excellency General Washington, the other General Officers and their suites, ..met in the Council Chamber, from whence, preceded by the Sheriff with his Wand, they repaired to the Old Brick Meeting House. 1789 Belsham *Ess* I. xiv. 259 A ribband, a title, or a white wand, have been as eagerly pursued..as knowledge, virtue, and everlasting happiness. 1805 Southey *Madoc* I. xiii. 97 On either hand Three Monks uphold above, on silver wands, The purple pall. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Pubk. Dinners*, Up rise the visitors, in march fourteen stewards, each with a long wand in his hand, like the evil genius in a pantomime. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xix, There is only one Judge in town... If the country folks of those assize towns on his circuit could see him now! No full-bottomed wig, no red petticoats, no fur, no javelin-men, no white wands. 1858 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. I. 5 And in their hands Long carven silver-banded ebony wands.

fig. a 1894 Stevenson *In South Seas* I. vi. (1900) 46 Our chief..was always called..Taipi-kikino; and yet that was not his name, but only the wand of his false position.

b. Applied to the *caduceus* of Hermes or Mercury.

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 2736 He [Mercury] holde a yerde in his ryght honde, That so merveilous a wonde was neuer sen. 1645 Stapylton tr. *Musæus* B 3 b, Brought to your service by his golden dart, As rough Alcides by the golden wand Of Hermes, to the Lydian Maid's command. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IV. 355 But first he [Hermes] grasps within his awful Hand The mark of Sov'reign Pow'r, his Magick Wand. 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* X. 337 A God Met me, the bearer of the golden wand, Hermes.

8. A staff or baton serving as a symbol in certain legal transactions.

c 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xii. 1963 Þis Iohun þan tuk vp a qwyt wande, And gaf vp in þis Edwardis hande Off þis Kyarik al þe richt þat he had. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* IX. 234 The wand which the claimant held in his hand is stated by Gaius to have represented a spear.

†b. Scots Law. *Wand of Peace*: a silver-tipped baton delivered to an outlaw in token of his restoration to the king's peace; also carried by a king's messenger as the symbol of his office, and broken by him (by way of protest) if he was resisted in the execution of his duty.

1511 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 385/2 With power to the schireffis..to releich him fra the horne and deliver him the wand of pece, etc. 1564–5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 311 Restoir him to oure Soverane Ladiis peace, and gif to him the wand thairof. 1672 *Rec. Justiciary Court Edinb.* (S. H. S.) II. 76 He and other persons lybelled, beat and wounded the Messenger after he had laid hold upon the said Hary and touched him with his wand of peace several times. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxvi. § iii. (1699) 230 The Wand of Peace is that whereby they touch a Rebel, and declares him to be their Prisoner, and when they are deforced, they use to break the wand of Peace. 1815 Scott *Antiq.* xlii. 1815 — *Guy M.* xlvi.

†9. A measuring rod. (Cf. Metewand, Yard-wand, Ell-wand.) Also *Mining*, a measure of 8 feet. *Obs.*

a 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods* xlii. (1640) 193 Guided by experience, wisest straite wand Doth meet, whose lyne doth sound the depth of things. 1670 Pettus *Fodina Reg.* 86 And a *Moor* shall contain in length 20 wands and 7 feet, that is 20 my *by* feet. c 1730 Ramsay *Maltman* II. (1877) II. 204 Maltmen come for miles, And gaugers with wands o'er soon. 1819 Scott *Anne of G.* III, Your..sentiments.. rather belong to the sword than the measuring wand.

†b. A measure of land; ? a Virgate. *Obs.*

1296 *Yorksh. Deeds* (Yorksh. Arch. Soc., Rec. Ser.) II. 191 [Two] wandes [of meadow] in the Northe Ingas. 1684 *Rector's Bk., Clayworth* (1910) 67 Meadow in Easting 3 Wands, Arable 1½ Ac.

†10. *Anat.* The smaller bone of the forearm, the radius: = Ell-wand 2. *Obs.*

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Wks.* VI. XXVI. (1678) 247 The cubit is composed of two bones, the one of which we call the Radius, or Wand.

11. A magic rod; the staff used in enchantments by a fairy or a magician. Now the most prominent sense. Cf. F. *baguette*. Also *fig.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 57 On hist þi his a hand haldis a wand And kenely be coniurisons callis to him spretis. c 1480 Henryson *Test. Cresseid* 311 This dulefule sentence Saturne tuik on hand,..And on hir heid he laid ane frostie wand. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* II. lviii, A Silver wande the sorceresse did sway. 1634 Milton *Comus* 659 *Comus*. Nay Lady sit; if I but wave this wand, Your nerves are all chain'd up in Alabaster. 1667 Dryden *Ind. Emp.* II. i, *High-Priest*..Once, twice, and thrice, I wave my Sacred Wand, Ascend, ascend, ascend at my command. [*An earthly Spirit rises.* 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 2174 Sleep's dewy wand Has strok'd my drooping lids, and promises My long arrear of rest. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* I, If I creep near yonder oak she will wave her fairy wand. 1798 Wordsw. *P. B.ll* Prol. 146 A potent wand doth Sorrow wield. 1849 W. Irving *Goldsmith* xiv. (1850) 422 His pen is a wand of power in his hand. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, If a good fairy had built the house for me with a wave of her wand, I could not have been more considered in it. 1914 *19th Cent.* Feb. 262 Such a view, attributing as it does magical powers to the wand of the legislator, is in absolute contradiction with facts.

b. transf. *Electric wand*: see quot.

1898 Sloane *Electr. Dict.* (ed. 2) 627 *Torch, Electric Gas Lighting*...*Synonym*—Electric Wand.

12. A fishing-rod. Now chiefly *Sc.*

1563 Sir W. Cecil in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 296, I dowt not but though yow shall be fayr off, yow will use a long anglying wand to catch some knolesdg. 1839 T. T. Stoddart *Songs & P.* 13 To all wights of the wand Welcome are ye! 1895 'Cotswold Isys' *Lyra Piscat.* 102 And under the shade of the beechen boughs, I deftly ply my wand. 1913 N. Munro *New Road* xx, He made a fire, and cut a wand, and dropped a maggot in a pool and caught two little fishes.

13. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wandlike* adj. and adv.; with the sense 'made of wicker-work' (*Sc.*) as in *wand-basket, -bed, -cage, -chair*; in sense 10, as *wand-smitten, -stricken*. Also wand-bearer, one who carries a wand in a procession or otherwise as a sign of office; *spec.* as the title of certain honorary lay officials of St. Paul's Cathedral, London; †wand-bone (*wan boyn*) *Sc.* = sense 9; †wand-church (*-kirk*), cf. Wanded *a.* 1 b; †wandelot *dial.* (meaning obscure); †wand-hand *Sc.*, the hand that holds the wand or whip; wand-weaver *dial.*, a basket-maker.

1594 Sir J. Foulis *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 165 For 2 *wand baskits, 1 1 0. 1840 Cockton *Val. Vox* xv, Two *wand-bearers started off immediately for the men who were elsewhere engaged in the museum. 1872 H. P. Liddon in J. O. Johnston *Life & Lett.* (1904) vii. 168 Thanksgiving Day. ..Mr. Foster, John and Mr. G. A. Spottiswoode, as wand-bearers, were present. We all got into church at 9.30. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 422 He has been a true mystic and not a mere routineer or wand-bearer. a 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 297 The young laird lying sore seik also..was transportit in ane *waund bed..fra the tolbuith to the castell. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 123 On the *wan bayn with gret ire can him ta. Cleyffyt the cost rycht cruelly in twa. 1808 Moir *Mansie Wauch* I. 10 A blackbird..hung above his head in a *wband-cage of my faither's making. 1880 Sir J. Foulis *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 40 To m^rs treq^t to buy a bairns *wand-chair, 2 18 0. 1685 G. Sinclair *Satan's Invis. World* 98 The Maid did start up out of a Wand-Chair, where she sat. 1898 N. Munro *John Splendid* xv, 'It's your welcome, Argile,' said I, putting a wand chair to the front for him. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6225 A kirke..*wand kirke was called beforne. 1397 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. cxviii, Item ij *wand-closs et j stapyll. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to R. Stuart* 17 June, The devil and temptations now have the advantage of the bree of you, and are upon your *wand-hand and your working hand. 1684 J. Renwick *Serm.* (1776) 34 There is no land or church that is likely to get the wand-hand, so to speak, of Scotland. 1808 Shaks. *Per.* V. i. 210 Such a one my daughter might have beene: My Queenes square browes; her stature to an inch, as *wandlike-straight. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot., Virgatus*...*caulis*, a rod-like or wand-like stem or branch. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* II, The wand-like tops of the poincre's tall masts. 1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 433 *Virgata*, wand-like; long, slender, and straight. 1849 Meredith *R. Feverel* XXII, Know you those wand-like touches of I know not what, before which our grosser being melts. 1897 H. N. Howard *Footsteps Proserpine* 41 As from the nebulous elemental sea, *Wand-smitten by the Eternal Mind, Earth rose. 1847 Mary Howitt *Ballads* 267 Like that old mystery Of the *wand-stricken rock. 1896 *Leeds Mercury Suppl.* 22 Sept. (E.D.D.), His two uncles, by trade *wand-weavers.

Wand (wɒnd), *v. Sc.* and *dial.* [f. Wand *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To wattle, interweave, plait. *To wand in*, to enclose with wattle-work.

c 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 356 He kest twa Crailis on ane Capill, with Coillis anew, Wandit thame with widdeis, to wend on that wane. 1529–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 54 Now make and wand in trim bower to stand in. Leaue wadling till arber be eut. 1888 [cf. Wanded *ppl. a.* 1 b]. *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., The gate's wanded wi' thorns, so nowt can get in.

2. To beat with a wand or switch.

a 1585 Polwart *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 735 Tak! wilde yow! scoose bow, or I wand thee. 1607 *A most...comedy Z. Crofton* 10 The Father..had him if shee offended to take a wand and wand his daughter. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss.* s.v. *Wand*, Bran yo, I'll wan yo'r hide fo' yo.

Hence **Wanding** *vbl. sb.*

1583–6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 44 That have compellit thame, be onlaying of foull hands and fairfull kynd of wanddingis, to satisfie thair..impostis.

Wand, obs. pa. t. Wind *v.*

Wand, var. Wanned *ppl. a. Obs.*

†**Wandale**[1], *north. Obs.* Also 4 **wandayle**, 7 -dill. [Of obscure formation; the second element is Dale *sb.*[2], the first element possibly Wand *sb.* 8 b.] A division of land (? of the breadth of a 'wand' or perch).

c 1130 *Charter of W. de Percy* in *Whitby Chartulary* (Surtees) II. 596 Totam terram meam de Midetbet, a balco qui est inter vandelas demenil mei et vandelas hominum meorum. c 1285 *Deed* (Snainton near Scarborough) *Ibid.* I. 114 *note*, Unam wandaylam retro molendinum de Weldale. 1296 *Chron. de Melsa* (Rolls) II. 173 Concessit idem abbas.. Thome Wairano, pro 2 solidis annuis et pro homagio, unam wandayle et unam placeam terre in Hotona. 1499 in *Hexham Priory* (Surtees) II. 81 Super les Wandalen iij rodas. *Ibid.*, In le Wandale di. acra. 1541 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 127 Exchainged with Alex Edwards..the other of the Fower oxegange landes which lyeth next her landes in the pasture, for her wandill on the north side of the West-beckes.

†**Wandale**[2]. *Obs.* Also -dele. [a. med.L. *Wandali* pl. = *Vandali* Vandals. The form with *W* was adopted by Higden from Paulus Diaconus, his authority in the chapter first quoted.] = Vandal. Hence †**Wandaling** [-ing [3]], a Vandal. †**Wandalical** *a.* [med.L. *Vandalicus*], pertaining to the Vandals.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 205 Out þerof [Scandinavia] went Winuil and werred in Scorunga and ouer com þe Wandales. *Ibid.* V. 231 Þat tyme was sent an oost out of Rome into Spayne azenst þe wandales. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 237 Per were a c. yere from the begynnenge of the Wandalicalle persecucion begunne by Giserricus un to the goenge owte of theyme from Affrike. 1440 Bradshaw *St Werburge* II. 175 Our lordes..Suffred cruell people to entre this region..Danes, Gotes..Pictes and the wandeles, (etc.).

Wande, var. Wonde *Obs.*, to fear.

Wanded (wɒ·ndéd), *a. Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*) Also 7 **wainded**. [f. Wand *sb.* + -ed [2].]

1. Made of wicker-work. Of a bottle: Cased in wicker-work, wickered.

1567 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 197 In the lawe buttrye—barrells, aile potts, wanded bottles. 1574 *Ibid.* 251, I will and gyve to my lord Scroope and my laydye his wife..one wanded skeppe to put breade in. 1575 *Ibid.* 255 In the lawe chambre..j wandyt creelle. 1582 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 56 She did there give him a drinke out of a wainded bottle. 1613 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 204 In the West Parlour ..1 wanded chaire. 1677 Coles *Dict. Eng.-Lat.*, A Wanded chair, *cathedra viminea semicircularis*. 1770 *J. Coates's Coll. Poems* 19 She, plac'd in wanded chair, all pale appear'd.

b. Of a building: Wattled. (Cf. *wand-church*, Wand *sb.* 12.)

1593 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durh.* (Surtees) 57 From the wandyd kirke or chapell they brought the body of that holie man Saincte Cuthbert and translayted him into an other White Kirke.

2. Of cattle: ? Brindled.

1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5126/12 Stolen..4 red Oxen,..one is more wanded than the others.

†**Wandelard**. *Obs. rare*[1]. [a. AF. *wandelard* (13th c. in Chardry *Petit Plet* 979 and 14th c. in Bozon *Contes* lxiii); latinized ('vir valde *wandelardus*') in Wright's *Pol. Songs* (Camden Soc.) p. 49. In these three instances the word would seem to mean 'extortioner', but this sense may be merely contextual. Doubtless of Teut. origin; possibly from the G. personal name *Wandelhart*; cf., however, MHG. *wandel*, crime.]

? A criminal, traitor.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 215 Pise men lift þer standard..Ageyn Dauid wandelard, & discomfite him.

Wander (wɒ·ndəɹ), *sb.* [f. the verb.] An act of wandering.

1843 J. C. Shairp *Let.* 3 Aug., in E. H. Coleridge *Life & Corr. Ld. Coleridge* (1894) I. vi. 134, I should like, so, to have one day's wander with you amongst these hills. 1872 C. Kingsley *Poems, Detectable Day* iii, The afternoon's wander to windward, To meet the dear boy coming back. 1899 H. Wright *Depopulation* xii. 66 You and Allan will go away on a world-wide wander all by yourselves. 1900 Eliz. A. Sharp *William Sharp* vii. 121 One sunset I remember specially. We had gone for a wander westward.

Wander (wɒ·ndəɹ), *v.* Inflected **wandered** (-dəd), **wandering**. Forms: 1 **wandrian**, 2–3 **wandrie-n**, **wondrie-n**, (**wuandre**), 3–5 **wandri-n**, 3 **wondri**, **wundre**, 3–6 **wandir**, **-yr**, 4 **wandur**, 4–5 **wandre-n**, **wandere-n**, 5 **wandery-n**, **wandry-n**, 4– **wander**. [OE. *wandrian* = OFris. *wondria* (WFris. *wanderje*, NFris. *wönerï*, MDu. *wanderen*, Flemish (Kilian) *wanderen*, MLG. *wanderen* (LG. *wanderen*), MHG., G. *wandern*, Norw., Sw. *vandra*, Da. *vandre*:—OTeut. **wandrōjan*.

Not recorded in ON. or OHG. The mod. Scandinavian forms are prob. from LG., and possibly also the MHG. and mod.G. forms.

A similar formation with an *l*- element occurs with somewhat wider distribution; mod. WFris. *wandelje*, *wannelje*,

wandije to wander, MDu. *wandelen* to change, to wander about (Du. *wandelen* to walk), OS. *wandlon* to change (MLG. *wandelen* to change, LG. *wandeln* to change), OHG. *wantalôn, wantilôn* to change, *intr.* (MHG. *wantelen, wandeln*, G. *wandeln*). The form occurs (once) in OE. in *wandlung* sb. change. Both forms are further related to OTeut. **wend.* turn, see WIND *v.*, WEND *v.* Compare also OE. *wandian* WONDE *v.*, to deviate, flinch, hesitate etc.]

I. Intransitive senses. Formerly often conjugated with *to be*.

1. Of persons or animals: To move hither and thither without fixed course or certain aim; to be (in motion) without control or direction; to roam, ramble, go idly or restlessly about; to have no fixed abode or station.

Fight at Finnesburg (Gr.) 36 Hræfen wandrode sweart and sealobrun. *c* 1000 *Ags. Laws, Instit. Polity* xiv. (Thorpe) II. 322 [Hi] maciað eall þe luste..woriað & wandriað, & ealne dæg fleardiað. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 Vre fo þat is þe deuel wuandreð abuten us. *c* 1275 LAY. 7241 And Cesar wende in Flandres lond, wandrenge bi see strond. *c* 1290 *Beket* 69 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 108 In Manie stretes heo hadde i-wandret. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 207 Ilote wandren as wolues and wasten yif þei mouwen. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 330 With thame ane thousand, and ma, of fensabill men War wanderand all the nicht ouir. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 28 b, Having knowledge that diverse pirates wer wandering on the coast of Englande. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. vi. 43 With Caine go wander through the shade of night. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 20 On th' Aleian Field I fall Erroneous there to wander and forlorne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 529 Oft the Flocks, without a Leader stray'd.. Whole Months they wander, grazing as they go. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 ¶ 3 If one did believe that the departed Souls of Men and Women wandered up and down these lower Regions. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 11 The mopeing owl does to the moon complain Of such, as wand'ring near her secret bow'r, Molest her ancient solitary reign. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 596 Hitherto he seems to have wandered from place to place with no other object than that of collecting troops. 1854 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1875) 263 Frederick the Third, chased from his capital by the Hungarians, is wandering from convent to convent, an imperial beggar. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brandon* II. 25 The ladies were wandering in the garden.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 243 Þas þri fihteð agen elcen ileafful man alse longe se we iðese weaten of þesser woruld wandrið. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* 317 And so þis chirche has þre statys be processe of tyme. Fyrst he wandrys here in erthe, and sethen he slepys in purgatory. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 807 in *26 Pol. Poems* 130 And ofte hym wanteth goddys lore,..And thus he wandreth in a were, As a man blynde, and may nat se. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 99 The people of the Ilande ..wandered in the ignorance and blyndenes of humane nature. 1643 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trav. Uncert. Journey* 8 Some few do travell in the wayes Divine, Some wander wildly with the Muses nine. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 340 That not in Fancy's maze he wander'd long, But stoop'd to Truth, and moraliz'd his song. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 245 [He] can have his talk out, and wander at will from one subject to another.

c. with adv., as *about, up and down*.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 326 Tho wolde wastour nat worche bote wandrede aboute. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Wandryn a-bowte, *vager, girovager*. 1530 PALSGR. 771/1 How sayest thou, is this a good lyfe to wander up and downe on this maner. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 316 b, The pore wretch wandred vp and downe with .vi. children. 1598 *Mucedorus* IV. ii. 88 Doubtlesse she hath lost her selfe within these woods, And wandring too and fro she seekes the well, Which yet she cannot finde. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 33 P 11 Multitudes wandering about they knew not whither, in quest they knew not of what. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii. (1878) 245, I used now to wander about in the fields and woods. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 439, I wander up and down, and being in perplexity am always changing my opinion.

d. quasi-*trans.* with cognate object. *poet.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17232 Foluand þat flexs þat es mi fa, Mi wal i wander in-to wa. 1788 BURNS *Auld lang syne* iii, We've wander'd mony a weary fit. 1819 SCOTT *Noble Moringer* XXV, I've wander'd many a weary step, my strength is well-nigh done.

e. To go or take one's way casually or without predetermined route; to go *to* a place by a devious and leisurely course; to stroll, saunter. Also with *forth, out*.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 69 Let me imbrace with old Vincentio, And wander we to see thy honest sonne, Who will of thy arriuall be full ioyous. 1650 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Aug., I heard a sermon at the Rolls; and in the afternoone wander'd to divers churches. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 501 And when Night Darkens the Streets, then wander forth the Sons of Belial. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* Introd. (1842) I. 3 The father, walking in a field behind his garden, finds one of his children wandering out. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXVI, And now there remained but to take leave of the poor schoolmaster and wander forth once more. *a* 1873 R. BUCHANAN *Ballad of Persephone* xxxiv. Poet. Wks. 1874 I. 56 Till, sweet with greenness, moonlight-kiss'd, she wanders home again. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iii, Here and there could be seen the cattle wandering idly homeward.

¶ f. The earlier Wycliffite version of the Bible, and Wyclif himself in his sermons, frequently use *wander* to render the *ambulare* of the Vulgate both in lit. and fig. use; in the later version this is rare, *walke* or *go* being used instead.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 302 And so seiþ Mathew þat Crist wandride [1382 walkyng] bi þe water of Galile. *Ibid.* II. 348 Þus Poul biddiþ men, Waundre [*so* 1382; 1388 walke 3e] in spirit, and do not fulle desires of [illegible] 1382 — *John* v. 8 Jhesu seith to him, Ryse vp, take thi bed, and wandre [1388 go]. And a non the man is maad hool, and took vp his bed, and wandride [1388 wente forth].

2. Of an inanimate thing: To travel, move, or be carried about in an uncertain course; to stray. *lit.* and *fig.* Also *spec.* in *Path.* and *Phys.* (cf. WANDERING *ppl. a.*).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXVI. § 3 Se [*sc.* Saturnes steorra] wandraþ ofer oðrum steorrum ufor þonne mniz oðer tungol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24857 Þai lete it wandir vp and dun, Þair scip ai redi for to drun. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 58 Sir, your letter hath runne great hazarde before it arrived here; It wandred about seven months together. 1764 WHYTT *Observ. Nervous Disorders* (1767) 151 In some, the gout wanders through the whole body. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 301 It seems that, in this Committee, which continued to sit many days, the debates wandered over a vast space. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xix. 480 Thomas Newton's monument wandered to another Church. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 487 W. C. Brown of Penang has described (with others) a very peculiar phase in which the œdema beginning in the feet or hands 'wandered' up the limb. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sep. 597 The great number of cells which are found wandering far and wide in the submucosa. 1909 J. W. JENKINSON *Experim. Embryol.* iv. 185 In the next stage the clear vegetative cells derived (presumably) from the micromeres wander in to form the primary mesenchyme.

indirect passive. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 19 We poets, wandered round by dreams.

b. Of persons, with reference to movement of part of the body only.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 374 He seiz'd him with a strict embrace, With thousand kisses wander'd o'er his face. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xix, The hand which held the letter before his eyes dropped to his side; and with the fingers of the other he wandered thoughtfully over his brow.

c. Of rumours, current opinions, etc.: To be in circulation (on uncertain evidence or authority). Also † *to wander it*.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 95 The fame wherof so wandred it at point. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 241 b, And this immaginacion in especiall, wandred through the heddes of all men. 1832 W. L. BOWLES *Thomas Ken* II. Introd. 7, I am informed by..the Bishop of Hereford,..that there wandered, in his early days, another report of this story. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 515 There was no evidence which could be laid before a jury or a court martial: but strange whispers wandered about the camp.

d. Of the eyes: To turn this way and that; to rove. Hence, of the vision: To pass (idly or restlessly) from one point to another; to traverse a field of view (erratically or vaguely).

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 344 After the manner of a drunkard, that venteth for the best wine: so doe mine eyes stare and wander to finde out some olde Sepulture. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 25 His eyes must wander about every workmans hands. 1704 J. PITTS *Relig. & Mann. Mahommetans* vi. 42 Fixing their Eyes on the Ground just before them, not in the least gadding or wandring with their Eyes. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, Their eyes wandered over the glorious scene. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlii, Mr. Dombey..looked round at the pictures on the walls. Cursorily as his cold eye wandered over them, Carker's keen glance accompanied his. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 251 As the eye of the visitor wanders curiously over its ample dimensions.

e. Of the mind, thoughts, desires, etc. (usually personified, and conceived as moving without the direction of reason or will towards, or about, the objects of their consideration): To move (hither and thither) uncontrolled.

c 1400 *Pety Job* 471 in *26 Pol. Poems* 136 My thoughtes wandre wyde whare, For they ben, lorde, full variaunte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 167 They wyll not let theyr myndes..wauer or wander abrode. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* etc. R ij b, Where are thy wittes..? If so they wandring be abrode, then call them home againe. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 2 If my thoughts haue wandred, I must intreat the wel-bred Reader to remember, I haue wandred through many deserts. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 148 Those thoughts that wander through Eternity, To perish rather. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 107 Why wanders wretched thought their tombs around, In infidel distress? 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, Then his mind reverted to Mrs. Martha Bardell; and from that lady it wandered, by a natural process, to the dingy counting-house of Dodson and Fogg. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 55 The mind was wandering, as it often does On the dim verge of life. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* iv, Her poor, anxious, distraught mind wandering hither and thither in the bewildering mazes of delirium.

f. Of rivers, roads, etc.: To pursue a devious or circuitous course; to wind, meander.

1742 GRAY *Eton* 9 Wanders the hoary Thames along His silver-winding way. 1832 JAMES *Philip Augustus* xxxiii, The hills which confine the course of the Seine fall back.. and leave it to wander through a wide rich valley. 1858 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 144 You will find..'deep glooms and sudden glories', in every foot-broad rill which wanders through the turf. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. vi. 26 There fountains sprang, and runnels wandered clean.

3. Of persons (or things completely, or in part, personified): To deviate from a given path, or determined course; to turn aside from a mark or object proposed; to stray from one's home or company, or from protection or control.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* v. 8 And ea to hevin the hieway dreidless scho wend, Bit scho wanderit, and seid by to ane elriche well. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Aberro*, to erre or wander very moche. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 If the Moone should wander from her beaten way. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 95 When the Planets In euill mixture to disorder wander. 1621 BIBLE *Deut.* XXVII. 18 Cursed be hee that maketh the blinde to wander out of the way. 1697 MONTGOMERY *Itin.* I. 205 One day..he hunted and wandring from his company lost himselfe. *a* 1761 LAW *Conf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 123 For every son of Adam has everything in him that is said of that prodigal, he has lost his first state and condition, as he did, is wandered as far from his heavenly father and country. 1878 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. T.* 5 His eye may have wandered from one line to another. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* I. vii, It became difficult to choose a path, and the lads somewhat wandered. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Sept. 292/1 It is impossible to wander in an avenue.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context: Of persons (also of the mind, thoughts, desires, etc. personified): To turn aside from a purpose, from a determined course of conduct, or train of thought; to digress; to pass out of the control of reason or conscience; to fall into error (moral or intellectual), etc. Often with *away, off*, etc.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* liii. 415 Donne hwelces monnes mod..færð swa wandriende from his hade & of his endebyrdnesse [L. *extra ordinem proprium vagatur*]. 1480–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 249 And many of them wrongly wandrynge from the ryghtnes of faythe. 1585 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 29 b, That each estate May vnderstande howe farre [illegible] and irregular, Finde pardon on my true submission. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 138 Madam, you wander from the good We ayme at. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 11 It is then expedient that we should not wander, but rather follow a setled short way, easie both for learners and teachers. 1675 J. OWEN *Indwelling Sin* v (1732) 38 Look to thy self, take care of thy Affections, they will be gadding and wandring, and that from their Aversation to what thou hast in hand. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. Pope* 14 Sept., I have..so far wandered from the discipline of the church of England as to have been last Sunday at the opera. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* Diss. I. § 18 So far was his mind wander'd from the right way, that even he was not a believer, as to what he himself said. 1772 *Junius Lett.* 30 Jan., Having travelled thus far in the high road of matter of fact, I may now be permitted to wander a little into the field of imagination. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Cloven Foot* x, John Treverton, smoking his cigar, and letting his thoughts wander away at a tangent every now and then. 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* I. 21 She could not read her novel with any peace of mind; and she found her attention wandering from it. 1911 MARETT *Anthropol.* 173 But we must not wander off into questions of origin. It is enough..to have noted the fact that, [etc.].

4. Of persons: To be unsettled, or incoherent, in mind, purpose, etc. Hence, later, to be temporarily disordered in mind, as from illness or exhaustion affecting the brain; to be delirious, or (with especial reference to the resulting incoherence of speech) to ramble, rave, talk wildly.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8885 Oft [I] wandrit, & woke, & in my wit caste; And my person enpayret, pynet me sore, For thes lordes þat I lede, and the ledis all. *Ibid.* 10097 The buerne to his bed buskit anon,..And lay in his loge, litill he sleppit, But wandrit & woke for woo of his buerres. 1728 S SEWALL *Diary* 6 Feb., This morning wandering [*but perh. read* wondering] in my mind whether to live a Single or a Married Life. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daw.* II. iv, She must have wandered—she must have been dreaming. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxiv, They said he was wandering in his head yesterday. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst Clin. Med.* xiv. 166 On awaking about eleven o'clock, he was wandering. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* xxxvii, He wanders a little, you know, as a feverish person will, when he speaks to you. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xvii. 273 The patient may wander or pass into a comatose state.

II. Transitive senses.

5. To roam over, in, through (a place); to traverse in wandering. Now only *poet.*

1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 104 b, For in the night before Cicero dreamed, being banished from Rome, that he wandred diuers straunge countries. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 28 High ouer hils, and low adowne the dale, She wandred many a wood, and measurd many a vale. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 354 Forty days Eliah without food Wandred this barren waste. 1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 246 Chusing rather to wander the wide world then undergoe (as they call it) such persecution. 1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Winter* 390 Seedtime and Harvest let me see again; Wander the leaf-strewn wood, the frozen plain. 1892 YEATS *Countess Cathleen* V. (1912) 108, I gaze upon them as the swallow gazes Upon the nest under the eave, before She wander the loud waters.

6. To cause to wander, lead astray; also *fig.* to confuse in mind, bewilder. Chiefly *colloq.* or *humorous*.

1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 319 He meant to.. 'wander' her like a cat in a strange wood. 1899 W. E. H[ENLEY] in *Pall Mall Mag.* Aug. 379 Nay, it wanders him to worse purpose yet; for it even makes him say that, if [etc.]. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xlvii, Mary was conscious that she was not doing herself justice..So she smiled. That smile 'wandered' the assistant. He promptly lost grip. 1914 N. MUNRO *New Road* XXX, 'Ye've knocked the feet from me!' he said in a voice depressed. 'I'm fairly wandered.'

Wander, Sc. variant of WANDRETH *Obs.*

Wanderable, *a. nonce-word.* [f. WANDER *v.* + -ABLE.] That one can wander *in*.

1906 E. V. LUCAS *Wand. in Lond.* II. 17 The more I wander in London, the less wanderable in, for a stranger, does it seem to be.

Wandered (wɒ·ndəd), *ppl. a.* [f. WANDER *v.* + -ED[1].] That has wandered (out of the way, or from familiar places, etc.); astray; bewildered.

c 1420 LYDG. *Commend. Our Lady* 60 Of al Christen pro-

tectrice and tutele..To wery wandred tent and pavilioun. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 32 It greueth me sore for to leve you here in this place as desolate, wandred and habandoned of your blode. *Ibid.* 122 Almighti God..wolde that they should be wandred of theyr way. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* v. 59 Wrench ope his mouth, While I infuse these Sovereign Drops, whose Pow'r Will soon recal his wander'd senses—He stirs! 1819 KEATS *Fall of Hyperion* I. 43 A cool vessel of transparent juice Sipp'd by the wander'd bee. 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* 78 Wandered birds in outlying copses in the evening are apt to roost there.

Wanderer (wɒ'ndərəɹ). Also 5 **wanderare**, 6 *Sc.* **wandirer**, 6 **wandreer**, 6–7 **wandrer**, **wand'rer**. [f. WANDER *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. A person or thing that is wandering, or that has long wandered (in various senses of the verb); one that is of roving habit or nature. Also *fig.* or in fig. context.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Wanderare, *vagus, vaga, vacabundus, profugus.* 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. iii. P ij, Seynge that she [*sc.* Fortune] is but a wandrer, that strayeth from place to place lyke a vacabunde. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. ii. 44 The wrathfull Skies Gallow the very wanderers of the darke And make them keepe their Caues. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* IV, Am I for this forsaken? a new love chosen, And my affections, like my fortunes, wanderers? 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 495 P 8 Besides, the whole People is now a Race of such Merchants as are Wanderers by Profession. 1794 COLERIDGE *The Sigh* 20 In distant climes to roam, A wanderer from my native home. 1798 WORDSW. *Lines Tintern Abbey* 56 O sylvan Wye! thou wanderer thro' the woods. 1841 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. viii. 116 Gipsies and other wanderers pitch their tents around it in the nutting season. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. iii. 114 The Catholic Church was in the first instance a wanderer on the earth, and had nothing to attach her to its soil. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 709 He had died as he had lived, an exile and a wanderer. 1887 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxx, She don't know what she means. She's an idiot, a wanderer in her mind. 1914 A. S. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Man* (1915) 3 Such characteristic wanderers over the plains as horses, cattle, antelopes, deer and lions.

b. as tr. L. *planēta* or Gr. πλανήτης: A wandering star, planet.

1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* II. i, Your patron Mercury in his mysterious character, Holds all the markes of th' other wanderers. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Little Bartas* 211 The Sun . Him, just betwixt Six Wand'rers hast thou plac't, Which prance about Him with unequall haste. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 117 Even Planets or Wanderers keep course, and station. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* 191 The worlds they call wanderers rolling on high, That enlighten the earth and enliven the sky. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 536 And God made the sun and moon and five other wanderers, as they are called.

†c. *Hist.* (See quot. 1903.) *Obs.*

1784 A. SHIELDS *Life Renwick* 65 in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. So many Forces, Foot, Horse, and Dragoons, habitually flashed in Blood, being poured into all Parts of the Country, where the Wanderers were most numerous. 1727 P. WALKER *Life Peden* Ibid. I. 115 Foot and Horse of the Enemy being searching for Wanderers, as they were then called. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vi, The Wanderer (to give Burley a title which was often conferred on his sect) began to make his horse ready. 1903 HARBOTTLE *Dict. Hist. Allusions* 275 *Wanderers*, the Covenanters who left their homes to follow their dispossessed ministers in 1669 were so called.

2. *Zool.* Used as translation of various mod.L. terms of classification; a bird of the group *Vagatores* in Macgillivray's system; one of the wandering spiders (*Vacabundæ*).

1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* I. 481 That very important tribe of birds to which the name of Vagatores or Wanderers may be applied.

Wandering (wɒ'ndərin), *vbl. sb.* Also **wandring**, **wandrynge**, etc. [f. WANDER *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb in various senses.

1. Travelling from place to place or from country to country without settled route or destination; roaming. Often in plural, sometimes denoting a protracted period of devious journeying.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 7, I was weori of wandringe and wente me to reste Vndur a brod banke bi a Bourne syde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Wanderynge, *vagacio.* 1552 HULOET, Wandrynge, *discursus.* 1664 JER. TAYLOR *Discuss. Popery* I. § 3. 21 The labors of pilgrimages, superstitious and useless wandrings from place to place. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* I. 1161 The fatal Issue of so long a War, Your Flight, your Wand'rings, and your Woes declare. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 24 The Night here will answer to the present Life, a state of Wandring and Weakness. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Poet's T.* I. 119 [The letter] had followed him in his wanderings, and reached him at last by mere accident. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I. i. 8 Joshua..settled down after his wanderings in his native town.

b. Of inanimate things: Devious movement from place to place.

1827 LYTTON *Falkland* I. 62 The air of heaven [is] not purer in its wanderings. 1867 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 664 Their wise men Were stronger than the old magic which can trace The wandering of the stars. 1913 J. W. JENKINSON *Vertebrate Embryol.* I. 11 Amongst movements of single cells are comprised: ..the wanderings of the germ-cells in early stages.

c. Of the eyes: Irregular turning this way and that.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XX, The idle indicated their inattention by the wandering of their eyes. 1899 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 251 You should not show that you think so..by the toss of your head or the wandering of your eyes. 1869 TANNER *Clin. Med.* (ed. 2) 12 Condition of Nervous System...Wandering of eyes, state of pupils, squinting.

d. Of the mind, thoughts, desires, etc.: Aimless passing from object to object.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27793 Vanait talckhing, vnstedfastnes, o will wandring. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xvi. 43 Beholdynge therwyth what pareyl he stondeth in yf he contynew rechelessly in suche wandryng of mynde vnto his deth. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 161 To call in our mynde from vagacyon or wandryng & to apply vs to our duty reuerently. 1611 BIBLE *Eccl.* vi. 9 Better is the sight of the eyes, than the wandering of the desire. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 425 P 1 A Poem of Milton's, which he entitles *Il Penseroso*, the Ideas of which were exquisitely suited to my present Wanderings of Thought. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. i. 90 *note*, It might well seem, that this Inconsistency, this wandering of Spirit, might be the peculiar Folly of the Rich.

2. Deviation from the right or intended path or direction, straying, aberration.

1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 80 Beside denotes erring, or Wandring ('as he shoots beside the mark'). 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. 7 The regularity of my design Forbids all wandering as the worst of sinning. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lost Bower* I, The next morning, all had vanished, or my wandering missed the place.

3. Disordered action of the mind due to illness or nervous exhaustion; rambling, delirium; in plural, delirious fancies, esp. as expressed in speech; incoherent ramblings.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iii, The theatre and the public-house were the chief themes of the wretched man's wanderings. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xii. 130 Here there was a very threatening array of symptoms..illusions of the sense of hearing, a fiery eye, and incessant mental wandering. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 104 Every third day ..his dejection, his fits of wandering seemed to indicate the approach of dissolution. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 398 Such are many degrees of transient mental failure, to which such terms as 'wandering' and 'rambling' are applied.

4. Gerundially in *to go*, or *to be*, *a-wandering*. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1700 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxxiii. § 6 (ed. 4) 292 Though his unattentive Thoughts be elsewhere a wandering. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* II. xxiii, His wits gone a-wandering!

Wandering (wɒ'ndərin), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.]

1. Of persons or animals: That moves from place to place or from country to country without readily apparent purpose; travelling to a vague (or distant) destination, or by uncertain and devious routes; roving; vagrant; having no fixed abode or station.

c 1000 *Prudentius Glosses* in *Germania* N. S. XI. 388/37 *Uagantes dæmonas* wandrigende pucan. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 157 The darkenesses of dethe whiche the envyous ennemye is wonte to brynge in to wandrynge sowlles. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Fluctivagus*, wandring in rivers or waters. *Ibid., Vagus*, wandrynge and abydynge in noo place. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* B 4, The sillie Sheephearde committing his wandering sheepe to the custodie of his wappe. 1607 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 293 To sie that thair be no wandering persones efter the hour of ten. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Henry Walker* A 2, At least 500. Vagrants..were all suddainely Metamorphis'd and Transform'd into wandring Booke sellers. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 553 Thick as Insects play, The wandring Nation of a Summer's Day. 1845 A. POLSON *Law Nations* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 801/1 In an age of defective police, wandering labourers and 'valiant beggars' were objects of terror. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 95 The wandering adventurer [Baldearg O'Donnel] at first demanded nothing less than an earldom. 1878 J. DAVIDSON *Inverurie* vii. 244 It is of the kind made at that period for the use of wandering priests.

b. Of primitive peoples, or animals: Nomadic, roving, migratory. Frequently tr. scientific L. *errans*, *vagus*, etc.

c 1400 *Prymer* (1895) 10 Alle kynde of bestis & wandrynge [L. *omnes bestiæ et pecora*], blesse ye to þe lord! 1544 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. ii. 19 From Mauritania or Barbary toward the South is Getulia, a rough and sauage region, whose inhabitants are wilde and wandering people. 1768 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 506 Albatross. Wandering. *Diomedea Exulans.* 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. 66 Wandering Mouse. *Mus Vagus*...This..is frequent throughout the whole Tartarian desert, and is of a migrating nature. 1820 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1823) III. 362 The Wandering Spider. This Spider..does not lie in wait for its prey, like several others; it is a lively and active hunter. 1836 [P. B. DUNCAN] *Cat. Ashm. Mus.* 75 Head of the..Wandering Albatross.—*Diomedea exulans. Linn.* 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xii, I was but too glad to set my horse's hoofs upon the land of the wandering tribes. 1854 A. ADAMS etc. *Mam. Nat. Hist.* 275 Wandering-Spiders (*Errantia*). 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* viii. 338 The Masaras, or wandering Bushmen.

c. **The Wandering Jew.** A legendary personage who (according to a popular belief first mentioned in the 13th c., and widely current at least until the 16th century), for having insulted Our Lord on his way to the Cross, was condemned to wander over the earth without rest until the Day of Judgement. Often referred to as the proverbial type of restless and profitless travelling from place to place. Cf. Fr. *le juif errant*, G. *der ewige Jude*. For the application to trailing plants see sense 2 e.

In the earliest form of the legend the Wandering Jew is called Cartaphilus; in the best-known modern version his name appears as Ahasuerus, but other names also occur.

1832 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 345 Tradition, as their wandring Jew, the Shoomaker of Jerusalem is, of whom in Rome, they have wrot ten thousand fables. 1846 J. HALL *Satyrs* 200 Poems I, to Which [might] if..stitch't into a web, supply anew With ancoury cloakes the wandring Jew. 1880 V. ALSOP *Mischief Implead* viii. 83 Would he have us, like the wandering Jew, ramble up and down for satisfaction, and never accept it? 1897 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxix, And here am I a-walkin' about like the wanderin' Jew—a sporting character you have perhaps heerd on, Mary, my dear, as wos always doin' a match agin time, and never vent to sleep.

2. Of things: Travelling (or carried) along in an uncertain, or frequently changing direction; moved, or moving, (idly) to and fro.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ix. 7 It is not yron bandes, nor hundred eyes, Nor brasen walls, nor many wakefull spyes, That can withhold her wilfull wandring feet. ?*a* 1600 *Hist. Tom Thumb* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 193 His shape it being such, That men should hear him speak, but not His wandering shadow touch. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 648 They hand in hand with wandring steps and slow, Through Eden took thir solitarie way. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* II. i. Wks. (1673) II. 234 Lost like A blossom which the wandring wind Blows from the busom of the Spring, to mix With Summer's dust. 1800 WORDSW. *To the Cuckoo* 4 Shall I call thee Bird, Or but a wandering Voice? 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III. xiii, A scene so rude, so wild as this,..Ne'er did my wandering footsteps press, Where'er I happ'd to roam. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxiv, The very source and fount of Day Is dash'd with wandering isles of night. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* IV, The old housekeeper looks at him, and those wandering hands of hers are quite enough for Mrs. Bagnet's confirmation. [Cf. below: Only her fluttering hands give utterance to her emotions.] 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 719 He had..had in his hands proofs of much that Fenwick had only gathered from wandering reports.

b. Of the mind, thoughts, affections, etc.: Moving vaguely (towards, or about, their object); not directed by reason or fixed purpose; random; restless; wanton.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xvi. 42 So the frayle & wretched soulle..can not sturre vp yt selfe from wandryng and vagant thoughtes. 1530 PALSGR. 698/1 The mans mind is so wandringe that he can nattall hym upon nothynge. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 17 b, You, clearing altogether my minde, haue now driuen awaie the mistes which dimmed it & made it so wandering & running. 1648 MILTON *Psalm* lxxxi. 30 Then did I leave them to their will And to their wandring mind. 1688 PRIOR *On Exod. iii. 14* vii, Levelling at God his wand'ring Guess,..Laws to his Maker the learn'd Wretch can give. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* Pref., I had some wanting Reflections upon the Reasons alledged in my first Letter. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 33 Then learn this wandering Humour to controul. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvii, A deep sigh from Vivaldi recalled his wandering imagination. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XX, My father had often checked me for this wandering mood of mind.

Comb. 1552 HULOET, Wandrynge-wytted, *vacillans.*

c. Of the eyes: Roving, restless, turning this way and that.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 278 Whereunto he answered with a wandering eye [Fr. *d'vn œil inconstant*], His Mistresse, if I [etc.]. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 256 Pageant Shows, that charm the wandering Eye. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 217 The teacher may observe slow action, wandering eyes, twitchings.

d. Of the moon or stars (*esp.* tr. L. *planēta*, or Gr. πλανήτης): Not fixed, having a separate individual motion.

1526 TINDALE *Jude* 13 They are wandrynge starres to whom is reserved the myst of darcknes for ever. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 361/1 *Sidera errantia*,..the planets: the wandering starres. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 103 We the Globe can compasse soone, Swifter then the wandring Moone. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 67 To behold the wandring Moon, Riding neer her highest noon. 1667—*P. L.* V. 177 And yee five other wandring Fires that move In mystic Dance. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 209 Then Sailors quarter'd Heav'n, and found a Name For ev'ry fix'd and ev'ry wandring Star. 1809 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 365 Pythagoras..contended that..the comets were a kind of wandering stars.

e. Of plants: Trailing; sending out long tendrils, runners, or adventitious roots. Also in *Wandering Jew* (after 1 c), *Sailor(s, Jenny, Willie*, popular names of certain plants: see quots.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 24 Of hewen stone the porch was fairely wrought..: Ouer the which was cast a wandring vine. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.* Introd. 80 *Lysimachia nummularia.* Wandering Jenny. 1881 *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XIII. 96 Wandering Sailors..*Linaria Cymbalaria.* 1882 FRIEND *Dev. Plant-n.*, Wandering Sailor...(2) *Lysimachia Nummularia.* 1882 *Garden* 28 Jan. 53/1 The creeping Saxifrage, or our old friend the 'Wandering Jew'. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Wandering Jew, *Linaria Cymbalaria*, Mill. *Suss.* 1889 *Hardwicke's Science-Gossip* XXV. 47 The creeping plant known locally as 'Wandering Jew'.. is found in the North-West Provinces, particularly, I believe, in Manitoba. 1913 PETTMAN *Africanderisms* 544 *Wandering Jew*, or *Wandering Willie.*—The Eastern Province name of a creeping plant—a sort of periwinkle.

f. *Wandering fire* or *light*: Will-o'-the-wisp. (Now often *fig.* after Tennyson's use.)

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 634 A wandring Fire Compact of

TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 319 How often, O my knights,..This chance of noble deeds will come and go Unchallenged, while ye follow wandering fires Lost in the quagmire!

g. *Phys.* and *Path.* Of diseases, pains, etc.: Moving from one part of the body to another (without clearly ascertained cause). Also (in recent use), *Wandering cells*: amœboid cells.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 422/2 *Morbus palabundus*, ..a wandering disease, or a sickenesse spread here and there. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Arthritis vaga*, or *Planetica*, a Wandring Gout, is a Disease in the Joynts that creates pain, sometimes in one Limb, sometimes in another. 1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 320 Aches and wandering Pains. 1723 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 149 As the Seams of all acute continual Fevers is acted in the Blood, so those erratic, wandering Fevers..are deriv'd from the same Original.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 92 Here in the h bourhood of the wandering cells, the short, forms could be seen to have undergone the c
1899 *Ibid.* IV. 442 Uric acid in excess and oxalic acid in the urine are often attended by..wandering..pains in the back, thigh, calf of leg, and sole of foot. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 81 Fürster also held that wandering leucocytes might become transformed into glia cells. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Wandering abscess*, an abscess that tracks along so as to point at a distance from its original seat. *Wandering cells*, a synonym for *Amœboid cells*.

b. Of roads, rivers, etc.: Lying in an irregularly bending line, winding, meandering; also *fig.* Also *transf.* (*Phys.*) as the distinctive epithet of a particular pair of nerves (after mod.L. *par vagum*, *nervi vagi*).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 561 Others apart sat on a Hill retir'd, In thoughts more elevate,..And found no end, in wandring mazes lost. 1728 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. ix. § 8 The Parvagum, or Wandering-Nerve. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 2 Or by the lazy Scheld or wandering Po. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 257 The wandering corridors. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xv, A wandering, country by-track. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 818 The term 'accessory' was applied by this anatomist [Willis] to the special nerve which is accessory to the *vagi* or 'wandering pair'.

†**1.** *Wandering name*: a term that may be applied indifferently to various objects. *Obs.*

a 1555 RIDLEY *Treat. agst. Transubst.* (1556) 52 If in the wordes This is my bodye, the woorde (this) be as Dunse calleth it a wanderynge name, to appointe and shewe furthe anye one thinge whereof the name or nature it doeth not tell: so muste it bee lykewyse [etc.]. 1659 SOMNER *Dict.*, *Wudusurre*, Ambrosia, Nectar, a wandring name given unto many sweet all herbes.

j. Having no fixed arrangement, scattered irregularly.

1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xiii. (1794) 132 The flowers are irregularly disposed, or wandering, as Linnæus calls them.

3. †**a.** Of persons, etc.: Deviating from the proper or determined course; *fig.* erring, disloyal. *Obs.*

1626 Bp. W. BARLOW *Serm.* 27 Sept. B ij, To heale the infected, to splint the spreined, to reduce the wandering. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxix. 90 Wee dare not doe those things that are lawfull, lest the wandring World mis-construe them. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 59 The nodding horror of whose shady brows Threats the forlorn and wandring Passinger. 1667 — *P. L.* II. 404 Who shall tempt with wandring feet The dark unbottom'd infinite Abyss. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 219 Long hast thou known, nor need I to record The wanton sallies of my wand'ring Lord.

b. Of inanimate things: Straying from the right path.

1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXVI, O no, it is an ever fixed marke That lookes on tempests and is never shaken; It is the star to every wandring barke. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 1008 Imperial Juno turn'd the Course before; And fix'd the wand'ring Weapon in the door. 1822 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 8 Some wandering Ship who hath lost her way. 1899 J. MILNE *Rom. Pro-Consul* X. (1911) 150 A wandering bullet plunged through the roof of the wooden cottage.

†**c.** Of places: Out-of-the-way, inaccessible, remote. *Obs. rare.*

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xvii. 110 Swans haunt and loue to resort to some particular places onely, as in watrie, wandring and solitarie places [orig. *lieux aquatiques, egarez & solitaires*].

d. Path. *Wandering spleen, kidney, liver*: see quots.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 584 The so-called 'wandering spleen' in which the viscus is found in the lower abdo- —— *Ibid.* IV. 518 A case of wandering spleen. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Wandering*, moving from place to place. *Wandering kidney*, a synonym for floating kidney. *Wandering liver*.

e. *Mining.* (See quot.) Cf. STRAY *a.*

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Wandering coal*, a coal seam that exists only over a small area; an irregular seam of coal.

4. Characterized by wandering.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 88 To scyl of Cyclops with wandring iourney we roamed. 1603 DANIEL *Def. Rhyme* H 6 b, There is no right in these things that are continually in a wandring motion, carried with the violence of our vncertaine liking. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 943 Thus to the lasting Queen, the Royal Guest His wand'ring Course, and all his Toils express'd. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 112 This little wandering Journey, without settled Place of Abode, had been so unpleasant to me, that my own House..was a perfect Settlement to me. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. (1787) III. 227 He experienced the adventures of an obscure and wandering life. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III. xxxi, A landless prince, whose wandering life Is but one scene of blood and strife. 1892 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 315 The river..whose wandering loveliness the road follows. 1895 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* iii, Paris is not a bad place to anchor in after a wandering life.

Hence **Wa·nderingly** *adv.*; **Wa·nderingness.**

1552 HULOET, Wandryngly, *palatim, passim.* 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* To Rdr. A j b, And Pilgrims such as wandringly theyr tyme in trauell waste. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. iii. 7 Your shakes of fortune, though they hant [1609 haunt] you mortally Yet glaunce full wondringly on vs. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. iii. 32 Were thy prayers made in feare and holinesse, with passion and desire? Were they not made unwillingly, weakly, and wandringly. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Wanderingness, *distraction, egarement, d'Esprit.* 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVIII. 437 His eyes Gleam'd wanderingly with brine unbidden. 1867 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 148 For when was Lancelot wanderingly loved?

†**Wa·nderment.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WANDER *v.* + -MENT.] The action or state of wandering.

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* II. iii. 20 Genus and Species long since barefoote went, Vpon their ten-toes in wilde wanderment. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 624 Rapture to Which would be ceased, though their wanderment inclos'd within the Firmament.

Wanderoo (wɒ·ndərū·). Also 7–9 **wandaru.** [a. Sinhalese *wanderu*, monkey, cognate with Hindī *bandar*, repr. Skr. *vānara* monkey, believed to mean literally 'forest-dweller', f. *vanar-* (*vanas*, *vana*) forest. The Fr. form *ouanderou* (Buffon) is a re-spelling of the word as given by Knox.] A name properly belonging to the langur monkeys (genus *Semnopithecus*), inhabiting Ceylon, but until recently almost always misapplied, after Buffon's example, to the Lion-tailed Macaque (*Macacus silenus*) of Malabar.

1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Rel. Ceylon & E.-Ind.* I. vi. 26 Monkeys...Some so large as our English Spaniel Dogs, of a darkish gray colour, and black faces, with great white beards...There is another sort just of the same bigness, but ..milk white both in body and face...This sort they call in their Language, *Wanderows*. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. vii. 215 The Wanderow is a baboon rather less than the former [i. e. the Mandril]...What particularly distinguishes it is a large long white head of hair, together with a monstrous white beard. It..is chiefly seen in the woods of Ceylon and Malabar. 1785 W. SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 133 The Ouanderou and the Lowando. [*Footnote*, Ouanderou, wanderu, the names of this animal in Ceylon.] 1811 MAJ. GRAHAM *Jrnl. Resid. India* (1813) 97, I saw one of the large baboons, called here Wanderows, on the top of a cocoa-nut tree. 1874 F. BUCKLAND in *Life* xii. (1883) 289 One is a Macaque...Another is the Wanderoo...This monkey..comes from Malabar. 1907 *Times* 21 Aug. 2/4 A lion-tailed macaque (*Macacus silenus*) often miscalled the wanderoo, a name which of right belongs to the purple-faced langur (*Semnopithecus cephalopterus*) of Ceylon.

attrib. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. in Jungle* xxiii. 274 We started a lot of wanderoo monkeys. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 291/1 Descriptions of the fauna of Ceylon, notably of the wanderu monkeys.

Wander-year. [f. WANDER *v.*, after G. *wanderjahr*, the year, or one of the years, spent in travel for the purpose of perfecting one's skill and knowledge between the completion of apprenticeship and settling down to the practice of a trade] A year of wandering or travel (usually with more or less direct reference to German usage).

1895 *Outing* XXVI. 332/1 Traveling afoot like any poor student or mere *Bursch* of an artisan serving his wander-year. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 26 Oct. 3/3 Off to Philadelphia went Leland, when his wander-years were over, and the necessity of choosing a profession and making a living faced him. 1912 L. TRACY *Mirabel's Isl.* vii. (1915) 109 David had seen a good deal during his wander years, and he had never before secured such an auditor. 1914 H. M. VAUGHAN (*title*), An Australasian Wander-Year.

†**Wandis,** *v. Sc. Obs.* In 4–5 **vayndis, wandys.** [a. ON. *wandiss-*, lengthened stem of *wandir*, *gandir*, f. Germanic root **wand-*: see WEND *v.* and -ISH 2.] *intr.* To recoil, retreat, give way. Cf. WOND *v.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 109 The Yngiis men that war fechtand, Quhen thai the Douglas saw at hand, Thai vayndist [*MS. E.* wandyst] and maid ane opnyng. *Ibid.* XIII. 217 Thai vayndist [*MS. E.* wandyst] a litell we. *Ibid.* XVI. 629.

Wandle (wɒ·nd'l), *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also **wannel, wanle.** [App. related to WAND *sb.*] Of a thing: Flexible, supple. Of a person: Lithe, agile, nimble.

1803 HOGG *Donald MacDonald* vi, The Stuart is sturdy and wannel. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiv, The bairn was sent awa, and bred up near the Highlands, and grew up to be a fine wanle fallow. 1819 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Wandle*, supple, pliant—when spoken of a person, agile, nimble. 1839 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Wannel*, lithe, agile, flexible.

Wandle (wɒ·nd'l), *v. dial.* Also **wannel.** [Perh. f. *wan*, WANE *a.*] *intr.* 'To walk unsteadily or wearily; to move with a slow, trembling step' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1826 G. STUART *Joco-serious Disc.* 48 Her Stilts [*note*, Crutches] she was not able to handle, But o'en as weak as she cou'd wandle. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wandle*, *wannel*, to walk with weariness or painful effort. As cas hardlies wannel hyem.

Wandlesour, var. WANLASOUR *Obs.*

Wandness, obs. form of WANNESS.

Wandoand, var. *wyndowand*, obs. Sc. pres. pple. of WINNOW *v.*

‖ **Wandoo** (wɒnd**ū**·). [Native Australian.] The White Gum-tree (*Eucalyptus redunca*) of Western Australia, from which is obtained a hard durable wood.

1884 F. VON MUELLER *Eucalyptogr.* x. *Eucalyptus redunca*. ..The 'Wandoo' or principal 'White Gum-tree' of West-Australia. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 3 Sept. 7/4 Wandoo piles used in bridge construction.

Wandought (wa·ndɒxt), *sb.* and *a. Sc.* Also **wandooht, -dout, -dough.** [f. WAN- + DOUGHT *sb.* and *a.* Cf. UNDOUGHT *sb.*, UNDOUGHTY *a.*]

A. *sb.* A feeble or puny person.

a 1718 W. STANBAT *Epistle* 53 in *Ramsay's Poems* (1728) II. 109 And when thou bids the paughty Czar stand yon, The Wandought seems beneath thee on his Throne. 1768 Ross *Helenore* I. 9 Lindy is..Nae bursen bailch, nae wandought [1768, 1812, wandough] or misgrown, But plump an' swack an' like an apple round. 1830 J. STRUTHERS *Poet. Wks.* I. My Life to Mrs. Baillie..out of pure compassion for the *wandought*, had him frequently brought in to her.

B. *adj.* Feeble, ineffective, worthless.

1788 PEEBLES *Poems* 2 My wandooht, rustic Muse, Gane dede's nae' deicat, Begins to grunch. 1819 A. BAS- ..... I. xviii. 334 That ... as'en-do-weel o' a dominie. 1836 MARR. MAY ... 's Dam. 60 She was nane o your ...

†**Wa·ndrel.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. WANDER *v.* + -EL.] A vagabond.

c 1387 ASP. PARKER *Pz.* cix. 10 As wandrels make: his childrene stray: to beg & seeke their bread.

†**Wandreme.** *Obs. rare*—1. [Of uncertain etymology.

Perh. f. WAN- + DREAM *sb.*, though this supposition offers some difficulties. The word may be an alteration, for the sake of rhyme, of WANDRETH, with which it seems to be synonymous. Another possibility is that it represents OE. **wāddendream*, used to render *furor animi*, but surviving with difference of meaning in Sc. WIDDENDREAM (var. *widdendream*, *widdrim*, etc.) confusion, bewilderment; for the phonology cf. *Wandlyke* repr. OE. *Wāddnesdæg*.]

Distress, grief: ? = WANDRETH.

c 1450 *Erle Toulous* 989 The abbot was the ladyes eme, For hur he was in grete wandreme, And moche mornyng he mase.

†**Wa·ndreth.** *Obs.* Forms: **a.** 2 **wandrede, wondrede,** 3 **wandrede, wondrede, -reede, red(e), -rede, wontrede, -rede, -rede,** 3–4 **wandret,** 3–7 **wandreth,** 4 **wandred, wandreht, wandrethe, wanederet, wanedrethe,** 4–5 **wandrethe,** 6 *Sc.* **wandrecht.** **β.** 2–3 **wanred(e,** 4 **wonryde.** **γ.** 6 *Sc.* **wander.** [a. ON. *vandræði* neut., difficulty, trouble, f. *vandr-* difficult + *ræði* management, related to *ráð* neut. = OE. *rǽd* counsel, REDE *sb.* With this use of *ræði* cf. the cognate OE. *rǽden*, *-rǽden*, -RED, though the ON. word did not lose its meaning and become a mere suffix.

The β forms seem to be merely phonetic variants due to the dropping of *d* between *n* and *r*; that *wanreede* is an etymologizing perversion (as if f. WAN- + REDE) is less probable. The 16th c. Sc. *wander* is similarly of phonetic origin, though confusion with WANDER *sb.* may have assisted the development.]

Misery, distress, hardship; adversity, poverty.

Often alliteratively coupled with *woe* or contrasted with *weal*.

a. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Þe halie Man scedden hate teres..hwenne ho iseȝen hore emcristene wandrede þolie oðer in seknesse bifalle. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4846 He shall þe gifenn eche blisse, Onngann all þatt wannedrap & wa. *c* 1205 LAY. 18512 We beoð ofte hider ifuren mid wandrethe & mid fare. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Godes þreatunge is wondræðe & weane ine licome & ine soule, world a buten ende! *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Worldliche wunne þat tu wendes to biȝeten, & hauest ifunden weane þrin, & wondraðe [*v.r.* wontrǽðe] riue. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 213 Louerd ich..wulle luuien þe more..þurh þis wondred þen er in al mine weole. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5787 Þai ar in wandret and in waa. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 23 For it [hali kirk] and pouer men hauis bathe Of wer and wandreht al the schathe. *Ibid.* 73 Fore worldes wandreth and poucrte Haldes meknes in many mans herte. 1387 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 433 Euenly to sofir the wele and the wa, Welthe or wandreth, whethir so betides. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 384 Now he wylnez the ware, hys wanedrethe begynnys. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11514 For bettur is a buerne by hym sum pes, þan in wandreth & woo to wepe all his lyue. *c* 1460 *Townley Myst.* XV. 127 Greatt god, as he well may, That sbope both nyght and day, ffrom wandreth he vs were, And shame. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxi. 33 Grit wer and wandrecht hes bene ws amang, Sin thy despairting. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxii. 41 Bludis tirranie, Wandreth, wanrest, feirfull ambitioun. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* XLV. 242 That..reproacht party.. which can hardly get leave to live on earth for a pack of ministers and professers, mickle wo and wandreth com on them.

β. *c* 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 43 Woreldes richeise weche6 orgel on maanes heorte..wanrede weche6 on maanes heorte ortruwe. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 707 Thy wonrydes and thy wepynge woundez myne herte.

γ. 1535 STEWART *Chron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 334 And all hir cair scho has maid to him kand; How scho wes put to sic wander and wo. Hir lord wes slane, hir self scigit also. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2068 (*Bannatyne MS.*) Ilk man hes me now at dispyte, That reidis the New Testament: Wander be to thame [*ed.* 1602 Dulll to the braine] that it wrocht. 1559 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXV. 42 God..Provydet and guyded Hir to ane vncouth land, Whair wander & sclander With enemeis none sho fand.

Wands, *sb. pl.* ? *Obs.* Also **5 waynys, 6 wanes, wannes, wandes.** [Of obscure origin; the conjecture in some Dicts. that the word is a. Da. *vand* (:—ON. *vatn*) is inadmissible.

In view of the alternative designations quoted below, it seems not impossible that the word may represent OE. **wagiend*, agent-n. from *wagian* to shake, toss.]

Only in *Orwell wands*, 'the roadstead off Harwich harbour, now known as the Rolling Grounds and Pitching Grounds' (R. G. Marsden in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XXI. 96).

1424.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 12 Fro Orfordnesse to Orwell wayȝes the course is southwest. 1544 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 772 Where we lay in Orwell-wanes. *a* 1554 SIR H. WILLOUGHBY in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 268 The 25 day being at Harewell..we wayed our ankers and went foorth into the wands about two miles from the towne.

Wandschott, obs. north. f. WAINSCOT.

Wandsman (wɒ·ndzmăn). [f. genit. of WAND *sb.* + MAN *sb.*[1]] An official who carries a wand or rod; a verger (VERGER[2] 1) of a cathedral. Cf. WAND-*bearer*.

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. iii. 109 After passing between files of wandsmen and swordsmen, Arabs and negroes, we entered on a small court. 1906 *Times* 10 May 3/6 The wandsmen of St. Paul's Cathedral. 1912 JEROME *John*

Ingarfield v. 210 Seising the robe of a passing wandsman, he..inquired if the Bishop had yet left the Cathedral.

†Wandsomely, *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 4 wandsomdly. [f. *wand*, WOUND *v.* + -SOME + -LY.[2]] Reluctantly, falteringly.

†*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4012 The waye unto Wyanchestre þay wente at the gayneste, Wery and wandsomdly, with woundide knyghtes.

Wandy (wɒ·ndi), *a.* [f. WAND *sb.* + -Y.]

†1. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Baguetteux*, wandie, full of rods, wands, or switches.

2. Resembling a wand; long and flexible. *rare.*

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wandy*, long and flexible; like a wand. 1880 LANIER *Poems, On a Palmetto* 3 To where expands His wandy circlet with his bladed bands Dividing every wind.

3. *dial.* (See quots.) [Possibly a different word, directly f. *wand-* to turn: see WEND *v.*]

1824 CARR *Craven Dial.* 9 He wor a mortal nice viewly wandy beast. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.* s.v., 'A wandy body,' is a person one would consider stout, but who is well-made and active.

Wane (wēn), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 wana (wona, also won), 2– wane, 2–5 (?6) wone, 3–8 wain, 3–5 wan, 5 woone, 5–7 wayne, waine. [OE. *wana* (*wɒna*) wk. masc. (also *wan* str. neut.) want, lack, deficiency, derived from the adj. *wana* (*wan*, etc.), see WANE *a.* Compare Du. *wan* leakage, also the slack or unfilled part of a sack, Goth. *wan* str. neut. lack.

The development of meaning in branch II is due to the influence of the related verb WANE, with which the existing noun became associated as a noun of action. In some applications actual new formation from the stem of the verb may have taken place.]

I. †1. Want, lack, shortage, absence *of. Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 9 Hit nan mon ne mæg eall habban, þæt him ne sie sumes þinges wana. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 400 Anes ðinges ðe is wana [Mark x. 21: cf. *Ags. Gosp.* an þing þe is wana (*where* wana *is adj.*)]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 *Defectio omnis mali. Habundancia omnis boni.* wone of alle uueles; wole and alle gode. *c* 1205 *Ancr. R.* 68 þe treowe is maleued, & te sakeleasse ofte bilowen, ucr wone of witnesse. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 30 Weping haveth myn wonges wet, for wikked werk ant wone of wyt. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3478 Of no ioie nas þer wane. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3181 Of fesaunce, pertris & of crane þer was plente & no wane. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 322 The Cocke, the Corlewe, and the Crane, With Fesauntes fayre, theyr were no wane. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5387 (Trin.) Faute of breed þat ilka tide was ouer al þe world so wide But in no londe so mychel wan As in egipte and canaan.

†b. Lack, fault, defect. *Obs. rare.*

a 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 223/1 *Dispendium*, ..wonung, wom, wana *uel* henþa. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 229 God ne wrouhte neuer þat þing þat out les þorw his wonyng, ffor nis no wone on him I-long. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 867 Blowand bewte but wane or smyt of sawle and body togiddir knyt. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 307 Thilke suete, Whos beaute was withoute wane, This faire Maiden Adriane.

†c. Omission, shortening. *Obs.* (Cf. sense 4.)

c 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 254 þe wordes schulle be iseid Wiþe-oute wane and eche.

†2. Need, want, poverty. *Obs.*

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 1. 3865 *Inopiam*, wanan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 God hit wot, moni oðer wot lutel of þisse eise, auh beoð ful ofte iderued mid wone, & mid scheome, & mid teone. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 29 And tah þu wone hefdest, oðer drehdest ani derf for his deorewurðe luue. *c* 1250 *Moral Ode* 357 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 33 Ne mai non vuel ne non wane beon inne godes riche.

3. The amount by which a plank (*esp.* one sawn from an unsquared trunk), or a roughly squared log, falls short of a correctly squared shape. Hence, the bevelled edge left on a plank (by reason of one face being narrower than the other), or the imperfect angles of a rough-hewn log (the section of which is thus octagonal, and, according to the size and depth of the 'wanes', approaches, more or less nearly, a regular octagon).

1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 132 When they do hew any timber, they..allow nothing for the wanes. *Ibid.* They seldome hew aigher to square in this Countrey, then that the four wanes are as broad as the four flats, all which are equal to a square piece of the breadth of one of those wanes; & although those wanes be less in some places then in other, yet will they be of no service so deep as the deepest wane goes. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 9, I shall describe the General Scribe in measuring Timber,..which is to see that the 4 Wanes are but equal to two Squares. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 850 The whole of the materials to be provided and sawed out square free from wane, of the several scantlings and thicknesses herein specified. 1875 LASLETT *Timber* xii. 75 All the thick-stuff and plank to be cut straight, or nearly so, and of parallel thickness, and to be measured for breadth at the middle, or half the length, taking in half the wanes. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 272 The trees..are hewn into a square form, and have a small amount of wane left upon each angle.

†b. *Comb.*

1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 133 Hath not he that buyeth wane-timber, that the wanes run not streight, as much need, and as much reason to have allowance for the wanes. 1720 HILMAN *Timber Rediv.* Apx. (1744) 44 The Seller of the Timber loses all the Gain of the Wane-edges; which Gain in short is a Cheat, altho' a very customary one.

II. Action of waning.

†4. Decrease in size. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1430 Euer stod þat [*Gött.*, *Fairfax*, *Trin.* woone]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 294 Þat thilke See which hath no wane Is cleped the gret Occeane.

5. The waning, or gradual decrease of the visible illuminated area on the moon. Now *rare* exc. in phrases, *on, upon* the *wane, in* (*the, her, its*) *wane.*

1548 *Elyot's Dict.* s. v. *Senco, Luna senescens*, the moone whan it is in the wane. 1561 EDEN *Art of Navig.* II. i. 29 b, The decreasyng or wane of the Moone. 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinvile* (Arb.) 70 The siluer Moone,..That with the floods silks vp her horned head And by her waine the wayning ebbs doth keepe. 1608 [TOFTE] *Ariosto's Sat.* III. (1611) 38 They easly might espy.. How she [the moon] grew in the full, how in the waine. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. ii. E 4, When the Moone, by which the Seas are gouern'd, Retir'd his waters by her powerfull waine. 1700 SWIFT *Poems, Progr. Beauty* 72 Each Night, a Bit drops off her Face, When Mortals say she's in her Wane. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 352 When the pale Empress of yon' starry train In the next month renews her faded wane. 1838 WORDSW. *Sonn.* "'Tis *He*" 8 Yon Moon Doubly depressed, setting, and in her wane. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 136 She, like a moon in wane, Faded before him. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* vii. Poet. Wks. 1875 I. 118 The old moon began to sink (Long, like her, upon the wane).

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1623 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VI. lxxi, Can..One onely blot so great a light empair, That never could he hope his waning to repair? Ah! never could he hope once to repair So great a wane, should not that new-born Sun Adopt him [etc.]. 1630 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 211 Now is our Berard in the third quarter of the wayne of his liberty. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 129 Like the Moon That's past the full, into the wain he goes. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* lxxiv, Ah, Moon of my delight who know'st no wane.

c. The period characterized by the waning of the moon, *esp.* regarded as a favourable, or unfavourable, time for various (usually agricultural) operations. Usually in phr. *in* (*at*, etc.) *the wane of the moon*, rarely unqualified, *in the wane.*

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 101 And certaine will, that the root be digged vp in the waine of the Moone, she then being vnder the earth. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 88 Sowe peason and beanes in the wane of the Moone. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 60 b, Yet there are that holde opinion, that yf you sowe them in the wane they wyll be the smaller. 1632 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 13 In part before & after the 8 day, called the encrease and the waine of the Moone. 1652 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 4 Seed sown at the wain of the Moon, grows either not at all, or to no purpose. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 14 To cut Hair..in the Wane, causeth baldness. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 445 As for Garden-Beans, they are usually set betwixt November and February, at the Wain of the Moon. 1886 A. STEINMETZ *Weatherwaits* 41 In Suffolk it is considered unlucky to kill a pig in the wane of the moon.

6. Gradual decrease or decline in splendour, power, importance, intensity, or the like, esp. as following on the culmination of a process of gradual increase; the declining period (of a person's life, an institution, etc.); the latter part (of a period of time). Phrases as in 5.

Quot. *c* 1375 perh. belongs rather to 1 b.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 3584 (Fairf.) Quen alle witten ys him gane þen ys alle his wille in wane. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 67 Who seeth nought herein, his wit is in the wane. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 184 Thou which art euen in the wane of thy life,..maist wel know what griefes [etc.]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxii. § 2 In the waine and declination of Christian pietie. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 432 The Church by them planted had many notable wanes, and intermissions. 1628 W. TRUMBALL *Let. in 10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 612 His creditt is on the wayne. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* CLXXXV. 821 Doubtlesse it will be a yeer of some unreasonable unquietnesse, one mischiefe arising in the waine of another. 1657 HEYLIN *Ecclesia Vind.* I. i. 33 The authority of the Church was then in the wane. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 91 Christianity it self is in the very wayne here among us. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Scot.* (1685) 32 Towards the wain of the Roman Empire. 1762 GOLDSM. *Nash* 54 Mr. Nash's affairs being in the wane, he demanded the money of his lordship's heirs. 1793 MRS. INCHBALD *Ev. one has his Fault* II. i. (1794) 24, I should have lost my eye-sight, and have been blind to the wane of her charms. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. xii. 306 Signora Mencia..was still in fashion, though a little on the wane. 1823 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 371 Age, and the wane of mind consequent on it. 1832 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* XXV, In the wane of September, when days are hot and evenings are chilly. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlix, The day was in its prime, the day was in its wane, and still ..she slept on. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 121 A sign that the influence of Portland was on the wane and that the influence of Albemarle was growing. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Apr. 4/7 It is quite possible that his power may be on the wane. 1889 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 98 It's [*sc.* anæsthesia's] persistence or disappearance has been used to measure the persistence or the wane of the disease [*sc.* hysteria]. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Feb. 195/1 This feeling is perhaps somewhat on the wane.

†Wane, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also *pl.* 4 wanes, *Sc.* vanis, 5–6 *Sc.* waynys. See also WONE *sb.*[2] [Early ME. *wēne*, also *wēnes* (with open *e*), whence the synonymous WONE *sb.*[2] The word belongs to the Teut. root **wan-*: **wnn-*, which expresses the twofold notion 'custom' and 'dwelling'; the precise source is uncertain.

The form **wan-* of the root is otherwise known only in the ——— custom' (ON. *vanr* wk. masc., custom, OE. *wenian* WEAN *v.* = **wanjan*), while the weak grade **wnn-* has both senses (OE. *gewunu* wk. masc., custom, WONE *sb.*[1]; ON. *vani*, OE. *wenian* to dwell, WONE *v.*). There may have been an OE. **wenes* (or *-a*) with the sense 'dwelling', or the word may be a. ON. *vanr* in an unrecorded sense, or a change of sense due to the influence of WONE *v.*, which it both 'to be accustomed' (*cf.* WONT) and 'to dwell'.

After the 14th c. the form *wane* is exclusively Sc. and northern; WONE *sb.*[1], which in the north was rare, was common in midland and southern use, and survived as a poetic archaism until the 17th c.]

A dwelling-place, residence, house (freq. of religious communities, etc.). Often *pl.* with reference to one building, or group of buildings.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 21 Ant ne schal nan unwiht wunien þe wanes þer þi martirdom is iwriten inne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8667 In wanes war we stad vn-wide, And laid vr berns be vr side. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14354 þe Saxons ledde þo Aafrykans, & destruyed þe Cristen wanes [*v.r.* wanes]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 277 & schewyt me þe welful stede quhare he þe fare palace has mad...& set oure all is þat vanis with brycht & schenand precious stanys. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1347 The mene that were with-in the v—— The comone belle gunne knylle. *c* 1400 *Contin. Brut* CCXXXIII. (MS. C.C.C.) 317 þe Danes..turned homwardes ayen levyng behind hem in her ynnes, pryvyly ywriten, in scrowes and on walles, 'Ȝet shull Danes [*Castra* danes wast] þes Wanes. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2028 A bischope, ane abbot, all vndir ane, Moukes wonand in a wane. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 7 All thay went with the King to his worthy wane. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 337 Then he gert cry about thai waynys wide, Na Scottis born amang thaim thar suld bid. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. iii. 94 Ida forest, to fugytyve Trolandis Thayr best belouit wod and natyve wanys. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 662 Bot sone within a wane eche went, Most hevinly to behold. [1880 *Mavmaiden of Clyde* xvii. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 423 A dowie sheen frae his austrous een Gae licht to the dismal wane.]

b. In the obscure alliterative phrase *worthy* (*worshipful, wise*) *in wane.* Cf. WONE *sb.*[2]

The sense may have originally been 'in the dwellings of men, among men'. Cf. similar uses of Town.

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 433 Thane spakes that wis in-with wane, 'Ye have well good mene y-slayne.' *c* 1440 *Antars of Arth.* xiii, 'Welcomme, Waynour!' scho sayd, 'þou worthye in wane!' *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2514 Slyke moukes haue I knawen and sene, þat..had mare grace of prophecy þan euer hider to had I; Amang þe whilk boyall was ane, þe maste wirschipful man in wane. *a* 1650 *Eger & Grime* 729 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 377 It is a lord most worthyest in waine, Erle Gares is his name.

†Wane, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: 2 wene, 2–3 wane, weane, 3 wæne, wone, 4 wan, woon. [perh. an extension (? starting from the inflected forms) of OE. *wēa* wk. masc. misery. The vowel of OE. *wā adv.* and *int.* ill, WOE, or of OE. *wāwa* wk. masc. misery, may have influenced the forms, but *cf. fone*, etc. extended forms of FEW *a.* which are phonologically very similar.] Misery, woe.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 251 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Eure he walde her inne waws and ine wene [*v.r.* wane] wanien, Wið þet he mihte helle pine bi-flien. *c* 1205 LAY. 2198 Heo stureden heora wepman wane wes on folke. *Ibid.* 2203 & him seolf mid wæne [*c* 1275 onnehe] ferde into ane watere. *Ibid.* 3655 þeo cnihten..weren vnwepned þa þe wæne heo wes þeuchen. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Al þet flesch þuncche3 mar oðer bitter þet li, pine & weane, & teone, & alle meseise. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Worldliche wunne þat tu wendas to bizeten, ant bauest ifunden weane þrim, & wondrade riue. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 66 Jhesu,..Let me nevere that day isse A tiraunt for to take. For Marie love,..Arst yif him wan and wrake. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 419 Kyng Fortigern sat on þe water side, and was wel ful of woon [L. *Vortiger sedit anxius*].

b. *Comb.* †wan-, †wen-sið, misery; †wan-slaht, slaughter.

1205 LAY. 539 þa Grickes neoren noht warre of heore wen-siðe [*c* 1275 mochele harme]. *Ibid.* 3088 & þa scalc worðen warchen, & wonien in wanniðe [*c* 1275 ine wowe]. *Ibid.* 9320 Faren wit swullen to somne, & mid felsten hit to-dælen; makien wen-slahtes.

Hence **†Wa·nliche** *a.* [-*lich*, -LY[1]], miserable, wretched.

1205 LAY. 25990 þa six swin he gon sæten alle...Al biwaled on axen, wanliche weoren þa sondes. *Ibid.* 30288 Nu we maȝen wepen and wanliche i-beren.

†Wane, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 wana, wona (also wan, won), 2–3, 5 wone, 3–4 won, 4–5 woon, 2–7 wane, 5 vane, 4–6 (9 *dial.*) wan. [OE. *wana, wɒna*, usually indeclinable, rarely weak (also *wan, wɒn*, str. adj.) = OS., MLG., MDu., Flemish *wan*, ON. *van-r* (*cf.* WANT *sb.* and WAN-), Goth. *wan-s*:—OTeut. **wano-*, prob. f. Indogermanic root **wā-* as in L. *vānus* VAIN *a.*]

1. Lacking, absent, deficient.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* XXIII[i]. 1 Nowiht me wona bið [Vulg. *nihil mihi deerit*]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 131 Æȝhwon þe he [*sc.* Drihten] on heofenas astiȝe, þonon he nænre woe wæs þurh his godcundnesse miht. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 20 Eall þis ic gehealde; hwæt is me ȝyt wana? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 þe Mon þet hauede þis like fif þing mid him he is iseli Mon, and, if him is eni þer of wane, he nis nawiht also iseli alse him bi-hoaede. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 26 Nis no god wone [*v.r.* wane] þer ase þreos þeo3 beoð, mihte & wisdom & luue iveied to-gederes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3353 Tidilike hem was ðat water wane. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20036 Qua hartili here er redie hit Of ur leuedi and sant iohn þair benisoun þan bes not wan [*Gött.*, *Trin.* won]. *Ibid.* 20846 For al welth al þam be wan [*Gött.*, *Fairf.* wane, *Trin.* wone]. *a* 1325 *Mandeslade* 209 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 299 When it no milk gete mily, þe fader..seyd, 'alias, hir fode is wane'. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8329 Let now no god wille be wane, Bot help to venge my fader bane! 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 493 For he þerned þilpyng to here, Þat3 hym worþen wele wane, when þay to sete wenten. 1389 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 30 And qwo-so be wane, schal paye a pound of wax. *c* 1400 *Sk Pol. Poems* II. 62 Me thenkeþ þere wit is wane To stroipe the hony. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Wane, or wantynge, *absens, desessus*. *c* 1475 *Mankind* 422 in *Macro Plays* 16 His [Mercy] hauk taught Mankynde, wyll I [Myschefe] haue

þe vane, To fyght manly a-geyn hys fon. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Why nat to Courte?* 917 Ye must weare buksram, Or canuas of Cane, For sylkes are wane.

2. Destitute *of*.

a 800 *Christ* 270 Þæt we tires wone a butan ende sculon ermþu dreoȝan. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 He bið wana þæs eces leohtes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 He nis noht fulliche cristene mon þet is awiht wone of þisse þreo þing. *c* 1430 *Christ's own Complaint* 427 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 217 Alle bestes ..In kindeli worchinge ben durable Saf coonly I, of wittis wan.

3. With numerals, etc.: Short *of*. Used to express numbers (one or two) less than a complete decade.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xxiv. (Schipper) 311 Oþ þæt hyrne daȝa rim ȝefylled wæs, þæt is anes ȝeares wana [*v.rr.* won(a) þe] syxtiȝra wintra. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 972 He wæs þa ana wana .xxx. wintra. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 67 A meiden swiðe ȝung of ȝeres twa wone of twenti. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 419 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 399 Ane wane of fourty strakes with yherd he sall be smyten. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 22 Þe gude herde, þat lefte in þe munte ane wane of a hundres sep and yede at seke þis ane þ⁴ was want. *a* 1560 in *Bernardus de Cura* etc. 32 Be the yheris of cryst comyn and gone, Fully nynty aude nyne, nocht one wone.

4. Incomplete; not fully formed, or properly shaped. Of the moon: Not full.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 76 Quhen it [the moon] is full, all thingis..ar mare forssy..na quhen it is wane. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 193 Wan wraiglane wasp. 1825 JAMIESON, *A wan tree* is a tree that has not 'grown in a circular form', or that is not filled up on one side...Berwicks.

5. Insufficient, (too) small. *rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3046 Hir nose for the nonest was nobly shapyn,..Nawther to wyde ne to wan, but as hom well semyt. 1564 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1878) III. 164 [They] buye thair staiple guids quhen the samin does come to the staiple port at ane wane mercatt.

Wane (wēn), *v.* Inflected **waned, waning.** Forms: α. 1 **wanian**, 2–3 **wanie-n**, 3–4 **wanye**, 5 ? **wanȝe**, 4–7 **wayne**, 5 **wan**, 6–7 **waine**, 6–9 **wain**, 7 **wean**, 3– **wane**. β. 1 **wonian**, 3–4 **wone**. Also with prefix, 1 **ȝe-**, 2–4 **i-**. [OE. *wanian* (*wonian*) wk. vb. to lessen (*trans.* and *intr.*) = OFris. *wonia*, MDu. *waenen*, *wanen*, OS. *wanon*, OHG. *wanên*, *wanôn* (MHG. *wanen*), intr., ON. *vana* trans., *vana-sk* to grow less (Norw. *vana* to spoil, waste), Goth. **wanan* (cf. *wanþins* loss, ἥττημα, Rom. xi. 12) :—OTeut. **wanðjan*, **wanōsian*, f. **wano-* lacking, WANE *a.*]

I. *intr.* To grow less, decrease. (Opposed to *wax*.)

1. To decrease in size or extent; to dwindle. Now *rare.* † Also with pleonastic complement, *to wane less, too little.*

Beowulf 1607 Þa þæt sweord ongan æfter heaþoswate hildegicelum, wigbil wanian. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 349 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 229 Ich wondri hou his taperes bernes þus: and ne wanies nouȝt. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4772 Þis was a wondirfull werk..þat þai [two trees] suld wax soo & wane within a wale time. 14.. *26 Pol. Poems* xix. 44 Þy vices waxen moo, And þy vertues wanen lesse. 1584–7 GREENE *Card of Fancie* (1593) O 4 b, The tree forthwith waineth and withereth. 1647 FULLER *Gd. Th. Worse T.* III. ix. 141 [A disease] Wherein the Head waxeth too great, whil'st the Legges and lower parts waine too Little. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 228 Fruits and animals wax and wane. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 444 That which grows is said to wax, and that which decays to wane. 1896 *Black Horse Gaz.* Jan. 8/2 When the width of an Empire may wax and enlarge Or shrivel and wane with the fate of a charge.

† **b.** To decrease in number. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 982 Þat hii hom saolde vnder stonde & lene hom wimmen þat hii mizte hor ospring eche so. Vor þing þat woneþ & noþing wexþ sone it worþ ido. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1645 Now haue y lost kyng Moradas..And othre kynges manye..Now my folkes doþ þus wanye, y-lost ys myn honour.

† **c.** To grow less in quantity or volume. Of the sea, water: To subside, ebb. *Obs.*

c 1290 *St. Lawrence* 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 342 Þis tresour..ne schal neuere wanie, ake euere wexe faste. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 496 How þat watterez wern woned & þe worlde dryed. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. de P. R.* III. xviii. (Tollemache MS.), Physicions telleþ þat blood waneþ by age [L. *sanguinem minuit per ætatem*]. *Ibid.* XIII. xxiii, Whan þe mone is in þe lower corse water begynneþ to wanye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 204 It [*sc.* the flood] is wanand, his wate I wele. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 76 The inannis harnis is full in the full mone and at the full see, and wanis as the see. *c* 1720 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 160 This great water seemes to flow and wane with ye wind but it does not Ebb and flow Like the sea with the tyde. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xl, The snow, which had been for some time waning, had given way entirely under the fresh gale of the preceding night. The more distant hills, indeed, retained their snowy mantle, but all the open country was cleared.

2. Of the moon: To undergo the periodical decrease in the extent of its visible illuminated portion, characteristic of the second half of the lunation.

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 Þonne se mona wanaþ, þonne tacnaþ he ure deaþlicnesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 166 Þe mone waxeþ & woneþ, & nis neuer studeuest. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2077 And vndernethe hir feet she hadde a moone, Wexyng it was, and sholde wanye soone. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Wheyn it is an hoole which shew⁵ by similitude how þe moone wexeþ and wanȝeþ [? *read* wanneþ: *see* WANEN v. 2]. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 4 But oh, methinkes, how slow This old Moon wanes. 1602 *Song of Mary* in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 428 Her sunne doth neuer clipse nor cloude; Her moone doth neuer wax nor wane. 1782 J. KENNEDY *Compl. Syst. Astron. Chron.* 728 The validity of the sacred writings never can be denied, while the moon shall increase and wane. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 232 From New Moon the illuminated portion of our satellite waxes, or increases in size, till Full Moon, and then wanes, or diminishes, to the next New Moon.

3. Of light, colour, luminous or coloured objects: To decrease in brilliance or splendour; to become faint or dim. Also (*nonce-uses*) with pleonastic complement, *to wane faint, grey.*

c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* xix, Æfter þissum tidum sona cymð se mfensang..& þæs dæges leoht þonne eac wanoð. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1107 Manezе æsdon þet hi on þam monan..mistlice tacna ȝeseawon, & oncæan cynde his leoman wexende & waniende. 1832 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* iv, The pale yellow woods were waning. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. vi, It has waned faint and again waxed bright. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, The light waned without, it grew dusk, became quite dark. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* xxxiii, The candles waned grey, and the great light streamed in through every crack and cranny. 1888 MEREDITH *Reading of Earth* etc. 118 Remote they [*sc.* the stars] wane to gaze intense.

fig. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. i, The royal tournaments which were however waning from their ancient lustre. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 8. 445 The old splendour of her Court waned and disappeared.

4. Of a person, nation, institution: To decline in power, importance, prosperity, or renown.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iii. 30 Hit gebyrað þæt he weaxe, and þæt ic wanige. *c* 1205 LAY. 26991 Þat heore uolc gon waxen and Bruttes gunnen wonien. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 924 Iurselem was struid an [tan] þan can þair kingrik for to wan. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1255 Þey wil waxe & we schal wanye. *a* 1628 LD. BROOKE (F. Grevil) *Hum. Learn.* lxviii, And as by artlesse Guides, States euer waine: So doe they where these vaelesse dreamers reigne. *a* 1633 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. i. xvi. (1642) 31 This was the first shake that ever this kingdome received, whereby it began to waine and decline. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* III. 31 *Ven.* I'm waining in his favor, yet I love him. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* Pref. (B 2) b, The inseparable affinity that is.. at all times between Land and Trade, which are Twins, and have always, and ever will wax and wane together. 1850 MCCOSH *Div. Govt.* I. ii. (1874) 52 When Popery was waning in France, in the days of Louis XIV. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Transform.* xxxii, A people are waning to decay and ruin. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* i. 7 Pisciculture began to wane. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 122 Plato..had seen the Athenian empire..wax and wane. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 489 The ban took effect, because the institution was already waning.

b. To decline in vigour, to age. *rare.*

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xxix. 252 Even Miss Sabrina Hookie,..though now waned from her meridian,..set herself to learn and to teach tambouring. 1899 J. MILNE *Romance of Pro-consul* xix. 208 Sir George Grey, as he waned under the growing load, realised that he and Greater Britain would be no more together.

5. Of qualities, conditions, activities, feelings, power, etc.: To become gradually less in degree, to decline in intensity, abate.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8488 Þat wiþinne was sorwe inou hor poer wanede vaste. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Prol., All gladnes & delite of erth wanys & at þe last wytes til noght 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 3 And so my witte wex and wanyed til I a fole were. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Age & Youth* 46 Thy wittis fyve sall wane, thocht thow nocht wald. 1599 HAYWARD *1st Pt. Life Hen. IV* 140 Whilest the one Kings power was waining, and the other not yet fullye wexen. 1649 C. WARE *Sophocles, Electra* 10 Nor waynes my grief, but still encreases more. 1695 GURNALL *Chr. in Armour* verse 12. x. § 2 (1656) 290 But let it [*sc.* our obedience] seem to wain in any service or duty, then the Jordan of our faith flies back. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 217 How wanes my borrow'd bliss! 1828 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Wedding*, The infinity of full satisfaction..began to wane into something of misgiving. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) I. i. 92 This sense of a universal law..never waned into total extinction among the tribes of ferocious and untamed wanderers. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. i. 161 The influence which his good private character..once gave him had been rapidly waning. 1903 MARY L. BRUCE *Anna Swanwick* v. 184 The precious hours passed, and the still more precious physical strength waned. 1909 E. H. BURTON *Bp. Challoner* xxxiv. II. 270 Gradually his enthusiasm for the Protestant cause waned.

6. Of a period of time: To draw to its close. Usually with some notion of sense 3 or 5.

1590 in Segar *Honor Milit. & Civ.* (1602) 198 But spurnd in vaine, youth waineth by encreasing. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxii, As I walked but slowly, the night waned apace. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* x. 286 But soon the night wain'd on, And the loud trumpets' blare from broken sleep Roused them. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* iv. § 5. 405 A solitary genus of Australia..whose term of existence seems fast waning to its close. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, The day waned into a gloomy evening, overcast and sad. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Sir Jasper's Tenant* lii, The summer waned slowly, very slowly for that quiet dweller in Scarsdale Hermitage. 1903 'S. G. TALLENTYRE' *Voltaire* vii. (1909) 80 The year waned in such studies.

II. *trans.* To cause to decrease.

† **7.** To lessen, diminish, abridge (a privilege, right, etc.). *Obs.*

a 889 *Charter of Ælfred* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 452 Ond swa hwylc mon swa hio wonie & breoce, gewonie him god almahtig his weorldare ond ea[c] swa his sawle are. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xx(1). 33 Oft ic wirum dol wife abelze, wonie hyre willan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þe oreguil and þe wraþðe of kinges and of barones..wurreð uppe chirches oðer wanieð hire rihtes. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1208, I aught as prynce him to prise for his prouese, That wanyt noght my wourschip, as he thar al wan. *a* 1628 LD. BROOKE (F. Grevil) *Hum. Learn.* cxviii, And of these Arts it may be said againe, That since their Theoricke is infinite; Of infinite there can no Artes remaine...Their Theoricke then must not waine their vse.

† **8.** To empty, render vacant. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Dos word sede þe angel for þat man sholde faluullen englene sete þe was er iwaned þo þe lucifer and his ferraden fellen ut þarof.

† **9.** To come short of, lack. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4091 Quen hert has þat it will wise þe bodi mai haue namar bliss, Ne namar wa þan will to wan. *Ibid.* 12196 Bot þai are..Als a chim or brasin bell, þat noþer can vnderstand ne tell Wat takens þair aun sune, þat witt bath wanis and resune.

10. *To wane away*: to cause to wane away, to diminish gradually. Also *refl.* of the moon (*nonce use*), to wane away.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxiv. xv. II. 198 Speciall remedie for ruptures, convulsions, and pleurisies: it waneth away the overgrowne spleene. 1797 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) V. 4 Proud once and princely was the mansion, ere a succession of spendthrifts waned away its splendour. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Tired* iv, And let that moon of April wane itself away.

b. *nonce-use.* To cause (the moon) to wane.

1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 46 The hidden hand which wanes the moon and ebbs the tide.

Wane, obs. f. VAIN *a.*, WAN *a.*, WAIN *sb.*[1], WEAN *v.* and *sb.*, WHEN; north. f. WONE *sb. Obs.*; obs. pa. t. of WIN *v.*

Waneand, var. WANIAND *Obs.*

† **Wanease,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also **waneis(e.** [f. WAN- + EASE *sb.* Cf. UNEASE.] Uneasiness, vexation. Hence **Waneise** *v. refl.*, to put oneself to trouble (Jam. 1808).

18.. *Deuillis* can na wayis latt hir; Giue man tak 3ow the waneis. 1776 *Herd's Scott. Songs* II. 214 O waly fu fa' the cat! For she has bred muckle wanease.

Wane-cloud. *Meteorol.* [? f. WANE *sb.*[1] or *v.* The sense meant to be expressed by the compound was perh. 'a cloud in process of waning or becoming smaller'.] A cirro-stratus cloud.

1823 T. FORSTER *Res. Atmosph. Phenomena* i. § 6 (ed. 3) 17 Of the Cirrostratus or Wanecloud.

Waned (wēnd), *ppl. a.* [f. WANE *v.* + -ED[1].] That has waned; diminished, decreased.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 4 Once more I shall interchange My wained state, for Henries Regall Crowne. 1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Festiv.* II. 35 Ten times the Moon her waned light did gather. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* II. xxiii, Not so proud Was I of all that marshall'd crowd, Though the waned crescent own'd my might. 1816 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* p. xxii, Like an aged mourner..who is watching the wained moon and sorroweth not. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 482 When our love-sick queen did weep Over his waned corse.

Wanehope, var. WANHOPE *Obs.*

Wanelasour, var. WANLASOUR *Obs.*

† **Wa'neless,** *a. Obs.* [f. WANE *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -LESS.] Not liable to waning.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Little Bartas* 216 She [the Moon], Waxless, Wane-less, doth both wane and wax.

Wanen, -ene, var. WHENNE, *Obs.*, whence.

Wanesc(h)ot(t, -skot(t, obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

Wanese, var. WANZE *v. Obs.*

Wanest, Wanet, obs. Sc. ff. VANISHED, VAUNT.

Wanetreuth: see WANTROTH.

Waneweird, -wit: see WANWEIRD, WANWIT.

Waney (wē·ni), *a.* Also 7, 9 **wany**, 7 **wainny, waynny**, 9 **wainy.** [f. WANE *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Of unsquared or imperfectly squared timber: Having wanes (see WANE *sb.*[1] 3) or natural bevels at the angles. Hence, of an angle or edge: consisting of wane.

1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 132 When they do hew any timber, they leave it so wany, that..they leave it nearer round then square. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* viii. 140 The Girders..prove commonly somewhat Wainny upon their upper sides. 1880 *Builder* 21 Jan. 46/2, I have found a difference..of from five to twenty-five per cent., according as timber was squared or wany. 1876 *Act* 39 & 40 *Vict.* c. 80 § 24 Any square, round, waney, or other timber. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 773/2 The pine prepared for exportation is made into squared timber..; or into waney timber (as it is called when only partially squared or flatted). 1888 BURT *Stand. Timber Meas.* 237 The chord of the defective angle, or waney edge.

In fig. context. 1837 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. v. 34 As hard at the heart as a log of elm; howsomever, said a third, I hope it wont be long afore he has the wainy edge scored off of him, any how.

Hence **Wa'neyness.**

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* viii. 140 The Joysts..strengthen their Bearing by so much as they project over the Roundness or Wayniness of the upper side of the Girder.

Wanflar, -er, var. ff. WAMFLER. *Sc.*

† **Wanfortune.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. WAN- + FORTUNE *sb.*] Misfortune.

a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 345 Seldyne ..besy diligence Folowis with wanfortonys violence: Bot seldinar wanfourtowne þu dessewyr Sale fra swernes. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 4022, I trow wan-fortune brocht me heir. 1721 [DE FOE] *Sd. for D——ss of Arnistoun* 10 Geen I have had the Wanfortune to believe also, That the Pretender is the Q——'s Brother. *Ibid.* 14 If I have been so wanfortunate as to believe the Pretender to be legitimate.

Wang[1] (wŋ). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **wange**, **wange**, **wenge**, **wonge**, 3–5 **wong**(e, 4–6 **wang**(e, (4 **woong**, 5 **wangge**, **waynge**, **vange**, 7 **wongge**, 9 *dial.* **whang**), 7– *dial.* **wang.** [OE. *wang*, str. masc., *wange*, wk. neut., corresp. to OS. *wanga* fem., MDu. *wange* (mod.Du. *wang* fem.), MLG. *wange* neut., fem., OHG. *wanga* neut. (MHG. *wange* neut., mod.G. *wange* fem.),

ON. *vangr* wk. masc. (Norw. *vangr*; Da. *vanger* pl. 'cheeks' of a press), Goth. **waggs*, ? fem. or neut. (whence *waggareis* pillow = OE. *wangere*) :— OTeut. **wangon-*, *-ōn-*. The further etymology is obscure; some regard the word as cogn. w. OE. *wang* field, WONG.]

†**1.** The cheek. *Obs.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. v. 39 Gif hwa ðec slæ on ðæt swiðran wonge *vel* ceke þin. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 556 Þonne astrehte ic me sylfe on eorðan and þa wangas mid tearum ofergeat. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 80 Smyre mid þy þæt wenge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18308 Adam fell dun for-wit his fete And spak til him, wit wonges wete. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Nihtes when y wende ant wake, for-thi myn wonges waxeth won. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 730 Þe king biheld þat old, Hou his wonges were wete. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. ix. 1068 Quhill wepyt, quhill scho wongys wete. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* x. 275 Thy wordis makis me my wangges to wete.

2. A molar tooth : = WANG-TOOTH.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 110 Swa werkes ay the wanges in his heed. 1901 F. E. TAYLOR *Folk Sp. S. Lanc.* (E.D.D.), *Wang*, a tooth; *gen.* a back tooth.

Wang[2], **weng.** *s.w. dial.* [Of uncertain origin; possibly a var. of WING *sb.*, which in some dialects denotes a part of a ploughshare.] (See quots.)

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 117 The [plough-]beam.. is seven feet long, furnished at the head with an horizontal and vertical graduated wang of rack-work. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Wang*, or *Weng*. 1. A strong iron fixed to the front end of the beam [of a plough], having notches by which the end of the foot-chain..is adjusted,..as may be needful, according to the width of furrow desired... 2. Of a cart—the iron loop or staple upon each shaft, to which is hooked on the chain of the vore-horse.

Wang, var. WONG *dial.*, field.

Wangala, variant of VANGLO.

1862 in Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 124 Wangala (*Sesamum orientale*, Linn.), seeds of. Yield a fine bland oil. Used in soups.

Wangan, variant of WANGUN.

†**Wangel,** aphetic f. of EVANGEL. *Sc.* and *north.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machar*) 1401 Þe buk of þe wangele. 1389 in Sir W. Fraser *Wemyss of W.* (1888) II. 24 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. IV. 438/2 Bath the partys fornemmyt, the haly wangelis twechyt, the gret ath has sworn. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6800 Þe text of wangels fell in þe water. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 128 Be law of nature and of the wangel. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 118 So said Sanct Johine in his wangell. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 6 John Knox..Past like a lion round the land, And wi' the wangyle in his hand.

Wangelist(e, -yst : see EVANGELIST.

†**Wa·nger.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wongere, wangere, 4 wonger(e, wanger(e. [OE. *wangere* = OHG. *wangâri* (MHG. *wanger*), Goth. *waggareis* :—OTeut. type **wangārjo-z*, f. **wangō-* cheek, WANG[1].] A pillow.

Speght (1602) explains the word (in Chaucer) as 'a male, or bouget', and this explanation appears in Kersey 1708 and later Dicts. and glossaries.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xiv. [xi.] (1890) 296 To þon þætte trom dæle þæs heafdes eac swylce meahte wongere betweoh gesested beon. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 124 *Cervical*, wangere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 201 His brighte helm was his wonger [*v.rr.* wanger, wongere, wangere.]

Wanghee : see WHANGEE.

Wangle (wæ·ŋg'l), *v.*[1] *dial.* [Perh. an altered form of WAGGLE *v.*, due to the influence of the dial. *wankle* to totter (app. rare) or of its source WANKLE *a.* (OE. *wancol*) unsteady, tottering. Cf. Norw. *vangla* to roam about, (of weather) to be unsteady.] *intr.* Of a thing: To move loosely or shakily on its base or in its place of attachment. Of a person: To go unsteadily.

1820 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Wangle*, to totter or vibrate. See Junius in voce, wanckle. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant. Gloss.*, *Wangle*, to be unsteady, totter. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, *Wangle*, to totter, or shake to its fall; of a wall, building, &c. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Wangle*, to totter, to walk feebly. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.*, *Wangle*, to rock, or shake, noisily. 1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* Gloss., *Wangle*, to shake, to totter, to waver; to be in a sensitive state... Ex.—Thoo mun put it varry wangling (in setting a trap).

Hence **Wa·ngling** *ppl. a.* (in quot. app. 'rambling'). Also **Wa·ngler.**

1869 G. J. CHESTER *Transatl. Sk.* 325 The old gentleman in the pulpit meanwhile drawling out a long, wangling, extempore prayer. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Wangler*, an unstable person.

Wangle (wæ·ŋg'l), *v.*[2] *slang* and *colloq.* [Of uncertain origin.

First recorded, as printers' slang, in 1888; current among soldiers in the war of 1914–1918, and hence in general colloquial use. There is no evidence of any connexion with the northerly dialect word WANGLE *sb.*[1] Probably, like many other slang words, it was formed involuntarily, under the influence of an obscure sense of phonetic symbolism; the suggestion may have come from WAGGLE *v.*]

trans. To accomplish (something) in an irregular way by scheming or contrivance; to bring about or obtain by indirect or insidious means (something not obtainable openly); to manipulate, 'fake' (an account, report, prices). Hence **Wa·ngler,** one who 'wangles'. **Wa·ngling** *vbl. sb.*

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Wangle*, a slang term used by printers to express arranging or 'faking' matters to one's own satisfaction or convenience. 1911 *Standard* 12 July 10 [illegible] ...ver been ad... a driver to 'fake' a meter although he had heard banter in the garages about the 'wangling' of meters. 1917 *Edin. Rev.* July 45 No market is ever 'free': probe it deep enough, and..monopolies will.. be found, in many cases deliberately 'wangling' prices and limiting production to sustain them. 1917 *Bulletin* 28 Dec. 3/2 He had come in from the North Atlantic Cruiser Patrol, and when in home waters had 'wangled' a few days' leave. 1918 'B. CABLE' *A'ir Men o' War* xi. 143 He had been..planning..how to apply and how to get quickly through his training, and ways of wangling it to get to this Squadron. 1920 *Blackw. Mag.* June 790/1 We took it in turns to stay in the garden against the return of the motor wranglers.

†**Wangrace**[1]. *Sc. Obs.* [f. WAN- + GRACE *sb.*] Lack of grace, want of propriety.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis*, *Exclam. agst. Detractouris* 13 Sum beyn sa frawart in malice and wangrace, Quhat is weill said thai love nocht worth ane ace.

Wangrace[2]. *Sc.* and *Anglo-Irish.* Also **-grease.** A kind of gruel.

a 1733 in C. K. Sharpe *Ballad Bk.* (1823) 113, I gave him wangrace in his bed, And row'd the blankets round him. 1829 *Acc. Persons remark. Health & Longev.* 225 The sweat which he took..was what they call a wangrease in that country. It is made of oatmeal, flummery made very thin, sweetened with honey, and a lump of fresh butter. 1899 *Century Mag.* Oct. 959/1 'Aye, an' a bowl i' wan-grace, Rosie, the maid, said—' that's what'll put the sthrou'th intil yer bones again.'

Wang-tooth. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [WANG[1].] A cheek-tooth, molar.

a 1000 *Laws Ælfred* xlix. 2 Gif hit sie wongtoð, geselle iiii scill. to bote. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 157 *Molares, uel genuini*, wangteð. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* (MS. Arundel) in Wright *Voc.* 146 *Les messeleres*, wange-teþ [*read* -teþ]; *MS. Cambr.* wangeteth]. 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* xv. 19 And so the Lord opnede a woong tooth [1388 wang tooth; Vulg. *molarem dentem*] in the cheek boon of the asse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 54 And of this asses cheke, that was dreye, Out of a wang tooth sprang anon a welle. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xxiii. 191 He..bete oute my wang-teþ. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/1 A Waynge tothe [*v.r.* Vange tothe], *genuinus, maxillaris.* 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 182 Take them and cut away their nether lawe wherein there wang teeth be set. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* I. (1617) 79 His two tushes of his nether chappe, and the two wongge teeth of the same next to the tushes. 1659 SOMNER *Dict.* s. v. *Wang*, That old rime: And in witness that this is sooth, I bite the wax with my wang tooth. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* s. v., The *Wang-tooth*; the Jaw-tooth.

Wangun (wæ·ŋgŭn). *U.S.* Also **wangan, wanigan, wammikin.** [Shortened from Montagnais Indian *atawangan*, f. *atawan* to buy or sell. Cf. Cree and Odjibwa *atawâgan*, 'ce dont on se sert pour acheter ou pour vendre' (Lacombe).] A receptacle for small supplies or a reserve stock; esp., a boat or a chest containing outfit supplies for a lumber camp.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Wangun.* (Indian.) In Maine, a boat for carrying provisions. 1854 *Americans at Home* (ed. Halliburton) III. 254 The boats appropriated for the removal of the whole company, apparatus, and provisions [of river-drivers], when loaded, are called 'wanguns', an Indian word...Among the dangers to be incurred..is that of 'running the wangun'..which..means the act of taking these loaded bateaux down river from station to station. 1860 *Harper's Mag.* XX. 451 Behind each regiment of logs follows the wangan—a small boat or barge with a canvass awning stretched over it, and the cook and supplies. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 150 The drive is accompanied by what is called a wammikin, consisting of a raft of square timber or long logs on which is built a comfortable shanty. 1911 S. E. WHITE *Rules of Game* I. xiii [Log-driving.] Ordinarily on drive we have a wanigan...A wanigan's a big scow. It carries the camp and supplies to follow the drive.

b. Stores, provisions.

1907 *Scribner's Mag.* Jan. 2/1 Now load up with the bundles and boxes, the tent,..the provisions—all that stuff that is known as 'duffel' in New York, and '*butins*' in French Canada and '*wangan*' in Maine.

c. *attrib.*

1907 *Black Cat* June 19 An ancient Wangan-chest, relic of his father's river-days. 1908 S. E. WHITE *River Man* xv. 131 The ground had now hardened so that a wanigan boat was unnecessary. Instead, the camp outfit was transported in wagons.

†**Wanhap.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 van-. [f. WAN- + HAP *sb.*[1]] Misfortune.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 89 Scho..on the scherp skellels, to her wanhap Smat with sic fard the airis in flenderis lap. [illegible] thy v... and wanhap. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 104 Backlins he stagger't wi' a rair To Gamyl's tomb, and hid him thair Frae onie mair wanhap.

So †**Wanhappy** *a. Sc.*, unfortunate.

c 1590 J. BUSEL *Passage of Pilgr.* I. vii. in *J. Watson's Coll. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 19 The wildbair that wanhappie beist, Quhois tusks of length war at the leist Ane quarter lang and mair. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wanhappie. c* 1830 in Child *Ballads* IV. 386/1 They hae fawn a wagering them atween At a wanhappy time.

Wa·nhope, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 3–4 wane-, 4 won-, *Sc.* van-, 4–5 whan-, 5 wann-, 6–7 wanne-; 4 -hop, 5 -hoppe. [f. WAN- + HOPE *sb.*[1] Cf. MLG., MDu. *wanhope* (mod.Du. *-hoop*), whence MSw. *vanhop*, MDa. *vanhob*. Cf. UNHOPE.]

A. *sb.* **1.** Hopelessness, despair.

In early use chiefly, despair of salvation. Hence often in auditory composition which imitates religious language.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6752 In alle as in wanhope wende hem upon blisse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13762 Þos sinful, be þan [illegible] ...a wanhope þat þou no fail. *Ibid.* 28345 þat has don me for to fall in wane-hope. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5170 Sloghenes, hyt wyl þe grope To brynge þe yn-to whanhope. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 931 Ne beo þou in woghope non. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 982 Flee aregwis were of other gise..The thridde of hem was clepe Shame. The fourthe, Wanhope cleped is. 1390. — *Pars. T.* ¶ 693 (Egerton MS.) Wanhope, þat is, dispaire of the mercy of god. *c* 1405 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 32 Her of come the Englysshe hope & comfort; & to the Iresshe, dred & wanhope. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 28 \ 1 * wedded folk of wanhope shuld noght be Trowing the stat sauvable of onely virginitee. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 81 He wente out of the oracle..al bare of gladnes and al oppressyd and enuironed wyth wanhope cam to his folk. *c* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2337 There is no man may synne more mortally Than of Wanhope thrughe the vnhappy wayes, By Myschefe to breuyate and shorten his dayes. *a* 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 59 Renewyng with my suite my payne, My wanhope with your stedfastnesse. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Perambl. Kent* 68 They..were driuen in the end, to giue ouer in the plain field, for very dispaire, wanhope, and weerin[illegible] *Temple Bar* Dec. 151 Wan-hope had weighed my spirit to the dust. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iii. 279 And [ed. 1903 But] creeping wanhope did he still withstand. 1894 — *Wood beyond World* 221 Two days he battled thus with storm & blindness, & wanhope of his life.

¶ **2.** Erroneous uses. †**a.** = Vain hope.

There is an apparent instance in the edd. of Douglas *Æn.* I. vi. 82, but the Camb. MS. has *with vaynhope* [L. *vana spe*].

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 145 Hoppe is a ryghtfull tryste for a ryghtfull Werke, i-put be-twen wanhoppe and dyspayre, or presompsion of goodis to come afftyr to be hadde, And of illis to come afftyr to be Enchued. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 48 That they should bringe her yf yt were possible into some wanhope, or as men saie into a fooles paradise. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* H ij, A few yeres haue they spente yet, in great wanhope, and pleasure [L. *summa cum voluptate*]. *a* 1565 — tr. *Boeth.* I. met. vii. 22 in Q. Eliz. *Englishings* 138 Wan hope forbere [L. *spem fugito*]. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 170/4 Wanhope, *falsa spes*. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Louse C.* III. 114 b, Suffer not your selues to be abused by fables and trifling toyes, neither be you carried away with a Wanhope. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let.* B, A wan, or windy Hope, is a notable breake-necke vnto itselfe.

†**b.** In late 16th c. and early 17th c. writers *wan hope* (two words) seems to be used for 'faint hope', as if containing WAN *a. Obs.*

1558 in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1870) VI. 80 [There was but] a wan hope of recovering Calais. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. (1625) 93 The intollerable woes wherein I lived..might have kindled in me some wan hope one day to haue found an hour so happy wherein by a right conceit..our natural care might in some sort or other have been reuued. 1589 LODGE *Scillaes Metam.* B 3 b, I curse fond Loue and Fortune durelesse, Wan hope my weale, my trust but bad aduenture. 1590 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. iii. (1912) 164 My sheepe are thoughts,..My sheepehooke is wanne hope, which all vpholdes. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* I. xxvi. 213 At last he remembered that the king had often shewed mercy on malefactors, and thereupon conceiuing some wanne hope, he was euer harping vpon that string. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Feudigr.* I. x. 28 And though the small show of winter verdure giues wanne hope, yet his faire Mayflorish reuiues the drooping spirits of the doubtful and wauering experimenter, with full assurance of a rich vesture for haruest. 1618 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacrif.* (Grosart) 22/1 My Soule dismai'd, not knowing where to flee, With hands of Hope (wan Hope) at thee doth graspe. 1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog* iv. 169 This, his last Refuge, a wan hope, to bring Himselfe to former Glories of a Kinge.

†**B.** *adj.* [Cf. MSw. *vanhopa* adj.] That has no hope, despairing. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xii. 4–16 Suffer it, not with heauye heartes, as men that are wanhope [*later edd.* in wanhope, in dispaire], but [etc.].

Hence †**Wa·nhope** *v.* [= MLG. *wanhopen*, MSw. *vanhopa*, MDa. *vanhobe*] to despair. †**Wa·nhoping** *vbl. sb.* †**Wa·nhopefully** *adv.*, despairingly. †**Wa·nhopely** *a.*, hopeless.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25800 þai..wines for þair mikel sin neuer to merci for to win, and suagat for þair wanhopping þai fall wit-vten vp-couering. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 16 He was neuer whan-hopefully argh, ne aferd, ne amayed of hert. *Ibid.* 88 In the man of blode, the blode shall aryse, & wanhoply shal hys pynwynge be. 13.. *Celestin* 22 in *Anglia* I. 68 Hadde a man neuere so myche mys wroughte, To godes mercy wanhope he nought.

†**Wa·nhue,** *v. Sc. Obs.* In 5 **wanhew.** [f. WAN- + HUE *v.*[2]] *trans.* To stain.

c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. XII. 3696 (Cott. MS.) Quhar of sacles blude droppande ȝhit wanhewis [*v.r.* vnhewis] bathe sleyf and hande.

Wanian, obs. form of WANION.

†**Wa·niand.** *Obs.* Also 5 **waneand, wanyende, wenyand(e,** 5–6 **wanyand,** 6 **waniant, wanniaunt, weniand,** -ya(u)nt. [ME. *waniand*, north. pres. pple. of *wanien*, WANE *v.* See the definition.] In the phrase *in the waniand*, prob. with ellipsis of *mone* (cf. 'on wanigendum monan' *Sax. Leechd.* I. 320) = at the time of the waning moon, i.e. in an unlucky hour; hence used as a vague imprecation or as an exclamation of anger, impatience, etc. = 'with a vengeance', 'with a plague'. Also *in the wild waniand.* See WANION; also WANING *vbl. sb.* 2 b, WANING *ppl. a.* 1 b.

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* V. 30 In þe wilde waniand was þaire hertes light. *Ibid.* IX. 23 It was in þe waniand þat þai furth went. *c* 1430 *Brut* 442 But þe moste vengeance fell vpon þe proude Scottes, for thei went to Deg-wash the same day..; So that they may say wele 'In the croke of þe mone went thei thidre warde, And in the wilde waynande come þei

homewarde.' *c* 1440 *York Myst.* vii. 45 We ! Whythir now in wilde wanesand. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 483 Furth in þe wylde wanyand be walkand. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 748 Step furth, in the wenyande ! 1529 More *Suppl. Soules* 16 b, He wold of lyklyhod bynde them to cartes and bete them, and make them wed in the wanyand. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. i. I ij b, Go hens in to yl crosse .i. walke or pycke the hens in the galowes name, or in the wenland, or in the .xx. dauyll waye. 1550 Levins *Manip.* 25/23 Ye Wenyant, *in malam crucem.*

b. *With a wanyand*: cf. Wanion.

1563–70 Foxe *A. & M.* II. 1311/1 The Pope..sent into Fraunce Hildebrand, bys Cardinall Chaplaine.., and made him with a wanyand to come agayne *coram nobis.*

Wanigan, var. Wangun.

Waning (wē·nin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wane *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb.

1. *gen.* Decrease or diminution in magnitude, importance, brilliancy, intensity, etc.

As OE. *wanian* (Wane v.) had the trans. sense 'to make less' as well as the intr. sense 'to become less', the vbl. sb. had the two corresponding meanings, but (as often occurs with nouns of action) the two are often practically coincident, and cannot be distinguished with certainty.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. ii. (Schipper) 122 Nalæs batan micelre wonunge his weorodes [L. *non sine magno exercitus sui damno*]. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*John Baptist*) 824 Þat tyme of þe gere borne wes he, quhene þat þe dais takis finthynge ; & Iohne, quhen þai tak wanynge. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xl (Tollemache MS.), This lyȝte with oute wauynge of it selfe scheweþ and schedeþ byschinynge. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, iv. x. 22, I seeke not to waxe great by others waining [*so Rowe conj.* : *Folio* warning]. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* vi. lxx, Can..One onely blot so great a light emmair, That never could he hope his waning to repair ? 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 260/1 The Gunnings' beauty was at the waning.

† *Phrase.* 1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 409 Will not the dread of dolefull day strike such a filthy fault into the waning, and by little and little cut quite the throte of it, and make it bleede to death in vs?

†b. Damage inflicted by a person. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Pater Noster* 278 in *Lamb. Hom.* 71 Kep us from his waning, þat laþe gast.

†c. Default, shortcoming. *Obs.*

c 1380 *Cast. Love* 218 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 361 God ne wrouhte neuer þat þing þat out les þerw his wonyng, ffor nis no wone on him I-long.

2. Of the moon : Periodical decrease in apparent size (see Wane *v.* 2) ; the half of the lunar month in which this takes place.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 268/13 Æfre hi [*sc.* eoo se & se mona] beoð ȝeferan on wæstme & on wanunge. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xvii. (1495) 326 The mone encreasyth all humours, and in her wanynge the..humours of the body ben made lesse. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 593/48 *Incubrax* [*sic*], wonynge of monythe. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 826 To graffe and sowe in growynge of the mone, And kitte or mowe in wanyng, is to done. 1657 J. Watts *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. 87 Their light was as the light of the Moon, mingled with some spots, subject to wanings, decreases, and eclipses. 1683 *Digby's Chym. Secr.* II. 198 The best time to gather the Misletoe of the Oak..is in the..Waning of the Moon. 1822 Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 437 The waning or decreasing of the moon takes place in the same manner, but in a contrary order.

fig. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxi. 138 He with many others helped to the waining of that half Moon, which sought to govern all the motion of our Sea.

†b. with the epithet *wild* : cf. Waniand.

c 1435 in Kingsford *Chron. London* (1905) 75 In the croke off the mone went they thedirward, and in the wilde wanynge hom they homward.

†3. Decline (of life) ; concluding part (of a day, or period of time). *Obs.*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. 269 Them, whom..the tendre kindnes of the Lord hath rewarded at the waining of the daye, and at the ending of their life. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 159 In the wayning of the world, wherein so many false Christs are come. 1592 Greene *Disput. Coney-catchers* Wks. (Grosart) X. 938 Seeing gotten in the wayning of my parents age, they dotad on me aboue the rest [of their children]. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* C 2, Let mee quietly descend to the waining of my youthful daies, and tell a little of the sweating sicknes.

4. Comb. : *waning time.*

a 1639 Wotton *Life & D. Buckingham* (1642) 3 There is nothing..more jealous, then a favorite, especially towards the wayning time and suspect of society. 1680 C. Nesse *Church Hist.* 134 The moon is the embleme of the church ..as having her fitlin; and weaning times.

Wa·ning, *ppl. a.* [f. Wane *v.* + -ing 2.] That wanes or is on the wane.

1. Decreasing or declining in importance, power, influence, etc. (See the senses of the vb.)

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 65 Thou hast a Ladie farre more Beautifull, Then any woman in this waining age. 1620 Fletcher *Sea Voy.* iv. (1647) 14/2 Am I because I am in bonds and miserable,..My fortune like my wayning selfe, for this despis'd ? 1832 Lamb *Elia* Sec. II. *Elliotiana*, The last retreat, and recess, of his every-day waning grandeur. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 90 The clergy sunk under the influence of a waning religion. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* III. i. i. § 2. 909 The dormant or waning condition of a volcano. 1896 Conan Doyle *Exploits Gerard* ix, I hurried wildly onward through the waning darkness.

¶ b. *In the wild waning world* : perversion of *in the wild waniand* : see Waniand, Wanion, and cf. quot. *c* 1435 in Waning *vbl. sb.* 2 b.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 140 In þe wyld wanyng word, pes all at onys !

c. Ageing, growing old. *rare.*

1825 *Season Mar.*, Suppl. 45/3, I do not, as a rule, approve of black for waning people..but in this case, as the wearer was rather florid, the garment was a success.

2. Of the moon.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 320 Þas wyrte þu scealt sincan on wanigendum monan. 1705 Addison *Italy, Ferrara* 115 Waining Moons their settled Periods keep To swell the Billows. 1758 S. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 103 When God appoints, the horned Moon renews Her waining Light. 1797 Coleridge *Kubla Khan* 15 Beneath a waning moon. 1814 Byron *Lara* II. xxiv, When Cynthia's light almost gave way to morn, And nearly veil'd in mist her waning horn. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 100 The waning, and the re-appearing moon.

3. Of light, or a luminary : Declining in lustre, tending towards extinction.

1700 Blackmore *Song of Moses* (Exod. xv.) 45 Let him.. lift on high his Adamantine Shield, Whose brighter Lustre drowns the waining Sun. 1820 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Forrester* xiv, His waning candle sunk in the socket. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxi, At last the day turned her waning candle pale, and she fell asleep. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc., Fine Clothes*, Around where late the waning sun Sank in his evening cloud. 1873 E. E. Hale *In His Name* ix. 77 The waning embers of the fire.

b. Of the day : Drawing to a close.

1767 Jago *Edge-hill* iv. 256 But of the waining Day Mindful, and many a Theme as yet unsung, To future Bards she leaves your copious Praise.

4. Becoming scanty, running short. Now *rare.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* viii. 375 Our victuals and water done, we were forced to relye vpon Tobacco, and to drinke our owne wayning pisse. 1810 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. iv. 111 It is well for you that my waning paper ..brings this tiresome letter to an end. 1900 Conan Doyle *Green Flag* etc. 77 Behind him stood the watchful steward, for ever filling up his waning glass.

Wanion, wannion (wɒ·nyan). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 6 **wanian, wenyon,** 6–7 **wennion,** 7 **wannian, wenian,** -on, 6– **wanion, wannion.** An altered form of Waniand used in certain formulas of asseveration or imprecation. a. *In a wanion*, later *with a wanion*, with a plague, with a vengeance. Also *with a wild wanion.*

1549 Latimer *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 63 Was not sabboth day (in a wanion) because there are no mo daies in a week. 1607 R. Carew) tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* I. xxxix. 341 He..cryed aloud, Come downe in a wannian.

1567 Harman *Caveat* 62 Hee went with a wannion to his mothers chamber. *a* 1568 *Jacob & Esau* I. i. A ij, Up with a wilde wenyon, how long wilt thou lie ? 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* H 4 b, Take it, with a wennion, altogether, if you will have it. 1607 Shaks. *Per.* II. i. 27 Come away, or Ile fetch'th with a wanion. 1663 Cowley *Cutter Coleinan St.* iv. iv, Boys must not have their meanings, Colonel : Let him mean what I mean with a Wennion. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* iv. xlvii, Come out with a vengeance, come out with a wannion. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* iv, He would have battered the presbyterian spirit out of him with a wanion. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* xxxvii, Let him go with a wanion.

b. *A (wild) wanion on, with a wanion to*, may a curse or plague light on (a person, etc.) !

c 1570 *Buggbears* iv. iv. 11 Now a wild wannion on it. 1605 Chapman, etc. *Eastw. Hoe* III. ii. D 2, Marie hang you : Westward with a wanion to 'yee. 1624 Davenport *City Nightcap* iv. (1661) 36 Is here any work for Grace, with a wannion to her ? 1663 Dryden *Wild Gallant* III. i, I'll teach you to take place of Tradesmens Wives with a wannion to you. 1822 Scott *Pevertil* vi, A d—d Presbyterian scoundrel,..whom I hope to fetch down from his perch presently, with a wannion to him !

Wanish, obs. f. Vanish *v.*, Wannish *a.*

Wanite, obs. Sc. f. Vanity.

Wankapin, -kopin (wɒŋkăpin, -ōpin). *U.S.* Also **yonoopin** (*Cent Dict.*). [prob. N.Amer. Indian.] The water-chinkapin, *Nelumbo lutea.*

1832 J. P. Kennedy *Swallow B.* xxiii. (1860) 199 This fine garden of wankopins and snake-collards.

Wankle (wɒ·ŋk'l), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **wancol,** 3 **wankel,** 4 **-kyll,** 4–5 **-kill**(e, 7, 9 **wancle, wankle.** [OE. *wancol* = OS. *wankol*, MDu., Du. *wankel*, OHG. *wanchal*, MHG., G. (obs.) *wankel* ; cf. OHG. *wankôn* (MHG., mod.G. *wanken*), to waver, totter.] Unsteady, insecure ; changeable, unsettled, precarious ; inconstant, wavering. Also, weak in health, delicate, sickly.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 2 Nu ðu hæfst onziten ða wanclan truwa þæs blindan lustes. *Ibid.* xx, Hio hit ȝecyð self mid hire hwurfulnesse þæt hio bið swiðe wancol. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 566 in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Dis wunder wunes in wankel stede, þer þe water sinkeð. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 340 (Addit. MS.) If my kyngdome..Within þis wankill worlde nowe were. 14.. *Thomas of Erceldoune* 404 (Cambr. MS.) þe worlde is wondur wankill. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words, Wankle*, limber, flaccid, ticklish, fickle, wavering. 1683 *Yorksh. Dial* 7 Here's wancle weather for gittinge of our Hay. 1686 G. Stuart *Face-ser Discourse* 50 Your Wankle Leggs canno' su sport ye. 1790 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* (ed 2), *Wankle*, weak, unstable, not to be depended on ; as a wankle seat ; wankle weather N. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E Anglia, Wancle, wanky*, weak ; pliant. 1829 J. P. Morris *Furness Gloss.* 107, That barne's terble wankle on its legs. 1888 Fenn *Dick o' the Fens* 381 He don't wear as I should like to see un. He's wankle.

†**Wanlace.** *Obs.* Also 5 **wanlas**(e, **wenlace,** 5–6 **wanles**(e ; and see Windlass *sb.*1 [a. AF. *wanelace, wenelas* (12–13th c.), recorded in the fig. sense 'deception, fraudulent device'. As the word does not occur in continental Fr., it is not unlikely that it may be a Norman mispronunciation of some native English word. In the 16th c. *wanlace* was superseded by Windlass *sb.*2, but it is not clear whether this was a survival of the native form or an etymologizing alteration of the AF. word. Latinized forms of the word, in the original hunting sense, are *wenelacia* and *wanlassum* (in Du Cange erroneously *waulassus*). The phrase *fugare wanlassum* was used for 'to drive back the game'.]

1. *Hunting.* A circuit made by a portion of a hunting party for the purpose of intercepting and heading back the game. Hence, an appointed station in hunting, = Trist *sb.*2, Traistre, med.L. *stabulum.*

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xvii, Neuertheless þer beth somme þat falleth to be berseletes, and also to bryngе wele and faste a wanlas aboute. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. iii. 320 (MS. W.) Quhen he wes xv ȝeris of cass He slew his fader at þe wanlas. *Ibid.* VII. iv. 446 (MS. Cott.) A knycht hym [*sc.* William Rufus] slew þar at wanles.

2. *transf.* An intercepting movement ; an ambush. Phrase, *at the wanlace.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12860 Bytwyxt þem [*sc.* the opposing armies] were many chaces, fele turnynges & fele wanlaces. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 164 Men may..barate their inymyes..and se quhen thay ar in disaray, and wate thame at the wanlas. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 192 Quhen we war gatherit, we waytet thame at the wanlas.

Where þat he [a tax-gatl . . . any þyng to þe kyng purchace, He ne lette for no fals othe. *Ibid.* 12008 þat he [*sc.* God] wulde..brynge þe ayen to his grace þat þou lostest with þy wanlace. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2874 By þat tyme I have I-made al my wanlace. 1481 Botoner *Tulle of Old Age* (Caxton), And all such corrupt untrue werkis which ben nevir mevid nor undirtakyn but by the insolence and wantonness and wenlacys of fleeshely delectacyon.

†**Wanlasour.** *Obs.* In 5 **wanelasour, wandlessour.** [Prob. AF. ; f. *wanelace* (see prec.) + *-our* -or. Cf. Windlass *v.*1] A hunting servant whose duty is to intercept and turn back the game ; a driver.

14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 562/31 *Alator*, a wanelasour. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 307 The wandlesours went þrow þe forest And to þe lady brought many a best.

Wanle, var. Wandle.

†**Wanless, waneless,** *a. Obs.* [f. *wan*(e, Wone, hope + -less.] Hopeless.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23998 Bot quen i sagh þaa juus smell, Rise again mi sun sua fell, ful wanles [*Fairfax* waneles] wex i þan.

†**Wanlich,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [? f. *wan* Wane *sb.*2 + *-lich*, -ly 1.] Baleful, fraught with evil.

c 1205 Lay. 25990 Wanliche weoren þa sonden.

†**Wanlie·sum,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [f. Wan- + Lee-some *a.*1] Unlovely.

1815 G. Beattie *John o' Aruha'* (1826) 36 A waesum, wild, wanliesum sight.

Wanluck. *Sc.* Now *rare.* [f. Wan- + Luck. Cf. MSw. *vanlykka*, MDa. *vanlykke*, Norw. *vanlukka.*] Unhappy fate. Cf. Unluck.

1572 Sir J. Maitland *Admon. to Regent* 30 Wanlukis quhair by thow may be lost. 1730 Ramsay *Horse's Compl.* 7 Up frae my bed . I'm rais'd to draw the sled, Or cart, as haps to my wanluck

Wanly (wɒ·nli), *adv.* [f. Wan *a.* + -ly 2.] With a wan look or appearance ; palely, pallidly ; *fig.* with a dejected air, sorrowfully.

c 1205 Lay. 25828 þa iherde he wepen wunder ane swiðen. wepen and weinen and wanliche iheren. *Ibid* 30088 Nu we maȝen wepen and wanliche iheren. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* v. i. 1028 An extream Fever..wanly did displace The Rose-mixt Lillies in her lowely face. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* I. xxxi, Save where the thin clouds wanly, slowly roll O'er the mute darkness of the forest mountain. 1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 177 McGaw, looking ill at ease, but smiling wanly.

†**Wanmol,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wan- + Moal, speech, language.] Destitute of eloquence.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2817 Louerd, ic am wanmol, un-reken Of wurdes, and may ic luel speken.

Wanne, obs. f. Wan, When, Whenne, Whom.

Wanne, obs. pa. t. Win *v.*

Wannel, var. Wandle.

Wannen, Wannes : see Whenne, Whence.

Wanness (wɒ·nines). Also 7 **wand-.** [f. Wan *a.* + -ness.] The state or condition of being wan ; †lividity (*obs.*) ; a pale, dead, or sickly colour (of the face), pallidness.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* iv. 23, I slowe a man into my wound, and a litle waxen man into my wanneesse [Vulg. *in livoremeum*]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. liv. (1495) 268 Wyth to grete holdynge of emeroides comyth..palenesse of face and wanneesse and heuynesse of loynes. 1530 Palsgr. 286/2 Wannes of colour, *iaulour.* 1611 Cotgr., *Blaimeur* palenesse, wannesse, blankenesse ; a dead, or whitish colour. *Ibid., Livideté*, liuiditie, lewnesse, wannesse, . blewishnesse ; the colour appearing vpon a stroake, blacke and blew. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 40 The heat of the heart being drawne inward, there appeareth a pale wanneese in the face. 1643 A. Tuckney *Balm of Gilead* 22 The wanneese of his dead look upon the Crosse. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 180 A pale wandness in the face, as in the Flegmatique. 1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* III. 275 My wanness was the effect of ill health. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xliii, In the pale moonlight, which lent a wanness of its own to the delicate face. 1899 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III. iii. 208

There was a faded look about her complexion, too,..A wanness, a yellowness.

Wannion: see WANION.

Wannish (wɒ·nɪʃ), *a.* Also 5–6 wannyssh(e, 6-yahe, wanishe, 7-ish. [f. WAN *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat wan; somewhat pale, dull, lustreless, or livid.

?a 1412 LYDG. *Two Merchants* 326 His vryne..was ful thynne and wannyssh for to see. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 122 The which causethe..the eye sight to waxe wanny=she or tawnye. *a* 1547 SURREY *Poems*, *'This mana'* 23 And eke the wanishe moone whiche sheenes by night also. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 438/2 With blacke wannish spots. 1594 R. C[AREW] *Tasso* (1881) 73 He that graund foe was ale to human kind, His wannish eyes [*i lividi occhi*] doth on the Christians cast. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXI. xxi. II. 108 The day Lillie Hemerocalles, hath leaves of a pale and wannish greene colour. 1630 MILTON *Passion* 35 The leaves should all be black wheron I write, And letters where my tears have washt a wannish white. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 309 Paler some, And of a wannish gray. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 57 Upon her crest she wore a wannish fire. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. vi. i. No sun, but a wannish glare In fold upon fold of hueless cloud.

Wannock, anglicized form of GUANACO.

1794 *Postmaster* 2 Oct. 4 On Tuesday Night a Wannock was carried from on board the said Ship..He hath a Body like that of a Deer.

† Wannowe, *int. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [?f. *wa* WOE *int.* + NOW.] Alas.

c 1450 *Northern Passion* (MS. Addit.) 147/59* Wannow sayde kayme her es Envy My smoke gose down & thyne gose hye.

† Wanny, *a. Obs.* Also 6 wannye, wannie. [f. WAN *a.* + -Y¹.] Wan, pallid.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 311 With flatte visagies, pale and wannye coloure. 1566 STUDLEY *Medea* IV. (1581) 136 b, In faynting Face, with pale and wanny whyght The sanguyne hewe exyled thence is fled. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* xvi. (1880) 48 Your wannie cheekes, your shaggie lockes. 1602 MUNDAY *Palmerin* I. xvii. (1639) F 3 b, A pale and wanny face.

† Wanpa, Sc. var. VAMPEY. *Obs.*

1541 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 176 Item, solis plis over ledderis exemplis, with a wanpa for a buytt.

Wanred(e: see WANDRETH *Obs.* (*β*).

† Wanrest. *Sc. Obs.* [f. WAN- + REST *sb.*]

1. A state of inquietude or trouble: = UNREST.

c 1590 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 456 For my wanrest I wald thow saw remeid. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXII. 41 This birdis counsall confoundit hes yis land,..That monie hes.. Wandreth, wanrest, fairfull ambitioun. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 205 Sall nocht this sillie ease be turned in sorrowfull wanrest? 1603 *Proph. of T. Rymour* (Bannatyne Cl.) 22 The Ratches workes them great wanrest. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* I. 33 Quo' she, I wiss I could your wanrest ken. 1874 R. BUCHANAN *Poet. Wks.* I. 196 And Effie..Turn'd from the happy shining of the sun, In wanrest and in tears.

2. The pendulum of a clock.

1794 [W. ANDERSON] *Piper of Peebles* 23 (Jam.) The house from top to bottom shook, An' as a wanrest wagg'd the crook. 1808 JAMIESON s. v., 'The wanrest of a clock goes as far the tae gate, as it gede the tither;' S. Prov. signifying, that an unstable person generally goes from one extreme to another.

Hence **Wanre·stful** *a. Sc.*, restless.

1783 BURNS *Death Poor Mailie* 36 An' may they never learn the gaets Of ither vile, wanrestfu' Pets! 1887 SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* III. iii. 255 Wanrestfu' and troubled, she couldna sit still.

† Wanrufe. *Sc. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. WAN- + *rufe* var. RO *sb.*] Disquiet, unrest.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 28 Bot I haif mervell incertane Quhat makis the this wanrufe.

Wanruly, *a. Sc.* [f. WAN- + RULY *a.*²] Unruly.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Hallow-Fair* xii. Frae their wanruly fellin paw Mair cause ye hae to fear Your death that day. 1867 G. W. DONALD *Poems* (1879) 56 When..Big bars o' airn, wanrully an' strang, Are broken in flinders.

Wanschon, var. WANZE *v. Obs.*

Wanscoate, **-scot(e**, obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

Wanse, var. WANZE *v.*, to wane.

† Wanshapen, *a. Obs.* Also 4 wanshape. [f. WAN- + SHAPEN. Cf. (M)Du., (M)LG. *wanschapen*, whence G. *wohnschaffen*.] Mis-shapen deformed.

13.. *Celestin* 561 in *Anglia* I. 81 A wanshape best forþ þei broughte, wiþ wenges, forto fleon on lofte. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 268 Wanshapen woubet.

Wanshon, var. WANZE *v. Obs.*

Wanskot(t, **-skoth**, obs. forms of WAINSCOT.

† Wansome, *a. Obs.* Also 3–4 wansum. [f. *wan*, WANE *sb.*³ + -SOME¹.] Miserable, unhappy.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1099 Loth was wansum, and flugte long vp to þo dunes þe weis hard and strong. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24853 Ful wansum war þai þan o rede, for dreríli þai dred þe ded. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1065 His wo es wansome to wreke, His hert es bownne for to breke.

Wansonsy, *a. Sc.* [f. WAN- + SONSY *a.* Cf. UNSONSY.] Mischievous.

1819 HOGG *Jacobite Relics* I. 70 We'll learn ye to be douce, Ye auld wansonsy b——h.

† Wanspeed. *Obs.* [OE. *wanspēd*: see WAN- and SPEED *sb.*] Ill-success; adversity, poverty.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. vii. § 6 On þæm gefeohte wæs ærest onfunden Scilþia wanspeda [L. *inopia Scythica*]. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* (1889) 216 Wer feohtende eteorigendra þurh wanspeda [L. *per inopiam*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23708 Yee caiteu men, yow vnbiink,..O your lif þat yee her lede Yee turn it noght into wan-spede! *Ibid.* 28175 O strif oft hase I sonen þe tede To bring my brother to wan-spede.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* (
wryxles our mynd?

† Wanspeedy, *a. Obs.* [OE. *wanspēdig*: see prec. and -Y.] Unfortunate, unprosperous.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* XXV. 25 Gif þin wanspediga mæg beo mid þe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þænne hæuen wanspedie men on heorte wowe.

Wansqwatte, rare obs. form of WAINSCOT.

Wanston, var. FONT-STONE *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5898 Vor þat child fuled in is hond þat water & þe wantston [MS. a wanston].

Wansum, var. WANTSUM *a. Obs.*

Want (wɒnt), *sb.*¹ Now *dial.* Forms: 1 wand, wond; 4–6 wonte, 7 wounte, 5– wont; 6 wante, (vant), 6– want; 9 *dial.* waunt, wunt, woont, (h)unt, (h)oont, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [OE. *wand*, *wond* = Sw. dial. *vand* (cited by Aasen), Norw. *vand*, *vaand*, *vond*, *vand*, mole, also shrew (also in comb. *moldvond* 'earth-mole', in contradistinction to *vatsvond* water-rat, and in *vandskjer* shrew, synonymous with *musskjer*, where the first element is *mus* mouse). The word is possibly a shortened form of the synonymous compound OE. *wandeweorpe*, MLG. *wantworp*, *windeworp*, *wannewörpe*, mod. LG. *winneworp* (Doornkaat Koolman), in which the second element (f. Teut. **werp-* to throw) corresponds to that of MOULDWARP. The root seems clearly to be the Teut. **wend-*: **wand-* to turn (see WIND, WEND *vbs.*); prob. the word has reference to the winding passages made by the animal.

The word is found in the 8th c. glossaries, but does not again appear till near the end of the 14th c. All the ME. and mod. Eng. forms agree in the unexplained substitution of *t* for the final *d* of the OE. form. The word is unknown to the dialects of the northern and north-east midland counties, but is elsewhere in common use.]

A mole.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 16 *Talpa*, wond [*Epinal* wand, *Erfurt* uuond, *Leiden* uoond.] 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 339 Pere [*sc.* in Ireland] lakkeþ..wontes, and opere venemous bestes [L. *talpis et ceteris venenosis*]. 14.. *Alstr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625/9 Wont, *talpa*. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* 206 b, A slouthfull creature is..as a molle, or vant mete and able For to do profyte within a garden grene. 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Want beest a molle, *taulpe*. 1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 15 § 2 For the Heades of everie Moldwarpe or Wante one halfpeny. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 113 b, By this Argument you may playnely perceave unlesse you wilbe wilfully blind like a want. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 498, I do vtterly dissent from all them that holde opinion that the Mole or Want is of the kinde of Myse. 1610 R. VAUGHAN *Water-Workes* E 2 b, As Wountes or Moles, hunt after wormes. 1660 *Guillim's Displ. Heraldry* III. xvii. (ed. 4) 207 He beareth, Argent, a Cheuron between three Moles or Wants, Sable. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 156 Part of a stone..that prettily represented a Mole or Want. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Want*, a mole. Herefordshire; where it is pronounced *Wunt*. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 146 The mole, want, mouldwarper, or mouldturner (talpa Europæa) is common with us. 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 785/2 Not much bigger than a mouse or small want.

b. *Comb.*, as *want-catcher*, *-killer*, *-taker*; want-hill, a molehill.

can..remember..sitting..
at Laccombe of..the parish want-catcher. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 615/10 *Talpefodium*, a *wonthylle. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenel.* 380/1 *Grumus*,..an hop hil, mole-hill, or want hill. 1610 R. VAUGHAN *Water-Workes* R 2, Were it not for my brauing-trench and my stankes, I should neuer need the vse of a *Want-killer. 1533 in *Lett. & Papers Henry VIII*, VI. No. 914. 392 [Deposition] of John Shubrocke, of Northover, *wantsaker.

Want (wɒnt), *sb.*² Also 2–3 wannt, 4–5 wont, 4–6 wante, 6 wannte. [a. ON. *vant* neut. of *van-r* adj. lacking, missing (see WANE *a.*), also quasi-*sb.* in such expressions as *var þeim veitugis vant*, they were in want of nothing; *var vant kýr*, a cow was missing. Mod. NFris. *waant* lack, fault (Sylt), need, lack, necessity, starvation (Amrum), is perhaps derived from the vb. of identical form (see WANT *v.*), and ultimately of Scandinavian origin. In English also, in later usage, the sb. is often a direct derivative from the vb. (q. v.). Cf. also QUART *a.* and *sb.*¹, SCANT *a.* etc.]

† **1.** *predicatively*, or quasi-*adj.* (Something that is) wanting, missing. In Ormin const. with dative. *Obs. rare.*

c 1200 ORMIN 14398 Acc hemm wass wannt gastlic innsihht Þe33re gode lare. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7914 Troye newe ys Trenouant, Two wordes in on, & nou3t ys want. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xxvii. 22 Þe gude herde, þat lefte in þe munte ane wane of a hundres sep, and yede at seke þis ane þat was want.

2. Deficiency, shortage, lack (*of* something desirable or necessary, *esp.* a quality or attribute).

No want (*of*): no lack, abundance (of). † *Without one's want*: without deficiency in any point (*obs.*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12206 Þai þat stad or in hair bliss, Witoten want hes alle hair wis. *Ibid.* 13..*Gosp. & Ger. Exod.* 132 Now wyl I of hor seruice say your no mare, For veh wyne may wel wit no wont þat þer ware. 1393 PIERS PL. (C) XIII. 68 Want of honesty, *laideure*. 1589 MARPRELATE *Eph. Caddis, Hague* (1908) 160 The forresers and countreys are most conuersant for them to dwelle on...where there is want of such trees ye must haue them to other feeding ground. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* xix. 19 There is both straw and prouender for our asses, and there is bread and wine also for me and for thy handmaid...: there is no want of any thing. 1631 HOSKINS *Laviath.* I. viii. 34 'Tis the want of Discretion that makes the difference. 1664 ROSCOMMON *Ess. Transl. Verse* 114 Immodest words admit of no defence, For want of Decency is want of Sense. 1773 FRANKLIN *Lett. to M. Dumas* 9 Dec., Their total want of English is at present an obstruction to their getting any employment among us. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* x, He retained also a general sense of respect for his own reputation, which sometimes supplies the want of the better principles by which reputation is to be maintained. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 97 The want of cattle for the conveyance of stores and baggage was one of the most serious obstacles of the march of the army. 1849 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxiv, A miserable faction..have assumed the reins of government, and, in spite of three votes of want of confidence, persist in retaining the seals of office. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 23 Sept. 10/1 Owing to the confusion incident to this arrangement, or want of arrangement, the duties proper to each institution are inefficiently discharged. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 616/2 note, The deceased was also guilty of negligence or of want of reasonable care contributing to the accident.

† **b.** *pl.* Instances of shortage. *Obs.*

1660 in J. Simon *Ess. Irish Coins* (1749) 127 And so proportionable for greater or less wants of weight in the said pieces [coins]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 June 1680, An extraordinary drowth, to the threatening of great wants as to the fruits of the earth. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 75 Difficulties occasioned by..frequent Wants of Stone, which was kept from us by long easterly Winds.

c. *For* (occas. *by*, *from*, *in*, *through*) *want of*: for lack of; because of the absence or deficiency of.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10085 Antenor..denyet hym onon, þat noqwere he knew þat commly be keppet, ne in cloese haldyn. Þen wrathid þo worthi [Agamemnon] for wont of þe burde. 1556 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 2 That day..assingit to James Paterson..to preif quhat skayth he had sustenit in want of his boyt quhilkis Necoll Kar intromettit with. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 32 For want of seede, land yeeldeth weede. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 172 For often haue you writ to her: and she in modesty, Or else for want of idle time, could not againe reply. 1608 *Pennyless Parl. Threadbare Poets* in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) I. 180 Many, for Want of Wit, shall sell their Freehold for Tobacco-pipes and red Petticoats. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 499 For want of a naile the shoe is lost, for want of a shoe the horse is lost, for want of a horse the rider is lost. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 76 'Twas then that Buffalo's, ill pair'd, were seen To draw the Cart of Jove's Imperial Queen For want of Oxen. 1762 KAMES *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 55 When a man is pinched for want of money, he will submit to any conditions, however hard, to come at it. 1808 E. S. BARRETT *Miss-led General* 136 They could not pursue them for want of cavalry. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlv, I have deferred doing so, for want of opportunity. 1872 BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1884) I. 778 Umbilical Hernia..is common in children from want of closure of the umbilicus. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* x. (1891) 125 He.., had no notion of losing anything for the want of asking for it. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 125/1 An agreement in writing which they cannot produce in the County Court for want of a stamp.

† **d.** *In* (rarely *in the*) *want of*: failing; in the absence of (something needed or desired). *Obs.*

1655 CULPEPPER etc. *Rivorius* x. vi. 298 In want of Milk, you may give Almond Milk, or Barley Cream, or Rice Milk. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 186 There is just the same reason for quiet resignation in the want of every thing equally unattainable.

3. The state of lacking the necessaries of life; penury; destitution. Also, the condition of lacking food; famine; starvation. *To come to want*: to be reduced to penury.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 837 For-þi bi-houus þou, haþel, harde ȝ libbe & wo drie in þis word for wante & for nede! *Ibid.* 867 Swich hungur as ȝe han by-houus þou þolie, &, þ lef o þur lop libben in wante. 1397 *Extracts Munic. Newcastle* (1848) 44 Paide for the charges of buringe 9 poore folkes who died for wante in the streetes, for their graues making, 3s. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 116 Scarcity and want shall shun you, Ceres' blessing so is on you. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xix, And with him [Pornerus] Wastefulnesse, that all expended, And Want, that still in theft and prison ended. 1633 RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 241 The People generally shall be driven to want. *a* 1718 PRIOR *Knowledge* 602 Whilst We struggle in this Vale beneath, With Want and Sorrow. 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* 13 Here to the houseless child of want My door is open still. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. x, Who could have thought of his living so among the great folks, and then coming to want! 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, Through the same kind agency, his mother was secured from want, and made quite happy. 1866 MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. (1878) 162 Many was the time that want had come in at her door. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* cxii. III. 607 In Europe..he will perceive that by far the greater number lead very laborious lives, and are..liable to fall into want. 1900 R. S. BARBOUR *Thoughts* (1909) 46 Want is a mighty leveller.

Prov. 1736 BAILEY (fol.) s.v. *Waste*, Wilful Waste makes woful Want.

† **b.** *pl.* Straits; circumstances (or times) of want, hardship, suffering, etc. *Obs.*

1588 PERRY *Utile* A view of some part of such pubilke wants and disorders as are in the service of God, within.. Wales. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* III. x. § 13. 124 Hitherto the danger of enemies and miseries of weather and wants, had kept the companie in firme unitie. 1633 HEYWOOD *Prococpius, Vandal Wars* II. 47 In the mean time Jubdas leaving a sufficient guard for the Castle was gone up to the top of [illegible] to be blockt up in the Castle, and reduced [illegible] 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 1029 Rough Saticulans, inur'd to Wants. 1731 in *Baschurch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 380 How long I shall be reduced to great wants.

† **4.** The fact that a person (*rarely* a thing) is not present; absence. *Obs.*

c 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 8 Now sele is sorow, this is a woiuil werde, Sen want of wyse men makis fulis to sit on binkis. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* i. 4 Sith I needes muste yeelde hir vp,..(Ah) take hir then . hir want I rather craue, Than that this people here, should not their health and safety haue. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 11 As when .. An heard of Bulles.. Do for the milkie mothers want complaine. 1591 *2nd Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 73 The King entreats your soonest speed To visit him, who on your present want, Did ban and curse his birth, himselfe and me. 1620 B. Jonson *Sp. Pr. Henry's Barriers* 114 For being depresst a while, Want makes vs know the price of what we auile. 1621 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* v. ii, The price of things is best known in their want. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Women Pleas'd* III. iii. (1647) 34/2 *Lord*.. No roome in all the Court but we search'd through it Her women found her want first and they cry'd to us. 1633 Shirley *Witty Fair One* I. i, I leaue her to your trust, And in my absence doubt not you will be Both Vncle and Father. *Wor.* Willingly... I know she is your study, in your want I will put on your jealousie. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* ii, The want of his gauntlets and brassards showed his arms covered with a quilted jacket of crimson silk.

5. A condition marked by the lack of some necessary thing, or requiring some extraneous aid or addition; need; also, an instance of this, and so freq. *pl.* (passing into the quasi-*concr.* sense 'requirement', 5 b). Phrase, *a (long-)felt want* (also in sense 5 b). *To supply (anticipate, consult, provide for,* etc.) *one's wants*: to satisfy (provide for, etc.) one's needs.

1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 251 The Grecian Prince ..curied a bagge full of winde to supply his want at all times. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 141, I would..Supplie your present wants. 1611 Bible *Isaiah.* xix. 20 Let all thy wants lie vpon me; only lodge not in the street. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 62 The Citizens lay up corne brought out of Poland, and according to the wants of Europe, carry it into many kingdomes. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 127 The Fryers .upon a sudden want or occasion take out from thence as much fish as will give the whole Cloister a dinner. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 88 Government is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants. Men have a right that these wants should be provided for by this wisdom. Among these wants is to be reckoned the want, out of civil society, of a sufficient restraint upon their passions. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* II. ii. 12 The eldest son of a rich nobleman..has wide wants, and narrow powers. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xi, Day after day, and night after night, found her still by the pillow of the unconscious sufferer, still anticipating his every want. 1876 Mosley *Univ. Serm.* xv. 258 As soon as one great want is satisfied another arises, and then another.

b. quasi-*concr.* Something needed or required; a requirement, desideratum. Freq. *pl.*

1579 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 430 That no ..tymber be ladden or transported oute of this towne..saue onely fuell of wood for fyre and the presente wannte of repayringe of the shippis. 1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* Ep. Ded. P 1 He pointed with his wand to all the knowen..Empires, Kingdomes, Dukedomes, and Territories of ech part, with declaration also of their speciall commodities, & particular wants. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 169 For the soil of Spain, the fruitfulness of their vallies recompences the sterility of their hills; corn is their greatest want. 1785 Paley *Mor. Philos.* VI. xi. (1786) 393 Habitual superfluities become real wants. 1850 Carlyle *Latter-day Pamph.* i. (1872) 37 Your want of wants, I say, is that you be commanded in this world. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* 5 The remedies are just as well known; and among them is certainly not the establishment of a Child's Hospital. This may be a want. 1870 *Bookseller* 2 Apr. 341 Advt., Wants and Vacancies, A Medium for the Selection of Servants and Situations. Price One Penny [bi-monthly]. 1875 J. H. Bennet *Winter Medit.* (ed. 5) 408 Vividness in colour probably becomes an actual want to southerners. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 177 You will gain the alliance of a great naval power, and a navy is your chief want.

c. *In want of*: in need of; not having, or having in insufficient measure. *In no want of*: having abundantly.

1694 Stanhope *Epictetus* etc. i. 28 Inanimate Creatures.. are oftentimes in great want of some Quality or other; Heat, or Cold, or Drought, or Moisture. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 5 P 5 Their Troops were in Want of all Manner of Necessaries. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. ii. 31 A man in extreme want of food or clothing. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 269 You are more in want of horses than I am: keep him. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xii, She is in no want of words to shower upon Rosa.

d. Proverbial phrase, *Then Want must be your master*, etc., used in refusing a demand expressed by 'I want ——'.

1731–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* I. 59, I want that Diamond-Ring of yours. Why, then, Want's like to be your Master. 1828 [J. P. Collier] *Punch & Judy* 80 *Punch.* Come up stairs! I want you. *Judy.* Then want must be your master. I'm busy.

e. ? A sense of need. *rare.*

1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* I. 21 Like a doe in the noontide with love's sweet want. 1894 'G. Egerton' *Discords* 179 The band..strike up..a weird witching thing with a want in it.

6. † **a.** A defect, failing, fault; a shortcoming; *rarely* a natural blemish. *Obs.*, and apparently almost confined to the 17th c.

1592 Babington *Notes Genesis* lx. 38 Greater men then wee haue had theyr wants. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 18 So perfit loue in mortals is not found Some little warts or wants in all we spie. 1603 Breton *Post Pachet Mad Lett.* (Grosart) 14/1 Touching my husband, though his wants were grieuous, yet to want him is my greatest sorrow. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *King & No K.* I. (1619) 6 Were shee So perfect, that no one of her owne sex Could finde a want. 1635 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 80 No. 2 b, For repairinge and amendinge of the wants and present decayes of the bridges. 1677 Sedley *Ant. & Cl.* Wks. 1722 I. 122 A Sceptre may for pers'nal wants attone. 1728 Young *Love Fame* ii. (1757) 95 Wants of all kinds are made to fame a plea; One learns to lisp; another, not to see.

b. Sc. *To have a want*, to be mentally deficient.

1805 Jamieson, Suppl. s. v., *To Hae a want*, to be under mental imbecility. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* vii. 62 The whutch maid her jeer me as if I had a want, and been daft likewyse. 1879 'S. Tytler' in *Good Wds.* 349 He has a 'want', you know, and is not fit for much.

7. A gap, hole, hollow. *Obs.* exc. *dial. rare.*

1663 Baxter *Div. Life* I. x. (1664) 82 The wants in the wheels of your watch are as useful to the motion as the nucks or solid parts. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Saddle*, The Saddle should be placed exactly on the middle of the Back, the Fore-bow just at the Want of the Shoulders. 1808 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Want*, a deficiency or hollow place in a piece of timber, or the edge of a board.

8. *Coal-mining.* = Nip *sb.*[1]

1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 26 [See Nip *sb.*[1]].

9. *Comb.* as *want-begotten, -creating* ppl. adjs.; *column* (sense 5; cf. also ellipt. use of *wanted* pa. pple. in advertisements); see Want *v.* 4.

1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxvii. 12, I envy not in any moods ..The heart that never plighted troth But stagnates in the weeds of sloth; Nor any wan-begotten rest. 1901 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* iv. 14 Lady Beatrice found her [her cook] in the 'Want column of the *Standard*. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 631 The manifold, 'want-creating culture of modern European civilisation and education.

Want (wɒnt), *v.* Also 2–3 (*Ormin*) wannte, 3 wonti(e, 3–5 wont(e, 3–7 wante, 4–5 wantt(e, *Sc.* 4–6 vant, 5 whante, 6 waunt. [prob. a. ON. *vanta* wk. vb. impers. = MSwed. *vanta*, also *vantas* refl., Swed dial. *vanta* to be wanting, Norw. (Aasen) *vanta* to be lacking, absent, also trans. to lack, Da. (Jutland dial.) *vante* trans. to lack. From Scandinavian also is prob. mod. NFris. *waant* to need, fail, lack, do without (*pers.* and *impers.*). ON. *vanta* perh. represents an earlier **wanatôn* with a derivative *-t* suffix not connected with the neut. adj. ending seen in the sb.]

1. *intr.* To be lacking or missing; not to exist; not to be forthcoming; to be deficient in quantity or degree. In early use const. with dative or *to*. *rare* since the 17th c., and now *arch.* (*To be wanting* is current; see Wanting *ppl. a.*)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 194 Hwonne ou ne wontes nowiht, þeonne ueines he mid ou. *Ibid.* 406 Ne þunche hire neuer wunder þauh hire wontie þe Holi Gostes froure. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2155 Dan coren wantede in oðer lond, Đo ynug [was] vnder his hond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3053 Þam wanted brede, þeir water es gan, Hope of liif ne had þai nan. 13.. *Northern Passion* 156/440 So it bifell þe folk had care ffor þat þam wanted water þare. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 593 Bot proud man of þis tas na hede For hym wantes skille, þat hym suld lede. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 402 And it is to pereloune thing In castell till assegit be, Quhar that ane wantis of this thre, Vittale, or men with thair armyng. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 449 To give the good where it wanteth, trewly, That were reioun and a curteys maner. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II. ix, They whiche ben on lyue haue some whiche drede them but theyr drede wantith and fayleth whan they ben dede. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 89 To a sclatar for the poyntin of al the place of Stirling, and for sclaytis that wantit and lyme, xij li. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 81 Where obedyence wanteth (sayth sayntAustyn) there is no goodnes. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 42 Diners can not be long, where deinties want. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 3 Tell me, what wants me here, to worke delyte? *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, IV. iv, O wearie life, where wanteth no distresse. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* IV. ii. (1622) 90 The armies were to be supplied with a new muster. For voluntarie men now wanted: or if there were any; they were not of so vertuous and modest a cariage. 1630 Earl Manch. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 273 If your help be in this business, as I know it shall not want, it is no matter though your hand wanted to the certificate. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 17 Besides, that in France there never wanted discontented Persons, who would joyn with his Forces. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* I. viii. 465 There wanted not reasons in the cabinet of Charles for placing the navy at this time on a respectable footing. 1830 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 245 There wants a collection of dying speeches of nefarious governments.

† **b.** To fall short *of* a certain amount. *Obs.*

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 56/2 All such sommes of money, as shall want or lak of the forseid sommes.

† **c.** To be lacking to complete a certain total or achieve a result. Const. *of* or negative clause. Also impers., in absolute uses of 2 d: *hem wantiþ*, they are not fully qualified; *there wants*, something is lacking (const. *to* with inf.); *it wants of six* (o'clock), it is not quite six. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14667 Littel wantid þat þam [? *read* þai ne *with Gött.*] war wode. 13.. *Gaw & Gr. Knt.* 1062 & of þat ilk newere bot neked now wontes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 739 'And fyue wont of fyfty,' quod god, 'I schal forgete alle & wyth-halde my honde for hortyng on lede. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks* III. 434 Þei seynen faliliche þat þei ben vikeris of Crist; for likliche hem wantiþ to be þe leeste membre þat Crist hab ordeyned to be of his Chirche. 1628 J. Wilkinson *Treat., Of a Court Lest* 79 b, The steward may impanell any stranger, if there want to make xii. of ye Iury. 1639 Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 164 He..abusing him with injurious words, & threats, (it as he was surly & apt to strike) little wanted of blows. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 937 Then, shall I see Laurentum in a flame, Which only wanted to complete my shame. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 256 The Prince was true to his Letter. It wanted of Six, when in my Man's Apparel I got to the Grotto, but found Endymion in possession of it. 1768 Wilkes *Hist. Eng.* I. Introd. 13 The fire had been long laid, and there only wanted such a spark to force a blaze.

† **d.** To fail (const. with dative or *to*); to give out; to be insufficient *for* (a purpose, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2530 But word and wit, with chere ful pale, Shal wante for to telle thy tale. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5480 Or els þai tillid þaim to þe trees as þe buke tellis, And gert þaim laike with þaim so lange till þaim þe life wantis. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* Ded. (Arb.) 6 One whose good will hath not wanted to gratifie your grace with a better thing if mine abilitie were greater. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 58 But they of the citie fought manfully against them, with engines, dartes, and arrowes, and when stones wanted they threw siluer, and especially melted siluer.

† **e.** To fail *to do* something; to be wanting (*in* one's endeavours). *Obs.*

In quot. 1576 perh. 'to lack the wherewithal', to be too poor.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16733 For thow, lady, ffayllest neuere, nor thow wantest nat to do socour and helpe to alle that deuoutly besechyn and prayen vn-to the. 1576 *Common Conditions* 216 (Brooke) Like beggers wee liue and want to pay rent. 1643 Burroughes *Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea* xviii. 455 So far as you want in your endeauours after this, so far there is an euil.

† **f.** To be a defaulter; to be absent, missing. *Obs.*

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* II. iv. 76 Saluum me fac deus, quoniam defecit sanctus, þat is to say; 'lorde, make me sayffe, for þe sayntis wantys.' *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 169 In þe kurk of Palermens was þer a certan dean þat sent a servand of his to seke a palfray of his þat hym wantid. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 290 Ane man that office suld beir be tyme at this tyde, He will be found in his fault, that wantis foroutin weir. *c* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Wether* 45 In all thingis be [the wether] counterfait the Dog: For all the nicht he stude and tuke na sleip, Swa that weill lang thair wantit not ane Hog. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 153 For there wanted aboue sixe thousand souldiers of them which had been leuied.

2. *trans.* Not to have; to be without, to lack; to have too little of; to be destitute of, or deficient in; to fail to have, or get. Now *rare*, exc. with object a desirable quality or attribute.

c 1200 Ormin 13380 All þatt wannteþþ Cristess hald All sinnkeþþ inntill helle. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* vii. 103 Sir Phillip wanted all his will, þat was wele on his sembland sene. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Evangelia*) 83 Wantande nathing of bewte, þat in a woman suld fundyn be. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 421 Full wofull is the householde That wantys a woman. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vi. 340 Thre thousand haill off likly men in wer, And feill on fute quhilk wantyt hors and ger. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 2 Thocht Bruiall beistis be Irrationall, That is to say, wantand discretioun. *a* 1533 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* Wks. (1573) 22 We haue all sinned and want the glory whiche before God is allowed. 1560 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 262 Tua beddis wantand the sydis nixt the wall. 1577 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 395 Everye one that shall wante his gowne shall lose his place. 1625 Burges *Vers. Tithes* 67 It is a thousand pitties they should want blowes who will doe nothing without them. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 16 If you want Peaches, you may use Juice of soure Apples. 1700 Dryden *Monum. Fair Maiden Lady* 2 Below this Marble Monument is laid All that Heav'n wants of this Celestial Maid. 1720 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 80 He has sent 3 Lectures to be printed at Oxford (they wanting Arabick Types at Cambridge). 1728 T. Sheridan tr. *Persius* iii. (1739) 48 It is very natural that Sciences should be ridiculed by those who want them. ? 1793 Burns *Selkirk Grace* 2 Some hae meat, and canna eat, And some wad eat that want it. 1836 [J. Grant] *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* xvi. 402 His matter wants vigour and depth, and his manner is deficient in energy. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I 302 Mulgrave, though he wanted experience, wanted neither parts nor courage. 1852 R. A. Willmott *Pleas. Lit.* (ed. 2) vi. 37 The Library of Petrarch wanted the *Divine Comedy*, until Boccaccio sent it decorated with gold. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. 170 A purely optimistic creed always wants any real stamina.

† **b.** To be free from (something undesirable).

1631 May tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 206 The English which want somewhat of the pompous shew of the French humanity, doe want much more of their barbarous cruelty. 1787 [Beattie] *Scoticisms* 105 We wanted the plague in Scotland, when they had it in England. *a* 1792 Grose *Olio* (1792) 110 [Scotsman *loq.*] I am much better indeed; I have wanted the gout these three months.

† **c.** To spare (la Lour). *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 10, I haue no labour wanted to prune this tree thus planted, whose fruite to none is scanted, in house or yet in feeld.

d. To come short by (so much) of completing a certain total or attaining a certain result. Now chiefly *impers.* in telling the time of day: *it wants* (so many minutes) *of* (now more commonly *to*) such an hour. † Formerly often *to want little, nothing*, etc. used personally and impers., const. *of* with vbl. sb., *to* with *inf.*, or negative clause, to indicate a close approach to the attainment of a certain result.

In referring to the time of day this form of expression is now becoming less usual: the ordinary phrase is *it is* (so many minutes) *to* (such an hour).

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 584 (Douce MS.) He wanted noȝte to be slayne þe brede of ane hare. 1530 Palsgr. 771/1 It wanted but a lyttell that I was nat taken. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 217 We had now some two miles to Jerusalem, yet in the very Heauen, we wanted little of perishing. 1638 tr. *Bacon's Hist. Life & Death* 133 Eight Men, whose Age computed together, made up eight hundred yeares: In so much, that what some of them wanted of an hundred, others exceeded as much. 1643 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 6 Letters came from the Generalls that they wanted a dayes sayle from the Dutch fleete, but were in great hopes to overtake them.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 201 If it chanced to want anything of

1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. i. 7 His squadron wanted three hundred seamen of their complement. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. v, Of my fortune not one farthing could be touched till I was of age, of which I wanted now more than two years. 1764 HENLEY *Note on Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 126 It wanted little but that the genii had pressed on him in crowds. 1830 JAMES *Step-mother* lxxix. III. 326 You vagabond, you said it was ten o'clock, and it wants twenty minutes. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 82. 5 It still wanted a considerable time to school. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lv, 'How goes the time? My watch is unwound.' 'Wants a few minutes of five o'clock, sir.' 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* vi. 59 It only wants five minutes to dinner. 1891 W. C. RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* xi, It wanted but twenty minutes to eight. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* iii. 25 Although it wanted yet twenty minutes to midnight the church was nearly full.

†e. To be deprived of, to lose. *Obs.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Wolf & Wether* 35, I [*sc.* the wether] sall not spair To follow him [*sc.* the wolf] als fast as did 3our Doig, Swa that, I warrand, 3e sall not want ane hoig. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 42 He cowth gif cure for laxatyve, To gar a wicht horss want his lyve. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxviii. 10, I thought I shulde haue gone to the gates of hell in my best age, and haue wanted the residue of my yeares. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 89 He maid mony lawis for the liberte of haly kirke; He that dang ane preist suld want his hand. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 122 Lat him want his sword, and thair eftir avoyd his cumpanie. 1695 A. TELFAIR *New Confut. Sadd.* (1696) 4 The Pot-hooks and Hanger were carried out of the Chimney, and being wanted four days, they found them at last in a Cockloft. 1724 *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 14, I neither wanted ew nor lamb While his flock near me lay.

†f. To feel the loss of, to miss. *Obs.*

1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* III. ii, You shall want him, For know an honest states-man to a Prince, Is like a Cedar, planted by a Spring. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. vi, I must needes say, I lost an Officer of him, a good Bayliffe, And I shall want him; but all peace be with him. 1749 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 14 Nov., You should be *alerte, adroit, vif*; be wanted, talked of, impatiently expected, and unwillingly parted with in company.

†g. To fail to recollect. *Obs. rare.*

c 1382 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 287 And manye a mayde of whiche the name I wante. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 150 Diamondes fyne and rubies rede, And many another stoon, of which I want The names now.

¶ h. (Confused use.) *Who cannot want the thought?* who can help thinking?

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. vi. 8 Who cannot want the thought, how monstrous It was for Malcolme, and for Donalbane To kill their gracious Father?

1. *Wanting* (pres. pple.), not having, deprived of, without; (in definitions of a smaller quantity by its difference from a larger) lacking, less, minus. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

1536 in [Ledwich] *Antiq. Sarish.* (1771) 192 A cross, with Abraham offering up Isaac, and a lamb behind him, with an Angel wanting one wing 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. ii. 2 A lyne is..length wantyng breadth and thicknes. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 10 What a wearie way From Rauenspurgh to Cottshold will be found, In Rosse and Willoughby, wanting your companie. 1629 HOBBES *Thucydides* II. 89, 10000 Talents wanting 300. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1645, Three chips of the real Crosse; one of the nailes, wanting a point. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, I measured the Tail of the dead Rat, and found it to be two Yards long wanting an Inch. 1777 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 268 'Tis four months wanting three days since we parted. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk. York* etc. 246 In Scireburne (Sherborn) with the Berewicks, the archbishop has 100 carucates of land, wanting four. 1836 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xviii, I would not go wanting sword and gun, and with a long fishing-rod. *Ibid.* xx, I have come wanting a water-bottle.

j. To go or do without. Usually in negative expressions, *esp.* with *cannot*, etc. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* (1579) 27 The fysher and Fouler must haue hempe to make their nettes. And no Archer can want his Howstring. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 287, I can nott weall want him, or some preacher. I can nott put away sic ane man. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* v. i. 37 And sweete Perseda, I will stay with you, From Brusor my beloued; and Ile want him Till he bring backe Erastus vnto you. 1606 CHAPMAN *Mons. d'Olive* II. i, Tabacco, that excellent plant, the vse whereof (as of fift Element) the world cannot want. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Ld. Craighall* 10 Aug., Ye have a fair occasion to gratifie Christ now, if ye will..want the night's sleep with your suffering Saviour one hour. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 48 Such books are..usefull drugs .., wherewith to temper and compose effective and strong med'cins, which mans life cannot want. 1667 — *P. L.* v. 365 By descending from the Thrones above, Those happie places thou hast deigned a while To want, and honour these. 1708 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 368 Servants, in those Countries where long and loose Garments are worn, could not, without great inconvenience, want a part of Cloathing so necessary for Expedition. 1772 COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 27 June, I had rather want many things, any thing, indeed, that this world could afford me, than abuse the affection of a friend. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* I. vi. 119 To want a horse and cart in the country seemed impossible. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxix, A worthless old play-fellow of mine, whose company I would rather want than have. 1830 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s. v., We can't want the pony the day.

†**k.** *To want* (gerundial inf.): to seek, not forthcoming. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1589 *Homilies* II, *Repention Wh.* III. 243 b, Remember I say once againe your dueties of thankes, let them be neuer to want.

3. *intr.* (partly *absol.* of sense 2). †**a.** *simply.* To be in want of something implied by the context, or of the necessaries of life. *Obs.*

13.. *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. IV. 321 He wrot so faste til pat he want, For his parchemyn skin was so scant. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) K v b, Though their bellies want: Their backs must brauely clothed be. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* F 4 b, Master James Acmootye comming for England, said, that if I would ride with him, that neither I nor my horse should want betwixt that place and London. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 31 He [*sc.* the King] being moued to see one so well featur'd (as she was) to want, entertained her for one of his pages. *a* 1626 BACON *Use of Law* (1630) 84 *marg.*, If the Executors doe want they may sell any Legacie to pay Debts. 1679 [T. KIRKE] *Mod. Acc. Scot.* 13 In the Highlands,..If one Man has two Cows, and another wants, he shall soon supply himself from his Neighbour. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* II. iii. (1699) 147 It was a Position of the Stoicks, that he was not Poor who wanted, but he who was necessitated.

†**b.** *To want of*: to lack, not to have, or to have in insufficient measure: = the trans. sense 2.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4586 Þe same wyse dose a wolfe þat wantis of his pray. *c* 1300 *Melusine* 147 He demanded of them what they ayled, and yf they wanted of eny thing. 1600 F. L. *Ovid's Remedie of Love* I. D 2 b, Are her teeth blacke or wants shee of the best? Relate some merry iest that shee may grinne. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 69 Though you may discover the same fury, yet it wants of the same vigour. 1698 *Whole Duty Man* xvii. § 8 We want of the due compassion, if we can be content our poor brother should have one hour of unnecessary suffering, when we [etc.]. 1730 SAVERY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 301 And if ever it is found otherwise, I cannot but think that Loadstone wants of Perfection. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 52 However brilliant a diamond may be.. it wants of its value and lustre till suitably set. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 87 Unwrought gold and silver want considerably of that lustre and brightness they appear in at goldsmiths' shops.

c. *To want for*: (chiefly in negative context) to suffer from the want of; to be ill-provided with; in later use also, to be lacking in (some quality). *To want for nothing*: to have no lack of any of the necessaries or comforts of life.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. ii. 10 Fye no, doe not beleeue It: hee cannot want for money. 1632 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 319 Let her want for nothing. 1632 WADSWORTH tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 305 Though it was Lent, their Bishop gave them leav to eat flesh, so they wanted for no good cheer. 1679 DRYDEN & LEE *Œdipus* I. 12 While Argos is a People, think your Thebes Can never want for Subjects. 1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 54 The Ambassador did not want either for Friends in England, nor in Hilaria's own Family. 1733 POPE *Let. to Swift* 28 May, It will not want for Satire. 1747 E. POSTON *Pratler* I. 74, I hope thou art well, and dost not want for the common Necessaries of Life. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 153 But that was his misfortune, as he wanted not for perseverance, cunning, or cold blood, the three grand characteristics of a Scotchman. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXXVIII, Mrs. Bumble..did not want for spirit, as her yoke-fellow could abundantly testify. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VII. v. (1873) II. 295 Frederika did not want for temper, as the Hohenzollerns seldom do. 1882 P. FITZGERALD *Recreat. Lit. Man* (1883) 227 But she did not want for pluck or courage, as every streetboy knew. 1885 'OUIDA' *Rainy June* (1901) 90 He was happy and wanted for nothing.

4. *trans.* To suffer the want of; to have occasion for, need, require; to stand in need of (something salutary, but often not desired. Hence *colloq.* senses 4 and 5 are often humorously contrasted.)

In advertisements the pa. pple. *wanted* is used elliptically (= F. *on demande*, G. *wird gesucht*), prefixed or appended to the designation of the kind of person or thing sought for; e.g. 'Wanted, a governess'; 'Experienced bookkeepers wanted'; 'Wanted, any early books on America.' Similarly, *Wanted to purchase.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 446 Deyr cusyng, pray I the, Quhen thow wantis gud, cum fech ynewch fra me. 1530 PALSGR. 731/1, I wante monaye, *argent me fault.* 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 66 Oh welcome Oxford, for we want thy helpe. 1630 WINTHROP *Let.* in *New Eng.* (1825) I. 379 Though we have not beef and mutton, &c. yet (God be praised) we want them not; our Indian corn answers for all. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. Epist. Pantagruel's Lymosin 251 Incluse with Sylves behind, and Lakes before us, Our outward man wants something that's calorous. 1737 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 18 Dec., I was seized with a violent Flux, which I felt came not before I wanted it. 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* VIII, Man wants but little here below, Nor wants that little long. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Solon* (1879) I. 97/2 The soothsayers declared, that there were certain abominable crimes which wanted expiation. ?1791 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* XLVII 373/2 Throwing the Timber, fresh cut, into Salt Water, and letting it lie there till wanted. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 367 A tube is wanted for the conveyance of fluids. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, He must want his tea, poor man, after his dirty walk from the Docks. 1843 LYTTON *My Novel* VI. xiv, She wants some one to read to her, and tend on her—she is old, and has no children. She wants a companion, and prefers a girl of your age to one older. Will this suit you? 1884 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *Deliverance* V (ed. 9) 74 He had got a notion in his head that his mind wanted rest and reinvigoration. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roder's Corner* VIII. 85 The nurse whose services had not hitherto been wanted, had..spent some pleasant weeks at a pension at Scheveningen.

b. With *vbl. sb.* or *inf.* (esp. *passive*) as object now chiefly *colloq.*). *It wants doing* (*it wants to be done*): it needs doing, should be done. *One wants to do it* (*this way*): one's best, or proper course is to do it; one should do it, etc.

The idiom (common *colloq.* in North and North-midlands) by which the verb apparently takes two objects, a sb. or pron. and a vbl. sb. that in sense governs it (as, *I want that doing* is perhaps a blend of *I wants doing*, and *I want it done.*

1582–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 2129/1 For we may in no wise betray the cause of God, nor will not doe, but sustaine it to the vttermost of our powers..., but hereunto we want presently indifferent vsing [? = 'we need to be impartially treated']. 1587 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 216 We present the Hull Rings to want raylinge. 1697 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* II. ii, *Madam.* Intead Matam, to say de truth, he wanted leetel good breeding. *Lady Fan.* Good breeding! He wants to be can'd, Madamoiselle. 1719 DE FOE (*Crusoe* I. (Globe) 160 My goats wanted to be milked. 1724 R. FIDDES *Morality* Pref., p. cxix, A train of accusations which, severally, want to be proved themselves. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. viii. 359 The merit of this speech is too well known, to want to be enlarged upon here. 1792 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 13 The Banks of the [Lock] Chamber want to be laid down properly, and some Trees cut down. 1865 'L. CARROLL' *Alice in Wonderland* vii. (1866) 96 'Your hair wants cutting', said the Hatter. 1868 E. BECKETT DENISON *Life Bp. Lonsdale* 172 Those who wanted a church consecrating, or a meeting to be held. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roder's Corner* XIV. 146 'That loose-shouldered chap Roden is a scoundrel,' he said bluntly,.. 'and wants thumping.'

5. To desire, wish for. Often with *inf.* as object.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 2 All such as want to ride in Post-haste from one World to the other. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. v. 50 If either want to be separated during the term limited, there must be a Commutation of Money paid by the separating Party to the other, according as they can agree. 1752 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 127 Cheats mingle the Flower or Seed among the Food of those whom they want to defraud. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXXIII, If every one of your clients is to force us to keep a clerk, whether we want to or not, you had better leave off business. 1871 MORLEY in Liddon *Pusey* (1897) IV. 221 What you mention about persons actually not *wanting* an hereafter is a horrible feature of the day. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* IV, Now *I* have got over my first foolish fear of him, he is so gentle and polite, and seems to want to be friends with my father. 1895 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 650/2 If the underwriters had wanted to know they could have asked at once. 1902 J. F. RUSLING *European Days & Ways* 299 Blücher wanted to hang or shoot Napoleon as an outlaw and monster. 1902 R. BAGOT *Donna Diana* X. 116 She came repeatedly to the Castelnuovo gardens, generally accompanied by Frau von Raben, but occasionally, when the latter was wanted to drive with her cousins, by Princess San Rocco's maid.

b. To desire (a person) *to* (do something). Also, *U.S.*, with clause as object.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. ix, I want you to be a good boy. 1852 H. C. KIMBALL in *Brigham Young's Jrnl. Discourses* (1859) VI. 256 If this is your determination, I want you should manifest it by raising your right hands. 1903 C. L. BURNHAM *Jewel* ii, Mr. Evringham wants you should saddle his horse and bring her round. 1928 *Oxford Mag.* 21 June 343/1 Most of them do not make it quite plain what they want the teacher [of the Classics] to do.

c. To wish to see, or speak to (a person); to desire the presence or assistance of one (for a specified purpose). Frequently *passive.*

Wanted! sometimes used ellipt. (for 'you are wanted'). Cf. *Shop!*

c 1760 CHALLONER in E. Burton *Life* (1909) II. xxiv. 28 We will spend our evenings, as much as possible, at our own lodgings, so that we may be found by those who shall want us for the sick. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXV, 'Retire!' said Barnardine sternly: 'you are not wanted:' and as Emily said nothing, Annette obeyed. 1824 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vi, When from a side and smaller door a female enquired 'whom he pleased to want', 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'Winkle—Winkle!' shouted Mr. Tupman, calling into the inner room.'..'You're wanted—some one at the door.' 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 2 Leave me here, and when you want me, sound upon the bugle horn. 1866 TROLLOPE *Claverings* V, 'She is not likely to press herself where she is not wanted'.

d. *Wanted* (pa. pple.): *colloq.* or humorous ellipsis for *wanted by the police*, said of persons whose apprehension is required for some offence.

1818 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Wanted*, when any of the traps or runners have a private information against a family person [*sc.* a thief] and are using means to apprehend the party, they say, such a one is wanted. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XLIII, 'Yes, he was wanted.' 'Very particular?' inquired Mr. Bolter. 'No,' replied the Jew, 'not very. He was charged with attempting to pick a pocket,' [etc.]. 1903 *Times* 5 Sept. 5/5 The prisoner..said he wished to give himself up, having heard that he was 'wanted'.

e. *What does he want with* (such or such a person or thing)? = 'What is his object in dealing with (the person)?' or 'Why should he care to possess (the thing)'. Also (? *dial.*) const. *of.*

1808 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 309 (tr.) Death, what can you want of Fanny? With your lipless teeth and sockets, How should you contrive to kiss her? 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* vii, Once more, what dost thou want with me? and why hast thou the boldness to watch me? 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* xxiv, It is an incredible mystery. What could he want with the money? The tale told, about his having debts, has no foundation. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VI. 105 Men, for the last time, what do you want with me? 1897 MCCARTHY *Own Times* V. xxi. 489 What does the Irishman want with tobacco, or wine, or spirits? it might perhaps fairly be asked. But then comes the other question, 'What does the Englishman want of wine, or spirits, or cigars?'

f. With ellipsis of a verb of motion, *to want out* (*in*, etc.): to wish to go out (in, etc.). Chiefly *Sc., north. Jr.*, and *U.S. colloq.*

1844 W. JAMIE *Muse of Mearns* 86 (E.D.D.) A sturdy chap.., Cam to the door and wanted in. 1870 J. NICHOLSON *Idylls o' Hame* 12 Jenny, are ye wantin' oot 'Mang the knowes to frisk about? 1887 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 3 Sept., The turnkey

says if the prisoner had informed him he wanted out, he would have been released. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 6 Dec. 7/8 Just then he heard a knock at the door, and told me that some one wanted in. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 19 Sept., An old gentleman who was drawn to serve on the grand jury .. wanted off, and when the court asked for excuses he said [etc.]. 1897 Crockett *Lad's Love* xxiii. 236 It was cold and he wanted back to the inn fire-side.

6. *Comb.*: †**want-grace**, one who lacks grace, a reprobate: cf. *lack-grace*, *scapegrace*. See also Want-wit.

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 57/2 And rather then they should not die by force, Or want a Want-grace to performe the Deede, Their Vncle and Protector must perforce Their Crowne from Head, and Head from Life divorce. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* 31 Thus may adulterous want-graces looke into Tereus fall.

Want, obs. pa. t. of When *v.*

Wa'n't (wānt). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* A contracted form of *was not* (cf. *wasn't*). Now only used, in literature, in representations of dialectal or vulgar speech. Cf. *ain't*, *don't*, etc.

1708 Vanbrugh *False Friend* v. i, Who did you let in then? it wan't your Master, sure? 1797 Foote *Author* Epilogue Wks. 1799 I. 129 Says Lady Bell..There wa'n't a creature there.

Wantag, obs. Sc. form of Vantage *sb.*

Wa'ntage[1]. In 7 Wantige. The name of a town in Berkshire (OE. *Wanating*), the birthplace of King Alfred. Used *attrib.* in † *Wantage cap*.

1609 Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 31 Monmouth caps, Wantige caps, round caps.

Wantage[2] (wɒ·ntēdʒ). *U.S. Comm.* [f. Want *v.* + -age.] Deficiency, shortage.

1888-92 Webster, *Wantage*, deficiency; that which is wanting 1888-9 *New York Produce Exchange Report* 256 (Cent.) Inspectors and Gaugers shall make a detailed return ..of each lot inspected, showing..the gauge, wantage, proof, and number of proof gallons.

Wantage, obs. Sc. form of Vantage.

Wante, wanteau, obs. forms of Wanty.

Wanted (wɒ·ntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Want *v.* + -ed[1].]

1. In the senses of the verb: **a.** Lacking, missing; desired, needed.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 346 Make me but happy in his safe Return, Whose wanted Presence I can only mourn. 1708 Pope *Iliad* xiii. 338 To whom the Cretan: Enter, and receive The wanted weapons. 1821 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 267 They will not pay him for executing a wanted work.

b. *dial.* Dispensed with.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 84 And locks would be a wanted thing, To keep out thieves at night.

c. Of a person: Sought for by the police.

1903 G. R. Sims *Living London* III. 18/2 Down the long lines of beds the uniformed figures go,..till they reach the bedside of the two 'wanted' men, who awake to find themselves in the grip of the law. 1911 *Sphere* 28 Dec. 338/3 A periodical called *The Detective*, in which portraits of wanted persons are given.

2. *absol.* as *sb.* Chiefly in *plural*. Persons or things that are 'wanted' (i.e. advertised for, sought by the police, etc.). Chiefly *colloq.*

1793 W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 51 P 5, I design to publish a list of Wanteds, wholly for the use of your Paper. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 25 Mar. 3/4 A policeman arresting a 'wanted' in a common lodging-house. 1907 *Shrewsbury Chron.* 27 Dec., *heading of Advt. column*, Wanteds. 1910 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Jan. 98/2 Two 'wanteds' figured conspicuously in a crowd .in Shoreditch.

†**Wantel.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: perh. some error.] A bundle, burden, pack.

1599 Minsheu, *Garrote*, a cudgell to winde a cord as carriers do to packe their wantels with [Cf. Percyuall (1591), *Garote*, Fustis quo funem torquent in ligandis sarcinis.]

Wanter[1] (wɒ·ntəɹ). [f. Want *v.* + -er[1].]

1. One who is deficient in something. ? *Obs.*

1621 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* (Grosart) 21/2 What should I thinke of courage? if it wants, The wanters are despis'd of God and men. 1886 *Spectator* 13 Feb. 209/2 The wanters were many and the wealthy few.

2. One who is in need or desirous of something.

1727 Swift *Let. to Mrs. Howard* 9 July, But you know too well already how very injudicious the general tribe of wanters are. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VIII. 144 Suppose *B*, in such great want of this treasure, as to be unable to live without it. And suppose *A*, the Miser, has such an opinion of *B*, the Wanter, that he would rather lend it to him, than to any mortal living. 1867 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 21 Dec. 801 An exchange..in which the wanters and the wanted may meet.

b. One who seeks a husband or wife. *dial.*

1723 Ramsay *Fair Assembly* viii, Then, ilka wanter wale a wife, Ere eild and humdrums seize ye. 1824 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* 82 I'here's lads but few in our to-wn, And lasses wanters plenty. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, And dinna snooze at Joe, if he should be for drawing up wi' you, ..he's a handy boy, and a wanter. 1872 C. Gibson *Lads of Gold* xxii, He did not belong to the set of lively 'wanters'—as the bachelors were designated.

Wanter[2] (wɒ·ntəɹ), *dial.* [f. Want *sb.*[1] + -er[1].] A mole-catcher.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 8 July 3/5 John Perry, the old 'wanter', or mole-catcher of Luccombe.

Wantey, -teye, obs. forms of Wanty.

Wantful (wɒ·ntful), *a.* [f. Want *sb.*[2] + -ful.] Full of wants, exacting.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 180/1 My Caesar's whims, which, day and night More wantful, do but grow with surfeiting.

Wantgard, obs. Sc. form of Vanguard.

Wanthrift (wɒ·nþrift). *Sc.* [f. Wan- + Thrift *sb.*[1]] **a.** Lack of thrift or economy; prodigality. **b.** A thriftless person; also *collect.*

a. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol. 79 Quhat wickitness, quhat wanthrift now in warld walkis! 1903 W. Cheviotal *Kingdom of Kippen* 100 Never to wanthrift may eny deil drive ye Is the wish o' wee Wattie the hard o' Bucklyvie.

b. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 438 Lat no vice in this warld in this wanthrift be wanted. *a* 1586 R. Maitland in *Maitland MS.* (S. T. S.) I. 39 Off our wanthrift sum wytis playis.

Hence **Wa'nthrifty** *a. Sc.*, unthrifty.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 261 Vyle venemous viper, wanthriftiest [*Tullibard.* wanthreivinest] of things.

Wan-thriven, *a. Sc.* [f. Wan- + Thriven *a.* Cf. Da. *vantrivven.*] Ill-developed, stunted in growth.

1508 Kennedy *Flyting w. Dunbar* 493 Evill schrywin, wan-thrywin, not clene as curius. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 327 Threed-bare bee their thrift as thou art wan-threivin [*var.* vanthrewin, wanthriuen]! 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xx, And what am I but a poor wasted, wan-thriven tree? 1825 Jamieson Suppl., *Lingit*, thin, lean, wanthriven.

Wantie, Wantige, obs. ff. Wanty, Wantage.[1]

Wanting (wɒ·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Want *v.* + -ing[1].] The condition of being without, or lacking, something; the absence or deficiency of something.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11676 We o water has nu wanting, Vr water purueance es gan. *c* 1380 Wyclif *De Apostasia Clari* i. Sel. Wks. III. 431 Bodyliche abyte, or wantyng þerof, makiþ not men religiose neyþer apostatas. *a* 1395 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) i. lxxxi, What is synne but a wanting or a forberyng of good. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxxvi, Sum [died] sorowfully, for wanting of thare makis. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiv. 179 Woo were to me yf for wantyng of a preu & valyaunt man it shuld retourne in to the payenemes handes. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 126 And take vpon command, what helpe we haue That to your wanting may be ministred. 1637 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 92 If we would..exercise our selves sometimes to fastings and wantings and other hardnesses and austerities. 1680 *W. Allen's Persuas. Peace & Unity* Pref. p. lxxxvi, The Printers wanting of Copy to fill up this sheet, is the only occasion of this Postscript. 1682 Otway *Venice Preserv'd* iv. i, Why was such happiness not given me pure? Why dash'd with cruel wrongs, and bitter wantings? 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Electra* 265 They rule me, and from them comes all I have—My having and my wanting, both are theirs.

Wanting (wɒ·ntiŋ), *pres. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [f. Want *v.* + -ing[2].]

A. As pres. pple. (only predicatively).

1. That is absent or lacking; not forthcoming, not supplied or provided.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1505 So þat, if oght wantand be, In whom defaut es, may men se. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 54 So þai lukid aboute þaim, & one of þaim sayd þat þe chamberlayn was wantand. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 36 If doung be wantyng to mende the ground withall. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 450 And what in me seems wanting, but that I May also in this poverty as soon Accomplish what they did? 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 168 When the Salteller was wanting, the Table was look'd on as Profane. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, Mr. Winkle eagerly watched his opportunity; it was not long wanting. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Oct. 5/2 There are not wanting indications that the calm is more apparent than real. 1886 C. Scholl *Phrasesol. Dict.* II. 830 Nothing will be wanting on my part to render your stay in our city as agreeable as possible.

b. Const. *to* († formerly also simple dative)

13.. *Cursor M.* 6499 Quen manna sal vs wantand be, He sal send vs wid plente. 1592 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, i. i. 82 Were our Teares wanting to this Funerall. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. xlv. 174 As for my parents,..I may say without vanity, that Crowns are unjustly wanting to their worth. [Fr. *que les couronnes manquent iniustement à leurs merites.*] 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 430 No gift of nature or of fortune seemed to be wanting to her. 1861 Paley *Aeschylus* (ed. 2) *Choeph.* 817 *note*, By this slight and happy change..an imperative, hitherto wanting to the sentence, is obtained.

c. fig. *To be wanting to*: to fail to help or satisfy (a person or need); to prove unequal to, fall below (a claim, expectation, duty, opportunity). *To be wanting to oneself*: to fail to do justice to oneself; to fall below the standard imposed by one's character and abilities (now *rare* or *arch*).

1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* I. xliii. 176 When they had all promised rather to dye then be wanting to the duty of a good Knight [Fr. *plustost que manquer au deuoir d'vn bon chenalier*]. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 72 Some alledge God will not be wanting to any who are not wanting to themselves. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 272 Nor shall I to the work thou enterprisest Be wanting, but afford thee equal aid. 1702 W. Wotton *Hist. Rome* 343 He was mightily wanting also to himself in the choice of his Officers. 1762 Hume *Hist. Eng. to Hen. VII*, I. i. 17 Cerdic was not wanting to his good fortune. 1783 Cowper *Let. to Unwin* 31 Dec., You observe therefore that I am not wanting to myself; he that is so, has no just claim on the assistance of others. 1794 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 89 The Vendéans were not wanting to themselves in so terrible a crisis. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. vii. 190 The Earl was not a man to be wanting to his country at such a moment. 1872 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* II. Ded. p. vi, You have never been wanting to me..when I had occasion in any difficulty to seek your guidance.

†**2.** Needful, requisite, necessary. *Obs.*

1758 Washington *Writ.* (1889) I. 261 To carry on all these works, a number of tools..will be absolutely wanting. 1777 *Beggar Girl* (1873) II. 98 Mrs. Bute to take such a number of

with her as would be wanting to attend on her husband. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Prussian Vase* Wks. 1816 I. 248 She added, that the count had written all that was wanting for her.

3. That lacks, or is without, something. Usu. with a defining prepositional phrase: see b, c, d.

1611 Bible *Dan.* v. 27 Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 453 His rectitude and piety, tried by strong temptations and never found wanting.

†**b.** const. *of*. *Obs.*

1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 78 My life were better ended by their hate, Then death proroged wanting of thy Loue. 1654-66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 788, I give those Kingdoms to you and your Heirs for ever..and wanting of Heirs, to revert unto my Successors again. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* I. 2 Her Limbs enervated and supine, wanting of that Energy that should bear her [etc.]. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 23 It is wanting of Leaves.

c. const. *in*.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* Ded. to Ld. Clifford, Though England is not wanting in a Learned Nobility. 1724 Pope *Let.* 1 Aug. in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 153 And hope..he will not be found wanting in the knowledge of his profession. 1859 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 257 No one..would suspect them of being wanting in fun. 1896 *Law Times* C. 393/2 The Doctor's reply to Junius was not wanting in incisiveness.

d. const. *for*. *rare*.

1874 Dasent *Half a Life* I. 125 As I was wanting for a nickname,..I was called 'the Companion of the Bath'.

†**4.** That is short *of* (a certain age). *Obs.*

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1736) I. 189, I was then wanting of Fourteen.

†**5.** With inf. Slow or backward *to* (do something). *Obs.*

1692 *d'Emiliane's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 286 The Monk was extraordinarily applauded for this his curious Thought, and he was not wanting to make good use of it.

[illegible] 755

Magens *Insurances* II. 119 All those that are wanting to do their Duty in this Respect, shall be obliged to make Satisfaction.

6. Mentally defective, weak-minded. *dial.*

1877 *Holderness Gloss.* s.v., You moant tak noöatis o' what he says; he's a bit wantin. 1911 *Times* 18 July 11/3 Making him seem to be what village-people call 'wanting'.

II. As *ppl. a.* (in attrib. use).

7. Absent, lacking, missing.

1573 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 226/2 To Jeaffrye Freman for a wanton [*sic*] Box that barker loste, xiij[d]. [illegible]

was pretended to have a wanting leg restor'd him. 1851 Sylvester in *Lond. etc. Phil. Mag.* Sept. 229 It is difficult to see how the wanting factor escapes detection. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* 302 Many a wanting feature had to be supplied. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 232/1 By no searching in his girdle..could he produce the wanting money.

8. Deficient, lacking (in something expressed or implied by the context); esp. lacking in money or necessaries of life, needy, necessitous. Also *absol.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Wit without Money* II. iv, I have not seene a Gentleman so backward, a wanting Gentleman. 1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 338 Bees though..they have sufficiently stored and replenished their hives..; yet will they not give over working; nay some, not leave robbing and that from the weaker and wanting hives. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 10 He thrusts the Wooll from the bunching-out side, towards the wanting side. 1685 Sir W. Petty *Will* in *Trans. R. Ir. Acad.* XXIV. III. 214, I give twenty pounds to the most wanting of the parish wherein I dye. 1727 Swift *Let. to Mrs. Howard* 9 July, Thus wanting people are like drowning people, who lay hold of every reed or bulrush in their way. 1747 *Will* in J. O. Payne *Rec. Engl. Catholics* (1849) 23 £50 to the two bishops..to give to the most pious and wanting of their clergy to pray for me.

Hence **Wa·ntingly** *adv.*, **Wa·ntingness**.

1643 Herle *Answ. Ferne* 14 The maine ends..are..supply of wantingnesse, allay of wilfulnesse. 1865 J. Grote *Mor. Ideals* ii. (1876) 24 The wantingness which is the call to action. 1894 'Eha' *Naturalist on Prowl* 54 Gaunt frames of..cows and calves with..lustrous eyes staring wantingly.

Wantless (wɒ·ntlĕs), *a. rare.* [f. Want *sb.*[2] + -less.] Having no want or lack. Hence **Wa·ntle**

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* III. xiv. (1589) 56 The want-less Counties Essex, Kent, Surris, and wealthie Glayde Of Hertfordshire. 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 393 All Winter-long, Thou [the Lambourn stream] never show'st a drop, Nor send'st a doit of need-less Subsidie, To Cramp the Kennet's Want-lesse Treasurie, Before her Store be spent, and springs be staid. 1890 C. Monkhouse *Corn & Poppies* 81 No faith in giving To wantless dead the crumbs that feed the living. 1896 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 498 A German thinker has denounced the 'accursed wantlessness of the masses as the great inner obstacle of social progress.

†**Want-louse.** *Obs. rare.* [a. Du. *wandluis* or LG., G. *wandlous* (cf. MLG., OHG., MHG. *wantlus*), a 'wall-louse', bug.] A bed-bug, bug (*Cimex lectularius*).

1688 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 89 The Smell of a Wantlouse may kill a Child in the Mother's Womb. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Want-Louse*, a sort of Insect. Hence in later Dicts.

Wantoe, obs. north. *f.* Wanty.

Wanton (wɒ·ntən), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4

wantowen, 4–5 -owne, 5 wantowe, wanton, 4–6 wantoun, (6 wantount), 4 *Sc.* wanton, 4–5 wantun, 5–6 vantoun, 4– wanton. [ME. *wantowen*, *f.* WAN- + *towen* :—OE. *togen* pa. pple. of *tēon* TEE *v.*[1] to discipline, train. The word thus literally means 'undisciplined'; *cf.* UNTOWEN *a.*, and the equivalent G. *ungezogen*; also ME. *wel-towen* well-brought-up.]

A. *adj.*

†1. Of persons: Undisciplined, ungoverned; not amenable to control, unmanageable, rebellious. Of children: Naughty, unruly. *Obs.*

Wanton of word: violent or insolent in speech.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11952 Yur sun þat wantun [*Gött.* wantoun] and þat wild, Wit his banning has slan vr child. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 57 For whonne Blod is Bremore þen Brayn þen is Inwit I-bounde, And eke wantoun and wylde withouten eny Resoun. 14.. *26 Pol. Poems* xii. 113 The fadir, þe wanton child wole kenne, Chastyse wiþ 3erde, and bete hit sore. *c* 1480 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1230 'A' seyde Reason, 'then I know well that felawe. Wylde he ys & wanton, of me stant hym noon awe.' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wantowe..*insolens, dissolutus*. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 211 A hely schrew, wanton in his entent. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 100 The Carll was wantoun of word, and wox wonder wraith. *c* 1492 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 15 Yf the childe wexe wanton the moder beteth hym fyrst with a litell rodde and the stronger he wexeth the gretter rodde she taketh. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* CXXVII. (1533) 62 Dagobert ..associated vnto hym certayne wanton persones and bete his mayster. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 183 He with Piers of Gauestone and other wanton and wilde persons, had broken the Parke of the sayde bishop. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Titus* i. 7 (1619) 127 Thus he shal make such wanton who should rather be kept vnder, by speaking peace to whom it belongeth not. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 72 The Dutchess of Northumberland came with several ladies of fashion to the Duke [a little boy] at Windsor, when unfortunately he was a little wanton, suffering some improper expressions to escape him.

†b. Of an animal: Skittish, refractory. Of a hawk: Out of hand, unmanageable. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* iv. 16 For Israel is gone backe, like a wanton cowe. *c* 1575 *Perf. Bk. Keepinge Sparhawkes* (1886) 26 Sugarcandy and butter will make her lustye, moyste, and proude, and being ofte used will make her wanton and to sore away. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 115 The cow kicked up her heels, and proved wanton and refractory.

†c. Of actions: Lawless, violent; in weaker sense, rude, ill-mannered. *Obs.* Cf. 5 b.

a 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 12 Sum [couetis to lestyn] of wirschip I-wis slike as þam wyse lattis, And sum of wanton werkis þa þat ere wild-hedid. *c* 1430 *Bk. Curteisie* 20 in *Babees Bk.*, And take good hede bi wisdom & resoun þat bi no wantowne laugynge þou do noon offence.

d. Said of boys, with mixture of sense 4; often (after Shakspere's use) with reference to childish cruelty.

1603 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. i. 38 As Flies to wanton Boyes are we to th' Gods, They kill vs for their sport. 1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* XXXIV, Else you'll desist, and lade like wanton Boys. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 189 Had her wanton son Lent us his wings, we could not have beguil'd With more elusive speed the dazzled sight Of wakeful jealousy. 1810 SCOTT *Peveril* XLIII, You make me feel like the poor bird, around whose wing some wanton boy has fixed a line, to pull the struggling wretch to earth at his pleasure.

2. Lascivious, unchaste, lewd. †Also, in milder sense, given to amorous dalliance.

a. of persons (in early use only of women).

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 143 That alle wommen wantowen shulleþ be war by þe one, And biterliche banne þe. *Ibid.* VIII. 390 Ich haue ywedded a wyf, quaþ he, wel wantowen [*v.rr.* wantoun, wanton] of maneres. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. vi. 464 A woman occupyit þat steid Twa 3eris as paip.. Bot scho was wantoun of hire waire. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 26 Her name was wanton Besse, Who lest with her delt he thryved not the lesse! *c* 1535 *Coche Lorell's B.* 14 And many whyte nonnes with whyte vayles, That was full wanton of theyr tayles. 1569 UNDERDOWN *Ovid's Invect. Ibis* D vj, Tyreslas..gaue sentence of Iupiters syde, and concluded that women were the wantoner. Wherefore Iuno moued to anger put out hys eyes. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 19 Thou art a most pernitious Vsurer,..Lasciuious, wanton, more then well beseemes A man of thy Profession, and Degree. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. i, My soule Did liue imprisond in my wanton flesh. *a* 1652 FULLER *Worthies, Yorks.* (1662) 190 Henry [I] ..was very wanton, as appeareth by his numerous natural issue. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. i, As for his personal Reflexions, I would gladly know who are those Wanton Wives he speaks of? 1768 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Women* (1776) I. i. 16 A daughter..turns out unruly, foolish, wanton.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 129 When we haue laught to see the sailes conceiue, And grow big bellied with the wanton winde. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 220 Yond Towers, whose wanton tops do busse the clouds, Must kisse their owne feet. 1679 *The Confinement: a Poem* 55 Curst be those Mountains, wanton with the Sun, From whose first hot embraces, Tagus ran.

c. of dispositions, thoughts, speech, action, or appearance.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 602 And after that he sang ful loude and cleere, And kiste his wyf, and made wantowne cheere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10824 Oft in wanton werkes wex þei with childe. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 378 But above all other she [Venus] bíd a wanton ey. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 760 She thought him secretly familiar with the king in wanton company. 1577 *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* 84 But especyally keepe them from reading of fayned fables, vayne fantasyes, and wanton stories. 1692 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cord. Relig.* 2. 173 But consider this Commandment in the full extent of it, as forbidding all wanton looks. *a* 1692 WOOD *Life* etc. (O.H.S.) I. 366 A wanton (in plaine terms, a bawdy) expression. 1782 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 12 June, I should have cared little about a wanton expression. 1789–96 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 546 By the continuation of wanton attitudes, they acquire..a frantic lasciviousness. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. ii, And dancing round him, with wanton looks and bare arms. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc., Gleaners*, Those evil powers,..rude gaze and wanton word.

d. of writers.

1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Drama. Lit.* 144 They are always abusing 'wanton poets'.

3. Sportive, unrestrained in merriment.

†a. Of persons: Jovial, given to broad jesting, waggish. Also, free from care. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 208 A frere ther was, a wantowne and a merye, A lymytour, a ful solempne man. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* XV. 3 Art thow nocht wantoun, haill, and in gud howp...Bathing in bliss, and sett in his curaige? *Ibid.* XXVII. 7 Wantone in weill but wo, Glaid withowt grief also.

b. Of young animals: Frisky, frolicsome. Chiefly *poet.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Lasciuus*, Wantoner then a yonge kidde. 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* vi. 81 The early wanton Lambs, That 'mongst the Hillocks wont to skip and play. 1694 ADDISON *Poems, Hor. Ode* III. iii. 74 Let the wanton flocks unguarded stray. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 29 Who for thy table feeds the wanton fawn. 1746 SMOLLETT *Tears of Scot.* 14 Thy swains are famish'd on the rocks, Where once they fed their wanton flocks.

c. Said *poet.* of moving objects, viewed as if endowed with life: Sportive, impelled by caprice or fancy, free, unrestrained.

1602 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E ij b, Tide for the ship, and ship was for the tide..For Neptune men, and Neptunes them to guide, Thames wanton currant stealing on behind. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 517 So varied hee, and of his tortuous Traine Curld many a wanton wreath in sight of Eve. *Poems, Seven Fountains* 33 A wanton bark floating o'er the main.

†d. Of colour, music: Gay, lively. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abuses* I. M 2, Then euerie one of these his men, he [the Lord of Misrule] inuesteth with his liueries, of green, yellow or some other light wanton colour. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 150 Though he were a priest he would rather choose to excell in that wanton and pleasing musick then in that which [etc.]. 1743 COLLINS *Epist. to Hanmer* 41 With graceful ease the wanton lyre he strung.

†4. 'Spoiled', petulant (of children); hence, self-indulgent, effeminate, luxurious. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Mollio*,..to make wanton or tender. *Ibid., Sibariticus*, wanton or delycate. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 55 Wee are all diseas'd, And with our surfetting, and wanton howres, Haue brought our selues into a burning Feuer. 1602 I. R. *World or Kingd. & Commw.* 169 The inhabitants [of China] partly by their effeminate and wanton kinde of life, partly by their forme of gouernment,..haue lutle valour or manhood left them. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 438 P 4 Your Temper is Wanton, and incapable of the least Pain. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* II. i. 128 When Greece beheld her Wars in Triumph cease, She soon grew wanton in the Arms of Peace. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. ii. 59 Hence the name and the legend of Pisaus, who reigned over the Pelasgians in the valley of the Hersæus, and grew wanton from the exuberant increase of the land.

†b. Fastidious or dainty in appetite. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 318/2 Wanton of condycions, *friant; friande.* 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 14 If he be hungry more than wanton, bread alone will down. 1727 ARBUTHNOT etc. *John Bull* IV. Postscr. ch. ix, How John pamper'd Esquire South with Tit-bits, till he grew wanton.

†c. Of clothing, diet: Luxurious. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. ix. B iij b, The auncient noble men..made not theyre children to be norisshed in the kyngis & prynces courts for to lerne pryde, lechery nor to were wanton clothing. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 6 It commeth by evell and wanton diet. 1805 JAMIESON, *Wanton-meat*, the entertainment of spirits, sweetmeats, etc., given to those in a house at the birth of a child, Teviotd[ale]; elsewhere called *Blithe-meat.*

†d. Said of money or wealth, as tempting to extravagance or luxury. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* (1531) 76 b, And hauyng a lytell wanton money, which hym thought brenned out the botom of his purs..he toke his wyfe..to see Flaunders and Fraunce, [etc.].

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 783 The hope of gaye apparell, ease, pleasure, and other wanton welth was able soon to pierce a soft tender hart. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* (1819) I. 2 Wotton..most tempting for a great person and a wanton purse to render it conspicuous. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 260 The midnight masquerade, With all the freaks of wanton wealth arrayed.

†5. Of persons: Insolent in triumph or prosperity; reckless of justice and humanity; merciless. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xiv. 149 O, quod the maid, thou fals Liguriane, Our wantoun in thy proud mynd, all in vane [L. *frustraque animis elate superbis*]. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 129 They now began to shrinke, and giue vs leaue to be wanton with our aduantage. 1643 BURROUGHS *Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea* VI. 266 When men get abundance, they soon grow wanton. *a* 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* II. xv. (1704) 124 When that proud City [Rome] found no more resistance, it grew wanton. 1728 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* III. i, You took no Delight, when you immediately grew wanton, in your Conquest. 1769 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 383 When I behold ..Each wanton judge new penal statutes draw.

b. Of cruelty, injury, insult, or neglect: Unprovoked and reckless of justice or compassion; arbitrary, gratuitous.

1632 HOSKINS *Loidoth.* IV. xliv. 342 Which is not arguing from Scripture, but a wanton insulting over Princes. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 29 Profane swearing..implies wanton disregard and irreverence towards an infinite Being. 1730 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 75 P 12 Some of them revenged the neglect..by wanton and superfluous insults. 1769 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* Wks. 1842 I. 109 The wanton and indiscriminate seizure of papers, even in cases where the safety of the State was not pretended in justification of so harsh a proceeding. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* LXXI, You see the destruction that has been wanton here. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 161 The feeling which has..induced the legislature to interfere for the purpose of protecting beasts against the wanton cruelty of men. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 222 *note*, It is impossible to pass by the wanton manner in which this is perverted by Mr. Froude. 1889 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* LXXXV. III. 133 Tyranny consists in the wanton and improper use of strength by the stronger.

†c. In weaker sense: Reckless of decorum. *Obs.*

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 20 Some wanton persons, who..affect low leanings, to make use either to sit on, and break the glasse-windowes, or to shew themselves in Quirpo to passengers.

†d. Of natural occurrences: Abnormal, extraordinary. *Obs. rare.*

a 1754 FIELDING *Ess. Conv.* Wks. 1784 IX. 364 These men ..are no less monsters than the most wanton abortions, or extravagant births.

†6. Capricious, frivolous, giddy. *Obs.*

1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 137 They were no thyng mete to kandyl..Chrystyan hertys to deuotyon..but rather to ster wanton myndys to vayn plesure. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* XX. 40 Thy wantoun, folich mynd! 1820 CHURCHYARD *Wond. Air* in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 404 The bedstocke and the tycke. And all belongs to bed, Is but vaine pleasures that we like To please a wanton head.

†b. Of a material substance: Changeable. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1681 GREW *Museum* III. § ii. I. 323 Gold hath the least variety of regular figure, in the Ore, of any Metal. Because, more solid, and therefore, less wanton, than the rest.

7. Profuse in growth, luxuriant, rank. *poet.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 99 The queint Mazes in the wanton green For lacke of tread are vndistinguishable. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 214 She bids you, On the wanton Rushes lay you downe. 1704 POPE *Spring* 35 Where wanton Ivy twines. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig.* 217 Wanton weeds my garden cumbered.

†b. Robust, overflowing with health. *Obs.*

1674 R. GODFREY *Inf. & Ab. Physick* 78, I have examined the Bloods of two hundred wanton Country healthy people.

†8. Unrestrained. a. Of speech or imagination: Extravagant. b. Of physical movement: Headlong, impetuous. *Obs.*

a. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* I. i, I have heard him wanton in his Prai-e Speak things of him might charm the ears of Envy. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, How does your Tongue grow wanton in her Praise! 1759 HUME *Hist. Eng., Ho. Tudor* II. Eliz. iv. 589 Sir Philip Sidney..is described..as the most perfect model of an accomplished gentleman which was ever formed even by the wanton imagination of poetry or fiction.

b. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xvii. 223 A fine Arabian war-horse, unbacked, and at liberty, and in a wanton trot.

9. Comb.: *wanton-eyed*, *-winged* adjs.; †*wanton mad, sick adjs.*, mad with the insolence of prosperity.

1603 BRETON *Mad World* (Grosart) 8/1 A. sharpe-witted, *wanton-eyed, and faire-handed..gentlewoman. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 July 1683, In a word, we were *wanton madd, and surfeitting with prosperity. 1599 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. iii, That griefe is *wanton sick Whose stomacke can digest and brooke the dyet Of stale ill reliisht counsell. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 47 The world wanton sick, as one surfetting on sinne. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus* 128 Each insect, and each *wanton-winged bird.

B. *sb.*

†1. A person, esp. a child, spoiled by over-indulgence and excessive leniency; a spoilt child, a pampered pet. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 41 b, Our lorde knoweth well that we be wantons..and..farre from the holy lyfe of perfeccyon. 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Wanton[,] cockeney, *mignot, mignotte.* Wanton of condicyons, *caffre.* 1548 UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. ¶ ij, A Queene..if she would become fortunes wanton, she might without countrollemente swimme in the delices of all suche prosperitee. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 36, I am enforced to thinke..that thy parents made thee a wanton with too much cockering. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. i. 70 Shall a beardlesse boy, A cockred-silken wanton braue our fields. 1623 ROWLANDSON *God's Bless.* 8 So mothers deale with their little wantons, by taking the bread from them, which they tread under foot. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 103 A Father may love a child too fondly and make him a Wanton.

†2. A person, esp. a child, of playful, roguish, or sportive conduct. (Sometimes used as a term of endearment.) *Obs.*

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 27 Sephestias Song to her Childe. Wepe not my wanton! smile vpon my knee! 1626 B. JONSON *Masque Oberon* 977 *Silenus* [to the Satyrs] Peace my wantons.

†b. A sportive or roguish animal, bird, etc. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 126 As the Cockney did to the Eeles, when she put 'em i' th' Paste aliue, she knapt 'em o' th' coxcombs with a sticke, and cryed downe wantons, downe. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 678 Their Sister Silvia her to the gray mare's tail. 1825 WORDSW. *Waggoner* III. 118 You screech-owl,..I know that Wanton's noisy station. 1822 CARY *Dante, Parad.* V. 83 The lamb, That, fickle wanton, leaves its mother's milk, To dally with itself in idle play.

3. A lascivious or lewd person. (The current use.)
† *His wanton* = his mistress. *Obs. rare.*
1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. i. N iv b, He..playeth his parte stoutely or lyke a man, whyle the swete man..i. the pleasantly disposed wanton leadeth wenches. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 45 *Leonato.* What doe you meane, my Lord? *Clau.* Not to be married, Not to knit my soule to an approued wanton. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. i. 72 Oh, 'tis the spight of hell,...To lip a wanton in a secure Cowch And to suppose her chast. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* vii. Argt. as Solomon ..sheweth the cunning of an whore, And the desperate simplicitie of a yong wanton. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northampt* (1662) 281 She confessed her self too worthless to be his wife, yet pleaded too worthy to be his wanton. *a* 1693 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) II. 215 An old Wanton will be doating upon Women, when he can scarce see without Spectacles. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 171 P 1 Nothing would more powerfully..guard inexperience from seduction, than a just description of the condition into which the wanton plunges herself. 1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 176 The hot blood of the wanton smoked on the pavement of his gardens. 1887 Miss BRADDON *Like & Unlike* xxvii, You are a wanton by nature; but you have reckoned without your host, you fair, false devil. You shall not live to dishonour me.

4. Phrase. *To play the wanton* (or †*the wantons*), to dally, trifle; also, † to behave lewdly or lasciviously (*obs.*). Similarly, *to play the wanton's part.*
1529 MORE *Suppl. Souls* 166 b, Yf the wench be nyce and play the wanton and make the mater strange, then wyll he bete her to bed to. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 164 Or shall we play the Wantons with our Woes, And make some pretty Match, with shedding Teares? *a* 1677 T. MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix.* (1681) 290 The word of God was appointed ..to increase our reverence of God; Not that we may play the wantons with Promises, and feed our Lusts with them. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 P 4 [Asking] Whether she was well educated, could forbear playing the Wanton with Servants and idle Fellows. *a* 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 540 Did e'er my Tongue speak my unguarded Heart The least inclin'd to play the Wanton's Part? 1892 D. G. MITCHELL *Dream Life* 180 It has very likely occurred to you, my reader, that I am playing the wanton in these sketches.

† 5. *The wantons*: wanton fits, lascivious desires, wantonness. *Obs. rare.*
1727 [E. DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* 53 'Tis to be hop'd you won't be troubled with the Wantons, and play the Trick your sister Juno did.

6. Comb., as *wanton-like* adj.
1617 T. CAMPION *3rd Bk. Ayres* xxii. Wks. (1909) 171 Though she be wilde and wanton-like in shew, Those little staines in youth I will not see.

Wanton (wɒ·ntən), *v.* [f. WANTON *a.* and *sb.*]
1. *intr.* To sport amorously, to play lasciviously or lewdly. Also, *to wanton it.*
1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. i. 21, I will be bright and shine in Pearle and Gold, To waite vpon this new made Empresse. To waite said I? To wanton with this Queene. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 44 As if Venus in a countrey peticoate had thought to wanton it with her louely Adonis. 1665 R. BRATHWAIT *Comm. a Tales* 54 He who even now, so lasciviously wantonned,..see how he is scarrified! 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* v. Wks. 1851 V. 231 On the very day of his Coronation, he abruptly withdrew himself from the Company of his Peers,..to sit wantoning in the Chamber with this Algiva. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* VI. 384 Who marry to be free, to range the more, And wed one man, to wanton with a score.

b. To play sportively, heedlessly, or idly, to frolic unrestrainedly, to gambol. Also *to wanton it.* (Said esp. of a child or young animal.)
1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 106 Yf a..Prittye lad Æneas in my court wantoned [L. *luderet*] ere thow Took'st this filthye fleing. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 18 We shall Present our seruices to a fine new Prince One of these dayes, and then youl'd wanton with vs, If we would haue you. 1697 G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* 53 A boy appear'd in the.. grove. Naked he was, alone he was; he play'd and wantoned it about. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 554 Thy infant son her fragrant bosom prest, Hung at her knee, or wanton'd at her breast. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 332 In curling wreathes, they [porpoises] wanton on the tide, Now sport aloft, now downward swiftly glide. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxiv, And I have loved thee, Ocean!..from a boy I wanton'd with thy breakers. 1820 LAMB *Elia, Christ's Hosp.*, How merrily we would sally forth..and strip under the first warmth of the sun; and wanton like young dace in the streams. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., All Saints' Day*, As bloodhounds hush their baying wild To wanton with some fearless child.

c. To go idly or heedlessly *up and down, over, through* (a place); also, to spend one's time carelessly.
1582 N KIRCHEVALL tr. *Nopes, Elysander* 46 They left their ships to the mercy of the winds and waues and carelessly wanton'd up and down the fields [L. *disp alati in agris*]. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 130 The horses, camels, and guards wantoned over their tulips and other flowers, and made a terrible havoc. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VIII. 490 Steeds, herds and flocks o'er northern regions rove, Embrown the hill and wanton thro the grove. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 91 O tell her, Swallow, that thy brood is flown: Say to her, I do but wanton in the South, But in the North long since my nest is made. 1916 L. P. JACKS *From Human End* i. 3 Like guests in a hospitable mansion where we may eat and drink, work and wanton, as we please.

d. *transf.* of inanimate things.
1596 SHAKS. *Tam Shr.* Induct. ii. 54 Citherea all in sedges hid, Which seeme to moue and wanton with her breath. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 174 When, like some childish wench, she [*sc.* the river Stour] loosely wantoning, With tricks and giddy turns seems to in-isle the shore. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 302 And dancing Leaves, that wanton'd in the Wind. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. iii. 29 The wavy ringlets of her shining hair,..wantoning in and about a neck that is beautiful beyond description. 1779 JOHNSON *Rasselas* XX, A rivulet, that wantoned along the side of a winding path; 1786 BURNS *Lass o' Ballochmyle* 3 The zephyr wanton'd round the bean, And bore its fragrant sweets along. 1796 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI. 124 When afar they..mark the distant towers Of Orleans, and..many a streamer wantoning in air. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* V. i, The sea-breeze wantoned amongst the quivering leaves of the chestnut-tree that overhung their seat.

e. To trifle (*with* something). Also quasi-*trans.* with *out.*
1589 T. BRABINE in *Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 80 Whose warbling tunes might wanton out my woes. *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *George II* (1847) II. viii. 249 He found it was no longer a season for wantoning with the resentment of his successor.

2. To run into excesses or extravagances of conduct or living; to revel (*in* a course of action). Also with *it.*
1631 MAY tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 5 Soe that both the awe of their parents may not too sensibly decrease in them, and they not wanton it, through a suddaine, and vnexpected encrease of liberty. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 148 P 2 The power [parental authority] which we are taught to honour from the first moments of reason;..and which therefore may wanton in cruelty without control. 1752 *Ibid.* No. 190 P 10 His house was soon crowded with poets, sculptors, painters, and designers, who wantoned in unexperienced plenty. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* iv, Because he would not sit and starve ..while those who fattened on the sweat of his brow..were wantoning on venison and champagne.

b. To indulge in extravagances of language or thought.
1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* 50 The witty extravagances, and Rhetorical phrases of these Fathers, were afterward interpreted to be their distilled doctrinall positions: so dangerous it is for any to wanton it with their wits in mysteries of Religion. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 2 P 2 The pleasure of wantoning in common topicks is so tempting to a writer, that he cannot easily resign it. 1789 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1813 XV. 86 We are not persons of an age, —of a disposition..to *wanton* as these counsel call it; that is to invent fables concerning Indian antiquity. 1838 MACAULAY *Ess., Temple* (near end), For once he [Bentley] ran no risks;..he wantoned in no paradoxes.

c. *transf.* Of a garden, plant: To flourish profusely or extravagantly; to grow or ramble at will.
1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 296/1 On the latter [garden] no decoration of art has been spared; the former wantons in all the luxuriance of nature. 1890 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* xviii, As though some great ivy-plant of stone had curled and wantoned over the walls. 1907 E. GOSSE *Father & Son* v. 113 [A] wilderness, in which loose furze-bushes and untrimmed brambles wantoned into the likeness of trees.

d. *fig.* or of things (esp. Nature) personified.
1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 295 A Wilderness of sweets; for Nature here Wantoned as in her prime, and plaid at will Her Virgin Fancies. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxxiii. 409 From this root has sprung a bastard slip, known by the name of the game law, now arrived to and wantoning in it's highest vigour. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* II. x. 114 All nature smiles in beauty, or wantons in bounteousness for our enjoyment. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Poems, Mendelssohn*, Where nature wantoned wild.

3. To deal carelessly or wastefully (*with* property, resources). Also *trans.* with *away*, to spend carelessly or wastefully, to dissipate (life, time, resources).
1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* iv. 39 [Of Preaching] Humane learning being a good Hand-maide and an ill companion to divinity, who though she carry away the Jewels and Eare-rings of the Ægyptians she desires to use them and not wanton with them. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Serm. Ps. lxviii. 30* Wks. 1837 V. 232 He wantons away his life foolishly, that, when he is well, will take physic to make him sick. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Apr., With this money the King shall wanton away his time in pleasures. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 47 It is urged that the Americans have not the same security, and that a British Legislature may wanton with their property. 1811 J. PRATT in *R. Cecil's Wks.* (1887) I. 121 A minister has no right to wanton away the support of his family.

†4. *trans.* To make wanton; to lead into extravagances of conduct, living, etc. *Obs.*
c 1600 CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 88 For he reign'd More like a Beast than Man;..weak'ning his strength By wantoning his people, without Law Or Exercise to keep their minds in awe. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxvi. 83 If wee sleepe, hee [the Devil] comes in dreames, and wantonneth the ill inclining soule.

Hence **Wa·ntoning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxiii. (1612) 304 Full fortie thousand Curtizans there, Ladies-like, do liue, That to the Pope for wantoning no small Reuenew giue. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. ii. 34 But since, I saw it painted on Fames wings, The Muses to be woxen Wantonings. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* I. 5 Her embracings and wantonnings. 1701 W. NICHOLS *Consol. Parents* 40 The innocent Wantonings of a beloved Child. 1883 E. GOSSE *19th Cent. Stud.* 134 Chance melodies that seem like mere wantonings of the air upon a wind-harp. 1901 T. R. GLOVER *Life & Lett. Fourth Cent.* viii. 284 The story of the wantoning Dido.

Wanton: see WANTY (*β*).

Wantoner (wɒ·ntənəɹ). *rare.* Also 9 -onner. [f. WANTON *v.* + -ER 1.] A person who acts wantonly or is given to wanton behaviour.
1812 *Examiner* 28 Dec. 831/2 Was this the action of a penitent wantonner in libel? 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 372 Falsely, alas! poor wantoner! 1865 ANNA SWANWICK *Æschylus, Agamem.* 742 In human ill Wild wantoner for aye. 1912 'R. DENAM' *Betw. Two Thieves* xxiv. 191 There is a hell for chamberers and wantoners!

†**Wa·ntonhede.** *Obs.* Also 5 wantow(n)hede, wantoned. [f. WANTON *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Wantonness.
c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5911 Women are wount in Wantonhede yet, With a fikyng full light in loue for to falle. 1435 MIRK *Fest. of Love* 4 Wharefor þe ioy of clerenes þat sall not rote, þal chaunge to wantoned of heute þat sal nost last. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wantowhede (*v.rr.* wantown-, wanton-) or wantownesse, *insolencia, dissolucio.*

Wantonize (wɒ·ntənəiz), *v. arch.* Also 6-7 **wantonnize.** [f. WANTON *a.* and *sb.* + -IZE.]
1. *intr.* To play the wanton; to dally, sport, frolic; to indulge in lasciviousness.
1592 DANIEL *Rosamond* K 3 b, Sweetly it fits the fair to wantonize. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxix. 98 It is women communicate their partes as much as a man list to wantonize with them. 1623 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. (1616) 79 When the prettie Rill a place espies, Where with the Pibbles she would wantonize. 1661-98 SOUTH *18 Serm.* III. 279 The mind of Man..would, if let alone, lash out, and Wantonize in a boundless enjoyment and Gratification of all its Appetites, and Inclinations. 1826 LAMB *Elia, Sanity of True Genius*, The judgment might with some plea be pardoned if it ran riot, and a little wantonised.

† b. with *it.*
1611 COTGR., *Rager*, lasciuiously to toy, dallie, or wantonnize it. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 55 The Spring for many moneths together doth wantonnize it there.

† c. quasi-*trans.* with *away.*
1673 HICKERINGILL *Gregory, Father-Greyb.* 43 Wantonizing away their time and opportunities to do good.

2. *trans.* To make wanton. *rare.*
1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 256 Their Wealth so growes, that, wantoniz'd withall, Their envious Shepheards broach a civill Brawl. 1632 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XI. xxxi. 197 Prosperitie's a gin If wantoniz'd breeds storms within. 1908 *Smart Set* June 49 Pure are your lips and eyes; Must years oppressing Teach you to wantonize Them in caressing?

Hence **Wa·ntonising** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* To Rdrs. A 4 b, Wherin I follow the trace of the famousest schollers of all ages, whom a wantonizing humour once in their life time hath possest to play with strawes. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 29 The coyest wantonizing Citty-dame. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 153 Pride..must be counted State,..Wantonising, a tricke of youth. 1640 tr. *Verdery's Rom. of Rom.* II. xxxix. 148 A thousand amorous wantonising[s].

Wantonly (wɒ·ntənli), *adv.* [-LY 2] In a wanton manner.
a. Lewdly, lasciviously; voluptuously, luxuriously; lavishly.
c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 466 Þe flesche þat we fed here maste vantonly in daynttis sere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 381 And wantownely agayn with hym she pleyde. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xxxii. (1869) 87 Wantouliche thou wilt hose him, and take him noble robes. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxii. 72 The amylynges and fayre shewes of their eyen, which wauntonly they caste full often vpon that yonge knyght. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Delicatus*, delycate, wantonlye broughte vppe. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 531 The bishop saw..that vittailes were not wantonly consumed, nor vainely spent. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 89 Some of our young men..would talk wantonly with them [the women]. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 466 P 3 The flippant insipidly Gay and wantonly Forward, whom you behold among Dancers.

b. Frolicsomely, sportively, playfully, lightheartedly.
1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11249 She held a gloue vntonly, And tournyd yt fful ffetyaly Aboute hyr fyngres vp & doun. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 37, I beheld the pretty fische vantounly stertland vitht there rede vermeil fynnis. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* viii. 448 She..oft in-Isles the shore, as wantonly she flowes. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* v. iv. 1 How wantonly The wind blows through the leaves, and courts, and playes with 'em! 1663 COWLEY *Country Mouse* 9 A Mouse of high degree, which lost his way, Wantonly walking forth to take the Air. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Seven Fountains* 37 Some wantonly were tripping in a ring.

c. Recklessly, unadvisedly; without proper excuse or motive; without regard for right or consequences; in a way that betrays delight in wrongdoing or mischief, wilfully.
1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 35 For he the hors withoute lawe The carte let aboute drawe Wher as hem liketh wantounly. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3496 Why wrought ye so wantonly in your wilde yre? 1566 STAPLETON *Ret. Untruths to Jewel* iii. 90 He denieth Christ wantonly. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* IV. (1676) 58 But do not wantonly my passion move. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. vi, To pardon great criminals wantonly, without any reason whatever. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 229 The Goth..expressed..his lively sense of the insult so wantonly offered to his person. 1891 HELEN M. WILLIAMS *St. Mann. Fr. Republic* II. 217 The [Spartan] tribunal which condemned a boy to death for wantonly plucking out the eyes of a bird. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 407/2 Preventing a litigant without a case from wantonly harassing his opponent. 1888 A. H. SMITH *Catal. Engr. Gems Brit. Mus.* 228 The [Portland] vase was wantonly broken on February 7, 1845, by a scene-painter, named William Lloyd.

Wantonness (wɒ·ntənɪnés). Forms: see WANTON *a.* [f. WANTON *a.* + -NESS.]
1. The quality of being wanton, in various senses.
a. Lasciviousness, unchastity.
c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 4, I rane [be] the wanntonnes of flesche and I fand noghte Ihesu. 1386 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 120 Wyues and widewes wantounesse heo teche þ. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 31 It wol nat come agayn,..Namoore than wole Malkynes maydenhede, Whan she hath lost it in hir wantownesse. *c* 1430 *Christ's Compl.* 238 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 175, I haue myspendid my yong age In synne, & wantownesse also. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 36/1 Hee [Edw. IV] was of youthe greately geuen to fleshlye wantonnesse. 1526 TINDALE *Jude* 4 They are vngodly and turne the grace of oure lorde God vnto wantonnes. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* A 2, The riotous wantonnesse of Pasiphae. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* x. (1906) 88 Concerning his [Ovid's] bookes, *Amorum* and *de arte amandi*, the wit..will beare out the wantonnesse. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 49 P 8 That Scene of Wantonness, Messalina's Bed-chamber! 1895

THIRLWALL *Greece* xl. (1839) II. 50 To protect the state from the..pollution of wantonness and profaneness.

† b. Effeminacy, foppish affectation. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 364 Somwhat he lipsed for his wantownesse To make his englisch sweete vp on his tonge.

† c. Excessive appetite. *Obs.*

a 1400 in Hearne *Rob. of Glouc.* 482 *note*, His fleashe wolde haue charged him with fatnesse, but that the wantonesse of his wombe with trauaile and fastyng he adaunteth.

† d. Unbridled luxury, extravagance in expenditure. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. XXXVI. 84 The honour ..of this maner of peple oweth not to ben acounted..of clothynge of syluer harneys ne wantonesse of his owne persone. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIX. 5 All weilfair, welth and wantones Ar chengit in-to wretchitnes. *a* 1572 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* VI. (1633) 18 Linnen shirts the rich doe weare for wantonnes and bravery. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 200 In India and Cambaia they vse it at the burial of great Lords, in bathes and in other wantonnes. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 6 P 3 The servants below them seem to live in Plenty, but not in Wantonness.

e. Arrogance, insolence of triumph or prosperity. Now *rare*.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 549 Sa elouit I was in wantones, And clam vpon the fickill quheill sa hie. *c* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1504 With sad Circumspeccyon correcte my Vantonnesse. *a* 1665 GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 23 Others [of the devils]..may be employed to stir up and cherish a spirit of pride and wantonness. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. xliv. 372 Nothing can be a greater check to the wantonness of power. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. 83 He has therefore turned fop from mere wantonness of time and of talents. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* I. v. 75 Weston may grow cross from the wantonness of comfort. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Organ.* v. 148 Some check on knowledge is highly necessary to prevent it from running riot in the wantonness of its own wealth.

† *plural.* 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 426 P 7 The Heir..could not forbear, in the Wantonnesses of his Heart, to measure the Length and Breadth of his beloved Father.

† f. Unruliness, naughtiness (of a child); restiveness (of a horse). *Obs.*

1533 MORE *Apol.* xlvii. Wks. 922/2 As doeth the tender mother which when she hath beaten her childe for hys wantones, wypeth his yien and kisseth hym. 1621 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. v. § 48 William..was through the wantonesse of his horse cast to the ground.

† g. Caprice, whim. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 16 Yet I remember, when I was in France, Yong Gentlemen would be as sad as night Onely for wantonnesse. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm., Ps.* VI. 2 (1640) 516 David..comes not to take physick upon wantonnesse; but because the disease is violent. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. i. Wks. 1874 I. 158 It is mere idle wantonness, to insist upon knowing the reasons. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. and Voy.* XXI. 310 Man alone eats from pure wantonness; that he may gratify his taste, not satisfy his hunger.

h. Lawless extravagance, unrestrained license.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 315 P 12 His Flight..with the particular Description of the Sun, are set forth in all the Wantonness of a luxuriant Imagination. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 129 Many in the wantonness of their fancy have yielded to the most idle surmises. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. 28 Charles cannot be reproached for exacting monies.. from any wantonness of prodigality.

i. Reckless and unprovoked ill-doing.

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 153 When an Indian sheds human blood, it does not proceed from wantonness, or the view of doing evil, but solely [etc.]. 1789-96 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 356 The whole [of the stalactites] have since, by the wantonness of visitors, been broken down. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Sonn. Sydney*, I have been hurt by the wantonness (I wish I could treat it by a gentler name) with which W. H. takes every occasion of insulting the memory of Sir Philip Sydney. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II, He would be as loath, in wantonness, to kill a spider, as if he were a kinsman to King Robert. 1843 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. xi. 201 We have had here four incendiary fires! I don't know for what—mere wantonness. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* lviii, A Zouave, in wantonness firing his weapon before he threw it away, sent a random shot which struck Theodora. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 433 A man may..commit some of these crimes..in a fit of childish wantonness. 1924 KIPLING *'For all we have'* i, Our world has passed away In wantonness o'erthrown.

2. An instance of wantonness; a caprice, whim; a reckless and unjustifiable act. ? *Obs.*

1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* lxxi. (1633) 174 It is a wantonnesse to complaine of choyse; No Law bindes us to read all. 1684 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, I wish we might at length leave to borrow Words from other Nations, which is now a Wantonness in us, not a Necessity. 1768 JOHNSON *Let. to F. A. Barnard* 28 May, Things..which are prized at a high rate by a wantonness rather than by use. 1795-1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* I. 626 It were a wantonness, and would demand Severe reproof, if we were men whose hearts Could hold vain dalliance with the misery Even of the dead.

† 3. As the name of an allegorical personage in a morality play. *Obs.*

1506-7 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 360 Item, that nycht, to Wantonnes that sang to the King, xliij s.

† b. *transf.*

1596 *Edw. III*, II. iii. 136 For whats this Edward but a belly god, A tender and lasciuious wantonnes, That thother dale was almost dead for loue? *Ibid.* III. v. 101 Now, Iohn of Fraunce, I hope, Thou knowest King Edward for no wantonesse, No loue sicke cockney.

Wantoun, obs. form of WANTON, WANTY.

Wantow, obs. form of WANTY.

Wantowe(n, -towne, obs. forms of WANTON.

† **Wantruckle**, *v. Obs.* [ME. (*Kentish*) f. WAN-; the second element is obscure, as TROKEN *sb.* yields no good sense.] *intr.* To despair; in quot. *impers.*, with dative of person and *of*. Hence † **Wantroking** *vbl. sb.* despair; false or mistaken expectation.

c 1325 SHOREHAM I. 919 Ac þat ne schalt þou neuere do, Bote þe wantrokye of lyue. *Ibid.* VII. 759 Loke that thou ne go nauȝt onder Thorȝ wantrokynge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Þer ne is non hope of guode, non wantrokiynge of kueade.

† **Wantroth, -truth.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 3 (*Orm.*) wanntrowwþ, 4 vantrauth, wanetreuthe. [ME. f. WAN- + TROTH *sb.*, TRUTH *sb.* Cf. next.] Unbelief.

c 1200 ORMIN 3148 Forr þatt wass þurrh wanntrowwþess slæpp, þatt he wass off hiss macche All orrwþ whatt he mihhte don, Of þatt ȝho wass wiþþ childe. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 120 Hale sal I bete Wit mirakel, that I sal schaw, And mikel folc fra vantrauth draw. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 674 To pas into fere land, & preche godis word alquhare to þame at in wane-treuthe are.

† **Wantrowing**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*[1]. [ME. f. WAN- + TROWING *vbl. sb.*] Mistrust, faint belief.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xliii. 83 In grete wanne-trowing haue ȝe bene, And wondir harde of hartis ar ȝe.

† **Wantrust.** *Obs.* Also 4 -trost, -trest, 4-5 -truste, 5 -triste. [ME. f. WAN- + TRUST *sb.* Cf. MDu. *wantroost*.] Mistrust, lack of confidence.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 794 But ones nyltow for þi coward herte,..For wantrust tellen of þi sorwes smerte. 1387 T. USK *Test. Love* I. viii. 19, I saye nat these thinges for no wantrust that I have in supposinge of thee otherwyse than I shulde. 1421-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 81 For now victorie is redy to oure hond,..And excludid,..Bope of wantrust & of foreyn drede. *c* 1480 — *Life Our Lady* xli. (1484) f vj, For wantriste of her felow salome. *c* 1480 *Cov. Myst.* 225 Many a man With his wantruste hymsylf bathe slayn.

Wantruth: see WANTROTH.

† **Wantsum**, *a. Obs.* Also 4 **wansum**. [ME. f. WANT *sb.*[2] + *-sum* -SOME-.] Indigent, poor; devoid *of*.

c 1200 ORMIN 14824 To gengenn att te nede Whammse þu sest tatt wanntsumm iss & wiþþ wanndraþ biþrungenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24853 Ful wansum [*Edinb.* wantsum] war þai þan o rede.

Wantt-, obs. Sc. form of VAUNT *v.*

Wa'nt-wit. [f. WANT *v.* + WIT *sb.* Cf. *lack-wit* (LACK *v.*[1] 7)] One who lacks wit or sense.

1448-9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1459 But alle to late now, as wantewyttys we make owre mone. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 41 Shall we thinke..that he would be such a want witte as to take all kynde of coine..and neuer examine it? 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 6 And such a Want-wit sadnesse makes of mee, That I haue much ado to know my selfe. 1610 *Chester's Triumph* (Chetham Soc.) C 3, Because I hate to heare a want-wit preach Beyond wits bounds. [1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 206 They saw one Fool, and one Want-wit, washing of an Ethiopian with intention to make him white.] 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* iii. (1905) 42 She trembled now to think that they had turned a want-wit..into the heart of the pathless and bog-riddled heath.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Witless, senseless.

1894 'G. EGERTON' *Keynotes* 44, I laugh at myself for my want-wit agitation. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* iii. (1905) 47 To pick a quarrel with the want-wit fellow.

Wanty (wǫ·nti). Forms: α. (4 **waynte**), 5 **wanteye**, 6-8 **wantey** (6 **wantie, wante**, 7 **wantyghe, waunty**), 7-9 **wantye**, (8 **wamtye**), 6- **wanty**; β. *Sc.* and *north.* 6 **wantow**, 6-7 **wanton** (6 **wantoun, wyanton**), 7 **wantoe**, (9 **wanteau**). For mod. dial. forms see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Apparently two synonymous words (ultimately identical in etymology) have been confused. The β forms represent the later phonetic development of WAME-TOW. The α forms seem to presuppose an original **wame-tie*, in which Tow *sb.*[2] (a. ON. *taug*) has been replaced by the etymologically equivalent TIE *sb.* (:—OE. *tēag*). But since in some dialects the unstressed *-tow* would regularly become *-ty*, the two words cannot be distinguished with certainty.]

† 1. A rope or band used to fasten the pack on a pack-saddle or a load on the back of a horse. *Obs.*

α. 1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 48 Pro ij girthes ij wayntes et ij hokes pro les paniers pro pullis, ij s. } d. ob. 1434 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 80, No. 2 Per 1 equum nigrum cum paksadel et wanteye. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 A panel and wantey, packsaddle and ped. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Horses* (1596) 219 Harnaises..and all things belonging thereunto: as haltars,.. wanties, packsaddels, backwanties and belly wanties. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 58 They carry also great burthens or loads tyed to their backs with ropes and wantyghes [? *read* wantyghes]. 1618-19 *Maldon* (Essex) *Deeds* Bundle 477 (MS.), At severall tymes hath gone ouer Fulbridge with his horse and pack and refuseth to paye the duty for his wantye. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6140/4 Lost..a..Gelding, with Hair-cloth and Wanty. 1793 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 38 Mar. 515/2 Toll..for every Horse tied with a Wantye or Wamtye, sd. that shall pass through Stratford Langthorn. 1813 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* I. 108, 3 belly wanties, at 2s. 3d. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Wantye*, the belt or strap of raw hide which used to pass over the pack-saddle and round the belly of the horse.

β. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 404 Item, for ane collair to him and ane wantoun for the weschale, xliij d. 1545-6 *Ibid.* VIII. 441 Item, for ane bridill with the bi collar with bellis, and ane wantoe. 1549 *Inv. Bristol* set Hob) Hackney saddill, stirropes, & parthes and other wantowes. 1577 *Inv. Airsle* (Somerset Hse.), Wanten sadle and girth. 1808 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* s. v., A wantoon was generally made of hemp, to which was attached an iron hoop, to fasten packs on pack-saddles. 1881 ——— *Blackpool* 310 Grain..was conveyed to Preston on the back of pack-horses, the load being tied on a wooden saddle, with a girth named a 'wantah'.

2. The belly-band of a shaft-horse. *dial.*

1894 Miss A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Wanty*,..the name is still preserved in the hempen cord or leather strap which passes under the horse, and is secured to both shafts, to prevent the cart rising up when heavily laden.

3. *attrib.*, as † *wanty bottom*, † *rope*, † *shaft*.

1583 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 Fyve *wty tones beddomes, xij[d]. 1612 *Ibid.* 204 Wanton bothomes, x[d]. 1589 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 155 Item I gyue to my brother ..my best pack sadell withe a newe wante and *wantyrop withe the best girt. 1624 *Tobe* (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) fol. 66, a wanty rope. 1822-22 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 199 Foure *wanton shaftes and a paire of traases, xviij[d]. 1627 *Ibid.* 226, 4 wantoe shaftes, xij[d].

† **Wanweird.** *Sc. Obs.* In 6 **wan-, wane-werd.** [f. WAN- + WEIRD *sb.*] Hard lot, ill fate, misfortune. (In quot. 1631 personified.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. v. 64, I tuik comfort heirof, thinkand but baid That hard wanweird suld follow fortun glaid. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 407 Sen gratius [God] that has all thing in ord At his weildding to weill or ȝit wan werd. ?a 1550 *'Down by ane rever'* 76 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 307 Sen for no wisdome, nor no strenth, Nor for no richess in this erd, That ony man his lyf may lenth, Naythir for freyndschip agane wanewerd. *a* 1580 *Murning Maiden* 19 in *Maitland Fol. MS.* 360 Wanweird, scho said, quhat haue I wrocht That on me kythit hes all this cair? 1631 A. CRAIGE *Pilgr. & Heremite* 9 Perchance before that thou her againe see, By vote of the Wan-weirds, that burled shee bee. 1808 JAMIESON *Water Kelpie* xvi, Nor wit nor pow'r put aff the hour, For his wanweird decreed.

† **Wanwit.** *Obs.* (Chiefly *Sc.*) Also 4 **uanwite**, 4-5 **wane-wit, -wyt**. [ME. f. WAN- + WIT *sb.* Cf. G. *wahnwitz*, Sw. *vanvett*, Da. *vanvid*, Norw. *vanvit*.] Lack of wit, foolishness.

a 1400 *Symb. Passion* 72 in *Leg. Rood* 180 Schild me from pein of helle pit þat i haue deserued þorow uan-wite. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. Prol. 48 Giff it war wilfully forȝhet, It walde be repute vnkyndnes, Wanwit, or þan reklessines. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 300 Prodigalites.. cummys of grete foly and wan witt. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc. 565 It is better a pur wys barne na an auld fule kinge, quhilk fore wane-wyt may perys a realme. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* I. 400 Thar moderis þan desyris mariage Quhilk is wanwyt and foly in þar age.

Hence † **Wanwitty** *a. Obs.*, foolish.

Ratis Raving, etc. 454 Fulys and wanwitty men.

'a·nwordy, *a. Sc.* ? *Obs.* [f. WAN- + *wordy*, WORTHY *a.*] Worthless.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *To Tron-kirk Bell* 1 Wanwordy, crazy, dinsome thing, As e'er was fram'd to jow or ring. — *Drink Eclogue* 308 Wanwordy gowk I did I see aften shine [etc.].

Wa·nworth, *a.* and *sb. Sc.* (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [f. WAN- + WORTH *a.* and *sb.*] **a.** *adj.* Worthless. **b.** *sb.* 'An undervalue' (Jam.).

17..RAMSAY *Dunbar's Flyting* in *Evergreen* II. 57 Worlin wanworth [*the original has* Forworthin wirling]. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 88 The Council winna lack nae meikle grace As lat our heritage at wanworth gang.

Wany, variant of WANEY *a.*

Wanyand, -ende, var. ff. WANIAND. *Obs.*

Wanys(e, obs. forms of VANISH *v.*

Wanyte, obs. Sc. form of VANITY.

† **Wanze**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wansian**, 3 *Ormin* **wannsenn**, 4 **wanese**, 5 **wanyse, whanse**, 4-5 **wanse**, (5 *inf.* **wansyn, wanson, wanshon, wanschon**, 6-7, 9 *dial.* **wanse**. [OE. *wansian* (also *dwansian*) trans., to diminish, f. *wan*, WANE *a.* Cf. ON. *vanse* wk. masc. (Mid.Sw., Norw. *vanse*) want, defect.]

1. *trans.* To diminish, waste; in later use, to render lean.

a 1121 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Swa hwa swa ure ȝife ouþer oðre godene manne ȝyfe wansiað wansie him seo heofenlice iateward on heofenrice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1904 Crist ras upp off dæþess slap, Forr dæþess nahht to wannsenn. *Ibid.* 7157 To wannsenn himm hiss riche. *Ibid.* 12258. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* vi. 16. 215 They doe so disfigure their faces, so wanze and wither their countenances, that [etc.]. 1687 — *Job* xvi. 8. 152 That with fasting and paines taking he had so wanzed and macerated himself, that at past thirty, he was looked upon as one towards fifty.

2. *intr.* To decrease, grow less (*lit.* and *fig.*); of the moon, to wane.

c 1200 ORMIN 1901 Marrchess nahhtess wannsenn eȝȝ, & Marrchess dæþess waxenn. *Ibid.* 17969 Ned iss..þatt he nu forrþwarrd waxe, & ec iss ned..þatt I nu forrþwarrd wannse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Eng. Wks.* II. 248 He mut wex and Y mut wanese. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 263 Worldes catel passet sone. Þat wacset & wanait rit as te mone. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6187 They be nat lyche the hornyd moon That kan encrese and wanse agayn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wanschon' [*Winch. MS.* wanshon], *idem quod* wanson'. *Ibid.*, Wanson', *wanese*, Cath., *wanesco*. Wanson', or wanyn', as þe mone, *decresco*. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* I. 487 Peyntyng & wrytyng & grauyng in entayle It wyll wanyse [*MS. Arund.* whanse] & wast, roten & be brent. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Margarete* 207 Thys was here fear þat..Eche day should growen & encrese Crystyn relygyoun..And paynymary wanesyn & decrese. 14.. *MS. Ashm.* 191, fol. 299 b, Wil ynne it is as hole, ye whiche schewiþ hi symylitude howe þe moone waxiþ & wanaiþ.

b. To wither, fade, waste away; to become emaciated.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* III. 618 And all the things that lyked him did waste away at length. *Ibid.* VI. 58 A ruddy-

bonne bespreut Hir cheekes which wanzed away againe. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* T 2 b, Decke our selues how we will, ..wee cannot equalise one of the Lillies of the fields; as they wither, so shall we wanze and decay. 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-Deceiv.* ii. 30 Doth Timothie weaken his constitution by abstinence? The Pharisee will neuer giue ouer till his complexion be wholly withered and wanzed. 1623 COCKERAM i, *Wanze*, to perish, to decay. 1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* ii. 46 Recover thy losse, quicken that hath wanzed, strengthen the feeble knees or hands. 1642 — *Naaman* 118 In a short time have bewraied themselves to be time-servers, and wanzed away to nothing. *Ibid.* 122, 133. *a* 1685 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wanze*, to waste, pine, wither. 1917 HARDY *Moments of Vision* 171 Not as one wanzing weak From life's roar and reek, His rest still to seek.

Hence **Wa·nzing** *ppl. a.*, evanescent; **Wa·nzing-**

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* iii. 8 b, So did he not rashly thrust oute wanzing woordes [L. *voces evanidas*] into the aire as vnbeleuers are woont to do. 1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* ii. 22 The life of faith..is very poore and wanzing in us. *Ibid.* 48 Each wanzing motion and Pang after faith. 1642 — *Naaman* 143 That pleasingnesse of it..doth bewitch them so, that they rest in wanzing hope of it. *Ibid.* 268 Shewes them the vanity and wanzingnesse of their own principle.

Wap, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4–5 **wappe.** [Belongs to WAP *v.*[1]]

1. A blow, knock, thump.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6405 Ector for þat od dynt, ournyt in hert, Wode for the wap, as a wild lyon. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9338 On smytes his felawe thorow the pap, And he feues him a sori wap. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* xi, in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 285 He hit him on the wame a wap, It buft lyk ony bleddir. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 238, I had such a plumper off the old mare the first time I went out! What a wap of the head I had surely. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxv, A wap wi' a corner-stane o' Wolf's Crag wad defy the doctor! 1823 ', BEE' *Dict. Turf, Wap*, a species of slap, resounding, as if imparted by a wet dishclout. 1914 C. C. MURRAY in *Aberd. Univ. Rev.* Nov. 45 An' fat was a wap wi' a spainyie or tag To hands that were hard as a steen.

b. *At a wap*: at one blow, suddenly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 499 Þou..trauayledez neuer to tent hit þe tyme of an howre, Bot at a wap hit here wax & away at an oþer. *a* 1400 *Wars Alex.* 3040 Alexander allbire first on þaim all he settis And aithire ward at a wapp wistly inIoynes. *Ibid.* 4142, 5318. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 515 (E. E. T. S.), & wel wenen at a wap alle þe wo[r]ld quelle. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 314 As I wold at a wap wyn all at ones.

2. *Sc.* A sudden storm (of snow).

1818 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. vi. 204 You will find it [a plaid] a good bosom friend..when your country avocations lead you to face a dry wap of snow.

3. A shake, flap; a sweeping or tossing movement.

a 1683 D. DICKSON *Serm.* Pract. Writ. (1845) I. 99 Preaching is like the wap of a fan, to tell the one that they are chaff [etc.]. *c* 1800 *Lessome Brand* vii. in Child *Ballads* I. 182 Ye do you to my father's stable, Where steeds do stand baith wight and able...Strike ane o them upo the back, The swiftest will gie his head a wap. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xvii, Pomp and pleasure pass away as speedily as the wap of a falcon's wing.

4. A pugilistic fight. Also, a quarrel. *Sc.*

1887 P. M[C]NEILL *Blawearie* 84 It not unfrequently happened, if a well matched pair or two met and had not had their 'wap' out, both pits would be thrown idle on the Monday that all who wished might see the affair wound up. 1887 SERVICE *Life Duguid* xl. 68 It happened as day that a neebor woman..and Bessie had a terr'ble wap.

† Wap, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* In 5 wapp, 6 wappe. [f. WAP *v.*[3]] A kind of mongrel formerly used as a house-dog.

Owing to a mistake of his translator Fleming (1576), Caius has commonly been said to have identified the 'wappe' with the 'turnspit', and to haue given *vnape* as an actual variant form. His Latin for *Wappe* is *Admonitor* (rendered 'Warner' by Fleming) for *Turnespete* he gives *Vertagus*.

1464 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 14 Sir Henry Vavasor was gone hence or I wist, so that I might not speak to him for the wapp. 1570 CAIUS *De Canibus Brit.* 12 b, Ad postremum, degeneres, Wappe and Turnespete nominari dicebamus: hunc à verbo nostrati turne,..& spete..; illud à naturali canis voce Wau, quam in latratu edit admonendo. Vnde, originaliter Waupe dicendum fuit. Sed euphoniæ bonæque consonantiæ gratia, vocali in consonantem mutata, Wappe à nostris vocitatur. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* B 4, The sillie Sheephearde committing his wandering sheepe to the custodie of his wappe.

† Wap, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [? f. WAP *v.*[2]]

1. A turn of a string wrapped round something.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* ii. (Arb.) 122 You must looke that youre bowe be well nocked for fere the sharpnesse of the horne shere a sunder the stryngе. And that chaunceth oft when in bending, the string hath but one wap to strengthe it wyth all. *Ibid.* 122 *below*, 129.

2. *Naut.* A shroud-stopper. [Perh. another word; cf. WARP *sb.*]

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Wapp*, is that Rope in a Ship, wherewith the Shrouds are set taught with Waleknots; one end is made fast to the Shrouds, and to the other are brought the Laniards. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Wapp, or Whap.

3. (See quot.) *dial.*

1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.*, *Wap*, a bundle of straw, called also a loggin.

Wap (wɒp), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 5 **quappe**, 9 *Sc.* **waup.** [Of obscure origin; cf. SWAP *v.* and *whap*, WHOP *v.*]

1. *trans.* To throw quickly or with violence. Often with adv. or phrase, *down*, *to the ground*, etc. † *To wap off*: to pull off roughly; † *to wap sindry* (see SUNDRY *adv.*), to scatter, disperse; *to wap wide*, to throw wide open.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7097 Mony doughty þat day deghit in the filȝ, Mony [were] wofully woundit, & wappid to ground! *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 343 Do wappe of his wedis þat are worne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 127 The yettis wappit war wyde. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 171 (Bann.) Now on þe quheill, now wappit [*Harl.* wrappit] to þe ground. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. iv. 150 Wyth branchis rent of treis, and quarrell stanis Of huge wecht doun wappand all at anis. 1562 WINȜET *Cert. Tract.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 94 Quhy hef ȝe wappit doun al the affixit tabellis of the Lord? 1563 — tr. *Vincent Lirin.* v. II. 22 Than wes..monasteriis destroyit, clerkis wappit sindry [L. *clerici disturbati*], the ministeris of the Kirkis strikin [etc.]. *Ibid.* vi. II. 23 That be them he wald raiss vp his Kirkis afoir wappit doun. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 30 He war with the wand syne he wapis in the fyre. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 25 Gif thay sie ony fishe mair diligate..the pray quhilke..thay brocht far aff, with speid thay wap out of thair mouth. *Ibid.* II. 29 At last, the Inglisman wappit fra his horse, the Scot winnis the Victorie. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *O Mither dear* I v, Get Johny's hand in haly band, Syne wap ye'r wealth together. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.*, *Whap*, to shut or close with violence, as, 'twind waps door tull'. 1912 A. MCCORMICK *Words fr. Wild-Wood* vi. 82, I had..mechanically 'wapped' my line once or twice in the glassy pool above.

† **b.** In figurative expressions like *wapped in woe*, there is some doubt whether *wapped* belongs to this verb with the sense 'thrown', or to WAP *v.*[2] with the sense 'wrapped'. Cf. the similar use of WARP *v.* The word may have been variously apprehended by those who used the proverbial expression. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 230 Ve sal be wappyt in til yre, percace in eide in brynnand fyre [L. *incurremus furorem examentem in terris*]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 12 In wrathe when we writhe, or in wratheneſse ar wapped. *c* 1440 *Ibid.* xlvi. 1 In waylyng and wepyng, in woo am I wapped. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 748 For ws, wappit in wo in this warld wyde, To thi son mak thi mane. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 166 Now in fredome, now wappit in distres. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 107 Syne the xij Signes, and of thair conuersatioun, How thay ar wapt to diuers variatioun. *Ibid.* II. 619, I se this warld wappit with variance. *Ibid.* 641 To lik man geuis in warld his fatall weir[d], Quhidder it be to weill wappit, or wo. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* xx. 3 Oppressit hairt, indure..Wappit without recure In wo remidilese.

† **2.** To shake. *Obs.*—[0]

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 27/24 To wappe, *motare, agitare.*

3. *intr.* To strike, knock *upon*; to strike *through.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 882 þe ȝonge men..Wapped vpon þe wyket & wonnen hem tylle. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2226 Othire athils of armes Albastis bendis, Quirys out quarrels, quappid [*Dubl. MS.* wappyd] thur3e mayles. 1889 H. JOHNSTON *Glenbuckie* 99 Yer cannon balls, well they wud just wap through them [spirits] and no do them wan bit o' hairm.

† **4.** Of the wind: To blow in gusts. Of a cloth: To flap in the wind. Of wings: To flap, beat. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2004 þe werbelande wynde wapped fro þe hyȝe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9513 The smorther, & the smoke of þe smert loghyȝ..waivet in the welkyn, wappond full hote. *c* 1400 *Isumbras* 632 A rede clothe therinne he seghe Owte-wappande with the wynde. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* i. (1664) 5 When flickering fame that monstrous wight With hundred wings wapping was blown.

5. Used to express the intermittent sound of shallow water over stones: cf. PLAP, PLOP *vbs.*

1910 J. MASEFIELD *Ballads & P., Fragments* 12 Simois babbles over stone And waps and gurgles to the sky.

Hence **Wapping** *vbl. sb.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxi. (1495) 142 Grete wappynge and lepynge in any of the rybbes betokeneth woo and sorowe other rauynge. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 296 The wapping of a Towell will ure a Beare.

† Wap, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 *inf.* **whappyn**, 4–6 **wappe.** [Of obscure origin; possibly an altered form of WARP *v.*; cf. WRAP *v.* and *wlappe* LAP *v.*[2]] *trans.* To wrap, envelop; also, to wrap (a covering) *about* something.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalen*) 524 þai lad þat body, þat ded was,..wappyt in a furrit mantele. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* cxlv. 1989 A mantill wappit him about. *c* 1425 *Cast. Percsv.* 1212 in *Macro Plays*, Whanne ȝe be in bedde browth boþe, wappyd wel in worthy wede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 287/1 Lappyn, or whappyn in clopys, *involvo.*

oper l
bowte

[Mary's girdle] was wonte for to wappe þat worthy virgine. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 211 þat womman..had a little chylde syttand on hur kne wappid in a clothe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 593 Kythe youre strengthe, And wap you wightly in youre weds. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 40 The vmbrate treis that Tytan about wappit. 1542 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 131 Item, for ix stane merling cord deliverit to George Halybartoun to wap and mak the lowpes of the somes and thetis, vli. viij *s.*

Hence † **Wapping** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wappynge, happynge or hylynge (*v.rr.* lappynge, lappinge), *coopertura, coopericio* (*involucio*).

† **Wap,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* Also 7 **whap.** [Echoic.] *intr.* To bark. Hence † **Wa·pping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wappyn', or baffyn' as howndys, *nicto*, Cath. *Ibid.*, Wappon' or berkyn', *idem quod* berkyn, *supra. Ibid.* 516/1 Wappynge, of howndys, whan þey folow here pray or that they wolde harme to..*micticio, niccio. Ibid.*, Wappynge (of howndys, MS. *K.*) or berkynge, *baiulatus, latratus.* 1640 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. iii. 366 As the harmlesse wapping of a curs'd curre may stir up a fierce mastiffe to the worrying of sheep. 1650 — *Pisgah* III. i. 409 Solomon was an absolute Prince,..in his peaceable Countrey, where no dog durst bark against him (save two or three whapping curs toward the end of his reign).

Wap, occas. spelling of WHOP *v.*

† Wapacut (wɒ·pǎkʊt). Also 8–9 **wapacuthu.** [American Indian; Watkins *Cree Dict.* 1865 has the form *wapikunee*; the Montagnais form is given as *wapikulu.*] 'A large white spotted owl, believed to be the common snowy owl, *Nyctea scandiaca*' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 231 Red, Mottled, and Wapacuthu Owl. *Ibid.* 232 Called by the Indians, Wapacuthu, or the Spotted Owl. 1828–32 WEBSTER *Wapacut*, the spotted owl of Hudson's Bay.

Wapato(**o**: see WAPPATOO.

Wape, var. WHAPE *v.*, to amaze, bewilder.

Wapen(**e,** obs. forms of WEAPON.

Wapens(**c**)**haw,** variant of WAPPENS(C)HAW.

Wapentake (wɒ·p'ntēk). Forms: 1 *wǽpen-geteo* (*dat.* -tæce), *wǽpentake*, **wapentac**, 3 **-tak**, 4 **wapne-**, **wepentake**, 5 **wapyntak**, 5–7 **wapentache** (5 **-tage**, 7 **weapontack**, **-tage**), 6–7 **wapentack**, (8 **-tac**), 6–8 **wappentake**, (6 **wapintake**, 8 **waking take**), 4– **wapentake**; (5 **wepyntale**, **-taille**). [a. ON. *vápnatak*, f. *vápna* genit. pl. of *vápn* WEAPON + *tak* act of taking (related to *taka* to TAKE). The late OE. *wǽpengetæc* shows assimilation of form to native compounds like *wǽpengewrixle* exchange of blows.

The recorded senses of the word in ON. are: (1) a vote of consent expressed by waving or brandishing weapons; (2) a vote or resolution of a deliberative assembly; (3) in Iceland, the breaking up of the session of the Althingi, when the members resumed their weapons that had been laid aside during the sittings. In English there is no trace of these senses, and the development of the actual sense can only be explained conjecturally. It is noteworthy that 'wapentakes', like 'hundreds', often received their names from some natural or artificial object (e.g. a barrow or a tree) which afforded a suitable rallying-place for open-air meetings. Assuming that in England *wapentake* originally meant the act of signifying assent at a public assembly, it seems not improbable that the men of the district whose place of meeting was (e.g.) at Osgod's Cross might be said to belong to 'the wapentake of Osgod's Cross (Osgoldcross)'; the use of the word to denote a territorial division would thus be sufficiently accounted for.]

A subdivision of certain English shires, corresponding to the 'hundred' (HUNDRED 5) of other counties.

The shires which have divisions so termed are Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Notts, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, and Leicestershire; in all which the Danish element in the population was large. In Derbyshire there is now only one wapentake (that of Wirksworth), the other divisions of the shire being termed 'hundreds'. In Lincolnshire most of the county divisions are 'wapentakes', but a few are called 'hundreds' and 'sokes'. There are traces of the existence of the term in popular use in other counties, as Cheshire and Cumberland.

c 1000 *Laws of Edgar* iv. c. vi. (Liebermn.), & ælc mon mid heora ȝewitnysse higcge & sylle ælc þara ceapa, þe he bigcge oððe sylle aþer oððe burge oððe on wæpengetace. *c* 1000 *Laws of Ethelred* III. c. i. § 2 (Liebermn.) On wæpentake. 1086 *Domesday Bk.* (1783) I. 272 Derbyscire...Scarve-

315 Evrvic
B. 320 lf. 46 On þusse manere sullen þe enquerours gon fiam wapnetake to wapne[take]. 1326 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 20/1 Et qe nule Baillie, ne Huudred, ne Wapentake, ne soit lesse a plus haut ferme qe les auncienes fermes. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 145 þe bisshop of Durham bouht Saberg, with þe wapentake. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 97 Wepentake and an hondred is al oon, for þe contray of an hondred townes were i-woned to gilde vppe wepene in þe comynge of þe lord. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 235 Kyng Edward [*sc.* Edw. II]..by his lettres ordeynede, þat euery hundred & wapentache of Engeland [etc.]. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 110/1 That no Shirref lete to ferme..his Counte, ne noon of his Baillywykes, Hundreth' ne Wapentakes. ? 1486 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 95 The custom of the Mines within the Wappentake of Wricksworth. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 6 All the hundreds and wapentakes nine miles compasse, fetch the best of their vianda and mangery from her market. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 90 There is in every shiere soe many ridinges, in everie ridinge soe many weapontackes. 1665 J. NORTH in *Extr. S. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 234 To ympannell a Jury out of that weapontage out of such Townes, as are not within Doncaster liberty. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 183 Richmondshire has in it 5 waking takes as they call them. 1717 GAY *Ep. to Lowndes* 12 Great L—— his praise should swell the trump of fame And Rapes and Wapentakes resound his name. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 66/2 One of the high constables of Osgoldcross was indicted for extorting..1250*l.* from twenty-five townships belonging to his wapentake. 1797 BRYDGES *Homer Trans.* I. 219 As for these various ragged packs Of rogues from different wapentakes. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 161 Nottinghamshire is divided into 6 wapentakes or hundreds. 1924 *Victoria Hist. County York* I. 36 The Wapentake of Gilling West containing the parishes of [etc.]..This wapentake was held by the successive lords of Richmondshire, which it followed in descent.

b. The judicial court of such a subdivision.

14.. *Customs of Maltone* in *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 59 Yffe any man..be sommonyd..to the wapyntak. 1621 SPELM. *Tent. Gt. Brit.* I. xxx. § 4. 97 Abous this, and held 12 times a yeare, was our Hundred or Wapentake. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3093/4 If any person or persons shall apprehend..the

said Robbers, and give notice thereof to the Wapentack of Aslaccoe in the County of Lincoln..they shall have 30*l.* reward. 1809 Bawdwen *Domesday Bk., York* etc. 473 This belonged to St. Benedict of Ramsey, according to the testimony of the jurors of the wapentake [L. *testimonium hominum de Wapentac*]. 1898 H. Kirby *Lakeland Wds.* s.v., 'If has doesn't pay up Ah'll set t' wapen-tack on tull him.' This officer is reported to have existed in the town of Kendal till as late as 1836.

c. *attrib.* : *wapentake court, fine.*

1543 *Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) I. 407 Paid to the exchetor ..for Wapin take fyne callyd castle worke, iij^{li}. iiij^{d}. 1658 Hubberthorn *Sufferings for Tythes* 13 William Iackson for tythes of ten shillings value, had sixteen shillings taken by a judgment in the Weapontage-Court. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* v. § 46 This court, the hundred-gemot or wapentake court, was held every month.

Wapher, obs. form of Wafer.

Wapin, obs. form of Weapon.

Wapins(c)haw : see Wappens(c)haw.

Wapiti (wɒ·pɪti). Also ? *erron.* **wipiti.** [a. Cree *wapitik* (Shawnee *wahpatee*) lit. 'white deer'.] The North American stag or elk, *Cervus canadensis*, allied to but larger than the European Red Deer. Also attrib., *wapiti deer, stag.*

1817 *Thomson's Ann. Philos.* IX. 325 At the same meeting [of the Linnæan Society] was read a description, by Dr. Leach, of the Wapiti deer, a species of animal from the banks of the Missouri. 1829 Sir J. Richardson *Fauna Bor. Amer.* I. 251 *Cervus strongyloceros.* (Schreber.) The Wapiti. *Ibid.* 252 The trivial name of 'wapiti' has been only recently adopted in scientific works. 1890 S. W. Baker *Wild Beasts* II. 200 If a wapiti stag were placed in a line with a fine German, and a Scotch red-deer, there would be an immense difference in size. 1901 P. Fountain *Deserts N. Amer.* ix. 179 The wapiti deer (which the American trappers and people always call the elk). 1904 — *Gt. North-West* v. 49 The wipiti is 'the elk' of Americans. *Ibid.* xi. 119 The wipiti. *Comb.* 1880 *19th Cent.* Oct. 593 (*title*), Wapiti-running on the plains.

b. The flesh of this animal.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 May 3/2 Second course : Californian salmon, roast wapiti.

Wapito, variant of Wappato(o.

† Wap-John. *slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 278 *note*, A gentleman's coachman, or what we call 'a Wap-John'.

† Wa·pman. *Obs.* Forms: 1–2 **wǽpman,** wǽpnman, w.epen-, **wépenmon,** 3 **wepman,** (*Ormin* **weppmann**), **weopmonne, wepmon(ne, wapmon, -man.** [OE. *wǽpnman*, f. *wǽpn* Weapon (= *membrum virile*) + *man* Man *sb.* Cf. OE. *wǽpned* adj., male.] A man as distinguished from a woman, a male human being.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke ii. 23 Exhuelc he *vel* woepenmon to-untynes hrif [Vulg. *omne masculinum adaperiens vulvam*]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* xxii. 5 Ne scride nan wif bi3 mid wæpmannes reafe, ne wæpman mid wifmannes reafe. 1123 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud. MS.), Forbearn eall meast se burh of Lincolne & micel unzerime folces wæpmen & wimmen forburnon. *c* 1200 Ormin 7098 ; ær comenn forrþ to lofenn himm An weppmann & an widdwe. *c* 1205 Lay. 1119 Loode nere þar nane ne wapnien [*c* 1275 wepmen] ne wifmen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Forði mi sunne is more þen of one weopmonne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1379 Luue..Bitweone wepmon & wimmane [*Jesus MS.* þe mon & wymmone]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1001 And of is hird euerilc wapman wurð circumcis. *c* 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 145 in *O. E. Misc.* 151 Uvrþer þer beoþ wimmen and wapmen bo.

b. Comb.: **wapman-kin,** persons of the male sex.

c 1200 Ormin 4092 All þatt weppmannkinn þatt wass inn hise walde. *c* 1205 Lay. 498 Al þæt wapmon-cun [*c* 1295 monkun] þa mihte beren wapen.

Wapnetake, obs. form of Wapentake.

Wapnis, obs. pl. form of Weapon.

Waponschawing, var. Wappens(c)hawing.

Wapour, obs. form of Vapour.

Wappato(o (wɒ·pǎto, *-ō*). *U.S.* Also **whapto, wapto, wapito, wapato(o, wapata.** [a. Cree *wapatowa* white mushroom.] The tubers of the plant *Sagittaria variabilis*, used for food by Indians.

1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 160 We got some dogs and roots from the natives. The roots..are called whapto; resemble a potatoe when cooked, and are about as big as a hen egg. *Ibid.* 170 We..procured a few roots, called Wapto. 1814 *Lewis & Clark's Exped.* (1893) 693 Here he treated us with a root..which they call wappatoo. 1838 Parker *Exploring Tour beyond Rocky M's.* 293 The wappatoo is the *sagittaria*, or arrow-head...The root is bulbous, and becomes soft by roasting, forming a nourishing and agreeable food. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlviii. 123 The wapito, a bulbous root much like a turnip. 1893 E. Coues in *Lewis & Clark's Exped.* 824 *note*, The wappatoo is the root of *Sagittaria variabilis*,..the common arrowhead.

Wappen, obs. form of Weapon.

† Wa·ppened, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. Of obscure origin and meaning, perh. corrupt. Cf. Wappered *a.*, which Singer proposed as a conjectural reading.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 38 This is it That makes the wappen'd Widdow wed againe.

Wappens(c)haw (wa·p'nʃɑ). *Sc.* Forms: *a.* 6–7, 9 **wap(p)ins(c)haw,** 7 **waponeschawe,** 9 **wap(p)ens(c)haw** ; *β. semi-modernised* **weapons(c)haw.** [f. *wapin* Weapon + *schaw* Show *sb.* Prob. orig. a shortening of the older Wappenschawing.

Both words are used *Hist.* by Scott ; the official edition of the Statutes of Scotland (1814) has only *waponschaw* in the index, though the actual text of the Acts has *waponschawing* etc. in 1503 (see below).

Cf. G. *waffenschau*, given by Adelung as an obsolete HG. word, but prob. a mere 18th c. adaptation of Du. *wapenschouwing* = next.]

1. *Hist.* = Wappens(c)hawing.

a 1503 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 243/2 Item þat all scotland mak zerely þair wapinschawis apon thurisday in witsonday wolk. *Ibid.* 251/2 þat all scotland mak þair wappinschawis [etc.]. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Will.* c. xxiii. § 6 It is statute, that wapinschaw sal be keiped & haldin. 1617 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) I. 56 To the effect they may be the better prepared agane the xxiij of this instant qlk is the principall waponeschawe day. 1826 Scott *Old Mort.* ii, [The Calvinists] discouraged, as far as lay in their power, even the ancient wappen-schaws, as they were termed, when the feudal array of the county was called out, and each crown-vassal was required to appear with such muster of men and armour as he was bound to make by his fief. 1905 G. Wilson *Ann. Glover Incorporat. Perth* 13 Other and more rational forms of amusements became popular with our Craft..such as wappenschaws, football, quoits, golf, archery, etc.

β. 1776 *Herd's Sc. Songs* II. 192 When we went to the field of war, And to the Weaponshaw, Willie. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* IV. xxviii, Already on dark Ruberslaw The Douglas holds his weapon-schaw. 1830 — *Doom of Devorgoil* I. i, Godden, good yeoman. Come you from the Weaponshaw? 1830 — *Demonol.* I. 14 The majority..had considered the heavenly phenomenon as a supernatural weapon-schaw for the purpose of a sign and warning of civil wars to come.

2. A volunteer rifle-meeting.

1868 *Morning Star* 9 Jan., At Edinburgh, on New Year's Day, the Wappinschaw was celebrated. Years ago this, we believe, was a gathering at which the country side shot, with homely smooth-bore pieces, for hams and cheeses, but until revived in 1856 the custom had long fallen into disuse. In that year the Wappinschaw was rehabilitated by the local volunteers. 1869 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 July 6 The Aberdeen Volunteer wapinschaw was held yesterday. The chief prize ..was won by Ensign Niven.

b. *South Africa.* Used to render Du. *wappenschouwing* (see next), applied by the Boers to a rifle-shooting competition.

1899 *Daily News* 23 June 5/4 The Boers never drill, and it is thought that the scene witnessed was probably an ordinary season's wapenshaw. *Ibid.* 13 Oct. 5/5 The local Dutch have decided to postpone their wappenschaw (rifle meeting) at the request of the magistrate.

Wappens(c)hawing (wa·p'nʃɑ,ɪŋ). *Sc. Hist.* Forms: *a.* 5 **wapinschawin, wapynschawing,** 5–6 **wap(p)inschawing, -schewing,** 6 **waping-, vapin-, wapo(u)nschawing, vaupynschauyng,** 9 **wappenschawing**; *β. semi-modernized* 6 **weapon-showing,** 9 **weapon-shawing.** [f. *wapen* Weapon + *schawing* Showing *vbl. sb.* ; = Du. *wapenschouwing.* Cf. prec.] A periodical muster or review of the men under arms within a particular lordship or district.

1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 8/2 It is ordanyt þan In ilk schiredome of þe realme þere be maid wapynschawing four tymis in þe 3er. 1522 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 366/2 The kingis hienes..has ordanit him to resave the musteris and wapinschewingis of all his folkis. 1541 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 66 The Wapinschawing off Annerdale tane be my Lord Maxwell wppon Burniswerkhill. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. (1872) 96 Kyng eduard..ordand thre vaupynschauyngis to be maid al on ane day in scotland be scottis men.., and at thay vaupynschauyngis, al the vaupynis and armour of scotland to be delyuerit to the inglismen. 1560 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 3 That frome hencefurth they be not compelled to tak on credite, they aall be everie moneth satisfeid of their wages, so that two Scotish lords, chosin by the counsell, may present it at weapon-showing and musters of the said men of warre. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 321 Thair vas vapinschawing throch all Scotland. 1633 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1634, 45/2 At all generall musteris and wapounschawingis within the said schirrefdome. 1826 Scott *F. M. Perth* iii, The best wrestler,..the king of the weapon-shawing—the breaker of mad horses. 1830 — *Doom of Devorgoil* I. i, Hark ! they have broken up the weapon-shawing. 1905 G. Wilson *Ann. Glover Incorporat. Perth* 13 On one of these occasions of wappenschawing a serious riot took place.

Wappentake, obs. form of Wapentake.

† Wa·pper, *sb. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. Du. *wapper*, cogn. with *wapperen* to swing : see next.] ? A (leaden) ball attached to a strap used as a striking weapon. So **† Wa·pper** *v.*^{1} *trans.*, to strike (a person) with this weapon.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 16 That one had an leden malle and that other a grete leden wapper therwyth they wappred and al for slyngred hym.

Wapper (wɒ·pəɹ), *a.* Now *dial.* [Back-formation from *wapper-eyed, -jawed* : see Wapper *v.*^{2}] † a. Of the eyes : Blinking, unsteady. *Obs.* b. Of a jaw (see quots.). *dial.* and *U.S.*

1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 280 What if he will geve no credite to your opinions ? no nor yet to your wapper eyes that are bleared and dimme with rancour and malice? 1608 Armin *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 6 But such was his, who thus busied, was tooke napping by the weale publike, who smiles upon him with a wapper eye, a lealous countenance, and bids him all haile. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wapper-jawed*, a wry mouth ; a warped jaw. 1891 *Century Dict., Wapper-jaw.* s. A projecting under-jaw. (Colloq., U.S.)

Wapper (wɒ·pəɹ), *v.*^{2} *Obs. exc. dial.* [Perh. cogn. w. Wave *v.* ; cf. Du. *wapperen* to swing, oscillate, waver.]

1. *intr.* To blink the eyes. Also, 'to move tremulously' (Halliwell 1847, as a Somerset word).

1575 *Mirr. Mag.* i, *Herodotus* 75 b, But still he stode his face to set awrye, And wappering turnid yo his white of eye. 1620 Massie tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 40 She was toothlesse, chap-falne, hollow-eyed, and wappering withall.

2. *passive.* To be tired *out.*

1898 J. A. Gibbs *Cotswold Village* 218 [Period 1832] Thou'll not see Stratford to-night, sir, thy horse is wappered out. *Foot-note.* Wappered = tired. A Cotswold word.

3. Comb. : **wapper-eyed** *a. dial.* blinking, bleareyed (see quots.); **wapper-jawed** *a. U.S.*

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* D 8 b, I..changed my shape into a litle wapper-eid Constable, to winke and blinke at small faults. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wapper-eyed*, that has Sore or running Eyes. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E. D. S.) Gloss., *Wapper-eyed*, goggle-eyed, having full rolling Eyes; or looking like one scared ; or squinting like a Person overtaken with Liquor. 1848 Lowell *Fable for Critics* Prelim. note, Fancy an heir that a father had seen born well featured and fair, turning suddenly..squint-eyed, hair-lipped, wapper-jawed. 1849 'N. Hood' *Poet. Lett.* (1850) Gloss., *Wapper-ky'd*, sleepy, groggy. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Wapper-eyed*, having quick-moving restless eyes—constantly rolling from side to side, as is seen in very nervous persons.

Wapper, variant of Whopper.

Wa·ppered, *a.* Now *dial.* Also **woppered.** [f. Wapper *v.* + -ed.] Fatigued, wearied.

[1812 : implied in Unwappered.] 1868 R. W. Huntley *Cotswold Dial., Wappered*, fatigued ; beaten. 1890 *Gloucestersh. Gloss., Woppered*, restless, fatigued. (Hund. of Berk.)

Wappet : see Whappet *Obs.*, kind of dog.

Wappin, obs. Sc. form of Weapon.

† Wappineer. *Obs.* [f. the place-name *Wapping*, a part of London close to the Docks + -eer.] An inhabitant of Wapping. Also *attrib.* Cf. Wappinger.

1690 D'Urfey *Collin's Walk* II. 72 In kennel sowr'd o're Head and Ears Amongst the crowding Wappineers. 1712 Shadwell *Fair Quaker of Deal* Dram. Pers., *Fitz*, The Commadore, a most illiterate Wappineer-Tar. *a* 1792 Horne in *Olla Podrida* (1800) I. 135 Whilst a Wappineer, a Milender, and a Boroughman, are terms proverbially used, about the Exchange.., to express an inferior order of beings.

Wappin(g : see Whopping *ppl. a.*

Wappinger (wɒ·pɪnəɹ). [f. *Wapping* + -er 1.] An inhabitant of Wapping. Cf. Wappineer.

a 1734 North *Exam.* III. viii. (1740) 585 Rous..was a thorough paced Traitor, and looked upon to be Paymaster of the Mob ; a Wappinger, and good at mustering Seamen. 1898 Besant *Orange Girl* I. vi, The girls..stared with more rudeness than one would expect even from a Wappinger.

Waps, obs. or dial. form of Wasp.

Wapto, variant of Wappato(o.

Wapure, Wapyn(e, obs. ff. Vapour, Weapon.

Wapynschawing : see Wappens(c)hawing.

Wapyntak, obs. form of Wapentake.

War (wǭɹ), *sb.*^{1} Forms: 2 **uuerre, werre, wyrre,** 3 **weorre, worre,** 3–5 **werre,** (4 *pl.* **werren**), 4–6 **werr,** 5 **guerre, gwerre,** 4, 5–6 *Sc.* **wer,** 4–5, 6–7 *Sc.* **were,** 4 *Sc.* **vere,** 4, 7 *Sc.* **weer,** 4–6 *Sc.* **veyr,** 5 *Sc.* **veir,** 5–6 *Sc.* **weire, weyr(e,** 4–9 *Sc.* **weir,** 6 *Sc.* **wair, wiar, weare, veare,** 7 *Sc.* **ware,** 8 *Sc.* **wear,** 5 **waar,** 5–7 **warr(e,** 6– **war.** [Late OE. (*c* 1050) *wyrre, werre*, a. North-eastern OF. *werre* = Central OF. and mod.F. *guerre*, Pr. *guerra, gerra*, Sp., Pg., It. *guerra* (med.L. *werra, guerra*) a. OHG. *werra* (MHG. *werre*) confusion, discord, strife, related to the OHG., OS. *werran* str. vb., to bring into confusion or discord (whence mod.G. *wirren* wk. vb. to confuse, perplex ; the earlier vb. survives in *verworren* ppl. a., confused), f. Teut. root **wers-*, **wers-*, whence also Worse *a.*

It is a curious fact that no Germanic nation in early historic times had in living use any word properly meaning 'war', though several words with that meaning survived in poetry, in proverbial phrases, and in compound personal names. The Romanic-speaking peoples, who were obliged to avoid the L. *bellum* on account of its formal coincidence with *bello-* beautiful, found no nearer equivalent in Teut. than *werra*. In OE. the usual translation of *bellum* was *gewin*, struggle, strife. The continental Teut. langs. later developed separate words for 'war' : G. *krieg* (whence Sw., Da. *krig*), Du. *oorlog* ; Icelandic uses *ófriðr* 'un-peace'.]

1. Hostile contention by means of armed forces, carried on between nations, states, or rulers, or between parties in the same nation or state ; the employment of armed forces against a foreign power, or against an opposing party in the state.

For *civil, interline*, etc. *war*, see the adjs. *War to the knife* [after Sp. *guerra al cuchillo*], see Knife *sb.* 1 b ; *war to the death*, see Death *sb.* 12 c.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, Þer after wæs suythe micel unerre þe king & Randolf eorl of Cestre. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 20 Ah se wide him weox weorre on euch halue [L. *bellis undique consurgentibus*]. *c* 1290 *Holy Rood* 336 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 11 Sæt hþe þare cam an Aumperour þat hiet costantin ; In weorre and batayille he was so muche þat þare-of nas no fin. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1321 Þa..king nis to preisi nozt þat in time of worre as a lomb is bolpe mek & milde, & in time of pes as leon bolpe cruel & wilde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 462 Iosaphus, prince wes & als ledare of þat towne, bath in pess & vere. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 206 Wote no wighte what werre is bere þat pees regneth. 1421 Lydg. *Horse, Goose, Sheep* 425 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 172 Þan Canaist werre and seist the lousst pess. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* V. x. 337 Whanne therupon hanglih ceesing of gret werre and making of gret pees. 1480 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) Oct. 720 The said Erle shal have the liff^{e} of all wynnynges of werre won or gotten by the said Cristofre. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 156 Ane horn he blew..Quhilk all this warld with weir has maid in

wag. 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 36/2 Richarde Duke of Yorke..beganne not by warre, but by lawe, to challenge the crown. 1573 *Reg. Priuy Council Scot.* II. 218 Except sic change and fortoun of weare as salbe commoun and alike to bayth. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 36 These Gates must not be shut, But in the Night, or in the time of Warre. 1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 54 The prince of Tidore, whose had beene out in warr, and was returned with 100 Ternatans heades. 1648 Milton *Soun. to Fairfax* 10 For what can Warr, but endless warr still breed, Till Truth, and Right from Violence be freed. 1690 Locke *Govt.* II. iii. § 16 The State of War is a State of Enmity and Destruction. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 810 Mighty Cæsar, thund'ring from afar, Seeks on Euphrates' Banks the Spoils of War. 1728 Ramsay *Lochaber* i, The dangers attending on wear. 1789 B. Portèus *Death* 179 War its thousands slays, Peace its ten thousands. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. vii. 250 In order to make war completely effectual, it is necessary with us in England that it be publicly declared and duly proclaimed by the king's authority. 1846 *Congressional Globe* 14 May 808/1 It puts it in the power of any military squad..to put this nation in a state of war. The killing of people is not war. In order to constitute war between nations, that killing must be sanctioned by the war-making power. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. viii. 551 Formerly religion had been the cause of war, and had also been the pretext under which it was conducted. 1871 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* v. (1876) 101 War is one of these rights, because under the division of mankind into distinct nations it becomes a necessity.

Personified. 1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lvi, Lastly stoode Warre in glitteryng armes yclad, With visage grym. *c* 1614 Sir W. Mure *Dido & Æneas* i. 37 Bloody warre, the mistres of debait. 1803 Wordsw. *Addr. Kilchurn Castle* 1 Child of loud-throated War!

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Applied *poet.* or rhetorically to any kind of active hostility or contention between living beings, or of conflict between opposing forces or principles.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 246 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 175 Þa þe ledden here lif in werre and in winne. *c* 1275 *On Serving Christ* 37 in *O. E. Misc.* 91 Bi-leueþ oure weorre, warlawes wode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9666 Þes mai nourquar abide Þar hate wons, or werr, or pride. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10570 Þarfore þat tyme was mykyl þro, And ofte was boþe werre and wo. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 234 Who kan conforten now youre hertes werre? *c* 1386 — *Franklt. T.* 89 Ne wolde neuere God bitwixe vs tweyne, As in my gilt, were outher werre or stryf. 1436 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 5 Amang the quhilkis is grete discorde discensioun and were. 1684 Quarles *Job Militt.* xviii. 30 Know'st thou the cause of Snow, or Haile, which are My fierce Artill'ry, in my time of warre? 1705 Pope *Ode to Ly.* 11. 96 O insolence of youth! whose tongue affords Such railling eloquence and war of words. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* V. 306 Whatever be the motives that thus arrest a flock of birds in their flight, whether they be of gallantry or of war, it is certain that [etc.]. 1817 Byron *Manfred* II. ii. 135, I have affronted death—but in the war Of elements the waters shrunk from me. 1912 L. Tracy *Mirabel's Isl.* ii. (1913) 32 His keen hearing was of no avail in that war of wind and wave.

c. The *plural* (esp. with def. art.) was formerly often used in the same sense as the sing.

To have been in the wars (colloq.), to show marks of injury or traces of rough usage.

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 92 Whan Theseus with werres longe and grete The aspre folke of Cithe had ouercome. *a* 1400 R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. Z. 19 Wel sale ȝer þer after þo worres aslakede. 1448–9 Metham *Amoryus & Cl.* 218 And for yowre labour in werris that with vs ye haue be, We þanke yow. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VI. x. 198 For knyghtes that ben..lecherous shal not be..fortunate vnto the warrys. 1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 47 So dothe the multytude of popul..sone, by warrys and iniury of enneinys, wythout strenghth, lose hys welth. 1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) H iij, After warres it is commonly seene, that a great number of those that went out honest, returne home againe like roisters. 1581 Hamilton in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 74 The miserable estait of your maiesties cuntrie oppressit be famine and intestine vearis. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 31 Is Signior Mountanto return'd from the warres, or no? 1602 — *All's Well* II. iii. 308 Warres is no strife To the darke house, and the detected wife. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Justine* IV. 83 Hereupon, the warres by Sea was againe renued 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxvii. § 7. 247 When he was a little boy, there being warres in the country. 1721 Ramsay *Richy & Sandy* 37 His fame shall last: last shall his sang of weirs. 1850 Scoresby *Chevver's Whalem. Adv.* x. (1858) 133 Sundry other marks upon his body, that showed him to have been in the wars.

d. *Open war*: avowed active hostility.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 16 Ȝif þei..conseilen men more to taken vengeaunce bi open werre of here breþren þan to suffren pacienly wrongys. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 100 To leve, reise, and make open werr ayenst you. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 165 Hytt ys open warre betwyxte Gaunte & the Kynge of Romayns. 1609 Dekker *Work for Armourers* [applied, e.g. to the Crusades, and to the Jihad among Mohammedans. *Sacred War* [= Gr. *ἱερὸς πόλεμος*]: in *Gr. Hist.*, the designation of two wars (B.C. 595 and 357–346) waged by the Amphictyonic Council against Phocis in punishment of alleged sacrilege. For *Servile, Social war*, see the adjs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2491 Þare had a were ben in þat land, Þat had lasted aumdel lang. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 29 Þe war lasted so long Til morgan saked pes Þurch pine. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 437 Þat werre..lasted two & twenty ȝer. *c* 1380 *Will. Palerne* 2613 A gret warre, Þat was wonderli hard in þe next londe. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 522 Wes nocht all troy with tresoune tane, Quhen x ȝeris of the wer wes gane? 1377 *Death Edw. III* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 217 This gode comunes..That with heore catel and with heore goode Mayntened the werre both furst and last. 1485 *Cal. Patent Rolls* (1914) 46 [I he war called] le Barons' werre. *c* 1550 Lyndesay *Trag.* 113 Duryng this weir war takin presoneris,..Mony one Lorde, Barrone, and Bachileris. 1598 Shaks. *John* II. i. 36 I he peace of heauen is theirs yt lift their swords In such a iust and charitable warre. *a* 1631 Donne *Songs & Son., Canonization* 16 Soldiers find warres, and Lawyers find out still Litigeous men. 1659 B. Harris *Parival's Iron Age* 245 This fatall War is like the Hydra; the more heads are cut off, the more grow up. 1754 Sheffeare *Matrimony* (1766) I. 103 The French Cannon which took some of the Towns defended by the Dutch, last War in Flanders. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 99/2 The celebrated Phocian or Sacred War, in which all the great states of Greece were more or less concerned. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* I. 583 His conduct of the war evinced more activity than skill. 1888 Freeman *Impress. U.S.* (1883) 21 Still the War of Independence must be, on the American side, a formidable historic barrier in the way of perfect brotherhood.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A contest, struggle (between living beings or opposing forces). Cf. 1 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3458 O suilk a wer was neuer herd, Ne suilk a strif o childir tuin. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* iii, Thayre werre on the wild squyne wurchis hom wo. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass* I. ii. 160, I thinke there be neuer an Ale-house in England..but sets forth some poets pettemels or demilances to the paper warres in Paules Church-yard. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. i. 238 Our veyl'd Dames Commit the Warre of White and Damaske In their nicely gawded Cheekes, to th' wanton spoyle Of Phœbus burning Kisses. 1620 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* A 4, Blacke lacks ..Whose liquor oftentimes breedes houshold wars. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 415, I pass the Wars the spotted Linx's make With their fierce Rivals, for the Female's sake. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 78 P 5 What a learned War will there be among future Critucks about the Original of that Club. 1728 Prior *Solomon* I. 706 My Prophets, and my Sophists finish'd here Their Civil Efforts of the Verbal War. 1744 J. Love *Cricket* (1770) 16 Scarce any Youth wou'd dare At single Wicket, try the doubtful War. 1821 Byron *Cain* III i, For what should I be gentle? for a war With all the elements ere they will yield The bread we eat? 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xxii. 295 That deadly war, which, to the disgrace of mathematical science, has raged for three years between the geometers of Britain and Germany. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 108 The war between the white man and the forest was still fierce. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 5/1 There is already a talk of..a war of tariffs being declared.

† 4. Actual fighting, battle; a battle, engagement. *Obs.* (chiefly *poet.*)

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 752 Rohand told anon..How þe batayle bi gan, þe werres hadden y ben. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5464 Ȝyf we were bold, now be we baldere, & y schal vndertake þys were. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xlii. (1495) 804 Elephauntys drede not the sharpnesse of werre and dredyth and fleeth the voys of the leest sowe or swyne. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1621 Tho began greet werre awake, Scheldes cleuede and speres brake. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 257 Now wakkenyse the were I wyrchipide be Cryste! 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 185 The cronycles makyth no mencion of no chyualry ne werre done by the kynge al the tyme that he in Irland was. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 569 Their Heads from aiming Blows they bear a far, With dashing Gauntlets then provoke the War. *Ibid.* VII. 742 First, Almon falls,..Pierc'd with an Arrow from the distant War. 1750 Gray *Long Story* 76 Where, safe and laughing in his sleeve, He heard the distant din of war. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* IV. xiii, The boy is ripe to look on war. 1887 Pollok *Course T.* VI. 479 War brayed to war.

† b. A hostile attack, invasion, assault. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 429 Thou mayst, make a werre so sharpe on this Cite. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 285 þe werre of þe Danes þat assailede first Northumberlond and þanne Lyndeseie. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1509 Wee have no nede to dout werr, ne molestacioun. 1603 Knolles *Turks* (1621) 589 Now the Turkes began to make faire warres, their terrible batteries began to grow calme.

5. The kind of operations by which the contention of armed forces is carried on; fighting as a department of activity, as a profession, or as an art. Cf. Man-of-war, Ship-of-war.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2349 But god for his grete grace gof I hadde now here horse & alle harneys þat be-houes to werre. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 490 This poynt of weir..Wes vndirtane so apertly, And eschevit richt hardely. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1038 Nestor, A noble man naitest in werre. *Ibid.* 10037 The Mirmydons were..Wise men in werr. 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 37/2 None euill captaine was hee in the warre, as to whiche his dispocion was more metely then for peace. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 908/2 Saint Paules meaning is, to shew to Timothie, that it is more then time, he were throughly trained, and made to warre, (as we say). 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* I. II. 111 War was the sole profession of the nobles. 1781 Logan *Hymn*, '*Behold the Mountain*' 24 They hang the trumpet in the hall, and study war no more. 1841 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* vii, I'm young in war, but not so young as to stand on an open beach to be shot down like an owl by daylight.

† b. In titles of office, *captain of the war, treasurer of the king's wars, treasurer at wars* *Obs.*

c 1450 *Brut* 430 þe Lord Wylloghby was made Capten of hys werris. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 66 Ioab the sone of Saruye that was captayn of the warre of the kynge Dauid

Cockeram II, *Open warre*, hostilitie. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 42 By what best way, Whether of open Warr or covert guile, We now debate.

† c. *Abstinence, prorogation of war*: suspension of hostilities. *Obs.*

1527 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1873) XII. 38/1 The foresaid prorogacioun of were past concludit and approbate as said is. 1532 *Ibid.* 39/2 Þat..We may have abstinence of Weire for ane tyme quhill an Ambaxat may be maid Reddy. 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 245 b, That an especial abstinence of warre should be kept..betwixte the Realmes of England and Scot-

2. In various phrases. (For *declare, levy, wage war*, see the vbs.)

(*To be*) *at war*, † *at wars*, † *in war*, † *in* engaged in war. *lit.* and *fig.* So *at open* † *wars*.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 222 Buxomenesse and boste

3. In particularised sense: A contest between armed forces carried on in a campaign or series of campaigns.

Often with identifying word or phrase, as in *the Trojan war, the Punic Wars, the Wars of the Roses, the Thirty Years' War. Holy war*: a war waged in a religious

[Cf. *Vulg.* 2 Sam. viii. 16 *Joab..erat super exercitum*]. 1498 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 130 Sir Reignold Bray Knyght late Treasorer of Our Soueraigne Lorde the Kynges werres. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* II. 53 The Treasurer at Warres *per diem* thirtie five shillings.

6. in phrasal combinations designating things pertaining to warfare, as *munitions*, †*weeds of war*. † *Castle, house, place, town of war* (obs.), a fortified building or place. † *Line of war* Naut., the flotation-line of a ship when fully armed, ammunitioned, and victualled for three months.

For *articles, contraband, council, honours of war*, see those words.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 405 Bothwell..That than at Yngils mennys fay Wes, and baldin as place of war. *Ibid.* XVII. 243 Till mak sparale For till defend and till assale Castell of wer or than cite. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 465 With alkyne Instrument of w

the said towne of Ripon like a towne of warr. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 549 That wy walit, I vis, all wedis of veir That nedit hym to note. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 50 Passande to Sanctandros with lettres vndir the signete for cartis of were. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 382 To fortefie and detene the samin [*sc.* house] as ane hous of weir. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 1 Prouided with all complete prouisions of Warre. 1691 T. H[alk] *Acc. New Invent.* 125 The line of War..is to be discovered by computing the weight ..of the Ordnance..and..the weight of Men with three months Victuals.

† **d.** Manner of fighting. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* 169/3323 (Pynson) For no catel Wolde I let sle Arundel, For he is gode in euery were. 1486 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 84 Usage makis him..expert, be oft hanting of the were that he is wont till.

6. *concr.* Used *poet.* for: **a.** Instruments of war, munitions. ? *Obs.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 712 Go then thou Mightiest..Ascend my Chariot,..bring forth all my Warr, My Bow and Thunder, my Almightie Arms Gird on. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 572 Inferior Ministers, for Mars repair His broken Axeltrees, and blunted War. *Ibid.* XI. 901 Shields, Arms, and Spears, flash horrible from far: And the Fields glitter with a waving War. 1713 Addison *Cato* I. iv, Th' embattled elephant, Loaden with war.

b. Soldiers in fighting array. ? *Obs.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 214 On thir imbattelld ranks the Waves return, And overwhelm thir Warr. 1677 Oldham *David's Lament. Saul & Jon.* v, Seneh..Where he, himself an Host, o'ercams a War alone. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 101 In this Array the War of either side Through Athens pass'd with Military Pride. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XXIV. 578 The opening gates at once their war display. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* VI. XXX, To arms they flew,..And mimic ensigns high they rear,And..Beardown on England's wearied war. 1816 L. Hunt *Rimini* I. 141 It seems as if the harnessed war were near. 1822 W. Tennant *Thane of Fife* I. i, On the plain Of Fife debark'd his proud invasive war.

†**7.** *Course, jousts, tournament of war*: a tournament, joust. Similarly, *To joust of war. Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIX. 787 And thai, that worthy war and wicht, At that metyng iustit of wer. *c* 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 812 Kyng askuardyn in his gere Rydes owte a course of were. *c* 1430 *Avow. Arth.* XXIV, Take thi schild and thi spere And ride to him a course on werre. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 379 To the castelle he rad..And axed yef ther eny were, That wold hyme delyvere him ther Off thre corses of wer, Hym and xij. knythus. *Ibid.* 393 He axit justes of were, And prays the of answere. *c* 1450 *Brut* 366 þe Erle of Marre..come ynto Engelond for to chalange Ser Edmunde, þe Erle of Kent, of certeyn cours of warre on hors-bak. 1796 H. Macneill *Links o' Forth* XXXII, Or break the lance, and couch the spear At tilts and tournaments o' weir.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

8. In simple attributive use, with the senses 'of or belonging to war', 'used or occurring in war', 'suited or adapted for war', etc. **a.** *gen.* as *war-code, War Department*, †*war-feat, footing, -law*, †*point, -service, -zone*, etc.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 97 Thee coompanye youthful Surcease from warfeats. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* XVIII. lx, He me warre points did show. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 303 But now I am return'd, and that warre-thoughts Haue left their places vacant: in their roomes Come thronging soft and delicate desires. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII. xlii. I. 222 The Scythians chuse rather to use their mares in

lius's Advts. Fr. Parnasse. II. xxxviii. (1674) 190 They had exactly considered his War-Enterprises. 1786 *Mansfield Sp. agst. Suspending & Dispensing Prerog.* in *Parl. Hist.* (1813) XVI. 261 As that would have been using the war power of embargoes indirectly for another end than a war purpose, such an evasion of the law was not judged wise or fit. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 380 Each gets a small bag of parched corn-flour, for his war-stores. 1797 *Rep. Committees Ho. of Comm.* XII. 301 The Office of Secretary of State for the War Department was first established on the 21th July 1794. 1819 D. B. Warden *Acc. U.S.* III. 295 Chapter XIIV. Of the War Department. *Ibid.* 405 The original proceedings of all courts-martial, ordered by the war department, are transmitted to that department by the judge advocate of the court. 1843 Grote *Greece* II. lxxxvi. XI. 286 To inquire whether Thebes had exceeded the ..1 of rigour warranted by the war-code of the time. ..1 Milman *Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. IV. i. 207 Towards them [*sc.* Christian priests] the [Mohammedan] war-law speaks in a stormer tone. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Feb. 118/2 The army has been placed on a war footing. 1918 *Nation* (N. Y.) 7 Feb. p. xii/1 The Government..compel all ships plying to ports in the war zone to insure their men.

b. With words that denote arms, accoutrement, implements, etc.; as *war-axe, -belt, -club, saddle,* †*weeds*; *war-balloon, -cart, -tower*; *war-steamer*.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 198 Were wedis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. vii. 144 Ane vther sort full byssely to Mart The rynnand quhelis forgeis, and weir cart. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 343/2 The Great Saddle or War Saddle, which is accounted the chief of Saddles. 1696 J. E. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 214 Great commanders..[fought] in open chariots or war-coaches. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* 269 He gives a violent blow with his war-club against a post that is fixed in the ground. 1798 Landor *Gebir* VII. 28 Whirling headlong in his war-belts fold. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 213 The war-mallet is a club with a large head of wood or stone. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* ii, His rider occupied his demipique, or war-saddle, with an air that shewed it was his familiar seat. 1823 — *Talisman* ii, Take my war-axe, and dash the stone into twenty shivers. 1824 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 16 A command for Eagle to put on his war-dress. 1826 J. Howell (*title*) An Essay on the War-galleys of the Ancients. 1836 Marryat *Olla Podr.* XXV, The Burmah war-boats are very splendid craft, pulling from eighty to one hundred oars. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 328/1 Improvements in War Rockets. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* viii. 158 Or was the smith idle, hammering only wartools? 1852 Longf. *Warden of Cinque Ports* iii, To see the French war-steamers speeding over. 1882 De Windt *Equator* 77 We now came in sight of a fleet of some 100 huge war-canoes. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Feb. 5/2 An ordinary war-balloon..may either contain an officer in charge or be dispatched unattended. 1909 G. M. Trevelyan *Garibaldi & the Thousand* xii. 213 A high hill, on the spur of which Talamone and its old war-tower projected into the sea.

c. With words that denote a commander, officer, army, etc., as *war-captain, -chief, -leader*; *war-array, -company, -force*.

1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 77 The Generall of all the warre-forces throughout Britaine. 1787 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* I. II. iv. 182 When..the fury of the nation is raised to the greatest height,..the war captain prepares the feast, which consists of dogs flesh. 1820 Coleridge *Piccolomini* I. iii. 18 We had not seen the War-Chief, the Commander. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* VI. xii, The rest of Scotland's war-array With Edward Bruce to westward lay. 1906 C. Squire *Mythol. Anc. Brit.* v. 48 The traditions which make him [Arthur] a supreme war-leader of the Britons. 1913 J. A. Cramb *Germany & England* I. (1914) 35, I seem to hear again the thunder of the footsteps of a great host..It is the war-bands of Alaric!

d. With words denoting cries, songs, musical instruments, etc., as *war-chant, -horn, -march, -music, -pipe, -shout, -tramp, -trumpet, -whistle, -yell*.

1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 388 Taking from him his drum, war-whistle, and martial titles. 1793 Blake *America* 76

business of destruction done Its requiem the war-horn seemed to blow. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* II. ix, What marvel, then, At times, unbidden notes should rise, Confusedly bound in memory's ties, Entangling, as they rush along, The war-march with the funeral song? 1832 Tbelawny *Adv. Younger Son* II. 43 Thus I stopped his triumphant war-yells. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* II. ii, The first blast of the war-trump will scatter their greenness to the winds. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* V. 256 When first I heard War-music. 1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 41 The huge walls Shook with the war-shout of ten thousand voices. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* XXVII. 228 As they went they sang the Ingomo, the war-chant of the Zulu.

e. With words that refer to finance, as *war-budget, -fund, -insurance, -loan, -tax*.

1813 in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1866) I. 16 To direct that the salaries established as war salaries, by the said Order in Council,..should be the permanent salaries, both in war and peace of the several persons. 1817 Coleridge *Lay Sern.* 'Blessed are ye' 32 The Revenue was diminished by the abandonment of the war-taxes. 1853 Grote *Greece* II. lxxxviii. XI. 495 It is true that the Athenians might have laid up that surplus annually in the acropolis, to form an accumulating war-fund. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* I. 599/1 Gentlemen farmers formed another exception during the era of war-prices and yeomanry cavalry. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 107 War-taxes depress the poor and keep them at work. 1887 J. C. Morison *Serv. Man* p. xv, The removal of all fear of war would be even a greater gain than the suppres-

amounting to close upon eighty-eight millions sterling.

9. Objective, etc., as *war-breeder, -chronicler, -jobber, -maker, -writer*; † *war-keeping, -making*, † *-thirst*; *war-breathing, -denouncing, -loving*, † *-parting, -stirring* ppl. adjs.

1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 129 Defence of the kingis persoun..is fer mare privilegit na is ony..were making till his awin legis. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 160 Captaines..apte and meete..for warrekepyng. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. I. III. *Furies* 806 But if (brave Lands-men) your war-thirst be such. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 5 This is my opinion of the diuersitie of warre-writers. 1620 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* VII. xv. Vives 274 Mars is violent, a war-breeder. 1621 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* XXI. (1614) 42/2 The Cattieuchlani, a stout and warre-stirring people. 1747 Collins *Passions* 43 The war-denouncing trumpet. 1792 Blake *Fr. Revol.* 283 Then the King will disband This war-breathing army. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* XXXI, The war-chroniclers who write brilliant stories of fight and triumph. 1880 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt. Part.* III. 53 The war-jobbers have plainly won. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 2/2 Raids by war-loving hill tribes on our Indian frontiers.

10. Instrumental and locative, as *war-broken, -famed, -made, -marked, -shaken, -tested, -triumphant, -wasted, -wearied, -weary* adjs. Also with sense 'for war', as *war-apparelled, -slight* adjs.

1592 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. iv. 28 Whiles the honour

Captaine there Drops bloody sweat from his warre-wearied limbes. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. vii. 43 Your Armie, which doth most consist Of Warre-markt-footmen. 1624 Davenport *City Night-cap* III. (1661) 26 The hoofs Of war-appareil'd horses. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ccxiii, Warr-famed Douglas. *Ibid., Hen. V*, xcix, Our Warre-tost Realme. 1692 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Short Rel. Journ. Wales* (1859) 12 An old ruined winde and war-shaken castle. 1860 *Speech to Gen. Memb* 1/1 Her War-made breaches now are cur'd again. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 486 Pallas herself, the War-triumphant Maid. 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Serv. agst. Thebes* 150 Nor the war-wasted town betray. 1804 Campbell. *Soldier's Dream* 22 Fain was their war-broken soldier to stay. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Wallace* XCV, From war-dight youth, to barefoot child. 1827 G. Darley *Sylvia* 149 The wild, war-blasted marches. 1902 J. H. Rose *Napoleon I* (ed. 2) II. XXV. 101 Duroc, a short, stern, war-hardened man. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* July 39 Campbell's 'Soldier's Dream' is the most beautiful rendering in English verse of the war-weary mood. 1915 A. Reade *Poems of Love & War* 52 Joan, the Mystic Maiden, rides Through the war-swept countrysides.

II. Special comb.: **war-arrow** (= ON. *her-ǫr*), an arrow split into segments which are sent out by a chief as a call to arms; **war-bird** *U.S.* = *war-eagle*; **war-boy**, in Africa, a coloured fighting man or soldier; **war-cloud**, a cloud of dust and smoke rising from a battle-field (cf. *νολέμοιο νέφος Iliad* xvii. 243); *fig.* something that threatens war; **war-correspondent**, a journalist engaged by a newspaper to send home first-hand descriptions of the fighting; **war-eagle**, the golden eagle, so called because the N. American Indians decorate themselves with its feathers; **war-fain** *a. pseudo-arch.*, eager to fight; **war-game** = Kriegspiel; also *attrib.* and *fig.*; †**war-hable** *a.*, [*hable* = Able *a.*; cf. Habile *a.*], fit for war, of military age; **war-hatchet**, a hatchet used by the N. American Indians to symbolize the declaration or cessation of hostilities (see quots. and cf. Hatchet *sb.* 2); **war-hawk** *U.S.*, one who is eager for the fray, a 'brave'; **war-head** (of a torpedo: see quot.); †**war-headling**, a military chieftain or commander; **war-hound** *fig.* (cf. War-dog); **war-minister**, the person who directs the war-affairs of a state; the Secretary of State for War; **war-post**, a post into which N. American Indians strike the war-hatchet; **war-talk**, a formal discussion among N. American Indian chiefs about war; also *fig.*; **war-trail** = War-path; **war-woman** (see quot.). Also War-cry, War-dance, War-dog, War-drum, War-god, War-horse, War-kettle, War-lock *v.*[2], War-lord, War-man, War-note, War Office, etc.

1866 Kingsley *Herew.* XX, Split up the *war-arrow, and send it round. 1896 [Mrs. C. P. Traill] *Bachw. Canada* 289 [An Indian squaw] adorned with the wings of the American *War-bird. 1895 Longm. *Hiaw.* IX. 184 Then began the greatest battle That the war-birds ever witnessed. 1889 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 6/6 An encounter took place recently just outside the Sulymah district, between a small British force and a party of *war-boys. 1901 Alldridge *Sherbro* XXVII. 314 They began to be chased by war-boys in canoes. 1827 Mrs. Hemans *Last Constantine* LXXXV, *War-clouds have wrapt the city. 1908 C. W. Wallace *Childr. Chapel, Blackfriars* 172 Absence of reference in these two plays is negative proof that the personal war-cloud had passed, by 1600. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* II. 25 Dick was made free of the New and Honourable Fraternity of *war-correspondents. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* IV. 188 From his eyrie screamed..The Keneu, the great *war-eagle. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* III. (1877) 217 Guttorm the young and the *war-fain. 1828 A. B. Granville *St. Petersburgh* II. 75 The '*war-game' table, on which the present Emperor, when Grand-duke, used to play. 1891 *Tablet* 17 Oct. 613 A struggle more serious than that of any mere clerical war-game. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 62 The weary Britons, whose *war-hable youth Was by Maximian lately led away. 1842 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* XXX, Our great fathers across the Salt Lake have sent each other the *war-hatchet. 1881 Tylor *Anthropol.* IX. 224 The bundle of arrows wrapped in a rattlesnake's skin, or the blood-red war-hatchet struck into the war-post. 1798 T. Jefferson *Let. to J. Madison* 26 Apr., Writ. 1854 IV. 238 At present, the *war hawks talk of septembrizing, [etc.]. 1825 in M. Cutler *Life, Jrnls. & Corr.* (1888) II. 332 Our war-hawks ..affect to speak of it as a glorious war and an honorable peace. 1865 F. Parkman *Champlain* IX. (1875) 308 The Indian tribes, war-hawks of the wilderness. 1898 F. T. Jane *Torpedo* 19 The parts of a torpedo are as follows:—(a) The explosive head (*war head). This is only fitted when the torpedo is to be used in earnest: for practice, a collapsible head is fitted. 23.. *Coer de L.* 2012 Sir, thus thou shalt lere To mis-say thy *werbedlynge. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xl, What gallant *war-bounds rouse them from their lair, And gnash their fangs, loud yelling for the prey! 1848 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. civ, Unleash the warhounds—stay us those who can! 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Sel. Wks. II. 253 From my heart I pity the condition of a respectable servant of the publick, like this *war minister. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* XXIII, None of my young men strike the tomahawk deeper into the *war-post. 1881 Tylor *Anthropol.* IX. 224 The blood-red war-hatchet struck into the war-post. 1832 Tbelawny *Adv. Younger Son* II. 98 Then they call a *war-talk, and say they would speak with these white men. 1894 *Sk. & Eccentr. David Crockett* XIV. 185 His public harangues, or his war talks, as electioneering speeches are called in the west. 1832 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* XXVI. II. 42 Over the western section of this great prairie passes the Apache *war-trail. 1776 Ferrier in *Mem. Lit. & Philos. Soc. Manch.* (1790) III. 28 In every Indian village, the *war-woman..is a kind of oracle; by drumms and presages, she directs the hu their prey, and the warriors to the enemy.

‖ **War**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[-1] [Thevenot's rendering of a dial. var. of Hindī *bad*.] The Banyan-tree.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 25 Trees of several kinds; as Manguiers, Palms, Mirabolans, Wars, Maiza-trees. *Ibid.*, We saw the War-tree in its full extent. It is likewise called Ber, and the Tree of Banians.

War, waur (wär, wǭr), *a.* and *adv.* *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 3–5 **werre**, 4 *Sc.* **ver**, 4–6 **wer**, 4–5 **were**, **werr**, **worre**, 6 **wor**, *Sc.* **woir**, 4–5 **ware**, 5–6 **warre**, 5–8 **warr**, 6 *Sc.* **var**, (**uar**), 4–9 **war**, 8– *Sc.* **waur**. See also Werrar *a.* [a. ON. *verre* adj., *verr* adv.: see Worse *a.* and *adv.* The spelling *waur*, which first appears in the 18th c., was adopted by Burns and Scott, and is now general in Scottish use.]

A. *adj.* = Worse *a.* in all senses.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3051 To madian lond wente he [*sc.* Balaam] his ride, And wente is herte on werre ðhogt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 454 Qua herd euer a warr [*Gött. MS.* werr] auntour. *c*1375 *Ibid.* 13411 (Fairf.) Þe gode wine sulde þou first dispende & siþen drink þe worre [*earlier texts* wers] at hende. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 269 Thryldome is weill wer than deid. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 55 Are þei not..werr, and abhominabler þan carnal sodomits? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 50 Sho said þatt sho sulde sende hym a war question þan owther off þe tother was. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 57 Thai schel fische dimunouis and grouis les, and of ane var qualite. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 178 They pairtit war freindis nor they mett. 1578 Movsie *Mem.* (Bannatyne Club) 15 They ran togither; the said Willie was strickin to the grund and died, the vther throw the thie and litle war. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 208 They sayne the world is much war then it wont. 1584 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 187 Quhilk is maist sacrilegius and war nor Papisticall. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 77 World so called of War-old, because the older it is, the War or worse it is. 1786 Burns *A Dream* iii, There's mony waur been o' the race, And aiblins ane been better Than you this day. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* v, 'Vanity and waur!' said the Dominie; 'it is a trafficking with the Evil One'. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xx, We're no war nor some 'at is aboon us; are we? 1883 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 72 Loud me! it's just waur than useless the day whativer.

† **b.** *Father war*, worse than one's father, degenerate. *Obs.* Cf. ON. *fǫður-verringr* sb.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 206 And lat vs nocht be cawit fader war, Thocht we be hapnit now fra thame so far.

c. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*) as in *to get the war*, to get the worst of it.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7579 Fle þat wynnes to haue þe warr, For ar i fle i sal cum nerr. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1588 Lest felle hym þe worre. *Ibid.* 1591 Þe worre hade þat oþer. *c* 1378 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 159 Bot thar bowmen the wer had ay. *a* 1568 *Wyf Auchtermuchty* xv. in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 345 For and we fecht I ill gett the woir. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* Let. x, If ye expect to be ranting among the queans o' lasses.., ye will come by the waur.

B. *adv.* = Worse *adv.* in all senses.

c 1200 Ormin 4898 And swa þu tellesst werre off þe, Swa telleþþ Drihhtin bettre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11900 Þai..drund him [*sc.* Herod] in pike and terr, And send him quar he faris werr, werr þan he fard euer ar. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1324 Þu sal wyt I ame of mycht ver þane þu wes þe to dycht. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxii. 54 Þer was neuere dede þat euere he dide, þat greued hym warre. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 73 Other þatt er hongry suld com & pryk me war þan þai did. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf* 923 All is out of harre, And out of trace, Ay warre and warre In euery place. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 280 They fand ane monstour on the morne, War facit nor ane cat. 17.. *Southesk Song* 7 in *Ramsay's Tea-Table Miscellany* (1775) I. 34 The lave will fare the war in trouth For our lang biding here. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* vi, A' the warld kens that they maun either marry or do waur. 1828 [Carr] *Craven Gloss., War and war*, worse and worse.

War (wǭ), *v.*[1] Inflected **warred** (wǭd), **warring** (wǭ'riŋ). Forms: 2 **uuerrien**, 3 **wurre**, **weorre**, **weorri**, 3–4 **worri**, **worry**, 3–5 **worre**, **werri**, **werry**, 3–6 **werre**, 4 **werr**, 4–5 **wer**, **were**, 4–7 **warre**, 6 **warr**, *dial.* **var**, *Sc.* **weir(e**, 4, 6– **war**. [f. War *sb.*[1] Cf. the equivalent OF. *guerrer*, **werrer*; also *werreier* Warray *v.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To make war upon. *Obs.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135, Dauid king of Scotland toc to uuerrien him. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4636 Þe kunde men of þis lond recetted were þere [*sc.* in Wales]

† **b.** To ravage (a city, land, etc.) by warlike operations; to harry. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 43 Engelond haþ ibe inome & iwerred ilome [*v.rr.* iworred, werred]. *Ibid.* 7648 Hii worrede al norþhomberlond, & uorþ euere as hii come. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cxci. 93 Thus in euery parte was the realme of Fraunce warrede in the tytell of the kynge of Nauer.

† **c.** To harass, persecute. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Doð god, 3if ze muwen, to þeo þet on weorreð. *c* 1290 *Holy Rood* 324 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 10 Seiþe þare cam An Aumperour þat hiet Adrian, hepene he was and swiþe lu ur and werrede [*v.r.* worrede] ech cristine man. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1587 Vaspasyan..after nero com, þat betere man was þan he & ne worrede noȝt cristendom. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cclix. 235 b, Whan the gauntoyse sawe them selfe thus mocked and warred by the gentlemen of Flaunders [etc.].

2. *intr.* To make or carry on war; to fight. Now only *literary*.

a. with const. *against*, *on*, † *toward*, *upon*, *with*.

c 1205 Lay. 20191 Arður..bi-læi Colgrim þe weorrede azein him. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 3 Babilones folc..þe deoueles here of helle..weorreð & warpeð euer toward tis tur for to kasten hit adun. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1755 He bigan to worri anon vpe þe king basian. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4970 He lete þe fals Phylystyens, þe folk of Isral to werre azens. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 2493 (Göt.) Four kinges werrid [*Cott. MS.* werraud (? *for* werraid)] apon fijf. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4786 He [Cassibolan] swor he scholde on hym [Androcheus] were; & þat he had, he scholde hym reue. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 298 þis proude worldly prest..prively meyntene þ oure enemyes to weren azenst us wiþ oure owene gold. *c* 1440 Lovelich *Merlin* 12153 So whanne this Galachim gan to vndirstonde ..how his fadir kyng Newtris with Arthour gan werre, to his Modyr he wente, [etc.]. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-arm.* a v b, And the cursed peple of Sem wered ayenyn them. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* an. 1263 (1533) 36 They drew to them great power, and warred vppon the landes and castellys of syr Roger Mortymer. 1530 Palsgr. 772/1 The turke hath warred with Christendome all my dayes. 1565 Peend *Hermaphr.* C j, Helena..For whom the Grecians warred ten yeares space with the Troyans. 1629 Hobbes *Thucyd.* I. 42 The Athenians had done vniustly, and ought speedily to be warred on. *c* 1643 Ld Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 209 Monsieur de Luynes continuing still the [French] King's favourite, advised him to war against his subjects of the reformed religion in France. 1678 Wanley *Wonders* v. ii. § 82. 472/2 Solyman..War'd upon the Venetians and invaded the Islands of Corfu and Malta. 1726 *Shelvocke's Voy. round World* Pref. p. xx, Capt. George Shelvocke may make use of this Imperial Commission in warring against the Spaniards. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 207 Fergus,..after having warred unsuccessfully with his sovereign,..retired in the habit of a monk to the abbey of Holyroodhouse. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* VII. 451 The fated crew that warred Against the chosen saints. 1879 Green *Readings Engl. Hist.* i. 3 Tribe warred with tribe.

transf. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 720 Sumwhyle wyth wormes he werrez, & with wolues als. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 234 In this wise doe eagles warre with dragons. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* IV. iii, What make ye here, Warring upon the mountain-deer, When Scotland wants her King?

b. *simply.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7887 & vor roberd was eldore & eir, gret folc he sende al so Fram normandie to worry & warre fader biquide vndo. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* i. 12 Of Ingland had my hert grete care When Edward founded first to were. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 237 Oon Gylomaurus þe tyraunt, þat hadde i-werred in Irlond and in Bretayne. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxiii. 251 And whan thei werren, thei werren fulle wisely. *c* 1400 *Brut* II. 322 In whiche tyme rayned and warred thilk orpid knigt Sere Iohn Hawkwode. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 645 And they were enduced to warre and to fyght. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, II. i. 252 Wars hath not wasted it, for war'd he hath not, But basely yeelded vpon compromize That which his Ancestors atchieu'd with blowes. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 499 All the time hee warred in Asia, and had the spoile of ye wealthy Country. *a* 1727 Newton *Chronol. Amended* ii. (1728) 214 Sesostris..warred first under his father. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* iv, He received the agreeable news that the confederate princes, who were warring in Palestine, had paid his ransom. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxxv, Here, where the sword united nations drew, Our countrymen were warring on that day! 1887 Mahaffy & Gilman *Alexander's Empire* xxii. (1890) 213 The murder of the young king Seleucus Soter (III.), who was warring in Asia Minor.

c. Of peoples, sovereigns, etc.: To carry on war against each other; to be (mutually) at war.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9568 Hii nadde iworred bote a lute þat hii acorded were. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 25 Whan Alfrid & Gunter had werred long in ille, Þorgh he grace of God, Gunter turned his wille. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 21879 (Fairf.) Folk þai salle gaine oþer rise to were [*earlier texts* werra] samin in riani wise. 1607 Rowlands *Famous Hist.* 34 As we are Christians, let us War no more, But fight 'gainst such as will not God adore. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* I. 88 We were told that the natives of Cape La Hoo and Jack-a-Jack had been warring for three years previously.

d. To serve as a soldier.

1535 Coverdale *2 Tim.* ii. 4 No man that warreth [Gr. στρατευόμενος] tangleth him selfe with wordly busynesses. (Similarly 1611.) 1594 *Selimus* 669 He follow Mars, and warre another while, And die my shield in dolorous vermeil. 1632 Gouge *God's Arrowes* III. xxxvii. 248 A righteous man ..may rightly warre at his command. 1841 James *Brigand* xv, The young gentleman we speak of has been long warring with the armies in Italy.

3. *fig.* Of persons: To contend, fight with immaterial weapons; to carry on a metaphorical warfare. Of things, forces, principles: To be in strong opposition.

a. with const. as in 2 a.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þe wrǽðe of kinges..þe.. warreð uppe chirches, oðer wanieð hire rihtes. *Ibid.* 195 3ief [he hadde] warred wiþ god alse þe deuel him to eggede.

Oct. 744 þough it be leful in caas to werre & sleen euele cristene men..whanne ri3tfulnesse..shulde perishen elles. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 363 To passe over the grete See To werre and sle the Sarazin. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 49 *Sepe expugnauerunt.* Oft they werreden me fro my 3outhe sey now Israel. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* CXXVI. vi. (1812) 244 Kyng Henry warred Robert Estenuyle. 1534 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) II. 186 The traison, rebellion, extorcion, and wilfull ware of your forsaid Erles,..the one varing, burning, and distroing the other. 1609 Daniel *Civ. Wars* IV. xxx, To warre the Scot, and Borders to defend.

fig. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Kastel; þet is eueriche god mon þet te seond weorreð. *c* 1275 *Five Joys of the Virgin* 26 in *O. E. Misc.* 89 Al hire weorreþ þat wunaþ ine londe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 57 Þe tauerne is..þe dyeules castel uor to werri god an his halzen. *c* 1386 Chaucer *A. B. C.* 116 He not to werre us swich a wonder wroughte [Fr. *ne cuit pas que fust pour guerre*], But for to save us that be sithen boughte. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 156 Al the day of care lyfe in grete Perill we byth, for thre enemyn we werryth. 1609 Daniel *Civ. Wars* VIII. lxxv. 222 Loue and Ambition.. tyrannis'd on his diuided hart, Warring each other with a powrefull part.

Chast yte and strengthe warren and fyghten ageynste lecherye and surmounte hit. 1512 Colet *Serm. Convoc.* B vij, Lette the lawes be rehersed that warreth agaynst the spotte of Symonie. 1582 Bible (Rheims) *1 Pet.* ii. 11, I beseche you..to refraine your selues from carnal desires which warre against the soule. (Similarly 1611). 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. civ, But was by tempests, windes, and seas debarr'd; As if they likewise had against him warr'd. 1611 Bible *Rom.* vii. 23, I see another Lawe in my members, warring against the Lawe of my minde. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 443 This writer is so determined to war with common opinion, that, in the eighth paragraph, he tells us, that [etc.]. 1780 Madan *Thelyph.* I. 242 How this learned man's prejudices warred against his judgment [etc.]. 1792 Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* I. 314 When..on the scathed oak warred the winter-wind. 1821 James *Phil. Augustus* xxiii, Such were the thoughts..that warred against each other in his breast. 1842 Newman *Par. Serm.* VI. 36 It is our duty to war against the flesh as they warred against it. 1866 W. R. Alger *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 412 Whose follows these directions,..however warred on, will never be desolately alone. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 12 William, at this stage of his reign, warred rather against the memory of the dead than against the lives or fortunes of the living.

b. *simply.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1990 Litil vailith wisdom..Ther fortune evir werrith, & eke hap & chaunce. 1582 Bible (Rheims) *James* iv. 1 Your concupiscences which warre in your membris. (Similarly 1611). 1797 Coleridge *Christabel* I. 271 But vainly thou warrest.

c. To be in mutual opposition. Cf. Warring *ppl. a.*

1845 James *Arrah Neil* I, Antagonist principles are ever warring within us.

4. *trans.* with cognate object: To carry on, wage (a warfare, etc.). *rare.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 62 For this a man mai finde write, Whan that knyhthode schal be werred, Lust mai noght thanne be preferred. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* iv. 10 Robert..sette the bowmen for to wer [*MS. Rawl.* were] the fight of the kernels. 1530 Tindale *Lev.* Prol. P 9 Circumcysion was vnto them a comen bagge signifienge that they were all sodiars off God to warre his warre. 1582 Bible (Rheims) *1 Tim.* i. 18 That thou warre in them a good warfare. (Similarly 1611.)

War (wär, wǭr), *v.*[2] *Sc.* Also 5 **werre**, **warre**, 8-9 **waur**. [f. War, waur *a.*] *trans.* To 'worst', defeat in a contest or competition; to surpass, excel.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 408/1 To Warre, *deprimere*, *deterere*,.. *deteriorare*, *peiorare* (A.). ? *a* 1500 in *Harayng's Chron.* cxiii. *note*, The which [a feat of strength] He perfourmed.. that neuer mai be werde. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. iii. 100 And now hes Pristis the fordaill, and syne, in hy, The big Centaur hir warris, and slippis by [L. *nunc victam præterit ingens*]. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 53 Fecht weill and war yame and wyn the ryches yair, And gif 3e de, in deid 3e neid na mair. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 157 Thay debeitit manfullie and wareit edwartis wangard. *a* 1585 Polwart *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 710 Grant, guiss, þat my Inventioun waris the than, with out þe quhilk þow micht haue barkit waist. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 13 Wigtoune waris the vthir a baith in citizenis and riches. *a* 1614 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 154 And, on the uther part, Mr. Andro, wha warred him far in credit without the contrey.. wrot unto the Kirks at Iainthe. 1721 J. Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 304 The Water will never warr the Widdie [= 'He that's born to be hang'd will never be drown'd']. 1785 Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xiii, And mony a scheme in vain's been laid, To stap or scaur me; Till ane Hornbook's taen up the trade, And faith he'll waur me. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* Ix, It was a paper of great significance to the plea, and we were to be waured for want o't.

† **War**, *v.*[3] *Obs.* *rare*[-1]. [Of obscure origin. Possibly a misprint for *roar*.] (See quot.) Hence *Comb.* **war-back**, a trough used in salting herrings. Cf. Rower-back.

1688 J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 106 The manner of Salting. The Nets are haled on Board, and the Herrings are taken out of them, and put into the Warbacks, which stand on the side of the Vessel and resemble Chests. *Ibid.* 107 It is common to allow 2 barrels of Salt in a Last, of 14 barrels to War withall, that is to rowle the Herrings in the Salt before they are Packt.

War: see **Be** *v.*, **Ware**, **Warre**, **Wear** *v.*, **Where**, **Whether**.

Waran, obs. form of **Warrant** *sb.*[1]

Warandie: see **Warrandy**.

Warand, obs. form of **Warrant**.

Warandare, obs. form of **Warrener**.

Warande, obs. form of **Warrant**, **Warren**.

Warander, obs. form of **Warrener**.

Warandice, -dise, obs. forms of **Warrantise**.

Warant(e, -ie, obs. forms of **Warrant**, **-y**.

Warantise, -ize, obs. forms of **Warrantise**.

Warantte, obs. form of **Warrant**.

‖ **Warasdin.** *Hist.* [ad. G. *Warasdiner*, f. *Warasdin* (Magyar *Varasd*) the name of a town and county in Croatia.]

1801 C. James *Milit. Dict.*, *Warasdins*, a kind of Sclavonian soldiers, clothed like the Turks, with a sugar-loaf bonnet instead of a hat. Their arms are a fusee and pistols. 1814 [see Tolpatch].

Waratah (wǭ'rătē). Also **war-ra-tew**, **warra-tew**, **warratah**. [Native Australian name.]

1. A name for Australian shrubs of the genus *Telopea* (N.O. *Proteaceæ*), esp. *T. speciosissima* and *T. oreades*, which bear crimson or scarlet flowers in terminal clusters; also, the flower.

1793 J. E. Smith *Bot. New Holland* 19 (Morris) The most magnificent plant which the prolific soil of New Holland affords is, by common consent both of Europeans and natives, the Waratàh. 1802 P. G. King *Lett. Sir J. Banks* 23 Aug. in *Hist. Rec. N.S.W.* (1896) IV. 514, I have also sent..a box of waratahs. 1820 D. Collins *Acc. N. S. Wales* II. 66 Bee-nil-long assisted at the ceremony, placing the head of the corpse, by which he stuck a beautiful war-ra-taw. 1830 *Hobart Town Almanack* 66 That magnificent shrub called Warratàw or tulip tree and its beautiful scarlet flowers. 1889 'Wanderer' *Beauteous Terrorist* etc. 62 And the waratahs in state, With..their flamy blood-red crowns.

2. A variety of the camellia. In full *waratah camellia*.

1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* § 6613 Camellia..double white waratah. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II. 807/2 The anemone-flowered or Waratah Camellia.

Waraunt(e, -tyse: see Warrant, -tise.

Warawnt, obs. form of Warrant.

Warback: see War *v.*3 *Obs.*

Warble (wǭ·1b'l), *sb.*1 Forms: 4 **warbele**, -bul, 5 -bell, varble, 4–6 **werble**, 4 -bele, -bul, 5 **wherble**, 6 *Sc.* **verbille**, -ble; 4– **warble**. [a. OF. *werble*: see Warble *v.*1] In early use, a tune or melody (perh. of some special kind) performed on an instrument or sung. Subsequently (influenced by Warble *v.*1), the action or an act of warbling; gentle and melodious singing, esp. of birds.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 119 Nwe nakryn noyse with þe noble pipes, Wylde werbles & wyȝt waknes lote. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1033 Þough þe beste harpour vpon lyue Wolde . Touche ay o streng or ay o werbul [*v.rr.* warbul, -bele, -ble, werble, -bul] harpe 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 355 In þe whiche instrumentis..þey makeþ wel mery armonye and melody wiþ wel bicke tunes, werbeles, and notes. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Chorle & Bird* xi. in *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 182 [Harl. MS. 116] The soote sugred armonye Of uncouthe varblys and tunys drawen on longe. *c* 1407 — *Reson & Sens.* 1249 So as the Swan .Syngeth to forn his fatal day, With werbles ful of melodye. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. xlv, Na mair I will thir verbillis sweit define. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 76 Quhair birds outbirstit doulcest verblis rair. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxv. 80 Damned Sathan! that with Orphean ayres, and dextrous warbles, lead'st vs to the Flames of Hell. 1742 Gray *Let. to West* Apr., I give you thanks for your warble, and wish you could sing yourself to rest. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* I. 614 With ev'ry murmur of the sliding wave, And ev'ry warble of the feather'd choir. 1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xl, The strain was solemn and affecting, sustained as it was by the pathetic warble of a voice which had naturally been a fine one. 1834 Wordsw. *Even. Volunt.* v. 1 The linnet's warble, sinking towards a close, Hints to the thrush 'tis time for their repose. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* ii, Hagar puts back the cup which holds the poison meant for Roderigo. Hugo, getting thirsty after a long warble, drinks it, loses his wits, [etc.].

transf. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 254 Quiet as any water-sodden log Stay'd in the wandering warble of a brook.

b. Manner of warbling.

a 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 7 There shalt thou here and se all kindes of birdes ywrought, Well tune their voice with warble smal, as nature hath them tought. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* I. 191 A sound so much the more agreeable, as it is not monotonous, which is the case in the warble of most other birds. 1776–83 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 307 Birds have a warble that is peculiar to them. *a* 1900 Dk. Argyll *Autob. & Mem.* (1906) I. 202 The song of the willow-wren is too low a warble to attract general attention.

c. *collect.* The united sound of bird-songs.

1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 314 Its notes are part of that time drowned in the general warble of the season. 1794 Mrs. Piozzi *Synon.* I. 200 Whose destructive temper and disposition help to disturb the peace of the forest and the warble of the grove.

Warble (wǭ·1b'l), *sb.*2 Also 9 **wabble**, **wurble**. [Of uncertain origin; cf. MSw. *varbulde* boil, f. *var* pus (see Ware *sb.*6) + *bulde* tumour; also Warbot, Waribeeid, and the dial. names for the warble-maggot, *warback* (Orkney), *warbeetle* (Norf.), *warbie* (Sc.), *warblet* (Suff.); and *worbitten* (Suff.), pierced by the larvæ of beetles (said of growing timber).]

1. A small hard tumour, caused by the pressure of the saddle on a horse's back. Usually *pl.*

1607 Markham *Cavel.* III. (1617) 78 You shall bathe his backe where the Saddle stood, which will keepe him from warbles. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4178/4 A..Gelding near 14 hands high...a Warble newly broke on the off side of his Back. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 161 The first [Horse] will fret, gall, and be full of Warbles, with even the least Journey. 1831 Youatt *Horse* ix. 169 The little tumours resulting from the pressure of the saddle are called *warbles*, and when they ulcerate they frequently become *elfsats*.

2. A small tumour or swelling on the back of cattle, deer, etc. produced by the larva of a gad-fly (see 3).

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 324 Þe mair, the migram, ..the warbillis, þe wood-worme. 1808 Jamieson, *Warble*, ..a swelling on the back of a cow or ox, A. Bor. [i.e. North of England]. 1834 Youatt *Cattle* xix. 574 A great many of the cattle in the same pasture will have only a few warbles on their backs, while others will, in a manner, be covered with them. 1880 *Times* 27 Sept. 12/6 Then, graziers are appealed to in order to prevent the hides of the living animals being injured by 'warbles', produced by parasitic insects.

3. The gadfly or its larva which produces 'warbles'. Cf. *warble-fly* in 4.

1808 Jamieson, *Warble*, a sort of worm that breeds betwixt the outer and inner skin of beasts, S. 1810 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) VIII. 495/1 The larvæ of the *Oestrus bovis* are commonly known to the country people by the names of *wormils*, or *wormuls*, or *warbles*. 1814 *Illustr. North. Antiq.* 404 The hole..(which has probably been made by a warble) in the skin of a beast that has been elf-shot. 1886 *Daily News* 5 May 3/5 The warble, or bot fly..strikes the cattle in the summer months, depositing its eggs upon the skin, or hair. 1889 *Rep. U.S. Dept. Agric.* 1. 215 (Cent.) A very large percentage [of fifty chipmunks]..were infested with wabbles.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warble-hole*, *-lump*, *-maggot*, *-tumour*; **warble-fly** (see 3).

1877 J. G. Wood *Nat Teaching, Unsf. Arts* vii. 996 The *Warble-fly of the ox, scientifically known as *Œstrus bovis*. 1851–4 Tomlinson *Arts & Manuf.* II. 30/1 Those [hides] which contain *warble or wurmal holes. 1886 *Daily News* 5 May 3/5 The two familiar *warble-lumps which may be felt on the back and loins of the..beasts affected. *Ibid.*, The results of the presence of the *warble-maggots..is a general derangement of health. 1898 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 1188 *Warble tumours arising upon the backs or sides of horses.

†**Warble**, *sb.*3 *Obs.* In 7 **werble**. [var. **whervel* Whorl *sb.*] The part of the spindle that receives the thread: = Whorl *sb.*

1561 [Implied in Warbled *a.*1] 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Fuseau*, *Fuseau avec ses pesons*; as *Astragale*; because commonly the worke on it resembles many spooles and werbles threaded, or ioyned together.

Warble (wǭ·1b'l), *v.*1 Forms: ? 4 **werbel**, ? 5 -il, 6 **warbell**, 6– **warble**. [a. north-eastern OF. *werbler*, *werbloier* (Central OF. *guerbler*, *guerbloier*; 16th c. in corrupt forms *verbloier*, *verboier*, *verbier*), f. *werble* Warble *sb.*1, a. OHG. *werbel*, recorded only as glossing L. *plectrum* and *sistrum*, but prob. used in many other applications of the general sense 'something that revolves' (MHG. *werbel*, *wirbel*, mod.G. *wirbel*, whirlpool, whirlwind, spinning-top, vertex of the head, etc.); cogn. w. (M)Du. *wervel* harp, ON. *hvirfill* circle, ring, crown of the head, f. OTeut. root **hwerb-* to revolve: see Whirl *sb.* and *v.*, Whorl.

The Fr. vb. seems to have primarily referred to the manipulation of the strings of a musical instrument (cf. 5 a below), but was also used for the production of delicate varieties of tone in singing. The sb. *werble* has only one example in Godefr., where it may mean 'modulation' or 'melody'. It is not possible to determine with certainty in which of its senses the Ger. sb. was adopted in OF.; perh. in that of 'plectrum'; perh. in that of 'tuning-peg' (so MHG. *werbel*). Mod.G. has a verb *wirbeln* to warble.

In Eng. the existence of the vb. before the 16th c. is doubtful (see the remark under 1 below), though there are several examples of the sb. in the 14th c.]

†1. *a. intr.* ? To resound. b. *trans.* ? To proclaim by flourish of trumpets; ? to sound (a trumpet). *Obs.*

The identity of the word in quot. 13.. is uncertain; the sense may be 'whirling'. In quot. *a* 1400–50 the reading and construction are doubtful.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2004 Þe werbelande wynde wapped fro þe hyȝe, & drof vche dale ful of dryftes ful grete. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2222 Now ere his seggis all sett & þe saute nesis, Were wakens be-twene, werbild in trompis. [*Dubl. MS.* Were wakned be-twene; werblet trompez.]

2. *intr.* To modulate the voice in singing; to sing with trills and quavers. In later use (influenced by sense 4), to sing softly and sweetly, in a birdlike manner; often merely a jocose substitute for *sing*.

1530 Palsgr. 771/2, I warbell with the voyce, as connyng syngers do, *Je verble*. It is a worlde to here hym synge, whan he is disposed to warbell. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam.* viii. (1596) 114 Children..who haue a good voice, and warble in the throat, are most vntoward for all sciences. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. v. 38 Come, warble, come. 1611 Cotgr., *Fredonner*, to shake, diuide, warble, quauer in singing. 1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3) s.v., To warble is to sing in a mode, or manner, imitative of birds. Those soprano performers, whose voices are of a clear, fluted, and shrill tone, and who run divisions with a close and liquid sweetness, are said to warble. 1884 Mrs. Peard *Zero* xiv, Patti warbled in the theatre.

quasi-*trans.* with complement (jocular).

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xliv, She'd sit down and sing to you, and gaze at you, until she warbled your soul out of your body a'most.

b. Of music: To sound in quavering, flexible melody; to be produced with free, smooth, and rapid modulations of pitch. ? *Obs.*

1724 Gay *Sheph. Wk.* Wed. 3 Such Strains ne'er warble in the Linnet's Throat. *a* 1752 Doddridge *Hymns*, '*Lord of the Sabbath*' iii, No Groans to mingle with the Songs, Which warble from immortal Tongues. 1823 *Sketches of Character* (ed. 2) I. At the same instant, Emily's sweetest notes warbled in his ear.

c. *poet.* Of a small stream: To make melody as it flows. Also of the wind.

1579 [see Warbling *ppl. a.*1 2]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 32 The flowrie Brooks beneath That wash thy hallowd feet, and warbling flow. 1726 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Warble* or purl, as a Brook or Stream. 1728–46 Thom-

..' 399 High to their fount,..amid the hills And the warbling round, tinkle up the brooks. 1783 *Village* II. 201 As old Thames...flows his young streams run warbling at his side. 1824 Southey *Roderick* XVIII. 207 The quiet voice Of waters warbling near.

d. *U.S.* To yodel. (In recent American Dicts.)

1880 [see Warbling *vbl. sb.* c.]

3. *trans.* a. To sing with quavering trills and runs, to utter melodiously, to carol. Also to *warble forth*, *out*, *over*.

1576 Garcioigne *Philomene* (Arb.) 89 And many a note, she warbled wondrous wel. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* I. i. 33 Elegian Muse, that warblest amorous laies. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 207 The lookers on incessantly warble out soft trembling Musique. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* vi. 98 Softly She Warbles over all she hears. 1754 Gray *Pleasures* 13 The Sky-lark warbles high His trembling thrilling ecstacy. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxv, Emmy..began to warble that stanza from the favourite song of 'Wapping Old Stairs'. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 118/1 Again, we have that pretty songster..warbling forth its melodious song, the Canary. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xii, Ned, getting sentimental, warbled a serenade.

b. To express or celebrate in song or verse. Also with *forth*, † *out*.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 18 O Father, grant I sweetly warble forth Vnto our seed the World's renowned Birth. 1623 Milton *Ps. cxxxvi.* 80 Let us therfore warble forth His mighty Majesty and worth. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 7 The Riuer Læthe so warbled out by Poets. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 446 Warbling the Grecian woes with harp and voice. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 109 P 8 You..warble out your groans with uncommon elegance. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* II, Having warbled his thanks..Hugo departed. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* III. vi, Or would you have me turn a sonneteer, And warble those brief-sighted eyes of hers?

4. *intr.* † a. To twitter, as a young bird; to make uncertain attempts at singing. Also *fig. Obs.*

1605 Bp. Andrewes *Serm.* (Heb. ii. 16) (1629) 8 It brought forth a Benedictus, and a Magnificat, from the true seed of Abraham; If it do not the like, from us, certainely it but flutes in our braines; we but warble about it. 1611 Cotgr., *Gasouiller*, ..to warble, as a young bird when it first begins, or learnes, to sing.

b. Of birds: To sing clearly and sweetly.

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxii. (1612) 343 No birds were heard to warble. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 265 Birds on the branches warbling. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 216 The life ..which warbles thro' the vernal wood. 1750 Gray *Elegy* (Pembroke text) 119 The Red-breast loves to build, & warble there. 1859 Capern *Ballads & Songs* 138 When thrushes warble in the elm tree's crown.

5. † a. *trans.* To manipulate (the strings of a musical instrument) in playing. *Obs.*

1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 285 Then hee tooke his Lute, and warbling the strings with tenne thousand delicate diuisions, hee beganne to saye [etc.]. 1638 Junius *Painted Ancients* 297 The left [hand]..did with diuided fingers warble the strings.

† b. *intr.* Of a stringed instrument: To give forth melodious sounds. *Obs.*

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 66 The Harpe warbleth. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xv, The while we chant our ditties sweet To some soft shell that warbles near.

† c. To play *upon* as upon strings. *Obs.*

c 1640 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 371 Upon which stringe I have already warbled in the lll harmony of the six last lords lives. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 107 New objects with a gentle and gratefull touch warble upon the corporeal organs, or excite the spirits into a pleasant fruik of motion.

d. *Sc.* 'To play the quicker measures of a piece of bagpipe music, in which there are a large number of grace-notes' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

Warble (wǭ·1b'l), *v.*2 *Falconry.* Also 5 **warb(b)el(l**, **warbul**, 6 **warbille**. [Of obscure origin; perh. a. Du. *wervelen* to turn round (= OE. **hwiorfligan*, whence *hwiorfling* vbl. sb. For the change of consonant cf. *nable* obs. and dial. var. Navel.] *trans.* To cross (the wings) together over the back after 'rousing' and 'mantling'. Also *absol.* Hence **Warbling** *vbl. sb.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hawking* a vj b, Whan she hath mantilled hir and bryngith booth her wynges to gelder ouer hir backe ye shall say yowre hawke warbelleth hir wyngis. *Ibid.* c viii b, She warbbelyth when she drawith booth her wyngys ouer the myddys of her backe. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 134 Stroke on hir wings that shee [your Spar-

(ed. 2) 228 Which action you shall terme, the warbling of her wings. 1852 R. F. Burton *Falconry Valley Indus* vi. 65 *foot-n.*, Rousing themselves, 'mantling' and 'warbling' (crossing the wings over the back, after stretching the legs), as though they had escaped a prison.

†**Warble**, *v.*3 *Obs.* [Perh. a. Du. *wervelen*: see prec. Cf. Wobble *v.*]

1. *trans.* To shake or cause to vibrate, to brandish.

1520 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) D iv, *Vibro*, to warble. 1548 Thomas *Ital. Dict.* (1567), *Vibrare*, to shake or warble, as to shake a sword against the same.

† 2. *intr.* To vibrate, quiver; to wobble. *Obs.*

1549, 1573, 1632 [see Warbling *ppl. a.*2]. ? *a* 1580 *Jack Juggler* 231 She quauerith, and wardelith (*read* warbelith), like one in a galiard Euery ioynt in her bodye and euerie part. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § a. 221 The hearts of men without these their last end and eternall quietnesse, are ever ranging, warbling, and never out of motion. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 17/1 Stars..seem to have resplendent Rays waving or warbling forth. *Ibid.* IV. ix. (Rarb.) 401/1 The English shipps haue..ouer the sterne, a Red square ensigne as large as the ship will giue liberty to Warble about without touching of the misen mast.

†Warble, *v.*4 *Obs. rare*−1. [Of obscure origin.] *Constr.* ? To quarrel, wrangle. ? Hence **Warbling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* X. xl. 382 There arose some warbling (*altercatio*) amongst the chicken-maisters touching the auspices..of that day. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 8 [He] can crowd and chawe from his warbling waspishnes, this stinging censure of absurd vntrueth. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xvi. 5 (1650) 130 These couples that are ever warbling, can neither be at peace within themselves,..nor pray as they should do to God,..which if they did often..they could not disagree.

†Warbled, *a.*1 *Obs.* [f. WARBLE *sb.*3 + -ED 2.] Of a spindle: Fitted with a whorl.

? *a* 1561 ? CAVENDISH in *Life Wolsey*, etc. (1825) II. 92 That the warbuled spandell no more abought shold ronne.

Warbled (wǫ̈·ɹb'ld), *a.*2 [f. WARBLE *sb.*2] Of hides: Injured by warbles.

1885 *Athenæum* 11 July 52 The cattle producer..receives ..almost the same amount for the warbled hide of the animal as he would obtain if it were uninjured by the bot fly. 1886 *Daily News* 5 May 3/5 No less than 1,906 [hides] were 'warbled'—that is to say more or less riddled or scarred from warble attacks.

Warbled (wǫ̈·ɹb'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. WARBLE *v.*1 + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb.

1. Melodiously sung or sounded. Also, celebrated in song.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 854 If she be right invok't in warbled Song. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 490 Hush'd in attention to the warbled song. 1742 COLLINS *Ode to Simplicity* 21 By old Cephisus deep, Who spreads his wavy sweep In warbl'd wanderings round thy cool retreat. 1794 COLERIDGE *Sonn., La Fayette*, As when far off the warbled strains are heard.

†2. Of a musical string (see WARBLE *v.*1 5 a).

a 1645 MILTON *Arcades* 87 As I..touch the warbled string.

Warbler (wǫ̈·ɹbləɹ). [f. WARBLE *v.*1 + -ER 1.]

1. One who, or something which, warbles or sings; a singer, songster.

1611 COTGR., *Gasouillour*, a warbler, chirper. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* IV. ii, And you Warbler, Keep your Windpipe moist, that you may not spit and hem, When you should make division. 1673 M. STEVENSON *Norf. Drollery* 19 At her call, Comes Blackbird, Linit, Alph, Thrush, Nightingal, Melodious warblers. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* XIV. 20 Nor for the worthless bird of brighter plumes Would change the meanest warbler of my grove. 1818 BYRON *Juan* Ded. lii, Your wish To supersede all warblers here below. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* 5 Dan Chaucer, the first warbler. 1890 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lanes & Downs* II. 23 The sun had not yet risen, and all, save the warblers of the woods, was still.

b. *slang.*

1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Warblers*, singers who go about to 'free and easy' meetings, to chaunt for pay, for grog, or for the purpose of putting off benefit-tickets.

2. a. In the Old World: Any one of the numerous small plain-coloured singing-birds of the family *Sylviinæ*, including the blackcap, whitethroat, and others having names in which *warbler* is the second element, as *garden-w.*, *grasshopper-w.*, REED-WARBLER, *sedge-w.*, *willow-w.*, *wood-w.*

1773 PENNANT *Genera of Birds* 35 Warblers. 1776 — *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 309 Dartford Warbler. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 283 Of the warblers in general. 1835 JENYNS *Man. Brit. Vertebr.* 104 *Sylvia Suecica*, Lath. (Blue-throated Warbler). *Ibid.* 108 *Sylvia Atricapilla*, Lath. (Black-cap Warbler). 1890 C. DIXON *Ann. Bird Life* 41 Of the five species of Warbler that stray here in the spring, three of them, the Aquatic Warbler, the Great Reed Warbler, and the Icterine Warbler, are regular visitors to France.

b. In America: One of the small, usually bright-coloured, birds, with little power of song, of the family *Mniotiltidæ*.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. II. 482 Spotted Yellow Warbler, *Le Figuier brun de Canada*. 1808–14 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 162 *Sylvia autumnalis*, Wilson.—Autumnal Warbler. 1871 BURROUGHS *Wake-Robin* viii. (1893) 207 Audubon figures and describes over forty different warblers. *Ibid.*, The cerulean warbler, said to be abundant about Niagara; and the mourning ground warbler, which I have found breeding about the head-waters of the Delaware. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 93 *Helmitherus vermivorus*. Worm-eating Warbler.

c. In Australia and New Zealand: A bird of the genera *Gerygone*, *Malurus*, and others.

1790 *J. White's Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* App. 256 Superb Warblers. 1889 PARKER *Catal. N. Z. Exhib.* 119 (Morris) Grey Warbler (*Gerygone flaviventris*) also belongs to an Australian genus. 1896 APLALO *Nat. Hist. Australia* 136 The Wrens and Warblers—chiefly *Maluri*, with the allied *Amytis* and *Stipiturus*—are purely Australian.

3. *Sc.* A group of grace-notes on the bagpipe.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 235/2 The players introduce among the simple notes of the tune a kind of appoggiature, consisting of a great number of rapid notes of peculiar embellishment, which they term warblers. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* XXV. 1894 J. A. STEUART *In Day of Battle* VIII, He owned I was no hand at the warblers.

4. *Little Warbler*: app. the title of a song-book. 'The Little Warbler. Scotch Songs' is the title of a chapbook of about 1800. There may have been other books with the same title; the British Museum has three collections of songs called 'The Warbler', 1760 (?), 1772, and 1840 (?).

1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Sept., A vast number of things..such as a ball of string, a piece of candle, a comb, a whip-lash, a little warbler. 1848 — *Van. Fair* V, He.. bought him..presents of knives,..toffee, Little Warblers, and romantic books.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warbler tribe*; *warbler-like* adj.; †warbler thrush, a North American olive-brown thrush.

1817 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. 197 Warbler Thrush (Turdus motacilla). 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Hand-bk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 108 The mottled Warbler-like eggs which are often found. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 10/1 With..all the lesser warbler tribe to bear them company.

Warbling (wǫ̈·ɹblin), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. WARBLE *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action of the verb in various senses, *esp.* soft and melodious singing.

1587 M. GROVE *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 68 With shrillish notes I would ne stay nor stent of warbuling. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 231 Running catches and curious warbling. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 24 The Air..resounds with the Warbling of Birds. 1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 21 Nov. (1890) I. 6 Tom Moore's is the most exquisite warbling I ever heard.

pl. 1757 GRAY *Bard* III. lii, And distant warblings lessen on my ear. 1782 COWPER *Retirem.* 569 The warblings of the blackbird, clear and strong. 1830 CORBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 329 The groves are echoing with the warblings of thousands upon thousands of birds.

b. *Sc.* Playing grace-notes on the bagpipe.

1896 N. MUNRO *Lost Pibroch*, etc. 251, I heard him fill the night-fall with the 'Bhollich' of Morar, with the brag of a whole clan in his warbling.

c. *U.S.* = YODELING *vbl. sb.*

1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* XXVIII. 257 We recognised, also, that it was that sort of quaint commingling of baritone and falsetto which at home we call 'Tyrolese warbling'.

†Warbling, *vbl. sb.*2 *Obs.* [f. WARBLE *v.*3 + -ING 1.] A vibration or quivering.

1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 5. 323 The..spirit of life is feeble, and is little quickened with the warbling of melodious ayre. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. 21/1 It hath a resemblance to the Rays of the Sun, which shooteth out like the warbling of a Flame of Fire.

Warbling (wǫ̈·ɹblin), *ppl. a.*1 [f. WARBLE *v.*1 + -ING 2.]

1. That warbles; *esp.* singing or making tuneful melody with sweet quavering notes.

1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* CXXXVII. 5 Then let my fingers quite forget, The warbling harpe to guide. 1576 PETTIE *Petite Pallace* 14 b, The bird..heares his felowes sing, and is not able to vtter one warbling note out of his mourneful voice. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 4 The gentle warbling wynde. 1620 TOFTE *Honours Acad.* III. 119 Hauing a warbling Lute in her hand. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VI. 114 The warbling Nightingale in Woods complains. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 32 Alternate songs shall sooth your care, and warbling music break from ev'ry spray. 1765 J. BROWN *Char. Jrnl.* I. 42 O hast thou tuned these birds to sing forth thy honour in their warbling notes? 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* XIV. (1885) 115 The soaring soprano and the high warbling tenor.

†b. Of discourse: ? Ineffectual. (Cf. WARBLE *v.*1 4 a *fig.*). *Obs.*

1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* XII. 12. 334 He..may lustly retract the Reader from other warbling, erroneous, imperfect discourses, and treatises of men.

2. In names of birds, as the Warbling Flycatcher or Vireo, *Vireo gilvus*.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. I. 157 Warbling Ironbeak. 1808–14 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 76 *Vireo gilvus*,..Warbling Flycatcher. 1888 SCLATER & HUDSON *Argentine Ornith.* I. 51 Ringed Warbling Finch.

†Warbling, *ppl. a.*2 *Obs.* [f. WARBLE *v.*3 + -ING 2.] In continual motion, quivering.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* I. 13–21 He..that letteth his tongue runne at large, which is a warblyng membre and a slippery. 1573 BARET *Alv.* F. 300 *Tremula in pileo pluma*, a warbling or quavering feather, &c. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* V. § 2. 170 When wee cast a stone into a calme water, we may perceiue diuers warbling naturall circles. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 376 Whilst I cut, and crush their [*sc.* the serpents'] warbling wombe.

†Warbot. *Obs.* [? Alteration of WARBLE *sb.*2, after SCARBOT.] = WARBLE *sb.*2 3.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warbote, wyrme, *emigrum(e)us*. 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Warbot a worme, *escarbot*.

Warbrace: see WARDEBRACE *Obs.*

Warch(e: see WARISH *v.*, WARK, WRETCH.

Warck, dial. form of WORK.

†Waroodling. *Obs.* [See CODLING 1; the first element is uncertain.] Some kind of small fish.

1525 in *Excerpta e libris dom. Jacobi Quinti* (Bannatyne Club) 9, iij girlsis,..v warcodlingis.

Warcraft (wǫ̈·ɹkrɑft). [f. WAR *sb.*1 + CRAFT *sb.*]

1. Cunning and skill in warfare; the art of conducting a war.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Lancs.* (1662) 124 Duke Hambleton..had Officers who did Ken the War-craft, as well as any of our Age. 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* XIX. 177 The leading secret of Napoleon's war-craft, consisted in an inversion of the current rules of warfare. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) V. ii. 370 Sir De Lacy Evans, a veteran well skilled in that part of the war-craft which belongs to the hour of combat. 1897 E. CONYBEARE *Hist. Cambridgesh.* 98 The king plainly felt the matter one of extreme urgency, needing his own presence, with all his warcraft and statecraft, to deal with it.

2. War-vessels collectively.

1898 *Daily News* 6 Aug. 5/6 Claiming the right to lock the Bosphorean gates of the Euxine against the fleets of the other Powers after passing our superfluous warcraft outwards.

War-cry. [Cf. F. *cri de guerre*.] A cry (whether a shout or a significant name or phrase) uttered by a body of fighters to encourage each other in charging the enemy or in rallying to the fray.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iii. 30 Orellana placed his hands hollow to his mouth, and hollowed out the war-cry used by these savages. 1787 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* I. ii. iv. 287 Setting up a most t... shout, which they call the war cry, they pour a storm of musquet bullets upon the enemy. 1808 JAMIESON, *Slogan*, the war-cry, or gathering word, of a clan. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* II. v. 218 Proclaiming the Seiaut (or war-cry of the Mussulmans). 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xxiii. 290 The army followed with an appalling war-cry.

b. *fig.*

1848 SIR J. GRAHAM in C. S. Parker *Life & Lett.* (1907) II. 69 A further reform of the representation will be the stalking-horse of the ambitious, and the war-cry of their dupes. 1880 (*title*) The War-Cry and Official Gazette of the Salvation Army. 1900 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biog.* IV. ii. 72 He was content with any general principle which would serve for a war-cry.

†Ward, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **weard**, 4–5 **warde**, 5– **ward**. [OE. *weard* masc. = OS. *ward*, OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *wart*, ON. *vǫrð-r*, Goth. *daura-ward-s* doorkeeper:—OTeut. **wardu-z*, **wardo-z*; synonymous words differing in declension are OE. *wearda*, OHG. *warto* (MHG. *warte*):—OTeut. **wardōn-*, and Goth. *wardja*:—OTeut. **wardjon-*; f. Teut. **ward-*, an extended form of **war-* to watch, guard: see WARE *sb.*2 and *a.*] A watchman, guard, keeper, warden.

Common in OE. (often applied to God, as in *rodera weard*, keeper of the skies). Later, chiefly as the second element in compounds, as *bear-*, *gate-*, *hay-*, *mill-*, *wood-ward*.

Beowulf 229 Weard Scildinga, se þe holmclifu healdan scolde. *a* 680 CÆDMON *Hymn* 1 Nu scylun herġan hefaenricaes uard. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Salomones reste was mid weardum ymbseted. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 320 For any wye or warde wide opene the 3atis. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 213 Thou hast slayn the wardes of the serpentes and the portyers of the lions [Fr. (1510) *les sourtsers des serpens & les portiers des lyons*] that kepte this contre Inhabitable.

Ward (wǫ̈ɹd), *sb.*2 Forms: 1 **weard**, 3–7 **warde**, 4 *Sc.* **vard**, 5 **waard**, *north.* **wayrd**, 5–8 *Sc.* **waird**, 6–7 (*rare*) **word**(e, 7 *Sc.* **wairde**, 4– **ward**. [OE. *weard* str. fem. = MLG. *warde*, OHG. *warta* (MHG. *warte*, *wart*, guard, watch, observation, mod.G. *warte* watch-tower):—OTeut. **wardō*, f. **ward-* (see prec.), whence also ON. *varða* wk. masc., *varða* wk. fem., cairn, heap of stones. The Teut. word was adopted in Rom.: OF. *warde* (north-eastern), *guarde*, *garde* (whence GUARD *sb.*), mod.F. *garde*, Pr., Sp. *guarda*.

Some of the senses below are derived from the Law French *warde* (whence AL. *warda*), which appears to be in part an adoption of the Eng. word, and in part the north-eastern OF. form. In Law French, from the 13th c. onward, the word has regularly the form *garde*.]

I. Action of watching or guarding.

1. The action or function of a watchman, sentinel, or the like; observation for the purpose of discovering the approach of danger; look-out, watch, guard; also, surveillance. Phrases, *to hold, keep ward*. Also in the alliterative formula *watch and ward* (orig. a law phrase): see WATCH *sb.* Now *arch.*

Beowulf 319 Ic to am wille wið wraþ weorod wearde healdan. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2202 But ward was þer set wide wher aboute of bold burnes of armes þe beres for to seche. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 186 Let no kynne consail ne couetyse 3ow departe, That on wit and on wil alle 3oure wardes kepe. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Man* (W. de W. 1506) III. iii. 158 And therfore watche they upon theyr warde. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 52 Rise with the said Eirle and pay ward and watch with him during the tyme of were. 1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 47 Those, whiche shalbe appointed to make the ward, let them go before the Campe,..and make fyres after suche sorte, that they may see those farre of. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. XX. 26 [We] gaue to vnderstand too him that had the warde, that the Ambassadour was there. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 50 Had not I light in the house to keep A faithfull ward. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 750 And dire Tisiphone there keeps the Ward. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ix. 345 Ward, guard, or *custodia*, is chiefly intended of the day time...Watch is properly applicable to the night only. 1778 BP. LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* XXI. 8. 51 O my Lord, I keep my station all the day long; And on my ward have I continued every night. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. X, Sounds were heard, as when a guard, Of some proud castle, holding ward, Pace forth their nightly round. 1835 TAYLOR *Poems, Gibraltar*, I..saw thy gallant children to and fro Pace, keeping ward at one of those huge gates.

2. a. *gen.* Guardianship, keeping, control. Now *rare*. †*Out of ward*: beyond control, out of hand (*obs.*).

c 1205 LAY. 19402 He bitahten him þa warde of alle þissenærde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 430 Almihti God, he wite ou in his warde. *c* 1290 *St. Francis* 66 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 55 Seint Fraunceys nam þat tresor..and in ore louerdes warde it tok. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10342 Ioseph..of egypti was hei stiward, And al þat land had in his ward. *c* 1305 *St. Swithin* 26 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 44 Wel him wiste þis holi man and god warde to him nom. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* 880 My lord hath take to me vnder my warde al that he hath in this world. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3709 The two brether were abidyng bothe in a shippe, þat was stird with the storme streght out of warde. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. 340 Bot he [Joseph] refoysitt þat curtassy, For þe worschep of his larde, þat al his gud put in his warde. 1489 *Paston Lett.* I. 495 That fyrst an inventorie be made holye of hys godes and catell.., and thayt they be leyd yn sure waard. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 57 That he kepe you in hys holy warde. 1530 TINDALE *Exod.* xii. 6 And ye shall kepe him [*sc.* the paschal lamb] in warde vntyll the .xiiij. daye of the same moneth. 1596 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 144 The infant from his birth is overfed..till he is put into his own ward. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* xiv, Such events as occurred during the

ward of Ellen Wade. [A person left in charge of the camp and children.] 2873 J. G. Holland *A. Bonnicastle* xi. 175 Under the conduct and ward of a Shepherd who would lead me only through green pastures.

b. *spec.* Guardianship of a child, a minor, or other person legally incapable of conducting his affairs. Also, the condition of being subject to a guardian.

c 1290 *Beket* 267 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 114 So muche he caste is heorte on him þat in his warde he let do his eldeste sone sire henri. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6426 King edmond biqueþ Is kinedom & al is lond king knout biuore is deþ, & þe warde of is tueye sones vor te hii of elde were. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 345 He..tok this child into his warde. 1444 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber A* 39 b. If the children be with in xiiii 3ere age, the moder shall haue the warde of hem tyl thei come to the seide age. 1538 Starkey *England* 186 The faute of bryngyng vp of the nobylyte, wych, for the most parte, are nuryschyd wyt[h]out cure, bothe of theyr parentys being alyfe, and much wers of them in whose ward commynly they dow fal aftur theyr deth. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 40 P 4 The Law certainly gives these Persons [*sc.* idiots] into the Ward and Care of the Crown. 1849 James *Woodman* xxxvi, You are in ward to me, and not Lord Calverly. *a* 1901 W. Bright *Age of Fathers* (1903) I. 365 Ecclesiastics were to abstain from visiting widows and heiresses under ward.

c. *Feudal Law.* The control and use of the lands of a deceased tenant by knight-service, and the guardianship of the infant heir, which belonged to the superior until the heir attained his majority.

1398 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 214 Of wardes & releſe þat barons of him held, þer ne was ore of chefe, tille him no þing suld 3eld. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xii. 320 Gif ony deis in this battaill, His air, but ward, releif, or taill, On the first day his land sall weild. 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 176/1 All maner Wardes, Mariages, Fermes, and other casualtees. 1461 *Ibid.* V. 473/1 Any Graunte made..of the Warde of Lond and of the body, with the mariage of John Kenne. 1507 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 205/2 Pertenyn to the King be reson of ward throw the said Patrikkis deceis. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1533) 20 A parlyament was holden.. where.. the lordes and baronye of the lande graunted vnto the kynge and to his heyres kynges, the warde and mariage of theyr heyres. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* i. i. 5, I must attend his maiesties command, to whom I am now in Ward. 1616 A. Rathborne *Surveyor* 192 The Lord .shall haue the Ward, that is, the custodie and keeping of those lands so bolden of him, to his owne vse and behoofe, without account, vntill the heire come to the full age of one and twentie ycares. *a* 1646 Sir T. Hope *Minor Practicks* iv. (1734) 180 The Donatar during the Time of the Ward is in Place of the Master. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 293 [The statute 17 Edw. II, c. 9] directs ..that the king shall have ward of the lands of natural fools, taking the profits without waste or destruction. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* II. xxxvii, My sovereign holds in ward my land. 1878 J. Davidson *Inverurie* ii. 73 Norman de Leslie..held the ward of the estate of Kemnay in 1348.

d. *Court of Wards*: a court established by Hen. VIII for the trial of causes relating to wardships; subsequently called *Court of Wards and Liveries*; abolished by Stat. 12 Car. II. cap. 24 (1660). Also, in British India, the title of a court which deals with cases pertaining to the property of minors. *Master of the Wards* (*and Liveries*), the presiding judge of the Court of Wards (1541–1660).

1560 B. Goodge tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* Ep. Ded. (1562), To..Sir William Cecill, Knight,..Master of the Wardes, and Liueries. 1591 Lambarde *Archeion* (1635) 233 The Court of Wards began in our memorie, about 32. yeare of the Raigne of K. H. 8. who also in the next yeare after added thereunto the office of the Master of the Liveries,..ordayning that it should bee called the Court of Wards and Liveries. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 86 The Lord Say was to be Master of the Wards. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 397 Legal Adviser to Purdanashins under the guardianship of the Court of Wards of Bengal.

3. Care or charge of a prisoner; the condition of being a prisoner; custody, imprisonment. Now *rare*.

Free ward: the condition of being a prisoner with permission to go anywhere within prescribed limits.

The phrase *to ward* was sometimes written as one word.

c 1290 *St. Katherine* 63 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 94 Maide, he seide, þou schalt abide In warde here mid me. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6619 Gentil men þat he vond in prison ek ydo, Oþer in warde mid vnriȝt, he boȝte hom out al so. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5856 The olde wyf that [kepeth] so harde Fair-Welcoming within her warde. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xxv, In strayte ward and in strong prisoun. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346/1 That the Keper and Wardeyn of the same Prisone..savely kepe every persone to his warde so commytted. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxv. 238 Here haue they soriornyd, noght as thyne, bot in thi wayrd. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 53 Item gevin to Skrymgeour masare to convoye James Hering to warde, vs. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 36 Remane in fre waird within ony place the Eirle of Huntlie forsaid pleisis to assign. 1564 *Ibid.* 293 He sall remane in fre ward within the burgh of Edinburgh, and on na wayis depart furth of the samyn. 1565 *Ibid.* 414 He brak his ward furth of oure castell of Edinburgh. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 408 He was attached by the Erle Marshall, and committed toward in the Abbey of Saint Albones. 1578–9 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 66 That Hob Ellot..sould remane and kelp his ward with Williame Portarfeild of Duchall, and on nawayis eschaip. 1599 in T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. into the prison. *a* 1614 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 167 It was thought best that the first sort sould be chargit to warde; the second apprehendit at unaware and punished. 1637 Rutherford *Lett. to Ld. Craighall* 20 Aug., It is easie for you to cast your light into prison,.. But that prisoner will break ward to your incomparable torture. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxx, I trust your Grace remembers that you are under ward. *Ibid.*, I have already said your Highness lies in ward here. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xii. 193 He..kept him in ward two years till he agreed to the hard conditions. 1872 Blackie *Four Phases* i. 148 He remained in ward thirty days, till the sacred ship should return from the Delian festival.

†4. Charge, duty entrusted to one; office. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 149 We þre haf þe ward of God & our ladie, þe schippes of kyng Richard to kepe & 3ow þam bie. *c* 1480 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 1193 þer-to let hym take good hede, and his warde wayte wisely.

†5. Care, regard. In phrases, *To have no ward of*, not to regard, not to fear; *no ward*, no matter (*if*, *how*). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21637 Moder, he said, haf þou na ward, Noþer o leon ne o lepard. *Ibid.* 20703 Ne has na ward of na juu For i self al wel be wit 3ow. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3021 He wende of þeym haue hed no warde, Hot hym sel þer a chek ful harde. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 24 For haue þai here myrþe and iolite, no warde to hem hou faste þe woluys of helle wirien cristen soulis & beren hem to helle. *Ibid.* 72 3if mennus soulis gon to helle bi brekynge of goddis comaundementis no warde, so þat þe peny come faste to fille here hondis & coffris.

II. A person who is 'in ward' (see 2).

6. A minor under the control of a guardian. Also *Sc.* †*ward-minor*.

In Feudal Law the term (AF. *garde*) was applied *spec.* to an heir or heiress whose person and lands after the father's death were held 'in ward' (see 2 c) by the superior during his or her minority.

Ward in chancery, *ward of court*: a minor for whom a guardian has been appointed by the Court of Chancery, or who has become directly subject to the authority of that Court.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 441/2 To the Kyng..louly compleynes..your Warde John Duc of Norfolk. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 285 He..servid a wurthi prince; & he made hym a knyght and gaff hym a warde, a grete gentylwomman, vnto his wyfe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. xi. 180 In that stoure was syr Chestelayne a chyld and ward of syre Gawayne slayne. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 66 In lamentyng the miserye of wardeshyppes I might saie it is not for noughte so communely said, I wil handle you like a warde. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 103 This cause did not concerne the Marques George only, but also his nephewe Albert, whiche was his worde [L. *cuius erat tutor*]. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* iv. ii. 126, I thinke the punishment meetest for them, should be, that it were lawfull to beg them for Wardes, and giue them tutors, because they lacke discretion to vse their money. *a* 1656 Br. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 30 Sr Walter Leveson..leaves his young Orphan Ward to the King. 1732 Kames *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 5 It was objected..that..the aliment of her infant-children was a proper burden upon herself, as being their mother, and liferentrix of their whole estate, which is provided by act of parliament in case of ward-minors, and extended by practice and analogy to other fiars. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 84 Here, ..said she, here is your pretty ward and mine; let us try to make her time with us easy. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* II. xxvi, This youth, though still a royal ward, Risqued life and land to be my guard. 1814 — *Lord of Isles* VI. ix, Then, 'twas her Liege's strict command, And she, beneath his royal hand, A ward in person and in land. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* lvii, Mr. Snodgrass..had been in his minority a ward of Mr. Pickwick's. 1842 Tennyson *Lockesley Hall* 156, I was left a trampled orphan, and a selfish uncle's ward. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii, He is a ward in Chancery, my dear. 1870 H. Smart *Race for Wife* ii, Grenville Rose had been brought up a great deal with his cousin Maud, being, indeed, a ward of Denison's.

b. *transf.* One who is under the protection or control of another.

a 1438 *Torr. Portugal* 1351 Than said the kyng: 'I vnderstond, Thou hast fought for my doughter & my lond, And art my ward, i-wys. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 116 b, The Prince and his heires males, shall holde the Dukedome of Wirtemberge of kyng Ferdinando as Archeduke of Austriche, and so tobe his wardes and clientes. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* I 3 b, [Mother to her infant son] Nere shall the Romains haue thee for theyr Warde. 1600 Marston, etc. *Jack Drums Entert.* i. (1601) B 3, When being maried to a wise man (O the Lord) You are made a foole, a Ward, curbd and controlld. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 373 For the Magistrate in Person of a nursing Father to make the Church his meer Ward, as always in Minority,..is neither just nor pious. 1699 F. Osborn *Miscell. Ess.* etc. 166 So that, instead of being a Ward,.. you shall be Guardian of the Person and Estate of your Husband. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* iii, With these words, Susan Nipper..made a charge at her young ward, and swept her out of the room.

†7. An orphan under age. *Obs.*

1539 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. York* iii, When her brother Edmund died a warde, She was sole hayer by due discent of line. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 109 A Ward or Infant is taken for a child in base age, whose Father is dead. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. v. (1592) 136 In the same sort also there are here commanded vnto vs, widdowes, Orphans, wardes, poore men. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 42 His Sonne was but a Ward two yeares agoe.

III. Defence.

8. *Fencing.* A defensive posture or movement; a mode of parrying. Cf. Guard *sb.* 3.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xi. § 8 He..strake so thicke vpon Amphialus, as if euery blow would faine haue bene foremost. But Amphialus..let passe the storme with strong wardes, and nimble auoidings. 1589 [see Pora *sb.* 2]. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* iv. iii. 2812, *1 Scholler.* Ah, well thrust! *2 Scholler.* But marke the ward. 1595 *Samuels Practise* I. F 2, With this readinesse must hee strike this reuerso, but withall, his left hand must bee vppon the warde of his teacher. *Ibid.* K 2, When you lie in this warde, and make vppon your enemie towardes his right side. 1596 S *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 215 (Q. 1598) Thou knowest my olde warde: here I lay, and thus I bore my poynt. 1599 G. Silver *Paradoxes of Def.* Wks. (1898) 26 All single weapons haue foure wardes, and all double weapons haue eight wardes. The single sword hath two with the point vp, and two with the point downe. *Ibid.* 34 The Dagger is an imperfect ward, although borne out straight. 1640 *Wits Recreat.* E 2, On a Souldier. The souldier fights well, and with good regard, But when hee's lame, he lies at an ill ward. 1892 Usquebart *Jewel* 88 He alters his wards from Three to Quart. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* v. xv, Fitz-James's blade was sword and shield. He practised every pass and ward.

b. *fig.* Now *arch.*

1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 135 b, So these poore women..come to the amourous incounter with one, and with an other: but at length being driuen from their warde, they ly so open that they are soone venued. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* vi. 337 Will not so many warnings of death, iudgment,..sufficiently stirre vs vp to stand vpon our warde? 1619 in *Eng. & Germany* (Camden) 197 Otherwise they would long ere this have brought the deciding of their case to the greate assise of a day of battell, which hath bene their ancient and ever happy ward against their oppressors. 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. i. D 1 b, I lay at my old ward of lechery. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 35. 124 To perfect vertue..there is required a..compleat armour, that whilst we lye at close ward against one vice we lye [not] open to the vennie of another. 1647 May *Hist. Parl.* Pref. 2 For against the unexpected stroke of partiall history the ward is not so ready, as against that Polemike writing where [etc.]. 1863 Whyte Melville *Gladiators* xxii, Duplicity was no new effort for the Tribune. He had often, ere now, betaken himself to this mode of defence when driven to his last ward. 1892 Stevenson *In South Seas* III. v. (1900) 248 He hastily returned to his old ward. 'I don't deny I could if I wanted,' said he.

†c. Defence, protection, shelter. *Obs.*

1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* xxiv, The beames, which then proceeded from her face Were such, as for the same I found no warde. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* I. 691 In their right Hands a pointed Dart they wield; The left, for Ward, sustains the Lunar Shield.

†d. *Chess.* ? The protection afforded by a specified piece or pawn. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1450 *Treat. Chess* (MS. Ashm. 344) lf. 3 b, Chek w^t^ thy Roke in thy Pon Ward. *Ibid.* 17 b, Then chek w^t^ thy Roke in thy knyghts warde.

9. *Scots Law.* Tenure by military service, Wardholding; sometimes quasi-*adv.* in *to hold ward* = 'to hold in ward' (see Hold *v.* 6, 19 b). Also, a payment in commutation of military service; more explicitly *taxed ward* (see Taxed *ppl. a.* 2 c), in contradistinction to *simple* or *black ward*. Now only *Hist.* Cf. Castle-guard 2, 3, Castle-ward 2.

The lawyers connected this sense with sense 2 c, as if 'to hold land in ward' meant to hold it subject to the lord's right to 'ward' when the heir was a minor.

1508 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 271/1 Landis..haldin of the kingis hienes be service of ward and releyf. 1530 *Ibid.* II. 66/1 His landis within our realme that wer haldin of us be service of ward and releiff to Archibald Douglas. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 693 All altering of haldingis blanche quhilk of befoir wes haldin ward. 1642 Sir T. Hope *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 176 A new commissioun, for changing of ward in few, both of lands haldin off the King and Prince. 1684 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. iv. (1694) 71 Some Lands hold Ward, some Feu, some Blench, and some Burgage. 1892 J. A. Henderson *Ann. Lower Deeside* 59 The king [*c* 1680] in changing the holding of the lands from simple ward to taxed ward took occasion [etc.].

†10. Sc. *Ward and warsel*: security, pledge.

a 1600 *Aberdeen Reg.* (MS.) XXIV. (Jam.), To remane wpoun his ward and warsall. *Ibid.*, He tuik nothyr ward nor warsell of the said claith. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 25 E'en sit you still, an' rest you here wi' me, An' I shall ward an' warsel for you be.

IV. A body of guards.

11. A company of watchmen or guards. Cf. Guard *sb.* 9. Now *rare*.

c 1000 Ælfric *Judg.* Epil., Þa Iudeiscan..besetton his [*sc.* Christ's] birgene sona mid weorde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1976 (Laud MS.), Þer þai telden her pauyloune þat niȝth & hem reste þare Mid warde þat was good & war. [*Lincoln's Inn MS.* With wardes, bothe gode and warre.] *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3085 He dide sette in wardes seere, Knyghte to wachem, & squiers. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* li. 12 Vp on the wallis of Babilon rereth a tocne, secheth the warde [Vulg. *augete custodiam*]. 1385 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 483/2 *Miles stationarius*,..one of the watch or ward. 1605 *Famous Hist. Stukeley* E ij, Bid the Seriant Maior shut the gates, And see them guarded with a double ward. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* III. xxx, Was frequent heard the changing guard, And watch-word from the sleepless ward. 1870 J. R. MacDuff *Mem. Patmos* xx. 276 Twenty-four wards or companies were appointed night by night to guard the various entrances to the sacred courts.

†12. A garrison. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Melusine* xxiv. 170 Thenne þey recouered there six of theire galeyes,..and lefte in it good wardes [*Fr. gardes*] for to kepe them. 1586 Hooker *Chron. Irel.* 160/2 in *Holinshed*, This house of Asketten is a verie strong castell,.. and the chiefest house of the earles, wherein he had a strong ward. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xi. 13 On th'other side, th'assieged Castles ward Their stedfast stonds did mightily maintaine. 1596 — *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 664/2, I will have..some of them be putt in wardes, upon all the straytes thereaboutes. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 97 There were planted little forts with wardes..to restraine the inroades of prey taking robbers. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 108 Carrigg beinge betrayed by the Protestant warde there.

†13. One of the three main divisions of an army, the van, the rear, and the middle or 'main battle'. Also sometimes applied *gen.* to any division led by a subordinate commander. *Obs.*

[Orig. a use of the second element in the compounds *avantward* (*vanward*, *vaward*) and *arrerward* (*rearward*) adopted from OF. In these compounds the OF. *warde* meant 'guard', and so was applicable only to the bodies placed in the front and rear. In English, on the analogy of *vanward* (also *first ward*, *forward*) and *rearward* (also *hinder ward*), the term *middle ward*, MIDDLEWARD, came to be used for the 'main battle', and thus *ward* acquired the sense above defined.]

13.. *K. Alis.* 1995 (Laud MS.), Sendeþ ymagu wyt 3oure standard And Archillaus in þe first ward. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4046, 4050 Nestor þe duke schal in þe firste ward Metyn with hym...þe þridde ward Pelleus schal lede. *Ibid.* III. 3401 Þer cam with hem þe kyng Machaoun, And alderlaste þe grete Agamenoun, With alle her wardis, & fel in sodeynly Vp-on Troyens. *c* 1430 *Syr Generides* (Roxb.) 3771 Now wendeth this ost in wardes ten Ful wel arraied with noble men. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xviii. 286 Than com Gaheries with his warde of iij[M] goode men. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 119 And eche pryncehode ys departed in thre ordens, as in thre wardes. [Cf. *ante*. As an hoaste in batayle ys departed in thre, that ys to saye, the forwarde, the mydel warde, and the rerewarde.] 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ix. 113 Apon this wys the ostis and wardis haill On athir part returnyt in bataill. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxix. 85 b, Thus they went forthe in thre great batayls: the marshalles and the Almaygnes had the first, the kynge of Englande in the myddle warde, & the duke of Brabant in the rerewarde. *Ibid.* xlv. 95 b, In the mornyng they aproched in thre wardes. 1524 PACE *Let. to Hen. VIII* 5 Aug. in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. II. 82 Four & twenty great peaces of Artillerie..dayly foloing us in the hinder ward. 1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 126 b, And after the first warde, cause the seconde, to succeede, and the thyrde next the same, and the fourth, and the fifte also, if so many shall nede. *c* 1585 *Fair Em* v. i. 6 See all our men be martialled for the fight. Dispose the Wardes as lately was deuised. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 980/2 The fore-ward foremost, the battell in the middest, the rere-ward hindermost, ech ward hauing his troope of horssemen and gard of ordinance. 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* Wks. (1700) 171 But as to the peculiar Policy, of twelve Manipuls or Wards, divided into three Cohorts, each Cohort containing four Wards.

V. Place for guarding.

14. In a fortress: **†a.** The portion of the defences entrusted to a particular officer or division of the garrison. *Obs.* **†b.** A guarded entrance. *Obs.* **c.** The (*inner* or *outer*) circuit of the walls of a castle; the ground between two encircling walls. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8301 A maister þat was wiþinne sende to þe erl beumond To 3elde vp is warde to ben hol & sound. Ar his felawes were iwar he 3eld him vp þere þe toures of þe cite þat in is warde were. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. C.* 9087 Bot þa wardes of þe cete of heven, Er mare crafty and strang þan any kan neven. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 349 Till thar wardis thai went in hy, That war stuffit richt stalwardly With stanys, schot, and other thing. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3191 The lady of the high warde [Fr. *la dame de la haute garde*] Which from hir tour lokide thiderward. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 838 The knyȝt [tho] with his meyne went to se the wall, And þe wardes of the town, as to a knyȝt be-fall. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 332 He entred to the maister Toure. The firste warde thus thay wonne. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 199/1 [He] made assaute to the said Castell, and wan the said warde. *c* 1485 *Cursor M.* 9804 (Trin. MS.) Bailyes haþ þis castel þre Wiþ feire wardes [*Cott. & Gött.* walles] semely to se. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 222 As þou hast v. watyrgatys in þe vttere-warde, owtward in þe pytt of þi body...Ryȝt so, þou hast v. watyrgatys in þe indere-warde of þi soule. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 384/1 The Offices of Keping of the Keys of th' ynerward of oure Castell of Wyndesore. *c* 1500 *Melusine* XIX. 62 Soone was the Fortres made up not only with one warde but two strong wardes. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXVI. (Percy Soc.) 116 And therwith all he ledde me to his warde, Me to repose in pleasaunt dus saufgard. 1530 PALSGR. 234/1 Inderwarde of a castell, *ceugle de chastel. Ibid.* 250/1 Outterwarde of a castell, *courtbasse.* 1584 SIR R. SADLER *St. Papers* (1809) III. 171 The strength of this howse, having two wards, the gentleman porter ever at the one with 4 or 5 in his company, and dyvers soldyers at the other. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* To Rdr. 209 Every hand Of accident doth with a Picker stand, To scale the wards of Life. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* I. IV, Then to the Castle's lower ward Sped forty yeomen tall. 1813 — *Rokeby* III. XXVII, Then, vain were battlement and ward! 1843 AINSWORTH *Windsor Castle* IV. iii, Just as they entered the lower ward. *Ibid.*, The party directed their course towards the middle ward.

transf. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vii. 7 In the first circil, or the vtir ward, 3oung babbeis saulis weping sor thai hard. *Ibid.* VIII. 4 And sone thai wer in cumin to the plane And lattir wardis, quhairin dois remane Vailȝeant folkis in feild and chevalry.

†15. An appointed station, post (for a body of soldiers). *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 349 Quhen that thai saw That menȝe raynge thame swa on raw, Till thar wardis thai went in hy. *Ibid.* 627 Engynys alsua for till cast Thai ordanit and maid redy fast, And set ilk man syne till his ward. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXI. 463 They wente to their warde to defende the towne.

†16. *Within one's ward*: within the region in which one is safe: in quot. *fig.* Also, *within* (another's) *ward*: in the region controlled by (another). *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XVII. 66 The fyne louer that alwayes kepeth hym selfe within his warde, and fyndeth noo thynge soo sure but that he putteth it in adoubte, can not be lyghtely deceyued. 1556 PHAER *Æneid* IV. (1558) K j, What meanes he? why remaines he thus within his enmies ward?

17. **†a.** A prison (cf. sense 3). *Obs.* **b.** Each of the divisions or separate departments of a prison.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 278 Opon þe toþer dai Edward þider cam, þe prisons..Were brouht him bifore, þre erles þre barons, & mo be fiue score kynghtes & lordes of touns, þise were in his wardes, & auht & tuenti mo. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXIV. 22 These shalbe coupled together as prisoners be, and shalbe shut in one warde and punished innumerable daies. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* II. xii. 15 Thus Iohn, because of Herods suspicion, was sent bounde to Machærous the warde..and there beheaded. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 710 Thus Fire, desirous to break forth again From's cloudy Ward, cannot itself refrain. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 252 A goodly [prison], in which there are many Confines, Wards, and Dungeons. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* I 2 b, Be plaine with him, and turne him out o' th Ward. *Ibid.*, *Hold.* If you haue no monie, You'd best remoue into some cheaper Ward. *Spend.* What Ward should I remoue in? *Hold.* Why to the Two pennie Ward. 1675 BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 68 Nor is Hell a Sheriffs Ward, in which the Debtor is Imprisoned till he pay his Debt. 1780 J. HOWARD *State of Prisons* App. 125 The new gaol has separate wards and courts for debtors. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXXIII, 'What the devil's noise is this in the ward?' he said—'What! man and woman together in the same cell?' 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton*, Once more, compare the lazar-house in the eleventh book of the Paradise Lost

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M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* III. 150 Tom..could not face the horrors of the common wards [of the Fleet prison].

18. An apartment or division in a hospital or lunatic asylum, containing a certain number of beds, or allocated to a particular class of patients.

1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* XI. vii. (1782) IV. 171, I walked through two or three wards full of sick people a-bed. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 207 He was lodged in the Fever Ward. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, The different wards [of the lunatic asylum] might have been cleaner and better ordered. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* I. iii. 102 The wards, or sleeping-rooms [in Christ's Hospital], are twelve. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 305/2 No cooking should be done in the wards.

b. The patients in a ward, collectively.

1768 FOOTE *Devil* III. Wks. 1799 II. 277 Yesterday..we bled the west ward, and jalloped the north.

19. An administrative division of a borough or city; originally, a district under the jurisdiction of an alderman; now usually, a district which elects its own councillors to represent it on the City or Town Council. Also, the people of such a district collectively.

In Anglo-L. documents the wards (*wardæ*) of London are mentioned by that name from the 12th c., sometimes designated by the name of the alderman and sometimes by their locality. An occasional synonym was *custodia*.

[*c* 1130 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1883) 66 In warda Osberti Drinkepinne, terra quam tenuit Wulwinus juvenis. 1226–7 in MADOX *Hist. Exch.* (1711) 489 *note*, Tallagium Wardarum Londoniæ, quod colligi debet per Aldermannos subscriptos: Willelmus filius Benedicti re de LL., de Custodia fori. 1229–30 *Ibid.* 490 *note*, Willelmus filius Benedicti re de XXXV marcis, de Warda fori. 1275 in *Rotuli Hundred.* (1812) I. 403 Warda de Bassingeshol. *Ibid.* 418 Warda Symonis de Hadestok.]

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 94 Somme seruen þe kyng and his siluer tellen, In cheker and in chancerye chalengen his dettes Of wardes and wardmotes, weyues and streyues. 1407 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 4 Conyhoope-lane in the Warde of Chepe. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 425/2 Every Parisshe or Warde, desolate, wastud, [etc.]. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 28 b, The sayde Iohn Mansell chargyd the mayre, that euery Alderman in hys warde shulde vppon the morowe folowyng assemble hys wardemote, [etc.]. 1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 127 Within v wardes of the same Towne..ther hath byn v Cunstables that is to say in euery ward oon. 1588 W. SMITH *Brief Descr. Lond.* (MS. Harl. 6363) lf. 13 There is also The Wardmote Enquest, Chosen euery St. Thomas day, in euery ward a quest. *c* 1590 *Sir T. More* II. iv. 226 We meete at the Guildehall and there determine That thorow euery warde the watche be clad In armour. 1598–1603 STOW *Surv.* (1908) I. 217 The Auncient diuision of this Cittie was into Wardes or Aldermanries. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 281 They do you wrong to put you so oft vpon 't [*sc.* the office of constable]. Are there not men in your Ward sufficient to serue it? 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* v. xix. 432 London should have as many Artillery Gardens, as it hath Wards. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 May 1645, Rome..is divided into 14 Regions or Wards. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 72 In the Ward [It. *regione*] of the Temple of Peace, stood a Colossus. 1723 SWIFT *On Poetry* 286 In ev'ry Street a City-bard Rules, like an Alderman his Ward. 1752 *Engl. Gazetteer* I. s.v. *St. Albans*, There are four wards here, in each of which are a constable, and two church-wardens. 1824 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* III. vi. 569 By an act of Parliament, in 1800, for regulating the police of Glasgow, that city was divided into wards. 1854 LOWELL *Camb. 30 Yrs. Ago* Pr. Wks. 1890 I. 94, I would rather have had that slow, conscientious vote of P.'s alone, than to have been chosen Alderman of the Ward! 1863 COX *Institt.* III. ix. 730 Large boroughs are divided into wards, which elect their councillors severally.

20. In Cumberland, Northumberland, and some Scottish counties: One of the administrative districts into which these counties are divided.

1432 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 43/2 Alex. of Crany serjand of fee wythin the Myddyll Ward of Edynburgh. 1495 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 216 Johne Hepburne of the Est Ward of Edinburgh. 1496 *Ibid.* 322 The Upper Ward of Clydesdale. 15.. *Pebbis to the Play* 185 (Maitland Fol.) Iohne nikcoun of ye nether warde. 1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV* c. 64 § 15 Such Northern Division shall include ..the several wards of Bamborough, Coquetdale, Glendale, and Morpeth. 1864 G. V. IRVING & A. MURRAY (*title*) The Upper Ward of Lanarkshire described and delineated. 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 120 The Ward or Quarter still represents the highest subdivision of the county. 1882 JAMIESON, *Ward* 3, Lanarkshire is divided into Upper, Middle and Lower Wards.

†21. 'A part or division of a Forrest' (Phillips 1671). App. only *Sc. Obs.*

1485 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1426, 11/1 The office off maistrischip off our ward of Yarrow lyand wythin our saide forest. [1488: see OVER-WARD *sb.*] 1509 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 285/1 The forest stedis of Cawdanle [etc.] liand within the forest of Ettrik and warde of Tweda. *a* 1884 J. RUSE *Kemin. Yarrow* ix. (1894) 233 About the same time the Forest was divided into three 'wards,' that of Tweed, Yarrow, and Ettrick. Each ward had a ranger, who collected the rents [etc.].

b. *Sc.* 'A small piece of pasture ground, inclosed on all sides, generally appropriated to young quadrupeds' (Jam.).

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 173 The sade tenandis sal kepe thar self..out of hanyngis, treys, stankis, parkis, medows and wardis. 1687 *Melrose Regality Rec.* (S.H.S.) I. 146 Cutting and destroying of thair riges of brome that is growand in the wairds and aikers of Melrois. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 139 The countrie lords..sent out their horses and destroyed both grass and corn, fed where they pleased in the bishop's waird. *a* 1673 *Mare of Collingtoun* in *Watson's Coll.* I. (1706) 49 Within the Ward I might have clos'd thee, Where well thou mightest have repos'd thee, Amang the Laird's best Fillies. 1785 Calf-ward [see CALF[1] 7 b]. 1799 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Club) I. 210 A piece of ground full of sandbanks and covered with whins..as a common for the several proprietors taking sand to make up their wairds and cattails.

†22. ? A store-cupboard or wardrobe. *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 53 Your drapry ȝe ded wante, The warde with yow was skante. *c* 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 75 Nature semeth to haue layd them [*sc.* gold and silver] vpp in a farder warde then her other guyftes.

VI. An appliance for guarding.

†23. The part of the hilt of a sword that protects the hand: = GUARD *sb.* 16 b. *Obs.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 147 The hilts [of Persian swords] are without ward.

24. **a.** Each of the ridges projecting from the inside plate of a lock, serving to prevent the passage of any key the bit of which is not provided with incisions of corresponding form and size. **b.** Each of the incisions in the bit of a key, corresponding to the 'wards' of the lock. Cf. *step-ward*, STEP *sb.* 18.

In untechnical (literary and popular) use these applications are sometimes reversed, the word being taken to denote the cavities of the lock or the solid parts of the key.

a. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warde, of a lokke, *tricatura.* 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Warde of a locke, *garde.* 1536 *MS. Rawl. D.* 780 lf. 50 Mending of a lock and makyng new wardes for the gentlemen hushers chambre. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 303 The lockes betweene her chamber and his will, Each one by him inforst retires his ward. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 10 He thought to have pickt the lock of my money chist the other day, and had so wrong the wardes that I could not open the lock with my key. 1644 SIR E. DERING *Pr. Sacr.*, c iiij b, As if it were a false ward against the key. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 877 Thus saying, from her side the fatal Key..she took;..then in the key-hole turns Th' intricate wards. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 21 There are several Inventions in Locks.. in the making and contriving their Wards, or Guards. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XXI. 49 The wards respondent to the key turn round. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vi, Withdrawing from the wards a ponderous key of about two feet in length. 1893 PATMORE *Relig. Poetæ* 47 The key is not the less a key because it will not open a lock the wards of which are filled with stones. 1911 J. WARD *Roman Era Brit.* xiii. 237 To render this difficult or impossible, obstructions or wards were introduced into the case [of the lock], which could not be passed by the bitt unless it had corresponding slits or openings.

fig. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rom.* xiv. 1 (1656) 650 Wring not mens consciences: you may hap to break the wards, if you do. 1840 LANDOR *Fra Rupert* II. vi, My hand at last [may] Turn in their golden wards the keys of heaven. 1852 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 319 The key, O Tuscans, too well fits the wards! Ye asked for mimes,—these bring you tragedies. 1900 MASEFIELD *Enslaved*, etc. 118 The wards of life slipt back and set him free From cares of meat and dress.

b. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 189 The wardes of the cherche keie Thurgh mishandlinge ben myswreynt. 1655 MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 44 A Key of a Chamber-door, which ..hath its Wards and Rose-pipe but Paper-thick. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 26 File the wards or slits in the Bit with thin files. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 302/2 The Wards are all the nicks in the Bite [of the Key]. *c* 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 320 She took the wards in wax before the fire, And gave th' impression to the trusty squire. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXIV, The incidents of a narrative of this kind must be adapted to each other, as the wards of a key must tally accurately with those of the lock to which it belongs. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlii, 'Oh! I knew that, did I?' says Mr. Tulkinghorn, examining the wards of the key. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* XXI. (ed. 3) 359 Two keys, in saltire, wards towards the base, or.

c. *transf.* Applied to mechanical contrivances resembling the wards of a lock or key.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 35 [To an 'artificial flea':] Thy cogs, thy shanks, thy laths, how didst thou lay. 1828 SEIDEL *Organ* 40 Whilst the upper part is sinking the wards open and let the wind pass from the bellows into the principal trunk.

VII. 25. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** Simple attrib. (sense 19), *ward-alderman*, *boss* (U.S.), *meeting*, *politics*, *pump*, *statesman*, *system*; (sense 18), *ward-keeper*, *matron*, *nurse*, *table*, *work*; (sense 24) *ward-hole*, *-plate*.

1899 *Athenæum* 22 Oct. 548/3 London, however, was destined to be ruled..by a council of mayor and 'ward-alder-

men. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 163/2 The blackmailing *ward-boss. 1911 J. Ward *Roman Era Brit.* 227 Many of these keys have 'island' *ward-holes. 1896 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 127 Each *ward-keeper of hospitals should be provided with a bottle of chlorine water. 1886 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 5/2 Family prayers are conducted by the *ward-matron, sister, or nurse. 1813 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 229 A general call of *ward-meetings by their wardens on the same day through the State. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 424 The other[s] [i.e. patients] were easily controlled by the *ward nurses. 1883 Pitt-Rivers *Primitive Locks & Keys* 24 A modern English latch-key..furnished with a *ward-plate. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* v. iv, Two of the Rigbyites met in the market-place..'Well, how goes it?' said one. 'I have been the rounds. The blunts going like the *ward-pump.' 1885 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 467/1 These road-ways..the *ward statesman regards with tender solicitude as furnishing a large..field of operations in the line of contracts. 1887 J. T. Smith *Parish* ii. (ed. 2) 61 It is the adoption of Townships, or the adaptation of the *Ward system, that is really needed in such cases. 1888 Hon. Morten *Hospital Life* 2 *Ward work commences at seven with sweeping, dusting, making beds.

b. Special comb.: †**ward-book**, ? a register of admissions to a hospital; **ward-dyke**, a wall enclosing or bounding a ward (sense 21 b); also, a defensive dyke against water; **ward-fire** *Orkney and Shetland*, a beacon-fire [ON. *várðа* cairn: cf. Ward-hill]; †**ward-guard** *Sc.*, a protective covering or receptacle for clothes; **ward-healer** *U.S.* (see quot. 1890; cf. Healer 5); **ward-land** *Sc.*, land held 'in ward' (see Ward-holding); **ward-like** *adv.*, after the manner of a ward; **ward(s)maid**, a maidservant who performs the menial offices of a hospital ward; †**ward marriage** (see Marriage 5), in Scots feudal law, the right in wardholding arising to the ward superior on the marriage of the vassal's heir or on his becoming marriageable; **wardmaster** (*a*) *Dutch Hist.* (rendering Du. *wijkmeester*), an alderman or administrator of a city ward; (*b*) the master or superintendent of a hospital ward; †**ward-silver**, a payment to the lord in commutation of military service; †**ward-staff** (see quot. 1610); **ward-vassal**, in Scots feudal law, a vassal holding land 'in ward' (see Ward-holding); †**ward-ware**, ? 'wardrobe stuff', articles of clothing; **ward-woman** *arch.*, a tirewoman, a woman in charge of her mistress's wardrobe; †**ward-word**, a 'word' of defence; a reply to an attack or 'watch-word' of an opponent. Also Ward-corn, Ward-fee, Ward-hill, etc.

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* G ij b, That no Child be receved by them, before the name of the same childe be entred into the *Ward-booke. 1561 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1585, 256/2 Fra the said croft north..to the brig of Balgonie, ewin to the *ward-dyk of the Brig-feildis now pertening to Alex. Paip. 1602 *Ibid.* 474/1 Ane merchestane infixit in the waird-dyke standand beneth the place of Kirktounhill. 1854 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. i. 19 Crests, cradges, and ward-dykes constructed to hold off fen-waters from inned grounds. 1859 D. Balfour *Oppress. Orkney & Zetl.* Introd. 31 Nothing short of actual invasion entitled the Jarl to call them to arms by the *Ward-fire. 1551 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 29 Item, for ane *wardegard to hir, iij li. xs. 1552 *Ibid.* 70 Item, vj elnis bukcrame to be wardegardis to hir and to hir kepar Effame..xxiij s. 1890 *Q. Rev.* July 265 The lowest grade [of politician] is the '*ward-healer', or hanger-on of the political head of the city ward in which he resides. 1907 *Times* 23 Jan. 6/2 [San Francisco] Bar-room politicians, roughs, ward-heelers, bullies. 1502 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 115/1 The proffitt of the said *warde landis quhil the are recover sesing thairof. 1581 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 230/1 Anent the taxatioun of wardlandis. *a* 1659 Br. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) I. i. 11 He that purchases but one foot of Ward-land, makes all his Estate lyable to the King. 1684 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. v. (1694) 76 If the Vassal sells or disponeo the half of his Ward-Lands to any except his appearand Heir. 1689 E. Howard *Caroloiades* 297 O're which [army], tho Fairfax, Generall we finde, His Power to Cromwell *ward-like was design'd. 1888 Hon. Morten *Hospital Life* 68 The *ward-maid was out. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 1 May 1/7 Hartley Wintney Union. Wanted a wardsmaid. 1909 *Englishwoman* Apr. 240 In the smaller infirmaries, there are often wardmaids, with no training, who are expected to do nurses' work. 1473 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 70/2 With the Londes and Tenementes and other Profittes, and Mariage, or *Ward mariage of the same heire or heires. 1747 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 50 § 2 That the Tenure of Lands..in Scotland by Ward Holding..and the Casualties consequent upon the same by Ward Marriage and Recognition, be taken away. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* II. vii. I. 560 John Van Immerseel, Margrave of Antwerp, was then holding communication with the senate, and awaiting the arrival of the *ward-masters. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* July 126 The ward-masters, nurses, and attendants in the hospitals. 1314-15 *Rolls of Parl.* I. 318/1 De diversis reddit[ibus annuatim

Brit. I. 440 Lambourn Manour, which is held by service of the Wardstaffe, viz. to carrie a load of strawe in a Carte with sixe horses, two ropes, two men in harnesse to watch the said *Ward-staffe when it is brought to the towne of Aibridg, &c. 1661 Stair *Instit.* I. 422 Recognition was found not excluded or burdened by Inhibition against the *Ward-vassal. *a* 1768 [see Ward-fee]. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. C 8, Tail'd and retail'd, till to the pedlers packe, The fourth-hand *ward-ware comes, alack, alack. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* I. iv, How long she had passed that critical period, was a secret to all but the trusted *ward-women of the purple chamber. 1589 N. D. (R. Parsons) (*title*), A Temperate *Ward-Word, to the Turbulent and Seditious Wach-word of Sir Francis Hastinges knight. 1604 Harriot *Popish Impost.* 53 The priests had their ward-word ready. 1726 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 51 And disperse once more from another Babel of one another's Catchpoling Watch-words without any precautionary Ward-words.

† **Ward**, *sb.*[3] Also 7 *Sc.* **waird**. Aphetic form of Award.

c 1400 *Beryn* 3568 They made Syrophanes,..pleg[e] fynd ..To bydе þe ward & iugement of þat he had mys-do. 1464 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 332 All thes wardes and ordenances forsaide. 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 27, I have done my dewte in every ponte accordyng to your warde. 1532 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 30 As air fwnd be ane ward of þe court. 1534 *Ibid.* 68 Efter ane ward and dome of court gevin in the toltwtht of Glasgw. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* xxxvi. § 3 Ilk soytour..sould be examinat in thrie courts, gif he can make records of the court (of ane proces deduced in court) or report ane sufficient warde (interloquutour) or dome, anent wardes, or exceptions asked in the court. *Ibid.* II. Table 101 They [the suitors] sould trye, advise, and pronunce the wardes (interloquutors) of court.

Ward, *sb.*[4] *dial.* [? var. of Wart *sb.* or of Warre (OE. *wearr* callosity). Cf. Warded *a.*[2]] (See quot.)

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Ward*, callosity of the skin; on the hands, from hard labour, and on the feet from much walking.

Ward (wōɹd), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 **weardian**, -**igan**, 2 **wærdien**, 3 **wardie**, 3–4 **wardi**, **wardy**(*e*, 6 *Sc.* **vard**(*e*, **vayrd**, 6–7 *Sc.* **waird**, 3–7 **warde**, 4– **ward**. Also 7 pa. t. **ward** (*rare*). [OE. *weardian* = OFris. *wardia*, OS. *wardon* (MDu. *waerden*, MLG. *warden*), OHG. *wartên* (MHG., mod.G. *warten*), ON. *varða*:— OTeut. **wardōjan*, -*ējan*, f. **wardō*: see Ward *sb.*[2] The Eng. verb may in some of its uses have been influenced by OF. *warder* (north-eastern) = Central OF. *guarder* (mod.F. *garder*), Pr. *gardar*, Sp., Pg. *guardar*, It. *guardare*, a Com. Rom. adoption of the Teut. word.]

1. *trans.* To guard, stand guard over; to keep in safety, take care of; to defend, protect. (For *to watch and ward*, see Watch *v.*) *Obsolescent* or *arch.*

In OE. sometimes *const.* genitive.

? *a* 1035 *Cnut's Secular Laws* lxxvi. (Liebermann) Ac hære cræcan heo sceal weardian. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1087, Þa Englisce men þe wærdedon þære sæ. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7324 (Laud MS.), [They] ben so warded al about þat hem ne stondeþ none doute. 13.. *Leg. Gregory* (Schulz) 980 To help and ward Cristendom. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxvii. 66 Thei goynge forth kepten, [*gloss*] or wardiden, the sepulcre. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 27 For golde,..conquerithe not ennemies, nother in time of pease wardithe the peple to be in rest. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* II. iv. 40 *Hor.* But first my lookes shall combat against thine. *Bel.* Then ward thy selfe: I dart this kisse at thee. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III* v. iii. 254 Then if you fight against Gods Enemy, God will in iustice ward you as his Soldiers. *c* 1613 Middleton *No Wit like Woman's* v. i. 145, I found the door Warded auspiciously. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 704 On the farther side..the Britaines warded the bankes. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* viii. 87 Hope Park, a beautiful pleasance,..warded by a keeper. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 787/1 Your wits must ward your head.

b. To defend, protect *from*. Now *arch.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 174 Hiseche3 3eorne God..þet he wite & wardie ou urem alle þeo þet ou awaite3. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 970 Hii wolde..Wardi hom fram alle men, þat hom

frome youre adversaries. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist.* III. xix. 95 The other two [angels] warding him on eche side from the danger of the fire also. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 195 Tell him, it was a hand that warded him From thousand dangers. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* VI. 318 Abraham..was constrayned to warde his offring from the molestfull crowes. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* vii. Wks. 1687 I. 90 No better can any man ward himself from blame, by imputing the neglect of devotion to some indisposition within him thereto. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 185 Loxias himself will ward His boliest shrine from lawless outrage.

c. *fig.* To guard, keep carefully (a secret). *rare.*

1881 Duffield *Don Quixote* II. 442 'My profession,' answered the priest, '..obliges me to ward a secret.'

† d. *intr.* (*absol.*) To keep guard. Often with *watch*. (For *to watch and ward*, see Watch *v.*) *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 304 And in this hous to loke and warde Was Minotaurus put in warde. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlate* 619 Baith to walk and to ward, as watchis in weir. 1589 J. Hawkins in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 555 Our men which warded a shore being stricken with sodeu feare, gaue place, fled, [etc.]. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Romulus* (1595) 24 The Kings souldiers which warded at the gates of the city. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 107 A garrison..which warding there day and night became lazie with doing nothing. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1884) 74 The Family..left the..Fellows warding, and watching.

† 2. *trans.* To rule, govern (a land, people); to administer (an estate); to act as guardian to (a child). *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Dan.* 665 Nabochodonosor..weardode wide rice. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 643 Þulke time þat samuel þe prophete wardede þat folc of israhel. *Ibid.* 6453 To þe king of hongri þis seli children tuele He sende uor to norist, þat he wardede hom wel beye. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 510 Þerpeynour hab made him his steward, To wardi his lond about. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 102 Þanne was þe best blipe i-nov for þe-barnes sake, For he wiste it schold be warded wel þanne at þe best. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 345 He ..tok this child into his warde, And sadde he wolde him kepe and

secret wound. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* v. xx. 1, only I, can ward their fate. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 240 Theirs it is to ward fulfilment of all evil-omened sights. 1888 Ld. Acton *Lett. to Mary Gladstone* 22 Mar. (1904) 132 Images would probably impress him as a danger to be warded, rather, I think, than Transubstantiation.

† 3. To man *with* a garrison; to protect or shield *with* some work or contrivance; to fortify (a castle). *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 265 Grim thei were, To warden þair walles with weies ynow. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. viii. (1495) 114 The lyddes ben warded and kept wyth rewes of heer. *c* 1400 *Parce michi* 194 in *26 Pol. Poems* 148 Castelles and toures, Withoute y-warded with stronge dyches. 1544 Betham *Precepts War* II. liv. L iij b, Cytis warded with all kyndes of defences. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* III. ix. 321 The Castle of Leam-con neere Crooke haven which the rebels warded, was recovered from them.

† b. said of the defending work. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) ciii. 3 Heofon..þone weardia8 ufan wætra bryċe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Þe yren defendeþ and wardeþ alle þe forþer parties of þe body. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 177 Towarde the west on the Northe syde, great Cuba..wardeth owre Tethys [*i. e.* Haytí] on the backe halfe. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 42 S. Michels Mount who does not know, That warded all the Westerne coste? 1596 — *F. Q.* IV. x. 7 And for defence thereof, on th' other end There reared was a castle faire and strong, That warded all which in or out did wend.

† 4. To keep in close custody or confinement; to put in ward, imprison. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 354 A Maiden, which was warded streyte Withinne chambre and kept so clos, That [etc.]. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1614 That they be weisely wachede and in warde holdene, Wardede of warantizes with wyrchipfulle knyghttes. *c* 1480 Henryson *Paddock & Mouse* 166 (Bannatyne MS.) Now in fredome, now wardit in distress. 1508 *Kingis Quair* 137 He for twenty several houris, did but ward their blows, and pary with the fort of his sword. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 584 Entellus..with his warping Body wards the Wound. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. ix. 277 He employ'd one part..to ward off the flights of arrows. 1830 Praed *Poems* (1864) I 332 And now he wards a Roundhead's pike, and now he hums a stave. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Romaunt of Page* ii, Once in the tent, and twice in the fight, [thou] Didst ward me a mortal blow. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* ii. (1879) 25 Seeing a great powerful man afraid even to ward off a blow, directed, as he thought, at his face. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* lv, Before El Sol could ward it off, the thrust was given, and the weapon appeared to pass through his body.

†. 1638 Fratley *Sir H. Lynde's Case for Spect.* Ep. A 6, Your Lordship in your last..unanswerable master-piece, held up your buckler over the Knight then living.., and ward off the Iesuits blowes. *a* 1734 North *Life Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 224 He met sometimes with a Reprimand, which he would wittily ward off.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To parry blows; to stand on the defensive in a combat. *arch.*

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxii. 218 And wepne to fight [*v.r.* warde] with þat wol neuere faille. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* III. 101 [The unicorn] in his fight wardeth and foyneth at the Elephant his bellye. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xi. § 13 As soone as he spied Palladius, he drew his sword, and..let flie at him. But Palladius..sought rather to retire, and warde. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* Pref. P ij b, As good fensers vse to ward and strike at once. 1592 Lyly *Midas* IV. ii, A Nation..so valiant, that are redier to strike than ward. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Vandal Wars* II. 38 Solomon..commanded the rest..to stand still, warding with their shields, against the enemies Javelins. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 375 Yet equal in Success, they ward, they strike. 1820 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 15 Life is won by ready sword, By strength to strike and skill to ward.

† 7. *trans.* To avert, keep off (harm, danger, etc.).

a. *simply.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. Eclogue (1598) 83 While they did ward sun-beames with shadie bay. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. iii. § 18 It concerns them therefore to ward those begin-

b. with *off*. Also (rarely) *aside*.

1739 Golden. *Bee* No. 3 If, then, you would ward off the gripe of poverty, pretend to be a stranger to her. 1774 — *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 322 Covering their heads at the same time to ward off any danger of the falling of pebbles or stones from above. 1798 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 241 If we can ward off actual war till the crisis in England is over. 1803 *Edwin* II. xiv. 214 To ward aside the threatened tempest. 1864 Surtees *Handley Cr.* lviii. (1901) II. 129 Rising hills ward off the wintry winds. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, To keep out weather, to ward off cold,..or what not. 1881 W. H. Day *Dis. Childr.* 593 Which may obviate the tendency to congestion, and so ward off the paroxysms.

†**8.** *intr.* To take up a position of defence, take precautions *against*. Also, to be careful *that* (something be done). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Sicnesse þet God sent..waschеð þeo sunnen þet weren er iwrouhte: wardeð to ȝein þeo þet weren touwardes. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 805 Warde that ye be a monday in thys place. 1709 Prior *Paulo Purganti* 100 Our Don, who knew this Tittle Tattle Did, sure as Trumpet, call to Battel; Thought it extreamly *à propos*, To ward against the coming Blow. 17.. ? Swift *S.'s Wks.* (1841) II. 850/2 In England, this pusillanimity is more to be warded against than in most other countries. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 99 Regard must be had..in cold Countries to ward against the bleak Northwind. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* Ded., But where is the Necessity of warding against the Imputation of Flattery, when I dedicate to Your Lordship?

9. *trans.* To place (a patient) in a particular ward in a hospital; to lodge (a vagrant) in a 'casual ward'. (A new formation on the sb.)

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 62 Warded at 2 P.M. next day with the same symptoms. 1889 Sir D. Duckworth in *Lancet* 5 Jan., She appeared there [*sc.* at the Hospital] and being very ill..was warded. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 12/2 The question as it seemed to these Town Councillors was how to get the vagrants warded, not how to keep them out of the Casual Ward.

10. Of a dog: To line or cover (a bitch).

1781 P. Beckford *Th. Hunting* v. 59 When you breed from a very favourite sort, and can have another bitch warded at the same time, it will be of great service, as you may then save all the puppies. 1826 J. Cook *Fox-hunting* 11 It is therefore not very probable that one Stallion-hound can ward many bitches besides those of the owner.

†**Ward,** *v.*[4] *Obs.* Aphetic f. Award *v.* Hence **Warding** *vbl. sb.* or *ppl. a.*

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 43/2 If..Processe theropon be wardet. 1475 *Ibid.* VI. 141/1 That the Juges of the said Bench.., have auctorite..to ward that the said James have ayein his said Goodes,..and theruppon to ward Writtes of execution in that behalve. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 160 A sarpler..poyntyd be the lefftenaunte to be casten owte to wardd the sortt bye as the ordenaunce ys now made that the lefftenaunte schall poynt the warddyng sarplers of every mans wull. 1535 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* App. No. 47 (1721) III. 145 Which shalbe proved, yf a commission might be warded to that purpose.

Ward, Sc. contr. f. *were it.*

c 1580 Montgomerie *Misc. P.* xl. 8 Weill ward thou weep, O ouer audacious ee!

Ward, obs. pa. t. of Ware *v.*[2], Worth *v.*

-ward, *suffix*, OE. *-weard*, primarily forming adjs., with the sense 'having a specified direction', corresponds to OFris. *-ward*, OS. *-ward*, *-werd*, OHG., MHG. *-wart* (as in *heimwart* adj., homeward):—OTeut. **-wardo-*, f. **ward-* abl.-var. of **werþ-* :—pre-Teut. **wert-* to turn (= L. *vertĕre*); in the suffix the primary sense of the root is preserved, though the strong verb **werþan* has only the derived sense 'to become' (see Worth *v.*); cf. the L. *-versus* (a ppl. formation from the same root), which in sense coincides with OTeut. **-wardo-*. Two other suffixes precisely identical in function with **-wardo-*, but representing different grades of the root, are: OTeut. **-werþo-*, in Goth. *-wairþs*, ON. *-verðr*, OHG. *-wert* (MHG. and mod.G. only in the adverbial *-wärts*: cf. -wards), OFris. *-wirth*; and OTeut. **-urðo-* in ON. *-urðr*, OHG. *-ort*; neither of these types is found in OE.

The pronunciation of the suffix when attached to a monosyllable is (wɔɹd); for the occasional colloquial shortening see W (the letter). Following one or more unstressed syllables it is usually sounded (wɒɹd) or (wə̆ɹd).

Down to the 16th c. the suffix occasionally appears with irregular spellings, as *-warde*, *-werd*, *-word*, *-whard*; the form *-wart* in Sc. and northern dialects represents a pronunciation still heard.

1. The suffix was originally appended only to local advs., and in OE. was still confined to this use. The adjs. in *-weard* usually denoted direction of movement, but many of them could also be used to designate aspect or relative position; in this function they often occur in partitive concord: e.g. *foreweard* must often be translated 'front or first part of'. (With regard to the adjs. originating in mod. E. from advs. in *-ward*, see § below.)

2. The OE. adjs. in *-weard*, like the corresponding words in the other Teut. langs., admitted of being used adverbially in the accus. (OE. *-weard*) or in the genitive (OE. *-weardes*) of the neut. sing. (For the history of the genitival advs. see -wards.) The advs. in *-weard* found in OE. are all (exc. *hámweard* homeward) advb. forms of adjs. actually recorded in the language, and the first element is always a local adv. (*hámweard* being not really an exception). On the analogy of the older advs. with this suffix, there were formed in ME. several compounds in which *-weard* was added to advs., esp. to compound advs. of phrasal origin, as in *abackward*, *adownward*, *awayward*, *aboutward*, *againward*, *aforeward*; the first three of these were soon displaced by the aphetic forms *backward*, *downward*, *wayward*.

3. In OE. the adv. *tóweard* was used also as a prep., with the sense 'in the direction leading to'. In early ME. †*fromward* acquired a similar prepositional use, and later there are isolated examples of this development of function in some other advs. in *-ward* (e.g. *inward*, *onward*) of which the first element is an adverb-preposition expressing movement.

4. The type of expression represented by the (now obsolete or archaic) forms 'to heavenward(s)', 'to the city ward(s)', 'to us-ward', and the (wholly obsolete) forms 'from . . ward(s)', is commonly spoken of as a 'tmesis' of the preps. *toward(s*, †*fromward(s*. This is convenient as a description of its function, but is not historically correct.

In reality, the practice of attaching the suffix (which thereby assumes more or less the character of a separate adv.) to a phrase consisting of a sb. or pronoun governed by a prep. must be older than the development of the advs. *towards* and *fromwards* into preps. In OE., though no prep. **wiðweard* is known to have existed (cf. *wiðerweard* adj., adverse), there are many examples in which *wið..weard* is virtually a prep. governing the interposed word in the genitive (this being the case governed by *wið*). Although in OE. *tó* and *wið* are the only preps. that are recorded in this use, it is significant that in MHG. and in early mod. Ger., while no compound preps. with *-wart*, *-wärts* existed, these suffixes were added to phrases consisting of a sb. or pronoun governed by a prep. (chiefly *zu*, *nach*, *gegen*) also *von* corresponding to ME. *from* in *from..ward*). In this use, however, they were commonly treated not as suffixes but as advs., and written as separate words. In English also *ward* in this construction (which is now archaic) is sometimes apprehended as a separate adv., and so written. But it is usually felt as forming a compound with the governed sb. When the sb. is qualified by the definite article, as in 'to the heavenward', there is a tendency to interpret the compound as a sb. or an adj. used absol., because of the apparent analogy of expressions like 'to the eastward'. Where the definite article was absent, the compound came to be regarded as an adv.; the prefixed *to* therefore became otiose, and therefore went out of use.

5. On the analogy of the advb. compounds originating from the omission of *to* (e.g. *heavenward* adv. from *to heaven ward*), the suffix has in the mod.Eng. period been added freely to sbs. (including proper names) to form advs. expressing direction, aspect, or tendency. From the 16th c. onwards there has been a growing disposition to use the advs. in *-ward* as adjs.; in the 19th c. or the last years of the 18th c. several new adjs. of this formation appear for the first time: e.g. *earthward*, *heavenward*, *Godward*, *manward*, *skyward*; these, however, have been confined to literary use.

6. Examples of *to . . ward*, *till . . ward* (north. dial.), *into . . ward*, *unto . . ward*.

a. with proper name, or sb. without determining word. For other instances see Bedward, Churchward, Deathward, Earthward, Godward, Heavenward, Hellward, Manward.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 336 He..hine..bær to mynstreweard. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Ȝewendon heom þa to Norðmuðan, & swa to Lundene weard. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1180 Ifond horn child stonde To schupeward in londe. 13.. *Coer de L.* 2452 King Richard Came sailing to Acres-ward. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 308 He tempreth þe tonge to treuthe ward. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 175 Julianus wente into Perseward. 1448 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 37 Y mette with my lorde atte high table ende comyng to meteward. 1488 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 91 And the xj day I wndyrstond ȝe pwrpose to Bregyswhard *a* 1500 *Nutbrowne Maide* xix. in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) Oj b, To wood ward wyl I flee. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxvi. 108 Dyuers lordes and knyghtes of France were goyng into Spayne warde. 1526 Tindale *2 Cor.* i. 16 To have bene ledde forth to Jewry warde of you. 1549 Coverdale etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* vii. 13–18 The one..is wholly gyuen to ayme, the other..laboureth to honestie-warde. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* iv. 2. 10 As to Davidward, the solution is easye. 1601 W. Parry *Trav. Sir A. Sherley* 30 The Emperor of Rusciaes country to Persia ward. 1647 Trapp *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 619 The despensation of the grace of God is given us to others-ward. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (ed. 2) *Toward.* The word is often divided thus: He lives to Grimsby ward noo. She's goän to Lunnun ward.

b. with sb. determined by article or otherwise.

† In quot. 1523, *on* is used instead of *to* or *into* (after a verb of motion).

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxxi. 78 [He] het þæt he biheolde to his drihtne werd. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048, Da..wendon him þa up to þære burge weard. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1407 Til our contre-warde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 462 Scho with camelis and cart held on to þe merkat wart. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 386 Unto the gardynward. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 261 þe herte..hangiþ sum-what to the liftsideward. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 4045 Whan he cometh to-our-schippis-ward. 1482 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* cxlix. 172 b, Whan the tydynge come to the pope,..tho was he to the kyngward fal[illegible] 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxxiv. 66 Assone as the skirmysh was begon, he toke his horse with the spurres & came on the skirmyshe warde. 1526 Tindale *Mark* xiv. 8 She cam afore honde to anoynt my boddy to his buryinge warde. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II. 303 Thus slided through our town The subtil tree, to Pallas temple ward. 1609 Dowland *Ornith. Microl.* 40 A Quauer is a figure like a Crochet, having a dash to the right hand-ward. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 72 If her sterne lie towards the sea, we say her sterne lies to the off-ward, and her head to the shore-ward. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* v. 195 This Pilot desiring to avoid certain sands that were to the Prow-ward of him, put forth to sea. 1884 W. Black *Jud. Shakespeare* xxxi, Casting his eyes to the isleward.

c. with pronoun, *me*, *thee*, etc. Now only *arch.*

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 375 Ȝif hundes urneþ to him ward. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2716 To hemward swide he kep. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 170 Bi tyme turne to me ward, for I wille speke with þe. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1666, I shal so doon..That ay honour to me-ward shal rebounde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 413 Elfleda..regnede in al Mercia, outtake Londoun and Oxenforde, þe whiche þe kynge hylde to hymselfward. 1441 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. lvi, He, with officers of the said forest, rode to themward in all that they might pricke. 1448 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 19 His master was at Causton to yow ward. *a* 1533 Berners *Huon* lxxxii. 254 He tournyd his face to her warde. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* III. li. O ij, She..seketh out the way to vs warde. 1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxiv. 12. 240 God wilbe the same to themward, that he shewed himself to be towards his servant David. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 16 Of whiche your bountie to him warde I am a witnesse. 1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 71 Coll..brought the peoples goodwill into such a wheele, and so turned it to himselfeward, that [etc.]. 1611 Bible 2 *Cor.* xiii 3 Since ye seeke a proofe of Christ speaking in me, which to you ward is not weake, but is mightie in you. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 14 The subtile Lady Admirall (who was long before aware of the Prince's love to her-ward). 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 180 Then I think he will have set before us such a Hoghen moghen Leviathan, that that of Holy Job would be but a kind of Spratkin to it ward. 1738 Wesley *Hymns*, '*Dear Lord, my thankful Heart receives*' iii, Thine Eyes to me-ward ever turn. 1830 Coleridge *Let. to Mrs. Gillman* Lett. (1895) II. 754 An anxious friend and tender sister to me-ward! 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* iii. Let. 4 Nov. 1847, When rumor pointed to himward. 1901 Hardy *Poem*, *To an Unborn Pauper Child*, No hint of mine may hence To theeward fly.

†**7.** Examples of *from . . ward*, *fro . . ward. Obs.*

See also Fromward C 2 b.

c 1220 [see Froward C b] *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7281 þe ded..Salle ay þan fle fra þam-ward. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frol.* 397 Ful many a draughte of wyn had he ydrawe Fro Burdeuxward whil that the chapman sleepe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 285 He mett his wife fro þe kurkward. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII* c. 9 § 2 Leasses..for the which noe such suertie shalbe hadde..[shall] stand from thensforth ward voide and of noon effecte. 1607 T. Rogers *39 Articles* xxxviii. (1625) 216 No man..can desire to appropriate..any thing to himselfe, eyther yet to make any priuate vse to himselfe from the rest ward. *a* 1608 Dee *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 56 His face is (now) from meward. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 108 Amphilanthus..was then looking from herward, carelesse of her. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 7 With the nail of his Right Hand Thumb, sloaping from his Thumbward, he draws or slides forward the upper Sheet.

8. Examples of nonce-wds. (advs.) f. sb. or proper name (rarely pron.) + *-ward.*

1623 L. Andrewes *Serm.* I. xvi. (1629) 154 In Man, there was onward [= oneward] an abridgement of all the rest. Gather God and him into one, and so you have all. 1728 Swift *Let. to Pope* 26 July P 3 You are the most temperate man Godward, and the most intemperate yourselfward of most I have known. 1752 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 27 July, Our beauties are travelling Paris-ward. 1793 Cowper *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 29 Aug., I will therefore..refer the time of your journey Weston-ward entirely to your own election. *a* 1849 Poe *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 499 The whole tendency of the age is Magazine-ward. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iii, In the afternoon we went on the Thames Putney-ward together. 1865 E. Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 241 The waif breezes..convey but a little way youward the breath of thyme they take up from these rough hills and valleys. 1893 *Tablet* 4 Nov. 742 Its eyes turned eastward and past-ward. 1899 'G. F. Monkhood' *Kipling* 69 Mr. Kipling thoughtfully points out to him that men do not float Simla-ward in paper ships upon a stream of ink.

Wardable (wɔ̄·ɹdăb'l), *a. Hist.* [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + -able.] Liable to pay castle-guard or castle-ward.

c 1600 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 226 The Parsonadge..wch too akers of the Mannor land, called the Wren Wish, is Wardable as the Mannor is. 1888 *Archæol. Rev.* Mar. 58 In Pevensey Rape much of the land round the Castle was wardable, i.e., paid Castle-guard, or Castle-ward.

†**Wardage**[1]. *Obs.*—[o] [ad. AL. *warddigium*, f. *warda*: see Ward *sb.*[2] and -age.] = Ward-penny.

[1294 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1906) II. 437 Lastage, stallage, hidage, wardage, [etc.].] 1672 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Manley), *Wardage*..seems to be the same with the wardpeny. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1721– in Bailey. 1864– in Webster. In recent Dicts.

Wardage[2] (wɔ̄·ɹdédʒ). *rare.* [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + -age.] The function of a sentinel or guardian.

1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 170 The old square tower in the churchyard kept A solemn wardage.

Wardain(e, obs. forms of Warden[1].

Wardan: see Warden[2].

War-dance. A dance performed by savage tribes before a warlike excursion or in celebration of a victory. Also, a mimetic dance representing warfare. Also *transf.*

1727 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* I. II. iv. 183 The captain..strikes his club against the stakes of his cottage, and begins the war dance. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* 269 The War Dance, which they use both before they set out on their war parties, and on their return from them. 1883 G. C.

Davies *Norfolk Broads* iv. (1884) 33 The boiling liquid..is rapidly covered with sawdust, which is trodden down by a war-dance on the part of the men. 1886 J. G. Wood *Man & Handiwork* v. 69 In their terrific war-dances, the Maoris put out their tongues to a wonderful extent.

† Wardatar(e. *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 -atair, -atour. [f. med.L. type **wardatārius*, f. med.L. *warda*: see Ward *sb.*[2] Cf. *feudatary*.] In Scots feudal law, the person who has the wardship of lands while the heir is a minor.

1535 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 344/2 Gif þe wardatouris of ilk landis Refusis to find souirtie. 1579–80 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 263 George Dowglas, wardatare of Carthorall. 1580 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* XXI. 547 John Leslie of Buchquhane, schireff wardatour of Abirdene. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 705 Williame Douglas of Lochlevin, principall schireff, wardatar thairof. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. ix. § 62 The former part of the statute [of 1491] had enacted, that both wardatars and liferenters should give security to uphold, in good condition, the subject of the ward or liferent.

Warday. *dial.* Also in many corrupt forms, **ware-, wardday, warder, warter, wharter,** etc. : see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Of Scandinavian origin : cf. Sw. *hvardag*, Da. *hverdag*, lit. 'every day' (ON. *hver-r* every, *dag-r* day).] A week-day, as opposed to Sunday: = Everyday *sb.* b. Also *attrib.*

1598 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 214 To Anne Atkinson my warday gowne. 1788 Marshall *Rur. Econ. Yorks.* II. 363 *Wark-day* (pron. warday); week-day; in contradistinction to Sunday: 'Sunday and war-day.' [For later examples see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

† Wardcorn. *Feudal Law. Obs.* [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + Corn *sb.*[1]] A periodical payment in corn to the superior in commutation of military service. Cf. Wardpenny.

1415 *Foundation Charter, Shene, Surrey* in Dugdale *Monast.* (1830) VI. i. 33/1 Et quod omnia bona..hominum ..prædictorum quorumcunque, sint..quieta de omnimodo pavagio, passagio,..&c. et de omni scotto et geldo,..et wardepeny, wardecorne, averpeny, hundredpeny, et borthalpeny, [etc.]. 1441 *Court Rolls* (P. R. O.) 1/3 Decennarius..presentat..j quarterium drageti vocati Wardecorne.

¶ Du Cange wrongly identified *wardcorn* with *cornagium*, to which he gave an erroneous explanation: see Cornage ¶. His error has been adopted in many Eng. Dicts.

1701 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett), *Wardecorn*, the Duty of keeping Watch and Ward with a Horn to blow, upon any occasion of surprize. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1721–1800 in Bailey. In recent Dicts.

Warddrope, obs. form of Wardrobe.

† Wardebrace. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 warbrace. [a. OF. (north-eastern) **wardebras*, dial. var. of *gardebras*.] = Garde-bras.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warbrace, or bracere, *brachiale*. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 568/36 *Brachiale*, a wardebrace.

† Wardecorps. *Obs.* Forms: 4 wardecors, -corps, 5 ward(e)corse, wardcors(e, (wardecose, wardcorpse). [a. AF. *wardecors* (recorded in sense 2; also latinized *wardecosia*, *wordecorsum*, etc.) = OF. *gardecorps*; f. OF. *warde*, f. *warde-r* = *garder* to guard (see Guard, Ward *vbs.*) + *corps* body.]

1. A body-guard; an armed personal attendant. Cf. Garde-du-corps.

a 1330 *Otuel* 1409 His wardecors a non he fond, & tok a spere out of his hond. c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 359 Thogh thou preye Argus with his hundred eyen To be my wardecors. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 389 þerfore whan Phelip sat in þe feste of spousaille withoute wardecorses [L. *sine custodibus*: 1485 *Caxton* wardcorpses] Pausania, a noble 3ong man, slow3 him riȝt þere. a 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 287 Kyng Darius made a questyon to þre of hys wardcorsis.

2. An over-garment for out-door use.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warde corce, clothe (*v.rr.* wardecose, ward corscloth, wardcorce), *tunica*, *tunicella*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 408/1 Wardcorse, *rens.*

Warded (wō·ɹdéd), *a.*[1] [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + -ed [2].] Of a key, lock: Constructed with wards. (Usually with defining word prefixed.)

1572 Bossewell *Armoria* II. 94 b, This Crosse ought to be figured as a double warded key. 1591 Greene *Conny Catch.* II. 25 He..can picke a lock if it be not too crosse warded. 1608 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxxlii. 105 Attendants are like to ..lockes...If they be such as a stranger may picke..it is very fit to change them instantly. But if they be well warded, they are then good guards of our fame. 1850 Chubb *Locks & Keys* 8 There was also another lock constructed on the warded principle, but with the addition of a single tumbler. 1853 Hobbs & Tomlinson *Locks* v. 58 Complex warded locks.

Warded, *a.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Ward *sb.*[4] + -ed [2].] ? Affected with callosity.

1658 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* II. verse 16 xix. 650 Acts of mercy and forgiveness are with so much difficulty drawn.. from those that are Saints, even like milk out of a warded breast. a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v. *Ward* v., The hands of hard working people are said to be warded.

Warded (wō·ɹdéd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Ward *v.*[1] + -ed [1].]

† 1. Detained 'in ward', imprisoned. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1620 J. Forbes *Certain Rec.* (Wodrow Soc.) II. viii. 455 The guard came..with a warrand to receive the warded ministers, and convoy them to the Councell.

2. Furnished with a protective padding; guarded.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* i, Running their goat-hair and horse-hair warded heads against walls of words.

Warded (wō·ɹdéd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Ward *v.*[2], aphetic form of 'award' + -ed [1].] (See quot.)

Wardein(e, obs. forms of Warden.

Wardel, obs. Sc. form of World.

Warden (wō·ɹd'n), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–6 **wardein,** 6 **wardaine,** 4–6 **wardeyn(e,** 4–5 **wardain(e, -ayn(e,** 4 *Sc.* **vardane,** 4–6 *north.* and *Sc.* **wardan(e,** 5 **werdein, wardeyn,** *Sc.* **wardand,** 5–6 **wardyn,** 6 *Sc.* **varden, -an, vordan, wairdan(e,** 4– **warden.** [a. OF. *wardein*, north-eastern var. of *guardein, -ein*: see Guardian.

The word is current as a traditional designation of office; in other uses it is *poet.* or *arch.* In the legal uses the AF. form is *gardein*, and in many of them *guardian* is the preferred form in Eng. In Anglo-Latin rendered by *custos*.]

† 1. One who guards, protects, or defends; occas. a guardian angel: = Guardian 1. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Wat Crist ure suerichon to so gentil wardein bereð to lutel mensike. c 1290 *John* 31 in *S. E. Leg.* 403 Þere in seint Iohanes warde is swete moder he tok,..hire wardein he was aftur also þat he to heouene i-weode. a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxiii. 7 Þat he be wardayn of þaim þat dredis him parly. c 1400 *Pylgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. vii. (1859) 6 There is none so caitif pilgrym that he ne hath assigned hym a wardeyne the hour of his byrthe. c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2441 Silence of tunge is wardein of good fame. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. xv. 43 O brycht Apollo.. Of haly mont Soractis the wardane.

† b. *Astr.* = Guard *sb.* 12. Cf. Guardian 5.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 218 The starres which are cauled the wardens of the north starre. *Ibid.* 270.

2. One who has the care of something specified; a keeper. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

a 1290 *S. Eustace* 230 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 216 þe hayward nom and bleu his horn, For he wes wardein of þat corn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4691 [Ioseph] Garners and granges fild wit sede, In ilk sted a sere wardain. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 53 For Rihtfoliche Resoun schulde rulen ou alle, And kuynde wit he wardeyn oure weolþe to kepe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 393 One of þe wardeynes þat kepte þe body of Seint Andrewe in Constantinople. *Ibid.* II. 425 þe wardeyn [L. *custos*] of þe asse folowede after. *Ibid.* IV. 33 Demetrius þat was wardeyn of his bookes. 1422 Hoccleve *Jonathas* 223 Let me been of it [*sc.* the ring] wardeyn; ffor as my lyf, keepe it wole y certeyn. 1871 Rossetti *Poems, Eden Bower* xxi, Of all this wealth I have made thee warden.

† b. One in charge of a division of an army. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9003 þe king henri is ost a þre delde bere..him sulf in þe oþer was..& þanne is tueie sones were wardeins of þe þridde.

c. *Warden of the Peace* = 'Guardian of the Peace': see Guardian 1 b.

1543 tr. *Act 4 Edw. III* c. 2 The Iustices assigned..shall haue power to delyuer the same iayles of those that shalbe endited before the wardeins of the peace [orig. *les gardeins de la pees*]. 1854 J. T. Smith *Parish* ii. 38 The Sheriffs and other Wardens of the peace..are required [etc.].

d. A gatekeeper, porter, sentinel. Now *rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 He sette one wummon uorto beon 3eteward, þet is, seþle wardein. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1177 The wardeyn of þe yates gan to calle The folk, which þat with-oute the yates were, And bad hym dryuen In here bestes alle. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* XII. XIX, At the threshold of the rocky door,..Fit warden of the sorcery-gate, A rebel Afreet lay. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Wardens of His Majesty's Doch-Yards*, are generally old lieutenants in the royal navy, appointed to see that no person whatever be admitted without an order from the commissioner. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* I. x. II. 91 The man was apprehended by the warden of the frontier of Jaen. a 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 376 I've won from the warden The key,—the key; And the steed's in the garden For me,—for me. 1892 Stevenson *In South Seas* IV. iii, Female wardens made a fit outpost for this palace of many women.

† 3. The person invested with the control of the person and lands of an orphan heir during his minority; also, in wider sense, one who has the charge and oversight of young persons: = Guardian 2. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 269 in *S. E. Leg.* 214 In his warde he let do his eld-ste sone sire henri..þat he were is wardein and al is ordeinour. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6418 þo bed he þe court segge soþ..wan edmond made is eir of is lond wiþoute striue, & wan of is 3onge sones wardein ek ydo. c 1305 *St. Kenelm* 105 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 50 His 3unge child a maister hadde: þat his wardeyn was. c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1104 þemperour..made him knizt on the morwe & mo for his sake of proude princes sones douȝti men toward,..& made william here wardeyn as he wel miȝt, to gye & to gouerne þe gay yong knistes. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 753 Thus here wardeynys wolde they disceyue. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 85 [Ancus] made hym wardeyn of his heyres. 1543 tr. *Act 3 Edw. I*, c. 21 The wardeyns shall kepe and susteyne the landes without makynge dystruction of any thynge. 1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 97 b, Wardeins most properly is he that hath the wardship or keeping of an heire, & of lands holden by knightes seruice, or of one of them to his owne vse during ye nonage of the heire, [etc.]. 1720 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 811 The Warden, or Guardian of the Land of such Heir, who shall be under Age.

4. A regent or viceroy appointed to rule a country in the king's absence or minority. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4651 Al þat barunage,..To his ioseph an ath þai suare, Til him als wardan for to tent. 1378 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 33 The tane the steward walter was, The tothir lames of dowglas, Vardanis in [his] absens maid he. ? a 1400 *Morte Arthur* 690, I make the kepere..of kyngrykes manye, Wardayns wyrchipfulle, to welde al my landes. c 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* CXXXII. 2715 Thrtou Schir Andro Murrayis renovne, Quhen he wes wardane of Scotland. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 768 Thai chesd Wallace Scottis wardand to be. 1509 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 962/2 Ony proclamatioun..made generaly be the king or his wardanis anent the intercommonyn and sitting apoun the Inglismennis ansouerans. 1640 Yonge *Union Hen.* 27 Edward..the eldest sonne of king Edward [II] in the..absence of his Father..was made Lord Warden of England, by a common decree. 1692 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xv. 134 Vicegerents..Sometimes they are called Lord Warden, or Lord Keeper of the Kingdome, and have therewith the generall power of a King. 1898 J. Davidson *Inverurie* II. 69 Randolph, Earl of Moray, who was Warden of Scotland in the minority of David, having died in 1332. 1912 E. Russell *Maitland of Lethington* I. 33 The *Amesse* with which Maitland contrived to get the necessary co-operation of Bothwell, the Scottish Warden.

† b. The governor of a town, province or district; the commander of a fortress. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* in the title *Warden of the Marches.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8078 þritti þousend knistes hor wardeins hii sette & delde among hom al þe lond. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 72 To London com William,..His barons with him nam, knyghtes þat wer bold. Wardeyns of tour & toun. a 1352 Minot *Poems* viii. 83 He was wardaine of þe toune. c 1400 *Brut* CCVIII. 237 Kyng Edward..sent maistre Walter of Stapleton, his Tresorer, forto bene wardein and keper of þe citee of London wiþ þe Mair. c 1450 *Ibid.* CCXI. 346 þe King..made hym warden and gouernour of þe cite. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. viii. 44 And sire Brastias was maade wardeyn to wayte vpon the northe fro Trent forwardes. 1527 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 123 The vordan of the Myddil Marche. 1557 North *Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1568) 2 Pretor of the Rhodian Armies, and also wardein in other frontiers. 1563 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 631 Schir Johne Maxwell of Terreglie Knycht Wardane of the West Merchesis of Scotland. 1917 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 480 The notable feature of these proceedings [Nov. 1248] is that in them there is no mention of a Warden of the Marches. *Ibid.* 493 The little Duke of York..Warden-general of the Marches.

5. In certain guilds, esp. in the Livery Companies of the City of London: A member of the governing body under the authority of the Master or the Prime Warden (the title varies in different companies).

[1262 in *Liber Custum.* (Rolls) 79 Les Wardeyns [of the Lorimers] le mouatrent au Meire qe donqe serra]. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 3 þe forsaide bretherheds wil þast þer be wardeins þerof. 1454 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 283 The wardyns of the Trinite Yelde. 1547 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 134 The Maisters Wardeyns Governours Rulers and Overseers of all and singuler the Hospitals Guylders Fraternyties and Houses for poor People. 1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 13 § 1 The Mayster Wardens and Assistauntes of the Trinytie House of Deptforde Stronde. 1624 Massinger *Parlt. Love* IV. iii, Next year we will have him warden of our society. 1637 *Decree Star Chamb.* § 13 in Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 15 He..shall first giue notice to the said Master and Wardens of the Company of Stationers. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lvii, The inscription about what the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company did in one thousand six hundred and ninety-four. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *London To-day* vii. (ed. 3) 84 Interest with the Prime Warden, Master, or Clerk of a Company might possibly procure an invitation to one of these [banquets].

† 6. The person having the direction or oversight of some work or enterprise. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XII. v. (Bodl. MS), 3if hem lakkeþ honye to eete þanne þe warden schalle feede hem [*sc.* the bees] with figes and oþur swete mate leste þey schulde deye. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 279 Tho that wardeynes were of that wrasteling Come and broughte Gamelyn the ram and the ring. 1403 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 255/1 The serche of the wardens of Brauderie. 1543 tr. *Act* 28 *Hen. VI*, c. 16 A warden of the mainage of cloth. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 132 Robert Trunkewell Joyner being theyre warden and setting owte ye woorkes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XXIII. vii. II. 267 Pythagoras, a great maister and warden of these exercises.

b. *Freemasonry.* Either of two officers (called *Senior* and *Junior Warden*) in a symbolic lodge whose duty it is to assist the Worshipful Master.

a 1723 Wren *Parentalia* (1750) 307 A Surveyor govern'd in chief; every tenth Man was called a Warden, and overlooked each nine. 1787 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 622/2 The king [Hen. VII] presided as grand-master; and having ap-

27th of December 1663, a general assembly was held, where Henry Jennyn earl of St. Alban's was elected grand-master; who appointed Sir John Denham his deputy, and Mr. Christopher Wren..and John Webb, his wardens.

7. The superintendent of a harbour, market, or the like.

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Limenarcha*, the wardeyn of the portes. 1543 tr. *Act* 9 *Edw. III* Stat. II. c. 7 That the tables of exchange shalbe at Douer,..And that the warden as of suche tables shall make suche exchaunges by the testymony of controllers whiche we shall put to them. 1543 tr. *Act.* 5 *Rich. II*, c. 2 Any serchours or wardeyn of the portes and passages through the sayd realme. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 245 To the burgh baliff of Skipton and the warden of the market ther. 1833 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1043 [Officers of Sandwich corporation] Wardens of the Fish Market 2, Wardens of the Fish Market 2.

b. Forming the second element in the designation of certain officials, as *barrack warden, Fire-warden*, U.S.: see Fire *sb.* 5. *Fish-warden*, U.S., an official in charge of fisheries. *Game-warden*, an officer having the superintendence of the game of a particular locality.

1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* IV. 2103 [Officers of Ipswich corporation] Two Fish wardens. Ale Conner. 1883 G. B. Goode *Fish. Industr. U.S.A.* (Fisheries Exhib.) 66 To enforce these laws would, however, render necessary a large force of fish-wardens. 1894 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 6/4

The duties hitherto carried out by ban ... future to be performed by pensioned non-commissioned officers of the army, who, on appointment, will be termed 'barrack wardens'. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 3/1 The State 'game wardens'. 1912 *Nature* 26 Dec. 468/2 Major J. Stevenson-Hamilton, Game Warden of the Transvaal.

†8. A custodian of a building, esp. a temple or church. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Brendan* 626 In *þe* Abbeye *of* seint paterich, Monek ich was, i-wis And of *is* churche a wardein. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1566 Of *þe* cherche *þe* wardeynys alle were waked oute of here slepe. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 265/1 A wardeyn of the hows of god. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxii. 142 The good Herald..is a Warden of the temple of Honour.

†b. The dean of a cathedral or collegiate church, or of a royal chapel. *Obs.*

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346 John Arundell, Dean or Wardein of the Chapelle Roiall of Seint George,..Windsor. *Ibid.*, The saide Wardein is named and wretyn Dean; also ..Wardeins therof have usually be called Deans. 1538 Fitzherb. *Surv. Peas* 121 b, Al..wardens of cathedrall and collegiate Churches.

9. = Churchwarden 1. There are regularly two, the *rector's* (or *vicar's*) *warden* and the *parish* (or *people's*) *warden*.

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 114 The wardeyns of Seynt Austyns chirch. 1462 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 475/1 Late Wardeyns of the goodes of the seid Chirch. 1547 Edw. VI *Injunct.* § 23 b ij b, The Wardeynes of euery paryshe churche or Chapel. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* Ded. p. iv, I will present you at the law day for a ryot, though I be neither side man for this Meridian, nor Warden. 1853 Marsden *Early Puritans* 205 The minister and wardens undertook to go from house to house to take the names of the communicants. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 352 Rival candidates for the office of the people's warden.

b. *transf.* Applied to an official with similar functions of a Jewish synagogue.

1879 F. Hitchman *Public Life Earl of Beaconsfield* I. i. 23 The quarrel with the Wardens of the Synagogue was a more serious matter. 1910 Monypenny *Life B. Disraeli* I. iii. 20 In 1813 he was for some pedantic reason elected Parnass or Warden of the Congregation of Bevis Marks.

10. In the titles of officers holding positions of trust under the Crown.

†a. *Warden of the Forest*: see quot. 1706. *Obs.*

1398 Manwood *Lawes of Forest* viii. 43 Hereupon the Lord chiefe Iustice of the Forrest..will cause a writ of *Ad quod damnum* to be directed to the chiefe warden of the Forrest. *c* 1600 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 376/2 Wardens of Forrests shall be commanded to keep their Officers from extorting. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Keeper of the Forest*, otherwise called Chief Warden of the Forest, is he that has the principal Government of all things belonging to the Forest, and the Check of all the other Officers. 1797 H. Rooke *Descr. Gt. Oak Salcey Forest* 5 The Forest is under the Government of the following Officers:—A Warden, or Master Forester,.. Lieut. or Deputy Warden [etc.].

b. (*Lord*) *Warden of the Cinque Ports*: see Cinque Port.

138 William the Norman Conqu... instituted a Warden of the five Ports, Hastings, Dover, Hith, Rumney and Sandwiche. 1643 *Proc. late Treaty of Peace* 96 Such a Noble Person as your Majesty shall appoint to be Warden of the Cinque-Ports. 1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 46 The Lord-Warden of the Cinque Ports is to be saluted by the forts within his jurisdiction with the number of guns specified.

fig. (*allusively.*) 1626 T. Scot *Philomythie* B 3, Supposing Ibis their trustie warden, had beene closing The lands strong Ports. *Ibid.* B 3 b, Make not your will warden of your Cinque Ports [*i. e.* the five senses].

c. *Warden of the Mint*: until 1823 the title of the chief officer of the Mint.

1463 *Irish Act* 3 *Edw. IV*, c. 32 We have Ordeyned and made..Germyn lynche..Wardeyne and Maister worker of oure monels and coignes. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 220 The generall, wardane, countare wardane, sinkare and assayare,..of his Majesteis cunyiehous. 1670 Petrus *Fodinæ Reg.* 42 The Warden [of the mint]..is by his Office to receive the Silver from the Goldsmiths. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2368/4 Owen Wynne Esq; Warden of the Mint.

d. (*Lord*) *Warden of the Stannaries*: an officer appointed by the Duke of Cornwall to preside over the mining parliaments of Cornwall.

1485 [see Stannary 1]. 1561 *Brit. Mag.* II. 20 He served the king in the different offices of lord warden of the Stannaries, lord admiral of England and Ireland. 1812 *Morn. Chron.* in *Examiner* 28 Sept. 623/1 The new Lord Warden [of the Stannaries] has not been idle. 1814 Moore *Her. Ode* II. xi. 29 Then, why, my Lord Warden! oh! why should you fidget Your mind about matters you don't understand? 1896 *Law Times* CI. 534/2 By the Judicature Acts the jurisdiction of the Lord Warden was transferred to the Court of Appeal.

†e. In the titles of various offices of the royal household or the courts of law. (Mainly as the rendering of AF. *gardein.*) *Obs.*

1343 tr. *Act* 51 *Hen. III*, Stat. Excheq., The wardeyne of the kynges wardrobe. 1343 tr. *Act* 1 *Edw. IV*, c. 1 Warden of the rolles of his chaunceric. *Ibid.*, The..warden of his armour in the towre of London. *Ibid.*, In thoffice of his prive seale, clerke or warden of his hamper of his sayde chauncery. *Ibid.*, The..warden of the kynges wryttes..of his common benche. 1621 Tate *Housek. Ord. Edw. II* (1876) 9 The clarke which shalbe warden or keper of the privy seale. *Ibid.* 18 The kinge shal have a squier surveiour and warden of the viandes for his mouth. *Ibid.* 39 And a serjant herberjour, warden of the kinges palfreis. [1892 Stevenson *In South Seas* IV. iii. (1908) 294 These were keybearers, treasurers, wardens of the armoury, the napery and the stores.]

f. *Warden of the Standards*: an officer of the Board of Trade having the custody of the standards of weight and measure.

1878 *Act* 41 & 42 *Vict.* c. 49 § 1.

11. The title given to the head or presiding officer of certain colleges and schools, hospitals, etc. Usually = L. *custos*.

1575-6 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 6 § 1 No Provoste Warden or other Hed Officer of the saide Colledges of Winchester or Eaton. 1587 Lady F. Cobham in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 193 Warden of Al Soules Colledge. 1638 Marmion *Hollands Leaguer* I. ii. B 4 b, I'll..talke as superciliously, and walke As stately, as the Warden of a colledge. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 612 Dr. Golding, Warden of Winchester College. 1782 Pennant *Journ. Chester to Lond.* 305 St Thomas's hospital [Northampton]..Originally it maintained twelve poor people...It is governed by a warden, who is one of the aldermen. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XII. 988 An hospital or alms-house ..founded in 1872..for maintaining a warden, six chaplains, and thirteen poor husbandmen of Buchan. 1855 A. Tod-lope *Warden* i, John Hiram..also appointed that an almshouse should be built for their abode, with a fitting residence for a warden. 1908 *Act* 8 *Edw. VII*, c. 20 Sched. § 2 From the time at which..a chancellor shall be appointed, the office of warden of the University [of Durham] shall cease.

†b. The superior of a Franciscan convent. Cf. Guardian 4. *Obs.*

1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 47 *Þe* wardeyn and *þe* Couente. 1455 *Linc. Diocese Docum.* (1914) 76 The Wardeyn and the Covent of the gray frerys of Oxford. 1588 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* XXI. 407 To Freir Charles Home, sumtym varden of the cordeleris of Drumfreis.

12. An officer to whose custody prisoners are committed; the governor of a prison, esp. in the old title *Warden of the Fleet* (Prison).

13.. *Sir Bewes* (A.) 3708 *Þo* Ascopard wiþ outen dwelling In to *þat* castel gan hire bring,..And half a 3er a was hire wardaine. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 23112 *Þe* kyng dide his prisons loke Wiþ wardeyns *þat* hem vndertoke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13847 Thus he keppit hym full cloise, & in care held, *þat* no whe to hym wan but wardens full sure. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346/1 The Keper and Wardeyn of the same Prisone. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 3986 The widdifow wairdanis tuke my gair. 1543 tr. *Act* 1 *Rich. II*, c. 12 From hensforth no wardeyn of the Flete shall suffre any prysoner there..to goo out of prysone by mayn prise, bayle, [etc.]. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pickle* xcviii. (1779) IV. 281 He intreated the warden to accomodate him with a lodging. 1827 *Statutes of Connecticut* (1854) 726 The warden shall have the entire control and management of said prison. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxiii, My Lord High Constable,..Since I am to lie in ward, I could not have desired a kinder or more courteous warden. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xii, The room where you're a-going to sleep to-night is the warden's room. 1889 *Century Mag.* Feb. 506/1 As we entered the main corridor [of a prison] the officer of the day sprung hastily to the door, saluted the warden [etc.].

13. A member of a committee (of two or more persons) appointed to take charge of the repair and make regulations for the use of a bridge, a highway, etc. Cf. Waywarden.

1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 13 To haue & to hold to the wardeyns of the said Brigge [*sc.* London Bridge]. 1575-6 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 17 § 1 To make an Election of Twoo persons of the same Comminaltie to be the Wardens of the saide Rochester Bridge. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxv. 550 A later reform has entrusted the care of the highways..to Boards of Wardens.

†14. At Coventry, the title of two officers, chosen annually, charged with the collection of municipal rents. *Obs.*

1422–1507 *Cov. Leet. Bk.* 22, 58, etc.

15. *U.S.* (and earlier in colonial use). a. The officer who presides at ward-meetings or elections.

1763 J. Adams *Diary* Feb., Wks. 1850 II. 144 Boston..The Caucus Club meets, at certain times...There they choose a moderator..and selectmen, assessors, collectors, wardens, fire-wards, and representatives, are regularly chosen before they are chosen in the town. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 678 Charleston was..divided into 13 wards, which choose as many wardens, from among whom the citizens elect an Intendant of the city. The Intendant and wardens form the city council. 1813 T. Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 229 A general call of ward-meetings by their wardens on the same day through the State. 1822 *Charter of Boston, Mass.* § 3 It shall be the duty of such warden to preside at all meetings of the citizens of such ward.

b. 'In Connecticut boroughs, the chief executive officer of the municipal government; in a few Rhode Island towns, a judicial officer. In colonial times the name was sometimes used instead of *fire-warden* or *fire-ward*' (*Century Dict.*).

1842 *Statutes of Connecticut* (1854) 87 All persons who shall be engineers or wardens of any fire department.

16. *Canada.* The head of a county council.

1873 *Rev. Statutes Ontario* (1877) II. 1606 The Council of every County shall consist of the Reeves and Deputy Reeves of the Townships and Villages within the County ..and one of the Reeves or Deputy Reeves shall be the Warden. 1886 Bourinot *Local Govt. Canada* 73 [In the province of Quebec] The county council is composed of the mayors of the several local municipalities of the county... The warden is chosen by the county council.

17. *Australia.* The government official, with magisterial powers, in charge of a goldfield.

1861 Mrs. Meredith *Over the Straits* IV. 141 The chief official in a digging settlement..is entitled the Warden.

18. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warden-angel* (rare); also 'of or pertaining to the warden-courts', as †*warden-hook*, †*-clerk*, †*-fine*; *warden-raid*, *money-use*, a raid commanded by the Warden of the Marches in person. Also Warden-court.

1839 Bailey *Festus* xx. (1848) 246 The sweet offices Of *warden-angel. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 584 He findand..souirties actit in the *warden buikis to be answerable for all attemptatis. 1584 *Ibid.* 726 Robert Menteith, sumtyme his *wardane clerk. 1531 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 47 Item, to the lord Huym, wardane off the eist marchis, for his *wardane fee, de anno, etc. xxxj^li, jeli. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 278 That the said Lord Home, wardane foirsaid, have payment of his wardane fee. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* IV. iv, 'And by my faith,' the gate-ward said, 'I think 'twill prove a *Warden-Raid.'

Warden (wɔ̄·dn), *sb.*[2] Forms: 5 **wardun, -one, -oun, -ane,** 5–6 **wardyn** (6 **-in**), 5–7 **wardon,** 6 **wardayne, -eine, -eyne,** 5– **warden.** [Of obscure origin.

Perh. a. AF. **wardon* f. *ward-er* = F. *garder* to keep. Palsgrave 1530 renders *wardon* by *poire de garde* (= keeping pear). As the arms of Wardon or Warden Abbey (Beds) were 'Argent, three warden pears or', it has been conjectured that the pear derived its name from the abbey. There can be little doubt, however, that the arms were devised with punning intention.]

An old variety of baking pear. Also *pear warden* (see Pear *sb.* 5).

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 99 With wardons winlich and walshe notes newe. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 15 The frutis wiche more comon be, Quesnyngez, pechis, costardes, *etiam* wardons. 1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 464 My Lord paid to a woman that browght wardones xij.d. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 137 After saynt Valentynes daye; it is tyme to graffe bothe peares and wardens. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xxvii. (1870) 292 Vse to eate stued or baken wardens, yf they can be goten. 1612 Braum. & Fl. *Cupid's Rev.* II, *Dori.* Faith I would have had him rosted like a warden in brown paper, and no more talk on't. 1683 W. J. *True Gentlew. Delight* 84 To make a Tart of Wardens. You must first Bake your Wardens in a pot, then [etc.]. 1687 Sedley *Bellamira* III. i. 24 She looks like a Warden Roasted in the Embers. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 56 Pears ..Perkinson Wardens. 1802 Forsyth *Fruit-Trees* 93 Pears . Spanish Red Warden. 1860 Hogg *Fruit Man.* 170 Black Worcester (Parkinson's Warden; Pound Pear).

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warden-pear*, *-pie*, *-tree*.

1538 *Anc. Deed* A. 9011 (P.R.O.), *Wardon peryz. 1635 Markham *Eng. Husbandm.* I. II. i. 122 Your stone-Peare, Warden-Peare, and Choake-Peare [are] those which endure longest. 1579 in *Narratives Reform.* (Camden) 34 He sayd his stomache was gonne from all meate excepte it wer a *warden pye. 1612 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 48, I must haue Saffron to colour the Warden Pies. 1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Nelly Cook* 88 And a Warden-pie's a dainty dish to mortify withal. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 609/7 *Wardentre, *uolemus.* 1593–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 137 The sappe commeth sooner..in-to the peare-tree and warden-tree, thanne in-to the apple tree. 1630 Dekker *and Pt. Honest Wh.* F 3 b, The 4th man I hold my life, is grafting your Warden tree.

Warden, *v. rare*[−1]. [f. Warden *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To watch over or guard as a warden.

1906 T. Hardy *Dynasts* II. I. vi, To warden the waves was his further bent.

Warden-court. *Hist.* [Warden *sb.*[1] + Court *sb.*[1]] A court held by the Warden of the Marches.

1434 *Proc. Privy Council* (1835) IV. 271 Alle *þe* bookes of *þe* wardein courtes and of *þe* marches. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xii. (1872) 103 The vardan of the vest marchis of ingland cam to hald ane vardan court on the vest marchis of scotland. 1556 Ld. Wharton in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 220, I have called a Warden Courte, whiche dyd begynne, at..Alnewyk. the iiij^th of this instaunt. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 621 A persoun sylit bakbillaud and cravand a warden court to be sett upoun his perrell. 1865 Sarah S. Jones *Northumbld.* 162 The days of Wet, or Warden Courts, had to be held frequently, and not by deputies, but by the Lords Wardens themselves.

Wardency (wɔ̄·dénsi). [f. Warden *sb.*[1] + -cy.] The position of warden; also the sphere or district in which a warden exercises his functions.

1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XII. 988 In 1412, Bishop Greenlaw erected the wardancy [*sic*] here into a prebend. 1867 W. McDowall *Hist. Dumfries* xiv. 160 Douglas.. accordingly called a meeting of the whole lords, freeholders [etc.]..within his wardency. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Apr. 496/2 Heir-looms to go with the Wardency [of the Cinque Ports].

Wardenry (wɔ̄·dénri). [f. Warden *sb.*[1] + -ry.]

1. The office or position of warden.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VIII. 362 He gaf vp thar his vardanry. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxx. 5036 Mony dedis worthi, *þat* he did in his wardanry. 1434 *Proc. Privy Council* (1835) IV. 270 Commissions to be maade to perle of Sarum of *þe* wardeneryes. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 28 The office of wardanrie of the West Marchis. *a* 1637 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 279 The first had been lately dispatched from his office of Wardenry in the West Marches. 1828 Scott *Tales Grandfather* Ser. I. II. 272 He..during his absence, committed the wardenry of the Scottish frontiers to a brave French knight.

2. The jurisdiction of, or district under the care of, a Warden of the Marches.

then either her Wardenries or the garrison of this towne will yelde. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 459/1 Quhilkis iustices..salbe reasonit..be *þe* wardanis within *þe* wardanries. 1592 Hunsdon *Let. to Marshal of Berwick* in *Archæologia* XXX. 172 Least they, hearing of it, being within the wardonrie [*printed* wardourie] should fly upon it. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* IV. xxiv, They may not tamely see, All through the Western Wardenry, Your law-contemning kinsmen ride.

3. The official residence of a warden. *rare.*

1859 [J. Payn] *Foster Brothers* vi. 75 The Wardenry was a fine stone building occupying the entire side of a huge square court.

4. Guardianship. *nonce-uses.*

1903 Hardy *Dynasts* I. vi. viii, He wills the wardenry of his affairs To his old friend. 1906 *Ibid.* II. I. iii, Still professing our safe wardenry, To fatten other kingdoms at our cost.

Wardenship. [f. Warden *sb.*[1] + -ship.]

1. Guardianship, safe-keeping. *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4253 þe wardein-scipp of al his aght Has putifar ioseph bi-taght. *Ibid.* 4643, I wil him do at vndertak be wardanscipp of al mi land. 1890 H. Frederic *Lawton Girl* 63 All the nameless feminine yearnings for wardenship and shelter from life's battle took voice and pleaded in her heart.

2. The office or position of a warden, in various uses of that word.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 520/2 Any Graunte..made..to Maister William Say..of the custodie or Wardenship of the Hous or Hospitall of Seint Antony in oure Cite of London. 1481 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 332 If any of the Jornaymen refuse to take the office of Wardynschippe. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Euery..hospitall, wardenshyppe, prouostshyppe, or other spirituall promocion. 1628 Earl. Manch. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 267 Your wardenship when I found undispatched I would not let longer to stick. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xv. 136 The power and place of the Wardenship of the Kingdome doth utterly vanish by the personall accesse of the King. 1691 A. Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 308 In the Wardenship of Mert. coll. succeeded Nath. Brent. 1791 *Ann. Reg., St. Papers* 153* There is no longer wardenships, or corporations of professions, arts, and crafts. 1804 G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 191 *note*, The Wardenship of the Cinque Ports. 1870 *Daily News* 12 Nov., The Wardenship of St. Peter's College, Radley, has been filled by the selection of [etc.].

3. *nonce-use.* The funds in the hands of or set apart for a warden or wardens.

1424 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 83 þe wich xl s. com oute of the wardenship and thei owen to haue hit agayn.

Warder (wō·ɹdəɹ), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **wardour**, *Sc.* wairdour. [a. AF. *wardere*, *wardour*, agent-n. f. *warder*, north-eastern dial. var. of OF. *garder* to Guard.]

I. One who wards or guards.

1. A soldier or other person set to guard an entrance; also, a watchman on a tower.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xi. 4690 Comyn to the castell,..the Grekes Ingird, gripped the warders, And all the fonnet folke fell to the dethe. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 90 So were the warders [L. *stationes*] remoued from the gates the same daye. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. v. (1592) 338 When the temple was builded, there were porters and warders of the temple appointed among the Leuits. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* IV. i. 56 Though Castles topple on their Warders heads. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* x. (1628) 327 Wee call him that waiteth at the Towre one of the ward or a warder. 1679–88 *Moneys Recr. Serv. Chas II & Jas. II* (Camden) 93 Wages due to their respective husbands as late wardours in the Tower of London. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* II. 453 The Warders of the Gate but scarce maintain Th'unequal Combat. 1808 Mrs. Radcliffe *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. (1826) III. 4 Amongst these, were the wardours of a postern, near the north walls. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* I. xiii, Upon the watch-tower's airy round No warder stood his horn to sound. 1831 Wordsw. *Yarrow Revisited* 6 Once more, by Newark's Castle-gate Long left without a warder, I stood. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxii, The gates [of Lincoln's Inn] are shut; and the night-porter, a solemn warder with a mighty power of sleep, keeps guard in his lodge.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. vii. 65 Memorie, the Warder of the Braine, Shall be a Fume, and the Receit of Reason A Lymbeck onely. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxvi, There mounted guard on the other side of the mirror two stout warders of Scottish lineage; a jug,..and a quegh, or bicker. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* VI. vi, Hill after hill the land's grey warders rose. 1880 W. Watson *Prince's Quest* III, A fair-built seaport, warder of the land And watcher of the wave.

†2. The title of an English official in Ireland.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 97 Warders in Leinster per annum one thousand three hundred ten li nineteene s. two pence.

3. An official in charge of prisoners in a jail.

1825 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 22 The prisoner's confinement was not strict...He was permitted to go into the country under the care of a warder. 1863 P. Barry *Dockyard Econ.* 152 The convicts and warders in Milbank Prison. 1904 A. Griffiths *50 Yrs. Publ. Service* xvii. 241 The Chief Warder..had been promoted to his office from Dartmoor.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xix, De Coucy hastened to demand of the squire wherefore he had sounded the great warder horn, which hung in the watch-tower. 1864 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1213 Where the dawn Cheers first these warder gods that face the sun. 1904 A. Griffiths *50 Yrs. Publ. Service* xii. 163 The warder officers arraigned before him all those whom they desired to report for offences.

†II. 5. *Sc.* A person in ward, a prisoner. *Obs. rare.*

1584 *Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 350/1 The gard and keping of prisoneris and wardours. 1609 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 12 Who under pretext and cullour of freindship unto the wairdours sould crave accesse unto them...Who.. sould stryke the jaylour and so give way to the wairdours and escape.

Warder (wō·ɹdəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 9 (? erron.) **wardour.** [See Wardeber.] In early use: A staff or wand. Later, the baton or truncheon carried as a symbol of office, command, or authority; esp. as used to give the signal for the commencement or cessation of hostilities in a battle or tournament.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Warder, staffe..*ticulus.* 1500 *Malden* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 59, No. 3 b, Super quo dictus constabularius eum percussit cum predicto warder. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 49 b, Before whom there went..xyr Thomas of Herpingham..with a warder in his hand, and when he cast up his warder al the army shouted. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 396 The king cast downe his warder and commaunded them to stay. 1643 R. Baker *Chron., Rich. I* (1653) 88 [At the coronation] William de Patricke, Earl of Salisbury..bare the Warder or Rod, having on the top thereof a Dove. 1768 H. Walpole *Castle of Otranto* iii, So saying, the herald cast down his warder. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* II. xx, When the strife grows warm,..thy king commands, Thou drop the warder from thy hands. 1824 Mevrick *Ant. Armour* II. 32 At this King Edward threw down his wardour, the marshal cried 'Ho!' and the combat ceased. 1898 S. J. Weyman *Shrewsbury* xxxii. (1917) 253 The portrait of a man in armour, with a warder in his mailed hand, frowned down on me.

†**Warder,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [? Corruption of Norw. *varde* (cf. ON. *varða*, *varð-r* of the same meaning).] A beacon or sea-mark. *Obs.*

1584 R. Norman tr. *Safegard of Sailors* 50 b, When you are a little within, there [Norway coast] stands a little Warder which is a beacon or marke before the entrie. *Ibid.* 53 b, Then as far from that lies another little rocke in sight aboue water, and there stands a warder or marke vpon it. 1588 Ashley *Wagenar's Mariners Mirr.* II. Plot VII, On the North side stande two warders [Du. *twee wardaren*] vpon a high hill.

Warder (wō·ɹdəɹ), *sb.*[4] *rare.* [f. Ward *v.*[1] + -er[1].] †a. *Fencing.* One who parries. b. One who wards off (something). Also *warder-off.*

1599 G. Silver *Paradoxes of Def.* Wks. (1898) 7 It is a great question, and especially amongst the Rapier-men, who hath the vantage of the thruster, or of the warder. *Ibid.* 13 [He] hath the aduantage, whether he be striker, thruster or warder. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxviii. 63 Mallius e'en such help brought me, a warder of harm. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* ii. 41 Empedocles..received in consequence the title of κωλυσανέμας, or warder-off of winds.

Warder (wō·ɹdəɹ), *v.* [f. Warder *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To provide with a warder or sentinel.

1849 Ruskin *On the old Road* (1905) I. 218 *Samuel Prout*, Its countless churches wardered by saintly groups of solemn statuary. 1850 S. Dobell *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. (1875) 92 Heavenly calm Warders the room. 1902 J. H. McCarthy *If I were King* vi, The Lord of Montcorbier was, indeed, wardered..by very different stars from the fellow of the Fircone.

Warder: see Wardat.

Warderer. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also **ward(e)rere.** [Identical with Warder *sb.*[2]; if the longer form be the original, it may have been a jocular use of Warderere *int.*] A warder or truncheon.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 838 Þan Alexander at þis knyȝt angirs vnfaire, Wynnes him vp a wardrere [*v.r.* wardrerd] he walt in his handis, So hard him hittis on þe hede, his hernes out weltid. *c* 1440 *Prose Life Alex.* (1913) 110 Alexander smate Iobas on þe heued wit a warderere for na tres-..14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 567/14 *Bacillarderere.* *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 656 [e Kyng..caste downe a warderer whiche he then helde in his hande. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cccli. 829 Iohan Lyon helde in his hande a whyte warderere. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* IV. vii, By the laws, the combat may go on at thine asking—I retract my warderer.

†**Warderere,** *int. Obs. rare.* [a. AF. **ware derere** (*ware* = mod.F. *gare*, look out; *derere* = mod.F. *derrière* behind).] ? Look out behind!

c 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 181 Thise sely clerkes rennen vp and doun With keepe, keepe, stand, stand, Iossa, warderere [*v.rr.* ware þe rere, ware derere].

Warderob(e, -rop(p(e, obs. ff. Wardrobe.

Wardership (wō·ɹdəɹʃip). [f. Warder *sb.*[1]]

1. The office or position of warder.

1867 De Ros *Memor. Tower Lond.* 301 The Duke [of Wellington] at once stopped the purchase of Wardenships.

2. The carrying out of the duties of a warder.

1897 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 16 To an active and energetic soldier the wardership of these [Trans-Indus] marches offered a tempting field for military distinction. 1907 J. Oxenham *Carette of Sark* xxv. 238 There was no sound, nor sign of wardership.

Wardeyn(e, obs. forms of Warden.

Ward-fee. [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + Fee *sb.*[1]]

†1. In feudal law, a sum of money paid by a vassal to a superior lord in lieu of military service.

1202 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 237 Sint liberi et quieti..de hundredfeh, wardfeh, et haieh, et de operationes castelorum. 1763–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. iv. § 4 Ward vassals found it their interest to charge the ward fee with a determinate sum, to be paid yearly to the superior.

2. A fee charged in a hospital ward.

1789 J. Howard *Lazarettos* 136 Here are *no* ward-fees taken.

Ward-hill. *Orkney and Shetland.* Also **wart-hill, wardill.** [f. Ward *sb.*[2] (after ON. *varða*, *varð-r* beacon) + Hill *sb.*] A beacon hill.

? *a* 1680 in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Coll.* (S.H.S.) III. 252 Fabrics..from the top of which when there was any imminent danger, they made a sign by fire one to another. The like they did from Promontories or Wart Hills. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 499/2 The alarm was given by the beacons lighted on the tops of the rocks and highest mountains. These beacons, known by the name of ward-hills, are still to be seen in every island. 1822 J. Laing *Voy. Spitsbergen* 20 Along the shores are a great many ancient towers, originally known by the name of Burgews or Duns; but by the inhabitants they are now called Ward or Wardhills.

Ward-holding. *Sc. Hist.* [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + Holding.] In feudal law, a tenure of lands in ward (see Ward *sb.*[2] 9), i. e. by military service.

1681 Stair *Institt.* I. xiii. 2, a Ward-holding was indefinite service to be performed by the Vassal to his Superiour, and especially in War. 1884 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst. Law Scot.* II. iv. (1694) 72 Ward-holding, which is the properest holding, is called *servitium militare*; and all Lands are therefore presumed to hold Ward, except another holding be express'd. *a* 1722 in W. Macfarlane *Geneal. Coll.* (S.H.S.) II. 154 He got his Ward right of ward-holding, by which landlords commanded the military services of their tenants, was also done away with. *attrib.* 1758 J. Dalrymple *Ess. Feudal Property* (ed. 2) 246 The ward-holding act and the jurisdiction act were the ideas of..lord Bacon.

†**Wardhouse.** *Obs.* Also 7 *Sc.* waird-. [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + House *sb.*]

1. (*The*) *Wardhouse*: used to render Norw. *Vardehuus*, the name of a fortress situated on the island of Vardö, off the NE. coast of Norway.

1555 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 295 Articles. determined for the Commission of the Merchants of this company resiant in Russia, and at the Wardhouse, for the second voiage. 1557 A. Jenkinson ibid. 334 Being at this North Cape the 2. day of July, we had [etc.]...The 3. day we came to Wardhouse. 1615 I. R. *Trades Increase* 4 Whereas the Hollander..betweene the Warde-house and the Eastward, at Tippenie, Kilden, Olena,..and at Saint Nicholas in Russia, had aboue thirty flue sailes of their shippes the last yeare.

2. A guard-house for prisoners. *Sc.*

1590 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 538 Ane sufficient wardhous for prisonaris. 1612 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 127 The lettres..concerning prissones and wairdhouss. 1628 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 357 Thomas Watsoune, maister messone to the bigging of the wardhous.

3. ? A post or station of a military guard.

1633 Sir J. Burroughs *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1652) 83 The King of Denmarke at his Wardhouse in the Sound, hath for a Licence a Doller.

Wardian (wō·ɹdiăn), *a.* [f. the name of the inventor, N. B. *Ward* + -ian.] In *Wardian case*, a close-fitting case with glass sides and top for growing small ferns and other moisture-loving plants.

1842 D. Moore *Let. N. B. Ward* 1 Feb., in Ward *Growth of Plants in Gl. Cases* App. 92, I find all the species of ferns ..to grow well either in glazed Wardian cases, under handlights, or in close frames. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 230 Many of the Alpines may also be successfully grown in Wardian cases. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 642/1 The writer has kept the *Cenobita Diogenes* from the Antilles, tenanting an *Achatina* shell, alive in a Wardian case for three months.

Wardill, obs. Sc. form of Ward-hill, World.

‖**Wardin.** *Obs. rare.* Also **vardin.** [Du. *waardinn*, fem. of *waard* (= G. *wirt*) landlord.] A landlady, hostess.

1493 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 5 Paid to our vardin of Bery 4s. that scho lent hym. *Ibid.*, Paid for a gon [= gown] that I causit our wardin frist hym.

Wardin, obs. form of Warden.

Warding (wō·ɹdiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Ward *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of guarding (a place) or furnishing it with a guard.

c 1405 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 88 b/2 More necligent of here wardynge of here walles. 1595 *Locrine* III. ii. 54 What strange accidents Makes you to leaue the warding of the campe.

b. The action or duty of keeping guard. Chiefly in *watching and warding*: see Watching *vbl. sb.*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* VI. xxxi, And while his weary kingdome safely sleepes, All restlesse night he watch and warding keeps. 1724 in Temple & Sheldon *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* (1875) 202, 1 day's work with his oxen..and 1 day's warding for a soldier which did work at the mount.

†2. *concr.* a. A defensive force or work. b. The body of watchmen. *Obs.*

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7114 (Laud MS), Per he dude his meignee alle Abouten þe diches maken walle And holde hem wiþinne wiþ grete wardynges. 1382 Wyclif *Ezech.* iv. 2 And thou shalt ordeyne ayens it a bisegynge; and thou shalt bilde waardingis [1388 strengthis; Vulg. *munitiones*].

b. 1549 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) II. 25 And this day the wardinge of the gates beganne their watch in harnis.

3. Imprisonment. *Sc.*

1497 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 48 Andro..was chargit to compere under the pane of warding of his person. 1524 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Club) 9 All the kirkis of thar dyocies war interdyted induring their [*sc.* the two bishops'] wairding. 1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 259 The said Alexander is be hir Hienes fred of his said warding, and wardeing against the deficients in payment of the town revenue. 1829 Scott *Talism.* xvi, He was put under warding for a time. 1826 G. J. Bell *Comm. Laws Scot*, (ed. 5) II. 538 The warrant for imprisonment for debt in Scotland, analogous to that under the English statute-merchant, is called an Act of Warding. 1912 E. Russell *Maitland of Lethington* vii. 237 By wholesale warding of all who were thought dangerous..she..kept them from joining Moray.

4. Guardianship, keeping.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xi. 1–4 That thei mais vnder the tuicion and wardyng of their heauenly father, bee safely defended against Satans ingiens. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, They began to enock about the lines and which o' them twa was to get the warding o't.

5. The fashioning of the wards of keys, in *warding file* (see quots.).

1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 824 Sometimes, as in the warding files for lockamiths, the two broad surfaces are left uncut or safe. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1495. 676 If a key will not exactly fit a little filing of the nicks with a thin flat file called a 'warding file' may have the desired effect.

6. Comb.: † **warding-place**, (*a*) a place where guard is kept; (*b*) *Sc.*, a place of confinement for prisoners.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 15 Like as one warding-place maketh souldyers felowelike in a camp. 1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 232 Thay intendit to have biggit.. a warding place and a place of pressoun for keping of malefactouris. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* 78 All Persons in whose Custody the said C. D. is detained, furthwith to set him at Liberty, out of their Tolbooths, and others their warding Places.

† **Warding**, *vbl. sb.*[2] [Aphetic form of *awarding*.] Judicial award.

1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 374/2 The said Actes of Atteindre and Forfeiture, Disableing, Inditements, Warding of Exegunt, [etc.].

Warding (wō·rdiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WARD *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That wards or guards; protecting.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 1013 Short crooked Swords in closer Fight they wear, And on their warding Arm light Bucklers bear. 1916 A. G. MITCHELL *War Songs* 13 Thy guiding, warding Arm we own.

Wardle, obs. Sc. form of WORLD.

Wardless (wō·rdlés), *a.* [f. WARD *v.* + -LESS.] That cannot be parried.

1693 S. HARVEY *Juvenal's Sat.* IX. (1697) 236 He gives like Destiny a wardless Blow.

Wardlie, Wardly, obs. Sc. ff. WORLDLY.

† **Wardman.** *Obs.* [f. WARD *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1] Cf. WARDSMAN[2].]

1. In certain boroughs, a member of a select body of burgesses, representing the several wards, and empowered to choose municipal officers.

1444 *Maldon* (ESSEX) *Liber A* lf. 32 b, The xviii wardemen that day shall chese the newe baylees and other officers of the moste worthi men. 1467 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 43 no. 6, All the wardemen ben acorded that John Parll the elder is put owt of ye ward.

2. In certain boroughs, the designation of an officer employed by the corporation.

1792 BOYS *Coll. Hist. Sandwich* 403 When the mayor goes in form to the court-hall,..he is preceded by the common wardman [L. *communis serviens*] and the two sergeants at mace. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1043 [Officers of the corporation of Sandwich]. Town Clerk. Common Wardman. Serjeants at Mace. *Ibid.* IV. 2527 The other Officers of the corporation [of Stamford] are a Gaoler... Collector of Stallage. Beadle and Wardman.

Wardmote (wō·rdmōt). Also 4–7 **wardemote**, (7 **vordimote, wardmoot**); (6 *in combinations corruptly* **warmoll, warnmall, wardmol**). [f. WARD *sb.*[2] + *mote*, MOOT *sb.*[1]] A meeting of the citizens of a ward; esp. in the City of London, a meeting of the liverymen of a ward under the presidency of the alderman.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 94 Somme seruen he kyng and his aliuer tellen, In cheker and in chancerye chalengen his dettes Of wardes and wardmotes [*v.r.* wardemotes] weyues and streynes. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 340 That euery aldreman in his warde, shulde vpon the morowe folowynge, assemble his wardemote, and that all those wardemootys shuld assemble in one place. 1603 STOW *Surv. Lond.* 268 The said crosse hauing beene presented by diuers Iuries (or quests of Wardmote) to stand in the high way to the let of cariages (as they alledged). 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1730/3 Sir Thomas Bludworth Alderman for the Ward of Aldersgate, being lately dead, the Wardmoot met this day in order to the supplying the Vacancy. 1758 *Payne's Universal Chron.* 21–28 Oct. 237/1 Yesterday Mr. Alderman Alsop held a Wardmote at Armourer's-hall, for the election of a Common Council-man for Coleman-street Ward. 1861 *Daily Tel.* 24 Oct., Yesterday a wardmote was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Newgate St., before Mr. Alderman Phillips, for the election of a representative of the ward in Common Council. 1897 *Daily News* 22 Dec. 4 The various wards into which the City is divided assembled yesterday in wardmote.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wardmote court, man*; **wardmote horn**, a horn formerly blown before the houses of the members of a wardmote court to call them to a meeting; **wardmote inquest, quest**, (*a*) a judicial inquiry made by a wardmote; (*b*) the body of men composing a wardmote; also *attrib.*, as *wardmote inquest man*.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v., Wardmote, is a court kept in euery ward in London...ordinarily called among them, the *Wardmote Court. 1899 A. C. BENSON *Life Abp. Benson* II. i. 5 He then drove to the Guildhall [at Canterbury] where he was greeted with loud blasts upon the *Wardmote horn. 1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggars* (1871) 9 Your grace may se whate a worke there is in London, howe the bishoppe rageth for endyting of certayn curates of extorcion and incontinency the last yere in the *warmoll quest. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII* c. 17 § 3 To enquire bothe in their Quarter sessions, and all wardemote enquestis to be kept within the Citie of London. 1545 BRINKLOW *Lament.* 91 There is a custome in the Cytie, ones a yeare to haue a quest called the warnmall queste, to redresse vices. 1603 STOW *Surv. Lond.* 225 Candlewicke street warde..hath now..Wardmote inquest men 12. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sinnes* 33 In whose Ship [of Fools] whilest they all are sayling, let vs obserue what other abuses the vordimotes Inquest doe present on the lande, albeit they bee neuer reformed, till a second Chaos is to bee refined. 1632 B. JONSON *Magnetic Lady* I. ii, For of the Wardmote Quest, he better can, The mysteries, then the Levitick Law. 1603 STOW *Surv. Lond.* 139 This ward [Tower street] hath..*Wardmote men thirteene. *Ibid.* 152 Aldgate-warde ..hath..Wardmote men for inquest eighteene.

† **Wardnape, -napp.** *Obs.*[1] [a. OF. **wardenappe*, dial. var. of *gardenappe*.] = GARDINAP.

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 408/1 A Wardnapp [1483 a Wardnape], *linteus, limus.*

War-dog. A dog trained for use in war (formerly, to attack the foe; now, for carrying messages, sentry-work, etc.). Also *fig.*, a fierce warrior (cf. *sea-dog*); *U.S.* one whose voice is for war, a 'war-hawk'.

1813 *Columbian Centinel* 23 Oct. 2/1 in A. Matthews *Uncle Sam* (1908) 28 War-dogs. 1846 *Congressional Globe* 18 Apr. 687/1 The gentleman regarded 54° 40' men as 'war-hawks' and 'war-dogs!' 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. ix, In the hour of battle..the Prince ..shrieked curses and encouragement, yelling and barking his bloody war-dogs on, and himself always at the first of the hunt. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 30 But they know where their war-dogs lie. Cromwell, Blake, Marlborough, Chatham, Nelson, and Wellington, are not to be trifled with. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 325/2 Corinth was said to have been saved by 50 war dogs, which attacked the enemy that had landed while the garrison slept. 1894 *Daily News* 1 June 6/7 A type-writing cyclist, who sends despatches back from the front by a war-dog. 1900 *United Service Mag.* Jan. 425 The umpires decided that the carrying of despatches was the first and indispensable qualification for a 'war-dog'. 1900 E. H. RICHARDSON (*title*) British War Dogs.

† **Wardon.** *Sc. Obs.* Also **werdoune.** [a. OF. **werdon*, dinl. var. *guerredon*.] = GUERDON *sb.*

to bruk in hewine as 3oure wardone.

Wardon(e, obs. forms of WARDEN[2].

Wardor, -our(e: see VERDOUR[1], WARDER.

Wardour-street (wō·rdəɹˌstrīt). The name of a street in London, mainly occupied by dealers in antique and imitation-antique furniture. Used *attrib.* in *Wardour-street English*, applied to the pseudo-archaic diction affected by some modern writers, esp. of historical novels.

1888 A. BALLANTYNE in *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 585 (*title*) Wardour-Street English. *Ibid.* 589 This is not literary English of any date; this is Wardour-Street Early English —a perfectly modern article with a sham appearance of the real antique about it. 1918 *Spectator* 20 Apr. 422/1 What we are obliged by our sincerity to describe as thoroughly bad, Wardour Street English. *Ibid.* 422/2 There are obvious reminiscences of..*Ivanhoe* in this piece of most unblushing but rather vivid Wardour Street.

Wardpenny. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also **war-.** [f. WARD *sb.*[2] + PENNY.] In feudal law: A rent paid to the superior in commutation of military service.

? 1087 *Charter* in G. F. Warner & Ellis *Facsimiles* (1903) ii, Cum Omnibus Rebus & Regalibus Consuetudinibus sibi adiacentibus. Scilicet Cum Saca & Socna & Tol..& Warpenig [*sic*] & Murdrum. 1161–2 *Pipe Roll 8 Hen. II* (1885) 62 Et Monachis de Sancto Edmundo..xvj.d. in Warpeni [*printed* Warpent]. 1177 *Charter of Hen. II* in Gervase of Canterb. *Chron.* (Rolls) I. 262 Wardpeni [*v.r.* warpini]. 1253–1378 (see AVER- 3). 1398 *Cochersand Chartul.* (Chetham) 1083 Quite of amerciament .. of the helpes of worke of any Castella, houses,..warpenye, tethingepeny. 1425 [see WARDCORN]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 665 Quyte..of summage and cariage, of warde peny, and aver-peny, [etc.].

Wardraipper, -rape: see WARDROBER, -ROBE.

Wardress (wō·rdrés). Also **warderess**. [f. WARDER *sb.* + -ESS.] A female warder in a prison.

1878 E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY *Russians To-day* 87 A servant girl, who is committed for trial on a charge of thieving, often gets a smart flagellation or two at the hands of a stout-armed wardress. 1885 *Standard* 28 Aug. 6/3 A Wardress of Millbank proved two previous convictions.

Wardrobe (wō·rdrəub). Forms: 4–7 **wardrop, -ropp**, 5–6 **-roppe**, (4–5 **wadrop**, 5 **warderop**, 6 **warderoppe**), 4–5 **warderope**, 4–8 **wardrope, warderobe**, (5 **warddrope**, 6 **warderob**, *Sc.* **wardroippe, -rape, wairdrope**, 7 **waredrop**), 4– **wardrobe**. [a. OF. *warderobe*, north-eastern var. of *garderobe*: see GARDEROBE.]

† 1. A room in which wearing apparel (sometimes armour) was kept; esp. a room adjoining the 'chamber' or sleeping apartment; hence, a dressing-room. *Obs.*

In the 16–18th c. often applied (after the contemporary F. *garderobe*) to a room for keeping costly objects generally, not merely articles of clothing.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ix. (Skeat) I. 240 Jupiter hath in his warderobe bothe garmentes of joye and of sorowe. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 901 Aftyre euesange, sir Arthure hyme selfene Wente to hys wardrope, and warpe of hys wedes, Armede hym in a actone [etc.]. *Ibid.* 2622 A knafe of his chambyre Has wroghte in his wardrope wynters and 3eres, One his longe armour. *Ibid.* 4217 He brayded owte a brande ..That..In the wardrop of Walyngfordhe was wonte to be kepede. *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 429 in *Babees Bk.*, The marshalle shalle harber alle men in fere, That ben of court of any mestere; Saue þe lordys chambur, þo wadrop to, þo vssher of chambur schalle tent þo two. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 939 In þe warderobe ye must muche entende besily the robes to kepe well & also to brusche þem clenly. 1519 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Club) II. 174 The chawmer abun þe wardrape with Item ane standing bed of aik wirouit lofting. 1574 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 202 To young John Dawson for xvij days work sewing in the wardrope, *vs.* viijd. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 39 The third had of their wardrobe custodie, In which were not rich tyres, nor garments gay,.. But clothes meet to keepe keene could away. 1596 RALEGH *Discov. Guiana* 11 He had in his wardroppe hollow statues of golde. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. Chorus 2 Now..silken Dalliance in the Wardrobe lyes: Now thrise the Armorers, 1632 MAY tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 170 His Lord laughing heartily, commanded a furrd gowne to bee brought out of his wardrope, and put vpon him. 1683 J. REID *Scots*

above they shew'd us fine wrought plate, porcelan, [etc.]. 1717 PRIOR *Dove* XXV, Her Keys He takes; her Doors unlocks; Thro' Wardrobe, and thro' Closet bounces. 1786–7 *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 37 In the royal wardrobe at Paris, they shew you the whole suit of armour which Francis wore on that memorable day. 1831 SCOTT *Kenilw.* VI, With this enviable sleeping apartment..corresponded two wardrobes, or dressing-rooms as they are now termed. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wardrope*, a dressing-room. *Yorksh.* 1859 ROSE PIDDINGTON *Last of Cavaliers* I. xvii. 290 The general scene of their conversations..was Lady Flora's dressing-room, or wardrobe as it was then called. This apartment was divided on the inside from her sleeping-chamber by three or four steps.

b. A room in which theatrical costumes and properties are kept.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 44 P 5 It is indeed very odd..to observe in the Wardrobe of the Play-house several Daggers, Poniards, Wheels, Bowls for Poison. 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 390/1 There are also numerous apartments required in connection with the stage. —such as. the wardrobe, in which the costumes are kept; furniture stores, scene stores.

c. A movable closed cupboard, fitted with hooks or pegs, or with shelves or movable trays and drawers, in which wearing apparel is kept; esp. as a piece of bedroom furniture.

1794 A. HEPPLEWHITE *Cabinet-Maker* (ed. 3) *title-p.*, Displaying a great variety of patterns for Chairs,..Basin Stands, Wardrubes, [etc.]. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 626 Wardrobes are as essential in a bed-room, as a dresser is in a cottager's kitchen. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, Our bedroom..had one unusual luxury, however, in the shape of a wardrobe of painted wood. 1864 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* I. x. 256 A lumbering old wardrobe—or press, as it was called—of painted wood 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xi. (1885) 82 A great old fashioned wardrobe of black oak.

d. *transf.* and *fig.*

1605 *1st Pt Jeronimo* III. ii. 17 Now death..crams his store house to the top with bloud; Might I now and Andrea in one fight Make vp thy wardroope richer by a Knight. 1624 DONNE *Devot.* vi. (ed. 2) 136 Whether it bee thy pleasure, to dispose of this body, this garment so, as to put it to a farther wearing in this world, or to lay it vp in the common wardrope, the graue, for the next. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 543 In this Countrie that false Prophet [Mahomet] first opened his superstitious Wardrobe. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, To Mr Hobs* V, I little thought..That all the Wardrobe

appears to be the wardrobe of the world. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Imperf. Sympathies*, Their intellectual wardrobe (to confess fairly) has few whole pieces in it. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* XXXI. (1878) 339 The dead bodies were laid aside in the ancient wardrobe of the tomb.

2. The office or department of a royal or noble household charged with the care of the wearing apparel. Also, the building in which the officers of this department conduct their business.

Removing wardrobe, that which moves with the Court, as distinguished from *Standing wardrobe*, one that is permanently attached to a royal residence.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 439/1 The which Warantes yf I shuld paye hem, youre Houshold, Chambre, and Warderope, and youre Werkes, shuld be unservid and unpaide. 1450 *Ibid.* V. 293/2 Oure servaunt Richard Wadnyng, Grome of oure Warderobe of Beddis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 10 3our Hienes can nocht gett ane meter, To keip your wardope, nor discreter, To rule 3our robbis, and dress the 3am. 1524 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 456/2 Ane Lettre to James Dog.. makand him 3eman of the Kingis wardrop 1553 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 55 These parselles of ornamenttes.. were Receued of Arthur Stovrton at ye Qvenes wardroppe at westminster. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 45 The Lady of the Strachy, married the yeoman of the wardrob. 1642 *Docq. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 334 Clement Kinnersley yeoman of his Majesties removinge wardrobe of Beddes. 1642 Standinge Wardrobe [see STANDING *ppl. a.* 11]. 1668 PEYNNE *Anrum Reg.* 187 The Queen [had] the Tayle, to make Whale-bones for her Royal Vestments, Dresses, and other uses in her Wardrobe. 1753 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 29 Sept., Sir Thomas Robinson is to return to the Great Wardrobe, with an additional pension on Ireland of 5000 *l.* a year. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 37/1 The bedchamber, privy chamber, and presence chamber, the wardrobe, the housekeeper's room,..are in the lord chamberlain's department. 1909 *Whitaker's Almanack* 102 His Majesty's Household...Superintendent of the Wardrobe.

3. A person's stock of wearing apparel.

a 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 565 in *Babees Bk.*, The chaunceler answeres for hor clothyng, For 3omen, faukeners, and hor horsyng, For his wardrop and wages also. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, If he be furnish'd with supplies for the retyring of his old ward-robe from pawne. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. 222. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 332 It often hapneth; that a foule and deformed carkasse hath a faire and rich wardrope. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 122 This onely troubles me, how his majesty would look in all.. the Pontifical Wardrobe. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* v. (1728) 339 Officers who took care of the Perfume, the Veil, and the Wardrobe of the Priests. 1760–3 GOLDSM. *Cit. World* lxii, With her scanty wardrobe packed up in a wallet, she set out on her journey on foot. 1834 MRS. CARLYLE *Let. to Mrs. Carlyle, Sen.* 21 Nov., Lett. & Mem. 1883 I. 10 The weather is grown horribly cold, and I am chiefly intent, at present, on getting my winter wardrobe into order. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. iii. 35 He insisted on his wife re-marking the whole of the infantile wardrobe.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1590 Breton *Piler. Pared.* (Grosart) 8/1 Came Flora forth..Laying abroad the wardrope of her wealth, Her fairest flowers. 1613 Jackson *Creed* I. 78 Vsually the Grœcian Poets haue borrowed their best Stage-attire from the glorious wardrope of Israel. 1633 Marmion *Fine Companion* III. iii, A soule..Wherein is lockt the wardrope of all vertues. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 47 As killing as..Frost to Flowers, that their gay wardrop wear, When first the White thorn blows. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Literature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 109 New and gigantic thoughts which cannot dress themselves out of any old wardrobe of the past.

†4. A private chamber; esp. a sleeping apartment. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1686 [In the Ark] A hous als in to drink and ete And wardropp þat þou noght for-get. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* vi. 8 As sone as she had herde a litell masse.. she come into the warderobe to ete browesse or sum other mete. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 507 Gyomar..a-bode spekynge with Morgain..in a wardrope vnder the paleys, where she wrought with silke and golde. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 227 b, Kyng Lewes..withdrew himself into hys wardelrobe, and sending for the English Herault sayd to hym [etc.]. 1570 Buchanan *Admonit* Wks. (S.T.S.) 32 This is nowther dreamit in ane wardrob nor hard throw ane boir bot ane trew narrative. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* II. vi. 254 The King without any motion was carried up in a Cloak, and laid upon the Bed in his Wardrobe.

†5. A privy. *Obs.* [So F. *garderobe.*]

1382 Wyclif *2 Kings* x. 27 Thei distroyeden the hous of Baal, and thei maaden for it wardropis [1388 priuyes, Vulg. *latrinas*] vnto this day. *c* 1385 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 120, I seye that in a wardrobe they hym threwe Where as thise Iewes purgen hire entrailles. *c* 1450 *Nominale* (Harl. MS. 1002) lf. 145 *Cloaca*, a pryvaye or wardrope. 1847 Halliwell, *Wardrobe*, a house of office.

†6. The excrement of the badger. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Of hares and of conynges he shall say þei croteth, and of þe fox wagynge, of þe grey þe warderobe. 1847 Halliwell, *Wardrobe* [sic], the dung of the badger.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wardrobe account, -keeper, -maid, -man, -woman*; also **wardrobe bedstead**, a bedstead adapted to fold up into a wardrobe; **wardrobe book**, a book in which the accounts of a wardrobe were kept; **wardrobe dealer**, a dealer in second-hand clothes; **wardrobe master, mistress**, one who has charge of the professional wardrobe of an actor or actress, or of a theatrical company; **wardrobe-room**, the room, at a theatre, in which the stage-costumes are stored; †**wardrobe-stuff**, household necessaries and supplies.

1770 *Archæologia* I. 361 Observation on the *Wardrobe Account for the Year 1483. 1830 N. H. Nicolas (*title*), Privy Purse Expenses of Elizabeth of York: Wardrobe Accounts of Edward the Fourth. 1806–7 J. Berresford *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. xxviii. (ed. 3) II. 249 Starting out of your sleep on a *wardrobe bedstead, at the sudden desertion of the temporary posts at the bottom. 1557 *Order of the Hospitalls* G viij, You shall also kepe the *Wardrobe-booke, wherein shalbe written..the remainder of all things at euery Michaelmass [etc.]. 1896 *Daily News* 8 Apr. 3/6 *Wardrobe dealer. 1763 *Crt. & City Kalendar* 81 *Wardrobe-keeper and Keeper of the Royal Apartments at Somerset House. Mrs. Brietzcke, 100l. 1782 D. E. Baker *Biogr. Dram.* I. 25/2 This gentleman..had been wardrobe-keeper to the Theatre in Black-Friars. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xv, The wardrobe keeper, ..shall have orders to supply the suit which you have cast away in our service. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 425 The patient..became *wardrobe maid at the Salpêtrière. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 1021 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv, The Bischop..Send for his *wardrop man fre hand. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 2 Sept., He swore..that the king his father would have hanged his Wardrobeman, should he have been served so. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Three Ages* ii. 50 His wardrobeman had this morning lamented that the King had no handkerchiefs. 1897 Emily Soldene *Theatr. & Mus. Recoll.* xxix. 249, I..made over the whole of my wardrobe, both personal and professional, to my *wardrobe master. *Ibid.* xvi. 137 Mrs. Quinton, my *wardrobe mistress, whose husband was super-master. 1885 Jerome *On the Stage* iv. 31 A little lower down was the *wardrobe room. There was not much in it though. Dresses are borrowed as they are wanted, now, from the costumiers. 1537 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 286 Item paid to Peter Barret for his dyner, when he helpe to cary my Lorde's *wardrope stuffe to Grynwyche, ijd. 1853 Dickens, etc. *Household Words* Christm. No. 2/2 Jane was a sort of *wardrobe-woman to our fellows [at school], and took care of the boxes. 1892 W. S. Gilbert *Foggerty's Fairy* 213 She obtained a little employment as dresser and wardrobe-woman at a provincial theatre. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 July 6/3 Mrs. M'Donald..had been for forty years in the Queen's service, thirty-one of which as wardrobewoman.

Wardrober (wɔ̄·ɹdrəubəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5 **ward(e)ropere**, *Sc.* **wardropar**, 5–7 **wardroper**, (6 **wardroper**), 6 *Sc.* **wardraipper, -raipair**, 5 **warderober**, 5– **wardrober**. [ad. OF. *warderobier*, dial. var. of *garderobier, -rober*, f. *warde-, garderobe*: see prec.]

1. An officer of a royal household who had charge of the robes, wearing apparel, etc.

a 1400–30 *Bk. Curtasye* 481 in *Babees Bk.*, Þo vshere schalle bydde þo wardropere Make redy for alle nyȝt be-fore þe fere. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xviii. 2867 Prewaly his wardropere He gert to þis Robert ber. *Ibid.* 2877 þe siluir to þe wardropar He gaf. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* IX. xxxiv. (1554) 214 By processe he was made wardropere. *c* 1478 *Rauf Coilyear* 276 The King buskit him sone, with scant of Squyary, Wachis and Wardroparis all war away. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* li. Of James Dog. kepar of the Quenis wardrop...The Wardraipper of Venus boure, To gif a doublett he is als doure, As it war off ane futt syd frog. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. viii. 275 One who had well licked his fingers under Queen Margaret (whose Wardroper he was). 1878 J. Gairdner *Rich. III*, iv. 129 An indenture dated the 27th of June in the first year of Richard III, in which Peter Curteys, the king's wardrober, undertakes to furnish..the articles specified for the coronation.

†2. The tailor attached to a religious house. *Obs.*

1526 *Visit. Dioc. Norwich* (Camden) 200 Ubor scissoris videlicet the wardroper's wiff.

Ward-room. [Ward *sb.*2]

1. The mess-cabin of naval commissioned officers above the rank of sub-lieutenant; hence, the commissioned officers as a body.

1801 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. ccxxx*, The Wardrooms will prate, I believe, none of us can doubt. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Ward-room*, in ships of war, a room over the gun-room, where the lieutenants, and other principal officers, sleep and mess. 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* I. vi. 35 In a [U.S.] frigate it comprises the after-part of the berth-deck. Sometimes it goes by the name of the Gun-room, but oftener is called the Ward-room. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 103 The engineer is received into the ward-room on his own merits.

1853 James *Agnes Sorel* II. iv. 53 A page ran into the ward-room of the gate-tower. 1902 *Lond. Mag.* VIII. 444/2 Closing the ward room door behind him he then shut the gate, thrusting the bolts into their places.

3. A room or hall used for the meetings of a city ward. *U.S. rare.*

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1911 Webster.

4. *attrib.*, as *ward-room mess, officer, rank.*

1887 Gunter *Mr. Barnes* xix. 138 Danella was soon *en rapport* with the *ward-room messes of half the British squadron. 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* I. vi. 36 Besides the First Lieutenant, the *Ward-room officers include the junior lieutenants, in a [U.S.] frigate six or seven in number, the Sailing-master [etc.]. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Ward-room officers*, those who mess in the ward-room, namely: the commander, lieutenants, master, chaplain, surgeon, paymaster, marine-officers, and assistant-surgeons. 1850 Huxley in L. Huxley *Life* (1900) I. iv. 46 He is a great advocate for the claims of assistant surgeons to *ward-room rank.

†**Wa·rdrope.** *Obs.* In 4 **warderape**. [? f. Ward *v.*1 + Rope *sb.* But cf. Warrope.] A rope for some mechanical purpose.

1338 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 376 Item ij warderapes quarum utraque de xiiij fadomes.

Wardrope, -roper: see Wardrobe, -robER.

Wa·r-drum. A drum beaten as a summons to war or an accompaniment to the fray. Also *fig.*

1593 Peele *Edw. I*, A 3 b, Welcome, manly followers, That ..on your war drums carry crownes as kings. 1809 Campbell *Gert. Wyom.* III. xx, But hark! what nearer war-drum shakes the glade? 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 127 Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furl'd. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* IV. lvii. 245 He beat the war-drum this time with tremendous energy.

-wards, *suffix*, OE. *-weardes*, corresponds to OS., MLG. *-wardes*, Du. *-waarts*, OHG., MHG. *-wartes*, early mod.G. *-warts*, the ending of the neut. genit. sing. (used adverbially) of adjs. in OTeut. **-wardo-*: see -ward. A parallel formation of identical function, the adverbial neut. genit. sing. of adjs. in OTeut. **-werþo-* (ablaut var. of **-wardo-*), is represented by Goth. *-wairþis*, OHG. *-wertes*, early mod.G. *-werts*, now written *-wärts*. The adverbial genitives of adjs. in **-wardo-*, **-werþo-* appear to have in early Teut. differed little if at all in sense from the advb. accusatives.

1. In English the history of *-wards* as an advb. suffix is identical with that of *-ward* (see -ward 3 and 4); beside every adv. in *-ward* there has always existed (at least potentially) a parallel formation in *-wards*, and vice versa. The two forms are so nearly synonymous (the general sense of the advs. being 'in the direction indicated by the first element of the compound') that the choice between them is mostly determined by some notion of euphony in the particular context; some persons, apparently, have a fixed preference for the one or the other form. Sometimes, however, the difference in the form of the suffix corresponds to a difference in the shade of meaning conveyed, though it would not be possible to give any general rule that would be universally accepted. Where the meaning to be expressed includes the notion of manner as well as direction of movement, *-wards* is required, as in 'to walk backwards', 'to write backwards'. In other instances the distinction seems to be that *-wards* is used when the adv. is meant to express a definite direction in contrast with other directions: thus we say 'it is moving *forwards* if it is moving at all', but 'to come forward', not 'forwards' (see further the note on Forward *adv.*); so 'to travel eastward' expresses generally the notion of travelling in the direction of an eastern goal, 'to travel eastwards' implies that the direction is thought of as contrasted with other possible directions. Hence *-wards* seems to have an air of precision which has caused it to be avoided in poetical use.

There appears to be no appreciable difference in meaning between the prepositions Toward and Towards; the latter is now, at least in British use, more common colloquially. The now obsolete prepositions Fromward and Fromwards appear to have been perfectly synonymous.

2. In OE. the suffix *-weardes*, like *-ward*, was added to phrases containing the preps. *tō* and *wiþ* (see -ward 5). In the locutions *to..ward(s, from..ward(s* (the so-called tmesis of the prep.), the two forms of the suffix were formerly equally common, but *-wards* now survives only in dialects.

3. Examples of *to..wards.*

a. with proper name or sb. without article or other defining word.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 59 Yt is wel wist how þat Grekes strongе In armes with a þousand shippes went To Troye-wardes. *c* 1430 *Contin. Brut* 430 And tho the Kynge disposid hym to Godwardis. 1560, *c* 1643 [see Godwards]. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* xxii. 53 Our other Shippes ..having kept their direct course, and far to windwards and Sea wards, could not heare the report. 1650 W. Brough *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) To Rdr. A 3, Using them [sc. Books].. as..Guides and Helps to Heaven-wards. 1892 M. C. F. Morris *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* 260 The addition of 'wards' to nouns as a suffix denoting direction is frequent in our folk-talk—as 'ti Newton wards' or 'fra Newton-wards'.

b. with sb. determined by definite article or otherwise.

1425 Earl Cambridge in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 589 My wyttys arne not to ye world wardyn so redy as yey werne. 1565 Sparke in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 532 He marched to the townewards.

c. with pers. pron.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. x. (Skeat) I. 121 If that Margarite deny eth now nat to suffre her vertues shyne to thee-wardes with spredinge benes. *Ibid.* III. viii. (Skeat) I. 148 Aungels blisse that to-him-wardes was coming. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 76 þe nedy nestlingis..burnished her beckis and bent to-him-wardis. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxviii. 128 And, when þe Cristen men sawe þam com to þam wardes, þai ware rist ferde. 1442 T. Beckington *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 216 The continuancia of true obeissaunce unto us wards of our subgetts. 1472 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 58 Also I praye yow feele my Lady off Norfolks dysposicion to me wards. 1574 W. Bourne *Regiment for Sea* xiv. (1577) 42 If you remoue the transitory but a quarter the length of the transitory to youwards. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cxx. 738 When God gathereth vs to him by death, wee cease not to liue still to himwardes. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. v. § 3 Ever concluding ech thing he did with his face to me-wards. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 20 Behaving my selfe unmanerly to-you-wards. *Ibid.* 169 The courteous inclination to me-wards, which to my good hap I discover in you. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Love me little* 55 You say, to me-wards, your affection's strong; Pray love me little, so you love me long.

4. Examples of *from..wards.*

1548 Vicary *Anat.* viii. (1888) 63 Two Latitudinales comming from the backe-wardes to the wombe. 1574, 1669 [see Sunwards 1]. 1612 R. Ch. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 76 The degrees of a Quadrant are likewise 90, from the Centre towards your right hand, hauing the Sines vpmost, & holding the Centre from you wards. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxx (1658) 322 The objects comming into the glasse by a superficies not parallel..but slooping, from the objectwards. 1668 [see Tailwards]. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 64 Not letting the Plain [= plane] totter to, or from you-wards.

5. Examples of nonce-words (advs.) f. sb. or proper name + *-wards.*

1670 T. Brooks *London's Lament.* 124 Yet the bent of their hearts will still be God-wards, Christ-wards, Heaven-wards, and Holiness-wards. 1842 Thackeray *Fitz Boodle's Prof.* 1, The nobles come peoplewards as the peo|le..rise and mingle with the nobles. 1845 Faber *Lett.* (1869) 229 Seventeen persons strikingly converted..some really being led in extraordinary ways, and perfectionwards. 1850 Thackeray *Contrib. Punch* Wks. 1898 VI. 683 A third darling, with..eyes of hazel, lifts them up ceiling-wards. 1866 Trollope *Claverings* iii, Mr. Burton was not..an ambitious man. He had never soared Parliamentwards. 1868 *Reg. Munit. War* 60 The chief feature of the invention..consists in the contrivance adopted for preventing the escape of gas breech-wards. 1878 Huxley in *Fortn. Rev.* XXIII. 170 The theory of the motion of the blood returned once more to the strait road which leads truthwards. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 July 4/2 Russiawards the new line may be fire-fringed and fatal. Afghanwards it is no such thing. 1893 K. Grahame *Pagan Es.* 145 Aunt Eliza's fowls—already strolling roostwards. 1893 D. C. Murray *Time's Revenges* I. vii. 129 He was growing downwards, brutewards.

Wardship (wɔ̄·ɹdʃip). [f. Ward *sb.*2 + -ship.]

1. The office or position of guardian.

a. The guardianship of a minor; *spec.* in *Feudal law*, the guardianship and custody of the person and lands of a minor with all profits accruing during his minority.

1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 306 Sir, forasmych as the Kyng hathe grauntyd be hese lettres patent the wardship with the profites of the londes of T. Fastolf duryng hese nun age to you and T. H. [etc.]. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 46 Persounes, to whom the kinges highnes shall graunt the custodye and wardeship of any of his graces wardes. 1543 tr. *Act* 3 *Edw. I* c. 47 And yf an other wardeyne than the chiefe lorde do it, he shall lese the wardshyp of all togyther. 1586 T. Randolph in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 123 The Master of Glames and the Secretarye have gotten of the King the wardshippe and marriage of the Erle Mongomeris sonne, being but two yeares of age. 1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civ. Warres* V. 127 He gave him two rich wardships. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. v. 67 The lord was intitled to the wardship of the heir; and was called the guardian in chivalry. This wardship consisted in having the custody of the body and lands of such heir, without any account of the profits, till

the age of twenty one in males, and sixteen in females. 1670 Fuller *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. iv. 210 King Lewis may have already begun to entertain some dim notion that wardship over the fief of a minor vassal was a right which of necessity belonged to the Lord. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 309/1 Sect. 35..assigns to the Chancery Division the wardship of infants

b. *gen.* Guardianship, protection, custody. Chiefly *fig.*

1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 456 [He] freed this kingdome from the wardship of the Peeres. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* II. iii. 5 Thou grand Impostor, how hast thou obtain'd The wardship of the world! 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. 43 This is the master-piece of a modern politician,..how the puny Law may be brought under the wardship and controul of lust and will. 1647 Clarendon *Contempt. Pr.* Tracts (1727) 385 Truth itself is so much in the wardship of Almighty God,..that if all other means fail, he will by his own immediate power vindicate it. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. ix. 335 This officer is of equal antiquity with the sheriff; and was ordained together with him to keep the peace, when the earls gave up the wardship of the county. 1815 Scott *Betrothed* xxix, I pray you let me have the grace to take first possession of the Garde Doloureuse, and the wardship or forfeiture of the offending lady. 1884 Ld. Rosebery in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Dec. 7/2 Great Britain could have no wish for selfish annexation. She was already committed to wardship and protection of an empire such as the world had never yet seen. 1887 Hall Caine *Deemster* xxxvii, I try in these my last days to put my memory under wardship

2. The state or condition of being a ward; *spec.* in *Feudal law*, the condition of being under guardianship as a minor.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* iv. 4-5 Assone as we came out of wardeship, and wer growen vp to a ryper age. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 66 In lamentyng the miserye of wardeshyppes, I might saie it is not for noughte so communely said, I wil handle you like a warde. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw.* (1609) 111 The man is not out of Wardship by our Lawe till one and twenty yeere olde, from thence bee is reckoned of full age, as well as in the Romaine Lawes at fiue and twenty. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Demosthenes* (1612) 846 When he came out of his wardship, he beganne to put his guardians in suite. 1631 Massinger *Emperor East* II. i, *Theod.* Let it suffice My wardships out. If your designe concernes vs As a man, and not a boy, with our allowance You may deliuer it. 1642 Baker *Chron., Rich. II*, 10 He was somewhat more then one and twenty; Well, then (said he) I am out of Wardship. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xvi. § 44. 266 *note*, In certain nations, women, whether married or not, have been placed in a state of perpetual wardship. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 140 Three English earls who were in royal wardship were wedded by the King to foreigners.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commun. Engl.* (1609) 7 Lewes the xi. ..was wont to glorie and say, he had brought the crowne of Fraunce, *hors de page*, as one would say, out of wardship. 1648 Fairfax, etc. *Remonstr.* 46 To deliver His Crown once for all, from Wardship (as he counts it) to Parliamentary power. 1800 Colebridge *Fr. colom.* I. iii. 112, I must perforce Leave him in wardship to his innocence. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U.S.* II. xxvii. 286 We have written the origin of our country; we are now to pursue the history of its wardship.

†Wardsman[1]. *Obs.* [f. *ward's* genit. of Ward *sb.*[3] (= Award) + Man *sb.*] An arbitrator.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 107 The warddysman hath sen yowre lyve lodd and entyd hit in her bokes. 1622–3 (28 Feb.) *Essex Archidenconries, Depositions bk.* (MS.) ff. 27 b, Mr. Sweno and Mr. Knivett should be wardes men to end all matters and controversies betwene them.

Wardsman[2] (wō·dzmăn). [f. *ward's* genitive of Ward *sb.*[2] + Man *sb.* Cf. Wardman.]

1. In certain boroughs: A member of the governing body, consisting of representatives elected by the several wards.

1712 Sir R. Atkyns *Glouc.* 347 Cirencester..hath two High-Constables and fourteen Wardsmen over seven distinct Wards, appointed yearly at the Court-Leet.

2. An inmate appointed to supervise his ward in a prison or workhouse.

1789 J. Howard *Lazarettos* 125 To every ward here [Newgate], and at both the Compters, there is an orderly prisoner called a *wardsman*, who should wash, sweep and keep his ward fresh and clean. 1821 Syn. Smith Wks. 1859 I. 339/1 Wardsmen, selected in each yard among the best of the prisoners, are very serviceable. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate*, The wardsmen and wardswomen are all prisoners, selected for good conduct. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 5/5 'That man I employ as wardsman,' observed the master [of the workhouse].

3. A watchman who is responsible for prisoners.

1683 T. Ellwood *Life* (1885) 126 [The watchman]..went out to seek the constable... He was a young man,..somewhat better mannered than his wardsman.

So **Wardswoman.**

1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate*, In every ward on the female side, a wardswoman is appointed to preserve order. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 7/3 An aged inmate, wearing the workhouse clothes, said she was night wardswoman of the infirm ward.

Wardun, Wardur: see Warden[2], Verdour[1].

†Wardwite. *Obs.* [OE. *weardwite*: see Ward *sb.*[2] and Wite *sb.*] A fine paid to the lord by a tenant who has failed to provide a man to perform castle-guard.

1207 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 6 [Grant to the church of St. Mary, Coventry, and the prior and monks thereof of all their lands and holdings with soc and sac,..fichtwite, wardwite, and mund-briche]. *c* 1290 *Glass. Laws Terms in Rel. Ant.* I. 33 Wardwite..Quite de wardein traver. *c* 1292 *Fleta* I. xlvii. (1647) 63 Wardwyte quietantiam misericordiæ in casu quo non invenerit hominem ad wardam faciendam in castro, vel alibi. 1382 *Cal. Patent Rolls* 1381–5 (1897) 54 Granting them exemption from burghbote, brugbote, wardwyte, borngeld, and scot. *c* 1440 John Brompton in Twysden *Hist. Angl. Script. X.* (1652) 957 Wardewithe est surisse de garde. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 187 b, Warwite (or wardwite as some copies haue it) that is to bee quite of giuing of money for keeping of watches.

Wardyn, obs. form of Warden[1] and [2].

Ware (wēə·1), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 wár (waar, uaar, uar), 6 wayr, vare, 6–7 wair, 7 war, waar, weir, 8 wear, 8–9 waur(e, 5– ware; see also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and Obs[5]. [OE. *wár*, corresp. to NFris. *wier* neut. sea-weed, pond-weed, whence prob. Du. *wier* neut. (first found in Kilian, referred to the 'Holland' dialect), repr. OTeut. **wairo-m*, f. **was-*: *wī-* to bind: see Wire *sb.*] Seaweed; esp. large drift seaweed used as manure. In *Scots Law*, the right of gathering seaweed on the shore. Also Seaware.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 434 *Alga*, waar. 1491 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 429 Insulam et rupem de Inchgarde..cum mettagiis, ancoragiis, *le wrak* et *ware*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. x. 104 Skelleis and fomy cragis thai assay, Koutand and rarand, and may nocht empayr, Bot geif thai shed fra his sydis the wayr. 1528 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* VI. 374 With fre ingress and regress to the wayr and fra the wayr. 1544 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1543, 727/1 Cum privilegio lucrandi *lie wair* marium pro terris stercorandis. 1574 R. Scot *Hop Garden* (1578) 2 If you shall feel a Clod (being dissolued with water) to be very clammy or cleauing like Ware to your fyngers in kneading it, the same to be profitable lande. 1643 *Orkney Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scott.* (1834) 492–3 Ye sall..be fain to eat grass vnder the stanes and wair vnder the bankis. 1659 Somner *Dict., Waar*, Alga marina,..called ..of the Thanet-men Wore or woore. 1721 in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) I. 45 The sea being tossed with an East and North Wind, yeelds a great quantity of salt water weeds, which the Countrey [sic] call Ware, it fattens the ground and makes it yeild plentifully. 1727 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 206 Wear, a Sea-weed growing chiefly on such Rocks as are cover'd only at High-water, is good to be laid on Tillage for one Crop, the drying and burning of which makes Kilp, used in making Glass. 1818 Sir J. Sinclair *Husb. Scot.* I. 187 The ware, however, in that part of the frith, is of a weaker sort.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ware-barley, -bear* (Bear *sb.*[2]), *-goose, -hack, -strand.*

1806 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* IV. 522 Distillers prefer the *ware-barley..on account of its fairer colour and thinner husk. 1793 *Stat. Acc. Scot.* VI. 17 *note*, When bear or big is manured with sea ware, the crop is very abundant, but the grain is very small, and is known by the name of *Ware-bear. 1832 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* IV. 609 *Bernicla Brenta*. The Black-faced Bernicle-goose...*Ware Goose. 1585–6 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 131, iiij pycke forkes,.. iij *ware hackes. 1909 J. Gunn *Orkney Bk.* 230 Each *ware-strand, or beach where drift-weed comes to land, is set apart for a certain number of tenants on the estate to which it belongs.

†Ware, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [OE. *waru* fem. = OFris. *ware*, OS., OHG. *wara* (MHG. *ware*, *war*):— OTeut. **warō*, f. **war-* to guard, watch:—pre-Teut. **wor-*; cf. Gr. *fop-* in *θυρωρός* (**θυρᾶ-fopός*) doorkeeper.] Watchful care, heed; safe-keeping, defence, protection. Phr. *on ware*, on one's guard, cautious.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* v. iv. (1883) 224 For þon Antiochus ziemde hwæt he hæfde monna zerimes,& ne nom nane ware hulice hie wæron. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 718 Stod se grena wong in godes wære. 1297 R. Glouc. 2483 Vor wanne ich am dukes sone, it become to me Vor to abbe some gret cite oþer castel me to ware. *c* 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* 46 Ah feyre levedis be on-war, To late cometh the 3eyn char, when love ou hath y-bounde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7380 Honerable Ector, þat eger was ay, Euer waker and vnwar [= on ware], wightist in armys.

Ware (wēə·1), *sb.*[3] Forms: 1 waru, 4–6 war, (4 quare, whare), 5–6 warre, 6 waar; 5–6 *Sc.* and *north.* wayr(e, 6 wayere, 6–7 wair(e; 2– ware. [OE. *waru* fem. = OFris. *were*, MLG., MDu. *ware* (Du. *waar*), ON. *vara* (Sw. *vara*, Da. *vare*). MHG. *ware*, *war*, G. *ware* (earlier *waare*) are from MLG. or MDu.

Prob. the same word as Ware *sb.*[2] used in the concrete sense 'object of care'.]

1. A collective term for: Articles of merchandise or manufacture; the things which a merchant, tradesman, or pedlar, has to sell; goods, commodities. **a.** *collect. sing.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 246 Hi ða warpon heora waru oforbord. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 311/35 *Merx*, waru. *c* 1205 Lay. 11356 Chapmen bunden heore ware. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4180 Wit camels þat gret birþin bar, O spice and of oþer ware *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 322 Greet prees at market maketh deere ware. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* i, The merchaunt of Baldak came in to egypte for to chepe & bye somme ware or marchaundyse. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 2 Putting the same naughtie ware to sale secretly. 1614 Overbury *Wife* etc. (1638) 126 Its now like Ware miss-laid in a Pedlers pack; a ha's it but knowes not where it is. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 61 The windowes of painted glasse (no common ware). 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* iv. 47 No Keel shall cut the Waves for foreign Ware. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* viii, He certainly intended to make free with the pedlar's ware. *c* 1820 [see Pieman]. 1822 Scott *Peveril* xlii, I am always provided with ware which a gentleman may risk his life on. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xviii, The owners raised various objections to the display of their ware [*sc.* white slave-girls].

b. *pl.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 150 Da gelamp hit æt sumum sæle ..þæt Englisce cypmenn brohton heora ware to Romanaburg...Þa zeseah he betwux ðam warum cype-cnihtas zesette. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1581 There were stallis by þe strete stondyng for peopull, Werkmen into won, and þaire wares shewe. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 165 He avysyth yow to bestowe yowre mony in grosse warys now betymys. 1567 Harman *Caveat* 62 Consideringe wyth hym selfe that wares woulde bee welcome where money wanted. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 188 With whom ventured also three small Shippes of London-Merchants, fraught with some grosse and sleight Wares, fit for Commerce with barbarous people. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* v. i, Give 'em as little light As Drapers doe their wares. 1698 *Acts Massachusetts* (1724) 117 Leather.. wrought into Shoes, Boots, or other Wares. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. ii. II. 32 A capricious man of fashion might sometimes prefer foreign wares, merely because they were foreign, to cheaper and better goods of the same kind that were made at home. 1834 James *J. Marston Hall* I. xii. 159, I perceived..a man in the dress of a pedlar, with his box of wares laid down by his side. 1913 G. Edmundson *Ch. Rome 1st C.* v. 123 A fire broke out..amidst shops containing inflammable wares.

c. An article of merchandise, a saleable commodity. *rare.*

1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 600 They treated him [*i.e.* the labourer] as a ware, buying him in the cheapest market. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* lv, Breath's a ware that will not keep.

2. With defining word, as *dye-, dyeing-*, †*fell-, grocery-*, †*haberdash(er-, mercery-, pelitry-ware*: see quots. and s.v. the first element. Also Hardware, Hollow-ware, Ironware, †Lentrinware, Small-ware(s, Tableware, and others mentioned in 3.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlv. (Tollemache MS.), It is þe maner to tempre yren ware [L. *ferramenta*] with oyle, leste þey be to muche hardened by coldenesse of water. 1408 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) 105 La dusseyn de souliers appelez Courseware...vij d. 1515–28 *Early Chanc. Proc.* 370/29 (*List* p. 5) Pannys named haberdasher ware. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 490/2 An habbardasher, or seller of smal wares. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 309 Glasses called looking glasses, halfpenny wair the groce,..xls., penny wair the groce, iiii li. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 80 Nurnberg wares (so they call small wares). 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 46 In exchange for Tynne and Lead..they received Earthen Vessels, Salt and Brazen Ware of the Phœnicians. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 167 Spa is famous for a peculiar manufactory of wooden toys, somewhat like the Tunbridge ware. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 607/1 Tunbridge ware..includes work tables, boxes, toys, &c., made of hard woods..and inlaid with mosaic.

3. In *spec.* uses. **a.** Vessels, etc., made of baked clay. Chiefly with defining word, as *brown, china-* (China[1] 3 a), *Delf-, glass-, Japan, porcelain, pottery, Queen's, Staffordshire, Wedgwood ware*: see these words, and Earthenware, Stoneware.

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 101 Constant at ev'ry sale, the curious fair, Who longs for Dresden, and old China ware. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* v. (1842) 149 If [the pestle is] in two pieces,..the handle being of wood and the bottom only of ware, the cement by which they are fastened occasionally falls out. 1882 'Ouida' *In Maremma* I. 227 Vases and jars in black ware. 1911 G. Macdonald *Roman Wall in Scot.* xi. 370 Both classes of vessel are of the same coarse ware.

†**b.** Textile fabrics. Hence Codware[2], a pillow-case, for which also *ware* simply is found.

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 Persones that maken untrewe ware of all maner Worstedes. 1552–3 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 49 Item, for tway coddis Item, four elnis bartane claith to be waris to the samyn. 1557 North *Guevara's Diall Pr.* Prol. (1568) *ij, For euen as by the yard the marchante measureth al his ware: so by the life of the Prince is measured the whole common weale. 1661 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1814) VII. 61/1 Item, eightein cods with their wairs worth three merk the peice. 1713 Addison *Ct. Tariff* P 2 Euerything he wore was substantial honest, home-spun ware. 1748 Millinery ware [see Millinery 3].

c. Field-produce, crops, vegetables. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (= large potatoes intended for sale).

1398, 1669 [see Codware[1] 1]. 1562, 1730 field-ware [see Field *sb.* 21]. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Gen.* (1662) 57 Intimating that she had mingled Ware, Corn, and Tares in those who were descended from her. *Ibid., Somerset* 17 No Shire can shew finer ware,..being generally fruitful. 1693 Evelyn *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 32 Their Ware is much finer than that of others who water less. 1707 Garden-ware [see Garden *sb.* 6]. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* viii. 57 He had two large butts to receive the filled sacks—assorted into ware and chats. 1920 *Discovery* Nov. 348/2 (Potatoes.) In the North and in Scotland another riddle is used between the ware and the chats, and by this means 'seed' is obtained.

†**d.** Live-stock (cattle, sheep, poultry). *Obs.*

1422 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 43 Per schall noo beestys be pynnyd at the comen pynfold by the comien seriante, but chapmannys warre. 1465 Plough-ware [see Plough *sb.*[1] 8]. 1532–3 Poultry-ware [see Poultry 4]. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 218 If a horse wante wartes behynde, benethe the spauenplace,..then he is noo chapmannes ware, if he be wylde. 1535 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 133 The hochers..shall voyd and kyll noo moe ware. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* iv. (facs.) C ij b, By a Sodeu plage, all their firstgotten ware, Thu slewest in one nyght. *c* 1550 Chekn *Matt.* xxii. 4 Mi beves and mi fed ware be killed. 1562 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 264 b, And first an allusion is made of such as sley wares and prepare a feast. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ezek.* xxxix. 18 Of buck-goates, and bulles, and of fed wares [Vulg. *altilium*]. 1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 143 The like may be also in all gelded Ware, (and consequently in Muttons). *a* 1732 Gay *Fables* (1738) II. 6 Dame Dobbins with her poultry ware.

e. The spat of oysters in its third year.

1677 *Q. Rev.* CXLIV. 487 A bushel-measure of brood or ware, that is, oysters of the size of a threepenny-piece. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 134/1 Spat in the second year is denominated 'brood'... In the following year 'brood' becomes 'ware'.

4. *transf.* and *fig.*

Formerly often in distinction from *money*, like 'goods'. Sometimes with depreciatory implication, like 'stuff'.

c 1200 *Moral Ode* 68 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 222 Þis is þet wunderlukeste ware þat ani man funde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26476 Here i yeid yow yur mone, ges me a gain mi war. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Christ Disputing* (Shaks. Soc.) 197 Wete ȝe not wele that I muste bene Amonge hem that is my faderes ware, His goostly catel for to ovyrsen? 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* i. 22–7 Ceremonies...are pernicious ware, yf a man thinke that he is made religious by meane of them. 1600 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* III. iv. 54 If you haue no mony, you shal haue ware: as many sound drie blows as your skin can carrie. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 547 The obedience of hypocrites is dead ware. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 222 They resolved to shew all their ware and to produce the whole evidence. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Westmerid.* (1662) 135 This County...is fruitful by some few exceptions, having some pleasant vales, though such ware be too fine, to have much measure thereof. 1793 Mrs. PIOZZI 7 Feb. in *Intim. Lett.* (1913) 80 A mythological play of the dark days, Theseus and Ariadne, and *that* old ware. 1865 J. G. HOLLAND *Plain Talk* ix. 314 There is nothing immodest or otherwise improper in the advertisment of a man's literary wares. 1928 *Oxford Mag.* 21 June 343/1 None of them [*sc.* the essayists] cries his own wares to the exclusion of those of others.

b. Applied jocularly to women. (Cf. 'piece of goods'.)

Sometimes with explicit ref. to sense 3 a; cf. also 3 d.

1558 W. FORREST *Grysilde Secunde* (Roxb.) 55 Hee had in hym a lyttle sensuall luste Whiche withe younge ware hee neadys accomplische muste. 1624 DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* IV. (1661) 37, I keep no common company [of women] I warrant ye; we vent no breath'd ware here. 1687 J. PHILLIPS *Quix.* I. I. i. 5 A young fresh-colour'd amerking Country Wench that went for a Maid, but in truth, was a crackt piece of Ware. 1826 SCOTT *Woodstock* x, I may get a peep of fair Rosamond, and see whether she was that choice and incomparable piece of ware which the world has been told of.

†**c.** The privy parts of either sex. Also *lady ware*. *Obs.*

1561 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* v. M j b, So hurtes the Bees their honye sweete, so makes the Beuer yell His hoysting ware. 1579 G. GILPIN tr. *Marnix van Sant Aldegonde's Beehive Rom. Ch.* (1580) 209 For the auoiding of such a chaunce, the holy Romishe Churche did ordaine twoo chaires too bee heawen of Porphyr stone, where they vsed to feele from vnder, whether the newe chosen Pope was furnished of all his ware. 1598 *Soliman & Pers.* IV. ii. 49 The Ladies of Rhodes, hearing that you haue lost a capitoll part of your Lady ware. 1608 [TOFTE] *Ariosto's Sat.* IV. (1611) 61 The slie Venetian lockt his Ladies ware, Yet through her wit Acteons badge he bare. 1615–16 *Bk. Depositions* 1612–16 *Archdeaconry of Colchester* (MS.) lf. 72 The said William Land once so druncke at Sturbridge fayer that he did shewe his ware openly in the fayer. 1696 MENNIS & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2) 73 Your Breasts all open bare, So farre, that a man may almost see Unto your Lady-ware. ... DRYDEN *Juvenal* VI. 491 Seen from afar, and famous for his Ware, He struts into the Bath, among the Fair. 1721 E. WARD *Merry Trav.* I. (1729) 29 Here [at the Lock-hospital] all are welcome to repair Their aching Limbs or damag'd Ware.

†**d.** *Wormes ware*, food for worms. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pety Job* 7 in *26 Pol. Poems* 121 Yet shall my fayrenesse fade and fle, And I shalbe wormes ware. *c* 1450 *Songs & Carols* (Warton Club) 20 Syt am I but wermys ware.

e. *The hale ware* (Sc.), also anglicized *the whole ware*: the whole number, quantity, or amount; the sum-total.

1563 WINȜET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 73 Nocht that the canoun allane may nocht be sufficient to the hail wair. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 154 Sa the haill wair, being comptit, was threttie thowsand pund sterling. 1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* v. L 6, He saith in the wholware of these things. The life of my soule standeth. *a* 1689 W. CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 18 (Jam.) Then this will follow, I suppose, She drags the whole-ware by the nose. 1742 R. FORBES *Ajax* (1755) 11 He..gar'd the hale-ware o' us trow That he was gane clean wod. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 307 The haleware o't seemed to be gran plowable lan. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* x, The verra last shot that was fired..carried awa' the halewar (whole) o' their steerin' gear.

†**f.** In periphrastic use (cf. e). *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 11 He flegh ouer fetheres of windes ware [Vulg. *super pennas ventorum*]. *Ibid.* 16 And schewed welles of waires ware [Vulg. *et apparuerunt fontes aquarum*]. *Ibid.* lxxii. 13 And betwix vnderand ware [Vulg. *inter innocentes*] Mine handes wesche i þare.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wair almery* (Sc.), *ware-barge, chamber, -room, trash*; (sense 3 a) *ware-basin*; (sense 3 b) *ware-man*; also †ware-cloth [? cf. ON. *vǫruklæði* common cloth] (sense uncertain).

1489 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 131/2 A met almery,..a *wayr almery. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 26 These Boats are as large as one of our *Ware-Barges,..and carry a great Burthen with little trouble. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 90 In not very nice experiments, instead of a platinum crucible a small *ware basin may be used. 1533 *Linc. Diocese Docum.* (1914) 163, I bequeyth to berry my sone all the ware in my *ware chamber. 1499 *Will of John Buyshaye* in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 379 Item, I bequeith unto John Bushop of Lyme 2 peaces of *ware-clothes. 1699 W. SHERRARD *Corporations* 16 The Wardens ..and Fellowship of Drapers, Taylors, Mercers, and *Ware-Men, and Coopers in D. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* II. 96 The first quantity that was exposed in Edinburgh, was in the year 1792, in a *ware-room on the south bridge. 1841 LYTTON *Night & Morn.* I. viii, Mr. Roger Morton and his family sat in that snug and comfortable retreat which generally backs the ware-rooms of an English tradesman. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* v. 71 Provision may be made, that a sufficiency of such *Ware-trash may still be preserved.

†**Ware**, *sb.*4 *Obs. rare.* [Seems to represent OE. *wǽr* pledge; the form may have been assimilated to *warant* WARRANT *sb.*] In the phrase *to ware* (tr. L. *ad warantiam, ad warantizandum*); as a surety.

which nowe come by summornenyng and axe to be schewed to hem by what thyng þey bee holde to ware [*was antistare*]. *Ibid.*, þe which..Bynneth hym-selfe and his heyres to ware, to þe same Nycoll and to his heyres and to his assynes, þe foresaide tenementes.

Ware (wēə1), *sb.*5 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 **waire, wayr**(e, 8 **wair**, 9 **waur**, 3– **ware**. See also VOAR. [a. ON. *vár* (Icel. *vor*, Sw. *vår*, Norw., Da. *vaar*).

By some regarded as cogn. w. L. *vēr*, Gr. ἔαρ (= **wesr*), but the phonology has not been satisfactorily explained.]

The season of spring.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxiii. 18 Somer and ware, þou schope þa. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 983 It hapnyt a tym in-to ware. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. xv. 1484 Wythin the fyrst moneth off wayre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 408/2 Wayr, *quoddam tempus, ver.* 1684–90 A. SYMSON in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) II. 120 Hence their common proverb, speaking of the stormes in February; Winter never comes till Ware comes. 1814 W. NICHOLSON *Tales in Verse* 70 Ere the winds o' ware were blawn. 1898 J. MACMANUS *Bend of Road* iii. 40 He'll go to him the throngest day of Ware, an' the warmest day in Harwust, an' work the skin off his bones.

b. *attrib.*, as *ware day, evening, -time*; **ware-corn**, corn sown in spring; *spec.* barley and oats as distinguished from wheat and rye (so Da. *vaarsæd*).

1426 *Inv. Jarrow & Monk-Wearm.* (Surtees) 196 In frumento et *ware corn emptis. 1593 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 235 All the arrable landes,..as well harde corne lande, as ware corne lande. 1810 J. BAILEY *Agric. Durham* 411 *Ware-corn*, barley or oats. 1861 QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 232 In winter, anent her, The birds resume their *ware day sang. 1721 J. KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 334 The *Ware Evening is long and tough, the Harvest Evening runs soon o'er the Heugh. 1820 HOGG *Bridal of Polmood* vii. Tales & Sk. 1837 II. 35, I..fleechyt Eleesabett noore [= never] to let us tortell in the *waretyme of owir raik. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 37 Perhaps till the next wauritime.

†**Ware**, *sb.*6 *Obs.* Forms: 3 **war**, 4–5 **ware**, 5 **wore**. [a. ON. **var* (cf. *vare* scrum) = MSw., Norw. *var*, OHG. *warah*:—OTeut. **warχo-s* in the same sense. Cf. WARIBREED.] Pus, matter.

c 1200 ORMIN 4782, I war & wirrsenn toc anan Ut off hiss lic to flowenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21835 Ouer-al wraig vte worsum and ware. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv. Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 298 Fel aunter þat his fot was sare And wox full of fulþe and ware. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 390 His feet wan rotyn vnderneth hym & ware come out of þaim. *a* 1450 *North. Passion* (MS. D) 1479 þei [his hands] were waxen ful of wore þat were not in sore place [*other texts rhyme* sare: mare]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3494 Ware oute ran, nede to be heeled.

Ware (wēə1), *a.* Forms: 1–2 **wær** (*inflected* **were, ware**), 2–7 **war**, 2–3 **warr**, 3 **wear**, 3–5 **wer**, 4 **were**, (5 **werre**), (4 **whar, quar, waare**), 4–5 *compar.* **warr**(e, 5 **waar**, 5–6 **warr**(e, *compar.* **warrer, -are**, 4–6 *Sc.* **var**, 4– **ware**. [OE. *wær* = OS. *war*, ON. *var-r* (Da., Sw. *var*), Goth. *war-s* (in *warai sijaima* νηφῶμεν 1 Thess. v. 6):—OTeut. **waro-*, f. **war-* to observe, take care; see WARE *sb.*2 Cf. AWARE *a.* (OE. *gewær*:—OTeut. **giwaro-*).]

I. In predicative use.

1. Cognizant, informed, conscious; chiefly with *of, how, that*, etc. = AWARE 2. †*Be* (*well*) *ware*: take note, 'nota bene'. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

O. E. Chron. (Parker MS.) an. 917, & þa wurdon þa landleode his ware, & him wiþ ȝefuhton. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxii. 230 He eode ða nihtes þæt he his lifeȝeburge ac ða hæðenan wurdon wære his fare. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, & hi wurthen war wid uten & folecheden heom. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5210 & Helyseow hiss mann wass warr þatt tezz þa sholldenn shædenn. *Ibid.* 7286 þatt hemþenn folic, Kalldisskenn folic, Wass war off Cristess come. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 16 Ant ichulle makien þe war of alle mine wiheles. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1308 Do wurd ðe child [Isaac] witter and war ðat ðor sal offrende ben don. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6549 Quen þai war war o moyses þai fled a-way, als in a res. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 45 A god man þer was..Alquin was his rihte name, Off him þe sorl was wel war. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11498 Oure auncestre Iulius Sesar Wan Bretayne (art þou nought war?). *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3328 William was wiȝtly war of his come. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 421 Þise ben þe braunches, beþ war, þat bryngeth a man to wanhope. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 38 He was war, as he caste his eye aside, Where that cher kneled in the hye weye A compaignye of ladyes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xvi. 94 And at the last he came in to a fayr forest in a valey and was ware of a Toure. *Ibid.* IV. xvi. 140 And thenne was syr Gawayne ware how ther henge a whyte shelde on that tree. 1530 TINDALE *Lev.* v. 2 Ether when a man toucheth any vncleane thinge..and is not warre of it, he is also vncleane and hath offended. *Ibid.* 18 And the preast shall make an attonement for him for the ignorannce which he dyd and was not ware. 1548 UDALL *Antichrist* 16 b, Our most cruel blood thirstye enemies are not ware of this glory of our persecution. 1590 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 131 Towards him I made, but he was ware of me, And stole into the couert of the wood. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 58 Thou speak'st wiser then thou art ware of. 1612 R. FENTON *Usury* 7 Wee shall finde much more in it, then they that make the lightest account of it, are ware of. 1812 CARY *Dante. Parad.* VIII. 15, I was not ware that I was wafted up. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Saadi* 34 Be thou ware where Saadi dwells. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 111, I was ware of a ship in the offing.

2. Prepared, on one's guard, watchful, vigilant, cautious, alert. Cf. AWARE 1. Now *arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 40 And be ȝe ware forþam þe mannes sunu cymð þære tide þe ȝe ne wenað. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xlii. (1883) 191 Us is micel þearf, þæt we ware beon þæs egeslican timan, þe nu toweard is. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 35 Make me war & wite me wiþ his crefti crokes þat ha me ne crechen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 170 Ne spedeste nouht mid þin vnwrenche For ich am war and can blenche. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8084 Yn a prouerbe, telle men þys 'He wyys ya, þat ware ys'. *c* 1325 *Evil Times Edw. II* 343 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 339 Thath wolen bigile the in thin bond, but if thu be the ware. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 546 Bot how that euir it fell, pardé, I trow he sall the varrar be. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 80 And þerfore comaundiþ crist þat we be war and flee fro þe ypocrisie of pharisees. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516 War, or a-war (*v.r.* aware), *cautus*, Cath. *precavens*. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 5 Than this holy man counselled hem to be wele ware, and kepe hem fro euell dedes. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow & other Birds* 103 His pray full sendill tymis will he mis, Bot gif we birdis all the warrer be. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 54 But when he warneth vs of the daunger, he doeth it to this entente to make vs the warer. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 687, I wischt them to be war, And rashlie not to ryn ouir far, Without sik gydis as ze. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* v. xv, But evil news the letters bare,—The Clifford's force was strong and ware. 1880 TRENCH *Serm. Westm. Abbey* xxxi. 353 When the world speaks thee fair, and thy very enemies are at peace with thee,—then be thou ware. *a* 1897 H. NEWBOLT *Drake's Drum* 24 They shall find him ware an' wakin,' as they found him long ago!

†**3.** Careful or guarded in action. Const. *of*, *in*, *with* and *inf.* *Obs.*

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 253 Reade hwat us beo to donne at we beon þe warre ant wakere to witen us on euch half under godes wengen. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* xvi. 9 Kepe me as þe appel of þe eghe: þat is, perfitly and tendirly, for a man has no lym þat he is warere wiþ, þan wiþ his eghe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xi. (1495) 55 By the vertue estimatiue we ben waar to voyde euyll and folowe that is good. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xviii. 48 The goodman droue sleape from hym, and was more ware to kepe hymselfe waker in goddes seruyce alway after. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 170 Thys..schold make the vnder offycerys to be ware and dylygent to dow theyr duty. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* XXXIII. 195 Neuertheless he warneth us therewithal to bee more ware in abstayning from all wicked othes.

4. Careful or cautious in avoiding.

†**a.** Const. *with*. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XIII. 150 And ða worold-menn wæron wære wiþ heora fynd. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Þat tu..lierne fastliche ða ȝekyndes of sennes, hwannen and hwanne hie cumen, þat ðu muȝe bien war wiþ hem. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23827 Þe soth þai spar us noght to tell, for to do us be war wit hell. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* T. 485 Prudencia—That wisses us to be war with wathes of the world. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 19 Þis gospel biddiþ men to be ware wiþ false prophetis þat comen in cloþing of sheep.

†**b.** with *inf.* Cf. BEWARE *v.* 1 c. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodora*) 27 Ȝet suld gud wemen ware þe to rowne with þaim in priuete. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 184 And þerfore men schulden be war to take of þes foure staatis. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 82 The ennemies of youre roiaume..wol doubt and be ware to take any entierprise ayenst your noble mageste. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 20 But he marueleth at their rashenes that they can not be ware by so many examples to blemishe them selues, and other Universities for euer.

c. with *of*. Cf. BEWARE *v.* 1 b. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xvi. 6 Beth war of the sourdowȝ of Pharisees and Saduceis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 231 For who these olde bokes rede Of suche ensamples as were ar, Him oghte be the more war Of alle tho that feigne chiere. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg.* etc. (1867) 65 Quod Besinesse, 'man! of Slouthe be waare'. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 193/1 In exemple to others to have been ware of suche attempting hereafter. 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 211 For suche thynges as wee se before our iyes, we see well ware of. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 101 *margin*, They ar war of bludscheding. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* III. I. 98 You would swear now you have used me faithfully; Shall I not make you swear? I am ware of you. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. xii. 164 'Laddie,' she said, 'be ye aure o' judgin' the Almichty.' 1885–94 BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* June x, But Psyche when that wistful speech she heard Was ware of all her spouse had warn'd her of.

†**d.** with negative or interrogative clause. Cf. BEWARE *v.* 1 d. *Obs.*

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxiv. 6 Beo war æt þam, þæt þu nafre minne sunu þyder ne læde. *a* 1200 in Napier *Contrib. O. E. Lexicogr.* 58 Preostas synt to myngienne þ hi beon ware þ hi ne wurðon beswicene fram deoflum þurh ȝeþanca smeallcnysse. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 645 Nowe be þou were, þou proude gome, þat þou ne be in pryde enome. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1397 By þis way byhoves us al gang, Bot be we war we ga noght wrang. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 39 'A! wyf! be war,' quaþ he [Tobit] 'what ȝe haue here-ynne; Lord leyue,' quaþ he lede 'no stole þyng be here!' *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Rozb.) xvi. 74 Ich gude to him þat schall wake þis hawke þat he be wele ware þat he slepe noȝt. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 38 Be wyl war þat þey ben nowt Browne. 1475 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 135 Never the less I shall be the warer how I shall dele here aftyr. 1531 tr. *St. Germain's Doctor & Stud.* II. viii. (1638) 74, I would advise every man to be well ware how hee distraineth in such cases. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 143 Others vse the roote of Mandracke, being wel ware that they suffer them not to tast it. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I.

nocht thair blude.

5. Prudent, sagacious, cunning, skilled; ? also, rarely, staid. Frequently coupled with *wise*. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvii. § 2 Wisdom ȝeðeð his luftendas wise & wordðe [*MS. Junius* wære] & ȝemetfæste & ȝeðyldiȝe & rihtwise. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxv. 236 Blo ȝe swa ware swa nædran, & swa bilwite swa culfran. *c* 1200 ORMIN 18313 ȝe wenenn wrang Off me; beþ warre & wise, Namm I nohht Godd, soc icc amm mann. *c* 1205 LAY. 2108 Þe wes þe wiseste þe wes þe warreste [*c* 1275 he was wis and war]. *Ibid.* 2967 Gornoille was swiðe wær [*c* 1275 war] swa beoð wifmen wel ihwær & seiðe ane lesinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8696 Þe king, þat was sa sli a clerc, Bath warr and wis in all his werc. ? *a* 1386 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1258 She was not nyce, ne outrageous, But wys and war, and vertuous. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 12 Of al knightes he bare the pryse, In werld was non so war ne wise. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxiv, And they were ware that longe sat In place, So tolter quhilum did sche It to-wrye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 137 [*Pilate to Caiaphas*] ȝa, butt be wise, witty, and warre. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 131 We sholde also be wele ware or wyne, as is ye serpent. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 76 Sathan..is ware inough, he is wily, and circumspect for stiryng vp any sedicion. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.* II. *Collingbourne* xxi, A poet must be. No flatterer, no bolsterer of vyce, But sound and swete, in all thinges ware and wyse. 1913 R. BROOKE *1914 & other Poems* 29 And, sits there nothing ware and wise Behind the curtains of her eyes.

†**b.** with *in*, *of* (something specified), *to* (do something). *Obs.*

1307 *Elegy Death Edw. I*, li, Trewest mon of alle thinge, Ant in werre war ant wys. 13.. *Sewyn Sag.* 410 He..thought al night,..Hou that he might be wis and wer To overcome the emperice. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* i. 4 [Men] lernd in al wisdam, war in science [Vulg. *cautos scientia*], and taust in disciplyne. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1973 Bot owre wyese kyng es warre to wayttene his renkes, And wyesly by the worldez voydez his oste. *c* 1425 *MS. Digby* 233 lf. 225 b/2 He þat is a werrur on þe see he mot of ebbynge & of flowyng tyme be bo[th]e wise and waar.

†**II. 6.** Used attributively. Prudent, cautious, cunning. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 309 A Sergeant of the Lawe war and wyse..Ther was also. *a* 1400–50 *War Alex.* 202 Þare gan þai graithly þam graue in golden lettirs, All þe wordis at he þaim werpid of þaire ware kynge. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 114 Ye saye that she ys prudente and a ware spender and dysposer of goodes. *Ibid.* II. 124 When cryaten people a woke in busy prayer and in ware kepynge of themselfe that they myghte be redy to suffer martyrdom. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 386 They are very ware people in theyr bargeynge, and wyl not lose one sparke of golde of any value. *a* 1558 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 142 And as for Plautus, except the scholemaster be able to make wise and ware choice ..your scholer were better to play. *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 165 Being a slight and war man, and perceaving the esteat of the Kirk deceying, [etc.].

Ware (wēəɹ), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 **warian**, 3 **ware-n**, 3–6, 8–9 *dial.* **war**, 3–4 **warr**(e, 5 **waar**, 7–9 **'ware**, 4– **ware**. [OE. *warian* = OFris. *waria*, OS. *waron*, OHG. *be-warôn* = BEWARE *v.* (MHG. *waren*), ON. *vara* (Sw. *vara*, Da. *vare*) :—OTeut. **warôjan*, f. **warô* WARE *sb.*[2] In ME. the native word coalesced with *ware* a. OF. (north-eastern) *ware-r* (= Central OF., mod. F. *garer*), of the same meaning, adopted from Teut. The interjectional imperative *ware !* used in hunting is prob. to be regarded as of Fr. origin.

In OE. the verb had, in addition to the senses illustrated below, certain other meanings ('to guard, defend; to inhabit') which did not survive into ME.].

†**1.** *intr.* To give heed, take care, be on one's guard. Const. *of*, *with*; *to* oneself; *to* and inf. *To do to ware*: to inform, notify (const. *of* or clause). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2154 Þe vil fulsum ȝeres faren, Ioseþ cuðe him bi-foren waren. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* ii. 6 War ȝit with þe Skottes for þal er ful of gile. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1902 War now of me, ich þe diffie. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xiii. 16 War to thee [Vulg. *cave tibi*], and tac heed bisili to thin heering. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 123 Bot war whan thei togedre duellen. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 88 Waar of the sword of god for it is keene. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xii. 188 And this wil fall out a plain matter when you are done to ware, that in this region, the sunne yeeldeth a feruent heat. *Ibid.* xv. 267 Of all these points were the eies and the eares naturally done to ware. 1598 Q. ELIZ. *Plutarch* 4 lf. 123 That better the[= they] may ware the warnid to correct.

b. *impar.*, as a warning cry, a call to animals, and in hunting. *Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*)

? *c* 1000 *Gloss* in *Germania* (1878) XI. 393 *Cave* wara. ? *a* 1200 WILLELM. CANTUAR. *Vita S. Thomæ* in *Mat. Hist. Thos. Bechet* (Rolls) I. 128 Patria voce exclamavit..Huge de Morevile, ware, ware, ware, Lithulf beth his sword adrage. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1158 Þe hindes were halden in, with hay & war. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiv, War, war, ha, ha, war. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* li. 25 Io furth, greyn-horne ! and war oute, gryme ! *Ibid.* 29 War ! let me se how down will draw. *c* 1500 *Hyrhescorner* 456 *Imagy*. Ware make rome he shall haue a strype I trowe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 168 War at Pluto, I aall hym hunt of sty. 1602 DEKKER *Satiromm.* B 3, *Flash.* Ware there, roome for Sir Adam Prickeshaft 1780 MISS FIELDING *Ophelia* xxxiv, Ware, Hector ! ware, Juno ! 1825 J. JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng., War*, beware ! take care ! 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words, War*, beware. '*War below.*'

c. with clause, introduced by *that*, *lest*, or a relative. Also without *that*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1000 *Canons of Edgar* xxxviii. in *Thorpe* II. 252 Warige þæt hit na forealdiȝe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xiii. (1495) 232 But ware the pacyent that he put hym not sodenly to grete heete. *a* 1400–50 *Alk. Curtasye* 240 in *Babees Bk.*, Þou that stondys so sure on sete, Ware lest þy bede falle to þy fete. *a* 1460 *Play Sacrament* 596 Here master master ware how ye tugg. 1530 PALSGR. 701/2 Ware you shede nat your potage upon the table cloth. 1589 MORWYNG *Evonymus* Pref. A ij, This sacred to God Pluto (theues) ware that ye touch not. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. v. [v. iii.], Ware what you do, M. Ambler. 1900 G. E. EVANS *Lion's Whelps* i. 8 Let the hunters 'ware who flout him When he calls his whelps about him.

†**2.** *refl.* To guard oneself, be careful, take care. Const. with clause, *from*, *for* (= from), *of. Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 236 Forlætað þone ænne beam, wariað inc wið þone wæstm. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17210 Warr þe þou namar thrald be. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 1867 Hennes forward war þe fro me, | I dedliche fo ichil now be. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 165 Bot war þe wel, if þou wylt, þy wedez ben clene. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 225 War þe for wonhope, þat wol þe bi-traye. 1377 *Ibid.* B. xviii. 273 Ac war hym of þe perlies. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 312 Bot war thee wel that thou ne lieve Al that thou sest tofore thin yhe. *c* 1400 *Cato's Morals* 132 in *Cursor M.* App. iv. 1672 Mare mai þou be agast of anli man vn-wrast, and warre þe for him.

3. *trans.* To beware of, guard against; to avoid, shun, keep clear of. Chiefly in imper. = look out for ! (cf. b). *arch.*

a 900 *Kentish Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 65/40 *Cauet* ['*qui caunt laqueos*' Prov. xi. 15], warat. 1388 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 275 Ware ȝe the prophecye. 1400 in *86 Pol. Poems* i. 71 War wordes of dowble entendement. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 213 War arro;aunce in takyng thyng on honde. ? *c* 1500 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 342 A man myght saye in mocke Ware the wethercocke Of the steple of Paules. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 43 Ware pensals. How ? 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* G2, O, ware a naked man; Cithereaes Nunnes haue no power to resiste him. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 199 A roguish Boy..threw downe vpon me a great bucket of scalding water; and when hee saw it had fairely lighted vpon me, he leisurely vtters:..Ware water. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *New Gagg* To Rdr. 3 My desire is to ware heresie, to quit error. 1792 HOLCROFT *Road to Ruin* II. 28 *Harry*. When they do I'll horsewhip them myself. *Goldfinch*. Yourself?—Ware that ! Wrong there ! 1833 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 480 To despise rhetoric, and eschew fine writing;..to ware flippancy and bad jokes. 1839 MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xxxvii. 252 My prime and practical favourite among mottoes and maxims, is "ware snakes !" 1861 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, On two Round. Papers* (1869) 164 We meet each other in public. Ware a fight ! 1878 DROWNING *La Saisiaz* 44 Must..Every sweet warn "Ware my bitter !"

b. In hunting and in cries to animals, as *ware hawk* (fig.: cf. HAWK *sb.*[1] 3), *ware horse*, etc. Now chiefly in *ware wheat* (= don't ride over it), *ware holes*, *ware wire*. Sometimes pronounced (wōɹ).

Similarly, on the Trent, *ware ager*, a warning to boats to beware of the tidal wave.

a 1529 SKELTON (*title*) Ware the Hauke. 1590 COCKAINE *Treat. Hunting* C 4 b, Take him vp in a line, and beating him, say, awe, ware that. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. vii. 12 The bull has the game: ware hornes ho ? 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. v. [v. ii], See ! the whole Couy is scatter'd, 'Ware, 'ware the Hawkes. I haue to see him flye. 1673 *S' too him Bayes* 32 But now ware hawk ! 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* I. (ed. 2 80 The first Ceremony when the Huntsmen come in to the Death of a Deer, is to cry Ware Haunch, that the Hounds may not break into the Deer. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* v. i. 62 *Mon.* Your Goodness, Madam, is —— *Flip.* [*Aside to Moneytrap.*] War Horse, No fine Speeches, you'll spoil all. 1793 J. WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Pair Odes to the Pope* i. 35 Ware Lark ! the Sportaman to his 'pointer cries; Designing him for Partridge—nobler Game. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 193 Ware chase ! where such daring unpardonable crime has been committed. 1828 *Ibid.* N.S. XXI. 287, I never heard an harangue upon 'ware wheat' given in a more gentlemanlike way. 1829 MOOR *Suffolk Words* 470 *Warr*, an abbreviation probably of beware—'Warr, horse'—a caution to a hound in danger of being trodden on. 'Warr, sheep'—warns him from agression. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Illustr. Horse Managem.* 527 However, walk down the gangway of the two-year old stalls in any trainer's stable, and "ware horse," "ware heels," is frequently shouted out. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 48 We have four or five miles to do yet—and a nice bit of open grass country before us—but 'ware holes !

†**4.** To be apprehensive or careful for. *Obs.*

c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. v. 894 Gif þe Broys þe kynge sulde be Off Scotlande, war ȝoure ryalte, ȝoure marchis, and ȝoure wallit townys.

†**5.** To teach (a person) to beware. *Obs.*

1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Lancash. Witches* IV. H 4, Let me be honckt up for a show Ile ware them to mel or ma with a woman that [etc.].

Ware (wēəɹ), *v.*[2] Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5 **warre**, **werre** (?), *Sc.* **var**(e, 5–6 *Sc.* **war**, **wayr**, (6 *pa. t. Sc.* **ward**), 8–9 **wear**, 9 **waur**, 5– *Sc.* **wair**, 4– **ware**. [a. ON. *verja*, pa. t. *varða*, pa. pple. *variðr*, 'to invest (money), lay out', a transferred use of the primary sense 'to clothe': cf. the corresponding OE. *werian* to clothe, to wear: see WEAR *v.*] *trans.* To spend, lay out (money, goods). Const. *in*, *on*, *upon*, †*of*.

a 1427 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 222 Ayther of them shall ware xviij*d.* in fyssh or thay passe the market. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 405 Now schall y neuer my golde spare, But faste upon thyn warre hyt ware. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 252 Had I bot a penny on the wold I warte [*i.e.* ware it]. 15.. *Cokelbie Sow* 75 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 1023 And verrely as I herd Thus the money he ward. 1521 *Lincoln Wills* (Linc. Rec. Soc. V.) 103 The residew off the money..I will it be ware in the reparacions of a new lofte. 1543 ABDAY *Tarquin* II. (Arb.) 128 They shall fynde it bothe lesse charge and more pleasure to ware at any tyme a couple of shyllynges of a new bowe. 1620 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV* III. i, I have wared all my money in cow-hides at Coleshill Market. 1634 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) II. 299 Item, wairit on the beitlig and mending of the brig and lang calsey, 220 0 0. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* IV. ii, Ne'er grudge ilk year to ware some stanes of cheese, To gain these [illegible] less thousands rant, And ken na how to wair't. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxviii. 246 He used to Widow M^c^Plooky's public, and waur'd the sixpence on gills. 1880 TENNYSON *Northern Cobbler* v, I grabb'd the munny she maäde, and I wear'd it o' liquor, I did. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* i, I would hae waired my siller better-gates than that.

b. *fig.* (e.g. one's time, wit, life, love).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 402, I schal ware alle my wyt to wynne me þeder. *Ibid.* 2235, I schal ware my whyle wel, quyl it lastez. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Jewel* 153 Weill war that man ouer all vther, that mocht All his lyfe dayis in perfite studie wair To get science. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 205 Ready to wair thair lyffis ..in his defence. 1639 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) I. 342 We wil not so mutch as to waire our thoughts upon it. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* IV. ii, Since we've little time, To ware 't on words, wad border on a crime. 1794 BURNS *On Willie Chalmers* ii, And faith ye'll no be lost a whit, Tho' waired on Willie Chalmers. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxviii, There would be little love wared on the matter. 1826 — *Jrnl.* 8 June, The struggle is worth waring a headache upon. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxxiii. 279 A good honest heart..that hasna been weared on ither lasses.

c. with *out*. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 39 Thay wauchtit at the wicht wyne, and waris out wourdis. 1774 *Petition* in A. M^c^Kay *Hist. Kilmarnock* 303 To ware out and expend the haill necessary depursements.

d. Phr. *To be well*, or *ill*, *wared.*

? *a* 1418 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 244 The wages ben ful yvel wared With suiche a capitayn to abide. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 94 Ane of þaim vphrayed hym, & said his yong wife was ill warid on hym. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 449 ȝour riches thus is waistit and euill waird. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 265 The cuff is weill waired that twa hame brings. *Ibid.* 697 Na marvell though ill won ill waired bee. *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 68, I haiff bein ready to gyff my lyff whar it was nocht haiff sa weill wared, at the pleasour of my God. 1686 G. STUART *Joco-ser. Disc.* 33 If aw the rest were right repair'd, I trow our Labour were well wair'd. 1807 TANNAHILL *Soldier's Ret.* II. iii, A glass, to croun a wish, was never better wair'd.

Ware, obs. f. WAR *sb.*[1] and *a.*; var. WARY *v. Obs.*; obs. f. WEAR *v.* (and obs. pa. t.); obs. and dial. f. WEIR; var. VAIR *a. Obs.*, WERE *Obs.*; obs. f. *werd* (see BE *v.*); obs. f. WHERE.

Wareant, Sc. var. VARIANT *a.* (sense 3 b).

1549 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 57 Ane gown of wareant champit worset, price four li. xs.

†**Wareband.** *Obs.*—[o] [? f. WARE *v.*[1] (taken in the sense 'guard, secure') + BAND *sb.*[1]] A mill-rind.

1677 COLES *Dict. Eng.-Lat.*, The Wareband of a millstone, *subscus.*

Warecorn: see WARE *sb.*[5] b.

Wared, *ppl. a. Sc.* [f. WARE *sb.*[1] + -ED.] Manured with seaweed.

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVI. 253 In the spring season, after the oats are sown, the farmer gives the wared land one ploughing.

Wared, var. WARIED *ppl. a. Obs.*

Wareday: see WARDAY *dial.*

Waredrop, obs. form of WARDROBE.

†**Wareful**, *a. Obs.* [f. WARE *sb.*[2], *a.* or *v.*[1] + -FUL.] Watchful, cautious.

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Dict.* (1550), *Scalterita*, or *Scaltrita*, he or she that is wareful or forecastyng. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 256 Well furnisht brest to bide eche chanses changing chear. In woe hath chearfull hope, in weal hath warefull fear. 1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platem.* 69 Wherby thou shalt make thy souldiers not fearefull, but warefull.

Hence †**Warefulness.**

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Dict.* (1567), *Sagacità*, wisdome or warefulnesse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. and Ecl. (1912) 342 His eyes are curious search, but vailde with warefulnesse.

Warehouse (wēəɹhaus), *sb.* [1. WARE *sb.*[2] + HOUSE *sb.* Cf. Du. *warenhuis*, G. *warenhaus.*]

1. A building or part of a building used for the storage of merchandise; the building in which a wholesale dealer keeps his stock of goods for sale; a building in which furniture or other property is housed, a charge being made for the accommodation; a government building (more fully BONDED *warehouse*) in which dutiable imported goods are kept in bond until it is convenient to the importer to pay the duty.

1349 *Will of W. Erl* in *Red Register of Lynn* (MS.) fol. 85, j seldam cum..duobus warehouses. 1453 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 256, I kowd not gette no grawnt of hym to have the warehows. 1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. (1557) 94 Let them here what Christ saith in the ghospell to the ryche couetous gatherer, y^t^ thoughte to make his barnes and his warehouses larger to laye in the more. 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Warehouse to shewe marchandyse in, *une monstre a marchandise*. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xl. 10 Therfore gather you wyne, corne and oyle, and kepe them in youre ware houses. 1539 T. PERY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 140, I so beinge in my ware howsse bessy, ther ȝentrede in a pryste. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* I. 6 The first ault of apparell that euer mortall man put on, came neither from the Mercers shop, nor the Merchants ware-house. 1632 MASSINGER *City*

Madam I. iii, Their prayers will..keep your ware-houses From fire, or quench 'em with their tears. 1660 in *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. x, 375 My Mr. was all the while in the Warehouse with him wch brought ye Silke. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 III. 95 Some who had bin call'd from shops and warehouses..fell to huckster the Commonwealth. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 416 It is the retailer and petty shop-keeper..that must supply the demands of the public: importation is not their business, but to resort to the warehouse, and retail out the goods as received from thence. 1799 *Local Act* 39 *Geo. III*, c. 58 § 4 Every Box, Basket, Packet, Parcel [etc.]..brought to any Inn, Warehouse, or other Place, by any Public Stage Coach. 1840 *Act* 3 & 4 *Vict.* c. 17 § 8 Spirits..in Warehouse under Her Majesty's Locks. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* i. 11 We have around us the wholesale 'warehouses' and offices wherein is transacted all the business between the dealers, the manufacturers, the spinners, the bleachers, the calico-printers. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvi, A packer's warehouse, and a bottle-maker's warehouse. 1918 *Act* 8 & 9 *Geo. V*, c. 15 § 7 Tobacco exported from Great Britain..or deposited in a bonded or King's warehouse.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* VI. vii. 246 As Budæus calleth the worke in his Mercuries seller, or Minerua's warehouse [*i.e.* Παλλάδος Ταμιεῖον]. 1612 ROWLANDS *Knaue of Spades* E 2 b, His richest ware-house is a greasie pocket, And two pence in Tabacco still doth stocke it. 1896 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, The kidney-pie man has just walked away with his warehouse on his arm.

†c. A mason's or carpenter's workshop. *Obs.*—0

1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Warehouse for masons or carpentars, *astillier* [= *atelier*].

†d. A tradesman's inner or back shop. *Obs.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Magasin*, or *arrière boutique*, a warehouse, an inner shop. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, *Tho.* Where's the boy? *Piso.* Within sir, in the warehouse. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. vii. 139 Neither did they care for so great confusion of compositions and mixtures which fill a whole ware-house and shoppe.

†e. Used as a more dignified synonym for 'shop'. *Obs.*

With defining word, as in *baby-linen warehouse*, *Italian warehouse*, the word is still met with on the signboards of London shops.

c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* (1818) I. 65 Here and there you may now see an ordinary shop dubbed with the important title of a Warehouse. 1796–7 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* (1813) III. v. 93 She does not know which are the best warehouses. 1798 — *Northang. Abb.* ix, Mrs. Hughes saw all the clothes after they came from the warehouse. *c* 1825–7 *Katey's Voy.* 13, 'I know him,' said one of the men. 'He lives at Douglas, just off the quay.' 'I know him too. I've bought goods at his warehouse,' observed a lady.

f. In a printing office (see quot.).

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Warehouse*, the department responsible for printed work and 'white' paper... *Warehouse-knife*, a large knife used for cutting up by hand small quantities of paper.

2. *attrib.*, as *warehouse-door*, *-keeper*, *-rent*; **warehouse-knife** (see 1 f); **warehouse-room**, storage in a warehouse.

house keeper, each of them, a Bribe. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* XXV. P 1 The Warehouse-keeper takes the Heap out of the Press-room..into the Warehouse. 1709 *Act* 8 *Anne* c. 21 § 5 The Ware-house-Keeper of the said Company of Stationers. 1821 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (ed. 2) 392 Delivered the above, 10 November, 1819. A. B. Warehouse-keeper. 1799 *Local Act* 39 *Geo. III*, c. 58 § 6 *marg.*, Parcels..to be delivered..on Payment of Carriage and *Warehouse-Rent. 1813 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Eng. Garner* III. 640 For *Warehouse-room there, till the herrings be sold, allow, at most £2 0s. 0d. 1799 *Local Act* 39 *Geo. III*, c. 58 § 6 The additional Sum of Two Pence for the Warehouse-Room thereof [*sc.* of the Parcel]. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 259, Does the value of this probability pay for the expense of warehouse-room?

Hence **Wa'rehouseful.**

1859 MILL *Liberty* iii. 121 A man cannot get a coat or a pair of boots to fit him, unless they are either made to his measure or he has a whole warehouseful to choose from.

Warehouse (wē'ᵊrˌhaus), *v.* [f. WAREHOUSE *sb.*] *trans.* To deposit or secure (goods) in a warehouse; to deposit (furniture) for safe keeping, a charge being made for storage; to place (imported goods) in a bonded warehouse pending the payment of the import duty. Hence **Wa'rehoused** *ppl. a.*

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 9 Nov. 4/2, 16 bales of sugar which have been landed and warehoused. 1819 *Act* 59 *Geo. III*, c. 52 Table A—Inwards, Warehoused Goods. For a List of those Goods which may be warehoused, or otherwise secured on Importation into Great Britain without Payment of Duty in the First Instance, See Table F. 1874 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 6/5 A building..in which will be found complete accommodation for warehousing the valuables of noblemen and gentlemen in their absence from town. 1886 SCHOLL *Phraseol. Dict.* II. 832 Any cotton you may consign to us will be warehoused pending your further instructions.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Washington & Franklin* Wks. 1846 I. 124 Their stores of intellect are not squandered in the regions of fancy..but warehoused and kept sound at home. 1835 *Edin. Rev.* LXI. 457 Our coal mines may be regarded as vast magazines of hoarded, or warehoused power. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sciences* 149 Its wondrous fount, from the days of Herodotus to our own, has been warehoused by small poets as part of their stock in trade of sparkling illustrations.

c. *slang.* To put in prison.

1882 *Punch* 18 Feb. 71 D'you want to get us both 'warehoused'?

Warehouseage. ? *U.S.* [f. WAREHOUSE *sb.* or *v.* + -AGE.] The cost of warehousing.

1915 W. H. PAGE *Notes to Sir E. Grey* 5 Nov. § 31 Costs and expenses..such as pilotage,..harbour dues, warehouseage,..etc., be paid by the claimants.

Warehouseman (wē'ᵊrhausmĕn, wē'ᵊrsmĕn). [f. WAREHOUSE *sb.* + MAN *sb.*]

1. A man employed in or having the charge of a warehouse.

1635 in *Times Lit. Suppl.* (1918) 5 Sept. 416/2 Hee was one that was at the imbayling thereof, for twas his place beeing warehousman alwayes to doo that businesse. 1798 *Bay's Rep.* (1809) I. 45 The custom is for a shop-keeper to send home goods in the care of a trusty servant or warehouse man. 1830 J. H. NEWMAN *Serm. Var. Occ.* xii. (1881) 233 He began..with the poor; then he went among shopmen, warehousemen, clerks in banks. 1872 *Daily News* 25 July, A cricket match at the Kennington Oval in which all the players are warehousemen. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 648/1 Plowright was..employed as a warehouseman by a firm of general merchants in Manchester.

b. (See quot. and WAREHOUSE *sb.* 1 f.)

1875 SOUTHWARD *Dict. Typogr.*, *Warehousman*, the person who has charge of the warehouse.

2. A wholesale merchant (esp. a trader in textile materials) who has a warehouse for the storing of merchandise.

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1208/4 Robert Harper Apprentice to John Briant at the Golden Cross in Cateaton-street, London, Warehouse-man,..Ran away from his said Master on the 25 day of June. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4427/16 Whereas a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Thomas Carey, late of Lond-n, Warehouse-man. 1748 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesm.* xxxii. (1841) II. 2 The wholesale tradesman is frequently called a warehouse-man, or factor. 1887 *Brit. Textile Warehouseman* 15 Sept. 463 Mr. Campbell is not merely a warehouseman but a manufacturer of the goods displayed. 1903 *Times* 12 Mar. 11/3 Berlin Textiles...Warehousemen report a pause in the demand.

b. *Italian warehouseman*: see ITALIAN *a.*

Warehousing (wē'ᵊrhauzĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WAREHOUSE *v.* + -ING[1].] The depositing goods, etc., in a warehouse whether under bond or otherwise. Also *concr.*, money paid for the accommodation of a warehouse.

1795 J. PHILLIPS *Inland Navig.* Add. 135 Profits arising from the warehousing and wharfage of goods. 1833 *Act* 16 & 17 *Vict.* c. 107 § 10 To provide Warehouses for the warehousing of Tobacco at the Ports. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* (1883) I. 335 The system of warehousing, or admitting as a temporary deposit, foreign goods, free of duty, to await exportation.

b. *Comb.*

1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 41/1 An act passed in the last session, commonly called the 'warehousing act'. 1817 *Evans's Parl. Deb.* I. 1327 Mr. W. Pole said, the warehousing system was not thought of at the time the hon. baronet mentioned (1806). 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 505 The Ministers would have been pledged to support the sale and warehousing system of the Company.

Wareide, variant of WARIED.

Wareine, obs. form of WARREN.

Wareland, var. WARLAND *Obs.*

Wa'reless, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. WARE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Very frequent in Spenser and Daniel.

1. Unwary, incautious, imprudent.

1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 920 How surely are the wareless wrapt by those that lye in wayte? 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. v. 17 Yet was he iustly damned by the doome Of his owne mouth, that spake so wareless word, To be her thrall. 1598 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* v. v, For warelesse insolence whilst vndebard Of bounding awe, runnes on to such excesse. 1751 MENDEZ *Seasons* XXVI. in Pearch *Coll. Poems* (1770) II. 241 The wareless sheep no longer bite the mead. 1767 MICKLE *Concub.* I. XXVI, Ythrilld with Horrour gapd the wareless Wight. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* Introd. 6 Your blights, your chilling influence shed, On wareless heart and houseless head. 1847 H. S. RIDDELL *Poems* 18 But that's a' true, now that I mind To caution ane sae wareless.

absol. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Blache Smyth* iii, Who seemes in sight as simple as a saynt, Hath layd a bayte the wareles to begyle.

2. Unguarded, unconscious (*of* danger).

1562 PHAER *Æneid* IX. Bb 3, And first Euryalus he seeth whom al mens hands had got, Through fraud of night and place of troublous tumult wareles trapt. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 3 Both they vnwise, and wareless of the euill, That by themselues vnto themselues is wrought. *Ibid.* V. i. 22 That when he wak't out of his wareless paine, He found him selfe, vnwist, so ill bestad, That him he could not wag. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 540 How bright it burns!—of threatening wreck To warn the wareless mariner.

†**Wa'reliness.** *Obs.* [f. WARELY *a.* + -NESS.] Caution, carefulness.

c 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) xiii. 263 Us is on ðam micel wærlicnys ætacnad and eteowed on ðære onfangennysse ures drihtnes lichaman. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 74 Afterward..be þe longaon putte into his place, and be it fast bondyn with warlynes [L. *ligetur cum cautela*] þat it go nogt out.

Warelond, variant of WARLAND *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

†**Wa'rely,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wærlic**, 5 **warli, wearly**, 4–5 **warly.** [OE. *wærlic*, f. *wær* WARE *sb.*[1]: see -LY[1]. Cf. ON. *varligr.*] Of a person, his actions, etc.: Cautious, circumspect, prudent.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 544 (Gr.) Wisdomes beðearf, worda wærlicra, & witan spyttng, se ðære mðelan sceal andwyrde agifan. *a* 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 201/40 *Cautus*, wærlic, *sollicita*. *c* 1000 *Laws of Æthelred* VI. xxxiii. (Lieberm.), Wærlic biđ, þæt man mȝhwilce ȝeare sona æfter eastron yrdscipa ȝearwige. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 442 For knowynge of perels makiþ men warlyer to flee hem. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 649, I will send to you sone by a sure mayden: Bes wakond and warly. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 453 Bot first hir-self,..Sal counsel ken,..Bi wordes warli anes or twis. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 158/2 Men ought to thynke dyscretly and by waarly delyberacyon; yf a thynge is lawfull to be doon.

†**Wa'rely,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wærlice**, 3 **wærliche**, 3–4 **warliche, warli**, (3 **warlyche**), 4–6 **warly**, *Sc.* **varly**, 4 **waarly**, (5 **waarli, werly**), 5–6 *Sc.* **warlie**, 6 **warelye**, 5–6 **warely.** [OE. *wærlice*, f. *wær* WARE *a.*: see -LY[2].] Watchfully, cautiously, circumspectly; prudently. Cf. WARILY *adv.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 190 Forðæm him is swiðe micel ðearf ðæt he swæ micle wærlicor [L. *tanto cautius*] hiene healde wið scylda. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Jos.* ii. 16 Farað eow nu wærlice and ȝewendað to muntum *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 199 Bute we þe warluker us bureȝen. *c* 1205 LAY. 12277 Ah Ælfwald & his broðer al heo þuhten oðer heo uerden swiðe warliche. *Ibid.* 12300 þa cheorles wenden to þan wuden & warliche heom hudden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 198 God, þauh, ful warliche: vor iðisse wilderneesse beoð monie vuele beastes. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom* I. 245 We ahen wearliche to biwitten us seoluen wið þe unwiht of helle ant his wrenches. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xviii. 14 And Dauid dide warli [1382 wiseli, Vulg. *prudenter*] in alle hise weies. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 12 Putte it hotte vppon and bynde it warly þat it fal not away. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warely, or slyly, *caute*. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 194 I be feendis wijlis and deceitis ben forto be waarli considerid and forto be smertli fled. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. iii. T j b, He that ones falleth into the dytche, wyll after loke better or warelyer or he lepe. 1548–9 *Book Com. Prayer, Offices* 32 And maye walke more warely in these daungerous dayes. 1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* II. 100 He speaketh also of Ceremonies and traditions, as moderately, as diuinely, and as warely as any man dothe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 36 They, bound him hand and foote with yron chains. And with continuall watch did warely keepe. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 34 So as the same bee warely distilled with a trew diuision of the partes. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. III. iii, He warely closes up to the walls.

Waren, obs. f. WARN *v.*[1], WARREN, WHEREON.

†**Warence.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *warance* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; also 13th c. in Wr.-Wülcker 556/19, 15th c. in *Alphita* 155) = mod.F. *garance* madder.] = MADDER *sb.*[1]

1525 *Grete Herbal* cccl.xvii. (1529) U iv, Rubea the more.., is the herbe that warence or madder is made of. *Ibid.* cccc.xvii. Z j b, Spargula..is lyke to warence in leues. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Warence is Madder. 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 464 Warence, see Madder.

Warener, obs. form of WARRENER.

†**Wa'reness.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wærnes, -nys**, 4–5 **warnesse**, 4–6 **warenes**, 5 **waarnes**(e, 6 **wareness**(e, 5–6 **warnes.** [OE. *wærnes*, f. *wær* WARE *a.*: see -NESS.] Cautiousness, vigilance.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 213 Hæfde he miccle lufan & ealle wærnesse to ælcum men. 1387 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 1273 The v. vertu ys warnesse and sleyȝte. in god to know þe goode fro þe yuyl. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 92 He schal ..take greet waarnes that he be not..bigilid. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 44 b, Discrete cautele or warenes, and diligence, with suche other. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 78, I..dare not w^thout grete warnes geue it in to ye body. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxi. 125 Let euerie of vs.. rowse vp all our wittis, and gather them about vs applying them earnestly to this care and warenesse which Moses speaketh of here.

Warent(e, -ise, obs. ff. WARRANT, -ISE.

Warenyss, variant of WARNISH *v.*[1] *Obs.*

Ware so, southern ME. var. WHERESO.

Wares(s)che, var. forms of WARISH *v. Obs.*

Waresť, pa. t. of WARISH *v. Obs.*

†**Wa'restall.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 **wairstall, wairstaw, waistaw, vairscall, vairsta, war-, varstay.** [f. WARE *sb.*[3] + STALL *sb.*] A store cupboard.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 111 Item, for lokkis and bandis to the gret wair stallis in the Kingis wardrob in Edinburgh, v s. 1539 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 39 Ane waistaw, a schryne, ane chyrater. 1538 *Aberd. Reg.* (MS.) XVI. (Jam.), Ane fysche fat, a geill fat, a vairscall. 1561 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 336 Ane almary, ane vairsta, ane maill fatt. 1563 in D. Hay Fleming *Reformn. Scot.* (1910) 610 Ane langsadill of aik, with ane greit wairstaw of aik. 1572 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Club) I. 134 Airschip guidis..ane karr, ane mukseld, ane varstay, ane almrie.

Waret, variant of WARIED *ppl. a. Obs.*, cursed.

†**Wa'retack.** *Obs.* [Perh. a use of the nautical WARTAKE (associated with WARE *v.*[1]).] A safeguard.

1542 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 86 Ye will haue a preet to singe for you also, as it ware for a waretack. *Ibid.* 88 Bycause ye haue not full trust in Christes meretes, ye grope after vayne waretackes.

Wareporu, southern ME. var. WHERETHROUGH.

Ware uore, southern ME. var. WHEREFORE.

Ware wip, ME. var. WHEREWITH.

Warewolf, obs. var. WEREWOLF.

Wareyn(e, obs. forms of WARREN.

Warf, obs. form of WHARF *sb.* and *v.*

Warfare (wŏ'ᵊrfeə), *sb.* Forms: see WAR *sb.*[1]; also 6 **-far**, 6–7 *Sc.* **-fair.** [f. WAR *sb.*[1] + FARE *sb.*[1]] A going to war (cf. b); the action of carrying on, or engaging in, war; the act or state of conflict; military life or service.

1496 Sir G. Have *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 114 Out of his bordis land suld pas nouthir hors na men till othir contree in armes na werefare. *c* 1514 Barclay *Eglog* iii. (1570) B vj b, For nought is in warfar saue care and mikery. 1611 Bible 1 *Sam.* xxviii. 1 The Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxviii. 166 The most common Souldier, may demand the due wages of his warrefare, as a debt. 1841 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* vii, He was as yet unpractised in the ruthless expedients of savage warfare. 1900 *Longman's Mag.* March 440 Having acquired.. a brevet colonelcy in Indian frontier warfare.

† b. Phr. *To go (forth) a warfare*, to go to the war; also *to go* (etc.) *on warfare, to pass (forth) in warfare* (Sc.); *to send a warfare*. Also *a warfare*, in the field (= L. *militiae*). *Obs.*

In these phrases *a* is A *prep.*[1], but is often mistaken for the indef. article.

1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 144 Richard Awrey..3ede forthe a warfare in a schypp of hys owne. 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* ix. 7 Who goeth a warfare [*vie στρατεύεται*] eny tyme att his awne cost? 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S. T. S.) I. 94 Þir young men war ordanit to be reddy to pas in werefare aganis þare Inemyis. *a* 1533 Berners *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K iv, Torquate her housband was in Asie a warre fare. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 201 b, Alexander hauing taken a viage on warrefare into Asia. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 24 He whiche had maried a wyfe, the same yeare shoulde not be forced to go on warrefaire. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 270 b, Not only at home, but in the campe also, and a warfare. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xliv. 1. 170 Rather yᵗ we should go a warfare under the crosse. 1574 Hellowes *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 88 What iniurie doth the Prince to the Captaine that sendes him a warrefare, if he makes him aure to haue the victorie?

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1549 E. Allen *Jude's Par. Rev.* vii. 9–12 So long as they remayne in the warrefare of this transitorye lyfe. 1657 *Penit. Conf.* 348 Nor can there in this spiritual warfare be better weapons than prayers and teares. 1735 Pope *Ep. Lady* 178 Who, with herself, or others, from her birth Finds all her life one warfare upon earth. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 291 All the various artillery of fashionable warfare. 1878 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 194 They are most skilful in legal warfare.

† Warfare, *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To wage war; to take part in war; to serve in the field. Also *fig.*

1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist.* III. xviii. 94 Wherein having, with much devotion, warfared a longe time to God. 1567 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* Concl., Euery sort and sexe that warfare in the fielde of humaine life. 1589 Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* xxiii. 40 Yet with these shippes we make them muche more daungerous, robbing and warrefaringe in them, no otherwise then we do in the maine lande. 1598 Florio, *Militare*, to warrefarre, to follow the warres. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 369 A certaine Germane warfaring in Italy.

Hence **† Warfarer,** a warrior. **Warfaring** *vbl. sb.*

1591 J. Eliot tr. *B. de Loque's Disc. Warre* 32 Thus much for the rules of warfarers. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heaut.* Argt., Menedemus..forced his sonne Clinia ..to goe a warrefaring. 1636 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxv. (1674) 44 His indiscreet way of warfaring in Asia. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* ii. (1858) 232 During these wild warfarings and struglings. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* III. (1877) 196 The Burg of the Niblung people and the heart of their warfaring.

Warfaring, *ppl. a.* [f. Warfare *v.* + -ing[2].] That wages war; that serves, or takes part, in war; militant. Also *fig.*

1549 E. Allen *Jude's Par. Rev.* xxii. 1–4 This militant & warrfarynge churche. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 45 He is the true warfaring Christian. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iv. (1858) 272 He is the warfaring and battling Priest. 1882 Stevenson *New Arab. Nts., Sire de Malétroit*, Lads were early formed in that rough, warfaring epoch.

Hence **† Warfaringly** *adv.*

1611 Cotgr., *Belliqueusement*, martially, warlikely; warfaringly.

Warff, obs. form of Wharf.

Warfor(e, obs. forms of Wherefore.

† Warful, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. War *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Bellicose.

1530 Palsgr. 328/2 Warfull, *batailleux.* 1755 H. Walpole *Let. to Chute* 20 Oct., Lord Robert Bertie, with a company of the Guards, has thrown himself into Dover Castle; don't they sound very war-full?

War-god, War-goddess. A god or goddess who presides over war. Also *fig.*

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* v. 30 The War-god..Who raged so on the Ilion side. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. iii (*heading*), Broglie the War-God. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* VI. x, Maggie..glared at him like a wounded war-goddess. 1906 W. A. Craigie *Relig. Anc. Scand.* I. 13 Odin..is a war-god, who assigns victory or defeat to men.

War-horse. A powerful horse ridden in war by a knight or trooper; a charger.

1653 Rameshy *Astrol. Restored* 184 In buying of Arms, War-horses, or Instruments of War. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 150/2 Watt Horses, such as are trained and brought up not..to run back at the rattling of Drums, [etc.]. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 61 P 6 A War-Horse belonging to one of the Colonels of the Artillery, to be Let or Sold. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* I. xv, So chafes the war-horse in his might, That fieldward bears some valiant knight. 1845 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xx, The old war-horse pricks his ears at the murderous music of the trumpet. 1883 J. Parker *Apost. Life* II. 174 The war-horse will paw when he can no longer stand.

b. *fig.* A veteran soldier or politician; a person full of warlike memories.

1884 *American* VIII. 291 Which reminds us of the well-known admission of the party 'war-horse' that he would vote for the enemy of mankind if he got the 'nomination.' 1900 *Daily Chron.* 26 Apr. 5/1 That old political war-horse..Sir George Dibbs.

Wari, var. Wary *v. Obs.*, to curse.

† Wariable, *a. Obs.* [f. Wary *v.* + -able.] Deserving of cursing; execrable.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xviii. 1 Alle time wariable (Vulg. *exprobabilis*) he shal be. — *Eccius.* xxvii. 33 Wrathe and wodnesse, either ben wariable [Vulg. *execrabilia*].

Wariable, -ance, -and : see Variable, Variance, Varying.

† Warialge. *Obs.* Forms: 1 ? wearginœl, 4–5 variangel, were-, weryangle, wayryngle, 4, 7–8 waryangle, 6–9 wariangle, 6 warriangle, 7 warwinckle, wierangle, -angel, wirrangle. [? OE. *wearginœl* shrike (Sweet: authority not known). Cf. OHG. (MHG.) *warchengil, wargengel, warginge*l, etc. 'cruricula', etc. (Steinmeyer-Sievers, Diefenbach), G. *wargengel, warkengel* (with very many local variants due to different etymologizing alterations; as *würgengel, quasi* 'destroying angel'). Cf. also MLG. *worgel*, OHG. (MHG.) *wargil, warigel, wergil, worgel* (Bavarian dial. *wörgl* shrike, Salzburg *worgel* greenfinch). All these forms appear to be diminutives of OTeut. **wargo-z* murderer: see Wary *sb.*

The OE. word, if genuine, perh. preserves most nearly the original form. For the suffix compare OE. *hdsincel, tdsincel, Mowincel*, etc. (all without umlaut). Cf. OHG. *-inhilîn.* It remains, however, very remarkable that in G. or in later E. there is no trace of *-h* forms with the single exception of *warwinckle* in quot. 1618. As there is no evidence of the word later until Chaucer, the ME. and later forms are perhaps in part due to, or influenced by, some continental form. The prevalent form of the ending, *-angle, -ingle*, is perh. partly due to association with Hang *v.* (owing to the habits of the shrike). In early times the first element would assist this etymology: cf. OE. *wearg-trêo*, Warytre gallows. Such an association was apparently present in early G.: cf. such forms as *wurgelhâch, wurgelhâhe, war-changil, warkengel*, etc.]

1. A name formerly given to the Shrike or Butcher-bird, either the (Great or European) Grey Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) or the smaller red-backed Shrike (*L. collurio*). See Shrike *sb.*[2]

Apart from the doubtful OE. form and two obscure passages in ME. the evidence for the existence of the word is almost solely drawn from dictionaries, glossaries, and dialect collections of doubtful value, some of which perh. merely echo quot. 1598.

c 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 110 This Somonour, that was as ful of Iangles, As ful of venym been thise waryangles. 1598 Sprght *Chaucer's Wks.* Annot. Bbbb v, *Warriangles* Be a kind of birdes full of noyse and very rauenous, preying vpon others, which when they haue taken, they vse to hang vpon a thorne or pricke, & teare them in pieces and deuoure them. And the common opinion is, that the thorne wherupon they thus fasten them and eate them, is afterward poysonsome. In Staffordshire and Shropshire the name is common. 1611 Cotgr., *Ancroullle*, a Shrike, Ninmurder, Wariangle. 1618 Latham *and Bk. Falconrie* 144 The Warwinckle which is a pyed bird, and vses most in pastur-ground, or other champane places whereas growes great and tall bushes. 1674 Ray *Collect., Eng. Birds* 83 The great Butcher-bird called in the Peak of Derbyshire Wirrangle, *Lanius cinereus major.* 1678 — *Willughby's Ornith.* II. xi. 87 This Bird in the North of England is called a Wierangle, a name, it seems, common to us with the Germans, who (as Gesner witnesseth) about Strasburgh, Franckfort, and elsewhere, call it Werkengel or Warkangel. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 229 The Butcher-bird or Wierangel, here called the Shriek or French-Pye. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 47 *Red-backed shrike*, Butcher bird, Murdering bird, Ninekiller, Weirangle or Wariangle (Yorkshire).

2. Used as a term of contemptuous abuse. *rare*[−1].

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1706 A wirlyng, a wayryngle [*Dubl. MS.* warlow], a wawil-eȝid shrewe.

Warians, obs. Sc. form of Variance.

† Waribreed. *Obs.* Forms: 1 wearȝ(e)-, wearhbrǽde, 6 warrybrede, 8 warlbreed. [OE. *wearhbrǽde* wk. fem., f. **wearh-* = Ware *sb.*[6], pus, matter + *-brǽde* cogn. w. *bréd* flesh.] In OE. some kind of ulcer or eruption; in 16–18th c. = Warble *sb.*[2] 2.

c 1000 Ælfric *Voc.* In Wr.-Wülcker 158/23 *Impetigo*, eaȝan wenn, *uel* wearhbrǽde. *c* 1050 *Voc., ibid.* 457/6 *Nenum*, weargebrǽde. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 86 Ȝif hwylcum wearhbrǽde [*v.r.* wearh-; L. *ulcus*] weaxe on þam nosum oððe on þam hleore. 1563–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 63 There be beastes that wyll haue warrybredes in dyuers partes of theyr body and legges. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Warnel-worm*, This Disease in some Cattle runs into divers Parts of their Bodies, called by some the *Wari-breed.*

Warichc, variant of Warish *v. Obs.*

Warie, variant of Wary *v. Obs.*, to curse.

† Waried, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Wary *v.* + -ed[1].] Cursed, accursed.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 29 Cymþ se wergzad [Vulg. *venit malus*] & ȝeriseð þte sauwen wæs. *a* 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 239 Þe werezede gastes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 544 Mis-winnen hem gunnen seðes sunes...And mengten wiþ waried kin. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2077 Fle me fra, þou wared thing. *Ibid.* 10067 Quar-thoru þe warlaw wirld wight, For-cummen es. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1716 Wale wyne to þy wenches in waryed stoundes. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* I. 1 This is a werid counsaile. 1390 — *Pr. Consc.* 6186 Yhe weryed wyghtes wende fra my sight. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 526 Þis waryt Iug, in stul set, gert margaret soȝ before hym fet. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1377 In waryit tym that Heslryg was born! *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* (Tullibardine MS.) 607 Sua knavishe, cankar[d], execrabill, And vareit ane wicht.

Hence **† Wariedhed** [-head], cursedness.

1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* v. 13 In oure wariedhed [Vulg. *malignitate*] forsothe we ben wastid. *Ibid.* v. 24.

† Warier. *Obs.* Also 4 -ere, 5 -ar, waryare, 6 weriour. [f. Wary *v.* + -er[1].] One who curses.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xxi. 17 The counseil of wariers [Vulg. *concilium malignantium*] besegide me. — 1 *Cor.* v. 11 A.. cursere [*gloss*] or wariere [Vulg. *maledicus*]. *c* 1410 *Lantern of Light* 131 War[i]ars, cursars, schidars, sclaundrirars & blasfemars. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Waryare, or bannare, *imprecator, -trix, anathematizator, maledicus.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis*, etc. (1874) IV. 226 That, 30u to pleys, I set all schame behind, Offeryng me to my weriouris willfully.

† Warify, *v. Obs.* (*nonce-wd.*) [? f. Wary *a.* + -fy.] *trans.* To render wary or timorous.

1614 Sylvester *Panaretus* 801 *Partt. Vertues Roy.* 34 Thou [Andria = Fortitude] art lockt vp in Princes Cabinets; Among the Corselets, which, now warliefied Through loue of Peace, they haue new layd aside.

Warily (wē·rili), *adv.* [f. Wary *a.* + -ly[2].] In a wary manner, cautiously, † watchfully.

1552 Huloet, Warily, *solerter, vigilanter.* 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, III vii. 61 They that..ride not warily, fall into foule Bogs. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* I. v, Shee's kept as warily, as is your gold: Neuer do's come abroad, neuer takes ayre, But at a windore. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 33 More warily are we to receive the relations of Philes, who in Greeke Iambicks deliuered the proprieties of Animals. 1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 914 It [*sc.* honey] is a heauenly gift, and very profitable for men, if they use it well and warily. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 37 Take ripe Puff balls. Break them warily. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 163 Surrounded by snares in which an ordinary youth would have perished, William learned to tread at once wurily and firmly. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 396 Their adversaries defend themselves warily from an inviable world.

† Wariment. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Wary *a.* + -ment.] Precaution.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. iii. 17 Full many strokes..The whiles were enterchaunged...Yet they were all with so good wariment Or warded, or auoyded..That [etc.].

Warinar, obs. form of Warrener.

† Warine. *Obs.* [A rendering of Buffon's *ouarine*, a misreading for **ouarive*, ad. Sp. *guariba* (*b* = *v*).] = Guariba.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 235 The first of the sapajous is the Warine, or the Brazilian Guariba. [1785 Smellie *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 176 *note*, Ouarine, the name of this animal at Maragnon.]

War-ine, obs. form of Wherein.

Wariner, obs. form of Warrener.

Wariness (wē·rinés). [f. Wary *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being wary; cautiousness, circumspection.

1552 Huloet, Warines, *solertia, vigilantia.* 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1900) 114 The discretion and warinesse that count Lewis shewed us yesterday. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Forms & Qual.* 258 And having agen made the former Experiment with more wariness then before, we had the like success in our Distillation. 1774 Reynolds *Disc. R. Acad.* vi. (1778) 221 He that is forming himself, must look with great caution and wariness on those peculiarities or prominent parts, which at first force themselves upon view. 1821 Lamb *Elia, All Fools' Day*, Prizing their simplicity beyond the..somewhat unfeminine wariness of their competitors, I felt a kindliness..for those five thoughtless virgins. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* I. ii. 50 Our domestic dogs are descended from wolves.. and though they may not have gained in cunning, and may have lost in waryness and suspicion, yet [etc.]. 1893 Lydekker *Horns & Hoofs* 106 They are marvellously shy and wary, this wariness being fully confirmed by Messrs. Danford and Buxton.

Waring, *vbl. sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 varinge, 5 waryn(e, varin, 6 wayring. [f. Ware *v.*[2] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb; spending, investing (of money). † *At the waring of*: at the cost of (one's life).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 125 [God] þat wald þat men mad sic varinge As for almus to sel þare thinge. 1494 Halyburton *Ledger* 37 Som off this waryne of this syd, 119 li. 10*s.* 7 *g.* 1494 *Ibid.* 63 Som of my varin is, 59 li. 13*s.* 8 *g.* 1497 *Ibid.* 59 Item for my seruis sellin and waryn sen my last cont, 10 li. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 273 We shall..defend thame, the haill congregatioun of Christ..at our haill poweris and waring of our lyves, against Sathan. 1586–7 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 487 Gevis power..to þoom Robertsoun..to tak the aythis of the merchants vpoun the quantities of thair wayrings and guids schippet. 1752 *Scotland's Glory & Shame* (1786) 65 And sure I am, that never a man had loss by such a wareing.

† 2. Payment of a price. *Obs.*

c 1315 *E. E. Psalter* xliii. [xliv.] 13 Þou salde þi folk with out waring [Vulg. *sine pretio*].

† Waring, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Ware *v.*[1] + -ing[2].] Aware, cognisant *of*.

1571 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lix. 200 He.. was not wytting nor waring of that letter.

War-inne, obs. form of Wherein.

Warinstour, variant of Warnestore *sb. Obs.*

† Warish, *sb. Obs.*[−2] [Connected with OE. *wearr*, callosity, wart: see Warre.] A callosity.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 144/21 A warish, *callus.*

† Warish, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3–6 waris, 4–5 waris(e)che, -ys(e)che, -es(e)che, -isshe, -ysh, -iche, -yche, -isse, -ys(e, warsche, wars(e)he,

warche (*pa. t.* **warest**), 4–6 **waryshe**, 4–9 **warish**. [f. OF. *warir-*, pres. stem of *warir*, *g(u)arir*: see GUARISH *v.*]

1. *trans.* To heal, cure (a person, etc.) *of*, (*out of*), a sickness or trouble.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 Al-so rabe he was i-warisd of his maladie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21690 Quen þe stanged men moght se þe nedder on þe tre þat hang þai war all warist o þair stang. *c* 1390 *St. Peter* 33 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 49 Many þat war seke and sore..prayd him forto be þare belde And warisch þam out of þaire wo. *c* 1469 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 1104, I was warshed of al my sorwe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xii. 173 The kynge Alain..that lith in ‹ekenesse, and shall neuer be warisshed till [etc.]. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Warish*, ease, deliuer.

b. To heal, cure (a sickness, ill).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James*) 388 For-þi þi crafte þu keth one me, & waryse myn Infyrmyte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 320 And therfore o vengeaunce is nat warisshed by another vengeaunce ne o wroong by another wroong. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* in *Archæologia* XXX. 353 Fastande to vse sponfull thre Till his sekenesse warched be. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. ii. I. 154 There be some there who warish and cure the stinging of serpents with their spittle.

c. *intr.* To recover from sickness or trouble.

13.. *Sevyn Sag.* 1097 The child wariscþt fair and wel. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincent*) 336 And fosteris hyme wele..til he begyne to waryse. *a* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 16 Youre doghter with the grace of god shal warisshe and escape. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Warschyn' or recuryn of sekenesse, *convalesco*. 1530 PALSGR. 771/2, I waryshe, I recover my helth after a sycknesse or daunger (Lydgat). 1808 W. CARR *Craven Gloss.* II. 939 *Warish*, to recover from sickness. *Ibid.* 286 Hees niver warish'd o't' surfeit he gat last Kersmas. *a* 1864 R. B. PEACOCK *Lonsdale Gloss.* s.v., 'He'll never warish on it' = He will not get over it.

2. *trans.* To guard, secure, protect, preserve; to save, rescue.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2622 For burwes & bold tounes al for-brent were, but 3it were þei wiþ walles warchet a-boute. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 921 Nov walle þe a wonnyng þat þe warisch myȝt. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1306 How a hird-man A febil schepe warest & wane. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 233 Beir Chrystis croce..That is to say, ..Help vthir to beir that ourladin be: Sa sall this warld be ..warisid accordinle. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXII. xxi. 822 The mediteranean parts within the continent, were so secure and warished from the Romane forces, that [etc.]. 1601 — *Pliny* XVII. x. I. 511 Hut ever after it [*sc.* the tree] is warished and safe ynough. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, *Warisht*, that hath conquered any disease, or difficulty, and is secure against the future; also, well stored, or furnished.

Hence † **Wa'rishing** *vbl sb.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 49 As to the warisshynge of youre doghter. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Waryschynge, of sekenesse, *convalescencia*.

† **Wa'rish**, *v.*[2] *Obs.*–[o] [f. WARISH *sb.*] *intr.* To become hard or callous.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 144/41 To warish, *occallescere*.

Warish, variant of WERSH *a.*

† **Wa'risome**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WARY *a.* + -SOME.] Cautious or careful (*that*—). Hence † **Wa'risomeness.**

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts*, *Of Swine* 682 When the beasts do eat the white [Hellebore], they forbeare the blacke with all wearisomenesse [*sic*]. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* IV. 2217 That they might..Amend their courses; and be warisome That they displeas'd not God, in times to come.

† **Wa'rison.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 **wary-**, **wari-**, **ware-**, (4 **warei-**, **vari-**, 5 **wery-**, **warry-**); **-soun(e**, **-son(e**, 4 **-sun**, 5 **-sowne**, **-sonne**, **summe**; 9 **warrison.** [a. OF. *warison*, north-eastern form of *g(u)arison*: see GARRISON *sb.*]

1. Wealth, possessions. *To bring* (a person) *in* or *to* (*his*) *warison*: to enrich.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2463 Hengist þat hor maister was he [Vortigern] ȝef him lindesceye Londes vaire & Rentes & tounes grete & beye Ware þoru him & is men in vair warison he brouȝte. *Ibid.* 8878 Mabile is doȝter was eir of al is londe þe king vor ire eritage him gan vnderstonde To bringe roberd is sone abast in is warison þere þoru spousinge of þis mayde. 13.. *Sir Beues* (MS. A.) 2140 Wide whar ichaue iwent And me warisoun ispent. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 64 Bot yet his herte..Among his bedes most devoute Goth in the worldes cause aboute, How that he myhte his warisoun Encresce. *Ibid.* I. 155 Mi fader hier hath bot a lite Of warison. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 918 Bot i sal help the fra presowne, And bring the to thi warisowne. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 919 For thy my warysoun is full gude at hame quhair I dwel.

b. (*To give*, *have*) *to warison*: in full possession. Also, *To give* (a woman) *in warison*: to give in marriage; similarly *to have*, *in warison*, *wed to warison.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1284 My moste fo & my feloun Schal haue my doughter to warisoun. 1338 — *Chron.* (1725) 21 Elfride þorgh heritage toke him þe coroune, & gaf Alfride his broþer Surray to warisoune. *Ibid.* 69 þe duke wrote to þe kyng..Bisout him..þat he wild hold his oth, & ȝeld him þe coroun of Inglond..Or Marie to warisoun wed hir, & joy it wele. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2399, I sal hir gif to warisowne Ane of the foulest quisteroun That ever yit ete any brede. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 10046 The lordeship of a grete town He yafe him to his warison. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 111 And for this quyte-clayme the forsaid Symond yaf to her ij. shillinge of siluer into warison. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 264 And for this ȝevyng and of this present charter confermyng and warantiyng aquite & defendyng þe forenaide Nycoll ȝafe to me Cl li. of goode & lawfull moneye by-fore handes in weryson.

c. *fig.* Applied to an immaterial 'treasure'; esp. a maiden's honour.

a 1300 *Prov. Hendyng* 21 Wyt & wysdom is god warysoun. *a* 1300 *Marina* 109 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 170 þou ne dudest nout ase hende To þynymen þat may hire warisoun. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2190 ȝif þou rauyssche a mayden powre,..þou hast stole here warysoun.

2. A gift bestowed by a superior; a reward.

13.. *K. Alis.* 2507 (Laud MS.), þer nas knaue ne quystroun þat ne had his warisoun. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 385 Þre hundreth marke he hette vnto his warisoun, þat with him so mette, or bring his hede to toun. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. (*Blasius*) 270 His wark sal haf warysone & of his master benysone. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Warysone, *donativum*, *possessio*. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 254 We arn alle felawys in goddys host, þat yche day fyȝten as his knyȝtes, and alle we abyde on warysoun. *c* 1460 *Battle of Otterbourne* xliii. in Child *Ballads* III. 297/2 Myn-trells, playe vp for your waryson And well quyt it schall bee. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xxii. 372 And now haue I my waryson. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *King Hart* II. 35 My warisoun,..Lord, pay to me, and gif me leif to ryde. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 66 My ladds of Leith, be wice—ȝe ken ȝour warisoun.

b. In bad sense: 'Reward', due punishment.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1537 He [*sc.* Narcissus] lost his witte..And diede withynne a lytel space, And thus his warisoun [F. *guerredon*] he took For the lady that he forsook. *c* 1440 *Verk Myst.* xxxvi. 89 For thy presumpcyoune þou haste thy warisoune. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 362 Robert the Grahame,..for his waresoun, Vpoun ane flaik wes traillit throw the toun. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 8 This cochreine with his companie Within schort tyme gat thair warison, On lather brig wer hanged schamefullie. [1881 J. SARGISSON *Joe Scoop* 31 (E.D.D.) Thoo's gittn thy warrison, me lad; lig thee theer till sec-like times as ah send for theh.]

¶ **3.** tr. med.L. *gersuma*, ad. ME. GERSUM.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 156 And for this yifte..the forsaid mynchons of Godestowe yaf to hym ix. marke of siluer into waryson. *Ibid.* 222 And for thys graunt..the foreseyd mynchons yaf to hym xj. marke, ij. shillings, viij. d, in warysumme.

4. ? Preservation, defence.

c 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 2337 With greet rewardys doo them avance..Which aldayes besy and waking be In thy nedys; for in them stant the warysoun Of thy worshepe, thy lyf or thy destruccion.

¶ **5.** Misused by Scott for: A note of assault.

The source of the mistake is prob. the line 'Mynstrells, playe vp for your waryson', in *The Battle of Otterbourne*, which Scott had doubtless read in Percy's *Reliques*.

1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* IV. xxiv, Either receive within thy towers Two hundred of my master's powers, Or straight thy sound their warison, And storm and spoil thy garrison. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. lix, As my friend Scott says, 'I sound my warison.' 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 342 He thinks of sounding his warrison against what he strikingly calls the army of the Philistines.

Warisse, **-issbe**, var. ff. WARISH *v. Obs.*

Waritreo: see WABYTRE *Obs.*, gallows.

Warius, obs. form of VERJUICE.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 662/13 *Hoc tus viride*, warius [*printed* warins].

Wark (wāk), **warch** (wāɪtʃ), *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **wærc**, 3 **warche**, 5 **werk(e**, 5–6 **warke**, 7 **warck**, 7– **warch**, 9 **wark.** [OE. *wærc* masc. = ON. *verk-r* (Sw. *värk* pain, Da. *værk* gout, rheumatism):—OTeut. **warki-z*, from the same root as **werko-m* WORK *sb.*

With the dial. variation between the types *wark* and *warch* cf. the similar variation in ME. between *like* and *liche* (LIKE *a.*). The form *wark* may be partly due to ON. *verkr.*]

A pain, an ache.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xix. (1890) 328 Seo readnis & bryne þæs swiles & wærces. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 318 Wiþ magan wærce wyl pic on cu meolce. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 326 þet he ne mei..speken ase he schulde, bute gronen uor his eche [*MS. T.* warche]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2811 As waryache I my warke [*MS. Dubl.* werk] þat I am in wonden. 14.. *Medical Receipts* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 51 For evel and werke in bledder: take ache, percel [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 Furth-with a grete warke went þurgh his hand. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 32/1 Warke, ache, *dolor*. 1613 POTTS *Discov. Witches* T 3 b, Hee hath beene sore pained with great warch in his bones. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss*, *Wark*..a pain or ache. 'The belly wark.' 1862 [C. C. ROBINSON] *Dial. Leeds* s.v., Gotten t' back-wark, shoother-wark, leg-wark..—ne'er wur so done up i' my life.

† **Wark**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 8 **werk.** [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. Pref. B 2 b, I know not but that the several Species of new Ferns..may be discover'd upon some of the Stones or Slates called Werk, which lie in plenty in the Strata over the Cole-pits in many Places of England. 1750 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist.* I. 68 In several of the Coal Pits of this Country [Somerset], the Veins are covered with a Shell of hard, and stony Substance called Wark, which splits like Slate, but is much more brittle.

Wark (wāk), **warch** (wāɪtʃ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **wercan**, 3 **warche**, 5 **werk**, 6 **warke**, 7 **warck**, 7, 9 **warch**, 5– **wark.** [OE. *wercan* = ON. *verkja*, *virkja*:—OTeut. **werkjan*, f. **werki-z*: see WARK *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To ache, suffer pain; to throb painfully. (In OE. impers. with accus., like L. *dolet*.)

a 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 272 Ȝif hine innan wærce genim nizes ealaþ amber fulne [etc.]. *Ibid.* 328. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Leste hor heaued aeke [*MS. T.* warche]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Werkyn', and akyn' as a soore lymme, *dolee*, *indolee*. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 100 Yit it was a grete mervayle, for for all þis, nowder warkid hur hevud, nor sho lefte not þe labur of hur handis. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* lii. 269 My bonys ar so stark, Mo wonder if they wark, for I am full old. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1581, I wolde haulse whylest my heade dyd warke. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 77 For laik of quhilke my heid dois wark and ȝalk. 1674–91 RAY *N. C. Words*, *Warck*, or *Wark*, to ake, to work. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant. Gloss. s.v.*, My corns warchen. 1883 SARGISSON *Joe Scoop's Journ.* 30 (Cumbld. Gloss.) Me heid warkt as it had niver warkt afoar.

Hence **Wa'rking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* xxxvii. 8 ‖ in armes ere festid in me: þat is, þi vengaunce, as werkyngis of body and saule. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1238 The souerayn, the kyng with the crappe caste to þe ground, With a warchand wounde thurgh his wedis all. *Ibid.* 10035. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Werkynge, or heede ake, *cephalia*. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vi. 8 I haue maide me, in this strete, sore bonys & warkand feete. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 738 That..Wrocht the Sotheroun mony werkand wound. *Ibid.* 858. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. ii. 157 Nocht long eftir, throuch the warking woundes that in the battel he receiuet, he dies. *Ibid.* II. x. 397.

Wark, obs. and dial. form of WORK *sb.* and *v.*

Warkefull, obs. form of WORKFUL.

War-kettle. Among North American Indians, a kettle which was set on the fire as a part of the ceremony of inaugurating a war; also *fig.*

1754 *World* No. 108 P 7 At a meeting of the Sachems it was determined to take up the hatchet, and make the war-kettle boil. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* I. ii. iv. 181 The principal captain summons the youth of the town to which he belongs; the war kettle is set on the fire;..the hatchet is sent to all the villages of the same nation, and to all its allies. 1764 MRS. E CARTER *Let. to Miss Talbot* 3 Feb., The Duke had made a dinner in honor of the wedding, for the Dukes of D. G. P. B. Lord R. and other chiefs of the war-kettle. 1776 MICKLE tr *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. p. lxxxviii. *note*, His [the prisoner's] dissevered limbs are boiled in the war-kettle, and devoured by his executioners. 1791 J. LONG *Voy. Ind. Interpr.* 146 They..brought him to the war-kettle to make his death-feast: which consisted of dog, tyger-cat, and bear's grease, [etc.]..of which he was compelled to eat. 1861 SPURGEON in *Metrop. Tab. Pulpit* No. 383. 283 They shall empty their war-kettle, and they shall bury their swords.

Warkmanly, obs. form of WORKMANLY.

Warlag(h: see WARLOCK.

Wa'rland. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 3 **warlond**, 4 **warelond**, 5 **warlant**, **-londe**, 5, 9 *Hist.* **warland**, 7, 9 **wareland.** [f. OE. *waru* defence (see WARE *sb.*[2]) + LAND *sb.*: in AL. *terra de wara.*] Agricultural land held by a villein.

See Vinogradoff *Eng. Soc. in Eleventh Cent.* (1908).

c 1158 *Oseney Latin Register* (Ch. Ch. MS.) fol. 17 Unam hidam terre cum quatuor hominibus de warland. 1290 *Inq. Post Mortem. C. Edw. I* File 56 (18) (P.R.O.) Le warlond ejusdem manerii [*sc.* Norcliffe co. Chester] tenetur pascere servientes domine regine de Maklesfeld de mense in mensem quolibet mense per unum diem. 1332 [see TRIGGING]. 1456–7 *MS. Bursar's Bk. of Fountains* 58 In xliij acr. et ij Rod. de Warland - ix s. viij d. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 30 Þere also j. hide of londe with iiij. men of Warlande [tr. quot. *c* 1158 above]..; In Weston iij. ȝerdes of londe of Warlant. *Ibid.* 31, j. ȝerde of londe of þe lordship and another of Warlonde. 1821 *Extract Court Rolls Great Oakley, Essex*, [Francis Fisher a tenant of the Manor is described as holding 5 acres of] Wareland.

¶ Erroneously explained.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 237/2 Wareland, is as much Land as containeth three Lands. [See LAND *sb.* 7, LOOM[3].] 1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Warland*, The same with *Waretum*.

Warlare: see WRAWLER.

Warlau, warlaw(e: see WARLOCK.

Warld, Warldlie, etc.: see WORLD, **-LY**, etc.

Warless (wō·ɹlés), *a.* In 5 **werreles.** [f. WAR *sb.*[1] + **-LESS.**] Free or exempt from war; not engaging in war.

1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 207 And thus shulde everi lande one with another..life togedre werreles in unité. 1837 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 256 The pale, pure crescent in the warless heavens. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 6 So him they lead to warless rest. 1886 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall After* 165 Earth at last a warless world, a single race, a single tongue. *Ibid.* 170 Universal ocean softly washing all her warless Isles. *Ibid.* 172 Who can fancy warless men?

Hence **Wa'rlessly** *adv.*, in a warless manner.

1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 267 Little flags would mark battles all over the map of their country—the country Mademoiselle Couper despised as so hopelessly, warlessly insignificant.

Warli(e, -liche: see WARELY *a.* and *adv. Obs.*

Warlike (wō·ɹlɪlk), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* **wir-**, **weirelyk**, **werlik**, 5–6 *Sc.* **weirlyk(e**, 6 *Sc.* **were-**, **woirlike**, **-lio**; 6 **warlycke**, **warrelike**, 6–7 **warlicke**, **warrelyke**, 6–8 **warlick**, (7 **warlique**), 6– **warlike.** [f. WAR *sb.*[1] + **-LIKE.**]

A. *adj.*

1. Of a person, nation, etc.: Naturally disposed to warfare or fighting; skilled in war, martial; courageous in war, valiant; fond of war, bellicose.

† *The warlike god*, the god of war, Mars.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 323 Thir werlik Scottis, all with one assent, Northt so our Ern throuch out the land thai went. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 75 Thinhabitantes [of Jamaica] are..warrelyke men. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 118 Warlike and Martiall Talbot, Burgonie inshrines thee in his heart. 1599 SHAKS. etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 147 Euen thus (quoth she) the warlike god embrac't me. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 712 Joane wife unto that most warlicke [1637 warlique] Knight Edw. Prince of Wales. 1625–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. 557 As when a wrathful Dragons dismal light Strikes suddenly some warlike Eagles sight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 900 The warlike Angel mov'd, Disdainfully half smiling thus repli'd. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.*

vi. Wks. 1851 V. 584 The warlike tribes in North America. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 200 Some trifling assistance from government, to protect them from the predatory and warlike tribes. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, Mr. Winkle retraced his steps..with the gloomy and dreadful resolve of accepting the challenge of the warlike Doctor Slammer.

b. Of actions, attributes, etc.: Martial, valiant.

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* iv. 188 And so let his warlike browes Still be deckt with Lawrel boughes. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xiii. II. 190 These exercises do not create and are not sufficient to keep alive the warlike spirit of a nation.

c. Of things: Martial in character.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii. 1021 Seit thai within on lowd defyit Wallace, And trumpattis blew with mony werlik soun. 1595 Shaks. *John* ii. 242 For this downe-troden equity, we tread In warlike march, these greenes before your Towne. 1608 — *Ham.* v. ii. 360 What warlike noyse is this? 1667 Milton *P. L.* i. 531 At the warlike sound Of Trumpets loud and Clarions. 1811 Scott *Roderick* lvi, Then peals the warlike thunder of the drum.

d. Favouring or threatening war.

1915 *Nation* (N. Y.) 17 June 672/1 After his own outgivings he [Mr. Bryan] had the effrontery to blame the press for making people think the note would be warlike.

†e. *fig.* Of writings: = Polemic *a. nonce-use.*

a 1603 T. Cartwright in *Presbyt. Rev.* (1888) Jan. 121 Ambrose and especially Austin in their warlike writinges as they are termed.

†2. Equipped for fighting or for war. *Obs.*

c 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* ix. xvi. 1704 Schir Henry, qwhat makis 3ow to be Sa wirlyk as now heyr we 3ow se? 1563 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 631 With one Shippe..Marchantlike and not Warlike. 1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 124 He, that..No deadly fight of warlick fleete doth feare. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. vi. 15 Ere we were two dayes old at Sea, a Pyrate of very Warlicke appointment gaue vs Chace. 1630 *R. Johnston's Kingd. & Commw.* 537 Monasteries, ancient and warlike, so built for feare of theeves and pyrats. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 285 If to the Warlike Steed they Studies bend. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 124 They are..destitute of warlick ships and other vessells.

3. Of or pertaining to war.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 78 b, The assemblie of the Empire..was in this warlyke preparation. 1573 *Sattr. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 93 For ordinance thay dung at day and nycht By weirlyk volyis. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. xxi. 26 b, [They] surrendred the same [castle]..without any warlike reason. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. ii. 16 They were two knights of peresense puissance, And famous far abroad for warlike gest. 1591 Sh[a]k[s]. 1 *Hen. VI*, ii. i. 44 Since first I follow'd Armes, Nere heard I of a warlike enterprize More venturous..then this. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* i. 282 Who being brought up in warlike feats..most manfully defended this Castle against King Stephen. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 363 A warlike-field is the seed-plot of great and heroical actions. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* iii. xxi. 39 He was upon his return from a Warlike expedition. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 234 Him they serv'd in war, And him in peace, for sake of warlike deeds Rev'renc'd no less. 1817 Byron *Manfred* iii. i. 141 Mortals ..who..die ere middle age, Without the violence of warlike death. 1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 81 All our arrangements in warlike preparations, at present, involve [etc.]. 1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 342 Their former glorious warlike exploits..led them to entertain very different expectations.

b. of formation, order, etc.

1599 Alex. Hume *Hymns* vii. 191 Poems (S.T.S.) 57 Euen aik..Sall armed be that day with spear and sheild, Baith horsse and fute in weirlike maner drest. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 780 The Cherubim..stood armd To thir night watches in warlike Parade. 1808 Scott *Marmion* i. xx, Were I in warlike wise to ride, A better guard I would not lack. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* ix. 108 With each A hundred youths in warlike order marched.

c. Of arms, munitions, etc.: For use in war.

1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* xliii. 283 We shall learne also howe to fight agaynst Antichrist, and howe he muste be ouercomen not with warlicke, but spiritual weapons. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 183/1 *Armamentarium*,..an armourie, or place wherein warlike furniture is kept. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* Prol. 13 To Tenedos they come, And the deepe-drawing Barke[s] do there disgorge Their warlike fraut-age. 1652 Wadsworth tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* v. xxx. 312 They were in all six thousand compleat Foot and hors, besides thirtie Carts loaden with Munition, carriages, and other warlike utensils. 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* 24 Ample provisions, ammunition, and warlike stores were deposited in the hunting-carts.

d. Of exercises, training, etc.: Of a military character, martial. ? Now *rare.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* ii. xviii. 51 b, [They are] exercised..to shoote, and doe all other warlyke exercises. 1626 Gouge *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* § 7 Were Artillery Gardens, and Military Fields for Martiall discipline and warlike trainings, fostered..thorow-out this land.

4. Of or belonging to a warrior or soldier.

1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 59 Item for our Master of ye Ordnaunce a fayre apparell warlyke. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, iv. iii. 31, I breake my warlike word. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 150 For when he wore his fairely plumed cask; She thought him lously in that warlick mask. 1671 Milton *Samson* 137 He..In scorn of thir proud arms and warlike tools, Spurn'd them to death by Troops. 1813 Scott *Triorm.* i. xvii, Behind him were in triumph borne The warlike arms he late had worn. 1818 Shelley *Homer's Hymn to Minerva* 5 From his awful head Whom Jove brought forth, in warlike armour dressed.

†B. *adv.* As is usual in war. *Obs. rare.*

1583 A. Melvill in *J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 161 The quhilk merciless men..ar gorgiuslie arrayit, and accompanied warlyke with a sort of limmers and godles suddartes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* viii. 343 Some warlike maim'd, some lame.

Hence †**Wa·rlikely** *adv.*, in a warlike condition or manner. †**Wa·rlikeness**, warlike disposition.

1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) a When his army by the sea, was thus warlykely set forward. *Ibid.* 37 b, So he hym selfe with his nobilitie warlikely accompaignied, passed ouer betwene Douer and Caleys. 1603 Warlikeneasse [see Warlinkes]. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiv. lxxxiii. 345 We shall the warlikenesse compend of those fame-wronged Men. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* i. 51 Many tall ships..warlikely appointed. 1626 *Sir W. Rawleigh's Ghost* 3 The Counde.. began to repeate many relations..touching the generall warlikenesse of the British Nation.

Warlike, obs. variant of Warlock.

†**Wa·rlineas.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Warly *a.*[2] + -nebb.] Warlike disposition, valiantness.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1629) 209 And all to keepe the Father from jealousie of his owne sonne, whose brauenesse of mind and warlineasse [*the pirated ed. of* 1605 *reads* warlikenesse] is still suspected.

†**Wa·rling.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 **werlyng,** 7 **worling, worldling,** 7– **warling.** [app. formed arbitrarily to rhyme with *darling.* The resemblance to the Sc. Wirling seems to be accidental.] One who is despised or disliked. Only in the proverb (see quots.) and allusively.

In the proverb *warling* is sometimes substituted for *warling*; the form *worldling* is an obvious perversion.

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* ii. vii. (1867) 65 It is better to be An olde mans derlyng, than a yong mans werlyng. 1604 [? Chettle] *Wit of Woman* F 4, A young mans worldling. 1611 L. Barry *Ram Alley* ii. i, A young mans warling. 1671 T. Hunt *Abeced. Scholast.* 91 A young mans Worling. 1887 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* (1864) III. iii. 162 Fully does King Henry appear self-vindicated from the stigma of inertness, the failing assigned by his vixen Mother as justifying her schemes for aggrandizing her darling at the expence of her warling.

Warlock (wō·rlɒk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **wǽrloga, wérloga,** 3 **werlau, werlaw,** 3–4 **warlou,** 3–5 **warlagh(e, warlau, warlaw(e,** 4–5 **warlag, warlaȝ(e, warloghe, werlaughe,** 4–5 (6–7 *Sc.*) **warlow(e,** 4–6 (? 9) *Sc.* **warlo,** 5 **warlach, warloo, warlowȝ, werlawe,** 6 *Sc.* **warloche, warlok, vairloche, varlo,** 7 ? **warelooke, warlike, warluok,** 8 (*Sc.*), 9 **warlock.** [OE. *wǽr-loga* wk. masc. traitor, enemy, devil, etc. = OS. *wār-logo* wk. masc. ?deceiver (once, *Hêliand* 3817, in pl. *wârlogon* applied to the Pharisees). The first element is probably OE. *wǽr* str. fem. covenant = OHG. *wâra* truth, ON. *vǫrr* str. fem. pl. solemn promise, vow (cf. *Vǫringi* confederate, Varangian); cf. OSlav. *věra* faith. This is a derivative from the adj. represented by OE. *wǽr* true (once, *Genesis* 681; ? a. OS.) = OS., OHG. *wâr* true:—OTeut. **wēro-*:—Pre-Teut. **wēro-* = L. *vērus.* The second element (an agent-n. related to OE. *lēogan* to Lie, belie, deny) occurs also in the similar comps. *dȳ-loga, trēow-loga* (OS. *treulogo*), *wed-loga* (ME. *wedlowe*), an oath-breaker, etc.

This seems to have been the original sense of the present word, but the special application to the Devil (either as a rebel, or a deceiver) was already in OE. the leading sense. The applications to sorcerers, with especial reference to the power of assuming inhuman shapes, and to monsters (esp. serpents), appear to be developments, partly due to Scriptural language, of the sense 'devil'.

The modern forms with final *-(c)k* are of obscure origin, for they appear first in Sc. of 16th c., and owe their spread to Sc. writers, and so cannot represent, as has been assumed, a Southern sound-substitution of (k) for the *-ch* (χ) of some of the rarer North. and Sc. forms. From the first they have been used exclusively in the sense 'wizard'. Some other word, lost or not discovered, has perh. influenced both form and sense. ON. *vardlokkur* wk fem. pl. (cf. also *urðar lo(k)kur*) ?incantation, suggested already in Johnson, is too rare (? occurring once), with regard to the late appearance of the *-k* forms, to be considered.]

†1. An oath-breaker, traitor. *Obs.*

Widsiþ 9 (Gr.) Hreðcyninges ham..Eormanrices, wraþes wærloran. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* (1883) 266 He sceal wedloran and wærloran hatian and hynan. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3771 Sir Gawayne i-wysse, he wayties hym wele To wreke hyme on this werlaughe [Modred], that this werre moueda.

†b. A wicked person; a scoundrel, reprobate; a general term of reproach or abuse. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Judith* 71 (Gr.) Weras winsade..Sone wærlogan [Holofernus], la^ne leodhatan læddon to bedde. *c* 1275 *Sarving Christ* 37 in *O. E. Misc.* 91 Bi-leueþ oure weorre warlawes wode. Al þes world is bi-heled myd hepene-hode. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 783 Wenest þou þer wold so sele awiche warlawes weren, Ne were worldlyche wele and her welfare. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4485 Þus fra þe rote of riȝtwisnes rauyst ere ȝe clene, And to þe way of wickidnes be warlaȝes gidid. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 141 Sir, what warlowe yow wakens With wordis full wilde, þat boy for his brawlyng were better be vn-borne. *Ibid.* xliv. 176 Undo youre dores, and haues no doute, For to ȝone warlowes [the Jews] will we wende. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* 4544 Þan all þe hoste with Elfride To Assendoun þai turne þat tyde, Whare þa warlowes ware. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvi. 60 Catyvis, wrechis and okkeraris, Hud-pykis, hurdaris and gadderaris, All with that warlo [Covetousness] went.

†c. A damned soul in hell. *Obs. rare.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1562 Donne mansceaþa fore meotude forht deorc on þam dome standeþ..biþ se wærloga fyres afylled feores unwyrþe exaan ȝe-þread and-weard gode won & wliteleas. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23250 Þe aghtand pine it es ful grise, to se þaa warlaus in þat wise.

†2. The Devil; Satan. *Obs.*

Freq. in *Cursor Mundi*, where *warlaw* occurs as a genitive (= OE. *wǽrlogan*).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 36 (Gr.) [God] sceop ðam wærlogan wræclicne ham weorce to leane. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22275 [Antichrist] þe warlau aun child. *Ibid.* 23747 Vr flexs, þis werld, and þe warlau, We ar bunden vnder þair au. *Ibid.* 27060 For qua witstandes warlau will, he has na might to do him ill. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciana*) 636 [Christ] þat was fra þe warlo wane. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 640 That warloo to sheynd this nyght is he borne. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 78 Betuix ws, varlo, and thy weris All Chrystis passioun we put compleit.

†b. A devil, demon, spirit of hell. *Obs. rare.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Guthlac* 269 Wid is þes westen, wræcsetla fela, eardas onhæle earmra gæsta; nindon wærloran, þe þa wic buzað. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22611 Þan sal þai þat in helle es cropen Quen sal scine þe heuennes open, þaa warlaus all sal walk þan vte. *c* 1440 *De witt ac. B. Marie* 105 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 304 Þe foulle warlawes of helle Vndir þe wallys skrykked schille.

†3. A savage or monstrous creature (hostile to men). The word is applied to giants, cannibals, mythic beasts, etc. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1266 (Gr.) Frea wolde on wærloran wite settan & on deaþ slean dædum scyldige gigantmæcgas, gode unleofe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7478 Allas! quar sal we find a man þat dar þe fight, for mi sake, Again yon warlau [Goliath] vndertake. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 258 þe hyȝe Ieuen kyng, þurȝ his honde my t, Warded þis wrech man [Jonah] in warlowes guttez. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 303 So dang he þat dog [*sc.* Cerberus] with dynt of his wappon, þat þe warlag was wete of his wan atter. *Ibid.* 7765 The warlagh [the Centaur] with a wicked arowe woundit hym behynd. *a* 1400–50 *Il ars Alex.* 3795 i ai went be waldis & be wastis..And armed bud þam all bee for angwischis o bestis, As colwers & for coltris & crabbid snakis, And obire warlaȝes wild þat in þe wod duelled. *a* 1585 Polwart *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 634 Ane vairloche [*w. rr.* warloch(e], ane woirwolf, ane wowlat of hair.

4. One in league with the Devil and so possessing occult and evil powers; a sorcerer, wizard (sometimes partly imagined as inhuman or demonic, and so approaching sense 2 or 3); the male equivalent of *witch. Sc.* and *north. dial.*

Frequently used by Scott, whence it has obtained some general literary currency. On the form *warloch*, specialized for this sense, see the etymology.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1560 Segges..þat wer wyse of wych-crafte & warlaȝes ofer. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 232 *Pharao*...Say, whence is yond warlow [Moyses] with his wand that thus wold wyle oure folk away? *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* iii. 25 That witch, that warlok [*sc.* Fortune]..Turnis ay the best men tittest on thair bakis. 1685 G. Sinclair *Satan's Invis. World* 45 An eminent Warlock whose name was Robert Grieve. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Regni apud Scotos* 65 No Thief or Warlike will willingly compear before a Judge to be judged. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scot.* (1818) I. 234 He was himself a warlock, or wizard, which they knew by his taking the witch's part. 1795 Burns *Song*, '*Last May a braw wooer*' v, I gaed to the tryste o' Dalgarnock, And wha but my fine fickle lover was there! I glowr'd as I'd seen a warlock, a warlock. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* v, 'But you forget that they say he is a warlock,' said Nancy Ilderton. 'And, if his magic diabolical should fail him,' rejoined her sister, 'I would have him trust to his magic natural'. 1822 S. Hibbert *Shetl. Isl.* iv. 576 The warlocks and witches of Thule used, by the same means, to raise tempests. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg., St. Aloys*, The gipsy always sneaks out at night with the bats and the owls,—So do Witches and Warlocks, Ghosts, Goblins, and Ghouls. 1860 Longf. *Wayside Inn* i. *King Olaf* v. x, In their real forms appeared The warlocks weird, Awful as the Witch of Endor. 1865 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* 29 In like manner the Danish king Harold sent a warlock to Iceland in the form of a whale. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* i. ii. 51, I am prepared to believe in witches—warlocks.

b. *Sc.* In weaker sense, a magician, conjurer.

1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 75 But gin ye be nae warlock, how d'ye ken? 1808 Scott *Aunt Marg. Mirr.* ii, 'That rascally quack would make my fortune were he to stay in Edinburgh,' said the graduate... 'I suppose I must ing me the impression ..... — auditor, interrupting, said, 'A godly warlock.' 'Yes,' rejoined the speaker, 'that was just it, he was a wizard..'. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* iii, I'm nae warlock, to find a fortune for you in the bottom of a parritch bowl.

†5. By Dryden taken to mean: A warrior magically immune from wounds inflicted by certain metals. *Obs.*

Dryden's spelling perh. indicates that he imagined the word to be f. War *sb.* + Luck.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* Ded. (b) 4 b, It seems he [Æneas] was no War-luck, as the Scots commonly call such Men, who, they say, are Iron-free, or Lead-free.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Appositive or adj. †Malignant, wicked (*obs.*); in later use, That is a warlock or wizard.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 7489 (Fairf.) Agayne ȝone warlagh hethen þing [*Cotton MS.* wreche haiþen þing] for-soþ I drede me noȝt sir king. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6425 Nay, warloghe wolfe, in þi wode hongur,..The tydis not to taste of his triet meite! 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 232 This reid Reifar & this rank warlo witche. 1685 G. Sinclair *Nat. Philos.* 243 The Devil answered,..I and my Father will come and fetch you to hell, with Warlock-theeves. 1685 — *Satan's Invis. World* 123 Saying, You Warlok Cairle, what have you to do here? 1724 Ramsay *Ever Green* (1761) I. 51 A Bytand Ballat on warlo Wives, That gar thair Men live pinging Lives. 1786 Burns *Brigs of Ayr* 72 Our warlock Rhymer instantly descry'd the Sprites that owre the Brigs of Ayr preside. (That Bards are second-sighted is nae joke, And ken the lingo of the sp'ritual folk.) 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Rhyme Three Sealers,* A *Stralsund* man shot blind and large, and a warlock Finn was he.

b. Pertaining to a warlock or warlocks, as in

warlock claw, fight, knoll, etc.; **warlock brief**, a charter conveying magical powers; **warlock feoket** *Sc.* (see quot. 1810).

1786 BURNS *To J. Smith* 3 Ye surely hae some warlock-breef Owre human hearts; For na'er a bosom yet was prief Against your arts. 1793 — *Song, 'Now rosy May'* Chorus, Meet me on the warlock-knowe, Daintie Davie, daintie Davie. 1809 H. K. WHITE *Lines..spoken by a Lover* Rem. 1807 II. 47 No wicked elves upon the Warlock-knoll Dare now assemble at their mystic revels. 1807 TANNAHILL *Soldier's Ret.* II. i, A great red dragon, wi a warlock claw, Has come, and wi your dochter flown awa! 1810 CROMEK *Remains Nithsdale Song* 281 Jackets, woven of water snake skins, at a certain time of a March moon, were much in vogue among the crusading servants of Satan; and are yet remembered by the name of warlock feckets. 1819 J. R. DRAKE *Culprit Fay* viii, Yet..If thy heart be pure and thy spirit right, Thou shalt win the warlock fight! 1905 *Academy* 21 Oct. 1103/1 A warlock voice from the slumber of ages stirred.

† Warlock, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* In quots. warloo, warlok. [Perh. repr. an OE. **warloc*, f. OE. *waru* WARE *sb.*[1] guard, safe-keeping + *loc* LOCK *sb.*[2] It is, however, possibly an alteration of WARROK *sb.* caused by some such etymological association as that indicated. Cf. the senses in mod. dial. of WARLOCK *v.*[1] and WARROK *v.*]

1. ? A shackle, fetter.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 80 Pynez me in a prysoun, put me in stokkes, Wrybe me in a warlok, wrast out myn ysen.

2. A fetterlock.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warlok, a fetyr lok..*sera pedicalis. vel compedicalis.*

Warlock, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*) *rare.* Also 5 **warloh**, (? **warlecok**), **warlok.** [Of obscure origin. The early forms *warich, warlecok* are perh. nearer to the original than *warlo(c)k*, which may be due to association with CHARLOCK.] Apparently applied like CHARLOCK (q. v.) to various field-weeds of the N.O. *Cruciferæ*, esp. to species of the genus *Sinapis*, Mustard.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 644/29 *Hoc sinapium*, warlecok. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 349/1 Mustard, or warlok, or se(n)vyne, herbe *sinapis. Ibid.* 517/1 Warlok, herbe, *eruca.* *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 37/1 *Cenapium*, gall. ceneue, angl. warich, uel mostard. 1784-1825 A. YOUNG *Annals Agric.* V. 251 (E. D. S.) Warlock, *Raphanus Raphanistrum* (?) Suff[olk]. *a* 1850 W. A. BROUSFIELD *Flora Vectensis* (1856) 37 *Sinapis nigra*, L. Common or Black Mustard. *Vect* Warlock.

† Warlock, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [app. a real or supposed Norw. word: cf. Norw. *varde* (dial. *vale*) cairn.] A cairn, pile of stones (in Scandinavian regions).

1584 R. NORMAN tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 51 Item, if it were so that you would saile into Calfe sound, then you shall hale in by a high land which is called Winge, and there stands fiue Warlocks or Bomes vpon it. *Ibid.*, The fiue Warlocks or Beacons. *Ibid.* 52 b. 1618 GATONBE in *Churchill's Voy.* (1732) VI. 250 We rowed about the cape and came to an island whereon was a warlock. 1614 R. FOTHERBY in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) III. 725 Here vpon the mountaine wee set vp a Warelocke, and then came downe againe.

Warlock, *v.*[1] *Obs.* (exc. *dial.*) *rare.* Also **warloke.** [f. WARLOCK *sb.*[2]] *trans.* † a. ? To secure (a horse) as with a fetterlock. *Obs. rare*[—1]. b. *dial.* (See quot.) Cf. WARROK *v.*

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 769* (Dubl. MS.) So carez he in þe castell-garde & commes on a day By a wyndow als þis wild horse [was] warloked in bandez. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Warlock*, to tighten the rope or chain which binds the load upon a waggon.

War-lock, *v.*[2] *nonce-wd.* [f. WAR *sb.*[1] + LOCK *v.* (? suggested by WARLOCK *sb.*[1])] *trans.* ? To bar against hostile invasion.

1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 40 The western fort, That.. war-locks imminent the mouth of Ouse.

Warlockry. ? *Obs.* [f. WARLOCK *sb.*[1] + -RY.] The practice of magic (by men, or male beings); wizardry.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 527 Hence proceed..the warlockry and fortune-telling abilities of the shrewd sagacious gypsies. 1822 HOGG *Siege of Roxburgh* i, Sin' the Rhymer's days, the spirit o' true warlockry is gane. 1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 21 The shadows o' a'the eatables and drinkables that his wild warlockry cou'd hae conjured up. 1834 HOGG in *Fraser's Mag.* X. 404 Yes, witchcraft! Wicked warlockrye!

Warlogh(e, warloo, obs. ff. WARLOCK *sb.*[1]

Warlonde, obs. form of WARLAND *Hist.*

War-lord. A military commander or commander-in-chief. Often used to render *Kriegsherr* as a title of the German Emperor; also *attrib.*

1896 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 77 Piracy and war gave place to trade, politics, and letters; the war-lord to the law-lord. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* IX. 30 Æneas, war-lord wise. 1888 *Boston* (Mass.) *Transcript* 7 July 4/4 The very bristling and 'war-lord' talk of the young Emperor William. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 534 The officers of the [German] army, with all their traditional loyalty to their 'war-lord'.

Hence **War-lordship,** the status of a war-lord.

1913 C. TOWER *Germany To-day* ii. 36 The Kaisership is the old Presidency of the band plus the warlordship.

† Warlott. *local. Obs.* [f. *war-* as in WARLAND + LOT *sb.*] Some kind of waste or common

c 1250 *Register Malton Priory* (MS. Cott. Claudius D.xi) 206 Gens prato que dicitur Warlotes. 1624 *Tovrier of Mer-*

ley of Winterton, Warlotes, the long; the short. 1794 *Act Inclos. South Kelsey* 3 Commissioners for dividing..and inclosing the said Open and Common Fields,..Warlotts, or Whoselotts, Furze Leas, and Waste Grounds, within the Manor or Lordship of South Kelsey.

Warlou, -low(e, -luck: see WARLOCK.

† Warly, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: 5 **werly**, *Sc.* **werely**, 5-7 **war(re)ly**, 6 **warely, warlye**, *Sc.* **werelie, weirlie, -ly, weyrly**, 6-7 **warlie.** [f. WAR *sb.*[1] + -LY[1] and -LY[2].]

A. *adj.*

1. Skilled in war, martial; fond of war, bellicose; valiant. = WARLIKE *a.* 1.

1423 JAS. I. *Kingis Q.* clv, The werely porpayne. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1362 The petyuins tham bare As warly men fre;..Assautes tha[y] gafe dyuers And sondry. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII (1533) 77 b/1 Ye arche bisshop of yorke ..with great nombre of men and fewe warly or discrete cheuetaynes, yode agayne ye Scottes. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. (1557) 37/1 Richard the thirde sonne..was..hard fauoured of visage, and suche as is in states called warlye [i.. *quale bellicosum in purpuratis, ac Martium appellari*], in other menne otherwise. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 585 If a yoong prince..be warlie, he will hazard his subjects, his estate, and his person, to make triall of his valure. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 86 Thay war a people baith ciuile and weirlie. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* v. (1628) 122 The lacke of Warrely courage in the Britainea.

b. Of actions, things: Martial. = WARLIKE *a.* 1 b, c.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.*, Proheme Cosmogr. 262 Of feirs Achill, the weirlie dedis sprang In Troy and Grece, quhill he in vertew rang. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* vii. 57 Poems (S. T. S.) 54 Mak shouting shalms and persing phiphers shill,..Cause mightily the weirly notis breik.

2. Equipped or munitioned for war. Of a horse: Equipped and trained for war. = WARLIKE *a.* 2.

c 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 493 Yone is the warliest wane, said the wise king, That euer I vist in my walk. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 123/a The sayde sowdiours came vnto a castell..& wan it by strength, & after vytayled & manned it in moste warly wyse. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XXXIII. LXXXV, This said, he mounted on the steed so warly. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 104 Could the Warlie Horse speake, as he can runne and fight, he would tell them, they are hoat Knightes.

3. Of or pertaining to war. = WAR-LIKE *a.* 3.

1457 in R. R. Sharpe *Lond. & Kingd.* (1895) III. 382 Ships .. in their most defensible and warrely araye. ?*c* 1507 C. BRANDON [etc.] *Justes May & June, Justes June* 233 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 129 This weerly vsage and martes

þare maist werelie ordinance. *Ibid.* I. iv. I. 32. 1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* I. cix. F v, They being practysed in warly knowledge can discerne what is profytable. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 45 b, Kyng Henry..determined..to set forward in performyng his intended purpose and warrely enterprise. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 1000/2 The Bernates .. renounced the league made before with the French king, refusing .. his warly stipend, whereby they were bound at his call to fede hys warres. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. iv. (1677) 161 The Manufacture, during those Warly times, held its course in France, the Netherlands, and the Hans Towns.

4. Belonging to a warrior. = WARLIKE *a.* 4.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 277 The king of Pechtis, in his weirlie weid, With his power come and met corbreid. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 107 His wingis ar thy weirlie weid [*v.r.* weerely weed], His pennis ar thy strang defence. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* iii. 3 And he ..girded about him his warlie armour in battels.

B. *adv.* In a warlike manner.

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 813 Kyng askuardyn in his gere Rydis owte a course of were, Full werly and with ill will. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1741 Then thes brethren, ech by thaimsell, tho, So ful werrely wrought, can noght be said, lo! 1598 WYRLEY *Armorie, Capitall de Bus* XXIV, And goodly armd beside Him stands the Duke of Orleance warly dight.

Warly, -lyche: see WAHELY *a.* and *adv. Obs.*

Warm (wōm), *sb.*[1] [f. WARM *v.*] An act of warming or state of becoming warm. Phr. *to give, get, have, take a warm.* Somewhat *colloq.*

In the first quot. *warmes* is a mistake for *walmes*: see WALM *sb.*[1] 3 c.

[1655 WALTON *Angler* (ed. 2) x. 239 Boil it [*sc.* the malt] in the kettle (one or two warmes is enough).] 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 70 This morning's raw, gin ye've a' night been out, That ye wad thole a warm, I mak na doubt. 1800 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IV. 6 The dark and dreary night, the dreadful storm Drove me unwillingly to get a warm. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* i. The surgeon had been sitting with his face turned towards the fire, giving the palms of his hands a warm and a rub alternately. 1843 — *Chr. Carol* iii, Sit ye down before the fire, my dear, and have a warm. 1861 — *Gt. Expect.* ii, When I..was taking a final warm in the chimney-corner before being sent up to bed. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 55 If, after washing a patient, you must put the same night-dress on him again, always give it a warm first, at the fire. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 120, I made a fire, and..had a good warm.

Warm (wōm), *a.* (and *sb.*[2]) Forms: 1 **wearm**, 2 **werm**, 3 *Orm.* **warrm**, 3-7 **warme**, 3- **warm.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *wearm* = OFris. *warm* (mod. WFris. *waarm*, NFris. *wārm*), MDu., Du. *warm*, OS. *warm* (MLG. *war(e)m*, LG. *warm*), OHG. *war(a)m* (MHG., G. *warm*), ON. *varmr* (Norw., Sw., Da. *varm*), Goth. *warm-* in *warmjan* to warm, cherish:—OTeut. **warmo-*, also **wormo-* (in ON. *vermr* wk. masc. warmth, OHG. *wirma*, MHG. *wirm(e)* fem. warmth).

The further relationship of this word is somewhat doubtful. In spite of certain difficulties it is probably to be identified with Indogermanic **g*[*w*]*hermo-*, or **g*[*w*]*hormo-* found in Skr. *gharmá* heat, Zend *gar*[*ə*]*ma-* hot, Gk. θερμός hot, L. *formus* warm, OPrussian *germe* heat, Albanian *zjarm* heat, Armenian *jerm* warm, derivatives of **g*[*w*]*her-* with a radical sense of heat. For another possible example of initial *w* in Teut. from **g*[*w*]*h* or **ghw* see WILD *a.* Compare also the similar phonetic phenomena in Latin whereby older *g*[*w*] gave *g* before *l* and consonants, *v* before other vowels (e.g. *gurgis, uorāre*).

Some scholars have referred the word to a root **uer-* found in Lith. *virti* to cook (trans.), OSl. *vrěti* to boil, cook (intr.), *variti* to cook (trans.), *varŭ* hot. The primary sense of this root, however, seems to be rather 'to well up, bubble' than 'to be hot'; cf. Lith. *vermė́* a spring. The root is confined to the Balto-Slav. langs., and in them has no derivative corresponding in sense and suffix to the Teut. adj., which on the other view represents a widespread Indogermanic formation.]

A. *adj.*

1. Having a fairly high temperature; affording or giving out a considerable degree of heat (less than that indicated by *hot*).

a. of natural agencies and things, as the weather, air, climate, soil.

Out of God's (*Christ's*) *blessing into the warm sun*: see GOD *sb.* 5 c.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIII. § 5 Sie lyft..is maþer þe ceald ge wæt ge wearm. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Met.* xi. 61 Sumor after cymeð, wearm gewideru. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 622 Þar inne ic habbe god ihold A winre warm a sumere cold. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 410 Is no water warmer þan after watery cloudes. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 219 In spryngyne of the mone is best to sowe, In dayis warm. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H iij, To leappe out of the halle, into the kytchyn, or out of Chrystis blessynge in to a warme sonne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* VI. 58 [Rain falls] sum tyme in soft & varme schouris. 1577 B. GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 34 Pease ..must be sowen in warme grounded. 1707 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 75 On a warm soil well sheltered with Trees and Hills. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 87 The warm precincts of the cheerful day. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 347 The prisoners of congelation..waiting the approach of a warmer sun, to restore them at once to life and liberty. 1833 ARNOTT *Physics* (1853) 35 England is much warmer in winter than central Germany, which lies south of England. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 249 We..stand much in need of warm weather, and especially, warm nights for the young poultry 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 467 A warm south wind was melting the fall [of snow].

b. of other things, typically with reference to artificial heating.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 914 His sword ache tok a-swythe That warm was of hire louys blod & hot. 1577 B. GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 129 b, In winter, your stable should rather be warme, then hot. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. i. 6 Whil'st yet with Parthian blood thy Sword is warme. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 393 They rake the yet warm Ashes, from below. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Mar. 1651, They..carried him before a warme fire to bring him to himselfe. 1741 M. GRINDAL (*title*) Warm Beer, a Treatise proving..that Beer so qualify'd, is far more wholesome than that which is drank Cold... With a full Confutation of all the Objections against Drink being used Warm. 1764 WHYTT *Observ. Nervous Disorders* (1767) 434 The warm bath affects the nerves with an agreeable sensation, removes spasms in the small vessels, [etc.]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* v, Promise me to take a little something warm before you go to bed. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* vii, Our houses are more warm and air-tight than those of that day. 1871 A. MEADOWS *Midwifery* (ed. 2) 339 Warm poultices should also be kept over the abdomen.

c. *fig. To keep a seat or place warm*: to occupy it temporarily for another who is not yet qualified to hold it. (Cf. WARMING-PAN 3 c.)

1845 JERROLD *St. Giles* vi. (1851) 55 Of course, the borough will be kept warm for the young gentleman... He may count upon my vote. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xxi, Before the Cranworths had determined who should keep the seat warm till the eldest son came of age.

2. Of the body, the blood, etc.: Having the degree of heat natural to the living organism.

a 1000 *Riddles* v. 7 Wearm lim ȝebundenne beaȝ berstes hwilum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10146 Forrþi þatt itt [the tunic] iss neh þe lich & haldeþþ warrm þe mare. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 36 Þe blode was boþe warme & fresh, þat of þe schankes lete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 119 Though I him wrye a-nyght and make hym warm. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 148 Thou art wyse inough, if thou keepe thee warme. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 9 A fur'd gowne to keepe him warme. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* vi. 13 For me, my warmer Constitution wants More cold, than our Ligurian Winter grants. 1697 — *Æneis* II. 667 Go you, whose Blood runs warm in ev'ry Vein. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 40 O'er her warm cheek, and rising bosom. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 398 New milk, warm from the cow. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 91 At the least warm touch of hand. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 644/2, I found the carcase of a hartebeeste still warm.

fig. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. i. 247 Then Marble, soften'd into life, grew warm.

b. Of persons: Glowing with exertion or exercise, with eating and drinking, etc.; often with mixture of one of the senses 10-12. Of exercise: Strenuous enough to raise one's temperature.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 118, I am not warme yet, let vs fight againe. 1665 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* III. i, And Fighting gains us but to dye more warm. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 320 A lawless Croud, with Wine and Feasting warm. 1758 JANE COLLIER *Art Tormont.* I. ii. 61 For although it is noble sport to have a girl of sense to work upon, yet 'tis warm exercise. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 25 There is nothing that an army will not attempt or endure for a general who keeps the soldiers warm in continual action. 1830 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xc. 9 'Twas well, indeed, when warm with wine, To pledge them with a kindly tear. 1900 *Pall*

Mall Mag. May 43. I was warm from my company, and was propelled by an abundant flow of vitality.

c. Applied to tears.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 187 And with warme water at his eyghen wassheth hem after. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 196/1 Thenne she..prayed god wyth warme teerys to helpe hyr. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 20 In Winter with warme teares Ile melt the snow. 1648 Bp. Hall. *Sel. Thₜ.* lxxvi. 221 But if..we shall suffer our selves to be drawn away into some heinous wickedness, it must cost warm water to recover us.

d. Of a kiss, embrace (combining the literal idea of bodily warmth with that of affection).

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 153 Oh take this warme kisse on thy pale cold lips. *a* 1764 R. Lloyd *Whim* 45 Give me the man..Who..Can meet him with a warm embrace. 1822 M. A. Kelly *Osmond* I. 29 Imprinting on it another fond warm kiss. 1866 Trollope *Claverings* iv, With the kiss of the dear, modest, affectionate girl still warm upon his lips.

e. = Warm-blooded. *rare.*

1793 T. Brodore *Calculus* etc. 242 The ordinary temperature of the blood of warm animals.

3. Of clothing, or the natural integument of animals: Made of material which retains heat in the body.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 þet heo [i.e. your clothes] beon unorne & warme & wel i-wrouhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23090 (Edinb.) Of nakidhed quen I drow harme, Ye gaf me clething þat was warme. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 30/36 Hit wer almes forto seue yondyr pore man warmer clothes þen he habe. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxvii. 17 And how thy clothes are warme, when the londe is still thurow the south wynde? 1653 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) I. 547 Here is now some cold snowie weather approaching, which incites mee to putt on warmer cloths. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 39 These are generally cloathed with a warmer coat of feathers. 1849 James *Woodman* xi, Would that I had brought warmer garments. 1917 H. Gibson *Diplom. Diary* 259 Mrs. Whitlock..is busy getting warm clothing for the poor.

4. Of a drug or edible: Producing a sensation of heat in the body.

1737 J. Stevenson in *Med. Ess.* IV. 387 Common Practice bids us..give warm, generous Medicines, Alexipharmicks, and all of that Tribe that heats, stimulates and forces Sweat. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 251 A pretty free dose of turpentine, or some of the warmer balsams. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 689 Its seed-pods..make a warm aromatic pickle.

5. Of a scent or trail: Fresh, strong.

1713 Gay *Rural Sports* II. 68 The scent grows warm; he stops; he springs the prey. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 211/2 As the scent grew warmer, the certainty of finding was confirmed

6. Of the person chosen to seek or guess, in children's games: Being near the object sought; being on the verge of finding or guessing. Also *fig.*

1860 *All Year Round* 4 Feb. 339/2 Here I get 'warm', as children say. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. vi, He's warm... He's precious warm. He's close. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 24 Aug. 139/3 Showing how the author was 'warm', and passed without seeing it very near to the object of his search.

†**7.** Comfortable, comfortably settled (*in* a seat, throne, office); securely established *in* (possession of). Also, with converse construction, *to feel the crown warm upon one's head. Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1630 Be not to rakel þough þou sitte warme. *c* 1430 *How Wise Man taught Son* 114 in *Babees Bk.* 51 If þou be weel at ese, And warme amonge þi neighboris sitte. 1601 *Imp. Consid. Sec. Priests* (1675) 55 Her Highness had scarcely felt the Crown warm upon her head, but it was challenged from her. 1619 B. Jonson *Alchemist* II. vi, A Gentleman, newly warme in his land. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* II. xvii. § 4. 481 The Philistims hearing that Dauid was now anointed king..thought to try him in the beginning, before hee was fully warme in his seat. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xlvii (1739) 78 The conquering King was scarce warm in his Throne, whenas the Pope demanded Fealty of him for the Crown of England. *a* 1670 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 229 A. W. seemed very sorry at this news, because he was well and warme where he was. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 47 Before he was quite warm in Winchester, he fell into the King's displeasure. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* VII. iii. (1900) 258 Scarcely had the worthy Mynheer Beekman got warm in the seat of authority on the South River than enemies began to spring up all around him.

8. Comfortably off, well to do; rich, affluent. Now chiefly *colloq.*

1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* II. ix. (1633) 114 But you are well and warme and so hold you. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 8 But I must plaie the farmer, and yet no whit the warmer. *a* 1624 Bp. M. Smith *Serm.* (1632) 118 All things seeme to fall out alike, to the one and to the other: nay, the wicked seeme to be the warmer, and to haue a greater portion in this life. 1626 Middleton *Anything Quiet Life* I. i, You are warm, and blest with a fair wife. 1699 Farquhar *Love & Bottle* I. 2 Your warm fellows are so far above the sense of our Misery, that they can't pitty us. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 450 ¶ 2 For who does not know or imagine the Comforts of being warm or living at Ease? 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. xiv, 'Though I am but a curate,' says Trulliber, 'I believe I am as warm as the vicar himself.' 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xvi, They who had warm fortunes were always sure of getting good husbands. 1767 A. Young *Farmer's Lett.* 74 These farmers, and their warm, comfortable families, are of great consequence to the well being of agriculture itself. 1834 Macaulay in *Life & Lett.* (1880) I. 381 A warm man; a fellow who will cut up well. 1888 Rider Haggard *Col. Quaritch* xxviii, He is about the warmest man in our part of the country. 1906 J. S. Fletcher *Mothers in Israel* 304 With the serene consciousness of his value as a warm man. 1910 *Guardian* 5 Nov. 1034/4 In 1836 he was presented..to the very snug vicarage of Cheddar, and a year later he took to himself the still warmer benefice of Wiveliscombe.

9. Of fighting, conflict, an onset: Vigorously conducted; pressing hard on or harassing the foe; also *fig.* Of a combatant: Dangerous to tackle. Of a locality: Dangerous to live in, inhabited by turbulent spirits. Phr. *warm work*, hot fighting. *To make it* (or *things*) *warm for* (a person): to attack or 'go for' him, to involve in hostilities or broils.

1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* C2, The Sweat, a vessell of warme imployment or hot seruice. 1667 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 53 You may easily imagine this does give us a warme alarum. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 235 They had from the Camp of Shaddai such frequent, warm, and terrifying alarms. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 163, I saw the Mercury standing out of the bay, by which I judged the ship was too warm for her. 1759 R. Rogers *Jrnls.* (1769) 119 The Canadians and Indians..were soon stopped by a warm fire from the Rangers and Mohocks. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 182 If we had [been discovered], they might have made warm Work of it. 1793 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1891 XII. 380 If he should be detected in any knavish pranks I will make the country too warm for him to remain in. 1813 Southey *Nelson* II. ix. 255 Nelson then smiled, and said, 'This is too warm work, Hardy, to last long.' 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. v. 527 The action..was close, warm, and general. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, This being warmer work than they had calculated upon, speedily cooled the courage of the belligerents. 1847 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Church* iii. 28 In his Second Epistle to Timothy..there are many traces of a warm persecution. 1874 'Max Adeler' *Out of Hurly-burly* xv. (Rtldg.) 208 The bishop saw clearly enough that if he gave presents to the other children, and not to the late Simpson's, the bride would make things warm for him. 1884 *Good Words* June 399/1 The 'habituals'..are, as a body, congregated together in one particularly warm little street...Outsiders do not care to venture into this warm spot.

b. *A warm reception*: a vigorous onslaught or resistance; a demonstration of hostile feeling.

The phrase prob. belonged originally to sense 12 c, in which it is still current.

1702 [see Reception 5 a]. 1737 [S. Berington] *Mem. G. di Lucca* (1738) 37 We thought, by that warm Reception, they would have given us over. 1841 James *Brigand* xxvi, We must give him [the rival] a warm reception.

10. Of persons, party-feeling, controversy, etc.: Ardent, zealous, keen; eager, excited, heated. Const. *for, upon.*

Very common in the 17th and 18th c.; now somewhat *rare.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 230 Yong conseil, which is to warm, Er men be war doth ofte harm. 1668 Temple *Let. to Ld. Keeper* Wks. 1731 II. 99 Which I could not have known, if the Marquis were not a very warm Talker, and sometimes farther than he intended. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 314 Then said the warm man, and true hearted Mr. Zeal for-God, Cut them off. 1687 Atterbury *Answ. Consid. Spirit Luther* 20 Yet the Pamphlet is very warm with Luther for impiously accusing the Religious of uncleanness. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 24 Aug. (O.H.S.) I. 34 He is now very warm for them. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xiii. (1840) 233 So warm were the men upon it, that they grew..clamorous. 1737 Waterland *Eu. harist* 113 *Smalcius*, a warm Man, and who seldom knew any Bounds. 1742 E. Montagu in *Mrs. Montagu's Corr.* (1906) I. 230 The Debates were very warm, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer was terribly roasted. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 59/2 The Counsel for the Prisoner speaking in a warm and improper manner to the Jury. 1791 Burke *Th. Fr. Affairs* Wks. 1842 I. 575 Of all men, the most dangerous is a warm, hot-headed, zealous atheist. 1847 Dickens in Forster *Life* (1872) I. ii. 49, I never can forget, that my mother was warm for my being sent back. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lviii. (1862) V. 161 A warm and even angry debate arose upon his present speech. 1874 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf.-P.* 348 Doting reasoners Who hugged some reasons with a preference As warm Laertes did. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xix. (1888) 163 They..found the young man there in a state of warm indignation at the libellous paragraph.

b. Of the passions or disposition in general: Prone to excitement, ardent, impulsive; apt to disregard the voice of cool reason.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII. xiii. As Jones had the vices of a warm disposition, he was entirely free from those of a cold one. *a* 1768 Secker *Serm.* (1770) III. 50 They are just entering into the World..with lively Spirits and warm Passions to mislead them.

11. Hot-tempered, angry.

1547 Q. Catherine Parr in S. Haynes *St. Papers* (1740) 61 My Lord your Brother hathe thys Afternone a lyttell made me warme. Yt was fortunate we war so muche dystant, for I suppose els I schulde have bytten hym. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 168 This warme and bitter wrath it grew of strife. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 440 ¶ 4 This insensibly grew into some warm Words. *Ibid.* No. 481 ¶ 3 They say he's a warm Man, and does not care to be made Mouths at. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 505, I..began to be a little warm with him. 1822 Galt *Provost* xxxvii, A fine bold rattling lad, warm in the temper. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 123 He was mortified and irritated by the tidings. He held warm and menacing language. 1855 D. Costello *Stories fr. Screen* 131 'It's an expression of mine when I'm angry.' 'You're warm,' says he.

12. Of the heart, feelings, etc.: Full of love, gratitude, approbation, etc.; very cordial or tender.

c 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 60 Quhen I behald 3our fedderis fair and gent,..My hart is warme. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 190 The soule melteth whan it waxeth warme in deuocyon. 1740 *New Hist. Jamaica* IV. 86 He had a warm Side to the Royal Party, and encouraged the loyal Sufferers. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* V. iii, He was not yet free from doubt of misconstruing compassion, or at best esteem, into a warmer regard. 1822 M. A. Kelly *Osmond* I. 73 Her heart was warm in the cause of her young friend. 1826 Macaulay *Ess. Hallam* P 43 The conduct of Hampden in the affair of the ship-money met with the warm approbation of every respectable Royalist in England. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* II, A very warm friendship soon sprung up between them. 1884 D. G. Mitchell *Seven Stories* 57, I was beginning to feel a warm interest in the people over the way. 1904 *Verney Mem.* II. 239 Her warm heart..made her welcome in every household.

b. with agent-noun or equivalent sb., as *a warm friend, supporter.* Also of persons: Full of tenderness or affection.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 324 A certain noble lord, a warm friend to every improvement in husbandry. 1807 Lytton *Pelham* ii, Yet to those he loved, no one could be more open and warm. 1838 — *Alice* III. vii, We should have thought that Lord Vargrave was her warmest admirer. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ix, I have frequently heard this admitted, even by those who are its warmest advocates. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho.* I. II. vii. (1879) 205 Others as chaste and warm there are. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* II. 379 They were now warm friends.

c. of utterances or manifestations.

1742 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 277, I beg you would present my warmest thanks to my Lord Carteret. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xxxi, As you once had my warmest vows of constancy, you shall now have them repeated. 1782 Cowper *Let. to J. Hill* Nov., I received a note from old Mr. Small, which was more than civil—it was warm and friendly. 1814 Byron *Lara* I. vii, Warm was his welcome to the haunts of men. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 206 He concluded by acknowledging in warm terms his obligations to the King of France. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* ix, She dispatched a warm invitation.

13. Characterized by, of the nature of, prone to, sexual desire; amorous.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 605 The warme effects which she in him finds missing, She seekes to kindle with continuall kissing. *c* 1630 Milton *On May Morning* 6 Hail bounteous May that dost inspire Mirth and youth and warm desire. 1897 Flor. Marryat *Blood Vampire* iv, She's rather a warm customer, and if she takes a fancy to a man, 'e won't well know 'ow to get out of it.

14. With reference to fancy and imagination, ideas, expectations, and the like: Ardent, lively, glowing.

1668 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Idea Perf. Paint.* 49 Our Painters Idea was not, it seems, so warm. 1699 T. Atkinson *Voy. Archangel* 52 Notwithstanding it froze extream hard at this time, yet we had warm hopes of getting to Sea. 1702 *Fest Man* 23–26 May 2/1 Yesterday there was a warm report that Her Majesty's Ship the Lenox..had attacked a Fleet of French Merchant Ships. 1746 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 33 May we learn to renounce our own will, and be ready to make a sacrifice of our warmest wishes. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. viii. (1846) II. 424 Their imaginations were warm with the beauty and novelty of the scenes which met their eyes in the New World. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* v. § 24. 166 There is not one tender touch, not one warm stroke, on the whole façade. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* 192 Bridferth has drawn a very warm picture of the scene from which the indignant abbot snatched the king.

b. Of imaginative composition: Indelicate in its appeal to sexual emotion.

1814 Jane Austen *Mansfield Park* xv, I do not know the play; but, as Maria says, if there is anything a little too warm..it can be easily left out. 1826 Disraeli *Y. Grey* III. vii, And then he stumbled on rather a warm scene in an old Château in the South of France. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* x, He..avoided those warm descriptions which had given such offence to the Countess Brenhilda. 1846 *Hints on Husband-catching* 18 The most immoral doctrines, the warmest scenes.

15. Of colour: Suggestive of warmth; said esp. of rich red or yellow, and tints mingled with these.

1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 137 The canvas glow'd, beyond e'en Nature warm. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 752 Where a richer and warmer effect..is required, strong body colours must be employed. 1820 Keats *Eve of St. Agnes* xxv, Full on this casement shone the wintry moon, And threw warm gules on Madeline's fair breast. 1858 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. iv. 198 The delicate yellow-green..fly, with its warm grey wings. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. xi. 320 If the tones of the picture are kept low.., and the reflected lights warm. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. iv, Prints can be made either of warm or cold tones. 1897 Sarah Grand *Beth Bk.* xxxvii, The walls were painted a pale warm pink.

b. qualifying an adjective of colour.

1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 155 The warm-blue breathings of a hidden hearth.

16. Of a bill: Exorbitant in its charges. *colloq.*

1892 *Daily News* 20 July 5/4 He had expressed the opinion that a certain bill for stoves was 'a warm one.' 'Excuse my ignorance,' interrupted the Lord Chief Justice, 'but what does "warm" mean?'

17. Comb. and spec. collocations: **a.** parasynthetic, as *warm-backed, -coloured, -complexioned, -constitutioned, -tempered* adjs.; **b. warm bath,** a bath of warm water (often as a medical treatment); also **warm bathing**: †**warm head,** a warm-headed person; **warm-headed** *a.*, having a heated fancy or excitable temperament; **warm-house,** a kind of hot-house; **warm with** *colloq.*, (spirits) mixed with hot water and sugar (cf. *cold without*).

1847 R. S. Surtees *Hawbuck Gr.* iii, An atmosphere warranting the *warm-backed waistcoat. 1731 R. Porter in *Med. Ess.* (1737) III. 372, I resolved therefore to try what might be the Advantage of a *warm Bath, by relaxing the Intestine, and opening the Passage. 1858 J. H. Walsh *Dom. Med.* 370 Action on the skin by means of the warm-bath or the vapour-bath. 1744 J. Stevenson in *Med. Ess. V.* II. 867 *Warm Bathing, by relaxing and enlarging the Capacities of the Vessels, makes a Derivation of the Fluids into the Parts bathed. 1813 J. Thomson *Inflammation* 173 Hot fomentations and warm-bathing. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxvi, It was comfortably hung with a sort of *warm-coloured worsted. 1761 A. Murphy *All in Wrong* II. 28 A smooth-faced, fiery eyed, *warm-complexioned, taper young fellow. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 190 The *warm-constitutioned young widows. 1684 *Def. Resol. Case of Comm. conc. Symbolizing with Ch.*

Rome 32 By what figure do you call one Start-up 'Warm Head a new Generation? 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iv. § 12 The advantage will be on the 'warm-headed Man's side, as having the more Ideas, and the more lively. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 95 Our rambling, warm-headed, itinerant preachers. 1843 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) I V. 273 They may then be placed in the 'warm-house. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 10/2 The tubers..were first planted in a warm-house. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 437 'Warm-temp'red show'rs it sendeth in the Spring. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. 244 The Ensign [was] more warm tempered and wrong-headed. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxii, I know Lady Ashton is a warm-tempered and prejudiced woman. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* IV. 575 A second tumbler of brandy and water, ' 'warm with,' stood exhaling its fragrance at my elbow. 1840 T. A. TROLLOPE *Summer in Brittany* I. 213 They have some other object and enjoyment in life besides the consumption of 'warm with' or 'cold without'.

B. *absol.* and *sb.*[2]

1. That which is warm; a state, or sensation, of being warm; warmth. *rare.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 538 Hi beoþ houhful & wel arme And sechеþ yorne to þen warme. *c* 1350 *St. Christina* 251 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 95 Of al þe fire scho felid no warm. Þan come scho furth with-outen harm. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19, No. 1, fol. 9 b, The more nere the sonne ys to vs the more hete or warme. 1513 DOUGLAS *æneis* VI. xii. 16 A hait fyry power, warme, and dew. *a* 1547 SURREY *'The sonne hath twise'* 7 The winters hurt recouers with the warm. 1839 A. PIKE in *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 819 A pleasant warm is felt upon the sea.

b. *In the warm*: (of a solution, etc.) in a warm state.

1903 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 21 Mar. 654 The union of toxin and antitoxin occurs in fixed ratios, more rapidly in concentrated solution and in the warm.

2. *British* (*Service*) *warm*, a warm short overcoat worn especially by officers of the army.

1901 *Imp. Yeom., Reg. D.A.G.* 15 May (1902) 123 The coat or jacket known as 'British Service Warm,' which is practically an overcoat made to wear over uniform, thick and warm. 1912 *Blackw. Mag.* June 803/2 In a 'British Warm' and patched breeches.

Warm (wǭm), *adv.* Now only quasi-adv., in predicate-extensions. [OE. *wearme*, f. the adj.] Warmly; so as to be warm.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II. 116 Bewreoh þe wearme. †*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 409 Wel had she clad hir silf and warme. *c* 1410 *Lantern of Light* 46 Whanne þe sunne schynneþ warme. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. v. 90 With thy sword, yet reaking warme With blood of those that fought to be thy bane. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 356 When the South or West Winds blow, or the Sun shines warm 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 336 They should be put neat and all into a little basket, which should be covered up warm. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 8 Hermes empty left His golden throne, bent warm on amorous theft. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvi, The women straightway carried her off to bed; and, having covered her up warm, [etc.].

b. *Comb.*, qualifying an adj. or pple., as †*warm-hot*; *warm-breathed*, *-contested*, *-sheltered*; *-kept*, *-lying*, *-reeking*, *-working*.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 8 Set it on þe fyre tyl it be warme hot. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 335 For Maides well Summer'd, and warme kept, are like Flyes at Bartholomewtyde. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* I. ii. 4 The North-east and South winde..bringing in the warme-working waters of the Sea, loosneth the frozen Bayes. 1740 SOMERVILE *Hobbinol* III. 245 The panting Rivals..In Conceit Already grasp the warm-contested Prize. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 161 The high heath, by trees Warm shelter'd, may despise the rage of storms. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. i, Their quivering, warm-breathed sighs impregnate the very air. 1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* iii, O what a glorious sight, Warm-reekin, rich! 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 294 Plunge plants in pots—in some dry warm-lying ground.

Warm (wǭm), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **warmed** (wǭmd). Forms: 1 **werman**, **wærman**, **wirman**, **wyrman**; **wearmian**; 2–3 *Orm.* **warrmenn**, 3 **wærme**, **wormie**, 3–7 **warme**, 5– **warm**. [Two formations: (i) OE. (**wierman*), *wyrman*, *wirman* trans. = OS. *warmian* (MLG., (M)Du. *warmen*), OHG. *warmen*, *wermen* (MHG. *wermen*, mod.G. *wärmen*), ON. *verma* (Sw. *värma*, Da. *varme*), Goth. *warmjan*:—OTeut. **warmjan*; (ii) OE. *wearmian* intr. = OHG. *war(a)mên* (MHG., early mod.G. *warmen*):—O Teut. type **warmējan*; both f. OTeut. **warmo-* WARM *a.*]

I. *trans.* To make warm.

1. To make (one's body, limbs, etc.) warm by approach to a fire, exposure to the sun's rays, exercise, clothing, etc.; to impart warmth to (a person or animal suffering from cold).

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. xiv. (1890) 196 Se cyning þonne, forðon he of huntaðe cwom gestod æt þam fyre & hine wyrmde. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xviii. 14 Þa þegnas stodon æt þam gledon, & wyrmdon hiȝ. *c* 1000 ORMIN 2711 To wasshenn hemm, to warrmenn hemm, To beddenn hemm & frofrenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 12609 Nu þu scalt þe warmen [*c* 1275 wormie] þer. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 230 in *O. E. Misc.* 43 Peter stod..and wermede hym at the glede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23090 O naked-bed quen i drogh arme, Yee gaf me clething me to warme. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 332 For no cold þat vs comeþ in oure kinde age, We ne faren to no fir our fingrus to warme. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 431 Þan he oppynd þe dure & seid vnto hym: And þou be a man, þou hase myster to hafe þe dure opynd, and to hafe meatt and warm þe. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 169 Prayng hym that he wold hryngе her in to some hous where she myghte warme and chaufe her wyth her chyld for he was nyhe ded for cold. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 238 b, All the Ladyes entered the tentes and there warmed them a space. 1604 E. G. tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. ix. 102, I felt so great cold, as I was forced to go into the sunne to warme me. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xix. 121 His hands must be their own fire, and warm themselves with working. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 74 A group of fishermen sat warming themselves in the sun. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxvi, Think not I will once more warm in my bosom the household snake which had so nearly stung me to death. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiv, You little serpent, warmed by my fire. 1860 TYNDALL *Glaciers* I. xi 72 We rose ..renewed the fire and warmed ourselves. 1902 R. BAGOT *Donna Diana* I. 4 Shall we go to Aranjuo's on our way home and have some coffee to warm us?

absol. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xlvii. 14 There shall not be a coale to warm at, nor fire to sit before it.

b. Said of a fire, the sun, etc. Also *absol.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 216 b, Whiche sight as much pleased the citizens, as a fier paynted on the wall, warmed the olde woman. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* 413 When they are colde, they goe to the fire, and not to the water to warme them; and can they not tell which dooth warme and which dooth coole? 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 271 All are but parts of one stupendous whole..That..Warms in the sun, refreshes in the breeze.

c. To increase the animal heat of. In quot. *absol.*

1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 483 It looseth and scattereth humors, warmeth and moisteneth.

d. Said of the blood.

1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. xvii, He was as honest a soul, added Trim, (pulling out his handkerchief) as ever blood warmed. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* V. xiv, For I have sworn this braid to stain In the best blood that warms thy vein. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xxxi, The blood that warms an English yeoman.

2. In various figurative uses.

a. To inspire with affection or kindly feelings; to cause to 'glow' with pleasure.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 266 It calefyeth & warmeth the hert of man or woman with the flame of loue. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* Introd. Pref. (1848) p. xxx, Whilst pious Reflections are making, they are proper to Instruct the Mind, and Warm the Affections. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) I. 78 The effusions of a heart warm'd with the tenderest affection. 1836 J. GRANT *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* xvi. 391 That eloquence which approves itself to the judgment, though it never warms the heart by appeals to the passions. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lvii, It will warm my heart to witness the happiness of those friends who are dearest to me. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xi, The charm of adventure sweetens that sensation, the glow of pride warms it. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 554 Once indeed, Warm'd with his wines, or taking pride in her, She look'd so sweet, he kiss'd her tenderly. 1905 C. G. LANG *Th. Parables Jesus* 16 When the example of a true man or woman warms the heart and fires the will.

absol. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. viii. 81 Those lightsome words that warm like summer days.

b. To render eager or zealous; to rouse from indifference. Also *absol.* Now *rare.*

c 1580 HOOKER *Sir P. Carew* (1857) 42 Sir Peter Carew was then present, and one unto whom, as they thought, the speeches were especially directed..and indeed, he being somewhat warmed therin, deviseth how to compass the matter. 1638 DAVENANT *Madagascar* 10 When honours warmes him, and his blood is young. 1706 *Epistle after Battle Ramillies* 106 Prior's Wks. 1907 II. 372 The rescu'd chief, by the past danger warm'd, Our weaken'd houshold with new fury storm'd. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 521 P 2, I had arrived at a particular Skill in warming a Man so far in his Narration, as to make him throw in a little of the Marvelous. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* I i. § 4 When he was warmed by this great success, he made an assault upon the garrison that was in the city. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 380 Calm is my soul, nor apt to rise in arms, Except when fast approaching danger warms. 1764 CHURCHILL *Gotham* III. 383 The Soul, with great and manly feelings warm'd, Panting for Knowledge, rests not till inform'd. 1765 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 59, I am not used to defend my conduct;..I have been warmed to it by the imputation you threw on me. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 308 Anne, who is so difficult to warm up to bare satisfaction point.

†c. To exhort to valour. (Often in Dryden and Pope.) *Obs.*

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 657 The Gods invok'd, the Rutuli prepare Their Arms, and warm each other to the War. *Ibid.* VIII 927 The Queen her self,..With Cymbals toss'd, her fainting Souldiers warms. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 653 First to the Fight his native Troops he warms.

d. Of drink: To excite, stimulate.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 3 When the common people are once warmed with drinke, they are apt to doe them injury. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epodes* xi. 12 When the gay Liquor warm'd my opening Soul.

†e. To provoke, excite (temper). *Obs.*

1752 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 26 Sept., Keep your own temper, and artfully warm other people's.

3. To make (a material object or substance) warm; to heat moderately; to 'take the chill off'.

a 1000 *Riddles* xiii[i]. 10 Wonfeax Wale..wæteð in wætre, wyrmeð hwilum fæxre to fyre. *c* 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* xi. 84 For þy he cwæð se ðam colan wætere, ðæt nan man ne ðorfte hine beladian, ðæt he fæt næfde, on hwy he hit wyrman mihte. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 1109 The laurer crowned Phebus with his hete Gan..To warmen of þe Est See þe wawes wete. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 40 þe luyse of celidone y-medled wiþ vinegre and warmed at þe fire..quenchiþ wele þe wickid hete. 1530 PALSGR. 771/2 You must warme your medecyne or you drinke it. *a* 1589 R. WILLES in Hakluyt *Voy.* 621 Before the Sunne hath warmed the ayre and dissolued the ise,..there can be no sailing. 1617 S. H. *Preserv. Health* (1624) 45 In the Winter time, warme well your garments at the fire, and warm the linings of the same. 17.. WATTS *Hymns & Spir. Songs* II. cxlvii. (1753) 239 E'er there was Rain to bless the Earth, Or Sun to warm the Ground. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xv. 269 Skim it, warm it blood warm, and drink it. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 168 In summer, they [*sc.* fish] are seen in great numbers in the shallows near the shore, where the sun has power to warm the water to the bottom. 1839 H. KINGSLEY *C. Hamlyn* xix, The tea's cold; put it on the embers and warm it a bit. 1886 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib. Trouble.* I. i, You can get my slippers warmed, Jane. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 12 Powerful jets with water warmed by steam. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 159 The negative should be slightly warmed.

†b. Said jocularly for: To occupy (one's bed). *Obs.*

1599 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, I thinke we shall not warme our beds to day.

c. *To warm up* (U.S. *to warm over*): to make warm again (cooked food that has become cold). Also (*rarely*) without adv.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lix, She requests to have that little bit of sweetbread that was left, warmed up for her supper. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 380 Another custom..was that of warming the remains of a preceding banquet for other guests. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 68 We lived for three days on a most recommendable stew,..which appeared, warmed up fresh, at every meal. 1883 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* iv, Valerie went..to the kitchen to warm up an appetising little dish prepared by the femme de ménage.

fig. 1876 LD. HARTINGTON in Ld. E. Fitzmaurice *Earl Granville* (1905) II. 167 All the old anti-Turk abuse was warmed up again. 1879 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* xxi. 162 [The reply] took up the old exceptions, warmed them over into grievances.

d. To impart warmth of colour to.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxv. (1856) 321 A peculiar purple, slightly warmed or bronzed at its margins. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* iii, Not one glimmer of gold or auburn warmed the dull flaxen of her hair.

4. To heat (a building, a room) to a moderate temperature.

1838 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 278 Warming buildings by hot water. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Modern Par. Churches* 200 A perfect method of warming churches has yet to be invented. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 345/1 The room was warmed by a brazier.

†5. To inaugurate (a new house) by a feast or entertainment. *Obs.* Cf. HOUSE-WARMING 2.

1617 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 50 On Monday, to warm it [the renovated house], he made a great feast. 1662 HEYLIN *Eccl. Restaur.* (1674) 237 Sir Thomas Tresham..took possession of his place, which having scarce warmed, he was taken from it by the stroke of death. 1800 *Gentl. Mag.* LXX. II. 786/2 The Prince, it is said, will be present at the first dinner that *warms* this room.

†6. *To be well warmed*: to be settled *in* (a residence, position of dignity or profit). *Obs.* Cf. WARM *a.* 7.

1565 ALLEN *Defence Purg.* (1886) 16 Ere they be well warmed in their benefices. 1732 *Country-Man's Let. Curat* 79 Even before she was well warm'd on the Throne.

†7. *Mil.* To throw (an enemy) into commotion by a cannonade. *To warm the field*: to carry on a furious cannonade. *Obs.*

Cf. F. *chauffer un poste*, 'le canonner vivement' (Littré).

1705 *Addr. Blessington* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4089/2 The English warm'd the Field to that degree, that Thirty Squadrons..were forc'd to fly. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xi. (1840) 187 Resolving to give him a broadside that should warm him.

b. Sporting. *To warm up*: to give (one's competitor) reason to fear defeat.

1868 *Field* 4 July 14/3 First Trinity rowed over for the trial heat, and in the final heat on the second day 'warmed up' University to some tune.

8. *dial.* To beat, flog.

1824 CARR *Craven Gloss., Warm.* to beat. 'I'll warm thy jerkin for the.' 1849 BROCKETT *N. C. Words, Warm*, to beat. 'Aw'l warm yor hide.' 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxix, Old Dorothy, whose hand has warmed my haffits before now. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. i, You take out your strap and warm him! 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib. Trouble.* I. xxi, Won't Charlotte warm his back for him! 1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorks. Folk Talk* 95 Every Yorkshireman knows what warming a child means; perhaps not a few..by bitter experience. 1915 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) in *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 102/2 To 'warm' a child in Polperr signifies to beat him with a strap.

II. *intr.* To become warm.

9. Of a living body, a material thing or substance: To be raised in temperature.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 213 Wyrta wearmiaþ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxvi. (Z.) 154 *Calco*, ic wearmige. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4035 Wyndis wastid away, warmyt the ayre. *c* 1648–50 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 95 Thence to Cambridge where the Muses Haunt the Vine-bush..Like sparks up a chimney warming. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iv. (1842) 141 A large thermometer..may from the lapse of time necessary to allow of its proper change, occasion an alteration of temperature, by allowing the body tried to cool or warm. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* I, Beth put a pair of slippers down to warm. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet* I. (1885) 19 A cold day warming up to 32°. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xi, Here's some damper and mutton..while tea warms. 1904 S. E. WHITE *Forest* xiv, The weather had warmed, the sun shone.

b. Of colour: To become 'warmer' or more ruddy.

1832 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xv, On a bright morning of July, when the grey of the sky was just beginning to warm with the rising day. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 8/1 His head and underparts are of a pearly grey that warms to a pinkish hue on the breast.

10. Of a person, his heart, feelings, etc.: To become affectionate, kindly, or genial (*to*, *towards* a person).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3376 And I in longing am Laght & Lappit full sore, With hete of þi hegh loue, þat my hert warmys. 1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* Feb., Mr. Thrale was..at first, cold and quiet, but soon..warmed into sociality. 1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl* xxxv, I judged that..your Grace's heart wad warm to the tartan. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wanderings by Loire* 46 Every heart seemed..to warm towards the little devotee. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xx, Mr. Dombey, in his friendlessness, inclined to the Major. It cannot be said that he warmed towards him, but he thawed a little. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. iv. 141 Carlyle ..cannot, indeed, but warm to Scott at the end. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* i, His heart warmed over Baretti as they walked along together.

11. To become eager, animated, or enthusiastic. Also, with *up*. *To warm* (*up*) *to*: to become interested in, acquire zest for, to 'put one's back into' (one's work, a contest, etc.).

1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* xi. xiv. (1782) IV. 209, I expected every moment to see them warm, and to go to loggerheads, the usual end of their dissertations. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* i, 'I'll tell you,' replied Mr. Gabriel Parsons, warming with the subject, and the brandy-and-water,—'I know a lady [etc.].' 1846 Disraeli in Money-penny & Buckle *Life* (1914) III. 11, I have not yet added much to my abortive MSS. of the German Schloss of last year, but am beginning to warm up. 1858 Thackeray *Virgin.* xxxviii, Papa's first nervousness is over: his noble voice clears, warms to his sermon. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 5 Congress will by that time have met, and be warming to their work. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. iv. 72 When he found that his competitor was formidable, he warmed to the race. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II xxix. 364 He warmed up as he went along. 1885 Mary E. Wilkins in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 594/1 She warmed up on the subject.

Warmable (wǭ·rmăb'l), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Warm *v.* + -able.] Capable of being warmed.

1887 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 180 We have had a hard frost for nearly a fortnight..; and our stable-meeting-room is not very warmable under such conditions.

War-man.

1. A fighting-man, warrior, soldier. In early use chiefly *Sc.*; now *rare*.

In Minot's *Poems* x. 9 Ritson and Hall print 'weremen' as an emendation of the MS. reading 'werkmen'.

1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 162 And gif innocent folk takis scathe, than, in sik opyn weris, the prince na the were men may nocht..set remede. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 256 Wallace commaundede thai suld na wermen saiff. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiv. 151 Syne on that weyrman raschit he in teyn. 1547 J. Harbison *Exhort. Scottes* a iij b, How the countrey hath been ouer runne..by our awne warremen. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 666 The sweet War-man is dead and rotten. 1591 *2nd Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 97 Backe warremen, backe. 1797 T. Dibdin *Song Little Island*, A very great war-man, called Billy the Norman. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* ix, You will command at least twenty war-men, with bow and spear. 1864 R. F. Burton *Dahome* I. 48, I detected several warmen privily borrowing from their neighbours. 1911 G. K. Chesterton *Ballad of White Horse* 104 Meeting may be of war-men Where the best war-man wins.

b. *U.S.* One whose voice is for war. Cf. War-dog, *war-hawk*.

1814 *Columbian Centinel* 22 June 2/4 in A. Matthews *Uncle Sam* (1908) 28.

†**2.** A man-of-war, warship. *Sc. Obs.*

1546 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 123 The pryses takin be the Cristopher..to the nummer of sex weirman.

Warm-blooded, *a.* Having warm blood; *spec.* of mammals and birds, which have a uniform high temperature.

1793 T. Brddors *Let. Darwin* 68 At a temperature considerably below that of warm-blooded animals. 1839 T. Beale *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* 41 All the cetacea, as is well known, are warm-blooded animals. 1889 G. Allen *Falling in Love*, etc. 80 Even among warm-blooded animals like the bears and dormice, hibernation occurs.

b. *fig.* Ardent, fervent, passionate.

1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* v, Strict discipline,..since the death of that great monarch, had been considerably neglected by the young and warm-blooded valour of England.

Warmed (wǭrmd), *ppl. a.* [f. Warm *v.* + -ed 1.] Made warm. **a.** *lit.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 28/1 With a warmed table napkinne, rubbe the inayde of the arme. 1679 Trapham *Disc. Health Jamaica* 146 Dissolution in Wine or Broth or other warmed Liquids. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxvi, She..Unclasps her warmed jewels one by one. 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* v, He grasped his canteen and took a long swallow of the warmed water.

b. *fig.*

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* iv. xix. § 7 This I take to be properly Enthusiasm..rising from the Conceits of a warm'd or over-weening Brain. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Hs., Betrothal* 141 And all thank God with their warmed wits. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. vi, The sense of physical emptiness, that..no warmed passions redeem.

Warment, var. Varment 1 *dial.*

Warmer (wǭ·rmǝr). [f. Warm *v.* + -er 1.]

1. A person who warms. *poet.*

a 1598 Southwell *St. Peter's Compl.* 11 Coales were kindled to the warmers cost. 1698 Cokaine *Poems* 249 Tis Loves best musick, all ears charmer, All hearts enthraller, and blouds warmer. 1903 Bridges *Ep. Socialist* 413 Unashamed to have outliv'd Your breeders, feeders, warmers and toiling attendants.

2. A contrivance for warming.

Chiefly with defining word prefixed, as *foot-, plate-, vegetable-warmer*.

1828-83: see Foot *sb.* 35. 1857-78: see Plate *sb.* 19 b. 1844 T. Webster *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* 845 The well-known japanned plate warmer for the parlour in small families. *Ibid.*, A lower kind sold in the shops under the name of vegetable warmers, for keeping those dishes of vegetables warm that are not put on the table. 1871 *Daily News* 23 Jan., Covered up till we were nearly suffocated, and with a warmer for our feet. 1894 *Times* 16 Apr. 7/3 The whey is dipped out into large warmers and these placed in the boiler.

Warme store, variant of Warnestore *Obs.*

†**Warmful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Warm *a.* + -ful.] Full of warmth.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* x. 191 A mandillion..Of purple, large, and full of folds; curld with a warmefull nap. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 314/1 Who kindled first his warm-ful, vital ray?

Warm-hearted, *a.* Having a warm heart; of a generous and affectionate disposition. Also, proceeding from, or indicating, such a disposition; hearty, cordial.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxv. 32 Be warme hairtit and nocht ewill-willie. 1808 Han. More *Cælebs* xiv[i], Flam is naturally an open, warm-hearted man. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princess* II. 80 The kind and warm-hearted treatment which I had experienced from the Dryash tribe. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* I, He's of a rash, warm-hearted nature, like Esau.

Hence **Warm-heartedly** *adv.*, **Warm-heartedness.**

1808 Han. More *Cælebs* xi. I. 142 Her extreme naïveté and warm-heartedness. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlii, That's the way I've gone through life. Experience has never put a chill upon my warm-heartedness. 1911 *Concise Oxf. Dict., Warm-heartedly* adv.

Warming (wǭ·rmiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Warm *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of making warm; the state of becoming warm.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warmynge, *calefactio.* 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 111 The second propertie of your excellent Sherris, is, the warming of the Blood. *c* 1680 R. Fleming *Fulfilling Script.* II. iv. (1726) 302 As it is sure our bodies are influenced with the warmings of the sun. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* vi, Such a nursing and warming of little legs and feet before the fire. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* II. vii, Whether he will have time for a good warming and breakfasting before setting off.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1621 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 105 The estates hauing of late made great fiers in the Infanta her country of Brabant, euen to the warminge of her courte at Bruxells. 1681 R. Fleming *Fulfilling Script.* III. ii. (1726) 359 To unite further those amongst themselves with the more warmings of that ancient love that was wont to be amongst them. 1743 J. Glas *Lord's Supper* v. v. Wks. 1761 IV. 143 Many warmings and seemingly good motions and wishes, that never carry us out..to do any good work.

†**c.** *Warming of the house* = House-warming 2.

1653 Greaves *Seraglio* 184 The warming of the house, as we call it in England.

2. A thrashing, trouncing. Also *fig.*

1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 664/1, I'le give your hide a warming. 1880 S. Butler *Let.* 20 May in H. F. Jones *Mem.* (1919) I. 332 My new book..will give old Darwin the best warming that I can manage to give him.

3. *attrib.*, as *warming-chamber, -house, -stone* (see quots.).

1791 Bentham *Panopt.* I. 201 The *warming chamber, or set of warming-chambers..consists of earthen retorts, open at both ends, and inclosed in iron ones. 1876 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 238 The warming chamber..is common to both portions of the building 1897 J. W. Clark *Observ. Barnwell Priory* p. lxiii, The *Warming-House (*calefactorium*). 1658 Charleton *Onomast.* 243 *Lapis Schistos.* the *Warming stone. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 253 If Mault-kills or Oasts made with ordinary stone prove so advantagious, what would one of them do, if the Joists and Laths at least were made of the Cornish warming-stone, that will hold heat well eight or ten hours. 1691 Ray *Creation* I. (1692) 83 To these useful Stones I might add the Warming-stone, digged in Cornwal, which being once well heated at the fire retains its warmth a great while, and hath been found to give ease and relief in several Pains and Diseases, particularly that of the internal Hæmorrhoids.

Warming (wǭ·rmiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That makes warm, or becomes warm; *lit.* and *fig.* Also with *up*.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 160 Lyght fyre, schapon lyke tonges, brennyng and not smertyng, warmyng not harmyng. 1661 Feltham *Resolves* liii. (ed. 8) 293 The gentle..rayes of the warming Sun. *c* 1680 R. Fleming *Fulfilling Script.* II. v. (1726) 309 It is rare to find a warming heat with a large profession, such as can make it convincing to others. 1765 J. Brown *Chr. Jrnl., Winter Day* 287 With what amazing power do the warming beams of the Sun of righteousness dart into my soul! 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvii, A warming and spicy-smelling balsam. 1851 Meredith *Poems, Pict. Rhine* iii, And now the sun In saffron clothes the warming atmosphere. 1886 Hardy *Woodlanders* ix, Do you think a Christmas party..is a warming-up thing, and likely to be useful in hastening on the matter?

Warming-pan.

1. A long-handled covered pan of metal (usually of brass) to contain live coals, etc., formerly in common use for warming beds.

1573 Baret *Alv.* W 64 A warmyng pan, *thermoclistum.* *c* 1590 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* 1745 A fellow..with..a Dagger with a hilt like a warming-pan. 1669 Pepys *Diary* 1 Jan., Presented from Captain Beckford with a noble silver warming-pan, which I am doubtful whether to take or no. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* May (1744) 62 The tinkling after them with a Warming-Pan, Frying-Pan, or Kettle, is of good Use to let the Neighbours know you have a Swarm [of Bees] in the Air. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xiv, A nosegay resembling in shape and dimensions a full-sized warming-pan with the handle cut short off.

fig. 1666 Breton *Fantasticks* (Grosart) 9/2, I thus conclude, I hold it [August] the worlds welfare, and the earths Warming-pan. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXII. 237/2 For wedlock is the warming-pan, That best can warm the bed.

2. *Hist.* With allusion to the story that James II's son, afterwards called the Old Pretender, was a supposititious child introduced into the Queen's bed in a warming-pan. Also *attrib.*

1689 *Full Answ. Depos. Birth Pr. Wales* 13 Do you think it [the child] was conveyed there in a Warming-pan, or otherwise? 1689 *Muses Farew. Popery* 141 A Warming pan Plot, worse than Celliers Meal-Tub. 1716 *Collect. State Songs, Poems*, etc. 64 Let those Rebels, if they can, Make us forget the Warming Pan, Which first convey'd that pretty Man Into the Chamber Royal. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* ix, Our immortal deliverer from papists and pretenders, and wooden shoes and warming pans.

3. *slang.* **a.** A large old-fashioned watch. Cf. Turnip *sb.* 3 b. **b.** A female bed-fellow. *Scotch warming-pan*: a chambermaid who lay in the bed a while to warm it for the intending occupant.

1668 Davenant *Man's the Master* II. 25 None but a cold Bed-fellow would have two Warming-Pans. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 83 A Scotch warming-pan, *i. e.* a wench. The story is well known of the Gentleman travelling in Scotland, who desiring to have his bed warmed, the servant-maid doffs her clothes and lays her self down in it for a while. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Warming-pan*, an old fashion'd large Watch. *A Scotch Warming-pan*, a She-bed-fellow.

c. A person who temporarily holds a place or employment until the intended occupant is ready to take it.

1846 *Eclectic Rev.* June 662 A *locum tenens* (ecclesiastick, a warming-pan) was wanted for a Yorkshire living. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. i, Hungerford is not a warming-pan; . he never was originally; and if he had been, he has been member for the county too long to be so considered now. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xiv. (1885) 117, I only serve the place of what in Parliament is called a warming-pan.

attrib. 1875 *Daily News* 2 June 2/2 The Act..was simply employed for conserving livings for the use of the children of the patron, and was popularly known as the 'warming-pan' Act.

Warmint, var. Varment 1 *dial.*

Warmish (wǭ·rmiʃ), *a.* [f. Warm *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat warm.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 51/3 A south-west wind, with warmishe showres of rayne. 1647 Trapp *Comm., 1 Thess.* v. 3 As Philosophers say, that before a snow the weather will be warmish. 1826 S. Cooper *Surg.* (ed. 5) 61 The patient is to be kept in a warmish, but well-ventilated apartment. 1895 Meredith *Amas. Marriage* xxxi. II. 345 Odd movements of a warmish curiosity brushed him when the cynic was not mounting guard.

†**Warmly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Warm *a.* or *v.* + -ly 1.] Full of warmth.

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* cix. viii, As they [the Danes] vnto theyr Shyppes agaynwarde flewe, He droue them there vnto a warmely stowe. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Lady Kilconquhair* 8 Aug., The sweet presence, the long lasting goodwill of our God, the warmely & lovely comforts of our Lord Jesus be with you.

Warmly (wǭ·rmli), *adv.* [f. Warm *a.* + -ly 2.] In a warm manner.

1. So as to be warm (in temperature); so as to impart warmth. † Also Comb. *warmly-wet*.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 836 Our mealy grain.. Rots to revive; and, warmly-wet, puts forth His root beneath, his bud above the Earth. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* B 6 b, Coustousenesse is Embroidered with Extortion, and warmely lined and furred with oppression. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 244 Where the morning Sun first warmly smote The open field. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XXIV. 262 His habit course, but warmly wrapt around. 1790 Cowper *On Receipt Mother's Picture* 59 Thy nightly visits to my chamber made, That thou might'st know me safe and warmly laid. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I xxvii. 203 The Aiguille ..half of its granite cone was warmly illuminated, and half in shadow. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 176/2 The sun shone warmly upon him.

2. With warmth of feeling.

a. Fervently, earnestly.

1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks 336/2 Yet heare we sometime our wiues pray for vs more warmely. 1698 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1885) IV. 159 Father and two sons prayd warmly for him. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xxxii, My son's bride warmly insisted that Lady Thornhill (that was to be) should take the lead. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xx. III. 150 Corinth warmly entered into the views of her colony. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 145 On a matter I have warmly at heart.

b. With warm affection, gratitude, kindness, admiration, etc.

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 433 He spoke this very affectionately and warmly. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* I, And interested him more warmly in her favour. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxvi, They..barely thanked him in very cold terms for his courtesy while at his Court, and something more warmly, for having permitted them to retire. 1826 Disraeli *Vis. Grey* v. xv, All applauded him very warmly. 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xxx, Neigh..pressed her fingers more warmly than she thought she had given him warrant for. 1904 *Verney Mem.* I. 146 Sir Edmund Verney was warmly attached to both husband and wife.

c. With controversial ardour, eagerly.

1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* VI. iv. (1848) 352 There are not many [controversies that have been more curiously and warmly disputed, than the Question, Whether [etc.]. 1750 Hardwicke *Let.* in G. Harris *Life* (1847) I. 484 Points, on which our friends may be likely warmly to differ. 1890 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. vi. 90 The King and he often warmly disputed on the principles of a good Government.

d. With warmth of temper.

1776 *Trial of J. Fowke* IV. 28/1 The Governor..reproached me warmly for taking up a business in which he was so immediately concerned. 1799 HY. LEE *Canterb. T., Frenchm. T.* (ed. 2) I. 200 'Let us not talk of him,' interrupted Dorsain, warmly. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. ii. The young king spoke warmly and bitterly. 1873 W. BLACK *Pr. Thule* XVI. 254 'And if he has, whose fault is it?' the girl said, warmly.

3. With reference to attack or defence: Fiercely, vigorously.

1684 *Scanderbeg Redivv.* VI. 149 They came briskly on, and Charged very desperately, but being as warmly received,.. the Infidels were put to Flight. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Mar. 1672, They so warmly plied our divided fleets, that [etc.]. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4493/2 The Germans receiv'd him so warmly, that few of his Men escaped with their Lives. 1755 R. ROGERS *Jrnls.* (1769) 7 We warmly pursued the enemy, .and obliged them to disperse. 1797 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) III. 188 No person has a right to know that the Culloden was not as warmly engaged as any Ship in the Squadron.

Warmness (wǭ·ɪmnés). Now *rare*. [f. WARM *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being warm, warmth.

1. Moderate heat.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XI. 157 He wolde hine baðian on þam wlacum wætere..ac he ġewat sona swa he ðæt wæter hrepode, and wearð seo wearmnys him awend to dea'e. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 2375 It may nat be seith he [Seneca] that where greet fyr hath longe tyme endured, that ther ne dwelleth som vapour of warmnesse. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 473 He fand a serpent slayn with hurdmen, & bon vnto a stokk; and he lowsid hur because sho was som-what on lyfe, & layd hur ber sho mot fele warmnes of þe son. 1526 TINDALE *Jas.* ii. 16 If..one of you saye vnto them: Departe in peace, God sende you warmnes and fode. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* III. (1617) 12 Make your horse run the traine with good courage and liuelinesse, and so in his warmnesse trot him home. 1696 J. F. *Merch. Warsho.* 25 Which [*sc.* cotton goods] If any person made trial of, he would scarcely make use of any other by reason of their duration and warmness. 1788 T. REID *Lect.* Wks. (1846) 65/1 A comfortable warmness in the air.

fig. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iij b, The heate of some mens braines, and the warmnes of other mens bloud. 1682 D. ABRAHAM in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1912) July 142 Love..the course and motion whereof is in no wise to be stopped; Neither the warmness of its stream refrigerated.

† 2. The state of being well to do. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 288 Þis warmnesse in welth with wy vppon erthe Myȝte not longe dure as doctours us tellith. 1411–12 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3059 Al þi busynesse Is for þi lucre, and þi cofres warmnesse.

† 3. Lukewarmness. *Obs. rare.*

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* XX. 127 The lothsom[n]es whiche God conceaueth of this newtralitie or warmnes [L. *ex tepiditate*].

4. Warmth of affection or devotion.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 150 The soule melteth whan it waxeth warme in deuocyon, whiche warmenesse,.. is moche swete and pleasaunt. 1632 *Eng. Primer Our Lady* 477 Make the sturdy for to bend, To the cold kind warmenes send. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, I lo'ed your company; And ever had a warmness in my breast, That made ye dearer to me than the rest.

† 5. Heat of anger. *Obs.*

1563 BP. SANDYS in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. 362 He saith, he is sory for those letters he wrote to me in his Warmeness.

Warmoll, obs. form of WARDMOTE.

Warmonger (wǭ·ɪmʌŋgəɹ). [f. WAR *sb.*1 + MONGER *sb.*] One who traffics in war. Contemptuously applied to: † a. a mercenary soldier (*Obs. rare*–1); b. one who seeks to bring about war. So **Warmongering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (in recent newspaper use).

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 29 As much disdeigning to be so misdempt, Or a war-monger to be basely nempt. 1817 HAZLITT *Effects War* † *Taxes* Wks. 1902 III. 249 This is a singular slip of the pen in so noisy and triumphant a warmonger as the Poet Laureate. 1868 J. BRIGHT *Let.* in Trevelyan *Life* (1913) 316 The war-mongers here are baffled for the time. 1878 E. JENKINS *Haverholme* 76 His bitter scoffs at the Chauvinists and war-mongers.

Warmot, obs. form of WORMWOOD.

Warmouth (wǭ·ɪməuþ). A name given to a fresh-water sunfish belonging to the genus *Chænobryttus* found in the eastern U.S.

1883 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 67 The Warmouth, *Chænobryttus gulosus*, is well-known throughout the South... The Black Warmouth, *Chænobrytus austistius*, a species also called 'Warmouth', 'Big-mouth', [etc.]..abounds in the tributaries of the Upper Mississippi.

Warmstore, variant of WARNESTORE. *Obs.*

Warmth (wǭɪmþ). In 2 wermþe. [OE. **wiermþu*, **wærmþu* = MLG. *wermede*, Du. *warmte*, MHG. *wermede*, *warmede*, *warmte* (early mod.G. *wärmte*):—OTeut. type **warmiþō*, f. **warmo-*: see WARM *a.* and -TH.]

1. A moderately hot or pleasantly heated state of the atmosphere, esp. as an essential of physical comfort and well-being; a temperate heat radiating from the sun, a fire, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 Do þine elmesse of þon þet þu maht liȝe len..Wreche men scoes and claðes..and wermþe and herburȝe. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* VII. (Arb.) 22 Reynart layn within the gate as he ofte was wonte to doo for the warmth of the sonne. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* XXIV. 25–9, 288 b, Petur, who..abiured ȳ^e Lordes..whyle being throughly taken wᵗ colde, he taketh warmth & heate by the coles of ȳ^e wicked Jewes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 36 Yet desyreth it [Lupines] the warmth of Autume, that it may be well rooted before Winter come. 1662 R. VENABLES *Experv. Angler* IX. 91 In March, beginning of April, later end of September, and all winter fish bite best in the warmth of the day. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 74 When scarce a Shed Could be obtain'd to shelter him or me [Mary] From the bleak air; A Stable was our warmth, A Manger his. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. viii. § 16. 57 The same Fire, that at one distance produces in us the Sensation of Warmth, does at a nearer approach, produce in us the far different Sensation of Pain. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 310 How the frost, Raging abroad, and the rough wind, endear The silence and the warmth enjoy'd within! 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. i. 187 If there be a sun in heaven She shall not dare to look upon its beams; Nor feel its warmth. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Doctors' Commons*, He had gathered up his robe behind,..in order that he might feel the full warmth of the fire. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 285 The girl Nursing a child, and turning to the warmth The tender pink five-beaded baby-soles. 1908 S. E. WHITE *Riverman* IV, A fine sun, tempered with a prophetic warmth of later spring, animated the scene.

b. *fig.*

1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. XIII. 167 Many persons, from vicious, and dead, and cold, have passed into life and an excellent grace, and a spiritual warmth. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 382 Virtue quickens, with a warmth divine, The pow'rs that sin has brought to a decline. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 38 But when the dawn of rosy childhood past, And the new warmth of life's ascending sun Was felt by either, [etc.].

2. The natural heat of a living body; vital heat.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 98 No pulse Shall keepe his natiue progresse..: No warmth, no breath shall testifie thou liuest. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* V. ii. 294 Come then, and take the last warmth of my Lippes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 236 But on the watrie calme His brooding wings the Spirit of God outspred, And vital vertue infus'd, and vital warmth Throughout the fluid Mass. 1711 ADDISON *Spect* No. 120 P 14 When she has laid her Eggs..what Care does she take in turning them frequently, that all Parts may partake of the vital Warmth? 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 104 The warmth Of the life-blood, for loss of which I faint, Quivered between our intertwining arms.

† b. Of herbs: Aphrodisiac quality. *Obs.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 199 When now the Nuptial time Approaches..Feed him with Herbs, whatever thou canst find, Of generous Warmth.

3. A moderate degree of heat inherent or produced in a substance or liquid.

1748 GRAY *Alliance* 3 A niggard Earth, Whose flinty Bosom starves her generous Birth, Nor genial Warmth, nor genial Juice retains. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 122 The extreme coldness of the soil had overcome the warmth of the ashes. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 491 Ere the warmth, Slow gathering in the midst [of a hot-bed], through the square mass Diffus'd, attain the surface.

b. Pungency (of seasoning).

1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* IV. (1818) 138 The stews were..so highly peppered that our gentlemen, not accustomed to such warmth of seasoning, could scarcely swallow them.

4. An excited or fervent state of the feelings; strength or glow of feeling; fervent or vehement character (of an expression, welcome, salute, etc.); ardour, enthusiasm; cordiality, heartiness.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 36 But what warmth is there in your affection towards any of these Princely suters that are already come? 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 44 His majesty sent for them, and with much warmth and passion disuaded them from appearing further in it. 1677 SIR W. TEMPLE *Ess. Gout* Wks. 1720 I. 134 The same warmth of Head disposes Men to both, though one be commonly esteemed an Honour, and the other a Reproach. 1708 STEELE *Funeral* Pref., I know not in what words to thank my Fellow-Soldiers for their Warmth and Zeal in my behalf. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 678 An ardent Judge, who zealous in his trust, With warmth gives sentence, yet is always just. 1776 *Mirror* No. 6 The singular opinions which have influenced his conduct, I have often heard him attempt, with great warmth, to defend. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* vii. 81 All with different degrees of warmth declared their readiness to sacrifice or to be sacrificed. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* XXXIII, Mr. Drummond..shook me by the hand with a warmth which made me more ashamed of my conduct towards him. 1846 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 504 The warmth of his gratitude to Warburton,..may be taken as the measure of his fears. 1878 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 496 The warmth of your professions will be of no avail. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 277 When the Conservatives came in,..the matter was taken up with unexpected warmth. 1908 'LINESMAN' *Words of Expenditure* Pref. 7 The warmth of welcome accorded to my book has surprised no less than it has gratified me.

b. A heated state of the temper approaching anger; the expression or exhibition of this; also, heated language or argument.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 150 P 6 As an honest Man ought, (when he sees Two Friends in Warmth with each other) I took the first Opportunity I could to leave them by themselves. 1712 in Maclaurin *Argts. & Decis.* (1774) 53 An apology for the warmth of expression in his former paper, to which he had been..provoked. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. vii. 243 He expressed warmth, and even resentment, upon the hardness of these arbitrary conditions. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* III, I am ashamed to have been betrayed into this warmth of feeling. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 22/2 The strife was carried on with great warmth.

c. Excitement, exhilaration. *rare.*

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. ii, Sportsmen, in the warmth of a chase, are too much engaged to attend to any manner of ceremony.

5. A glowing hue (of colouring in a picture, in nature); *spec.* in *Painting*, a glowing effect produced by the use of warm colours (see WARM *a.* 15).

1727 POPE *Ep. to Mr. Jervas* 38 We..Mark Raphael's grace with thy lov'd Guido's air,..Paulo's free stroke, and Titian's warmth divine. 1803 INNERSON *Acetd. Painting* (1828) 9 Warmth, or a tint made of red and yellow, is the next valuable thing. 1834 W. H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* I. i, As to complexion, his skin had a truly Spanish warmth and intensity of colouring. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XII. III. 135 When the sun shines out in all his glory, the landscape has a freshness and a warmth of colouring seldom found in our latitude. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. iii. 47 For the past ten days we have been watching the growing warmth of our landscape.

6. *nonce-use.* The state of being prosperous or 'well-off'. (Cf. WARM *a.* 8.)

1888 J. PAYN *Prince of Blood* I. x. 163 What care I for his 'warmth' and reputation for integrity in the city?

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

c 1830 COLERIDGE *Marginalia* in *Blackw. Mag.* (1882) Jan. 116 Animal magnetism will be found connected with a warmth sense. 1909 tr. *Hoff's Human Species* 39 A warmth-loving fauna.

Warmthless (wǭ·ɪmþlés), *a. rare.* [f. WARMTH + -LESS.] Devoid of warmth.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *The Pang More Sharp* 3 Poems 1912 I. 457 He too..Has flitted from me, like the warmthless flame, That makes false promise of a place of rest. 1852 *Meanderings of Slum.* I. 100 Vain and virtueless and warmthless grown.

Warm water. Water heated to a degree considerably below boiling-point. Also *attrib.* (with hyphen).

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 902 in *Babees Bk.* 178 And watur warme his handes to wasche. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 34 b, Lyntels..groweth liye..when it is wette in warme water and Saltpeter before it be sowen. *a* 1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 267 Wet the linen with warm water. 1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 10 A vesicular rash,..which subsided with warm-water dressing. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 428 A warm-water pillow may be ordered.

b. The seas of warmer regions as opposed to the Arctic Ocean. Also *attrib.*

1883 WALLEM *Fish Supply Norway* 4 These warm-water basins in the Norwegian Ocean are of the greatest importance for the fauna and flora. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Mar. 1/2 Our own Ministers have invited Russia to a warm-water port. *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 1/2 Russia..may fairly desire access to 'the warm water', as the phrase goes.

† c. *fig.* Cf. HOT WATER 3. *Obs.*

1813 *Examiner* 29 Mar. 207/2 He lives in eternal warm water.

Warn (wǭn), *sb.* [f. WARN *v.*1 (The OE. *wearn* refusal, is a different word: see WARN *v.*2).]

† 1. An intimation or notice of something as about to happen. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12133 He fand wit-vten oþer warn þat þis leuedi was wit barn. *c* 1400 *Cato's Morals* 264 in *Cursor M.* App. IV. 1672 Hope ay of gode hap to come wiþ a gode clap wiþ-out ani warne.

2 *poet.* Warning.

a 1851 MOIR *Poet. Wks.* II. 283 The moat o'erpassed, at warn of bell, Down thundering the portcullis fell.

† 3. *Comb.* (perh. f. the stem of WARN *v.*1): warn-word, a word of warning.

1602 [PARSONS] *title*, The Warn-word to Sir Francis Hastinges Wast-word. 1624 BP. SANDERSON *Serm. ad Pop.* V. (1681) I. 241 The whole Chapter is none other but a warn-word against unthankfulness.

Warn (wǭn), *v.*1 Pa. t. and pa. pple. **warned.** Forms: 1 **war(e)nian, wearnian,** 2 **warnian, -en,** (**wernin**), 2–6 **werne,** 2–3 **warnie, warni,** 3 **wearne, weorne,** 3–4 **warny(e,** 4–5 **waren,** 4–7 *Sc.* **varn,** 5 **wern, waarne, waran,** 6 *Sc.* **wairn,** 3–7 **warne,** 6 *dial.* **warren,** 3– **warn.** [OE. *warenian, warnian, wearsian* = MLG. *warnen* to warn, inform, Flem. (Kilian) † *waernen* to warn, put on one's guard, OHG. *warnôn, warnên* to warn, refl. to provide oneself, to take precautions (MHG., mod.G. *warnen* to warn; the Sw. *varna*, Da. *varne* are prob. from German):—OTeut. **warnōjan* (-*ējan*), f. **war-* to be cautious: see WARE *a.*

In OE. and in Continental Teut. this verb seems to have been to some extent confused with OTeut. **warnējan*, cogn. and synonymous with **warnjan* to refuse, forbid, etc. (see WARN *v.*2).]

† I. 1. *intr.* and *refl.* To take heed, be on one's guard, beware. Only OE.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke XI. 35 Warna þæt þæt leoht þe ðe on is ne syn þystru. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in *Lamb. Hom.* 301 Heo [*sc.* þet sidefulle wif] hi warnað [*c* 1175 (*ibid.* 111) warnað] wiþ druncennysse.

II. To make aware, to put on one's guard.

2. *trans.* To give timely notice to (a person) of impending danger or misfortune.

Const. *of, against* (OE. and early ME. *wiþ*) or subord. clause. *To warn off*: to keep away (from danger) by timely notice.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 166 Ða sende Benedictus swiðe hraðlice and warnode ða gebroðra wiþ þæs deofles to-cyme. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xii. (1883) 79 Þæt hy godes folc warnian ȝelome wiþ þone ezesan, þe mannum is toward. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud. MS.) an. 992 Ða sende se ealdorman Ælfric & het warnian þone here. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 256 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 173 Ich hit wille seggen þan þe hit hom solf nusten Warni hom wiþ hore unfrome ȝif ho me wulle[ð] lusten. *Ibid.* 268 Ich wulle telleð of helle pin and wernin ow wiþ herme. *c* 1205 LAY. 7984 For Julius Cesar of his harme was war a-buten mid-nihte he warnede alle his cnihtes & to scipen ferden & fusden an veste. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1091 Loth hem [his sons-in-law] warnede, wislike and wel, Oc he ne troweden him nenere a del. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2732 Þe folk to preche for-gate he [Noe] noght, To warne

þam of our lauerds wrake. *c* 1330 *Cast. Love* 390 Milce and merci he haþ for-loren, He was warned þer-of bi-foren. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2658 For In myne dremys it is warnede me How that myn Newew shal myn bane be. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 193 For he hadde i-warnede hym of meny myshappes þat schulde falle hem for his cruelnes... Also he hadde i-warnede hym þat he schulde regne but fourtene 3ere. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 273 Thaventurous knyȝte by thyn reporte is warnyd of his perelyus. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 975 All ȝour welth will away, Thus I warn ȝow. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. x. 47, I warne yow al, your enemyes are passyng strong for yow. 1526 TINDALE *Mat.* ii. 22 Notwithstondynge after he was warned in hys slepe, he tourned asyde into the parties off galile. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* v. 96 Poems (S.T.S.) 44 The godly Hezekiah king, was sick in great distres, And be the Prophete wairnd, that he sould neuer conuales. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 6 O . that now, While time was, our first Parents had bin warnd The coming of thir secret foe, and scap'd . his mortal snare. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vi. They say it often comes to warn people of their death. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 274 He learnt and warn'd me of their fierce design Against my house. 1880 — *Sea Dreams* 128 And then I fear'd Lest the gay navy there should splinter on it, And fearing waved my arm to warn them off.

Proverbs. *c* 1530 R. HILLES *Common-pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 He that ys warnyd beffore ys not begylyd. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 63 Halfe warnd halfe armde. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XIII. xlvii, The Proverb saith, one that is warn'd is arm'd. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cock & Fox* 799 Once warn'd is well bewar'd.

b. *absol.*

a 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 196 Swefnu binnon þrim dagum beoð onwrixene hwilan to warnienne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Sicnesse . warneð [MS. C. weorneð] to ȝein þeo [sins] þet weren touwarden. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. XXXIII. 124 b/a (Bodl. MS.), [þe] sparowe dredeþ þe wesell and cryeþ and warneþ ȝif awesel come [L. *presentiam ejus prodit*].

3. To put (a person) on his guard, to caution *against* some person or thing as dangerous.

† Formerly const. *of, from.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Al þus þe holi Gost lette writen one hoc uor to warnie wummen of hore fol eien. 1389 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 77 [They] blamed þe maister, þat knewe not þe kynde cours þat to þe crafte longid, And warned him wisely of þe wedir-side. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 195 She was all venym; And yef I had not varnyte the therof at the furste tuching she had shent the. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 62 Warnde of my foe, I shunne my foe. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 298 What dost thou scorne me For my gentle counsell? And sooth the diuell that I warne thee from. 1773 *Cook's 1st Voy.* I. iv. in Hawkesw. *Voy.* II 48 Dr. Solander himself was the first who found the inclination, against which he had warned others, irresistible. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 404 This..will for ever operate as a friendly beacon to warn ..anatomists and surgeons, against a hasty or superficial dissection of a dead body. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 69 Ah love, there surely lives in man and beast Something divine to warn them of their foes.

4. To give (a person) cautionary notice or advice with regard to actions or conduct; to caution against neglect of duty or against wrong or mistaken action or belief.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xvii. 72 Forðan butan ic eow warnige and þone wel eow forbeode ic sceal axyldan ȝescead þam soðfæstan deman. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Ȝif þu wernast þane unrihtwise mon and he nule icherran from his sunnan þurh þe. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 11 Þar ic ðe scal undernemen mid ða ilche wordes ðe ðu ofte hafst ȝeherd for ðe te warnien. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Ine swuche manere tentaciuns nis non so wis ne so war, but ȝif God hum warnie, þet nis bigiled oðer hwules. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 425 He was afterward i-warned by febilnesse of his body, and þo he was i-cristenede. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xlviii. 33 Þai sal be warnid ane tyme, and a-nojir time. Yef sho wil noht a-mende, Man sal take suilk amendis of hir. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xl. 31 Often tymes when other were moste besy in prayer, he wente out and wandryd aboute,.. whan his abbot had often warned hym, and he amendyd not. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ii. 10 Be wyse now therfore (o ye kynges) be warned, ye that are iudges of the earth. 1581 *Shampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) I. 11. 206 Wherof we have thought good to amerse them at 2/6, for that they have byne often tymes warrened and no redresse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 831 Sheep, Oxen, Horses fall; and..lye. 'Till warn'd by frequent Ills, the way they found, To lodge their loathsom Carrion under Ground. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 35 Divine authority within his breast.. Warns him or prompts, approves him or restrains. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. ix, [He] marshalled the village boys,..domineering over them with a fine imperious spirit, that made his father laugh when he beheld it, and his mother fondly warn him.

absol. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 202 Ȝif þou seest theefte be do,.. & wylt noȝt telle, warne, ne speke, whan þou myȝt letteyn it. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 441 The priestly brotherhood.. Prompt to persuade, expostulate, and warn. 1804 WORDSW. '*She was a Phantom*' 28 A perfect Woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and command.

b. Const. *against*; also with inf. or subordinate clause, or † double object.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xvii. 68 Ȝelome ic eow warnode and..cuðlice manode þat ȝe andsætan wiȝlunge þe unwise men healdað mid ealle forlætan. *c* 1290 *B. Hot* 1078 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 137 Þo it was to-war[d] eue twei seriaunz þare come, Sore weopinde, and warnede him þat he sum red him nome. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 229, I speke it for no manness blame, But forto warne thee the same. *Ibid.* II. 49 And warneth alle for mi sake. Of love that thei ben noght ydel. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 26 Bot warne þe lech þe pacient that he dispose hym so þat he remoue noȝt þe medycyne. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 109 And þagh hit [St. Margaret's Day] be a lyȝt holyday..I warne you..þat ȝe wol fast hor ayyn. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xiii. 37 They warne the riche to knowe themself and not to be prowde. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. iii. F iij, My father wyll neuer geue me this money, but he wyll first warne me..that I shall not waste it prodigallye. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. 93 Caesar..euery Regiment warn'd with a worde Brauely to fight for honor of the day. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 185 The rest shall hear me call, and oft be warnd Thir sinful state, and to appease betimes Th' incensed Deitie while offerd grace Invites. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 39, I warn also those that come to Aleppo that they fail not to see the Birds of Grandouilles. 1708 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* i. Wks. 1721 I. 446, I must only warn you, that you do not charge your Coins with more uses than they can bear. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 936 The Father, whilst he warn'd his erring Son, The sad Examples which He ought to shun, Describ'd, and only nam'd not, Solomon. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 355 The screaming nations ..seem to warn him never to repeat His bold intrusion on their dark retreat. 1848 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xvii. 295 His page delivered a letter..It warned him not to attend in his place in parliament. 1852 W. COLLINS *Basil* III. i. 6 You..may be tempted to tear up my letter, and throw it from you unread. I warn you not to do so; I warn you to read what I have written. *Ibid.* III. i. 74 Be warned, therefore, against seeking a false hope in the belief that my faculties are shaken 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 266 The ambassador warned him on peril of his life to deal no further with such things. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 33 Yet, fellows, must I warn you not to shout Ere we have left the troublous wood behind.

† *absol.* *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 22 And he warnyd þat on no wyse no man sulde know þat it wer a womman. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* ii. 10 Then Iames, Cephas and Iohn..agreed with vs, that we shuld preache amonge the Hethen, and they amonge the Iewes: warnynge only that we shulde remember the poore.

† **c.** Const. *of. Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6905 And y warne ȝow alle of o þyng, For þenkeþ nat of ȝoure almes-ȝyuyng. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 214 His wyf warnede him þo of wikkednesse and of sinne. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 72 þe kirk makiþ lawis; and schuld wern men þer of, þat þei offendid not þer in. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bowge of Courte* 206 But of one thynge I werne you er I goo, She that styreth the shyp, make her your frende. 1541 ELYOT *Image Gov.* xvi. 80 b, Than sadlye and with a wonderfull grauitie, he wolde admonest or warn him of his lacke in diligence.

† **d.** Const. *from.*

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 264 When I began farming, I was warned from expecting profit, by two different sets of people.

5. To inform, notify. Now only in restricted use, to notify of something requiring attention.

a. To inform or notify of something actual.

c 1205 LAY. 30639 And al þat he auunde in þan lufte & bi þan grunde þurh seiches cunnes þing he warnede ȝure Ædwine king. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 205 But litil leue we þat lud, i þe warne. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 30 He warnede watte his wyf was to blame, þat hire hed was worþ a Mark. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 729 For is na payne, we wele þe [*sc.* Nero] warne, In life sa gret as to ber barne. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 893 Now see . yonde adovne Wher that thou knowest any towne..And whan thou hast of ought knowynge Looke that thou warne me And y anoon shall telle the How fer that thou art now therfro. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* 5 ȝif eny of þe brethren..be chosen wardein in þe^o brether-hede,..he shal take þe^o charge al-sons as he is warned þerof. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXB.) XXVIII. 128 Þe emperour þat was warned of þaire fleyng lay before þam with his oste. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 359 Ane Chyld come fra the hall, To warne Cresseid the Supper was reddy. 1530 PALSGR. 772/1, I warne one of a mater in processe, *je intime*...No man hath warned me yet. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Visit to Newgate*, The deathlike stillness of the street without..warns him that the night is waning fast away. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 114 Count Eustace (of Boulogne) was warned that the wished for moment was come. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* II. 25 The clock warned them it was time to get ready. 1886 C. SCHOLL *Parasol. Dict.* II. 832 The broker did not warn us of the arrival of the vessel.

† *absol.* 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. viii. (1495) 537 The adamas [the stone adamant] warnyth of venim [L. *dicitur ..venena deprehendere*] as Electrum dooth. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 1 And chearefull Chaunticlere with his note shrill Had warned once, that Phœbus fiery carre In hast was climbing vp the Easterne hill.

† **b.** To tell (a person) when it is time *to do* something. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 507 When the on condle wes ydo, The aht tiden weren alsuo; The kyng he warnede by thon, Hys purpos ariht to don. 1539–40 in *Devon N. & Q.* (1903) Oct. 238 Payed to a man for his labor to warne the lymers to bryng more lyme when ther lyme was almost don. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VI. 121 Now the setting Sun had warn'd the Swain To call his counted Cattle from the Plain.

† **c.** *To warn custos*: in school language, to inform the 'custos' or monitor of a misdemeanour: in quot. *indirect passive. Obs.*

1538 R. RAMSEY *Serm. Child Bishop* (Camden) 28 Yf a ler in the gramer scole speak false Lattyn or Englysh forbyddyn, he is takyn withall of one or the other and warnyd custos to be beatyn. *Ibid.*, Let them be first warnyd custos, or wrong by the ears for it, and after be correctyd as the custos is usyd.

d. To give previous notice to. More definitely † *to warn before* (obs.). Const. with *of*, subord. clause, or infinitive.

c 1275 LAY. 22059 Leteþ blowe bumes warnie enfihtes..þat ich faren wolle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1056 We scolle hom warni of oure þoȝt ar we þanne wende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10933 Speke we nu of zacharí, hu þe angel com him to warn, he suld haue Ion, þat seli barn. *c* 1330 *Otuel* 1691 Otuwel . warende fore a non þo Rouland & oliuer bo. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1559, I werne yow hit, quod she anon, Ye gete of me good fame non. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 385 Oon of his prisoneres þat was konnynge in devyne warned hym þat he schulde sone be delyvered out of prisoun. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 97 Astronomyens al day in here art failleñ, That whilom warned men by-fore what shoulde by-falle after. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXII. 84 þi biddyng will I noȝt full-fill, þat warne I þe. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 114 The day that he was warnit to resave the some contenit in his said reversione. 1534 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1897) IV. 67 Allane C..hes warnyt Janet Boyd, at hyr awn dwelling place within Glasgow, to remeif ane hundretht merk ..upon Wytsunday evyn. 1562 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 72 Our said place at all tymes salbe ..reddy to ws..als oft as it salhappyn ws..to cum thairto ..we warnand thame thairto xxiij houris warnyng of befor. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, The mourning being ready, and Sir Pitt Crawley warned of their arrival, Colonel Crawley and his wife took a couple of places in the..Highflyer coach. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxi. (1878) 533 But I warn you I will call again very soon.

e. *absol.* or *intr.* Of a clock: To make the clicking or whirring noise which indicates that it is about to strike; to 'give warning'. [So G. *warnen.*] *dial.*

1846 M. A. RICHARDSON *Local Historian's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* I. 116 And just as the clock warned for twal' the hin'most game was concludet. 1868 W. TOWERS *Poems* 189 (E.D.D.) Hark! the clock is warning ten. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. xviii, Every time the clock warned to strike, she felt one hour nearer her doom.

6. To notify of something commanded; to order under penalties.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1808 We buþ y-sent to þe, Balan..to warnye þe by-forn, þe nayles þow scholdest him ȝelde aȝeyn ..& elles þow gest a torn. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 153 He was i-warned by an aungel þat he schulde translate Clement his body. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1098 Pelleus full prestly the peopull did warne To appere in his presena. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2208 For by a uysione seynt Dunstone was y-warnot of þat cas þat Alphege..Of Wynchester shulde byssshoppe y-sacrid be. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 516 in *Macro Plays* 20 Com a-gayn, I werne, as sone as I yow call. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 53 [He] gert warne all his obeysaunce of Lombardye to mak thame redy to bataill. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 115 That he..profferit the said some..to the said William the said day that he was warnit to. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI. v, His royal summons warn'd the land, That all who own'd their King's command Should instant take the spear and brand, To combat at his side.

† **b.** *To warn in*: to order to come in. *Obs.*

1654 WHITELOCKE *Swed. Ambassy* (1772) I. 176 So many waggons were warned in..because of the smalleness of them, and the great quantity of baggage and provision.

c. To notify (a person) to go *from, out of* (a place), *away, thence.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* I. 353 To warne him on the sudden from my house Were too confirme the rumour that is growne. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded. (d) 2 He had already chidden the Rebellious Winds..: He had warn'd them from the Seas *Ibid.* IV. 546 Now Hermes is employed from Jove's abode, To warn him hence. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 328 He batter'd at the doors; none came: the next, An awful voice within had warn'd him thence. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lvii, So having warned him out of London, I [Inspector Bucket] made an afternoon of it to warn him to keep out of it now he was away. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* vi, She never saw Laurie mount guard in the hall to warn the servants away.

d. *To warn off*: to notify (a person) to keep at a distance. Also *fig.*

1842 TENNYSON *Love & Duty* 46 For Love himself took part against himself To warn us off. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxviii, 'Pray, Mr. Rouncewell,' says my Lady, warning Sir Leicester off with the slightest gesture of her pretty hand, as if he were a fly, 'explain to me what you mean.' 1858 ELIZ. SEWELL *Ursula* I. x. 108 He warned her off admirably, not letting her know anything he chose to keep to himself.

e. To give notice to (a person) to keep *off* (private ground). Also with *off* adv. Also *fig.*

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, There's Dunbog has warned the Red Rotten and John Young aff his grunds. 1848 *Athenæum* 10 June 579/3 Can the fact of Mr. Prior's having written a biography of Goldsmith give him the right to warn all others off the ground? 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Dark Night's Work* x. 176 Miss Monro stole out after the doctor to warn him off the subject for the future. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 303 All merchants being warned off from Indian commerce as poachers from a preserve. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 249 'Go for' a building, and not hang around like a tramp to be.. warned off by timid caretakers.

f. Racing. *To warn off the course*: To prohibit (a defaulter against the laws of the Jockey Club) from riding or running horses at meetings under its jurisdiction. Also with *off* adv.

1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. i. xiv. § 4. 375 [The Stewards of the Jockey Club] have full power to warn off recusants [at Newmarket.]..Other races are held under the same conditions as the Newmarket, but, being on public land, there is not often the power to warn off improper characters, as at Newmarket, Goodwood, and some few others. 1861 *Sporting Rev.* June 474 Mr. Bryan having admitted that he gave orders to his jockey to lose the race, it was resolved, 'That Mr. Bryan be warned off the course at Newmarket, and other places where the Jockey Club have jurisdiction, for the year 1861.' 1900 QUILLER-COUCH *Old Fires* iii. 55 If I'd been warned off Newmarket Heath..shouldn't I feel just as you are feeling.

† **g.** *absol.* To notify a requirement, give an order *for. Obs.*

1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 80 He had..brewed..xxx^ti quarters malt which they had warnyd for, and so they wold not receyve theyr ale at the tyme it was sent to them.

7. To summon (a person *to* a duty, place, etc.). In later use chiefly, To summon officially; to command the attendance of. Now only *Mil.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 330 Hwenne ich isse arise vearre oþer day rewe oþer day steorre Ich do god mid mine þrote & warni men to hore note. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 190 Lette somanne þy folke...And she wendeth here adown & lette hem a-none warne. 1530 PALSGR. 772/2, I warne a man to appere at a courte in judgement, *je semons.* 1590 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 253 When he should warne a guest in sessions to appeare. 1674 in *Marsh. Club Misc.* I. 99 M. Symsone being warnit to answer the kirk is. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 39, I Madam

he desires to make attonement Betweene the Duke of Glouster, and your Brothers,..And sent to warne them to his Royall presence. 1595 — *John* II. i. 201 Who is it that hath warn'd vs to the walles? 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* v. i. 319 Sirha goe warne them hether presently before me. 1608 BP. HALL *Char. Vertues & Vices* II. 122 When he is warned on a Iurie, hee had rather pay the mulct, than appeare. 1610 T. LORKIN in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 221 Which entertains him till twelve of the clock, when the bell warns him to dinner. 1663 (27 Aug.) in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1866) I. 165 And other officers belonging to His Majestye's yards and Navy, are many times warned to attend His Majestye's service at Assizes and Sessions, [etc.]. 1676 *Office Clerk of Assizes* (a viij), The names of such as the Bailiffs shall warn for the great Inquest. 1800 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Warned*, admonished of some duty to be performed at a given time or place. Thus officers and soldiers are warned for guard, &c. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. v. 29 The constables are required to summon or as it is said to warn all the freemen to meet together yearly. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Holmby House* II. XIX. 288 [He] commanded that the guard..should be relieved every four hours, and that the same men should not be warned twice for this duty until after the execution.

absol. a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 103 My lord's officers caused the truppetts [*sic*] to blowe to warne to supper. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* IV. XXIX, Brother, for little space, farewell! To other duties warns the bell.

† b. To call, give notice of (a meeting). *Obs.*

1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 239 On Saterday last was, Jenney ded warne a corte at Calcotte to be holde ther in hys name. 1617 *Eastland Co.* (Camden) 12 If any Courte be warned and for wante of Assistants the same bee not full. 1792 N. CHIPMAN *Rep.* (1871) 10 The Clerk has not inserted (in the record) that the proprietor's meeting was regularly warned.

† 8. To give (a person) notice to leave his employment or tenancy. Also to *warn out*. *Obs.* (but see WARNING *vbl. sb.* 6).

14.. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 329 And they that wylle not here that ȝe say, effectually be they ywarnyd, and ye shalle pronide other seruantis. 1702 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* V. 208 The duke of Somerset..has (by her majesties order) turned out 40 grooms of the stables, and warned out others who had lodgings and stables at the Meuse. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Warn*,..to bid one provide for himself elsewhere. 1713 W. HAWKINS *Life Bp. Ken* 8 The Prince..threatned to turn him from the Service [*sc.* chaplaincy to P'cess of Orange]; which the Doctor resenting..warn'd himself from the Service, and would not return to the Court. 1850 *Bentley's Misc.* XXVIII. 284 We're teetotally ruined..Warned out by the landlady...Where are we to move into, and obtain a lodging!

Hence **Warned** *ppl. a.*

1639 J. CLARKE *Param.* 21 Warn'd folkes may live.

† Warn, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 **wiernan,** wirnan, wyrnan, wærnan, 3 **wearne,** 3–4 **wurne,** 3–5 **wern,** (3 worne, 5 wernne), **weerne,** 2–6 **werne**; β. 1 **wearnian,** war(e)nian, 3–5 **warn,** 3–4 *Sc.* varn, 4–6 warne. [Two formations: (1) OE. *wiernan* = OFris. *werna*, ON. *verna* (Da. *værne*):—O l'eut. **warnjan*; (2) OE. *wearnian* (also *warnian*, *warenian*, by confusion with WARN *v.*[1]) = OFris. *warna*, OS. (Hildebr.) *warnen*, ON. *varna* (Sw. *varna*):—OTeut. **warnôjan*. The two OTeut. types are f. **warnô* fem. (OE. *wearn*) obstacle, refusal, etc., f. the root **wer-*: **war-* to obstruct, defend.

It is possible that the ME. and later form *warn(e* may descend partly from the OE. *wearnian*; influence from ON. *varna* is also possible. But the form would be normal as a dial. variant of *werne*:—OE. *wiernan*; on the other hand the ME. *werne* may partly represent OE. *wearnian*. The α and β types therefore probably do not accurately correspond to the two original formations.]

1. *trans.* To refuse or deny (a thing *to* a person); to refuse to grant (a boon, request, etc.).

In OE. and early ME. const. *dat.* of person and *genit.* of thing; later, the genitive is sometimes represented by the construction with *of*, but more freq. by the accusative.

α. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 380 Se þe ne wiernð [*MS. Hatton* wirnð] ðæs wines his lare ða mod mid to oferdrencanne þe hiene gehieran willnð. a 1000 *Riddles* xxi. 11 (Gr.) Cyning mec ȝyrweð since & seolfre & mec on sele weorþað: ne wyrneð word-lofes. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1018 Þa wyrnde him mann ðera ȝisla. c 1205 LAY. 30310 For ne scal he nauere..kine-helme broken and ȝif he hit wule auon ich hit wulle wernen. c 1250 *Song to Virg.* 39 in *O. E. Misc.* 195 He wyl nout werne þe þi bone. 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 Vor þet he him wernde his elmesse, god him wernde ane drope of weter þer he wes ine uere of helle. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1539 They..seyde, Graunte vs..of thy grace a bone. And somme of hem she graunted sone And somme she werned wel and faire, and some she graunted the contraire Of her axyng. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 275 þe Romaynes asked her tribute; and Sicambri werned it and wolde none paye. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iv. 47 Yet al thing desyreth ye werne no man of helpe. c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1847 But his hert is ful applied To graunte, and nat þe needy werne his grace. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 22/2 To graunte whiche of thoo that you liste, & to werne the remanent. c 1430 *Devils' Parl.* 406 Quod helle 'not wiþ þy [Satan's] poowere I myȝte not werne him [Christ] oon of tho; He took out alle þat were him dere'. c 1475 *Partenay* Prol. 126 Hys commaundment wern shal I no-thing. *Ibid.* 86 Take here vnto you which you best do please, No man shall ther-of you werne ne withsay.

β. a 1000 *Guthlac* 1183 [1136] in *Exeter Bk.* 176 Ic me warnade hyre onsyne ealle þrage in worold-life. c 1205 LAY. 4729 & Belin him wan[n]de [c 1275 wornede] al þat he ȝernde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4939, I receiud þam and warnd ham noght Of alle thing þal me be-soght. *Ibid.* 26889 Be man neuer silk wik of mode men agh noght warn him his liues fode. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 332 And tald thame quhat kyn veȝcumnyng Dowglass thaim maid..And varnyt thame the playn herbery. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 101 Nabugodonosor hyseged Ierusalem for tribute þat was i-warned hym. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1469–8 'For me had leuer', quod þe lede, 'be lethirely forsworn..þan anys haue greuyd þat gome, or warned him his erand! þat euer I warned him his will, wa is me þat stonde!' c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* XXXVII. 47 Swech mete and drynk as he had in vne was not warned to no man þat wold ask it. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 148 ȝe suld nocht warne me leve. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI. xi. 679 And yf thou warne her loue she shalle goo dye anone yf thou haue no pyte on her, that sygnefyeth the grete byrd, the whiche shalle make the to warne her.

b. Of a thing: To prevent (a person) from having (something).

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 187 Mine sunnen beoþ wal bi-tweone me and þe. Mine sunnen warneþ me al þis swotnesse. † a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 700, I may wery the wye, thatt this werre mouede, That warnes me wyrchippe of my wedde lorde.

c. With dat. of person only: To refuse the request of; to deny something to.

a. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 42 Þam þe wylle æt þe borgian, ne wyin þu hym. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Mon sulðe his elmesse þenne he heo ȝeseð swulche monne þe he for scome wernen ne mei. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 [She] halseð ure Louerd so & he ne mei uor reoudne wernen hire. a 1272 *A Luue Ron* 7 in *O. E. Misc.* 93 A Mayde cristes me bit yorne þat ich hire wurche a luue ron..Ich hire nule nowiht werne. a 1300 *K. Horn* (Hall) 1404 Fikenhild gan wende Rymenhild to schende. To woȝe he gan hure ȝerne, þe kyng ne dorste him werne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 12 For thre thynges he taketh his lyf forto saue, That is, mete, whan men hym werneth and he no moneye weldeth, [etc.]. c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* vi. (Sherard MS.), Whan she..asked herbergh in diuerse places..alle they werned [*Gibbs MS.* weerne, *W. de W.* refused] hem and lete hem go. c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camd.) xliii, Quil he hade any gud to take, He wernut no mon. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 31 Her husbonde must nedis ordeine her that she desirithe,..for thei wol finde so many resones that thei wille not be werned. c 1475 *Partenay* 82 Of thes thre on [*i. e.* one] your plesire do and take,..Reson is ne right that ȝou we werne shold ȝ.

β. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3604 And who-so askith folily, He moot be warned hastily. c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. iii. 201 Iacob warnyt hym vttraly.

d. To refuse (*to* do something).

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 248 Þeo ancre þet wernde an oðer a cwaet uorto lenen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12106 If þou him wenis for to lern, To lere him wel we þe noght wern. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1367 Ȝe sigge ich were mi nem to wiue, For y schuld be ȝour king.

β. c 900 *Bada's Hist.* V. XX. [XXII.] (1890) 474 Ond he blissade in þon, þæt..he ȝeseah þa his ȝeheremd þone Eastordæȝ onfon,..þone hie simle ær þon warenedon to anfonne [L. *quem semper antea vitabant*). a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3040 Hir bidding do sal þou not warn. *Ibid.* 3261 For quas luue he wild not warn To sacrifise his auen barn. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. Introd. (Tollemache MS.), þat man may be a schamid..to warne to serue fader and moder, while he knoweþ þat briddes and foules seruiþ..euerichone oþer.

e. *absol.* To make refusal.

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7553 Of þe heyemen of þe lond ..He easte ostage strong inou & hii ne ssolde nost warne, Ac toke him ostage god. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 130 The wylde loves rage..Hath mad him that he can noght werne, Bot fell al hol to hire assent. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 430 For estaat real can nat al day werne.

β. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 30 Thai ar.. nocht large of gift, and redily wil tak and wele can warne.

2. To refuse to allow (some action or course of action) *to* a person; to forbid (a person) *to* do something.

a. c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. vii. § 1 Hi ær Moyse & hys folce þæs utlæreldes wyrndon. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 330 Ȝeorne is to wyrnanne bearneacnum wife þæt hio uht sealtes ete oððe sweten. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2966 Eft he comen to pharaon, And he wernede his folc ut-gon. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1021 Holy chyrche wyl þe werne þe halyday to go to þe tauerne,..whan goddys seruyse owyþ to be doun. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 333 He is to greet a nygard that wolde werne A man to lighte his candle at his lanterne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 162 Thogh it be noght the houndes kinde To ete chaf, yit wol he werne An Oxe which comth to the berne Therof to taken eny fode. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ii. 146 And therfore thilk processe hath no strengthe forto weerne ymagis of God to be had and vsid in the chirche.

β. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7985 And na thing salle þam warn ne lett, To do þair wille whare-swa it es sett. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2261 For nane other enchesowne, Bot for i warned hym to wyve My doghter. 1550 CROWLEY *Information* 142 Whoe shall warne me to do wyth myne owne as me selfe lyketh. 1590 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) I. 1. 12 And that theye warne none to have Ale for theire money so theye have yt in theire houses. 1591–5 COUNTESS PEMBROKE *Law of Clorinda* 12 in *Spenser's Astrophel*, From them [the heavens] comes good, from them comes also ill, That which they made, who can them warne to spill.

b. Of a thing: To forbid, not to allow of (some action or procedure). Also *absol.*

a. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 255 Ȝif hæto oþþe meht ne wyrne læt him blod. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 29 Yf so benygne And loughly be the vyne hit not to werne.

3. To refuse, forbid, deny (entry, the gate, door, way, one's house). Constr. *dat.* of person or *from*.

a. † a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 442 From hir the gate ay [*read* shal] werned be Of paradys. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5840 But whan he prayde hir, pore was he, Therfore she warned him the entree. 14.. *St. Alexius* 18 (Cott. MS.) Of all pormen of ylk a gate, there was none þat werned þe yate. c 1420 *Anturs. Arth.* ix, Quo-so wernes me the waye, Hym to dethe dijte!

β. 1389 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 233 þe portir with his pikis þo put him vttere, And warned him þe wicket while þe wacche durid. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3251 All þat warnyt hym þe way he warpet to ground. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7302 The hous, quod he, such as ye see, Shal nat be warned you for [illegible]..40 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* I. 737 Þere was no ȝate warnyd to no-maner wyte, But..þei were kept opyn both day & nyth. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 61 Quhen Julius Cesar was cummyn to Rome, thai durst nocht warne him the portis. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXVIII. (1811) 257 The Kynge..warned hym yᵉ entre of his lande. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D 2, *Mist. Open.* Get you from my shop. *Mol.* I come to buy. *Mist. Open.* He sell ye nothing, I warne yee my house and shop.

b. To forbid, exclude (a person *from* a place or position, Death *from* a person). Cf. WARN *v.*[1] 6 c.

a. † a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 636 Fro thilke assemblee, If I may, Shal no man werne me to-day. 1536 *Primer Satisb., Eng. & Lat.* 145 O sapiens thou art eterne Frome the and thy father who can the werne.

β. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 36 But if that careless heauens (quoth she) despine The doome of iust reuenge,..Yet can they not warne death from wretched wight.

c. To stop the way of.

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 (MS. T.) Hund wile in at open dure, þer man him ne wernes. c 1300 *K. Horn* 725 (Laud MS.) To boure he gan ȝerne Durst hym noman werne.

β. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 137 The Dowglas than his way has tane Rycht to the hors, as he him bad: Bot he, that him in ȝhemsell had, Than warnyt hym dispitously.

4. To prevent, hinder, restrain (a person or thing) from action. Const. with *clause* or *inf.*

a. c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XLI. § 4 He..us ne wernð [*v. r.* wyrnþ] þæt we yfel don. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 408 ȝif eni luueden þe ariht, he muhte holden þe, & wearnen þe to smiten. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7063 What he wold do, non durste hym werne. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXIII. 6 In our chosun berielis birye thi deed, and no man shal mow wern [1388 forbede. Vulg. *prohibere*] thee. a 1400 *St. Alexius* 316 (Laud MS. 463) So sone so she to him come, vpon þe liche she fel y-lome...On þe liche she lay, & nolde not wond, Mighte noman hire werne. c 1500 *Joseph Arim.* 164 To delyuer goddes seruauntes he sayd he wolde; I knowe no maner man that shall me werne.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8726 'And quat thing es,' he said, 'may warn þat godd ne may his will of do?' *Ibid.* 13733 'Vs thinc to lang we duell,' said þai, 'Qua warns yow to wend a-wai?' c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 50 ȝif þei ben his rightfully oure kyng may not werne ne lette his hoste to re-te in þo places. c 1400 *Sege Melayne* 500 Thay stirrit vp on those stedis full steryn, I ay fande no man þat þam wolde warne. c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 18 3 My hawke..Flewe..in to an olde barne, To seche at a rat, I coude not her warne.

b. Phrases, *To warn* (a person) *his will* or *of his will*; *to warn* (a person's) *thoughts*.

a. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 905 But all his werk was in waste, þei werned his thoughtes. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7288 He was tarriet with the Troiens..And wernit of his wille, þof hym wo thoght.

β. [a 1400–50: cf. 1 β.] c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6465 Thay preset so the prince with power of knightes, þat þai warnit hym his wille, & away put. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3011 Trowiste thow to warne me of my wille?

c. To resist.

a. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 In þe dele of Ilureisun..he wile ȝon hwiche boð þo þat muȝe stonden ȝein þes fleiaces last and wernen his ȝene fleiaces iwille.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22342 Sal nan ha might þair might to warn.

5. To refuse to take or accept.

a. c 1300 *Havelok* 926 Sit now doun and et ful yerne: Daþeit hwo þe mete werne! 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1824 Ho bede hit hym ful bysily, & he hit bode wernes.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16236 Coth pilate,..To varn yus consail better it es þan to do mar foli.

b. To deny (a statement).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21334 Þe stat of ilk ewangelist Bers in him-self vr lauerd crist. He es man and ox, leon, and ern, Mai na skilful man þis wern.

† Warn, *v.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *warnir* (var. of *garnir* GARNISH *v.*) a. Teut. **warnjan*: see WARN *v.*[2]] *trans.* To fortify; to protect, defend. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 8836 Ageyn þe Bretons þey cam right ȝerne þe lond ȝyf þey myghte þem werne. 1338 — *Chron.* (1725) 39 Þe toun was warned wele. *Ibid.* 268 Now gos þis Thomas, his treson to purchace, But how Edward was warned þorgh Gode's grace [Fr. *Coment la grace Dieus Krist Ly geutils roy Edward de la treaun garnyst*]. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) lxix. 45 þat nane defende ne warne oþir for lond ne gode acheaun. [L. *ne pro rerum alius aliqui defendere.*] 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* V. vi. 517 For to close and kepe and hegge yn and werne so manye persoones fro so miche gretter synnes.

Hence **† Warned** *ppl. a. Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* XXX. 22 He selkouthed to me His mercy in warned cite [Vulg. *in civitate munita*].

Warn, obs. pa. t. pl. of BE *v.*; obs. f. WARRANT *sb.*[1]

† Warnable, *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 **weernable.** [f. WARN *v.*[2] + -ABLE.] That may be forbidden.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. ix. 470 He expressith tho gouernaunciis..in the maners and circumstaunciis..in which thei ben forbedable or weernable.

Warnage, obs. Sc. var. VERNAGE.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 27 Bot Inglismen..Stuffit housis with wyn and gud wernage. *Ibid.* 317 King Eduuardis self could nocht get bettir wyn Than thai had thar, warnage and wenysoune Off bestiall in to full gret fusion.

† Warne, *conj. Obs.* Also **warn.** [app. a phrase f. *war*, *were*, 3rd sing. pa. t. subj. of BE + NE. Cf. &c. *werena.*] Were it not that, but that, unless.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2342 For warne syn war þai [the devils] had ay bene Bright aungels. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2798 (Göll.) All his praier mith noght help, Warn godes might þer

wald ȝelp. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 63 Warne þe snawe ware, bare schuld na man passe ouer þe yss. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 51 And warne godde ȝaf to menne the freendful angelic keping Thare shuld neure man eschape the feends crowell temptyng.

Warnel (wɔ̄·nĕl). Now *dial.* Forms: 1 wernæȝel, 7 warnell, wornel, 8– wornil (9 *corruptly* wommal, wurmal), 8– warnel. [OE. *wernægel*, perh. f. **wearh* pus (see WARE *sb.*[6], WARIBREDD) + *nægel* NAIL *sb.*]

1. A hard tumour on the back of cattle, produced by the larva of a gadfly: = WARBLE *sb.*[2] 2.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 28 Þa leorde hi sum ludeisc man, þæt heo name æmne wernæȝel of sumes oxan hricge (etc.). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 838 *Warbles* or *wommals*, that is, small swelled protuberances along the chine, caused by the larvæ of the *Œstrus bovis* or cattle-bot. 1852 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* 300 Large open boils, sometimes called wornils or wurmals, that is, worm-holes. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes without H.* XXVI. (1868) 512 The swellings caused by the Breese Fly are called Wurbles or Wornils.

b. The maggot producing tumours of this kind: = WARBLE *sb.*[2] 3.

1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* XXVIII. 130 About March worms or wornels do begin to breed in their backs. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. vi. (1727) 378 In the Backs of Cows there are Maggots generated, which in Essex we call Wornils; which are first only a small Knot in the Skin.

c. *Comb.*

1708 KERSEY, *Warnel-worms*, certain Worms that stick within the Skin of Cattel on their Backs. Whence in later Dicts.

† 2. = AGNAIL 1. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Frouelle*, An agnell, pinne, or warnell in the toe.

† **Warnement.** *Obs. rare*[–1]. [a. OF. *warnement*, *garnement*: see GARMENT.] Equipment, armour, clothing.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7443 (Laud) He ȝiueþ londes, he ȝiueþ rentes, Stedes, tresores, warnementes [*Linc.* warentmentis].

Warner[1] (wɔ̄·nəɹ). [f. WARN *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

1. One who warns or gives warning to others.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Monitor*, a warner. 1572 HULOET (ed. Higins), Warner, or admoniſher, *monitor*, *admonitor*. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Ld. Craighall* 8 July, If ye advise..with that warner within you that will not fail to speak against you in God's time. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. XXVI, Again the ominous warner cried, Woe! woe! the Cycle of the Years is full! 1820 T. ERSKINE *Remarks Internal Evid.* iii. (1827) 66 Must the Almighty Warner demonstrate the evil of sin by undergoing its effects? *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 148 The Wildgrave fiercely spurns his warner.

b. *transf.* esp. a mechanical device for giving warning.

1823 *Mechanic's Mag.* No. 4. 59 The Warner is to give the mariner immediate intelligence when in shoal water. 1841 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 240/2 The other wheels of the train produce no further effect till the warning has been replied to from D, which at the same time restores the electric circuit of the 'warner' for another signal. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Warner*,.. Also, beacons, posts, buoys, lights, &c. warning vessels of danger by day as well as by night. 1906 LOCKYER *Stonehenge* iii. 24 This star would act as a warner of sunrise at some time of the year.

c. As the second element in *rent*, *storm warner*.

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 5 May 6/2 An article by Herr Emmerig..on German bees as storm warners. 1907 *Times* 2 Oct. 12/3 The owner of the cattle is bailiff and rent warner on several properties near Ennis.

† 2. One who summons people to attend a gathering. *Obs.*

1572 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 341, 4 bedells or warners. 1813 SHIPWAY *Campanalogia* I. title-p., By William Shipway, Late Warner to the Society of Cumberland Youths.

† 3. *local.* A man who gives notice of arrival of ships at a port. *Obs.*

1762 *Ann. Reg.* 169 The young man who gives the intelligence of the arrival of ships at that port [Bristol], commonly called the warner. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Warner*, a sentinel formerly posted on the heights near sea-ports to give notice of the approach of vessels.

† 4. A mongrel used as a house-dog. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Engl. Dogges* V. (1880) 34 Curres of the mungrell and rascall sort and first of the Dogge called in Latine *Admonitor* and of vs in Englishe Wappe or Warner.

† 5. *Anc. Cookery.* A table decoration or device, probably similar to the SUBTLETY (sense 5) but preceding it. *Obs.*

1503 *Intronisation Abp. Warham* in Leland *Collect.* (1716) VI. App. II. 21 The first course at my Lordes Table in the great Hall. First, a Warner conveyed upon a rounde boorde, of viii. panes, with viii. Towres, enbatteled and made with flowres, standyng on every towre a Bedil in his habite, with his staffe. *Ibid.* A Warner with three Stages, with vanes and towres enbateled.

† **Warner**[2]. *Sc. Obs.* In 6 warnour. [? f. WARN *v.*[2] + -ER [1].] ? A miser.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 96 Sum warnour for this warldis wrak wendis by his wyt.

Warner(e, obs. forms of WARRENER.

† **Warnership.** *Obs.* [f. WARNER[1] + -SHIP.] ? The district of an official 'warner'.

It is very doubtful whether these quots. do not belong to WARRENERSHIP.

1636 in G. Roberts *Soc. Hist.* (1856) 290 [Precautions against infection of the plague] Thomas Stowell of the warnership of Pymperne,..innkeeper, hath divers times entertained carriers, travellers, and others that came from London. *Ibid.*, The constables or other officers of the warnership of Pymperne.

Warnes(se, var. ff. WARRENESS *Obs.*

† **Warnestore,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 warnest(o)ur(e, (5 warusture?), 3–4 warnisto(u)re, (4 warinstour), 5 warn(e)stor(e, warny stoor. *β.* 3 wermestore, 4–5 warmstore, 5, 7 warme store. [a. OF. *warnesture*, northeastern var. of *garnesture*, f. *warnir*, *garnir*: see GARNISH *v.* Cf. GARNITURE.]

1. Provisions kept in store, provender.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1698 Þou sal alsua mak a boure For to hald in þi wermestore. *Ibid.* 4688 Ma þan a thusand seiers Fild he wit wina, neu and fress, And warnistore o salt fless. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 24788 (Fairf.) He..caried warnestoure on mani wise. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 65 Whanne men trowyn wynter þat it is cold, men ordeyns herbergage and cloþing, and warmstores of cole and woode, and of many oþer þynges. 14.. *Sir Pol. Poems* xlii. 122 Stuffe ȝoure castels in eche coost, Warnestor and folk þeder serde. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1200, I will remayn quhill this warnstor be gane. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 Warnstore, *annona*, *entica*, *warnestura*.

2. ? A magazine for provisions, ? a fortified place.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8075 In eche stude hii sette þer strong warnesture & god. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 180 Þe Sarazins kept it þat tym for þer chefe warinstour.

3. *In warnestore*: in safe keeping, in reserve.

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 878 They were not ordeygned therfore [for the siege], They had golde in warme store, But mete was them full nede. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 182 Nor doth he want for any one of these, A statute in warme store if that he please.

† **Warnestore,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 warnestur, 4–5 warn(e)sto(o)re, warnystor. *β.* 4–5 warmstore. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To furnish with supplies. Also, to fortify, secure.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1121 Wel þei were warnestured of vitayles i-now. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iii. (1886) 7 We þat ben..warnestored and enclosyd in swich a palis whider as chateringe or a-noyenge folye ne may nat atayne. *c* 1386 — *Melib.* P 2487 Ye sholde doon youre diligence to kepen youre persone and to warnestoore youre hous. *Ibid.* P 2523 That I shal warnestoore myn hous with toures..and Armure and Artelries. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 57 It ys to ȝelde to ilk man þat his ys, ffor so er citees warmstoryd and rentys gyuen.

Hence † **Warnestoring** *vbl. sb.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 2525 Warnestooryng..of heighe toures and of grete edifices.

† **Warnett.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] Alleged name of a variety of building-slate.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 265/2 Names of Slates according to their several Lengths...Chitts. Warnetts. Shorts.

Warnice, variant of WARNISH *v.*[2]

Warning (wɔ̄·nĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [OE. *war(e)nung*, *wearning*, fem., f. *war(e)nian*, *wearnian*, WARN *v.*[1]: see -ING [1]. Cf. OHG. *warnunga* (MHG. *warnunge*, mod.G. *warnung*).] The action of WARN *v.*[1]

† 1. Taking heed, precaution. *Obs.*

Spenser's use suggests that the antithesis of 'warning' and 'weird' (fate) may have survived proverbially.

c 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 427 Full oft ic frode menn fyrn ȝehyrde Secgan..hwæðer wære twegra strengra, wyrd þe warnung. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 27 But ah, who can deceiue his destiny, Or weene by warning to auoyd his fate?

2. Previous intimation or threat of impending evil or danger. Phrase, *to give warning* (*to*), to warn. Also Sc. *to make warning.*

† *Scarborough warning*: see SCARBOROUGH.

a 800 CYNEWULF *Crist* 922 Dæt mæȝ wites to wearninga, þam ðe hafaþ wisne ȝeboht. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8993 O þis warning he þam tald, And þai þam dred both yong and ald 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8764 To opene my mouþ y ne dar ne may, Bot hit be a byhouely þyng at nede, þat were warnyng or tokene of dede. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 502 Thai maid him mony tyme varnyng, Quhen that thai his tynsale mycht se. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 8279 Of treason first I gaf him warnyng, Therfor I haue lost my living. 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 215 The erle of Warwycke..wrote to the Marques Montacute..geuynge hym warnyng, and aduertesyng him in what perill their whole affayres stode in. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 14 As two broad Beacons..Send forth their flames..And warning giue, that enemies conspyre, With fire and sword the region to inuade. *c* 1600 *Timon* I. ii. (1842) 6 Looke to thy selfe; I gyue thee fayre warning. 1656 N. BERNARD *Life Abp. Usher* 91 So great a Prophet..might have at some speciall times more then ordinary motions and impulses in doing the Watch-mans part, of giving warning of Judgements approaching. 1681 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (Camden) 91 They talk nothing now but of wageing war with yᵉ King...However they thought fit first to give his Majesty some warneing. *c* 1718 PRIOR *Paulo Purg.* 160, I give you warning: You'll die before to-morrow morning. 1759 HUME *Hist. Eng. Hen. VIII*, I. 84 He gave his master warning of the danger [*later edd.* He made warning of the danger to his master]. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* IV. XXVI, 'In murderous strife,' Said Bruce, 'his warning saved my life'. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xvi. 276 [Tresham] insisted vehemently that warning should be given to the Lord Mounteagle, his kinsman. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 229 The banished oppressor had at least given Englishmen fair warning.

b. A sign or portent of coming evil.

c 1325 *Yesterday* 53 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 676 Nis non so fresch on fote to fare..Ne non so bold, Beores to bynde þat he nab warmynges [*read* warnynges] to beo ware. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 80 And these does she apply, for warnings and portents, And euils imminent. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Dec. 1680, They [*sc.* comets] may be warnings from God, as they commonly are forerunners of his animadversions. 1784 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* VI, But I have heard it these many years, and outlived the warning. 1859 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 767 This is called the 'warning' of the attack, or in medical terminology, the 'aura'.

3. Advice to beware of a person or thing as being dangerous.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Al Holi Writ is ful of warningre of eie. Danid seide, 'Averte oculos meos ne videant vanitatem'. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* XVI, There we all stood, watching this revolving light upon the rock at Holyhead, and praising it for its brightness and its friendly warning. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 83 Urged by the warnings of our..guide, we.. began the descent. 1870 A. R. WALLACE *Contrib. Theory Nat. Select.* (1871) 118 Some..perceived signal was therefore necessary to serve as a warning to birds never to touch these uneatable kinds [of caterpillars]. 1880 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. i, The result of this blind confidence justified the warnings of her friends.

4. Deterrent counsel; cautionary advice against imprudent or vicious action, or neglect of duty.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *On Old T.* (Gr.) 7 [The Book of Proverbs is] wisdomes bigspell and warnung wiþ dysig. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 378 He had many grete warnyngis of hydoumes & perille of his synne. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 432 The kyng [*sc.* Saul] spared, For-bar hym and hus beste bestes.. Otherwise than god wolde by warnyng of the prophete. *c* 1400 *Brut* 116 Þe gode man warnede ham ofte-tymes þat folie to lete; but his warnyng availede litel for he loue bituene ham was so miche. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 8 Þou..awȝtyst gretly to desyre, to heryn his warnyng & his techyng. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 538 O what pyte was hyt, That the Troyans beleuyd not this warnyng and Amonycion. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* x. 8 A wyse man wil receaue warnynge, but a foole wil sooner be smytten in the face. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. D iii b, Surely he were a gaye gyuer of warnynge, yf his aduyse were ought worthe. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Life Walker* A 3, But all these faire warnings could not make M. Walker give over writing, lying and Libelling. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* IV. 47 Oh! should'st thou wrong her Just Heav'n shall double all thy Woes upon thee, And make 'em know no End—Remember this As the last Warning of a dying Man. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 344 'My Lord,' said the King,..'you will live to repent the part which you are taking in this matter.' The warning was disregarded. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. ix. 322 History is never weary of repeating its warnings against narrow judgements. 1907 *Verney Mem.* II. 54 Abstaining from a single word of reproach for the past or of warning for the future.

b. An experience, sight, etc. that serves as a caution; a deterrent example.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 41 They laye a good while aboard of hir, and charged them to take this for a wardning [*sic*], and giue ouer there scoffing of them, or the next time they would teach them better manner. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 219 Let Christian's slips before he came hither, and the Battles that he met with in this place, be a warning to those that come after. 1772 *Junius Lett.* No. lxvii. 331 *note*, It deserves to be recorded for the curiosity of the fact, and should be given to the public as a warning to every honest member of society. 1857 MAURICE *Ep. St. John* xi. 170 Such a man is a spectacle and a warning to us all.

c. *To take warning*: to alter one's course of action when warned of its danger. Const. *by* (another's ill-fortune, etc.).

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 784 An example thou shalt be, That all stouburne priestes may take warnyng by the. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. i. 28 He wold embrace no counsell, take no warning by my comming. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 198, I think it is well that they hang so near the High-way that others may see and take warning. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1320 Girl, for I see ye scorn my courtesies, Take warning.

5. Previous notice of an event whether good or bad. † *In warning*: by way of warning. Also, time allowed for preparation, interval between the notice and the event (e.g. in *long*, *short warning*, *a day's warning*, etc.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21879 He sends us þis all in warning, For to be warr of his cuming. *c* 1370 *Robert of Cyrille* 464 in Hazl. *E. E. P.* I. 286 The aungelle gaf hym in warnynge Of the tyme of hys levynge. ? 1471 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 117 A pryve seall..was delivered to him on Munday.. which as your maystership knoweth well was right shorte warnyng. 1860 F. ALLEN in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 345 The Quene's Maᵗᵉ hathe sworne that the daye and tyme shall be kepte secrete to herself,..so as the very tyme..will be so shorte and sodeyne that men are like to have small warninge of the matter. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* 391 Thou art at an houres warning whensoeuer or whereseeuer the diuell shall fetch thee. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 60 The worst is this,—that at so slender warning, You are like to haue a thin and slender pittance. 1607 *Statutes in Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 59 Lawfull warninge of the daye of the election. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 44 The truce..was then concluded..till the Calends of May, except either of them should give fourteene [days] warning of their purpose to breake the same. 1633 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Night-Walker* IV. i, But this will be reveng'd in a short warning. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 104 Where an Angel gave the Blessed Virgin three days warning of her Death. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 479 At a moment's warning the Sheriff adjourned the poll to Newport Pagnell.

b. In some clocks, the rattling or whirring noise which precedes the striking.

1778 J. BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 388 This, like the warning of a clock, prepares for the stroke. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 107/1 From that time till the hand comes to 60 the clock is on the warning. 1892 DENISON *Clock & Watch-m.* 119 The noise made by this is called giving warning. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Warning-piece*, The warning-piece, by starting the fly, causes a rustling noise, which is the precursor of the striking, and is called the warning.

c. *U.S. local.* (See quot.) ? *Obs.*

1807 JANSON *Stranger in Amer.* 402 On such occasions [*sc.* burial of the dead] what they call 'warnings' is the day before, or early in the morning, given of the funeral.

6. Notice of the termination of a business relation, given by one of the parties to the other; esp. by a landlord to a tenant, a master to a servant, an employer to an employee, or vice versa.

1432 *Paston Lett.* I. 33 The said Erle desireth that..he may, by warnyng to my Lordes..be and stande freely discharged of the saide occupation..about the Kinges persone. 1562–3 *Act 5 Eliz.* c. 4 § 4 That no suche Mr Mrs or Dame shall put awaye any suche Servante..without one quarter warning gyven before thende of his sayd terme. 1571–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 125 It salbe leful to ayther of the saidis partiis to use warningis for removing fra landis and heretabill possessioun. 1577 J. Dee *Diary* (Camden) 3, June 26th, Elen Lyne gave me a quarter's warning. *a* 1646 T. Hope *Minor Pract.* xiii. (1734) 363 The Objections against the Lawfulness of the Warning are, That the Parties are not lawfully warned personally, or at their Dwelling-places, or upon the Ground of the Lands,..or, That the Warning is not stamped, &c. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 30 Mar., Up and away goes Alce, our cook-maid;..and would go away of her own accord, after having given her mistress warning fickly for a quarter of a year together. 1676 *Office of Clerk of Assise* 112 If any Master hath put away his Servant before the end of his term, without a quarter warning, he shall forfeit forty shillings. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* II. (*fin.*), You shou'd never take a Lease of a House you can hire for a Quarter's Warning. 1715 Addison *Drummer* I. i, *Coachman.* I'll give Madam warning, that's flat—I've always liv'd in sober families. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 209, I had talk'd to Mrs. Jervis to induce the Girl (to whom, in hopes of frightening her, I had given Warning..) to desire to stay. 1799 R. Bell *Syst. Forms of Deeds Scot.* II. 389 There is first a precept of warning given by the landlord; it is in this form...I..lawfully premonish, warn, and charge C. D. tenant and possessor of the lands of [blank], to flit and remove himself [etc.] 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, I'll pay her [the landlady] what I owe her, and give her warning to-morrow morning. 1872 *Punch* 6 Apr. 141/2 Mary Dishley gave her mistress warning: no fault to find with her place, but wanted a change. 1884 *Ibid.* 22 Nov. 246 Cook, I give you a Month's Warning from To-day. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Warning*, notice, given or received, of a workman leaving his employment.

fig. 1828 Scott *Aunt Marg. Mirror* Introd., A little group of trees, that still grace the eastern end,..have just received warning to quit, expressed by a daub of white paint.

†**7.** Previous notice of being called upon to perform some duty. *Obs.*

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 369/2 He had..a commaundement fro youre Highnes, to be redy to come..with his said fel[y]ship, upon a day warning. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 194/2 To be redy in harnays within an Houre warnyng. 1549 Thomas *Hist. Italie* 74 b, For there [at the Arsenal of Venice] they haue well neere two hundred galleys in suche an ordre, that vpon a verie small warnyng they maie be furnisshed out vnto the sea. 1554–5 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 170 In a redines to serve vpon further warnynge. 1556 Ld. Wharton in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 220, I called the gentilmen, freholders, and rulers of men, and declared unto them the Quenes Matie's comaundement for their servyse, and reddynes upon an hower's warnyng. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* I. III. 256 For this purpose she summoned him to appear before her on a short warning.

†**8.** Intimation, notification of a fact or a present occurrence. *To give warning of*: to call attention to. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 40 Sires, now in the morwe tyde, Out of youre hostelrie I saugh you ryde And warned heer my lord, Which to ryden with yow is ful fayn ..Frend, for thy warnyng god yeue thee chance. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. i. (1495) 27 By warnyng of angels men knowe goddis wyl & so angels is a name of offyce & not of kynde. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xvi. 89 If of this consideracioun no mencioun and waarnyng were bi me or bi sum other in writing bifore mad. *c* 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 787 in Hazl. *E. E. P.* I. 250 And whan thy synnes be cleane forgeuen the, By an Aungell god wyll sende the warnynge. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 17 Many other things we might giue thee warning of (gentle Reader) if wee had not exceeded the measure of a Preface alreadie.

† **b.** *A by warning*: a private hint or prompting to do something. *Obs.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 25 When..his familiar coumpaignions gaue hym a by warnynge to auenge suche a naughtie touche..with his tenne comaundementes: gayly saied [etc.].

† **c.** A notice or signal that a certain hour has come, or that it is time to do something. *Obs.*

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 7 Alle þe breþeren schulle be redy at here warnynge. *c* 1566 J. Alday tr. *Boaystuau's Theat. World* S 3, A Diall, the which..gave warning with a stroke unto him that did weare it of everie houre. 1572 J. Sandford *Houres Recr.* (1576) 67 The swallowe againe giveth them warning to go away. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 117 The sherris..illuminateth the Face, which (as a Beacon) giues warning to all the rest of this little Kingdom (Man) to Arme. 1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tub* I. vi, He sat up at Play, and watch'd the Cock, Till his first warning chid him off to rest. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 162 These Timbrels..serve not only to chear up the Camels..but also to give warning to those that stay behind. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Malcolm's Heir* liv, And aye, when the midnight warning sounds, He hastens his beads to tell.

†**9.** A summons, command for attendance. *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 16022 (Trin.) Mony gedered of þe toun bi certeyn warnynge [*otherwise in earlier texts*]. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 3 If this Lords above wayte aftyr more pepill in this cuntre, be lyklynes it woll not be easy to get with owt a newe comission and warnyng. *c* 1495 Hen. VII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 21 We praye you herein ye wol make suche delegens as that ye be redy with your said nombre to come unto us uppon any our sodein warnynge. 1496 *Cov. Leet. Bk.* 573 The Craft shall mete on seynt Anne day..and what personez þat be absent þat day vppon warnyng shall pay xij d. 1529 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 271/2 He ..durst nocht cum to the said burgh to hald the said court without warnyng, support and supple of his frendis. 1600

Child-Marriages 173 That the said Pattrick shalbe ready to appeare within xij howres before the said maior, vppon warninge geuen at any of the houses of the said Roberte Bennett & Randle Ince. 1623 Cockeram II, A Warning to appeare to a court. Citation. 1784 *Acts & Laws Connecticut* 179 A Copy of this Paragraph of this Act,..published on the Sign-Post in said Town..at least three Days before said second Monday of March next, shall be a legal Warning of the Freemen of said City to attend said first meeting. 1790 N. Chipman *Rep.* (1871) 10 It does not appear that the warning for the proprietor's meeting was published according to law.

†**10.** The action of advertising (lost property).

c 1610 in *Heriot's Mem.* App. VII. (1822) 218 To the goldsmith's officer for warning of her Majestie's diamond, which was lost at Salisburie, 6s. 8d.

†**11.** *Law.* = Garnishment. *Obs.*

1579 *Expos. Termes Lawe* 98 b, Warninge is when an actyon of detinue of charters is brought against one, & the defendant saieth, yt the charters were deliuered to him by the plaintife, and by an other vpon certein conditions and praieth yt the other may be warned to pleade with the plaintife whether the conditions be performed or noe, and therevppon a write of *Scire facias* shall goe forthe against him.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warning-giver*; †**warning-arrow** (cf. *warning-gun*); **warning-bell**, (*a*) a bell for giving alarm of fire or invasion; (*b*) a bell announcing the imminent departure of a vessel; **warning-gun**, a gun sounded as an alarm or announcement; **warning-lever** *Horology*, the lever that sets in motion the warning-wheel; **warning-pipe**, an overflow pipe serving to show when a cistern is too full; **warning-wheel** *Horology*, the wheel that produces the 'warning' (see 5 b). Also Warning-piece.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xii. 30 The sight of vice in others, is like a *warning-Arrow, shot, for vs to take heed. 1511 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 61 Item for the *warnyng bell and iiij polysse, iis. viiid. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 39 Harke, harke, the Dolphins drumme, a warning bell, Sings heauy Musicke to thy timorous soule. *a* 1592 Lodge & Greene *Looking Gl.* (1598) D 4, Foresee in time, the warning bell doth towle. 1606 Day *Ile of Gulls* I. i. B 1, I heare the warning bell, some strangers are arriued. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxi, Having disposed his sentinels, [he] took his station on the top of his tower, close by the warning-bell. 1864 G. A. Lawrence *Maurice Dering* II. 233 The 'Tigris' was on the point of getting under way, and the first warning-bell had rung. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 166 The best watchmen, and also the best *warning geuers in the nyght tyme. 1830 James *Darnley* xxxviii. III. 251 The *warning gun was fired from the castle of Guisnes, giving notice that the King of England was ready to set out. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 219 The rack pulls over the hour *warning lever. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1808 To put a half-inch *warning-pipe from the cistern to a convenient place near the pump. 1696 W. Derham *Artif. Clock-m.* i. 6 The next is the Third, or Fourth-Wheel, (according as it is distant from the First-Wheel) called also the *Warning-Wheel. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 240 The last wheel of the striking train, called the warning wheel.

†**Wa·rning**, *vbl. sb.*2 *Obs.* [OE. *wiernung, wærnung*, f. *wiernan* Warn *v.*2 See -ing 1.] Refusal, denial.

c 1000 *Laws of Æthelstan* II. iii. (Liebherm.) 152 Be rihtes wærnunge. Se hlaford se rihtes wyrne ond for his yfelan mon licge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 He ne mei uor reouðe wernen hire, ne sweamen hire heorte mid wernunge. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5522 Ac þat þou graunt ous now a þing, & þer of no make werning. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2253 Bot styȝtel þe vpon on strok, & I schal stonde stylle, & warp þe no wernyng, to worch as þe lykez, no whare. *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1142 For al his purpos..Was for to make greet dispense, Withouten werning or defence. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 263 Thai fand nane that thame varnyng maid. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. viii. 977 Þar sulde be made hym na warnynge Off qwhat thynge he made askynge. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xvi. 380 That preestis and othere clerkis mowen weel withoute weernyng of Holi Scripture..be endewid with temporal and vnmouable godis. *Ibid.* V. v. 506 Summe comaundementis of God ben negatyues, that is to seie, weernyngis or forbodis.

Warning (wǭ·ɹniŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Warn *v.*1 + -ing 2.] That warns, in senses of the verb.

1552 Huloet, Warnynge, or geuynge warnynge, *monitorius*. 1796 Scott *Wild Huntsm.* ix, To-day the Warning Spirit hear, To-morrow thou mayst mourn in vain. 1810 — *Lady of Lake* III. i, The warning note. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxvii, The warning lights and fires upon the river were powerless beneath this pall [of fog]. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xxiv. 476 *note*, A deluging shower, which began without warning-drops. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xiii, She raised her hand with a warning gesture.

b. *spec.* in *Biol.* of coloration or other distinctive marks found in caterpillars, etc.

1869 J. J. Weir in *Trans. Entom. Soc.* I. 21 The birds were deceived into tasting them [*sc.* the larvae] because the characteristic warning hairs were undeveloped. 1877 A. R. Wallace in *Macm. Mag.* XXXVI. 396 Theory of Protective Colours...Theory of Warning Colours—These differ greatly from the last class, inasmuch as they present us with a variety of brilliant hues, [etc.]. 1887 Poulton in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 194 Instances of very distasteful species which have no warning colours, but, on the other hand, are well disguised by protective tints and markings.

Wa·rningly, *adv.* [f. Warning *ppl. a.* + -ly.2] In a warning manner, by way of warning.

1840 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Regen.* IV. iii. 369 Then she speaks warningly and therefore specifically. 1865 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 468/1, 'I play a wretched game,' said the..lady, warningly.

Warning-piece (wǭ·ɹniŋ,pīs). [f. Warning *vbl. sb.*1 and *ppl. a.* + Piece *sb.*]

1. A signal-gun discharged to give notification of arrival, danger, time, etc.

c 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* V. 2322 A warning-peece shall be shot off from the Tower, To giue thee knowledge when to cut the cord, And fire the house. 1598 Marbeck in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 608 There it pleased the Lords to call a select Councell, which was alwayes done by hanging out of a flagge of the armes of England, and shooting off of a great warning peece. 1607 Chapman *Bussy d'Ambois* I. i. 25 As great Seamen..(comming neere their Hauen) Are glad ... as We gaue them a-sterne, two Gunnes as warning peeces of great danger. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Evening-gun*, the warning-piece, after the firing of which the sentries challenge.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

In 17th c. often used in titles of books.

1613 J. H. (*title*) This World's Folly, or a Warning-Peece Discharged upon the Wickednesse thereof. 1640 Hubbert *Pill Formality* 1 This glorious Apostle..writes unto Timothy ..a warning peece to future ages. 1660 Bonde *Scut. Reg.* 379 Oh therefore let our distracted England be a warning-piece to all Nations, that they never attempt to Try and Judge their King, for what cause soever. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 144 ¶ 1, I shall make this Paper rather a Warning-piece to give notice where the Danger is. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 140, I am a warning-piece..to all rash..pilots. 1832 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., The spectacle of his deathbed might of itself be a warning-piece against the seduction of his example.

2. *Clock-making.* The piece that 'warns' that the clock is about to strike.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 284 The last wheel..carries a pin which butts on the warning piece during the interval between warning and striking.

Warnis, obs. Sc. form of Varnish *v.*

†**Wa·rnish**, *sb.* *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Warnish *v.*1] The state of being guarded.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. vii. 78 And thus warnisshed mot he be, and of warnisshe the hour drede.

†**Wa·rnish**, *v.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 4 warnische, -ysch, -issh, -yssh, warenyss, warnise, -yse, 4, 5 warnish. Also *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4–5 war-, varnist, -yst, 4 varnys(i)t. [a. AF. *warniss-, warnir* dial. var. of OF. *garnir*: see Garnish *v.*]

1. *trans.* To provide or furnish with an ample supply of something; *esp.* to supply (a place) with men and stores.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6052 (Laud MS.) Hij hadden warnysshed Cites & tounes. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6605 Castels, tours, beiȝe & lowe, He dede warnise wiþ store þan. *c* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lviii. 7 Thai sall warenyss halykirke with lare and vertus. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 102 For thai sa stith saw the casteill, And wist that it wes varnist weill. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* I. 247 Þai woddys warnist were In-to haboundance of wylde dere. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 214 On Gargownno was byggyt a small peill, That warnyst was with men and wittaill weill.

b. *refl.* To equip oneself.

13.. *Cursor M.* 24788 (Gött.) He dred him sare þat were suld rise, And warnist him on mani wise. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 726 One þare best wyse Inne þar armour they thame warnyse.

2. To provide with guards.

1387–8 [see Warnish *sb.*].

Hence **Wa·rnished** *ppl. a.*; **Wa·rnishing** *vbl. sb.* (esp. in sense 'that with which one is provided').

c 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvi. 10 Vndire the shadow of thi wengis that is, in the warnysynge of thi charite and of thi mercy. *Ibid.* xxx. 27 He selkouthed his mercy til me in cyte warnyst [L. *in ciuitate munita*]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 350 It [*sc.* valour] Has so gret varnasyng [*v.r.* warnysing] of vit, That it all perails weill can se. 1381 Wyclif 2 *Kings* xix. 32 He schal not commen in to this cytee,..and warnyschynge [Vulg. *munitio*] schal not enuyroun it.

Wa·rnish, *v.*2 *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 4 warnis, wernis, 9 *Sc.* warnice, -ise. [a. AF. *warniss-, warnir*, of Teut. origin: related to Warn *v.*1] *trans.* To warn or inform beforehand.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13611 For-þi godmen, i warnis yow to thinc al of his care. *Ibid.* 19897 Saint petre þar-wit was warnist, Thoru gastill might o iesu crist. *Ibid.* 21674 Þar-of was wernist moyses. 13.. *Ibid.* 21884 (Edin.) Bot al þe ma taknis þat we se, al þe werre warnisit er we. 1864 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* ix. 85 They waukened me up frae a maist enchantin' reverie, an' warniced me to prepare belyve to tak' a last fond look o' the slae-black een. 1873 [P. Buchan] *Leg. North* 44 Weel was I warnised ere I cam' frae hame.

Hence †**Wa·rnishing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Wa·rnishment**, *Sc.* warning.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21927 Thoru warnissing of oþere wrake, Vnnes [we] will ani sample take. 1894 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* (new ed.) x. 104 Gin I had gotten due warnicement faint a flee wad I has cared.

†**Wa·rnison.** *Obs.* Also 4 *Sc.* varnysoun, 6 *Sc.* vernysoun. [a. AF. *warnisoun*, OF. *warnison*, dial. var. of *garnison*: see Garnison *sb.*] Provision of men, stores, etc. Also a garrison.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 143 Þe pes did he crie, & purueid warnisoun. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* X. 325 Quhen thai of his varnysoun Saw the sege set thair stithly, Thai mystrowit hym of tratory. 1570 *Henry's Wallace* VIII. 869 *note*, Thai drede full sar for thair awin vernysoun.

Warnisto(u)re, var. ff. Warnestore *Obs.*

Warnmall, obs. form of Wardmote.

War-note. A musical summons to war (*poet.*). Also *fig.*

1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* III. xxvi, The Warder..blew his war-note loud and long. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxvi, Wild and high the 'Cameron's gathering' rose, The war-note of Lochiel. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 399 The old war-

note of strife for strife's sake has lost something..of its relentless and brutal barbarities.

Warnstor(e, var. ff. WARNESTORE *Obs.*

Warn't, dial. and vulgar f. *was not, were not.*

Warny stoor, -stor, var. ff. WARNESTORE *Obs.*

War of, obs. form of WHEREOF.

War Office. a. The department of the British government, presided over by the Secretary of State for War, which is charged with the entire administration of the Army; the building in which the business of this department is carried on. b. *U.S.* The War Department.

1721 *Constat* in *L. T. R. Particulars of Leases* 4084 (P.R.O.), A passage leading from Whitehall Court to the Warr Office and from thence to Scotland Yard. 1747 *Court & City Reg.* 145 War-office. Secretary at War, Right Hon. Henry Fox, Esq [Then follow names of subordinate officials]. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* I, It should cost Sir George but the asking a pair of colours for one of them at the War-office, since we have always supported government. 1824 in *Nadrus Peerage Evid.* (1874) 76 An entry in the books of the war office. 1865 ANGUS *Handbk. Eng. Lit.* 613 The father of M. G. Lewis was deputy-secretary of the war-office. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 27 § 1 This Act may be cited for all purposes as 'The War Office Act, 1870'. 1899 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 7/1 Lord Roberts spent an hour-and-a-half at the War Office, and then returned to Dover-street with a small War Office staff.

War on, obs. form of WHEREON.

Warow, var. WARY *v. Obs.*

Warp (wɔ̄ɹp), *sb.*[1] Also 1 **wearp**, (4 **werpe, worp**), 4–7 **warpe**. [OE. *wearp* warp in weaving (also used to gloss L. *vimen* osier-twig), corresponds to OLG. *warp* (MLG. *warp, warpe*), OHG. *warf, warph, waraf* (MHG., early mod.G. *warf*) warp in weaving, ON. *varp* neut., cast of a net, a laying of eggs (Sw. *varp* neut., cast of a net, draught of fish, hauling-rope, masc. warp in weaving, Da. *varp* neut. hauling-rope):—OTeut. **warpo-*, f. root **werp-* : **warp-* to throw: see WARP *v.* Branch IV is prob. a new formation on the verb.

Sense 6 may possibly represent an unrecorded sense of ON. *varp*: cf. *-warp* in Eng. place-names in Scandinavian districts.]

I. 1. *Weaving.* The threads which are extended lengthwise in the loom, usually twisted harder than the weft or woof, with which these threads are crossed to form the web or piece.

c725 Corpus Gloss. (Hessels) S. 563 *Stamen*: wearp. *a 1000 Riddles* (Gr.) XXXV[II]. 5 Wundene me ne beoð wefle, ne ic wearp hafu. 1346 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 2 Item quod nulla trama que dicitur ab sit in loco panni vbi stamen quod dicitur warp poni debet. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xl. (1495) 766 A spinner stretchyth the warpe wyth wonder craft fro the nether syde to the ouer and drawyth and bryngyth out ayen his threde thwarte ouer fro poynt to poynt. *c 1420* WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xiii. 3039 Pat þar sulde litil leiff behynde Off warpe or weft to mak hir claythe. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Warpe of clothe, *chayne de drap.* 1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate of Cloth* 26 A common thing it is for the weauer to couer a course warpe with a fine woofe, the warpe beeing spon hard and small, and the woofe soft and round to couer the warpe from sight. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1626) 108 Both spread At once their warps, consisting of fine thred, Ty'd to their beames. 1724 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 189 The Weavers shall be obliged to mount the Warps of their Linen with a sufficient Number of Threads. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 219 The warp is now composed of threads of an equal length. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 350 Wire loom... C, the beam or wooden roller, which is turned with a succession of deep grooves, into which the warp is wound, each groove receiving a greater or less number of wires, according to the fineness of the fabric. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XVII. 301 For she herself within her fair-hung room Had set the warp and watched the fine weft glide Up from the roller. 1893 J. T. TAYLOR *Cotton Weaving* 55 By having the shed fully open before the shuttle enters the shed, the warp is spread and a good cover put on the cloth.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Compl. Gr. Knt.* 28 O weauer, weauer, work no more, thy warp hath done me wrong. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Ee j b, Neither had I this clue of care to worke my warpe vpon. 1679 EVERARD *Discourses* 13 By the whole sincere Warp of this History here related, we may see how rash a thing it is to judge of the Actions of a great Prince. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. XXI. (1866) 248 Sorrow is..the..woof which is woven into the warp of life. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 86 He weaves together the frame of his discourse loosely and which is the warp and which is the woof cannot always be determined. 1896 W. WATSON in *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 2/3 Still, on Life's loom, the infernal warp and weft Woven each hour! 1911 E. C. SELWYN *Oracles N. T.* iii. 83 Throughout this narrative there is the underlying warp of the Old Testament.

2. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1590 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 370 Cables, hawsers, warpes, pitche, tarre. 1626 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* (1579) 27 No Shippe can sayle without Hempe, the sayle clothes,..yearde lines, warps & Cables can not be made without it. 1625 in W. Foster *Lett. recd. E. Ind. Co.* (1899) III. 201 We have been much troubled about the getting up of the ship-pinnace for lack of men and warps. 1690 *Lex Londinensis* (1680) 218 Likewise to have a Warps of forty fathom to shear off and give way if any Ship..shall chance to drive upon them. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 19, I..laid warps to haul into shoal water. 1731 *Act* 4 *Geo. II* c. 19 There shall be paid by the Master or Commander of every Vessel, belonging to the Port of Ilfordcombe, who shall make use of the Warp, the Sum of SIX Shillings and eight Pence. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXXVI. 139 [We] took the warp ashore, manned the capstan [etc.]. 1841 B. HALL *Patchwork* II. 3 An entering..ship is drawn along by a rope, or warp, as it is called. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 254 Our discharging was soon over, the warps cast off.

transf. 1851 *Harper's Mag.* III. 518 Loads are eased down hillsides by the use of..a strong warp taking a bight round a tree and hitching-to one yoke oxen.

b. *Trawl-fishing.* A rope attached to a net.

1835 J. COUCH in *3rd Rep. R. Cornw. Polytechn. Soc.* 74 When every thing is favourable, a warp from the end of the stop-senn is handed to the *volyer.* 1854 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Apr. 362/2 The fishermen beach the boat at the other side of the bay, carry the warp at that end to the further capstan, and prepare to haul. 1883 R. F. WALSH *Ir. Fisheries* 12 Some use stoppers, which extend from the top line downwards to the warps, but these are not so advantageous, as they tend to huddle the net together.

c. *Whaling.* (See quot.)

1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 226 The second mate had three fish fast..two on 'short warps', or pieces of whale-line some eight or ten fathoms long fastened to harpoons, with the other ends running on the main line by means of bowlines round it.

†**4.** ? A strand of a fishing-line. *Obs.*

1496 *Fysshynge wyth Angle* 13 Thenne twyne euery warpe one waye and ylyke moche: and fasten theym in thre clyftes ylyke streyghte.

III. 6. A tale of four (occas. three or a couple), esp. used of fish and oysters.

1436 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 156 Item in uno warpe de saltfyssh. 1509 *Market Harb. Rec.* (1890) 230 In salt Fyshe xcvij warpe and half. 1533 in *Archæologia* XXV. 523 For lj warpe off lynge & a warpe of codd, viij d. 1589 R. HARVEY *Plain Perc.* (1590) 14 In euery trade and occupation, there is a better and a worse, as there is in euery warpe of fish, a great and a lesse. 1623 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) p. lii, M[r]m That every two fishes of linge, haberdine, & greenfish is one warpe. 1674 JEAKE *Arith. Surv.* (1696) 66 Yet at Yarmouth they sell 33. Warpe to the Hundred. 1796 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVII. 69 A hundred [of oysters], as sold by the fishers, contains 33 warp equal to six score and twelve...Four oysters make a warp. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XXXI, His honour Monkbarns should never want sax warp of oysters in the season. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* V. iii, Every man ate his warp of herring.

† b. *nonce-use. A warp of weeks*, four weeks.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* C 1, Those embenched shelues ..where cods & dogfishe swoimme (not a warp of weeks forerunning).

IV. 6. Alluvial sediment deposited by water; silt. Sometimes artificially introduced over low-lying land, and sometimes occurring as a stratum in soil.

1698 DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees) 184 In digging of the well..they found..three yard sand, one foot fine warp. *Ibid.* 314 Y[e] muddy waters of y[e] Don and Idle..deposited so much silt and warp that they made a great deal of high land on both sides of their streams. 1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 179 Greatly improved by a sediment or mud (commonly called warpe) from the river Dun. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 435 The tide is let in at high water to deposit the warp or enriching substance. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Isle of Axholme* 25 At Althorpe, in sinking wells, eight or ten feet of warp have been dug through, then one or two feet of sand, and then warp again. 1865 W. WHITE *East. Eng.* II. 38 Bog..converted into corn-fields, by spreading over them the warp or muddy deposit dug from an old river-bed. 1894 *Athenæum* 9 June 744/3 The evidence of their antiquity rests, therefore, upon their geological position under the contorted drift otherwise called 'warp and trail'.

b. A bed or layer of this. See also quot. 1867.

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Warp*, a Shole, that beginning near the Buoy of Oar-hedge, comes out of the Swin up the River. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Warp*, .land between the sea-banks and the sea. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 87 He would gallop like mad down the warps. 1872 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geol.* (ed. 3) 107 Covered..with an oozy loam like the warps of the Wash and the Humber.

V. 7. A twist or bending, esp. in wood not properly dried; also the state of being warped or twisted.

1679 EVELYN *Sylva* XXVII. (ed. 3) 143 The Wind-shock is a bruise, and shiver throughout the Tree, though not constantly visible, yet leading the Warp from smooth renting, caused by over-powerful Winds, when young. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. ix. § 4. 243 Bending, bow, warp, crooke. 1872 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. lx. 295 A warp in the glass made him look as if he had taken poison. 1878 HOSK. SMITH *Carthage* XVIII. 309 Those [ships] which were newly built he laid up for the winter in dry docks..that their unseasoned timbers might warp or leak in a place where a warp or leak would not be fatal to them. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* IV. 80 Ah! it is a little on the warp, I fear.

8. *fig.* A perversion or perverse inclination of the mind; a mental twist; a wrong bias.

1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 41 An unchristian warp of the will. 1786 HAN. MORE *Florio* 689 A little warp his taste had gain'd. 1830 *Examiner* 615/2 One of the author's warps was against..Utilitarians. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlv, Mr. Dombey..is so prone to pervert even facts to his own view, when he is at all opposed, in consequence of the warp in his mind, that he [etc.]. 1878 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* III. 121 All the teaching of God..is not only mysterious, but, if received with any warp of mind, deceptive. *a 1898* S. BOWLES in Merriam *Life* (1885) II. 337 (Cent.) Somebody in Berkshire, I fancy, had warped his mind against you, and no mind is more capable of warps than his.

VI. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *warp edging, line, machinery, -mill, -roller, -scouring* vbl. sb., *-spinner, -thread, -twist, -yarn*; (sense 3) *warp anchor, -rope*; (sense 6) *warp-bank, land, loam.*

1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 12, I..carried both the Kedge Anchor and *Warp Anchor ashore. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln.* 166 Mr. Webster..has it [lucerne] drilled; and very luxuriant the first year, on a *warp bank. 1888 *Daily News* 9 July 2/7 Irish crochet trimmings and *warp edgings are dull of sale. 1794 LEATHAM *Agric. E. Riding Yorks.* 11 Along the side of the Ouse and Humber we find a considerable quantity of *warp land. 1879 ASHENHURST *Weaving* 110 The *Warp Line. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 9 Beyond this..is a very rich *warp loam of various description. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 390/2 Fabrics produced by *Warp Machinery. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1284 One-sixth of that number of bobbins is usually mounted at once in a *warp mill. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 421 These rods are at different periods moved towards the *warp-roller B. 1296 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/20 m. 4 b (MS.), j. Boulyn, j. *Warperape, iij[s] Cabule. 1497 *Naval*

rollers. 1634 *Canterb. Marriage Licences* (MS.), Robert Wood of Salehurst in Sussex, *warpe spinner. 1831–3 P. BARLOW *Manuf.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 741 The *warp thread proceeding from the lower roller. 1851 *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. vi*, The long threads are called the *warp-twist, or organzine. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 120 This mill spins *warp yarn by throstles, weft yarn by mules.

10. Special comb.: †**warp-bar**, some kind of appendage to a loom; **warp-beam**, the roller on which the warp is wound and from which it is drawn as the weaving proceeds; **warp-dresser** (*a*) = WARPER 2; (*b*) a machine for sizing yarns for the loom (Knight); †**warp-faced** *a.*, having distorted features; **warp-farmer**, a farmer who uses 'warp' on his land; **warp-frame** = *warp-machine*; †**warp-house**, at Ilfracombe, the building containing the apparatus for hauling vessels; **warp-lace**, a kind of lace having threads so placed as to resemble the warp of a fabric; also *attrib.*; **warp-machine**, a lace-making machine having a thread for each needle employed (Knight); **warp-net frame** = prec.; **warp-river**, a river depositing 'warp'; **warp-slat** = SLAT *sb.*[1] 5 a; **warp-stitch** (see quot.); **warp-wire**, one of the lengthwise wires in a wire-loom.

1538 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 200 Unum wollenlome cum ryngrathes, *warpbarres et spoyle whele. 1831–3 P. BARLOW *Manuf.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 734, B is the *warp beam, or that on which the warp is first wound. 1851 in *Inquiry, Yorks. Deaf & Dumb* (1870) 45 William Sutton, *warp-dresser. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 232 A weather beaten *warp-faced fellow. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 278 A considerable *warp farmer told me, that the stiffer warp was the best. 1831–3 P. BARLOW *Manuf.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 740 The *warp frame. 1731 *Act* 4 *Geo. II* c. 19 Preamble, The Warp and *Warp-house by long Usage gone to Decay. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 13 The Warp-house, Light-house, Pilot-boats, and Taw-boats belonging to the Port [Ilfracombe]. 1818 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 30 Others..demolished five *warp-lace frames. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* XV. (ed. 3) 138 Another similar article, called 'warp lace'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Warp-frame* or *Warp-net Frame.* 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 277 No floods in the countries washed by the *warp rivers bring it [the muddy water]. 1907 C. HILL-TOUT *Brit. N. Amer., Far West* VI. 115 To give the bottom [of the basket] the evaloid form, which most have, the *warp-slats are trimmed to the desired shape before the weft strand is woven into them. 1888 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 195 **Warp Stitch*, an Embroidery Stitch used when threads are drawn away from the material to form the pattern. Warp stitch consists of drawing away the threads that form the weft, or cross the material, and leaving the warp or lengthways threads. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 351 The *warp-wires being made to change positions by means of the treadle.

†**Warp**, *sb.*[2] *Thieves' Cant. Obs.* (See quots.)

1591 GREENE *2nd Pt. Conny-catching* Wks. (Groart) X. 86 In blacke Art [picking of locks]. He that hooks, the Comber [*read* Courber *as on* p. 122] He that watcheth, the Warpe. *Ibid.* 122 When he..spyes any fat snappings worth the Curbing, then streight he [the Courber] sets the Warp to watch, who hath a long cloak to couer whatsoeuer he gets. *Ibid.* 123.

Warp (wɔ̄ɹp), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **warped** (wɔ̄ɹpt). Forms: 1 **weorpan, wurpan, wyrpan**, 2–3 **werpen**, (*Orm.* **werrpenn**), 3 **weorpen, wearpe, worpe**(n, 3–4 **warpen**, 3–6 **werp**(e, 5 **warpyn, -on**, 4–6 *Sc.* **varp**, 7 *Sc.* **worp**, 3–7 **warpe**, 4– **warp**. *Pa. t. sing.* 1 **wearp**, 1 *Northumb.*, 2–4 **warp**, (*Orm.* **warrp**), 3 **weorp**, 3–4 **werp**, 4–5 **warpe**; *pl.* 1 **wurpon**, *Northumb.* **worpon, -un**, 3 **wurpen, worpen, weorpen**. *Pa. ppls.* 1, 3–5 **worpen**, 3 (i)**worpe**, *Orm.* **worrpenn**, 6 *Sc.* **warp**. Also *pa. t.* and *pa. ppls.* 4–6 **war-, werpid, -it, -et**, 4– **warped**. [A Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE. **weorpan** (**wearp, wurpon, worpen**) corresponds to OFris. **werpa**

the bolster at the mast-head to the foremost dead-eye.

II. 3. *Naut.* A rope or light hawser attached at one end to some fixed object, used in hauling or in moving a ship from one place to another in a harbour, road, or river; a warping hawser. † Also (at Ilfracombe), a certain apparatus for hauling in vessels: cf. *warp-house* (in 10).

1296 [see *warp-rope* in sense 9]. 1342 *Cust. Acc.* 176/3 (MS.), j cord' pro worp. 1420 in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI* K/2 (MS.), ij hauusers de filo Burdegalis pro Frapelines et Warpe inde faciendis ponderis ciij quart. ix. lb. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 36 Smalle Warpes..j, Hawsers..xij.

(*werp*, *wurpen*, *ewurpen*), OS. *werpan* (*warp*, *wurpun*, *worpan*), Du. *werpen* (*wierp*, *worpen*), OHG. *werfan* (*warf*, *wurfun*, *worfen*), MHG., mod.G. *werfen* (*warf*, *wurfen*, *geworfen*), ON. *verpa* (*varp*, *urpu*, *orpenn*), Sw. *verpa*, Da. *verpe*, Goth. *wairpan* (*warp*, *waurpum*, *waurpans*); f. OTeut. root **werp-* (*warp-*, *wurp-*) :—pre-Teut. **werb-*; the root is not found outside Teut.

The strong conjugation did not survive in Eng. later than the 15th c.]

I. To cast, throw.

†**1.** *trans.* To project through space; to cast, throw, fling. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Ða hine mon on þæt fyr wearp þa alysde ic hine mid heofonlicon rene. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 6 Ne ne wurpen eowre meregrotu toforan eowrum swinum. *c* 1000 ORMIN 10488 & werrpenn all þe chaff anan, Inntill þe fir to bærnenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 17430 Al swa feor swa a mon mihte werpen sinne stan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 404 Mon worpeð Grickisch« fur upon his fonien. *c* 1250 *Owl & N.* 768 Mid liste me may walles felle & werpe [*v.r.* worpe] of horse knyhtes snelle. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1061 He warp þe ston Ouer þe laddes euerilkon. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 344 Sanct paulis hed eftir his discese In a depe vewar warpit was. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 4743 Þe wardane gert his wrichtis syne Set vp richt stoutly,ane ingyne, And warpit til þe toure a stan. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 280 And bot my buik be fundin worth sic thre, Quhen it is red, do warp it in the se.

† b. with adv., as *down*, *up*, *out*, *away*. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 27 Gang to bære sæ, and wurp þinne angel ut [Vulg. *mitte hamum*]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16040 Þurrh þatt he warrp ut i þe flor þe sillferr & te bordess«. *c* 1205 LAY. 5083 Awei he warp his gode breond. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15875 His staf ful sleyly vp he warp. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 642 He had bene tane but dout, Na war it that he warpyt owt All that he had, him lycht to ma. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13412 He .warpet ouer-burde Mikill riches & relikes reft fro the toune.

† c. To cast (lots). *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp* Matt. xxvii. 35 Hiꝫ todældon hys reaf, and wurpon hlot þær-ofer [Vulg. *sortem mittentes*]. *c* 1205 LAY. 15498 Þe king..bad heom leoten werpen.

†**2.** To sprinkle, scatter (something) *on* (a surface). Also with *out*: To cause to spirt; to emit, shoot forth. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 240 Dweorge dwostlan weorp on weallende wæter. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Seodðan he him sceaude an ouen on berninde fure he warp ut of him seofe leies. *Ibid.* 129 Þurh þisse tacne Moyses werp ut þet welle weter of þan herda flinte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hie wenden þe eorðe and wurpen god rad þaronne. *c* 1205 LAY. 4518 Me warp on his nelbe cold welle watere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Ase ofte ase he ueond assailed ouwer castel..worpeð ut uppon him schaldinde teares.

†**3.** With *up*, *open*, *wide*, *on brede*: To open (a gate) violently or suddenly, fling open. With *to*: To shut, slam. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iii. 347 Þa com færlice mycel wynd and wearp upp þa duru. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1526 Þus atired he þe toune & titely þar-eftir On ilka way wid open werped he þe 3atis. *Ibid.* 2148 3a, werpis þam [the gates] vp..& wide open settis. *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 10462 Þai wan in wightly, warpit to þe yates, Barrit hom full bigly with boltes of yerne. *Ibid.* 11024 When the buernes of the burgh were broght vpon slepe, He warpit vp a wicket. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. i. 1 On breid, or this, was warp and mayd patent The hevynly hald of God omnipotent. *Ibid.* XII. x. 80 Sum bad..Warp vp the portis, and wide the 3ettis cast To the Troianis.

† b. *intr.* Of a door: To open (*wide*, etc.).

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 957 He bad him lifte vp and þe lide warpes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. i. 118 Bot thow do, thir grat durris..sall nevir warp on breid. *Ibid.* VI. ii. 2 The hundreth gret durris..At thair awin willis warpit wyde.

†**4.** *trans.* To put (a garment) *on* or *off* hastily.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn't.* 2025 Whyle þe wlonkest wedes he warp on hym-seluen. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 901 Sir Arthure ..Wente to hys wardrope, and warpe of hys wedez. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 124 Þe wyf werp of hir wedes vn-werde.

†**5.** To throw down, overthrow. Usually with adv., as *down*, *under*, *to ground*. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þu warpest þene alde feont. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3575 Forr Crist wass strang wiþþ hannd inoh To werrpenn dun þe deofell. *c* 1205 LAY. 25889 Þæs bures dure he warp adun þat heo to-barst a uiuen. *Ibid.* 28729 Mine wiðer-iwinnen, weorpeð heom to grunden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2640 Ðe child it warp dun to de [*read* ðe] grund. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1297 The Troiens..Wondid of þe wightist, warpide hom vnder. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 6683 We schal of hem to grounde warpe With swordes bryght and speres scharpe.

† b. Of wind: To toss or drive (a ship) violently about. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 444 As þat lyftande lome luged aboute, Where þe wynde & þe weder warpen hit wolde.

† c. ? To swing round, whirl. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 103 And oft about hyr hed.. [she] Wald warp the stringis of the stowt staf slyng.

† **6.** *fig.* a. To drive out, expel, reject, renounce; usually with *out*, *away*. Also, to trample (under foot). *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vi. 37 Ic ne weorpe ut [Vulg. *non eiciam foras*] þone þe to me cymð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 40 Gif me worpen mid him al þe world under vet. *Ibid.* 230 Þeo deoflen þet ure Louerd werp ut of one monne, *Ibid.* 356 Worp awei urom me alle mine gultes. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 829 Sone se ich awei warp ower witlese lai. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 5 Þeos þohtes warp ut of þin heorte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24247 Nu comforth þe..And werp awai þi wepe.

† b. To plunge (a person) suddenly or roughly (*into* prison, distress, etc.); to put *to* death. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þe sunfulle Men..sculen beon iwarpen ine eche pine. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19608 He let bindenn himm,..& I cwarrterrne werrpenn. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10973 Mony worthy þai woundit, & warpit to dethe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXIII. 413 Thou art warpyd all in wo. *c* 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 27 Dreid of dainger varpe hir in ane trana.

†**7.** *intr.* To go hastily, fling *away*. Of wind: To rise *up*. *Obs.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2746, I rede 3e..warpes wyllily a-waye. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 557 Wild wedirs vp werpe & þe wynd ryse.

b. *Sc.* Of bees: To swarm. Cf. CAST *v.* 22.

a 1824 in Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 94 The hive which warped owre the fell.

†**8.** *trans.* With inversion of const.: To strike, hit, assail *with* (a missile). Also, to besprinkle (with a liquid). *Obs.*

Beowulf 2791 He hine eft ongon wæteres weorpan. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Þa forceaw he his tungan & wearp hine mid ðære tungan on þæt neb foran. *c* 1205 LAY. 29562 Hco..wurpen hine mid banen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1121 3if þu art iworpe oþer ischote.

†**9.** *transf.* and *fig.* In various uses: To thrust (one's hand) *forth*; to lay (hands) *on*; to cast (one's head) *down*; to strike (a stroke). *Obs.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 3 As theos cnihtes walden warpen honden on hire ha bigon to cleopien ant callen þus to criste. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 [He] Worpeð adun þet heaueð. *Ibid.* 96 3if eni wurðeð so wod..þet he worpe his hond forð touward þe þurl cloð. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. 267 þat þai suld tak þat maydin schen,..and strakis fel til hyre let warpe.

10. †a. To cast, shed (horns). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Bestiary* 395 in *O. E. Misc.* 11 He werpeð er hise hornes in wude er in ðornes.

† b. To lose (the natural hue). *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 283 Among þat þe sowle witeð, þe licame worpeð hewe.

†**11.** To utter, pronounce (a word, speech); to utter (a cry), heave (a sigh). Also with *out*. Also *absol.*, to talk, speak (*of*). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Mid tisse schulen þe uorlorene worpen a swuch 3eor þet heouene & eorðe muwen beoðe grisliche agrisen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1325 Þet we ne cunnen..warpen na word a3ein. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 21 He..worp a sic as a wiht þat sare were iwundet. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 879 A note ful nwe I herde hem warpe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn't.* 2253, I schal stonde stylle, & warp þe no wernyng, to worch as þe lykes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2683 Ho..Warpet out wordes wonder to here. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* Ixxxiv. 1707 (Wemyss) Quhen þis wif had warpit þus Off this abbot Eugenyus. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xi. 23 Scarslie the auld thir wordis hed warpit out. *Ibid.* V. viii. 116 And he abufe hym werpis sic sawis.

† b. To cast (one's eyes) *on* or *upon* (an object).

c 1200 ORMIN 12758 Crist warrp eȝhe upponn Symon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Hwoso heuede iseid to Eue þeo heo werp hire eien þerone, A I wend te awei; þu worpest eien o þi deað.

12. *dial.* a. To lay (eggs). Also *absol.* [So ON. *verpa*.]

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XC. 13 Þe snake werpis and þe tade nurysis þe eg, and þarof is broght forth þe basilyske. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 To Warpe as byrdis dose, *incubare*, *ponere ova*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 33/6 To warp an egge, *ouum ponere*. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Warp*, to lay eggs. A hen warps or warys. N. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* s.v., A hen is said to warp when she lays.

b. To bring forth (young) naturally. *rare.* (In quot. *absol.*)

1738 G. SMITH *Cur. Relat.* II. 453 They [beavers] don't warp in their Houses, but in Hollows dug under Ground.

c. Of a ewe, cow, etc.: To bring forth (young), prematurely; to cast, slip, drop. Also *absol.*

a 1721 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 283 A cow, that..warps her calf three months before her time. *Ibid.* 310 If the ewes warped, they turned them out to the rams again. 1813 RUDGE *Agric. Glouc.* 297 Cows are liable to slip or warp their calves. 1903 *Athenæum* 7 Mar. 307/3 Never had so many ewes been known to warp.

II. To bend, twist aside.

13. To bend, curve, or twist (an object) out of shape; *spec.* to curve (timber) by the application of steam; also, to distort, contort (the body or a limb, the features).

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 798 Al to-wraiste þai þar wode & werpis in-sondire. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warpyn', or make wronge, *curvo*. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* P 1 b, Age will..warpe our backs. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp., Panag. Sir L. Pembarton* 9 Laden spits, warp't with large Ribbs of Beefe. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 419 As in some places, the violence of Heat; so in other, the extremity of Cold, hath often warped Nature, and made it become deformed. 1742 JARVIS *2nd Pt. Quixote* III. x. II. 219 If perchance the rod of justice be warped a little. 1799 *Naval Chron.* I. 288 The method was introduced of warping planks to the timbers by the means of steam. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* XXVII. 244 Baring his left arm, he showed it warped and contracted by a former attack of rheumatism. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XX, A singularly marked expression of disgust, horror, hatred, warped his countenance almost to distortion. 1849 Miss MULOCK *Ogilvies* XXI, Trying to bend it straight, as he would a tree which wrong culture had warped aside. 1876 Miss BROUGHTON *Joan* I. i, A book with its back still warm and warped from having been held over the fire. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* XXI, Age had warped and cracked the boards.

fig. 1662 PETTY *Taxes & Contrib.* 9, I descend no lower, wishing onely that there might be an universal Reformation of what length of time hath warped awry.

14. *intr.* To become bent, twisted, or uneven, by shrinkage or contraction. Said esp. of timber. (Cf. CAST *v.* 53.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warpyn', or wex wronge or aveionge, as vesselle, *obliungo*. 1530 PALSGR. 772/2, I warpe, as bordes do, whan they croke for want of good seasonyng. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 108 The Rimes..meete for the cheekes and postes of Gates..for it will not bowe, nor warpe. 1587 TRAPP *Comm. Esther* II. 2 Queen wood is ever shrinking and warping. 1589 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* III. 139 If the pieces..are thicker.. on one side than another,..they will warp to that side. 1823 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 37 Cast iron, when annealed, is less liable to warp by a subsequent partial exposure to moderate degrees of heat. 1826 SCOTT *Woodstock* II, Old wood seldom warps in the wetting. 1881 *Young Every Man his own Mechanic* § 46. 23 Black Ebony..will not warp readily.

b. *fig.*, or in fig. context. (Cf. 19.)

1599 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* V. vi, You are well seasond props, And will not warpe, or leane to either part. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 90 This fellow wil but loyne you together, as they ioyne Wainscot, then one of you will proue a shrunke pannell, and like greene timber, warpe, warpe. 1668 FLAVEL *Fear* 44 It would make them warp and bend under such temptations. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. iii. § 20 It being all one, to have no Rule, and one that will warp any way. 1738 LEDIARD *Life Marlborough* I. 58 To set that Law streight again, which he had made to warp to his Prince's Humour. 1874 C. E. NORTON *Lett.* (1913) II. 33, I, too, warp and crack in this dry, clear atmosphere.

15. *trans.* To contract, cause to shrink or shrivel, corrugate. *rare.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 187 Freize, freize, thou bitter skie..Though thou the waters warpe, thy sting is not so sharpe, as freind remembred not. 1825 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. ii. 46 Then from the East they come, to dry and warp Your lungs.

b. *intr.* To shrink or shrivel, become contracted or wrinkled. Also *fig. rare.*

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 61 You must keepe your sweete faces from scorching in the sun, chapping in the winde, and warping with the weather. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 365 Me thinkes My fauor here begins to warpe. 1696 TUTCHIN *Pindarick Ode* ii. 10 The Fames of Shakespear and of Ben Must warp, before my nobler fire To their regardless Tombs retire.

16. *trans.* (*fig.*) To pervert, distort (the mind, judgement, principles, etc.); to give a 'twist' or bias to; to turn (*aside*) from rectitude or the straight path.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i. (1601) G 1 b, Me thinkes thy seruant Hedon is nothing so obsequious to thee, as he was wont to be: I know not how, Hee's growne out of his Garbe a-late, hee's warp't. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 402 Nor Folly warp'd my Mind, Nor the frail Texture of the Female Kind Betray'd my Vertue. 1710 ADDISON *Whig-Exam.* No. 4 P 4, I have no private considerations to warp me in this controversy. 1718 DR. BUCKNIL *Let. to Pope* Wks. 1733 II. 289 Suffering their judgments to be a little warped (if I may use that expression) by the heat of their eager inclinations. 1729 WATTS *Logic* II. iv, Watch against every Temptation that might bribe your Judgment, or warp it aside from Truth. 1832 SHIRLEY *L. Arundel* XXVII. 203 These two men, each warped and hardened differently..by the world's evil influence. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Fr. Crit. Milton*, *Mixed Ess.* 252 Johnson's mind..was at many points bounded, at many points warped. 1884 A. R. PENNINGTON *Wiclif* Pref. p. ix, He often allows his prejudice against Wiclif to warp his judgment. 1919 C. GORING *Eng. Convict* I. 11 The science of criminology..has been..warped by its subjection to all sorts of superstitious and conventional dogmas.

b. Const. *from*, *out of*; *to*, *into*.

1630 B. *Discollminium* 17 He that is warp'd in his Divinity, will never be at rest till he hath wrap'd [*read* warp'd] his Policy to it. 1685 DRYDEN *Threnod. August.* 322 Not Faction,..Not Foreign or Domestick Treachery, Could Warp thy Soul to their Unjust Decree. *a* 1721 KEN *Poet. Wks.* (1868) 270 My treacherous heart I fear, Warp'd to the world. 1758–68 GOLDSM. *Ess., Taste* (Globe) 315/2 By the present mode of education we are forcibly warped from the bias of nature. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 628 There is such perpetual danger from all quarters of having the moral sense warped to a false direction. 1796 BP. WATSON *Apol. Bible* 379 Some men have been warped to infidelity by viciousness of life. 1842 TENNYSON *Lockslcy Hall* 60 Cursed be the social lies that warp us from the living truth! 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* XXXV, Jarndyce and Jarndyce has warped him out of himself, and perverted me in his eyes. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* II. § 97 The bribe of wealth and honour warps him from his honest labour into efforts to attract attention. 1882 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* VIII, This narrowness of the peasant mind which ..demagogues..warp to their own selfish purpose and profits.

17. To distort, wrest, misinterpret, give a false colouring to (a fact, account, etc.). Const. *from*, *to*, *into*.

1727 BENTLEY *Serm. bef. K. Geo.* 29 Those that *interpret* all actions of their Governors; that warp the most innocent Occurrences to Censure and Calumny. 1742 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. viii, In matters of dispute, take heed of warping the sense of the..writer to your own opinion. 1775 DE LOLME *Const. Eng.* I. x. (1784) 108 Writs, being warped from their actual meaning. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 437 The worst is—Scripture warp'd from its intent. 1818 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXVII, While..you, Mr Poundtext, were warping the Scriptures into Erastianism. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. x. 218 Probably..both [accounts] are warped by the opposite feelings of the writers. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* § 8 We have warped the word 'economy' in our English language into a meaning which it has no business whatever to bear. *a* 1872 MAURICE *Friendship Bks.* xiii. (1874) 381 A..spirit which would not suffer us to pervert or warp any documents to suit a purpose of ours.

b. *intr.* Of a statement: To become distorted.

1914 *Blackw. Mag.* July 48/2 Whether all this be true I cannot tell, but as I guess it is an old report that has warped in wandering.

18. *trans.* To turn aside or divert (a moving body) from its path or orbit. Also, to deflect, change the direction of (one's journey). *rare.*

1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 103 Then [I] warp my voyage on the southern gales. 1824 CARY *Dante, Parad.* I. 130 As from a cloud the fire is seen to fall, From its original impulse warp'd, to earth. 1837 EMERSON *Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 178, I had better never see a book, than to be warped by its attraction clean out of my own orbit.

b. *intr.* To turn or incline in a (specified) direction. *rare.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 67 There being no more reason why it [an arrow] should warp to the right hand than to the left, why this way rather than that, it must needs stir no way. 1684-94 tr. *Plutarch's Mor.* (1718) III. 16 But as she [the Moon] warps back again to meet her Illustrious Mate, the nearer she makes her approach, the more she is eclipsed until no longer seen.

†**19.** *fig.* (Cf. 14 b, 16.) To receive a 'twist' or bias, which influences one's judgement or sentiments; to turn from the straight path; to deviate, swerve, go astray. Const. *from. Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. i. 15 There is our Commission, From which, we would not haue you warpe. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 550 If we feele..that our hearts warpe from Gods commands. 1642 MILTON *Apol Smect.* 34 He fals off again warping and warping till he come to contradict himselfe in diameter. 1681 BAXTER *Apol. Nonconf. Min. Pref.* p. ii, Learned men, when they warp and err. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 211 Any single officer that should hereafter warp from his obedience. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 5. 384 A pleasurable or painful State of the Stomach or Brain, Joy or Grief, will make all the Thoughts warp their own way, little or much. 1791 BURKE *Th. French Aff.* Wks. 1842 I. 574 Amongst them there are no leaders possessed of an influence for any other purpose but that of maintaining the present state of things. The moment they are seen to warp, they are reduced to nothing. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav.* (1822) IV. 314 He [Edwards] never warped from the path of common sense.

†**b.** To be biassed, incline, lean, be drawn or attracted (*to, towards*). Also, to bend, submit, yield (*to*); to submit *to do* something. *Obs.*

a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, I. 654, I can no more; my patience will not warpe To see these flatterers how they scorne and Carpe. 1624 GEE *Frost out of Snare* xi. 71 A Gentlewoman..that was well inclining and warping toward the Popish pale. 1643 *Plain English* 17 How miserably will you find the..Clergie wraping [*read* warping] to the prevailing party. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Lond.* (1662) 222 Others more truly tax him [Chamnee], for warping to the Will of King Henry the eighth, not so much to decline his own death, as to preserve his Covent from destruction. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 87 Men generally do suite their opinions to their inclinations; warping to that side where their interest doth lie. 1772 FLETCHER *Logica Genev.* 34 Our Church far from warping to Crispianity strongly inforces St. James's undefiled religion.

III. To weave, twine.

20. *trans.* †**a.** To weave (a web). *Obs.* **b.** To arrange (threads, yarn) so as to form a warp; to wind on a warp-beam. Also *absol.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 467 in *O. E. Misc.* 15 De spinnere..werpeð ðus hire web, and weue'ð on hire wine. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 336 *Homine post teil perer.* M[an] may a webbe warpe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxiii. (1869) 121 It is furred with fox skynnes in lengthe and in brede, al be it with oute wouen maad, and werpen of the wulle of white sheep. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warpon', as webstarya, *stamino, licio.* 1483 *Cath. Angl* 409/1 To Warpe A web, *protelare.* 1540 HYNDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* I. iii. (1541) 3 b, To spinne, to warpe, or els wynd spindels in a case for to throw wofe of. 1556 PHAER *Æneid* IV. (1558) K j, Her self the web had wrought, & warpyd fine with wreath of gold. 1598 FLORIO, *Ordire*, to warpe or lay as weauers do their webbs before it be wouen. 1662 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 240 The saids proveist, baillies and councill..discharges them..from litting any plaid yairn, and from worping and working any that shall not be of the lenth and breidth abone writtin. 1788 BURNS *'My heart was once'* ii, My mither sent me to the town, To warp a plaiden wab. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* I. 42 The yarn is dressed, beamed, and warped by steam-power. 1879 ASHENHURST *Weaving* 50 The yarn may be warped direct from the cop or bobbin upon which it has been spun.

†**c.** *fig.* To weave, contrive, devise. Also with *up*, and *absol.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 363 He answerde..þat he wolde warpe suche a webbe to the emperise [*talem se telam Augustas orditurum*], þat sche schulde nevere have it of to here lyves ende. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. viii. (1869) 179 And alwey he werpeth temptaciouns and breideth hem, and weueth hem. 1549-62 STERNHOLD & HOPKINS *Ps.* lii. 2 Why doth thy minde yet still deuise, such wicked wiles to warpe? 1577 HELLOWES *Guevara's Chron.* 393, I haue warpt such a webb, as thou neither knowest to vnframe, or mayst cut off when it is finished. 1604 E. HAKE in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1847) 256 All these are but the loome That warpeth up my death. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. § 22 Like a wise man, that meant to warpe no more then he could well weaue. 1616 S. S. *Honest Lawyer* III. E 4, We'll trie what mischeefes he can warpe. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 198 Before the contexture of another universal language [than mine] can be warped. 1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. J. Lapraik* viii, Ne'er mind how Fortune waft an' warp.

21. **a.** *Rope-making.* To stretch (yarn) into lengths to be tarred.

1858 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), To Warp Yarn, in rope-making, is to stretch the yarns, previous to their being tarred, all to one given length. 1846 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. VI. 197 The reels of yarn are first 'warped' into a 'haul', that is, the yarns are unwound from the reel, stretched out straight and parallel, and assembled together,

b. To weave, twine (a willow-basket). *dial.*

— J. GRAHAME *Birds Scot.* I. 67 He..warps the skep with willow rind.

c. To lace together (the ends of a seine). *dial.*

1838 J. COUCH in *3rd Rep. R. Cornw. Polytechn. Soc.* 74 While the larger boats are engaged in warping the ends together.

†**22.** To twist, entwine, insert (something *into* something else). Also *fig.*; also, to unite or combine *with. Obs.*

1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 256 The public papers and fragments of oratory warped into its text, are selected with taste. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xvi, A scathed tree, which had warped its twisted roots into the fissures of the rock. 1821 — *Kenilw.* xxii, I care not for all those strings of pearl, which you fret me by warping into my tresses. 1822 A. RANKEN *Hist. France* IX. 13 With this proposal..was warped..the condition, that the regent, who entertained strong prejudices against the Jesuits, should become their friend and protector.

23. *Angling.* To fasten (the materials of an artificial fly) to the hook. With adv., as *on, in, down, up.*

1676 COTTON *Angler* II. v. 40 Warp them so down, as to stand, and slope towards the bend of the hook, and having warpt up to the end of the shanck [etc.]. *Ibid.* II. viii. 73 When you warp on your dubbing. *Ibid.* II. viii. 78 Some red warpt in for the Tagg of his tail. 1836 RONALDS *Fly-Fisher's Entom.* 29 Warp the remnant round the shank. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Lh. Angling* xiii. (1880) 465 The silk must be warped up from the tail to required spot. *Ibid.* 466 When the body is being warped on.

†**24.** To surround, involve, infold *in, with. Obs.* But perhaps a metathetic form of WRAP.

14.. *Medical MS.* in *Anglia* XIX. 79 3if on hyde hym-self in a busch þer-of, or ellys he be warpyd weel in his lewys & his braunchys, no thonder nor leuene schall hym towchyn. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. iii. 33 Lyke as ane wall with sand warpit about. *Ibid.* V. xiii. 24 His awin heid warpit with a mod olive.

IV. To tow; to move gradually forward.

25. *Naut.* To move (a ship) along by hauling on a rope or 'warp'. Also with adv., as *out, off, in, round.*

1513 [see WARPING *vbl. sb.* 4]. 1587 T. SANDERS *Voy. Tripoli* B j b, Then went we to warpe out the Ship. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXII. xx. 444 Those [ships] they drew up, and warped into the deepe, with ropes fastened to their poupes. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 128 Seeing them warp themselues to windward, we thought it not good to be boorded on both sides at an anchor. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 189 The water being smooth I soon warp'd her off again. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone Lighth.* § 250 We let go an anchor and warped the buss to her proper birth. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Trav. Humboldt* xvii. 236 When the current was too strong, the sailors leapt out and warped the boat along. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 292 About the capstan did the shipmen run, Warping the great ship to the harbour mouth. 1881 *Three in Norway* 3 We were warped out of dock about eight o'clock.

b. *absol.* Also *intr.* of a ship: To move by warping.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneis* IV. 791 Out of the rode sone shall the vessell warpe. 1580 H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 470 At 3. in the afternoone we did warpe from one piece of ice to another. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 158 The Fleete with much difficulty warped in, and recovered the Harbour. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 272 As there was but little wind, ..they were obliged to warp out of the harbour. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxi. 94 They warp thirty..miles in a day against the stream. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xv, Its width is so contracted at one point, indeed, that they [*sc.* steamboats] are obliged to warp round by means of a rope. 1843 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 139/1 Two large transporting buoys..for vessels to moor to or warp from. 1858 *Times* 30 Nov. 4/3 The current gets too strong for sailing ships, which could only warp up. 1913 *World* 25 Feb. 279/1 As she warped slowly from the quay.

c. *To warp one's way.*

1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 198 Warping their way with great danger from lane to lane of open water. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 73 We commenced..to warp our way through the impacted ice.

26. To progress slowly or with effort by using the hands as well as the feet. Also *refl.*, to haul oneself along.

1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* IV. 32 Having fastened another rope round his body for security,..he warped along the first over the chasm. 1849 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) II. 292, I recollect our literally warping ourselves down to the beach, holding on by rocks and posts. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp-Hunters* vii 58 He slowly warped himself through the gay crowd. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* v. (1857) 88 My rough garments..frayed, at times,..by warping to the tops of great trees, and by feats as a cragsman. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xlviii, The first mate, coming forward, warping himself from one belaying-pin to another.

27. *intr.* To float or whirl through the air. Chiefly *poet.*

1585 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 108 The snow driving and warping to and fro. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 341 A pitchy cloud Of Locusts, warping on the Eastern Wind. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 120 Oft, engender'd by the hazy north, Myriads on myriads, insect armies warp Keen in the poison'd breeze. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 102 What clouds of ephemeral children are for ever warping away on the wind of death! 1836 BRYANT *Hymn of Sea* 10 A hundred realms Watch its broad shadow warping on the wind.

V. †**28.** *trans.* To run (a ship) aground, fix on a shoal or sand-bank. *Obs.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 634 As that the flude come rynnand by the land, Amang tha schippis warpit in the sand. *a* 1661 Sand-warpt: [see SAND *sb.*[2] 10.]

29. To choke *up* (a channel) with alluvial deposit. Also *intr.*, to become choked *up.*

1745 *Beverley Beck Act* ii. 2 The said beck being now in very great danger of being choaked and warped up. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 284 In case the drains should warp up at any time, provision of sluices is made to let water out of the canal into either, to scour them out clean. *Ibid.* 287 The rivers warp up in dry seasons to a great height, with a muddy sand or silt, which the tides deposite. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Sand-warped*, silted up, or choked with sand. 1878 MILLER & SKERTCHLY *Fenland* vii. 193 A new sluice was erected for the purpose of warping up the old channel.

b. To heap *up* (sand) by gradual deposit from a current. ? *Obs.* Also, to cause (sand) to be heaped up.

1674 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872-5 II. 422 Our House..desiring you to sound once again whether the Sand do continue as when the Captains last surveyed, or it be warped up higher. 1841 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 395/1 He has lately been occupied in forming a defence, by warping silt, with whin or gorse kids, laid horizontally.

30. To cover (land), by natural or artificial flooding, with a deposit of alluvial soil. Cf. WARP *sb.* 6.

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 278 They are attempting to warp 400 acres in one piece. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 436 The main canal may be cut..so as to warp the lands on each side of it. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 37 Drains to flood and warp the land. 1867 *Good Words* 306/1 The mud caught by it soon 'warps' the space within into firm and rich dry land.

absol. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 284 If a landlord warp, it should be deep at once; if a tenant, shallow, and repeat it. 1828 *Trial of W. Dyon* 28 He was warping with his son from four..o'clock.

Warpage (wō·ɹpėdʒ). [f. WARP *v.* + -AGE.] App. a charge for 'warping' or hauling ships entering certain harbours.

1863-7 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Warpage*, a charge per ton made on shipping in some harbours.

War-paint.

1. Among North American Indians: Paint applied to the face and body before going into battle.

1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xxiii, The young Huron was in his war-paint. 1837 R. M. BIRD *Nick of the Woods* II. 44 His countenance, grim with war-paint. 1857 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* May 452/2 He [the Indian] has put on his war-paint, and is prepared for death.

2. *colloq.* One's best clothes and finery; esp. ceremonial military or official costume, 'full fig'.

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xiv, Old Lady E—..in her war paint and feathers—pinker than ever. 1879 H. N. MOSELEY *Notes Nat. 'Challenger'* 497 The officers of the ship donned, as in duty bound, full 'war paint' to receive him. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 380 A stiff shower took all the glaze off our war-paint ere the meet was reached.

War-party.

1. A political party that favours war.

1798 T. JEFFERSON *Let. to J. Madison* 26 Apr., Writ. 1854 IV. 237 Parker has completely gone over to the war party. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 510 *note*, Why Lamachus is thus selected as the representative of the war-party in Athens is pretty evident. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* iii, Moore was a bitter Whig—a Whig, at least, as far as opposition to the war-party was concerned.

2. A body of Indian 'braves' banded together for war.

1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xiii, The brothers and family of the Mohican formed our war-party. 1837 R. M. BIRD *Nick of the Woods* III. 108 There is a war-party of fourteen painted Wyandotts sleeping on the Council-square. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* IV. xv. 422 The backwoodsmen, who were hunters like the Indians,..were forming war-parties along the frontier.

War-path. Among North American Indians: The path or route taken by a warlike expedition. *To be* or *go on the war-path*: to go to war, seek the foe, be out for scalps.

1775 ADAIR *Hist. Amer. Indians* 396, I often have rode that war path alone. 1841 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* xv, The great Serpent of the Mohicans must be worthy to go on the warpath with Hawkeye. *Ibid.* xvii, She sees he is lame, and a poor hunter, and he has never been on a warpath. 1859 MARCY *Prairie Trav.* vi. 185 Their war-path has reached the shores of the Pacific. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U.S.* IV. xv. 422 With chosen companions, he went out upon the war-path, and added scalp to scalp.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Aug. 8/2 The Omagh Controversy. Mr. William O'Brien on the War Path. 1891 MRS. RIDDELL *Mad Tour* 266 A tremendous rapping at my door announced that Bobby was again on the war-path. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Jan. 8/1 It is a safe prophecy that the Cretans will again be on the warpath.

Warped (wōɹpt), *ppl. a.* [f. WARP *v.* + -ED [1].]

1. Bent, contorted, or twisted out of shape.

c 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 517/1 Warpyd, or auylonge. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 229 The god that they by sea had brought In warped keles [L. *curvis carinis*]. 1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* B iiij, He make his braines so hot, that they shall..rattle in his warpt skull, like pepper in a dride bladder. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* v. iii. H 8 b, Hauing a red beard and a paire of warpt legges. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 72 A warp'd Piece of Plank. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* vii. iv, The planks look warp'd. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xiv, Now to the oak's warped roots he clinga. 1876 Miss BROUGHTON *Joan* I. xxx, Under the warped door..comes the iced blast. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Warped cut*, woodcuts twisted through dampness, generally caused by improper cleansing or storing.

fig. 1600 DEKKER *Satiromas.* I 4, Were thy warpt soule put

in a new molde, Ide weare thee as a Iewell set in golde. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl., To Dr. Lewis* 2 June, A good sort of a man, though most ridiculously warped in his political principles. 1832 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. iv. 48 The warped suggestions of the writer are perpetually supplying the absence of all real knowledge. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 245 He has resorted to.. dishonesty and falsehood, and become warped and distorted.

b. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Warped*, irregularly bedded, or plicated.

2. That has cast its young prematurely.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 283 The warped cows.

3. Enriched with alluvial warp.

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln.* 284 At Reeveness warped land has sold for £100 an acre. 1842 C. W. JOHNSON *Farmer's Encycl.* 1229 Warped lands are found capable of growing most kinds of crops in great plenty. 1878 RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* xxxiii. 577 The broad warped meadows.

Warpeni(g, -penye: see WARDPENNY *Obs.*

Warper (wǭ·rpəɹ). [f. WARP *v.* + -ER 1.]

†1. One who throws, a thrower. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Riddles* xxviii. 7 (Gr.) Nu ic eom bindere & swingere, sona weorpere. [a 1225: see KNIFE *-warper*.]

2. One who winds yarn in preparation for weaving, one who lays the warp for the weaver.

1611 COTGR., *Ourdisseur*, a warper; a putter of a web of cloth into the loome. 1825 [see CORDING *vbl. sb*.1 1]. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 259 Your warpers, your windsters, your weavers.. no longer flourish and fatten. 1881 J. BRIGHT in *Daily News* 17 Nov. 2/5 The warpers in those days, as far as my recollection serves me.. were all women. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Warpers*, those in cotton mills who 'beam the yarn,' *i. e.* take the bobbins from the winders, placing them in a machine, and wind up some four or five hundred of the threads, side by side,.. upon what is called a warper's beam... *Warpers*, women employed in reeling warp yarns from bobbins on to reels, before they are taken to the dressing machines.

3. A warping-machine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

4. A local name for the eel. Cf. WRIGGLER.

1902 *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 On a certain river where the eel is plentiful, and many rustic anglers go forth to catch him with rod and line.., the name 'eel' is seldom or never heard, but instead he is significantly known as a 'warper.'

†**Warpfat.** *Obs.* [f. WARP *sb.* + FAT *sb*.1] ? = *warping-fat*, *-trough* (WARPING *vbl. sb.* 10 c).

The OE. word glosses *calathus*, which should mean either 'basket' generally (cf. '*Vimen*, wearp,' *Corpus Glossary*) or 'basket for thread.' The rendering *alueolus* in the *Cath. Angl.* app. means a trough.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 152/21 *Calathus*, wearpfæt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 A Warpe fatte, *alueolus*.

Warping, *vbl. sb.*1 [f. WARP *v.* + -ING 1.]

†1. The action of throwing. *Obs.*

a 1150 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* CXVII. 27 *Iactura*, werpinge. 14.. *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) T j b, And whan the fowle is a lofte..With the warping of his wynge He doth the ayre a sondre mynge.

2. The action of preparing a warp for weaving.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warpynge, of webstarys werkynge, *staminacio*. c 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 167 The charges in the wholl manufactory soe particularly in.. spoolinge, warpinge, quillinges.. and the like. 1788 BURNS '*My Heart was ance*' ii, My mither sent me..To warp a plaiden wab; But the weary, weary warpin' o't Has gart me sigh and sab. 1878 A. BARLOW *Weaving* 68 Warping, therefore, consists in arranging the threads according to number and colour, or in any special manner that may be necessary, and to keep them in their relative places after they have been so laid.

b. *concr.* = WARP *sb.* 1. Also in pl., the threads of a warp. ? *Obs.*

1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 97 From the sides of these shoot out other small Threads close together like feathers, or Palm branches; these are as it were the first warping, and ..they proceed shooting and increasing till the Woofe closes all with a total freezing of the Water. c 1817 HOGG *Conf. Fanatic* Tales & Sk. (1837) V. 178 My feet had slipped down through the double warpings of a web.

†3. *fig.* The action of fabricating or devising, a fabrication. Also gerundial in *a-warping* (predicatively). *Obs.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* L j, But the Deuill loues al colliers and thou selflike reasons of thine owne warping. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 497 Lampsace..acquainted the Greeks under-hand with this treason, which was a warping against them. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* ix. 50 One Lords it, and bears his head aloft, for whom The web is now a-warping.

4. The action of moving a ship from one place to another by means of warps.

1513 T. HOWARD in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1897) 163, I trust ageynst nyght this W.N.W. wynd will ly, and then we woll forth with warpyng. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* viii. 35 His Mate [is to haue] the command of the long boat, for..weighing..an anchor, warping, towing, or moring. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) R r 4, Warping is generally used when the sails are unbent, or when they cannot be successfully employed. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 310 During five days we persevered in the most laborious exertions, in towing, boring, warping and milldolling. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 196 Q. What is warping? A. Transporting a ship from one part of a harbour to another by means of hawsers.

5. The process of flooding low-lying land near a tidal river so that the muddy alluvium may be deposited when the water is withdrawn. Also *warping up*, the process of filling up hollows by deposit of alluvium.

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 284 It is not by the canal that the warping is done, but by a soakage drain on each side of it. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 307 By repeating this operation, which is called 'warping,' for two or three years, considerable tracts have been raised, in the estuary of the Humber, to the height of about six feet. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 450/1 It was found necessary to encourage the warping up of the old floor pits, by introduci[ng] [illegible] tain rivers is allowed to deposit itself upon a prescribed area of land.

b. *concr.* The silt or alluvial matter deposited by the sea or a tidal river.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warpynge..of vessel þat wax wronge or avelonge *.oblongacio*. 1856 *Artif. Handsom.* 60 Who fears to set straight or hide the unhandsom warpings of bow leggs? 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 27 Letter-Boards are..Clamped..to keep them from Warping. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 445 This may be no more than the natural warping of dry wood. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 221 Casting or Warping, the bending of the surfaces of a piece of wood from their original position. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 16 The multitudinous small noises, and creakings, and warpings of the vacant house. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 53 See that the hinged backs of your frames are clamped, and then defy warping.

b. *fig.* The action of distorting or perverting from the right course or direction, or the fact of deviating or going astray; an instance of this.

1608 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* xi–xii. 168 For the same causes it will appeare that the warping of sinfull courses wil turn to their hurt that imagine them. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 36 The heart is upright, without any sinfull warpings. 1681 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix.* 80 (1725) 413 The old Man is not so put off, but there will be many warpings and deceitful workings still. 1709 G. STANHOPE *Paraphrase* IV. 271 If these Bents and Warpings of the Will had destroy'd all Freedom in us. 1782 *Burke Corr.* (1844) II. 460 These old warpings of the human heart and understanding. 1838 EMERSON *Addr., Lit. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) II. 212 This starting, this warping of the best literary works from the adamant of nature, is especially observable in philosophy. 1873 SPENCER *Sociol.* xvi. 388 The warping of opinion which the bias of patriotism causes. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* XLV. 28 The mischief done by asceticism was the warping of the moral nature of man.

7. *Carpentry.* A strengthening brace.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1070 The trevises..to have angle warpings (braces) 4 inches by 1 inch and a half. *Ibid.* 1212 The trevises..to have angle spars or warpings (diagonal braces) on each side.

8. *Rope-making.* (See quots.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 113/1 Warping, is the laying of so many Thrids or Rope Yarns together, as will make a Rope. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 58 *Warping* is running the yarn off the winches into hauls to be tarred.

9. *Angling.* The wound thread which attaches the artificial fly to the hook.

1676 COTTON *Angler* II. v. 40 Where the warping ends, pinch or nip it with your thumb nail against your finger, and strip away the remainder of your dubbing from the silk. 1836 RONALDS *Fly-Fisher's Entom.* 31 A little of the dubbing may be left out in the warping, or picked out of the body with a needle, after the winding or warping, to serve for legs instead of the hackle feather.

fig. 1857 R. R. BRALEY in *Country Words* 23 Feb. 262 We're nobbut a 'bundle of habits,' Teed round wi' a warpin' o' time.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In collocations concerned with the 'warping' of land, as *warping bank, clough, cut, district, drain, gutter, hatch, operation, sluice, works*. b. In names of machines and parts of machines used in the preliminary process of weaving, as *warping-bar, -frame, -jack, -machine, -mill, -wheel, -woof*; also *warping-room*.

1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Warping-Banks*. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 395 A stripe that measures 32 inches..should be laid in the *warping-bars full 29 yards, and contain 1440 threads. 1885 'C. E. CRADDOCK' *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* [illegible] DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 436 The business being discontinued in the *warping districts during fresh-water floods. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 280 The aforesaid *warping drains to be 18 feet wide at bottom. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 251/1 He beareth Sable, a *warping Frame, Argent. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 112 Apartments for winding the cotton on the large bobbins used for the warping-frame. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Warping-jack. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s. v. *Weaving*, The most improved *warping-machines. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 399 The silk is now taken to the *warping-mill, 1882 MOZLEY *Reminis.* II. 418 The vast '*warping' operations; that is, the reclamation of marshy land irregularly flooded by the Trent. 1872 *Daily News* 27 Jan., The carding, winding, and *warping rooms at the west end were preserved. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 279 We should recommend a *warping sluice to be built. 1788 BURNS '*My Heart was ance*' [v, I sat beside my *warpin' wheel. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., '*Warping woof* (or *bars*). 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 278 The first *warping works which I viewed were at Morton Ferry.

c. Special comb.: **warping-block**, a block used by rope-makers in warping off yarn; **warping-buoy**, a buoy used in warping a vessel; † **warping-fat** [cf. WARPFAT], ? = *warping-trough*; **warping-hook**, an iron hook for hanging the yarn on when warping into hauls for tarring; **warping-post**, a strong post used in warping rope-yarn; † **warping-stock**, † **-tree**, ? = prec.; † **warping-trough** (see quot.).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 137 *Warping-block. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 137 All *warping buoys are coloured white. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 577/12 *Cupatorium*, a *worpynfat. 1585 *Bury's Rec. Prestwich* (Manl. Club) 69 Ane warpene fat, price xij*d*. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), **Warping-Hook*. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) XVI. 486/2 The other block..is fixed to a firm post, called the *warping post. 1494 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 22, j. *warpyngstok et *warpyngtree. 1588 in *Aston's Manch. Guide* (1804) 24 A warpinge stocke with rynge and yarne in yt, 00 ce 06. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 346/1 He beareth Sable, a Weavers *Warping Trough, Or; . The Weavers Trough is that in which he puts his Clews of Yarn, when he runs them off for Warping.

Warping (wǭ·rpiŋ), *vbl. sb.*2 *nonce-wd.* [As if f. **warp* vb., evolved from MOULDWARP.] The mole's action of throwing up earth into mole-hills.

1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 143, I am not aware of any benefit occasioned by their [the moles'] presence; their warpings certainly give our pastures in the spring a very unsightly appearance.

Warping (wǭ·rpiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That warps or is warped, in senses of the verb.

1598 CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* vi. 20 Who like a fleering slauish Parasite, In warping profit or a traiterous sleight, Hoopes round his rotten bodie with deuotes. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. viii, The warping condition of this greene and foggy multitude. 1631 DEKKER *Match Me* III. 35 How easie were it, For you to set this warping Kingdome straight? 1643 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 101 A crooked warping line from the angle, above the hill of Jupiter. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XIII. *Acis* etc. 83 More warping than the Willow [*lentior et salicis virgis*]. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 230 Warping beasts and barren heifers ..are begun to be fatted with hay from Christmas. 1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds of Scot.* II. 143 The swallow..Skims 'long the brook,..Where dance the midgy clouds in warping maze Confused. 1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 121 The warping influence of faction. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* I. 'You see thro' warping glasses.

†**Warpiss**, *v. Sc. Obs.* [a. OF. *werpiss-*, lengthened stem of *werpir*, *guerpir* to quit, abandon (now only in comp. *déguerpir*), f. Germanic root *werp-*: see WARP *v.*] *trans.* To cast or throw off, to put aside.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 473 Bot for þu wythad has warpyst & is parfyt man in cryst, þu sal be callyt machore. 1444 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 11 God forbid that yhe suld, for a litil monee that thir Inglismen has promisait yhou, warpiss your gude name.

Warple (wǭ·rp'l), *sb. dial.* Forms: 6 *pl.* **warpelles, warpies**, 7 **whaple**, 7– **whapple**, 9 **wapple, waffel, warple, worple, wopple**. [Of obscure origin; perh. repr. an OE. **wyrpel* or **wierpel* f. the root of WARP *v.* Cf. the place-name *Warplesdon* (Surrey).] A green lane, a bridle-road. Chiefly in comb. *warple-road, -way*; **warple-gate**, a gate on a bridle-road (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1565 *Extr. Crt. Rolls of Manor of Wimbledon* (1866) 128 Ordinacio pro Warpelles. Cum ad ultimam Curiam Generalem hic tentam ordinatum fuit de exponendis, anglice Warples, in Communibus campis de Wimbledon [etc.]. 1698 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1871) XXIII. 253 One whaple or bridle way sett forth..through the premises leading from Newbridge Mill. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 79 A Whapple way, i. e. where a cart and horses cannot pass, but horses only. 1704 R. STAPLEY *Diary* in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* II. 126 Y° great oake y° stood in y° lane, going y° whapple way to Bolney from Hickstead, was cut down. 1860 J. W. WARTER *Seaboard & Down* II. 34 You ought to have kept to the wopple road. 1868 *Glouc. Sussex Words* in Hurst *Horsham* (1889), *Whapple-way*. A public bridle path, which went through fields, woods, and farms. 1886 *Law Rep.* 31 Chanc. Div. 680 There was an old way or track, formerly known as a warple way, leading from the Uxbridge Road: it was about ten feet wide and was not metalled. 1893 *Times* 21 Mar. 13/3 A..plot of land.. bounded on the north and north-west by a cart road or 'warple way'. *Ibid.* 13/4 An old 'warple way' or easement (i. e., a rough, unmade cart track used..for agricultural purposes, as the removal of crops or conveyance of manure).

Warple (wǭ·rp'l), *v. Sc.* Also 8 **wraple**. [Of obscure origin; connexion with WARP *v.* or with WRAP *v.* is possible.]

1. *trans.* To entangle, intertwine. Also *fig.*

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 80 Nory's heart began to cool right fast, Fan she saw things had taken sick a cast, An' nae thro' ither warpl'd [1789, p. 86 wrapl'd] were, that she Began to dread atweesh them, what meith be. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl. s.v.*, That yarn's nae warplit, that I canna get it redd. *Ibid.*, *Warple v.*, used in a moral sense, to denote the confusion of any business.

2. *intr.* To move with sinuous movement; also to walk unsteadily.

1768 [See WARPLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1887 SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* III. iii. 254 Her auld guidman..cam warplin' an' fanklin' owre the muirs by himsel.

3. To twist or wind *round*. Also *fig.*

a 1870 D. THOMSON *Musings among Heather* (1880) 227 Warl's griefs an' cares are unco rife, An' warple roond a body's life. 1890 A. J. ARMSTRONG *Ingleside Musings* 142 They [sc. tawse] warpled roun' his lanky shanks Like snakes aroon' 'Laocoon'.

Hence **Wa·rpled**, *ppl. a.*; **Wa·rpling** *vbl. sb.*,

the action of the verb; †*warpling o' the green*, a rustic game.

1568 Rose *Heleners* I. 10 Whan she among the neiper hairns was seen, At greedy-glad or warpling o' the green, She 'clipst them 'a. 1897 'L. Keith' *Bonny Lady* vii. 71 An old quarrel's like warplit wool that cannot be redd in a minute.

War-proof, *sb.* and *a.* a. *sb.* Valour tried in war. b. *adj.* Able to resist a hostile attack.

a. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. i. 18 On, on, you Noblish English, Whose blood is fet from Fathers of Warre-proofe.

b. 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Suppliants* 81 A surer refuge Than tow'r or shield war-proof an altar gives. 1819 Keats *Otho* II. ii. 34 Your knights, found war-proof in the bloody field, Speed to the game.

Warr, obs. form of War *sb.*1, *v.*, Ware *a.*, *v.*1

Warra, variant of Warray *v.*

†**Warrable**, *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. War *v.* + -able.] (See quot.)

1611 Cotgr., *Guerroyable*, warrable; fit to be warred on.

‖ **Warracoori.** [Native name.] (See quots.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Warracoori*, a native name for the wood of the white cedar, obtained in Demerara from the *Icica altissima*. It is light, easily worked, and very aromatic, and is used for oars and paddles, and for boards for the inside work of houses. 1866 *List Contrib. Br. Guiana to Lond. Exhib.* in Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 137 Warracoori, or White Cedar... Used for frame and inside work of houses,..paddles, canoes, &c. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Warragal, variant of Warrigal.

Warral, var. Warray *v. Obs.*; obs. f. Very.

Warraine, -er, obs. ff. Warren, -er.

Warral, variant of Worral.

Warran(d, obs. forms of Warrant.

Warrander, obs. form of Warrener.

Warrandice (wǫ·rändis). Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5 **varandis, -eisse, warandis(e, werrandisse**, 5–6 **warandice, -ise, warrandise**, 7 **warrandise.** See also Warrantice. [a. AF. *warandise*, var. of *warantise* (OF. also *garantise*), f. *warantir* (*garantir*): see Warrant *v.*]

1. a. *gen.* A guarantee, an undertaking to secure another against risk. Chiefly in *Scots Law*; now only as a literary archaism.

1488 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 125/1 For þe werrandis[se] of him of þe said teyndis and frofitis. 1495 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 53 Giffin to Derik Jacopsone of Horne for the forbetryn off a sekis of woyll that had his letter of varandis, 24s. 1532 *Abs. r. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 37 [He] oblissis his place in the Gallowgaet Port,..in warrandice of the paement of the xvj s. anwell. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council* [illegible] 1565 *Author*..he that selleth on warandice. *A malo authore aliquid emere*, to bie of him, that can make no sufficient warandice. *Ibid.* s. v. *Cauueo, Ab isto caueat quemadmodum velit.* Cic. Let him take as good suretee and warandise for him selfe as he will. 1590 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 547/2 Oblissand him in maist strait forme for warrandice of the said pensioun. 1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign., Clarenethen*,..the Law of Claremethen concernis the warrandice of stollen cattell, or gudes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 116 They lent two millions of money, and for warrandice whereof, they haue this Towne and Prouince made fast to them. 1704 *Gd. Exped.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 14/2 If the Safety of the Government could be Sufficiently provided for, and obtain any sure Warrandice from Men's Vowing Fealty. 1824 Scott *Wav.* lxvi, Never fear, I'se be caution for them —I'se give you my personal warrandice. 1824— *Redgauntlet* ch. xi, My warrandice goes no farther. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* iii, I have Rankeillour's word for it..and I count that a warrandice against all deadly.

b. *spec.* in *Scots Law.* The obligation to indemnify the grantee or purchaser of land if an evictive or paramount claim should be established against the lands through defect of title.

Personal warrandice is that by which the grantor and his heirs are bound personally. *Real warrandice* is where the grantor or vendor conveys what are called *warrandice lands* to be held by the grantee in security of the lands originally granted.

1466 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 4/2 þe actioun..tuiching þe Warrandice of twa merkis worth of land. 1482 *Ibid.* 97/1 þe said Adam allegit to haue a tak of þe saide land, & warandise of þe samyn. 1562 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1896) III. 23 Hew Mwre renunceit all warrandice quhilk he had of Allexander Cwnynghame..of the xxvj a. viij d. lande of Westir-blak-law. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 432/1 Incaiss ony of þe saidis prelattis..salbe heiresfir callit and persewit at þe instance of q[u]umeuir personis for warrandice of ony of þe saidis kirklandis set in few or tak be þame. 1681 Stair *Instit.* I. xiii. 264 But oftimes when Warrandice is not expresst, it is implyed as Rights are to be warranted, which are granted for an Equivalent Cause onerous. 1690 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 27 This clause of warrandice wherin the Marquesis has bound himselfe. *a* 1722 Fountainhall *Decis.* Suppl. (1826) III. 293 Warrandice is only incurred by legal deeds..and not by such a natural fact of unclean heartsomeness. *a* 1768 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. vii. § 3 All voluntary transmissions in which absolute warrandice is either expressed or implied. 1823 R. Bell *Treat. Conveyance* 30 The warrandice of the sale of land is absolute warrandice; and, accordingly, where no warrandice was expressed, the Court found that absolute warrandice was the natural warrandice of the transaction. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 101 § 8 The clause..shall be held to imply absolute warrandice as regards the lands and writs and evidents.

Comb. *a* 1768 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. iii. § 28 Where some lands..which get the name of *warrandice-lands*, are disponed only eventually in security of the principal lands.

†2. Security from danger, safety. *Obs.*

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 84 My mother ..is fled for warrandise into a castell of hers. 1553–63 Bacon *Reliques of Rome* 239 b, Al thoe that any manner of goods with violence or malice beare out of holy Churche,..or house of Religion, whiche that therein is layde or done for warrandise or succoure or for to be kepte. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 12 May, Good apartments..and absolute warrandice against my dreaded enemies, bugs.

Warrane, obs. f. Warrant, Warren.

Warrant (wǫ·rănt), *sb.*1 Forms: 3–6 **warant**, 5 **warante, warente**, 3–5 **waraunt**, (5 **warawnt**, 6 **warantte**), 6 **waraunte**, 6–7 **warraunt**, 6 **warrauntie**, 6 **warrante**, (7 *Sc.* **quarrente**), 4– **warrant**; *Sc.* and *north.* 4–7 **warand**, 4–5 **warande**, 5 **waronde**, (6 **woran**, 5 **warrane**, 6–8 **warran, waran**, **warn**), 4 **warrande, varrand**, 5 **werrand**, 4– **warrand**. [a. OF. *warant, warand*, dial. var. of *guarant, garant* (mod.F. *garant*) = Pr. *garen-s, guiren-s*, Sp., Pg. *garante*, It. *guarento*, Frankish L. *warens, warentem, warandus, -um*; the Teut. source is represented by MLG. *warend, warent*, warranty, subst. use of pres. pple. of *waren* to warrant (= OFris. *wara*, early mod.Du. *waren*; early mod.G. *wahren* in legal formulas, from LG.), cogn. and synonymous with OHG. *wërên* (MHG. *wern*, mod.G. *währen, gewähren*); cf. MHG. *wari, ware*, MDu. *ware* fem., warranty, and the synonymous MHG. *were* (mod.G. *währe*) fem.

The affinities of the root **wer-*: **war-* in these words are disputed: see K. v. Bahder in the *Deutsches Wörterbuch* (Grimm) s.vv. *Wahre, Währe, Wahren, Währen.*]

I. One who or something which protects or authorizes.

†1. A protector, defender. *Obs.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 8 Þu art iweddedes weole ant widewene warant. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Beo mi scheld and mi warant on euche halfe azein þes feondes flon. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2067 Cum now forth with me,..For nou wile y youre warant be. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 455 Bi Mahoun, and bi Termagaunt, No mon schal be heore warant, Emperour ne kyng with croun. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 302 In commownys may nane affy, Bot he that may thar warrand be. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2583 For hir warand mai thou noght be, Bot thou allane fight with us thre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warant, *protector, defensor.* *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xliv. 455 On Goddis Enemyes now let vs gon In Iesus Name..Oure warawunt and Oure Governour, that vs wele Save In Every stour. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 8 The kyng craftely perswaded the saied byshop to make no answere, for he would be his warrant. 1549–62 Sternhold & H. *Ps.* cxxi. 5 The Lord is thy warrant alway, The Lord eke doth thee couer. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 111 Had not the Lord bene our warrand, ..Thay had us all on liue deuorit. *a* 1600 *Capt. Car* xv. in *Trans. New Shaks. Soc.* (1880–6) App. 54† 'Lap him in a shete', he sayth, 'And let him downe to me, And I shall take him in my arme; His waran wyll I be.' 16.. *Rising in North* vii. in Child *Ballads* III. 405/1 But goe to the court yet, good my lord, Take men enowe with thee; If any man will doe you wronge, Your warrant they may be. *a* 1828 *Charlie Macpherson* iv. in Buchan *Ballads* I. 86 Jamie M'Robbie, likewise Wattie Nairn, All ga'ed wi' Charlie for to be his warran'. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xi, I swear to thee ..by the shoulder of my horse, and the edge of my good sword, I will be thy warrand for a year and a day.

†2. A safeguard, protection, defence. *Obs.*

a 1272 *Luue Ron* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 94 Nis non so riche ne non so freo þat he ne schal heonne sone away Ne may hit neuer his waraunt beo. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 183 Himself as a Geant þe cheynes in tuo hew, þe targe was his warant, þat non tille him threw. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xii. 301 From deth thi waraunt this [*sc.* the Cross] schal be, And from Alle presonementis. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxii. 408 Whom that he raught a full stroke was so harde smyten that noo armure was his warante fro deth.

†3. Security or safety from one's enemies; also a place of refuge, shelter. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 5749 Whom that he ovyr-raught that tyde, Off lyff ne was her waraunt non. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 422 Thai that saw sa suddanly That folk sa egirly cum prikand Betuix thame and thair varrand. *Ibid.* VIII. 485 And thai mycht help thaim-self no thing, Bot fled to varrand quhan thai mycht. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xlvii. 139 But eleaor, that was ryght swyfte & lyght, fled toward the castel for his waraunt. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. xvii. 9 The chiftanis..Socht to warrand on horsbak. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 119 Was prouydet, that nane of Jngland entir into Scotland,..without his kingis lettres for his defence and warrant.

†b. *To draw to warrant* (cf. 5): to resort for protection *to* (a person). *To hold in* or *to warrant*: to keep (subjects) in safety, to protect. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1472 Corueus.. was a man als a Geaunt, Tyl hym þey drowe alle to warraunt. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 710 God grant that thai, that cummyne ar Of his ofspring, maynteyme the land, And hald the folk weill to warrand. *Ibid.* XX. 604 The gude erll gouernit the land, And held the pure weill to warand.

†4. A guarantor, surety, bail. *Sc. Obs.*

1478 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 6/2 Gife þe said ser Johne has ony vþer to warand him, he sall haue priuilege to call þat warand. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 320 Ane beand callit and persewit for the singil and doubil avail of his mariage, may leasumlie call ony persoun for his warrand, quha is bund and oblist to warrand him thairanent. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* III. xii. 32 Quhen ane challenges fra the buyer anie thing, as thifteouslie stollen: the buyer sould defend him anent the thift alledged against him: or else to alledge and call ane warand there anent.

†b. Assurance given, pledge, guaranty. *To take warrant on oneself* (? quasi-*arch.*), to pledge oneself, make oneself responsible. *Obs.*

1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 381/2 Prejudiciall to any..Ratification Confirmation or Warante. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 102 His worth is warrant for his welcome hether. 1593 — *Rich. II*, IV. 235 There should'st thou finde one heynous Article, Contayning the deposing of a King, And cracking the strong Warrant of an Oath. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 20, I give thee warrant of thy place. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. iv. 63 This Gentleman, at that time vouching (and vpon warrant of bloody affirmation) his to be more Faire, Vertuous,..then any, the rarest of our Ladies in France. 1818 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxi, I can take warrant upon myself for the innocence of my household and followers.

5. One who is answerable for a fact or statement; an authoritative witness. †*To draw, take to warrant*: to appeal to as evidence.

For *to vouch to warrant*, see Vouch *v.* 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14651 He þat es fader of heuen king.. Him drau i me to mi warand. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 547 Þei ich hir loue, blame me noman; To warant ichil drawe atte frome þat loue doþ me þider come. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1539 To his waraunt he drouȝ His schippe and al his pride. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5229 Þe Brut þer of is mi waraunt. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 6 This may I drawe to warraunte [F. *trere a garant*] An author, that hight Macrobes. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. Prol. 116 For few wrytis I redye fand That I couth draw to my warrand. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox & Wolf* 2148 Wend quhen ȝe will, I dar be warrand now That ȝe sall de na suddan deith this day. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. 48 A manifest deceite before the Lorde, and one daye shall be answered for, I dare be their warrante. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 225 If insufficient faith have done thus much,..More would move mountains, you are warrant.

b. A conclusive proof.

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1142 Thys lettere there-of [*sc.* of Lancelot's innocence] warannte wolle be. 1860 Hawthorne *Transf.* III. ii. 91 Though but a single word, and the first that he had spoken, its tone was a warrant of the sad and tender depth from which it came.

†6. One whose command justifies an action. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14968 Gais fotte hir me, if animan I ais apon yow hand To lette yow, ye sai yee haf þe lauerd to your warand. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 138/2 You are not here in your own proper names, men shall not be your warrants, it is God that must gouerne aboue al. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxii, Janet, alarm the house!—Foster, break open the door—I am detained here by a traitor!— Use axe and lever, Master Foster—I will be your warrant!

7. Command or permission of a superior which frees the doer of an act from blame or legal responsibility; authorization, sanction; an act of authorization.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18426 And if þe ynte-ward þe witstand, Sa him þou has ful gode warand. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 135 He bygan rabbisliche to passe his warraunt [L. *fines creditae sibi potestatis petuianter excedere*] in absens of þe kyng. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) ii. 5 He [*sc.* the abbot] ah na þing at cumande bot þat he may haue warant at god. *c* 1440 *York Myst* xvii. 67 For haue we his wille and his warande þan may we wende with-outen drede. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 268/2 That noo Letters Patentes.. be made hereafter, but by Warrant of bill, enselid by the Tresorer of Englond. *c* 1480 Henryson *Poems* III. 173 Now wrang hes warrane, and law is bot wilfulness. 1547–8 *Ordre Communion*, 8 Where as he hath no warrant of God's worde for thesame. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 249 This present ordinance salbe sufficient warrand to thame. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse of Govt.* Wks 1910 II. 15, I..have by warrant of the same commission brought with me my Brother Phylomusus. 1629 in A. I. Ritchie *Ch. St. Baldred* (1880) 219 The minister..culd not gett sik quarrente to punishe the prophaners of the Sabbothe in tyme of draife. 1635 D. Dickson *Hebr.* x. 2. 199 Hee that is purged by Vertue of the sacrifice of Christ, hath God's Warrand, to haue a quyet and peaceable Conscience. 1637 *Star Chamb. Decree* § 4 in Arber *Milton's Areop.* 11 Enery person and persons, which..shall be appointed or authorized to Licence Bookes, or giue Warrant for imprinting thereof. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxix, That Assembly, which is without warrant from the Civil Soveraign, is unlawful. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 84 That it was Convenient Warrant should be sent from this board. 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, I. v. (1857) 85 The Spanish monarch determined to ease his conscience, by obtaining, if possible, a warrant for his proceedings from the Church itself.

b. A token or evidence of authorization. (Cf. branch II.)

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 201 Thei..have him thilke lettre rad, Which he hem sende for warant. 1595 Q. Eliz. in Rymer *Fœdera* (1705) XVI. 282 And thes our Letters shall be your sufficient Warraunt and Discharge in that behalf. 1622 Beaum. & Fl. *King & no K.* IV. ii, *Bac.* It was your own command, to barr none from him, Besides, the Princess sent her ring Sir, for my warrant 1624 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1705) XVI. 767 To the end sufficient Warrant may remayne here in our Exchequer for the Payment of the said Annuity, our Pleasure is..that you cause a Duplicate of the said Graunt to be sealed with our said Great Seale, and the same..to be sent to our said Exchequer. 1635 D. Dickson *Hebr.* xi. 8. 255 Fayth is willing to obey, as soone as it seeth a Warrand. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xiv, 110 He produced an old rusty sword and cried, 'See, my lords, here is my warrant.'

c. Scots Law. *Judge and warrant*, 'the authority given by the Dean of Guild to repair a ruinous tenement' (W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.*).

1715 *Morison's Dict. Decis.* (1806) XXXIII. 14521 Deacon Brownhill..obtained Judge and warrant from the Dean of Guild, for taking down and rebuilding a ruinous house. 1816 G. J. Bell *Comm. Law Scot.* (1826) I. 730 The judicial process of Judge and Warrant creates a real burden on a burgage tenement, which will be effectual against creditors and purchasers.

8. Justifying reason or ground for an action, belief, or feeling.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxxv, Sith his promise is our plaine warrant, that in his name what we aske we shall receyue. 1609 Alex. Hume *Admon.* 365 Wks. (S. T. S.) 176 Ye wer eschamed..to be called Lordis..whiche wes a takin ye had no guid warrand in your conscience for it. ? 1662 Fletcher *Loves Cure* iv. iv, *Gon.* Nay you are rude; pray you forbear, you offer now More than the breeding of a Gentleman Can give you warrant for. *a* 1668 Preston *New Cov.* (1634) 413, I have applyed these promises, but upon what warrant, upon what ground have I done it? 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 786 But for a Lady no ways Errant To free a Knight, we have no warrant In any Authentical Romance. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* i. 2 Intending..not to offer anything but what hath due warrant from Observations. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.*, John xviii. 11 Good intentions are no warrant for irregular actions. 1782 Cowper *Charity* 183 Canst thou..Trade in the blood of innocence, and plead Expedience as a warrant for the deed? 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* vii, We relate it as it is given by an ancient and uniform tradition, which carries in it great indications of truth, and is warrant enough, perhaps, for its insertion in graver histories than the present. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Demerara* ii. 23 But that they will die out the slave history of Europe is our warrant. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* xxi. (1862) 333 Still there is no warrant for ascribing to them such treachery here. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, Florence took her seat..with an uneasiness amounting to dread. She had no other warrant for it than the occasion, the expression of her father's face [etc.]. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* II. iv. § 53 (1875) 174 This last fact naturally raises the question, whether we have any higher warrant for this fundamental belief than the warrant of conscious induction. 1893 *Daily News* 15 Apr. 3/7 Another painter who repeats himself this year, but with more warrant, is Mr. Herbert Marshall.

† b. Phrases. *Of (good) warrant*: ? held in esteem, important. *Out of warrant*: unlawful. *Obs.*

In quot. *c* 1330 the sense may be 'well-defended': cf. 2.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4210 Til þai com to Norhant, A fair cite of gode warraunt. 1576 *Charter at Thirkleby Park* (MS.), Prouyded also that nether the said Henry Procter.. shall fell or cutt doune any oke trez eshe trez crabtrez or other wood of warrant. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. i. 38 Marry Sir, heere's my drift, And I believe it is a fetch of warrant. 1604 — *Oth.* I. ii. 70, I therefore..do attach thee, For..a practiser Of Arts inhibited, and out of warrant.

II. A document conveying authority or security.

9. A writing issued by the sovereign, an officer of state, or an administrative body, authorizing those to whom it is addressed to perform some act.

Premier's warrant (Cape Colony), an order given by the Premier on his own responsibility, authorizing expenditure for the public service in some sudden emergency.

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1811) 306 Then this abbot gate a warrant of the kynge, and at London callyd dyuerse offycers before hym, for to yelde to hym theyr accompte. 1551 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 56 A warraunt from kynge Edward ffor ffurnyshyng of A tryenmfe. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 154 Antonius Triumuir,..whan Varros name..was brought in a schedule vnto him, to be noted to death, he tooke his penne and wrote his warrant of sauegard with these most goodlie wordes, *Viuat Varro vir doctissimus.* 1628 Fountainhall *Hist. Observes* (Bannatyne Club) 73 He had coined a quantity of copper beyond the 3000 stone contained in his Majesties warrands. 1711 Swift *Let. to Abp. King* 4 Jan., Mr. secretary St. John.. told me from Mr. Harley that I need not to be in pain about the first-fruits, for the warrant was drawn in order toward a patent: but must..take up some time, for the queen designs to make a grant by her letters-patent. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. ii. 171 As soon as the parliament is summoned, the lord chancellor..sends his warrant to the clerk of the crown in chancery; who thereupon issues out writs to the sheriff of every county, for the election of all the members to serve for that county, and for every city and borough therein. 1800 Wellington in Gurwood *Desp.* (1834) I. 150 You will easily perceive the difference in the warrant and in the other papers from those usually given for a General Court Martial. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii, The indigent blind..from the adjoining state of Connecticut, or from the states of Maine, Vermont, or New Hampshire, are admitted by a warrant from the state to which they respectively belong. 1853 Stocqueler *Milit. Encycl.*, *Warrant*, also a document under the sign manual, to authorize the assembling of a general court-martial, &c. 1880 Adye in *19th Cent.* Apr. 697 The general provisions of the warrant were, that military rank, rising according to length of service, with commensurate pay and pension, should be given to all who entered.

Proverb. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* i. (1871) 12 'A warrant sealed with butter!' as we say.

† b. A licence to go abroad. *Obs.*

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. iii. 5, I have got a Warrant from the Lords of the Councell to travell for three years any where, Rome and S. Omer excepted.

† c. Warrant-dormant: see Dormant *a.* 2 b.

1423 *Proc. Privy Counc.* (1834) III. 85 That it like to your grace to graunt letters of warant dormaunt..to the seyd Treasorer commaundyng hym to pay to the seyd Thomas the seyd somme fro tyme to tyme. 1551, 1624 [see Dormant *a.* 2 b].

fig. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 208 A man may haue for money a warrant dormant, or dispensation to commit sinnes.

10. A writ or order issued by some executive authority, empowering a ministerial officer to make an arrest, a seizure, or a search, to execute a judicial sentence, or to do other acts incident to the administration of justice. In early use, † *letter of warrant*.

See also Bench-warrant, Death-warrant, Press-warrant, Search-warrant.

a 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 53 He goode to hom þat haden þe lawe of Iewes to kepe, and gete hym lettyrs of warant, forto take and bryng all crysten men and woymen bonden ynto Ierusalem, forto take her doth þer. 1464 *Mann. & Household Exp.* (Roxb.) 185 Iohn Beteler of Herwesche is on of the iij. that was arested at the same towen be Pertonee warente. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 200 My gude lorde, if that ye wold..send to me a hunderyd wemen for the delyverans of a hunderyd freeres that [etc.]. *Ibid.* If ye wold be so gode to sende to me iij. or iiij warauntes with a space for ther namys, I wer bonde to yow. 1595 Shaks. *John* iv. ii. 70 This is the man should do the bloody deed: He shew'd his warrant to a friend of mine. 1600 Rowlands *Nt. Raven* 33 A Warrant to a Constable was sent, Of speciall charge, disorder to preuent. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgr.* III. vi, The Justice keeps such a stir yonder with his Charges, And such a coil with warrants. 1623 Cockeram II, A Warrant to commit one, *Mittimus.* *a* 1634 Coke *Inst.* IV. (1648) 176 One or more Iustice or Iustices of Peace cannot make a warrant upon a bare surmise to break any mans house to search for a Felon, or for stoln goods. 1635 *Life Long Mag. of Westminster* xv. (1820) 24 Come in, master Constable,..let me see your warrant, what suspected persons you seeke for in my house. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* iv. i, Wherefore a Warrant for his Death is sign'd. 1704 W. Hawkins *Pleas Crown* II. (ed. 2) 117 The *Habeas Corpus* Act, seems to suppose, That all Persons who are committed to Prison, are there detained by Virtue of some Warrant in Writing. 1706–32 Tindal *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) II. xvii. 89 Which made her sign a Warrant to send the Duke of Norfolk to the Tower. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* v, This is my warrant of distress, mum. 1836 *Ibid., Visit to Newgate*, When the warrant for a prisoner's execution arrives, he is removed to the cells, [etc.]. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* v. ix, 'There's a warrant from the Secretary of State for your release. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* vi, You see, I'm in trouble, there's a warrant out against me, and I must fly. 1874 'Max Adeler' *Out of Hurly-burly* xiv, It was a constable with a warrant for her arrest. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 373/1 The magistrate .. granted an English warrant on which the prisoner was now under arrest.

b. *General warrant*: a warrant for the apprehension of the persons suspected of an offence, no individual being named or particularly described in special.

According to Blackstone, the practice of issuing general warrants, founded on some clauses in the Acts (of Charles II) for regulating the press, was inadvertently continued after those Acts expired in 1694, and (except during the last four years of Queen Anne) remained down to 1763. In that year the arrest of John Wilkes on a general warrant raised the question of the legality of such warrants. In 1765 the Court of King's Bench decided that they were illegal, and in 1766 this was affirmed by a vote of the House of Commons.

1657 Bulstrode *Rep.* I. 146 Williams Justice, this is a most perilous example, to breake a mans house in the night, by force, and by vertue of a generall warrant. 1763 A. R. *Let.* 7 May in *Gentl. Mag.* XXXIII. 246 The question, Whether a Secretary of State can grant a general warrant against authors, printers, and publishers, without naming any names ..remains yet to be determined. 1766 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 22 Apr. 753/2 Resolved, That a General Warrant for apprehending the Author, Printer, or Publisher, of a Libel is illegal. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxi. 288. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 380/1.

11. A writing which authorizes one person to pay or deliver, and to another to receive, a sum of money.

For *dividend warrant*, *share warrant*, see the first words.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 439/1 Many Warantis come to me of paiements. ? 1470 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 115 He had it [the money] in grete for that his labour, and a warrant made to Harre Dogett to pay yt. 1555 Eden *Decades* II. vii. (Arb.) 127 A warrant to thofficers of his escheker to delyuer hym money in prese. 1613 in Rymer *Foedera* (1705) XVI. 742 The Somme of Two Thousand Pounds, now by Warrant of our Exchequer appointed to bee delivered unto you. 1794 *Rep. Committees Ho. Comm.* XII. 364 Warrant for the Pay, &c. of the 11th Regiment of Foot, for 365 Days. 1808 C. James *Milit. Dict., Warrant.* ..Likewise a document with the sign manual attached to it, to authorize the receipt of public monies at the treasury, &c. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 551 Sir Thomas Cook ..had merely told them in general terms that he had been at a charge of twenty three thousand, of twenty five thousand, of thirty thousand pounds,..and his colleagues had.. ordered warrants for these great sums to be instantly made out. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 18/5 (Company's report) Third interim dividend of 75 per cent. (actual), less tax, in respect of the year ending December 31. Warrants will be posted on January 14.

† 12. A voucher, certificate. *Obs.*

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 455/1 Youre Custumers..writen no Warants in discharge of youre said Merchants. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 172 He..caried a warrant also with him, that he had at Sandwich paid the custome due vnto our lord the king. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. i. 10 And a Gentleman borne (Master Parson) who writes himself Armigero, in any Bill, Warrant, Quittance or Obligation, Armigero.

13. A form of receipt given to a person who has deposited goods in a warehouse, by assignment of which the title to the goods is transferred.

1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 94 § 2 Any Person..in Possession of any Bill of Lading, India Warrant, Dock Warrant,..Warrant or Order for Delivery of..Merchandize described..in the said several Documents. 1861 *Times* 10 July, On two occasions in September last he had received warrants for wine of the bankrupt, and had advanced money on them without charging interest. 1864 A. Miller *Coatbridge* 27 The stock of 'good merchantable brands' [of iron] at present in store, represented by 'warrants' is 180,000 tons. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 97 Schedule, [Stamp Duties] Warrant for Goods, 0 0 3. 1875 *Economist* 2 Jan. 6/1 Scotch pig iron (warrants) per ton. 103/ 1894 *Daily News* 19 Mar. 3/7 Makers ..have very little stock, the bulk of the iron being in the shape of warrants. 1912 *Pitman's Commerc. Encycl.* III. 876 Iron Warrants, or warrants for iron, differ from warrants for other goods, since by the custom of the iron trade, an indorsee of the warrant obtains the goods free from any vendor's claim for purchase money.

14. *Mil.* and *Naval.* An official certificate of appointment issued to an officer of lower rank than a commissioned officer. Cf. Warrant Officer.

1786 Grose *Milit. Antiq.* I. 326 *note*, The commissioned staff officers of a corps of infantry are the chaplain, adjutant, quarter master, and surgeon. The surgeons' mates, though reckoned among the staff, have only warrants from the colonel. 1820 C. James *Milit. Dict., Warrant*, a writ of authority inferior to a commission: thus quartermasters are warrant officers. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Warrant*, the name given to a sort of commission or authority to those officers appointed by the Navy-Board, while [' authorizes granted by the Admiralty are styled commissions. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Warrant*,..a commission from the Admiralty to petty officers of a vessel of war.

b. Short for Warrant Officer.

1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 74 He's marry'd as well as his Brother Warrants. 1904 Kipling *Traffics & Discov.* 349 She kep' a little hotel for warrants and noncoms close to Auckland.

15. *Warrant of attorney*: a formal document by which a person appoints another to perform certain acts on his behalf: = *letter, power of attorney*. See Attorney 2.

1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 2 All Warant of Attourney made..by the said Kateryne Agnes and Edward..in the said Appelys [shall] be utterly voyde. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 495/2 The new lord mayor..was sworn at the Exchequer bar, and having recorded warrants of attorney in the proper courts, returned to a magnificent entertainment at Guildhall. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxiv. 397 It is very usual, in order to strengthen a bond-creditor's security, for the debtor to execute a warrant of attorney to any one empowering him to confess a judgment..in an action of debt to be brought by the creditor for the specific sum due. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xx, And if he gives us a warrant of attorney, as he must in the end, I know his employers will see it paid. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 97 Schedule, [Stamp Duties] Warrant of Attorney to confess and enter up a judgment given as a security for the payment or repayment of money, or for the transfer or retransfer of stock. See Mortgage, &c...Warrant of Attorney of any other kind, 0 10 0.

III. ? Concrete uses of sense 2.

16. *north.* 'A mill-dam in a stream' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Now written *warren*.

1406–7 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. cxxxvii, In e pro le warand pro defensione molendini et fleme. 1487–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 637 Et sol. eisdem operantibus apud le Warraunte Molendini Abbathie. 1531–2 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 82 Ad molendinum de Sheyles, ..super le warrant ibidem. 1901 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) III. Gloss., *Warraunte*. Millers in Durham and North Yorkshire say that the 'Warrant' is the mill-dam, and that it is pronounced War'n'...So Halliwell, '*Warren-head*, a dam across a river in the more northern parts of Northumberland'.

† 17. *Archery.* (See quot.). *Obs.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 117/1 The Warrants, are Knots in a Bow, which are left strong there for the securing of it.

IV. 18. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 9) *warrant-book*; (sense 13) *warrant-market, stock*; (sense 14) *warrant machinist, mechanician, rank*; **warrant holder**, a tradesman who has written authority to supply goods to the household of the king or a member of the royal family; † **warrant-man** (see quot. 1746); † **warrant-parol**, a judicial sentence given by word of mouth.

1873 *Nairns Peerage Evid.* (1874) 14 Do you produce from the General Record Office a *Warrant Book for Scotland, containing entries of the date of January 1681? I do. 1893 *Daily News* 12 June 5/8 The Association of her Majesty's and the Prince and Princess of Wales's *Warrant Holders. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 93 Admiral Melville, in his report dealing with the *warrant machinists of the U.S. Navy, says [etc.]. 1746 *Rep. Committees Ho. of Comm.* II. 100 But the real Charge being greater, as there are a Number of fictitious Names allowed upon the Muster Rolls by Warrant, called *Warrant-men. 1896 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 3/7 The Cleveland *warrant market has been stronger, and 40s. rod. is asked by sellers. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 12 Apr. 6/7 [A stoker] eligible for advancement to the rank of *warrant mechanician. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 363 And by this *warrant-parol [L. *hoc elogio*] the eloquent man lost his life. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 9 Nov. 3/2 Boys passing through training ships..can ultimately reach *warrant rank.

Hence † **Warrantship** = Guarantee-ship.

1708 *Angusis in Herba* 63 There is but one way to warrant this Peace; and that is, we must enter into a League of Warrantship with the Emperor, the Empire, the Dutch, and all other Nations.

Warrant (wo·rănt), *sb.*[2] *Mining.* Also **warren.** [Of obscure origin; perh. a use of prec.] Under-clay.

1847–69 Halliwell, *Warrant*, the bottom of a coal-pit. 1871 A. H. Green *Coal* (Manch. Sci. Lect., Ser. II) 5, I think in Lancashire that you know it [the under-clay] by the name of 'warrant', or 'seat earth'. 1883 Greeley *Glass. Coal-mining*, Warrant; Warren or Warren Earth.

† **Warrant**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. War *v.* + -ant.] Warring, conflicting.

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xv. c. 396 How many seuerall Lawes at once had Britaine long agoe? The Britons theirs, the Romanes theirs, the Picts and Scots also..But that I know be lawes in force for Sabbaths, feasts of Saints, For Fasts, for Vagrants,..I should haue thought those too prophane and warrant lawes had bin, So common and so vncontrould is sufferance of such sin.

Warrant (wo·rănt), *v.* Pa.t. and pa.pple. **warranted.** Forms: 3 warantye, warenti, 4 waranti, 4–5 warente, 5–6 warent, 4–5 warante, 4–7 warant, 4–6 waraunt, 5–6 warraunt, (6 -e), 5 warawnt, 6–7 warrante, 5– warrant; *Sc.* and *north.* 4–5 warand(e, 5 werrand,

6 warrande, (7 *pa. pple.* warand), 8 warran, 5– warrand (*occas.* written wand etc.). [early ME. *warant, waranti, warand*, a. OF. *warantir, warandir*, dial. variants of *g(u)arantir, g(u)arandir* (mod.F. *garantir*) = Pr. *garentir, guirentir*, Sp., Pg. *garantir*, It. *guarantire, guarentire*; a Com. Rom. formation on the sb.: see WARRANT *sb.*1]

†1. *trans.* To keep safe from danger, to protect. Const. *from. Obs.*

c 1275 *Five Joys of the Virg.* 9 in *O. E. Misc.* 89 Bidde we vre louerd crist þat hire warantya. *c* 1290 *Magdalen* 40 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 463 Iesu crist of heouene of heom habbe merci And for is names seouene fram helle heom warauntí! 13.. *K. Alis.* 2131 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder..bad hem be hardy & nobing drede He wolde hem warant in euery nede. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 4415 Sebbe þou no miȝt nouȝt warantí me, Whar-to schuld y serui þe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 504 For he Thaim fra thar fais mycht nocht warand, Thai turnyt to the tothir hand. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* Prol. 10 Oure lige lordes seel on my patente That shewe I first my body to warente. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, If he hath a dogge þat be his felawe, he leueth hym to þe houndes in entente, þat he may warrant hymselfe. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 3498 What good Man was he that from the deth warawnted the? *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 89 Yef ye will leve me, ye shal warant youre owen lyves. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 978 Wictaill as than was nayne left in the land, Bot in houssis quhar it mycht be warrand. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 19 Hym I beseche to kepe and waraunt thee..from evyl 1489 — *Faytes of A.* I. x. 28 Iulius cesar yᵗ for to waraunt his owne lyf sauf dide swimme in yᵉ see. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 14 This commoun weill quhat wicht sal now warrand, Sen he is gone, that Gouernd vs befoir. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 8 We shall speake so long of the diuell in iest, that he shall come amongst vs in good earnest: God warrant vs [they crossed themselves on saying this]. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 5 *Cle*[*ment*]. Doth my simple feature content you? *Aud.* Your features, Lord warrant vs: what features?

†b. Of armour: to protect physically. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* x. 162 He..smote a knyght so sore that ther was noon armoure myght hym warante. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2237 A paynym to smyte went he forth Anon, hym not warented harnes ne helme Aboute. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxI. 236 For hys harneys couds neuer waraunt hym.

†c. With inverted construction: To keep off (enemies) *from* a person. *Obs.*

1586 EARL LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 431 For who can warrant these villaines from her [Q. Eliz.], if that person [Mary Q. Scots] liue, or shall liue, anie time?

2. *Law.* a. To guarantee the security of (land, possessions *to* a person).

1406 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1427* 17/2, I oblis me my ayris to kep and warand and defende tha said landis to the said Jon. 1440 in *Cartul. S. Nicholai Aberdon.* (New Spalding Club) I. 11 And I..all ye forsaid landes..againis all dedelik sal warand acquit and defend for evyr. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 82 The forseyd Dame Margery..warentyd the fore-seyd ij acris of londe..to the for-seyd Richard..a-geynst all pepull. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 47 § 1 You..be not bounden to warant the seid Manoris..by reason of any warantye comprised in the same lettres patentes. 1551 *Rental Bk. Cupar Angus* (1880) II. 71 We..sall warrand, acquiet, and defend this our present assedatioun,..to the saidis personis. 1564 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1896) III. 50 Robert sall warrande the saidis reversioune..fre of all byrwnnyn annuallis. 1570 JEWEL *View Seditious Bull* Wks. 1848 VII. 256 Was not the crown due to her [Elizabeth]..by the laws of this realm? did not her father warrant it to her by will, as his daughter? 1608 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) I. 58 He to..warrand the grein yeird and ground thereof to be uncassin up or riwin or away carried. 1642 *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* ii. § 176. 78 If this acre bee warranted unto them, this warranty is good.

†b. To be surety for. *Obs.*

1478 (see WARRANT *sb.*1 4). 1609 SKENE *Reg. Mag.* 13 Gif anie thing thifteouslie stollen, is challenged be anie man; and he quha is challenged, alledges ane Priest for his warrant; and the Priest will willinglie warrant the samine.

c. To give warranty of (title); to give warranty of title to (a person). Also with the land as obj. Cf. *to vouch to warrant*: VOUCH *v.* 1.

? 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 159 Yowre masterchyp muste warent hym agaynst al men. 1480 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 51/2 Þe said vmfra sall warand þe said macolme þe said landis of W. 1488 *Acta Dom. Audit.* (1839) 123/2 He haid deliuerit þe said malez to him, and þerfore askit him to Werrand him þerintill. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 34 He ought to warrante his tenaunt whan he is impleaded of the landes holden of him. 1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 53 b, Where..the tenaunt in hys aunswere and plee, voucheth or calleth for anie manne to warrant his title. 1845 WILLIAMS *Real Property* (1877) 45 The tenant then alleged that this third person had warranted the title.

8. With obj. and complement or inf.: To guarantee (goods, an article sold or made) to be of the quality, quantity, etc. specified.

1387 *Charters* etc. *Edin.* (1871) 36 The qwilke werke the forsaide masounys sal warande watir thicht. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* iii, This Ryche man thenne sold his oylle to the marchaunts and waraunted eche toune al ful. 1530 PALSGR. 771/2, I warant, as a marchaunt, or seller dothe his ware that it is good. *Je plenuis.* 1608 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 4 If a mans seruant sell to one certaine clothe, and warrant it to bee of a certaine length the Action will lye against the Maister onely. 1608 *Pennyless Parl. Threadbare Poets* § 23 Bow bell in Cheapside, if it break not, shall be warranted by Letters Pattents to ring well. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. xvi, Perhaps you may sell them by advertising the manuscript sermons of a clergyman lately deceased, all warranted originals, and never printed. 1789 W. H. MARSHALL *Glouc.* I. 331 'Will you warrant them siddow [= tender]?' is the ordinary question asked on buying peas for boiling. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, 'Not the slightest fear, sir,' interposed the hostler. 'Warrant him quiet, sir.' 1848 — *Dombey* xxix, One French roll rasped, one egg new laid (or warranted to be). 1886 C. SCHOLL *Phraseol. Dict.* II. 832 Warranted free from adulteration. *Ibid.*, The colors of all stuffs warranted fast.

fig. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1866) 131, I could almost venture to warrant our patriot's publications innoxious. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 176, I would not warrant the numerical precision of this statement.

b. To promise under guarantees.

1849 FREESE *Comm. Claus-bk.* 63 Ship warranted to sail on or before 10th August next. 1886 C. SCHOLL *Phraseol. Dict.* II. 832 We warrant the vessel will be loaded by the time specified.

4. To guarantee as true, make oneself answerable for (a statement).

a. with clause as obj. Chiefly in phrase *I war-*

[illegible] is no flesch so norysaunt..As the hed off a Sarezyn. 13.. *Northern Passion* 245/39 Þe knightes said: 'we will warand þat iosseph es in his awind land.' *c* 1400 *Yvaine & Gaw.* 1049 Madame, sho said, I dar warand A genteler lord es none lifand. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 384 He aswounes or aweltes, I swarand. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 484 Haue here the draght..And I shall warand it is not swete. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* li. 172 Or it be halfe a yere past I warraunt thou shalt haue a horse. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 76, I warrant he hath a thousand of these Letters. *Ibid.* III. iii. 174 Ile warrant wee'le vnkennell the Fox. *Ibid.* IV. v. 114 And haue not they suffer'd? Yes, I warrant. 1677 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 37 All from Court say the House will infallibly sit, but none dares warrant how long. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 88, I warrant she kissed thee. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. v, He..refused, saying he could walk by its side, and he'd warrant he kept up with it. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry* xiii, Dempster, a true-blue Scot I'se warran. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxvii, I heard one of the soldiers..say to his comrade, that he would warrant they'd bring home a rare deal of booty. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ix, Some chapel where she comforts herself with brimstone doctrine, I warrant. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 847, I warrant, man, that we shall bring you round.

b. with obj. and complement, inf., or clause; also with ellipsis of the complement. *arch.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 46 'Crucifige,' quod a cacchepolle 'I warante hym a wicche'. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 373, I warande hym wakande. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1835 Nay fole, I warant her blode warme. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. v–vii. Matt.* (? 1550) 93, I warrante hym synge masse on the next daye after as wel as he dyd before. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. ii. 115 A Noble Fellow I warrant him. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1879) 210, I will warrant her a good Huswife, quoth he to himself. 1752 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* I. xi. 100 Why don't they send out V-rn-n with a strong Fleet..? I warrant him,..he would not leave a Harbour or a Ship in France. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* v. ii, *Becket.* Doth he remember me? *Rosamund.* I warrant him.

c. with neut. pronoun as obj. (sometimes pleonastic). Now *dial.*

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1843 Here mone I stande, For a faute that he fande, That salle I warande Is my moste mone. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 122 Thow art vncourtes, that sall I warrand. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 59 Nay Ile not warrant that: for I can speake Against the thing I say. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 493 They told me, like Seamen, they'd warrant it they would come off again. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* s.v. *Wand it*, He'll come tiv a bad end yan o' these days, Ah'll wand it he will.

d. With sb. as obj.: To vouch for the truth of (an opinion).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxI. (*Clement*) 648 Opunyonys ware sere..bot I dare nane of þame warand.

†e. To promise or predict as certain. Also, of a thing: To be a sure presage of. *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 95 True; and thou seest, that I no Issue haue, And that my fainting words doe warrant death. *Ibid.* v. v. 46 Beside, his wealth doth warrant a liberal dower. 1639 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 106 My frenchman..tells me he will warrant I shall speak it [French] perfectly before we draw into the field! 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 160 He..willed me to get good Oyl of Amber, and drink three or four drops in the morning fasting, and he would warrant my recovery. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xviii, 'My son,' replied the astrologer, 'let me remind you, I warranted not his death'.

†f. To undertake, pledge oneself *to do* something. Also with neut. pronoun as obj. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 111 Bot for to lere him I warand, Als meskil als he mai vnderstand. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 355 *Cayph.* 3a, and felawes, wayte þat he be ay wakund. II *Miles.* 3la lorde, þat waraunt will wee! 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 630/2 Yet hys grace and good wyll he hath warr unted neuer to take from them.

5. To give (a person) assurance of a fact. Chiefly in *I (I'll) warrant you*, used colloq. = 'I warrant' in 4 a.

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 506, I shall the warent, As long as I lyue, thou haste an heyre parent. 1529 MORE *Dyal.* xiv. 19/2 There be many such I warrant you yᵗ neuer cum to light. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, The very marchpane of the court, I warrant you? 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 454, I warrant you (sayd he) I shal lodge him well enough. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 13 A forward boy, (cries the school-master)..he proves a brave clergyman, I'll warrant you. 1689 *Selden's Table-talk* 17, I..warranted him, if he would follow my directions, to Cure him in a short time. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 P 6, I warrant you he is now thrusting his short Face into some Coffee-house about 'Change. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 25, I warrant him, let us but go up the height of St. Helena, we will soon reach the Rio de la Plata. 1777 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 25 Oct., Cicely, I warrant you, will do well enough. 1799 SOUTHEY *To a Spider* IV, I'll warrant thee thou'lt drain His life-blood dry. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xi, Sent him to share with us, I'se warrant ye. 1835 J. POOLE *Sk. & Recoll.* I. 37 'He be vive mile off by now.' 'You are certain of that?' 'I warrant 'ee, sur.' At this assurance I felt a throb of joy. 1860 W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* II. 136 Many's the horn of old Pharoah ale have I mopped up in their brick floor kitchens, I warrant 'ee.

¶ b. *I warrant me* (originally quasi-*arch.*) = 'I warrant', 'I'll be bound'.

1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xviii, And I warrant me thou wouldst have another—in requital, ha? 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* VI. i, No enemy with the girls, I warrant me.

6. To attest the truth or authenticity of; to authenticate.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* x. H 4 At least what ere he sayes Is warranted by Curtaine plaudeties. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 168 *Friar.*..Trust not..my obseruations, Which with experimental seale doth warrant The tenure of my booke:..If this sweet Ladie lye not guiltlesse heere. 1600 *Chester Pl., Banes* 23 This moonke..In pagentes set fourth..the old and newe testament..Interminglinge therewith..some things, not warranted by any writt. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 8, I purpose to write nothing which is not warranted..by Letters interchanged betweene the States of England and Ireland, or like authenticall writings. *c* 1620 FLETCHER *False One* Prol., New Titles warraint not a Play for new, The Subject being old. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* iv. § 2 (1643) 66 The truth of it was never questioned, but warranted by all antiquitie. 1649 MILTON *Eikon* xI. 109 Antiquity that adds or varies from the Scripture is no more warranted to our safe imitation then what was done..at Trent. 1700 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xix. § 13 (ed. 4) 427 Reason warrants it, and we may safely receive it for true. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxiii. 305 Wherever any capital offence is charged, the same law requires that the accusation be warranted by the oath of twelve men, before the party shall be put to answer it. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xIx. IV. 287 That it [his confession] was genuine could not be doubted: for it was warranted by the signatures of some of the most distinguished military men living.

†b. with clause as obj. or with obj. and complement. *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 72 A thousand oathes, an Ocean of his teares,..Warrant me welcome to my Protheus. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 2 Experience doth warrant, that both in persons and in times, there hath beene a meeting and concurrence in learning and Armes. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 189 Experience warranteth them [Martinets] a dainty and good Meat.

†7. To furnish (a person) with a guarantee or assurance. Const. *of*, or with subord. clause. *Obs.*

1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* K ij, The cause why..they sacrifyce and praye for thee dead, was..partly to assure & warrant the suruyuers at the remembraunce of the good & blesful estate of the deceased. 1569 NEWTON *Cicero's Olde Age* 23 Young men also are subject to the same, and cannot warrant themselves of health, no more than old men can. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 140 And happy were I in my timelie death, Could all my trauells warrant me they liue. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 4 They being the first that were commaunded to receiue from him, the first which were warranted by his promise that [etc.].

†b. With double obj.: To guarantee or ensure (a person something). Also, to promise (a person something) as certain. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 8 b, The Duke biddyng him to be of good comfort and out of fear warranted him his lyfe. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 488 Warrantyng him a famous victorie. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 6 For what can a man find in worldly writers too warrant himselfe salvation by? 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 25 No worldly corner can theym security warrant. 1662 *Pagitt's Heresiogr.* Ep. Ded., Your present annual authority cannot warrant your Lordship that effect which might be expected.

†c. To secure (something) *to* a person. *Obs.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 163 He had great authority ouer all Congregations of Israelites, warranted to him with the Amirs seale.

8. To guarantee the security or immunity of (a person or thing). Const. *from, for* (= from), *against*. Now *rare*. Cf. sense 1.

1530 PALSGR. 772/1, I warrant one to saue him harmelesse. *Je garantis*..I wyll ȝyve hym twenty pounde that dare warrante me. 1560 *J. Fisher's Godly Treatise* D 4 b, For in this lyfe no man ought to warrant and assure hym selfe, and lyue thereby out of feare. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 268 That the women and maydens are wickedly deflowred, [etc.]..Where the Emperour hath warraunted them for Religion, it is but dissimulation. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 190 b, I doe not thinke that our *Casalliero*, could be exempted or warranted from this fault. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv 3 *Ant.* [*to jailor*] I will not breake away, Ile giue thee ere I leaue thee so much money To warrant thee as I am rested for. 1610 — *Temp.* I. i. 49 Ile warrant him for drowning, though the Ship were no stronger then a Nutt-shell. 1627 MAY *Lucan* v. 13 b, Spread sailes, and if the sky Warrant thee not to goe for Italy, Ile warrant thee. 1648 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. vii. 385 He had so cunningly contrived his plots, as to warrant himself against all events. 1648 tr. *Semault's Paraphr. Job* 339 Consider that it [Heaven] is so high, that they cannot assault it, that the distance which seperates it from us, warrants it from all our attempts. 1660 INGELO *Bentivo. & Ur.* II. (1682) 213 [They] think they have sufficiently warranted their present Sensuality against all just Reproof. 1683 *Apol. Prot. Frances* vi. 82 Thus they had only promis'd to warrant Jerome of Prague, from violence, and not from the arrests of Justice. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xiv, He bore.. the higher share in Elizabeth's favour, though..by no means so decidedly expressed as to warrant him against the final preponderance of his rival's pretensions. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xxxix, Let him come! I will warrant him from harm or from injustice. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 1633 Like some kindly weathercock Which, stuck fast at Set-Fair, Favonian Breese, Still warrants you from rain.

9. To give (a person) warrant or authority, authorize (*to* do something); to authorize, sanction (a course of action).

1579 LYLY *Euphues* I. (Arb.) 179 Doth his preheminence in the court, warrant him to oppresse the poore by might, and acquit him of punishment? 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. ix. (1602) 38 The forme of their commission was enlarged, so as they..were..warranted also to arrest Felons that were indited. 1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 14 All [are] warranted to disobey her and her Lawes. 1624 BACON *Apophth.* § 242 (1625) 264 Marius did Denison them all, for Citizens of Rome, though there was no Law to warrant it. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 436 The Lord warrants us to suspect the inconstant. 1649 [LANGBAINE] *Answ. Univ. Oxf.* 16 But onely such just Power as they are by Law..warranted unto. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. i. § iii. (1699) 5 Nor can the Council, by their Acts, warrand any to do what would be otherwise a Crime. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2031/4 But even in the Business of the Excise and Militia..I am warranted to go the greatest length for your ease and conveniency that the nature of these things can bear. 1859 KEBLE in J. O. Johnston *Liddon* (1904) 47 What most perplexes me is some names in the list of those who have warranted this step.

† **b.** *To warrant out*: to claim licence for (one's action). *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. i. 23 Though Mercurie can warrant out His vnder-takings, and make all things good, Out of the powers of his diuinitie.

† **c.** To license for printing. *Obs.*

1628 LAUD *Diary* 12 June, Wks. 1853 III. 207, I was complained of by the House of Commons for warranting Doctor Manwaring's sermons to the press.

d. To authorize (a payment).

1662 PETTY *Taxes* 34 Why might not another take much more than 100*l.* at London for warranting the like sum to be paid at Carlisle on a certain day. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 219 The donee of the power may make any lease or grant, provided it does not exceed the utmost extent of interest that the power warrants.

†**10.** To direct (a person) authoritatively; to command. *Obs. rare.*

1632 MASSINGER *Emperor East* Prol. at Blackfriars, But that imperious custome warrants it, Our Author with much willingnes would omit This Preface to his new worke.

11. Of things: To furnish good and sufficient grounds for (a course of action); to render allowable, justify.

1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* I. (1661) 3 Henry the Eighth..pursued but..a way warranted by the practice of the most Christian Emperors of old. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 284 They..will know that I have enough to abase me before God and man: But will that warrant a course of lying and backbiting in others? *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 302 All which considerations of a danger so..great, are certainly very sufficient to warrant the nicest caution and fearfulness in this case. 1774 tr. *Chesterf. Let. to Son* xv. I. 47 The Rape of the Sabines was more an advantageous than a just measure; yet the utility of it should not warrant its injustice. 1813 LAMB *Reynolds & Leonardo da Vinci* Wks. 1908 I. 191 The hand was by the boldest licence twice as big as the truth of drawing warranted. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 244 It is impossible to say whether this accusation was warranted by facts. 1833 RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 3 Every one has a higher opinion of himself than his station warrants. 1853 BRONTË *Villette* xiv, It was not my intention to approach or address him in the garden, our terms of acquaintance not warranting such a step. 1875 GLADSTONE *Gleanr.* (1879) VI. 238 Our general information..is not sufficient to warrant our giving an immediate opinion on the question. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Oct. 4/6 Any advance of wages at present is not warranted by the condition of trade.

b. To justify (a person *in* or *to* a course of action).

1671 [R. MACWARD] *True Nonconf.* Contents, Positive grounds from Scripture warranding Subjects to defend Religion by armes. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. i. 2 And in this I am warranted by the example of ancient Rome. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* II. 79 From the universality of this magnetic influence, we might, in some degree, be warranted in conjecturing, that [etc.]. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 210, I said that I did not think a surgeon warranted in tying the external iliac artery. 1843 MILL *Logic* I. iii. § 7 We are not warranted in referring our sensations to a cause. 1848 T. W. COIT *Puritanism* 48 These are ample..to well warrant the Dr. in his conclusion. 1883 *League Jrnl.* 20 Oct. 657/3 If we could have more earthly enjoyment by shortening life this would not warrant us to shorten it.

c. Of a person: To countenance by one's action or example. ? *Obs.*

1631 SHIRLEY *Love's Cruelty* I. ii. (1640) B 4 b, Warrant not so much ill by your example To those that live beneath you.

†**d.** To justify by appeal to authority or evidence, to find warrant for. *Obs.*

1628 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* I. 6 It is no lesse then our dutie to warrant out of this place the marriage of Ministers. 1635 D. DICKSON *Hebr.* vii. 13–15. 127 It is not warranded from Scripture; therefore I am not bound to believe it. 1662 HOBBES *Consid.* 33 But seeing there is no such word in the Scripture, how will you warrant it from natural reason?

12 To appoint (an officer) by a warrant.

1746 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Adv.* (1757) 32 All Officers were warranted from the Admiralty Board.

Warrant, obs. variant of WARREN.

Warrantable (wɒ·rántăb'l), *a.* [f. WARRANT *v.* + -ABLE.] For which warrant may be given.

1. Of actions, sentiments, motives, etc.: That may be authorized, sanctioned, or permitted; justifiable.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. § 5 Tutors, without whose authoritie there was no act which they did, warrantable. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 104 Pardon this my digression, not warrantable in a journall. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 49 Tis therefore very Warrantable to pass a Severe Judgment upon a Man, when 'tis plain and out of question that he deserves it. 1774 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* vi. (1778) 217 It is a necessary and warrantable pride to disdain to walk servilely behind any individual, however elevated his rank. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* viii, Any other expenses which you may consider warrantable or justifiable. 1846 J. KENRICK *Ess. Primæval Hist.* Pref. p. xviii, Since..we can neither deny the fact of a contrariety, nor remove it by any warrantable means. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 482 Only in desperate cases is such heroic use of the remedy warrantable.

b. Const. *by, from, to.*

1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* I. i. B 4, Everie minute to me will be a tedious age till our embraces are warrantable to the world. 1656 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 254 They have done nothing but what was warrantable by former precedents. 1659 MILTON *Of Civil Power* 5 Having no other divine rule or autoritie from without us warrantable to one another as a common ground but the holy scripture. 1713 CHALKLEY *Wks.* (1751) II. 57 It is Warrantable from Scripture, that Gospel Ministers be honourably supported and maintained.

†**2.** That may be guaranteed as good, true, genuine, or the like; of good warrant; praiseworthy, acceptable. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 471 b, Lett us peruse the Argumentes wherewith this gentle and obedient childe of the Popes good grace doth make his wordes warrantable. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* B 4 b, But this is most warrantable, the Alpha of all the Yarmouths it was, and not the Omega correspondently. *c* 1618 E. BOLTON *Hypercritica* iv. § 1 The Books..out of which we gather the most warrantable English are not many to my remembrance. 1626 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* III. ii, She says you vent ware that is not warrantable, braided ware. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaich Syst.* Introd. 11 A Man of the highest Political Accomplishments, as well as True and Warrantable Prudence. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 108 From what we have said, it evidently appears, that the works in general of Hippocrates are not warrantable. 1821 LAMB *Elia, Imperf. Sympathies,* [I] thought I could not do better than follow the example of such grave and warrantable personages.

3. That can be legally guaranteed.

1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* liii, Not a pound should be deducted from his warrantable value, simply because he now did what any other young horse in the world would have felt to be right.

4. *Venery.* Applied to a stag which is of an age to be hunted.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 190 The Deer themselves were well enough grown, and warrantable. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* v, A warrantable stag—that is, one old enough to kill and to be good venison. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 82/1 At six [years], a Warrantable Stag. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* vi. 104 It must be a runnable stag, or warrantable, a term in its strict meaning indicating a stag of five years.

Warrantableness. [-NESS.] The quality of being warrantable.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xx. § 3 (1912) 279 That..you may see the noblenes of my desire to you, & the warrantablenes of your favour to me. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. xix. 290 The warrantableness of which caution ..was confirm'd to me not long since by a skilful Physitian. 1732 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. (1791) 641 None can warrantably lay a stone in this building, except he be regularly called. 1836 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VIII. 227 And though the thing displease us, ay, perhaps Displease us warrantably. 1918 *Cornhill Mag.* June 562 From Carlyle's later works chapter and verse for the whole doctrine of force could warrantably be quoted.

† **Warrantage.** *Obs.*—° [f. WARRANT *v.* + -AGE, after OF. *garant-, garentage.*] Warranty.

1611 COTGR. *Garentage,* warrantie, warrantize, warrantage.

Warranted (wɒ·ránted), *ppl. a.* [-ED 2.]

1. Allowed by law or authority; approved, justified, sanctioned.

1600 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. v. 4 You haue it from his owne deliuerance And by other warranted testimonie. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 151 The very streame of his life, and the businesse he hath helmed, must vppon a warranted neede, giue him a better proclamation. 1609 — *Mach.* IV. iii. 137 Now wee'l together, and the chance of goodnesse Be like our warranted Quarrell. 1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 193 Some..generous spirits have..rescued their understandings from this long-settled, and by use almost warranted usurpation. 1714 STEELE *Lover* No. 32 (1723) 183 The..Delight, which virtuous Minds feel in the Enjoyment of their lawful and warranted Passions. 1832 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xviii, I cannot presume to understand what you call prophecies, with or under warranted authority of old painted books [etc.].

2. Furnished with a legal or official warrant.

a. Of an officer: Holding a rank by warrant.

1796 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Adv.* (1757) 47 These warranted Gentlemen in Office might be more circumspect. 1798 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 22 An old and faithful Servant of the Crown, and who has been near thirty years a warranted Carpenter.

b. *U.S.* Granted by a warrant: see LAND-

1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 14 Dec., Suppl. 2/3 To be sold..One tract of patented land...Four tracts of warranted land.

3. For which a warranty is given; guaranteed. *Mod.* Our goods are all of warranted quality.

Warrantee (wɒrántī'). [f. WARRANT *v.* + -EE 1.]

1. *Law.* The person to whom a warranty is given.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), s.v. *Exchange,* The Compensation..which the Warranter must make to the Warrantee, Value for Value, if the Land warranted be recover'd from the Warrantee. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 430 It is the same with respect to the person to whom the warranty is made; for if it be not to the warrantee and his heirs,..it will cease upon the death of the warrantee. 1860 WHARTON *Law Lex.* (ed. 8), *Warrantee,* a person to whom a warrant is made.

¶ **2.** Misused for WARRANTER or GUARANTEE *sb.* 1.

1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 256/2 [tr. of Let. from the Q. of Spain to the States of Holland] You will also joyntly endeavour as Warrantees, to do all that in reason can be expected.. for the..strengthening of this Peace. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 400 If some Authors can be quoted for Warrantees of what this *Se ma Tsien* advances, they were modern to the Time when he wrote.

Warranter (wɒ·rántəɹ). [f. WARRANT *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. WARRANTOR.] One who warrants.

1. One who assures, authorizes, or guarantees (something).

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* I. 5 That oure faithe resteth not upon men..but that the liuing God is the author and will also be the warranter thereof. 1588 tr. *Mathieu's Powerfull Favorite* 19 Piso..assuring himselfe that his warranter should be his ludge, coueted rather to depend on the authoritie of one alone, then on the passion of many. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* To Rdr. 7/1, I would be so understood, as a Representer of the Wisdome of the Ancients rather then a warranter of the same. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolomini* I. xii. 182 If I stand warranter of the event, Placing my honour and my head in pledge. 1834 — *Remorse* I. ii. 133 'Twas little probable, that Don Ordonio,.. Should prove the patron of this infidel! The warranter [*earlier edd.* guarantee] of a Moresco's faith!

†**2.** One who assures (another) of safety; a protector. *Obs. rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Garent,* a Warranter, Protector, Defendor; [etc.]. *c* 1800 *Capt. Car* v. in Child *Ballads* III. 436/1 Come doun and speak to me; I'll kep thee in a feather bed, And thy warianer I will be.

3. *Law.* = WARRANTOR 1.

1706 [see WARRANTEE 1]. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.* s.v. *Warrant,* A warrenter may except, that the complainant does not hold the land of which he seeks the warranty.

Warranting (wɒ·rántiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12404 Hyt were foly, comaunde a þyng þat myȝt nat ȝyue no warantyng *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 249 The forsaid Richard Robert and Thedulf called the forsaid Iohn to the warantyng. 1565 GOLDING *Cæsar* III. 77 Manye things pricked forward the Galles in this deuice: as..the warranting of the runagate: [etc.].

Warranting, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That warrants.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 133 Least any man should doubt any whit of these celestiall miseries. Here is added the warranting word, Amen. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xx. 308 The obligation of the heir..was only on condition that he had other sufficient lands by descent from the warranting ancestor.

Warrantise (wɒ·rántəiz), *sb. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 4–5 **warantise,** 4–6 **-ise,** 5 **warentice, warantyce, -ice,** 5–6 **-yse, warauntyse, -ise,** 6 **warrauntise, warrantyse,** 6–7 **-ise, -ice,** 7 **-is,** 6–7, 9 **-ise.** [a. OF. *warrantise, garantise,* f. *warantir, garantir* WARRANT *v.* Cf. WARRANDISE.]

1. *Law.* = WARRANTY 1 a. Phr. *clause of warrantise* (also used *fig.*); *plea of warrantise.*

a 1325 *MS. Rawl.* B. 520, If. 57 3if he habbe þe kinges chartre ware þoru þe king be I bolde to warantise. *Ibid.* 62 b, 3if þe aloinaunce were I mad þoru fin I mad. þanne a sullen bobe ben I cleped to warantise þer of. 1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 301 For a busschel of qwete ..he welen selle þe blisse of heuene be chartre of clause of warantise. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 24 And yf thou may in any wyse Make thy chartyr on warantyse To thyne heyres & assygnes all-so, This shall a wyse purchasser doo. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 265 Wherof a ple of warantise was I-take bitwene them in the same courte. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 42 With a Clause of Warantise accordyng to þe said dede. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 131 Yt tenaunt in the tayle in this case release to the dysseasour & byndeth him and his heyres to warrantyse, &c. 1559 *Boke Presidentes* 40 b, A release made by deede of tenementes before purchased with a clause of warrantise. 1607 J. CARTER *Plain Expos.* 93 A clause of warrantise against all danger.

2. *gen.* The action of warranting, guaranteeing, or giving assurance; the state or fact of being guaranteed. Phr. *to hold, clepe, bind, call to warrantise*; *on, with, by warrantise.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warantyse, *warantisacio.* 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xvii. (1553) Q vij b, Without anye bolde warrantise of oure selfe, or foolishe trust in oure strength. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 21, 22 A doue..had..brought a braunche of an olyue tree..for ..a caucion or pledge of warauntise yᵗ the floude was at an ende. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 172 In so doyng they neuer followe the credence of pryuat men, but the assuraunce or warrantise of the hole citye. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Amphotereplon,* a double freight or dutie, that is payed, when the shippeman vndertaketh on warantyse to conducte a man saife foorth, and bringe him saife home agayne. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III.

208 The Butchers that bye for slaughter, and such as by for sacryfises, vse no worde of warrantise. 1583 Fulke *Def. Tr. Script.* i. 42 They doe the better proue, that for which I called him to warrantise. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cl. 7 In the very refuse of thy deeds, There is such strength and warrantise of skill, That in my minde thy worst all best exceeds? 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxiii. iii. 462 All buyings and sellings at this day which passe with warrantise [L. *in his emptionibus, quas mancipii sunt*]. 1608 Dod & Cleaver *Expos. Prov.* ix-x. 5 He giuing warrantize for their safety 1862 Sir H. Taylor *St. Clement's Eve* iii. v. 109 We humbly crave Some warrantise that what we're bid to speak, Spoken, shall bring no jeopardy of life Or liberty or goods.

b. *To make* (also *give*) *warrantise*: to guarantee, give assurance. Const. *of* or clause.

1534 More *Conf. agst. Trib.* iii. xvii. (1553) Q vj, I can make no warrantise of my selfe, seing yᵗ S. Peter so sodainly fainted at a womans word. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 296 Talke that..maketh ioyly royall warantise of thynges in wordes, but without any effecte or comyng to passe of deedes. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 58/1 But whether it were so or not, I am not able to make warrantize. 1601 Munday & Chettle *Death Robt. Earl Huntington* [iv. ii.] I 3, Againe, the place doth giue thee warrantise.

c. Said predicatively of a thing or person that serves as a guarantee or surety.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25604 Þat we mai tak þat ilk flexs..Wit bodi and hert clene: And þat it be vr warantise, On domesdai quen þou sal rise, Al þis werld to deme. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, i. iii. 13 Breake vp the Gates, Ile be your warrantise. 1596 Earl of Essex in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. iii. IV. 134 His assent..shalbe my warrantise.

d. Phr. *Of, on, in warrantise*: of a surety, for certain, without fail, I warrant you.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 137 Of warantise he shal nevir the. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 5938 Ther shall no man do yow harme o warantise. *a* 1500 *E. E. Misc.* (1855) 91 Thanne þour crymsous bath y-made in warantyse withowte fayle. *a* 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 406, I pray you, tel it me in secret wyse; And I shal kepe it close, on warantyse. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* ¶ 4 Put into thyne eye a verey litle, it is safe and without danger in warrantise and ofte approved. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie* 29 No mortall man with Gods gaine fauor might Of warrantice to see next mornings light. 1639 O. Wood *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 29 Then..anoynt the Griefe with a feather,..and it will be whole on warrantice.

3. Defence, protection.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1614 That they be welsely wachede and in warde holdene, Wurdede of warantizez with wyrchipfulle knyghttez. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xvii 45 Alle the peple of the contre..made to hym feaulte for to haue his ayde and warantise in the waye of the sayd pylgremage. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* ii. xxxv. 149 No manere of warantyse can not kepe theym that assaylle yf they be bytte with all, but that they shal be beten doune as the thondre felle upon hem.

4. Authorization, permission, sanction.

1580 Grindal *Let. to Ld. Burleigh* Wks. (1843) 366 Dr Howland..added further, that if error were committed in that, it was no sufficient warrantize for other errors afterwards to be attempted. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxii. vi. II. 118 Yet we..are so unhappie, as to commit our selves to other mens tuition, and liue under their warrantize and assurance [L. *viuimus aliena fiducia*]. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 250 Her Obsequies haue bin as farre inlarg'd, As we haue warrantie. 1606 Whetenhall *Discov. Abuses Ch. Christ* 66 A Bishop ought to doe nothing in the Church, unlesse he be certaine and sure of the warrantize thereof by Gods word. *a* 1624 Bp. M. Smith *Serm.* (1632) 234 Least the yonger sort take example, nay warrantise from vs to slacke their paines.

5. Assurance, confident statement.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretorie* i. (1625) 78 Too much impertinent were it for me to haie you on with arguments who onely goe about to persuade you with warrantise. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxviii. vii. II. 310 Thus they prescribe with great warrantize, To take all the naile parings of toes and fingers of man, [etc.].

† Warrantise, *v. Obs.* For forms see the sb. [f. the sb.; in Law-L. *warrantisāre*.]

1. trans. *Law.* To guarantee the possession of (real property) *to* a person.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 346 They warantized to thé forsaid Richard and to his heires the forsaid tenement with the pertynentis ayenst all maner of men for ever. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 53 And I vmfrey and my heyres all þe forsaide thynges to þe forsaide church and Chanons for Euer shall warantise agaynste all men and women.

2. *gen.* To guarantee; to be a guarantee or security for; to secure the possession of (something) to a person; to secure (a person or thing) *from*.

c 1530 Du Wes *Introd. Fr* in *Palsgr.* 952 *Pleuir*, to warantise. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Q 4, Certaine meanes hee hath assigned vs, which he hath promised to blesse, but without meanes no blessing hath he warrantisd. 1598 Yong *Diana* 235 Who shall..this old age from sorrowes warrantize? 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 144 In regard whereof you wil vndertake to warrantize, and make good vnto vs those penalties and forfaitures which shal vnto vs appertaine, for all wools [etc.]. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* i. 275 A moste lawfull act,..For which you will..warrantize him heaven and happie day. 1668 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* iii. 462 To warrantize thy health.

b. To warrant, sanction, authorize; to confirm, corroborate.

1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* D 4, A sillie fancie, Autumne, hast thou told, Which no Philosophie doth warrantize. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 863 There is nothing else but necessitie alone, doeth warrantize the killing of a man. 1643 S. Marshall *Copy of Let.* 8 Like enough some Court-Chaplaine..might warrantize the kinga conscience. 1664 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 125 The Customs of the Romans..highly warrantize Mr. Jones his Discovery

3. To protect, defend.

c 1450 *Merlin* xvi. 269 But yef I may haue bailly ouer his body, he shall so be deffouled that ther ne shall nothinge in the worlde hym warantise. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxiv. 88 But what occyaion or defence that he made myght not warauntyse hym. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiv. 200 Thenne anthony..smote a knyght by such vertue that the targe nor his cote of stele might not warauntyse hym.

Hence **† Warrantising** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 226 & that hys yft, graunt, & warantizinge shulde be stronge & sure, he put to hyt hys seele. 1628 Vennke *Baths of Bathe* (1650) 360 Their Spaniel-like fawning carriage, and warrantizing promises.

Warrantless, *a. rare.* [f. Warrant *sb.*¹ + -less.] Without justification, unwarrantable.

1863 Mrs. Whitney *Faith Gartney's Girlh.* v, The stinging and warrantless accusation.

† Warrantment. *Obs.* [f. Warrant *v.* + -ment.] = Warrant *sb.*¹ 9.

1599 in T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* i. i. (1633) 16 Any warrantment signed by the said Lord President..shall be a sufficient dischardge.

Warrant officer.

1. An officer of the navy or army who holds office by a warrant, as distinguished from a commissioned officer. (In the army, the warrant officers are now intermediate in rank between the commissioned and the non-commissioned officers.)

1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2848/4 Two or more Commission or Warrant-Officers of Their Majesties Ships. 1704 *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Officer, Warrant*, or *Staff-Officers*, those who have not the King's Commission, but are appointed by the Colonels and Captains; as the Quarter-Masters, Sergeants, Corporals, and in the same number are included Chaplains and Surgeons. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 103, I called all the Warrant officers together. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed Burney), *Warrant-Officers*, are persons employed in the royal navy, by warrant from the Commissioners of the navy, to take charge of the stores issued to them from his Majesty's dock-yards. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* x, The boatswain talked over the matter with the other warrant officers. 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* I. vi. 36 Next in order come the Warrant or Forward officers, consisting of the Boatswain, Gunner, Carpenter, and Sailmaker. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Warrant-officer*,.. In the royal navy it was an officer holding a warrant from the navy board, as the master, surgeon, purser, boatswain, gunner, carpenter, &c. In the year 1831, when the commissioners of the navy, or navy board, were abolished, all these powers reverted to the admiralty. 1912 *King's Regul. Army* § 284 The position of warrant officers is inferior to that of all commissioned officers, but superior to that of all N.C.Os.

2. An officer whose duty it is to serve warrants.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1901 *Daily Chron.* 16 Apr. 3/2 The remainder of the staff, consisting of the jailer, the underjailer, the warrant-sergeant, and various warrant officers, are all policemen, selected for their duties by the police authorities.

Warrantor (wǫ·rănt*ǫi*). [f. Warrant *v.* + -or. Cf. Guarantor.]

1. *Law.* One who gives warranty.

1685 *Les Termes de la Ley* 419 s.v. *Garranty*, It behoves that every Warranty, whereby the Heir shall be barred, discend by course of the Common Law to him who is Heir to the Warrantor. 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* i. vi. 123 If Land warranted comes to a younger Brother by Borough-English or Gavelkind, he is without Remedy against the Warrantor. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxx. 470 Each indorsor is a warrantor for the payment of the bill. 1863 A. J. Horwood *Yearbks.* 30 & 31 *Edw. I* Pref. 32 The liability of a warrantor when the purchaser of land has erected a building on the land warranted. 1875 K. E. Digby *Real Prop.* ii. (1876) 78 *note*, Upon the acceptance of the warrantor the suit as to the title to the chattel proceeded between the claimant and the warrantor. 1911 *Times* 16 Feb. 4/5 The right to appear of ordinary warrantors in cases in which action was taken..did not apply.

2. *gen.* = Warranter 1. *rare.*

1850 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) VI. ix. 371 As the warrantor of what an Englishman means when he says he insists on 'fair play'.

Warranty (wǫ·rănti). Forms: 4–5 warantie, 5–6 -ye, 5–7 warrantie, 6 -ye, (6 warraunty), 6– warranty. [a. AF. (OF.) *warantie*, dial. var. of *guarantie* (whence Guarantee *sb.*), *garantie* (mod.F. *garantie*): f. *warant* (*garant*) Warrant *sb.*]

1. *Law.* An act of warranting: in certain specific applications.

To vouch to (rarely *for*) *warranty*: see Vouch *v.* 1.

a. A covenant (either expressed by a *clause of warranty* or implied) annexed to a conveyance of real estate, by which the vendor warrants the security of the title conveyed. (In modern English practice the term has little or no application. In the U.S. the *covenant of warranty* corresponds to the English 'covenant for quiet enjoyment'.)

The early examples below relate to feudal law, under which the 'warranty' given by the grantor of a freehold estate obliged him to yield to the grantee other lands of equal value if the latter should be evicted. For *collateral, lineal warranty* see those adjs.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 263 If he had..gyuen þam.. thereof have do made astate to you and to youre heires..with clause of Warantie. 1470–3 *Ibid.* VI. 44/2 To have and to hold to the forseid William, John and Robert, and their heires, with warantie of the said Phelip. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 47 § 1 You..be not bounden to warant the said Manoris..by reason of any warantye comprised in the same lettres patentes. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 147 b, It is comonly sayd that there be thre maner of warrantyes, that is to saye, warrantye lyneall, warranty collateral, and warranty that begynneth by disseasyn. 1596 Bacon *Elem. Com. Law* ii. (1630) 31 If a man..do make a warranty of Land binding him and his heyres to warrantie. 1652 C. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 191 Lessor is bound to warranty to the Lessee. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xx. 300 Next may follow the clause of *warranty*; whereby the grantor doth, for himself and his heirs, warrant and secure to the grantee the estate so granted. 1858 Ld. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* v. 24 If one sell another's estate, without covenant or warranty for the enjoyment, it is at the peril of the purchaser. 1872 Markby *Elem. Law* § 236 A warranty, properly speaking, is in form an undertaking that certain events will happen, or will not happen; have happened, or have not happened; but it is in reality a promise to make compensation for the loss occasioned by their happening or not happening.

attrib. 1845 Emerson *Misc.* i. 16 This is the best part of these men's farms, yet to this their warranty-deeds give no title. 1892 G. Owen *Pembrokesh.* 176 *Footnote*, The warranty clause..arose out of the old feudal doctrine that the land could not be alienated without the consent of the heir.

b. An undertaking, express or implied, given by one of the parties to a contract to the other, that he will be answerable for the truth of some statement incidental to the contract; esp. an assurance, express or implied, given by the seller of goods, that he will be answerable for their possession of some quality attributed to them.

1543 tr. *Act* 28 *Edw. III*, c. 13 The warranty of packyng of wolles for dyuers mischeues, which the commens haue therof perceiued, shall holly be out. 1552 Huloet, Bye and sell wyth warantye. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* ii. vii. 102 By the Ciuill Law euery man is bound to warrant the thing that he selleth or conueyeth,..but the Common Law bindeth him not, vnlesse there be a warrantie. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. ix 165 But if the vendor knew the goods to be unsound, and hath used any art to disguise them,..this artifice shall be equivalent to an express warranty,..A general warranty will not extend to guard against defects that are plainly and obviously the object of one's senses. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 235 An action upon the warranty of a horse. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 467 If the horse should be afterwards discovered to have been unsound at the time of warranty, the buyer may return it.

c. In a contract for insurance, an engagement by the insured that certain statements are true or that certain conditions shall be fulfilled: the breach of this engagement involving the invalidation of the policy.

1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 977 If there be not any warranty or condition on the part of the insured, the insurer is subject to all risks. 1835 *Tomlin's Law Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v. *Insurance*, I. § 3 Warranties in a policy of [marine] assurance are either express or implied..The three cases of warranty, on which most questions have arisen, are, as to the time of sailing, convoy, and neutrality of property. 1866 *Arnould's Marine Insur.* I. ii. i. 487 A warranty not implied by law must always be in writing and in every case is inserted on the face of the policy. 1886 C. Scholl *Pharasol. Dict.* II. 832 A warranty to that effect is on the margin of the policy. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 18/3 The ordinary tramp steamer, tied down by strict warranties, would not have been covered..in that region after October 1.

2. *transf.* A guarantee, an assurance. Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1555 Eden *Decades* i. vii. (Arb.) 92 That he had betrayed his geste whom he tooke into his house with warranties. 1691 Locke *Money* Wks. 1727 II. 43 The Stamp [on coinage] was a Warranty of the publick, that under such a denomination they should receive a piece of such a weight, and such a fineness. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* v, 'Think you that I am like to recommend to you any thing unworthy?'..'I cannot doubt your warranty, fair uncle,' said the youth.

3. Formal or official sanction (for a course of action, etc.); authorization. = Warrant *sb.*¹ 7. Now *rare*.

1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 186 We shall ronne Into great daunger..Thus wildly to wander in the worlds eye, Without pasport or good warrantie. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* i. i. 132 And from your loue I haue a warrantie To vnburthen all my plots and purposes. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. vi, Nor farther notice (Arete) we craue 'l hen thine approuals soueraigne warrantie. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 60, I..neuer lou'd Cassio, But with such generall warrantie of Heauen, As I might loue. 1618 Ld. Sheffield in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 52, I desire your Lordship that under such warrantie I may bee protected, otherwise I shall not adventure to doe his Majestie service in those places. 1664 Jer. Taylor *Disswas. Popery* i. ii. § 10. 142 If these things come from God, let them shew their warranty, and their books of Precedents.

4. Justifying reason, ground (*for* an action or belief).

1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trumpet* II. 108 It [the doctrine of Purgatory] may not have the clear warranty of Scripture, but [etc.]. 1869 Rogers *A. Smith's W. N.* Pref. 9, I am not acquainted with any part of his writings which will give any warranty for such an inference. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxix, The smallest civility was sufficient warranty for the opening of an acquaintanceship. 1918 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 210 The Pope was claiming powers, Döllinger urged, for which there was no warranty in the history of the Church.

5. Substantiating evidence or witness.

1561 Brende *Q. Curtius* vi. (ed. 2) 117 b, The matter was fyrst shewed me by a light felowe, who coulde not bringe any witnes or warrantie [1553 warrant] of hys tale. 1676 J. Owen *Worship of God* 81 There is sufficient evidence and warranty of this institution. 1886 Dickens *Mugby Junct.* i. As Barbox Brothers (so to call the traveller on the warranty of his luggage) took his seat [etc.]. 1889 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Trachin.* 744 My son, how say you? By what warranty A deed so hateful say you I have wrought?

†6. One who warrants or gives a warrant. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 304 The prince..is the formal warrantie [*Fr. guerand formel*] unto all his subjects, of that fidelity which is amongst themselves.

Warratah, -taw: see WABATAH.

Warraunt(e: see WARRANT, WARREN.

Warraunty, obs. form of WARRANTY.

†Warray, *v. Obs.* Forms: α. 4 werrai, werri(e, (werhai, werrei, weirai), 4–5 werray(e, werrey(e, 5 verray, (verrie, werrye), 4–6 werry; β. 4 warrai, wary, *Sc.* varray, varra, warra, 4–5 warry, 4–6 warrey, 4–6, 8–9 *arch.* warray. [ME. *werreye*, a. OF. *werreier*, dial. var. of *guerreier* (mod.F. *guerroyer*) = Pr. *guerreiar*, Sp., Pg. *guerrear*, It. *guerreggiare*; a Com. Rom. formation on **werra* WAR *sb.*¹]

1. *trans.* To make war upon, ravage by war. = WAR *v.* 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7338 Men werraid þam on ilka side. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxiv. 1 Crist..sayis..werray [Vulg. *expugna*], that is ouercum, thaim that fightis agaynes me in ded. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 646, I trow he sall nocht mony a day Haue will to warra that cuntre *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* a At Sarray in the land of Tartarye Ther dwelte a kyng that werreyed Russye. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. i. 7 Nynus..Tuk vp armys to warray [*v.r.* verray] Seyr landis þat about hym lay. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XX. 320 We go the gladlyer ..to turneyen a-gein these sarazins that this londe do werryen. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 140 Gif a lady..is warraid with a hautane knycht of Gascoyne. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 458 Iohn duke of Normandy .. herynge that his father was thus warreyed wᵗ the Kynge of Englonde, brake vp his syege and came..vnto his father. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 48 And them long time before, great Nimrod was, That first the world with sword and fire warrayd. *Ibid.* II. x. 50. *Ibid.* II. x 72. 1594 *Selimus* B 3 b, But after Ninus, warlike Belus sonne; The earth with vnknowne armour did warray. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. vi, Sixe yeeres were ronne since first in martiall guise The Christian Lords warraid the eastren land.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23752 Þe flexs..Þe werld..Þe warlau..Þis werrais vs on ilk side. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 541 Saule, saule, quhy warrais þou me? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 401 Impacient is he that wol nat been ytaught ne vndermome of his vice and by atrif werreieth [*v.r.* werreth] trouthe wityngly. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3917 Bothe in cloistre and in abbey Chastite is werreyed over-al. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 665 Jelou-ye..That hath so longe,.. Werreyed Trouthe with his tirannye. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 17 Sanct Augustyne, sanct Jerome,.. with mony othir quhilkis warrayd the inymyes of the faith. 1595 SPENSER *Amoretti* xliv, This continuall cruell ciuill warre, The which my selfe against my selfe doe make: Whilest my weak powres of passions warreid arre. 1768 DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* xlix, With this she oft hath Villainy warray'd.

2. *intr.* To make war. Const. *on, upon, against*; also *to warray forth.* = WAR *v.* 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2493 Four kinges werralid a pon flue. *Ibid.* 21872 Folk þai sal gain oþer rise To werrai samen mani wise. *Ibid.* 24766 A king was hight willam bastard, þat warraid in jngland ful hard. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 25 What sholde it han avayled to werreye [*v.r.* warrey]? Ther lay no profyt ther was no rychesse. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 140 [He] That was than in the haly land, On saracenys warrayand. *Ibid.* XII. 363 Bot quha sa varrayis vrangwisly, That faynd god all too gretumly. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 145 Þou schall fynd na thing with vs wharfore þou schuld werray vpon vs. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. i (1558) a b/2 First againynste Parthois he cast him to werrey. ? 1436 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 167 Oure meny wode Wyth grete poure passed overe the ffloode, And verrie forth into the dukes londe. *c* 1470 HARDYNG *Chron.* (1812) Pref. 1 At sextene yere, to werray and to wage, To juste and ryde. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 21 Ebranck..warreyd on Brunchild In Henault. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX. xvii. 325 In case he had fought the Carthaginian were first (for if he had lived h ment to have warried there) and then passed over into Italie

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 32 On charite al werrais wreth. *Ibid.* 707 Bath þai werhaid on adam, For to bring him in to blam. *Ibid.* 7548 Goddes euer on rightwis side, warraiand again wrangwis pride. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvi. 14 The whilk toke my saule to werray with the kyngdome of wickidnes. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Life our Lady* lxiv. (1484) I viij b, It yane hem myght to make resistence Ageyn synne and knyghtly to warreye. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 110 I hare auld na subject obey till his soverane to werrey agaynis his God. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 48 Thus warreid he long time against his will.

Hence **Wa·rraying** *vbl. sb.*, warring; persecution. **Wa·rraying** *ppl. a.* (also *absol.*, a persecutor = WARRIOR 1).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19602 Lat we nu þe prechurs stand, For to spek of a warraiand; Saulus soght aiquar and thrett All þe cristen he wit mett. *Ibid.* 27259 Etentes knightes, & mistakyng and namli wrangwis warraing [*v.r.* werraing]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 650 Bot 3e wat nocht quhat-kyn forton 3he mon dre in 3our warraying. *Ibid.* V. 140. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. i. 91 With moo than one manere of werreyng. 1563 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. x. 33, I sal distroy.. the tovn, Quhilk is the caus of all our werying. 1892 *Fraser's Mag.* XLV. 649/2 Those world-warraying heroes that left in every land of Europe the memory of their incredible valour.

Warray, obs. Sc. form of VERY.

†Warrayable, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 5 varyable, warryable. [a. OF. *werreiable*, dial. var. of *guerroyable*, f. *warrei-er* (*guerroyer*): see WARRAY *v.* and -ABLE.] Fit for warfare.

14.. *Siege of Rouen* in *Archæologia* XXI. 51 The wallys were fulle warryable And the dykys depe and defensabylle.

Warrayn, -aynte, obs. form of WARREN.

†Warre. *Obs.* Also 5 werre, 6 war. [repr. OE. *wearr* str. masc., recorded only in the sense 'callosity'; but cf. *wearriht* full of callosities, also of a tree, knotty (see WARRIED *a.*). Cf. Flem. *warre* fem., *weer* masc., callosity, knot in wood.] A knot in a tree or in timber.

[*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 161 *Callos* weorras *uel* ill. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 356 Ða wearras and ða swylas ðe beoð on mannes handum oððe on oðrum limum.] *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5428 The tother [bow]..Ful of knotiys and of skarrys, The tymber is so ful of warrys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Warre, or knubbe of a tre, *vertex.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 A Werre [*Addit. MS.* Warre] of a tree, *vertex.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xii. 212 Bot festynnit sa is in the war the grip That by na maner fors..Furth of the stok the schaft vp pull he mycht. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Warre or knobbe of a tree, *new.*

Hence **†Warred** *a.* having knots. (Cf. WARRIED *a.*)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. lvii. (1495) I iij b/1 The ouer endes of the bones..ben warryd wyth grete knottes. *Ibid.* XVII. xx. O ij/2 Boxe growyth in hote places and stony and is therfore harde and sadly warrid [*Tollemache MS.* warred].

Warre, obs. f. WAR and WARE (*sb.*, *a.*, and *v.*).

Warree, warree (wǫ·rī). Also 7 warre, 9 warrie. [Of uncertain origin.

The word most probably belongs to one of the langs. of the Isthmus of Panama, but it may possibly be a corruption of the W. Indian synonym *javaris* (Rochefort, 1658), which seems to be a mispronunciation of Sp. *jabalí* wild boar.]

The white-lipped peccary, *Dicotyles labiatus*, native in Central and South America. Cf. TAGNICATI, TAYASSU.

1684 B. SHARP *Voy.* (1729) 48 Our Supper-Entertainment was a very good sort of a Wild Beast, called a Warre, which is much like unto our English Hog. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. i. 9 When hunger begins to bite, he [the Moskito Indian]..hunts about for Pecary, Warree, each a sort of Wild Hogs, or Deer. 1699 L. WAFER *Voy.* 105 [Isthmus of Darien] The Warree is another kind of Wild-Hog they have. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 125 Besides the Hogs.. there are two species which are peculiar to those parts of America..the Picary and Warree. 1842 T. YOUNG *Ketid. Mosquito Shore* 102 It was favourable weather for hunting, the woods near us being full of warrie. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 449 The white-lipped peccary or warree..is..about 40 inches in length, of a blackish colour, with the lips and lower jaw white.

Warree, variant of WHARE *Austral.*

Warren (wǫ·rĕn), *sb.* Forms: 4 wareine, 4–5 wareyne, 5 warenne, warreyne, 5–6 -ayn, wareyn, war(r)ane, 6 warryn, 6–7 waren, warraine, 7 warrin, 5– warren; β. 4–5 warraynte, 5 warand(e, -ant, 5–6 warraunte, 6, 8 warrant. [a. AF. *warenne*, North-eastern OF. *warenne, waresne* (whence AL. *warenna*), corresp. to Central OF., mod.F. *garenne*, game-park, also (now chiefly) rabbit-warren, Pr. *garena*; of Teut. origin, f. root **war-* to protect, guard: cf. OF. *warir* WARE *v.* The suffix is obscure, and it is uncertain whether the word is of Teut. or Rom. formation. The OF. type **waranda* (*garande, -ende*), whence the (M)Du. *waranda* park, may be a mere variant, or it may represent a Teut. pr. pple. OF. had also a form *varene* (perh. due to the med.L. *varenna* of charters) which survives in mod.F. *varenne* moor inhabited by game.

The β forms below may possibly in part represent the OF. **waranda*, but cf. the English addition of *t* in tyrant. Caxton's *warande* was adopted from his Du. original.]

1. A piece of land enclosed and preserved for breeding game. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

α. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 163 Vncoupled þei wenden Bope in wareine & in waste where hem leue lyketh. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 344/1 Unlaweful hunters of Forestes, Parkes or Wareanes, or any other opyn Mysdoers. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 422 He made my londes barreyne, My wodes and my warreyne, My wylde ys away. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xix. 99 Thanne they came out of the wareyne [where they had chased a hart]. 1528 in *Phillipps Wills* (*c* 1830) 127 All that part of my Warren of Albourne which lieth within the precincts of Southwood Walke. 1563 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 629 Keeper of Parks Houses Waranes or other Games of Venerye. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. xix. 206/1 In *Holinshed*, In parks and warrens we haue nothing else than..the keepers and wareners lodge. 1592 *Expos. Terms Law* 196 b, Warren is a place priuiledged by prescription or graunt of the Queene for the preseruation of hares, conies, partriges and feasantes or anie of them. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 222, I found him heere as melancholy as a Lodge in a Warren. *c* 1620 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* v. i, Ile make you take a tree, whore,..and then haue you cast, and hung vp ith warren. *a* 1634 COKE *Inst.* IV. lxxiii. (1648) 298 He that hath a Warren within a free Chase may build upon his own inheritance within his Warren a convenient lodge for preservation of his game. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 17 The Forests, Parks, Warrens, and Woods stored with wild Beasts only for Recreation and Food. 1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 9 A sort of wild Apple, or Crab tree, that grow as thick as Broom in a Heath or Warren. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July, I went to Marden, which was originally a barren warren bought by Sir Robert Clayton. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xiii. 175 Being the owner, or keeper, of a forest, park, chase, or warren.

β. 1482 CAXTON *Reynard* xvii. (Arb.) 42 It stondeth in a woode named hulsterlo vpon a warande in the wylderneese. 1529 *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 32 That no man hawke nor hunte vpin my Lord's warraunte. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. E 3, You shall haue some that..will not sticke to pull downe [illegible] and I cannot tell what of the same. 1590 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1051 Therefore when Orders are given to hunt the Elephants, they pitch upon a convenient place for a Warrant or Park.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 25 Hee goeth hand in hand with Nature, not inclosed within the narrow warrant of her guifts, but freely ranging onely within the Zodiack of his owne wit. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V. iv, He did him beat abroad, and not poach up the Game in his Warren. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 135/2 One people may keep another as a warren or preserve for its own use, a place to make money in.

† c. (*Free*) *warren*, a right of keeping or hunting beasts and fowls of warren (see d). *Obs.*

1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 374/1 The Office of Keping of Woode, in the Lordshipp of Kyrtlyngton, and Keping of Warren of Hares there 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 2 The Bailifwike of Toppesam with the Selerage and Crenage and the Waren of Cones within the same. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 20 b, The kynge grauntyd to y⁶ sayd cytesyns of London wareyn, that is to meane that the cytesyns haue free lybertye of huntynge certayne cyrcuyte aboute London. 1596 BACON *Elem. Com. Law* I. (1630) 13 If I haue free warren in mine owne hand, and let my land for life not mentioning the warren, yet the lessee by implication shall haue the warren discharged and extract during his lease. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokesh.* (1892) 268 Whosoever hath libertie of free warren, maye haue his speciall action of Trespasse at the comon lawe, against anye that shall hunte or chase therein. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. iii. 38 Free-warren is a similar franchise, erected for preservation or custody (which the word signifies) of beasts and fowls of warren. 1766 PORNY *Heraldry* iv. (1777) 89 Sir John de Chetwynd..had a charter of free-warren through all his demesne. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 26 Whether the rights of free warren and free chace were conferred. 1875 BLACKMORE *Alice Lorraine* II. xx. 274, I am to have free warren of all Sir Remnant's vast estates. 1913 H. W. C. DAVIS *Regesta Reg. Anglo-Norm.* Introd. 31 Grants of free hunting are few in number; even the right of free warren is sparingly granted.

† d. *Beasts, fowls of warren*: see quots. 1598 and 1628.

1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 A chase..for nourishyng generacion and feeding of beastes of venery, and of foules of waren. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes of Forest* iv. 22 b, The beasts and foules of Warren are these, the Hare, the Connie, the Pheasant, and the Partridge. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 233 There bee both Beasts and Foules of the Warren, Beasts, as Hares, Conies, and Roes..Fowles..as Partridge, Quaile, Raile,.. Pheasant, Woodcocke,..Mallard, Herne.

2. *spec.* A piece of land appropriated to the breeding of rabbits (formerly also of hares). More fully *rabbit-warren* (see RABBIT *sb.*¹ 3 a), CONY-WARREN, HARE-WARREN.

Now usually a piece of uncultivated ground on which rabbits breed wild in burrows.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i, Whan hares be ygete with the kynde of a conynge, as somme ben in the warrayntes [*Bodl. MS.* wareynes], the houndes lust nor sentith hem nought so wele. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 30 These chyldren..entred the warreyn of a lord of Fraunce..and there chased and shote at Conyes for theyr disport. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (E. E. T. S.) 48 Warrens swarminge full of conyes. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Lagotrophia*, a warren or parke of hares. 1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 15 § 5 In any Parke Warren or Grounde employed to the mayntenaunce of any game of Conyes. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 442 We found the whole countrey to bee a warren of a strange kinde of Conies. 1607 J. NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 214 Whether hath he any Warren of Conies, or Hares. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* II. i, Like a young Puppy in a Warren, they have a Flirt at all, and catch none. 1773 GOLDSM. *She stoops to Conq.* II, When company comes you are not to pop out and stare, and then run in again, like frighted rabbits in a warren. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 813 He poach'd the wood, and on the warren snared. 1830 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lawes & Downs* iv. 52 After passing..over a warren crenelled like a cullender, and divers stubble fields. 1875 W. M'ILWRAITH *Guide Wigtonsh.* 81 The land along the coast [of the Bay of Luce] is a vast warren of rabbits.

b. *transf.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. lvi. I. 267 Fulvius Hirpinus was the first inventor of warrens as it were for Winkles [L. *cochlearum vivaria*]. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xvii. (1860) 388 The holes..enter the ground at a small angle; so that when walking over these lizard-warrens, the soil is constantly giving way.

† c. *slang.* [Misapprehension of *warren* var. of WARRANT *sb.*] (See quots.)

1609 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle-light* iv. Wks. (Grosart) III. 231 He vpon whose credit these Rabbet-suckers runne, is called the Warren. *Ibid.* 236 Whilst this faire weather lasteth,..These Rabbet suckers keep to the Warren wherein they fatned. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Warren*, he that is Security for Goods taken up, on Credit, by Extravagant young Gentlemen.

3. The inhabitants of a warren; *transf.* any collection or assemblage of small animals.

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 271 In which, three or foure couple of Hares do quickly multiply into a great warren. 1625 FLETCHER *Women Pleas'd* II. iv, He is so hairie, That a tame warren of flyes frisk round about him. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables Æsop*, etc. CCCXXXIII. 291 The Cony.. Convenes a Whole Warren; Tells her Story, and Advises upon a Revenge. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 393 It was marvellous..what a perfect warren [of rats] we soon had on board.

4. A building or settlement likened to a rabbit-warren; †a brothel; a building or cluster of dwellings (esp. if partly underground) densely populated by poor tenants.

a 1639 DR. NEWCASTLE *Country Cust.* III. i, And New yeares gifts from sendred virgins and their shee Provincialls

whose warren must bee licenc'd from our Office. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Warren,* ..also a Boarding-school and a Bawdy-house. 1884 *Standard* 5 June, The Conservative party has recognized it in the case of the rookeries with which London still swarms. Will it not do s——hing also for the warrens? 1886 Tennyson *Locksley Hall Sixty Yrs. after* 224 And the crowded couch of incest in the warrens of the poor. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 124/1 The ——g..is covered with a warren of huts scattered haphazard. 1919 *Ibid.* Nov. 693/1 A large passenger steamer..is, as every one who has travelled by water knows, an amazing warren of passages.

†5. An old name for the site of Woolwich Arsenal. Hence used *gen.* (see quot. 1769). *Obs.*

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Fr. Termes, Arsenal de marine,* a royal dock-yard, together with its warren or gun-wharf. *Ibid., Commissaire,* He keeps a register of all the artillery within the warren where he resides. 1774 *Ambulator* 293 Woolwich..In the warren or park, where they make trial of great guns and mortars, there are several thousand pieces of ordnance for ships and batteries [etc.]. 1805 *Ann. Reg.* (Otridge's ed.) 400 The ordnance board have signified to general Lloyd who commands the Artillery at Woolwich, that the warren at that place is to be from this time denominated the 'Royal Arsenal'.

†6. (See quot.) *Obs.*—[o]

[A spurious sense; the article is translated from the article *Garenne* in Chomel's Dict. Littré has *garenne à poisson.*]

1725 *Bradley's Family Dict., Warren,* a Term in Fishery, being an easy and cheap way, of preserving and storing Fish, in the midst of a River, by making, as it were a Warren, for the Fish to retreat to.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warren-hill, -rabbit, -wall*; *warren-like* adj.

1700 Chauncy *Hertfordsh.* 481 Upon the Warren Hill is an Eccho, which will repeat to a Trumpet twelve times together. *a* 1742 in *Anc. Rec.* 1762, II. 52, I have lived three years in a poor cottage under your warren-wall. 1876 Tyndall *Ess. Float-Matter Air* (1881) 128 It was the same green hue throughout, though of varying degrees of intensity..In rabbit it was less fine than in hare, and in a tame rabbit less fine than in a warren rabbit. 1889 *Fabian Ess.* 218 A warren-like scuttle of alarmed..Radicals across the floor of the House of Commons. 1890 'Lyth' *Golden South* 168 We found 'New Old Pipeclay' [diggings] more warren-like than the one we had seen.

†**Warren, -yn,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. Warre + -en.] *Warren tree,* a hard oak. Cf. Warried, Warry *adjs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. iii. 84 The mekill syllis of the warryn [*ed.* 1710 warren] tre Wyth wedgis and with proppis bene devyd.

Warren, obs. form of Warrant, Warn *v.*[1]

†**Warrenage.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Warren *sb.* + -age.] ? A payment for the right of free warren.

1612 [see Commonage 2].

Warrender, variant of Warrener.

Warrener (wǫ·rənəɹ). Forms: *a.* 3 warener, 4–5 waryner(e, warinar, 5 warenner, 6 warrennar, warryner, -eyner, -ainer, 6–7 war(r)iner, 7 warrenor, 7–8 warrenner, 6– warrener; *Sc.* and *north.* 5 warander, -dare, 6 warrandar, varrandar, 9 (*hist.* and *dial.*) warrender; *β.* 4–6 warner, 5 -ere. [a. North-eastern OF. *warrennier* (= Central OF., mod.F. *garennier*), f. *warenne* (*garenne*) Warren *sb.*]

1. **a.** An officer employed to watch over the game in a park or preserve. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* **b.** A servant who has the charge of a rabbit-warren.

In the earlier quots. the two applications of the word cannot be distinguished with certainty.

a. 1297 *Placita coram Rege* m. 25 b (1897) 165 Thomam le Warener de Fakenham. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 159 Sesse þe souters wyf sat on þe Benche, Watte þe warinar [1377 warner, 1393 waryners] and his wyf boþe. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 609/2 Th' office of Warenner, or kepyng of the Warenne. 1473 *Rental Bk Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 188 Tha sal gife twa akrys of land fre til our warander of our kunyngare. *c* 1500 tr. *Charter Lond.* in Arnolde *Chron.* (1502) 6/2 Wythin whiche wareyn nether waryner ne forester nor Justice of our forest of her landis and wodes ne huntynge ne of repynge of her cornes entermet hem any thinge. 1551–2 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 66 Item..to ane warrander send to Arrane to mak clapparttis for cunnynges xl*l.* 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 72 Get warrener bound to vermin thy ground. 1584 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington* (Surtees) 17 Item given to the warrander for killinge of twoe foxes, xij*d.* 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iv. 28. 1613 Markham *Eng. Husbandman* II. II. iv. (1635) 59 We see Warriners and Poulters sell Rabbets, a fat, and a leane ever coupled together. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* III. 17 May a Forrester, Warrener, or Keeper of a Parke, lawfully beate and kill another in defence of his..game? 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1560/4 William Hooker, Warriner and Servant to George Vernon of Sudbury. 1770 G. White *Selborne, To Barrington* 12 Apr., Warreners observe..that their rabbits are never in such good case as in a gentle frost. 1820 *Hull Advertiser* 6 Dec. 1/2 The warren contains an ample breeding stock of rabbits..The warrener upon the premises will shew the same. 1829 T. Brown *Biogr. Sk. Dogs* 329 Warreners..make use of *nux vomica* as a poison, which is not unfrequently concealed in a piece of raw meat, to entice foumarts and weasels to eat it. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1714 [Among officers of Scarborough corporation] Warrener and Gamekeeper. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., My father was warrender at Thorganby when I was born.

attrib. 1591 Greene *Not. Discov. Coosnage* Wks. (Grosart) X. 32 A cony-catcher..what is he a warriner felow?

β. 1377 [see a]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warnere, *warinarius.* 1483 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 378/2 The Offices of Bailliff of the Manour and Lordship foren of Myche Marlowe,..and Warner, Wodward, [etc.]. *a* 1500 *Tale K. Edw. & Sheph.* in Hartshorne *Anc. Metr. T.* (1829) 45 The warner is hardy and fell. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 10 § 7 The Office of Warner or Warnershipp of oure Waren of Methwold.

2. One who owns or rents a warren.

1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 335 Warreners are sometimes liable to great losses from an epidemical disorder among rabbits. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports* I. I. vii. § 10 The sport of shooting rabbits is never carried on in the warrens, because the warrener does not wish his property wasted, and prefers trapping them. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., Numerous parcels of ground let out formerly to warreners have been ploughed up.

3. A warren rabbit.

1864 *Peter Parley's Ann.* VII. 325 The warrener burrows underground, and has the most valuable fur.

†**Warrenership.** *Obs.* [-ship.] The office of warrener.

For some quots. that possibly belong to this word see Warnership.

1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 352/2 The Baillishipp and Warrenership of Brayles. *Ibid.* 371/1 The Offices of Warnershipp of Methwold within oure Countie of Norff'. 1503–4 [see Warrener 1 β].

Warrer (wǫ·rəɹ). Forms: 3 weorreur, 3–5 werrour(e, 3–4 werreur, wereur, verreur, 5 werrur, verrour, 5– warrer. [Early ME. *weorreur, werrour,* etc., a. AF. *werrour,* agent-n. f. *werrer* to war, f. *werre* War *sb.*; coalescing with the later English formation on War *v.* + -er[1].]

†1. One who engages in warfare, a soldier, warrior. Also, an antagonist, a persecutor. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Þe weorreur of helle mei longe asailen ou. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8306 Wereur art þou ful wight. *Ibid.* 20933 To þaim he [Paul] first was verreur [*Göttf.* werreur] And afterward becom prechur. 13.. *Ibid.* 18014 (Gött.) [Þ]ir sathan þan till hell ansuerd..Receiue iesu..vr werreur bath mi and þine. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 398 Hou he hadde euer ben strong werrour, For Iesu loue. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3773 Theire Clte Is bothe styff, stalworthe, and strong, ..And ful of men and gode verroures. ? 1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 199 The merveillouse werrour and victorious prince, Kynge Herry the vi*th*. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lv. 11 (Harl. MS.) Oure lord, þe dozty werrour, Ihesu criste. 1482 Warkw. *Chron.* 2 The best warrer of all that time.

2. One who wars or contends (*against* something).

1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* II. xi. 168 On the occasions of all the great religious festivals in Cairo,..these female warrers against modesty [*i.e.* unveiled girls]..are sure to be seen.

Warrey, variant of Warray *v.* *Obs.*

Warreyne, -er: see Warren *sb*, Warrener.

Warreyour, obs. form of Warrior.

Warriangle, variant of Wariangle *Obs.*

Warrick, variant of Warrok *dial.*

Warridge, warrage. *north.* Also war(r)ish. See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Of obscure origin; cf. Wallis of the same meaning.] The withers (of a horse).

1790 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Warridge,* the withers of a horse. North. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 9 June 2/2 A dark-brown galloway, has..a barish place upon her warrish. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss., Warridge,* the withers of a horse. 'A grand-like colt, but a wee bit thick i' t' warrage.'

Warrie, obs. f. Wary *a.*; var. Wary *v.* *Obs.*

†**Warried,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Warre; cf. OE. *wearriht,* knotty, of which this word may be an altered survival.] Of a tree: Full of knots. Cf. Warred, Warren, Warry *adjs.*

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 942 More hard than warryed Oke too twyne [*Durior annosa quercu*].

Warrigal (wǫ·rigăl), *sb.* (and *a.*) *Austral.* Also 9 **warragal.** [An aboriginal word, spelt *warregal, wor-re-gal, war-ri-gal, wor-rikul, wa-ri-kul* etc. by various writers on the Australian language; said to have the senses 'dog' and 'savage' (*sb.* and *adj.*). In the former sense it is freq. quoted as a native word from 1793 onwards; the sense 'savage' is given by Bunce *Lang. Aborigines Victoria,* 1859.]

A. *sb.*

1. The wild dog of Australia, the Dingo.

1852 [see Dingo]. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Squatter's Dream* xix. 240 A warrigal will be picking some of your bones before this day six months. 1897 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song of Dead* 4 Where the warrigal whimpers and bays through the dust of the sere river-courses.

2. A wild Australian aboriginal.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvii, I swore to shoot the old warrigal at sight. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Aug. 4/2 A 'warrigal' originally meant a wild Blackfellow.

transf 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Aug. 4/2 By an easy and natural transition, 'warrigal' has now come to signify a hot-blooded youth who goes the pace and makes things hum when he gets out of his teens.

3. A wild or untamed Australian horse.

1881 *Australasian* 21 May 647/4 (Morris) How we ran in 'The Black Warragal'. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 14 June 4/2 Mike, he'd fret himself to death in a stable and maybe kill the groom. Mike's a warrigal, he is.

B. *adj.* Wild.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* viii, A real good wholesome cabbage—warrigal cabbage, the shepherds call it. — *Squatter's Dream* xx. 249 He's a good shot and these warrigal devils knows it.

Warrin, -er: see Warren *sb.*, Warrener.

Warring (wǫ·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. War *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of the verb.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6095 Ac, for they weore in the fen Kyng Alisaunder lesteth many men, Ac, allegate, the kynges Losen ten agoyns on in werryngee. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 147 Þei techen cristen to sufre..moche wakynge & dispisynge & betynge for to gete worldly honour & a litel drit bi fals werrynge out of charite. *a* 1400 *Le Morte Arth.* 2975 Arthur louyd noght but warynge. *c* 1400 Lovelich *Merlin* 12,088 To Socouren leodagan the kyng that in his contre hath gret werryng. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* II. v, *Leo.* When was the Prince with her? answer me directly. *Gov.* Not since he went a warring.

b. *fig.*

1521 Colet *Serm. Convoc.* A viij b, The warryngе of them is nat carnall but spirituall. For our warryngе is to pray, to rede and study scriptures [etc.]. 1884 *Athenæum* 5 Jan. 15/3 A sense of effort in reading a poem..arises from a warring between the rhythm of nature and the rhythm peculiar to the metrical structure adopted.

Warring (wǫ·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. War *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

1. That makes or carries on war; that contends in warfare. (Now chiefly with plural subject and the implication 'mutually'.)

1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* II. i, Half the warring World upon thy Side. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* xxiii, Hence..Herbert's and Churchill's Warring Progeny. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lxiii, Such is the absorbing hate when warring nations meet! 1849 James *Woodman* i, The human vulture, which follows on the track of warring armies to feed upon the spoils of the dead. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vi. § 3. 295 The two warring lines were united by his [Henry VII] marriage with Elizabeth. 1907 *Times* 22 May 9/4 Our sword..stands between peace and the chaos of warring races.

2. *fig.* Engaged in strife, contending; *esp.* with plural subject, mutually contending, discordant.

a. of the elements.

1608 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vii. 32 (Qtos.) Was this a face To be exposd against the warring [*Fol.* iarring] winds. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 432 Oft have I seen a sudden Storm arise, From all the warring Winds that sweep the Skies. 1697 — *Æneis* I. 753 When Winds, and ev'ry warring Element, Disturb'd our Course. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VI. 206 Twice ten tempestuous nights I roll'd, resign'd To roaring billows, and the warring wind. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* x. (1879) 217 How delightful was that still night, after having been so long involved in the din of the warring elements! 1912 L. Tracy *Mirabel's Isl.* I. (1915) 20 Ages of warring tides had thrust a deep-water passage..through the opposing barrier.

b. of passions, etc.

1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* II. i, The warring Passions, and tumultuous Thoughts. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* vii, Betwixt Despair, and Rage, and Hope, and Pain, Something within his warring Bosom roll'd. 1792 Burns *'Ae fond kiss'* 4 Warring sighs and groans I'll wage thee!

c. of persons, parties, etc.

1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oedipus King* 634 What means this senseless din of warring tongues? 1908 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Sept. 290/1 It..would inevitably have offended one or other of the warring schools into which their flocks are divided.

Warrior (wǫ·riəɹ). Forms: 3–4 werreour, worreour, 4 weorriour, werraiur, werrayure, werreyoure, 4–5 werrayour, werriour, worreor, 5 werryour, werryor, weryor, verriour, 6 *Sc.* weirreour, 5 warreyour, warryour, varioure, 6 warreoure, waryer, warryar, 6–7 warrier, 6–9 warriour, 6– warrior. [Early ME., a. north-eastern OF. *werreieor, werricur,* etc. (= Central OF. *guerreieor, guerrieur, guerroyeur,* etc., mod.F. *guerroyeur*), agent-n. f. *werreier* (*guerreier*): see Warray *v.*

The synonymous F. *guerrier* (= Pr. *guerrier,* Sp. *guerrero,* Pg. *guerreiro,* It. *guerriero, -ere*) is a different formation. For the ME. *weorreur, werreur, werour, -eur, verrour,* see Warrer.]

†1. One who makes war upon; a persecutor. (Cf. Warray *v.* 1 b, 2 b.) *Obs.*—[1]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20933 (Edinb.) To þaim he [Paul] firste was werrayure, eftirward bicom prechure.

II. 2. One whose occupation is warfare; a fighting man, whether soldier, sailor, or (latterly) airman; in eulogistic sense, a valiant or an experienced man of war. Now chiefly *poet.* and *rhetorical,* exc. as applied to the fighting men of the ages celebrated in epic and romance and of uncivilized peoples, for whom the designation *soldier* would be inappropriate.

The word found a memorable application in the designation of 'The Unknown Warrior', who on 11 Nov. 1920 was honoured with a stately funeral in Westminster Abbey as the representative of all who had given their lives for England in the great war. To which of the services he belonged was kept a secret, so that the comprehensive word 'warrior' was both necessary and felicitous.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2164 Knistes & oþer worreours, þat to þis londe wende. *Ibid.* 2548 Sende we iute after mi sones, ecto, & ebyse, þat quointe werreours beþ, & stalwarde & wyse. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1458 (Laud MS.) He had of hem al þat he wolde, Steden, armes, silluer & golde, And many stronge werreyoure [*v.r.* weorriour]. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2729 Donewal was werreour god. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 166, I haf kept thi lande, I se that dishonoure Is now the nerband, thorgh this conquerour, That [is] an Inglis kyng, a wys werreour [Langtoft *sage guerreiour*]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XX. 416 Than, as gud werriours, and wis, With thame stoutly assemblit he. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 412 Petir was not heed of þe Chirche, but a capteyn of þe Chirche. And certis werriouris wolen scorne þis resoun, þat if a man be capteyn, he is heed. 1388 — *Exclus.* XXVI. 28 A man a werriour [Vulg. *vir bellator*] failynge bi nedynesse. 1420 *26 Pol. Poems* lx. 238 Caste þe not to cruetye, 3e þat ryȝtwys werryours be, But loke where ryȝt queme lye. 1488 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 155 Iulyus Cesar the forte werryor. 1448–9 Metham *Wks.* (1916) 21 O Mars!

off nobyl weryouris. 1456 Sir G. Hayr *Law Armys* (S.T.S.) 5 Men that wont was to be werreyouris to defend the kirk rycht. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII (1533) 111 The duke of Lancastre landed at Caleys with a stronge company of archers and other warryours. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 384 Thir werreaouris into thair weirlie weid,..He gart thame enter in the thickest thrang. *c* 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 49 To the handys are resemblyd bothe craftysmen and warryarys wych defend the rest of the body from iniury of ennymys vtward. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 48 Kyng Henry..ordred his men for his most aduantage like an expert capitaine and a courageous warirer [*read* warrier]. 1551 T. Wilson *Logic* H vij Then should al captaines, and men of warre, be tendre ouer there poore warriours and base souldiours. 1570 Dranr *Serm.* E vj b, It should behoue me..to tell a long story what warriers and fire brandes of warre these Popes of Rome haue bene. 1593 Shaks 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 14 And when the hardyest Warriors did retyre, Richard cry'de, Charge, and giue no foot of ground. 1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* IV. 28 Hee was rightly ranked in the number of the chiefe warriers of that age. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. x. 363 He had beforehand gain'd the reputation of a warrior. 1788 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 118 Many of their warriors, or distinguished men, we observed to be painted in stripes, across the breast and back. 1806 Wordsw. *Happy Warrior* 1 Who is the happy Warrior? Who is he That every man in arms should wish to be? 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* IV. xx, Warriors!—and where are warriors found, If not on martial Britain's ground? 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xv, A swarthy band of the native chiefs..with the warriors of their several tribes. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* vii, He sprang like an ardent warrior from his tent. 1902 *Times* 15 Apr. 10/6 On April 6 a band of 40 to 50 native warriors made a dash for the camp.

fig. 1582 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 1045 Whosoeuer will playe the warrier vnder Christ.

b. occas. applied to a woman. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 78 Þir wymmen er noble werriayours and wys. 1595 Spenser *Amoretti* xi. 3 Dayly when I do seeke and sew for peace,..She, cruell warriour, doth her selfe addresse To battell. *Ibid.* lvii. 1 Sweet warriour when shall I haue peace with you? 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. i. 184 *Oth.* O, my faire Warriour. *Des.* My deere Othello. 1762 Goldsm. *Ess.* x, Female Warriors.

c. *transf.* Applied to an animal.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 340 The stooping Warriours, aiming Head to Head, Engage their clashing Horns. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* V. 307 Small birds..are remarkably brave. However contemptible these little warriors are to larger creatures, they are often but too formidable to each other. 1887 W. S. S. Tyrwhitt *New Chum in Queensland Bush* vii. 135 'Look out for that old cow again, Jack,' shouts Jim, 'and I think that bullock's a bit of a "warrior".' 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 161, I had a nice easy shot at the old warrior [a wild pig].

d. *Warrior's belt*: see quot.

1879 W. Rossiter *Dict. Sci. Terms, Warrior's belt*, three bright stars Alnitak, Alnilam, and Mintaka, in the constellation Orion.

3. (*Bloody*) *warrior*: a local name for the wall-flower, *Cheiranthus Cheiri*.

1825 Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Eng., Bloody warrior*, the wall-flower. 1873 L. Belcher *My First Book* 25 Fragrant warriors with bloodred blossoms. 1875 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 381 All wallflowers (which our people call 'bloody warriors') died in the winter. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. vi, The little garden-path, where the bloody warriors..grow in the sandy border.

4. A South American humming-bird of the genus *Oxypogon*.

1861 Gould *Monogr. Trochilidæ* III. Pl. 182 *Oxypogon Guerini*. Guerin's Helmet-crest...*Warrior*, of the dealers in specimens of natural history. *Ibid.* Pl. 183 *Oxypogon Lindeni*..*Black Warrior*, of the dealers.

5. *Black warrior*: an American bird of prey: see quot.

1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 543 *Buteo harlani*. Harlan's Buzzard. 'Black Warrior'.

6. *attrib.* **a.** quasi-adj., belonging to or characteristic of a warrior, martial [? after F. *guerrier* adj.], as *warrior-blood, kilt, hymn, laurel, lay, mêlée, plume, sound, spirit, threat, trumpet, wreath, youth*. **b.** appositive, that is a warrior, as *warrior-angel, ant, bird, chief, dame, god, guest, hero, king, love, maid, man, priest, prophet, queen, saint, son, steed, woman*; consisting of warriors, as *warrior-caste, class, file, host, nation, train, tribe*. **c.** similative, as *warrior-like* adj. and adv., *warrior-wise* adv.

1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 946 To whom the *warriour Angel soon repli'd. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 63/1 There are whole communities of *warrior-ants. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 448/2 It was the advance guard of the warrior ants, and each leaf was carried by an ant! 1830 Mrs. Hemans *Wounded Eagle* 8 *Warrior bird! what seek'st thou here? 1828 — *Birds of Passage* 10 Proud rivers, whose tide hath roll'd All dark with the *warrior-blood of old. 1842 W. C. Taylor *Anc. Hist.* ii. § 2 (ed. 3) 50 In the reign of Psammetichus, the entire *warrior-caste of the Egyptians migrated to Ethiopia. 1715 Pope *Iliad* IV. 408 Then give thy *Warrior-Chief a Warrior's Due. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* II. xvi. § 134 (1867) 372 The *warrior-class attains a perfect separation from classes devoted to the cultivation of the soil. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 1095 A *Warriour Dame. 1817 Scott *Harold* VI. xiv, What rage is thine, To quit the worship of thy line, To leave thy *Warrior-God? 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xlii, That night the Baron dreamt of many a woe, And all his *warrior-guests..Were long be-nightmar'd. 1701 J. Hughes *Poulsus Heroic Virt.* 10 How glorious 'tis to see The *warrior hero fight for liberty. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Rom. Page* v, While in Palestine The *warrior-hilt we drave. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VI. 196 By the Delian coast I voyag'd, leader of a *warrior host. 1887 Meredith *Ballads & P.* 98 Fear of silence made them strive Loud in *warrior-hymns. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 662 With haughty stalk he sought the distant glades Of *warrior Kings. 1851 Tennyson *To Queen* 4 The warrior kings of old. 1703 Prior *Ode to Mem. Col. G. Villiers* 87 Plant the *Warrior Laurel o'er his Brow. 1819 Scott *Troubadour* iii, And still was heard his *warrior-lay. 1552 Hulort, *Warriour lyke, *bellicosus*. *a* 1726 Wycherley *Posth. Wks.* (1728) I. 118 Thou, Warrior-like, do'st scour the dang'rous Field. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 71 Why art thou heere..But that forsooth..Your buskin'd Mistresse, and your *Warrior loue To Theseus must be Wedded. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VI. 85 The *warrior Maid Glides thro' the valves, and hovers round her head. 1822 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lv, He heard the busy hum of *warrior-men. 1839 Thackeray *Knightly Guerdon* iii, Sir Ulric rode first in the *warrior-mêlée. 1872 Macduff *Comfort Ye* xxvi. 378 The spoil and treasure of *warrior-nations. 1823 Mrs. Hemans *Vespers of Palermo* v. iii, The joyous winds Are to-ing *warrior-plumes. 1911 W. W. Fowler in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 760/2 The Salii or dancing *warrior-priests of Mars. 1817 Lady Morgan *France* (1818) II. 373 To whom Moses gave the most fearful command ever issued by the *warriour-prophet to his obedient legions. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 756 Then with a graceful Mein, Lights from her lofty Steed, the *Warrior Queen. 1780 Cowper *Boadicea* 1 When the British warrior queen, Bleeding from the Roman rods, Sought [etc.]. 1845 Sarah Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. iii. I. 447 The *warrior saints, St. George and St. Martin. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 140 Hercules, the *Warrior Son of Jove. 1900 *Discovery* May 133/1 A series of striking military successes gained by Mehemet [Ali] and his warrior son. 1803 Scott *Cadrow Castle* xiii, The hoarse bugle's *warrior-sound. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* III. § 4. 11 We find..the *warriour spirit of the Judges,. sanctioned rather than rebuked by prophetic communications. 1899 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 226 The almost total absence of the warrior-spirit from the poetry of the Far East. 1685 Dryden *Thren. Aug.* 474 No neighing of the *Warriour Steeds. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* IV. ix, The *warrior-threat, the infant's plain,..were heard in vain! 16.. Cowley *Wks.* I. 124 (Jod.) The *warrior train Though most were sorely wounded none were slain. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XX. 96 To seek my lord among the warrior-train. 1812 S. Rogers *Voy. Columbus* III. 29 Those the wild hunter war-ships as he roves,.. Or *warrior-tribes with rites of blood implore. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 244 None so renown'd, The *Warrior Trumpet in the Field to sound. 1871 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 516 But *warrior-wive thou stridest thro' his halls Who hates thee. 1876 W. H. G. Kingston *On Banks of Amazon* 354 The early voyagers..declared that they met a nation of *warrior-women on the banks of this river. 1810 J. Montgomery soms of their *warrior youth.

Hence **Wa'rriorhood; Wa'rriorism; Wa'rrior-ship.**

1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 726 The stirring and barbarous ages of universal warriorship. 1885 Oman *Art of War* 20 What wonder then if his contemporaries..glorified him into the normal type of warriorhood. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 24 Mar. 222/2 The secret of warriorism.

Warrioress (wǫ'riərès). [f. Warrior + -ess.] A female warrior.

1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 59 Now to the combat had this warioureasse Plighted her selfe. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. vii. 27 Eftsoones that warrioresse with haughty crest Did forth issue, all ready for the fight. 1652-62 Heylyn *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 126 Mathildis, that famous Warrioures, who carried so great a stroke in the state of Italy 1755 T. H. Croker *Orl. Fur.* XXII. lxxxviii, He quickly turns, and in his turning view'd, Sight of his warrioress belov'd to gain. 1885 Aubrey de Vere *Ess.* (1887) I. ii. 58 The virgin warrioress assails the castle.

fig. 1598 J. Dickenson *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 137 With her tongue she was as tall a warrioresse as any of hir sexe.

† Wa'rrious, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. War *sb.*^{1} + -ious (the form suggested by Warrior).] Warlike.

1582 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. 208 Valiancie of courage which is the meane to make a noble and a warrious captaine.

† Warrish, *a. Obs.* [f. War *sb.*^{1} + -ish.] Warlike.

1747 E. Poston *Pratler* I. 43 Doubtless a warrish Spirit receives all its Might and Power from Weakness, and false Notions. 1788 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Romish Priest* 8 He.. Gave to the Prince of Darkness such hard blows, That Satan was afraid to show his nose..before this priest so warrish! 17.. — *Ep. to the Pope* 186, I know the rascals have a sin in petto, To rob the holy lady of Loretto; Attack her temple with their guns so warrish.

Warrish, variant of Warridge.

Warrison: see Warison.

Warrit, obs. Sc. var. of Varied *ppl. a.*

1578 *Inv.* in W. Hunter *Biggar & Fleming* xxvi. (1862) 320 Ane clok of blak dalmes w' ane collat warrit w' welnot [? *read* welnot].

Warrok, *sb.* Also 9 **warrick.** [f. Warrok *v.*]

† 1. A girth. *Obs.*

1392-3 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 238 Pro horscombes, warrokes, et sagmine emptis ibidem pro equis domini, xxij *s.* 8*d.*.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 612/23 *Sirenterium*, a warrok.

2. *dial.* A peculiar tackle used in shipyards, etc. on Tyneside. (*Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1905.)

Warrok, *v.* Also 4 **warroke,** 9 **warrick.** [a. OF. *waroquier, garochier*; perh. of Teut. origin.]

† 1. *trans.* To girth (a horse); to bind (a person). *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* IV. 29 Sette my Sadel vppon Soffretil-i-see-my-tyme, And loke þou warroke [*v.r.* warrok] him wel wiþ swiþe feole gurþhes. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 325 Sir knyghtis..That warlowe ye warrok and wraste, And loke þat he brymly be bestte.

2. *dial.* (See quot.)

1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Warrick*, to cramp or fasten with ropes or chains...Ropes are warricked by passing one end of a lever through a loop and heaving it tight. The end of the lever is then tied down.

3. Comb.: **warrick-screw, -seam** (see quots.).

1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Warrick-screw*, the screw used for warricking or tightening the chains passed round a waggon-load of round timber. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Warrick-seam*, a chain for girding timber on a wood-wagon.

† Warrope. *Obs.* Also -roape, -ropp. [Of obscure origin; possibly a misapprehension of (wa'rəp), northern pronunciation of *warp*: cf. Warp *sb.* 3 and *warp-rope* (Warp *sb.* 9). But cf. also Wardrope and Wartake.] ? = Warp *sb.* 3.

1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* A 3 b, Fourthly, the particulars of her Herring Nets, and of the Warropes and other Ropes, Cords and lines. *Ibid.* B 3 b, All the said 30 Nets being finished must be hanged al arow vpon a strong large rope called a Warrope:..So each Net taketh vp 15 fathom of Warrope. 1648 *Papers rel. Army Solemn League & Cov.* (S.H.S.) II. 425 To Robert Hooge a war-ropp sould 2. 8. 7d.

† Warry, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Warre + -y. Of. had *wearrig* callous.] Of a tree: Full of knots. Cf. Warried, Warren *adjs.*

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VIII. 930 There stood in it a warrie Oke [*annoso robore quercus*].

Warry, obs. f. Wary *a.*; variant of Wary *v. Obs.*

Warry, -able, var. ff. Warray *v.*, -able *Obs.*

Warryar, obs. form of Warrior.

Warrybrede, variant of Warybrerd *Obs.*

Warryn: see Warren *sb.* and *a.*

Wars, Sc. and north. form of Worse.

Warsaw (wǫ'rsɔ). *U.S.* [An attempt to pronounce the Sp. name Guasa (gwāsā).] (See quot.)

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 49 The Black Grouper..at Pensacola, known by the name 'Warsaw'.

Warsch(e: see Warish *v.*^{1} and Wersh *a.*

Warse, Sc. and north. form of Worse *a.*

Warse, variant of Wrase *Obs.*, bundle.

† Warsel. *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON. *varsla*, watch, security, f. *varða* to watch: see Ward *v.*] Only in phr. *ward and warsel*: see Ward *sb.*^{2} 10.

Warsel, variant of Warsle.

Warsen, north. form of Worsen *v.*

Warset, warseth. Corrupt form of *barcelet*: see Bercelet. Wyntoun's *Cron.* VI. 1610 (Royal MS.) has the form *wersslete*.

c 1200 *Leges Forestarum* c. 1, in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* I. 687 Cum custode. canem habente qui warseth appellatur. 14.. (Translation) *ibid.* A hund þe quhilk is callit warset.

Warsh(e: see Warish *v.*^{1} and Wersh *a.*

† Warsheet, warsheet. *Naut. Obs.* [f. *war-* of obscure meaning (cf. Wartake) + Sheet *sb.*^{2}] Some kind of rope used on a ship.

1420 in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI* G/2 In..ij haunsers de eodem filo pro Warschetes et handeropes. *Ibid.* I, De..j. haunser pro Cireropes..j. Cabul(o) pro Wareschetes ponderis iiij^{or}. j quart. vij lb. 1435 *Exch. Acc.* 53/5 f. 22 d, j pr. corda voc. warshetes.

† Warship[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wærscipe, -scype, werscipe,** 2 **warshipe,** 3 **warscipe, -sipe, -schipe.** [OE. *wærscipe* str. masc., f. *wær* Ware *a.*: see -ship.] Caution, prudence, astuteness, sagacity.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* XXVII. § 2 Wisdom is se hehsta cræft, and se hæfð on him feower oðre cræftas; ðara is an wærscipe, oðer gemetgung. *a* 1124 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Þif he [William of Normandy] moste þa gyt twa ȝear libban he hæfde Yrlande mid his werscipe ȝewunnon. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Biddeð ȝiu to gode þat he ȝiue ȝiu ȝepshipe, and warshipe ȝiu wiþ to werlen. *c* 1205 Lay. 5803 Belin was swiðe wis & warscipe [*c* 1275 warsipe] him folweden [= folwede]. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 426 in *O. E. Misc.* 14 Twifold forbisne in ðis der to frame we muȝon finden her, warsipe and wisedom wiþ deuel and wiþ iuel man. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 Dumbe beastes habbeð þeos warschipe, þet hwon heo beoð asailed of wulue..heo þrungeð alle togederes. *a* 1225 *Hali Meid.* 57 (Titus MS.) As rihtwisnesse & warschipe ȝeainest unbeawes.

Warship[2], **war-ship** (wǫ'ɹʃip). [f. War *sb.*^{1} + Ship *sb.*] A ship armed and manned for war.

1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 134 To..deviss fra all making furth of weir schippis in contrar the Inglismen for weill of peace. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* VI. 261 Brave Coello's war-ship. 1848 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. xciv, Send seven tall war-ships to the Cymrian lands. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. iii. 114 They dared not attempt, in face of the English war-ships, to land at a southern harbour. 1895 *Review of Rev.* Nov. 383/2 Russian warships were to be authorised to anchor in Port Arthur.

fig. 1648 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* XXVI. 321 Satans works of sin and Hell..was a prison house, and a castle of strength, and a strong war-ship.

Warsle (wa'rs'l), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* [f. Warsle *v.*] A struggle, tussle; a wrestling bout.

1819 [Rennie] *St. Patrick* I. xi. 166 Though I had got a fell crunt ahint the haffit, I wan up wi' a warsle. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xix, They quarrelled, as you saw, on the St. Valentine's Even, and had a warstle. 1864 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* xix. 191 At length wi' a sair warsel he did get into the bed. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* iii. 46 He had thrown him doun in a warstle.

b. *fig.*

1792 Burns *My Wife's a winsome wee Thing* II. The warld's wrack we share o't, The warstle and the care o't. 1862 in *Berwick Archæol. Soc. Trans.* (1868) 40 The minister had a weary warsle wi' a weush discource. 1888 D. Grant *Sc. Stories* 6, I canna say I'm sorry that the weary warsle o' life is nae nearly owre.

Warsle (wa'rs'l), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms:

4–5 werstil, (5 werstle, -sale, wyrstylle), 6 wersil, (virale, worsill), 5 warstel, 6 warsill, 4–5, 8– warstle, 8– warsel, 6– warsle. [Metathetic var. of WRESTLE *v.*]

1. *intr.* To wrestle (*together, with* an antagonist), to struggle (*against* an adversary).

13.. *Cursor M.* 3933 (Gött.) In hand he [Jacob] lahut an angel brift, þat in handis werstild [*Cott.* wristeld, *Fairf.* wresteled, *Trin.* wrestleled] þai. *c* 1400 *Brut* 319 Oppon þe sond of the Scottysah see..þere were sene ij. Egles,..& cruelly & strongly þey foughten togider & warstled togider. lappe, som werstild. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 493 To worsill or cast the stane, In all Ingland that tyme maik had he nane. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 468 To feght with God, and to ovircum him, as Jacob did in warsling with his Angell. *a* 1823 *Twa Brothers* ii. in Sharpe *Ballad Bk.* (1823) 57 They warsled up, they warsled down, Till Sir John fell to the ground.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxiv. 16 Quha with this warld dois warsill and stryfe, And dois his dayis in dolour dryfe. 1787 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 79 He seem'd as he wi' Time had warstl'd lang. 1900 JOANNA E. WOOD *Farden Ha'* xlii. 242 It isna for us tae come tae grips wi' the facts o' oor lives; we must jist tak' them and no' warstle wi' them.

c. *trans.* To wrestle with (an adversary). In quots. chiefly *fig.*

1790 BURNS *Scots Prol.* 44 Ye'll soon hae poets o' the Scottish nation, Will..warsle Time, and lay him on his back. 1804 TANNAHILL *Coggie* iii, The puir man's patron coggie, It warsels care, it fechts life's fauchts. 1820 HOGG *Winter Even. Tales* I. 289 I'm sair cheatit gin some o' your warstlers dinna warstle you out o' ony bit virtue..that ye hae. *a* 1830 *Twa Brothers* ii. in Child *Ballads* I. 439/1 But gin ye come to yonder wood I'll warsle you a fa'.

2. *intr.* To struggle, to move with struggle or effort (*against, through, over, out of, up*); also with advs., as *by, on, out, over, round.*

c 1300 *Lancelot* 3384 The ded hors lyith viralyng with the men. 1553 *Douglas's Æneis* xiii. iv. 82 Or like as that, on the house syde the swale,..Ane lang tyme gan do wersil [*older text* wrassill], and to wrele Thristand fast with thare feit, vnto the wale. 1783 BURNS *Death Poor Mailie* 4 As Mallie..Was ae day nibbling on the tether, Upon her cloot she coost a hitch, An' owre she warsl'd in the ditch. *c* 1790 A. WILSON *Loss o' the Pack*, For aye the mair I warsled round and roun', I fand mysel' aye stick the deeper down. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* 231 Holes over my depth, but none but what I might have warsled out of. 1895 'IAN MACLAREN' *Dr. of the Old School* i. 34 Neither can you 'warstle' through the peat bogs and snow drifts for forty winters without a touch of rheumatism.

b. *transf.* of an inanimate thing.

1788 PICKEN *Poems Scot. Dial.* 107 An' let him kiss the tear awa', That warsles doun thy charmin face. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxiv, The five poor barks, that were warsling against the strong arm of the elements.

c. *fig.*

a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc Poems* xlii. 9 Warsill, as it war against your will, Appeiring angrie, thoght ze haif no yre. 1821 W. SUTHERLAND *Poems & Songs* 32 Yet happy still, blest wi' content, They warsle through. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 116 A mickle share o' love we've had The warld as we've warsled through. *a* 1877 W. CHISHOLM *Poems* (1879) 62 Auld Time warsles by wi' slow an' laggin' wing. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xii, It was a driech employ, and praise the Lord that I have warstled through with it! 1895 ANNA M. STODDART *J. S. Blackie* II. 233 He was sent to a tutorial class for a month or two, after which he was allowed to warstle through. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House with Gr. Shutters* xxii, Lots of young chaps, when they warstle through their Arts, teach the sons of swells.

d. quasi-*trans.* To get (something *out, up, on*) with a struggle.

c 1790 A. WILSON *Loss o' the Pack*, Ay! thae were days indeed, that gar'd me hope, Aiblins, through time, to warsle up a shop. 1887 SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* i. xx, I..warsled on my claes. 1888 D. GRANT *Sc. Stories* 72 That was a question that cost me nae little serious reflection an' prospection; but I warsled it oot in my ain min'.

Hence **Wa'rsling** *vbl. sb.* Also **Wa'rsler**, a wrestler.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. 340 Coryne..Of Cornewell first, had grete liking To cast þai carlis in wrestling. *Ibid.* III. 974 Off turnamentis or of justynge, Menstrailsy or gret wersslynge. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* I. 22 He hes ait warslingis beine ane hunder. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 340 All kynd of games..as..lepping ryding and warsling. 1820 Warstler [see WARSLE *v.* 1 c.]

War-song. A song inciting to war, or celebrating martial deeds.

1727 [BUCKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* I. II. iv. 180 The war songs are heard in all parts. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 159 The leader..singing the war-song, and beating the drum. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 603 Despair sung A war-song of defiance 'gainst all hell. 1840 *C. O. Müller's Hist. Lit. Greece* xiii. § 3. 168 His war-songs express a stirring martial spirit. 1897 HENTY *On Irresistible* 174 The Burmans..continued chanting a war-song, swaying themselves to its cadence.

Warase, Warst, north. ff. WORSE, WORST.

Warsahe, var. WARISH *v.*[1] *Obs.*

War-steed. *poet.* = WAR-HORSE.

1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* x. 453 Here the proud war-steed glories in his force. 1822 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* I. xxxi, No rude sound shall reach thine ear, Armour's clang, or war-steed champing. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxxii, Don your harness..—mount your war-steed—cry, Rend for Provence! 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. 9 Mortal men, Tamers of war-steeds. *fig.* 1848 LYTTON *K. Arthur* VIII. xxx, Beorn, the bold son of Sweyn, the Gothland king, Whose ocean war-steeds on the Baltic deeps Range their blue pasture.

Warstel, -stle, obs. var. ff. WARSLE *v.*

Wart (wɑ̈t), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wearte**, 2, 4–6 **werte**, 4–5 **wertte**, 5–7 **wert**, 5–6 **warte**, 7–8 **whart**, 4– **wart**; 4 **wrot**, 4–5 **wret(e, wrett(e**, 6 **wratte**, 7–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **wrat**, 9 *dial.* **wret, writ.** [OE. *wearte* wk. fem. = OFris. *warte, worte* (WFris. *wart*), OS. *warte* (MLG. *warte, wratte*, LG. *wratte, wratt*), Du. *wrat* (dial. *warte*), OHG. *warza* (MHG., mod.G. *warze*), ON. *varta* (Sw. *vårta*, Norw. *verta*, Da. *vorte*):—OTeut. **warton-.*

The OHG. *werza* (MHG. *werze*, mod.G. dial. *wärze*) appear to point to a derivative formation (OTeut. type **wartjōn-*); but the apparently coincident ME. forms *werte, wrette*, etc. are regular dialectal representatives of OE. *wearte*. The existence both in Eng. and continental Teut. of metathetic forms with *wr-* is somewhat noteworthy.]

1. A small, round, dry, tough excrescence on the skin; especially common on the hands of young persons.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* U 77 *Uerruca*, wearte. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 100 Wið swylas & wið weartan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27088 Bot wald þai seme to mans sight In þair licam bath fair and slight, Wit-vten any wert or weme. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 555 Vp on the cope right of his nose he hade A werte [*Camb. MS.* wrete], and ther on stood a toft of herys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrette, or werte yn a mannys skynne, *verruca*. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 1043 Her beautye to augment, Dame Nature hath her lent A warte vpon her cheke. 1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* 48 The juce thereof will..make smothe the skinne from wrattes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. x. II. 448 The liver of the fish Glanus, causeth werts to fall off, if they be rubbed withall. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb* I. xxxi. 25 The Wart, Pearle, Pin, or Webbe, which are euils growne in and vpon the Eye [of a horse]. 1649 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 1051 In such a case his wrats and his wrinkles must be wroght with the pincell, that the image may bee like unto himselfe. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. I. xliii. 76 Our mountains in Wales ..are Mole-hills in comparison of these [*sc.* the Alps], they are..but blisters compar'd to Impostumes, or Pimples to Werts. 1698 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* II. xiv. 105 There were ..found about the Wound Blisters and Wharts, which were caused by the hot dressings. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 112 Ray says, its Juice will wear out Wharts. 1839 DICKENS *Nich. Nich.* viii, An unhealthy-looking boy, with warts all over his hands. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 343 Warts are not unfrequently met with about the eyelids.

b. = CONDYLOMA. In full *syphilitic wart.*

1552 HULOET, Wartes in the priuye partes, *mirmecia*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxxiv. 767 The leaues of Sauin..do also cause wartes to fal of, which grow about the yarde and other secrete places of man. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 322 Syphilitic warts. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 621 Syphilitic mucous tubercles (so-called warts) in the external auditory canal.

c. A normal callosity on the legs of a horse, ass, etc.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 118 If a horse wante wartes behynde, benethe the spauen-place. 1824 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Jrnl.* I. 243 The Asses and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs;..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

d. Applied to other small excrescences on animate creatures.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 149 The general surface of the body..in some Sea-anemones..exhibits a number of clear warts or vesicles.

†2. A nipple. *Obs. rare*[–1]. (So G. *warze.*)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/1 Wrette, of a pappe or tete, *papilla*.

3. *Bot.* A rounded protuberance or excrescence on the surface of a plant.

[1677 MILLS *Eng.-Fr. Dict.* s.v., The wart in the middle of a flower, *le bouton d'une fleur.*] 1793 [see WARTED]. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 43 *Verrucæ*, or warts, are roundish excrescences, formed of cellular tissue filled with opaque matter. 1862 DARWIN *Orchids* vi. 283 In Calanthe we have a cluster of odd little spherical warts on the labellum. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 425 Tough prominent warts, as those of Aloe verrucosa. 1893 W. R. LAWRENCE *Kashmir* xiii. 353 There was a demand for the huge warts which grow on the walnut stem,..and a Frenchman obtained from the State the right to saw off these warts.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* (from sense 1). A relatively small, or disfiguring, protuberance.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 306 Let them throw Millions of Akers on vs; till our ground Sindging his pate against the burning Zone, Make Ossa like a wart. 1621 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* III. iii, I've lost a Signorie That was confin'd within a piece of earth, A wart upon the body of the world. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. § 4. 111 His faults are but warts, his vertues are mountainous. 1792 HOLCROFT *Road to Ruin* I. 12 You will not deny you are..A nuisance, a wart, a blot, a stain upon the face of nature! 1838 EMERSON *Addr. Cambridge, Mass.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 195 That which shows God out of me, makes me a wart and a wen. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, The low building had the look of having once been a mill. There was a rotten wart of wood upon its forehead that seemed to indicate where the sails had been. 1869 F. KOHN *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 88 If it be attempted to strengthen the linings by iron ribs,.. the iron undergoing puddling immediately attaches itself to these, and forms great warts and scabs difficult of re-

5. *Mil. colloq.* A very young subaltern.

1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 3 Anything more terrifying for 'a wart' than to have to sit for two hours—or three, if the Colonel is long-winded enough—and make talk, one can hardly imagine. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 309/1 A regimental 'wart', reconnoitring along the river bank with a score of men.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wart-like, -eating,* †*-ribbed* adjs.; **wart-biter** [= G. *warzenbeisser, -fresser*, Sw. *vårtbitare*], a grasshopper (*Gryllus verrucivorus*) supposed to destroy warts by biting them; **wart-cress,** the genus *Senebiera*; †**wart-gowry** [see GOWRIE], a variety of cowrie; **wart-grass,** *Euphorbia Helioscopia* (Britten and Holland); **wart-herb** (see quot.); **wart-hog,** a swine of the African genus *Phacochærus* (see quot. 1913); **wart-pook, -pox,** a variety of chicken-pox; **wart-shaped** *a.*, verruciform (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); †**wart-shell,** some variety of univalve shell; **wart-snake,** a colubriform snake of the family *Acrochordidæ*, having wart-like scales; **wart-weed,** *Euphorbia Helioscopia, E. Peplus*, and *Chelidonium majus* (the juice of these plants being used to cure warts). Also WARTWORT.

1864–5 WOOD *Homes without H.* viii. (1868) 161 The *Wart-biter. 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Variety* 162 The Great Green Leaf-cricket, or Wart-biter. 1806 J. GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 298 Coronopus. *Wart-cress. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1048 *Senebiera didyma*, the Lesser Wartcress. 1882–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) V. 670 In Sweden they [i. e. warts] are destroyed by the *Gryllus verrucivorus*, or 'wart-eating grasshopper. *a* 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* x. Tab. 97 Fork-mouth'd *Wart Gowry. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 *Wart-herb, *Rhynchosia minima*. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 131 The *Wart-hogs. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 127 We came across a fine old wart-hog boar. 1913 PEITMAN *Africanderisms, Wart hog*. ..The name refers to the fleshy excrescences or warts on its face. 1698 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 329 Small *wart-like Tubercles. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 754 Epithelioma usually appears as a wart-like growth. 1873 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* 186 Horn-pock or *Wart-pock. *c* 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VIII. Tab. 80 *Wart-rib'd Barbadoes Limpet. *Ibid.* VII. Tab. 70 Jamaica *Wart-shell. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 324 Family Acrochordidæ.—The *Wart Snakes. 1573 *Arts of Limning* A ij b, The like wise maye you make..with the milke of spourge, or of *wart-wede. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wrat-weed*, any wild species of euphorbia. 1857 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 5 *Euphorbia helioscopia* (Sun Spurge)...Country people call it..Wart-weed.

Wart, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. WART *sb.*] *trans.* To form a wart-like excrescence on.

1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* II. 228 Not one molehill warts the glassy plain.

Wart, obs. 2 sing. pa. t. of BE; obs. Sc. pa. t. of WRITE.

†**Wartake.** *Naut. Obs.* Also 5 **warre takke.** See also WARETACK. [f. *war* of uncertain origin (cf. WARROPE, WARSHEET) + TACK *sb.*[1]] Some particular kind of tack or rope.

14.. *Pilgr. Sea-Voy.* 37 in *Stac. Rome* 39 Hale in the wartake! 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 72 Mayne drynges..ij, Warre takkes..ij, Garnettes..ij.

Wartday, variant of WARIDAY *dial.*

Warted (wɔ̈·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. WART *sb.* + -ED[2].]

1. Covered with warts. *rare.*

1615 NICCHOLES *Marr. & Wiving* vi. 17 Lip-bearded, as wiches, with their warted antiquity and age. 1689 N. LEE *Princess Cleve* III. i, She's warted all over like a pumpl'd Orange. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xlix, That heavy gate..hanged her chubby knees, and it bruised her warted hand.

2. *Bot., Zool.*, etc. Studded with wart-like knobs or excrescences; verrucose.

1682 GREW *Museum* II. § iii. ii. 230 The Warted Gourd. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 170 The Zatte melon.. its coat is warted like that of the Cantaleupe. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot., Verrucosa capsula*, a warted capsule. *Ibid., Verrucosum folium*, a Warted leaf. 1820 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 296 Warted Newt. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 339 *Lapsana Zacintha*. Warted Nipple Wort. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 153 Seeds very numerous, minute, slightly warted. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* XXVIII, The gnarled and warted elms. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 469 Blocks of rugged and warted coral-like limestone.

Warter, variant of WARDAY *dial.*

Wartern, dial. form of QUARTERN *sb.*[2]

Warth. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [OE. *waroð* (*waruð, warað, wareð, wearoð, weroð, warð*) masc., corresp. to OHG. *warid, werid* (MHG. *wert, werd-*, mod.G. *werd, wert*):—OTeut. **warupo-s, *waripo-z.*] A shore, strand; in mod. use, 'a flat meadow, esp. one close to a stream; a stretch of coast' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Beowulf 234 Ǽgwæt him þa to waroðe wicge ridan. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* viii. 30 Nænig cepa ne seah ofer eargeblond ellendne wearoð [*MS.* wearod]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cv. 9 Þær wæron þa wæreſas drize. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C.: Þe whal wendez at his wylle & a warþe fyndez, [illegible] brakez vp þe buyrne. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 715 At vche warþe oþer water þer þe wyȝe passed, He fonde a foo hym byfore. 1372 *Bridgewater Corp. MSS.* No. 462 Septem acras terre cum Wartha versus mare. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 7 On a day, as he walket on þe see-warth, be segh a drownet man cast vp on þe watyr. *c* 1465 *Warrington in 1465* (Chetham Soc.) 20 Item tenet quandam parcellam terre arabilis jacentem super le Wartha. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 290 The pasture called the warth in the other side of Seaverne. *Ibid.* 341 Hee..held in severalty divers parcells of Slimbridge Warth..and shortly after inclosed fifty four acres more of the same Warth. 1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Herefford.* 117 *Warth.* On the banks of the Severn, a flat meadow close to the stream is so called; *e.g.* the Warth opposite Blakeney.

Warth, var. WATH, ford; pa. t. of WORTH *v.*

Wart-hill, variant of WARD-HILL.

War time. The time when war is being waged.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VIII. 283 The woodes in Wales.., þat were grete socour to men of þe contray to hyde hem self in werre tyme. 1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 271 Whom than thou makist not riche Whan werre tyne is and whan pees is, þou list not hem to knowe. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. Wks. (1904) 59 When he shalbe..compelled in war tyme..to faule to his bowe. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 33 The Seed coming from France, this War-time hath prevented its being so much propagated as otherways it would have been. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* i, Above all, it was war-time, and of necessity all circumstances of mere convenience were obliged to give way to a paramount sense of danger. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* ii, These war times were hard, and everything was dear. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii, There was too much filthiness and drunkenness went on in the old war-times, not to leave a taint behind it, for many a generation.

attrib. 1915 H. H. HENSON (*title*), War-time Sermons. 1915 LADY JEPHSON (*title*), A War-time Journal.

†Warting, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. WART *sb.* + -ING 1.] A growth of warts.

1758 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 23 During which disorders the warting came off, and his skin appeared white and smooth.

†Wartle. *Obs.* [Diminutive of WART: see -LE. Cf. OHG. *warzala*, Ger. dial. *warzel*, a wart.] a. A 'kernel' in the neck or groin. b. A small wart. c. A hard lump in molten metal.

1598 FLORIO, *Ghiandole*, wartles or kernels that come in the throte; the glanders in a horse. *Ibid.*, *Pallottole*, the kernels or wartles that breede betweene the flesh and the skin, about the neck or groine. 1611 COTGR., *Gangules*, Kernels, or wartles in the throat. 1659 TORRIANO, *Verrùca formicánte*, a wartle black like an ant, and therefore called an ant-wart. *Verrùca penstle*, a long and hanging wartle. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.*, s. v. *Antimony*, They put it to be melted..in pots..and strain it through a scummer.., that so you may take away the Kernels or wartles thereof.

Wartless, *a.* [-LESS.] That is without a wart or warts; free from warts.

1846 WORCESTER. 1898 BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char.* etc. *N. Riding* 139 In a fortnight's time he was wartless. 1904 *Daily News* 10 June 4 It [Carlyle's *Cromwell*] transformed an ogre into a saint, almost a wartless saint.

Wartlet. [-LET.] A small wart.

Proposed as a name for certain sea-anemones.

1858 W. L. LINDSAY *Pop Hist. Brit. Lichens* 43 In the form of granules or very minute wartlets. 1860 GOSSE *Actinologia Brit.* 206 The Marigold Wartlet. *Tealia digitata. Ibid.* 209 The Dahlia Wartlet. *Tealia crassicornis.*

Wartwale. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* In 4–5 wort(e)wale, 6 warte-, wertwale, wartwayle, water whele; for mod. dial. forms see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Warty-well.* [App. repr. OE. *wyrtwala* wk. masc., *-walu* str. fem., root, corresp. to OHG. *wurzala* (:—**wurzwala*) mod.G. *wurzel* fem., MDu. *wortele*, mod.Du. *wortel.*

In the sense of 'root' the word did not survive into ME., being superseded by the shorter Scandinavian synonym (see ROOT *sb.*). The sense 'agnail' is not recorded in OE., but is paralleled by the Ger. dial. *neidwurzel*, a synonym of *neidnagel* agnail.]

A growth or loose piece of skin at the base of the finger-nail; an agnail.

In the 3rd quot. app. used for: The root of a cock's spur.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 172 Coupet des cisours des ungles les eles [*glossed* the wortewale (nailes)] *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) *Deies cieles at galeyns* Fyngres wortwales and 3espons. 14.. *Songs & Carols* (Warton Club) 31, I have a gentil cook crowyt me day,..His spores arn of sylver qwyt into the wortewale. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) A v b, *Pterigium*, wartewale [1525 ed., a water whele]. 1596 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 77 A wertwale, *pterigium.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 199/21 A wartwayle, *pterigium.*

Wartwort (wǭ·ɹt,wɔɹt). [f. WART *sb.* + WORT 1.] A name for *Euphorbia Helioscopia, E. Peplus*, and *E. Peplis* (Sea Wartwort). Also applied to other plants, as *Chelidonium majus* and *Senebiera Coronopus.* (Cf. *wart-weed*, WART *sb.* 6.)

a 1400 *MS. Arund.* 42 f. 67 þe same erbe ['*Eliotropia*'] is called *verrucaria*, wrotwort, by cause þat it destruyth & fordoth wrottys. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 9 *Anabulla*,..wartwort. *Ibid.* 185 *Titimallis*,..wertewert. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 60 Peplis..is very like vnto wartwort but that it is shorter, thicker and spred vpon the grounde. It may be called in english sea wartwurt. 1562 —*Herbal* II. 154 b, This kinde is called..Wartwurt: it may'e also be called sea spourge. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. XXXII. 363 Peplos..is called..Wartwurt,..also Pety Sperge. 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 464 Sea wart-wort, see Sea spurge. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.*, *Petri-Spurg*, otherwise called *Wartwort.* 1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* App. 21 Sun-spurge, or wartwort; the juice is white, caustic, and is applied successfully to take off warts. 1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 178/2 The spurge or wartwort..yields a milky juice applicable for the purpose [of tempera-painting].

Warty (wǭ·ɹti), *a.* Also 5 varty, 6–7 wartie, 8 wharty, 9 *Sc.* wrattie. [f. WART *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Afflicted with warts on the skin.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 Varty, *verrucosus.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 211/44 Wartie, *verrucosus.* 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Names, Dorcas* 78 Freckled, wartie, and wodden-faced wenches. 1696 [J. PHILLIPS] *Sat. agst. Hypocr.* 5 Oh how he's wonder'd at by many an asse That see him shake so fast his warty fist. *a* 1789 BEDDOES *Poems, A Ruffian*, Brown and warty hands. 1898 BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char.* etc. *N. Riding* 138 The charmer..Told the warty one to go

2. Chiefly *Zool.*, *Bot.*, etc. Having wart-like excrescences or protuberances.

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compt. Gard.* I. 86 The Lechasserie pears are pretty often..bunch'd and warty. *c* 1712 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* x. Tab. 97 White Warty Gowry. 1766

III. 166 The Warty Toad of Fernando Po (*Bufo tuberosus*). 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* II. 203 Tall, warty, black-boled trees. 1914 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* LX. I. 69 The head [of the tadpole] is somewhat warty and wrinkled.

3. Of the nature of, or resembling, a wart.

1762 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXII. 82/1 The whole eruption put on a very wharty and pallid appearance. 1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 49 A warty excrescence on the tip of Hymenæus's little finger. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 228 Seeds with many warty angles. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 59 Glucose crystallizes with difficulty in warty concretions. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. 289 The warty tubercles on the loins. 1897 *Garden* 9 Jan. 20/3 Extravasation of sap occurs, giving rise to..warty growths.

4. *fig.* Rocky, rough.

1648 HERRICK *Hesp.*, *Dean-bourn, a rude River in Devon*, Dean-bourn, farewell; I never look to see Deane, or thy warty [*some copies* watry] incivility. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 163 'An Ode,' rather warty, came to Nap Buonaparte.

5. *Comb.*

c 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* IX. Tab. 85 Warty-rib'd Cape Limpet. 1836 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 786/2 Covered with little warty-looking enlargements. 1857 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 152 *Galium saccharatum* (Warty-fruited Bed-straw). *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 74 The Warty-faced Honey-eater (*Meliphaga phrygia*).

Warve, obs. variant of WHARVE *sb.*

Warwayn, obs. form of VERVAIN.

War-whoop (wǭ·ɹ,hwūp). The cry or yell of American Indians and other savage peoples on rushing into battle.

1761 FOOTE *Liar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 286 Permit him, Madam, just to give you..a short specimen of their warhoop. 1763 W. ROBERTS *First Discov. Florida* 6 Horrible bellowings and clamours, not unlike the war-hoop of the Indians of the Six Nations. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 250 Their mortal crime consisted in sounding the war-whoop, and [etc.]. *Ibid.* 394 He put up the shrill war whoo whoop, as his last salute. 1791 J. LONG *Voy. Indian Interpr.* 21 The Savages..setting up the war-hoop, fell upon the enemy. 1837 R. M. BIRD *Nick of the Woods* I. 91 'A fight!' replied Captain Stuckpole, uttering a war-whoop. 1850 J. B. CLUTTERBUCK *Pt. Phillip in 1849*, 59 When the favorable opportunity for attack has arrived, the war-whoop resounds through hill and dale. 1865 PARKMAN *Pioneers of France* vi. (1876) 76 The war-whoop rose, and a tempest of stone-headed arrows clattered against the breastplates of the French. 1875 HIGGINSON *Hist. United States* XVI. 147 The children lay awake afterwards, listening for the Indian's war-whoop.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solit.* 89 Secure from actual warfare, we have loved To swell the war-whoop, passionate for war! 1807 BYRON *Let. to Miss Pigot* 12 Aug., My nice mamma would..raise the accustomed maternal warwhoop. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* III. 116 But hark!—that war-whoop on the deck. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. 92 In the early speeches..the name of the unhappy favourite no longer served as the war-whoop of a party. 1851 LONGF. *Life* (1891) II. 212 If they are not forthcoming, I shall raise such a war-whoop that it will frighten him. 1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* XV, Then they set up a war-whoop of applause, and said it was 'splendid!'

Warwickite (wǫ·ɹikəit). *Min.* [Named from Warwick, New York, where it was found: see -ITE.] A borotitanate of magnesium and iron in dark-brown acicular crystals.

1838 C. U. SHEPARD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXIV. 314 A new species, which I designate Warwickite, from its original locality. 1850 AMSTED *Elem. Geol.*, *Min.* etc. § 482 Warwickite, Fluoride of titanium and iron.

Warwickle, variant of WARIANGLE *Obs.*

Warwolf.

1. *Hist.* A kind of siege engine.

A translation of *lupus belli*, occurring in the *Flores Historiarum* ('Matthew of Westminster') in the account of Edw. I's siege of Stirling in 1304, where it is said that the battering-ram (*aries*) proved almost useless, but that the less costly 'war-wolf' was much more effective. In an AF. document relating to this siege (*Cal. Docum. Scot.* II. 405), the same machine is mentioned as 'le lup de guerre'. The med.L. *lupus* is found elsewhere as the name of a military engine, but nothing seems to be known of its nature. The conjecture that *war-wolf* is a perversion of WEREWOLF is unfounded.

1810 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 400 Of these Mangonells, Patraries, Trabucks, Bricols, Espringolds, and of that which our ancestors termed the Warwolfe, by which..they discharged volies of mighty huge stones. 1614 CAMDEN *Rem., Artill.* (ed. 2) 239 Some kind of Bricol it seemed which the English & Scots called an Espringold, the shot whereof K. Edward the first escaped faire at the siege of Striuelin: wher he with another Engine, named the *Warwolfe* pierced with one stone,..two vauntmures. 1798 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 534 The war-wolfs there Hurl'd their huge stones. 1820 JANE PORTER *Sc. Chiefs* liii, The..war-wolves..sent forth showers of red-hot stones into the midst of the Scottish battalions. *a* 1899 PRAED *Leg. Drachenfels* xi, The mightiest engines that ever the trade Of human homicide hath made, Warwolf, balist, and catapult.

2. Used by Scott for: A fierce warrior.

1820 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* VI. XX, Lightly we'll tame the war-wolf then. 1829 — *Triarm.* III. xvii, He that would win the war-wolf's skin, May rue him of his beast.

Warwolf, obs. form of WEREWOLF.

War-worn, *a.* Worsted, ravaged, or battered by war; worn by the toils or privations of war.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. Chor. 36 Their gesture sad, Investing lanke-leane Cheekes, and Warre-worne Coats. 1797 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* VII. 190 But with a mind unmov'd, I'll meet my doom; Nor stain this war-worn visage with a tear. 1798 R. CUMBERLAND *Calvary* (1803) II. 220 War-worn Sisera. 1815 SCOTT *Betrothed* xvi, His war-worn shamois doublet. 1826 HON. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 33 Through this war-worn region did Sir Giles Hungerford and his party of horsemen press eagerly forward. 1849 W. IRVING *Mahomet & Successors* (1850) II. xvi. 142 Khaled entered with his hundred war-worn veterans. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 30 The warworn fortress..had added another volume to its history.

†Wary, *sb. Obs.* In 3 wari, weri. [OE. *wearg*, *wearh* = OS. *warag*, OHG. *warc*, *warch* criminal, felon (whence Frankish Law Latin *vargus* outlaw), MHG. *warc* monster, ON. *vargr* outlaw, hence wolf (Sw., Norw. *varg*, wolf, mod.Icel. *vargur* fox), Goth. **wargs* (attested by the compound *lasnawargjan* unthankful person, and the derivatives *ga-wargjan* to condemn, *wargiþa* condemnation):—OTeut. **wargo-s.*

Probable cognates outside Teut. are Lith. *vargas* misery, *vargti* to be wretched, OPrussian *wargs* suffering (sb.), evil, bad (adj.), Lettish *wahrgs* ill, OSl. *vragŭ* (Russian **враг**ъ) enemy.]

A felon, outlaw, villain.

a 1000 *Dream of the Rood* 31 Strange feondas..heton me heora wergas hebban. *a* 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 445/40 *Furcifer*, wearh. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 4 þe wari of þeos wordes ward utnumen wrað. *c* 1205 LAY. 28215 Mi seolf ich wulle hine an-hon haxst alre warien. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 352 My Louerd, þuruh hwam þe world is me unwurð, & ich am unwurð to him, as weri [*v.r.* wari] þet is anhonged.

Wary (wē·ɹi), *a.* Also 6 ware, warye, 6–7 warie, 7–8 warry, 7 wairie, warrie. [First recorded in the 16th c.; f. WARE *a.* + -Y 1.]

1. Given to caution, habitually on one's guard against danger, deception, or mistake; circumspect.

1552 HULOET, Wary or wily, *oculeus, solers, vigilans.* Warye or wyse, *vigilans.* 1583 *Mirr. Mag., Rivers* x, Warne thou the wary, least they hap to stumble. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies*, Ep. Yong Gentl. (1907) 13 If you take example by the harmes of others who have eaten it [Hemlocke] before you, then may you chaunce to become so warie, that you will looke advisedly on all the Perceley that you gather, least amongst the same one braunch of Hemlock might anoy you. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. viii. § 13 Vpon which question..the warier sort of you taking the one part, and the forwarder in zeale the other. 1614 SYLVESTER *Micro-cosm., Parlt. Vertues Rey.* 270 The wisest errs:.. The holiest sins: the wariest slips: God is fault-lesse: neuer, Man. 1677 DRYDEN *Apol. Heroic Poetry* b 8, This kind of Genius writes indeed correctly. A wary man he is in Grammar; very nice as to Solœcism or Barbarism. 1728 ECHARD *Hist. Eng.* III. 588 He being a Person of great Vertue and Piety..; besides this, of a very rich, and of a wary, or rather timorous Nature. 1805 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) III. 590 If he had recollected the cautious and wary character of that chief. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i. 213 The wariest of republics Has lavish'd all its chief employs upon him. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 153, 'I say nothing about consequences,' answered the wary diplomatist. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (2nd ed.) II. vii. 32 Godwine was essentially a wary statesman. 1884 *Law Rep.*, 25 *Chanc. Div.* 319 Mr. Bramley was far too wary to admit or even the suspicion of such a thing.

Comb. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* (1843) 123 A cool, wary-looking man stood by.

b. said of animals.

1614 EARL STIRLING *Domesday* III. lvi, The warie Hare, whose feare oft sport hath made. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 213 The Goats are wary and haue their centinels. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* I. i, Whose wary Gennet shunning still the Harm, Seem'd to attend the Shock, and then leap'd wide. 1858 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 135 How many have you delivered from..wary old alligators? 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxiii. 465 The animals are wary, from the dread they have of the poisoned arrows. 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 27/1 Of all birds the wariest is the curlew. 1912 J. L. MYRES *Dawn of Hist.* ix. 193 The horse, which is as wary as a watch-dog, is defended against strangers by his heels.

c. with agent-noun or its equivalent.

1590 DEE *Math. Pref.* b iiij, The third man..erreth to the discredit of the Wary, and modest Astrologien. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 110 A warie observer of his delights..and faithfull partaker of his secrets. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. x. 22 A warie advertiser and adviser of profitable wayes. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. viii. (1640) 181 All know his Holinesse to be too wary an archer to shoot away his arrows at nothing. 1702 G. STANHOPE *Pious Breath., St. Bernard* VIII. ii. (1704) 363 Even the most wary liver cannot be clear of guilt. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Theseus* II. 214 Theseus was a wary wrestler.

2. On one's guard, cautious, careful.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 40 The day is broke, be wary, looke about. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iii. 43 Be wary then, best safety lies in feare. 1639 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 272, I hope the gentlemen will be clear, and that they will be warier hereafter. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 315 Men must be wary and considerate before they conclude against the Frame and Order of things as they appear in Nature. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* VII, If you can, descend with me in silence, I warn you to be wary. 1820 BYRON *Wern.* I. i, I must be wary: An error would spoil all. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* X. (1885) 77 Mark was disposed to be wary after what had happened.

b. const. *of.*

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 226 If Trauellers in this our age were as warye of their conditions, as they be venterous of their bodyes. 1584-7 GARNIER *Cornelia of Fancis* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 190 She which in her virginitie is charie of her chastitie, in her marriage will be as waste of her

honestie. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xxii. 9 O therefore loue be of thy selfe so wary, As I not for my selfe, but for thee will. 1606 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 404 You Hadd Best Bee very wary of all yr words and Actions. 1748 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* vi. (1841) I. 37 A tradesman ought to be very wary of taking too much credit. 1822 Scott *Peveril* xvii, You have already seen enough of the evils of civil war, to be wary of again awakening its terrors in a peaceful and happy country. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Bagman's Dog*, If ever you travel, like Anthony Blogg, Be wary of strangers!—don't take too much grog.

c. const. *in*. In early examples the sense of *wary in* is that now expressed by *wary of*: 'to be wary in (doing something)' = 'to be wary of', 'to beware of'.

1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 55 Aduising his Lordship to be wary in crediting intelligences, which were commonly false. 1640 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 108, I am moat wary in giving my father the least distast. 1653 Ramsey *Astrol. Restored* 290 Ever remember you be wary in pronouncing judgement touching weather and the alteration of the ayr. 1672 Sir T. Browne *Let. Friend* § 8 A remarkable coincidence, which tho Astrology hath taken witty pains to salve yet hath it been very wary in making predictions of it. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 149 Nor was he more wary in any thing, then..that the people might imagine, that he pretended any other title to the Government, then by the Confessor. *c* 1680 Beveridge *Serm.* (1729) I. 53 It cannot but highly concern us all to be very cautious and wary in the choice of our words. 1754 Earl of Corke in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) III. 96, I want instructive companions, and in them I shall be very wary.

d. With indirect question. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1575 Gascoigne *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 39 For surely as it [time] is the greatest treasure which God hath given unto man, so ought he to be verie curious and warie how he bestoweth the same. 1608 W. S. *Thomas Ld. Cromwell* iv. v. 94 Therefore, take heed, be warie what you doe. 1622 Gataker *Spirit. Watch* (ed. 2) 83 [They] are wont to bee more wary and chary how they carry themselues in their affaires. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 5 They should be wary, where, and when they wash themselues. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Lond.* (1662) 208 Thus men cannot be too wary what they inscribe on Tombs. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. i. 18 You ought to be wary what tales you send out of a family. 1822 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xx. 125 O mortal men! be wary how ye judge.

e. With clause or inf. of purpose. ? *Obs.*

1668 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Idea Perf. Paint.* 56 A Painter is here to be wary, that he introduce no other Figures of Men, or any Buildings in the Landskip. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 87 Without being in any degree wary to avoid palpable contradictions.

3. Of action, behaviour, observation, etc.: Proceeding from or characterized by caution.

1587 Ld. Shrewsbury in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 583 The L. Wardeyn who..is ..instructyd by good cyrcumspeccion, & waree doing to shewe [blank] to th' enymye, in anoying hym, & defendyng of the countrey. 1589 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) F viij b, Common Innes they [sc. bawds] watch with warie eye If that..they may..espye The country maides that come from far. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* i. (1615) 63 If it bee deemed once fit for you to marry again and that upon the warie and circumspect choice thereof dependeth a manner of necessity. 1587 — *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 6 With so tender & warie touch as y^t with her hoofs going in she might no wayes hurte the babe. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* III. xxxvi, Sober, milde Blunt..warnes a warier cariage in the thing. 1599 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* iv. i, When will the Duke.. Keepe warie observation in large pay, To dogge a fooles act? 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* xxv. (1627) 270 Yet a wary care must be had, that he be used with respect by the Master. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* i. viii. 30 If any man..shall carry a wary eye on Paulus Venetus..and many other, I think his circumspection is laudable. 1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 55 No Delphik Oracle ..could ever have given a wiser and warier answer. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* xxii. 161 The wary letting in the Air upon them. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. v. § 9 When they appear, upon a more wary survey, to be nothing else but an Artifice of the Understanding. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 91 P 2 Crastin professes a wary Observation of the Turns of his Mistress's Mind. *a* 1732 Atterbury *2nd Serm. on 2 Pet.* iii. 16 (1734) I. 277 To read that Sacred Volume, with a Wise Jealousy, and a Wary Distrust of our own selves. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xlv, I shall keep a wary eye upon all that passes in the chateau. 1821 Lamb *Elia, Old Benchers*, L. who had a wary foresight of his probable hallucinations. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 111 It was necessary, also, to keep a wary eye upon the land, for they were..continually in reach of any ambush that might be lurking on shore.

† 4. Careful in expenditure, thrifty, provident.

1605 *Lond. Prodigal* I. ii. 159, I knewe your father, he was a wary husband. *a* 1627 Sir W. Mure *Hist.* 244 Wnless he had been both stout, warrie, and provident in the turbulent times quherin he lived, he could hardlie have maintained quhat his father had recovered. 1708 Mrs Centlivre *Busy Body* I. i, I knew thy father, he was a hearty wary man, and I cannot consent that his son should squander away what he saved to no purpose. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 91 P 1, I have, by leading a very wary Life, laid up a little Money. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr., Theatre* 68 Jews from St. Mary Axe, for jobs so wary, That for old cloaths they'd even axe St. Mary.

† **Wary**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wiergan**, **wirgan**, **wergan**, **wyr(i)gan**, **wirigan**, **wirian**, *north.* **worga**, *Mercian* **wærgan**, 2 **weregian**, 3–4 **werie**, 4–5 **wery**, 4 **werye**, **werry**, *Sc.* **vary**, 6 **weray**; 3–7 **warie**, 4–5 **wari**, **warrie**, 4 *Sc.* **vary**, 4–6 **warye**, (5 **warow**), 4–5, 8 **warry**, 5–6 **warre**, 6 **warrye**, 4–7 **wary**. [OE. *wiergan*, *wærgan*:—OTeut. **wargjan*, f. **wargo-s*, OE. **wearg** felon, Wary *sb.* Cf. Goth. *gawargjan* to condemn (= OE. *gewiergan* to curse), OS. *giwargian*, OHG. *far-wergen* to curse (cf. For-wary *v.*).]

1. *trans.* To invoke a curse upon; to declare accursed; to pour maledictions upon.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* D 25 *Deuotaturus*, wergendi. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 376 Se þe his hwæte hyt, hiene wiergð ðæt folc. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 11 Eadige synd ge þonne hiz wyriað eow and ehtað eow. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 131/3 *Deuoto*, ic wyrge. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 Iuele wurmes mote þe chewe .., rotie mote þu to time. Þus wared þe sowle þe licame, for þat hit haueð þar after lerned. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 319 Þe Inglis men were wone, to wery long trayne. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7492 Þai salle wery þe tyme þat þai war wroght. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1619 And Poliphete þey gonnen þus to waryen An-honged be awych on were he my broþer. *Ibid.* v. 1378 My loye in wo I kan seye yow naught ellis Bot torned is, for which my lif I warie. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxviii. (1859) 65 Thus is the kynge of his people waryed, and cursid. *c* 1440 *Rel. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* xiv. 195 Than thay wepede and weryede þaire werke and þaire wyll. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 530 It is an adversarie To every seed, now everie birdde hem warie! *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Waryyn', or curs-yn', *imprecor, maledico, execror.* *c* 1450 Holland *Howlate* 954 He waryit the tyde That he was wrocht in this warld worull in weir. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 479 in *N.-n-Cycle Myst. Plays* 72 Now alle þe deuyllys of hell hyn wari. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* cciii. iv, The commens all than of all Englande grounde, Warred his gate [*v.r.* cursed his viage] to Wales euery yere. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 1994 For-thi I bles it [this age] nocht as best, Na yit I wary it nocht as verst. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 70 Consyder this prouerbe of antyquyte And your vnkyndnes weray ban and curse. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. vi. 188 Thus oft the pepill but ansueir gayis thair wayis, And wariis the sait of Sibyll all thair dayis. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 193 Than sall thay warie, curse, & ban The murtherars yat yir weiris began. *a* 1604 Montgomerie *Misc. P.* xxi. 25 O! waryit be the vhyle That euer we wer acquent! — *Sonn.* xxxiii. 1 Vhom suld I warie bot my wicked weard. *a* 1667 Skinner *Etymol.* (1671), To Wary, vox agro Lanc. familiaris quæ significat Maledicere. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1770) 19 Theyr'n warrying, banning, on cawing one onother leawsy Eawls, os thick os leet.

b. To pronounce a formal curse against. (Said of God, the Church, etc.)

a 1352 Minot *Poems* App. ii. 214 Weried with Goddes mowth mal ȝe warand. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 157, & þare tempyl waryt he [Barnabas] quhare-in sik men had entre. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 14 þe kirke..mai not iustli wari him, ne pray iuil to him. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 22103 (Trin.) Oure lorde warieþ þese two townes. And thus seiþ..Corozaym euer be þe wo And þe bethsaida eke also. 1562 *Aberd. Kirk Sess. Rec.* (Spalding Club) 7 God commandis fader and moder to be honored..cursing and wareyng all brekaris of this commandment.

absol. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 13 Þo ministris of þe kirke..owe boþe to curse and wari, but neuer for iuil wille ne veniaunce, but for luf of ritwisnes.

2. To speak impiously or profanely against; to blaspheme.

c 1000 Ælfric *Lev.* xxiv. 16 Se man, þe wiriþð drihtnes naman, awelte he deaðe. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxxviii. 32 *Si iusticias meas prophanauerint.* If thai wery my rightwisnesis. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*James*) 226 Bot þu wary þe name of criste Ihesu,..þu sal be vnheidyt. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 3411 Wary nocht god for thi mychans.

3. To afflict with evils or calamities: = Curse *v.* 5. Chiefly as pa. pple., also in phr. *wariedworth* (it, them, etc.) = may it, they, be afflicted.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 For þat þu ete þat ich þe forboden hadde, waried wurðe þe eorðe on þine werke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 920 þe werld es werid wit þi sin. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 203 Whan God took wreche of Kaymes synne, þe erthe was waryed in his werk. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 24 The wickid that noyes til his neghtbure es blissid,..thof he ware better worthi to be werid. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 959 Weryd worthe the wyghte ay, that the thy wytt refede. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Book* 6373 Waried worth hem vs hedir broght! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12812 Thurgh the craft of þat cursed, knighthode may shame And wary all oure workes to the worldes end. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. iv. 15 Adam worthit to wyn his fud Off þe erd þat warlte was. 1597 *Guistard & Sismond* Bij, Cursed might he be and waried eternally.

4. *absol.* or *intr.* To utter a curse or curses.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 ȝe ne schulen uor none þinge ne warien, ne swerien. *Ibid.* 186 Ne wrekie ȝe nout ou suluen,..ne ne warien hwon me agulteð to ou. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxi. 5 With þaire mouth þan blissed þai. And with þair hert þai weried ai. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1288 And, ȝe wynys,..werryþ nat for lytyl trespas. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 234 Þei grucchen aȝen, & cursen & warien nyȝt & day. 1382 — *Matt.* xxvi. 74 Thanne he began to warye and swere, that he knewe nat the man. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 92 Whanne þou warowyst, chydest, betyst, & faryst as a wood man. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* III. 816 Thus I remanit..Cursand the feildis with all the fair colouris, That I awolk oft wariand the quhile. *c* 1528 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1238 What beggar art thou, that thus doth banne and wary. 1535 *Goodly Primer, Passion* IV, Then began he to banne, to wary, & to forswear himself stiffly. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 30 The people began to warie and curs that evir it chanceit theme to leiwe in sick wicked and dangerous tymes. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1770) 20 He glooart awvishly ot Mezzil feasse; on Mezzil fease glendurt os wrythenly ot him ogen; bot noather warrit, nor thrapt.

Hence † **Warying** *vbl. sb.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þe oreguil and þe wraððe of kinges..þe..bringen on þe folkes heorte grete stormes..of hatienge, and on here muðe curses, and werȝinges. *Ibid.* 179 Ne wrec þu þe mid wussinge, ne mid warienge, ac heald me þe wrache. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Þe Unicorne of Wreððe ..haueð six hweolpes..Þe veorðe is Warienge. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lx. 29 *Cutus maledictionis os plenum est*, ..Whas mouth is ful of weriynge & bitternes & treson. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Waryynge, *maledicicio, imprecacio.* *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 20 This Balaam thoght to hynder gods folk be werying. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 32 It war to lange to reherse here all the malesonis waryingis or cursingis.

attrib. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 286 It is verie strange how those abortiue statists,..makes noe scruple of the fearfull swords of waringe excomunication, too often unbeathed against them.

Wary, obs. Sc. f. Vary; var. Warray *v. Obs.*

Waryacyon, obs. form of Variation.

Waryance, -aunce, obs. Sc. ff. Variance.

Waryangle, variant of Wariangle *Obs.*

Waryche, variant of Warish *v.*[1] *Obs.*

† **Waryeld**. *Sc. Obs.*—[1] [Of uncertain origin: possibly a survival of OE. *wergield* Wergeld, with altered sense.] A requital, recompense.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlviii. (*Juliana*) 204 For-þi gyf hir hir wargeld noo, or mykil mare scho sal hourt 30u.

Waryer, obs. form of Warrior.

† **Waryish**, *a. Obs. rare.* [? var. of Wersh *a.*] ? Unwholesome-looking.

1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* II. 968 Hir teeth were furde with filth and drosse, hir gums were waryish blew. 1567 *Ibid.* VII. 446 He lifting up his olde Pale waryish armes.

Waryner(e, obs. forms of Warrener.

Warys(e, -yah, -ys(e)che: see Warish *v.*[1]

† **Warytre**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **waritroe**, 3 **waritreo**, **weritreo**, **warh treo**, 5 **warytre**. [OE. **wearg-* (*werig-*) *tréo*, f. **wearg** Wary *sb.*, *wearg*, *werig* wicked + *tréo* Tree.] A gallows, gibbet. Often applied to the Cross.

? *a* 1200 *Charter of Æthelric* A. D. 706 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 375 Norð ȝro Beornedune siðe ðe wowe hrondred; siðe to ðe waritroe. *c* 1205 Lay. 5724 And doð up and [an?] waritreo [*c* 1275 and doþ vp a wer-itreo] þer on heo scullen winden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 122 Me ledde him ainorwen uorte hongen o waritreo & driuen þuruh his four limes irene neiles. *Ibid.* 190 Þenne dusie worldes men god bi grene wde, touward te waritreo & to deaðe of helle. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 283 A nu raise þai up þe rode. Setis up þe warh treo. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2192 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 169 Heo bi-radden for-to nime þat holi bodi: and with wilde hors to-driuwe And sethþe hangen it on a waritreo. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Ireland* xiv. 34 Thay ne hadden no wone of warytres.

Was (wɒz), *sb.* [The pa. t. sing. of Be.] What was; something past.

1340 *Ayenb.* 104 Þanne is he propreliche yclieped: þet art. Vor he is zobliche. wyþ-oute ende, wyþ-out heaued, wyþ-oute wes, wyþ-out zeel-by. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 357 The thing is torned into was; That which was whilom grene gras is welked hey at time now. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 Where the Historian in his bare *Was*, hath many times that which wee call fortune, to ouer-rule the best wisedome. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. xxx, But if the 'was' is hard to face, how much harder the 'might have been'. 1884 W. S. Gilbert *Princess Ida* II, I once was Some one—and the Was Will Be.

Was (wɒz, wəz, w'z), 1st and 3rd pers. sing. pa. t. of Be *v.*

Was, obs. form of Whose *pron.*

Was, obs. form of *woe is*: see Woe *sb.*

Waschael, obs. form of Vessel.

Wascoat(e, -cot(e, -cott, obs. ff. Waistcoat.

Wase (wēz). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **wayse**, 6–7, 9 **weise**, **weise**, **weese**, **wais**, **waese**, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Found in various Teut. langs.: MSw. *vasi* wk. masc., Sw., Da., Norw. *vase* bundle of straw, fascine, etc., MLG. (whence mod.G. dial. and technical) *wase* faggot, fascine, pad worn on the head for carrying burdens, MDu. *wase* torch, NFris. *waas*, pad inside a horse-collar. It is doubtful whether the Eng. word is adopted from Scandinavian, or represents an OE. **wasa*. See Wrase, which appears to be a variant.]

1. A wisp or bundle of straw or reeds; in early examples with reference to its use as a torch.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8878 (Fairf.) Out of þat tree brast a blase þat brinde ham alle as a wase. [*Other texts differently.*] *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2351 He goith a-bout þe wallis with a brennyng wase. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18147 Thei bad thanne..of stre gete him a wase And make on the walles ther-of a blase. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 627/23 Wase, *stupa*. 1565 Harding *Confut. Apol.* IV. xv. 206 b, He geueth him [sc. his 'man of straw'] a waze of strawe in his hande. 1620 Carew *Cornwall* 28 b, One standeth watching .. while another maketh a light with a waze of reed. 1888 *Berksh. Gloss.*, *Wase*, a wisp of straw for rubbing down a horse.

2. 'A pad of straw, cloth, etc., worn on the head to relieve the pressure of a burden carried on it' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1548 *Elyot's Dict.*, *Arculum*, a roll that women do weare on their heades, to beare water or milk easily, a wase. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 43 b/1 A wase or wreath to be layed vnder the vessell, that is borne vpon the head, as women vse, *cesticillus vel arculus.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 36/42 A Wase, *circus.* *Ibid.* 203/13 A Wayse, *cirrus, i, cesticillus, i.* 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Wads*, *Wase*, a wreath of straw or cloth on the head, to relieve the pressure of burthens. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Weese*. 1835 Chatto *Rambles Northumbld.* 206 *note*, *Aweise* is a circular pad, commonly made of an old stocking, but sometimes merely a wreath of straw or grass, to save the head from the pressure of the pail. 1851 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Wase*.

3. 'A washer or "packing-ring" for making pipe-joints watertight' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 26 Before the bolts are put in, weises, made of rope or spun-yarn, or of lead, are put between the flanches [flanges of the pump].

Wase, obs. form of OOZE *sb.*[3]

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 A Wase (*v.r.* Wayse), *algа*.

Wase, obs. form of *was* (see BE *v.*), WHOSO.

Waseoat, -cote, obs. forms of WAISTCOAT.

† **Wa·sel**, *v. Obs.* [f. OE. *wīse* mud, OOZE *sb.*[2]: see -EL. Cf. mod. dial. *wassle*, *wossle*, to beat down, trample.] *intr.* To trample in mud.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 430 Þis wight waselede in þe fen almost to þe ancle.

Wash (wɒʃ), *sb.* Forms: 5 weschе, weasshe, 5–6 was(o)he, 6 wasch, wassh, wesch, *Sc.* weische, 7–9 *dial.* wesh, 7– wash. [f. WASH *v.* in many unconnected applications. OE. had *wæsc* (sense 2) and *gewæsc* 'alluvio' (sense 6). Cf. OHG. *wasga* fem. (MHG., early mod.G. *wasche*), *wesga*, *weska* fem. (MHG. *wesche*, mod.G. *wäsche*); also MHG., mod.G. *wasch* masc., mod.G. *wäsch* neut.]

I. Act of washing.

1. *gen.* An act or process of washing or cleansing with water. Also *fig.*

1663 TUKE *Adv. Five Hours* 1. 2 The Blemish once received, no Wash is good For stains of Honor, but th' Offenders blood. 1666 SANCROFT *Lex Ignea* 41 A Baptism in Reserve, a Wash for all our Sins. *Mod.* This table needs a wash. I am going to give the dog a wash.

b. An act of washing oneself, esp. of washing one's hands and face.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* ii, While sleepy lackeys..are crawling down the second staircase to breakfast, before the wash. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* vii, Mind you take care, young man, and get first wash. 1852 C. B. MANSFIELD *Paraguay* etc. (1856) 89 Next morning,..after a wash in a neighbouring rivulet,..we started again. 1872 *Gentl. Mag.* June 722 We must have a wash..and eat some breakfast. 1910 BEET *Rise Papacy* iii. 138 The Patriarch of Antioch appeared on the scene, and .. without waiting for a wash and change of raiment, proceeded to hold a Council of his own. 1912 'R. ANDOM' *On Tour with Troddles* ix. 62 What we really did want was a wash and a brush up, with a good substantial meal to follow.

2. An act, spell, or task of washing clothes or other textile articles; the process of washing undergone by clothes or the like. (*To be lost, damaged*, etc.) *in the wash*, in course of being washed. (*To be*) *at the wash*, of clothes, etc., sent away to be washed.

[*c* 1050 *Glosses on De Consuetudine Monachorum* in *Anglia* XIII. 441 *Vestimentorum ablutio*, reafa wæsc.] 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3981/4 Stolen..Wearing Linen from the Wash. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 56 The packet arrived at so late an hour..and our shirts being at the wash as usual, we did not leave Lisbon till the 30th. *a* 1824 *Fam. Politics* IV. i, in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 230, I was going to pull it [a gown] to pieces for the wash. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* iii, It returned from the wash. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* viii, Ah, you're a-staring at the pocket-handkerchiefs..We've just looked 'em out, ready for the wash. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* xli, This objection, and a great many others, founded on certain articles of dress being at the wash,..were overcome by Kit. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, Mrs. Bute, who knew how many days the sirloin of beef lasted at the Hall; how much linen was got ready at the great wash [etc.]. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* i, Though she may have done a hard day's wash, there's not [etc.]. 1876 E. JENKINS *Blot Queen's Head* 26 You mark their linen 'Empress's Crown Hotel', and our linen 'Queen's Inn'...What if they get mixed in the wash?

b. *concr.* The quantity of clothes or other textile articles washed (or set apart to be washed) on one occasion.

1789 *New Lond. Mag.* Apr. 224/1 The apprehension of [several people] .for stealing a whole wash of wet linen. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxii, In this yard a wash of sheets and tablecloths tried..to get itself dried on a line or two. 1889 MRS. H. L. CAMERON *Lost Wife* I. i. 7 The family wash..flutters gracefully in the breeze. 1898 HAMBLEN *Gen. Manager's Story* xvii. 268 The native women having a custom..of taking in the wash before dark. 1914 MARY R. RINEHART *K* iii. (1915) 35 Where her aunt..was hanging out the week's wash of table linen.

¶ c. *pl.* App. used (after G. *wäsche*) for: Washable articles of apparel, body-linen.

1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* II. 139 She took special heed to pack up her clothes and washes with her own hands.

3. A washing with some liquid for the purpose of producing a particular effect; a liquid preparation used or intended to be used in this manner.

a. A medicinal lotion. (The word suggests the use of liquid in somewhat larger quantity than is implied by *lotion*.)

Black, yellow wash: various liquid preparations of mercury for application to ulcers or to the skin in eruptive diseases. *White wash*: dilute liquor of subacetate of lead.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 757 [Try] whether Children may not have some Wash, or Some thing to make their Teeth Better, and Stronger? 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* IV. ii, My eyes are none of the best since I have used the last new wash of mercury-water. 1697 TRYON *Way to Health* xviii. (ed. 3) 409 There are many various things..prescribed by Physicians ..as Washes, etc., to preserve the Teeth and Gums. 1732 FIELDING *Mock Doctor* iv, The doctor, with a sort of wash, wash'd her tongue 'till he set it agoing. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 378, I tried a variety of ointments and washes, but without deriving any material benefit from their use. 1826 *Lancet* 26 Feb. 717/1 The employment of yellow wash (a solution of oxymuriate of mercury in lime water) was recommended. *Ibid.* 732/2 The calomel and lime water, known by the name of the black wash. 1849 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 638 *Lotio nigra*...Black Wash. *Ibid.* 639 *Lotio flava*...Yellow or Phagedenic Wash. 1850 *Recce's Med. Guide* (ed. 27) 557 Milk, so frequently employed by nurses as a wash in these cases, by turning sour on the part, often excites fresh irritation. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 117 Externally, when freely diluted, liquor potassæ may be employed as a wash in some chronic skin disorders.

b. A liquid cosmetic for the complexion.

Very common in the 17–18th c.; now chiefly *Hist.*

1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* IV. ii, These are perfum'd too, Of the Roman wash. 1649 LOVELACE *Lucasta* 146 No Cabinets with curious Washes, Bladders and perfumed Plashes [are here]. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* III. 49 All manner of Washes, Almond-water, and Mercury-water for the Complexion. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. 605 Her Cheeks as smooth as Silk; Are polish'd with a Wash of Asses Milk. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruit. Officer* I. ii, I need..no Harts-horn for my Head, nor Wash for my Complexion. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 54 Narcissa's nature, tolerably mild, To make a wash, would hardly stew a child. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* vi, They were making a wash for the face. Washes of all kinds I had a natural antipathy to; for I knew that instead of mending the complexion they spoiled it. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. x. (Rtldg.) 364, I know how to make washes and creams for the ladies' faces. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. vi, The box..contained—not papers regarding the conspiracy —but my lady's wigs, washes, and rouge-pots. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 49. 531 Pure soft water is the truest beauty wash.

fig. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* III. iii, There is no handsomenesse, But has a wash of Pride and Luxury. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 224 Th' artificial Wash of Eloquence Is daub'd in vain upon the clearest Sense. 1689 COLLIER *Ess. Pride* 56 Conceit, when it is Corrected with a mixture of Gravity, is an admirable Wash, and will make one look as Wise, and as Great as you would wish.

c. A liquid applied to the hair to alter its colour, to impart smoothness, or to promote growth. Now chiefly *Hist.*, exc. in *hair-wash*.

a 1668 LASSELS *Italy* (1698) I. 60 They dry their hair in the sun, after they have washed it in a certain wash. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* June 1645, They weare very long crisped haire, of severall strnkes and colours, which they make so by a wash. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* ii. 118 Essences, powders, pastes, washes for the hair, washes for the skin, recal the days of one's grandmothers.

4. † a. Mural painting in water-colour. *Obs.*—[0].

1598 FLORIO, *Aquasso*, wash or water colour. 1611 *Ibid.*, *Affrisco*, a Painters worke called wash or water-colours.

b. *Water-colour Painting.* A broad thin layer of colour laid on by a continuous movement of the brush.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Washing*, These washes are usually given in equal Teints, or Degrees, throughout; which are afterwards brought down and soften'd over the Lights with fair Water. 1882 HAMERTON *Graphic Arts* 84 Line and auxiliary washes are employed together in great variety. *Ibid.* 86 At Florence there are some drawings by Cambiaso, in pen and wash. 1884 *American* VIII. 59 The beauty of the clear, broad wash. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. xii. 396 To produce dark clouds and rain with twelve or twenty successive washes.

c. *transf.* (Cf. WASH *v.* 10 b.)

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxvii. 92 In the middle of the leaues there riseth vp a yellow welt,..shadowed all ouer with a wash of thin blew. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xliv, The valley was a plain of rich vegetation—long water-colour washes of yellow, and russet, and olive-green. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Donkey* (1886) 30 The intervening field of hills had fallen together into one broad wash of shadow. 1887 CONSTANCE C. HARRISON *Bar Harbor Days* xiii. 157 The summer sunshine fell like a wash of gold upon the shores of Mount Desert. 1891 G. E. SHELLEY *Catal. Birds Brit. Mus.* XIX. 456 Abdomen, thighs, and under tail-coverts white, with a very faint pink wash.

d. A thin coat of water-colour or distemper spread over a wall or similar surface; a preparation used for this purpose. Cf. WHITEWASH *sb.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 149 The Pillars from top to bottom being overlaid with a Golden Wash. 1826 SHERER *Notes & Refl. Ramble Germany* 127 The white and yellow washes on the walls looked fresh. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 348 The floors of the dining rooms..were coloured brown with a wash made of soot and small beer. 1899 JEPHSON *Brittany* viii. 105 The walls and pillars are all covered with a cold grey wash. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 426/1 Syra is almost entirely a white town, relieved now and again by a dash of yellow wash. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 547/1 The Pompeiian red..is only 'water wash'.

5. A solution applied to metals for producing a counterfeit appearance of gold or silver.

1697 COLLIER *Ess. Moral Subj.* II. 98 Imagination..stamps Value and Significancy upon his Face, and tells the People he is to go for so much; who oftentimes, being deceived by the wash, never examin the Metal, but take him upon Content. 1861 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vict.* c. 99 § 3 Whosoever shall gild or silver, or shall, with any Wash or Materials capable of producing the Colour or Appearance of Gold or of Silver,.. wash, case over, or colour any Coin whatsoever.

II. Washing movement of water.

6. The washing of the waves upon the shore; surging movement of the sea or other water.

Neptune's salt wash (quot. 1601) a bombastic periphrasis for 'the sea'.

[*c* 1050 *Supplt. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 179/35 *Aquarum alluvio*, wæters gewæsc. *Ibid.* 287/8 *Alluvium*, watergewæsc.] 1579 GOSSON *Apol. Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 63 Truth is ..harde, and cannot be broke with washe. 1601 SHAKS. *Haml.* III. ii. 286 Full thirtie times hath Phœbus Cart gon round Neptunes salt Wash, and Tellus Orbed ground. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 37 At the Entry into the Harbour only a Rock withstands the Washes. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 327 Their carpenters..raised their sides as well as they could to keep off the wash of the sea. 1773 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 59 The wash and wash of Rains, and the violence of the Winter Winds, which are all fatal to this Ground 1778 *Engl. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Wainfleet*, Great quantities of alabaster, which fall down the cliffs here, by the wash of the sea, are also sent to that city. 1852 TENNYSON *Brook* 104 Katie walks By the long wash of Australasian seas Far off. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 5 Here we were..facing the westerly breeze, and pitching and rolling in the wash of the sea. 1872 DANA *Corals* II. 237 An important protection to the roof against the wash of the waters. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* IV. xviii, The wash of the waves touched his feet.

transf. 1858 BROWNING *Two in Campagna* v, Silence and passion, joy and peace, An everlasting wash of air—Rome's ghost since her decease.

b. A surge raised in the sea or other piece of water by the passage of a vessel.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 393/1 We were steaming along splendidly now, sending up a fine wash and swash along the banks. 1884 *Ibid.* Feb. 344/2 The steam launch..sends a 'wash' along the shore. 1890 R. C. LEHMANN *Harry Fludyer* 121 They were standing on the bank close to the water, and our boat raised a wash and wetted their feet.

c. The sound of the surge of water.

1845 J. COULTER *Adv. Pacific* IX. 109, I..listened to the wash of the briny element on the beach. 1871 LONGF. *Life* (1891) III. 177 The low wash of the sea very soothing. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* iii. 39 The wash of ripples along the coast could be heard. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 717/2 The wash of the swell on rocks met my ear.

d. Wear or attrition due to the action of waves.

1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 78 To prevent that wash of the joints, that a very exposed situation might subject it to. 1872 LOWELL *Dante* Writ. 1890 IV. 224 This three-arched bridge, still firm against the wash and wear of ages.

7. A sandbank or tract of land alternately covered and exposed by the sea; a portion of an estuary admitting of being forded or crossed on foot at low tide. † *The Washes*, applied *spec.* to the fordable portion of the estuary between Lincolnshire and Norfolk; hence used as a name for the estuary itself, now called *The Wash*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Waschе, watur or forde (*v.r.* forth), *vadum*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. VI*, 208 b, King Edward..with all hast possible passed the wasshes..& ame to the toune of Lynne. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vi. 41 Halfe my power this night..are taken by the Tide, These Lincolne-Washes haue deuoured them. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* III. xxvi. I. 71 As for the coast of Illyricum, it is pestred with more than a thousand [islands]; such is the nature of the sea, full of shelves and washes, with narrow chanels running betweene. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Passade*, The swift course of the flowing, and ebbing of the sea, on the Sandes, or Washes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 140 Upon the bay which Ptolomy names, *Æstuariam Metaris*, vulgarly called, the Washes, lieth the large Towne of Linne. *a* 1632 DONNE *Serm.* lxiv. (1640) 647 A washing begun in Baptisme,..Not such a washing, as the Washes have, which are those sands that are overflowed with the Sea at every Tide, and then lie dry, but [etc.]. 1641 PRYNNE *Disc. Prel. Tyrr.* ii. 93 Hee departed out of Chester..his friends conducted them over the washes which are dangerous. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II*, cclii, Mowbray, who had gone all the way along Vpon these Washes..Now to goe further, thought a Quick-sand sprung Might swallow him. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1295 The washes, as in Lincolnshire; *Æstuaria*. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* vii, There was no way now left, but that by the washes into Lincolnshire. 1740 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 689 An Easterly Breeze, which the Borderers on the Coast of Lincolnshire and Norfolk call Tide-weather, and may be occasioned by the Vapours arising from the Tides, which then cover a vast Wash of Sands in their Neighbourhood. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 289 The great bay or wash, which forms the sole receptacle for the drainage waters, is so shallow.

† b. The portion of the shore washed by the waves. *Obs.*

1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* II. iii. § 7. 259 Euen at the very brincke and wash of the Sea. *a* 1618 — *Apol.* 15 The Towne being seated upon the very Wash of the Sea. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 410 Some Vessels have been cast so far on the Shore, that..they have been from Twenty to Thirty Yards dry from the Wash of the Shore.

c. A low-lying tract of ground, often flooded, and interspersed with shallow pools and marshes.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/2 A Waschе, *tesquum*, *in plurali tesqua*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* III. i. I. 59 Within the washes and downes of Boetis there is the towne Nebrissa. 1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 174 The crops on the interior commons and washes suffered extremely by these [wire worms, etc.] at first. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxviii, Beyond Earith where now run the great washes of the Bedford Level. 1905 *Athenæum* 30 Dec. 908/1 The book records..the enclosure of commons and washes, and the continuous advance of building operations.

d. *Western U.S.* The dry bed or portion of the bed of a winter torrent.

1894 *Amer. Rev. Reviews* Nov. 508/2 The center of it [Pachango Valley] is occupied with the broad sandy 'wash' characteristic of Southern California streams. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 582/1 Temescal Wash is a mile wide and composed of sand and prickly pear cactus. 1904 *19th Cent.* Mar. 431 The bed of the wash, or dry valley bed, up which we were driving, was planted with corn.

8. A tract of shallow water, a lagoon. Also, a shallow pool or runnel formed by the overflow of a river, a backwater; a stream running across a road.

1539 PALSGR. 287/1 Washe of water, *marys*. 1548–6 LELAND *Itin.* (1745) I. *New Yr.'s Gift* p. xxii, There is almoste nother Cape, nor Bay, Haven, Creeke, or Peere, River or Confluence of Rivers, Breches, Washis, Lakes, Meres, Fenny Waters, Montaynes, Vallels, Mores, [etc.]. 1590 GREENE

Def. Conny-catching Wks. (Grosart) XI. 65 Jack..away he rides singing towardes Endfield [from Edmonton]: as he rode, he mette at the washes with the Miller. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxi. iv. II. 410 The raine that fall caused all the washes arising from the river Nilus which watered the grounds, to be bitter. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* 248 Conveying themselves over the washes and marishes in flotes and troughes of hollowed trees. 1612 Folkingham *Frudiger.* i. ii. 3 The other sort is digged vp in Fountaines, Riuers, Washes, Salt-Meeres, Sea-shoares. 1696 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* i. xxxix. 52 The glorious Venetian Liberty..was planted in those Washes. 1698 — tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 109 The Washes, or Moorish grounds, whereon the City of Venice is placed. 1673 *Pl. Tr. Witches* 53 With whom he travelled, till at last they came to a great wash; where the man profered the Monk.. to carry him over on his back. 1695 Thoresby *Diary* (1830) I. 295 We..had some showers, which raised the washes upon the road to that height that passengers from London that were upon the road swam. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 135 Till he came unto the Wash Of Edmonton so gay. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & Bks.* I. iii. 41 The gutters were suddenly a torrent; the pavement a dancing wash. 1848 H W Herbert *Field Sports U.S.* II. 28 The wide extent of salt marshes and meadows, interspersed with shallow land locked washes and lagoons. 1857 Hawthorne *Eng. Note bks.* (1870) II. 204 Along the base of the castle [Skipton]..flows a stream, but only a 'wash', whatever that may be. 1878 S. H. Miller & Skertchly *Fenland* vi. 158 Banks were made.. enclosing a space called a Wash 'for the waters to bed in' in time of flood. 1884 *Ath* Oct 356, I came to a wash a few feet wide and a foot or so deep.

III. 9. Waste water discharged after use in washing; liquid refuse. Also *fig.* Now *rare.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1105 And all the weesshe out of thi bathis [L. *balnearum..eluvies*] The gardyn thorgh to go, therto no scathe is 1797 Burke *Reg. Peace* III (1892) 192 If his Majesty had kept aloof from that wash and off-scouring of every thing that is low and barbarous in the world. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Brooke Farm* iii. 39 He advised.. that the sweepings from the cottage floors...and the wash and boilings of all sorts, should be thrown into it (the pit).

10. *Sc.* and *north.* Stale urine: used as a detergent and as a mordant.

Perhaps so called from its use in washing.

c 1480 Henryson *Sum Practysis of Med.* 48 This vntment is rycht ganand for your awin vss, With reid nettill seid in strang weschc to steip. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 4146 Ane curtill quaine..Of strang weache schc will tak ane iurdane, And settis in the gyle-fat. 1546 — *Deith Beaton* etc. E ij, Thou false hereticke [Wishart], saydest that holy water is not so good as washe, & such lyke. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray. Wash*, or *wash*. Urine. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 63 Learn your goodaime to kirn wash. 1743 in R. Maxwell *Sel. Trans. Agric.* 368 Put into your Copper a little stale Wash, which will make your Wald spend, and raise your Colour. 1828 Crookes *Dyeing* 19 Stale urine..known in Lancashire as 'lant', and in Yorkshire as 'wash' or 'weeting', owes its action to the carbonate of ammonia formed by the decomposition of urea.

11. Kitchen swill or brewery refuse as food for swine: = Hogwash, Pig's wash. (So G. dial. *wdsch.*)

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 51/1 *Porcus colluuiaris*,.. an hogge fed with wash and draffe. 1592 Breton *Pilgr. Paris l.* (Grosart) 22/2 The sweetest wine, is but as swinish wash, Unto the water, of the well of life. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III* v. ii. 9 The wretched, bloody, and vsurping Boare,.. Swilles your warm blood like wash, and makes his trough In your embowel'd bosomes. 1665 South *Serm.* (Prov. iii 17) 18 As different as the silence of an Archimedes in the study of a Problem, and the stillness of a Sow at her wash. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 79 They have a pig or two brought in, to live upon their wash, and dregs. 1851-61 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 132/1 The hogs' food obtained by these street-folk, or, as I most frequently heard it called, the 'wash'. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xxxii, She..pointed to the great bock of wash, and riddlings, and brown hulkage. 1896 Baring-Gould *Dartmoor Idylls* v. 129 When she carried the sow her pail of wash.

fig. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* i. 16 Clean Stomacks will be better satisfied with one drop of the Milk of Truth, then foul Feeders..with a Trough of Wash, mingled with the water of Fabulous Inventions.

b. Liquid food for other animals.

1847 W. C. L. Martin *Or.* 96/2 The mangers extend along the whole length of each row of cattle; these are for the wash, or fluid food;..The wash..is very nutritious, as it contains the finer particles of the ground malt.

IV. 12. Matter washed away by running water; solid particles carried away by a stream and deposited as sediment; alluvial deposit.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 86 The Wash of Pastures, Fields, Commons, Roads [etc.]..where..Rain water bath a long time settled..,[is] of very great advantage to all sorts of Land. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* vi. i. II. 60 In these plains, the soil augmented by the wash of the mountains for so many ages, is prodigiously fertile. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* (1868) I. i. 8 A territory, the mere wash of three great rivers. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* i. xiii, 'Tastes like the wash of the river.' 'Are you so familiar with the flavour of the wash of the river?' 1883 *Modern Rev.* IV. 682 The land..has been built up out of the wash of ancient rivers and the sands of vanished seas. 1888 J. D. Whitney *Names & Places* 125 (Cent.) The debris-piles which stretch along the lower slopes of the ranges in the Cordilleran Region are locally known as washes. 1895 Baring-Gould *Nemi* x, The course taken by the flood is easily recognisable by this fact—that it has left its wash on the tops of the plateau, where to the present day lies a film of caoline.

b. *Mining.* 'A formation of gravel, etc. over an abraded coal-seam'. (Eng. Dial. Dict.)

1888 W. E. Nicholson *Gloss. Coal Trade Northumb.* (E.D.D.), The Team Wash, which extends from Dunston on the river Tyne and, following the line of the river Team, to Tursdale,..and washes out several seams of coal in its course.

V. 13. a. (See quot. 1728.) ? *Obs.*

1619 Donne *Serm.* 18 Apr. (1661) III. 270 Of this Gold (this virtue of Repentance) there is no Mine in the Earth; in the books of Philosophers, no doctrine of Repentance; this Gold is for the most part in the washes. 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Washings*, or *Washes*, among Goldsmiths, Coiners, &c. are the Lotions whereby they recover the Particles of Gold and Silver out of the Ashes, Earths, Sweepings, &c.

b. Soil from which gold (or diamonds) can be extracted by washing.

a 1875 Hector in *Offic. Handbk. N. Zealand* 171 Gold was obtained on terraces along the sides of the valley, and in the river bed, the wash everywhere resting on water-worn bars and ledges of greenstone, [etc.]. 1879 Atcherly *Trip Borland* 143 We had extracted about a hundred-weight of wash. 1880 Fison & Howitt *Kamilaroi* 272 The great 'reef washes' of Ballarat are to be referred to the period of depression. 1886 *N. Z. Herald* 28 May 6/7 Last week, after driving about 80 feet, they struck payable wash. The wash is about two feet thick, lying on a slate bottom. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 7 A company has been formed to work the 'first floor' which shows gold and tin in 10 feet of wash. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 9/5 Inverell Diamond Fields.—..101 carats of diamonds from five loads washed. Wash improves as development progresses.

VI. Watery infusion or mixture.

14. Originally, the partially fermented wort remaining after ale or beer has been brewed from it; this wort as subjected to further fermentation in order that ardent spirit may be distilled from it. In later use, malt or other fermentable substance or mixture of substances steeped in water to undergo fermentation preparatory to distillation.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wash*, After-wort. 1702 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 55 That 2*d.* per gallon be laid on all low wines or spirits drawn from brewers wash. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4624/1 An Act to Prohibit the Exportation of..Worts and Wash drawn from Malted Corn. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Wash*, the distillers name for the fermentable liquor, made by dissolving the proper subject for fermentation and distillation in common water. 1813 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 43 Besides the still, a considerable quantity of wash, and some low wines, were found. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. i. 215 The molasses are conveyed by channels into a large vat in the still house, to which a certain quantity of water is added, and in this state the liquor is called 'wash'. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 24 § 5 (1) No person may, without being licensed..(*b*) Brew or make wort or wash. 1903 *Times* 22 Aug. 8/6, 200 gallons of 'wash'—liquor prepared with sugar, barley, flour, &c. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Mar. 2/1 The liquid from which spirit is distilled is termed 'wash', and may be made from almost anything. If the distiller be righteous, it is made from malt, or, in the case of Irish whisky, malt and unmalted grain.

15. Washy or vapid liquor. Also *fig.*, vapid discourse or writing.

1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 15–18 My doctrine is but verai washe, if it be compared vnto his doctrine [Erasm. *Mea doctrina diluta est, si ad illius doctrinam conferatur*]. 1819 W. S. Rose *Lett. N. Italy* I. 108 A remedy..is thought to have been discovered in coffee; not the vile and vapid wash which is usually made in England,..but [etc.]. 1839 Rayson *Poems* (1858) 49 Nae mair weaste yer money on ony sec wesh. 1895 J. Nicholson *Kilwuddie* 166 (E.D.D.) We kentna the goo' o' the wash we drink noo, That puir, feckless skiddle ca'd tea. 1911 R. Brooke *Let.* in *Memoir* (1918) p. lxx, To remove it [the sonnet called *Lust*] would be to overbalance the book still more in the direction of unimportant prettiness. There's plenty of that sort of wash in the other pages for the readers who like it.

VII. 16. The blade of an oar.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) D d 4, That part of the oar..which enters into the water, is called the blade, or wash.

VIII. Senses of obscure or doubtful origin.

17. A measure for oysters and whelks.

1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 370 Item, for ij. wash and di. of oystres at Wevenho, iiij. d. 1574 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 444 To Walter Tayler for viij washe of oysters and for charges from Dunekbye, vj*s.* viij*d.* 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), A *Wash of Oysters* is ten Strikes. 1677 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 102, no. 2, Paid for a wash of oysters presented to a gent. in London vpon the town's account. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 163 The trade in whelks is one of which the costermongers have the undisputed monopoly..this shell-fish is bought by the measure (a double peck or gallon), half measure, or wash. A wash is four measures. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 256/2 Each smack takes about 40 wash of whelks with her for the voyage. 1882 *Standard* 26 Sept. 2/2 Whelks are sold by the 'wash', a wash consisting of 21 quarts and one pint,..worth on an average four shillings.

†18. Some part of a horse's eye. *Obs.*

1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* II. viii. (1656) 293, I have oft times seen the French Marishalls take up the wash of the eye, with a Spanish needle, threeded with a double brown threed,..But I cannot commend this manner of curing the Haw, for by that means he cutteth away the wash of the eye, which indeed is the beauty of the eye. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 141 Farriers taking up the Wash of the Eye with a Needle and Thread.

19. The underground den of a beaver or a bear.

1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 128 It [the beaver's house] is always entirely surrounded with water; but, in the banks adjacent, the animal provides holes or washes, of which the entrance is below the surface, and to which it retreats on the first alarm. 1877 Coues *Fur-bearing Anim.* ii. 52 They [wolverenes] bring forth in burrows under ground, probably old Bear washes, and have four or five young at a birth.

20. *slang.* **a.** *Printers'.* An act of 'washing' (see Wash *v.* 19 a). 1841 Savage *Dict. Printing* 810.

b. *Stock Exchange.* A fictitious sale of securities by a broker who has a commission from an intending buyer and also from an intending seller, and who instead of effecting the two transactions separately, in the interest of each client, simply transfers from the one account to the other, the difference going to his own profit.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

IX. 21. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in sense 14, designating various vessels in which the distiller's 'wash' is contained or elaborated, as *wash-back, -batch, -charger, -cistern, -heater, -warmer*; in sense 11, as *wash-buyer*. Also **wash-basket** (*a*) *U.S.* see quot. 1881; (*b*) a basket for clothes sent to the wash; **wash-bill** *U.S.* = *washing-bill*; **wash-day**, the day for the washing of clothes in a household = *washing-day*; **wash-land**, a tract of land periodically overflowed by a river; **wash-linen**, linen sent to the wash; **wash-plain**, a tract of land formed by alluvial deposits; **wash-sale**, see quot. 1891 (cf. sense 20); †**wash-tumbler**, ? a glass for holding washes for the complexion or the teeth; †**wash-yard**, ? the yard attached to a wash-house.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 403 Before the fermented wort goes into the still, a calculation is made of the quantity of wash drawn from the *wash back, and which is first pumped into [illegible]

(Rhode Island). 1903 *Daily Chron.* 26 June 3/7 The family wash-basket. 1696–7 *Act* 8 & 9 *Will. III* c. 19 § 10 That no common Distiller..shall..erect or sett upp any Tun Cask *Wash-batch Copper Still or other Vessell for the brewing making or keeping of any Worts Wash [etc.]. 1873 B. Harte *Fiddletown* 26 Finding his *wash-bill made out on the unwritten side of one of these squares, and delivered to him with his weekly clean clothes. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 149 There are a number of *wash-buyers in the suburbs, who purchase..their stock..at gentlemen's houses, and retail it..to those who feed pigs. 1839 *Wash charger [see *wash back*]. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* I. 5 The *wash-cistern..should be supported on a shelf near the ceiling of the stove-heated apartment. 1864 Mrs. A. Gatty *Parables Nat.* Ser. iv. 9 He had watered it..with soap-suds on a *wash-day. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1182 The water..is carried off by the pipe m, through the vessel n, called the *wash-heater. 1794 Vancouver *Agric. Cambridge* 191 The *washlands amount to about three thousand acres. 1878 S. H. Miller & Skertchly *Fenland* i. 6 Along this course are wash-lands which receive the waters of the river when it overflows. 1883 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 76/2 In some cases the rivers have even inner and outer banks, with washlands between them. 1901 Osler *Princ. Med.* 1st (ed. 4) 5 The infection [of typhoid fever] may be spread by means of clothing and *wash-linen. 1899 *Nature* 13 July 259/1 These '*wash plains' or stream deltas and fans constitute a very important feature in the Pleistocene deposits of the region. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Wash sales*, in the stock-market, feigned sales, made for the sake of advantage gained by the report of a fictitious price. 1908 *Times* 26 Aug. 5/5 In the words of the *Evening Post*..since 1901 the two terms 'wash sales' and 'matched orders' have become a familiar explanation of the erratic movements of prices on the Exchange. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 1/1 Glass. Cut candlesticks, decanters, *wash tumblers, wine glasses, [etc.]. 1900 Sadtler *Handbk. Industr. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 220 Interposing between the still and the refrigerating apparatus a '*wash-warmer', or vessel filled with the liquid ready for distillation. *c* 1695 in W. Robinson *Hackney* (1842) I. 111 [Inventory of Goods] In the Wash-house..In the *Wash-yarde. Item—One great cesterne of leade, [etc.].

†**Wash,** *a. Obs.* [? *f.* Wash *v.*; perh. in part a corruption of Walsh *a.*] Washy, weak, tender.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xii. 49–53 It is no washe doctrine, ne worldely [Erasm. *non est diluta, nec humana doctrina*], that I haue brought down from heauen. 1607 Marston *What you Will* i. i, But how long doth this perfume of sweete Madam last? Faith tis but a wash sent. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Bonduca* iv. i, Their bodies of so weak and wash a temper, a rough-pac'd bed will shake 'em all to pieces. 1624 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* iii. i, Tis a wash knave, he will not keep his flesh well. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* II. iii. (1656) 104 They are naturally slow, dull, heavy, and nesh or wash of their flesh.

Wash (wɒʃ), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **washed** (wɒʃt). Forms: *Inf.* and *present stem*: 1 -wscan, wæscan, waxan, wæxan, waxsan, 2–6 wasche, wasse, 2–7 wassh(e, 3 was(s)oe, weasche, 3–4 wass(e, waass, 3–5, 6 *Sc.* wass, 3–5 wassche, 3–6 wasch, 4 whasche, 4–5 wach(e, wasch(e)che, wassh, 5 vasshe, whas, 7 *Sc.* vash, 3–7 washe, 3– wash; 4 waysch(e, waiisse, wayss, 4–5 wais(s)che, wais(s)he, waysh(e,waisse, 4–6 wayshe,waysse, weische, weysshe, weysch, 6 weish; (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 2–6 weschc, 3–5 wess(e, 4–5 wessch(e, 4–6 wessh(e, vesch(e, 4–7 wesch, 5 whess, 5–7 weshe, 9 *dial.* wesh; also 4 wisshe, whosshe, 5 woschc, woshe, 6 *Sc.* wousht, 6–7 wysch(e. *Pa. t. a.* 1 wósc, 2–4 wosch, 4 woisse, 4–5 wossch(e, wosh(e, wossh(e, 4–5, 6 *Sc.* woschc, 5 woschese, *Sc.* wousche, 6 *Sc.* woushe, 7 *Sc.* woosh. *β.* 1 wósx, 2 weosc, 2–3 weis, 2–4 wess(e, 2–5 wesch, wessh, 3 weosch(e, wes, 3–4 wax(e, weis(e, 3–5, 6 *Sc.* weschc, 4 we(s)che, weessche, weyschc, 4–5 wessch(e, wesh(e, 4–6 wesshc, 5 weeshe, (*pl.* wheeshen), 6 *Sc.* weisch(e, 9 *Sc.* weesh, weish; 3–4 wasch, was, 4–5 waschc, wassh(e; 3–3

wuosh, 3 wuohs, (*pl.* wuoshschen), 3–5 wusch, 4 wuesch, 6 *Sc.* wus(c)he, 9 *Sc.* wush; 3–4 wis, 4 wysch, 4–5, 6 *Sc.* wisch(e, 4–5 wissch(e, wissh(e, wys(s)che, wysh, wyssh(e, 5 wishe, whisse, (*pl.* wissen), 7 *Sc.* wyshe. *Pa. pple.* 1 -wessen, -wahsen, -waxen, 2 (1)wasse, 2–3 (1)wasshen, 2–5 waschen, 3 weaschen, 3–4 wassen, 3–5 (1)wasche, 4 wasshin, (1)washe, whasche, wahche, 4–5 wassche(n, -yn, (y)wasshe, wasshun, whasshen, 4–6 wasshen, 5 was(c)hyn, wassh, wasch, whassche, 6 wass(s)hen, *Sc.* wasshin, 7 *Sc.* washine, 3–9 (now *arch.* and *dial.*) washen; 2 (1)wessoen, 2–5, 6 *Sc.* wesohen, 3–4 weasen, 4 wesche, (y)wesse, 5 wessoh, (y)wesh, wesshe, (y)whese, weshen, 5, 6 *Sc.* weschin, -yn, 6 *Sc.* vesohin(e; 4 waysen, 4–5 waische(n, -un, -yn, wayschen, waissche(n, waisshe(n, wayshun, weische(n, weysche, 5 waishe, waisch; 8 *Sc.* wush. *Weak pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 3–4 wassed, 4–5 wascht, 4–6 washed, wasshed, weshed, etc.; 5 weseht, *Sc.* weoht; 4–5 washid, 6 washte, 7 washd, 6–8 washt, 7–9 wash'd, 5– washed. [A Com. Teut. vb. (not recorded in Gothic), originally strong: OE. *wescan*, *wascan*, also by metathesis *waxan*, pa. t. pl. *wóxon*, *wócson*, pa. pple. *-wescen*, corresponds to OFris. **waska* (E. and N.Fris. *waske*, W.Fris. *waskje*), OS., OLow Frankish *wascan* (Du. *wasschen*, pa. t. *wiesch*, pa. pple. *gewasschen*), OHG. *wascan*, pa. t. *wuosc*, pa. pple. *giwascan* (MHG. *waschen*, *weschen*, mod.G. *waschen*, pa. t. *wusch*, pa. pple. *gewaschen*), ON. (rare) *vaska*, conjugated weak (Sw. *vaska*, Da. *vaske*):—OTeut. **waskan* :—**watskan* f. root **wat-* as in WATER *sb.*

It is uncertain whether the original conjugation was of the reduplicating type (OE. pa. t. *wéasc* = Du. *wiesch*) or of the ablaut type (OE. *wósc* = OHG. *wuosc*). In English the weak conjugation appears occasionally in the 14th c., but the strong forms prevailed till the close of the 16th c., after which they seldom occur exc. in dialects.]

I. To cleanse by means of water. Also with compl. adj., *to wash white, clean.*

1. *trans.* To cleanse, remove the dirt from (something) by affusion of or immersion in water.

In OE. the verb was almost confined to the specific use s below. For the washing of vessels, and for the washing of the human body, the word used was *þwéan.*

900 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Sax.* (1865) 145 Hi sculan waxan scoap. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Levit.* i. 9 And waxan þæt innewerde and þa fet [of the burnt offering]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp* Luke v. 2 Ða fisceras eodon, & woxon heora net. *c* 1205 LAY. 10182 Heo..wascen þa wapen [*c* 1275 wassen þe wowes]. 13.. *St. Alexius* 312 (Laud MS. 108) As he wesch here dysches. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 315 Diogenes wisshe [*v.rr.* wische, wysch] wortes in a tyme. *Ibid* VI. 403 Sche wolde take þe schoon of here sustres priveliche by nyzte and wasche [*v.rr.* wasse, waysche] hem and smere hem. 14[1]3–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy.* II. 751 It [*sc.* the conduit water] made a ful purgacioun Of al ordure & fylþes in þe toun, Waschyng þe stretis as þei stod a rowe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 Pyke hem clene, & skrape hem, & Wasshem clene. *Ibid.* 114 Nym ye ris, whess hem clene. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiv. 230 A good huswijf..now sche sethiþ, now sche rostiþ, now sche weischiþ dischis. 1520 in *Archæologia* XXV. 437 For wayshyng of the flocke at Frynge iij s. iiij d. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 84 Water ..for washing of glasses. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 317 In Kent..they wash their sheep in the following manner. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 175 Take cockles at a full moon and wash 'em. 1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Fauconry* 199 When you give her casting of flannel or cotton, take care to have them washen as clean as they can be. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Boarding-ho.* ii, The second-floor front was scrubbed, and washed, and flannelled. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, Carriages, too, were washing, and high-bred horses standing out to be groomed. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 61 In the sick room, the doctor should always be asked..at what hour he chooses the floor to be washed. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xxvii. 295 We could talk afterwards—while Ernana is washing the dishes.

†**b.** Prov. *To wash a wall of loam, a brick or tile* (= L. *laterem lavare*), to labour in vain. Cf. 3 d.

1586 HOOKER *Serm* ii. § 19 But we wash a wall of lome; we labor in vaine. 1612 *Two Noble K.* III. v. 41 We have, As learned Authours utter, washd a Tile. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 263, I wish I could make him feel as he ought, but one may as well wash a brick.

c. Naut. *To wash a ship*: see quot. Also *absol.* ? *Obs.*

1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 113 *To Wash a Ship.* That is used at sea, when we cannot come aground, or careene her; we make her heeled-over with her Ordnance and men, upon the yard-arms to a side, and so wash that side and scrape it (so much as is out of the water, which is commonly some 5, or 6 strakes). 1666, 1720 [see TALLOW *v.* 1 b]. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1445/1 They will Wash and Tallow, and then take their course to the Westward.

†**d.** Fishing. *To wash off*: to wash (the net) after a day's work. Also *absol. Obs.*

rising, but to wash off, haile up, and go home.

e. *To wash out*: to cleanse the interior of (a vessel).

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ii. (1842) 54 It is requisite that it [the bottle] be washed out after every experiment, the last two or three rinsings being made with distilled water. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 757 A tube of convenient size open at the top or sides so that it can be properly washed-out.

f. *To wash up*: to wash (table utensils) after a meal. Also *absol.*

1751 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* II. xiii. 241 When he had done sipping his Tea, he used to wash up the Cups with the most orderly Exactness. 1837 J. MORIER *Abel Allnutt* xx. 116 That Betsy might be allowed to come in and help to 'wash up'. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlix, Sitting in state to see the room cleared, the hearth swept, and the dinner-service washed up and polished in the back yard. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xxiii. 233 His supper over, and Ernana having retired into the kitchen to wash up.

g. *To wash down*: to wash from top to bottom or from end to end.

1877 STABLER *Pract. Kennel Guide* 129 A portion of carbolic acid should be used with the water you wash down the yard with. 1898 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Oct. 300 The waters of the bay are so foul that..ships which visit Rio.. do not wash down their decks..during their stay in port. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House with Green Shutters* 14 Gilmour.. was washing down the legs of a horse.

2. To cleanse (soiled clothes, wool, etc.) by rubbing in water, with soap or some equivalent. Also *to wash clean, white.*

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (1890) 84 He þa ærest bebead, þæt heo heora hræzl woosce & clænsode. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 57 Sume bereð sole cloð to þe watere forto wasshen it clene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Wulle a weoh beon, et one cherre, mid one watere wel ibleched, oðer a sol cloð hwit iwaschen? 1340 *Ayenb.* 236 Ase linene kertel erþan hi hy huyte uelezilþe him behoueþ þet he by ybeate and ywesse. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 313 þi best cote..Hath many moles and spottes, it moste ben ywasshe. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 84 Take hit vppe in a faire lynnen cloth that is clene wasshen. 1497 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 149 Item ffor iiij men to weysch it [the wool] and dry it,..3 s. 1522 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 77 That na persoun nor personis woucht ony maner of clais at the toune bouirn..undir the pain of.. brekin of the weschal that tha wous with. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Rasicula*, an herbe, the iuyce whereof is good to wasshe woulle. 15.. *Wyf of Auchtirmwchty* 94 He trailit the fowll scheitis doun the gait, Thocht to haif wechat [*Ramsay* wush] thame on ane stane. 1842 MACAULAY *Ess., Fredk. Gt.* (1897) 814 'See,' exclaimed Voltaire, 'what a quantity of his dirty linen the King has sent me to wash!' 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* ii, How nice my handkerchiefs look, don't they? Hannah washed and ironed them for me.

b. *To be* (*a*) *washing*: to be getting washed.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* v. 72 Except his Shirt's a washing. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Pleas. Lett. to Gentl.* Wks. 1709 III. ii. 16 Their Commodes and Smocks were *washing* below by the Landlady of the House.

c. *To wash one's dirty linen at home, in public*: said *fig.* with reference to domestic quarrels or grievances, the discussion of which is best confined to the family circle.

Cf. F. *Il faut laver son linge sale en famille.*

1867 TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* xliv, I do not like to trouble you with my private affairs;—there is nothing, I think, so bad as washing one's dirty linen in public. 1891 *Law Times* XCI. 21/2 It is ridiculous that grave disputes.. should be kept waiting while the dirty linen of high society is..washed in public. 1895 [see LINEN *sb.*].

d. †*To wash up*, ?to wash with vigorous rubbing. *To wash out*, to rinse so as to remove soap or other substance from the web of the stuff.

1756 F. HOME *Exper. Bleaching* 214 Give it a boil or two at most, and then wash it up while the gross body of the lime is in the substance of the cloth. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 688/2 They [dyed calicoes] are treated with a hot solution of soap; they are then washed out, squeezed, and again soaped.

e. *absol.* To wash clothes (as an occupation or as part of one's household duties). Also, to wash the clothes of a household periodically.

1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 313 Item, she can wash and scoure. 1623 COCKERAM II, She that Washeth. Lauatrix. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 400 What wilt thou do to the Germans, who wash scarce twice in a year? 1725 *View Lond. & Westminster* 9 They were extraordinary Oeconomists, brew'd their own Beer, wash'd at home. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 242 Mrs. Stevens's things hanging out again! I thought she washed last week. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiii, Betsy Martin, widow,..Goes out clearing and washing by the day. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* x. (1901) I. 83 Lucy Sandey would mangle, wash, and clear-starch.

f. *trans.* To wash clothes for (a customer or lodger). *dial.*

1795 VANCOUVER *Agric. Essex* 82 They cook, wash, lodge, and find them [the workmen] in small beer for 2s. per week. 1886 *S.W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., She has washed him ever sin he came. 1895 'ROSEMARY' *Under Chilterns* ii. 82 That'd be nigh enough for me to wash 'im an' mend 'im.

g. *absol.* To have one's clothes washed; to pay the laundress's charges. *jocular nonce-use.*

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lv, It was by very many degrees the best professional job he had ever had, and one on which he boarded, lodged, and washed for six months afterwards.

h. *trans.* Of water or other agent: To have the property of cleansing (clothes) easily and well. Also *absol.*

1697 TRYON *Way to Health* vi. (ed. 3) 102 It [rain-water] Brews and Washes to greater advantage than others.

i. *intr.* Of a fabric, a dye: To bear cleansing with soap and water without damage to colour or texture.

1765 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. III. 400 Mrs. Stevenson bids me tell Sally, that the striped gown I sent her will wash. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* iii, It is very pretty, madam,..but I do not think it will wash well: I am afraid it will fray. 1840 H. BROWNRIGG in K. Meadows *Hands of People* I. 93 'You told me, sir, the print would wash!' she exclaimed, shewing to the unmoved shopman the colourless purchase. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 972/1 Only eighteen-pence a yard, ma'am, and warranted to wash.

j. *fig.* (*colloq.*) To bear trial or investigation, stand the test, find acceptance, prove to be genuine, reliable. Chiefly in phr. (*it*) *won't wash.*

1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xviii, That will'n't wash, Miss. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. ii, He's got pluck somewhere in him. That's the only thing after all that'll wash, ain't it? 1867 TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* xvi, The men—and the women too,—who are so..soft-natured, so kind,..—it so often turns out that they won't wash. 1881 LD. ACTON *Lett. to Mary Gladstone* (1904) 99 The defect of the argument is that it will neither wear nor wash. 1921 *Spectator* 22 Oct. 543/1 He was not to be taken in by plausibilities that 'wouldn't wash'.

k. *Pass.* or *intr.* with *out.* Of a fabric: To lose colour in the wash. Hence *fig.* to lose all vigour or freshness.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, The lady..was a long, lean figure, wearing such a faded air that she seemed not to have been made in what linen-drapers call 'fast colours' originally, and to have, by little and little, washed out. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* I. 282 That claptrap won't wash any longer,..it is quite washed out. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* xxii, A reaction has set in, and I'm quite washed out and unfit for anything.

3. To cleanse (the body or part of it) with water. Also to *wash clean, white.*

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 24 Pilatus..weosc [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* þwoh] hys hande beforan þam folke. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15128 To waasshenn offte þe33re lic Wiþþ waterr all wiþþutenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Þu waschest þine honden in one elpi deie twies oðer þries. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2289 After ðat grot, he weis is wliten. *a* 1300 *Marina* 172 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 173 Go we whoashen vr dede brother. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 483 Oure bodies ne ben in no bað wahche. 1382 WYCLIF *Judith* x. 3 She wesh [1388 waischide] hir bodi. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 267 Scho warmyt wattir, and hir serwandis fast His body wousche. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 61 They..asked after water for to wasse their handes. 1538 COVERDALE *Gen.* xix. 2 Let your fete be waasshen. 15.. *Christ's Kirk on Gr.* 6 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 282 Thair cone our kittein waschin clene. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Farrow. Tower. Battles* A 8, Many times you haue beene fild with trash, Scarce good enough your dirty skins to wash. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 73 P 3 Keep your Temper, wash your Face, and go to Bed. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxvIII, To wash and dress this young gentleman. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* I. i, Here's Francis coming down-stairs. He went up to wash his hands. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 610 The patient may be washed with sulphur soap.

b. const. *of.* *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. v. (1495) 193 Whan chyldren ben wasshe of fylthe anone they defoyle themself ayen. 1897 O. WISTER in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 520/2 Both were aware that when shaved and washed of their round-up grime they could look very engaging.

c. said of the water as agent.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. ix. (1495) 445 The ryuer Jordan wasshe and clensyd Naaman of Syria of his lepre. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 200 Saue water, which dooth wash thy handis.

d. Proverbs. †*One hand washeth another* (see quots. 1593, 1596). *To wash an Ethiop, a blackamoor* (*white*); *to wash an ass's head* (or *ears*): to labour in vain (cf. 1 b).

1582 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 165 As one hand washeth another, and both of them the face, so one brother ought to support another. 1592 LODGE *Euphues Shadow* (1882) 53 Who washeth the Asses eares, looseth both his Sope and his labour. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Cont.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 269 One hand washeth an other; and it appertaineth vnto him, that taketh something, to giue something. 1596 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 375 We mein nocht to tyne tyme in wassing of sic Moores. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* IV. iii. F 3, I washt an Ethiop, who for recompence Sullyde my name. 1624 MASSINGER *Parlt. Love* II. ii, For, being censured, Or to extenuate, or excuse my guilt, Were but to wash an Ethiop. 1635 L. FOXE *N. W. Fox* 268, I have now washt the Black-moore these five yeares, having yet received neither Sallery, wages or reward. *marg.* Laboured in vaine. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 155 He that washeth an asses head loseth both his lye and his labour. *a* 1721 [see ETHIOP A]. 1845 R. FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 65 It is loss of time and soap to wash an ass's head.

e. Phrase, *To wash one's hands of*: to disown responsibility for; to refuse to have any further connexion with.

So in Fr. and other mod. langs.; orig. an allusion to Pilate's washing his hands (Matt. xxvii. 24).

1554 LADY JANE GREY *Epistle* B vij, I will wash my hands giltles thereof. 1570 BUCHANAN *Chamæleon* Wks. (1892) 33 Pilat wesching his handis of ye deid of Chryst. 1642 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 346 He said, 'he should wash his hands before all the world from the least imputation of slackness.' *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xix. (1892) 411, I intend to spend my breath no longer upon them, but to wash my hands quite of the business. 1699 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* II. i, Mony is but Dirt Sir Joseph—Mere Dirt. *Sir Jo.* But I profess, 'tis a Dirt I have wash'd my Hands of at present. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. iii, 'Then I wash my hands of you,' cries the doctor. 1766 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Lady M. Coke* 3 Mar., Politics, of which I washed my hands for ever when I came away. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vi, He had entirely washed his hands of the difficulty, and it had become ours. 1887 'EDNA LYALL' *Knt.-Errant* (1889) 29 You are incorrigible. I wash my hands of you.

¶ **f.** The expression 'I will wash my hands in innocency' (Ps. xxvi. 6) is echoed in the following passage, where the meaning is 'to lead a life of heedless ease'.

1690 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 324 Who of all men living wash their hands most in carelessenesse, being never disturbed with worldly cares or incumbrances.

g. *To wash one's hands*: to rub the hands alternately one over the other, in imitation of the action of washing them. (Cf. Shaks. *Macb.* v. i. 33).

1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1493/2 Rogers..was burned into ashes, washing his handes in the flame as he was in burning. 1840 HOOD *Miss Kilmansegg* 315 (*Christening*) He.. Seem'd washing his hands with invisible soap, In imperceptible water.

h. Of a cat, etc.: To cleanse (itself, its face) by licking and rubbing with its paw.

1661 M. STEVENSON *Twelve Moneths* 27 The Hare in a Furrow sits washing her face. 1792 BURNS *Sic a Wife as Willie had* 26 Auld baudrons by the ingle sits, An' wi' her loof her face a-washin'. 1898 H. W. DULCKEN *Picture Fables* 89 Why do you wash yourself, Pussy?

i. *refl.* To cleanse one's body, or (often) merely one's face and hands, with water.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Wascheð ou and wonieð clene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Ase heo weoschs hire. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 89, vi. Ydres of stone þet ware i-clepede baþieres wer þo gius hem weose for clenesse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 202 Elyseu þe profete het to naaman þet wes mezel þet he him weose ine þe flom Jordan zeuezibe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 254 Into his bath he wente anon And wyssh him clene as eny bon. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. viii. 468 That no man schulde take mete, but that he anoon bifore waischid him. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 86 Eftir thei hed anes waschin tham selffis and dryit agane. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 142 They wash themselues in a *Lauoloio*. 1643 TRAPP *Comm., Gen.* XXXV. 2 We wash us every day; but, when to dine with great ones, we wash us with balls, and put on our best. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 94 ¶ 8 He threw off his Clothes with a Design to wash himself. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æn.* II. 719 Until I wash me again Clean in the running fountain.

j. *intr.* for *refl.* (= to wash ouesell, one's hands, etc.).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Þos fure kunnes teres boð þe fluwer wateres þa þe beoð ihaten us on to weschen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 541 Þe king no seyd no more, Bot weschе and 3ede to mete. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2097 Whan þei samen hadde souped & se þe whasche after. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 28 Þei weashen (*v.r.* wascheden) and wypeden and wenten to þe dyner. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. X. 49 Anon as they had washen & rysen. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 174, I woll not presume to wassche with yow & therfore I pray you hold me excused. Than was my lord Cardynall constrayned to washe alone, and my lord of Norfolke alone also. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* IV. i. 157 Come Kate and wash, and welcome heartily. 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* L 4 b, Come, wash with my Lady and me, We may wash well foure in a Basen. 1694 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. III. (ed. 28) 410 No Earl is to wash with a Duke without the Dukes Permission. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess* [*Mar*] 20 Mar., These served her coffee, kneeling; brought water when she washed, [etc.]. 1770 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 8 Oct., As far as I can observe, many birds that dust themselves never wash. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xi, And now wash speedily..and follow me. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 49 Here the birds can wash.

k. To cleanse, rinse, drench (the mouth, etc.) with a douche or medicinal application. Also with *out*.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Gargarizo*, to gargaryshe or washe the mouthe and throte of a man. *c* 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* vi. C vj, Then let ye pacyent fastyng hold this bage in his mouth & chaw it betwixt hys teeth, & after washe his mouth wyth warme wyne and Hony. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 43 The Colonel .. began to wash out his mouth. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 583 Antral and attic cavities washed out with strong antiseptic solution. *Ibid.* VIII. 300 It is a good thing to keep washing out the vagina by antiseptic douches.

l. Said with reference to baptism.

† Used by Cheke to translate βαπτίζειν to baptize.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23686 Waters þat wete þan cristes flexs, and in batism his santes wexs. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9508 Adams synne was so grete, þat þyt was to God none so lefe, þyt he ne shulde to helle gone But he were wasshe yn þe fonte stone. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 72 Joon hadde office of God to se Crist, and waishe him. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 123 All that ar washed in the floude of baptym. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 188 b/2 He baptysed our lord and wyssh hym where he had neuer fylthe. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* XX. 22 Can ie..be washed with y^t wasching y^t I schal be washed withal. 1623 COCKERAM II, To Wash. Belaue, Baptize. 1653 R. CARPENTER (*title*) The Anabaptist washt and washt, and shrunk in the washing.

m. *fig.* To cleanse from the stain of sin. Const. *from*, † *of*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Swiche teres sceddde M. Magdalene þa heo wosch ure drihtenes fet and heo werð hire solf waschen of hire sule sunnen. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXV. 70 Of blod ant water the stremes be, Us to whosshe from oure fon thre. 1340 *Ayenb.* 112 Þe herte þet is..ycleanesd and ywesse be zobe sarifte. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* I. 5 The which ..waschide [*v.r.* wesh] us fro oure synnes in his blood. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xiii. (1558) 8 As man most sinful I come vnto the well . For to be washen of mine iniquity. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 23 Christ woushe us with his blood. *c* 1690 BENNING *Serm.* Wks. (1735) 566 We are washen from the Guilt of our Sins. 1707 WATTS *Hymns*, '*Not the Malicious*' iii, But we are wash'd in Jesus' blood, We're pardon'd thro' his name. 1874 *Sankey's Sacred Songs* (1878) 45 Washed in the blood of the Lamb.

† n. To clear, free from blame or aspersion.

1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 405 Major-general Kelsey laboured to wash him.

4. To flush or drench (a substance) with water or other liquid, in order to remove impurities or to dissolve out some component.

a 1650 E. NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 17 Then take the remaynlng grounds and wash them as before. 1652 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 72 This Oil must be washed in good store of water. 1825 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 407 By washing the residuum, a portion of it dissolves in the water. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 303 This crust, washed with anhydrous alcohol, breaks up into small crystals. 1853 S. HUGHES *Gas-works* 42 The process of washing the gas is adopted for the purpose of separating ammonia, and consists of passing the gas through a simple sheet of water 6 or 8 inches in depth. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 56 By washing the distilled liquid with water, the acetone may, therefore, be removed. 1874 F. CLOWES *Pract. Chem.* 44 A precipitate which has been filtered from the liquid in which it is suspended has often to be washed until perfectly free from the liquid adhering to it.

b. Of running water, rain, etc.: To pass over (a surface) so as to carry off adherent matter; to waste, abrade, or erode in its flow. Also with *out*.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 16 All the rayne that commeth shal washe the lande, and dryue away the dounge and the good moulde. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 125 In cases where the stream is not rapid, and where there is little risk of the banks being washed or hurt during the summer months. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 309 Taking the water off without washing the land. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. ii. 124 A pathway, which the torrent Hath wash'd since winter. 1820 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. viii. 263 The glacier..is flanked by mountains which are washed by rain. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 13 The moon..of early April, clean washen by the rains. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Christ Invisible* v. 65 This stream flows unseen beneath the streets of the city now with scarce current enough to wash out its grimy channel.

II. To subject to the action of water or other liquid.

5. To bathe, lave (the body, limbs, wounds, etc.) with water or other liquid.

Where the reference is to wounds, there is sometimes the additional notion of cleansing from blood, pus, etc.: cf. sense 3.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 He weis his wunde mid wine. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VIII. 235 Þan he weschе [*v.rr.* weesche, wuesch] þe woundes of þe ymage of the crucifixe. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 199 Þanne waische þe lyme wiþ a decocciоun of malowis & violet & rotis of bismalue in watir. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 787 The wery ost..Wyschе woundis with wyn, off thaim that was wnsound. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xliii. (Arb.) 116 Wyne Maistres and Surgyens, ..bonde them, and weeshe hem [*sc.* the wounds]. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 354 After this my rubbing and being washt with Salt and Vineger. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 998 The Wound must be at first Washed cleane, with White Wine. 1686–7 in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 237 He sawe Alex. Chalmer, his hand blooding, after it was washen, being hurt. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 37 A solution of the muriat of mercury in alcohol, to wash the affected parts with twice a day.

b. To bathe (the eyes). Also, *to wash clean, clear*. † Also *transf.* (jocularly), to clear or sharpen the sight of (the eyes) with strong drink (cf. next).

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 125 Wassce and wipe wol clane ða eiзene, for ðan soð is ðat hie ðe siggen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13571 Ga wasse þin eien þar. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2826 Þis bysone mon to þat water he ladde And woesshe þere-w^t his ynon two. 16.. CHALKHILL in Walton *Angler* XVI. 210 We ..Drink a cup to wash our eyes, Leave the sluggard sleeping. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* XXXVIII, His eyes washed with only a single cup of canary. 1831 — *Cast. Dang.* ii, I hou shalt have no cause to complain that thine eyes have been damaged by a Scottish mist, while we can find an English coin to pay for the good liquor which should wash them clear.

c. To moisten (the throat) with wine. † Hence *to wash one's brain, head*, etc., as jocular expressions for wine-drinking.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 176 For Bachus was a glotoun eke, Him for the throte thei beseke, That he it wolde waisshen ofte With swote drinkes and with softe. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H ij b, My teth be al to furrid with flakes of skurfe (sticking vpon them syns I washed them with any merye go downe). 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* D 4, He that washeth his braines with diuers kinds of wines, is the next doore to a drunken man. 1590 LODGE *Rosalynde* (1592) F 3, Washing their heades well with wine. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. iv, I'le wash my temples with some on't presently. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 105. 1618 FLETCHER *Loyal Subj.* IV. v. *init.*, Beleeve me fellow here will be lusty drinking. Many a washt pate in wine I warrant thee.

† d. *intr.* for *refl.* To use cosmetic washes. *Obs.*

1676 ETHEREGE *Man of Mode* II. i. 22 Young Ladies, Who notoriously wash, and paint, though they Have naturally good Complexions. 1693 SOUTHERNE *Maid's Last Prayer* II i, I may Wash, and Patch, and please my self.

6. To plunge, bathe (a person) in a river or lake.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xii. (1495) 446 In Ethiopia is a lake and yf a body be wassh therin he shinyth as though he were anoynted wyth oyle. 1600 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 129 Having washed him in a lake..they cloath him in a white gown.

† b. *refl.* Used for: To bathe. *Obs.* (? In later use *jocular*.)

1388 [see 6 c]. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 414 b/1 The emperour frederyk vysyted the holy londe and wyssh hym in a ryuer. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 42 There we weshe us, and bayned us all nakyd in the water of Iordan. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 103 He went but forth to wash him in the Hellespont, and being taken with the crampe, was droun'd. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 195 One Mr. Reynalds..was drown'd by Ferry Hinksey, he being washing himself, but not able to swim. 1778 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 38 My brother is washing himself at Brighthelmstone.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To bathe. *Obs.* exc. of animals.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* v. 14 He wente doun, and wasche [1388 waischide hym] in Jordane seuen sithis. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Motto* E 2, Old Chaucer, Sidney, Spencer, Daniel, Nash, I dipt my finger where they vs'd to wash. 1908 [Miss E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 12 The 'Wire Pond', where the horses came to wash.

† d. *trans.* To dip, plunge, immerse (a thing) *in* water. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. vi. (1886) 122 Ne the same terre vrsa nis neuer mo wasshen in the depe v _____ [L. *nunquam occiduo lota profundo*]. *c* 1386 — *Pard. T.* 25 If that this boon be wasshe in any welle.

e. *To wash one's spears* (sc. in blood): a phrase attributed to South African chiefs as expressing their motive for going to war.

1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* v, With every moon a fresh impi started to wash its spears, and came back few and thin. 1903 BRYCE *Stud. Contemp. Biogr.* 221 In one thing the young men [Sir Stafford Northcote's followers], who, like Zulu warriors, wished to wash their spears, were right and he was wrong.

7. To wet or moisten thoroughly; to inundate or saturate with water (esp. rain) or other liquid; to sprinkle or pour water upon.

c 1205 LAY. 17188 Heo wasceð [*c* 1275 wasseþ] þene stan, & þer mide baðieð heore ban. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1997 Now es..þe erth waiker þan it was þan, Thoru þe watur þat it sua wex, þer-for behoues now man ete flesse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 766 Reyn shal thee wasshe, and sonne shal thee drye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 138 Til that the water of the hevene Have waisshen him be times sevene. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18570 Pirrus..hewe to gobetis al hir flesch, And with hir blod the tombe weseh. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXXIV. 7 Their londe shalbe washed (1611 soaked) with bloude. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Roresco*, to be washed with dewe. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers Epigr., Trifles* 13 A powryng shower that..well the kyng did washe. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 104 Therefore the Moone (the gouernesse of floods).. washes all the aire. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 174 She lookes as cleere As morning Roses newly washt with dew. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. ii. 23 He, that no sooner will prouide a Cloake, Then when he sees it doth begin to raigne, May, peraduenture, for his negligence, Be throughly washed, when he suspects it not. 1668 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 35 Ever and anon our Sails were wash'd by the Waves. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* XXVIII, Flora..New washen with a showir of May. 1783 COWPER *Rose* 1 The rose had been wash'd, just wash'd in a shower. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* IV. i, The rose is sweetest wash'd with morning dew.

b. To wet copiously (with tears).

Chiefly in religious use, after Ps. vi. 6 Vulgate, *lavabo lectum meum*, and with reference to Luke vii. 38.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 65 Swo ich wile biwepe mine synnes þat mi bed bie iwasshen mid mine teares. *Ibid.* 151 He wasseð his neb mid teares. *c* 1300 *Judas* 125 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 110 His fet heo wosch wiþ hire teres. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 He sscl grat zor3e habbe..and ofte mid his teares his bed wesse. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xlvii, And þer wyth of þe habundaunce of teres sche woschsse muche bettere hys heuede. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 124, I..have soo weashe this litel bille with sorwfulle terys, that [etc.]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 239 He, a marble to her teares, is washed with them, but relents not.

c. With predicative extension: To form *in* (holes) by the action of dropping or running water. Similarly, to form a hole or depression in (a surface) by erosion.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Walk*, The dripping of the water from their branches in hard rains, is apt to wash the gravel in holes, and render the walks very unsightly. 1911 *Concise Oxford Dict.* s. v., Water had washed a channel.

† 8. To sweat (gold or silver coin) by the application of acids. *Obs.*

Distinct from the 'washing' of coin forbidden in recent statutes: see 9 c.

1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Min. P.* XXI. 106 How may it [gold coin] holde his peise when it is waishe so that it lacketh somewhat in thikneſſe? 1543 tr. *Act 3 Hen. V*, c. 6 They that so do clyp, washe, and fyle the money of the laude, shalbe iudged traytours to the kynge and to the realme. *a* 1547 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App 88 Of them that countrefetes, clypis, washes, or fyslis the Kinges coyne. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxix. § 12 To wash or clip that coyne which hath on it the marke of God. 1643 *Docq. Lett. Patent at Oxf.* (1837) 45 Pardon..for counterfeiting forging clipping washing or falsefying Money of Gold or silver.

9. To cover or smear (a surface) with a liquid substance lightly applied. Also with *over*.

1755 *Art of Drawing in Perspective* 92 When these are dry, wash all over with the white Varnish before the Fire. 1854 MARIA CHARLESWORTH *Minist. Children* V. 60 [She] washed over the tops of the loaves with a feather dipped in beer.

b. To cover (a wall, etc.) with pigment mixed with water or watery liquid; to whitewash or colour-wash.

1604 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 137 A plasterer, ..v dayes plasteringe and wasshinge in the chambers on the soth syed, ij^s j^d. 1606 *Ibid.* 172 A plasterer, v dayes wasshinge the halle and dyninge chamber, ij^s vj^d. 1722 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 6103/3 The Walls of the Houses were washed with Water in which Lime had been slaked. 1826 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 296 The windmills..are all painted or washed white.

c. To cover *with* a film of metal deposited from a solution.

1792 *Gentl. Mag.* LXII. i. 29/2 A chain and medal..is silver washed over with gold. 1833 HUMPHREYS *Coin Coll. Man.* XXVI. 382 The ten-centime piece of Napoleon..being of copper washed with silver. 1861 *Act 24 & 25 Vict.* c. 99 § 1 Any of the current Coin which shall have been gilt, silvered, washed, coloured, or cased over..so as to resemble ..any of the Queen's current Coin of a higher Denomination.

10. *Water-colour Painting.* To cover with a broad layer of colour by a continuous movement

of the brush; to depict (a coloured surface) by this means; to lay (colour) in washes. *To wash in*: to depict (a portion of a subject) with a wash of colour. Also with *over*.

1622 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xii. 110 Beginne first to wash ouer some plaine printes. *a* 1650 E. Norgate *Miniatura* (1919) 30 In your dead colourings, you must wash over and colour your ground and complexion, with this red. *Ibid.* 32 Washing the colour with a bold hand. *Ibid.* 50 When you have..sleigtly washt in your skie. 1660 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 53 Arable for corn you may wash with pale straw-colour made of yellow-ocre and white-lead. 1675 A. Browne *Appendix Art Paint.* 13, 14 That manner I do approve of better, for Washing or Drawing any Design with Indian Ink, and indeed ought not be called Limning but Washing. 1755 *Art of Drawing in Perspective* 9 Sometimes the Design is washed, that is, the Shadows are done with a Pencil in Indian Ink, or some other Liquor. 1807 J. Landseer *Lect. Engraving* iii. 132 A drawing washed with bistre or Indian ink. 1843 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 5 Gaspar..washes his sky half blue and half yellow. 1860 Smiles *Self Help* v. 125 He [Turner] was glad to hire himself out at half-a-crown a night to wash in skies in Indian ink upon other people's drawings. 1880 J. D. Hooker *Flora Tasmania* II. 372 The scape should be washed over with a pale brown, leaving hardly a trace of green. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 1872, 406 The bushes..may be washed in with Indian yellow. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. xii. 396 Copley Fielding taught me to wash colour smoothly in successive tints.

fig. 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. 249 Such a man as I have sketched, or washed faintly in, as the painters say.

b. *transf.* in *passive*. Said in Natural History of surfaces that appear to have a superficial layer of colour spread over them.

1844 Blyth in *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* XIII. i. 466 The legs and feet..are pale; the hands are washed with blackish. 1888 P. L. Sclater *Argentine Ornith.* I. 25 Tail-feathers black, washed with blue. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 25 The intermediate form..differs from the typical bird in having the head and throat washed with

Mining. To agitate in water, or to pass a stream of water through (metalliferous earth) in order to separate the metallic particles.

1543 *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) I. 403 For washinge the leade ure at Grenehow morr. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 Then they washe all the earthe...And if herein they fynde any golde, they folowe it. 1619 S. Atkinson *Gold Mynes Scot.* (Bannatyne Club) 1 The buddle where the same earth must be reudled or washed. 1853 C. R. Read *Austral. Gold Fields* 34 In many cases men used to pay other £20 a-week to be allowed to wash their tailings. 1863 B. A. Heywood *Vac. Tour Antipodes* 48 The Chinese ..have been known to wash over again the deserted washings of the Europeans, and to find gold in paying quantities.

b. *absol.*

1604 G. Bowes in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 107, I bestowed my workemen to washe for golde in Whites meadowe. 28.. C. A. Goodrich *Child's Hist. U.S.* (1882) 122 Men..were found gathered there.. washing for gold.

III. Of flowing water: To flow past or over land.

12. Of a sea or river: To flow over or past (the sand, shore, coast); to beat upon (walls, cliffs, etc.); to touch, adjoin (a town, country, etc.). Also of a river: To pass through, 'water' (a country).

c 1205 Lay. 123, I þere Tyure he eode alond þer þa sea wasce3 þat sond. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Subluere*, to vnderwashe, as water, whyche runneth lowe vnder a banke or hylle, and washeth the foote thereof. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xii. 47 The two sides are washed by the sea. 1591 Spenser *Vis. Bellay* 158 The golden grayle That bright Pactolus washeth with his streames. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 90 In Times to come My Waves shall wash the Walls of mighty Rome. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 329 They seldom stretch into Rivers at length, but stagnate in the Low Grounds, which they wash. 1700 Chauncy *Hertfordsh.* 3 The Bulborne..washing the North East side of Barkhamsted. 1814 Cary *Dante, Parad.* viii. 69 The crown, Which gave me sovereignty over the land By Danuie wash'd. 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* VI. xlix. 168 The waves washed the foot of the cliffs. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxiv, A small village, washed by the brook. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 45 The British Isles, washed by warm water on their western shores, are peculiarly subject to fogs.

transf. 1900 Kipling *Five Nations* (1903) 64 The granite of the ancient North—Great spaces washed with sun.

b. *intr.* Of waves: To sweep *over* a surface; to break or surge *against* (the shore, etc.); to break *in*.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist., Hist. Earth* xvii. (1824) I. 122 The tides,..constantly washing over them, have always left some part of their substance behind. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xxxi, Nothing was..heard but the rippling of the waters of the Seine, then at high tide, washing against the very foundations of the tower. 1873 Black *Fr. Thule* viii. 119 The tiny waves that washed in on the white shore. 1885 Froude *Oceana* xvi. 243 The lightest ripple washed over the gunwale.

transf. 1900 *In the Mountains* 132 It is a very good practice..to lean out of one's window..before going to bed and let the cool darkness wash over one.

c. Used by onomatopœia to suggest the sound of moving water, or of objects moving in water.

1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 70, I heard the ripple washing in the reeds. 18.. Jean Ingelow *Days without Alloy* iii. (Funk), Then I hear the water washing, never golden waves were brighter. 1891 *Century Dict., Wash*, to make a swish, swash, or swirl of the water; as, the shad are washing.

IV. To remove, or carry away, by the action of water or other liquid.

13. *trans.* To remove (dirt, a stain, colouring, etc.) by the application of water or other liquid. Chiefly with adv., as *away, out, off*.

c 1400 *Beryn* 661 Yet, or he cam in company, he wissh a-wey the blood. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 90 Then was þys woman agryssed of þe blod, and wold haue weschyn hit away. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. (last line), All blude and slauchtyr away was weschyn clene. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 32 Bay berries..weish out freikles. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 66 After he had beheld the stroke, and washte away the bloud. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* II. ii. 60 Will all great Neptunes Ocean wash this blood Cleane from my Hand? 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* XXXV. (1687) 437 Would you not have us pull off the Mask or wash off the paint, that we may shew things in their proper colours? 1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 45 The Volatil Salt..is to be washed off with the said Water. 1788 *Art of Drawing in Perspective* 91 Then wash off the Tripoli with a soft Sponge and Water. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. (1842) 629 Agitate it [the gas] with water to wash out the sulphurous acid. 1832 James *Phil. Augustus* xxxiv, Though the blood of his nephew was scarce washed from his hands. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 868 Washing discharge away with sublimate solution.

b. *fig.*

Very common in reference to sin, etc. regarded as a stain or defilement. In early use often without adv.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Euerich god word, & euerich god werc waschеð smele sunnen. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 As wis ase drope of þi deorwurþe blod mahte waschen a-wai alle folkes fulþe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1594 God..thoght a neu wengaunce to sent...And waass þat wrang, þat was sa rijt. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9544 Whan Ihesu was baptysed þer-ynne [*sc.* in Jordan] For to waashe awey þat synne. 14.. *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* 142 That..thy .v. woundis..May wach in vs all surfetis reprouenable. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LI. i, O clense, O wash my foule iniquitie. 1664 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 121 His subjects..have with their ancient loyalty washed out the staines of the late Rebellion. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 313 Nor Tears, that wash out Sin, can wash out Shame. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 238 The ignominious lashes, which they had formerly received, were washed away in the blood of the guilty, or ohnoxious, families. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 130 This merit was thought sufficient to wash out even the stain of his Saxon extraction. 1880 Ld. Acton *Lett. to Mary Gladstone* (1904) 38 The Republican party..had a good deal of dirty work to wash off.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* To blot out, obliterate, cancel.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 289 3if chartris of men ben contrarie to goddis lawe, þes chartres schulde be wayschen and goddis lawe schulde stonde. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 703 The brotherly loue betwene them washed away and diminished all suspicion. 1580 H. F. *Pelegrom. Syn. Sylva* 70 To Crosse or Cancell out, or to wash out writinges. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* v. ii (1886) 74 Bodin washeth away all our arguments with one word. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 936 Now of these three causes before specified, the first doth not wash away envie. 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 563 *Lutum iute purgare.* To wash out incke with incke. 1763 Spens *Plato's Repub.* IV. 151 Such wool as is not managed in this manner, you know what sort it proves; whether one is dying other colours, or this one, without the due preparation beforehand. I know, said he, that they are easily washen out. 1850 Smedley *F. Fairlegh* XXVI, This Wilford is a noted duellist, and no doubt thirsts to wash out the insult he has received in blood. 1859 FitzGerald *Omar* li, Nor [shall] all thy Tears wash out a Word of it.

d. *intr.* with *out*. Of colouring matter: To disappear from a fabric when washed.

1755 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 128 A certain Liquid Composition..which..will neither Wash Out, Fade, or Tarnish.

14. trans. *To wash down*: to swallow liquor along with or after (solid food), in order to assist deglutition or digestion. Also with *fig.* object. Also rarely *to wash over*.

1600 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* V. viii. 41 In this one draught I wash my sorrow downe. 1649 Lovelace *Being treated, To Ellinda* 4 Flutes of Canary That well did wash downe pasties-mary. 1744 M. Bishop *Life & Adv.* 193, I had three plentiful Meals, and some good Liquors to wash it down. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXXVIII, This profound reflection Mr. Toodle washed down with a pint mug of tea. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* II. (1901) I. 13 Then a good cut out of the middle of a well-browned saddle of mutton, wash it over with a few glasses of iced champagne. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* IX. 151 This we washed down with a..'bowl' of mulled Bordeaux.

15. Of waves, running water, rain, etc.: To remove, dislodge, carry away; to carry or transport in a specified direction. With advs. *away, down, off, out, up*, etc., or const. *from, into, out of*, etc.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 163 Til Fourti dawes ben folfuld þat þe flod haue I-wasshe Clene awey þe cursede blod þat Caym hab I-maket. *a* 1500 *Bernardus*, etc III. 82 He walde þat A watter, or a well, hayd wecht it away. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 The water washeth the earth..owte of the trais. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 71 What wilt thou wash him from his graue with teares? 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, V. iv. 31 Bestride the Rock, the Tyde will wash you off. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Merry-Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 10/2 The raging Sea..euery day..eateth further in, Still..wasting, washing downe the sand doth win. *a* 1690 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 44 Waters and burns flowed over bank and brae, corn mills and mill-houses washen down, [etc.]. 1674 *Jackson's Recant.* A 9, A Clod of Earth, which..the least shower of Rheums [can] wash away to nothing. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmorld. & Cumbld.* xiv. 82 Violent Currents of Water wash off the outer Coat of the Earth, and leave the Vein naked. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 180 That the Rain-water may spread equally, and not wash down the Ground. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 152 Several pieces of beef..had been washed out of the ship. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xi, The river has washed away its banks. 1898 Trelawny *Recoll. Shelley* etc. 120 The other body was washed on shore three miles distant from Shelley's. 1903 *Manch. Guard.* 18 Oct. 4/7 The bodies of five seamen have been washed ashore.

b. To separate (metallic particles) by treating the containing earth with water. Also *to wash out*.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 These mynes..owght euer to bee sought here to sum ryuer..to thende that the golde may be washed. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 117 A peculiar way of washing out very small Dust-gold. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 90 The washing the gold..from the sand and dirt, with which it is always mixed. 1900 *Conquest* May 324/1 Potassium and sodium cyanides are employed..for the purpose of washing out the gold from the quartz.

c. Of a hard surface: To beat *off* waves and flotsam as they are borne against it.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 812 His solid sides Wash off the Sea-weeds, and the sounding Tides.

d. *intr.* To be carried away or detached by moving water. Chiefly of soil, etc.: To be eroded or abraded, wear away by inundation. Chiefly with *adv.*, as *away, down*.

c 1590 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* I. ii. 451 Who..Thinke me to be a senseleese lumpe of clay That will with euery water wash to dirt. 1653 Walton *Angler* viii. 171 You must work or pound it [*sc.* your paste] so long in the Mortar, as to make it so tough as to hang upon your hook without washing from it. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmorld. & Cumbld.* vii. 47 Whose Soil, by great Rains and Floods, washeth down into the Vallies. 1789 W. Jessop in *Rep. Engin. Thames-Isis Navig.* (1791) 23 If the Stones are set in moss and wrecked full of Gravel to prevent the Earth from Washing from behind thro' the Joints. 1882 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 13 It [the soil] has great tenacity; does not wash away like sand or light loam.

16. To be tossed about, to be carried or driven along, by waves or stream. Also with *up, ashore*, etc. Also *fig.*

1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov. by Sea* A 5, These sands so shallow In which thou seest our ship thus wash and wallow. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 22 Four or five dead Bodies at a time..washing about the Decks. *Ibid.* 154 Our Bedding was..left washing in the Break of the Sea. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 83 The vessel struck on the ground..and afterwards washed up against the piles on the west side. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. ix, War-Minister Narbonne is washed away by the Time-flood; poor Chevalier de Grave, chosen by the Court, is fast washing away. 1880 *Times* 17 Dec. 5/6 The Adolph..is reported.. to be total wreck. Cargo washing ashore. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 26 Sept. 6/5, I was glad to lay hold of a spar that washed by me.

17. *Rowing.* a. *trans.* To steer so as to impede (a competitor) by the 'wash' of one's own boat.

1865 *Field* 26 Aug. 152/2 His next step, when half a length ahead, was to edge in as much as he dare in front of Kelley, notwithstanding the admonition of the umpire, for the purpose of washing him. 1872 *Field & Q. Mag.* III. 107/1 [Cambridge] passed under the Middlesex arch of Barnes Bridge ..a length and a half ahead of the Oxonians, who, to escape being washed, elected to pass under the centre span.

b. *intr.* in phrase *to wash out*, to fail to lift out the blade of the oar squarely at the finish of the stroke.

1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Mar. 6/2 Stroke and No. 4 were washing out and rowing light in the finish of the stroke.

V. 18. *Mech.* (trans.) *To wash off*, to cut to a slope or bevel. *To wash down* (see quot. 1911).

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1117 The sole for the [window-] frame..to be washed off (sloped) on the outside to carry off the rain. 1911 Webster, *To wash down*, to work to a thin edge or featheredge. *Scot.*

VI. 19. *slang.* a. *Printing.* To punish or 'rag' (a fellow-workman for telling falsehoods) by hammering on his desk. Cf. Washing *vbl. sb.* 3.

1841 Savage *Dict. Printing* 810.

b. *Stockbroking.* To subject (stock) to a 'wash': see Wash *sb.* 20. [Perh. orig. with allusion to the phrase 'one hand washes the other' (see 3 d).]

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1903 S. S. Pratt *Work of Wall St.* 146 The syndicate may be washing sales by matched orders through curb brokers in order to market watered stock.

VII. 20. The verb-stem in combination.

a. Combinations of *wash-* + object, '(some one or something) that washes', as Wash-dish 1, Wash-hand *a.*, Washmouth.

b. Attributive combinations of *wash-* (often synonymous with parallel combs. of Washing *vbl. sb.*), denoting things or places used for washing, or persons employed in washing clothes, as *wash-boy, -cloth, -place, -rag, -solution, -tray, -vessel*; **wash-beetle**, a wooden mallet for beating clothes as part of the process of washing; **wash-boiler** (see quot. 1875); **wash-bottle** *Chem.* (*a*) a bottle containing liquid through which gases may be passed for purification; (*b*) a bottle with a mouthpiece and issue tube, for directing a stream of liquid on a substance or utensil to be washed; **wash-brush**, a large brush for 'washing' or laying on washes of colour; **wash-dyke** *dial.* = Wash-pool; **wash-gourd**, the loofah (Webster Suppl. 1902), also called *washing-, towel-gourd*; **wash-kitchen** [= G. *waschkilche*], a kitchen used for washing clothes; **wash-pen** *Austral.*, the pen into which sheep are driven to await their turn to be washed; **wash-pitcher** *U.S.*, a ewer for the toilet; **wash-room** *U.S.*, a lavatory; **wash-table**, a table for

holding a wash-hand basin and ewer. Also in combs, denoting machinery used for washing in various industrial processes, as *wash-drill*, *-stocks*, *-wheel*.

c 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Henry VIII* (Camden) 276 One in Kent..all to beat her yokemate with a *washbeetle or battledore. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2786 **Wash boiler*, a domestic boiler for clothes. 1913 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Laddie* vii. (1917) 124 While Sarah Hood cooked other things, and made a wash-boiler of coffee. 1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 40 This gas is partially purified by passing through a *wash-bottle containing caustic potash or soda. 1912 *Nature* 19 Dec. 437/2 The experiment succeeds about equally well even when distilled water from a wash-bottle is substituted for powerful reagents. 1900 *Wide World Mag.* Oct. 97/2 We asked of one of the Celestials (our own *wash-boy for the past seven years) permission to take a photograph of the queer scene. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 6/2 To tint large surfaces, a large camel-hair brush is used, termed a *Wash-brush. 1902 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 479/1 She produced from her pocket my wash brush..'What in the world is a brush of that size used for?' she went on. 1915 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *M. O'Halleran* i. 20 The pieces he saved for *washcloths. 1907 *Contrib. Econ. Geol., U.S. Geol. Surv., Bulletin* 648 (Cent.) The borings through the alluvium were made by the '*wash drill' or 'water jet'. 1765 *Local Act, Road Barton—Kirkham, Lincs.* 9 Sheep going to or returning from any *Wash-dyke. 1909 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *True Tilda* xx, One for Tilda in the *wash-kitchen itself, the other for Arthur Miles in a small outhouse adjoining. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xii, Shearers' huts, *wash-pens, machinery, and woolshed. 1852 Mrs Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* i, Eliza had upset the *wash pitcher. 1889 Welch *Text-bk. Naval Archit.* xi. 130 The lift and force pumps draw from the seacustions of the various 9-inch Downton's, to supply the baths, *wash places, galleys, etc. 1890 E. L. Bynner *Begum's Daus.* iv, She employed the interval while her guests were at their luncheon in plying the *wash-rag and comb. 1899 B. C. Hirst *Text-bk. Obstet.* v. ii. 677 Scrubbing the genital region most thoroughly with soap, hot water, and a soft bristle brush or a wash-rag. 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* v, He ejaculates nervously: 'I'll just wash my hands, and be with you in a moment,' and moves hurriedly back to the gentlemen's *wash-room at the rear of the car. 1908 S. E. White *Rowerman* xi, That evening..Orde returned to the hotel. After freshening up in the marbled and boarded wash-room, he hunted up Newmark. 1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 18 The solution to wash the gas... The small tube passes down into the *wash solution. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 813/2 (*Bleaching*) The *wash-stocks..consists of a trough or box for holding the goods to be washed, through which a constant stream of water is passing. 1908 *Daily Rep.* 28 Aug. 8/2 Although late in the Empire period the square variety of *wash-table was sometimes used, it is clear that [etc.]. 1909 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *True Tilda* xx, Two long *wash-trays stood ready and steaming. 1841 S. Clegg *Treat. Coal-Gas* 110 If after condensation 'dry lime' is used for purifying, the gas must pass through a *wash-vessel. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 417 (*Dyeing*) The hydraulic relations refer to the *wash-wheels and other similar apparatus. 1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 331 Fig. 94 shows a view of the lime-vats,..while in the background is shown the 'wash-wheel'.

c. In certain mining terms, denoting material from which metal is to be obtained by washing: *wash-gravel*, *-stuff* = Wash-dirt; †*wash-ore* *Lead-mining*, ore ready for washing.

1643 Manlove *Lead-Mines* 270 (E. D. S.) Stringes of oar, Wash-oar, and Pumps. 1891 *Century Dict.*, Wash-gravel. Wash-stuff.

d. In recent use (originally *U.S.*), the verb-stem is often prefixed to names of garments and fabrics, with the sense 'washable': e. g. in *wash-chamois*, *-foulard*, *-glacé kid*, *-glove*, *-gown*, *-ribbon*, *-silk*, *-waist*.

In these combinations *wash* is often written as if a separate adj. Cf. Washing *ppl. a.*

1888 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 23 June 6/3 Rural retreats where she can sleep ten hours out of the twenty-four, wear wash-gowns, and live out of doors all day long. 1902 Eliz. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 168 He wore neckties of wash-ribbon—which, though it cost more per yard than the ordinary ribbon, I found the most inexpensive in the end—without a bark of disantisfaction. 1914 'Amélie Rives' *World's End* xii, A soft gown of white wash-silk fell in straight folds to her feet.

Washabi·lity. *nonce-wd.* [f. Washable: see -ity.] The quality of being washable.

1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* ii, Else they [*sc.* drapers] could never have the faith they show in the..washability..of the goods they sell you.

Washable (wɒ·ʃăb'l), *a.* [f. Wash *v.* + -able.]

†1. That can be used for washing, with which one can wash. *Obs. rare*—1.

1623 Wodrophe *Spared Houres of Soldier* 247 *On dit.. que l'eau est nauigable, beuuable & lauable*...Men say.. that Water is both nauigable, drinkable & washable.

2. That can be washed without damage to texture or colour.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 362 Pocket-handkerchiefs were quite abandoned,..yea, most things washable. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxvii, Like washable beaver hats that improve with rain, his nerves were rendered stouter and more vigorous by showers of tears. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 141/2 Washable paper hangings. 1887 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* May 546 Everything was planned so as to be readily washable and brushable.

3. Exposed to the washing of the waves.

1878 Smiles *Robt. Dick* v. 44 The sea dashes in through the washable rocks, and drives up in clouds of vapour far inland.

Was-hael, washail(e, -hayl: see W

Washamouth: see Wash-mouth.

Wa·shaway. *Colonial.* [f. verbal phr. *to wash away*: see Wash *v.* 15.] The removal by flood of a portion of a hillside; the destruction of a portion of railway or road track by flood; a hole or breach produced by the washing away of soil.

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Mar. 8/3 The new railway also suffered severely, and traffic has been interfered with owing to several washaways. 1896 *Daily News* 18 July 8/5 In several parts of the mountain where the washaways appear, the lode can be seen right down to the present surface. 1906 *Times* 18 Dec. 5/2 A number of washaways have taken place, and a mail-train was derailed.

Washayl, obs. form of Wassail.

Wash-ball. Now *rare.* [f. Wash *v.*] A ball of soap (sometimes perfumed or medicated) used for washing the hands and face, and for shaving.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiv. vii. II. 184 This Mastich..is used in sope, and wash-balls. 1672 Newton in *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5108 Let some Water, in which a convenient quantity of Soap or wash-ball is dissolv'd, be agitated into Froth. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1800/4 James Norcock..sells ..the true and large Bologna Wash-balls. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* (1879) May 1645, We furnish'd ourselves with wash-balls, the best being made here [Bologna]. 1714 [Blanch] *Beaux Merchant* I. 6 Have you brought my Riding-Whig, Mr. Barber, and your best Scented Wash-balls? 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 40 P4, I remember a wash-ball that had a quality truly wonderful. 1805 [S. Weston] *Werneria* 39 Some clays are marbled, and look like wash-balls ready made. 1806–7 J. Berresford *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. xlii, Dropping a wash-ball out of your frozen fingers. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xiii, He..forthwith produced two scented wash-balls which he offered for sale.

Wash-basin. Now chiefly *U.S.* [f. Wash *v.*] A wash-hand basin.

1822 *Examiner* 93 Nov. 739/2 The wash-bason [was] almost filled. 1855 J. Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 432 The..negro princes obtain English wash-basins. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Professor* iv, A new nursery,..with Lake Superior, and Huron..for wash-basins! 1904 S. E. White *Forest* ii, Dishes, pails, wash-basins, and other receptacles.

Wash-bear. ? *U.S.* [f. Wash *v.* In Ger. *waschbär*, a transl. of the zoological name *Ursus lotor* (Linn.); cf. Washer 4 b, *washing bear*, Washing *ppl. a.* 3.] The racoon.

1891 *Century Dict.*

Washboard. [f. Wash *sb.*; cf. G. *waschbrett.*]

1. *Naut.* A board on the side of a boat to prevent the sea breaking over; also, a board on the sill of a lower-deck port, for the same purpose.

1742 Woodroofe in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvii. 76 The largest boat was towed a-stern, being raised with washboards for that purpose. 1805 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xv. III. 309 She shipped a heavy sea, which washed away all the starboard bulwarks and washboards. 1888 T. T. Wildridge *Northumbria* 134 The structural points of interest in this [ancient] boat are the 'washboards' and the wooden pegs.

2. A board round the walls of a room with its edge resting on the floor; a skirting-board. *dial.*

1828–32 Webster, *Wash-board.* 2. a board in a room, next to the floor. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* II. iii, To stand looking out of the study window at the rain, and kicking his foot against the washboard in solitude. 1862 [C. C. Robinson] *Dialect of Leeds*, Gloss., *Washboard* (pron. *weshboard*), the wainscot.

3. †a. A flat piece of wood fixed on an axis within the barrel of a washing-machine, and made to revolve so as to agitate the clothes in the water. *Obs.* b. *U.S.* A hardwood board, with a fluted surface or covered with corrugated zinc, on which washerwomen rub clothes in washing.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 29 June 2/2 Washing machines which move with a pendulum or upright wash-board in the inside. 1882 Howells in *Longman's Mag.* I. 56 Wherever the piano-forte penetrates, lovely woman lifts her fingers from the needle, the broom-handle, and the washboard. 1902 Eliz. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 158 Clothes washed by her own hands on an American washboard in a big wooden tub.

Wash bough. *dial.* [? Wash *a.* Cf. Waterbough.] (See quot. 1823.)

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* I. 16. 92 Their care is but to cut off the wash boughs of sin, but they leaue the bole, and stumpe standing. 1823 Moor *Suffolk Words*, *Washboughs*, the lower straggling branches of trees.

Wash-bowl. [f. Wash *v.*]

†1. A wash-tub. *Obs.*

a 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 155 Our Grekys ye walow in the washbol *Argolicorum*. 1538 Higins *Junius' Nomenclat.* 231/1 *Labrum*,..a washing tub or washbooll. 1620 Gataker *Mariage Praier* 19 It is no shame for thee, though thou beest wealthy, to seeke her [a wife] at the wash-boule. 1673 Bp. S. Parker *Reproof Rek. Transp.* 11 So that methinks according to your notion, there is nothing so patly emblematical of Soveraign Princes, as Dufoy in his Tub, or a Pig under a wash-bole. 1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* v. § 3. 222 So that if he was resolv'd to have shown her thus unpolish'd, he should have made her keep Sheep, or brought her up at the Wash-Boul.

2. A wash-hand basin.

1883 C. D. Warner *Roundabout Journ.* 189 The guest is allowed a wash-bowl, but no pitcher. 1888 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 132 Emerson alone took no part in this 'storm in a wash-bowl'. 1904 E. Nesbit *Phanix & Carpet* viii. 157 Jane fetched the wash-bowl from the sink.

Wa·shbrew. *dial.* [f. W. *sb.* or *v.*] Oatmeal boiled to a stiff jelly.

1620 Markham *Farew. Husb.* xv. 134 Of Oatmeale is made that meate which is called in the West, Washbrew. 1623 — *Eng. Housew.* vi. 222 You shall not heare of any that euer did confeise of this Wash-brew or Flummerie. 1829 J. F. Palmer *Mrs. Palmer's Dial. Devon. Dialect* Gloss. 95 *Wash-brew*, flummery; oatmeal boiled in water till it acquires a gelatinous consistence.

Wash-coloured, *a.* [f. Wash *sb.*] Having the appearance of a 'wash' or transparent layer of colour.

1879 E. P. Wright *Animal Life* 195 The fur [of chinchilla] is long, thick, close, woolly, somewhat crisped,..greyish wash-coloured above and paler beneath.

Wash-dirt. *Mining.* [Wash *sb.* or *v.*] Auriferous soil or gravel to be submitted to washing.

1864 Eliz. Murray *Ella Norman* III. 58 Under the wash-dirt or stuff..there is always pipeclay. 1864 J. Rogers *New Rush* II. 30 A bucket-full of wash-dirt tried—the best—is of its value a sufficient test. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 43 Large piles of wash-dirt are accumulated to be washed in the winter. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 28 Good tin can be obtained, mixed with a fair percentage of gold in the dish of washdirt.

Wa·sh-dish. [f. Wash *v.*]

1. *dial.* = Dish-washer 3. [Cf. F. *lavandière* (Cotgr.).]

1825 Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Wash-dish*, the bird called wagtail. 1866 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 Wash-dish and Washerwoman, the Pied Wagtail. 1867 Rock *Jim an' Nell* cxxv, 'Twas a wash-dish.

2. A wash-hand basin. ? *U.S.*

1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* iv. 26 After the 'wash dish' had been used in turn, and various handkerchiefs had performed..the part of towels.

Wash-drawing. [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.*] The method of water-colour drawing in which washes of colour are extensively used; a picture produced by this method.

1889 J. Pennell *Pen Drawing* 305, I have heard from them more expressions of pleasure in a pen drawing..than I have ever heard given to a pencil or a wash drawing. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* III. p. cclii, Photographs from Nature, Wash Drawings, Paintings, &c. 1894 C. G. Harper *Handbk. Drawing* 121 Wash drawings for reproduction by half-tone process should be made upon smooth or finely grained cardboards. 1905 *Athenæum* 9 Dec. 806/3 In this..Ludlow Castle..the real science of wash-drawing is shown.

Washe, obs. form of Watch.

Washeall, rare obs. f. Wassail.

Washed (wɒʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. Wash *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Cleansed by rubbing in water or other liquid; also, moistened or drenched with water.

1557 North *Guevara's Diall Pr.* IV. vii (1568) 125 b, A paire of washed or perfume gloues. 1586 Whitney *Choice Emblems* 136 With Towell faire, to wipe theire washed hands. 1605 Shake. *Lear* I. i. 271 The lewels of our Father, with wash'd eies Cordelia leaues you. 1620 Markham *Farew. Husb.* xiii. 104 Now it is not amisse that I speake here a word or two of washt corne, or the washing of corne. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4184/4, 302 Bags of Cloth wash'd and unwash'd Spanish Felt Wooll. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. lxix, Then thy spruce citizen, wash'd artisan, And smug apprentice gulp their weekly air. 1864 T. S. Williams & Simmonds *Engl. Commerc. Corresp.* 239, 12. 6d. pr. lb. for washed Merino free from burr.

b. Treated with water or other liquid so as to remove impurities or soluble matter, to separate heavier from lighter parts, etc.

c 1575 *Perf. Bk. Kepinge Sparhawkes* (1886) 9 This..will make more synues then all the scourings or washed meates that are used. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* v. xxi. 721 Washed bread is a meate very profitable for the health.. bicause the washing of it doth wholie take away the heauines and clammines belonging vnto the earthie parts thereof. 1729 Woodward *Fossils* I. I. 169 This last the People who gather it here, call Wash'd-Amber. ? 1785 Imison *Sch. Arts* (1796) II. 68 Adding about one part of washed whiting to three parts of carmine. 1810 J. Bailey *Agric. Durham* 40 *note*, This is not clean or washed ore; but ore mixed with other substances that could not be separated in washing. 1849 Pereira *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 344 When thus purified, it is called washed sulphur (*sulphur lotum vel depuratum*). 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 101 Washed or double-washed Emery.

†c. Of coin: Sweated. *Obs.*

1711 J. Toison *Waller's Poems* A 3, Clipt and washt money goes about, when the entire and weighty lies hoarded up.

d. Covered with a coating of precious metal.

1778 *Lond. Chron.* 21–24 Mar. 288/3 It appeared there was but four shillings out of the guinea and half [of silver] good, the rest being only a washed metal. 1776 *Pennsylv. Even. Post* 25 May 264/2 An olive coloured short fustian coat, with..silver washed buttons.

e. Of a water-colour or monochrome drawing: Having the tints produced by colour laid on in 'washes'.

1770 *Exhib. R. Acad.* 29 The Resurrection,..a washed drawing. 1784 J. Barry *Lect. Art* iii. (1848) 133 Raphael's washed drawing of the Calumny of Apelles. 1884 Linton *Wood-Engraving* 30 A 'washed drawing' is one in which shadows, broad tints,..(indeed all masses of colour,) are washed in broadly with a brush in sepia or India ink.

f. Of stock, or sale of stock: see quot. and Wash *v.* 19 b.

1888–9 *New York Produce Exch. Rep.* 265 (Cent.) Washed or fictitious sales are positively forbidden.

†g. *fig.* Of language: ? Refined, elegant. (? after L. *lautus*.) *Obs.*

1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. xx. 67, I know, God hath chosen by weake things, to confound the wise: yet I see not but in all times, a washed Language hath much prevailed.

†h. *Washed leather* = Wash-leather. *Obs.*

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxxii, Wash'd-Leather Boots (*botines de cordouan*).

2. Washed out. Of a fabric, dye, etc.: That has faded, or lost freshness, in the wash.

1857 J. Morier *Abel Allnutt* xx. 117 The threadbare carpets, the washed-out curtains. 1891 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 342/1 Habited in a washed-out-blue French kind of pinafore. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 52 The shabby washed-out look of any colour which has not been dyed in this way.

b. *fig.* Lacking in colour, animation, etc.

1850 Smedley *F. Fairleigh* i, A complexion and general appearance only to be described by the term 'washed out'. 1868 Trollope *Orley F.* xii, There was..none of that lanky, washed-out appearance which sorrow and trouble so often give to females. 1868 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 166 They are a washed-out lot; but they laugh. 1885 Huxley in *Life* (1900) II. vi. 95, I am better..but curiously weak and washed out.

† Wa·shel. *Obs.* In 4 **wass(o)hele.** [f. Wash *v.*: see -el.] **a.** A bath. **b.** A vessel for washing.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11033 Pere besyde, yn a pap Was a wasshyng, at an hote bap; 'Termes' men calle pat watyr wasshele, For many one had perat here hele. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 288 Penne comen two Angeles Opur Tweyne aftur hem with cruetes sone, and wasscheles wip haly water with hem bei brousten.

Washen (wǫ·ʃn), *ppl. a. arch.* and *dial.* [str. pa pple. of Wash *v.*] Washed. Also with adv. prefixed, as *clean-, ill-, new-, well-washen.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/1 Weschyn, *lotus.* 1525-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 122 Laye a clene washen shete vppon the stole. 1594 A. Hume *Poems* etc. (S. T. S.) 101 Til eit meat with weschen or vnweschen hands. 1617 *Extra ts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 350 With goode bedding, weele washine and weele smellit naprie. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Ld. Craighall* 10 Aug., Some ill-washen and foul distinctions. 1858 H. Law *Beacons of Bible* (1869) 89 The washen swine returning to the mire. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. 563 With washen hands They took the salted meal. 1879 Butcher & Lang *Odyss.* VI. 64, 94 These are always eager for new-washen garments wherein to go to the dances.

† **b.** *washen leather* = Wash-leather. *Obs.*

Cf. *washed leather*, Washed 1 b.

c 1425 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 65 For a dossan wesshyn leddyr.

Washer (wǫ·ʃəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 ? **waschere,** 5–6 **wassher** (5 **wassoher,** 6 **waysher**), 6 *Sc.* **weschear, veschiar,** 7 *Sc.* **wascher,** 6– **washer.** [f. Wash *v.* + -er[1].

An OE. *wascere* is given by Sweet *A. S. Dict.*, but no example has been found, though the existence of the word is probable: cf. Washester.]

1. One who washes.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 306 Mediatrix, Menesse of men, and wassher of synnes. 1572 Huloet (ed Higins), Washer, *lotor.* 1706 Baynard in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 263 No Men live so long and healthful, as the Washers and Dablers in Cold Water. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1803) IV. 55 The lowliness of a washer of feet. 1770 G. White *Selborne, To Barrington* 8 Oct., Common house-sparrows..are great washers. 1886 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 8/5 Good Laundrymaid Wanted in a private house. Must be a good washer and ironer. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 24 Mar. 4/6 In these days when washing is made either a fad or a religion, according to the temperament of the washer.

† **2.** One who sweats coin. See Wash *v* 8. *Obs.*

[1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 35/2 Les lavours, tonsours, & contrefaitours del monie de la Terre.] *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 19 And we denounce acursed alle makeres of fals monye, & clypperes, and wascherys. 1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII* c. 6 § 6 There to cause all suche counterfaytors, washers, clyppers of money..to be indyted. 1772 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 256/1 Clippers and washers of coin.

3. One whose occupation or profession is the cleansing of materials, vessels, etc.

1515 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 20 Ane fynour, weschear, and meltar of gold. [*a* 1589–: see Dish-washer 1.] 1621 Elsing *Lords' Deb.* (Camden) 34 Shewes the washing by them [the silk-throwsters], who washed away the gum. Then the dyer was founde out to add that to the weight what the washers had taken away, which the washer coulde not doe. 1807 E. S. Waring *Tour Sheeraz* 21 A Moordu-Sho (a washer of dead bodies). 1844 M. T. Ahmar *Mem. Babyl. Press* II. 176 'Wherefore,' said the washer of skins, 'thou seest, a marvellous change was wrought in me'.

† **b.** A person employed to wash and 'get up' household linen, a launderer or laundress. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 287/1 Washer of gownes, *relaueur.* 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* G ij, Yow shall geue diligent heede that the said Washers and Nurses of this Howse be alwaies well occupied. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* I. ii. 5 One Mistris Quickly; which is in the manner of his Nurse;..or his Laundry; his Washer, and his Ringer. 1620 Middleton *Chaste Maid* II. ii, Two of my wife's foul smocks going to the washers. 1642 *St. Mary le Bow* (Durham) *Par. Reg.*, Margarett the washer bur. 15 May. 1732 Fielding *Covent Gard. Trag.* I. ix, Thus burning from the fire, the washer lifts The red-hot iron to make smooth her shifts. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* lxxii. (1783) III. 34 A girl in Hodge-lane, who owed some three or four pound to her washer.

6. One who washes sheep before shearing.

1540 in *Archæologia* XXV. 437 Item p^d^ to Barnaby Bryse ..for castyng inne ye shepe to ye wayshers viij d. 1612 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 200 To the washers of the sheepe, vj^d^. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 18 One good washer will..wash sixe score or sixe score and tenne [sheep] in a day. 1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 788 The rude grasp of the relentless washer.

d. One who washes (ore, alluvial soil, etc.) as a mining operation.

1531–2 [see Buddle *sb.*[2]]. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 These weashers [at the gold mines] for the moste parte, are the Indian women. 1869 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 143 Washers with the sciff. *Ibid.*, Dressaris and wascheris with the buddill, wascheris with the carves. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* N 3 b, And the washer always keeps a Lay of this over the Bottom of the Seive.

1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xxii, Others rarely rise above the rank of mere 'washers'—men employed to sift the..deposits of the rivers in which the chief product is gold-dust. 1870 J. O. Tucker *Mute* 40 A thousand washers in their rude array Bend to a toil and none superior knew.

e. One who is employed in a stable-yard, cab or omnibus depôt, etc., to wash down the vehicles after use.

1868 *Daily News* 8 Sept., Besides the yard money..we must give the horsekeeper at least 3d., the washer 2d. 1884 *Bath Jrnl.* 26 July 7/3 On returning to the yard at night he has to stump up..a tip..of three pence to the washer.

f. with advs.

1859 K. Cornwallis *Panorama New World* I. 323 Wanted, a Washer-up.—Victoria Dining-rooms. 1881 M. Reynolds *Engine Driving Life* 132 Another gang of men known as *washers-out*, set to and clean the boiler out. 1906 A. B. Todd *Poet. Wks.* etc., Remin. vii. 62 My duties were to be what is called a 'washer-off' to a tile-moulder.

4. **a.** A popular name of the Wagtail, *Motacilla lugubris.* Cf. Wash-dish 1, Dish-washer 3, and Washerwoman 2.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 165 La vanele e le pounzot (*glossed* a wype and washere [? *read* waschere]). 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 5/1 A wagtaile, washer..*motacilla.* [1578–: see Dish-washer 3.] 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 90 *Motacilla*..the washer, or water-wagtail. 1797 Bewick *Brit. Birds* I. 187 *note*, They are sometimes called Washers, from their peculiar motion. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 44 Pied Wagtail..Moll washer.

b. A name of the Racoon. Cf. Wash-1 *Washing-bear* (Washing *ppl. a.* 3).

[1838 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* (1860) 569/2 The racoon, *Procyon lotor*, is a native of America...Its specific name, *lotor* (washer), is derived from its habit of plunging its dry food into water before eating it.] 1891 *Century Dict.*; and in other recent Dicts.

5. An apparatus for washing; a washing-machine used in various industries.

1808 I. C. Curwen *Econ. Feeding Stock* 33 The washer being removed by the crane, to the place where the dirty potatoes are laid. 1860 R. Hunt *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) III. 977 The small coal resulting from the washer..is delivered into a common pit placed under the washers. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 816/2 (Bleaching) The continuous washer..patented in 1852, is deserving of notice as a simple and efficient washing-machine. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 389 The cement silver is washed in a washer invented by Professor Pearce.

b. A machine in which the rags used in paper-making are worked to wash and open their fibres.

1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 366 The paper-mill consists of a water-wheel,..connected with..wheels, so arranged as to cause the cylinder in the washer, and the one in the beating engine,..to make from 120 to 150 revolutions per minute. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 976 There is another [engine],..called the washer, in which the rags are first worked coarsely with a stream of water.

c. An apparatus for cleansing coal-gas.

1853 S. Hughes *Gas-works* 134 Of the washer and condenser for separating the tar and ammoniacal liquor. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 267 The resulting gas is led off to a washer, and thence to a gasholder.

d. A machine for washing domestic linen.

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 176/2 Seven of Greenall's Steam Washers, different sizes, for domestic use. Clothes are washed by steam. 1894 Eliz. Banks *Camp. Curiosity* 190 She carefully measured the amount of soda that was put into the washers. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 9/6 Washer (40-shirt hand) by Whitaker.

e. An apparatus for washing photographic plates or prints.

1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 97 The prints on being taken out of the washer are well sponged..before drying.

† **6.** An instrument or tool used for sprinkling or cleansing. **a.** A smith's tool: see quots. **b.** ? A sponge for cleansing the bore of a gun. *Obs.*

a. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc* i. 10 With your Washer dipt in Water damp the outside of the Fire to keep the Heat in. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 321/1 Smiths Tools...The Washer, is a Bundle of Rushes..with an Iron Stail to it; with this Water is sprinkled out of the Trough into the Fire to make it burn the hotter.

b. 1708 [see Scourer[2] 5].

7. **a.** A cock or outlet valve of a water-supplying pipe. **b.** The outlet valve of a basin, cistern, etc. to which the waste-pipe is attached.

1596 Harington *Anat. Metam. Ajax* Liij b, To which pype you must haue a Cocke or a washer to yeeld water with some pretie strength, when you would let it in. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 199 If it be a Four-inch Pipe, you should give it a Washer and Opening of six Inches at the Bottom of the Reserver. *Ibid.* 211 To empty the Bason entirely..., which is done by means of a Washer, and a Waste-Pipe at the Bottom of it. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5493/3 Brass Cocks, Washers, &c. of all Sizes. 1859 Gwilt *Archit.* (ed. 4) Add. to Gloss., *Washer*,..the perforated metal plate of a sink or drain, which can be removed for letting off the waste water. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v., *Washer* 3. b. A street-washer or pavement-plug, where a hose may be attached to water the street, pavement, or urban garden.

† **8.** Some kind of cloth. *Obs.*

1613 J. May *Decl. Estate Clothing* v. 32 There haue some merchants caused counterfeit Deuonshire kersies to bee made in Yorkshire out of washers or halfethicks. 1697 *Treasurer's Almanacke* (ed. 2) B 8 b, [List of Woollen cloths.] Washers of Lancashire.

9. *Comb.*, as (sense 3 b) *washer-girl, -maiden*; (sense 5) *washer-cloth*; also Washerman, Washer-woman.

1878 Hemlet *Life & Death* xxii. *Bk. Verses* (1883) 92 The pretty washer-maiden, She washes on always! 1887 *Manch.*

Exhib. Catal. 63 Cotton Manufacturers' Roller, Clearer, Washer, and Sizing Cloth. *Ibid.*, Washer Cloth for Mill Furnishing. 1907 Jean Webster *Jerry Junior* ii. 22 The washer-girls wore dresses in the gayest of peasant clothes.

Washer (wǫ·ʃəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 4 **whasher,** 6 **washer,** 8 **wisher.** [Of doubtful origin; usually assumed to be a use of prec., but the development of meaning has not been accounted for.] A perforated annular disc or flattened ring of metal, leather, or other material placed between two surfaces subject to rotative friction, to relieve friction and prevent lateral motion and unsteadiness.

1346 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 470/17 m. 8 De..v Cheynes pro barr[a] continentibus L. Linches, v. paribus tenellarum, ij. Whashers [etc.]. 1544 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, XIX. i. 148 Spare wheles for small ordynaunce 12 pair, lynce-pynnes, washers, [etc.]. 1611 Florio, *Cerchio di ferro*, an iron hoope, amongst gunners called a washer, which serues to keepe the iron pin at the end of the axeltree from wearing the naue. 1688 [see Linch-pin]. 1704–26 *Dict. Rust.* s.v. *Cart*, The *Washers*, being the Rings on the ends of the Axle-tree. 1705 tr. *Guillet's Genil. Dict.* II. 8 v. *Nave*, It has likewise in each end of the hole, through which the end of the Axletree goes, a ring of iron called the wisher, which saves the hole of the nave from wearing too big. 1795 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 372 It is keyed fast at C; with proper washers between the joints to allow of a very smooth motion. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate xii, Every tooth screws through a double traine separated by iron washers for greater steadiness. 1847 Brandon *Anal. Goth. Archit.* 102 The closing ring or door latch..[consists of] the flat plate or washer, fixed to the outer surface of the door; the handle or ring; and the spindle. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet* i, A washer..makes a loose screw fit. 1876 Blackmore *Cripps* xxvi, The vast diversity of wheels, as well as their many caprices of wagging, according to the state of their washers.

b. An annular disc of leather, rubber, or other material placed between the flanges of abutting water-pipes, beneath the plunger of a screw-down water-tap, etc. to prevent leakage.

1850 Ogilvie s.v., Washers of leather or pasteboard are also used to render screw and other junctions air-tight or water-tight. 1908 *Cassell's Handyman's Enquire Within* (ed P. N. Hasluck) 492/2 In the case of ordinary household water taps..they should be taken to pieces and new leather washers..fitted and fixed on to the jumpers.

c. A bearing-plate of iron placed under the nut of a bolt or tie-rod.

1821 R. Stevenson in *Edin. Philos. Jrnl.* V. 246 The under ends of these perpendicular rods..are attached..with screw-nuts, resting upon corresponding washers, or plates of iron. 1839 [see *tie-rod*, Tie- 3]. 1859 Gwilt *Archit.* (ed. 4) Add. to Gloss., *Washer*, a flat piece of iron, or other metal, pierced with a hole for the passage of a screw, between whose nut and the timber it is placed. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wall-washer*, a large plate at the end of a tie-rod to extend the external bearing.

d. *Comb.*

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* etc. 1097 Its other face..receives the flat ring *x*..in four notches corresponding to the four projections of the washer-ring. 1849 J. Glynn *Constr. Cranes* 108 The strong cast-iron cross..lays hold of the masonry by means of the holding-down bolts and washer-plates.

Hence **Wa·sherless** *a.*, without a washer.

1908 *Cassell's Handyman's Enquire Within* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) 493/1 Washerless Water-tap (Lord Kelvin's).

Wa·sher, *v.* [f. Washer *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To furnish with a washer. Hence **Wa·shered** *ppl. a.*

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* lxx, I had worked myself up,..growing hot like an ill-washered wheel revolving, though I start with a cool axle. 1873 Eliz. Phelps *Trotty's Wedding Tour* 215, I must have the buggy washered. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* 11 Sept 160/3 He washered the knobs of the doors that had a rattling play whenever handled.

Wa·sheress. *rare*—°. [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + -ess.] A female washer.

1648 Hexham II, *Een Wasscheresse uyt de looge*, a Washeresse out of the lees.

Wa·sherman. [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*] A man whose occupation is the washing of clothes.

Chiefly designating the Chinese laundryman of the U.S. and the Asiatic native washer of clothes.

1725 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 77 His Beauty and Wealth made the Washerman sensible that the Parents must be great. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 126 William Callicutt, Washerman. 1810 T. Williamson *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 244 The *Dobi*, or washerman, is also exclusively a domestic, washing for only one family. 1874 L. J. Trotter *Hist. India* Introd. 10 Each village kept..its own..school-master, washerman, goldsmith, [etc.]. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. iv. lxxxi. 72 One trade, however, the Chinese are permitted to follow, and have now almost monopolized, that of washermen.

Washer-wife. *Sc.* [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + Wife. Cf. G. *wäscherweib.*] A washerwoman.

1800 *Monthly Mag.* Apr. 238/2 In Scotland, the word linens is often used for linen. For example, 'carry my linens to the washer-wife'. 1910 N. Munro *Fancy Farm* xi, The word itself [sc. gossip] is noble in its origin, for all its washer-wife associations.

Wa·sherwoman. [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + Woman. Cf. G. *wäscherfrau.*]

1. A woman whose occupation is the washing of dirty linen; one who takes in washing.

1632 Sherwood, A washer woman, *lauandiere, buandiere.* 1674 R. Godfrey [illegible] woman. 1757 Foo[illegible] your washes-woma[illegible] washerwoman's filthy hand shall e'er, Sweet pocket-handkerchief! thy worth profane. 1811 *Regul. & Orders Army* 269 Servants,..and Washer-women for each Troop. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiv, Mrs. Bardell..looked out his linen

for the washerwoman when it went abroad. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxvii, The pertinacity with which the washerwoman .brought..her bills week after week. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* IV. iii, *First Thane.* Down with William! *Third Thane.* The washerwoman's brat!

b. *Washerwoman's fingers, hand*, a condition of the hands, characteristic of cholera, resembling the wrinkling of the skin produced in the hands of washerwomen by the action of soap and soda. *Washerwoman's itch, scall*, a form of eczema incident to the hands of washerwomen.

1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med.*, Washerwoman's Scall, *Psoriasis lotorum.* 1894 GOULD *Illustr. Dict. Med.*, *Washerwoman's Hand*: See Cholera-hand. *Washerwoman's Itch* or *Scall.* 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* ii. 60 As in cholera, the serous drain may lead to..pinched features, washerwoman's fingers.

2. = WASHER *sb.*[1] 4 a.

1817 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. II. 546 The Water-wagtail, or as it is called in many parts Dish-washer, or Washerwoman. 1832 [see DISH-WASHER]. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds Haunts* 171 The popular name Washerwoman belongs to the whole family [of wagtails].

Washery (wɒ·ʃəri). [f. WASH *v.* + -ERY.] A place at which the washing of coal, ore, wool, etc. is carried on.

1895 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 6 May 7/6 A most disastrous fire broke out..at the Coke plant. The destruction of the washery and machinery was complete. 1898 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 2/2 Quantities of fish are caught, and sent to the gold washeries. 1907 CLAPHAM *Woollen & Worsted Ind.* vi. 246 Some washing of both combing and carding wools is done in separate 'washeries'.

† **Wa·shester.** *Obs.* [f. WASH *v.* + -STER.] A female washer (of linen), a washerwoman: in OE. also applied to a man.

c 900 WÆRFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* III. viii. 191 Iobinus, se wæs min wæscestre [L. *fullo*]. *Ibid.* IV. xii. 276 Se mæssepreost..wæs lufiȝende his wæscestran [L. *presbyteram*] swa swa his agne swuster. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 *Quod metius patefacit exemplar lotricum*, and þis us doð to understonden þe forbisne of þe wasshestren.

† **Wash ground.** *Obs.* [WASH *sb.* or *v.*] ? A drying-ground.

1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5272/8 One Acre and a half of Wash ground in Crucifix-lane in Southwark. 1784 *Ibid* No. 6247/2 An Estate, consisting of Garden-Grounds, Wash-Grounds, ..and Houses.

Wa·sh-hand, *a.* In 8 **wash-hands.** [f. WASH *v.* Cf. F. †*lavemain(s* sb., wash-hand stand, wash-hand basin.] Intended for use in washing the hands. Only in certain combinations (sometimes hyphened or written continuously as single words). a. *Wash-hand basin*, a basin for washing the hands. b. *Wash-hand stand*, a piece of furniture for holding the wash-hand basin, ewer, soap-dish, etc. c. *Wash-hand table*, a table serving the purpose of a wash-hand stand.

a. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 284 There was a small stand with a wash-hands basin on it. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvi, He..ordered lights and a wash-hand basin and towel. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* cxi, Reach The washhand-basin for admirers! *Comb.* 1871 A. MEADOWS *Man. Midwifery* (ed. 2) 89 A large wash-hand basinfull of this hydatidiform mass.

b. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Brokers' Shops*, Rosewood chiffoniers and mahogany wash hand-stands. 1839 W. CHAMBERS *Tour Holland* 43/1 Wash-hand stand. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxvii (1901) I. 204 Having deposited a can of hot water on the washhandstand. 1894 'R. ANDOM' *We Three & Troddles* xx. 115 He bounced over to the wash-hand-stand.

attrib. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* ii. 91 We return to the shop and the wash-hand-stand-bason. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xii. (1901) I. 90 Tother night it was raining perfect wash-handstandbasins full. 1881 OLIVE SCHREINER *Story African Farm* II. iii, I left them in the wash-hand-stand drawer.

c. 1863 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) II. 204 Again, take such a jug as he would construct for the washhand-table of a garret.

Wash-house (wɒ·ʃhaus). Also 6–7 **washouse,** 9 *vulgar* **washus, wash'us.** [f. WASH *v.* + HOUSE *sb.* Cf. Du. *waschhuis*, G. *waschhaus.*]

† 1. A bath-house. *Obs. rare.*

c 1000 *O.E. Glosses* in *Ztschr. f. deutsches Altertum* XXXI. 13 *Celinbum*, wæschus. 1704 PITTS *Acc. Moham.* 47 They have many *Hammams*, or Wash-houses to bath themselves in.

2. An outbuilding or apartment used for washing clothes.

1577 B. GOOGE *Herrsbach's Husb.* I. 13 There is also a thirde stie, not farre from the washouse, for the fatting of my Porkes. 1580 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 358 To set upp the gat at the washouse. 1672 T. LACY in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* IV. (1913) 350, I..saw a little shedd or washouse all on fire. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. i. (1811) 36 In the wash-house or the scullery. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mistaken Milliner*, Four beautiful rooms, and a delightful little washhouse at the end of the passage. 1837 — *Pickw.* xxv, We keep a boy to do the dirty work, and a gal besides, but they dine in the washus. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvi, The Rev. Mr. Veal had..a theatre (in the wash-house). 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 191/1 A large shed—that had at one time been used as a wash house—still contained some broken wash-tubs.

b. A building in which goods are washed in the process of bleaching, or calico printing.

1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3760/4 A House, and Ground fit for a Whitster, or Callico-Printer, is to be Let, with several Sheds and Wash-houses.

c. *U.S.* An establishment at which clothes are washed; a laundry.

1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 28 The next day he entered the wash-house of Chy Fook as an assistant.

d. A building, provided with suitable accommodation, at which the public may wash clothes.

1846 *Act* 9 & 10 *Vict* c. 74 § 1 To encourage the Establishment therein of public Baths and Wash-houses. 1859 [EPHSON *Brittany* v. 49 Public washhouses have been established in many places. 1912 *Thrums* 7 Aug. 206/2 A local borough councillor..who points with pride to the new borough washhouses.

3. *attrib.*

1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* v, I felt as lonesome as a kitten in a wash-house copper with the lid on. 1838 — *O. Twist* i, Charley and I made our lucky up the wash'us chimney. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 4 Dec. 9/2 Engineer and Washhouse-man required [in a steam laundry]. 1909 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *True Tilda* xx, Run, Hepsy, and fill the wash-house boiler.

† **Washical.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. App. a corruption of *what shall I call* (*it*) or *what do you call it.*

See other forms under WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM.

1575 *Gammer Gurton* v. ii. 116 Geue my Gammer again her washical thou stole away in thy lap.

Washiness (wɒ·ʃinės). [f. WASHY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being washy.

1. Diluted condition, wateriness, weakness (of a liquid); *fig.* feebleness, lack of solidity (of thoughts, etc.).

1631 R. BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 72, I proceed to examine your solution, as you call it; the phlegmaticall washinesse whereof hath over-spread many pages. *a* 1806 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* vi. (1848) 232 In Leiy..we sometimes meet with the other extreme of too little solidity, too much flickering and washiness. 1814 *Q. Rev.* XI. 96 The washiness of the following line is only surpassed by that of the two which succeed it.

2. Chronic looseness of the bowels (in animals).

1844 [see WASHY *a.* 3].

Washing (wɒ·ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].

In OE. recorded only in the compound *weascingweg* 'washing-way', ? a road leading to a sheep-wash'.]

I. The action of WASH *v.*

1. The action or an act of cleansing by water, or of laving or bathing with water or other liquid. Also *fig.* with reference to spiritual or moral purification.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 Þe wassunke ine fuluhte wiðuten bitocneð þe wæschunge of þe soule wiðinnen. *c* 1305 *Land Cokaygne* 48 Watir scruþ þer to no þing Bot to siȝt and to waissing. 1340 *Ayenb.* 178 Ase þet line cloþ þet is y-huyted be olte wessinge. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 53 Wasche wele þat legge..with hote waire...And so after þe waschyng lat it lye by a naturel day. ? 1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 92 For wosshyng of yowyr shertys and M. Wyllyams. 1508 FISHER *Penit. Ps.* lii. 1. (1509) iii vj, If a table be foule and fylthy. fyrst we rase it, after whan it is rased we wasshe it, and laste after the wasshynge we wype and make it clene. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 51 Beware, that thou put not to many shepe in a penne at one tyme, neyther at the washyng, nor at the sheryng. 1587 D. FENNER *Song of Songs* vi. 3 Thy teeth are like a flocke of sheepe which comme vp from washing. 1603 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 31 For the wyesching of my chloa, xii d. 1636 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 53 Stains of a deep dye will not out of the cloth, with such ordinary washings, as will fetch out lighter spots. *c* 1650 BINNING *Serm.* Wks. (1735) 567 The Blood and Water might be joined, the justifying Saviour, and the sanctifying Spirit; for both these are in this Gospel Washing. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 234 Both these gentlemen depend on the clean washing of the seed, and the trials of both met with the wished-for success. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 149 It taints the fingers, which have touched it, with its peculiar odour, so that one washing does not remove it. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 77 The tubers are first freed from adhering earth by a thorough washing. 1869–72 *Cassell's Housek. Guide* II. 50/2 The white things will require two washings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 621 Every other evening a washing with naphthol and sulphur soap may be given in a bath.

† b. *To give one's head* (or *beard*) *for the washing*: to submit tamely to indignities (see HEAD *sb.* 58). *Obs.*

c 1583 [see HEAD *sb.* 58]. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* L 4 But the time was, when he would not haue giuen his head for the washing. 1613 BRAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Revenge* IV. i, And so am I [*sc.* resolved], and forty more good fellows, That will not give their heads for the washing, I take it. *a* 1616 — *Bonduca* II. iii, *Car.* And to morrow night say to him, His Head is mine. *Jud.* I can assure ye Captain, He will not give it for this washing. 1663 [see HEAD *sb.* 58].

c. In reflexive sense.

1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* vii, It was his custom to go through a whole series of washings and changings after even the shortest journey. 1911 A. PLUMMER *Ch. Brit. bef. A.D. 1000* I. 121 Abstention from washing was a common form of asceticism.

d. A ceremonial ablution. (By Sir John Cheke used for: Baptism.)

c 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* (MS. B.) 263 Til after washing þo preste wil loute þo auter. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. ix. 468 That the bodili waisching with water schulde clense the soule fro moral vnclennesse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 65 These ceremonyes that this doctour calleth but small thynges, I suppose they be be as stacyons, inclynacyons, gestures, turnynges, washynge.. & suche other. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxi. 25 Joanns washing from whens was it. from heaven, or from men. 1606 *Arraignment. & Exec. Traytors* D 1 b, Their pilgrimages to Idols, their shauings and their washings. 1644 MILTON *M. Bucer* Wks. 1851 IV. 308 We are not to use Circumcision, Sacrifice, and those bodily Washings prescrib'd to the Jews. 1698–9 OSBORN *Let.* in Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 147 Addressing themselves to their Devotions, with the most solemn and critical Washings. 1770 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 340 Washing..accompanied many of the Jewish rites. 1846 S. SHARPE *Hist. Egypt* ix. 303 In their dislike of pork, in their washings, and in other Eastern customs, they [the Jews] were like the Egyptians.

e. *spec.* = 'washing of clothes', esp. as one of the regular requirements of a person or household.

'Meat, drink, washing, and lodging': a proverbial summary expression for the necessaries of life; in rustic use often *fig.* = 'all that one needs'.

1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 459 As to þat lat is seid þat the people of þis Citie hurten þe fishe in Swanneswell pole be beire weys-hyng there þe people vnderstanden þat þe place of the seid weyashyng ys þe soyle of þe hospitall of sent John Baptiste. 1543 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 274 To the sayd ij prest [*sic*] for brede wyne and washyng for the yere v s. 1620 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 187 A quarters washinge, to Roger Isherwood, vj[d]. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 8 A Dollor for chamber and washing. 1637 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 88 It costs mee two and twenty shillings a week for my diet, lodging and washing. 1643 *Select. Rec. Regality Melrose* (S.H.S.) I. 100 [He is to maintain him] in meatt, drink, bed and boord and clothes washing. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* I ii, We'll end our washing while the morning's cool. 1745 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 225 He is to have livery, and frock every year, and six pounds wages the first year, the second seven. He is to put out his washing. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 357 They usually give ten shillings by the week, with meat, drink, washing, and lodging, to stout men. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xxxvi, She..was not without hopes of finding out, before they parted, how much her washing cost per week. *c* 1800 *Whole Life & D. Long Meg of Westm.* ii. 4 She had not been bred unto her needle, but to hard labour, such as washing, brewing and baking. 1832 *Athenæum* 9 June 370/1 To whom bargains and bargain-making are the true meat, drink, washing, and lodging of life. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* I. vi, He shall share and share with my own young folks; and MRS. Morton will take care of his washing and morals. 1856 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Oct. 390/2 Only to think, too, of a hundred and fifty dollars, £30 a month—and board, lodging and washing, all free.

† f. *At* (*the*) *washing* = 'at the wash' (see WASH *sb.* 2). *Obs.*

1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* II. ii. 136 *Clay.*..I never saw you aver'e. *Hil.* You did not? where were your eyes then? out at washing? 1638 BP. MOUNTAGUE *Art. Eng. Norwich* A 4, Have you two faire large Surplices for your Minister to officiate Divine Service in, that the one may be for change, when the other is at washing? 1755 SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 279 The stock of shirts being large, almost every man having one at the washing, and the other on.

g. In chemical and mining operations (see WASH *v.* 4, 11).

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 66 Upon this Iland was found good store of the Ore, which in the washing helde gold to our thinking plainly to be seene. *a* 1650 E. NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 17 And soe your colour will appeare by reason of soe many washings cleane and faire. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 144 These washings..tended to change sirup of violets to a pale green. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* Gloss. s.v. *Jigging*, *Jigging*, is a method of dressing the smaller Copper and Lead Ores by a peculiar motion of a wire sieve in a kieve or vat of water,..In the Lead Mines..they also term this operation,..'Washing'. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 613 The most simple and economical washings are those that certain iron ores..are subjected to. 1853 S. HUGHES *Gas works* 135 It is also thought..that too much washing has the effect of diminishing the illuminating power of the gas. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 252 In Siberia there are but few localities where the gold washings are largely carried on. 1886 *Daily News* 17 July 5/8 Special illustrations of diamond washing, cutting, and polishing were given.

h. With advs. *away, off out, up* (often hyphened): see quots. and senses of WASH *v.*

1612 SIR D. CARLETON in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 587 For y[e] washing away of w[ch] aspersion the Duke maketh profession [etc.]. 1875 WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 106 Owing to the want of water for washing-up their funds were low. 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metallif. Min.* 425 Washing off (Washing up, *Am. & Aust.*), the periodical final cleaning out of all the gutters and appliances used in alluvial and rock gold mining. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Washing up*, the operation of washing up rollers or ink slabs. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xviii. 177 The washings up were frequent and flourishing. 1890 SIR W. STOKES in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 May 999/2 Washing-out or irrigation of the stomach is a desirable antiseptic precaution. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 330 These waters can be taken in large quantities, and thus exercise a washing-out effect. 1899 W. DE MORGAN in Mackail *W. Morris* II. 17 A story which kept us all quiet and well-behaved till washing-up time.

2. *Painting.* The action of laying on a thin coat of colour. Also *washing in.* Also *attrib.* in *washing colour, manner.*

a 1690 NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 59 To worke in the apparrell and foldings in a washing manner without a ground. 1758 [DOSSIE] *Handmaid to Arts* 172 Gamboge, Indian ink, sap-green, [etc.]..as they really dissolve and become transparent in water are true washing colours. 1822 *Self Instructor* 522 Technical terms in painting..washing-in. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 111 Employed in the first washings by house painters, and by them termed a first coat. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. iii. 47 It emerged from buried shadow, through all the stages of distinctness of an India-ink washing. 1877 S. REDGRAVE *Descr. Catal. Water-Col. Paintings* 17 The papers..were not sufficiently sized to bear the repeated washings of the artist.

3. Sweating of coin by means of acids.

14.. HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxi. 116 If it be golde and hole that men hym profre..take it yf him lyst..for washinge or clyppynge hold hym content. *a* 1523 FABYAN *Caron.* VII. (1533) 177 b, The coyne of golde at those dayes was greatly mynyshed wyth clyppyng & washyng 1543 11. *Act* 3 *Hen. V, Stat.* II. c. 6 Great doubte hath ben whether that clyppynge, washynge, and fylynge of the money of the land ought to be iudged treason or not.

4. Surging, overflowing (of waves); the action of moving water in carrying off loose matter.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 279 Hercules and exione were all wette of the wasshing and springyng of the wawes. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 61 Would thou mightst lye drowning the washing of ten Tides. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) 125 Upon any violent Rain, the whole City [of Damascus] becomes, by the washing of the Houses, as it were a Quagmire. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 248 The Washing of the Sea having spoil'd all their Powder. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 41 Mount Morello..is quite wild and naked; occasioned, as I suppose, by the washing of the Rains. 1778 T. HUTCHINS *Descr. Virginia* etc. 37 Fort Chartres..was abandoned in the year 1772, as it was rendered untenable by the constant washings of the River Missisippi in high floods. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 398 And in their dreamless rest the wind in vain Howled round about, with washing of the rain. 1868 — *Earthly Par.* I. 257 Hearkening the washing of the watery way. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 402 The rapid, vigorous, spasmodic movements which accompany this operation produce a splashing in the water which can be plainly heard from the shore, and which the fishermen characterize as 'washing'.

b. with *adv.*

1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* vii. 124 Unsound ground, rendered more treacherous than usual by the washing in of the burrows of the mole-rat. 1886 J. A. BROWN in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* May 200 They [the furrow-gravels] could not have been formed by the washing-in of gravel by running springs.

5. *Printers' slang.* (See quots. and WASH *v.* 19 a.)

1824 HANSARD *Typogr.* 308 Washing is had recourse to upon two occasions,—either for rousing a sense of shame in a fellow-workman who had been idling when he might have been at work; or to congratulate an apprentice upon the hour having arrived that brings his emancipation from the shackles of his subordinate station. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Washing*, an old-fashioned term for 'jerrying', or making a noise on an apprentice coming out of his time.

II. Concrete senses.

6. *pl.* (formerly also *sing.*). The liquid that has been used to wash something; matter removed when something is washed. Also *washing-out.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8816 Þo hat were seke..Wasche þe stones, did hit in babes;..Wasched þem of þe selue waschinges, & waryshed wel of al þer pyne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 323 Of þe weschel þe weschyng ful oft one his hed wald fling. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 249 My dische weschingis is worth 3our haill expence. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. i. 96/2 in *Holinshed*, [Meade] is nothing else but the washing of the combes, when the hony is wrong out. 1598 *Epularia* B ij b, Wash the flesh well with good white wine mingled with as much water, and straine the washing, and seeth the flesh therin. 1637 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Drinke & Welcome* A 4, Small Beere in England, such as is said to be made of the washings of the Brewers legges and aprons. 1775 A. BURNABY *Trav. N. Amer.* 34 Two curious hot springs, one tasting like alum, the other like the washings of a gun. 1805 [S. WESTON] *Werneria* 12 Swine-stone, when rubbed against a hard body, has a fetid odour like Harrowgate water, or rotten eggs, or the washing out of a gun. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiv, The leech gave him a draught of medicated wine, mixed with water. He rejected it, under the dishonourable epithet of 'kennel-washings.' 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1324 The must is afterwards again pressed, and about one hogshead of what is termed washings is obtained from the same quantity that had previously afforded about three hogsheads of cider. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 146 It [hogs' wash] is composed of..the washings of cooking utensils. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 397 The peculiar reddish, watery discharge, 'like the washings of raw meat,' as a German writer has described it.

b. Matter carried away by rain or running water; alluvial soil deposited by a stream.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 225 [Breeding-ponds] A fat Soil with a white fat Water, as the washings of Hills, Commons, Streets, Sinks, &c, is the best to fatten all sorts of Fish. 1739 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 5 A Shoal..made up of Sand and of the Washing or Silting of the River. 1816 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* 181 This limestone constitutes at least one half in the washings which are carried to the Missouri. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 276 Some farmers, indeed, think these washings from the farmyards, though of a brown colour, are yet, in most instances, so diluted with rain, as not to be worth the expense of carriage. 1867 J. HATTON *Tallants* i, Their rivers are black with coal washings.

c. Metal obtained by washing ore or soil.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xii. 244 There slippes away also some small portion of silver and quicke-silver with the earth and drosse, which they call washings. 1846 M°CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 614 The produce of the mines..may be taken, inclusive of the washings, at about 5,000 tons a year.

d. Places containing soil from which gold or diamonds are obtained by washing.

1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* II. 52 In former times, when traders went with hundreds of slaves to the washings. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 317 In Griqualand West diamonds occur in 'washings', as well as in mines.

†7. A medical 'wash' or lotion. *Obs.*

1542 COPLAND *Guydon's Forne.* V ij b, The chauffynges..of the gummes are appeased..wt this washing made of [etc.]. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 23 The patyente..must vse good lotions, or washynges for hys mouth vntyll it be hola.

8. Clothes newly washed or set apart to be washed.

1824 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* XXXVIII. (1901) II. 8 Family washings were whisked away [by the wind], or torn to tatters on the drying lines. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xxi, She got her death..one day of sudden rain, when she had run out to bring in her washing. 1901 *C. T. C. Gaz.* Oct. 390 Perambulators used by poor people to carry home washing in the evening. 1903 J. MACKENZIE *Michael Brner* iii. 34 The box was returned regularly with his washing, so that during the session a constant supply from home was furnished

III. 9. In combinations (often synonymous with parallel formations in WASH-), as *washing-basin, -blue, -brush,* †*-hit* (KIT 56 1), *-room, -soda,* †*-towel, -trough, -tub*; † **washing-ball = WASH-BALL; † **washing-beetle**, a wooden bat used to beat or pound clothes in the process of washing; **washing-bill**, a statement of laundry-charges; **washing-block, -board**, a wooden block or board on which clothes are beaten while being washed; **washing-book**, a book in which a person's laundry-charges are entered; **washing-bottle** = WASH-*bottle* a, b; **washing-bowl**, †(*a*) a wash-hand basin; (*b*) a pan or tub for washing clothes, etc. (*obs.* exc. *local*); cf. WASH-BOWL; **washing-crystals**, crystallized soda used for washing clothes, etc.; **washing-day**, the day on which the dirty clothes of a household are washed; **washing-engine**, a machine for washing rags, etc., esp. in paper-making: **washing-green**, a piece of common grass-land on which clothes are spread or hung out to dry after washing; **washing-house** = WASH-HOUSE; **washing-leather** = WASH-LEATHER; **washing-machine**, a machine for washing clothes, cloth, etc.; **washing-mill**, †(*a*) a machine used for recovering particles of gold or silver from refuse matter; (*b*) a machine for washing cloth in the process of bleaching; **washing-place**, (*a*) a place where washing is done; a lavatory; a laundry; (*b*) a place where gold is washed out from sand or earth; **washing-rod**, a rod used to wash out a gun; **washing-stand** = WASHSTAND I; †**washing-stock** (see quot. 1879); **washing-stone**, †(*a*) a kitchen-sink; (*b*) a stone on which clothes are beaten while being washed; **washing-stuff**, a miners' name for auriferous earth; †**washing-temple**, used to tr. L. *delubrum* temple, shrine, as if f. *deluere* to wash thoroughly; †**washing-vessel**, a laver; **washing-water**, water for washing the hands, a chemical substance, etc. (cf. WASH-WATER); **washing-week**, a week devoted to washing the dirty clothes of a household; also *fig.*; †**washing-well**, *fig.* a fount of spiritual cleansing; †**washing-woman** = WASHERWOMAN.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.* s.v. *Magmata*, Pomaundres and *washing balles. 1597 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* I. x. Wks. (1912) 114 Then shalt thou scoure thy pitchy fingers in a bason of hot water, with an ordinary washing Ball. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 288 Ballis called weshing ballis the dozen, xii s. 1538 ELYOT Addit., *Labrum*, a *washynge basyn. 1558 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 150 One washinge basone of pewter. 1878 THELAWNY *Rec. Shelley* etc. I. 161, I went to make my toilet, the sea my washing-basin—there was no other. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 *Waschynge betyl, or batyldore, *fericulum*. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in S.'s Wks. (1843) I. p. lxiii, Skelton..sayd to the wyfe, Geue me a washyng betle. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* II. v, Have I liv'd thus long to be knockt o'th head, With halfe a washing beetle? 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* xxii, She held a *washing-bill in her hand. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. v. § 3 After that the washing-bill of Kippe quadrupled. 1590 in *Archæologia* XL. 333 In the Boulting Howse, ..a *washing block. 1676 DURFEY *Mad. Fickle* I 1 (1677) 7 Like a Taylor [vaulting] ore' a Washing-block. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIV. 112 He looked like a frog on a washing-block. 1881 A. WATT *Sci. Industr.* I. 5 Indigo..mixed with starch.., forms the '*washing blue' of the laundry. 1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 247 The *washing-board, its prop, the drying lines [etc.]. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* I. vi. § 1 He..produced a *washing-book and two pencils. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 169 The vapours which are evolved should be transmitted through a *washing bottle containing water. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci.* I. 406/1 Wash the precipitate by means of the washing-bottle. 14.. *Rules & Const. Nunn Syon* lvi. in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 392 *Waschyng bolles and sope. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Washyng boll, *jatte*. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 54 Like a basket of Buck-cloathes, when they are taken from the washing-Bole. 1884 M°LAREN *Spinning* 33 Petrie's washing-bowl [for washing wool]. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 304/1 *Penicillus rectorius*,.. a *washing or white liming brush. 1626 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* v. ii, The day after *washing-day; once a week I see't at home. 1754

[illegible] xiv, Its screaming home, from [illegible] to week's end, is like one great washing-day—only nothing's washed! 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 366 This stream of water is kept running through the rags in the *washing-engine. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 49 This enormous piece passes into a washing-engine, to cleanse it from the 'dressing' or mucilage which the weaver had introduced into his warp. 1836 PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Mankind* (ed. 3) I. 40 He was about to make a *washing-green in the immediate neighbourhood. 1890 D. DAVIDSON *Mem. Long Life* I. 27 One of the posts in the washing green. 14.. *Rules & Const. Nunn Syon* xiv. in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 296 Also silence..is to be kepte ..in the *waschyng howse in tyme of waschynge. 1877 GOODE *Herschach's Hush.* I. 12 b, My maides chamber neere the Kitchin, and the washing house. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4101/3 A Brew-house, Dairy, Washing-house. 1820 GALT *Provost* XXXVII, The mistress had her big summer washing at the public washing-house on the Green. 1608 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 148 Money debursit vpoun the dressing of the ore. For ane weschingtub and ane *weschingkitt, xviijs. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 203 The heels only may be covered by a piece of *washing-leather. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 25 June 2/4 A *washing machine. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 816/2 (*Bleaching*) From the washing-machine the chain of cloth is passed through a pair of squeezers. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Washings*, To get out the finer Parts, gone off with the Earth, they use Quicksilver, and a *Washing Mill. 1728 F. HOME *Exper. Bleaching* 98 Were this to happen on the surface of the cloth, the oil would remain; nor would the washing-mill afterwards be able to carry it off. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 820/2 (*Bleaching*) Washed at washing-mill or stocks. 1538 LONDON in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 223 Ther towne hall..stondith upon the ryver, wher ys the commyn *wasching place of the most partt of the towne, and in the cession dayes..ther ys such betyng with batildores as oon man can not here another. 1689 HAXTER *Key for Catholicks* I. xxxv. 252 The rest they no more regard then a meeting of women in a workhouse or a washing place. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 50 Negroes who have accidentally fallen upon rich washing places. 1851-3 *C. Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) I. 3/2 The washing-place [in an abattoir] is fitted up with coppers for boiling water. 1850 R. GORDON CUMMING *S. Africa* I. xvi. 365, I accordingly stowed some ammunition and a *washing-rod in my old game-bag. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. v, The cherub..was accordingly conducted to a little *washing-room, where Bella soaped his face. 1865 *Enquire Within* § 1030 *Washing Soda as a Freezing Mixture. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* x. ci, Rising, in a bitter frost, and going up to the *washing stand. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Hatchtech* 187 If you had a chest of drawers, the top of it was turned to account as the washing stand. 1417-18 *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon Abbey* (Camden) 88 Et in vno *washyng-tok' de nouo facto ij s. iiij d. 1700-1 R. GOUGH *Hist. Myddle* (1875) 32 The next morning Hopkin was found dead in Oatley Parke, haveinge beene knocked on the head with the foote of a washing stocke which stood at Ellesmeare meare. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Washing-stock*, a bench on which clothes were laid and beaten with a kind of hat. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 193/1 *Irrarium*, .. the sinke or *washing stone in a kitchen, where the Scullion makes cleane the dishes. 1813 J. FORSYTH *Excurs. Italy* 288, I observed a group of these nymphs standing up to their knees in a fountain at washing stones. 1833 J. SHERER *Gold-Finder Australia* 127 The gold..lies upon a sort of pipe-clay, called by the diggers "washing stuff", which is from two inches to four feet thick. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxv. 4 In *washing temples of mawmetis [Vulg. *in delubris idolorum*]. — *Jer.* xliii. 12 In the washing temples of the godus of Egipt. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 308, 3 *wessyng towell. *c* 1460 *Invent. Sir J. Fastolfe* in *Archæologia* XXI. 275 Item, ij Wasschyng Tewellys of warke, eche of x yerde. 1557 in Pettus *Fodina Reg.* (1670) 93 Everie man that hath a *Washing Trough of his own by the custom of the Mine. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 431 Boiler, washing-trough, and sink. 1580 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 72 Ane *weschingtub. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* iii. (1704) 67 He that makes a curious vessel of gold, doth not intend it for a washing-tub. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xv, A hoopless washing-tub. 1388 WYCLIF *1 Kings* vii. 23 Also he made a gotun see, [*gloss*] that is, a *waischinge vessel for preestis. *Ibid.* 31 The mouth of the waischyng vessel [1382 watir vessel] Vulg. *os cutes is*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Waschynge vessel, *luter*. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ix. (1842) 245 When a precipitate is soft and close in consistency, it is often of use to retain the *washing water on it, so as to penetrate and remove the soluble matter. 1876 TYNDALL *Float. Matter Air* (1881) 70 A portion of this washing-water reaching the infusion was clearly the origin of the life observed. *a* 1632 DONNE *Serm.* lxxxviii. (1649) II. 64 Doe not thinke to put off all to the *washing weeke; all thy sinnes, all thy repentance, to Easter, and the Sacrament then. 1625 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* iv, Next week is our washing-week. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 3146 in *Macro Plays* 170 Whanne man crieth mercy, & wyl not ses, Mercy schal be his *wraschynge well. 1782 R. CUMBERLAND *Anecd. Emin. Painters* II. 170 Crowds of *washing-women..and rows of linen. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) V. 325 The ganglion..is peculiarly common to the wrists of washing-women.

Wa·shing, *ppl. a.* [f. WASH *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That washes, in various senses of the verb:

a. Surging, overflowing; streaming with water; dipping in the waves.

1560 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* II. (1561) B iij, The washyng winter now is fledde, the hoary snowes be gon. 1653 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trav.* 22, I was..three and thirty dirty Kentish miles, With washing dashing ways and rain wel sous'd. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 80 The washing Tyde Secures from all approach this weaker side. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 63 For he was dizzy with the washing stream. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 12 Sept. 2 The washing heights of foam which swell up as high as the rail of the bulwarks. 1913 MASEFIELD *The River* iii. in *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 2 Till with a stripping crash the tree goes down, Its washing branches founder and are gone.

b. Of a garment, a textile fabric: That will 'wash' or admit of being washed without injury to colour or texture; washable.

a 1733 LD. BINNING in Maidment *New Bk. Old Ballads* (1844) 62, I fain wad wear a camblet skirt,..But camblet's an untasty thing, And it would wear out soon. If I should make a washing thing, It soon would flimsy be. 1750 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* II. xii, A white washing Gown. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xiv, The satin sinner was pardonable, where the 'washing silk' would have been found guilty without a 'recommendation'. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* v, The..material of her dresses was..washing prints. 1901 *Lady's Realm* X. 648/2 Some lovely silk nightgowns are being made with double cape collars of washing-chiffon.

†2. Of a blow: = SWASHING *ppl. a.* 2. *Obs.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. 250 Astyages..Did with a long sharpe arming sworde a washing blow him giue. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 You see my quarter staffe...A washing blow of this is as good as a Laundresse, it will wash for the nashes sake: it can wipe a fellow ouer the thumbs. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 70 (Qo. 1599) Gregorie, remember thy washing blowe [and so Fo. 1]. 1822 FLETCHER *Wild-Goose Chase* v. iv, 'Tis a lustie wench: now could I spend my

forty-pence..to have but one fling at her, To give her but a washing blow. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* v. v, I doe confesse a washing blow.

3. *Washing bear, racoon* = Wash-bear.

1891 *Century Dict., Washing-bear*, the wash-bear or racoon, *Procron lotor*. 1896 tr. *Boas Zool.* 516 The Washing Racoon (*Procyon*).

Wa·sh-leather. [f. Wash *v.* Cf. G. *waschleder* (perh. from Eng.)

According to some writers the material is so called 'from the fact that it may be easily washed' (*Encycl. Brit.* ed. 9 XIV. 390). But the obsolete synonyms *washen, washed leather* suggest that the original reference may have been to the 'washing' which is an important part of the process of manufacture.]

A soft kind of leather, usually of split sheepskin, dressed to imitate chamois leather.

1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 13 (1689) 43 Making the body of yellow wash-leather. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 349 Two or three circles of wash-leather dipt in oil. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxviii, Miss Tox..polished him up with a piece of wash-leather. 1857 Reade *Course of True Love* 8 All one colour, like wash-leather, or an actor by daylight.

b. *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*) Made of wash-leather. Also *Path.* of eruptions: Resembling wash-leather in appearance.

c 1668 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 262 [For the cold in winter he wants] wash-leather gloves to write in. *a* 1672 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 51 A paire of wash leather gloves. 1772 Foote *Nabob* II. (1778) 37 Tom Ramskin..had a fifty-pound note for a pair of wash-leather breeches. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* vii, He wore..wash-leather gloves. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* xli. (1901) II. 36 Wellington boots with wash-leather kneecaps. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 845 In frosty weather the wearing of wash-leather socks both by night and day is an advantage. 1900 J. Hutchinson *Archives Surg.* XI. 4 Large patches of xanthelasma palpebrarum of the ordinary wash-leather type. 1907 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 25 The lens being placed in a wash-leather bag.

†**Wa·shlock.** *Obs.* [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.* + Lock *sb.*[1] (sense 2). Cf. G. *waschlocke.*] A tuft of wool detached in the process of sheep-washing.

1604 *Proclam. Winding Wools* 18 June, Lambes wooll, ..washlocks, cummer, and many other deceiueable things.

†**Wa·shmaid.** *Obs.* [f. Wash *v.*] A maid-servant employed in washing clothes.

c 1610 Lady Compton in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) III. 436 Not pestering my Things with my Womens, nor theirs with Chambermaids, nor theirs with Washmaids. 1673 *Rutland MSS* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1905) IV. 550 To my Lady's washmayd, 1 ginny. 1682 Shadwell *Lanc. Witches* II. i. 27 My Woman-Chambermaid, Wash-maid, Cook-Maid, &c.

Washman (wǫ·ʃmĕn). [f. Wash *v.*]

1. A man whose occupation is washing clothes; = Washerman.

1868 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* X. 552 Employing washmen instead of washwomen. 1892 Stevenson *Vailima Lett.* xvi. (1895) 150 Steward's assistant and washman Arrick, a New Hebridee black boy.

2. A workman employed in applying the wash or coating of tin in the manufacture of tinplate.

1851-4 *C. Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 746/2 The washman prepares an iron pot,..called the wash-pot. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 94 Tin Goods Manufacturer. ..Washman.

†**Wa·shmeat.** *Obs.* [f. Wash *sb.* (? and *a.*)] a. Unsubstantial food. b. 'Wash' for swine.

1602 'R. Burton' *Admir. Curios.* 122 Having once eat 60 pound weight of Cherries, he said they were but wash-meat. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 281/2 A Trough, or Stone Trough, a hollow place cut in Wood or Stone, in which the Swine have their Wash-meat given them.

Wa·sh-mill. [f. Wash *v.*]

†1. ? A mill-race in which sheep are washed. *Obs.*

a 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 317 Being..to wash our sheep on the morrow, I asked my shepherd, what time in the morning he would drive them to the wash-mills.

2. *Brick-making*, etc. A machine for washing clay or materials for cement.

1846 *Builder* 26 Aug. 442/3 The principal machines which have been worked for this purpose [brick-making] are three —1st. The pug-mill. 2nd. The wash-mill. 3rd. The rolling-mill. 1879 *Spons' Dict. Engin.* Suppl. I. 332 These [*sc.* limestone and clay] are mixed in what are known as wash mills.

3. *Leather Manuf.* A machine for washing skins after unhairing by the application of lime.

1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 377 From the unhairing room the skins pass to the 'wash-mill', where they receive a thorough washing, removing all adhering lime.

Wa·sh-mouth. *s. w. dial.* Also washa-mouth. [f. Wash *v.* Cf. G. *waschmaul* of the same meaning.] One who blabs out everything; a babbler.

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* 138 Hold thy Popping, ya gurt Washamouth. 1891 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Noughts & Cr.* iii. 20 Parson Morth wanted to know if he couldn't let his cottage to an invalid lady and her sister without consulting every wash-mouth in the parish.

Wash-off, *a. Calico-printing.* [f. verbal phr. *to wash off*: see Wash *v.* 13.] Of colours: Capable of being washed off; not permanent. 1864 Webster.

Wash-out. [f. verbal phr. *to wash out*: see Wash *v.* 13.]

1. An act of washing out a cistern, etc.; a pipe or other appliance for doing this. Also *attrib.*

1877 Hellyer *Plumber* ix. 86 This 'water-battery' water-closet is similar in principle and shape to the 'wash-out' closet-basin. 1903 *Architect* 24 Apr. Suppl. 53/2 Valves are provided *en route* to divide the delivery main into sections and control the supply. Wash-outs and air-valves are

1901 *Feilden's Mag.* IV. 430/1 There was a 6-in. washout pipe which was connected to the 12 in. main.

2. *Mining.* A place where a portion of a coal or ironstone seam has been carried away by a stream, a deposit of sandstone being left in its place.

1876 Cudworth *Rambles Bradford* 56. 1911 *Act* 1 & 2 *Geo. V*, c. 50 § 20 The position, direction, and extent of every known fault of every seam with its vertical throw, and ..every known washout and intrusive dyke.

3. The removal by flood of a portion of a hill-side; a hole or breach in a railway or road track caused by flood or erosion. Orig. *U.S.*

1883 *Daily News* 24 Sept. 2/1 The well built Mexican Railway..has had difficulty enough to prevent 'wash-outs'. 1883 *Standard* 25 Dec. 5/4 A train..ran into a wash-out. 1885 Roosevelt *Hunting Trips* 153 (Cent.) The rains and torrents cutting away the land into channels, which at first are merely wash-outs, and at last grow into deep canyons. 1910 *Times* 5 Mar. 5/6 On the Peking and Hankau Railway ..washouts may extend, not for one or two miles, but for fifty or a hundred miles.

4. *slang.* A disappointing failure, a 'sell'.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Nov. 2/1 As Harker remarked, 'Half a guinea for an essay is no wash-out'. 1915 P. Macgill *Amateur Army* 57 What the dickens did you take this here [rifle] for!..It's a blooming wash-out. *Footn.* 'Wash-out' is a term used by the men when their firing is so wide of the mark that it fails to hit any spot on the card. The men apply it indiscriminately to anything in the nature of a failure.

Wa·sh-pool. [f. Wash *v.*] A pool for washing sheep.

1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 56 He drives the bleating sheep from fallow fold To wash-pools. 1873 Trollope *Australia* I. 472 The Australian wool-grower..will take you to his washpool. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvii, The brush yard at the equally primitive washpool.

Wa·sh-pot. [f. Wash *v.*]

†1. A servant employed to wash pots; *spec.* the designation of a servant employed at the Inns of Court. *Obs.*

(etc.). 1678 Ravenscroft *Engl. Lawyer* II. i. 15, I was an under-Butler, or Wash-pot in the Inns of Court. 1816 *Temple Ch. Reg. Burials*, Thomas Lock Washpot of the honble Society of the Inner Temple

2. A vessel for washing one's hands. *Obs.* exc. *fig.* in allusion to Ps. lx. 8.

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lx. 8 Moab is my washpotte, ouer Edom wil I stretch out my shue. 1635-56 Cowley *Davideis* II. 341 Sev'en comely blooming Youths..in their hands sev'en silver washpots bear. 1820 Scott *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) II. viii. 285 In an age when every London citizen makes Lochlomond his wash-pot, and throws his shoe over Ben-Nevis. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* viii. 166 He had to fly, with broken washpots. 1884 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 3/1 French philosophers were using it [China] as a washpot for their satires on institutions nearer home.

3. A vessel containing melted tin, into which iron plates are plunged to be converted into tin-plate.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1253 s. v. *Tin-plate.*

4. A vessel used in separating silver from lead.

1879 G. Gladstone *Mining, Silver* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 122/2 It is usual to have small pots, called temper or wash-pots, placed between every second crystallising pot.

Wash road. = Wash-way 2.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 247 That wash roads (however applauded by some) are rarely without notorious exceptions.

Wa·shstand. [f. Wash *v.*]

1. A wash-hand stand.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1149 Such soap is exceedingly pleasant at the wash-stand. 1844 T. Webster *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* 276 A wash stand, to be complete, should have, besides the basin and ewer, a carafe for spring water, vessel for hot water, soap tray, several glasses, [etc.]. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* iv, She hauled me to the washstand, inflicted a merciless, but happily brief, scrub on my face and hands with soap, water, and a coarse towel. 1898 G. B. Shaw *Plays* II. *Arms & Man* 3 The washstand..consists of an enamelled iron basin with a pail beneath it in a painted metal frame, and a single towel on the rail at the side.

attrib. 1902 Mabel Barnes-Grundy *Thames Camp* 196, I have made four fascinating washstand mats.

2. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1912 Webster, *Wash stand*, in stables, a place in the floor prepared so that carriages may be washed there and the water run off. *Cant.*

†**Wa·shstart.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 4 waschestarte. [App. a confused form between Wash-dish and Wagstart.] The Water Wagtail.

a 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 786 Gryue et croulecowe Feldefare and waschestarte.

Wash-strake. *Naut.* Also -streak. [? f. Wash *sb.*] = Washboard 1.

1809 *Naval Chron.* XXI. 299 Exclusive of a moveable wash strake. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* iii, A large Eboe canoe,..the bottom hollowed out of one single tree, but there was a washstreak of some kind of hardwood plank, so as to raise the gunwale about a foot above the ledge of the original vessel.

Wash-trough. [f. Wash *v.*]

1. *Mining.* A trough in which ore is washed.

1587 in Pettus *Fodina Reg.* (1670) 95 Also that no Purchasors shall let or stop any Miners from any Wash-trough at any time. 1758-9 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 146 The first sort is reserved for use; the second, or middling sort, is again put into the stamping-mill, and afterwards into the wash-trough, where the parts that contain no cinnabar float in the water.

2. A trough used for washing the hands and face.

1900 O. Wister *Virginian* ii. 16 It was not much of a toilet that I made in the first wash-trough of my experience, but it had to suffice.

Wa·sh-tub. [f. Wash *v.* Cf. Du. *waschtobbe.*] A tub in which clothes are washed: = Washing-*tub.*

1620 *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1862) II. 111 Fowre boordes, cover of the vate, and a washtubb xij*d.* 1753 *Scots Mag.* Sept. 469/1 Indicted for drowning in a wash-tub..her son. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxvii, Glancing distractedly at a couple of old women at the wash-tub

Wash-up. [f. vbl. phr. *to wash up*: see Wash *v.* 1 f.]

1. An act of washing table utensils after a meal. In quots. *attrib.*

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 93/2 Butler's Pantry and Wash-up Sinks. 1900 'H. Lawson' *On Track* 128 Grease inches deep in great black patches about the fireplace ends of the huts, where wash-up and 'boiling' water is thrown.

b. *? dial.* A washing-up place, scullery.

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xi, He made even mother laugh ..and Betty Muxworthy roared in the wash-up.

2. *Mining.* The washing of a collected quantity of ore; the quantity of gold that has been obtained by washing.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* xxiii, As soon as we had finished the next wash-up, I was to go back to Yatala. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 4/3 The gold consisted of about a quarter of a million dollars in dust and three-quarters of a million in drafts. The estimate of the wash-up varies from twelve millions to thirty millions.

3. A dead body washed up by the waves.

a 1903 'Merriman' *Last Hope* i, Passen thinks it's [*sc.* the grave is] over there by the yew-tree—but he's wrong. That there one was a wash-up found by old Willem the lighthouse keeper one morning early.

Wa·sh-water. [f. Wash *v.*] Water that has been used for washing.

1853 Hickie tr. *Aristoph.* I. 25 Those who pour out their dirty wash-water of an evening. 1856 G. Gore *Pract. Chem.* in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* 73 The wash-waters should not be thrown away without first being tested for gold. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 401 The evaporation of the excess of liquid derived from the wash-waters. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 69 No trace of bromide could be found in the wash water. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. of Dyers* XVI. 12 When, however, wash waters accumulate.

Wa·sh-way. *dial.* [f. Wash *v.* + Way *sb.*]

†1. A portion of a road crossed by a shallow stream.

a 1631 Donne *Serm.* civ. (1649) II. 195 He that hath not been accustomed to a sin, but exercised in resisting it, will finde many tentations, but as a wash way that he can trot thorough, and goe forward religiously in his Calling for all them. 1766 *Ann. Reg.* 66 Yesterday morning..the North mail cart, going through Tottenham Washway, was under water. 1804 *Aston's Manch. Guide* 17 The cart road through Hanging-ditch was through a wash-way, so narrow, that only one cart could pass at once.

†b. *To make wash-way of, with*: to make light of, make short work of. Cf. Wash-work 1.

1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 32 But man heares like the Adder with a deafe eare: she makes wash-way with patience, word conscience and all. *Ibid.* 298 A common servant makes wash way of his service; lookes at his Master for his owne ends. *Ibid.* 618 Made wash-way of all sorts of performances, and made them common things.

2. A road deeper in the middle than at the sides.

1790 W. H. Marshall *Midl. Co.* I. 44 A 'wash-way road' 1808 T. Batchelor *Agric. Bedford* 588 The form of the roads is generally convex, and the few concave or wash-ways that may be observed, seem [etc.].

Wa·shwoman. Now *U.S.* [f. Wash *v.*] = Washerwoman.

1590 *Dewsbury Parish Ch. Reg.* 28 Sept., Massoley a maid of Mr. Rowland Owans a washwoman buried. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) I. xiv. 52 *You* would much sooner be taken for her wash-woman. 1816 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXI. 121 Among the lost plays of Sophocles, are enumerated .. Nausikaa, or the Wash-woman (πλύντριαι). 1852 C. W. Day *Five Yrs.' Resid. W. Indies* II. 297 The Spanish flounces of the negro wash-women. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 72 'Is you come from Colonel Gillin's, massa?' asked the wash-woman.

Wash-work. [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.*]

†1. *To make wash-work with*: app. 'to make short work of'. Cf. the phrase under Wash-way 1 b. of which this appears to be an altered form.

1637 J. Williams *Holy Table* 130 And if this Leader should chance to be overcome,..we shall make wash-work with the rest of his followers.

2. Used for Wash-drawing.

1900 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Nov. 1/3 Mr. Frank Craig..is scarcely behind Mr. Hatherell in his excellent wash-work.

Washy (wǫ·ʃi), *a.* [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.* + -y[1].]

†1. Having too much moisture, water-logged. Of wind or weather: Bringing moisture or rain.

In quot. 1566 the word corresponds to Horace's *plumbeus*, lit. 'leaden', used app. for 'depressing'.

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* II. vi. H 6, Not lewde ambition vexethe here; nor washye southerne wynde. 1662 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 133 Under this upper Clay lyes a mouldring washy Clay. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 24 Sept., We.. found a most sad alteration in the roade by reason of last night's rains; they being now all dirty and washy. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 303 They..on the washie Ooze deep Channels wore. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 216 In washy weather all the hay one can give to cattle will not make them thrive. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 40/2 Of places ..some are damp and washy, as are those which lie near Seas or Lakes.

2. Of food, drink, etc.: Too much diluted, weak, sloppy, thin, watery.

1615 T. Adams *England's Sicke.* ii. 72 Meates of a washy and fluid nature. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 327 New oats are a washy food, owing to a crude humidity that abounds in them. 1825 E. Hewlett *Cottage Comforts* viii. 99 Common corn and washy potatoes. 1830–4 De Quincey *Caesars* Wks. 1862 IX. 133 *note*, By comparison with the washy tea breakfasts of most Englishmen. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 268/2 Serving pots of washy ale over the counter.

Comb. 1746 W. Thompson *R. N. Adv.* (1757) 42 The Flesh of such washy fed Sows is..flabby.

b. *fig.* Of literary style, productions, utterances, etc.: Wanting in force or vigour, feeble, sloppy, thin.

1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* VII. xl, Being compelled by a deaf person..to repeat some very washy remark three or four times over. 1829 [see Spewy *a.* 1 b]. 1831 Carlyle *Fas., Schiller* (1840) III. 21 *note*, Our English translation, one of the washiest, was executed..in Edin-

together was a weak and washy production.

3. Of the stomach: Having an accumulation of liquid and undigested food, relaxed.

1628 Madde tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 47 But for such washie Tripes as mine then were, I held it no good meate. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III 491 The physician who neglects the factor of dilatation because the stomach is not as blown out and washy as to force itself on his notice, has an imperfect comprehension of his case.

4. Of colour, painting, etc.: Having too much 'wash', lacking body, weak, pale.

a 1639 Wotton *Surv. Educ.* Reliq. (1651) 325 A palish Clearnesse, evenly and smoothly spread, not overthin and washie, but of a pretty solid consistence. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxv. 4 Christ putteth not upon his a washy colour of profession..but he dyeth them in grain, with true grace and holinesse. 1718 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 188 Four rows of Scales of a washy purple. 1785 H. Walpole *Let. to H. S. Conway* 6 Oct., Sir Joshua's washy Virtues make the Nativity a dark spot from the darkness of the Shepherds. 1811 *Self Instructor* 524 A middling full pencil, not too washy. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* ii, With a washy, but clean stencilled pattern on the walls. 1884 *19th Cent* Feb. 355 The colours are washy and unimpressive. 1886 G. Allen *Maimie's Sake* xix, Blue eyes like hers..look so mild and gentle and washy.

5. Of a horse or cow: Poor in quality or condition; esp. liable to sweat or scour after slight exertion.

1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* i. iv. (1656) 40 The Horse is generally weake,..tender, and washy of flesh. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 300 Your thin necked and bodied cows, that are washy and flue. 1730 W. Burdon *Gentl. Pocket-Farrier* 61 Some Horses..part with their Food before 'tis well digested, and scour all the Way; which makes 'em so thin and lank, that they are ready to slip through their Girts; they are called washy. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 138 It was a washy ill constitutioned horse. 1828–32 Webster, *Washy*..liable to sweat profusely with labor; as, a washy horse. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 163 [This] gives to a beast what is called a washy appearance, and is always attended with a liability to looseness in the bowels. This washiness is generally attended with an inordinate breadth of hooks [i. e. hips]. 1864 F. Mayhew *Illustr. Horse Managem.* 483 A leggy, a washy, a soft species of creature, which gentlemen find it cheaper to hire than to buy.

6. Of a person: Lacking strength or stamina; weak, feeble, insipid; poor, mean, worthless. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1631 Donne *Serm.* xlv. (1640) 448 All the good of man, considered supernaturally, is in grace; but that will not grow in a washy soule, in a liquid, in a watery, and dissolute, and scattered man. 1657 J. Watts *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. III. 24 Like as some, who used water instead of wine.., were called by the Church ὑδροπαραστάται, or *Aquarii*, watry and washy Hereticks, as Augustine witnesseth. 1682 Dryden *Epil. to King & Q.* 37 Alas, our Women are but washy Toys. 1693 Ld. Falkland *Congreve's Old Bach.* Prol., If the Slave, After his bragging, prove a washy Knave; May he be banish'd to some lonely Den. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 337 What washy Rogues are here, are these the Sons of Beef, and English Beer? *a* 1721 Prior *Daphne & Apollo* 10 One mite has put the fellow out of breath; Washy he is, perhaps not over sound.

Waskeine, variant of Vasquine *Obs.*

†Wa·skite. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Of obscure origin; prob. an erroneous form.

Not for Wasp-kite, as that word (if genuine) denotes a bird of the Old World.]

Given by Izaak Walton as the name of a long-winged hawk, native of Virginia.

1655 Walton *Angler* i. (1661) 13 [List of long-winged hawks.] The Waskite from Virginia.

Waskyne, variant of Vasquine *Obs.*

Waslage, obs. Sc. form of Vassalage.

Wasn't, colloq. contraction of *was not.*

Wasp (wɒsp), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **wæfs**, **wæps**, 2 **weaps**, 5, *dial.* 8–9 **waps**, 7, 9 *dial.* **wapse**, 9 *dial.* **wops**(e. *β.* 1 **wæsp**, 4–7 **waspe** (7 **whaspe**, 8 **whasp**), 6– **wasp**. *Pl. α.* 5 **wappys**. [OE. **wæfs**, **wæps**, **wæsp** masc. corresponds (with differences of declension) to OS. ***wæpsa**, fem. (MLG. **wepse**, **wespe**, **wispe**), MDu. **wespe** fem. (mod.Du. **wesp**), OHG. **wafsa**, **wefsa** fem. (MHG. **wefse**, **webse**, mod.G. **wespe**, dial. **webes**):—OTeut. ***wabiz-s**, **-iz̄ō**, ***waps-**:—pre-Teut. ***wobhes-**, ***wops-**: cf. Lith. **vapsà** gadfly, OSl. **osa** (Russ. **osá**) wasp; L. **vespa** has another ablaut-grade. The root is believed to be ***webh-** to weave, the name having reference to the nests which the insect constructs.

The word is not found in Gothic, and in the Scandinavian langs. it exists only as an adoption from Low German: Da. **hveps**, Norw. **hveps**, **gveps**, **veps**, **veps**, etc., mod. Icel. **vespa**. The OF. **guespe**, mod. F. **guêpe**, represents the L. **vespa**, but the initial **gu-** (= **w-**) for **v** seems to be due to the influence of the Teut. word.]

1. In popular language, any insect of the genus *Vespa*; chiefly applied to *V. vulgaris*, the Common Wasp, and such other species as are not readily distinguishable from this; sometimes taken to include the Hornet, *V. crabro*, which resembles the Common Wasp, but is larger and has a more powerful sting. The obvious characteristics of the genus are the alternate rings of black and yellow on the abdomen, the narrow stalk or petiole by which the abdomen is attached to the thorax, the fully developed wings, and the formidable sting (which, however, is peculiar to the females and the workers or imperfect females). In scientific language applied generally to two divisions of hymenopterous insects, the Diploptera or true wasps, and the Fossores or digger wasps.

The true wasps (*Diploptera*) are divided into three families: (1) *Vespidæ*, to which the common wasp belongs; (2) *Eumenidæ*; and (3) *Masaridæ*.

See also Digger *sb.* 4, Paper *sb.* 12, Queen *sb.* 13, Sand *sb.*[2] 10 b, Social *a.* 6 b, Solitary *a.* 4.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 902 *Crabro*; wæfs *vel* hurnitu. *Ibid.* F 136 *Fespa*, wæfs. *c* 875 *Erfurt Gloss.* 955 *Crabro*: uæps. *a* 1100 *Aga. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 318/36 *Uespa*, weaps. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 420 Þe waspis þat in his hewid ware, at his nese-thrillis flaw al owt *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 648 Per is no wasps in þis werlde þat will wilfullok[e]r stynge, For stappyng on a too of a stycande frere! 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3011 Full many flees may fell, bot a fewe waspis. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 141 Out of hys nase þurles dropped wormys out lyke waspes. 1496 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 577 Where as they light, The been will byte, And also styng. Be-ware of wappys. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 122 And beware, that no waspes come in-to the hyue, for they wyll kyl the bees, and eate the honny. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 25 Nowe merry as a cricket, and by and by, Angry as a waspe, though in both no cause why. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* 148, I cannot marueil enough, how the nimble Bee should be ingendred of the sluggish Oxe, or the liuely wasp of the dead Horse. *a* 1592 H. Smith *Serm.* (1637) 239 God is not like a Waspe, which when she hath stung cannot sting again. 1653 Walton *Angler* xii. 226 To take the Roch and Dace, a good bait is the young brood of Wasps or Bees, baked or hardned in their husks in an Oven. 1724 Derham in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 54 The Male Wasps are lesser than the Queens, but as much longer and larger than the Common Wasps, as the Queen is longer and larger than these. 1730 Young *Epist.* i. *To Pope* 33 As by depredations whasps proclaim The fairest fruit. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 263 The nest of the Common Wasp is always formed under the surface of the earth. 1848 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* xlix. 421 'Just as if we hadn't enough wapses,' exclaimed the old lady...'No, my good Grittles—that's a hornet,—not a "waps" as you wrongly call it.' 1862 Calverley *Verses & Transl.* (ed. 2) 95 As females vanish at the sight Of short-horns and of wopses. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* II. iii. § 3 'These old Roman chaps——' he said; and then the wasps arrived. They killed three in the jam alone.

2. *fig.* a. Applied to persons characterized by irascibility and persistent petty malignity, esp. to a multitude of contemptible but irritating assailants.

1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 195 Wan wraiglane wasp. 1560 Bp. Pilkington *Aggeus* Pref. A ij, So..vnder our gracious late Iosias, crepte oute a swarm of romish wapses, stynging to death all who wold not worshyp theyr gods, nor beleue theyr doctrine. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shrew* II. i. 210 Come, come you Waspe, y'faith you are too angrie. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *King & no K.* IV. iii, I will not hear you, wasp. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 169 The Frenche Agent..promised to joine with the Generall for a publicke redresse from these perfidious whaspes. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 5. 23, I had no sooner undertaken this task, but I raised a nest of holy wasps and hornets about my ears. 1775 H. Walpole *Let. to W. Cole* 25 Apr., The reviewers and such litterati have called me a learned and ingenious gentleman...These wasps, I suppose, will be very angry at the just contempt Mr. Gray had for them. 1792 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* I. 97 Sallo, after having published only his third Journal, felt the irritated wasps of literature thronging so thick about him, that he very gladly abdicated the throne of Criticism. 1844 W. Cross *Disruption* xxxiii. 362 Mr. Bacon, ye ken, is in a pretty pickle wi' this wasp o' a body M'Corkle. 1910 Ld. Rosebery *Chatham* vii. 177 Glover was an ill-conditioned wasp, and his story refutes itself.

b. Something that irritates or offends one.

†*The wasp got him by the nose* (Prov.): he was infuriated.

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 20 At the hearing of this speeche, the waspe got my brother by the nose, which mad him in his rage to affirme, that [etc.]. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 55. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 160 Of temper as envenom'd as an asp; Censorious, and her ev'ry word a wasp. 1844 Jerrold *St. Giles* iv. (1852) 34 That little head of his is full of wasps as July.

3. An artificial fly for salmon-fishing (made to imitate the appearance of a wasp). Cf. *wasp-fly* in 5 b.

1887 F. Francis *Angling* x. (1880) 350 Some of the Tay flies, particularly the Wasps, dressed small, will kill well in the Tweed.

4. *Conchol.* A variety of cowry (see quot.).

1813 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wasp, *Cypræa Asellus.*

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **wasp-comb**, **-egg**, **-grub**, **-honey**, **-larva**, **-maggot**, **-pupa**, **-sting**, **-worm**; **wasp-barbed**, **-like** adjs.

1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 346 One of the worst, *wasp-barbed, most tingling pangs of my memory is yet of a sunny afternoon at Pisa, when [etc.]. 1877 Wood *Nature's Teachings* 168 There is..one curious point of difference between the *Wasp-comb and human architecture. 1870 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. VI. 327 It is..also a great deal smaller than the *wasp egg. 1760 Hawkins *Walton's Angler* xi. 197 *note*, There are no better Baits for this fish than..a Gentle, a young *Wasp-grub boiled, or a green Worm. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 July 2/3 Some *wasp honey. 1870 *Wasp-larva [see **wasp-pupa**]. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 125 *Wasp-like Fly Maggot. 1867 G. Musgrave *Nooks Old Friends* II. 209 Picturesque and coquettish as ever their [mills] wasp-like waists were. 1678 Ray *Wallughby's Ornith.* II v. 72 *marg.* *Wasp-Maggots or Gruba. 1836 Jesse *Angler's Rambles* 197 The chub may be taken with..gentles, wasp-maggots, and black-snails. 1870 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. VI. 314 Doubtless also their fellow inhabitants, described..as injured *wasp-pupæ, were in reality the partially devoured wasp-larvæ. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II viii, Four *Wasp Stings, like Joyners Tacks. 1822 Scott *Halidon Hill* I. ii. 339 A cobweb gossamer were guard as good Against a wasp-sting. 1804–6 *Wasp-worm [see Waspworm].

b. Special comb.: **wasp-bee**, a bee of the genus *Nomada*, a cuckoo-bee; **wasp-beetle**, a beetle of the genus *Clytus*, esp. *C. arietis*; **wasp-cake** *dial.*, the comb in a wasp's nest; **wasp-flower**, a flower frequented by honey-gathering wasps; **wasp-fly**, a syrphid fly somewhat resembling a hornet; also an artificial fly for fishing; **wasp-paper**, the paper-like material, produced by mastication, of which wasps' nests are made; †**wasp-spade**, a spade for digging out wasps' nests; †**wasp-stung** *a.*, irritable (as if stung by a wasp); **wasp-waist**, a very slender waist, *esp.* the characteristic waist of a woman who laces tightly; **wasp-wood** *dial.* (see quot.).

1844 F. Smith in *Zoologist* II. 587 Descriptions of the British *Wasp-Bees. 1704 Petiver *Gazophyl.* III. Tab. xxvii, The Maryland *Wasp Beetle. 1863 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III 476 The common wasp beetle (*Clytus arietis*). 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 10/1 Experienced anglers cannot recall a season in which *wasp-cake is so difficult to obtain. 1884 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 399 *Wasp flowers are remarkable for having a helmet-shaped tube, exactly fitted to a wasp's head, with abundant honey filling the bottom of the bell. 1676 Cotton *Angler* II viii. 77 We have likewise this month [July] a *Wasp-flie, made..of a dark brown dubbing.., ribb'd about with yellow silk. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vii. i. 156 The Wasp-Fly, *Tabani species altera.* 1854 Mary Howitt *Pict. Cal. Seasons* 404 The buzz of a wasp-fly, when resting apparently motionless on the window. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* xii. (1880) 456 The Wasp Fly.—Three mauve hackle fibres for tail [etc.]. 1899 D. Sharp *Insects* II. 83 These little habitations consist of masses of cells, wrapped in *wasp-paper, in which there are one or more orifices for ingress and egress. 1609 C Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 126 With a *Wasp spade, search for the nest. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 236 (1598 Qo.) Why what a *waspe-stung [later Quos. wasp(e) tongue] Follon wasp(e)-tongu'd] and impatient foole Art thou? 1870 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 Sept. 330 The fearful displacement of the vital organs which must be effected to procure a *wasp-waist. 1905 *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 344/3 The cylinder..shows a person tightly cinctured, and with a wasp-waist, resembling the men on Mycenæan monuments. 1887 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. III. 491 Touchwood, or as it is sometimes called, *wasp-wood, because wasps use it to make their nests.

Wasp (wɒsp), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Wasp *sb.*] *trans.* To sting as a wasp does.

1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Emp. China & Tsing-Ti* Wks. II. 137/1 That blow upon the cheek-bone! those rotten eggs! ..surely they have wasped thee!

Wasp, obs. Sc. var. Wisp, quantity of fish.

Wasper, variant of Wawsper *Sc.*

Wasphood (wɒ·sphud). [Wasp *sb.* + -hood.] The condition of a wasp.

1804–6 Syd. Smith *Mor. Philos.* xvii. (1850) 244 When the wasp-worm is hatched, it finds a store of provisions ready made; and..the quantity allotted to each is exactly sufficient to support it, till it attains the period of wasphood.

Waspish (wɒ·spiʃ), *a.* [f. Wasp *sb.* + -ish.]

1. Pertaining to or resembling a wasp or some characteristic of it.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 211 If I be waspish, best beware my sting. 1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 90 Thy waspish tongue will never fail To prat, to scold, revile and rail. 1822 Scott *Halidon Hill* I. ii. 354 Let a body of your chosen horse Make execution on yon waspish archers. 1863 Trollope *Belton Est.* iv. 40 Her waist showed none of those waspish proportions. 1915 B. Digby in *Travel* July 22/1 In the dock lay a pair of waspish, one-funnelled steamers.

2. *esp.* Quick to resent any trifling injury or affront; irascible, petulantly spiteful.

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* a iv b, Satyre of writhled waspyshe Saturne may be namde. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 33 In aige, sone testie, very waspishe. 1673 Hickeringill *Gregory F. Greybeard* 222 The leven of whose religion makes them waspish, peevish, touchy, clamorous. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 177 P 11 Their conversation was, therefore, fretful and waspish, their behaviour brutal. 1808 Southey *Lett.* (1856) II. 212 It is lamentable that that good heart of his should be coupled with so bad a judgement and so waspish a temper. 1838 Disraeli in *Corr. w. Sister* 23 Jan. (1886) 90 Sharp and waspish, he would have made a good partisan Opposition speech. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ix, Such a set of waspish, dogmatical, over-bearing fellows. *a* 1902 W. Bright *Age of Fathers* (1903) II. 375 He had been charged by waspish enemies with ascribing a heavenly origin to the holy body of Christ.

Comb. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 99 Her waspish headed sonne [*sc.* Cupid], has broke his arrowes, Sweare he will shoote no more, but play with Sparrowes.

b. Marked or characterized by virulence or petulance, spiteful.

1870 *Even. Standard* 9 Sept. 1 This waspish article created great indignation. 1880 *Scribner's Monthly* May 118 'The Literati'..are a prose Dunciad, waspish and unfair, but[etc.]. *quasi-adv.* 1885 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* ix, We may excuse Raleigh's answering somewhat waspish to some quotation of Spenser's from the three letters of 'Immerito and G. H.'

Hence **Wa'spishly** *adv.*; **Wa'spishness.**

1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 116 That they be not cast out of the church by the weaknes, waspishnes (frowardnes) or rashnes of the bishop. 1653 W. RAMESAY *Astrol. Restored* 334 Where he is pleased now and then..to vent his waspishness. 1684-94 tr. *Plutarch's Morals* (1718) III. 24 To preserve her from being waspishly proud, out of a Conceit of her Fidelity and Vertue. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. x. 87 A state of continual waspishness. 1827 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 1862 IV. 24 Berkeley, feeling himself nettled by the waspishness of the old Frenchman, squared at him. 1883 Miss BROUGHTON *Belinda* IV. iv, 'Well, may I go?' 'Why do you ask?' fetorts he waspishly.

Wasp-kite. *rare*—°. [A translation of the G. name *wespenbussard* or *wespenfalke*: the bird preys on wasps' nests.] The Honey-buzzard, *Pernis apivorus.* 1891 *Century Dict.*

Waspling (wɒ·splɪŋ). [f. WASP *sb.* + -LING 1.] A young wasp.

1905 PECKHAM *Wasps Social & Solitary* 90 Startle it ever so slightly and the waspling retreats by way of its web.

Wasp's nest, wasp-nest. The nest of a wasp. Also *fig.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 107 Sathanas That hath in Iues herte his waspes nest. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Waspynsenet, *vesparium.* 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 128 Which..bring foorth a swarme (as it were) of bees, or rather a waspes neast in us. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 814 Hee has a Sonne, who shall be..set on the head of a Waspes Nest. 1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 363 Two Sorts of curious Wasps Nests made with Clay. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 474 If like a wasp's nest I could scoop the eye out Of the detested Cyclops. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* III. xxiv, Your policy of half-measures,..which flaps an exasperated waspnest with a silk pocket-handkerchief, instead of blowing it up with a match and train, is rarely successful. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* x. ii. (1873) III. 223 Cannot we get away from this scurvy wasp's-neat of a Paris? 1870 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. VI. 328 The female *Rhipiphorus* lays her eggs before leaving the wasps' nest. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 82 It would be impossible..to give a satisfactory account of all the forms of wasp-nests. *Ibid.* 86 A wasp's nest.

Hence **Wasp-nesting** *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1], the action of searching for wasp's nests.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 1873, 263/1 Fancy going about wasp-nesting with some one at your heels to take care of you.

Wasp-waisted, *a.* Having the waist very slender, esp. as the result of tight-lacing.

1775 Mrs. DELANY *Lett.* Ser. II. II. 160, I hope Miss Sparrow will not fall into the absurd fashion of ye wasp-waisted ladies. 1839 DUNCAN in *Congr. Globe* Jan., App. 104/2 A thousand of the wasp-waisted gentry to quell the Democracy of Pennsylvani a—monstrous!!! 1892 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 6/4 These young women..are not wasp-waisted. *transf.* 1867 G. MUSGRAVE *Nooks & Corners Old France* II. 147, I saw several wasp-waisted windmills.

Wa'spy, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Now *dial.* **wapsy.** [f. WASP *sb.* + -Y 6.] A wasp.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 330 Angry as a waspy! *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wapsy, wapsy,* a wasp.

Waspy (wɒ·spi), *a.* [f. WASP *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Resembling a wasp in form, wasp-like.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 921 Whereupon that Greek Comick Poet calls those Maids,..for their slendernesse in the waste σφηκοδεις [*sic*], waspy or like Wasps. 1869 T. W. WOOD in *Student* II. 87 The hornet clearwing,..so waspy in appearance. 1870 *Daily News* 19 July 6 A brown horse with a light waspy middle. 1889 *Sportsman* 29 July 2/1 So long as a waspy waist is considered 'a thing of beauty'.

2. Abounding in wasps.

1681 *Rector's Bk Claysworth* (1910) 53 It was also a very waspy year. 1880 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 23 Very hot and waspy it was at dinner.

Wass, obs. f. *was* (see BE *v.* 3 and WASH *v.*).

Wassail (wɒ·s'l, wæ·s'l, -eɪl), *sb.* Now only *arch.* and *Hist.* Forms: 3 **wæs hæil, wæshail, washayl, washail, wesseyl,** 3-4, 7 **wassayl,** 3, 6-7, 9 *arch.* **wassaile,** 5 **wassaylle, wessayle, (whatsaile, -saill),** 6 **wassaill, -ayle,** 6-7 **wassall,** 7-8 **wassal,** (7 **vassaile,** *Hist.* **was-haile, washeall, waes heal,** 9 **waisall, waissel,** *arch.* **was-hael),** 5-9 **wassel(l,** 3- **wassail.** [ME. *wæs hæil* etc., a. ON. *ves* (= later *ver*) *heill,* corresp. to OE. *wes hál* lit. 'be in good health' or 'be fortunate': see BE *v.* A. 3 and WHOLE *a.*

As an ordinary salutation (= 'hail' or 'farewell') the phrase, or an approximation to it, occurs both in OE. (*hál wes þú*, and in pl. *wesað hále*: see BE *v.* A. 3) and in ON. (pl. *verið heilir*). But neither in OE. nor in ON., nor indeed in any Teut. lang., has any trace been found of the use as drinking formulas, of the phrases represented by *wassail* and *drinkhail.* It seems probable that this use arose among the Danish-speaking inhabitants of England, and became more or less common among the native population; in the 12th c. it was regarded by the Normans as markedly characteristic of Englishmen. The earliest known occurrence of the phrases is in Geoffrey of Monmouth VI. xii. (*c* 1140), in the well-known story of Rowena (*wes heil..drinc heil*: v.r. *wæs heil,* printed edd. corruptly *wacht heil*). Geoffrey's attribution of the phrases to the 5th century is an anachronism; the original story as told by Nennius contains nothing corresponding to them. In Wace's *Brut* (*c* 1180), which is a metrical version of Geoffrey, various MSS. have *weshel, waissell, gasel; drinkel, drinchahail, drechahel.* That Wace's acquaintance with the 'English' phrases was not wholly derived from the passage in Geoffrey is shown by his reference to them in the *Roman de Rou*, where it is said that the night before the battle of Hastings was spent by the English in revelry, with cries of *weissel* (v.rr. *waese hail, wæsail, wæsail*) and *drinchahail* (v. rr. *drinceseil, dringuehail, drinkheil*). In the *Speculum Stultorum* of Nigellus Wireker (*c* 1190) the English students at the university of Paris are praised for generosity and other virtues, but are said to be too much addicted to *wassail* and *dringail.* The earliest example of the phrases in an English context is in Layamon's translation of Wace.

In *drinkhail* the second element is, as in *wassail*, the ON. adj. *heill* used as complement. Although the phrase *drekk heill* is not recorded in ON., it has an exact syntactical parallel in *sit heill*, 'sit in health'. Whether the form of the first element in *drinkhail* is due to OE. influence or is archaic Scandinavian is doubtful; the form *drechehel* in one MS. of Wace is noteworthy from its resemblance to the ON. of the literary period.]

1. A salutation used when presenting a cup of wine to a guest, or drinking the health of a person, the reply being DRINK-HAIL.

c 1205 LAY. 14309 Reowen..bar an hir honde ane guldene bolle i-mulled mid wine..& þus serest sæide in Ænglene londe Lauerd king wæs hæil [*c* 1275 wassayl]. *Ibid.* 14332 [see DRINK-HAIL]. *Ibid.* 14970 Heo fulde hir scale of wine.. & þus hailede him on..Lauerd king wæshail [*c* 1275 wassail]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1508 We3e wyn in þis won 'wassayl!' he cryes. *c* 1400 *Brut* 52 Ronewenne..come wiþ a coupe of golde..and knelede biforn þe kyng, and saide to him 'Whatsaile!'..þat was þe ferst tyme þat 'whatsaile' and 'drynkehaile' come vp into þis lande; and fram þat tyme into this tyme it Haþ bene wel vsede. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 216, I trust this wassail shall make all England glad. And with that he dranke a great draught, the king pledging him. 1832 MOTHERWELL *Poems, Battle-Flag of Sigurd* i, Then lift the can to bearded lip,..Wassaile! to every dark-ribbed ship, To every battle-field! 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. v, Fair mistress Sybill, your dainty lips will not, I trow, refuse me the waisall. [*Another ed. reads* waissel.] 1860 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* XII. xiii, The Berserks drank 'Was-hael! to the Lord!'

† **b.** As a mere salutation. quasi-*arch.*

a 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV. ii. *Ha.* What? who goes there? *Moth.* Waes heal thou gentle Knight.

¶ **c.** *ironically.* A 'salute', smart attack. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 9020 Odemoun..Toke Menelaus In that swyng, And him bare ouer his hors tayl: He 3aff him there suche a wassail, That he lay longe In colde swot.

2. The liquor in which healths were drunk; esp. the spiced ale used in Twelfth-night and Christmas-eve celebrations.

Wine and wassail (now *arch.*, echoing Shaks.): *vaguely*, strong drink in abundance (cf. sense 4).

c 1300 *Havelok* 1246 Wyn and ale deden he fete, And made[n] hem glade and blipe, Wesseyl ledden he fele sipe. 1494 in *Housch. Ord.* (1790) 121 When the steward cometh in at the hall doore with the wassell, he must crie three tymes, Wassell, wassell, wassell. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 9 Then was the wassaill or banket brought in, and so brake vp Christmas. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXV. viii. II. 224 And even at this day [in Spain] in their great feasts, they have a certaine Wassaile or Bragat, which goeth round about the table, made of honied wine or sweet mead, with..hearbes in it. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. 64 His two Chamberlaines Will I with Wine, and Wassell, so conuince, That Memorie..shall be a Fume. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest* iii, The jolly wassail walkes the often round, And in their cups, their cares are drown'd. 1616 — *Masque of Christmas* 2 Enter..Wassail, Like a neat Sempster, and Songster; her Page bearing a browne bowle, dreat with Ribbands. 1661 *New Carolls for Christmas, For Twelfth-day* iii, The Wassell well spiced, about shall go round. 1742-50 R. O. CAMBRIDGE *Archimage* xiii. Wks. (1803) 39 'Bove all things else he Wassel priz'd and ale. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* VI. Introd. 64 On Christmas eve..The wassel round, in good brown bowls Garnish'd with ribbons, blithely trowls. 1816 — *Old Mort.* ix, Women, wine, and wassail, all to be had for little but the asking. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 7 The wine and the wassail of mine host began to operate upon bodies already a little jaded by the chase. 1836 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, They sat down..to a substantial supper, and a mighty bowl of wassail,..in which the hot apples were hissing and bubbling. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cv. v, And strangely falls our Christmas-eve. . But let no footstep beat the floor, Nor bowl of wassail mantle warm. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* I. *Court-yard of Castle* 17 No song, no laugh, no jovial din Of drinking wassail to the pin. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* iv, Two hundred gownsmen, wild with wrath and wassail, came leaping to the rescue. 1898 J. B. CROZIER *My Inner Life* v. 43 He was much addicted to wine and wassail too, as his blood-red face sufficiently attested.

† **3.** A custom formerly observed on Twelfth-night and New-Year's eve of drinking healths from the wassail-bowl. † Also, ? the person invited to drink from the wassail-bowl. *Obs.*

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 25 A wassaile on twelfe night. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* IX. 153, I see a custome in some parts among vs,..I meane the yearely washaile in the country on the vigil of the New-yeare. *a* 1654 — *Table-Talk* (1689) 42 The Pope in sending Rellicks to Princes, does as Wenches do by their Wassels at New-yearstide, they present you with a Cup, and you must drink of a slabby stuff; but the meaning is, you must give them Moneys. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Wassail*,..an ancient Ceremonious custome, still used upon twelf day at night, of going about with a great bowl of Ale, drinking of healths. 1661 *New Carolls for Christmas, For Twelfth-day* ii, For a King of our Wassell this night we must chuse.

4. A carousal; riotous festivity, revelling.

1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iv. 9 The King doth wake to night, and takes his rouse, Keepes wassels. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 56 Anthony, Leaue thy lasciuious Vassalles. 1614 R. TAILOR *Hog hath lost Pearl* G 3, I sweare,..By Cresus name and by his castle, Where winter nights he keepeth wassell. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* v. viii, The blithesome signs of wassel gay Decay'd not with the dying day. 1820 BYRON *Juan* III. lxi, Meantime the lady and her lover sate At wassail in their beauty and their pride. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk* (1849) 148, I at length arrived in merry Eastcheap, that ancient region of wit and wassail. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* IV. ii, A board was spread and a wassail was blithe around me. 1878 H. PHILLIPS Jr. *Poems fr. Sp. & German* 72 Two kings held wassail in Orkadal. 1903 R. S. HAWKER *Footpr. Far Cornwall* 28 Now there was signal made of banquet in the halls of Stowe, of wassail and dance.

† **5.** A carol or song sung by wassailers; a wassailing or health-drinking song. *Obs.*

In quot. 1607 *ironical* or *jocular.*

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-Hater* III. i, Have you done your wassayl? 'tis a handsome drowsie dittie I'll assure ye, now I had as leave hear a Cat cry. *c* 1630 *New Christmas Carols, Carrol for Wassel-Bowl* 7 Good Dame here at your Door Our Wassel we begin.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 3), *wassail-candle, -day, -singer, -singing*; (sense 4), *wassail-bout, -revelry, -roar, -rout, -season, -song*; also **wassail-cup** = WASSAIL-BOWL.

A spurious compound *wassail-bread*, given in many Dicts., is due to a misinterpretation of *wastell-bread*: see WASTEL. For a similar figment, *wassail-cake*, see quot. 1686-7 s.v. WASSAIL *v.* 2.

1840 LONGF. *Skeleton in Armour* vii, Many a *wassail-bout Wore the long Winter out. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 179 *Fal.* A *Wassell Candle, my Lord; all Tallow. 1634 BERRETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 Such as they met gave them money..to buy a *wassail-cup, a carouse. 1660 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. xiii. 503 The same wassaile cup [L. *poculum idem*] that first will be presented to me, shall go round about to you all. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* XXV, Let us haue a Christmas wassail-cup and toast Old England here, on the hearth. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xiii, O *wassel days! O customs meet and well! 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI. xix, But now, from England's host, the cry Thou hear'st of *wassail revelry. 1808 — *Marmion* I. xxx, This was the sign the feast was o'er; It hush'd the merry *wassel roar. *Ibid.* III. Introd. 187 Of forayers, who,..home returning, fill'd the hall With revel, *wassel-rout, and brawl. 1767 MICKLE *Concub.* I. xxix, Now fly the *wassail Seasons wingd with Glee. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wassail-singers. 1895 'Q' [Quiller-Couch] *Wand. Heath* 182 December and January, with..carols and *wassail-singing. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiii, The chorus of a *wassel-song, which some reveller was trolling over in his sleep. 1854 GRACE GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 88 A hall of the old castle, which had rung to the clang of rude armour, and the wassail songs of Erin's princes and knights.

Wassail (wɒ·s'l, wæ·s'l, -eɪl), *v.* Forms: 4 **wosseyle, wesseyle,** 7 **wassaile, -ayle,** 6 **wassal,** 8 **wessel,** 8- **wassail.** [f. WASSAIL *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To 'keep wassail'; to sit carousing and health-drinking.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1737 Hwan he..fele sipes haueden wosseyled, And with gode drinkes seten longe. *Ibid.* 2028 Hwat may þis be? Better is i go miself, and se: Hweþer he sitten nou, and wesseylen. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 430 A Horn; the ancient vessel in which the Danes use to Was-sayle, or drink healths. 1889 F. M. CRAWFORD *Greifenstein* III. xxv. 136 He feasted and wassailed with his warriors.

2. *trans.* To drink to (fruit-trees, cattle) in wassail, in order to ensure their thriving. *local.*

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Christmasse-Eve*, Wassaile the Trees, that they may beare You many a Plum, and many a Peare. 1686-7 AUBREY *Rem. Gentilism & Judaism* (1881) 9 *Mem.* at Twelve-tyde at night they use in the Countrey to wassaile their Oxen and to have Wassaile-Cakes made. 1865 R. HUNT *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* 2nd Ser. 176 This drink was called *lamb's-wool*, and with it the trees were wassailed. 1878 *Folk-Lore Rec.* I. 13 It is the custom, in the cider districts of Sussex, to worsle (wassail) the apple-trees. 1895 F. T. ELWORTHY *Evil Eye* iii. 105 The old Christmas custom of wassailing the apple-trees.

Wassail-bowl. A large bowl or cup in which wassail (sense 2) was made and from which healths were drunk; a loving-cup; also the liquor contained in the bowl.

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* II. I. D 3 b, Hee is a most excellent Turner, and will turne you wassel-bowles, and posset Cuppes. 1608-9 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 179 Given to the maides which came with the wassell-boule, xij^d^. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Shepherdess* v. i, Some neere towne,..Hath drawne them thether, bout some lusty sport; Or spiced wassal Boule. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Country Life* 56 Thy Wassaile bowle, That's tost up after Fox i' th' Hole..; thy Christmas revellings. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Dec., We went into an alehouse and there..a wassail-bowle woman and girle came to us and sung to us. 1686-7 AUBREY *Rem. Gentilism & Judaism* (1881) 40 They goe into the Ox-house to the oxen, with the Wassell-bowle and drink to the ox. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* xvi. 195 Young Women went about with a Wassail-bowl, that is, a Bowl of spiced Ale on New Year's Eve. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* I. xv, A mighty wassail-bowl he took, And crown'd it high in wine. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1849) 287 A huge silver vessel of rare and curious workmanship..the Wassail Bowl, so renowned in Christmas festivity. *Ibid.* 288 *note*, The Wassail Bowl was sometimes composed of ale instead of wine; with nutmeg, sugar, toast, ginger, and roasted crabs. 1860 G. P. MORRIS *Poems* (ed. 13) 178 Some love to stroll where the wassail-boul And the wine-cups circle free.

Wassailer (wɒ·s'lə, wæ·s'lə). [f. WASSAIL *v.* + -ER 1.] One who takes part in riotous festivities; a reveller.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 179, I should be loath To meet the rudenesse, and swill'd insolence Of such late Wassailers. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 284 O pale-eyed form, The victim of seduction,..Who in loathed orgies with lewd wassailers Must gaily laugh, while [etc.]. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.*

n. t. *Sav.* And you will join us at the banquet? *Sal.* Sire, Dispense with me—I am no wassailer. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* v. ii, A rather boisterous party of wassailers who had been celebrating at Buckhurst's rooms the triumph of 'Eton Statesmen'. 1882 *Standard* 18 Feb. 5/8 Christopher North pictures the wassailer of the 'Noctes Ambrosianæ' as revelling in a plenitude of Pandores.

†b. One who takes part in Twelfth-night or Christmas-tide 'wassailing'. *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wassellers*..such as in the Country go about from House to House, during the Festival of Christmas, and sing Catches for Drink or other small Boon. 1827 N. DRAKE *Shaks. & Times* I. vi. 130 The persons thus accompanying the Wassail bowl, especially those who danced and played, were called Wassailers. 1912 J. B. PARTRIDGE in *Folk-lore* XXIII. 455 Wassailers still go round at Randwick, Woodchester, [etc.]..., and probably many other villages [in Gloucestershire].

Wa·ssailing, *vbl. sb.* [f. WASSAIL *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb WASSAIL; carousing, riotous festivity.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 390 Spending all the day, and good part of the night, in dauncing, carolling and wassailing. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discipl.* II. 61 That men should bee..push't forward to gaming, jigging, wassailing, and mixt dancing is a horror to think. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1849) 237 Its feudal hospitalities, and lordly wassailings, have passed away. 1913 J. G. FRAZER *Golden Bough* (ed. 3), *Balder* I. ii. 58 Before the wassailing begins, the various fathers perform a curious operation on the arms of their sons.

†2. The action (practised in English country districts by the poorer classes, esp. by the children) of going from house to house at Christmas-time, singing a song expressive of good wishes for Christmas and the coming year, usually with the addition of carols or other songs.

1742 *Agreeable Compan.* in Halliwell *Shaks.* (1856) VI. 332 'Twas an ancient custom amongst poor people to go a wesseling at Christmas...Such poor people went about to get money to drink your health, and for which they carried a box..to put their money in. 1889 DOR. E. HURST *Horsham* (ed. 2) Gloss. Sussex Wds., *Wasseling*, a name given to the singing of Christmas carols at the doors of houses, a practice..which is dying out.

3. *attrib.*, as *wassailing bowl, song, watch.*

1555 W. WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* II. ix. 194 The maner is, out of one of these Skulles, as out of a wassailing boule, to giue all those the wine that haue slaine an enemie. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvii (1912) 321 Meaning to observe a wassaling watch all that night. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 134 The wailing songs and wassailing songs of darker days.

Wassailous (wɒ·sə̆lə̆s), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. WASSAIL *sb.* or *v.* + -OUS.] Given to revelry.

1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 43 The wassailous heart of the Year is thine.

Wassailry (wɒ·s'lri). *rare.* [f. WASSAIL *sb.* + -RY.] Carousing, revelry.

1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xii. 102 No season this for old solemnities, For wassailry and sport. 1860 SIR T. MARTIN *Horace, Odes* II. xiv. 35 A worthier heir..with a lordlier wine, Than at the feasts divine Of pontiffs flows, your floor in wassailry shall stain.

Wassal. *local.* Also **wassel.** [Of obscure origin.] The stems of seaweed used as a manure.

1797 J. BAILEY & CULLEY *Agric. Northumbld.* 118 The *fucus digitatus* (wassels) is the great favourite. 1892 J. C. HODGSON in *Hist. Berwicksh. Naturalists' Club* XIV. 115 *note*, The stems..become detached from their rocks about October, and are locally named 'belks' or 'wassal'.

Wassal(l, -ale : see WASSAIL, WASSAIL.

Wassal(l)age, -edge, obs. Sc. ff. WASSALAGE.

Wassayl(e, -lle, obs. forms of WASSAIL.

Wasse, obs. f. *was* (see BE *v.*) and WASH *v.*

Wassel, obs. f. WASSAIL; var. WASSAL.

Wasselt: see WASSAL, WASSAIL, WASTEL.

†**Wa·sser.** *Obs. rare.* ? Shortened form of next.

1600 *New Metamorphosis* (Wright *Dict.* 1857 s.v.), The horrible huge whales did there appeare: The wasser that makes marryners to feare.

†**Wa·sserman.** *Obs.* [a. G. *wassermann* lit. 'water-man'.] A fabled sea-monster partly in the form of a man, supposed to destroy ships.

1593 [illegible] habited the Sea-monsters, such as the Whale, the Grampoys, the Wasserman, whom they haue suborned and inspyred to lye in wayte for Shipsawrack. 1599 — *Leuten Stuffe* 50 The greater giants of Russia & Island, as the whale, the sea horse, the Norse, the wasserman, the Dolphin, the Grampoys.

Wassh(e, obs. ff. WASH.

Wassilaige, wassolage, obs. Sc. ff. VASSALAGE.

Wast (wɒst, wɒst), 2nd pers. sing. pa. t. of BE *v.*

Wast, obs. form of WAIST, WASTE, WEST.

Wastable (wē·stăb'l), *a.* [f. WASTE *v.* + -ABLE.]

1. Liable to be wasted; subject to wastage. Also, in *Law*, said of things in respect of which a tenant may be chargeable with waste.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* 362 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 173 For moche of thys chaffare that is wastable Mighte be forborne for dere and dyssevable. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 179 In *Babees Bk.* (1868) 129 For ale þat is newe is wastable with-owten dowt. 1611 COTGR., *Admettible*,.. burneable, wasteable. *a* 1625 HOBART *Reports* (1650) 234 A Lessee..must neither take Timber or other things wastable. 1829 BISHAM *Offic. Apt. Maintained Indications* POSTAGE. (1830) 4 After hearing, [from 4 to 6 years are] able in reference to a Master.

†2. Of a country: Desolate, waste. *Obs.*

a 1430 LOVELICH *Grail* xlviii. 306 Vpon a day as they forth wente, In a wastable Contre veramente, where that was scars of vyaunde.

Wastage (wē·stédʒ). [f. WASTE *v.* + -AGE.]

1. a. Loss or diminution by use, decay, leakage, or the like.

1736 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 23 His goods must be shipped on board of some drover, where they seldom fail paying the usual tributes of pilferage and wastage. 1796 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 436 The allowance from a pound to a pound and half for wastage. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 203/1 The allowance for the wastage in the drying is rendered perfectly arbitrary. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 325 The loss and wastage upon hides, from hair, flesh, &c., may be estimated at from 12 to 13 per cent. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 196 The lightermen claimed as their right the perquisites of 'wastage' and 'leakage'. 1904 *Times* 24 Aug. 6/1 The scheme for reinforcement is prepared for a far heavier wastage than has as yet taken place.

b. The action of spending uselessly or using wastefully; loss incurred by wastefulness.

1885 H. C. MCCOOK *Tenants of Old Farm* 118 A noble German lady found..there was a vast wastage in her household. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 178/2 There is a subtlety which here in Rome Men look for in blind wastage of their lives, Not knowing where to seek it. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 6/6 It is doubtful if anywhere in the world there is a greater wastage of coal than in Bombay.

c. The action of laying (land) waste.

1911 WEBSTER.

2. The product of wear or decay, waste.

1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 538/1 One of eight principal glaciers that bear away the icy wastage of Mount Kazbek.

3. *Sc.* A ruined or deserted place; also, a waste piece of ground.

1823 GALT *Gilhaise* xx, Carsewell's family has gone all to drift, and his house become a wastage. 1830 — *Lawrie T.* III. x, The settlement..was plainly ordained to be soon a wastage; for the houses received no repair, [etc.]. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 694 Their grand theatre became a wastage. 1881 *Mem. G. Thomson* ix. 125 A row of houses on either side,—the houses not quite attached to each other, but having a wastage between.

Wastayne, var. WASTINE *Obs.*, wilderness

Wast-coat, obs. form of WAISTCOAT.

Waste (wēst), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 **wast,** 4–5 **waast,** 6, 8 **waist,** 6 **wayste,** 4–6 *Sc.* **vast**(e, 3– **waste.** [a. OF. *wast*(*e*, dial. variant of *guast*(*e*, *gast*(*e*, partly repr. L. *vāstum*, neut. of *vāstus* WASTE *a.* (q.v. for the phonology), partly a verbal noun f. *waster* (*guaster, gaster*) WASTE *v.* Cf. Pr. *gast* ravage, waste, Sp., Pg. *gasto* expense, It. *guasto* ravage, damage, injury.

In early ME. the word adopted from OF. took the place of the cognate native WEST of the same meaning. In mod. Eng. the sb. in some senses may be f. WASTE *v.*]

I. Waste or desert land.

1. Uninhabited (or sparsely inhabited) and uncultivated country; a wild and desolate region, a desert, wilderness. Somewhat *rhetorical.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Ac seðen hie henen wenden, atlai þat lond unwend and bicam waste, and was roted oueral and swo bicam wildernesse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3072 Þe barn sco [*sc.* Hagar] dide drinc o þat wel, In þat wast þan can hai duell. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 21 In þat vaste scho fand a tovne, þat nov is callit Terrascone. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3487 Þare many daies he dissert he dryfes with his ost...Be wast & be wildirnes & be watirles bournes. *c* 1450 *Erle of Tolous* 451 From them he wente into a waste. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 80 But see, the man who spacious regions gave A waste for beasts, himself deny'd a grave. *a* 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* I. 279 North beyond Tartary's extended Waste. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* v. 1164 Among the wastes of Rylstone Fell. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxiii, The shadowless and trackless wastes of Zahara. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xiii. 221 Napoleon was now.. in an uncultivated country of almost boundless wastes. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 742 Is there no prophet but the voice that calls Doom upon kings, or in the waste 'Repent'? 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 46 Wandering about in a boggy waste. 1885 *Athenæum* 23 May 669/2 A sandy waste, which is scantily clad with herbage.

b. *transf.* Applied, e. g., to the ocean or other vast expanse of water (often *waste of waters, watery waste*), to land covered with snow, and to empty space or untenanted regions of the air.

1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 89 A place caulled *vastum vacuum* .i. the great waste asmoche to saie as a place voyde or emptie withoute the worlde where is neither fier ayre water nor earth. 1658 WALLER *Panegyr. Ld. Protector* 41 Lords of the Worlds great Waste, the Ocean, wee Whole Forrests send to Raigne upon the Sea. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 1045 Satan..in the emptier waste, resembling Air, Weighs his spread wings. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 310 From that dire Deluge, through the wat'ry Waste,..at last escap'd, to Latium we repair. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 309 P 21 In Satan's Voyage through the Chaos there are several Imaginary Persons described, as residing in that immense Waste of Matter. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xviii, Millions of myles throch the wyld waste. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magick* I. vi. 160 The utmost extent of the waste, or expanse of space. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 88 Where Mæotis sleeps, and hardly flows The freezing Tanais thro' a waste of snows. 1757 GRAY *Couplet about Birds* 2 The song-thrush there Scatters his loose notes in the waste of air. 1804 MOORE *To Marchioness Donegall* 32 Those pure isles..Which bards of old, with kindly fancy, plac'd For happy spirits in th'Atlantic waste? 1814 W. L. BOWLES *Spirit, Discov.* 308 Whose volcanic fires A thousand nations view, hung like the moon High in the middle waste of heaven. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* li, As these broad black rainbrows mingle with the waste of waters. 1864 D. G. MITCHELL *Sea. Stor.* 257 A raft is floating upon an ocean waste. 1875 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iii. 82 Showing their bare faces or precipitous rock across the dreary wastes of snow. 1892 M. CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* ix. (1903) 266 The waste of waters which spread on the east..was not sea-water. 1892 LADY F. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* I. 198 The 'great level' round the Isle of Ely..was..a waste of water in winter.

c. *fig.*

1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III. xvii, His soul a rock, his heart a waste. 1845 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Ps.* (Colburn) 86 If she could at any time..have claimed the smallest spot in the 'waste' of George's memory. 1856 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* III. xiv. 221 The open inhospitable waste of this world. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxvi, Miss Brass..opening the safe, brought from it a dreary waste of cold potatoes, looking as eatable as Stonehenge. 1901 *Scotsman* 15 Mar. 7/4 There still stood between the House and its most urgent business a dreary waste of more than a hundred and twenty questions.

2. A piece of land not cultivated or used for any purpose, and producing little or no herbage or wood. In legal use *spec.* a piece of such land not in any man's occupation, but lying common.

In some dialects the ordinary word; otherwise rare in colloquial use.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 163 Vncoupled þei wenden Bote in wareine & in waste where hem leue lyketh. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 58 It was graunted to the for said Burgeses a wast of ather ayde of the town. 1423 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 46 The Prioures wast in Hasillwod. 1580 in *Lancs. & Chesh. Wills* (1884) I. 72 With th' appurtenncs of and all and singular the said Manors..moores, mosses, wasts [etc.] 1582 *Durham Wills* (Surtees 1860) II. 54 My house I dwell in,..and the waist adjoyninge upon the same. 1600 *Anarcsb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 222 One waist with two cottages thereupon builded. 1668 in Horsfield *Hist. Lewes* (1824) I. 179 Times for the putting the tenants cattle into the common pastures, wastes, and commons of the manor. 1727 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 59 That they do not encroach upon the Lord's Waste, by digging Stone, Sand, &c. 1786 J. ROBERTS *Life* 60 [He was] permitted to keep six or seven cows upon the waste. 1799 A. YOUNG *View Agric. Lincoln* 147 At Leak and Wrangle there are some wastes, which the cottagers sometimes take in, and cultivate potatoes. 1820 STARKIE *Rep. Cases N. P.* II. 464 It was contended on his part, that the *locus in quo* belonged to Lady Smith in right of her manor, as being part of the wastes of that manor. 1828 BARNEWALL & CRESSWELL *Rep. K. B.* VII. 305 It was contended, that as the adjoining land belonged to Roberts, the primâ facie presumption was that the waste between his land and the high road belonged also to him. 1864 TENNYSON *North. Farmer, Old Style* vii, An' I a' stubb'd Thurnaby waäste. *Ibid.* x, Dubbut lookk at the waäste; theer warn't not feeäd for a cow; Nowt at all but bracken an' furz. 1864 — *Enoch Arden* 729 Behind, With one small gate that open'd on the waste, Flourish'd a little garden.

†3. A devastated region. *Obs.*

1621 BIBLE *Isa.* lxi. 4 They shall build the olde wastes, they shall raise vp the former desolations. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 572 All the leafie Nation sinks at last; And Vulcan rides in Triumph o're the Wast.

4. *Coal-mining.* A disused working; a part of a mine from which the coal has been extracted.

1695 *Parl. Reg. St. Andrew's, Newc.* in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) II. 301 *note*, [Two men] were drowned in a coal-pitt..by the breaking in of water from an old waste. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 29 There is this and that Invention found out to draw out all great Old Waists, or Drowned Collieries. 1773 *Ann. Reg.* 151 The foul air in an old waste of a colliery..took fire, and breaking down the barrier..between the waste and the working pit, made the most terrible explosions. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 990 In collieries which..have goaves, creeps, or crushed wastes, the disengagement of the fire-damp from these recesses is much influenced by the state of atmospheric pressure. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 64/2 The space from which the entire quantity of coal has been removed is known in different districts as the 'goaf', 'gob', or 'waste'. 1911 *Act* 1 & 2 *Geo. V* c. 50 § 52 (2) Props shall not be withdrawn from the waste or goaf, otherwise than by means of a safety contrivance.

transf. 1812 JOHN WILSON *Agric. Renfrew.* 26 The extent of excavation or waste, in these mines [the alum mines of Hurlet, Renfrews.] is about ¼ mile in length, and the greatest breadth about ⅛ of a mile.

II. Action or process of wasting.

5. Useless expenditure or consumption, squandering (*of* money, goods, time, effort, etc.).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7725 Pulke festes he wolde holde so nobliche Wiþ so gret prute & wast & so richeliche þat [etc.]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 232 (Göttl.) And till þaim speke i alþermast þat ledis þair liues in mekil wast. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7261 Rere sopera yn pryuyte, With glotonye, echone þey be; And þyr ys moche waste ynne, And gadryng of ouþer synne. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 15 Þouȝ þei hem self han neuere so muche wast of mete and drynk. *Ibid.* 60 For ajenst cristis wilful pouert þei techen in dede worldly coueitise & moche wast in worldly goodis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 813 Men oughten eschue fool largesse that men clepen wast. 1411–12 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 321 Now wold god þe waast of cloth & pryde Y-put were in exyl perpetual. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xxxvii. 47 Grete wast was not in his hous of sotil metes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 174 b, They consumeth superfluously & spendeth in waste, in one daye, the goodes that wolde suffyse & serve for theyr necessite many dayes. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 903 Waste, *prodigalité*. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 160 Your Meanes is very slender, and your waste great. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. i. 141 *Cloche strikes.* The cloche vpbraides me with the waste of time. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 218 They may not bury the corps in silke or needle-worke..for this were waste, and a worke of the Gentiles. *c* 1645 MILTON *Sonn.* xii. 14 For all this wast of wealth and loss of blood. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 1293 Why these insulting Words, this waste of Breath, To Soule undaunted, and secure of Death? 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* IV. vi, Your debts mount high—ye plunge in deeper waste. 1858 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii, Everywhere waste? Waste of manure,

waste of land, waste of muscle, waste of brain, waste of population—and we call ourselves the workshop of the world! 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lvii, All this was done with the greatest despatch, and without the waste of a moment. 1879 HUXLEY *Sensation* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 246 The maxim that metaphysical inquiries are barren of result, and that the serious occupation of the mind with them is a mere waste of time and labour.

Proverb. 1546 [see HASTE *sb.* 6]. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm., Reb. Jonah* (1602) E 8, It is good that men looke before they leape, hast makes wast. 1642 SANDERSON *Serm. ad Aulam* xiii. (1689) 550 But haste maketh waste, we say. 1736 [see WANT *sb.*[1] 3 *Prov.*]. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 347 Since there has been less haste there has been less waste.

b. Phrases, *to make*, † *do waste*, to be wasteful.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 139, I bidde noght that thou do wast, Bot hold largesce in his mesure. *c* 1480 *Lyt. Childr. Lyt. Bk.* 56 in *Babees Bk.* so Loke þou doo noo waste. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* xciii. 144 But they made grete waast & more than neded, & so by their oultrage & folye they lacked in short tyme. 1854 PATMORE *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 138 Long lease of his low mind befall The man who, in his wilful gust, Makes waste for one, to others all Discourteous, frigid, and unjust!

† c. (*Words of*) *waste*: useless talk. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2547 Why fader..are yo so fer troublet At his wordys of waste, & his wit febill? 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 187 The erle perceyvynge that he hade spoken wordes of waste [*te superflua dixisse*]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 134 Thou langyls waste.

† d. Wasted labour. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 2008 Thei armed hem with mochel haste; But sekirly it was but waste, For thei of Troye were mo than thai,..And sclow hem foule, when thei were met. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6672 Folow noo furthir, for it is waste.

† e. *In waste*, in vain, to no purpose. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alexander* 905 But all his werk was in waste. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 280 Bot al ves in wast þai wrocht. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 82 He spilleth many a word in wast That schal with such a poeple trete. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1232 Beryn..axid aftir clothis; but it was al in wast. 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* i. iv. 21 He presupposith tho gouernaunciis, vertues, and trouthis to be bifore knowen of tho same men, and ellis in waast he schulde so speke to tho men of hem not bifore knowen. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 916 Than Wallace said: 'In waist is that trawaill'. 1553 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. viii. 84 Ther hardy Kempis all in waist let draw, Athir at vthir, mony rowtis gret. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* iv. v, While my life shall last, For my friende Goodlucks sake ye shall not sende in wast. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* ix. Cc iij, Meethinkes I..go about in wast to stirre up your unwilling, and unmoveable mindes. 1556 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* Transl. Epist. A ij, Whatsoever I shoulde write therein, were but labour in waste. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 681 He thought to spende no longer tyme in waste. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 13 [She] Laught at his foolish labour spent in waste. [1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 3 So foolish and lavish are we, that too often we use some words in mere waste, and have no ideas for them.]

f. A profusion, lavish abundance *of* something.

1725 POPE *Odyss* VI. 356 And there the garden yields a waste of flow'rs. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* iii, Cooling the fragrant breese which breathed from the flowers and shrubs, that were so disposed as to send a waste of sweets around. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 191 Poor Philip, of all his lavish waste of words Remains the lean P. W. on his tomb.

g. An instance or example of wasting.

1618 BACON *Ess., Of Dispatch* (Arb.) 246 Prefaces, and passages, and excusations, and other speeches of reference to the person, are great wastes of time. *c* 1650 HIGFORD *Institt.* (1658) 6 Use Parsimony betimes before a wast be made, for Seneca tells you, *Sera est in fundo Parsimonia. Ibid.* 9 Riches may be well compared unto Cisternes or Pooles, which a small stream will easily fill, if there be no leaks or wasts, but small wasts and expences continuing, and not prevented, have decieved [sic], and undone many. 1658 *Whole Duty of Man* viii. § 12. 287 This is a waste of that which is much more precious, our time. 1780 *Mirror* No. 79 P 2 But to win them by offices of kindness, or attach them by real services, they consider as a fruitless waste of time. 1867 SIR C. DILKE in *Life* (1917) I. vii. 76 You think it a waste of money for me to contest Chelsea. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 4 Mar. 7/5 The economical woman..keeps a close watch for the small wastes that eat up more principal than the big purchases. 1920 CHESTERTON *Uses of Diversity* 54 He is somewhat anticlerical; which seems a waste of talent in a country where there is no clericalism.

6. Destruction or devastation caused by war, floods, conflagrations, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 433 b, He would doubtlesse haue made an horrible destruction and waste through oute all Germany. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. ii. 159 Like a cloake, doth hide From weathers Waste the vnder garnisht pride. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. iii. 18 What is it then to me, if impious Warre..Doe..all fell feats, Enluckt to wast and desolation? 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xxix. I. 145 It was the Ægyptians warres and not the Romanes that gave the wast to Æthyopia. [L. *Nec tamen arma Romana tibi solitudinem fecerunt.*] 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* Ep. Ded., There having been so great a wast and destruction of Wood. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 304 Were charity..to be the prevailing humour in the world, it would..turn industry into its proper channel, where it would not overflow to make waste and do mischief, nor be lost among the barren sands of whimsy. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 823 In three years they had committed such waste on their native land as thirty years of English intelligence and industry would scarcely repair. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 640 When since had flood, fire, earthquake, thunder, wrought Such waste and havock as the idolatries Which [etc.].

† b. *pl.* Ravages. *Obs.*

1625 G. SANDYS *Trav.* IV. 248 This City doth welnigh loyne to the skirts of Ætna..The elected flames haue heretofore committed horrible wasts. 1736 I. H. BROWNE *Pipe of Tobacco* I. 20 While Wastes of War deform the teeming Coast. 1738 WESLEY *Psalms* CV. vii, Pleas'd with the Work of thy own Hands, Thou dost the Wastes of Time repair.

† c. *concr.* Something wasted or destroyed. *Obs.*

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xii. 10 Then of thy beauty do I question make That thou among the wastes of time must goe. 1640 SUCKLING *Discont. Col.* III. (1642) E 4, Shal..This precious Lovelinesse, Passe with other common things Among the wasts of time?

7. *Law.* 'Any unauthorized act of a tenant for a freehold estate not of inheritance, or for any lesser interest, which tends to the destruction of the tenement, or otherwise to the injury of the inheritance' (Pollock, *Law of Torts*, 1887, p. 285). *Writ of waste* (= AF. *bref de wast*), a writ commanding the sheriff to inhibit a tenant from an act of waste. † *Year, day, and waste*: see YEAR 7 b. *Impeachment of waste*: see IMPEACHMENT 4 b.

For examples of AF. *wast* in this use see *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 9/1 (1278), II. 40/1 (1330), II. 170/2 (1347).

1424 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 60/2 Moreover, to enqueren what wast was made in the Kynges Maners, fro the tyme of Kyng John..into that day. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 317 Hit shold not be lawfull to the same sir william..to cast downe ony treys, nor here to make wast, sellyng or distroiyng, within the terme abouesaid, but for housebote. *c* 1475–80 in *Oxf. Stud. Soc. & Legal Hist.* (1914) IV. 225 In an accon of waste suyd..before the kinges Justices..for brennyng of a water Mill. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII* c. 33 Preamble, The said Dame Cicile shuld not be therof impeched of Wast. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* vii. 15 In such case yf the lease make wast, ye leasour shal haue agaynst hym a wryt of Wast. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* I. 53 There be two kinds of Waste, viz. Voluntarie or actuall, and permissiue. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. i. 13 The King..leaves the noble Crown of England in the base condition of a Farme, subject to strip and waste by mean men; and crosses the Irish Seas with an Army. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 331 If a house be uncovered by suddaine tempest, it is not waste, but if the Lessee suffer that to be uncovered, that the Timber rot, it is waste. 1770 *Ann. Reg.* 173 Having caused a man to be apprehended who had committed waste on the estate of the earl of Donnegal. *a* 1845 POLSON *Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 828/1 The principal incidents to a tenancy in estate tail are, (1) the right of the tenant to commit what is called *waste*. 1863 H. COX *Inst.* II. viii. 500 Such injunctions include those against waste where a person having only a limited interest in an estate in his occupation, threatens to wastefully cut down timber, or otherwise injure the freehold.

fig. 1679 OWEN *Christol.* xvii. Wks. 1851 I. 216 Yet the inheritance is secured for us; and we are preserved from such offences against the supreme Lord, or committing such wastes, as should cast us out of our possession.

8. The consumption or using up of material, resources, time, etc. *Obs.* as distinct from 5.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 751 He had long maintayned the siege to no small wast and consumyng of his brothers treasure and riches. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 10 Euill ministers of good things are as torches, a light to others, a wast to none but themselues only. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. i. 102 'Tis they haue put him on the old mans death, To haue th' expence and wast of his Reuenues.

† b. The consumption (of candles, etc.) at a funeral or obit. *Obs.*

1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 78 For the wast of ij tapres at Caunstons obite, iiij d. 1506 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Hp.'s Stortford* (1882) 31 Rec. of Thomas Whepyll for the waste of torches at his wife's burieng, iiij*d*. 1555 *Churchw. Acc. St. Helen's, Abingdon* (Nichols 1797) 141 For wast of the paskall and for holye yoyle, 5^s 10^d. 1556–7 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* (1886) XLIII. 175 Paide to the chandler for waste of ye waxe, viij^d.

9. Gradual loss or diminution from use, wear and tear, decay or natural process. Now somewhat *rare*.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 300 Deliverances emplyomentes perusynges losse & wast of the Stuff takle Store & other the premisses. 1514–15 *Act* 6 *Hen. VIII* c. 9 § 1 The Carder and Spynner to delyver agayn to the same clothier yerne of the same Wolle by the same..true..weight the wast therof exceptid. 1547 in Sir J. Williams *Accompts* (Abbotsf. Club 1836) 7 Allowaunce..for the waste of souche plate as was..delyuerde..vnto thofficers of his housholde to be daylye vsed. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* ix. 11 But beauties waste hath in the world an end. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 218 Thinne Aire is better pierced; but Thicke Aire preserueth the Sound better from Wast. 1676 W. B. *Touch-st. Gold & Silver Wares* 3 Silver is a Mineral..that will endure melting for a long time in extream heat, with but very little wast. *a* 1767 M. BRUCE *Life & Wks.* (1914) 182 Each would fondly raise Some lasting monument, to save his name Safe from the waste of years. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 90 Workmen..look upon the stone so coated, as not to be in a state of waste or decay. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 422 An old venerable Cathedral still remains here, in defiance of the waste of time, and the rude hand of reformers. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 272 The odour of all bodies that excite the sensation of smell cannot be given out without a waste of their substance. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 135 Rounded pebbles derived from the waste of..the older Apennine rocks. 1847 in Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 339 The repairs now required are not mere ordinary repairs, but ..rebuilding rendered necessary by the waste of time. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 168 Abundant evidence of marine waste may be seen on any visit to the seaside.

b. with reference to animal tissues and structures.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xliv. (1495) 257 Yf abhomynacyon comyth of fastynge and of waste of the body, men shall restore that whyche is wasted with meete and Electuaryes. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 39 Which was most prudently design'd to repair the wast that is daily made of them by the frequent Attrition in Mastication. 1695 *New Light of Chirurg. put out* 15 Sudden Waste made upon Fat Persons by violent Fevers. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 45 Thus far we have consider'd, how our Bodies acquire the Reparations for those Wastes, that are daily expended in carrying on the Laws of the Animal Oeconomy. 1796 MRS. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* V. 497 To repair the wastes of strength some time yet was necessary. 1824 MRS. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 247 It was that oblivion of thought which best repairs the waste of nature, and gives elasticity to the weary faculties. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* vi, Reclining in an easy-chair before the fire, pale and weak from waste of blood, was Edward Chester. 1875 B. STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* § 59 Just as no single action of the body takes place without the waste of some muscular tissue, so, it is believed, no thought takes place without some waste of the brain.

c. A wasting of the body by disease; a consumption or decline. Now only *dial.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 203/25 Waynt of body, *tabes.* 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* lxxii. 72 Clarie..is found by experience verie good for the back, and restorative in a wast. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. xxiv. I. 540 In a wast, consumption, or fever hecticke. *c* 1816 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* xix. 169 His disease was what the country people in England call a waste. 1878 MRS. H. WOOD *Pomeroy Abb.* I. 49 Her mother went off in a waste. 1893 'L. KEITH' *Lisbeth* vii, Your father's family going off one after the other in a waste, and nobody but me to see to them.

d. *Phys. Geog.* Material derived by mechanical and chemical erosion from the land, carried by streams to the sea. (W. Suppl. 1902.)

10. Phrases. a. *To run to waste* (rarely † *to flow at waste*): primarily of liquor, to flow away so as to be wasted; *fig.* of wealth, powers, etc., to be expended uselessly. b. *To go to waste*: to be wasted. c. † *To grow to waste*: Of a period of time, to approach its end. d. *To cut to waste*: lit. to cut (cloth) in a wasteful manner; *fig.* (? *slang*) to apportion (time) wastefully.

a. 1512 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 22 Moche water renneth nowe to waste. 1624 MASSINGER *Parlt. Love* II. iii, Shall this nectar Run useless, then, to waste? 1641 MILTON *Reas. Ch. Govt.* II. 41 Like that which flows at wast from the pen of some vulgar Amorist. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. iii, This will secure the workings of your soul from running to waste, and..even your looser moments will turn to happy account. 1803 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 20 Mar., You, like me,..reckon the lapse of time from the waste thereof, as boys let a cock run to waste. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxx, Alas! our young affections run to waste, Or water but the desert. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 412 In an age of Scotists and Thomists even his intellect might have run to waste. [1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* viii, Beside a table, on which flared the remnant of a candle guttering to waste in the socket.] 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq* II. v. 166 The faculties of the mind..run to waste if neglected. 1863 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. II. 437 The sewage ran to waste on the sea-shore. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. of Dyers* XVI. 12 The water..is run to waste.

^b. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (?1510) *G* iij b, There goyth of it [*sc.* of the sea] to wast somdele As euery man may wyt wel. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* II. 144 There is not a particle of vapour in the Universe that goes to waste. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 42 We are importing ship load after ship-load of guano..while hundreds of tons of poultry manure, which is ascertained to be equal in value, is suffered to go to waste in the United States. 1866 T. T. STODDART *Angler's Rambles* 365 Five-sixths at the least of salmon *ova* go directly to waste.

c. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 230 The night growes to wast.

d. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* xxxix, He..said the Firm did not care to send its stuff to ladies not in the business; I might cut it to waste. 1863 *Baily's Mag.* Apr. 153 An hour and a half had been 'cut to waste', as the sporting reporters would say, and no tidings had been received.

III. Waste matter, refuse.

11. Refuse matter; unserviceable material remaining over from any process of manufacture; the useless by-products of any industrial process; material or manufactured articles so damaged as to be useless or unsaleable.

c 1430 *Lybeaus Disc.* (Cott.) 1471 For gore, and fen, and full wast, That was out ykast. 1764 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 133 The Refuse or Waste used in the making of Allom, called Allom Slam. 1818 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 323 The above Duty on Cotton Wool, or Waste of Cotton Wool,..is to be charged [etc.]. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xix. (1842) 532 The object of the preceding directions is to enable the economical experimenter to cut up into useful forms, old glass, which would otherwise be thrown away as waste. 1851–61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 9, I may instance another thing in which the worth of what in many places is valueless refuse is exemplified, in the matter of 'waste', as waste paper is always called in the trade. 1863 *Technologist* III. 358 All the fibre and gluten wastes of the maize plant which are precipitated during the process of extracting the fibres, are used for manufacturing paper. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 16 Three children..play'd Among the waste and lumber of the shore, Hard coils of cordage, swarthy fishing-nets, [etc.]. 1902 JOANNA E. WOOD *Fardels Ha'* xviii, The surrounding country (the aspect of which was scarred by pits, and distorted by black heaps of 'waste').

† b. *fig.* Offscourings, dregs, worthless people.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* F 3 There is a certaine waste of the people for whome there is no vse, but warre.

c. = COTTON-*waste*.

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Waste*, cotton refuse for cleaning machinery. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 315/2 The old order of Engineer Officer..was swaddled in 'waste' rather than sail-cloth, and smelt not of pitch but of warm oil.

d. *Printing*, etc. The surplus sheets of a work. See also quot. 1888.

1785 W. TOOKE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 430 What is called in typographical language the waste of works printed at the Academy, is seldom or never preserved. 1841 SAVAGE *Dict. Printing* 82 Waste, 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Waste*, surplus sheets of a book beyond the plus copies. Also spoilt sheets used for running up colour on a machine, etc.

e. *Coal-mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 278 *Waste.* 2. (North) very small coal or slack.

12. † **a.** An overflow of surplus water. *Obs.* **b.** A pipe, conduit, or other contrivance for carrying off waste matter or surplus water, steam, etc. Cf. *waste-pipe.*

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1312/1 Means is made, by a standard with one cocke at Holborne bridge to conueie the wast. *Ibid.* 1348/2 Vp vnto the northwest corner of Leaden hall..where the waste of the first maine pipe ran first this yeare. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 162 He went and washed his hands at the waste [Fr. *vuseau*] of the well. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 224 If 'tis made very sloaping on each side 'tis the better, leaving a waste to carry off your waste Water in times of Floods or Rains. 1877 S. S. HELLYER *Plumber* v. 47 If more than one basin is fixed upon the same waste, the size should be proportionately increased. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 48 Have the sink deep, as it can, by plugging the waste with a cock through which the glass tube passes, be utilised for washing purposes.

IV. Combinations.

13. Obvious combinations, as (sense 1) *waste-dwelling* adj.; (sense 5) *waste-preventing* adj., *-preventor*; (sense 11) *waste-collector, -dealer, -heap, -pit, -tip* (TIP *sb.*[5] 4 b).

1851-61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 9, 'I don't know how it is, sir,' said one *waste collector,..' but paper gets scarcer or else I am out of luck.' 1876 MRS. G. L. BANKS *Manch. Man* xviii. (1902) 79 Nadin..followed up the clue to a *waste-dealer's who bought at his own price workpeople's 'waste' (*i.e.* warp, weft, silk, &c. remaining after work was completed). 1882 W. WESTALL *Tales & Trad. Switzerland* 289 'A doctor! What for?' interrupted the retired waste-dealer. 1900 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* I. iv 70 The elder gods may have been degraded to *waste-dwelling demons. 1873 B. STEWART *Conserv. Energy* v. 153 Universally diffused heat forms what we may call the great *waste-heap of the universe. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 702/2 Fosse Eight is a mighty waste-heap. 1906 R. A. S MACALISTER *Bible Side-*

preventing machines much more progress has been made. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 94/1 New English Wash-out and noiseless *Waste-preventor Cistern. 1906 *Victoria County Hist Cornw.* I. 520/2 The rock..is taken.., the useless to the *waste tip, and the good to the deposit floors.

14. Special combinations: **waste-basket** (now chiefly *U.S.*) = WASTE-PAPER *basket*; hence **waste-basket** *v.*, to put in the waste-paper basket; **waste-bin**, a dustbin; **waste-box** *Mining* (see quot.); **waste-cock**, a cock to regulate the discharge of waste water; **waste-drain**, a drain for carrying off waste water; **waste-gate, -hatch**, a gate or hatch for regulating the outflow of waste water; **waste-hole**, a hole for the discharge of superfluous water; **waste-inspector**, a water-company's or municipality's official employed to report cases of waste of water; **waste-man** *Mining*, a man whose duty is to inspect the waste (sense 4), and to secure the proper ventilation of the mine; **waste-pallet** *Organ building*, see PALLET *sb.*[3] 6; **waste-pipe**, a pipe to carry off waste water or steam; **waste-sluice**, a sluice for regulating the outflow of waste water; **waste-spout**, a spout for the issue of waste-water; **waste-way** *U.S.*, a channel for the passage of waste water; **waste-weir** (see quots.); **waste-yard** ? *Obs.*, ? a yard for the reception of odds and ends of little value.

1850 LYTTON *My Novel* II. vi, Public men have such odd out-of-the-way letters that their *waste-baskets are never empty. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* iv, Basil tore the paper.., and thrust it into the waste-basket. 1913 JEAN WEBSTER *Daddy-Long-Legs* 35 If my letters bore you you can always toss them into the waste-basket. 1900 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 127 Indefinite testimonies might properly be *waste-basketed, since there is evidently no lack of definite ones procurable. 1915 *Daily Tel.* 14 Aug. 10/7 If all the scraps after meals..be carefully kept, instead of..put into the *waste-bin or burned. 1886 *Engl. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 66 (Newcastle) **Waste boxes*, boxes in which the waste water of the pumping-pit is conveyed from the rings. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 317 He is able..so to adjust the cock that the requisite supply shall go to the boiler, without entirely shutting the *waste-cock. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 32 A large cock in the bottom of the receiving tank, communicating with the *waste drain. 1792 R. MYLNE *and Rep. Thames* 21 The *Waste and Buck Gates are quite ruinous. 1705 *Act* 4 & 5 *Anne* c. 8 (22) § 5 One Scuttle or small Hatch of a Foot Square in the *Waste Hatch or Water course in the direct Stream wherein no Water Wheel standeth [etc.]. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 436/1 The same adjustment may be made by stopping the pump, and letting out the water from the *waste-holes. 1898 *Daily News* 17 June 3/3 A turncock and *waste inspector, in the service of the Vauxhall Waterworks Company. 1812 J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 96 The *waste-men or ventilators of the mine. 1825 E. MACKENZIE *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 90 *Wastemen*, persons that daily examine the state of the workings, and see that they are properly ventilated. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Wastemen*, generally old men who are employed in building pillars for the support of the roof in the waste, *i.e.* old workings and airways; and in keeping the airways open and in good order. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 44 The *waste-pallet is an arrangement corresponding to the safety-valve in the steamboiler. *c* 1512 *Archæologia* LVIII. 301 Bope þe suspirel and þe *waste pipe awoyde ther water in a gotir of breke. 1589 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 360/1 *Aqua caduca*,..water that runneth ouer, or at the waste pipes or spowts of conduit heads. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *La Blond's Gardening* 211 To empty the Bason entirely

.., which is done by means of..a Waste-Pipe at the Bottom of it. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 39 The steam which issues from the waste-pipe being cooled down by contact with the cold air. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 35 To connect the waste pipe with nearest drain or gutter. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 327 As a *waste-sluice, the most convenient and simple, in a mill of this kind, is the trap-sluice. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1754) 19 Few words run then at the *waste spout. 1881 THAYER *Log-cabin to White Ho.* xii. 149 There was a *waste-way just ahead. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept 602/2 Above these..is a wasteway.. over which the surplus water can pour. 1793 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames* 23 There was Seven Inches of Water running over at the *Waste Weir at Boulter's Old Lock. 1840 H. S. TANNER *Canals & Rail Roads U. S.* 264 *Waste weir*, a water guage; a cut at the side of a canal by which the surplus water of canals is carried off. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 516/2 There is also the waste-weir, for the purpose of preventing a reservoir embankment being overtopped by floods. *c* 1680 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. v. 1. (1903) 460 Theire houses, (which haue no such *wastyardes about them as euery Farmers house hath with vs). 1886 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 182 And rick-yard, farm yard, waste-yard, horse-paddock, and all round about, seemed to be swarming with fowls, ducks, and turkeys. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* I. xi. In the waste-yard outside [the mill], the steam from the escape pipe, the litter of barrels and old iron, the shining heaps of coals, the ashes everywhere, were shrouded in a veil of mist and rain.

Waste (wēst), *a.* Also 4-7 **wast**, 4-5 **waast**, *Sc.* **vast**(e, 5-7 (chiefly *Sc.*) **waist**, 6 **waiste**, *Sc.* **waest**. [ME., a. OF. *wast*, dial. var. of *guast*, *gast* = Pr. *gast*, Pg. *gasto*, It. *guasto*:—Rom. **wasto*, repr. (with influence from the cogn. and synonymous OHG. *wuosti*) L. *vāstus* waste, desert, unoccupied (distinct from *vāstus* VAST *a.*).

The adopted OF. word took the place of the early ME. WESTE *a.* (cogn. w. L. *vāstus*). In mod.E. it seems to have coalesced with the contracted participle of WASTE *v.* and with the attributive use of WASTE *sb.*]

1. Of land: **a.** Uncultivated and uninhabited or sparsely inhabited. Sometimes with stronger implication: Incapable of habitation or cultivation; producing little or no vegetation; barren, desert.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 205/180 Al-a-boute in a waste londe. *c* 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 51 Affryca..hath more wyldernes and waste londe, for grete brennynge and hete of þe sonne, þan Europa *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. ix. 787 He sende wipe þaim sum of his men Til Irlande, þat was nocht 3it þen Inhabit, bot was wast haly. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 588 My Spreit I leif to Diane,.. To walk with hir in waist Woddis and Wellis. *c* 1500 *Melusine* i. 18 He began within her land, that was wast & deserte for to byld..fayre tounes & strong Castels. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* xi. 2 They ..pitched their tentes in ye waist deserte. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 103 We trauailed directly Eastward, hauing a Sea on the South side of vs, and a waste desert on the North. 1625 D. DICKSON *Hebr.* xii. 22. 301 Vagabonds, wandring abroad in a waste Wildernesse. *c* 1639 SIR W. MURE *Ps.* xxix. 8 Yea, at the dreadfull voyce of God, Waist Kadesh desart quaikes. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Pers. Wars* I. xii. 20 [They] ever neglected the Province beyond the Euphrates, being without water and wast. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 7, I.. now sing..Recover'd Paradise to all mankind,..And Eden rais'd in the wast Wilderness. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xi, He therefore plodded patiently on through a waste and savage wilderness. 1843 DE QUINCEY *Ceylon* Wks. 1890 VII. 436 Ceylon has not much of waste ground, in the sense of being irreclaimable—for of waste ground in the sense of being unoccupied she has an infinity.

b. *fig.* Desolate, barren. Cf. **4.**

c 1825 W. M. PRAED *Poems, Farewell* iv, And still the shadowy hope was rife That once in this waste weary life My path might cross with thine. 1830 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* IV. xii. 215 The world, in which our duties lie, is as waste as the wilderness. 1845 — *Ess. Developm.* 314 Dreary and waste was the condition of the Church. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. vi, Our conversation was waste and logical, I forget quite on what, not joyful and harmoniously effusive. 1908 W. M. RAMSAY *Luke* i. 3 Nothing in the whole history of literary criticism has been so waste and dreary as great part of the modern critical study of Luke.

Comb. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* v. 133 It is not chaos and a waste-whirling baseless Phantasm. 1851 — *Sterling* I. v, This waste-weltering epoch. 1871 — in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 141 On the solitary couch-roof, under the waste-blowing skies.

c. In weaker sense: Not applied to any purpose; not utilized for cultivation or building.

1439 *Charters* etc. *Edin.* (1871) 64 Beside the vaste lande neire byside the house of John of Turyng. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 445 Be lawe of þis lande, the lorde of þe waste soyle may surcharge and put þerin what nombre (of cattle) hym lykes. *Ibid.* 472 The seid Priour & Couent seyn that þe same grounde is parcell of the Churcheyarde, and was no wast-grounde. 1531 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 32 Ane waest bornesteyd, lyand into Sant Tenewisgaet. 1538 STARKEY *England* iii. 73 That we haue so much waste ground here in our cuntrey, hyt ys not to be attrybute to the nature of the erthe..but [etc.]. 1543 tr. *Act* 13 *Edw. I*, c. 45 Where as in a statute made at Merton it was graunted that lordes of wast woodes and pastures myght improwe the sayde wast woodes and pastures, [etc.]. 1552 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Paine* 479 Caste downe the hedges and stronge mowndes, That you haue caused to be made Aboute the waste and tyllage grounde. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. v. § 42 Land that is left wholly to Nature, that hath no Improvement of Pasturage, Tillage, or Planting, is called, as indeed it is, Waste. 1705 *Lond Gaz.* No. 6398/1 A Piece of waste Ground for Building. 1820 STARKIE *Rep. Cases N. P.* II. 464 The lords of the manor of Hampstead had, from time immemorial, exercised the right of granting out parcels of the waste lands within the manor, with the consent of the copyholders. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, A melancholy piece of waste ground with frowzy grass. 1848 J. E. NORTON *Topics* 293 The district officers had not had leisure to settle

all the contending applications for permission to take up waste lands. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 109 Let the fowler confine himself to waste places and to the mountains. 1900 W. H. HUDSON *Nat. in Downland* 41 Thistly, and weedy waste lands. 1908 W. M. RAMSAY *Luke* v. 179 The soil originally was waste and valueless.

† **d.** *transf.* ? Uncultured mentally. *Obs.*

? 1541 COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* I j, Yf I shuld saye ye were puft vp, ignoraunt, a waist brayne, et cete...ye wolde happlie be angrie.

† **2.** Of former places of habitation or cultivation, buildings, etc.: Devastated, ruinous. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18890 þe psalm sais, thoru þe haligast, His woning sterle be wild and wast. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 62 þer þe Inglis had bigged, he mad it wast & bare. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 151 And than the formast cumin weir Till a vast [*v.r.* waist] burbandis hous. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 326 (Satan] Kast don castellis in hast, & towne & tilth al mad wast. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 32 The toun is wast. 14.. *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) II. 244 An old castel, and not repaired, With wast walles and wowes wide. 1491 *Newminster Cartul.* (1878) 251 Two waste chapelles. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxix. 163 He..reated hym in certayne olde wast & broken houses. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xix. 25 Now haue I caused it for to come, that contencious stronge cities mighte fall in to a waist heape of stones. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* v. 236 [He] built a strong forte vpon the sea shore, and repaired an other which had lien a long time waste *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 53 The which Abbey..was afterward destroyed by Pyrates..and so continued waste unto the time of Malachias, Bishop of Armach. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., A very large and well-proportioned saloon,..but so waste and dilapidated, that [etc.].

3. a. *To lie waste*: To remain in an uncultivated or ruinous condition.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 239 It lies now waste & lorn, half may þei not tille 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* I. 7 Youre londe lieth waist, youre cities are brent vp. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* 94 Thry fallowe betime, for destroing of weede:..And better thou warte, so to doe for thy hast: then (hardnes) for slougth thay lande to lie wast. 1623 [see LIE *v.*[1] 8]. 1890 D. DAVIDSON *Mem. Long Life* ix. 214 At the close of the Pindaree war many villages were lying waste in the valley of the Nerbudda for more than thirty years.

b. *To lay waste*: to devastate, ravage (land, buildings).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxix. 7 For they haue deuoured Iacob, and layed waiste his dwellinge place. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 29 All the country aboute layde waste. 1563-4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 257 Layand thairthrow waist ane grete part of the cuntre. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIV. vii, Not one house doth stand..But they by fire have laide it waste. 1610 R. NICCOLS *Winter Nt.'s Vis., Robt. Dk. Norm.* I, There all the host as towards Nice we past, With spoilefull hands laid all the countrie wast. 1612 BIBLE *Ezek.* XXXV. 4, I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 549 When Judas Maccabeus had..repaired the temple at Jerusalem after it had been..laid waste. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks 1843 II. 273 Which, like columns of locusts, have laid waste the fairest part of the world. 1824 CAMPBELL *Theodric* 346 For war laid waste his native land once more. 1879 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. 42 Villages were burnt and laid waste. 1890 S. LANE-POOLE *Barbary Corsairs* I. ix. 96 He laid waste the Apulian coast.

fig. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* I. v. 14 [This] is a sign they are stark naught, and that Pride has laid waste their Intellectuals. 1680 W. A[LLEN] *Persons. Peace & Unity* Pref. p. xlviii. Because they laid waste Charity in a great measure by their divisions and contentions 1845-6 TRENCH *Hulsean Lect.* Ser. II. viii. 275 To hinder him from utterly laying waste his moral life.

† **4.** Of speech, thought, or action: Profitless, serving no purpose, idle, vain. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1552 Þys nunne was of dedys chaste, But þat she spake wurdys waste She made many of here felawys þenke on synne for her sawys. *Ibid.* 1586 Here wurdys were al vyle & waste. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9359 Þe kyng sey þe sege was wast. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2184 Haly men thogh[t] þis lyf bot wast, Jarfor þair yhernyng til God was mast. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xvii. 14 For he hath maad my couenant wast [Vulg. *irritum fecit*] 1388 he made voide]. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* iv. 277 Alle þe bountes ben but wast Wipoute contemplacioun. *c* 1430 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 211 My wnast expensis y wole with drawe; Now, certis, 'waast' weel callid þei be, for þei were spent, my boost to blowe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xii. 196 Saue þe, dame, from sak of synne, And wisse þe fro all werkis wast! 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 217 For as for any indytementes that we schuld labor a yenst them it is but wast werk. 1583 RICH *Pharsalus* (1835) 21 Alas..suche wishes are but waste, and vnpossible it is, that any suche thing should happen. *a* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* IV. iii. 1421 He lay my life that, ere this day be past, You shall perceiue these tidings all be waste. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* IV. iv, He shall make but a wast errand [L. *frustra veniet*].

† **b.** *quasi-adv.* In vain, to no purpose. *Obs.*

1418 *26 Pol. Poems* xiv. 76 Spende waste, passyng his rent, For suche a kyngdom hap ben shent. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlii. 87 And speris now no whare my woide waste. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 690 Gif that my invention wars thine then, Without the whilk thou might haue barked waist.

† **5.** Void, destitute *of. Sc. Obs.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* (Wemyss) Ixxxix. 4916 For statut law first ordanit he That..all ydolis were bot waist Off godheid, and deuillis ware. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. vii. 177 Our large feildis and boundis all betwene Left desolate and waist of induellaris. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist Scot.* I. 208 In the meine tyme King Eugenie and the Peychtes inuadet Britannie wast of men of weir, quhen na campe lay in it.

† **6.** Superfluous, needless. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 5 Þei stryuen nyst and day who of hem may bilde gaiest wast housis. *Ibid.* 14 Þei gederen to hem self many wast and precious clopes. *Ibid.* 60 Prelatis..lyue so contrariously ageyst here [the apostles'] pore

If, in wast seruauntis, in grete fatte hors & fiedles. 1382 — *Eccl.* ii. 16 To the symnere forsothe he 3af tormenting and wast bisynesse [Vulg. *curam superfluam*]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 73 Sum suppriue wib seruil chargis our religioun, þat our Lord Ihu Crist wold to be fre, in so wast halowing of sacramentis, so þat þe condicoun of Jewis is more sufferable. 1618 W. Lawson *Orch. & Gard.* (1623) 34 The waste boughs closely and skilfully taken away, would giue vs store of fences and fewell.

†7. Of time, leaves in a book: Spare, unoccupied, unused. Of buildings or rooms: Unoccupied, empty. *Obs.*

1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 140 3e se out throw this land How mony waist Kirkis thair dois stand But outher Prayers or Preiching. 1589 Greene *Orpharion* (1599) 4, I would bestow a little wast time while my Sheepe graze so hard, to holde thee chat. 1615 *Life Death* etc. *Lady Jane Gray* C 2, Offering to close vp the book shee found in the end thereof some few leaues of cleane paper vnwritten; . shee took penne and inke and in those wast leaues wrote a most Godly and learned exhortation. 1717 Berkeley *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1901 IV. 253 A large waste inn (i.e. little inhabited for the size, having [been] the country palace of some nobleman). 1725 Sloane *Jamaica* II 217 It is frequently to be met with in large waste houses. 1729 Law *Serious C* xii. (1732) 200 All the hours that are not devoted either to repose, or nourishment, are look'd upon by Succus as waste or spare time. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 136, I was locked up and confined in a waste room. *Ibid.* III. 63, I took up my lodging in a waste hut. *Ibid.* 69 We took shelter in a waste barn.

†8. Of a person: ? Worthless. *Obs.*

1616 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xlvi, Is this the Sir, who, some wast wife to winne A knight-hood bought, to goe a wooing in?

9. Of materials, incidental products, etc.: Eliminated or thrown aside as worthless after the completion of a process; refuse.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* Pref. A 3, How waste and useless would many of the Productions of this and other Countries be, were it not for Manufactures? 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 389 Temporary manures, such as soot, bone-dust, . . waste yeast . . and liquid manures, . . are most advantageously applied on the surface of the ground. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* I. ix, The waste droppings of the pump. 1868 Joynson *Metals* 38 One striking feature of the practical science of the day is the attempts which it has made . . to utilise the waste products of our manufactures. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. of Dyers* XVI. 5 It is obtained from the waste liquors. 1907 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 33 To carry off the waste developer and washing water.

b. Said of the excreta of animal bodies.

1836 A. Combe *Digest.* (1842) 354 Besides the bowels, there are several other channels by which the waste materials of the body pass out. 1908 *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 16 The duty of the kidneys is to filter waste matters from the blood as it circulates through them.

c. *Waste water*, superfluous water, or water that has served its purpose, allowed to run away; also *attrib.* as *waste water pail, pipe. Waste steam*, the superfluous steam discharged from a boiler, or the spent steam discharged from the cylinder of a steam-engine; also *attrib.* in *waste-steam pipe.*

c 1450 in *Archæologia* LVIII. 301 The goter of breke for þe waste watre. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 218 This Waste-Water is carried away in Drains. 1791 R. Mylne in *Rep. Engin. Thames Navig.* 33 A gauged long weir should be run across the River, at the waste water draw-lock . . and another, upon the Stone tumbling bay. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 122 The waste steam pipe is generally of cast iron or copper, terminating at its upper end in a bell mouth. *Ibid.* 148 The oil, &c., put into the cylinders . . is rapidly carried away through the waste water pipe into the sea. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 313 When the steam in the boiler exceeds its proper pressure it raises the valve and escapes by a pipe called the waste-steam pipe. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Techn.* (ed 2) I. 100 A current of hot air produced by a fan driven by the waste steam from the apparatus. 1858 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6130, Foot bath, hot-water jug, and waste-water pail. 1883 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Waste-water*, water from old workings.

d. Of manufactured articles: Rejected as defective. Also, (e.g. of sheets of a printed book) produced in excess of what can be used.

1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 201/1, 2 per cent. of waste-castings are made. 1883 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Waste cards*, defective or rejected cards, usually sold at a cheaper rate than perfect ones. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. xxix, Intended for the purpose of using up waste negatives by mounting.

10. As complement in certain phrases. † *To fly waste*, of a missile, to be discharged uselessly (*obs.*). *To run waste* (? rare) = to run to waste (see Waste *sb.* 10).

1797 Bevdges *Homer Trans.* II. 330 But this good broom-staff ne'er flies waste. 1814 *Q. Rev.* XI. 71 Savages who suffer the productions of the earth, as well as their own moral and intellectual faculties, to run waste. 1891 M. Muriel Dowie *Girl in Karp.* xx. 274 The talent that was running waste among the village people.

Waste (wēst), *v.* Forms: 3–7 **wast**, 4 **wost(e**, *Sc.* **vast**, 4–5 **waast**, **e**, 5 **vaast**, 5–6 **waast(e**, 5–6, 8 **waist**, 6 *Sc.* **vaist**, 3– **waste**. Also 4–5 *pa. t.* and *pple.* **wast**, **e**. [a. AF., north-eastern OF. *waste-r*, dial. var. of OF. *guaster*, *guster* (mod.F. *gâter* to spoil) = Pr. *guastar*, *gastar* to devastate, spoil, Sp. *gastar*, Pg. *guastar*, to spend, devastate, It. *guastare* to devastate, damage:—Com. Rom. **wastare*, repr. (with influence from the cognate Teut. synonym **wēstjan*: see Waste *v.*) L. *vāstāre*, f. *vāst-us* adj. desert, desolate; whence Com. Rom. **wasto*: see Waste *a.* The verb first appears in English in the 13th c., superseding the native synonym Weste *v.*, which is etymologically cognate.]

I. Transitive uses.

1. To lay waste, devastate, ravage, ruin (a land or town, its inhabitants, property, etc.).

c 1205 Lay. 22575 [They] scullen þi lond wasten and þine leoden aslan. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2880 þis lond þat was so riche [they] wasteden al to noȝte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19479 Fast þai ras . . Gain hali kirc, it for to wast. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1178 He wast wyth werre þe wones of þorpes. 1463 *Stat. Roll Irel.* 3 *Edw. IV* p. 185 Brannyng destruyng and wastyng al the said Ormond is lordshipe. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Chron.* xxiv. 7 Athalia & hir sonnes haue waisted the house of God. 1591 Drayton *Harm. Church, Song of Moses & Israelites* v, Euen as the fire doth the stubble wast. 1596 *Edw. III*, III iii. 81 Some of their strongest cities we haue wonne, . . And others wasted. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowes* I. § 70. 117 An Epidemicall plague wasted the whole world for three yeares together. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 507 Where casual fire Had wasted woods on Mountain or in Vale. 1798 Southey *Battle of Blenheim* viii, With fire and sword the country round Was wasted far and wide. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 326 He wasted the lands of the Mackintoshes. 1879 Froude (*Isaac* xvii. 285 He fell suddenly on the Nervii with four legions, seized their cattle, wasted their country.

absol. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 784 For now I see Peace to corrupt no less then Warr to waste 1849 Aytoun *Lays Scot. Cavaliers* (ed. 2) 73 The Moors have come from Africa To spoil and waste and slay.

2. *Law.* To destroy, injure, impair, damage (property); to cause to deteriorate in value; to suffer to fall into decay. Cf. Waste *sb.* 7.

c 1430 *Godstow Reg.* 240 So nathelesse that they shold not hegge, wast, nother turne hit [a wood] into tylthe. 1531 *St.-German's Doctor & Stud.* I. xxiii. 37 To restore the place wasted immedyatlye after the waste done. 1543 tr. *Act 6 Edw. I*, c. 5 And who that is attaynted of wast, shal lese the thing wasted. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren* II. vii. (1588) 291 If a man command one to set fire on the house of A, . . and by kindling the same fire the house of B. is wasted also. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* I. 355 b, In an Action of Wast . . the place wasted is the principall. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. x. (1677) 236 In the Survey of Gloucester there are reckoned 23 Burgages and Houses; 16 that were demolished for the building of the Castle, 14 that were wasted.

3. To consume, use up, wear away, exhaust, diminish (a thing) by gradual loss; † to reduce in numbers (a family); † to wear out (clothes); † to sell out (an edition); † to evaporate (a liquid). Also with *away*. *Obs.* exc. with mixture of sense 9.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 29 Per as muchel is, eauer se þer mare is, se ma beoð þat hit wasteð. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* III. 746 For so þai trowed þat mens fete . Suld cum and ga all ouer þat tre So þat it suld wasted be. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1002 Vthyr clathis had I nane þane I brocht oure flume Iordane; bot in few 3eris clene war þai for gret elde wastit away. *c* 1425 *MS. Sloane 73* lf. 90r Whanne þi colour in þi saflour bagge is al wastid or elles ny by wastid. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 579 Fyfteyn that day he schot to dede of hys hand. Be that his arrous waistyt war and gayne. 1489 Caxton *Fayttes of Armes* I. xiv. 60 In the meane whyle thy prouysions and stores be wasted awaye. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* X. iv. 28 The ile . . Sa rich of steill it may nocht wastit be. 1559 tr. *T. Geminus Anat.* 4/2 The former impressions bothe are nowe wasted. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* etc. Siv b, My penne is stubbed, my paper spente, my Inke wasted. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 959 To . wast huge stones with little water drops. 1604 E. G. tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 99 The waxe melts nor droppes not, for that the flame doth waste it by little and little as it riseth. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 3 During the said civill warre . . most of the Noble Families were wasted and some destroied. 1639 O. Wood *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 189 Boyle all these [herbs] in white wine till the wine be wasted. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 12 Dec. 1680, After many daies . . the comet was very much wasted. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 44 We haue wrought . . all the Coal we can, with safety venture to Work or take away; and so by chance haue Wrought, or wasted the Colliery. 1709–89 V. Mandey *Syst. Math., Arith.* 17 Repeat this Process, until all the figures of the Dividend be wasted. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 104 It both wastes the Stone and brings it away. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* vi. 63 [Gravy Soup.] Let it stew over a slow Fire, till half is wasted. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 389 When the vat is wasted, fill it with the lye. 1845 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 702/1 The felspathic portion of the hypersthene rocks of Carrock Fell is so wasted that the crystals of hypersthene and magnetic iron are projected from the surface considerably.

4. To consume or destroy (a person or living thing, his body, strength) by decay or disease; to cause to pine, emaciate, enfeeble; to undermine the vitality or strength of. Also with *away*, † *up*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Also wiðuten wisdom, fleschs, ase wurm, uoruret hire, & wasteð hire suluen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27934 It [lechery] wastes bodi and ais catel. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2162 Loo the ook, þat . . hath so long a lif . , Yet nat the laste wasted is the tree. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5787 Menescen myght was almost wast. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 882 (Wagner) In stronge fire þai brenned ay, Tille þai were nere wasted away. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 512 Waistit he was, of Nature cauld and dry. 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 54/2 Ye shal al se in what wise that sorceres and that other witch of her counsel shoris wife . . haue by their sorcery & witchcraft wasted my body. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II I. H ij, My bely or panche is all wasted quyte vp or shronke to gether (with lankenesse). 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. x. 57 But through long anguish, and selfe-murdring thought, He was so wasted and fore-pined quight, That all his substance was consum'd to nought. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI* III. ii. 125 Would he were wasted, Marrow, Bones, and all. 1628 Ford *Lover's Mel.* IV. iii, The span of time Doth waste vs to our graues. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* II A Potion, that should waste him by degrees. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xxviii, He feared my daughter's life was already too much wasted to keep me long a prisoner. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 363 These symptoms continued three or four days, and wasted the patients very much. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* iv, He wasted his eyes in observing the stars. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlviii. (1856) 445 We were wasted with ennui. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 33 French wars . . which wasted our strength.

† b. *refl.* To consume one's strength or faculties.

1630 Br. Hall *Occas. Medit.* lxxi. (1633) 175 And blessed be the memory of those his faithful Servants, that have left their bloud, their spirits, their lives, in these precious papers; & have willingly wasted themselves into these during Monuments, to give light unto others.

† 5. To destroy, annihilate, put an end to (something immaterial, e. g. sin, sorrow). Also with *away*. *Obs.*

c 1385 *Metr. Hom.* 11 He sal wit the haligaste Baptiz yos and your sinnes waste. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Treat.* 3 Ihis name Ihesu . . wastys discorde, reformes pese. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 844 Befor godes sight I salbe clene, Yf I waste myne euil dedes bedene. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 52 The more lyght sall be naimid þe son, dymnes to wast be downe and be dale. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 16 Derysion and scornyng putteth away and wastith loue as the fiere doth the bronde. † *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Magi's Oblation* 55 Stench of the Stable it [incense] shall wast. 1535 Coverdale *Zech.* xi. 3 The pryde off Iordane is walsted awaye. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 201 Ceasse now my song, my woe now wasted is. 1591 Savile *Tacitus' Hist.* I. xlii. 24 There is question, whether the present feare wasted his speech, or els that he cried aloude. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 173 He doth by his Word and Spirit, waste and take away all hatreds, enmities, and antipathies. 1689 Lady R. Russell *Lett.* II. ci. 42 No time . . can ever waste my sorrow.

† b. *refl.* To ruin one's prospects. *Obs.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 49 Perkyn, whether it greued him to be kept inwarde, or els . . because he woulde wilfully wast & cast away him selfe, studied how to escape & flye away.

† 6. To spoil, diminish the goodness or virtue of, cause to deteriorate. [Cf. F. *gâter*.] *Obs. rare.*

1572 Huloet (ed. Higins), To waste, or spylle, *consperco, depravo, disperito.* 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 66 That time shall not wast it, . . mix it with Brandy.

† 7. To diminish or consume the livelihood of, impoverish (a person). Also *refl.* to spend one's substance, impoverish oneself; also with *out*. *Obs.*

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 191 Before they wast out them selves in giving ayde unto him. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. ii. 187, I haue wasted my selfe out of my meanes. 1655 M. Carter *Honor restor.* (1660) 54 King Stephen . . is said to have wasted the Crown, by the many of them [sc. Earls] that he created. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxiv. (1674) 80 Many people having wasted themselves in keeping great Tables. 1727 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* I. vi. (1732) 67 He has been oblig'd to trade for less and less, till at last he is wasted and reduc'd.

† 8. To spend, part with, diminish one's store of (money, property); to spend, pass, occupy (time); to get over (a distance in travelling). *Obs.* (cf. 9.)

c 1382 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 283 Of maydenys swiche as gunne here tymys waste In hyre seruyse. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ix. 9 So talked they, the while They wasted had much way, and measurd many miles. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 12 Companions That do conuerse and waste the time together. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 95, I like this place, And willingly could waste my time in it. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. x. § 4. 390 Fourteene Kings of Iuda comming betweene, who wasted three hundred and odde yeares. 1639 Du Verger tr. *Camus Admir. Events* 321 They related the whole circumstance of their theft, whereof they had wasted a very small matter. *c* 1656 Milton *Sonn. to Lawrence* 4 Where shall we sometimes meet, and by the fire Help wast a sullen day. 1667 — *P. L.* x. 820 Fair Patrimonie That I must leave ye, Sons; O were I able To waste it all my self, and leave ye none! 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 15 The Goddess wasts her Days In joyous Songs. 1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xiv, Wasted was baith cash and tick, Sae ill were they to slocken 1738 Gray *Propertius* III. 62 Each in his proper Art should waste the Day. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* iv, I will withdraw into the neighbouring monastery, and waste the remainder of life in prayers and tears for my child.

9. In unfavourable sense: To spend, consume, employ uselessly or without adequate result. (Now the most prominent use.)

a. To consume, expend, bestow (money, property) uselessly, with needless lavishness or without adequate return; to make prodigal or improvident use of; to squander. Const. *in, on.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 19 Me halt ane man wod . . þet . . þe timliche guodes þet he hep ine lokinge, . . waste þ and despendeþ ine folyes and ine outrages. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 892 We holde hit nedful to nime þat nouht may be wastid. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 254 Quhene Iudas saw . . þe vngyrnente wes vastit swa. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 13 3if þei wasten delicat metis and drynkis and 3euen nouȝt to pore men. 1382 — *Luke* xv. 13 And there he wastide his substaunce in lyuynge leccherously. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 65 With that that was wasted of her clothes, she might haue clothed .ij. or .iij., the whiche deied for colde. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. v. 50 Therefore I . . part with him To one that I would haue him helpe to waste His borrowed purse. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxv, His irregularities and his extravagance had already wasted a large part of his mother's little fortune. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 141 A sixth of the royal revenue was wasted in pensions to foreign favourites. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 78 Your father . . Had wasted his estate with cards and dice.

† b. with *away*. *Obs.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. viii. (1883) 147 He that of custome hath had haboundance of moneye and goth and dispendith hit folily and wasteth hit away. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xxii. § 5 When Mary to testifie the largeness of her affection, seemed to waste away a gift upon him. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 252 P 2, I have a Sot of a Husband..that wastes away his Body and Fortune in Debaucheries. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 340 Those who had wasted away their Substance.

c. *absol.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 139, I bidde noght that thou do wast, Bot hold largesce in his measure. 1474 CAXTON *Chess* III. viii. (1883) 147 Yet she doth harme and domage to hyr

Englande's Treas. (1664) 218 Let Princes oppress,..Usurers bite, Prodigals wast. 1855 BOHN *Handbk. Prov.* 551 Waste not, want not.

d. *To waste words, breath,* †*wind*: to speak to no purpose; †also *refl.* in the same sense. Similarly *to waste paper, space* (i. e. in writing).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9788 But all þaire wordis þai wast, & þaire wynd alse. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Jewel* 159 (Bann.) Of his mater I do bot waistis wind. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* K iv b, Meaning no more at this time to build Castles in the aire, nor wast my wordes to a deafe man. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 72 You but waste your words. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worces.* I. 91 That I may not hereeafter wast my sealfe in tedious repetitions. 1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* III. iii, In vain complaints you vainly waste your Breath. 1709 BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* § 137 As for the idea of motion in abstract, I shall not waste paper about it. 1812 SHELLEY *Address* Prose Wks. 1888 I. 226 A great many words were wasted, and a great deal of blood shed. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 214 Without wasting any more time and space, I will proceed to describe the drawings. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* XXXV. 405 We need not waste words in coming to our point.

e. To spend, pass, occupy (time, one's life, etc.) idly or unprofitably. Const. *in, on,* † *to*, and inf. Also with *away*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 252 To wast þair liif in trofel and truandis. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII* c. 22 § 4 Divers artificers ..waste moch part of the day and deserve not their wagis. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 19 The war, Wherin they wasted had so many yeres. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 51 But wherefore waste I time to counsaile thee. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 4 He fishes, drinkes, and wastes The Lampes of night in reuell. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 103 Not to wast pretious time..In dealing with their filth. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Extasie* i, I have no time in Complements to wast. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VI. 29 Oh indolent! to waste thy hours away! 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. vi. 418 When Clodius rose afterwards to speak, he endeavoured to wast the time so, as to hinder their coming to any resolution that day. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XV, But I waste your time, sir...I know its value, sir. I will not detain you. 1881 *Temple Bar* LXI. 403, I am afraid mademoiselle allowed you to waste a great deal of time in novel-reading. 1884 *Munch. Exam.* 21 May 5/1 The sole aim of the mover.. was to waste the time of the House. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xi, Lads that waste the light in sighing.

f. To employ, put forth (energy, effort, qualities, talents) uselessly or without adequate return. Also *refl.* Const. *on, upon, over*.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 238 Hit waste þ no wisdam weihes to lere. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 329 And kep that thou thi witt ne waste Upon thi thoght in aventure. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* iii. 71 Not all on books their criticism waste. 1854 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos., Philos. 1st & Cent.* 90 It seems to us that in general too many lamentations are wasted over lost books 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 258 The temporary character of the subjects on which he wasted himself. 1868 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* i. 76 We..waste our labour on things that vanish. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* i. 10 Good causes lost, and noble effort wasted. 1878 JEVONS *Primer Polit. Econ.* 30 No one is so foolish as to spend his labour in a place where it would be wasted altogether. 1886 'MAXW. GRAY' *Silence Dean Maitl.* I. x, He did not, however, waste much thought on this trivial Incident. 1892 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lxvi, To..retire to Spain with the memories of talents wasted, for the most part, over things vain and vile.

g. To bestow *on* unappreciative recipients.

1750 GRAY *Elegy* 56 Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, And waste its sweetness on the desert air. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xviii, Why, Nature, waste thy wonders on such men?

h. In *passive* (without distinct reference to an agent). Of something appealing to intelligence or sensibility: To fail to be appreciated; to make no impression *on* a person. Of a person, his qualities or abilities: To have no opportunity for distinction or usefulness.

1898 A. M. BINSTEAD *Pink 'Un & Pelican* I Our kindly host..gave it as his unsolicited opinion that two such amusing liars as we were utterly wasted on after-dinner oratory. 1903 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* v. 139 'You ought to have been on the music hall stage, vicar,' Mrs. Stiffe said, 'you're wasted in Hornham.' *Mod.* As I had not read the book, the allusion was wasted on me. He is a profound scholar, but quite wasted as a village schoolmaster.

i. To fail to take advantage of, 'throw away' (an opportunity).

1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXVI. III. 455 The secret correspondence..which induced him to waste the irresistible opportunity of a safe retreat. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 211 It was not likely that they would waste an opportunity thrust upon them by Providence.

j. To cause or allow (a substance, physical energy) to be used unprofitably or lost.

1806 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 3 Every particle of matter may be used, and none wasted. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xvii (1842) 466 If these bridges of communication be small, much power will be wasted. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. viii. 263 A considerable portion of the heat..is wasted by radiation. 1900 *Conquest* June 400/2 The invaluable by-products are all wasted and escape into the air in the form of smoke.

10. To reduce (paper, books) to 'waste': see WASTE *sb.* 11 d.

1883 *Forts. Rev.* Apr. 499 Many unsaleable books..are 'wasted', that is, are sent to the mill, ground up, pulped down, and made again into paper.

II. Intransitive uses.

11. a. Of a person or living thing: To lose strength, health, or vitality; to lose flesh or substance, pine, decay; to become gradually weak or enfeebled.

a 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Maßes' Poems* (Camden) 336 In unlust for to lye, waste, wane. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. ix. (1495) 762 The adder abstyeneth and wastyth many dayes: that his skynne may so the easelyer be departyd fro the flesh. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1057 A tre without more, That may not bowe, ne bere fruyt, but root & euer wast. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 437 in *Macro Plays* 50 Wan þey haue wastyde by feyntnes, Than febyll þer wyttis. 1620 WITHER *Fair-Virtue* K 4 b, Shall I wasting in Dispaire, Dye because a Womans faire? 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* lxi. (1633) 144, I had rather waste with worke, then batten with ease. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 210 His griefe augmenting his feaver whilst his spirits hourely wasted. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. v, Ye..gormandize, and thrive, while we are wasting in mortification. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 443 Her appetite declines, her strength and flesh gradually waste. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv, In these slow tortures of his dread disease, the unfortunate Richard lay wasting and consuming inch by inch. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xx, Life wastes fast in such vigils as Caroline had of late but too often kept. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 925 The patient is wasting. *Ibid.* VII. 216 Almost simultaneously..the deltoid begins to waste.

b. with *away*.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 371 Þe bridde age is elde ..and wasteþ alle away. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4035 Wyndis wastid away, warmyt the ayre. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* i. 25 In cas þe lycoure wast a-way, caste more of þe same wyne þer-to. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 23 If drye wether come, it [the grass] wyll drye and burne vpon the grounde, and waste away. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xiv. 10 But man dyeth, and wasteth away. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 289 P 2 Were we not counted out by an intelligent Supervisor, we should sometimes be over-charged with Multitudes, and at others waste away into a Desart. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 96 *note*, Such a degree of Scurvy as causes the Flesh to waste away. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 19 From this time Independence perceptibly wasted away. 1841 J. H. NEWMAN *Corr.* (1917) 163 For centuries she [*sc.* the Church] has been wasting away, because persons have made the best of things and palliated serious faults. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlviii, I know I'm wasting away...Burgess and Co. have altered my measure, I'm in that state of thinness.

c. *Sport.* To reduce one's weight by training. Also *refl.* (with *down*).

1763 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* v. 82, I have waisted three Stone at least. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 186/1 Fitzpatrick [a jockey] caught cold in wasting, and died in the prime of life. 1833 *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 398 Being occasionally called upon to waste, he [a jockey] feels the inconvenience of his disorder. 1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* xii. 208 He resumed the sweaters, and wasted himself down to a ghastly 7 st. 3 lb. shadow. 1880 W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* xvii. 167 When my father trained, he often wasted by walking on the Downs.

12. Of material things: To be used up or worn away; to lose substance or volume by gradual loss or wear or decay. †Of the moon: To wane (*obs.*).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katherine*) 126 All ydolis of stok & stane mone nedling rot, & wast, & wane. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2165 Considereth eek how that the harde stoon, Vnder oure feet on which we trede and goon, Yit wasteth it as it lyth by the weye. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) 39 And þanne þei schewen the busseh þat brenned & wasted nought. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 232 Promysynge mountaynes of golde, whiche turned into snowe and wasted to water. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 Euphues had rather shrinke in the wetting then wast in the wearing. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. ix. 42 He shall mowe and cut downe his corne with sythe, the moone wasting. 1618 W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* vi. (1623) 12 Dry wall of earth, and dry Ditches, are the worst fences sane pales or railes, and doe waste the soonest. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Skilling* B 3, The whilst a Candle in the Kitchin wasts. 1625 BACON *Ess., Plantations* (Arb.) 533 Cramme not in People, by sending too fast, Company, after Company; But rather hearken how they waste, and send Supplies proportionably. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 98/2 In two months time, the liquor will waste a quart. 1873 GOSSE *On Viol & Flute* 53 Plashing with slow feet The warm and tidal pools that wasted there. *a* 1918 D. W. FORREST in *Mem.* etc. (1919) 160 'The more the marble wastes', said..Michael Angelo, 'the more the statue grows'.

b. Of riches, non-material things: To be consumed or spent; to dwindle or disappear by gradual loss or diminution.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3254 (Dubl. MS.) All þe welth of þis werld waystes be þe last To caryon & corrupcion. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lxiii. (MS. Ashm. 39) 85 Of parfite riches hit is tresoryeie Whiche may not waste but Iliche abide. *c* 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron. Eng.* (Rolls) 104 In his tyme that empire wasted and went to nowt. 1530 PALSGR.

iii, And with swift current to those joys they haste, That do as swiftly waste. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* II. 30 As grace growes, Corruption wasteth or is kept under. 1725 WATTS *Div. Songs, Sluggard* 12 His money still wastes, till he starves or he begs. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., 2 Sund. Lent*, If the treasures of thy wrath could waste. 1884 HT. MARTINEAU *Farrers* iv. 60 Her traffic declined, her wealth wasted, and she knew, at length, the curse of pauperism.

†13. To lose quality, deteriorate, spoil. (Cf. 6.)

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 66 How to make Powder (so that) it shall not wast with time.

14. Of time: To pass away, be spent. (Often conjugated with *be*.) ? *Obs.*

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2678 The nyght is wastid, and he syl a slepe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4030 Comyn was by course þat the cold wyntur Was wastid & went with his wete shoures. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 99 The lif of man upon erthe dothe dayly waist and drawith towarde our ende. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. Ecl. (1598) 430 The day was so wasted that onely this riming Sestine..could obtaine fauour to be heard. 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* I. iii, The night doth waste. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 506 So long they flew with inconsiderate haste, That now their afternoon began to waste. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 39/1 The season wasted apace. 1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. viii, I will not argue the matter: Time wastes too fast. 1834 L. HUNT *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1846 II. 266 We are losing the day; it wastes toward noon and nothing done. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XXV, The month of courtship had wasted.

Waste, obs. form of WAIST.

Waste-book. *Book-keeping.* [WASTE *a.*] A rough account-book (now little used in ordinary business) in which entries are made of all transactions (purchases, sales, receipts, payments, etc.) at the time of their occurrence, to be 'posted' afterwards into the more formal books of the set.

In the simpler forms of book-keeping the DAY-BOOK and the JOURNAL were not distinguished from the waste-book.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 215 As apeareth in the wast booke. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 45 Broad cloth; measurd, as apereth per perticulers in the wast book. 1673 T. BROWNE (*title*), The absolute Accomptant.., consisting of a memorial (vulgarly called a 'Waste book') and a 'Cash book'. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2480/4 With a practical Waste-book, Journal and Ledger. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v. *Post an Account*, To transcribe, or enter what is written in a Merchant's Waste-Book into the Journal. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ii, This is a kind of waste-book, Owen, in which all the transactions of the day, emptions,..draughts, commissions, and advices, are entered miscellaneously. 1832 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 84 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The waste-books..are carried on from week to week throughout the year. 1849 FREEMAN *Comm. Class-bk.* 95 The Waste-Book, called also sometimes the Day-book or Diary.

Wasted (wē'stĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. WASTE *v.* + -ED.[1]]

1. Laid waste, devastated, ravaged, ruined.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Wastyd, *vastatus.* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlv. 29 Sa mony waistit wawis. 1587 in *Border Papers* (1894) I. 259 This ruinose and waysted cuntre. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. i. 23 As I earnestly did fixe mine eye Vpon the wasted building. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 108 If young African for fame His wasted Country freed from Punic rage. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 689 Perfidious Mars..o'er the wasted World in Triumph rides. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. i, Of wasted fields and plundered flocks The Borderers bootless may complain. 1835 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XX. IV. 514 The sufferings of the thrice wasted Palatinate. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 197 Destroyed or wasted houses.

2. Diminished or reduced in substance, bulk, strength, health, etc.; worn, decayed.

1508 DUNBAR *Twa Maritit Wemen* 90 A waistit wolroun. 1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 122 Neither may we pretend this excuse that we want power, and like wasted detters be not able to pay. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 382 Now the wasted brands doe glow. 1653 WATERHOUSE *Apol. Learn.* 74 No more then it follows that a wasted man must get a child unhail, because he himself is consumptive. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmorld. & Cumbld.* vii. 47 Laid to Fallow, that it may..recover its wasted Strength. 1785 COWPER *Task* I. 128 Youth repairs His wasted spirits quickly. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xi, Keeping her pale face and wasted figure as much out of sight as she could. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 372 And the thin, wasted, shining summer rills Grew joyful with the coming of the rain. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xv, 'You are better, Moore?' Tom asked. ..'No,' said the farmer in a wasted voice. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 166/2 Ribs and bones showed through their wasted bodies.

†b. Morally marred or defiled. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 188/b Thou comest..whyche arte pure and clene to be baptysed and washen of me that am foule and wasted.

3. Spent, put forth, bestowed, used, unprofitably; squandered; misused; 'thrown away'.

1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xx. § 12 But let them take great care lest they intrench upon more necessary employments, and so fall under the charge and censure of wasted time. 1781 COWPER *Conversation* 357 Our wasted oil unprofitably burns. 1785 — *Task* IV. 225 A world..most pleas'd when idle most; Whose only happy are their wasted hours. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Oedipus King* 365 Say what thou wilt: 'twill be but wasted breath. 1894 LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* III. 352 His blighted hopes and wasted opportunities.

4. Of time: Gone by, elapsed.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cvi, When in the Chronicle of wasted time, I see discriptions of the fairest wights. 1782 COWPER *Retirement* 13 The remnant of his wasted span.

Wasteful (wē'stfŭl), *a.* Forms: see the *sb.* and -FUL. [f. WASTE *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. That causes devastation, desolation, or ruin; that destroys or lays waste.

a. of a person or animal, thing personified, personal action or attribute. ? *Obs.*

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 18230 (Göt.) Þu prince of tinsel and þu duke Of wastful werk, air belsabuk. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 32 What man..with more vehemency of voyce giveth warning vnther of a wastefull beaste, or of a spoiling theefe than this [dog]? 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 2 When Winters wastful spight was almost spent. 1596 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 283 Wastefull vengeance. 1625

G. Sandys *Trav.* iv. 218 England..defended by the Sea from wastfull incursions. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 620 Yonder World, which I So fair and good created, and had still Kept in that state, had not the folly of Man Let in these wastful Furies. 1783 Burke *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. 1842 I. 282 The several irruptions of Arabs, Tartars, and Persians into India were, for the greater part, ferocious, bloody, and wasteful in the extreme. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xvii, He collected his scattered forces from the wasteful occupation in which they had been engaged.

quasi-*adv.* 1728-46 Thomson *Spring* 122 Insect armies.. wasteful eat Through buds and bark into the blackened core Their eager way.

b. of a thing, its action. Now *rare.*

c 1590 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* iii. 287 First will we race the City walls our selues,..And..Open an entrance for the wastfull sea. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* viii. lxxii, Mongst them Alecto strowed wastefull fire. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iv. 461 [Storms] being oft times noxious where they light On man, beast, plant, wastful and turbulent. 1721 Blackmore *Creation* i. 747 But not impel them o'er their bounds of sand, Nor force the wasteful deluge o'er the land. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 266 The wasteful action [of water] is very conspicuous at Dimlington Height. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Tale of Tyne* ii. 28 These wasteful fires were a terrible nuisance.

2. Useless, worthless; unused.

†**a.** Of desires, words, etc.: Empty, vain, profitless. Of time: Unoccupied, spare. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 303 þow3 þou be poore..þou mayst haue þi grauel of wast in þin herte in wastfull & feruent desyris, wyllys, & delytes. *Ibid.* 304 þe secunde sote depthe is wast of þi mowth, þat is, wastfull woordys, whann þou spekyst all of þi good, of þi ryccheś, [etc.]. *a* 1547 Surrey *Paraphr. Eccl. ii.* 32 But when I made my compte with howe great care of mynd..that I had sought, so wastfull frutt to fynde Then was I streken strayte. 1573 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 426, I was the bolder to take mine occasion thus *equitare in arundine longa*, so spending my wasteful time within mine own walls. 1577 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* i. iii. 216 That I haue alleaged already is sufficient to represse that vaine and vnskilfull insultation, that you vse in so many wastfull wordes against vs.

b. Refuse, waste. *rare.*

1868 Lynch *Rivulet* (ed. 3) cii. i, For He, the Sower, must return..The wheat to garner, and to burn Of tares the wasteful heap.

3. Of a place: Desolate; unused, unfrequented, uninhabited, void. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* and *poet.*

1570–3 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 419, I would remove some part of an old, decayed, wasteful, unwholesome, and desolate house at Ford, to enlarge the little house I have at Bekesborne. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 50 Thy rymes and roundelayes, Which thou were wont on elmge. *Ibid.* Dec. 23, I went the wastefull ut wyde. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* To ——————— I..To wastefull woods, to empty groves. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 961 When strait behold the Throne Of Chaos, and his dark Pavilion spread Wide on the wasteful Deep. 1721 Blackmore *Creation* ii. 119 A wastful, cold, untrodden wilderness. 1827 Pollok *Course of Time* iii. 261 At the midnight hour..in wasteful hall,..Thou mightst have seen him bending o'er his heaps, And holding strange communion with his gold. 1883 Bridges *Prometheus* 43 When he had taken the throne and chained His foes in wasteful Tartarus. 1890 E. H. Barker *Wayfaring in France* 313 The Druids of old, who sought these wasteful places as the fittest for the worship of that Mystery.

as *complement.* 1618 Ainsworth *Ps.* cxxxvii, Daughter of Babel, wastful layd.

4. Of a person, his disposition, etc.: Addicted to waste; given to useless or excessive expenditure; regardless of economy in the management or use of resources; prodigal, extravagant, thriftless.

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Prodigus*, prodigall, wastefull, an outragious expender. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Prol. B ij b, The gospell rehearseth the lyfe of the prodigal son .I. of the wastfull spendyng chylde by a knowen parable. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 186/32 Waystfull, *dispendiosus.* 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 4 As in the Gospell that wastfull young man which returned home to his Fathers house was with ioy both admitted and honoured. 1604 Rowlands *Looke to it* 40 You carelesse wretches of the wastfull vaine, That for your Families will not prouide. 1666 Herbert *Body Divinity* i. 186 They that lose time are the greatest losers and wastfullest prodigals. *a* 1768 Secker *Serm.* (1770) III. vii. 170 For it is hardly to be hoped, but that our Negligence about their Conduct will tempt them, either to be dishonest, or idle, or wastful, in our Service.

b. Of expenditure, style of living, etc.: Characterized by waste or extravagance.

1452 Capgrave *St. Gilbert* 69 In his riding had he no costful hors, no wastful aray, not many hors, ne many seruantis. ——————— Is wastefull, and ridiculous excesse. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 289 By plundering the public creditor, it was possible to..support..the wasteful expenditure of the court. 1885 Tennyson *Anc. Sage* 5 One..richly garb'd, but worn From wasteful living. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 May 5/2 No society..is more free from the drawback of wasteful expense in management.

†**c.** Beneficently extravagant, lavish. *Obs. rare.*

1701 Addison *Let. fr. Italy to Ld. Halifax* 106 How has kind Heaven adorned the happy land, And scattered blessings with a wasteful hand!

5. Of a person, an action, process, etc.: That wastes, consumes or expends unprofitably (something specified or implied); not economical. Const. *of.*

1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Of Oxen* (1596) 72 Some do vse to feede them on the ground without a racke, but that is thought to be..more wastfull of hay. 1885 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 172 A wasteful condensation of the newly introduced steam must take place. 1887 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 263 Rival parties of trappers soon exhaust the streams, especially when competition renders them heedless and wasteful of the beaver. 1874 H. H. Cole *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 234 The material..is in itself of such beautiful texture that it seems wasteful of good things to cover it with embroidery. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 203 It seems to me rather wasteful to spend a lot of extra money on half-plate slides, and then only use them for quarters. 1893 *Bookman* June 85/2 He knows what he can do, and, avoiding any wasteful dissipation of his powers, does that efficiently.

†**b.** of a thing. *Obs.*

1607 Shaks. *Timon* ii. ii. 171 When euery roome Hath blaz'd with Lights,..I haue retyr'd me to a wastefull cocke, And set mine eyes at flow. 1618 W. Lawson *Orch. & Gard.* xi. (1623) 33 The greater Trees..haue filled and ouer-loaden themselues with a number of wastfull boughs and suckers.

6. That causes bodily waste or decay. Now *rare.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 341 The one sleepes easily because he cannot study,..lacking the burthen of leane and wasteful Learnings. 1844 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xcvi, Using every argument to rouse her from this wasteful excess of grief. 1849 I. Taylor *Enthus.* ix. 241 Self-inflicted penances, wasteful abstinences,..and all such like spontaneities.

Wastefully (wē·stfŭli), *adv.* [f. Wasteful *a.* + -ly 2.] In a wasteful manner.

1. In a manner involving waste; without regard to economy; prodigally, extravagantly, thriftlessly.

1513 Wolsey in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1897) 167 That ye wol not out of the havons, but lye ther spendyng wastefully the King's vitaill and money. 1624 Donne *Serm.* ii. (1640) 14 Never say, God hath given me these and these temporall things, and I have scattered them wastfully, surely he will give me no more. 1675 Dryden *Aurengz.* iii. (1676) 35 Fortune..to her new-made Favourite, Morat, Her lavish hand is wastefully profuse. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 33/2 Formerly the workings were carried on with less system and more wastefully than now. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Oct. 5/6 The tin clippings are wastefully thrown into the river.

†**2.** Destructively, ruinously. *Obs. rare.*

c 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* cii. 286 Ah God my God to wastefully Cut not my dayes by halfe away Where thy yeares last eternally. 1791 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* July, Scarce any misfortune..can so wastefully desolate the very soul of my existence as a banishment..from those I love.

Wa·stefulness. [-ness.]

1. The quality of being wasteful; prodigality in expenditure; want of economy.

1551 T. Wilson *Logic* ii. I viij b, Liberalitie is a vertue. Therfore liberalitie male not be called wastefulnes. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 212 Even so be these wretches more odious..who by their miserable parsimonie..doe mischiefe, than those who by their riot and wastfulnesse be hurtfull to a common-weale. *a* 1768 Secker *Serm.* (1770) III. 251 Wastefulness also, and even mere Negligence, approach to the same Sin. 1830 Dickens *Nickleby* xxxiv, I really cannot afford to encourage him in all his wastefulness. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 781/2 A lamentable wastefulness of the public funds.

†**2.** The state of being waste or void. *Obs. rare.*

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 195 Having taken away altogether that boundless wastfulness beyond the world, we are no whit careful, about the light or darkness of it.

†**Wa·ste-good.** *Obs.* [f. Waste *v.* + Good *sb.* (sense 7). Cf. *scatter-, spend-, stroy-good.*] A spendthrift.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 523/2 *Barathro*,..a spend all: a waste-good. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* B 2 b, If hee haue playde the waste-good at the Innes of the Court. *a* 1639 W. Whately *Prototypes* ii. xxvi. (1640) 69 The worldly-minded man, though hee live in better reputation on Earth, hath no better reputation in Heaven than the waste-good. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 1293 A waste-good, or spend-all, *Nepos, decoctor.*

Wastel (wǫ·st'l). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4–7 **wastell**, (7 **vastell**), 5 **wastelle**, (**wastle**, **wastyl(le**, **wastil**), 9 *Sc.* **wastell**, 4– **wastel**; also, by confusion with *wassail*, 6, 9 **wassell**. [a. OF. *wastel*, north-eastern var. of *guastel*, *gastel* (mod.F. *gâteau*). In Anglo-L. records the word often occurs latinized as *guastellum*, *wastellum*: see examples under Simnel and Treat *sb.*2 2.]

1. Bread made of the finest flour; a cake or loaf of this bread. (See note s.v. Treat *sb.*2 2.)

[1194 in Palgrave *Doc. & Rec. Scot.* (1837) I. Illustr. p. xxviii, Habere solebant..singulis diebus..duodecim de dominicis guastellis nostris et totidem de simenellis nostris dominicis et duodecim sextercia vini.] *c* 1300 *Havelok* 878 Þe bermen let he alle ligge, And bar þe mete to þe castel, And gat him þere a ferthing wastel. *Ibid.* 779 [see Simnel 1]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 293 Þow hast no good grounde to gete þe with a wastel. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 52 Storve myed wastel with colde ale þen. 1422 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 23 We commaunde 3ou..þat euery Baxster..bake & sell iiij wastels for a peny. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Þen take ..Roysonys y-hole, or hard Wastel y-dicyd. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 223 Thus refreschit he his folk in grete fusion, With outin wanting in waill, wastell or wyne. 1530 Tindale *Lev.* xxiv. 5 And thou shalt take fine floure and bake .xii. wastels thereof. *c* 1530 *Assyse of Breade* (Wyer) A iij b, A farthynge Wastell. 1557 R. Edgeworth *Serm.* i. 6 b, Like as a Molle if a man would feede her with wine and wastel, she will none thereof. *c* 1638 *Order Prov. Counc.*, in Penkethman *Artachthos* H 3, That no Baker..shall make or bake to bee sold any other..sorts of bread (except Simnell, Wastell, and Horse-bread, allowed by the Lawes..of this Realm).

fig. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* ii. iii. (1869) 117, I blowe with thilke belyes the herth to thilke, that of his soule wole make a wastel to the maister devel.

b. *attrib.* as *wastel bread, cake.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 147 Of smale houndes hadde she þat she fedde With rosted flesh or Milk and *wastel breed.* *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. P.* (Percy Soc.) 184 Thoube I ——————— with mylke and wastelbrede. 1569 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. X. 27/1 Two acres of land called wassell-land, out of which there hath been paid two bushels of wheat yearly, to be made in wassell-bread and given to the poor. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* vi. ii. § 8. 285 The Abbot..had Vastellum, that is, not common bread, but vastell bread, or simnels for his diet. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xiii, A skin as white as her father's finest bolted flour, out of which was made the Abbot's own wastel-bread. *Ibid.* xvi, I will send up in secret, not only household stuff, but wine and wassell-bread. 1843 F. E. Paget *Warden of Berkingholt* 66 Time was, when the wastel-bread, and the mortrel pottage,..were bestowed as a pittance to sixty of the poorest..persons in the neighbourhood. 1880 Scott *Monast.* xxvi, Mysie made no answer, but began to knead dough for *wastel-cake. 1912 Sir H. Maxwell *Early Chron. Scot.* v. 194 From the moment he entered England, the King of Scots [K. Wm.] was to be supplied with twelve royal wastel cakes and twelve royal simnel loaves.

2. *Her.* = Torteau 1.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-arm.* b iv b, Tortellis be calde in armys wastell. 1562 [see Torteau]. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss.

Wa·steland. [f. Waste *sb.* + Land *sb.*; cf. *waste land* under Waste *a.*] Land in its natural, uncultivated state. Also *attrib.*

1827 Morris *Odyss.* xi. 293 The wasteland neatherds. 1916 *Nature* 12 Oct. 105/1 The most accessible of the wastelands would be selected and the order of planting laid down. 1919 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 181 A flock of from thirty to forty meadow-pipits feeding on waste-land.

Wasteless (wē·stlės), *a.* [f. Waste *sb.* + -less.] Without diminution, unwasting.

1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 196 Thou doest wring water out of the flint, fier forth of ye dry sandes, ..so that by wastlesse perwasions for thy friende, I am forst to say [etc.]. 1620 May *Heir* iv. (1633) G 1 b, Those powers above..That from their wastlesse treasures heape rewards. 1679 in *Roxb. Ball.* (1881) IV. 270 He was become, for England's good, An endless Mine, a wasteless Flood. 1868 A. C. Glyn tr. *Oeanam's Hist. Civilis.* I. 95 The sun pouring forth a wasteless light. 1886 W. F. Warren *Serm.* in *Hom. Rev.* Jan. 50 He started those wasteless fires and forces of the sun.

†**Wa·steling.** *Obs. rare.* In 8 **wastleing.** [f. Waste *a.* + -ling.] = Waster *sb.*1 6 a.

1750 R. Pococke *Trav.* (Camden) 7 Such of all sorts [of stone ware] as are not perfect are call'd wastleings, and are sold very cheap to hawkers.

Wastell(e: see Wastel.

†**Wa·stely,** *adv. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Waste *a.* + -ly 2.] Unprofitably.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxx. 7 Egipt forsothe wastli, and in veyn [Vulg. *frustra et vane*, 1388 in veyn, and idili] shal helpen.

Wa·stements, *sb. pl., rare.* [f. Waste *a.* + -ment, after *fragment.*] Waste pieces.

1843 *Peter Parley's Ann.* IV. 95 To carry a few scraps and wastements from the kitchen.

Wastene, variant of Wastine *Obs.*

Wasteness (wē·stnés). [-ness.]

1. The state of being waste.

†**a.** Desolation, destruction, ruin. *lit.* and *fig.* (Chiefly *Biblical.*) *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xlvii. 11 Ther shal feerli falle vp on thee wastnesse [Vulg. *calamitas*]. — *Hos.* ix. 6 Thei ben gon fro wastnesse [Vulg. *a vastitate*]. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxiv. 12 Desolacion shal remayne in the cities, and the gates shalbe smytten with waistnesse. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* iv. xii. 74 b, We do now se at hande certaine beginninges of a horrible wastenesse in the Chirch. 1598 Spenser *Whs.* (1882) I. 538 Out of the ashes of disolacon and wastnes of this your wretched Realme of Ireland. 1621 Bible *Zeph.* i. 15 A day of wastenesse and desolation. 1672 Sterry *Freed. Will* (1675) 144 A dark, horrid, and bottomless pit, where all wastness, woe, disorder, deformity..dwell together. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Lev.* iv. Introd., Trespass is the moral wasteness.

b. The state of lying waste, being wild or uncultivated or barren.

1608 in *Buccleuch MSS. Whitehall* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 76 The present wastenes of that country proveth both the facility and the necessity of the plantation. 1799 S. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 245 Wasteness admits of various degrees. Some land in a state of nature may be worth ten or even fifteen shillings an acre of yearly rent; while other land is not worth so many farthings. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxviii, Under her rays, the ground over which we passed assumed a more interesting appearance than during the broad daylight, which discovered the extent of its wasteness. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Gen.* i. 24 The wasteness of the land ..has begun to be adorned with the living forms of a new vegetation.

2. An uninhabited or unfrequented region or place. *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1300 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) U iv, He shuld fynde wastenes ful great There nethere were drynke ne mete But wylde beastes many one. 1572 Buchanan *Detect. Mary Q. Scottis* (1727) 68 Was not that desolate Waistnes [orig. *illa deserta vastitas*], that unhantit Place, abill of itself to put simpill Men in Feir? 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. iii. 3 She of nought affrayd, Through woods and wastnesse wide him daily sought. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* iv. iii, The drearie trumpet blew a dreadfull blast,..Through wastnes wide it roard, and hollowes vast. 1647 Cawdrey *Exomologesis* 17 Which is able to convert Paradice it selfe into a savage wastenesse. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Wasteness*, a waste place.

†**Wa·stening,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*—1. [f. **waste* v. (f. Waste *a.* + -en 5) + -ing.1] = Wasting *vbl. sb.*

1604 Abp. York in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist* (1791) III. 232 As one that honoreth and loveth his most excᵉ Maᵗⁱᵉ wᵗʰ all my heart, I wish lesse wastening of the treasor of the realm.

†**Wa·stening**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 **wastning**. [Formed as prec. + -ING [2].] That is undergoing waste or decay.

1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Infinity of Worlds* lxxxii, Besides that firie flame that was so narre The Planets self, which greedily did eat The wastning mold.

Waste-paper.

1. Paper cast aside as spoiled, superfluous, or useless for its original purpose.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 6/2 *Sagestria*, .. waste paper, or other stuffe, wherein occupiers wrap their seuerall wares. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* B ij, [They] pretending forsooth to anatomize abuses, .. when as there waste paper beeing wel viewed, seemes fraught with nought elsaue dogge daies effects. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.*, To Wm. Couell A 2, This Poem .. so long keeping the corner of my studie, wherein I vse to put waste paper. 1682 Dryden *Medal* Ep. Whigs A 4 b, That so much skill in Hebrew Derivations, may not lie for Wast-paper in the Shop. 1730 Swift *Drapier's Hill* 17 His famous Letters [are] made waste paper. 1772 *Hartford Merc.* Suppl. 28 Sept. 4/1 A draft .. being laid in the office, as waste-paper, the prisoner Rogers .. altered the date, and .. carried it to Sir Robert's as a new draft. 1840 *N. Amer. Rev.* L. 317 It was then .. he [Botta] sold to an apothecary, at the price of waste paper, the last six hundred copies of his 'History of the American War'. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* xxviii, Will you allow me to send you over my *Times*? I have generally done with it before twelve o'clock, and after that it is really waste-paper in my house. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* ii. 8 The securities which Monsignor Lelli held .. proved to be little better than waste paper.

b. *attrib.*, as *waste-paper price, trade*; **waste-paper basket**, †**box**, a basket (or box) into which waste paper is thrown.

1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xlviii, There was the *waste-paper basket full of scraps. 1880 Miss Broughton *Second Thoughts* II. x, The almanack .. was .. angrily torn to shreds, and consigned to the waste-paper basket. 1836 F. Mahony *Rel. Father Prout, Songs Horace* v. Wks. (1881) 449 In its October number, just received, and now lying in our *waste-paper box. 1859 *D'Israeli's Cur. Lit.* I. 11 *note*, His noble library was scattered at *waste-paper prices. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. i, Half the lump will be waste-paper .. Can you get it at waste-paper price? That's the question. 1869 W. C. Sandars tr. *Uhland's Poems*, Biog. Mem. 12 The larger portion of the two first editions was eventually disposed of to the *waste-paper trade.

†2. Blank or unused paper. *Obs.*

1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2662/4 Lost .. an Affidavit with the Copy thereof, and several Accompts and Memorandums writ in the Wast-Paper thereof.

Waster (wē·stəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 **wastere, wastor**, (**waaster**), 4–5 **wastoure, -owre, wastur**, 4–6 **wastour**, 5 **wayster**, 5–6 **waister**, *Sc.* -our, 6 *Sc.* **westour, westar**, 4– **waster**. [Orig. a. AF. *wastere, -our*, agent-n. f. *waster* Waste *v.* + -ER[1]. In sense 6 the word may be f. Waste *a.* or *sb.* + -ER[1].]

I. One who or something which wastes.

1. One who lives in idleness and extravagance; one who wastefully dissipates or consumes his resources, an extravagant spender, a squanderer, spendthrift. Now chiefly *dial.*, with some notion of sense 6, a worthless person, 'ne'er-do-well'.

1352 *Winner & Waster* 194 '3ee wynnere', quod wastoure, 'thi wordes are vayne: With oure festes and oure fare we feden the pore.' *Ibid.* 390 Who so wele schal wyn, a wastour moste he fynde, For if it greues one gome it gladdes anoþer. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 22 Summe .. In Eringe and in Sowynge swonken ful harde, þat monie of þeos wasturs In Glotonye distruen. *Ibid. A.* v. 24 He bad wastors go worche what þei beat coupe, And wynne þat þei wasteden with sum maner craft. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 þe Kyng was a ravener in gaderynge and a greet wastour in spendynge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 162 Bachus .. A wastour was, and al his rente In wyn and bordel he despente. 1470 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 137 Which .. shuld cause .. your frendis to thynk .. that ye shuld be a wastour and wuld wast your lyvelod. 1508 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) C ij b, He is a waster. *Profusus est pecunie.* 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 177 The said Walter did never strik his wyff, nather yit onis fund fault with hir, .. althocht scho wes ane westour. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 94 Prodigall dingthrifts and wasters. 1631 Lenton *Charact.* G 7, A Good Husband .. He is the sole happinesse of a good wife, and the torment of a Waster. 1641 D. Ferguson *Sc. Prov.* No. 311 (1785) 20 It is well wairt that waisters want gear. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Lives, Hobbes* (1898) I. 347 His lord, who was a waster, sent him up and downe to borrow money. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 369 This would .. instruct him .. to avoid being a Squanderer or Waster. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 407 He who will not work, must .. leave the town, as they will not sweat themselves for an healthy idle waster. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, Ye will think I am turned waster, for I wear clean hose and shoon every day. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Waster*, .. a wasteful person. 1887 J. W. Matthews *Incwadi Yami* ii. 20 The class of wasters which public grumbling bred and fostered. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* i, A mining population of whites and blacks and 'wasters' .. 'Wasters?'—oh, it's a South African word, and most expressive; applies to the specious loafer who is so common in this country. 1904 J. Sweeney *At Scotland Yard* viii. 103 Here was a wretched invertebrate fellow, an absolute 'waster'.

quasi-*adj.* 1596 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* (1840) I. 80 The presbiterie findis Johne Graye to have callit sir Bartilmo Simsone, ane wastourfallo, commoun theve, [etc.]. 1788 Ramsay *Last Sp. Miser* xiv, But waster wives, the warst of a'.

b. One who wastefully dissipates or consumes (something specified; in early use money, resources). Const. *of*.

a 1382 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 200, & þif men .. wolden fleyn pale, & trauelle bisily þerfore in treuþe, & ben not wastours of here litil good. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 291 Men moote enquere .. Wher she be wys .. or wastour of thy good. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 132 He is a wastoure of his goodes, and destrueth his rolaime whate he may. 1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) H iij b, But what is a loyterer? A sucker of Honie, a spoyler of corne, a destroyer of fruite, naye a waster of money [etc.]. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 73 A man of an vll lyfe and an inordinate waster of the goodes of the Church. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* I. i. B 3, Diuers Roman Knights (The profuse wasters of their patrimonies). 1701 Penn in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 70 Learn who have been the wasters of timber. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 81 This waster of ink, this defiler of paper. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) II. 18 No waster wassaile of her tears, or her smiles. 1883 *American* VII. 6 But the good sense of the majority soon suppressed these wasters of time.

c. An action or habit that causes waste.

a 1633 G. Herbert *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 11 Building and marrying of Children are great wasters. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. 75 Gaming, that great waster of time as well as fortune, is not his vice.

2. One who lays waste, despoils or plunders; a devastator, ravager, plunderer.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xvi. 4 Moab, be thou the lurkyng place of hem fro the face of the wastere [Vulg. *a facie vastatoris*]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5310 þe werreour of all þe werd & wastoure of ynde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Wastowre, of a place, *dilapidator*. 1544 *Supplic. to King* (E.E.T.S.) 49 Truly no lytle wasters, spoylers, and robbers; and that of the most poore. 1575 *Luther's Comm. Gal.* ii. 9 Of a persecuter and waster of the Church, he was made an Apostle. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* viii. (1590) 381 It can not bee, that our heartes should bee right in affections towardes our brethren, and wee spoylers and wasters, or any way harmers of the commodities which they inioy. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* cxxxvii. xi, The Lord shall all thy Pow'r o'erthrow And lay the mighty Waster waste. 1827 Scott *Harold* I. ix, Witikind the Waster. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 649 And press around each new-come man to learn If Harfleur now the pagan wasters burn. 1879 Butcher & Lang *Odyss.* 115 Odysseus .. the waster of cities.

†b. One who or something which destroys. Const. *of*, *to*. *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 792 Þu art .. confourt of wrech, waster of syn. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27983 (Cotton Galba) Þis licheri es .. waster of man-kin. 1646 Hammond *Of Conscience* § 67. 35 That only sin continued in for any long time .. was a far greater waster to Conscience. *Prov.* 1678 W. Walker *Paræm.* 27 Water is a waster, *Aqua denies habet.*

3. The designation of a class of thieves mentioned along with 'Roberdesmen' and 'Drawlatches' in a statute of Edw. III. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

The occurrence of the word in the AF. statute of 1331 is no proof that it was current in English at that date. All subsequent examples merely echo the statute.

1331, 1581 [see Roberdsmen]. 1543 tr. *Act 5 Edw. III*, c. 14 Bycause there hath ben dyuers manslaughters, felonies, and roberies done in tymes past, by people that be called Roberdesmen, wasters [*sic*], and Drawlaches. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wastors*, a kind of Thieves, or Robbers anciently known by that Name. 1890 Conan Doyle *White Company* iv, It shall never be said whilst I am Bailiff of Southampton, that any waster, riever, drawlatch or murtherer came scathless away from me and my posse.

¶ Misused to render AF. *westour* in a statute relating to Wales. *Obs.*[−1]

The AF. word represents Welsh *gwestwr* (f. *gwest* lodging, hospitality + *gwr* man), a vagrant who went about exacting free board and lodging.

1543 tr. *Act 4 Hen. IV*, c. 27 Mischiefes, whiche hath happened before this tyme in ye land at wales, by many wasters, rymours, mynstrels, and other vacabondes [orig. *Westours, Rymours, Ministralx & autres vacabondes*].

4. a. An animal that is wasting away or losing flesh, or that will not fatten. Also *attrib.* as †*waster ox*.

14.. in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 51 þe feble ox costithe as moche and more þen þe beste ox for yeff he be a wayster ox he moste be þe more spared. 1614 Markham *Cheap & Good Husb.* II. [II.] i. 45 Which [healthfulness of an ox] you shall know by a good taile and a good pyzel, for if the haire .. be lost, then hee is a waster and will be long in feeding [for the butcher]. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* xli. § 3 (1700) 308 A lean .. slender Pike, though he seem to advance in length; yet is commonly a waster, and in a decaying condition; .. yet he'll live and be as hungry and greedy as ever. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss., Waster*, a rabbit or other animal that looks like a dier, wasting away. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 13 Sept. 6/7 In an adjoining shed there was a 'waster' [i. e. a cow affected with tuberculosis], which was so ill that it could not stand up.

b. *A bad waster*: said of a jockey who has difficulty in 'wasting' (see Waste *v.* 11 c).

1833 *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 399 He is a bad waster, and is much punished to bring himself to the three-year-old weights. 1849 *Bentley's Misc.* XXVI. 581 Some men are bad wasters, when nothing but very severe exercise, aided by medicine, .. suffices to get off the last twenty-four ounces.

5. Something which causes or allows waste or loss of material.

1848 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 142/1 [Sluices] also act as wasters, to allow the surplus water of a reservoir to escape. 1880 Spurgeon *Ploughm. Pict.* 135 A leaking tap is a great ——.

b. A foreign body in the wick of a candle which causes it to gutter and waste. *dial.*

1788 G. Wilson *Coll. Masonic Songs* 72 (Jam.) Oft on the wick there hangs a waster, Which makes the candle burn the faster. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Wasther*, a thief in the ——. 1886 *W. Somerset Gloss.*, Waster.

c. *Path.* = Combo.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 732 It is also known as grub, worm, black-head, or 'waster'.

II. 6. Something rejected as waste.

a. An article of faulty or inferior manufacture.

a 1800 Peggе *Suppl. Grose, Waisters*, damaged or misshapen goods. North. 1828 [Carr] *Craven Gloss., Waster*, any thing among wares that is damaged or of inferior workmanship. 1829 J. Hunter *Hallamsh. Gloss., Waisters*, articles of cutlery laid aside on account of any imperfection. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 360 The former [*i. e.* needles with broken eyes] .. are thrown aside as wasters. 1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 135 A great number of barrels declared 'wasters'; such as .. having holes in the sides, or some other fault sufficient to condemn them in the eyes of a .. barrel-maker. 1869 F. Kohn *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 206 If cast in a fireclay mould, the contraction was still irregular, and 10 per cent. of all tyre castings were 'wasters'. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 177/2 Such lenses, together with those that possess .. other defects, are technically called 'wasters'. 1880 P. W. Flower *Hist. Trade in Tin* xiii. 273 Some of the sheets thus thrown out are called menders .., others are called wasters, for which there is always a market at a reduction in price; the worst are called waster waste. 1892 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 577/2 A pottery, worked at however distant a period, leaves traces of *seccy* and 'wasters'. 1900 *Bath Herald* 15 Sept., Galvanized Corrugated Iron, for Roofing, best quality only, no wasters.

b. An animal, bird, etc. which is not good enough to be kept for breeding purposes.

a 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 405 A young sow, .. having as many as nine pigs, it could not be expected any of them would be so properly fat for wasters, as if she had brought but four or five. 1904 *Nature* 25 Aug. 408/2 But now I him breed from his 'wasters' and he will find that the extracted blacks are pure and give blacks only.

†**Wa·ster**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 **wayster**. [Of obscure origin.]

1. A wooden sword or a foil used in sword-exercise and fencing.

1455 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) II. 144 Furst viij swerds and a long blade of a swerde made in wafters [*read* wasters] .. for to lerne the king to play in his tendre age. *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. a sworde or any other waster. 1600 Holland *Livy* xl. vi. 1063 Foule worke they made with their wodden wasters and headlesse pikes. 1622 Bp. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* § 11 Even as with woodden wasters we learne to play at the sharp. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 111 The fencer's staffe or waster .. was call'd *rudis* (as some think) because with such cudgels they practic'd the rudiments of fencing, before they came in publick to fight at sharp.

2. A cudgel, staff, club.

1533 Heywoode *John, Tyb & Sir John* A j b, Nought shulde preuayle me, nother staffe nor waster Within a whyle she wolde be my mayster. 1555 W. Waterman *Fardle Facions* App. 327 Let there bee gluen vnto hym by the commune Sergeaunt of the batte .xxxix. stripes with a waster. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 90/1 Verianus and Marcellianus .. were beat with wasters or trunshons, after that [they] were hanged .. vpon the gibbet. 1598 Stow *Surv.* (1603) 96 The youthes of this Citie also haue vsed on holy dayes after Euening prayer, at their Maisters doores, to exercise their Wasters and Bucklers. 1611 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* (Grosart) 49/2 'A groning horse .. grunting wife neuer failes their master'! Yes, if the master haue not life to .. with the waster. ?1615 Lennard tr. *Charron's Wisd.* (?1620) Pref. § 10 A 4, A weake arme wanting power and skill well to welde a waster or staffe that is somewhat too heauy for it, wearieth it selfe and fainteth.

3. Fencing with a 'waster'; single-stick, cudgel-play. Also *pl.* esp. in *to play at wasters*.

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 281 Let vs play at buckeler and at waster in feyre game. This waster [*rudis*] is not laufull. 1594 *Selimus* 1812 in *Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) XIV. 264, I thought my selfe as proper a fellow at wasters, as any in all our village. 1596 Nashe *Saffron-Walden* T 2, To see a Gillian draggell taile .. play at wasters with a quil for the britches. 1630 Dekker *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* D 3 b, If o're husbands their wiues will needes be Masters, We men will haue a law to win't at wasters. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowe* III. § 12. 206 Such kind of recreations as .. playing at wasters and foines. 1636 *King & Queen's Entert. Richmond* (Bang) 22 And what can Richard doe, play a little at wasters, and make the blood .. run about his yellowes eares at a Wake. *attrib.* 1599–1600 [T. G. Ruggle] *Club Law* IV. 1, To night is holy daye, and there will be waster play.

4. *fig.*

?1615 Lennard *Charron's Wisd.* (?1620) § 10 A 3 b, Science or Learning is a very good and profitable staffe or waster. 1640 G. Abbott *Job Paraphr.* 73 Be perswaded to lay downe the wasters, to give over reasoning the matter. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 8 Being unable to weild the intellectuall armes of reason, they are faine to betake themselves unto wasters and the blunter weapons of truth.

Waster (wā·stəɹ), *sb.*[3] *Sc.* Also 9 **wester**. [Altered form of Wawsper, influenced by the synonymous Leister.] A fishing-spear.

1580, 1634 [implied in Wasterie *vbl. sb.*]. 1823 Scott *Guy M.* xxvi, This chase, in which the fish is pursued and struck with barbed spears, or a sort of long-shafted trident, called a waster, is much practised at the mouth of the Esk, and in the other salmon rivers of Scotland. *Ibid.*, Ground the waster weel, man! 1825 Jamieson, *Waster*, a kind of trident used for striking salmon, Dumfr., Eskdale: the with *Wester*. *a* 1835 Hogg *Sheph. Wedding* ii. Tales & Sk. 1837 II. 132 My teeth war a' waterin to be in him, but I kend the shank o' my waster wasna half length. 1843 W. Scrope *Salmon Fish. Tweed* ix. 195, I shall give a description of the clodding, or throwing leister, or waster, as he was used to term it .. The spear has five prongs of unequal, but regularly graduated, length.

Waster (wē·stəɹ), *v. Sc.* [f. Waster *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To spend or use extravagantly, to waste.

1822 Galt *Ann. Parish* v. 58 My servant lassies ..

every thing at such a rate..that, long before the end of the year, the year's stipend was all spent. 1823 — *Entail* II. xix. 184 Since that time he's been neither to bind nor to baud,..wasting his income in the most thoughtless way.

Wasterful (wē·stəfŭl), *a. Sc.* [f. WASTER *v.* + -FUL.] Wasteful.

1821 GALT *Ayrshire Legatees* I. 5 There's no need, for all the greatness of God's gifts, that we should be wasterful. 1879 MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* lxii, Has ye nae sang-thrift, 'At ye scatter't nae heigh, an' lat it a' drift? Wasterfu' laverock! 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* v. 48 You are michty wasterfu', my laddie! What for are ye wearin' your best claes, I wad like to ken?

Hence **Wa·sterfully** *adv.*, **Wa·sterfulness.**

1885 'J. STRATHERN' (J. Tod) *More Bits* xi. 206 She did not quite like some of Bell's remarks about wasterfu'ness and 'thowlessness'. 1892 H. JOHNSTON *Kilmallie* I. x. 178 The shepherd fares sumptuously and spends wasterfully.

Wasteriff, var. WASTRIFE.

† **Wa·stering,** *vbl. sb. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **vastering.** [f. WASTER *sb.*[3] + -ING [1].] The action or process of taking fish with a 'waster'; leistering.

1580 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 55/1 Cum omni alia piscatione salmonum..inter dict. bondas, sive reticulis et modo appellato vastering. 1634 *Ibid.* 70/2 Cum cetera piscatione salmonum..reticulis aut modo vocato wastering.

† **Wa·stern.** *Obs.* In 4 **wasternne, -urne,** *Sc.* **wastrone, -ine.** [Altered form (after WASTE *sb.*) of ONorthumb. *wōstern*, var. of *wēsten*: see WESTEN.] A wilderness.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1674 In wasturne walk & wyth þe wylde dowelle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 885 In þis wastrone fra þine haf I dwelt euir contynualy. *Ibid.* 1125, & faste hame syne 3ed..ewyne throu þe wastrine þat like day, þat he come fra þat abbay. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3933 Woluer, and whilde swynne, and wykkyde bestes Walkede in that wasternne.

† **Wa·stership.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [? f. WASTER *sb.*[3] + -SHIP.] ? Fencing exercise.

1575 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 227/1 For ye dynners of Jentlemen th^t came for wastershippe...iii^s.

Wastery: see WASTRY.

Wa·stethrift. Now *rare.* [f. WASTE *v.* + THRIFT *sb.*[1]] A spendthrift.

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch Old One* I. iii. B 2, Hee's a rioter, a wast-thrift, a brothell-maister. 1611 BRAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* I. iii. (1613) C 3, Thou art a wast-thrift, and art run away from thy maister. 1868 H. BRANDRETH (*title*) Wastethrifts and Workmen. Of the mode of producing them, and their relative value to the community. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Feb. 2/1 Let him, as a wholly useless and absolutely dangerous criminal wastethrift, be deprived altogether either of freedom or of life.

† **Wa·ste-time.** *Obs.* [f. WASTE *v.* + TIME *sb.*, after PASTIME.] A means of wasting time; an occupation in which time is passed unprofitably.

1609 ELLESMERE *Sp. Post-nati* 24 Call it either a Passe-time, or Wast-time, as pleaseth you. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Lincs.* II. (1662) 153 Some think that the Men must be mad as well as the Bull, who can take delight in so dangerous a Wast-Time. 1863 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Sir Everard's Dau.* 166 Busily employed with drawing, or painting, or wool-work, or some other graceful form of feminine waste-time.

Wasteyn(e, var. forms of WASTINE *Obs.*

† **Wa·stie.** *Obs.* [If not an error, prob. f. WAIST *sb.* + *-ie* = -Y.] ? Capacity (of a ship).

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. XXIII. 957 The kings fleet consisted of 37, and those of greater burden and wastie [L. *majoris formae*]. *Ibid.* XXX. 961 The enemies armada consisted of fourescore and nine, all ships of the greatest wastie and making [L. *maximae formae*].

Wastil, obs. form of WASTREL.

† **Wastine.** *Obs.* Forms: 2–4 **wastine,** 3 **-ene, -in,** 4 **-ayne, -eyn(e, -yne, -en.** [a. OF. *wastine, guastine, gastine*: f. root of *wast* WASTE *a.*] A wild, uncultivated tract of country; a desert region, wilderness.

a 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 141 Sunnedei smat Moyses þene stan ine þe wastine. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Dis worældes biwust is efned to wastene, for þat þe hit is ferren atleten hollis tiðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3801 In wildrin land and in wastin I wil þam bring of þair nocin 13.. *K. Alis.* 7037 Unicornes they fond in that wasten [*Land MS.* wastayne]. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6112 An ermyte woned fer ouer a doune, Yn a wasteyne, fer fro þe toune. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 75 Alle mad he [William] wasteyn, pastur, medow & korn. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* li. (*Paul*) 838 [He] fled allane owt of þe towne, willand in wastine vpe and done.

Wasting (wē·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WASTE *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. The action of laying waste; devastation.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27839 (Covetousness causes) manslaughter and suilk, wasting and were. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII* c. 12 The same Scottes..make..burnynges murders wastinges and depopulations in this his realme. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 83 Except he had left taknes quhair he had beine in Robrie, Spoylzie, and Waisting of the kirkes. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. (1674) 4 The miserable wasting of their Country..in..Civil Wars. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 30 The Horrors that attend the Wasting of Kingdoms, and Sacking of Cities. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 164 For wasting of the boar That mars with tooth and tusk and fiery feet Green pasturage [etc.]..I praise her not.

2. The action of using or spending lavishly or to no profit. † Also *concr.*, that which is thus wasted.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23850 Ai to spell and noght to spede, wasting it es o godds sede. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 25 He bad wastoure go worche what he best couthe, And wynnen his wastyng with somme manere crafte. 1393 in *Acc. Exec. Innes* (1864) 97 His frendis tak him and put him in fermance for eschewin of ony forther waisting of his saidis landis and gudis. 1867 PUSEY *Eleven Addr.* iii. (1908) 24 He foresaw Adam's wasting of His grace.

3. Gradual diminution or decrease; gradual wear or loss.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 73 Boile þam togidre to þe wastyng of þe iuyses. 1509 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 31 Item resaived ffor wastyng of torchis when that jenyns wyfe was beryed and at her monthe mynde, ij *d.* 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VIII. XXVI, His clothes all patcht with more then honest thrift, And clouted shoon were nail'd for fear of wasting. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 416 Two strong dams..to prevent the water from wasting. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 87 To husband out life's taper at the close, And keep the flame from wasting by repose. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xvii, When he remembered how friendly everybody was in his new world, he forgot the rapid wasting of his little fortune.

4. Gradual decay of life or organic tissue; gradual loss of strength and vitality; consumption, atrophy.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lvii. (1495) 174 The bones somtyme ben greuyd of wastynge of humours of the marow. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Tabo*, a consumption, wastynge, or putrifaction of thinges. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 81 b, So that if he shaketh him not off betimes by suche wasting of bloud as he will make, thereby he is quickly enfeebled. 1628 A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 143 The groning of the brute and sencelesse creatures amongst us, under murreings and wastings. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 256 Though hunger still remain: so it remain Without this bodies wasting, I content me. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wasting*, a consumption, a decline. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Analosis*..a consumption, wasting, or atrophy. 1893 *Daily News* 9 Jan. 3/4 A baby who is rapidly recovering from 'wasting', a very general malady among the little ones of the poor. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 229 Wasting of the levator palati and of the vocal cord muscles cannot actually be seen.

b. *Sport.* Reduction of weight by 'training down'.

1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* xii. 207 With medicine and vigorous wasting, they can come to their weight again ..in three weeks. 1913 GRETTON *Mod. Hist. Eng. People* I. viii. 191 His suicide was attributed to depression of spirits caused by the incessant 'wasting' to keep down his weight.

5. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 39 The first operation to which the iron ore is subjected, is wasting; that is exposing the stones to a moderate heat, which volatilises any extraneous mixture of the ores. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Wastings*, workings.

Wa·sting, *ppl. a.* [f. WASTE *v.* + -ING [2].]

1. a. That lays waste, devastates, or destroys.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 43 And te oðre..liueð i godes luue, wiðuten euch heate of þe hali gast, þat bearneð se lihte, wiðute wastinde brune in alle hise icorene. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* viii. 13 The wastinge abhominacion. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 46 And see the Cities and the Townes defac't, By wasting Ruine of the cruell Foe. *a* 1646 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* iii. (1652) 190 Sin is of a wasting nature: Sin layeth waste Countreyes and places that people live in. 1707 ROWE *Success H. M.'s Arms* 14 The dreadful Ravage of the wasting War. 1738 WESLEY *Hymns*, '*To Thee, O Lord, our God and King*' ii, Whate'er is human ebbs and flows As wasting Time prevails. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. i, Here thy temple was, And is, despite of war and wasting fire. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* II. x, The wasting sea-breeze keen Had worn the pillar's carving quaint. 1889 J. B. BURY *Later Rom. Emp.* II. i. I. 66 Stilicho..departed to Salona, allowing Alaric to proceed on his wasting way into the lands of Hellas.

b. That undermines strength and vitality. Of a disease: Causing atrophy or gradual decay.

a 1600 SIR J. DAVIES *Epigr.* XXXVI. 21 The wasting Hectique, and the Quartain Feuer. *a* 1721 PRIOR *24 Songs* iii. 4 A lingering fever's wasting pain. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xi, A haggard paleness, which seemed the effect of care or of dissipation, or of both these wasting causes combined. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Shops & Tenants*, A slow, wasting consumption prevented the eldest girl from continuing her exertions. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. XXI. III. 384 The state of his own health, too infirm to encounter, with safety, the wasting heats of an African summer. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 564 Wasting diseases, such as cancer, diabetes and phthisis.

2. That is being gradually consumed or destroyed; decaying, waning, passing away.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 980 In þis wastinge word we ne wone nouht euere. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 8 These Eyes, like Lampes, whose wasting Oyle is spent, Waxe dimme. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* Pref. e 2 The other Mandril ..has an even neck instead of a taper one, and runs in a Collar, that by the help of a Screw, and a joynt made like M in the Figure, it can be still adjustned to the wearing or wasting neck. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 21 And now the latter Watch of wasting Night, And setting Stars, to kindly Rest invite. 1738 WESLEY *Hymn*, '*Thee we adore, Eternal Name*' ii, Our wasting Lives grow shorter still As Months and Days increase. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 272 The wasting cliff at Pakefield. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 889 For the wasting muscles massage and electrical treatment should be employed.

b. *Sport.* (See WASTE *v.* 11 c.)

1880 W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* xvii. 166 It was once no uncommon sight at Newmarket to see, daily, ten or a dozen wasting jockeys returning from an eight-mile walk, thoroughly exhausted.

Hence **Wa·stingly** *adv.*

1552 HULOET, Wastinglye, or wastfullye, *prodige*. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discov.* (1640) 123 Not to cause the trouble of making Breviates by writing too riotous, and wastingly. 1834 H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* I. III. v. 164 No poison works so

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ing the divine bounty.'

† **Wa·stity.** *Obs.* In 4 **wa(a)stete, wastyte.** [f. WASTE *a.* + -(I)TY. Cf. OF. *gastet* (gl. L. *vastitas*).] Desolation. (Only in Wyclif's rendering of *vastitas* in the Vulgate.)

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* XXVIII. 53 Thow shalt ete the fruyt of thi woombe..in angwish and wastete [Vulg. *vastitate*; 1388 distriyng], with the which thin enemye shal oppresse thee. *Ibid.* 57 Thei shulen ete hem priuely, for the scarsnesse of alle thingis in the seege and waastete [Vulg. *vastitate*; 1388 distriyng], bi the which thin enemy shal oppresse thee. *Ibid. Jer.* VI. 7 Wickednesse and wastyte.

† **Wa·stive,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WASTE *v.* + -IVE.] Liable to waste.

1736 TOLDERVY *Hist. & Orphans* II. 13 Here, no excess decays our vig'rous health, A blessing greater far than wastive wealth.

Wastland, obs. Sc. variant of WESTLAND.

Wastle, obs. form of WASTREL.

Wastme, var. WASTUM *Obs.*

Wastor, -our(e, -owre, obs. ff. WASTER *sb.*[1]

Wastrel (wē·strĕl), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 **wastorel.** [f. WASTE *v.* + -REL.] **A.** *sb.*

1. In Cornwall: A tract of waste land. *Obs.* exc. in narrower sense, a strip of road-side waste.

1589–90 *Anc. Deed* A. 13002 (P. R. O.), [Land in the] towne and feeldes severalls and wastrells of Tregorrock within the parish of St. Austoll. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 23 Their [tin] workes..lie either in seuerall, or in wastrell, that is, in enclosed grounds, or in commons. *Ibid.* 23 b, The Wastrel workes are reckoned amongst chattels, and may passe by word or Will. 1899 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Ship of Stars* XI. 99 The Chapel stood..on a turfed wastrel where two high roads met and crossed. 1902 *C. T. C. Gaz.* Nov. 466/1 [Launceston] The heaps..were not on the metal portion of the road, and the width of the wastrel where the heaps were was about four feet.

2. = WASTER *sb.*[1] 6.

a. An article of bad or imperfect workmanship, rejected as unserviceable or not saleable at the full price.

1790 MARSHALL *Midl. Co.* II. 445 *Wastrels*; outcasts; as wastrel bricks, &c. 1847 HALLIW., *Wastrels*, imperfect bricks, china, &c. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Wastrels*, waste substances. 1870 *Churchm. Shilling Mag.* VI. 42 The word *wasteril* or *wastril*, in the dialect of Hallam-shire, signifies a knife that is made to sell, for show and not for use.

b. An unhealthy, wasted-looking animal.

1819 REES *Cycl.*, *Wastorels*, or *Wastrels*...The young lambs, pigs, and calves, sold to the butchers, which are improper for keeping as stock, are sometimes also called by this name. 1899 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Ship of Stars* vi. 48, I wouldn't ask a bird of mine to break the Sabbath for a wastrel like that.

3. A good-for-nothing, idle, worthless, disreputable person.

1847 HALLIW., *Wastrel*, a profligate. *West.* 1857 WAUGH *Lanc. Life* 120 There's ir Jammy i he's as big a wastril as ever stare't up a lone. 1881 *Times* 4 Jan. 3/4 In Glasgow last night a 'Hogmanay supper' was given by some good Samaritans to a company of 2,000 outcasts and wastrels. 1885 D. C. MURRAY *Rainbow Gold* I. ii, I'm not a runaway. I'm not a wastrel. I think if I set myself to do it that I can make a living somehow.

b. A neglected child of the streets, a city arab.

1877 HUXLEY *Techn. Educ.* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 77 The educational method, the intelligence,..and good temper on the teacher's part, which are now at the disposal of the veriest waifs and wastrels of society. *c* 1880 BARNARDO *Taken out of Gutter* 2 The juvenile 'wastrels' of London streets are, alas! still to be reckoned by their thousands.

4. A wasteful person, a spendthrift.

1887 BARING-GOULD *Red Spider* vi, Young Hillary, who, brought up in his father's improvident ways, was sure to turn out a like wastrel.

transf. 1889 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 390 London is the most conspicuous wastrel of both men and means.

B. *adj.*

1. Of manufactured articles: Waste, rejected as imperfect. Of workmanship: Good for nothing.

1790 MARSHALL *Midl. Co.* II. 445 Wastrel bricks. 1852 J. ALLIES *Brit. etc. Antiq. Worc.* (ed. 2) 106 The piles of encaustic tiles which were found..which were built up in columns with cement, probably were wastrel tiles, which were so used. 1898 H. SUTCLIFFE *Ricroft* ix. 111 Wenches..all ..full o' wastrel wark sooin as ye let 'em go an inch beyond weshing an sewing.

2. Of an animal: Feeble, lacking strength or vigour.

1880 *Gardening Illustr.* 7 Aug. 278 At this time the inferior and imperfect or wastrel [*sic*] birds may be killed. 1895 CROCKETT *Bog-myrtle* v. vii. 412 A wastril whalp could hae dung us owre with its tail. We war tha surprised like.

3. Running to waste, spendthrift.

1894 KIPLING *Seven Seas*, *McAndrews' Hymn* 47 Blot out the wastrel hours of mine in sin when I abode. 1896 *Ibid.*, *Last Rhyme of True Thomas* 23 Where, blown before the wastrel wind, The thistle-down she floated by.

Wastrife (wē·strif), *a.* and *sb. Sc.* Also **wasteriff.** [f. WASTE *a.*: cf. *cauldrife, wauk-rife.*] **a.** *adj.* Wasteful, extravagant. **b.** *sb.* Wastefulness, extravagance.

a. 1820 SCOTT *Nigel* v, Do not allt the quill up too high, it's a wastrife course. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* May 361/2 The old housekeeper, who always declared Master Jacob was so *wasterif* with his goods, that he would certainly come to beggary some day.

b. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXVIII, She confessed afterwards, that, 'besides the wastrife, it was lang or she could walk sae comfortably with the shoes as without them'.

Wastrone, -one: see WASTERN. *Obs.*

Wastry, wastery (wē·stri), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Also 8–9 **wastrie.** [f. WASTE *v.* + -(I)RY.]

Reckless extravagance, esp. in living; wastefulness; also, an act or case of wastefulness.

1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* xix. 184 The same very fault and sin of wastry, that is inherent in the broken bankrupt. 1661 R. Baillie in *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden) I. 96 Through his wastery, hes left..in debt. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 64 Yet ev'n the ha' folk fill their peghan Wi' sauce, ragouts, an' sic like trashtrie, That's little short o' downright wastrie. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 340 How is a nation to be converted from extravagance to frugality, when the intent and purpose of all men's minds and endeavours is to foster this wonderful wastery. 1863 'Holme Lee' *A. Warleigh* III. 247 He was a gentleman born, but he'd ruined himself wi' gambling an' wastry. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxviii, My disposition has always been opposed to wastery.

b. Waste *of* (what is specified).

1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* III. xiv, I thought with myself.. what a wastrie of time was caused by the inconsiderate talk of uninformed men. 1900 B. Kirkby *Granite Chips* 41 (E. D. D.) It was fair weastry o' ink an time.

Wa·stry, *a. Sc.* ? *Obs.* [? f. Waster *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -y. Cf. Wastrife *a.*] Wasteful, extravagant.

1792 J. Learmont *Poems* 364 (E. D. D.) To live wi' sic a wast'ry, braisant jade. 1825 Jamieson, *Wastrie*, prodigal; a *wastrie* person, one who is extravagant.

†**Wa·stum.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wæstum**, **-em**, **-im**, **wæstm**, **westom**, **westm**, **weastm**, 3 *Orm.* **waasstme**, **vestme**, **westum**. [OE. *wæstm* masc. = OS. *wastum* :– OTeut. type **waχstmo-z*, f. root of Wax *v.*]

1. Fruit, crop, produce; abundance of produce.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. 13 Be þæs cyninges ʒebode brengð eorðe ælcne westm. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 17 Ælc god treow byrþ gode wæstmas. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Illiche þan treo þe bereð lef and blosman, and nane westmas ne bereð. *c* 1200 Ormin 9284 Illc an treo þatt..Ne bereþþ nohht god waasstme Shall..beon hæwenn upp. *c* 1205 Lay. 32108 Þenne scullen i Bruttene blissen wurðen riue, wastmes and wederes sele after heore i-wille.

b. *transf.* Fruit (of the body, womb), offspring.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 5 Forþon se wæstm þines innoþes is ʒebletsad. *c* 1200 Ormin 1937 Þær brohhte ʒho þatt waasstme forþ Off all unnwemmedd wambe.

c. *fig.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 249 Andreas, for hwan gæst þu swa buton wæstme þines ʒewinnes. *c* 1200 Ormin 15911, & nesshenn itt [thy heart] & godenn, Swa þatt itt bere þess te bett God waasstme i gode dedess.

2. Growth of body, stature, form. Also (*nonce-use*), greatness.

Beowulf 1352 (Gr.) Oðer earmsceapen on weres wæstmum wræclastas træd. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xix. 3 Zacheus.. was lytel on wæstmum. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 Þe fader is on þe sune on þrie wise. Þat on is on westme, for þat he is muchel and mihti ouer alle þing. *Ibid.* 127 Alse wat se he was þoʒen on wintre and on waestme..þo nam he ʒeme of mannes liflode. *c* 1205 Lay. 15698 Þa iwarð ich on vestme wunder ane fæir. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 69 A meiden..feier & freolich o wlite & o westum.

Hence †**Wa·stumless** *a.*, without fruit.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 22 *Sine fructu* westemleas. *c* 1200 Ormin 13858 All iss itt [the heart] uss bifroreun swa þurrh hete & nip & irre, Þatt all itt lip uss waasstmeless Off alle ʒode dedess.

Wastur, obs. form of Waster *sb.*[1]

†**Wa·sty**, *a.*[1] and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 **wasti**, 4 **wasty**, 6 **vaistie**, **waisty**, **wastie**. [Altered form (after Waste *a.*) of ME. **Westy** *a.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Desolate, desert.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 43 (Titus MS.) And hwat ʒif he beoð wone, þat tu..schalt greni godles inwið wasti wahes [*lay MS.* westi wahes]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. *(Sinai)* 37, & þare in-to [a] wasty stede heremytis lyf wel he lede. 15.. Alex. Hume *Ep. G. Moncrieff* Poems (S. T. S.) 61 Of barran Syrt, and wastie Scythia.

b. Phr. *Wasty wanes, wones*, a desolate place of habitation; also, a spacious place.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 2444 It was a fair rowme wasty wones. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvi. 18 First of all in dance wes Pryd, with bair wyld bak and bonet on syd, Lyk to mak vaistie wanis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. viii. 6 Alhaill the barnage flokkis furth atanis, Left voyd the tovn and strenth with waisty wanis.

2. Extravagant in upkeep.

c 1380 Wyclif *Whs.* (1880) 129 Þei han many grete houses, costlewe & wasty.

B. *sb.* A desert place.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 148 An ermyt..That woned in wasti bi him an.

Wasty (wē·sti), *a.*[2] [f. Waste *sb.* + -y.]

1. Liable to waste from deterioration.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 7/2 Pineapples from the Azores are 'wasty', and sell from 6d. to 3s. 6d. each, but they are not of good quality. 1905 *Ibid.* 6 July 12/1 The rain has ruined 50 per cent of the strawberries on the plants...Tons of soft wasty berries have been marketed and sold at any price obtainable.

2. *U.S.* 'Resembling cotton-waste' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1886 *U.S. Consular Reports* No. lxii. 470 (Cent.) The wool becomes impoverished on account of the heat and dust, and is very tender, with a dry, wasty top. 1888 *Ibid.* 389 The wools..are..dry and wasty.

Wastyl(le, obs. forms of Wastel.

Wastyne, variant of Wastine *Obs.*

Wa-swa, obs. form of Whoso.

Wasyll, obs. Sc. form of Weasel.

†**Wat**[1], *Obs.* Also 4–5 **watt**. [Of obscure origin: not connected with Wight *sb.*] A person; esp. *a great wat.*

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 49 We beth..y-sent firo þe shiris to shewe what hem greueth...And to graunte of her gold to þe grett wattis By no manere wronge way. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2816 If so be þat oon of þe grete wattes A dede do, which þat a-geyn þe lawe is, No thyng at al he punyssh̄id for þat is. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 294 Ye xal fynde hym a strawnge watt. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XX. 10 Ye wote not wel, I weyn, what wat is commen to the towne. *c* 1500 Medwall *Nature* (Brandl) 891 What man ys that; Fathers soule, thys ys some great wat.

Wat[2] (wɒt). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5–6 **watte**, 6–7 **watt**, 5–7, 9 *dial.* **wat**. [Prob. a use of *Wat*, short for *Walter* († *Water*).] A hare.

a 1500 *Mourn. Hare* 26 in *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 44 Lo I he sayth, where syttyt an haare! Aryse up, Watte, and go forthe blyve! *Ibid.* 60 As doth the sylly Wat. *c* 1500 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 404, I wold my master were a watt & my boke a wyld Catt, & a brase of grehowndis in his toppe. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 913 The watte, *le leurrart.* 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* xxiv. 25 Neuer was there yet, any larke or wat, Before hawke or dog, flatter darde or squat. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 697 Poore wat farre off vpon a hill, Stands on his hinder-legs with listning eare. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxiii. 331 The man whose vacant mind prepares him to the sport, The Finder sendeth out, to seek the nimble Wat. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cccl.xxxvii. 360 Had he not better have born Wat's Nibling of his Plants and Roots now, then the Huntsman's..Laying of his Garden Wast.

†**Wat**[3]. *Obs.* Also **watte**. [a. F. *watte*, a. Du. *watte* = F. *ouate*: see Wad *sb.*[1]] = Wad *sb.*[1] 3.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* II. 99 He presented him with a noble coverlet of Watte [*Fr.* 1659 *watte*]. 1671 tr. *Palafox's Conq. China* xxxii. 566 Over this Shirt they wear a Vest..lined with Wat, or Cotton. *Ibid. foot-n.*, Wat is the Down which covers the seeds of the *Apocynum Syriacum*, called in English Silk-grass.

‖ **Wat**[4] (wat). Also **watt**. [Siamese, said to be a. Skr. *vāṭa* enclosure, grove.] A Siamese Buddhist temple.

1871 Alabaster *Wheel of Law* 264 We stop for the night at a Wat, or Buddhist monastery. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXd. 853/2 (*Siam*) The temples (*wats*) hold very little landed or house property. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Aug. 4/1 Almost every 'wat', or temple, in that country [Siam] has in the grounds attached to it a large flat slab of whitewashed masonry. 1897 *Outing* Mar. 586/1 The occasional spire of a '*Wait*' or temple, showing that this canal is one of the streets of the city [the capital of Siam].

Wat, obs. f. Quoth, What; Sc. and north. f. Wet *a.* and *sb.*, Wot *v.*; pa. t. of Wet, Wite *vbs.*; var. Whate *sb. Obs.*

Wat, obs. Sc. form of Wait *sb.*

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 255 The erle of Mortoun also beand in leith balding wat on him.

Watap, wattap (wɒ·tæp). Also **watape**, **watapeh**. [Narragansett Indian *wattap* 'a root of tree' (Roger Williams *Key Lang. Amer.*, 1643).] (See quot. 1789.)

1789 A. Mackenzie *Voy. fr. Montreal* III. (1801) 37 The vessels in which they cook their victuals, are in the shape of a gourd,..and of watape, fabricated in such a manner as to hold water. *Ibid. foot-n.*, Watape is the name given to the divided roots of the spruce-fir, which the natives weave into a degree of compactness that renders it capable of containing a fluid. The different parts of the bark canoes are also sewed together with this kind of filament. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 14 The small roots of the tree afford the wattap, with which the bark is sewed.

Watch (wɒtʃ), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wæcce**, **wæce**, **-æ**, **wecce**, 2 **wæccche**, 3–5 **wecche**, 5 **weech**, 3–6 **weche**, 5 **wetche**, 3–5 **waccche**, 4 **waahche**, 4–6 **wache**, 5–6 **wach**, (6 **wash(e)**, 4–6 *Sc.* **vach**, 6 *Sc.* **vatche**, **wyche**, 5 **waioche**, **waiche**, **waycche**, 5–7 **watche**, (6 **wash(e**, **wattch)**, 7 **wauch**, 6– **watch**. [OE. *wæcce* wk. fem., f. stem of *wæccan* Watch *v.* Cf. Wake *sb.*[1]]

I. Wakefulness, vigil.

†1. The state of being awake; voluntary or involuntary going without sleep; wakefulness. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 350 To slæpe, gate horn under heafod ʒelsed weccan [*v.r.* wæccan] he on slæpe ʒecyrreþ. *Ibid.* II. 152 ʒif men sie micel wæce ʒetenge, popiʒ ʒegnid on ele smire [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4132 Long waccche on nightis, and no slepinge. *c* 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* 125 My lord youre eem may not weddo yow neyther in wetche [*v.r.* weech] ne in dreem. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 48 Sembably immoderate watch drieth to moch the body. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 148 He..Fell into a Sadnesse, then into a Fast, Thence to a Watch, [etc.]. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iv. 43 False to his Bed? What is it to be false? To lye in watch there, and to thinke on him? 1632 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 52 There be certaine appointed courses for watch and sleepe, lest creatures languish with overmuch motion.

¶ b. *Watch of nightingales*: in the early lists of 'proper terms', app. intended to designate wakefulness as the distinctive quality of the bird; by late writers misapprehended as the proper term for a flock or company of nightingales. Cf. Watching *vbl. sb.*

c 1452 *Egerton MS.* 1995 (Hodgkin) Waycche of Nyghtyngales. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vi, A wache of Nyghtingalis. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* I. ii. 33. [1847 Halliwell, *Wacke*, a flock of birds.]

†2. Watching as a devotional exercise or religious observance; an act or instance of this. *Obs.* except in *watch-night* (see 27).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Mid fæstenne, & mid halʒum wæccum, & mid almessum. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 89 Lioue sunle, ic ðe bidde and warni ðat tu nenie hope ne hane upe ðine ðre swuche ase ich nemde nu beoð mine sacredæes. *c* 1275 *Orison* 21 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 139 Wunderliche þurh waoche and fast þi swete lychome þu teonedest. 1421 in *26 Pol. Poems* xviii. 113 Kepe ʒoure waccche and seruyce dewe, And rule of habyte clenely ʒame. *c* 1430 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 27 So for to make hem mor lith in her wecch, þis same bischop ded ordeyn swete songis and delectable. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 42 With the merytes & werkes of harde penaunce, abstynence, watche, prayer, turmentes and martyrdome.

†b. A wake or revel held on St. John the Baptist's (Midsummer) Eve (23 June), sometimes renewed on St. Peter's Eve (28 June). *Obs.*

1445 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 220 Pur le Ridyng on Corpus Christi day and for Watche on Midsomer even. 1512 in *Songs, Carols* etc. (E.E.T.S.) App. 256 On Myd-somer nyght þe Kyng cam prevyly to the Kyngis Hed in Chepe,..& so departid agayn after þe washe. & on seynt Peters nyght the Kyng & þe Quene cam rydyng to the Kyngis Hed royally; & after þe washe, departid to þe Towr. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *so Hen. VIII* (1550) 177 By reason of this plague the watches whiche were wont to be kept yerely in London on saint Ihons euen at Mydsommer & saint Peters euen were ..commaunded to be left for that yere. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 92, vj hobby horses for mydsomer watch. 1592 Stow *Ann.* 1004, 1548..The watch. of long time laid downe, was now againe vsed, both on the eeuen of S. Iohn, and of S. Peter, in as comely order as it had beene accustomed, which watch was greatly beautified by the number of more than 300. demilances and light horsmen [etc.].

c. A 'wake' over a dead person.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2467 Cristene folc..don for þe dede chirche-ʒong elmesse-ʒifte, and messe-song, And ðat is on ðe weches stede. 1908 *Ch. Times* 13 Mar. 347/2 A watch was kept all night, the Men's Guild making themselves responsible.

3. The action or a continued act of watching; a keeping awake and vigilant for the purpose of attending, guarding, observing, or the like.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxi. § 1 Hu micele weccan & hu micle unrotnesse se hæfð þe ðone won willan hæfð on þisse worulde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 96 So mot I nedes fro hire wende And of my wachche make an ende. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 180 He com to þe chyrch and to þe scryne of Saynt Wenefryd, and was þer yn his prayers al a nyght. But on þe morow, what for wach, what for wery, he fylle on slepe. 1541 Paynell *Conspir. Catal.* I. 1 He was an experte man of warre: he could suffer and endure labour, watche, colde, thyrste, and hunger, far beyond that any man wolde beleue. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* Ep. Ded. A ij b, Diodorus the Stoike..thorow his continuall watch and excessiue studie, being blinde of long time. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 35 Care keepes his watch in euery old mans eye, And where Care lodges, sleepe will neuer lye. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 317 They were so wearied with the watches of the last night. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 312 The Foe securely drench'd in Sleep and Wine, Neglect their Watch. 1704 Addison tr. *Ovid, Phaeton's Sisters* 31 All the long night their mournful watch they keep, And all the day stand round the tomb and weep. 1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 25 Nov., These night watches, and this close attendance, disagree with them all. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VI. 129 Wan was her cheek With hollow watch. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* XXXIX, Sometimes we would think of poor Mary Hawker, at her lonely watch up at the forest station. 1890 Stevenson *In South Seas* II. vi. (1900) 190 Others had wearied of the watch; and as the sun was setting, he found himself by the grave alone.

4. [tr. L. *vigilia*, Gr. φυλακή, Heb. אַשְׁמֹרֶת *ashmōreth*.] Each of the (three, four, or five) periods into which the night was anciently divided. Now often in collective plural, *the watches of the night*, used rhetorically for 'the night-time'.

The Hebrews divided the night into three watches, the Greeks usually into four (sometimes five), the Romans (followed by the Jews in New Testament times) into four.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 388 Drihten com to his leorningcnihtum..on ðære feorðan wæccan. An wæcce hæfð þreo tida; feower wæccan ʒefyllað twelf tida; swa fela tida hæfð seo niht. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 38 ʒif he cymð on þære æfteran wæccan, oððe on þære þriddan. [So Tindale and all later versions; Wyclif has *wakynge*.] 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 247 b, In lewry..the nyght was dyuyded into iiii partes whiche they called iiii watches. The fyrst was from the begynnyng of the nyght vnto ix of the clocke. The second from ix to xii. The thyrde from xii to iii and the fourth from iii to vj of the clocke. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* xiv. 24 Whan the mornynge watch came, the Lorde loked vpon the armies of the Egiptcians. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 28 As hee whose Brow (with homely Biggen bound) Snores out the Watch of Night. 1604 — *Oth.* I. i. 124 At this odde Euen and dull watch o' th' night. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 219 The day was not diuided of the first Hebrewes..into houres, but was distinguished by *Vigiliæ*, or Watches, of which they had foure. 1706 Estcourt *Fair Example* IV. i. 52 *Fan.* Well, my dear, it begins to grow late, and it's time I shou'd leave you. *Mrs. Fan.* It do's

the Constable, and one of the young Fellows who took him, were planted as his Guard. About the second Watch a general Complaint of Drowth was made. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 21 Jan., The watches of the night pass wearily when disturbed by fruitless regrets. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xci. 13 Come: not in watches of the night, But where the sunbeam broodeth warm. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. viii, How can she hurry the pace? she asks herself desperately, in the watches of the night.

†5. A vicious turning of night into day, 'chambering'. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1766 For nabbe ich nawt þeos niht I worldliche weoches, ah habbe in heouenliche iwaket. *c* 1430

Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 90 Hateful of herte he was to sobrenesse, Cherissbyng surfaytes waccbe and glotony.

II. Action of watching or observing.

6. The action or an act of watching or observing with continuous attention; a continued look-out, as of a sentinel or guard. Chiefly in phrases, †*to make watch, to keep* (*a, the*) *watch, to set a watch.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 318 He..has the castell tan, Throu falt of vach, vith litill payn. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 17 Ac þe constable of þat castel þat kepeth al þe waccbe, Is a wyse knigte with-al, sire Inwitte he hatte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wetche, for enmees, *excubie*. *c* 1450 *Merlin* IV. 76 Therfore a-ray youre oste and your barons, and comaunde hem to make gode waccbe to diffende hem-self. *Ibid.* XX. 318 And the[i] drinke and ete ech day and trouble so theire braynes that thei sette litill waccbe in theire hoste. 1486 Cress. Oxford in *Paston Lett.* III. 328, I..streitly chargie you that ye..endevore your self that suche wetche or other meanes be used and hadde in the poorts, and creks, and othre places..to the letting of his seid purpose. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Excubia*,..watche, as well by daye as by nyghte. 1549 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 64 That day began to agayne the washe at every gatt in London of the comeners in harnes with weppyns. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 190 They kepe so good watche, that nothing can escape them. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 650 The Magistrates and gouernours caused great watches to be kept, and good order to be obserued. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vii. 18 The Generall..determined to enter [illegible] g also there [illegible] coores. 1594 [illegible] hye thee to thy charge, Vse carefull Watch, chuse trusty Centinels. 1605 Bacon *Ess., Love* (Arb.) 445 Loue can finde ent[illegible] not only into an open Heart; but also into a Heart well fortified; if watch be not well kept. 1670 Ray *Prov.* 28 Good watch prevents misfortune. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* an. 1605, I well remember the strict watches and examinations upon the ways as we passed. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 238 [He] had a strict watch kept on the wanderings of the melancholy Lenox. 1827 Keble *Chr. Yr., Advent Sunday* iv, Even so, heart-searching Lord,.. Thou keepest silent watch from thy triumphal throne. 1835 James *Gipsy* II, 'Keep a good watch, my boys,' he said,.. 'There is danger stirring abroad.' 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xvi, Many an eager eye glanced up to where the Look-out on the mast kept watch for Holyhead. 1867 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 159 The look in it as of bright bewildered eyes with tears not theirs and alien wonder in the watch of them. 1886 C. Scholl *Phraseol. Dict.* II. 834, I kept a watch on that man all the time he was on the premises. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 515/2 He kept watch of you even after the money was stolen.

transf. 1804 Campbell *Soldier's Dream* 2 The night-cloud had lowered, And the sentinel stars set their watch in the sky.

b. The duty, post or office of watchman or sentinel. *Obs.* exc. in Bible phrase *to stand upon one's watch.*

1535 Coverdale *Neh.* VII. 3 Whyle they are yet stondinge in the watch, the dores shall be shut and barred. And there were certayne citesyns of Ierusalem appoynted to be watch-men, euery one in his watch. 1550 *S'hampton Crt. Lest Rec.* (1905) I. 1. 15 Wherfore yt ys comaunded that every man paye his watches for the welthe and Savegard of the towne as [etc.]. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* VII. 132 They to their supper do departe, some to the watch do hye, And some their tyred limmes to reste on couches downe do lye. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. iii. 12 Welcome Iago; we must to the Watch. *Ibid.* V. ii. 326 There is besides, in Rodorigo's Letter, How he vpbraides Iago, that he made him Braue me vpon the Watch. 1605 — *Macb.* V. v. 33 As I did stand my watch vpon the Hill I look'd toward Byrnane, and anon me thought The Wood began to moue. 1611 Bible *Hab.* ii. 1, I will stand vpon my watch, and set mee vpon the towre, and will watch to see what he will say vnto me.

c. Surveillance *over* a person, either for his protection or with hostile intent.

1611 Bible *Job* vii. 12 Am I a sea, or a whale, that thou settest a watch ouer me? 1776 *Trial of Mundocomar* 23/2, I do not put a watch over him; how can I tell who has seen him. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* III. viii, We shall be able to keep a better watch over her. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* v, Impatient of the watch which was placed over her. 1885 Bible (R. V.) 1 *Sam.* XXVI. 15 Wherefore then hast thou not kept watch over thy lord the king?

d. *On, upon* (*the*) *watch*: on the look out, exercising vigilance. Const. *for, to* with *inf.*

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 203, I resolv'd to put my self upon the Watch to see them when they came to Shore. 1759 A. Burnaby *Trav. N. Amer.* 28 *note*, The bald-eagle, which is generally upon the watch, instantly pursues [the fishing-hawk]. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* XXVI, Wherever they went she was evidently always on the watch. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXV, The..door..opened when he knocked—for Rob was on the watch. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 182 He must be always on the watch for the indications of a coming reaction. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 237 We should not have been on the watch to keep one another from doing wrong.

†e. Watchfulness, vigilance. *Obs.*

14.. Lydg. *Lyke thyn Audience* 28 in *Pol. Rel. & Love Poems* (1903) 48 [Hunt game] with bowe and arow in honde Mawgre the wache of fosters and parkerris. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 241 Thoughe she ordeyned wyth all watche & dylygence her thoughtes wordes & dedes to the worshyp of god yet she [etc.]. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 214 Maketh gode wache be tyme.

personified. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 76 Agayn my haste, Wach profrid his seruice, And I admittid hym in heuy (as often in earlier times) a rhetorical and more emphatic synonym of *watch* in sense 6; also *fig.*

It has often been supposed that in this phrase *watch* refers to service by night and *ward* to service by day, but this seems to be merely an unsupported inference from the etymology.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 200 Thei..maken thanne warde and waccbe, Wher thei the profit mihten cacche. *c* 1425 in *Black Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) I. 284 That every man be obeissant to his capitene to kepe his waccbe and warde. 1472 Caxton [illegible] warde, redy at their defence. 1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (Arb.) 87 But I which spend, the darke and dreadful night, In watch and ward, when those birds take their rest, Forpine my selfe. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 9 Still, when she slept, he kept both watch and ward. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 137 As for their Watch and Ward, it goes by course, as in the City of Embden, and divers other in those low countries. 1687 *Declar. Dubl.* 8 Dec. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2222/3 We do hereby further Require..that the Laws of this Realm concerning the keeping of Watch and Ward, and for raising the Hue-and-Cry be duly observed. 1780 Burke *Sp. Bristol* 60 But let government..comprehend the whole in its justice, and restrain the suspicious by its vigilance; let it keep watch and ward;..and then it will be as safe as ever God and nature intended it should be. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* I. x. 191 At least let us not be lulled into such a notion of our entire security, as not to keep watch and ward, even on our best feelings. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XI, Mrs. Pipchin had kept watch and ward over little Paul and his sister for nearly twelve months. 1859 — *T. Two Cities* II. iii, The jury..were not agreed... My Lord..signified his pleasure that they should retire under watch and ward, and retired himself. 1868 *Local Act 31 & 32 Vict.* c. lix. Preamble, Whereas the Power of Watch and Ward within the University and City of Oxford has heretofore been customarily exercised during the Night by the Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Oxford, and during the Day by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Oxford. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xvii. 267 The necessity of keeping some watch and ward over his tongue. 1906 S. J. Reid *Life & Lett. Ld. Durham* xviii. II. 32 Along the southern line of the Russian frontiers it was necessary to keep military watch and ward against the predatory incursions of Tartar tribes.

†b. in *plural. Obs. rare.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxv. (1495) 362 By watches and wardes of knyghtes the nighte is departed in foure, bi foure partes and orders of watches. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 10 Arragonse..is the strongest towne of walles, towres, bulwerkes, watches, and wardes that euer I saawe in all my lyfe.

†c. = 8 b. *Obs.*

1566 *S'hampton Crt. Lest Rec.* (1905) I. 1. 41 Item that non put eny catall Into the comyn who is not a howseholder and paye watche and warde vpon payne to furfet for evere tyme so offendinge s/-.

†8. The action of keeping guard and maintaining order in the streets, esp. during the night, performed by a picked body of the community. Phrase, *to keep watch. Obs.*

1442 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 8 And ony waicheman that slepis in the nyght, or removis fra the waiche quhile the son rise, sal pay vi d. to the seriandes. 1532 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 712 All Constables within the Citie & suburbes of the same shal be discharged from ehensforth of the Comen watche in this Citie & also of all paymentes & charges of the same. 1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 128 In the night wach to be kept by the Univ. no freman..should..be vexed ..by the wach. 1549 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 63 That nyght was the comyneres of London was dyscharged of ther waching at alle the gattes of London in harnes, and to wache no more but the comyne wache as a nyttes in every warde as it hath bene acostomyd before. 1878 J. Davidson *Inverurie* iv. 138 A watch to be kept by sixteen persons every night, and two sentinels in every steeple by day.

†b. A payment or tax for the upkeep of watchmen. *Obs.*

1430 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 294 No Maire ..shal pardon and forgyve amercements of brede, ale, waccbe and affrayes. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 390 That then he pay taske, tallage, knyghtenspence, waccbes, and other charges w'yn the warde that he comyth furst in to the seid cite by. 1506 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) IV. lx. 192 To paye taxes watches subsydes, or passages agayne theyr wyll.

†9. A lying in wait, an ambush; hence an insidious design or plot. Phrases, *to lay watch*, to place an ambush, *to lie at, in, watch* (for). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5585 Bot the ffreikes were ferd of hor fre shippes, ffor to caire by the coste, & knew not the waches. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 195 Helle..fleenge the waccbes of here steppe moder [L. *fugiens insidias novercales*]. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 430/2 Kepyng hym self ryght curyously fro the prychyng sawtes and watche of the world. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* V. (S.T.S.) II. 207 þai..began to drede sum hid watche and tressoun [L. *insidias vereri*]. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* XI. 68 And beholde, the hoostes of the Heithen met them in the felde, & layed watch for them in the mountaynes. 1548 in Leadam *Court Requests* (Selden Soc.) 183 Defendauntes..leyd at divers tymes watch to take the corne off the said complaynaunt. 1548 Cranmer *Catech.* 190 b, For if we shuld not much forbeare and forgyue one another,..we shoulde neuer haue measure nor ende of chiding, scoldynge, laying in watche one of another [etc.]. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* XI. 87 Thai lay at the vatch [*printed* vacht], lyik the ald subtil doggis. 1555 *Instit. Genit.* E vij, Manius..was..abhorred of hys own soldiers, euen so muche as they tooke hym in a watche, and set hym vpon an Asse backe hys fete bounde vnder the bely of the Asse [etc.]. 1653 Walton *Angler* iii. 92 He [the trout] gets him into swifter and swifter streams, and there lies at the watch for any flie or Minow that comes neer to him.

10. One who watches; a look-out man; †a spy.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 44 Bot he, that had his vachis ay On tik eyde, of thar cummyng, Lang or thai com, had vittering. *Ibid.* XIII. 442 Bot the lord dowglas, that ay-quhar Set wachis heir and thar [Gat] wit of thair anbuschem[illegible] *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 276 The King buskit him sone, with scant of Squyary Wachis and Wardroparis all war away. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* CXXIII. Iv, By the false watches & backbyters whiche ben neuer cessyng to talke of som euylle rather than of somme good. 1820 Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. ii. 26 Suddenly the watch gave the alarm of 'a sail ahead!'

b. *Cricket.* A fieldsman; also, a fielding position or station. (*Winchester College.*)

1836 *New Sporting Mag.* Oct. 360 The fielding of the 'Wykehamist watches' was very different from years gone by. 1843 [F. Gale] *Pract. Hints Cricket* Frontisp., The 'watches' are placed more behind the wicket, since the introduction of Round Bowling, than they were formerly. 1871 F. Gale *Echoes fr. Old Cricket Fields* 27 What I call an all-round player is a man who will go to any watch he is told, long or short, except wicket-keeper.

11. One who watches, or those who watch, for purposes of guarding and protecting life and property, and the like; *esp.* before the introduction of the new Police, a watchman or body of watchmen, who patrolled and guarded the streets of a town, proclaimed the hour, etc.

1539 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 738 That fromehensfurthe the seriauntes that shall warne the comen watche of this Citie shall furst begyn to warne the said watche at seynt Margettes Chappell. 1571 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 63 The cunsall ordanis the fouir balleis to deill the toun in fouir, and ilke ane of thame nychtly rasave the wache, and put nychtly sufecent wyches to the port. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 536 *Hostesse.* The Sherife and all the Watch are at the doore: they are come to search the House, shall I let them in? 1599 — *Much Ado* III. v. 49 *Dog.* One word sir, our watch sir haue indeede comprehended two aspitious persons. 1607 T. D. & G. Wilkins *Jests* 10 A yong man, being taken by a watch in the day time, for an idle fellow, was by a Constable brought before one of the Sheriffes of London, [etc.]. 1670–1 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 376 On Munday morning at two a'clock, some persons reported to be of great quality,..set upon the watch and killd a poore beadle. 1681 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* v. (1687) 61 *Enter Constable and Watch. Const.*...I and my Watch going my morning Rounds, and finding your door open, made bold to enter to see there were no danger. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3901/2 A Watch which was posted near that Place..came to his Assistance. 1752 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* I. xiii. 114 Gentlemen, answered the Watch, we are no Rascals, but Servants of His Majesty King George. 1818 *Murphy Delany's Feast* 12 Hullo! what's all this noise about? To the watch-house you must go, sir. Phelim struck the watch across the nose, And cried out no, no, no, sir. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 51 From such neighbours the Cheap could not escape. The watch was generally scanty and always idle, and in the depth of winter the streets were without lights, save [etc.]. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xvi, Then there was the watch with staff and lanthorn, crying the hour, and the kind of weather. 1845 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* i, The woman, with a piercing shriek, called the watch; but the watch..answered not.

12. A sentinel; also, the body of soldiers constituting the guard of a camp, town, gate of a town, etc. ? *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1205 Bot er þay at-wappe ne mo3t þe wach wyth-oute, Hi3e skelt was þe askry þe skewes an-vnder. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 375 Thai herd no vachis spek no cry. *Ibid.* XVII. 482 Thai set gud wachis to thar wall. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5185 Þan was þar non of al þe wacche þat ys herte ne by-gan to cacche. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5215 Sone þe waccbis on þe wallis þam wi3tly ascryes, Qua þai ware & of quethen & quat was þar errande. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. lv. 2177 (Wemyss), And that 3it Brynnyus wonnyng had Had nocht the guss sic craking maid That walknyt the wache sodanely. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 123 The ladies and gentilwomen..were not wele assured when they herd the belle of the waccbe, for the comyng of the Turke. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* XLII. 33 Langour wes weche vpoun the wall, That nevir sleipit bot evir wouke. 1539 Bible (Cranmer) *Matt.* XXVII. 65 Pylate sayde vnto them: Ye haue the watch [Gr. ἔχετε κουστωδίαν]; go your waye, make it as sure as ye can. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* II. i. 19 It is also his [the Sergeant's] office to set & remoue the watches. 1611 Bible *Matt.* XXVIII. 11 Behold, some of the watch came into the citie, and shewed vnto the chiefe Priests all the things that were done. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 321 Sir Johne Hurry..gois throw the marques of Montrois watches, saying, he wes the lord Gordoun's man. *c* 1672 *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 345 They told me they were the watch sent to stop all Passengers. 1815 Scott *Betrothed* XX, 'Guarine,' he added, addressing his squire, 'let the watch be posted, and do thou remain within the tent.' 1844 Talfourd *Athen. Captive* III. iii, The watch presently will be removed.

13. In the early 18th c., the designation of certain companies of irregular troops in the Highlands. *Black Watch*, a name given (from the dark-coloured tartan worn by them) to some of these companies raised *c* 1729–30, and afterwards, 1739–40, embodied as the 42nd Regiment, which still retains the name.

1739 Lovat in W. Fraser *Chiefs of Grant* (1883) II. 380 My dear Frank..is not to stay any time in what you call the Black Watch. I think it is a right name to us, for we are represented very black to our Generall. 1822 D. Stewart *Sk. Highlanders* I. 283 This corps, which has been so well known for nearly eighty years under the appellation of the 42nd Highland Regiment..was originally known by the name of the *Reisudan Du*, or Black Watch. This was an appellation given to the Independent Companies of which the regiment was formed. It arose from the colour of their dress. 1900 Ld. Roberts *Dispatch* in *Daily News* 10 May 4/7 The Black Watch distinguished themselves, and were very skilfully led. 1913 N. Munro *New Road* iii. (1914) 35 The Highland Watches were considered in some quarters dubious servants of the King.

14. A hill serving as a look-out station. *Sc.* (? *Obs.* exc. in local names.)

17.. PENNECUIK *Wks.* (1815) 30 (E. D. D.) Hills are variously named, according to their magnitude; as..Tor, Watch, Rig. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* III. 124 There are hills in the same parish, called watches, where persons sat in order to give notice on the first approach of an enemy.

†**15.** Something to catch the eye, a bait to catch the attention of a hawk. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 293 And thou wolt take a goshawke, let his wach be a colvour; and yf he falle not there to, put a rabbett.

†**16.** A signal. *Obs.*

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 247 The Englishe lordes hauing giuen the princesse Virginia a watch to linger behinde and step aside [orig. *ayans par vn signal fait escarter de la compagnie la Princesse V.*].

III. Nautical uses.

17. [Developed from sense 4.] That period of time for which each of the divisions of a ship's company (called 'watches': see 18) alternately remains on deck; usually four hours, with the exception of the dog-watches (see DOG-WATCH). (One's) *watch below, off*, the time one is off duty. *To be off the watch*: to be off duty.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii. 2 We about the first watch sayled straight towards the port of Carry. *a* 1624 in Capt. J. Smith *Hist. Virginia* I. Wks. I. 340 When we had run 30. leagues we had 40. fadom, then 70. then 100. After 2. or 3. watches more we were in 24. fadoms. 1634 BEERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 4 As the master of the ship conceived we ran seven leagues in a watch, in four hours. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3317/4 In a Watch and a half ..they gained so much of us, that we saw no probability of coming up with them. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 434 He that on the mainmast head While morning kindles with a windy red, Begins a long look-out for distant land, Nor quits, till ev'ning watch, his giddy stand. 1848 W. A. ROSS *Yacht Voy. Norway*, etc. II. 256 The sailors who were below and off the watch, rose as we entered. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. xxi. 128 At eight o'clock in the morning your watch-below comes round, and you are not liable to duty until noon. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk. Watch*,..the word is also applied to the time during which the watch remains on deck, usually four hours, with the exception of the dog-watches. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* i. 4, I counted seven speeds in one watch, ranging from eight knots to seventeen. 1914 *Glasgow Herald* 26 Aug. 8 The master was having his watch off, and was lying down amidships.

b. A sailor's turn or period of duty.

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 44 They were a part of the men whose watch it was. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* I. iii. 26 He stood as fair a chance as a brighter man..of sustaining his six hours' watch to the satisfaction of his officer.

transf. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 10 Apr. 1/5 This afternoon a batch of telegraphists due on duty refused to attend. The batch then on duty declared that they would go out on strike when their watch ended.

18. That part, usually one half, of the officers and crew, who together attend to the working of a vessel during a 'watch' (see 17). The usual two divisions, *port* (†*larboard*) and *starboard watches*, are sometimes again divided into two, making four in all.

1626 Capt. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 790 The Corporall is to see to the setting and releeuing the watch. 1627 — *Sea Gram.* xiii. 61 Watch be vigilant to keepe your berth to windward. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 14 It was all that both the watches could do together to tacke about the sailes. 1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 103 We set our Sprit-Sail too, but all the Watch, which were ten Men, were two hours in getting it loose. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 8, I was Officer of the Watch (tho' I was Gunner of the Ship, I had the Charge of a Watch during the whole Voyage). 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., *To set the Watch*, is to appoint one division of the crew to enter upon the duty of the watch; as at eight o'clock in the evening. Hence it is equivalent to *mounting the guard* in the army. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 235 Each watch consists of two boats' crews. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxvi, The watch was called as soon as the sails were trimmed. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xiv. 33 Instead of having a watch on deck and a watch below, as at sea, all hands are at work together. 1913 M. ROBERTS *Salt of Sea* vii. 181 'Any man would scorn to be Tyser's sister's son,' said the starboard watch. *Ibid.*, 'The grub's horrid,' said both watches.

b. *Watch and watch*, the arrangement by which the two halves of a ship's crew take duty alternately every four hours.

1780 *Mirror* No. 97 'Business,' cried the Captain, 'is not oratory business? and why cannot they set to it watch and watch, as we do at sea?' 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* I. 22 He was stationed in the foretop at watch and watch. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xii, They were either mast-headed, or put watch and watch. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. xxi. 128 In a man-of-war at sea, the sailors have watch and watch; that is, through every twenty-four hours they are on and off duty every four hours. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Watch and Watch*, the arrangement of the crew in two watches.

transf. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. Arthur* xi, Well, he stood watch-and-watch with me, right straight through, for three days and nights, till the child was out of danger.

IV. A timepiece.

†**19.** An alarm-clock, or an alarum attached to a clock. *Obs.*

The sense in the first example is doubtful, as the Latin rendering is omitted; but on etymological grounds it seems likely that the sense 'alarum' is the oldest of the senses of this branch. With the form *wacche* in quot. 1440 cf. *wacche*, WETCH v. (trans.) to awaken.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wecche, of a clokke, *vigil*. 1542 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* XVIII. 148 Item one Clocke..Item one Larum or Watch of iron, the case being likewise iron gilt with two plumettes of led.

20. †a. A dial or clock-face; the circle of figures on a dial. *Obs.*

1588 GREENE *Perimedes* G 2 b, Restlesse the clocke that chimes hir fast a sleepe, Disquiet thoughts the minits of her watch. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. v. 52 For now hath Time made me his numbring clocke; My Thoughts, are minutes; and with Sighes they iarre, Their watches on vnto mine eyes, the outward Watch, Whereto my finger, like a Dialls point, Is pointing still, in cleansing them from teares. 1672 in *Lostwithiel Rec.* (Hist. MSS. Comm., *Var. Collect.* 1904) I. 335 For mending the clock there, and for making a watch or dyall uppon the tower of the said Borough.

b. The going-part of a clock. ? *Obs.*

1696 W. DERHAM *Artif. Clock-m.* I. 3 The parts of a Movement, which I shall consider, are the Watch, and Clock. The Watch-part of a Movement is that which serveth to the measuring the hours. In which the first thing I shall consider is the Ballance. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 376 The profile of the watch or going part of a clock is shewn by fig. 1, pl. VI.

21. A small time-piece with a spring-driven movement, and of a size to be carried in the pocket.

The occasional occurrence of the term *pocket-watch* (see quot. 1705 below) suggests that the word was sometimes applied to spring-driven clocks of larger size. From the beginning of the 17th c. 'watches' (from the context clearly pocket watches) are often spoken of as striking.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 194 A woman that is like a Germane Cloake, Still a repairing: euer out of frame, And neuer going a right, being a Watch: But being watcht, that it may still goe right. 1590 R. HARVEY *Plain Perc.* 24 Surrender vp thy watch though it were gold. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catching* III. E 2 b, He reported his freend had lost a watch of golde: shewing how closely his freende wore it in his bosome. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 12 Looke, hee's winding vp the watch of his wit, By and by it will strike. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. i, (*He drawes foorth his watch, and sets it on the table.*) 't strikes! One, two, Three, foure, fiue, six. Inough, inough, deare watch. *c* 1633 in *Verney Mem* (1907) I. 147 The gold watch sett with Turkies. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Dying* i. § 3 (1676) 22 While he told the sands of his hour-glass, or the throbs and little beatings of his Watch. 1652 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 38 A verie prettie vatche of an agat, with ane case of silver. *c* 1687 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 135 A plain sillvor woch...I have it merely to know how the time goes away. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 270 A gilt brass Candleatick, that had thirty branches, having a striking Watch within the Body of it. 1668 S. P. *Acc. Latitude-men* 16 There are also imperfect Clocks called Watches that do not strike, but onely have a Dyall with a hand turning round. 1688 R. STAPLEY *Diary* in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* II. 113 July 12th, bought..a silver-cased watch, wch cost me 3 *li*...This watch shewes ye hour of ye day, ye day of ye month, ye months of ye year, ye age of ye moon, and ye ebbing and flowing of ye water; and will goe 30 hours with once winding up. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 210 Pocket your Watch, and Watch your Pockets. 1708 W. DERHAM in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 317 Whether the vacuum affected the going of a pocket-watch. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Watch*,..a Pocket-clock for the measuring of Time. 1731 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* I. iv. 37 Lady Tempest, looking at her Watch, declared it was time to be going. 1764 JOHNSON *Let. to Sastres* 21 Aug., Dictionaries are like watches, the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 683 The essential difference between clocks and watches consists in the nature of the regulator employed; which in clocks is the pendulum, and in watches the balance wheel. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvi, The doctor..drew out his watch, and felt her pulse. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 414 A Clock is primarily an instrument which, by means of a train of wheels, records the number of vibrations executed by a pendulum; a Chronometer or Watch performs the same duty for the oscillations of a flat spiral spring.

b. Applied to a pocket time-piece regulated otherwise than by a balance-wheel and hair-spring.

1666 in Birch *Hist. Royal Soc.* (1756) II. 83 April 18. Mr. Hooke produced a new kind of watch, the motion of which was regulated by a load-stone, the balance of it being a rod of steel. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. Royal Soc.* 247 Several new kinds of Pendulum Watches for the Pocket, wherein the motion is regulated, by Springs, or Weights, or Loadstones, or Flies moving very exactly regular. 1696 W. DERHAM *Artif. Clock-m.* viii. 98 Of the Invention of those Pocket-Watches, commonly called Pendulum Watches.

c. A chronometer as used on board ship.

1778 R. WADDINGTON *Sea Officer's Comp.* 7 Suppose the alt. of the sun taken at 8 h. 12′ A.M. by the watch. 1794 J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 10) 216 Suppose a ship at sea in lat. 47° 32′ N. by account, at 9 H. 55 M. 30 S. by watch. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 52 Our chronometers gave the longitude of the north end of Prince's island 7°...The same watch makes the N.W. point of St. Thomas in 6° 31′, [etc.].

d. *nonce-use.* A mechanism with rotating hands or pointers which move at any fixed ratio of speed.

1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinem.* 95 *A B* and *AC* may then be simply two hands of a 'Watch' whose mechanism is at *A*, such that the angle turned through by the hand *AC* is always three times the angle turned through by the hand.

22. A trial-piece of glass, pottery, copper, etc. put in a furnace and taken out again, to enable the workman to judge of the degree of heating and the condition of the material operated on.

[App. a mistranslation of F. *montre*, in this application used in the sense of show-piece (from *montrer* to show), but commonly meaning a watch (timepiece).]

1826 PEACHAM *Art of Drawing* 69 Lay with every bed of your wrought and drawn glass one of the said pieces, which are called watches. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 330 A small proof of copper, of the form of a watch-case, and therefore *monstre*, is taken out from time to time. *Ibid.* 1026 Pyrometric balls of red clay..are employed in the English potteries to ascertain the temperature of the glaze kilns... The glazer provides himself at each round with a stock of these ball watches.

23. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1892 *Century Dict., Watch* 9. pl. A name of the trumpet-leaf, *Sarracenia flava*, probably alluding to the resemblance of the flowers to watches.

†**V. 24.** Cant. *His, her, my watch*: = Himself, herself, myself. *Obs.*

c 1530 COPLAND *Hye Way Spyttel Hous* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 69 The patrying coue in the darkman cace Docked the dell for a coper meke, His watch shall feng a prounces nobcheta. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 62 Thys harlot..had an vpright man or two alwayes attendinge on her watche (whyche is on her parson). *Ibid.* 86 That is beneshyp to our watche. 1612 DEKKER *O per se O O* 1 b, I met a Dell, I viewde her well, she was benship to my watch.

VI. 25. *dial.* = WAKE *sb.*[2] 6.

1892 *Pictorial World* 23 Apr. 735/2 They are feeding in one of the little pieces of open water—'watches' they are called—where the springs are strong, and the fowl keep the water moving.

VII. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

26. simple attrib. (sense 21), as *watch-back, -barrel* (BARREL 5 b), *bow* (sb.[1] 11 a), *cock* (sb.[1] 16), *-dial* (sb.[1] 4), *-face*, *-holder*, *-key* (also *attrib.*), *-movement* (3 b), *pendant* (sb. 11), *pendulum-wire*, *pillar* (sb. 8).

1894 A. H. CHURCH *J. Wedgwood* x. 76 *Watch-backs,.. for which Wedgwood employed with success his beautiful jasper paste. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Watch-barrel. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 284 *Watch Bow*, the round ring of a watch case to which the guard is attached. 1899 — *Old Clocks & Watches* 346 *Watch Cocks* The first of the cocks or brackets used to support one end of the balance staff were probably quite plain. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v., *Watch-dials are usually made of thin sheet copper [etc.]. 1899 F. J. BRITTEN *Old Clocks & Watches* 220 Decoration in enamel is sometimes to be found on watch dials..produced during the early part of the seventeenth century. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 725/1 He felt for his matches and struck one to look at his *watch-face. 1915 KIPLING *Diversity of Creatures* (1917) 410 Your watch also [is] in the coralline *watch-holder. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Suppl. 2/2 [Advt.] Steel and brass *watch keys. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 110 A..watch-key in the shape of a pistol. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6189/4 *Watch Key-maker. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 311 They make *watch-movements. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 284 *Watch Movement*, the plates with the wheels and pinions composing the train. *Ibid.* 285 *Watch Pendant*, the little neck of metal connecting the bow to the band of a watch case. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 65 The finest flattened steel, sold at the watchmakers' tool shops, under the name of *watch pendulum-wire. 1899 F. J. BRITTEN *Old Clocks & Watches* 348 *Watch Pillars..are now universally made of a plain cylindrical form.

27. Special comb.: **watch-alarm** (see quot.); **watch-ball**, a ball of clay used to test the temperature of a glaze kiln (see sense 22 above); †**watch-birth** *nonce-wd.*, ? a literary work brought to birth by watching; **watch-boat**, a boat on patrol duty; **watch bracelet**, a bracelet fitted with a small watch; **watch-candle**, a candle used for night-watching, a watching candle; **watch cap** (see quot.); **watch-care** *U.S.*, watchful care; **watch-chain**, a metal chain used as a watch-guard; **watch-cloak, -coat**, a thick, heavy cloak or coat worn by seamen, soldiers, or watchmen when on duty in bad weather; †**watch-cobbler**, ? a mender of watches; **watch committee**, the committee of a borough council which deals with all matters pertaining to the policing and public lighting of the borough; **watch-fire**, a fire maintained during the night as a signal, or for the use of a sentinel, party or person on watch; **watch-free** *a.*, free from the duty of watching or keeping guard; †**watch George**, ? a George (GEORGE 3) in the form of a watch; **watch-guard**, a chain, cord, ribbon, or the like used to secure a watch when it is worn on the person; **watch-gun**, †(*a*) a spring gun used as a guard against trespassers; (*b*) *Naut.* (see quot. 1815); **watch hand**, each of the hands of a watch; also *attrib.* in *watch-hand rotation*, rotation from left to right like that of the hands of a watch; **watch-header** *U.S.*, the officer in charge of a watch; **watch hill** (see quot. 1895); **watch-hook**, a hook for fastening a watch to the dress; †**watch hour**, the hour for sounding the watch; **watch jeweller**, a workman who fits the jewels in the pivot-holes of watches; **watch-jobber**, a mender of watches, esp. as a watchmaker's employé; **watch-keeper**, one who keeps watch or serves as a member of a watch on board ship; an officer in charge of a watch; †**watch-knoll** (*-know*) *Sc.* = sense 14; cf. *watch-hill*; **watch lamp**, an apparatus for illuminating the face of a watch at night; **watch-lining** = *watch-paper*; †**watch-mail, -meal** *Sc.*, 'a duty imposed for maintaining a garrison' (Jam.); **watch mark** *Naut.*, a mark worn on the sleeve, indicating the watch to which the wearer belongs; †**watch-** (see quot.); **watch-mastiff**, a mastiff kept

as a watch dog; **watch-mate**, a fellow-member of a ship's watch; †**watch-meal** (see *watch-mail*); †**watch money**, a sum of money paid for watching; **watch-nick** (see quot.); **watch-night**, originally a religious service extending over midnight held monthly by Wesleyan Methodists; in later use a service held (by Methodists and others) on New Year's eve, lasting until midnight; also, the night upon which the service is held; **watch-officer**, an officer who takes his turn as the officer in charge of the watch; **watch-oil**, a highly refined lubricating oil used for watches and clocks; **watch-paper**, a disc of paper, silk, or other material, inscribed or painted with an ornamental design, a picture, rhyme, or other device, inserted as a lining or pad in the outer case of an old-fashioned watch; **watch-part** = *watch train*; **watch-peal**, a warning peal (of a bell); **watch-peel** (see PEEL *sb.*[1] 4); **watch-pocket**, a small pocket in a garment for carrying a watch; also, a pocket or pouch at the head of a bed, to hold a person's watch at night; **watch point**, a watching station; **watch pole**, a watchman's pole or staff; **watch-post** *Mil.*, a position at which a body of soldiers, a sentinel or watchman, is stationed on watch; also, a body of guards; **watch rate**, a rate levied by a municipal borough to defray the expenses of watching; **watch-riband**, a watch-guard in the form of a riband; **watch round** = ROUND *sb.*[1] 14; **watch-seal** = SEAL *sb.*[2] 3 *f*; **watch-setting** *Mil.*, the posting of the watch; **watch-spring**, the mainspring of a watch; also (without article) as a material; also *attrib.*; **watch-stand**, †(*a*) a look-out position for a sentinel or watchman; (*b*) a small case or stand in or upon which a watch may be placed so that its face may be seen; †**watch-star** = GUARD *sb.* 12; **watch-string**, a watch-guard of cord; **watch-tackle** *Naut.*, a TACKLE (*sb.* 3) by means of which the watch can perform various operations without the help of additional men; **watch train**, the set of wheels and pinions which drive the hands of a clock, as distinguished from the striking train; **watch-wheel**, the balance wheel of the 'watch-work' of a clock; also *Comb.*; **watch-woman**, (*a*) a woman who 'watches' in a sick room or attends a sick person; (*b*) a woman who performs the duties of a night watchman; (*c*) a woman who keeps vigil (*nonce-use*); †**watch-wright**, a watchmaker. Also WATCH-BELL, WATCH-BILL, WATCH-BOX, WATCH-CASE, WATCH-CLOCK, WATCH-DOG, WATCH-GLASS, etc.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Watch-alarm*, an instrument with going works to sound an alarm at a specified period. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1016 The *watch-balls of these first rounds have generally not so deep a colour as if they were tried in a furnace three or four months old. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnif.* 1197 Th' eternall *Watch-birthes of thy [sc. Solomon's] sau.red Wit [*i.e.* his three books: Fr. *De ton diuin esprit les veilles eternelles*]. 1789 T. ANBURY *Trav. Amer.* I. 303 We are now within sight of the enemy, and their *watch-boats are continually rowing about. 1892 C. R. B. BARRETT *Essex* iii. 50 The *Henrietta* [pinnace] was at that time [c 1664] acting as watch-boat, and there are many references to its 'staying' boats that had used trawls. 1910 *Times* 13 Oct. 14/3 He was hailed by an Icelandic watchboat. The watchboat interrupted their fishing, and finally steamed alongside. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 449/1 The *watch bracelet, with its setting of substantial leather, is a convenient adjunct to the cycler. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVI. xxxvii. I. 485 Rushes..the pith whereof..maketh wicke for *watch-candles, and funerall lights. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 6 For were it not better for a man in a faire roome, to set vp one great light,..than to goe about with a small watch candle into euerie corner? *a* 1721 KEN *Anodynes* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 421 As in the Night I restless lie, I the Watch-Candle keep in Eye. 1911 WEBSTER, **Watch cap*, a knitted close fitting navy blue cap worn by enlisted men in the United States navy in cold or storm. 1896 *Paterson Mag.* (U.S.) VI. 253/1 The years of *watch-care which she had given to the child left in her charge. 1908 D. S. MACKAY *Relig. of Threshold* i. 27 The faith of this man lays hold of God's watch-care in these two extremes of the day. 1739 *Act* 12 *Geo. II*, c. 26 § 13 For assaying..Gold Hooks for *Watch Chains, ten Pence apiece. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 249 Sir Sedley smiled, and played with his watch chain. 1837 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Parl. Sk.*, The..immensely long waistcoat, and silver watch-chain dangling below it. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 18 Aug. in *Lockhart* (1837) III. vi. 207 Duff and I sit upon deck, like two great bears, wrapt in *watch-cloaks. 1825 — *Betrothed* xiv, Enveloping himself in his long *chappe*, or military watch-cloak, he [the Norman soldier] withdrew. ? 1704 in Alice M. Earle *Two Cent. Costume Amer.* (1903) II. 407 A White Capecloth *Watch-coat. 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 135 There were also several thick Watch-Coats of the Seamens, ..but they were too hot to wear. 1827 E. MACKENZIE *Newcastle* II. 726 Each watchman is provided with a warm watch-coat, a lanthorn, a rattle. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlviii, The Captain..laid her down, and covered her with a great watch-coat. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 177 'I'll warrant ye (said a shrewd lawyer, though not Foxer) this Roebuck left his colours for no good.' 'Good! ha,' cried a great greasy *watch-cobler, 'tis my belief that he was reduced for cowardice.' 1833 *Act* 5 & 6 *Will. IV*, c. 76 § 76 The Council..shall..appoint..a sufficient Number of their own Body, who, together with the Mayor..shall be and be called the *Watch Committee for such Borough. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 28/1 The mayor..is *ex officio* a magistrate for the borough and a member of the watch committee. 1801 SCOTT *Glenfinlas* xxxix, And by the *watch-fire's glimmering light,..was seen An huntress maid. 1814 BYRON *Corsair* i. ii, Such were the notes that from the Pirate's isle Around the kindling watch-fire rang the while. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* viii. 215 Watch-fires were lit round the encampment. 1582 STYWARD *Martial Discipl.* I. 30 The which, except in great extremitie shall be *watch free. 1624 in *Archæologia* XLII. 330 Item a *watche George. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Steam Excurs.*, Miss Emily Taunton was making a *watch-guard. 1839 — *Nicholeby* ii, The dark-complexioned men who wear large rings and heavy watch-guards. 1768 *Ann. Reg.* 106 A maid-servant at Paddington was accidentally shot by a *watch gun, which was usually set by the family as a defence against rogues. 1770 *Regul. H. M. Service at Sea* 9 Captains are forbid to fire the Watch-Gun in any Port..unless there be at least Five of H.M. Ships in Company. 1798 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 132 The Marquis fired a shot from his morning-gun into the Town...I fire no watch-gun. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Watch-Gun*, the gun which is fired on board ships of war at the setting of the watch in the evening, and relieving it in the morning. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Suppl. 2/2 [Advt.] Clock and *watch hands. 1888 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinem.* 36 An observer..sees..every point in the body rotated about him in a sense opposite to that of watch-hand rotation. *Ibid.* 222. 1887 GOODE *Fisheries of U.S.* V. ii. 229 (Cent.) The divisions of the crew are known as the starboard and larboard watches, commanded respectively by the first and second mates or the second and third mates, who are known as *watch-headers. 1560 in J. Scott *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 448 Any man that cometh to the *watch hill and is by the officers to watch. 1895 *Lakeland Gloss.* Suppl., *Watch Hill*, the hill from which the outlook was kept against border freebooters; hence now frequent as Border place-name. 1698 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3376/4 A Diamond *Watch-Hook..was lost the 17th instant. *c* 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) 43 Who taught the cok hys *watche howres to observe. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 102 *Watch jewellers use a glass with double lenses half an inch in diameter. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 28 Aug. 8/4 *Watch Jobber (Really good) wanted. 1900 F. T. BULLEN *With Christ at Sea* xi. 210 The second mate..combined in himself the various offices of bosun, sailmaker, and *watchkeeper. 1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 May 298/4 He exchanged his duties as a watch-keeper in an ironclad for service in the Cockatrice. 1645 in J. Wilson *Annals of Hawick* (1850) 65 [A burgess charged with not being present at the riding of the common] confessit he was at the *Watch-Know. [They] assoilzied him of the penalty and fine. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 203 Contrivance for a *Watch Lamp..which will show the Hour of the Night, without trouble to a person lying in bed. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxx, An old silk *watch-lining, worked with beads! 1720 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1761) II. 552 Others more probably conjecture from its name given to it by Skeen, *voce* Pension..of the *watch-meal of Kilpatrick, that it was for the sustenance of the garrison of Dumbarton. *Ibid.*, When this *watch-mail was constitute. 1860 STUART *Seaman's Catech.* (1862) 83 It is now a general rule throughout the navy to have '*watch marks' on the sleeve of the frock. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 479/2 *Tesserarius*, ..the *watchmaister, or the sargeant that giueth the charge or watchword to the souldiers. 1778 W. PEARCE *Haunts of Shakespeare* 13 Or drowsy *watch-mastiff that bays the sharp wind. 1631 L. FOX *N.-W. Fox* (1635) 174 That no man shall..make any doubt thereof, eyther..at his Mease or to his *Watch-mate. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xvi, About midnight we were waked up by our two watch-mates. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* xiv. 162 All my watchmates were..waiting to be taken on board again. 1628 *Tohe* (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) fol. 125 *Watch money. *c* 1750 in W. Alexander *Notes & Sk. 18th Cent.* (1877) 66 There is paid in black mail or watch money, openly, or privately, £5000. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Régime* 122 Bunt..owned a *watch-nick—a tiny saw filed out of the tempered steel of a watch-spring. 1748 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 9 Apr., We had the first *watch-night in London. We commonly choose for this Solemn Service the Friday night nearest the full moon. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 70/2 A methodist, she always goes to their chapel on New Year's-eve—or the 'Watch Night', as they call it. 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 July 10/1 A man..was charged with..annoying the Salvation Army at a 'watch-night' service. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* ii. 29 On a third-class cruiser, he [the Sub] is a *watch-officer. 1870 PEARCE *Telegraphy* 249 Only good *watch-oil should be employed. 1777 in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 335 A *watch-paper..on which there are some very fine hair strokes of a graver. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* vii. (1870) 170 Nor did he cut out poetry as we cut out watch-papers. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Autocrat* ix. (1903) 208 He..opened the watch, and handed me the loose outside case without a word. —The watch-paper had been pink once...Two little birds, a flower [etc.]. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 21 He wrote minutely the Creed and the Lord's Prayer on watch-papers. 1696 W. D[ERHAM] *Artif. Clock-m.* i. 3 The *Watch-part of a Movement is that which serveth to the measuring the hours. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 18 The Protestants, of this Bell [rung at the procession of the host]..use it as a warning or *watch-peal to avoid that street through which they hear it coming. 1888 A. GRIKIE *Lect. Sk.* i. 7 *Watch-peels, castles, and towers. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxvii, Consulting a copper time-piece which dwelt at the bottom of a deep *watch-pocket, and was raised to the surface by means of a black string. 1845 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxi, [The] pistols..he attempted to place in the watch-pocket at the head of the bed. 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* 167 When a constable, then a second, and a third, were all tearing down upon me from *watch points, where they had been in hiding. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 358 P 1 A Gentleman that has several Wounds in the Head by *Watch Poles. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxii. IX. 298 The occupation of Æolis by the Lacedæmonian general was a sort of *watch-post. 1887 ROWEN *Æneid* III. 238 Signal Misenus gives from his watch-post set on the steep. 1888 E. GERARD *Land beyond Forest* II. xxxvii. 144 On the extreme frontier of Transylvania, however, he left behind him a portion of his army, to serve as watch-post. 1833 *Act* 5 & 6 *Will. IV*, c. 76 § 92 Provided that in every Case in which before the passing this Act any Rate might be levied in any Borough..for the Purpose of watching..it shall be lawful for the Council of such Borough to levy a *Watch Rate. 1860 SMILES *Self Help* 114 Flaxman..was on one occasion selected by the ratepayers to collect the watch-rate for the parish of St. Anne. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* iii, The captain gave a youngster five dozen the other day for wearing a scarlet *watch-riband. 1828-43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 133 Spalding..determined, on the night when it was his turn to take his part in the *watch rounds, to assist the enemy in an escalade. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T.*, *Young Lady's T.* II. 151 The *watch-seals..of the Marquis. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v. (1841) 293 He does not 'engrave *Truth* on his watch-seal'. 1811 *Regul. & Orders Army* 101 After which no Trumpet is to sound, or Drum to beat, in the Garrison, except at *Watch-setting and Tattoo. 1844 *Ibid.* 259 The Trumpet is to sound for Watch-setting, and the Tattoo is to beat at Eight o'clock. 1900 *Daily Tel.* 21 Mar. 10/7 The ceremony of playing 'Retreat' on watch-setting is observed all over the Empire wherever an infantry battalion is quartered. 1760 in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 889, I cut off several slips from different leaves, each of which I placed between two bits of *watch-spring. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 375 Thin plates..rolled up in the manner of a watch-spring. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* liv, The fat boy returned, slumbering as peaceably in his dickey, over the stones, as if it had been a down bed on watch-springs. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 250 Watch springs are hammered out of round steel wire of suitable diameter, until they fill the gage for width. 1897 *Daily News* 1 June 7/4 The watch-spring steel is manufactured at Sheffield. 1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* III. xii. 121 In time of warre, or suspition, the watchmen placed bundels of drye small sticks, vpon their high *watch-stands [L. *in editis speculis*]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Watch-stand*, a mantel-piece or toilet rest or support for a watch. 1888 ASHLEY *Wagenar's Mariners Mirr.* B 2 b, If the said *watch stars stand South southwest. [Cf. *supra*, 'those Guardes or watches of *Vrsa minor'.] 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Suppl. 2/2 [Advt.] Silver and steel watch chains,..silk *watch strings. 1789 *Trifler* No. xxxiii. 427 A gentleman of the present age has seldom more taste than he can lavish away in the choice of a watch-string. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv, By..clapping *watch-tackles upon all the sheets and halyards, we managed to hold our own. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 299/1 The one..gives motion to the train of wheels called the going or *watch train; the other to the striking train of wheels. 1894 F. J. BRITTEN *Former Watch & Clockm.* 210 The 'going' or 'watch' train, that drives the hands. 1568 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 132 For the mendinge of the staye of the *wache while..jd. 1569 *Ibid.* 136 For the mending of the watchwhele of the clock. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 362/1 The Second..is termed the Ballance Wheel of a Clock..Some call it the Wauch Wheel, or Motion Wheel. 1813 *Examiner* 5 Apr. 219/1 R. Payne,..watch-wheel-maker. 1638 G. DANIEL *Eclog* i. 170 Thy verse may creepe To Chimneyes, or *watch-women till they sleepe. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 96 The mischievous fondness of her nearest relations has since removed this faithful watchwoman [female attendant]. 1836 LONGF. *Life* (1891) I. 245 At Brunnen there is no watchman, but a watchwoman. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 75 The *Watch-wrights craft being not only the Ape of Nature, but the very Tool, still in her hand.

Watch (wɒtʃ), *v.* Pa.t. and pa. pple. **watched** (wɒtʃt). Forms: 1 *Northumb.* wæcca (wæcca), pa. t. -wæhte, *WS.* only in pr. pple. wæccende, 2–5 wecche, 4–7 wach(e, 4–5 *Sc.* vach, (? wauch), 4–6 wacche, 5–6 wache, watche, 6– watch. [OE. *wæcc-*, a doublet of *wacian* WAKE *v.* (weak), repr. WGer. **wakējan* (OHG. *wahhên*); in WS. only in pr. pple. *wæccende*, the forms belonging to *wacian* being used for the other parts of the vb.; in Northumbrian the type *wæcc-* is alone recorded. For the Teut. and Indogermanic cognates see WAKE *v.*]

I. Intransitive uses.

†1. To be or remain awake. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Rituale Eccles. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 28 *Sive vigilemus sive dormiamus*, Sva hvoeðer we wæcca *vel* we slepa. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xl[i]. 8 Heht me wæccende wunian longe, þæt ic ne slepe siþþan æfre. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 169 He..Slepithe on the day and wacchith al the nyght. 1430-40 — *Bochas* v. vii. (1554) 128 Fyrst the liddes of his eyen twayne, They cut them of..That he not should slepe in prison, But euer watche with paine intollerable. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* i. xv. (1639) 23 If the sick watch overmuch, then you must apply such things as provoke sleep. 1641 W. CARTWRIGHT *Lady Errant* II. ii, *Pan.* Wee'l keep you, As they doe Hawkes— *Cov.* Watching untill you leave Your wildness. 1658 tr. *Lemnius' Secret Mirac. Nat.* III. viii. 211 Hence grew the Proverb, when men have passed a troublesome nights rest..they say, We have had Saint John Baptist's night: That is, we have not taken any sleep, but watcht all night.

†b. To keep awake intentionally. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* xiv, Eadige beoð þa þeowan, þe heora hlaford, þonne he cymð, hi wæccende fint. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Betray. Christ* 18 Petyr, with thi flelawys here xalt thou abyde, And weche tyl I come ageyn. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5375 Where it behouith to wacche nightes thre Without Any sompnolent slepe to be. 1600 VAUGHAN *Direct. Health* in *Babees Bk.* 252 Watch not too long after supper, but depart within two hours to bed. 1630 H. BUCOKE *Conserv. Health* 180 The Phlegmatick and Fat should Watch much. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 332 As when men wont to watch On duty, sleeping found by whom they dread, Rouse and bestir themselves ere well awake.

c. Of certain flowers: To remain unclosed (during certain hours of the day).

1812 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 51 The flowers [of *Anthericum ramosum*] watch from seven in the morning to three or four in the afternoon.

d. *To watch up*: to sit up at night. *rare.*

1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. v, Esmond had seen this gentleman..toiling to give bread to a great family, and

watching up many a long winter night to keep the wolf from his door.

c. To remain awake *with* a sick person or at his bedside, for the purpose of rendering help or comfort.

1691 TILSON in *Baxter's Certainty Worlds Spirits* 148 Between One and Two-a-Clock in the Morning she fell into a Trance. One Widow Turner, who watched with her that Night, says, that [etc.]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Mar. 1670, I watched late with him [a brother on his deathbed] this night. 1843 MRS. BROWNING *To Flush* vii, This dog watched beside a bed..Where no sunbeam broke the gloom Round the sick and dreary.

2. To remain awake for purposes of devotion; to keep vigil.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 137 Heo wæs wæccende dæges ond nihtes. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Gilbert* (1910) 121 Aftyr sche had wecchid in deuoute prayeres al a nyte sche went hom hol fro both sores. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 13 He was tempted moost suttelly, he fasted, he prayed moost besyly. 1570–1 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 54 Item, for candill to wyche in the kirk, ij s. 1712 P. METCALFE *Life S. Winefride* (1917) 18 She watch'd whole Nights in the Church, either kneeling or prostrate before the Altar or [etc.]. 1758–9 A. BUTLER *Lives Saints, S. Peter Damian*, Peter watched long before the signal for matins, and after with the rest. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* III. i. 90 Fair sir, Give me this hour to watch with and say prayers. 1913 W. K. L. CLARKE *Basil* vi. 89 To fast or watch more than the rest is self-will and vain-glory.

b. quasi-*trans.* with complement. *To watch in*: to keep vigil to greet (the New Year).

1828 ADAM CLARKE in *Life* (1840) 454 Mother was not strong enough to watch-in the New Year.

3. To be on the alert, to be vigilant; to be on one's guard against danger or surprise.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 15 Ah þeo þet stalewurþe beoð ant starke to ȝein me [*sc.* Satan], swa þet heo ham wiõ me ant mine wrenches wecchinde ham werien, so uuel me puncheõ þrof þet [etc.]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 5 Be heedfull: hence and watch. 1658 J. OWEN *Temptation* ii. 30 To watch is as much as to be on our guard, to take heed, to consider all waies, and meanes whereby an enemy may approach to us. 1675 — *Indwelling Sin* viii. (1732) 81 It [*sc.* sin] adds in its workings, Deceit unto Power. The Efficacy of that must needs be great, and is carefully to be watched against. 1770 [illegible]

gree wi' Rob; for, watch as they like, and do what they like, they are sair apt to be harried when the lang nights come on.

†**b.** To attend diligently to a duty. Const. *upon*. Cf. WAIT *v.*[1] 14 d. *Obs.*

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 673 With all their heart and endeuour they should watch vpon their office.

4. To be on the look out; to keep a person or thing in sight, so as to be aware of any movement or change.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 87 His twa men bad he..Ga to thair feris to rest and ly; For he vald vach thar com to se. 1547 *Bk. Marchaundes* e j, They haue a .C. eyes euer open to watch as the cat for the mous. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 45 b, The Byshoppe, whiche as the master of a shyppe sitteth watching at the Healme [L. *qui tanquam gubernator nauis in specula sedeat intentus*]. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* v. iii, Sit vp to night, and watch. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* II. 41 Watch, Simon, that nobody comes up whilst he is here. 1839 T. T. STODDART *Songs & P.* 40 Quickly lead, Where the roving trout Watches round an eddy, With his eager snout Pointed up and ready. 1845 BROWNING *Lost Leader* 14 Shakespeare was of us, Milton was for us, Burns, Shelley, were with us,—they watch from their graves! 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxii, Did you ever see a dun, my dear; or a bailiff and his man? Two of the abominable wretches watched all last week at the green-grocer's opposite. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xi. 290, I was to watch, and call out the direction in which he was to run.

b. With indirect question.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 62, I will ga vach all preuely, Gif I heir ought of thar cummyng. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 163 That made him forto waite and wacche Be alle weies how it ferde. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 262 We..layde our busshement in a lytell wood a .ii. legees fro this cyte, to watch whan my brother Huon shold passe by that way. 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 3 The Crocodile, by whome th' Ægyptians watche, Howe farre tha ightie Nilus flowe, For theire shee likes t hatche. 1878 TENNYSON *Revenge* xi, But they dared not touch us again, for they fear'd that we still could sting, So they watch'd what the end would be. 1886 *Glasgow Weekly Mail* 11 Aug. 5/1 It will behove the people..to watch how the Government may endeavour to pave the way for this change.

c. To be on the watch for opportunities *to do* something.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 930 Bot dede, that vachis ay to mar With all hyr mycht waik and vorthy, Had at his worschip gret invy. 1481 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 327 The Inhumanyte and terrybilite of the habitans and Indwellars, that allway wacche and wayte to do euyll and desplaysir to alle the world. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg., Georg.* II. 776 The Groom..stript for Wrestling, smears his Limbs with Oyl, And watches with a Trip his Foe to foil.

d. To be on the watch *for* (something expected).

1832 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* v, The wonderful turns of fate which have attended this fortress, are sufficient to warrant any one to watch for what seem the peculiar indications of the will of Heaven. 1864 TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* xxvii, But I can see you when you watch for the postman.

e. *To watch after* (a person): to follow with one's looks, watch the movements of. *rare.*

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lix, You should have seen Fanny Bolton's eyes watching after the dove-coloured young lady! 1852 — *Esmond* II. x, Then he had seen her but for two days, and fled. Now he beheld her day after day, and when she was at Court watched after her.

f. Cricket. *To watch out*: = FIELD *v.* 5.

1786 G. WHITE in *Life & Lett.* (1901) II. 160 Tom bats, his grand-mother bowls, and his great grand-mother watches out!! 1875 *Baily's Mag.* Apr. 403 So narrow is the ground, that long-leg and cover point respectively are quite out of sight, watching out on the hill-side. 1901 *Winch. Coll. Notions, Watch out*, to field at nets for cricket.

g. *To watch out* (U.S. *colloq.*): to look out, to be on one's guard.

a 1886 J. W. RILEY *Little Orphant Annie* iv, You better mind yer parents,..Er the gobble-uns 'll git you Ef you Don't Watch Out! 1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* i, You watch out, Henry, an' take good care of yerself in this here fighting business. 1918 in *Times Lit. Supp.* 11 July 325/4 The new chantey on Monday morning's route march was a thing to watch out for.

5. Watch over —. To exercise protecting care over; to keep in constant view in order to preserve from harm or error.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 247 b, As heerdmen euer watchynge ouer the flocke of our lorde Jesu. 1655 JER. TAYLOR *Golden Grove, Agenda, Sunday* 65 Watch over thy self, counsel thy self,..and judge thy self impartially. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 289 P 2 That Providence which watches over all its Works. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXXI. III. 233 But there is a Providence (such at least was the opinion of the historian Procopius) that watches over innocence and folly. 1826 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. ii. 216 From heaven fair beings come at night To watch o'er mortals while they sleep. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 404 The eye of the rulers is required always to watch over the young. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* v. 166 We cannot put Stonehenge or the Wansdyke into a museum—all the more reason why we should watch over them where they are. 1899 MARG. BENSON & GOURLAY *Temple of Mut* i. 11 A flock of goats, watched over by an Arab girl.

6. To fulfil the duty of a watchman, sentinel, or guard.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 572 Vp to the wall I sall ȝow bring, Gif god vs kepis fra perseving Of thame that wachis on the wall. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 407 Him behouit neidlingis to watche on the wald. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Excubo*, to watche, as they whiche in battaylle, or in the garde of a pryncis personne doo. 1540 HOBY in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 284 Besydes that hit did cost me money to persons ffor a long tyme nyghtly to weche and to take hede lest any thyng shuld to be mysordered there. 1576 *S'hampton Crt. Lest Rec.* (1905) I. 1. 131 That every householder..should watche in proper person or at the least provide a good honest and able watcheman for the more suertie and save garde of the towne. 1623 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1707) XVII. 589 The Lord Mayor shall cause certain Persons to watch at the Gates, and other like places in the Suburbs where Flesh may be brought, to view and search and to intercept the same. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 84 Great Lords and rich Merchants have a Guard in their Courts, who watch all night. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Aug. 1641, I watched on a horne worke neere our quarters. 1792 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* ii, Peter was ordered to watch at the door.

†quasi-*trans.* with complement. *nonce use.*

1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 192 Y^e army men are almost watched off theire legs.

†**b.** *To watch and ward*: to keep 'watch and ward'. Also *fig.* (For the transitive use see 10.)

1583 BABINGTON *Command.* x. (1590) 444 No more quench you the fire by withdrawing ye wood, than assuredly you stay the course of wicked conceits, when you watch and ward well ouer your senses. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 2 They for vs fight, they watch and dewly ward, And their bright Squadrons round about vs plant. 1601 W. PARRY *Trav. Sir A. Sherley* 6 Either party lived watching and warding. 1620 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 242 To a man, watchinge and wardinge at Burneley faire, iiij*d*. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1296 To watch and ward, *excubare*. 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol. 4 Every one did watch and ward, and not one was exempted from carrying the Basket.

c. Of a sailor: To be on duty during a watch.

1799 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1844) I. 5, I was placed in the Seahorse of 20 guns, with Captain Farmer, and watched in the foretop. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 235 Each man watches four hours, and rests eight.

†**7.** *Hunting.* Of an otter: To retreat into its lair. *Obs.* Cf. 17.

1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* I (ed. 2) 10 An Otter Watcheth. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recreat.* II. 76 A Fox Kenneleth, a Badger Eartheth, an Otter Watcheth, a Boar Coucheth.

8. *Naut.* †**a.** Of the timbers of a ship: ? To work loose. *Obs.* **b.** Of a buoy: To float on the surface of the water.

1633–4 *Admir. Ct. Exam.* 30, 21 Jan. (MS.), Whilest she was at sea the beames did watch and worke too and froe. 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 328 The Pilots..swept for and weighed (as no buoys watched) the four anchors. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 84 All the buoys had not yet 'watched' but there was a tremendous sea running.

II. Transitive uses.

†**9.** To keep under surveillance (a prisoner, a besieged army) in order to prevent escape or rescue; to set an armed watch upon (a place, road, passage). *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3086 He dide sette in wardes seen Knyghte to wachem [*a. r.* waite], & squiers. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 26893 (Fairf.) And for that skylle latte wacche hym [*sc.* Jesus in the tomb] Thre dais we you pray. *a* 1400 *Syr. Iwne Degre* 997 Than he watched your Chambre bryght, With men of armes hardy and wyght, For to take that squyer. †*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2613 That they be wisely ȝeede and in wardis holdene. *c* 1420 HENRY *Wallace* III. 70 In a schaw..Thai lugyt thaim..To wache the way als dewyly as thai mycht. *Ibid.* V. 259 Schyr Thome Butler, to wache the furdis rycht, Qut fra his men of Wallace had a sicht. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 718 They should be kept, and with such vigilant persons continually watched. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) B ij b, This Nummes aowe..Is straightly watchte, and hardly kept with men of each degree.

b. To guard (a dead body, goods).

1450 LONNER *Lett.* 5 May in *Paston Lett.* I. 125 And the shreue of Kent doth weche the body. 1587 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 60 And for ij men hired to watch the plate at Ware and Peterborowe, iiij nights, vj s. viij d. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 45 Acœtes watch'd the Corps. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* s. v. *Wake*, He, also, 'died one day,' so they say, and his ever-faithful groom watched the body during the night. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* XXVII, I peeped through a crack of the dining-room door, and see the men that was watching the corpse all sound asleep on their chairs. 1886 C. SCHOLL *Phraseol. Dict.* II. 834 The goods were watched all night by a watchman.

†**10.** To guard against attack; to provide with a body of guards or armed watchmen; to serve as a guard to. Also *to watch and ward* (cf. 6 b).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 128 Bot for the trewis he left noucht Wachis till sat to the castele; Ilk nycht he gert men wach it wele. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 547 He wylle warraye i-wysse, be ware ȝif the lykes, Wage many wyghtemene, and wache thy marches. *Ibid.* 613 Thane ȝechewes þe emperour ..Arayede with his Romaynes..Sexty geauntes be-fore,.. With weches and warlawe to wacchene his tentye. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xi. 166 Than thei leged and pight teyntes and pavilouns, and hem rested, and lete the hoste be wacched. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 199 Gonnor was wetched at Felbrygge Halle with xl. persones of the Lady Felbrygge tenaunts. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* CXXVII. 1 Likewise in vaine men vndertake, Cities and holdes to watch and ward. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 207 The King of Indiana was watched with foure and twenty Elephants. 1819 SCOTT *Noble Moringer* x, Wilt thou receive this weighty trust when I am o'er the sea? To watch and ward my castle strong, and to protect my land.

†**b.** *refl.* To guard oneself. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 520 For thar is nothir duk ne baroun, ..That euir may wauch hym with tresoune!

11. To keep (a person or thing) in view in order to observe any actions, movements, or changes that may occur.

a. with obj. a person (or animal). Sometimes implying the intent to attack or capture.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 177 Hauing once this iuyce I'le watch Titania, when she is asleepe, And drop the liquor of it in her eyes. 1650 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 235 Eyre since I came hether I have bine so narowly wached by the severe Christans that I could not answer your letter before now. 1675 *Charac. Town-Gallant* (1870) 2 He watches Wenches just as Tumblers do Rabbits. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* viii, Here has been my hang-dog kinsman watching you as close as ever cat watched a mouse. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* v, He became aware that he was watched by a party of men, whose appearance had nothing in it very consolatory to the journeyer of those days. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ix, She would take her station here, at dusk, and watch the people as they passed up and down the street. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxv, I watch thee from the quiet shore; Thy spirit up to mine can reach. 1900 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 81, I had not gone twenty yards.. ere I knew I was watched. 1917 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 495 To divide them [the Marches] between the Nevilles and the Percies, setting each to watch the other.

b. with obj. a thing.

c 1525 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 12 One kepte ye compas, and watched ye our glasse. 1645 STAPYLTON tr. *Musæus* C 2, On her high turret Hero watcht the flame, And as stiffe gales from any quarter came, Still screen'd it with the sacred robe she wore. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* IV. 278 Within the shadow of the ship I watched their rich attire: Blue, glossy green, and velvet black, They coiled and swam. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Boarding-ho.* i, 'You don't think it's at all an out-of-the-way affair then?' asked Mr. Septimus Hicks, who had watched the countenance of Tibbs in mute astonishment. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. iv. 124 But before everything, at this time, came my pleasure in merely watching the sea. 1900 G. C. BRODRICK *Mem. & Impr.* 293 There we lay, surrounded by twenty or thirty ships..all assembled on the same errand, vainly watching the heavens. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 362 We have watched the red and blue Harvest-waggons.

c. with obj. a process or course of events.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 73 Thus long haue we stood To watch the fearefull bending of thy knee. 1655 WALTON *Angler* x. (1661) 173 Watch their going forth of their holes and returning. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xix. (1842) 300 By this arrangement..the operations..are more conveniently watched. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* iii, While the hermit held the arm from which the blood was just beginning to flow, she..anxiously watched the returning animation. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 662 It was remarked by those who watched their deportment that they had come back from the carnage of Taunton in a fierce and excited state.

d. with adv. or phrase as complement.

1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 237 [He] was there discourd by..Colonel Eubank and watcht to his lodging. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* v, Many a time had she..painted herself as Helen, tying a sash round her knight's cuirass, and watching him forth to battle. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuzz.* xiii, Didn't I watch him into Codger's commercial boarding-house, and watch him out, and watch him home to his hotel. 1848 — *Dombey* viii, Then he would turn his head, and watch the child away, and say [etc.]. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxxiii, He watched her down: he watched her in: himself shut the door: he knew she was safe. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* xvii, He looked out for a perfectly solitary spot where he..could watch out the light of sunset.

e. with accus. and inf. (without *to*) or pres. pple.

1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxii, Mary watched the postman leave the house. 1850 THACKERAY *Virginn.* xvii, Lady Maria..scarcely lifted up her head from her embroidery, to watch the aunt retreating. 1899 FITZGERALD

Ovser xxxvi, For in the Market-place, one Dusk of Day, I watch'd the Potter thumping his wet Clay. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 183 Lying upon my back, I watched the clouds forming. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* lxii, They put arsenic in his meat And stared aghast to watch him eat. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 41 We used to watch the small bees going in and out of a hole in the wall.

12. To keep in mental view; to keep oneself informed about (a course of events, etc.).

1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna*, III. (1676) 36 No hour of pleasure should pass empty by, Youth should watch joys, and shoot 'em as they flie. 1677 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 217 Hee parted here with great professions of friendship..yet however I would be glad you did a little watch his proceedings. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. vi. 41 We must watch their minutest actions. 1828 THIRLWALL *Greece* xliv. V. 357 We cannot believe that he..would willingly have foregone the opportunity of watching the proceedings of his colleagues. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* ix. 99 The cerebral symptoms should be always watched with the most unremitting and anxious attention. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 535 The war which was then raging in Hungary ..was watched by all Europe with interest almost as great as that which the Crusades had excited five hundred years earlier. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. v. 78 The natural jealousy of the Spaniards watched every naval enterprise of Englishmen. 1871 DALE *Commandm.* viii. 204 Merchants watch the rise and fall of the markets in remote countries. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. i. 25 [My father] watched with some anxiety the use I should make of this first command of money. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Choir Invisible* xxiii. 347 She had never ceased to watch his career as part of her very life.

b. To be on the alert to avail oneself of (opportunities, advantages); to be vigilant to choose (one's time for action); †to look out for, wait expectantly for (some coming event).

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 97 Ponifre gaue a golden fee vnto his olde attorney, who watching hir time, employed all hir wicked inuentions which she had by long vse..collected. *c* 1590 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* III. ii. 824 O no, God wot, I cannot watch my time, Nor quit turnes with double fee downe told. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Perc.* I. ii. 30, I, watch you vauntages? 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 228 But it is the custome, that he that hath once payed the tribute may any time after enter this Church without paying any thing, if he can watch the opportunity of other Christians entering the same. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 237 He that meanes to make a good market of his ware, must watch an opportunity to open his shop. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Life Walker* A 2 b, Walker stood watching the Kings comming by. 1763 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* III. 54 Did not She watch her Opportunity and come to You just as I went out? 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvii, It was thus that he met not Wayland, who was impatiently watching his arrival. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* li, Mr. Winkle eagerly watched his opportunity: it was not long wanting. 1886 C. SCHOLL *Phrenol. Dict.* II. 834 You must watch your opportunity to sell the goods...Watch the best opportunity for selling.

c. Of a barrister: To attend the trial of (a case) in order to note any point that may arise to affect the interests of a client who is not a party in the litigation, and to raise objections to any questions or evidence that may be inadmissible as compromising the client.

1890 M. WILLIAMS *Leaves* I. 87 Serjeant Ballantine's clerk ..came up and asked me whether, as his chief was absent, I would watch a case that was about to be argued.

13. To exercise protecting vigilance over; to tend (a flock).

1526 TINDALE *Luke* ii. 8 There were..shepherds..watching their flocke by nyght. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 156 Man he made..and, O indignitie! Subjected to his service Angel wings, And flaming Ministers to watch and tend Their earthie Charge. 1700 TATE *Suppl. to New Vers. Ps.* 8 While Shepherds watch'd their Flocks by Night. 1848 LONGF. *Resignation* 1 There is no flock, however watched and tended, But one dead lamb is there!

b. To sit up beside (a sick person) in order to render help; to keep watch beside (a dead body).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 20 b, I am the soule of hym that thou watched the last nyght. 1590 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 504/1 P[al]d to Durrants wyfe for watchinge of Father profet,..iiid. *a* 1592 *Greenes Vision* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 233 Tomkins..saw hee was in his bed, ..watcht by his mother and his wife.

†**14.** To do (a person a good or bad turn); to contrive (mischief). *Obs.*

App. a substitute for WAIT v.[1], suggested by the synonymity of WAIT v.[1] and *watch*.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xvii. viii, Yet their high hartes looke so low As how to watch our overthrow. 1598 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 56 Which iniury though he meanes to doo me in myrth, yet I hope he wyll make me some suffycient recompence, or els I shall goe neere to watch hym the like or a worse turne. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 173 Harme watch harme catch. *Ibid.* 209 I'le watch you a good turne. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* 16 But look to't, Harm watch, harm catch: If you will needs bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

15. To provide (a town) with watchmen. In *passive*, to be policed *by* a specified body of men.

1806 J. CARR *Stranger in Ireland* 52 At night the city is admirably watched and patroled. Most of the watchmen are armed with muskets, others with a pike [etc.]. 1824 *Picture of Liverpool* 47 The Commissioners for Watching and Lighting the town. 1909 *Rep. H. M. Inspectors of Constabulary* 45 The municipal boroughs of Maidenhead and Newbury are watched by the county constabulary.

16. *Falconry.* To prevent (a hawk) from sleeping, in order to tame it.

a 1575 *Perf. Bk. Keepinge Sparhawkes* (1886) 16 Note, never vache sorehawke for then you take her stomake awaye, the rye cometh on so fast, & so hurt her. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 198 Another way I haue to man my Haggard, To make her come, and know her Keepers call; That is, to watch her, as we watch these Kites. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 93 My Lord shall neuer rest, Ile watch him tame, and talke him out of patience. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 43 What are you gone againe, you must be watcht ere you be made tame, must you? 1689 *Selden's Table-Talk* 31 Lecturers..preach the People tame (as a man watches a Hawk) and then they do what they list with them.

17. *Hunting.* To track (an otter) into its lair.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241 We watch and vent an Otter. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recreat.* II. 76 Terms for Lodging and Dislodging of Beasts...Watch and Vent the Otter. 1688 [see VENT v. 17 b].

Watchable (wɒ·tʃăb'l), *a.* [f. WATCH *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be watched.

1621 COTGR., *Guettable*, watchable; subiect vnto watching, and warding.

Watch-bell. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [WATCH *sb.*]

1. A bell upon which the half-hourly periods in each watch are struck on board ship.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 287 Wache Belles..ij. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Watch-Bell*, in ships of war, a large bell hung to the beam of the forecastle, ..; it is struck when the half-hour-glass is run out, to make known the time or division of the watch. 1888 F. M. CRAWFORD *With the Immortals* xiv. II. 212 Come, weary mariners!..Worn out with waking when the watch-bell tolls—Here is the land you seek!

2. A bell rung at the setting and relief of a military watch or to sound an alarm on the approach of an enemy.

1560 in J. Scott *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 448 If there be any person that maketh any affraie at any of the gates of the said towne or at the watch hill at such tyme..as the watch bell is ringing or the watch is setting or afterwards that night untill the watch bell be discharged in the morninge. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* iii. Wks. 1851 VIII. 486 The Land of Mugalla..hath many Castles..with Towers ..; and on the Gates Alarum-Bells or Watch-Bells.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1614 T. TYMME (*title*), A Silver Watch-Bell. The Sound whereof is able..to winne the most profane worldling..to become a true Christian. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 118 Then shalt thou hear..the last trumpet...Oh how loath will the sinner be, to rise at the ringing of this watch-bell!

3. A bell used by a military or municipal watchman; also a bell rung to summon the watch.

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 78 In the meane time the watches bell thay rang. Than said the Knicht..Heir 3e not now how that the watche bell rings. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 74 Some [of the garrison] keepe about the prison with lanterns and watch-bels answering one another fiue times euery night. 1660 in *Sir R. Sadler's St. Papers* (1809) III. 359 In the Bayliff's Chamber...One watch-bell.

†**Watch-bill**[1]. *Obs.* [f. WATCH *sb.* + BILL *sb.*[1]] A watchman's bill or halberd.

1665 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 128 He had slaine a monster with one watch bill or broome hooke. 1668 *Ibid.* 284 One James Turpin, who was one of the watch,..endeavoured to putt out the fire with his watchbill. ?*c* 1830 A. WILSON in Axon *Folk Song Lancs.* (1870) 36 There's snakes an' watchbills, just loike poikes.

Watch-bill[2]. *Naut.* [f. WATCH *sb.* + BILL *sb.*[3]] (See quot. 1815.)

1813 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 10 July 304/1 The Shannon had a crew of 376 picked men by her watch-bill. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Watch-Bill*, a list of the petty officers, seamen, and marines, of a ship of war, which..points out the station of each man, and what watch he belongs to. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* I. (ed. 2) 18 This abbreviated table is sufficiently compact to allow of its being copied into the watch-bill.

Watch-box. [WATCH *sb.*]

1. A small structure to shelter a person on watch.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 14 About three or four Leagues Westward of Selam is another Watch-Box on a High Tree. 1890 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 3/1 Escapes are being placed in position as fast as they can be turned out. With 50 watch-boxes at 80*l.* a piece, these escapes will cost 4,000*l.*

b. A small wooden shelter resembling a sentry-box but furnished with a seat and half-door, used by a municipal watchman. *Obs.* exc. *Colonial.*

1822 *Ann. Reg.* 44 A female, about three years and a half old..was left in a watch-box, near her home. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiv, The floor of a watch-box. 1845 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* I. (1851) 9 She drew up at a watch-box, and addressed herself to the..man within. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xii, It was lucky Mr. Jedwood had not commenced life at Garrandilla in a watch-box, as he most certainly would have continued the use of that highly compressed apartment.

c. A policeman's shelter.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 10 July 5/4 On the south side of Parliament Hill Fields is a little square chalet, which is used by the County Council police...The watch-box, as it is called, was locked.

†**2.** ? = WATCH-CASE 2. *Obs.*

1695 in Atkins & Overall *Acc. Company of Clockm.* (1881) 232 It is ordered..that..there be noe more of that Mettle wrought in the fashion of Watch Boxes or Cases. 1739 *Act 12 Geo. II*, c. 26 § 13 For assaying, trying and marking Gold Watch Cases or Gold Watch Boxes, ten Pence apiece.

Watch-case.

†**1.** ? A place in which one must keep watch.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 17 O thou dull God (*to Sleep*), why lyest thou with the vilde, In loathsome Beds, and leau'st the Kingly Couch, A Watch-case, or a common Larum-Bell?

2. A hinged case or cover of an old-fashioned watch, enclosing the watch proper; now, the metal cover enclosing the works of a watch.

1681 GREW *Museum* IV. § iii. 369 Made of fine Silver-studded Work, as in Watch-Cases. 1697-8 *Foreign Post* 5–7 Jan. 2/2 A Gold Engrav'd Watch-Case lined with Scarlet Satten. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France*, etc. I. 78 Every ..compartment chased, like our old-fashioned watch-cases. 1837 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxx, She took the watch-case in her hand. 1899 F. J. BRITTEN *Old Clocks & Watches* 128 A very finely enamelled watch case, illustrating the early life of Christ.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1671 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 538/4 If any one can give notice of him to his Master..a Watch-case maker. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Suppl. 2/2 [Advt.] Watch-case stakes and hammers.

3. A small case or bag at the head of a bed for holding a watch at night; a watch-pocket.

1891 *Century Dict.*

†**Watch-clock.** *Obs.*

1. a. ? A time-piece actuated by a spring. **b.** ? A clock with a dial indicating minutes and seconds. Also *watch pendulum clock.*

1598 DEE *Compend. Rehearsall* in *Chetham Misc.* (1851) I. 29 An excellent watch-clock,..by which clock the tyme might sensibly be measured in the seconds of an houre. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* Q b, A Watch-clocke, of sixe inches Diameter: and another lesser Watch. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Exod.* xxxv. 32 A certain artificer set a watch-clock upon a ring that Charls the Fifth wore upon his finger. 1671 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 118, I spoke and wrote to my kinsman about a watch clock. *Ibid.* 122, I wrote by my cos. Wilson about procuring me a watch pendulum clock.

2. An alarum clock. Cf. WATCH *sb.* 19.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie Crafts* 94 Pourfull Need (Arts ancient Dame and Keeper, The early watch-clock [Fr. *resveille-matin*] of the sloathfull sleeper).

Watch-cry. [WATCH *sb.*] The periodical cry of a watchman; *fig.* a motto, phrase, or word that is constantly reiterated by a party or the advocate of a cause, to call attention to some principle deemed of supreme importance. Cf. WATCHWORD.

1888 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 87 Every day shows us how easy it is, first to turn any expression into a watchcry, then to empty it of all significance [etc.]. 1893 *Tablet* 4 Mar. 320 Their watch-cry will be order, propriety and economy. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *In South Seas* II. ii. (1908) 153 From shore the cheerful watch-cry of cocks rang out at intervals.

Watch-dog. A dog kept to guard a house, property, etc., and give warning of the approach of intruders.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 383 Harke, harke, bowgh wawgh: the watch-Dogges barke, bowgh-wawgh. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 122 The watch-dog's voice that bayed the whispering wind. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxxiii, 'Tis sweet to hear the watch-dog's honest bark Bay deep-mouth'd welcome as we draw near home. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* III. xv. 235 The baying of a watch-dog alarmed the village. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* I. 220 The old man is as fierce as a watch-dog.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1845 MAURICE *Moral Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 595/2 Now we feel the necessity for a set of guardians or watch-dogs of the state. 1885 LOWELL *Democr.* etc. (1887) 124 Formerly the duty of a librarian was considered too much that of a watch-dog, to keep people as much as possible away from the books. 1910 LD. ROSEBERY *Chatham* xvi. 339 The Chancellor acted as his watch-dog in front of the Treasury.

c. quasi-*adj.* Characteristic of a watch-dog.

1862 HELPS *Organiz. Daily Life* 32 He was not a very skilful person in deciding upon difficult questions; but he had a sort of watch-dog carefulness.

Watched (wɒ·tʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. WATCH *v.* + -ED[1].] Kept under close observation. †Also, of a hawk, that is kept awake (see WATCH *v.* 16).

1566 T. NUCE *Studley's Agamemnon* Upon the same 4 Hys request was suche: How that, to paynfull laboured stuffe my mynd I wolde annex: And do but as his watched worke, whych he doth here contex Deserues. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 84 [The Scots] in a watch'd opportunity set upon the tail of his Army. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 34 Most that are out of the Army will ere long be as gentle as any watch'd Hawke. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 402/2 How to get Diaz out of the watched room was a very awkward problem indeed.

absol. 1901 J. H. MCCARTHY *If I were King* iv, Suddenly, when the tension of watcher and watched was keenest, there came a mighty crashing at the door.

b. *Proverb.*

1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxi, What's the use of watching? A watched pot never boils.

Watched, variant of WATCHET.

Watcher (wɒ·tʃəɹ). [f. WATCH *v.* + -ER[1].] One who watches or keeps watch.

a. *gen.* Often const. *of*, also *over.*

1572 HULOET (ed. Higins), Watcher, *insidiator, insidiosus.* 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. i, That will Antonius make his care..And watch the watcher. 1812 *Examiner* 24 Aug. 544/1 You heard the watchers exclaim—'Put up the lights.' 1817 KEATS *Sonn.* xi, Then felt I like some watcher of the skies When a new planet swims into his ken. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlii, The smooth, sleek watcher of his slightest look and tone. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 556 Sir Valence..Whose kinsman left him watcher o'er his wife And two fair babes. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 29 May 5/3 Nothing is at present divulged to the public; but the eyes of interested watchers cannot be altogether closed.

b. said of the eye. *poet.*

1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 135 Loue hath chas'd sleepe From my enthralled eyes, And made them watchers of mine owne hearts sorrow. 1824 HOOD *Two Swans* 108 On his doubtful face Gleam his unwearied eyes, red watchers of the place. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 356 To an eye like mine A lidless watcher of the public weal, Last night, their

c. One who keeps awake at night. Also *night watcher*.

1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 296 Of nyght watchens and beters of the stretes playnge by nyght on instrumantes and veynge lyke Folyes whan tyme is to rest. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* II. ii. 72 Get on your Night-Gowne, least occasion call vs, And shew vs to be Watchers. 1861 Fane & Lytton *Tannhäuser* 78 She kneel'd, A faded watcher through the weary night,..In deep, perpetual prayer for him she loved. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* iv. 117 There two figures are kneeling, motionless and absorbed in prayer...Still the two watchers kneel on.

d. One who watches by a sick bed, or by the dead.

c 1555 *Life Bp. Fisher* (E. E. T. S.) 127 Whervpon two of the watchers tooke it [the dead body] vpon a halbert betweene them. 1764 *Low Life* 9 Women, called Watchers, in Hospitals, taking the Advantage of their Patients being asleep, to pick their Pockets. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 59 And at her head a follower of the camp..Sat watching like a watcher by the dead. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxv, Then the watcher approaches the patient's pillow. 1885 *Lancet* 4 Apr. 630/1 Then there are the 'watchers', who belong to the Jewish community, and combine the office of a nurse with certain religious functions.

e. One who is occupied in watching; a watchman, guard, sentry, or the like. Also with defining word, as *river-watcher*, Night-watcher.

1525 Berners *Froiss.* II. xlix. 61 b, On ye mountaynes & hylles costyng the see..were set watche men & watchers in dyuers maners. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 274 An inspection was immediately carried on with an earnestness worthy of two watchers at a night-telegraph during a time of war. 1838 Dickens *Nicholeby* xxii, The heavy footfall of the official watcher of the night. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Oct. 5/1 A river watcher..and two boys, lost their lives by the capsizing of a boat. 1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* xvii, There are detectives of an inferior description—watchers. 1897 Crockett *Lads' Love* xix. 203 The gamekeepers and water-bailiffs—the 'watchers' as they were called. 1904 *Times* 31 Mar. 9/4 Davies had first been an office-boy and was now a watcher.

f. as the title of a class of angels or of angels generally; tr. Aramaic עִיר *ʿir*, one who is wakeful.

1535 Coverdale *Dan.* iv. 13 And beholde, a watcher (euen an holy angel) came downe from heauen. 1576 A. G[ilby] *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1581) 21 For by such meanes were ye Watchers deceiued before the floud. *a* 1711 Ken *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 312 They Watchers are, and with obsequious Wing Leave Heav'n for Earth, God's Messages to bring. 1801 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 20 (tr. *Bk. Enoch*) All were afraid, even the watchers of the host. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc.* (ed. 3) 26 And by those features,.. Heaven's keen-eyed Watchers haply mete What mortals holy deem. *a* 1908 C. Bigg *Orig. Christianity* viii. 83 Six angels build the Tower: they are the Archangels, the First Created, the Watchers of Enoch.

†g. *Astr.* (*pl.*) = Guard *sb.* 12, Warden *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1588 Ashley *Wagenar's Mariners Mirr.* B 2 b, When those Guardes or watchers of *Vrsa minor* being mounted higher. *Ibid.*, The Guards or watchers are to be placed in this Instrument exactly opposite to their due place.

Watchet (wɒ·tʃĕt), *sb.* and *a. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: [? 2 waschet] 4 waget(t, vachet, 4–7 wachet(t, 5 wayoett, 6 wattchett, watchit, -eth, watchshide, wattshode, wetshode, 6–7 watched, watchett, 7 watcht, wetched, -et, 6– watchet. [App. a. OF. (north-eastern) *wachet*, occurring A. D. 1420 (*une heuke..foree de wachet*, a cloak lined with 'watchet'; it is not clear whether this means a particular fabric or a colour); an earlier instance, spelt *waschet*, occurs in quot. 1198 below; the use of the OF. word in an Anglo-Latin context at that date does not prove that it had already been adopted into English. It is possible that *waschet*, *wachet* may be a dim. of the word which is found once (spelt *wasce*) in a Douay document of 1262; Godefr. explains this as 'sorte d'étoffe', but the interpretation is not certain from the context. The Central OF. *gasche*, recorded once (1448), for some kind of appendage or ornament of a shoe, would correspond formally, but if Godefr. is right in rendering it 'buckle' the connexion is out of the question.

It is tempting to compare mod. Walloon *wadze* royal blue (which Diez would connect with OF. *guesde* Woad); a dim. formation on a word of this meaning might have been used to denote a lighter shade of the colour. But the phonological possibility of such a derivation of *wachet* is very doubtful.]

A. *sb.* 1. A light blue colour; cloth or garments of this colour.

[1198–9 *Curia Regis Roll* 8 B m. 2 (P.R.O.) Et abstulit .I. scapelarium de Waschet.] *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 135 Yclad he was ful smal and proprely Al in a kirtel of a lyght waget (*w.rr.* wagett, vachet, wachet(t). 1407 *Will A. Rymour* (Somerset Ho.) Togam meam de Wachett. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Scrutulatus*, is a colour, I suppose a wachet [1548 watchet]. 1551–2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI* c. 6 § 23 Clothe or Clothes..of anye other color or colors then..skarlett redd crymsen..asewer watchett [etc.]. 1588 Lambard *Eiren.* App. Yy v, Tres vinas panni lanei, coloris veneti (vocati Anglice Watchet). 1592 Lyly *Endimion* v. ii, Whose teeth shal be so pure a watchet, that they shall staine the truest Turkis. 1601 Holland *Pliny* IX. xxxvi. I. 258 So sullen and melancholie a colour, enclining to a blew or watchet [L. *color austerus in glauco*]. 1612 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 133 The Saxons there in watchet clad, we see [tr. Sidonius Apollinaris: *Istic Saxona cæruleum videmus*]. 1626 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 390 Here see we watchet deep'ned with a blewe. 1692 Townshend *Albions Triumph* 17 A garment of watchet. 1865 T. Taylor *Ballads & Songs Brittany* 13 What gown ..were't best to wear,—My gown of grain, or of watchet fair?

¶ App. misunderstood. (*Jaune garance* = madder yellow.)

1530 Palsgr. 287/1 Watchet colour, *jaune garance*.

2. A fly used by anglers; an artificial fly made to imitate this. Also *watchet fly*.

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 302 Pale or sky-blue watchet. It is a small fly, and appears on the water on a cold day. *Ibid.* 303 Yellow-watchet. Body, water-rat's fur, [etc.]. 1848 Carr *Craven Gloss., Watchet*, the name of a fly among Cr ven anglers, because it is of a watchet colour, or pale blue. 1889 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 Yellow watchet fly.

B. *adj.* Light blue, sky-blue.

1496 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 296 A garde of waycett carsey. 1503 *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 96, x payre of wachet hosyn. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. iv. 216 The flowers ..are of a watcheth or pale blewe colour. 1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* 282 The mariners being all apparelled in Watchet or skie coloured clothe. 1598 *Inventory* in Greg *Henslowe Papers* (1907) 122 Item, j wattshode taffitie dublet for a boye. 1604 Marston & Webster *Malcontent* III. i. (and Q.) E 2 b, Sea-water greene sutes, ash-color cloakes, wetchet stockings. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 242 Who wonders at the Germans watchet eyes? [L. *Cærula quis stupuit Germ lumina?*]. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 12 She wore buskins of wetched Silk, deck'd with Silver lace. 1742 Collins *The Manners* 68 Or him whom Seine's blue nymphs deplore In watchet weeds on Gallia's shore. 1887 Ashby-Sterry *Lazy Minstr.* (1892) 186 Watchet eyes As sweet as early summer skies! 1893 J. Davidson *Fleet St. Eclogues* 37 Wood-violets of watchet hue.

b. prefixed to *blue* as a qualifying term.

1536 *Stories & Proph. Scripture* F v, Betwene euery bell a pomegarnade of purpoure,..of russed reade, of wetshode blew and of vermillion. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 49 And the rest of the line of a Watchet blew. 1871 M. Collins *Mrg. & Merch.* I. iv. 127 Her hair was a light soft brown, her eyes a watchet blue.

†c. sometimes app. used to denote a green or greenish colour.

This meaning is uncertain exc. in quot. 1638.

a 1613 J. Dennys *Secr. Angling* II. xxii. C 6 b, Marke what a line he hath,..Of Bucephall, or Bayards strongest hayre Twisted with greene or watched silke among. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 93 In stead of a blew, [comets are sometimes] of a watchet or greenish colour. *a* 1638 Cleveland *Poems* (1659) 161 Tethys in a Gown Of sea-green watchet.

d. *Comb.*, as *watchet-coloured*, *-hued* adjs.

1609 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 183 Four yards of watchet coloured ribin. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* v, She lies in the watchet-coloured chamber. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxx, A watchet-coloured silken mantle. 1893 J. Davidson *Fleet St. Eclogues* Sec. II. 25 Convolvuluses.. Pallid or watchet-hued.

Watchful (wɒ·tʃfŭl), *a.* [f. Watch *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Wakeful, sleepless; accustomed to keeping awake. Of time: Passed in wakefulness. *arch.*

1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xiv. 22–28 Of men obliuious he shal make you of good remembrance,..of sleapyahs sluggardes vigilant and watchefull. 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 44 Of the Peacok...Then Iuno took his [*sc.* Argus'] watchfull eyes, and brauely by and by, She plast them in my traine. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. i. 31 To be in loue; where..one fading moments mirth [is bought] With twenty watchfull, weary, tedious nights. 1594 — *Rich. III*, v. iii. 115 To thee I do commend my watchfull soule, Ere I let fall the windowes of mine eyes. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 98 What watchfull Cares doe interpose themselues Betwixt your Eyes, and Night? 1640 J. Gower *Ovid's Festiv.* I. 14 The cock by night to Nights black Queen they slay, Because his watchfull bill doth wake the day. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 393 Till the watchful Cock awakes the Day, She sings to drive the tedious Hours away. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 274 To alleviate the fever and watchful nights, effervescing draughts..were administered. 1878 J. P. Hopps *Rel. & Moral Lect.* xii. 38 Nearly all reformers..have had to spend watchful nights and laborious days.

2. Of persons or animals, their dispositions or faculties: Engaged in or accustomed to watching or close observation; vigilant.

1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 81 No more watchfull..in their campe, then if they were safely intrenched in an ale house. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* v. viii. 67 Our exil'd Friends..That fled the Snares of watchfull Tyranny. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* xi. xxvii, The watchfull'st sight no difference could descrie. 1664 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 212 A little yealping Dogg that were watchfull & angry were much more usefull to you. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 585 His Hand, and watchful Eye keep even pace. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 118 P 2 If it had not been for that watchful Animal her Confident. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* I, They had remained watchful and still for a considerable time. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* IV. xii, The galley ploughs no more the sea. Lest, rounding wild Cantyre, they meet The southern foemen's watchful fleet. 1827 Keble *Chr. Yr., St. Barnabas* II, Twixt Prayer and watchful Love his heart dividing. 1882 Mrs. A. Edwardes *Ball-room Repent.* I. 76 With a watchful mamma and governess in chaperonage.

b. Const. *about*, *against*, *for*, *of*, *over*; also with inf. of purpose.

Cf. the constructions of Watch v.; *watchful of* corresponds to the transitive constructions.

1602 Quarles *Hadassa* v. E 3, But she was watchfull of her lips and wise, Disclosing not her kindred, or alyes. 1666 *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 259 They are very carefull and watchfull to finde out and prevent all disturbances of that kinde. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 60. 34 They grew watchful over their New Dominion. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. 244 We are to live on at this rate (are we?) vexed by you, and continually watchful about you. 1769 Washington *Let. to G. Mason* 5 Apr., Writ. 1834 II. 352 Selfish, designing men,..watchful of every turn, that can assist their lucrative views. 1847 Lytton *Pelham* ii, No one could be..more watchful to gratify others. 1899 'G. G.' *Winkles* I. 26 Watchful for such casualties, Posh caught hold of him in an instant.

3 Of actions, care, etc.: Characterised by vigilance.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 69 Thee Greeks with custodye watchful, Warded thee towngats. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XXII. xv. 213 This beast..with most watchfull care looketh about him to see the coasts cleere and all at rest, and [etc.]. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* B 3, God,..of his boundlesse bounty, immense power, and eternall eye of watchfull providence releeues, guards, and conserues him. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* IV. 302, I should..have claimed the continuance of..your watchful counsel. 1842 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) II. 90 A hound, crouching down with head erect, as if keeping watchful guard while the master of the mansion was away. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II. vi. 219 My really watchful delineation..had a quite unusual power of directing the attention of the general crowd to points of beauty..to which [etc.].

4. Of places, duties, employments: In which one must be on the watch. ? *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 42 The souldier may not moue from watchfull sted. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. i. 63, I haue discride, my Lord, As I was busie in my watchfull charge, The proud Armado of king Edwards ships. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* I. i, That Country which he long had serv'd In watchful Councils, and in Winter Camps. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* viii, Twelve months' service, of a nature the most watchful and unpleasant.

Hence **Watchfully** *adv.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Vigilanter*, watchefully, dylygently. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 269/2 He that preacheth must..indeuour to draw the whole flocke, to the obedience of God, to haue them walke in feare and humblenesse, and watchfully. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* xvii. 116 If this Experiment were very watchfully try'd. 1758 Warburton *Serm.* xi. Wks. 1788 V. 178 Amongst the various Societies of Christians, there are some, in which the holy Ordinances are more regularly administred..and Christian Liberty more watchfully protected. *a* 1822 Shelley *On Future St.* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 182 Let us..watchfully establish a discrimination between words and thoughts. 1837 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* 10 Keeping your embroidery watchfully from the moth. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* viii, Neville has made his remark in a watchfully advancing, and yet furtive and shy manner. 1900 *Conquest* Apr. 263/2 One of the fishermen rows the craft, the other hangs watchfully over the side.

Watchfulness (wɒ·tʃfŭlnés). [f. Watchful *a.* + -ness.]

1. Wakefulness, inability to sleep. *Obs.* exc. *Path.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. vi. 34 Thus she all night wore out in watchfulnesse, Ne suffred slouthfull sleepe her eye-lids to oppresse. 1615 Markham *Eng. Housew.* II. i. 10 If any of the family be troubled with too much watchfulnesse, so that they cannot by any meanes take rest. 1658 Culpepper etc. *Riverius* I. xi. 40 If after bleeding there comes watchfulness, the Humors will be again inflamed. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 683 Pains..attended with vomiting, anxiety, and great watchfulness. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xl. 121 Early and decided determination to the brain, producing delirium, watchfulness, coma. 1876 W. Roberts *Urin. & Renal Dis.* III. x. (ed. 3) 537 The tumour..spread in all directions, causing great pain and watchfulness.

2. The quality or state of being watchful or attentively observant; vigilance.

1612 B. Jonson *Catiline* IV. vii. Chorus M 1, And call their diligence, deceipt;..Their watchfulnesse, but lying in waite. 1644 Digby *Nat. Soul* iv. § 6. 390 The watchfulnesse and recalling of our thoughts backe to their enioyned worke, when they breake loose and runne astray. 1756 *Phil. Trans.* L. 22 By care and watchfulness the violence of the symptoms were kept under. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xviii, He..has, at different times, made eulogiums upon the watchfulness and ferocity of his dogs. 1821 Lamb *Elia, Imperf. Sympathies*, A Quaker..knows that his syllables are weighed—and how far a consciousness of this particular watchfulness..has a tendency to produce indirect answers, ..might be illustrated [etc.]. 1847 James *Convict* ix, With a quiet, cat-like watchfulness, Filmer remarked everything which passed between Eda Brandon and Charles Dudley 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 283/1 This plan, however, requires constant care and watchfulness, which it is difficult at all times to c——

b. const. *of*, *over*; also with inf. of purpose.

1624 Donne *Devot.* Med. xiv. (ed. 2) 319 How busie, and perplexed a Cobwebb, is the Happinesse of Man here, that must bee made vp with a Watchfulnesse, to lay hold vpon Occasion. 1725 Watts *Logic* II. iii. § 3 (1726) 203 The Cure of these Prejudices is attain'd by a constant Jealousy of ourselves, and Watchfulness over our Passions. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiv, His watchfulness of my guardian was incessant. He rarely removed his eyes from his face. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* I. § 9 In protective watchfulness of his master's interest and credit, or in joyful readiness to seize unexpected..occasions of help. 1868 A. Duff *True Nobility* 73 As the causes of it [irresolution] came to be detected, there was inward watchfulness over their operation.

Watch-glass. [Watch *sb.*]

†1. A sand-glass or hour-glass used to measure the time of keeping watch, esp. on board ship. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

1627 Rutherford *Lett.* ccixvi. (1891) 334 Time and tide carry us upon another life, and there is daily less and less oil in our lamps, and less and less sand in our watch-glass. 1901 Tuttell & Moxon *Math. Instr.* 22 Watch-glass..used at Sea, to shift or change their Watches. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Watch-glasses*, a name given to the glasses employed to measure the period of the watch or divide it into any number of equal parts..so that the several stations therein may be regularly kept and relieved.

2. A thin piece of glass, usually concavo-convex in form, fitted into the case of a watch over the dial-plate.

1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Suppl. 2/2 [Advt.] Watch glasses. 1831 Brewster *Optics* i. 4 A concave speculum is one which is hollow like the inside of a watch-glass. 1894 F. J. Britten *Former Clock & Watchm.* 64 Watch glasses seem to have been introduced about 1600.

attrib. 1839 J. R. Greene *Protozoa* vii. 66 In Ophryoglena flavicans a remarkable body termed the 'watch glass-like organ' has been recently observed by Lieberkühn.

b. as a receptacle for small objects or portions of material to be subjected to scientific observation.

1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 286 Pieces of these should be cut off while they are in the sea water, and placed in watch-glasses full of the same. 1818 Accum *Chem. Tests* 97 A small evaporating basin, or watch glass. 1880 L. S. Beale *How to work with Microscope* (ed. 5) 54 Watch Glasses of various sizes should be kept by every observer. 1886 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 24 A watch-glass standing in a pill-box lid.

Hence **Wa·tch-glassful.**

1830 Sir J. Herschel *Disc. Study Nat. Philos.* ii. vi. § 182 (1851) 172 We almost forget that these great masses are made up of watch-glassfuls.

Wa·tch-house. [Watch *sb.*]

1. A house in which a watch or guard is stationed.

1480 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 111 [You] woll hawe yowre wull howesyd in yowre wull howsse be the est wache howsse. 1530 Palsgr. 287/1 Watche howse, *lieu de guayet.* 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 108 Vpon the walles euery night doe watch fifteene men in watch houses, for euery watch house fiue men. 1629 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VIII. 426/1 To John Cooke in p[ayment]t for a wache house set up at the beacon..01 00 00. 1739 Labelye *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 70 Useful Buildings, such as..Watch-houses, &c. 1775 Romans *Hist. Florida* App. 72 You will see..a watch-house (nick-named a fort) on St. Rosa Island. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iii. 72 Four of these [summits]..stand like watch-houses on the edge of the cliffs. 1880 A. M'Kay *Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 17 One of these loop-holed recesses [in Dean Castle] had been perhaps used as a watch-house in times of emergency. 1881 E. Ingersoll *Oyster-Industry* 249 *Watch-house*, a shanty built on the shore, or near the planted oyster-beds, from which they may be guarded (Massachusetts).

2. A house used as a station for municipal night-watchmen, in which the chief constable of the night sits to receive and detain in custody till the morning any disorderly persons brought in by the watchmen. (Now only *U.S.* and *Colonial.*)

1716 Gay *Trivia* II. 491 Where statues breath'd, the works of Phidias' hands, A wooden pump, or lonely watch-house stands. 1731–8 *Norwich Mercury* 11–18 Mar. 1/2 Several of the Footmen and Chairmen were carried to St. James's Watch-house, and Yesterday Morning were examined before Justice Lambert. 1774 *Ann. Reg.* 123 The mob pulled down the watch-house, and rescued the prisoners. 1835 *Act* 5 & 6 *Will. IV*, c. 76 § 78 To deliver any Person so apprehended into the Custody of the Constable..at the nearest Watch-house. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, Here are The Tombs once more. The city watch-house is a part of the building. 1845 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* i, The watchmen bore the mother to the watch-house. 1876 Emerson *Lett. & Social Aims* i. 40 This unwritten play in fifty acts, composed by the dullest snorer on the floor of the watch-house. 1918 *Melbourne Argus* 2 Sept. 6 Detectives..arrested George Whitney..and locked him up at the City Watchhouse.

attrib. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4890/3 The Unicorn over-against the Watch-house Door. 1859 K. Cornwallis *Panorama New World* I. 87 Inside there were several detectives and two watchhouse keepers at the books.

Watching (wɒ·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb Watch in various *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Mark*) 132 The bischapis..gret wechyne mad besyly, to tak sancte marke, for invy. 1479–82 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 99 Item, payd to the Clerke and paris for mete and drynke, for weechynge of the Sepulcre [etc.] xxiij d. *a* 1529 Skelton *Bouge of Court* 352 His hede was heuy for watchynge ouer nyghte. 1530 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 136 For the wetching and keping of this gude towne baitht be nicht and day. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. i. 78 For sleeping England long time haue I watcht, Watching breeds leanenesse. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 120 The marquess wondering at the watching of his lodgeing. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 4 Feb. 1685, Tired indeede as he was with griefe and watching. 1777 Sheridan *Trip to Scarb.* v. i, Of all modes of suspense, the watching for a loitering mistress is the worst. 1830 *Act* 11 *Geo. IV*, c. 27 § 1 To make Provision for the lighting and watching of the several Parishes in England and Wales. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 444 The king had been exhausted by long watching and by many violent emotions. He now retired to rest. 1903 Mrs. De La Pasture *Cornelius* xvi. 183 She is very far from strong, and requires a deal of watching over. 1921 Wace *Prophecy Jews & Chr.* ix. 172 He taught His disciples and ourselves to live in a constant state of watching for the complete and final revelation of that kingdom.

b. An act or instance of this.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) II. 624 Gregeois, yharnande with mayne & mude The wachingis [*v.r.* vachingis] for to execude Of þare fraudfull gyle but delay. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 247 b, This honour that the chrysten people rendreth to theyr lorde..is compared to a custody or watchynge. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. xxiii. (S. T. S.) II. 225 The romanis in þe capitoll war sowpit & oursett with continuall stationis & watchingis. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 387 *Leonato.* My Lord, I am for you, though it cost me ten nights watchings. 1641 W. Cartwright *Lady Errant* I. ii, Hard watchings and rough Guards Fill and make up the field. 1669 Stillingfl. *Serm.* ix. (1673) 267 Their frechings, fastings, hunger and thirst. 1704 Nelson *Fest. & Fasts* II. v. (1739) 502 It was celebrated..with Watchings. 1708 Martin *Lang. Bot.* s. v. *Vigilia*, These Vigiliæ or Watchings are performed at determined hours of the day, when plants open, expand, and shut their flowers daily. 1708 Sophia Lee *Conterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 194 Hours were past by the tender, agitated Emily, in anxious watchings. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 80 They had to wait for the successive 'watching' of each buoy, as its first appearance on the surface is technically termed. 1890 Stevenson *In South Seas* II. vi. (1900) 198 It is the dead man's kindred and next friends who thus deprecate his fury with nocturnal watchings.

c. Sc. *Watching and warding*: see Watch *v.* 6 b and 10.

1379 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 217 Subject to all taxationis, wacheing, warding, and utheris impositionis liand upoun the said burgh. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 378/1 Quod omnes in dicto burgo manentes..auxilia ferrent cum burgensibus ad lie watching, wairding, [etc.]. 1721 E. Ward *Vulgus Brit.* VIII. 95 For Watching, Warding, and Trainbanding, Tho' Customs of an ancient standing. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. iv. § 8 This service of watching and warding..is due by the burgesses within the..territory of the borough. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* I. 106 The citizens [of Edinburgh] performed a species of personal service for defence of the town, called watching and warding. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 117 The *reddendo* (now merely nominal) of watching and warding.

2. The state or condition of being awake, wakefulness; often, wakefulness from disinclination or incapacity for sleep; an instance of this.

c 1550 H. Lloyd *Treas. Health* viii. C viii, Agaynst to much watchynges...The Sygnes. That he can not slepe after his accustomyd fashyon. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 250 Yea and after a man hath recouered his health, yet is he neuerthelesse disquieted by much watching for a long time after. 1669 E. Maynwaring *Preserv. Health* 90 The Life of Man ..spends its whole course in these two different states, Sleep and Watching: the one appointed for Rest and Ease, the other for Action and Labour. 1672 Wiseman *Treat. Wounds* II. ii. 8 The Bullet not having been drawn out,..occasioned great pain with Inflammation, great heat and watchings. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 61 Watching, or want of sleep is frequently a symptom of the foregoing complaints. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Pervigilium*, term for disinclination to sleep; watching.

†3. = Watch *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*—1

1688 Holme *Armory* II. xii. 312/2 A Watching of Nightingales.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *watching-hole*, *-place*; **watching brief**, a brief instructing counsel to 'watch' a case; also *fig.*; **watching candle**, a candle used at the 'watching' of a shrine or of a corpse; also *transf.*; †**watching-chamber**, (*a*) ? a guard-room adjoining a royal apartment; (*b*) a room adjoining a shrine, to be occupied by a watcher; †**watching lamp**, cf. *watching-candle*; **watching-rate** = *watch-rate.*

1886 *Daily News* 17 July 2/1 '*Watching' briefs are held by the Attorney General..and Sir H. James, Q.C. for Sir Charles Dilke. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* III. i. § 4 Ann held a watching brief for herself. 1526 *Will of T. Stow* in *Beauties of Eng. & W.* X. III. 261 Item to have on every aultar a *wacchyng candle burning from vi of the clocke tyll it be past seven. *a* 1592 *Greenes Vision* D 4, The Mother and the daughter sette vppe a watching Candle, and sat verie mannerlie by a good fier, looking when [he] should wake. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* IV. ii, Beauty was turn'd into a watching Candle that went out stinking. 1533 in W. H. St. J. Hope *Windsor Castle* (1913) I. 253 [A] betwene the Kynges halle and hys *watching chambre. *Ibid.* I. 255 The Quenes watchyng chambre. 1896 *Builder* 14 June 325/3 The Watching Chamber on the north side of the Saint's Chapel [St. Albans], wherein a monk was posted as a guard of honour to the shrine. 1862 R. J. King *Eastern Cathedr.* 22 (Oxford) The watching chamber which, here as elsewhere, adjoined the shrine for the protection of the gold and jewels which enriched it. 1890 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Africa* (1902) 76/2, I accordingly ordered the usual *watching-hole to be constructed. 1597 *1st Pt. Ret. fr. Parnass.* I. i. 77 If they have lived by a *watchinge lampe, Prysinge each minute of a flyinge houre. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiii, Sambo..saw the little girl.. jump up from her *watching-place in the window. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* iv, *Watching-rates, lighting-rates, paving-rates.

Watching (wɒ·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That watches; observant, vigilant, unsleeping.

Beowulf 1268 Se set Heorote fand wæccendne wer wiges bidan. *c* 1000 *Eccl. Inst.* in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 400 Þæt ðe mid wæccendre gymen gehycgen. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xvii. ix, Up, Lord..And bring to naught those watching pawes. *c* 1680 R. Fleming *Fulfilling Script.* II. vi. (1726) 315 A watching providence over the church. 1708 Ramsay *Falling of a Slate* v, But watching sylphs flew round, To guard dear Madie from all skaith. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, He ..kept his watching eyes that way. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 24 July 5/2 Hence the interesting spectacle of a class rivalry has not been presented to a watching nation.

Hence **Wa·tchingly** *adv. rare*—0.

1552 Huloet, Watchyngelye, *vigilanter.*

Watchit, obs. form of Watchet.

Wa·tchless, *a.* [f. Watch *sb.* + -less.]

1. a. Keeping no watch. b. Unwatched, unguarded.

1620 Gataker *Spirituall Watch* (ed. 2) 124 There is great difference betweene the watchfull and the watchlesse Christian. 1721 Cibber *Perolla* I. i, How cam'st thou first to set Thy watchless Eyes upon this fatal Wretch. 1842 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 8 The hills are covered with flocks of sheep..browsing watchless, because they know no danger. 1852 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. i. 199 If..it happen with them, in some watchless moment, that they stumble.

2. Of a night: Not broken into watches; having no wakeful intervals.

1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 27 To their hearts' content They live, and through the watchless night prolong Sound slumbers.

Wa·tchlessness. [f. Watchless *a.* + -ness.] Lack of watchfulness.

1691 J. B[ardwood] *Hearts-ease* (ed. 2) 33 Another common Cause, is our own Watchlessness and Carelessness. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 564 To say nothing of the watchlessness of our Admiral in the Black Sea.

Wa·tch-light. [Watch *sb.*]

1. = Night-light 2 b, esp. in the form of a slow-burning candle with a rush wick.

1628 *Digby's Private Mem.* (1827) 67 After she was in bed ..she read it by the help of the watch-light which stood burning by her. 1698 Congreve *Love for L.* III. xiii, Nurse, let me have a Watch-Light. 1715 Addison *Drummer* II. i, Item, a dozen Pound of Watch-Lights for the Use of the Servants. *a* 1732 Gay *Story of Apparition* 88 Swift retir'd the maid, The watch-lights burn, tuckt warm in bed was laid The hardy stranger. 1775 G. White *Selborne, To Barrington* 1 Nov., These rushes give a good clear light. Watch-lights (coated with tallow), it is true, shed a dismal one, 'darkness visible'. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 204 Luminous Bottle, or Watch-light. *c* 1865 Letheby in J. Wylde *Circ. Sci.* I. 94/2 The rushes are peeled on three sides for the best light, and on two only for watch-lights.

2. A light carried by a watchman.

1855 Browning *Andrea del Sarto* 209 See, it is settled dusk now; there's a star; Morello's gone, the watch-lights show the wall.

Wa·tchmaker.

1. One whose trade it is to make watches.

1630 Capt. J. Smith *True Trav.* 35 Gold-smiths..and Watch-makers. *a* 1672 Wilkins *Disc. New Planet* II. (1684) 152 We allow every Watch-maker so much wisdom, as not to put any Motion in his Instrument, which is superfluous. 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 62 Those Actions of the Watchmaker, whereby he makes the Movements and rightly adjusts them. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 26 P 8 My first mistress was wife of a working watch-maker. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 261 Geneva...We have been a full fortnight in this paradise of watchmakers.

b. attrib. uses of possessive, as *watch-maker's file, glass, lens*, etc.; **watchmaker's cramp**, a neurosis affecting watchmakers.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xii. P 1 Small and Fine Files (commonly called Watch-makers Files). 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2734 *Watchmaker's Glass*, a double convex lens set in a tubular socket, adapted to be held to the eye by the contraction of the orbital muscles. 1886 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 3 A watch-maker's lens, held in the eye. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Watchmaker's cramp.

2. *slang.* (See quot.)

1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Watchmaker*, a pickpocket, or stealer of watches.

Wa·tchmaking, *vbl. sb.* The making of watches.

1729 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 336 Watch-making ..is come to a higher degree of perfection, than it would..if [etc.]. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 148/2 Watchmaking was already carried to a high degree of perfection, under the influence of Charles Cusin, who had settled in the town [Geneva] in 1587.

attrib. 1871 Carlyle in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* II. 219 An innocent, good lad, who has learned the watchmaking business.

Watchman (wɒ·tʃmæn). Pl. **watchmen.** [f. Watch *sb.* + Man *sb.*]

1. A member of a military guard, a sentinel or sentry; a look-out posted to give warning of the approach of danger, etc. *Obs.* in technical use.

Now *rare* exc. in reminiscences from the Bible.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5164 Be he þe pauylion a-prochid it past with-in euen, And sone þe wacche-men with-out quen þai him þare sawe, þai tuke him. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11136 All the burgh is full bigge, ouer the brode wallis, Wacchemen for to wale, wacches to kepe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 225 The wachman was hewy fallen on sleipe; The bryg was doun. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxviii. 66 They went and made the sepulcre sure with watchemen, and sealed the stone. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxi. 11 One of Seir cried vnto me: 'watchman what hast thou espied by night?' [1611 Watchman, what of the night?] — *Ps.* cxxvi. 1 Excepte the Lorde kepe the cite, the watchman waketh but in vayne. 1544 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 305 Item, the xxj day of Julii, deliverrit to the wachemen of the castell of Edinburght xxij s. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. iii. 18 *Enter a Company of Soldiours.* 1 *Sol.*...Walke, let's see if other Watchmen Do heare what we do? 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. xx. 134 He goes to the walls, as with charge in the Kinge name to the Watchmen, through all the watch-towers, that they should not..breake up the watch. 1680 Dryden *Spanish Friar* I. i, Our Watchmen, from the Tow'rs, with longing Eyes Expect his swift Arrival. 1864 Skeat tr. *Uhland's Poems* 203 So listen, ye youthful heroes, Mine excellent watchmen three; Here tender young girls may enter. 1913 J. H. Morrison *On Trail of Pioneers* xvii. 82 Every day the watchman climbed the tower, and gazed down the Cawnpore road for some sign of the relieving force.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1300 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* etc. II. 210 Þe wouff salbe wachmane and kep mony wayis. 1612 Sir J. Digby in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 579 Yt is fitt for us that stande as Watchemen to give warning one unto another.. upon..all seeming dangers. 1653 Walton *Angler* x. (1661) 175 And in the morning..visit the water-side (but not too near) for they have a Watch-man. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* cxxi. ii, Rest in Him, securely rest; Thy Watchman never sleeps. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 346 Nothing now hinders the visitation, which the watchmen, or prophets, had so long foreseen and forewarned of.

attrib. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxvi, Sending the watchman cockatoo screaming aloft to alarm the flock.

†c. *pl.* Body-guard. *Obs.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 38 Yeomen of the Crowne...These were called the King's Wachemen.

†2. A scout, spy. *Obs.*

a 1533 Bellenden *Hect.* clxv. 6a Whyles they were thus deuysynge togethar, the wache men came alonght, whome the kyng had sent thether to spye and knowe if Peter..dyd sende to those prisoners any comforte or ayde.

†3. One who keeps vigil, a watcher; one who watches over or guards a person or thing, a guardian (*of* something). *Obs.*

14.. Lydg. *Lyke thyn Audience* 53 (Camb. MS.) in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 51 With wachemen wake, with sloggy folkes slepe. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys, Agnes* 295 More-ouyr goddys sone..To me is..A wechaman eek neuer slepyng. 1592 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 66 Vnckles of Gloster, and of Winchester, The speciall Watch-men of our English Weale. 1596 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 362 The Watchmen and faithfull Pastours of the Kirk of Scotland. 1628 A. Leighton *Appeal to Parlt.* 124 Removing the Dogges that should keepe and the watchmen that should watch the Flockes: so that they are left a prey to the Wolves and Foxes.

†b. Applied to angels. Cf. Watcher f. *Obs.*

1552 Latimer *Serm.* 23 Dec. (1584) 270 b, We are not bound to call vppon the aungels when wee heare that they serue vs, but rather to geue God thankes in them that he hath vouchsafed to set such watchmen about vs. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Dan.* iv. 13 Beholde, a watcheman and an holy one came downe from heauen. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. vii. 31 And the Watch-men (so he [Scaliger] calleth the Angels out of *Dan.* 4) lusted and went astray after them.

4. One of a body of men formerly appointed to keep watch and ward in all towns from sunset to sunrise; later, a constable of the watch who, before the Police Act of 1839, patrolled the streets by night to safeguard life and property. *Obs.* exc. *U.S.* and *Colonial.*

14.. *Leges Quatuor Burgorum* c. 81, in *Sc. Acts* I. 349 Of like house..in þe quhilk þer wonnys ony þat in þe tym of wakyng aw of resoun to cum furth þar sal ane wachman be haldyn to cum furth quhen þat þe wakstaff gais fra dure to dure quha sal..gang til his wache [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxv. 93 (MS. Harl.) Plebeius..ordeynid for a lawe, that wacchemen shulde eche nyght go about þe cete, & visite eche house, þat þere was no misgouernayle þere in. *Ibid.* 95 In tyme of the nyght, when wacchemen come blowyng hir hornes. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. iii. 42 Why you speake like an ancient and most quiet watchman, for I cannot see how sleeping should offend. 1628 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* B 4 b, A Watchmans bill, or a Welch-hooke falles not halfe so heauy vpon a man. 1681 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* v. (1687) 61 *Watchmen at the door.* Almost 4 a Clock and a dark cloudy morning. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. ii, Now thieves and ruffians are awake, and honest watchmen fast asleep. 1765 Goldsm. *Ess.* v. P 4 The watchman had gone twelve; my companions had all stolen off. 1785 Cowper *Task* II. 654 [She who] at the watchman's lantern borrowing light, Finds a cold bed her only comfort left. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 39 With the assistance of a watchman and some passengers, conveyed them to the watchhouse. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 251 When Monmouth arrived in London at midnight, the watchmen were ordered by the magistrates to proclaim the joyful event through the streets of the city. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. v, A face..that had just as much play of expression as a watchman's rattle.

attrib. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xi, The policeman considers him [*sc.* the beadle] an imbecile civilian, a remnant of the barbarous watchmen-times.

5. A man employed to guard private property, a building, etc. while the owner, tenant, or work-people are away, esp. during the night.

1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 136 These shops are garded in the night season by certaine hired and armed watchmen. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, Watchman's Time-detector. 1876 'Mark Twain' *Tom Sawyer* xv, He..walked boldly on board the boat, for he knew she was tenantless, except that there was a watchman, who always turned in and slept like a graven image.

6. The dor-beetle, *Geotrupes stercorarius.*

1864–8 J. G. Wood *Homes without H.* viii. (1868) 155 The common Dor Beetle (*Geotrupes vulgaris*) sometimes called the Watchman or Clock. 1883—in *Good Words* Dec. 763/2 The Dor or Watchman Beetle.

7. *Typog.* (See quot.)

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.*, *Watchman*, a little flag of paper placed *pro tem.* in matter as composed, which serves to indicate the position of a footnote.

Hence **Watchmanly** *a. nonce-wd.*, belonging to or characteristic of a watchman. †**Watchmanship**, the office or function of a watchman.

a 1603 J. Raynolds *Obadiah* iii. (1613) 35 Not content to bee watchmen in Jerusalem, but they must haue a watchmanship in Caesarea too. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 116 Have they..taken away from ye that childish and yet watchmanly toy, the rattle?

†**Watchment.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Watch *v.* + -ment.] A task of watching.

1748 Richardson *Pamela* I. 203 However said she, all is well now; because my *Watchments* are now over, by my Master's Direction...Why, Mrs. Jewkes, said I, is all this fishing about for something...if there be an end of your *Watchments*, as you call them?

Watch-out. [f. vbl. phr. *watch out*: see Watch *v.* 4 g.] The action of watching or looking out for something.

1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* iv, I never tried to do anything, but just poked along low-spirited and on the watch-out.

Watchshide, obs. form of Watchet.

Watcht, variant of Watched *ppl. a.*

Watch-tower. [Watch *sb.*]

1. A tower or station from which observation is kept of the approach of danger; a look-out station.

1544 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1713) XV. 52 Huberdyn was Sisine with a halfe Hasche out of the Wache Tour, as he and his Men went to vse the same. 1578–9 *Reg. Privy Council* III. 82 The wache toure vpoun Trailtrow,..mon be it of the litill difficoeing the Englische army maid of it. 1626 Chapman tr. *Musæus* C 4, A Tower, that Sestian Hero once did make Her Watch-Tower. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. ii. 13 West from Rio de la Garton, there is a Look-out or Watch-tower, called Selam. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xiiii, To the left..was seen a ruined watch-tower, standing on a point of rock near the sea. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* I. xiii, Upon the watch-tower's airy round No warder stood his horn to sound. 1819 W. Irving *Granada* (1850) 21 Every peak had its atalaya or watchtower, ready to make its fire by night or to send up its column of smoke by day, a signal of invasion. 1852 Grote *Greece* II. lxxvii. X. 197 The besieged, detecting from their watch-towers the negligence of the guards, chose a favorable opportunity and made a vigorous sally. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 361 This place..was the watch-tower that commanded the passes of the Scardus.

b. *fig.*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxii. (1634) 458 We must needs come to that lesser people, which Paul in another place said to have been foreknowne to God: not in such sort as these men imagine, to foreknow out of an idle watch-toure the things that hee worketh not: but [etc.]. 1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lix. 10 David mounted up intoo the watch tower of fayth, from whence he loketh downe without feare. 1639 Rouse *Heav. Univ.* ix. (1702) 122 Then stand on thy watch-tower and hear what he teacheth thee. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 19 The true philosopher ..considers himself as placed upon some watch tower, there to sit a careful spectator of the earth. 1822 Shelley *Adonais* xiv, Morning sought Her eastern watch-tower. 1912 E. Russell *Maitland of Lethington* iii. 72 Knox clung to St. Giles; he could have no better watch-tower.

c. *transf.* (See quot.)

1864–5 J. G. Wood *Homes without H.* vi. (1868) 113 To enable the spider to see objects in its front a sort of little turret rises from the cephalothorax and on its summit are placed the eyes. Naturalists familiarly call this projection the 'watch-tower'.

†2. A pharos or lighthouse. *Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxvi. xii. II. 578 The use of this watch-tower, is to shew light as a lanthorne, and give direction in the night season to ships, for to enter the haven, and where they shall avoid barrs and shelves. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* vii. 324 For the commodity of Saylers the..King builded a watch-towre of white Marble. 1787 W. Wilkie *Epigoniad* vi. 286 As when a watch tower's light, Seen thro' the gloom of some tempestuous night, Glads the wet mariner. 1804 W. L. Bowles *Spir. Discov.* II. 233 Strangers..whose bark Has foundered nigh, where the red watch-tower glares Through darkness.

Watchword (wɒ·tʃwɜːd). [Watch *sb.*]

1. *Mil.* A word or short phrase used as a password. *Obs.* in technical use.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6036 Bisé was the buerne...The ost out of angur & auntur to were, Wacche wordes to wale, þat weghis might know. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* v. lxxxix. (1811) 66 Hengiste beynge mynded to execute his former purposed treason, shewyd his watche worde, by reason wherof anon the Brytons were slayne as sheps amonge woluys. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Tesserra*,..a watch worde or priuie token gyuen to souldiours. 1560 in J. Scott *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 448 Any man that cometh to the watch hill and is by the officers to watch and thereupon hath the watchword given him. *c* 1592 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 513 Et les ditz comons auoient entre eux vne wacheworde en Englishe with whome haldes you et le respons fust with Kinge Richarde and the true comons. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Addit. Lives* 45 (Tamberlain) Every evening the watch word was distributed, and each man was to repaire to his Quarters.

†b. = Parole *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1760 *Cautions & Adv. to Officers of Army* 132 At the Delivery of the Report you are to return the Parole, or Watch-Word, to the Commanding Officer by whispering it in his Ear.

†c. The call of a sentinel on his rounds. *Obs.*

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* I. 13 Since when, a watch-word euery minute of the night goeth about the wals, to testifie their vigilancie. 1736 R. Rogers *Jrnls.* (1769) 18 We were so near the enemy as to hear their centry's watch-word. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xxvi, I have heard only the watch-word of the sentinels.

†2. A preconcerted signal to begin an attack.

1550 Lynne *Carion's Cron.* 256 b, And then about midnight the watche worde was geuen that euery man shoulde be ready with his weapon. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 178 The kynge ..came foorth..with a great bande of armed men cryinge in maner of a larome..Guazzauara, Guazzauara, which..is as it weare a watch worde to giue thonset. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 452 As a token or watche worde, they cried that the Frenchemen were vp in harnesse. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* iv. 57 b, The Enemie discharged three Cannons for the Watch word, that the horsemen might get together. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 83 Democles seeing his time,..gaue the watchword, and the ambush leapt out. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 370 The common watchword was the tolling of the Bels to Even-song. 1834 James *Y. Marston Hall* ix, The name acted as a watchword, and the moment it was pronounced, a well-directed volley of stones was let fly.

†b. *transf.*

1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 370 Which gives the watch word to his hand ful soon, To draw the cloud that hides the siluer Moon. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* III. 90 Take heed..of a false backe to the..furnace, hauing a loose bricke..that may bee taken awaie in an other Roome by a false Sinon that attendeth onely the Alchimistes hemme, or some other suchlike watch-worde. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc. Pref.* 25 The Witnesses are already risen in the late Reformation..that no watch-word may be taken to any Tumults from any such Indication of Time. 1783 [Johnson] *Consid. Coal in Scot.* 25 Colliers..in the west country..have some watch-word, by sending round of which they can lay the whole collieries in the country idle.

8. A password used among members of the same sect, society, etc. ? *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1170/2 After their holy watche worde spoken on both the sydes, after the maner vsed in that place, the one take the other by the tip of the finger..thorow the grate. 1696 Whiston *Theory of Earth* II. (1722) 214 A certain Watch-word out of 300 pitch'd upon among certain Conspirators. 1809 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) I. 268/2 Classical quotations are the watch-words of scholars, by which they distinguish each other from the ignorant and the illiterate. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* ii, They meet in the most secret places, and have their watch-words.

b. A word or phrase used as embodying the guiding principle or rule of action of a party or individual.

1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 292/2 Now I cannot help being of Opinion, that all the former Watch-words, were better chosen than theirs. 1780 Cowper *Table-T.* 322 When the rude rabble's watch-word was—destroy, And blazing London seem'd a second Troy. 1832 Tennyson *Love thee thy Land* 28 Nor deal in watch-words overmuch. 1844 Macaulay *Ess., Chatham* (1897) 760 The watchwords of the new government were prerogative and purity. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. x. 307 Again in A.D. 1187 his name was made the watch-word of a renewed struggle. 1876 F. Harrison *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 7 Our stately Milton said in a passage which is one of the watchwords of the English race, 'as good almost kill a man as kill a good book.'

†4. A cautionary word or speech; also, a premonitory sign, a warning event. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 33, I took that for a watche word for medling betwixt lords. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 124 b, Geuyng a preatie watche woord that best were vtterly to abstein from matrimonie. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 19 He gave me this watchwurd in his own Chamber that it mibt be thai ment to make me weri of the Hous. 1584 [A. Munday] (*title*), A Watch-woord to Englande To beware of traytours and tretcherous practises [etc.]. *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* iv. (1655) 197 The Ambassadours had a watchword given them, not to see nor salute him. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xix. 436 To welcome the Duke. he was entertain'd with prodigies..; as if Nature..made her hand to swerve. that she might shoot a warning-piece to these countreys, and give them a watch-word of the future calamities they were to expect. *a* 1762 [S. Haliburton & Hepburn] *Mem. Magopico* v. (ed. 2) 19 An arch wench..had smelled a rat about Magopico, and had given her lady a watch-word.

†b. *To set a watchword upon*: to utter a caveat against. *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (1595) I, S. Paule himselfe, (who yet for the credite of Poets) alledgeth twise two Poets, & one of them by the name of a Prophet, setteth a watch-word vpon Philosophy, indeede vpon the abuse.

Watchwork (wɒ·tʃwɜːk). [Watch *sb.*] That part of the movement of a timepiece which is concerned with the measuring of the hours, as distinguished from the 'clockwork' or striking part; also, the 'works' or parts composing the movement of a watch.

1667 Sprat *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 247 Three new wayes of Pendulums for Clocks, and several wayes of applying the motion of the Watch-work to them. 1674 Hooke *Animadv. Hevelius* 68 To effect which motion of the Table and Instrument, a Watch-work is fitted to the Axis, so as to make it move round in the same time, with a diurnal revolution of the Earth. 1678 J. S. *Horol. Dial.* I. vii. 28 Tis always commendable to see Clock or Watch-work, move thus brisk and lively. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Suppl. 2/2 [Advt.] Silver watches..cast watch-work, [etc.]. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 489 Clock-work, properly so called..in contradistinction to that part of the movement of a clock or watch..which is termed *watch-work*. 1848 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries Lond.* 272 Facio, a native of Geneva,..is said to have first invented the application of jewels to watch-work.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 282 A shew-woman—like Madam Catharina, with watch-work under her hoop! 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 530 The whole machinery and watch-work of pauperism. 1845 Clough *Poems, New Sinai* v, Heaven's A Mécanique Céleste! And heart and mind of human kind A watch-work as the rest!

Wate, obs. f. Wait *sb.*; obs. or dial. f. Wait *v.*[1]

Wate, obs. form of Wet.

Wate, var. What[2], Whate *sb. Obs.*, fortune.

Wate, Sc. form of *wot*: see Wit *v.*

Wate, obs. pa. t. of Wite *v.*, to blame.

Watel, obs. form of Wattle *sb.* and *v.*

Water (wɔ·tɜɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1–3 **wæter**, 2–5 **weter**, 3 *Orm.* **waterr**, (*pl.* **wattress**), 3–5 **watre**, 4 *Sc.* **valtir**, **vatter**, **vatyr**, (*pl.* **wateren**), 4–5 **watere**, **wattre**, **watur**, **-yr**, 4–6 **watir**, 4, 6 *Sc.* **vattir**, 4–7 chiefly *Sc.* **watter**, **-ir**, 4–7 *Sc.* **walter**, 5 **vatur**, **waturo**, **-yre**, **wadyr**, *Sc.* **wattyr**, 5–6 *Sc.* **waltir**, **vater**, 6 **watier**, *Sc.* **wattar**, **valter**, 8–9 *Anglo-Ir.* **wather**, 9 *dial.* **waater**, **waiter**, **wetter**, 2– **water**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *water* neut. corresponds to OFris. *watar*, *watir*, *weter*, etc., OS. *watar* (MLG., LG., Du. *water*), OHG. *wazzar*, *wagar* (MHG. *wazzer*, mod.G. *wasser*) :—OTeut. **watar-*; a parallel formation with *s* instead of *r* occurs in Goth. *watō* neut. (genit. *watins*), ON. *vatn* neut. (Norw. *vatn*, Sw. *vatten*, Da. *vand*). The Indogermanic root **wod-* (Teut. **wat-*) occurs in OSl., Russ. *voda* water; the ablaut-variant **wēd-* (Teut. **wēt-*) is represented in Wet *a.*; the ablaut-variant **ud-* (Teut. **ut-*) is found more widely: cf. Skr. *udán*, Gr. ὕδωρ (genit. ὕδατος :—**udntos*), Lith. *undà* (also *unesà*), OPrussian *unds*, *undo*, Umbrian *utur*, water, L. *unda* wave; also the derivatives with the sense 'water-animal' (see Otter).]

I. The liquid of which seas, lakes, and rivers are composed, and which falls as rain and issues from springs. When pure, it is transparent, colourless (except as seen in large quantity, when it has a blue tint), tasteless, and inodorous.

Popular language recognizes kinds of 'water' that have not all these negative properties; but (even apart from any scientific knowledge) it has usually been more or less clearly understood that these are really mixtures of water with other substances.

1. *gen.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 309 Onsend Ladzarus, ſentte he ꝥwæte his ytemestan finger on ꝥttre. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* 177/30, 31 *Aqua*, ꝥter. *Limphæ*, hluttor ꝥter. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14038 Crist badd tatt te33 shulldenn gan & fillenn ꝥe33re fetless Wiþþ ꝥterr. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* F ij, Water is made whot, here we see that it chaunceth to water (contrary to her nature) to be warme, and therefore it is called chaunceable. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. i. (1635) 9 Water being no other than a thin and fluid body,—must needs require a hard and solid body, whereon to support it selfe. 1752 HUME *Polit. Disc.* v. (ed. 2) 83 All water, wherever it communicates, remains always at a level. 1796 BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. xxi, Water, when simple, is insipid, inodorous, colourless, and smooth. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* II. 121 Water, water, every where, Nor any drop to drink. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) I. 16 Water is raised from the ocean diffused through the air and poured down upon the soil. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 145 Water will pass through the pores of gold rather than suffer compression, and appears to be nearly inelastic. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lviii, As drop by drop the water falls In vaults and catacombs.

b. With various qualifying words, denoting kinds of water distinguished by their properties or origin: see ICE-WATER, RAIN-WATER, RIVER-WATER, SALT WATER, SEA-WATER, SNOW-WATER, SPRING-WATER, SWEET WATER; COLD WATER, HOT WATER, WARM WATER; also FRESH *a.* 5, HARD *a.* 14 a, SOFT *a.* 25 a.

c. Considered as antagonistic to fire.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 266 For as the water of a welle Of fyr abateth the malice, Riht so [etc.]. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 20 Foule water as soone as fayre, will quenche hot fyre. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 56 Me thinkes King Richard and my selfe should meet With no lesse terror then the Elements Of Fire and Water, when their thundring smoake At meeting teares the cloudie Cheekes of Heauen. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 835/2 In coping with fires, water is the great agent employed.

fig. 1682 BUNYAN *Greatn. Soul* (1691) 3 This kind of Language tends to cast Water upon weak and beginning Desires.

d. As supplied for domestic needs, esp. as conveyed by a channel or conduit from the source, and distributed through pipes to the houses of a district. Phrases, *to cut off, turn on the water.*

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xx. 20 The pole and water condyte, wherby he conueyed water in to the cite. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* H 2 b, At Shaftsburie, where water is deerest of anie towne I know. 1683 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 105 Lytill watter could be fund, bot the pepill of Edinburgh wer forcit to bring thair watter from far. 1838 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* i, The turn-cock having turned on the water. 1836 *Ibid., Shops & Tenants*, At last the company's man came to cut off the water.

e. As used for motive power.

1698 FLOYER *Asthma* (1717) To Rdr. p. xxv, Like a Mill which stands still for want of Water.

f. In various similative and figurative phrases, many of which are of biblical origin: see, e. g., Gen. xlix. 4, Jos. vii. 5, 2 Sam. xiv. 14, Ps. lxxix. 3. *To write on* or *in water* [= L. *in aqua scribere*, Gr. γράφειν εἰς ὕδωρ]: to fail to leave abiding record of (something). (To spend money) *like water*: profusely, recklessly. † *To put water in* (a person's) *wort*: to make things unpleasant for him. † *Water in one's shoes*: something disagreeable. † *To hold out water, to bear water*: = 'to hold water' (*fig.*): see HOLD *v.* 32. † *Where the water sticks* [after L. *hæret aqua*]: where discussion comes to a standstill.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 237 Manega tintregsa hie ꝥ onbringaþ.. swa ꝥætte ꝥin blod flewþ ofer eorðan swa swa ꝥter. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 852 The blood out of the wounde as brode sterte As water, whan the conduit broken is. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 88, I found my good bowe..as weake as water. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 32 It is, to geue him, as muche almes or neede As cast water in tema. 1579 GOSSON *Apol. Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 64 They haue.. threatned highly, too put water in my woortes, whensoeuer they catche me. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 134 She was false as water. 1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle-light* viii. G 3, Yet they haue a tricke (like water cut with a sweord) to come together instantly and easily againe. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iii, All your better deeds Shall be in water writ, but this in Marble. 1612 *Pasquil's Night-Cap* (1877) 38 No, this deuice too much in vse is growne, And will not hold out water to the last. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, IV. ii. 46 Mens euill manners liue in Brasse, their Vertues We write in Water. 1645 BRAMHALL *Def. True Liberty* 20 This is the very question where the water sticks between us [*sc.* between Hobbes and Bramhall]. 1697 TRYON *Way to Health* vi. 98 Though it be a vulgar Proverb—*As weak as Water*. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. 59 But I must beg leave to tell you, this Excuse will not bear Water. 1708 W. SMITH *Univ. College* 185 And upon that Fear and Conviction that his Cause could not bear Water, *a* 1734 R. NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 151 They caressed his Lordship very much as a new ſr,..and talked about a Time to dine with him; all which (as they say) was Water in his Shoes. 1824 *Compl. Hist. Murder Mr. Weare* 231 The organ of destructiveness was not at all prominent or developed. This was 'water in the shoes' of the phrenologists. 1832 S. WARREN *Diary Late Physic.* xxii. (1832) II. 247 He [a cabin-boy] was frequently flogged..till the blood ran down his back like water. 1859 DICKENS, etc. *Haunted Ho.* v. 24/1 The sweat poured off my face like water. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xx (end), And the hearts of all the French were turned to water; and the land had peace from its tyrants for many days. 1872 — *Lett.* etc. (1877) II. 368 All else is a 'paralogism' and runs off them like water off a duck's back. 1898 S. J. WEYMAN *Shrewsbury* xiii. 216 Though at one time my heart was water when I thought of betraying him, at another it glowed with rage and loathing.

2. As a drink, as satisfying thirst, or as necessary aliment for animals and plants. Also *fig.* (chiefly in biblical uses) applied to what satisfies spiritual needs or desires; cf. WATER OF LIFE.

Bread and water (also in Shaks. † *bran and water*), the type of extreme hard fare, as of a prisoner or a penitent.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 13 Eghuelc seðe ꝿdrincaþ of ðæm ꝥtre þæt ic sello him ne dyrsteþ in ecnisse. *a* 1000 *Colleg. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 102 Hwæt drincst þu? Eala, gif ic hæbbe, oþþe ꝥter gif ic næbbe ealu. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 Leuere him [*sc.* Daniel] was..ðat water to drinken ðanne..ðe gode wines. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3212 Hiss drinnch wass waterr a33 occ a33, Hiss mete wilde rotess. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1246 Dor ȝhe gan fremen ymael Wiþ watres drinc and bredes mel. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 81 Howse calfe, and go sockle it twise in a day, and after a while, set it water and hay. 1580 *Memoriall W. Lambe* C iij b, Whose daily custome it was to meditate vpon a Praier booke, called The Conduit of Comfort,..that with the water thereof his soule..might be refreshed. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 303 You shall fast a Weeke with Branne and water. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 159, I am faine to dine and sup with water and bran. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xli. 17. 1656 R. SHORT *Drinking Water* 68 Why then should we (like so many Don Quixotes) change our national drink for water? 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Guidonia*, During the Winter-season they should have but little Water. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* I. xii, To regale myself still with my bread and water, and the sight of a silent turnkey. 1759 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 13 Give the horse a ball in his water. 1842 LOUDON *Suburb. Horticult.* 386 When plants are ripening their fruit, a diminished supply of water increases the flavour. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 833 One essential requisite in all pasture-fields is an abundant supply of water for stock to drink. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* XXXVI, She fell back, trembling, against her chair. Mr. Brinley brought her hastily some water. 1921 E. L. MASTERS *Mitch Miller* xiv. 113 After that they..put him in a dark room and kept him on bread and water for a day.

b. Contrasted with wine, as inferior in strength or pleasantness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21295 ꝥ stille o matheu, water it was, And win ꝥ letter o lucas. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 152 Woman is the lesser man, and all thy passions, match'd with mine, Are as moonlight unto sunlight, and as water unto wine.

c. *Water bewitched* (colloq.): used derisively for excessively diluted liquor; now chiefly, very weak tea.

1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 84 Water betwitch't, i.e. very thin beer. 1694 [see BEWITCHED]. 1699 T. BROWN *L'Estrange's Colloq. of Erasm.* Add. v. 53 The Broth was nothing in the world but Water bewitched [L. *mera aqua*], if it deserved so good a Name. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* I. 24 Your Ladyship is very sparing of your Tea: I protest, the last I took, was no more than Water bewitch'd. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Water-bewitched*, weak tea, coffee, punch, &c. *fig.* 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* Introd. ii. I. 25 Another ——— of Noble's..is of much more stupid character; nearly meaningless indeed; mere water bewitched.

3. As used for dilution of liquors.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* I. 22 Thi syluer is turned in to dros; thi wyn is mengd with water. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* ii. 165 *Lady Smart.* I was told, ours [*sc.* ale] was very strong. *Sir John.* Ay, Madam, strong of the Water. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxviii, Mr. Benjamin Allen..produced..a black bottle half full of brandy. 'You don't take water, of course?' said Bob Sawyer.

fig. 1860 LD. ACTON in Gasquet *Acton & Circle* (1906) 149, I am afraid you will think I have poured a good deal of water into your wine in 'Tyrol' and 'Syria'.

b. In phrasal combinations denoting liquors diluted with water, as *brandy-and-water, gin-and-water, rum-and-water, whisky-and-water, wine-and-water*: see the first words; also MILK-AND-WATER. Hence jocularly in nonce-combinations.

1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng.* I. 168 The weak Addison-and-water of the 'Mirror' and the 'Lounger'. 1899 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 7/1 He once heard a University sermon described as of the Bible and water order.

c. *fig.* (*Stock Exchange.*) Fictitious capital created by the 'watering' or 'diluting' of the stock of a trading company. See WATER *v.* 7 c.

1883 *Nation* (N. Y.) 8 Nov. 384/2 The Committee does not produce any evidence to show that it is the dread of 'water' which is now keeping the foreign investor out of Wall Street. 1894 *Daily News* 12 July 5/3 The stock of the Company has been watered three times over, and the Company has not only been able to pay the regular dividends on the water and all, but [etc.].

4. As used for washing, steeping, boiling, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 24 Da ȝesæh pilatus þæt hyt naht ne fremode..þa ȝenam he ꝥter & þwoh hys handa. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20212 Scho..weash hir suet bodi in water. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1424, & with his teris wysche þam sone as quha with vattir suld þam don. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) liii. 35 Þabbasse sal giue þe gestis water til þaire hende. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 13 Take Vele, Kyde, or Hense, an boyle hem in fayre Water, or ellys in freyssche brothe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 35 b, Lupines..being sodden and layd in water..feedeth Oxen in Winter very well. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. ii. 46 Goe get some Water, And wash this filthie Witnesse from your Hand. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 15 So incredibly extravagant is he sometimes, as to wash his Cabin with fresh Water, when the Ship's Company want it to allay the burning Heat of their salt Victuals. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth, Chron. Canongate* Ser. II. Introd., These are the stains;..neither water nor any thing else will ever remove them from that spot.

b. Each of the quantities of water used successively in a gradual process of washing.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Wule a weob beon, at one cherre, mid one watere wel ibleched..? 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 149 Feeding him [your hawk] upon the flesh of Rooks, washed in two waters. *a* 1777 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) Oct. 187 Take half a pound of sagoe, and wash it well in 3 or 4 hot waters. 1896 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. ix. 94 Butter ..my own invention, melted from salt beef and washed in many waters. 1875 F. J. BIRD *Dyer's Hand-bk.* 33 Wash in two waters and dry.

c. in references to baptism.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 11 Ic eow fullige on ꝥters to dædbote. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19976 Qua mai for-bede Water at baptim. 1387 [see COLD WATER b.]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 14 Quhen Goddis word with watter Junit be, Throw Faith, to gif vs lyfe Eternallie. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lx. § 1 Why are we taught that with water God doth purifie and cleanse his Church?

5. Water of a mineral spring or a collection of mineral springs used medicinally for bathing or for drinking, or both. Often plural (cf. L. *aquæ*) preceded by *the* or the name of a place. *To go to the waters* (? obs.): to visit a 'watering-place' for remedial treatment.

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII.* c. 8 Divers honest persones ..whome God hathe endued with the knowledge of the nature kinde and operacion of certeyne herbes rotes and waters. 1562 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 122 Sir John a Leye ys not yett come from the water of Spawe. 1563 FULKE *Meteors* IV. (1572) 57 b, Of whote bathes. Some waters that are generated and flowe out of vaynes of brymstone, are sensybly warme, and some very whott...These waters being also drying by nature, are wholsome for many infyrmities. 1641 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 207 Waters have twice donn her good and Spaw water is better than the best waters in England. 1682 J. FRENCH *Yorksh. Spaw* 85, I [illegible] French ayre, others the Bath watters. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 284 P 4 Though I have drunk the Waters, and am told I ought not to use my Eyes so much, I cannot forbear writing to you. 1720 WILCOCKS in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 321 Since the kings return from the waters, which agreed very well with him, we have had [etc.]. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* I. i, She was such a hand at making foreign waters! for Seltzer, Pyrmont, Islington, or Chalybeate, she never had her equal. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 453 He has obtained leave to go to the waters. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXV, Most welcome to Ba-ath, sir. It is long—very long, Mr. Pickwick, since you drank the waters. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iii. (1901) I. 19 It was well known their waters were immeasurably inferior to what *they* enjoyed, not only in sulphuretted hydrogen, but also in iodine and potash. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 579 She was ordered simply a wine-glass of Orezza water after breakfast every morning.

6. Water regarded as collected in seas, lakes, ponds, etc., or as flowing in rivers or streams.

Often with definite article, as denoting a particular portion of water referred to. Also, the aqueous part of the earth's surface as a region inhabited by its own characteristic forms of life, in contradistinction to the land and the air.

For *piece, sheet of water*, see PIECE *sb.* 3, SHEET *sb.*1 8 a.

a 1100 *Gen. & Ex.* (Vesp.) in *Anglia* IX. 259 Ge on wuda, ge on ꝥtere, ge on felda, ge on falde. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 ꝥ wisces ꝥe weteres and fuȝeles ꝥe lufte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2968 And aaron held up his hond, to ðe water and ðe more lond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 399 ꝥ fiss to watur, als we find, ꝥ fuxol be-taght he to þe wynd. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 189 Alle þat lyf hath a londe & a watre. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 178 Tha sal gif al possibil cure and laubour til hald furth the watter with makyn of parys..and plantation of willeis. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 66 Dame Nature gaif ane inhibitioun thair To ferse Neptunus, and Eolus the bawid, Nocht to perturb the wattir nor the air. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 117 Wash sheepe (for the better) where water doth run. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 79 The Earth hath bubbles, as the Water has'e. 1781 COWPER *Task* III. 382 But wisdom is a pearl with most success Sought in still water. 1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* 30 Deep inlay Of braided blooms unmown, which crept Adown to where the water slept. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* lx. II. 481 The water in the bay was as even as glass. 1867 ANSTED *Phys. Geog.* 125 Owing to the position of the land, we have the water divided into two unequal parts, the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic canal.

b. The plural is often used instead of the sing. esp. with reference to flowing water or to water moving in waves.

For the pl. cf. F. *eaux*, L. *aquæ*, Gr. ὕδατα.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 28 Dryhten, gyf þu hyt eart, hat me cuman to þe ofer þas ꝥtera. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 380 ꝥ watters al he cald þe sea. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 437 Þen he wakened a wynde on watteres to blowe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. met. 1. (1868) 152 Sone aftre þe same ryueres tigris and eufrates vnioygnen and departen hire watres. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvii. 19 Thy waye was in the see, and thy pathes in the great waters. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 1 If by your Art (my dearest father) you haue Put the wild waters in this Rore, allay them. 1684 J. PETER *Relat. Siege Vienna* 55 About this time the Waters of the Danube swelled so high as to break down the Bridge which the Enemy had made. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 132 Old Tyber roar'd; and raising up his Head, Call'd back his Waters to their Oozy Bed. *a* 1774 GOLDSM.

Hist. Greece II. 274 A river not so remarkable for the breadth of its channel, as for the beauty of its waters. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. 324 Like waters shot from some high crag, The lightning fell with never a jag, A river steep and wide. 1803-6 WORDSW. *Ode, Intim. Immort.* 171 And see the Children sport upon the shore, And hear the mighty waters rolling evermore. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Sp.* xxiv, Waters sounded, nightingales sang. 1866 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. Prel. 260 The cataract hurled Its headlong waters from the height. 1881 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xiii, They.. had been baptised in the waters of their native river.

c. In figurative context. (See also TROUBLED *a.* 1, FISH *v.*1 1 c, OIL *sb.*1 3 e.)

Deep waters (after Ps. lxix. 2, 14), grave distresses and anxieties; also, difficult or dangerous affairs.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxviii [lxix]. 2, I am come in to depe waters [so also 1611]. *Ibid.* 14. 1668 A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 19 Therfore she loves to fish in troubled Waters. 1669 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iii. § 8 Joseph Scaliger who hath troubled the waters so much concerning the particular circumstances of this translation, yet fully agrees that it was done in the time of Ptolomæus Philadelphus. *c* 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 20 The Cardinal..was..not on very good terms with the queen, but willing to keep smooth water there. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* iii, These are deep waters. ..Be cautious and think twice. 1908 W. ADAMSON *Life Yeseph Parker* 204 An unwonted interest was created by Dr. Parker's visit. The usually quiet ecclesiastical waters were stirred.

d. *pl.* The maritime tract belonging to a particular nation; the seas and oceans in a particular quarter of the globe.

Alliance..freed us from the necessity of keeping more than a skeleton force in eastern waters in order to defend the Dominions and India.

e. *Hunting, Steeplechasing*, etc. Streams or ditches which a horse is required to leap.

1860 LD. W. LENNOX *Pict. Sporting Life* I. 328 You will find him [a horse] a splendid fencer, I never saw the like of him at timber or water; no gate or brook will stop him. 1869 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Songs & Verses* 87 Hunters so limber at water and timber Now on the causeway are fain to be led. 1879 *Punch* 13 Dec. 267 I've never tried this horse at water.

f. slang. *To make a hole in the water*: to commit suicide by drowning.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlvi, Why I don't go and make a hole in the water I don't know. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, This is the drunken old chap..wot had offered..to make a hole in the water for a quartern of rum stood aforehand, and kept to his word for the first and last time in his life.

†g. *pl.* Pictorial representations of tracts of water. *Obs.*

1747 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art P.* 34 *note*, It is chiefly in this View, that Ruisdale's Waters, and Claude Lorrain's Skies are so admirable.

7. In phrases relating to navigation.

a. *By water*: by ship or boat on the sea or a lake or river or canal. (In OE. = 7 b.)

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1016, Þa gewende se here to Lundenne, & þa burh utan ymbesseton, & hyre stearclice onfeaht, ac Ðær ge be wætere ge be lande. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 25 Þei trauelen ny3t & day, bi watir & lond, in cold & in hete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 400 If þat he faught, and hadde the hyer hond, By water he sente hem hoom to euery lond. 1478 W. PASTON, Jr. in *P. Lett.* (1897) III. 237 And if it lyke yow that I may come with Alwedyr be watyr. 1547-8 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 29 The Caring by water to and from grenwy[ch]. 1606 *Arraignm. Late Traitors* (1872) 6 They went from the tower by water, and came to Westminster. 1661 PR. RUPERT in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 8 My goods goe by Ratisbon, soe by land to Wurtzbourg, and from thence by water the rest of the journey. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 4 July (1815) 219 In going down the river, by water, he was by mistake put on board of another vessel under sail. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VII. xi. (1849) 437 The hostile ships prepared for an assault by water. 1864 T. S. WILLIAMS & SIMMONDS *Engl. Commerc. Corresp.* 216 You will please to receive the said goods, and forward them to us by water. 1886 C. SCHOLL *Phraseol. Dict.* II. 834 Conveyance is, in this case, cheaper by water than by rail.

b. *On or upon* (*the*) *water* (ME. †*a wæters*): on the sea, in naval employments or enterprises. Also, *To be on the water*, to be in course of transport by sea.

c 1205 LAY. 562, I selh his broðer ferden hu heo luaren weren a wætere & a londe. 1422-30 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* IV. 1597 So þat victorie, worship, and honour,..To be reported on water & on lond, Reserued ben hooly to youre hond. 1758 J. BLAKE *Mar. Syst.* 28 Great numbers of men..are employed in the coasting trade, or otherwise upon the water. 1914 *Daily News* 6 Aug. 5 There is a very large quantity [of tea] on the water on its way from the East. 1914 *Scotsman* 24 Aug. 4/2 Germany has to-day another enemy in the field and on the water.

c. In expressions like *across, over, on this side the water, to cross the water*, the reference is most commonly to the sea.

The Jacobite toast, 'the king over the water', meaning the Pretender, was expressed by passing the glass of wine over the water decanter when drinking the health of 'the king'.

1662 CHAS. II in Cartwright *Madame* (Henrietta of Orleans) (1893) 128 People on this side the watter love there profit as well as they do every where else. 1680 ALSOP *Mischief of Impos.* v. 31 We may be Schismaticks here in England, when, if we cross the water, we shall be none. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. iv, From these meals she retired about five minutes after the other servants, having only stayed to drink the king over the water. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 234 As your work is in such high reputation on this side of the water, it is a matter of great surprize to me, that you should not have ... such of our Irish gentlemen as are improving their ... DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xviii, Those partial readers of my former books, across the Water, who met me with an open hand. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 25 Mar. 3/3 At Chelmsford the mare would fetch £4 because it was going across the water to be made into meat extract. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. i. § 1 Co...urked that the sea was good for crossing, and asked Kipps if he had been over the water much. 1924 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 328 The world, as we on our side of the water mainly know it.

d. In London the above phrases are often used with reference to the Thames. Similarly (*to go*) *on the water*.

1600 *Essex Rob. Exam.* (MS.) in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 35 They went all together to the Globe over the water wher the L. Chamberlens men vse to play. 1732-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* I. 46, I promis'd to go this Evening to H. .. Park on the Water; but I protest, I'm half afraid. 1743 JANE COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. i. (1811) 35 To..go upon the water with you. 1838 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Shops & Tenants*, It is on the Surrey side of the water—a little distance beyond the Marsh-gate. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xxi, The theatre over, Mr. George comes across the water again, and makes his way to that curious region lying about the Haymarket and Leicester Square. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* I. 218, I used to be a good deal upon the water either alone or accompanied by a single friend with a pair of sculls.

8. *To take* (*the*) *water*.

a. Of an animal or waterfowl, also of a person: To enter the sea, a lake or river, and begin to swim. b. To embark, take ship; in 17-18th c. chiefly, †to take a boat on the Thames (*obs.*). c. *U.S.* 'To abandon one's position' (Thornton). d. Of a ship: To be launched.

1580 H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 468 This day..there came a great white beare downe to the water side, and tooke the water of his owne accord. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 149 The sence of smelling is so quicke in these [Sluthhounds], that they can follow the footesteps of theeues,. and if the theef take the water, they cast in themselues also. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. (1677) 200 As to the Water-Fowls, the difficulty is less, for they can and do supply the weariness of a long flight by taking Water. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversat.* etc. I. 27 If I was on horseback on my filly Truffle, and the dogs were to take water, . why I should no more mind plunging in directly [etc.]. 1878 *Scribner's Monthly* XV. 765/1, I heard a splash and saw a deer take the water 300 yards or so above me. 1891 *New Review* Aug. 167, I..lay to to see it take the water, as its evident intention was to cross to the mainland.

b. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* D iij b, This thus apointed, my lorde Admirall rode back to take the water agayne. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* xxxii. 23 Taking water, with purpose to sail into Flanders. 1689 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 524 A gentleman taking water the 18th, when he came near London bridge, pull'd a written paper out of his pocket. 1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* 8 None plying the Long-Ferry shall ply one about to take Water with another, except, &c. *a* 1754 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 50 Stukely agreeing to go with him, they took water: but were seized in the way to Gravesend. 1793 *Regal Rambler* 91 He took water at the Temple-stairs. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xv, For see, the Queen's barge lies at the stairs, as if her Majesty were about to take water. 1889 MRS. OLIPHANT *Poor Gentl.* I. vi. 93 The boating parties that 'took the water' there.

c. 1858 J. G. BALDWIN *Flush Times* 275 'If it please your honor, I believe I will take water' (a common expression, signifying that the person using it would take a nonsuit). 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 470 To Take Water. To run away, make off. A Western expression, doubtless borrowed from sportsmen. 1892 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 200 The fellow, who was really a coward, though nearly twice as big as myself, took water at once.

d. 1901 *Scotsman* 7 Mar. 5/6 Launch of the cruiser Kent. ..The vessel took the water without a hitch.

9. Quantity or depth of water, as sufficient or insufficient for navigation. *To draw* (so much) *water*: see DRAW *v.* 13.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. viii. (1867) 73 There was no more water than the ship drew. 1580 H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 469 There was not water for the boate betweene Valgats and the other side: finding no more water, there was no other way but to goe backe as we came in. 1584 R. NORMAN tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 7 Item, from the north Buie to the Nese, keepe the north Buie with Memelicke, as far as you can see, till you bring those two steeples or towers into one, and then you shall haue water enough. 1726 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5416/1 There not being Water enough, she was not launched. 1792 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 86 A clear passage to the South, with a sufficiency of water for the craft at low water. 1792 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames* 10 Good Water from thence to Moulsford. 1793 — *Rep. Thames* 35 There is a pretty good water all the way to Datchet Bridge. And from Datchet Bridge, there is a fine navigable water all the way to New-Lock-Shoal.

b. With prefixed adj., a particular state of the tide: see HIGH WATER, LOW WATER. †*Full water* = full tide.

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 110 Where as I shuld haue fyllyd dykes depe At a full watyr I might nat thedyr crepe Before my season came to retorne ayeyne. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 490/2 Cum potestate collligendi lie wraik et wair fra the full sey to the low watter.

10. Water received into a boat or ship through a leak, or by the breaking of the waves over the side. *To make water* [= F. *faire eau*, It. *far acqua*, G. *wasser machen*]: (of a ship or boat) to leak, or to admit or 'ship' water over the side, through a port, etc. Also, *to take* (*in*) *water* in the same sense. † *To make foul water* (obs.): see FOUL *a.* 4.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 363 The same harm doeth som tyme the smale dropes of water, that entren thurgh a litel crevasse in to the thurrok, and in the botme of the ship, *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. ii. 28 It liked him as well, to tell you no lies, As water in his shyppe, or salt cast in his eies. 1588 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 77 The victuayles corrupted by taking water at the riftes ouyll closed. *Ibid.* 260 One of theyr shyppes leaked and toke water very sore. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iii. 24 The ship made so much water, that with four pumps and bailing he could not free her. 1759 *Hull Advertiser* 13 July 1/4 St. Anna, leaky; made 20 inches of water in an hour. 1829 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 74 We found by the well that she [sc. a ship] made no water. 1884 *Law Times* 10 May 26/2 She was then found to be making five inches of water per hour. 1890 W. F. RAE *Macgregor* I. iv. 61 The carpenter sounded the well and found that she was making water fast. 1892 *Idler* Apr. 320 The feebleness ..of her stroke..prevented the boat from taking much water.

†b. *To take* (*in*) *water* (fig.): ? to have a flaw or weak place. *Obs.*

1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* D 2 b, The rest of his reasons haue taken water, and are rotten before they come to shore. 1640 BP. HALL *Epist.* II. xx. 208 All the rest are easily freed; St. Jerome and St. Ambrose in the opinion of some seem to take in water.

11. As an enveloping or covering medium. In various phrases.

a. *Under water*: below the surface of water; (of land) flooded, submerged. Hence *fig.* unsuccessful in life; also (Sc.) in debt. Also Sc. †*within water*, in the same sense.

1529 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) I. 396 To sustene ..mend and uphald..þe brig forsaid..als weill within wattar as abuf. 1598 FLORIO, *Sott'acqua*, vnder-water, secretlie, out of sight, in hugger mugger. 1660 BOYLE *New Exper. Spring of Air* 363 Cornelius Drebell..is affirm'd..to have contriv'd for the late Learned King James, a Vessel to go under Water. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4453/2 Our Governor has put all the Country between Bruges and Newport under Water. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 49 P 5 The country was under water. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xlii, And then he got favour, and Lord Evandale's head was under water. 1817 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. (1842) 628 Close the tube by the finger,..then open its aperture by removing the finger under water. 1839 LOCKHART *Ballantyne-humbug handled* 213 Mr. James [Ballantyne]..was..many thousands under water at the smash. 1914 D. CHRISTIE *30 Yrs. in Moukden* vi. 50 Besides the submerged villages, a large part of the suburbs of Moukden was under water.

b. *Above water*: above the surface of the water. Also *fig.*, esp. in *to keep one's head above water*, to avoid ruin by a continued struggle.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 35 To save all but our Carpenter, who was lost for want of having fasten'd on somewhat that might have kept him above water. 1708 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* III. *Pain* 11 Unless a Man can reconcile himself to Suffering, and keep his Spirits above Water, 'tis in vain to pretend to Principles. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. xiii, There are many who, I fancy, believe that..my pockets..are lined with bank-bills; but I assure you, you are all mistaken...If I can hold my head above water it is all I can. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. I. 97 To carry me discreetly through the world, and keep my head above water. 1864 TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* XXV, Modern Lotharios—men who were holding their heads well above water, although it was known that they had played this lady false, and brought that other one to death's door. 1883 *Field* 3 Oct. 502/3 A number of struggling men [agriculturists], who have managed to keep above water during the bad seasons, must now go under.

†c. *To lay in water, to lay a-water*: to make of no effect or value; to dissipate. *Obs.*

c 1394 *P. Pl. Creds* 782 But now þe harlottes han hid thilke rewle, And, for the loue of oure lorde haue leyd hire in water. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 43 But, Jak, thou3 thi questions semen to thee wyse, 3it littly a lewid man maye leyen hem a water. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 22 Either Apollo must haue played the Bonesetter, or euery occupation beene laide a water. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* XCV. 579 If I lende him money nowe, it is layde a water, I loose a whole yeares occupying of it. 1590 LYLY *Midas* IV. iv, All his expeditions for warres are laid in water.

†d. (*To swim*) *between two waters* [= F. (*nager*) *entre deux eaux*]: midway between the surface and the bottom; *fig.* keeping an impartial or a temporizing attitude between two parties. *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 792/2 How many are there that will swim betwixt two waters, and play the indifferent men, which wuld haue a Gospel betwixt both? 1603 D. CARLETON in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 28 The king held himself upright betwixt two waters. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 3 Sliding the Anchor on one side betwixt two waters.

12. A body of water on the surface of the earth.

a. *gen.* A body or collection of standing or flowing water, irrespective of size; a sea, lake, river, etc.

a 1120 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 204 Mid wateren and mid moren. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 19 Wateres be [*sc.* Engelond] hab ek inou3, ac at uore alle o3ere þre Out of þe londe in to þe se, armes as þei it be..Severne & temese; bomber is þet pridde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5918 All þe waters on þis land Wax son in to blod red. *c* 1420 MAUNDEV. xiv. (1839) 126 And he schal so passe the Wature, that ys cleped the Brace of seynt George, that ys an Arm of the See. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* x. (1870) 253 Standynge waters, the whiche be refreshed with a freeshe spryng, is commendable. 1580 in *Lancs. & Cheshire Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 72, I have maid a lease of my capitall and chieffe messuages in lytle Mearley [etc.] ..with th'..waters, fleshings, moores [etc.]..to Raufe Tetlowe. 1614 E. G[ILBERTSON] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. ii. 84 This region is wonderfully scorched and drie; and so by ... rsters nor pastures. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* 434 Who letts his wife goe to every feast, and his horse drinke at every water, shall neither have good wife nor good horse. 1685 LOCKE *Educ.* § 7 Horace..assures us, he was wont in the Winter Season to bathe himself in cold Water. But perhaps Italy will be much warmer than England, and the chillness of

their Waters not to come near ours in Winter. 1778 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxi. II. 235 Though the winters are sharp,..yet they are seldom severe enough to freeze any considerable water. 1828 *Dupp. Trav. Italy*, etc. 195 This whirlpool [Charybdis] is an agitated water, from seventy to ninety fathoms in depth, circling in quick eddies. 1836 Hugh Murray, etc. *China* (Edinb. Cab. Libr.) I. i. 89 Along the lower course of both these magnificent waters [the Hohang-ho and Yang-tse-kiang]. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 789/2 *Zizania aquatica*, Canadian Wild Rice,..is common in all the waters of North America from Canada to Florida. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 279, I inquired of the guides if they would lead me to waters in that direction. They all shouted that that was the desert, and that no man ever found water there. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxvii, In thy place of rest By that broad water of the west. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 251 They frequent almost every variety of water, from the briny lakes of Utah and California to the clearest mountain-streams of our northern territories. 1898 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 192 Hundreds of the swallow family may sometimes be seen together, hawking for flies over the London waters on a fine April morning.

b. A sheet of water, a lake, pool. Cf. the proper names Derwentwater, Wastwater, Ullswater, Hawes Water, etc. in n.w. England.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 749 Nov lst a water of lõßlic ble, Men calliß it ße dede se. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13760 A water þar es wit-in þair thede þat es cald piscene in þair lede. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 301 Crist wandride bi þe water of Galile. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* (Harl.) 841 Seint Iohan saith þat aduoutris schuln be in helle in watir [*Ellesm.* in a stank; F. *estanc*; L. *stagnum*] brennyng of fuyr and of brimston. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 209 The other is two pots floting upon a pond, or surface of a water with this word, If we knock together, we sink together. 1655 Walton *Angler* xiii. (1661) 197 The river Dee..springs in Merionnithshire, and as it runs toward Chester, it runs through Pemble-Mere, which is a large water. 1736 Amory *Buncle* (1770) I. 204 A water on the top of a hill, which stood at the other end of the lake. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 27 A large lawn, a water half a mile long, a very handsome bridge over it. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arth.* 12 On one side lay the Ocean, and on one Lay a great water, and the moon was full. 1896 Housman *Shropshire Lad* xli, And like a skylit water stood The bluebells in the sunred wood.

c. A stream, river. In early use often *the water of* (prefixed to the name of a river). Now chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*; often in the names of small rivers, as Water of Esk, Water of Leith, Allan Water, Moffat Water.

In MHG. and in early and dial. mod.G. *wasser* is used for 'river', often in apposition with the proper name. The frequent use in Coverdale's Bible (where 1611 has 'riuer') is prob. due to the influence of Luther's version.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg., John Baptist* 85 Toward þe watere of Jordan. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7654 Þer hii gonne abide Bi tuene þe water of trente & of ouse al so. *Ibid.* 8850 Bituene tueye wateres he rerde redinge [*i.e.* built Reading Abbey]. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10528 Þys batayle was, þurgh here boþe assent, Besyde a watyr, men calle Trent. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 107 I wan to a water by schore þat scheres. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 5 The kyng.. held doun toward a vale, Quhar throu the vod a vattir ran. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 449 A monke..fil doun of a brigge into a water, and was i-stuffed. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 102 A stille water..Which hihte of Lethes the rivere. 1483 *Cov. Lect. Bk.* 46 From the watur of Schirburn, þat rennyth to Whitley vnto Hethesale. 1483 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1430, 30/2 Our fisching of the vater of Anand in al placis and be the see sid. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 427 The Erle of Armynacke with the dolfynys meyne..mette with the Duke of Clarence and his meyne by this watir of Layre. 1532 Cranmer *Let. to Hen. VIII* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 233 Passaw, Lyntz, and other places adioining to the waters of Enus and Danubius. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxxxvi[i]. 1 By the waters [1611 rivers] of Babilon we sat downe and wepte. — *Tobit* vi. 1 Y° first night they abode by the water of Tigris [Luther *bei dem Wasser Tigris*]. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 427 The king went up the water of Some. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 2891/2 He answered that I was gone ouer a water. 1598 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 355/1 As the said burne rynnis north in the watter callit Dewquhilliegach. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 47 Near to this Town, runs a Water that passes under a Bridge of five Arches. 1721 in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) I. 44 Thorow this Parish runs the River Eugie Eastward, the Inhabitants there call it the water of Strichen. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *River*, We must not omit here a water in Germany, which is ordinarily supposed to change iron into copper. 1761 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* III. 184 He was drowned in crossing a deep water on horse back. 1793 Heron *Observ. Journ. W. Scot.* I. 13 Within a little [we] found ourselves crossing the water of Leith. 1865 Geikie *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* I. 18 Streams, intermediate in size between brooks and rivers, are known in Scotland as 'waters'.

†d. *Sc.* and *north.* The banks of a river; the inhabitants of the district bordering on a river. (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

a 1800 *Jamie Telfer* xxv. In Child *Ballads* V. 250/2 Gar warn the water [cf. xxiv, water-side], braid and wide, And warn the Currers i the skaw. *a* 1859 *Denham Tracts* (1892) I. 313 The Coquet Water. The Northumbrians use the above expression in a peculiar sense; signifying thereby the district of the country immediately adjoining the river bearing that name.

13. †a. *sing.* A flood. *Obs.* b. *pl.* Floods: esp. in phrase *the waters are out.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 592 Do was ilc fleis on wer[l]de slayen, So gunnen ße wateres hem wiß-draȝen. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xlii. 52 Ther blewe a grete wynde & blewe doun her castels and her townes, and after that cam a water and bare hit all awey. 1523 Surrey in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 44 By reason of the greate waters that was ryssen with this rayne that fell thies 3 dayes paste. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* IV. II. 101 b, Leaving Ottemor on the right Hand, that if the Waters had not beane up had beene the next waye. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 74 Some were drowned passing the waters then very high. 1624 Walter *Diary* (Camden) 77 The great army of Spinola before Breda,..was removed by God him self, who sent a great water and drowned his trenches, by meane whereof he was enforced to remove. 1743 Mrs. E. Montagu *Corr.* (1906) I. 141 We were met..by a Messenger..to tell us the waters were out at Burroughbridge, and that we could not pass them. *Ibid.* 142, I..agreed to go on to the place he mentioned, and then send a messenger to see if the waters had fallen. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* ii, The waters are out in Lincolnshire...The adjacent low-lying ground, for half a mile in breadth, is a stagnant river.

†14. *Astr.* The portion of the constellation Aquarius which is figured as a stream of water. [= L. *Aqua*, Gr. Ὕδωρ.] *Obs.*

1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 267 Besyde these 22 starres, there are other 19, whiche in their dyuers and croked position doo make a forme of a Ryuer, and are called the Water whiche Aquarye sheddeth.

II. 15. The substance of which the liquid 'water' is one form among several; now known to be a chemical compound of two volumes of hydrogen and one of oxygen (formula H_2O); in ancient speculation regarded as one of the four, and in pre-scientific chemistry as one of the five elements of which all bodies are composed.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 Ure lichoma wæs gesceapen of feower gesceaftum, of eorðan, & of fyre, & of wætere, & of lyfte. *a* 1300 [see Earth *sb.*1 14]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 92 Above therthe kepth his bounde The water, which is the secounde Of elementz. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* x. 13 Fyre, erd, air, and watter cleir. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* v. 33 This material varld that is maid of the four elementis, of the eird, the vattir, the ayr, ande the fyir. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chymica* 258 The like happens in all Vegetables, for Water is the material Principle of Vegetables. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Water*, which the Chymists call *Phlegm*, is the 4th of the 5 Chimical Principles, and one of the Passive ones. 1732 A. Stewart in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 330, I think the word (Spirits) was an unhappy Choice [to designate the nervous fluid]..And the simple Qualities of a pure and perfectly defecated elementary Water, will better suit all that our Senses can discover of it. 1812–16 Playfair *Nat. Philos.* (1819) I. 235 On the different quantities of heat..united to the substance which we call water, depends its existence in the state of a solid, a liquid, or an elastic fluid. 1881 Sir W. Armstrong in *Nature* 8 Sept. 430/2 Water, being oxidised hydrogen, must be placed in the same category as the earths.

III. A liquid resembling (and usually containing) water.

16. An aqueous decoction, infusion, or tincture, used medicinally or as a cosmetic or a perfume.

13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 311 Lechis also of flourus wateris make þ I-lome & oþer þingus þat þer-to by-come. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom.* 906 What is Magnasia..? It is a water that is mad, I seye, Of elementes foure. 1583–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 46 There be dyuers waters, & other medicyns, that wolde mende hym [*sc.* a blind sheep]. *a* 1533 Berners *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) I ij b, He wold washe his handes with very well smellyng waters. 1599–1600 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 458 By Mr. William Goodres, two glasses of pretyous water. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* III. lxxi. 600 A water vsed amongst the Ladies of the Court, to keepe a faire white and fresh in their faces: Take a white pigeon, a pinte of goats milke [etc.]. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Wks. Observ.* D 3 b, Viols, Gallipots, Glasses, Boxes..wherein..were Waters, Oyles, Vnguents, [etc.]. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 57 Can cure all Diseases, from Aries, head and face, to Pisces, the Feet, with a Water and a Powder. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 298 They take Tobacco, and drink of a certain black water, which they call Cahwa [= coffee]. 1844 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* I. 255 When the pain was violent they spread light linen dipped in aromatic water over her throbbing temples. 1872 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 4 The waters of pharmacy consist of water holding in solution very small quantities of oils or other volatile principles.

b. With defining word, applied to liquid preparations of various kinds.

For illustration of the diversity of application, see Cologne-*water*, Lavender water, Orange-flower-*water*, Rose-water; Barley-water, †Chicken-*water*; Baryta-*water*, Gum-*water*, Lime-water; Lithia-*water*, Potass *water*, Soda-water.

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 5737 Of tast also and of flauour It was swetter than watir rose A man in helthe to dyspose. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 82 Þis is called watre of alum...And þis watre mundifieþ in coldand, bot watre of sulphur mundifieþ in hetyng or chaufand. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1393 With..Watyr of everrose clere, They wesche ry3th thare. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in *Ashm.* (1652) 77 As Water of Litharge. 1502 *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 8 A present of watier of rooses. 1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 426 If water of barya be added to a solution of silicated potassa, the silica and barya fall down in combination. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 75 He..observed the rapidity with which baryta-water absorbs carbonic acid from the air. 1844 Hoblyn *Dict. Med.* (ed. 8), *Mastic Water.* A remedy employed by the Albanian physicians in infantile diarrhœa; it is simply water which has been boiled along with mastic.

†c. A distilled alcoholic liquor, = Strong water 2, †Hot water 2. Also *burning water* (= med.L. *aqua ardens*, F. *eau ardente*), alcohol.

1460–70 *Bk. Quinte Essence* 6 Haue biside þou a vessel..fillid ful of the beste brennynge watir þat þe may fynde. 1472 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* v. xxiv. in *Ashm.* (1652) 154 What Salts, what Powders, what Oyles, and waters fort. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* v. 174 Some hauing some good and comfortable waters, fetched them and dranke one to another. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 116 Rum, brandy, and other distilled waters.

†d. Contextually for Strong water 1 = Aqua-fortis. Also *corrosive water*, any strong acid.

1629 J. Davies (Heref.) *Holy Rood* (Grosart) 4/1 Vpon the Crosse (as on a Touch) we may Trie our Soules value whether great, or small: If there, it (washt with Water-Strong) doth stay, We may be sure its most Angelicall. 1692 Ray *Creation* I. (1704) 31 Aquafortis or the like corrosive Waters. 1736 T. Atkinson *Conf. Painter & Engraver* 23 But the general Way [of Etching] is, to work the Offskip tenderly, letting the Water [called 'aqua fortis' above] bite but a little, and then [etc.].

17. Used to denote various watery liquids found in the human or animal body, either normally or in disease. † *To run on a water*, to discharge a watery liquid.

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 83 b, Whan they [children] waxe elder, than be they greved with..wormes of the besly, waters, swellynges under the chynne; &c. 1580 Blundevil *Curing Horses Dis.* cxli. 61 b, Of the Crowne scab...The croneta will be alwaies mattering, and run on a water. 1643 J. Steer tr. *Esp. Chyrurg.* iii. 7 Pustles doe arise, in the which is contained cleere and white water. 1801 *Monthly Mag.* Feb. 40/2 The immediate cause of her death was found to be an accumulation of water on the chest. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Cotunnius, Water of Cotunnius*, a peculiar fluid found within the membrane lining the vestibule and semi-circular canals of the internal ear.

b. *Water on* (or †*in*) *the brain, in the head*: hydrocephalus. Cf. G. *wasser im hirn, im kopf* (*haben*).

c 1790 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 79 The D[eat]r Lamb was..taken of by a short illness of, the docter thaught Water on its Brain. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 133 The water in the brain was not, I believe, the immediate cause of death. 1852 J. Savory *Dom. Med.* (ed. 4) 261 Water in the head is almost peculiar to infants, and chiefly to those of a scrofulous or rickety habit. 1861 Whyte Melville *Good for N.* iii, Some people thought he had gout in the stomach, others vowed it was water on the brain.

c. The fluid contained in the amniotic cavity (*liquor amnii*); now usually *plural*. The effusion of this fluid from the womb, which precedes the exclusion of the fœtus, is popularly denoted by the expression 'the waters have broken'.

1688 *Depos. Birth Pr. Wales* 20 Whilst her Majesty was sitting trembling, her Water broke. 1734–64 Smellie *Midwifery* II. 425 When the membranes broke, a large quantity of waters were discharged. 1880 J. E. Burton *Midwifery* 27 The 'waters'..are a whitish, muddy-looking liquid, the quantity of which greatly varies.

d. Tears. (So often in the Bible: see the concordances.)

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 44 And made William to weope watur with his e3en. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 115 Ther was no wiht, if he hem syhe, Fro water mihte kepe his yhe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7171 Care hade the kyng for Cassibilon his son, ..Full tendurly with teris tynt myche watur. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1131 The watter wet his chekis. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 217 His eyes ran a water. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 1215/1 With that the water stoode in Marbeckes eyes, why weepest thou quoth the Gentleman? 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 52 [It] made the watter roune doune my checks to looke one them. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, A dexterous rap on the nose with the key, which brought the water into his eyes.

e. Saliva; now only, flow of saliva provoked by appetite. † *To set* (a person's) *teeth on water* = 'to make his mouth water' (see Mouth *sb.* 2 c, Water *v.* 12).

1598 Florio, *Tutto in sapore*, louing earnestly, euen till ones teeth run a water. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxiii. xi. II. 481 Their rich plate set their enemies teeth on water. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* III. 74 He delighted it seemed, to eate that which was good, and rare before us, purposely to set our teeth on water. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 56 The water comming from the pallat mixed with honey and salt, rubbed on the head, &c. helpeth. 1668 H. More *Illustr. Daniel* 334 Those fat and fair Objects that make Mens mouths run a-water so. 1830 Cobbett *Hist. Geo. IV*, vi. § 334 He has seen them flopping their jaws, the water running out of their mouths; and has seen them go through all the motions of devouring. 1887 W. S. Gilbert *Bab Ballads, Etiquette* 26 For the thought of Peter's oysters brought the water to his mouth.

†f. *All on a water*: covered with sweat. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 562/1 He hath gestylled my hors in the stabyll tyll he hath made hym all on a water [*tant qu'il le mys tout en eaue*].

g. The liquid of oysters.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 13 Take grete Oystrys,..; an take þe water of þe Oystrys, & ale, an brede y-straynid.

18. *esp.* Urine. *To make water* [= F. *faire de l'eau*]: to urinate. *To pass water* (Pass *v.* 50): to void urine (usually with reference to obstruction or the absence of it). *To hold* (*one's*) *water*: to retain urine.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 603 He leit thame nocht haf sic laser As anys wattir for to ma. 1430–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 359 Mony men of that cuntre vse to make water and to send furthe theire vryne syttenge. 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* ix. 8 And I wyl rote out from Achab, euen him that maketh water agaynst the wall. 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 46 The drinke his bladder burdened so, That he must let his water goe. 1580 Hester tr. *Fioravanti's Disc. Chirurg.* 19 To helpe those that can not hold their water. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 97 b, Hys syght shoulde oftsoones bee restored agayne, if in case hee washed hys eyes in the water of a woman, whych [etc.]. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 42. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 754 The nature of the wolfe both in making his water, as also in voyding his excrements is like vnto a Dogs. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 998 The Wound must be at first Washed cleane, with White Wine, or the Parties owne Water. 1729 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 31 Come ye broken Maids that..can never hold your Water. 1786 in J. Howard *Lazarettos* (1789) 195 No prisoner..shall.. make water against any part of the building, under the

penalty of forfeiting for each offence..four-pence. 1821 *Med. Jrnl* V. 409 Has been in this state three months; makes only three-quarters of a pint of water in 24 hours. 1860 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Notes on Nursing* 199 She will know the shiver which betrays the formation of matter—that which shows the unconscious patient's desire to pass water—that which precedes fever. 1884 THOMPSON *Tumours of Bladder* 35 Case 34...Last four years much difficulty and pain in passing water;..Now passes water about every hour, day and night. 1885 BIBLE (R.V.) *2 Kings* xviii. 27 To drink their own water with you. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 881 The quantity of water voided by a healthy adult in 24 hours is from 40 to 50 ounces.

b. In references (formerly much more common than now) to the inspection of a patient's urine as a means of diagnosis. (Cf. WATER-DOCTOR.) Phrases, *to* † *cast* (CAST *v.* 40), † *look*, † *look in* (a person's) *water*.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 224 Thanne loured leches and lettres þei sent, þat he shole wonye with hem wateres to loke. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 41 A leche felid his powce & lukid his watir, bod he cuthe fynde no sekenes in hym. *c* 1530 *Beauty & Cd. Prop. Women* (facs.) C j, I haue shewid thy water to thy phesycyon. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 22 But I wyll not be his Phisicion and decerne his water at this tyme. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 33 By my faith you come to looke in my water. And for my comfort ..Ye would, by my purs, geue me a purgacion." 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 826 And shewe by what right thou maist take Two pence for the sight of water, When thou knowest not therbi to make The sick man one farthinge better. 1562 *Child Mem.* (1809) 20 Sir Rabe to [illegible]

the Doct. to my water? *Pag.* He said sir, the water it selfe was a good healthy water: but for the party that ow'd it, he might haue more diseases then he knew for. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* vi, Heele looke vnto your water well enough. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. 299 But what if some forreiner should of set purpose send a dead-mans water to trie this grand-Phisitions skill. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 28 They haue bene with them who haue told them wonders by the water. 1642 FULLER *Holy St.* II. ii. 53 The good Physician..trusteth not the single witnesse of the water if better testimony may be had. *a* 1709 J. LISTER *Autobiog.* (1842) 43 The day after that I sent my water to a physician, who sent me word he could make no judgment of my case. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 505 P 7, I can interpret their Dreams by seeing their Water. 1784 *Morn. Chron.* 21 Apr. 1/3 Advt., Miss Mollitor..flatters herself that by seeing the water of the patient to tell if there be a cure or not.

† c. In fig. phrases, *to attend, watch* (a person's) *waters* [= G. *einem das wasser besehen*], to scrutinize his conduct rigorously. *Obs.*

1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* iii. Wks. 1720 III. 36, I..judged he had been whipping it in with the Gentlewomen before mentioned, tho' 'twas not convenient to tell him so, lest his Wife should watch his Waters more narrowly than she had done. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 9 What can we expect less in the succeeding Year, than that his great Proxy, the first Lieutenant, attend his Waters purely to prevent an Interregnum? 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secr. Mem.* 151 Her Brother..was gone abroad..when this Rogue..courted her, or else he had never got his Will of her; he would have watch'd his Waters for him to some purpose.

19. Applied to vegetable juices.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 142/2 *Lachryma*,..the water, moysture, or dropping of a tree that turneth to gumme. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 b, Another frute..melteth in ones mouth, giuing a water as it were sugred. 1589 BIGGES *Summaria Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 14 And within this white of the [cochos] nut lyeth a water, which is whitish and very cleere, to the quantitie of halfe a pint or thereabouts. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 292 While the Nut [*sc.* coco-nut] is growing, all the inside is full of this Water, without any Kernel. 1842 ANNE PRATT *Pict. Catech. Bot.* v. 79 [In the pitcher plant] the liquid is a clear water, very pleasant and refreshing to the palate.

IV. Appearances resembling water.

20. The transparency and lustre characteristic of a diamond or a pearl. The three highest grades of quality in diamonds were formerly known as the *first*, *second*, and *third water*; the phrase *of the first water* survives in popular use as a designation of the finest quality, often applied to jewels generally.

[The equivalent use is found in all the mod. Rom. and Teut. langs.; it may have come from Arabic, where this sense of *mā'*, water, is a particular application of the sense 'lustre, splendour' (e. g. of a sword).]

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 18 *Jew.* I have a Iewel heere... *Mer.* "Tis a good forme. *Jewel.* And rich: heere is a Water looke ye. 1608 — *Per.* III. ii. 102. 1611 COTGR., s. v. *Eau*, *Perle de belle eau*, of a faire luster, or water. *Ibid.* s. v. *Esclat*, *Diamond de bon esclat*,..a dyamond of a good luster, or water. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law Merch.* 75 The best waters are whitish, inclining to the blew, which maketh the best illustration and play, as some call it. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 489 If it [the Diamond] have no good water, or have a Bleb or Flaw, the Carat will not be worth but from 10 to 30 Crowns. 1675 R. VAUGHAN *Coin & Coinage* 241 Value of Pearls. East India Yellow water. 1 Carrat 00 07 2. 6d. *Ibid.* 242 A later Valuation..of the best Silver water. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1057/4 Lost..,one single Rose Diamond set in a Ring close shankt, and enamaled with blew, a fair spread Stone clean and good water. 1678 *Ibid.* No. 1330/4 A Table stone, cut in India, perfect square, of the Second water, weighing 5 grains full. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & Persia* 223 The Diamond that is Sandy, or hath any Foulness in it, or is of a Blue, Brown, or Yellow Water, is not worth half the Price of a perfect Stone of a White Water. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 10 Mar., A vest..of purple cloth, straight to her shape, and thick set, not so much in Esteem as those of Golcondah. 1732 FIELDING *Miser* v. iii, I defy any jeweller in town to shew you their equals; they are, I think, the finest water I ever saw. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Diamond*, The first water in Diamonds means the greatest purity and perfection of their complexion, which ought to be that of the clearest drop of water. When Diamonds fall short of this perfection, they are said to be of the second or third water, &c. till the stone may be properly called a coloured one. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 220 Some artists have even given to this [*sc.* paste in imitation of the diamond] a very considerable play of light, or, as it is technically termed, water. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii, He..wore a brilliant of the first water on the fourth finger of his left hand. 1910 LD. ROSEBERY *Chatham* i. 4 When Rondet, the royal jeweller, came from Paris to receive it [*sc.* a diamond], he criticised the water of the stone.

b. fig. *Of the first* (occas. *purest*, *rarest*, *finest*) *water*: originally (with implied comparison to a jewel), of the highest excellence or purity; now only following a personal designation (often of reproach) with the sense 'out-and-out', 'thorough-paced'. [Similarly in Fr.]

1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 587 Ascham is a thorough-bred philologist, and of the purest water. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 95 He was certain her family were by no means of 'the first water'. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 6 Dec., He was a..swindler of the first water. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1870) II. xxix. 201 Gassendi himself, who is justly represented by Mr. Stewart as a sensationalist of the purest water. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xvi. (1858) 360 Cousin William..had a heart of the finest water. 1869 *Eng. Mech* 17 Dec. 329/3 All this may seem like paradoxism of the first water. 1883 T. WATTS in *19th Cent.* Mar. 422 His wit, though not abundant and not of 'the rarest water' was quite unique. 1905 W. B. BOULTON *Gainsborough* 194 He..assumed the airs of a beau and lady-killer of the first water.

21. (See quot.) Cf. WATERED *ppl. a.* 5. [So G. *wasser*, F. *eau.*]

1721 BAILEY, *Water* (among Dyers), a certain Lustre imitating Waves, set on Silks, Mohairs, &c.

V. 22. a. = WATER-COLOUR. b. *pl.* Water-colour paintings. *colloq.* (Cf. OIL *sb.*[1] 4, 4 b.)

1787 *Exhib. R. Acad.* 17 Portraits of the Princess Royal, and Princess Augusta, in water. 1877 *Paper Hanger* etc. 142 The best work for picture and looking-glass frames is done in water. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 4 June 5/5, I want you to paint as many pictures as you can, oils or waters, just as you like.

VI. 23. The lap of one shingle in roofing.

1703 R. NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 242 They commonly make 3 Waters, (as they phrase it,) that is, they commonly hang 3 shingles in heighth, in the length of one; so that if the Shingles are 12 Inches long, they are laid at 4 Inches Gage.

VII. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

24. Simple attributive uses. a. Designating vessels in which water is held or kept, as *water-bail*, *-bucket*, *-cruet*, † *-fetles*, *-gourd*, *-jar*, † *-say*, *-scoop*, † *-skeet*, *-skin*, † *-stean*, *-trough*, *-tub*, † *-tun*, *-vat*, *-vessel*. See also WATER-BOTTLE, -GLASS, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John ii. 6 Dar wæron seoblice aset syx stænene wæter-fatu. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14421 Þa sexe waterrfetless, þatt stodenn wiþþ þatt waterr þær. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 681 And in the water vessel he it caste. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VI. 283 In a water stene [L. *in hydria aquatica*]. 1391 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 74 Pro portagio de watertonnes vsque manerium Episcopi. 1420 in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI* G/2, j Waterbaille..vj Waterscoupes. 1439–60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 152 Cum opere carpentr. fact. circa molendinum de Shyncliff et le[illegible]/2 For [illegible]rtees) [illegible]. 776 fol. 136 b, ij flatt hooppis..for the water Tubbe. 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees) 66, ij watter bokettes of latyne. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 47 b/2 A water tankerd, *cadus aquarius*. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* E 3 b, The water-tankard will keepe vnder the insurrection of their shoulders. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. (1616) 31 And for the Maid that had perform'd each thing, She in the Water-paile bad leaue a Ring. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* B, Two water-skeits, to wet the sailes. 1667 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 35 One new large Water-wheel with Water-troughs. 1773 *Exhib. R. Acad.* 30 A horse tied to a water-trough, in a Farm-yard. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xli, I..set my first lieutenant to work getting in the ballast and water-tanks. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, The water-jug is plunging and leaping like a lively dolphin. 1853 J. D. H. DALE *Cerem. Roman Rite* 93 The Subdeacon elevates a little the water-cruet towards the Bishop. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* I. 8 Picturesque water-carriers with their water-skins. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 63 Clouted shoon, staff, scrip and water-gourd. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. iii. 106, I went head foremost into the large water-tub kept for the garden.

b. Pertaining to the storage or distribution of water in considerable quantities; as *water-ditch*, *-lock*, † *-place*, *-room*, *-stank*, *-station*; *water-meter*, † *-purveyance*, *-service*, *-storage*, *-supply*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21677 Vr water purueance es gan, And in þis wildernes es nan. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 289 Water-stankis..of sic depnes that ged evis and tynnis..ma be..kepit. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Water-loch*, a watering place fenced with walls, rails, or bars, &c. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 88 The Governor very kindly sent an Officer to clear the Water-place for my Men. 1738 in *Trans. Cumberld. & Westm. Antiq. Soc.* (N. S.) XX. 270 Taking water for the use of their families out of the water ditch in the said meadow. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. xlvi. 132 The water is led by troughs into a range of vats or rooms, distinguished by the name of water-rooms. 1825 *Pocklington Canal Act* 4 Pans for water, water-stanks, dams. 1840 H. S. TAYLOR *Canals & Rail Roads U. S.* 263 *Water stations*, places where locomotives obtain their supplies of water. 1848 W. W. LLOYD in *Numism. Chron.* XI. 214 The local water-service. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Water-meter*, an instrument for registering the supply of water. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* July 500/2 A terrible year of water-famine. 1885 *Weekly Notes* 28 Mar. 67/2 The house had become uninhabitable through failure of the water-supply. 1890 A. R. WALLACE *Darwinism* 23 The absence of rivers or water-storage. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 391 Where the water-rights of villages and small towns are..threatened.

c. Used for the carriage or transport of water, as *water barge*, *boat*, *ship*; *water animal*, *mule*.

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxviii. 346 He built some Water Boats,..and, by these Boats furnished the Garison with good Water. 1805 COLLINGWOOD 18 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 127 *note*, I shall be glad to see the Water-Ships as many of the Fleet are getting low. 1898 *Daily News* 3 May 8/3 The baggage and water animals. 1900 *Ibid.* 17 Mar. 7/4 Indians, with their plucky and clever little water-mules, were ordered right up into the firing line. 1918 *Quæ Boe Mission Quarterly* Feb. 121/2 Water-barges to replenish our tanks were soon alongside.

d. Designating a channel in which water runs, or any contrivance for facilitating or regulating its flow, as *water-channel*, *-cock*, † *-conduct*, *-conduit*, *-cut*, *-dam*, *-gutter*, *-main*, *-port*, *-sewer*, *-squirt*, *-top*, † *-trunk*, † *-wising*. See also WATERCOURSE, -FURROW, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11948 Þe water wissing can he ditt þat water to þe lak broght. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 44 A plase to make an hede of her water cundit. 1535 COVERDALE *Nahum* ii. 6 The water portes [1611 the gates of the rivers] Luther *die Thore der Wasser* shal be opened and the kinges palace shall fall. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1186/1 Not forgetting to make a water-conduit for the ease of washing. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 42 Thay lay in the furdes and waterdanies. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence*, *l'Hormio* IV. iv. (1607) 432 A snake fel from the tyles through the water gutter. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* (1896) II. 402 So soon as the said water-conduct was deriued vnto the Towne, he caused it to be diuided. 1668 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyor* 95 The water-squirt which will throw a whole hogs-head of water to the top of a house at once. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 234 To bestow a watering on my fields, by means of water-trunks, immediately after my first crop of hay is got off. 1803 W. TATHAM *Rep. Impediments Thames* 71 At this place there is a water-main which crosses over to the Middlesex shore. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 16 A water-cock and wash-hand basin. 1846 *Comic Almanack* (1870) 91 The common water-plug offers a capital medium for illustrating the leading principles in hydrostatics and hydraulic. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 47 Connect the other end of the pipe to the nearest water-tap. 1883 W. C. RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang., Water-ports*, openings in a ship's bulwarks to free the deck of water. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 9 Down every ditch, runnel, and water-cut, the turbid waters were hurrying. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 780/1 Fields of young wheat and barley intersected by water-channels.

e. Designating a machine which is worked or driven by water, a part of a machine in which water is heated, a contrivance for drawing or circulating water, and the like; as *water-back*, *-barrel*, *-bellows*, *-blast*, *-box*, *-chamber*, † *-corn-mill*, *-drum*, *-gin*, † *-grist-mill*, † *-motion*, *-motor*, *-trap*, *-trompe*, *-turbine*, *-whim*.

1580 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 32 All my interest in the water corne myine and farmehold in Kirklawe. 1660 R. DACRES *Elem. Water-drawing* Pref., The innumerable shapes, and various forms and fashions of Water-Gins. 1662 [T. POWELL] *Hum. Industry* 35 De Aquaticis Machinis, Of Water Motions. 1728 in *Lancs. & Cheshire Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 178 A wattercorn Milln called Accorinton Milln. 1763 in Smiles *Engineers* (1861) I. 359 *note*, At the mouth of the cavern is erected a water-bellows. 1786 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 12 A water-grist mill for grinding the corn of the neighborhood. 1819 REES *Cycl., Water-Bellows*,..a machine used to blo[illegible] water falli[illegible] *Steam En*[illegible] with the inner water-chamber, *a.* 1833 T. SOPWITH *Mining Distr. Alston Moor* 131 The water blast..consists of a with it. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 372 Water-whims..are seldom employed in western Cornwall. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 120 Sent down by means of a fan blower, steam jet, turbine, or a water-trompe. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Water-back*, a permanent reservoir at the back of a stove or range, to utilize the heat of the fire in keeping a supply of hot water. *Ibid.*, *Water-barrel* (Mining), a large wrought-iron barrel with a self-acting valve in the bottom, used in drawing water where there are no pumps. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 688/1 In this machine there are two water-boxes. *Ibid.* 468/1 It is from the drying up of the fluid in water-traps that uninhabited houses are so frequently offensive. 1877 WOOD *Nature's Teach.* 463 The Water Turbine. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 320/1 Water motors may be divided into water-pressure engines, water wheels, and turbines. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 388/1 The draught is sometimes kept up by..a water-drum, an apparatus which sucks in air by means of the friction of a jet of water.

f. Designating implements or contrivances used in or on the water, as *water-cord*, *-dress*, *-staff*, *-stang*.

c 1370 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 263 The said William Sander..dyd..smite at this deponent with a water staff, suche as fishermen hangs ther nett upon. 1886 in Bompas *Life Buckland* VIII. (1886) 163 My water-dress put on, the nets and cane, &c. packed, we started in a carriage. 1876 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Watter stang*, a pole fixed across a stream in lieu of a bridge or fence. 1906 GALLICHAN *Fishing Spain* 73 A fifty-yard length of water-cord that I had in the bag.

g. Designating (*a*) a water-tight contrivance, as *water-joint*, *-packer*; (*b*) a body of water which makes a vessel air-tight or gas-tight, as *water-lute*, *-luting*, *-seal*.

1877 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* L 12/1 Both surfaces..fit into each other, and form a perfectly secure water-joint. 1881 S. Cleeo *Treat. Coal-Gas* 212 This arch-pipe is made of thin plate-iron, sealed at each end by a water-joint. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 206 The shallow water-luting, formed by the marginal groove. 1882 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Water-pacher*, a water-tight' packing of leather between the pipe and the walls of a bore-hole. 1884 *Century Mag.* Dec. 259/1 The trap..depends for its efficiency on the permanence of its water-seal. 1917 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Dec. 831/2 A water-seal renders the joint air-tight.

h. Designating substances which harden under water and so become impervious to it, as *water-cement, -lime, -mortar*. Cf. Hydraulic *a.* 3.

1793 Smeaton *Eddystone L.* § 198 The hardening of water-mortar. *Ibid.* § 212 A proper Water-Cement. *Ibid.*, A very competent Water Lime. 1847 G. A. Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 34 The Roman is the most valuable of all water-cements. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 377 The making of hydraulic cements, (water-limes,) mastics, &c.

i. Prepared with water, as *water-size, -starch*. Of articles of diet: Prepared with water (instead e.g. of milk); mixed or diluted with water; as *water-biscuit, -broo* (Sc.), *-brose* (Sc.), *-broth, -cider, -fritters, -hail* (Sc.), †*-meat, -pap, -pottage, -saps* (Sc.; see Sop *sb.*1), *-tansey*. Also Water-gruel, -ice.

13 . *S. E. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 335 A lytil water-potage he ete. *c* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Lamb* 140 To leif vpon dry breid and watter caill. 1578 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 262 Glaid to get Pels breid and watter Caill. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 26 But to her self being sicke, she was still rigorous, hardlie admitting a little wine, with her water-meates. 1630 Dekker *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* D 1 b, As arrant a whore as euer stiffned tiffany neckcloathes in water-starch. *a* 1643 Digby *Closet Opened* (1669) 120 Doctor Harvey's pleasant Water-cider, wherof he used to drink much. 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard.* (1907) 172 Leaving the dreg behind (the which may go among the pressings for water-cyder). 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ix. 81 Water Fritters. *Ibid.* 104 A Water Tansey. 1786 Burns *To J. Smith* xxiv, I'll sit down o'er my scanty meal, Be't water-brose, or muslin-kail, Wi chearfu' face. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 17 It will then be proper to give it..a little of some food that is easy of digestion, as water-pap, milk-pottage. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 739/2 A water-size ..prepared by boiling cuttings of parchment or white leather in water. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xiv, We got some water-broo and bannocks. 1816— *Bl. Dwarf* vi, 'All clear away, with the water-saps and pansada,' returned the unabashed convalescent. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxxix. (1901) II. 30 Mr. Jorrocks..had looked in vain for a water-biscuit.

j. Pertaining to water as a beverage, or as a (teetotal) article of diet, as †*water-day, -diet, -doctrine*, †*-drink*; relating to the use of water in medical treatment, as *water-dressing, -patient, strapping*; also Water-cure.

c 1000 *Vercelli MS.* 112 b, in Napier *O. E. Lexicogr.* 67 & sæde eac þæt man mid water-drincea aylene mihte him mycele ælmessan ȝedon. *c* 1200 Ormin 14482 Alls iff þu drunnke waterr drinnch Ut off þe firrste fetless. 14.. In Aungier *Syon* (1840) 393 On water dayes ache schal ordeyne for bonnes or newe brede, water grewel, albreys, [etc.]. 1842 R. T. Claridge *Hydropathy* 282 Directly he commenced this water diet, all his complaints disappeared one by one. 1846 Lytton *Conf. Water-patient* 17 The regular life which water-patients lead. *Ibid.* 68 Water-dressings are found the best poultice to an inflamed member. 1854 Thackeray *Leech's Pict.* Wks. 1900 XIII. 484 George..has taken to the water-doctrine, as all the world knows. 1857 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Water-dressing*, the treatment of wounds and ulcers by the application of water. It generally consists in dipping folds of lint in water, and placing them on the part... *Water strapping* or *wet strapping* means the treatment of ulcers,..&c., with strips of linen or cotton saturated with water.

k. Pertaining to water as a physiographical feature or factor, as *water-action*, †*-brim, -depths, -drainage, -edge, -flow*, †*-ground*, †*-rim, -scene, -shore, -strand, -view*.

In many of these combinations the first element is equivalent to the genitive *water's*, and in early and dial. examples the sense may often be 'pertaining to the specified "water"' (*i. e.* lake, river, etc.: see senses 12 a, b, c).

c 1220 *Bestiary* 363 Alle þe oðre cumen mide, and..beren him of ðat water grund up to ðe lond al heil and sund. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4779 Jacob yode walsand be þe nile; He sagh a-pon þe watur reme Caf flettand dunward [with] þe strem. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 289 Þis hermyt sat by a water brimme. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 81 Whan the blake wynter nyht..Bederked hath the water Stronde. 1589 Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* v. 13 Watershores and banks (bedasht) and beaten with the flouds. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* (1794) I. 17 The water-scenes from the town itself..are delicious. 1799 Robertson *Agric. Perth* 454 Chains of lakes, finely wooded down to the water-edge. 1813 Southey *Nelson* I. 29 It could not be possible to get the boats to the water edge before the fourteenth. 1826 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 247 To those who like water-scenes ..it is the prettiest spot..in all England. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 275 The water drainage of the country. 1854 'Grace Greenwood' *Haps & Mishaps* 20 Seaforth Hall, an elegant seaside residence..Here I saw a pleasant water-view. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xv. 158 A striated face, whose scratches still indicated the line of water-flow. *Ibid.* App. II. 309 The coast-ice..had been completely destroyed by thaw and water-action. 1865 *Lond. Rev.* 30 Dec. 686/2 As the fisher saw the buried city in the waterdepths. 1902 *Scotsman* 4 Mar. 10/1 The streams, being small, with a rapid descent from very high land, are subject to much fluctuation of waterflow.

l. Consisting of, holding or containing, formed or caused by, water; as †*water-breath, -breese, -brook, -chasm, -column*, †*-draught, -fence, -flow, -foam, -fount, -passage*, †*-plash, -race, -ring, -run, -slide, -spread*, †*-sprinkle, -stripe* (Sc.), †*-vein, -wash, -wear, -world*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5620 In þis kist þe barn sco did. Quen it spird was wit þe lid,..Sco laid it on þe water fame. *c* 1300 *St. Michael* 629 Alle huy [*sc.* rain, snow, mist, etc.] comieð of water-breth þat þe sonne draugiþ up. 1529 *Conventual Lease, Yorks.* 1190 (P. R. O.), Aamoth grounde..as to make a sufficient dame apon to gedir water and water draught to the said dame. 1531 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 370 The water-weash bytwen Samon Pasture and Trentt. 1585 Coverdale *Ps.* xli[i]. 1 Like as the hert desyreth thy water brokes. 1589 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 401/2 *Torrens*,..a water plash. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. iii. 25 From the same the fierie sparkles flasht, As fast as water-sprinkles gainst a rocke are dasht. 1601 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 418/2 Ane watter stryppe quhilk rynnis at the north syde of the said mure. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 532 A fairer towne than a man would looke to finde..among such slabbes and water-plashes. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XXI. 241 As a man that finds a water vaine. 1634 Bereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 61 The channel or water-passage leading from Amsterdam to Utrecht. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 208 Their Gardens lie all open, where Prospects may be had, and Water-fences can be made. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* 90/2 For..filling up upwards of 200 yards of the said water-race. 1813 Scott *Triferm.* III. xxviii, When, lo! a plashing sound he hears, A gladsome signal that he nears Some frolic water-run. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. xviii, A fairy city..Rising like water-columns from the sea. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 101 Thou hast sent A moon-beam to the deep, deep water-world, To find Endymion. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1830) 77 Those Porches passed, thro' which the water-breeze Plays. 1852 Wiggins *Embanking* 94 Such water-fences and drains must..be drawn all around the intake. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xix, I came to remember the steepness and the slippery nature of the water-slide. 1869 R. B. Smyth *Gold Fields Victoria* 348 Table showing the Length of Water-races constructed. 1879 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 48 A stone dropped into a pond, throws off a succession of circular undulations or water rings. 1884 *Leisure Hour* June 344/2 One of the finest of the many picturesque water-chasms of Norway. 1887 E. D. Morgan in *Proc. R. Geogr. Soc.* IX. 214 Lake Koko-nor, a magnificent water-spread 10,800 feet above the sea. 1889 *Essex Weekly News* 22 Mar. 7/2 A small brick archway..which crosses a waterflow known as the Puddle Dyke. 1905 A. R. Wallace *My Life* I. 250 Perpendicular rocks with no sign of water-wear.

m. Situated or built on or beside water, as *water-beacon, -brae, -bridge, -castle, -door, -doorway, -frontage*, †*-stable, -stairs, -steps*, †*-tack*. Also Water-front.

1443 in Parker *Dom. Archit.* (1850) III. 79 At Shene the water-brigge. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 499/1 Lie gire of the watter bray. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* I. B 3, Why Orators wiues shortly will bee knowne like images on water staires, euer in one wetherbeaten suite. 1623 *North Riding Rec.* (N. S.) II. 10 None ys to repare any water Beakon but such as is subject to the Admirald Court. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* VI. 255 A third excursion they [*sc.* the Danes] made,..and..return'd..like wild Beasts or rather Sea-monsters to thir Water-stables. 1752 Labelye *Westm. Bridge* 18 Every Pier, Abutments, and Water-Stairs. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 23 The land is divided into long, narrow strips, that each lot may have a water frontage. 1899 R. Barr *C'tess Tekla* III. 37 The boatman..propelled the skiff through the water-doorway. *Ibid.* VI. 68 Bid him instantly to take you in his boat to the water-steps of the Palace. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations, Explorer* 51, I..Counted leagues of water-frontage through the axe-ripe woods that screen 'em. 1906 Crockett *White Plumes Navarre* XVIII. 133 Cautiously..Madame Granier had peered through the thick *grille* of the water-door before admitting the Professor.

n. Performed, conducted, taking place, on or in the water; as *water-excursion, -fight, -life, -motion, -music, -polo*, etc.

1607 T. D. & G. Wilkins *Jests* 11 [He] demanded..wherefore all those Barges (like so many Water-pageants) were caryed vp and downe so gaylie with Flags and Streamers? 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 82 Seeing the Beares take water, an Indian will leape after him, where they goe to water cuffs for bloody noses. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* II. 35 In such a various, and floating water-fight as was to be expected. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Nov. 1644, Refresh'd with water-musiq, aviaries, and other rarities. *Ibid.* 29 Oct. 1662, I saw the Lord Maior passe in his water triumph to Westminster. 1749 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 17 May, A concert of water-music. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Pastimes* III. i. 92 A representation of the water quintain..is given upon the tenth plate. 1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xx. I. II. 295, I shall not now enlarge on all these kinds of water-motion. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Rivers*, We have been on water excursions out of number. 1865 W. White *East. Eng.* I. 86 About a dozen yachts have already arrived in readiness for the morrow's 'water frolic', which is a term much used by Norfolkians to signify a regatta. 1886 *Daily News* 20 Dec. 5/6 A small landscape dotted about with figures representing a water-picnic. 1888 *Field* 25 Aug. 277/3 Water Polo Inter-Club Championship. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 106 At one time there was nothing else in the world but water-life.

o. Pertaining to transit or transport by water, as *water-communication, -highway, -route, -traction*.

1785 J. Phillips *Treat. Inland Nav.* p. vi, Inland districts, which had no opportunity..of a water-communication. 1818 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* Iv. (1818) 159 It [Banza Congo] has no water communication with the Zaire. 1868 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 299 The carriage..may..be done by water-traction and sailing ..la. 1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Mar. 586 (Cass. Suppl.) The water-route is free to all. 1898 F. I. Antrobus tr. *Pastor's Idist. Peper* VI. 230 *note*, The improvement of the water-highway on the Tiber and the Anio.

p. Living or occupied on the water; faring by water; as *water-guide, -people, -police*. Also, found on the water, as *water-stray*.

1552 Huloet, Waterguide, *connector*. *a* 1676 Hale *De jure maris* v. in Hargrave *Tracts* (1787) 23 His [the waterbaillie's] business was, to look to the king's rights, as his wrecks, his flotsan, jetsan, water-strays, royal fishes. *c* 1826 Pollok in D. Pollok *Life* (1843) 300 The Haljus—wandering water-gipsies on the eastern seas. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 129 *Water pads*, fellows who rob ships. 1893 Lady Burton *Life Sir R. F. Burton* II. 60 Hasan Hammad..is now sergeant to the water-police. 1897 Hinde *Congo Arabs* 157 The Waginia, who are the water-people, and do all the transport on the river.

q. Designating fabulous beings that live in, or have rule over, water; as *water-deity, -demon, -devil, -elf, -fairy, -fiend, -goblin, -god, -kelpie, -nixie, -spirit, -sprite, -wraith*. Also Water-horse, -nymph.

a 1625 Fletcher *Chances* IV. ii, Get me a conjurer, One that can raise a water Devil. 1708 Addison *Dial. Medals* II. Wks. 1766 III. 105 We see abundance of Water-Deities on other Medals. 1748 R. Fosbre *Jrnl. to Portsmouth* (1755) 30 You wou'd hae taen me for a water-wreath, or some gruous ghaist. 1785 Burns *Addr. Deil* 69 Then waterkelpies haunt the foord, By your direction. 17.. Logan in Ritson *Sc. Songs* (1794) I. 255 Thrice did the water-wraith ascend, And gave a doleful groan thro' Yarrow. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* 155 As if it dodged a water-sprite, It plunged and tacked and veered. 1819 J. R. Drake *Culprit Fay* XV, He banned the water-goblins' spite. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* XXV, A water-fiend hath possessed the fair Saxon. 1825 — *Betrothed* XXXI, The statue of a water-god bending over his urn. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* XXII, Water-nixies, and such lovely things without souls. 1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* I. § 12 Myriads of other water spirits, of whom Nereus is the chief. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* XV. II. 191 In Australia, special water-demons infest pools and watering-places.

†r. Occas. used to designate freshwater, as opposed to saltwater, objects; as *water-fish, -land, -sand*. (Cf. sense 12 c.)

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 867 Sum grauel or sum watir lond kest vndir [L. *Aliquid etiam terras dulcis vel arenas subjiciendum est*]. *Ibid.* 438 And feede in hit thy water-fisah & eal [L. *anguillas sane piscesque fluviales*]. 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard.* (1907) 42 If you are forced to use sea or water-sand.

25. Objective: a. with vbl. sbs. and pres. pples., as *water-blowing*, †*-commanding, -drawing*, †*-fetching*, †*-flinging, -loving, -raising*, †*-receiving, -selling, -yielding*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/2 Synke, for water receyvynge, *exceptorium*. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* c j, Then, may you, of Ships water drawing, diuersly, in the Sea and in fresh water, haue pleasant consideration. 1660 [R. Dacres] (*title*) The Elements of Water-drawing, or a Compendious abstract of all 'sorts and kinds of Water-Machins. 1660 Marq. Worcester in Dircks *Life* (1865) 223 That..I may put in practice the greatest gift of invention..(I mean my water-commanding engine). 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 16 Bed-making, chamber-sweeping, and water-fetching were doubtless great preservatives against too much vain philosophy. 1695 D. Turner *Apol. Chyrurg.* 130 Every water-flinging Piss-prophet boasts himself a great Doctor. 1824 Morier *Hajji Baba* IX, With the money I had gained in water-selling, I found myself well off. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 824 The trompe, or water-blowing engine. 1841 P. Cunningham *Hints Austral. Emigrants* title-p., Explanatory Descriptions of the Water-raising Wheels and Modes of irrigating Land in Egypt,..&c. 1852 Mayne Reid *Scalp-Hunters* VI. 48 The water-drawing, wood-hewing pueblos. 1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 180 Water-loving Beetles (*Hilydridæ*). 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 32 A great drain was thrown upon the water-yielding power of the strata.

b. with agent-nouns, as *water-drawer, -haunter*, †*-searcher, -seller, -supplier*.

1552 Huloet, Water sercher, *aquilex*. 1562 Turner *Bathes* 16 Smal byrdes..that are of easy digestion. But water-haunters must ye not touche. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 29 This kinde of dogge is also called, In latine *Aquarius* in Englishe a water drawer. And these be of the greater..sort drawing water out of wells and deepe pittes, by a wheele which [etc.]. 1867 Morris *Jason* XVII. 264 A marble step..Well worn by many a water-drawer's feet. 1884 *Bookseller* 5 Mar. 262/2 Householders, who have grievances against their local water suppliers. 1907 Mrs. Fr. Campbell *Shepherd Stars* 70 A water-seller ringing his brass bell.

c. in names of machines, implements, or natural agencies, as †*water-chafer, -conductor, -cooler, -feeder*, †*-forcer, -heater, -holder, -regulator*.

1487 *Will of Poole* (Somerset Ho.), Menne Wat'chafer. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 475 The Citizens conveighed water out of the river through pipes by an artificiall instrument or water-forcer. 1885 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 332 The water-regulator consists of a large cistern, in which another of less area and capacity is inverted. 1899 Ure *Dict. Arts* 972 No water-feeder of any magnitude should present itself till the shaft had been sunk 100 fathoms. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 14 A leaden water-conductor at the top of our house. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xix. (1856) 142 A rugged little water-feeder, formed by the melting snows, sent down a stream of foam. 1880 H. C. St. John *Wild Coasts Nipon* 225 The great tanks are more like small natural lakes than artificially constructed water-holders. 1899 Jessie L. Williams *Stolen Story*, etc. 34 He..stepped up to the water-cooler and filled a glass.

26. Instrumental: a. with pa. pples., as *water-beaten*, †*-boiled, -cooled, -eaten, -filled, -girt*, †*-gyved, -innowen*, †*-loaden, -locked*, †*-mingled*, †*-mixed, -rolled, -rounded, -sodden, -tempered, -walled, -whipped*. Also Water-bound, -logged, -soaked, -washed, -worn, etc.

c 1440 *Wateremprid* [see Unevenly *adv.*]. Wat man *Fasciculus Facetiarum* I. vi. 203 Euery body l.. droncharde-like to reste his water bolne bealy. 1593 Nashe

Christs T. P 1, The nectarized *Aqua coelestis* of water-mingled blood, sluced from Christs side. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 27 England bedg'd in with the maine, That Water-walled Bulwarke. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie-Crafts* 776 A sable, water-loaden Sky. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* II. 206 b, While thus they can nor liue nor dye, Nor water-gieu'd, escape away. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Lawe* 389 The pure and plenteous Floud Of his most precious Water-mixed Bloud. 1672 DR. WILD *Let.* 6 Wellcome as the Dove to the Water-beaten Ark. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Mis. Kingd.* II. 203 The balls and glebes always appear water-rounded. 1860 HUGHES *Fam. Village* 81 Forlorn and water-lock'd stands the lone mill. 1861 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* v. 110 A huge water-rolled boulder of granitic gneiss. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* XV, A great, wide,..water-whipped square lies before the..window. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. i. (1866) 132 The blood of a world-wide traffic was daily coursing through the thousand arteries of that water-inwoven territory. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 253 Quiet as any water-sodden log. 1883 FR. M. PEARD *Contrad.* XVI, The old water-eaten and green stones of beautiful palaces. 1886 *Standard* 4 Jan. 6/5 The Kelso..is waterfilled, in all holds. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 May 4/2 A 12-h.p. water-cooled Lanchester car. 1905 J. B. BURY *St. Patrick* vii. 134 The water-girt promontory which is washed on the west by Lake Kilglass. 1911 MRS. H. WARD *Case Richard Meynell* I. vi. 120 The narrow strip of land between the pond and the new channel made a little waterlocked kingdom of its own for the cottage.

b. with pres. pples., as † *water-flowing*, † *-standing*; with vbl. sbs., as *water-planing*, *-rolling*, *-seasoning*, *-spinning*, *-steeping*, *-wasting*.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 43 My mercie [hath] dry'd their water-flowing teares. *Ibid.* v. vi. 40 Many an old mans sighe, and many a Widdowes, And many an Orphans water-standing-eye. 1595 *Locrine* IV. iii. 28 And from the Lee with water-flowing pipes The moisture is deriu'd into this arch. 1752 BANKTON *Inst. Law Scot.* I. 681 If, by the water-wasting, the ground is worn away, where the dam was formerly. 1754 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* II. s. v. *Japanning*, Rub the work over with a wet rag till it is rendered as smooth as possible; this work is called water-planing. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Walk*, In order to make them more firm, it will be necessary to give them three or four water-rollings, that is, they should be rolled when it rains very fast; this will cause the gravel to bind. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 263 Amongst wheelwrights, the water-seasoning [of timber] is of special regard. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 386 Water-spinning differs both from the mule and jenny spinning. *Ibid.* 401 The..process of dew-retting or water-steeping.

27. Locative, with agent-nouns and vbl. sbs., as *water-diver*, *-farer*, † *-skirmisher*; *water-building*, *-dwelling*, *-faring*, *-hunting*. Also *water-growing* ppl. adj.

1570 DRANT *Serm.* F v b, The Italians be most wittie, the Spanyardes best water skirmigers. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. Table s.v., Cunning Water-diuers. 1674 PETTY *Disc. Dupl Proportion* 117 Water-Divers who the lower they go, do find their stock of Air more and more to shrink. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 86 Three leagues from Munich lies..Starenberg, where the court sometimes takes the particular diversion of water-hunting. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 185 *note*, Mortar for water building. 1864 J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 160 Their haunts are always among water-growing weeds of some sort. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehi. Times* 128 The curious habit of water-dwelling. 1889 DOUGHTY *Friesland Meres* 277 The waterfarers on this much-frequented river. 1913 E. H. BARKER *Wayfaring in France, Auvergne to Bay of Biscay* 254, I decided on a little water-faring up the stream.

28. Similative, as *water-grey*, *-green*, *-white* adjs. (and sbs.); † *water-weak* adj.

1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacrif.* (Grosart) 10/2 If lustie now, forth-with [I] am water-weake. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 88 Illuminating-oil..of water-white and odorless qualities. 1893 *Daily News* 16 June 6/2 A coat of water-green satin. 1893 SALTUS *Sapphira* xii. 146 A sky of dead rose and water-green. 1900 MARY E. COLERIDGE *Non Sequitur* 33 The mournful water-gray eyes.

29. Special comb.: **water authority**, a municipal body administering a system of water supply; **water-ballast**, cisterns filled with water, placed in the hold of a vessel to serve as ballast; **water-baptism**, baptism with water, in contradistinction to baptism with the Holy Spirit; **water-bar**, (*a*) in *Road-making*, a ridge on a road, intended to prevent the accumulation of surface water; (*b*) a tubular bar of a fire-grate, to contain water, communicating with a system of hot-water pipes for warming a building; in quot. *attrib.*; **water-barometer**, a barometer in which the pressure of the atmosphere is measured by the height of a column of water, not of mercury as in the usual form of the instrument; † **water-bedrip**, a BEDRIP at which the reapers were supplied with no other drink than water at meals; **water-bow** *poet.* (*a*) a rainbow; (*b*) a jet of water issuing so as to form an arch; **water-boy**, (*a*) a boy employed at the riverside; † (*b*) the constellation Aquarius; (*c*) *pl.* rain-clouds (*vulgar*); † **water-breach**, (*a*) app. used for *water-bank* (? some error); (*b*) an irruption of water; **water-breaker** [1], (see quot. 1823); **water-breaker** [2], a keg or cask for holding water (see BREAKER [2]); **water-breather**, any animal capable of breathing in water (by means of gills); so **water-breathing** *ppl. a.*; **water-bridge**, a fire-bridge which also forms part of the water-space of a boiler, = WATER-TABLE 4 (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); † **water-camlet** (see CAMLET *sb.* b); **water-candlestick** (? *obs.*), a vertical tube filled with water, to hold a floating piece of wax candle; **water-cell**, (*a*) each of the cells in the walls of the stomach of the camel, in which water is stored; (*b*) an interstice in ice, in which water is occluded; **water-chute** = WATER-SHOOT 4; † **water-claw** = DEW-CLAW 1; † **water-cloth**, ? a dish-cloth; **water-company**, a commercial association for the purpose of supplying water (conducted through pipes) to the inhabitants of a town or district; † **water-corn** *Sc.*, 'the grain paid by farmers for upholding the dams and races of mills' (Jam.); † **water-court** = *court of the watercourse* (see WATERCOURSE 1 c); **water-deck** *Mil.*, a piece of painted canvas to cover the saddle, bridle, and girths of a cavalry horse; † **water-dial**, a clepsydra; **water-diviner** = WATER-FINDER; † **water-dock** = WET-DOCK; **water-dust**, water in the form of extremely fine particles, as in clouds and spray [? suggested by G. *wasserdunst*]; † **water-egg**, an infecund egg (cf. *wind-egg*); **water-engineering**, the construction of reservoirs, embankments, aqueducts, and the like; **water-eynd** *dial.* [ANDE *sb.*], see quot. 1884; † **water-fare**, a ferry; **water-farm**, a place where pisciculture is carried on; so **water-farming**, (*a*) pisciculture; (*b*) cultivation of plants growing in water; **water-flint** *dial.* (see quot. 1868); **water-foot** *Sc.*, the mouth of a stream; 'used also as the name of a village or town at the mouth of a river' (Jam.); **water-frame**, Arkwright's spinning-machine, which was worked by water-power; † **water-free** *a.*, secure from damage by water; **water-funk** *colloq.*, a person who is afraid to go in the water; **water-gap** (see GAP *sb.*[1] 5 b); **water-garden**, (*a*) a garden for aquatic plants, an aquarium; (*b*) see quot. 1902; † **water-gavel** (see quot. 1706); **water-gilder**, one who practises water-gilding; **water-gilding**, the process of gilding metal surfaces by applying liquid amalgam, the mercury being afterwards removed by evaporation; similarly **water-gilt** *a.*; **water-globe** = WATER-BALL [1]; † **water-glue**, a name for isinglass, ? as being waterproof; **water-gold**, the liquid amalgam used in water-gilding; also (*post. nonce-use*) applied to the 'liquid' golden radiance of morning sunshine; **water-guard**, (*a*) a body of men employed by the Custom House to watch ships in order to prevent smuggling; (*b*) *U.S.* (see quot. 1868); † **water-gun**, a gun in which the projectile is propelled by pressure of water; **water-haul** *U.S.*, 'a haul of the net which catches no fish; *fig.* fruitless effort' (Webster 1911); **water-hook**, **-hedge** *dial.*, the barred frame hung across a stream at a shallow part to prevent the passage of cattle along the shallow; **water-ickle** *dial.*, a stalactite; **water-inch** (see quot.); **water-jack**, (*a*) *Sc.* a roasting-jack turned by a current of water; (*b*) *dial.* a waterman; **water-jacket**, a casing containing water, placed about something to prevent its becoming unduly heated or chilled; also *attrib.*; hence **water-jacketed** *ppl. a.*, **water-jacketing**; **water-jet**, a stream of water discharged from a small orifice; a fountain; also *attrib.* **water-jet propeller** (see quot. 1843); **water-jump**, a place where a horse is required to leap a stream or ditch; † **water-keeping** *Sc.*, the guarding of a tract of water against poachers; † **water-kin**, **-kind**, the nature of water; **water-laid** *a.*, (*a*) *Naut.* of a rope (see quot. 1857); (*b*) *Geol.* of strata, deposited by water; † **water-language**, the rough language of watermen (cf. *water-wit*); † **water-leasow**, a water-meadow; **water-leave**, permission to navigate a watercourse belonging to another (cf. WAY-LEAVE); † **water-lot** *U.S.*, a lot of ground covered with water, but capable of being filled in and converted into building land; **water-lungs** *pl.*, the branches of the cloaca of holothurians, by some supposed to have respiratory functions; † **water-manikin**, some kind of sailing-boat; **water-mead** = WATER-MEADOW; **water-monarch** *nonce-wd.*, a designation applied (*a*) to Neptune; (*b*) to a great fish; **water-monger**, † (*a*) a contemptuous designation for a water-caster; (*b*) a vendor of water; † **water-nail**, ? a nail that will bear exposure to water without rusting; **water-organ**, the hydraulicon or hydraulic organ (HYDRAULIC A. 2); **water-oven**, an oven surrounded by a chamber filled with hot water or steam; **water-party**, a pleasure-party making an excursion on the water; † **water-piece**, ? a piece of leather damaged by water in the process of manufacture; **water-pillow** (cf. *water-bed*); **water-pistol**, a weapon constructed to discharge a sudden jet of water or corrosive liquid; **water-plate**, a receptacle for hot water to be placed under a dinner-plate in order to keep the food warm; **water-pocket**, (*a*) a compartment in a steam-boiler containing a portion of the water; (*b*) a natural cavity in which water falls or collects; † **water-poet**, the title adopted by the writer John Taylor, who was a waterman on the Thames; hence *gen.* a writer of doggerel verse; † **water-poise**, a hydrometer; **water-pore** *Bot.* and *Zool.*, a pore through which water is discharged; † **water-pourer**, the constellation Aquarius; **water-power**, the power of moving or falling water employed to drive machinery; *concr.* a fall or flow of water which can be thus utilized; **water-press**, a hydrostatic press; **water-pressure**, hydraulic pressure, so **water-pressure engine** (see quot. 1829); **water-privilege** *U.S.* (*a*) 'the right to use water, esp. the right to use running water to turn machinery'; (*b*) 'a stream or body of water capable of being utilized in driving machinery' (*Cent. Dict.*); † **water-rack** (see quot. 1679); **water-ram** = RAM *sb.*[1] 5 a; **water-rate**, a rate or tax levied by a municipality or a water-company for the supply of water; **water-rent** = prec.; † **water-rimer**, the 'water-poet' Taylor; † **water-room**, space to move about in the water; **water-sail**, a small sail sometimes set under a lower studding-sail and reaching nearly to the water; **water-sapphire**, a variety of iolite; **water-screw**, a water-elevator on the principle of the Archimedean screw; also *attrib.* in *water-screw-pump*; **water-shaft**, (*a*) *Coal Mining*, etc., a shaft sunk to receive the water from an adjoining (coal-)shaft; (*b*) *Salt-making* (see quot.); † **water-shake**, a seismic disturbance of the water; **water-shaken** *a.*, (of land) saturated with water; † **water shard**, a deepened channel made by banking up the sides of a stream; **water-shear**, **-shier** *Sc.*, a water-parting; † **water-shedder** *Astr.* = sense 14; **water-sill** (see quot.); **water-sink**, (*a*) = SINK *sb.*[1] 1 c; (*b*) a swallow-hole or pot-hole; **water-sky** (see quot. 1823); **water-slang**, the slang of rowing-men; **water-smoke** = *water-eynd*; **water-sneak** *slang* (see quot. 1812); **water-space**, that part of a steam-boiler which lies below the steam-space, and holds the water to be evaporated; † **water-spelling**, hydromancy; **water-spinel**, a colourless variety of spinel; **water-splash**, a shallow stream or ford crossing a road; † **water-sponge** *Sc.*, an ordinary sponge for washing; **water-stead** *dial.*, the bed or course of a stream; a convenient spot on the bank of a stream where cattle can go to drink (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); **water-stock**, shares in a water-company; **water-stoma** (pl. *-stomata*) = *water-pore* (Bot.); † **water-stop** = STOP *sb.*[2] 8 a; **water-streak** = WATER-LINE 2; **water-system**, (*a*) an assemblage of connected rivers and streams; a main stream and its tributaries, considered as a unity; (*b*) = *water-vascular system*; † **water-tabby** = TABBY *sb.* 1; **water-tathe** *v.* (see TATHE *v.* 1); **water-telescope**, an instrument for observing objects under water; **water-thermometer**, a thermometer filled with water instead of mercury, devised by Dalton for ascertaining the precise degree of temperature at which water attains its maximum density; **water-thief** *post.*, a pirate; **water-tower**, (*a*) a tower serving as a reservoir to deliver water at a required head; (*b*) a long iron tube, carried vertically on a wheeled frame, for discharging water to extinguish fires in the upper stories of buildings; **water-treader**, † (*a*) *poet.* a ship; (*b*) one who treads water (TREAD *v.* 7); **water-tube**, one of a set of tubular organs which open upon the exterior of certain invertebrates and are supposed to have an excretory function; **water-tube boiler**, a form of marine boiler in which the water circulates through tubes exposed to the gases of combustion; † **water-twig** = WATER-SHOOT 1; **water-twist**, cotton yarn spun on a water-frame; **water-vapour**, the invisible aqueous vapour present in the atmosphere; **water-vascular** *a. Zool.*, pertaining to water-vessels (see next); **water-vessel** *Zool.*, one of a system of vessels in which water circulates, in certain Invertebrata; **water-wag**, a kind of small boat used at Dublin; **water-wagon**, (*a*) *U.S.* = WATER-CART (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl.); also *slang* (see quot. 1904); (*b*) a kind of cumulus (see quots.); † **water-wan** [WANE *sb.*[1]], lack of water; † **water-want** *a. nonce-wd.*, that can endure privation of water; **water-watcher**, a water-bailiff; **water-wet**, moisture of herbage due to saturation by rain; **water-wit**, the rough wit of watermen; **water-**

woman, a woman who acts as a waterman; water-wood, timber which grows near water; **water-worship,** religious adoration paid to rivers or other bodies of water; so **water-worshipper;**

†water-wrack, refuse left by a destructive flood.

1878 D. Kemp *Man. Yacht Sailing* 377 **Water Ballast,* water carried in tanks or breakers as ballast. 1885 J. Runciman *Skippers & Shellbacks* 238 Bitterly repented having come out with nothing but his water-ballast. 1902 *Scotsman* 14 Mar. 6/8 The boat..has a water ballast tank. 1673 Bunyan *(title)* Differences in Judgment about *Water-Baptism, No Bar to Communion. *a* 1716 Blackall *Whs.* (1723) I. 212 That thus, and no otherwise the Apostles..did admit into the Christian Church all that were receiv'd thereinto, i.e. by the Water-Baptism, is evident. *a* 1879 E. Backhouse *Ch. Hist.* xi. (1884) 122 There were other sects who rejected both water-baptism and the Eucharist. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 360 On such road provide low *water bars across the road at intervals of thirty to forty feet. *Ibid.* 362 Water Bars. The purpose of the bar is to cast the surface water from the road to the side or sides before it has accumulated in such amount as to cut the ruts into gullies. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 124/2 Weeks's Tubular *Waterbar Open Fire Grate. 1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 243 A F a *water barometer. 1866 A. Steinmetz *Weathercasts* 143 The water barometer at the Royal Society's rooms gave more than 13 inches (13·386) rise and fall for every inch of the mercurial column. *c* 1360 in

to shame the *water-bow. 1855 Browning *Cleon* 252 They praise a fountain in my garden here Wherein a Naiad sends the water-bow Thin from her tube. 1640 J. Gower *Ovid's Festiv.* 1. 29 Sol leaving Capricorn, His race-horse to the *Water-boy doth turn. 1728 *Applebee's Weekly Jrnl.* 22 Sept. 2/1 Mr. Lear landed at King's-Arms Stairs, and put on the Water Boy's Cap, the better to disguise himself. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 2/1 There were some waterboys out, an' we wanted to get down afore there were any downfall. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxvi. (1495) 686 And the places wherin suche Papirio Russhes growe is as marreys and moores by meedes and *water breches [L. *aquarum rivis*]. 1669 Holder *Elem. Speech* 5 Bells serve to proclaim a scare-fire, and (in some places) Water-breaches. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 302 *Water-breakers,.. being the extremities of the piers which meet and divide the water in its course. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Dec. 5/2 The commander..had life-belts sent adrift for every man, and six out of the seven were successful in being caught, but the seventh man secured himself to a water-breaker. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. (1880) 25 Stale water is so inimical to the *water-breathers, that [etc.]. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 99 All crustacea are water breathers. 1861 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 223 The..*Water-breathing Prosobranchs. †1598 *Greene's Vision, Descr. Sir Giff. Chaucer,* A Sleeueleesse Iacket large and wide..Of *water Chamlet did he weare. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 203 The pillar ..is made hollow, for the purpose of receiving a *water candlestick of an inch diameter. 1899 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 507/1 The beautiful provision of *water-cells in the walls of the paunch or first cavity of the stomach [of a camel]. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xix. 136 Reduced..to a mere skeleton of ice, with water-cells between its walls. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 7/2 The lake has been enlarged, and a switchback railway and a *water chute promise rounds of delight. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/7 A waterchute is rapidly rising into form in the river Kelvin. 1611 Cotgr., *Controngle,* the Dewe-claw, or *water-claw of dogs. 1421 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86,]. *watre-cloth. 1813 *Examiner* 24 May 325/2 The street being broken up by a *Water Company. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 28 An independent source of water was supplied by the great water-companies. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 354/2 Duas nonas partes molendini..cum multuris, sequelis, *lie knaifschippis, lie* **wattar coirnes,* &c. 1814 *Mill of Inveramsay* 3 (Jam.), 1 boll of water-corn, being small corn, yearly, for each of the said three ploughs, for manufacturing and upholding the dams and water-gangs. 1488 in *Charters* etc. *Edin.* (1871) 169 All vthir custumys and 'priullegis..with thare *watir courtis attalchiamentis vnlawes and dewiteis. 1592 in R. P. Cruden *Hist. Gravesend* (1842) 203 Paid..for wine given to my Lords' men when the Water Court was kept 0 0 8. 1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 74 The supply of Corn Sacks, and *Water Decks to the Cavalry. 1875 J. Grant *One of 'Six Hundred'* xxii. 169, I also wish the corps to be supplied with water-decks. 1653 *Van Etten's Math. Recreat.* 170 Vitruvius writes of another manner of *water-Dyal more difficult. 1758 E. Stone *Bion's Math. Instrum.* Suppl. 309 The Instruments for measuring Time, are Sun-Dials, Water-Dials, Sand-Dials [etc.]. 1898 *Weekly Times* 24 Jan. 72/2 Lately two '*water-diviners'..visited the well, and both predicted that water would be found at certain indicated spots. 1901 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 59 At the Agricultural Show, the water-diviner sits installed. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 July 1661, We tried our Diving Bell or engine in the *water-dock at Deptford. 1873 Tyndall *Forms of Water* 4 When the vapour mingles with the cold air..it ceases to be vapour. Every bit of steam shrinks, when chilled, to a much more minute particle of water. The liquid particles thus produced form a kind of *water-dust of exceeding fineness, which floats in the air, and is called a cloud. 1884 Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 237/2 Small pieces..are very well hardened in water-dust finely distributed by means of a stream of air or steam. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 169 Theodorus calleth them *water Egges [L. *urinæ ova*], whereof there neuer commeth any thing. 1908 W. M. Ramsay *Luke the Physician* v. 191 Irrigation has never ceased and is still practised in certain districts, so that the essential principles of *water-engineering have not been wholly forgotten. 1883

comfortable phenomenon of the marshes is the water-eynd or sea-smoke, which, rolling up from the ocean, covers the whole landscape with a dense watery vapour. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 534 Sometimes there was a Ferry or *Water-fare here. 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* II. 12 Though many of our *water-farms have to be created, a large

require only to be improved. *Ibid.* (title) Practical *Water-farming. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* May 859/1 A few miles away, the native lotus grows luxuriantly, a relic, it is believed, of Indian water-farming. 1868 Thurnam in *Archæologia* XLII. 208 The third flat-stone is a quartzose boulder of the kind known as '*water flints' in this part of Somersetshire. 1786 Burns *Holy Fair* xvi, Peebles, frae the *water-fit, Ascends the holy rostrum. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 387 In the *water-frame the spindles are moved by an upright pulley. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. iv. 159 'Tis a tale what Josephus writes of the two pillars set up by the sonnes of Seth in Syria, the one of brick, fire-proof; the other of stone, *water-free. 1899 Kipling *Stalky* iii. 89 You spoke to Beetle yourself, didn't you? Something about not bathing, and being a '*water-funk? 1835 R. M. Bird *Hawks* i. (1856) 4 The highway to the neighbouring *water-gap..ran through the estate. 1883 *Science* I. 325/2 Transverse valleys or water-gaps. 1891 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVII. 19 *Fresh-Water Aquaria,* [Reviewed]..A well-written description of these domestic *water-gardens and vivaria. 1908 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 176 A recent addition to the country house is the 'water garden', in which a running brook is the centre and *motif* of the subsidiary ornaments of flowers, ferns, trees, shrubs, and mosses. 1915 *Edin. Rev.*

.quem homines eorundem Huberti & Margarite de Manerio suo de Elmour nobis reddere solebant singulis annis per manum Balivi nostri de Menstre-Worth, nomine *Watergavel. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Water-Gavel,* a Rent paid in old Times for fishing in, or other Benefit received from some River, or Water. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 72 The amalgam of gold with mercury..is used principally by the workmen, in gilding in water-gold, termed *water-gilders. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 931 Until lately water-gilders made use of mercury for depositing gold on metallic surfaces. 1783 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 320 An Apparatus to prevent the ill effects of Mercury in *Water Gilding. *c* 1880 *Philos. Recreat.* 151 Water-gilding upon Silver. 1855 G. Gore *Pract. Chem.* 72 The following solutions have been used for gilding by the simple immersion, or 'water-gilding' process. 1883 Mollett *Dict. Art & Archæol.* 343 *Water-gilding,* gilding with a thin coat of amalgam. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 4/2 A Processional cross..The materials employed are silver, *water-gilt, carbuncles, green onyx, and enamel. 1897 A. Hartshorne *Old Engl. Glasses* 60 The mediaeval *eurinals*—alike the retorts of the alchemist and the *water-globes for the poor Flemish flax-thread spinners..and the lace-makers weaving the subtle webs..of Brussels, Mechlin, or Valenciennes. 1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Conc. Weapons* 19 b, A kinde of *waterglewe to resist wet and moysture. 1678 Evelyn *Pomona* (ed. 3) 407 As you augment the Proportion of Ising-glass or Water-glew, so it will become more limpid and clear. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Glue,* The Fish which is made use of to make Water-glue is very large. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2114/4 Lost.., a large black Boar Skin, lined with new Canvas, with four brass Claws gilt, with *Water-gold. 1839-42 Lane *Arnb. Nts.* III. 220, I command thee to build for me, during this night, a lofty palace, and to decorate it with water-gold. 1855 Browning *Old Pict. Florence* i, Where, white and wide And washed by the morning's water-gold, Florence lay out on the mountain side. 1646 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* V. 92/2 [A Lords' ordinance] concerning the *Water Guards. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* I On the arrival of a Vessel from foreign parts, within the limits of a British Port, it is the duty of the Tide-surveyor, or the Officer who superintends the Water-guard, to proceed on board. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 552 A powerful preventive water-guard was placed here. 1868 B. J. Lossing *Hudson* 351 The '*water-guard' was an aquatic corps, in the pay of the revolutionary government. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 89 There are wayes to discharge a bullet..without any powder at all, as is done by *water and windegunnes. 1872 *Congressional Globe* 17 Feb. 1356/1 It occurred to me..[that] the gentleman from California had made what fishermen call a '*waterhaul'. [Laughter.] It surely must not have been what he expected. 1888 *Critic* (Washington) 23 Feb. (Thornton) Ostensibly I went to testify as an expert in the Star-route cases, but I did not testify. You know that was another water-haul. 1639-40 *Q. Sess. Rec.* (N. Riding Rec. Soc.) IV. 161 Indenture of Conveyance ..Together with all and singular wayes, *water-hedges, trees, ditches, fences, etc. 1802 R. Warner *Tour Northern Counties* I. 161 Those pendant spiral masses called *water-icles or stalactites. 1884 Carr *Craven Gloss., Water-icles,* stalactites. 1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.,* **Water-inch,* the quantity of water flowing in one minute through a circular opening one inch in diameter, whose centre is one and one twelfth inches below a constant surface. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 17 Dec. 324/2 In Scotland..they [*sc.* turbines] are employed for driving what are called *water-jacks for roasting meat. 1886 R. C. Leslie *Sea-painter's Log* I. 26 Becoming first the privileged helper of some waterjack. 1869 Tanner *Clin. Med.* (ed. 2) 62 The vessel is surrounded with a *water-jacket, so as to prevent the chloroform getting too cold to afford the requisite amount of vapour to the air passing over it. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 182 The water-jacket furnace..was built with a view to avoid these costly repairs, but has proved an economical failure thus far. 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* ii. 19 Three Maxims adorned the low nettings. Their water-jackets were filled up from an innocent tin-pot before the game began. It looked like slaking the thirst of devils. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 453 The whole [coagulometer] is surrounded by a water-jacket. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 3 The roasting is effected in a peculiar *water-jacketed furnace or kiln, with a removable bottom. 1907 *Motor Boat* 19 Sept. 191/2 This is a frequent trouble with paraffin motors,..The cure is to fit a snifter valve to each cylinder to allow a water drip; this, combined with efficient *water-jacketing, should do away with the trouble. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 198 The Temple of Apollo, as another chamber is designated, contains a *water-jet. 1843 *Artisan* I. 220/1 Water-Jet Propellers. A curious mode of propelling steam ships has been invented by Mr. Ruthven, who proposes to give a better direction to the propelling power by forcing jets of water through nozzles placed below the water-line. 1894 W. H. White *Nav. Archit.* (ed. 3) 585 The Water-Jet Propeller.

.32 A big *water-jump. 1883 Mrs. E. Kennard *Right Sort* xx, Take a good firm hold of his head, and set King Olaf just as fast as you please

at the water-jump. He'll clear it by yards. 1440 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1490. 30/1 The forsaid lord has grantit to.. Michel the office of *watter keping and the office of chamerlanry of Ananderdale. 1423 *Ibid.* 30/2. *c* 1200 Ormin *Ded.* 193 Forr þatt he wollde uss *waterrkinn Till ure fulluhht hallghenn. *Ibid.* 18087 Forr Latin boc se33þ þatt Ennon Bitacneþþ *waterrkinde. 1857 C. Richardson *Instruct. Swimming* 52 The cord should be well twisted, or what sailors call '*waterlaid'. 1888 E. Clodd *Story Creation* iv. 89 The study of the erupted, fire-fused, and water-laid rocks. 1895 *Nation* (N. Y.) 19 Dec. 451/1 The association of basic igneous rocks with the water-laid gravels. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 1, 2 The famous saturnalian feasts among the Romans, at which every scullion had liberty to tell his master his own..'Twas all *water-language at these times and no exceptions were to be taken. 1858 *Act* 21 & 22 *Vict.* c. 44 § 29 As also all Wayleaves or *Waterleaves, Canals, [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 *Water lesu, *aquagium.* 1777 *Maryland Jrnl.* 4 Nov. (Thornton) A *Water Lot of Ground, on Fell's Point. 1857 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Feb. 170/2 He had become a merchant of note, a man of water-lots and steam-boats, and shares in desirable sites at the head of navigation. 1877 *Revised Statutes Ontario* I. 261 *marg.,* Sales and appropriations of water lots declared to be legal. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 639/2 Two, or more rarely four or five, branched processes of the cloaca, the respiratory trees or *water-lungs, are ordinarily present. 1884 F. J. Bell in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 254 The so-called water-lungs extend forwards to the anterior end of the body. 1794 Stedman *Surinam* (1813) II. 403 Sail boats called *water-manakins. 1840 T. A. Trollope *Summer in Brittany* I. 381 A pretty walk along the valley, which is occupied by a succession of *water-meads. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 917 Meantime a glorious revelry began Before the *Water-Monarch. 1847 Stoddart *Angler's Comp.* 250 Give me..the rush of some veteran water-monarch. 1623 Hart *Arraignm. Ur.* I. ii. 9 Empirickes, *water-mongers, and petticoat-physitians. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 72 While in particular stations water-mongers in wholesale have a shred. 1403 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiaries St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 425 In xlij bordis ad idem emptis vijs. ixd. In cc *Waturnailes ad idem emptis xijd. 1481-90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 211 Item, fur dore nayle, and watter nayle, iiij. c. and qrtr. ij. s. ix. d. ob. 1647 A. Ross *Mystag. Poet.* xvi. (1675) 384 One of those musical instruments of old called *Hydraula,* we may call them *water-organs. 1649 Ogilby *Virgil, Bucoliche* vii. (1684) 30 *note,* The Motion of Water maketh Musick, as we see in Water-Organs. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 13 The invention of the water-organ by.. Ctesibius, of Alexandria. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 6 By exposing it to a temperature of from 212° to 250° in a *water oven or box of sheet copper. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 111/1 Fitted with a patent water-oven, for keeping food hot. 1790 Mrs. P. L. Powys *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 248 August 21st.—Mrs. Williams' *water-party. 1798 W. Windham *Diary* (1866) 397 June 6th.—Water party to Greenwich. 1834 Disraeli *Lett.* in Monypenny *Life* (1910) I. 251, I had promised to join a water party in Sir Frank's yacht. 1840 Dickens *Sk. Yng. Couples* 29 There was a great water-party made up to go to Twickenham and dine. 1687 *Proclam.* 29 Apr. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2240/2 We have Prohibited, and do hereby Prohibit the Exportation of all Linnen Rags, Glovers Clippings, Parchment Shreds, Calves Pates, and *Waterpieces. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. 1/7 A burglar who is said to have carried a '*water pistol' and to have thrown or fired some ammonia into the eyes of a householder is under remand at Woolwich. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 37/2 In chaffing-dish, tho' most of late Prefer the cleanlier *water-plate. 1822 Lamb *Elia, Distant Corresp.,* This kind of dish..requires to be served up hot; or sent off in water-plates, that your friend may have it almost as warm as yourself. 1890 *Century Mag.* Apr. 916/2 We lunch by a *water-pocket that was filled by a storm 2 months ago. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Jan. 7/1 The boiler consists of a cylindrical upper part..6 ft. long, and two lower prismatic water pockets also about 6 ft. in length. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 5/3 [Four persons] were crossing the Argentière Glacier to-day, when a water pocket burst, and the whole party were hurled against the rocks by the rush of water. 1679 Alsop *Melius Inquir.* I. i. 40 Your common Hackney Verifiers or *Water-Poets. 1660 R. Dacres *Elem. Water-drawing* 24 By which better appeared the vanity of the *water poyse. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 456 The Sea..was..much more Salt, the further we went; as I tryed by a Water-poise of Glass, with Quicksilver at the one end. 1772 T. Percival *Ess.* (1777) I. 342 Dr Hoffman, by means of a glass waterpoise divided by lines, examined hydrostatically several different kinds of water. 1884 Bowker & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 45 Two varieties of stoma may be distinguished, which may briefly be termed *air pores* (or stomata), and **water-pores.* 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 575 (Crinoides) Water-pores, or short tubular canals with a median ciliated dilatation, open into the coelome from the exterior. 1565 B. Goodge tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* xi. QQ j, The *Waterpourer, and..the Fishes two that flote. 1573 W. Bourne *Regim. Sea* (1580) 59 b, The names of the Starres..Goates talle. Water pourers leg. 1836 Mrs. C. P. Traill *Backw. Canada* 89 There is great *water-power, both as regards the river and the fine broad creek. *a* 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 24 Far down, at some water-power nearest the reach of tide, a boom checks the march of this formidable body. 1871 C. Marshall *Canadian Dominion* 42 The saw-mills are built

J. Glynn *Constr. Cranes* 48 A self-acting crane..has been erected on the quay at Newcastle-on-Tyne..It is worked by *water pressure. 1829 *Nat. Philos., Hydraulics* iii. (U. K. S.) 29 What is called the **Water-pressure Engine,* being, in fact, a steam-engine, worked by water instead of steam. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 969 The engines at present employed in the drainage of coal-mines are:—1. The water-wheel, and water-pressure engine. 1853 Glynn *Power Water* 98 The first water-pressure engine used in England was erected..in the year 1769. 1812 *Mass. Spy* 9 Sept. 3/3 To be Sold! A *Water Privilege in Wrentham. 1822 *Ibid.* 31 July (Thornton) Valuable Mills and Water Privileges. 1849 Thoreau *Week Concord Riv.* Tuesday 250 Some of the finest water privileges in the country still unimproved on the former stream. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 243 Just below this lode..Armstrong & Co. have located an

admirable mill-site and water-privilege. 1879 F. R. Stockton *Rudder Grangers*, I then went to a well belonging to a cottage near by where we had arranged for water-privileges, and filled two buckets with delicious water. 1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* i. iv. (1713) 114 We count the *Water-rack a very severe torture, to have that element forced down a man's throat, till all the vessels of his body are stretched and tympanized. 1806 tr. *Montgolfier* in *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* XIV. 103 The following is the description of a *water-ram. 1829 *Nat. Philos., Hydraulics* ii. (U. K. S.) 20 The Water Ram or *Bélier Hydraulique*, as it was called by its inventor, M. Montgolfier, of Paris. 1877 Wood *Nature's Teach., Useful Arts* x. 435 The water-ram with its globular valve. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxvii, 'What d'ye think it [the money] was all for?'..' For the shepherd's *water-rate, Sammy.' 1839 — *Nicholeby* xiv, Having an uncle who collected a water-rate. 1808 R. Warner *Tour N. Counties* II. 285 Only 110 l. is received from the *water-rents of the houses to which the element is conducted. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Discov.* (1640) 97 Nay, if it were put to the question of the *Water-rimers workes, against Spencers; I doubt not, but they would find more Suffrages. 1653 Walton *Angler* viii. 162 The Carp, if he have *water room and good feed, will grow to a very great bigness and length. 1675 H. Teonge *Diary* (1825) 36 We have made a sayle for the starne of the ship, called a *water sayle. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 227 *Sloop's Water-Sail*..It is occasionally spread under the boom of the main-sail in fair winds. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 38 A waternail sets under the spanker-boom end. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 171 The blue variety of rock crystal, called **water sapphire*. 1850 Ansted *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 409 It [Iolite] is also called Cordierite and Water sapphire, the latter name being given by jewellers to a variety from Ceylon, which presents different colours in two directions. 1655 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 55 A double *Water-scrue, the innermost to mount the water, and the outermost for it to descend. 1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 228 Archimedes's water screw. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 409 The Water Screw Pump. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 21 Water which rises at the Coal-Shaft, may run into this *Water or half Shaft, to be drawn there by Horses or Water Wheels. 1869 R. R. Smyth *Gold Fields Victoria* 625 *Water-shaft*, the drainage-shaft, usually the deepest shaft in a mine. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Water-shaft*, salt-making term. A shaft sunk to collect the fresh water near the main shaft. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 1039/2 On the Saterday after,..[1382], earely in the morning, chaunced an other earthquake, or as some write, a *watershake, beeyng so vehemente, that it made the Shippes in the hauens to beate one againste an other, [etc.]. 1582 Andreson *Serm. at Paules Crosse* 101 That vniuersall Earthquake, and like watershake, whiche draue vs into present feare. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 537 On a red greet, and *water-shaken soil. 1810 J. Bailey *Agric. Durham* 9 A moist soft loam..known by the..epithet of 'water shaken'. 1470 *Stat. Rolls Irel. 10 Edw. IV* c. 19 Repairerount le dit Gourge..come necessite requiert lessauntz..en la miente del file del auaunt dit ewe xxiiij. pees en laiour appelle le Kynges shard aultrement appelle le *Watersharde. *Ibid.*, Watirshard. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 421 A line running from Loch Spey to Loch Monar, the course of which is regulated by the *water-shears between the east and west coasts. 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXII, 162 The water-shier between the Spey and the Dee. 1546 *Gassar's Prognost.* c iij b, The cloudy sterre that is in the beginning of ye *Water aheder of the Waterer [L. *apud initium effusionis aquæ Aquarii*]. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 748 The overlying *Watersill or sandstone. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Water-sill*, a bed of fine-grained sandstone lying immediately below the great limestone in the south-west of Northumberland. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 13 Oct. 1/2 An excellent kitchen and scullery, in which there is a pipe for water, a *water sink, with other conveniences. 1890 *Nature* 27 Nov. 93 The water which flows out of Malham Tarn and disappears down a 'water-sink' to the south of the tarn is the stream which emerges at Malham Cove. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* July 93/2 In this white pavement are found all the famous water-sinks that feed the streams far below. 1823 Scoresby *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 472 **Water-sky*, a dark appearance of the atmosphere, near the horizon, indicating clear water below it. 1881 tr. *Nordenskiöld's Voy. 'Vega'* I. x. 518 A blue water-sky was still visible out to sea, indicating that open water was to be found there. 1860 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* I. v. 77 He listened to their semi-nautical oaths,..and their *water-slang with veneration. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vii. 198 Spill Their thousand wreaths of dangling *water-smoke. *a* 1903 'Merriman' *Last Hope* viii, Through the dazzling white of that which is known on these [Suffolk] coasts as the water-smoke the sky shone a cloudless blue. 1822 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, **Water-sneak*, robbing ships or vessels on a navigable river or canal, by getting on board unperceived, generally in the night. The water-sneak is lately made a capital offence. 1849 J. Glynn *Constr. Cranes* 56 The *water-space round the ram being full three-fourths of an inch. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxii. (1592) 333 Varro reporteth..that Numa vsed *Waterspelling, and had communication with Diuels. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 386 *Chloro-spinel*, grass-green with a yellowish white streak..**Water-spinel* colourless; from Ceylon. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxxvi, Yoho! down the pebbly dip, and through the merry *water-splash, and up at a canter to the level road again. 1886 *Bicycling News* 1 Oct., Last Saturday, two riders on a tandem tricycle attempted to rush through Shepperton *water splash'. 1901 C. G. Harper *Holyhead Road* I. 209 The old road goes over what used to be a water-splash in the deep hollow. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 377 Item, that samyn day, in Cambuskynneth, for *water spowngis to the King, iij s. iiij d. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritt Wemen* 437, I half a water spunge for wa, within my wyde clokis, Than wring I it full wylely, and wetis my clokis. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 290 Watter spounges for chirurgeans. 1778 J. Watson *Halifax* 548 **Waterstead*, the Bed or Course of a river or brook. 1897 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Water-stead*, an old name for the bed of a river. 1887 E. Waugh *Tufts of Heather, Hermit Cobbler* lv, He fell...into th' wayterstid at th' back o' th' house. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Apr. 2/3 (letter signed) A Radical Owner of *Water Stock. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 24 Nov. 4/3 Water stocks fell on the decision in regard to the New River dividends. 1884 Bowen & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 30 Other stomata ..which may be called **Water-stomata* or *-pores*. 1585 *water stop [see Stop *sb.*[1] 8 a]. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. i, The great sluice or water-stop, where the English were terribly exposed to the shot..of St. Roch. 1797 S. James *Voy.* 38 The leak was above *water streak. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 436/2 North America possesses an extensive *water-system on the Pacific slope. 1890 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xix, Having crossed the valley of the Belloury,..I had come on to the water system of another main river. 1704 Swift *Tale of Tub* ii. 39 What is..the Sea, but a Watercoat of *Water-Tabby? 1877 Wood *Nature's Teach., Optics* ii. 292 An instrument..called the *Water-Telescope. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 360 Water Telescope, from Bohuslän. 1799 J. Dalton in *Mem. Lit. & Phil. Soc. Manch.* V. ii. 374 For this purpose I took a thermometer tube..and filled it with pure water..From repeated trials agreeing in the result, I find, that the *water thermometer is at the lowest point of the scale it is capable of, that is, water is of the greatest density at 40° ½ of the mercurial thermometer. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* i. iii. 24 There be land rats, and water rats, *water theeues, and land theeues, I meane Pyrats. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 304 A Tyrrhenian water-thief. 1887 Sir R. H. Roberts *In the Shires* iii. 37 In rear of the observatory a large *water-tower raised its head. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 22 Jan. 53/2 The fall of a stand pipe or water tower, at Sheepshead Bay. 1898 'Merriman' *Roden's Corner* vi. 56 To the north of the waterworks..the curious may find to-day a few low

to that fire. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* xiv. 477 When the *water-treader [ποντοπόρος νηῦς], farre away Had left the Land. 1855 *Gentl. Mag.* June 582 Mr. Buckingham, the once renowned boy water-treader of Flushing. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 575 (Crinoidea) Ciliated branched *water-tubes depend from the ring and origins of the radial vessels and open into the cœlome. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Water-tube Boiler. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Oct. 8/2 The *Ardent*..is fitted with the Thornycroft water-tube boilers. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xiii. I. 515 The shoots and suckers that put out at the root, as also other *water-twigs. 1819 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. III. 395/1 The yarn produced by this mode of spinning is called *Water Twist. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 366 Fig. 347 is a diagram of Arkwright's original water-frame spinning machine, called afterwards the water-twist frame. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* i. 33 The name 'water-twist' arose from the circumstance that..Arkwright's [machine] was worked by a water-wheel. 1878 Blakely *Dict. Commerc. Inform., Water-twist*, a kind of cotton-twist, of which there are common, seconds, and best seconds. 1880 Geikie *Phys. Geog.* ii. 44 By the term *water-vapour, or aqueous-vapour, is meant the invisible steam always present in the air. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 2/2 The latest statement by Sir William Huggins on the existence of water-vapour on Mars is that there is no conclusive proof. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. lxxxvi, [In other Mollusca] a multi-ramified *water-vascular system appears to spread itself throughout the body, without becoming directly continuous with the blood-vessels. 1885 *Rivers side Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. p. xx, In the jelly-fishes the stomach opens into four or more water-vascular canals or passages. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* II. iii. 562 There remains..the ambulacral vessels of the Echinodermata. These are frequently termed '*water-vessels'. 1894 T. B. Middleton in *Yachting* (Badm. Libr.) II. 146 '*Water wags' and 'Mermaids' of Dublin Bay. 1894 *Field* 9 June 838/1 Match for Waterwags, for a cup presented by the Dublin and Wicklow Railway Company. 1815 T. Forster *Atmos. Phenom.* 59 Some of these little cumuli..flying along rapidly between the showers, are.. called by the vulgar *water waggons. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 251 The ominous scud is the usual harbinger of the rain-cloud, and is therefore commonly called 'messengers', 'carriers' or 'water-waggons'. 1904 (*Amer.*) *Dialect Notes* II. 402 'To be on the water wagon', to abstain from hard drinks. N.Y. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6389 (Gött.) Þar þai had mekil *watir wan. 1398 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. I. *Ark* 413 The Camell *water-want [Fr. *souffre-soif*]. 1862 *Ann. Reg.* 27 The wilful murder of Edward Atkinson, *water-watcher. 1888 Barrie *Auld Licht Idylls* (1892) 58 'Water-watchers,' as the bailiffs were sometimes called. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 32 Nov. 1775, If possible, mix it perfectly full of sap, but perfectly free from *water-wet. 1804 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* VI. 229 The clover..should be perfectly free from water-wet. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* I. 102 That vile riballdry called *water-wit. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home, Up Thames* II. 143 The old rough water-wit for which the Thames used to be so celebrated. 1732 *Flying Post* 28 Jan. 2/2 A *Water-Woman was found suddenly dead, and..it was thought she was strangled. 1762 Goldsm. *Ess., Fem. Warriors*, The water-women of Plymouth. 1800 Surflet *Country Farm* vii. xv. 824 The other sort of *water woode is the willow. 1750 W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* II. ii. 139 (E. D. D.) An alder, a withy, a willow or other water-wood hedge. 1877 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* xv. II. 190 Africa displays well the rites of *water-worship. *Ibid.* xvi. II. 248 Savage *water-worshippers. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. *Eden* 401 When pale Phlegm, or saffron-colour'd Choler,..print upon our Understanding's Tables; That, *Water-wracks; this other, flamefull Fables. 1658 *Melrose Regality Rec.* (S. H. S.) I. 174 Quhen tymber treis or onie uther fewall or watter wrak cumes doune the river and lands there. 1834 Prinsle *Afr. Sk.* ii. 151 The remains of water-wrack..afforded striking proof that at certain seasons this diminutive rill becomes a mighty..flood.

30. Prefixed to names of animals to denote species inhabiting the water, as *water-animal, -bat, -beast, -beetle, -bird, -butterfly, -coot, -eel, -finch, -frog, -gnat,* †*-hydra, -insect, -louse, -raven, -reptile, -shrew*(*-mouse*), *-shrimp, -snail, -toad.* Also **water-adder**, any aquatic serpent resembling an adder; **water-antelope** = **Waterbuck**; **water-ask** *dial.*, a newt; **water-beetle**, a beetle of the group *Hydradephaga*; **water-blackbird**, the dipper, *Cinclus aquaticus*; **water-boa**, the anaconda; **water-boatman**, a water-bug of either of the families *Notonectidæ* or *Corixidæ* (*Corixidæ*); **water-buffalo** = *water-cow*; **water-bug**, (*a*) any heteropterous insect of aquatic habit; (*b*) *U.S.* the cockroach, *Blatta orientalis*; **water-bull**, a legendary amphibious animal resembling a bull; **water-cavy** = *water-hog*; **water-chat**, a bird of the South American group *Fluvicolinæ*; **water-cow**, (*a*) the common domestic Indian buffalo, *Bos bubalus* or *Bubalus buffelus*; (*b*) a legendary amphibious animal resembling a cow; cf. *water-bull*; **water-crake**, †(*a*) the water-ouzel or dipper, *Cinclus aquaticus*; (*b*) the spotted crake, *Porzana maruetta*; (*c*) the water-rail, *Rallus aquaticus*; **water-creeper**, **-cricket**, the larva of the stone-fly; **water-crow**, (*a*) the dipper, *Cinclus aquaticus*; (*b*) the coot, *Fulica atra*; (*c*) *southern U.S.* the snakebird, *Plotus anhinga*; **water-deer**, a small Chinese musk-deer, *Hydropotes inermis*; **water-devil**, (*a*) the larva of the great water-beetle, *Hydrophilus piceus* (Ogilvie 1850); (*b*) *U.S.* 'the dobson or hellgrammite' (*Cent. Dict.*); **water-doe**, a female waterbuck; **water-eagle** (see quot.); **water-eft** = *water-newt*; **water-flea**, any of the small crustaceans that hop like fleas; **water-hog**, the capybara; **water-junket**, an alleged name for the sandpiper; **water-lawyer** *jocular*, a shark; **water-leech** = **Leech** *sb.*[2] 1; **water-lizard**, a newt or other lizard-like animal inhabiting the water; **water-mite** = *water-tick*; **water-moccasin** *U.S.* (see **Moccasin** 3); **water-moth**, a caddis-fly; **water-newt**, an aquatic newt, a triton; **water-opossum** = **Yapock**; **water-ousel** (see **Ouzel** 2 c); **water-ox** = *water-cow*; †**water-parrot**, some microscopic insect; **water-pheasant**, (*a*) the pheasant-tailed jacana, *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*; (*b*) the pintail duck; (*c*) the goosander, *Mergus merganser*; **water-piet** (see **Piet** 1 b); **water-pipit**, *Anthus aquaticus*; **water-puppy** = **Water-dog** 3 b; **water-rabbit** *U.S.*, the swamp-hare of the Mississippi valley, *Lepus aquaticus*; **water-rattle**, **-rattler**, the diamond rattlesnake, *Crotalus adamanteus*; **water-rattle-snake**, an incorrect name for the water-viper; **water-salamander** (see **Salamander** 1 b); **water-scorpion**, an aquatic bug of the family *Nepidæ*; †**water-softling** (see quot.); **water-thrush**, (*a*) the water-ouzel or dipper; (*b*) a bird of the American genus *Seiurus*; **water-tick** = **Water-spider**; **water-tiger**, a beetle of the genus *Dytiscus* or family *Dytiscidæ*; **water-viper**, any poisonous aquatic snake, esp. *Ancistrodon piscivorus*; **water-weasel** [= G. *wasserwiesel*], an otter; **water-wolf** [cf. G. *wasserwolf*], a rapacious aquatic animal; in quots. applied to the pike [cf. L. *lupus*] and the otter.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. ix. (1495) 759 *Water adders dwelle in brymmes of waters. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 705/37 *Hic idrus*, a watyrnedyre. 1691 Ray *Creation* i. (1692) 62 Fishes and other *Water-Animals cannot abide without the use of it [*sc.* air]. 1875 W. H. Drummond *Large Game S. & S.E. Afr.* 367 The *water-antelope (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*). 1820 *Marmaiden of Clyde* xviii. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 423 The *water-asks, sae cauld and saft, Crawl'd ower the glittie flure. 1892 Jane Barlow *Irish Idylls* v. 114 She's not the fool, anyway, to be dhrinkin' out o' wather-pools thick wid them black watherasks, that 'ud lep down your throath as soon as look at you. 1681 Grew *Museum* i. § iv. i. 54 Barlæus mentions a *Water-Bat, which the Natives of Brasile call Guacucua. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxv. (1495) 147 Some *water beestes doon brethe as the dolphyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 370/2 Otur, watyr beest, *lutricus*. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 46 *Hydrocanthurus*, the *Water-beetle. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 316 The *dytisci* or water-beetles. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xiv. 254 The common water-

arv. 127/2

1803 Lev-

.Oft rouse the

t from his tranquil dream. 1927 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 648/2 Large water-birds rose from the river. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* II. xv. 235 It is as big, or a little bigger than a *Water-Blackbird, or Crake. 1820 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. 345 *Water Boa. *Boa Enydris.* 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazons* iii. (1864) 60 The hideous Sucurujú, or water boa (Eunectes Murinus), which sometimes attacks man. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xiii, The Huilila, Anaconda, or Water-boa, bears only a few large round spots. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 109 The *water boatman, (*Notonecta glauca*, L.) an insect related to the *Cimicidæ*..made me suffer still more severely. 1910 G. H. Carpenter in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 262/1 The *Notonectidæ*, or 'water-boatmen'... By means of the oar-like hind-legs they swim actively through the water with the ventral surface upwards. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 438/1 A rude wooden plow,..drawn by the clumsy Asiatic or *water buffalo. 1780 Glandville in W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. II. 72 Of *Water-bugs.—I have made Observations on Bugs of different Kinds in stagnate Waters. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 493 The Water Bug..has many legs, by means of which it passes over the surface of the water with such incredible swiftness that [etc.]. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1828) II. 364 The common water-bug (*Gerris lacustris*, Latr.), though it never goes under water, will sometimes swim upon the surface. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xii, Fred..did his best to upset both [the other boats] by paddling about in a wherry like a disturbed water-bug. 1901 Lee Bacon *Housetent on Nile* 38 Why did we want hedgehogs on a dahabeeh? Nothing more or less than that they are supposed to eat water-bugs. 1726–31 Waldron *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 43 The *water-

bull. 1825 Scott *Let. to Morritt* 22 Dec., The persuasion of the solitary shepherds who approach its [a lake's] banks, is, that it is tenanted by a very large amphibious animal called by them a water-bull. 1901 Rhys *Celtic Folklore* I. iv. 284 The water-bull or *tarroo ushtey*, as he is called in Manx,..is described as a sort of bull disporting himself about the pools and swamps. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 39 *Perla*..the Dragon-Fly, or Adders-Boult, and *Water-Butterflies. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vii. I. 137 Water-Butterfly, because they most frequent Rivers and watry places. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 82 The gigantic *Water Cavy, or Capybara. 1837 Swainson *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 5 The *water-chats (*Fluvicolinæ*), which seem to connect the tyrant shrikes to the flycatching family. 1892 D. M. Moir *Poet. Whs.* II. 155 On the lakelet blue, the *water-coot Oar'd forth with her sable young. 1827 Scott *Jrnl.* 23 Nov., A set of his kinsmen,.. believing that the fabulous *Water Cow inhabited a small lake near his house, resolved to drag the monster into day. 1895 *Antiquary* July 217 A water-cow is said to inhabit St. Mary's Loch near Yarrow. 1676 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* II. vii. 149 The Water-Ouzel or *Water-Crake: Merula aquatica. 1802 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.*, Ouzel-Water... Provincial, Water Crake. 1811 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 35, I knocked down 15 snipes and 2 water crakes. 1827 Kirkbride *Northern Angler* 35 The Stone Fly..is bred from an insect, found under large stones in the river, called the water cricket, or *creeper. *c* 1712 Petiver *Gazophyl.* VII. Tab. 70 *Water Cricket,..This is a slow creeping Insect found at the bottom of Ponds amongst the Weeds. 1845 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1878) 207 The most interesting of all the tribes of the Naiads..are the little water-cricket. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xl. (1495) 136 Some fowles haue galles pryuely hydde in a gutte as culuours or douues and *water crowes and swallowes. 1544 Turner *Avium Præcip.* B 3, Morpetenses.. cornicem uocant aquaticum [*marg.* a water craw]. 1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 146 The Water Crow..the skinne of which is used to be worne upon the stomach causing concoction. 1804 Bewick *Brit. Birds* II. 16 Water Ouzel. Water Crow, Dipper, or Water Piot. 1888 *Proc. Berwick. Nat. Club* IX. 504 Of the Thrush family, the Dipper or Watercrow frequented all the streams. 1877-82 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 63 The Chinese *Water Deer. *Hydropotes inermis.* 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 121/2 A troop of beautiful *water does. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Water eagle*, the fish hawk or osprey. (Rare.) 1895 Rider Haggard *Heart of World* xxv. (1899) 340 Here and there a human corpse, over which already the water-eagles began to gather. 1447 Bower *Fordun's Scotichron.* xiv. xxxi. (1759) II. 376 Als sikir for to hald as a *water eell. 1768 G. White *Selborne*, *To Pennant* 27 July, The *water-eft has not, that I can discern, the least appearance of any gills. *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 793 *Frestle et fyncewale*, Nytcrowe and *watirfyncha. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 74/2 *Pulex aquaticus*,..a *water flea. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 52 The smooth short-horned Dytiscus..is called by some Pulex aquaticus, the water Flea. 1866 E. C. Rye *Brit. Beetles* 66 The *Gyrini*, commonly known as 'water-fleas', 'whirlwigs', or 'whirligigs'. *a* 1050 *Chrodegang's Rule* (Napier) 96 *Waterfrocgan hwilon hi ma gesihð of wætere, & swabeah secað to fullicum morseohtrum. 1862 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 225 b, They play the waterfrogs, singyng croake croake. 1655 Walton *Angler* xx. (1661) 242 Lebault allows Water-frogs to be good meat..if they be fat. 1732 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* II. 70 The Water-Frog. 1877 Woon *Nature's Teach., Usef. Arts* xiii. 467 The common *Water-gnat (Gerris), which may be seen in almost any piece of fresh water. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 191 The Caphara resembles an hog of about two years old,..some naturalists have called it the *Water-hog. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* x. 291 He had loaded his stomach with water-hog. 1727 Parnell *Battle Frogs & Mice* I. 110 Lo! from the deep a *Water-Hydra rose. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Notonecta*, certain *water Insects, not much unlike small Beetles. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 166 Whether it be that they [gold and silver fish] feed on the water-insects, too minute for our observation, or [etc.]. 1892 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* IV. 351 *Actitis Hypoleucos*. The White-breasted Weet-weet. Common Sandpiper. Willywicket. *Water Junket. Fiddler. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 50 A *water-lawyer, or, in plainer terms a shark was caught last month near Workington. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxx. 15 *Water lechis two ben doȝtris, seiende, Bring on, bring on. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 874 His shon or slyppers [to be] as browne as is þe waturleche. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 812 Of the Newte or *Water Lizard. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xiv. 139 Such an humidity is observed in Newtes, or water-Lizards. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 489 The family of water-lizards, the Varanidæ. 1750 Glandville in W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. II. 71 Of *Water-lice.—I have often seen these, in stagnate Waters...They are very swift in Motion. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 246 The wood-louse, the water-louse, and the scorpion never acquire wings. 1750 Glandville in W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. II. 72 Of *Water-maggots, or Grubs.—I have seen various kinds of these in stagnate Waters. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 365 The little *water-mites (*Hydrachnæ*) may be seen in every pool..working their little legs with great rapidity. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 58 *Tinea aquatica*, the *Water-Moth. 1834 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 216 The Water-Moths and their larvæ are well known to the angler as bait, under the names of Caddice-Flies and Caddice-Worms. *Ibid.* 219 Water-Moths (Phryganeidæ). 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 26 *Lacerta Venenata aquatica*, the *Water Newt or Evet. 1768 G. White *Selborne*, *To Pennant* 18 June, The *salamandra aquatica* of Ray (the water-newt or eft) will frequently bite at the angler's bait. 1838 Wood *Common Obj. Country* iv. (1860) 48 Two species of these creatures are found in this country, the common Water-Newt and the Smooth Newt. 1846 Waterhouse *Mammalia* I. 533 The Yapock, or *Water-Opossum. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* viii. 356, I had selected eight of my best *water-oxen. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* CLXI. No. 2077. 88 Water-oxen turned up their noses at us. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 242 The *water parrot..is represented..as hermaphrodite. 1781-2 T. Jefferson *Notes Virginia* (1787) 118 (List of birds) *Water-pheasant. 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 256 A water pheasant, a bird not very common, was shot..near Lewes. 1900 Pollok & Thos *Sports Burma* II. 34 The water-fowl..are very numerous, but none of them are worth mentioning excepting the water-pheasant. 1881 Dresser *List European Birds* 13 *Anthus spinoletta*, *Water-Pipit. 1896 A. G. Butler *Brit. Birds* I. 203 The Water-Pipit. *Anthus spipoletta*, Linn. 1899 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Water-Dogs*,..; sometimes called *Water-puppies and Ground-puppies. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 20 July VI. 385/3 The water puppy (*Menobranchus lateralis*) inhabits the lake [Erie]. 1864 Webster, *Water-rabbit. 1877-82 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 317 The *Water-rattle..abounds in East Florida, the Gulf States, and Mexico. 1736 Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 254 This Sort is commonly called in Carolina, the *Water Rattle-Snake, not that it hath a Rattle, but from the Likeness of its Colour, and its Bite being as mortal. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xi. xxxvii. I. 332 Some reasonlesse creatures..are by nature bald, as..certaine *water Ravens [L. *corvi aquatici*]. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xxiii, Watching for such small fish or *water-reptiles as might chance to pass by its lonely station. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vii. iii. 176 The *Water-Scorpion.. may be easily known by its pointed Tail. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Scorpion*, Water Scorpion, *scorpio palustris*, ..is a very thin and light little creature, yet is but a very slow mover. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xxxviii. 55 The water-scorpion tribe. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. iv. i. 226 The Grey Nepa (Nepa Cinerea, Linn.), commonly called Water Scorpion or Water Spider. 1769 G. White *Selborne*, *To Pennant* 8 Dec., De Buffon, I know, has described the *water shrew-mouse; but still I am pleased to find you have discovered it in Lincolnshire. 1770 Pennant *Brit. Zool. Illustr.* IV. 83 Water Shrew-mouse. 1771 — *Syn. Quadrupeds* 308 Water Shrew. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 215 Almost the tiniest of all quadrupeds, the water-shrew. 1750 Glandville in W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. II. 72 Of the *Water-shrimp.—I have seen a Sort of Insect, in stagnate Waters, to swim on his Side in a swift Motion, almost in Shape like a Sea-shrimp, very transparent. 1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* iii. 21 The water-shrimp is the favourite bait for them [perch]. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 52 Made lyke a litle *water snayle or a crooked rammis horne. 1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xii. 109 Water-rails..feed upon water-snails and water-flies. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 626/1 Examining the young of the viviparous water-snail. 1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 158. 47 There are also Sea-spiders, having neither bloud, nor fat, nor prickles (they call them *Water-scoflings). 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 108 Trynga ..the *Water-Thrush. 1808-13 A. Wilson & Bonaparte *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 125 Turdus Aquaticus, Wilson. Water Thrush. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 106 *Seiurus noveboracensis*. Water Thrush. *Ibid.*, *S. ludovicianus*. Large-billed Water Thrush. 1864 Webster, *Water-tick. 1870 P. M. Duncan *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 436 The *Hydrachnidæ*, or water ticks or mites. 1889 Mary E. Bamford *Up & Down Brooks* 59 Those beetles known as the *Water-tigers, or Dytiscidæ. 1750 Glandville in W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. II. 69, I have seen a *Water-toad to ride a Carp till he has starved it to Death. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 106 Of this animal there are several varieties; such as the Water and the Land Toad... The water toad is not so large as the other. 1736 Mortimer *Nat. Hist. Carolina* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 254 *Vipera Aquatica*: The *Water Viper. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Belette*, An Otter, or *water Weesill. 1674 tr. *Schaffer's Lapland* 140 There are found water-weesels, red and white, chiefly in the pools near the Sea. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* II. 162 No animal is so hard-biting as an otter. ..None but a very *varmint* dog..will face one of these water-weasels a second time. 1606 S. Gardiner *Bk. Angling* 26 Sanguinarie souldiers, the Pike and *water-wolues of the Ocean of this worlde. 1863 Kingsley *Herew.* xxix. *note*, Innumerable eels, great water-wolves and pickerel perches [etc.]. 1907 *Athenæum* 10 Aug. 158/2 The poor otter, against which, as the 'water-wolf', ruthless war is waged.

31. In combinations denoting vegetable growths that live in water, as *water-bloom*, *-frond*, *herb*, *-herbage*, *-plant*, *shrub*; also prefixed to plant-names to designate species or varieties that live in water (or, sometimes, that contain or emit water), as *water-avens*, *-chickweed*, *-crowfoot*, *-figwort*, *gladiole*, *-gladiolus*, *-orchid*, *-palm*, *-ranunculus*, *-reed*, *-rush*, *-speedwell*, *-tupelo*. Also † **water agrimony** (see Agrimony 2 c); **water-aloe** = Water-soldier; **water-apple**, the sweet-sop, *Anona squamosa*; **water archer** (see Archer 6); **water-ash**, an ash of either of two American species, *Fraxinus platycarpa* and *F. sambucifolia*, inhabiting wet ground; **water-bean**, the Egyptian water-lily, *Nelumbium speciosum*; **water-beech** (*a*) the American plane-tree, *Platanus occidentalis*; (*b*) the American hornbeam, *Carpinus caroliniana*; **water-betony**, = *water-figwort*; **water-blinks** (see Blinks 2); **water-blob** *dial.*, a name for the marsh-marigold and similar plants; **water-buttercup** (see Buttercup 2); **water-caltrop** (see Caltrop 3); **water-cat's-tail** = Cat's-tail 2 b; **water-chestnut**, the saligot; † **water dragon**, *Calla palustris*; **water-dropwort** (see Dropwort 2); **water-elder**, the guelder rose; **water-elm**, *Ulmus americana* (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **water-feather** (-foil) = *water-violet*; **water-fern** (see Osmund[2] 2); **water flag** (see Flag *sb.*[1] 1 b); **water-flannel**, a fresh-water alga, *Conferva crispa*, the matted filaments of which resemble flannel; **water germander** (see Germander); **water gillyflower** = *water-violet*; **water-gum**, a name for various trees of the Australian genera *Tristania* and *Callistemon*; **water-gut**, an alga, *Ulva enteromorpha*, which when floating resembles the intestines of an animal; **water-hemlock** (see Hemlock 1 b); **water-hemp** (see Hemp *sb.* 5); **water-horehound** (see Horehound 1 b); **water-hyssop** (see quot.); **water-lemon**, the edible fruit of a species of passion-flower, *Passiflora laurifolia*; **water-lentil** (see Lentil 1 b); **water-lettuce**, the tropical duck-weed, *Pistia Stratiotes*; **water-locust**, a species of locust-tree, *Gleditschia monosperma*, growing in watery or swampy ground; † **water-mango** (see Mango 3); **water-maple** = *red maple* (see Maple 1 b); **water-milfoil** (see Milfoil 2); **water-moss**, a moss of the aquatic genus *Fontinalis*; **water-net**, a fresh-water alga, *Hydrodictyon utriculare*; **water-nut** = *water-chestnut*; **water-oats** = *wild rice* (Rice[2] 4); **water-pennywort** (see Pennywort 2); **water-pimpernel** (see Pimpernel 3 b); **water-plantain** (see Plantain[1] 2); **water-purple** *Sc.*, brooklime, *Veronica Beccabunga*; **water-purslane** (see Purslane 2); **water-radish** (see quots.); **water-rice** = *wild-rice*, Rice[2] 4; † **water-rose** = Water-lily; **water sallow** (see quot.); † **water-shield**, a plant of the sub-order *Cabombaceæ*, having shield-like leaves; **water-smartweed**, the American plant *Polygonum acre*; **water-sorrel** (see Sorrel *sb.*[1] 1 b); **water-starwort** (also -star, -stargrass) (see Starwort 3); **water-target** = *water-shield*; **water-torch**, the reed-mace, *Typha latifolia*; **water-trefoil**, the bog-bean or buckbean; **water-violet** [= G. *wasserveil*, *-viole*], the feather-foil, *Hottonia palustris*; **water-withe**, **-withy**, *Vitis caribæa* of the W. Indies; **water-yarrow** = *water-violet*.

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Aloides*, Aloides]..Stratiotes foliis Aloes semine longo... The *Water-Aloe, or Fresh-Water Soldier. 1845 Anne Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 192 *Stratiotes aloides* (Water-Soldier)..is often called Water Aloe. 1696 Sloane *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 205 *Water-Apple, or Sweet-Apple. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 305 Apple, Water, *Annona*. 1727 *Petiveriana* III. 185 *Water-Ash. Is brittle, the Bark is Food for the Bevers. 1777 Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* I. 274 Geum..rivale. Red *Water Avens. 1832 Lytton *Eugene Aram* I. vi, The common enchanter's night-shade, the silver weed, and the water-aven [*sic*]. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* July 308 The marshy water-avens has exactly the same dusky purplish-yellow tint as the marshy comarum. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 414 *Nelumbiaceæ*. *Water Beans. 1850 Ogilvie, Water-bean. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 67 *Platanus occidentalis*, the *water-beech. 1832 Morfit *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 93 It takes the name of buttonwood, sycamore, plane-tree, and water-beech, according to locality. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. xxxi. 44 Called..in English Broune wurte, and *Water Betony. 1782 W. Curtis *Brown-tail Moth* 6 Others..as the *Phalæna Verbasci*, or Water Betony Moth, which appears to be equally fond of the Mullein and Water Betony. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, Water betony. 1822 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 77 And sigh with anxious, eager dream, For *water-blobs amid the stream. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* III. 42 The *water-blooms under the rivulet Fell from the stalks on which they were set. 1870 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 469/2 Those long sweeping rushy stalks which bear the pretty white blossom called the *water-buttercup. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxxiv. 676 *Water Caltrops hath long slender stalkes, growing vp and rising from the bottome of the water. 1681 Grew *Museum* II. § iii. ii. 232 The Water-Caltrop. *Tribulus aquaticus*. 1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* I. xiv. 969 The eyes are black, as the horns are also, which are swoln like *water-cats-tails. 1854 A. Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 402 The *Water-Cheanut (*Trapa natans*). 1870 *Pharmacent. Jrnl.* 23 Aug. 125/1 The name of 'water chestnuts' has been applied to the fruits of several species of *Trapa*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* 271 Callitriche, Star-Headed *Water-Chickweed. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* I 5, *Watercrowfote stamped wyth crommes of bread and a plaster made thereof taketh awaie the heate of the stomake. 1902 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 14 In the shallows grow water-crowfoot, with waving green hair under water. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. vi. 322 *Dracunculus palustris*,..in Englishe, *water Dragon or Marshe Dragon. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. lxxii. 1237 *Sambucus palustris*, the *water Elder, groweth by running streames and water courses. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 108 Sambucus aquatica..Water Elder. 1838 Loudon *Arboretum* II. 1039 Viburnum Opulus. The Guelder Rose..Marsh Elder, Rose Elder, Water Elder. 1818 T. Nuttall *Genera N. Amer. Pl.* I. 120 *Hottonia*..*Water-feather. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, **Water-Figwort*, *Greater*, common name for the *Scrophularia aquatica*. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 1129 *Conferva crispa*, called *Water-flannel. 1898 H. G. Wells *War of Worlds* II. vi. 242 Its swiftly-growing and Titanic *water-fronds speedily choked both these rivers. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxi. 106 The second [kind of floating weed is called]..in Englishe *Water Gillofer. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxxvi. 679 Water Gilloflower, or Water Violet, is thought to be colde and drie. *Ibid.* I. xxi. 27 *Water Gladiole groweth in standing pooles, motes, and water ditches. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* 270 Butomus. Flowering Rush, or *Water Gladiolus. 1847 Leichhardt *Jrnl.* xii. 387 Long hollows surrounded with drooping tea-trees and the white *water-gums. 1898 Morris *Austral English* 181 Various other trees not of the genus Eucalyptus are also sometimes popularly called *Gums*, such as..Broad leaved Water Gum, *Tristania suaveolens*, Smith; Water Gum, *Callistemon lanceolatus*, De C.; *Tristania laurina*, *T. neriifolia*, R. Br. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36/1 Bylleme, *watyr herbe, *berula*. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* p. x, Nymphæaceæ..Water-herbs; flowers showy. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 499 Then speedily appeared a crop of *water-herbage. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 *Water-hyssop, *Herpestis Monnieria*. 1789 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxvii. (1704) 426 Another sort, called *Water Lemon in the West Indies, has an agreeable acid flavor in the pulp of the fruit. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Water-lemon. *Passiflora laurifolia* and *mali-*

formis. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 827/1 *Pistia Stratiotes*... Its common We t Indian name, *Water Lettuce. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 383/1 The saw-grass, water-lettuce, bonnets, or other aquatic plants which border the fresh-water streams and lakes of Florida. 1817 W. Darby *Geogr. Descr. Louisiana* 354 *Gryllus migratorius*, *Water locust. 1822 J. Flint *Lett. Amer.* 131 Dr. Drake..has stated the usual time of the flowering of the *water-maple at a month later. 1822 J. Woods *Two Yrs.' Resid. Illinois* 93 Beech, the prevailing timber, except on the banks of the river; there mostly sycamore, water-maple, and willows. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 319 *Moss, Water, *Fontinalis.* 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist., Earth* xvii. I. 287 The vast increase of water-moss, which flourishes upon marshy grounds. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 1189 *Hydrodictyon utriculatum*, *Water-net, has the appearance of a green net. 1904 *Nature* 25 Aug. 396/2 This is likely to be an exaggerated Chinese account of the now well-known water-net (*Hydrodictyon utriculatum* Roth.). 1627 Morison *Itin.* III. 83 When the cloth is taken away, they have set before them..*waternuts (which I did see onely in Saxony) and a loafe of bread cut into shives. 1665 Lovell *Herball* (ed. 2) 464 Water nut, see Saligot. 1819 D. B. Warden *Acc. United States* II. 538 *Water oats, or wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*) grows in the soft marshes of the eastern parts [of Louisiana]. 1889 P. H. Emerson *Engl. Idyls* 160 The water-soldier (Stratiotes aloides), called *water-orchids in parts of England. 1898 Rider Haggard *Heart of World* xxiii, (1899) 310 We beached our boat behind the shelter of some dwarf *water-palms three furlongs below the village. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 344 The bittern..builds its nest with the leaves of *water plants on some dry clump among the reeds. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 693 What was said..on the changes which take place in the air contained in the cavities of water-plants, applies in general also to that of land-plants. 1808 Jamieson, *Water-purpie. 1828 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xviii, Cresses or water-purpie, and a bit ait-cake, can serve the Master for breakfast as weel as Caleb. 1827—*Chron. Canongate* v, I propose also to have..a sort of green-grocer's stall erected in front of my ironmongery wares, garlanding the rusty memorials of ancient times, with cresses, cabbages, leeks, and water purpy. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.*, *Water radish, the name by which several species of Sisymbrium are sometimes called. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 955/1 Water Radish. *Nasturtium amphibium.* 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* vii. (1870) 147 The common *water ranunculus, whose white flowers cover the surface of many of our quiet rivulets in June. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xiii, 'By my crown of lilies, and my sceptre of a specially good *water-reed,' said Nectabanus, 'your Majesty is mistaken.' 1872 Rossetti *Poems, Staff & Scrip* vii, Like water-reeds the poise Of her soft body, dainty thin. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 56 Nymphea..is called in english *water Rosen, & some wyth the Potecaries cal it nenufar. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxvi. x. II. 256 Of Water-rose, otherwise called Nenuphar. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 94 The eggs..are inserted in the stem of a *water-rush (*Scirpus*) or other aquatic plant. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 359/2 *Salix aquatica*, *water sallow...This is also a British species. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 412 *Calombaceæ*, *Watershields. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 749 *Cabombaceæ*, the Watershield Family. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xxxi. (Bodl. MS.), Reede gode to many maner vse & amonge *water shrobbes reede is beste. 1784 J. Twamley *Dairying* 117 Water-wort, Water-hemlock, or *Water-skeleton, is esteemed a fatal poison to Horses. 1874 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 416 *Polygonum acre*...(*Water Smartweed). 1777 Jacob *Catal. Plants* 120 *Veronica scutellata*, Narrow leaved *Water Speedwell, or Brooklime. 1806 Galpine *Brit. Bot.* § 9 Veronica anagallis, Water Speedwell. 1858 A. Irvine *Handbk. Brit. Plants* 49 The earliest Water speedwell is the Common Brooklime (*Veronica Beccabunga*). 1818 T. Nuttall *Genera N. Amer. Pl.* I. 3 *Callitriche*..*Water-star. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* ix. (1886) 178 A lily, yellow or white..and perhaps a *water-target or two. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iv. liii. 513 *Typha palustris*,.. *Water Torche. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 144 In Hampshire they sell *Water-Trefoil as dear as Hops, and say that it doth upon all accounts as well. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 391 The water-trefoil is likewise of great use in this complaint [rheumatism]. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxvi. 678 *Water Violet hath long and great iagged leaues, verie finely cut or rent like Yarrowe, but smaller. 1788 Bradley *Dict. Bot.* s.v. *Violet*, Water-Violets, in Latin, viola aquatica. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xvi. (1794) 177 Water Violet has a salver-shaped corolla not fringed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1228/2 Water Violet, *Hottonia palustris. Ibid.* 1229 1 *Water-withe. 1855 H. G. Dalton *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 206 Water vine, or *water withy. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxxvi. 678 Water Milfoile, or *water Yarrow.

32. *Med.* Designating specific ailments, eruptions, etc., as †*water-bladder*, *-blister*, †*-farcin*, *-garget*, *-murrain*, †*-pang*; **water-blebs**, pemphigus; **water-brash**, pyrosis; **water-canker**, a form of stomatitis; **water-pox**, chicken-pox; **water-stroke** (see quots.); †**water-wheal**, a watery blister.

1587 Mascall *Bk. Cattell* III. (1596) 243 Some sheepe will haue a *water bladder vnder their chin,..shepeheards haue no other common remedy but to lance it alitle, and then to tar it. 1818–20 E. Thompson *Cullen's Nosol Meth.* (ed. 3) 328 Pompholyx; *Water Blebs. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 617 Water-blebs. 1895 Kipling *and Jungle Bk., Red Dog* 201 Here would be a heaving mound, like a *water-blister in a whirlpool. 1900 J. Hutchinson *Archives Surg.* XI 239 Vesications ('water-blisters' was the patient's term) broke out. 1820 Reece *Med. Guide* (1850) 532 *Water-brash..is very prevalent in Scotland and Ireland. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 265 In the colloquial tongue of England, it is called *black-water*; in that of Scotland, *water-brash*, and *water-gualm*. 1597 P. Lowe *Disc. Chyrurg.* v. xxxiii. (1634) 200 Those Pustules and Ulcers which often-times possesse the upper part of the mouth and gums, are named by the Greekes *Aethe*,.. in vulgar the *Water Canker. 1877 F. T. Roberts *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 291 Water Canker is a very rare, but dangerous form of stomatitis. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Dropsy*, The *Ascites*, or 'Water-Dropsy of the Abdomen, is..what we particularly call the Dropsy. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Farcin* or *Water-Farcin*, a Swelling under a Horse's Belly and Chaps, caus'd by his Feeding in Low Watery Grounds. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 41 A disease called '*water garget' has been slightly prevalent in Merrimack County. 1708 Kersey, **Water-Murrain*, a Disease in black Cattel. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* III. iii, Am I at these yeares ignorant, what the meaning's of Quames, and *Waterpangs be? 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) III. 61 *Water-pox. *Ibid.* II. 409 In the language of..Dr. Golis *wasserschlag*, or *water-stroke, from its violence. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Water stroke*, a term for *Meningitis*, whether primary or secondary, when the effusion of fluid forms very rapidly. 1530 Palsgr. 287/1 *Water whele in ones hande, *bubette.*

†**33.** Prefixed to certain designations of measures of capacity, to denote the larger measures used for goods sold on board ship (see **Water-measure**), as *water bushal*, *firlot*, *peck*; also *water met* = **Water-measure**. A related use seems to exist in *water-fother* (quot. 1300), but the sense is obscure.

1300 *Memoranda K. R.* 27 & 28 *Edw. I.* m. 32 b, Recognouerunt..se teneri Waltero de Langetone..in lxx. carratis plumbi videlicet Waterfother. 15.. *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 14 The watter mett of Leyth sett to Jhone Dow for ij merks. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 30 That na ry be sauld dearer nor XXV*s* the boll and the quhete for XL*s* the boll watter mete. 1551 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* II. 155 The prouest baillies and counsale ordanis that Jhone Dalmahoy thair seriand and officer of the port and heavin of Leyth in all tymes cuming keip the mesouris callit the watter metis of salt, rye, quheitt and beir and siclyke. 1555 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 496/2 Except the watter met to remane according to the vse of the cuntrie. 1625 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Eng. Garner* III. 632 A Water Bushel (that is, five pecks) of Spanish salt, will salt a barrel of herringa. 1630 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VIII. 407/1 Paid for Iron worke for 4 water bushells..00 16 00. 1695 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1878) III. 402 The water flriot for bear and oattis. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 102 Potatoes.. from 1*s.* 8*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* per water peck, which is a measure of about fourteen Scots pints.

Water (wǫ·tər), *v.* Inflected **watered**, **watering**. Forms: 1 **wæterian**, **watrian**, **wætrigan**, 2 **wettrien**, **watrien**, 3 **wattren** (*Orm.* -enn), **wattre**, (**wattur**), 3–5, 7 *Sc.* **watter**, 4 **wateren**, **weteri**, **watrin**, **watre**, 4–5 **wetery**, **wateren**, 5 **watron**, **watir**, 4– **water**. *Pa. pple.* 4 **y-watered**, **i-watred**, **y-watert**. [OE. *wæterian* (also *ge-*), f. *wæter* Water *sb.* Cf. MHG. *wetzern*, mod G. *wässern* (dial. *wassern*), MLG. *wateren*, *weteren*, mod. LG. *watern*, *wätern*, Du. *wateren*.]

I. Transitive uses.

1. To give a drink of water to (an animal, esp. a horse on a journey); also, to take (cattle) to the water to drink.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xix. 3 Hig awylton þone stan of þam pitte and hi heora orf þær wæterodon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 A I hwa is þet mei þet hors wectrien [*read* wettrien] þe him self nule drinken? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2745 Dor he comen water to feten, And for to wattren here sep. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5685 þai com to wattur þar þair fee. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3234 þat men miȝt legge him [a horse] mete & wateren atte wille. 1480 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 459 The people of this Citie..euer haue vsed tyll nowe late to water theire horses at the seid pole. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 85 Broken wynded..comethof rennynge or rydynge ouer moche, and specially shortely after he is watred. *a* 1638 Ford, etc. *Witch Edmonton* III. i, Get my horse dress'd; give him Oats; but water him not till I come. 1709 P. Walkden *Diary* (1866) 62, I..then foddered and watered our Seed heifer. 1858 R. S. Surtees *Ask Mamma* lxxvii. 336 He pulled up..to get his mare watered and fed. 1891 'R. Boldrewood' *Sydney-side Sax.* I, The beasts to be fed and watered. 1908 *Animal Management* (War Office) 289 It has been said that if a desert camel is frequently watered he loses his power of abstinence for long periods.

absol. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxvi. 15 They deprived themselves of the benefit of those wells, so that Isaac might not water at them. 1730 W. Burdon *Gentl. Pocket-Farrier* 26 Ever make it a standing Rule to water on the Way before you arrive at the baiting Place. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv, We often stop to water at a roadside inn.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1597 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 30 Nay, better learne of them, that learned bee, And han be watered at the Muses well. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 314 Would the Fountaine of your minde were cleere againe, that I might water an Asse at it. 1612 — *Cymb.* II. iii. 23 And Phœbus gins arise, His Steeds to water at those Springs on chalic'd Flowres that lyes. 1654 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 267 God's consolations..ar a fountayne, ..and they ar tuyse a mercy in wattering our-selves and inaibling us to watter uthers. 1898 Meredith *Napoleon* v. *Odes* 27 For even a hope in chained desire The vision of it watered thirst.

†c. In the name of a children's game. *Obs.*

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 27 One fault brought me into another after it, like Water my chickens, come clock.

2. To furnish with a supply of water. **a.** To supply water to (a company on a journey, an army on the march).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* lxxvii. 28 [15] He slat stan on & wæterode hix [*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter*, watred am. 1382 Wyclif, watride hem]. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 301 He payed fiue Sultans of gold for Watering all ve and the Beasts. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Mar. 3/2 In a campaign like this, where we shall always have the river beside us, the water-bottle is almost superfluity...It should be easy to water troops at fixed intervals.

b. To furnish (a ship, fleet, boat) with a supply of fresh water.

1589 Biggs *Summarie Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 40 After three dayes spent in watering our ships we departed. 1820 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) 215 Shee waighed [into the] road, and was by them watered, cawked, supplied with [etc.]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 48 Our next

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II. 230 Our last act and deed before we left Galveston, watering and victualling the Dolphin. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xiii, He seised the town..and watered his ship triumphantly at the enemy's wells.

c. To supply (an engine) with water.

1870 in Schele de Vere *Americanisms* (1872) 339, I question if it be wise in running a railroad to water anything but the engine. 1898 Hamblen *Gen. Manager's Story* xiv. 234 The awkward attempts of the new men to get the few remaining dead engines watered and fired-up.

3. To supply water as aliment to (a plant, crop, etc.), esp. by pouring or sprinkling with a watering-can, hose, or the like; to pour or sprinkle water on (soil) to promote the growth of plants (or occas. for other purposes: see e. g. quot. 1699).

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 293 Sumu treowu he watrode [*Cotton* watrade], to ðæm ðæt hie ðy suiður sceoldon weaxan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 304 Se man ðe plantað treowa oððe wyrta, swa lange he hi wæterað oðþæt hi beoð clofmete. *c* 1200 Ormin 13864 All swa summ erþe wattredd iss | urrh reȝȝn & dæw off hefine. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21304 Þe first he tilis þe feild to sede, þe toiþer he saus after þe sede, þe thrid it harus..þe ferth it watters. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xxiv. 42, I saide, I shal watrin the gardyn of my plauntingus. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518 *Watron', herbys (or other lyke, *P.*), *irrigo*, *rigo*, *humecto*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 108 b, Be tender ouer them as ye wolde be ouer a noble & precyous plant..., attendyng it, watrynge it diligently. 1585–7 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 17 Richarde Garrett and John Smyth, for mindinge and wateringe the garden, xij*s.* ij*d.* 1601 Holland *Pliny* xii. i. I. 358 They came to be so highly esteemed, that for to make them grow the better, men would be at the cost to water them with wine. 1666 Gerbier *Princ.* 33 They are Watered with a Gardeners Watering-Pot. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 879 Who now shall reare ye to the Sun, or ranke Your Tribes, and water from th' ambrosial Fount? 1699 Meager *New Art Garden.* 130 To destroy Worms and other Insects,..water your Gravel-Walks with water wherein Tobacco stalks have been boiled. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 56 Strew the Seeds pretty thick,..keeping of them well water'd every Evening, except when the Season waters them. 1796 C. Marshall *Gardening* xx. (1813) 404 Water, if dry weather, new planted trees, shrubs, and flowers. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxvii, After we had finished helping the gardener in watering his flowers. 1917 M. Swayne *In Mesopotamia* xi. 161 The swiftness with which seeds grow when properly watered is uncanny.

absol. 1855 Delamer *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 22 If May should be very dry, I am obliged to water. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. viii, The ground was at last chosen [for the cricket match], and two men set to work upon it to water and roll.

b. *fig.* (See also 5 c.)

c 1200 Ormin 13848 To wattrenn & to dæwwenn swa þurrh beȝȝske & sailte tæress þatt herrte, þat..læs..forrclungenn. 1340 *Ayenb.* 131 Þis trau [of mildenesse] is yzet beside þe welle of godes drede huer-of hit is echedaye y-watered ine wyntre and ine zomere. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xxi. S viij b, God..instructeth oure reason..not onelye to receyue them [the spiritual affections] as engendred and planted in our soule, but also in suche wyse water them with wyse aduertisement of godly counsayle. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. vi. 23, I rais'd him..: who being so heighten'd, He watered his new Plants with dewes of Flattery, seducing so my Friends. 1672–5 Comber *Comp. Temple* (1702) 289 The Apostles..planted this Faith..and watred it with their blood. 1820 Shelley *Witch of Atlas* 27 Wordsworth informs us he was nineteen years Considering and retouching Peter Bell; Watering his laurels with the killing tears Of slow, dull care. 1874 Abp. Benson in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) I. xi. 373 You have now to water the good seed you have sown with your prayers. 1876 Grant *One of Six Hundred* lii. 437, I resolved to return thankfully..home, to water my laurels among the..grassy glens of my native place.

absol. 1382 Wyclif *1 Cor.* iii. 6, I plauntide, Apollo watride, or moystide, but God ȝaf encresynge. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. ii. 43 Their blood hath watered and we shall reap.

c. To supply (land, crops) with water by flooding or by means of irrigation-channels; to irrigate.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 159 They founde manye layre garueyns and pleasaunte fyeldes watered with trenshes distrybuted in marueylous order. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 45 b, Some, where they may ouerflowe it [grass], doo water it a day before they cut it. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 26 The Corn-land is never watered, because the Dew that falls plentifully in the Mornings, is sufficient for it. 1792 *Rep. Commrs. Thames-Isis Navig.* 26 A Hatch Gate..is drawn much in Short-water Time; to water the Meadows. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 275 He set to work, and built sluices, formed carrier trenches and drains; and thus watered 30 acres. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 268 To the person who shall, in a country where irrigation is not generally in practice, water the greatest number of acres.

†**d.** *slang.* To give free entertainment to; to 'treat'. *Obs. rare.*

1748 P. Yorke *Let.* 15 Dec., In G. Harris *Life Ld. Hardwicke* (1847) II. vii. 43 Charles is watring the Quorum of Bennet, ten miles round; or, to speak less quaintly, is treating away at Cambridge.

4. Of a river, etc.: To supply water to (vegetation, land). Now chiefly passive.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* ii. 6 Ac an wyll asprang of þære eorðan wæteriende ealre þære eorðan bradnysse. *Ibid.* ii. 10 And þæt flod eode of stowe þære winsumnisse to wætrienne ..sang. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 233 Nilus ouerflowe þ and waterep al þe lond of Egipte. *c* 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* v. 1903 In stede of blood mylke ran at hir nekke. ..It ran so plenteously it wattered al the ground That lay aboute hir. O most meruey lous welle! 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 133 Ryuers..wherwith al suche trees as are planted on the stiepe or foote of the mountaynes..are watered. 1590 E. Webbe *Trav.* (Arb.) 20 All the grounde

throughout the lande of Egipt is continually watred by the water which..is turned into the cuntries round about. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 25 This Province is mainely watered through the middle with stately Po. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* x. 108 It [the Nile] then waters the kingdoms of Amhara, Olaca, [etc.]. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 345 The road lies through a delightful valley, which is watered by the Isse or Itch. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 930 Stillest streams Oft water fairest meadows. 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* i, In that pleasant district of merry England which is watered by the river Don. 1853 NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. ii. 63 Sogdiana is watered by a number of great rivers. 1901 SLADEN *In Sicily* I. II. xix. 271 That rocky plateau..could..be converted into an almost impregnable fortress...It is splendidly watered.

fig. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 277 Socrates..from whose mouth issu'd forth Mellifluous streams that water'd all the schools Of Academics old and new. 1788 COWPER *Negro's Compl.* 19 Sighs must fan it, tears must water, Sweat of ours must dress the soil.

†**b.** Of water, a river, etc.: To surround or bound (a city, fort). Chiefly *pass.* also with *about*.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 319 Hit was þe soueraynе Citie of the Soyle euer,..Well wallit for werre, watrit aboute. 1572 T. TWYNE tr. *Dionysius' Surv. World* E vij, On the one side runneth Corus, an other Choaspes,..rising out of the Riuer Indus, and watering the cittie Susa. 1589 IVE *Fortif.* 25 Neither, if the Fort do stand well watered, need the face of the Curtin to be raised..higher then three or foure foote aboue the water. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 36 As for the Continent he [the King of Spain] is absolute lord of all that sea coast which watereth Florida, Noua Hispania, Iucatan, [etc.]. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 597, I saw the remaines of a Monasterie, pleasantly watered about with seuerall streames. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* VII. xcviii. (1762) I. 457 It [the city] is watered by the Leina.

5. *To water* (something) *with one's tears*: to make wet or moist with copious and continued weeping; to shed tears upon or over. Chiefly *hyperbolical* or *fig. Obs. or arch.*

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 147 He [þe prophete] sade: Ich seal watrien min bedd mid mine teares. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* vi. 7 With my teres my bedding I shal watrin. 1535 COVERDALE *Luke* vii. 38 She..beganne to water his fete with teares. 1634 HEYWOOD *Maidenh. well lost* I. B 2 b, Each step I treade I'le water with a teare. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1090 What better can we do, then..there confess Humbly our faults, and pardon beg, with teares Watering the ground. 1675 J. OWEN *Indwelling Sin* viii. (1732) 93 If it teach us to water a free Pardon with Tears,..it is Divine. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 123 [He] plentifully watered the ground with his tears as he passed. *Ibid.* 119 Often have we watered the good man's memory with our tears. 1779 *Mirror* No. 44. P 8 La Roche threw his arms round his neck, and watered it with his tears. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 230 Hath he not sworn his love a thousand times..Seal'd it with kisses? water'd it with tears?

†**b.** Said of the tears. *Obs.*

1626 SHAKE. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 177 And indeed the teares liue in an Onion, that should water this sorrow. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. viii, 'No, hate me not,' said Mrs. Delville, kissing from her cheeks the tears that watered them.

†**c.** Phrases. *To water one's eyes*, also jocularly *to water one's plants*: to shed tears, to weep. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8039 Bresaid..With myche weping & walle, waterid hir ene. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 331 For sorow I water both myn eeyn. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 189 Whiche words caused my Lord of Wylshere to water his eyes. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 195 b, Which when Symona had beheld, She watred straight her eyes.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 266 When he read the chronicle of Alexander the greate, he could not forbeare to water his plantes [L. *non tenuit lachrymas*]. 1590 LODGE *Rosalynde* (1592) O 2, Water not thy plants, Phoebe, for I do pity thy plaints, nor seek not to discouer thy loues in teares. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXX. XV. 750 Masanissa, whiles he heard these words..began to water his plants [L. *lacrimis obortis*]. 1724 SWIFT *Acc. Wood's Exec.* Misc. (1735) V. 314 *Bodicemaker*. I'll lace his Sides. *Gardener*. I'll make him water his Plants. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Plants*, 'To water one's plants,' to shed tears.

†**6.** To soak in or with water, to steep in a liquor; also, to soften by soaking, macerate. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxiv. (1495) 641 One sayth that beenes grow the sooner..yf they ben watryd in pysse thre dayes or they be sowen. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 43, Nym Milwel or lenge, þat is wel y-wateryd. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 795 With ficchis flour ywattrid wel biforn, Let modle al this seed. 1483 *Act* 1 *Ric. III.* c. 8. § 1 No person..shall sell..any Manner Woollen Cloths, called Broad Cloths, unless the same Cloth be before fully watered. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* iii. (1870) 236 Also, nygh to the place let nother flaxe nor hempe be watered. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 47 *Macero*, to water fiashe or fleashe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 20 b, A Hopper..serueth to conuey downe the Malt, after it is watred vnto the heare cloth, where it is dryed. 1621 in *Trans. Exeter Dioc. Archit. Soc.* Ser. II. (1867) I. 399 Item to a man to water the reed,..1s. 1655 WALTON *Angler* I. xxi. (1661) 246 Which is so much of the strength of the Line lost for want of first watering it, and then re-twisting it. 1674 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 123 Lay them [collars of brawn] a-soaking in fair water; be sure that they be watered 4 days before you bind them up.

†**b.** *To water out*: to free from salt by soaking in water. *Obs.*

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* v. viii. 338 When the Salt is to be put over the Ashes,..it must be well watered out [orig. G. *ausswässern*] that the red bottom may not be very salty.

†**c.** To wash down (solid food) with liquor.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Great Eater of Kent* Wks. I. 144/2 Indeed he is no drunkard,..for one Pinte of Beere or Ale is enough to wash downe a Hog, or water a Sheepe with him.

d. To sprinkle or drench (a road, pavement, etc.) with water, in order to lay the dust.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 260 Their Inhabitants had water'd the Streets, which being not pav'd,..the dust had otherwise..annoy'd us. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Morning*, The apprentice, who pauses every other minute from his task of sweeping out the shop and watering the pavement in front of it. 1861 Mrs. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. xxii, Afy, lifting her capacious dress, for the streets had just been watered, minced off. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 339 As American railroads are..liable, in sandy regions, to be enveloped in unbearable clouds of dust, track sprinklers are frequently employed to water them. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. D. 891 He was directed by the inspector..to water certain streets.

e. *Mil.* To pour shell-fire upon. Said also of shell-fire. [So Fr. *arroser*, G. *bewässern*.]

1915 J. BUCHAN *Nelson's Hist. War* III. xxi. 89 Thereupon von Hindenburg attempted to 'prepare' a passage by a great bombardment—high angle shell fire which should 'water the enemy's position. *Ibid.* VII. lii. 206 The Germans were closing in on both sides and 'watering' the whole hinterland with their fire.

f. To sprinkle or drench (a material) with water in order to moisten it or with a solution to impregnate it. Also with *down*.

1474 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 397 Nother that he water nother chaunge no mannes corne to geve hym the wers for the better. 1786 in J. Lloyd *Old South Wales Iron Works* (1906) 35 To take..Water issuing from the said veins of Coal for the purpose of watering their Coaks and Coakyards at Pendarren Furnace. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 562 The cloth is exposed for a few days to the open air in the field, and frequently watered, to remove every trace of the acids. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 408/1 [Brick] The clay and ashes thus mixed together are 'watered down', by water being thrown over them with a wooden scoop. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1255 Spreading them [tobacco leaves] in a heap upon a stone pavement, watering each layer in succession, with a solution..called sauce. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 441 In hot weather the [milk] can is covered with a textile wrapper which is watered with a fine sprinkler before the train starts.

g. To saturate (the clothing or) the clothing of (a person) with moisture.

1784 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 71 P 3 Producing a Squirt, he began to let fly at me in such a Manner, that I was soon pretty well watered from Head to Foot. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xviii, A plenteous sweat burst through my skin, and watered my clothes through and through.

h. To put water into. (See quots.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Water his hole.* A saying used when the cable is up and down, to encourage the men to heave heartily, and raise the shank of the anchor so that the water may get down by the shank, and relieve the anchor of the superincumbent mud. 1878 *E. Schiller's Technol. Dict.* s v., To Water a vessel on the stocks (Ship-b.) *Ein Schiff wässern oder vollpumpen. Abreuver un bâtiment.*

i. To treat hydropathically. *? nonce-use.*

1854 KEBLE in J. T. Coleridge *Mem.* (1869) 376 He is being watered at Malvern, I hope successfully.

j. Phrase. *To water one's clay*, to take liquid refreshment. (Cf. phrases in CLAY *sb.* 4 b.)

1769 GOLDSM. *Ess.* v, Old women should water their clay a little now and then; and now to your story.

7. To add water to as a diluent or solvent, thereby increasing the bulk and reducing the strength.

a. To dilute (wine, strong liquor, milk, tea) with water.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VI. 255 He wolde drynke a litel wyne i-watred [*v.r.* ywatert]. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxv. (1495) 795 Redde wyne that is full red as blood is moost stronge and nedyth therefore to be ryghte wel watred. 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* M 1 b, If I make any mixture, I do be-wine ye water, and not water ye wine. 1820 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. xliii. 278 He pronounces his grog basely watered. 1865 VISCT. MILTON & W. B. CHEADLE *N.-W. Passage by Land* v. (1867) 73 We..sent off to him a very small quantity [of rum] well watered. 1865 G. MACDONALD *Alec Forbes* viii, They sold milk. And if any customer had accused her of watering it, Mrs. Bruce's best answer would have been [etc.]. 1897 BRAM STOKER *Dracula* xxi. (1912) 301 It was like tea after the teapot had been watered. 1901 SNAITH *Wayfarers* xvi, Tea twice watered with a good deal of sugar in it.

b. *fig.*

1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* vii. 15 The knowledge made up for sale is apt to be watered and dusted. 1887 LOWELL *Old Eng. Dramatists* (1892) 91 But it is not true that the sense is expanded, if by that we are to understand that Chapman watered his thought to make it fill up. 1906 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 Nov. 370/2 The book is full of quotations...Indeed much of it is just these writers watered.

c. Water down. (*a*) *lit.* To rednce the strength of (liquor) by dilution. (*b*) To weaken the force or strength of (language) by addition or alteration. (*c*) To reduce in efficacy or potency.

(*a*) *Med.* This whisky is very much watered down.

(*b*) 1890 *Edin. Rev.* July 179 One or two of the recent translations.., while adhering closely to the sense, and, in some degree, to the form of the original, may yet be fairly accused of watering down Æschylus. 1896 J. W. WARTER in *Lett. Southey* Pref. 8 As to Southey's opinions, my business, in the selection of these letters, was, clearly, not to water them down,..but rather to leave them patent to the world in their undisguised reality. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 623/2 The Bishop would have done better not to water down his manly protest against the overstrained moralists. 1899 J. A. DOYLE in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 597 They watered down their political sentiments to the standard which they supposed would suit their hearers.

(*c*) 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iii. 29 Still less had the Roman citizens an inclination to share their privileges with Samnites and Etruscans, and see the value of their votes watered down. 1919 W. CROOKE in *Man* XIX. 23 In some cases the deal has been so watered down that the risk to life or limb merely a

†**d.** *U.S. slang.* To pack (a jury). *Obs.*

1792 J. BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampshire* III. 256 In the administration of justice, frequent complaints were made of partiality...The practice of watering the jury was familiarly known to those persons who had business in the Law.

e. *Comm.* To increase in nominal amount (the stock or capital of a trading company) by the creation of fictitious stock. Also with *up*.

1870 *Tribune* (N. Y.) 17 Dec., in Schele de Vere *Americanisms* (1872) 339 In two years the capitals of twenty-eight Northern railroads have been watered to the extent of nearly two hundred millions. 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 July 5/1 The new capital was raised at heavy premiums, and therefore does not [illegible] *Manch. G*[illegible] encourage[illegible] stock. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Apr. 3/1 Considering the vast extent to which capital has been 'watered up' in transfer to joint-stock companies.

†**8.** = WASH *v.* 9 c. Also *to water over. lit.* and *fig. Obs. rare.*

1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Y. Gordon* Lett. (1664) 248 Yet all these are but like gold in clink and colour and watered brass and base metall. 1637 — *Let. to Lady Kenmure* 17 June, Since I must have chains, He would put golden chains on me, watered over with many consolations.

9. To produce a moiré or wavy lustrous finish on (silk or other textile fabrics) by sprinkling them with water and passing them through a calender. Cf. WATERED *ppl. a.* 5.

c 1450 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 299 Ane claith of bukram watteryt with letteris of gold. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 1326 Five pieces of silke, five of damaske, five of silke watered. 1684 *Patent Office* No. 241 A new way of Beautifying severall Sorts of Cloath..and thereby Watering, Damasking and Flowering the same. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 80. 2/2 No two pieces were ever water'd alike. 1745 R. POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. I. viii. 125 These things [silks and cottons] are watered, which very much adds to their beauty. 1791 W. HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. III. x. 295 The calender, under which stuffs are passed to water them. 1837 HOOD *Drinking Song* ii, We water roads, horses, silks, ribands, bank-paper.

†**b.** To represent (a material) as watered in painting. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1733 *School of Miniature* 89 When you would water a Stuff of any sort, you must wave it with lighter or darker Colours, according as what you are upon is Light or Shade.

†**c.** *transf.* To give a specious appearance to (defective or inferior goods). Also in fig. context.

1646 W. JENKYN *Reformation's Remora* 18 Rotten stuffs will not be vendible without watering, nor rotten courses without excuses. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 68 The pretty Allegories and Allusions of which Discourse (but the watering of weak and worthless stuff) might possibly shew not unhandsomly in an Oration, but are too airy and thin for a Sermon.

10. *Lumber-trade.* To put (logs) into the water for transport.

1877 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 24 May, There have been 57,000,000 feet of logs watered on the various branches of the Muskegon.

II. Intransitive uses.

11. Of the eyes: To fill and run with moisture; to shed water, to flow with tears.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A) 5023 Her eyȝen watred for gladnesse. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 162 Hongur..wrong him so þe wombe þat bope his eȝen watreden. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 579 He had such a pose, That both his eyen waterid. *c* 1460 *Urbanitatis* 57 in *Babees Bk.*, To depe in þy cuppe þou may not synke..Leste þy eyen water þere by. 1508 DUNBAR *Two Mariit Wemen* 439 With that wateris myn ene, and welteris doune teris. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 26 We reade that the eies did water to see him, the eares allured to heare him. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 200 Good master Mustard seede...I promise you, your kindred hath made my eyes water ere now. 1593 — *2 Hen. VI* I. iv. 82 And if thine eyes can water for his death, I giue thee this to drie thy Cheekes withall. 1697 *Verdicts conc. Virgil & Homer* iv. 12 His Eyes water and shed some drops of Tears. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 72 When a person walks out in that severe weather, the cold makes the eyes water. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlix, The smoke of the pipe..got into the Captain's eyes, and made them blink and water. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* iv, His eye watered and sparkled, and before he sat down I observed him to sway back and forth. No doubt, he had been supping liberally. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 200 The eyes water, the sclerotic is injected.

b. Of a person: To secrete and shed tears (†*with eye* or *at the eyes*). Also, of tears, to gather in the eyes. *rare.*

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 593/14 *Lippo*, to watery with ye. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 91 Her tears stood watering in her eye. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXVI, The Major sat gurgling in the throat and watering at the eyes.

12. Of the mouth: To secrete abundant saliva in the anticipation of appetizing food or delicacies. Similarly of the teeth (*obs.* exc. *Sc.* ?); also rarely of †the 'chops', †the lips. (See also MOUTH *sb.* 2 c, TOOTH *sb.* 8 g.)

1530 PALSGR. 772/2 My tethe waters to se yonder fayre appels. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 281 These craftie foxes [*sc.* cannibals]..beganne to swalowe theyr spettle as their mouthes watered for greedines of theyr pray. 1592 LYLY *Gallathea* v. i, My teeth still watred with hungar. 1612 CORYAT *Crudities* 298, I observed passing faire Citrens, which made my mouth euen water vpon them. *a* 1618 HARINGTON *Epigr.* II. xiii. (1618) E 3 b, If one names a lax, your lips doe water. 1628 *Mad Prankes Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 29 A great posset was brought forth: at this Robin Goodfellowes teeth did water. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 39 He sees no green cheese but his mouth waters after it. 1697 H. CROWCH *Welsh Traveller* 6 The apples did so lovely looke,..No

delaies now could her brook, her shops did so much water. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 137 The sight of company sitting down before a plentiful meal will presently make the mouth water to be doing the like. 1771 Fielding *Intrig. Chambermaid* i. v. Wks. II. 349 *Let.* He is this day to give a grand entertainment... *Rab.* My chops begin to water. 1850 C. Brontë *Wuthering Heights* i, The canine mother.. was sneaking wolfishly to the back of my legs,..her white teeth watering for a snatch. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* li. (1901) II. 80 All the delicacies of the season in short, that make one's mouth water to write. 1876 Ruskin *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 42 My mouth's watering so for that Thwaite Currant jelly, you can't think. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 57/2 The dog's mouth waters only at the sight of food, but the gourmand's mouth will also water at the thought of it. 1899 G. Greig *Logie o' Buchan* ii. 29 Here she pointed to the apples, while Jockie's eyes sparkled and his teeth watered.

b. *fig.*

a 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 303 There teethe watering at other men's goods. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 503 His teeth..watred after this treasure. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. ii. 108 There was a Spaniards mouth watred, and he went to bed to her verie description. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. ii. 256 Whose teeth water'd at the Papacy. 1720 De Foe *Hist. D. Campbell* iv. 68 [She would] bribe him..to write down the Name of a Young Scotch Peer ..that her Mouth watered after. 1842 S. Warren *Ten Thous.* I. viii, Huckaback, smiling..and chinking some money in his trowsers pocket. Titmouse heard it, and (as the phrase is) his teeth watered. 1883 E. Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 424 Every mouth watering at the sight of the sweet country.

13. Of a ship, ship's company, etc.: To take on board a store of fresh water.

1557 W. Towrson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 113 Wee tolde them that we had not watered. 1621 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japon* (Hakl. Soc) 19 But, for refreshing of our men we waited, watering and taking in of wood. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 97/3 The Armada is certainly come into Cadiz, some say to water. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 45 The French..usually wooded and watered in Bon Port. *Ibid.* I. ix. 91 A commodious place for ships to wood and water at. 1787 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 13 We..gained permission to water, and procure such refreshments as the island [Teneriffe] afforded. 1839 Marryat *Phant. Ship* xxi, The Utrecht..watered, and proceeded on her voyage. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Dis.* xviii. 306 The recurrence of epidemics of dysentery in the crews of ships which have watered at polluted sources.

14. To drink water; to obtain water to drink.

1607 Dekker & Webster *Westward Hoe* II. i. C, By Hipocrene I sweare, (which was a certain Well where all the Muses watered). 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iv. 13 When some young Thessalians on horsebacke were beheld a farre off, while their horses watered,..they were conceived ..to be but one animall. 1839 Lady Lytton *Cheveley* (ed. 2) III. ii. 54 In the back-ground of the picture cattle were watering in a lake. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xix, In the event of a dry season..the cattle habitually watering there would..betake themselves to the 'frontage'.

15. To undergo hydropathic treatment. (Cf. Watering 5, Watering *vbl. sb.* 12.)

1868 A. Dawson *Rambling Recoll.* 42 He annually watered at Pitcaithly to ward off rheumatism.

†16. To urinate. *Obs. rare.*

1626 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* iv. i, What shal's doe with our selues, while the women water? and the Fidlers eat? 1717 Prior *Alma* II. 500 Pleas'd with her Punch, the Gallant Soul First drank, then water'd in the Bowl.

17. Of a retriever: To take to the water.

1885 *Bazaar Exch. & M.* 30 Mar. 1260/1 Handsome retriever bitch,..will water and retrieve well.

Waterage (wɔ̄·tərēdʒ). Also 8 -idge. [f. Water *sb.* + -age.] Conveyance or transport by water; the charge made or the money paid for this. Also *attrib.*

1688 in Gutch *Collect. Cur.* II. 378 To Mr. Ince for Coachhire, Waterage, Porterage, and other petty Expences. 1703 in *Jrnl. Derbysh. Archæol. Soc.* (1881) III. 45 Payd for carrage, Wateridge & Porter to helpe into ye vessells with the Marble. 1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 280 Pays for ..waterage abroad. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Waterage*, money paid for carriage of goods and merchandise, &c. by water. 1829 *Examiner* 282/1 The carriage and waterage was paid at the coach-office, and, on the parcel arriving on board, the waterage-money..was charged again. 1861 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 239 'Waterage' costs the [coal]whipper an average of *6d.* a-week. ..'Waterage' means the conveyance from the vessels to the shore. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waterage*, the charge for using shore-boats.

Water-bag.

1. A bag of skin or leather used for holding or carrying water, esp. one used in Eastern countries for transporting and distributing water.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* II. (ed. 2) 242 Having soak't their bussinees or water bagges, the wine bottles are then emptied. 1659–60 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 245, 1 pair of water bags. 1779 *Louth Corporation Acc.* (1891) 67 Pd. to John Jeffery for him to get a pair of new Water Bags.. 10s. 6d. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 87/1 This skin..is used by the natives for making water-bags, in which they convey supplies of water from the nearest vley or fountain..to the village. 1895 Anne C. Wilson *5 Yrs. in India* 262 The water-carrier, with his water-bag of goat-skin slung over his left shoulder.

†2. *Her.* In pl. form = Water-bouget 2. *Obs.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 295/2 He beareth Or, a Water Bowget, Sable. This is the form of the Bowget in ancient times, and was called a Water Budget, or Water Bagge.

3. (See quot. 1850.)

1856 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 189/1 The free communication which subsists between the water-bag and rumen in the camel tribe. – 1899 T. S. Cossold *Rambles in Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 536/2 The second stomachal viscus..otherwise called the reticulum, bonnet, or water-bag..is of much smaller dimensions than the paunch, and forms a sort of cul-de-sac between it and the third cavity.

4. 'An india-rubber bag for holding hot water for local application' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1899).

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Water-baillage. Also 8–9 -bail(l)iage. A duty or tax levied on all goods brought into or carried out of the Port of London.

1669 Pepys *Diary* 20 Jan., Heard at the Council-board the City..debate upon the business of water-baylage—a tax demanded upon all goods, by the City, imported and exported. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1490/3 His Majesty having been graciously pleased to release a Judgment obtained upon a *Quo Warranto*, against the City of London, concerning the Duty of Water-Bailage (which is a considerable Revenue to the City). 1753 (see Bailage). 1854 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIX. 564 The groundage of corn is a duty of *6d.* on every vessel with corn on board entering the port; and the water-bailliage is a duty of one farthing per quarter on all corn so imported.

†Water-bailie. *Obs.*

1. = Water-bailiff 1.

1434 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1835) IV. 197 Officium de Waterbaily de Plymmouth. 1544 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, XIX. II. 175 Personages to remain here at Boulloyn..Edw. Brown, water-bailly, [and others] 1587 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 450/2 Ballivus marinus (watter baillie) Edinburgi aut Lethe. 1600 *Maldon* (Essex) *Documents* Bundle 162, fol. 4, xliiii *s.* by them receyved of William Gylman, water baylie, for tolls, yssues, and profitts.

2. = Water-bailiff 2.

1395 *Early Chanc. Proc.* 3/30 in *Sel. Cases Chancery* (Selden Soc.) 14 Pur quel trespas le dit Andrew se Compleyna..del Waterbaille de Quenehithe ei come le leye et vsage del ewe demandent. 1467 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bannatyne Club) 359 [They]sall..set owre bare nettis..quhare bai lykis..ay quhill be kingis water balze mak revlis in be watire. 1493–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 197 Item, spentt at the settyng of be clarkes wages at be waterbaylyis, ij d. 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 152 To the waterbailly a gowne of ilij brode yardes and an half at v*s*. 1603 Stow *Surv.* 539 The Sworde bearer, Common hunt, Water Bayly, common Crier,..&c. 1667 Hale *De Jure Maris* v. in Hargrave *Coll. Tracts* (1787) I. 23 The office of a water-baillie or scrutator is a bare ministerial officer, which the king doth or may appoint in those rivers or places that are in his franchise...And his business was, to look to the king's rights, as his wrecks, his flotsan, jetsan, water-strays, royal fishes. 1692 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xcvi, The Lord Mayor as Water-bayly and Conservator of the River of Thames. *Ibid.* p. cv, The Lord Mayor's deputy Water-bayly or Sub-Conservators. *c* 1720 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 245 Ye Lord Major..attended by all his officers ye sword bearer and water Baily very well dress'd.

b. = Water-bailiff 2 b. Now *Sc.*

So **†Water-bailiery** *Sc.*, the jurisdiction of a water-baillie.

1593 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 410 The watter bailliery of thair hevin and portt of Pettycure.

Water-bailiff.

†1. An officer in various port towns, charged with the enforcement of shipping regulations, the searching of vessels, and the collection of customs. *Obs.*

14.. *Contin. Brut* 383 [Song on Siege of Calais] Remembres eke on Goby, the watir-bailiffes dog, How he scarmysshed with you twyes vpon the day, And among you, on be sandes, made many a fray. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 200/1 Divers Waterbaillif's, Sercheours, Countrollers of the serche. 1467–8 *Stat. Roll Irel. 7 & 8 Edw. IV*, c. 15 Vne officer appelle le Water baillief de dalkey. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 352/2 The Office of Water Bailliff of oure Towne of Gloucestre. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1203/1 William Robinson esquier, waterbailife of the towne of Newhauen. 1635 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 80, fol. 1 Receaved of Francis Tunbridge, water bayliffe of the said burrough, for the tolls, customes, yssues, and profitts of measurage, poundage, and bulkage. 1700 *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 140 Coll. Qu. sends home a Coppy of the Comm*i*on to the Water-bailif. 1732 *Act 4 Geo. II*, c. 19 Whereas it is necessary for the better and more orderly Government of the said Port [Ilfracombe], that a Water Bailiff should be appointed, with Power to require all Ships and Vessels to ballast, anchor, and moor in a proper Manner, and regular Places, and that no Ballast be thrown into the said Harbour [etc.]. 1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 83 When the tide had hardly begun to flow,..it was observed, by the water-bailiff of the City [Bristol] ..to rise very suddenly to almost high-water mark. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* vi, He is now coast-guardman, water-bailiff,..and indeed practical viceroy of the island.

†b. An inferior officer of the custom-house, employed to search vessels. *Obs.*

1772 R. Cumberland *West Indian* I. v, The whole tribe of custom-house extortioners, boat-men, tide-waiters and water-bailiffs.

2. An official responsible for the enforcement of bye-laws relating to fishing-waters.

In the City of London, the office was said to be vested in the Lord Mayor, the titular 'water-bailiff' being regarded as his deputy. For the use in the Isle of Man, see quots. 1873 and 1883.

1667 Hale *De Jure Maris* v. in Hargrave *Coll. Tracts* (1787) I. 23 Those Commissions, that have been granted in common rivers, commonly called commissions of conservancy or water-bailiffs. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1172/4 His Majesty having been pleased..to Grant unto Roger Killigrew Esq1 the place of Water Bayliff, to have the oversight of the River of Thames, between Staines and Cyrencester. 1697 *Ibid.* No. 3341/2 The City Banner born by the Water-Bayliff. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xxviii. 381/1 The Water Bailiff is the Lord Maior's Deputy, or Sub-conservator..and every fisherman..every Year, upon St. Paul's Day, must appear before the said Water Bailiff at the Chappel of Guild-Hall, to enter their Names into his Register Book. 1739 *Universal Chron.* 17–24 Mar. 92/2 Wednesday night last Thomas Hayward, Esq., Water-Bailiff, with his assistants, seized three drag-nets in the Medway. 1873 J. Lewis *Digest of Census 1871* 203 The Council [of the Isle of Man] consists of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the attorney-general, the clerk of the rolls, the two deemsters, the receiver-general, the waterbailiff or admiralty judge, the archdeacon, and the vicar-general. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 452/2 [Isle of Man.] The herring fishery, and the boats employed in it, are placed under the charge of the water-bailiff, who holds courts to redress grievances and enforce the regulations of the fishery.

b. A river-policeman employed to prevent poaching and arrest offenders against the bye-laws.

1860 G. H. K[ingsley] in F. Galton *Vac. Tour.* 161 Without water-bailiffs, who must be paid, how many salmon would there be left for anybody? 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* ix. 99 On the Severn the water-bailiffs are furnished with a ..summary of the law they have to enforce. 1897 Crockett *Lad's Love* xix, Nor did the gamekeepers and water-bailiffs —the 'watchers'—as they were called—trouble their heads much about sleepy Rab.

†3. An officer of the Warden of the Marches: see quot. *Obs.*

1598 in *Archæologia* XXII. 168 There is belonging to either warden a Water-bayliffe...Theire office is to keepe the entrance of all men without lycense out of either March.

Water-balance.

†1. An appliance, consisting of a scale-beam caused to oscillate by the fall of a stream of water, forming part of a machine for raising water for irrigation purposes. *Obs.*

There is some doubt whether the appliance described by Darwin was ever in practical use.

1800 E. Darwin *Phytologia* xi. Pl. VI, After a time the water balance *q r s* closes the cocks now open, and opens their antagonists.

2. A machine for raising loads to a height, consisting of two cars with water-vessels attached, connected by a chain passing over a pulley, so that the empty car is made to descend by the weight of water in its vessel, thus hoisting up the loaded car.

1875 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 84 The Water-Balance. —In many of the open works on the northern side of the great coal basin of South Wales, water-balance machines are largely used for winding purposes. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 71 *Water-balance*, an arrangement by which a descending tank of water raises mineral in a shaft by a rope passed over a pulley. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 6/2 Hastings Town Council has resolved to construct a water-balance lift to hoist visitors to the breezy heights of East Hill.

3. *Aeronautics.* (See quot.)

1903 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 4/6 The other chief new point in the construction is the water balance, which will maintain the machine in a horizontal position..as the airship swings round into the wind.

Water-ball.

1. A globe of glass filled with water, used to collect and throw the rays of light upon an object.

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 53. *Ibid.* 281 The Eggs of Silkworms..afford a pretty Object for a Microscope..especially if..the light of a window be cast or collected on it by a deep Convex-glass, or Water-ball.

2. *Hour water-ball* [after *hour-glass*], a contrivance for measuring time by the rising and sinking of a ball in water.

1635 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* Index, An Hour Water-ball.

3. (See quots.)

1696 R. H. *Sch. Recreat.* 30 A Fire that will burn in the Water, or Water Ball. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 43 Water-balls, or globes, made of wood, which swim and burn upon the water.

†Water-bank. *Obs.* A bank of a river; also, the sea-shore.

1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvii. 39 Thei biheelden sum hauene hauynge a water banke, into which thei thouʒten..for to caste the schipp. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4239 For many a Troyen sen thei stonde Armed wel opon the londe, To put hem fro the water bankes. *c* 1425 *St. Christina* vii. In *Anglia* VIII. 122 Þe presate..come and stood vpoun þe watirbanke. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. vi. 125 Thenne were they ware of the herte that lay on a grete water banke, and a brachet bytynge on his throte. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 56 The yerly reparacions of the waterbanke. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 76 Wtheris.. war cruellie slaine wpoun the watter bankis. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Sinus*,..the running or hollowness of Waterbanks.

fig. 1533 tr. *Erasm. Expos. Communs Creed* U ij b, Swearyng..is very cosyn and nere to synne, and it is no good trustyng to this daungerous waterbanke.

†Waterbarge. *Obs.* In 7 -berge. [f. Water *sb.* + **berge*, **barge*, of obscure origin, but app. identical with the first element of Barge-board, -couple, -course. Cf. dial. '*Barge*, *bairge*, the outer edge of a gable' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).] A slab placed along the edge of a roof to afford protection from rain. Hence **†Waterbarge** *v.* (Sc. *-bairge*), to furnish with 'waterbarges'.

*1558 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1896) II. 58 The said Cuthbert to riguell and wattirbairge the saidis Johne C. and to halde hym wattirfast. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 79 This stonne is Easilie hewed and searveth in buildinges to make wyndowes,..Coinestones, waterberges, and wynd berges or any other hewen worke.

Water-bath.

1. *Chem.* A vessel containing boiling water or water heated to a given temperature in or over which preparations are placed in suitable vessels to be digested, evaporated or dried.

1824 *Chem. Recreat.* 226 *Bath (Water)* A vessel of boiling water, in which other vessels containing water are to be

placed. 1879 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 70 The liquid is decanted from the precipitated oxide; the latter is then washed with distilled water, and dried on a water-bath. 1888 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 6 It..has the great advantage of not crystallizing out when cooling after concentration upon the water-bath.

2. = Bain-marie.

1823 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 593 [In] A Design for a Cottage Kitchen Grate...Fig. 526 shows the top of the water-bath, with holes at one end for inserting saucepans. 1891 *Century Dict.*

3. A bath composed of water as distinguished from a vapour-bath.

1891 *Century Dict.* 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 9/2 Equipment..for the treatment of nervous diseases, in the shape of water-baths, electrical appliances, [etc.].

Water-bear. [Bear *sb.*[1]]

†1. = Sea-bear 3. *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Water-Bears*, a sort of Bears in Spitsberg, or North-East Greenland, that live by what they catch in the Sea.

2. A sloth-animalcule.

1852 A. Pritchard *Infusorial Animal.* (new ed.) 685 They are very sluggish in their movements, and are commonly known under the name of 'little water bears'. 1861 H. J. Slack *Marv. Pond-life* 23 Last in the list we have the *Tardigrada*, 'Slow-steppers,' or Water Bears, queer little creatures, something like new-born puppies, with a double allowance of imperfect feet. 1889 [see Sloth *sb.*[1] 5].

Water-bearer.

1. One who carries water; *spec.* one whose employment is to carry water from a spring, well, or river for domestic use. *Obs.* exc. in descriptions of Eastern countries.

1382 Wyclif *Neh.* iii. 26 Gabonites, water bereris forsothe dwelten in Ofel a3en the 3ate of watris at the est. 1466 *Mann. & Housek. Exp.* (Roxb.) 437 Item, owynge to the waterberere for berynge of water, vj.d. 1524–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 328 Receued at the Maryage of chappell, the waturberer, vj d. 1549 Latimer *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 28 Yf there be neuer a wyse man, make a water bearer, a tinker,...a page, comptroller of the mynte. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum* I. iii, *Mat.* Lie in a water-bearers house, a gentleman of his note? well ile tell him my mind. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 9 Their Head-geer a Clout rowled up like our Water-Bearers. 1877 F. Burnaby *Through Asia Minor* I. xx. 229 The gusts [of wind] were a source of..inconvenience to the water-bearers; their hands being occupied with the pitchers.

2. *Astr.* = Aquarius.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc., Cosmogr.* I. xxiv. (1597) 158 The eleauenth Signe called Aquarius, that is to saye, the water bearer contayning two and fourtie starres. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 328 Near the horizon towards the east are perceived the constellations of the Waterbearer and the Goat.

So **Water-bearing** *vbl. sb.*, the action of carrying water as a water-bearer (sense 1).

1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 355 Item, the same day, for Waterberynge xij. d.

Water-bearing, *a.* a. Of a country: Producing water; not arid. b. *Geol.* Of a stratum, bed: Through which water percolates.

1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xlii, The little sienite peak, the last symptom of a water-bearing country, has disappeared behind us. 1864 *Rep. Directors E. Ind. Railway Co.* 23 The large well has been completed, a water-bearing stratum having been reached ... Water ... Rhaetic ... stones and pebble beds are noted for their water-bearing characteristics.

Water-bed.

1. A bed on board ship as distinguished from one ashore. *nonce-use.*

1618 Sandys *Trav.* 27 To his house I repaired, with hope of some refreshment after my wearisome voyage: but he then from home, I was forced to returne to my water-bed.

2. A stratum through which water percolates.

1791 Smeaton *Eddystone L.* § 328 When sunk into deep enough to pierce the water bed. 1886 A. Winchell *Walks Geol. Field* 32 There are districts where waterbeds may be traced for one or two miles.

3. A water-tight mattress partly filled with water, designed to serve as a bed for an invalid.

1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* vii, Water-beds coming by the carrier, and a doctor from London coming down to-morrow. 1862 Sala *Seven Sons* III. i. 5 Who so hale and strong but he may find the water-bed a luxury? 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 720 The severest cases require a water-bed.

4. *Anat.* The cavity between the arachnoidea and pia mater containing cerebrospinal fluid, upon which the brain rests.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 435 In the circle of Willis, where the arteries lie on a yielding water-bed, the subarachnoid space. *Ibid.* VII. 536 A constant secretion of watery fluid into the ventricles is kept up, in order to maintain the water-bed on which the brain rests.

Water-board.

†1. A board to throw off water; a gutter, louver-board, or the like. *Obs.*

1425 *For. Acc.* 8 *Hen. V* D/2 In dinersis pecijs Maeremij Bordis vocatis Waynescotbordis Waterbordis Shipbordis Englishbordis [etc.]. 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 85 To a Carpynter, for his labour, a principall post & a watir borde, xx d. 1585 Higins *Junius Nomencl.* 810/2 *Delguium*,..water boords, or weather bordes: gutters whereinto the house eaues doe drop.

b. (See quot.)

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Water-Boards* or Weather-Boards of a boat, are large boards used to keep out the waves or spray of the sea.

†2. A sideboard upon which the water to be served at a meal was placed. *Obs.*

1474 in *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 320 If any man come to late to mattyns..he shall sytt at the water boarde, and have nothinge unto his dynner but breade and water.

3. (Written *Water Board.*) An administrative body having control of the supply of water to a town or district.

1900 *Daily Chron.* 18 Jan. 6/1 The full title of Mr. Long's promised measure is 'A Bill for establishing a Water Board to manage the supply of water within London and certain adjoining districts'.

‖ **Waterbok** (wɔ̄·təlbɒk). Also 9 -boo, -book; and see Water-buck. [a. Du. *waterbok*, f. *water* Water *sb.* + *bok* (see Buck *sb.*[1] 1 e).] = Water-buck.

c 1890 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 813 The other, a waterboc, was found in Karagüé. 1863 Speke *Discov. Nile* iii. 36 'The bags' we made counted two brindled gnú, four water-boc, one pallah-boc, and one pig. 1873 Ellen B. Frewer tr. *Schweinfurth's Hrt. Africa* v. (1878) 160 These antelopes belonged to the Waterboks (*Antilope ellipsiprymna*)...The hair of this species of Waterbock is extremely long and soft. 1888 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 336 The Waterbok of South Africa (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*), which extends through Central Africa up to Abyssinia, where it is known as the Mdhedéhet.

Water-boot[1]. = Boots[2].

1665–76 Ray *Flora* 133 The double Marsh-marigold is no other than that we commonly call the Water-Boot. 1846 [Anne Pratt] *Wild Flowers of Year* 27 The marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) is well known in villages as the water-blob and water-boot.

Water-boot[2]. [Boot *sb.*[2]] A kind of jack-boot designed for the use of those who have to stand or walk in water.

1813 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 88, I tramped in water boots to the town of Christchurch. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 62 Water Boots of all lengths. 1887 Baring-Gould *Gaverocks* x, Last time I went up clattering in my water-boots: I'm to go in pumps, that is what she means.

Water-borne, *a.* [Borne *ppl. a.*]

1. Of a boat: Supported by the water so as to be clear of the ground or bottom upon which it has rested; afloat.

1608 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* E 2 b, Into which River he passed with his wheeles, vntill he was water-borne. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 114 When a ship is even just of the ground that she floates, then she is water-borne. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 254 Launches..were employed in carrying out warps to drag the ships through the mud, as soon as they should be water-borne. 1896 *Strand Mag.* XII. 322/2 The available width for launching is limited, and ships, as a rule, must be pulled up as soon as they are water-borne or completely afloat.

b. *transf.* Said of a living body or an inanimate object.

1886 R. C. Leslie *Sea Painter's Log* I. 13 Redshanks, godwits, knots, and other waders can move as fast or faster just waterborne in shallow pools..than they can run. 1886 *Manch. Courier* 14 Dec. 8/5 He thought most of the [capsized lifeboat] men were water-borne. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courr.* iii. 73 In a dory the weight of a cod is water-borne till the last minute.

2. Of goods: a. Carried or transported by water; conveyed by ship or boat. Hence of traffic, commerce.

1702 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* V. 158 This day they [the commons]..past the bill for measuring waterborn fruit. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4818/1 Duties upon Coals to be Waterborn, and carried Coast-wise. 1790 *Act* 30 *Geo. III*, c. 55 § 17 Butter..to be..water-borne, from the said Market, shall be viewed. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* xi. 332 Fruit and Vegetables, water-borne on the Thames. 1872 *Daily News* 29 May, Scarcely one-third of the fish brought to Billingsgate is waterborne. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* July 35/2 The orders were to avoid all collisions with the enemy as long as he made no attempt to interrupt our water-borne traffic. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* July 180 Sailing directions are as old as water-borne commerce.

b. Put aboard a vessel for shipment.

1558–9 Gresham in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 258 To understand perfectly at the customers' hands, at the same day, whether all the cloths and kerseys be entryed and shipped and water-borne. And being once all water-borne, then to make a stay of all the fleete. 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II*, c. 11 § 7 If any Wharfinger..shall Ship off or suffer to be Waterborn at or from any of theire said Wharfs..any Goods.. prohibited..such Wharfinger..shall..pay the Summe of One hundred pounds. 1859 in *Merc. Marine Mag.* (1860) VII. 7 Goods thus shipped, or water-borne to be shipped.

3. Of disease: Communicated or propagated by the use of contaminated drinking-water.

1892 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 2/1 Any waterborne epidemic. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 358 That leads to the dissemination of water-borne diseases.

Water bottle.

1. A vessel of leather or skin used in certain countries, esp. by water-bearers or water-carriers, to convey water for domestic use.

1592 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Zamgos, saguos*, water bottle, *Lagena, viterculus.* 1914 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 6 A little tip-tapping burros..with panniers holding water-bottles, came round to the doors [in Valparaiso].

2. A bottle to hold drinking water. a. One placed on the table for use at meals or in a bedroom.

1829 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prince.* vi, The washing-stand [was] soapless, the ewer and water-bottle empty. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Thoughts about People*, If he can get it [the newspaper] while he is at dinner, he eats with much greater zest; balancing it against the water-bottle. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xx, He held out the tiny glass, and I half filled it from the water bottle on the wash-stand.

b. A kind of flask used by soldiers and travellers.

1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* vi, By an afterthought, we filled our water-bottles,..and they will continue fresh and unfaded, the best part of a month.

1898 *Daily News* 8 Mar, 3/2 [The soldiers] will have to carry nothing but their rifles—not even their water bottles.

3. *nonce-use.* A bottle filled with water.

1766 Smollett *Trav.* xiii. I. 224 He places them [the cut carnations] in water-bottles,..and they will continue fresh and unfaded, the best part of a month.

†Water-bouge. *Obs.* [Cf. the earlier Water-bulge.] = Water-bouget. (In quots. *Her.*)

c 1449 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 223 The Water-Bowge and the Wyne-Botelle, With the Vetturlockes cheyne bene fast. 1550 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 482 Two stampes of the water boudge for vessell. A brande of the water boudge to marke cattell. 1572 [see Bouge *sb.*[1] 2 b].

Water bouget. *Obs.* exc. *Her.*

†1. A skin or leather bag formerly used to carry water, usually carried in pairs either slung across a stick over the shoulder or across the back of a horse.

a 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F j b, Theese are no hose, but watter bougets,..Good for none, but suche as haue no buttockes. 1632 [see 2].

2. *Her.* = Bouget.

1632 Guillim *Heraldry* IV. xviii. (ed. 2) 354 The Waterbowgets, which in ancient times were vsed to carry and conserue in the Campe that vsefull element of Water. 1688, 1859 [see Bouget]. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiii. 215 The lining is semée of small water-bougets, sable. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her.*, *Water-bouget*, a yoke with two large skins appended to it, formerly used for the conveyance of water to an army.

Water-bough. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (See quots. 1618, 1699 and cf. Water-shoots.)

1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 263 As water bowes beeþ I-kutte and I-hewe of treen. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. li (1495) 604 Yf water bowes and superfluyte ben pared of: the tree bereth the beter and the more fruyte. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 129 Cut away all the water-bowes, and the small bowes, that the principall bowes may haue the more sap. 1591 Greene *Farew. Follie* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 259 As the fairest Cedar hath his water boughes,..and the sweetest rose his prickle: so in a crowne is hidden far more care than content. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orchard & Garden* xi. (1623) 38 Water boughes, or vndergrowth, are such boughes as grow low vnder others and are by them ouergrowne, ouershadowed, dropped on, and pinde for want of plentie of sap. 1699 Meager *New Art Gard.* 46 Take the Water-boughs away, which are those on the Standards that are shaded, and drupt upon, remaining smooth and naked without Buds. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xi, The stem rises, without a fork, for sixty feet or more, and rolls out at the top into a head very like that of an elm trimmed up, and like an elm too in its lateral water-boughs.

Water-bound, *a.* [Bound *ppl. a.*[2]]

†1. *Allusive nonce-use.* Unable to shed tears.

Perh. merely coined to match the corresponding use of *wind-bound* in the context. But it is possible that sense 2 was current in Fuller's time.

1646 Fuller *Wounded Consc.* (1647) 62 And though thou beest water-bound, be not wind-bound also, sigh, where thou canst not sob.

2. Confined or detained by floods. Cf. Wind-bound *a.*

1862 *New York Tribune* 30 Apr. 1/3 While water-bound, it [a foraging party] was attacked by guerrillas.

3. Of clay: ? Impervious to water. ? *Obs.*

1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* Oct. (1744) 136 Yet in some Years it [the clay] is very apt to be Water bound and Steely.

4. Of macadam roads: Solidified by rolling and watering.

1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/1 Where water is scarce..for the re-coating of a water-bound road. 1919 *Glasgow Her.* 24 June 4 Mr. Drummond has no hesitation in calling for the abolition of the long-established water-bound macadam.

Water-break.

†1. An irruption of water: = *water-breach* (Water *sb.* 20). *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. vi. 15 Quhen the burne on spalt hurlis doun the bank, Othir throw a water brek, or spait of fluide.

2. Broken water, a piece of broken water.

1806 Wordsw. *Misc. Sonn.* II. xxxi. 5 Brook!..whom the curious Painter doth pursue Through rocky passes,..And tracks thee dancing down thy water-breaks. 1835 — *To May* 75 Streams..Gurgling in foamy water-break, Loitering in glassy pool. 1850 Clough *Dipsychus* II. iv. 94 The dashing stream Stays not to pick his steps among the rocks, Or let his water-breaks be chronicled. 1853 Tennyson *Brook* 61 And here and there a foamy flake Upon me, as I travel With many a silvery waterbreak Above the golden gravel. 1899 Stopf. A. Brooke in L. P. Jacks *Life & Lett.* (1917) II. v. xxv. 512 The gay stream, which..runs from one foaming water-break to another.

3. A breakwater. ? *nonce-use.*

1875 tr. *Comte de Paris' Hist. Civ. War America* I. 448 This island..stretches in front of the entrance of Pensacola Bay; and at the extremity of this natural waterbreak stands Fort Pickens.

Water-buck. [Anglicized form of Du. Waterbok: see Buck *sb.*[1] 1 e.] A species of antelope, *Cobus ellipsiprymnus*, found in watered districts in central South Africa; an animal of this species which is marked with a characteristic white ring round the buttocks. Sometimes applied to other species, as the Sing-sing (*C. defassa*).

1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 120/2, I..rode up to the banks of the river with my dogs to seek for water-buck. 1876 T. E. Buckley in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 284 Cobus ellipsiprymnus. (The Waterbuck.) A common species, extending from the Zulu country through the east of Equatorial Africa into Abyssinia...It seems never to be found far

from water, through which it does not hesitate to go when alarmed. 1910 Roosevelt *Afr. Game Trails* ix. 215 Kermit killed a waterbuck of a kind new to us—the sing-sing. *Ibid.* x. 227, I spent a couple of days trying for sing-sing waterbuck on the edge of the papyrus.

attrib. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* iii. 87, I had two good chances at buffaloes,..one at a waterbuck ram. *Ibid.* v. 125 A waterbuck skin. 1910 Roosevelt *Afr. Game Trails* x. 228, I killed a fine waterbuck cow at a hundred yards.

Water-budge. Also 7 -bugge. †a. = Water-bouget. *Obs.* b. *dial.* A cask on wheels, to serve as a water-cart.

1541 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 310 For ij halters for the water budgis, ij d. for shoyng of the water budges horse, vj d. 1603 Stow *Surv.* 349 Stephen Bugge Gent. his Armes be three water bugges, 1419. 1897 Mrs. Comyns Carr *Cottage Folk* 3 The stubble-field where her comrades [*sc.* hoppers in Sussex] were laughing and chattering around the water-budge that had been drawn up in its midst.

Water budget. = Water bouget. †a. *gen. Obs.* b. *Her. rare.*

a. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Odre*, a water budget, a bottle. 1706 J. Stevens *Span. Eng. Dict., Zangle*, a Water-budget to carry Water in. 1836 *Beckford's Vathek* 12 Is it not enough to have transformed a prince..into a water budget? [F. *une outre*; 1786 *reads* one of those leather barrels, which *etc.*] Perceivest thou not, that I may perish by drinking to excess?

b. 1562 Legh *Armory* 176 b, He beareth Sanguine, a Gorge, Argent. Though this seme vnlikely to be a water budget, yet hath it long time been so taken, and so blazed. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 704/1 The Water Budget or bucket is an early charge identified with the names of Ros and Rose.

†Water bulge. *Obs. rare*[−1]. = Water bouge. *c* 1230 [see Bulge 1].

Water-butt. A large open-headed cask set up on end to receive the rain-water from a roof.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 448 Water-butt and stand. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Early Coaches*, The water is 'coming in' in every area, the pipes have burst, the water-butts are running over. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxxii, A woman as round and big as our largest water-butt. 1873 Miss Thackeray *Wks.* (1891) I. 70 George jumped out of window on to the water-butt, to see what was the matter.

b. A contemptuous epithet for a teetotaller.

1898 *Daily News* 4 May 6/6 Scoffing comrades couldn't call *him* a waterbutt or a milksop.

Water-can.

1. A portable vessel (in mod. use, of tin-plate or other metal) for holding or conveying water.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 361 With þat he brocht a vatir-cane, & laurens hyme baptist þane. *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 485 Lauour basyn et poot ewer And watur-canne. 1687 Shadwell *Juvenal, Sat.* x. 100 Mechanicks soon from that so Worship't face Forge little Platters, and small water Cans [L. *urceolos*]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Water-can*, a tin vessel for holding water for a dressing-room.

b. *Astr.*

1870 Proctor *Other Worlds* xii. 287 The two streams from the Water-can of Aquarius.

2. The yellow water-lily, *Nuphar lutea*, so called from the shape of the seed-vessels. Also the white water-lily, *Nymphæa alba*.

1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xx. 135 With Water-cans againe, some [Nymphs] wantonly them dight, Whose larger leafe and flower, gaue wonderfull delight. 1630 — *Muses Elisium* (1892) 18 Water-cans and King-cups ranck. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 489 *Nymphæa lutea*...Yellow Water Lilly, or Watercan. *Ibid., N. alba*...Water-lily, Water-can.

Water-carriage.

1. Conveyance or transportation of people, goods, etc. by water.

1536 *MS. Rawl. D.* 780 fol. 74 For the water carriage of xj loodes iiij fote of the sayd tymbre. 1548–9 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 39 For the water caryage of hangynges ffrom the blake ffryers to the courte at westminster. *a* 1687 Petty *Polit. Arith.* I. (1691) 10 Conveniencies for Shipping and Water-Carriage. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 4 b, The easy bringing in..of Necessaries, both by Land Carriage and Water Carriage. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xix, The Maes,..traversing the city in various directions, offered to every quarter the commercial facilities of water-carriage. *c* 1875 Flor. Nightingale in *Contemp. Rev.* (1914) Apr. 514 Is not water-carriage generally the cheapest, the working expenses being so exceedingly small?

b. Carrying away (of sewage) by water.

1873 B. Latham *Sanitary Engin.* 39 When a complete system of sewerage is intended to be carried out, and water-carriage is to be used for the removal of all the refuse and fiscal matter usually transported by sewers. 1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 9 June 728/1 Mr. Richard Monson asked..if he considered it a better plan to store sewage at every dwelling than to remove it directly by means of water-carriage. *Ibid.*, It was impossible at the present moment to say whether the old prevailing system in this country was better or worse than the water-carriage system.

2. Means or facilities for transporting by water.

1727 Arbuthnot *Tables Anc. Coins* etc. 228 Ptolomy Philadelphus..open'd the Water-carriage from Alexandria to the Indies, by establishing Staples on the Canals of the Nile. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 25 The timber, by its remoteness from water carriage, is of small value. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xxix. 504 The great object of my journey being to secure water carriage.
There is natu
effectually to
offered by good water-carriage.

†b. *collectively.* Vessels, boats. *Obs.*

1727 Arbuthnot *Tables Anc. Coins* etc. 215 The most brittle Water-carriage was used among the Egyptians, who, as Strabo saith, would sail sometimes in Boats made of Earthen-ware.

3. *dial.* A channel for carrying off water.

1794 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 37 The manager of the mead ..begins cleaning out the main drain, then the main carriage, and then proceeds to..make good all the water carriages that the cattle have trodden down. 1829 Rees *Cycl.*, VI. R 3, s. v. *Canal*, A cut or water-carriage may be taken out of the summit's level, and carried on along the side of the hill with a proper fall. 1898 Miss Yonge *Keble's Parishes* vi. 72 He ..took his revenge by a flying leap over a broad 'water carriage,' leaving them to follow as they could.

Water-carrier.

1. One who transports goods, etc. by water, not by land or railway. In quot. 1764, a barge-master.

1764 [J. Burton] *Pres. St. Navig. Thames* 14 These Water-carriers..look upon themselves as Masters and Lords of the River;..refusing Carriage of Goods, but on their own Terms, [etc.]. 1881 *Chicago Times* 17 June, The railroads, in their anxiety to secure employment for their idle rolling-stock, will bid against the water-carriers. 1892 *Daily News* 4 Aug. 3/4 Their [*sc.* the railway company's] carrying traffic in wool..had suffered..through the competition of a combination of water carriers.

2. A man (or animal) that carries water; *esp.* in oriental countries, the native who supplies an establishment or a number of troops with water.

1787 tr. *Volney's Trav. Syria & Egypt* (1788) I. 256 *note*, At Cairo, it is observed, that the water-carriers, continually wet with the fresh water they carry in skins upon their backs, are never subject to the plague. 1824 Morier *Hajji Baba* ix, The muleteer..recommended me strongly to become a *saka*, or water-carrier. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 374 These bees are water-carriers. 1882 F. M. Crawford *Mr. Isaacs* xi. 231, I told him to send a *bhisti*, a water-carrier, with his leathern bucket. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXIII. 760/1 Some of the burros were water carriers, with great earthen jars swung in pairs against their panting sides.

3. Something that carries water.

a. A tank or other vessel for carrying water. (See also quot. 1875.)

1854 *Hull Improv. Act* 36 A sufficient number of..water-carriers, trucks, water-carts. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Water-carrier*, a form of water-elevator in which the bucket lifted from the well or cistern is transported on wires to the house at a considerable distance.

b. *dial.* An open channel for water, esp. in an irrigated meadow.

1879 Jefferies *Wild Life* 373 The wild duck..swim in the water-carriers in the great irrigated meadows.

c. *dial.* A rain-cloud.

a 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 16 The water-carriers, harnessed to the south and west winds, drilling the long rows of rain like seeds into the earth.

Water-cart. A cart, usually a barrel or tank on wheels, carrying water; chiefly, an apparatus of this kind intended for watering the streets, the receptacle being fitted with an arrangement by which the water escapes through a number of small holes as the vehicle goes along.

1707–8 Mortimer *Husb.* (J.) Agentleman..watered St. foin ..with a water-cart. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* II. 49 A barrel cart, or what is commonly called a water-cart. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 278 Some superior managers even supply them [*sc.* sheep] regularly with water, in long narrow troughs, led by means of a water-cart, while in the fold on dry hay. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* i, Performing the part of three water-carts for the benefit of their dusty roads. 1875 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* V. 56 During the filling of the water-cart, through its leathern pipe, from the dripping iron post at the pavement edge. 1914 *Daily News* 20 Aug. 6 A half battalion..marched up, hoisted their machine guns and watercart aboard, [etc.].

b. *Comb.*, esp. in jocular allusions to weeping.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xvi, Come, come,..blow this 'ere water-cart bis'ness. *Ibid.* xlv, I'm wery much mistaken if that 'ere Jingle worn't a-doin' somethin' in the water-cart way! *a* 1839 Hood *Ode to St. Swithin* 59 Why task yourself to lay the dust in streets, As if there were no Water-Cart contractors.

Water-cask. A cask to contain water; † in 17th c. *collectively.* On board ship, the common receptacle of drinking-water.

1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 31 The Coopers provided themselues of rotans for water caske, which make excellen hoopes. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. i. 152, I received an order from Captain — to..put all my Cargo into her; as also all my Water-cask. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 86 We had filled our water-casks and taken in what fresh provisions we could get. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xi, I..ran to the water-cask. 1862 G. T. Lloyd *30 Yrs. Tasmania* i. 3 We arrived at Bona Vista..in order to replenish our odoriferous water-casks and exhausted hen-coops.

†Water-caster. *Obs.*

1. One who practises inspection of patients' urine as a means of diagnosis: in early use sometimes depreciatively applied to the medical profession generally; latterly, used as equivalent to 'quack'. Cf. Cast *v.* 40.

1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yr.* D 3, Hipocrates, Aulcen, Paracelsus,..with all their succeeding rabble of Doctors and Water-casters. 1609 — *Ravens Alm.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. [illegible]

E. W[ilson] *Spadacrene Dunelm.* 63 Oppilation or Obstruction, a noted hard word amongst our Water-casters, those pedantick pretenders to Science. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 213 The country people have long been deceived by water casters, as they are denominated. 1808 Cabb *Crown Glass.*

fig. 1712 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 3 (1713) I. 23, I am just running to a State Water-caster, to resolve me a Horary Question.

2. ? A workman employed to sprinkle water.

1610 *Accounts. Wages* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 324 A water Caster, v*d*. A caster of stone Clay or marle, v*d*.

Water-cat.

†1. ? A kind of firework. Also *attrib. Obs.*

1709 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 22 Taking two measures for each lay of water-cat-charge, and a little corn powder between each. *Ibid.* 24 Charges for water-cats.

2. A book-name of a variety of otter (see quot.).

1889 *Century Dict., Water-cat*, the nair, or Oriental otter *Lutra nair*, translating a Mahratta name.

†Water-chain. *Obs.* A chain formerly inserted between the bit and the leather rein of a bridle, to prevent the leather from being rotted by the water when the horse drinks.

1598 Florio, *Siciliana*, the water-cheine of a bit. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* viii. xlv. § 13. 371 The remembrance of which field is retained vnto this day, by certaine small Hilles there remaining, whence haue beene digged the bones of men, Armour, and the water-chaines of horse-bridles.

Water-clock[1]. [Clock *sb.*[1]] An instrument actuated by water for the measurement of time. Applied, e.g. to the Clepsydra of the ancients, and to inventions of Sir Isaac Newton and others.

1601 Holland *Pliny* viii. lx. I. 191 This manner of Horologe or water-clocke, hee dedicated in the end within house. 1634 J. B[ate] *Myst. Nat. & Art* 39 A Water-Clock, or a Glasse shewing the houre of the day. 1723 E. Stone tr. *Bion's Math. Instrum.* viii. vii. (1758) 253 Of the Construction of a Water-Clock. This Clock is composed of a Metalline well soldered Cylinder,..wherein is a certain Quantity of prepared water, and several little Cells, which communicate with each other by Holes near the Circumference. 1727 Stukeley in Turnor *Grantham* (1806) 177 Sir Isaac's water clock..resembled pretty much our common clocks...There was a dial plate at top with figures of the hours. The index was turned by a piece of wood, which either fell or rose by water dropping. 1825 Fosbroke *Encycl. Antiq.* 347 *Water-clock*, A new kind was invented in Italy about the middle of the seventeenth century. A cylinder, divided into several small cells, was suspended,..in a frame, in which the hours' distances, found by trial, were marked out. As the water flowed from one cell to another, it changed very slowly the centre of gravity of the cylinder, and put it in motion. 1855 J. H. Newman *Callista* vi. (1856) 47 Here the rushing of the water-clock which measured time in the neighbouring square ceased, signifying thereby that the night was getting on. 1894 Boase *Register Exeter Coll.* (O.H.S.) p. lxxxix, [16th c.] Logic lectures were given from 6 to 7 in the morning,.. The time was reckoned by a waterclock.

†Water-clock[2]. *Obs.* [Clock *sb.*[2]] An aquatic beetle.

1634 Mouffet *Theat. Ins.* I. xxiii. 164 Scarabei aquatici.. quos..Germani *Wasser hafers*, Angli, Waterclocks appellant. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vii. ii. 172 The Great English Waterclock. *Hydrocantharus major Anglicus.*

Water-closet. A closet or small room fitted up to serve as a privy, and furnished with water-supply to flush the pan and discharge its contents into a waste-pipe below. Often abbreviated W.C.

Sometimes applied to the pan and the connected apparatus for flushing and discharge; also, loosely, to any kind of privy.

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 100 It was always my office..to attend him in the water-closet when he took a cathartic. 1760 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 25 Oct., A little after seven, he went into the water-closet. 1819 Scott in *Lockhart* IV. 248, I am happy to learn it has that useful English comfort, a water-closet. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 409 The different parts of water-closets are made in a similar way, and sold to the plumber. 1825 Fosbroke *Encycl. Antiq.* 348 Water-closet. That of the palace of the Cæsars is adorned with marble, arabesques and mosaicks. 1877 H. Robinson & Mellish *Purif. Water-carried Sewage* 1 Water-closets do not add very much to the volume of sewage.

attrib. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 218 Fine water-closet latch, with snibbing-bolt. 1873 B. Latham *Sanitary Engin.* 39 A district in which the water-closet system is intended only to be partially adopted.

Hence **Water-closeted**, *a.* [-ed.[2]], fitted or provided with water-closets.

1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 9 June 725/2 A town..well water-closeted and containing no manufactories.

Water-colour.

†1. The colour of water, blue, greyish-blue. *Obs.*

c 1425 *MS. Digby* 233 fol. 224/2 Loke þat..þe mennes clothing by coloured with venet colour þat is water coloure. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Colour d'azur & d'eaue*, azure, or water colour, skie colour.

2. A pigment for which water and not oil is used as a solvent. Usually in *plural.* Also *fig.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 80 And neuer yet did Insurrection want Such water colours, to impaint his cause. 1634 J. B[ate] *Myst. Nat.* 120 Painting may be performed either with water colours or with oyle colours. 1637 Suckling *Aglaura* ii. i, The loud talking crowd Will think it all but water colours Laid on for a time. 1674 Grew *Anat. Plants, Anat. Trunks* (1682) 138 Smaller Pictures in Water-Colours. 1749 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 2 Oct., It is all one to me, whether in enamel or in water colours, provided it is but very like you. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 187 It would be a cheap and usefull water-colour. 1807 Mrs. Grant *Lett. fr. Mountains* I. (ed. 2) Pref. p. viii, It is for such minds as these to distinguish the durable pencil of truth from the water-colours of fiction. 1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor* etc. 168 A most beautiful drawing in water colours. 1899 Dickens *T. Two Cities* II. vi, Lucie's..work-table and box of water-colours. 1903 M. A. Stein *Sand-Buried Ruins of Khotan* xviii. (1904) 271 The thin layer of water-colour with which they are painted has suffered much.

3. A picture painted with water-colours.

1854 Rossetti in *Atlantic Monthly* (1896) May 589/2, I shall make him a small water-colour in exchange. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxvi. (1898) 183 It was a pleasant sunny [illegible] it hung with immense pictures of game and fruit, but with light and bright water-colours. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* 299 There was Landhaven itself, glittering in

the morning light, a water-colour in white and red, as the wet tiles took the sun, and the warmth beneath melted the thin snow.

4. The art or method of painting with water-colours.

1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. I. vii. § 19 The more specific study of mountains seems to have coincided with the more dexterous practice of water-colour. 1909 C. J. HOLMES *Picture-making* 170 In water colour proper the washes of colour are laid directly on the paper, usually over a faint pencil outline.

5. *attrib.*, as *water-colour cake, drawing, exhibition, painting.*

1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 112 A great many fine Water-colour Paintings, that are brought hither from Rome. 1839 HOOD *Literary & Lit.* 32 Men that deal in water-colour cakes. 1896 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. iii, A very pretty drawing.. which had been in the water-colour exhibition. 1862 W. SANDBY *R. Acad.* I. 103 The founder of the English school of water-colour painting. 1876 S. REDGRAVE *Catal. Water-Col. Paintings* 15 When water colour drawing..emerged from mere Indian ink or other monochrome tint. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* vii, Water-colour drawings on the wall.

Wa'ter-co'loured, *a.*

1. Painted or executed in water-colours.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 584 A very large and curiously drawn water-coloured chart. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 165 His cabinet is hung with twenty water-coloured or opaque drawings. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* iii, The walls ordinarily covered with French prints and water-coloured sporting-sketches.

2. Of the colour of water. *rare.*

1705 BEVERLY *Virginia* II. iv. (1722) 112 The other [sort of cherry]..is Water-colour'd within. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 138 When polished, the fragments [of granite] appear as if set or inlaid in a fine pellucid or water-coloured matter.

Wa'ter-co'lourist. [f. WATER-COLOUR + -IST.] One who paints in water-colours.

1850 in OGILVIE. 1870 *Daily News* 2 Dec., The old water-colourists dwell in a medium of perpetual beeswing. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 20 If you have any very patient, keen and skilful water-colourist among you.

Wa'tercourse.

1. A stream of water, a river or brook; also an artificial channel for the conveyance of water.

1510 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 31 Item of Rychard wood for a watercorse, *jd.* 1550 W. HUNNIS *Ps.* vi. (1583) 3 Nor in the deepe, and water course, That passeth vnder ground. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xliv. 4 They shall spring vp..as willowes by the water courses. 1724 *Act 11 Geo. I*, c. 11 § 7 To cleanse any Ditch or Water-course adjoyning to the said Roads. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 229 My own ditches or watercourses are four feet wide. 1849 LAYARD *Nineveh & Rem.* I. vii. 175 Water-courses, once carrying fertility to many gardens, were now empty and dry. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* i. 7 Water-courses, from the tiniest runnel up to the ample river.

attrib. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* iv. 60 In its form, one of these shields is an elongated and convex oblong, somewhat resembling a hollowed water-course tile.

fig. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Nowell's Catech.* 68 b, From the spring hed of his diuine liberalitie as it were by certaine guiding of water courses, God conueyeth his benefites to vs by the handes of men.

b. in legal use (see quot. 1848).

1576 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 385 The dyche, tearmed to be a water course,..hath bene stopped. 1626 WHITLOCK, J. in Bulstrode *Rep.* III. (1659) 340 A Water course doth not begin by prescription, nor yet by assent, but the same doth begin *ex jure naturæ*, having taken this course naturally, and cannot be averted. 1682 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* I. xvii. § 12. 343 Without such a Servitude, Water may not be altered or diverted from its course, as was found, where the Water-course was the March betwixt the Heretors. 1723 *Mod. Rep.* (1769) II. 274 For suppose a man hath a water-course running through his ground, and his neighbour diverts it, this is no trespass. 1832 *Act 2 & 3 Will. IV*, c. 71 § 2 No Claim which may be lawfully made..to any Water-course, or the Use of any Water, to be enjoyed [etc.]. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex., Watercourse*, a species of incorporeal hereditament, being a right which one has to the benefit of the flow of a river or stream, such right commonly referring to a stream passing through one's land.

†**c.** *Court of the Watercourse* (see quot.). *Obs.*

[1605 *Act 11 Will. III* c. 21. § 14 Any Right..claimed.. for the holding a certaine Court within the said Mannor [of Gravesend] called Curia Cursus Aquæ or The Court of the Watercourse for the better Government of Barges Boats and Vessells useing the Ferry or Passage from the Towne of Gravesend to London.

2. The bed or channel of a river or stream.

1586 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) I. 1. 36 We present owen symones hathe not mendyd the watter cowrse of hys close by gosien lane. 1679–88 *Moneys Secr. Serv. Chas. II & Jas. II* (Camden) 88 To scowre the ditches and water-courses at Hampton Court, to keep the fowle there. 1725 DE FOE *Voy round World* (1840) 265 He presently threw out the water, with the sand [etc.]..into the ordinary water-course. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 402 A want of relation in the position of alluvial beds to the existing watercourses may be no test of the high antiquity of such deposits. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) x. 248 Reaching the valley ..by the left bank of the stream, or rather watercourse.

†**3.** ? The flow of water. *Obs.*—°

1552 HULOET, Water course, *agmen, inis*, (?) *quia aqua habet impetum.*

†**4.** The fairway or width of water-surface under a bridge. *Obs. rare.*

1735 J. PRICE *Stone Br. Thames* 5 The Space of the Water, or Water-course, will be 600 Feet between the Piers.

†**5.** *Anat.* **a.** = AQUEDUCT 3. **b.** The hypogastrium. *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 222 In the lower belly..because this is easily dilated as the burthen increaseth, and in the lower part of it called the watercourse or *Hypogastrium.*

Ibid. VIII. XIV. (1631) 582 The watercourse or darke hole betwixt the Mamillary processes and appendix called Styloides.

Wa'ter-cra'cker.

1. A kind of firework. ? *Obs.*

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 22 The water-crackers, or divers are commonly rammed..in cases.

2. A Prince Rupert's drop.

1887 *Sci. Amer.* 29 Mar. 181/1 In this way I have taken a water cracker, as they [Prince Rupert drops] are called in the factory, several feet long, and broken it four or five times.

3. *U.S.* A water-biscuit. 1892 in *Century Dict.*

Wa'ter-craft.

1. Skill in water-matters.

1566 *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 13 § 1 To foresee the good Encrease and Mayntenaunce of Shypps and of all kinde of Men traded and browght upp by Water Crafte moost meete for her Majesties Marine Service. 1668 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 544, I saw Beduins swimming there, and wondered at this watercraft in men of the dry deserts. 1904 R. J. FARRER *Garden Asia* 255 Their tact in water-craft is our sole protection from drowning.

2. A vessel that plies on the water; such vessels collectively.

1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* F 2, All the Shippes, Carackes,..Barkes, and Water-crafts, that are now..in the world. 1868 B. J. LOSSING *The Hudson* 203 A broad and beautiful bay, at all times animated with a variety of water-craft. 1916 R. CULLUM *Men who wrought* iv, The object lying upon the table .. was a ten-foot model of a strange-looking water craft.

Wa'ter-crane.

1. An apparatus for supplying water from an elevated tank (now esp. to the tender of a locomotive).

1698 T. WILLSFORD *Nat. Secrets* 156 From hence it is, that the Air in Water-cranes and pumps being sucked out, the waters..are forced to rise. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Water-crane*, a goose-neck apparatus for supplying water from an elevated tank to the tender of a locomotive engine.

2. A crane worked by hydraulic power.

1849 J. GLYNN *Constr. Cranes* 112 The Water Cranes shown..are Two Self-Acting Machines.

Wa'ter-cress. [Cf. MLG., MDu. *waterkerse*, G. *wasserkresse.*]

1. The hardy perennial, *Nasturtium officinale* (N. O. *Cruciferæ*), found in abundance near springs and in small running streams, and now widely cultivated for use as a salad. Also applied to other species of *Nasturtium.*

Often in *plural*, esp. as denoting an article of food: in the 17th and 18th c. the sing. is hardly found.

a. *sing.*

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 209 Watercresse, *nascorium gallicanum.* *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. (1910) 76 Pise bene herbez necessary to þe werk of clistry, *scilicet* Violette, maluez,..watercresse. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xvii. 201 Water Cresse being boiled in wine [etc.]..is verie good against the scuruie. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 75/2 To make sownde Teeth. Take Watercresse, and rubbe the same with wine, and heerwith washe your mouth often times. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 582 Sisymbrium sylvestre,..Creeping Water Cress. 1800 E. DARWIN *Phytol.* xi. 269 In the winter months the rise of springs may be detected by the presence of aquatic plants, as of water-cress. 1881 F. G. HEATH *My Garden Wild* xiii. 216, I grew in my stream, some Watercress, whose pinnate leaves are so frequently eaten. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 124 The artificial culture of water-cress is comparatively modern.

b. *pl.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 5767 Withinne grene and mychel weed, Waterkressen and heighe reed. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 352 Sepe malue, paritorie, violet, watircressen in watir & lete þe patient sitte þeron anoon to þe nauele. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 165 Senacio, narstucium aquaticum idem,.. watercresses. 1528 PAYNELL *Reg. Sanit. Salerni* (1541) 85 Watercresses doth cure tothe ache. 1590 LODGE *Euphues Golden Legacie* (1592) O 2, My Loues shall growe vp as the water Cresses, slowly, but with a deepe roote. 1611 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 196 Given to a man which gott the watercresses and brooke lime, vj*d*. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Cress*, Water-Cresses have a sharp and biting Taste. 1799 SOUTHEY *Cross Roads* 8 There were water-cresses growing, And pleasant was the water's flowing. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Boarding-ho.* ii, Tibbs..began eating water-cresses like a Nebuchadnezzar. 1851–61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 145/1 The first coster-cry heard of a morning in the London streets is that of 'Fresh wo-orter-cresses'. 1860 LONGF. *Waysides Inn, Saga K. Olaf* VII. 24 He loved ..his brook with its water-cresses.

2. Applied (chiefly as book-names) to some other cruciferous plants, esp. *Cardamine amara, C. pratensis*, and *Helioscadium nodiflorum.*

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 167 Watercresse, *Apium ranarum.* 1538 TURNER *Libellus*, Cresses, water, *Cardamine.* 1548 — *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 47 Lauer or Sion is called of some englishe men Bellrragges, of other some yealowe watercresses. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. lx. 625 The seconde kinde is called..in Englishe, the lesser Watercresse, and Coccow flowers. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xviii. 202 There be sixe kindes of wilde herbes numbered among the water Cresse which followe in order. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 347 Cress, American Water. *Cardamine rotundifolia.*

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *water-cress-bed, -gatherer, -growing* vbl. sb.; **water-cress green**, a particular shade of green.

1906 *Daily Chron.* 21 Aug. 7/6 Extensive °watercress beds. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 125 A notice warning off the poor °water-cress gatherer. 1884 *Daily News* 27 Oct. 5/1 A costume of this in °watercress green is made. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 124 °Water-cress growing is an increasing business in the Thames Valley. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, °Water-cress seller.

Hence **Wa'tercressed, Wa'tercressy** *adjs.* (*nonce-wds.*), containing or abounding in water-cress.

1808 WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 284 Over all the water-cressy and puddocky ditches. 1845 TALFOURD *Vac. Tourists* I. 91 We walked on beside a little water-cressed stream.

Wa'ter-cure. [CURE *sb.*[1] 5 b; after G. *wasserkur.*] A method or course of medical treatment by means of water.

1842 [see CURE *sb.*[1] 5 b]. 1843 ARDY *Water Cure* 112 To suppose, that the water cure will have as fair a trial in England as vaccination has had in Germany. 1845 *Murray's Hand-bk. Continent* (ed. 5) 428, 36 m. beyond Landeck..is the Water Cure establishment of Vincent Priessnitz at Gräfenberg. 1857 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Mar. 244/2 We sallied out to climb the long hill—half way up which, shone the white-washed walls of the great Silesian Water-cure.

Hence **Wa'ter-curer, -curing.**

1849 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 46 This shall be the last of my water-curing for the present. 1900 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 4/6 The late Pastor Kneip, the Bavarian water-curer.

Wa'ter-dock. [DOCK *sb.*[1]; cf. OE. *ea-docce* lit. river-dock, EDOCKE.] A name for various aquatic species of *Rumex*; formerly also applied to other broad-leaved water-plants.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 94 *Lappacium aquaticum, uel lappacium maius*, angl. waterdokke uel edokke. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Hydrolapathon*, water dockes. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxviii. 312 Of water Dockes. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. ii, Great Water Dock. 1882 JEFFERIES *Bevis* III. 194 Great water-docks at the margin with leaves almost a yard long.

attrib. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* i j, In Iuyll take..the water docke leyf worme & the hornet worme togyder. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* III. lxx. (1760) 270 Of the Water-Dock-Root, five Ounces. 1807 W. ROSCOE *Butterfly's Ball* (1838) 20 A Mushroom their Table, and on it was laid A Water-dock Leaf, which a Table-cloth made.

Wa'ter-do'ctor.

a. = WATER-DOCTER 1. **b.** = HYDROPATHIST.

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 8 Mrs. Mayersbatch, widow of the celebrated Water-Doctor of that name. 1846 LYTTON *Conf. Water-patient* 43 The peculiar 'crisis', sought for so vehemently by the German water-doctors. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Uromantia*..., the art of divining diseases by simple inspection of the urine.. One professing to be able to do this is called *Uromantes.* Vulgarly, a water doctor. 1849 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 198 Some one told me that he was gone or going to the Water Doctor at Malvern.

Wa'ter-dog.

1. a. A dog bred for or trained to the water; esp. one trained to retrieve waterfowl. Formerly as a specific name, the barbet or poodle imported from the continent. **b.** Any kind of dog that swims well, and is habituated to or not shy of the water.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5771 Bristled hy weren as hogges, And neuer haue indured him to haue chopt at his face, as a water-dogge at a duck. 1621 G. MARKHAM *Hunger's Prevent.* xi. 67 Not any amongst vs is so simple that he cannot say when hee seeth him, This is a Water-Dogge, or a Dogge bred for the Water. 1677 N. COX *Gentl Recreat.* III (ed. 2) 49 How to train a Water-dog. 1768–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 145 She has done a picture of fowls, a water-dog and a heron. 1824 BEWICK *Quadrupeds* (ed. 8) 360 The Large Rough Water Dog..*Le Grand Barbet*, Buff. 1837 T. BELL *Brit. Quadrupeds* 226 The Water-Dog must not be confounded with the Water-Spaniel, from which indeed it differs considerably in size and in proportions. 1867 'STONEHENGE' *Dogs of Brit. Isl.* 45 Though excellent water dogs,..we have had to complain of their impetuous rush into pond or river. 1876 *Field* 13 May 537/2 It was proposed to have trials of performing dogs, sheepdogs and water dogs.

2. A man thoroughly at home either on or in the water. **a.** A sailor. **b.** A good swimmer.

1674 WYCHERLEY *Plain Dealer* I. i, 2 *Sail.*..when I welcom'd him ashore, he gave me a box on the ear, and call'd me fawning Water-dog? 1840 R. H. DANA *Two Yrs. bef. Mast* xiii. (1854) 57 They [*sc.* Sandwich Islanders] are complete water-dogs, and therefore very good in boating. 1878 JOAQUIN MILLER *Songs of Italy* 89 Brave old water-dogs wed to the sea. 1867 S. W. BAKER *Nile Trib.* V. 95 These two Arab water-dogs were up to their necks in the river, screaming out directions to each other. 1878 TRELAWNY *Rec. Shelley*, etc. I. 154, I was the only water-dog of our band; neither Percy nor Captain Roberts nor the mate could swim.

3. A name for various animals.

†**a.** The otter. *Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*)

1576 A. FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* II. 19 Both Ælianus and Ælius, call the Beauer, Κύων [*sic*] ποτάμιον, a water dogge, or a dogge fishe. 1655 WALTON *Angler* ii. (1661) 49 There is brave hunting this Water-dog in Cornwall. *c* 1856 DENHAM *Tracts* (1892) I. 87 In Ireland the country people call the otter the Devil's water dog.

b. *U.S.* One of the various species of fishers, *esp.* the hellbender or the mud-puppy.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2). 1888 *Amer. Naturalist* Feb. 140 The Menopoma, here [Pa.] called 'alligator' and 'water-dog'.

c. *U.S.* ? A variety of DOGFISH.

1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 299 Suckers, catfish, gars and waterdogs were also taken [in the Scioto River].

d. The water-rat or water-vole, *Arvicola amphibius.*

1876 SMILES *Sc. Nat.* I, The burn itself had plenty of water-dogs, or water-rats, along its banks.

4. A small dark floating cloud supposed to indicate rain. (Cf. Dog *sb.* 10 c.)

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia.* 1910 *Spectator* 3 Sept. 342/1 Other English names for various perceptible forms of vapour in the sky are 'water-dogs', 'sun-galls' [etc.].

† 5. *Angling.* A device for disentangling a hook.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 103/2 A Water-Dog, is a round peece of Lead like a Ring: It is to unloose the Hookes if they be fastned at the bottom.

† **Waterdome.** *Obs.*—° [*dome* = Doom *sb.*] An alleged archaic term for ordeal by water.

1681 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 5), *Waterdome*, the antient trial by Water.

Water-drinker.

1. A drinker of water, one who drinks water in preference to wine or other liquors; now usually *spec.* a total abstainer.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Water drynkare, *aquebibus.* 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 59 A falser water drinker there liueth not. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv. 1 What! the wel-dieted Amorphus become a water-drinker? 1638 T. Whitaker *Blood of Grape* 31 When as water or small-beere-drinkers look like Apes rather then men. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VIII. v, A water-drinker, provided he is a professed one, and does it without fraud or covin, is precisely in the same predicament. 1815 Wordsw. *Poems* Pref. ad fin., Though myself a water-drinker, I cannot resist the pleasure of transcribing what follows. 1882 F. M. Crawford *Mr. Isaacs* 7 A water-drinker in India is always a phenomenon.

† b. In the early Christian Church, an epithet applied to those who in the celebration of the Sacrament used water instead of wine. *Obs.*

1562 [T. Cooper] *Answ. Def. Truth* viii. 59 Cyprian wrate against those that were called Aquarij, waterdrinkers.

2. One who drinks the 'waters' at a spa.

1707 Jos. Browne (*title*), An Account of the Wonderful Cures Perform'd by the Cold Baths, With Advice to the Water Drinkers at Tunbridge, Hampstead,..and all the other Chalibeate Spaws. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxvi, A golden inscription [in the pump-room], to which all the water-drinkers should attend. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 188 It was great fun to see the troop of water-drinkers in the early morning marching up and down..each with an empty wine-glass in hand, which from time to time they got replenished, according to the dose of mineral water prescribed for them.

Water-drinking, *vbl. sb.*

1. The action or an act of drinking water.

1698 Flover *Asthma* (1717) 191 Much Water-drinking is injurious to the Old. 1774 Foote *Cozeners* Prol., I am no fish, save me from water-drinking! 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 410 Water-drinking is certainly beneficial between meals.

2. Drinking mineral waters at a spa.

1697 Flover *Eng. Baths* Pref. c 4 b, By Water-drinking, and Bathing at Buxton, I have procured to my self better Health. 1789 Pilkington *View Derbysh.* I. 230 In many cases much advantage has been gained by the administration of medicines in conjunction with the course of water-drinking.

attrib. 1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1814) I. 206 Sometimes people of a certain style make acquaintance at water-drinking places.

Water-drinking, *a.* That drinks water and abstains from stronger liquors.

1638–48 G. Daniel *Eclog.* iii. 284 Let me rather pine Witles and water-drinking, then love wine. 1736 Berkeley *Discourse* Wks. III. 415 Supply the water-drinking savage with strong liquor, and he shall be drunk for several days. 1771 Foote *Maid of B.* I. Wks. 1799 II. 209 That..water-drinking, mirth-marring, amorous old hunks. 1805 Wordsw. *Waggoner* I. 60 A simple water-drinking Bard. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* iv, The hungry water-drinking guests.

Water-drop.

1. A drop or globule of water. Usually *pl.*

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 262 Oh, that I were a Mockerie, King of Snow, Standing before the Sunne of Bullingbrooke To melt my selfe away in Water drops. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 193 When water drops haue worne the Stones of Troy. 1821 Byron *Cain* II. i. 17 There will come An hour, when toss'd upon some water-drops, A man shall say to a man, 'Believe in me, And walk the waters'. 1885 Scott *Talisman*, xx, The devil a water-drop he gets here. ..We will teach the light-footed old infidel to be a good Christian, and drink wine of Cyprus. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* iii, The water-wheel, mossy and green with ancient waterdrops. *Comb.* 1899 tr. *R. von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed. 4) 211 The small shiny water-drop-like bodies.

2. A tear, tear-drop.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 280 Let not womens weapons, water drops, Staine my mans cheekes. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* iv. cxvi, Egeria! .The mosses of thy fountain still are sprinkled With thine Elysian water-drops. 1825 Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 149 The large water-drop stood upon his lashes.

3. *Sc.* = Eavesdrip, Stillicide 2.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl* xxvii, This is a' about a servitude of water-drap. *Ibid.*, We are obligated to receive the natural water-drap of the superior tenement.

Watere, obs. form of Water *v.*

† **Watered,** *a. Obs.* [f. Water *sb.* + -ed 2.] In parasynthetic derivatives, said of a jewel: Characterized by 'water' (of a specified quality).

a 1637 B. Jonson *Execr. Vulcan*, etc. (1640) G 2 b, A stecke, To graft the greene Emrald on, Or any better water'd Stone. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3990/4 The Brilliant very clean and white watered.

Watered (wɔ̄·tərd), *ppl. a.* [f. Water *v.* + -ed 1.]

† 1. Of the eyes: Filled or running with watery matter or with tears. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* l. 80 in *Anglia* XVIII. 297 For wattryd eyne & to grety. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 67 Bending hir watered eyes and woful hart with ioyned hands vnto the heauens, she prayed (etc.). 1593 Delonev *Garland Good Will* F 1 b, Let not offence be found in this, To give my Lord a parting kiss With watr'd eyes.

2. Soaked or steeped in water.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 26 Take Soundys of watteryd Stokkefysshe, an caste per-to. 1682 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* II. (1741) 114 Our throats cut, Down which we watered Meal of Oats put.

† b. Of the cheeks: Wet with tears. *Obs.*

1572 Dk. Norfolk in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 374 Prayinge..with an overwhelminge harte and watered cheekes. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlii. § 2 [They] could not..but with bleeding harts and with watred cheekes behold a person of so great place and worth constrayned to indure so foule indignities.

c. Of a road: Soaked or sprinkled with water to lay the dust, etc.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xix, A shop with a sun-blind, and a watered pavement..is a sanctuary. 1896 J. Davidson *Fleet St. Eclogues* Ser. II. 48 The odour stale Of watered streets.

3. Of a garden, land: Kept moist by pouring or sprinkling water.

1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xxxi. 12 Their conscience shalbe as a well watred garden. [1611 Bible *Ibid.*, Their soule shall be as a watered garden.] 1552 Huloet, Watered as a field, or gardein, *rigatus*. ..Watred with dew, *rosidus*. 1654 C. Wase *Gratius' Cyneget.* A 3 b, But the poore Alaband in his water'd yard Plants grounds of hemp. 1826 Sherer *Notes & Rem. Rambles Germany* 180 The plain is wooded as though it were a forest, and yet you know it to be a watered garden.

b. Of a country, locality: Furnished or supplied with rivers or streams of water. Often with adv., as *well-, best-watered.* Of a road: Having streams of water near-by, convenient for travellers.

1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy. Spring* 38 Where noble Grafton spreads his rich domains, Round Euston's water'd vale, and sloping plains. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 95 That well watered garden of olives and mulberry trees which spreads many miles on every side of the great white temple of Milan. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxv, I should say it was the best watered..piece of country yet discovered in New Holland. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 14, I took the best watered of the roads leading to the Marico river. 1895 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 2/1 [Australian Advt.] Good and watered roads pass through the properties.

c. Of meadow land: Subject to periodical flooding. (Cf. Water-meadow.)

1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xl. 111 Water, when it runs off very soon, is Beneficial, as is seen in water'd Meadows. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 10 Aug., Suppl. 2/2 About 7 acres of watered meadow. 1789 T. Wright *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 6 The farmer who occupies fifty acres of this watered land. 1826 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1830) 398 Here are watered meadows nearest to the river on both sides; then the gardens, the houses, and the cornfields. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 181 Watered meadow, even to the extent of one acre, is a perfect treasure at the manse. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 30 Aug. 1/6 Twenty-four acres of watered meadow.

4. Of wine or strong liquor, milk, etc.: Diluted with water.

1552 Huloet, Watered, or whereunto water is put, *aquatus.* 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 32 Go to their Diet, the one drinkes Watered Wine, the other Wine watered. 1873 O. W. Holmes *Addr. Opening Fifth Avenue Theatre* 127 Dealers in watered milk. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* I. ii. § 2 A supper of bread and cheese and watered beer awaited him downstairs.

b. *fig.* Weakened in character or force by alteration or addition. Also *watered-down.*

1897 F. Harrison in *Daily News* 2 Jan. 3/5 A watered orthodoxy and a timid ecclesiasticism. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 July 8/1 The religious and the profane alike are..anxious to know if the revised Decalogue..is to be only a watered-down version of the Mosaic Tables. 1901 G. C. Field *Moral Theory* xii. 153 It is only in a watered-down form that it [*sc.* love] can be extended..to the whole of humanity.

c. Of the capital of a trading company: Diluted, increased in nominal amount by the issue of stock or shares for which no consideration has been received. Cf. Water *v.* 7 c.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Mar. 5/1 Deduct from that £1,250,000 of watered capital. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 72 The Company had to pay a dividend on watered capital.

5. Of silk or other textile: Having a wavy lustrous damask-like pattern or finish. (Cf. Water *v.* 9.)

? 1595 *Q. Eliz. & Levant Co.* (1904) 87 Waltered and unwaltered Chambletts. 1646 *Mem. Rokeby* (Surtees) 9 For watered tabba when my lady was at Yorke 6 l. 9 s. 9 d. 1649 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 220 My watered grogerin gowne. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 8 Of watered Silks, or Stuffs. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 365 Camlets watered and not watered. 1823 Rutter *Fonthill* 43 The hangings of crimson cloth and watered moreen are handsome. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* I. viii, Over his waistcoat he wore..a broad black watered riband, to which was attached his eyeglass. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Floss* II. i, That watered-silk she had on cost a pretty penny. 1893 Liddon *Life Pusey* I. i. 5 She commonly wore a watered-silk dress.

b. Similarly of steel = Damascened b.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts*, etc. 384 The watered design of the true Damascus scymitar. 1880 W. Egerton *Handbk. Ind. Arms, India Museum* 98 Dagger: 'Kris'; watered blade. 1883 F. Pollock in *Proc. Roy. Instit.* X. 386 The damasked or 'watered' appearance of the blades which are most highly esteemed in the East.

† 6. *Her.* Having water of a specified tincture. *Obs.*

1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Alph. Arms, *Powell* (Oxfordshire)..three wells az. watered ar.

Water-engine.

† 1. An engine for pumping water to extinguish fire; a fire-engine. *Obs.*

1677 Sir C. Wyche in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 128 The water Engines which are used here when fires happen. 1712 in *Pall Mall Gaz.* (1887) 19 Sept. 14/1 John Oates.. is directed by his Lordship to assist with Two Water-Engines on the first Notice that shall be given him, when any Fire breaks out. 1800 Ackers *Trav.* I. 212 The town has three water-engines.

2. An engine to raise water; a water pumping engine.

1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1054 A Letter, subscribed W. Tenon, concerning Dr. Papin's new Water-Engine. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 340 Edward Ford..made the great water Engine..for the service of the Inhabitants of the Strand. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 191 You must have Recourse to Water-Engines, which raise it from the Bottom of Wells, into receiving Cisterns. 1811 J. T. in *Risdon's Surv. Devon* Introd. 80 Mines..which..have some of the most..powerful water engines. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 71 *Water-engine*, an engine used exclusively for pumping water.

3. An engine driven by water power or by which water power is applied.

1858 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 146 Water-engine... Hydraulic wheels..are by far the most common expedients by which water power is applied.

So † **Water-engineer,** an official charged with the management of municipal fire-engines.

1711 in *Pall Mall Gaz.* (1887) 19 Sept. 14/1 The Lord Mayor, to prevent the Calamities that may happen by Fire, has Ordered Publick Notice to be given, That John Oates, Water-Ingineer to the Honourable City of Dublin [etc.].

Waterer (wɔ̄·tərəɹ). [f. Water *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who waters plants, crops, etc. *lit.* and *fig.*

In 17th c. religious literature somewhat common in allusions to 1 Cor. iii. 7, 8.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Cor.* iii. 6–7 Yf the husband manne be of thys dyspoynted, nothyng in maner preuayleth, the gardiner, nor yet the waterer. 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 1. 80 This ill weed,..maugre the warmers and waterers, hath by her Maiesties gracious breath beene euer parched vp. 1607 [R. Parker] *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* II. v. 2 The Magistrate must be a remouuer, or reuiuer of the Ceremonies controuersed; a weeder or a waterer of them. 1621 R. Johnson *Way to Glory* 23 The very titles that the holy Ghost doth giue them [*sc.* gospellers] in Scripture,..as ..Waterers, Builders, Stewards, [etc.]. 1703 J. Freame *Test.* in C. Marshal *Sion's Trav.* (1704) b v b, He was both a Planter, as well as a Waterer in God's Vineyard. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 387 Watering plants in pots requires much more consideration on the part of the waterer than watering in free soil.

me
shire.

† 2. = Aquarius. *Obs. rare*—1.

1546 *Gassar's Prognost.* b v, In y^e signe Aquarl or waterer.

3. One who is sent ashore to obtain a supply of fresh water for a ship's company.

1773 Hawkesworth *Voy.* III. 498 Having..sent the boat away, [he] set out to join the waterers by land. 1777 G. Forster *Voy. round World* I. 127 Sail-makers, coopers, waterers, and wood-cutters. 1782 *Gentl. Mag.* LI. 278 The Indians still continuing troublesome, and attacking the waterers with stones at the well.

4. One who supplies animals with drinking water.

1844 Dickens *Mart. Chus.* xxxi, He was a mere waterer of horses. 1888 Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 27 The shift of waterers was sent out..to seek a cattle pool some miles lower in the valley.

† 5. A visitor at a spa or watering-place. *Obs.*

1776 S. J. Pratt *Pupil of Pleas.* (1777) I. 59 My wife says, he understands to a nicety, what, some of the waterers [at 'Buxton bath'] call, the etiquette of dress.

6. A watering vessel. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Waterfall (wɔ̄·təɹfɔ̄l). [f. Water *sb.* + Fall *sb.*; OE. had *watergefeall.* Cf. G. *wasserfall*, *-gefälle*, ON. *vatnfall.*]

1. A more or less perpendicular descent of water from a height over a ledge of rock or precipice; a cascade, cataract.

998 *Crawford Charters* (1895) 21 Ælfer heafdon to þam wætergefeal æfter streame. [1372 in *Shropsh. Arch. Soc. Trans.* Ser. III. IV. 225 Johannes de Watrefal.] 14.. *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 63 Sicud Derestrete vadit inter Filton et Toland usque ad Waterfal, et a Waterfal per Slade. 1421 *Inquisition* in Hutchinson *Durham* (1787) II. 381 Villa de Langley & le waterfall. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 21 This River hath foure great water fals. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 343 A noise..as of a mighty cataract or waterfall. 1838 Lytton *Leila* I. iii, The silver tinkling of waterfalls chimed melodiously within the gardens. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vii. 50 The ice cascade..appeared..like the foam of a waterfall.

transf. 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* ix. 252 When..we lay becalmed..in a gasping heat, which was presently exchanged for a surprising waterfall of rain.

Comb. 1867 MacGregor '*Rob Roy*' *in Baltic* 223 Numerous wheels, with waterfall spray rising slowly in the morning air.

2. Such an inclination of the ground as will facilitate the fall or drainage of water.

1542 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XV. 602 Terras Thome Haithry ..ex parte occidentali et in longitudine caude ascendendo prope caput thontis et le watterfaw eorundem. 1590 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 611/2 The saidis landis of Schoirthoip strekand south as the hill or wattir fall thairof gais to the landis of Dalgleis. 1609 *Ibid.* 306/2 Passing as the water

fall upoun the brasheid gangis [to] the merchis of Brumehous. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Flax*, But in some parts of the country, a sufficiency of water and water-fall is not to be met with. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr. in Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 73 Caused by want of waterfall, its only efficient remedy would be [etc.].

†3. A swift stream tumbling in a rocky bed, a rapid. *Obs.*

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 366 To fire the Brambles, snare the Birds, and steep In wholsom Water-falls the woolly Sheep. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 128/1 You may level a Torrent or Water-fall by laying a barrier across the Stream. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 218 The complicated beauties which occurred in this extraordinary water-fall.

4. *Coal-mining.* A special 'head' of water to be turned down a pit-shaft when needed.

1797 J. Curr *Coal Viewer* 33 A stream of water with a waterfall of about half the depth of the pit is necessary, if any business of consequence must be done. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) III. 937 This distribution was often fraught with such danger, that a torrent of water had to be kept in readiness, under the name of the waterfall, to be let down to extinguish the fire in a moment. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 209 The waterfall, formed by turning a special stream into the downcast shaft, or by allowing the pump-cisterns to run over, is a useful auxiliary, especially for driving in air after an accident.

5. A neckcloth, scarf, or tie with long pendant ends. ? *Obs.*

1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxvi, Benjamin, the Jew money-lender,..dressed in a gaudy figured satin waistcoat and waterfall.

6. A chignon; also, a wave of hair falling down the neck below the chignon or net. (Orig. *U.S.*)

1866 Mrs. Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* iii, The brown silk net..had given way all at once into a great hole under the waterfall, and the soft hair would fret itself through. 1875 *Spectator* (Melbourne) 22 May 27/2 The young lady that affects waterfalls, the Grecian bend, or the kangaroo hop. 1890 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 5/3 Human hair..goes through long processes of purification before it is made up into the wigs, chignons, waterfalls, &c.

Water-fast, *a. Sc.* = Watertight.

1550 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1894) I. 19 To keip the bwyth wattir fast with haile tymmyr, lofting, and flure. *a* 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 16 To pomp als oft as 3e may haill, 3eill nevir hald hir watter-fast. 1574 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 80 For helping to repair the said kirk and haldyng of it wattirfast. 1898 Ld. E. Hamilton *Mawbin of Flow* xviii. 254 The shieling's well biggit and as waterfast as a sowen-tub.

Water-finder. [Cf. G. *wasserfinder.*] One who finds subterranean springs or supplies of water by means of a divining-rod; a dowser.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 He has added the..profession of water-finder. 1902 *Nature* 30 Jan. 304/2 The employment of a dowser or 'water-finder' is suggested.

So **Water-finding** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2, I spent many hours sauntering about with the water-finding fork in my hands. 1899 A. Lang in *Daily News* 10 July 8/2 Hegel believed in the water-finding faculty. 1906 *Times* 27 Sept. 13/2 A number of letters on water-finding were published in *The Times* during the winter of 1904–5.

Water-flag. The yellow flag or flower-de-luce, *Iris Pseudacorus.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. xli. 199 The wilde yellow Iris is nowe called .. in Englishe .. Wilde flagges, water flagges, and Lauera. 1640 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 8 Yallow water flower-de-luce, water flagges, Segges. 1808 Scott *Marmion* VI. xxxvii, And shepherd boys repair To seek the water-flag and rush. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arth.* 63 The many-knotted waterflags, That whistled stiff and dry about the marge. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xxi, A group of reeds and water-flags.

Water-flood. [OE. *wæterflōd*: see Water *sb.* and Flood *sb.* Cf. MHG. *wazzerfluot* (mod.G. *wasserflut*), MLG. *watervlōt*, ON. *vatnsflōð.*]

1. A moving flood or overflowing of water, a tempestuous sea.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. vi. 36 On þæs Ambictiones tide wurdon swa mycele wæterflod geond ealle world. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxix. 10 The Lorde stilleth [1539 Bible sitteth aboue] the water floude. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 20. 261 They see the ungodly rush uppon them without staye, and too rage like a waterflud. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* II. x. 14 Why addst thou..to the vast deepe sea fresh water floods? 1871 Macduff *Mem. Patmos* xx. 273 Not like the abrupt and sweeping waterflood, but rather like the silent dew as it distills imperceptibly on blade and flower. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 171 Her hair was all about him like a water-flood; her kisses on his brow.

†2. *collectively.* Water as opposed to land. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 17567 O lifft, o land, o waterflod, Wiþ fele kinne shaffte. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 92 For riht as veines ben of blod In man, riht so the water flod Therthe of his cours makth ful of veines.

3. A body or mass of water in flood.

c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1872 A Grype..A way..bare her yong son Ouer a water flood, Over in to a wylderness There seynt Antony ermet was. 1864 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1380 O that I now, I too were By deep wells and water-floods, 1917 O. Wildridge *Captains & Co.* ix. 108 And now, as the tug drew near, there trailed across the intervening strip of water-flood a snatch of 'Auld Lang Syne'.

Water-flower. A flower growing in water; the representation of such a flower in metal, in embroidery, etc.

1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 115 Old spanges and water floures of silver. 1509 *Will* in *Archæologia* LXVI. 313 Item ij. aulter clothes Crymsen velwet vpon velwet sett w^t^ water flowres. *Ibid.* 340 Itm a vestyment of blue velvet thorfreis of crymsyn cloth of gold enbroderid w^t^ water floures. 1599 Breton *Will of Wit* (Grosart) 37/2, I must learne to make a waterflower, In an old ragge, good enough for a sampler for mee. *c* 1830 Mrs. Hemans *Streams* 4 Ye [streams] that are born of the valleys deep, With the water-flowers on your breast asleep.

Water-fly. [Fly *sb.*1] A fly that frequents water and the water-side.

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 60 Rather on Nylus mudde Lay me starke-naked, and let the water-Flies Blow me into abhorring. 1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xii. 209 Water-rails..feed upon water-snails and water-flies. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 359 The Common Water-Flie..is by some called the Notonecta. 1828 Keats *Endym.* II. 135 Quick waterflies and gnats were sporting still. 1828 Davy *Salmonia* 53 Even in December and January there are a few small gnats or water flies on the water. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 The matching of the fly with the insect on the water is a matter of much nicety, for the water-flies are of many shades and colours.

fig. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. ii. 84 Dost know this waterflie? 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 38 Ah how the poore world is pestred with such water-flies, diminutiues of Nature.

Waterfowl (wǭ·təɹfoul). [f. Water *sb.* + Fowl *sb.*; cf. OHG. *wazzarvogel* (mod.G. *wasser-*), Du. *watervogel.*] Any bird that frequents the water, or inhabits the margin of lakes, rivers, seas, etc.; in mod. use chiefly applied to the larger kinds of swimming birds, esp. those which are regarded as game. Often *collect sing.* for *pl.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 398 Þe fifte dai..On watur fuxol and fiss he wroght. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 327 But watir foule sate lowest in the dale. *Ibid.* 554 The watir foules. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxix. (1495) 140 Water foules haue bytwene theyr toes and clawes as it were a skynne. 1433 Lydg. *S. Edmund* II. 162 Al watir foul and foul upon the lond. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Querquedula*, a waterfowle callyd a teale. *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* iv. v. 1382 Where thou shalt see..White Swannes, and many louely water fowles. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 499 Great store of young water-fowle. 1798 Coleridge *Parl. Oscill.* 29 You know that water-fowl that cries, Quack! Quack!? 1843 Marryat *M. Violet* xliv, The water-fowls are plentiful, such as swans, geese, ducks. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* II. 564 As when water-fowl of many tribes—Geese, cranes and long-necked swans—disport themselves.

attrib. 1903 *Amer. Sportsman's Libr. IV.* (title) *The Water-Fowl Family.*

Water-front. Orig. *U.S.*

1. Land or buildings abutting on a river, a lake, the sea, etc.; the frontage of a town on the water-side.

1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits* iii. 47 A people so skilful and sufficient in economizing water-front by docks, warehouses, and lighters. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* May 813/2 The water-front is lined with shipping. 1896 Howells *Impressions & Exp.* 236 The ugliness is..that of all city water-fronts. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courr.* x. 230 Boat-builders, and coopers, and all the mixed population of the water-front.

attrib. 1918 *Punch* 27 Mar. 206/1 In many a sailors' drinking-place and water-front saloon.

2. 'A water-heater set in the front of a stove' (Webster 1911).

Water-furrow, *sb.* [Cf. G. *wasserfurche.*] A deep furrow made for conducting water from the ground and keeping it dry.

854 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 78 On þa water furh innan smalan broc. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Gryppe, or a gryppel, where water rennythe a-way in a londe, or water forowe, *aratiuncula. Ibid.* 518/1 Waterforowe [*v.rr.* -foore, -fore], in londe, *elicus, sulcus.* 1482 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 510 Strecchyng down be a watir-fforough where some-tyme was a diche & a heye vnto þe watir of Shirburn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 410/2 A Watir fure, *elix. a* 1677 T. Manton *Serm.* Ps. cxix. 23 (1725) I. 111 As Husbandmen when their ground is overflowed by waters, make Ditches and Water-furrows to carry it away. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 32 [Standing water must be] drain'd off with Water-Furrows. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 49 Unless the water collected from the different 'buts' or 'ridges', can easily get away, it will be to no purpose to facilitate its passage from these..by 'water-furrows', or small cuts made by the plough or spade. 1842 Sproule *Agric.* (ed. 2) 70 These open furrows serve, likewise, for drains to carry off the surface-water, and being cleared out after the seed is sown, they are termed water-furrows.

attrib. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 146 The 40 ridges will require 79 turnings of the sower and harrows, and 41 turnings of the water-fur plough.

Water-furrow, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To make water-furrows in (land). Hence **Water-furrowing** *vbl. sb.*

1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 13 If a drye season come before Candelmasse..it [*sc.* the ridged fallow] wolde be caste downe and waterforowed bytwene the landes. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* xxii. (1878) 223 The sede being sowne, waterforow thy ground. 1560 Pilkington *Aggeus* G iv b, Let hym ..water, hedge, and waterforow, or what other thyng so euer he can deuise to make the ground fruitfull. 1668 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 91 It follows now to speak of those that must be done either chiefly by the spade, or onely the spade. Chiefly by the spade, called water-furrowing. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* Kal. October..Well Water-furrow, and Drain new sown Corn Land. 1743 in R. Maxwell *Sel. Trans. Agric. Scot.* 41 Plow up the Land and water-fur it. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 207 In preparing land for a crop, water-furrowing is a very important operation. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 140 The furrows [should be] struck out with a plough..and the field left gripped and water-furrowed. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 3 Feb. 7/5 The cost of producing wheat..is per acre about as follows:—Twelve carts of manure at 5s. per cart, £3..water-furrowing, 1s.

Water-gall. Also 9 *dial.* -gull. [f. Water *sb.* + Gall *sb.*2: = G. *wassergalle* in various senses, also MLG. *watergalle* in sense 2.]

†1. A boggy tract in a field. *Obs.*

1283 *Yorks. Deeds* (Yorks. Archæol. Soc.) II. 198 *note*, Cum toto prato suo falcabili, ut in capitibus, herbagiis, ranis, et watergallis. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* xviii. 38 The Alder is of all other the most faithful lover of watery and boggy places, and those most despis'd weeping parts, or water-galls of Forests.

2. A secondary or imperfectly-formed rainbow; also applied to various other phenomena in the clouds that are believed to portend rain. Now *dial.*: cf. Weathergall.

1594 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1588 And round about her teare-distained eye Blew circles stream'd, like Rain-bows in the skie. These watergalls in her dim Element, Foretell new stormes. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 16 As the Water-gall is the Image, Shadow, or weak Representation of the Rainbow. 1744 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 29 June, False good news are always produced by true good, like the watergall by the rainbow. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Oeil de bouc*, water-gall, or weather-gall.

†3. A watery bubble in the liver of swine. [So G. *wassergalle* 1587.] *Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 685 Sometimes there appeare [in swine] certaine blathers in the liuer of water, which are called water-gals.

4. ? A flaw in a material or a manufactured article caused by the settling of water in a particular spot. (Implied in Watergalled *a.*) [Cf. G. *wassergalle*, flaw in marble.]

Hence **Water-galled** *a.*, having water-galls (see 4).

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 934 The greatest difficulty formerly experienced in the paper manufacture upon the continuous system of Fourdrinier, was to remove the moisture from the pulp, and condense it with sufficient rapidity, so as to prevent its becoming what is called water-galled.

†**Watergang.** *Obs.* Also 3-gong. [f. Water *sb.* + Gang *sb.*1] Cf. ON. *vatn(a·gang-r* flood, (M)Du. *watergang* watercourse, G. *wassergang* flow of water, watercourse.]

1. A flood.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 662 Nembrot gat hise færes red, for ðat he hadde of water dred, To maken a tur, wel hei & strong, Of tigel and ter, for water-gong.

2. A watercourse, esp. an artificial watercourse, a mill-leat or the like.

? *a* 1200 in Dugdale *Monast.* (1661) II. 920/2 Omnibus baillivis de Besintone..Robertus de Curci salutem: mando vobis..quatinus justicietis meos homines de Snargate, ut faciant wallas & watergangas & clausuras wallarum. 1309 ['The word watergangs occurs..in an inedited charter of La Capelle' (*Archæologia* 1893, Ser. II. III. 295 note)]. 1322 in *Muniments Magd. Coll. Oxf.* (1882) 145. 1433 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 22/2 Þat þe breif vndirwrittyn haf courss quhil þe next parliament alanerly of wattir gangis þat is to say of milne leidis & of nane vthir thingis. 1509 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 702/2 Le Wattirgang, aque sive torrentis de Grenelaw. *Ibid.* 703/1 Le Wattirgang dict. molendini. 1602 *Ibid.* 391/2 Passand south up the auld rin or watergang of the Teillburne. 1754 T. Gardner *Hist. Dunwich* 96 In the year 1740 the men of Dunwich were digging a Trench near their Old-Port, cross the Beach, to make a Watergang to drain their Marshes.

3. *Sc. Law.* (See quot.)

1681 Stair *Inst. Law Scot.* I. xvii. § 12. 345 A Watergang is a Servitude, of conveying Water thorow the servient Ground for the use of the Dominant.

Water-gas.

1. A gas made by forcing steam over incandescent carbon; used as fuel, and when carburetted as an illuminator.

1852 *Mechanic's Mag.* LIV. 129 (*Heading of article.*) Water gas. *Ibid.* LV. 24 The generation of water gas free from carbonic acid is a problem of great importance. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 960 So serious have been the consequences of the inhalation of 'water gas' that some English public bodies have been obliged to do away with it.

2. Water in the form of vapour.

1881 Judd *Volcanoes* 22 The whole mass passes at once into the condition of steam or water-gas. 1882 C. P. Smith in *Nature* 5 Oct. 551/2 If a meteorological spectroscope can ..show the..fact of watery vapour being in the atmosphere, it may also..be able to quantify..the proportions of such aërial supply of water-gas at different times.

Water-gate1. [Gate *sb.*1]

†1. A sluice or floodgate. *Obs.*

1408 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1899) XIV. 517 Les spowtes lignea ducentia aquam a dicto Watergate usque dictam rotam. 1458–9 *Memorials of Fountains* (Surtees) III. 58 Pro factura le Wateryattes per Th. bute in fontans fell. ijs. 1877 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 748/2 The syd of the puill foranent the watter yet of the Hauch of Dalkeith. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 391/1 *Emissarium*,..a floud gate: a watergate: a sluce: a waire. 1755 Johnson, *Sluice*,..a watergate; a floodgate.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 302 After that withinne a throwe He reyneth and the watergates Undoth. *Ibid.* I. 312 Fro hevene out of the watergates The reyni Storm fell down algates. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 217 Þe v. watyr-gatys of 3oure pytt arn 3oure v. bodyly wyttes, as crisostom seyth..Þise ben þe v. ten-fold chain, Thy hand hath lockt the Water-gates of Rain. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 25 To open well her Watergate, and beat supply her Mill.

2. A gate (of a town, a castle, etc.) giving access to the water-side.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4652 Þan was þar a geant ful of pryde, And opende þe water-gate wyde, Ys name was enfarbour. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 928 In at a watur-gate, Ther men vytayled by bate That castel with corses. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1235/2 The curteine betwixt the watergate and the

soldiers prison on the wall. 1624 Middleton *Game at Chess* III. i. 90 Pack up my plate and goods, and steal away By night at water-gate. 1679 Prance *Narr. Popish Plot* 9 The Watergate (as they call it, that is the furthermost Gate or Passage going down out of the Strand to the Waterside) of Sommerset-House. 1728 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 225 Two ..regiments..kept possession of the water-gate..of the town. 1867 Morris *Jason* VII. 123 She came down to a gilded water-gate, Which with a golden key she opened straight. 1911 G. M. Trevelyan *Garibaldi & Making of Italy* vii. 165 On the same evening the last of the Bourbons and his queen were leaving the Palace of Naples by the water-gate and taking ship for Gaeta.

b. A gate through which supplies of water are brought.

1535 Coverdale *Neh.* viii. 3 In the strete that is before the Watergate.

3. A place through which water-traffic passes.

1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 90 It is strange..to find that a short passage up a series of rapids has brought you..among a people almost as different from the people..of Egypt... This water-gate is an absolute division, ethnologically as well as geologically. 1907 A. J. Phillips (*title*) Gravesend: the Water-gate of London.

Water-gate[2]. [Gate *sb.*[2]] *north.* and *Sc.*

1. A channel for water, a watercourse.

1368–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 575 In exp. factis pro uno Watergat pro minera de Raynton, *8li. 17s. 4d.* 1408 *Durham Acc. Roll* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XIV. 517 Soluta.. laborariis, operantibus et facientibus unum Watergate extendentem de Heribourne usque dictum forgeum. 1417 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 13 And bryng of his coste the watergate overthwarte at the ende of the same newe house. 1447 *Script. tres* (Surtees) App. p. cccxiii, Alsa the said John [etc.] sall..labour and wyn a watergate for wynnyng of cole in the same colepit. 1668 *Yorks. Deeds* (Yorks. Arch. Soc., Rec. Ser.) II. 115 To carry a sufficient sough and water-gate through the demised ground. *a* 1800 *Jamie Telfer* xii. in Child *Ballads* V. 250/1 Now Jamie is up the water-gate, Een as fast as he can drie.

2. *Sc.* 'An act of voiding urine' (Jam.). Hence in fig. phrase (cf. Water *sb.* 18 c).

1721 J. Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 396 I'll watch your Watergate. That is, I'll watch for an Advantage over you.

Water-gauge, -gage. (See quots.)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Water-gage*..an Instrument to gage or measure the Quantity or Depth of any Water. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 316 When the boiler is observed to have got a sufficient supply—which is indicated by a float water-gauge—the discharge from the pump is turned off. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 71 *Water-gauge*, a U-shaped glass tube for measuring the difference of pressure between the intake and return air; an indicator showing the quantity of water in a steam boiler; a notched board for measuring flow of water.

attrib. 1883 W. C. Russell *Sailors' Lang., Water-gauge cocks*, small cocks placed in front of a marine boiler, by opening which the height of the water in the boiler is ascertained.

[**Water-gauge, -gage**, explained in many Dicts. to mean 'a sea-wall or bank to restrain the current and overflowing of the water', is a spurious word, evolved from the false reading *watergaugia, -iis, -iorum* for *watergangia*, etc. (= Watergang 2) in the 1597 edition of a Romney charter of 1252.

The explanation was given in Spelman's *Glossarium* (1664), whence it was copied in the *Dictionarium Rusticum* (1704), followed by Phillips (ed. Kersey, 1706) and later Dicts.]

Water-glass.

1. A water-clock or clepsydra.

1661 [T. Powell] *Hum. Industry* 4 The Nasican Scipio was the first that brought the use of Water-glasses amongst them, and distinguished the hours of day and night. 1665 Theaker *Light to Longitude* To Rdr., The measuring of Distances betwixt any two Meridians by Pendulums, Sand-glasses, Water-glasses, &c. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* Suppl. Chron. 147/1 Machinery of this kind was previously unknown in Siam, time being generally measured by water-glasses. 1862 Grote *Greece* II. lxvii. VI. 74 With full notice to defendants and full time of defence measured by the water-glass [*ed.* 1850 clock].

†2. A surface of water serving as a mirror. *nonce-use.*

1610 J. Davies (Heref.) *Panegyr.* in *R. Vaughan's Water-Works* B 2 b, Such is this Water-glasse, wherein these Times Do see how to adorne their Meades in Greene.

†3. A glass finger-bowl. *Obs.*

1766 Smollett *Trav.* I. v. 66, I know of no custom more beastly than that of using water-glasses, in which polite company spirt, and squirt, and spue the filthy scourings of their gums, under the eyes of each other. 1776 Twiss *Tour Ireland* 37 The filthy custom of using water-glasses after meals is as common as in England..no well-bred persons touch their victuals with their fingers, and consequently such ablutions ought to be unnecessary. 1784 Cowper *Let. W. Unwin* 5 Apr., Your mother..begs you will buy for her eight blue, deep blue, water glasses.

4. A glass vessel to contain water; esp. such a vessel intended for keeping plants in water.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 309 Watter glasses the dosen, xls. 1844 Loudon *Green-house Comp.* I. 10 Wherever a few plants in pots, or bulbs in water-glasses, are kept in a room, the same objection may be raised. 1849 *Florist* 46 A Hyacinth removed from the water-glass should have its roots nicely arranged in good sandy soil. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. v, 'Is the Queen dead?' cries out Bolingbroke, seizing on a water-glass.

5. An instrument for making observations beneath the surface of water, consisting of a bucket with a glass bottom; a water-telescope.

1848 Jones *Week at Lizard* 73 The fishermen say, that they can..descry, with the help of their water-glasses, pieces of cannon lying at the bottom. 1881 E. Ingersoll *Oyster Industry* 249 *Water-glass*, a bucket with a partial glass bottom, through which the position of sponges is sought. (Florida reefs.) 1922 A. Alcock *Naturalist in Ind. Seas* 49 A water-glass..is a wooden funnel, with a window of good plate-glass in the broad end and a pair of handles about halfway up.

6. An aqueous solution of silicate of soda or potash (or of both), which solidifies when exposed to the air. It is used for many purposes, e.g. as a vehicle for fresco-painting, as a paint for rendering material incombustible, for pickling eggs, etc.

1859 *Ecclesiologist* XX. 283 Water-glass seems likely to offer a substitute for enamel. 1867 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Waterglass*..is a soluble alkaline silicate, a liquified flint, made by boiling silica in an alkali. 1880 *Times* 25 Dec. 5/6 What is designated 'Herr Windsperger's fire-extinguishing solution', which is an aqueous solution of silicate of soda, the substance commonly known under the name of 'water-glass'. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 2/1, I have just bought eleven score of new-laid eggs..and put them down in water-glass to use all through the time when eggs are dear.

b. *attrib.*

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5916 The three pictures..are painted—that in the centre panel. in oil, the two in the side panels in fresco, in the water-glass or stereochromic method. 1862 *Lond. Society* 258 The new picture is commonly designated a fresco. It is really a water-glass painting. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 295/2 The water-glass paint..is liable to be washed away when exposed to rain. 1905 W. Holman Hunt *Pre-Raph.* II. 332 Silica or water-glass painting was substituted for Maclise's 'Waterloo'..the two water-glass paintings.

Water-grass. A name applied to various grasses and grass-like plants growing in the water; also *dial.* (Warw.) to 'various species of *Equisetum*' (Britten & Holland).

The application to the pond-weed (*Potamogeton*) in quot. 1585 may possibly be an error.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 234/1 *Potamogeton, fontinalis*,..pondweede or wotergrasse. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. x. 12 *Gramen aquaticum*. Water grasse, or as we may terme it, Water burre grasse. *Ibid.* xi. 13 The place and time in which they growe, differeth not from the other Water grasses. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 228 Our flote fescue is a water-grass, and cannot be made hay of, at least without being dragged from out of the water. 1848 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 585 Panicum spectabile..Scotch Grass. Water Grass. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 69 Broad, silent pools, around the edges of which remained a skirt of ice, held there by bushes and long, broken water-grasses. 1875 Melliss *St. Helena* 342 Juncus capensis, Thunb.—Spreading Water Grass, or Rush. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* vii, Blades of last year's water-grass, trembling in the quiet places.

¶ b. Anglo-Irish perversion of Water-cress.

1726 Threlkeld *Synopsis Stirp. Hibern., Nasturtium aquaticum supinum*,..Water-cresses...It is called about the Street by the abusive Name of Water-grass. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*

†**Water-grave.** *Obs.* [See Grave *sb.*[3] and *sb.*[4]] A water-bailiff. In quot. 1617 ? repr. G. *wassergraf.*

1479 *Hexham Priory, Black Bk.* (Surtees) II. 73 Et alegraves, watere-graves, et iiij juratos. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 280 Water-Graves (overseeing Lakes and Rivers for Swannes, fishing and other like things) are offices given at the Princes pleasure and not proper to any Familie.

Water-gruel.

1 Thin gruel made with water instead of milk.

14.. *Rules & Const. Nunn Syon* lvi. in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 393 On water dayes sche schal ordeyne for bonnes or newe brede, water grewel. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* Ded., Like a whelp that had scalded his mouth with lapping vp hotte water Grewell. 1667 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 100, 5*s.* for currans and raisons, oatmell, sugar, and pruans, to make water gruell. 1705 E. Ward *Hudibras Rediv.* IV. 8 So have I seen..A sick Man sipping Water-Gruel. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* IX. iv, Breakfast on water-gruel. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xli, She was glad to acquiesce, and even to go to bed, and drink water-gruel. 1852 J. Savory *Dom. Med.* (ed. 4) 310 Water Gruel. Put a large spoonful of oatmeal, or fine Indian meal, by degrees into a pint of water, and when smooth, boil it.

attrib. 1871 A. Meadows *Midwifery* (ed. 2) 170 The old-fashioned tea and water-gruel system has, it is to be hoped, long since ceased to be.

†2. *fig.* as the type of what is insipid. Chiefly *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*), namby-pamby, characterless.

c 1623 Middleton *No Wit like Woman's* II. iii, Though he [a wooer] have thousands, And come with a poor Water-gruel spirit,..he shall ne'r speed. 1703 Motteux *Prol. to Farquhar's Inconstant* 14 Your scenes of love, so flowing, soft, and chaste, Are water-gruel, without salt or taste. 1753 Foote *Englishm. in Paris* i. i, Their water-gruel jaws sunk in a thicket of curls, appear for all the world like a lark in a [illegible] II. 430 Had I my chapters [illegible] 1784 R. Bage *Barham Downs* II. 129 A pretty, sweet, smiling, flexible, insipid, water-gruel girl. 1812 Miss L. M. Hawkins *C'tess & Gerv.* I. 76 His wife, a mere water-gruel character.

Hence †**Water-gruellish** *a.*

1812 Sarah Lady Lyttelton *Let.* 28 Apr. *Corr.* v. (1912) 232, I was of the greatest use in putting in a *water-gruellish* sort of observation every now and then, just to fill up the pauses.

Water-hammer.

1. An instrument used to illustrate the fact that in a vacuum liquids and solids fall at the same rate. It consists of a hermetically sealed tube exhausted of air and partly filled with water. When the tube is quickly reversed, the water falls on the end with a noise like that of a hammer.

1829 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (Oct.) XI. 227 The water-hammer. This instrument, which is made and sold by the glass-blowers and barometer-makers, consists of (etc.). 1870 Tyndall *Heat* lv. § 232. (ed. 4) 112 One effect of the withdrawal of the elastic buffer [i. e. the air] is, that the water falls with the sound of a solid body, and hence this instrument is called the water hammer.

attrib. 1881 Tyndall *Floating Matter of Air* iii. 147 A number of hermetically-sealed tubes charged with the same infusion..have maintained for more than a year..their water-hammer sound.

2. *Hydraulics.* The concussion or sound of concussion of water in a pipe when its flow is suddenly stopped, or when live steam is admitted.

1891 *Century Dict.* 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 67/1 [Hydraulics] If in a pipe through which water is flowing a sluice is suddenly closed so as to arrest the forward movement of the water, there is a rise of pressure.. This action is termed water hammer or water ram. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 183/2 There came a bubbling roar from the vent..and then the clang of a heavy 'water-hammer' in the pipe as the tank filled.

b. Path. *Water-hammer pulse*, a jerky pulse with a full expansion, followed by a sudden collapse.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 388 The well-known 'water-hammer pulse' or 'pulse of unfilled arteries' of aortic regurgitation.

3. *Surg.* A metal hammer heated in boiling water, used to produce a blister by gently striking the skin. 1891 *Century Dict.* 1911 Webster.

Water-head.

1. The head or source of a stream; the land adjoining the source of a stream.

1567 in *6th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 644/2 Ane new gift.., of all and haill the four merk land and the half of the watterheid. 1900 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 3/1 We descended the hill, and, passing by the waterhead his father so loved in the old days of his carriage tours, we drove to the church. 1901 *Scotsman* 16 Sept. 10/5 The men o' the waterheads surround Phildgar in grim array.

2. = Head *sb.* 17.

1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 7 The celery trenches are arranged in concentric circles, the water-head being in the center. 1914 *Lond. Q. Rev.* Oct. 227 Only about one-fifteenth of the total length of the dam, or 500 feet, will be exposed to the maximum water-head of 85 feet.

Water-hen.

1. Any of the various ralline birds, esp. the Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus.*

a 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 453 The dyuendop to slepe; The water-hen to wepe. 1544 Turner *Avium Praecip.* 16, Τρόχγας, trynga, Anglice a water hen, or a mot hen. 1621 (see Didapper). 1675 Hobbes *Odyss.* v. 316 And now in figure of a Water-hen, She sat upon the Raft and to him spake. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* III. II. I. 312 Section I. Cloven-footed Birds that swim in the Water... Chap. I. Of Water-hens or More-hens in general. 1768 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xxxiv, Thou must..carefully abstain..from peacocks, cranes, coots, didappers and water-hens. 1844 Hood *Haunted Ho.* I. 54 The coot was swimming in the reedy pond, Beside the water-hen. 1867 Morris *Jason* XV. 130 So still she stood, that the quick water-hen Noted her not. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 218 The specimens included..rails, water-hens, [etc.].

b. *Water-hen hackle*, an artificial fly made of the hackle feathers of the water-hen.

1837 Kirkbride *Northern Angler* 31 The Water-hen Hackle..is an excellent trout-fly.

†2. *Purple water-hen*: = Porphyrio. *Obs.*

1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* III. II. iii. 318 Of the Porphyrio, or purple Water-hen. 1743 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 87 The Purple Water-Hen.

3. The American coot, *Fulica americana. local U.S.* (Mass.) 1891 *Century Dict.*

4. *East Indian.* (See quot.)

1873 E. Balfour *Cycl. India* (ed. 2) V, s.v. *Water hen.* The Indian water hen, *Parra Sinensis*,..is met with in the north of India, running over the leaves of the lotus.

Water-hole.

1. A hole or depression in which water collects, a pond or pool; a reservoir. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* and *Colonial.*

1679 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 315 Wee order that..two dangerous water holes close by the foote waye neere Richard Jones house on the heath, bee filled upp. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Mut. Compl. Plainstanes & Causey* 126 O' three shillings Scottish souk him, Or in the water-hole sair douk him. 1827 Oxley *Jrnls. Two Exped. N. S. Wales* (1820) 154 At the eighth mile we came upon a small water-hole, which our poor horses soon emptied. 1843 Marryat *M. Violet* xxi, We..encamped by the side of a small water-hole, formed by a hollow in the prairie. 1875 *Spectator* (Melbourne) 20 June 94/1 A bottomless waterhole, about 300 feet wide, exists at Maryvale homestead, Gipps Land. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 57 Tracked me by the camps I'd quitted—used the water-holes I'd hollowed.

b. A cavity in the bed of a river, esp., in Colonial use, one that retains water when the river itself is dry.

1772 Osbaldistone *Brit. Sportsman* 369 Grope to, or tickle, among fishers, signifies putting ones hand into water-holes where fish lie. 1848 Westgarth *Australia Felix* 19 The courses of all the rivers, with scarcely any exception, exhibit a series of ponds or water-holes. 1867 E. P. Ramsay in *Ibis* III. 413 The Musk-Duck frequents alike the lakes, lagoons, rivers, and even the creeks and water-holes. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 26 The dry weather has reduced Boggy Creek to a mere string of water-holes.

†2. *Naut.* A hole to allow the escape of water (see quot.). *Obs. rare.*

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 127 A water-hole, from 4 to 6 inches in diameter, is made in the second cloth from each leech (in Spritsail Course).

Hence **Water-holing**, the operation of trenching between the plants in the cultivation of coffee.

1880 *Spons' Encycl. Industr. Arts* etc. II. 698 A third operation is called 'trenching', or 'waterholing'. The trenches are made across the slope, and may be either open or closed.

Water-horse.

†1. The hippopotamus. *Obs.*

1398, 1572, 1600 [see HIPPOPOTAMUS]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xii. I. 242 Some [water beasts] have a skin over them, and the same hairie, as the Seales and Water-horses [L. *hippopotami*]. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* IV. (1704) 425/2 In the Lake of Zembre..there are Water-Horses, and Water-Oxen.

2. A fabled water-spirit appearing in the form of a horse. Cf. KELPIE.

1800 LEYDEN *Tour Highlands* (1903) 13 The people of the vale had been a good deal alarmed by the appearance of that unaccountable being the water-horse (*Each Uisge*). 1807 HOGG *Mountain Bard, Mess John* lxiii. *note*. In some places of the Highlands of Scotland, the inhabitants are still in continual terror of an imaginary being, called The Water Horse. 1893 S. O. ADDY *Hall of Waltheof* 85 A fabulous water-goblin mostly appearing in the shape of a gray water-horse. 1903 *Bradford Antiq.* July 343 A water-horse or sprite that demands at least one life annually.

3. (See quot.)

1798 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x. *Water-horse*, newly washed codfish, which are laid upon each other to drain before they are spread to dry.

Water-house.

†1. A building in which water is raised from a river or well into a 'conduit-head' or reservoir to be conveyed by means of conduits or pipes for domestic use. *Obs.*

1681 T. DINELEY *Tour Irel.* in *Trans. Kilkenny Arch. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. 105 A delightful Water house adjoining to the Bowling Green, which with an Engine of Curious Artifice by the help of one horse furnisheth all the offices of the Castle with that necessary Element. This Water house hath a pleasant Summer banqueting room. 1691 J. GIBSON in *Archæologia* XII. 187 And yet they have no water but what is forced from a deep well into a waterhouse, whence they are furnished by pipes at pleasure. 1697 DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 94 The Water-houses for supplying of the City of London with Water. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 113 Water-houses or Conduit-heads for the reception of the public water. 1790 *Act* 30 *Geo. III* c. 21 § 1 To make, erect, construct, repair, and maintain all such..Water Houses, Reservoirs,..Water Wheels..for raising, forcing, and conveying a sufficient Quantity of Water from the said River Wensum into..the said City [of Norwich].

2. ? A fanciful name for a boat or canoe. *rare.*

c 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* I. i, The thing by her commanded, is to see Dovers dreadful cliffe, passing in a poor Water-house. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 48 There be more Cannowes in this towne than in all the whole Patent; every household having a water-house or two. 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 178 The canal, coming to its last lock, began to discharge its water-houses on the Oise.

Water-ice.

1. A confection of water and sugar, flavoured and frozen.

1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXX. 15 Its granular spongy texture..has..the appearance of congealed syrup, or what the confectioners call *water-ice*. 1844 T. MASTERS (*title*), The Ice Book,..with..the most approved recipes for making superior water-ices and ice-creams.

2. 'Massive ice formed by the direct freezing of water, and not by the compacting of snow' (W. 1911).

1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. vi. 111 Water-ice is formed, 1st, by the freezing of the surface...and, by the freezing of the layer of water lying on the bottom.

†**Wa·teried**, *ppl. a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. WATERY *a.* + -ED.] Made watery.

1562 Watried [see UNDADE *a.*]. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 123 The Towers deuyded watried, and in their propre colour.

Waterily (wɔ̄·tərili), *adv.* [f. WATERY *a* + -LY².] In a watery manner.

1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* xi, I smiled waterily. 1901 OXENHAM *Giant Circumstance* xxiii, His black eyes smouldered waterily.

Wateriness (wɔ̄·tərinės). [f. WATERY *a.* + -NESS.]

†1. *concr.* Watery constituent or element; aqueous matter contained in or diffused through a liquid or solid. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxiv. (1495) 725 Whyte wyne is more moyst than blacke bycause of clerenesse and watrynesse that hath maystry therin. *Ibid.* XIX. lxv. 901 Mylke is the better and more holsom yf the moost deale of watrynesse is consumpte and wastyd. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 30 Take þe Iuse of þe herbes..medled wiþ..hony..and boile tham so long vnto þat þe watrynes of þe Iuyse be somewhat þikned. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secrets* (1580) I. vi. 99 The moysture or watrineſse of the saied quicke siluer distilleth out in a vapoure. 1678 R. R[USSELL] tr. *Geber* II. I. IV. v. 94 It is expedient to remove from things to be sublimed the Wateriness only with a very small Fire.

†b. Watery secretion. *Obs.*

c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 39 And superfluе watrenes swette out fro þe place þat was wonte for to file many lynnen cloþes putte atwix. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. i. 48 b, Let yᵉ heads be epithemed in the place wher the aquositie or watrines is. 1609 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xvii. 94 It..dryeth up the tears and wateriness of the eyes.

2. The state of being watery; watery quality or nature.

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 186 Mere juglers and impostors, that..seeke to..maske with great wordes the naked watrinesse of their Baptisme. 1904 *Elizabeth in Rügen* IV. 98 [Bathers] meeting you on this common ground of wateriness.

3. Superfluity of water as a constituent, connoting poorness, thinness, insipidity. a. of the blood.

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) H vij, If suche fluxe..happen of the watriues of bloud, giue her to drink..bony of roses [etc.]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 18 Mere wateriness of blood..does not cause an increased flow of bile.

b. of an article of food.

1859 R. F BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 243 They attempt to remedy the wateriness of the fish by exposing it spitted to a slow fire. 1870 MISS HROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 37 But what hero..can stand..the burning of his soup, or the wateriness of his potatoes.

c. *fig.* of literary style, composition, etc.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 587 The general haziness and wateriness of all his disquisitions. 1870 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xiv. 20 But as to the simplicity—or, shall we say wateriness,—of the style, I can answer you more confidently.

4. The state of being saturated with water.

1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 21 (1822) I. 164 The sudden missing of one's dry senses,—the deaf plunge and bubbling, and wrapping up in heavy wateriness. 1832 — *Poems, Hero & Leander* I. 120 Then rising, with a sudden-ceasing sound Of wateriness, he stood on the firm ground. 1841 — *Seer* (1864) 25 [The fly in a tea cup] then stops, and sinks down, saturated and overborne with wateriness.

5. Lachrymal moistness.

1859 SALA *Gaslight & Daylight* ii. 17 A wateriness in the eye, and a huskiness in the throat.

Watering (wɔ̄·təriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WATER *v.* + -ING¹.] I. The action of the verb WATER.

†1. The action of carrying water. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 222 Þæt Israhela folc ȝeðafode þæt sume ða hæðenan on heora ðeowte leofodon, to wudunge and to wæteringe on ðam widȝillan lande. *a* 1300 [see *watering vessel* in 21].

2. The action (or an act) of pouring or sprinkling water on plants, crops, or the soil.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 304 Syþðan hi [*sc.* ða wyrta] growende beoð he ȝeswycð þære wæterunge. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* II. Prol. ii. (1886) 79 As it were a plante whan yt is wele y rotyd, the ofte wateryng of hym ceasith. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 140 And yeue hem [the plants] in the hete a watterings. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 101 Now set doo aske watering with pot or with dish. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 63 Light waterings when the earth is dry. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 166/2 Indiscriminate watering would ruin half the plants.

fig. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 581 Folly growes without watering.

3. The action (or an act) of soaking or steeping in water or of impregnating with a liquor.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xcv. (1495) 662 Some legumina..ben made swete and sauouri wyth good watryng. 1557 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1599) I. 298 [An overseer] to foresee that neither the yarne be burnt in tarring, nor the hempe rotted in the watering. 1599 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 30, I caused the Fish that hung overboard for watering, to be hauled in. *Ibid.* 49 The night past we lost 13 pieces of Beef, as they hung a watering. 1827 STEUART *Planter's Guide* (1828) 499 The liquid is to be drawn off in stablepails, and poured leisurely over the heap. As soon as it has..got two complete waterings, it is to be turned and thoroughly mixed.

4. An inundation, flooding, or irrigation.

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 36 b, And much profitable to those which dwell neere it, by the waterings and other commodities which they receiue of it. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxii. 187 (*bis*) The which doth grow in very hote vallies, where there are waterings. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 276 The river..has on its banks a range of low ground, highly capable of watering at a very small expence; but not one acre done.

5. The application of water to a road, etc. in order to lay the dust.

1673 *Humours Town* 120 All the Wat'ring scarce being able to lay the Dust the Horses and Coaches raise. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. D. 891 The defendants employed inspectors to superintend the watering of their streets.

6. The action of giving drinking-water to cattle, horses, etc.; also, the action (of an animal) of going to the water to drink.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Watrynge, or ȝeuynge drynke to beestys, *adaquacio*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 120 It is good also to obserue due times for his feeding, his watering, and his trauayle. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xiii. 15 Doeth not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his oxe or his asse from the stall, and leade him away to watering? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 747 Thus..The wanton Courser.. seeks his wat'ring in the well known Flood, To quench his Thirst. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xx, The horses were being led out to watering. 1908 *Animal Management* (War Office) 277 Somali camels..are accustomed to go several days without watering.

†b. *transf.* (A person's) act of drinking. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 17 When you breath in your watering, then they [*sc.* ale-drawers] cry hem, and bid you play it off.

†c. A light refreshment between meals. *Obs.*

a 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Bro.* I. ii, He..dines with Tully, takes his watering with the Muses, sups with Livy.

7. *Scots Law.* (See quot.)

1681 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* I. xvii. § 11. 345 Watering is a Servitude of taking water, proper to one Ground for the use of another, whether it be for the Cattel of the dominant Ground, which is most ordinary, or for other uses thereof.

8. The action of procuring fresh water for a ship.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 68 The 29th we made an ende of watring, hauing taken in 36 Tonnes, and good store of Wood. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 9 Building a Tent, to shelter the People who were to be employ'd in Watering. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 493/1 On Friday 11th, his watering completed.., Herbert was out again and cruising..along the north coast of Jamaica.

9. The action or process of giving a 'watered' appearance to the surface of a material. Cf. 20.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 9 The surfaces of those threads that run the long way, are by the Mechanical process of watering, creas'd or angled in another kind of posture then they were by the weaving. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 140 Moiré Watering, by other Methods. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1280 Watering of stuffs (Moirage, Fr.); is a process to which silk and other textile fabrics are subjected. 1841 H. WILKINSON *Engines of War* 200 The *Jewker*, or watering, of the genuine Damascus blades, I conceive to have been originally produced by two principal causes: first, [etc.]. 1859 *Abridg. Specif. Patents Paper* etc. II. 93 Fabrics..for ornamenting walls. An effect called 'watering' may be produced by pressing and 'bruising' two thicknesses..together between heated rollers. 1887 F. POLLOCK in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 803/2 The 'damascening' or 'watering' of choice Persian and Indian arms.

10. Dilution with water.

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 July 12/1 Indian and Ceylon teas..are stronger and stand more watering. 1892 J. M. WALSH *Tea* 133 In the milk business the most prevalent Sophistications are watering and skimming. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* v, Six drops to the half-pint seems a sinful watering of grog. *fig.* 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 848 But is not a great deal of that broadening [of their faith] a watering down of the authority of Christianity to pure humanism?

11. Dilution of the capital of a trading company.

1884 *Christian World* 13 Mar. 193/5 Nor has the management ever been charged with any watering of stock. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 27 Apr. 307/3 While doubling the partnership value is legitimate, doubling the shares of a corporation without payment for them is 'watering'.

12. The action of 'taking the waters'.

1765 G. WILLIAMS in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 403, I shall have completed my watering [at Brighthelmstone] by the Sunday following.

13. Running (of the eyes); †filling with tears.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2167 Thus carpes the kyng to his clene childur, With weping and wo, wateryng of ene, Sobbyng and sikyng. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 428/1 *Delachrymatio*,..the watering of the eyes. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* you shall discover it by the watering of their eyes. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 483 There was some watering of and photophobia in the left [eye].

14. Salivation of the teeth, mouth, or 'chops', induced by the thought or anticipation of appetizing food.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. i. I. 357 He..brought over with him drie Figs and Raisons: the first fruits also as it were of Oile and Wine for a tast, to set their teeth a watering. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xiii. 13 A Certain Fox spy'd out a Raven upon a Tree with a Morsel in his mouth, that set his Chops a watering. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 26. 3/1 Which..will..keep your hungry Chops from Wat'ring. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 283 A form of salivation, which in its exaggeration resembles 'the watering of the chops' of a healthy appetite, is..'water-brash'.

fig. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* I. ii, You keep such a billing and colling here, to set ones Mouth a watring. 1691 LOCKE *Money* Wks. 1727 II. 37 Those who contend for four *per Cent.* have found out a way to set Mens Mouths a watering for Money at that rate.

II. Concrete senses.

†15. A place where horses and cattle are taken to drink. Chiefly as in b. *Obs.*

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 305 Saying he woulde neither eate nor drinke, but with the Gentleman his man, who scarcely had caried his horse so far as to the watering.

†b. *St. Thomas (a, of) Watering(s*: the name of a place two miles from London on the pilgrims' road to Canterbury, near to a brook at which horses were watered. Until the 17th c. it was the place of public executions for Surrey; hence often in allusive use (cf. TYBURN). *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 826 And forth we riden, a litel moore than paas Vn to the wateryng of Seint Thomas. *c* 1420 *Brut* [illegible] burne, or S. Thomas of Watrings, and so they do in dede. 1562 *New Enterl. Q. Hester* 542, I pray god they may spede, Euen as honestly, As he that from stelyng, goth to sent thomas watryng In his yong age. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cast over Water* Wks. (1630) II. 162/1 He at S. Thomas Wat'rings may goe swing. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. iii, To which, if he apply him, He may..come to read a lecture Vpon Aquinas at S. Thomas a Waterings, And so goe forth a Laureat in hempe circle!

†c. Supply of water for cattle. *Obs. rare.*

1773 *Boston Gaz.* 5 Apr. 4/2 Said Farm..contains near Ninety Acres of Land which abounds with excellent Watering, Pasturing, Mowing, [etc.].

†16. A well, spring, or other place where water is obtained for domestic use. *Obs.*

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. lxxxix, Cedron, Bethsaida, and each watring els Empoison'd he, both fountains, springs and weis. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. xiv. 159 Their washing is with great scrupulosity, in a common watering or in priuate cesternes, or fountaines.

†17. A place where vessels obtain a supply of fresh water. *Obs.*

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. iii. 8 The Captaine Generall..came to the Watering of Saynt Blaze, which is three score leagues beyonde the Cape. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1756/1 The best Water, and the most commodious Watering of any place upon this Coast.

†18. Water for irrigation. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. liv. 380 But that such watering may be conueighed in best sort for their growth, it must be prouided and brought by some lowe conduct. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 51 The Rain or other Waterings dissolve the Salts of the Earth.

19. A ditch for draining a marsh; ? the tract drained by such a ditch.

1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 208 *note*, A manuscript map [of Romney Marsh] . where the names and boundaries of the waterings..are very distinctly expressed. 1877 L. J. JENNINGS *Field Paths* i. 4 It is necessary to keep much to the right..for the 'waterings' are wide and numerous, and it is very easy to lose..time..on these marshes [of Winchelsea and Rye].

20. The wavy, variegated appearance given to silk, metal, etc. = MOIRÉ 2. Cf. 9.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 77 When others [Cardinals] had their Caps of Red, they had theirs of water'd Chamblet, and when others wore their Purple, theirs was without watering. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 727 Metallic Watering, or for Blanc Moire. 1880 *Ure's Dict. Arts* etc. (ed. 5) III. 195 The bold waterings..depend not only on the quality of the silk, but greatly on the way in which they are folded when subjected to the enormous pressure in watering.

III. 21. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *watering-bucket, -hole, -party, -pit, -pond, -pool, -tank, -time, -trough, tub, -vessel.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Watering-bucket.* In the United States service the regulation bucket is made of solid leather. 1888 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 146 Appoint a place for washing clothes clear of the *watering hole. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1908) 98/1 When the natives had constructed a number of water-bags..a *watering party was despatched with these. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Abrevadero*, a poole, a *watering pit. 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* vii. 76 Near the *watering pond I observed a hawk of this species. 1539 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 294 The *wateryng powles in the parke. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 833 The proper construction of a watering-pool is sadly misunderstood in this country. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VII. 14 Your lowing Heyfers, of their own accord, At *wat'ring time will seek the neighb'ring Ford. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XXX. 38 He set the rods..before the flockes in the gutters in the *watering troughes when the flocks came to drinke. 1908 *Animal Management* (War Office) 129 Watering troughs should be of sufficient height to prevent restless animals pawing over the rim. 1790 *Act* 31 *Geo. III* c. 17 § 20 Provided always, That previous to any ..*Watering Tub or Trough, Pump, Stall, or other Projection, being taken down,..Notice..shall be given. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15189 A man þar yow sal mete, A *watrin vescel in his hand.

22. Special comb.: **watering-bridle**, a bridle with a snaffle-bit, used chiefly when taking a horse to be watered; also *attrib.*; **watering-call** *Mil.* (see quot.); **watering-can** = WATERING-POT 1; †**watering cap**, a cavalryman's fatigue cap; **watering-cart** = WATER-CART; †**watering-house**, an inn or public house where stage coachmen and hackney coachmen may obtain water for their horses and refreshment for themselves; †**watering man** = WATERMAN 4; **watering order** *Mil.*, the order in which cavalry are drawn up when going to water their horses; **watering-pan** = WATERING-POT; †**watering saddle**, a saddle used by cavalry when riding their horses to water; **watering slip**, a causeway sloping down into a river, for watering cattle, etc.; **watering snaffle**, cf. *watering-bridle*; **watering stone**, ? a water-trough or a fountain; †**watering-table** = WATER-TABLE 1.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 347 Item, for tua small *watering bridillis in Jedworth, ij s. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1583/4 A watering bridle and snaffle. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 383/2 Watering bridle-bits or snaffles. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl.*, **Watering-Call*, a trumpet sounding, on which the cavalry assemble to water their horses. 1892 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S. H. S.) 147 For a whyt iron *watering kan to ye yard, 2 0 0. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* etc. 1143 Introducing..the strong lye of crude soda, through the rose spout of a watering-can. 1851 *B'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* May 70 As the plants now cover the tops of the pots,..there will be a greatly increased demand for the watering-can. 1836 SOUTHEY *Cowper's Wks.* VII. 265 He was returning..from an evening drill of the regiment of volunteer cavalry,..being dressed accordingly in a flannel jacket, with a *watering cap. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 73 A *watering-cart, not unlike those with which the roads near London are watered. 1919 *Glasgow Herald* 21 Apr. 7 Watering carts, conducted by Indian soldiers, are also spraying the roads. 1801 tr. *Gabrielle's Mysterious Husb.* II. 240 The numerous *watering-houses upon the Kentish road, where postillions and stage coachmen generally refresh their horses. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, Watermen..who have been..rushing about for the last two hours, retire to their watering-houses. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 185 The Inspectors are to see that all the *watering men wear their badges or numbers. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 3/5 The regiment..quitted the Spital Barracks early in the morning in *watering order. 1904 A. ..and ley hit in to þe watrynge eyen. 1552 TURNER *Herbal* I. A v b, Wormwode. heleth the watering sores in the corner of the eyes. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* II. IXXXII, 'And now checkmate!' the wretched sire exclaims, With watering eyes.

b. Of the teeth, mouth: Secreting saliva pro-

inge teeth soone bourdes (etc.). 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Ode* 1. ii, Ye sharp State-mousers, with your watering jaws. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlviii, Diogenes..had been eyeing his intended breakfast with a watering mouth. 1859 C. GIBSON *Robin Gray* xi, Those who knew about James Falcon gave their watering mouths a wry twist.

2. In transitive sense: Irrigating.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 553, I feel a music which comes straight from Heaven, As tender as a watering dew.

Hence **Wa'teringly** *adv.*

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 364 No more able are wee to giue birth to so high desires, then to looke on the Sunne, without hauing..our eyes cast wateringly for presumptuous gazing.

Wa'tering-place. [WATERING *vbl. sb.*]

1. A place in a river or lake where animals are brought to obtain water: also a pool or trough prepared for the use of cattle and horses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Watrynge place, where beestys byn wateryd..*adaquarium.* 1478 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 168 Ultra le Weere et le wateryng place. 1558 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 119 For maykyng of wattryng places in the Cowpasture. 1769 *Aclome Inclos. Act* 6 Such ground as the said Commissioners may set out for any common watering place or places. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXIX, The by-path..brought him..to the brink of the Clyde, at a spot marked with the feet of horses, who were conducted to it as a watering-place. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* VI. R 4, s. v. *Canal*, Watering places for cattle are generally directed to be made, especially where the fields have been deprived of their old ones by the cutting of their canal. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xx, One of the best watering-places..on the run.

2. A place where a ship's company goes to fill the ship's casks with fresh water.

1623 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 3 The 16th we anchored at the watering place called Tinga Jaua, being 14 leagues from Bantam. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xii. (1840) 209 We sent the..boats..to the watering-place. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Watering-Place*, a situation where boats can load with fresh water for the use of ships. 1919 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 383 St. Helena..the chief remaining watering-place on the direct route between the Comoros and home waters.

b. *gen.* A place where a supply of water can be obtained.

1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 288 Wee had all sortes of refreshments untill certayne Portingalls forbid and defended the watering-place. 1836 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* vii. (1858) 287 It [the Jordan] is still the 'Sheriat-el-Khebir' the 'great watering-place' of the Bedouin tribes. 1908 *Parish Councils* 15 At Gaydon (Warwickshire) the parish council was given a good supply of water...The parish council of Humshaugh..has bought the freehold of a small piece of land,..so as to secure for ever a public watering place.

3. A resort of fashionable or holiday visitants, either for drinking or bathing in the waters of a mineral spring, or for sea-bathing.

1757 FOOTE *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 137 Tunbridge, Bristol, and the other watering places. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* xiv. § 33 A Watering Place does not want the help of the sea to make it execrable; the inland Spa is not a jot behind the Fishing-town in the article of tortures. 1820 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 80, I shall..go to a watering-place on the continent. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 652 Teignmouth, now a gay watering place consisting of twelve hundred houses. 1891 HARDY *Tess* lvi, In a quarter of an hour the news..spread through every street and villa of the popular watering-place. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 462 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

b. *attrib.*

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xlviii, The Honourable Sackville Scatterbrain,..fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* ii. (1901) I. 15 A watering-place public, ever ready for excitement, soon divided the place into Swizzletes and Melloites. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* viii. (1891) 88 The long round of watering-place dissipations.

Wa'tering-pot. [WATERING *vbl. sb.*]

1. A portable vessel for watering plants; now usually of tinned iron, and furnished with a long tubular spout, often ending with a rose for scattering the water.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne Chantepleure*, a garden pot, a watering pot, the toppe of a Cesterne. 1820 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* I. ii. B 4 What, doe you weepe Brother? *Dor.* Like a Watring-Pot; he wud make an excellent Fountaine in the midst of a Garden. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Affliction* 'Broken in pieces' ii, As wat'ring pots give flowers their lives. 1662 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* XXXIII. 247 A Gardiner's Watering Pot shap'd conically, or like a Sugar-Loaf. 1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 546 The Duke then took one of his silver watering-pots, which was two feet and an half high. 1828 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 499 After which the whole of the hillocks should be watered, from a watering-pot with the rose on. 1915 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Nicky-Nan* xiii, 165 She set down her watering-pot.

2. *Zool.* A mollusc of the genus *Aspergillum*, so named from the shape of its shell. Also *attrib.* as *watering-pot group, shell.*

1813 BURROW *Elc Conchol.* 206 *Serpula Aquatica*, Water-

ing-Pot. 1862 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Institt.* 1860, 249 The Watering-pots or Aspergillum group. At first sight a 'Watering-pot shell' would not be supposed to have any connection with ordinary bivalves. 1884-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* v. 106 The Watering-pot Shell (Aspergillum) is well known to conchologists. 1888 *Rivendale Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 283 The most noticeable species is the 'watering pot' *Aspergillum vaginiferum*. .. This species comes from the Red Sea.

Wa'terish, *a.* [f. WATER *sb.* + -ISH 1. (Sweet gives an OE. *waterisc*, of which no example seems to be known.)]

†**1.** Composed of water; of the nature of water, aqueous. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 302 *Eawrux*, wateryshe or watry. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* etc. Sj b, In time the watrishe droppes, we see doth perce the stone.

2. Resembling water in appearance or sensible properties.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 37 The shoomaker liquoreth his leather with watrish liquor. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 80 Pellitory roots..chewed, bring forth much waterish flegme. 1622 BANISTER *Treat. Eyes* I. iv. A 8, Concerning the humours whereof the eye is made: the first called *aqueus*, that is, the waterish humor. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 299 The waterish part of the cream comes away first. 1748 tr. *Vegetius Renatus' Distemper Horses* 70 The Humour will be thin, waterish and cold.

†**b.** As a designation of colour: Light grey, pale blue. Also *waterish-blue. Obs.*

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 36 b/2 Watrish colour, *aquilens.* 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* II. ii. 100 Some [flowers] of a sadde or darke greene, some watrishe, blunkette, gray. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 333 The waters of the Triangles, are somewhat like a watrish blew. 1631 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 87 The Hiacinth is of waterish colour. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 167 To take the Fish, the pale waterish coloured haire is the best to deceive them if the stream be clear.

†**3.** Native to or inhabiting the water, aquatic.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter.-bk.* (Camden) 84 There be innumerable legions of waterishe and earthlye sprytes. 1617 MOUFFET *Itin.* II. 46 Waterish foule, plentie of fish, and generally all meates with the common sort alwaies vnsalted.., doe most preiudice the health. 1727 PARNELL *Battle Frogs & Mice* I. 75 But me, nor Stalks, nor watrish Herbs delight.

†**4.** Relating to or concerned with water. *Obs.*

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 70 In the Earthy dry Signs, they produce barrenness, by reason of drought; in Waterish Signs barrenness also, by reason of too much wet.

5. Containing excess of water. Of liquids: Dilute, thin, poor. Of solids: Loose in texture, not firm or compact.

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxi. (1870) 284 Peares..doth increase fatnes, ingenderyng waterysshe blod. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 146 All milke that is milked in springtime, is watrisher then the milke of sommer. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 15 Or feede vpon such nice and waterish diet. 1630 NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 82 Remember..that the Carnation in your great pencill be rather thin and waterish than too thick and clamy. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 35 It was of a loose watrish contexture. 1675 J. LOVE *Clavis Med.* 25 Small beer is waterish. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 128 The kirnels [of the nuts]..become waterish, and in a manner tasteless. 1745 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* XVII. (1748) III. 258 What fruits the orchards yielded were tasteless, waterish, and insipid. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads, Anactoria* 38 Moist with waterish wine. 1879 J. TODHUNTER *Alcestis* 116 My blood Is waterish all with tears, and leaves me weak.

b. *fig.*

1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* v. 1-5 In steade of the watryshe letter of the lawe gyuen vnto vs as a gage. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 96 It is but a waterish cold argument to say there be so many..forbidd. 1624 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-Deceiv.* 302 The memory [is] slippery and waterish to receiue and retaine any good impressions. 1644 MILTON *Divorce* To Parlt. (ed. 2) A 3, Out of a waterish and queasy conscience. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 206/1 The waterish comedy of the 'Belle's Stratagem'.

6. Of a taste: Characteristic of what contains excess of water.

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T., Epit.* etc. 187 b, Of watrish taste the flesh, not firme like English biefe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XV. XXVIII. I. 449 Plums have a waterish tast. 1653 WALTON *Angler* ii. 58 It takes away the watrish taste which the Chub or Chevin has.

†**6.** Having a predominance of water in the constitution. Also, of disease, characterized by accumulation of water in some part of the body. *Obs.*

1592 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. XXXII. 72 The Germans..having foggy and waterish bodies. 1639 G. PLATTES *Discov. Infin. Treas.* x. 69 Some few Sheepe of the most waterish, and flegmaticke constitution, may be caught with this disease. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *A. Paré's Chirurg. Wks.* VII. xviii. 270 Of the cure of a flatulent and waterish Tumor. 1660 INGELO *Rentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 28 A hot Fever, a watrish Dropsie, a pining Hectic. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 127 Their Lungs are very phlegmatick and waterish.

†**7.** Of eyes: Somewhat watery, disposed to run.

1582 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* VI. Q v, For many ..on the sonne do alwaies loke with watrish winking eies. *Comb.* 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3589/4 A very little Man,.. somewhat thick Lipp'd, watrish Eyed.

8. Of weather, air, mist: Charged with water, watery.

1650 VENNER *Via Recta* (ed. 4) 281 This moneth [February] is commonly very raw and waterish. 1669 WOOLLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 305 If small waterish Clouds appear on the tops of hills, Rain follows. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* V. 235 In that Fenny and watrish air. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxii, A dim but not chill or waterish haze slept blue on the hills. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1050 The waterish air Missed.

usually recommend, that all artificial waterings should be performed with the *Watering-pan, as more accurately imitating the genial rains. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1706/4 There was also taken away, a *watering Saddle. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 3 Coach, Coach-man and two Horses..were swept down to the *Watering-slip. 1824 in *Athenæum* (1908) 16 May 605/1 For 2 *watering snaffles, 11s. 1111d. 1835-40 *J. M. Wilson's Tales Borders* (1851) VII. 254 In my wanderings, I had entered King's Park by the eastern stile, at the *watering-stone. 1890 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 130, xij stone lights with there *watering tables.

Watering (wō'tərin), *ppl. a.* [f. WATER *v.* + -ING 2.] That waters.

1. a. Of eyes: Discharging watery fluid; running.

a 1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 227 For wattirynge eyne. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 67 Take a rede cowle leaf,

9. Of light or of luminous bodies: Dimmed by watery vapour.

1667 Middleton *Michaelmas Term* IV. iii. 45 Like a hanging moon a little waterish awhile. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 324 The disturbance on the Sun's limb [was] so undulatory, pointed, ill-defined, waterish. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 439/1 A very narrow waterish penumbra appeared round Venus. 1845 Talfourd *Vac. Rambles* I. 196 The second walk, agreably perplexed by the waterish moonlight.

†**10.** Of ground: Damp, wet. *Obs.*

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 7 Gentian..growethe..in shadowe and waterishe places. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 328 Rice prospers most in waterish grounds.

†**11.** Juicy, succulent. *Obs.*

1591 A. W. *Bk. Cookrye* 32 b, Take..v. or vj. well watrishe Apples, pare them [etc.]. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 87 Excellent fruits,..so waterish that they even melt like snow in the mouth.

Hence **Wa·terishly** *adv.*; **Wa·terishness.**

1532 Hervet *Xenoph. Housek.* 50 He also muste..turne vp so downe and styrre the grounde, that the soorenes and the rawe watrisshenes of hit may be warmed and well dryed vp. 1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxiii. 4. 238 More coldly and watrishly do others expound it. *a* 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 244 The weaknes and watrishnes of your argument. 1659 H. More *Immort. Soul* II. xi. 231 Overmuch Coolness, or Waterishness in the Head. 1872 Miss Braddon *Rob. Ainsleigh* iii, You and my late master's nephew are like as—I'll not say two drops of water, for there is little waterishness in your dispositions.

Wa·ter-knot. [Knot *sb.*1] A kind of knot used in joining together the several portions of a fishing line (see quot. 1847).

a 1450 *Fyssshynge w. Angle* (1883) 12, 13 Thenne must ye knytte theym togyder wyth a water knotte...And bycause that ye sholde knowe bothe the water knotte & also the duchys knotte: loo theym here in figure caste vnto the lyke of the draughte. 1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* iv. 31 With a Water-knot (in which you must make both the links to fasten) tye them so that [etc.]. 1795 Hutton *Math. Dict.* s. v. *Knot*, A Fisher's knot, or Water knot. 1847 Stoddart *Angler's Comp.* 44 The Water Knot, Single and Double ..is completed, simply by laying the ends of the two threads, end through the loop thus formed, draw all tight. 1883 H. Cholmondeley-Pennell. *Fishing* (Badm.) I. 38 What is known as the single fisherman's knot (sometimes called 'water knot').

†**Wa·terlade.** *Obs.* [f. Water *sb.* + Lade *sb.*2] A channel for water, an aqueduct.

[*c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 339/4 *Aquæductum* [= *-uum*, genit. pl.], wæterȝelada.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21936 Lakes seuen he made o clai, And til ilkan a fur he made þat suld be þaim to watur lade, þat water moght rin fra and till, Vte of þe flum al atte will. *Ibid.* 22019. 1421 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 28 Þat euery deister of this Cite, that hath a waturlad ouer the comyn Ryver, schall pay to the Chamburlayns of this Cite euery yer xiid. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 747 The channells were not skoured..but the water-lades stopped up either through negligence, or depopulation.

†**Wa·terlag.** *Obs.* [? Short for next.] An epithet of abuse.

a 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 88 Morysbe myne owne shelfe, the costermonger sayth; Fate, fate, fate, ye Irysh waterlag.

†**Water-lagger.** *Obs.* [? f. Lag *v.*3 + -er 1.] = Water-leader.

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 222 b, There is rysen a fray amonge the water laggers [L. *amphorarios*]. *c* 1520 A. Barclay tr. *Sallust's Jugurth* xxviii. 39 He commaunded..that the pages, waterlaggers, and scolyons shuld nat come nere the army, nor folowe the same [*ne lixæ sequerentur exercitum*].

Wa·terlander. [f. *Waterland*, a district in North Holland + -er.] (See quots.)

1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 219/1 This cause divided the body, as early as 1554, into the Mild and the Strict Mennonites. The first are known by the title of Waterländers 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 12/2 The Waterlanders in North Holland, who held the least strict doctrine of excommunication.

So **Wa·terlandian.** [-ian.]

1765 A. Maclaine *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (1768) V. 49 The more moderate..Anabaptists are composed of certain inhabitants of Waterland, Flanders, Friesland, and Germany, who commonly pass under the denomination of Waterlandians. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 96/2 The followers of Menno very soon split into two sects, the Flemings and the Waterlandians, so called from the countries in which they arose.

attrib. 1765 A. Maclaine *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (1768) V. 50 One of these Waterlandian sects was divided, in the year 1664, into two factions.

Wa·terlandish, *a. nonce-wd.* [-ish 1] Characteristic of the theologian Daniel Waterland (1683–1740).

1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VI. xi, This sermon upon the Jewish dispensation—I don't like it at all;—Though I own there is a world of *water-landish* knowledge in it,—but 'tis all tritical, and most tritically put together.

Wa·ter-lane.

1. *dial.* A green lane with a stream running along it.

1872 *Daily News* 24 Oct., Anything analogous to the leaping Chine of the Isle of Wight, the Guernsey Waterlane, or those noisy streamlets which abound in the hilly districts of Ireland. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Pen Sk.* (1879) I. 173 The cool water-lanes of Guernsey. 1891 [D. Jordan & Mrs. J. A. Owen] *Ann. Fishing Village* xi. 104 It was a water-lane—a public way for any cart-horse or cow that the owners might think fit to take there—as wide as an ordinary road.

2. A narrow passage of open water, e.g. between rows of reeds or between lines of shipping.

1883 G. C. Davies *Norf. Broads* II. 15 We cross the Broad and the river, and enter a narrow water-lane between the reeds. 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* I. 2 A consort was coming up a waterlane, between two lines of shipping, just behind us.

†**Water-lapper.** *Obs.* One who 'lappeth of the water with his tongue' (*Judges* vii. 5).

1632 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 278 No less miraculous acts were expected and promised..then those of Gideon with his water-lappers. 1676 W. Row *Contn. Blair's Autob.* x. (1848) 163 Captain Ellis' company..were all water lappers, Judges vii. 5–7, and bible bearers.

Wa·ter-lead (-lēd). [Lead *sb.*2] **a.** A mill-lead. **b.** An open channel through an ice-field.

1641 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 371/2 Lie watter-leidis &c. 1802 G. V. Sampson *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 341 On the return, the [salmon] fry are killed in great numbers, in passing through the water-leads, by the mill-wheels of the bleach-greens. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xvii. (1856) 130 But to seaward, open water-leads gladden us in every direction.

†**Water-leader.** *Obs.*

1. One who carts water for sale.

[*c* 1250 *Cal. Ancient Deeds* A 7319, Grant by Adgarus..of Stebehee to John le Waterladere of Estamedhefeld of 1 *a.* land between land of Richard son of Geoffrey le Waterladere (etc.)] 1307 *Exch. K. R. Eccl. Doc.* 2/50 If. 6 Terram Reginaldi Kempe le Waterledere. 1350 in Riley *Memorials* (1868) 254 [The carters, called] waterleders [shall take for the cart, from Douuegate to Chepe, 1*d.*]. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 697/23 *Hic aquaductor*, a waterleder. 1415 in *York Myst.* (1885) Introd. p. xxiv, Waterleders [join with the 'Cukes' in presenting a play]. 1503 in R. Davies *Extr. Munic. Rec. York* (1843) 239 *note*, The cookes shall yerely geddir pagiaunt silver of the waterleders and sandeleders toward the supportacion and charge of bryngyng furth of the pagiaunt of the same cookes. 1600 *Chester Plays* Banes 75 The good symple water-leaders and drawers of deey, see that your Arke in all poyntes be prepared.

2. In Irish iron-works (see quot.).

1645-52 Boate *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* xvii. 134 Water-leaders, or Water-course-keepers, to steer the Water-courses, and to look to them constantly.

Wa·ter-leaf.

1. Any plant of the genus *Hydrophyllum*.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Water-leaf, *Hydrophyllum*..

2. *Arch.* An ornament used in sculptured capitals, supposed to be a conventionalized representation of the leaf of some aquatic plant.

1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* I. xxvii. § 29 Where the Byzantines use the acanthus, the Lombards use the Persepolitan water-leaf. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 120 Most of [the capitals] are of the simple water-leaf form so prevalent in the north of England. 1912 F. Bond *Cathedrals* 90 The voluted water-leaf of the capitals [in the Galilee at Durham].

3. (See quots.)

1854 C. Tomlinson *Obj. Art-Manuf., Paper* 25 When dry, it is complete paper, but of the kind called waterleaf, which will absorb liquids too freely, and therefore cannot be written on. 1855 Herring *Paper & Paper Making* 64 First, we have what is termed the water-leaf, or the condition in which the paper appears after being pressed between the felts—this is the first stage. 1863 *Technologist* III. 393 The transformation of water-leaf, or unsized paper, into a material in exact resemblance to parchment, is one of the chemical facts of the last few years.

Waterless (wǫ·təlĕs), *a.* [OE. *waterlēas* = Du. *waterloos*, OHG. *wazzerlōs* (mod.G. *wasserlos*); see Water *sb.* and -less.] Destitute of water; containing no water; unsupplied with water.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 24 *Per loca inaquosa*, ðerh stowa waterleasa. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxvii. 24 [Hiz] dydon hine on ðone water-leasan pytt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4156 In þis wast I wat a pite, Dri and waterles es it. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cvi. 35 He set..in out-gang of watres land water-les [L. *sine aqua*]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 180 A monk, whan he is recchelees Is likned til a fissh þat is waterlees. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerusalem* (E.E.T.S.) 44 Þo3 3e waterles wede, wynne 3e noȝt o droppe. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, And shortly þe hounde3 vnclene holde and vnclene kept, or longe waterles, hath communlych þe maniewe. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xi. 24 When the vnclene sprete is gone out of a man, he walketh through waterlesse places sekynge reest. 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 42 b, Can seas be waterles and drie? can hilles be dales without? 1643 Trapp *Gen.* I. 21 To requite your kindness, that consulted to starve me, in the waterless pit. 1828 Duppa *Trav. Italy*, etc. 176 Here and there a little waterless fountain completes the design. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* lix. (1901) II. 140 A half-buttered muffin mounts a waterless slop-basin; a dirty egg accompanies some toasted wedges of bread. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 18 Through this seventy miles of waterless country. 1900 *Times* 24 Nov. 5/2 The long waterless marches are beginning to have their effect upon the camels.

b. *Waterless pit*: in the 17th c. often *fig.* with allusion to *Zech.* ix. 11.

1616 J. B. *Serm.* 25 And they will deliuer thy soule..from the water-lesse pits 1675 T. Brooks *Golden Key* Wks. 1867 V. 350 The Babylonish captivity..was that waterless pit,..out of which they were delivered by virtue of the blood of the covenant. 1690 C. Nesse *Old & New Test.* I. 197 The prison of this waterless or comfortless pit.

Hence **Wa·terlessness.**

1888 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Nov. 563/1 His preconceived opinion of the waterlessness of this country.

Wa·ter-level.

1. A levelling instrument in which water is used instead of alcohol (see quot. 1880).

1563 Shute *Archit.* B ij b, Geometrie teacheth vs the order of rules, Compasses, Squiers, Quadrantes, and luste waterlesules with manie other knowlaiges. 1674 R. Hooke *Animadv. Hevelius* 61 This is done by the help of a Water-Level. 1723 E. Stone tr. *Bion's Math. Instrum.* v. i. (1758) 134 The first of these Instruments is a Water-Level, composed of a round Tube of Brass, or other solid Matter, about 3 Feet long (etc.)..This Level, altho' very simple, is very commodious for levelling short Distances. 1880 L. D'A. Jackson *Aid Surv.-Pract.* 146 The water level..is also an appliance for rough levelling within short distances...It consists of a horizontal tube about two feet long terminated by two bottle-shaped ends, in which water will stand level and thus afford a horizontal line of sight.

2. *Mining.* A road driven on the strike of a seam to carry off water.

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 368 It is only a Spring which rises in a Coal-Drift (or Water-Level made for the draining of the Cannel Coal-Pits). 1836 *Hull & Selby Rlwy. Act* 43 Airways, headways, gateways, or water-levels through the mines. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 72.

3. The plane below which the rock or soil is saturated with water; the situation of this plane. Also *attrib.*

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 960 To whatever depth a coal-mine is drained of its water, from that depth it is worked, up to the rise of the water-level line. *Ibid.* 974 The miner..is guided in his line of direction entirely by the water-level. 1888 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* III. II. ii. § 2. 345 In most districts rocks are permeated with water below a certain limit termed the water-level.

4. The horizontal surface of still water. Also the (higher or lower) position of the surface of water.

1860 Maury *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) xii. 297 Thus we might have a sea whose level would be much further below the water-level of the ocean than is the Dead Sea. 1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. iii. 26 When the water-level in the pit was lowered, and the suction became incomplete [etc.]. 1878 D. Kemp *Man. Yacht Sailing* 377 A straight line from the fore side of the stem to the aft side of the stern-post at the water level. 1895 J. J. Raven *Hist. Suffolk* 39 The salting mound just above the present average water-level in Herringfleet. 1917 L. Einstein *Inside Constantinople* v. 212 The crew..succeeded in raising the stern [of the submarine] to the water-level, whence all scrambled out.

Wa·ter-lily. The common name for many aquatic plants with large flowers, belonging to the N. O. *Nymphæaceæ*. In British use chiefly applied to the white water-lily, *Nymphæa alba*, and the yellow water-lily, *Nuphar lutea*. The Australian (blue) water-lily is *Nymphæa gigantea*.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. (1872) 67, I sau the vattir lille, quhilk is ane remeid contrar gomoria. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. xxviii. 280 There be two kindes of water Lylies..the yellow, and the white. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxxii. 672 The white water Lillie or Nenuphar, hath great round leaues, in shape of a buckler. 1652 Culpeper *Eng. Phys.* 120 The white Water-Lilly hath very large, round and thick dark green leaves. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 317 Lily, Lesser Yellow Water, with fringed Flowers, *Menyanthes*. 1788 Cowper (*title*) The Dog and the Water-Lily. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lxvii, While, chance, some scattered water-lily sails Down where the shallower wave still tells its bubbling tales. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* 45 Broad water lilies lay tremulously. 1861 Tennyson in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 472 The Isle of Wight is like a water-lily on a blue lake. 1882 *Garden* 11 Nov. 421/1 There is the giant blue Water Lily of Australia.

b. Applied to aquatic plants of other orders.

The 'water lily' of New Zealand is *Ranunculus lyallii*.

1653 Walton *Angler* ii. 40 Look down at the bottom of the hill, there in that Meadow, chequered with water Lillies and Lady-smocks. 1882 H. Friend *Decomsh. Plant-n.*, Water Lily, *Iris Pseudacorus*. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Water Lily*, the arum lily, *Calla palustris*. 1893 *Wiltshire Gloss.*, Water-lily (1) *Caltha palustris*. (2) *Ranunculus aquatilis*.

Wa·ter-line.

†**1.** A rope of some kind. *Obs.*

1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 14 The brest ropes are now out of vse, the water line is [*i. e.*, in use].

2. *Naut.* The line of floatation of a ship; the line supposed to be described on the hull by the surface of the water when a ship is afloat. Often (= Load-water-line) the proper line of floatation when the ship is fully laden. *Light water-line*: the line of floatation of a ship without cargo.

a 1688 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301). 1697 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* IX. 45 The water line is that Bend or place she should swim in when she is loaded. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* iv. 20 Elm is..proper for Water-works, Mills, Pipes, Pumps, Ship-planks beneath the Water-line. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 122 The Horizontal Section at the water line. *Ibid.* 125 Our second Water-line, which I call the sailing-line. 1773 Emerson *Princ. Mechanics* (ed. 3) 236 Let *DdAcC* be the water-line or horizontal section of the water and the hull of a ship. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 242 *Water Lines* or *Lines of Floatation*. Those horizontal lines, supposed to be described by the surface of the water on the bottom of a ship, and which are exhibited at certain depths upon the sheer-draught. Of these, the most particular are those denominated the Light Water Line and the Load Water Line. 1837 *Civil Engrn & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 13/1 Her length on the water-line 230 feet. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 152 Brigs laden to the water-line with cargo and steering straight for Africa. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* I. 8 The line in which the surface of the water cuts the surface of the ship when floating in any position is called the water line for that position. 1892 *Century Mag.* May 23/2 The outlets are below the water-line of the boat.

b. *attrib.* as in *water-line armour, belt, length.*

1868 *Rep. Munitions War* 270 There is a water-line belt of the same thickness (4½ inch plating). 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 23 Sept. 1/2 The water-line armour tends to save the ship from sinking...To leave two-thirds the length of the ship without this water-line armoured belt is a most awfully risky experiment. 1892 *Century Mag.* May 23/1 Which thus gained advantage over square-sterned boats of equal water-line length.

3. *Shipbuilding.* Any one of certain structural lines of a ship, parallel with the surface of the water, which represent the contour of the hull at various

heights above the keel, and collectively determine the exterior form of the vessel.

1790 Blanchely *Nav. Expositor, Water Line*, is that which goes round the Ship at the Surface of the Water, and shews the true Shape of her Body. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 399/1 In ships that draw more water abaft than afore, the water lines will not be parallel to the keel. 1830 Heddewick *Mar. Archit.* 186 Having the diagonals drawn on the body plan, next draw in the water-lines. The water-lines and transoms are commonly drawn first on the sheer-plan, and transferred to the body-plan. 1851–4 *C. Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 506 The principal lines employed in constructing a draught .. Water lines, which in the sheer plan are straight lines drawn parallel to the surface of the water, and in the half-breadth plan they show the form of the ship by the successive breadths marked at heights corresponding with the water lines in the sheer plan... The upper water line in the half-breadth plan is the line of flotation. 1878 D. Kemp *Man. Yacht Sailing* 377 *Water Line*, a horizontal plane passing through a vessel longitudinally. A line shown in the half-breadth plan of a ship drawing.

b. *attrib.*, as in *water-line pattern, plan, model.*

1867 Emerson *May-day* 105 What god is this imperial Heat?..Doth it bear hidden in its heart Water-line patterns of all art, All figures, organs, hues, and graces? 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Water-line model.* The same as *key-model.* 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Water-line Model*, a model formed by board shaped according to the draft-lines on the paper, and laid upon each other to form a solid model.

4. The weather-mark or stain on a wall showing where a roof formerly terminated against the wall.

1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* II. 148 A new roof was constructed, the pitch of which was regulated by the water-line on the eastern face of the tower.

5. = Water-level 3. (See quot. 1897.)

1849 Dempsey *Drainage Districts & Lands* 70 Districts lying below the level of the adjacent river, or so little above it that drains of adequate capacity must have their beds below the water-line, necessarily require artificial means of discharging the drainage waters. 1869 R. B. Smyth *Gold Fields Victoria* 625 *Water-line*, the line in any reef where water is struck in the various shafts. 1890 *Nature* 27 Nov. 94/2 The absence of water passing into the ground for a long period naturally leads to a lowering of the free ground water-line. 1897 Ridal *Water & Purif.* 84 The 'line of saturation', or water-line, is the level at which the water stands, and to which it will rise in wells, in any water-bearing stratum.

6. The outline of a coast.

1792 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 159 The water-line of the island appears to more advantage. Among many smaller indentations of the coast, the bays of Totland, and Newtown, are considerable. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xlvi. (1856) 423 The water-line was toothed with fangs of broken ice, which scraped against the beach as the tides rose and fell.

7. A linear watermark in paper.

1847 De Morgan *Arithm. Bks.* Introd. p. xiii, It is supposed ..that the waterlines are perpendicular in folio, octavo, and decimo-octavo books, and horizontal in quarto and duodecimo. 1858 *Sotheby's Principia Typogr.* III. 32 In the identification of the manufacture of paper, two very important points must be observed: First, the space between the divisional water-lines caused by the thicker upright wires of the sieve and secondly, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 86 Remarkably thick and spongy paper, having been much sized; the upright water-lines scarcely visible.

Hence **Waterlined** *a.*, of paper, marked with water-lines. **Waterliner**, a shot that hits a vessel on the water-line.

1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* ii. 21 Oh, good shot! That was a water-liner...That was the Marines' three-pounder.

Waterlog (wɔ̄·təɹlɒg), *v.* [app. f. Water *sb.* + Log *v.*[1]

Cf. Log *v.*[1] 3 a, where the only example cited is:—1752 Smollett *Per. Pic.* lxxxvi, Several feet of under-water logging in her hold. In this passage 19th c. editors have altered *logging* [illegible] of 'logg[illegible] to be that [illegible] (a ship) to the condition of a log': cf. quot. 1622 under Log *sb.*[1] 1 b, 'Having lost all her masts, and being no other than a logge in the sea'.

The finite verb is not recognized in previous Eng. dictionaries, which give only *waterlogged* ppl. adj.]

1. *trans.* To render (a ship, etc.) unmanageable by flooding with water: see Waterlogged *ppl. a.*

1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 101 The Borneo carried too much sail, just before she foundered; and took in a sea forward, which water-logged her. 1809 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 57 A sudden leak..water-logged her. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 17 The fearful wave had waterlogged the Friendship from bow to stern. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 345/1 A tremendous sea broke on board,..opened her hatches, and waterlogged her.

2. To saturate with water so as to render inert.

1870 R. W. P. Birch *Disposal Town Sewage* 6 This last-mentioned method of applying sewage to land..waterlogs the earth. 1878 Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* lx. (ed. 5) 237 Beds of coal are not the result of woody matter drifted into, and waterlogged in, lake hollows, by rivers.

[illegible] Pattison *Academ. Org.* ii. 29 This alteration added to the assembly about 100 members—and waterlogged Congregation at one stroke. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 24 Mar. 4/5 No scheme of purchase..can do otherwise than waterlog the State telephone department with a large amount of unproductive capital.

Hence **Waterlogging** *vbl. sb.* Also **Waterlogger.** (For the sense cf. Waterlogged 3 b.)

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 502 Pulmonary œdema in renal diseases is not always a mere accompaniment of general water-logging. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 2/2 Whereas a few years ago only two [butter-making] companies were engaged in water-logging, there were now over 100. *Ibid.* 2/3 It was his business to cater for the honest trading classes and not for fraudulent water-loggers [in butter-making]. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* June 609 There are four main divisio[illegible]nder which adulteration might be classed:—(1) milk-blending, (2) water-logging, [etc.].

Waterlogged (wɔ̄·təɹlɒgd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed[1].

(The form *water-lodged* in Lescallier *Vocab. des Termes de Marine Anglois et François*, Paris 1777, and in *Encycl. Brit.* 1797, is an ill-advised attempt at correction of *water-logged* in Falconer's Dict.)]

1. Of a ship, boat: Flooded with water by leakage or overflow so as to become impaired in buoyancy, heavy, and unmanageable.

1769–76 Falconer *Dict. Marine, Water-logged*, the state of a ship when, by receiving a great quantity of water into her hold, by leaking, &c. she has become heavy and inactive upon the sea, so as to yield without resistance to the efforts of every wave rushing over her decks. 1797 S. James *Navr. Voyage* 235 The vessel being nearly water-logged, every high sea washed over her. 1817 Oxley *Jrnls. Two Exped. N.S. Wales* (1820) 245 Our little bark was however completely water logged. 1826 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 478 The Virgin visibly conveyed the water-logged ship over the breakers safely to the shore. 1847 H. Miller *First Impr. Eng.* ii. (1857) 18 As if becalmed in its voyage, a water-logged hulk, that failed to press on towards its port of destination. [illegible] He climbed over the dredger..and dropped from her into a small waterlogged punt.

b. *transf.*

1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 61 You will be glad to hear that we have escaped undrowned from that water-logged country called Holland. 1848 Thoreau *Maine Woods* (1894) 7 That other [house] with a waterlogged look, as if it were still airing and drying its basement.

c. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1795 Burke *Regic. Peace* iv. Sel. Wks. (1892) 350 Tumbling from the Gallick coast, the victorious tenth wave shall..poop the shattered, weather-beaten, leaky, water-logged vessel [*sc.* the Government]. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. vi. vi, A poor water-logged Legislature can pronounce nothing. 1867 Lowell *Percival* Pr. Wks. 1890 II. 141 His mind drifts, too waterlogged to answer the helm.

2. Of floating bodies: Saturated with water so as to be deprived of buoyancy.

1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* II. 241 When timber is drifted down by a river, it is often arrested by lakes, and becoming water-logged it may sink. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* iv. § 2. 370 After death..the body was thus suspended with the belly uppermost, till it became water-logged, and buried in the silt. 1882 E. O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. 315 Water-logged tree trunks clung among the roots projecting into the sluggish stream.

3. Suffering from, deteriorated or rendered unserviceable by, excessive saturation with water.

1809 *Bone Manure, Rep. Doncast. Comm.* 8 A gravelly soil may embrace..the waterlogged yellow clay. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts*, etc. 969 In the course of years, however, many water-logged fissures come to be cut by the workings. 1858 Glenny *Gardener's Everyday Bk.* 208/1 All the plants throughout the house should be often examined to see that none are pot-bound, or water-logged. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 150/1 A cyclist cannot extract enjoyment from a water-logged day. 1895 *Daily News* 24 June 8/5 They have completed arrangements for borrowing £100,000 to be spent in draining waterlogged mines. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 613 If the arterial pressure falls at last..and in spite of free perspiration the tissues become water-logged. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 607, I..began to fear that the rotten water-logged earth we were on might give way.

b. Of butter: Containing an excess of water.

1906 *Macm. Mag.* June 608 A large quantity of water-logged, milk-blended butter was being manufactured for the purpose of being sold fraudulently.

Hence **Waterloggedness.**

1854 Thoreau *Walden* iv. Writ. 1918 II. 198.

Waterloo (wɔ̄·təɹlū·). The name given to the battle fought outside the village of Waterloo, near Brussels, on June 18, 1815, in which Napoleon was decisively and finally defeated. Hence (with *a*, *his*): Something which is a 'settler'; a decisive and final contest; chiefly in the phrase *to meet one's Waterloo.*

1816 Byron *To Moore* 5 Dec., It [Armenian] is..a Waterloo of an Alphabet. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 68 If there must be a Waterloo, let it be a conflict for all the minister's rights, so that he may never require to go to law in his lifetime again. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 24 June 9/3 He will have fought and lost his Waterloo.

b. The name of a bright blue tint (see quots.).

1823 Moore *Country Dance & Quadrille* 84 Eyes of blue (Eyes of that bright, victorious tint, Which English maids call 'Waterloo'). 1871 Mrs. H. Wood *Dene Hollow* xxxviii, The frock..was of that dark bright blue colour called Waterloo, after the somewhat recent battle of Waterloo.

c. *attrib.*: †**Waterloo bang-up**, = *Waterloo cracker*; **Waterloo blue** (cf. b. above); †**Waterloo cracker**, a kind of firework (cf. Cracker 6); †**Waterloo fly**, an artificial fly with blue wings; †**Waterloo helmet** (see quot.).

1826 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1510 His companion cracks a *Waterloo bang-up in their faces. 1898 Miss Sewell *Ursula* vii, There she was..dressed out in a bright blue silk dress,—what is called a *Waterloo blue. 1892 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 430/2, I took 15s...for *waterloo crackers and ball crackers (the common trade names), 'waterloo' the 'pulling crackers'. 1898 Stevenson *Ireland Yes.* [illegible] Waterloo crackers all over the [illegible]. 1897 Kingsmill *Northern Angler* 62 The *Wi[illegible] Fly. 1887 *Pall Mall Budget* 27 Jan. 26/2 The unif[illegible] the old Life Guards includes a *Waterloo helmet, with crest and plume at the side.

†**Waterlyngka.** *Obs.* [f. Water *sb.* + *lyngka* = Lemeker. Cf. Brookline and Wellink.]

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 186 Waterlyngka: *fabrile minor.*

†**Water-mail**[1]. *Sc. Obs.* [Mail *sb.*[2]] A rent charged upon a piece of water.

1485 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 42/2 Þe lordschippe of Abernethy with þe watter maiys of Inuernes. 1488 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 381/1 Dicto duci hereditarie pertinentem de magnis custumis et aquarum firmis nuncupatis le Water Males burgi de Aberdene. 1500 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XI. 666 *note*, The yerlie pensioun gevin to hir of the custumes and water mails of oure said burrowis. *c* 1550 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) II. 212 [Dedit] xx s. de custumis Abirdonensibus videlicet de ly vatir malis.

†**Water-mail**[2]. *Sc. Obs.* [The second element is obscure; possibly the word may be an incorrect Sc. reading of Water-mole.] Some kind of fur. Also *attrib.*

1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 136 Item, for watermayllis to lyne the saim gowne. 1512 *Ibid.* IV. 213 Item, put in ane stomok of the Quenis of blak satin, sax watermaill skynnis. 1527 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 57 Ane goun of tanny, lynit with wattermalis.

Waterman (wɔ̄·təɹmăn). [Cf. G. *wassermann* (in various senses), WFris. *wetterman*, Sw. dial. *vattenmann* (= sense 5).]

†**1.** A seaman, mariner. *Obs.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 741 Wyghtly one the wale thay wyn vp thaire ankers, By wytt of the watyre-mene of the wale vthez. 1549 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* 136 b, John Boyes of Maldon did bye of John Marteyn of Bradwell, Waterman, oon hunderith & syxe bussells of oysters. 1580 Covendale *Spir. Perle* xxii. 165 Lyke as a waterman wyll neuer let out hys anyle so farre, but that he may sone pull it in agayn. 1638 G. Platters *Discov. Inf. Treas.* (1639) 44 This all Fishers and watermen can tell, for that they finde the water deepest in the loosest earth, and eblest where it is most compacted and firme: for Mountaines and Vallies at land, are depths and shallowes at Sea. *a* 1651 Sir J. Skeffington *Heroe of Lorenzo* (1652) 79 Cæsar..when he was fain to encourage his faint-hearted waterman in a storm, by saying, Be not afraid, for so thou wrong'st the fortunes of Cæsar. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* 301 Our Greek refused absolutely to go further with us unless by water. For he was a kind of Water-man, and was not of their faith, that had rather trust God Almighty by Land than by Sea.

2. A man working on a boat or among boats, *esp.* a boatman (as the licensed wherry-man of London) who plies for hire on a river, etc.

1458 *Forman's Monumt. Christ's Hosp., Abingdon* 41 Ther loved hem a ladde was a water man longe; He helpe atop the streme til the werke were a fore. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1811) 628 This mayer fyrste of all mayers brake that auncient..custome, and was rowed thyther by water; for ye which ye watermen made of hym a roundell or songe to his great prayse. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Payer le port*, ..to pay the waterman his fare. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* P j b, And so imitate the waterman whiche looketh one waye, and roweth another. *a* 1603 Bacon *To Ld. Essex* Wks. 1730 IV. 486 And to her Majesty no other reason, but the reason of a waterman; I am her first man of those who serve in counsel of law? 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. (1637) 389 The Inhabitants whereof [of Henley on Thames] be for the most part Watermen, who make their chiefest gaine by carrying downe in their Barges wood and Corne to London. 1629 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 304 Seamen and Watermen are daily impressed,..to supply the shippe. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* I. ii, Come, pay the Waterman, and take the Portmantle. 1773 C. Burney *Pers. St. Mus. Germany* (1775) II. 21 The boat moved so very slow, there being only one waterman, that it frequently seemed to stand still. 1824 *Friendship's Offering* 220 Rates of Watermen. From London Bridge. 1834 *John Bull* 27 July 238/3 The contest among the watermen of Putney for a purse of sovereigns..took place on Wednesday. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, River*, Groups of watermen are assembled at the different stairs. 1860 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* I. [illegible] barge.

b. *Waterman's knot* = Water-knot.

1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 297 The Waterman's Knot..may be used. 1873 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

c. *colloq.* One having a (good) knowledge of boating, etc.

1912 'Guy Thorne' *Gt. Acceptance* I. 13 It is not to be understood that he was in any way a milksop. He was a good waterman upon the river, and at a time when young men of position did not indulge in cricket, football, [etc.]..he was yet a fearless, skilful rider.

d. *slang.* (See quot.)

1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), *Waterman*, a light blue silk handkerchief. The Oxford and Cambridge boats' crews always wear these—light blue for Cambridge, and a darker shade for Oxford.

†**2.** = Aquarius. *Obs.* Cf. Waterbearer 2.

1565 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiat* xi. QQ j, But airy are these three, the Scales, the Waterman, the Twinnes. 1590 T. Hood *Use Celestial Globe* 35 b, The 12. [constellation] is *Aquarius*, the Waterman, which hath 40. starres.

4. A man employed in the supply or distribution of water; *e.g.* a water-carrier, a turncock or fireman, a man engaged in the irrigation of water-meadows, or in pumping.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4140/4 They [*sc.* the Fire-Insurance Co.] only Employ..their own Watermen. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 46 At low Water I set all the Drudge and Water-men to that Corner. 1789 T. Wright *Hesh.* [illegible] 22 I've Two of our most skilful water- to lay out a meadow of seven acres. 1794

T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 33 The water is thrown over as much of the meadow as it will cover well at a time, which the watermen call a 'Pitch of work'. 1873 Bradford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 250 Each half company providing a woodmen, a watermen. 1877 L. Palma di Cesnola *Cyprus* 241 A sort of wicker yoke, which is put on the back of a donkey ridden by the water-man. 1880 D. C. Davies *Metallif. Min.* 403 *Water Men*, men employed in the extraction of water, especially with the rag and chain pump. 1912 Max Pemberton *War & Women* III. i. 174 Kensington, Paddington, and Hampstead were frozen out... Weary water-men plugged the mains.

b. *esp.* An attendant at cab- or coach-stands, whose primary function was to water the horses.

1764 *Low Life* 69 Hackney-Coachmen .. are sleeping in Night-Cellars, while the Watermen (as they are termed) are watering their Horses. 1832 *Ann. Reg.* 321 Thomas Taverner, waterman to the coach-stand. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Hackney-coach Stands*, The waterman darts from the pump, seizes the horses by their respective bridles, and drags them, and the coach too, round to the house, shouting all the time for the coachman at the very top..of his voice. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* I. ii, It ended in a regular set-to between two watermen attached to the adjoining coach-stand. 1908 E. V. Lucas *Over Bemerton's* iv. (1921) 37 The waterman tends the cab rank and incidentally runs errands for the neighbourhood. London is rich in such wastrels.

5. An imaginary being living in or under water, a water-demon, a merman.

1833 Keightley *Fairy Mythol.* II. 72, I am a Christian woman as well as you; and I was carried off by a waterman, who changed me. 1873 W. S. Gilbert *More 'Bab' Ballads, Capt. & Mermaids* 43.

† 6. In certain nonce-uses. a. One who uses water instead of wine in the Eucharist. b. A Baptist. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 1070 These watermen, that is to saie, they that vse water onely, in celebrating the Lords supper, are iustly condemned. 1657 J. Watts *Scribe* etc. I. 109 If you..have been new dipt by some of the watermen, and have been re-baptised Iohn.

7. *colloq.* A water-colour artist.

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Oct. 11/2 The collection of water colours..including among its contributors many of the best living 'water-men'.

8. *Comb.* as *waterman-like* adj.

1625 Bp. Hall *Gt. Impostor* Wks. (1625) 504 The Will (in both respects) Water-man-like lookes forward, and rowes backward. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Mar. 3/1 It was a moot point whether the Oxford or the Cambridge crew went through it..with the more watermanlike ease.

Hence **Watermanship**, the art of a waterman; skill in rowing or managing boats, etc.

1880 *Daily News* 18 Jan. 2/2 His weight..combined with good watermanship, fairly points to the conclusion that he will eventually prove to be one of the best oarsmen in this year's crew. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 Aug. 2/1 A 'Varsity crew, carefully coached and with a fine knowledge of watermanship. 1894 R. C. Leslie *Waterbiog.* Pref., What may be called the seamanship of large racing craft, and the watermanship of smaller ones, is usually left to their skipper and crew. 1908 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 186 A canvas skiff which it took good watermanship to sit.

attrib. 1900 G. Swift *Somerley* 106 This .. is a very obvious bit of watermanship information.

Water-mark, watermark, *sb.* [Mark *sb.*1 Cf. G. *wassermarke* in various senses.]

† 1. *Sc.* A boundary mark indicating the line of separation between the waters of different rivers (belonging to different proprietors). *Obs.*

1632 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 652/2 Cum signis fluvialibus lie water markis intra aquas de Done et Loquhell. 1637 *Ibid.* 266/2 Cum molendino, maneriei loco, signis fluvialibus lie water-merkis inter aquas de Done et Loquhell.

2. The line (whether actually marked or not) forming the limit to which the tide, or the water of a river, well, flood, etc., has risen or usually rises. Cf. High-water mark, Low-water mark.

1678 Dryden *All for Love* I. i, Men and Beasts Were born above the tops of Trees, that grew On th' utmost Margin of the Water-mark. 1752 *Act* 24 *Geo. II*, c. 8, § 16 Till the Water is sunk below the Watermark. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy, Gondola* 79 Those hundred Isles..That rise abruptly from the water-mark. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 225 Plunging through the sand we hope to find something on the water-mark.

fig. 1896 E. Augusta King *Ital. Highways* 62 The water-mark above which it is undesirable that any woman's knowledge shall rise.

3. A mark left by a flood.

1822 J. Flint *Lett. fr. Amer.* 122 A watermark on the beach showed that the Ohio had lately risen to the height of fourteen or fifteen feet. 1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* ii. 14 Bright green reeds eight feet high, with a yellow water-mark on their lower stems.

4. The line showing the draught of a ship.

1764 [J. Burton] *Pres. St. Navig. Thames* 36 The Gauger should first affix on the Side the Water-mark of 3 Feet Draught. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Water-mark*,..the float-line or sinking depth of a ship. 1883 W. C. Russell *Sailors' Lang., Water-marks*, the figures on a ship's stern showing the depth of water she draws.

5. A distinguishing mark or device impressed in the substance of a sheet of paper during manufacture, usually barely noticeable except when the sheet is held against strong light.

So G. *wassermarke* (1785); the more common word is now *wasserzeichen* (*zeichen* sign). The name was prob. given because the water-mark, being less opaque than the rest of the paper, had the appearance of having been produced by the action of water.

1708 Hearne *Collect.* 11 Mar. (O. H. S.) II. 98 Has sent specimens of old paper (for water-marks &c.). 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 374/1 He [Mathison] had discovered a method of counterfeiting the water-mark of the bank paper. 1787 Penn *Orig. Lett.* I. Pref. p. xxi. *note*, The paper-marks are those figures formed by wires, on the sieve at the bottom of the mould in which the paper is made, and are impressed on it in its pulpy state... They are often called the water-marks. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl* II. 237 It showed a water-mark of a lion standing upright. 1913 F. W. Cornish *Jane Austen* x. 226 As the water-marks in the original manuscript are 1803 and 1804 it could not have been written before that time.

b. The metal design from which the impression is made.

1854 C. Tomlinson *Obj. Art-Manuf., Paper* 22 The singular names of the older kinds of paper appear to have some connection with the devices formed in them by the water-marks. Water-marks are ornamental figures in wire or thin brass, sewn upon the wires of the mould, and like those wires, they leave an impression, by rendering the paper where it lies on them, thinner and more translucent.

Water-mark, *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To mark or stamp with a watermark.

1856: see Water-marked *ppl. a.* 1889 W. Lockhart in *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 345/1 The Chinese for a long time past have had the art of water-marking paper. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 7/2 A number of forged Bank of France notes were submitted, watermarked 1,000 francs.

2. To embody as a watermark.

1889 *Century Mag.* Nov. 94/2 The volumes..are without the final refinement of the recurring title water-marked in the lower margins of the page.

Hence **Water-marked** *ppl. a.*; **Water-marking** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. 644 Wired and water-marked paper is found soon afterwards [*c* 1330]. 1896 *Daily News* 4 June 7/7 The method of watermarking must not be forgotten. 1897 *Ibid.* 10 July 8/3 All the dies and water-marking plates are here designed, and made for the Bank Notes, Postal Orders,..and other papers requiring a water-mark. 1913 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 401 All these have been tried, and, with the exception of the water-marking, wholly given up.

Water-meadow. A meadow periodically overflowed by a stream. Also *attrib.*

1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 187 This Thrash'd Hay .. has been found more nourishing to Horses, than course Water-Meadow Hay. *a* 1789 Wimpey in T. Wright *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 25 A water-meadow is laid out in arched lands similar to the segment of a circle. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 254 Water-meadows also, should never be ploughed. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 529 The advantages arising from water-meadows are too well known to require elucidation. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xlviii, On the river where the water-meadows are fresh and green. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 1511 Fair with golden sheaves,..Gay with the water-meadows green. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 19/2 As a preparatory step in the formation of water-meadows, it is often considered advisable to underdrain the field.

Water-measure. A kind of measurement formerly used for coal, salt, fruit, etc., sold on board vessels in port or in the river.

The bushel of water-measure seems to have been originally the ordinary bushel heaped; the statute of 1493 ordained that it should contain five pecks of striked measure, thus exceeding the ordinary bushel by one-fourth. A 'water-measure' exceeding the standard measure in a much larger proportion seems to have been used for coal shipped from northern ports: see quot. 1708, and cf. quot. 1851 under Chaldron 2.

1465 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 93, I may selle here for vjs. viijd. a quarter clene fixed after Royston measure, whech is lesse thanne the water measure of London. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII* c. 4 § 3 Provided alwey that this Acte shall not extend to any persone selling or byeng by watermesure.. And..that the seid Watermesure within the Shippes borde shall onely conteyn v pekkis after the seid standard rased and streken. 1499 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-rolls* Bundle 58. No. 6 Emerunt salt ad portum per mensuram vocat. le water measur et extra navem vendiderunt per le land measur in prejudicium legiorum domini Regis. Ideo quilibet eorum in misericordia XL*d.* 1582 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) 215 It is ordeyned that none should buye either salt, onions, apples or such lyke vppon the wate[r] but by water measure & like wize to sell beeinge once landed & sellerid or housed but by land measure. 1640 *Act* 16 *Chas. I.* c. 19 § 6 Such measure as is comonly called Water measure in any Ports Maritime [*sic*] Townes or other places shall be still used and continued as formerly the same hath beene. [Recited and repealed 1670 *Act* 22 *Chas. II* c. 8 § 1.] *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Devon* (1662) 247 William Alford . of Bediford carried on his back for a Wager, four Bushels, Salt-water-measure [*read* four Bushels Salt, water-measure]. 1708 *Act* 1 *Anne* Stat. 1, c. 15(9) § 1 Whereas Apples and Pears are frequently Sold by Measure, commonly called Water Measure, the Contents whereof are very Uncertain.. Be it therefore Enacted..That the Measure, commonly called Water Measure, shall be Round, and in Diameter Eighteen Inches and an half within the Hoop, and Eight Inches Deep, and no more, and so in Proportion for any greater or lesser Measure: And that every Measure, commonly called Water Measure, by which Apples and Pears are Sold, shall be heaped as usually. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 17 Water, or New-Castle or Sunderland Measure,..is generally reckoned double the Measure of a London Chaldron, or more. 1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* xlii, It is agreed and order'd, that all Lightermen selling Coals, shall sell Pool-measure, commonly call'd Water-measure; That is to say, One and Twenty Chaldron to the Score. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Water-Measure.* Salt, sea-coal, &c. while on board vessels in the pool or river, are measured with the corn bushel heaped up; or else five striked pecks are allowed to the bushel. This is called water-measure, and it exceeds Winchester measure by about three gallons in the bushel.

Water-measurer. [transl. of *Hydrometra*, f. Gr. ὕδωρ-, ὕδωρ water + μέτρ-ον measure.] A book-name for insects of the family *Hydrometridæ* (typical genus *Hydrometra*).

1834 A. Adams etc. *Mem. Nat. Hist.* 243 Water-measurers (Hydrometridæ). Head generally as broad as thorax, [etc.]. 1871 Staveley *Brit. Insects* 329 The..Hydrometridæ, or the water-measurers, may be known at once by their very slender figure, and their habit of skimming upon the surface of the water. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 268 Great 'water-measurers' (*Gerris lacustris*) were running about in a jerky manner, on the surface of the water.

Water-melon. [So called from the abundance of watery juice. Cf. F. *melon d'eau.*] A kind of gourd, *Citrullus vulgaris* (formerly *Cucumis Citrullus*). (Applied both to the plant and its fruit.)

1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 47 A present of 10 water millons. *Ibid.*, 10 water millans. 1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isl.* 66 There grows in these Countries another kind of Melons..call'd Water-Melons, because they are full of a sugar'd water, intermingled with their meat. 1762 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 153, I design to try liquorice-roots, barley, Cape-Breton wheat, cotton, indigo-seed, wood for dying, and the water melon. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 270/1 Wo Water-melons used for buoying lines. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 360 Water Melon... Commonly cultivated in all warm countries of the world for its fleshy edible fruit.

attrib. 1832 S. A. Ferrall *Ramble Amer.* 298 Here I slipped out at the side door into the water-melon patch.

Water-mill.

1. A corn-mill whose machinery is driven by water. Also *attrib.*

c 1425 *St. Christina* vii. in *Anglia* VIII. 122 She wente streight vprighte on þe watir-mylne whele. 1464 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 529/1 A water Milne..with the ponde of the same Milne. 1484 *Paston Lett.* III. 321 Tweyn water melles, wher off iche was letyn ffor x. marke by yer. 1585 *Aldeburgh Rec. in N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 408/2 Pd to Hille for xix Lodes cariedge of watermill gravell into the marshe xii[s] viii[d]. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 216/1 *Tympanum*,..the water mill wheele that taketh and deliuereth water in turning. 1635 Bp. J. Williams *Articles Enq. I inc.* C 3, Whether have you in your parish any water-mills,..which have been suffered to grinde or go upon the sabbath-day in prayer-time. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. i, The sound of his voice pierced my ears like that of a water-mill. 1842 Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 167 The north of Germany is deficient both in coals and water mills. 1873 B. Stewart *Conserv. Energy* ii. 26 Let us compare together a watermill driven by a head of water, and a windmill driven by the wind.

2. A water-wheel or a machine driven by a water-wheel.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Martinet*, a water mill causing to rise the great hammer in the forge. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 9 The beere of Torge is much esteemed through all Misen, whereof they sell such quantity abroad, as ten water-mils besides wind-mils, scarcely serve the towne for this purpose. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 233 Large water-mills are erected for spinning silk, wool, and thread.

So **Water-miller**, the owner or manager of a water-mill. ? *Obs.*

a 1530 J. Heywood *Weather* (Brandl) 443 Here entreth the water myller. *Ibid.* 446 We water myllers be nothynge in regarde. 1664 *Instr. Jury-Men Spalding* 23 Flood-gates.. in a more peculiar manner, belong to the Water-Miller.

Water-mint. Any aquatic plant of the labiate genus *Mentha*; chiefly the Bergamot Mint (*Mentha aquatica*) or the Brook-mint (*M. hirsuta*).

In the 17th c. *water-mint* and *water-cress* were sometimes treated as synonyms; it is not clear which of these names was used incorrectly.

1542 Elyot *Dict.*, *Sisymbrium*, .. water mynte. 1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* 74 Sisymbrium hortense is called in englishe, baume Mynte, or water Mynte. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 136/1 *Sisymbrium, offic. balsamita*, .. water mints. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccxvii. 515 Of Horse Mint or Water Mint. 1 *Mentha aquatica.* Water mint. 2 *Sisymbria Mentha* Sweete Water Mint. *Ibid.*, Water Mint is a kinde of wilde Mint. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 340 The hearbe called water-minte, or water Cresses, ..anointed vpon the .. wounds which come by the venemous teeth of a Shrew, will very effectually cure the paine thereof. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 518 As wee see that Water-Mint turneth into Field Mint; And the Colewort into Rape by Neglect, &c. 1758 Borlase *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 230 Water-mint of a spicey smell. 1819 Keats *Song of Four Faeries* 34 'Mid water-mint and cresses dim. 1899 Bridges *New Poems, Idle Flowers* 11 With Comfrey, Watermint, Loose-strife and Meadowsweet.

Water-mole. [Mole *sb.*2]

† 1. The water-vole, *Arvicola amphibius. Obs.*

1770 Pennant *Zool.* IV. 84, I imagine it [the water shrew-mouse] is the same which the inhabitants of Sutherland name the water mole.

2. *Austral.* The ornithorhynchus or duck-bill.

1815 in Oxley *Journ. Two Exped. N. S. Wales* (1820) 367 The very curious animal called the water mole (ornithorhynchus paradoxus) is seen in great numbers. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 11 The Water-mole or Duck-mole of the Australian colonists.

Water-mouse.

1. The water-vole, *Arvicola amphibius.*

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 760/11 *Hic gurrex* [read *surrex* = *sorex*], a watermowse. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. cii. I. 45 In Stymphalis of Arcadia, there breed..little watermyce [L. *aquatiles musculi*], or small Limpins. 1653 Walton *Angler* v. 127 If the night be dark..he[the trout] lies boldly neer the top of the water, watching the motion of any Frog or Water-mouse, or Rat betwixt him and the skie. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 297 Bitterns, Herons,..Water-Rats, Water-Mice, Otters, &c. are very great Enemies to Fish. 1819 *Edin. Mag.* June 505 *Arvicola aquatica.* Water Campagnol ..E. Water Rat. S. Water Mouse, or Ratten.

2. *Austral.* A rodent of the genus *Hydromys* or the family *Hydromyidæ.*

c 1880 Sooty water-mouse [see Sooty *a.* 2 c].

Water-mouth. *Sc.* The mouth of a river.

1588 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 506/1 Inter le water-mouth aque de I. et locum de Halgrene. *a* 1650 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I*

(Bannatyne Club) I. 49 Thir haill four ships brake louse.. and were driven out at the watter mouth..throw the violence and spaat of the watter. 1760 *Inform. Dk. Gordon* v. *Kerrs Murray & Fife* 3 The Marquis and his successors fished with their tugnet in the Haven, and water mouth. *Ibid.* 5 What is the boundary..that circumscribes the water-mouth, or *estium fluminis*, and separates it from the river? 1808 JAMIESON. 1824–7 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xviii. (1828) 239 In case the French should land at the water-mouth.

Water-nymph.

1. A nymph inhabiting or presiding over water; a naiad.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 167 And ek sche, as thei understonde, The water Nimphes hath in honde To leden at hire oghne heste. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VI. 419, I askt him whether that the Altar wee did see Belonged to the Waternymphes, or Faunes, or other God Peculiar to the place. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 143 The water Nymphs..Now balefull boughes of Cypres doen aduance. 1680 OTWAY *Ovid's Epist. Phædra to Hippolytus* 174 So may the Water-Nymphs in Heat of Day, Though thou their Sex despise, thy Thirst allay. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 351 P 5 The changing of the Trojan Fleet into Water-Nymphs, which is the most violent Machine in the whole Æne.d. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xvi, The Nereids and Water-nymphs..displayed, as usual, a little more taste and ornament than was to be seen amongst their male attendants. 1900 *Catal. Sculpt. Parthen. Brit. Mus.* 37 This gap may have been filled by a crouching Water Nymph, associated with the River-god.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 306 It is a Pseudo-prophetick Polity that has spred through the whole Territories of the Empire, a Water-Nymph whose skirts are so large, that she has sat floting upon the whole Imperial Ocean for these many Ages. 1752 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* I. xi. 96 This delicate Fisherwoman..carried him [a dog] one Evening to a certain Coffee-house..where the Lady behind the Bar.. prevailed on the gentle Water-Nymph to surrender him for a Dram of Brandy.

2. A water-lily of the genus *Nymphæa*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Water-nymph, *Nymphæa*.

Water-oak. A hard coarse-grained oak, *Quercus aquatica* or *nigra*, of the southern U.S. Also, the pin-oak, *Q. palustris*. Also applied to certain Australian trees of the genera *Casuarina* and *Callistemon*.

1717 *Petiveriana* III. 207 Water Oak. Is an Evergreen, growing in Swamps, Fresh-water Ponds, and by River Sides. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) II. 165 The water-oak, and the willow-leafed oak, rise to no great height. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. United States* I. 174 Water oak, *Quercus aquatica*. 1887 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* ii. in *Century Mag.* Mar. 662/1 Sweet-gums, water-oaks, magnolias. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xvii. 166 Strange shadows gliding..amid the dark-leaved water-oaks.

Water of Ayr. The name of the river (now more commonly known simply as Ayr) at the mouth of which the town of Ayr stands. Used *attrib.* in *Water of Ayr stone*, a kind of stone found on the banks of the Ayr, used for whetstones and also for polishing.

1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 467 Upon the banks of the water of Air, a species of white stone is found, which is well known over all Scotland by the name of the water of Air stone. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 135 Among hones of less importance in general use may be noted..Water of Ayr stone, Scotch stone, or snake stone, used for tools and for polishing marble and copperplates. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 86 Finish by laying an even and straight grain across the brass with blue or water of Ayr stone.

Water of life.

1. *fig.* A drink which gives life or immortality to the drinker.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxii. 17 And he that wole, take freely the watir of lijf. 1688 BUNYAN (*title*) The Water of Life, or a Discourse shewing the Richness and Glory of the Grace and Spirit of the Gospel. 1867 KINGSLEY *Water of Life* i. 4 The East .. was haunted by dreams of a Water of Life, a Fount of Perpetual Youth, a Cup of Immortality.

2. A name for brandy or whisky; rendering med. L. *aqua vitæ* (see AQUA-VITÆ), F. *eau-de-vie* (see EAU), Gael., Ir. *uisge-beatha* (see USQUEBAUGH, WHISKY). *rare* (only as transl.).

1576 G. BAKER tr. *Gesner's Jewell Health* 21 b, The infusions..are done eyther in simple water,..or in water of lyfe. 1822 J. WILSON *Lights & Shadows of Sc. Life* 372 The shepherds..were collected together (not without a quech of the mountain-dew, or water of life) in a large shed.

†**Watero·loger.** *Obs. rare.* [See WATER *sb.* 18 b and -LOGER.] A contemptuous term for one who diagnoses a disease by inspection of the patient's urine. So †**Watero·logy**, the art of doing this.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootom.* 47 That Waterologer in Dr. Harts Anatomy of Urines, that sent his Patient word that he was sick of a blinde Ague. *Ibid.* 66, I shall insist somewhat on the Cheat of Waterologie (a word though new, yet easily to be understood, thanks to another Cheat that rhimeth to it) and therefore I shall use it still, to signifie this divining by Urines. 1678 *Quacks Academy* 6 You must either pretend to be Waterologers, or Ass-trologers, or Piss-prophets, or Starr-Wizards. 1786 R. HEATHCOTE *Sylva* (1788) 239 A waterologer, poring mysteriously over an Urinal.

Water-ordeal. (See quot. 1701.)

[1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Ordeal*, There were of this, four sorts...The third, was hot water-Ordeal, by putting his arms up to the elbows in seething water, &c. The fourth was cold water-Ordeal, like the late used trial of Witches.] 1701 W. KENNETT *Cowel's Interpr.* s. v., This [purgation] was c monly by Fire-Ordeal, or by Water-Ordeal, and this latter was either by hot water, or by cold water. The purgation by hot water was for the Party accus'd to thrust his hands or feet into scalding water, on presumption that his Innocence would receive no harm. That by cold water, was for the Defendant to be cast into a Pond or River (as they now pretend to try Witches) whether he would sink or swim. 1734 *Stow's Surv. Lond.* (ed. Strype) v. xxx. II. 359/2 They still continue also to try Witches by Water-Ordeal, and believe.. that a Witch cannot sink in the Water. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxvii. 337. 1888 H. C. LEA *Hist. Inquisition* I. 65 Several of them purged themselves by the water-ordeal.

Water-parsley.

1. A name for *Sium latifolium* (water-parsnip), *Apium graveolens* (wild celery), or other aquatic umbelliferæ.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 92 Syon is..so lyke Seline or Apio..that som haue taken it for Eliosselino, and haue named it waterpersely. Whiche name were good to be receyued..that the herbe myght ye better ther by be knowen, then bi ye name of/belraggres. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xlvii. 610 Of water Parsly..There is founde in this Countrie two kyndes of this herbe, one great, the other smal. *Ibid.* 611 (headings of figures) *Lauer Crateus*, Great water Parsely. *Lauer minus*, Small water Parsely. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccLxxxi. 862 Smallage..is called..in English March Marish Parsley, and *Apium aquatile*, or water Parsley; but *Hydroselinum*, or *Sium maius*, is the true water Parsley. 1611 COTGR., *Berle*, the great water Parsenip, great water Parsely; called also, Belders, and Bell-rage. 1891 [D. JORDAN & MRS. J. A. OWEN] *Ann. Fishing Village* xi. 105 Watercress and a thick growing plant they called water-parsley.

2. The tropical American herb *Richardsonia scabra* (white ipecacuanha, Mexican clover).

1891 *Century Dict.*

Water-parsnip. Name for the aquatic umbelliferous plants of the genus *Sium*, esp. *S. latifolium*; also applied to *Helosciadium nodiflorum* (sometimes classed as *Sium nodiflorum*).

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xvii. 199 Great water Parsnepe.. is described to haue leaues of a pleasant sauour. *Ibid.* 200 [figure] *Sium maius*, Great water Parsnep. 1871 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 432 Sium,..Water-parsnep. 1770 *Ann. Reg.* 218/1 Three children of a poor cottager in Ireland having eaten of the herb Daho or Water-parsnep, two of them died. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xvii. (1794) 229 The Creeping Water Parsnep, *Sium nodiflorum* Lin. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 234 The siums, or water-parsnips, are..not uncommon.

Water-parting. = WATERSHED 1. (See quot. 1877.)

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 26 A similar expanse of stony ridges and uplands forming the great western waterparting. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 18 To avoid this double use of the word 'watershed' the term 'water-parting' has been introduced as the English equivalent of the German *Wasserscheide*. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 16 The water-parting between the systems of Lake Chad, the Niger, and the Congo.

Water-pepper. [Cf. G. *wasserpfeffer* (from 16th c.).]

1. The acrid plant *Polygonum Hydropiper* or smartweed. In Lyte also *water-pepperwort*.

1538 TURNER *Libellus, Eupatorium*, water peper. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxvii. 632 This herbe is called in English, Water pepper, or Water-pepperwurt, and of some Curragie. 1635 SWAN *Spec. Mundi* VI. iv. (1643) 233 Arsmart, or water Pepper, groweth almost in every waterish plash. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 915/1.

2. A book-name for the N.O. *Elatinaceæ*.

1830 LINDLEY *Introd. Nat. Syst. Bot.* 159 Elatineæ. The Water-Pepper Tribe. 1846 — *Veg. Kingd.* 480 Elatinaceæ. —Water-Peppers.

Water-pipe.

1. A pipe through which water is conducted.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 666/37 *Hec idraulis*, waterpype. 14.. *Nominale* Ibid. 738/12 *Hic idraicus*, a wadyrpype. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 390/1 *Euripi*,..water pipes of smaller size, so made, as that ye water therin mounteth aloft. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3026/3 The Inhabitants of Paris..are to pay 50 Crowns for every Water-Pipe. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 363 The Wood for Piles, Pumps, Hop-poles, Water-pipes. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Tale Drury Lane* 165 Still o'er his head,..His whizzing water-pipe he waived. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Vauxhall Gardens*, The fountain that had sparkled so showily by lamp-light, presented very much the appearance of a water-pipe that had burst. 1869 MOZLEY *Lett.* (1885) 308 The workmen were laying down water-pipes in the hall as we entered.

2. *transf.* †a. (See remarks under WATERSPOUT *sb.* 3). *Obs.* b. An underground spring or flow of water. *poet.*

1539 BIBLE *Ps.* xlii. 8 One depe calleth another because of ye noyse of thy water pipes. 1832 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* liii, Single I grew, like some green plant, whose root Creeps to the garden water-pipes beneath, Feeding the ——

†c. A name for a kind of stalactite. *Obs.*

1682 [see STALACTITES].

3. A hookah, narghile, or kalian.

1824 MORIER *Hajji Baba* viii, Ali Katir..had just lighted his water pipe. 1881 O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. 330 We saw the white-robed elders (smoking their water-pipes) seated on either side the entry.

Water-pit. [See PIT *sb.*[1] 2.] †a. A well or hole sunk in the ground to procure water. *Obs.* b. A pit in which water is stored.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* vii. 24 Ealle þa Egiptiscan dulfon waterpyttas neah þam flode. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 401 þey come in fere vnto a deep water pitte [*sic*, put; L. *ad quendam aquosum puteum et profundum*]. 1820 *Hull Advertiser* 26 Aug. 1/2 The tan-yard comprises a large water pits.

Water-pitcher.

1. A pitcher for holding water.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Vrceolus*, a lyttell water pitcher. c 1550 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegy* I. x. 6 Such as Amimone through the drie fields strayed When on her head a water pitcher laied. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxvii, The child set down her water pitcher. 1846 *Union Mag.* I. 626 Carpe pitchers. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Exyt* 96 come a half-dozen women with t balanced sidewise on their heads.

2. A book-name for pitcher-plants of the N.O. *Sarraceniaceæ*.

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 253 Order X. Sarraceniaceæ.—Water Pitchers. 1898 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci., Sarraceniaceæ*, the Water Pitcher or Side-saddle family.

Water-plane.

1. A canal constructed on a level, without locks.

1862 SMILES *Engineers* v. vi. I. 386 We find him [*sc* Brindley] contriving a water-plane for the Duke's collieries.

2. *Ship-building.* A plane passing through a vessel when afloat, on a level with the surface of the water.

1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* I. 8 The line in which the surface of the water cuts the surface of the ship..is called the *water line*..; the area enclosed by that line being the *water plane area*.

3. An aeroplane constructed so as to be capable of rising from, alighting upon, and travelling on the water.

1913 *Daily Mail* 3 Apr., A waterplane is a sea-going aeroplane. 1913 *Times* 14 May 5/6 Mr. Howard Wright..was attempting to rise from the sea on a waterplane at Cowes yesterday afternoon when the machine capsized.

Water-plantain.

1. The plant *Alisma Plantago*, with leaves somewhat like those of the plantain, growing in ditches and by the river-side. Also as a name for the genus.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Add., *Alisma*,..water plantayne. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxvi. 96 Water Plantayne is a fayre herbe, with large greene leaues. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xviii. (1794) 254 The Water Plantains..Great Water Plantain, *Alisma Plantago*. 1828 A. IRVINE *Brit. Plants* 291 *Alisma*, Linn. Water-Plantain...*A. Plantago*. Greater Water-Plantain. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 128 Water-plantain, rosy vagrant, Flings his garland on the wave.

2. Applied to other aquatic plants: see quots.

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Water-plantain, *Echinodorus cordifolius*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Plantain*, Water Plantain of Jamaica, *Pontederia azurea*.

Water-pool. A pool of water (large or small).

13.. *St. Cristofore* 839 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 464 Me hase thoghte þis fyre als cole Als I had lyggene in a water polle. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Maccc.* ix. 33 Ionathas and Symon his brother..pitched their tentes by the water pole of Asphar. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Adelph.* IV. ii. (1607) 304 At the very waterpoole [*apud ipsum lacum*] there is a hand-mill. 1849 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) II. 72 Eternal Silence of the mountains and their melancholy water-pools. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. iv. 215 Her little hand trembled as it touched Angus Hamleigh's, when he led her across a craggy bit of path, or over a tiny water-pool. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 592/1 We stopped to ask the latest news of tribes and water-pools.

Water-pot.

1. A vessel, usually of earthenware, for holding water.

1382 WYCLIF *John* iv. 28 Therfore the womman lefte the watir pott [Vulg. *hydriam*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 234 And she set doun hir water pot anon Biside the threshfold. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 302 The waterpot sche hente alofte.. And al the water on his hed Sche pourede oute. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 86 Item, a water pot of siluer. 1526 TINDALE *John* ii. 6. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Water potte for a table, *aiguiere*. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 160 They founde here also sundry kyndes of waterpottes made of earthe of dyuers colours. 1612 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 509, 6 greate silver water-potts. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Nov. 1643, A morsel of one of the water-pots in which our Saviour did his first miracle. 1720 *Post Man* 6–8 Aug. 2/1 Stoln..out of this House of his Grace the Duke of Schomberg, a Silver Oval Shaving-dish, a Silver Water Pot, and a Silver Box for a Wash-ball. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1029, I have..seen an English moulder expert enough to make 25 waterpots a day. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 302 Striking down the choicest warriors of England with the staves on which they bore their waterpots.

b. *Astr.* The portion of the zodiacal constellation Aquarius which is figured as a vase or urn.

1546 *Gassar's Prognost.* b iij, Wherin at night Mercuri also shall sette after the Sunne with bright *Hidria* or water pott. *Ibid.* b iv b, The sunne settyng wyth *Alpharet*, ye bright water pott. 1590 T. HOOD *Use Celestial Globe* 13 The Waterpot, v. *Vrna*. 1841 EMERSON *Est.* Ser. I. i. (1848) 2 As crabs, goats, scorpions, the balance, and the waterpot lose their meanness when hung as signs in the zodiac, so [etc.]

c. *Her.* (See quots.)

1688 [see FONTAL B. 2]. 1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Water-Pot*, a fontal, called, also, a *scalebra*, out of which naiads and river-gods are represented as pouring the waters or rivers over which they are fabled to preside.

2. = WATERING-POT 1.

1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Water potte for a gardyne, *arrousoer*. 1603 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 100 Why, this would make a man, a man of Salt To vse his eyes for Garden water-pots. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad. Sect. 7. 110 Private Devotions, and secret offices of Religion, are like refreshing of a Garden with the distilling and petty drops of a Waterpot. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 168 For Places near at hand, Gardeners make use of Water-Pots. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Water-pot*, a vessel..for sprinkling water on cloth in bleaching, or on plants, etc. *c* 1892 STEVENSON *In South Seas* I. x. (1900) 83 He..was to be seen all day, with spade and water-pot, in his childlike eagerness, actually running between the borders.

Ag. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* L. iij, Here is a drie Tale (quoth Parmenio)..and well deserues a water potte.

3. A chamber-pot. ? *Sc.* 1820, 1889 COLLYIE.

4. *Zool.* = WATERING-POT 2.

1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Water Pot, *Serpula Penis.*

Waterproof (wǭ·təiprŏf), *a.* and *sb.* [See PROOF *a.* 1 b.] **A.** *adj.* Impervious to water; capable of resisting the deleterious action of water.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 732/1 The everlasting Mountains would be Water-Proof. 1802 W. IRSON in *Minutes Comm. Surrey Iron Rlwy.* 7 Oct., Quarries of Limestone at Merstham, apparently superior in Quality for Water-Proof Lime to either that of Guildford or Dorking. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 823 To render Boots and Shoes waterproof. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 192 Joseph Egg's Water Proof Gun. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* (1849) 337 These hats were nearly waterproof, and extremely durable. 1871 MRS. BROOKFIELD *Influence* II. 30 The Miss Shaws, in neat waterproof travelling suits. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 29 Not a drop of water can reach it as long as the waterproof roof remain sound. 1900 *Conquest* May 312/3 Nowadays the cry is for waterproof ronds.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 330 It..didn't make a man's inside water-proof, which good Nantz would. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxvii, But tears were not the things to find their way to Mr. Bumble's soul; his heart was waterproof. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* li. (1901) II. 92 Twice Dribbleford Brook comes in the way for those whose ambition is waterproof.

B. *sb.* A fabric or garment rendered impervious to water by treatment with india-rubber or the like.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 12 Jan. 2/3 Parish's patent waterproof, best superfine. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 245 Officers..carry clasp-knife,..waterproof, haversack. 1877 MAR. M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* i, They were clad in grey waterproof. 1880 HOWELLS *Undiscov. Country* x. 139 The teacher took off her waterproof, the hood of which she had drawn over her head.

Waterproof, *v.* [f. prec. adj.] *trans.* To make waterproof or impervious to water.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 147/1 This..is the varnish now generally employed in waterproofing the garments well known by the name of Mackintoshes. 1843 *Mech. Mag.* XXXIX. 479 Sylvester's Mode of Waterproofing Walls. 1862 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* X. 330/2 The oil sheet manufacturers now use more than a century waterproofed linen by layers of oil. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xxxv, The Chancel roof which had only been patched up temporarily and waterproofed with thick tarpaulins. 1905 D. WALLACE *Lure Labrador Wild* iii. 53 The tent was..made of balloon silk and waterproofed.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1841 LEVER *O'Malley* lxix. 349 If one did'nt expect to be waterproofed [meaning killed in battle] before morning they really would'nt go out in such weather. 1891 SIR H. MAXWELL in *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 582/1 Balzac..was wonderfully waterproofed against despondency by the intense realism of his fancy.

Waterproofed, *ppl. a.* [f. WATERPROOF *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.] Rendered waterproof; provided with, or wearing, a waterproof garment or garments.

1872 SIR S. NORTHCOTE in A. Lang *Life* (1890) II. 25 We started well waterproofed, and got to Suitland about twelve. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. 251 A party of eager Americans, spectacled, waterproofed. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 378/1 A light..click reel holding thirty yards of waterproofed and polished fly-line of braided silk.

Waterproofer. [f. WATERPROOF *v.* + -ER 1.] One who makes materials, etc. waterproof.

1858 *Kelly's Directory Lancs.* 1725/2 Waterproofers. 1864 *Leeds Mercury* 20 Sept., India-rubber manufacturer and waterproofer. 1885 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 23/1 This recipe is used by woollen-cloth waterproofers. 1890 *Lancet* 22 Feb. 450/2 Waterproofers and lampblack makers.

Waterproofing, *vbl. sb.* [f. WATERPROOF *v.* and *sb.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action or process of making materials, etc. waterproof. Also *attrib.*

1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. v. 164 The cap is taken to the 'water-proofing' room. 1852 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc. Suppl., *Waterproofing*..is most perfectly effected by means of caoutchouc,..but there are other substances, [etc.]. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 309 Gutta percha..is also largely used as a waterproofing material. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/1 The waterproofing of our roads is progressing rapidly.

2. a. The result of this process; the quality of being waterproof. b. Material with which a substance is made waterproof.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XIV. 390/1 These materials..go to give the necessary substance, weight, and waterproofing to the leather. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Mar. 3/6 By this time the flames had got well hold of the roof, which appeared to contain some highly inflammable waterproofing.

Water-pump. A pump for raising water.

1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Water pompe, *aquaticque.* 1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 115 The air-pump barrel is attached to this vessel by the pipe *s*,..the piston is similar to those usually employed in water-pumps. 1844 H. STEPHENS operation great difficulty is often found. The most ready method of effecting it is by the aid of a Bunsen water-pump.

b. jocularly, with ref. to weeping.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, 'Thank you, Debbin, he said, rubbing his eyes with his knuckles..The water-pumps were at work again.

So **Water-pumper, Water-pumping.**

1723 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Prcs. St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 26) II. [388] Tower of London..Water-Pumper, Per Diem, 0 0 7. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 5/2 They have also fitted a water-pumping engine in the Turkish Houses of Parliament.

Water-quake. [f. WATER *sb.* + QUAKE *sb.*, after EARTHQUAKE.] A seismic disturbance in the sea.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1039/2 *marg.*, On the Saterday after..chaunced an other earthquake, or as some write, a watershake [*marg.*] waterquake. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 500 Wittlesmere doth somtimes in..faire weather suddainely rise tempestuously, as it were into violent waterquakes. 1755 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Montagu* 23 Nov., There have been lately such earthquakes and waterquakes. 1760 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXII. 291/2 A water-quake was felt at Bergen in Norway. 1862 M. HOPKINS *Humili* 419 Earthquakes and waterquakes are also the attendants of these fractures.

Water-rail. [RAIL *sb.*3] A bird, *Rallus aquaticus*, having a general resemblance to the Landrail: native in the temperate portion of the eastern hemisphere.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xii. 109 Waterrails are preferred in Italy before Thrushes or Quails. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 385 The water rail is a bird of a long slender body, with short concave wings. 1829 *Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist.* I. 289 The water rail has grey wings, spotted with brown; flanks spotted with white; bill, orange underneath. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 111 One Case with small Pike and Water Rail.

Water-rat. [Cf. G. *wasserratte, -rats(e,* MDu. *waterrot* (mod.Du. *-rat*), LG. *waterrötte.*]

1. An aquatic rodent of the family *Muridæ*; in British use, the water-vole, *Arvicola amphibius*, inhabiting the banks of rivers. In the U.S. applied to the MUSK-RAT, and in Australia to the genus *Hydromys*.

1552 HULOET, Water rat, *sorex.* *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Witch* I. i. 45 He..sticks to small drink like a water-rat. 1629 *Drayner Confirmed* (1647) C 2, There is also an other danger in Banking, procured by a small contemptible Vermine, they be Water-rats, which make their holes in the bank close to the water, [etc.]. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* II. i, Island? prison: ..whom shall we see there? Sea-guls, and Porpiscis, and water-rats? 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 518 The water Rat. ..This is considerably larger than the common rat, and of a different colour; the head is large, and sharp at the extremity. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 101 The water-rat never frequents houses. *a* 1860 WYNTER *Curios. Civilis.* 133 The water-rat is a rare animal compared with..the common brown or Norway rat. 1876 F. G. WATERHOUSE in Harcus *S Austral.* 282 The curious water-rats or beaver-rats must be mentioned as being purely Australian. 1890 D. DAVIDSON *Mem. Long Life* iv. 95 Herds of cattle swim these flooded rivers like water-rats.

2. *fig.* A water-thief, pirate. Also applied contemptuously to a sailor, boatman, or the like.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 23 There be land rats, and water rats, water theeues, and land theeues. 1600 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* (1872) 38 To this societie maie be coupled also another fraternity, viz. Water-rats, Watermen I meane, that will be readie and very diligent for anie man, vntil they can get them to their boates, but when (etc.). 1608 J. DAY *Law Tricks* v. I 2 b, *Lur.* No more a that, neece; y'are a wag. *Em.* Well said, old Water Ratt. *a* 1656 R. COX *Actæon & Diana* 36 *Cut.* Where is he, Parnell? *Parn.* Why gone abroad..to fetch a gang of Saylors, who he vows shal hang thee up at the main Yard...*Cut.* And those same water-rats are Divellish things. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, 'A man may speak.' 'And vermin may be silent,' said Eugene. 'Hold your tongue, you water-rat!' 1903 HARDY *Dynasts* I. VI. i, These water-rats [the English] may paddle in their salt slush.

Water-ret, *v.* Also corruptly -rot: see ROT *v.* 4 c. *trans.* To ret (flax or hemp) by steeping in water: opposed to DEW-RET *v.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 404/2 Such hemp as is designed for seed is seldom water-retted. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 121 In a circle of about six miles round Tilnetham, the greater part [of the hemp] is never put into the water at all but is dew-retted...The hemp at market is not worth so much..as that which hath been water-retted. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 489 The diminished value of flax which is much water-retted.

Hence **Water-retting** *vbl. sb.* (corruptly *-rotting*: see ROTTING *vbl. sb.* 2).

1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 218 The practice of water-rotting is generally prefer'd to that of dew-rotting. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v. *Retting-pit*, In the fens there are two different modes of retting; dew-retting..and water-retting, which is laying it in a pond or ditch, covered with turf. 1889 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) IX. 294/2.

Water-rocket 1. ? *Obs.* [ROCKET *sb.*1] A name applied to certain aquatic species of *Nasturtium.*

1633 *Gerarde's Herbal* II. x. 248 *Eruca aquatica* Water Rocket. *c* 1710, 1753, 1796 [see ROCKET *sb.*1]. 1861 MRS. LANKESTER *Wild Flowers* 33 There are several other species of nasturtium native in England:..the Water-rocket (N. terrestre).

Water-rocket 2. [ROCKET *sb.*3]

1. *Pyrotechny.* A rocket constructed to be discharged in the water.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Rocket*, Method of making a Water-Rocket. 1749 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 17 May, Then from boats on every side were discharged water-rockets and fires of that kind. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* i, Like the water-rockets at the Surrey Zoological Gardens.

2. (See quot. 1907.)

1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* II. 262 The upper fall, which in its ever-changing vapour-streams and water-rockets is wonderfully beautiful. 1907 V. CORNISH in *Geogr. Jrnl.* Jan. 28 The break-up of a high waterfall into conical masses was described by Livingstone, who compares them to 'small comets.' They have also been called 'water-rockets.'

†**Water-rug.** *Obs. rare*−1. [See RUG *sb.*2 4.] ? A shaggy breed of water-dog.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. i. 93 Showghes, Water-Rugs, and Demy-Wolues.

Water-scape 1. *nonce-wd.* [SCAPE *sb.*1] An escape from drowning.

1864 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 41 But this and other our Water scapes made that saying of Bias come to mind, *Navigantes nec inter vivos nec inter mortuos esse numer-*

Water-scape 2. *rare.* [f. WATER *sb.*, after *landscape.*] A piece of scenery consisting of water.

1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Water-scape*, a term sometimes used to denote sea-views, in contradistinction to *landscapes.* 1860 HOLE *Tour in Ireland* xiii. (1892) 144 The landscape (or waterscape?) was so calm and still. 1902 *Punch* 21 Sept. 204/2 Peeps of such landscapes and waterscapes as whet the appetite for the entire panorama.

Water-serpent. ? *Obs.*

1. = WATER-SNAKE. Also = SEA-SERPENT.

1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Water serpent, *couleuvre deaue.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Echidna*, a water serpent. 1758–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 40 Professor Frank, of Frankenau, speaks of a still larger species of water-serpents. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* i. § 2 Hercules killed a water-serpent.

2. The constellation Hydra.

1599 T. HILL *Sch. Skill* 23 The image named the Water Serpent, hath 25. stars. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 128 The Water-Serpent hath 15 Stars.

†3. A plant of the genus *Moringa. Obs.*

[1649–52 HERNANDEZ *Nova Plant. etc. Mex.* IV. XXV. 219 De Coatli, seu Aqueo serpente (description follows)]. 1659 LOVELL *Herball* 541 Water serpent, *Coatlis, Aqueus serpens.*

Watershed 1 (wǭ·təiʃed). [f. WATER *sb.* + SHED *sb.*1]

The equivalent G. *wasserscheide* has been in use from the 14th c. As a scientific term, it became common about 1800. The Eng. word, which first appears about the same date, was perh. formed in imitation of the Ger. synonym.]

1. The line separating the waters flowing into different rivers or river basins; a narrow elevated tract of ground between two drainage areas: = WATER-PARTING.

1803 *Trans Fss Highl. Soc. Scot.* II. 20 Strathcluony..is very high inland tract, being the water-shed of the country between the two seas. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 175 The College, a small stream which flows at a moderate declivity from the eastern water-shed of the Cheviot-Hills. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xix. (1852) 442 The line of Water-shed which divides the inland streams from those on the coast, has a height of 3000 feet. 1850 *Times* 16 Nov. 5/2 In order to satisfy themselves as to the amount of supply furnished by the sources in question, the Board of Health deputed Mr. Rammell to survey the various lines of watershed. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, He was crossing the highest watershed in the county by an open, low-sided valley. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xv. 297 We should also remember that the crests or watersheds of the Alps and Jura are about eighty miles apart. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* iv. 257 The watershed of a country or continent is thus a line which divides the flow of the brooks and rivers on two opposite slopes.

fig. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bh. Sword* viii. 150 *note*, Hence, too, the superficial observation that the Afghans..are Jews because they have the typical Jewish look. The reason is that they are derived from the same ethnic centre, a great watershed of race. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. 208 A watershed of time between the Renaissance and the Counter-Reformation. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Aug. 87/1 That resolution marks the water-shed of our Revolutionary politics.

2. *loosely.* a. The slope down which the water flows from a water-parting.

1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. XXXVII. 512 To the southwest of Kington the lower beds of the Old Red Sandstone..have been the sub-aqueous water-shed, down which the coarse detritus has been swept. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 28 To avoid all ambiguity it is perhaps best to set aside the original meaning of 'watershed', and employ the term to denote the slope along which the water flows, while the expression 'water-parting' is employed for the summit of this slope.

b. The whole gathering ground of a river system.

1874 E. COUES *Birds N. W.* Introd. p. vii, The Missouri Region, in its broadest sense, as embracing the whole watershed of that great river and its tributaries. 1880 WEBSTER Suppl., *Water-shed.* 2. The country or basin drained by any stream of water and its tributaries. 1913 WHITE *Catskill Water Supply of N. Y.* 17 The Croton watershed would in a few years be drawn on to its full capacity.

3. [? Associated with SHED *v.*1 4 d.] A structure for throwing off water.

1881 R. G. WHITE *Eng. Without & Within* xiv. 319 The great wheel caught my umbrella, which was twisted out of my hand in a twinkling...I picked up my wounded watershed, and returned with it to Burlington Arcade. 1886 *Trans. R. Inst. Brit. Archit.* II. 79 Nothing indicates the nature of the water-shed. It may have been some description of thatch; but more probably I think of wood shingle. 1898 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 503/1 A water-shed to throw the water away from the forecastle hatch was built.

Water-shed 2. *rare.* [SHED *sb.*2] A shed used as a wash-house.

1859 JEPHSON & REEVE *Brittany* 168 In a water-shed at the end are two women washing.

Watershoot. [f. WATER *sb.* + SHOOT *sb.*]

†1. [= Flem. *waterscheute, -schote* (Kilian, De Bo).] A sucker growing from the root of a tree. Cf. WATER-BOUGH. *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 240/2 *Stolones*,..watershootes: young shoots or sciences that growe out of the rootes or sides of the stocke, and proue not. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. XX. I. 505 Those superfluous water-shoots that spring out either from the root or the sides of the tree. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 84/2 The Water shoots, or suckers, are twigs that grow from the roots of trees. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 136 And if any strong wood or water-shoots push from the apricot or peach tree, except they serve to fill up a vacancy, they ought to be taken off.

2. †a. Outflow of drainage water from land;

water carried off by drainage. *Obs.* b. A gutter or channel for the overflow of water.

a. 1623 G. Markham *Inrichment Weald Kent* 11 It is good also to draw a crosse or quarter Furrow, and opening the ends of all your land Furrowes into it, to leaue the other ends of your Furrowes stopped, that the water-shoot runne not all the length of the field. 1659 Horn & Kon. *Gate Lang. Unl.* vii, Fens (bogs, marishes) are raising springs or quits, that run not (have no water-shoot). 1707–8 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 207 The Drips of the Houses, the Water of the declining Walks, and the Water-shoots of other adjacent Lands, which may be reserved in Cisterns or Ponds so as to be of use.

b. 1819 Nicholson *Dict. Archit.* 80 *Water Shoot*, a wooden trough for discharging rain water from a building. 1825 *Beverley Lighting Act* ii. 22 A gutter or water-shoot. 1834 Beckford *Italy* II. 182 A transparent, gurgling rill, which is conducted through a rustic water-shoot. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* x, The bark from the wood-ricks [being] washed down the gutters, and even our water-shoot going brown.

† 3. A waterfall, cascade. *Obs.*

1738 [G. Smith] *Cur. Relat* II. 273 Near the City Hoeicheu flows the River Singan, which has at least 360 Water-shoots falling into it between Rocks and Mountains.

4. An artificial cascade contrived for the amusement or exercise of 'shooting the rapids' in a boat or by swimming. Also *water-chute*: see Water *sb.* 29.

1900 Elinor Glyn *Visits Elis.* 26 In the evening Uncle Geoffrey took us to the Exhibition to go down in the Water Shoot. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Oct. 2/1 A water-shoot, a swimming mistress in attendance—yet, all last winter I had the whole thing practically to myself!

† Watershot, *sb. Obs.* [f. Water *sb.* + Shot *sb.*] A sudden flood.

[illegible] 3. 37 That which followeth of watershots, implyeth as much as if he had sayd hee had bin overwhelmed with violent rage, as if it were with a flud. 1678 in Aubrey *Miscell.* (1696) 10 Within a Year and half after his [my father's] decease, such Charges and Water-scots [1721 Water-schots] came upon this Marsh-land, by the influence of the Sea, that it was never worth one Farthing to me.

Water-shot, *a. rare.* [f. Water *sb.* + *shot* pa. pple. of Shoot *v.*] ? Interspersed with streams.

1901 Kipling *Kim* xiv. 369 Dry upland, hidden salt-lake, age-old timber, and fruitful water-shot valley.

† Water-shot, *adv. Naut. Obs.* [f. Water *sb.* + *shot* pa. pple. of Shoot *v.*] (Moored) so as to lie at an acute angle with the stream.

1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* ix. 45 Water shot is to more quartering betwixt both, nether crosse, nor alongst the tide. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict* 114 *Water-shot*, is a kind of moreing, that is to lay the Anchors not crosse the tide, nor right up and downe the tide, but (as you would say) betwixt both, that is quartering. 1658–9 *Admir. Crt. Exam.* 72, 10 Jan., The usuall custome of mooreing shipps in the river of Thames at any place above Woollidge is to lay the anchors crosse the tyde and not watershott or right up and downe the river.

† Water-shut. *Obs.* [? Cf. Shut *sb.* 2 (But perh. corrupt form of Watershoot.)] ? A pond with walled sides. (? Or = Watershoot 2 b.)

1623–26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 634 A large well squared stone, which he would cut To serue his stile or for some water-shut.

† Water-sick, *a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. OHG. *wazersioh*, (MHG. *waʒʒersiech*), MDu. *watersiec.*] Dropsical.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 2 Da wæs þar sum wæter-seoc man [L. *homo quidam hydropicus*] beforan him. 1555 W. Turner *Spir. Physik* 49 The other kynde of common tokens that the watersyke haue. is an excedyng greate thyrst.

Water-side.

1. The side or brink of water; the bank or margin of the sea, or of a river, stream, or lake.

In dialects or periods in which *a water* means spec. either 'a river' (Water *sb.* 12 c), or 'a lake' etc. (Water *sb.* 12 b), this sense remains in the combination. In early use *water-side* was often simply equivalent to *water's side*: cf. quot. *c* 1375, where the rel. pron. refers to *watir* as a separate word.

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 129 The medewe.. Beet right on the water syde [Fr. *la praerie*.. *Tres au pié de l'eaue batoit*]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 410 Til he com til a watir-ayd, þat depe was & wele wyd. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13466 Oft went þat wegh to the water syde, The Sea for to serche. *c* 1420 *Contn. Brut* 388 Ser Philippe Leiche .. was logged betwene þe watir of Sayne and þe abbey,.. And þe Baron of Carew was loggid on þe watir syde. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 149 For weying of the same.. & careyng of hit to the waterside in Hampton viij*d*. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* i. 3 Soch a man is like a tre planted by the water syde. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 227 At this tyme, the water of the Thames sprang so high that it drowned many houses about the water syde. 1607 Dekker & Webster *West-w. Ho* II. iii, At some Tauerne neere the water-side. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5353/10 A Large Dye-house at the Waterside.., to be Sold. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* IX. i, [They] came down in a superb new equipage to the water-side. 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* iv. iv, For ere she reach'd upon the tide The first house by the water-side, Singing in her song she died. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 256 Whose premises were between the High-street and the water-side. 1845 Hare *Cases Chancery* X. 298 The offices of deputy day oyster-meters had.. been the subject of sale and purchase,..on payment of a fine to the oyster meters in chief, or yeomen of the waterside. 1889 *L'pool Daily Post* 4 Feb. 4/8 Hundreds.. assemble at the dock gates in the hope of obtaining employment at the water-side.

b. *Pl.* (*rare.*)

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 668 When the heat of Summer is about the rising of the Dog-star, we must keepe them [sc. swine] altogether by water sides.

c. *attrib.*

1663 in *Geogr. Jrnl.* (1900) XV. 634 Having made fast the blubber to the shore, we have a Waterside-man who stands in a pair of boots, to the middle leg in water, and flaweth such flesh as is not clean cut from the blubber. 1766 W. Stork *Acc. E. Florida* 56 The variety of swamps, rivulets, and water-side lands. 1832 J. March (*title*) The Jolly Angler; or Waterside Companion. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* I, Thronged by the roughest and poorest of waterside people. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* i, The waterside pollutions of a great (and dirty) city. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* July 308 Waterside flies do not seem to care for yellow, and most waterside flowers are therefore pinkish, purplish or white.

2. The side towards the water.

1868 Kinglake *Crimea* III. xii. 280 *marg.*, Along its whole front on the water side the place [Sebastopol] was secure without needing troops to defend it.

Watersmeet. [f. *waters'* gen. pl. of Water *sb.* + Meet *sb.*; app. first as a place-name (near Exmoor).] A meeting-point of two streams.

1828 T. H. Williams *Devonshire* II. 17 Below is a part of the river, the general boundary of excursions from Lynmouth, called Waters Meet, a small stream joining the East Lyn, on its left bank... Waters-Meet is accessible by ponies, from Contisbury. 1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* xxxiv, The hare that hovers above the watersmeet. 1883 Lang, Leaf & Myers *Iliad* 78 As when the torrents of winter flow down the mountains to a watersmeet [Gr. ἐς μισγάγκειαν].

Water-snake.

1. Any snake that inhabits or frequents the water. Variously applied *spec.* to snakes of the tropical family *Hydrophidæ*, to certain Indian and American serpents, and, in England, sometimes to the common ringed snake, *Tropidonotus natrix*.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxix. iv. II. 358 The goodliest and fairest snakes to see too, are those which liue in the water, and are called Hydra, *i.* water-snakes. 1631 Chapman *Cæsar & Pompey* I. i. 19 Looke how against great raines, a standing Poole Of Paddockes, Todes, and water-Snakes put vp Their speckl'd throates aboue the venemous Lake. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 48 Yet so good is Providence, as to warn us here,..by Water-Snakes, of our too near approach to the Land. 1768 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 18 June, Country people talk much of a water-snake, but, I am pretty sure, without any reason; for the common snake (*coluber natrix*) delights much to sport in the water. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 486 The Water Snake is much like the Rattle Snake in shape and size, but is not endowed with the same venemous powers, being quite harmless. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* iv. 273 Beyond the shadow of the ship, I watched the water-snakes. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xvi. I. 265 Aquatic plants, on the broad leaves of which numbers of water snakes..were basking. 1883 Moloney *W. Afr. Fisheries* 43 In West Africa man has competitors as fish destroyers, such as the crocodile, shark,..water snake, turtle,..etc.

† 2. Jocularly applied to a boatman. *Obs.*

1609 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* vi. 31 That dividing of your Fare wil make the poore watersnaks be ready to pul you in peeces to enioy your custome.

3. *Astr.* The Southern constellation Hydrus.

1756 J. Ferguson *Astron. Expl.* xx. (1757) 234. 1866 Proctor *Handbk. Stars* 70.

Water-soak, *v. trans.* 'To soak or fill the interstices [of] with water' (Webster 1828). Chiefly in *passive*. Hence **Water-soaked** *ppl. a.*; **Water-soaking** *vbl. sb.* **Water-soak** *sb. rare*, the state of being water-soaked.

1791 Stevens in Boswell *Johnson* an. 1784, The conductors to the wheels, suns, stars, &c. were so thoroughly water-soaked, that it was impossible any part of the exhibition should be made. 1821 J. Thompson *Action of Fluid* 7 Suppose a log of water-soaked timber..balanced on one end..it would not be found any more floatsome in consequence of its position. 1865 E. Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 114 The park proper..was as sour, water-soaked and humpy as any portion of Richmond Park. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 491 We came to regard a condition of permanent water-soak as part of our normal environment. 1909 Eliz. Banks *Myst. Frances Farrington* 248 A black velvet hat..giving evidence of much water-soaking. *Ibid.*, The District Attorney turned to another parcel...Its contents were soiled, water-soaked underwear.

Water-soaken, *ppl. a.* = Water-soaked.

1783 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 372/2 Oak..frequently becomes so Water-soaken, as scarce ever to dry again. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 172, I laid them in a damp place upon a water soaken brick. 1803 Malthus *Popul.* I. iii. (1806) 34 A piece of water-soaken wood. *c* 1825 *Howlston Tracts* II. No. 47. 2 'Surely,' said the farmers, as they looked over their ..water-soaken grounds, 'we shall have a fine August.'

† Water-soggen, *ppl. a. Obs.* [*soggen*, pa. pple. of Sog *v.*] = Water-soaked.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Water soggon, *aqueosus*.

Water-soldier. An aquatic plant, *Stratiotes aloides* (N.O. *Hydrocharideæ*), found in the E. of England; it has long sword-like leaves, and flowers resembling plumes of white feathers. Also Frog-water *soldier*.

17.. Miller *Gard. Dict.* (1759), Stratiotes Aloides, Water Soldier. 1889 Geddes & Thomson *Evol. Sex* 49 The water-soldier..bears only female flowers north of 52° lat., and from 50° southwards only male ones.

† Water-sop. *Obs.* [Sop *sb.*1]

1. Bread soaked in water. [Cf. G. *wassersuppe*.] 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 742/6 *Hæc ipa*, a watyrsope.

2. Some kind of fruit, prob. = Angrovy-pear. [Cf. Sop *sb.*1 5.]

1726 *Pathoriana* 1. 104 Water sop or River-Apple.

Water-sousky (-sɑ·ʊ̯ski, -sɑ·ʊ̯ski). Forms: 1. 8 -sootje, -suske, -souchee, -soockey, 9 -sootie, -suskie, -soutchee; β. 8 -sokey; γ. 8 -soocky, -sutchy, -sousee, 9 -souchee, souchet, 8–9 -souchy, -souchy. [a. Du. *waterzoetje*, f. *water* Water *sb.* + *zoetje*, *soodje* boiling (of fish), dim. of *sode* boiling, related by ablaut to *sieden* Seeth *v.* A solitary example of M.F. *soucié* (a. Du. *zoetje*) is given by Godefroy.

The form *sokey* is prob. due to association with Soak *v.*; the form *souchet* seems to be pseudo-Fr.)

Fish (properly perch) boiled and served in its own liquor.

1731 Fielding *Grub St. Opera* m. xi, An Irishman loves potatoes;..a Dutchman, waterzuche. 1736 Bailey *Househ. Dict.* s. v. *Soochy*, A Water Soochy, a Dish of Perch dressed after the Holland fashion. 1737 [G. Smith] *Cur. Relat.* I. 214, I then order'd a couple of Chickens to be roasted, and a Water Zootje (boild Perch) to be made. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ix. 90 Water-Sokey. 1756 Mrs. Caldkewood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 135 A gentleman..desired him to show him the way of dressing a water-sutchy. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* II. 34 His water souchy was borrowed from Marshal d'Auverquerque's table, when he was first in Holland. 1763 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXIII. 221/2 Gentry from London, who come to feast on water sousee [at Dorking]. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 212 The Dutch are particularly fond of it [the

[illegible]

Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 37 To dress Perch in Water Sokey. 1778 T. Bridges *Dutchman* I. vi. 22 Song. *Mynheer*. Water Zouchee is a Dish In the foremost Rank of Fish. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 290 Pray tell me how you choose to have the perch dressed, in a water-soochey, or plain boiled. 1780 Marg.-ravine of Anspach *Mem.* II. 282 The Dutch are phlegmatic, from their fondness for water-sooties. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Sir Rupert*, How she Apologised much for their plain water-souchy. 1846 Soyer *Cookery* 135 Flounders, Water Souchet. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. xv, A fish dinner I.. terrines of turtle, pools of water souchee. 1848 W. F. Campbell *Life in Normandy* (1863) II. 1 A very rich variety of water zoutchee. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xx, Go and reclaim your rights over bowls of water-souchy. 1862 Ld. W. Lennox *Recreat. Sportsm.* II. 206 'Eels stewed, boiled, and spitchcocked,' 'perch water suchee,' said the waiter, as the tureens and dishes were uncovered. 1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* xvi, A day on which stern business men..rush wildly to the Crown and Sceptre, to cool their overheated systems with water souchy and still hock.

Comb. 1816 Gifford *B. Jonson's Wks.* III. 300 Our days have witnessed an attempt to revive the Collegiates—but this was a water-suchy club, merely ridiculous.

b. By Walpole jocularly used for: A sodden mass (said of a ruined hay or corn crop).

1769 H. Walpole *Let. to Cole* 26 June, My hay is an absolute water soochy. 1784 — *Let. to H. S. Conway* 30 June, 'Tis very dear to make nothing but a water-souchy of it [the hay-crop]. 1784 — *Let. to Earl of Strafford* 7 Sept., It was cruel to behold such expanse of corn everywhere, and yet see it all turned to a water-souchy. 1789 — *Let. to Miss Mary Berry* 30 June.

Hence (back-formation) **Water-soutch** *v. trans.* To stew (flounders, etc.) in just enough water to cover them. *rare*—1.

1846 Smart *Dict.* Suppl., To Zoutch *v.*..Hence Water-zouched, *a.* 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subsec.* Ser. II. 7 Dinners at Lovegrove's with flounders water-zoutched, and iced claret.

Water-spaniel. A variety of spaniel, much used for retrieving water-fowl. Also *attrib.*

1586 Earl of Bedford in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 326 One Hickeman..having a water spangell that was verie good. 1570 Caius *De Canibus Brit.* 12 Post hunc subsequitur aquaticus, hoc est a Waterspainel. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1881) 16 Of the Dogge called the water Spaniell, or finder, in Latine *Aquaticus seu inquisitor*. 1588 Kyd *Housek. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 267 Good seruants..obey them..not as a water-spaniel, but as the hand is sturred to obey the mind. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* III. i. 271 Shee hath more qualities then a Water-Spaniell, which is much in a bare Christian. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* G 1 b, Which droue Leander..to play the didopper and ducking water spaniel to swim to her. 1676 Dryden *Epil. to 'Man of Mode* 30 Another's diving Bow he did adore, Which, with a shog, casts all the hair before; Till he with full Decorum brings it back, And rises with a Water Spaniel shake. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2381/4 Lost.., a large Water-Spaniel Dog. 1769 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Jan., If half a dozen gentlemen, furnished with a good strength of water-spaniels, were to beat them [the fens] over for a week, they would certainly find more species. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxx, The puir bairn swam out like a water-spaniel. 1845 Youatt *Dog* iii. 46 The water-spaniel, although a stouter, is a more docile animal than the land one.

fig. 1626 J. Lane *Contn. Squire's T.* 2. 107 Beinge but Videriacs water spanielles.

Water-spider. An aquatic spider of either of the genera *Argyroneta* or *Dolomedes*. In early use applied loosely to insects that move swiftly on the surface of water.

1552 *Elyot's Dict.*, *Tipula*,..a water spider. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 696 The Water-Spider that hath six Legs. 1710 Ray *Hist. Insect.* 71 De Tipula. The Water-Spider. *c* 1711 Petiver *Gazophyl.* I. Tab. 9 It's much slenderer and less than the common Water-Spider. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 263 The Water-spider..resembles the common spider in its appearance, except that its hinder part is made rather in the shape of a nine-pin than a ball. 1834 A. Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 271 The diving-bell of the Water-Spider (*Argyroneta aquatica*). 1897 *Edin. Rev.* July 174 The water-spider, if but a day old, dives into the [illegible]

† Water-spike. *Obs.* Also 6 -spyke, 6–7 -speke. [Spike *sb.*1; transl. of F. *épi d'eau.*] A plant of the genus *Potamogeton*; pondweed.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 'water speake, pondweede, *Plinij* xxvi. viii. II. 190

Waterspeake or Pondweed, called in Greek Potamogeton. 1548 Anne Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 329 *Potamogeton natans*. An old name for this plant was Water spike.

Water-spout, waterspout, *sb.*

1. A spout, pipe, or nozzle, through which water is discharged; also, † a squirt, syringe.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 125 This signe [*sc.* Aquarius] is verrailly resembled Lich to a man which halt assembled In eyther hand a water spoute, Wherof the stremes rennen oute. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 393/2 *Siphe*, a waterspowt, or a water squirt. 1638 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1892) III. 348 An instrument called a water spoute, which is verie necessarie for quenchinge of any greate fire sodainlie. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 230 Next follows the Cornish, ..with a Water-spout. 1752 Bannton *Inst. Laws Scot.* I. 682 One cannot, by his fact or deed, throw the water from his own upon his neighbour's grounds, by water-spouts or otherwise. 1821 Praed *Grp* Poems 1865 I. 97 The red blood started out Like water from a water-spout. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lxv, Lighted brands came whirling down,.. One rolled beneath a wooden bench..another caught a water-spout. 1848 — *Dombey* xlii, Mr. Carker..looked down at Mr. Dombey..like a leering face on an old water-spout.

attrib. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xlii. § 2 The Maior to attend in his owne person as chiefe Cup-writer..to serue the King in a Cup of gold with spices, and for his Fees to haue the said Cup, and a Water-spout-pot of gold thereunto belonging. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 92/2 Spouting Maker. Water Spout Maker.

† **b.** A jet of water from a fountain or from a geyser. *Obs.*

1634 Bressron *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 56 We were then brought down to the water-work, where was a ball tossed and danced two yards high by the strength and force of the water-spout. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 4 Fountains with Water-spouts. 1824 *Naval Chron.* XI. 43 There are several water-spouts of inferior note near the spring of Geyser.

¶ **2.** In Ps. xlii. 7 (Bible version) the word is now commonly apprehended as an example of sense 3 below. It was, however, probably intended as a metaphorical use of sense 1; and it seems likely that the meteorological sense 3 arose from recollection of the passage of the psalm.

The Heb. word *çinnôr*, here rendered by 'waterspout', occurs elsewhere only in 2 Sam. v. 8, where it has been interpreted 'spout or gutter on a roof'; so Vulg. *domatum fistulas* (Wycliff 1382 'the goters of the hows eues,' Douay 'the gutters of the house topines'); the Bible of 1611 has 'the gutter', and the Revised Version 1881 'the water-spout'. In the psalm, the word is rendered in the LXX. by καταράκται and in the Vulg. by *cataractæ* (Wycl. 'gouteris', Douay 'cloud-gates'); the mod. translators from the Heb. essayed to find a literal rendering in accordance with the apparent sense of the word in 2 Sam. v. 8; hence Pagninus has *Astularum* (whence Coverdale by misapprehension renders 'whistles'); the Great Bible (1539) has 'water-pipes'.

1611 Bible *Ps.* xlii. 7 Deepe calleth vnto deepe at the noyse of thy water-spouts.

3. *Meteorol.* A gyrating column of mist, spray, and water, produced by the action of a whirlwind on a portion of the sea and the clouds immediately above it.

1738 T. Shaw *Trav.* 362 Water Spouts are more frequent near the Capes of Latikea, Greego, and Carmel than in any other Part of the Mediterranean Sea. 1747 *Scheme Equip. Men of War* 23 Like Monsoons or Water-Spouts, the higher they rise, the more they are contracted. 1787 tr. *Volney's Trav. Syria & Egypt* (1788) I. 340 And hence will result those columns of water known by the name of Typhons and water-spouts. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 51 When a whirlwind happens at sea, or over the surface of water, it forms the phenomenon called a water-spout. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 346 When a dread waterspout had rear'd aloft Its hungry hugeness. 1829 J. Rennie in *London's Mag. Nat. Hist.* I. 458 Water-spouts make their appearance from the bosom of a heavy cloud,..gradually descending in a point like an inverted cone, sometimes perpendicularly, and sometimes bending, or waved. 1900 G. Tyrrell *Oil & Wine* (1907) 99 After many vain reachings towards one another, sea and sky at last unite in the waterspout.

b. A sudden and violent fall of rain; a cloud-burst.

1779 Thicknesse *Journ. France* (1789) I. 351 The water-spouts which fell into the middle of those narrow streets almost deluged us. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxiii, Heaps of gravel and stones, which had been swept together when some torrent or water-spout from the neighbouring hills overflowed the marshy ground below. 1827 — *Highl. Widow* v, This mountain rivulet, suddenly swelled by a water-spout, or thunder-storm, has often been the cause of those accidents, which, [etc.]. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxvi, The demons of the clouds..assailed them with water-spouts as they toiled up the steep winding paths of Fuencebadon. 1868 J. Skelton *Nugæ Crit.* vii. 301 It had begun to rain..a down-pour, a pelt, a water-spout. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 15 A waterspout burst on the hill overhanging the village of Mordiford.

c. *fig.*

1892 J. Bright in G. M. Trevelyan *Life* (1913) 201 'After Lord Derby, the deluge,' says Lord Maidstone...The 'deluge' means Manchester, it is said—a sort of political waterspout which is to sweep away all that Peer and Parson hold dear.

Hence **Wa'terspout** *v. intr.* (*impers.*), *nonce-wd.*

1892 Stevenson *Vailima Lett.* (1895) 190 It was water-spouting; we were drenched before we got out of the town.

† **Water-spouter.** *Obs.* [Spouter.] (See quots.)

c 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Feb. 1651, The water-spouter, who drinking only fountaine water, rendred out of his mouth in severall glasses all sorts of wine and sweete waters, &c. 1826 A. C. Hutchison *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1826) 170 See an account of Blush de Manfrè, who died in 1651..and who is styled the 'water spouter'.

Water-spring. A permanent flow of water issuing from the earth: = Spring *sb.*[1] 2. Also *fig.* Now chiefly in echoes from the Bible.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 238 To deluyn youre pyt deppere in lownes tyl ye fyndyn a watyr-spryng of grace. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cvii[i]. 33 Which turneth the floudes in to drie londe, and drieth vp the water sprynges. *Ibid.* 35 He maketh the wilderne a stonding water, and water sprynges of a drye grounde. 1873–80 Tusser *Author's Belief*, in *Husb.* (1878) 195 That loyned brookes to dales, to hilles fresh water springs. 1595 *Locrine* IV. iii, Huge Hidras ..which haue drunke vp the flowing water springs. 1607 Bp. Hall *Ps.* i. 18 He shall be like the tree, Set by the water-springs. 1766 M. Bruce *Lochleven* 147 Her pleasing task to tend The flow'rs; to lave them from the water-spring. 1780 Von Troil *Iceland* 245 Among all the curiosities of Iceland..nothing can be compared to the hot spouting water-springs. 1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 12 The cool marge of rush-grown waterspringe. 1890 D. Davidson *Mem. Long Life* vi. 146 Friends, whose intercourse had been as refreshing to me as the water-spring to the traveller in the wilderness.

Wa'ter-stone. [Cf. G. *wasserstein* in various senses.]

† **1.** A stone basin for holy water. *Obs.*

1379 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 98 Le Waterstane pro aqua benedicta in eadem.

† **2.** A kind of 'philosopher's stone'. *Obs. rare*[−1]. So G. *wasserstein* (1709 in Grimm).

1659 J. H[owell] (*title*) Paracelsus his Aurora, and Treasure of the Philosophers. As also The Water-Stone of The Wise Men; Describing the matter of and manner how to attain the universal Tincture.

† **3.** (Meaning obscure.) *Obs.*

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3917/4 The Loading of the Dorothy, ..consisting of Canary Wines, Orchilla, Rosewood, and some few Water-Stones, will be exposed to publick Sale.

4. ? A whetstone used with water and not oil.

So G. *wasserstein*. But cf. Water-of-Ayr *stone*.

1891 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 2/1, I sharpened the large blade on my water-stone.

5. Some kind of building stone. (See quot.)

1824 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* III. 54 (Dumfriesshire) There is water-stone, which dresses into a fine polish.

6. A nodule of chalcedony having an internal cavity containing water. [So G. *wasserstein*.]

1867 Selwyn & Ulrich *Phys. Geog.* etc. *Victoria* 71 *note*, The chalcedony of these 'Water Stones' has a hardness above 8, as the sharp edges scratch topaz easily. 1869 R. B. Smyth *Gold Fields Victoria* 253 A great number of these water stones,..were exhibited in the Intercolonial Exhibition.

7. A rock-stratum abounding in water.

1876 Ansted *Water & Water Supply* 30 Several..springs were found to break out from the water-stones or lower beds of the Keuper.

Wa'ter-stream. Now *rare*. [Cf. G. *wasserstrom*, MLG. *waterstrôm*.] A stream or current of water; a river or brook; † a flood.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* lxxviii[i]. 44 He wæterstreamas [Vulg. *flumina*] wende to blode. 10.. in Napier *Contrib. OE. Lexicogr.* 67 Ac he [Christ] wolde sylf swa xelnlxian ure fulluht mid his halxan lichaman & ealle wæterstreamas mid his ingange. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 De water stremes [Vulg. *flumina*, Ps. xciii. 3] on-heueden up here undes. c 1200 Ormin 18092 For all swa se waterstræm A33 fleteþþ forþ & erneþþ..all swa [etc.]. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2032 He led it into his own lond, And told the quene how he it fond By a water streme. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* lix. 19 He shal come as a violent waterstreame, which the wynde of the Lorde hath moued. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. i. 21 Like as a water streame, whose swelling sourse Shall drive a Mill, within strong bancks is pent. 1625 T. Godwin *Moses & Aaron* II. (1641) 78 The Senate..were bound to prepare the wayes to the Cities of Refuge,..and they suffered not any hill or dale to be in the way, nor water-streames, but they made a bridge over it, that nothing might hinder him that fled thither. 1779 Thicknesse *Journ. France* (1789) I. 351 The roaring of the water-streams was so great, that I very often thought we were upon the margin of some river. 1886 Smiles *Engineers* III. ii. 20 Erecting Lilliputian mills in the little water-streams.

Wa'ter-swallow[1]. ? *Obs.* [Swallow *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *wasserschwalbe*.] A name for the water-wagtail.

1544 Turner *Avium Præcip.* C 7 b, Κιγκλος, ἡ σεισοπυγις, Anglice a water swallow. 1552, 1668 [see Swallow *sb.*[1]]. 1611 Cotgr., *Batteuare*, a wagtayle, or water Swallow. 1658 Willsford *Natures Secr.* 140 The Wagtail, or Water-Swallow. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Water-Swallow*, a kind of Bird.

Wa'ter-swallow[2]. = Swallow *sb.*[2] 1 b.

1811 in *Marshall's Rev. Rep. Board Agric., Midl.* 83 List of Water-swallows or Holes in the Rocks into which Streams of Water fall and disappear in and near Derbyshire. 1840 Hodgson *Northumb.* II. III. 307/2 *note*, A stratum of limestone full of water-swallow-holes. 1889 *Jrnl. Derbysh. Archæol. Soc.* XI. 34 This valley is entirely drained by 'water-swallows'—natural drains along the bottom, through which the surface-rills sink out of sight.

Hence † **Water-swallowed** *a.*, abounding in water-swallows.

1612 Folkingham *Feudigr.* I. iii. 4 It would be also perscrutated, whether it [*sc.* the earth] be light, loose,..leane, barren, fertile, water-swallowed, scale-bound.

Wa'ter-ta·ble. [See Table *sb.* 12 a, 13 b, c.]

1. *Arch.* **a.** The sloping top of a plinth. **b.** A horizontal projecting ledge or moulding sloping on the top, set along the side of a wall so as to throw off the rainfall.

1428 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 5 The walle atte said rest gabliende was maad x fote in heyghte above the water table. 1429 in Willis & Clark *Cantab.* (1886) I. 309, iij foten ..from the grounde lowell to the water tabil..and the said water tabell..elle of freeston. 1482–3 *Acc. Exch. K. R.*, 496 No. 23 Pro factura Watertable Gargies et Batilment. 1541 in *Proc. Antiq. Scot.* (1860) III. 162 Fra the sollis of the said queir duris to the vuer pairt of the walter tabill vnder the thak thairof. 1547 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1879) App. 133 Item, for layinge the watter tabyll above the counsell chamer. a 1548 [see Raising-piece]. 1548 *Elyot's Dict.*, *Cerona*..is also the water table or copyng of a wall. 1627–28 *Hartland Ch. Acc.* in *Rep. Devonsh. Assoc.* XXVII. 60 For putting in water tables of lead. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 297 The Walls of such Edifices ought to be from the Foundation to the first Water-table, three heading course of Brick,..and at every Story a Water-table, or taking in on the inside for the Summers, Girders or Joysts to rest upon. 1823 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1882 The massive buttress, with its deep weatherings, or water-tables between each graduation or stage of the height. 1878 M'Vittie *Ch. Ch. Cathedral, Dubl.* 66 Weathered in the depth of the buttresses by nine courses of Water-tables.

transf. 1630 Bulwer *Anthropomet* 68 Robbing the Eyes of their natural Pent-house or Water-table, they expose them bare to imbrications.

2. A channel or gutter on each side of a road; 'also, a small hollow made across a road to carry off surplus water' (Elworthy).

1707–32 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 205 A Water-Table also on each side of the Walk is very good to drain your Walks. 1809 Mavor *Agric. Berks.* 402 The..roads..are not sufficiently raised in the middle, the water tables are neither regularly made nor with proper outlets towards the ditches. 1817 W. H. Marshall *Rev. Rep. Board Agric., South.* 73 *note*, *Water Table* is a west of England term (rather ill chosen) for the draining channel, on the side of a barreled road, to convey away the rain water that may fall upon it. c 1830 *Pract. Treat. Roads* 9 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Outlets from the watertables into the ditches cannot be seen in too many places. 1836 W. D. Cooper *Gloss. Sussex*, *Water-table*, a small embankment made across a road, especially on a hill, to carry off the water. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 4/1 Now that the local authorities have permitted footpaths by the roadside and water-tables to be obliterated.

3. A window-ledge or sill in a ship or railway carriage.

Dict., *Water-table*, a horizontal board with beveled top, running underneath the windows, the entire length of a [railway] car.

4. = *water-bridge* (see Water *sb.* 29).

1888 Webster. 1891 *Century Dict.*

5. = Water-level 3.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 139/2 In other cases it [the water] will not rise to the surface, but form what is known as a 'water-table' one, two, or more feet beneath. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 567/1 At varying distances from the surface..there exists a great subterranean lake or sea, known as the ground-water or water-table.

Wa'ter-ta·bling. [f. prec. + -ing[1].]

1. *Arch.* Water-tables collectively; a line of water-tables.

1578 *Churchw. Acc. Minchinhampton* in *Archæologia* (1853) XXXV. 431 For the water tablinge of Anslowes chapele and the bynche of the porche, xvj s. iiij d. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 32, 120 feet of water-tabling. 1893 *Reliquary* Jan. 14 The east and west walls were surmounted by gables. These seem to have been covered with a water-tabling. 1900 *Archæol. Æliana* XXII. 87 The corbels on which rests the water-tabling.

2. The action or process of renovating with sods the side of a ditch where it has become worn away below the roots of a hedge.

1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 433 The hedger now resumes his work of water-tabling and scouring ditches. *Ibid.* 562 Of switching, pruning, and water-tabling thorn-hedges.

Water-thyme.

† **1.** An (? imaginary) aquatic species of thyme.

1655 Walton *Angler* vi. (1661) 132 Some think that he [*sc.* the grayling] feeds on Water-Time, and smells so at his first taking out of the water.

2. The American weed *Elodea canadensis* (formerly *Anacharis Alsinastrum*), now common in English waters.

1855 Anne Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 190 The Anacharis is called by the fishermen the Water Thyme.

Watertight(wɔ̆·tərtəit), *a.* [See Tight *a.* 2 a.]

1. So closely constructed or fitted that water cannot leak through.

1387 *Charters* etc. *Edin.* (1871) 35 Thekyt abovyn with stane and water thycht. *Ibid.* 36 The qwilke werke the forsaide masounys sal warande watir thicht. 1514 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 61 To keep hyt wyndthyght and waterthyght. 1554 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 281 Makand the said tolbuith vattirthicht. 1601 T. Milles *Customers Accompt* B ij, Her Houses neither Wind-tight, nor Water-tight. 1648 in J. Davidson *Inverurie* (1878) 306 The heritors in all parishes are ordained to keep the kirk wind-fast and water-tight. 1776 in *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1783) I. 232 High-topped water-tight boots. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 202 The joint ..is perfectly water-tight. 1835 Marryat *Jacob Faithf.* xi, All the nails in Birmingham won't make this boat water-tight. 1873 B. Stewart *Conserv. Energy* ii. 32 Each of these cylinders is provided with a water-tight piston.

fig. 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* 33 There is good hope, when peace is setled, people shall dwell more wind-tight and water-tight than formerly. 1892 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 4/7 The most watertight scheme hitherto proposed is undoubtedly Mr. Charles Booth's.

b. *Watertight compartment*: each of the many compartments, with watertight partitions, into which the interior of a large ship is now usually divided for safety. Hence often *fig.*

1878 J. Grantham *Iron Ship-building* 48 Several of these [water-tight bulkheads]..divide the vessel into water-tight

...nts. 1888 Sir J. Strachey *India* iii. 63 Thus, what ... called 'the policy of watertight compartments' has been applied throughout the Indian army. 1902 J. Smith *Integr. Script.* vi. (ed. 2) 209 That faith in the Bible ..must be kept in a water-tight compartment, jealously excluded from the least contact with criticism.

2. As *sb.* (*pl.*) Watertight boots.

1880 Jefferies *Hodge & M.* xxi. (1890) 303 He..slips his feet into his thick 'water-tights'. 1886 Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* xxvi, Time-stiffened water-tights reappeared.

Hence **Wa'tertightness.**

1869 Sir E. Reed *Shipbuild.* xi. 228 *Watertightness* is usually secured by working angle-irons around the keelsons or stringers in such a manner as to allow the caulking of the joints to be readily performed. 1880 *Athenæum* 6 May 564/3 To have one's representations as to the drainage or watertightness of one's house neglected. 1889 Welch *Naval Archit.* vi. 82 The joints being caulked for watertightness.

Wa'ter-tree. [Cf. G. *wasserbaum.*]

†**1.** A tree which grows by the water-side or in watery ground. *Obs.*

1600 Surflet *Country Farme* vii. xiv. 823 There are two sorts of trees in generall: the one is called water trees, or trees delighting to grow in or neere vnto the brinkes of waters. 1612 R. Ch. *Olds Thrift newly revived* 51 Will not these trees which you haue tearmed water trees, grow in any other place then in low waterie grounds?

2. A tree which yields a watery juice; applied, e.g. to the pitcher-plant of Ceylon, *Nepenthes distillatoria*, the African climbing shrub *Tetracera alnifolia*, and the Australian tree *Hakea leucoptera.*

For *red-water tree* see Red-water 3.

1759 B. Stillingfleet *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 76 The water-tree in Ceylon produces cylindrical bladders, covered with a lid; into these is secrated a most pure, and refreshing water. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Tetracera, T. potatoria* [1874 *T. alnifolia*] is called the Water-tree at Sierra Leone, on account of its climbing stems yielding a good supply of clear water when cut across. 1894 C. D. Tyler in *Geog. Jrnl.* III. 484 The *cetico*, or water-tree [of S. America], is a variety of the *bombax*, or silk-cotton tree. 1898 Morris *Austral English, Water-tree*, a tree from which water is obtained by tapping the roots, *Hakea leucoptera*, R. Br.

Wa'ter-vine. A name for several plants which yield an abundant watery juice. a. *Tetracera alnifolia* (or *potatoria*): see prec. 2. b. *Phytocrene gigantea*, a tall climbing shrub of Martaban, Burma. c. The W. Indian climber *Doliocarpus Calinea.*

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 187/1 (art. *Africa*) The water-vine (*Tetracera potatoria*), the stems of which are a sort of vegetable fountain, discharging, when cut across, a cool, limpid, and refreshing fluid. 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 271 In the province of Martaban, Dr. Wallich found his Water Vine (Phytocrene) whose singular soft and porous wood discharges when wounded a very large quantity of pure and tasteless fluid, which is quite wholesome, and drunk by the natives. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Water-vine, *Doliocarpus Calinea.* 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xi. II. 205 We cut a water-vine, and had a long cool drink.

Wa'ter-vole. [See Vole *sb.*2] The common water-rat, *Arvicola amphibius.*

1828 J. Fleming *Brit. Anim.* 23 Water Vole. 1837 T. Bell *Brit. Quadrupeds* 322 The Water Vole, or, as it is more frequently called, the Water Rat, is found in most parts of Europe. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* vii, There never was any sound at all, except of a rocky echo..or the sudden dive of a water-vole.

Wa'ter-wagtail.

1. The common pied wagtail, *Motacilla lugubris.* Also applied, with some distinctive epithet, to other species.

1611 Cotgr., *Hausse-queue*, the yellow Water-wagtaile. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 90 *Motacilla*..the washer, or water-wagtail. *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* II. xvii. (1676) 171 *Motacilla alba.* The white Water-wagtail. *Ibid.* 172 *Motacilla flava.* The yellow Water-wagtail. 1734 Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 54 The common black and white Water-Wagtail. 1758 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 105 The Grey Water-wagtail. 1866 Scott *Jrnl.* 14 June, As blithe as a water-wagtail. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* vi. 138 The sparrows and water-wagtails perch familiarly on the ... *lanops*, are 'Water' Wagtails, with the colouring of Yellow Wagtails.

†**b.** Applied playfully or derisively to a person.

1694 Crowne *Married Beau* v. 61 If my old Water-wagtail will only hop about the brinks of Marriage, and never step in, I'll drive him away. 1697 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* v. iii, Why now, my pretty Pall; my Goldfinch · my little Watter-wagtail—you must know that.

2. *U.S.* = Water-thrush.

1869 J. Burroughs *Wake-robin* ii. (1884) 77 The water-wagtail (*Seiurus noveboracensis*)—erroneously called water-thrush. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 206 *Seiurus noveboracensis.* Water Thrush. Water Wagtail.

Wa'ter-wall. [Cf. G. *wasserwall.*]

1. A wall which rises by the side of water; a containing wall beside or around a body of water.

a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 907 Ther ys a place in the wall, Bytwyne the chaumber and the hal, Thor lyythe a mychel watur-wal Of fourty feyt brede. 1443–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 630 Pro reparacione et emendacione de le Waterwall ac rote exterioris molendini de Scaltoke, 15*s.* 1574 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1580, 205/2 Necnon edificando lie walterwall cum aist(?)erstanis dicti molendini. 1660 *Melrose Regality Rec.* (S.H.S.) I. 262 [John Mein, mason, sues William Edgar for 4 l. Scots] for beating of the water-wall. 1691 Jean Wemyss *Journ. Jr.* ii. 21 There [girls]..were kneeling on the beach thumping and scrubbing a pile of linen. The grass beyond the water-wall was already white with bleaching

†**2.** Some plant. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. *penny-wall*, dial. name (Isle of Man) for the wall pennywort (*Engl. Dial. Dict.*).

1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 609 They giue hir the Hearbe Penny-wort or Water-wall to drinke in water.

Waterward, -wards (wǭ'tərwǭd, -wǭdz), *adv.* [See -ward, -wards.] Toward the water; in earlier use *to* (*the*) *waterward(s.* Also †*fra the waterward*, from the direction in which the water lies.

c 1200 *Bestiary* 137 [The adder] walkeð to ðe water-ward, wile ðanne drinken. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3686 To water-ward [*Bodl. MS.* To waterwardes], with sweord egge, Theo othres come at heore rygge. 1418 in *Eng. Mise.* (Surtees) 13 That the water be ledde downe..fra the thrid poste of the house of Dame Alice Plumpton fra the waterward of Use [= Ouse], be a pype of lede closed wyth a loker. 1903 W. S. Blunt *Golden Odes Arabia* iv. 27 All their will to win there speeding them waterwards.

Wa'ter-washed, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* Drenched with water; swept, flushed, or inundated by running water.

1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xv. 157 Rounded fragments of water-washed greenstone. 1860 Tristram *Gt. Sahara* v. 89 All these apparently ancient sea-beaches show traces of having been waterwashed only on their north sides. 1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* ii. 13 The reed-covered water-washed bank.

†**Wa'ter-washen,** *pa. pple. Obs.* = prec.

c 1400 *Siege of Jerusalem* 788 [He] Made wedes of wolle in wete for to plunge, Water-waschen as þey wer, & on þe walle benden.

Wa'ter-wave.

1. *lit.* A wave of water.

c 1560 ? Coverdale *Trent. Death* i. ix. 35 Like as one water waue foloweth vpon another. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 91/1 Shee stood, as if she stood vpon no ground, But on some water-waue that made her bound. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* i. 529 Bankes formerly raised against the waterwaves then in-rushing. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 340/1 From the engines water-waves are gushing.

2. A seismic wave in the sea.

1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 188 If the centre of disturbance is near the sea, the water-waves may be far more destructive than the earth-waves.

3. A mode of dressing the hair in flattened scallops on the forehead.

1893 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1912 Webster.

Hence **Wa'ter-waved** *ppl. a.*, having a wave-like pattern or changing gloss.

1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 3 Last, Easterne wittes from mane of Camels tail Made water-waued stuffe vnseene before. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* lii. (1844) II. 143 The agates are many of them peculiarly beautiful, most of them water-waved.

†**Waterwaw.** [See Wough.] A water-wall.

1340 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 340 In sarracione plancorum..pro les Watrewawes molend. Abathie.

Wa'ter-way. [Cf. (M)LG. *waterweck* drain, G. *wasserweg* (1) way by water, water as a way, (2) a watercourse.]

†**1.** Used in OE. with uncertain meaning.

Explained by Bosworth-Toller as 'a channel connecting two pieces of water'. This is possible, but in quot. *c* 1000 the lemma means 'patha', and the entry occurs in a group of words meaning 'road' or 'path'. Perh. the sense may be 'a road along which a stream runs' (cf. Water-lane).

932 *Charter* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* No. 1107 V. 207 Andlang burnan on ðone æwylm; of ðam ewylme andlang wæterweges up to strete. 936 *Charter* ibid. No. 1198 V. 374 Andlang burnan on wæterweg; of ðan wæterwege on wæterhammes. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 146/37 *Tramites*, waterwez.

2. A channel for the escape or passage of water.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Water wey, *meatus.* 1668 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 88 If you are to bring it [*sc.* the trench] over some ditch or brook, where the water is lower then your water-way, then must you [etc.]. 1823 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 96 Through the waterway the water presses during the rising tide into a large reservoir. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 303 If the water is to be carried away by a tunnel, the water-way is arched over and the space above levelled in with earth. 1852 *Rep. Directors E. Ind. Rlwy. Co.* 30, I find that the waterways shown on last year's sections by the different Engineers..are very deficient. 1878 Ansted *Water & Water Supply* 161 The alluvial bed is wide, but the channel or water-way, except after heavy rain, is small. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* xii, This gully had a water-way at the bottom of it.

3. *Naut.* A long piece of timber, hollowed in the middle, serving to connect the deck of a ship with the side, and to form a channel for carrying off water from the deck by means of the scuppers.

c 1625 Capt. N. Boteler *Dialogues about Sea Services* (1685) 149 Water way is that small piece or ledge of timber which lieth on the ship's deck..to keep the water from running down there. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 158 Her waterways were open and decayed. 1790 Blanckley *Naw. Expositor*, Water ways, is that Strake of Plank on the Flat of each Deck respectively next the Ship's Side, for turning the Water out of the Seams. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xv. 39 Everything has been moved in the hold, from stem to stern, and from the water-ways to the keelson. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 26/2 A tug towed at her for an hour and a half before she was got off, during that time her decks and waterways were much strained.

4. A route for travel or transport by water; a river, canal, or a portion of a sea or lake, viewed as a medium of transit.

1858 Kingsley *Misc.* (1859) I. 167 Pleasant and thoroughfare waterways. 1869 Rogers *A. Smith's W. N.* I. i. iii. 20 *note*, When time is no object, the use of a water-way, even though it be artificial, is vastly cheaper than that of any road on land. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 88 The river is the grand waterway for the produce of the Ural and Central Russia. 1904 W. M. Ramsay *Lett. Seven Ch. Asia* lv. 48 When a waterway is needed, as at Glasgow, we transform a little stream into a navigable river. 1905 Lyall *Life Marq. Dufferin* I. vii. 262 The proposal in the draft treaty, that the waterway of the St. Lawrence should be improved,..was opposed. 1913 A. Hund in *Daily Tel.* 24 Aug. 8/7 The Russians have their main fleet elsewhere,..the defence of this particular waterway [*sc.* the Gulf of Riga] was entrusted to a number of older ships.

b. Distance to be travelled by water.

1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* ix. 74 The lack of railway and inn accommodation and the length of water-way rendered a cabin necessary.

c. (Right of) access by water.

1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* xvi. 122 One of the abbots of St. Benedict's once sued the citizens of Norwich for an interference with his right of water-way up to his possessions higher up the river.

d. A track across the water. *nonce-use.*

1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* I. ii. 31 Between the sundown and the sea Love watched one hour of love with me; Then down the all-golden water-ways His feet flew after yesterday's.

5. The breadth of a navigable watercourse; esp. the breadth allowed for the watercourse of a canal or the like (exclusive of towpaths, etc.) passing under a bridge or tunnel.

1739 Labelye *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 75 More free Water-way is left for the Stream .. than the whole Breadth of the River at the Horse-Ferry. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Bridge*, These arches give..a water-way of 870 feet. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 26 Total Water-way 735 Feet 5 Inches. 1791 R. Mylne *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 8 The Water-way..is much contracted by the Bank..having grown forward, beyond the opening of the Buttment Arch. 1800 Telford in Plymley *Agric. Shropsh.* (1803) 301 By this towing-path being hollow below, there is a water-way in the tunnel of ten feet, instead of seven feet. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 322/1 The Canal Company..demanded..an arch 31 feet wide, 14 for water-way, and 7 for towing path. 1901 *Times* 26 Nov. 16/5 The Thames Conservancy..have made demands in regard to waterway and headway which must render it exceedingly difficult [etc.].

6. An opening for the passage of vessels; a (broader or narrower) course available for navigation; esp. the passage by which vessels enter and leave a harbour, the fairway.

1883 *Manch. Guard.* 18 Oct. 4/7 The Suez Canal Company's engineers have prepared alternative sets of plans for the improvement of the waterway. 1884 J. Colborne *With Hicks Pasha* 106 The waterway was considerably reduced in breadth by a large well-cultivated island. 1894 *Law Times Rep.* LXXI. 102/2 The breadth of available waterway depends upon the draught of the vessels navigating it.

7. The full-open passage area in a cock or valve.

1744 Desaguliers *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 324 His three Valves (whose Water-way taken together was 48 Inches). 1797 J. Curr *Coal Viewer* 63 Injection cocks with square shanks, 4½ inches by 1½ inch water way. 1800 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* I. 164 As the sudden stoppage of the descent of the column AB, at the instant when the two plugs were both in the water way, might jar and shake the apparatus, those plugs are made [etc.]. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 276 The pressure of the incumbent column of water is supported by the plates G G, whose circular edges rest on the brim of the water-way..This piston has every advantage of strength, tightness, and large water-way.

Wa'ter-weed. Any aquatic plant with inconspicuous flowers; spec. = Water-thyme 2.

1842 Browning *Is a Gondola* 210 Your gondola—let Zorzi wreathe A mash of water-weeds about its prow. 1848 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 610 Spigelia anthelmia..Loggerhead Weed, *Hughes*...Water Weed. 1895 Anne Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 185 He found that this water-weed [*sc.* Anacharis] had..accumulated there in great profusion. 1879 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 257 The 'New Water-weed' (Elodea canadensis), an American plant, was first remarked in Britain in 1847. 1890 Bridges *Shorter Poems* II. v. 97 The water-weeds, that..scarce allow a narrow stream to pass. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 211/2 We pass..shikaras laden with wood or hay or water-weed.

Wa'ter-wheel.

1. A wheel designed to drive machinery, esp. that of a mill or pump, with water as the motive power.

1408 *Durham Acc. Roll* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* XIV. 517 Pro cariagio,..unius axeltre..pro le Water-wheille. *a* 1592 J. Heywood *Play of Weather* (Brandl) 461 Our floodgate, our mylpoole, our water wheele. 1648 Wilkins *Dædalus* xv. 284 For if there were but such a water-wheel made on this instrument [*i.e.* the Archimedean screw], upon which the stream that is carried up, may fall in its descent, it would turn the Screw round. 1789 Smeaton *Exper. Eng.* (1794) 2 Concerning Undershot Water Wheels. 1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 240 London-bridge water-works. AB the axis of the water-wheel CD. 1830 Kater & Lardner *Mech. xiv.* 179 In water-wheels, the power is the weight of water contained in buckets at the circumference. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. iii. 25 At one end was a little water-wheel turned by a brook. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 242 A water-wheel, turned by Niagara, virtually derives its energy from the transformation of Sunbeams.

2. A wheel for raising water, esp. for irrigation purposes, by means of buckets or boxes fitted on its circumference.

1639 G. Platters *Discov. Inglia. Treas.* vii. 32 Water wheeles..with wooden bottels which doe fill in the river, and empty themselves above into a trough of wood. 1823 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 230 As the mule..goes round, these horizontal arms..take hold..of those arms which are fixed on the axis of the water-wheel, and keep it in rotation. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* vi. 140 The water-wheel slowly revolving with its necklace of pots. 1914 *Blackw.*

Mag. Oct. 428/1 Waterwheels have to be employed to irrigate the old terraces.

†3. A wheel for propelling a boat through the water; a paddle-wheel. *Obs.*

1787 P. Miller in B. Woodcroft *Steam Navig.* (1848) 89 An account of experiments made by Mr. Miller..in a double vessel..put in motion by his water wheel. 1814 in *Scribner's Mag.* (1887) May 518/2 She is a structure resting upon two boats...The great water-wheel revolves in the space between them. 1822 Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 2:6 Some attempts have been made to place the water-wheels, or paddles that drive the vessel, in the middle.

Water-willow.

†1. The purple loosestrife, *Lythrum Salicaria*, or the willow-herb, *Epilobium angustifolium*. (The two plants seem to have been generally confused.)

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 230/2 *Lysimachium, salicaria*,..willow herbe, or loose strife, waterwillow. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Water-Willow*, an Herb otherwise call'd Loose-strife. 1736 Ainsworth *Dict. Lat., Lysimachia*, willow herb, or loose strife, water willow. Hence 1828–34 in Webster.

2. Applied to *Salix aquatica* and other species.

1830 Ogilvie, *Water-willow*,..the *S[alix] aquatica*, called also *water-sallow*. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 179 *Salix helix*. Water willow. Common on the margins of our gravel-bedded burns and rivers. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Water Willow. *Salix rubra*, Hudson.

3. An American plant, *Dianthera americana*, with narrow leaves and purplish flowers, found growing on the borders of streams and ponds.

1896 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 297.

Water-wings, *sb. pl.*

†1. Wings having a watered or wavy surface. *nonce-use* [after *water camlet*].

1676 Cotton *Angler* II. viii. 74 The Camlet-Flie, in shape like a moth with fine diapred, or water-wings. [Cf. *water camlet* s. v. Camlet *sb.* b.]

2. Organs of propulsion in the water.

1835–6 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 294/2 We have already alluded to the use which the Penguin makes of its diminutive anterior extremities as water-wings, or fins.

3. (See quot.)

1841 Benes *Gloss. Civil Engin.* 293 *Water-wings*, the walls erected on the banks of a river next bridges, to secure the foundations from the action of the current; they are usually battered towards the stream, [etc.]. Hence in later Dicts.

Water-witch.

1. A witch inhabiting the water.

a 1688 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 77 A Water-witch with Charms Could sink their Men of War, as easy as Storms. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxxvii. (1878) 297 Presently we found ourselves in a sort of water-witches' paradise. Far below us boiled that hell-cauldron of white smoke [etc.].

2. a. *U.S.* A name for several water-birds noted for their quickness in diving: see quots.

1789 Morse *Amer. Geog.* (1792) 60 Water-witch. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Dipper*, a small aquatic bird, common throughout the United States, also called the Water-witch and Hell-diver. 1860 Coues & Prentiss in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1861, 419 *Podiceps cristatus*.. Crested Grebe. 'Water Witch.' *Ibid.*, *Podilymbus podiceps*... 'Dipper.' 'Water Witch.' 1899 C. B. Cory *Birds E. North Amer.* I. 132 *Colymbus auritus* Linn. Horned Grebe. Water Witch.

b. The stormy petrel. *Procellaria pelagica.*

1858 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 460.

3. *U.S.* = Water-finder.

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Water-Witch*. A person who pretends to have the power of discovering subterranean springs by means of the divining rod. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 Utah..abounds in 'water-witches.' 1890 L. C. Doyle *Notches* 154 His men had reached a depth of about a hundred and thirty feet without striking water, when there chanced to come along a man known throughout the section as a 'water-witch.'

Water-withe. A West Indian plant, *Vitis caribæa* (see quot. 1756).

1696 Sloane *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 172 Wild Vine or Water-with. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 178 Water-withe. The withe of this grape-vine..is so full of juice, that a junk of about 3 feet will yield near a pint of clear tasteless water. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Water-withe, *Vitis caribæa*.

Waterwork (wǭ·təɹwɝk). [f. Water *sb.* + Work *sb.* Cf. Du. *waterwerk*, G. *wasserwerk*.]

†1. A structure built in the water or serving as a receptacle for water or a defence against the force of water, as a tank, pier, sea-wall, lock, etc. *Obs.*

1443 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1835) V. 283 For þe makyng of þeast and west jettys at Caleys for þe weale of þe havene and oþer water werkes in þe same havene. 1540 *Ibid.* VII. 17 Antony Ainger paymaster to the Kinges workmenne of the water workes at Dover. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 106 The wylde Oke serueth also well in water woorkes. 1590 Vallans *Tale Two Swans* (1744) p. xiii, [At Waltham Abbey] a rare devise they see,..a waterworke: the locke Through which the boates of Ware doe passe with malte. 1629 *Pat. Off.* No. 47. 2 The circular bathes or bathing waterworkes above mencioned. *a* 1647 Habington *Surv. Worc.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I. 89 Mr. William Sandys' waterwourcke on Avon. 1693 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 243 They use it in making of Cisterns to hold Water, and all manner of Water-works. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 326 The knottiest and coarsest [oak] is best for Water-works and Piles. 1765 *Museum Rust.* I V. 380 For properly planting the greatest number of the Small-leaved English Elm, for raising timber, (commonly used for keels of ships and water-works)..a Gold Medal. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 186 The ancient baths and water-works of the Romans were built with this kind of *trass*. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* H 2 b. Though I called my selfe by metaphor an Admirall for the water workes.

2. †a. A system of machinery for raising, conveying, or distributing water. *Obs.*

The 'New Waterwork' referred to in several early quots. was a lofty building erected near Queenhithe in 1594–5 by Bevis Bulmar, containing machinery 'for the conueying and forcing of Thames water to serue in the middle and West parts of the Citie' (Stow *Survey of London*, 1603, p. 364).

1596 Sir J. Davies *Epigr.* vi. (*In Titum*), 'Titus..Three years togither in this towne hath beene Yet my Lord Chauncellors tombe he hath not seene Nor the New water worke. 1610 B. Jonson *Alchemist* II. i. 76 *Mam.* I'll giue away so much, vnto my man, Shall serue th' whole citie, with preseruatiue, Weekely, each house his dose, and at the rate— *Sur.* As he that built the water-worke, do's with water? *Ibid.* III. iv. 418, I, that was with the griefe Thou took'st for being seas'd at eighteene pence For the waterworke. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Merry-Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. (1630) II. 22/2 Some 10. yeeres since Fresh water there was scant, But with much Cost they haue suppli'd that want; By a most ex'lent Water-worke that's made. 1644 G. Platter in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 216 Raise the water by an engine or water-work of the most fit sort for that place and purpose. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Chester* (1662) 298 John Terer..erected a seemly waterwork built Steeplewise at the Bridgegate...This since hath served for the conveying of River-water from the Cisterne, in the top of that Work, through Pipes of Lead and Wood, to the Citizens houses. 1663 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Invent.* etc. F 7, The same individual Definition of my Water-work..I again adventure to present to Your Majesty. 1775 Whitehurst *Machine Raising Water* in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 277 The circumstances attending this water-work, require a particular attention.

b. *collect. plural.* (Sometimes construed as sing.) The assemblage of machinery, buildings, and engineering constructions, used for the purpose of supplying a town or neighbourhood with water conveyed and distributed through pipes.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. 1. i. (1624) 202 Mr Otho Nicholson, founder of our water works, & elegant Conduit in Oxford. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2625/1 An Act for Incorporating the Proprietors of the Water-works in York-Buildings. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3964/4 The Proprietors concerned in the London-Bridge Water-Works are desired to meet on Wednesday the 10th Instant. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) II. I. iv. 21 They have a town house, an exchange, and waterworks, by which the city is supplied from the river. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 138 Two 36th shares of the King's moiety of the New River waterworks. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 226/2 The term water-works is properly applied only to such works as have for their object the collection, supply, and conveyance of water to towns. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 838/2 The municipality owns and operates its water-works.

†3. Any contrivance for producing a pleasing spectacle by means of water in motion; an ornamental fountain or cascade. Chiefly in plural. *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xiv. § 1 The table was set neere to an excellent water-worke; for by the casting of the water in most cunning maner, it makes (with the shining of the Sunne vpon it) a perfect rainbow. 1649 Davenant *Love & Hon.* II. i. 105 Those are the tunes my old widdow prisoner sings With more division than a water work When the maine pipe is halfe stopt. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., Germany* (1685) 123 In his Palace or Castle of Heidelburg are divers things remarkable, viz. the Grotes and Waterworks. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* Aug. 1641 Where, in the upper roomes of the house were divers pretty water-workes, rising 108 foote from the ground. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1078 There was always a great boyling and flying up of the Water of the Sea, as in a *Jette d'eau*, or Water-work. 1710 Addison *Spect.* No. 5 ¶ 3 There was actually a Project of bringing the New River into the House, to be employed in Jetteaus and Water-works. 1721 *New General Atlas* 219 The Gardens are pleasant and stately, adorn'd with exquisite Water-Works. 1757 Mrs. P. L. Powys *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 89 The waterworks..may be said to be more grand than pleasing,. particularly the grand cascade, which [etc.]. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* 4 July (1815) 221, I saw him standing by the wheel, dropping like a waterwork, and trembling from head to foot, partly from cold, and partly [etc.]. 1779 J. Moore *View Soc. Fr.* II. lv. 56 The present Landgrave's grandfather..formed..a series of artificial cataracts, cascades, and various kinds of water-works, in the noblest style that can be imagined.

b. *transf.* Chiefly in jocular references to shedding of tears and (*nonce-use*) to rain.

1647 J. Cleveland *Poems* 47 Not Bushells Wells can match a Poets eyes In wanton water-works. 1709 T. Robinson *Vindic. Mosaick Syst.* 93 The Veins..of the Earth being now saturated..the Subterrene Lymphæducts, or underground Water-works, began to bubble up and play from the Tops and Sides of the Mountains. 1826 J. Berresford *Miseries Hum. Life* V. § 12 The fire-works put entirely out of countenance by the water-works [*i. e.* the rain]. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiv, 'O Miss B., I never thought to have seen *this* day!' And the waterworks again began to play. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. v, Sneaking little brute ..clapping on the water-works just in the hardest place. 1883–6 *F. Leslie's Chatterbox* (N. Y.) 79 Harry could not bear to see Clare cry. 'Hold up!' he cried. 'This will never do. Hullo! no waterworks here, if you please.'

†4. A kind of imitation tapestry, painted in size or distemper. *Obs.*

See J. H. Middleton in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (1886) 197, where this kind of work is described from extant specimens.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 28 Goodly tentes of blewe water worke garnyshed wᵗ yelowe & white. 1597 Shake. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 158 And for thy walles a pretty slight Drollery, of the Storie of the Prodigall, or the Germane hunting in Waterworke, is worth a thousand of these Bed-hangings, and these Fly-bitten Tapistries.

5. In occasional uses: Something done in or on the water, or by means of water; †a pageant exhibited on the water.

1608 *Great Frost* in Arber *Eng. Garner* I. 83 Make me so much beholding to you, as to receive from you the right picture of all these your waterworks; how they began, how they have grown, and in what fashion have continued. 1614 J. Taylor (Water P.) (*title*) Taylors Water-worke: or The Scullers Trauels, from Tiber to Thames. 1619 Dekker *London's Tempe* (Percy Soc.) 43 The first scæne is a waterworke, presented by Oceanus. 1653 W. Nicholson *Expos. Catech.* (1663) 172 The Scruple then here is, How water can wash away the spots of sin? To clear it in brief: The truth is, it could not; it is no water-work. 1680 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* 291 Such savoury discourse..for our deliverance from the devils water-works in eighty-eight [*i. e.* the Spanish Armada]. 1902 *Hist. Haudek from 1832*, 140 Usually most of the play [at handball] is in the river, and the 'water work' is the most amusing feature to the onlookers.

6. An operation or a department of labour concerned with hydraulic engineering, irrigation, embanking, drainage, or the like. Chiefly *pl.* Now *rare*.

1564 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 117 The prowest baillies and cunsall decernis all watter men to mak thayr partis of thair wattyr wark sufficient betuix the day and dayt heirof and the feist of Andersmes nixt. 1568 in *Sel. Charters Trading Co.* (Selden Soc.) I. 27 Workmasters of great cunning perfectness knowledge and experience in all kind of mineral works and of water works for the draining of all manner of mines. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xxxi. K j b, And heere I thynke it not amisse to gyue you a precepte howe to fynde the diuersitie of these leuelles, wherby yee may exactly resolue sundry questions perteyning to water woorkes, wherein dyuers haue greately erred, obseruyng not this difference. 1610 R. Vaughan (*title*) Most approved and long-experienced water-workes. Containing, The manner of Winter and Summer-drowning of Medow and Pasture [etc.]. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. xiii. 35 Some famous for Limming; he curious for Architecture; this for Water workes, or any other Art. 1634 J. B[ate] (*title*) The Mysteryes of Nature and Art. Conteined in foure severall Treatises. The first of Water workes, The second of Fyer workes, The third of Drawing [etc.]. 1638 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1892) III. 345 A sufficient plummer that hath skill in waterworkes, and all other workes belonging to a plummer. 1653 *Ian Etten's Math. Recreat.* title-p., Secrets and Experiments in Arithmetick, Geometry,..Chemistry, Waterworks, Fire-works, &c. 1682 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 192 Sir Samuell Moreland, the great engineer in water works, is gone over to the court of France to shew his skill there. 1848 Clough *Amours de Voy.* iii. 12 Where..amid cotton and maize peasants their water-works ply.

attrib. 1824 R. Stuart *Hist. Steam Engine* 6 The elasticity of the vapour of water,..had now become familiar to waterwork artists.

So **Water-worker.**

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* VI. (1599) 258 The bottome of the poole, contrarie to the..opinions of many enginists and water-workers, was found to be higher. 1787 W. H. Marshall *Norf.* (1795) II. 391 *Water-workers*, makers of meadow drains and wet ditches.

Water-worm.

1. Any aquatic annelid.

1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xl. 100 The Kings-fisher feedeth most upon water-worms, and little fishes. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vii. iii. 177 A Water-Worme. *Lumbricus Aquaticus.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 665/2 Animated Horse-Hairs, a term used to express a sort of long and slender water-worm..by the vulgar supposed to be the hair fallen from a horse's mane into the water..and there animated by some strange power. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* V. i. 176 Bred out of Egypt like the water-worm. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 139 It is not at all uncommon for some Rotifera..to adhere for a time to larger animals, such as Crustaceæ and water-worms. 1891 M. Muriel Dowie *Girl in Carpath.* 56 Water-worms, and newts of every description.

b. *fig.* in derisive use.

1820 Byron *To Murray* 23 Apr., I hate and abhor that puddle of water-worms [*i. e.* the lake poets] whom you have taken into your troop.

†2. Some kind of explosive used under water.

1809 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 303 Fire-devils, water-worms, Shrapnell-shells.

Water-worn, *a.* Worn or corroded by the action of water. Chiefly *Geol.*

1815 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* 20 Water-worn fragments of primary and transition rocks are commonly found in many of the secondary rocks. 1829 J. Phillips *Geol. Yorks.* 49 Fragments of chalk and flint which..are very little waterworn. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Trnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 33 Bare coralline rocks, smooth and waterworn near the sea, rough and sharp inland. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I Prol., There was a smooth water-worn boulder on the beach.

Waterwort (wǭ·təɹwɝt). [Wort *sb.*[1]] A name for several distinct plants. †a. In early use identified with Maidenhair (i. e. either *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris* or *Asplenium Trichomanes*, or both). *Obs.* b. Any plant of the genus *Elatine*. c. Applied by Lindley to plants of the order *Philydraceæ*, native to Australia and Eastern Asia.

a. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 24 Herba galli tricus þ is waterwyrt. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 176 Maydenheer or water-wourt: *capillus virginis*. 1541 *Eb. Properties Herbs* B viij, Capillus veneris. This herbe is called Mayden here or waterworte. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl., Waterwort is Maidenhayre. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 182 Waterwort with new Lard, applyed to the sore, easeth the same.

b. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 387 Elatine Alsinastrum. Water-wort. 1818–20 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* I. 489 Elatine Hydropiper; Opposite-leaved Waterwort. *Ibid.*, Elatine Alsinastrum; Whorl-leaved Waterwort. 1848 Johns *Week at Lizard* 286 *Elatine hexandra*. Water-wort, a minute succulent plant, with greenish flowers of three

c. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 286.

Watery (wɔ̄·tərɪ), *a.* Forms: 1 **weteriz, wætriz,** 3 **wateri,** 5 **watiry, wattery, watri, wattry,** 5–6 **watrye,** 5–7 **waterie,** 5–8 **watry,** 6 **waterye,** *Sc.* **wattirrie,** 6–7 **watrie,** 7–9 **wat'ry,** 4– **watery.** [f. WATER *sb.* + -Y. Cf. Du. *waterig*, MLG. *waterich*, OHG. *wazzirig*, *wezzirig* (MHG. *wazzeric*, *wezzeric*, mod.G. † *wasserig*, *wässerig*).]

1. Of land or soil: Full of water; moist, plashy; well-watered.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 402 Rixe weaxst ȝewunelice on weteriȝum stowum. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 547/6 *Allwius ager*, weteriȝ æcer. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 250 Þis is a good moyst & a wattery ground for to haue in oure welle be-nethyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Watry, or fulle of water, *aqueous, aquilentus.* Watry, or fulle of moysture, *humidus.* 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 20 The watrie ground requireth more store of douing, and the drye ground the lesse. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* I. xiv. 11 In hilly Idas watry plaines. 1653 WALTON *Angler* ix. 175 Rushes that grow in the water, or watry places. 1680 *Exact Jrnl. Siege Tangier* 11 The third [trench] being very deep and watry,..a Hundred and twenty four were there killed. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 320 In every little watry bottom the frogs croaked out a concert. 1842 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* Ser. II. *Seven Vagabonds*, Some elderly clergyman, long vegetating in a rocky, woody, watery back settlement of New England. 1846 R. E. EGERTON WARBURTON *Hunting Songs* 129 Blackthorns stiff the fields divide With watery ditch on either side.

b. Of clouds: Full of moisture which is ready to fall as rain; rainy. Also of wind, a season, etc.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 410 Is no weder warmer þan after watery cloudes. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 133 Vapours ..wherof the watery cloudes are engendred. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst Agric.* (1681) 291 At the rising of the Sun, if it appear ..hid in a black watry Cloud, Rain follows. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epodes* x. 19 While watry Winds the bellowing Ocean shake. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxxiii. 261 The watery year of 1879.

c. *gen.* Full of water, wet, dripping. *rare.*

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 23 The Mermaides..sate.. drying their waterie tresses in the Sunne beames.

d. *transf.* Covered with, permeated by water; set or built in the water; washed by stream or tide.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1611 And now this pale Swan in her watrie nest, Begins the sad Dirge of her certaine ending. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Poems* (1672) 320 The Lark now leaves his watry Nest. 1793 BLAKE *Songs Exp.* Introd. 19 The starry floor, The wat'ry shore. 1878 JOAQUIN MILLER *Songs Italy* 23 Sweet Was the Christmas time in the watery town.

2. Resembling water in consistence; thin, fluid.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 236 Sif se utgang sie windiȝ and wætriȝ and blodiȝ. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. XXXVI. (Bodl. MS.), Þe herte sometyme quakeþ and þat comeþ of watery moisture. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 59 Raw fruytez gendreþ watry blode. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 6 For now this vines..Not wattery but thicke humoures wepe. 1562 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 15 Boyle them and take two pounde of the Musilage and boyle it with the other thynges vntyll all that is waterye bee consumed. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 30 Quick Siluer, (which is a most Crude and Watry Body). 1787 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec.* II. 177 When the mixture of Oil or Oily Substances with Acetous or Watery Liquors is required. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 283 The mistletoe..can live on all exogens of which the ascending sap is of a watery consistence. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 815 From the watery conditions of the blood results a transudation of serum.

3. Having the appearance of water; resembling water in colour. Of colour: Pale, looking as if diluted with water.

Said esp. of an overcast condition, betokening rain, of the sky, sun, moon, etc.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1417 Me thought, I sawgh a Reyne-bowe Of blywe and rede and watiry grene. 1585 HIGINS *Junius Nomencl.* 176/2 *Aqueus*,..a pale white like

Virg. Georg. I. 608 But if his Cheeks are swoln with livid blue, He bodes wet Weather by his watery Hue. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 45 The watery glimmerings of a fainter day. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* I. Introd. 26 Where yet some faded herbage pines, And yet a watery sunbeam shines. 1822 SHELLEY *Evening at Pisa* 23 A space of watery blue, Which the keen evening star is shining through. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 401 His eyes were small and of a watery blue.

b. In comb. with an adj. of colour.

1887 PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomyc.* 82 Cup sessile, globose,.. watery-grey!..Cup..pale watery-brown, or cinereous. 1913 MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *Laddie* xvii. (1917) 330 A little bit of a man, with watery blue eyes.

4. Of the nature of water.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.*, v. in Ashm. (1652) 65 Wann or leadly Colour ingendred is Of Waterie and Erthy parts without amisse. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. Tobacco* (Arb.) 104 Raynes, Snowes, Deawes, hoare Frostes, and such like waterie Meteors. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Grief* 3 My grief hath need of all the watry things, That nature hath produc'd. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. (1677) 76 The Clouds are attracted out of moist and watry, and also earthy Vapours. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* I. 20 The Resistance..will compel these thin watry Vesicles to coalesce ..into Drops. 1787 WHITE *Syst. Husb.* 73 Heat..resolves the watry and oily particles of the earth into vapour. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 817 The watery constituent [of urine]. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 67 The watery vapour in the atmosphere.

b. applied to the rainbow. *poet.*

1600 *Wild. Dr. Dodypoll* I. A 3 b, Looke on the ayre, where with a hundred changes The watry Rain-bow doth imbrace the earth. 1820 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 72 The Queene o' th Skie, Whose watry Arch, and messenger, am I. 1793 YOUNG *Candour* II. Wks. 1757 IV. 145 As if in kindly showers the watry bow had shed all its most celestial colours on it.

† **c.** = AQUEOUS 1 b. *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* VIII. lx. (1631) 365 These three humors [of the eye] are called the Watery, the Christalline, and the Glassy. 1629 GID. HARVEY *Ven. Philer. & Physick* 169 To preserve the Eye-sight,..By attenuating the Horny Tunic and the watery Humour.

d. Of a chemical extract, solution, etc.: Made with water, aqueous.

1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 545 The watery solution may contain a variety of salts. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 528 The formation of the blue colouring matter in watery extracts of the plant. 1863 CURLING *Dis. Rectum* (1876) 45 The watery extract of aloes. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 53 Various watery solutions also possess their own points of maximum density. 1889 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Fusion, Aqueous or watery fusion*, the melting of certain crystals by heat in their own water of crystallization.

5. Consisting of water. Chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.* of natural features, as the sea and rivers. *Watery way*, a route by which one journeys over water.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* LXXVII. 20 He smote the stony rocke, that the watery streames gusshed out. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLVI. i, Yea soe lett seas withall, In watry hills arise, As may the earthlie hills appall. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 210 When Phœbe doth behold Her siluer visage in the watry glasse. ? 1605 DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Past.* Eglog v. E 6, Conuey her prayse to Neptunes watry realme. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 779 Those few escap't Famin and anguish will at last consume Wandring that watrie Desert. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 358 That the gods (or stars)..were at first made out of the ocean—that is out of the watry chaos. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 623 Keels of Ships, that scour the watry Plains. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 685 In fourscore Barks they plow the watry Way. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. v. 107 England was mistress of the sea, and she respected no rights of private property upon her watery domain. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 189 A quaint peep of the landscape is obtained through a watery arch, spouted from a hollow. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* I. 376 Sailing from ancient Troy..o'er many a watery way.

b. *Watery grave*, † *tomb*: the place in which a person lies drowned. Similarly *watery death.*

1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* V. i. 241 So went he suited to his watery tombe. 1608 — *Pericles* II. i. 10 Hauing throwne him from your watry graue. 1820 in J. D. Parry *Coast of Sussex* (1833) 72 Last month, a youth of Brighton was rescued from the watery grave, and restored to his father. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Chaucer, Boccaccio, & Petrarca* Wks. 1853 I. 416/1 The horrors of a watery grave. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxix, To exchange..a watery death for one by the more dreadful agency of fire. 1857 *Recoll. Western Texas* 13 O'H— and another..being unable to swim, soon found a watery grave.

6. Of, belonging to, connected with the water; aquatic. Now *rare.* **a.** of plants and animals that live in or on the water.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. XXVI. (1495) 456 Fyshe lyckyth therthe and watry herbes and soo gete they meete and nourysshynge. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 10 Earthie and waterie creatures. 1601 DOLMAN *Ibid.* III. lxii. 286 God hath created them [fish] like watrie birdes, to whom he hath giuen wings agreeable to the element for to sustaine themselues with. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 491 Alders, beside other watery Shrubbes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 656 The Reed or Cane is a Watry Plant, and groweth not but in the Water. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 527 The sev'ral sorts of watry Fowls, That swim the Seas, or haunt the standing Pools. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* V. 64 Wat'ry fowl that seek their fishy food.

b. as an epithet of deities, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 63 Whose rocky shore beates backe the enuious sledge Of watery Neptune. 1595 *Locrine* V. iv. 17 The watrie ladies and the lightfoote fawn

and drinking Deities. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 43 The watry Virgins for thy Bed shall strive. 1747 GRAY *Ode Death of Cat* 32 She mew'd to ev'ry watry God. 1801 S. TURNER *Hist. Anglo-Sax.* III. [IV.] ii. 11. 39 These watery sovereigns [the sea-kings of the North], who..flourished in the plunder of the sea and its shores. 1803 SIR A. BOSWELL *Spirit of Tintoc* To Rdr., These seem to have had perfect effect on the *watery* spirit Kelpy, but none on the ethereal demons of Tintoc.

c. as an epithet of heavenly bodies, portents, seasons, etc., which are thought to bring rain.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 86 Whenne þe mone ys yn þe watery tokenynges. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Þis signe is stedfaste septentrional..flewmatik and watri in kinde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 123 b, The sayd writers declared that this yere should be such Eclipses in watery signes, and suche coniunctions that by waters & fluddes many people should perishe. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 69 That I being gouern'd by the waterie Moone, May send forth plenteous teares to drowne the World. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 1 Nine Changes of the Watry-Starre. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 3), *Watry Triplicity*, the Signs so accounted, being cold and moist, are Gemini, Scorpio and Pisces. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Bologna* etc. 442 [tr. Claudian]..The Mourning Sisters weep in watry Signs. 1774 BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 341 The constallation of the Hyades ..was a watry sign. 1818 J. TAYLOR *Antig. Cur.* 156 Index, Swithin St., the watery saint. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 25 July 5/1 In France the watery saints' days are those of St. Médard (June 8) and St. Gervais and St. Protais (June 19).

d. *gen.*

Watery way, journey, (one's) way or journey over the water: cf. 5.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xiv. § 1 The table was set neere to an excellent water-worke...There were birds also made so finely, that they did not onely deceiue the sight with their figure, but the hearing with their songs: which the watrie instruments did make their seuerall delitter. 1820 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Farrow. Tower-Bellist* A 4, When Vplond Tradesmen thus doom take in hand A wat'ry buis'ness, they not vnderstand. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* V. 1 Mean time the Trojan

outs his watry way, Fix'd on his Voyage, thro the curling Sea. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 289 The firm connected bulwark ..Spreads its long arms amidst the watery roar. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* II. XXVI, Now back they wend their watery way. 1839 DICKENS *Haunted Ho.* I. 7/2 Mr. Beaver..proved to be an intelligent man, with a world of watery experiences in him. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. 210 The Rector's wife heard of her niece's watery meanderings and gipsy breakfasts.

7. Of food: Containing too much moisture; tasting too much like water; thin, flavourless.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 198 Olyues..With drasty wattry fruyt. 1653 WALTON *Angler* vi. 136 The He Salmon .. is more kipper..then the She is; yet she is..as watry and as bad meat. 1846 SOYER *Cookery* 431 Be careful they are not too much done, or they would go in puree and taste watery. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. vi. 108 We're cooking watery soup for beggars.

b. Of a plant or its parts: Containing a large proportion of moisture.

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 84 By greatly increasing the perspiration of the leaves and other parts of plants, wind renders them less watery. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 354/2 It rarely happens that we find a single watery shoot in a tree which requires pinchings to maintain the proper balance of the sap.

8. Of the eyes: **a.** Suffused with tears, tearful. Hence *transf.*, of weeping, lamentation, etc.

1447 BOKENAM *Seyntys, Magd.* 1003 Wyth wattry yhe The shypmen he preyid & yaf hem yiftys also. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 264 Pandosto would once a day repaire to the Tombe, and there with watry plaintes bewaile his misfortune. 1592 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1362 With fained

with a flushed cheek and a watery eye. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* XXVI, Little Rosey and her mother sobbed audibly, ..to the surprise of..Miss Honeyman, who had no idea of such watery exhibitions. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* vii, Joe's blue eyes turned a little watery.

b. Exuding moisture, as a result of weakness or disease in the lachrymal glands. *Watery eye* = EPIPHORA 1.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 282 In *Babees-bk.* 134 Glowrynge ne twynkelynge with youre yȝe, ne..watery, wynkynge, ne droppynge, but of sight clere. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b ij, An hauke that is broght vp vnder a Bussard or a Puttock: as mony be: hath wateri Eyghen. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXI. xix. II. 103 But a peculiar vertue they [violets] have besides to stay the running and waterie eyes. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 35 [Ophthalmia] will some-

Syst. Clin. Med. XXV. 309 His eyes became very red, watery, and intolerant of light.

9. Of the skin, part of the body: Exuding, or suffused with, a humour or moisture resembling water. † Hence in names of diseases, as *watery mouth, itch*; *watery head* = HYDROCEPHALUS. Cf. also 8 b.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 Þe watry places I enoynted with ane oyntement made of blak sope, and poudre of sulphur. 1563–84 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 55 Yf the skynne be of ruddy colour and drye, than is he sounde, and if it be pale coloured and watrye, thanne is he rotten. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 50 The Duke was not the stoutest child, and had been subject to a watry mouth, which now grew better. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Hydrocephalus*, ..a watery Head, or Dropsy in the Head. 1828–40 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol.* (ed. 3) 331 *Scabies lymphatica*, or watery itch. 1880 GOOD *Nosol.* 490 Scabies.. Vesicularis. Eruption of larger..vesicles filled with a transparent fluid...Watery Itch. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 172 The brain was watery, the veins turgid.

10. *fig.* Of thought, feeling, literary or artistic composition, persons, etc.: Vapid, washy, poor, thin.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 376 Þe heorte, þet was waterȝ, smeccheles, and ne uuleode no sauur of God. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 2 Then grew the flowing, and watrie vaine of Osorius the Portugall Bishop to be in price. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greybeard* 183 A loose, flashy, watery memory that will hold no print. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. ii. (1858) 109 Through the thin watery gossip of our Jocelin, we do get some glimpses of that deep-buried Time. 1851 TENNYSON *Edwin Morris* 128 Slight Sir Robert with his watery smile And educated whisker. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* II. (1878) 151 New cataracts of watery melodies. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 204 Do not tell me that justice is duty.. for that sort of watery stuff will not do for me. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* II. vi. 265 She would calculate as she listened..to what extent she might serve herself yet of this watery fool. 1904 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Apr. 104/2 A watery but harmless story of London society.

11. *Her.* (See quot.)

1486 [see UNDATED *a.* 2]. 1572 [see UNDADE *a.*]. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Watery.* This term sometimes occurs, and is used in the same sense as *wavy*, or *undée.*

12. *Comb.* in parasynthetic adjs.

1568 SKEYNE *Pest* (1860) 13 Vrine .. first waterie colourit, thairefter of billious colour. 1603 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1801/4 A Sorrel Nag,..watery Eyed. 1765 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Watery headed*, apt to shed tears. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 697/1 The..rubicund-visaged watery-eyed driver.

Water-soutch *v.*: see WATER-SOUCHY.

Wath. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also (1 **wæð**), 3 **wadh, wa(þ)he,** 6 *erron.* **warthe,** 6– *erron.* **warth.** [a. ON. *vað* neut. (MSw. *vad*, Sw., Da. *vad*) = OE. *wæd* (pl. *wæde*), *poet.* the sea, the waves, MLG. *wat* (*wad-*), Du. *wad*, OHG. *wat* :—OTeut. **wadiz-az* :—pre-Teut. **wadho-m* = L. *vadum*; cogn. w. WADE *v.*] A ford; a fordable stream.

In quot. *c* 1100 used as the proper name of the river Perth. [*c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1073 Wyltelm..þæt land on þa ea healfe mid scypum ymb læig & alm eyll mid his landfyrde ferde inn ofer þæt Wæb (*Laud MS.* þæt gewæd)]. *c* 1440 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3757 Þe watir þat time was fart ebband;..But or he was þe wath all past, The wawes come agayne him fast. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 799/41 *Hoc vadum*, a wadth. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 410/1 A wathe, *vadum, fustrum.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 38/40 A watthe, foorde, *vadum.* 1583 *Inquis. Sewers Line.* (1851) 12 That the Township of Burringham in making their warthes or fordes over the aforesaid dytches do not cast in more sand then is needful for passage of their cattell into the Northmoores. 1610 in *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 204 Forasmuch as Skipton bridge..is likely to..become ruinous by..carriages of great burthen,..a ford or wath is there made passable for such purposes. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* s.v., A Warth; a Water-ford. 1691 — *Gloss. Northamhymb.* s.v., A Wath. Vadum. 1697 De la Pryme *Diary* (Surtees) 153 From thence I went over a wath, which tradition says was formerly a great river. 1730 P. Walkden *Diary* 4 May (1866) 115 Then came over a corner of Eilhill moor as direct as I could to Wire and over it at a warth. 1824 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Wath, warth*, a water-ford. 1890 R. S. Ferguson *Hist. Cumbld.* 270 They tried to evade that fortress by taking to the waths over Eden, between Carlisle and the sea. 1894 *Carlisle Patriot* 15 June 7/3 (*Cumbld. Gloss.*) The new bridge over the Kingwater will stand on the site of the wall at the place of the ford or wath.

b. *Comb.*, as *wath gate* (Gate *sb.*[2]), *mouth, way.* Also Wathstead.

1682 Dugdale *Imbanking & Draining* 201/1 That the Prior of Haverholme ought to find a certain boat at the Bothe, near to the Wathe mouthe, for to carry over foot-folk, aswell by night as day. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'Wath-geeast,' the direction of the ford. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Wath-way, a ford. (East Lincolnshire.)

Wath(e : see Waith *sb.*[1], What, Wothe.

Wather, obs. form of Weather, Whether.

Wathstead. *dial.* Also 7 **warstead.** [f. Wath + Stead *sb.*; cf. Da. *vadested.*] A ford.

1615 *Quarter Sess. Rec.* 9 Jan. in *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) II. 112 [A presentment of] Rob. Spaunton..for digging of a pitt in a wath-stead, called Crooke-holme Wath, whereby men cannot passe. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Warstead*; used in that sense [i. e. a water-ford]. 1877 *N.W. Line. Gloss., Wath, Wath-stead*, a ford.

Watier, watir, obs. forms of Water.

† Watkin. *Obs.* [f. Wat[2] + -kin.] A hare.

1583 Sharrock tr. *Ocland's Notable Battles Eng. Nation* D j b, When as the watchfull grayhound hath a wattkin spied, full faine He springeth on, his pray to get.

Watling-street (wɒ·tlinstrīt). Forms: 1 **Wæclinga-, Wæxling(æ)a-, Westlinga-, Weatlinga-strēt,** 2 **Watlingestrate,** 3 **Watelinge stret,** 4 **Wat(e)lynge-,** 5 **Watlyn-,** 5 **Wadlyng-, Wattelynge-,** 6 *Sc.* **Vadland-,** 6 **Watlyng-,** 6– **Watling-.** [OE. *Wæclinga strēt*; the first word, app. the genit. pl. of the name of a (real or imaginary) family or clan, occurs also in *Wæclinga ceaster* ('the Wæclings' city'), the OE. name of the Roman-British Verulamium (now St. Albans), through which the 'Watling-street' passes.

The forms with *tl* for *cl*, which have been universal from the 12th c., are all but non-existent in MSS. of pre-Conquest date; a solitary example is *Wætlinga ceaster* in *OE. Martyrology, St. Alban*, 22 June (MS. Cott. Julius A. x. fol. 112, written *c* 975). The change of *Wæclinga* into *Wætlinga* can hardly be due to the close resemblance of *c* and *t* in OE. script (though many instances of the latter form in modern editions of OE. texts are mere editorial misreadings), because the existence of sense 2 seems to show that the name of the Roman road was preserved in popular and not merely literary tradition. Perhaps the word may have been assimilated to the *Wætlinga* which occurs in the place-name Watlington (Oxon and Norf.).

The Wæclings may have been either an actual family that had obtained possession of the site of Verulamium, or a dynastic family celebrated in Mercian tradition, to whom, as typifying remote antiquity, the road and the city were attributed by popular fancy. It has been suggested that *Wæclinga ceaster* is a corruption of *Wærlama ceaster*, an alternative OE. name of Verulamium (*Uxellingacestir sive Uerlamacestir*, Bæda *H. E.* I. vii), which is an adoption of the British name in a later form; but the conjecture is untenable.]

1. The English name given in pre-Conquest times to the Roman road running from near London through St. Albans to Wroxeter; by antiquarian writers from the 12th c. onwards extended to Roman roads leading from London to the S.E. and from Wroxeter to the north or west.

The places mentioned in OE. charters as situated on or near the 'Wæclinga-strēt' are: Hampstead; Chalgrave

1315. According to Henry of Huntingdon (*died* 1154) the Watling-street extended from Canterbury to Chester; according to Robert of Gloucester (*c* 1290) from Dover to Chester; according to Higden (*c* 1340) from Dover to Wroxeter and thence to Cardigan. Modern writers usually assign Dover or Richborough and Chester as the terminal points; but some apply the name Watling-street to the road running northwards from Wroxeter through Lancashire.

c 885 *Treaty of Alfred & Guthrum* (MS. 12th c.) in Liebermann *A.S. Laws* I. 126 Ðonne up on Usan oð Wætlingastræt. 926 *Charter of Æthelstan* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 335 (Boundaries of Chalgrave, Beds.) Ðær se dic sceot in wæclinga strate, anlanges wæxlinga strete..eft dice in wæxlingga strate. *a* 1118 Florence of Worcester *Chron.* an. 1018 (1848) I. 166 In septentrionali plaga Wætlinga-stretæ, id est, strata quam filii Weatlæ regis,..per Angliam straverunt. *a* 1154 Hen. Huntingdon *Hist. Angl.* I. § 7 Tertius [*sc.* callis] est ex transverso a Dorobernia in Cestriam..et vocatur Watlingestrate. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 174 From douere in to chestre tille[þ] watelinge stret. *c* 1340 *Polychr.* (Rolls) II. 44 Secunda via principalis dicit[ur] Watlingstrete. *a* 1562 Leland *Itin.* (1907) I. 10 Wedon..stondith hard by the famose way, there commonely caullid of the people Watheling Strete. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 310 That Crosse Where those two mightie waies, the Watling and the Fosse, Our Center seeme to cut. (The first doth hold her way, From Douer, to the farth'st of fruitfull Anglesey.) 1725 De Foe *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. iv. 117 The great antient Road or Way call'd Watling-Street, which comes from London to this Town [Shrewsbury], and goes on from hence to the utmost Coast of Wales.

b. Erroneously applied to other Roman roads.

Leland, e. g., applies the name to the Ermine-street in Lincolnshire, and to several distinct roads in Yorkshire. At the present day the name is very generally given to the road running from York through Corbridge into Scotland.

? *c* 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* ccix. in Child *Ballads* III. 66 'Take thy bowe in thy hande', sayde Robyn,..'And walk vp vnder the Sayles, And to Watlynge-strete'. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* (1907) I. 32 At the north ende of this village [*sc.* Marton, Lincs.] lyithe the commune way of Wathelinge Streat to Dancaster. *Ibid.* 39, 43, 44, 98, V. 146. 1767 Percy *Reliques* (ed. 2) I. 24 *note*, Otterbourn stands near the old Watling street road. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 568 (art. *Northumberland*) The Roman road from London nearly bisects the county, and still goes familliarly under the name of 'the Watling Street'.

c. The name of a street in the City of London, in the 16–17th c. the principal street for drapers' shops.

1569 Preston *Cambyses* F 3 b, I beleeue all [the] cloth in Watling street, to make gowns would not serue. 1603 Stow *Surv. Lond.* 84 The Drapers..are seated in Candlewick-streete, and Watheling streete. *Ibid.* 348 Then for Watheling streete, which Leyland calleth Athelinge or Noble streete; but since he sheweth no reason why, I rather take it to be so named of the great high way of the same calling...At this present, the inhabitants thereof are wealthy Drapers, retailors of woollen clothes..more then in any one streete of this citie. 1614 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* D 2 b, *Sta.* That I should liue to be a seruing-man..the seruing man..weares broad-cloth, and yet dares walke Watling-streete, without any feare of his Draper.

† **2.** The Milky Way, galaxy. *Obs.*

The Milky Way received other popular names from famous highways, esp. pilgrimage routes. In England it was called *Walsingham way*, in Italy *Strada di Roma*. A widespread designation of this kind was *the Way of St. James* (of Compostella); so It. *Via di santo Jacopo* (Dante *Convivio* II. xv), Sp. *Via de Santiago.*

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 431 Se yonder loo the Galoxie..Somme parfeye Kallen hyt watlynge strete. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. de P. R.* VIII. xxxii. (Tollemache MS.) It semeþ þat þey [*sc.* cometa] ben in þat cercle, þat is calde Lacteus, and Galaxia, also Watelynge strete. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 196 *Secundus demon.* let vs go to this dome vp watlyn strete. *c* 1480 Henryson *Orpheus* 71 He..passit to the hevin..To seke his wyf..By wadlyng strete he went but tarying. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 410/2 Wattelynge strete, *lactea, galaxias, vel galaxia.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 22 Arthurs huyfe, and Hyades betaiknand rane, Syne Watling streit..and the Charle wane. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 58 The quhyt circle callit circulus lacteus, the quhilk the marynalis callis vatland streit. 1551 [see Milky Way 1]. 1563 Fulke *Meteors* III. (1571) 38 The mylke waye called of some the waye to saint Iames and Watlyng streate. 1590 T. Hood *Use Celestial Globe* 40 By vs..it is called The milke way: some in sporting manner doe call it Watling streete.

Watmol, obs. form of Wadmal.

Watna (wɒ·tnă), *v. Sc.* [f. *wat* Sc. form of Wot *v.* + Na *adv.*[3]] (1) know not. Hence **Watna-what** *sb.*, a 'don't know what', a nondescript.

1785 Ramsay *Gent. Sheph.* IV. ii, Sir William's cruel, that wad force his son For watna-whats, nae great a risk to run. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, He's been a soldier, and he has been a play-actor, and I watna what he has been or hasna been.

Watre, obs. form of Water *sb.* and *v.*

Watsail, obs. form of Wassail.

Watschoed, watshed, obs. forms of Wetshod.

Watstone, obs. form of Whetstone.

Watt (wɒt). *Physics.* [f. name of James *Watt* (1736–1819), the inventor of the modern steam-engine, and a pioneer in the science of energy.] A unit of activity or power (used chiefly with reference to electricity), corresponding to 10^7 ergs of work per second, to the rate of work represented by a current of one ampere under the pressure of one volt, or to $\frac{1}{746}$ (= ·00134) English horse-power.

1882 Siemens in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.*, Presid. Addr. 6 The other unit I would suggest adding to the list is that of power. The power conveyed by a current of an Ampère through the difference of potential of a Volt is the unit consistent with the practical system. It might be appropriately called a Watt, in honour of..James Watt...A Watt, then, expresses the rate of an Ampère multiplied by a Volt, whilst a horse-power is 746 Watts, and a Cheval de Vapeur 735. 1882 *Athenæum* 2 Sept. 310/2 Two of his [Dr. Siemens's] units were unanimously approved—namely, (1) the watt, which is the rate of doing work when a current of one ampere passes through a resistance of one ohm, [etc.]. 1886 Thurston in *Jrnl. Fraubl. Inst.* Oct. 265 It was judged that it might have been driven up to 300,000 watts with safety. 1887 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 208 The Watt is defined to be the work done per second by the ampère passing between two points between which the difference of electrical potential is one volt. 1889 *Telegr. Jrnl. & Electr. Rev.* 23 Dec. 665/2 The A type of Sunbeam lamp required only 2 watts per candle-power as compared with 3½ watts for the Edison-Swann lamp.

b. *Comb.*: **watt-hour,** the work done by one watt in one hour; **wattmeter,** an instrument for measuring electric energy.

1887 Ayrton *Pract. Electr.* 4 ... over, of a 'wattmeter,' it is possible to measure the watts directly. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Jan. 11/2 With 4,500 lamps of 16 candle-power,..at a charge of ½*d.* per lamp per hour, or eightpence per Board of Trade unit of 1,000 Watt hours..the income would be £11,250, irrespective of [etc.]. 1892 J. Swinburne in *Min. Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* CX. 15 The ordinary wattmeter as used in continuous-current work consists of a fixed and movable coil. 1907 E. Wilson & Lydall *Electr. Traction* I. 379 This can be converted into watt hours per ton mile thus. 1907 *Athenæum* 20 July 74/3 Mr. J. T. Irwin gave a demonstration of the uses of his hot-wire oscillographs and hot-wire wattmeters.

Watt(e, obs. ff. Wait, Wat, Wet, Wot 2.

Wattar, obs. Sc. form of Water.

Watthett, var. Watchet.

Watteau (wɒ·tō, ‖ vatō). The name of Antoine *Watteau* (1684–1721), a French painter, used *attrib.* in *Watteau school, Watteau-like* adj.; also in designations of articles of female costume similar to those represented in Watteau's pictures, as *Watteau hat*; **Watteau back,** an arrangement of the back of a dress with a broad pleat falling from the neck to the extremity of the skirt without being gathered in at the waist; **Watteau bodice,** a bodice with square opening at the neck and short ruffled sleeves; **Watteau mantle,** a kind of cloak having a Watteau back and other details imitated from Watteau's pictures; **Watteau pleat** (and *ellipt.* **Watteau, watteau**), the pleat of a Watteau back. Hence **Watteauish** *a.*, resembling the style of Watteau.

1833 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Barrenness Mod. Art*, This is well, and Watteauish. 1849 Thackeray *Sk. & Trav.* Wks. 1900 VI. 668 Watteau-like groups in short silks. 1864 Miss A. B. Edwards *Barbara's Hist.* xxvi, The old designs, of a bastard Watteau school, had been lately removed. 1887 *Brit. Textile Warehousman* 15 Sept. 70/1 The back fits the figure, but has a full Watteau pleat down the centre, fastened in at the waist, and then flowing in easy folds to the hem. 1891 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 3/1 From the shoulders at the back hung a long Watteau of the richest cut jet. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 June 3/2 Next week I shall give drawings of an Empire and a Watteau hat. *Ibid.* 23 Nov. 3/1 A heliotrope cashmere tea-gown, made with a Watteau back and a long straight front of silk.

Wattel(l, Watter: see Wattle, Water.

Watthe, obs. form of Wath.

† **Wattins,** *sb. pl. Obs.* [Cf. F. *ouate*: see Wad *sb.*[1]] ? = *waddings*, Wadding *vbl. sb.* 3.

1690 Sir J. Foulis *Acc. Bk.* (S. H. S.) 130 To Ja. arbuthnot for silk and wattins to my black coat sleeves, 0 6 6.

Wattkin, variant of Watkin.

Wattle (wɒ·t'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **watul,** *pl.* **watla** (*North.*), **watelas**; 4 **wattel,** 5 **watty1(le,** 6 **wattill,** *Anglo-Irish* **vattill** (*Sc. pl.* **vatlis**), 6–7 **wattell,** 7 **wadle,** 9 *dial.* **waddle,** 6– **wattle.** [OE. *watul* (not found in other Teut. langs.) of uncertain origin, but app. cogn. w. *watila*, (? *whtla*) bandage for a wound (*Sax. Leechdoms* II. 208).

It may possibly represent O.Teut. **wadlo-s* (with irregular treatment of the dental before liquid as in Bottle *sb.*[1], Bottom *sb.*): —pre-Teut. **wodhlo-s*, f. **wedh-* (: **wedh-*) to intertwine, plait, see Weave: Weed *sb.* If so, it may correspond to mod.G. dial. *wadel* brushwood (see Grimm's *Deutsches Wb.* XIII. 2821, s. v. *Wedel.*]

I. 1. In *plural* and *collect. sing.* Rods or stakes, interlaced with twigs or branches of trees, used to form fences and the walls and roofs of buildings. Also, rods and branches of trees collected for this purpose.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. xvi. (1890) 202 And micelne ad gesomnade on beamum and on raftrum and on wagum and on watelum [mistransl. of L. *parietum vitgeorum*] and on þeacon. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke v. 19 Astigon..onufa hus þerh ða watla [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* þurh þa watelas; Vulg. *per tegulas*]. *a* 1000 in Napier *OE. Glosses* ii. 489 *Tegulis*, watelum. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* IX. xxvi. (Z) 52/13 *Teges*, watul. 1382 *Durham Halm. Rolls* (Surtees) 175 Habebit meremium..et virg. et wattels, cabul., et ferramenta. 1453–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 150 j fothr' de palis et virgis et j fothr' del Wattylle. 1488–9 *Finchale Priory* (Surtees) p. cclxxxii, Et in adquisitione wattyllis et cariagio straminis et wattyllis iiij*s.* x*d.* 1510 *Galway Archives* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 394 Anny man to bring in wode, troffe, or vattill. 1547–8 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 52 And the remanent of the said tenement..standand sufficiently in gret tymmer..and in kaboris, wattillis and stray, thak and devot, sobirly apperand watir ticht. 1563 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1567, 444/2 Colligere *lie wattis* et *faltyns tymmer* de dicta silva pro reparatione et edificatione domorum. 1586 Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 12/1 And there they cast a trench, and builded a little castell or hold, with turffes and wattell. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* (1906) 374 These Fabrickes are advanced three or foure yardes high,..erected in a singular Frame, of smoake-torne straw..and Raine-dropping wattles. 1633 Stafford *Pac. Hib.* III. viii. 313 Having all the day before employed a great partie of men to the Wood ..to fetch more wattle, to make Gabions. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. i. 43 The Walls are either Mud, or Wattle bedawbed over. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vi. 218 Stretching a large tree across it [*sc.* the path]..and fastening it with thongs and wattles at either end. 1896 Thirlwall *Greece* III. xx. 146 Layers of stiff clay, pressed down close on wattles of reed. 1852–62 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* II. iv. i. 289 The earliest British churches were built of wattles. 1887 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 63 And there he built with wattles from the marsh A little lonely church in days of yore. 1888 Milman *St. Paul's* ii, 22 Its growth..from enclosures of wattel and timber to stately buildings of stone. 1896 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxiii, The walls were of wattle and covered with moss.

b. **Wattle and daub (dab):** interwoven twigs

plastered with clay or mud, as a building material for huts, cottages, etc.; chiefly *attrib.* Also (rarely) *daub and wattle, mud and wattle.*

1808 T. Batchelor *Agric. Bedford* 21 The cottages and barns..are built with wood frame work, and clay plaster upon a kind of hedge work of splints, which is called wattle and dab. 1836 Ross *Hobart Town Almanack* 66 Wattle and daub. [Instructions for using the branches of the black or the green wattle (see sense 4 below) for this kind of construction.] 1838 W. Wickenden *Hunchback's Chest* 311 Strong wattle and daub walls. 1845 Dickens etc. *Holly-tree Inn* iv. 26/1 Robinson..stood at the door of a considerable erection of wattle-and-dab. 1870–4 Jefferies *Toilers of Field* (1892) 183 One wall of the house..was only 'wattle and daub' (i. e., lath and plaster). 1883 Olive Schreiner *Afr. Farm* II. iii, His house was a little square daub-and-wattle building. 1891 Kipling *City Dreadf. Nt.* 36 There are no houses here—nothing but acres and acres, it seems, of foul wattle-and-dab huts. 1901 *Archæol. Jrnl.* (Instit.) Mar. 68 A light and simple erection of wattle-and-daub. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Aug. 59, I saw the house, a mud and wattle rancho.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wattle-canoe, -gate, -wall, -work*; † **wattle-silver**, some kind of feudal impost; **wattle-wood** *W. Indian* (see quot.).

1893 Sir W. W. Hunter in Skrine *Life* (1901) 424 In the bay, the fishermen use the *wattle-canoes, or curraghs, which their ancestors used at the time of the Roman invasion. 1759 *Universal Chron.* 3–10 Feb. 45/3 The person who committed the robbery, by the help of a short ladder artfully spliced to a *Wattle-gate, set against a closet window, took out a pane of glass, [etc.]. 1263 in *Cal. Inquis. Post Mortem* (1904) I. 173 *Watelselver. 1272 *Ibid.* 253 [Customs called] Mortonefar', Watelselver, Wodelode, [etc.]. 1484 *Anc. Deed* 24 Dec. (P.R.O.) D. 1102 Withe certene Custume alluer to the foresaide Maner perteynyng callid Revesiluer Watelsiluer and Werkesiluer of the Tenauntez of Charletone [near Steyning, Sussex]. 1886 *Athenæum* 24 Apr. 556/3 These were generally huts built of logs or with *wattle-walls. 1864 Griseach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 *Wattle-wood, *Latis Thamnia.* 1860 H. Mayhew *Upper Rhine* vi. 427 A city built out in the water, and surrounded with a thick *wattle-work of piles. 1878 Keary *Dawn Hist.* ii. 30 The huts were made of wattle-work. 1900 Baring-Gould *Bk. Dartmoor* 42 The Britons had brought with them their great aptitude for wattle-work.

2. A hurdle. *dial.*

1640 Somner *Antiq. Canterb.* 10 The Citizens after much suit to the Monks, prevailed with them. to sell them of their wood to make hurdles or wattles withall, for the defence of their City. 1681 Worlidge *Syst. Agric., Dict. Rust.* 334 Wattels also signify spleeted Gates or Hurdles. 1697 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 195 Two wagon Ropes three Rakes 00 04 00 Thirty wattelles 01 10 00. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 674 The flatted hurdle, or what in some districts is termed waddle, is much preferable to the close-rodded or wattled kind. 1822 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 129 This hazle..furnishes rods wherewith to make fences; but its principal use is, to make wattles for the folding of sheep in the fields. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. vii, The scent [in Hares-and-hounds] lies thick right across another meadow and into a ploughed field, where the pace begins to tell; then over a good wattle with a ditch on the other side. 1889 Dor. E. Hurst *Horsham* (ed. 2) Gloss. 270 *Wattle*, a hurdle of a particular kind, made by weaving in long thin stems of underwood.

3. A wand, rod, stick. *dial.*

1570 Levins *Manip.* 38/26 A wattle, rod, *vibex.* 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. x, I..cut down several oak wattles, about the thickness of a walking-staff, and some larger pieces. [To build a canoe.] 1786 Burns *Auld Farmer's Salut.* x, Nae whip nor spur, but just a wattle O' saugh or hazle. 1832 Lover *Leg. & Stor. Irel., Paddy the Piper* 136, I cut a brave long wattle, that I might dhrive the man-ather iv a thief, as she was, without bein' near her at all at all. 1843 J. Ballantine *Wee Raggit Laddie* vi, Nae jockey's whup, nor drover's wattle Can frighten thee. 1846 J. Keegan *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 395 An old man..tottered with the aid of a long iron-shod wattle which he carried in his withered hand, to the door of a snug-looking public house. 1856 P. Kennedy *Banks of Boro* xli. (1867) 337 Pat's wattle descended on the upper horizontal line of Charley's thigh.

b. *Comb.*: **wattle-boy** *Anglo-Irish* (see quot.); **wattle-race** *U.S.*, a Western form of 'running the gauntlet' (cf. Gantlope).

1832 Barrington *Pers. Sk.* III. xx. 280 His reverence.. was instantly recognised by one of the wattle-boys, as the pikemen were then called. 1839 Duncan in *Congr. Globe* Jan., App. 104/2 It would have been like the wattle races I have seen run in the West; he that ran the fastest received the fewest stripes.

II. 4. *Australian.* [Originally *wattle-tree*, from the use of the long pliant branches for making wattled fences or wattle-and-daub buildings.] The common name in Australia for indigenous trees of the genus *Acacia.* Also with defining word indicating the particular species, as **Black Wattle**, *Acacia binervata* and *A. decurrens*; **Broad-leaved, Golden, Green Wattle**, *A. pycnantha*; **Silver Wattle**, *A. dealbata*; but the application of these (and other similar terms) varies according to locality.

The bark of most of these trees is valuable for use in tanning, and they exude a gum resembling gum arabic. The golden yellow flowers are celebrated for their beauty and fragrance.

The acacias were included in the Linnean genus *Mimosa.* Hence in popular use *mimosa* was long current as a synonym of *wattle*, and is still sometimes so used, at least in England. See Mimosa 2 b.

[c 1820: see *Wattle-tree* in d.] 1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* I. 201 The acacias are the common wattles of this colony, their bark affording excellent tan. 1832 Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* II. 23 The black and silver wattle.. are trees used in housework and furniture. 1839 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxiii, Fringed with black wattle and light-wood. *Ibid.* xliii, The sarsaparilla still hung in scant purple tufts on the golden wattle. 1863 *Technologist* III. 3 The gum of the black wattle (*Acacia mollissima*, Willd.)..is very inferior to it [*sc.* that of the silver wattle]. 1888 Campbell *Whispering Voices* 45 And the wattle's yellow bloom Fills pure gales with rich perfume.

b. The flower of the wattle.

1867 A. G. Middleton *Earnest* 132 The maidens were with golden wattles crowned.

c. = *wattle-bark.*

1893 *Advt.* in Morris *Austral Engl.* s. v. *Wattle-bark*, Bark...Bundled Black Wattle, superior, £5 to £6 per ton;.. chopped Black Wattle, £5 to £6. 5s. per ton. 1912 Webster.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wattle-bark, -bloom, -blossom, -bough, -cluster, -flower, -gloom, -gum, -scrub, -tree*; **wattle-gold** *post.*, the golden-coloured flowers of the wattle.

1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* II. 106 The various *wattle-barks are used for tan. 1852 Morfit *Tanning & Currying* 94 The leather tanned with wattle bark is of excellent quality, but highly coloured. 1890 A. Sutherland *Short Poems* 84 Here, by the *wattle bloom silently laid, Life seems like a rapturous dream. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song Engl., England's Answ.* 21 This for the waken Heath, and that for the Wattle-bloom. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets* 62 The honey was coming from the sack as clear as amber and smelling of *wattle-blossom. 1845 Dickens etc. *Holly-tree Inn* iv. 29/2 Breaking off a small *wattle-bough to whisk the flies from his face. 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 87 A dense scrub of burnt *wattle-bushes about the height of hop-poles. 1889 Sherard *Daughter of South* 93 Past the plundered *wattle-cluster, Bathed no longer in the lustre, Of its golden rain. 1900 *Daily News* 9 Oct. 3/1 Something dainty, like the scent of the *wattle flower. 1867 Goodrich *Angel Beckoned* 9 Where the *wattle-glooms abound A little way below. 1870 A. L. Gordon *Bush Ballads* Ded. 41 In the Spring, when the *wattle gold trembles, 'Twixt shadow and shine. 1883 Keighley *Who are You* 54 My wealth has gone like the wattle gold You bound one day on my childish brow. 1863 *Technologist* III. 4 *Wattle Gum, the gum of the Silver Wattle (*Acacia dealbata*, Lindl.). 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* lii, 'Well I if this don't bang wattle gum', began Gerty. 1899 — *G. Hamlyn* xxviii, They were passing through a narrow way in a *wattle scrub. c 1810 in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1827) XV. 328 One of my specimens..I shot in a green *wattle-tree close to Government House. 1835 in K. Cornwallis *Panorama New World* (1859) I. 402 We observed on a wattle tree..scratches or marks of figures, representing blacks in the act of fighting. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 10 June 5/2 The tender..for the right to strip the wattle trees growing on the upper portion of the You Yangs.

Wattle (wɒ·t'l), *sb.*[2] Also 6 **wattell(e**, 7 **waddle, wadle.** [Of obscure origin; possibly an altered form of Wattle (which, however, does not appear so early in our quots.), due to assimilation to prec.

Usually believed to be identical with Wattle *sb.*[1] On the ground of the reading 'a *watel* ful of nobles' in two closely related MSS. of *Piers Plowman* C (where other MSS. have *walet*) it has been assumed that from the primary sense of 'something intertwined' (see prec.) was developed the sense 'basket', and hence that of 'wallet', which would be a possible source of the senses below. (Cf. Shaks. 'wallets of flesh': see Wallet *sb.*[2]) This explanation is connected with the view that *wallet* is a metathesis of *watel*; but in all probability the reading *watel* in *Piers Plowman* is merely a scribal error for *walet*.]

1. A fleshy lobe (usually bright-coloured) pendent from the head or neck of certain birds, as the domestic fowl, the turkey, the guinea-fowl, etc.

1513 in *Glover's Hist. Derby* (1829) I. App. 62 John Curson ..bayryth a Cokatrice displayd, goulis with a hed in hys tayll, hys fette and hys wattelles assur. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 158 Cockes..theyr wattelles oryent. *Ibid.* 166 b, Ginny Cocks, and Turky Cocks..haue no Coames, but only Wattles. 1612 Cotgr. s. v. *Barbe, La barbe d'vn coq*, a Cockes rattles, or waddles. 1633 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. xi. § 2 Nor are his [*sc.* the cock's] Comb and Turkey's Neck. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Pigeon*, The Leghorn is a Sort of Runt, only distinguished by a little Wattle over his Nostril. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 212 Their combs and wattles purple and yellow. 1782 — *Genera of Birds* 9 On each side of the base of the bill, a red, thin fleshy membrane, or Wattle, of a round form. 1788 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 244 [The Wattled Bee-eater] Under the eye, on each side, is a kind of wattle, of an orange colour. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* I. 380 From red to blue the [turkey's] pendent wattles turn. 1832 J. Baily *Fowls* 38 The game cock is of bold carriage;..his face and wattle a beautiful red color. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 90 Cocks. Bright red comb, wattle and face. 1867 Baker *Nile Trib.* iii. (1872) 45 The only species of guinea-fowl that I have seen in Africa is that with the blue comb and wattles.

b. *transf.* (Cf. Gill *sb.*[1] 3 b.)

1910 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Lady Good-for-Nothing* I. xi, Once, it seemed to me, I detected the wattles of your worthy fellow-magistrate. He ought not to strain that neck; you should warn him of the danger.

c. *slang.* (See quota.) ? *Obs. rare*—[o].

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Canl. Crew, Wattles*, Ears. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 109 *Wattles*, the ears.

2. A flap of skin pendent from the throat or neck of some swine.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 38/27 Ye Wattle of a hog, *nowus.* 1611 Cotgr., *Goitrons*, Waddles, or wattles; the two little and long excrescences, which hang, teat-like, at either side of the throat of some hogs. *Ibid.*, *Gouytrous*, Swines wadles. 1879 J. Wrightson *Swine* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 321/2 The 'wattles' or skinny appendages situated upon either side and below the cheek.

b. A similar excrescence on the jaws of sheep or goats. See also quot. 1725 (prob. a mis-use).

1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Goat*, The Buck or the He-goat ought to have a large Body, thick Legs (etc.)..his Ears should be long and hanging down, and his Chin cover'd with a long Beard, or has Jaws rather have two Wattles or Tufts like a Beard. 1794 Bisckmore *Woolien Manuf.* II. 330 Four-horned sheep are ..umerous in several parts, and a few have six horns; their forehead is convex, and there are wattles under the throat. 1839 Jephson *Brittany* vi. 82 There were some brown goats, too, with white eyebrows, and wattles hanging down at each side of their necks.

3. A fleshy appendage hanging from the mouths of some fishes; a barb.

1655 Walton *Angler* xviii. (1661) 231 This Loach is of the shape of the Eele: he has a beard or wattels like a Barbel. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 240 [A fish] having two small *Cirri* or wattles issuing out of the nose near the mouth. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 321 The Barbel is said to have been so called from the barbs or wattles attached about its mouth. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* I. (1880) 30 The barbs or wattles that depend from the sides of the mouth.

4. *Comb.*: (in sense 2) † *wattle-faced*, † *-jawed.* Also **wattle-bird**, (*a*) = *wattle-crow*; (*b*) the wattled or warty-faced bee-eater of Australia, *Anthochæra carunculata* and *A. inauris*; **wattle-crow**, any bird of the genus *Glaucopis* (*G. cinerea* and *G. wilsoni*), inhabiting New Zealand; **wattle honey-eater** = *wattle-bird* (*b*).

1773 *Cook's 2nd Voy.* I. v. (1777) I. 98 The *wattle-bird, so called because it has two wattles under its beak as large as those of a small dunghill cock. 1839–62 Sir J. Richardson etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* I. 314 The Long-eared Wattle-bird (*Anthochæra inauris*). *Ibid.* 315 The Short-eared Wattle-bird (*Anthochæra carunculata*)..The Brush Wattle-bird (*Anthochæra mellivora*)...The Lunulated Wattle-bird (*A. lunulata*). 1871 Bracken *Behind Tomb* 79 The wattle-bird sings in the leafy plantation. 1887 Swainson *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 265 Subfam. Glaucopinæ. *Wattle Crows. c 1860 Middleton *Mayor Quinb.* III. iii, I scorn thee, Thou *wattle-fac'd sing'd Pig. 1862 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 292 The Yellow *Wattle Honey-eater (*Anthochæra inauris*). 1870 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gt. Easter Kent* Wks. I. 247/2 Hee is *wattle-iawde, and his eyes are sunke inwards.

† **Wattle**, *sb.*[3] *Orkney* and *Shetland. Obs.* Forms: 5–7 **wattell**, 6–7 **wattill**, **vattill**, 7–8 **watle**, 6, 9 *Hist.* **wattle.** [app. a perversion of Norw. *veitla* (Aasen, Ross), dial. var. of *veitsla* :—ON. *veisla* entertainment, *spec.* 'the reception or entertainment to be given to the Norse king.. or his stewards' (Vigf.); f. *veita* to grant, give, to make (a feast), to show (kindness, etc.): see Wait *v.*[2] For the sense of the sb. cf. Waiting *vbl. sb.*[2]

In a Norwegian charter of 13 Apl. 1412 (*Dipl. Norveg.* II. II. 466), containing a grant by King Erik of land in Shetland, the feudal dues payable by the property are enumerated as 'skat, landskyld, ok *wæsl*', with which cf. the 'skat, wattle, and dewtles' of quot. 1592 below.]

Originally, the obligation, imposed on landed proprietors in Orkney and Shetland, of giving entertainment to the Foud on his annual journey through the islands for the administration of justice; in later times, a tax for which this obligation was commuted.

1477 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 281/1 Cum universis libertatibus, ..ad dictas terras..spectantibus, unacum *le Wrak, Wattell, Waithe et Haswauth.* 1503 in Peterkin *Rentals Orkney* I. (1820) 25 Summa de Wattill of the Ile j last in thre thridis viz cost flesche & fat guid. And the commonis ar all accordit to pay the tua in wattill & the thrid in flesche. 1587 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 468/1 Reddendo..105 doleras argenteas pro lis wattill. 1588 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* X. 391 Selling.. 1000 cunnyng skynnis, 167 packis vedmell, 103 doleris for vattill, 150 angel nobillis for toill. 1592 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1580*, 118/1 Payand..to me..the yeir maillis, skatt, wattell and dewtles contenit in our rentall. 1595 in Peterkin *Rentals Orkney* II. (1820) 83 Thomas Sinclair pays yearly [illegible]

Trowollie & Sandolll, ij nychtis wattill. 1620 *Rec. Earldom Orkney* (S.H.S.) 185 His awin proper land and heretage haldin frielie of the king for payment of scat and wattell and of the teynd therof to the kirk. 1628 in *Prvc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* N. S. VII. 231 Easter Quarff, 1 nyghtis wattill. Summa [for Burray] 4 nyghtis wattill and 6 merkis. 1733 T. Gifford *Zetland Isl.* v. (1879) 37 To grant charters to the heritors.. holding few of the crown for payment of an annual reddendo, formerly paid, called the *Scat* and *Watle.* 1821 Scott *Pirate* xviii, Is it not enough that we must pay *scat* and *wattle*, which were all the public dues under our old Norse [illegible] and customs besides? 1840 *New Statist. Acc. Shetland* (1845) 63 The wattle was a tax imposed on every family paid in barley to the foud or bailie.

Wattle (wɒ·t'l), *v.* Forms: 4 **wat(t)ele-n, watle-n**, 5 **wattyll**, 6 **wattil, wadle**, 6–7 **watle, wattel**, 7 **wattell**, 6– **wattle.** [f. Wattle *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To construct (a building, wall, fence, arbour) of rods, posts, or laths interlaced with twigs or flexible branches. Also *rarely* with *up.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 323 And there-with Grace bigan to make a good foundement, And watteled [*v.r.* waselide, wailed(e)] it and walled it with his peynes and his passioun. 1382 Hulot, Wattle a house, *cratio, int, tro*, whyche is a maner not vsed but where thacked houses be. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Concratitius*.., *paries*.. walles wattled with reddes as they vse in the countrey. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvii. iii. 697 To build..cottages and sheds...These were most of them made of hurdles and boords, some watteled and wound with reedes [L. *alia arundine texta*]. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 74 For the meere barbarous Irish either

Charters (1915) 212 Bindis..him..to caber wattell and theik with theik..the hall biggit be him. 1707–23 MORTIMER *Husb.* I. 110 A Hedge wattled standing under a Bog that was five or six Foot above it. 1792 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 113 He fixes next on some spreading tree, round the bole of which he wattles a slight circular fence of the dimensions he wants. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* II. 64 The arbour he once wattled up is broke. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* I. 22 The walls were merely wattled and smeared with plaster. 1867 C. H. PEARSON *Hist. Eng.* I. 26 The villages were circles of huts hollowed out of the hills or heath, to save wall building, the sides wattled and the roofs thatched.

b. To construct (a sheepfold) with hurdles.

1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* IV. 170 The shepherd.. contented himself with staring at them a moment, and then went on with wattling his fold. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 189 Shepherds have wattled pens about.

2. To interlace (boughs, twigs, osiers, etc.) so as to form wattle-work.

1486 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 242 Oxyars..to wattyll' betwix

...ether. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 121 A Temple or Church..the Walls whereof were on all sides made of Rods, watled or interwoven. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 539 The sides and top of the House are filled up with Boughs coursely watled between the poles. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 296 Fixing stakes..and wattling straw-bands between them. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 110 Pl. xxxiii, The dead materials are wattled in between strong stakes. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 889 The walls..are frames filled in with studwork, into which branches of furze are thickly wattled. DICKENS etc. *Holly-tree Inn* iv. 26/1 A building of wattled on stakes, and dabbed over with mud. 1858 RAWLINSON tr. *Herodotus* IV. CXC. III. 169 The dwellings of these people are made of the stems of the asphodel, and of rushes, wattled together. 1871 W. B. LORD & BAINES *Shifts Camp Life* vi. 382 Rattans, osiers, twigs, reeds, or grass are then wattled in in the manner shown in the sketch. 1884 *Weekly Lond. Times* 12 Sept. 18 A framework of oak beams, with mortise holes cut to receive cross beams, through which hazel and birch boughs have been closely wattled.

3. To bind together (posts, laths, etc.) with interlaced osiers, twigs, or flexible branches. Also with *across*.

1602 LD. MOUNTJOY *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* II. 213 Staked on both sides with pallisades watled. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 428 These people make but small low Houses. The sides.. are made of small posts, watled with boughs. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ii, We came to a long kind of building, made of timber stuck in the ground, and wattled across. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl., Anoch* 76 The part in which we dined and slept was lined with turf and wattled with twigs, which kept the earth from falling. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 294 The fence was..formed of strong stakes of birch-wood, wattled with smaller branches of the same. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i. 209, I have seen The trenches dug, the palisades uprear'd And wattled thick with ash and willow-wands. 1886 JEFFERIES *Bevis* II. 168 He proposed to..extend a railing all round and wattle this with willows. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiii, The trunks of several trees had been wattled across, the intervals strengthened with stakes, and the ground behind this barricade levelled up with earth.

4. To cover or surround with wattle-work. Also with *about*.

1548 ELYOT *Dict., Cratio*, to couer with grates, to wattil. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. xii. 211 b in *Holinshed*, Our houses are made commonly of Rye straw, and wadled about with bramble quarters. 1623 MARKHAM *Country Content.* I. 14 Which seats (for hounds) would bee either boorded, or watled with stakes and small wands on the sides to hold vp the earth from falling. 1629 HOBBES *Thucyd.* II. 122 They built a Frame of Timber, and watled it about on either side, to serue instead of Walles, to keepe the Earth from falling too much away.

5. To fold (sheep). *dial.*

1908 *Academy* 27 June 910/2 This garden bears the sheep-bells of the flock That browses, wattled, on its further strand.

Wattled (wɒ·t'ld), *a.* [f. WATTLE *sb.*[2]] Of a bird: Having wattles or a wattle; in *Heraldry*, having the wattles of a specified tincture distinct from that of the body. Also in parasynthetic formations, as *blue-wattled*, *one-wattled*.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* IV. lv. (Roxb.) 298/1 A demy cock with wings displaid Gules, Watled and crested, Or. 1777 PORNY *Elem. Her.* (ed. 3) Dict., *Wattled*.., sometimes used in speaking of a Cock whose Wattles or Gills are of a different Tincture, but *Jellowped* is better. 1788 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 9 Wattled Stare. Pl. xxxvi. Wattled Starlings. 1788 *Ibid.* III. i. 82 Wattled Heron. Size of the Stork... Inhabits Africa. 1788 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 144 The Wattled Bee-eater..is the size of a missel thrush, [etc.]. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 378 Wattled Crow. *Corvus carunculatus*...Said to be a native of New Zealand. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yard* (1855) 83 The throat of the female being covered with feathers, instead of being naked and wattled. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 336 A Cock (wattled face) and two Hens. 1868 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 220 The Wattled Honey-eater, or Brush Wattle Bird of Australia. 1880 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* Prel. 30 The wattled cocks strut to and fro. 1875–84 A. H. LAYARD *Birds S. Africa* 626 *Grus carunculata*, Gm. Wattled Crane. 1902 *Wide World Mag.* VIII. 130/2 The scrub is full of wild duck, blue-wattled guinea fowl, partridges (etc.). 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 10/2 The 'Zoo' has a new occupant of some importance—the Eastern one-wattled cassowary (*Casuarius aurantiacus*) from German New Guinea.

†b. Having folds of flesh. *Obs. rare*[−1].

induit illi toris a terra parte lacertos].

†c. *Wattled oval*: an oval ring with projecting knobs. (Holme gives a drawing.) *Obs. rare*[−1].

1688 HOLME *Armoury* IV. ix. (Roxb.) 383/2 At which collar was hange the medle of the order on a plate in a wattled ovall a Lilly slipped.

Wattled (wɒ·t'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. WATTLE *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Constructed of wattle-work.

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Concratitius*, made of hurdels or suche lyke thynges, watled. 1552 *Ibid., Cratitif parietes*, wattled walles made lyke hurdles, as they vse in the countrey. 1677 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 308 Wattled walls only Daubed over with Mortar. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 124 Make use of wattled Hurdles and Fascines. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 361 Nor ope the wattled fence, while balmy morn Lies on the reeking pasture. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 674 The flatted hurdle..is much preferable to the close-rodded or wattled kind, as being much more durable. 1813 RUDGE *Agric. Glouc.* 386 Wattled hurdles, 8*s.* per dozen. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, Awhile she paused at the wattled door. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* vii. 233 His reed hut or wattled cabin generally placed on the side of some narrow ravine. 1836 MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 309 The fence is a rude basket or hurdle-work..called by the country folk wattled fence. 1871 *Standard* 12 Apr. 6 The weir is a wattled weir, and had the effect of preventing the passage of fish up the river. 1883 SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* ii. 30 Wattled waggons drawn by oxen.

b. Said of a sheepfold. Chiefly *poet.* in *wattled cote, pen, fold.*

1634 MILTON *Comus* 344 Might we but hear The folded flocks pen'd in their watled cotes. 1730 THOMSON *Summer* 395 The gather'd flocks Are in the wattled pen innumerous press'd. 1753 T. WARTON *Ode Approach Summer* 99 His wattled cotes the shepherd plants. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 66 The livelong bleat Of the thick-fleeced sheep from wattled folds. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gipsy* 2 Go, Shepherd, and untie the wattled cotes. 1886 LOWELL *Democr.* etc. (1887) 193 The wattled fold they were rearing here on the edge of the wilderness.

c. *Wattled daub* (rare) = *wattle and daub* (WATTLE *sb.*[1] 1 b). *Wattled work* = *wattle-work* (WATTLE *sb.*[1] 1 c).

1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. i. 14 The first hundred yards has 90 square houses of wattled daub. 1718 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 67 Made with Beds of Earth and Watled-work. *Ibid.* 68 Hurdles, or Watled-work. 1871 W. B. LORD & BAINES *Shifts Camp Life* vi. 382 The manner of making a piece of wattled work for a door, a window shutter, [etc.]. 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* vii. 105 Being erected of stone, instead of the usual wood or wattled work.

d. Of cloth: Made by plaiting. *rare.*

1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* xiii. 365 The wattled cloth of the Swiss lake dwellings.

2. Of branches, twigs, etc.: Interlaced.

1777 MASON *Engl. Garden* IV. 645 A shed of twisting roots and living moss, With rushes thatch'd, with wattled osiers lin'd, He bids them raise. 1868 MISS YONGE *Cameos* I. xliii. 363 Making a multitude of hurdles of wattled boughs to be laid across the softer places of the bog. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* xviii. 338 [The huts] of the Numidians..were made of wattled reeds thatched with straw.

†b. Of hair: Tangled. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1218 Their [*sc.* the wind-gods'] wattled locks gush'd all in Rivers out.

3. Enclosed in a sheepfold, folded.

1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 82 And all his host A wattled flock, the foeman's dogs between!

†**Wattle-head.** *Obs. rare.* [? f. WATTLE *sb.*[1] (sense 1, as designating a weak building-material).] A weak-headed person. So **Wattle-headed** *a.*

1613 WITHER *Abuses* I. Sat. i. 127 But be that is with such a humor led I may be bold to terme a watle-head. *Ibid.* Sat. v. 90 Our watle-headed Gallants would but flout At their well tempred passions. 1866 G. A. LAWRENCE *Sans Merci* III. 3 The damsel's father was an easy-going and something 'wattle-headed' elder.

Wattless (wɒ·tlĕs), *a. Electr.* [f. WATT + -LESS.] Of a current, an electromotive force, etc.: Consuming no power.

1900 *Electr. Rev.* 4 Apr. 544/2 The wattless current being taken as positive, when it is in advance of the P. D.

Wattling (wɒ·tliŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 4–7 **wattelyng**(e, **-ing**, 4–6 **watlyng**(e, **-ing**(e, 6 **wadling**. [f. WATTLE *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb WATTLE.

1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 83 To arbor begun, and quick setted about, no poling nor wadling till set be far out. 1623 T. JAMES *Voy.* 60 Our second house was..made for the watteling much after the same manner. 1926 *Contemp. Rev.* July 96 Plaiting, braiding, weaving and wattling, all of which bring into existence very definite rudiments of pattern.

2. *concr.* a. An assemblage of rods or laths interlaced with branches, twigs, osiers, or the like, serving as the material of a wattled wall, partition, fence, etc., or as the framework of a 'wattle-and-daub' building. Also, in generalized sense, wattle as a structural material.

1336 *Cal. Docum. Scot.* (1887) III. 349 Item pro amputacione xxiiij carcatarum virgarum pro 'wattelynge', et pro

...watlyng sprendelles et ligaminibus, *xd.* ob. *c* 1448 in *Archæologia* (1846) XXXI. 336 On every tarage a tree of gold...The tarage before rehersid, wateled w[t] gold, w[tin] the wattelinge abowt the said tre, and every of them fylled w[t] meatis divers. 1548 ELYOT *Dict., Crates*, grates of yron or wood. They be also the watling of a wall or house klayd or thatched. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 131 Watlings, gabbions, and all other things needfull, at batteries, and besieging. 1698 in J. Campbell *Balmerino* (1899) 410 Ane new cupill, cabern, watlings, door-cheeks, half doore. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 115 The side Walls are Stud or Watling, plaister'd on the inside. 1763 HUME *Hist. Eng.* XXXVII. (1770) IV. 497 The houses [*c* 1560] were nothing but watling, plastered over with clay. 1837 J. E. MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* I. 63 A wattling of willow boughs, about eight feet square. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 149 Fig. 66 shows the handle and rim of what is called the Scotch basket...Fig. 67 shows the same skeleton, with..the wattling or woven work commenced. 1909 STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* XXX, Adams had swung the man aloft and dashed him against the wall with such force, that the wattling gave way and the plaster fell in flakes.

† *transf.* 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XII. (1593) 286 He threw an ashen dart Which brake the watling of his ribs [L. *lateruum cratem*].

b. Boughs and twigs for use in wattle-work.

1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* III. v. 98 To hew downe boughes and young wattlings to make Cabins. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. XIV (Roxb.) 10/2 Thatchers Termes...Watlings iusted of Laths. 1763 'THEOPHILUS INSULANUS' *Second Sight* 26 Going..to cut wattling for creels. 1809 tr. *Molina's Hist. Chili* I. 128 The husbandmen..employ it [a vine] both in making large baskets, and as wattling for their hedges. 1831 JANE PORTER *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* I. x. 295 To cut the stakes and watlings for the stoccado.

3. *Comb.*

14.. *Master of Game* etc. (MS. Douce 335) fol. 73 Guy smal wode, that is to wete, blatrons, sparres, watlyngroddes, or ony other smal wode.

Wattre, Wattry, obs. ff. WATER, WATERY.

Wattshode, obs. form of WATCHET.

Wattur, -yr, watur(e, **-yr**(e, obs. ff. WATER.

Wau, var. WAW *sb.*[1], wave, WOUGH *dial.*, wall.

Wau, var. WAW *sb.*[4] (Hebr. and Arab. letter).

Wauble, Sc. form of WORBLE.

Wauch: see WATCH *sb.* and *v.*, WAUGH *a.*, WAUGHT *v.*

Waucht, var. WAUGHT *sb.* and *v.*

Wauf(f, Waufie: see WAFF, WAFFIE.

Waugh (wɔ̃l), *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also **wauch, wauf, waff**, etc. [See WALLOW *a.*] Tasteless, insipid; unpleasant to the smell or taste, sickly; faint, weak, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, *Waugh*, insipid, unsalted, and so unsavory. 1814 [MRS. JOHNSTONE] *Saxon & Gael* III. 189 (Jam.), I think she'll no put owre this night. The wauch earth smell is about her already.

Waugh (wɔ̃), *int.* Also 8 **wa**, 9 **wagh.** [An instinctive exclamation; cf. WOUGH, WHAU.] An exclamation indicating grief, indignation or the like. Now chiefly as attributed to N. American Indians and other savages.

1762 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* (1796) IV. 92 The other brat squalls for it [the toy] directly, Waugh, Sir, it was mine first. 1792 J. LONG *Voy. Ind. Interpr.* 164 *Wa wa!* or Oh! oh! replied the Savage, but what is the warrior tied up for? 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* I. xvii. 252 A tall Indian..stood upright, uttering the sententious exclamation, 'Wagh!' 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* IV. ix, 'Well, if ever I seed the like!' quoth the corporal;..'augh!—waugh!—bother!' 1834 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 412 Wagh!—Mogg will have the pale-face's hair. 1846 P. B. ST. JOHN *Enchanted Rock* iv. 89 'Wagh!' escaped from the lips of the Indian girl. 1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* vi, Talgai sings out 'Wagh!' and pointed with his chin, like all blacks do.

Waugh, variant of WAFF *v.*[3], WAW *sb.*[2]

Waugh hawk. ? A perversion or misunderstanding of *ware hawk*: see WARE *v.*[1] 3 b.

1844 THACKERAY *Barry Lyndon* xiii, Waugh hawk, Mr. Barry; don't think..to stand in my shoes when they are vacant.

Waught (wāχt), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Also 9 **wauoht, waft.** [f. next vb.] A copious draught. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1721 RAMSAY *Answ. to Burchet* 8 Thirsting for fame, at the Pierian spring, The poet takes a waught. 1722 — *Spring & Sykc* 12 Ae day, after great waughts of wet. 1788 BURNS *Auld Lang Syne* v, And we'll tak' a right gude-willie waught, For auld lang syne. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iv, Ye needna stick to gie them a waught o' drink and a bannock. 1882 C. GIBBON *Golden Shaft* xxxii, Sae my father takes up the bottle and took a waft and says he—'Ay, that's real fine chlorodyne'. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xix. 219, I had a good waucht of milk in by Ratho.

Waught (wāχt), *v. Sc.* Forms: 6 **wauoht, waoht, vaoht**, 9 **wauoh, 7–9 waught.** [Of ob-

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 39 Thay wauchtit at the wicht wyne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iii. 90 In flacon and in skull Thai skynk the wyne, and wauchtis coupis full. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 26 To wacht gude wyne. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 94 Except his coup var vachtit out aluay. 1624 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 391 That nane presume..to vse at any tyme any excessive drinking or scolling, or to vrge thair nichtbouris to waught or scole farder nor thair plesour. 1728 RAMSAY *Archers diverting themselves* 100 How hearty went these healths about! How blythly were they waughted out! *c* 1730 — *Maggie* 193, I waught o'er This flowing glass of..wine. 1849 W. JAMIE *Stray Effusions* 27 (E.D.D.) Packman billies waught their ale.

Hence **Waughting** *vbl. sb.*

1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 173 Excessive drinking and waughting. 1842 VEDDER *Poems* 78 But now he's a dyver, wi' birling an' wauchin'.

Waughtar, -er, obs. ff. WAFTER *sb.*[1]

Waugle-eghed, obs. form of WALL-EYED *a.*

Wauk, Sc. var. WAKE *v.*, WALK *v.*[1], *v.*[2]

Wauken, Sc. variant of WAKEN *v.*

Wauker, Sc. var. WALKER *sb.*[2]

Waukrife, variant of WAKERIFE *Sc.*

Waul (wǭl), *sb.* [f. next.] A loud cry or howl.
1896 MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat* 355 This was followed by.. the waul of Kroos..and the complainings of Dob.

Waul, wawl (wǭl), *v.* Also 6 *Sc.* wawill, 6–7 wawle, 6–8 waule, 9 *dial.* whaul, whawl. [? Echoic; cf. WRAWL *v.*] *intr.* To utter the loud harsh cry characteristic of cats or of new-born babes.
15.. *Poems Gray MS.* v. 19 (S.T.S.) 51 Quhat helpis þan to wawill or weip? 1557 PHAER *Æneid.* VII. (1558) S ij b, And figures foule of wolues thei heare for wo to fret and wawle. 1601 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv. 2151 Where cats do waule by day, dogges barke by night. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 184 Thou know'st, the first time that we smell the Ayre We wawle, and cry. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 52 Many people in these dayes cannot..heare a Dogge howle, or a Cat wawle, but instantly they will runne to the Calculator. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 35 (1713) I. 228 Your Babes of Grace, which waul and cry, because their Mother won't let them scratch her Eyes out. 1774 COLMAN *Man of Business* Prol., His brats Brought up on playhouse pap, they waule and cry. 1871 POSTE *Gaius* IV. §§ 21–25. 480 The plaintiff on three market-days shall stand before the defendant's door and waul [*ed.* 2 1875 wawl].

Hence **Wau·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
a 1530 HEYWOOD *Johan & Tyb* 118 (Brandl), Wylt thou [illegible]

nad not bene thus brought forth for an heretyque. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* v. xv. 380 Without the shameful bawling and wawling of Lawyers and Atturneys. 1648 *Mistris Parliament brought to Bed* 8 There was..heard terrible thunderings, intermix'd with wawling of Catts, howling of Doggs, and barking of Wolves. *a* 1708 T. WARD *England's Reform.* I. (1710) 121 Like snarling Dog and wawling puss. 1812 G. COLMAN *Lady of Wreck* II. xxi, Around his wawling presence swell A huge Seraglio, stock'd, pell-mell, With black, white, tabby, tortoise-shell. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 296 Grimalkin answered with a terrible wauling.

Waul, waule, obs. forms of WALL *sb.*[1], *v.*[4]

Wauld, Sc. form of WIELD *sb.* and *v.*, WOLD.

Wauld, Sc. *f. would*: see WILL *v.*

Waulk, obs. f. WAKE *v.*; variant of WALK *v.*[2]

Waulm(e, variant forms of WALM *sb.*[1], *v.*

Wault, variant of WALT *v.*
1611 COTGR., *Verser vn chariot*, to wault, ouerturne, or ouerthrow a chariot; whence the Prouerbe; *Il n'est si bon charrier qui ne verse*; The best that driues, will sometimes wault, a cart.

Waulter, -tre, obs. forms of WALTER *v.*[1]

Waum(e, variant forms of WALM *sb.*[1]

Waumle, obs. form of WAMBLE *v.*

Waun(d)s, vulgar or affected pron. of *wounds*, used as a profane oath: see WOUNDS *int.*

Waundy: see WOUNDY *a.*

Waunt, dial. var. WANT *sb.*[1]; obs. *f.* WANT *v.*

Waunty, obs. form of WANTY.

Wauompeg, obs. form of WAMPUMPEAG.

Waur: see WAR *a., adv., v.*[2]

Waur, variant of WARE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[5], *v.*[2]

Waurscaw, corrupt or blundered form of WARESTALL *Sc.*
1533 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 451 Ane bukat, ane wavrscaw, ane skayne for the buitht.

Wausper: see WAWSPER *Sc.*

Waut, dial. form of WALT *v.*, WELT *sb.* and *v.*

Wautt, obs. form of VAULT *sb.*[1]
1553–54 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 607 With ij wayttis, furth of y[e] chambers, in to y[e] galarye.

Wauve, variant of WHAUVE.

Wau-wau, variant of WOW-WOW.

Wave (wēv), *sb.* (Also 6 **whave**, 8 **weave**.) [f. WAVE *v.*
In sense 1, which appears early in the 16th c., it seems to have been substituted by popular etymology for the older WAW *sb.*, which it rapidly superseded in use. In branch II it is a new formation on the verb.]

I. 1. A movement in the sea or other collection of water, by which a portion of the water rises above the normal level and then subsides, at the same time travelling a greater or smaller distance over the surface; a moving ridge or swell of water between two depressions or 'troughs'; one of the long ridges or rollers which, in the shallower parts of the sea, follow each other at regular intervals, assuming an arched form, and successively break on the shore. Sometimes the word is applied to the ridge and the accompanying trough taken together, and occasionally to the concave curve of the surface between the crest of one ridge and that of the next.
1526 TINDALE *Jas.* i. 6 For he that douteth is lyke the waues [1539 *Cranmer*, 1557 *Geneva*, 1611 *Authorised*, a waue; 1535 *Coverdale*, the wawes] of the sea. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Wave of the see, *vague*. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. i. (1895) 116 A large and wyde sea, which..is not rough nor mountith not with great wawes. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 91 The tempest encreased, the whawes multiplied so faste..that nothing but present death was looked for. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 400/1 *Vnda sequax*,..waue vpon waue: one waue following vpon another: a waue. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 36 As doth a Saile; fill'd with a fretting Gust Command an Argosie to stemme the Waues. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 255 As in a seiled calme, without winde, weather and wave.

DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 767 Proteus..in the Billows plung'd his hoary Head; And where he leap'd, the Waves in Circles widely spread. 1781 COWPER *Exhort.* 272 What ails thee, restless as the waves that roar, And fling their foam against thy chalky shore? 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xviii, Like wave with crest of sparkling foam, Right onward did Clan-Alpine come. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xviii. 8 Is that enchanted moan only the swell Of the long waves that roll in yonder bay? 1860 — *Islet* 16 Waves on a diamond shingle dash. 1877 W. H. WHITE *Naval Archit.* xi. 443 The main bow wave may also be followed by a train of waves, successive waves in a series having diminished heights. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 171 It is merely the form of the wave, and not the actual water that travels.

b. = *Tidal* or *tide wave*: see TIDAL I b, TIDE 16 b.
1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 329 The great Wave which, in this manner, constitutes the tide, is to be considered as an undulation..of the ocean, in which [etc.].

c. *Poet.* Used in collective sing. for 'water', 'sea'. The plural is also similarly used (*poet.* and *rhetorically*), but without quite losing the primary meaning.
1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 61 Now by the salt waue of the mediteranium, a sweet tutch. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 37 He..looking downe, saw many damned wights, In those sad waues [of Cocytus]. 1616 CHAPMAN tr. *Musæus* F 1, Virgin, for thy Loue, I will swim a waue That Ships denies. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 193 Thus Satan talking to his nearest Mate With Head up-lift above the wave. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 26 Say, Father Thames,..Who foremost now delight to cleave With pliant arm thy glassy wave? 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 835 When he sees afar His country's weather-bleach'd and batter'd rocks, From the green wave emerging. 1818 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i, The calm wave Favours the gondolier's light skimming oar. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* i, Where the waves of the Jordan pour themselves into an inland sea. 1844 HOOD *Bridge of Sighs* 11 Whilst the wave constantly Drips from her clothing. 1860 PATMORE *Faithf. for Ever* I. viii, Perhaps..They wander whispering by the wave. 1864 TENNYSON *Voy.* V, We came to warmer waves, and deep Across the boundless east we drove.

2. *transf.* **a.** An undulatory movement, or one of an intermittent series of movements, of something passing over or on a surface or through the air.
1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xi, The western waves of ebbing day Roll'd o'er the glen their level way. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Christm. Day*, In waves of light it thrills along. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* xlviii, The holy organ rolling waves Of sound on roof and floor. 1850 — *In Mem.* xci, The thousand waves of wheat, That ripple round the lonely grange. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 86 Thus..there are the waves of goose-skin passing over the body. 1903 K. C. THURSTON *Circle* iii. 23 It was like a wave of sun through a chill room.

b. = *pulse-wave*: see PULSE *sb.*[1] 5.
1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 81/1 The dilatation of the arteries produced by the wave which is propagated along the column of blood contained in them. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXXII, Till all my blood, a fuller wave, Be quicken'd with a livelier breath.

c. A forward movement of a large body of persons (chiefly invaders or immigrants overrunning a country, or soldiers advancing to an attack), who either recede and return after an interval, or are followed after a time by another body of persons repeating the same movement.
1852 T. WRIGHT *Celt, Roman & Saxon* I. 1 Europe was peopled by several successive migrations, or, as they have been technically named, waves of population, all flowing from one point in the east. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. IX. 176 The Israelite conquest of Palestine..is in itself but one amongst a succession of waves which have swept over the country. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. ii. 16 The populations..which..were still affected by the great migratory wave. 1879 GREEN *Readings fr. Eng. Hist.* xix. 98 Turned back wave after wave of the enemy. 1893 O. M. EDWARDS in Traill *Soc. Eng.* i. 1 The first wave of immigrants that reached Britain..was a wave of men of short stature and swarthy countenance. 1915 *Times* 3 Feb. 9/1 They send forward wave after wave of men, regardless of the punishment.

d. A long convex strip of land between two long broad hollows; one of a series of such strips; also occas. a rounded ridge of sand or snow formed by the action of the wind.
1788 A. YOUNG in *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) [illegible]

The variation of the dip and rise there generally consists of gentle easy swelling waves. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 212 A fine Vale District: rich waves of grass land. 1819 S. ROGERS *Human Life* 682 A hollow wave Of burning sand their everlasting grave. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. viii. 248 The field fences buried under crested waves of snow. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermn.* xx, The crest of a great green wave of land, that rolled down a gentle slope to the banks of a little stream.

3. *fig.* and in figurative context. **a.** chiefly *pl.*, rough, stormy, or fluctuating conditions (of life, care, passion, etc.).
a 1548 HALL *Chron., 24 Hen. VII* (1550) 49 One fierce & strong waue..swalowed both their lyues not long asonder. 1589 B. GOOGE *Eglogs* IV. 93 A Creature, cause of all my Care, ..A woman Waue of Wretchednes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 34 That he should neuer fall In all his wayes through this wide worldes waue. *Ibid.* III. viii. 30 That cruell Queene..Did heape on her new waues of weary wretchednesse. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 12 Waues of tribulation, tempests of temptations. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 2 Man, on the dubious waves of error toss'd, His ship half founder'd, and his compass lost. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. iii. 75 Alas! was there no one..to bid the waves of passion be still? 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 204 And thus your pains May only make that footprint upon sand Which oft-recurring waves of prejudice Remooth to nothing. 1856 GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Amos Barton* v, An unfoundated egg, which the waves of time wash away into nonentity.

b. chiefly *sing.* A swelling, onward movement and subsidence (of feeling, thought, opinion, a custom, condition, etc.); also, a movement (of common sentiment, opinion, excitement) sweeping over a community, and not easily resisted.
1851 G. BRIMLEY *Ess.* (1858) 112 Its last vestiges were fast disappearing before the wave of democratic equality. 1868 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 28 (1864) 285 All the muscles of the body may be thrown into agitation under a wave of strong feeling. 1869 DICKENS *Haunted Ho.* ii. 10/1 What floods of thought came, wave upon wave, across my mind! 1870 DK. ARGYLL *Iona* i. 29 Certain waves of opinion which at successive periods were propelled from the ancient centres of Christendom. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personal.* 7 The highest wave of materialism which has ever swept over these shores. 1915 *Contemp. Rev.* May 613 A wave of militarism sweeps through the nation.

4. An undulating conformation; each of the undulations of such a conformation.
1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 9 Clothe of Sylver in waues. 1547 *Ibid.* 12 The nether skyrtes or Base of blewe clothe of golde playne leyd on with waves of clothe of Sylver. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* XXX. 95 That [is] the Grain which runs in waves, and makes the divers and beautiful chamfers which some woods abound in. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 496 [The Serpent] toward Eve Addres'd his way, not with indented wave, Prone on the ground, as since, but on his reare. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 104 It hath its under flat cut into those fashioned waves you intend your work shall have. 1722 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* I. v, *Concha Veneris*..[is] easily distinguish'd from all others, by its peculiar Waves and spotted Belly. 1728 W. GIBSON *Diet. Horses* I. 13 The Mane..is always the more graceful with a natural Weave from the Roots. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* X. (1853) 126 The pennons rolling their long waves Before the gale. 1866 MRS. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* iv, Freedom's northern wind will take all the wave out of your hair. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* VII. 137 Often the waves [of sabre-blades] are broken into saw-teeth. 1895 M. HEWLETT *Earthwork Tuscany* 75 A bush of yellow hair falling over his forehead in a wave.

b. An undulating line or streak of colour.
1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* xlii, It will shew some waves, and divers colours. 1704 NEWTON *Optics* I. (1721) 34 If the Glass of the Prisms be..without those numberless Waves, or Curles which usually arise from Sand-holes. 1836 R. KNOX tr. *Edwards' Man. Zool.* § 414 It [the cat] is of a brown colour, somewhat greyish, with deeper coloured transverse waves. 1891 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVII. 15 The waves written by the syphon above the central line corresponding to the dots of the Morse Code.

c. *Arch.* An undulated moulding; a cyma or ogee moulding.
1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 70 The wave with Lace under it at one peny *per* foot. *Ibid.* 72 The upper Wave cut with Leaves at six pence *per* foot. 1823 RICKMAN *Archit.* (ed. 3) 46 These mouldings are generally much ornamented, and the wave or zigzag ornament..is almost universal.

d. A wavy or zigzag pattern; something made in this pattern: see quots.
1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. v. 176 There are several descriptions of [straw-] plait made in England—such as..the 'wave', the 'diamond', &c. 1888 C. P. BROWN *Cotton Manuf.* 168 *Waves*, zigzag twill pattern.

5. Modern scientific uses.

a. *Physics.* Each of those rhythmic alternations of disturbance and recovery of configuration in successively contiguous portions of a fluid or solid mass, by which a state of motion travels in some direction without corresponding progressive movement of the particles successively affected. Examples are the waves in the surface of water (sense 1), the waves of the air which convey sound, and the (hypothetical) waves of the ether which are concerned in the transmission of light, heat, and electricity.
Hertzian waves: a class of ether-waves (discovered by the German physicist Heinrich Hertz in 1888) similar to light waves but of much greater wave-length.
1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* viii. (1833) 195 They will produce each equal waves of sound. 1833 [see *wave-surface, -theory*]. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 298 The waves of light, like those of sound, are transmitted in every direction. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 30 It is necessary so to prolong the explosion, that the wave of vibration has time to travel throughout the whole of the mass acted upon. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. i. 227 An aërial wave of sound travels at about the rate of 1100 feet in a second. 1863 — *Heat* viii. 237 The condensation and rarefaction [of the air] constitute what is called a sonorous pulse or wave. 1889 ROWLAND in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* XI. 378 Starting with very good conductors and very long waves, the electric current will be uniformly distributed throughout the section of the conductors. 1900 KIPLING *Wireless* in *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 136/2 Hertzian waves which vibrate, say, two hundred and thirty million times a second. 1900 *Discovery* Apr. 113/2 These wireless waves are often called Hertzian waves.

b. *Meteorol.* A change of atmospheric pressure or temperature, consisting of gradual rise and fall or fall and rise, taking place successively at successive points in some particular line of direction on the earth's surface. In popular language, a 'heat-wave' or a 'cold wave' denotes a spell of abnormal heat or cold, which is assumed to be travelling over the country in a particular direction.
1843 SIR J. F. W. HERSCHEL in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 61 If

this minimum represent..the trough of a barometric wave which at 9 A.M. was vertically over Brussels, and at 11 A.M. over London, the wave must have been travelling westwards. 1846 W. R. Birt in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 147 Now a wave generated in any way and approaching the continent of Europe from the north-west would most probably impinge on it with a high..crest...Again a negative wave, with a deep trough..would present large fluctuations as it impinged on the land. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Oct. 5/1 When a cold wave strikes Northern Minnesota, there is no knowing where the thermometer may go.

c. *Seismol.* A seismic disturbance of a portion of the crust or surface of the earth, travelling continuously for a certain distance.

1882 R. Mallet *First Princ. Observ. Seismol.* I. iv. 33 If an isolated wall..be subjected to the transit of an earth wave ..the resulting fractures will vary with the direction of the wave-path. 1877 F. W. Rudler *Earthquake* in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 609/2 From the seismic centre waves are propagated in all directions through the solid materials of the earth's crust. 1886 J. Milne *Earthquakes* iii. 55 Hitherto we have chiefly considered earthquake vibrations; now we will say a few words about earthquake waves.

d Phys. *Wave of contraction*, the onward contraction of a muscle from the point where the stimulus is applied. *Wave of stimulation*, the (hypothetical) impulse of molecular vibration travelling along a nerve from the point at which it is stimulated.

1852 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 214 Successive contractions and relaxations may be produced..by a single prick with a scalpel; a sort of wave of contraction being transmitted in the direction of its length. 1888 Romanes *Jelly Fish* etc. I. 83 A stimulus applied to a nerveless muscle,..giving rise to a visible wave of contraction, which spreads in all directions. *Ibid.*, I shall always speak of muscle-fibres as conveying a visible wave of contraction, and of nerve-fibres as conveying an invisible, or molecular, wave of stimulation.

6. A book-name of certain geometrid moths.

1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 423 Geometra incernata. The plain Wave. 1832 J. Rennie *Contp. Butterfl. & Moths* 139 The Small White Wave (Emmelesia candidata, Stephens). *Ibid.* 140 The Small Fan-footed Wave (Ptychopoda dilutaria, Stephens). *Ibid.* 141 The Dwarf Cream Wave (Acidalia ossesata, Stephens). *Ibid.* 143 The Subangled Wave (Timandra variegata, Stephens). 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 67 The *Acidalidæ* or 'Waves,' comprise a large number of small species.

II. An act of waving.

7. A motion to and fro of the hand or of something held in the hand, used as a signal or as an expressive sign.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xlx. (Roxb.) 155/2 Termes used about the displaying or florishing of an ensigne... A Wave, or plaine wave, is A Turne or florish. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xv, And so, with many waves of the hand, and cheering nods,..they parted company. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* I. (1901) I. 8 With a wave of his hat [he] brought the pack forward. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* iii. (1885) 20 With a charming smile and a reassuring wave of the right hand. 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* i. 4 The man-of-war..must also be ready to drop three or four knots at the wave of a flag.

8. A swaying to and fro.

1648 Herrick *Hesper.* *Delight in Disorder* 9 A winning wave (deserving Note) in the tempestuous petticote. 1825 Scott *Talism.* x, The point at which he had seen the last slight wave of the Templar's mantle. 1849 M. Arnold *Obermann* xlii, Where with clear-rustling wave The scented pines of Switzerland Stand dark round thy green grave.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

9. simple attrib., as *wave-crest*, *-head*, *-ridge*, *-top*, *-water*; (sense 2 d) *wave-region*; (sense 5 a) *wave-problem*, *-transmission*, *-velocity*.

1823 Scott *Peveril* xxvii. *Motto*, The restless foam Of the wild *wave-crest. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* ii. (1856) 16 The *wave-heads..were crested here and there with light. 1910 S. P. Thompson *Ld. Kelvin* II. xxi. 862 Sir William read four papers bearing on *wave-problems. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 307 For an hour or two we got above the sandy zone, and into the..'*wave' region of the State. The surface here was extremely undulating. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xiii, She rises high, and glides all revealed, on the dark *wave-ridge. 1893 Conan Doyle *Refugees* III. xxv.

the initial inequality of slope. 1910 S. P. Thompson *Ld. Kelvin* II. xxi. 861 The proposition that the *wave-velocity is double [that] of the group-velocity. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iii. 59 The amount of the buoyancy in *wave-water is also constantly varying.

b. objective, as *wave-breaker*, *wave-drawing*; also *wave-subjected* adj.

1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 297 The wave-subjected soil [of Holland] Impels the native to repeated toil. 1882 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 59 Constant practice in wave-drawing ..will soon familiarize the student [etc.]. 1885 L. F. Vernon-Harcourt *Harbours & Docks* I. 93 The open jetty does not act as a wave-breaker.

c. similative, as *wave-green*; also with the sense 'having a waved form or markings', as *wave blade*, *-bladed*, *-breasted*, *-edged*, *-haired*, *-leaved*, etc.

1877 Lane-Fox *Catal. Anthrop. Coll. Bethnal Green Branch S. Kens.* 183 Malay Krisses, with *wave blades. 1866 W. J. Fitzpatrick *Sham Squire* 115 He..with a *wave-bladed dagger..made some stabs at the intruder. 1811 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 405 *Wave-breasted Parrakeet. *Psittacus versicolor*. 1884 R. F. Burton *Bk. Sword* vii. 137 The *wave-edged form [of blade] is well shown in an iron dagger. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 175 I..let my *wave-greene Mantle sink. 1866 Christina Rossetti *Prince's Progr.* x, A *wave-haired milkmaid. 1816-20 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* II. 828 *Xyamalobium Undulatum*; *Wave-leaved Xyamalobium.

d. locative, as *wave-bowered*, *-reflected*.

1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xxiv, Thus bending o'er the vessel's laving side, To gaze on Dian's wave-reflected sphere. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. ii. 32 Tracking their path..by the light Of wave-reflected flowers. 1881 Rossetti *Ballads & Sonn., House of Life* lvi, The wave-bowered pearl.

e. instrumental, as *wave-beaten*, *-buffeted*, *-dashed*, *-encircled*, *-hollowed*, *-lashed*, *-moist*, *-swept*, *-tossed*, *-washed*, *-wet*, *-worn*, etc.

a 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Eleg.* I. xiv. 34 Such were they [her locks] as Diana painted stands All naked holding in her waue-moist hands. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 120 He..oared Himselfe ..To th' shore; that o're his waue-worne basis bowed As stooping to releeue him. 1741 Bovse *Patience* 200 On the sea-weed spray,..the wave-toss'd body lay. 1777 Potter *Æschylus* 51 The tort'ring sting Thence drove thee wand'ring o'er the wave-wash'd strand. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xiii, The shaggy mounds..wave-encircled, seem'd to float. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. cxcviii, Amidst the barren sand and rocks so rude She and her wave-worn love had made their bower. 1848 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. cvii, Wave-hollow'd caves. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* xxiii, The dark cliffs and rugged crags, the wave-beaten rocks. 1857 Dickens *Derrit* II. xx, Every wave-dashed, storm-beaten object. 1857 Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed 3) 225 A..channel, between two wave-lashed ridges of drift ice. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* II. 92 So Sigurd turned to the river and stood by the wave-wet strand. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 92/1 The long, wave-swept margin was left to the solitude of primeval nature.

10. Special comb.: **wave-action** (*a*) *Geol.*, the action of water flowing in waves; (*b*) *Gunnery*, 'abnormally high pressure in a gun from very large charges' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **wave-detector**, an instrument designed to detect very feeble electric waves in wireless telegraphy; **wave-disk**, a metal disk with a waved edge, used in the *wave-siren*; **wave-form** (see quot. 1864); **wave-front** *Physics*, the continuous line or surface including all the waves or radiatory emissions which are in the same phase; **wave-horse** = Sea-horse 5; **wave-length**, the length of a wave as measured from crest to crest or from hollow to hollow; **wave-making**, the production of waves by the movement of a floating body on the surface of the water; also *attrib.*; **wave-mark** (*a*) *Geol.* (see quot. 1863); (*b*) a wavy marking, stain, or blemish; so also **wave-marked** *a.*, **wave-marking** *Geol.*; **wave-meter** *Electr.* 'an instrument for determining the wave-form of alternating currents' (W. 1911); **wave-motion**, motion in curves alternately concave and convex; **wave-motor**, a machine or apparatus designed to utilize the energy in the waves of water as a motive power; also *attrib.*; **wave-path** *Seismol.* (see quot. 1886); **wave-rainbow**, a rainbow formed on the spray of sea-waves; **wave-rate** *Acoustics*, the rate of vibration of a sounding body in a given time; **wave resistance**, the retarding force of the action of waves of water; **wave screen** (see quot.); **wave-shell** *Physics*, each of the imaginary concentric spherical layers in any medium traversed by a wave, such that the vibration of the particles of the layer is always in the same phase; **wave-siren**, a form of the Siren (*sb.* 7) in which a current of air is driven through a narrow slit against an undulatory curve on the periphery of a cylinder or disk; **wave-slope**, the angle of inclination of the surface of a wave to the horizontal; **wave-surface** *Physics*, a geometrical surface which is the locus of all points reached at one instant by an undulatory agitation propagated from any centre; **wave-system** *Ship-building*, see quot. and Wave-line 1; **wave theory** = *undulatory theory* (see Undulatory 1 c); **wave-train** *Physics* (see quot.); **wave-trap, winding** (see quots.); † **wave work**, watered work (see quot.). Also Wave-like *a.* and *adv.*, Wave-line.

1880 Dana *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 910 Index, *Wave-action on coral reefs. 1886 A. Winchell *Walks Geol. Field* 63 Here the torrential action was less turbulent; it was perhaps wave-action along a beach. 1903 *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 339/2 The centre of interest in wireless telegraphy seems to be shifting from the 'wave-detector or coherer to the means of producing the energy required to act upon it. 1890 S. P. Thompson in *Nature* (1891) 8 Jan. 226/2 Two such *wave-disks, looking rather like circular saws with irregular teeth. 1846 W. R. Birt in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 138 Should the rarefying process cease,..not only will the *wave-form be continued, but also the wave-motion. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iii. 58 It is only the wave form which advances, and not the water composing that wave. 1867 Tait *Quaternions* xi. 289 The planes of polarization of the two rays whose *wave-fronts are parallel, bisect the angles [etc.]. 1888 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 57 The plane wave-surfaces or wave-fronts of the two rays will respectively be represented by the tangent planes. 1888 Rider Haggard *Mr. Meeson's Will* xi. (1897) 140 They..looked out across the troubled ocean. There was nothing in sight..but the white *wave-horses. 1872 Schellen *Spectrum Anal.* § 18. 59 The rays of shortest *wave-length, namely the violet. 1882 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 66 The fork..condenses..a bulk of air equal in length to the wave-length of its own pitch. 1907 V. Cornish in *Geogr. Jrnl.* Jan. 25 The water may commonly be seen to..grow in the space of a few yards to a uniform wave-length of about 2 feet. 1877 W. H. White *Naval Archit.* xl. 447 Mr. Scott Russell first drew attention to the importance of *wave-making resistance. 1878 D. Kemp *Man. Yacht Sailing* vi. 41 There are only two principal sources of resistance, and they are consequent upon surface friction and wave-making. 1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 94 **Wave-marks*.—Faint outlinings, of curved form, on a sandstone layer, like the outline left by a wave along the limit where it dies out upon a beach. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Apr. 4/2 When the novice finds a few pinholes in his negatives, or wave marks on parts of the image. *Ibid.*, The wave-marks were the result of careless development. 1903 *Amer. Geol.* June 356 The top of the Lorraine is formed by a *wavemarked layer of limestone. *Ibid.*, Numerous other instances of 'wavemarking at this horizon might be given. 1905 *Athenæum* 27 May 662/2 Prof. Fleming's direct-reading cymometer or *wave-meter, for measuring the length of the waves used in wireless telegraphy. 1846 W. R. Birt in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 135 In contemplating the transference of the barometric maxima and minima, we regard only the *wave-motion—but very different must be the air-motion. 1882 P. G. Tait *Light* in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 603 The essential characteristic of wave-motion is that a disturbance of some kind is handed on from one portion of a solid or fluid mass to another. 1898 *Daily News* 9 June 7/2 The Linden *wave-motor boat. 1899 *Ibid.* 15 Apr. 8/6 A wave motor, which may be seen working off Dover. 1882 R. Mallet *First Princ. Observ. Seismol.* I. iv. 35 The line of transit, or *wave-path. 1886 J. Milne *Earthquakes* I. 9 The radial lines along which an earthquake may be propagated from the centrum are called 'wave-paths'. 1848 Tennyson in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 275 Sat watching *wave-rainbows [at the Lizard]. 1903 G. M. Stratton *Exper. Psychol.* v. 83 Musical notes whose *wave-rates do not differ at least a fifth of a vibration a second. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iii. 56 *Wave resistance is by far the most powerful agent in extinguishing the oscillations. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 48 *Wave Screen, or Breakwater, for breaking the force of the sea, at entrance of bar..or elsewhere. 1877 F. W. Rudler *Earthquake* in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 610/1 The points at which a *wave-shell reaches the surface form a curve which is conveniently called a coseismal line. 1881 *Nature* 18 Aug. 359/2 Helmholtz..has constructed a new instrument, the *wave-siren. 1890 S. P. Thompson in *Nature* (1891) 15 Jan. 250/2 Dr. Kœnig had recourse to the wave-siren, an earlier invention of his own. 1877 W. H. White *Naval Archit.* vi. 212 In considering the sufficiency of the range of the curve of stability for any vessel, it is desirable to regard it as abridged by this 8 or 10 degrees, in order to allow for the *wave slope. 1833 MacCullagh *Collected Wks.* (1880) 34 In this theory, the surface of waves, or the *wave surface, is a geometrical surface used to determine the directions and velocities of refracted or reflected rays, being the surface of a sphere in a singly refracting medium; a double surface, [etc.]. 1860 Cayley *Math. Papers* (1891) IV. 420 Some very beautiful results in relation to the Wave Surface have been recently obtained by Herr Zech. 1902 S. P. Thompson *Ld. Kelvin* II. xx. 820 Stokes has found by minute experiment that the Huygens wave-surface is most accurately obeyed by light. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 66/2 His [J. Scott Russell's] observations led him to propose and experiment on a new system of shaping vessels, which is known as the *wave system. 1833 MacCullagh *Collected Wks.* (1880) 34 On the *Wave Theory of Light. 1873 Cooke *Chem.* 22, I cannot agree with those who regard the wave-theory of light as an established principle of science. 1897 E. L. Nichols & Franklin *Elem. Physics* III. 12 A periodic disturbance sends out what is called a *train of waves*, each one of which is exactly like its forerunner...Graphic representation of *wave trains. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wave-trap* (Hydraulic Engineering), a widening inwards of the sides of piers, to afford space for storm-waves which roll in at the entrance to spread and extend themselves. 1893 Sloane *Electr. Dict.*, **Wave Winding*, a method of winding disc and drum armatures. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII. xlviii. I. 228 The very roiall robe ..made..after the manner of water-chamlot in *wave worke [L. *togam undulatam*].

† **Wa-vé**, *a. Her. Obs.* [Hybrid f. Wave *sb.* + AF. suffix *-é*, after *undé*.] = Wavy. Cf. Undee, Undé.

1513, 1688 [see Undee]. 1572 Bossewell. *Armorie* 26 Crosse taue, checkey, waue. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* V. x. 249 Three Barres wave. 1680 Sir G. Mackenzie *Sci. Her.* vii. 26 The Drummonds bear three faces *undé* or *wavé*. 1684 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 1980/4 Two pair of Gold Buckles..dented and wave.

Wave (wēiv), *v.* Inflected **waved**, **waving**. Also ? 4 *Sc.* **vaf**, **wayve**. [OE. *wafian* (twice, in sense 6), corresp. formally to MHG. (and rare mod.G.) *waben* (see Grimm s.v. *wabben*) to wave, undulate; the Teut. root **wab-* is found in ON. *vafa* wk. masc. doubt, uncertainty, and in Waver *vb.* and the cognates there mentioned; the ablaut-variants **web-*, **wib-* occur in G. *weben* to wave, move about (cf. Weave *v.*[2], Weve *v.*), which, however, is believed to be partly a dial. form of MHG. *wæwen* (mod.G. *wehen*) to wave, flutter, etc.; and in ON. *vafa* to swing, vibrate.

It is not always possible to distinguish between this *vb.* and the obsolete Waive *v.*[2]; the two approximate or coincide in some of their senses, and in some dialects and periods were identical in sound.]

I. To move to and fro or up and down.

*Of involuntary movement.

1. *intr.* Of a thing having a free end: To move to and fro, shake or sway in the air by the action of the wind or breeze.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 245 The discurrouris saw thame cumande With baneris to the vynd vafand [*v.rr.* wawand, waiwand]. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* lv. 14 As with the wynd wavis the wickis, [So] wavis [*v.rr.* wannis, waveris] this warldis vanite. 1549 Bernees *Proiss.* I. cliii. 30 b/2 Whanne those fotemen..sawe the baners and standerdes waue with the wynde. 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 73 His crisped locks wavde all behinde. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. ii. 173 Sound Trumpets, let our bloody Colours waue, And either Victorie, or else a Graue. 1671 Milton *Samson* 718 Like a

stately Ship..With all her bravery on, and tackle trim, Sails fill'd, and streamers waving. 1713 POPE *Windsor For.* 350 High in the midst..(His sea-green mantle waving with the wind), The god appear'd. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. XXV, No banner waved on Cardross gate. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXV, Dresses rustled, feathers waved,..and jewels sparkled. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. I. XII. § 3 The bending trunk, waving to and fro in the wind above the waterfall. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 7 It was then that the flag of England began to wave over every sea. 1884 BIBLE (R.V.) *Judges* IX. 9 But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness..and go to wave to and fro over the trees?

fig. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Mrs. Ellis. Wheeler* Poet. Wks. (1913) 107 In bloome of Peach, and Roses bud, There waves the Streamer of her blood.

† b. *To wave in the wind*: to be hanged. (Cf. WAG *v.* 3 d.) *Obs.*

a 1533 BERNERS *Huon* XVI. 43 Or it be nyght, I shall cause thee to waue in the wynde.

c. Of long hair: To hang down loose. *poet.*

1671 MILTON *Samson* 1493 And view him sitting in the house, ..And on his shoulders waving down those locks. 1767 M. BRUCE *Last Day* Poems (1796) 189 His golden hair Wav'd on his shoulders.

d. *trans.* Of the wind, etc.: To cause (a thing) to sway or move to and fro.

1602 KYD *Span. Trag.* III. XII A, Behold a man hanging, and tottering, and tottering, as you know the winde will waue a man. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VIII. XXX, Beneath a bright acacia's shadowy hair, Waved by the wind amid the sunny noon. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* X, The wind waved my long curls. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* XI, No sound was heard save that of the night wind, when it..waved the tattered banners which were the tapestry of the feudal hall.

† 2. *intr.* To move to and fro restlessly or uncertainly; to waver. *Obs.*

1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 399 And whil my breeth may in my body waue, To recorde it vnnethe I may souffyse. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXI. 59 [This world] Quhair fortoun evir, as so, dissavis With freyndly smylingis of ane hure, Quhais fals behechtis as wind hyne wavis. 1508 [see 1 above]. 1628 [see WAVING *ppl. a.* 2]. 1665 [see WAVING *vbl. sb.* 1].

† b. To move to and fro unsteadily on its base or (of a person) on the feet; to totter. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Vacillo*, to moue inconstantly, to wagge or waue, to be vnstable, or vnsure. 1603 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. III. IV. 643 As an Infant which the Nurse lets go To goe alone, waves weakly to and fro. 1608 A. WILLET *Hexapla in Exod.* XX. 18. 445 [Vatablus renders the verb by] *vacillabant*, they waued. 1609 LD. BROOKE *Mustapha* IV. IV. Chorus iv, Thus reeles our present State, And her foundation waues.

† c. Of a floating body: To move restlessly by the impulse of the air or water. Also, To hover about in the air. *Obs.*

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXVI. 94 b, The Ghoasts of them whose liues they had raulshed from their bodies, wauing before their eyes. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 148 And let som strange mysterious dream, Wave at his Wings in Airy stream. *c* 1639 *Roxb. Ball.* (1887) VI. 429 They waving up and down the Seas, upon the Ocean Main. *c* 1648 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. XIX. 32 Those, that have their heads lightly ballasted are like buys [buoys] in a barrd Port, waving perpetually up and down. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 538 Int'rest that waves on Party-colour'd wings.

† d. *To wave oneself*: ? to give oneself up to the motion of the water. In quot. *fig. Obs.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. I. 1 When a Rich Crowne ha's newly kiss'd the Temples of a gladded King, where he finds all things in a golden swimme,..hee carelesly waues himselfe in the swelling plenty.

† 3. Of a person: To be restless in mind; to alternate between different opinions or courses of action; to vacillate, waver. Said also of the mind, will, etc. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. II. (Skeat) 167 'Ye wote wel, lady, eke', quod I, 'that I have not..with the wethercocke waved.' 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. I. A V, Thy mynde it waues and wagges, And wisheth after greater things. 1582 T. WATSON *Pass. Cent. Love* V. Poems (Arb.) 41, I waue in doubt what helpe I shall require, In Sommer freeze, in winter burne like fire. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. XLIII. § 5 The truth is they waue in and out, no way sufficiently grounded, no way resolued what to thinke, speake or write. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. II. 19 If he did not care whether he had their loue, or no, hee waued indifferently, 'twixt doing them neyther good, nor harme. 1611 [see WAVING *ppl. a.* 2]. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. XVI. 46 Variety, in any thing, distracteth the minde; and leaues it waving in a dubious trouble. 1640 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. I. II, Thus waves the mind in things of greatest weight. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 62 The court waved between these two factions.

4. Of water, the sea: To move in waves, undulate.

1530 PALSGR. 772/2, I wave, as the see dothe. *Je vague.* After a storme the see waveth. 1552 HULOET, Waue as water doth in tempest, *Auctuo.* 1572 [see WAVING *vbl. sb.* 2]. *c* 1797–1804 W. BLAKE *Poet. Wks.* (1913) 366 Wave freshly, clear waters, flowing around the tender grass. 1820 [see WAVING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* IV. 63 Water is that which waves, undulates.

b. *transf.* Of a crowd: To move to and fro restlessly in a body.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Pompeius* (1595) 708 Pompey..perceiuing..that his owne battell on the other side waued vp and downe disorderly, as men vnskilfull in warres. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. XL. 23 Galba was driuen to and fro with the crowde of the companie, as it waued vp and

was still speaking, when the crowd began suddenly to wave and shift.

c. Of a field of corn, etc.; To undulate like the waves of the sea.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 981 As when a field Of Ceres ripe for harvest waving bends Her bearded Grove of ears. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XX. 78 The forests wave, the mountains nod around. 1725 — *Odyss.* IX. 124 With wheat and barley wave the golden fields. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 80 Regions smiling with pleasure and waving with fertility. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 313 The lands, where lately wav'd The golden harvest. *a* 1830 H. COCKBURN *Memor.* (1856) 171 The whole place waved with wood, and was diversified by undulations of surface. 1834 RUSKIN *Mouths* III, Rejoice! ye fields, rejoice! and wave with gold. 1851 J. H. GURNEY *Hymn*, Fair waved the golden corn In Canaan's pleasant land.

† 5. *intr.* To turn aside. Also *trans.* To move (a person) aside. *To wave one's way*: ? to take a divergent route. [But this may belong to WAIVE *v.*1]

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 206 b, The kynges train waued on the lefte hande, to geue the Frenche kyng and his train the right hande. 1642 WOTTON *Buckingham* in *Reliq. W.* (1651) 109 Notwithstanding all which importunity, he resolved not [ed. 1640 *omits* not] to wave his way upon this reason;..that if..he should but once by such a diversion make his Enemy believe he were afraid of danger, he should never live without. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. XVIII. 381 Æschilus..was brained by a Tortoise which an Eagle let fall upon it...Some men..would perhaps from hence confute the opinion of Copernicus, never conceiving how the motion of the earth below should not wave him from a knock perpendicularly directed from a body in the ayre above.

† b. Of the sun: To decline. *Obs. rare.*

1615 KYD *Span. Trag.* I. II. 83 Till, Phoebus wauing to the western deepe, Our Trumpeters were chargde to sound retreat.

** Of voluntary movements.

† 6. *intr.* To make a movement to and fro (with the hands). Only *OE.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXVII. 151 Þeah þe man wafize wundorlice mid handa ne bið hit þeah bletsung buta he wyrce tacn þære halgan rode. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 318 Ymbfo hine [a dung beetle] mid twam handum, wafa mid þinum handum swiþe & cweð þriwa Remedium facio [etc.].

† 7. To make motions (with the uplifted hands or with something held in the hands) by way of signal. Chiefly *Naut.* (Cf. WEAVE *v.*2) *Obs.*

Cf. the OE. sense 6, which may possibly have survived unrecorded to the 16 c.

1523 ECHYNGHAM in *Lett. & Papers Wars France* (1897) 148 He sayth he see my lord Admirall wayvyng with his handes and cryeng to the galeye: 'Comme aborde agayne!' *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 30 Wee might discrie..two or three with a flagg of truce, wavinge unto us that it might be lawfull to com and speake with us. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. III. 12 He did keepe The Decke, with Gloue, or Hat, or Handkerchife, Still wauing. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. I. C 2 b, A Bloody arme it is, that holds a pine Lighted, aboue the Capitoll: And, now, It waues vnto vs. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 114 *Waving* is making a signe for a ship, or boate, to come towards them, or else to goe from them, as the signe is made, either towards or fromwards the ship.

† b. *trans.* To signal to (a person). Chiefly *Naut.* (Cf. WEAVE *v.*2) *Obs.*

1555 W. TOWRSON in *Hakluyt* (1599) II. II. 33 We mistrusted some knauery, and being waued by them to come a shoare, yet we would not. *Ibid.*, Certaine Negroes..waued vs with a white flagge, but we..would not stay. *Ibid.* 34 A great sort came downe to the water side, and waued vs on shoare with a white flagge. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 4 Our Generall commaunded to wave them, and halinge them..made them know their dwtie unto our English collers by vailinge theire topsailes. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. IV. 61 Looke with what courteous action It wafts [Qos. 1603–4 waues] you to a more remoued ground. *Ibid.* 68 It waues me forth againe; Ile follow it. 1616 CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* (Arb.) 225 We were haled by two West Indy men: but when they saw vs waue them for the King of France, they gaue vs their broad sides. 1627 — *Sea Gram.* xiii. 60 He waues vs to to lee-ward with his drawne sword.

† 8. To move to and fro or up and down regularly or rhythmically.

a. *intr.* To move the wings up and down in or as in flight. Said also of the wings. Also *trans.*, to actuate or flap (the wings) in or as in flight. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 202 b, Than with her wynges she fanneth & waveth vnto she haue kyndled in them fyre. 1584–7 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 165 The Bird[s]..beeing young, seeing the olde ones through age growen so weake, as they are not able to waue their wings, carrie them..on their backs. 1657 [see WAVING *vbl. sb.* 5]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 476 Those wav'd their limber fans For wings. 1720–24 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 68 Colours that change whene'er they wave their wings. 1728 — *Dunc.* IV. 422 Of all th' enamell'd race, whose silv'ry wing Waves to the tepid Zephyrs of the spring. 1808 W. BLAKE *Poet. Wks.* (1913) 145 Before her throne my wings I wave.

† b. *intr.* To move the body from side to side. Also *refl.* (Cf. WEAVE *v.*2) *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 138 As fast as the bayte was to the rope and hooke, so fast is he also ensnared and tyed vnto it, which while hee waueth and strayneth to vnloose and breake, he wearieth himselfe in vaine. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 649 A Snake..With curling Crest, and with advancing Head: Waving he rolls, and makes a winding Track. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Jan. 1645 All the company fell a singing an Hebrew hymn..waving themselves to and fro.

† c. *transf.* To move (the head *up and down*) with a significant gesture; to incline (the head). *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. I. 93 At last, a little shaking of mine Arme: And thrice his head thus wauing vp and downe, He rais'd a sigh. 1607 — *Cor.* III. II. 77 Goe to them, with this Bonnet in thy Hand,..Thy Knee bussing the stones:..wauing thy head. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Passport (Versailles)*, I see the injured spirit waves her head, and turn off silent from the author of her miseries.

9. *trans.* To move through the air with a sweeping gesture (the uplifted or extended arm or hand, or something held in the hand by one extremity, e.g. a wand, a hat, or something that flutters in the breeze, as a flag, a handkerchief), often as a sign of greeting or farewell, or as an expression of exultation; usually implying repeated movements to and fro or up and down.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. III. 175 And with his Hat, thus wauing it in scorne, I would be Consull, sayes he. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. III. 6 *Pisa.* It [i.e. his last speech] was his Queene, his Queene. *Imo.* Then wau'd his Handkerchiefe. 1634, 1669, 1794 [see WAND *sb.* 10]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 513 At once she wav'd her Hand on either side, At once the Ranks of swelling Streams divide. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* V. 7 Then grave Clarissa graceful wav'd her fan; Silence ensu'd. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 699 Maidens wave Their 'kerchiefs, and old women weep for joy. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XIX, [He] waved his hand for him to leave the room. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XX, Many sprung up and waved their arms in ecstasy. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 501 She, ending, waved her hands: Thereat the crowd Muttering, dissolved. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VIII. II. 385 Halifax sprang up and waved his hat. At that signal, benches and galleries raised a shout. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XII, Sam only waved his hand in good-bye, and sped on across the plain. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* VI, He waved his white hands as if to brush aside all opposition.

b. of impersonal things personified; chiefly *poet.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 193 And wave your tops, ye Pines, With every Plant, in sign of Worship wave. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* I. VI, Ye spreading boughs, that wave Your blossoms o'er the stream! 1783 CRABBE *Village* I. 74 Above the slender sheaf, The slimy mallow waves her silky leaf. 1804 W. L. BOWLES *Spir. Discov.* II. 271 Dark Lebanon Waved all his pines for thee. 1820 SHELLEY *Orpheus* 106 And cypresses that seldom wave their boughs. 1886 J. G. WOOD *Man & Handiwork* III. 31 Where the corn waves its yellow ears.

c. To brandish (a weapon).

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. I. 209 And wauing our red Weapons o're our heads, Let's all cry Peace, Freedome, and Liberty. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* V. V. 9 Bastard Margarelon Hath Doreus prisoner, And stands Colossus-wise wauing his beame. 1728 POPE *Iliad* XIII. 728 King Helenus wav'd high the Thracian blade. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 363 By that dread name we wave the sword on high, And swear for her to live! 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* XXVIII, The sabre of Saladin left its sheath as lightning leaves the cloud. It was waved in the air,—and the head of the Grand Master rolled to the extremity of the tent. 1869 W. S. GILBERT *Bab' Ballads, Ben Allah Achmet* 56 'My rival!' shrieked the invalid, And drew a mighty sword and waved it. 1911 G. M. TREVELYAN *Garibaldi* VIII. 184 Men and women waved swords which they would never wield in earnest.

absol. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. VI. 74 Let him alone; Or so many so minded, Waue thus to expresse his disposition, And follow Martius. *They all shout and waue their swords.*

d. *intr.* (for *pass.*) To be moved to and fro. Of a weapon: To be brandished. † Also *trans.*, to pass over (something) with a brandishing movement.

1603 *First Pt. Jeronimo* III. II. 103 See, a reuengfull sword Waues ore my head. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 304 Now wav'd thir fierie Swords, and in the Aire Made horrid Circles. *Ibid.* XII. 643 They looking back, all th' Eastern side beheld Of Paradise,..Wav'd over by that flaming Brand. 1672 T. HUNT *Abced. Scholast.* 90 Give a child as long as he will crave, and a dog as long as his tail will wave. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* XVII, The lady's handkerchief waved in token of encouragement and triumph. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* VI, I see, too, the figures at the garden gate: my mother, with her face turned away, and her handkerchief waving.

† e. *trans.* In the Levitical law: To elevate and move from side to side (an oblation or *wave-offering*) before the altar. *Obs.*

First in Tindale, following Luther, who renders the verb by *weben*, and also has the compounds *webebrot*, *webebrust*, *webeopfer* = wave-loaf, -breast, -offering (see 13).

1530 TINDALE *Exod.* XXIX. 24 And put all upon the handes of Aaron and on the handes of his sonnes: and waue them in and out a waueoffrynge vnto the Lorde. — *Lev.* XIV. 21 Let him bringe one lambe for a trespaceoffrynge to waue it. [So 1535 COVERDALE; and all later versions.]

f. Occasional uses. Of a dog: To wag (his tail). Of a fish: To flap (a fin).

1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* III. V. 321 The Devil..stands like a Fawning Dog scratching and waving his Tail. 1883 E. W. GOSSE in *Longm. Mag.* I. 339 Beneath the granite gray The sulky ferox lay And waved a fin.

10. To signify (something) by a wave of the hand or arm. Also with dative of person.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. V, Perchance the maiden smiled to see Yon parting lingerer wave adieu. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 84 She spoke, and bowing waved Dismissal. 1874 *Sankey's Sacred Songs* (1878) 3 'Hold the Fort, for I am coming', Jesus signals still; Wave the answer back to heaven, 'By thy grace we will.' 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 16 From no far mound Waved salute a tall white figure. 1888 BESANT *Inner House* III, The women wept and laughed at the same time, and waved them welcome.

b. To motion (a person, etc.) *aside, away, back, in, off* by a movement of the hand, etc.; also with preps. *from, over, to*, etc. Also *fig.*

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* LXII, Waving them off with his hand, and calling softly to her as he went, he stole into the room. 1841 C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* I. XI. 302 He waved me from him. 1844 SUBTEES *Handley Cr.* (1901) I. I. 6 Michael took off his broad-brimmed, low-crowned hat, and waving in the pack, cheered them to the echo. *Ibid.* 9 He presently had the old hounds at his heels, and hat in hand he waved them over the wall. 1864 MRS. H. WOOD *Ld. Oakburn's Dau.*

xxxvii, An attendant opened the door to see if anything might be wanted, but was waved away again. 1889 D. C. Murray *Hearts* ix, 'There is a fire in the sitting-room', he said, closing the outer door and waving her along the hall. 1894 Mrs. H. Ward *Marcella* II. 100 Marcella waved him aside and ran on. 1914 H. James in *Q. Rev.* Apr. 358 If we put ourselves questions we yet wave away doubts. 1916 W. Sanday *In Views of End* 89 Hitherto the pacifist writings have been waved aside simply on the ground that they were pacifist.

c. *intr.* To make a sign by a wave of the hand.

1803 *Edwin* I. xiii. 205, I waved to the door, and in silence proceeded to the tyrant. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xii, I retained my station when he waved to me to go, and announced:—'I cannot think of leaving you, sir.' 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. ix. 8 Rapidly riding far away, She waved to me with her hand. 1903 Mabel Barnes-Grundy *Vacill. Hazel* xvi. 219 He looks very miserable and cold and pinched. Poor old Sammy! I must wave to him.

d. *trans.* To mark (musical measures) by waving something.

1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 804 All, to please The donna waving measures with her fan.

II. (From Wave *sb.*)

11. To ornament with an undulating design; to make (something) wavy in outline.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 9, vj Couering of Bardes of clothe of golde wherof three ar waved with clothe of golde. *c* 1621 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii. 482 Arms..forged of brass, and about with tin. 1652 Culpeper *Eng. Physit.* (1656) 137 Leaves..a little unevenly waved sometimes about the edges. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 306 Shee..Her unadorned golden tresses wore Disheveld, but in wanton ringlets wav'd As the Vine curles her tendrils. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 204 When one end of the Riglet you wave, is with the Vice Screwed to the plain side of the Rack. *Ibid.* 205 The Riglet will on its upper side receive the form of the several waves on the under side of the Rack, and also the form or Molding that is on the edge of the bottom of the Iron and so at once the Riglet will be both Molded and waved. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 304 The lower part of which Chappel is cover'd with large Tiles of Porphiry wav'd, and painted with Flowers. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Wave*, to fashion, or make like the waves of the Sea; as watered Silks or Stuffs are. 1733 *School of Miniature* 39 Finish..by fine thin Strokes,..waving and curling them according to the turn of the Hair. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 763 Strokes following the same direction, but gently waved. 1875 Swinburne *Ess. & Studies* 319 A head-dress of eastern fashion,..raised and waved and rounded in the likeness of a sea-shell. 1888 Sweet *Hist. Eng. Sounds* § 221 Earlier in the [12th] century they began to wave and lengthen the top tags of *i*, *n*, *h*, etc. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 1 Oct. 7/4 Hair that has been waved by hot irons till it is broken and irregular.

12. *intr.* To undulate in form or outline.

1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 108 The horizontal coals..are found to wave considerably in several places. 1795 Anderson *Narr. Embassy China* 73 Its [*sc.* the river's] course waves in the finest meanders. 1796 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* II. 84 A slip or coomb, of water formed land, waving with the stream. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* iv. § 121 From this, and in subordination to this, waved the arch and sprang the pinnacle. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* II. ix, Now and then the type waves up and down before her like the furrows of a ploughed field; but she reads on.

III. 13. The verb-stem in combination, in the names of the several offerings which, according to the Levitical law, were 'waved' (see 9 e) by the priest when presented in sacrifice, as **wavebreast, -loaf, -offering, -sheaf**; also **wave-bread**, a mod. synonym of *wave-loaf*.

1530 Tindale *Lev.* vii. 30 Euen the fatt apon the brest he shall bringe with the brest to waue it a waueoffrynge before the Lorde. *Ibid.* 34 For the wauebrest and the heueshulder I haue taken of the childern of Israel. *Ibid.* xxiii. 17 And ye shall brynge out of youre habitacions two waueloaues. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xxiii. 15 From the nexte daye after the Sabbath, whan ye brought ye Waueshefe [1530 Tindale, the sheffe of the waueoffrynge]. 1625 T. Godwin *Moses & Aaron* vi. ii. 268 These two words, Thenuphoth, and Therumoth; both signifie shake-offrings, heaue-offrings, or waue-offrings. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 297 Which with the wave-bread and the heave-shoulders the priest afterwards took as his own perquisites.

Wave, obs. form of Waif *sb.*[1], Waive *v.*[1], *v.*[2]

Wave, obs. pa. t. of Weave *v.*[1]

Waved (wēivd) *ppl. a.* [f. Wave *v.* + -ed[1].]

1. Having the form of waves, presenting a wavy outline or appearance, undulating, undulated.

a. *gen.*

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. ii. 86 In the hole is laied good store of wood, whereon is raised gallantly a waued roofe. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. *Captaines* 124 A large Cave,..Whose waved Seeling,..The Nymphs..rarely had imbost With Pearls and Rubies. 1768 Boswell *Corsica* i. (ed. 2) 95 A rich waved country..reaches along the east and south coasts to Bonifaccio. 1808 Eleanor Sleath *Bristol Heiress* I. 61 This surface,..is gently waved, rising with a varied swell from a small hollow, or valley. 1863 *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Aug. 116/4 Advt., Crinoline.—The Patent Ondina, or Waved Jupon, does away with the unsightly results of the ordinary hoops. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech., Waved Wheel.* The edge of the wheel is waved or convoluted so that as it revolves it imparts a lateral oscillation to an arm, pitman, or what not. 1890 Hessels *Corpus Gloss.* Introd. p. xi, [The letter] l, with a waved stroke through it, indicates uel.

b. of hair, etc.

1863 'Holme Lee' *A. Warleigh* III. 58 Her hat in her lap, and her waved brown hair uncovered. 1884 McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 6 Take some hairs and some fibres of South Down wool and hold them together. The hair will hang straight and smooth, the wool will be curly, something like a corkscrew, and will have a waved appearance. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 138, p. vi/2 The waved hair is drawn smoothly back from the forehead.

c. *Her.* = Undee, Wavé, Wavy.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. iii. 44 Of these [Lines] some are ..Waued. 1680 Sir G. Mackenzie *Sci. Her.* 26 Waved is so call'd, from the waves of the Sea, which it represents, and is therefore called *undé*, and is used for signifying that the Bearer got his Arms for service done at sea. *Ibid.* 44 A cross waved. *Crux undosa.* 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, Waved or Wavy.

d. Of a sword, dagger, etc.: Having the edge undulated. Also in *Her.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 126/1 He beareth Azure, a waved sword, or a sword waved, or wavey. 1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Waved Sword*, by some erroneously called a flaming sword. 1823 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* p. xxxv, Malay knife..., blade waved.

2. Having undulated markings. Of silk, etc. = Watered. Also in comb. † *waved-wise* adv.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 14 Gardyd abowtes with clothe of golde wavyd wyse. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII. xlviii. I. 228 The waved water chamelot was from the beginning esteemed the richest and bravest wearing. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 406 Fish..through Groves Of Coral stray, or sporting with quick glance Show to the Sun their wav'd coats dropt with Gold. 1721 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 378 Cambletts, watered and not watered, waved, and not waved.

3. *Bot., Zool.*, and *Min.* Undulate; having a wavy form or texture; having wavy markings.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 6 The Gray, or Horse-Fly. Her eye is..of a semisphæroidal figure; black and waved. 1776 Lee *Introd. Bot.* Expl. Terms 379 *Flexuosus*, waved, bent ackwards and forwards from Bud to Bud. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 673 Leaves..waved at the edge. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 187 The hinge without tooth, waved and rather sinuous and unequal. 1842 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) II. 277 The sepals and petals are very linear and waved. 1843 Humble *Dict. Geol.* etc. (ed. 2), *Waved*, ..In botany, applied to the margins of leaves, when bordered alternately with numerous minute segments of circles and angles. In entomology, applied to insects when the margin of the body is marked with a succession of arched incisions. 1845 A. Gray *Bot. Text-bk.* (ed. 2) 112 A slightly waved or sinuous margin is said to be *repand*. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 276 Lobes of lower lip subequal, waved and toothed.

b. In specific names of animals, plants, etc.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 130 *Raia Undulata*..the waved Scate. 1682 Grew *Museum* I. § vi. ii. 147 The Great Waved-Muscle..is commonly found in the Red-Sea. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 397 Aster Undulatus. *Waved Star Wort.* 1824 R. K. Greville *Flora Edin.* 20 *Aira flexuosa*..Waved Hair-grass. 1832 Rennie *Conspl. Butterfl. & Moths* 139 The Waved Carpet (*Emmeleusia sylvata*, Stephens). *Comb.* 1796 Marshall *Planting* II. 66 The Curled Cistus, or Waved-leaved Rock Rose.

4. Moved in waves.

1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 187 'Tis the deep music of the rolling world Kindling within the strings of the waved air Æolian modulations.

5. Held aloft and moved to and fro.

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. iii, A burly middle-aged figure gesticulating with raised arms and waved umbrella in mid-road. 1891 F. Tennyson *Daphne* 3 Beeches swung their heads Before the waved banners of the winds. 1916 Bayfield tr. *Ovid's Met.* XI. in *19th Cent.* May 1013 She..was the first to see Her lord..Who with waved hand made signal, and her own She waved in answer.

Wavel (wē·vl), *v. Sc.* Also 7 **waivle, weavle, 9 wavle.** [Freq. of Wave *v.*: see -el.]

† 1. *intr.* 'To move backwards and forwards, to wave' (Jam. 1808). *Obs.*

a 1689 W. Cleland *Poems* (1697) 107 He making Hands, and Gown, and sleives wavel, Half Singing vents this Reavel Ravel.

† b. *trans.* To twist (the mouth). *Obs.*

1634 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 277 Folks observing in the kirk..my wagging my head and weavling my mouth in the singing.

2. To stagger.

[1638: cf. *ppl. a.* below.] 1896 J. J. H. Burgess *Lowrie Birlan* 56 (E. D. D.) So up he waavles to da door.

3. ? To embroider with a wavy pattern.

a 1844 W. Miller in A. Whitelaw *Scot. Song* 536 His coat's o' glowin' ruddy brown, and wavilet wi' gold.

Hence **Wa·velled** *ppl. a.* ? twisted; **Wa·velling** *ppl. a.*

1638 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) I. 383 Using al and only his auin means, without waivling steps to byrods and bypaythes, they may find that sprit within telling them realy and sensibly This is not the way, walk not in it. 1886 J. J. H. Burgess *Shetland Sk.* 30 He's sic a wavlit illvyndied lookin' objec', nae manly wy wi him ava.

Waveless (wē·vlės), *a.* [f. Wave *sb.* + -less.] Having no waves or undulation; not agitated or disturbed by waves. Also *fig.*

? *a* 1597 Peele *David & Bathsabe* (1599) B] b, Thy body smoother then this waueleese spring. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* II. 127 In the waveless mirror of his mind. 1804 Grahame *Sabbath* 212 A waveless lake, In which the wintry stars all bright appear. 1818 Shelley *Eugan. Hills* 91 Beneath is spread like a green sea The waveless plain of Lombardy. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Fragm. Westm. Abbey* 12 Above each knightly stall Unmoved, the banner'd blazonry hung waveless as a pall. 1872 M. Collins *Two Voyages for Pearl* III. 166 Lotos-islands in a waveless bay. 1887 G. W. Cable *Grandissimes* v, in *Century Mag.* Mar. 668/1 Their delicately pencilled brown, their dark, waveless hair. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xii, Waveless uniformity, not to say monotony, of existence.

Hence **Wa·velessly** *adv.*

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 136 Wavelessly the river spread Its silver mirror. 1845 Jane Robinson *Whitehall* III, So placidly and wavelessly the winds of passion or guilt glide past the waters of time.

Wavelet (wē·vlėt). [f. Wave *sb.* + -let.] A little wave, a ripple.

1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* viii. 24 Like the vague sighings of a wind at even, That wakes the wavelets of the slumbering sea. 1856 Geo. Eliot *Scenes Cler. Life, Amos Barton* ii, The head, with its thin wavelets of brown hair, indents the little pillow. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* v. 77 The white wavelets that were breaking on the beach.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1810 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 360 You only hide it by foam and bubbles, by wavelets and steam-clouds, of ebullient rhetoric. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Baptist* I. 3 The transcendent Intelligence which presides over the law and measure of every wavelet of the universal energy. 1879 Macdonald *P. Faber* I. vi. 61 Slowly she rose through a sky freckled with wavelets of cloud.

Wave-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. Wave *sb.* + -like.]

A. *adj.* Resembling a wave, or what pertains to a wave.

1685 Boyle *Effects of Motion* iii. (1690) 18, I see no necessity of having recourse to any thing but the wave-like motion of the Air for the production of our Phænomenon. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 468 The wave like motion of the ground during earthquakes. 1887 T. Stevens *Around World on Bicycle* I. 3 The wave-like macadam abruptly terminates, and I find myself on a common dirt road. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 124 Every now and then a wave-like movement is seen to traverse through them.

B. *adv.* After the manner of a wave or waves.

1872 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 215 The dark solid wall of the enemy's infantry rolled, wave-like against this position. 1884 J. Payn *Lit. Recoll.* 33 When I think of that inimitable scene, the humour of it sweeps wavelike over all.

Wave-line.

1. *Ship-building.* An outline recommended by some naval architects for the hull of a vessel as facilitating movement through the waves.

1846 *Mechanic's Mag.* 24 Oct. 391 What is the wave line? According to its ingenious author, Mr. J. Scott Russell, it differs from an ordinary ship's bow..in this, that it is 'gently hollower than such a bow towards the cutwater, and a little rounder towards the greatest breadth'. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 441/2 The wave-line theories..had been adopted.

2. *Physics.* The path of a wave of light, sound, etc.; also, the graphic representation of the path.

1888 Rutley *Rock-forming Min.* 30 They are thrown into a wave line through the successive vibration of the other particles from the line of rest. *Ibid.* 31 The wave-line..is just half a wave-length.

3. Each of the lines or furrows produced by the action of the waves on a sandy beach.

1891 *Century Dict.*

Wavellite (wāvˈėlāit). *Min.* [Named 1805 after Dr. W. *Wavel* its discoverer: see -ite.] Hydrous phosphate of aluminium, found in globular aggregates with a radiated structure.

1805 *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 162. 1822 G. Young *Geol. Surv. Coast Yorks.* (1828) 129 Silky crystals, resembling wavellite. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 818/1.

† **Wa·venger.** *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 vau-, 6 wauengeour, 9 waff-, whiffinger, waifinger. [App. f. Waif *sb.* after *messenger, passenger, scavenger*, etc.]

1. *Sc.* A vagabond. Also *attrib.*

1493 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 235/1 To cause idill men vauengeouris to laubour for bair leuing. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. xi. 17 [Shall it be] lefull till a wauengeour strangeir Me and my realm betrump on this maneir. *Ibid.* XII. v. 99 Follow me Quham now 3on vauengeour, 3on ilk stranger, Affrays so.

2. *dial.* A stray animal, estray.

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Waifinger*, an estray. *a* 1864 R. B. Peacock *Lonsdale Closs., Waifinger*, stray cattle.

Waver (wēˈ·vəɹ), *sb.*[1] Also 6 **wayver, weaver**, 6–8 **waiver.** [Of obscure origin: the early forms do not favour derivation from Wave *v.* Possibly f. Waive *v.*[1], in the sense 'to leave untouched'.] A young tree left standing when the surrounding wood is felled.

1535 *Anc. Deed* C 7700 (P.R.O.), The said Luke shall leave ..standynge..all suche wayuers of oke and asshe that be vnder the compace of twelue ynches in thyckneasse. 1590 W. West *Symbol.* § 267 (§ 406) Except the land and solle of the same woodes and vnderwoodes, and also wayuers called standers of &c. 1595 *Holmesfield Court Rolls* in *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., That no persone or persons within this manor shall cutt vpp or carry away any of the lorde's woodes..vpon payne of every burden of greene wood vjd. and every weaver xij d. and every burden of dry wood being hedgwood liij d.

sight Wavers, &c. according to which proportions the sizes of young Trees in Copsing are to succeed one another. 1768 Waiver [see Tiller *sb.*[3] a]. 1800 J. Tuke *Agric. N. Riding Yorks.* 186 Leaving at certain distances, when the timber and under-wood are cut down, the thriving young trees, which so left, are very properly called *wavers*, from their being agitated by every breeze. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*

Waver (wēˈ·vəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. Wave *v.* + -er[1].]

† 1. One who vacillates. *Obs.*

1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 189 No waver in Judgment, have I, through Gods mercy, ever been.

2. One who waves, or causes to undulate, swing, or flutter.

1835 T. Mitchell *Aristoph. Acharn.* 1059 *note*, Groupes of tumblers, jugglers, ball-players, and wavers of the torch. 1860 W. G. Clark in Galton *Vac. Tour.* (1861) 46 The wavers of flags, and the brandishers of daggers. 1869 'Mark Twain' *Innoc. Abr.* xiii. (1870) 91 The..house-tops..burst into a storm of waving handkerchiefs, and the wavers of the mingled their cheers with those of the masses below.

†3. A name for the star Fomalhaut in the constellation Piscis Australis. *Obs.*

1556 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* IV. 267 (*marg.*) The Wauer.

4. *Printing.* See quots. Also *waver roller.*

1882 SOUTHWARD *Pract. Print.* 471 Next set in their places the wavers and the inkers. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 706/1 As the carriage returns, this strip of ink is distributed on the inking table by rollers placed diagonally across the machine. The diagonal position gives them a waving motion; hence they are called *wavers.* 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocabl.*, *Waver rollers*, rollers which distribute ink on the ink table in a diagonal direction. *Wavers*, short term for 'waver rollers'.

5. An implement for making the hair wavy.

1895 *Army & Navy Stores List* 15 Sept. 180/2 Hair Wavers ..Price per box, containing 5 wavers, 0/8½. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 1 Oct. 7/4 These wavers may be left in the slightly dampened hair for an hour or two, and the result will be a soft, natural-looking wave.

Waver (wē'·vəɹ), *sb.*[3] [f. WAVER *v.*] The act or condition of wavering.

a. In physical sense, a flutter or trembling.

1826 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 90 No a bit butterflee on its silent waver, meeting the murmur of the straightforward bee. 1886 GUILLEMARD *Cruise of Marchesa* I. 137 Here and there a little gap revealed a Hobbema-like scene of sunny distance, whose clearness was unbroken by the waver of a single leaf. 1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* xii, Sitting square, without the slightest waver or tremble in her saddle. 1918 MERRICK *When Love flies* iv. 44 She sat watching the waver of the candles in the draught.

b. A condition of vacillation or faltering. † *In a waver* (obs.), *on* or *upon the waver*, in uncertainty or unstendiness; inclining now this way, now that.

1529 HORMAN *Vulgaria* 57 b, I stande in doubte or in a wauer. *Anceps sum concliti.* 1806 HENRY SIDDONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* III. 64 His reason was on the waver. *a* 1809 J. PALMER *Like Master* (1811) I. xii. 167 His regret to leave the coppers he touch'd in his present service, and his inclination to embrace the brazier's offer, kept him upon the waver, like an ass between two bundles of hay. 1864 SHERMAN *Let.* 31 Dec. (1894) 241 Not a waver, doubt, or hesitation when I order, and men march to certain death without a murmur if I call on them. 1865 MRS. H. WOOD *Mildred Arkell* xlviii, 'Does she mean to accept him?' asked Travice. 'Well, she's on the waver. She does not dislike him, and she does not particularly like him.'

Waver (wē'·vəɹ), *v.* Also 4 **wever**, 4–5 *Sc.* **wayver, wafer**, 4–6 *Sc.* **vaver**, 4–7 *Sc.* **wawer**, 5 **wavere, wavur, wafyr**, 6 **wavor**, *Sc.* **vaifer**, 7 **wavour.** [ME. *waver, wever* = MHG. *wabern*, mod.G. (now dial.) *wabern, webern* to move about, ON. *vafra* to move unsteadily, flicker (cf. *vafrlogi* flickering flame), Norw. *vavra* to go to and fro, stagger; a frequentative f. Teut. root **wab-*: see WAVE *v.*

Shoreham's *weverinde* (*c* 1315, sense 5) shows that the word in the south at least is native English (cf. OE. *wæfre* unsteady, also nimble); it is possible that in the north the word may partly represent an adoption of ON. *vafra*, but the supposition is not necessary.]

I. Intransitive.

†1. To go about or travel at random or without fixed destination; to wander, rove. Also with adv., as *about. Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 42 The sleuth-hund maid stynting thar, And vaueryt [*v.r.* waweryt] lang tyme to and fra. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXV. (*Julian*) 287 Waferand fra place to place. *c* 1440 *Alphabet o' Tales* 490 Pai waxed so pure at þai wavurd aboute here & þer. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 283 He saw mony rout Off wyld bestis wauerand in wode and playne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 To Wavere Aboute (*v.r.* Wafyr Abowt), *vagari.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 70 Quha ar vnbereit a hundreth 3eir man byde, Wauerand and wandrand by this bankis syde. 1596 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* C 1, There were two Channels..where through the fishermen did wander and wauer vp to Norwitch and diuers parts of Suffolke and Norfolke.

†b. To stray *from*. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Bk. Knighthood* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 6 He slepit apon his palfray, and waverit fra his folk out of the hye way. 1599 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 204 The said Thomas hes bene accusit of..wavering oftentymes fra his wyff, bairnis, and famelie. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* x. 78 Gif..he..sall sweare that, that beast did waver away from him.

2. To sway to and fro, as if in danger of falling; to reel, stagger, totter. Now *rare* (cf. 5 d, 7).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8266 All in wer for to walt, wayueronde he soȝe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schoggyn, schakyn, or waveryn, *vacillo.* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 10 Bot ay his ane futt did wawer, He stackerit lyk ane strummall aver. 1532 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xi. (1883) I. 95 Oza, for puttyng his hande to the holy shryne that was called *Archa fœderis*,..though it were wauerynge and in daunger to fall, yet was he stryken of god. 1692 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 142 When they [*sc.* the Fins] are cut off, it [*sc.* the Body of the Fish] wavers to and fro. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxfii. 298 She was evidently in a condition of great suffering, and Tom often heard her praying, as she wavered and trembled, and seemed about to fall down.

3. To swing or wave in the air; to float or flutter.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Wawyn, or wauerye, *yn a myry aotyt, oscillo.* *c* 1514 BARCLAY *Eclogues* iii, Sometime must thou stoupe unto a rude vilayne Calling him master,.. Although thou would see him waver in a bande. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Matt.* viii. 28–29 The byrdes fleyng and wauering in the ayer. 1574 T. HILL *Art Gardon.*, *Weather* viii. 72 The kytes playing and wauering about in the aire. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xv. 136 Two Lions came running with their shaggy lockes wauering about their shoulders. 1726–30 THOMSON *Winter* 230 Thro' the hush'd air the whitening shower descends, At first thin-wavering. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vii, He could discern a figure wavering and struggling as it hung suspended above the heads of the multitude. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 64 On their curls From the high tree the blossom wavering fell. 1864 SKEAT *Uhland's Poems* 252 Lo! down waver clustering ringlets Round a soft and gentle face! 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 689 Huge butterflies wavered about the cactus plants.

b. Phr. *To waver with* or *in the wind.* ? *Obs.*

c 1500 *Nut-brown Maid* 74 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 200 Wythout pytee, hanged to bee, and wauer wᵗ the wynde. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxxiii. 522 With baners and penons wauerynge with the wynde. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xi. 7 A rede waveringe with the wynde. 1580 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxxviii. 158 After this, hee went up and downe, wauering in the winde, tarryeng for the rest of the shippes. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XXII. 508 Soon fled the soul impure, and left behind The empty corse to waver with the wind. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xi, Here many an outlaw had wavered in the wind during the wars. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village, Country Barber* III. 165 A lank, long, stooping figure, which seemed wavering in the wind like a powder-puff.

c. *transf.*

1860 HAWTHORNE *Transform.* xxix, Now tumbling down, down, down, with a long shriek wavering after him, all the way. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* II. 141 The wind in his raiment wavered.

†4. Of water, waves: To surge. *Obs. rare.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 1963 As rewaris reythe for myn wil ryese And wauer mare wiþe wawis woide þan wil a kyndly standande flude.

5. Of persons, their sentiments, etc.: To exhibit doubt or indecision; to change or vary; to fluctuate or vacillate (*between*); to falter in resolution or allegiance; to show signs of giving way.

c 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 424 And þi bi-leaue of iheus crist His nou al weuerinde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 185 Mony ane hert sal vaverand [*v.r.* wawerand] be That semyt ere of gret bounte. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Resen & Sens.* 2901 And thus I stood al in a rage With look cast fix in hir visage, Wavering as in a were. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. 4328 He was curyousse in his stille,..Mad in metyr nieit his dyte, Litil er noucht neuir þe lesse Wauerande fra þe suythtfastnes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 18/2 Waueron yn hert for vnstabylnesse, *muto.* *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXV. 97 þat he sette fully his hope in god, and not be dul in the feithe, ne wauere in the comavndementes of god. 1526 TINDALE *Jas.* i. 6 But let hym axe in faythe and waver not [1611 nothing wauering]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 223 b, That we his yongest chylden..sholde not..wauer in our fayth. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Matt.* i. 20, 21 Why art thou vexed? why doest thou wauer in & out? 1579 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 97 And nice affections wauering stood in doubt If best were as it was, or best without. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 43 They that wavered betweene warre and peace. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. vii. 28 Vertue that wavers is not vertue. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 585 ¶ 8 Her Mind continued wavering about twenty Years longer between Shalum and Mishpach. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 603 While he was thus wavering between projects equally hopeless. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iv. 355 The allegiance even of the bishops and the secular clergy to Rome had begun to waver. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* IV. § 2. 172 Only on one occasion..did the burgesses waver from their general support of the Crown. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. i. xi. 131 Many people had begun to waver in their allegiance. 1884 M. CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* viii. (1902) 239 For a time opinions wavered which boundary to choose.

†b. Phr. *To waver as, like, with the wind.* Cf. 3 b.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 218 (Harl.) With that þe cadger, wauering as the wind, Come rydand on the laid. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 13 Not common people onely, which wauer with the wynde, but wyse menne also. 1565 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* VII. A a vj b, And so corrupt the mindes Of rude vnskilfull common sort, that wauer lyke the wyndes. *a* 1825 *Child Noryce* i. in Child *Ballads* II. 266 Child Noryce is a clever young man, He wavers wi the wind.

†c. To hesitate *to* (do something). *Ob. rare.*

1644 MILTON *Divorce* II. xv. 61, I shall not much waver to affirm, that [etc.].

d. Of a combatant, body of troops, line of battle: To become unsteady, flinch, give way.

fire of the Lanzknechts threw their dense and unorganised masses into rapid confusion. As they wavered, Warwick's horse were in the midst of them. 1915 J. BUCHAN *Hist. War* IV. xxvi. 75 The line wavered and broke.

6. Of things (or a person as an unconscious agent): To change, vary, fluctuate.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* 8 We englysshe men ben borne vnder the domynacyon of the mone, whiche is neuer stedfaste, but euer wauerynge. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 216 Thus the Englishe affaires..within the realme began to wauer, and waxe variable. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 91 b, To suffer this gere to hange waueringe [L. *ut res ita fluctuarent*]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Nuto*, Victorie wauereth or flitteth betweene both vncertaynly. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXVII, During the whole space of time just mentioned, Mr. Benjamin Allen had been wavering between intoxication partial and intoxication complete. 1839 DICKENS etc. *Haunted Ho.* iii. 14/1 He had..a waistcoat that wavered in hue between a sunny buff and a stony drab. 1901 *19th Cent.* Apr. 681 Among all Arabs succession is hereditary, but it wavers between the eldest son and the eldest male member of the family.

7. Of the voice, the eye, etc. (or a person with reference to these): To become unsteady; to shake, tremble, falter (through emotion or bodily weakness). †Of the wits: To become confused, reel.

1622 FLETCHER *Pilgr. tr.* III, Keep my wits Heaven, I feel 'em wavering, O God-ward head. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xliv, 'No,' replied the old dame, wavering in his voice, no less than in his manner. 1850 SUSAN WARNER *Wide World* xv, Miss Fortune's conscience must have troubled her a little, for her eye wavered uneasily. 1878 MRS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. ix, Her voice wavers and breaks. The tears well up into her eyes. 1883 A. K. GREEN *X. Y. Z.* iv. 63 His eye did not waver from its steady solemn look toward the door. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 48 The white hands wavered—the bright head drooped.

8. Of light, shade, objects seen unsteadily or through a haze: To flicker, quiver.

1664 BOYLE *Experr. Colours* III. xiv. 227, I took..two Triangular Glasses, and one of them being kept fixt in the same Posture, that the Iris it projected on the Floor might not Waver. 1840 TENNYSON *Gardener's Dau.* 129 The shadow of the flowers..wavering Lovingly lower, trembled on her waist..and still went wavering down. 1842 — *Will Waterproof* 38 The gas-light wavers dimmer. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* XVII. (1856) 173 Tall palms and cocoas—their stems wavering in the thin haze. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 491/2 A little gleam wavered ahead on my right.

fig. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* IV. I. I. 247 It may serve to illustrate..the extent to which, under the Roman empire, men's notions of mechanical relations became faint, wavered, and disappeared, if we observe the change which took place in architecture.

II. Transitive.

†9. *causal.* To cause to waver; to wave to and fro; to set in waving or fluttering motion; to render unsteady or unsteadfast. *Obs.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. 798 þus in seige a sote to se, Or do a dowde in dignyte, Sal ger standande statis stawer, And wil bathe wit and worschep wauer. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Wauerou, or meeyn or steryn, *agito.* 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 227 Nocht gaya standand that he be wauerit [*wrin'ed* wanerit] in his wit. 1561 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 148 Seeing he..showed himself so constant in religion, that neither the fear of his soueraign's indignation could wauer him, nor great promises win him. 1583 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 683 Item, if the Admirall shall happen to hull in the night: then to make a wauering light ouer his other light, wauering the light vpon a pole. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* E 2 b, A third wauerd and wagled his head, like a proud horse playing with his bridle. 1828 *Courier* in *Examiner* 24 Aug. 540/1 Shot, shells, grape,..could not ..waver the line of the..infantry.

†10. To vacillate under, falter in resistance to. *Obs. rare*[–1].

1596 DRAYTON *Mortimer.* B 4 b, Th'vnconstant Barrons, wauering euery houre, I be fierce encounter of this raging tyde.

Waver, var. WAIVER.

Waverer (wē'·vərəɹ). [f. WAVER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who wavers; one who is undecided or vacillates in opinion or choice; one who falters in allegiance or hesitates to embrace a particular party or cause.

1590 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 89 But come young wauerer, come goe with me. 1640 tr. *Verdara's Rom. of Rom.* I. xxviii. 134, I went to Cloria, unto whom I discovered the desires of my waverer [orig. (1626) 744 *les desseins de cet inconstant*]. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lx. (1862) V. 259 The wauerers thought it time to declare themselves. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 271 More than one waverer was kept steady by being assured in confident terms that a speedy restoration was inevitable. 1885 *Manch. Guard.* 20 July 5/5 A section of wauerers who have inclined lately to the Tory side.

b. *Hist.* The name given to a section of Peers who were willing to make terms with the Reform government of 1832 rather than wreck the Upper House.

1832 GREVILLE *Mem.* 27 Mar. (1874) II. 273, I have no doubt that all the ultras will be deeply mortified at the moderation of Lord Grey and of the Duke of Wellington, and at the success *so far* of 'the Wauerers'. 1886 KEBBEL *Hist. Toryism* iv. 210 The second reading of the Bill had been carried in the Lords..with the help of the well-known 'Waverers', led by Lords Harrowby and Wharncliffe.

Wavering (wē'·vərin), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb WAVER, in various senses.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 584 The hund alwais followit the kyng, And changit nocht for na parting, Bot ay followit the kyngis tras, But vaueryng, as he passit was. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2224, I watte be thi wauerynge, thow wilnes aftyre sorowe. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* VI 12–16 Whan the people wer in a wauerynge and mammeryng what he was. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* E 3 b, Had you rested them on the true Rocke, they had beene ruine-proofe; but now the raine wil rough-enter through the crannies of theyr wauering. 1608 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. § 8. 13 Massiue bodies..haue certaine trepidations and wauerings before they fixe and settle. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) IV. 8 Why this perpetual Wavering and Fluctuation, about the first thing, that you ought to fix. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxii, Had there been no pain to her friend, or reproach to herself, in the waverings of Harriet's mind, Emma would have been amused by its variations. 1828–42 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 200 The wavering of the English lines was now discernible by the Scottish soldiers. 1832 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 68 Quick waverings about of bands of light such as take place in the Polar Auroras. 1888 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. xx. 443 The King's wavering between a course of clemency and one of

'a·vering, *ppl. a.* [f. WAVER *v.* + -ING[2].]

†1. Wandering, vagrant. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 112 Thai saw on syde thre men cumand, Lik to licht men and vauerand. 1607 *N. Riding Rec., Q. Sess. Rec.* (1884) I. 92 Tho. Best of Wath, a wavering person, [presented] for three assaults on the Constable

Tottering, shaking, faltering, reeling.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13546 And wayuerand, welke, [I] was to the lond. 1569 ROBT tr. *J. van der Noot's Theat. Worldlings* 76 Theyr proude titles haue no sure foundation, but are bayldedonly vppon the wauerynge sandes of doubtefulnesse and falshode. 1818 BYRON *Siege of Corinth* xxix,

The portal wavering grows, and weak! 1839 KINGLAKE *Crimea, Eothen & Damascus* III. (1841) 93 A dim shadowy figure on a dromedary appeared, moving at a wavering and uncertain pace through the sand drift. 1845–7 LONGF. *Ev.* I. v. 127 And like the day of doom it seemed to her wavering senses. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* I, The nervous clutch of the wavering rider.

3. Fluttering, floating, waving, surging.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 843 Wauerande (*v.r.* welterand) wawis. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 290 As leif of the lynd.. That welteris doun with the wynd, sa wauerand it is. 1536 BELLENDEN (*Cold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) P viii b, Their wauering boughes ar adiuentured in the wynde. 1660 BOYLE *New Exper. Spring of Air* xxiv. 193 These bubbles..ascended with a wavering or wrigling motion. 1682 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 225 The wavering Streamers, Flags, and Standart out. 1703 POPE *Thebais* I. 266 As when two winds with rival force contend, This way and that, the wav'ring sails they bend. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* I. I. 42 Broken prismic lights are woven On the thin veils of wavering cloud.

4. Vacillating, undecided, inconstant; faltering in resolution or allegiance.

c 1325 [see WAVER *v.* 5]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 185 Mony ane hert sall vaverand be That semyt ere of gret bounte. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 424 He went vnto his prayers, & stude with a waweryng ee and a waweryng mynde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* (1550) 76 b, This realm..inuaded and infested with the frantike waueryng Welshemen. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 138 Remember where we are, In France, amongst a fickle wauering Nation. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* I. v. (1607) 27 Hee is as wauering as a wether-cocke. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Henry Walker* A 3 b, To Allienate or estrange the hearts of wavering Subjects from their allegiance. *c* 1660 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 297 His mind is so wavouring that ink hee will settill to nothing. 1743 LD. HARDWICKE in (1847) II. 37 If our allies are timorous and necessary to encourage them by vigorous measures. 1862 SIR C. DILKE *Lett.* 7 Nov. *Life* (1917) I. 32 How wavering and shortsighted the policy of England in Turco-Grecian matters has been of late! *a* 1886 STUBBS *Germany in E. Middle Ages* (1908) 167 The wavering princes returned to their allegiance.

b. *absol.* (with *the*).

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 380 Carambey.. incouraged the wauering, and restored the battel. 1780 *Mirror* No. 94 That I might be able..to alarm the inconsiderate, to confirm the wavering. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* IV, The most wavering could not but be confirmed by his calm wisdom.

c. *Comb.*

1526 TINDALE *Jas.* I. 8 A waverynge mynded man is vnstable in all his wayes. 1658 J. SPENCER *Things New & Old* 279 How to prevent wavering-mindedness.

5. Of fortune, affairs, etc.: Variable, mutable. †Of a person: Having a doubtful or uncertain title.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IXV. 1838 (Wemyss) Few personis lyuealyve, Sum vther few collateralye, As cours maid and qualite Airis waverand for to be. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* IXVI. 1 This waverand warldis wretchidnese. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 148 b, Suche is worldly vnstablenes, and so waueryng is false flatteryng fortune. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 438 In this wavering condition of our Affairs.

6. Changing in intensity, now strong, now faint; flickering, fitful, intermittent; tremulous, unsteady; tending to fade or become dim.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 340 Now wauerand wind, now welt. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xii. 64 Or mast liklie a waverand sweving or dreyme [L. *volucrique simillima somno*]. *c* 1620 ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* III. vi. 17 The in- high into the air, a wavering column of brilliant light. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 152 His sight is dim and wavering. 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* I, Making a little spot of crimson amongst the wavering shadows of the trees. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 393 Till these things shall seem The wavering memory of a lovely dream. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 370 It is heard as a wavering or tremolo note.

Hence **Wa·veringly** *adv.*, **Wa·veringness.**

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 1547 He has chapit, & so long past Throw þe wyld sees waweranly [*v.r.* wauerandly]. 1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Pet.* v. 6–14 Loke not waueringly about you, haue no distrust, be not afrayed. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 27 How doubtfully and waueringly Augustine iudged of this case. 1614 J. ROBINSON *Relig. Commun.* 124 Men become perfit, and growen past that childish waveringnes. 1698 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) II. 312 The Uncertainty and Waveringness of this [belief]. 1800 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 176 The candles glimmer somewhat waveringly. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXI, His hearers more or less waveringly believed, that he had a mission like that of the Hebrew prophets. 1885 BRIDGES *Nero* II. ii, Speak nothing waveringly.

Wavery (wē·vərl), *a.* [f. WAVER *v.* or *sb.* + -Y[1].] Characterized by wavering or fluttering; tremulous, unsteady.

1800 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 679 Across the silence seem to go With dream-like motion, wavery, slow,..The friends we loved long long ago! 1883 MRS. R. T. RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* I, Some old letters covered with a wavery writing. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 184 All her waving hair..Lapsing like music, wavery as water, Slid to her waist. 1913 MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *Laddie* IV. (1917) 79 Making his voice all wavery and tremulous he began reciting from 'Lochiel's Warning' in tones of agonised pleading.

†Wa·vesch, *v. Obs. rare.* [Extended form of WAIVE *v.*[1]: see -ISH 2.] *trans.* To put aside.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* (Dubl.) 802 Then fyndes he phillip.. Hade weddit hym ane oþer wife & wauesched [*Ashm.* wayfid] hys moder.

Waveson (wē·vsən). *Maritime Law.* [App. formed after AF. *flotteson* FLOTSAM: perh. originally f. WAIVE *v.*[1], but associated with WAVE *sb.*] (See quot. 1701.) Also *fig.*

1526 In Kennett *Cowel's Interpr.* (1701) s.v., Wavesons, Flottesons, Lagasons & Wrecks & Regalia videl. Magnas pisces captas, &c. 1701 KENNETT ibid., *Waveson*, such Goods as after Shipwreck do appear swimming on the waves. [Whence 1706 in PHILLIPS: and in later Dicts.] 1894 E. P. EVANS in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 299 Persons of unknown origin were treated as waifs (*fleaves*), the mere flotsom and waveson on the drifting tide of humanity.

Wavey (wē·vi). *Pl.* **waveys, wavies.** [See WAWA.] A northern (American) goose of the genus *Chen*, esp. the common wavey, *C. hyperboreus*. Blue wavey, *C. cærulescens*. Horned wavey, *C. rossi*.

1795 S. HEARNE *Journ. North. Ocean* 329 The laughing goose, wavey, (or white goose,) gulls, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 442 Horned Wavey. *Ibid.*, I have seen them in as large flocks as the Common Wavey, or Snow Goose. 1831 SWAINSON & RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 467 Anser hyperboreus...Snow Goose...Wavey. Hudson's Bay Residents. 1892 W. PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 161 Here the snow geese, or white 'wavies' were resting in thousands.

Wavey, obs. variant of WAVY *a.*

Wavily, Waviness : see WAVY *a.*

Waving (wē·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WAVE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb.

†1. The action of changing capriciously; vacillation, wavering, *Obs.*

a 1608 F. GREVILLE *Life of Sidney* (1652) 223 She preserved her Religion without waving. 1665 E. HOPKINS *Serm. Vanity* (1685) 88 Such is the waving and fluctuation of all things here below.

2. Movement (of water, the sea) in waves; undulatory surface-movement (of a forest, crop, etc.).

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxii. 6. 235 Like as if a soft gale stir ye sea, so as the waves ryse not with great rage, and yit there is some waving. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 585 P 2, What tho' I am delighted with the Wavings of thy Forests. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 80 Neither the waving of the sea, nor the motion of the ship, could take away the refreshing sleep which God gave them. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The waving of the corn.

†b. Undulating play of colour. *Obs.*

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* II. xxxvii. 61 Hardly would you believe the beauty, the toyes and wavings of divers colours.

3. Undulation in form.

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 103 This is what I call the waving of the strata.

4. Motion to and fro (of something having a free end).

1751 J. HARRIS *Hermes* III. iii. (1765) 336 Sound and Motion ..such as the Murmurs and Wavings of a Tree during a storm. 1828–41 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 151 The gleam of arms, and the waving of the pennons of an encamped army. 1883 ASP. BENSON in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. i. 13 Beech trees and cedars standing as still as possible in it [*sc.* the soft rain] with such gentle slow wavings as to make the most of it.

5. The action or an act of moving (the hand or something held in the hand, the wings, etc.) to and fro.

1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xiv. 21 Hee shall take one lambe for a trespasse offring to be waued [*marg.* for a wauing.] 1618 PARKES *Curtain-Drawer* 47 Each Play-house aduanceth his flagge in the aire, whither quickly at the waving thereof, are summoned whole troopes of men, women and children. 1657 J. TRAPP *Comm., Ps.* LXXX. 7 As the bird by much waving gathereth wind under the wing, and mounteth higher. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 159 P 3 He beckoned to me, and by the waving of his Hand directed me to approach the Place where he sat. 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 88 The waving of fans was heard. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXIII, The waving of handkerchiefs was renewed. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 579 She..in the darkness o'er her fallen head, Perceived the waving of his hands that blest.

b. A signal or direction given by waving the hand, a flag, or the like. *Obs.*

1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onesander Platon.* 87 The commaundements, wauinges, and signes, ought likewyse first to be geuen to the heads and leaders of men.

6. Comb.: **†waving-engine,** a machine for cutting waved indentations on wood.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 103 Of the Waving Engine. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 354/2 The Waving Engine..is a thing wherewith Waved Work is generally made upon small Frames for Pictures and Looking Glasses.

Waving (wē·viŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WAVE *v.* + -ING 2.] That waves.

1. Of water, the sea: That rises in waves; full of upon a waving water. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 530 The subtill race Of roving Polypes; who (to rob more) Transform them hourly on the waving shore [Fr. *fondeux rivages*]. 1717 ADDISON tr. *Ovid's Met.* II. *Phaeton* 9 A waving sea th' inferiour earth embrac'd. 1838 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1842) 82 Noo Scotland's cliffs sae dear to me Aneath the wavin' waters fa'.

b. *transf.* of things, esp. of a crop, forest, etc.: Agitated or ruffled on the surface like the waves of the sea.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 156/2 *Vestis undans*,..a wauing garment that ruffleth in going, specially when the bodye is moued or shaken. 1676 DRYDEN *Aureng.* I. 4 The Vale an Iron-Harvest seems to yield Of thick-sprung Lances in a waving Field. 1798 W. L. BOWLES *Poems, St. Michael's Mt.* 43 Mountain, ne pomp of waving woods hast thou. 1846 DICKENS *Battle of Life* I. 1 The waving grass was green, 1870 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXXI, A country rich with waving fields of grain.

†2. Vacillating, wavering. *Obs.*

1621 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. § 29. 493/1 Their might ..depends of the wauing humors, and wils of those inferiour vassels, of whom they thinke themselues vnresistable Commaunders. *a* 1625 LD. BROOKE *Let. to Hon. Lady* iv. Wks. (1633) 280 His hollow, and vauing minde.

3. That moves to and fro at its free end by the impulse of the wind or breeze.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. vi. 1 Aduance our wauing Colours on the Walls. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 55 Euen as the wauing sedges play with winde. 1676 DRYDEN *Aureng.* v. 78 The waving Arms of Aureng-Zebe appear'd, Display'd with your Morat's. 1697 — *Æneis* VII. 869 With Joy they view the waving Ensigns fly. 1767 SIR W. JONES *Seven Fountains* Poems (1777) 33 The crimson streamer's waving pride. 1829 MRS. HEMANS *Canabiaca* 22 Upon his brow he felt their breath, And in his waving hair. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* V, A forest of ships' masts, cheery with flapping sails and waving flags.

4. Undulating in form or outline.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. ix. 352 An azured staffe, cutte in fashion of a waving snake. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* vii. 38 The waving line, which is a line more productive of beauty than any of the former. 1820 SOUTHEY *Kehama* I. ii, The fragrant smoke..hangeth visible on high, A dark and waving canopy. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XLIV, He was a fine open-faced boy, with blue eyes and waving flaxen hair. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 462 Asplenium Filix-fœmina..Fronds 1–5 ft., bright green, flaccid, waving. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 553 A single waving or cyclical line results.

5. Of sound: Undulating in tone.

1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* IX. (1878) 62 *Unda Maris*..a stop with two pipes, one of which is tuned a little higher than the other, producing a waving kind of tone.

b. quasi-*sb.* (See quot.)

1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* III. (1878) 21 *Waving*, is a lighter species of tremulant, for the more delicate stops.

6. Of wings: Moving rhythmically in flight.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 236 Th' industrious Beagle twists his waving Tail. 1795 W. BLAKE *Song of Los* II. 34 And his shudd'ring waving wings Went enormous above the red flames. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 145 And it circles round, Like the soft waving wings of noonday dreams. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* VIII, I..saw the [illegible] lines of windows with staring faces and waving handkerchiefs.

Hence **Wa·vingly** *adv.*

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 108 The extremities of the higher branches bend wavingly downwards. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 573 The sea below gleams wavingly. 1882 W. JAMES in *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* (1883) 108 Moving the hand wavingly across the forehead.

†Wa·vous, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WAVE *sb.* + -OUS.] Full of waves.

1582 T. NEWTON *Seneca's Thebais* I. 43 b, Whare is the surging wauous Sea?

†Wa·vure. *Obs.* Erroneous var. WAIVER.

1847–64 WEBSTER (citing *R. Peel*), *Wavure*, the act of waving or putting off.

Wavy (wē·vi), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also 8 *Sc.* **wavey.** [f. WAVE *sb.* or *v.* + -Y.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Full of waves, abounding in waves, billowy.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* H 3 b, The waters..putting all theyr wauy shoulders together, bare the whole shole of them [*sc.* the dead carcases] before them. 1685 DRYDEN tr. *Lucretius* I. 10 For thee the Ocean smiles, and smooths her wavy breast. 1722 BROOME *Iliad* XV. III. 208 They..Travers'd the Mountains, and the Wavy Main. 1816 J. N. BREWER *Beauties Eng. & Wales* X. IV. 28 *note*, In this fine and bold reach the waters of the Thames are more subject to wavy roughness, than in any other part west of the ancient bridge of London. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 253 Then under the wavy deep he dived adown once more.

b. *poet.* Pertaining to waves of the sea.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XII. 256 Strain ev'ry nerve, and bid the vessel fly. If from yon justling rocks and wavy war Jove safety grants; he grants it to your care.

2. *transf.* a. Said of the air, clouds, etc.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXVIII. iv, [The dove] That glides with feathered oare through wavy sky. 1629 BP. J. WILLIAMS *Serm. Apparell* (1680) 5 The wavie Curtaines of the Ayre about us. 1794–6 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 245 Then o'er the wild and wavy chaos rush And tame the outrageous mass. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* XVII, The fair, wavy cloud that fled in the morning.

b. Path. *Wavy breathing, respiration*: respiration in which the inspiratory, and sometimes the expiratory, sounds are not continuous but broken into two or more separate parts.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 303 Jerky, interrupted, or wavy breathing. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Respiration, Wavy respiration.*

3. *fig.* Fluctuating, wavering, changing.

1795 COLERIDGE *Friend* I. xvi. (1863) II. 80 When the public feelings are wavy and tumultuous, artful demagogues may create this opinion. *c* 1825 BEDDOES *Poems, Sacrif. self-compensated*, Weighing well man's frail and perilous tenure Of all good in the restless wavy world.

4. Moving to and fro or up and down with a sinuous, wave-like motion.

1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* XXVI, Let her glad Vallies smile with wavy Corn. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 61 Where full-ear'd Sheaves of Rye Grow wavy on the Tilth. 1816 KEATS *'I stood Tip-toe'* 73 Where swarms of minnows show their little heads, Staying their wavy bodies 'gainst the streams. 1830 TENNYSON *Dying Swan* 38 The wavy swell of the soughing reeds. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Sept. 5/7 This rolling sea of wavy grass.

b. Of movements: Taking place in undulating curves, sinuous.

1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 439 [She] spread out her white canvas to the freshening breeze, while winging her

wavy way over the blue Atlantic. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxxi. 401 An active wavy movement [of the Aurora], dissipating itself into barely-perceptible cirrhus. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xii. 201 Representing the serpent's teeth, or his wavy motion, or his circular figure.

5. Of ground, the surface of the country: Rising and falling gently in a succession of rounded heights and hollows.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. 143 The lofty mountains of the other class have a very different aspect. At a distance their tops are seen, in wavy ridges, of the very colour of the clouds. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 114 A wavy country, which gently swells into broad ridges. 1851 HUXLEY in L. Huxley *Life & Lett.* (1900) II. 285 A fine wavy chalk down with 'cwms' and soft turfy ridges.

6. Forming an undulating line or a series of wave-like curves. Also, having an undulating margin.

a 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) 6 The sides of this Fissure are firm and solid Rock, perpendicular and smooth, only seeming to lie in a wavy form all down, as it were to comply with the motion of the Water. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 202 Such wavy ringlets o'er his shoulders flow. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 47 The Wall..must be..exactly even.., so as not in any part to swell out or sink in, or to be wavy. 1732 LOGAN in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 339 A straight rod or line, viewed at some little distance through the wavy glass of a window. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* etc. 385 If these [Damascus bars] be drawn in length, the veins will be longitudinal;..if they be made wavy in the two directions, undulated veins will be produced like those in the oriental damascus. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Landor, Engl. Visitor, & Florentine* Wks. I. 340/2 Byron dealt chiefly in felt and furbelow, wavy Damascus daggers, and pocket pistols studded with paste. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* i. (1878) 10 Her dark hair flowed behind, wavy but uncurled. 1888 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 195 *Wavy Stitch*, a raised Couching. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Wavy rule*, brass rule made with an undulating face thus ~~~.

b. *Bot.* and *Zool.* Of marks, margins, etc.: Undulate, sinuate; having undulate or sinuate markings.

1832 G. RENNIE *Compl. Butterfl. & Moths* 147 Between these streaks and the hinder margin a third streak wavy, brown, terminated by a paler colour. 1857 A. GRAY *1st Less. Bot.* (1866) 62 Leaves are said to be..*Repand, undulate*, or *wavy*, when the margin of the leaf forms a wavy line, bending slightly inwards and outwards in succession. 1859 ANNE PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 74 *Aira flexuosa* (Wavy Hair-grass). *Ibid.* 92 *Poa laxa* (Wavy Meadow-grass). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

c. *Her.* = UNDEE. *Barry wavy*, of the field: Divided into waving bands of generally horizontal direction.

1562 LEIGH *Armory* 134 b, He beareth party per crosse wauey Sable, and Argent. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. v. (1632) 69 He beareth, Argent, a Bend, Wauey, Sable... This is termed *wauey*, or *waue't*, in respect it beareth a Representation of the Swelling Waue or Billowe of the Sea. 1722 A. NISBET *Syst. Her.* I. vi. 92 *Wavey* or *Waved*, is said of a Line or Lines that are formed after the Waves of the Sea, as parted *per Fess Wavey* in the Arms of Drummond of Concraig, and the Lines which form the *Barrs waved* in the Arms of the Earl of Perth, which signifies, that the Bearer got his Arms for Services done at Sea. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. (ed. 3) 266 Per fesse arg. and barry wavy az. 1890 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* xviii, 'How read you this..?' 'Argent and azure, a barry wavy of six.'

d. Of a dog (short for *wavy-coated*): Having the coat in waves, not curly.

1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 28 Nov. 512/2 The Retrievers were good,..the curly Doctor having to give place to the wavy Harvester in Dogs. 1889 *Field* 2 Oct. Advt. p. xvi/2 Champion Zelstone (Wavy Retriever).

7. *Comb.*, as *wavy-coated, -edged, -haired, -leaved*; †**wavy-ways** *adv.*, after the manner of waves.

1867 'STONEHENGE' *Dogs Brit. Isl.* 43 Windham..is a good example of the 'wavy-coated dog.' 1869 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, Veneering; forty, 'wavy-haired, dark. 1816-20 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* II. 828 *Xyris Flexifolia*; 'Wavy-leaved Xyris. 1853 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 78 *Salix undulata*..is..sometimes called the Wavy-leaved Willow. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2103 When the Lead dips almost perpendicularly for many fathoms together, and may rise again in the next Hill ('wavie-ways).

Hence **Wa'vily** *adv.*, **Wa'viness**.

1790 J. WEDGWOOD (*title*) An attempt to discover the causes of cords and waviness in Flint Glass and the most probable means of removing them. 1816 KEATS *Epist. Bro. George* 59 The coy moon, when in the waviness Of whitest clouds she does her beauty dress. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. ix, Mr. Rappit, the hair-dresser, with his well-anointed coronal locks tending wavily upward. 1877 WATERHOUSE in *Abney's Photogr.* (1881) 190 A fine, even, glossy surface, perfectly free from the streaks and waviness so common when working with thick films. 1888 J. J. QUELCH *Coral-Reefs* in *Challenger Rep.* XVI. III. 236 The waviness and plications of the margins of the septa.

B. *sb.* A wavy-coated retriever.

1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 5 Sept. 227/3 Retrievers: first and second both wavys. 1884 *Ibid.* 24 Dec. 612/2 Such a Kennel of wavies as is not equalled in any part of the world.

Wavys, obs. pl. of WAIF *sb.*[1]

†**Waw**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3-4 **wa3e**, 4-6 **wawe**, 3 **wau**, (4 **quawe**), 4-5 **waghe**, (5 **whaghe, wawghe**), 6 **wawhe**, *Sc.* **wa**, 4-6, 9 *arch.* **waw**. [ME. *wage*, related to OE. *wegian* WAW *v.*[1]

There may have been an OE. **wegn* str. fem. or **wege* wk. fem., corresponding to MHG., MLG. *wage*, MDu. *waege* movement, agitation. In ME. the word took the place of the OE. *wæg* masc. = OS., OHG. *wâg* (MHG. *wâc*, *wâge* masc., mod. G. *woge* fem.), ON. *vágr*, Goth, *wêgs*—OTeut. **wēgo-s* flood, wave, and in the 16th c. was superseded by WAVE *sb.* In northern ME. dialects the present word would coincide in form with a possible adoption of ON. *vágr*.]

A wave.

c 1275 LAY. 159 Wajes [*c* 1205 vões] þar arne. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 530 in *Eng. Leg.* 234 Þa wawes of þe se beoten also bi-fore and bi-hynde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2844 On þe streme þat arche can ride, þe wauus [23.. *Gött.* wawis, *c* 1375 *Fairf.* waghes] beft on ilk side. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 135 This schippe..That Crist rad in and his felawes, Imang dintes of gret quawes. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2973 Þe se gan fighte, þe wawes roe. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1561 The water is ever fresh and newe That welmeth up with wawes brighte [Fr. *a grans ondes*]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1902 So wode were the waghes & þe wilde ythes. *Ibid.* 12310 Tho shippes to shilde o þe shyre whaghes. *c* 1400 *Emare* 320 She was so dryuen fro wawe to wawe, She hyd her hede and lay fulle lawe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 91 Full wekydly he and his vj felawes In to the see were cast among the wawis. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 486 Thise wawghes ar so wode. *a* 1523 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 373 The water of ye ryuer..was so troublous of wawe, that the brydge therwith was all to shaken. 1528 *Ortus Vocab.* (ed. 3), *Flustrum*,..sterynge of the see or a wawhe. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* xlvi. 156 The wawes..semyd so greate and hye as mounteyns. 1535 COVERDALE *Jas.* i. 6 He that douteth, is lyke the wawes [1526 TINDALE waues] of the [illegible] THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 172 The little vessel..whiche the wa[illegible] of the sea by little and little draue towardes the lande. 1572 SIR J. MAITLAND *Admon. to Regent* 31 Bewar thairfoir wi wadder, waw, and wind. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 4 They on this rock are rent, and sunck in helplesse wawes. 1600 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 169 A tempestous schoure and drow..with sic a how wa and spenedrift, that..he lukit for grait danger. [1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxix, As I would pilot a boat betwixt Swona and Stroma, through all the waws, wells, and swelchies of the Pentland Firth.]

†**Waw**, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 **wagh, waugh, wawe**, 5-6 **waw, wall**, 5 **wal**. [a. MLG. and MDu. *wage* (Du. *waag*), corresp. to OE. *wǽg*: see WEY *sb.*] A measure of weight, usually equal to twelve stone.

1316 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 22 In 3 Wawes plumbi emp., 11*s.* 3*d.* 1399 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 473/11 m. 3, Pro batellagio ix. Waugh[es] plumbi. 14.. *Assisa de Toll.* vii. in *Sc Acts* (1844) I. 669 And of wax at þe entre nathyng bot of ilk waw at þe oute passyng aucht penis gif it be weyit be wawys. 1484 *Acta Auditorum* 1. (1839) 136*/2, xiij wall and five stane of hollande cheisis. 1499 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 225 Ane [sack of wool] weyand vj wall xxv naill, and tother vj wal xv naill. 1501 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 82, viij waw v stane of irne, ilk waw xxvs. 1542-3 *Ibid.* VIII. 128, xv wall thre stane xliij pund Spanze irne.

Waw (wɔ̄), *sb.*[3] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8 **weaw**, 9 **wauw**. [f. WAW *v.*[2]] The cry of a cat.

c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Gloss., Wks. (1862) 108 *Waww.* 1825 *Newcastle Mag.* Sept. 303/2 O, ye of little faith!..to be frightened by the cry of an owl or the wauw of a cat. 1835 CARRICK etc. *Laird of Logan* (1841) 163 Its a wee weak t' the wauw, like Barr's cat, that ale o' yours. 1859 A. WHITEHEAD *Leg. Westmld.* 35 (E.D.D.) They ofttimes saw a cat,..Unearthly was its waw.

‖ **Waw**, *sb.*[4], **wau**, the name of the 6th letter in Hebrew (see VAU, VAV) and the corresponding letter in the Arabic and other Semitic alphabets.

1832 S. LEE *Grammar Heb. Lang.* (ed. 2) 3 Vaw, or Waw. 1906 *Expositor* May 428 John xii. 15 follows the Hebrew of Zechariah ix. 9, the waw being epexegetic. 1916 M. ROBERTS in *Folk-Lore* XXVII. 222 As there is no Arabic character to represent the *v* sound the Turks use the *waw* for this purpose.

†**Waw**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wagian** (**weagian**), 3 **wazien, wawi**(**e**, 3-5 **waw**(**e**. [OE. *wagian* = MLG. *wagen*, MDu. *waghen* (mod. W Flem. *wagen*), OHG. *wagôn* (MHG., mod. G. *wagen*), ON. *vaga*:—OTeut. **wagōjan*, f. **wagō* agitation: see WAW *sb.*[1] Cf. WAG *v.*]

1. *intr.* To shake, totter, move loosely; to be ready to fall. Only *OE.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 81 *Labat*, weaxat. *a* 1000 *Riddles* iv. 8 (Gr.) Hornsalu waziað, wera wicstede. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxxiv. 7 His eaȝan ne nilstodon ne his toð ne waxodon [Vulg. *nec dentes illius moti sunt*].

2. To sway to and fro on a base; to wave in the wind. Cf. WAG *v.* 3. Also *fig.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Ða ongon mon secgan be ðam hearpere þæt he meahte hearpian þæt se wudu waxode & þa stanas hi styredon. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 72 Sawe ȝe a reede wauinge wiþ þe wynde? 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 425 It was i-made sotilliche by gravynge craft þat it semed verrailiche þat corn growynge þerynne wawed hider and þider, as longe corn doop in feeldes. 14.. LYDG. *Test.* 633 Min. Poems (1911) 353 [I] Wawed with eche wynd, as doth a reedspere.

b. Of the beard, tongue: = WAG *v.* 4.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1164 Swithe mury hit is in halle, When the burdes wawen [*Laud MS.* wawe þ] alle! *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6765 Affter that strok his tonge neuere wawed.

c. Of a person: To swing.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Wawyn, or wauereyn, yn a myry totyr, *oscillo*.

3. Of water, the wind: To move restlessly or uncertainly (*about*). Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 175 Ða se is eure waȝiende and þere fore unstedefast. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) IX. iv. 352/1 His worde & his loue & his fayth wawen about as the wynde. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Vndans*, wawyng or mouing like to wawes.

4. Of a person, animal: To move, stir; to go; also with *away*. Also *refl.*

c 1205 LAY. 26041 Hit agon daiȝen and deor gunnen waȝejen [*c* 1275 plegen]. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2148 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 168 He nas nouȝt þe mon þat he wolde is hound eure with-drawe Ne fondi forto fleo heore strokes, ne eures a-weiward wawe. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 210 in *Minor Plays* 83 Wrecche, þis wreccha, with me schal wawe.

5. *trans.* To cause to move or stir.

c 1290 *St. Lucy* 114 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 204 A þousend men with al heore main on hire gonne drawe: Ac euere heo lai stille a-þein, huy ne mihten hire ones wawe. 1297 R. GLOUC. *Chron.* (Rolls) 4220 Þe geant..bigan le mace adrawe þat tueye stalwarde men ne mouhte nouȝt ones wawe. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2634 A spere..Yn the ground y-stikit fast,..Ac non of his myghte up-drawe, No forth in eorthe hit wawe. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xi. 7 A reede wawid with wynd [Vulg. *arundinem vento agitatam*].

b. To move (a limb).

c 1290 *Marie Egiptiace* 198 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 266 Heo ne wawede þenne non bote hire lippenes vnneþe. 13.. *Sir Beues* 2177 Hit [the horse] ne wawede no fot, Til Beues hadde þe stirop. *a* 1400 *Festiv. Ch.* 330 in *Leg. Kond* App. 201 Þe Egle is frikest fowle in flye, Ouer all fowles to wawe hys wenge.

c. Of wind: To agitate (water).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 70 And wyndis of pryde wawen þes floodis, so þat it is perilous to shippis for to wandre.

Hence †**Waw'ing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1303 *Pop. Treat. Sci.* 386 This soule deseth in a man.. whan he leveth his breth and his wawinge also. 1500 *Ortus Vocab., Collinum*, the wawynge of the water.

Waw (wɔ̄), *v.*[2] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 **wawe**, 8 **weawgh**. [Echoic: cf. WAUL *v.*] *intr.* To cry as a cat or utter a similar sound. Hence **Waw'ing** *vbl. sb.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 45/40 To Wawe as a cat, *lallare*. 1576 [see MOONER]. 1664 ETHEREGE *Com. Revenge* IV. iii, Well said Widow, i' faith; I will get upon thy body A generation of wild Cats, children that shall Waw, waw, scratch their Nurses, and be drunk With their sucking-bottles. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 47 Three little tyney Bandyhewits..coom Weawghing os th' little Rott'ns wou'd ha worrit meh. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales, Mary Montgomery* (1865) 550/2 He was a' covered wi' blood, an' had a bit bloody bairn wawin' on afore him. 1876 J. RICHARDSON *Cummerland Talk* Ser. II. 147 Oor Betty's allus wawin', wawin',..Nowt in this warld, o' that I's sarten, Wad keep her fra her wawin' lang! 1887 [G. G. GREEN] *Gordonhaven* v. 54 Ah thocht Ah heard a kin' o' a wawin' or something o' that sort oot o' the sea.

Waw, variant of WOUGH, wall.

‖ **Wawa** (wâ'wâ). Also 8 **way-way**. [Cree *wehwew* goose (Lacombe *Dict. Lang. des Cris*); Odjibwa *wêwe* goose, *wabwêwe* white goose (Baraga *Otchipwe Gram.*). The current Eng. form of the word is WAVEY.] An American-Indian name for the wild goose.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 126 There are various sorts of the geese, as the grey-goose, the way-way, the brant, the dunter. 1855 LONGF. *Hiawa.* II. 162 When the Wawa has departed, When the wild-goose has gone southward.

Wa-wa, wa-wah, var. forms of WOW-WOW.

Wawag, obs. Sc. form of VOYAGE.

Waward(**e, -art**, obs. Sc. forms of VAWARD.

Wawaskeesh (wâwâskĭ'ʃ). *N. Amer.* Also 8 **wewaskikish**. [repr. Odjibwa *wawaskeshi* (Baraga *Otchipwe Dict.*, 1880) = Cree *wawaskâsew* (Watkins *Cree Dict.*, 1865).] = WAPITI.

1796 S. HEARNE *Journ. North. Ocean* 360 The wewaskikish..is quite a different animal from the moose. 1896 J. MACLEAN *Canad. Savage Folk* 620 The Wapiti, known amongst the Cree Indians as Wawaskish.

Wawcer, obs. form of VOUSSOIR.

Wawd, obs. form of *would*: see WILL *v.*

Wawe, obs. form of WOE.

Wawhte, variant of WOTHE.

Wawil-eyed, obs. form of WALL-EYED.

Wawill, obs. Sc. form of WAUL *v.*

†**Wa'wish**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WAW *sb.*[1] + -ISH [1].] Of the sea: Turbulent.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 21 Amanges the wawes tempestuouses ledere and help singulere With out wham we may noght this wawishe sese ouerpasse.

Wawk, obs. form of WAKE *v.*, WALK *v.*[2]

Wawl: see WAUL *v.*

Wawl(**e**, obs. forms of WALL *sb.*[1], *v.*[4]

Wawlme, wawme, var. ff. WALM *sb.*[1]

Wawou, var. form of WOW-WOW.

Wawsper (wɔ̄'wspəɹ). *Sc.* Also 5, 9 **wasper**, 9 **wausper**. [The first element is obscure; the second element is SPEAR *sb.*] A fishing-spear. Cf. WARSPER *sb.*[3]

1472 *Munim. de Melros* (Bannatyne Club) 591 That nane ..presume, till..fisch thare Wateris with Wasperis nettis or any vthir Instrumentis. 1547 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 246 For keiping of thair watteris and fischingis of Done and Dee..in raid tyme fra all maner of nettis, cobillis, wawsperis, heryvalteris, and all wther instrumentis. 1887 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, and *Add.*

Wawt, obs. Sc. form of WELT *v.*

Waw-waw (wɔ̄'wɔ̄). A West Indian climbing shrub (see quot.).

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Waw-waw, *Rafinesia pleioneura*.

†**Wa-wy**, *a. Obs.* [f. WAW *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Full of waves, billowy; = WAVY *a.* 1.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3938 Þe see is calme and blaundisching From trouble of wynde and wawy bollyng. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19044 Alle pygrymes..That swymmen in the wawy see. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 607 Ten thousand shipes at a sight, I saw come ouer the wawy flood. 1503 HAWES *Example. Virt.* x. 182 This stormy troublous and wawy water.

Wax (wæks), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **wæx, wex,** 1, 2 **weax,** 3–6, 9 *dial.* **wex,** 4–6 **wexe** (5 **vexe**), 4–7 **waxe,** (4 **waxche,** *Sc.* **vax,** 5 **whax**), 5–7 *Sc.* **walx,** (6 *Sc.* **valx, waux, waks**), 3– **wax.** [Com. Teut. (not recorded in Goth.): OE. *weax* neut. = OFris. *wax*, OS. *wahs* (LG., Du. *was*), OHG., MHG. *wahs* (mod.G. *wachs*), ON. *vax* (Sw. *vax*, Da. *vox*):—OTeut. **waxso-m*.

Outside Teut. the word occurs as Lith. *vãškas*, OSl. *voskŭ* (Russ. BOSK, Pol. *wosk*, Czech *vosk*), but prob. adopted from Teut. The root may be identical with Teut. **waxs-* to grow (WAX *v.*[1]); it seems not impossible that the etymological sense may have been 'that which grows (in the honeycomb)'. The view now most in favour refers the word to the Indogermanic root **veg-* to weave, found in OIrish *figim* I weave, L. *vēlum* veil, sail (believed to be from prehistoric **veg-slom*), and in certain Teut. words (see WICK *sb.*[1]); the advocates of this etymology appeal to the apparent semasiological parallel of G. *wabe*, honeycomb, presumed to be from the root of *weben* WEAVE *v.*[1] Some other hypotheses have been proposed, but they are all unsatisfactory with regard either to form or meaning.]

1. A substance (also distinctively called BEES-WAX) produced by bees, and used by them as the material of the honeycomb. It is a secretion of special glands in the abdomen, mixed with the secretion of the salivary glands in the process of mastication; when slightly warmed it is readily moulded into any shape, and when heated to about 150° melts into a liquid; in its natural state it is of a bright yellow colour. *Butter of wax*: see BUTTER *sb.*[1] 3. Cf. *wax-butter* in 12.

Chemically beeswax is a combination of palmitic, cerotic, and melissic acids with myricil alcohol.

893–1375 [see 2]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Cant. T.*, Prol. 675 This Pardoner hadde heer as yelow as wex. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 897 Wexe is the drastes of hony. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1003 Of tyme is wex and hony maad swettest. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 165 b, Lyke as ye hony is closed within the come of waxe. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* i. 105 As beis takkis walx and honye of þe floure. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. ii. 65 Since I not wax nor honie can bring home. *a* 1679 SIR J. MOORE *England's Interest* (1703) 137 Break the Combs..into three parts. The first Honey and Wax, the 2d. Honey and Wax with Sandarack, the 3d. dry Wax without Honey. 1792 J. HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 145 The wax is formed by the bees themselves; it may be called an external secretion of oil, and I have found that it is formed between each scale of the under side of the belly. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 433 Wax, according to the experiments of the same naturalists, is nothing more than elaborated honey. 1871 STAVELEY *Brit. Insects* 248 The substances or materials collected or produced by Bees are four in number—honey, bee-bread, wax, and propolis.

¶ b. *Rough wax*: a term formerly applied to the pollen adhering to the legs of bees, which was erroneously supposed to be the crude substance from which the wax was elaborated. *Obs.*

1744 tr. *Basin's Nat. Hist. Bees* 43 This dust then, which falls upon these stamina of flowers, is the sole matter, of which wax is made, which I shall call rough wax. 1792 J. HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 144 The substance brought in on their legs, which is the farina of the flowers of plants, is, in common, I believe, imagined to be the materials of which the wax is made, for it is called by most the wax.

2. Beeswax as melted down, bleached, or otherwise prepared for some special purpose in the arts, in medicine, or in manufactures.

The more prominent uses are: as material for candles and tapers, as a plastic material for modelling, as a component of plasters, as a vehicle for encaustic painting, and as a protective coating to exclude the air.

805–10 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 453 Mon ðaet weax agæfe to cirican. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 129 Swa swa eles gecynd bið þæt he beorhtor scine þonne wex on sceafte. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Alse wex on þe candele sene, þe wueke wiðinnen unsene. *c* 1205 LAY. 2370 Muchel win, muchel wex, muchel wunsum þing. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 936 While þe weke & þe waxe vn-waste þ laste þ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 119 Vyne and vax, schot and vittale. 1402 in *E. E. Wills* 22, ij torchis of wax. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 254 Alle eres of men of his compaignie, With wex he stoppe leet, for þat they noght Hir song sholde heere. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc 81 If þou wilt make it in maner of one emplastre, putte þer-to wax and blak pich. 1597 JAS. VI *Daemonol.* II. v. 44 To some others at these times hee teacheth, how to make Pictures of waxe or clay: That by the rosting thereof, the persones that they beare the name of, may be continuallie melted or dryed awaie by continuall sickneesse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. xi. II. 546 As touching the feat of setting colours with wax, and enamelling with fire, who first began and devised the same, it is not known. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 293 Candles of walx the pound weght thairof, iiiis. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 133 There should be made three images of wax, in the place of three men that were to be offered unto Juno. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I. vi. 40 A Cerote of Wax and Oyl over the Leg. 1702 in Ashton *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* (1882) I. 283 Effigies ..Curiously done in Wax to the Life. 1707–8 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 255 Cleft Grafting...Cover the Head of the Stock with temper'd Clay, or with soft Wax. 1768 W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 202 The chief medicinal use of wax is in plasters, unguents, and other like external applications. 1787 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 104 The Art of Painting in Wax as described in the following letter and account. 1789 MAD. PIOZZI *Journ. France & Italy* II. 227 They..I think excel Mrs. Wright's finest figures in wax. 1803 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (8°) IV. 176 A stream of wax has just overflowed the cup of the wax candle by which I have been reading. 1813 S. PARKES *Chem. Ess.* II. 148 In some particular styles of work the operation of certain colours is resisted by means of stopping out with wax. 1832 CARLYLE *Ess., Death Goethe* (1840) IV. 118 The true Sovereign of the world, who moulds the world like *soft* wax, according to his pleasure. 1840

b. As used for the coating of writing tablets.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 55 Als richtuislie as þai ar here ingravin in þir tabillis or walx. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Cera*, *Cera crudere aliquid*, Plaut. To wryte in tables of waxe. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art* s. v. *Encaustic*, The artists of antiquity..used the stylus and wax for tablet-pictures and architectural decorations.

c. A particular variety of wax. Usually with qualifying adj., as *bleached*, *white*, *yellow wax*. See also VIRGIN WAX.

1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 118 If the child be in great heate annoynte hym with the oyle of violettes, or with oyle of ỳe, tempered with a lyttell whyte wexe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXI. xiv. II. 96 The best wax is that which is called Punica,..and is white. The next in goodnesse is the yellowest,..such commeth from the countrey of Pontus. 1630 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Oils* etc. (1873) 2 To make yellow wax white verie speedily. 1768 W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 201 *Cera alba*..White wax: the yellow wax artificially bleached. *Ibid.*, *Cera flava*..Yellow wax; in the state wherein it is obtained from the combs. 1821 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 122 Unbleached Wax...Yellow wax is prepared immediately from the honeycomb. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 390 The applications in use were yellow wax ointment and nitrate of silver.

†d. *Man of wax*: a waxen image of a man. *Obs.* Cf. 1439 *E. E. Wills* 118 Allso I woll the great Image of wex that is at London be offred to our lady of Worcestre.

1500 *Will of Rigaswell* (Somerset Ho., Blamyr 23 b), I wille that my seid executors..shalle offre for me a man a [*sic*] of wax..at our lady of Walsyngham..also at the rode of Berkles a man of waxe.

†e. *pl.* Pieces of wax. *nonce-use.*

1550 CRANMER *Def. Sacram.* III. 81 As two waxes, that be molten & put togither, they close so in one, that euery part of the one, is loyned to euery parte of the other.

†f. An object made of wax. (*a*) A wax candle. (*b*) A figure or model in wax.

(*a*) 1844 HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xlix, A resplendent October moon..seemed to impose upon us the notion that it would be a sacrilege against Diana if we were to shut out her rays, and substitute a pair of waxes for her clear beams. 1871 BESANT & RICE *Ready-money Mort.* iii, Don't waste the light, Dick. You're burning one of your poor aunt's waxes.

(*b*) 1868 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 125 A mediæval sermon speaks of baptizing a 'wax' to bewitch with. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 May 8/2 The original 'waxes' of Flaxman, Angelino, Pacetti, and other famous designers, from which the moulds for the familiar classical decorations were made.

3. In figurative and similative uses, referring to the easy fusibility of wax, its softness and readiness to receive impressions, its adhesiveness, etc. *Nose of wax*: see NOSE *sb.* 4.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxi. 15 Aeworden wes heorte min swe stane..wex nesch as it wax war. 1472 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* I. vi. in Ashmole (1652) 130 Fluxyble as Wex. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vi. (1867) 61 At my wil I wend she should haue wrought, like wax. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 126 Thy Noble shape is but a forme of waxe, Digressing from the Valour of a man. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 58 He hath a wit of waxe, fresh as a rose. 1608 DEKKER *and Pt. Honest Wh.* I. (1630) B 3, *Hip.* I'm glad you are wax, not marble: you are made Of mans best temper. 1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. ii, I'll work her as I go, I know shee's wax, now. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Canting Crew*, *Pliant*, ..Wax to every Thumb. 1727 POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. ii. 9 He's your slave, for twenty pound a year, Mere wax as yet, you fashion him with ease. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 365 When my mind is made such wax, as to be fit to take what impression she pleases to give it. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxxiv, His heart was one of those which most enamour us, Wax to receive, and marble to retain. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 99 John's heart was of millstone, Henry's of wax.

b. Phrases: *Close, tight, neat as wax*; *to stick* (to one) *like wax*; *to fit like wax*.

1772 CUMBERLAND *Fashionable Lover* III. 35 But you mun be as close as wax, d'ye see. 1809 BYRON *Lines to Mr. Hodgson* 30 All are wrangling, Stuck together close as wax. 1850 SUSAN WARNER *Wide Wide World* xvi, The furniture was common, but neat as wax. 1859 LYTTON *What will he do* IV. xiv, 'Cabined, cribbed, confined', in a coat that fits him like wax. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. iv, Bella and John Rokesmith followed; Gruff and Glum stuck to them like wax. 1898 N. GOULD *Landed at Last* v. 52 Not much chance of drawing Sim Sharples when he's alone. He's as close as wax, and so is Sam Rogers. 1901 [see TIGHT *a.* 5].

c. *Man, lad of wax*: used as a term of emphatic commendation. Now *arch.* and *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

The origin of this expression is not clear. It may have meant 'as faultless as if modelled in wax' (cf. 2 d.). Some would refer it to WAX *sb.*[2]

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 76 Why bee's a man of waxe. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *West-w. Hoe* II. i, Hees a Knight made out of waxe. 1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I. i, Oh! 'tis a Prince of wax. 1612 FIELD *Woman is Weather-cock* I. B 4 b, By Loue it is a little man of wax. 1821 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. iii, A glass of good max.. Wou'd have made them, like us, lads of wax. 1840 *Peter Parley's Ann.* I. 132 The shoemaker..surveyed the Prince from top to bottom. 'No tailor could do that,' said he; 'he must be a lad of wax.' 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* IV, All right, my lad of wax. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* XXIII, Could any lad of wax put up with this, least of all a daring mariner?

4. In early use, beeswax (or a mixture of this with other substances) as employed to receive the impression of a seal; in later use, a compound, chiefly consisting of lac, serving the same purpose: = SEALING-WAX.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 205 Þa fotlastas waeron awutole & geeyne on þeem stane, swa hie on wexe waeron adyde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 557 Als prient of seel in wax es thrist þer in he las his lic[nes] fest. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* IV. 7 Þe prynt we bere of þ^e^ light as þe wax does of þe sele. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 898 Presayte is hydde vnder wexe: and pryueleges be confermyd with wexe. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 341 Loo! here is wax fful redy dyght, Sett on your sele anon ful ryght. 1512–3 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII* c. 6 § 2 The Alnager..shall..not put to eny suche clothes eny seales of wexe in any wise. 1535 W. STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 464 Brekand promit to him befoir he maid In writ and walx, vnder thair seillis braid. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 219 For al the sorte of them occupie waxe..in sealyng their letters. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 59 We will reade it, I sweare. Breake the necke of the Waxe, and euery one giue eare. 1593 — *Lucr.* 1245 No more then waxe shall be accounted euill, Wherein is stampt the semblance of a Deuill. 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelmas Term* IV. i, Hee will neuer trust his land in Waxe and Parchment as many Gentlemen haue done before him. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Forme of Proces* 120 The deposition..sould be stampit and sealit be the Lords examinatours, with seale and walx, and sould not be opened at the second or thrid examination. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Farres. Tower Bottles* A 3, Bound fast in Bonds in Parchment and with waxe. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* IV. i, O do not squeeze Wax, Son; rather go to Ordinaries, and Baudy-houses, than squeeze Wax. 1727 PRIOR *To Harley* 1 Pen, ink, and wax, and paper send. 1761 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* I. 14 *Maj.* A Letter!—Hum—A suspicious Circumstance to be sure!—What, and the Seal a True-Lover's Knot now, hey!..or possibly the Wax bore the industrious Impression of a Thimble. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 32 One piece of wax may serve for all the grantors, &c.. if every one of them put his seal upon the same piece of wax. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxcviii, The seal a sun-flower,..The wax was superfine, its hue vermilion.

b. With designation of colour. See also GREEN WAX.

1485 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 230 For rede wax to seale þe endentures. 1496 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 19 Ane decrete of the Lordis under the quhite walx. 1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1905) VI. 50 For rede waks and quhite to sele the citationis. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ. Humb. Rem.* § 16. 218 The Greene Wax and Red Wax of the Bishops. 1653 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 525 Stone Bottles with White Wine. They are all sealed with Black Wax. 1712 STERLE *Spect.* No. 431 P 3, I then nibbled all the red Wax of our last Ball-Tickets, and three Weeks after the black Wax from the Burying-Tickets of the old Gentleman.

†c. *Hard wax* = SEALING-WAX. *Obs.*

1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 35 The Ilands affoorde plenty of hides, cotten,..hard wax and pearles. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. i, My purse, my seales, My hard-wax, and my table-bookes. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* ix. 26 Laca d'Alaca. Of this is likewise made Spanish hard wax. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIV. § 139 A clean piece of paper sealed with three impressions of an antique head in hard wax.

5. Applied to artificial compounds having the properties of wax, and substituted for it in various applications.

1763 W. LEWIS *Commerc. Phil.-Techn.* 78 The gilding wax is composed of bees-wax, red ochre or ruddle, verdegris, vitriol or alum, and sometimes other additions.

6. Any of a class of substances, found in nature in greater or less purity, including beeswax and other compounds resembling it in general properties and (more or less) in chemical composition. In *Chem.* properly restricted to those 'waxes' of animal and vegetable origin which, like beeswax, are composed of fatty acids and alcohols. The mineral 'waxes' are hydrocarbons.

a. A vegetable product obtained from various trees and plants.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 268 The matter of wax, as forming an ingredient in many vegetables, is discoverable, partly from their shining surface, partly from a certain flexibility in such bodies. 1803 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (8°) IV. 287 The light matter which is called the down of fruits, which silvers the surface of prunes and other fruits, is wax. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 96 Wax is found in a number of vegetables, it is procured in abundance from the berries of the wax myrtle, it may likewise be obtained from the leaves of many trees. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. *s.v.*, Wax exists also as a vegetable product, and may, in this point of view, be regarded as a concrete fixed oil. It forms a part of the green facula of many plants, particularly of the cabbage; it may be extracted from the pollen of most flowers; as also from the skins of plums, and many stone fruits. It constitutes a varnish upon the upper surface of the leaves of many trees, and it has been observed in the juice of the cow-tree. The berries of the *Myrica angustifolia*, *latifolia*, as well as the *cerifera*, afford abundance of wax. 1880 ALCOCK in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 390/2 The *Urushi* tree growing in Japan (the fruit of which yields the vegetable wax). 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Africa* 461 Gums and Resins, Vegetable Waxes.

b. A substance resembling beeswax secreted or produced by various species of scale-insects. Sometimes called *Chinese wax*. Also 'the product of some other homopterous insects'. (*Cent. Dict.*)

1820 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1829) III. 290 To their (the larvæ of the cicada) labours the Chinese are indebted for the fine white wax that is so much esteemed in the East-Indies. They form a sort of white grease which attaches to the branches of trees, hardens there, and becomes wax. 1825 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* I. 308 In China wax is also produced by another insect, which..seems to be a species of

Cocous. *Ibid.* 331 Early in the spring vast numbers of these caterpillars [of *Phalæna cerasia*] collect on the branches of the *Chila*, where they form their cells of a kind of soft white wax or resin... This wax, which is at first very white, but by degrees becomes yellow and finally brown, is collected in autumn by the inhabitants, who boil it in water, and make it up into little cakes for market. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 847 Chinese Wax. 1876 WESTWOOD in *Trans. Entom. Soc. Lond.* 592 Now this 'cottony' covering was doubtless formed of the wax secreted by the *Fulgora*. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 575 A great many [of the *Fulgoridæ*] have the curious power of excreting large quantities of a white flocculent wax. *Ibid.* 597 *Ceroplastes ceriferus*, a Lecanlid, produces white wax in India... The white wax of China is understood to be produced by another Lecaniid, *Ericerus pela*.

c. A mineral product somewhat resembling bees-wax. *Fossil* or *mineral wax* = OZOCERITE. *Paraffin wax*: see PARAFFIN 4.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 448 Fossil wax of Moldavia. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., *Wax, Mineral*, a bituminous substance, found at the foot of the Carpathian mountains, near Slarick. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) V. 1037 *Wax, Fossil.* Syn. with *Ozocerite.*

d. *gen.*

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) IV. 322 Ozocerite..is like a resinous wax in consistence and translucency. 1868 *Ibid.* V. 1037 Japan-wax..is not a true wax, but a glyceride.

7. = EAR-WAX.

[1398–1614: see EAR-WAX]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Cerumen*, the filth or Wax of the Ear, which serves to hinder Dust, Motes, or any little Creatures from getting into it. 1889 L. HUMPHRY *Man. Nursing* (1892) 216 When there is hard wax blocking up the canal [of the ear].

8. A thick resinous composition used by shoemakers for rubbing their thread. More fully *cobblers', shoemakers' wax*: see COBBLER, SHOEMAKER.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Martyr* III. iii, Long I cannot last, for all sowterly waxe of comfort melting away, and misery taking the length of my foote, it bootes not me to sue for life. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *North. Angler* 21 The amateur..must..be provided with..shoe-maker's wax. I prepare my own wax,..by boiling a little pitch and rosin together,..and tempering it with a very little tallow. 1885 LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* 222 Wax that will work up into the pure bronze colour so much liked by shoemakers may be made of 4 lbs. resin, 1 lb. pitch, 4 ounces beeswax, 3 ounces tallow.

9. *U.S.* A thick syrup produced by boiling down the sap of the sugar-maple tree, cooling on ice, etc. (*Cent. Dict.*)

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. i, [Making maple sugar] The 'wax is freely distributed to be cooled on lumps of snow or the axe-head.

10. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wax* (Leicester.) soft or puddled clay used for *dams* or *stoppings*, and in which the colliers stick and carry about their candles in the mine.

11. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib. (quasi-adj.) with the sense 'composed of wax'. (See also WAX-TAPER.)

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 474/2 *Ceroplastes*,..a maker of wax images. 1685 G. SINCLAIR *Satans Invis. World* 3 This woman..had formed an Wax-Picture, with pins in the side. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 714 Wax Plaster. 1885 in R. W. Goulding *Louth Old Corpor. Rec.* (1891) 185 By Cash of Madame Tussaud for 5 weeks use of the Mansion House for her Exhibition of Wax Figures, 9 19 6. 1846 DICKENS *Pict. Italy*, Lyons, etc., There was a wax saint, in a little box..with a glass front to it. 1847 *Ann. Reg.* 20 A little box of about a dozen wax lucifer matches. 1849 CHRISTMAS *Cradle of Twin Giants* II. iv. I. 271 An empty bier, surrounded by an hundred wax-torches. 1853 C. C. FELTON *Fam. Lett.* viii. (1865) 62 The oddest thing of all is a wax figure of Frederic the Great. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 105 Some freak of wax-fruit modelling. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vesta*, a kind of wax match. 1870 BOWEN *Logic* xi. 353 It may be only a wax counterfeit. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 43 A wax vesta which is lit and the head knocked off. 1914 IAN HAY *Knt. on Wheels* xx, His wife kept wax fruit under a glass case in her parlour window.

b. simple attrib., 'of or pertaining to WAX', as *wax-chip, -solution, -spot.*

1839 *Habits of Gd. Society* xiii. 336 After the Tuileries' balls, we often returned with complete epaulettes of wax-spots on our shoulders, if in moments of carelessness we had stood under the chandeliers. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 241 A wax solution or wax chips melted by a hot iron.

c. objective, as *wax-bearer, -manufacturer, -modeller*, † *-nibbler, producer*; *wax-modelling* vbl. sb.; *wax-bearing, -forming, -producing, -secreting* ppl. adjs. Also WAX-MAKER, -MAKING.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* v. iii. (1592) 884 The Acoluthes say they are *waxe-bearers, because they carrie waxe-candles. 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* II. 232 The Candleberry Myrtle, or *Wax-bearing Myrick. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1803) III. 289 The *Wax-forming Cicada. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wax-manufacturer. *Ibid.*, *Wax-modeller. 1850 OUILVIE, *Wax-modelling. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 P 3 Chalk-lickers, *Wax-nibblers, Coal-scranchers, [etc.]. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 131 Insects..highly prized as *wax-producers. 1862 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. iii. 206 Bees are the principal *wax-producing animals. 1881 *Globe Encycl.* VI. 484 The *wax-secreting glands [in the bee].

d. instrumental, as *wax-coated, -composed, -erected, -jointed, -lighted, -polished, -rubbed, -tipped, -topped* adjs.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2748/2 A machine for preparing *wax-coated matches for dipping. *a* 1640 SIR F. KYNASTON *Leoline & Sydanis* 1874 His *wax-composed wings unfeathered were. *a* 1718 PARNELL *Hesiod* 131 Thus in a thousand *wax-erected forts A loitering race the painful bee 1846 PROWETT *Prometh. Bound* 97 While murand axes From his *wax-jointed reed the same low sleepy drone. 1839 HOOD *Lines to Friend at Cobham* 17 You'll sometimes have *wax-lighted rooms. 1866 J. B. ROSS tr. *Ovid's Met.* 245 Chestnut bowls, *wax-polished was their wood. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skiad.* (1878) 26 Like a *wax-rubd Citty roome. 1898 CONAN DOYLE *Trag. Korosko* I, He had..a small *wax-tipped moustache. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebridge Hall* (1823) I. 123 The Stout Gentleman and his *wax-topped boots.

e. similative, as *wax finish*; with adjs. denoting colour, as *wax-brown, -red, -white, -yellow*; also *wax-like* adj.

1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomyc.* 70 Cup medium size,.. pale *wax-brown. 1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 464 The making of a *wax finish on chrome-tanned horse hide butts. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 27 Her *wax-like flesh..answers for the soundness of her health. 1816 COLERIDGE *Statesman's Man.* 4 We..need not be surprised at the fact, that a jealous priesthood should have ventured to represent the applicability of the Bible to all the wants and occasions of men as a wax-like pliability to all their fancies and prepossessions. 1862 MULLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 474 If its chloride be mixed with a solution of bichloride of platinum it yields a wax-like mass. 1885 *Cornhill Mag.* Mar. 284 A lovely..plant with masses of waxlike lilac blossom. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* X. Descr. Pl. xvii, The greater part of the hand is of wax-like pallor. 1590 SHAKS *Wiv. & Ad* 516 Which purchase If thou make, for feare of slips, Set thy seale manuell, on my *wax-red lips. 1890 KIPLING *Life's Handicap, Incarn. Krishna Mulvaney* 89 My face was *wax-white, an' at the worst I must ha' looked like a ghost. 1805 T. WEAVER *Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 58 *Wax-yellow [G. *wachsgelb*] is a light honey-yellow, mixed with a little light ashesgrey.

f. in parasynthetic formations, as *wax-featured, -headed*, † *-hearted* adjs.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* I. 11. (1619) 227 How many who haue seemed waxe-hearted Christians, soft and pliable. 1913 MRS. E. WHARTON *Custom of Country* II. xii. 156 A showy Parisianized figure, with a small wax-featured husband. 1914 *Glasgow News* 22 Dec. 4 The map was bristling with wax-headed pins of great variety in size and colour. They represented army units.

12. Special comb.: †**wax boot**, a boot made of waxed leather, for walking in marshy ground; **wax-bush**, the plant *Cuphea viscosissima*; **wax-butter** = *butter of wax* (see quot.); **wax-cloth**, cloth coated with wax as a protection from wet; also, oil-cloth for covering floors or tables; **wax-cluster** *Austral.*, the plant *Gualtheria hispida*; **wax-colour**, (*a*) a pigment ground with wax for encaustic painting; (*b*) the yellow colour of wax; hence **wax-coloured** *a.*; †**wax-comb**, a honeycomb; **wax-creeper** *S. African*, a name of two plants with wax-like flowers, *Hoya carnosa* and *Microloma tenuifolium*; **wax-cup**, the hollow at the top of a burning wax candle; **wax-end**, thread coated with cobblers' wax, used by shoemakers; hence **wax-ended** *a.*, bound with wax-ends; †**wax-farthing**, a farthing paid by parishioners at Easter to provide wax candles for use in church; **wax-gland**, a gland (in certain insects) secreting wax; **wax-hair**, one of the long hairs occurring on the bodies of the young of *Psyllidæ* or flea-lice; † **wax-house**, a building in a monastery where wax candles were made; **wax-insect**, an insect producing wax; also *attrib.*; **wax lathe** *Watchmaking*, a lathe in which the object to be turned is fastened with shellac or sealing-wax; **wax-leather**, leather 'waxed' or finished on the 'flesh' side; also *attrib.*; †**wax-man**, the officer of a trade guild who collected the contributions of the members for the wax candles to be used in the processions; **wax-moth**, a moth whose larva preys on the honeycomb; **wax-mould**, † (*a*) a mould for running melted wax into; (*b*) a mould made of wax; **wax-myrtle** = WAX-BERRY a; **wax-nose**, a 'nose of wax' (see NOSE *sb.* 4); hence **wax-nosed** *a.*; **wax-oil** *Chem.* (see quot.); †**wax-opal** (see quot.); **wax-painting**, encaustic painting; **wax-palm**, a name for two S. American wax-yielding palms, *Ceroxylon andicola* and *Corypha* or *Copernica cerifera*; **wax-paper** (see quot.); **wax pear**, a variety of pear of a wax-like colour; **wax pigment**, a pigment prepared with wax; **wax-pine, wax-pink** (see quots.); **wax-pocket** *Ent.*, each of the sacs on the abdomen of the bee, for receiving the wax secreted by the wax-glands; **wax rose**, a variety of rose whose petals have a waxy appearance; † **wax shoe**, a shoe made of waxed leather (cf. *wax boot*); †**wax-silver**, money paid by parishioners at Easter for wax candles to be used in the church; **wax tablet**, a board coated with wax, to be written upon with a stylus; **wax-weed** = *wax-bush*; **wax-worm**, the larva of the wax-moth.

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. 29 'Twill be as common to buy a pair of Wings to fly to the World in the Moon, as to buy a pair of *Wax Boots to ride into Sussex with. 1849–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* II. 96 *Cuphea viscosissima* (*wax-bush). 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) V. 1036 Beeswax is decomposed by dry-distillation, giving off a product which forms, on cooling, a white buttery mass, called *wax-butter, or *Butyrum cere.* 1826 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* I, The first..having a hat covered with *wax-cloth,..and dreadnought overalls. 1834 CARLYLE *Let. to Mrs. Austin* (Thorpe's Catal. 1913) Some sort of wax-cloth for a lobby. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 111/2 *Wax-cloth*, a name sometimes given but very erroneously, to *Floor-cloth* (q. v.). 1834 J. ROSS *Van Diemen's Land Ann.* 133 *Gaultheria hispida*. The *wax cluster, abundant in the middle region of Mount Wellington. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art* s.v. *Wax Painting*, In Encaustic Painting, the *wax colours were burnt into the ground by means of a hot iron. 1592 *Masm. Mag.* Apr. 439/2 His sun-burned face turned wax-colour. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 581 Varieties of cornel..with *wax-coloured fruit. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 368 Thai micht liknyt be till ane *wax-cayme that beis mais. 1890 ANNIE MARTIN *Home Life Ostrich Farm* 20 The little '*wax-creeper,' than which tiny as it is, I do not think a more perfect flower could be imagined. 1800 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 463 That the *wax-cup of the candle be kept clean, and never suffered to run over. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Wax-end*, the waxed thread used by cordwainers. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* vii, 'I will not, sir,' replied the beadle, adjusting the wax-end which was twisted round the bottom of his cane for purposes of parochial flagellation. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* 68, I could mend all this in less than an hour with some wax-ends and a brad-awl. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* xiii, A fearful instrument of flagellation, strong, supple, *wax-ended, and new. *c* 1388 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 255 Every house payd at Easter..j farthynge called a *waxfarthinge. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 589 Certain gall-dwelling Aphidæ..possess numerous *wax glands. *Ibid.* 580 In these earlier stages the body [of various Psyllidæ] bears long hairs called *wax-hairs. 1385–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 391 In factura unius camini in le *Waxhous. 1472–3 *Ibid.* 413 Cum emendacione unius patelle de le waxhouse, 14d. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 389 This account is in the main confirmed by Geomelli Careri, except that he calls the *wax-insect a worm which bores to the pith of certain trees. 1857 FORTUNE *Resid. among Chinese* 147 The wax-insect tree is no doubt a species of ash (fraxinus). 1881 *Globe Encycl.* VI. 484/1 The Hemipterous family *Coccidæ* includes the chief wax insects, familiarly known as bark lice. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 139 For many operations required in watch jobbing Mr. Ganney recommends the *wax or cement lathe. 1722 STEELE *Spect.* No. 48 P 4, I am mounted in high-heel'd Shoes with a glased *Wax-leather Instep. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 152 Wax leather is blackened in the flesh. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 278/1 Wax leather, the serviceable leather for the upper parts of men's boots. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Bee*, A small caterpillar, termed the wax-worm, or *wax-moth, because of the havock it makes on wax. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xii. (1818) I. 390 The wax-moth larva (*Galleria Cereana*) will for want of wax eat paper, wafers, wool, etc. 1877 J. G. WOOD *Nature's Teach.* 151 The Wax-moth, or Galleria-moth (*Galleria alvearia*)..is in its larval state extremely injurious to beehives. *a* 1679 SIR J. MOORE *England's Interest* (1703) 137 First provide necessary Instruments, as..Honey-Pots, *Wax-Molds. 1849 G. W. FRANCIS *Art of Modelling Wax in Flowers* 16 Wax moulds for plaster casting, or the electro-type, should have [etc.]. 1823 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 96 Wax..is procured in abundance from the berries of the *wax-myrtle. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. America* (10th Census IX) 136 *Myrica cerifera*..Bayberry. Wax Myrtle. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Commonpl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 11 It is fitter for the dotage dreams of Sir William Jones, than the visions of the poet. Let the *wax-nose be tweaked by Volney on one side and Maurice on the other! *c* 1615 SYLVESTER *Mem. Mortal.* II. xciv, Let's leave out I, and No, in Conversation: Words now transposed, and *wax-nosed, Both. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) V. 1036 [Beeswax gives off wax-butter, and] afterwards a more and more liquid oil, called *wax-oil, still retaining a small quantity of solid matter. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.*, *Wax-opal*, an early name for yellow opal with a waxy lustre. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art*, **Wax Painting*. This art practised by the ancients under the name of Encaustic, has lately been revived in several countries. 1899 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 75 Various attempts have been made to re-introduce wax-painting; but the art of *pencillum-encaustic*, as practised by the ancients, seems to be lost. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 282 The Ceroxylon andicola, or *Wax Palm of Humboldt, has its trunk covered by a coating of wax, which exudes from the spaces between the insertion of the leaves. 1888 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 436 *Wax Palm.* There are two so called: 1. *Copernicia cerifera*, a fan palm native of Brazil.. 2. *Ceroxylon andicola*, a tall wing-leaved palm, native of the elevated regions of New Grenada. 1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med.*, *Wax-paper. *Charta cerata.* Melt, in a water-bath, 48 parts each of white wax and fine turpentine, and 32 parts of spermaceti, and spread on paper. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlix. 537 The best..perrie is made of little yellow *waxe peares. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art* s.v., This medium is employed in making the cakes of *wax-pigments for water-colours. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Wax-pine*, the general name for the species of *Agathis* (*Dammara*), coniferous trees producing a large amount of resin. *Ibid.*, **Wax-pink*, a name for garden species of *Portulaca*: so called from their wax-like leaves and showy flowers. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (1818) I. 492 The apparatus in which the wax is secreted consists of four pair of membranous bags or *wax-pockets. 1837 RIVERS *Rose Amateur's G.* 18 Duchesse d'Angoulême, or the *wax rose, is an old but deservedly favourite variety. 1664 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 20 For a paire of *wax shoes [cf. below 1666, waxt shoes], 4s. 4d. 1692 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 144 For 2 pair wax shoes. 1432 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 3 Et in *waxsilver collecto in ecclesia in die Paschali, vijs. viijd. 1496 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 574 Item, that no maister make no brother to be Craft yf he haue be prentes in j e Cite no lesse ben xiijs. iiijd. & his wax siluer. 1807 DOUCE *Illustr. Shaks.* II. 228 The Roman practice of writing on *wax tablets with a stile was continued also during the middle ages. 1905 J. B. BURY *Life St. Patrick* lii. 40 Honoratus sent a messenger across in a boat with a letter on a wax tablet. 1884 W. MILLER *Plants-n.* L 144 *Wax-weed, Blue, *Cuphea viscosissima.* 1766 *Wax-worm [see *wax-moth*].

Wax (wæks), *sb.*[2] Now *rare* exc. *dial.* [f. WAX *v.*[1] Cf. G. *wachs.*]

1. The process of waxing; growth.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1430 Euer stod þai [*sc.* þe wandes] still in an, Wit-outen wax, wit-outen wain. *Ibid.* 8244 A-bouse þat tre, A siluer cercle son naild he, þat was þe stouen for to strength, And knau þe wax o gret and length. 1892 *Athenæum* 30 Jan. 146/2 'On the Wane' (which should strictly be called 'On the Wane, on the Wax, and on the Wane Again').

2. Stature; size (of something growing).

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 245 Thou art best on thi wax that euer was clekyt, or knawen. 1628 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Garden* (1626) 35 The boale will be first, and best serued and fed, because he is next the root, and of greatest waxe and substance. 1868 Atkinson *Cleveland Gloss.*, and 1876–89 in Yorks. and Linc. glossaries.

Wax (wæks), *sb.*[3] *colloq.* or *slang.* [Of doubtful origin; possibly evolved from some phrase like *to wax angry* (arch.), *to wax warm* (now *dial.*): see Wax *v.*[1] 9 a (*b*).] Angry feeling; a fit of anger; chiefly *to be in a wax.*

1854 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* II. vii, I used to rush out in a frightful state of wax, and show a leg. 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* xxxv, Can't you get into a wax, old girl? 1874 H. Belcher *Cramleigh Coll.* I. 181 It ain't my fault if you've been bohooin'; so don't be in a wax with me. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 118 What a wax you're in, Dolly.

Wax (wæks), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **waxed** (wækst); also pa. pple. **waxen.** Forms: *Inf.* (and Pres. stem). 1 **weaxan, weaxsan, weahsan, weahxan, wexan, wehsan,** 2–3 **weosen,** 2–4, 6–7 *arch.* **wexen,** 3 **uexen, wexi,** 4–5 **wix(e,** 5 **vexe, wexyn, vix(e, vyx(e,** 3–6 **wexe,** 4–7 (9 *arch.*) **wex;** 2–4 **wacse(n,** 3 *Orm.* **waxenn, waxxenn,** 3–6 **waxen,** 5 **waxyn,** 4–6 *Sc.* **vax,** 6 **weaxe,** *Sc.* **walx,** 3–7 **waxe,** 3– **wax.** *Contracted* 2 *sing.* 1 **wyxt,** 4 **wext;** 3 *sing.* 1 **weaxt, wexp, wixt,** etc., 3 **west,** 3–4 **wexp,** 4 **wext.** *Pa. t. sing.* 1 **wéox, wéoos, wéohs,** *Northumb.* **-wóx,** 2 **weax, weacs,** 2–3 **wæx,** 3 **weox,** 2–5 **wex,** 4–5 **wexe, weex,** *north.* **wix, wyx,** 4 *north.* **vex;** 2 **waexs,** 3–6 **wax,** 4–5 **waxe,** 4 **waux;** 3–6 (7, 9 *arch.*) **wox,** 4–6 (9 *arch.*) **woxe,** 4–6 *Sc.* **vox,** 5 **woxse,** 4–5 *Sc.* **woux,** 6 *Sc.* **woix, wolx.** *Plur.* 1 **wéoxon, wéohson, wéoxson,** *Northumb.* **wóxon,** *Mercian* **wéxon,** 2 **weoxan,** 3 **weoxen,** 3–5 **wexe(n;** 3 **wuxen,** 4 **wuxe,** 3–5 **woxe(n,** 4 **waxen.** *weak.* 4 **wast,** 4–5 **wex-, waxide, -ede,** *pl.* **wexiden, -eden,** 5 **wexedde, wexid, wexte, waxet, waxte, waxhid,** *pl.* **waxiden,** 5–6 **waxt,** 5–7 **wext, wexed,** 6 **weaxed,** 5– **waxed.** *Pa. pple.* 1 **weaxen,** 2 (3e)**wexon,** 3 (i)**wexan,** 3–6 **wexen,** 3–5 **wexe,** 4–5 **wex, wexun,** 5 **-in, -yn, wixen;** 3–7 (8–9 *arch.*) **waxen,** 3–6 **waxin,** 4–5 **-yn, wax(e,** 4 **ywax,** 5 **waxun, waxson,** 6 *Sc.* **walxin;** 3–7 **woxen,** 3–4 **i-, ywoxe,** 3–5 **woxe, woxin,** 3 (i)**wox,** 4, 6 **wox,** 4 **woxyn, woxsen,** 4–5 **woxun.** *weak.* 4 **wexid,** 5 **y-wexed,** 5–7 **wext,** 6 **waxt, weaxed,** *Sc.* **vaxit,** 6–7 **wexed,** 6– **waxed.** [A Common Teut. strong verb (which became weak in late ME.): OE. *weaxan* (pa. t. *wéox*, Northumb. *wóx*; pa. pple. *weaxen*) corresp. to OFris. *waxa* (W.Fris. *waechsje, wachse*, N.Fris. *wâks*), OS. *wahsan*, (M)Du. *wassen*, OHG. *wahsan* (MHG., mod.G. *wachsen*), ON. *vaxa* (Sw. *växa*, Da. *vokse*), Goth. *wahsjan* (with *ja*- suffix in the pres.-stem; pa. t. *wôhs*, pa. pple. *wahsan-s*):—OTeut. **waxs-*:—pre-Teut. **woks-*, an ablaut variant of Indogermanic **awaks-*, **auks-*, **uks-* (Gr. *ἀέξειν, αὐξάνειν* to increase, Skr. *ukṣ* to grow, perf. *vavakṣa*, causative *vakṣayati*), an extended form of **awag-* **aug-*, **ug-* (L. *augēre* to increase, Sk. *ójas* neut., strength, Lith. *augu* I grow, OTeut. **auk-* in Goth. *aukan*, OHG. *ouhhôn*, OE. *ēacian* to grow, increase: see Eke *v.*)

The OTeut. conjugation of the verb is retained in Goth., OHG., OS., and ON.; in OE. it is confined to the Northumbrian dialect (pa. t. *wóx*); the WS. pa. t. *wéox* and the Du. *wies* are due to the analogy of the reduplicating verbs.

The strong pa. t. became rare after the 14th c., and is now wholly obsolete; the one or two examples in the poetry of the 18–19th c. are deliberately archaistic. For the pa. pple. the Bible of 1611 has *waxed* four times and *waxen* eight times; in recent use *waxen* is not unfrequent when the verb is conjugated with *to be*, but is otherwise very rare.]

Originally a more frequent synonym of Grow *v.*, which has now superseded it in general colloquial use, exc. with reference to the moon (see 6). With this exception, the senses below which are not marked as obsolete are confined to literary use, and have, in varying degrees, a somewhat archaic flavour; some of those under branch I survive only in the traditional antithesis with Wane *v.* The verb is said still to be current in certain dialects: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

I. To grow, increase. (Opposed to *wane*, †*wanse.*)

1. *intr.* Of a plant or its parts: To increase gradually in size and vigour; to develop, sprout (*up*). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* †Also, to grow in a specified habitat or situation (*obs.*).

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 293 Sumu twigu þe lehte mid wætere, ðonne hie to hwon weoxeon, ðæt hie ðy sniðor weaxan sceolden. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 402 Rise weaxst ȝewunelice on wæterȝum stowum. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hie wenden þe eorðe, and wurpen god sad þaronne, and hit wacxs and wel þeagh. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 494 Corn & frut hom wax inoug. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 206 There wex ek euery holsum spice & gres. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xiii. 7 The thornis wexen vp. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4772 Lo, þis was a wondirfull werk..þat þai [trees] auld wax soo & wane within a wale time. 14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 54 Tak everferne that waxes on the ake. 1877 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 40 b. When the Corne is ripe..you must then haue it in, that it may rather waxe in the Barne then in the Feelde. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* v. 52 The Stem shall strongly wax, as still the Trunk doth wither. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., The plums are waxing nicedly.

† **b.** Of a mineral: To be native, be found, in a specified place; = Grow *v.* 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* ii. 11 Þæt land þe ys gehaten Euilað, þær þær gold wext [Vulg. *ubi nascitur aurum*]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 12 Al þe presciouse Peerles þat in paradys waxen.

2. Of human beings and animals: To increase gradually in size and strength of body and limb. *arch.* and *dial.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 40 Soðlice þæt cild weox. *c* 1200 Ormin 3182 & swiþe wel he wex & þraf. *c* 1205 Lay. 30073 Þa children wuxen and wel iþæhen. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 791 Ich am wel waxen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10613 Als sco wex on hir licame, Sua wex hir loueword and hir fame. 13.. *Coer de L.* 2836 For fourty pound men sold an oxe, Though it were but lytyl woxe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12449 Thies [two sons] were gyuen to the gouernaunce of a gay kyng,..Till þai waxen were of wit & of wight dedis. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 247 In this nourysshing he waxe and grewe in all beawte, strengthe, and prudence. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* IV. 353 Ascanius yet that waxeth fast behold. 1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 358 You must beware that you take them not before they are somewhat woxen. 1677 in *Ray's Corresp.* (1848) 127, I think they [salmon] wax for five or six years. 1875 F. J. Scudamore *Day Dreams* 83 For a time he grows and waxes in his stye. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* XI. 312–2 And when nine years they were waxen, nine cubits length outright Was the measure of their bigness. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., Thy bairn waxes fast, she's taller ivery time I see her.

† **b.** of a part of the body, the hair, etc. *Obs.*

a 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 434 His feax weox swa swa wimmanna. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7257 Wexen was sumdel his hare. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9924 Here clobes ne roted, ne nayles grewe, Ne heere ne wax. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. met. iii. (1886) 95 Þat oother is chaunged in to a lyoun..and hise nayles and hise teth wexen. 1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* ii. (1888) 24 The Nayles..are alwayes waxing in the extremitie of the fyngers and toes.

† **c.** Of a morbid growth or disease: To arise and develop on or in the body. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 118 Gif nebcorn on wifmannes nebbe wexen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 288 Þeonne..þer waxeð wunde & deopeð into þe soule. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 117 For angenayll þat waxin in feet. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 100 A surgian muste þanne be bisy in al þat he myȝte, þat a crampe ne wexe not in þe wounde.

† **3.** Of a company, host, people: To increase in numbers. *Obs.*

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 109 Dryhten cuæð to Noe & to his bearnum: Weahsað ȝe & monifaldiað & gefyllað eorðan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 999 And a hi leton heora feonda wærod wexan. *c* 1200 Ormin 3947 Þatt heoffness here mihhte swa þurrh hallȝhe sawless waxenn. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3259 Wexinge euere beþ vre fon, bi water & bi londe. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6023 (Laud MS.), Now gynneþ his Oost fast to wexe. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1255 Þey wil waxe & we schal wanye; When we ben fewe, þey schol be manye. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1485 Cryst of heuene ȝow alle saue my messagers alle sixe! & ȝut þe vij schulle ȝe haue ȝour felaschip to make wixe. 1582 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will ye haue the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 26 Her people wexing still, and wanting where to build. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 1 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

4. Of a person, nation, institution: To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, † *on.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wæx hit [*sc.* the minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhillc mann..birrþ..þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 Inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17967 Ned iss..þatt he nu forrþwarrd waxe, & ec iss ned & god off me, þatt I nu forrþwarrd wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi byþ uol wexe and heȝe yclíue ine dyngnetes. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1666 Al-so mot y waxe. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. viii. 322 Sithen the chirche wexid in dignitees, he decrecid in vertues. 1567–9 Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 32 *Mali proficiunt*: *Boni deficiunt*: The wicked wax: the godly wane. 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* III. i. 44 Now man, that earst Haile-fellow was with beast, Woxe on to weene himself a God at least. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. ii. 103 His Pupill age Man-entred thus, he waxed like a Sea. 1624 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Praise Clean Linen* Ded., Hee is a firme and stable man, and waxeth much oftner then hee wanes. 1690 Child *Disc. Trade* Pref. (18 b), Land and Trade, which are Twins, and have always, and ever will wax and wane together. 1864 Tennyson *Boädicea* 40 Thou shalt wax and he shall dwindle. 1873 Burton *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxviii. 112 A democratic party equally hostile to them was waxing in size and strength. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 54 The nation waxed in freedom and friendship and communion of soul. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* II. 85 Now waxeth the son of Sigmund in might and goodliness. 1914 H. H. Henson *War-time Serm.* xix. 244 Elmham waned as Norwich waxed.

5. Of inanimate things: To increase in size, quantity, volume, intensity, etc. Of water, the sea: To rise, swell; to flow *out* in a flood. Of day or daylight, night: To grow longer.

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 245 Þæt water weox oþ mannes swuran. 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Hi sæȝon on norðeast fir micel & brad wið þone eorðe, & wæx on lengþe up on an to þam wolcne. *c* 1200 Ormin 1901 Marrchess nahhtess wannsenn 233, & Marrchess dazhesn waxenn. *Ibid.* 2918 O þatt dazz biginnebb uss þe dazzess lihht to waxenn. *Ibid.* 2472 Hire wambe sibbenn toc To waxenn alls lit birrde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 124 Þer ase muchel fur is, kundeliche hit waxeð mid winde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 599 Dunes waxen, de flod wiðdroȝ. *c* 1290 *St. James* 136 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 38 Þe ston bi-gan to wexe a-brod and holu; bi-cam a-midde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6362 Þe se flode..bigan to wexi uaste ase it deþ atte tide. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2775 Þe water wex oute quer þe plaine. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 1002 Þi mele ne shal wante noht, And þin oyle shal waxen. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. vii. 398 The watters wox as thai war wod. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 158 It [the chain] wexeth in hys bonde & multypl; ethe awyde. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1550 Wexing the se, comming the flode. 1820 Scott *Monast.* v, Whereby I may be obliged to take the river, which I observed to be somewhat waxen. 1869 A. M'Laren *Serm.* Ser. II. xi. 201 Energy which wanes as the years wax. 1884 *Spectator* 2 Aug. 1009/2 Glaciers..wax and wane in some mysterious manner. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. iv, Whereon the sacred fire should be kept constantly burning, waxing and waning with the

6. Of the moon: To undergo the periodical increase in the extent of its visible illuminated portion, characteristic of the first half of the lunation.

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 Þonne he [the moon] wexeþ, he bið gelic þæm godum menn þe ahopað to þæm ecean leohte. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 154 Se mona deð swaðer ðe wyxð ðe wanað; healfum monðe he bið weaxende, healfum he bið wanigende. *a* 1225, *c* 1386, *c* 1440 [see Wane *v.* 2]. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 760 Tho wexing us-ward, heav'n-ward thou dost wane. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 324 States thrive or wither, as moons wax and wane. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* viii. 110 Twelve moons had waxed and waned. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 133 Grafts are to be set while the moon is waxing. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 277/1 The moon was now waxing fast.

7. Of a quality, state of things, activity, wealth, etc.: To become gradually greater or more striking; to increase in potency or intensity.

Beowulf 1741 Oð þæt him on innan oferhygda dæl weaxeð ond wridað. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiii 217 Æghwelces lareowes lar wihxð [*Cott.* wihst] ðurh his geðylde. *c* 1200 Ormin 3049 þurrh whatt biforenn Drihhtin Godd Wurrþshipe waxenn shollde. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 689 Wit west among his sore An for his sore hit is þe more. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1268 Abimalech sæi abraham, Hu welðe him wex and migte cam. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19399 Godds word wex fast and greu. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 737 His langure gan wex. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 17 When so his furie woxe, from skies he did me thro Down by the foote. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handie-Crafts* 560 His Art, still wexing, sweetly marrieth His quavering fingers to his warbling breath. 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* I. 13 As did his Name, his Wealth did daily wex. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* cxcii, Now wexed horror to the very height. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* IV. iv. III. 65 Moreover, the discord among the Reformers themselves waxed daily.

b. in contrast with *wane* or † *wanse.*

13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 263 Worldes catel passet sone, þat wacset & wansit rit as te mone. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 3 And so my witte wex and wanyed til I a fole were. 1601 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv. 2203 My fortunes cannot wax but they may waine. 1711 Pope *Temple Fame* 486 Some [lies] to remain, and some to perish soon; Or wane and wax alternate like the moon. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* xiv. (1865) 63 Its impulses wax as its motives wane. 1826 Wordsw. '*Once I could hail*' 42 In that domain Where joys are perfect—neither wax nor wane. 1899 E. J. Chapman *Drama Two Lives* 9 All life's poor glamours wax and wane.

† **8.** a. Of a quality, activity, event, etc.: To come into being, spring up, begin, arise, occur. Also with *up.* Of the day: To appear, dawn. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 3 Of ðam ðonne onginnað weaxan þa mistas ðe þæt mual ȝedrefað. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, Þer efter wæs suythe micel uuerre betuyx þe king & Randolf eorl of Cæstre. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 3 Hu miuche god mihte of inker streon waxen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 273 An wid ðat pride him wex a nyð. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1713 Bituene þe romeins & þis lond þer wax þo striuing. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 1452 (Laud) Þe day hy gan to wexe. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3327 Þer wex a kene crie. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxvi. 6 If .. temptacyons wax ageynes me. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. vi. (1886) 28 Of which false opynyoune the dirkenesse of perturbaciouns wexit [Addit. MS. waxeþ] vp. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Ireland* xi. 26 In thys whyle, wax a grett wreth & a grete stryfe betwyx þe kyng of Connaght, & donoll Obreyn.

† **b.** *To wax forth*, to be born or created. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 33 For wiþ word þat he warp woxen forþ Beastes.

II. With complement: To change by growth or increase, to become. (Cf. Grow *v.* 12.)

9. a. With adj. complement: (*a*) With more or less of the idea of growth or increase: To become gradually, grow.

c 1200 Ormin 2479 Þatt þho wass waxenn summ del grutt & tatt þho wass wiþþ childe. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* ii. 133 So þat wiþinne þritti ȝer his tre wox wel heie. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A 538 Þe sunne was doun & hit wex late. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VIII. 287 Þe Scottes wex [*v.r.* wuxe] strenger and strenger. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 670 Florent ys a. yere old and

241 b, Signifiyng..the dayes to have weaxed longer. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Deut.* xxxii. 15 But he that shulde haue bene vpright, when he waxed fat, spurned with his hele [1611 Iesurun waxed fat, and kicked]. 1562 A. Brooke *Romeus & Jul.* 209 This sodain kindled fyre in time is wox so great. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 32 Till that her sisters children, woxen strong Through proud ambition, against her rebeld. 1652 R. Child in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1653) 64 According as your plants are waxen strong. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* v, Manfred..pushed on the feast until it waxed late.

1896–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xxxvii. (1870) II. 335 By daygrese, our conception waxes fuller. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 6. 503 The panic waxed greater when it was found they claimed to be acting by the King's commission. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* I. 15 Even the foxes and their cubs..had of late waxed fat and lazy.

(*b*) Without the idea of growth or increase: To become, turn. (Sometimes used with reference to a sudden or immediate change.)

c 1220 *Bestiary* 131 If he [the adder] cloſed man se, Cof he waxeð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3563 His blode þan wexus dri and cald. 13.. *K. Horn* 302 (Harl.) Vpon Athulf childe rymenild con waxe wilde. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxiv. 12 The charite of manye schal wexe coold. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 34 Whan he wax seke, thei woxen seke. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 213 Yf the messager wix dronke. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xx. 64 þe proude lady..wexed red as a rose. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. viii. 78 The wyde hallis wolx patent [L. *atria longa patescunt*]. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 344 Ye people..whished & weaxed dumme. 1545 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 127 Take fyne meale, and bake ..tyll it waxe browne. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 76 What? Art thou like the Adder waxen deafe? 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 183 Cornwall..waxeth smaller and smaller in manner of an horne. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* cxliii, Nor aske of God the victory to gaine, Vpon the English waxt so poore and fewe. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 29 Deuotion waxed scant amongst the Christians. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 276 P 4 My Daughter Tabitha beginneth to wax wanton. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1774) I. ii. 30 When..the inward light waxes dim, the faith is gone. 1815 Byron *Vis. Belshazzar* iii, All bloodless wax'd his look. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 326 Pale wox I, and in vapours hid my face. 1831 Macaulay *Ess., Byron* P 11 The howl of contumely ..gradually waxed fainter. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxviii, Mr. Chuckster waxed wroth at this answer. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xxiv. 283 Captain Aylmer saw that the man was waxing angry. 1880 W. Watson *Prince's Quest* (1892) 61 Whereat the eyes of heaven wox thundrous-dim.

† b. with *sb.* as complement. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 281 þe kinges douther bigan þriue, And wex þe fayrest woman on liue. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2031 þe white beres þat waxen seþþe hertes. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1014 Whan it was woxen eeue. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xvi. 243 Summe othere .weren quycker in natural witt and waxiden better philsophiris. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 22 He sawe a peyntour that was waxe a physicien. 1530 Palsgr. 793 Whan any preposycion waxeth an adverbe, 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 334 He weaxed a woondreous buisie medler in all causes. *a* 1550 *A pore helpe* 169 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 262, I feare me he be wext A popistant stout. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* M 3, In three Termes, of a banqrout he wexeth a great landed man. 1622 Massr tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 21 It beginning now to waxe night, they gaue off play. 1869 Thirlwall *Serm.* Rem. 1878 III. 390 When the grain of mustard seed has waxed a great tree.

c. with complement an adv. or a prepositional phr.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19431 þan wex þan wreches vte of wite. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 140 He wex to a werwolf. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 111 In a were gan I waxe and with myself to dispute. 1388 Wyclif *Mark* iv. 32 It waxith in to a tre. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10824 Oft in wanton werkes wax þai with childe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4331 þe meyst.. woxse in to so fayre and so bryȝt a day. 1530 Palsgr. 773/1, I dare eate no crabbes, for my tethe wyll waxe an edge than. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 1103 Whereby the Ape in wondrous stomack woxe. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xxvii, It was now waxing towards morning. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* II. i. 78 A dangerous position, apt to wax from pleasant warmth into deadly heat. 1870 M. D. Conway *Earthward Pilgr.* i. 21 As time waxed on, I perceived that [etc.]. 1888 Stevenson *Across the Plains* x. (1892) 276 A small taste..waxes with indulgence into an exclusive passion. 1914 S. Phillips in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 552 Must that wistful dawn ne'er wax to noon?

† d. *To wax in age* or *eld*, to advance in years. Similarly, *to wax to man's estate*. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 943 A welh woxen on elde. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 727 That, as they wex in age, wex here loue. *a* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 136 þe more he wex in elde & lengþe, To seruen god he dude his strengþe. 1588 Greene *Pandosto* (1607) D 1 b, As it [*sc.* the child] waxed in age, so it increased in beautie. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 80 When her sonne to mans estate did wex. 1916 G. W. Robinson *Willibald's Life St. Boniface* ii. 31 After he waxed in age..and the glory of boyhood came.

† e. Of fire. *To wax out*: to burn out, be extinguished for want of fuel. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Melayne* 463 The fire wexe owte at þe laste. 1579 L. Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 686/2 If a fire that hath but little woode, wax out, wee put the brandes together, and blowe it, that it may burne.

† 10. With complement a numeral: To amount to (a specified number). *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 13307 A legion ys of folk þat wex Sex þousand, sex hundred sexti & sex. *Ibid.* 13937.

Wax (wæks), *v.*[2] Also 4–5 **woxe**, pa. pple. **woxed**, **-yd**, **ywoxede**. [f. Wax *sb.*[1]

The ME. form *wox* may be an umlaut derivative (= ON. *vexa*, OHG. *wahsen*, MHG. *wahsen*, mod.G. *wachsen*, *wächsen*); but this is not certain, because *wax* was a frequent form of Wax *sb.*[1]

1. *trans.* To cover with a layer of wax; to dress with wax; to polish or stiffen with a dressing of wax. Also with *over*.

a 1380 [see Waxed *ppl. a.*]. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 40 Tho tok I & wexede my label in Maner of a peyre tables. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 698 Tables ben waxed and dressid wyth wexe and ben plantyd. *Ibid.*, For diuers vse lynnen clothes ben wexyd. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) 128, þat one manere [of hora] is waxed with greene wex and grotter of sowse. *Ibid.*, A good hunters horne shuld..be wele ywaxede, plikter or pinner, after as þe hunter þinketh þat it woll best sowne. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Cirer*, to waxe. 1625 tr. *De Monfort's Surv. E. Indies* 40 As a Shoomaker waxeth his thread. 1699 H. Tuberville *Walk Knaves Walk* 8 You are to take notice..next of the manner, how to wax your winter boots. 1662 [T. Powell] *Hum. Industry* 36 Small boards or tables of wood waxed over, were in frequent use among the later Romans to write in. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 745 Many cabinet-makers are contented with waxing common furniture. 1833 [S. Smith] *Lett. J. Downing* xxii. (1839) 131 With that I wax'd a thread, and got a new button. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* liv, The floors were waxed and polished. 1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* iii, The elegant ignoramus whose sole accomplishments consist in parting his hair, waxing his moustaches, and smoking a meerschaum. 1886 J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* 160 Waxing your silk afresh, fasten it with two loops.

† b. *Photogr.* To saturate (paper) with wax. *Obs.*

1853 *Le Gray's Waxed Paper Process* 5 The paper..after the development of the image..does not require to be again waxed to obtain a positive picture. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 146 Mode of Waxing the Negatives.

† 2. To stop (an aperture) with or as with wax. Also with *up*. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 351 Alle þat herde þat horne.. wisheden it had be wexed with a wispe of firses. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 231 Some of them that had not waxt up their Cartrage or Catouche Boxes, wet all their Powder. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaich Syst.* 91 They..fill their little Cells with Honey, and then do so wax it up, that it may not melt and run out.

† 3. To join with wax. *Obs. rare.*

1693 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* I. *Transform. Syrinx* 36 He form'd the Reeds, proportion'd as they are: Unequal in their length, and wax'd with care.

4. *Leather-manuf.* To dress (a skin) with a mixture of lamp-black, oil, etc.

1885 A. Watt *Leather Manuf.* 348 Bruise on the flesh and grain up, then wax them [*sc.* the skins].

Wax (wæks), *v.*[3] *dial.* [f. Wax *sb.*[3]] *intr. To wax up*, to burst into anger, 'flare' *up*.

1859 Dickens *Haunted House* vii. 33/2 Nay, wench, dunna wax up so; whatten's done, 's done.

Wax (wæks), *v.*[4] *U.S. colloq. trans.* 'To beat thoroughly, gain a decisive victory over' (Funk).

1884 A. A. Putnam *Ten Years Police Judge* xxii. 199 Mr. Bungle..would in nine [out of twelve cases] be waxed but for the commiseration and the magnanimity of [etc.]. 1909 *Century Dict.*, Suppl., *Wax*, to beat, thrash.

Wax-berry. A name given to the fruit of certain plants and also to the plants themselves. a. The genus *Myrica*, esp. *M. cerifera* of North America (Bayberry 2). b. = Snow-berry 2 (Webster 1911).

1835 Moodie *Ten Yrs. S. Afr.* II. 197, I occasionally employed my people at spare times in gathering wax-berries, that..yield a substance partaking of the nature of wax and tallow, which is mixed with common tallow, and used by the colonists for making candles. 1892 Stevenson *In South Seas* IV. vi. (1900) 328 Tamaiti..returned with coco tinder, dry leaves, and a spray of waxberry. 1897 E. Glanville *Tales fr. Veld* xiii. 100, I..found him peacefully employed boiling down wax berries for the manufacture of candles.

Wax-bill. a. *sb.* Any one of numerous small birds of the *Ploceidæ* or Weaver-bird family, whose bills have a waxy appearance; *esp.* one of the genus *Estrelda*, the best-known species being *E. astrild* of South Africa.

1752 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* IV. 179 The Wax Bill. ..The Bill is of..a fine red Colour, like Sealing-Wax, which I suppose gave the Bird its Name. 1769 Lady Mary Coke *Jrnl.* 29 Aug. (1892) III. 137 The two little birds the East India Capt. gave me..seem to be the same as some of the Duchess of Montagu's and I think she calls them wax bills. 1851–61 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 72 In St. Helena birds, known also as wax-bills and red-backs, there is a trade to the same extent. 1875–84 A. H. Lavard *Birds S. Africa* 470. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 July 14/1 The name waxbill is another of those misleading trade names that cover many species of small birds of different genera which have brightly coloured bills resembling sealing-wax.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* = next.

1776 P. Brown *Illustr. Zool.* 72 White-tailed Wax-bill Finch. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. i. 152 Wax-bill Grosbeak.

Wax-billed, *a.* In names of certain birds: Having a bill resembling sealing-wax.

1776 P. Brown *Illustr. Zool.* 70 The Red-rumped Wax-billed Finch. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* I. II. 507 Wax-billed Barbet.

† **Wax-bred.** *Obs.* [f. Wax *sb.*[1] + Bred *sb.*] A wax tablet. Also *transf.* a 'table', list.

In quots. *c* 1000 and *a* 1175 misapplied to the stone 'tables' of the Decalogue.

c 960 *Bened. Rule* (Schröer) IV. 92 Weaxbreda [L. *tabulæ*], *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 196 | a awrat se Ælmihtiga God him twa stænene wexbredu mid his agenum fingre. *c* 1095 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 332 Swa us her æfter gelustfullaþ to smearkiannne on þissum æfterfyliendum wexbredum, þe se arwurða beda gesette. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 þer efter arærde god þas laȝe þurh moysen..and wrate his him self in stanene waxbredene. [1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. 108 Long after paper became known, the use of such tablets, which we may call the wax-brede, was kept on.]

Wax candle. A candle made of wax.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) F 419 *Fumalia, cerei*, waxcondel. *a* 1000 *Agr. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 200/28 *Cereus*, waxcandel. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 698 They that serue in chyrches of wexe candyls ben callyd Ceroferarii. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 293/2 þan is her anoþer cres of a wax-candul leyde on hys breste. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. v. § 2 Sitting in a chaire,..& looking upon a wax-candle which burnt before her. 1624 Esdeelle *Fr. Gard.* 07 b, Make readie the Silk.. candlestick..& with the waxe candles. 1713 Manway *Treas.* II. xxxiii. I. 224 In the middle of the room..was one large wax-candle. 1840 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. xviii. 300 Blazing wax candles. 1892 Lady F. Verney *Verney Mem.* I. 62 Two great wax candles of 12 lbs. weight, to be burnt before the high altar of the church.

attrib. 1663 *Cup of Coffee* in D'Israeli *Curr. Lit.* (1866) 296/1 Should any of your grandsires' ghosts appear In your wax-candle circles.

Wax-chandler. [See Chandler 2.] One whose trade is to make or sell wax candles.

1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 34 Iohn Baldok,. Waxchaundeler of London. 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 270 To John Orford, wax chandeler, for xii. torches and one candell of l. *lb.*, lvs. iiid. *ob.* 1503 *Priny Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 103 To John Hynsted of London waxchaundeler for iij rolles of white wax [etc.]. 1543 tr. *Act* 21 *Hen. VI*, c. 12 The waxchaundelers in dyuers parties of England. 1633 *Stow's Surv. Lond.* 625 The Company of Wax-Chandlers, having beene a Brotherhood of very ancient standing,..became yet to be incorporated in Anno, 1484. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4287/4 William Rack, late of St. Saviour's..., Waxchandler. 1861 T. A. Trollope *La Beata* I. viii. 197 The old wax-chandler was a widower of many years' standing.

† **Wax-chandlery, -chandry.** *Obs.* The department of a royal household concerned with the provision and storage of wax candles.

1398 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 470/17 m. 8 Et eidem pro ij ceruris emptis pro ij ostiis in le Waxchaundelerye. 1620 in Jeaffreson *Middx. County Rec.* (1886) I. 282 The Waxe Chandrie.

Wax doll.

1. A doll with head and bust (often also the limbs) of wax.

1828 Miss Mitford *Village, Country Barber* III. 165 A certain huge wax-doll, called Sophy, who died the usual death of wax-dolls, by falling out of the nursery-window. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, Mrs. Tibbs..looked like a wax doll on a sunny day.

attrib. 1852 Mrs. Carlyle *New Lett.* (1909) II. 50 Her wax-doll face took the fancy of Boys at that period.

2. *pl.* = Fumitory.

1855 Anne Pratt *Flower. Pl.* I. 82 The flowers [cf *Fumaria officinalis*]..are rose-coloured, and tipped with purple and children, in many parts of Kent, call them wax dolls. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*

Waxed (wækst), *ppl. a.* [f. Wax *v.*[2] + -ed [1].] In the senses of the verb; esp., coated with a layer of wax; polished or stiffened with wax; dressed or saturated with wax, e. g. for water-proofing.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 387 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 68 In a waxed table He wrot. 1586 Whitney *Choice Emblems* 28 His [Icarus's] waxed winges, the sonne did make so softe, They melted straighte. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 15/1 This suture is done with a waxed threde. 1623 J. Law in *Scotsman* (1907) 7 Sept., [He paid 16 shillings] for soleing walxt boots. 1651 T. Barker *Art of Angling* (1653) 13 You must work al these grounds upon a waxed silk. *c* 1790 Imison *Sch. Arts* II. 46 When you take off the paper you will find every line which you drew with the black lead pencil upon the waxed plate. 1846 Brittan *Oper. Surg.* 347 The piercer is withdrawn, and a double waxed thread passed through its canula. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xx, Waxed floor very slippery. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxi, Tapping his visitor's hand with the waxed end of his long pipe. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 2/2 A waxed moustache.

b. *Leather-manuf.* Of a skin: Dressed on the flesh side with a mixture of lamp-black and oil.

1851–3 *C. Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) II. 36/2 The skin of leather now curried is called black on the flesh, or waxed, in contradistinction to leather which is curried on the hair or grain side. 1883 Simmonds *Dict. Useful Anim., Waxed Fleshes*, a trade name for certain leathers, prepared of the inner side of split skins. 1885 A. Watt *Leather Manuf.* 341 Waxed Leather. *Ibid.* 350 Waxed Calf-skins.

c. *Photogr.* Of paper, a paper negative: Saturated with wax.

1853 *Le Gray's Waxed Paper Process* 8 Method of rendering the iodised waxed paper sensitive. *Ibid.* 16 Renovating the transparency of the waxed negative. 1857 W. Crookes *Hand Bk. Waxed Paper Process in Photogr.* 25 When this has taken place the waxed sheets must be separated one from the other.

d. **waxed-end** = *wax-end* (Wax *sb.*[1] 12).

1924 *Daily News* 30 June 4 It is entirely due to the awl and the waxed-end.

Waxen (wæ·ksĕn), *a.* Also 7 *Sc.* **wexin.** [f. Wax *sb.*[1] + -en [4].

OE. had *wæxen*, **wiexen* = (M)Du., (M)LG. *wassen*, OHG. *wahsîn* (MHG. *wâhsîn*, *wahsîn*, mod.G. *wächsern*); —OTeut. **wæxīno-*.]

1. Made of wax.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 210 Hlaf wexenne [L. *cerarium*, error for *cenerium* 'of millet'] niman freo(n)discipas niwe gefegð. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1630 Waxen torches Serges sette..in sale. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. (1811) 170 The which he ordre he kepte duely by waxen tapers kepte by certayne persones. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. i. 38 Eftsoones long waxen torches weren light, Vnto their bowres to guiden euery guest. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 201 For now my loue is thaw'd, Which like a waxen Image 'gainst a fire Bears no impression of the thing it was. 1611 Corvat *Crudities* 36 By the light of a waxen candle. 1643 Alex. Ross *Mel Heliconium* 40 In that we do inioy our liues, In that our wexin kingdom thriues. 1646 Crashaw *Steps, Delights Muses* 115 The working Bees soft melting Gold, That which their waxen Mines enfold. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 491 The Femal Bee that..bulkis her waxen Cells With Honey stor'd. 1708 Z. Chadock *Serm. Charity* (1740) 21 They are but the..artificial Counterfeit of Virtue, Trees laden with waxen Fruit. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* CXXVI. (1819) III. 40 A resemblance scarcely less exact than that of the bust to its mould, or the waxen seal to the sculptured gem. 1823 Scott *Talism.* iii, Two waxen torches, which the hermit lighted, gave a cheerful air to the place. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 677 A waxen figure..was dragged about Westminster in a chariot. 1860 *Family Economist* 3

Mar. 1481/1 Waxen Flowers and Fruit. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 185/2 The metal (or glass) plate is covered with a waxen composition.

b. *Waxen image*: spec. an effigy in wax representing a person whom it was desired to injure by witchcraft.

The victim was believed to waste away as the wax melted at the fire, and to suffer pain from stabs or the like inflicted on the effigy. Cf. quot. 1591 above.

1685 G. Sinclair *Satans Invis. World* 101 The Waxen-Image being found and broken, .the King did..recover. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VIII. 101 Around his waxen Image first I wind Three woollen Fillets. 1821 Lamb *Elia, Witches* P 1 That maidens pined away, wasting inwardly as their waxen images consumed before a fire. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Leech Folkest.*, Fixed against [the doors]..was a waxen image—of himself! 1870 Rossetti *Sister Helen* 1 Why did you melt your waxen man, Sister Helen?

2. *transf.* and *fig.* As if made of wax. a. With reference to the softness, impressibility, or fusibility of wax. Chiefly of immaterial things (often with opposition to *steel* or *marble*).

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 911 The World's owne Matter is a waxen Lump, Which, un-self-changing, takes all kind of stamp. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 75 Oh thou the earthy author of my blood..with thy blessings steele my Lances point, That it may enter Mowbrayes waxen Coate. 1593 — *Lucr.* 1240 For men haue marble, women waxen mindes. 1633 Marvell *Corr.* (Grosart) II. 4 Truly he is of a gentle and waxen disposition. 1767 G. Canning *Poems* 28 Watch o'er my son, inform his waxen youth. 1794 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 494 Those who remain are of that waxen substance called the men of property. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* III. I, But men are waxen when the Fates are steel'd. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxi, This fellow would make weakness weak, And melt the waxen hearts of men.

b. With reference to the smooth and lustrous surface of things modelled in wax. Said, e. g., of fruits, flowers, youthful limbs. Also applied to the pallor of a corpse or a sick person.

a 1700 Sedley *Virg. Past.* ii. Wks. 1722 I. 268 And Plumbs [L. *cerea prima*]. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xiii. 2 His rosy neck, and waxen arms [L. *cerea bracchia*]. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii, But the small waxen form [*sc.* the dead baby]..had been composed afresh. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 266 It makes a man feel badly to see the faces around him bleaching into waxen paleness. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xii, I saw..a few waxen lobes of bell-heath, perfectly white.

¶ c. ? As if written on wax; soon effaced. *nonce-use.*

1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, I. ii 233 Or else our grace I.ike Turkish mute, shall haue a tongueleese mouth, Not worshipt with a waxen Epitaph.

3. Covered or conted with wax, loaded with wax. *Waxen wings*: often in allusions to the story of Icarus: see Icarian *a.*[1]

1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. i. 172 The honie-bags steale from the humble Bees, And for night-tapers crop their waxen thighes. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* (1604) Chorus 21 Till swolne with cunning, of a selfe conceit, His waxen wings did mount aboue his reach, And melting heauens conspirde his ouerthrow. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. i. § 3 Hence it is true..that diuers great learned men haue beene heretically, whilest they haue sought to flye vp to the secrets of the Deitie by the waxen winges of the Senses. 1695 Ld. Preston *Boeth.* v. 232 As heretofore with a swift Stile Men us'd on waxen Tables smooth Letters and Figures to ingrave. 1781 Cowper *Anti-Thelyphth.* 54 She tutor'd some in Dædalus's art, And promis'd they should..On waxen pinions soar without a fall. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 27 The old..manner of writing, before the use of paper of any kind, and waxen tables, was known.

4. Special collocations: **waxen chatterer**, the Bohemian waxwing, *Ampelis garrulus*; † **waxen vein** *Min.*, argilliferous marlite.

1797 Bewick *Brit. Birds* I. 83 Silk Tail, or *Waxen Chatterer. (Ampelis Garrulus*, Lin.) 1862 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 Waxen Chatterer or Waxwing. 1682 Grew *Museum* III. § i. v. 311 The *Waxen Vein. *Ludus Helmontii.* A Stone composed of two distinct Bodies. 1705 S. Dale *Pharmacol.* Suppl 89 Ludus Paracelsi..Waxen Vein. 1740 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 836 Masses of the Waxen-vein or Ludus Helmontii, which is also found in great Plenty on the Seashore near the Spaw at Scarborough.

5. Comb., as *waxen-faced, -hued, -like, -winged* adjs.

1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xv. 170 Three stools, and as many *waxen-faced men. 1916 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Feb. 116/2 A sorrow-laden, *waxen-hued face. 1845 Hirst *Coming of Mammoth*, etc. 34 How *waxen-like his hands! 1909 *Essex Rev.* XVIII. 75 Waxen-like flowers of pale pink. 1645 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* VII. 9 Since *waxen-winged Honour is not void Of danger.

† **Wa·xen**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [Strong pa. pple. of Wax *v.*[1]] Grown up, full-grown, adult. *Little waxen*, young.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2060 Me drempte, ic stod at a win-tre, þat adde waxen buȝes þre. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 252 Himself in ilke likyng, & had no waxen heyre, þat mot kepe þe coroune, if he of lond went. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* iv. 23 A litle waxen man [Vulg. *adolescentulum*]. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 261 When hit is a wixen tree, an hundrid coyn vnneth hit may bowe. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule* etc. 21 In ȝong men..or waxen men, I hafe seene few [*sc.* fistulas] euer be cured. 1565 Ridley *Confer.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1722/2 The Lordes supper is, and ought to be geuen to them that are waxen. 1589 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. I. 812 Fonde they to thinke that this child's waxen daye Will be well spente when maister beares no swaye. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 415 Such a man can neither seduce his [pupil's] minority with ill examples, nor marre his waxen age with a false impression.

† **Wa·xen**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also **wexen, weaxen.**

In several writers of the 16th c. (chiefly poetical) the forms *waxen, wexen* occur for Wax *v.*[1], but only in those parts of the verb (inf. and 3rd pers. pl. present) in which these were in M.E. the normal inflected forms of *wax.* This may sometimes be due to intentional grammatical archaism; but when these forms are used by writers whose grammar is in all other respects normal, it seems probable that the inflexional *waxen* in quotations from older writers was mistaken for a verb synonymous but not identical with *wax.* It has been thought desirable to give here all the examples in our material, in order that their individual significance may be judged of by comparison. The 17th c. quots. from H. More, which are added for completeness, are of course intentionally archaistic.

1540 Cranmer *Bible* Prol. ✠ j b, Anone..theyr consciences bene admonished, and they waxen sory & ashamed of the facte. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 4 And contrariewise, what thynges been moste honest the same weaxen also moste pleasaunt, yf a man haue been accustomed vnto theim. 1562 A. Brooke *Romeus & Jul.* 1039 The courage of the Mountagewes, by Romeus sight doth growe, The townes men waxen strong, the prince doth send his force. 1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* III. 852 This Licalis chappes did waxen wide. his nose-thrils waxed flat. 1567 *Ibid.* XIV. 327, I felt a hooked groyne Too wexen hard vppon my mouth. 1584 Peele *Arraign. Paris* v. i, Than first gan Cupids eyesight wexen dim. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* II. i. 36 And then the whole quire hold their hips, and loffe, And waxen in their mirth. 1590 Vallans *Tale Two Swans* (1744) p. ix, As these Swannes began to waxen old. 1594 Barnfield *Sheph. Content* (Arb.) 30 When their fleeces gin to waxen rough. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. i. 3 What man..Would woxen [1647 wexen] wroth. 1647 — *Cupids Conf.* lxxv, This is the measure of mans industry To wexen some body and getten grace To 's outward presence.

† **Wa·xen**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. Wax *sb.*[1] + -en 5.] *trans.* To cover or dress with wax.

1552 Huloet, Waxen, *cæro, cero.* 1642 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 24 Others [Nero] staked through..and waxened over their bodies, and so set them lighted up, as torches.

Waxen-kernel. *dial.* [Of uncertain formation; the second element is Kernel *sb.*[1]

Variants are *waxen-churnel, -crindle, -crundle, -curl, waxing-kernel, -churnel, -curl, waxy-kernel*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* It is doubtful whether the first element was originally Waxen *a.*, Waxen *ppl. a.*, or Waxing *vbl. sb.* or *ppl. a.*] = Wax-kernel.

1500 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (1510) A ij b, In plurali he glandille, for waxen kyrneis. 1825 Jamieson, *Waxen-kernel.* 1866 S. Thomson *Dict. Dom. Med.* 8/1 Popularly, these enlarged glands go by the name of 'waxen kernels'.

Waxer (wæ·ksəɹ). [f. Wax *v.*[2] + -er 1.] One who or something that waxes. a. One who waxes leather in currying. b. (See quot. 1875.)

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Waxer*, an attachment to a leather sewing-machine to wax the thread as it runs from the spool to the needle. 1885 A. Watt *Leather Manuf.* 343 The waxer rubs the size into the coloured side of the leather.

Waxey, variant of Waxy *a.*[1]

Wax flower, wax-flower.

1. An imitation flower made of wax.

1843 A. McLaren in E. T. McLaren *Mem.* (1911) 26 Mary, the wax flowers arrived in safety. 1844 Mintorn (*title*) The Hand-book for modelling Wax Flowers. 1858 Geo. Eliot *Scenes Cler. Life, Janet's Repent.* iii, Wax-flowers presuppose delicate fingers and robust patience.

Comb. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, Wax-flower maker.

2. A name given to certain plants: a. the genus *Hoya*, esp. *H. carnosa*; b. *Clusia insignis* of British Guiana (Ogilvie 1883); c. *Stephanotis floribunda* (*Cent. Dict.*).

1848 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 611 *Hoya carnosa*... Fleshy-leaved Hoya. Wax Flower. 1884 W. Miller *Plants.* I. 144 Wax-flower. The genus *Hoya.*

Waxily, -ness: see after Waxy *a.*[1]

Wa·xing (wæ·ksiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Wax *v.*[1] + -ing 1.] The action of Wax *v.*[1]; growth; increase.

c 1025 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 323 Ponne se mona beo tyn nihta eald, and na þænne his leoht beo æresst waxing [*Cott.* wax] or wane. 13.. *Amis & Amil.* 89 So like thei were both of syght, And of on wexing ryght. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. x. 339 Thilk wexing in possessioun was cause or occasioun of thilk decrecing in vertues. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 36 Yet the emptie caske sounds lowder than when it was full; and protests more in his waining, than he could performe in his waxing. 1652 Urquhart *Jewel* 134 The Moon, which was then but in the first week of his waxing. 1863 *Possibilities of Creation* 100 The waxings and wanings of light in these variable objects. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Mar. 630/2 The waxing of the light of the Satellite arises from its gradual passage out of the shadow.

Wa·xing, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Wax *v.*[2] + -ing 1.]

1. The process of covering or dressing with wax.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Waxynge, wythe wax, *ceracio.* 1538 Elyot *Dict., Curatura*, the waxinge. 1659 H. Turberville *Walk Knaves Walk* 8 Lastly, you must observe the waxing of the boot. 1818 *Art Preserv. Feet* 137 The waxing of the thread is..for the purpose of preventing it from slipping. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* xi. § 2. 673 Previous to sale, ..another process (of currying leather), technically termed waxing, is performed. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 344 Refusal to strip, is..due to..touching the waxed surface with the fingers after waxing.

b. (See quot. 1858.)

1815 S. Parkes *Chem. Ess.* II. 148 *note*, In printing those silk handkerchiefs called Bandanas, a process called waxing is still followed. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Waxing*, the process of stopping out colours in calico-printing.

† c. A method of cheating at dice. *Obs.*

1726 [see Topping *vbl. sb.*[1] 1 c].

2. *concr.* Wax as a polish on furniture.

1805 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 745 Waxing..., like varnish, ..is attended with inconveniences as well as advantages.

Wa·xing, *ppl. a.* [f. Wax *v.*[1] + -ing 2.] That waxes, grows, or increases.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7228 A grene wexinge tre þat is fram þe more Ismite adoun. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7328 So waxynge [*Petyt MS.* waxand] folk in al ys weide, Ne so gendryng, ne so plentyue..Als we arn of oure kynde, In no lond schoide men fynde. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 5 Blosmes of waxing frute. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 471/1 Spryngynge, of a welle or oþer waxynge watyr, *scaturalis.* 1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* III. i. 95, I stand as one vpon a Rocke..Who markes the waxing tide grow wane by waue. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* iv, Each waxing Moon supplied her watry store, To swell those Tides. 1820 Wiffen *Aonian Hours* (ed. 2) 36 The mutable moon Stamps all the changes of her waxing phase. 1883 M. Creighton *Let.* in *Life* (1904) I. 263, I am sorry that you think me a waxing Conservative. 1910 Rosebery *Chatham* xxi. 436 The Duke ..was at war with the waxing power of Leicester House.

† b. Of flesh: Excrescent. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Sometyme commeth to þe houndes sekenes in hir eyenn, for þer commeth a webbe vpon hem and waxynge flessche, þe which commeth into þe one syde of þe eye and is cleped an nayle.

† c. *Waxing kernel* = Wax-kernel, Waxen-kernel. *Obs.*

?*c* 1460 *Medulla* (MS. St. John's, Cambr.) in *Cath. Angl.* 411 note 2 *Glandula, nodus sub cute*, a waxynge curnelle. 1530 Palsgr. 287/1 Waxyng kyrnels *glannes. glanders.* 1538 Elyot *Dict., Tolles*, a waxynge kernell. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 206 Waxing-Kernel, Struma, Choaking, or the Strangles.

† d. absol. *In the waxand*, in the waxing (phase). Cf. Waniand.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22456 Þe mone þat es sa scene, quen it es in þe waxand sene.

Hence † **Wa·xingly** *adv.*, increasingly.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 411/2 Waxingly, *auctim.*

Wax-kernel. Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Prob. f. Wax *sb.*[2], either with the sense of 'a growth', or with reference to the growing-time of children (cf. *wax-pain* dial. = growing-pain); but associated with Wax *sb* 1] A hard glandular swelling in the neck or armpit or under the jaw. Also called Waxen-kernel, Waxing-kernel.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 707/29 *Hoc glandulum*, a waxkyrnylle. 1569 E. Fenton *Secr. Nature* 38 b, As knots in wood, waxkernels in men, or seede in herbes. 1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* II. iii 110 b, Whereupon happen. sometime behinde the eares Impostumes, botches and wexe-kernelles. 1825 Jamieson, *Wax-kernel.* 1889 Wagstaffe *Mayne's Med. Voc.* (ed. 6), *Wax-kernels*, popular name for irritated submaxillary glands.

† **Wa·xless**, *a. Obs.* [f. Wax *v.*[1] or *sb.*[2] + -less.] Not liable to wax or increase.

a 1618 [see Wanreless].

Wax-light. A candle, taper, or night-light made of wax.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 16 Aug. 1654, [Doncaster] a large faire towne, famous for greate wax-lights and good stockings. *a* 1725 Burnet *Own Time* III. (1823) II. 154 There were many drops of white wax-lights on his breeches. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 134 Shades over the wax-lights softened the glare. 1828 Scott *Jrnl.* 12 Apr. (1891) 572 Tom S...said in a whisper, 'I advise you to secure a wax-light to go to bed with,' shewing him..a morsel which he had stolen from a sconce. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 535 Within the Abbey, nave, choir, and transept were in a blaze with innumerable waxlights. 1864 Kingsley *Roman & T.* v. (1873) 129 The Emperor coming out to meet him with processions and wax-lights. 1870 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 16 Apr. 241/2 Visions of private sitting-rooms, wax-lights, bad wines,..at once rise before his experienced eyes.

† **Waxloke.** *Obs.*[-1] (Unexplained.)

23.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1037 And ler walter of þat water in waxlokes grete, þe spumande aspaltoun þat spyserez sellen.

Wax-maker.

1. A maker of wax or of wax candles. ? *Obs.*

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 688/22 *Hic cerarius*,..whax-maker. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 411/2 A Wax maker, *cerarius.* 1515 *Guild Bk. St. Mary, Boston* (MS.) fol. 13 In stipendio Willielmi Pynnell Waxmaker. 1543 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 271 Maister Anthony Payne wex-maker.

2. A worker-bee that makes wax.

Translating Huber's term (*ab ille*) *cirifere.*

1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xv. (1818) I. 493 When wax is not wanted in the hive, the wax-makers disgorge their honey into the cells. 1826 *Ibid.* xix. II. 128 There are two sorts of workers, the wax-makers and nurses. 1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* I. 334/1.

So **Wa·x-making** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1543 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 271 Costes and Paymentes of the wex makynges. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xv. (1818) I. 492 The stomach..In the wax-making bees is much larger than in the nurse-bees.

Wax-plant. A name given to various plants either yielding a vegetable wax or having a waxy appearance; *esp.* a. the candleberry myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*; b. any species of *Hoya*, esp. *H. carnosa*; c. the corpse-plant, *Monotropa uniflora.*

1821 J. Barrow *Trav. S. Afr.* I. 19 In most of the sandy flats are found..two varieties of the *Myrica cerifera*, or wax plant. 1865 Mrs. H. Wood *Mildred Arkell* xxxv, Mamma made me bring this down at once for your conservatory... It is a wax plant, and a very beautiful one. 1878 Mellish *St. Helena* 311 Hoya carnosa,..Wax plant... *Hab.* China. 1897 Sir C. Warren *On Veldt in Seventies* (1900) 379 On the window there hung a 'wax plant,' which has beautiful waxen-looking flowers. 1899 Webster Suppl., *Wax-plant*, a white fleshy plant (*Monotropa uniflora*).

Wax-scot : see next.

Wax-shot. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [WAX *sb.*[1] + SHOT *sb.*[1] OE. had *weaxgescot* (Wulfstan): whence the form *wax-scot* in 18–19th cent. Dicts.] A customary payment made for the maintenance of lights in churches.

15.. *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 190 *marg.*, To paye for the maynteneyng of the wax and lights, iiij. d. [*marg.*, in later hand, 'Waxshote']. 15.. in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* Ser. II. XIV. 238 Every householder payeth..for Wax-shot and Gardens two pence. 1664 [see MAINPORT]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Waxshot* or *Wax-scot*. 1889 [J. CHAMBERS] *Gen. Hist. Norfolk* II. 968 *note*, Ceragium, or waxshot, was the term used for money expended in church lights.

Wax taper.

1. A taper made of wax.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxii. (1495) 898 A wexe tapre hyght Cereus of cera wexe for it is made of wexe. 1408–17 in *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* Introd. p. xcvi, And xij. wex tapers to be set vpon euery crosse. 1676 A. MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 97 Demetrius had no more reason in law against them, than a chandler might have had, if by Paul's preaching, wax-tapers..had grown out of fashion. 1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl., Harvest Day* 226 Such is the death of the wicked: but may I like a wax-taper, leave a sweet and edifying savour of Christ behind me. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 148 Ignited by means of a long wax taper.

†2. A cone-shell (see quot.).

1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wax Taper, *Conus Virgo*.

Wax-tree. A name given to various trees, of different localities, yielding vegetable or insect wax; *esp.* a. the candleberry myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*, of North America; b. the privet, *Ligustrum lucidum*, of China; c. the genus *Vismia* of South America; d. the varnish-tree of South America, *Elæagia utilis*; e. the Japanese shrub *Rhus succedanea*.

1791 W. BARTRAM *Trav.* 405 A species of Myrica (Myrica inodora)..which the French inhabitants call the Wax tree. 1799 CURTIS *Bot. Mag.* 2565 Ligustrum lucidum. Chinese Privet, or Wax-tree. 1803 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (8°) IV. 188 The *myrica cerifera*, or wax tree. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 152/1 *Wax-tree*, the common name of the plants belonging to the genus *Vismia*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 442/2 The natives [S. America] speak of the tree producing this resin, *Elæagia utilis*, as the Wax tree or Varnish tree. *Ibid.* 1289/2 Wax-tree,..Japan, *Rhus succedaneum*. 1890 HOSIE *West China* 197 The tree is known to the Chinese as the *Pai-la shu*, or 'white wax tree'.

Waxwing (wæ·ksˌwiŋ). A passerine bird of the genus *Ampelis* (*Bombycilla*), esp. *A. garrulus*, the Bohemian waxwing.

1817 J. F. STEPHENS *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. II. 420 The Waxwings, which have been detached from the Chatterers by Monsieur Vieillot, have a most remarkable and peculiar appendage on the tips of some of the quills, which has very much the appearance of red sealing-wax. *Ibid.* 421 Bohemian Waxwing. *Ibid.* 422 Carolina Waxwing. 1876 SMITH *Sc. Nat.* xi. 214 Among the rarer birds found in this district, were the Bohemian Waxwing or Chatterer (*Bombycilla garrula*). 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 616/1 The Carolina Wax-wing, alias cedar or cherry bird. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* (1892) 348 A large flock of waxwings..was well worth seeing.

Waxwork (wæ·ksˌwɜ·k).

1. Work executed in wax.

1723 BLACKMORE *Alfred* II. 67 Th' industrious Tenants of the narrow Hive..fetch Home Spoils their Wax-works to renew.

2. *esp.* Modelling in wax; an object or objects modelled in wax; usually applied to life-size effigies of persons, with head, hands, and bust of wax, coloured and clothed to look like life.

1697 *Post Boy* 20–23 Nov. 2/2 At the Golden Salmon in St. Martins, near Aldersgate, is to be seen, in Wax-work, about Fifty Figures, all big as the Life. 1701 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 103 Ye Procession which began before 7 with 12 Pageants of History in large Wax Work. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1719 III. 316 Here stood Edward III as they told us, which was a broken Piece of Waxwork, a batter'd Head, and a Straw-stuff'd Body. 1774 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 24 Jan., I was desired by Mrs. Wright, of New-York, to let her take my effigy in wax-work. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXVII, I've seen wax-work quite like life. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* I. ix, 'It's no good my being kept here like Wax-Work, is it now?' 'People have to pay to see Wax-Work, my dear,' returned her husband.

fig. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 518 Homer gives us figures that breathe and move. Virgil usually treats us to waxwork.

b. *pl.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 267 Of Mummies, Wax-Works, &c. 1896 S. BUTLER *Life & Lett. Dr. S. Butler* I. 228 This can only be surpassed..by Dr. Arnold's taking the terra-cotta figures of the Varese chapels for waxworks.

3. An exhibition of wax figures representing celebrated or notorious characters; also, the place of exhibition. Now *pl.*

1796 T. MORTON *Way to get Married* v. i, You must show me the sights—The lions at the Tower,..the parliament-house, and the wax-work. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* vii. § 67 Escorting two or three coaches full of country-cousins..to the Lions, the Wax-work, the Monument, &c. 1831 *Crockley's Pict. Lond.* 112 WAX Works. Fleet Street. 1837 THACKERAY *Ravenswing* ii, He looked like a figure out of a wax-work. 1895 SIR H. IRVING in *Daily News* 17 June 6/4 'You didn't go [to the Lyceum]! Why not?' 'Well, sir, you see there's the missus, and she preferred the wax-works.'

4. *U.S.* The climbing bitter-sweet, *Celastrus scandens*; so called from the waxy scarlet aril of the fruit.

1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 82 *Celastrus scandens* (Wax-work. Climbing Bitter-sweet).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *waxwork-figure*, *-show*; **waxwork-man**, the proprietor of a waxworks.

1827 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 131/1 There is a wax-work Pope, and a wax-work Court of Rome. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Gt. Winglebury Duel*, Whenever a juggler, or wax-work man, or concert-giver, takes Great Winglebury in his circuit. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* XXVII, Mrs. Jarley's wax-work show. *Ibid.* XXIX, She slept..in the room where the wax-work figures were. 1889 R. BUCHANAN in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 912 The highway is strewn with the corpses of dead poets who never lived,..with loud inglorious Cowleys, with waxwork Popes. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* VIII. I, The House of Commons has become a bear-garden, and t'other House a wax-work show.

Wax-worker. A worker in wax: a. a bee that makes wax; b. a maker of waxwork (Worcester 1860).

1821 tr. *Huber's New Observ. Nat. Hist. Bees* (ed. 3) 336 When hives are full of combs, the wax workers disgorge their honey into the ordinary magazines, making no wax.

So **Wax-working** *a.* (of a bee) making wax.

1827 E. BEVAN *Honey-Bee* 367 The power of producing wax is common both to the nursing- and wax-working bees.

Waxy (wæ·ksi), *a.*[1] Also 7 **waxey.** [f. WAX *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].]

†1. Made of wax, waxen. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Waxie or of waxe, *cereus*. 1615 *Montgomerie's Cherrie & Slae* v. in Ramsay *Evergreen* (1875) II. 101 And sum [bees] the waxie Veschells wrocht, 'I hair Purchase to preserve. 1645 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. i. 330 The Bees so sudden joyes Their waxie-houses fill with buzzing noyse.

2. Having the nature or distinctive properties of wax.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 434 Boil a quantity of honey in order to get all the waxy part out of it. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Elæagia*, These trees are remarkable for the quantity of green resinous or waxy matter which is secreted by the stipules. 1884 BOWEN & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 82 In company with the cuticular bodies there are usually found compounds of a waxy nature.

b. *fig.* Of a person, his heart, mind: Soft, plastic, impressionable like wax.

1596 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 88 If you had had a waxye hart That would haue melt at hot desyre. 1608 BP. HALL *Char.* II. 111 The Vnconstant...He is seruile in imitation, waxey to persuasions. 1632 T. GOFF *Courageous Turk* II. v, Thinke you my minde is waxie, to be wrought, By any fashion. *a* 1660 HAMMOND *19 Serm.* xvii. Wks. 1684 IV. 679 Now..that the softer waxy part of you, may receive some impression from this Discourse, let us close all with an Application. 1843 DICKENS *Let.* 13 Nov. *Lett.* (1880) I. 93 If you will impress this on the waxy mind of —— I shall be truly and unaffectedly obliged to you.

3. Resembling wax in colour or consistence; (of a quality) like that of wax. Often said of boiled potatoes that have not become 'mealy'.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 428/1 The..waxy appearance which those who are the subjects of this disease [i. e. chlorosis] generally exhibit. 1841 HOOD *Tale of Trumpet* 209 Great Philosophers talking like Platos,..And your ears as dull as waxy potatoes! 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 6 Ground colour a clear primrose, edging a bright purple, petals very waxy. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* XXVIII, There are two daughters, pretty little waxy girls they were. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 140 The general colour of the scorpion is a horrid-looking waxy brown. 1890 *Lancet* 16 Aug. 333/1 The fat is abnormally waxy and soft. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* XXV. 268 The waxy whiteness of the rest of the face [in an old picture].

Comb. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* i, The little waxy-faced Dutch clock in the corner. 1872 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* 65 The cut-surface is..translucent, and waxy-looking.

b. *Med.* Affected with amyloid degeneration.

1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 243 These characters are well expressed by the epithet 'waxy,' which has been applied to livers in this state by Dr. Home and Rokitansky. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 57 The waxy material is exceptionally deposited in large nodules, constituting the waxy tumors. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* 800 Gall-stones..sometimes consist..of a nearly homogeneous waxy mass. 1881 W. H. DAY *Dis. Childr.* 256 The lardaceous or waxy kidney. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 537 The diffuse, waxy spleen.

4. Soiled or covered with wax. In quots. as a derisive epithet for a cobbler.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 75/2 Your child.. called me cobbler waxy, waxy, waxy. 1914 A. MACDONALD *Story & Song fr. Loch Ness-side* xiii. 223 They got there [into the fairy mound], and immediately observed the 'waxy cobbler' still dancing.

Hence **Waxily** *adv.*, **Waxiness.**

1855 HYDE CLARKE, Waxiness. 1880 *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 98 Shell..not thin, but waxily translucent. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Nov. 588/2 [He] was originally a sculptor, and now paints rather waxily, as if he were modelling in oil-colour.

Waxy (wæ·ksi), *a.*[2] *colloq.* or *slang.* [f. WAX *sb.*[3] + -Y[1].] Angry, 'in a wax'.

A supposed example of 1648 in the *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 229 is an editorial misreading of *wary*.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxiv, It would cheer him up more than anything, if I could make him a little waxy with me. 1866 BROOKDEN *Lincolnsh. Gloss., Waxy*, peevish, cross, irritable. *Ex.* You need-na be so waxey. 1872 *Punch* 1 June 222/1 It's no good being waxy about it.

Way (wē), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 weg, *North.* woeg, 2–3 weiz, 2–6 wai, 4–6 waie, weye, 3 wai, weiz, waiz, weg, *Ormin* weyyge, 4–5 waiye, 3–6 wai, wey, 4 vaie, wa, weiegie, wie, wye, 4–5 weye, 4, 6 vay(e, 4–7 waie, 4–8 waye, 5 whay, weij, 4–6 wy, 9 *Sc.* wye, 3– way. *Pl.* 4 waiis, 4 weyes, waies, waise, wayes, weyys. [Com. Teut.: OE. *weg* str. masc. = OFris. *wei*, *wi* (WFr. *wei*, NFr. *wâi*), OS. *wag* (MLG. *weck*), (M)Du. *weg*, OHG. *weg* (MHG. *wec*, *wege*-, Mod.G. *weg*), ON. *veg-r* (Sw. *väg*, Da. *vei*), Goth. *wig-s*:—OTeut. **wegʷo-s*, f. **weg-* (: **wag-*: **wāg-*) to move, journey, carry (see WEIGH *v.*, WAIN, WAW *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1], WET):—Indogermanic **wegh-* (: **wogh-*), found in L. *vehĕre* to carry, Gr. ὄχος (:—**woghʷo-s*) vehicle, Skr. *vah* to journey, carry. The L. *via*, way, formerly regarded as cognate, is now generally referred to a different root. The sense-development of the Eng. word, however, has been to some extent influenced by L. *via* and its descendant F. *voie* (see also VOYE, WOYE), of both which it has always been the normal translation. Many of the uses are of Biblical origin: the Heb. *dérek*, and the Gr. ὁδός in Hellenistic use (Vulg. *via*, all Eng. versions *way*) have a very wide range of meaning.]

I. Road, path.

* *for passage of persons, animals, vehicles.*

1. a. *gen.* A track prepared or available for travelling-along; a road, street, lane, or path. Now esp. in phrases like *beside*, *over*, *across the way*, *the other side* (*of*) *the way*, *to cross the way*, etc.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. XX. 30 And hebnu tuegæ blindo sittende æt weg [*c* 975 *Rushw.* bi ðæm wege; *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* wiþ ðone weg; 1382 WYCLIF beside the waye; Vulg. *secus viam*]. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 303 Forðon we sittaþ ymb þam wege wædliende mid timeus sunu. *c* 1205 LAY. 524 He ferde..to þan ilke weie þe he.. wuste þat þe king mid his ferde forð sculde iwenden. *Ibid.* 5511 Heo þohten heom beon on feat þer þe hulles weore mest & senden heom arewen i þon weie narewe. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1304 (Camb. MS.) Þe knipt him asiepe lay Al biside þe way. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7404 Þer was a launde of noblay Where come to gider seuen way. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1732 Abide þou in a brod weie bi a large mile. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 394 Tak thy hors and thy harnes in the morning, For to watche weill the wayis. 1579 BURGHLEY in Nicolas *Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 126 Approaching to the house, being led by a large, long, straight fair way, I found [etc.]. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 389/1 *Compitum*,.. a waye where manye wayes doe meete. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xii, A bridge..vnder the which is a waye to an old ruined Church. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 433. I saw..women trauayling the way, or toyling at home, carry their Infants about their neckes. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 127, I cross'd the way to a Booksellers. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* II, Instead of attempting to continue the way along the side of the hill..a single arch had been thrown over the narrow ravine, and the road carried on..on the other side. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* II, He called out to a gentleman on the opposite side of the way. 1835 *Ibid., Streets—Morning*, Mr. Todd's young man just steps over the way. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* XXXI. (ed. 3) 287 The War Office is altogether out of keeping with the clubs upon the same side of the way. 1887 J. ASHBY-STERRY *Cucumber Chron.* 5 The village is..one long street. On either side of the way are picturesque little cottages. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. v. 155 For the most part, no English creature ever *does* see farther than over the way. 1904 H. BELLOC *Old Road* 96 A sunken way of great antiquity leads directly from St. Catherine's Hill down to the river. 1910 D. G. HOGARTH in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 248/1 The latest type of tomb in a flatly vaulted chamber approached by a horizontal or slightly inclined way, whose sides converge above.

transf. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 If the Moone should wander from her beaten way.

b. In figurative context, with reference to a metaphorical walking or travelling. *Parting of the ways*: see PARTING *vbl. sb.* 2 b.

† *Way of indulgence*: said of the Virgin Mary as the medium or channel of access to divine mercy. (Cf. Christ's words in John xiv. 6, 'I am the Way..; no man cometh to the Father but by me'.)

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* XXVI. 12 Fot..min stod in weze ðem rehtan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 3 Gearuas woez drihtnes [Vulg. *parate viam Domini*]. *Ibid.* vii. 13 Rumwelle weg ðiu ladas to lose. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 Þar ðe wei is slider and we liihtliche to fellen. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 268 in *Pol. Poems* XXV. 129 All the pathes thow hast mette That euer I yede in wey or walle. *c* 1420 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 8 Modir of mercy, wey of indulgence. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 213 Thou haste passid the strayte waye and passage of Infortune fro whens thou art ysssued cler as the sonne. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 277 But in the beaten way of friendship, What make you at Elsonower? 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. § 1. 45 The trauaile therein taken, seemeth to haue bin rather in a Maze, than in a way. 1738 WESLEY *Hymns* 'Join all the glorious Names' v, O let my Feet ne'er..rove, nor seek the crooked Way. 1898 M. PEMBERTON *Phantom Army* I. vii, The way before him was no longer hidden in darkness. He saw that it lay straight —the road to the prison or the scaffold.

c. A main road connecting different parts of a country. Now *rare* except in names of Roman roads, as the rendering of L. *via*. Cf. HIGHWAY.

† *The king's way*: = the king's HIGHWAY.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 28 Aug. 156 On þæm wege þe æt Rome is nemned Salaria. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* XXI. 22 Swa swa se weg lið we farað [Vulg. *via regia gradiemur*]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 169 Veire weies manion þer beþ in engelonde, Ac voure mest of alle, þore þe olde kinges imad. 1373 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 52 De Sticelaydike per Heddeley wai usque an le Spenarrete. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 541, ij. acris of arable land..streccþe them-self fro the north toward the sowthe beside the kynges way. 1482 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 310 Þe grounde..in brede fro London weye stretchyng vnto a Corner of þe Trinite Gildes. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IX. 227 There was a waye crossed in

four, the one waye was towarde Fraunce. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. 227 Ane tempill was commandit to be maid in þe new way quhare þe voce was herde. 1535 Coverdale *Judges* v. 6 In the tyme of Iael the wayes fayled. 1685 Stillingfl. *Orig. Brit.* ii. 63 Wherever the Romans inhabited, they may be traced by their Ways, by their Buildings [etc.]. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 298/2 The Overseers of the Ways are Men chosen yearly for to see, and..put in repair all decayed Highways..within the Bounds of the Parish. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xxvi, Broad on the left before him lay, For many a mile, the Roman way. 1840 Arnold *Hist. Rome* xxxii. II. 288 Nor will the mightiest works of modern engineers ever rival the fame of the Appian Way.

d. *transf.* In Milky Way and various synonyms.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) U 174 *Via secta*, iringes uuex. *c* 1384 [see Milky Way]. 1535 Mylke way [see Milk *sb.* 10]. 1545 Mylke whyte way [see Milk-white *a.* b]. 1563 Fulke *Meteors* (1571) 38 The mylke waye called of some the waye to saint Iames, and Watlyng streate. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc., Cosmogr.* I. xxi. (1597) 158 The milke-white impression in heauen, like vnto a white way, called..of the common people our Ladies Way. 1775 *Blomefield's Hist. Norf.* V. 839 They believed..the Milky Way was appointed by Providence to point out the particular place and residence of the virgin, beyond all other places, and was, on that account, generally in that age, called Walsingham-Way; and I have heard old people of this country, so to call and distinguish it some years past. 1844 M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table Bk.* Leg. Div. II. 86 The Via lactea, or 'milky way,' which the peasantry of the North frequently designate 'the way'.

e. A road considered with reference to the condition of its surface or to difficulties or dangers of transit.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 18 Apr. 58 Dæt ða wildan hors sceadden iornan [on] hearde wezas in westenne & him þa limo all [to] brecan. 1418 In *E. E. Wills* 31, I be-quethe to the mendyng of the feble & foule weye beside Portmannes Crosse..xl s. 1577 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 126 To amend a pece of evill wale betwene my house and Hampistwhaite, xij d. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 926 When blood is nipt, and waies be fowle. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 10, I bequeathed my proceedings to God,..and my feete to the hard bruising way. 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* ii. (1687) 5 The weather was cold, the ways dirty and dangerous. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 135 To Litchfield is 5 mile more all very good way mostly Gravel. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* III. ix. I hope thou wilt not come too heavy laden, to spoil my Ways. 1789 Durnford & East *Cases K. B.* (1790) III. 263 If the way be founderous and out of repair, the public have a right to go on the adjoining land. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* xxviii, 'How are the ways?' 'Deep and difficult enough, please your honour.' 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 379 In winter, when the ways were bad and the nights long. 1871 M. Legrand *Cambr. Freshm.* 302 A heap of smaller stones, placed there at the expense of the parish, for the purpose of mending the way.

f. A place of passage, e.g. an opening made through a crowd, a door or gate, etc. Cf. Archway, Doorway, Gateway. Also *fig.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3244 On twel doles delt ist ðe se, xii. weizes ðer-in ban falzer and fre. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5932 In the brest of the batell,..He ffrusshet so felly freikes to ground; Made wayes full wide þe weghis among. *Ibid.* 6513. *c* 1400 Mandev. (E. E. T. S.) viii. 36 And men seyn þat the wicches ben weyes of helle. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1384 Quare althire-thickest was þe thrange þurse þaim he rynnes. And makis a wai wyde enoze waynes to mete. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 217 Here fortitude can never cut a way Between the Austrian muskets, out of thrall. 1892 C. Taylor *Witness of Hermas* 126 The gate is the Son of God. This is the one way-in [εἴσοδος] to the Lord. 1898 G. B. Shaw *Plays* II. *You never can tell* II. *stage direct.*, Near the parapet there lurks a way to the kitchen, masked by a little trellis porch. 1914 S. Low in *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 261 To a Prussian statesman it seems more natural to 'hack a way' through the territory of an unoffending neighbour than it would be to public men elsewhere. *Mod.* The words 'Way out' are painted on the door.

g. Applied to a path in a wood or through the fields. See also Green *a.* 2 b.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6055 (Laud MS.), Hij hadden..Calk trappes made ynowe In wayes & vnder wood bowe. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xxii, The snowe had couerd al the wayes [in the forest]. 1530 Palsgr. 286/1 Way in a woode ayde, *sente.*

h. *Fortification.* A passage left between walls or buildings. *Covered* (†*couert*) *way* (= F. *chemin convert*), a passage running along the top of the counterscarp, protected from the enemy's fire by a parapet. (See Covered *ppl. a.* 6, Covert *a.* 1 b.) † *Way of the rounds* (= F. *chemin des rondes*): see quot. 1704.

1482 Caxton *Godeffroy* clxxiii. 257 They..dyde do make engyns,..castellys, chatles, and wayes couerd, moche grete plente. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Way of the Rounds* ..is a space left for the Passage of the Rounds between the Rampart and the Wall of a Fortify'd Town.

i. *Railways. Line of way*, a track formed by a pair of rails. See also Permanent *way*, Six-foot *way*, Wagon-way.

* *for passage of things.*

†**2.** *Phys.* A duct or channel of any kind in the body of man or other animal. *Obs.*

[tr. mod.L. *via*; cf. *primæ viæ* (lit. 'first ways') the alimentary canal.]

c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 21 þat may be knowen by..feblynes of þe pacient and if it haue pereed þe wales of þe vryne. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Quest.* I iv, The bladder..receyueth the superfluyte vrynall by two longe wayes that descende fro the kydneys. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 281 Wee must therefore enquire further for the cause of this sterility or barrennesse and not impute it to the interception of the wayes.

3. *pl.* **a.** *Naut.* (See quot. 1867.)

1699 in Foster *Crt. Min. E. Ind. Comp.* (1907) 332 [The use of one of the..docks with its] shores and wales [to fit and prepare the *Cæsar*]. *a* 1847 Petit in *Archæologia* XII. 258 The smaller [ship]..was so ill struck upon the launching ways, that she could by no means be put off, which did somewhat discontent his majesty. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. iii. 325 A dry dock was dug for the bark, and ways laid from thence quite into the sea, to facilitate the bringing her up. 1864 Miss S. P. Fox *Kingsbridge Estuary* xiii. 163 When once the boat is close on the shore, the dogs are on the look out for the pieces of wood, technically called *ways*, which are placed underneath the boats to draw them up on the beach. It is very rarely that a single *way* is lost. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Ways*, balks laid down for rolling weights along. *Launching ways*, two parallel platforms of solid timber, one on each side of the keel of a vessel while building, and on which her cradle slides on launching.

transf. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxix, Smooth stripe of wood, well oiled, called 'ways' were placed above and below, to cause the book [*sc.* a packet of hides] to slide in easily.

b. Parallel wooden rails or planks, forming an inclined plane for heavy loads to slide down upon.

1868 B. J. Lossing *The Hudson* 264 The ice, cut in blocks from the lake above..is sent down upon wooden 'ways', that wind through the forest.

c. *Mech.* Parallel sills forming a track for the slides of the uprights of a planing machine, the carriage of a lathe, or the like.

1869 Rankine *Cycl. Mach. & Hand-tools* Plate I 5, Improved Planing Machine..These uprights are so arranged as to slide in ways..provided for the purpose in the sides of the stationary platform.

II. Course of travel or movement.

4. A line or course of travel or progression (whether direct or circuitous) by which a place may be reached, or along which a person or thing may pass. Const. *to, in/o, out of* (hence with *in, out* advs.). *To go a person's way*, to go along with him.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 12 Hi on oðerne weg [Vulg. *per aliam viam*] on hyra rice ferdon. *c* 1205 Lay. 26915 Heom ladden twelue of þan leod-folke þa..þa weizes [*c* 1275 weyes] cuðen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3235 Biforen hem fleȝ an aȝsse þat night hem made ðe weiȝe liȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12736 We wil þe wai ga bi þe se. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 772 Ful wel[l] he coupe þe rithe wei To lincolne. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* vi. 24 Const þou wissen vs þe wey wher þat he dwelleþ? 1400 J. Stokes in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 68 He hadde sent forth Mayster Jon Lobaim vn to zow by the nexte wey. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 5923 With hym ther went Sygrem to be his gide, Costyng the contre many dyuers way, And so came he in to perse the redy waye. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xi. 51 He had the hoost Northward the pryuyest way he wele holde. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 173 b, Knowyng by his espials whiche waie therle kept. 1589 [see Light *n.*[1] 4]. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 212 The doue is open sir, there lies your way. 1602 — *Twel. N.* I. v. 236 Will you hoyst sayle sir, heere lies your way. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. i. 79 Here lyes our way. 1616 T. Draxe *Bibl. Scholast.* 29 Contempt. Heere is the doore, and there is the way. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xi, 'Certainly, sir,' said Mrs. MacCandlish, and hastened to light the way. 1867 *All Year Round* 13 July 56/2 In this case the tramp who 'knows his way about' knows what to do.

† **d.** ? Guidance, direction. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 340 þe þridde part of þe Chirche figtiþ here aftir Crist, and takiþ ensaumpie and weie of him to come to hevene as he cam. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* III. 307 Lyghte to the blynde, way to the croked.

e. *To go the wrong way*: of food or drink, to go into the windpipe instead of the gullet when being swallowed.

1764 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 42 An acquaintance..was killed by a piece of chesnut, which went the wrong way, as we commonly express it. 1860 Hughes *Tom Brown Oxf.* iv, In a constant sort of mild epileptic fit, from laughter, and wine going the wrong way. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Elsie Venner* vii. (1887) 94 He's swallered somethin' the wrong way.

f. Mode of transport.

1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 214, I have inquired what way my goods may safeliest be sent, and am told that by Holstein ships.

g. *Way of the Cross* (= Eccl. L. *Via Crucis*): a series of images or pictures representing the 'Stations of the Cross' (see Station *sb.* 23), ranged round the interior of a church, or on the road to a church or shrine; also, the series of devotions prescribed to be used at these stations in succession.

1868 Walcott *Sacred Archæol.* 554 The stations of the way of the cross .. are—(1) the condemnation of our Lord; (2) Christ bearing His cross; (3) [etc.].

5. Course or line of actual movement.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxx. 19 The weie of an egle in heuene, the weie of the shadewe eddere on a ston, the weie of a ship in the mydi se. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII 327 Our way is Serpent like. 1665–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 6 At what Angle the Way of the Comet cuts the Æquator. 1683 Hooke in Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1757) IV. 231, I shewed an instrument .. by which the way of a ship through the sea might be exactly measured. 1725 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 146 The winding Lines shew the way of the Air in different Constructions of Chimneys. 1735 Somerville *Chase* iv. 431 See there he dives along! Th' ascending Bubbles mark his gloomy Way. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* vii. (1879) 261 The direction of the Earth's motion in its orbit, called the Earth's Way.

† **b.** The wake of a vessel. *Obs.*

c 1565 J. Sparke *Sir J. Hawkins' 2nd Voy.* in *Hakluyt* (1589) 535 [The alligator] plunged into the water, making a streame like the way of a boate. *c* 1635 Capt. N. Botteler *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 300 In speaking of the Wake of a Ship..You said that it was also called the Way. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Way of a Ship*, the smooth Water that she makes a-stern when under Sail.

c. *Engraving.* (See quot. 1891.)

1874 Willshire *Anc. Prints* iii. 96 This operation..consists in rocking the cradle to and fro in certain directions or 'ways', determined by a plan or scale that enables the engraver to pass over the plate in very many directions without any one of them being repeated. 1891 *Adeline's Art Dict., Way* (Engrav.) the series of parallel paths hewn out by the rocker on a mezzotint is technically termed a *way*.

6. In generalized use: Opportunity for passage or advance; absence of obstruction to forward movement; hence *fig.* freedom of action, scope, opportunity. In various phrases, as *give way* (see Give *v.* 49), *have way* (see 24), *make way* (see 25); also ellipt. *Way!* (= 'make way').

a 1400 50 *Bk. Curtasye* 277 in *Babees Bk.*, 3if þou go with a-noper at þo gate, And ȝe be bothe of astate, lie curtasye and let hym haue þe way. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 188 If any vulgar fellow meet them, they presently shake and vibrate their Swords..and so obtaine the way without opposition. 1714 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 29 Having seen the comfort of our labours I found my way opened for a Return [*sc.* home]. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cii, Poor rivals in a losing game, That will not yield each other way. 1898 A. Balfour *To Arms* v, Once or twice I saw a courier flying north,.. and clearing the road with a loud shout of 'Way, way!'

b. In legal documents sometimes equivalent to Right of way.

1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. iii. 35 A fourth species of incorporeal hereditaments is that of ways; or the right of going over another man's ground. 1790 Durnford & East *Cases K. B.* III. 766 The plaintiff..by reason of his possession thereof was entitled to a certain way from the said messuage unto into through and over a certain close of the defendant &c. unto and into the king's common highway &c. and so back again &c. 1803 C. Barton *Elem. Conveyg.* (1821) III. 180 If a copyholder has had time out of mind, a way over another's copyhold. 1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 71 § 2 No Claim which may be lawfully made at the Common Law, by Custom, Prescription, or Grant, to any Way or other Easement, [etc.].

7. Travel or motion along a particular route or in a particular direction. *To take* (a place, etc.) *in one's way*: to visit in the course of one's journey.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 16 Lacedom gif men on langum wege teorize. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlvii. 122 Zif þou haue eny wey to wende, I rede þou here a masse.. In þe Morennynge. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (Cott. MS.) 42 But Tundale hadde a harde warnynge, For as he yn a transyse lay Hys sowle was in a dredefull way, There as hit sawe many a hydwysse payne. Ere hit come to þe body ageyne. *c* 1450 *Chev. Assigne* 220 The grypte eyþur a staffe in here honde & on here wey strawyte. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 562 They were well onward on their way toward Gascoyn.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. iii. 127 The waies at Sea are not as at Land, to returne the same way they passe. 1676 Cotton *Angler* II. ii. 12, I hope our way does not lye over any of these [hills]; for I dread a precipice. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* VI. 475, I return'd by the same way. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. ix. 293 There the way was stopp'd by mountains. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, Is the Cowgate Port a nearer way to Liberton..than Bristo Port? 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xl, Down the wide stairs a darkling way they found. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 372 If he asked his way to St. James's, his informants sent him to Mile End. 1896 G. W. Curtis *Prue & I* iii. (1892) 113 Mr. Bourne..hospitably asked if I were going his way. His way was towards the southern end of the island. 1865 Mrs. Newby *Comm. Sense* ii. III. 25 Are you coming my way, father?

Proverbs. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 77 There be mo waies to the wood than one. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* IV. Epig. 2 The next way Home's the farthest way about. 1662 Boyle *Style Script.* (1675) 56 The Longest way about is the nearest Way Home. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xvii. 87 There is several ways to the Wood besides one.

b. *fig.* with conscious reference to literal travelling. † *To take the way of death*: to die.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1752 Þer me unwreah me þe wei, þet leadeð to liue. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5320 Þe king aldred sone þo þen wey of deþe nom. *c* 1382 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 106 By þese wytty wordes of oure Lord Jesus Christ, mowe malicious men..knowe þat þey beþ in þe weye to helleward. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* II. iii 21 That go the Primrose way to th' euerlasting Bonfire. 1646 Gataker *Mistake Removed* 38 There is no new way to Heaven now, but the same that ever was. *a* 1729 J. Rogers *Nineteen Serm.* v. (1735) 97 Every Path before us appears beset with Snares and Dangers, Ways in which we must walk with Fear and Trembling. *a* 1832 Mackintosh *Revol. 1688* i. (1834) 11 Having found a way to court through some of those who ministered to the pleasures of the King,..he made his value known by [etc.]. 1864 Newman *Apol.* iv. § 2 (1913) 296 There are but two alternatives, the way to Rome, and the way to Atheism. 1890 W. Booth (*title*) In darkest England and the way out.

c. Phrases. *To hold, keep* (a certain) *way*: to follow it without deviation. *To know one's way about*: to know how to get from place to place in a neighbourhood; *fig.* to know how to act in any emergency. *To light* (*a person*) *the way*: to hold out a light to enable a person to direct his course. † *There lies your way*: please to go away. † *Here lies our, your way*: it is time to go.

For *to ask, find, lose, miss the way, one's way, to feel* († *out*) *one's way, to clear, lead, show, stop the way*, see those verbs.

c 1000 *Prin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Dan þe safarinde men seð þe sa sterre, hie wuten sone wuderward hie sullen weie holden. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 709 This Messager on morwe whan he wook Vn to the Castel halt the nexte way. 1400 J. Stokes in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 68 To declar vs to zow the tyme of hys comyng, and the weyes also the

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 92 Belike his wife acquainted with his fits, On purpose shut the doores against his way. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 230 The ioints thereof [*sc.* of the boats] were so shaken and open with the wale. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weeks Observ.* B 2, We past the way away by telling tales by turnes. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 714 Our way we bend To Pallas. 1725 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* xi. 111, I left the place of my Abode, and took in my way four Fathers,..so that the Company..was five. 1741 C'TESS POMFRET in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 186 Here we left the shore, but continued our way on very good roads, till [etc.]. 1777 EARL CARLISLE In Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 228 As to our motions,..We may take Chatsworth in our way. 1779 STORER *Ibid.* IV. 242, I shall look in upon you at Matson in my way. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xl, The attendants on the execution began to pass the stationary vehicle in their way back to Carlisle. 1827 — *Highl. Widow* i, There was some originality in the man's habits of thinking and expressing himself..which made his conversation amuse the way well enough. *a* 1865 FABER *Hymns*, '*I was wandering*', As He came along His way.

b. Qualified by poss. pron., the word often occurs as object or as adverbial accusative to the verb *go* (see Go *v.* 21 b) and its synonyms, †*fare*, †*fere* (see FARE *v.* 1, FERE *v.*), *wend*, etc. From an early period *my*, *his* (etc.) *way* in these collocations were often nearly equivalent to 'away', and with this weakened sense they were formerly used with other verbs of motion, as *flee* (see FLEE *v.* 1 d), *run* (see RUN *v.* 34), *come*, *pass*, *ride*. In present literary use *to go*, *wend one's way* survive as archaisms; mod. dialects have only the imperatives *go*, *come your* (*thy*) *way* (or *ways*: see 23 b).

c 1205 [see FLEE *v.* 1 d]. *c* 1205 LAY. 25954 Ich wulle faren minne wæi. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 308 Þe hauec fol3eþ gode rede & flit his wei & lat him grede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1429 Eliezer is went his wei. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xviii. 6 He ioyed as a giaunt to erne his waye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 94 'Ryd thanne forth thi wey', quod sche. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 133 Furþe on his fete withouten fole he passis his way. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* x. 14 Yef ye fare rudely and be cruell with hym [the hawk], he will fle his way and neuer come atte you. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 167 The Kynge..muste flee hys weye owte of the contrey. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 90 Then she railed on me, and I went my way. 1772 CUMBERLAND *Fashionable Lover* II. 23 Go your way for a simpleton, and say no more about the matter. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xviii, As he wended his way to the Peacock. *Ibid.* xxvi, Mr. Weller went his way back to the George and Vulture.

c. In the Bible phrase *to go the way of all the earth* (Josh. xxiii. 14, 1 Kings ii. 2) meaning 'to die'. Also in erroneous forms (due to confusion with other Bible passages), *the way of all flesh*, *of all living*. (*The way of all flesh* has sometimes been used to mean the experience common to all men in their passage through life.)

A passage (dated 900) in Birch's *Cartul. Sax.* II. 241 'Quando Ælfred rex..viam vniverse carnis adiit', shows that the substitution of 'of all flesh' (*universæ carnis*) for 'of all the earth' (*universæ terræ*) was current in med. Latin. The reading of the Douay Bible (quot. 1609) suggests that the substitution must have found its way into some printed copies of the Vulgate; also, the Plantin Concordance (1642) reads *carnis* s. vv. *Caro* and *Ingredior*, though elsewhere the two passages are cited with the reading *terræ*.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 4 Hee's walk'd the way of Nature, And to our purposes, he liues no more. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *1 Kings* ii. 2, I enter into the way of all flesh [Vulg. *universæ terræ*]. *Ibid.*, *Josh.* xxiii. 14. 1611 HEYWOOD *Golden Age* III. i. F 4 b, If I go by land, and mis-carry, then I go the way of all flesh. If I go by sea and mis-carry, then I go the way of all fish. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. v. P 10, I heard that Don Rodrigo had gone the way of all flesh. 1838 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* i, He pardoned us off-hand, and allowed us something to live on till he went the way of all flesh. 1887 *Murray's Mag.* Sept. 422 His former retainer, Phil Judd, had long gone the way of all flesh, however seasoned.

jocularly. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *West-w. Hoe* II. ii, I saw him euen now going the way of all flesh (thats to say) towardes the Kitchin.

d. In verbal phrases with the sense 'to effect a forward movement by the action denoted by the verb', e.g. in *to force*, *push*, *squeeze one's way*; also occas. with the sense 'to accompany one's advance by the specified action'.

1694 ATTERBURY *Serm., Isa.* lx. 22 (1726) I. 201 In this manner the Prophet of the East hew'd out his way by the power of the Sword. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 843 The slow creeping Evil eats his way, Consumes the parching Limbs, and makes the Life his Prey. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 237 McDonald, being surrounded, attempted to fight his way thro', and wounded his man. 1750 [see ELBOW *v.* 4]. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Hosp. Patient*, We ..entered the office, in company with..as many dirty-faced spectators as could squeeze their way in. — *Ibid.*, *Streets—Night*, The muffin-boy rings his way down the little street. 1839 — *T. Two Cities* II. iii, The virtuous servant, Roger Cly, swore his way through the case at a great rate. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 717 The car-blade wings its wondrous way, Sped by stout arms. 1892 LADY F. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* I. 3 If enemies forced their way into the house. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Choir Invisible* ii, He failed to urge his way through the throng as speedily as he may have expected.

†e. A journey, voyage; a pilgrimage. *lit.* and *fig.* Also = ERR. *Obs.*

With quot. *c* 1325 cf. OF. 'faire une voie a Saint Jacques' quoted by Du Cange (s.v. *Via*) with date 1368.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 Þauh heo been ine worldliche weie, as ich seide er, of pilegrimes, auh habbeð hore heorte euer toward heouene. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 53 It was a man.. That til sain Jamis hitt [= *highte*, promised] the way. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiv. 21 Wilnyng to wite whether the Lord had maad his weye welcom [Vulg. *utrum prosperum iter suum fecisset Dominus*], or noon. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 553 He wylle wyghtlye in a qwhyle on his wayes hye. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 56 Whan þey had spoke togeðir and euerych of hem had tolde his purpos and þe cause of his weye. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) B ij b, That the citezens may recorde ther libartels afore the kingis Justicis and mynystres what so euer notwythstandyng Statutis of the Wey or domes in the contrey made or shewyd oute. *Ibid.* C vj, And that the forsayd Citezens in the weys of Justice to the tour of London fro hensforward goyng, that they bee not lad by the lawes by which they were ledde in the Weys holden in the tymes of John and herry Somtyme kynge of englande.

†f. *The way's end*: lit. the end of the journey; *fig.* the completion of a process. *Obs.*

1526 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 219 It shall be lawfull for the purveyour..to take..such Poultry stuff..paying unto them such prices..as the said purveyour..should have paid therefore at the wayes end. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 141 b, Thou must therfore goo alonge by the scripture as by a lyne, vntyll thou come at Christ, which is the wayes ende and restynge place. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 84 The one [stuff] wanting nothing but tacking up, to be at its ways end; and the other tayloring..and several other particulars.

g. *To hold*, *keep one's way* (cf. 4 c): to travel without interruption; *fig.* to continue one's course of action, to 'keep going'. † *To hold*, *keep way*: to keep pace (const. *with* or dative).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Simon & Jude*) 326 Syne to þe eddris can þai sa; 've commawnd 30w to hald 3our va'. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 1 Nay keepe your way (little Gallant) you were wont to be a follower, but now you are a Leader. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 144, I would my horse had the speed of your tongue..but keepe your way a Gods name, I haue done. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 2. 25 It seemeth best to keepe way with Antiquities, *vsque ad aras*. 1625 — *Ess., Fortune* (Arb.) 377 When there be not Stonds, nor Restiuenesse in a Mans Nature. But that the wheeles of his Minde keepe way with the wheeles of his Fortune. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon., Battles* 63 She..had her fore mast broken off, which so hindred her sayle, that shee was unable to keepe way with the Fleete. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 1 It flies so far, that no bird.. but a Woodcock, can hold way with it. 1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* 82 All plying to keep Way, on forfeiture of 00. 00. 06. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 2, I did not doubt but that I should be able to hold him way. 1818 *Tuckey's Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* Introd. p. xxvii, In running from the Nore to the North Foreland,..she kept way with the transport. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dan.* xiii, The..reeds of the jungle were moving like the ripple of the ocean, when distorted by the course of a shark holding its way near the surface. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* x, People who have enough to do to hold their own way..had better be content with their own obligations and difficulties.

†h. *By the way of my soul* (as an oath): by my soul's salvation. *Obs.*

1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 522 For be the weye of my sowle, this lond wer uttirly on done.

1. *Naut.* Progress (of a ship or boat) through the water; rate of progress, velocity; impetus gained by a vessel in motion. *To freshen way*: see FRESHEN *v.* 3.

Cf. *under way* (38), from which this sense was perh. evolved.

1663 DAVENANT *2nd Pt. Siege of Rhodes* II. i, Those who withstand The Tide of Flood..Fall back when they in vain would onward row: We strength and way preserve by lying still. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. vi. 160 If you sail against a Current, if it be swifter than the Ship's way, you fall a Stern. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 15 She stood away for Breat, and we..fired a Chace Gun, but we fired too soon, for we lost Way and she gained. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 34 The sea was rough, and the yacht had great way. 1764 J. BYRON in Hawkesw. *Voy.* (1773) I. 23 On the 7th, I found myself much farther to the northward than I expected, and therefore supposed the ship's way had been influenced by a current. 1850 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* xiii, Now mind, boys, don't quicken,..four short strokes to get way on her, and then steady. 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 P. D. 101 She ran into the *Nio* before her way could be stopped. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* ix, We can't steer, if you keep stopping. You must keep some way on the boat. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 27 By the time our way was exhausted, about ninety fathoms had been paid out on the first anchor.

transf. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xiii, A..short dark man came into the room with so much way upon him, that he was within a foot of Clennam before he could stop. 1911 *Times* 22 Aug. 8/2 He shut off his engine and by so doing took the 'way' off the biplane. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 680 The train gathered way.

8. Distance travelled or to be travelled along a particular route. Hence (with adjs. *long*, *short*, *good*, *great*, *little*), a distance between places or to a place; often as advb. accusative. Also with *off*. Cf. HALFWAY.

† *A mile of way*: = 'a mile away' (*obs. rare*).

c 920 tr. *Beda's Hist.* I. xxiii, Hig ..sumne dæl ðæs weges gefaran hæfdon. *c* 1000 *Ep. Alexandri* in Cockayne *Narratiunculæ* (1861) 23 Da ondawardon hie mec & sæxdon þ nære mara weg þonne meahte on tyn dagum gefaran. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 32 It es a grete way betwene þam. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* xix. 7 Stonde vp, and eate, for thou hast a greate waye to go. 1582 T. WILSON *Logic* II. 1 vii b, It is no good argument, if I se a tree a good way from me, to say, it is a tree, therefore it is an Apple tree. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. viii. 62 b, Trauailing both day and night..[they] do dispatch more way then the best horse..could doe. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. 57 The way is but short, away. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 26 Long way he trauelled before he heard of aught. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 176 There came a man, and two women swimming to vs, more then a mile of way. 1682 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 56 The Sand-banks..reach out a good way into the Sea. 1687 SPRAT *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 250 A Chariot-way-wiser, measuring exactly the length of the way of the Chariot or Coach to which it is apply'd. 1697 *C'tess D'Anney's Trav.* (1706) 44 They commit these Villanies hard by a Sanctuary, so have the less way to an Altar. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 P 1, I saw him squirr away his Watch a considerable way into the Thames. 1791 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 10 There is the finest navigable Water, all the Way from Mr. Tovey's Meadows to Cliveo Lock. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvi, I must ask the favour of your company a little way. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Passenger's Shop*, It is a low,..dusty shop, the door of which stands always doubtfully, a little way open. 1844 BROUGHAM *Alb. Lunel* I. ii. 39 The Marchioness's walk seldom lasted less than an hour, so that she must have some way to go. 1856 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* V. 8 Ventriloquism..making the sound at one moment appear close to the listener, and the next a long way off. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* xxi, But the village of Davenant is not a great way off. 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* 18 She stood a little way from the door.

fig. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* I. (1765) 18 And now then, continued he, as we have gone thus far, and have settled between us what we believe Art to be; shall we go a little farther, or is your Patience at an end? Oh! no, replied I, not if any thing be left. We have walked so leisurely, that much remains of our Way.

† b. For *a mile way*, *a furlong way*, meaning the time which it takes to go that distance, see MILEWAY, FURLONG b. *Obs.*

c. In advb. phrases used figuratively. (*By*) *a long way*: qualifying a comparative, = 'far' (better, etc.). *At the least way(s*: see LEASTWAYS. † *A great way*: to a great extent. † *A foul way out*: miserably far from success. *Some way*: for some distance (in time).

For *to go a long, great*, etc. *way*, see Go *v.* 43 c, d.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 122, I loue him for his sake, And yet I..Thinke him a great way foole. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 107 Heere, as I point my Sword, the Sunne arises, Which is a great way growing on the South. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iii. 201 If I cannot recouer your Neece, I am a foule way out. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 484 Why, forsooth, so much ado, why such a vast way about, to obtain a few Verses? 1874 SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1873-4, 516 The most characteristic features of Middle English, as, for instance, *ii* and *uu*, were preserved some way into the sixteenth century. 1890 W. E. NORRIS *Misadventure* xiv, Bligh, who was his junior by a long way.

9. Direction of motion, relative position, or aspect. Chiefly in advb. phrases, as *this way* (= hitherwards), *my way* (= towards me, into my neighbourhood), *that way*, *which way*, *all ways*, etc.

In early use *way* often followed a local name or a sb. preceded by *to* with the force of the suffix *-ward*. In mod. colloquial and esp. rustic speech expressions like (*down*) *Essex way* (i.e. in Essex or its neighbourhood) are common.

For *the right way*, *the wrong way*, in uses belonging to this sense, see those adjs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22573 Þe fixes þat þar-in er stade,..Til erth wai [*Gött.* Till erdward] þan nai þai fle. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 103 In Cambridge shire forward to Lincolne shire way, the champion maketh his fallow in May. 1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 52 Oh turne thy edged Sword another way. 1605 — *Macb.* IV. i. 45 By the pricking of my Thumbes, Something wicked this way comes. 1607 — *Cor.* I. iii. 8 When youth with comelinesse pluck'd all gaze his way. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 276 From whence we saw..to the Westward, in the way of Egypt, the Castle of.. Elisha. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 67 As take a straw and throw it up into the Air, you shall see by that which way the Wind is. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiv. 235 The Work must run always one way. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI 1123 This way and that his winding Course he bends. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 190 Our advantageous Ground was the Destruction of a great many Thousands of the French, for we had them all Ways, Front, and Rear, and Flank. 1800 LATHOM *Dash of Day* I. iii, I seldom come your way now. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, Janet..ventured to ask her lady, which way she proposed to direct her flight. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ii, As it was a very fine night, [we] strolled out for a walk West End way. 1846 JAMES *Stepmother* xxxviii. II. 106 The instant he entered—though the servant said, 'this way, sir,' and walked on towards the opposite door—Mr. Morton's visitor stopped, bowed to the ladies, [etc.]. 1850 NEWMAN *Difficulties Anglicans* I. ii. (1891) I. 55 Drive a stake into a river's bed, and you will at once ascertain which way it is running. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* VI. xix, The first time you come my way you shall have two glasses of brandy-and-water. 1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxxiii. 2 When last I was up Huntly Burn way, there was no burn there. 1878 TRELAWNY *Rec. Shelley* etc. I. 167 A vehement exclamation..from one of the trio of ladies, drew all eyes her way. 1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydneyside Sax.* vi, At last I made out a whirlwind coming our way. 1896 GRATIANA CHANTER *Witch of Withyford* xv, 185 Joan she married Farmer Blake as lives over Molton way. 1900 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* viii, 'Where are you going to now?'..'Down Crabowell way'. 1904 F. LANDON in *Times* 24 Sept. 8/2 We took care not to offend.. by deviating from the orthodox left-to-right course...The 'way of the wine' is a custom which would need no explanation to a Buddhist. 1912 S. H. WARREN in *Jrnl. R. Anthrop. Inst.* XLII. 115 The shaft-hole is bored through the thinnest way of the [stone] blade, so that the cutting-edge comes at right angles to the shaft.

b. *fig.* in non-spatial applications.

In colloquial use sometimes in predicative phrases, as (*a little*) *that way*, approximating to that condition; (*all, quite very much*) *the other way*.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 79 My consent goes not that way. 1605 — *Lear* III. iv. 21 O that way madnesse lies, let me shun that. *a* 1647 FLETCHER *Lovers' Progr.* I. i, You are Poetical. *Mod.* Something given that way. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* ii. 90 Three Brothers were detected

to have a Design that way. 1707 Atterbury *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm. Bennet* 32 As to the words themselves, there is nothing in them that sounds that way. 1711 Addison *Spect* No. 108 ₱ 7 Finding his Genius did not lie that Way. 1794 J. H. Moore *Pract. Navig.* (1828) 179 Suppose the sun's true azimuth S. 17° 45′ E. and the magnetic azimuth S. 5° 48′ W., required the variation, and which way? 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, 'I'm afraid you're wet.'..'Yes, I am a little that way.' 1858 Trollope *Three Clerks* xxvi, You must not compare me with them,..They are patterns of excellence. I am all the other way. 1882 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 126 Foxe, whose evidence is often one way and his assertions the other. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 161/2 The evidence on the point had in his view been all one way.

c. Prov. *To look nine ways, to look two ways for Sunday*: to squint excessively. *To go, look nine ways* (*at once, at thrice*): expressing the indecision produced by terror or eagerness.

1542 [see Nine A. 3 b]. *a* 1617 Bayne *On Ephes.* (1643) 253 Some, if a thing come into the head, turne them forthwith to it, as busily as if they would goe nine waies at once. 1649 [see Nine A 3 b]. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* xxi. 451 He has..a bad squint, so that..he seemed to be looking two ways for Sunday.

d. *The other way about, round*: conversely, vice versa.

1894 'M. Rutherford' *Cath. Furse* vi, She..never could recollect whether the verb was conjugated, and the noun declined, or whether it was the other way round, to use one of her favourite expressions. 1914 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 382 Whilst with Hegel the Logic is the *a priori* framework of the whole philosophy, with Rucken it is secondary, adjusting itself to the life-process and not the other way about.

e. *One way or* (*the*) *other, either way* (adv. phr.): in one direction or the other; in the direction of excess or defect, of assent or denial, of confirmation or disproof, etc.

1560 B. Hampton in T. Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 36 As sone as th'ende thereof, either one waye or other, shall be knowne, I will not fayle to move the Quene's Majestie that the same may be [etc.]. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* vi. § 5, I should..be glad to be convinced one way or other. 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* vii, The housekeeper who saw it all..seemed to have no opinion about it, one way or other. *a* 1878 B. Taylor *Germ. Lit.* 105 There are but a few years' difference between them, either way. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. 29/2 The Summary Jurisdiction Act 1879 has no real bearing one way or the other on the question.

†10. *Naut.* The run or rake of a ship. (Cf. Rake *sb.*4 1, Run *sb.* 25 b.) *Obs.*

1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* ii. 10 The meane is the best if her after way be answerable. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 122 The proportion between the way of the Ship cut off at its greatest transverse section, and the way of the same shaped from the same section forward in the usual manner.

III. Course of life or action, means, manner.

11. A path or course of life; the activities and fortunes of a person.

The use is mainly of Heb. origin, and is extremely frequent in all English versions of the Bible.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlii. 306 Hie etað done wæstm hiera æhtes wæges [L. *comedent fructus viæ suæ* (Prov. i. 31)]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Upon leohte is fulfremednesse weg þe we on feran sceolan, þæt is se rihta æelesta. *c* 1200 Ormin 18068 Forr all þe Laferrd Cristess lif & all hiss hallȝhe lare, & all hiss wæȝȝe, & all hiss werre, [etc.]. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8590 (Fairf.) Of mister was þer wimmen twyn atte led þaire life in way of syn [*Cott.* wit sike and sin; *other texts* in sake and sine (synne)]. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxi. 2 Eche weie of a man riȝt to hym semeth. 1653 Hane *Jrnl.* (1906) 2 By the Lord's providence who disposeth of all the wayes and actions of man. 1657 Milton *P. L.* iv. 620 Man hath his daily work..Appointed, which declares his Dignitie, And the regard of Heav'n on all his waies; While other Animals unactive range And of thir doings God takes no account. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 395 One Destiny our Life shall guide; Nor Wild, nor Deep our common Way divide. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 76 They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

b. *pl.* Habits of life, esp. with regard to moral conduct.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxviii. (xxxix) 1 Ic cweð ic haldu wegas mine ðet ic ne agylte in tungan minre. [Similarly in all later versions.] 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 39/1 So that euer at length euil drifes dreue to nought, & good plain wayes prosper. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 95 Thow sall not follow wickit mennis wayis. 1599 Shaks. etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 323 And to her will frame all thy waies. 1675 Owen *Indwelling Sin* xvii. (1732) 235 His Companions in Sin not finding him in his old Ways, begin to laugh at him. 1832 Hr. Martineau *Manch. Strike* i. 8 Those who knew his ways could easily guess at which of his haunts he might be expected when missing from home. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxvii, I wish, friend, thee would leave off cursing and swearing, and think upon thy ways. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* i. i, I shall here shut up for the present, and consider my ways. 1887 M. Creighton in Mrs. Creighton *Life* (1904) I. 373 Your letter will give me much food for meditation, and may in time lead to an amendment of my ways.

c. *The way* or *ways of G. d*: the course of God's providence; very common in Bible use.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xliv. 17 Rehtwis dryhten in allum wegum his. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* viii. 22 The Lord weldide me [*sc.* Wisdom] in the begynnyng of his weies [so 1535 *Coverdale*; 1611 way]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 413 To attaine The highth and depth of thy Eternal wayes All human thoughts come short, supreame of things. 1738 Chas Hartford *Corr.* (1805) I. 28 It tells us..that a day will come when the ways of Providence will be cleared up.

d. A prescribed course of life or conduct; the law or commandments (of God); also in *pl.*

a 1000 *Andreas* 170 Leode [he] forlæten hfes weg. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6858, I..sal hald you [in] my right, To-quilk yee sold mi wais right. 1382 Wyclif *Job* xxi. 14 The which seiden to God, Go awei fro vs; the kunnyng of thi weies we wiln not. 1786 S. Told *Acc. Life* 166, I walked closely in the ways of God. 1879 R. K. Douglas *Confucianism* iii. 72 The Sage..maintains a perfect uprightness and pursues the heavenly way without the slightest deflection.

e. *The Way*: in the Acts of the Apostles, a name for the Christian religion (ἡ ὁδός, Vulg. *via*).

In Acts ix. 2, xix. 9, 23, xxiv. 14, 22, the Greek has 'the way'; the only English translation that has the literal rendering in all the passages is the Revised Version of 1881 ('the Way', with capital). In ix. 2 Wyclif, following an error in some MSS. of the Vulgate, has 'this life'; later versions down to 1611 have 'this way'. In xix. 9 and 23 Wy.... after some MSS. of the Vulgate, has 'the way of the Lord (so, in verse 9, Tindale 1526 and Geneva 1557); later versions of verse 23 down to 1611 'that way'. In xxiv. 14 Wyclif has 'the sect' (after Vulg. *sectam*), Tindale and Geneva 'that way', Cranmer and 1611 'the way'. In xxiv. 22 Wyclif has 'the way', Geneva 'this sect', and other versions down to 1611 'that way'. In Acts xxii. 4 the Greek has 'this way', which all the English translators render literally.

12. A course of action. Often with the phraseology of sense 4, as *to go the right, wrong, nearest way*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29222 For-þi to weind þe seker wai I rede we be in penance ai. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 2, I wokle go the middel weie And wryte a bok betwen the tweie, Somwhat of lust, somewhat of lore. *c* 1500 Medwall *Nature* (Brandl) l. 342 Yf thou se hym not take hys owne way, Call me cut, when thou metest me a nother day. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 9 In this we may knowe, what waye to take, & what waye to leue. *c* 1530 Berners *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* 352, I thinke this is a better waye than all to fyght at ones. 1539 in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset Relig. Houses* (1892) 75 Albeyt we have vsed as many wayes with her as our poore wittes cowde atteyne, yet in the ende we cowde not..bring her to any conformytie. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 216 Theyr Archebyshop Herman hathe gon a new waye to worke [L. *inisse novam rationem*]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. xxii. § 8 (1912) 293 He durst not take open way against them: and as harde it was to take a secrete. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* ii. ii. 39 My best way is to creepe vnder his Gaberdine. 1616 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 2 He goeth the wrong way to worke, or to the wood. 1656 Cowley *Davideis* i. Note 37 There is so much to be said of this subject, that the best way is to say nothing of it. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 39 The sooner this Way is begun with Children, the easier it will be for them, and their Governors too. 1748 Smollett *R. Random* lxii, He told me that I went the wrong way to work.

†b. (One's) best or most advisable course. *Obs.*

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* iv. iii. 93 My way is now to hie home to his house, And tell his wife, that [etc.]. 1594 — *Rich. III*, i. i. 78, I thinke it is our way, If we will keepe in fauour with the King, To be her men, and weare her Liuery. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* v. 280, I will goe darkely to worke with her. That's the way: for women are light at midnight. 1604 — *Oth.* ii. iii. 393 And bring him iumpe, when he may Cassio finde Soliciting his wife: That's the way.

c. *To have* (*get*, etc.) *one's* (*own*) *way*: to be allowed to follow or to enforce on others the course of action on which one is resolved. Hence *to love, be fond of one's own way*. Cf. 14 i.

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, iii. ii. 139 Like one that..chides the Sea, that sunders him from thence, Saying hee'le lade it dry, to haue his way. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* iv. iii, Had I had my way, I'le' had mew'd in flames, at home, not i' the Senate. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 238 Hee was of an High Mind, and loued his owne Will, and his owne Way. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) I. 147 Obstinate, perverse, undutiful Clarissa!..then take your own way, and go up! 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 298 Every child knew that his majesty loved to have his own way and could not bear to be thwarted. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 466, I myself sometimes despise myself; For I have let men be, and have their way. 1859 — *Grandmother* xviii, Kind, like a man, was he; like a man, too, would have his way. 1866 Mrs. Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* xi, I'll..thank you unutterably, if you'll only let me have my way in this. It will do me so much good, mamma! 1873 Mrs. Oliphant *Innocent* III. 310 You are..silly, pig-headed, unreasonable, and more fond of your own way than of anything else in the world. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 8 June 4/7 If they do not get their own way they will resign. 1893 *Law Times* XCIV. 559/1 If I had had my way, I would have fought every one of these actions.

†d. *Take better way with you*: take a more reasonable course. *Obs.*

a 1553 Udall *Royster D.* iv. iii. (Arb.) 65 Let me now treate peace, For bloudshed will there be in case this strife increace. Ah good dame Custance, take better way with you.

13. A course of action, a device, expedient method, or means, by which some end may be attained or some danger escaped. Const. *to* with inf. or *sb.*, *of* with gerund.

Proverb, *Where there's a will there's a way.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Þet we magen mid ure mude bringen us ut of þisse putte..and þet burh þreo herde weies þe þus beoð ihaten: *Cordis contritione, Oris confessione, Operis satisfactione.* *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* iv. 36 By al way make hym þi frende. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 382 Ibid. 134, I may nat from thy respeccioun By no way, lorde, hyde now me. *c* 1470 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 109 As for the neste corte they hathe founde a wey þat ther schull no thyng be do, yn so myche as ye be absent. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 50 For after yt tyme there were an hundred wayes practised and invented how at one time or another, to deliuer or convey them out of pryson. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 699 Why should not I..Haue benefices two or thre? Sens thou hast taught me the wei how I may kepe them and blameleese be. 1608 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* i. iii. 10 Thou teachest like a foole: the way to lose him. 1624 Donne *Devot.* x. (ed. 2) 217 Those are the greatest mischiefes, which are least discerned; the most insensible in their waies come to be the most sensible in their ends. *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 730 To him that will, waies are not wanting. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandm. Calling* v. (1672) 96 The way to have full barns, is to have free hands. 1685 F. Cheneau (*title*) French Grammar enriched with a compendious and short way to learn the French tongue in a very short time..; and a very rare way to find out all the articles, nouns, pronouns [etc.]. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* ii. (1840) 23 They took ways.. to satisfy us. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* I. ii. 5 And tho' he finds a way, by his sister..to let Miss Byron know his passion. 1844 Brougham *Alb. Lunet* xvi. II. 176 Against England he is implacable and the only way to ruffle his temper is to praise her. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 554 He saw saw that there was only one way of averting general confusion. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxi, 'Is there no way,' she asked, 'in which he can earn money?' 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 292/2 Mr. Huxley..can see but one way of arriving at truth; which he calls experience. 1918 *Cornhill Mag.* June 634 Radicals who preached Colonial Self-government as the way and the only way to Imperial Unity.

b. Coupled with the synonymous Mean *sb.*: see Ways and means. Also †*mean way* (see Mean *a.*2 4), †*way moyen* (see Moyen *a.*). Also †*ways and grounds*.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4844 Wher they ne may Finde non other mene wey [Fr. *ou nus ne set le moien querre*]. 1430–1 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 375/2 Upon grete subtilite.., and colored menes and weyes. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 444 For elles youre partie adverse and the saide duc might not godely have founden the moyens and the weyes to have communed to geder to conclude thaire confedracy. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 287/2 So the weyes and grounades may be founde and hadde for paiement.. 1470 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 115 Our Tra tours..which daily labour þe weyes moyens at þeir power of our final destruccion. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 This is the onely meane and waye, that is euermore certayne and sure. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* ii. (1577) N 1 b, Ech honest louer..vseth so manye meanes and wayes to please the woman whome hee loueth.

†c. *To have the way*(*s*: to know how *to* do something. *Obs.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 163 O the right philosophicall herte of this prince, who had the waye, euen of his enemies, also to take vtilitee and profite. *Ibid.* 200 Oh what an horse these folkes dooe marre, while through defaulte of skylle.. thei haue not the wayes to handle hym [L. *dum illo per imperitiam..uti nesciunt*].

d. *Way out of*: a means of escape from (a difficulty). Cf. sense 4.

1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 430 Let us..ask ourselves.. whether we have discovered a way out of the difficulty.

14. Manner in which something is done or takes place; method of performing an action or operation.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) Q 74 *Quocumque modo*, ȝehwelci weȝa. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5526 He wold haue do beter, ȝif is witte in eny weiȝes wold him haue serued. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* i. v. 17 Lyghtnynge hys soule..with the spirituall vnderstondyng of hys wordes & that in tow wayes. 1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* Pref. 2 The methode and way of composition of suche medicines. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* ii. 72 But are there more wayes then one of plantyng and setting? 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 112 They say this Angelo was not made by Man and Woman, after this downe-right way of Creation. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* i. 67 After dinner we rode in like way two miles, to the City Lowen. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 227 As for the things an Artificer shall judge to be worth his pains, he shall not onely invent them after the best way, but also after the easiest way. 1652 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 23 There is more ways of teaching then by preaching in a Pulpit. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. xvii. 202 A perfect Method and Way of keeping Account. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 34, I have said enough of the Turks way of Eating, Drinking and Sleeping. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 124 ₱ 4, I may pronounce their Characters from their Way of Writing. 1743 Buckley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 66 We have found out a new way of managing the Haugh. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* i. 4 There are several Ways of making Sauce for a Pig. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Yng. Lady's T.* II. 341 She exacted, in consideration of this concession, that he should allow her to do it in her own way. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xxiii. (1842) 586 In many other situations a bad conductor is of service in a similar way. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* ii. ii. (1890) 113 Yet why, aunt, does everybody keep on making me think that I do, by the way they behave towards me? 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 546/1 Any practical suggestions pointing out in what way assistance may be rendered to students generally. 1897 J. W. Clark *Barnwell* Introd. 9 A few words on the way in which I was led to undertake the work.

†b. Literary style or method. *Obs.*

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* To Rdr. A iv, The Authours peculiar way of imbellishing it..gained so much on the Italian humour, as it induced divers of that Nobility to procure him to second it..with another Tome. *a* 1639 Wotton *Surv. Educ.* Reliq. (1651) 334 And this is enough for the disclosing of a good Capacity in the popular way; which I have followed, because the Subject is generall. 1672 Dryden *Even. Love* Pref. a 2 b, I admire and applaud him where I ought: those who do more, do but value themselves in their admiration of him: and, by telling you they extoll Ben. Johnson's way, would insinuate to you that they can practice it. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 641 Five Sermons in five several stiles or waies of preaching. The first in Bishop Andrews way...The second in B. Halls way.

c. In Chemistry and Assaying. *The humid, moist, or wet way, the dry way* (= F. *voie humide, voie sèche*), processes distinguished by the presence or absence of liquid.

1796 [see Law *a.* 21 a]. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 398, I am not yet able to give an account..of the results of this analysis by the wet way. 1898 [see Humid *a.* c]. 1899 [see Moist *a.* 5].

d. Adverbial phrases without prep. See also Anyway, Someway.

Now somewhat *rare*, the form with *in* being commonly

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 26623 Leue sun,..þi fader and I has mani wais soght þe abute this thre dais. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 Freris..spuylen þe pupile many weies by ipocrisie and oþer leesingis. 1526 Tindale *Heb.* i. 1 God in tyme past diversly and many wayes [Gr. πολυτρόπως] spake vnto the fathers by prophetes. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* III. 90 b, When by deuersity of inuention, a sentence is manye wayes spoken. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 286 He declareth ..how many wayes they have rebelled [L. *quam multis modis rebellarint ostendit*]. 1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* Ep. Ded. P 5 It hath passed..the censure of the learned phisitian M. Doctor Iames, a man many wayes very notably qualified. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 198 What fashion will you weare the Garland off?..You must weare it one way, for the Prince hath got your Hero. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xvi. 1 But wherefore do not you a mightier waie Make warre vppon this bloudie tirant time? 1618 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* III. 167 The Lion ..is borne these wales, Rampant, Passant, Saliant, Seisant or couchant. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 187 God declareth his Lawes three wayes. 1653 Walton *Angler* x. 187 Some say, they [*sc.* eels] breed..out of the putrifaction of the earth, and divers other waies. 1699 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 122 There Fleetewood, Desborow, with the greatest officers seeke God for councell and act theire owne way. 1688 Dryden *Mac Flecknoe* 208 There thou maist..torture one poor word Ten thousand ways. 1695 W. J. tr. *Bossu's Treat. Epick Poem* II. vii. 72 An Action may be entire and compleat two ways. 1780 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 4 July, I..hope she will not be too rigorous with the young ones, but allow them to be happy their own way.

e. Coupled with *manner*. Also in advb. phrases, *all manner of ways, any manner of way* († *ways*). Now *rare*.

1430 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 38/2 The fermys and the frottis in the menc tyme tane in the principale some of na maner of waye to be contyt. ? 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 141 The grace of Jhesu, hom I mekely beseche..to preserve your fadyrhod yn alle maner of weyys. 1508 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 253/1 Alienatioun thairof in heretage, lyferent, or lang takis forthir than thre 3eris, onymaner of way. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 26 Ane man ma trow ii maner of wais of god. 1634 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1888) 225 My Lady Ruthin.. has put a tune to them that I may hear them all manner of ways. 1705 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 162 Signed; but without the Privity..of Govr Nicholson or his being any manner of ways connected in it. 1718 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* 1874) 33 In such way and manner as to his Majesty should seem meet. 1720 A. Petrie *Rules Good Deportm.* (1877) 20 It is rude in Company to break Wind any Manner of Way, tho amongst Inferiors. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xii, O ay, sir, there's nae doubt o' that, though there are mony idle clashes about the way and manner.

f. *In his* (*her, its, their*) *way*: appended to expressions of praise, with the implication that the praise given is to be understood in a limited sense appropriate to the object. *In a way* (colloq. *in a sort of way*): appended to a statement to intimate that it might be taken to imply more than it is meant to do.

1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 43 P 3 We are all Grave, Serious, Designing Men, in our Way. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 255 You are two beloved Creatures: Both excellent in your way. 1749 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 303, I have received from Cairo the Egyptian figures one of which in their way I do not think bad. 1819 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd. 1st half, All whom I have conversed with, and I have in my youth seen some who knew Rob Roy personally, gave him the character of a benevolent and humane man 'in his way.' 1835 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Parl. Sk.*, Jane is as great a character as Nicholas, in her way. 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, I. viii. (1857) 149 The letter of the plenipotentiaries..is a model in its way. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* xxix, Of all the looks I ever see in a human face, his was the grievedest then ..; and yet, in a kind of way, it was the grandest. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* xlviii, Latin verses, lovely in their way. 1889 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* iii, He is handsome in a way—not elegant and soigné like Captain Grey, but there is something about him [etc.]. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* iii. 16 Its apartments, though stately in their way, were neither historic nor [etc.].

g. *Way of thinking*: now usually, a set of opinions or principles characteristic of a party or sect. In earlier use with other senses, e.g. a purpose or intention, a (high or low) level of moral principle.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 66 P 1 Lysander, who is something particular in his Way of Thinking and Speaking, told us, a Man could not be Eloquent without Action. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 81 The Thing..was, at the best, but a very mean Action, and argued a low Way of Thinking. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 3, I hope he will turn your Heart from this Way of thinking [*sc.* wanting to go to sea]. 1841 Helps *Ess., Transaction of Business* (1842) 93 It is often worth while to bestow much pains in gaining over foolish people to your way of thinking. 1892 Kipling *Light That Failed* xi, More than you will be of that way of thinking, young woman.

h. *Way of living* or *life*: habits (of an individual or a community) with regard to food, habitation, intercourse, etc.

1681 Rycaut tr. *Gracian's Critick* To Rdr. A 8 b, Their Customs and way of living are different to other Nations of Europe. 1709 T. Innes *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 238 The same author..tells us that in his time the Britains were, as to their manners and way of living, partly like to the inhabitants of the Gauls. 1741 C'tess l'Omfret in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 369, I have got into as regular a way of life here as I could be in at my own house. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 184 If we examine their way of living, we shall find these insects chiefly subsisting upon others, much less than themselves. 1777 Sir W. Jones *Ess.* i. 180 Since their way of life gives them leisure to pursue those arts. 1898 M. Pemberton *Phantom Army* i. vi, That the hour would come when he must lay down the sword..and turn with shame from the old way of life.

i. *To have everything one's own way, to have it all one's own way*: to have one's wishes carried out; to meet with no resistance or opposition. Cf. 12 c.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 66 P 2 Therefore he would have it his Way, and our Friend is to drink till he is carbuncled and Tun-bellied. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 107 Never deny him any Thing, for he loves to have every Thing his own Way. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. viii. 134 That easiness of mind, which is easy because it is tolerant, because it does not look to have everything its own way. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* IV. vii, That literature admits no controversialists, and the writer has it all his own way. 1858 Sears *Athan.* xvi. 133 What sort of a world would you make for yourself, if you could have everything your own way?

j. In various phrases. † *There is no way but one*: death (or ruin) is certain. *No two ways about it* or *that* (? orig. U.S. colloq.): there can be no doubt of the fact. *It is always the way with* (*him*): (he) always acts so. *By* (or *with*) *his way of it* (Sc.): according to his account of it.

? 1570 ? Tarlton in *Old Ballads* (Percy Soc. 1840) 82 No horse nor man could passe Of busines small or post, For issue none there was, No way but to be lost. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii. 1982 The Souldan and the Arabian king together March on vs with such eager violence, As if there were no way but one with vs. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 26 After I saw him fumble with the Sheets..[etc.], I knew there was but one way. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* Pref. b 4, For if he heard the malicious Trumpetter proclaiming his name before his betters, he knew there was but one way with him. 1796–7 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xliii, 'And this is always the way with him,' she added. 'Whatever can give his sister any pleasure, is sure to be done in a moment.' 1818 Fearon *Sk. America* 300 (Thornton s. v. *No*) You and I have got to dovetail, and no two ways about it. 1834 J. Hall *Kentucky* I. 145 'This has been a powerful hot day.'..'No two ways about that,' said the hunter. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, Well, they're [i.e. the cells are] pretty nigh full, and that's a fact, and no two ways about it. 1852 H. Rogers *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 221 It is too much the way with you objectors to say [etc.]. 1867 Mrs. Oliphant *Madonna Mary* I. viii. 119 But then that is so often the way with those well-off people. 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* ii, Onyway he was a great hand by his way of it, and he up and rebuked the Master for some of his on-goings.

k. *In this way*: in colloquial lang. sometimes used vaguely for 'thus' or 'so', when not the manner of an action but the action itself is in question.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxviii, I can't let you cut an old friend in this way.

15. In advb. phrases like (*in*) *all ways*, (*in*) *any way*, (*in*) *one way*, etc., the sense of 'manner' (see 14) passes into that of: An aspect, feature, or respect; a point or particular of comparison.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iv. 15 His worst fault is that he is giuen to prayer; hee is something peeuish that way. *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* (1900) 38/13 Also we make them differ in Colour, Shape, Activity, many wayes. 1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* IV. iii, The office of a man That's truly valiant, is considerable Three ways: The first in respect of matter..; in respect of forme..; And in the end [etc.]. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* v, May you find a companion better in all ways than I could have been! 1893 Le Gallienne *Retrosp. Rev.* (1896) II. 21 A teetotaler, however admirable in other ways, is not the fit person to edit Burns.

16. A condition regarded as hopeful or the contrary. Chiefly with qualifying adj.: *in a good, bad, forward* (etc.) *way*. † *To stand in good way*: to be likely to prosper. † *To be in way with*: to be in treaty with (a person) *for* something. † *To put* (a business) *in a way*: to put in train.

Also, *to be in a fair way* (*to do* something): see Fair *a.* 14. *In the family way* (= pregnant): see Family 10 b.

1467 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 113 Wer by, I undy[r]stand,.. all thyng standyth in good way. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 49, I am in whay w^t lyshbryght van whennyabarge for an ij of yowr sarplers. I hope I shall go thorow w^t hym. *c* 1500 in *Joseph Arimath.* (E.E.T.S.) 32 He set his realme & his housholde in good waye..& toke his Iourney. 1624 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) Jan. 129 When he hath put the business in a way, then he [the Secretary] is to go back and take his own place. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 210, I am in a good way for salvation. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xviii, Timber sufficient for the use of the Navy Royal had now been in a forward way to its sufficient growth. 1698 J. Collier *Immor. Stage* 211 When ever you see a thorough Libertine, you may almost swear he is in a rising way, and that the Poet intends to make him a great Man. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 347 People in such a forlorn way are apt to form innumerable apprehensions. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 228 [She] told me..that the Way I was in [*sc.* 'in the family way'] made her love me better and better. *Ibid.* 354 So having congratulated their hopeful Way, and wished them to take care of themselves [etc.]. 1809 Windham *Let.* 23 July in *Sp.* (1812) I. 209 But one of the poor men who were hurt at the fire is dead, and another of them is, I fear, in a bad way. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* s. v., 'To be in a hinging way,' neither well nor ill. 1838 Dickens *Nickleby* xxiii, There was Mrs. Lenville, in a very limp bonnet and veil, decidedly in that way in which she would wish to be if she truly loved Mr. Lenville. 1872 Smiles *Charac.* i. 26 The nation that has no higher god than pleasure, or even dollars or calico, must needs be in a poor way.

b. *To be in a way* (with or without specifying adj.): to be in a state of mental distress or anxiety. *dial.* Cf. State *sb.* 2 c.

1825 *Mag. for Young* XIV. 131 She keeps on crying out for her mamma..and she is in such a way as I never saw. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* xvi. 323 But they say she's in a dreadfu' way. She's never yet heard frae her mam [etc.]. *Ibid.* xvIII. 354 She'll gae clean distrackit—a hear she's in a sair way aboot it. 1873 Spurgeon *M. Nights* 81 (E.D.D.) Well, there, I was in a way. 1889 Pearce *Contrad.* xxvi, Mother's in a fine way. 1896 Gratiana Chanter *Witch of Withyford* iv. 43, I suppose her was in a proper way about it and fell to crying.

17. Kind, sort, description. Now only in certain phrases *In the way of*: of the nature of, belonging to the class of, 'in the shape of'. Also, with similar sense, and more frequently, *in the — way*, where *way* is qualified by an attributive sb. or an adj. So occas. *in this way* = 'of this kind'.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 140 He averred that 'in that way of bill [*sc.* a bill of attainder] private satisfaction to each man's conscience was sufficient, although no evidence had been given in at all'. 1736 Butler *Anal.* Introd., Wks. 1874 I. 4 Though so little in this way has been attempted by those who have treated of our intellectual powers. 1759 Foote *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 134 You have nothing in the compiling or index way, that you wou'd intrust to the care of another? *Ibid.* 136 In the year forty-five, when I was in the treasonable way. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch's Lives, Philopœmen* P 4 From a child he was fond of everything in the military way. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 94, I could have every thing here, that I could desire in the freestone way. 1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 214 In the afternoon tea-way, her bar exhibited the genteel thing. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. xii. P 4, I should want for nothing in the bread and water way! 1823 ... which comes to us in the way of lining round tea-chests. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Making a Night of it*, It was his ambition to do something in the celebrated 'kiddy' or stage-coach way. 1837 — *Pickw.* lv, Mr. Solomon Pell, finding that nothing more was going forward, either in the eating or drinking way, took a friendly leave. 1878 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) III. xiii. 305 He did a good deal in the way of ravaging. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* IV. xxvii. (1878) 442 More certainty is attainable respecting some things which Divine Goodness will *not* do, than as to what it *will* do in the way of positive benefaction.

18. Kind of occupation, work, or business. Now only more explicitly *way of business*. Formerly also † *way of life* = 'walk of life'.

1690 Norris *Beatitudes* (1694) 81 If God would not accept an House of Prayer from a Man of a Military Way and Character, much less will he accept [etc.]. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 21 P 8 To place their Sons in a way of Life where an honest Industry cannot but thrive. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6020/4 Diapers, Damasks, Huckabacks, and all sorts of ..Linnens in a Linnen-Draper's Way. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. ix, The Lawyers are bitter enemies to those in our way. 1752 *Lond. Even.-Post* 28–30 May 4/1 We hear that there hath been lately an Order made in some of the Royal Hospitals, that no Governor should serve them in his Way of Business. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* IX. vi, Her mother, she was sure, would never be at rest till he got into some higher way of life. 1787 T. Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 90 The best workmen in this way, acknowledge that his is like a new art. 1792 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 293 This day the plumber completed every thing in *his* way about the balcony. 1820 *Act* 10 & 11 *Geo. V* c. 13 § 2 (3) In the case of a seller who was in the same way of business before the war.

b. Preceded by an attributive sb. denoting the kind of commodity dealt in.

1760 Derrick *Lett.* (1767) I. 43 The different manufactures of this town, more particularly in the cutlary and toy way. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 114 There are several..wholesale traders in the haberdashery way. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 27 *note*, [He] had some years past the honour to work in the instrument way under the direction of the late Dr Demainbray. 1788 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 93 A gentleman of ability in the steel way. 1838 Dickens *Nickleby* iv, I am in the oil and colour way. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ii, It was a new house, but did a tremendous business in the fig and sponge way.

c. *In my* (*his*, etc.) *way*: = in my (etc.) line; suited to my (etc.) capacity, tastes, or requirements. Chiefly in negative context. Cf. 37 d.

1806 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* I. Introd., Quoting from a dead language looks a little like skulking, and that's not at all in my way, as you know. 1863 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xvii, One, is made angry by my modestly suggesting the possibility of Paris time being more in their way. *a* 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xiv, I knew it [*sc.* an agricultural meeting] wasn't much in his way. 1887 Birrell *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 64 Research was not in his way.

19. *In a great, small way*: (living) on a large or small scale of income and expenditure. Also with reference to the magnitude of a business establishment.

c 1750 J. Nelson *Jrnl.* (1836) 9 We..lived in a good way (as the world calls it), that is, in peace and plenty, and love to each other. 1779 *Mirror* No. 17, I was married, about five years ago, to a young man in a good way of business as a grocer. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* II, Having brothers already established in a good way in London. *Ibid.* xxii, The elder sister..was very well married, to a gentleman in a great way, near Bristol, who kept two carriages! 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* viii, It was very right that he should take lodgings in his aunt's house, who lived in a very small way. 1864 *Law Times' Rep.* N.S. X. 719/1 The defendants ..were contractors and builders in a large way of business. 1885 *Field* 26 Sept. 476/1 Young men..go headlong into some big scheme they take into their heads..instead of starting cautiously and in a small way.

†20. In the 17–18th c. often used for: A particular form of church government or polity. *Obs.*

a 1647 [see Congregational 3]. 1648 J. Cotton *Way of Congreg. Ch.* I. iii. 1 Nor is Independency a fit name of the way of our Churches. 1691 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 145 The Episcopall Party are far more confirmed in their way by it. 1737 Waterland *Eucharist* 449 From our own Divines I may next proceed to some learned Foreigners, of the *Lutheran* way. 1790 [see Presbyterian *a.* 2].

21. The customary or usual manner of acting or behaving.

1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 157 Why should we (good Lady) Vpon what cause wrong you? Alas, our Places, The way of our Profession is against it. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* v. xiii, Even so Sir, 'tis the way of the World, Sir. 1709 Law *Serious C.* i. 13 Here you see, that one person has Religion enough, according to the way of the world, to be reckon'd a pious Christian. 1830 tr. *Caillié's Trav. Timbuctoo* I. 94, I tried in vain to discover the origin of this whimsical custom; the only answer I could obtain was, 'It is our way'. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Jan., Living with dukes and peeresses, and writing my recollections of them, as the way now is. 1850 — *Pendennis* lvi, Almost every person [in this story], according to his nature,..and according to the way of the world as it seems to us, is occupied about Number One.

b. *pl.* Customary modes of behaviour; usages, customs.

1748 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. iii. He..was..as entirely ignorant of the ways of this world as an infant just entered into it could possibly be. 1893 F. T. Richards in Traill *Soc. Eng.* i. 10 Contending parties among the barbarians looked for Roman support, courted it by assuming Roman ways, and invited Roman interference. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 46 We judge a stranger by our home-bred ways, Who, maybe, walks by other rule of right.

22. A habitual or characteristic manner of action, behaviour, expression, or the like. Often in collective plural.

It is (only) his way: often said of some perverse or annoying habit of behaviour which the friends of the person guilty of it are accustomed to regard with toleration. So proverbially, *Pretty Fanny's way* (after quot. a 1718). †*After my way*: in accordance with my custom.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 6 P 1 Now upon any Occasion, they only cry, 'Tis her Way, and That's so like her. 1709 — *Ibid.* No. 45 P 6 As it is my Way to write down all the good Things I have heard in the last Conversation to furnish my Paper, I can from this only tell you my Sufferings and my Pangs. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 90 P 7, I was, after my Way, in Love with both of them. a 1718 Parnell *Elegy to Old Beauty* 34 And all that's madly wild, or oddly gay, We call it only pretty Fanny's way. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 103 The free dislike I expressed to his ways, his manners, and his contrivances. 1779 *Mirror* No. 25, I was about to be angry; but on such occasions it is not my way to say much. 1779 *Ibid.* No. 47 P 4 He often indulges in jokes..which could not be heard without a blush from any other person; but from Tom, for his way is known, they are heard without offence. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* II. 269 Henry gone! without our knowing any thing about the letter; and all by your slow ways! 1814 Scott *St. Ronan's* I, The exuberant frolics of Meg's temper, which were to them only 'pretty Fanny's way'. 1857 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Livingstone* vi, She had the ways of a child petted all its life through. 1885 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, I ought to have begun with a word of explanation: but it's my way to make short cuts at things. 1871 Lowell *Pope* Writ. 1890 IV. 15 Dryden, in his rough-and-ready way, has hinted at this in his verses to Congreve. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 79 He settled near us In the next glen, and lived a sumptuous life, Costly, luxurious, though his ways were coarse. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 217 The teacher may observe slow action, wandering eyes, twitchings, awkward ways, or stooping.

b. *pl.* Habits, usual modes of acting (of an animal); †(of a horse) acquired habits, accomplishments.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4285/8 Stolen or strayed.., a roan Mare.., all her Ways, except Pacing. 1899 W. T. Greene *Cage-Birds* 68 The Red-sided Tit is nearly akin to the Liothrix, which it resembles in many of its ways.

c. *transf.* Occas. with reference to a thing: A tendency or liability to some particular kind of action.

1883 *Manch. Guard.* 3 Oct. 7/2 A policy has a way of becoming unrecognisable when it is administered by a man who does not believe in it. 1928 *Times Lit. Sup.* 14 Mar. 122/3 Each of our nerves has a nature of its own and ways of its own.

d. *To have a way with one*: to have a persuasive manner. Also in plural (usually with qualifying word) applied to ingratiating tricks of manner.

1711 R. Martin in E. H. Burton *Life Bp. Challoner* (1909) I. iii. 33 Saying yt he'd make a most excellent missioner; he had such an honest way with him. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* iv, Quilp has such a way with him when he likes, that the best-looking woman here couldn't refuse him if..he chose to make love to her. 1872 Lever *Ld. Kilgobbin* lxxviii, All your little beguiling ways and insinuating tricks. 1877 Patmore *Unkn. Eros, Departure* 1 It was not like your great and gracious ways! 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 120/2 Sticking through thick and thin to the fascinating good-for-nothing who has a way with him.

IV. 23. Uses of *ways* as a singular.

a. The genitive *ways* (OE. *weges*) occurs in many advb. phrases in which it is combined with a preceding pronominal adj. Most of these phrases came to be written as single words, and are treated as such in this Dict.: see Anyways, Noways, Otherwayes (OE. *ôðres weges*) and -ways *suffix*. Other similar collocations, now *Obs.* or *dial.*, are *each ways, this ways, that ways, which ways, the same ways*, synonymous with 'each way', 'this way', etc. (see 9, 9 b, 14 d).

† Occas. also with a prep., as *in each ways, by this ways*.

a. *O. E. Chron.* an. 1016, [Hi] wendon him suðweard oðres weges. c 1205 Lay. 18708 Ælches weies [c 1275 weyes] him wes wa. *Ibid.* 25428 Neoren hit noht cnihtes no þes wæies idiute. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1084 Þis þinfule gin wes o awuch wise iginet, þæt te twa turnden eiðer wiðward oðer; & anes weis bade: þe oðer twa turnden anes weis alewa. a 1225 *Juliana* 42 Sei me þet witerluker, quod ha, hwuches weis ze wurche6 ant bicherroð godes children. c 1250 *Hatt. Med.* (Bodl. MS.) 112 Hit is þak i wedlac summes weies to þellen. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 123 Roberd þe Marmion þe same wayes did he, He robbed þorgh treson þe kirke of Couentre. c 1420 *Coutin. Brut* cccxli. (E.E.T.S.) 352 Þe tokyn ij smale tewellys.., and caste þe tewellys aboute þe Dukis nek..; and þan þei drowen her towellis eche way ez. 1430 *Palegr.* 401/1 He hath altered his stayre another wayes, *il a contourne ses degres tout autrement*. 1585-6 Earl Leycester *Corr.* (Camden) 463 Before which tyme, the winde beinge as it was, the fleete wolde be gonne over landes end, and passe that waies to the seas. 1590 Payne *Brief. Descr. Irel.* (1841) 9 Let the slope side of your ditch be towardes your marraine, and that wayes throw vp all your earth. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Iudgem.* (1612) 20 He could not tell which wayes to turn himselfe. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* II. ii. 50, I pray your worship come a little neerer this waies. 1622 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 127 Doctor Bonhams Case, fol. 119 in the same Report, wherein the principal Case there put sways the same ways. 1896 Gratiana Chanter *Witch of Withyford* xiv. 170 Going..up over the track that ways to Witches' Combe.

b. Similarly *to go, come one's ways* (also †*on one's ways*), synonymous with *to go, come one's way* (see 7 b), and parallel to the G. *er ging seines weges*. In the later period a loose use of the plural may have coalesced with the use of the advb. genitive.

Now only *dial.* and *vulgar*, and chiefly in the imperative; in rustic use *come thy ways* is often addressed playfully to children and animals.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* 21 Þonne rideð selc hys wexes mid ðan feo. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22063 (Edinb.), [Satan shall be] laisid at te laste..to walc his wails forþe [*Cott.* his forth; *other texts* his way] fra þat quile. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* I. xxii. 57 He anon lefte there the stynkeynge body that he appered in, & wente hys wayes. c 1460 *Macro Plays, Wisdom* 878 Turne þi weys I þou goost a-myse. 1576 Gascoigne *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 101 And death..will end my dayes, As soone as you shall..wish to go your wayes. 1582 Rich *Farew.* Bb ij, To conueigh her..a sute of mannes apparell: wherin the next daie in the after noone,..she should shift herself, and so come her waies vnknowne of any, to suche a place. *Ibid.* Bb iij, Alberto, seying matters so throughlie concluded, tooke his leaue of theim bothe, and goyng his waies home, he caused all his daughters apparell to be looked together. 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 221 You meane to mocke me after: you should not haue mockt me before: but come your waies. 1610 — *Temp.* II. ii. 85 Come on your wayes: open your mouth. 1701 Farquhar *Sir H. Wildair* v. vi, Go thy ways for a true Pattern of the Vanity, Impertinence, Subtlety, and Ostentation of thy Country. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* I. i, Well, go thy ways, Sir William Honeywood. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* vi i, 'Ride your ways,' said the gipsy, 'ride your ways, Laird of Ellangowan'. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxxii, Go thy ways with him, sir, . and Heaven be with ye both! 1884 *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Come thy ways*, a coaxing way of calling an animal; or even of addressing children.

c. In *a good, great, little, long ways* (now only *dial.*), the origin of the use of *ways* for *way* is obscure.

It might possibly have arisen from the analogy of phrases containing the advb. genitive (see a and b). There is no known instance in OE. of such a construction as **ýðtel weges* (= 'paululum viæ'), which might possibly account for it.

1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 289 They..came vnto the gates of the cittie, after they had gon a good wayes in the suburbs. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Leys Le Roy* 105 b, Selim Ottoman..assailed him with a mightie armie, a good waies within his owne kingdome. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xii. iii, Not that I hope..to live to any such Age as that neither—But if it be only to eighty or ninety: Heaven be praised, that is a great Ways off yet. 1809 Byron *To Mr. Hodgson* 25 June, Falmouth..is no great ways from the sea. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xli. II. 62 The beautiful Arabian ..must..be a great ways further South than this. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* I. xiv. 113 'It is only a little ways,' replied she, 'and I went clear down to the village to-day alone.' 1890 Bickley *Surrey Hills* III. 206 Maybe 'ee's lost his ways. 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* v, His mouth was still a little ways open. 1907 J. H. McCarthy *Needles & Pins* xiii, The man staggered a little ways across the hall and fell in a heap.

V. Idiomatic phrases.

* *with governing verb.*

For *clear the way, fetch way* (Naut.), *gather way* (Naut.), *give way, pave the way*, see the verbs.

24. Have way. (See 6 above.)

†a. To be allowed liberty of action. *Obs.*

1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* v. 238 Let me haue way, my Lord, To finde this practise out.

b. Of feelings or their manifestation: To find vent.

1846 James *Step-mother* xxxii, He evidently strove to speak calmly, but the father's apprehensions would have way, and his voice trembled, and his lip quivered. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xix, Tom dropped his face into his hands, and a scalding tear or two had way in spite of him.

25. Make way.

a. To open a passage, remove obstacles to progress, to facilitate passage or entrance. (See 6 above.) Const. *for*, †*to*, or †dative.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Do þe þe weie makeden biforen him bien folkes lorþeawes. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1535 Þorow þe host he made hem [*Fr.read* hym] weye. On lik a side he dide hem deye. a 1400-50 *Bk. Curtasye* 533 in *Babees Bk.*, Byfore þe cours þo stuarde comes þen, þe seruer hit next of alle kyn mon Mays way and stondes by syde, Tyl alle be serued at þat tyde. c 1450 *Merlin* xxxii. 655 Gawein com thourgh the presse makinge wey with the tranchaunt swerde. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 68 b, And the fit or odde Crane in maner of a persius sterne, to make the other way in the Ayre, fleth all alone before. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 284 They were carried in little chayres vpon mens backes, and the Captaine..before them making way. 1593 Shake. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 62 My sword make way for me, for here is no staying. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 82 Wher gold makes way Ther is no interruption. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 107 Hee seemes to thinke..that vertue had needs of delight, to make way for her into the soule. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 140 All the World forwardly joyn to oppose and defeat them: whilst the open, fair, wise Man has every Body to make way for him, and goes directly to his Business.

†b. Of ground: To allow of passage. *Obs.*

c 1300 *K. Horn* 1489 (Laud MS.) Þe sond by gan to drye And hyt hym makede weye.

c. To move from one's place so as to allow a person to pass.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 120 He commaundez þe lordes þat rydes nere him to make way þat þe men of religioun may comme to him. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, v. ii. 110 Make way, vnruly Woman. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* vii, A Portuguese or Spaniard will seldom make way for a stranger, till called upon or pushed aside. 1911 Gouldsbury & Sheane *Gt. Plateau N. Rhodesia* 259 If a young man sees his mother-in-law coming along the path, he must retreat into the bush and make way for her.

d. To leave a place vacant *for* a successor or substitute.

1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 122 When my family..were thus turned out of doors, an old follower made way for them in his own cottage, and retired..to a cow-house hard by. a 1828 H. Neele *Lit. Rem.* (1829) 33 The tragedies of Shakspeare were driven from the stage to make way for those of Addison and Rowe. 1833 Kingsley *Hyp. atte* xxx, If they [the philosophers] had no better Gospel than that to preach, they must make way for those who had. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 151 His castle..has been wantonly destroyed to make way for one of the barbarous official buildings of modern France. 1896 *Law Times* C. 407/2 At Durham..[Sir Charles] refused to stand, and his refusal made way for the present Lord Herschell.

e. To make progress on a journey or voyage. Often with qualifying word, as *to make good, much, little way*. (Cf. 7 above.)

(*a*) *Naut.* (see 7 i).

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxvii, 97 Castyng her sight ferder towarde the see, she sawe the sayller, wyth the flote of the shippes that made good waye. 1556 Towrson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 98 The windes and seas were high, yet we made some way. a 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* 1 The Winde..settled in the West for many dayes, so as we could make little or no way. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* III. vi. 60 We seeing them prepare to assault vs, left our Oares and made way with our sayle to incounter them. 1626 — *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 29 Fetch the log-line to try what way shee makes. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 49 We lost our Main top Mast, so that after the Storm was over we could not make any Way. 1792 Smeaton *Eystone L.* § 155 Our vessels..made better Way in a rough sea. 1837 Marryat *Dog-fiend* xlii, He stood up on the choak to ascertain what way she was making through the water. 1882 De Windt *Equator* 75 The river, however, widened to nearly a mile in breadth..and we made better way.

(*b*) *gen.* Also *fig.*

1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* II. ii. 24 And I haue horse will follow where the game Makes way. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 39 He making speedy way through spersed ayre. a 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* 221 Æneas is my name..With twise twelue Phrigian ships I plowed the deepe, And made that way my mother Venus led. 1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 239 Waite you on him,..While I make way from hence to saue my life. 1820 Scott *Monast.* Introd Ep., So great is the difference betwixt reading a thing one's self, making toilsome way through all the difficulties of manuscript, and, as the man says in the play, 'having the same read to you'. 1845 M'Culloch *Taxation* III. ii. (1852) 446 Should the system [of life annuities] not make any greater way than it has done, it may not..be worth objecting to. 1860 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* vii. (1876) 128 See..how little way they have made in truly spiritual, unselfish affections and inclinations. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xviii, And he made no more way with his wooing. That was stopped, apparently, altogether. 1888 Frances M. Peard *Contrad.* i, His companion..was making rapid way towards the point. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* xxxix. II. 72 There are some signs the view is making way.

†f. To make a hole *in, through. Obs.*

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 73 That of the staffe the steeled point made in his forehead way. 1596 Shake *Tam. Shr.* II. 155 With that word she stroke me on the head, And through the instrument my pate made way. 1611 Cotgr., *Faire jour à*, to make way vnto.

†g. Of an event or action: To lead *to*, afford facilities *for* something; to render it possible *to* do something. *Obs.*

1646 H. Lawrence *Commun. & War with Angels* 14 And this will not be unusefull to consider since it makes way to shew to what end they appeare and what they..can doe for us. 1677 Temple *Mem.* Miscell. (1680) 194 About which time [the age of forty] the natural heat beginning to decay, makes way for those distempers. a 1715 Burnet *Own Time* III. viii. (1900) II. 143 This made way to more desperate undertakings.

†h. *To make way to*: to approach (a person) with a view to establishing relations with him.

1671 Milton *Samson* 481, I already have made way To some Philistian Lords, with whom to treat About thy ransom.

26. Make one's (its) way. (Cf. 7 above.)

a. To travel or proceed in an intended direction or to a certain place. *To make the best of one's way* (also, †*to make one's best way*): to go as quickly as one can; †to decamp.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 156, I made my way..vnto Rome. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. iii. 7 b, The rest then departed,..making their waye into the Sea, with a South southwest winde. 1668 Clarendon *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 473 Those who..make their way through a sea of blood and rapine to grasp an authority which belonged not to them. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 393 He makes his way o'er Mountains, and contemns Unruly Torrents, and unfoorded Streams. 1705 Addison *Italy* Monaco, etc. 4 The next Day we again set Sail, and made

the best of our way 'till we were forc'd, by contrary Winds, into St. Remo. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. xvi, The Thief ..without any Ceremony, stepped into the Street, and made the best of his Way. 1856 Thirlwall *Greece* xxii. III. 215 A very small number made their way to Ambracia. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxiii, With that they parted; Mr. Swiveller to make the best of his way home and sleep himself sober; and Quilp [etc.]. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* viii. iv, Coningsby bade his friend farewell till the morrow, and made his best way to the Castle. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 366 Hardly any gentleman had any difficulty in making his way to the royal presence. 1864 Trollope *Small Ho. Allington* xxi, Johnny made his way on to the road by a stile that led out of the copse. *Ibid.*, Then we'll make the best of our way home, and have a glass of wine there. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 300 It was in despair of reaching Italy that the young scholar [Erasmus] made his way to Oxford.

† b. To effect a passage by force, force one's way. *Obs.*

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* vi. § 157 But if they compelled him to make his way, and enter the town by force, it would not be in his power to keep his soldiers from taking that which they should win with their blood.

c. To make progress in one's career; to advance in wealth, station, reputation, etc. by one's own efforts.

1603 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 29 If thou do'st As this instructs thee, thou dost make thy way To Noble Fortunes. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 123 P 4 He was to make his Way in the World by his own Industry. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* 18 July II. (1815) 261, I am not at all surprised that these Scots make their way in every quarter of the globe. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* II. vi, A young man who has his own way to make in life had better avoid all intimacy with those of his own age who have no kindred objects.

† d. To find means *to do* something. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23179 Quat he war wijs þat moght Stedfast hald þis dai in thoght I.. For þan mund he her make his wai Fra wrak to were him on þat dai.

† e. (Also † *to make one's ways*.) To gain favour, establish relations *with* a person. *Obs.*

1618 Raleigh *Apol.* Wks. 1751 II. 250 It was brulted..that ..being once at Liberty,..having made my Way with some foreign Prince, I would turn Pirate. a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 37 He made his waies with Colonell Monke, Governor of Dundalke, for the Parliament, and bought of him worth £1500 of amunition.

f. Of a thing. *To make its way*: to travel, make progress; (of an opinion, custom, etc.) to gain acceptance.

1636 Cowley *To Sir W. Davenant* 35 Thy Fancy like a Flame its way does make, And leave bright Tracks for following Pens to take. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 119 P 6 This infamous Piece of Good-breeding, which reigns among the Coxcombs of the Town, has not yet made its way into the Country. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 It might have been anticipated that Luther's doctrines would have made their way early among this little colony of his countrymen. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 80 Brass instruments have already begun to make their way.

27. Pay one's way. † a. To defray one's expenses on a journey. *Obs.*

a 1825 *Willie Wallace* vi. in Child *Ballads* III. 271/2 Take ye that, ye belted knight, 'I will pay your way till ye come down.

b. To succeed in paying one's expenses as they arise, without incurring debts. Of a business undertaking, *to pay its way*: To be carried on at least without loss, to be self-supporting.

1823 Byron *Age of Bronze* xiv, But bread was high, the farmer paid his way. 1858 Trollope *Three Clerks* iii, Mrs. Woodward..had there maintained a good repute, paying her way from month to month as widows with limited incomes should do. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Oct. 15/3 The pier has never come near paying its way. 1890 *Law Times' Rep.* LXVII. 139/1 It seems to me a most reasonable thing for a person applying for shares to look for a guarantee of interest until the concern can pay its own way. 1899 Lady M. Verney *Verney Mem.* IV. 155 By great economy John has just paid his way.

28. See one's way. a. In literal sense, to have a view of the portion of the road or route immediately before one, so as to be able to avoid wandering or stumbling. b. *fig.* in obvious metaphorical uses; now often, to know that some object is attainable (const. *to*); also (chiefly in negative contexts) to feel justified in deciding *to do* something.

1774 Burke *Let. to Marq. Rockingham* 25 Sept., I must see my way much more clearly before me, before I take any other step in that business. 1775 — *Sp. Concil. Amer.* 22 Mar. 56, I do not absolutely assert the impracticability of such representation [of the Colonies]. But I do not see my way to it. 1823 Keble *Serm.* iii. (1848) 64 To see his way safely, if not clearly or comfortably, through all the snares of error and disputation. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 33 Simple fighting John Bull can understand, but in a negotiation he can't see his way. 1885 Mrs. Newby *Comm. Sense* lv. III. 44, I feel that I know my business pretty well already, and that I begin to see my way. *Ibid.* lvi. III. 55, I wish I could do more..but I think I see a way. 1870 Newman *Gram. Assent* ii. ix. 353 Laud said that he did not see his way to come to terms with the Holy See, till Rome was 'other than she is'. 1878 Helps *Soc. Press.* ii. 24 The neighbours do not see their way to altering it. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 342/2 He did not see his way clear to allow their names to remain upon the register. 1888 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Jan. 5/4 Lord Salisbury has at last seen his way to the final choice of a bishop for Manchester.

29. Take the way. (Cf. sense 4 and Take v. 25 b.) To enter on and follow the route leading to a specified place. In early use sometimes without mention of destination: † To set out, travel.

c 1300 *Harrowing of Hell* (Harl. MS.) 38 In godnesd tokn he þen way þat to helle gates lay. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 2708 Gif him spedde nigt & day; Into Ingleond he toke þe way. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 146 All him alane the way he tais Towart the towne off Louchmabane. c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 356 The Constable and his wyf also And Custance han ytake the right way Toward the see. c 1400 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 551 Wherfore Cerberus tooke the next way. c 1485 *Digby Myst., Christ's Burial & Resurr.* 983 Then let us tak þe way furth strayte. a 1533 Berners *Huon* lxii. 215 They departyd & tooke the way towardes Rome. 1801 Scott *Eve of St. John* 86 O fear not the priest, ..For to Dryburgh the way he has ta'en. 1832 — *Cl. Robt.* xxxiv, Count Robert subjected himself to necessity, ..and.. took the way to Europe by sea. 1832 James *Phil. Augustus* xx, Here the anchorite bade God speed him, and, turning his steps back again, took the way to his hut.

† b. To go about *to do* something. Also, to take its course without interference. *Obs.*

1603 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 9. 64 That opinion..hath beene of ill desert, towardes Learning, as that which taketh the way, to reduce Learning to certaine emptie and barren Generalities. a 1700 Dryden *Theod. & Hon.* 138 Give me leave to seize my destin'd Prey. And let eternal Justice take the way.

30. To take one's way. To set out on a journey; to journey, travel.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21382 Þis kinges thre þar wai þai tok A tuelmoth ar þe natiuite. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 307 After þe enterment þe kyng tok his way. To þe south he went þorgh Lyndesay. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xviii. 114 For the laiff has thair vayis tane Till the Erische kyngis. c 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 2996 And right anon they tooken hire wey to the Court of Melibee. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7456 His way barfote þan he toke. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* vii, Sayinge these wordes [the foxe] toke his waye & ranne as fast as he myght. 1498 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 388 And they came forth at þe south durre in þe Mynstere & toke their wey thurgh the newe bildyng downe þe Bailly-lane. c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xlviii. 1 How carefull was I, when I tooke my way, Each trifle vnder truest barres to thrust. 1642-4 Vicars *God in Mount* 149 Lord Paulet..took his way toward Myncard. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xii. 649 They hand in hand with wandring steps and slow, Through Eden took their solitarie way. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 405 Alone, by Night, his watry Way he took; About him, and above, the Billows broke. 1762 Gray *Odin* 23 Onward still his way he takes. 1893 Anstey-Sterry *Naughty Girl* xviii. 157 As she took her way sadly and slowly down the pier.

** *with prepositions.*

31. By the way. a. Along or near the road by which one travels; by the road-side. In early use also † *by way*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 Þa sæt þær sum blind þearfa be ðon weze. c 1205 Lay. 26618 Whaðer heo liue weoren, þa heo bi wæie læien. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8055 A riche man was þar bi wai Was seke, to him þan turnd þai. 1590 Crowley *Epigr.* 227 Than, by the waye syde, hym chaunced to se A pore manne that craued of hym for charitie. Whye (quod thys Marchaunt)..Do ye begge by the waye. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* ii. (1889) 17, I passed flocks of dying sheep: in the hollows by the way their skeletons were here and there to be seen.

b. While going along, in the course of one's walk or journey. In early use † *by way*.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 4 Ne bere ge sacc..ne nanne man be weze [Vulg. *per viam*] ne gretað. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1096, Ac þes folces þe be Hungrie for, fela þusenda þær & be weȝe earmlice forforan. c 1290 *Beket* 1208 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 141 Þov hauest selde i-seiȝe þene Erchebischop of caunterburi wende in swuche manere bi weie. a 1300 *K. Horn* 759 He fond bi þe weie Kynges sones tweie. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 115 Þe kyng..wente homwarde, and was i-slawe by þe weie. 1590 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 31 The rauens fed him [*sc.* Elias] by the way. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 204 Lets follow him, and by the way let vs recount our dreames. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 204 By the way, in this mornings iourney, we did see Weyssenburg, a free but not imperiall City. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 156 Nor is it possible to describe..what strange unaccountable Whimsies came into my Thoughts by the Way. 1760 [see By *prep.* 12]. 1898 M. Pemberton *Phantom Army* I. vii, It had been in his mind when he rode out of Zaragoza that he would find an early opportunity by the way to question the gipsy.

fig. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. 458 His Act did not ore-take his bad intent, And must be buried but as an intent That perish'd by the way.

c. *fig.* with reference to the tenor of discourse: Incidentally, in passing, as a side-topic.

1556 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* I. (Arb.) 38 *marginal*, Landlordes by the wai checked for Rent-raisyng. 1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 45 Whiche I thought meete to touch briefly by the way. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iv. 190 Shee is pretty, and honest, and gentle, and one that is your friend, I can tell you that by the way. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 100 They are inferred often by the way for illustration sake. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 208 And now by the way I recall the aforesayd Turke. 1732 *Art of Drawing & Paint.* 32 But we must take this by the Way, that in the refining of it, two Ounces will not produce above 40 Grains of good Colour. 1847 H. Goodwin *Serm.* Ser. I. viii. 131, I would hint to you by the way, that we are perhaps not fair judges of our own actions.

d. used parenthetically to apologise for introducing a new topic, a casual remark, or the like.

a 1624 Donne *Biathanatos* (1644) 99 Though, by the way, this may not passe so generally, but that it must admit the exception, which the Rule of Law upon which it is grounded, carries with it. 1668 Dryden *Ess. Dram. Poesy* 46, I mean besides the Chorus, or the M..h by the way, show'd Ben, no enemy to this way of wi.. c 1720 Scott *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) II. 98 By the Way, ..f the Weather was not warm, he was without Shoes, Stoc.. or Breeches. 1856 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, This, by the way, was another bit of diplomacy. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Foot, When we lost sight of him, and of his little account, too, by the way. 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xxvii, By the way, talking of letters, there was one came for you this morning in your Cousin Philip's handwriting.

e. in predicative or complemental use.

1564 T. Dorman *Proofe Cert. Art. Relig.* 95 b, This is your sale but by the wale, before yow entre into the matter. 1632 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 46 Also, a word by the way, touching the Mediterranean Sea in possession of the Romanes. 1683 Ramsey *Astrol. Restored* 5 But this by the way, let us now proceed. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 245 However, I allow'd Liberty of Conscience throughout my Dominions: But this is by the Way. 1904 Rumsfeld *Records & Remin.* II. 283 But this by the way.

£ As a by-work; as a subordinate piece of work.

1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Passant, En passant*, sleightly, lightly, cursarily, accidentally, by the way. a 1708 Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 265 It is not to be done by the way, but with all our might. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 91 Maritime skill is..not a thing to be cultivated by the way [*ἐν παρέργου*] or at chance times.

† g. Indirectly, by a side channel of information. 1603 Shaks. *Mach.* III. iv. 130 *Mach.* How say'st thou that Macduff denies his person At our great bidding. *La.* Did you send to him Sir? *Mach.* I heare it by the way: But I will send.

h. *attrib.* as adj. phr.: Incidental, casual, haphazard.

1869 Mrs. Whitney *We Girls* II, At parting, she..said.. in an off-hand, by-the-way fashion—'Ruth' [etc.]. 1881 F. Hueffer *Wagner* 32 The introduction in a by-the-way manner of the two great religious principles appears not particularly happy. 1881 Saintsbury *Dryden* I. 82 The ordinary prose style of the day..indulged..in every *détour* and involution of second thoughts and by-the-way qualifications.

32. By way of —. A prepositional phrase used in various senses. Also † *by the way of*. (The governed sb. is usually without article.)

† a. By means of; through the medium of; by the method of. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 69 This lord..spak so that he wole of schrifte He drowh hem [*sc.* the priests] unto his covine. 1439 in *Fenland N. & Q.* (1905) July 222 And yat..ye wole at yis tyme in yis oure grete necessite putte youre handes and ese us by wey of lone of ye somme of C marc. a 1480 Marg. Anjou *Let. to Dame J. Carew* (Camden) 97 Burnelw ..desireth with all his hert to do yow worship by wey of marriage. 1495 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 493/2 That noo persone ..be not empeached nor chargeable..by wey of accion or otherwise. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I requyre you..that..ye neuer by way of curiosite be besy to attempte ony persone therin. 1530 Palsgr. 898 Diuerse comunications by way of dialoges. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1149/2 To indamage some of his countries by wale of inuasion. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* II. xvi. (1622) 56 Flaccus ..by way of great promisses [*per ingentia promissa*], perswaded him..to enter into the Romane garrison. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 54 We come not by the way of Accusation, To taint that honour euery good Tongue blesses. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 5 Master-work-men may receive Instructions by way of Draughts, Models, Frames, &c. 1673 J. Owen *Indwelling Sin* viii. (1732) 96 At least spiritual Sense is not radically in them, but only by way of Communication.

† b. By the action of (a person or persons). *Obs.*

1447 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1450*, 70/2 Gif it happnis the said landis to be distroubilit or vexit be way of Inglismen it sal be alowit to the said Alex. of the malis.

† c. Law. *By way of feat* [= AF. *par voys de fait*]: see Feat *sb.* 1 b. Also (Sc.), *by way of deed.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 241 The tother part with haill power and mycht, Without ressone agane he wald persew, Be way of deid his richtis till reskew. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 273 In caise ather of the maidis partis..sall happin to be hurt, harmit, invadit, or persewit be utheris be way of deid. 1580–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 62 That na injure be done to ony subiect be way of deid.

d. As an instance or a mode of; in the capacity or with the function of; as something equivalent to.

[Cf. AF. 'par voye de charite' 1321 in *Rolls Parlt.* I. 393.] 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 580 By þe way of ryȝt to aske dome. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 59 He were a cruel fadir þat myȝtte not ȝeue his owene childre bred..& ȝit wolde not suffre anoþer man to helpe þes children bi weie of mercy. c 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 38 Also þese bretheren han ordeyned, be weye of charite, þat [etc.]. a 1400 Maundev. (1839) xviii. 199 The Kyng of that Contree, ones every ȝeer, ȝeuethe leve to pore men to gon in to the Lake, to gadre

gevin vnto straungers by wale of his maiesties reward, vsal li. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xviii. (Arb.) 203 We be allowed now and then to ouer-reach a little by way of comparison. 1672 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* I. i. (Arb.) 32 My next Rule is the Rule of Record, and by way of Table-book. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 268 There ought to be a distinction made in Letters of that nature, betweene passing a thing over by way of Connivance and giving a Publick Liberty. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 78 P 4 Nothing was wanting but some one to sit in the Elbow Chair, by way of President. 1712 Addison *Ibid.* No. 267 P 2 Virgil makes his Heros relate it by way of Episode. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 260 Most of them were very industrious in selling one Thing or other by Way of turning the Penny to a good Use. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. vii, I ask pardon for this short appearance, by way of chorus, on the stage. 1868 J. Burroughs *Miscellan. Hum. Life* ii. § 22 Attempting to spring carelessly..over a five-barred gate, by way of shewing your activity to a party of ladies. 1882 Ibsen *Pillars* v. 111. *note*, In Turkey nothing is more common than for the Mussulmans to take several glasses of strong spirits by way of appetizer. 1840 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv, The drapery always having hung up at their door, by way of sign, a piece of bright red cloth. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* I. ii. I. 32 The sovereign..holding a golden arrow, by way of sceptre, in his left hand. 1878 Ruskin

King of Golden River I. 4 He used to clean..the plates, ..y getting what was left on them, by way of encouragement. 1868 J. Bruce *Digby's Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) *Pref.* p. x, Dr. Richard Farrar composed some lines upon him by way of epitaph. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* vi, 'You'll have to go and thank him,' said Jo, by way of a joke. 1892 *Bookseller* 17/2 The summary [of the Act] given by way of introduction is concise and clear.

† **c.** *By way of excellency* (or *eminence*): = 'par excellence.' *Obs.*

1621–31 [see Eminence 8 c]. 1643 [see Eminency 8]. 1694 Locke *Advers. Theol.* in *King Life* (1858) 343 There is one Spirit manifestly distinguished from God, i.e. one created Spirit by way of excellency; i. e. the Holy Spirit. 1699 tr. *Dupin's Hist. Canon O. & N. Test.* I. 2 They are likewise styl'd the Scriptures by Way of Eminence. 1703 [see Eminency 8]. *a* 1704 [see Excellence 1 b]. 1721 Shaftesb. *Charac.* Misc. v. ii. III. 278 Have you writ..a Play, a Song, an Essay, or a Paper, as by way of Eminence, the current Pieces of our Weekly Wits are generally stil'd.

f. Followed by gerund, forming predicative phrases with the sense: In the habit of (doing something); also, more usually, making a profession of, or having a reputation for (being or doing so-and-so). *colloq.*

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher* xxxii, The Colonel was by way of introducing him into the fashionable circles. 1852 C. B. Mansfield *Paraguay*, etc. (1856) 182 A wiseacre passenger, who is by way of knowing the river well, says they are called *cañadones* in these parts. 1862 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xivii, Mary was 'by way of' helping Lady Hainault's maid, but she was very clumsy about it. 1877 Lady M. A. Broome *Yr.'s Housekeeping S. Africa* iv. 61 'Charlie,' our groom, who is by way of being a very fine gentleman,..only condescends to work until he can purchase a wife. 1881 Mallock *Rom. 19th Cent.* III. v. II. 34, I am by way, here, of doing the same thing. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 28 July 77/1 Mr. Brander Matthews finds fault with the phrase 'by way of being', and says an American can hardly understand it... 'By way of being' is endeavouring or purporting to be, holding oneself out in a certain character, or being so reputed; and this with an implied disclaimer of precise knowledge or warranty on the speaker's part. 1897 Du Maurier *Martian* v. 236 The Gibsons were by way of spoiling me. *Ibid.* IX. 379 Nor did he..come across them at any house he was by way of frequenting. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 515/1 The character of this woman, who is by way of being the female villain of the story, is drawn with skill.

g. By the route which passes through or over (a specified place): = Via *prep.* Also † *by the way of.*

Formerly with omission of *of*, the place-name being prefixed to *way*. Cf. sense 9.

12.. *O. E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 888, Heo forðlærde þe Rome weȝe [*L. in itinere Romæ*]. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 515 He schall send his man hom be Newmarket wey. 1702 W. Wotton *Hist. Rome* 481 He went by the way of Illyricum. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* To Sir W. Phillips 21 Sept., We set out from Glasgow by the way of Lanark. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 505 It invaded France by way of Avignon. 1901 Alldridge *Sherbro* xxvi. 291 From Bafodia we were diverging from the main road to Freetown which is by way of the Bumban hills.

† **h.** Through the medium of (a person). *Obs.*

1560 Sir N. Throgmorton in Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 49 The 29th of October last, I wrote to you from Paris by the ways of Monsieur de Chantonet.

† **33. From the way:** Out of the way, in a secluded place. *Obs.*

1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 1144 Some darke deepe desert seated from the way,..Will wee find out.

34. In the (etc.) way. (See also senses 17–19.)

† **a.** As one proceeds or goes along; in the course of one's journey (*to* a place). Also *in one's way*; in early use, *in way*. Cf. *to take in one's way* (sense 7). *Obs.*

To do (a person, etc.) *in the way*: to send out (*refl.* to set forth) on a journey or expedition.

1297 R. Glouc. 3765 He..greiþede is noble ost & dude him in þe weye. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1007 Horn dude him in þe weie On a god Galeie. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3392 (Laud MS.), Pine Oliffaunte & þine beest Do alle ordeyne on hast And do hem done in þe waye þat hij weren in feld contreye. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 259 At Felice he tok his leue þo, and in his way he goþ aplizt. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 47 As we wenten þus in þe weye wordyng togyderes. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xiv. 24 Ne wraththe 3e in the weye. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9 He starvet yn þe way. 1609 Holland *Thucyd.* II. 127 But they of Stratus, aware of this, whilest they were yet in their way..placed divers Ambushes not farre from the Citie. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1886) 140 Going from St. Julian's to Abergavenny, in the way to Montgomery Castle. 1712 Budgell *Spect.* No. 277 P 12 If you please to call at my House in your Way to the City. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VII. 143 In the afternoon [she] was at Islington church, in her way home. 1791 Smeaton *Eddystone L.* § 264 The master of the floating light saw the buoy in his way to Plymouth. 1820 [Mary A. Kelty] *Osmond* I. 186 A heavy foreboding made her linger in her way to her own apartment.

b. In Biblical use, *to be* or *walk in the way with* († *mid*) = to accompany a person on a journey; *fig.* to associate with.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 25 Uues ðu geþafrum wiðerbræce ðinum hræþe miþdy hist in uoeȝ miþ him [Vulg. *esto in via cum eo*]. 1611 Bible *Prov.* i. 15 My sonne, walke not thou in the way with them.

c. (Chiefly *in one's way*.) On or along the road by which one travels; so as to be met, encountered, or observed.

c 1205 Lay. 26770 Wo wes heom iboren þa þan weie heom weoren biuoren. *Ibid.* 26793 In his weiȝe þat he funde al he hit sqwalde. *a* 1225 H. Smith *Coveat Chr.* Serm. (1691) 498 Sinne is not long in comming: nor quickly gone, vnlesse God stop vs, as hee met Balaam in his way. 1592 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 879 Like one that spies an adder, Wreath'd vp in fatall folds iust in his way. 1620 — *Temp.* II. ii. 21 Like Hedg-hogs, which Lye tumbling in my bare-foote way. 1721 E. Ward *Merry Trav.* I. (1729) 35 Resolving to..moisten well our dusty Clay, At the next Alehouse in our Way. 1726 *Swift Gulliver* IV. i, I had not got far when I met one of these Creatures full in my way, and coming up directly to me. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlii, She had gained a little wooden bridge, which..led into a meadow in her way.

d. *fig.* in phrases like *to come, fall, lie in* (one's) *way*, to be met with in one's experience, to come within (one's) range of possible observation, utilization, or attainment. Similarly *to lay, put, throw in* (a person's) *way*. Also predicatively, in phrases like *it will be* (a certain sum of money, etc.) *in my way* = I shall gain (so much) in the specified contingency.

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* (Globe) 632/2 Under it [*sc.* his mantle] he can cleanly convay any fitt pillage that cometh handsomely in his way. 1596 Shake. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 28 Rebellion lay in his way, and he found it. 1605 [see Fall v. 34]. 1627 J. Chamberlain in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 43 It [*sc.* his having a son] may be a hundred thousand pounds in his way, if his father keep his word. *a* 1668 Duppa *Rules & Helps Devot.* 1. (1675) 78 The Imagination ..casting thoughts in our way, and forcing the Understanding to reflect upon them. 1677 Temple *Mem.* in Miscell. (1680) 193 The General Officers of Armies,..the publick Ministers..(that have fallen in my way) being generally subject to it [*sc.* the Gout] in one degree or other. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xii, It comes in my way here to retaliate to him. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* v. 107 When one man alters the opinion of another by throwing a book, proper for that purpose, in his way. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 154 We have now nothing to live on but Seal, and what Providence throws in our Way. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 46 Though it might have been Thousands in my Way had I continued my Business. 1763 Cowper in Southey *Life & Wks.* (1835) I. 163 My friends must excuse me, if I write to none but those who lay it fairly in my way to do so. 1789 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Subj. Painters* I. (*note*), Which will be a benefit ticket in Sir William's way. 1797 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xliii, It might seem as if she had purposely thrown herself in his way again. 1828 Scott *Tales Grandf.* Ser. I. xxiv, A warrant empowering them to take all Portuguese vessels which should come in their way. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* II. vii. 189 They say he has a cousin who is one of the officers to the Sheriff of Middlesex, and puts a good many little things in his way! 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxxi, These things he knew nothing of; they had not come in his way. 1888 M°Carthy & Praed *Ladies' Gall.* II. ii. 19 Every actor whom it had come in my way to know..was a poor devil.

e. In such a position, or of such a nature, as to obstruct, impede, or be an annoyance. Chiefly in phr. *to be* or *stand in* (one's) *way*, or *in the way of* (a person or thing); also *to put, throw in* (one's) *way*.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xli. 14 Welth, warldly gloir, and riche array Ar all bot thornis laid in thy way. 1564 *Brief Exam.* B iij, Ye must..take heede, lest ye stande in your owne way. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Aug. 1667, He thwarted some of them and stood in their way. *a* 1730 Ld. Dartmouth in Burnet *Own Time* (1900) II. 251 *note*, King Charles gave him [Godolphin] a short character when he was page..of being never *in* the way, nor *out* of the way. 1773 Foote *Bankrupt* I. Wks. 1799 II. 99 To throw some confounded rub in the way. 1787 'G. Gambado' *Acad. Horsem.* 41 Thus, then, you go off with eclat, provided nothing is in your horse's way; and if there is,..he will probably leap over it. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* II. iii. I. 183 [His] egotism..sacrificed his best friends and first duties, if they stood in its way. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, The smaller girls managed to be in everybody's way, and were pushed about accordingly. 1866 Le Fanu *All in Dark* xxxv, He would have been in the way—unutterably *de trop*. 1867 Trollope *Last Chron. Barset* II. lix. 159 She considers herself to have a claim upon [him]..and that I stand in her way. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 132 At such a moment as this, when one would have thought that horses were distinctly in the way. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 4/7 The Liberal party will be bound in honour to throw no factious obstacles in their way. 1887 Baring-Gould *Cæsero.* II. xxiii. 17 His pride stood in the way of success.

f. Within reach or call, at hand, get-at-able; in a place where things are going on or where one can be found readily. ? Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1598 R. Bernard *Terence, Eun.* v. ix. (1607) 188 Whether you be in the way, or out of the way [*te præsente absente*]. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To be in the way, or in a readiness, *se tenir prêt, ne pas s'écarter*. 1729 Swift *Direct. Serv.* Gen. P 2 When your Master or Lady call a Servant by Name, if that Servant be not in the Way, none of you are to answer. *c* 1760 Challoner in E. Burton *Life* (1909) II. xxiv. 28 We will spend our evenings..at our own lodgings, so that we may..be in the way for such as shall come for Instruction. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* xviii, I came here to-day intending to rehearse it with Edmund..but he is not in the way. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* viii, In order that ..he might take care to be in the way at the time. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxix, I'm glad, too, to see you here. One feels safer when you're in the way. 1897 R. N. Bain tr. *Ikhai's Pretty Michal* xxx. 209 He himself, however, had not been in the way when beauty was being served out.

g. In the humour or mood (for what is going on). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1703 *Rules of Civility* 214 A sort of People never in the way, never pleas'd with any thing. 1836 J. Ballantine *Poems* 108 He is aye in the way for a crack.

† **h.** (*To be*) *in one's way*: in the right course of action, within one's rights. *Obs.*

1689 *Andent Tracts* I. 122 Answer was made by the Deponent, that if we [the Watch] should kill them [suspicious persons resisting arrest], we were in our way, then Mr. Randolph..said, you are in the way to be hanged.

i. *Once in a way*: on a single (exceptional) occasion; as a solitary or rare instance; rarely, exceptionally; quasi-*adj.*, of rare occurrence, exceptional. Also *for once in a way.*

This phrase would seem to be a corruption of the earlier *once and away*, which may have meant originally 'once and then go away', 'once and no more', though all the instances quoted under Once *adv.* 8 c admit of being interpreted in the sense above explained. Cf. *once in a while* (see Once 8 c).

1840 Newman *Ch. Fathers* 300, I must beg indulgence once in a way, to engage myself in a dry and somewhat tedious discussion. 1853 [see Once B. 9 b]. 1858 Trollope *Dr. Thorne* xix, Now I like this kind of thing once in a way. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* liii, They agreed to take a holiday for once in a way. 1923 *Sat. Rev.* 22 June 762/2 The case of Ulster..really offers him this luxury for once in a way.

35. In the way of —. (Or equivalent construction.) (See also sense 17.)

† **a.** As a mode, instance, or manifestation of; as tantamount to or supplying the place of. Also *in way of.* Cf. *by way of* (32 d). *Obs.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 97 The Abbesse and the Couente..graunted..that, in the wey of charite, that they wold fynde for ever a prest conuenient þat shold do a *presbis* service every day, namely for the sowles of the forsaid peple. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* cxxvii. (1533) 62 Dagobert..bete his mayster, & after in way of dyspyte caused the berd of his tutour to be

a. v. *Abijcio, Abiicere se alteri ad pedes.* to prostrate him self at ones feete in way of intreatie. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 23 King William should geue him yerely in the way of a fee xxij. Markes of Golde. 1606 Shake. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 13, I doe beseech you, as in way of taste To giue me now a little benefit. 1621 J. Chamberlain in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 373 He concluded with a wish..for the felicity..of that ..happy couple; and, in a way of amen, caused the Bishop of London..to give them a benediction. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts* Amos ii. 2 Moab..burnt the very bones of the King of Edoms sonne to ashes, in way of sacrifice to his gods. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autob.* (1886) 176 Which I then bestowed upon some servants of the Prince, in way of retribution for my welcome thither. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. i. 327 In way of compensation, he was allowed a pension.

b. By means of, by adopting the method of. Now *rare*. Also † *in way of.*

The first quot. may perhaps belong to sense 17.

1607 Shake. *Cor.* III. ii. 137 He returne Consull, Or neuer trust to what my Tongue can do I'th way of Flattery further. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* To Sir W. Phillips 18 July, He attempted to open her eyes in the way of exhortation, and, finding it produced no effect, had recourse to prayer. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxx, That in the way of treaty more permanent advantages could be obtained..than by an action which would stain her with a breach of faith and hospitality. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 220 The attack was made, not in the way of storm, but by slow and scientific approaches.

† **c.** With a view to; as a means of attaining or performing; so as to effect or produce. Also *in way of, in a way of.* *Obs.*

1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 14 A kinde of insinuation, as it were *in via*, in way of explication. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1886) 138 He commanded me..not to send any more to Sir John Ayres, nor to receive any message from him, in the way of fighting. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 190 And yet in way of recovering health by changing of Aire, of study for a time in the University,..or of being imployed in publick Affairs, they [licences to clergy for non residence] cannot be wholy abrogated. 1668 H. More *Antid. Atheism* Ep. Ded., Which was done in way of Divine Honour to the Wisdom of the Deity. — *Philos. Writ.* (1712) Pref. Gen. p. xxi, The ancient Divines and Prophets..witness that the Soul is join'd to this earthly body in a way of punishment. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 17 Coming closer.., in the way, as it were, of claiming acquaintance with him.

d. In the course or routine of.

1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 58 Providing that it were done in the way of publicke justice. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* IV. iii, In the way of Trade, we still suspect the smoothest Dealers of the deepest designs. 1765 Foote *Commissary* I. 3 Not at all given to lying, but like other tradesfolks, in the way of her business. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* i. 6 Remembering that he had come in the way of business, and was, as it were, under a flag of truce.

† **e.** When one is concerned with. *Obs.*

1596 Shake. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 239 But in the way of Bargaine,..Ile cauill on the ninth part of a hayre. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 189 *Hect.*..Hectors opinion Is this in way of truth: yet nere the lesse [etc.].

† **f.** *In the way of honesty*: under honourable conditions; so far as honour allows. *Obs.*

1595 Shake. *John* I. i. 181 For thou wast got i'th way of honesty. 1598 — *Merry W.* II. ii. 75, I defie all Angels..but in the way of honesty. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 253. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 23 Yours to command in the way of honesty.

g. *To be in the way of*: to be likely to do or obtain (something), to have a good chance of (doing or attaining something); formerly also † *in way of*, † *in a way of. To put* (a person) *in the* or *a way of*, † *in way for*: to put him in a position to obtain or achieve (something). Also with *to* and inf. instead of *of*.

See also Fair *a.* 14.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1810 For 3yf þou mayst, & wylt noght, þou art yn weye to payne be broght. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 32 The whiche ypocras seeyng the craffte of physike in weye of perfection because alle his felawes

1542 *Lament. & Pitowes Treat.* Ep. Ded., I purpose, as sone as my dysease is paste, to put me in waye with all dylygence to se you ryght soone. 1624 BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 179 A Physician, that..is vnacquainted with your body.., may put you in way for a present Cure, but ouerthroweth your Health in some other kinde. 1677 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 36 Lord Mohun is now in a way of recovery. 1689 [see 34 b]. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 410 Being very ingenious at such Work, when they were once put in the Way of it. *Ibid.* 423 Seeing Things..in so fine a way of thriving upon my Island. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* viii. 112 She has educated several poor children,..and put them in a way of an honest employment. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 259 You cannot expect a Dyer's letter from me, as your nephew Charles is so much more in the way of having authentic information. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* iv, Why did you not tarry at Brussels, then, with the Duke of Burgundy? He would put you in the way to have your bones broken every day. 1827 — *Surg. Dan.* Pref., Mr. Croftangry is in the way of doing a foolish thing. 1844 BROUGHAM *A. Lamel* xii, I soon was put in a way or earning a moderate weekly payment as a translator from the English and Italian. 1847 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 4 Now I am in the way of getting well again. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* vi, Even then they might sometimes put themselves in the way of being blown into the Regent's Canal. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv, I am getting on a little in the world, and am in the way to earn a little money. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 7 July 4/4 Diplomatic difficulties, which he hoped were in the way of solution.

†h. *To be in way of marriage*: to have a prospect of being married. Also, *in (the) way of marriage*, *in way to marriage*, with a view to matrimony. *Obs.*

[illegible] askyd me hefe I wher
[illegible] ELIZ. in Nicolas *Sir C.*
[illegible] ormer time have sought
us in way of marriage. 1583 RICH *Phylotus* (1835) 12 But Phylotus in the ende desired Emelia of her father in the waie of Mariage. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. i. 42 Neuer to speake to Ladie afterward In way of marriage. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. iv. 89 To speake a good word to Mistris Anne Page for my Master in the way of Marriage. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xiii. 301 As if their sex in reference to men were not capable of any other kind of familiar friendship but in way to marriage.

†i. *In a way of*: in the habit of (doing something). *Obs.*

c 1704 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS Comm.) I. 353 The House of Lords are in a way of having hours very uncertain.

36. On (or upon) the, or one's, way. On, or in the course of, a journey. *To be well on one's way*: to have fairly started, or to have made some progress. Also *fig.*, in progress towards completion or accomplishment.

In OE *on wege*: see also AWAY *adv.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 25 Beo þu onbuzende þinum wiðerwinnan hraðe þa hwile þe ðu eart on wege mid him. — Mark ix. 34 Witodlice hi on wege [Vulg. *in via*] smeadon hwylc hyra yldost wære. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Þæt þa godan men..gan on ðone weg þe us lett to heofonan rice. *c* 1205 LAY. 1348 Brutus..ferde riht on his wei. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8054 Fand þai no per fra þat sith Man ne beist þat þai wit met, þat on þair wai þam mo þt do lett. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 549 He thoght to be wele on hys way Or it war passed the thryd day. *c* 1450 *Autors of Arth.* 315, I mot walke one my wey, borgh þis wilde wood. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. i. 36 Ryde on your wey, for I wille not be long behynde. 1523 SURREY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 227 Trusting that the gonners be well on the waye hiderwarda. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* viii. 39 He went on his waye reioysynge. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 679 She is two moneths on her way [*sc.* with child]. 1598 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 41 He sent a trumpeter to them, who met with the hostages vpon the way. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 73 You should haue bene well on your way to Yorke. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* I. x. 16 Overtaking him upon the way. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 576, I will my self conduct thee on thy Way. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xiv, And Cintra's mountain greets them on their way. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxx, Day broke, and found them still upon their way. *Ibid.* lxxii, The boy had led him to his own dwelling ..on their way back. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 23 On the following morning I was on my way towards this valley. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* ii. 35 To inform a traveller respecting the place of his ultimate destination, is not to forbid the use of land-marks and direction-posts on the way. 1885 *Law Rep.* 15 Q. B. D. 329 The debtor was on his way to the office of the official receiver.

37. Out of the way. (See also OUT-OF-THE-WAY *adj. phr.*)

a. Away from the road by which one is travelling; off the track or proper route. Also in *fig.* context.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 405/2 Oute of Way, *devius, delirus.* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Deflecto, Ex itinere ad viandum aliquem deflectere*, to turne out of the way to see one. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 7 Nor lead me like a fire-brand, in the darke Out of my way. 1643 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 161 Let us then..step a little out of our way, and say somewhat of the Critical days. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Cond. Und.* § 34 They are more in danger to go out of the way, who are marching under the Conduct of a Guide, that 'tis an hundred to one will mislead them, than he that has not yet taken a Step, and is likelier to be prevail'd on to enquire after the right Way. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 323 It being a Month's Sail out of his Way. 1890 BICKLEY *Surrey Hills* III. 214 It was a good mile out of his way, but he felt he must see it again. 1923 J. G. FRAZER *Psyche's Task* iv. (ed. 2) 80 If the two meet on a path they carefully avoid each other; he will step out of the way and she will hurry on.

b. *fig.*, with the notion of going astray or being off the right path. †(*To be*) *out of the way*: in error, mistaken; also, ? missing the point (*obs.*).

a 1225 *Juliana* 40 (Royal MS.) Hwen he sent us to wrenchen eni rihtwise ut of þe weie. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 159 He sayth yee schall be to far owte of the weye w^t owte yee gree & bergeyne togeder. 1530 PALSGR. 715/1 He hath set me out of the waye with his teachynge: *par son enseignement il ma detourné.* 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) X iij, Perhappes M. Morrello is not altogither out of the waye in saying that beauty is not alwayes good. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 3 Know he, that he is much deceived, and to say more truely, quite out of the way. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 102 They are cleane out of the way, who when they wold vse them for any inward cause, doe cast away their winges and feete. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1706) I. v. 181 Thus it is in all Matters of Speculation or Practice; He that knows but a little of them..is more out of the way of true Knowledge than if he knew nothing at all. 1728 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. v, Never was a man more out of the way in an argument than my husband. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 173 Our Governors cannot always be in the wrong; and he therefore who never gives them a Vote, must probably be as often out of the Way as they.

c. With *of* or possessive: Away from the path in which a person or thing is moving; in a position where one does not meet or impede another; at a distance from, clear of, a person's or thing's activities; out of reach of, not in danger from.

For *out of harm's way* see HARM *sb.* 1 c.

1590 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 832 If Abner had knowne what was in Ioabs harte, I do not doubt but he would haue out of his waye sterte. 1630 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* II. § 5 Men stand upon their guard against them[*sc.* inquisitions], as they secure their meat against harpies and cats, laying all their counsels and secrets out of their way. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) 56 The embroylments and factions that were then amongst the Arabs..made us desirous to keep as far as possible out of their way. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 28 They sent us a great many Bombs,..there came one swift as Lightning. I had much ado to get out of it's Way. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xvi, The fellow kept out of my way, and I couldn't see him. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. xii. 403 Always glad to have me out of her way.

d. (*To be*) *out of* (a person's) *way*: not in his line, not in accordance with his present purpose or taste, outside his scope, beyond his abilities. (Cf. 18 c.) ? *Obs.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 167 It is out of my way, so it lyghtly may, To all good thyngis thy way is out of the way. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., This is a Thing out of my Way, not proper to me, *cela n'est pas mon Affaire.* 1707 FREIND *Peterboro's Cond. Sp.* 165 What other Negotiations his Lordship carried on..is out of my way to relate. 1722–7 BOYER *Dict. Angl.-Fr.* s.v., This is a thing out of my Way (it is not in my Power). 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. Wks. 1799 I. 186, I don't much care for your poppers and sharps, because why, they are out of my way. 1780 MRS. COWLEY *Belle's Stratagem* III. i, Now, I beg, Mr. Hardy, you won't interfere in this business; it is a little out of your way. 1841 S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* II. vii. 188 I'd give a trifle to know how..such people ever came to be concerned in such a case. 'Tis quite out of their way—which is in the criminal line of business!

e. *To go out of one's way to* (do something): to do something which the circumstances do not call for or invite.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 321 The culpable freedoms of persons, who, in what they went out of their way to say, must either be guilty of absurdity, meaning *nothing*; or, meaning *something*, of rudeness. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 729 One hardly sees why any one should go out of his way to invent the tale.

f. *To put* (a person) *out of his*, or *the*, *way*: to disturb, inconvenience, trouble; †to disappoint, foil; †to vex, 'put out'. Often *refl.*, to submit to inconvenience or bother for the sake of others; const. *for* (another), *to* (do something).

† *To be out of the way*: to be out of temper or vexed (*with* a person). *rare.*

1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 22 (1693) 10 They should be afraid to put Nature out of her Way in fashioning the Parts [of the body]. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 57 By what Mr. Jonathan tells me just now, he was quite out of the way with you. 1748 — *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 183 If, indeed, I am out of the way a little, I always take care to reward the varlets for patiently bearing my displeasure. 1796 *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) III. 173 Though, at present, we are put something out of our way, we hope still to find some sacred spot of earth. 1818 HAZLITT *Table Talk* xxv. (1869) 346 They cannot put themselves out of their way on any account. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxi, Anything [to drink] that's handy, miss; don't put yourself out of the way, on our accounts. 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* ii, Why should Lady Castlewood put herself out of the way to welcome the young stranger?..Was a great lady called upon to put herself out of the way for such a youth? 1873 MRS. OLIPHANT *Innocent* III. xi. 177 The maids not caring to put themselves out of the way for such guests.

g. Away from the resort or society of other persons; away from the place where one would be looked for or wanted; in a position remote or inconvenient to get at.

c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1019 Sche trowed trewly..were sche out of þe weye þat william wold fonde for to pleie in þat place þe priue loue game. 1594 SIR J. MASON in Tytler *Edw. VI* II. 452, I had for answer, that I should not be out of the way in the afternoon, for that he intended to signify unto me his pleasure for answer to my request. 1660 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 33 b, Duke Fridericke appointed certein.. to conueighe Luther out of the way, in to some secrete place. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 40 He deuise a meane to draw the Moore Out of the way. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 84 They seeing..that it was impossible to save the [illegible] kept out of the way. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 389 This [illegible] to us then to be a place out of the [illegible], where we [illegible] lye snug for a while. 1939 H. BARNES *Privat. Cases C. P.* (1772) 310 The plaintiff be kept out of the Way to prevent [illegible] 1838 PEACOCK *Devon. Exet.* 61. II. 72 In order to make people resort to a place which was so much out of the way. *a* 1750 [see 34 c]. 1822 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Out of the way*, a thief who knows that he is sought after by the traps on some information and consequently goes out of town or otherwise conceals himself is said by his pals to be out of the way for so and so. 1843 DICKENS *Martin Chuz.* XXXVIII, He had speculated too much and was keeping out of the way. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. xii, The Leslies don't mix with the county; and Reed has very much out of the way. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Str. & Pilgr.* III. ii. 330 Fancy his coming area-sneaking here while his Lordship's out of the way!

h. Away from an obstructive position.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lvii. 14 Take vp what ye can out of the waye, that ledeth to my people [1611 take vp the stumbling blocke out of the way of my people]. 1919 K. PEARSON in C. Goring *Eng. Convict* Introd. 12 [Goring] clears out of the way for ever the tangled and luxuriant growths of the Lombrosian School.

i. *To put* (†*bring*, †*take*, †*rid*, etc.) *out of the way*: to make away with, kill. Also, †*to hang*, †*shoot out of the way*. (*To be*) *out of the way*: no longer alive.

c 1535 SIR F. BYGOD *Treat. conc. Impropriations* C j, As moche as lyeth in you, both god and all preachynge, and all other holy thynges ben clene extyncte..and specyally this holy ordynaunce [*sc.* preaching] put out of the waye. *a* 1542 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 17 b, When..these other lordes & knightes were thus beheaded and ryd out of the waye. *Ibid., Hen. VIII* 93 He doubted lest he might be brought out of the waie, as other dukes of Albany before had serued the heires of Scotlande. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 138 b, Of Luther and the rest, there is no hope unlesse they be dispatched out of the way (*nisi opprimantur*). 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* 2097/1 The said wicked Gardiner..bent all hys deuises, to bring this our happy and deare souereigne out of the way. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 187 If this do not cure him [the dog] within seuen daies, then let him be knocked on the head, or hanged out of the way. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* III. iii, I am halfe Hang'd out of the way already. 1679 *Trials & Given*, etc. *for Murder of Sir E. Godfrey* 30 He told me there was a Gentleman that was to be put out of the Way; that was the Phrase he used he did not really say *Murther* him. 1727 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 313 Old Admiral Holbourn, who curst and swore..because Byng was not Shot out of the Way. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (ed. 2) IV. 214 The Earl of Moray.. was put out of the Way by an assassin. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* XXXVIII. 388 Though he [Richard] had a wife already, he determined to put her out of the way, and marry his own niece Elizabeth sooner than let Henry Tudor win her. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 103 The living have their rivals and detractors, but when a man is out of the way, the honour and good-will which he receives is unalloyed.

†j. *To be out of the way*: (of a thing) to be lost or missing. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 80 Is't lost? Is't gon? Speak, is't out o' th' way? 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To be out of the Way or out of its proper Place, *être dépaysé, égaré.*

†k. *It is out of* (my, his, etc.) *way*: it amounts to or entails a loss of (a specified sum). *Obs.*

1616 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Cri. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 405 He did the lady a great piece of service to get her out of the Tower, where, if she had been at this time, it might chance been out of her way fifty or three score the [illegible] ids, at least. 1633 SHIRLEY *Gamester* III. (1637) F 3, A curse upon these reeling Dice, that last in and in Was out of my way ten peeces. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. III. xxix. 84 It is like to be out of my way 3000 l. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., 'Tis much out of my Way, or to my Loss, *cela m'a fait grand tort, ou j'y ai beaucoup perdu.* *c* 1750 J. NELSON *Jrnl.* (1836) 23 Though it may be ten pounds out of my way to be turned out of my work at this time of the year.

†l. Beside the mark, amiss; oddly, extraordinarily.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 318 (Harl. 7333) Have I ought saide oughte of þe waye [*Fairf.* seyd oght amys I prey].. 1377 *F. de L'isle's Legemiarle* I vij b, Of him therefore did not a gentleman of Caux speake much out of the waye, when [etc.]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. xii, It's surprizeable to me, Mr. Hobson, you can behave so out of the way!

m. Predicatively (with the substantive vb. expressed or understood) as adj.: Beside the mark, out of place, inappropriate; odd, bizarre; †not in vogue, unfashionable; †erroneous, incorrect; extraordinary, unusual, remarkable. Cf. OUT-OF-THE-WAY.

1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* xvi. 25 Also it shal not be out of the way [orig. *hors de propos*], to say that [etc.]. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 366 A pox of drowning thy selfe, it is cleane out of the way. 1676 PHILLIPS *Purchasers Pattern* 106 This rule of reckoning..will not be much out of the way, if you reckon the money by the Tables of rebate. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1209/1, I think it not out of the way, *non alienum puto.* *a* 1699 TEMPLE *Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 273 Mine [*sc.* my three wishes] were Health, Peace, and fair Weather; which, though out of the way among young Men, yet perhaps might pass well enough among old. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 99 The 1 of them fell entirely in [with] my opinions, odd, unaccountable, and out of the way as they may appear to many. 1873 MRS. OLIPHANT *Innocent* III. xx. 331 If anything out of the way turns up, nobody will remember that such a thing ever happened. 1885 HEWLETT *Silas Lapham* xxvi. 476 Did you ever know me to do anything out of the way? 1890 *Nation* (N.Y.) LIV. 232/3 Therefore much that still passes current as opinion about him is pitifully out of the way.

38. Under way. *Naut.* [ad. Du. *onderweg* (also *-wegen*) on the way, under way, f. *onder* under, in the course of, etc. + *weg* (dat. pl. *wegen*) way.] Of a vessel: Having begun to move through the water. *Cf.* sense 71. Often spelt *under weigh*: see WEIGH *sb.*[2]

1593 BOURNEUF & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 98 To prevent which, we do agree, that when Under-way they shall not separate. 1752 FALCONER *P. Wilkins* viii. (1784) I. 76 We

drew up the two boats, and set all hands at work to put the ship under way. 1788 Charlotte Smith *Emmeline* (1816) IV. 75 It was near ten o'clock before the vessel got under way. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxiv, He has proposed to me that he shall go on board, and get the brig under way. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xi, Mr. M'Kay urged the captain to clear the ship and get under way. 1863 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 431 *Under way*, this expression, often used instead of under weigh, seems to be a convenient one for denoting that a ship or boat is making progress through the water, whether by sails or other motive power. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 706 *Under way*, a ship beginning to move under her canvas after her anchor is started. Some have written this *under weigh*, but improperly. A ship is under weigh when she has weighed her anchor... As soon as she gathers way she is under way. 1883 *Stubbs' Mercantile Circular* 8 Nov. 982/2 Of the collisions on or near our shores, most were between steam and sailing vessels when under way. 1889 *Law Times' Rep.* LIII. 61/2 Trawlers.. are bound to show the same lights as a vessel under way.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1822 Byron *Vis. Judgem.* xci, Ere he could get a word Of all his founder'd verses under way. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. viii, A courier is, this night, getting under way for Necker. 1878 — *Frederic. Gt.* x. iii. (1873) III. 240 The little Wife has already brought him one child, a Daughter; and has (as Friedrich notices) another under way. 1856 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Feb. 80/1, I took the honest waiter home with me in my cab, and under-way we had a good laugh at the spy. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Libr.* Ser. I. 309 They are restlessly anxious to get their stories well under way.

VI. Combinations.

89. Obvious combinations. **a.** simple attrib., as *way-book*, *-end*, *-pans* (Pans *sb.*[1] 9), *-signal*; **b.** objective, as *way-taking*, *-traveller*, *-wanderer*; *way-beguiling*, *-stopping* adjs.; **c.** instrumental, as *way-bewildered*, *-sore*, *-spent*, *-wearied* adjs.

1645 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* ix. 6 Short miles, and *way-beguiling Company. 1796 *Way-bewildered [see Thought[1] 7 c]. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Mar. 1/2 A complete *way-book of the journey from Cherbourg to Nice has been printed. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 **Way-end*, the inner extremity of the wooden railways formerly used in mines. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 903 *Way-Pane.—The strip of land left for cartage along the side of the main [*i. e.* principal ditch]. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 807/1 Each palm, orange tree, and vineyard left on the old mission sites was a *way signal to the new people. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 125 *Way-sore feet. 1777 Porter *Æschylus, Choeph.* 355 The *way-spent traveller. 1603 J. Taylor (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks.(1630) II. 238/2 It cleered the Streetes of these *way-stopping Whirligigges! 1472 *Hist. Arrival Edw. IV* (Camden) 27 They thowght..to have gotten into theyr companye, by that *way-takynge, great nombar of men of Lancashire and Chesshere. 1892 Howells *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 101 Loquacious, acquaintance-making *way-travellers. 1795 Southey *Soldier's Wife* 1 Weary *way-wanderer, languid and sick at heart. 1796 Coleridge *Destiny of Nations* 149 And minister refreshment to the tired Way-wanderer. 1758 J. G. Cooper *Epist. Aristippus* iv. 28 Life's *way-wearied travellers.

40. Special comb.: **way-baggage** *U. S.*, the baggage or luggage of a way-passenger; **way-beam**, a beam used in the construction of a form of longitudinal railway sleeper; † **way-beaten** *a.*, exhausted by travel; † **way-beater**, ? one who frequents the highway for felonious purposes; **way-chain**, a brake for the wheel of a vehicle; in quot. *fig.*; † **way-door**, a door opening on the street; **way-fare** *U.S.*, a fare charged for travelling between intermediate stations on a railway; cf. *way-passenger*, *-station*; † **way-fere** [Fere *sb.*[1]], a companion in travel; † **way-flax** (meaning obscure); † **wayfood**, provision for a journey; **way-gang**, **-go** *Sc.* = Waygate[2]; † **waygoer**, a traveller by road, a wayfarer; † **waybire** *local*, payment made for the concession of way-leave; † **way-lead** *v. trans.*, to guide, conduct; † **way-leader**, one who conducts a traveller; † **way letter** (see quot.; cf. *by-letter*, By- 4 and *by-way letter*, By-way 3); † **way-mate**, a fellow-traveller; **way passenger** *U.S.*, a passenger picked up or set down at a stage on a coaching route or station on a railway line intermediate between the main stopping-places; **way-point** *U.S.*, ? a wayside stopping-place on a coaching route; **way-post** = Guide-post; **way-rate** *north.*, a rate levied by a local authority for the upkeep of the roads; † **way-reeve**, † **-serjeant**, officers appointed to supervise the repair of the roads; † **way-shide**, ? one of the planks used to form gangways; **way-station** *U.S.*, an intermediate station on a railway route, a wayside station; **way-ticket** = Way-bill 4; also *attrib.*; † **way-walking** *a.*, vagrant; † **way-went**, ? a turn of the road; **way-wise** *a. dial.* and *U.S.*, of a horse, familiar with the roads he is required to travel; also *fig.* of a person, experienced, trained; † **way-witere** (*ME.*), one who shows the way, a guide; † **waywoodware**, timber to be used in the construction of roads.

1847 Webster, **Way-baggage*. 1880 in Worcester; and in later Dicts. 1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 46 Within the troughs [*sc.* trough-girders] are to be laid.. *way-beams,..packed between the gussets with stemming pieces. 1742 Jarvis *Quixote* II. iv. vii. 322 The *way-beaten couple, master and man, sat them down. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxii. § 9 This we learned chiefly, by the chiefe of these *way-beaters. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xxvi. 122 A sort of People whom they call'd High-way-men, Way-beaters [Fr. *Batteurs de pavez*], and makers of Inroads in Roads. 1882 Ld. Salisbury in T. Williams *Polit. Wit & Humour* (1889) 67, I will take the Duke of Wellington's simile. He said it [the House of Lords] was a *way-chain, or, as in these days we should say, a vacuum-brake. 1597 Br. Hall *Sat.* III. iv. 7 But bee must needes his Posts with blood embrew, And on his *way-doore fixe the horned head. 1863 Dicey *Federal St.* I. 55 You can go from New York to Chicago.. for four pounds; but the *way-fares are three-halfpence a mile. *c* 1450 Pecock *Donet* (1921) 89 Jesus..oure *weifere, oure techer. *c* 1620 *Cry in Stinbridge Fair* in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 16 Also that no man shall regrate of the aforesaid things, as ..*Way-flax,..Rosin, Yarn, Pitch, Tar-Cloth, or other thing of Grocery ware. 1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xv. 14 But thow shalt 3yue *weyfode [Vulg. *viaticum*] of the flockis. 1744 in Kames *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 81 To cause the water restagnate upon the *way-going of the pursuer's mill. 1700 Sir A. Balfour *Lett.* 130 They use to stop the *way-goe of the Water, sometimes in the Summer, and lett the Place over flow with Water. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxvii. 25 And sittynge for to eet breed, thei seen Ysmaelites *weiegoers [Vulg. *viatores*] to comen fro Galaad. 1482 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* v. xii. 145 b, Also for refreshyng of weygoers there as clere welles were by hye weyes, the same kyng made arere postes and to honge theron shelles or cuppes of bras. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. *Hist. Eng.* 181/1 Such tolles and tallages as were demanded of way-goers at bridges. 1747–8 in *N. Riding Record Soc.* (1890) VIII. 267 To save the country the several rates pay'd by the Riding for *wayhires..when the said rond is overflowed with water. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xiii. 232 Whether ward ar ye *way ledyng this knyghte. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xiv. § 6 Let the Gods dispose of me as shall skilfull *way leaders. 1893 H. Joyce *Hist. Post Office* x. 147 For purposes of illustration..A bye or *way letter would be a letter passing between any two towns on the Bath road and stopping short of London. 1638 Brathwait *Earnabees Jrnl.* (1818) 183 Thee, pleasing *way-mates titled have their patron. 1799 *Hist. Mercury* 12 Feb. (Thornton) The fare is 4*d* per mile for *way passengers. 1834 in McClure *Early Life Abr. Lincoln* (1886) 174 Fare through..nine dollars; way passengers six and a fourth cents per mile. 1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 102 At Huron, where the boat put in to land way-passengers. 1908 O. Wister *Virginian* xxiv. 276 The letter..had gone by private hand at the outset, taken the stage-coach at a *way point [etc.]. 1773 Berridge *Wks.* (1864) 284 They were like *wayposts, which shew a road but cannot help a cripple forwards. *a* 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Blasph. Warn.* 338 And you came to a place where three cross-roads divide, Without any way-post, stuck up by the side Of the road to direct you and act as a guide. 1813 *Examiner* 8 Feb. 91/2, I was..appointed Way-warden for the pariah; and was dragged from my business to collect the *way-rate. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorks.* I. 189 Every township ought to employ a roadman or working-*way-reave ..for the same excellent purpose [of road-mending]. 1334 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 84/2 En eyde de lour ferme de *Weyserjaunta qe soleyent estre en foreyn boys pur le Cheminage, laquele Cheminage & Weywodewares sount ore defete par reson de la Porale. 1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII* c. 18 Conveyeng awaye of *wayshydes shores pyles..from the said bankes and walles [of the Thames]. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 53 Twenty minutes spent at *way-stations. 1881 R. G. White *Eng. Without & Within* ii. 44 If it is at a way-station, the passengers give up their tickets as they pass out through the station. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 67 This was only what is called a way station. There was nothing but a section house and a long siding, besides the usual offices. 1893 *Times* 28 Sept. 3/5, I agree with your correspondent.. that the *way-ticket system is a good one. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Feb. 4/1 Men really in search of work would be given 'way tickets' for definite routes...Holders would be entitled to lodging, supper, and breakfast at the casual ward. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xix. (1553) R v, Whether euery *waye walking beggre be by this reason out of prieson or no, we shall considre. *c* 1485 *Macro Plays, Cast. Perseu.* 158 Worthy wytis, in al þis werd wyde, Be wylde wode wonys, & euery *weye-went. 1775 Ash, **Waywise*, expert in choosing the road. 1840 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. III. ix. 122 If they [*sc.* women as wives] are too old they are apt to be headstrong from havin' had their head so long; and, if they are too young, they are hardly way-wise enough to be pleasant. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 740/2 When a colt can be safely driven around the home grounds, he is considered 'farm broke, or way wise. 1918 F. Hackett *Ireland* xi. 309 Flung into the medley of American life, he was compelled ..to become way-wise in the factory, [etc.] *c* 1205 Lay. 12860 þa cleopeden þe aworl Costantin & bad þa *wei-witere [*c* 1275 wei-wittie] for-arnen þa wateres. 1334 *Weywodewares [see *wayserjeant* above].

b. In the names of plants found growing by the wayside and in stony places, as † **way-barley**, **-bennet**, **-bent**, *Hordeum murinum*; † **way-cress** = Sciatica *cress*; **way-grass** (see quot. 1887); **way-thistle**, *Carduus arvensis*. Also Waybread, Waywort.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. xlvi. 67 This kinde of wilde Barly ..is called..in English Wall Barly, *Way Barly, or after old English writers, Way Bennet. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. xlv. 504 Wall Barley, or *Way Bennet. 1665 Lovell *Herball* (ed. 2) 464. 1783 [see *wall barley*, Wall *sb.*[1] 22 c]. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Phenix*,..*waybent. 1548 — *Names of Herbes* (1881) 43 Phenix Dioscoridis semeth to be the herbe which is called in Cambrigshire Way bent. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 20 b, [Iberis] may be called in Englishe *way-cresses. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Calligonon*...*Waygrasse: knotgrasse. 1887 *Kentish Glass., Way-grass*, a weed; knot-grass. *Polygonum aviculare*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccccxlv. 1012 The *way Thistles grow every where by high way sides and common paths, in great plenty. 1796 W. Pitt *Agric. Staffordz* 78 The common, cursed, or way thistle.

† **Way**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Var. of Wey.] A certain quantity of glass.

1545 *Rates of Custom Ho.* C iij, Glasses Reinish the way or web containing lx. bunches. 1550–1600 *Customs Duties* MS. Addit. 25097 ff. 7 b, Glasse the waye or wabe. 1656 *Act Commons.* c. 20 Rates (1658) 468 Glass for Windows called ..Rhenish, the Way or Web.

—— [?, *v. Obs.* [f. Way *sb.*[1]]

intr. To go, journey, proceed.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. ii. 12 On a time as they together way'd, He made him open chalenge, and thus boldly sayd. 1708 *Yorkshire Racers* 10 They..Way'd to the course, and gallop'd true and well.

2. *trans.* (See quot. 1706.) Also erron. *weigh*, *waigh*.

1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* I. v. (1656) 43 Untill such time as he hath been..made gentle,..content to be shod, to be Back'd, Broken, Ridden, Wayed, Mouthed. *a* 1692 A. Wilson in Peck *Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. xii. 25 My spotted Nag..being younge & not well waigh'd, run away with mee. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (Arb.) 39 He that hath a Scrupulous Conscience, is like a Horse that is not well weigh'd, he starts at every Bird that flies out of the Hedge. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Way a Horse*, is to teach him to travel in the Ways. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4490/4 Lost.., a young black Gelding, comes 4, not thorough weigh'd.

3. To set (a waggon) on the made way or track on which it runs.

1763 in *London Mag.* (1764) 145/2 When a waggon happens to be off the waggon-way, if laden, it will take two or three horses to way the waggon again.

† **4.** *intr.* To construct a way. In quot. *indirect passive*. *Obs.*

1640 Somner *Antiq. Canterb.* 195 It was a Free-Schoole for the City..anciently wayed unto, and having a passage to it from some part of Burgate-street.

Hence † **Wayed** *ppl. a.*

? 1640 Suckling *Let.* Fragm. Aur. (1646) 77 A well-wayed horse will safely convey thee to thy Journeys end. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Way'd Horse* [with Horsemen] is one who is already backed, suppled, and broken, and shews a Disposition to the Manage.

Way (wē), *adv. Obs.* exc. *Sc.*, *north.*, and *U.S.* [Aphetic f. Away. Cf. G. *weg* similarly used.]

1. = Away *adv.* in various senses. † *Do way*: see Do *v.* 53.

c 1205 Lay. 15933 Let alæten þis wæter & wel weorpen [*c* 1275 awey werpe]. *a* 1300–1378 Do way [see Do *v.* 53]. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 505 As for tythynga here, the King is way at Eltham. 1533 More *2nd Pt. Confut. Tindale* IV. Wks. 593/2 Which great occasyons Godde suffred to fal vpon him and carye hym waye. [*Tindale's words are*: to carye him clene oute of the waye.] 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi, Gae wa', gae wa'. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* iii, Gae 'wa', ye haveril. 1908 *Collier's Mag.* Oct., '*Travelling for the Presidency*' (Thornton a. v. *Lunch-counter*) Mr. Bryan has, during the past twelve years, eaten or otherwise made way with over 2,700 meals at railroad lunch-counters.

2. *esp.* At or to a (great) distance, far. **a.** with preps.

1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* v. (1850) 44 You see it was way towards Tupper's Lake. 1854 Seba Smith (*title*) Way down East. 1888 Mrs. Custer *Tenting on Plains* viii. (1893) 151 He sat 'way under the mantel, to let the tobacco-smoke go up the chimney. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 29, I would have sold at a very low price, way below cost. 1901 Lee Bacon *Houseboat on Nile* 51 The Howadji..was 'way up in that painter's paradise where [etc.].

b. With advs., as *through*, *off*; hence **way-off** *a.*, distant; **way-back** *U.S. slang*, in the phrase *from way-back* = from a remote or rural district; hence *attrib.* and quasi-*adj.*

1887 *New York Ev. Post* 4 Oct., The *way-back delegates, those from the farms and the small villages. 1889 Mark Twain' *Yankee at Crt. Arthur* xxxi, He *thinks* he's a Sheol of a farmer; thinks he's old Grayback from Wayback. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 2 Sept. 2 7 The Whitmans were American 'from way-back'. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* May 608/2 There was a *fundi*..who used to let on that the pictures on some vases..were done from waylack Massi. 1869 Mrs. Whitney *We Girls* xiv. (1876) 229 General and Mrs. Ingleside had come from their *way-off, beautiful Wisconsin home. 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* xxxiii. 215, I am going somewhere; but I don't know where. 'Way off, anyhow. 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* ix, Until you got sick of it *way through.

8. *Comb.*

a. with a pa. pple. or verb, as *way-gone*; † **way-put** *v. Sc.*, to put away: (*a*) to effect the escape of (a fugitive from justice); (*b*) = Put *v.* 38 d.

1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 81 in *Libr. Useful Knowl., Husb.* III, They are sorted into their wedder herdings to replace the *waygone lot of the last year's ewe hogs. 1538 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* (Bannatyne Club) I. *205 [John Tuedy, in Lyntoun, convicted of art and part of the treasonable assistance given to James Douglas..; And for art and part of] *waye-putting [him]. 1540 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 170 That nane of thaim way put nor dispone vpon the necessaris requirit to the said schip as ane schip of weir.

b. with vbl. sbs. (or other nouns of action), chiefly *Sc.*, as *waycoming*, *-fleeing*, *-passing*, *-sending*, *-sliding*; **way-ganging** = Way-going; † **weiaith**, departure, death; **way-taking**, the action or an act of taking (something) away, removal. Also Way-going.

1632 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* (S.T.S.) II. 93 Heard of the Scots airmy coming to Dumfermling after his *waycoming. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vi. 93 Tofeir thi *wayfleing, Had I ane child conasvit of thi offspring. 1488 Sir G. Hayt *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 176 Gif a man..assuris ane othir frely to cum, and speiis nocht of his *way ganging. *a* 1625 *R. Bannatyne's Jrnl.* (1806) 490 It was ewin, at the way ganging of the day light. 1896 Ld. E. Hamilton *Mawkin of Flow* xi. 125 I'd be laith to put an ill name at the very outset o' our way-ganging. 1459 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 48/1 þat þe persones þ* past fra þe electioun of þe said Alexander be summond..to answer..for þair *way passing

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II 11 [They] brunt the toun at thair way passing. *a* 1592 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 420 Sche farther willit, to offer the *way-ending of the men of weir. *c* 1605 Lay. 25846 [She] weop for hire *wei-siδ. *Ibid.* 26199 Scullen alle mine feond wei-siδ makeȝe. 1618 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, Avoiding right-hand mares and extremes, and left-hand *way-alidings. 1479 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 93/1 Befor þe lordis comperit David Wemyss summond..anent þe *wataking of thre oxin furth of þe landis of myrecarny. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 56 And so did Jesus Christ, the onlye trew Light, schyne unto many, for the way-tackin of one. 1628 in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 218 The gryt trubill and discord betuin the laird and his tenantis anent the waytaking of doris at thair remowing.

Way (wē¹), *int.* Also **whay.** [Cf. Wo *int.*] A call to a horse to stop.

1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, Away went the donkey..'Way-way! Wo-o-o-o-!' cried Mr. Cymon Tuggs. 1846 — *Cricket on Hearth* ii, 'Way!' This monosyllable was addressed to the Horse, who didn't mind it at all. 'Oh *do* Way, John!' said Mrs. Peerybingle. 'Please!' 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xv, Whay! Stop. There's an old woman in here.

Way, obs. form of Weigh *v.*, Wey, Whey, Woe.

-way (wē¹), as a terminal element of advs., is identical with Way *sb.*[1]

1. Phrases consisting of the sb. qualified by an adj. are often used adverbially (see Way *sb.*[1] 8, 14 *d*, etc.), and some of the combinations of adj. and sb. thus used have come to be apprehended as single words, and so pronounced and written; the second element, losing its separate stress, has assumed in some degree the aspect of an adverbial suffix. The only early example of this process is the OE. *ealne weg*, an adverbial accusative, which after the disappearance (in the 14th c.) of adjectival flexion became Alway (q. v. for the development of meaning). *Anyway, everyway, noway, someway*, written as single words, are not found before the 16th c. The only advs. in *-way* f. descriptive adjs. are *broadway* (16th c.), *crossway* (early 17th c.), *straightway* (as two words in 15th c.; as one word from 1530). Most of the above-mentioned advs. have parallel and synonymous forms in -ways.

2. The few advs. f. sb. + *-way* do not originate from phrases, but are genuine compounds; they all have parallel forms in -ways. † *Needway* 'necessarily' occurs in Barbour *c* 1375 (*needways* in *Cursor M. a* 1300). *Edgeway, endway, sideway, sunway*, which denote direction of movement, are, like the corresponding forms in -ways, not older than the 16th century.

3. *Crossway* and *sideway* are frequently used as adjs.; the other advs. in *-way* expressing spatial direction would perhaps admit of a similar use, but it is not evidenced in our quotations.

Wayag(e, obs. Sc. forms of Voyage.

Way-bill.

1. A list of passengers booked for seats in a stage-coach or other public vehicle for places on the road. Also a detailed statement of goods entrusted to a public carrier for delivery at stated destinations.

1791 Boswell *Johnson* 3 June 1784, The Oxford post-coach took us up in the morning at Bolt-Court.. I found from the way-bill, that Dr. Johnson had made our names be put down. 1821 *Massachusetts Spy* 23 May (Thornton), Packages of the larger kind, belonging to any passenger, were always entered on the way-bill. 1824 Barnewall & Cresswell *Rep. K. B.* II. 718 He did not see any Norwich way-bill [in the waggon]. 1849 De Quincey *Eng. Mail Coach* Wks. 1862 IV. 297 Ucalegon, as it happened, was not in the way-bill and therefore could not have been booked. 1864 T. S. Williams & Simmonds *Engl. Commerc. Corresp.* 91 You will also be kind enough to repay him the carriage according to the bills of lading or the waybills he will show you. 1897 Bram Stoker *Dracula* xvii. (1912) 244 The official..sending also .. the way-bill and all the papers connected with the delivery of the boxes at Carfax.

2. A list of places to be visited on a journey.

1866 *Daily Tel.* 16 Jan. 7/4 All of which places..are set down for visit in my way-bill. 1879 Tourgee *Fool's Errand* xxxv. 242 He had been traveling on what is known in that country as a 'way-bill', or a description of a route received from another.

transf. 1823 Moore *Rhymes on Road* Introd. 89, I've got into the easy mode, You see, of rhyming on the road— Making a way-bill of my pages, Counting the stanzas by my stages.

3. *U.S.* A label attached to an article in transit to indicate its destination, mode of transport, etc.

1887 Guntre *Mr. Barnes* xx. 145 The old and dilapidated little dirty trunk covered with numerous way-bills.

4. In recent use, a kind of pass by producing which a man 'on the road' can obtain relief at certain stages of his journey. So *way-bill system.*

1893 *Times* 20 Sept. 3/6 This system, which became known as the 'waybill' system, was worked in this way. When a destitute wayfarer left a casual ward in the .. he could, on application, obtain a waybill or passport, .. were recorded..the day and hour at which the bearer left it, and the route on which he was travelling, [etc.]. 1897 *Church Times* 20 Aug. 187/2 Any poor traveller, .will be.. fed, lodged, and passed on, the following morning, with a stamped way-bill, to the next lodging-house on the route.

Hence **Way-bill** *v. U.S. trans.*, to enter (goods) on a way-bill.

1877 W. H. Burroughs *Taxation* 140 Freight being way-billed through. 1890 *Railways Amer.* 422 He..must count, seal, superscribe, and way-bill money packages and handle oyster-kegs..at a moment's notice.

† **Way-bit.** *north. Obs.* Forms: 6 waybitte, wye byt, 6–7 wey-, 7 wea-, 7–8 wee-, (9 wai-), 7– way-bit. [First element uncertain, but prob. representing northern dialectal variants of Was *sb.* and *a.* + Bit *sb.*[2]] A short distance.

As shown by the quotations, the source of the word was the alleged habit of Northern rustics, on being asked the distance to a place, of giving it as 'a mile (etc.) and a way-bit', which the inquiring traveller found practically to mean two or three miles.

1589 *Almond for Parrat* 2 If..my full points seeme as tedious to thy puritane perusers, as the Northren mans mile, and a waybitte to the weary passenger. 1600 *Wisd. Dr. Dodypoll* iv. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 139 How far am I from Court? Some two myles and a wye byt, sir. 1603 T. M. *True Narr. Entert. H. M.* C 3 *b*, The miles according to the Northren phrase, are a wey-bit longer then they be here in the South. *c* 1643 Howell *Lett.* (1655) IV. xxviii. 67 In the North parts where there is a wea bit to every mile. 1681 J. C[leveland] *Poems, Dial. Two Zealots* 52 A York-shire Wea-bit, longer then a mile. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorks.* (1662) 190 Ask a Country-man here on the high-way, how far it is to such a Town, and they commonly return, So many miles and a way-bit..It is not Way-bit, though generally so pronounced, but Wee-bit is a pure York-shirisme, which is a small bit in the Northern Language. *Ibid.* 225 Generall Leslie with his Scottish ran away more then an York-shire mile, and a Wee-bit. 1775 J. Watson *Hist. Halifax* 548 *Way-bit.* As a mile and a way-bit. Meaning a wee, or little bit. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* I. 255 You shall have his description of it, preface and all—which is like the mile and the wai bit, in Sussex, the one twice the length of the other.

fig. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 59, I have heard him prefer divers, and very seriously, before himself, who came short a Mile and a way-bit. 1692 *Poems in Burlesque* 15 From Sleep to Death, there's but a way-bit.

b. *transf.* of time.

1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden's Plays* 51 In his *anno ætatis*, thirty and a Way-bit. 1732 Lady R. Germain *Let. to Swift* 13 May, You will find forty years and a wee bit have done no more good to my head than it has to my face.

Way-board. *Mining.* Also **weigh-.** [app. f. Way *sb.*[1] + Board *sb.* (cf. sense 16).] (See quot. 1859.)

a. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* L 3, These Leaps never happen but at some Way-board, or large Bed-joynt. 1818 W. Phillips *Geol.* 137 The limestone strata contain thin beds of clay, termed by the miner way-boards. 1859 Page *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Wayboards*, a mining term, now pretty generally employed by geologists to designate any thin layers or bands that separate or define the boundaries of thicker strata. β. 1802 J. Mawe *Mineral. Derbysh.* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Weighboard*, clay intersecting the vein. 1860 Worcester. 1864 Webster. (And in later Dicts.)

Waybread, waybred (wē¹·bred). Forms: α. 1 wegbrádse, -bréde, (2 weibreode, 3 wei-, 5 weybrode), 4–6 weybrede (6 -bred), 5–6 waybrede, 6–7 waybreed, 6, 9 waybread, (7 whaybred, 8 way-broad), 5– waybred (6 wabred, 6, 9 wabret, 9 waybret, wabert). β. 7 waybburne, 9 -burn; 7 waburne, 9 wabran, -bron, waveren. [Com. WGer.: OE. *wegbréde*, *wegbráde* wk. fem., corresponds to OS. *wegabreda*, *wegbrede* (MLG., M.Du. *wegebreide*, Du. *weegbree*; WFris. *weibré*), OHG. *wegabreita* fem. (MHG. *wegebreite*, mod.G. *wegebreite*, *wegbreite* fem., *weg(e)breit* masc.); Da. has *vejbred* from LG. The word means 'broad-leaved plant growing beside the ways'; f. Way *sb.*[1] (the early continental forms have genit. pl.) + OTeut. type **braidjōn*- broad object (cf. OHG. *wintbreita* 'ventilabrum', *breite* flat cake). In the β-forms, occurring only with *-leaf*, the *d* of the stem has disappeared before the *-n* of the OE. genitive sing. in *wegbrædan lēaf* (Leechd. I. 84, 86).] = Plantain[1] 1. Also *water waybread* = water plantain: see Plantain[1] 2.

c 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 65 *Arniglosa*,..uuegbradae. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 292 Xenim..þa ruwan wegbrædan [etc.]. 12.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 544/38 *Plantago*, weibreode. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* ibid. 558/22 Weibrode. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxix. (1495) 687 Weybrede chewed easyth and clensyth swellynge gomes. *c* 1440 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 14 Arnoglossa,..plantago maior idem..Anglice weybrode. *c* 1500 *Gloss.* 69 in *Makculloch MS.* (S.T.S.) 28 Hec plantago, a wabred. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Alisma dioscoridæ*,..water plantane or water waybrede. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 94 There ar two kyndes of plantayn or Waybrede, the lesse and the greater. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxv. viii. II. 223 Themison..set forth a whole booke of the hearbe Waibread or Plantain, wherein he highly praiseth it. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* lxxvi, The generall English name is Plantaine; but that which the Greeks call *Eptaneuron*, we call Way-bred, because it commonly breeds by the wayside. 1708 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. (1711) III. 303 Next Waybred rose..Her Nature is astringent, which great Hate Of her among Blood-letters does create. 1861 Mrs. Lankester *Wild Flowers* 109 The common name of Plantago Major is undoubtedly Way-bred (not Way-bread, as it is usually spelt), from its frequency by the way-side, seeming as if bred on the road. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Waybread.

b. *Comb.*: **waybread-leaf** (also *Sc.* **wayburn-leaf**), sometimes used as the name of the plant.

1599 T. Cutwode *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xxvii, And with a Wabret leafe he made a wallet. 1614 G. Markham *Cheap & Gd. Hush.* Table hard words, *Plantayne*..is called Whaybred leafe. 1829 Leyden *Scenes of Infancy* I. 202 The wabret leaf, that by the pathway grew.

β. 1809 in T. Craig-Brown *Hist. Selkirksh.* (1886) I. 180 being demandit if she gave drinks, she answered she gave nane bot off Waburne leavis for the hart-axes. 1643 *Sc. Rec. Presbyt. Lanark* (Abbotsford Club) 2 She appoyntit thame the wayburne leaf to be eattin nyne morningis. 1808 Jamieson, *Wabran leaves*, Great Plantain or Waybread. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 202, I thought the grey whin was gaun frae below me—it shook like a wabron-leaf. 1832 W. Patrick *Plants Lanark.* 94 Greater Plantain..The leaves (vulgarly called the Wayburn-leaf) are spread on the ground. 1914 J. S. Angus *Shetland Gloss.* 134 *Waverun leaf*, plantain (*Plantago major*).

Waycott, obs. form of Watchet.

Waycht, Sc. var. *wicht*: see Wight *a.*

† **Waycoriant.** *Obs. rare.* The three obscure terms in the quot. (as also *wagron* on the prec. page: see quot. s.v. Gheereaguar) seem to be arbitrary formations, pretended names of pigments.

1638 W. Sanderson *Graphice* 69 For an Amethyst, the same Gheereaguar mixed with Waycoriant and waywick.

† **Wayed,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. Way *sb.*[1] + -ed[2].] Having a way. Also in *three-wayed* = Three-way *a.*

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xv. 3 In his thre weied places thei ben gird with a sac. — *Exod.* xix. 13 Now it is plauntid ouere in desert, in loond not wayed [Vulg. *invia*].

Wayer(e: see Ware *sb.*[3], Watour *Obs.*, Weigher.

† **Wayfarage.** *Feudal Law. Obs.* [f. Wayfare *sb.* or *v.* + -age.] = Chiminage.

1594 Crompton *Jurisd.* 189 Chimynage, that is toll for wayfearage. 1607 Cowe[l] a toll for wayfarage th[e] *Tenures* 92 They ought [to] the whole Farm aforesaid.

Wayfare (wē¹·fēə¹), *sb. arch.* [f. Way *sb.*[1] + Fare *sb.*, after Wayfaring *a.*]

1. Wayfaring, travelling. Also *fig.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1797 He..Wroghte wayes fulle wyde, and wounded knyghttes; Wyrkes his in wayfare fulle werk-and sydes, And hewes of þe hardieste halses in sondyre. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xi. xxx. I. 328 Their [*sc.* ants'] waifare is so ordinarie and continuall, that wee may see the very hard flint and pebble stones worne with their passage too and fro. 1614 Sylvester *Little Bartas* 714 The heavy load Of Cares and Crosses (in a thousand things) Which this our wretched, sad, short, Way-fare brings. 1892 S. Dobell *Crazed* 24, I..entered on my wayfare when I saw Gold on the ground and glory in the trees. 1886 Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 4 On the fourth day he made ready for wayfare. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* x. 501 O Circe, and what helmsman for my wayfare shall I get?

b. Guidance in travel. *rare*[−1].

1875 Morris *Æneids* viii. 336 Me..my mother's word well worshipped hither drave, The nymph Carmentis; and a god, Apollo, wayfare gave.

† 2. Provision for a journey, travelling expenses. [tr. L. *viaticum*]. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* xxii. iii. 464 A noble Lady..named Busa, relieved them with some victuall, apparell, yea and mony also in their purses for their wayfare. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Deut.* xv. 14 Thou shalt in no case suffer him to depart emptie: but geve him his wayfare of thy flockes, and of thy barne floore, and thy presse.

Wayfare (wē¹·fēə¹), *v.* Now *rare* and *arch.* [Back-formation from Wayfaring *sb.*] *intr.* To journey or travel, esp. on foot. Also *to wayfare it.*

1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 3 § 3 Divers women and men goeth on begging wayefaring. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxiv. (1617) 421 Abraham, Isaac and Iacob wayfared from place to place vpon the earth. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. xi. 37 There as he traueld by the way, he met An aged wight, wayfaring all alone. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 474 A certaine Laconian as he way-fared, came unto a place where there dwelt an olde friend and host of his. 1818 Keats *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 142, I hope soon to be writing you about the things of the north, purposing to wayfare all over those parts. 1892 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 446 Shoals of people.. wayfared it up the Rhine. 1898 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 135 Along through the Stour-bordered Forum, Where Legions had wayfared.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1535 *Goodly Primer, Commendations* Ps. cxix. Zain, Whilst I here wayfared a stranger. 1576 *Bk. Chr. Prayers* 12 Most louing Father,..harken to the prayers of thy seruants, yet wayfaring here on earth. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 141 Not jading it in the great road of bare motion, which other stirr'd bodies are wayfaring in. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* I. 23 That he is but a stranger wayfaring upon earth.

Wayfarer (wē¹·fēərəɹ). [f. Way *sb.*[1] + Farer. Cf. Wayfarer.] A traveller by road, esp. one who journeys on foot.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wayfarere, *viator, viatrix.* 1514 Barclay *Eglog* iii. (1570) B v *b*, Iugglers and pipers, and scuruy wayfarers. 1552 T. Wilson *Logic* 43 The wayfarer shall not (or very hardly) come to his iourneies ende, except he haue some money in his purse. 1602 Carew *Cornwall* I. 66 But in stead of remedy, they receyued in answere, that neither such an outcorner was frequented with many wayfarers, nor by hanging out signes..did they inuite any. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, Savoury steams of hot dinners salute the nostrils of the hungry wayfarer, as he plods wearily by the area railings. 1856 Chr. G. Rossetti *Poems, Up-hill* 9 Shall I meet other wayfarers at night? Those who have gone before. 1896 Conan Doyle *Exploits of Gerard* vi. 217 There were few wayfarers between there and Greiz.

b. *Wayfarer's-tree*, the hobble-bush. *U.S.*

1898 [see Witch-hobble].

Wayfaring (wē'·fēərin), *vbl. sb.* Somewhat *arch.* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + FARING *vbl. sb.*, after WAYFARING *a.*] Journeying, travelling; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat., Commend.* (Rouen) 149 b, Thy iustifications were to me songes in ye place of my wayfaring. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. L iv, Wherfore comest thou a wayfaryng into this country..? 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 22–28 He him selfe went on wayfaryng frome place to place. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxv. (1634) 484 To us the onely and perfect felicitie is knowne even in this earthly waifaring. *a* 1677 BARROW *Wks.* (1686) III. Serm. xv. 178 The Scripture aptly resembles our life to a wayfaring, a condition of travel and pilgrimage. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 138 That I may dare, in wayfaring, To stammer where old Chaucer used to sing. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* (1851) 122 To hear a mass and put up a prayer for a prosperous wayfaring across the Sierra. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlii, Gipsy camps they had passed in their wayfaring. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of a Worker* 42 A certain traveller, sad and..worn With wayfaring.

b. *Comb.*, as *wayfaring-journey, -life, -sketch*; †**wayfaring-book**, an itinerary; †**wayfaring-shrub** = WAYFARING-TREE.

1549 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lxxxiii. 289 Give us Grace to forget this Way-faring Journey, and to remember our proper and true Country. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 204 No farther this way did Antonine specifie any place in his way-faring book. 1614 LITHGOW *Trav.* B 4 Some notable illusions..which I found in my wayfaring iourney. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Viscum*, The Bark of our Lantone or Way-faring Shrub. 1847 Miss F. SKENE (*title*) Wayfaring Sketches among the Greeks and Turks. 1889 LUCY TOULMIN SMITH (*title*) English Wayfaring Life in the Middle Ages [tr. J. J. Jusserand *La Vie nomade*].

Wayfaring (wē'·fēərin), *ppl. a. arch.* Forms: 1 **wegfarende**, 4 **weyfarende, -faringe, -varyng**, (5 **-farend**), 4–6 **wayfaryng, -inge**, 6 **wayefa(y)rynge, waifaring**, 7 **way-fairing**, 6– **way-faring**. [OE. *wegfarende*, f. *weg* WAY *sb.*[1] + pres. pple. of *faran* FARE *v.*[1] Cf. Icel. (14th c.) *vegfarandi*, MSw. *vägh-*, Sw. *vägfarande*, Da. *vejfarende*. Cf. the cognate WAYFERING.] Travelling or journeying by road. Usually *wayfaring man*, a traveller by road. Also *fig.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 204 Sum wegfarende man færde wið þone feld. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 3639 We ar..Weyfarende men þat wolde haue gryþ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 449 For refreshynge and socour of way farynge [MS. γ weyvarynge] men. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiii. (1893) 216 O iesu,..the solace & comforte of wayfarynge soules. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 157 The waye beyng sumwhat trodden afore, by waye fayryngе men. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 12. 241 The necessities of trauailers waifaring men and such like. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxxv. 8 The wayfaringmen, though fooles, shall not erre therein. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 155 When the Shepherds perceived that they were way-fairing men, they also put questions to them, ..as, Whence came you? 1897 'EDNA LYALL' (*title*) Wayfaring Men.

† b. *Wayfaring man's tree*, the fuller form of WAYFARING-TREE.

Both are found in Gerarde for the first time, but only the latter survived.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxv. 1305 The Wayfaring mans tree groweth vp to the height of an hedge tree, of a meane bignesse.

Hence **Wayfaringly** *adv. rare.*

1552 HULOET, Wayfayryngly, *peregrine, viatice.*

Wayfaring-tree. [Short for *wayfaring man's tree* (see above); cf. *traveller's joy.*]

1. The tall shrub *Viburnum Lantana*, with broad leaves downy underneath, white flowers in dense cymes, and green berries turning first red then black. It grows wild in hedges and underwood.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxv. 1305 Of the Wayfaring tree. 1670 EVELYN *Sylva* xxi. § 19. (ed. 2) 201 The *Viburnum*, or Way-faring tree,..makes the most plyant and best bands to Fagot with 1671–96 PHILLIPS, *Wayfaring-tree*. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Viburnum*; The Wayfaring or Pliant Mealy Tree. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xvii. (1794) 239. 1832 HOWITT *Bk. Seasons* (1837) 117 Wayfaring tree! what ancient claim Hast thou to that right pleasant name? 1849 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 121 The Wayfaring Tree, belonging to the same genus as the Guelder Rose, bears a considerable resemblance to that shrub, both in its flowers and berries; but in the leaves differs entirely.

2. *U.S.* The hobble-bush (*V. lantanoides*).

1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* 711. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 168.

Wayfe: see WAIF *sb.*[1], WAIVE *v.*[2]

† **Wayferer.** *Obs.* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + FERE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] = WAYFARER.

1388–9 in *1st Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 80/1 De xvi*d.* solutis uni weyferer eodem tempore. *c* 1450 MYRC. *Fav. Pr.* 1364 Hast þou in herte rowþe I-had, Of hem þat were nede be-stad, To sake & sore and prisonerus, I-herberet alle weyfer[er]ius?

† **Wayfering**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wegferende**, 3 **weiverinde**, 4 **wayverinde, -ferande, way-, weyferyng'e.** [OE. *wegférende*, f. *weg* WAY *sb.*[1] + pres. pple. of *féran* FERE *v.*[1]] = WAYFARING *ppl. a.*

c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 128 Þa cwæð se wegferenda to þam ælfestan mæn. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 164 Dysig bið se wegferenda man seðe nimð þone smeðan weg þe hine misled. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 Heo luinded, iwis, Sein Iulianes in, þet weiuerinde men 3eorne secheð. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10510 Be a man yn aykenes, or yn pryde soun, Weyferyng, or yn temptacyun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Robberes and kueade herberȝeres þet berobbeþ þe pilgrimes an þe marchone and þe obre wayferindemen. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 79 Þe wayferande frekes, on fote & on hors,..Labes hem alle lufyly to lenge at my fest. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. (1886) 34 (Cambr. MS.) Yif thow haddyst entred in the paath of this lyf a voyde wayferynge [*Addit. MS.* wayfarynge] man. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 348 In þis epistle techiþ Poul how wey-ferynge men þat lyven here shuldеn go þe streiȝt wey þat lediþ men to þe blisse of hevene.

Wayfire, obs. f. WAFER.

Wayff(e, Wayft: see WAIF *sb.*[1], WEFT *sb.*[2]

Way-gang. *Sc.* [GANG *sb.*[1]] = WAY-GOING.

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* 27 Frost and fawshood have baith a dirty waygang. 1894 LATTO *I am. Bodkin* xxxi. 315 'I heir wa' gang [*sc.* the death of her parents] brak the hindmost link that bund her affections to Breeziebusa.

† **Way-gate**[1]. *Obs.* Also 6 **-gait.** [f. WAY *adv.* + GATE *sb.*[2]] The act of going away, departure.

1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 269 This examinate at his waygait bad the said Thomas fairwell. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* III. i (1607) 221 Least that old wonted austeritie of yours bee worse then it was at his waygate. 1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV* (1613) Q 4 b, So God respect the waygate of my soule, as I know nothing. 1642 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 77 It is an usuall course (amongst shepheards) att the way-gate of a snowe..to keepe theire sheepe..on some swarth-ground.

Waygate[2]. *Sc.* and *north.* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + GATE *sb.*[2] Cf. *way-gang, -go* s.v. WAY *sb.*[1] 40.]

1. A passage-way.

For various special uses see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

a 1800 in Hogg *Jacobite Relics* (1819) I. 24 He's awa to sail, Wi' water in his waygate, An' wind in his tail. 1866 CARLYLE *E. Irving* in Froude *Reminl.* (1881) I. 101 'Upon all these [books] you have will and waygate', an expressive Annandale phrase of the completest welcome.

2. Speed, progress, headway. *Sc.* and *north.*

1825–80 JAMIESON. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*

Waygh, obs. form of WEIGH *v.*

Way-going (wē'·gōin). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 9 *Sc.* **-ga·en, -gaun.** [f. WAY *adv.*] The action or fact of going away, departure (on a journey, from life); the act of leaving (a habitation, employment).

1633 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) I. 98 Coming hoome..my saule blissed God..for his goodnes to me in this comunion conforme to my voue belor my way-going. 1649 J. CARSTAIRES *Lett.* (1846) 58 Fearing much the [letter] bearer's way-going, I dare say no more; but let [etc.]. 1702 H. GUTHRY *Mem.* 56 They press'd that the prorogation might be with the consent of the Estates, and upon his refusal they oppos'd his way-going. 1819 ALEX. BALFOUR *Campbell* I. xviii. 326 It was a wae wa-ga'en to mae nor me at that time. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Way-gaun, Wa'-gaun, Way-going, adj.*, removing from a farm or habitation. 1896 'G. SETOUN' *Robert Urquhart* xxiii. 248 He may ha'e so putten the words in my mouth just to ease the wa-gaun o' a faithfu' servant. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* ii. 23 Christopher Kennedy had lost his position..for drunkenness, and even at that very moment with his companions he was celebrating his way-going.

b. *attrib.*, as *way-going premium*; **way-going crop** (see quots.).

1773 *Harpham Inclos. Act* 8 Such farmer..shall..have a 'way going crop or crops following h m. 1797 J. BAILEY & G. CULLEY *Agric. Northumbld.* ii. 25 Where the tenant quits on the 12th of May, he is allowed to have a crop of corn from off two-thirds of the arable lands; this is called the way-going crop. 1855 H. BROOM *Comm. Common Law* (1856) 13 A custom that a tenant shall have the waygoing crop after the expiration of his term is reasonable and good. 1920 *Act* 10 & 11 *Geo. V*, c. 76 § 10 (7) (f) The tenant shall, along with the last or waygoing crop, sow permanent grass seeds. 1881 *Times* 17 Mar. 4/5 They [*sc.* Irish tenants] care not to realize five years' rent for the 'way-going premium which at any time they might receive.

Similarly **Way-going** *a.*, departing, outgoing. *Sc.*

1818 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 62 Much depends on the conditions obligatory on the way-going tenant. 1845 R. HUNTER *Law Landl. & Tenant* Index, Waygoing tenant's right to value of fallow land.

Waygoose. Now *dial.* or *Obs.* [Of obscure etymology; there is no evidence that the second element is to be identified with GOOSE *sb.*] (See quots. and cf. WAYZGOOSE.)

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 361 It is also customary for all the Journey-men to make every Year new Paper Windows..; Because that day they make them, the Master Printer gives them a Way-goose; that is, he makes them a good Feast, and not only entertains them at his own House, but besides, gives them Money to spend at the Alehouse or Tavern at Night. These Way-gooses, are always kept about Bartholomew-tide. And till the Master-Printer have given this Way-goose, the Journey-men do not use to Work by Candle Light. 1823 TIMPERLEY *Songs of the Press* 23 Song, Composed for a Printers' Way Goose. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Way-goose*, an entertainment given by an apprentice to his fellow-workmen. *West.* 1857 WRIGHT *Dict. Obs. & Prov. Engl.*, *Way-goose*, an annual feast among printers. It appears to have been formerly a practice peculiar to Coventry, where it was usual in the large manufactories of ribbons and watches, as well as amongst the silk dyers, at the season of the year when they commenced the use of candles, to have what was called a *way-goose*, when all the persons of the establishment were accustomed to go a short distance into the country and partake of an entertainment provided for the occasion at the charge of their employers: and this practice uniformly preceded the working by candle-light. 1865 J. BROWN *J. Leech*, etc. (1882) 13 *note*, Once a year they attend the annual dinner of the firm, at which compositors, readers, printers, machinemen, clerks, etc. dine. This dinner is called the 'Way Goose', and is often referred to in *Punch*. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Waygoose* or *waygeese*, an entertainment given to journeymen workmen.

Wayk(e, Wayken: see WEAK, WEAKEN.

Wayl, obs. form of VAIL *v.*[1], WALE *v.*[1]

Waylaway, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

Waylay (wēlē'·, wē'·lē), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **waylaid** (wēlē'·d, wē'·lēd). Also 6–7 **way-laye**, 6–9 **way-lay.** [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + LAY *v.*[1] (where see senses 18 b, c.), after MLG., MDu. *wegelägen* (= MHG. and early mod.G. *wegelagen*, *weglagen*, superseded in later German by *wegelagern*), f. *wegelage* :—OS., OHG. **wega lâga* besetting of ways (*wega* genit. pl. of *weg* way + *lâge* besetting, ambush, related to LAY *v.*[1]).]

1. *trans.* To lie in wait for (a person or thing) with evil or hostile intent; to seize or attack in the way.

1513 in G. P. Scrope *Castle Combe* (1852) 292 The saynd *[sic]* Robert Bruer, Richard Pollen, John Lewis cam and wayelaynd *[sic]* my kepers man, and so hert hyem. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 183 [They] shall robbe those men that wee haue already way-layde. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 176, I will way-lay thee going home, where if it be thy chance to kill me [etc.]. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cciii, Now on their Coasts our conquering Navy rides, Way-lays their Merchants, and their Land besets. 1674 MILTON *P. R.* I. 184 How thou lurk'st..In Valley or Green Meadow to way-lay Some beauty rare. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 73 P 3 The rich are neither way-laid by robbers, nor watched by informers. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 144 Then we should be way-laid by armed corocoros. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xii, Thou art a wanderer, it is said; For Mortham's death, thy steps way-laid. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 578 A screw-steamer of war..waylaid the English Royal West India Mail steamer in the Bahama Channel..and brought her to by firing a round shot across her bows. 1883 *Manch. Guardian* 18 Oct. 4/7 A ruffian..waylaid her in the street and assaulted her in the most brutal manner.

b. *fig.*

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Little Fr. Lawyer* II. iii, Dost thou way-lay me with ladies? 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. Epig. ix, Thy soule's way-laid by sea; by Hell; by earth. 1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 495 That Word of God *There must be ten horns* way-lays them. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 69 P 3 All the other Miseries, which way-lay our Passage through the World, Wisdom may escape, and Fortitude may conquer. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. vi, The accidents which unavoidably way-lay them.

c. To intercept and seize (a thing in transit). Also *fig.* to seize (an opportunity).

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Dram. Pers. (1600) A iij, He way laies the reports of seruices, & cons them without booke, [etc.]. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* II. iii, Use stratagems To get her silver whistle, and way-lay Her pewter knots or bodkin. 1672 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 37, I resolve to waylay all opportunityes for ye future. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* iv. (1874) 43 The fond wife used to waylay and open large packets. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 84 Hans has not returned. I give him two days more before I fall in with the opinion..that Godfrey has waylaid or seized upon his sledge.

2. *transf.* (without implication of hostility). To wait for (a person) in the way and accost; to stop (a person) in order to converse with him.

1612–15 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XIX. i. (1625) 1355 The Prophet..way-layes the King of Israel, and sadly complaines of himselfe in a reall parable. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Chances* IV. i, Our loves shall now way-lay ye; welcome, Gentlemen. 1728 SIR R. WALPOLE *Let.* 8 Oct. in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 241 Our scheme about the Duke of Riperda must be alter'd unlesse you can way-lay this Evening or to-morrow morning, & prevail wth him to alter his course. 1804 WORDSW. *'She was a Phantom'* 10 A dancing Shape, an Image gay, To haunt, to startle, and way-lay. 1807 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. iii. 62 The driver of the Reading coach is quite accustomed to be waylaid by our carriage. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Being directed to the chapel (he) betook himself there, in order to waylay her, at the conclusion of the service. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 60, I have held it a first principle of manners not to waylay people. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 577 The canal lock-keepers waylay me for the latest information.

† 3. To impede or intercept (a person) in his progress; to block the path of. Also, to impede or obstruct (an activity). *Obs.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Usury* (Arb.) 543 For the Employment of Money, is chiefly, either Merchandizing, or Purchasing; And Vsury Way-layes both. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* viii. 68 Using a strange iniquity to require justice upon him whom he then waylayd and deburr'd from his appearance. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1668) 156 By this means we endeavour to way-lay an inconvenience which others accelerate by Excess in meats and drinks. 1681 FLAVEL *Right Man's Ref.* 170 'Tis our wisdom to way-lay our troubles. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 121 Art thou crossed, disappointed, and way-laid, and overthrown in all thy foolish ways and doings?

4. To beset or blockade (a road, position, district) with an armed force or the like. ? *Obs.*

1609 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 292 The Pope caused them to bee staied from that meeting, waylaying the Coasten of Verona and Millan. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* F 1 b, Then all the valley on each side being way-laid with a hundred couple of strong Irish Grey-hounds, they are let loose as occasion serues vpon the heard of Deere. 1757 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 498, I..ordered the passes of the mountains to be waylaid by commands from other places. 1784 BELKNAP *Tour to White Mts.* (1876) 19 The next morning they waylaid the road and killed these men. 1823 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xiii, Is our path way-laid? 1828 W. IRVING *Columbus* VIII. iii. II. 237 He spread his army through the adjacent forests; and waylaid every pass.

Hence **Waylaid** *ppl. a.*, **Waylayer**, one who waylays. **Waylaying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (Stress variable, as in the vb.)

1626 Breton *Fantasticks* C 4 The quarter Sessions take order with the way-layers. 1686 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* xxv, Like hunted Castors, conscious of their Store, Their way-laid wealth to Norways coasts they bring. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 71 Something..as powerful to check or bind motion, as the way-laying of a gross unweildy body. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xxvi. 185 As we went back to our

249 A lurking way-laying coward. 1828 Shirley *Doings in London* 222 That fellow..is one of the way-layers, a contemptible class of thieves, who attend the waggon and coach-yards, pretending to be porters; they watch the country people, and offer their services to carry their parcels. 1855 Landor *Imag. Conv., Asin. Pollio & Licin. Caesus* i. Wks. 1876 II. 437 Wherever there are rich wayfarers there also are sly and alert waylayers. 1879 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 302 Without a will for aught, did Bodli stand, Nor once cast eyes on the waylayer's hand. 1878 Greg *Enigm. Life* v. 190 It [*sc.* death] continues the most *waylaying* thought of the thoughtful man, till he silences its importunity by listening to all it has to say, and reasoning it back into the tomb. 1897 'O. Rhoscomyl' *White Rose Arno* 224 Ned ran rapidly over the history of the waylaying of Ithel.

Wayle, obs. form of Vail *v.*[2]

1601 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* iv. i. (Roxb.) 48 Cause your Friggats Bonnets t6 wayle.

Wayle: see Wail *sb.*, *v.*, Wale *sb*[1], *a.* (a. *absol.*).

†Waylead. *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 **wayleid, -laud, walaid, waled.** [f. Way *sb.*[1] + Lead *sb.*[2]] An artificial watercourse leading to a mill; a mill-lead or mill-leat.

1547 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 33/1 Cum molendino..cum.. aqueductu et cursu ac *le waladd* ejusdem. *Ibid.* 39 1 Lie waylaud. 1565 *Ibid.* 1583, 173/2 Cum *lie wayleid* pro deservitione dicti molendini. 1588 *Ibid.* 1501, 656/2 Molendinum ..cum sequelis..*lie dam, waled* et *wattergait.*

Way-leave, way-leave. In 5 **waylefe, -leve.** [f. Way *sb.*[1] + Leave *sb.*] Permission to make and use a way for conveying coal from the pit-head across a person's land; the rent or royalty paid for such permission; the way or road constructed for the purpose. Also, permission to carry telephone wires over or along buildings, or to lay water-pipes or drains across private land, and the charge or rent payable therefor.

1427-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 709 Elemosinario pro waylefe, 6*s.* 8*d.* 1431-2 *Ibid.* 711 Wayleve. 1661 in *N. & Q.* Ser. xii. XI. 391/2 (Leave of a coalmine) Vna cum bona et sufficienti wayleave et stayleave in per et trans territorium de Casterton Fell..pro omnibus..carriagiis. 1725 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 104 These way leaves are an artificial road made for the conveyance of coal from the Pit to the Steaths on the riverside. *a* 1734 North *Life Ld. Keeper Guilford* (1742) 136 Another thing, that is remarkable, is their Wayleaves; for, when Men have Pieces of Ground between the Colliery and the River, they sell Leave to lead Coals over their Ground. 1739 *Eng. Price Coals* 14 For leave of way he must pay a consideration, called a way-leave. 1879 *Cases Crt. Session* Ser. iv. VI. 929 His property is advantageously situated for enabling him to demand wayleave. 1884 *Standard* 26 Sept. 4/2 The Telephone Companies are now permitted..to make their own arrangement for way-leaves. 1892 *Times* 23 Mar. 8/3 The Royal Commission on Mining Royalties and Way-leaves. *Ibid.* 9/4 As between towns the Post Office usually has way-leaves enough to accommodate trunk telephones. 1893 Nearham *North-country Sk.* 28 By agreement with Mr. Tempest who let them both wayleave and staithroom they were limited to an annual vend of 12000 chaldrons.

attrib. 1830 *Edin. Rev.* LI. 179 Those whose collieries are in that situation, have to pay way-leave rents.

†Way-leet. *Obs.* Forms: 3 **weienlæte, weynleate,** 4 **weonlete, weie lot;** 4 **weilot,** 5 **weylate, -lete,** 6 **waileete,** 6–7 **waylept(e.** [Partly repr. OE. *weggelǽte,* partly *wega, wegena gelǽte*: see Way *sb.*[1] and Leet *sb.*[3]

The forms with *-lot, -late* show obscuration of vowel in the second syllable due to absence of stress.]

A place where two or more roads meet.

For *two-, three-, four-way-leet* see Leet *sb.*[3]

c 1000 *O. E. Glosses* (Napier) x. 4716 *Competalia,* wexxelæte. *c* 1205 Lay. 15509 Summe heo wenden to þan wude, summe to weien-læten [*c* 1275 weynleate]. 13.. in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 341 Ren a-boute bi þe strete, Bi wey and bi weonlete. 1388 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxviii. 14 Sche sat in the weilot [Vulg. *in bivio itineris*] that ledith to Tampna. — 2 *Sam.* i. 20 Nether telle 3e in the weilottis of Ascalon [Vulg. *in compitis Ascalonis*]. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iii. xlviii. (1869) 161 A verrey dunghep in a weylate, ther eche at his time may come to make filthe. 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 748 (ed. 1868) Al þat leyen her childeren at eny weyletes or at eny chirch dores or at eny other comyn weyes and leveth hem.

Wayless (wē·lés), *a.* Also 4 **weyles,** 4, 7 **wayles,** 6–7 **wai-, waylesse, way-less,** 7 **waie-lass.** [OE. *weglēas*: see Way *sb.*[1] and -less. Cf. Icel. *vegalauss* out of the way, lost in the woods, MHG. *wegelôs,* mod.G. *weg(e)los.*] Having no way or road. Chiefly of a country, region, etc.: Trackless, pathless.

c 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 149/20 *Auiarin,* wexlasa beara, *secreta nemorum. Ibid.* 177/17 *Inuium,* unzefere, *uel* wezleas pæð. 1587 Trevisa *Higden* II. 219 Man..fel..out

Du Bartas I. v. 389 If without wings we fly..Through hundred sundry way-less wayes addrest. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ii. 264 As though the peopled townes had way-less deserts been. 1630 Drumm. of Hawth. *Flowres of Sion, Hymne Fairest Fayre* 160 With wonders new my Spirits range possest, And wandring wayless in a mase them rest. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 462 He was also their courteous companion in all their wayless ways. 1821 R. S. Hawker *Cornish Ballads,* etc. (1904) 258 Joys such as these, Visions of wayless fancy, were the fire That burnt within me. 1902 'Zack' *Tales Dunstable Weir* 152 The bush which from his account was wide-spreading and wayless.

Hence **Way·lessness.**

1871–4 Hort *The Way,* etc. i. (1894) 37 The delightfulness of the opening world depends in no small measure on its semblance of waylessness.

Wayll, obs. Sc. form of Well *adv.*

Waylle, variant of Vail *sb.*[1] (advantage, profit).

a 1550 *Vox Populi* iv. 115 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 405 Lett marchantmen goe sayle For that ys ther trwe waylle.

Waylle, var. Vail *v.*[1]; obs. f. Wale *sb.*[2]

Waylor(e, obs. forms of Valor.

a 1483 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 313 Every person..that ys of the waylore of xx. *li.* of goodes, and aboffe. *Ibid.* 314 Euery seruant..that takyt wagys to the waylor of xx. *s.* and a-boffe.

†Way-maker. *Obs.*

1. One who makes or mends roads.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 405/2 A Way maker or mender, *portitor.* 1609 in F. Devon *Issues Exch., Jas. I* (1836) 95 To Thomas Norton, his Majesty's way-maker, appointed to oversee the performance of the mending of the highways..£29. 10*s.*

2. A person or thing that prepares the way for another; a forerunner, precursor; a prelude (*to*).

1574 T. Newton *Health Mag.* T j b, Sleepe at noone..is a foremessanger or way-maker to Feuers, Apostumations, and Abscesses. *c* 1614 Sir C. Cornwallis in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 139 Which match, I conceived, had been a preparation, and a way-maker to this other. 1634 Br. Hall *Contempt., N. T.* iv. iv. 117 What was his [John Baptist's] errand, but to be the way-maker unto Christ? 1640 Bastwick *Ld. Bishops* viii. I j. Now the spirit of Prelacie was the very beginning of the Apostacie, which was Antichrists way-maker.

Way'-man. [Way *sb.*[1]]

†1. A waywarden. *Obs.*

1570 in Toulmin Smith *Parish* vii. (1857) 509 Jhon Stone, Jhon Margorn, Waymen of West Ashton do give up their Accounts. 1630 in G. P. Scrope *Hist Castle Combe* (1852) 336 That every housekeeper within the parish which hath noe ploughe, doe com or send one to dige or picke stones one day before the aforesayd day, being warned by the way-men.

†2. A traveller, wayfarer. *Obs.*

1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 83 Shew thy selfe a famous way-man. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Wayman,* a journier.

3. A workman employed on the permanent way of a railway; a plate-layer.

1840 F. Whishaw *Railw. Gt. Brit. & Irel.* 252 Waymen, who are paid by the contractors for keeping the permanent way in repair. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 7 Oct. 7/2 A party of waymen found that a wood and iron bridge..had been.. destroyed by fire.

Way'-mark, way'-mark. An object, whether natural feature or artificial structure, which serves as a guide to the traveller. Also *fig.*

1621 Bible *Jer.* xxxi. 21 Set thee vp way-markes. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 2 Wherein it seems there was continual fire kept for the way-mark of travellers. 1703 Thoresby *Diary* (1830) I. 424 Now it is so naked that there is not so much as one [tree] left for a way-mark. 1760 Cowper *Progr. Error* 117 Is this the path of sanctity? Is this To stand a way-mark in the road to bliss? 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 19 Survival in Culture, placing all along the course of advancing civilization way-marks full of meaning to those who can decipher their signs. 1882 Pusey *Parock. & Cathedr. Serm.* xv. 211 The brilliant way-marks in the corners of our else dark streets are the palaces for the drunken. 1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. West* II. viii. 131 High towers..serve as waymarks over land that was all formerly waste.

Waymb, wayme, obs. forms of Wame.

†Wayme·nt, *sb. Obs.* Also 4 **weyment.** [a. OF. *waiment, weyment, guaiment,* f. *waimenter*: see next.] Lamentation.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4435 A gret wayment and hideous cry Might men here then witterly, That the Troyens made y-wys For the wounde of Philomenys. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iv. 35 She made so piteous mone and deare wayment, That (etc.). 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. III. lx, All things did augment My heavie plight, that fouly I blam'd the best Of stubborn destiny cause of this wayment.

†Wayme·nt, *v. Obs.* Also 4–5 **waymente, weyment(e,** 4–5, 7 **wament,** 5–6 *Sc.* **woment, wement,** 6–7 **waiment.** [a. OF. *waimenter, weymenter, guaimenter,* f. *wai, guai* int., wo, alas; prob. after *lamenter* to lament.]

1. *intr.* To lament, wail; to sorrow bitterly.

1375 *Cant. Cront.* 177 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 226/2 Þus seuentene dayes and more Alle þe fisches sorweden þore And waymentide wiþ Adam. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 230 Thilke science, as seith seint Augustyn, maketh a man to waymenten in his herte. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioune* (Roxb.) 94 The whilk for hire two sons waymentid deelfully. 1530 Palsgr. 779/2, I wement, I make mone...It dyd my hert yll to here the poore boye wement whan his mother was gone. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. 16 For what bootes it to weepe and to wayment, When ill is chaunst? 1595 *Locrine* II. ii. 89 And therefore well may I wayment. 1670 Lettleton *Engl.-Lat. Dict.*, To wayment, *lamento.* 1824 Cary *Dante, Purg.* xxvi. 135 Sorely waymenting for my folly past. 1862 K. H. Digby *Chapel St. John* (1863) 180 The profane laky chuckling or waymenting when conferring professionally with one another on their..gains, or losses.

refl. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xvi. 260 Whan he hadde thus hym longe waymented.

2. *trans.* To bewail, lament for.

He ...complained And way-...ta II. i. 57 And mee thy wretched dame,...waymenting still. Th', vnwepthie eeilie thy brother to thee gaue. 1593 G. Harvey *New Lett. Notable Cont.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 296 Magnifique Mindes..In grisly weedes His Obsequies waiment.

Hence **†Waymenting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxiii. 21 The ded of synfulmen ..is worst..; thof it be endid in riches and honurs and waymentynge of men. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 237 The grete clamour and the waymentynge That the ladyes made at the brennynge Of the bodies. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 162 The pittows waymentyng [*ed.* 1570 womenting], The wofull wepyng that was for his takyng. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. viii. 2 How mony sobbis gaif thow and womentingis? 1566 Gascoigne *Jocasta* v. v. 216, I will.. washe thy wounds with my waymenting teares. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. iv. 504 For their lost husbands they entreate their waymentings by repetition of the good and gracefull partes they were endowed with. 1621 Molle *Cameral. Liv. Libr.* II. xviii. 130 The..pittifull waymenting of the people. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. xvi. 53 How waymenting Came in joy's place.

†Waymenta·tion. *Obs.* [f. Wayment *v.* + -ation.] Lamentation.

c 1403 Lydg. *Temple of Glas* 949 Of him I had so gret compassioun, Forto reherse his weymentacioun, That..I want connyng, his peynes to discryue. *c* 1425 *St. Eths. Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 123/43 She schewith in waymentacyouns and turmentz hir owne compassyone. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 347 Thus wente kynge Rion, makynge grete sorowe and weymentacion in-to his contrey.

Waymot, var. Wemod *a. Obs.*, wrathful.

Wayn(e: see Vain *a.*, Vein *sb.*, Wain *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *sb.*[3], *v.*, Wane *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *v.*, Wean *v.*

Waynd, Sc. variant of Wonde *v. Obs.*

Wayneschot, -scot, etc.: see Wainscot.

Waynge, obs. f. Wang[1].

†Waynoun. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *waignon,* north-eastern var. of *gaignon* dog, cur, scoundrel.] A worthless person, scoundrel.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 47 Ther me calleth me fulle fiet, ant waynoun wayte-glede.

†Waynpain. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **waynepayne, weine pain,** 4–5 **waynpain, -payn,** 5 **-pane, wanpayn, -pan.** [a. OF. *wagnepan,* north-eastern form of *gaignepain*: see Gaintain.]

1. A sort of gauntlet; = Gainpain 1.

c 1300 *Wills & Invent. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 16, ij galeas xiij*s.* iij*d.* ij par de Waynpayns & ij brasers vj*s.* viij*d.*

2. A servant or scullion.

Freq. in the *Durham Acc. Rolls,* both as an appellative and as a proper name.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 926, I will þe douzter 3eue To a weine pain. 1364 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 44 Le Waynpain, *xd.* 1438–9 *Ibid.* 71 Cuidam famulo coquine vocato Waynpayn.

Waynscot(e, -skot(e, etc.: see Wainscot.

Waynt, Waynte: see Quaint *a.*, Wanty.

†Wayour. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **waier, wayer(e, wayh(o)ur,** 4–5 **wayour,** 5 **wayor, -owre, way-3owr, wayir, wayr,** 5–6 **wayre.** [a. AF. *wayour* (Britton) = OF. *gayoir,* f. *waer, gaer* (mod.F. *guéer*) to bathe (a horse) in a pond or stream.] A horse-pond.

1310 *Bridgwater Corp. MSS.* No. 833 Sicut itur versus le West Wayhur. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 11186 Siben in wayers to waire & wasche, Sythen to wype, & to mangers teye [their steeds]. 1374 *Bridgwater Corp. MSS.* No. 488 Iacentem in le longheyys eiusdem ville versus le Wayere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wayowre, stondynge watyr [wayowr, or way3owr, water *P.*], *piscina. c* 1450 Burgh *Secrees* 1877 Slepyng wayouis, watrys incertayn, Salt, bittir, and fumous. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 800/15 *Hec piscina,* a wayir. 1488 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B* fol. 39 They come to the townes ende at the wayour. 1530 Palsgr. 286/1 Wayre where water is holde, *gort.*

Wayr(e: see Vair, Ware, Wear *v.*[1], Weir.

†Way-rope, altered form of Warrope.

1642 S. Smith *Herring Buss Trade* 8 To every Seison belongs a Buye, which is fastned to the Way-rope.

Wayryngle, variant of Wariangle *Obs.*

-ways, the terminal element of certain advs., was originally a use of the genitive of Way *sb.*[1]

1. Many phrases consisting of the genitive of *way* (in various senses) qualified by an adj., were formerly used adverbially (see Way *sb.*[1] 23 a). The earliest known examples are in the Peterborough Chronicle (first hand, A.D. 1124) which twice has *ôðres weges* in the sense 'by another route'; in this phrase the adj. appears uninflected before the end of the 12th c. (see Otherways). Similarly *alles weis, nanes* (*nones*) *weis* occur early in the 13th c., becoming *always, noways* in the 14th c. On the analogy of these words were subsequently formed †*everyways* (1398), *anyways,* †*likeways* (16th c.), and (from descriptive adjs.) *crossways, longways, straightways* (16th c.), *broadways* (18th c.).

2. A solitary instance of an adv. f. sb. + *-ways* before the 16th c. is †*needways* 'necessarily', occurring in the *Cursor M.* (*a* 1300) and in Barbour. In the later formations the general sense is 'in a specified direction'; so *endways, longtiways, sideways* (16th c.), *edgeways, breadthways* (17th c.), *sternways* (19th c.), *sunways.*

3. As there is no perceptible difference of function between the adverbial genitive and the adverbial accusative, most of the advs. in *-ways* have synonyms in *-wey.* Further, most of the advs. in

-ways are synonymous with actual or possible parallel formations in -WISE; and the similarity of sound of the two suffixes has given rise to the notion that they are mere alternative forms of one and the same ending. Johnson's erroneous statement (s. v. *Way*) that '*way* and *ways* are often used corruptly for *-wise*' has probably led many to prefer *-wise* to *-ways* or *-way* on the ground of supposed correctness. Cf. *alway, always*, †*alwise*; *anyway, anyways, anywise*; *breadthways, -wise*; *broadway, -ways, -wise*; *crossway, -ways, -wise*; *edgeway, -ways, -wise*; *endway, -ways*; *everyway*, †*-ways*; *lengthways, -wise*; †*likeways* (obs.), *likewise*; *longways, -wise*; *norway, -ways, -wise*; *otherways, -wise*; *sideway, -ways, -wise*; *straightway, -ways*, †*-wise*; *sunway, -ways, -wise*.

4. The combinations of *-ways* are, unlike those of *-way*, hardly ever used as adjs., with the exception of SIDEWAYS.

Waysande, obs. form of WEASAND.

Ways and means.

Formerly also *means and ways, moyens and ways, ways and grounds*: see WAY *sb.*[1] 13 b. Cf. F. *voies et moyens* (?after Eng. Parliamentary use).

1. The methods and resources which are at a person's disposal for effecting some object.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 449/a All the weys and menes by the whiche yel mowe enhaunce ye prises of her Merchandises. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 48 His grace is wele content that his said commissioners finde suche weyes and meanes as the said Sir Rauff shalle move frely without enpechement or trouble. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O viij, After he had long attempted by all wayes and meanes to compasse hir. 1583 WHITGIFT *Serm.* (1589) C 5 b, Gregorie..sought also waies and means secretly to murther him. 1699 G. HARVEY *Van. Philos. & Physick* v. 40 To preserve Health..no better ways and means can be used, than applying at certain intervals, to those cleansers or abstersives here before mentioned. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 195 P 6, I send with this, my Discourse of Ways and Means for encouraging Marriage. *a* 1737 M. GREEN *Seeker* 30 Dominion and wealth are the aim of all three, Tho' about ways and means they may disagree. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Concil. Amer.* 22 Mar. 56 Fortunately I am not obliged for the ways and means of this substitute to tax my own unproductive invention. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* liii, He has been devising ways and means all the way here of explaining himself, and has been satisfied with none. 1882 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* xv, It was true that there were ways and means of raising money. 1905 P. LANDON *Lhasa* II. 136 In Tibet there are ways and means unknown to western nations.

†**b.** rarely in sing. *way and mean. Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 83 In þe þrid maner is a þing seid better þan an oþer, in þis, as it helpiþ better ly sum wey and mene to þe ʒend of a þing, þan an oþer doþ. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 70 The for to pleis thay socht all way and mein. [1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Wey or meane, *achaison*.]

2. *spec.* In *Legislation*: Methods of procuring funds or supplies for the current expenditure of the state.

Committee of Ways and Means. (*a*) A committee of the whole House of Commons, which sits to receive the annual financial statement from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to consider the means of procuring the necessary annual supply. (*b*) *U. S.* A standing committee of the House of Representatives, to which are referred bills dealing with revenue, tariff, etc.

1644 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* III. 509/1 This Committee, or any Four of them, is to consider of all Ways and Means for raising of Monies..and to make Report to the House. 1685 *Ibid.* IX. 759/1 The House then..resolved into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the Ways and Means to raise his Majesty's Supply. 1695–6 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* IV. 16 The commons were yesterday in a committee of the whole house upon wayes and means for raising two millions. 1696 (*title*) An Essay upon ways and means of supplying the war. [By C. Davenant.] 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 654/1 When we take this Affair into our Consideration in the Committee of Ways and Means. 1738 JOHNSON *London* 245 Ye Senatorian Band, Whose *Ways and Means* support the sinking Land. 1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xi, The first Lord of the Treasury thinking of *ways and means*, could not have returned home, with a more embarrassed look. 1785 *Rolliad, Prob. Odes* xi. 92 Rapt in St. Stephen's future scenes, I sit perpetual Chairman of the Ways and Means. 1798 T. JEFFERSON *Lett. to J. Madison* 26 Apr., Writ. 1854 IV. 237 The Committee of Ways and Means have voted a land tax. 1824 MACAULAY *Prophetic Acct. Epic Poem* Misc. Writ. 1860 I. 149 His Lordship..advises him [Mr. Vansittart] to look after the ways and means, and leave questions of peace and war to his betters.

fig. 1699 GARTH *Dispensary* VI. 108 No Ways and Means their Cabinet employ, But their dark Hours they waste in barren Joy.

b. Pecuniary resources in general.

† *To be upon ways and means*, to be trying to raise money. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 41/2 So have I known a buxom lad..taught by kind mamma at home; Who gives him many a well try'd rule, With ways and means—to act a fool. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 250 People that are upon ways and means, must not be nice. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 313 And whenever it shall appear to be necessary to renew it [*sc.* the gilding], I doubt not but ways and means will be found. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* x. 159 The party then adjourned to McGroggy's large room, and..resolved themselves into a committee of ways and means. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lviii, She had not yet had any anxiety about ways and means. 1879 'EDNA LYALL' *Won by Waiting* xxi, She..went to the nursery, to discuss ways and means with Bella's nurse.

Wayne, obs. form of OOZE *sb.*[3] and of WARE.

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 (Addit. MS.) Wayne, *aigu*.

Way-side. The side of a road or path, the land bordering either side of the way.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1713 They are enbuschede one blonkkes, with baners displayede, In ʒone bechene wode appone ehe waye sydes. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* viii. 5 As he sowed some fell by the waye syde. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 221 By the waye syde, hym chaunced to se A pore manne that craued of hym for charitie. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 19 Among the Corn by the way-sides as we went. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 496 This species is very frequent with us especially on heaths and by way-sides. *a* 1784 JOHNSON in Mrs. Piozzi *Anecd.* (1786) 5 A stone he saw standing by the way-side, set up..in honour of a man who had leaped a certain leap thereabouts. 1850 ANNE PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* iii. 171 The wild-flowers, which grace every way-side. 1878 SWINBURNE *Poems & B* Ser. II. *Before Sunset* 6 Lighted shade and shadowy light In the wayside and the way. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* i, A crucifix that stood on the wayside by the hill-foot yonder. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 122 All the waysides now are flowerless.

b. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Of or pertaining to the wayside; situated on, lying near, occurring, growing or living by the wayside.

1807 J. RUICKBIE (*title*) The Way-side Cottager; consisting of Pieces in Prose and Verse. 1845 J. SAUNDERS *Cab. Pict. Engl. Life, Chaucer* 27 The little wayside chapels, erected for the accommodation of travellers. 1861 Miss JANE M. CAMPBELL *Hymn*, '*We plough the fields*' He paints the wayside flower. 1876 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* III. vi. 132 Free as the way-side brook to whoso thirsts. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 388 The coach stopped to change horses at a way-side inn. 1906 PETRIE *Relig. Anc. Egypt* xiii. 85 Such were the places for wayside devotions and passing prayers.

Wayst, Wayster: see WASTE, WASTER.

Wayt(e, obs. ff. WAIT *sb.*, *v.*[1], *v.*[2], WEIGHT.

Wayte, obs. Sc. f. WITE *sb.*; obs. f. WOT *v.*

Wayth, variant of WAITH *sb.*[1], WOTHE *Obs.*

Way-tree. *dial.* [? f. WAY *sb.*[1] or WEIGH *v.*] (See quot.)

1854 ANNE E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s. v. *Batticle*, Sway-tree, Swingel-tree, and Way-tree, are synonymous in different parts of the county. 1896 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 726 *Way-tree*, (Lincolns.), the largest tree of the three 'swingle-trees'.

Wayve, obs. form of WAIVE *v.*[1] and *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Wayward (*wē*ɪ·wəɹd), *a.* Not now in colloquial use. Also 4 **waiward, weiward**, 4–5 **weyward** (4- ward, 6 -warde), 4, 6 **waywarde**, 6–7 **waiward** (6 -warde), (7 **waward**). [Aphetic f. AWAYWARD. Cf. *froward*.

The word has prob. often been apprehended as a derivative of WAY *sb.*[1], with the literal sense 'bent on going one's own way'; this notion seems to have influenced the development of meaning.]

1. Disposed to go counter to the wishes or advice of others, or to what is reasonable; wrongheaded, intractable, self-willed; froward, perverse. Of children: Disobedient, refractory.

In recent use the sense is somewhat milder, and perhaps always with some mixture of 2. If applied to conduct deserving severe moral reprobation it would now be apprehended as euphemistic.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 376 As waiward clerkis wolden in seynt Austyns time haue done owte..þis worde of þe gospelle. 1382 — *Matt.* xvii 16 Al thou generacioun vnbyleeful and weiward [Vulg. *perversa*]. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 142 Folk so weyward & so vnredy. *c* 1475 *Lament. Mary Magd.* 237 Wherfore ye lyke tyrantes wode & waywarde Now haue him thus slayne for his rewarde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 80 Than he waxeth testy and weywarde, and for every tryfell is impacyent and angry. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* Gen. Prol. A ij, Many sorowes endureth the woman in nouryshyng a waywerde chylde. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 108 [They] shewe them selues either wilfull, waiwarde, or maliciouslye blinde. 1583 WHITGIFT *Serm.* (1589) C 6 b, The third kinde is of those that are conceited and wayward, who onely obey when they list, wherein they list, and so long as they list. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 4 My wife is in a wayward moode to day. 1652 FEATLY *Abel Rediv., Reinolds* 480 A waward Patient maketh a froward Physitian. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* III. 97 Charles..used the wayward genius with all a brother's tenderness. 1833 TENNYSON *New Year's Eve* 25, I have been wild and wayward, but you'll forgive me now. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxix, The wayward boy soon spurned the shelter of his roof, and sought associates more congenial to his tastes. 1894 LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* III. 326 Sir Ralph treated the wayward girl with a courtesy to which her mother never condescended.

absol. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 63 b, Here our old peevish wayward, piketh a new quarell agaynst me. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Pet.* ii. 18 Not only the good and modest, but also the waiward [Vulg. *dyscolis*]. 1912 *Spectator* 27 July 135/2 The two together supply the unwise and the wayward with the necessary instructions.

†**b.** Of things personified. Also of conditions, natural agencies, etc.: Untoward. *Obs.*

1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 80 b, When waywarde Winter spits his gall. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xxix. § 1 What spiteful God..hath brought me to such a waywarde case, that neither thy death can be a reuenge, nor thy ouerthrow a victorie. 1608 SHAKS. *Pericles* IV. iv. 10 Pericles is now againe thwarting thy wayward seas. 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 803 My Coward Soul shall bear it's wayward Fate. 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Apr., This wayward month opened upon me with none of its smiles. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Ghost of Fadon* vii, We war with wayward fate.

†**c.** Of judgement: Perverse, wrong, unjust. Also of the eye: Perverted. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* vi. 23 3if thyn eiʒe be weyward [Vulg. *nequam*]. — *Heb.* i. 4 Weyward doom [Vulg. *judicium perversum*]. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 40 Suche prowde, lowde, ouerthwarte, and waywarde iudge-

[L. *superba, absurda ac morosa iudicia*]. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* 51 The wayward authority of an old man in his own house.

†**d.** Of words, actions, countenance: Indicating or manifesting obstinate self-will. *Obs.*

c 1480–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 44 An other he [the Evil One] sturreth to make som weywarde token. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 94 If a man should heap together all the cholerike speeches, all the way-ward actions, that ever scaped from him in his life. 1630 *Pathomachia* I. iv. 8 From wayward words they passed on to bloody blowes. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xii, I shall never forget the diabolical sneer which writhed Rashleigh's wayward features.

†**e.** Of a disease, etc.: Not yielding readily to treatment, obstinate. *Obs.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 F iv, By the occasyon of them the vlcere is waywarde and rebel to be healed.

2. Capriciously wilful; conforming to no fixed rule or principle of conduct; erratic.

a 1533 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* Let. lv. (1537) 118 b, Our lyfe is so doubtefull, and fortune so waywarde, that she dothe not alway threate in stryknge, nor striketh in thretnynge. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. B 1, My longings are not wanton, but wayward. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 106 Hard by yon wood..Mutt'ring his wayward fancies he would rove. 1832 WORDSW. *Loving & Liking* 44 Instinct is neither wayward nor blind. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 86 The movement of events is often as wayward and incomprehensible as the course of human thought.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (of things).

1786 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 31 He left his bed and took his wayward rout, And down by Simpsons wheel'd the left about. 1799 WORDSW. *Poems Imag.* x. 28 In many a secret place Where rivulets dance their wayward round. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* II. xv, Thus muttering, to the door she bent Her wayward steps. 18.. SMITHSON *Usef. Bk. Farmers* 32 (Cassell) Send its rough wayward roots in all directions. 1905 *C. T. C. Gaz.* June 254/1 The wayward hoop is a fruitful cause of those accidents for which no one except the victim gets punished.

†**Way-ward**, *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. prec. adj.] In passive: To be perversely prejudiced.

1586 STANIHURST *Ded.* in *Holinshed* II. 8 If anie be ouerthwartlie waiwarded, as he will sooner long for that I haue omitted, than he will be contented with that I haue chronicled.

[Wayward, -wards. In the 17–18th c. the suffix- *ward(s* was often appended to phrases like *this way, that way, our way*, etc., preceded or not by *to* or *from*. (See -WARD 4, -WARDS 2, 5.) In printed books it was common to join the suffix to the word *way* (either with or without hyphen), but to leave the preceding words of the phrase without hyphen, so that *way-ward(s* or *wayward(s* has a fallacious appearance of being a word.

1599 *Warn. Fairr Women* II. 548 To creep that way-ward whilst I live ile trye. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 7 May, He left the Queene and fleete in the Bay of Biscay, coming this wayward. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* IV. 317 Turning back to our way-ward, we had the view of the highest Part of Parnassus. *Ibid.* VI. 474 Not very far from hence we crossed a stream that ran from this Way-wards thither. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varilla's Ho. Medicis* 169 He invited their children to a match of hunting that way-wards where he was to embarque. 1770 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 31 Mar., I depend upon seeing you whenever you return this wayward.]

Wayward(e, variant forms of VAWARD.

c 1530 BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* civ. (1814) 497 The baner of Britaine sholde be in the way ward. *Ibid.* cv 500 The King of Orqueney..was put to the wayward with xxx. M. hawberts.

Waywarden (*wē*ɪ·wɒɪd'n). [WAY *sb.*[1] + WARDEN *sb.*[1]] A person (later, one of a board) elected to supervise the highways of a parish or district.

1776 G. WHITE *Selborne*, 7 *o Barrington* 8 Jan., As to that [shrew-ash] on the Pleystor, 'The late vicar stubb'd and burnt it,' when he was way-warden. 1829 in *Archæologia* (1831) XXIII. 398 Mr. George Charman, the way-warden..had frequently observed that the cattle resorted to a particular spot to rest. 1862 *Act* 25 & 26 *Vict.* c. 61 § 9 The Highway Board shall consist of the Waywardens elected in the several Places within the District. 1863 TROLLOPE *Rachel Ray* I. 274 He was poor-law guardian and way-warden. 1872–4 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 238 This man..was enabled to do a quantity of hauling, flint-carting for the waywardens, [etc.].

Waywardly (*wē*ɪ·wəɹdli), *adv.* [f. WAYWARD *a.* + -LY 2.] In a wayward manner.

1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxvii. 26 At the last he schal turne weiwerdli his mouth [Vulg. *pervertet os suum*]. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 45 These principlis vndirstonden weiwardli, and applied blasfemeli to a synful man. 1548 ELYOT *Dict., Morosè*, waywardely. 1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *John* ii. 7–11 He loued his enemies, yea those that turned waywardly from him and that were worthy of euyll. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii. § 2 Waiwardly proud; and therefore bold, because extreamely faultie. 1823 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 332 Thou art still a creature of..courage and power. But why went such power so waywardly? 1886 *Academy* 23 Oct. 299/2 Taste changes so waywardly.

Waywardness (*wē*ɪ·wəɹdnés). [f. WAYWARD *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being wayward (see the various senses of the adj.).

1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* i. 29 Fulfilled with al wickidnesse,..couetyse, waywardnesse [Vulg. *nequitia*]. *c* 1480–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 152 Wretched were that persone that for eny waywardenes of harte wolde be vnreconcyled..at that tyme. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. vi. 165 Our faults and not the waywardnesse of God [*non Dei morositatem*] is the cause. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. *Lord's Prayer* 116 Therefore in great condescension to the waywardness of our Natures, he is often pleased to keep the Treasury of our

ward Blessings in his own hands [etc.]. 1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* V. 528 The barbarous waywardness that could deprive me..of the exquisite felicity of my lot! 1823 Lamb *Elia, Poor Relations*, The waywardness of his fate broke out against him with a second and worse malignity. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, For all his waywardness, he took great credit to himself as being determined to be in earnest 'this time'. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (ed. 4) II. vi. 137 There was a waywardness in the course of the disease..for which it is difficult to account. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1130 He, who lets His heart be stirr'd with any foolish heat At any gentle damsel's waywardness. 1919 *19th Century* May 897 Parliament..has rallied the people from the waywardness of rebellion.

¶ In lists of 'Proper Terms' mentioned as the typical attribute of haywards.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij, A waywardnes of haywardis.

† **Waywards**, aphetic form of Awaywards.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 55 Heore wittes wel wai-wordus þei wrethen awai.

Way-way, obs. form of Wawa.

Way-wiser (*wē*ˈ-weizəɹ). Now *Hist.* Also 8–9 -wiser. [Formed after G. *wegweiser* (= Du. *wegwijser*, Sw. *vägvisare*, Da. *vejviser*), f. *weg* Way *sb.*1 + *weiser*, agent-n. f. *weisen* to show.

The Eng. sense is not found in the other Teut. langs. In German the word has, besides its primary sense 'one who or something which shows the way', several other meanings, the most common being 'guide-post', which is also current in Du., Da., and Sw.]

1. An instrument for measuring and indicating a distance travelled by road.

Of various forms, usually operated either by the step of the pedestrian or by the revolution of the wheels of the vehicle.

1651 R. Child in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 70, I say twenty Ingenuities have been found even in our days, as Watches, Clocks, Way-wisers, [etc.]. 1654 Evelyn *Diary* 13 July, He [Dr. Wilkins] had above in his lodgings and gallery variety of shadows, dyals,..a way-wiser, [etc.]. 1657 *Ibid.* 6 Aug., I went to see Colonel Blount, who showed me the application of the Way-wiser to a coach, exactly measuring the miles, and showing them by an index as we went on. *a* 1679 J. Ward *Diary* (1839) 160 An instrument calld a waywiser, by the motion whereof a man may see how many steps he takes in a-day. 1683 Hooke in Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1757) IV. 231 It was one part of a way-wiser for the sea..designed to keep a true account, not only of the length of the run of the ship through the water, but the true rumb or leeward way [etc.]. 1702 Moxon *Math. Instr.* 21 *Waywiser*, for the pocket; a movement, like a Watch to Number or count your steps or paces, in Order to find how far you walk in a day. *a* 1734 R. North *Life Sir D. North* (1744) 202, I contrived a Way-wiser, and we both wrought upon it hard till it came to Perfection, and was fixed upon a Calash we used. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Way-wiser*, a pedometer. [1891 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. XI. 195/2 The waywiser [of *c* 1800] registers only up to twelve miles, after which distance the index must be again adjusted.]

fig. 1801 *Monthly Mag.* XII. 98 It is with the spying-glass of conjecture, not with the way-wiser of record, that the bearing of their sources must be made out.

¶ 2. [In the German sense.] A guide-post, finger-post. *rare*−1.

1845 W. White *To Switz. & Back* x. 227 Why should one side of the mountains have all the crosses, and the other all the way-wisers?

Waywode (*wē*ˈ-*wōd*). Now *Hist.* Forms: 7–9 waywode, -wood, weywode, (7 weiwode, 8 weyvode, -wod), 8–9 waiwode, (8 waivod, woewood). [Var. of Vaivode, repr. an early Magyar form of a common Slavonic title of office. Cf. mod.L. *wayvoda*.] = Voivode.

1661 *Mercurius Caled.* in *Sir A. Boswell's Post. Whs.* (1871) 64 There is a considerable number of horses to carry on the work of the day; among others, a Waywood of Polonia hath a Tartarian horse. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 7 The Weywode or Governour of Novogorod. 1739 Elton in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. i. iv. 12 We arrived at the city of Saratoff, and waited on the Weyvode. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xii. *Note*, Lusieri has laid his complaint before the Waywode. 1837 Alison *Hist. Europe* xvii. (1848) V. 13 Their waywodes or military chieftains [in Poland]. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Oct. 522/2 There were hospodars in Wallachia and waywodes in Moldavia.

¶ b. = Waywodeship.

1837 Alison *Hist. Europe* xvii. (1848) V. 11 The waywodes and palatinates into which every province was divided [in Poland]..became divided against each other.

Hence **Way·wodeship** [-ship], the province or district ruled by a waywode.

1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* iv. 62 [He] returned his thanks to the several Waywodeships. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3988/2 General Reinschild..is marching towards the Weywoodship of Cracow. 1908 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 226 The Servians desired to transform the territory inhabited by them into a Servian waywodeship.

Way-worn, *a.* Worn or wearied by travel.

1777 Potter *Æschylus, Choeph.* 330, I, like a stranger, harness'd in this coarse And way-worn garb. 1788 Crowe *Lewesdon Hill* 14 By soft gradations of ascent to lead The labouring and way-worn feet along. 1824 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* II. 24 [He had a] wayworn look and meagre aspect. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* II. 141 The wayworn and hungry travellers. 1866 Le Fanu *All in Dark* xxi, The horses..emerged from the inn-yard gate..to replace the wayworn team.

fig. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lii, That night..she prayed humbly for that poor wayworn sinner.

Waywort (*wē*ˈ-*wɜɹt*). Also 3 waiwurt, 5 weyewourth, 6 weywort. [f. Way *sb.*1 + Wort. Cf. early mod.G. *weg(e)wurz*, synonym of G. *weg(e)wart* (-endive).] A name for † a. the saxifrage (*obs. rare*−1); b. the pimpernel.

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 536/23 *Saxifragulum*, ..waiwurt. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 294 Pympernol or selfhol or weyewourth or morecrop: *ipia maior*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl., Waywort is Pimpernell. *Ibid.*, Weywort is *Ipia maior*. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Way-wort. *Anagallis arvensis*.

Waygoose (*wē*ˈ-*gūs*). [Alteration of Way-goose, under which the earlier evidence for the word is given.

The eccentrically spelt form *waygeese*, which, although established in recent use, has not been found, exc. in Bailey's Dictionary, earlier than 1875, is prob. a figment invented in the interest of an etymological conjecture (see quot. 1732). Bailey's assertion that the word had the sense of 'stubble-goose' is unsupported, and is very unlikely; this allegation, and the accompanying fantastic misspelling of Wase, may have been suggested by the idea that the obscure word *waygoose* could be explained on the assumption that it had lost a *s*. (The *Eng. Dial. Dict.* refers to Cope's *Hampshire Glossary* for '*wase-goose*, a stubble-goose', but Cope's authority for this is a MS. word-list which, he says, 'contained many words that had certainly no relation to the dialect of the county'.) It seems clear that the genuine traditional form among printers was *waygoose*, and that the form *waygeese*, now prevailing, is a supposed correction following the authority of Bailey. The statement that goose was 'the principal dish' (or even that it was eaten at all) at the 'waygoose' dinner is destitute of evidence. It is possible that *waygoose* may be a corruption by popular etymology of some earlier word, but no satisfactory explanation has been found either in English or in any foreign language.]

Originally, an entertainment given by a master-printer to his workmen 'about Bartholomew-tide' (24 August), marking the beginning of the season of working by candle-light. In later use, an annual festivity held in summer by the employees of a printing establishment, consisting of a dinner and (usually) an excursion into the country.

1732 Bailey (ed. 5), *Ways*, a Bundle of Straw. *Waygoose*, a Stubble-Goose, an Entertainment given to Journeymen at the beginning of Winter. [1833 Temperley *Songs of the Press* 23 *note*, Way Goose.—The derivation of this term is not generally known. It is from the old English word *ways*, stubble. A wayz Goose was the head dish at the annual feast of the forefathers of our fraternity. '*Ways Goose*, a stubble Goose, an entertainment given to journeymen at the beginning of Winter.'—Bailey.]

1875 Southward *Dict. Typogr.* 137 The waygoose generally consists of a trip into the country, open air amusements, a good dinner, and speeches and toasts afterwards. 1895 *Surrey Mirror* 23 Aug. 2/7 The members of the typographical staffs of the *Surrey Advertiser* (Guildford) and the *Surrey Mirror* (Redhill) had their waygoose on Saturday last, when they journeyed to Brighton.

b. *attrib.*

a 1880 F. T. Buckland *Notes & Jottings* (1880) 39 London printers generally have a 'waygoose' dinner in the autumn. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 372 Carriages were chartered, an enormous quantity of eatables and drinkables provided, and away we went, a regular waygoose or beanfeast party.

‖ **Wazir** (wăzĭˈ·ɪ). Also 9 weseer, wuseer. [Arab. *wazīr*, whence the Turkish *vezir*: see Vizier.] = Vizier I.

1715 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 191 Kobad..accordingly gave Orders to his Wazirs or Viziers. 1807 E. S. Waring *Tour Sheeraz* 27 We..reached a Surae, built by a son of the late Wuzeer. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 2 King Shahriyár..ordered his Weseer to repair to him. 1908 E. G. Browne *Lit. Hist. Persia* vii. 256 The office of Wazír, for all the power and dignity which it carried with it, was a perilous one.

So **Wazirate** (wăzĭˈ·rĕt) = Vizierate 1, 2; **Wazi·rship** = Viziership 1.

1715 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 163 Dividing them [*sc.* his dominions] all into four wazir, or Vizierships, that is, Governments. 1886 Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 173 After which time they entered upon the Wazirate, and the power passed into their hands as it had been in the hands of their father [the Wazir]. 1908 E. G. Browne *Lit. Hist. Persia* vii. 256 When the 'Abbásids came to the throne, the laws of the Wazírate were fixed. 1919 Sir S. Low in *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 399 The country was annexed to the Wázirate.

Wder, var. *uder*, Sc. f. Other.

1832 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 44 Wderis commissionaris of Dwmbertane protestit for rameyd.

We (*wĭ*, *wĭ*), *pron.* Forms: 1 we, wé, *Northumb.* woe, 2 weo, hwe, 4–5 whe, 5 whee, 4–7 wee, *Sc.* ve, 2– we. Also 7 *rarely* w' (before a vowel or *h*). [Com. Teut.: OE. *wĭ* corresponds to OFris. *wī* (WFris. *wi*, *wy*, NFris. *wi*, *we*, *wü*), OS. *wi*, *wē*, MDu *wī* (mod. Du. *wij*), OHG. *wir*, *wēr*, *wier* (MHG., mod.G. *wir*), ON. *vér*, *vær* (Sw., Da. *vi*), Goth. *weis*.

These forms seem to go back to more than one OTeut. type. The Gothic form represents OTeut. **wīs*—pre-Teut. **weis*, an extension (with nominative suffix *-s*) of Indogermanic **wei* found in Skr. *vayám*, Avestic *vaêm*, we. With regard to the OE., ON., and some other forms, there is difference of opinion, some scholars referring them to an ablaut-variant (either **wē-s* or **wē-z*) of **wī-s*, and others to a pre-Teut. **wē* of which **wei* is supposed to be an extension by the addition of a demonstrative particle.]

1. The pronoun of the first person plural nominative, denoting the speaker and one or more other persons whom he associates with himself as the subject of the sentence.

For the obsolete dual see Wit *pron.* For emphasised compounds see Ourselv s, Ourselves 2.

Beowulf 260 We synt gumcynnes sceata leode. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 71 And hig cwædon: hwi ȝyrfe we ȝyt ȝewitnesse? sylfe we gehyrdon of hys muðe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1690–2 Ah hit was unker noreward ȝe we come hider-ward þat we þarte holde scholde þar riht dom us ȝiue wolde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4800 'Childer,' he said, 'wapen are yee?' 'Sir, wee are o farr cuntre.' 1382 Wyclif *2 Thess.* I. 4 So that we silf glorien in ȝou. *c* 1400 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxxiii. 5785 Ihe se þat þai ar ma þan we. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 274 Yppon the texte whee sware, both I and my wiffe. 1640 J. Gower *Ovid's Festiv.* I. 8 Gold-temples please us, though the old w' approve. 1673 Hickeringill *Grey. F. Greybeard* 142 Hold, w' have sprung a mast. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 302 We; (for myself I speak, and all the Name Of Grecians, who to Troy's Destruction came). 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. vii. 103 A thorough perception of the simple fact, that they are not we. 1899 Miss Braddon *Cloven Foot* xx, 'We must have everything ready for him.' 'So we will, ma'am, spick and span,' answered Mrs. Trimmer.

b. following, as subject, a verb in the subjunctive mood; = let us (do something). Now only *rhet.* or *poet.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Arweorþian we Crist on binne æstene. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 177 (Cott.) Ac lete we awei þos cheste. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1327 Make we vs glade eure among. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3060 'Loidinges,' he seyd, 'ginneþ ȝou armi, & gin whe hem to asaily.' *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 53 Forthi I red we it forsak, And hald we us in rihtwisnes. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xv. 235 Noo leue we the knyghte and the dwerf, and spake we of Beaumayns. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* I. iv. G iv, Go we in adores. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. ii. 6 Put we our quarrell to the will of heauen. 1659–83 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 33 Consider we, first, the structure of his body. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VIII. 391 Turn we then To Britons born and bred within the pale Of civil polity.

c. defined or made precise by some qualifying word or phrase.

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 746 Swa we men sculon heortan gehyxdum hlypum styllan. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 35 Wee cayniefe Troians. *a* 1586 *Sir T. More* I. i. 181 And if you men durst not vndertake it, before God, we women would. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. i. 1 When shall we three meet againe? 1612 R. Ch. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 39, I must confesse that we poore Farmers..doe exclaime against Inclosures. 1631 Chapman *Cæsar & Pompey* I. B 3 b, *Met.*.. We will haue the army Of Pompey entred. *Cato.* We? which we intend you? Haue you already bought the peoples voices? 1702 De Foe *Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 23 We of the Church of England. 1752 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* I. iii. 27 We Girls are under so many Restraints. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlii, 'We in the City know you better,' replied Carker. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* xi, Mother, we two must make our wills. 1883 J. W. Sherer *At Home & in India* 99 She must have been what we westerns should call a child. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V*, c. 1 We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom..in Parliament assembled.

d. qualified by a prefixed adj. *post.*

[1607, 1638: see 3.] 1646 Crashaw *Steps to Temple* 87 (Ps. 137) While unhappy captiv'd wee Lovely Sion thought on thee. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 810 O wretched we, whom not the Grecian Pow'r, Nor Flames destroy'd, in Troy's unhappy hour!

e. used confidentially or playfully to mean the person addressed, with whose interests the speaker thus identifies himself; esp. by a doctor in friendly or cheering address to a patient.

1708 Vanbrugh *False Friend* I. i. C 3, Well, old Acquaintance, we are going to be Married then? 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, 'Well, my dear ma'am, and how are we?' inquired [Doctor] Wosky, in a soothing tone. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 172/2 Well, Jane, and how are we this morning?

f. used indefinitely in general statements in which the speaker or writer includes those whom he addresses, his contemporaries, his fellow-countrymen, or the like.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 442 On ðisum wræcfullum life we sceolon earmra manna helpan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 247–8 Giue we ilkan þare langage, Me think we do þam non outrage. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 408–10 We saken faste after felicitee, But we goon wrong ful often trewely. Thus may we seyn alle and namely I. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3363 Launcelot hyr beydalle ledde, In the romans as we rede. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) *P* ij, And yf they [*sc.* fishes] felt the ayre also As we or foules or beastes do. 1612 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 251 Yf we should have any difference with Spaine (as happely wee may have before wee looke for yt). 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 512 P 2 There is nothing which we receive with so much Reluctance as Advice. 1758 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 263 The Swedes and Danes call it Fjarsing;..the French, Viver; and we, the Weever. 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* (1871) II. 7 Of Sheriff Morgan..we have no farther notice whatever. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i, I say first we have despised literature. What do we, as a nation, care about books? 1875 Jevons *Money* (1878) 93 In ordinary life we use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision. 1876 Stedman *Victorian Poets* vi. 183 He is well broken, as we say of a thoroughbred.

2. Used by a single person to denote himself:

a. by a sovereign or ruler. Often defined by the name or title added.

Beowulf 958 Beowulf maþelode..: We þæt ellenweorc.. feohtan fremedon. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* (1896) 6 We, dermot, prince of leynester. 1436 Hen. VI in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 199 We forse alle the gret discoragyng and discomfort that mygte growe to cure trwe sugectis. 1482 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1910) XXV. 122 We Elisabeth abbas of þe Monastere of Syon..wylle and ordeyne that [etc.]. 1603 Jas. I in Rymer *Fœdera* (1705) XVI. 538 Wee, Myndinge of our Royall and absolute Power to Us commyttted, to visitt [etc.]. 1623 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 71 Sir, I am about to weepe; but thinking that We are a Queene [etc.]. 1642 Chas. I in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* V. § 80 In plain English, it is to take away the freedom of our vote; which were we but a subject were high injustice; but being your king, we leave all the world to judge what it is. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* IV. vii, Noticed you the we—the style royal? 1890 Wiseman *Pastoral* 7 Oct., In that same Consistory we were enabled ourselves to ask for the Archiepiscopal Pallium,

for our new See of Westminster. 1891 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 360 But Arthur, 'We sit King, to help the wrong'd Thro' all our realm'.

b. by a speaker or writer, in order to secure an impersonal style and tone, or to avoid the obtrusive repetition of 'I'.

Regularly so used in editorial and unsigned articles in newspapers and other periodicals, where the writer is understood to be supported in his opinions and statements by the editorial staff collectively.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* 1. i. § 11 Nu habbe we scortlice ȝeseed ymbe Asia londȝemæro. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 556 We mihton ðas halgan rædinge menniscfealdlicor trahtnian. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 865 Now o þis prolouȝ wil we blin. 1813 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 295 The second sone of Penda, we meane kynge Wulfere. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xix. (Arb.) 56 We our selues who compiled this treatise. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* III. xviii. 133 Should we particularise, wee should become a direct Historiographer. 1807 COBBETT *Advice to Yng. Reviewer* 1 There is a mysterious authority in the plural *we*, which no single name, whatever may be its reputation, can acquire. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Criminal Courts*, We shall never forget the mingled feelings of awe and respect with which we used to gaze on the exterior of Newgate in our schoolboy days. 1860 *Leader* 11 Feb., The volume that we have now before us. 1879 T. P. O'CONNOR *Beaconsfield* xiv. 577 In this official report [of a speech] the vain-glorious and significant 'I' is toned down so the softer and less candid 'we'.

c. Hence jocularly as quasi-*sb.*: The editor of a periodical, or a contributor who uses this style; the periodical itself.

1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lx, It reached the ears of the great Mr. Seedeyman, the mighty *we* of the country, as he sat in his den penning his 'stunners' for his market-day *Mercury*. 1866 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Dec. 788/2 Not only was I myself overwhelmed by these accounts of foreign travel, when I was a We, but I noticed [etc.]. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 124 Yet the two great 'Wes' of the eighteenth century, the 'Monthly' and the 'Critical' played no unimportant part in the literary education of our great-grandparents.

3. Used for the accus. *us* (now only by the uneducated). Cf. LET *v.*[1] 14 b.

c 1300 *Melusine* xix. 106 Lete we send for the two knightes. 1533 *Respublica* III. iii. 682 *People*.. He fiereth on youe & beareth vs faire in hande And therewhile robbeth bothe youe & we of oure Lande. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 103 And to poore we Thine enmities most capitall. 1635 R. CAREW in *Lismore Papers* (1888) Ser. II. III. 222 Those..fauours.. vouthsafed vnto poore immeritinge we. 1782 COWPER *John Gilpin* 16 So you must ride On horseback after we. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* XXXII, Not as ever you was proud to folks like we. 1890 BICKLEY *Surrey Hills* III. 207 He a' never disappinted we afore, why should 'un now? *Ibid.* 209 Maister Fenton ain't here yet, so let we have another hymn.

† **We,** *int. Obs.* Also 5 **whe.** An exclamation app. used for emphasis, or to demand attention. Cf. WI *int.*

13.. *Sir Orfeo* 176 (Sloan) O we, quaþ he, allas allas. 13.. *Gest. Nicod.* 98 (MS. Harl.) We, whatkyn godes er þire? 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 2185 We, lorde, quoth þe gentyle knyȝt, Wheþer þis be þe grene chapelle. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 139 We! lord, þai wil noght to me trayste. *Ibid.* xv. 46 Whe! hudde! be-halde into the heste! *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 147 We! ryn on, in the dwills nayme before!

We: see WEE *sb., a.*, WOE, WY (man).

Wea-bit, var. WAY-BIT *Obs.*

Weach, Weack: see WITCH (*tree*), WICK.

Weade, obs. form of WEED *v.*[1]

Weaden, obs. pl. of WEED *sb.*[2]

Weafe, ? etymologizing var. WOOF.

1657 C. BECK *Universal Char.* M e b, The weafe or woof of cloth.

Weage, obs. Sc. form of VOYAGE.

Weak (wīk), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–5, 4–9 *Sc.*, 9 *dial.* **waik**, (6 *Sc.* **waek**), 4–6 **waike, wayk(e**, (4 *Sc.* **vayk**, 5–6 *Sc.* **vaik, vaike**), 3–6 **weik(e, weyk(e**, (6 *Sc.* **vaeik, veik**). *β.* 4, 6 **wek**, 4 **weck**, 6 **weke**; 5–6 **weke**, 4–7 **weeke**, 6–7 **weake**, 6– **weak**. [a. ON. *veik-r*, corresponding to OE. *wāc*: see WOKE *a.*

The earliest known examples are in the *Cursor Mundi* (*a* 1300, but MSS. 14th c.); the word gradually took the place of the corresponding native adj. (OE. *wāc*, ME. WOKE) which did not survive beyond the 15th c. There seems to have been some difference of meaning between OE. *wāc* and ON. *veikr*: in OE. the primary Teut. sense 'yielding, not rigid or firm, pliant' was still prominent, while in ON. it had developed into the sense 'not strong'.

The *β*-forms show the same development of Scand. *ei* to *ē* which is found in BLEAK *a.* (earlier *bleyke*, ON. *bleik-r*), STEAK *sb.* (ME. *steke, steyke*, ON. *steik*); still pron. dialectally with *ī*), and REAN, var. of RAIN *sb.*[2] (ON. *rein*).

In mod. dialect literature the word is often written *waik* or *wake*. Graphically, these forms belong to the *a* group; but in certain areas it may be doubtful whether the shade of pronunciation denoted by the spelling descends from ME. *ē* or from ME. *ei*. As the normal Sc. representative of OE. *wāc* is *waak*, which in late Scottish might have been written *waik*, it is possible that some of the Sc. examples given below belong etymologically to WOKE *a.* rather than to the present word.]

A. adj.

† **1.** Of a material thing: Pliant, flexible, readily bending. (Usually with implication of want of strength.) = WOKE *a.* 1. *Obs.*

The recognition of this sense by Johnson (who has been followed by later Dicts.) is remarkable; his authority has not been identified.

† *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 225 A mantel heng hir faste by, Upon a perche weyke and smalle [Fr. *A une perche*

moult greslete]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Weyke, or lethy, *lentus*. 14.. *Sir Beues* 647 (MS. M) All to lethy [*MS. O* weyke] the spere was wrought. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Age & Youth* 13, I..saw ane catyf [Age]..cumand,..walowit & wane, walk as ane wand. 1560–80 DUNBAR *Poems* lv. 29 Sum, thocht tham selffis stark, lyk gyandis, Ar now maid waek fyk willing wandis. 1755 JOHNSON, *Weak*, 3. Soft pliant; not stiff. [Whence in later Dicts.]

2. Wanting in moral strength for endurance or resistance; lacking fortitude or courage, strength of purpose or will; unsteadfast, wavering.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 340 [Thai] dang on thame so hardely That in schort tyme men mycht se by At erd ane hundreth weill, and mar; The remanand the vaykar war. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 7 He, forsoþ, þat is wayke of hert is not in way of curacion. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Augustine* XXV. 34 The man was weyk and dred mech þe ..... wayke in the faith. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XXVI. 41 The spirite ys willynge but the fleshe is weake. *c* 1540 R. MORICE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 94 [He] being very moche combered with the concupiscence of the fleshe, and stryvyng grotely to suppresse the same, felt himself to wak to overcom it. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 12 Which is so weake of courage..That they'le take no offence at our abuse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 532 Here onely weake Against the charm of Beauties powerful glance. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) VI. xi. 385 It is the just Shame..of the Frailty of our Condition to consider..how weak we are to intend, and how much weaker to perform. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 180 But though so furious among themselves, they [turkeys] are weak and cowardly against other animals, though far less powerful than they. 1779 COWPER *Human Frailty* 1 Weak and irresolute is man. — *Olney Hymns* XXIX. 12 And Satan trembles, when he sees The weakest saint upon his knees. 1889 W. ARMSTRONG *Wrestling* (Badm. Libr.) 224 Outsiders often clamour loudly over these falls, and a weak judge is liable to be influenced.

absol. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 909 But list'n not to his Temptations, warne Thy weaker. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 343 He 'stablishes the strong, restores the weak. 1902 W. ADAMSON *Joseph Parker* XXIII. 299 Faith leads to the Rock higher than self, on which the weak can rest in safety.

b. In the translations of the Bible from Tindale onward, used to render Gr. *ἀσθενής, ἀσθενῶν*, applied by St. Paul (esp. in Rom. xiv and 1 Cor. viii) to believers whose scruples, though unsound, should be treated with tenderness, lest they should be led by the example of the more enlightened into acts condemned by their conscience. Hence allusively in *weaker brethren* (often supposed to be a scriptural phrase), applied to the more timorous members of a party, who are in danger of being shocked by extreme statements of principle or policy.

In the Wycliffite and other early versions the rendering is sick (Vulg. *infirmus*).

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* viii. 11 But take hede that youre libertie cause nott the weake to faule. *Ibid.*, And so thorow thy knowledge shall the weake brother perisshe for whom Christ dyed. 1573 T. C[ARTWRIGHT] *Reply to Answ. Whitgift* A iij b, That the setters forwarde of thys cause..giue occasion to the papists of slaundering the religion, and to the weake of offence. 1674 B. PARRY *Duppa's Rules & Helps Devot.* I. To Rdr., If Noise and Clamour might pass for Inspiration, the Apostles must go for Weak-Brethren, and mere Novices, compared with our New Lights. 1779 [R. RICHARDSON] *Epist.* Ded. to Bp. Lond. p. xvii, But recollecting the many Christian Injunctions in Favour of weak Brethren, you thus proceeded with your Charge. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* viii, I do as little as I can..on Sunday, because of the weaker brethren. The Sunday we [*sc.* Seventh Day Independents] keep as a holiday.

c. of actions, attributes, etc.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1186 And left to her self, if evil thence ensue, Shee first his weak indulgence will accuse. 1671 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 391 The Lord Lucas made a fervent bold speech against our prodigality in giving, and the weak looseness of the government. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* v. v. 78 Because he had a weak hour and forgot himself. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. iii. 92 They must have told some weak and wicked lie To flatter their tormentors. 1878 LUCY *Diary Two Parl.* (1885) I. 365 Diarnall, in a weak moment, offered him office again.

d. Of features, expression of countenance, etc.: Indicating weakness of character or intention.

1877 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* (1890) 30 The nurse smiled a weak smile, as who should say, 'Master's joke is always so amusingly chosen'. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* XXIX, His forehead, when the original thatch was thick, must have been rather low and weak. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* x. 227 'What have you two men been doing now?' she said, with a weak little smile.

e. Deficient in power to control emotion; unduly swayed by grief, compassion, or affection. Of tears: Indicating weakness.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Snuff-Box*, But I am as weak as a woman; and I beg the world not to smile, but pity me. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XIV, 'They are weak tears, for they are useless ones,' replied the count, drying them. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I, It's very weak and silly of me, I know, to be so trembly and shaky from head to foot. 1886 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *By Woman's Wit* II, You must have a weak spot in your heart for him, or you would never stand it.

3. Wanting in strength and skill as a combatant; relatively deficient in fighting power as shown by the result of the contest.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12814 Þer was turn ageynes turn; þat waykest [of the wrestlers] was, byhoued spurn. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 276 Fayne was the waykyer away for to flee. 1482 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 108 Yet thought the foxe I haue good auauntage, the clawes of his for feet ben of, and his feet ben yet sore therof..he shal be somwhat the weyker. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 62 Thou if Angels fight, Weake men must fall. 1600 — *Hen. V.* II. 273 Your Grace hath laide the eddes a' th' weaker side.

b. Deficient as a fighting power in numbers, resources, etc. † Also const. *of*.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 162 With walk power thai durst him nocht persew. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 55 The folke of the duke were wake and almoste gon. For, of the two hundred that he hadde brought, he hadde noo moo wyth hym but fourthi. 1574 *Southampton Court Leet Rec.* (1905) I. 108 The watche of this towne ys neither good nor sufficient but very weak and vnmeet for the preservacon of thys towne. 1590 *Soliman & Pers.* III. i. 48 Their fleete is weake; Their horse, I deeme them fiftie thousand strong. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. v. 7 And often but attended with weake guard. 1611 W. ADAMS *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 82 The king's ships were out seeking ye,..vnderstanding that wee were weake of men. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* v. iii. § 21. 578 He was indeede farre too weake for the Enemie in Horse, both in number and in goodnesse. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* v. (1673) 53 We are not provided for a siege...The foe is strong without, we weak within. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. xi, Having concluded, from seeing three men engaged, that two of them must be on one side, he..espoused the cause of the weaker party. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 273 Sham'd as we have been..and in our own sea prov'd Too weak for those decisive blows that once Ensur'd us mast'ry there. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 54 Each detachment of William's great army of occupation was weak and isolated. 1912 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 662 The French..were much weaker in large vessels.

† c. transf. *Weak of friends*: having few influential friends. *Obs.*

1586 T. MORGAN in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) Jan. 56 *note*, Burghley..was weak of friends in the Privy Council.

d. Of a position: Poorly garrisoned.

1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 25 The Englische Generall, taking this very grevouslie, that such a waik hous sould hald out againes him, [etc.].

e. *Chess-playing.* Of a man: Insufficiently protected against capture.

1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 57 The K. Kt's P. and K's P. are now both of them weak and the cause of much subsequent embarrassment. *Ibid.* 59 The Pawn.. would have been left isolated and weak.

f. Wanting in skill as a performer in a game, sport, athletic exercise, contest, etc. Of play, a move, stroke: Exhibiting want of skill. So, *weak place, spot* (in a person's play).

1807 in W. Denison *Sk. Players* (1846) 57 In other points England was weak: her fielding was not near so good, her bowling was not equal, [etc.]. 1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 62 On principle it is weak play, as it leaves a Pawn behind unsupported. *Ibid.* 98 A weak move. 1868 *Baily's Mag.* Sept. 142 But the Surrey bowling was weak, and the men of the North scored 266 in their first innings. 1872 *Ibid.* Aug. 168 Mr. Grace..gave..a chance at his one weak place, short leg. 1891 GRACE *Cricket* ix. 248 (Bowling.) And that brings me to my last point—seek for the weak spot in the batsman's defence. 1901 JESSOP in *Badminton Mag.* Apr. 371 We [Gloucestershire] shall be even a weaker side than usual in the first two months.

4. Of a person, the body, limbs: Deficient in bodily or muscular strength; esp. of a child or woman, inferior in respect of physical strength.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15033 Þe childer þat war waike To ga þat pres a-mang. *Ibid.* 23624 Þir [the good] sal be selcut strang and wight, þai [the wicked] sal be weck [*MS. Gött.* waike] wit-vten might. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1012 Þider komen bothe stronge and wayke. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xii. 5, I..sett noght by þane stirynge, na mare þan a geaunte dos at þe puttynge of a waik man. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Lawe's T.* 334 How may this wayke womman han this strengthe Hire to defende agayn this renegat. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 23 Certes, ich seyde..Ich am to waik to worche with sykel oþer with sythe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. XX. 144, I am the yongest and moost weykest of yow bothe. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 165 Why are our bodies soft, and weake, and smooth, Vnapt to toyle? 1608 MILTON *Vacation Exerc.* 1 Hail native Language, that by sinews weak Didst move my first endeavouring tongue to speak. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. v. 190 Divers continue all their life..left-handed, and have but weak and imperfect use of the right. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 1044 It shall be seen, weak Woman, what you can, When Foot to Foot, you combat with a Man. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 197 That on weak wings, from far, pursues your flights. 1757 FOOTE *Author* Prol., But as the sluggish animal was weak, They fear'd, if both should mount, his back would break. 1776 A. SMITH *W. N.* v. i. II. 315 He is a very strong man who by mere strength of body can force wo weak ones to obey him. 1822 SHELLEY *Adonais* XXVII, O gentle child..Why didst thou..with weak hands though mighty heart Dare the unpastured dragon in his den?

b. *absol.* (Cf. 10 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 832 Þe strang [bigan] þe weker for to sla. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armes* (S. T. S.) 257 Oft tymes the starkare..puttis the waykar to the wer. For it is agayne nature that the waykare wan the starkare. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* li. 447 But the weykist gothe eyuer to the walle. 1535–[see WALL *sb.*[1] 23]. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 56 And where the small with the great, can not

and inferiours." 1579 KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.*, *Trifles* 5 The weake may stand the strong in sted: a dog may haue a day. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 85 The weak wins ay the warr.

c. *The weaker vessel* [cf. VESSEL *sb.*[1] 3], in 1 Pet. iii. 7 said of the wife as compared with the husband; hence occas. used jocularly for 'the wife' or female partner. *The weaker sex*: see SEX *sb.* 1 c.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Pet.* iii. 7 Geveynge honoure vnto the wyfe as vnto the weaker vessel [Gr. *ὡς ἀσθενεστέρῳ σκεύει*]. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 276 Inquenetta (so is the weaker vessell called) which I apprehended with the aforesaid Swaine. 1668 ST. SERFE *Tarugo's Wiles* 121. 23 *B[aker's] Wife*. O!

you are a fine man indeed! to leave the Government of the Oven now..to me that's the weaker vessel.

d. of physical effort.

1763 Crabbe *Village* I. 197 Alternate masters now their slave command, Urge the weak efforts of his feeble hand.

5. Deficient in bodily vigour through age, sickness, privation, etc.; wanting in strength of the vital functions of the body; debilitated.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 767 Bot als tyte als a man waxes alde, þan waxes his kynde wayke and calde. *Ibid.* 6157 Seke I was and in ful wayke state. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* II. 64 3oure owen lymmes..so ffeble and wayke wexe in þe hammes. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* XXI. xi. 857 Thyder they came within two dayes for they were wayke & feble to goo. 1519 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 8, I, John Gill, hole in mynde and wake in stomak, &c., to be buried in Pannall Chyrchyerd. 1584 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 501/1 Patrik.. is now of grete aige, febill and waik in his persoun. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 80 Thei hired shippes and putte the lorde Marques in one, which was so weake that he asked where he was. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 81, I was verrie wayke, not able to goo on foute one myle in a daye. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxix. 173 Till (if Nature be strong enough) it break at last the contumacy of the parts obstructed..; or (if Nature be too weak) the Patient dyeth. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I, *Tendre*, tender,..of a weak constitution. 1780 Selwyn in Jesse *S. & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 363, I am at present in a weaker state of health from a present disorder than I ever was. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxiv, You're too weak to stand, indeed. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* xx, And, as is generally the case after hysteria, she is now very weak and prostrate. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* lix, Pomponia sat by the bedside, holding the weak hand.

Similative phrases. 1840 [see Rat *sb.*¹ 2 c]. 1902 C. N. & A. M. Williamson *Lightning Conductor* 327 Poor Lady B. was as weak as a rag, but..Pa kept her up on a raw egg in wine.

b. Feeble through exhaustion; faint. ? Now chiefly *dial.*

a 1707 Prior *Dh. Ormond's Pict.* 20 'Till weak with Wounds,..He faints. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* i, I am getting weak; just touch my lips again with the jug. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Weak turn*, fainting fit. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 1 July 23 He took a 'weak turn' and died the following day. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/1 A wound over the eye, which caused the Welshman to go so weak that the referee stopped the contest.

6. Constitutionally feeble; not vigorous or robust in health.

1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* liii. 30 Of euery sort of shepe, It may fortune there be some, that like not and be welke. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 36 The French kyng had no heire male, but one weake boy. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iv. 114 Conceit in weakest bodies, strongest workes. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 218 Laws to prevent the education of weak children. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* II. 201 Fontenelle..was naturally of a very weak and delicate habit of body. 1780 Bentham *Introd. Morals & Legist.* vi. (1789) 43 A man may be weak all his life long, without experiencing any disease.

b. of a tree, plant, fruit, etc.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 115 The weakest kinde of fruite Drops earliest to the ground, and so let me. 1696 W. W. *New Help to Discourse* (ed. 4) 224 Stake and bind up the weakest Plants, against the Winds. 1784 Justice *Scots Gard. Director* 173 If your Artichokes are weak in the Spring, hill them up with rich Earth, and they will recover. 1768 [J. Gibson] *Fruit-Gardener* 208 Early pruning is commonly recommended for weak trees. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 290/1 The roses..will deteriorate year after year,.. getting too weak to open leafy buds.

7. Of bodily organs or their functions: Deficient in functional strength (either naturally or by impairment).

The usual collocations are: *weak eyes, sight; weak stomach, digestion; weak chest, lungs, heart*; also (later) *weak nerves*, which has commonly the loose sense of 'nervousness', liability to be easily agitated.

c 1480 Henryson *Swallow & other Birds* 19 Hir ene ar waik, the sone scho may not se. 1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 214 The deepe greene Emrald in whose fresh regard, Weake sights their sickly radience do amend. 1599 — *Hen. V*, III. ii. 56 Their Villany goes against my weake stomacke, and therefore I must cast it vp. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VI. 209 My weak and squeasie stomack will hardly digest the wing of a small rabbet. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 27 Batts..are only pleased with (what is alone proportioned to their weak sight) a Twilight. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VI. § 7, I have naturally weak eyes, and know that there are many things that I cannot see. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. xx. Author's Pref., With such weak nerves and spirits, always agree with weak s[tomachs]. 1885 J. Denniston *Leg. Galloway* 95 His amiable lady being a woman of weak nerves. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 184 One of the large Monkeys in the Zoological Gardens had weak teeth, and he used to break open the nuts with a stone.

8. Of the mind or mental faculties: Deficient in power.

ys takyn abundanly..it makys wayk þe vertus of þe sawle. *c* 1480 Henryson *Swallow & other Birds* 84 Mannis sanle is febill and ouer small, Of vnderstanding walk and imperfite. 1580 Wiburt *Cert. Tractatis* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 27 It apperis to my weik iugement that to attempt sic proude misordour sall (etc.). 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 460 Such shadowes are the weake-brains forgeries. *Ibid.* 1805 Such childish humor from weake minds proceeds. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 273 And such other Gamboll Faculties hee hath, that shew a weake Minde, and an able Body. 1649 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Walker the Ironmonger* A 2, This hath past without controlement to ..the raysing of scrifes..in many people of weake capacities and judgements. 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 221 For Beauty stands In the admiration only of weak minds Led captive. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. § 12. 240 We are furnished with Faculties (dull and weak as they are) to discover enough in the Creatures, to lead us to the Knowledge of the Creator. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* xcviii, Lord A——n..was a man of weak intellects. 1782 Cowper *Truth* 366 Earth gives too little, giving only bread, To nourish pride, or turn the weakest head. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 8 Persons of weak understanding. 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. vii. 446 No where are the weakest parts of the human mind more clearly seen than in the history of legislation. 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* lxi, Her suspicions..were only the product of a weak brain in a morbid state. 1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 317 A boy of weak intellect, a Natural.

b. Lacking force of intellect or strength of mind; easily deceived, credulous.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xiv, Thou (sely) 3outh, of nature Indegest,..of wit wayke and vnstable. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Doctor* III. iv. 290 And that Priest were..a weak person who should chuse to wear gray, because there is no religion in the colour. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Van. Dogm.* 32 If any are so weak to affirm nothing can be demonstrated, against which any thing is or can be objected [etc.]. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. viii. Wks. 1874 I. 293 By these means weak men are often deceived by others. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* III. Wks. 1851 I. 217 Though Elizabeth was as much inferior to Mary in beauty and gracefulness of person as she excelled her in political abilities.., she was weak enough to compare herself with the Scottish queen. 1781 Cowper *Convers.* 225 Credulous infancy, or age as weak, Are fittest auditors for such to seek. 1842 Newman *Eccl. Miracles* (1843) 127 It can mean nothing else but that St. Gregory did no miracles, and that it is weak, nay, even heathenish, to believe he did. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 295 He..was everywhere received with outward signs of joy and respect, which he was weak enough to consider as proofs that the discontent..had subsided. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* ii, Do you think I should be so weak and stupid as to fall in love with a man..I know nothing about?

absol. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 566 The weak perhaps are mov'd, but are not taught, While prejudice in men of stronger minds Takes deeper root.

c. Feeble (*in* one's intellect, the brain, head, etc.).

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Warwicksh.* (1662) 219 Hence was it that the Earl was kept in so strict Restraint, which made him very weak in his Intellectuals. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* ii, Shrewd and wise men wax weak in the brain in these troublous times. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxi, Until Mr. Smallweed's grandmother, now living, became weak in her intellect.

9. Inefficient, ill-qualified. a. Of a person's abilities, productions, qualities, etc. (Often used in modesty or self-disparagement.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 29 My konnyng is so wayk, o blisful queene, For to declare thy grete worthynesse That (etc.). *c* 1490 Holland *Houlate* 37 And I haue mekle matir in metir to glose..And waike is my eloquence. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 6 My vaeik and friuole versis. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. i. 37 *Card.* My Lord of Buckingham, if my weak Oratorie Can from his Mother winne the Duke of Yorke, Anon expect him here.

b. Of a person: Wanting in ability, ill-qualified, unskilled or inefficient *in*, *of* or *to* do (something).

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxlix, And, sone, of wit or lore Sen thou art wayke and feble. 1564 Bacon *Whs.* I. Pref. 67 C iv, When such as are yet weake in knowledge of Christ and of his holy Gospel heare yᵗ [etc.]. *Marg.*, Weakeynges. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. Introd. ii, Helpe then, O holy Virgin chiefe of nine, Thy weaker Nouice to performe thy will. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 28 One of the silliest and weakest Students in Astrologie was chosen out of all the other to confute the Doctor. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 15 Weak to perform, though mighty to pretend. 1781 — *Charity* 633 But if, unhappily deceiv'd, I dream, And prove too weak for so divine a theme. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 938 O 'tis a very sin For one so weak to venture his poor verse In such a place as this. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 257 Some weak politicians would startle at the expense it might occasion. 1885 *Leeds Mercury* 24 June 4/4 The new Government will be so lamentably weak in debating power.

transf. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* lii, Rome's azure sky, Flowers, ruins, statues, music, words, are weak The glory they transfuse with fitting truth to speak.

c. Of literary work or composition: Showing little evidence of ability.

1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 20. 130 It is the weakest Part of a very weak Book. 1733 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 5 The lines are weak, another's pleas'd to say.

10. Wanting in power or authority over others.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxlviii, And quhare a persone has tofore knawing Of it that is to fallen purposely, Lo, fortune is bot wayke in suich a thing. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 84 Our cuntrey ys now weke, and no thyng so strong as byt hath byn in old tyme. 1550 Crowley *Way to Wealth* 265 If the gentlemen and rulars of thy countrele shoulde be to weake for the, he would bring in strainge nations to subdue the. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxx. 180 It is a weak Soveraign, that has weak Subjects; and a weak People, whose Soveraign wanteth Power to rule them at his will. ? 1761 Goldsm. *Misc. Wks.* (1837) I. 472 England, therefore, grew weaker, or, what amounts to the same thing, saw her neighbours grow stronger. 1848 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 437 Sometimes..no set of men who can be brought together possesses the full confidence and steady support of a majority of the House of Commons. When this is the case, there must be a weak Ministry.

b. *absol.* (Cf. 4 b.)

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 91 Therein, ye Gods, you make the weake most strong; Therein, ye Gods, you Tyrants doe defeat. 1697 [see Strength *sb.* 5 b]. 1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 99 Grant that the pow'rful still the weak controul. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* IV. iv, The idea of restraining the powerful by the weak is an absurdity.

c. of power, strength, authority, etc.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 311 And moore-ouer contricion destroyeth the prison of helle and maketh wayk and feble alle the strengthes of the deueles. 1535 Ballenden *Livy* (S. T. S.) II. 98 The strenth of every office & power begymyis to be febil and waik in þe lattir parte of þe yere. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xviii. 47 Thay thocht his deith wald mak thy power waik. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 134, I cannot mend it, I must needes confesse, Because my power is weake. *a* 1636 [see Strong *a.* 5 d].

11. a. *Card-playing.* Of a game, hand, suit: Not of a commanding nature or value. Of a player: Ill-provided with commanding cards (*in* a specified suit).

1680 Cotton *Gamester* (ed. 2) 75 [L'Ombre] If the Players have but a weak Game, they are to imitate cunning Beast-players in dividing the Tricks. 1742 Hoyle *Whist* 28 Your Adversary on your Right-hand begins with playing the Ace of your weak Suit. 1746 *Ibid.* (ed. 6) 62 When ought you to make Tricks early? *Ans.* When you are weak in Trumps. 1864 [see Strong *a.* 24].

b. *Money-market.* Of money or stock: Insufficient to meet a demand or to carry on operations. Similarly of a holder of stock.

1875 *Economist* 23 Jan. 95/1 The Bank reserve will continue too weak for the probable demands upon it in the spring. *Ibid.* 6 Mar. 289/2 Several of the weaker holders have been forced to dispose of their stocks at a considerable reduction on former rates.

12. Not strong or energetic in action; lacking in force or power. a. of natural agents, etc.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 68 For þat stomake ys lykned to a wayk & feble feer, þat vnnethes may tobrenne rosels and smal chippys. 1588 Hakluyt *Yonge's Nauigacl.* 226/1 *Siparum*,..a saile wherewith the course or voyage of a ship is holpen, when the wind is weake and faileth. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 100 For my Cloud of Dignitie Is held from falling, with so weake a winde, That it will quickly drop. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 97 If the sunnebeames be weake, they draw vp no fogge from the rivers. *a* 1626 [see Strong *a.* 13 c]. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 45 'Tis to be noted that the tides are weakest at the full of the Moon. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 175 A combination of weak magnets..will communicate magnetism in proportion to their accumulated power. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 515 The above list gives them [i.e. external astringents] in order of their efficacy—from the weakest to the strongest. 1907 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 112 Weak sunlight will be found to give the best lighting.

†b. Of food: Not highly nourishing. *Obs.*

1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 264 Men may se by thair contynaunce..that thair sustynaunce Simple is and wayke. 1615 Sandys *Trav.* 118 Of these [Moors] it is strange to see such a number of broken persons: so being by reason of their strong labour and weake foode.

c. Of the voice: Feeble in enunciation.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24314 Þir martirs tuin.., quen þai herd crists voice Sa waik þat vnethes most þai here, Coue neuer care þair hert sa nere. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 39 A voice, not softe, weake, piping, womannishe, but audible, stronge, and manlike. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 666 They rais'd a feeble Cry, with trembling Notes: But the weak Voice deceiv'd their gasping Throats. 1820 Crabbe *Borough* XXII. 324 And 'Come,' they said, with weak, sad voices, 'come.' 1873 March. Dufferin *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 81 The voices of the singers were thin and weak. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* V. v, 'Are you not ashamed of me'..she asked in a weak whisper.

d. Of the pulse: Having little force.

1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* I. 154 Weak was the Pulse, and hardly heav'd the Heart. 1907 Flover *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 403 A weak Pulse, languid, profund, subtile, slow, indicates a cold Disease. 1876 [see Strong *a.* 13 b].

e. Of faith, conviction, affection, passions: Wanting in strength, not intense.

1530 Tindale *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 267 The fayth that dependeth of an other mans mouth is weake. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cii. 2 My loue is strengthned, though more weake in seeming. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 130 Hence diff'rent Passions more or less inflame, As strong or weak, the organs of the frame. 1768 Cowper *Olney Hymns* xviii. 22 Lord, it is my chief complaint That my love is weak and faint.

f. Of words or expressions: Wanting in force, inadequate; implying relatively little fullness of meaning.

1772 *Junius Lett.* lxiv. (1772) II. 327 If these terms are weak, or ambiguous, in what language can Junius express himself? 1861 Paley *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Choeph.* 923 *note*, 'To waft fate' is, however, a much weaker term than the other.

g. Of a dose of medicine: Less in quantity (and hence in power) than the normal dose.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 588 Weak doses of thymol, tar, or subacetate of lead.

†h. Of slumber: Light, not deep or heavy. *Obs.*

1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* 2. (1687) 56 A weak slumber.. chaining up his reason, left only his [illegible] at liberty to rove about.

i. Of a chance: Slight, slender, small in degree.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* 2, Shall I call him down? But it's a weak chance if he'd come, sir!

j. Of an attack of disease: Not severe or acute.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 586 Is [i. e. 'red gum'] is more probably urticarial or a weak form of prurigo.

13. Wanting in effectiveness.

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, V. iii. 27 My ancient Incantations are too weake. 1600 — *Sonn.* xxxiv. 12 Th' offenders sorrow lends but weake reliefe To him that bears the strong [illegible] 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 291 When they see Law can discover sin, but not remove, Save by those shadowie expiations weak, The blood of Bulls and Goats. *a* 1708 Prior *Engravers on Columns* 14 Yet Spires and

Towers in Dust shall lye, The weak Efforts of Human Pains. 1725 POPE *Epitaph Hon. S. Harcourt*, How vain is Reason, Eloquence how weak! If Pope must tell what Harcourt cannot speak. 1741 C'TESS PONSONBY in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 52 Knowing with what goodness you receive my weak endeavours to amuse you. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, ii. 292 *Strafford.* Be these the expedients until time and wisdom Shall frame a settled state of government. *Laud.* And weak expedients they.

b. Of evidence, argument, etc.: Not convincing. Of a case, title, etc.: Not having strong evidence.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 87 That where as my reasonyng schal appere to you sklender and weke, wyth your dylygence you may them supply. 1542 ELYOT *Dict., Causa inferior*, the lesse right, or weker title. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 18 b, Which is a light and verye weake reason. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, I. i. 134 *Henry.* I know not what to say, my Titles weake. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. v. § 3, I wonder that a cause so weak and feeble hath bene so much persisted in. *c* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1112 Your warrand is but walk. 1630 MILTON *On Shaks.* 6 Dear son of memory, great heir of Fame, What need'st thou such weak witnes of thy name? 1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 8 Hee admits them upon far weaker grounds than wee do attribute them to God. 1686 TILLOTSON *Serm. at White-Hall*, *1 Cor. iii. 15*, 18 [An argument] so intolerably weak and sophistical that any considerate man ought to be asham'd to be catch'd by it. 1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm. Bennet* 4 Pretending to shew, how weak and improper the Proofs are, which their Asserters employ in the defence of them. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 722 Will they believe, though credulous enough To swallow much upon much weaker proof. 1863 TWISTLETON in *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 2.v. *Zidon*, Justin, however, is such a weak authority for any disputed historical fact. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 188 But the direct evidence for a siege of Oxford is so weak that the tale cannot be relied on. 1904 H. BELLOC *Old Road* 119 The first evidence afforded us was weak enough. We saw [etc.].

†14. Of a thing: Of little account or worth, inconsiderable. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 434 And this weake and idle theame, No more yeelding but a dreame, Gentles, doe not reprehend. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 443 O that the Slaue had forty thousand liues; One is too poore, too weake for my reuenge. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, ii. 207 *Strafford.* How weak, how short, is life to pay— *King.* Peace, peace. Thou ow'st me nothing yet.

15. Having less than the full or proper amount of a specific ingredient. Of an infusion: Over-diluted.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. ii. 10 Doth it not shew vildely in me, to desire small Beere? *Poin.* Why, a Prince should not be so loosely studied, as to remember so weake a Composition. 1676 J. SMITH *Art of Painting* vii. 38 You must give it such a quantity of your fat Oyl, that it may not be so weak as to run when you have laid it on, nor so stiff, that it may not work well. 1755 JOHNSON, *Weak*...6. Not much impregnated with any ingredient: as a weak tincture, weak beer. 1769 J. SKEAT *Art of Cookery* Expl. Terms, *Cooley*: is a white broth or weak gravy. 1791 W. HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. 5 By means of a very weak acid. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 837 To a weak solution of galls, add a few drops of weak solution of sulphate of iron. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv, A great basin of weak tea. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xv, A little brandy and water, not too weak.

b. *spec.* of iron.

1841 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 120 An iron which is technically termed 'Weak,' can never be made a strong bodied iron. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 58 What is called 'weak' pig-iron, which contains a high percentage of phosphorus and sulphur.

c. Of corn: ? Having a small proportion of grain to the chaff.

1842 J. ATTON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 205 Let the cows get ..a little clover hay, mixed with weak oats, the refuse of what is sent to the mill. *Ibid.* 252 The horse gets about the fourth part of a peck of oats, with some weak and refuse corn for supper daily.

16. Wanting in material strength, unsound, insecure.

c 1400 *Cantin. Brut* CCXXXII. 315 Oþer strong werkes..were so yshake þerewith, þat þey..shol be euermore, the febelere & weyker while þey stonde. 1538–6 in *Trans. Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.* (1880) III. 256 This yeare was a maltman slayne in grope lone in Shrewsburie with the fall of a wecke chymney in an old howse there. 1545 ABCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 122 Freates begynne many tymes in a pin, for there the good woode is corrupted, that it muste nedes be weke, and bycause it is weake, therfore it freates. 1612 R. CH. *Olde Thrift newly reuiued* 69 Where that many fences bee weake ..[to] bee strengthened. 1820 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Skilling* B 5, And by misfortune if the Caske be weake, Three or foure Gallons in the ground may leake. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 84 The gate, Half-parted from a weak and scolding hinge, Stuck. 1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* I. 840/1 This causes inequality of growth, weak and deficient places in the hedge. 1889 E. P. HOOD *World of Proverb* 132 The strength of the chain is in the weakest link.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* XXV. 111 b, Thairfoir all that quhilk ye grounde vpone this vaik fundament, man fall altogidder. 1593 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 78 Returne with me againe To push destruction, and perpetuall shame Out of the weake doore of our fainting Land. 1630 PRIOR *Ode Imit. Hor.* vii, Your mould'ring Monuments in vain ye raise On the weak Basis of the Tyrant's Praise.

c. Of a fortified place: Not possessed of sound defence (esp. in some part or on a particular side). Also †*weak-breach* (in quot. *fig.*).

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 40 Yuentes þe kirk of þe Sepulchre es þe citee maste wayke, for þe grete playne þat es betwene þe citee and þe kirke. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiii. § 7 The glittering of the armour, and sounding of the trumpets giving such an assault to the weake-breache of his false senses. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. Tobacco* (Arb.) 107 He makes his breach and entrie, at some..parts thereof, which hee hath tried and found to bee weakest and least able to resist. 1652 H. COGAN tr. *Scudery's Ibrahim* Pref., in *Villiers' Rehearsal* (Arb.) 30 It is of works of this nature, as of a place of war, where notwithstanding all the care the Engineer hath brought to fortifie it, there is alwayes some weak part found. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. Netherl.* viii. 251 Those Out-works which are either weak of themselves, or not well defensible for want of men. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 597 Bristol had fortifications which, on the north of the Avon..were weak.

quasi-*adv.* 1720 OZELL tr. *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. XIV. 418 Hirtius found out a Place weaker guarded than the rest, which he carried Sword in hand.

d. *Weak side* [cf. F. *côté faible*]. (*a*) Of a fortified place: A side defectively fortified or unsound in its defences. (*b*) *fig.*

(*a*) 1667 DRYDEN *Secret Love* 1st Prol. iv, Plays are like Towns, which, howe're fortifi'd By Engineers, have still some weaker side, By the o'reseen Defendant unespy'd.

(*b*) 1672 TEMPLE *Surv. Const. Empire, Sweden* etc., Miscell. (1680) 13 Their Application..to trade, has much increast their Shipping and Seamen (which they found to be their weak-side in their last attempts). 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. CCCXXX. 288 This Dog here would perhaps have Fought for his Master in any Other Case..: But the Love of Mutton was his Weak side. 1723 ADDISON *Cato* I. i, To quell the tyrant Love, and guard thy heart On this weak side, where most our nature falls. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* vii. (1899) 140 Satan soon after got in upon my weak side. 1780 *Mirror* No. 92 My friend..is a little inclined to take things on their weak side. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. v. P 2 He spared you the trouble of finding out the weak side of that prelate and his principal officers, by discovering their different characters to you.

e. *Weak point.* (*a*) Of a thing: The point or feature where it is defective or unsound. (*b*) (A person's) *weak point*, a failing or weakness (moral or intellectual).

(*a*) 1868 S. NEIL *Publ. Meetings* 81 In it [*sc.* the peroration] the strong points should be enforced, and the weak should be slipped airily over. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 21 A magnificent view indeed it was...The weak point in it was that the country on one side was..excluded from view. 1875 [see WEAR *v.* 15]. 1883 A. SIDGWICK *Fallacies* 218 To use it as a rough guide in finding the weak point of an argument. 1908 *Animal Management* (War Office) 180 Every weak point in the fit of a saddle in a squadron should be known. 1910 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 29 Apr. 163/3 The weak point of modern capitalism is the opportunity it gives of bad spending.

(*b*) 1827 HARE *Guesses* I. 183 Do you want to find out a person's weak points? Observe the failings he has the quickest eye for in others. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* XXV, Other people betrayed consciousness of, and annoyance at her weak points.

17. Wanting in solidity or firmness; slight; of a texture easily broken, fragile, frail.

1581 [1582] T. NORTON in Nicolas *Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 235, I desire not to undertake any such work, but do shun it as storms in a broad sea for a weak vessel. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 108 Those that with haste will make a mightie fire, Begin it with weake Strawes. 1680 J. COLLINS *Pisa Irish Cattell*, etc. 26 The Hurds, ..or Tow, of Flax and Hemp, will serve to make a weaker, or a worser sort of Linnen. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 260 Their Eggs are.. covered..with a thick Flesh which is pliable and weak. 1756 R. ROGERS *Ierula.* (1769) 11 We then attempted to cross the lake, but found the ice too weak. 1817 SHELLEY *To William Shelley* 2 The billows on the beach are leaping around it, The bark is weak and frail. 1897 PR. RANJITSINHJI *Jubilee Bk. Cricket* IV. 148 A weak, springy [bat] handle is a mistake. A handle should bend like the butt-end of a good fly-rod and not like an aspen stick.

fig. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* Ded., I know not..how the worlde will censure mee for choosing so strong a proppe to support so weake a burthen. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 629 What web too weak to catch a modern brain? 1784 — *Tirocc.* 169 How weak the barrier of mere nature proves, Oppos'd against the pleasures nature loves!

18. Not strongly marked. a. Of colours, markings: Not vivid.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 177/2 *Buxeus*,..a weake or vnperfect yellow, like box. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. ii. 6 This weake impresse of Loue, is as a figure Trenched in ice, which with an houres heate Dissolues to water, and doth loose his forme. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* x. 87 In the spectrum of Pollux there were many weak but fixed lines. 1876 ABNEY *Instr. Photogr.* (ed. 3) 100 For a negative of the weak type the bromide may be omitted. 1878 — *Treat. Photogr.* xii. 85 Defects in negatives...A weak image may be due—1, to an unsuitable collodion [etc.].

b. *Mining* and *Geol.* (See quot. 1884.)

1833 T. SOPWITH *Mining Distr. Alston Moor* 107 Old Carr's Cross Vein, in Alston Moor, in mining language, is weakest at the north end. 1884 J. A. PHILLIPS *Ore Deposits* 185 In the Alston-Moor district a vein is said to be weak when the strata on either side are but slightly displaced.

c. Of an animal's scent: Faint.

1824 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* XXXVII. (1901) II. 6 Pigg lifted his 'ounds, the scent being weak from the water.

19. *Comm.* Of market prices, the market: Having a downward tendency, not firm. Hence of commodities with regard to their prices.

1896 in Tooke & Newmarch *Hist. Prices* (1857) V. 637 In January ('56) the market opened with much firmness at 75*s*...; subsequently the tone became weaker. 1882 *Daily News* 23 Aug. 2/7 Prices for wheat, however, were decidedly weaker. 1900 *Ibid.* 17 Sept. 2/5 Hematite continues to be weak, as was the case at Tuesday's market. 1903 S. S. PRATT *Work of Wall St.* 100 If there are more offers than bids the market is weak and the price declines.

20. *Phonetics* and *Prosody.* Of a sound: Pronounced with less force than the adjacent sound or sounds. Of accent, stress: Having relatively little force. Of a syllable, the ending of a verse: Unstressed or without metrical ictus. Of the cæsura: Falling after a short syllable.

Weak ending, the occurrence of an unstressed or proclitic monosyllable (a preposition or conjunction) in the normally stressed place at the end of an iambic line. Sometimes distinguished from *light ending* (e.g. a relative pronoun or auxiliary verb), on which the voice can dwell slightly.

a 1637 B. JONSON *Engl. Gram.* iv. (1640) 43 Before *e.* and *i.* it [C] hath a weake sound, and hisseth like *s.* 1668 HOWELL *New Engl. Gram.* 28 This letter *s*..hath three degrees of sounds, full in the beginning, weak in the middle, and flat at the end of a word. 1765 J. ELPHINSTON *Princ. Engl. Lang.* II. 329 Combinations of two syllables. Iamb, a short and a long, or a weak and a strong. 1774 (W. MITFORD) *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 100 Besides these, feet often occur with the strong accent on both syllables; and frequently one foot, sometimes two in a verse, have the weaker accent only. 1824 T. MARTIN *Philol. Eng. Gram.* 127 When two consonants fall together and will not combine, the weaker is sometimes silent. 1838 E. GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* I. 86 The primary accent of the adjective ought always, when not emphatic, to be weaker than that of the substantive. 1852 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* V. 153 A foot catalectic on the weak syllable. 1857 C. BATHURST *Shaks. Versif.* 38 There are several instances of the weak endings. 1871 J. HADLEY *Ess.* (1873) 273 The effect of a weak *r* on the preceding short vowel. 1874 B. H. KENNEDY *Publ. Sch. Lat. Gram.* § 260 (ed. 2) 329 A weak trochaic cæsura, after the trochee or second syllable of the dactyl. 1874 J. K. INGRAM in *Trans. New Shaks. Soc.* II. 447 The former may with convenience be called 'light endings', whilst to the latter may be appropriated the name (hitherto vaguely given to both groups jointly) of 'weak endings'. 1886 J. B. MAYOR *Engl. Metre* 103 Some have maintained that the basis of the metre is a double trochee with a weaker stress on the first syllable and stronger on the third.

21. *Philol.* In various applications, opposed to *strong* (see STRONG *a.* 22). a. Of Teut. nouns and adjs.: Belonging to any of the declensions in which the stem in OTeut. ended in *-n.* b. Of Teut. verbs: Forming the preterite by the addition of a suffix. c. In Greek grammar, sometimes applied to the sigmatic or 'first' aorist, in contradistinction to the 'second' or 'strong' aorist. d. In Sanskrit grammar, the designation of the reduced stems of nouns, and of the cases in which the reduced stem occurs. e. In Hebrew and Syriac grammar applied to certain consonants (otherwise called 'feeble') and to verbs which have one or more of these in the root. f. The designation of the ablaut-grade which results from absence of stress.

a. 1841 [see STRONG *a.* 22 a]. 1885 J. BYRNE *Struct. Lang.* II. 194 There is also in all the Teutonic languages a weak declension, as Grimm has called it, which has arisen from the insertion of *n* or *an* between the stem and the element of case or number.

b. 1841 LATHAM *Engl. Lang.* xviii. 198 Weak Tenses. The Preterite Tense of the Weak Verbs is formed by the addition of *d* or *t*...The Verbs of the Weak Conjugation fall into Three Classes. 1845 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 50 In the weak perfects of the Teutonic languages..no such difficulty presents itself. 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New Engl.* I. 208 There is a curious confusion of the Strong and Weak verb in *metal moltynnyd.*

c. 1875 E. ABBOTT *Curtius' Elucid. Student's Grk. Gram.* 104 The sibilant common to both naturally leads from the future to the weak aorist. 1876 PAPILLON *Man. Comp. Philol.* 196 The Weak or Compound Aorist (1 aor.).

d. 1863 BENFEY *Sansk. Gram.* § 220. 176 There are some nouns which have a strong and a weak form. *Ibid.* § 238. 198 In the Veda the distinction between the strong and weak cases is less regularly observed than in the later Sanskrit.

e. 1874 A. B. DAVIDSON *Hebr. Gram.* 69 A weak verb is a verb which has one or more of its three stem letters a weak letter. The weak letters are the gutturals, the quiescents, and *nun.* 1904 J. A. CRICHTON *Nöldeke's Syriac Gram.* 42 Weak roots vary a good deal in their weak letters. *Ibid.* 106 A few verbs *primæ n* also take *e*, as well as a few weak verbs.

f. 1888 SWEET *Hist. Engl. Sounds* § 249 The result was a variety of vowel-series, each with the three stages, strong, medium, and weak. 1891 A. L. MAYHEW *O.E. Phonol.* § 645 Weak (i. e. Zero) Grades. 1908 WRIGHT *O. E. Gram.* § 472 In the athematic verbs the personal endings were added to the bare root, which had the strong grade form of ablaut in the singular, but the weak grade in the dual and plural.

22. Comb. a. In parasynthetic adjs., as *weak-backed, -brained, -chined*, etc. See also WEAK-HANDED, -HEADED, -HEARTED, -KNEED, -MINDED, -SIGHTED.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXVIII. 7 They are..*weake braned thorow stronge drynke. 1842 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* XXXIV, It is a foolish fancy on the part of this weak-brained man. *a* 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. i. (1664) 73 The *weak-chin'd slave hir'd me once to say, I was with Child by him. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispatch't* 94 This *weak-conscienc'd man. 1643 WALLER *To Mistris Braughton* 8 So in those Nations which the Sun adore Some modest Persian, or some *weak-ey'd Moore, No higher dares advance his dazled sight. 1746 COLLINS *Ode to Evening* iii, Save where the weak-eyed bat With short shrill shriek flits by on leathern wing. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, ii. 127 And banish weak-eyed Mercy to the weak. 1622 SMAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 119 Not able to produce more accusation Than your owne *weake-hindg'd Fancy. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* liii, You're not one of the *weak-legged ones. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xii, My Lord Firebrace was but a feeble-minded and *weak-limbed young nobleman. 1820 'AN ENGLISH TRAVELLER' *St. Paris* II. lx. 293 These *weak-nerved females, who would have fainted at the sight of a spider mangling a fly. 1833 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parlour Orator*, *Weak-pated dolts they are. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 207 A *weak-rolled arable District. 1508 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 253 Those the whiche be baresheffull and *weyke spyrryted. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 220 A *weak-walled heart..is much more easily influenced by digitalis than a healthy one. 1883 *Graphic* 21 Feb. 174/2

*Weak-willed folk. 1909 G. M. Trevelyan *Garibaldi & Thousand* iv. 73 The doubtful and weak-willed guide of Europe's destiny. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ccxxiv, Soe cutting through a Swarme Of Gnatts, an Eagle scouring after Prey, Beats downe the *weak-wing'd vermin in her way. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* iv. i. 159 These men be *weaker-witted than mere fools When they fall mad once.

b. as adv. with pa. pples., *weak-built, -made*; with pres. pples., *weak-growing, -shivering.*

1598 Shaks. *Lucr.* 130 Yet euer to obtaine his will resoluing. Though *weake-built hopes perswade him to abstaining. 1636 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Life and Fame* i, Oh Life.. Vain weak-built Isthmus, which dost proudly rise Up betwixt two Eternities. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 703 In *weak-growing sorts, apt to fruit, they should be encouraged with manure. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1260 Those proud Lords to blame, Make *weak-made women tenants to their shame. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1060 Nor, when cold Winter keens the brightening flood, Would I *weak-shivering linger on the brink.

c. †**weak-back**, †**-wit**, one who is weak in the back, in mind: †**weak-hearted**a., = Weak-hearted.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 8 All þinges ar hard to a waik hert man, for þai trow euermore yuelles to be nyȝe to þam. 1636 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. ix. (1674) 11 [Greek] proves hard of digestion to the squeasie stomacks of modern weak-wits. 1639 Cleveland *Vit. Uxoris* xviii, By thee 'tis likely shee'l have none. Whilst thou for weak-back go.

†**B.** *sb.* = Feeble *sb.* 4, Foible 2. In quot. 1683 *fig. Obs.*

1683 D. A. *Art of Converse* 87 And so [we] lose a considerable advantage over our Adversary by not reflecting where the weak of his discourse lies; we think only on't when the stroke is past. 1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 28 Thrust with the Fort of your Sword upon the weak of his.

†**Weak**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **weke, weyk, weik, wayk**, *Sc.* **waik**, (6 **vaik**), 6 **week**, 6–9 **weak**. [f. Weak *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make weak or weaker, to weaken or enfeeble. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4737 A strengthe, weyked to stonde vpright [Fr. *force enferme*], And feblenesse, ful of might. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 444 He..is ryte lowe browt, and sore weykid and febiyd. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) III. iii. (1506) 136 In weykynge them and dyscouragynge, be it by theyr euyll example or otherwyse. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. x. 50 Nor 3it the slaw nor febill onwieldy age May waik our spreit, nor mynys our curage. *a* 1536 Tindale *Brief Decl. Sacram.* (*c* 1550) B v b, All that comme to the sacrament ..with the medytacyon to weak the flesh and strenght the Spyrite agaynst her. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxiv. 14 Ane fowsum appetyte, That strenth of persoun waikis. *a* 1635 Randolph *Poems* (1638) 50 It weaks the Braine; it spoiles the memory. 1642–7 H. More *Song of Soul* I. II. lxxx, Which will empair the flesh and weak the knee. 1886 J. Ballantine *Poems* 190 Time hasna dimmed my goshawk ee, Nor weak'd my hand.

absol. 1568 Skeyne *Pest* (Bannatyne Club) 25 Fasting mundifeis..bot vaikis thair with.

b. To soak in water, to macerate. Cf. Woke *v.* [? After Du. *weeken*, LG. *wéken.*]

1559 Morwyng *Evonymus* 10 This herbe..If it be dried and weikte or stiept in wyne a few dayes, then destilled in Balneo Mariæ. *Ibid.* 72 Newe herbes nede the lesse time, when they are stiept or weekt in wine or other liquor.

2. *intr.* To become weaker or less severe, be mitigated.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1144 (Campsall MS.) Somwhat to wayken [*Harl. MS.* woken] gan þe peyne.

Hence † **Wea·king** *vbl. sb.*

1559 Morwyng *Evonymus* 67 Maceration, y^t is steping or weking, or els infusion, a watring & moistening. 1581 W. S. *Exam. Compl.* I. 6 Albeit we labour not much with our bodies..yet yee know we labour with our mindes, more to ye weaking of ye same, then by any other bodily exercise we should do. *Ibid.* ii. 28 b, It may come to ye great desolation and weaking of the strenght of this realme.

Weak, obs. form of Wick.

Weake, obs. form of Week.

Weaken (*wī'k'n*), *v.* Also 6 **wayken, weyken**, *Sc.* **waken**. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* 4 **waykned**, 6–8 **weakned**, 7 *Sc.* **waikned**. [f. Weak *a.* + -en 5.

In the following early instance the word may be a direct adoption from Scand.; cf. Norw. dial. *veikna*, MSw. and Sw. *vekna*, to become weak.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1498 So faste þay weyed to him wyne, hit..breyþed vppe in to his brayn & blemyst his mynde, & al waykned his wyt, & wel neȝe he foles.]

1. *trans.* To make weak or weaker.

†1. To soften. a. To steep (salt meat) in water, so as to remove the salt (cf. Woke *v.*). b. To dissolve in acid. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 770/1, I wayken salte meates, I lay them in water. *Je attrempe en leaue.* 1540 — *Acolastus* II. i. H iv b, Clodius Esopus his sonne dyd at a banket eate a perle, weakened in stronge vynegyger.

2. To lessen the physical strength or vigour of (an animal or plant, its parts or organs); to lessen the functional vigour of (an organ or an organic power).

1566 Grafton *Chron.* II. 707 At the laste battayle the very strengthe of his chiefe souldiours was weakened. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 149 b, Swyne...Afore they goe to pasture, they must be medicined, least the grasse skarte [*sic*] them to much, by which they wylbe greatly weakened. 1586 Greene *Pandosto* (1607) G 1 b, Who gazeth at the Sunne, weakeneth his sight. 1643 Baker *Chron., Hen. II* (1653) 87 So strong a Corrosive is grief of mind, when it meetes with a body weakened before with sickenesse. 1764 *Museum Rust.* IV. 30 Such running to seed will weaken the plants much more than several cuttings. 1820 Crabbe *Borough* xxii. 331 Through the water came A hollow groan, that weaken'd all my frame. 1832–3 E. Bu *Ecclus Hist.* xii. (1845) 282 The venerable Apostle was so weakened by age, that his disciples were obliged to carry him to the religious meetings. 1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 190 Such ..res..weaken the patient, at a time when his assimilating powers can scarcely maintain his actual condition. 1884 Tennyson *En. Arden* 821 A languor came Upon him, gentle sickness, gradually Weakening the man, till he could do no more, But kept the house, his chair, and last his bed.

b. In Bible phrase, *To weaken the hands of*: *fig.* to reduce the effectiveness of (a person or body of persons), to hinder, discourage. Cf. Strengthen *v.* 2 b.

1560 Bible (Geneva) *Jer.* xxxviii. 4, *Neh.* vi. 9. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 135 The people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah.

3. To enfeeble or decrease the vigour of (the mind, etc.).

1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat., Dirige* (Rouen) 133 My spyryte god wotte is wekenyd wonders sore. 1683 Burnet tr. *More's Utopia* 88 Unless Age has weakned his Understanding. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 217 When peoples minds are weakened by a sense of their own infirmities. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xii, His consciousness came back; but the mind was weakened and its functions were impaired.

4. To lessen (authority, influence, power, credit), † to lower the value of (something); † to impoverish (an estate).

1530 Palsgr. 770/1 Their power is waykenned: *Iour pouuoyr est affoyblid or infermd.* 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 155 There can no greater plage..inuade a commen wealth, than what time thauthoritie of lawes is weakened and disolued. 1622 *Two Noble K.* v. iv, A Steed..a black one, owing Not a hayr worth of white, which some will say Weakens his price. 1628–30 *Essex Archd. Bk. Depositions* (MS) 21 b, He..nowe found his estate much weakned and impaired althence the makinge of the said will. 1639 Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 6 Her Father Venon .. had much weakned his estate in drawing his deare friend out of prison. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1002 Weakning the Scepter of old Night. 1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* viii. 251 Because the loss of every small Outwork does not only weaken the Number, but sink the Courage of the Garrison within. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 7 Such a Prostitution of his Presence, he thinks, weakens his Authority. *a* 1725 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 71 While the witnesses were weakening their own credit. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 215 Which must weaken the influences of their good works. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* III. ii. I. 467 That the power, and consequently the security of the monarchy, may not be weakened by division, it must descend entire to one of the children. 1847 G. Harris *Ld. Chanc. Hardwicke* I. iii. 245 The witness may also be made to weaken his own credit, by the account which he admits of himself, or of his character. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* iii, The slight difference of age between herself and those she taught somewhat weakened her authority.

5. To reduce the strength of (a body of men) in numbers or fighting power; to render (a position) less secure.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 129 b, What tyme the one parte was thus weakened, the Anabaptistes doe chouse newe senatours, all of their owne faction. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 298 Considering how in number we were diminished, and in strength greatly weakned, both by reason of our sicknesse and also of the number that were dead. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* II. 111 Imagining that Tyrone..would not have..any minde to..hinder his retreate when he should have weakened his forces by that Plantation [of a garrison]. 1698 J. Collier *Immor. Stage* I. 5 Such Licentious Discourse tends..to weaken the Defences of Virtue. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 171 If you should be sent on a Party, observe this Precaution yourself; but let them not be *too* strong, lest you weaken your main Body. 1860 Löwenthal *Morphy's Games Chess* 114 This move, however, weakens the K. B's P., which immediately becomes the focus of Black's attack. 1875 Gossip *Chess-player's Man.* 846 Black would gain a move, but weaken his position.

6. To render weaker in resources, authority, political or military power, or the like.

1568 Bible (Bishops') *Isa.* xiv. 12 O Lucifer..Howe hast thou gotten a fall euen to the grounde, which didst weaken the nations? 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvi. § 6 As long as their amitie with God continued,..nothing could weaken them but Apostasie. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xvii. (1904) 116 So now do Cities and Kingdomes..endeavour as much as they can, to subdue, or weaken their neighbours. 1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* i. 17 Both Philip and his Son ..found themselves a Match for France, then much weakned, as well by the late wars of England, as the Factions of their Princes. 1713 Addison *Cato* II. iii, Let us not weaken still the weaker side, By our divisions. 1727 De Foe *Engl. Tradesm.* (1732) I. vi. 67 As they [*sc.* those adventures] very rarely add to his credit, so if they lessen the man's stock, they weaken him in the main, and he must at last faint under it. 1853 Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. vi. 137 They took every means to weaken and annoy the very men whom they had invited. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* viii. (1875) 129 He [Otto] is commonly said to have wished to weaken the aristocracy by raising up rivals to them in the hierarchy. 1887 *Field* 3 Dec. 864/1 The Old Harrovians were now greatly weakened by the enforced retirement of Rendall. 1915 J. W. Headlam *Hist. Twelve Days* iii. 83 Serbia would certainly have been humbled and weakened.

7. To render less efficacious.

1639 Saltmarshe *Policy* 301 Perseverance preserves and advances that grace which relapses weaken and loose. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 309 P 16 An ordinary Poet would indeed have spun out so many Circumstances to a great Length, and by that means have weakned, instead of illustrated, the principal Fable. 1819 Scott *Quentin D.* xxviii. I..swore ..upon another fragment of the true cross which I got from the Grand Seignior, weakened in virtue, doubtless, by sojourning with infidels. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* v. i, Let not my strong prayer Be weaken'd in thy sight.

b. To lessen or destroy the strength of (an argument, a case, etc.); to render (a probability) less likely.

1608 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 193 Alas..sets Thersites A slaue,. To match vs in comparisons with dirt, To weaken and discredit our exposure. 1644 J. Maxwell *Sacro-sancta Reg. Maj.* 46 This weakeneth no wayes our ——— 1798 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. ... This concession no more weakens the probability of the hydraulic cause, which I apply to it, than that of the principle of the attraction of the heavenly bodies, which [etc.]. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 327 They well knew that an inquiry could not strengthen their case, and might weaken it. 1886 J. B. Mayor *Engl. Metre* 76 This would very much weaken, if not entirely destroy, the evidence in favour of such feet.

c. To render (faith, resolve, conviction) weaker.

1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xii, Don't let my being an unbelieving Thomas weaken your faith.

8. To render (a material thing) less strong or more liable to fracture.

1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* ix. (1842) 248 A hole..will appear before the filter is finished; or if not, it will be so weakened as to be unable to bear a quantity of fluid without breaking. 1837 Dempsey *Archit. Pract.* 51 Closers must never be allowed except in the quoins; where they necessarily must occur, in order not to weaken the work by cutting those bricks which show on both faces. 1910 J. Bartlett in *Encycl. Brit.* V. 387/1 The timbers are held together with a spike. In this way they are not weakened. 1914 M. Barrett *Footfr. Anc. Scot. Ch.* i. 36 This weakened the central tower, which fell with a crash in 1688.

9. To reduce the intensity of (a colour, sound, fire).

1683 Salmon *Doron Med.* II. 378 Then weaken the fire, and draw off a strong cinnamon water. 1733 *School of Miniature* 34 In working thereon with Green, it constantly weakens the Red which had first been laid on. 1792 W. Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. 143 This weakens the colour of the madder. 1809 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (8°) XI. 129 Both sounds grew weaker in proportion as I retired from the striking point; but that transmitted by the stone was weakened much more rapidly than that transmitted through the air. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 531 The oxygen..acts upon the colouring particles; it combines with them, and weakens their colour. 1876 Tait *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* ix. 220 The atmosphere might merely have weakened the various kinds of sunlight.

b. *Phonetics.* To reduce in force of utterance.

1863 Benfey *Sanskr. Gram.* § 187. 153 Many verbs..are weakened..by rejecting final or penultimate nasals. 1869 J. Peile *Grk. & Lat. Etymol.* 124 As for example when a in Greek is weakened to ε. 1874 A. J. Ellis *E. Pronunc.* IV. 1282 In the first case the vowel is strengthened, in the latter weakened. 1877 Sweet *Primer Phonetics* § 273 (1902) 95 There is a distinct tendency to weaken the stress of the last syllable of a syllable-group. 1888 — *Hist. Engl. Sounds* 186 In *drawen* the *w* was probably soon weakened into an *u*. 1908 — *Sounds of English* 51 The falling diphthongs weaken their second elements, so that they are no longer full *i*, *u*.

10. *Card-games.* To lessen the strength of (one's hand, etc.).

1742 Hoyle *Whist* (1745) 25 Whereas if you had trumped one of your Adversaries best Cards, you had so weakened your Hand, as probably not to make more than five Tricks without your Partner's Help. 1864 'Cavendish' *Whist* (1864) 47 You weaken a suit by discarding from it, and lessen the number of long cards you might otherwise establish.

11. To render (market prices, a market) less firm.

1875 *Economist* 2 Jan. 20/2 Stocks being quite small, the increased receipts do not have much effect as yet in weakening prices. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Nov. 4/2 Advices from Manchester have tended to weaken the cotton market.

II. *intr.* 12. To grow or become weak or weaker.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* O j, It shuld be daunger of to moche resolucyon and that the strength shuld weyken. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Leys le Roy* 81 b, By transporting the principal forces, and riches, from Rome to Bizantium, dividing of the Empire into the East and West; they weakned much. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. iv. 248 His Notion weakens. 1607 Rowlands *Guy Warw.* 32 The Emperor..with new forces gave a new assault, Knowing the City could not be relieved, And then their strength would weaken by default. 1733 *School of Miniature* 34 With the same Mixture form all the Shades, adding White as they weaken. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 208 While o'er the meadow's little fluttering rill The twittering sunbeam weakens cool and dim. 1835 Browning *Old Pict. Florence* vi, Wherever an outline weakens and wanes. 1876 J. Ellis *Caesar in Egypt* 131 The body weakens, but the soul is strong. 1884 Howells in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 129/2 These hydraulic elevators weaken sometimes, and can't go any further. 1886 Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* I. xviii. 224 Mrs. Henchard was weakening visibly [in health]. 1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Sept. 621/4 The plot weakens a little towards the end.

b. (orig. *U.S.*) To take a less firm attitude, to recede from a standpoint, to give way.

1876 'Mark Twain' *Tom Sawyer* xxvii, Don't you ever weaken, Huck, and I won't. 1882 Bret Harte *Flip* ii, 'Go 'long, Dad, you're talking silly!' The old man weakened. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 13 Sept. 7/3 A man whom he took for an accomplice weakened when the first child was to be taken and exposed the scheme. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 2/2 The Church will indeed suffer an immense loss of moral prestige if she now weakens on this subject.

Hence **Wea·kened** *ppl. a.*

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Attenuatus*,..appayred, weakened, diminished. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* G iv b, The fountayne Granus giueth strength vnto the weakened bone. 1594 *Selimus* 257 My sonnes..May take occasion of my weakned age, And rise in rebell armes against my state. 1694 Atterbury *Serm., Isa.* lx. 22 (1726) I. 230 When a Warlike and Savage Race of Men..set upon a dissolute, divided, and weakned Enemy. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xxix, An aching head, a weakened stomach, and

a general nervous faintness. 1869 J. Peile *Orth. & Lat. Etymol.* 159 The French *u* is a similar example of weakened articulation. 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* xvi. 140 They are said to have a weakened conclusion because the conclusion is particular. 1874 A. J. Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* IV. 1284 In point of fact this (*r*) is a 'weakened' (u) reduced to (*ə*). 1893 Lindon *Life Pusey* I. xiii. 305 The proposed change, in Pusey's eyes, involves at least a weakened recognition of that duty [of propagating religious truth].

Weakener (*wī*·k'nəɹ). Also 6–8 **weakner.** [f. Weaken *v.* + -er 1.] One who or something which weakens.

1589 L. Andrewes *Serm., Lent* I. (1629) 268 If this Ego, be not Saul, but David. David, which giveth strength vnto the Pillers; and not Saul, an empairer or weakner of them. 1694 [S. Bethel] *Provid. God* (ed. 2) 94 There being no such Traitors to the Strength of a Land, Underminers and Weakners thereof, as are unreformed Provocations. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1727) VI. xi. 397 Fastings and Mortifications..which..rightly managed, are..great weakners of Sin. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (1907) I. iii. 35 Averrhoes' catalogue of Anti-Mnemonics, or weakeners of the memory. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Sol.* viii. (1883) 161 The crowds and centuries of books are only..echoes and weakeners of these few great voices of Time.

Weakening (*wī*·k'nin), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.]

1. The action of the vb. Weaken in various senses; an instance of this.

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Debilitatio*, a weakenyng, or makyng faynte. *c* 1550 W. S. *Disc. Comm. Weal Eng.* (1893) 21 Yet yowe knowe we labour with oure myndes, more to the weaknynge of the same then by anie other bodyly exercise we can doe. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 135 To the great weakening euen at this day of Christes Chirch in England. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xii. 59 All which causes of the weakening of mens faith, do manifestly appear in the Examples following. 1674 R. Godfrey *Inf. & Ab. Physick* 72 What with the weakennings of this fit, twice bleeding an Issue, often vomitting, and oftner purging; I was every year as duly as autumn came, laid up with a continual Fever. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 100 The diminishing and weakening of our crew by deaths and sickness. 1869 J. Peile *Grk. & Lat. Etymol.* 124 Here we have cases of pure weakening—the substitution of a weaker for a stronger sound. 1874 A. J. Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* IV. 1270 Weakening consists, according to Grimm, in 'an unaccountable diminishing of vowel content'. 1876 Tait *Rec. Adv. in Phys. Sci.* iv. 86 The efficiency of the engine is directly proportional to the weakening of the current. 1886 Jago *Chem. Wheat* etc. 315 The rate at which weakening goes on during panification. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Feb. 263/1 The opening can be enlarged and then resutured without causing any weakening in the lower part of the abdominal wall.

2. Something that weakens; a cause or source of weakness. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1545 Visct. Lisle in Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 130 Which wilbe a great weakening to the navye, yf any thing in the meane tyme shall happen. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 18 If Doores and Windowes..were as wide as they are high; it must through necessity be a weakening to a Building. 1703 R. Neve *City & C. Purchaser* 7 All Openings are Weaknings. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 208 This was a great weakening to us,..for we were environed round on all sides by our Enemies, [etc.].

Weakening (*wī*·k'nin), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That weakens, in various senses of the vb.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. ix. (1912) I. 397 You see we both doo feele The weakning worke of Times for ever-whirling wheele. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. of State* 240 To our great grief we have beheld the Protestant Princes..more and more at weakning varinnce among themselves. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 558 The weakening Joys of Wine and Love. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xlvi, Marianne's illness, though weakening in its kind, had not been long enough to make her recovery slow. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xx. 230 All weakening measures were therefore contra-indicated. 1866 Max Müller *Shr. Gram.* 290 Changed..before weakening terminations beginning with consonants. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 895 A diagnosis easily explained by the weakening influence of influenza.

Weakfish (*wī*·kfiʃ). *U.S.* [ad. obs. Du. *weekvisch, -vis*, f. *week* soft + *visch* fish. Cf. G. *weichfisch*, a gadoid fish.] A marine sciænoid food-fish of the genus *Cynoscion*, esp. *C. regalis*, the squeteague or sea-trout of the Atlantic. Other varieties are the spotted weakfish, *C. nebulosus*, and the white or bastard weakfish, *C. nothus*.

The Dutch name (in the form *weekvis*) occurs in a poem in praise of 'New Netherland' by Jacob Steendam (1662), cited in Goode *American Fishes* (1888) 110.

c 1838 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 365/2 This species..is known to the Anglo-Americans by the name of *Weakfish*, because considered by some as a debilitating food, and by others from it pulling but slightly on the line with which it is caught. 1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 62 Otolithus regalis, Cuv., Weak Fish, Yellow-fin. 1873 T. Gill *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 26 Cynoscion regalis..Squeteague or squit..weak-fish (New York).

Hence **Weakfishing**, fishing for weakfish.

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 125 Much the same rig as is used in weakfishing.

Weak-handed, *a.*

1. Having weak hands; *fig.* not capable of effective exertion.

1539 Bible (Great) 2 *Sam.* xvii. 2 And I wyll come vpon hym, whyle he is werye and weake handed. 1868 Miss Yonge *Cameos* I. iv. 27 Crimes were committed which he had no power to restrain, and, weak-handed and bewildered, he seems to have acted in great matters [etc.].

2. = Short-handed *a.*[2] 2.

1827 J. Bradbury *Travels* 292 This mode is called girdling, and is only resorted to by those who, to use their own phrase, are weak-handed. 1836 Marryat *Pirate* xvi, We certainly may defend the schooner from the shore as well as on board; but we are weak-handed.

Weak-headed, *a.*

1 Lacking strength of mind or purpose.

1654 [see Sisterhity]. 1705 De Foe *Consolidator* Wks. 1840 IX. 387 A weak-headed prince, who neither had a right to give his crown, nor a brain to know what he was doing. 1889 Labouchere in *Daily News* 20 Feb. 3/2 A more weak-kneed, weak-headed lot of men could not be conceived. 1908 Jacobs *Salthaven* xiii, That weak-headed Cecilia Willett believes him.

2. Easily overcome by strong liquor.

Hence **Weak-headedness.**

1894 Ld. Dufferin in *Lady Dufferin's Poems & Verses* 15 *footnote*, In contrast to Sheridan's weak-headedness, I may cite the instance of my paternal grandfather...He would occasionally begin a convivial evening with what he called a 'clearer', *i.e.*, a bottle of port [etc.].

Weak-hearted, *a.* a. Lacking fortitude, faint-hearted. b. Tender-hearted, soft-hearted.

a. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Letany* 123 To comfort and helpe the weake hearted. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 390 My Weake-hearted Enemies.

b. 1841 *Lost Brooch* II. xvi. 114 Those soft weak-hearted persons, who think that religion consists in nothing but what they call kindness and forgiveness.

Weakish (*wī*·kiʃ), *a.* [f. Weak *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat weak.

1594 Lady Bacon *Let.* in *Lambeth MSS.* 650, fol. 223, I wold fayn have gon to London for phisick next weeke, but I perceive I cannot being weakish to Ryd so farr. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 386 If the pulse be felt, it will be found to be quick and weakish. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* IV. iv, An innocent young waiter, with weakish legs. 1890 Asp. Benson in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. 305 Spoke at Oxford House to about 400 men...They were attentive—and afterwards they asked weakish questions.

Hence **Weakishness.** *rare*—0.

1864 Webster.

Weak-kneed, *a.* Having weak knees; chiefly *fig.* wanting in resolution or determination.

1870 *Daily News* 16 Nov., The Prefects of the Republic ..know how to keep down the malcontents and to enliven the weak-kneed. 1873 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 208 Kitty Ellison and her weak-kneed lover, we find, are still objects of current allusion. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xiv. (1900) 235 Suicide..would be..a weak-kneed confession of fear.

Hence **Weak-kneedness.**

1882 *Standard* 19 Sept. 5/1 The peculiar awkward running gait of women..is due to a weak-kneedness characteristic of the sex. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Sept. 340 The weak-kneedness of the Irish landlords has had much to do with the triumph of anarchy.

Weakliness. [-ness.] Weakly quality.

1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* iii. 28 Does na everybody ken I'm a seven-months bairn, the which is the cause of my weakliness. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* Prel. 1 The weakliest and the silliest..transmit to their offspring their own weakliness or silliness. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 258 This has been attributed to the weakliness of hospital infants.

Weakling (*wī*·klin). Also 6 **weak(e)lyng, weikling,** *Sc.* **waykling,** 6–7 **weakeling.** [f. Weak *a.* + -ling 1. Cf. G. *weichling* effeminate man.]

†**1.** An effeminate or unmanly person. *Obs.*

1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* vi. 9 Nether fornicators,..nether whormongers, nether weaklinges [μαλακοί; Luther, *weichlinge*]. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiii. xxviii. 840 Men were much deceived to thinke, that so horrible and straunge a murder was committed by such weaklings and persons as they were [*qui tam atrocem caedem pertinere ad illos semiviros crederent*].

2. A person or animal that lacks physical strength, or is weak in health or constitution.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 358 Will you lay a heauie and weightie burthen, vppon the..shoulders of a young beginner, of a weakling, of an infant, which is able to make Demosthenes sincke vnder it, and falter to the grounde? 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Hannibal* (1595) 1143 There it was that Annibals souldiers..became then of valiant men, rancke cowardes: of strong menne weakelings. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 584 Thy selfe art mightie,..My selfe a weakling, do not then insnare me. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 133 Hewen in pieces they were pell-mell one with another, armed souldiors and unarmed weaklings, and no regard of sex was made. 1642 Milton *Animadv.* 31 Like a carved Gyant terribly menacing to children, and weaklings. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure united* 2 It will..cause her [the Cow] to produce weaklings, or unhealthy Calves. 1697 J. Puckle *New Dial.* 33 Of pitiful Weaklings at Land, they come to be hardy, stout, and healthfull Persons. 1822 Lamb *Elia, Roast Pig*, The strong man may batten on him [the pig], and the weakling refuseth not his mild juices. 1830 Kingsley *Alton Locke* iv, Shakspeare was lame; Alfred, a rickety weakling. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* II. viii, I say nothing for that poor weakling, that hot-house plant, [etc.]. 1889 *Spectator* 27 Apr. 571/2 The caravans must have dropped many dead weaklings, men and beasts alike, in every hundred miles.

fig. 1648 Jenkyn *Blind Guide* I. 24 So poor a weakling, and so mishapen a monster it [*sc.* a book] is, that..none will doubt it for his.

3. One who is weak in character or intellect.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1181/2 Those honest men that had beene of Throckmortons quest..submitted themselues, and said they had offended like weakelings. 1626 Hayward *Sanct. Treuth. Soul* I. xiv. (1640) 290 What then shall I doe, wretched weakeling? Shall I speake? or shall I be silent? I must not bee silent, and I cannot speake. *a* 1656 Hales *Serm.* Golden Rem. I. (1673) 47 Weaklings are able to begin a quarrel, but the prosecution and finishing is a work for stronger men. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* lxvi. VIII. 448 If they were men they would be in no want of allies, nor, if weaklings, of masters. 1884 Browning *Parleyings Fancies* I. 28 Should he play The helpless weakling, or the helpful strength That captures prey and saves the perishing? 1896 W. Watson *Purple East* 36 Only the witling's sneer, the worldling's smile, The weakling's fail him not who fain Would rouse to noble deed.

b. One who is a tiro or unskilled *in* (a subject).

1575 Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* Ep. Ded. A iij, Leauing nothing vnsifted which might appertaine to the vttermost exposition of these Bucolikes, that weaklinges in Poetrie myght rather be supported then suppressed.

4. One who is weak in the faith or in spiritual attainments.

Common in 16–17th centuries.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Mark* I. 9–11 A ministre..muste ..eschew all thinges wherwith the weakelinges may be offended. 1577 Hanmer *Eccl. Schol. Eccl. Hist.* III. vii. 304 Eusebius ..confirmed like a cunning Phisicion such as were weakelings in the faith. 1687 Owen *Communion with God* II. iii. Digress. ii. 123 We that can doe nothing in our selves, we are such weaklings, can doe all things in Jesus Christ, as Giants. 1865 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* vii. 201 Many a weakling has thought himself strong.

5. *appositive* or as *adj.* Weak, feeble.

1557 Grimald in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 102 Hee shall, for man, a weaklyng woman proue. 1822 Lamb *Elia, Mackery End*, In the days of weakling infancy I was her tender charge. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* II. v. But now to wash Christ's feet were dangerous honour For weakling grace. 1906 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 July 246/1 The author does not spare himself, and he does not spare the weakling reader.

Weakly (*wī*·kli), *a.* [f. Weak *a.* + -ly 1.]

1. Weak in constitution, not strong or robust, delicate.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. viii. 203 Not to suppresse such a fellowe as this, is to put a sword in a madde mans hand, to kill vnwise and weakelie men. 1588 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* xcii, Little of stature, and in apparence weakelie. 1678 W. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 329 Anne Coke is brought to bed of a son,. a very weakly one. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 248 Neither objected he against my weakly Looks, nor against my Feeble Mind. 1753 Miss Collier *Art Torment.* II. iv. (1811) 171 Hermia is far from being of a weakly constitution. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Manch. Strike* ix. 103 The more weakly of the labourers lie down and die. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xii. 133 From the weakly habit of the patient,..he thought it advisable to let her have some weak chicken broth and light negus. 1877 Conder *Basis of Faith* v. 225 The swiftest hare may be run down by the dogs, weaklier ones meanwhile lurking in safe covert. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 857 In weakly children the syrup of the phosphate of iron..is of advantage.

absol. 1621 T. Granger *Expos. Eccles.* i. 3. 6 The sicke and weakly, thinketh the strong and healthfull happy. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* viii, She, the weakly, was left behind, while the strong man was taken. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* Prel. 1 In the civilised state..the weakliest and the silliest..have their chance likewise.

b. of a plant, tree, etc.

1775 J. Tait *Land of Liberty* II. xxxv. 47 She cuts him off like some poor weakly flow'r. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 364 It would be ridiculous to lay the same quantity of wood into a weakly tree as into a tree in full vigour. 1887 *Field* 15 Oct. 603/2 A weakly grower [*sc.* a rose-tree].

2. Characterized by moral weakness.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xxiv, Of no avail are weakly condolences or mild assenting pity. 1900 *Month* Aug. 135 A sort of cruel kindness and weakly indulgence.

3. Of a laugh: Feeble, faint, half-hearted.

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* III. iii, 'Are they?' she says, with a weakly laugh.

Weakly (*wī*·kli), *adv.* [f. Weak *a.* + -ly 2.] In a weak manner.

1. With little energy, force, or strength; † with gentle action, softly (*obs.*).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xxvii. (1495) 429 A kite is weke in flyghte and in strengthe and is callyd Miluus as it were weekely flaenge [L. *mollister volans*]. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 697 Waynour waykly wepande hym kyssid. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 155 b, By more easy meanes commeth to perfeccyon, whiche they slowly & weykly or fayntly desyre. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* III. ix. 441 For the yong plant which can attract & draw but weakly, & at hand any substance for it selfe, will hardly [etc.]. *a* 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 33 It is very probable that the Motion of Grauitie worketh weakly, both farre from the Earth, and also within the Earth. 1642 Symonds *Serm. bef. Ho. of Comm.* B iiij b, An arrow weakly shot, will fall short of the mark. 1657 Baxter *Present Th.* 12 Grace may act weaklier than it did before. 1715 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 21 Upon account of their distance from the Fire, they are but very weakly reflected. 1876 Papillon *Man. Comp. Philol.* 69 Final *m* [in Latin]..must have been weakly pronounced.

b. In a weak or enfeebled condition. Also *transf.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10151 Philmen..the gome hit,..gert hym to stoupe, þat he wauerit þerwith, & weikly he sete. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIX. xii. 704 Thenne the wounded knyghte syr Vrre sette hym vp weykely. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xl. (Percy Soc.) 200 In his hand he hadde A croked staffe; he wente full wekely. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. 45 As one out of a deadly dreame affright, She weakely started, yet she nothing drad. 1606 Sir E. Coke in *True & Perf. Relat.* T 3 b, This paper of his Retractation, which hee had weakely and dyingly subscribed. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lost Bower* lxix, By this couch I weakly lie on, While I count my memories.

†**2.** Insecurely, unsubstantially. *Obs.*

1522 Bp. Fox in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 8 Also my Lord, I have not soo skilenderly baylded my selve, nor soo weykly estableshed my house in thies parties, that I can honestely or conveniently so sodenly depart hens. 1685 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 123 That supposition is but weakly founded, at least in my apprehension. 1784 *Cook's 3rd Voy.* I. Introd. 22 The visits were..so transient, that it was scarcely possible to build upon a foundation, so weakly laid, any information that could even gratify idle curiosity.

b. With weakness of constitution.

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 40 *Old Lady.* Haue you

limbs To beare that load of Title? *Anne Bullen.* No in truth. *Old Lady.* Then you are weakly made.

3. With slight defensive strength.

1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 60 Our state eke and persons may not thus weaklye be shielded. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. i. 74 'Tis sure they found some place, But weakely guarded, where the breach was made. 1593 — *Lucr.* 28 Honour and Beautie in the owners armes, Are weaklie fortrest from a world of harmes. 1680 Cotton *Gamester* (ed. 2) 52 When you find your adversaries King any way weakly guarded. 1705 Addison *Italy, Pesaro* 145 Some have wonder'd that the Turk never attacks this Treasury, since it..is so weakly guarded. 1921 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Feb. 67/3 Haig..was quite right to hold the southern end of his line..more weakly than the rest.

4. With deficiency of numbers or amount; sparsely, meagrely. ? *Obs.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. § 7. 52 If a shoomaker should haue no shooes in his shoppe, but onely worke, as hee is bespoken, hee should bee weakely customed. *a* 1649 Winthrop *Hist. N. Eng.* (1853) II. 232 Here came a pinnace..for procuring powder..but we were weakly provided ourselves. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 219 The captain was so weakly manned, that it was near four hours before we hove the cable right up and down.

b. In a slight degree; to a small extent or amount.

1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 204 A battery so weakly electrified that its shock will not pass through a chain. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 617 The waters weakly mineralized. 1805 W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 557 The ochre..is, when dry, weakly magnetic. 1805 T. Weaver *Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 101 Solid fossils that stain..either strongly or weakly. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 450 This may be done..by bringing the body, if weakly electrified, into contact with the cap.

5. With weakness of mind or character; with lack of mental grasp or firmness of will.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 188, I will not aduenture my discretion so weakly. 1668 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 2 The meaning is not that all mankind was made of the same uniform matter, as the authour of the Præ-Adamites weakly imagined. 1671 Milton *Samson* 30 Who this high gift of strength committed to me,..Under the Seal of silence could not keep, But weakly to a woman must reveal it. 1705 S. Clarke *Disc. Nat. Relig.* vi. Wks. 1738 II. 661 Plato, after having delivered very noble..Truths concerning the Nature and Attributes of the Supreme God, weakly advises Men to worship likewise Inferiour Gods. 1864 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 208 What may strike you as weakly fanciful in my desire. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, He was weakly credulous. 1890 Lady F. Verney *Verney Mem.* I. 267 She was not at all inclined to be weakly indulgent.

6. With little vigour of action, inefficiently.

1663 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Funeral Abp. Armagh* 1 The Condition of Man in this World is so limited..that the best things he does he does weakly. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 162 P 4 We please our pride with the effects of our influence thus weakly exerted. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiii, Mr. Boythorn, who interested himself strongly in the subject—though I need not say that, for he could do nothing weakly. 1905 Ld. E. Fitzmaurice *Ld. Granville* I. xv. 430 Mr. Lowe considered that he had been but weakly defended by some of his colleagues in the House of Commons.

7. With little force of argument; unconvincingly.

1668 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 7 Now I appeal to the reason of any Person..Whether either of these two Hypotheses..be not far more weakly proved, then the existence of a Deity is. 1855 Pusey *Doctr. Real Presence in Fathers* Note F 73 He is blamed by others, as exposing the doctrine which he defends weakly. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* i. 9 He spoke weakly, and from the point, like a flighty girl.

Wea·k-mi·nded, *a.*

1. Having a weak mind; lacking strength of purpose. Of actions, opinions, etc.: Indicating weakness of mind.

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. xiii, 'Oh fie,' cried he, 'to suffer *your* understanding to be lulled asleep, because the weak-minded Mr. Arnott's could not be kept awake!' 1842 Abby *Water Cure* 57 Nor will any one, who wilfully prejudices the weak-minded and uninstructed against this method, ..stand guiltless. 1863 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Vict.* III. xv. 227 It is my misfortune to be weak-minded. I can't say 'no' to people. 1878 J. Gairdner *Rich. III*, i. 7 The Duke of York..fruitlessly endeavoured to bind a weak-minded king by pledges. 1890 H. James *Tragic Muse* xxxv, If he should go abroad his mother might think he had some weak-minded view of joining Julia Dallow.

2. Mentally deficient; half-witted.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 797/2 The care of the weak-minded and the insane. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 744 The educative and disciplinary influences resorted to in the treatment of weak-minded children. 1899 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 7/3 This woman had two sisters weak-minded, who were in the lunatic asylum.

Hence **Wea·k-mi·ndedness.**

1844 Mrl *Diary* 4 Feb., in *Lett.* (1910) II. 367 It might well be that even good men..thought that to be scrupulous about means was weakmindedness. 1888 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Oct. 449 Murderous attacks may result from..Insanity of primary weak-mindedness. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 400 How long ago this happened it is impossible to say, owing to..the weak-mindedness of the African regarding time.

Weakness (wī·knės). [f. Weak *a.* + -ness.]

1. The quality or condition of being weak, in any sense of the adj.; deficiency of strength, power, or force.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27054 Botes thru, Quar-wit þat we mai strenghed be. þe first for waikenes of vr fa þat qua-eum will mai were him fra. *Ibid.* 28932 [Of alms-giving] 'Weiknes' mai þou lok for mede, For þou man agh all helpe in nede, þe waikest and þe mast vn-sare. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 5026 Alle þe strenthe of Sampson þat was pereles, War noght taid þare bot wayknes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3323 Syn weikenes of women may not wele stryve, Ne hase no myght towardes men malstries to fend. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Weyknesse, of hert, *accervilia, pusillanimitas.* 1525 *Grete Herbal* clxxiii. (1529) L j, Agaynst vomyte caused of waykenesse of the vertue retentyfe, take [etc.]. 1538 Starkey *England* 43 Wych thyng [ac. retirement from the world] surely ys not amys downe of them wych perceyue theyr owne inabecyllyte and wekenes. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. iii. 17 To my bitter straight, Weaknesse possesseth me, and I am faint. 1602 — *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 276, I thinke it is the weaknesse of mine eyes That shapes this monstrous Apparition. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxvii. 236 And so make the weaknesse of his voice seem to proceed..from distance of place. 1678 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 45 Lady Portsmouth [is] going to Bourbon as soone as her weaknesse will permitt. 1686 Tillotson *Serm. at White-Hall* (2 Cor. iii. 15) 19, I shall shew the weakness of the principle upon which this argument relies. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard* 239 The weakness of the Sun in that Season. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 33 They depend upon the indulgent weakness of their Parents tempers. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvi. 69 The man who is conscious of the weakness of his cause is interested in concealing it. 1774 [W. Mitford] *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 153 The expression of the 829 line is much heightened by the extreme weakness of the accent in the first foot [etc.]. 1781 Burns *Let. W. Burnes* 27 Dec., The weakness of my nerves. 1782 *Jrnl. Yng. Lady of Virginia* (1871) 22 Nancy was much better...Weakness is her only complaint. 1828 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 162 Where..a testator..was incapable of disposing of his lands from any weakness of mind. 1831 Lamb *Elia, Witches* Wks. 1908 I. 554 Credulity is the man's weakness, but the child's strength. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. xxiii. 111. 425 The independence of Navarre had hitherto been maintained less through its own strength than the weakness of its neighbours. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxiii. 301 He was startled by the growing weakness of the ice. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 33 The weakness of Henry III would not suffer him to commit himself heartily to a Ghibelline policy. 1869 Tanner *Clin. Med.* (ed. 2) 20 Dementia...This form of insanity is often seen in those who in early life exhibit weakness of will, or of moral self-control. 1875 *Economist* 23 Jan. 95/2 The special causes of weakness affecting the markets have..been greatly influential here. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. 118/2 Rule 15..is a rule meant to make a litigant expose the weakness of his case. 1900 *Conquest* Nov. 7/2 The mountains..are lines of weakness caused by the crumpling of the earth's crust.

2. In particularized uses. a. A weak point, a circumstance of disadvantage.

1597 Bacon *Ess., Of Negotiating* (Arb.) 92 If you would worke any man, you must either know his nature, and fashions and so leade him,..or his weaknesses or disaduantages, and so awe him. 1627 Donne *Serm.* lxxxi. (1649) 11, 9 Here, it is a faire portion of that Angelicall happinesse, if you be alwaies ready to support, and supply one another in any such occasionall weaknesses. 1914 Ian Hay *Knt. on Wheels* xix, The brakes of the Britannia cars have always been their weakness. 1920 *Discovery* Apr. 114/1 Any weakness there was in our pre-war small house design was a tendency to fussiness.

b. An infirmity of character, a failing.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. v. xii. 148, I shall heartily thank you..if you tell me of my weaknesses. 1671 Milton *Samson* 773 *Dalila.* First granting, as I do, it was a weakness In me, but incident to all our sex, Curiosity. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 255 P 10 This very Thirst after Fame..is it self looked upon as a Weakness in the greatest Characters. 1748 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 29 Oct., Not to seem to perceive the little weaknesses, and the idle but innocent affectations of the company. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlv. (1782) I. 525 The laws of Constantine against rapes were dictated with very little indulgence for the most amiable weaknesses of human nature. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xlix, His heart was now open to Elinor, all its weaknesses, all its errors confessed. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxv. V. 256 Many who could not help smiling at Burnet's weaknesses did justice to his abilities and virtues.

†c. A weakened condition of body; an attack of faintness. *Obs.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 148 He..Fell into a Sadnesse,..thence into a Weaknesse. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 236, I was all the day troubled with a weaknesse of bodie. 1749 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. i. § 2. 52 The Numbness, and paralytic Weaknesses, which frequently succeed after Opiates. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 203 And ever since, I am given to violent passions and weaknesses in my head.

3. An unreasonable or self-indulgent liking or inclination *for* (a person or thing).

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 442 P 1, I must own my Weakness for Glory is such, that if I consulted that only, I might [etc.]. 1746 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 4 Oct., I have no womanish weakness for your person. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. xi, He hath every great and generous quality, with perhaps a weakness for the sex which belongs to his family. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* x. 172, I think she would like to have Porter, but he doesn't seem to see that she has a weakness for him. 1895 H. A. Kennedy in *19th Cent.* Aug. 330, I own to a weakness for a play that, without any flourish of pretence, does very distinctly amuse me. 1913 *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* Jan. 4 He had a weakness for getting on his feet several times in the course of one First-day morning.

b. quasi-*concr.* Something for which one has an unreasonable liking.

1822 Byron *Vis. Judgm.* xxxix, Nor wine nor lust Were of his weaknesses. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lv, You have been exciting yourself too much—talking perhaps, for it is your weakness. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xx, It's the fashionable way; and fashion and whiskers have been my weaknesses, and I don't care who knows it.

Wea·k-si·ghted, *a.* Having weak sight; also *fig.*

a 1592 H. Smith *Sinner's Conversc.* (1673) A 5 b, If our faith be so weake sighted that we cannot see Christ. 1606 Marston *Parasit.* III. F 2, Las we are now growne old, weake sighted, alas any one fooles vs. *a* 1632 Broome *City Wit* II. ii, My Mayd is very thick of hearing, and exceeding weake sighted. 1788–94 Tucker *Lit. Rem.* (1857) I. 106 The weak-sighted cannot sustain thy piercing look. *Ibid.* 603 Nor are the views of God so narrow as to want those helps ..which are necessary to weak-sighted mortals. 1823 T. Hook *Parson's Daus.* I. ii, Luckily it was getting dark, and Lovell, moreover, was somewhat weak-sighted.

Hence **Wea·k-si·ghtedness.**

1632 Brome *Northern Lass* II. iii, I hope you will pardon my weake sightednes...Could not your worship make your selfe knowen sooner? 1880 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, Weak-sightedness,..*Asthenopia.*

Weaky (wī·ki), *a. north. dial.* [f. Weak *a.* + -y[1]. Cf. dial. *weky* moist, sappy, f. Woke *a.*] Moist, damp; juicy.

1641 [implied in Weakiness: see below]. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* 80 *Weaky*, moist. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray, Weaky*, moist. 1788 Marshall *Rur. Econ. Yorks.* II. 364 *Weaky*; juicy; opposed to 'hask'. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'Weaky weather', rainy. 'Don't make the paste too weaky', don't make the dough with over much water.

Hence **Wea·kiness**, moisture. *dial.*

1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 75 On the day time wee putte them into one close or other, and lette them eate mowe, and gette the weakiness on the grownde. 1876 *Cumberld. Gloss., Weakiness*, moisture.

Weal (wīl), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–2 wela; 1 weola (3 weolla), 3–4 weole (2 wole); 1 weala (3 wale); 2–6 wele (3–4 wel, well), 5–6 weel(e (5 weell), 5 weyle; *Sc.* 5–6 weile (6 weille), 5–7 weill, weil (6 veill, veil), 6 weyll, 8 weel; 6–7 weale, 6– weal. [OE. *wela* (*weola, weala*) wk. masc. = OS. *welo*, OHG. *wolo*:—OTeut. **welon-*, f. root **wel-*: see Well *adv.*

The 14th cent. northern form *wel* (*well*) is merely a variant spelling, and the length of the vowel is proved by rhymes; but from the 15th cent. in midland and southern texts a real confusion between *wele* and *wel* appears, owing to the currency of double forms of the adverb 'well'. In consequence of this the noun is sometimes written *wel, well*, or *welle*, and in this form is latterly identified in pronunciation with the adv. (For examples see Well *sb.*[2]) On the other hand the adv. in the form *wele* or *weale* has influenced the meaning of the noun in sense 4 below, and probably contributed to its use in sense 3 (and in Weal-public) as an equivalent of L. *bonum* and F. *bien.*]

†1. Wealth, riches, possessions. *Obs.* (as distinct from 2).

Often *world-, world's, worldly weal.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. § 2 Ac for bearnlease eallne þone welan þe hi begaderiað hi lætað fremdum to brucanne. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 197 Se man ahte myceline welan. *c* 1205 Lay. 7732 For eowre muchele wurðscipe weole 3e scullen habben. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Ant te world bit mon 3iuen worldes weole, & wunne, & wurschipe. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 120 Wyþ-vte wysdome is weole wel vnwurþ. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 32 For what richesse, rink, vs might þus bireue, Whan no wordliche wele is wiþ us founde? *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* viii. 68 Beter is litel ryytwys wonne..þan.. Wiþouten desert take pore meanys wele. 1532 Elyot *Governour* I. i, In our olde vulgare, profite is called weale. 1592 Greene & Lodge *Looking Gl.* III. ii. 1037 (Collins) Behold with ruthfull eyes Thy parents robd of all their worldly weale By subtle meanes of vsurie and guile. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* I. i. 119 He paid the usual penalty of such indifference to worldly weal, by seeing himself eventually stripped of his lordly possessions.

†b. *pl. Obs.*

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* IV. xi. (1890) 294 Ond he sundorlilif & munuclilif wæs foreheorende allum þam weolum & arum þæs eorðlecan rices. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 14 Þæt synd þa ðe..of welum [Vulg. *divitiis*] & of lustum þysses lifes synd forþrymode. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Ðu gederast mare and mare..and þine welan forrotiað beforan þine ehtan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4503 Man þat weltres in his welis And, thoru his welth, na fautes felis. 1543 Recorde *Gr. Artes* B iij b, How many waies also Arithmetike is conducible for al priuat weales of Lordes and all possessioners. 1628 Pemble *Salomon's Recant.* 24 Dislike and Hatred of all his magnificent workes, weales, possessions and pleasures.

†c. Pomp, splendour, rich array. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 264/103 For no Moruk ne scholde gon out þar-of, þe worldes weole to seo. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 37 This duc..Whan he was come almoost vn to the toun In al his wele and in his moeste pride.

†d. Stores, supplies. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 4786 Agaynes hem comen her naveye, Cogges, and dromoundes, many galeye,..That were chargyd with al weel, With armour and with other vytayle. *c* 1400 *Amars* 824 He lette ordeyne shypus fele, And fylled hem fulle of wordes wele, Hys men mery wyth to make.

2. Welfare, well-being, happiness, prosperity.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 432 Siððan hiß him se wela onwended & wyrð him wite gegearwod. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Eala hu leas & hu unwrest is þysses middan-eardes wela. *c* 1205 Lay. 10394 He bæom wolden mucle wele & wurðscipe itæchen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 292 Þeo ilke uondunges..wendeð efterward to woole and to eche bliase. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 800 Abram let loth in welðe and wale. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 822 Wele is him þat it winne may. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2243 For now is Palamon in alle wele. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 50 b, I am right ioyous of thy wele and worship. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII* c. 12 Preamble, Dedis of charite..to be doon for him..for the wele of his soule. 1549 Coverdale etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* vi. 13 Ye nowe are become Christes seruauntes, whose seruice is all weale and

Naaman 165 To read Masse or Dirigies for the weale of his soule after his decease. 1825 Scott *Last Minstr.* VI. xxvii. And monks should sing, and bells should toll, All for the weal of Michael's soul. 1882 Goodeve *Study Med.* (1889) I. 396 The flux..becomes a conditional of the corporeal weal. 1889 Tennyson *Enid* 799, I doubted whether daughter's tenderness, Or shy nature, might not let itself Be moulded by your wishes for her weal.

b. freq. in contrast with *woe* (+ *woma*).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 466 Þæt þær ylda bearn moste

encensan godes & yfeles, gumena æghwilc ōðlan & wæwan. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 29 Ne on wele ne on wanȝðe. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 142 For God may yeue, þonne he wule, god after wuele, weole after wowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4054 His was, his well, yes sal here bath. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2777 For wel ne for wo. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 202–4. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* 376 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 100 Per is dred & sorow & wo wytoutin wel. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xii 51 How they sware that for wele nor woo they shold not leue other. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 43 But welcome now my Lord, in wele or woe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII 638 Thine and of all thy Sons The weal or woe in thee is plac't. 1771 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. XXIX, All human weal and woe learn thou to make thine own. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* IV. v, 'Come weal, come woe, by Bruce's side,' Replied the Chief, 'will Ronald bide.' 1880 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXXIX. 2 Dear friend, far off, my lost desire, So far, so near in woe and weal. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* XV, Impulsive and impetuous, she had always taken her own course, whether for weal or woe. 1897 Q. VICTORIA in *Daily News* 17 July 5/4 In weal and woe I have ever had the true sympathy of all my people.

† **c.** *pl. Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 154 & euer me þost I schulde not wonde For wo, þer weles so wynne wore. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 260/2 Thou arte begynnynge myddell and ende of alle weles and goodes. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 24 He [God] hath gyuen me more of weles than y haue or can de-

1544 *Lade Exped. Scot.* (1798) 13 To proue whether the Scottes had yet learned, by theyr importable losses lately chaunced to them, to tendyr theyr own weales, by true and reasonable vnytynge & adioynynge them selues to the Kynges Maiesties louyng liege people. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 256 Nor regardyng..their awne weales and states, neyther the weales of their householdes, as their wives, children, or friendes.

† **d.** applied to a person, as a source of felicity, or an object of delight. *Obs.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 8 Þu art iweddedes weole ant widewene warant. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 183 Iheru mi weole, mi wunne. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodora*) 363 Þu art my welth & wele. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 288 O thou my wele, o thou my wo. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XII. 290 He is our lord and our wele, and therfore I praye you, fayr bredern, that ye wyll obeye hym. 1490 — *Eneydos* VI. 28 Sith that he hath..taken awaye hym whiche was alle my wele.

3. *contextually.* The welfare of a country or community; the general good. Often with defining word, as *common, general, public, universal.* See also COMMON WEAL 1, PUBLIC *a.* 2 a, WEAL-PUBLIC 3. Now *arch.*

† Phr. *The weal of peace* = OF. *le bien de paix.*

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 121/1 Where afore this tyme for the wele of Peas, Tranquillite and gode Governance, bitwene the Baillifs and Cominalte of the Toun of Shroesbury, divers compoisicions were made bitwene hem. 1483 *Eng. Gilds* 335 To..the wele of the kyng our soueraygn lordes people. 1531 ELYOT *Governor* Prohemie, Your graces moste beneuolent inclination towarde the vniuersall weale of your subiectes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 146 It was agreed by the king..for his more suretie, and for the weale of the lande. 1643 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 342 As enemies to the weal of both kingdoms. 1697 DE LA PRYME *Diary* 26 Sept. (Surtees) 250 Who vallues the weal politic above the ecclesiastic. 1726–30 THOMSON *Winter* 35 For thy country's weal. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. i, This needful violence is for thy safety, No less than for the general weal. 1826 *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* I. 132 He appears in them as a watchful guardian of the domestic weal. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. XXIII. III. 430 This enterprise, undertaken for the weal of the church. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* IX. 220 Thou..shouldst follow willingly Another's judgment when it best promotes The general weal.

b. Hence, a state, community; = COMMON WEAL 2. ? *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. vii. 92 Avys heiron amangis 30u for the best, And help to bring our feble weill to rest. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 304 For the universall Christen weale [L. *pro republica Christiana*]. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 66 The speciall Watch-men of our English Weale. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* II. iii. 15 Wo to the weale where many lawiers bee. 1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 102 We ought not to meruaile, if this weale haue florished now these 250. yeares in great reputation of armes and valor. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* V. ii. 27 Meet we the Med'cine of the sickly Weale. 1608 HEYWOOD *Rape of Lucrece* B 4 b, Tarquins abilitie will in the weale, Beget a weake vnable impotence. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xvii. 27 (Shepherd's Dog & Wolf) If mindful of the bleating weal, Thy bosom burn with real zeal. 1763 CHURCHILL *Epist. Hogarth* 42 To enlarge the mind, Purge the sick weal, and humanize mankind.

† **4.** a. Goodness, virtuous behaviour. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Three Kings' Sons* 33 She wist wele that without grete nurture..he might not knows the weelis and honoures that he coude. *Ibid.* 36 In his company, wheryn men may lerne bothe wele and honour. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 11 Yf that ye think theron but wele & honour.

† **b.** Good or honourable report. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Three Kings' Sons* 133 For the grete weeles that euery man rehersed of you.

Weal (wīl), *sb.*[2] [A mod. variant of WALE *sb.*[1], by confusion with WHEAL *sb.*[1], a pustule: see WHEAL *sb.*[2]] The mark or ridge raised on the flesh by the blow of a rod, lash, etc.; = WALE *sb.*[1] 2, WHEAL *sb.*[2]

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 68 Who, soon as mounted, with his switching weals, Puts Dob's best swiftness in his heavy heels. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* IV, From shoulder to flank, sir, I am one mass of welts and weals. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vi. (1857) 111 He told us that his legs were marked by great weals, where the thong had wound round as if he had been flogged with a whip. 1872 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 58 His visage ribb'd From ear to ear with dogwhip-weals. 1900 CONAN DOYLE *Green Flag* etc. 185 Black and bitter were the thoughts of Frenchmen when they saw this weal of dishonour slashed across the fair face of their country.

† **Weal,** *v.*[1] Var. WHEAL *v.*[1] *Obs.*

1664 in Pepys *Diary* 31 Dec. (1879) III. 96 [Charm against a thorn] Jesus..Was pricked both with nail and thorn; It neither wealed, nor belled, rankled, nor boned.

Weal (wīl), *v.*[2] [var. of WALE *v.*[2], by confusion with WHEAL *v.*[1]] *trans.* To mark (the flesh) with weals; = WALE *v.*[2] 1.

1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* I, I saw him afterwards, with his back all wealed with the lashes. 1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 100 The lash that weal'd poor Dobbin's hide. 1824 SCOTT *Tadium.* XVIII, His bare arm..wealed with the blows of the discipline. 1886 FENN *Master Cerem.* XXX, Were you ever beaten—cut—and wealed with your own whip?

b. *absol.*

1908 *Times* 17 Jan. 4/6 The school authorities allowed only four strokes, two on each hand, as a maximum punishment, and they must not weal. 1922 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 355 The knotted ropes that weal and flay.

Hence **Wealed** *ppl. a.*, **Wealing** *vbl. sb.*

1841 TUPPER *Twins* XVII. (1844) 131 His wealed body, full of pains and aches and bruises. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Nov. 7/2 The governess and upper housemaid examined the child afterwards and found severe wealing of the back and stomach, besides bruises.

Weal, var. WEEL; obs. Sc. f. WELL *a.*, *adv.*

Wealaway, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

Weald (wēld). Forms: 1 **weald,** 3–4, 6 **welde,** 5 **weeld,** 5–6, 8 **weld**; 6–9 **wild(e,** wyld(e, 7 **wile**; 6 **weylde,** 6–7 **wield,** 6– **weald.** [OE. *weald* 'forest' (the WS. equivalent of Anglian *wald*: see WOLD), normally developing into southern ME. *wēld(e, weeld*; the modern spelling, which is due to Lambarde, is a re-adoption of the OE. form. The form *wild(e,* which occurs early in the 16th c., is probably parallel to Kentish and Sussex dial. *fild* for *field*, but in later use was apparently assimilated in pronunciation to the more intelligible WILD *sb.*, which had an appropriately descriptive meaning.

The OE. *weald* is applied in the Chronicle (see below) to the forest of Andred, which included at least part of the present 'Weald'.]

1. The name of the tract of country, formerly wooded, including the portions of Sussex, Kent, and Surrey which lie between the North and South Downs.

(*a*) *O.E. Chron.* an. 893, Se [Limene] muþa is on eastweardre Cent, æt þæs miclan wuda eastende þe we Andred hatað..seo ea..lið ut of þæm wealda; on þa ea hi tuxon up hiora scipu oþ þone weald. [1018 *Charter of Cnut* (Ord. Surv. Facs. III. No XXVIX) Quoddam siluulae nemus concedo famosa in silua Andredeswealde.] *c* 1290 *St. Kenelm* 5 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 346 Sethþe hadde þe kyng of westsex southsex also, þe welde and al þe bischopriche of Cicestre þerto. [1357 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 31 *Edw. III* m. 17 (1909) X. 578 Towns and places within La Welde, co. Kent.] 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* Pref. (Sommer) 4, I..was born & lerned myn englisah in kente in the weeld where I doubte not is spoken as brode and rude englisah as in ony place of englond. 1483 DK. NORFOLK in *Paston Lett.* III. 308 The Kentysshmen be up in the weld, and sey they wol come and robbe the cite. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 The hundred of Cranebroke, in the wilde of your county of Kent. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 17 § 11 Townes parishes or places..within the weldes of the counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex. 1558–9 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 15 § 2 The Wellde of Kent. *Ibid.*, In the Weyide of the Countye of Surreye. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 268, I was borne in the wylde of Kent. 1596 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 60. 1619 DALTON *Country Justice* XXVI. (1630) 72 In the highways within the Wields of Sussex Surrey or Kent. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* V. 61 The Wiles of Kent. 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II*, c. 6 § 17 Any Owner Farmer or Lessee of any Iron worke..within the Wildes of the Counties of Surrey Sussex or Kent. 1697 DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 109 That unpassable County of Sussex, which especially in some parts in the Wild, as they very properly call it,..hardly admits the Countrey People to Travel to Markets in Winter, [etc.]. 1778 *England's Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Newdigate, Surry*, The Wyld hereabouts is observed to bear excellent oats. 1801 W. HUNTINGTON *God Guardian of Poor* 66 Being a native of the Wild of Kent, which is none of the most polite parts of the world.

(*b*) 1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 167 Nowe then we are come to the Weald of Kent, which (after the common opinion of men of our time) is conteined within very streight and narrowe limits, notwithstanding that in times paste, it was reputed of suche exceeding bignesse, that it was thought to extende into Sussex, Surrey, and Hamshyre. 1625 MARKHAM *Inrichment Weald Kent* 1 The Weald of Kent is the lower part of that Shire, lying on the South side thereof, and adioyneth to the Weald of Sussex, towards the West. 1787 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 190 The right hand stations occupy..the heights which extend across the Weald. 1822 W. D. CONYBEARE & PHILLIPS *Outl. Geol.* 144 The Weald. This district may be generally described as stretching along the coast of the channel from Folkstone to Beachy Head, and thence extending westwards into the interior as far as the confines of Sussex and Hampshire. 1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 196 There is a great deal of valuable timber and coppice-wood in Surrey, particularly in the weald...Turnpike roads good; but cross-roads, particularly in the weald, very indifferent. 1863 HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci. Subj.* I. § 4 What has become of all that great bed of chalk which once covered all the weald of Kent? 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations, Sussex* 24 And through the gaps revealed Belt upon belt, the wooded, dim Blue goodness of the Weald.

2. A wooded district or an open country; a wold. Now only *poet.*

1544 BALE *Chron. Oldcastell* 47 Manye fledde..into the welde of Scotlande, Walys, and Irelande. 1603 S. DANIEL *To Lady Marg. C'tess Cumberland* 8 What a faire-seate hath he, from whence he may The boundlesse wastes, & weilds of man suruey. 1851 MEREDITH *Saurius* 18 Poet. Wks. 1912) 78 Glimmering fields, And wakening wealds. 1858 BAILEY *Mystic* etc. 83 Forest and upland frith, and the wide weald Hercynian, where the demon shadow stalks. 1889 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 127 But she to Almesbury Fled all night long by glimmering waste and weald.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly 'of or pertaining to the Weald'. **Weald clay,** the upper stratum of the Wealden formation immediately above the 'Hastings sand'; also *pl.* with reference to the various subdivisions of this stratum. **Weald saurian** = HYLÆOSAURUS.

1822 W. D. CONYBEARE & PHILLIPS *Outl. Geol.* 145 A second valley..occupied by the argillaceous beds which we have called the *Weald clay. 1878 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 114 The Hastings beds contain more sandstone and less clay than those of the upper Weald Clays. 1888 P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* Advt. p. vi, The space thus comprised, has otherwise, in geological language, got the name of the '*Weald Denudation'. *Ibid.* 40 *Weald Formation, or Wealden. 1869 J. TIMBS *Ancestral Stories* 164 The forest or *Weald Saurian (*Hylæosaurus*). 1888 P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 54 Although any considerable segment of the circle of the *weald valley may be taken as a specimen of the whole.

Weald, obs. form of WIELD.

Wealden (wī·ldən). *a.* and *sb.* [f. WEALD + -EN[4]. The suffix is here employed arbitrarily in a sense remote from its ordinary use. As the formation of the word was app. suggested by the adj. in *-ēn*, it may be pre-umed that the inventor regarded the adjectival use as primary, and the substantival use as elliptical for 'wealden formation'; but Martin's own use of the term affords no evidence of this.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the geological formation known as the Wealden (see B). *Wealden lizard* = HYLÆOSAURUS.

1828 P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 42 This bed of wealden sand. 1829 W. BUCKLAND in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1835) Ser. II. III. 425 On the discovery of Fossil Bones of the Iguanodon, in the Iron Sand of the Wealden Formation in the Isle of Wight. 1833 MANTELL *Geol. S.E. Eng.* 181 The Wealden strata may be separated into three principal divisions; namely, the Weald clay; the Hastings beds, including the strata of Tilgate Forest; and the Ashburnham or inferior limestones and shales. *Ibid.* 328 *note*, The Wealden Lizard, or Fossil Lizard of Tilgate Forest. 1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 65 *Wealden series*, a name given to a series of clays, sands, and limestones, from being well developed in the weald of Sussex, and which is remarkable for containing the remains of terrestrial, freshwater, and estuary animals. 1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* 125 It [Weald Clay] was left in its native state, and formed those broad forests which once covered the Wealden area.

2. Of or pertaining to the Weald.

1870 LOWER *Hist. Sussex* I. 137 This ancient Wealden parish is about five miles in length, [etc.]. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* IV. ii, And wealden wolves will batten on the rest. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 327/1 An epitaph in a wealden churchyard.

B. *sb. Geol.* The name of a formation or series of estuarine and freshwater deposits of Lower Cretaceous age, extensively developed in the Weald.

1828 P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 9 To avoid the inconvenience of the periphrasis of weald sands and clays, it is proposed, as any compound from weald must have a Saxon termination, to call the whole formation the *Wealden. *Ibid.* 48 Fossils of the Wealden. The fossil shells most frequent in this district of the weald, (and they are common to the whole Wealden,) are of the genera Vivipara, [etc.]. 1842 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* i. (ed. 2) 39 From the Grauwacke of the Lammermuirs, to the Wealden of Moray. 1876 D. PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xvii. 308 Regarding the Lias, Oolite and Wealden as portions of one great system.

Wealdend(e, wealdent: see WALDEND.

† **Wea·lding.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WEALD + -ING[2].] An inhabitant of the Weald.

1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 297 Ye Essex hundreds, and ye Kentish wealdings, rejoice!

† **Wea·ldish,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **weldish(e.** [f. WEALD + -ISH[1].]

1. Of or pertaining to the Weald.

[1317 *Kent Fines* in *Archæol. Cant.* (1882) XIV. 241 Agnes, dau. of Simon le Wealdissh'. 1318 *Ibid.* 250 William, son of Robert de Weldysh'.]

1554 J. PROCTOR *Wyat's Rebell.* (1555) 28 Sir Henrie Isleye, the two Kneuettes and certayne other with .v. C. weldishe menne were at Seuenocke. 1625 MARKHAM *Inrichment Weald Kent* 6, I will open the nature and conditions of this wealdish ground, comparing it with the Soyle of the Shire at large. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Kent* (1662) 56 A considerable part of this County is called the Weelde, that is, a Wood-land ground, the Inhabitants whereof are called the Wealdish-men.

2. Having the character of uncultivated land.

1598 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Herts* 1 The disposition of this part of the countrie to ferreat and weldish groundes, fitte for the fostering of such kinde of wild beastes.

† **Wea·ldy,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WEALD + -Y[1].] Of or pertaining to the Weald.

1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 169 But when they come to the Tenauntes inhabiting within the Wealdy countrey, then the stile and Intituling, is first, *Redditus de Walda*, Then [etc.].

Weale, obs. form of WALE *sb.*[1], WEEL.

Weale away, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

† **Wea·lful,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 **weole-,** 3–5 **wele-,** 4–5 **welful,** 4 **wellful,** *Sc.* **velfull,** 5 **welfull,** 6 **wealful,** 6–7 **weal(e)full.** [f. WEAL *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Happy, prosperous, fortunate, blessed, gladsome.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Titus) 31 For, beo hit nu, þat te beo richedom riue, ant tine wide wahes wlonke & welefulle. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 259 Hire wlite se weoleful þat euch eorðlich liht is þeoster þer ȝeines. 1352 Minot *Poems* viii. 17 Weleful men war ȝe, I-wis. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. i. (1868) 4 Þilke deþ of men is weiful þat ne comeþ not in ȝeres þat ben swete. *c* 1386 — *Man of Law's T.* 353 O cleere, o welful Auter, hooly croys. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 402 O god !..Welefulness. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16999 And wel-full and blyssed be tho betynges and skowrynges, that compellyn a chylde to declyne ffrom his trespacys and his Errours. 1556 Grimalde *Cicero De Offic.* Pref. to Rdr. ¶ vj, If it bee well, and wisely, and conueniently done: we shall be wealfull, and in a blessed case. 1609 J. Davies (Heref.) *Holy Rood* D 3, To tell the lerkes with ioy, that ioy do bring, Is both a wealefull, and a wofull thing.

Hence † **Wea·lfully** *adv.*, † **Wea·lfulness** *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. iii. (1868) 37 It delitep me to comen now to þe singuler vphepyng of þi welefulnesse. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 663 Alhale, þu blissit croice, þat is hallowit welfully of Ihesu cryste in þe body. *Ibid.* 785 A matrone þat wellfully quhile maryt wes with a senatour of þe place. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. vi. 24 If a man be riche and fulfild with worldly welfulnesse, some commenden it. 1388 Wyclif 3 *John* 2 Of alle thingis Y make preyer, that thou entre and fare welefuly, as thi soule dolth welefuli. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 274 þat euery þing mist in welfulnes To ȝoure encres perseueren and contvne.

Wealked, variant of Welked, Whelked.

Weall, obs. form of Wale *v.*[1], Well *adv.*

Weallinde, variant of Walling *ppl. a.*[1]

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 216 Gif þe gulchecuppe weallinde bres to drincken.

† **Weal-public.** *Obs.* Also *pl.* 6–7 **weale publiques.** [Weal *sb.*[1] + Public *a.* 2 a, after F. *le bien publique* and L. *bonum publicum.*]

1. The general good of the community; public welfare or interest. Hence, the state or body politic.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII* c. 34 Preamble, The reformacion of the weale publique..in the seid parties of Southwales. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 26 b, The sondry dignities and offices in the weale publik were aptly distributed. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. iv. P 2 Therefore, the weale-publicke was more to be regarded, then any person or magistrate that therevnto was ordeined. 1608 F. Hering *Anatomyes* 19 The Weale-publike Prudently and Religiously prouided for. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. 46 What is all this either here, or there to the temporal regiment of Wealpublick, whether it be Popular, Princely, or Monarchical? 1671 F. Philipps *Reg. Necess.* 338 Private mens Actions and Suits must be suspended for a convenient time, where it is *pro bono publico*, the Weal-publick. 1710 Steele & Addison *Tatler* No. 253 P 6 The Advantages that may arise to the Weal-Publick from this Institution. 1731 Peyton *Divine Catastrophe Ho Stuarts* 62 To..keep and defend the Weal-publick in Health and Prosperity.

2. A state, community, or commonwealth.

1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 83 b, Truely god gyueth wysedome, but fauour and auctho̊ritie mooste chiefely sheweth it in a weale publyke. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 30 They found townys and cytyes, and weale publyques, full of people, gouerned by good and holsom lawes. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* I. xxix. 45 When Carthage was raized downe, and the greatest curber and terror of the Romaine weale-publike vtterly extinguished and brought to nothing. 1622 [E. Misselden] *Free Trade* 33 This is our case in this Weale-publike; no Kingdome hath better Lawes. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 107 Whatsoever the force of the starres be, upon the persons of private men, or the states of weale-publiques.

† **Wea·lsman.** *Obs. rare.*—[1] [f. *weal's* genitive of Weal *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*[1]] One devoted to the public weal; a commonwealth's-man.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. i. 59 Meeting two such Weales men as you are (I cannot call you Licurguses).

† **Wea·lsome,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 **welsom, -sum, weelsom,** 5 **weylsum, welsumme.** [f. Weal *sb.*[1] + -some[1].] Happy, prosperous; fraught with happiness.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxiv. 21 Wilnyng to wite whether the Lord hath maad his weye welsom [L. *prosperum*] or noon.

c 1425 p. xcix, O ye happy and weylsum ȝe, and most weylsum religious men.

Hence † **Wea·lsomely** *adv. Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxix. 2 He was a man in alle thingis welsumly [L. *prospere*] doynge. — 3 *John* 2 Of alle thingis I make preyer, thee for to entre, and fare welsumly, as thi soule doth welsumly.

Wealth (welþ). Forms: 3 **welðe, welðhe,** 3–5 **welþe,** (4 **weolthe, -þe**), 3–7 **welthi,** (3 **welthi, welthe**), 4–5 **welþ,** 4–6 *Sc.* **velth,** 6 *Sc.* **veltht,** 4–6 **welthe,** (6 **wellthe**), 6 **wealthe,** (7 **waelth**), 5– **wealth.** [ME. *welþe*, f. Weal *adv.* or Weal *sb.*[1] + -th, on the analogy of *health.* Parallel formations are MDu. *weelde, welde* (mod.Du. *welde*), MLG. *welede* (mod.LG. *welde*), OHG. *welida.*]

† 1. The condition of being happy and prosperous; well-being. *Obs.* (exc. *arch.*). a. of a person.

c 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 1330 And bad him [Esau] of his kindes louerd ben, In welðe and miȝt wurðinge ben. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 735 Adam ȝode walkand in þat welth. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1881, 1890 And in welthe men wald ay be; Bot parfit men, þat þair lif right ledes, Welthe of þe worlde ay flese and dredes. *Ibid.* 1893 Worldly welthe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xlii. (1495) 197 Noo man hath more welth (L. *melius est felicior*) than he that hath a gode woman to his wyfe. *c* 1400 *Merlin* xxxiii. 680 The grete love that I haue to you hath made me forsake alle other.., for with-oute yow haue I neither ioye ne welthe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. xxxvii. 400 But whanne sekenes toucheth a prysoners body thenne may a prysoner say al welthe is hym berafte. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. Prof., Aboue all thynges, wherby mans welthe ryseth, speciall laude and cause ought to be gyuen to historie. 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* x. 24 Lett no man seke his awne prophet: but lett every man seke his neghbours welthe. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* 122 To preserue thy people.. in wealth, peace, and Godlynes. *Ibid.* 128 b, In all tyme of our tribulacion, in all tyme of our wealth. 1559 — *Prayer for Queen* 12 Graunt her in health and wealthe longe to liue. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* v. i. 24 Vpon great affaires, Importuning health and wealth of Soliman, His highnes by me intreateth you. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* v. 249, I once did lend my bodie for thy wealth. 1596 Fitz-Geffrey *Drake* (1881) 104 And o long may wee haue them, and enioy These worthies to our wealth, and thine annoy.

b. Contrasted with *woe, wandreth, care.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23981 Wede o welth wil i namar, Clething wil i me tak o care. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2462 Welþe a-wey to wo þou [Fortune] strykes. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 433 Euenly to sofir the wele and the wa, Welthe or wandreth, whethir so betides. *a* 1589 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 124 Wherfore in welthe beware of woo. *a* 1542 Wyatt *Epigr.* xxiv. (1908) 51, I trust somtyme my harme may be my helth, Syns euery wo is ioynid to some welth. *a* 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) H iij b, In wealth a double ioye, in woe a present stay, A sweete compagnion in eche state true Friendship is alway.

c. Of the world, a country, town, community, its people or members; hence (the common or public) welfare. Cf. Commonwealth 1, Public *a.* 2 a.

1390 Gower *Conf.* Prol. 95 The world stod thanne in al his welthe; Tho was the lif of man in helthe, Tho was plente, tho was richesse. 1456 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 290 Your own souerayn lorde & kynge..Whome God..preserve in good helthe..to this landys welthe! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1610 Was neuir befor..Sic welth and pes at anys in the land. 1490 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 126 In divers matiers concernyng the welth of the same Town. 1521 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 672 For the worship of the Cyte or the welthe of the Craft. *c* 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 46 That the maker of the lawe apply his hole studye to the welth of his subiectes. 1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 153 (1877) 101 You enpeche the welth of marchaundise, pyllyng and robbyng the christen people. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. vi. (1895) 218 The inuentyon of feates, helpynge annye thynge to the aduantage and welthe of lyffe. 1552 Hulot, Wealthe of a comminaltye, *bonum publicum, respublica.* 1557 North *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* 454 He alwaies studied the wealth of his people. 1607 in M. H. Peacock *Hist. Wakefield Grammar Sch.* iv. (1892) 56 And when I shall knowe any thinge..that ..toucheth the welth or good order of this schole, I will call my fellowe governours together.

d. An instance or kind of prosperity; a felicity, blessing. Chiefly *pl.*

The pl. is also used as in 3 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23432 O welthes mar mai na man tell, þan haf to will o welth þe well. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1319 For angres mans lyf clenses, and proves, And welthes his lif trobles and droves. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 86 Whi is þis world biloued þat fals is & veyn, Siþen þat hise welþis ben so vnserteyn? 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. clxxxii. 88 b/2 They sayd howe the noble men of the realme of Fraunce, knyghtes and squyers shamed the realme, and that it shulde be a great welth to dystroy them all. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scot.* Pref. d j b, Whyche shoulde be greatly for the wealthes of vs bothe. 1560 *Irish Act* 2 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 1 That it hath pleased God..to preserue and keepe for vs and our wealths your royall Maiestie..to raigne ouer vs. *a* 1652 Brome *Queen & C.* III. ii, And show The Elder sort how to improve Their Wealths by Neighbour-hood and Love.

† e. Used for: State, government (of a nation): = Weal *sb.*[1] 3 b. *Obs. rare.*

a 1682 Sir T. Browne *Misc. Tracts* x. (1683) 160 Julius Cæsar..was once in mind to translate the Roman wealth unto it [Troy].

† 2. Spiritual well-being. Often in the testamentary phrase *for the wealth of* (one's) *soul. Obs.*

c 1400 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* 30 (MS. F) And alle that hit hereth to here soules helthe, Thu [Lord] help hem with thi grace and thi welthe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 652 For the helthe of her owne sowle and the welthe of her husbond. 1463 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 201 And where as there can nott be noo hasty recompense as nedid for the welth of my soule therefore [etc.]. 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III* c. 2 § 1 Such memorialles as they had ordeigned to be done for the welth of their soules. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 It is all thynges that necessaryly is requyred to the welthe and helthe of mannes soule. 1537 *Instit. Christen Man* A 7, I Beleue.. that this Christe..lined..and..suffred..for our sakes, and for our welthe. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1541) 76 b, She..procured both suche as was for the welthe of his soule, and prepared holsome meates for his body. 1553 *Primer, Prayer Adversity* V iij, As shal be moste metest and agreable to thyne honor and glory & to my moste perfecte wealth and euerlastynge saluacion.

3. Prosperity consisting in abundance of possessions; 'worldly goods', valuable possessions, esp. in great abundance: riches, affluence.

In mod. use *wealth* tends to be felt as a stronger term than *riches.*

brefiere. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 382 Werldes welþe to wurmes shal wurþien. 1352 Minot *Poems* vii. 153 For here es welth inogh to win, To make vs riche for euermore. *a* 1300–50 *Wars Alex.* 3582 Oure boundis ere barrayne and bare and þine full of welth. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys, St. Faith* 30 Alle these prefers hyr Of wurshyp welt or of dignyte Wi.. dacyan hym hycht he set not a stye. 1508 Dunbar *Two Merriit Women* 394 Quhen he had wardt all on me his welth, et his substance Me thoght his wit was all went away with

the half. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 51 For all this warldis welth and gude, Can na thing ryche thy celsitude. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 59/6 Welth, *abundantia rerum.* 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 7 What art thou man..That..these rich heapes of wealth doest hide apart From the worldes eye? 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 13 *Iulia.* What think'st thou of the rich Mercatio? *Lucetta.* Well of his wealth; but of himselfe, so, so. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 99 Wealth makes worship. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 722 When Ægypt with Assyria strove In wealth and luxurie. 1701 De Foe *Trueborn Eng.* I. (1703) 13 Wealth, howsoever got, in England makes Lords of Mechanicks, Gentlemen of Rakes. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 45 He..sack'd a royal Fort, Replete with various Wealth. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, My female companion..at first remonstrated against it: but upon producing my wealth, she immediately consented. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 62 His best companions, innocence and health; And his best riches, ignorance of wealth. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) II. 577 There the man of wealth would be instructed really to practise virtue. 1809 Campbell *Gertrude* II. xxiv, More than all the wealth that loads the breeze, When Coromandel's ships return from Indian seas. 1833 Tennyson *Lady Clara* 61 In glowing health, with boundless wealth. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vii, Sole inheritor of the wealth of this rich old hunks. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 All this material wealth and splendour was of course in official connexion with the Church.

personified. 1718 Budgell *Spect.* No. 506 P 2, I have somewhere met with a Fable that made Wealth the Father of Love. 1813 Byron *Giaour* 344 Alike must Wealth and Poverty Pass heedless and unheeded by.

† b. in *plural*, with reference to more than one possessor. *Obs.*

c 1530 Berners *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1536) 137 b, Many leaue dyuers welthes that they haue in straunge landes, and lyue straitly, for to lyue in their owne land. 1574 *Mirr. Mag., Albanact* lxiii, To late you shall repent the act When all my realme, and all your wealthes are sackt. 1630 Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* II. 48 He would be supported by the counsels and wealths of forrein Princes.

† c. *pl.* Things in which material riches consist; rich and costly goods or possessions; luxuries. *Obs.*

1352 Minot *Poems* x. 21 In holl þan þai hided grete welthes,..Of gold and of siluer, of skarlet and grene. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* x. 83 þe more he wynneth and welt welthes & richesse. *c* 1400 *Sege Melayne* 801 The Bischoppe.. pyghte Pauylyons with mekill pryde, With wyne & welthes at will. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 847 All thus thir hathillis in hall heirly remanit, With all welthis at wiss, and worschipe to vale. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 106 Lawes, wherby all men shoulde haue and enioye equall portions of welthes and commodities.

d. Abundance of possessions or of valuable products, as characteristic of a people, country, or region; the collective riches of a people or country.

The phrase *the wealth of nations* had some currency before it was adopted by Adam Smith in the title of his famous work; but its early history is obscure.

1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab., To Duchess of York* 20 The Winds were hush'd, the Waves in ranks were cast..: Those, yet uncertain on whose Sails to blow, These, where the wealth of Nations ought to flow. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 2 High on a Throne of Royal State, which far Outshon the wealth of Ormus and of Ind. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 35 'Tis supposed that the Wealth of Ireland is about the ⅛ or ⅑ of that of England. 1737 Pope *Hor. Epist.* I. ii. 196 Their Country's wealth our mightier Misers drain. 1739 C'tess Hartford *Corr.* (1805) I. 152 He declared that he would rather live upon his small annuity all his days, than marry a woman he did not previously love, though she possessed the wealth of the Indies. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 202 P 6 To be poor, in the epic language, is only not to command the wealth of nations. 1787 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxviii. 274 Our American colonies..pour in upon us a wealth of another kind..from their fisheries. 1776 A. Smith (*title*), An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations. 1778 Johnson 17 Apr. in *Boswell*, As the Spanish proverb says, 'He, who would bring home the wealth of the Indies, must carry the wealth of the Indies with him.' 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* v. i. 14 A city which has open'd India's wealth To Europe. 1858 A. Trollope *Dr. Thorne* XXV, Not for all the wealth of India would he have given up his lamb to that young wolf.

e. said of a specific commodity as the chief source of a country's riches. Also with defining word, indicating a particular source.

1645 Sir R. Weston *Husb. Brabant* (1650) 7 That Land is natural to bear Flax, which is called the Wealth of Flanders. 1854 J. D. Whitney (*title*), The Metallic Wealth of the United States Described and Compared with that of other Countries.

f. *fig.*

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 257, I freely told you all the wealth I had Ran in my vaines; I was a Gentleman. *Ibid.* III. v. 61 Yet more quarrelling with occasion, wilt thou shew the whole wealth of thy wit in an instant. *a* 1627 Middleton *Witch* II. i, O honestie's a rare wealth in a woman, It knowes no want. 1638–56 Cowley *Davideis* IV. 488 To Help seems all his Power, his Wealth to Give; To do much Good his sole Prerogative. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 207 Beneath him..he views..To all delight of human sense expos'd.., Nature's whole wealth. 1675 Dryden *Aurenge.* III. (1676) 47 Whom Heav'n would bless, from Pomp it will remove, And make their wealth in privacy and Love. 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. 158 Those who come last [in the Roll of Time], seem to enter with Advantage. They are born to the Wealth of Antiquity. *a* 1772 Gray *Death Hoel* 9 He ask'd no heaps of hoarded gold; Alone in Nature's wealth array'd, He ask'd and had the lovely maid. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 12 There is no time more..prolific of intellectual wealth. 1868 T. T. Lynch *Rituel* CXLIX. iii. (ed. 3), Then darkening heavens disclose Their starry wealth.

† g. Condition with regard to riches or poverty; degree of wealthiness. *Obs.*

1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* I. ii, It shall then bee given out, that I'me a Gentlewoman of such a birth, such a wealth,..and so fourth. 1620 Petty *Taxes & Contrib.* 16

Ignorance of the Number, Trade, and Wealth of the people, is often the reason why the said people are needlessly troubled.

4. *Economics.* A collective term for those things the abundant possession of which (by a person or a community) constitutes riches, or 'wealth' in the popular sense.

There has been much controversy among economists as to the precise extent of meaning in which the term should be used. The definition that has been most widely accepted is that of Mill (quot. 1848 below).

1821 Torrens *Ess. Produce. Wealth* i. 3 When we say, a man of wealth, the term implies quantity, and signifies an abundance of the comforts and luxuries of life. But when we say, agriculture is a source of wealth, the accessory idea of quantity is not implied, and the term comprises the products of agriculture, whether they be raised from one acre or from a million; whether they are capable of subsisting an individual, or a nation. 1823 Bentham *Nation. Reward* 237 All wealth is either the spontaneous production of the earth, or the result of labour, employed in the cultivation of the earth or upon the materials which it yields. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Life in Wilds* ii. 23 Whatever lives, or grows, or can be produced, that is necessary or useful, or agreeable to mankind, is wealth. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. Prel. Rem. 8 Money, being the instrument of an important public and private purpose, is rightly regarded as wealth; but everything else which serves any human purpose, and which nature does not afford gratuitously, is wealth also. *Ibid.* 9 To an individual, anything is wealth, which, though useless in itself, enables him to claim from others a part of their stock of things useful or pleasant. Take for instance, a mortgage of a thousand pounds on a landed estate. This is wealth to the person to whom it brings in a revenue... But it is not wealth to the country; if the engagement were annulled, the country would be neither poorer nor richer. *Ibid.* 10 Wealth, then, may be defined, all useful or agreeable things which possess exchangeable value; or in other words, all useful or agreeable things except those which can be obtained, in the quantity desired, without labour or sacrifice. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 87 An attempt..was made to bring the production and distribution of wealth under the moral rule of right and wrong. 1883 H. Sidgwick *Pol. Econ.* i. iii. 72 The wealth of any individual is considered to include all useful things—whether material things, as food, clothes, houses, &c., or immaterial things as debts, patents, copyrights, &c.—which..admit of being sold at a certain price. This aggregate is suitably measured by its exchange value; the common standard of value, money, being taken for convenience' sake. 1891 Scrivener *Fields & Cities* xx. 194 The Companies Acts have not, and will not, create wealth; it is not the function of law to create wealth,—only to regulate its distribution. Wealth is created ..by labour. 1900 A. W. Kirkaldy *Wealth* 15 If this definition [Mill's] be accepted, the importance of abundance disappears. Wealth may be a very small as well as a very big thing. A single pin..has exchange value, it is useful, and is therefore wealth...So is a motor-car or a fine yacht or an Atlantic liner.

5. Plenty, abundance, profusion (*of* what is specified). Also, the condition of abounding *in* something valuable.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S T.S.) I. 42 The firth ..quhair gret welth of Salmonte. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxiii, And they hae wealth o' beef, that's ae thing certain, for here's a raw hide that has been about the hurdies o' a stot not half an hour syne. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* Concl. xxvi, Again the feast, the speech,..the wealth Of words and wit. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 48 This wealth of silver, gold, and gems, that adorned the shrines of the saints. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* vi. 217 The manifold wealth of articulate speech. 1882 Rhys *Celtic Brit.* i. 21 There is no reason, however, to suppose that the great wealth of the country in iron ore had been discovered by Cæsar's time. 1894 Conan Doyle *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 218 With..dark Italian eyes, and a wealth of deep black hair.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly objective and obj. gen.), as *wealth-acquiring, -bearing, -centre, -creation, -creator, -despising, -getting, -maker, -monger, -owner, -producing, -store, -worship, -yield, -yielding*; instrumental, as *wealth-elated, -encumbered, -fraught*; † **wealth boastingly** *adv.*, in a way that shows pride in wealth.

1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* xviii. 346 The predominance of *wealth-acquiring immigrants. 1865 J. Macgregor *Rob Roy on Baltic* (1867) 269 The mighty, *wealth-bearing Thames. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* T 3, Nothing about them but is *wealth-boastingly & elaborately beautified. 1890 O. Crawfurd *Round Calend. Portugal* 19 The first stronghold and *wealth-centre of this ancient kingdom. 1892 F. W. Bain (*title*), On the Principle of *Wealth-creation. 1740 J. Dyer *Ruins of Rome* 330 Th' humble roof..Of good Evander, *wealth-despising king. 1802 Mrs. Robinson *Sylphid* II. 149 (Jod.) The report..awakened the jealousy of the *wealth-elated baronet. 1844 Ld. Leigh *Walks in Country* 79 A *wealth-encumber'd Peer. 1798 B. Johnson *Orig. Poems* 30 *Wealth-fraught keels in safety cut the seas. 1904 R. T. Ely & Wicker *Elem. Princ. Economics* 3 Those social phenomena that are due to the *wealth-getting and wealth-using activities of man. 1899 *Daily Tel.* 11 Oct. 8/7 The *wealth-makers whom he always hated. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 396 These are sawcy Truths to obtrude on the Power-mongers, *Wealth-mongers, and Pleasure-mongers of the World. *a* 1665 J. Goodwin *Being filled with the Spirit* xvii. (1670) 476 If the Question should be put to all rich Wealth-mongers and Honour-mongers. 1896 *Daily Tel.* 3 Feb. 4/7 The vast *wealth-producing industries of the Rand. 1891 Meredith *Inuect. Achilles* Post. Wks. (1912) 554 Thou mayest gather here plunder and *wealth-store. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxvii. VIII. 540 Plato was not the man to preach king-worship, or *wealth-worship, as social or political remedies. 1877 Gladstone *Gleanings.* (1879) I. 168 The wealth-worship which marks and deforms our time. 1917 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1237 Its [sc. the ocean's] *wealth-yield appears to be beyond words bounteous. 1886 Clodd *Creation* iv. 30 Rich as are igneous rocks in *wealth-yielding mineral veins and ores, they are..destitute of fossils.

Wealthful (we·lθful), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. Wealth + -ful.] Abounding in wealth; † happy (*obs.*), rich, prosperous; conducive to wealth. † *Wealthful of*, abounding in.

13.. *Cursor M.* 641 (Göt.) Þis is a stede of welthful wone. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xv. lviii. (1495) 509 Though Flaundres be litylf in space yet it is welthfull of many specyall thynges and good. *Ibid.* xvii. clvi. 707 In good and fatte grounde growyth good ecre in grete quantytee and welthfull of greynes. 1447 Bokenam *Seyntys, Christina* 4 A cyte..Welful and ful off werldly solas. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* xi. 211 This man..at ye as welthfull mak. 1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 38/1 All is..quiete, and likelie righte wel to prosper in wealthful peace under youre coseyns. 1534 — *Comf. agst. Trib.* iii. Wks. 1235/2 God hauynge many e mancions, and al wonderfull wealthfull in his fathers house. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 20/2 All things necessarie for the wealthfull state of man. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 464 Malacca's castled harbour here survey, The wealthful seat foredoom'd of Lusian sway. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* iii. vi, It is a lovely rain,..healthful, wealthful, beneficent.

Hence † **Wea·lthfully** *adv.*, † **Wea·lthfulness.**

c 1450 tr. *Boeth. de Consol.* i. met. vii., MS. Bodl. Auct. F. 3. 5, lf. 220b, Gladnes in hauynge of worldely welthefulnes. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 206 To leve ay in welthfulnes. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* ii. ii. (1592) N 8, To lead thy life wealthfully.

Wealthily (we·lθili), *adv.* Now *rare.* Also 6–7 **wealthely.** [-ly 2.] In a wealthy manner.

1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* ii. (1540) 75 That pertayne and nvayle a man to lyue well and welthyly. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* i. (1895) 103 All thynges be so well and wealthelye ordered, that vertue is had in pryce and estimacyon. 1567 J. Sanford *Epictetus* Epist. Aij b, That we should be in felicitie and leade our life both well and v althilie. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* i. ii. 75, I come to wiue it wealthily in Padua. 1614 S. Daniel *Hymen's Tri.* ii. i, And thus they all vnhappy by that meanes Which they accompt would bring all happinesse; Most wealthely are plagu'd, with rich distresse. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* xiv. § 25 When out of an eagerness of bestowing them wealthily, they force them to marry utterly against their own inclinations. 1755 Johnson, *Richly*, adv...with riches; wealthily.

Wealthiness (we·lθinės). Now *rare.* [f. Wealthy *a.* + -ness.] Wealthy quality or condition; wealth.

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* III. lvi. (1533) 90 This in tracte of tyme made hym welthy. And by meane of this welthynes ensued pryde. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxi. 13 They spend their dayes in welthynesse: but sodenly they go downe to hell. 1538 *Primer Eng. & Lat.* (Rouen) 144 b, Verely I sayde in my welthynes I shall neuermore be mouyd. 1567 *Trial Treasure* D iv b, You shall wante no kinde of welthines. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 7 *marg.*, The Welthines of fische in Scotland. 1747 Shenstone *Let. to Graves* 21 Sept., I almost hate the idea of wealthiness as much as the word.

Wealthless (we·lθlės), *a. rare.* [f. Wealth + -less.] Without wealth, having no money. In quot. 1605 *absol.*

1605 A. Warren *Poor Man's Pass.* B 2 b, In vaine the wealthlesse doe their wants repeat. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* ii. 42 Barr'd from delight by Fate's untimely hand, By wealthless lot, or pitiless command. 1886 A. Weir *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 220 Wealthless maidens..cut off their..locks in order to get a mite for the national cause.

† **Wea·lthling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Wealth + -ling 1.] A wealthy wight.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 147 Be there not as wittoward poorelinges, as there be wanton wealthlinges? 1605 A. Warren *Poor Man's Pass.* etc. G 4, Wealthlings suppose their parting peale they heare.

† **Wea·lthly,** *a. Obs. rare*–1. [f. Wealth + -ly 1.] Happy, delightful.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* i. 185 It is not good to be alone, to walk here in this worthely wone, In all this welthly wyn.

Wealthy (we·lθi), *a.* [f. Wealth + -y 1.]

† **1.** Possessing well-being, happy, prosperous. Of conditions of life: Comfortable, luxurious. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 222 Quhen hyre chawmir wast saw he, quhare welthi wes scho wont to be. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) X 2, If the wife have skill to rule an house..then shal al the mariage be more wealthy and fortunate. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* ii. ix. (1895) 301 A pleasaunt and a welthy lyuynge [*iucundam ac splendidam vitam*]. *Ibid.*, [They] lyue so wretched and miserable a lyfe, that the state and condition of the labouring beastes maye seme muche better and welthier. 1563 Winjet *Eik. Quest.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 128 In our dayis the samin wes abusit amang mony in idilnes and welthy lyfe.

† **b.** Of the body: Thriving (in phr. *healthy and wealthy*). *Obs.*

1538 Starkey *England* 179 You schal see veray few of sobur and temperat dyat, but they haue helthy and welthy bodys.

c. *dial.* Of cattle: Well-fed.

1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2). Hence in recent Dicts.

2. Of persons: Having wealth or abundant means at command; rich, opulent.

a 1430 *Hymnus Virg.* (1867) 115 Charite doob neuere wickidli ..Ne blowen is with pride thou3 sche be welþi. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 128 Ryche and welthy marchauntes. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* iv. ii. 37, I will be married to a wealthy Widdow, Ere three dayes passe. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. 58 Besides Merchants and others that Trade by Sea from this Port, here are other pretty Wealthy Men. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 419 The flocks and herds of wealthy Lot. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* iii. 786 Come, surly John, thy wealthy kinsman view. 1819 Scott *Monast.* I, The donations of land with which the King endowed these wealthy fraternities. 1823 McCulloch *Pol. Econ.* He is said to be wealthy, according to he can afford to command and luxuries, which are not the gifts of nature, but the products of human industry. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. Prel. Rem. 8 To be wealthy is to have a large stock of useful articles, or the means of purchasing them. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* iv. (1862) 126 Many of the persons commonly considered wealthy, are in reality no more wealthy than the locks of their own strong boxes are. 1881 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* i, The Mervyns are by no means a wealthy family.

Prov. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 91 Earely to bed and earely to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.

absol. c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 131 Crist fedde þe needy pore; & þei þe riche & welþi. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1288 He sparith hem that vnwelthy heer ben, And to þe welthy dooth as þat ye seen. 1682 Dryden *Medal* 183 The wise and wealthy love the surest way. 1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 420 Meanwhile ye shall not want..what a wealthier than ourselves may send. 1890 R. H. Wrighton *Sancta Respublica Romana* 12 The wealthy fled with their moveables.

3. Of a country, community, period, etc.: Prosperous, flourishing, thriving; commanding riches.

c 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvi. (1885) 149 Yff the kyng haue such a Counsell..his lande shall..be ryche and welthy. 1538 Starkey *England* 88 Thys reame hath byn callyd euer 1ych, and of al Chrystendome one of the most welthya. 1539 Bible (Great) *Ps.* lxvi. 12 Thou broughtest vs out in to a welthy place. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 38 A citie maist welthie to name Inverlouth. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 700 The wealthy Abbay of Fountaines. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* (1659) 12 Thus we see that not only the excess of hire in wealthiest times, but also [etc.]. 1827 Southey *Pensin. War* II. xvi. 26 The southern provinces, the most fertile and wealthiest of the kingdom.

4. In extended use: Rich *in* some possession or advantage; plentifully furnished with something; abundant, copious.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. iii. 72, I am a simple Maide, and therein wealthiest That I protest, I simply am a Maide. 1607 — *Timon* II. ii 193, I am wealthie in my Friends. 1608 B. Jonson *Masque Ld. Haddington's Marr.* Wks. (1616) 943 Loues wealthy croppe of kisses. *a* 1626 — *Epigr.* lxxxi. To Proule, I will not show A line vnto thee, till..I haue by two good sufficient men, To be the wealthy witnesse of my pen [after L. *testis locupletes*]. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* I. 77 The mighty Oceans wealthy Caves. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. v. xxvii, Upon Dr. Davies Brittish Grammer. 'Twas a tough task believe it, thus to tame A wilde and wealthy language. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 184 And with glad Harvests crown the wealthy Year. 1830 Tennyson *Madeline* 11 Revealings deep and clear are thine Of wealthy smiles. 1899 Ht. Martineau *Biog. Sk.* iv. ii. (1869) 283 The 'Kosmos' of Humboldt..is wealthy in its facts, and splendid in its generalizations. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* iii, By her side was a little girl..with a wealthy softness on her, as if she must have her own way. 1887 *Athenæum* 31 Dec. 900/1 Mr. Foster..has rendered the wealthy coloration and tonality of Walker with great judgment. 1905 Holman Hunt *Pre-Raphael.* I. 145 The language of the painter [Rossetti] was wealthy and polished.

† **5.** Of great worth or value, valuable. *Obs.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Copiosus*, A great and wealthy heritage. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 47 My food the pleasant Plaines of Arcadie and the wealthie riches of Flora. 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. i. 360 Queene Dido..for Troyes sake, hath entertaind vs all, And clad vs in these wealthie robes we weare. 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xviii. 313 Then they washt, and fild the mortall wound With wealthy oyle, of nine yeares old. 1612 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) Apr. 251 An assured trade that way..will..proove more wealthy and beneficiall for this state then any other. 1652–62 Heylyn *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 160 A wealthy race of sheep, which bring forth young twice a year, and are shorn four times. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 382 In divers Islands they finde most wealthy Mines. 1715 Pope *Iliad* I. 217 Thine in each Conquest is the wealthy Prey. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. iii 335 An actor's son dissolv'd a wealthy pearl..In vinegar.

† **Wea·ly,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **weliz, -eз, weliз, weoliз,** 2–4 **weli,** 3 **weoli, -eз,** 4–5 **wely,** 6 *Sc.* **velie.** [OE. *welig* = OS. *welag* (MLG. and MDu. *welich*, LG. and Du. *welig* luxuriant, rank, wanton), OHG. *welac*:—WGer. **welagaz*, f.[1] *wela-* Weal *sb.*[1]: see -y [1].]

1. Wealthy, prosperous, happy.

Beowulf 2607 Ælmunde ðæ ea are, þe he him ær forgeaf, wicstede weligne Wæmmundinga. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* IV. v. (1883) 166 Sum welig mon..se was haten Hanna. 12.. *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 540/6 *Diues*, weli. *c* 1205 Lay. 487 Þa weoleзen & þa wendlen. *Ibid.* 13904 Þe þridde hehte Woden Þæt is an weoli godd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7879 Bot oft þe weliest o win Riue-liest þai fal in sin. *Ibid.* 9958 Þan was þar never mailk a hald, Ne nan welier in werld to wald. *c* 1380 in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) I. 267 Suche annuels has made thes frers, so wely and so gay, That ther may no possessioners mayntene thair array.

2. In good condition, healthy.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1244 Þo þat byden wer so biten with þe bale hunger, þat on wyf hade ben worþe þe weigest fourre. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 866 The clawes dite & scabbid, old, vnsely, Kitte al away, & kepe up that is wely.

3. Luxurious, self-indulgent.

1548 Joye *Expos. Dan.* iv. 30 b, The peple of Israell as oft as thei waxed wealy and fatte as saith the song of Moses. *Ibid.* v. 72 Let siche sewer wealy rulers beware of a soden fall. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 216 Sum velie var, Sum vickit, And Sum vaine.

Hence † **Wea·lyness,** luxuriousness. *Obs.*

1545 Joye *Expos. Dan.* xi. 181 Therfore of pryde and wealynes [he] gaue himselfe vp vnto his owne lustis. 1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xxx. 7. 209 Hereuppon groweth wealynesse of the flesh [*hinc carnis inertia*], that they licentiously folow theyr owne lusts.

† **Wea·ly** [2], **wea·ly,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 **wealie, weally.** [Of obscure origin; common in P. Holland.] Of land: Unproductive, marshy, poor.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. viii. I. 506 If the ground be cold, moist, and weuly. 1620 — *Camden's Brit.* 803 This river [Ex] hath his head and springeth first in a weely and barren ground named Exmore. *Ibid.* 364 Flockes of sheepe long necked and square of bulke and bone, by reason (as it is commonly thought) of the weally and hilly situation of their pasturage. 1620 Folkingham *Feuzigr.* I. x. 33 Sandy Marle serues (for want of other) chiefely in cold moust and weely grounds.

Weam(b : see Wame.

Weame, obs. form of Wame, Wem.

† **Wea·mish,** *a. Obs.* [? Variant of Queamish *a.*] Squeamish.

1571 T. Fortescue *Moxia's Foreste* 46 b, Wee in this Age are colde and drie, of complexion none other or better then Melancoly, angrye, weamishe [Fr. *ennuyeuse*], harde to please and emulous. 1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* (MS.) 462 (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*) *Weamish,* squeamish.

Wean (wīn, wēn), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Also 9 **ween, wain, wane.** [A contraction of *wee ane*: (see Wee *a.* and One), the full form still appearing in the first group of quotations. In the north-eastern Sc. counties the equivalent *little ane* has similarly given *littlan, littlen.*] A young child.

a. 1692 [see Wee *a.*]. 1721 Ramsay *Poems.* I. Gloss. 397 *Wean,* or *wee ane,* a Child. 1755 Johnson s. v. *Wee,* In Scotland it denotes small or little; as *wee* ane, a little one, or child. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 6 The name the wean [1789 weane] gat, was Helenore. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Hallow-Fair* viii, Than there's sic yellowchin and din, Wi' wives and wee-anes gablin.

β. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* II. iii, When Bessy Freetock's chuffy-cheeked We'an To a Fairy turn'd. 1728 — *Anacreontic on Love* 8 A poor young Wean. 1786 Burns *Inventory* 52 Wi' weans I'm mair than weel contented, Heav'n sent me ane mae than I wanted! 1789 — *To Dr. Blacklock* 58 To make a happy fire-side clime To weans and wife, That's the true pathos and sublime Of human life. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* iv, There was my daughter's wean, little Eppie Daidle. 1822 Galt *Provost* xxiv, The major part were sailors' wives and weans. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Weens,* children. Little ones. 'How are the weens?' 1826 J. Wilson *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 175 Returnin back hame, the wife and weans were a' at the door. 1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Nell Cook* end, So bless the Queen and her Royal Weans. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur Leigh* III. 927, I being but a yearling wean. 1887 P. M'Neill *Blawearie* 85 Here comes that great grumpus crying like a wane once more. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 601/2 But poor Shamus he had a wife an' a congregation of wains on his han's.

Wean (wīn), *v.* Forms: 1 **wenian,** 4–6 **wene,** 4–7 **wain(e, wane,** 5–7 **wayn(e, weyn(e,** 6 **ween,** 6–7 **wein(e, weane,** 6– **wean.** [OE. *wenian* to accustom (once only, to wean), corresponding to OFris. *wennia,* OS. *wennian* (MLG., MDu., mod.Du. *wennen*), OHG. *wennen* (MHG. *wenen,* mod.G. *-wöhnen*), ON. *venja* (Sw. *vänja,* Da. *vænne*):—OTeut. **wanjan,* f. **wano-* accustomed (ON. *van-r*); cognate with ON. *vana* wk. masc., custom, habit. For the Teut. root **wan-*: **wun-,* to be accustomed, to dwell, see Wane *sb.*2, Wone *sb.*2, Wont.

The OE. *wenian* occurs very frequently in the sense 'to accustom', but this use is not illustrated here, as it did not survive into ME. The sense 'to wean (a child)' was ordinarily expressed in OE. by *ǽwenian* (cf. G. *entwöhnen*), and occasionally by *gewenian.*]

1. *trans.* To accustom (a child or young animal) to the loss of its mother's milk; to cause to cease to be suckled. a. with obj. a child.

c 960 Æthelwold *Bened. Rule* vii. 22 Azyld þu me, dribten, mid biternesse lean, swa swa moder deþ hyre bearne, þonne hio hit fram hire breosta þesoce wenep. 13.. Hampole *Psalter* cxxx. 4 As a childe þat has nede to be on his modur kne and fostird with hur mylke, perisch if he be wenyd [*earlier MS.* spaned] & takyn fro mylke. 1382 Wyclif *Hos.* I. 8 And she wenyde hir [Vulg. *et ablactavit eam*] that was With outen mercye. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. vi. (Tollem. MS.), The childe is propirly clepid 'puer', when he is wained from milke and departid from þe breste. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3018 (Trin.) Whenne he was wened [*earlier texts* spaned] fro þe pappe. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 231 Whan þe modyr wanyth here child, sche wetyth here tety [illegible] byttere thyng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wene chylder fro sokynge, *ablacto, elacto.* *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 16 Then aftyr, when scho was wened, þay broght hur to þe tempull. 1530 Palsgr. 770/2, I wayne a chylde from soukyng, *Je seuure.* 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 106/1 Before the child that is borne be waned. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 24 'Tis since the Earth-quake now eleuen yeares, And she was wean'd. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* xxiv. xxiv. (1678) 554 If the child be weak, sickly, or feeble, he ought not to be weaned. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 526 Untill shee be wayned, which must be at three yeers end, shee shall remaine with you in her fathers house. 1652 Culpepper *Eng. Phys.* 176 It is much used to dry up the Milk in Womens breasts when they have weyned their children. 1789 Bucman *Dom. Med.* (1790) 187 As soon as they perceive their strength and appetite begin to fail, they ought immediately to wean the child. 1868 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I. iii, His wife would return to him as soon as Lady Castle-Connell's daughter was weaned.

absol. 1823 Byron *Juan* xii. xxi, Unless a man can calculate his means Of feeding brats the moment his wife weans.

b. with obj. a young animal.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 34 Reynart..said thus.. Neuerthelesse yet was I vnto the tyme that I was wened fro the tete, one [etc.]. 1485 in *Descr. Catal. Anc. Deeds* (1890) I. 359 William and Agnes to have the calves of them and thei to be weynyd at the age of x. wekes. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 39 It is tyme to wayne theyr lambes, whanne they be xvi. wekes old. *Ibid.* § 66 If thou waine thy calues with hey it wyl make them haue great bolyes. 1575 Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* i. 2 Our Lambs new weined from ye dam. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 250. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* I. v. 23 Adding to the end of these great houses a little one, to keepe calues in of both kindes, which you haue wained. 1759 R. Brown *Compleat Farmer* 22 The best time for weaning calves is from January to May. 1846 *Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 193 The meal or flour mixed with milk..is excellent food for weaning calves. 1908 Weyman *Wild Geese* xviii. 282 The low of a cow whose calf was being weaned.

c. in figurative context.

1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* II. x. (1633) 134 No doubt the name and reputation thereof would haue bin a spurre to these erections, as nurses for babes to suck in, till they might repaire thither [*sc.* to the University] to be wained. 1584 Lyly *Campaspe* III iv. 121 Reason [must] weane what appetite noursed. 1592 tr. *Junius on Rev.* xii. 1 Vntil that time wherin this Church were as it were weyned & taken away from the breast or milk of her mother. 1866 Kingsley *Herew.* xiv, I put my love out to nurse, instead of weaning it.

d. *transf.*

1615 J. Stephens *Satyr. Ess.* iv. 53 As Wormewood, rubbed upon the nipple of a Nurses Teate, weanes the childe. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Gard.* xii. (1623) 41 The Tree ouer-loden with fruit, and wanting sap to feed all she hath brought forth, will waine all she cannot feed, like a woman bringing forth moe children at once then she hath teats. *Ibid.* xv. 51.

2. *fig.* To detach or alienate (a person, his desires or affections) *from* some accustomed object of pursuit or enjoyment; to reconcile by degrees to the privation of something.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 81 b, By obedyence they were wayned from this worlde. 1582 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) III. 157 If they thinke them fit to enter into religion, the mother, who ought to haue cheefe charge of them, must seeke to waine them from all worldlie vanities. 1596 Drayton *Legends, Cromwell* 187 When first the wealthy Netherlands me trayn'd, In wise Commerce..And from my Countrie carefully me wayn'd. 1607 Walkington *Optic Glass* B 7 b, Hee must wisely defeate, and waine his appetite of all such dainty morsels. 1608 *Merry Devil Edmonton* II. iii. 22 You are enioynd to waine your friendship from mee. 1626 B. Jonson *Every Man in H.* I. i, How happie, yet, should I esteeme my selfe, Could I (by any practise) weane the boy From one vaine course of studie, he affects. 1670 T. Brooks *London's Lament.* 192 Luther was a man weaned from the world; and therefore when honours, preferments, and riches were offered to him, he despised them. 1741 Berkeley *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 266 A long continuance of ill health has weaned me from the world. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pickle* lxxxvi, He endeavoured to wean his eyes from the fatal object. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Sentiment,* I trust the plan I have devised will be effectual in weaning my daughter from this absurd idea. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 226 Mankind cannot be weaned from the opinion. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xxxiii. (1865) IV. 64 Already men's minds were becoming weaned from positive belief in the concrete divinities of Olympus. 1876 Bridges *Growth of Love* xxxv, Few there be are wean'd from earthly love. 1907 C. S. Parker *Sir J. Graham* I. i. 4 He..strove with some success to wean his tenantry from thriftless habits.

absol. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. viii. 108 The consequences of sin are meant to wean from sin.

b. with *away.*

1891 F. H. Williams *Atman* v. 270, I deliberately planned to wean you away from Margaret. 1913 Woodrow Wilson *New Freedom* ix. 203 If they refuse to be weaned away from their independence they cannot continue to enjoy the benefits extended to them.

c. *refl.*

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI,* IV. iv. 17 And I the rather waine me from dispaire For loue of Edwards Off-spring in my wombe. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. § 2. xlii, Before I wean my self from Italy, a word or two touching the genius of the Nation. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 27 P 2 Let us not stand upon a Formal taking of Leave, but wean our selves from them [*sc.* the allurements of the world], while we are in the midst of them. 1725 Bolingbr. *Let. to Swift* 24 July, If your heart tells you nothing, say nothing, that I may take the hint, and wean myself from you by degrees. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 4. 131 A love of secular learning from which Edmund [Rich] found it hard to wean himself.

d. *intr.* for *refl.*

c 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1885) I. 93 While she was weaning from the friends and places she had so long conversed in. 1829 Hood *Hero & L.* vi, Leander, weaning from sweet Hero's side, Must leave a widow where he found a bride.

† 3. To dissuade (whether successfully or not).

1607 *Scholast. Disc. agst. Antichrist* I. iii. 139 They wayned the people from this hipocrisie by these reproofes in vaine. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 38 Tell an Epicure..of his irregular course, weine him from it a little.

4. To remove or abate gradually (a desire, affection). *rare.*

1708 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 35 He weans by Degrees his Longings after the Flesh-pots of Sodom. 1842 Sarah, Lady Lyttelton *Corr.* (1912) 327 The [baby] Princess has exactly..the same 'morbid' love of one nursery-maid, as Meriel has for you. That is to be weaned, I think, by a little less fondling her yourself.

† 5. To train, accustom *to* (good habits). *Obs.*

[Not a survival of the OE. sense (see the etymology); the use seems to have been developed from the notion of 'weaning' from the contrary evil.]

1579 Lodge *Def. Playes* 8 Weane thy selfe to wisedome, and vse thy tallant in seale not for enule. 1579 Lyly *Euph.* (Arb.) 249 When the Father weaneth [*later edd.* ——— them to countenance, the flatterer alureth them to lust. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxi. The Iewes by reason of their long abode in a place of continuall scuille toyle could not suddainely be wained and drawne vnto courtuous offices without some strong impression of terror.

Weanable (wī·năb'l), *a.* [f. Wean *v.* + -able.] Capable of being weaned.

1590 Levins *Manip.* 2/28 Weanable, *ablactabilis.* 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 94 The lambs are weanable when they can thrive on the same food that the dam subsists on.

† **Wean-calf.** *Obs.* [f. Wean *v.*] A calf newly weaned.

1618 *Depos. Bk. Archd. Essex & Colchester* 66 b, There was..a custome within the parish of Elmsted..for theebage of weane calues..that the partie who weaned the said calues should paie no tithe therof.

Weane, variant of Wane *sb.*3

Weaned (wīnd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wean *v.* + -ed 1.] In senses of the verb, *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wenyd, as chylder fro sokynge, *ablactatus.* 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxxxi. 2 My soule is euen as a weened childe 1620 Brinsley *Virg. Ecl.* iii. (1633) 35 The wained kids. 1670 T. Brooks *London's Lament.* 215 With what a weaned heart and cold affections do men look upon all the pomp, state, bravery and glory of the world, when [etc.]. 1836 C. Bradley *Pract. Serm.* 300 A weaned heart is absolutely needful for you. 1837 Youatt *Sheep* xv. 517 Many farmers are very fanciful as to the provision for the weaned lambs.

Hence **Wea·nedness,** spiritual detachment.

a 1617 Bayne *Eph.* (1643) 298 Adorning this their age in Christ, with graces correspondent, viz. experience, wisdome, weanednesse, all kinde of mortification. 1689 Manton *Serm.* III. i. *Life of Faith* 28 The Spiritual life..begets a holy weanedness in us. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Christi* I. iii. 13/2 An Example of..Weanedness from the things of this World. 1858 J. S. C. Abbott *Heroines Fr. Revol.* 215 Her weanedness from the world. 1883 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxi. 2 Such weanedness from self springs from the gentle humility declared in the former verse.

Weanel (wī·nĕl), **wennel** (we·n'l). Now *dial.* Forms: 5 **weynelle,** 6 **weanell, weannel, wennell,** 6, 8–9 **wennel,** 7– **weanel.** [f. Wean *v.* + -el 2.] An animal newly weaned, a weanling.

1488–9 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1911) 472, xv. weynelles, le pece ij s. viij d. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* lxxvii, Pinch weannels at no time of water nor meate. 1573–80 — *Husb.* (1878) 61 Yoong colts with thy wennels together go serue. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 198 A Lambe, or a Kidde, or a weanell wast. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.,* Dict. Rust., *Weanel,* a young Beast newly weaned. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.,* Wennel. 1879 *Hartford Mercury* Dec., Advt., 26 Home-bred Steers and Stirks,..4 Weanels, 2 Down Calving Cows.

appositive. 1588 *Theocritus' Idillia* viii. A ij b, He pawne a calfe, a weanell lambe laie thou to it.

Weaner (wī·nəɹ). [f. Wean *v.* + -er 1.]

† 1. One who takes care of a young person. *Obs.*

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 131 Plato..admonished all nurseses and weaners of youth, that they should [etc.].

2. A calf or lamb weaned during the current year. (? *Australian.*) Cf. Weanyer.

1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* I. 137 These are the weaners to be looked after. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xi, Wether, hogget, ewe, weaner. *Ibid.,* You won't have that weaner flock drafted before breakfast.

Weangeance, obs. Sc. form of Vengeance.

Weanie, weany (wī·nĭ), *dial.* [dim. of Wean *sb.*1: see -ie, -y 6.] A very young child.

1785 Burns *Scotch Drink* xii, When skirlin weanies see the light, Thou maks the gossips clatter bright. 1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* xxiv, The two weanies (big baby and little baby) only attending for the sake of example. 1894 A. Reid *Songs Heatherland* 103 Davie..Mindit neebors' crawlin' weanies.

Weaning (wī·nĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the vb. Wean; an instance of this.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxi. 8 Abraham made a greet feest in the day of the wanyng of hym. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 91 Mylke of þere kyne fro þ^e tyme of þ^e wenyng of þe calues. 1620 Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* I, Whose Lambs are ever last And dye before their waining. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 295 This from his Weaning, let him [the horse] well be taught. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 557 This second weaning, needless as it is, How does it lac'rate both your heart and his! 1848 Dickens *Dombey* viii, A waiter's wife,..from within a day or two of Paul's sharp weaning, had been engaged as his nurse. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* xxix, The time for the weaning of the babe approached.

b. *Comb.* as *weaning-feast, -time*; with sense 'in process of weaning', as *weaning calf, child, colt, lamb*; **weaning-brash** (see quot.).

1844 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 4), Brash, *Weaning,..*A severe form of diarrhœa, which supervenes at times on weaning. 1898 in *Lancs. & Ches. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1897) III. 8 To the children of John Holcrofte my best *weaning calf. 1778 *Reading Merc. & Oxf. Gaz.* 30 Nov., A weaning Bull Calf. 1844 Marryat *Settlers in Canada* xxviii, He also took six weaning calves to bring up. 1880 Clare *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 110 Like *weaning child that's lost its rattle. 1913 E. Nesbit in *New Witness* 23 Jan. 369 The limbs of our weaning children You crushed in your mills of power. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 135 If there be moche grasse..than put in calues newly wained..and also *wayn-ynge coltes. 1896 Jessopp & James *Life St. William of Norwich* p. lxv, The miracle which happened on his *weaning-feast. 1897 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VII. 21 To house, and feed by hand my *weaning Lambs. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 139 b, The Lambes..must be well cherished in their *weaning time with good pasture.

Weanling (wī·nlĭŋ), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 **wayne-, weyn-, weanling,** 6–7 **wain(e)ling.** [f. Wean *v.* + -ling 1.] A. *sb.* A young child or animal newly weaned.

1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII* c. 9 § 2 Diuers persons..haue vsed..to kille yonge beastes, called waynelinges, steres, bullockes, and bisteres, of one or two yeres old. 1536 *Primer,*

Compline (Ps. cxxxi. 2) K vij, I am a weanlynge in very dede. 1550 *Shampton Crt. Leet R.c.* (1903) 5 Yf any of them have two kyne or wenlings. 1589 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* i. 2 The tender weanlings of our sheepe. 1614 Rowlands *Fooles Bolt* D 2 b, Mens Children went not then to write and read As euery weanling now a dayes must do. 1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* viii. 58 Calves are either Sucklings or Wainlings. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* Dec. (1744) 145 By this Stanza it seems as though he recommended the Housing of Weanlings. 1883 O. W. Holmes in *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 382 Is it a weanling's weakness for the past That..Still keeps our gray old chapel's name of 'King's'? 1916 K. J. Saunders *Adv. Chr. Soul* 24 Akbar..shut up a score of weanlings away from all contact with adults.

fig. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* L 4 b, The other starre here meant, is called Luciferum, Venus her owne starre, to whom bawdes are wont to complaine, when they were deceiued or robbed of any of their sequestred weanlings.

B. *adj.* Recently weaned.

1637 Milton *Lycidas* 46 As killing as the Canker to the Rose, Or Taint-worm to the weanling Herds that graze. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 214, I doubted some weanling-calves I had wanted water. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xix. 469 Hermes,..Whose shrine with weanling lambs he wont to load. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* lxxv, Into the old farm-house I tottered, like a weanling child.

fig. 1849 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxxix, That part of his pastoral duty he wisely leaves to weanling laymen. 1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve Revol.* 57 Breasts that bare Our fathers' generations, whereat lay The weanling peoples and the tribes that were.

Weanscoot, -scott, obs. forms of Wainscot.

Weany, variant of Weanie, Weeny.

Weanyer (wī·nyəɹ), *dial.* Also 6 **wanyer, wayner, wenyer.** [f. Wean *v.* + -yer, -ier 1.] A weanling. Cf. Weaner 2. Also *attrib.*

1584 *Inv.* in *Surrey Archæol. Collect.* (1880) VII. 235 Itm vii Wanyers price xxxiiiˢ. 1544 R. Broker *Will* (Brit. Mus. Addit. MS. 24,925 lf. 21 b), A heffer and ij wenyers of this yere. 1884 *W. Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept., Advt., Two weanyers. 1908 *Oxf. Times* 28 June 8/3 Advt., A Weanyer Calf.

Weap(e, obs. ff. Weep *v.*

Weapon (we·pən, we·p'n), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wǽpen, wǽp(e)n, wǽpen, wǽmn,** 1–2 **wǽpn,** 2–3 *Orm.* **wæpenn,** 3–7 **wepen,** 4 **wepene, -in,** 4–5 **wepne,** 4–6 **weppen,** 5–6 **wepun, wep(p)yn,** 5–7 **wepon,** 5 **weppon, weppun, (vepen),** 6 **weapen,** 6– **weapon**; *β.* 3 *E. Anglian* **wopen**; *north.* and *Sc.* 3–7 **wapen,** 4 **wappen, vap(p)yn,** 4–7 **wapin,** 5–6 **wappin, wap(p)yn,** 5 **vappin,** 5, 7 **wappon,** 6 **wapon, vapon, vapin, vaupyn, waippin, waipone, wapoune,** 7 **wapone.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *wǽpen* neut. = OFris. *wēpin,* OS. *wāpan* (MLG. *wāpen,* whence MHG. *wāpen, wāppen,* mod.G. *wappen* only in the sense of armorial bearings), OHG. *wāfan* (MHG. *wāfen* neut., mod.G. *waffe* fem.), ON. *vápn* neut. (Sw. *vapen,* Da. *vaaben*), Goth. **wēpn* (pl. *wēpna*):—O Teut. **wāpno-m*:—pre-Teut. **wōbno-m.* A parallel type **wābno-m* (:— pre-Teut. **wēpnó-m*) is supposed by some scholars to be implied by certain rare forms in various Teut. langs.: OHG. or OS. (*Hildebrandslied*) *wāhnum* dat. pl., OE. *wǽmn,* ON. *vámn.* Outside Teut. no probable cognates have been found.

The northern ME. *wǽpen* (later *wappen*) and the rare (E. Anglian) *wopen* represent the ON. *vápn*: cf. Wapentake, Wappenshaw. The shortening of the long stressed vowel in the first syllable is normal; Ormin has still the OE. quantity.

The pl. in OE. was normally identical in form with the sing., but in the 10th and 11th c. forms with final *-u* occur. In Layamon *c* 1205 the plural is usually *wepnen,* though there are also examples of *wepne* and *wapen.* From the beginning of the 14th c. the plural has in ordinary use been formed with the suffix *-(e)s*; with regard to the occasional uninflected plural see 1 b below.]

1. An instrument of any kind used in warfare or in combat to attack and overcome an enemy.

a. Beowulf 1509 Swa he ne mihte no..wæpna gewealdan. *Ibid.* 1573 He..wæpen hafenade beard be hiltum. *c* 930 *O.E. Chron.* an. 917, & a-hreddon eall þæt hie ge-numen hæfdon, & eac hira horsa & hira wæpna miceline dæl. *c* 1205 Lay. 6484 Morpidus..seouen hundred of-sloh and swemde mið wepnen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 240 Þe þet his wepnen worpeð awei, him luste beon iwunded. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15518 When þey were waxen on elde, Armes to bere, & wepne to welde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* III. 304 Alle þat bereth baslarde, brode swerde or launce, Axe other hachet or eny wepne elles *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 34 With-outen wepene saue his handes tweyne He slow and al torente the leon. 1415 Hoccleve *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 471 A clod Of eerthe, at your heedes to slynge or caste, Were wepne ynow. *c* 1521 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 There wepyns is lange pykes and stones ther they caste mygbtly with. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* xxi, And sum with weapons would have layed on lode. 1612 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 392 'Tis best we stand vpon our guard..: let's draw our weapons. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* v. iii. § 21. 579 The Battels of foote..drew neere together..till they were almost within a weapons cast. 1636 Massinger *Bashf. Lover* I. ii, In a cause like this, The Husbandman would change his ploughing-irons To weapons of defence. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 668 Fix'd in the Mast the feather'd Weapon stands. 1730 Gray *Long Story* 39 They hid their armour And veil'd their weapons bright and keen. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* II. i, My sword! O fool, I wear no sword: here, fellow, Give me thy weapon. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* I. v, Nothing was represented in a flourishing condition, save tools and weapons. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit., Eloquence* (end), The Arabian warrior of fame, who wore seventeen weapons in his belt. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 278 The term 'small arms' includes sporting and military weapons carried by the shooter. 1900 A. S. Hurd *How Navy is run* 81 There is a roar and a crash as the great 25-ton weapon speaks.

β. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 469 Wopen of wiȝte and tol of griȝ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13792 Sper and suerd and mace þai bring, And wapens oþer mas. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 711 Their fayis thaim met vith vapnys bar. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 193 Wapynnys he bur, outhir gud suerd or knyff. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 461 With alkin wappyns..that wes for were wroght. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 96 Al the vaupynis and armour of scotland to be deiyuerit to the inglismen. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 194 All the arteilzerrie..with all maner of vaponis. 1690 J. Nicoll *Diary* (Bann. Club) 28 Our Scottis army being all drowsie ..and many of thame thair horsses and wapines to seik.

† *Proverb. a* 1575 Pilkington *Expos. Neh.* iv. (1585) 64 b, A weapon boods peace, as the common saying is.

transf. (*humorously*) 1712–14 Pope *Rape Lock* III. 128 Just then, Clarissa drew with tempting grace A two-edg'd weapon from her shining case. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xix, For Chadband..can wield such weapons of the flesh as a knife and fork, remarkably well. 1873 Tristram *Moab* v. 95 Those, to him, novel weapons, a knife and fork.

† **b.** Down to the end of the 16th c., the plural, when used in the collective sense = 'arms', was often identical in form with the sing. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlv. 10 Bogan forþreste[ð] & ȝebriceð wepen [Vulg. *arma*]. *c* 1200 Ormin 8187 & hise cnihhtess alle imæn Forþ ȝedenn wiþþ þe bære, Wiþþ heore wæpenn alle bun, Swa summ þe33 sholldenn fihhtenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 499 Al þæt wapmon-cun ; a mihte beren wapen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3283 Wepen, and srud, siluer, and gold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7572 Þat all mai wit þat godd o might Sauues noght man in wapen bright. *c* 1485 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* xxi. 54 Out of wepne [*v. r.* wepyn], he was as redy to otheres byddynge as other to hys. *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 237 And then the erll of Arondell sett gouernance in that contre and tokyn all wepyn from hem. *c* 1500 Barclay *Sallust's Jugurth* xi. 56 b, Their ennemies..lette them to go to the castell of the towne where their armoure and wepyn was. 1590 Harington tr. *Cicero's Bk. Friendship* (1562) 26 As if Coriolanus hadde anye freendes, whether they oughte to haue borne weapon with hym agaynste their countrey. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1900) 89 He was forced to arise from bankettes and runne to weapon. 1585–6 Earl Leycester *Corr.* (Camden) 426 They doe make reckoning of all ther vyttell, of ther armour, and wepon. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 363 Thair myndes war sa in ydleset, and close fra weir and wapoune.

c. *fig.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* iii. § 1 Ic [Wisdom] wat þæt þu hæfst þara wæpna to hraþe forgiten þe ic þe ær sealde. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 148 (Gr.) Ayrede hine ȝeorne mid ȝæstlicum wæpnum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 [God] ȝeue us wepne for to boten Mid gode werkes for us to weren. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 336 in *O.E. Hom.* I, Mid fasten and almesse..Mid þo wepnen þe god haued ȝiuen alle mancunne. *c* 1200 Ormin 12485 Þe deofell comm to wundenn Crist þurrh gluterrnessess wæpenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 360 þe wepnen þet slowen him, þet weren ure sunnen. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. v. (1495) 32 Angels ben callyd Smythes for they araye for vs ghostly wepyn. 1562 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. (1634) 405 That they..should dedicate themselves to God,..and their members, weapons of righteousness to God. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 61 His Champions, are the Prophets and Apostles, His Weapons, holy Sawes of sacred Writ. 1605 — *Lear* II. iv. 280 And let not womens weapons, water drops, Staine my mans cheekes. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XX. 297 So voluble a weapon is the tongue. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Manch. Strike* iv. 53 The first man who deserts the work..puts the weapon of the law into the hands of our opponents. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 151 A consummate master of all the weapons of controversy. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1875) 253 The charge of heresy was one of the weapons used with most effect against Frederick II. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 188 William was not slow to follow with other weapons. His course was ..to seize the towns.

d. *transf.* Any part of the body (esp. of a bird or beast) which is or may be used as a means of attack or defence, as a claw, horn, tusk, or the like; in pl., the spurs of a game cock or hen.

(Cf. Arm *sb.*[2] 12, Armature 5.)

1633 Markham *Pleas. Princes* 43 Your [Game] Henne..must be..well tufted on the crowne, which shewes courage: if shee haue weapons she is better. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* II. iv, Those weapons which she wore at the ends of her fingers. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf, Weapons,* in cocking, the spurs appearing on hens or young cocks. 1914 A. S. Woodward *Guide Fossil Rem. Man, Brit. Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1915) 5 Typical modern monkeys, with the canine teeth enlarged into weapons.

† **e.** A soldier of a class distinguished by the weapon he uses. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 12 Whilest the Piquers and other weapons doo reduce themselues into forme vnder their Ensignes.

f. Used for: One skilled in the use of a weapon. *rare*[−1]. (? quasi-*arch.*)

1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. viii, Blandford knows which of us two is the best weapon. At small-sword, or back-sword, ..I can beat him.

2. Phrases.

† **a.** *To take weapon in hand*: to take up arms.

1538 Starkey *England* 79 In tyme of warr, hyt ys necessary for our plowmen and laburars of the cuntrey to take wepun in hand. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 573 Amurath never tooke weapon in hand against this people, before he understood..that all Persia was in uprore.

b. *At all, any weapons*: with weapons of any kind. † *At the weapons of* ——: with the weapons used by ——. † *To play one's prise(s at all, at several, in all weapons*: *fig.* to use every or several means to win one's contest (cf. Prize *sb.*[2] b).

1600, *a* 1670 [see Prize *sb.*[2] b]. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Soliloquies* lxxv. Wks. 1662 III. 461 If the question be concerning some scrupulous act to be done or omitted, now self-respect plays its prises at all weapons. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 97 At any weapons, against any odds I wul prove him a traitor. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 139 [He] said he was not a porter to fight with his fists; but would give him..satisfaction..at the weapons of a gentleman. 1832 James *Phil. Augustus* vi, He was..expert at all weapons.

c. (To challenge, fight, beat, etc. an adversary) *at his own weapon* or *weapons,* i. e. with such as he is expert in. Chiefly *fig.*

1620 Marcellini *Triumphs Jas. I* 83 To deale and cope with the envious and perfidious malignity of these calumniators, even at their owne weapons. 1628 Bolton *Florus* III. i. (1636) 163 Metellus,..(saying flight when he meant nothing lesse, matcht him at his own weapons. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 145 That he should put a full stoccado vpon me, and go brag when he had done, that he had beaten a master of defence at his owne weapon. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 12 We inalst so much upon this philosophy here,..because, without the perfect knowledge of it, we cannot deal with the atheists at their own weapon. 1760 Foote *Minor* I. (1767) 11 You cockneys now beat us suburbians at our own weapons. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 51 This was truly foiling the Devil, at his own weapons. *c* 1820 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 239 Their undue predilection for Patristic learning and authority ..originated in the wish to baffle the Papists at their own weapons.

† **3.** The penis. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 265/33 *Calamus,* teors, þæt wæpen, *uel* lim. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* IX. 180 Whiles þow art ȝonge and þi wepne kene, Wreke þe with wynynge.

4. attrib. and Comb.: simple attrib., as *weapon-clang, -crash, -point, -stroke*; *weapon-proof* adj.; objective, as *weapon-maker, -whetter*; also † **weapon-bearer** = Armour-bearer; † **weapon-love,** love as a Weapon-salve; † **weapon-man,** one skilled in the use of weapons; **weapon-smith** *Hist.*, a forger or maker of weapons; **weapon-tool,** a tool which could also be used as a weapon. Also Weapon-salve.

1535 Coverdale *1 Sam.* xiv. 1 Ionathas sayde vnto his lad which was his *wapen-bearer: Come, let vs go ouer to the Philistynes watch. ?1547 — *Confut. Standish* To Rdr., So am I ready to do the same against. greate Goliath of Rome and his weapen-bearer. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* III. xviii, Then *weapon-clang, and martial call, Resounded through the funeral hall. 1813 — *Rokeby* v. xxxi, And *weapon-crash and maddening cry, Of those who kill, and those who die! *a* 1721 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 168 Thou when the Sword went through her tender Heart, With *Weapon love didst then anoint the Blade. 1915 Mary Johnston *Fortunes of Garin* xv. 239 Armourers and *weapon makers. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* II. 90 Practising my selfe in. imitating whatsoever I had seene done by any judicious *weapon-man. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* VI. xxi, Each *weapon-point is downward sent, Each warrior to the ground is bent. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* XXI. 699, I cannot think That he is *weapon-proof. 1849 Kemble *Saxons in Eng.* II. vii. II. 306 The heroical *weapon-smith on the one hand, and on the other the poor professors of such rude arts as the homestead cannot do without. 1908 *Expositor* Sept. 265 The settled weapon-smiths of ancient Egypt . were quite a different class from the nomad clans of tin-smiths and coppersmiths. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* XI. 471 Lightly falls the *weapon-stroke Of an unwarlike weakling. 1861 W. R. Wilde *Catal. Antiq. Anim. Materials R. Ir. Acad.* 360 Weapons and *Weapon Tools. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 519/2 *Samiarii,..*weapon whetters.

Weapon (we·pən, we·p'n), *v.* Now *rare* exc. in pa. pple.: see Weaponed. Forms: *a.* 1 **wǽpnian, wǽmnian,** 3 **wepne-n, wepnie-n, wepni,** 5 **weppen, wepon,** 6 **wepon,** 6– **weapon**; *β. E. Anglian* 3 **wop(e)nen**; *north.* 4 **wapne.** [OE. *wǽpnian,* f. *wǽpen* Weapon *sb.*; cf. OHG. *wāffanen, -on* (MHG. *wafenen, wafenen,* mod.G. *waffnen*), also MHG. *wapenen* (mod.G. *wappnen,* to clothe in armour), ON. *vápna.*] *trans.* To furnish with weapons or a weapon; to arm.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xix. (Z.) 122 *Armor* ic eom ȝewæpnod, *armo te* ic wæpnize ðe. *c* 1205 Lay. 8644 He seide forð rihtes: wepned eow cnihtes. *Ibid.* 8655 He wepnede his cnihtes and ȝarewede heom to fehten. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* v. 16 Ne shamefully ne didde hym to flight, bot euer mor he was I-lich redy to weppen and to defend hym-self. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc.* xiv. 32 Then Symon withstode them, and..weapened the valeaunt men of his people. 1591 Sir J. Smith *Instruct.* (1595) 217 All sortes of souldiours may presentlie..arme and weapon themselues in warrelike manner.

b. *fig.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 72 He mid rodetacne his mub and ealne his lichaman ȝewæpnode. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 43 Hwer se we eauer iseoð mon oðer wummon eanl god biginnen; we wepnið us azein ham. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* D 3, A great many more allegations hath hee to thys end, which heere to recite were to weppen and to defend hym-self. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc.* xiv. 32 Then Symon withstode them, and..weapened the valeaunt men of his people. 1591 Sir J. Smith *Instruct.* (1595) 217 All sortes of souldiours may presentlie..arme and weapon themselues in warrelike manner.

Hence **Wea·poning** *vbl. sb.*

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 3 b, And as they doe mistake the conuenient arming of horsemen and footmen, so they also mistake the weaponing of them.

Weaponed (we·pənd), *pa. ppls.* and *ppl. a.* [f. Weapon *v.* and *sb.* + -ed 1, 2.

OE. had *wæpned* male (cf. Weapon *sb.* 3).]

Furnished with weapons or a weapon; armed.

(*a*) *c* 1000 Ælfric *N. T.* (Gr.) 18/19 He com þa ȝewæmnod. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 992, Hi..þæt scip ȝenamon eall ȝewæpnod & ȝewæded. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3373 Wupened he ben a-gen Israel. 1352 Minot *Poems* iv. 39 He brogbt folk..þat ful wele wapnid were. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 359, I and þow be here allone, iliche wel i-horsed and i-wepened. *c* 1456 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 136 And all this tyme chorlys of Normandy weren wepond, and born harnes. 1600 *Looke about You* C 4, You see I am

weapned..He stab them come there twenty. *a* 1692 Brome *Queenes Exch.* II. iii, They are three sturdy knaves and strongly weapon'd. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* v. xxxii, For they were weaponed, and prepared Their mistress on her way to guard. *a* 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* i. (1863) 8, I was weaponed with a staff, should brute or biped uncourteous dispute our way. 1907 McCarthy *Needles & Pins* xx, You shall be well clad, well weaponed, well horsed.

(*b*) *c* 1200 Ormin 10095 Þe cnihhtess wærenn wæpnedd folic. *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 2479 Wel wopnede men. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 10 Robert..sette the bowmen for to wer the fight of the kernels, and turned the wepned men to fill þe diches. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* vi. 11 Necessite (shall come to us) like a wapened man. 1603 T. Wale in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 63 There should be two hundreth weaponed men put into ____ by the cyttie. 1680 C. Nesse *Church Hist.* 370 In the sight and despight of sixty weaponed witnesses. 1798 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 219 The weapon'd slaves of tyranny. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 76 Her weaponed children's moan Of stifled rage invoking vengeance.

† b. quasi-*Her.*

1683 H. More *Illustr. Daniel* etc. 344 He alone is said to ride weaponed, *viz.* with a Sword coming out of his mouth. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geogr.* V. 413 A griffin gules, crowned Or and weaponed, in a field azure.

c. *fig.*

c 1200 Ormin 677 Whas itt iss þatt wæpnedd iss Wiþþ fulle trowwþe o Criste. 1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxi. 5–11 Great pestilences..shal..consume a mightie great noumbre of people in sort as though the aire were armed & weaponed to doe vengeaunce vpon the euil sort. 1563 Shute *Archit.* 3 b, Yf a man myght be parfaict in al these sciences as were Aristarchus, .. Architas, [etc.] .. (for all these were strongely weaponed with al these sciences before rehersed). 1616 J. Hayward *Sanct. Transb. Soul* I. iii. (1620) 10, I was come to a greater staiednesse,..I was warned, I was weaponed; I was instructed, I was encouraged. 1839 J. Sterling *Poems* 156 The scathed and haggard face of will, And look so strong with weaponed thought. 1844 Emerson *Ess.* xx. Wks. (Bohn) I. 249 We are amphibious creatures, weaponed for two elements, having two sets of faculties, the particular and the catholic. 1860 — *Cond. Life* vi. ibid. II. 408 In all the encounters that have yet chanced, I have not been weaponed for that particular occasion, and have been historically beaten. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* July 15 'Responsible Government'..may also be found incompatible with that kind of weaponed and sentinelled peace that will follow the conflict.

d. *transf.* (Cf. Weapon *sb.* 1 d, 3.)

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 126 It [the ass] is a woonderful Coltishe beast, & vnreasonably weapned [L. *animal mire salax, & pre corporis portione membrosius*]. hall, so

Southey *Kehama* XVI. xiii, His mouth, from ear to ear, Weapon'd with triple teeth, extended wide.

Weaponless (we·pənlés), *a.* [f. Weapon *sb.* + -less.] a. Without weapons or a weapon; unarmed.

a 1000 in Napier *OE. Glosses* I. 724 *Inermes quoque*, .i. *sine armis*, .i. *uniuersos*, gehwylce wæpenlease. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxix. 175 Wundor-lic godes gifu þæt þam wæpenleasan menn ne mihton þa wælhreowan mid wæpnum wiþ-standan. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 281 He sette a lawe for the pes, That non, but he be wepneles, Schal come into the conseil hous. *c* 1430 *Lybeaus Disc.* 366 Hyt wer greet vylanye To do a knyght to deye Wepeneles yn place. 1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* vi. 6–9 He sent them out weaponlesse, leste that mans aydes shoulde chalenge any thing in this heauenly busynesse. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. v. 14 Soone as the knight she there by her did spy, Standing with emptie hands all weaponlesse. 1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* v. 140 The defendants being suffered to depart away weaponlesse. 1671 Milton *Samson* 130 [He] Ran on embattelled Armies clad in Iron, And weaponless himself, Made Arms ridiculous. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* II. 100 Here the poor captives, weaponless and bound, Saw their stern victors draw again the sword. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* III. ii. 95 A lone, unguarded, weaponless old man. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. III. 399 Take my sword, and leave me weaponless. 1895 Scully *Kafir Stories* 96 Naked and weaponless fugitives from the Tonga and other tribes.

fig. 1629 Rutherford *Let. to Mar. M'Naught* 27 Nov., Lett. (1891) 45 My Captain, Christ, hath said, I must fight and overcome the world, and with a weak, spoiled, weaponless devil. 1680 C. Nesse *Church Hist.* 32 God will not war with a weaponless devil.

b. *transf.* Of an animal: Without natural means of attack or defence.

1537 Coverdale *Expos. Ps. xxxii* A vij b, Loke how lytle a naturall shepe can kepe, gyde, rule, saue or defende it selfe agaynst daunger and mysfortune (for it is a feble and wapenlesse beast). 1644 J. Strickland *Immanuel* 6 Dennes or burroughes where weaponlesse creatures find shelter when they are hunted. 1666 J. Smith *Old Age* 58 That audacious Carper at the works of God (who complained that other Creatures had naturally a defence given, and man only left weaponless).

c. Not containing a weapon.

1863 Thornbury *True as Steel* II. 327 'What a poor soldier am I,' said the Ritter..looking down to his weaponless belt.

Weaponry (we·pənri). *rare.* [f. Weapon *sb.* + -ry.] Weapons collectively.

1844 *N. Brit. Rev.* I. 143 The armour of our ancient halls, the weaponry, the device. 1878 Talmage *Old Wells* 269 Look over the weaponry of olden times—javelins, battle-axes [etc.].

† **Weapon-salve.** *Obs.* [Cf. G. *waffensalbe.*] An ointment superstitiously believed to heal a wound by sympathetic agency when applied to the weapon by which the wound was made.

1631 W. Fosrer (*title*), Hoplocrisma-Spongus; or, A Sponge to wipe away the Weapon-Salve..wherein is proved, that the Cure lately taken up amongst us, by applying the Salve to the Weapon, is Magicall and unlawfull. 1633 Hart *Diet of Diseased* III. xxx. 373 Cures..supposed to have been performed by the weapon-salve. *a* 1646 J. Gregory *Posthuma, Serm.* etc. (1649) 63 The Principal Ingredient of the weapon-Salv, is the Moss of a dead Man's skul. 1670 Dryden *Tempest* v. i, Anoint the Sword which pierc'd him with this Weapon-Salve, and wrap it close from air till I have time to visit him again. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* vi. 191 The effects of healing by the weapon-salve.

fig. 1629 Stillingfl. (*title*), Irenicum. A Weapon-salve for the Churches Wounds. 1679 Alsop *Melius Inq. Pref.*, The Title raised me on tip-toes to see..that famous Weapon-salve which might consolidate the Churches bleeding wounds.

Weapon-s(h)aw, -shawing, -showing: see Wappens(h)aw, -s(h)awing.

Weapontack, -tage, obs. ff. Wapentake.

Wear (wēəɹ), *sb.* Also 5 were, 6–7 weare, 7–8 ware. [f. Wear *v.*[1]]

I. 1. The action of wearing or carrying on the person (an article of clothing, an ornament, a watch, sword, or the like); the condition or fact of being worn or carried upon the person.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 567/2 The best and lightest Tymbre to make of Patyns and Clogges, and moost esiest for the were of all estate, 16.. *Bell my Wife* 26 in *Percy Fol. MS.* II. 323 My cloake itt was a verry good cloake, It hath beene alwayes good to the weare. 1713 Steele *Guardian* No. 170 ₱ 16 'Tis a Demonstration, that they have more [Woollen Goods] than is sufficient for their own Wear. 1716 J. Perry *State Russia* 74 The wear of Furs is a great Fashion in China. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. v. II. 161, I have seen cloths made there, which..were ..as far as I could judge, superior for the ordinary wear of country people, to any thing we make in England. 1818 *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 178 Every one who visits France brings over some [articles of manufactured silk] for their own wear. 1903 R. Barr *Over Border* I. vi. 66 His costume..hung, loosely unfitting, about a frame that had become gaunt since its wear began. 1912 *Daily Graphic* 31 Dec. 13/2 A charming coat for restaurant wear.

b. *The worse for wear*: deteriorated through wearing. (Cf. Wearing *vbl. sb.*[1] 3.)

1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 183 A hat not much the worse for wear. 1840 'Ouida' *Moths* I. ii. 32 The statuette..never seemed the worse for wear.

† c. Use, the using or making use (of a utensil).

1872 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 285/1 For ye wear of a kettil and a trevet xiid.

2. Phr. *To be in wear.* a. Of an article of clothing, an ornament, etc.: To be actually on the person of the wearer; also, to be (still) habitually worn by a person, not to have been discarded. Similarly (of a person), *to have in wear.* b. Of a kind or style of garment, etc.: To be worn by people generally; to be in vogue or fashion. Similarly, *to come into wear.*

1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 106 Sophia, do you know patches are coming into wear again? 1799 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 150 If there are any handsome cockades (but not whimsically foolish) in wear,.. I should be glad if they were sent with the eagles fixed thereon. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* II. ii. (1849) 92 Several gigantic knee-buckles of massy silver are still in wear, that made gallant display in the days of the patriarchs of Communipaw. 1851–61 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 33/1 If there be any part of silk in a dress not suitable for any of these purposes it is wasted, or what is accounted wasted, although it may have been in wear for years. 1855 Dickens *Holly-Tree* i, The lesser roadside Inns of Italy; where all the dirty clothes in the house (not in wear) are always lying in your anteroom.

fig. 1704 Swift *Mech. Operat. Spir.* Misc. (1711) 274 Now, Sir, to proceed after the Method in present Wear. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xix, Assuredly that shield and buckler of Britannia are not in present wear.

3. What one wears or should wear; the thing or things worn or proper to be worn at a particular time or in certain circumstances.

1570 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 12 Makers of coloured woollen clothes..from whome is drawne..sufficient stoare to furnishe the weare of the best sort of our owne nation. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* x. 180 And without crest or plume at all his morian on [he] doth pull, Of bullish hyde, a yong mans weare, men do it call a scul. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv, *Amo.* Your ribband too do's most gracefully, in troth. *Ass.* Tis the most gentile, and receiu'd weare now, sir. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 34 Motley's the onely weare. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 387 Will you buy..Any Silke, any Thred, any Toyes for your head Of the news't and fins't, fins't weare-a. 1619 Fletcher *Knt. Malta* II. i, What's in that pack there? 1 *Sold.* 'Tis English Cloth. *Ner.* That's a good wear indeed, Both strong, and rich. 16.. Cleveland *Newes fr. Newcastle* 130 Wks. (1687) 290 Our Wear's plain Out-side, but is richly lin'd. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 257/2 It is a wear amongst little Children with us to this day. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 166 A particular kind of flowered and striped lawns, which are a cheap and fashionable wear. 1812 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 289 It has occasionally been questioned whether hats or turbans were the prevailing wear. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers, Ribbons* (1876) 18 The Great Duke's theory was..that for common people your plain coat without stars and ribbons, was the most sensible wear. 1865 in G. Hill *Hist. Druit* (1893) II. 261 Little insects of all kinds, especially flies, are good wear in bonnets. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 5 June 5/6 Their cotton gowns are much cooler wear in the broiling weather of the present week than the warm Welsh woollens. 1900 *Times* 29 July 11/3 The makers..are fairly well supplied with orders, men's wear excepted.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 78 *Clo.* I hope Sir, your good-ship wil be my baile? *Luc.* No indeed will I not ____, It is not the wear. 1749 Young *Nt. Th.* V. 829 Hence burly corpulence Is his familiar wear, and sleek disguise. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. xiv. 232 Meeting one day with a lovely face that had flaxen locks about it, we thought for a good while after, that flaxen was your only wear. 1876 C. L. Smith *Tasso's Jerus. Delivered* III. vii, Each from his head removes the bauble there Of silk or gold,..Each doffs too from his heart its haughty wear.

4. a. Capacity for being worn or for further advantageous use.

1699 Bovet *Royal Dict., Eng.-Fr.* s. v., A Stuff of good Wear, *une Etoffe d'un bon usé.* 1881 *Punch* 26 Feb. 94/1 The shoe that has still wear in it. 1901 Alldridge *Sharpe* xxviii. 339 The native-made cloths..of never-ending wear.

b. Advantage of continued wearing.

1836 [Hooton] *Bitherry Thwrland* ii. I. 35, I've had more wear out of this one waistcoat, than any hafe dosen agen.

II. 5. The process or condition of being worn or gradually reduced in bulk or impaired in quality by continued use, friction, attrition, exposure to atmospheric or other natural destructive agencies; loss or diminution of substance or deterioration of quality due to these causes.

1729 [T. Prior] *Observ. Coin* (1856) 305 This Scarcity will be farther increased by the Wear of Silver Coins, which has lessened their Weights considerably. 1730 Conduitt *Observ. Coins* (1774) 31 The telling money on wood, especially with a mixture of sand, very much encreases the wear. 1792 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 321, I then saw the coast was in a state of wear. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 546 The foundation should be covered to the depth that is necessary to sustain the wear to which the road is subject. 1869 F. Kohn *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 90 The saw, not being constantly in use, is driven by an independent engine to save the wear of its bearings. 1892 Flower *Horse* iii. 115 The shape of the table alters as the wear of the tooth proceeds. 1894 A. M. Bell in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XXIII. 273 So also with surface finds; if they possess definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather,..of position when found, each of which places them in a class by themselves.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1888 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 80. VI. 51 They [*sc.* desires for holiness] cause a wear of heart, a straining of the mind. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 311 Those who ..are already showing signs of wear in their nervous systems.

6. Wear and tear, wearing or damage due to ordinary usage; deterioration in the condition of a thing through constant use or service. Also (less usual) *tear and wear*: see Tear *sb.*[2] 1.

1666 Pepys *Diary* 29 Sept., The wages, victuals, wear and tear, cast by the medium of the men, will come to above £3,000,000. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 119 Wear and tear of Ground-Tackle. 1699 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* IV. 505 Allowing 4*l.* a man per mensem for ware and tear, charge of the ordnance included. 1702 Savery *Miner's Friend* 64 A Work..that cost forty-two shillings per diem..besides Ware and Tare of Engines. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. ix. (1869) II. 249 The wear and tear of the implements of husbandry. 1833 Marryat *J. Faithful* I, A pair of shoes may have lasted her for five years, for the wear and tear that she took out of them. 1839 Stonehouse *Axholme* 46 It is difficult to calculate the daily wear and tear of four horses, straining through the thick mud, breaking the gears, and almost pulling the waggon to pieces. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk., Wear and Tear*, the decay and deterioration of the hull, spars, sails, ropes, and other stores of a ship in the course of a voyage. 1868 Stanley *Westm. Abb.* (ed. 2) 508 The wear-and-tear of four centuries..had rendered this venerable building quite unfit for its purpose. 1901 *Act 1 Edw. VII* c. 42 § 7 (1), Such damage as the local authority consider to be due to fair wear and tear in the use of any room in the school house.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 1182 That in return would pay th'expence, The Wear-and-tear of Conscience. 1775 Johnson in *Boswell* (1792) I. 513 You are not to wonder at that; no man's face has had more wear and tear. 1806 J. Berresford *Miseries Hum. Life* II. § 31 There is not a whit less wear and tear to the nerves. 1828 Macaulay *Ess., Hallam* (1897) 89 Mr. Hallam..scarcely makes a sufficient allowance for the wear and tear which honesty almost necessarily sustains in the friction of political life. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXV, Unequal to the wear and tear of daily life, as he had often professed himself to be. 1881 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit.* Ser. II. vi. (1888) 166 Nay, I doubt whether his [Shelley's] delightful Essays and Letters..will not resist the wear and tear of time better..than his poetry.

7. *Pugilism.* (See quots.)

1819 *Sporting Mag.* N. S. III. 231 It was who should stay upon the wear-out game in the rain the longest. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 45/1 Bravo, Neal—he must win it—he has too much wear-and-tear for Gaynor.

III. 8. The anterior surface of the lower part of the mouth of a carpenter's plane.

1823 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* II. 318/2 The narrow opening between the face of the iron and the line *m w* is termed the *mouth* of the plane; the line *m w* is called the *wear*: the angle between the mouth and the wear should be as small as possible, so that as the sole wears away,..the mouth may not be too much enlarged.

Wear (wēəɹ), *v.*[1] Pa. t. wore (wōəɹ); pa. pple. worn (wōɹn). Forms: 1 werian, 3–4 werie, werye, 3–5 *north.* wer, 3–7 were, 4 weri, 4–6 wher(e, 5 weyr(e, wheer, 5–6 weer(e, 5–8 (chiefly *Sc.*) weir, 6 wayre, *Sc.* weire, veir, veyr, 6–7 weare, waire, 7 ware, (8 wair), 6– wear. *Pa. t. a.* 1–5 werede, 3 weorede, 4–5 wered, -ed, werd(e, 5 weryd(e, werryde, -id, veryd, *Sc.* werit, -yt, weiret, 6 weard, 8 weared. *β.* 4–6 were, 4–5 wer, weyr, *Sc.* war, wour, 5–6 *Sc.* weir, 5–7 ware, 6 weer, weare, wayre, weare, warre, woore, *Sc.* wair, woure, 6–7 weare, 6– wore. *Pa. pple. a.* 1–5 wered, 4 (y)werd, 5 werid, -yd, *Sc.* -it, werde, weredе. *β.* 5 woryn, 5–6 worne,

6 worn, *Sc.* **worne**, 6–8, 9 *dial.* **wore**, **–worn**. [A Com. Teut. weak vb. (wanting in Frisian, LG., Du., Sw., Da., and mod. Norw.): OE. *werian* corresponds to OHG. *werjan*, *werjen* to clothe, ON. *verja* to clothe, also to invest, lay out (money: see WARE *v.*[2]), Goth. *wasjan* to clothe (also in comb. *gawasjan* to clothe, *andwasjan* to unclothe, strip):—OTeut. **wasjan* (? and **wasjan*), f. Teut. root **was-*, whence Goth. *wasti* fem., garment, MHG. *wester* fem., christening robe; ablaut variant of OTeut. and Indogermanic **wes-*, whence ON. *vesl* neut., cloak, L. *vestis* garment, Gr. ἕννῡμι (:—**wesnu-*) to clothe, *Fεσθής*, *ἑσθής* raiment, Skr. *vas* to clothe, *vasman* neut., a cover, garment, *vasana* neut., *vastra* neut., clothing.

The change from the weak to the strong conjugation, due to the analogy of verbs like *swear*, *bear*, *tear*, seems to have begun in the 14th c., but is rare before the 16th. In OE. the pa. pple. *forworen* occurs once, along with the regular *for* as a gloss to *decrepita* (Napier *OE. Gl.* i. 2109), and in *The Ruined City* 7 we should probably read *forwornne gelorene* for the *forweorone geleorene* of the MS.]

I. ‘To carry appendant to the body’ (J.).

1. *trans.* To carry or bear on one’s body or on some member of it, for covering, warmth, ornament, etc.; to be dressed in; to be covered or decked with; to have on.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. ix. (1883) 190 Þæt nan oþer ne moste gyldenne hring werian, buton he æþeles cynnes wære. *c* 1205 LAY. 17695 He weorede ane burne. *c* 1290 *St. Patrick* 306 in *S. E. Leg.* 214 Ech wereþ clopes of þe en-taile þat heo wereden on eorþe here. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1928 He were a bleaunt of blwe, þat bradde to þe erþe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Squire’s T.* 139 If hire lust it [*sc.* this ring] for to were Vp on hir thombe or in hir purs it bere. *c* 1450 *Mirk’s Festial* 197 He..werd þe her next to hys flesch. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 84 Gude souir weide dayly on him he wour. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 72 Though he ware the habit of religyon, yet his herte was in the worlde. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* xi. 58 To weere a colar of golde. 1590 *Tarlton’s Newes Purgatorie* 35 A crewe of men that weare Baye garlands on their heads. 1601, 1696 [see TRUSS ...ing their Pockets. 1721 BERKELEY *Pres. Ruin Gt. Brit.* Wks. III. 199 More fine linen is wore in Great Britain than in any other country. 1827 W. A. BUTLER *Nothing to wear* 29 Miss M‘Flimsey..The last time we met, was in utter despair, Because she had nothing whatever to wear! 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vi. 78 In Germany..it has long been impossible to fill the ranks of the army without allowing soldiers to wear glasses. 1908 J. BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 289 He wears the same clothes for years. 1913 M. ROBERTS *Salt of Sea* ix. 215 His ears had been pierced for earrings, though he wore none.

fig. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* iv. 30 Each common Bush shall Syrian Roses wear. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* xviii, Every Hyacinth the Garden wears.

b. To dress oneself habitually or at a particular season in (a material, garment) of a particular sort or fashion. Also in *passive*, of the material or garment.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Nexst fleshe ne schal mon werien no linene cloð. *c* 1250 *Doomsday* 28 in *O. E. Misc.* 164 Moni of þisse riche þat wereden foh and grei. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21112 He..wered noþer wol ne line. 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 241 (Sloane) He þat hadde ywerd þe fowe and griis. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xii. 543 The habitis, whiche..ben assigned to be worn of the religiose persoones. 1516 *Life of St. Bridget* in *Myrr. our Ladye* lii, She weer euer rough & sharpe wolen cloth. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xiii. 18 Soch garmentes wayre yᵉ kynges doughters whyle they were virgins. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxv. § 2 The Church..suffereth mourning apparell to bee worne. 1785 GEO. A. BELLAMY *Apol.* III. 30 Brown rateen, which at that time was much wore. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lii, When the Court went into mourning, she always wore black. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* vii. 126 She wears her trains very long, as the great ladies do in Europe. *a* 1891 R. W. HARBOUR *Thoughts* (1900) 66 Wearing scarlet is a badge of being in the Queen’s service.

fig. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* ii, Loveliest of trees, the cherry now..stands about the woodland ride Wearing white for Eastertide.

†c. with *on* or *upon* adv. (= on one’s person; cf. *have on*, *put on*). *Obs.*

? *a* 1386 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 564 A chapelet, so semly con Ne wereþe neuer mayde vpon. *c* 1386 — *Wife’s Prol.* 559 I..wered vpon my gaye scarlet gytes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 239 His victor hym self schulde were on Iupiter his cote. 1589 HARMAN *Caveat* 62 A lytle whystell of syluer that his mother dyd vse customablye to weare on. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 209/43 To Weare on, *ferre*. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 364 He weareth on a purple coloured coate.

d. said of an animal.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* d iii, The bellis that yowre hawke shall wheer looke in any wise that thay be not to heuy ouer hir power to weyr. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 13 b, A ring of gold..ceaseth not to be a ryng of gold though a swine weare it.

†e. *absol.* To dress, be clad (in a specified fashion). *Obs. rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Þet techeð al hu me schal beren him wiðuten, hu eten, drincken, werien, liggen, slepen, wakien. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 28 They walkinge and wearinge in that common place agreable to there caullinge and state.

f. *intr.* (for *passive*) = to be worn; to be the fashion.

1602 SHAKS. *All’s Well* I. i. 172 Virginitie like an olde Courtier, weares her cap out of fashion,..iust like the brooch and the toothpick, which were not now. 1888 QUILLER-COUCH in *Echoes fr. Oxf. Mag.* (1890) 103 Are ‘hems’ wearing?

2. *trans.* To bear or carry (arms, also a stick or cane). †Hence, to display (a heraldic charge) on one’s shield.

c 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* xxx, Ne preost..wæpna ne werige. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 335 The bischop..gert him wer His knyvys, forouch him to scher. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3872 He was the sterynneste in stoure that euer stele werryde. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Armys* (S.T.S.) 276 Than will he declare the armes that all princis and nobleis and othir gentillis aw to were, and of thair colouris and discripcionis. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 15 To Davn Willm Boxforde my knyves that I veryd my selfe. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* vi. 18 Soch as were fightinge men, which way⁝ eahylde & swerde, and coulde bende the bowe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay’s Voy.* I. xvii. 19 b, [I hey had] sworne, at no time after to wear armes against the Turkish nation. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie’s Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 131 *marg. note*, The ryd lyon he weires in his armes. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 2 Weare thy good Rapier bare, and put it home. 1690 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 26 The said Lord William Murray is..to..bear and wear the armes and cognizance of the house and family of Nairne. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 27 Sept., His cane (if unfortunately he wears one) is at perpetual war with every cup of tea or coffee he drinks. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. vii, You shall know that I have a brother who wears a sword. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. U. S.* III. 219 Both sexes..wear an umbrella in all seasons. 1847 MRS A. KERR tr. *Rauke’s Hist. Servia* 270 Their small arms, which they had formerly been permitted to wear.

†b. To use, employ, handle. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 138 *Flamme*] *vus nasse et crisnere.* W[oman] weruth seue and riddell. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 367 He offerd vnto hym..a grete porcion of syluer vessell, & bad hym were þaim for his sake.

3. To allow (one’s hair, beard) to grow in a specified fashion, or as opposed to shaving or to the use of a wig.

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1056 Leofgar..se wereðe his kenepas on his preosthade oððæt he wæs biscop. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 124 Noone wommen weriden thanne eny lynnen or silken keuercheefis, but weriden her open heer. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane’s Comm.* 55 Speake seldome, and weare a long beard. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 158 The Clearke wil nere weare haire on’s face that had it. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* 3 The women weare their haire long on both sides. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 407 Many of them have abandoned their Country to preserve their liberty of wearing their Hair. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxx, Be so good as to inform me, if the fellow wore his own red hair. 1802 WORDSW. *Resol. & Indepond.* viii, The oldest man he seem’d that ever wore grey hairs. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* i, He wore his own dark hair. 1866 *Queen’s Regul. Naval Service* 336 The Officers, Petty Officers, and Seamen of the Fleet are not to wear moustaches or beards. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. ii. § 2 She wore her hair in a knob behind.

4. Phrases (*lit.* and *fig.*).

a. *To wear a crown, diadem, mitre, palm, the purple*, etc.: to hold the dignity or office of which the ornament is a symbol.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. xxx. (1883) 280 Þæt his woldon þa onwaldas forlætan, & þa purpuran alecgan þa hie weredon. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Esdras* iii. 2 King Darie made a gret soper ..to alle that wereden [*v.r.* werden] purper. *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Gentilesse* 7 Al were he mytre, croune or dyademe. *c* 1470 *Three Fifteenth-C. Chron.* (Camden) 4 He was the fyrst kynge þat ever wered crowne of golde in this londe. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 6 The last That wore the Imperiall Diadem of Rome. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 31 Vneasie lyes the Head, that weares a Crowne. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 274 It is the power of winning that palm which ensures our wearing it. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 203 Degrading that crown which it was probable that he would himself one day wear. 1895 ‘H. S. MERRIMAN’ *Sowers* i, He [the Emperor] is a gentleman, although he has the misfortune to wear the purple.

†b. *To wear the horn(s*: to be a cuckold. *Obs.*

c 1530 *Hychescorner* 706 And, knyght of the halter, my fader ware an horne. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iv. iii. 24 Take thou no scorne to weare the horne. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS *Mathieu’s Unhappie Prosperitie* 98 By reason he was old, and without children,..his wife should doe well to make him weare the horne. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 328 The good wife weares the breeches, the good man the hornes.

†c. *To wear papers*: (of an offender) To have a note of one’s offence fastened on one’s back or head. *Obs.*

a 1529–1588: see PAPER *sb.* 7 b.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 2 Sone after were apprehended diuerse called promoters..of the whiche, the moste part ware papers, and stoode on the Pillorie. 1552 HULOET, Weare a paper for some infamye or offence, *contumidio* [read *catomidio*]. 1560–2 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 250 They ware paper a-pon ther hedes for pergure. 1626 BRETON *Good & Bad* 14 Least when the Law indeede laies them open, in steade of carrying papers in their hands, they weare not papers on their heads.

d. *To wear one’s arm in a scarf* or *sling*: to support it thus when injured. *To wear one’s heart upon one’s sleeve*: see HEART *sb.* 54 f.

1597, 1600 [see SCARF *sb.*[1] 4]. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc’s Trav.* 27 My companion was so bruised, that he wore his arm in a scarf for two months after. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v. *Sling*, To wear one’s Arm in a Sling, *Porter le bras en écharpe*. 1794 [see SLING *sb.*[2] 3 c].

e. *To wear the breeches*: see BREECH *sb.* 2. *To wear yellow hose* (or *breeches*): see YELLOW *a.* 2. *To wear the willow*: see WILLOW.

1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* IV. ii, If I were The Duke..I should weare yellow breeches.

†f. *slang.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1811 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Bands*, To wear the bands, is to be hungry, or short of food for any length of time. *Ibid.* s.v. *Wear it*, to wear it upon a person, (meaning to wear a nose, or a cook,) is synonymous with nosing, cooking, splitting, or coming it.

5. Of a ship (or its commander): To fly (a flag, colours).

† Formerly also, to carry (a mast).

1588 in W. G. Perrin *Brit. Flags* (1922) 88 Mr. Broke, Captaine of the reed Gallie, who is apointed to ware the flagge of vise Admyrall for this present Jorney. 1575 FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* iv. 12 No shyp that weares a maste, Shal make exchaunge of wares. 1627 J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xiii. (2) Any ship..where he..resideth.., is to weare his flag in the maine top. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 82/1 Thirteen French Gallies, wearing Swedes Colors. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5339/1 The Czar on board his Ship wears the Distinction of Vice-Admiral of the Blue. 1803 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) V. 287 *note*, Saint George’s Ensigns are to be worn by every Ship in Action. 1886 *Queen’s Regul. Naval Service* 17 The Admiral of the Fleet, and the Admirals of the Red, White, and Blue, shall wear their proper Flag. 1881 MACGREGOR *Flags* 73 The other [pendant] is worn at the mast-head of all armed vessels in the employ of the government of a British colony.

6. *transf.* To bear or possess as a member or part of the body.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 156 Quhy the corn hes the caff, And kow weris clufe. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Comm. w.* iii. 20 b, The fish that weareth it [the ‘fishe tooth’] is called a Morse. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 214 Who knowes not where a Wasps does weare his sting? In his taile. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. i. 14 Sweet are the vses of aduersitie Which like ... Democr. to Rdr. 34 To see a man to weare his braines in his belly, his guts in his head. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 531 Two Golden Horns on his large Front he wears. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 132 All that wear Feathers first or last, Must one Day perch on Charon’s Mast. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 47, I will not put my estate to nurse to you, nor to the best he that wears a head. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xvii. (1861) 215 Fish that wear an armature of bone outside. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, Steyne wore the scar to his dying day.

7. To exhibit or present (a particular look, expression, appearance, etc.).

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 344 With a countenance as cleare As Friendship weares at Feasts. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* I. i, When an action does two faces wear. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. vii, He now assumed a carriage to me so very different from what he had lately worn. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* iii, The world now began to wear a different aspect. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xviii. 48 There everything wore the appearance of a holiday. 1841 THACKERAY *Ct. Hoggarty Diam.* xi, Both wore very long faces. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xli. 211 The countenance of Lord St. Aldegonde wore a rueful expression.

8. In various *fig.* uses: To carry about with one in one’s heart, mind, or memory; to have as a quality or attribute; to bear (a name, title).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 47 Let Æneas be worne in the tablet of your memory. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 75 He weares his faith but as the fashion of his hat, it euer changes with yᵉ next block. 1602 — *Ham.* III. ii. 77 Giue me that man, That is not Passions Slaue, and I will weare him In my hearts Core. 1605 — *Mach.* II. ii. 65 My Hands are of your colour: but I shame To weare a Heart so white. 1658 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. 191 Suffragan of Nottingham, (the last I beleeve who wore that title). 1668 DAVENANT *Man’s the Master* v. i, He did wear your Brother in his bosome as his dearest Friend. 1777 THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) I. 348 ‘Roach; an unfortunate name!’ said he—‘but, as it is my name, I will wear it.’ 1827 in Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. App., He was vain of the cognomen which he had now worn for eight years. 1848 *Classical Museum* V. 382 The dithyramb wore the same character as Pindar’s ὠδαὶ. 1884 *Christian Commw.* 21 Feb. 439/1 Those who wear His name.

b. To possess and enjoy as one’s own. Chiefly in phr. *to win and wear* (a lady as one’s wife).

The lit. reference may have been to a favour won in the tilt, or to a king’s crown (cf. Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 228).

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter Bk.* (Camden) 114 Thou hast woone her—weare her. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) G j, Melisgrus is a Knight that hath wonne me by loue, and none but he shall weare me. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 82 Win me and weare me, let him answere me. 1612 — *Cymb.* I. iv. 96 You may weare her in title youra. 1621 FLETCHER *Wildgoose Chase* II. i, Win ’em, and wear ’em, I give up my interest. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 350, I, who have won the gold, am only fit to wear it. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xxvii, As for his daughter..you have yet to ‘win her and wear her’, as the saying is.

II. To waste, damage, or destroy by use.

9. To waste and impair (a material) gradually by use or attrition. ? Primarily with clothes as obj. = to damage them by ordinary wearing.

Perh. originally short for FORWEAR, which is found earlier.

1382 WYCLIF *Josh.* ix. 13 Clothis and shoon..for the length of lenger weye ben to troden, and almest wered. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. lii. (1495) 469 Waters dygge and weer the nesshe partes of the erthe. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv (end), Whan his tuskes aboue beth..ywered of þe neyther tuskes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryn, or vson, as clothys and other thyngys, *uster.* 1539 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 89 If any of the said bousholde stuf be worne or gone, then she to be reasonablie recompensed. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 45 How it chaunced, that the philosophiers did fratte and weare the threshholdes of riche mennes houses. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 8, I haue pyped erst so long with payne, That all mine Oten reedes bene rent and wore. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden’s Brit.* (1637) 752 All the letters beside..are so worne and gone, that they could not be read. 1621 BURTON *Anatom.* vi. 36 Let thy foote

and become light, the mill must be fed slowly. 1849 M. Arnold *Forsaken Merman* 74 We climb'd on the graves, on the stones worn with rains. 1855 Bohn *Ray's Prov.* etc. 339 Constant dropping wears the stone. 1872 L. P. Meredith *Teeth* 119 When the teeth are crowded too closely together, they..wear one another. 1878 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* iv. 33 The house..is of dark red brick with facings of stone, long since worn by wind and weather.

absol. 1478 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 212 He sal defend the watyr at it were na ferrar in, eftir vale and quantyte of his land.

b. with intensifying adv., as *away, down, off, out.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.* Addit., *Contero*, to weare out with occupienge. 1561 in *Inventaires de la Royne Descosse* (Bannatyne Club) 33 Ane auld cannabie of greue serge worne away and brokin. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. iv. 4 Her lockes..Grew all afore,..But all behind was bald, and worne away. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xviii. xxi, Downe fell the bridge, swelled the streame, and weard The worke away. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 373 All the linnen is quite worne out. 1674 Boyle *Corpusc. Philos.* 28 Such an attrition, as wears off the edges and points. 1676 J. Smith *Art of Painting* xvii. 75 Too frequent operations in this kind must needs wear off a little of the Colours. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. viii, Never sweep a room out of use; only wears out brooms for nothing. 1835 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 620 *note*, The metaphor is derived from a flute, the mouth-piece of which is worn out. 1852 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 4) liii. 25 These flinty cases and spicules .are..admirably adapted, when rubbed, for wearing down into a fine powder fit for polishing the surface of metals. 1885 *Law Rep.* 15 Q. B. D. 316 The catch on the pin..was worn away. 1922 C. Alington *Strained Relations* xiv. 222 If you can't get into Parliament without my wearing out your old suits.

c. with pred. extension, as *to wear threadbare, smooth, blunt*; *to wear to rags* or *tatters, to the stumps.* (Also in fig. context.)

c 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 223 Welth and Wyt, I say, be so threde bare worne, That all is without Measure. *a* 1555–1732 [see Stump *sb.* 3 b]. 1575 Gascoigne *Weedes, Compl. greene Knt.* 180 She did but weare Cosmanes cloutes, which she in spite had torne: And yet betwene them both they weare the threeds so neere [etc.]. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 48 My Pen is worn blunt. 1661 Boyle *Style Script.* (1675) 232 All his too frequent kisses have worn it to tatters. 1756 Amory *Buncle* (1770) II. 69 There was no water dropping from the roof of this cave; but in a thousand places..it crept through the sides, and formed streams that ran softly over the ground and weared it smooth. 1765 Foote *Commissary* i. 7 He'll stick to his honour too, till his cassock is wore to a rag. 1808 Scott *Marmion* i. v, His forehead, by his casque worn bare. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* i. vii, She would wear a gown to rags, because he had once liked it.

10. To sap the strength or energy of (a person, his faculties, etc.) by toil, age, etc.; to fatigue, weary; †to exhaust (a soil).

1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritit Wemen* 127 He is walstit and worne fra Venus werkis. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 14 All these maner of otes weare the grounde very sore. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 384/1 *Ager effœtus*,..a ground that by continuall fruitfulnes is quite spent, worne, and out of occupyeng. 1591–5 C'tess Pembroke *Lay of Clorinda* 95 Thus do we weep and waile, and wear our eies. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. i. 4 Since you haue made the daies and nights as one, To weare your gentle limbes in my affayres. 1694 Dryden *To Congreve* 66 Already I am worn with Cares and Age. 1825 Scott *Talism.* iii, Both warriors, worn by toil and travel, were soon fast asleep. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* ii. i. 7 He had brought me up to an occupation that wears the spirits. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., M. de Guérin* (1875) 121 Still the yoke wore him deeply, and he had moments of bitter revolt. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* iv. 402 Age, the common fate of all, has worn Thy frame.

b. with adv., as *away, out, down,* †*up.* Also with advb. phr., as *to wear to death.*

c 1524 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. I. 293 Ells they [the Irish] shall never be woren out, but increas more and more. 1577 Wolton *Cast. Christians* F ij b, Perurse affections, which doo euen weare awaye, and consume vs. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* i. ii. 109 You that haue worne your eyes almost out in the seruice, you will bee considered. 1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* v. 241 A weed that groweth commonly upon grounds ouertilled, and worne out of heart. 1672 W. Walker *Paræm.* 56 They win by wearing their enemies out. 1691 Sir T. P. Blount *Ess.* 165 In most of these Places the old Inhabitants, or their Breed, are quite worn away. 1701 Collier *M. Aston.* (1726) 8 That she may not live too fast, wear up her constitution, and destroy the capacities of enjoyment. 1729 Law *Ser. Call* xi. 169 She tells you that her patience is quite wore out. 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Voy.* viii. 42 The concern they shew'd at seeing us worn away with Hunger, Labour, and Weariness. 1783 — *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 83 July, Do not let your mind wear out your body. 1803 Beddoes *Hygëia* ix. 105 At the close of the season in London women appear worn down, haggard and spent. 1840 Arnold *Hist. Rome* II. 344 With these missiles [they] endeavoured to wear down the mass of their enemies. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxiv, This poor little Marchioness has been wearing herself to death! 1847 W. E. Forster in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vi. 190 Found my father..

1872 Daisie *Three to One* x, He always looks well when he doesn't wear himself down dancing all night. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 230 They carried on uninterrupted war against the new settlers until they completely wore them out. 1886 'Sarah Tytler' *Buried Diamonds* xviii, To-night, when one is worn off one's feet already, with this miserable ball. 1924 M. Hewlett *Queen's Quair* iii. xi. 300 She wore herself to thread, padding up and down the room. 1922 *World* 7 May 700/1 As the soil..becomes worn out the farmers have to buy more artificial manure.

11. *fig.* With object a quality, condition, activity, disease, etc.: To cause to weaken, diminish, or disappear gradually. Chiefly with *adv.* or advb. phr. (as above). *To wear out*: to efface, destroy, exhaust, abolish, by gradual loss or the lapse of time.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 33 The world..welnyh is wered oute. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2930 Oure wages are werede owte, and thi werre endide. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* i. vi. (1593) 18 But that custome..is long since worne out. 1587 in *Feuds & Mem.* (1907) II. 59 That acquaintance with you which time and far distance hath worne something out of our memories. 1663 Butler *Hud.* i. i. 47 We grant, although he had much wit, H' was very shie of using it, As being loath to wear it out. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 6 All other Themes that careless Minds invite, Are worn with Use, unworthy me to write. 1705 Addison *Italy, Venice* 100 By the Pompousness of the whole Phrase to wear off any Littleness that appears in the particular Parts that compose it. 1711 — *Spect.* No. 39 ¶ 1 Diversions of this kind wear out of our Thoughts every thing that is mean and little. 1752 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* i. x. 91 When he had a little wore off the Relish of Pleasure. 1832 James *Phil. Augustus* xxii, As the fire wore away the strength of the wood. 1857 B. Taylor *Northern Trav.* xii. (1858) 124 When the novelty of the thing is worn off. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iv. xvi, As if Time alone could quite wear her injury out. 1872 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 145 He did not strike a blow till all the powers of diplomacy had been thoroughly worn out between himself and his rival. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 846 Repeated operations with the idea of 'wearing out' the disease.

b. *To wear down*: to blunt the force of and overcome by steady resistance or counter-attack. Also, to get gradually ahead of (a competitor in a race) by superior endurance.

1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xix. 221 These medicines..remove the aguish fits..gradually, and as it were, by wearing down the paroxysms. 1851 Dixon *W. Penn* viii. (1872) 66 The young Quaker..strove to wear down malice by his patient and forgiving mood. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* 20 Be a man, and wear it down. 1895 *Daily News* 27 Sept. 3/2 Macbriar..gradually wearing down Balm of Gilead, won by three-quarters of a length.

†c. *To wear out*: to forget, lose mental hold of, through disuse or lapse of time. *Obs.*

a 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* To Rdr., My application to another Study and Profession, rendred my skill in that Language of little use to me, and so I wore it out by degrees. 1708 Swift *Sent. Ch.-of-Eng. Man* § 2 Misc. (1711) 131 When these Doctrines began to be Preached among us, the Kingdom had not quite worn out the Memory of that unhappy Rebellion.

12. To form or produce by attrition.

1597 Drayton *Heroic. Ep., Chas. Brandon* 17 That Nectar-stayned way, The restlesse sunne by trauailing doth weare. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 520 Few Paths of Humane Feet, or Tracks of Beasts, were worn. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 74/1 Ants, with constant passing up and down, will wear traces even in flints. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* iv. vii, Wish I had not come now; wore a hole in my shoe. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vi. 203 A steep and rugged path, worn by the boors' cattle.

III. *intr.* To suffer waste or decay by use or by lapse of time.

13. Of persons or living things, activities, qualities, etc.: To lose strength, vitality, keenness, sharpness, or intensity, by the decay of time; to waste, diminish, or fade by gradual loss.

c 1275 *Serving Christ* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Per were þ vre wlite in wurmene won. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1 All thyng weareth save the grace of God. 1589 R. Robinson *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 28 Tyme is my name, young once I was, Though now, I weare and waxe alas. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* iv. viii. [v. viii], How blessed they that gaine what neuer weares. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. P.* xii. 10 (Laing MS.) My eyes with tereis dois weir. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* i. ii. § 5 It ..refresheth their reputation, which otherwise would weare. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* liv, The deaf old man .muttered to himself..that the sexton was wearing fast. 1864 Browning *Jas. Lee's Wife* iv. vii, Yet this turns now to a fault ..That I..wait too well, and weary and wear.

b. most commonly with adv., as *away, off, out*, or advb. phr.

1377 in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) I. 215 Alle thing weres and wasteth away. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 16 Bot whan god wole, it [the schism] schal were oute, For trowthe mot stonde ate laste. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 467 All Welth in Eird away as Wind it weiris. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* ccclxxix. (1557) 121 b, Were before the eyes a pece of blacke sarcenet..and it ['a blast in the eye'] wyll were awaye. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 28 To the intent these things myght neuer weare out of minde. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xviii. 18 Thou wilt surely weare away..: for this thing is too heauy for thee. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 282, I found that my strength increased, and my Dropsy wore off. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 247 In a little Time, however, no more Canoes appearing, the Fear of their Coming wore off. 1720 S. Payne *Bp. R. Cumberland's Sanchon.* Pref. p. xiv, His usual Reply was, A Man had better wear out than rust out. 1742 Kames *Decis. Court Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 49 Hence the strict way of interpreting such clauses..wore by degrees out of use. 1759 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* 211 If clover is apt to wear out of your ground. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 398 Many persons conjecture that the Cape [Cod] is gradually wearing away. 1798 [see Land *sb.* 3 c]. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* i. ii. 112 Till summer heats wear down. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii, When its novelty had long worn off. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 360 He..seldom got any relief until the attacks were wearing off. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xx, Her anger, so far from wearing out, grew on what fed it. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* ix, The chill of driving through the fogs of the plain had worn off. 1889 S. Walpole *Ld. John Russell* xxi. II. 98 The strange distrust which had so frequently separated Sir Robert Peel and Lord John began visibly to wear away.

c. with predicative adj. *rare.*

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. viii, The chorus is wearing weak; the chorus is worn *out*. 1875 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* 334 An old man of great strength now wearing weak.

†d. *To wear out forth*, of something which holds good for a limited time: To determine, expire. *Obs.*

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 2440 Whan þe trews þat þei had take Wer werid oute. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. 1682 Nicolas he was in dowt, Or his condyte was worne out. 1470 *Paston Lett.* III. 73, I gat a lycence of hym for a yere, and it is nyghe worn ought. 1525 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1527 97/2 Gif ony feman of the said craft pass furth of the toun or his band of his service be worne furth. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1, I weare out, as thynges do after their tyme prefyxed is passed, *je me fausle*...The pardons shall weare out within these thre dayes.

14. Of clothing and other material things: To suffer gradual destruction, loss, or decay from attrition or use.

1508 *Jack Upland* 45 Maketh youre habit you men of religion, or no? If it do, than, euer as it weareth, your religion weareth; and, after that the habit is better, is your religion better. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 38 As clothys doth were with wedyr and wynde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryn or wax olde and febyl [by] vse, *vetereasco*. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1, I weare, as a garment or any other thyng weareth and consumeth with the tyme, *je me use*. 1582 N. T. (Rheims) *Luke* xii. 33 Make to you purses that weare not [Vulg. *qui non veterascunt*]. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* 33 By lingring loue she made his monie mealte, As waxe doth weare against the flaming fire. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 380/1 These milk-teeth..gradually wear and fall out, and are replaced by the second and permanent teeth.

b. with intensifying adv. or advb. phr., as *away, down, off, out*, †*on* or *to the thread.*

1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 38 Alle erthely thynges schul were owte; Castellys and towrys schul bende and breste. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1, I weare awaye, as a scrypture, or thyng made for remembraunce weareth awaye with the weather or with the tyme, *je me oblitere*. 1566 A. Edwards in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 358 When it [cloth] commeth to weare on the threed, it renteth like paper. 1601 *Offic. Papers Sir N. Bacon* (Camden) 117 Jettyes and pyles ..to defend theis mershes and bankes from wearing awaye by the rage of the sea. 1643 Cary, *Expos. Job* I. 104 Our flesh wears off quickly in the grave. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, My Suit begins to wear out. 1793 [Earl Dunponald] *Descr. Estate of Culross* 22 Many of the old established Collieries in the Firth are wearing fast out. 1836 wear off [see c]. 1850 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* II. 38 The gilt beginning to wear off. 1888 [see Thread *sb.* 2 b]. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 22 Feb. 6/1 When their carts wear out they need the services of the wheelwright. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* ii. xxiii, Her scanty wardrobe would wear out.

c. with predicative adj., as *wide, flat, thin.*

1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 7 Teeth blacke, wearinge wide. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 380/1 After six years old the edges of the teeth begin to wear flat, and as they wear off the root of the tooth is pushed up in the socket. 1896 Housman *Shropshire Lad* xxxiv, Where the standing line wears thinner and the dropping dead lie thick.

IV. 15. *intr.* To last or hold out in use or with the lapse of time; to resist (well or ill) the attrition or waste of use and age; also, to stand the test of experience, criticism, etc.

a 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 19, I half Quhyt off grit delyt,..Weill werand Reid, quhill ze be deid. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, This Stuff wears very well. 1712 Steele *Tatler* No. 208 ¶ 2 The Flattery with which he began, in telling me how well I wore, was not disagreeable. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* i, I..chose my wife, as she did her wedding-gown, not for a fine glossy surface, but such qualities as would wear well. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. 286 These praises..will wear well, for they have been dearly earned. 1788 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 183 The natives [of New York]..do not appear to wear so well as the English. 1816 Byron *Siege Cor.* xiv, Tyrant and slave are swept away, Less form'd to wear before the ray. 1833 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mr. Minns*, How are you, Minns? 'Pon my soul you wear capitally! 1875 H. James *R. Hudson* i, Rowland examined the statuette at his leisure...He discovered its weak points, but it wore well. 1905 Mrs. Barnes-Grundy *Vacill. Hazel* 96, I am tired of old-fashioned, made-to-wear-for-ever clothes.

†16. trans. *To wear out*: to come safe through, 'weather' (a storm, an attack of sickness). *Obs.*

1617 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 252 She has fallen into it [the ague] again..but..I hope she may wear it out. 1645 Bp. Hall *Rem. Discontent.* 63 The poor man..when hee foresees a storm to threaten him, puts into the next Creek; and wears out in a quiet security that Tempest, wherein he sees prouder Vessels..fatally wracked.

V. In reference to time, change, endurance, etc.

17. In *pa. pple.*, of time, a period of time, a season: Past, spent, passed away. Also with adv., as *out*, †*by*, †*forth*. Now chiefly *poet.*

This use is found earlier than senses 18 and 19, and the vb. may here be regarded as either *trans.* or *intr.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1090 Fawnus lyvid wyfles [till] thre yeer wer werid. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* ii. 1301 Qwhen hir tyme was werit [*Wemyss* worne] out. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* ix. 659 Off tym that is by worn. 1472 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1460, 258/2 Eftir the termes of 5 yeris are worne furth and bipassit. *a* 1547 Surrey 'The soote season' 12 in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 4 Winter is worne that was the flowers bale. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 221 b, Mornyng in continuall sorowe, not so much for her selfe and her husbande, whose ages were almost consumed and worne, but for the losse of prince Edward her sonne. 1567 Turbervile *200 Points Husb.* § 83 Share not thy lammes, till mid July be worne. 1587 Turbervile. *Trag. T.* 55 And there he staied vntill such time as all his yere was worne. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 187 And for the morning now is something worne, Our purpos'd hunting shall be set aside. 1842 Tennyson *Love & Duty* 69 Till now the dark was worn, and overhead The lights of sunset and of sunrise mix'd In that brief night. 1890 Hall Caine *Bondman* ii. vii, The year was far worn towards winter.

18. *trans.* To spend, pass (one's time, a period of time). Chiefly *poet.* Cf. Ware *v.*[2] b.

1567 Fenton *Trag. Disc.* xii. 263 b, She weard her youth

in dule in steade of ioye. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 31 To shew the place, In which that wicked wight his dayes doth weare. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* i. 45 Where with Œnone thou hast worn the day. *a* 1777 T. WARTON *Suicide* v. 26 He wore his endless noons alone, Amid th' autumnal ... 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* II. lx, A deep untrodden grot Where oft the reading hours sweet Gertrude wore. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 18 Spinning long stories, wearing half the day. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* XII. 398 He..speeding of a silent craft, inglorious life would wear.

b. with adv., as *away, out,* † *by,* † *forth.*

1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXXVI. 11 They shall weere out their dayes in prosperite. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. end (1598) 95 She, perceiuing the song had alreadie worne out much time. 1625 DONNE *Serm.* lxvi. (1640) 665 Let me wither and weare out mine age in a discomfortable..prison. 1669 in Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* a 4 b, No novel Romance, nor no paultry Playe, To wear out Time with, and mis-spend our Dayes. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 384 They..thus wear out a life of solitude. 1773 *Life N. Prowde* 130 In this Manner we wore away near seven Months. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. vii. (Rtldg.) 25 We wore away a good part of the night in laughing and drinking. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 174 ...pursue, With chuck and marbles ... 1842 MANNING *Serm.* XXI. (1848) ...th patience the years of this toilsome life. 1852 M. ARNOLD *A Farewell* xiii, And though we wear out life, alas!..In seeking what we shall not find.

c. To enable (a person) to last or hold out *through* a given period. *Sc.*

1818 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, She should have a pint bottle o' brandy and a pound o' tobacco to wear her through the winter.

19. *intr.* Of time, a period of time: To pass on or advance gradually to its conclusion; to pass away. Also, *to wear late,* † *short.*

1597 E. S. *Discov. Kuts. Poste* B 4 The day weares, and I haue farre to go. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. i. 8 Away I say, time weares. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 197 Your after-noon will wear short, and your sun fall low and goe down. 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. i, Well said, Master Mug; but come, time wears. 1837 J. E. MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* II. 213 It was now wearing late in the day. 1842 LEVER *J. Hinton* xix, As the evening wore late, the noise and uproar grew louder. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiii, Without that aid they would have known how the night wore, by the falling of the tide. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. II. 376 But time went on, and still the days did wear With little ...ning change.

b. with adv., as *away, on, out, through.*

1526 TINDALE *Luke* ix. 12 The daye began to weare awaye [so 1611, 1881; Gr. κλίνω]. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 183 The short season for galleies to liue in that sea began to weare away. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Milk-maid* 14 How slowly wears the time away! 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.,* The time wore on; half-past eight o'clock arrived. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* XXII, And so the week wore out, in dull and stupified despair. 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 89 Three years had now worn away in the unequal conflict. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* IX, The afternoon is wearing on apace. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* XLIX, The night wore through.

c. *To wear on,* of an action or activity: To be prolonged or continued.

1886 R. C. TEMPLE in *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* IV. 193 What follows is meant to be merely the expression of my ideas for the time being, subject to modification as the discussion wears on.

20. a. To pass gradually *into* (a condition, etc.).

1555 WATHERMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 68 Estiemed but a villaine, vntill with his forwardnes and wel doyng, he could weare into estimacion again. 1609 FOSTER *Ess.* II. vi. 805 The mind should not be allowed, if I may so express it, to wear into a conclusion, by a slow imperceptible inclination.

b. *trans.* To bring (a person) gradually *into* (a habit or disposition). Also to instil (a view or opinion) gradually *into* the mind.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 69 Trials..by Repetitions wear us into a liking of what possibly, in the first Essay, displeas'd us. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 409 P 8 A Man who has any Relish for fine Writing..naturally wears himself into the same manner of Speaking and Thinking. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc., Carlyle* 225 Mr. Carlyle has done much to wear this just and austere view into the minds of his generation.

VI. With reference to movement in space.

21. *intr.* To go, proceed, advance; with adv. or advb. phr. indicating the direction. Usually of a slow or gradual movement. Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 355 Byschop Beik com with sic force and slycht, The worthy Scottis weryt fer on bak. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 7 Pallas away she weares, She leaues the Greekes, to Gods aloft in Heauen she repaires. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 70, I think I see't my sell, we'll wear in by, Gin we get there. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 210 [The bee] wearing home on heavy wing. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Wallace* XXXIV, And many waters, slyly seen, Glancing thro' shades of Alder green, Wore eastward from the sight to distance grey. *Ibid., Malcolm's Heir* XXIX, Faint, doleful music struck his ear, As if waked from the hollow ground. And loud and louder still it grew, And upward still it wore. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* XXI, The sun was wearing round to the west.

b. quasi-*trans.* To move over (a space or distance). *poet.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 19 Thus many miles they two together wore. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* A 8 b, Thus we our weary Pilgrimage did weare.

† **22.** *trans.* To cause to fly or flutter *out. Sc.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 165 His widderit weid fra him the wind out woir.

23. *Sc.* To conduct (sheep or cattle) gradually to the fold or other inclosure. Also with *in, up.*

a 1724 *The Ew-Bughts, Marion* 2 in RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.,* Will ye gae to the ew-bughts, Marion, And wear in the sheip wi' mee? 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, [She] bade me bound my dog, To wear up three waff ewes stray'd on the bog. 1767 in R. S. Craig & A. Laing *Hawick Traditions* (1898) 246 He..thereby wore in the sheep and nolt..so that they could not get to the Common. *Ibid.* 247 Wairing his sheep and nolt from the Common. 1790 A. WILSON *Poems, Sheph. Dream,* She..wore them homewards to the fold. 1827 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 48/1 Some [shepherds] perished in wearing their flocks from the weather-side of the hills. 1828 W. MCDOWALL *Poems* 23 An' my auld dog's nae worth a doit He winna wear the sheep. 1912 A. MCCORMICK *Words fr. Wild-wood* III. 47 Or it may be the bark of a dog or the voice of a shepherd as they 'wear' the sheep down the mountain sides to the rees for the clipping.

Wear (wēəɹ), *v.*[2] *Naut.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wore** (wōəɹ). Forms: 7 **weare, warre, wayer, werr,** 7–9 **ware,** 7– **wear.** *Fa. t.* 8–9 **wared,** 7– **wore.** *Pa. pple.* 9 **weared,** 8–9 **worn.** [Of obscure origin; in sense it coincides with VEER *v.*[2] 2, but the early forms seem to forbid the supposition of connexion with that verb unless they are due to association with WEAR *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* Of a ship: To come round on the other tack by turning the head away from the wind. Often with *round.* Opposed to *tack.*

1614 GORGES *Lucan* V. 200 To guide the helme the maister dreads: To port, to weare, or serue the seas, The labouring ship he cannot ease. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 28 The ship will not wayer. 1627 — *Sea Gram.* IX. 37 Touch the wind, and warre no more. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 28 Werr no more. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3318/3 They both wore round and Attackt us on the Starboard-side. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 535 The Bellona was made to ware round by means of her studding-sails. 1795 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 14, I saw the Sans Culotte, who had before wore with many of the Enemy's Ships, under our lee bow. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XL 95 We wore round and stood off again. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 203 Wearing slowly up with a side wind we anchored a little after sunset. 1880 *Times* 25 Dec. 7\4 The ship sails well,..stays quickly and surely; also wears well.

2. *trans.* To put (a ship) about, bringing her stern to windward.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 319 We..war'd the Ship again, and brought our Quarter to bear upon them. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 261 They..wore ship, and hauled close on a wind to the westward. 1797 NELSON in Duncan *Life* (1806) 40, I ordered the ship to be wore. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Regions* II. 374 The ship was instantly 'weared'. *Ibid.* 440 When we attempted to ware the ship ..she refused to turn round. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* X. 23 When the watch came up, we wore ship, and stood on the other tack. 1904 *Times* 22 Mar. 9/5 The Mona continued to run before the wind, her crew having seemingly been unable to wear her.

† **Wear,** *v.*[3] *north. dial. Obs.* [Of uncertain origin.] *trans.* To cool.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words,* To Wear the pot, to cool it. *a* 1743 JOSIAH RELPH *Misc. Poems* (1747) I Thur callar blasts may wear the boilen sweat: But my het bluid, my heart aw' in a bruil, Nor callar blasts can wear, nor drops can cuil.

Wear: see WEIR. Also obs. f. WARE *sb.*[1], *a.*, *v.*[2]

Wearable (wēəɹrăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* [f. WEAR *v.*[1] + -ABLE.]

A. *adj.* Capable of being worn; fit or suitable to be worn.

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 14 He..did encrease his numbers of Mosquettiers, the blowes of the bullets of which, no armours wearable can resist. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 15 Oil, Cheese, Silk, and all other either edible, or wearable commodities. 1801 LADY SARAH LENNOX *Lett.* (1902) II. 151, I assure you a poplin is not weareable in these days. 1842 R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* II. 26 It..will not weave into wearable cloths. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 103 By the time I had made and smoked a cigarette, the powerful sun of January had dried the sock to a wearable state. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. ix. 180 The only shop in London at which wearable gloves could be bought. 1896 J. L. ALLEN *Summer in Arcady* III. 11 The thousand ..things, eatable, wearable, or otherwise usable that may be sent to and fro between friendly households.

B. *sb.* A wearable commodity, an article of clothing. Chiefly in *plural.*

1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4817/7 Gloves, Buttons, Wearables. *c* 1720 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 215, I had..provided her handsome Lodgings..and, for her Wearables, rich Sattins, Gold Watch, and a hundred other Trinkets. 1726 BERKELEY *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 137 Whether a minor be not chargeable for eatables and wearables supplied on the credit of another. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xli, He..moved off with Mrs. Dutton's wearables and deposited the trunk containing them safely in the boat. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxiv, Let a woman ask me to give her an edible or a wearable..I can, at least, understand the demand. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xlvi, Drawers were crammed with his wearables.

Weard, obs. form of WEIRD *sb.*

Weare, obs. form of WAR, WEIR.

Wearer (wēəɹrəɹ). [f. WEAR *v.*[1] + -ER 1.]

1. One who wears or carries on his person (a garment, ornament, etc.). Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 69 But if my cloth be over presciouse, Jakke, blame the werer. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 88 Werers of pillouns. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXVIII. 333 Mi gyrdill gay and purs of sylk..whils I am werere of swylke, the longere mercy may I call. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII,* c. 27 To the great damage losse and discoite of the Kingis true subgettis biers and werers of such fustian. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 43 O..that cleare honour Were purchast by the merrit of the wearer. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 7 By Iupiter, Were I the wearer of Anthonio's Beard, I would not shaue't to day. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 491 The wearer knowes, where the shoe wrings. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 490 Then might ye see Cowles, Hoods and Habits with their wearers tost And flutterd into Rags. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 440 This sword ..Whose ivory sheath inwrought with curious pride, Adds graceful terror to the wearer's side. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribblemania* 204 Half of the wearers of buskin and sock. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* VI, Her style of dress announced taste in the wearer. 1860 TROLLOPE *Castle Richmond* XIII, ... visible. 1878 J. DAVIDSON *Inverurie* I. 14 What wearers of flesh and blood dwelt then in the sheltered dell?

b. said of a lower animal.

1876 E. PARFITT in *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* VIII. 247 This brilliancy of colouring [of some birds] would seem ..to compensate the wearers for the melodious voice..of their more sober-painted relatives.

2. That which wears away, consumes or diminishes by attrition.

1773 JOHNSON (ed. 4). (But his example belongs to sense 1.) Hence in later Dicts.

Weariable (wĭəɹriăb'l), *a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being wearied.

1775 ASH, *Unweariable,* not weariable. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. x. § 14 The imagination is eminently a weariable faculty, eminently delicate, and incapable of bearing fatigue. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 546 Lord Leighton.. could judge..with the minimum of æsthetic strain; while most critics..have to depend..on weariable taste.

Hence **Wea·riableness.**

1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 540 The sensitiveness, the weariableness of the æsthetic faculties..causes, in the Art-world, the demand for novelty to outrun the legitimate supply.

Wearie, obs. form of WURRY *v.*

Wearied (wĭəɹrĭd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -ED 1.] (Excessively) fatigued; tired out. Also with *out.* Of a look, sigh: Expressive of or indicating weariness.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Exercitus,* exercised, vsed in labour, weried, hardened. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 419 b, Being so faint and weried with traueling. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* D iij, Whilest he thought to haue rested his weried limmes in a bedde of security. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* IV. iv. 112 Now thy proud Necke, beares halfe my burthen'd yoke, From which, euen heere I slip my wearied head. 1628 MAY *Virg. Georg.* II. 63 And time it is to ease our wearyed horse. *a* 1646 Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 17 My wearied soul he doth restore. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 320 Or haue ye chos'n this place After the toyl of Battel to repose Your wearied vertue. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. v. 28 Till wearied passenger retires to rest. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, Why art thou so well pleased that the morning should call thee up to daily toil, and the evening again lay thee down a wearied-out wretch? 1823 — *Quentin D.* XXXVI, The wearied and wounded..were calling in vain for shelter and refreshment. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Wearing the depressed and wearied look of one who [etc.]. 1842 S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* I. viii, He stretches his wearied limbs to their uttermost. 1870 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lyn.* 1234 Yet not less I felt Thy manhood thro' that wearied lance of thine. 1888 BLACK *In Far Lochaber* XXIII, She turned away with a wearied sigh.

Comb. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* XI, She came back..pale and wearied-looking.

Hence **Wea·riedly** *adv.*, **Wea·riedness.**

a 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 308 The more weariednesse we feele, the more we may be bold this way. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critich* 81 Having..wearedly travelled over much ground, they met no Man. *Ibid.* 161 When the other Sences wearedly retire to their repose,. these careful Centinels of the Soul, attend their guards. 1688 SANDILANDS *Salut. Endeared Love* 30 Which brings a weariedness, faintness, and benummedness over them. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvi, The poor Dominie..wearedly plodded his way towards Woodbourne. 1865 MRS. NEWBY *Comm. Sense* xlvi. II. 247 'What a mother!' exclaimed Mrs. Sowerby, wearedly. 1872 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 156 Sighing wearedly. 1886 *Daily News* 12 Oct. 3/1 Wearedly trudging home.

Wearier (wĭəɹrĭəɹ). *rare.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -ER 1.] One who wearies or fatigues.

1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl., Winter Day* 253 To be..a wearier of God with iniquity, a blasphemer [etc.].

Weariful (wĭəɹrĭfŭl), *a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -FUL.]

1. That causes weariness; that tires one's endurance or patience.

c 1454 PECOCK *Folower* 15 Maters,.which ellis schulde haue be to hem ouyr hard and ouer weriful to be vndirstonde. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 82 Yef y schulde..declare synglerly the peynys and tormentys of euery syngler cryme ..hit wulde be ouer teduse and weriful to the redder therof. 1592 R. TURNBULL *St. James* 51 That we..with inuincible forti tude and pacience, may finish our wearisfull pilgrimage in his feare, religion and seruice. *a* 1829 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wearsiful,* tiresome; giving exercise to patience. EX. 'I have had a wearsiful bout of it.' 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* I. 8 O that wearyfu' jaunt to Embro' to see the King! 1846 G. S. FABER *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 294 So proceeds the Professor through ten wearisful pages. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* VI, This foreign style of darning..was done stitch by stitch, so as exactly to imitate the fabric of the stocking itself; a wearifu' process. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xiii. 210 Visions of dreary wanderings through wearisful saloons. 1912 W. S. BLUNT *Land War in Ireland* ix. 339 Twenty wearisful Irish miles.

b. of a person. *Sc.*

a 1700 *Gaberlunzie-Man* VII, The weirifou' Gaberlunzie-man. 1822 STEVENSON *Fam. Stud.* (1888) 299 She was a religious hypochondriac, a very wearisful woman.

c. of the weather. Chiefly *Sc.*

1872 J. PAYNE *Songs of Life & Death* 224 Wearyful winter is gone at last. 1894 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 223 Spite of gray winter and wearisful weather. 1894 A. REID *Songs o' the Heatherland* 48 The wearifu' snaw, O, the wearifu' snaw!

2. Full of weariness; utterly fatigued. Of a person: Languid or affecting languor. Of a look, sigh, smile: Exhibiting or expressing weariness.

1862 MATILDA B. EDWARDS *John & I* xxiv. (1876) 323 He

lay still for some time with a wearyful smile upon his lips. 1880 G. MACDONALD *Diary Old Soul* Feb. 25, And the thought-spirit, wearyful and wan,..Sinks moveless. 1881 JEFFERIES *Greene Ferne Farm* 209 The wearyful women came homeward from the gleaning. 1885 JEAN INGELOW *Sleep of Sigismund* 8 His weird is on him to grope in the dark with endless Wearyful feet for a goal that shifteth still. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* XXVIII. Colney cast a wearyful look backward. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 9 Lilias sighed the long, wearyful sigh of hope deferred.

Hence **Wea·rifully** *adv.*, **Wea·rifulness.**

1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 206, I quite dread to hear the subject mentioned, for fear of a quarrel, besides the wearifulness. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* iv, There was a strange interjection, as to the wearifulness of constantly wandering. 1888 BLACK *In Far Lochaber* XXIII, The long night passed, slowly and wearifully. 1907 C. G. HARPER *Rural Nooks* 14 The blurred lights of the streets and shops going weirdly and wearifully by.

Wea·rihood. *nonce-wd.* [-HOOD.] The condition of being weary.

1883 *Academy* 27 Oct. 278/1 After years of doubt and deception and the wearihood of waiting, the Wanderer at last returns.

Weariless (wī·rilés), *a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -LESS.] That does not weary or become weary.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 75 Weryles I walke ay in trouble and travaile, Ever travilyng withoute werynes. 1608 HIERON *Defence* II. 184 Will ever any man but a wearylesse wrangler..affirme and stand to it, that wisdome is taken diversely here. 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* I. i, With weariless remonstrance he sued to win me from my purpose. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* I. (1814) 51 How came you white doves from the window to fly, And hover on weariless wing to the sky? 1879 LOWELL *Mem. Poems, To W. L. Garrison* 42 O small beginnings, ye are great and strong, Based on a faithful heart and weariless brain! 1886 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* ix, The weariless tide came up and lifted the bedded keel. 1906 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Nov. 402/2 A sturdy Dissenter, a weariless promoter of Godliness.

Hence **Wea·rilessly** *adv.*

1791 COLLINSON *Hist. Somerset* 610 A headland..where a huge disjointed rock..is wearilessly combated by the waves. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 192 He opposed openly and wearilessly the ruinous policy of his master.

Wearily (wī·rili), *adv.* [f. WEARY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a weary manner; with weariness.

1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* clxxxv. 271 Theyr enemyes wexed wery and werily and slowly defended them. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* clxxxvi. (1812) I. 221 And so they went weryly by heapes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 298 They perceaued a flocke of men of armes comming together right werily. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 32 *Mir.* You looke wearily. 18.. MOORE *'Merrily every Bosom'* ii, Wearily every bosom pineth. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 254 [He] down the long street riding wearily, Found every hostel full. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* i, A heavy moth floated by, and, when it settled, seemed to fall wearily. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lix, What is heaven?' asked Poppæa, wearily.

Weariness (wī·rinés). [f. WEARY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Weary condition; extreme tiredness or fatigue resulting from exertion, continued endurance of pain, or want of sleep.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. ix. (1890) 178 [Þæt hors] þy gewunelican þeawe horsa after werignesse ongon wealwian. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 [Adam] ne þurte naure þolen hunger ne þurst,..ne werinesse, ne elde, ne unhelðe, ne deð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4920 + 34 He lay muchedel of þe nyȝt in wo & in sorwe,..So þat aslep atte laste vor werynysse hym nome. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 33 Upberynge us in oure werynes. *c* 1430 *Merlin* ii. 39 Than the white [dragon] leide hym down to reste for werynesse. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXV. 9 For weirines on me ane slummer soft Come with ane dremyng. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* i. 11 First I shall declare what remedie is to be vsed against wearinesse which commeth by immoderate labour. 1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. vi. 33 Wearinesse Can snore vpon the Flint, when restie Sloth Findes the Downe-pillow hard. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wandering to see West* 8 At last, wearinesse and watching, began to inforce sleep upon me. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 86 If the Exercise be Immoderate with great Weariness, the Spirits and Heat are very much evaporated. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. 74, I scarce can speak for weariness. 1836 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iv. 136 The muscles..may be for a long time in a state of involuntary contraction..without weariness being induced.

2. Tedium or distaste induced by monotonous or uncongenial conditions or occupations; tiredness *of* a course of action, a state of things, a person or thing. † Also *rarely* const. *to* with inf.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 129 b, Therof foloweth..tedyousnes in all goostly exercyse, & werynes of holy company. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 376 A certeyne wearynes, and impacience of long imprisonment. 1625 BACON *Ess., Death* (Arb.) 387 A man would die, though he were neither valiant, nor miserable, only vpon a wearinesse to doe the same thing, so oft ouer and ouer. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 9 Osred, whose wife Cutburga, out of a loathing weariness of wedlock, sued out a divorce from her husband. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xli, Weariness of soul lies before her, as it lies behind. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 37 The struggle..terminated, through weariness of enduring and inflicting suffering. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 25 May 5/6 Sheer weariness of things which are to them common and familiar.

3. Something that wearies.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Eccl.* xii. 12 There is none end in making manie bookes: and muche reading is a wearines of the flesh. 1845 FROUDE *Nemesis of Faith* (1849) 209 Long devotions are a weariness to healthy children. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. x, The children were dull, and she began to believe she was doing no good—it was all a weariness. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* x. 90 To be compelled by fashion to sit down to a meal at the pleasantest hour in all the twenty-four is a weariness to the flesh and a vexation to the spirit.

Wearing (wē·riŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. WEAR *v.*1 + -ING 1.]

† 1. The fact or habit of being clothed in a particular way; kind or style of clothing; also *concr.* what a person wears or might wear. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Gif heo hit ne bihat nout heo hit mai don þauh, & leten hwon heo wel wule, alse of mete & of drunch, fleschs forgon oþer visch,..of weriunge, of liggunge, of vres, of beoden. *Ibid.* 368 Mid festen, mid wecchen, mid disciplines, mid herd weriunge. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1521 Of bathe þer worldes gret outrage we se..In worldis havyng and baryng, In vayn apparail and in weryng. *c* 1400 *Brut* CCXX. (1906) 261 [He] disgised him wiþ wonder ryche clopes oute of al maner reseun boþe of shaping and of wering. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 237 Pamperyng or ouermoche cherysshyng of our bodyes by soft lyenge, soft weryng, or moche fedyng. 1600 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xlviii. I. 228 The waved water chamelot, was from the beginning esteemed the richest and bravest wearing. 1605 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. iii. 26 Giue me my nightly wearing, and adieu. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *Wife, Characters, Milkmaid* (1618) I 4 b, For though she be not arraied in the spoile of the Silke-worme, she is deckt in innocence, a far better wearing. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 510 Hee perswaded his companion to put on his Wast-coate, and night-wearing, and walk into the garden. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 134 Another shape out, and another trim up their wearings. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. iv. 48 He shifted his Velvet Truncks, which was his customary wearing. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. i, Chains are but an ill wearing, how much Care soever hath been taken to file and polish them.

b. *pl.* (See quot.)

1837 *Patent* 27 Nov. in *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 54/2 Certain Improvements for producing Ornamental Lace or Wearings.

2. The action of carrying on the body (an article of dress, an ornament, or the like). † *Of one's wearing*: forming part of one's wardrobe (*obs.*). Also *fig.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1123 For ho schynes so schyr þat is of schap rounde,..& wax euer in þe worlde in weryng so olde, 3et þe perle payres not whyle ho in pyese lasttes. 1426 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 72, I woll þat..my preest haue..a gowne of my weryng. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* XXVII. 39 Seint Bernarde,..for his holy lyuing, and of weringe of the heyre,..was chose to be abbot of that place. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 103 My mother has gewyn to Mythellz wyfe a cremsyn goune of hyr wheryng. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A 3 b, Such rare iewels are well worth the wearing. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* V. i. 146 Speciall Dignities, which vacant lye For thy best vse and wearing.

Buff of his Skin, for the Wearing of the Conqueror. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 421, I desir'd that they might all take an equal Quantity of the Goods that were for wearing. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXX, He rushed into the room with a willow branch in his hand, which he told her had arrived that instant from Germany for her special wearing. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 182 The opposition, it seemed, wished..to make the crown of England not worth the wearing.

b. *attrib.* in **wearing apparel, wearing gear** (*arch.*), articles of clothing collectively. † Formerly also in many other collocations with the senses 'suitable or intended for wearing', as *wearing clothes, garments, gown, jewels, linen, rapier.*

Also † **wearing plate,** plate in actual household use (cf. WEAR *v.*1 2 b).

1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 32 Myne owne weryngе clothes. 1498 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 365 All my weryng kercheff evenly to be departed betwene her and..Agnes Huyssh. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 204 He would of a custome diligently serche his robes, and al his wearyng geare, & saie [etc.] 1575 FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* viii. 26 These wearing geere somtimes to me that faithles fellowe lefte. 1576 — *Panopl. Epist.* 354 The sheepe..yeeldeth her woll, which is wouen and wrought to make vs wearing garmentes. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 88 The very trayne of her worst wearing Gowne, Was better worth then all my Fathers Lands. 1616 *MS. Liber Depos. Archd. Colcestr.* 94 His wife's wearing lynnen. 1617 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 227 Item all her weareinge apparell, xvij*li*. 1620 *Inv. in Essex Rev.* (1907) XVI. 206 His purs and waringe parell, ij*li*. 1662 in W. M. Sargent *Manx Wills* (1887) 3, I giue vnto Anthony Littlefejld all my weareing Cloaths. 1683 in *J. Hull's Diaries* (1857) 260 The 2*d* Judith Hull [the widow] shall have and enjoy out of the personal estate..one halfe part of all the wearing plate. 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 421 Bring along wth you..yr Best Waring Thinga. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* IV. xii. (ROXB.) 487/1 His owne wearing rapier carried by his servant. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 72 Some wearing linen. 1740 C'TESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) II. 29 Her wearing jewels are the finest and most various of any sovereign's now living. 1838 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop,* Wearing apparel of every description. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* XIV, With blood on his wearing-gear and sorrow on his face.

3. The condition or process of being continuously in wear or use. Chiefly in phrases with prep., as *in* († *the*) *wearing*, (*the*) *worse for* († *the*) *wearing.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 44 All thyng is the woors for the wearyng. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 11 That the..Boote was made of such leather as would shrinke in the wearing. 1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate of Cloth* 38 After a moneths wearing, it will looke like a souldiers coat which hath line sixe moneths out of garrison. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 69 Friendship is one of those few things which are the better for the wearing. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 74 His hardest Tools are the worse for Wearing. 1711 *Dissenting Teachers Addr. agst. Bill for building 50 New Churches* 18 A Pulpit little worse for wearing to dispose off. 1784 RAMSAY *Widow* 20 The Widow she's yesterday, and never see Hair The war of the wearing.

4. The action of wasting, damaging, or exhausting, or the process of being wasted, by continuous use or exposure. Also with *away, down, out.*

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 177 For the defens of the said land for the weryng awa of watter als far as thar bundys rekys. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 31 Haill in everie circumstance, Haill in mater, and substance, Hut wering, or consumptioun. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII* c. 6 § 2 Many other Comon wayes..be so depe and noyous by wearyng and Course of Water and other occasions, that [etc.]. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 17 b, To liuing a single life is annexed ..vtter decaiyng and wearyng out of the name. 1587 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 89, I will deuise matter enough out of this Shallow, to keepe Prince Harry in continuall Laughter, the wearing out of sixe Fashions (which is foure Termes). 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 10 P 3 Such Writings as tend to the wearing out of Ignorance, Passion, and Prejudice. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Huttonian Theory* 294 The thinnest part of that rock..has been perfectly defended by them from every sort of wearing and decay. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* XXIX, The final and unmendable wearing out of the parlour carpet, which there was no spare money to replace. 1855 W. H. BARLOW in *Phil. Trans.* CXLV. 286 This arose from a slight wearing of the working parts of the measuring instrument. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* ix. 149 The great wearing down of land which must be effected by rain and rivers. 1883 *Science* II. 75/2 The wearing-away of the falls would injure navigation above. 1908 *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 183 This wearing out of a tired horse by a tired man.

b. *concr.* in *pl.* Worn places, marks of wear.

1885 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 313/1 If the pallets are worn, the wearings must be filed out.

c. Wasting from disease: in quot. with *away.* (? *Obs.*) Hence *dial.* a wasting illness, consumption.

1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 240 Hearing of my Lord Craighall his fayling and wearyng away, I went to him. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss., Wearing,* consumption. 1876 *Mr. Gray & his Neighbours* I. 226, I do believe one on 'em is going into a wearin'.

d. Wearying or exhausting effect.

1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whitehoy* I. ix. 140 The woe and wearing of weeks [of sickness] sobered and softened her.

† 5. Manner in which a cloth, etc. wears (well or badly); degree of resistance to the effects of wear. Also *fig.*, degree in which a person continues to merit approval; also, degree of resistance to the effects of time. *Obs. rare.*

1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 59 Salomon sayed to hym [*sc.* Adonias]: Gette the into thy house, bilyke he meante to warde, and ther to se hys wearynge, as if he shoulde saye, shewe thyselfe wythoute gall of ambition, to be a quiet subiecte, and I wyll pardon the for thys tyme. But I wyll se the wearynge of the. 1586 A. EDWARDS in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 358 They talke much of London clothes, and they that know the wearing, are desirous of them before the cloth of the womens making, for they find it nothing durable. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* 177 In the Wearing of her Person, she was particularly fortunate; her Figure was always improving, to her Thirty-sixth Year.

6. Passing, elapsing (of a period of time). *rare.*

1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* I. 30 Now again in a half month's wearing goes Signy into the wild. 1898 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Wearing*..3. Diminution or passing away; as, the wearing of the season. 1903 A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* III. ii. 238 Before the wearing of a moon, [he] was back again.

Wearing, *vbl. sb.*2 *Naut.* [f. WEAR *v.*2 + -ING 1.] The action of turning a vessel's stern to windward: opposed to *tacking.* Also *attrib.*

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Wearing.* See the article *Veering.* 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXIII, A regular tacking and wearing bill was made out.

Wearing (wē·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WEAR *v.*1 + -ING 2.]

1. Exhausting, tiring; enfeebling by continued strain or irritation. Also *wearing-out.*

1811 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 22, I have been prevented writing by most wearing nervous headaches. 1813 CHALMERS in Hanna *Life* (1852) II. 18 A heartless, hard driving, distracting, and wearing out life among the bustle of unministerial work. 1824 SUSAN FERRIER *Inher.* xl, She.. remarked, what a wearing-out thing it [reading aloud] was for the reader. 1837 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 55 My toil is great; but it is not a wearing toil, as that of writing is. 1859 J. BRIGHT *Sp. India* 1 Aug. (1876) 50 This wearing exasperating question of how money is to be got. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xvi, You see the occupations of the day are sometimes a little wearing. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* XX, She began to know how wearing were miserable days, and how much more wearing were miserable nights. 1887 *Murray's Mag.* Aug. 267 It was in many respects a wearing life.

2. That gradually destroys, diminishes, or impairs by continued use or attrition.

1839 R. HUNT *Guide Min. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 292 The specimens exhibited show the wearing and grinding force of the modern glaciers. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* XXXV, This cloister was built of harder stone than the church, and had been in greater safety from the wearing weather. 1903 W. CHRYSTAL *Kingd. Kippen* 146 All the lower ground is covered with sheets of boulder clay, the material resulting from the wearing action of the ice.

3. That is undergoing wear, diminution, or impairment by continued use or attrition.

1908 *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 36 The surface [of the tooth] which bites on the food or its fellow in the opposite jaw is the *table,* or *wearing surface.*

Hence **Wea·ringly** *adv.*

1870 *Public Opinion* 6 Aug. 170 It is the trivial, every-day suffering..that is most wearingly, if not most keenly, felt.

Wearish (wī·rish), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 **werische,** 5–6 **werysche, weris(e)he,** -**ysh(e, wearysh(e, wear-, wearishe, wearysh,** 6–7 **werish, weerish,** 9 *dial.* **warish, werrish,** 6– **wearish.** [Late ME. *werische*; of obscure origin. Cf. WERSH *a.* which is prob. a contracted form of this.

There is some resemblance in form and sense to the early mod. Du. *wers, wars, wersch*, 'contrarius, adversus, malus' (Kilian), mod. Du. *wars*, disgusted, averse, weary of, Du. dial. *warsig*, Fris. *wersich* disgusting; but etymological connexion seems improbable.]

1. Destitute of savour, sickly-flavoured, tasteless, insipid; unsalted. Cf. WERSH *a.* 1.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. lx. (Tollem. MS.) Flemme is an humouris kyndely colde and moyste, werische and unsauoury [L. *insipidus*]. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. ii. in *Anglia* VIII. 154 As any man..amonge many maners deynte metes wolde forsake an vnsauory and werysshe mete. 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 74 Also is Weerish that called Unsavoury. 1530 PALSGR. 328/2 Werysshe as meate is that is nat well tastye, *mal sauouré*. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* Prol. (1538) 7 b, As the tayste of the sycke maketh wholsome and well seasoned meate bytter, weerysh, and unsauery. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* iv. Wks. 938/1 If the salt waxe ones freshe & werish, wherin shal ani thing be wel seasoned? 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Inconditus*..weryshe. 1607 *Barley-Breake* (1877) 28 When Hyems shall vpon them shake his lockes, Their grazing feast will haue a wearish tatch. 1868 CARR *Craven Gloss., Warish*, unsavoury. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Werrish*, ..as applied to drinks, 'small', weak, sickly, insipid.

b. *fig.* Void of relish, insipid, savourless; flat, futile, ineffectual.

1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v–vii. (? 1550) 23 b, All werysh and vnsauerye ceremonies whyche haue lost theyr significations. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Erasm. Pref. *vij b, In expressyng and vttreyng suche sayinges Xenophon seemeth to me somewhat weerysshe [*mihi dilutior videtur*]. 1548 — *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 10–12 Ileeyng ouerwhelmed with werysshe opinions and vayne desyres. *Ibid.* vii. 28, 29 They vsed to brynge furth certaine werysshe constitutions of wasshyng their handes before meate, [etc.]. *Ibid. Luke* Pref. (.·.) iij b, So werishe and vneffectual was ye vertue of the medicine of Physicke whiche thei brought [*adeo Pharmacum quod adferebant uim habebat dilutam & inefficacem*]. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* I. 9–20 The rude and wearysh preaching [*sermo rudis et inconditus*]. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. 523 Yeelding hir pleasures weerish, and hir amours tastelesse. 1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* 4 A sickly, wearish, and momentany Delight.

2. Of persons and animals, their limbs, etc.: Sickly, feeble, delicate; lean, wizened, shrivelled. Also, of a countenance: Sickly-looking. Cf. WERSH *a.* 2.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. (1557) 54/1 Therw[i] he plucked vp hys doublet sleue to his elbow,..where he shewed a werish withered arme and small. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. v. H iij b, If thou canst spye a wealthie man, that hath a wearyshe chylde, There, shewe thy selfe officious. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 39 A countenance, not werishe and crabbed, but faire and cumlie. 1569 V. SKINNER tr. *Montanus Inquis.* 20 b, A full weake & wearish body [L. *corpore infirmo ac caduco*]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 116 b, If they [the stallions] be to yong, they get but weake and wearish Coltes. *Ibid.* 137 b, A small and a weerysh Sheepe. 1579 LODGE *Def. Plays* 5 That they like good Phisitions should so frame their potions, that they might be appliable to the quesie stomaks of their werish patients. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* I 4 b, They haue hid a little weerish leane face vnder a broad French hat. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 34 A wretched wearish elfe, With hollow eyes and rawbone cheekes forspent. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VI. xxii. 784 The deepe red wine which is harsh and rough,..is profitable to comfort the loose & wearish stomacke. 1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 2) Democr. to Rdr. 2 Democritus..was a little wearish [1621 wearyish] old man, very melancholy by nature. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* V. i, A crooked leg,..a wearish hand, A bloodlease lip. 1685 BURNET *Life Bp. Bedell* 257 It might often have been easily done, especially upon such a weakly and wearish Body. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Werrish*, feeble; deficient in stamina; of a delicate constitution. 1888 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arab. Des.* I. v. 148 All the date-eaters are of a certain wearish visage.

b. Comb.: *wearish-coloured*, sickly-hued, pale.

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram., Dict.* (1567), *Pallida*, pale, or wearishe coloured.

c. Lacking energy, languid.

1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* 163 A wearish and impotent giving up of the spirits. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 328 At the first setting out they seemed to run exceeding well, but after a while, to grow somewhat wearish.

3. Dull-witted, stupid.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 32 A werishe [L. *insulsus*] felowe made al this beaynes. 1537 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 103 My thyncke yt ya butt a weryshe person to have any such letnyng of prophessye.

4. ? Peevish, cross-grained, crabbed.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvi. § 4 (1912) 317 Have any of you children, that be not sometimes cumbersome? Have any of you fathers, that be not sometime weerish? What, shall we..hate our children, or disobey our fathers?

Hence **Wearishly** *adv.*, languidly, without energy; **Wearishness**, lack of savour.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lii. (1495) 893 The nynthe sauour hyght werysshenesse and vnsauerynesse. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 106 *marg.*, Beetes is an herbe ..of whose excedyng werysshenesse and vnsauerynesse [etc.]. 1633 AMES *Fresh Suit agst. Ceremonies* Pref. p. xvii, How wearishly & unwillingly goe they to the worke?

Wearisome (wi·ərisəm), *a.* Forms: 5 **weryesom**, 6 **weerysom, werisum, wearisom**, 7 **wearysome**, 6– **wearisome**. [f. WEARY *v.* and *a.* + -SOME.]

†1. Weary; showing signs of weariness. *Obs.*

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 751 The sotelte a man with sikelle in his hande, In a ryvere of watur stande wrapped in wedes in a weryesom wyse. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4406 Hyt declare and tell shall my wer[y]som gost. 1562 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K iv b, At bancketting they refreshed their weerysome mindes, in those high discourses and diuine imaginations of theirs. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 49 The wearisome creatures of the world declining to their rest. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 190 They came, and saw no attendance about him, onely a decrepit and wearisom old man, lying along upon the beach.

2. Causing weariness through monotony, or the continuance of uncongenial circumstances; tedious.

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 55 The remedy hereof [undevotion] ys..to abyde vpon the tretable sayng of theyre seruice, be yt neuer so werysom. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 32 This is..The worlds sweet In, from paine and wearisome turmoyle. 1596 RALEGH *Discov. Guiana* 97 It is nowe time to returne towardes the North, and we founde it a wearisome way backe. *a* 1683 BINNING *Sinner's Sanct.* xxix Wks. (1735) 316/2 What is your Life, but a tedious and wearisome Repetition of such brutish Actions which only terminate on the Body? *a* 1699 TEMPLE *Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 288 All will allow..the several Conditions of Fortune to be all wearysome, dull or disagreeable without good Humour. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. vi, Simplicity uninformed, becomes wearisome. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Conf. Drunkard*, A forecast of the wearisome day that lies before me. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxii, It was impossible for li e to glide away in more wearisome monotony than at the castle of the Garde Doloureuse. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 218 The ceremonies of a court are wearisome to me. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 533/2 The author might do much better if he would give up this wearisome murder-mongering, and take a fresh subject. 1902 *Spectator* 11 Oct. 520/1 At almost wearisome length we have endeavoured to set forth the..case.

b. of a speaker or writer.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 35, I persaiv how werisum and tœdius I have bene unto your wurship. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* I. 43 Were it not that I feare to be wearisome unto you, I should never make an end of my newes. 1841–44 EMERSON *Ess., Intellect* Wks. (Bohn) I. 241 How wearisome the..political or religious fanatic.. whose balance is lost by the exaggeration of a single topic.

3. Causing weariness from bodily or mental exertion or protracted pain; fatiguing, exhausting. Now somewhat *rare*.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. vii. § 7 The roote hereof, diuine malediction; whereby the instruments being weakned wherewithall the soule (especially in reasoning) doth worke, it preferreth rest in ignorance before wearisome labour to knowe. 1692 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 4 The Head..would have been very painful and wearisome to carry, if the Neck had lain parallel or inclining to the Horizon. 1703 M. WARWICK in Baynard *Cold Bathing* II. 297 A weak and wearisom Pain, together with a soreness upon the Part. 1750 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 6 P 2 There was once a time when Wreaths of Bays or Oak were considered as recompences equal to the more wearisome labours. 1752 LABELYE *Westm. Br.* 66 Their great Trouble, Care, and wearisome Attendance. 1883 JOSEPHINE E. BUTLER *Autob.* xii. (1909) 177, I climbed up the wearisome gallery stairs. 1916 *Lancet* 8 Jan. 73/2 The hand-bellows is of such a size that it fills the hand comfortably, and continuous pumping is not wearisome.

Wearisomely, *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a wearisome manner. **a.** So as to cause weariness.

c 1735 SECKER *Lect. Catech.* XXXVIII. (1769) II. 276 In the whole of this Work, we must be careful, neither to hurry over any Part thoughtlessly, nor lengthen it wearisomely. 1828 *Harrovian* 155 Although wearisomely fond of description, L. E. L. is deficient in giving the shades of character, and variety of illustration. 1865 LOWELL *Study Wind., Thoreau* (1871) 156 If he botanise somewhat wearisomely, he gives us now and then superb outlooks from some jutting crag. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 5/5 The comedy drags somewhat wearisomely towards the end. 1888 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 1048/1 The wearisomely abundant current literature concerning actors and acting.

b. In a state of weariness or ennui. *rare*.

1832 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* II. vii, As he wanders wearisomely through this world. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* III. iii. I. 214 What struggles and inextricable armed-litigations there were for it, readers of Brandenburg-History too wearisomely know.

Wearisomeness. [-NESS.]

†1. The condition of being wearied; liability to become wearied. **a.** Fatigue, exhaustion from effort or pain; liability to be easily fatigued. **b.** Tedium, ennui; weariness *of* something uncongenial or uninteresting. *Obs.*

a. 1560 tr. *J. Fisher's Godly Treat. Benef. Prayer* G 4, Excepte eyther the great weerysomenes of our bodyes, or some other lyke necessitie inforce vs. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* IV. x. 643 The fresh leaues..being put vnder the naked soles of the feete, they greatly take awaie their wearisomnes, which by far walking haue wearied themselues. *a* 1633 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* ii. 17. (1655) 240 Sundry infirmities of body, as hunger, thirst, cold, wearisomnesse. 1672 T. VENN *Milit. Observ.* 184 But if the wind blow stiff, or there is a weakness or wearisomness in the Ensign-bearer, then he may set the butt end against his waste and not otherwise. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) III. 270 For in his Turn, every one must expect to be in a State of Wearisomeness and Pain, of Weakness and Danger. 1780 *Ann. Reg.* I A kind of languor and wearisomeness.

b. 1557 PHAER *Æneid* v. L 4 b, *Argt.*, The Troiane wyues, at the instigation of the Raynbow, and for wearysomnesse of theyr long e trauayle: cast fier amonge the fleet. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 37 Such a witte, as is..diligent in painfull thinges without werisomnes. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 109 Scanderbeg declaring his wearisomenes of captivitie..desired to visit his kingdome. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* III. § 46. 266 That wearisomness which is taxed in the Iewes that said, when will the New-Moones and Sabbaths be gone? 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Pref. 2 Yet they shall..be made, spight of antipathy to fadge together, and combine as they may to their unpeasable wearisomnes & despaire of all sociable delight in the ordinance which [etc.]. 1822 [MARY A. KELTY] *Osmond* I. 289 Their wearisomeness of Osmond's stupidity. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* II. 219 Where there is no variety, and where wearisomeness as naturally follows. 1840 PUSEY in Liddon *Life*, (1893) II. xxiv. 156, I should have been afraid of the casting lots, lest it should arise from a wearisomeness of indecision, instead of waiting patiently for the time when He would enable one to decide according to His will.

2. The quality or fact of causing weariness; tendency to weary. **a.** Aptness to cause fatigue. **b.** Tediousness.

a. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 254 The commoditie is answerable in proportion and measure, to the wearisomenesse of the labour. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. 261 Amidst the jolting of the Waggon, the trouble and wearisomness of the journey, they kept their Prayer, as in the Quire. 1843 POE *Tales, Pit & Pendulum*, As if those who bore me..had paused from the wearisomeness of their toil.

b. 1579 TWYNE *Petrarch's Physicke agst. Fortune* I. 109 b, *Joy.* The ayre is very cleere, I would it might not be changed. *Reason.* Thou knowest not how soone this cleerenes wil bring weerisomnesse: There is nothing so pleasant which continuall frequentyng the same maketh not loathsome. 1668 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 5 The Ambassadours endeavour'd to abate the wearisomeness of our stay there, by banquets, hunting matches, and walking. 1879 HINGSTON *Austral. Abr.* vii. 72 A great sameness about it was soon, however, observable, producing even the usual effect of monotony—wearisomeness. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Jan. 3/2 A second article..which has, notwithstanding these good qualities, just a suspicion of wearisomeness.

†3. Loathing (for food). *Obs.*—[1]

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 346 Evell which causeth such a fulsomenesse and wearisomenesse in Gods stomacke.

Wearns, obs. f. WARN *v.*[1]; var. WARN *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Wearry, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

Weary (wi·əri), *a.* Forms: 1 **wérig**, (ucerig), **wériz**, 2–4 **weri**, (3 **weari**), 3–6 **werie**, **-y**, (4 **wiry**, 5 **wyry**), 4, 6 *Sc.* **very**, (5 **were, werre**), 5–6 **werye**, 6 **weery, wiery**, 6–9 *Sc.* **wearie**, 6– **weary**. [OE. *wérig*, corresponding to OS. (*sîð-*) *wôrig* weary (with a journey), OHG. *wuarag* drunk:—W.Ger. **wôrigo-*, *-ago-*. The root **wôr-* seems to be identical with that in OE. *wórian* to wander, go astray, and in ON. *drar* fits of madness, *ær-r* mad, insane; the primary sense was perhaps 'bewildered', 'stupefied'.]

I. 1. Having the feeling of loss of strength, languor, and need for rest, produced by continued exertion (physical or mental), endurance of severe pain, or wakefulness; tired, fatigued. Now with strongersense: Intensely tired, worn out with fatigue.

The strong emotional emphasis which the word has acquired in modern times tends to exclude it from colloquial use and from unimpassioned prose.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter*, Hymn xii, *Mentes fessas*. mod woerigu. *a* 900 *Elene* 357 (Gr.) Þa weregan neat, Þe man..drifeð & þirsceð. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. ix. (1890) 180 Þa heo þa on þære stowe reseted wæs, Þa wæs heo werig. *c* 940 *Brunanburh* in *O. E. Chron.* an. 937 Þær læg secg mænig, garum axeted,..ofer scild sceoten,. werig, wiges sæd. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 240 (Lamb. MS.) Ho [*sc.* souls in hell] walkeð weri up and dun, se water deð mid winde. *c* 1290 *S. E. Leg.* 92 Of sonne and Mone and steoriene also, fram þe este to þe weste Þat trauaillieth and neuere werie ne beoth. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1158 ibid. 139 Swiþe weri was þe holi man, onnefe he bar up is fet. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2518 Meliors was so wery Þat sche ne walk miȝt 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 143 His men als that wer very Hynt of thair baanetis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXB.) xvi. 73 He was so wery Þat he myȝt na ferther. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* xi. 28 Come vnto me all ye that are wearie and laden. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forrest* 68 b, The fift or odde Crane..flieth all alone before, till he be wearie so doing. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure united* 139 To know when the Stag is weary, is easily done by his Slavering, froathing at the Mouth, [etc.]. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* xliv. III. 188 After an absence of twenty days, they returned weary and discouraged. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 465 Producing what? A pair of slippers, sir, To put on when you're weary. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 30, I am tired too soon; I could have danced down hours Two years gone hence and felt no wearier.

absol. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* iii. 17 There resteden the wery in strengthe [1611 There the wearie be at rest]. 1382 — *Isa.* xl. 29 The Lord..ȝyueth to the weri vertue. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 617 The Duke of Yorke sent euer fresh men, to succor the werie, and put new men in places of the hurt persons. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 160 Death may bring rest to the weary and overladen. 1804 CAMPBELL *Soldier's Dream* 4 Thousands had sunk on the ground overpowered, The weary to sleep, and the wounded to die. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, The eternal book for all the weary and the heavy-laden. 1887 I. R. *Lady's Ranche Life Montana* 105 In a few minutes we were sleeping the sleep of the weary.

b. said of the body, its limbs or organs.

c 1205 LAY. 26592 To lechinien þa wunden of leofenen his cnihten & baðien on burge heore wærie ban. 1573 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Hearbes* Wks. 1907 I. 354 If thou sitte at ease to rest thy wearie bones. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 29 There they alight, in hope..to..rest their wary limbs a tide. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 264 Late at Night, with weary Pinions come The lab'ring Youth, and heavy laden home. 1782 ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 73 (1810) 12 How oft. We.. Welcom'd the wild-bee home on weary wing. 1841 LONGF. *Excelsior* v, 'O stay,' the maiden said, 'and rest Thy weary head upon this breast!'

c. with the source of weariness indicated. Const. *with*, formerly also **†*of*** (now only in sense 2), **†*for***, or † genitive.

Beowulf 579 Sibes werig. *a* 1000 *Riddles* liv [lv], 20 Werig þæs weoreS. *c* 1205 LAY. 12406 Heo beoð swiðe werie þeren heore wepnen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 635 Damie he is of walke werí. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 7, I was weori of wandringe [B. wery forwandred]. †*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 440 Ne

certis she was fatt no thing But semed wery for fasting. 1382 Wyclif *John* iv. 6 Jhesu maad wery, or feynt, of the iurney, sat thus on the welle. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) x. 40 When he was wery of bering of þe crosse. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. xxxvii. 257 They fonde the watchemen sore wery of longe watche. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 93 Both armies being werie with fighting. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 19 Weary of trauell in his former fight, He there in shade himselfe had laid to rest. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* IV. 134 You Sun-burn'd Sicklemen of August weary. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* I. 179 My horse weary of this long journey without so much as a daies rest, beganne to faint. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 581 Weary with his Toyl, and scorch'd with Heat. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* I. ii, The stag-hounds, weary with the chase, Lay stretch'd upon the rushy floor.

d. Of pace, tread, voice, etc.: Showing signs of fatigue.

a 1000 *Cynewulf's Christ* 993 Beornas gretað..werzum stefnum. 1638 Quarles *Hieroglt.* i. 8 When at length His weary steps have reach'd the top. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 803 His Foes in sight, he mends his weary pace. 1784 Burns *Man was made* 6, I spy'd a man, whose aged step Seem'd weary, worn with care. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* III. 9 The weary sound and the heavy breath, And the silent motions of passing death. 1821 — *Epipsych.* 155 The beaten road Which those poor slaves with weary footsteps tread. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xv, Accordingly, towards this spot, they directed their weary steps.

†**e.** quasi-*sb.* in *for weary*: see For- *prefix* 10.

c 1350, *c* 1400 [see For- *prefix* 10]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5574 Then were the Troyens wel weri, Thei myght not for weri hem steri. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xvii, For werre slidus he on slepe, No lengur myȝte he wake. 14.. *Sir Beues* (O.) 2449 What for wery and what for faynt, Syr Beuys was nerehande attaynt. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 180 But on þe morow, what for wach, what for wery, he fylle on slepe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 226 Vnethes may I wag, man, for wery in youre stabill While I set my stag, man.

2. Discontented at the continuance or continued recurrence of something, and desiring its cessation; having one's patience, tolerance, zeal, or energy exhausted; 'sick and tired' *of* something. Also with *in*, and *to* with inf.

c 1205 Lay. 1328 Ne bið na man weri heora songes to herzen. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 181 Whan he is wery of þat werke þanne wil he some tyme Labory in a lauendrye. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Parson's T.* 1042 It [*sc.* the Paternoster] is schort ..for a man schulde be þe lasse wery to say it. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6298, I wol no more of this thing seyn, If I may passen me herby; I mighte maken you wery. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVI. i. 664, I am nyghe wery of this quest. 1526 Tindale 2 *Thess.* iii. 13 Brethren be not wearie in well doynge. [So all later versions exc. Rheims.] 1534 — *Gal.* vi. 9 Let vs not be wery of well doynge [1612 in well doing]. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* vi. 6, I am weery of gronynge. 1551 Robinson *More's Utopia* II. vi. (1895) 212 In the exercyse and studdye of the mynde they be neuer werye. *c* 1590 *Fair Em* IV. i. 28, I am growen werie of his companie. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. iv. 218 He that keepes not crust, nor crum, Weary of all, shall want some. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 42 By this time the King was as weary of Scotland as he had been impatient to go thither. 1670 Dryden *1st. Pt. Conq. Granada* I. i, 'Tis just some joyes on weary Kings should waite. 1722 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 143 He cannot be ignorant how weary we are of the war. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. i, The last of these voyages not proving very fortunate, I grew weary of the sea. 1790 Burns *The Taylor fell* 13 There's somebody weary wi' lying her lane. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* Ded. 33 For I grow weary to behold The selfish and the strong still tyrannize Without reproach or check. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. xxii. 4 She is weary of dance and play. 1864 — *Islet* 89 His compass is but of a single note. That it makes one weary to hear. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) V. 122 Plato is never weary of speaking of the honour of the soul.

b. Tired *of*, anxious to be rid *of* (a person). *rare.*

†*c* 1472 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 123 Me thynk þay ashuld nat be so wery of yow, þat dyd so gret labour & diligence to have yow. 1602 W. S. *Thomas Ld. Cromwell* IV, ii. 6 All parts abroade where euer I haue beene Growes wearie of me, and denies me succour. *a* 1653 R. Brome *City Wit* IV. i, I will suddenly take occasion to break with the Foole Wolsie; of whom I am heartily weary. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 687, I am weary of her.

3. Depressed and dispirited through trouble, anxiety, disappointment, etc.; sick at heart.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxii. § 1 Eala Wisdom, þu ðe eart alo behate frofer ealra werizra moda. *c* 1000 *Wanderer* 15 Ne mæg werig mod wyrde widstondan. *c* 1205 Lay. 28081 Þa wes ich al wet & weri of sorȝen and seoc. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15875 Mate and weri war þai þan. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdr.* xii. 5 Yet am I weery in my minde. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 130 Many febul and wery soulys, wych haue byn oppressayd wyth wordly vanyte. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. i. 112, I *Murth.* So wearie with Disasters, tugg'd with Fortune. 17.. *Slighted Nanny* in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 23 Far ben the house I rin; And a weary wight am I. 1792 Burns *Banks of Doon* (later version) 4 How can ye chant, ye little birds, And I sae weary fu' o' care! 1892 L. Johnson in *1st Bk. Rhymers' Club* 6 Our wearier spirit faints, Vexed in the world's employ.

4. Of persons: Having little strength, feeble, sickly. *Sc.* and *dial.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (Egipciane) 240 Þocht he auld & very vas. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. iii. (S. T. S.) I. 250 Than was Ebucius, ane of þe consullis, dede in þe cietc, and his colleig serullius sa wery þat he mycht skarsly draw his aynd. 1808 Jamieson s. v., A weary bairn, a child that is declining. *S.* *a* 1829 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v., It is a poor weary child. 1879 *Good Words* 405/1 The minister had christened Nicky Macdonald's bairn in the house, since

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sic remedis as it was wont to be.

II. Causing weariness.

5. Fatiguing, toilsome, exhausting. (Sometimes blending indistinguishably with sense 6.)

c 1315 Shoreham II. 84 To bere hyt [*sc.* the cross] to caluary, I-wys, hyt was wel wery. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 457 The dede slepe for wery bisynesse fil on this Carpenter. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 219 b, They wente a werye and a paynefull Jorney [L. *difficili et molesto itinere*]. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Isa.* xxxii. 2 As the shadowe of a great rocke in a wearieland. [Literal from the Heb.] 1575 Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* ix. 29 Let's synging passe our weary waye, lease trouble wyll be oures. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 129 Many a weary Stroke it [*sc.* the boat] had cost, you may be sure; and there remained nothing but to get it into the Water. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 423 Vain, very vain, my weary search to find That bliss which only centres in the mind. 1783 Burns *Despondency* 5 O Life! Thou art a galling load, Along a rough, a weary road, To wretches such as I. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Life in Wilds* vi. 76 It was weary work with any tool but the hatchet. 1833 Tennyson *Lotos-Eaters* 41 Evermore Most weary seem'd the sea, weary the oar. 1849 Aytoun *Lays Scott. Cavaliers* (ed. 2) 72 And aye we sail'd, and aye we sail'd Across the weary sea. 1894 J. A. Steuart *In Day of Battle* iv, India...is far away. Many a weary mile lies between us and it.

6. Irksome, wearisome, tedious; in graver sense, burdensome to the spirit.

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 188 Thys ys to wyry a lyffe to a byde for you and all youre. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 129 The weariest, and most loathed worldly life That Age, Ache, periury, and imprisonment Can lay on nature. 1798 Wordsw. *Lines Tintern Abbey* 39 In which the heavy and the weary weight Of all this unintelligible world, Is lightened. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* V. iii, In the rude guard-room, where of yore Their weary hours the warders wore. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* xli, Like the clear sunshine after weary rain. 1884 Tennyson *Cup* I. ii. 96, I have had a weary day in watching you. Yours must have been a wearier.

†**b.** Of discourse, a speaker or writer: Tedious, wearisome. *Obs.*

1549 Coverdale etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Tim.* i. 1–7 Wherto should a man labour for saluacion by meanes of so many wiery obseruacions [*per tot molestas observationuculas ad salutem contendere*]. 1571 T. Fortescue *Mexia's Foreste* vii. 15 b, Sundry are the considerations, of whiche Lactantius Firmianus..as also somme others, haue written, large, & wery volumes. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 25 Your Brother kindly greets you: Not to be weary with you; he's in prison.

7. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **a.** Sad, sorrowful, hard to endure.

a 1785 W. Forbes *Dominie* in R. Forbes *Poems Buchan Dial.* II. 35 With blubber'd cheeks and watry nose, Her weary story she did close. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* III. xxviii. Song, A weary lot is thine, fair maid, *a* 1893 in R. Ford *Harp Perths.* 24 This weary, waefu' tale o' mine.

b. As an expression of irritation: Tiresome, vexatious, 'wretched', 'confounded'.

a 1785 W. Forbes *Dominie* in R. Forbes *Poems Buchan Dial.* II. 27 Was worth that weary sup of drink He lik'd so well! 1802 Sibbald *Chron. Sc. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Weary*, wretched, cursed; as the weary or weariful fox. 1845 Mrs. S. C. Hall *Whiteboy* x. 85, I went hunting everywhere for the weary cat and her kittens. 1864 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* xiv. 131 Ye weary, weirdless, ne'er-do-weel vagabond. 1893 'L. Keith' *'Lisbeth* ii, 'Lisbeth, mind these weary steps. Your aunt's very infirm in the feet.

c. quasi-*adv.* as an intensive: Grievously, 'sadly'.

1790 Shirrefs *Poems Sc. Dial.* 262 Poor Scota now is das'd and auld, Her childrens blood rins weary cauld, To see her Palace like a fauld For haddin' sheep! 1860 J. P. Kay-Shuttleworth *Scarsdale* II. 155 Hoo'll be weary pottert (disturbed) wi' a letter fro' onybody bur mysel'.

8. *Sc.* in certain phrases, perh. influenced by Wary *v.*, to curse: *Weary fa'* (*fall*), *weary on*, *weary set* (a person or thing), a curse on (him, etc.).

1788 Burns *Duncan Gray* 1 Weary fa' you, Duncan Gray. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxix, O, weary on the wars! mony's the comely face they destroy. 1816 — *Bl. Dwarf* iii, O weary fa' thae evil days! 1828 W. McDowall *Poems* 91 There's Brawnie, weary on her, Hear how she roars an'

Lilburn *Borderer* xxix. 281 Eh, weary on us! There seems no end to our misfortunes.

III. **9.** *Comb.*, as *weary-laden*, *-looking*, *-winged*, *-worn* adjs.; †**weary-foot** *a.*, having weary feet, tired with walking.

1798 O'Keeffe *Wild Oats* II. i, The hungry and *weary-foot traveller. 1784 Burns *Man was made to mourn* end, A blest relief to those That *weary-laden mourn! 1885 Ld. R. Gower *Old Diaries* (1902) 21 A worn *weary-looking man of middle age. 1833 Scargill *Puritan's Grave* (1846) 63 The occasional cawing of the *weary-winged rooks. 1795–8 Wordsw. *Borderers* I. 420 If you knew..how sleep will master The *weary-worn. 1819 Keats *Otho* II. ii. 117 For I am sick and faint with many wrongs, Tir'd out and weary-worn with contumelies.

Hence †**We·rihede** [-HEAD], weariness.

1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Efterward comþ werihede þet makeþ þane man weri and worsi uram daye to daye.

Weary (wi·ri), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wearied** (wi·rid). Forms: 1 (ȝe)wérigian, (ȝe)wérgian, wérian, 3 werȝe, 4–6 wery(e, werie, 6 weerie, 6–7 wearie, 6– **weary**. [OE. *wér(i)gian*, *-ȝian* intr., and *ȝewérgian* trans., f. *wérig* Weary *a.*]

I. *intr.* To grow weary.

1. To become tired; to suffer fatigue. Now *rare.*

c 890 Werferth *Gregory's Dial.* 204 Þæt hie mod mæhte ȝe mid healicum mancynum wearæð & strangað & eac of his ageare untrymnysse werȝað & teorað. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (1890) 78 Forðon hyspran, hyrstas, hetlan, calan, werȝian, al þæt is of untrymnesse þam ȝecyndan. *Ibid.* III. ix. 178 Þa ongon his hors seomiȝan werȝian

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232, & ȝif þet heo werȝð, ouerichon wreoðeð him bi oðer. 1377 Granon *Golden Aphred.* etc. K j b, My hande with long holdyng weryeth. 1886 P. Gordon *Diary* (Spalding Club 1859) 126, I had not ridden four miles when one of the horses wearyed. *a* 1776 *Lizzie Baillie* xi. in Child *Ballads* IV. 269 She was nae ten miles frae the town When she began to weary. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxv. 9 Nor could I weary, heart or limb, When [etc.].

b. Of the heart, mind, patience, etc.: To become tired or exhausted. Also of a person, to grow dispirited or sick at heart.

1434 Misyn *Mending of Life* xi. 194 Stedfastly he bidys in body & warus not in hart. 1620 in Harington *Nugæ Antig.* (1779) II. 257 Thus I will lay down my quill, which seldom wearys in a friendly tale. 1630 J. Carstairs *Lett.* (1846) 74, I hope he [God] keeps you from wearieing in reference to the delay of our libertie. 1769 Eliz. Carter *Lett.* (1809) III. xlvii. 379 The spirit wearies with perpetual dissipation. 1809 Herschel *Ess.* (1857) 514 That diligence which never wearies,..goes on adding grain by grain to the mass of results. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brandon* II. 76 His poetic mind never wearied.

c. To become affected with tedium or ennui.

1798 *Monthly Mag.* Dec. 436 ['Improper expressions used in Edinburgh'] I *weary* when I am alone; I become weary. 1823 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* II. 288 There is one kind and sympathising spirit which does not weary over my dilated gossip.

2. With various constructions. **a.** To grow tired *of* (something, doing something); *to* do (= of doing) or *to* be (= of being) (*arch.* or *poet.*); also with pres. pple.

a 1225 *Juliana* 22 For ne werȝeð he neauer to wurchen ow al þat wandreðe world a buten ende. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12997 Thai werit of þere werke þe wallis to kepe. *c* 1475 *Wisdom* 847 in *Macro Plays* 63 þat of hys lyff he xall wery, & qwak for very fere. *c* 1480 Henryson *Swallow & other Birds* 189 Quhilk day and nicht weryis not for to ga Sawand poysoun..In mannis Saull. 1627 Br. P. Forbes *Eubulus* 15 Whence anie, who in singlenesse seeketh Resolution will not wearie to search it. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* II. iv, She now wearied of passing all her time by herself, and sighed for the comfort of society. 1829 Carlyle in *Foreign Rev.* IV. 120 Into the ocean of air he gazed incessantly; and never wearied contemplating its clearness. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* II. 376 How the mind wearies of, and shrinks from, the more than painful interest, the μισητόν, of utter depravity. 1846 G. Warburton *Hochelaga* I. 217 The eye does not weary to see, but the hand aches, in even writing the one word—beauty. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 628 He..had ridd'n a random round To seek him, and had wearied of the search. *Ibid.* 894 As a little helpless innocent bird..Will sing the simple passage o'er and o'er..., till the ear Wearies to hear it. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. 356 It is not wonderful that a man pursuing so vast a plan..should have wearied of his task before it was completed.

b. To suffer weariness from long waiting or deferred hope; to wait wearily *for* or *to* do (something), or *through* (a period of time); to long or languish *for* something. Chiefly *Sc.*

1809 Syd. Smith *Serm.* II. 131 Why may it not..induce him to carry on the load of life who pants, and wearies for the grave. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* II. iii. 42, I has wearied to see them. *a* 1830 H. Cockburn *Memor.* (1856) 155 The Lord Advocate..generally leaves his representatives ..to endure the summing up, and to weary for the verdict. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* III. vi, [They were] watching the corpse and wearying for my return. 1856 Whewell in *Life* (1881) 480, I was beginning to weary for a letter from you. 1866 'Annie Thomas' *Played Out* I. ix. 153 A congregation of women assembled immediately after a dinner, wearying through the hour before the men rejoin them. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., They keep me wearying for dinner. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* viii, I have just been wearying to see you. 1888 R. Buchanan *Heir of Linne* iii, I was wearying to speak with you. 1894 G. Moore *Esther Waters* 39 She wearied for a companion.

3. quasi-*trans.* with *out*: To go wearily through to the end of.

1594–5 *Merchant's Daughter of Bristow* I. vi. in *Roxb. Ball.* (1878) II. 1. 87 There will I waste and wearie out my dayes in woe. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* xvii. 114 After I had here wearied out the weariesse, which I brought in my bones from the Cuchumatlanes. 1889 *Boy's Own Paper* 17 Aug. 730/2, I soon forgot to be sorry for Sister Mary, left to weary out the holidays in vacant loneliness.

II. *trans.* To make weary.

4. To exhaust the strength or endurance of (a person, his limbs, etc.); to fatigue or tire with toil, sickness, watching, sustained mental effort, etc.

Beowulf 2852 He ȝewerȝad sæt. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxv. 239 He..ȝewerȝað ðonne his heortan suiðe hearde mid ðy ȝesuince. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* (1900) I. 198 Þurh godes fore-stihtunge ne bors na he sylf ȝewerȝod wæs. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 796 He hade weryede the worme [*sc.* dragon] by wyghtnesse of strenghte, Ne ware it fore the wylde fyre that he hyme wyth dafendes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryyn, or make wery, *fatigo, lasso.* 1530 Palsgr. 779/2, I weryе by over moche labour or travayle, *je lasse*...This horse troubeth so harde that he hath weryed me more than I was a gret whyle. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* (1565) 18 b, Many hauing a long time wearied their armes, chose rather to cast their targets out of their hands. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxxi. § 10 They in the practise of their religion wearied chiefly their knees and hands, we especially our eares & tongues. 1600 Shaks. *Temp.* III. i. 19 Pray set it downe, and rest you; when this [log] burnes Twill weepe for hauing wearied you. 1627 Earl Monm. tr. *Perotta's Pol. Disc.* 186 By drawing out the War in length, they might think to weary and disorder the Enemy. 1678 J. Owen *Indwelling Sin* ix. (1732) 207 They brought their Offerings or Sacrifices on their Shoulders, which they pretended wearied them, and they panted and blowed as Men ready to faint under them. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* iv, Resolving to weary by perseverance, him whom

he could not surpass in speed. 1825 Scott *Talism.* vi, A mighty curtal axe, which would have wearied the arm of any other than Cœur de Lion. 1825 — *Betrothed* xi, She wearied her memory with vain efforts to recollect .. his features. 1829 Tennyson *Elaine* 827 'Alas,' he said, 'your ride hath wearied you.'

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1573-80 Baret *Alv.* P 496 If the vine be wearied with plentifull bearing. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1363 So woe hath wearied woe, mone tired mone. *Ibid.* 1570 Thus ebs and flowes the currant of her sorrow, And time doth wearie time with her complayning. 1604 Jas. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 108 So being euer and continually vsed, it [medicine] doth but weaken, wearie and weare nature. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 638 Then roaring Beasts, and running Streams he tryes, And wearies all his Miracles of Lies.

c. With adv. or advb. phr.; esp. *to weary out*, to fatigue completely, so as to render incapable of further exertion.

1647 Cowley *Mistress, Thraldom* v, Like an Egyptian Tyrant, some Thou weariest out, in building but a Tomb. 1670 Dryden *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* iv. (1672) 35 In walls we meanly must our hopes inclose, To wait our friends, and weary out our foes. 1829 Landon *Imag. Conv. Greeks & Rom.* (1853) 352 Whose movements would have irritated, distracted, and wearied down the elephants. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lv, He was stupefied, and he was wearied to death. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 586 Then he found a door.. : And wearied out made for the couch and slept.

5. To tire the patience of; to affect with tedium or ennui; to satiate (*with*). Also with *out*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 99 He wolde þet hit were asort uor þet non ne scolde him werye hit uor to lyerny. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 751 It weerieth me to telle of his falsnesse. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 62 It werieth me this mater for to trete. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 271 How am I shamed for four glotons! certes this weryes me sore! 1533 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 115 b, But nowe because I haue halfe wered the reader with a tedious matter, I will harten him agayne wyth a merye tale. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 56, I will wearie you then no longer with idle talking. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xii. 107 Till God at last Wearied with their iniquities, withdraw His presence from among them. 1675 K. Wilson *Speculum. Dunelm.* Pref., And now, good Reader, I have even wearied thee out. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvi, Our patience is wearied already. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 384 Wearied out at last by the tender importunity..she reluctantly took solemn charge of the child. 1830 Tennyson *Lilian* iii, Gaiety without eclipse Wearieth me. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 649 He was..doing his best to weary out his benefactor's patience and good breeding. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* v. 138 Oddly enough, however, this excessive applause wearied the simple-minded artist. 1883 'Ouida' *Wanda* I. 206 He had a sensitive fear of wearying with his presence ladies to whom he owed so much.

b. To trouble by importunity (heaven, the gods, etc.).

1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* i. iii, I have even wearied heaven with pray'rs. *a* 1718 Prior *Henry & Emma* 411 Watchful I'll guard Thee, and with Midnight Pray'r Weary the Gods to keep Thee in their Care. 1831 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., He..wearied Heaven and every saint with prayers..for the prolongation of his life. 1846 H. G. Robinson *Odes of Hor.* ii. xviii, I weary not The Gods to mend my present lot. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xv. 227 There, for sixteen months, to weary Heaven and his friends with his lamentations.

c. *absol.* To cause weariness or ennui.

1815 Sir R. Peel in *Croker Papers* (1884) I. iii. 76 Which would have been ludicrous enough for half an hour, but, like other good things, wearied by constant repetition. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xx, There was so much novelty to me in all around, that the monotonous character of the scene never wearied.

Hence **Wearying** *vbl. sb.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 Vondunge is sliddrunge: & þuruh werjunge beoð bitocned þeo undeawes under slouhðe þet beoð inemned þer uppe. 1621 Bp. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* § 4 Hence are those vaine wearyings of places and companies together with our selues.

Weary, obs. form of Worry *v.*

Wearying (wī·ərĭiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.]

1. That causes weariness, fatigue, or lassitude.

1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy, Spring* 62 When Giles with wearying strides From ridge to ridge the ponderous harrow guides. 1834 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 369 A day in London is more wearying to me than a walk up Scawfell. 1864 Disraeli in G. E. Buckle *Life* (1916) IV. xii. 405 Lord P., after the division, scrambled up a wearying staircase to the ladies' gallery. 1868 Wraxall tr. *Hugo's Les Misérables* I. iii. 7 The two old females generally accompanied him, but when the journey was too wearying for them he went alone. 1898 E. Glanville *Kloof Bride* viii, They took up their position and began a wearying watch.

2. That causes tedium or ennui.

1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* V. 216 Cutting short..all the wearying round of explanation. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xxv, He was never wearying, and often..amusing. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* ix. 285 Nothing is so wearying to the spirit as talking to those who agree with everything advanced. 1911 Petrie *Revol. Civilisation* iii. 39 Roman copies of Greek work, of wearying banality.

Hence **Wearyingly** *adv.*

1829 *Examiner* 325/1 The piece..was wearyingly long. 1900 Elinor Glyn *Reff. Ambrosine* 287 You said you were not wearyingly faithful.

†**Wearyish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Weary *a.* + -ish.] Done or passed in weariness.

1615 Jackson *Creed* iv. i. viii. 83 If wee deferred this surucy till old age come vpon vs, in which life it self becomes a burthen, our returne of thanks for fruition of it, and the vnpleasant appertinences, would be but wearyish. *a* 1618 [see Remissal.]. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* iii. i. App. (1852) 340, I have drawn forth many wearyish hours.

Weasand (wī·zănd). Now chiefly *dial.* Forms: *α.* 1 **wǽsend,** 4 **wosen,** 7 **wosen.** *β.* 4–8 **weasand,** 5 *Sc.* **vasand,** 5 **wayesande,** 5–6 **weasande, weysand**(e, 6 **weasande, weasand,** 7 **weasand, weasond,** 7–9 **weasand,** 9 **weesand,** 6– **weasand**; 4–6 **weasunt,** 5–6 **-aunnt, -awnt, -ant,** 6 **-ante, weasaunte,** 6–7 **weasant**; 6 **weasan,** 6–7 **-en,** 7 **weson, -en, weeson, -son,** 7–8 **weason,** 7–9 **weason**; 5 **weasing, -yng,** 7 **weasin.** *γ.* (*Sc.* and *north.*) 8–9 **wyson, wisen,** 8 **wysen, (whissen),** 9 **wissen, -on, wesson.** (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [OE. *wǽsend* masc. (? and fem.) corresp. to OFris. *wāsande, -ende,* throat, OS. *wāsend* ruminant stomach, OHG. *weisant, -ont, -unt,* throat, windpipe, gullet (MHG. *weisen,* early mod.G. *waisen, waise,* mod. dial. *wds* etc.). The word has the form of a pres. pple. or ppl. agent-noun (for the formation cf. ON. *vǫlundr* neut., gullet). The etymology has not been determined; for various conjectures see K. v. Bahder in Grimm s.v. *Waisen.* A parallel synonymous formation from the same root with different suffix appears in Weezle (= G. dial. *waisel*).

The forms *wosen* (14th c.), *wosen* (17th c.), and the mod. dial. *oosen, hoosen,* are normal descendants of the OE. *wāsend*; and possibly the Sc. form *vassand* comes from *wāsend* with shortening of the vowel. The remaining ME. and mod. E. forms (including *weasand*) are anomalous etymologists have generally attempted to account for them by the assumption of an OE. parallel form **wāsend.* This is not impossible, but Sweet (*Agr. Dict.*) appears to be in error in giving *wāsend* as an actually recorded variant of *wāsend.*]

1. The œsophagus or gullet.

a 1000 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* i. 2447 *Inglunie,* gyfernesse, wasende. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 44 Lacedomas..wið sealhswile & þrotan & wasende. *c* 1050 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 564/19 *Rumen,* wasend. *c* 1050 *Voc., Ibid.* 421/37 *Inglunium,* in þane wasend. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1336 is ordeyned mary [see Meri1], that is to seie þe weasant. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 676/24 *Hic ysophagus,* a weasande. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Weasaunnt, of a beestys throte, *ysofagus.* *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 80 Pulle h m [a snipe], late his necke be hole, save the wesing. 1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* v. (1888) 44 Also in the mouth is ended the vppermoste extremitie of the Weasande, which is called Myre or Isofagus. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. ccii. 305 It will cause the Horseleaches ..to fall of, which happen to cleaue fast in the throote or weasande of any man. 1593 Nashe *Christs Teares* H 4, Their watry weasands were like to leape out of theyr mouthes for meate. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xi. xxxvii. I. 339 The other is more inward, called properly the Gullet, or the Wezand, by which we swallow downe both meat and drinke. 1634 Bp. Hall *Contempl., N. T.* iv. *Loaves & Fishes* 123 As if the soules of these men lay in their weasand, in their gutt. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1021 Its Wind-pipe; which.. together with the Oesophagus or Weasand..reaches down to the Sternum. 1715 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. 83 Now what the Friends wad fain been at,..Was e'en to get their Wysons wat. 1785 Burns *Scotch Drink* xiv, But monie daily weet their weason Wi' liquors nice. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xiii, By Heaven,..better food hath not passed my weasand for three livelong days. 1915 G. Sinclair *Poems* 58 May their wysons never want A drop o' dew tae weet them.

2. The trachea or windpipe: = Artery 1.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), And somme of þese fonge the voice as þe lunges with þe receptacles wosen and pipes þereof. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Clout* 1236 Herke, howe the losell prates, With a wyde weasaunt! 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* F iij b, The weasaunt..is a cartylagynous gryatled partycle created and fourmed for to be instrument of yᵉ voyce. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* 80 *Trachea arteria*...In Englyshe it is named the weasande, or the throte bol. 1609 J. Davies (Heref.) *Hum. Heaven on Earth* I. cxx, His wozen wher'd when his breath it did fill. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iv. viii. 198 The weason, rough artery, or winde-pipe. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I. viii. 68 The Aspera Arteria or Weazond. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 592 Th' unerring Steel descended while he spoke; Pierc'd his wide Mouth, and thro' his Weazon broke. 1798 Eliz. Inchbald *Lovers' Vows* III. ii, They.. held so strongly by his throat, They almost stopt his whizzen.

¶ b. Erroneously used for Artery 2.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xii. (1495) 55 Of the herte spryngyth the wosen, as the veynes sprynge out of the lyuer. *Ibid.* III. xii. (Tollemache MS.), The vertu þat hat vitalis, be vertu of lyf, haþ meuynge by þe wosen and smale weyis [L. *per arterias*].

3. The throat generally.

c 1430 *Mankind* 803 in *Macro Plays* 30 A-lasse, my wesant! 3e wer sumwhat to nere [the rope]. 1550 Latimer *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1562) 121 Should I haue named hym? nay they should as sone haue this weasaunt of mine. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 1403/1 But God of his mercye so directed his wicked purpose, that the backe of his knife was towarde hys weasand. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. ii. 99 There thou maist braine him,..Or cut his weasand with thy knife. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Epigr.* xxxviii. Wks. II. 266/1 See'st thou a villaine hang vp by the weason? 1668 Dryden *Essex. Love* v. i, Give me a Razor there, that I may scrape his weason, that the bristles may not hinder me when I come to cut it. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 162 A perfect Greyhound..a long Neck..with a loos hanging weasand. 1720 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 77 The Miser ..Syne shores to grip him by the Wyson. 1724 Swift *Verses upright Judge* Misc. 1735 V. 147 The Church I hate, and have good Reason: For there my Grandsire cut his Weason. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xiii, Clap your hand thus on the weasand of this high and mighty prince, under his ruff. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xviii, He..drew his knife across the Leopard's weasand. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. vii. ii, They are parted and no weasands slit. 1841 Bosworth *Zincali* II. 47 I'd straight unsheath my dudgeon knife And cut his weasand through.

4. *Comb.*, as *weasand muscle*; *weasand-stopping* adj.; *weasand-pipe* = senses 1–3 above.

c 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Guide* I. v. (1722) 60 The.. Bronchium, or the *Weasand Muscles. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Life* (1560) S viij b, Somtyme it lyeth..upon the *weasaunt pype, and than..it stoppeth the breath & strangleth the pacient anone. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. iii. 22 His weasand pipe it through his gorget cleft. 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* iv. i, L i b, *Ray.* Cut my throate! *Fra.* I, your Weason pipe, your Gullet. *a* 1638 R. Cox *Actæon & Diana* 32 He will come armed with nothing but a Razor, with which if he does slit your weasand-pipe, it will not be amiss to take it patiently. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* viii. 267 Poor, yelling, scalping Indians,.. *weasand-stopping Thugs.

Wease-alley, corrupt form of Wesse-allan.

Weasel (wī·z'l). Forms: 1 **uuesule, uuesulae, wesle,** 4 **wesill,** 4–5 **wesel(e,** 4–6 **wesell, -il,** 5 **wesyl(le, wees-, weasylle, weysyl, wesel, whesille,** *Sc.* **quhasill,** 6 **wesyll, weysell,** 6–7 **weasell, -ill, weesell, we(e)zill,** 6–9 **weesel,** 7 **weasell, -il, weasel, weesle, we(e)sill, weesle, wheesle,** *Sc.* **weasel,** 7–8 **weesel,** *Sc.* **whessell,** 8–9 **weasle,** 9 *dial.* **wiszel,** 7– **weasel.** [OE. *wesule, wesle* wk. fem. = NFris. *wisel* (WFris. *wesel-, weesling*), (M)Du. *wesel,* OHG. *wisula, -ala* (MHG. *wisele, wisel,* mod.G. *wiesel* fem.) :—OTeut. **wisulōn-,* of obscure origin.

From German dialects come the Icel. (*hrœsi*)*vísla,* '(cairn-) weasel', Sw. *vesla, vessla,* Da. *vesel.*]

1. A carnivorous animal (*Putorius nivalis*), the smallest European species of the genus (of the order *Mustelidæ*) which includes the polecat, stoat, etc. It is remarkable for its slender body, and for its ferocity and bloodthirstiness.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* M 337 *Mustela,* uuesule. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* vi. (Z.) 19 *Mustela,* wesle. 11.. *Conf. Ecgbert* xxxix. in Thorpe *Ags. Laws* II. 164 Sif on hwylcne mycelne wætan mus oððe wesle on besealle..sprenge mid haliz wætere. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 166 Cesle belette, a wescle. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xc. 13 Þe wesill ouercumys him [*sc.* the basilisk] & alas him. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxiv. (1495) 849 The wesell hathe a red and a whyte wombe and chaungeth colour. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 540 The wesil shal for this doon hem noon harm. *c* 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xvii, The quhirand quhitret with the quhasill went. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 156 b, I would..counsell you to destroy your Rattes and Mise with..Weesels. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 272 If thou be [be]witched with eyes, weare the eie of a wesill in a ring, which is an enchauntment against such charmes. 1626 N. B[axter] *Sydney's Ourania* G 1, The Pole-catte, and wilde-catte, the Weesle, & Stoate. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* II. 35 Of Weesels and other Vermines skins a good many. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 97/2 Pole-cats, Weezels,..or the like Vermin. 1832 L. Hunt *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 336 Staring like a weasel. 1844 Jesse *Scenes Country Life* 357 Keepers have informed me that Weazles will sometimes kill and feed on Snakes. 1883 Simmonds *Dict. Useful Anim.* 2 v., The long-tailed weasel (*Mustela longicauda*). 1919 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 183, I came across a bloodthirsty weasel, dragging a large buck rabbit after it.

transf. and *fig.* 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V,* I. ii. 170 For once the Eagle (England) being in prey, To her vnguarded Nest, the Weazell (Scot) Comes sneaking, and so sucks her Princely Egges. 1632 Chapman & Shirley *Ball* I. (1639) A 4, *Ce.* Dee not know him, tis the Court dancing Weesill. *Ma.* A Dancer, and so gay. 1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tub* I. vi, Wherefore did I, Sir, bid him Be call'd, you Weasell, Vermin of a Huishier? 1638 Ford *Fancies* II. ii, Whoreson, lecherous weazle! 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Advice to Future Laureat* II. 39 Brudenell, thou stinkest! weasel, polecat, fly! 1886 P. Robinson *Teetotum Trees* 39 A thin little weasel of a Bengalee Baboo.

b. In proverbial sayings. † *To be bit by a barn weasel*: to be drunk.

1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 171 He is bit by a barn Weesel. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* III. 269 'On with you story, will you; and if you are caught another time—' 'Caught! me!—..catch a weasel asleep!' 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxiii, I'm..as sharp as a ferret, and as cunning as a weazel.

¶ c. Erroneously spoken of as a corn-eating animal.

c 1600 *Distr. Emperor* III. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 208 True, daughter; love is like the weasel that went into the meale-chamber;..it growes plumpe and full of humor; it asks a crannye as bygg as a conye borrowe to gett out agayne. *a* 1744 Pope *Imit. Hor.* Ep. I. vii. 32 A Weasel once made shift to slink In at a Corn-loft thro' a Chink. [Hence 1785 Johnson, *Weasel,* a small animal that eats corn and kills mice.]

d. In some parts of England and Ireland confused with the Stoat, which is sometimes called *ermine weasel* or (when wearing its winter coat) *white weasel.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 726 The white Weasel is called *Minever.* 1676 Cotton *Angler* II. viii. 75 A Fitche called the Owl-Fitche; the dubbing of a white Weesel's tail. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 358 This animal [*sc.* the ermine] is sometimes found white in Great Britain, and is then called a white weasel. 1892 *Fishing Gaz.* 3 Jan. 7/2 The stoat, or ermine weasel (*Mustela erminea*)..in many parts of England is called a weasel. 1926 *Field* 22 Apr. 661/3 The stoat..in many parts [of Ireland] is known as 'weasel'.

2. Applied with qualifying words to various animals belonging to the family *Mustelidæ*, or having some marked resemblance to the weasel, as *fisher* 2a. (see Fisher 2 b); *four-toed w.* = Suricate:

Malacca w. = RASSE; *Mexican w.* = KINKAJOU; *water-w.* (see WATER *sb.* 30).

1772 PENNANT *Syn. Quadr.* 228 Four-toed Weesel. 1781 — *Hist. Quadr.* II. 328 Fisher Weesel. *Ibid.* 338 Mexican Weesel. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 406 Malacca Weesel.

† 3. [transl. L. *mustela* (*marina*).] A fish, taken to be the lamprey. (Cf. *weasel-fish*, *-ling* in 6 b, and Fr. *belette*.) *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. ix. II. 445 The liver also of the fish named the Sea-cat or Weasill, is given in like case.

† 4. The SMEW. Cf. *weasel coot*, *duck* in 6 b.

a 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Norf. Birds* Wks. 1835 IV. 327 The ..*mustela variegata*, .. the variegated or party-coloured weasel, so called from the resemblance it beareth unto a weasel in the head.

5. *U. S.* A nickname for a native of S. Carolina.

1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 South Carolina is Palmetto State, and the natives are Weasels.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weasel family*, *kind*, *tribe* (designations for the order *Mustelidæ*); *weasel-colour*, *-run*, *-skin*, *-whelp*; similative, as *weasel-*† *becked* (= beaked), *-faced*, *-headed*, *-like* adjs.

1587 HARRISON *England* II. vii. 172/1 in *Holinshed*, If a man .. be *weasell becked then much heare left on the cheekes will make the owner looke big like a bowdled hen. 1588 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 177/2 *Fulnus*, .. [ɔfx or *weazill colour. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* X 1 b, Mounsieur Fregeuile Gautius, that prating *weazell fac'd vermin, is one of the Pipers in this consort. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmagundi* (1824) 148 A little meagre, weasel-faced Frenchman. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 182 The *Weasel Family. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § ii. i. 19 The *Weesle-Headed Armadillo, *Tatu Mustelinus*. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 82 This species is the least of the *weesel kind. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* 322 Their .. *weasel-like slenderness of

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II. 378 The *Weesel tribe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxiii. (Bodl. MS.), ȝif þe *wesel whelpes falleþ bi ony happe in chynnes .. þe wesel heleþ ham wiþ a certeyne herbe.

b. Special comb.: **weasel-coot**, **-duck**, the female or young male of the smew; † **weasel-fish**, a rockling (cf. WHISTLE-*fish*); **weasel-lemur**, a small short-tailed lemur (*Lepilemur mustelinus*); † **weasel-ling**, a kind of rockling; † **weasel-monger**, one who hunts rats, etc., with weasels; **weasel-snout**, the yellow dead-nettle or archangel (*Lamium Galeobdolon*), from the shape of the corolla.

1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 266 Red-headed Smew, or *Weesel Coot. 1888 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 165 *Weasel ducks or Weasel coots. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 220 The Bladder Fish, and the *Weasel Fish. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 223 This *Weasel Lemur .. has fair-sized ears, and its colours are of all sorts of shades of red, grey, white, and yellow. *a* 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 328 *Mustela Marina*; called by some a *weasel ling, which, salted and dried, becomes a good Lenten dish. 1591 † PERLE *Sp. to Q. Eliz. at Theobalds*, *Gard. Sp.*, This *weasel-monger [*i. e.* a mole-catcher]. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 530 Yellow Archangel. Yellow Dead Nettle, or *Weasel snout.

† **Wea·selled**, *a. Obs.* [f. WEASEL + -ED[2] (irregularly used).] = next. Only in Comb. *weaselled-coloured*, *-faced* adjs.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 714 The colour of them was like a Weaseled coloured horse. *a* 1692 SHADWELL *Volunteers* IV. i. (1693) 36, I never saw so weasell'd-faced a Puppy.

Weaselly (wī·zˈli), *a.* [WEASEL + -Y[1].] Weasel-like. Also *weaselly-looking*.

1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 582 He was a weaselly-looking little man. 1887 BORROW *Romany Rye* II. App. xi. 359 An individual .. of middle stature, a thin and weaselly figure, a sallow complexion. 1900 'ANTHONY HOPE' *Quisanté* I. 10 He was a little weaselly perhaps.

Weaselship (wī·zl ʃip). [f. WEASEL + -SHIP.] † a. A mock title for a weasel. b. The condition or qualities of a weasel. In quot. *fig.*

1702 VALDEN *Æsop at Crt.* vii. 23 A Fox .. ask'd him .. why his Weazleship would keep In durance vile. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 312/1 Such a representation .. as would .. exhibit his weaselship in the most striking light.

Weasen, obs. form of WEASAND.

Weaseny, variant of WEAZENY.

Weasill, variant of WEEZLE *Obs.*

Weason, variant of WEASAND.

Weast, obs. form of WEST.

Wea-swa, obs. form of WHOSO.

[**Weasy**, spurious word in Dicts., is based on a misreading of WEALY in *Joye's Expos. Dan.* 1545. So **Weasiness** (Joye *wealynes*).]

Weat(e, obs. forms of WAIT *v.*[1], WET.

1557 N. T. (Geneva) *2 Thess.* iii. 5 The Lord guyde your hearts to the loue of God, and the weating for of Christe.

Weather (we·ðəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 **weder**, 2 **wæder**, 2–5 **weder**, 4 *Sc.* **vedir**, **weddire**, **wedyre**, 4–5 **wedir(e**, **wedre**, **wedur**, **wedyr**, **whedir**, 5 *Sc.* **weddre**, **-ir**, **-yr**, **wedere**, **wedyer**, **wheder**, **whed(d)yr**, 6 **weddur**, **wedor**, *Sc.* **wadder**, (**veddir**), **wodder**, **-ir**, **woder**, (**vodder**); 5 **wethyr**, 5–7 **wether**, 5–6 **whether**, 6, 9 *Sc.* **wathir**, (6 **vedthir**), 6– **weather**. [Com. Teut. (not recorded in Gothic): OE. *weder* neut., OFris. *weder*, *wether* (NFris. *wedder*, WFris. *waer*, *wear*), OS. *wedar* weather, storm, Du. *weder*, *weer*, OHG. *wetar* (MHG. *wetter*, mod.G. *wetter*), ON. *veðr* (Sw. *väder*, Da. *vejr*) :-OTeut. **wedro-m*. It is uncertain whether the pre-Teut. form was **wedhro-m* (= OSl. *vedro*, Russian ведро good weather, *vedrí* adj., fair, said of weather; cogn. w. Lith. *vidras*, *vydra*, storm, *dudra* storm, flood) or **wetrā-m* (ablaut-var. of Lith. *vėtra* storm, OSl. *větrŭ* air, wind); on either alternative the word is prob. f. the Indogermanic root **wē* to blow (see WIND *sb.*[1]) + suffix *dhro-* or *tro-*.

The spelling with *th* instead of the earlier *d* first occurs in the 15th c. (though the pronunciation which it indicates may well be much older); before the end of the 16th c. it had become universal. In several dialects, chiefly *Sc.* and n.w., the pronunciation with (d) still survives. See TH 6, and the note s. v. FATHER *sb.*

The nautical use = wind, direction of the wind (see senses 3, 8) is probably derived from ON. *veðr*.]

1. The condition of the atmosphere (at a given place and time) with respect to heat or cold, quantity of sunshine, presence or absence of rain, hail, snow, thunder, fog, etc., violence or gentleness of the winds. Also, the condition of the atmosphere regarded as subject to vicissitudes.

For *wind and weather* (rarely † *weather and wind*) see WIND *sb.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 121 *Temperiem*, wueder. *a* 1000 *Azarias* 62 Wedere onlicust, þonne on sumeres tid sended weorþeð dropena dreorung. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 259 þæt he friðige & forðige mice [tilþe] be ðam .. ðe hine weder wisað. *c* 1205 LAY. 12042 þe wind gond aliðen & þat weder leoðede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2441, & vor weder & oþer þing on erþe after hom [*sc.* the planets] mooche is, þis misbileuede men hoin clupede godes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 670 And if ye liggen wel to-night, com ofte, And careth not what weder is on-lofte. *c* 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 223 And for bete of the wedere Hys mantell he feld togydere And sette hym doun to reste. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 395 And oft also, aftir a dropping mone, The weddir clereþ. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 627 But sodainly þe wedir chaunged. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1442 How men were wonte for to discerne By candelmes day what wedder shuld holde. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 102 The lengthe or shortnesse of the marke is alwayes vnder the rule of the wether. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 88 Item the intemperancie & mutation of the ayre, & whether, may be cause of aborcement. 1598 LYNDESAY *Dremes* 774 Surmountyng the myd Regioun of the air, Quhare no maner of perturbatioun Off wodder may ascend so hie as thair. 1609 *Pimlyco, or Runne Red-Cap* D 2, To know what Wether was to come By 'th Almanacke. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 247 A Wheel-Barometer, and other Instruments for finding the pressure of the Air, and serving to predict the changes of the Weather. 1678 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 45 Lady Portsmouth .. goes to Bourbon as soone as the weather opens to allow travelling. 1779 *Mirror* No. 35 The conversation began about the weather, my aunt observing, that the seasons were wonderfully altered in her memory. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* XXV, It was weather for open doors and windows. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* viii, However, I am sincerely glad you are come, I knew no weather would stop you. 1890 C. DIXON *Ann. Bird Life* 309 They are birds which have no regular winter home .. they wander to and fro, south and north, just as the exigency of the weather drives them.

¶ In advb. phrases sometimes with omission of *in*.

1738 C'TESS POMFRET in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) I. 10 On your left hand is the fire (no bad thing this weather), and on your right a window. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXV, Fred keeps the house all kinds of weather.

b. With descriptive adj., e.g., *good*, *bad*; *hot*, *cold*, *warm*; *bright*, *dull*; *fine*, *fair*, *foul*; *dry*, *wet*, *rainy*; *clear*, *thick*; *rough*, *windy*, *still*, *calm*.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. XXXII, þa het he betan þærinne micel fyr, for þon hit wæs ceald weder. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. XVI. 2 To-morgen hyt byð smylte weder, þes hroſen ys read. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 236 De mire is mayti, Mikel 3e swinken In sumer and in softe weder. *c* 1290 *S. E. Leg.* 198 Þat weder þat was so cler and fair. 1340 *Ayenb.* 129 Ase unyr weder went in-to rene. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1442 Nowes the wedir bright and shynand, And now waxes it alle domland. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2440 What of here hard heiging & of þe hote weder, Meliors was al mat. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 310 Þorw Flodes and foul weder Fruites schul fayle. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 300 Nou han þei .. hosen in harde weder. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 146/1 Fayre, mery wedur or tyme, *amenus*. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIV. ix. 653 And at that tyme the wheder was hote. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 56 The reyny wedre therto propyce and conuenable. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xlvi. 304 Sometimes they flower againe in Autumne when the whether is milde and pleasant. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 142 You and you, are sure together, As the Winter to fowle Weather. 1632 PELLHAM *Gods Power* 4 But the next day, .. the weather falling out something thicke, and much yce in the Offing [etc.]. 1653 WALTON *Angler* ii. 41 The gloves of an Otter are the best fortification for your hands against wet weather that can be thought of. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Mariti. Surv.* 95 In moderate Weather, anchor a Vessel at the Shoal. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. ix, To go out in all weather to work. *Ibid.* IX. v, The weather being good on the morning he called. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, The vessel being pretty deep in the water, .. and the weather being calm and quiet, there was but little motion. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* XV, There was no fire, though the weather was cold. 1919 H. L. WILSON *Ma Pettengill* 265 Will you look at that mess of clouds? I bet it's falling weather over in Surprise Valley.

c. *fig.* and in figurative context.

1629 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 65 Iustinian restored it [the Empire] somewhat to a better state, driuing the Vandals out of Africke, and the Gothes out of Italy by his captaines; but this faire weather lasted not long. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* § 73 O God .. Let mee haue no Weather but Sunneshine from thee. 1752 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* xxvi, Pipes, whiſ .. knew the contents of the piece [a pistol], asked, .. if it must be foul weather through the whole voyage. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlvii, Certain polemical skirmishes betwixt her father and her husband, which .. often threatened unpleasant weather between them. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxviii, We havn't much besides our pay, had we? we rubbed on through bad weather and good, managing as best we could. 1878 E. W. BENSON in *Life* (1899) I. xiii. 463 But we have foul weather coming. We have to do the Church's work without sacrificing those party men, [etc.]. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 266 A barometer is thus formed by which the financial weather of the country is forecast.

† d. With indef. article: A kind of weather; a spell of a particular kind of weather. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 4573 Æst aras a ladlich weder. *Ibid.* 7398 Þeo com heom a wedere wunderliche faire. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 657 Lord, this is an huge rayn! This were a weder for to slepen inne. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12914 It made tho a lothely wedur, Hit rayned faste, thondred, & blowes. 1546 *Gaszar's Prognost.* A vilj b, Not long before the Sonne shall set, we may looke for a trobelous wether, & perchaunce snow. 1548 *Elyot's Dict., Aprilitas*, .. a fayre clere wether. 1618 ROWLANDS *Sacred Mem.* 25 Their storme was chang'd into a fayre calme weather.

e. *pl.* Kinds of weather: sometimes equivalent to sing. Now *rare* exc. in phr. (*in*) *all weathers*.

Beowulf 546 Wedera cealdost, nipende niht ond norþan wind, heaðogrim ondhwearf. *a* 900 *Andreas* 1256 Weder coledon heardum hæȝelscurum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 244 Swa bið eac on wintra, for cyle & for þarn wedra missenlicnesse, þæt se milte wyrð ȝeleſed. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Westmes þorð uuele wederes oft and ilome scal for-wurðan. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) XXXV, Catel cometh and goth As wederis don in lyde. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1424 Sere variaunce, for certayn skille, Of þe tyms and wedirs and seasons. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3216 For wind & gode wederes hade þei at wille. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XV. 349 Þor þorw werre and wykked werkes and wederes vnresonable Wederwise shipmen .. Han no beleue to þe lifte ne to þe lore of philosofres *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ii. 146 God is such oon, that he nedith not to haue housis ouer him for to couere him fro reyne and fro othir sturne wedris. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2470 Wederes had they feyre and good. 1526 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 618 Dowble bandes of leade for defence of great wyndes and other outragious wethers. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Trav.* 44 Every Sunday, be it Winter or Summer, all manner of weathers. 1697 T. SMITH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 247, I was forced .. to go downe to Westminster .. in all weathers. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 21 He's .. not so stiff as to carry Sail against all Weathers. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 17 May, It is covered on the top with boards to keep out the rain, that merchants may meet conveniently in all weathers. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xi, She took walks in all weathers—long walks in solitary directions. 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xix, It was impossible to pass round the promontory on horseback in the best of weathers; now doubly so. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, All weathers saw the man at the post.

fig. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 195 Camillo ha's betray'd me; Whose honor, and whose honestie till now, Endur'd all Weathers.

† f. With implied favourable qualification: Weather suitable for some purpose. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Machar*) 1486 Þar-to weddire had þai þane, þat þai wane fryot of land & se thru his prayere in gret pleynte. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* VII. 213 Bote ich hadde wedir at my wil ich wited god þe cause. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3280 Thei .. passed the see, when thei hadde wedur, To Thenedoun. 1469 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 21 Whether is so latesum in this cuntrey, that men can neither well gett corne nor hay.

g. With unfavourable implication: Adverse, unpleasant, hurtful, or destructive condition of the atmosphere; rain, frost, wind-driven waves, etc. as destructive agents. *Stress of weather*: see STRESS *sb.* 3.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1097, He þohte his hired on Winceastre to healdenne, ac he wǽrð þurh weder ȝelet. *Ibid.* an. 1124, Ac weder him lætte. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 443 Swich housinge we han to holde out þe wedures. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 76 A drift of wedir vs droffe to Rome. 1425 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 5 Whether it wille chippe or chynne or affraye with frost or weder or water. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 233 b, Which bridge was made and covered with bordes, onely to kepe of the wether. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* XXXV, Thinges sowne, set or graft, In good memory haue: from beast, birde and weather to cherishe and saue. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* II. 7 Before the vse of garments was found out against weathers iniury. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* H 6 b, His [the weathercock's] taile was too too weake, when euery feather Was bent with storms, and broken with the weather. 1638 M. CASAUBON *Use & Custom* 77 It hath beene observed of some free stones, that .. if they bee laid in that proper posture, which they had naturally in their quarries, they grow very hard and durable against both time and weather. 1665 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 4 The stones .. being of a soft .. condition and not able to endure the sunn and weather. 1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 251 Chords, which should be well Pitched to preserve them from the Weather, and rotting. 1814 SCOTT *Lit. of Isles* IV. xxii, Weather and war their rougher trace Have left on that majestic face. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lvii, 'Are you well wrapped up?' .. I told him I cared for no weather, and was warmly clothed. 1892 SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s. v. *Louvre Boards*, Boards .. to keep out the weather.

fig. 1663 CHARLETON *Chorea Gigant.* 18 An Invention .. not so firmly founded, as to be impregnable; nor so closely compacted in all its parts, as to keep out all weather of Contradiction.

h. Violent wind accompanied by heavy rain or agitation of the waves. Now *dial.* and *Naut.* † Also, a storm, tempest; often pleonastically, *storm*, *tempest of weather*(*s*. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXVIII. § 1 Ða ræstod hine heah weder & stormas. *c* 1205 LAY. 102 Mid wolcnen & mid wedere beo

þoledan wenslíhes. *c* 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 3055 Mosþes, do ðis weder cnæwen, And ȝu a.il [ic] leten ut-faren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6018 þe seuend on-sand [*sc.* of the plagues of Egypt] Was a weder ful selcut swell. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5794 (Laud MS.), þe wederes stronge & tempestes..hem duden grete molestes. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* v. 681 Now welcom somer, with thy sonne softe, That hast this wintres weders over-shake. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iii. 63 And so by mokel duresse of weders and of stormes..I was driven to an yle. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxii. 144 þer es neuermare..nowþer thunner ne leuenyng, haile ne snawe, ne oþer tempestes of ill weders. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 44 To were us from wederes of wynteres stormes. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. x. 3278 And þar be a tempest fel Off gret wedderis scharpe and snel. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* III. 303 There are gendered tempastes of weder and hayle. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxx. 114 Whan thenne they had ronne & saylled so moche that they were in the highe see a stronge weddre arose. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. ccclxxiv. 506 This rayne and wether endured tyll the sonne rose. 1526 Tindale *Heb.* xii. 18 Ye are not come..to myst and darcknes and tempest of wedder [Gr. θυέλλῃ]. 1531 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 26 Tempestes of wedder or stormes. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 106 b, Diogenes beeyng vpon the Sea emong a number of naughtie packes in a greate storme of wether, when diuerse of these wicked felowes cried out for feare of drownyng, [etc.]. 1598 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 27 [They] alegeit thai war impeidit be storme of wedder. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 10 Upon these Signs Ships either get up their Anchors, or slip their Cables and put to Sea, and ply off and on till the Weather is over. 1728 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VI. 212 The Master and the other Servant, running through the Weather towards the Houses, were both struck dead. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* III. v, 'Then don't be late,' said he, 'there's weather coming.' 1898 *Morn. Post* 11 Nov. 5/5 Wasn't it a beautifully disciplined Mess, though? I wish you could see 'em at sea in weather.

†1. What falls from the clouds; rain, snow, etc. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxxii. 2 Flowe as dewe my speche, as wedre [Vulg. *imber*] vpon erbe. *Ibid. Job* xxiv. 8, *Eccl.* xi. 3, *Isa.* v. 6, *Jer.* xiv. 22. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4336 But er he it in sheves shere, May falle a weder that shal it dere. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 74 The wedderis ar aa fell, that fallis on the feild. *a* 1533 Berners *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* xxxiv. (1535) 59 The labourer whan it reyneth not, coureth his house, thinkinge that an other tyme the wethers or raynes wyll fall theron and trouble hym. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 109 A fearefull eye thou hast!..So foule a skie cleeres not without a storme: Poure downe thy weather! how goes all in France? 1820 Jamieson, *Weather*, a fall of rain or snow accompanied with boisterous wind. Roxb. When the wind comes singly.., [people say] 'It 'ill be no weather the day, but wind'.

†3. In contexts relating to clouds or fog, the word sometimes assumes the sense of: Air, sky. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 24414 (Fairf.) Þe wedder (*earlier texts* air, aier) be-gan to derkin & blake. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 801/1–4 *Hic aier, Hec aera, Hic æther, Hec æthera*, the wethyr. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* i. 209 These wedurs ar darke and dym of lyght. 1530 Palsgr. 648/1, I overcast, as the weather dothe wan it is clove or darke and lykely to rayne...We shall have a rayne a none, the weather is sore overcaste sodaynly...I overcast, as the cloudes do the weather. *c* 1605 Drayton *Ballad Agincourt* 76 Arrowes ..that like to serpents stoong, pearcing the Wether.

2. Phrases.

†a. *The weather rains, thunders*, etc. = 'it rains', etc. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 140 The weder schal upon thee reine. 1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Weapons* 19 b, If in the tyme of anie battle..the weather doth happen to raine, haile, or snow 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 24 The weather thundring and storming exceedingly.

†b. *To make* (rarely *bear*) *fair weather*: to be conciliatory, make a show of friendliness (*to* or *with* a person); also, to make a specious show of goodness, etc. *To make fair weather of* (a state of things): to gloss over, represent as better than it is. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8289 At here comyng thei made fair wedur, And spak of many thynges to-gedur. 1537 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 93 Thother parte declare him in wordes towardes his Maieste to make only faire wether, and in his harte..to doo all that he canne to his graces dishonour. 1547 Cheke in Harington *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 20 And if anye suche shall be, that shall of all things make fair weather, and, whatsoever they shall see to the contrarye, shall tell you all is well. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 369 b, Duke Moris..to make fayre weather [L. *pacificationis causa*] sendeth his ambassadors to the Counsell. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cxix. 732 And that is the cause why wee see so fewe holde out in weldoing. Many make faire wether for a time, so as yee woulde thinke them to bee marueilous good men: but in the turning of a hande all is marde. 1589 R. Payne *Brief Descr. Ire.* 7 Al the better sort doe deadly hate ye Spaniardes, & yet I thinke they beare them fayre weather, for that they are the popes champions. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, v. i. 30 But I must make faire weather yet a while, Till Henry be more weake, and I more strong. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. ii. 23 Returne and say, That we with England will not enter parlie, Nor neuer make faire wether, or take truce. 1598 Marston *Pygmal., Sat.* i. 31 Ixion makes faire weather vnto Ioue. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 49 To which message, although the French King gaue no full credit, yet he made faire weather with the King, and seemed satisfied. 1673 Kirkman *Unlucky Cit.* 163 My Mother-in-law made very fair weather to me, and gave me many good words.

c. *Naut.* Of a ship, *to make good, bad*, etc. *weather of it*: to behave well or ill in a storm.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 We make foul weather. 1781 *Naval Chron.* XI. 267 The Ship makes a very good weather of it. 1886 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 86 The ship making very bad weather and shipping large quantities of water. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Make bad weather, To*. A rolling, pitching, or leaking violently in a gale. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 26 Jan., The sea was.. not so heavy but that in my judgment a twenty-ton yacht would have made excellent weather of it.

fig. 1915 'Ian Hay' *1st Hundr. Thou.* I. xiii. § 2 The feckless and muddle-headed, making heavy weather of the simplest tasks.

d. *In the weather*: in an exposed situation, unprotected from rain, cold, and wind; in the open air (usually with implication of severe weather). Similarly *to go into, through the weather*.

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* v. lxxxiii. (1516) 32 The kynges Herdemen passyd by, And seynge this Byyshop with his company syttyng in the weder, desyred hym to his howse to take there such poore lodgynge as he had. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. 102 The Tree roots best, that in the Weather standa. 1693 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 241 The out side of Buildings that lies in the Weather. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii, The captain..turns up his coat collar..and goes laughing out into the weather as merrily as to a birthday party. 1865 Mrs. H. Wood *Mildred Arkell* xlvi, They started together through the weather to the house of William Arkell. 1880 Howells *Undisc. Country* xiii. 190 Her longing to be in the weather [after an illness].

†e. *Down the weather*: in adversity. *To go down the weather*: to become bankrupt. *Obs.*

to J. Sh[illegible] despised when he was down the weather, yea even by those, whom, when he prospered, he would scarce have set with the dogs of his flock.

f. *Under the weather* (orig. *U. S.*): indisposed, not quite well.

1890 D. G. Mitchell *Lorgnette* (1892) I. 50 As for the Frenchman, though now, between the valorous Poussin and the long-faced Bonaparte, a little under the weather [etc.]. 1892 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. iv. 59 'What, old lady, are you under the weather?' he asked, turning to survey his mother with a critical air. 1897 F. R. Stockton *Borrowed Month* 68 They had been very well as a general thing, although now and then they might have been under the weather for a day or two.

g. *Weather permitting*: often appended to an announcement (e.g. of the sailing of a vessel) to indicate that it is conditional on the weather being favourable.

1718 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4053/4 The Edgley Gally will be ready to Sail..,Wind and Weather permitting. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* i, There was a beautiful port-hole which could be kept open all day (weather permitting). 1883 *Black's Guide Devon.* (ed. 11) 164 The steamers from Portishead to Ilfracombe call, going and returning, weather permitting.

h. *Clerk of the weather*: see Clerk *sb.* 3.

1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 38, I could not, if I had made my own private arrangements with the clerk of the weather, have fixed it upon the whole more to my satisfaction.

i. *To stretch wing to weather*: to fly.

1805 Scott *Betrothed* xxiii, If they be not carefully trained ..I would rather have a gosshawk on my perch than the fairest falcon that ever stretched wing to weather.

3. *Naut.* The direction in which the wind is blowing. 'Applied to anything lying to windward of a particular situation' (Adm. Smyth). In various phrases: *To luff nigh the weather*: to sail near the wind; in quot. *fig.* *To drive with the weather*: to drift with the wind and waves. *To have the weather of*: to be to windward of (another ship); similarly *in, into, on, to, upon* (*the*) *weather of*. Also, *in, into the weather*; *up to weather*: to windward. Cf. A-weather.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 370 Or elles thei take ate leste Out of hir hand or ring or glove, So nyh the weder thei wol love. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xxvii. 15 We lett her goo, and drave with the wedder [ἐφερόμεθα]. 1557 Towerson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 113 Wee had sight of three sailes of shippes..which were in the weather of vs. *Ibid.*, When we met, they had the weather of vs. ? 1565 J. Sparke *Ibid.* 524 His pinnesse..being in the weather of him. 1588 in *St. Papers Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc. 1894) II. 107 After this we cast about our ship, and kept ourselves close by the Spaniard until midnight, sometime hearing a voice in Spanish calling us; but the wind being very great and we in the weather, the voice was carried away. *c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 18 [Hee] gave commaundement that the carvell aboulde plie up into the weather. *Ibid.*, The French admerall, who laie aloofe of some six leagues to weather. 1692 *J. Smith's Sea-mans Gram.* I. xvi. 78 *Weather Gage*, is when one Ship has the Wind (or is to weather) of another. 1842 Browning *Waring* iii. 12 Then the boat..from the lee, Into the weather, cut somehow Her sparkling path beneath our bow. 1868 *Field* 25 July 83/2 The Mabella [yacht] too, was much closer on her weather than was pleasant. 1903 *Times* 21 Aug. 4/3 Reliance, though astern, was well up to weather. *Ibid.*, Reliance by now had unmistakably got upon the challenger's weather.

4. The angle which the sails of a windmill make with the perpendicular to the axis. More fully, *angle of weather*.

1759 Smeaton in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 141 *note*, The angle of the sails is accounted from the plain of their motion; that is, when they stand at right angles to the axis, their angle is denoted 0°, this notation being agreeable to the language of practitioners, who call the angle so denoted, the weather of the sail. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 138 In the mill-wright's terms, the greatest angle of weather was 30 degrees, and the least varied from 12 to 6 degrees, as the inclination of the windshaft varied from 8 to 15 degrees.

5. = Weathering *vbl. sb.* 3. *rare.*

1894 A. M. Bell in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XXIII. 272 Beyond doubt they [two flints] were chipped at the same time ..yet one is weathered, and the other is unaltered. So from an isolated example of weather I am in no haste to draw a ..... *Ibid.* 273 So also with surface finds; if they possess definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather, ..then these are certainly local accidents.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

6. a. Simple *attrib.*, as *weather-cast, -change, -chart, -forecast, -lore, -map, -mark, -report, -wear*, †*-wrack.*

1866 Steinmetz *Weathercasts* 142 *Weathercasts by the Barometer. 1878 R. Strachan in *Mod. Meteorology* (1879) 84 A system of storm-warnings and weather-casts. 1676 Geo. Eliot *Deronda* lii, Something as dim as the sense of approaching *weather-change. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 5/2 The *weather-chart...showed that there were several small atmospheric disturbances in the neighbourhood of the British Isles. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 158/2 *Weather Forecasts and Storm Warnings. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 7/2 We shall thereby add every year to our *weather-lore of the various oceans and seas. 1889 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 257/2 The International Monthly *Weather Maps issued by the United States Signal Service. 1693 *Humours Town* 25 Bringing Old Age and *Weather marks on you before you have run half your Course. 1829 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 191 Owre moor and dale for mony a year, May Davie's famous dykes appear, Ne'er bilged out wi' *weather-wear, But just the same. 1875 Brash *Eccl. Archit. Ire.* 56 In truth, I have seldom seen a better executed piece of masonry, despite the weather wear of over seven hundred years. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Wit at Sev. Weapons* II. i, Well, well, you have built a nest That will stand all stormes, you need not mistrust A *weather-wrack.

b. objective, as †*weather-wielder*; *weather-braving, -withstanding* ppl. adjs.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* VII. 3 As the weather-wielder sends, to Sea-men prosperous gales. 1800 Hurdis *Fav. Village* 4 How long upon the hill has stood Thy weather-braving tower. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, Those prudent and resolved and weather-withstanding professors, wha hae kend what it was to luik..in bogs and in caverns.

c. instrumental, as *weather-bleached, -blown, -borne, -bronzed, -eaten, -hardened, -scarred, -stayed, -tanned, -tested*, †*-waft, -wasted, -worn* ppl. adjs. Also Weather-beaten, etc.

1784 Cowper *Task* v. 834 His country's *weather-bleach'd and batter'd rocks. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* II. 530 Strong Enispe, that for height, is euer *weather-blowne. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Weather-borne*, pressed by wind and sea. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* xv, Their.. *weather-bronzed complexions. 1814 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 640 [A Janus face] all *weather eaten. 1834 Southey *Doctor* ix. I. 111 A countenance which, *weather-hardened as it was, might have given the painter a model for a Patriarch. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. i, The *weather-scarred gray walls. 1854 Mrs. C. L. Balfour *Working Women* (1868) 305 Whenever he had a guest belated or *weather-staid in that lonely region. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* lii, A *weather-tanned..woman with a basket. 1814 Scott *Wav.* v (verses), The *weather-tinted rock and tower. 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* 20 Men.., that are *weather-waft up and down with every eddy-wind of every new doctrine. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xix, These haggard and *weather-wasted features. 1609 Healey *Discov. New World* I. v. 13 We beheld a tombe, which as far as I could guesse by the *weather-worne inscription contained the bones of the Romane Apicius. 1847 Carlyle *Germ. Lit.* Misc. 1857 I. 48 The weather-worn sculptures of the Parthenon. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* I. i (ed. 2) 8 Sark, somewhat the loftiest of the islands, is also the most weather-worn.

d. with adjectives expressing imperviousness or power of resistance (to the weather), as *weather-free, -tight, -tough.* Also Weather-proof.

1648 G. Daniel *Eclog* ii. 6 Lambs, sooner wise then wee, Have got the Hedge, and now stand Weather-free. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. xi, The dashing spray Flies in one's face, and makes it weather-tough. 1892 Ht. Martineau *Ella of Garv.* I. 10 If your honour would order the place down below to be made weather-tight for us. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 388 Place a hen, with her brood, under a good weather-tight coop. 1902 A. Austin *Haunts Anc. Peace* 20 The cottages..looked solid, sturdy, and weather-tight.

7. Special comb.: †**weather-basket**, a wicker-work screen or covering to protect a plant; **weather-box** = *weather-house*; **weather-brained** *a.* = Weather-headed; †**weather-caster**, a weather-prophet; **weather-cloth** *Naut.*, a covering of canvas or tarpaulin used to protect boats, hammocks, etc., or to shelter persons from wind and spray; **weather-cord**, a cord used as a hygrometer; **weather-cottage** = *weather-house*; **weather-deck**, an upper deck exposed to the weather [cf. G. *wetterdeck*]; **weather-dog** *dial.* [Doo *sb.* 10] = Weather-gall; **weather-door** (*a*) a louver-hole in a church steeple (cf. Louver 4, quot. 1858); (*b*) *Mining* (see quot.); †**weather-fan**, a punkah; **weather-fane** = Fane *sb.*[1] 2; **weather-fence** *v. trans.* = Weather-fend; **weather-fish** = *thunder-fish* b (s.v. Thunder *sb.* 6); †**weather-flag**, a vane; **weather-gleam, -glim** *Sc.* and *north. dial.*, clear sky near a dark horizon; also, the horizon; **weather-god**, a god who presides over the weather; **weather-guard** *v. trans.*, to guard against bad weather; **weather-head** *dial.*, a secondary rainbow; **weather-hen** *jocular*, a female weathercock; an inconstant woman; **weather-house**, a toy in the form of a small house with figures of a man and woman standing in two porches; by the varying torsion of a string the man comes out of his porch in wet weather and the woman out of hers in dry; **weather-like**, the

surface of an embedded timber just above the ground; **weather-maker**, a weather-prophet; also **weather-making** *vbl. sb.*; †**weather-man**, one who observes the weather; †**weather-monger**, a weather-prophet; **weather-moulding** *Arch.*, a dripstone; †**weather-plate**, a plate marked with a scale for indicating the height of the mercury in a barometer; **weather-prophet**, one who foretells the weather; one who is weather-wise; also *fig.*; †**weather-rope** (see quot.); **weather-sharp** *U.S. colloq.*, a weather-prophet; an official meteorologist (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl. 1909); **weather-sick** *a.*, sick of, suffering from, the weather; **weather-sign**, a phenomenon that indicates change of weather; also *fig.*; †**weather-skirt** *U. S.* = SAFEGUARD *sb.* 8; **weather-slated, -slating** (cf. *weather-tiled, -tiling*); †**weather-spar** = WEATHERBOARD 2; †**weather-spy**, a weather-prophet; †**weather-stone**, a kind of stone classed according to its imperviousness to weather; **weather-strip**, a strip of wood or rubber applied to a crevice in order to exclude rain and cold (Webster 1864); hence as *vb. trans.*, to apply a weather-strip to (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **weather-table** *Arch.* = WATER TABLE 1 b; **weather-tile**, a kind of tile used instead of weather-board to cover a wall; **weather-tiled** *ppl. a.*, covered with overlapping tiles; **weather-tiling** *vbl. sb.*, the process or result of covering a wall with tiles; **weather-tree**, the white poplar, *Populus alba*; **weather-vane** = VANE 1; also *fig.*; **weather-wall**, a wall serving as a shield from the weather; **weather-warning** (see quot.); **weather-wise-acre** *nonce-wd.*, one who professes to be weather-wise; †**weather-wisard**, a weather-prophet; †**weather-works**, devices to protect a ship from rough weather.

1599 MEAGER *New Art Garden*. 28 When they are Grafted they must be fenced, either with a *weather-basket, or some earthen Vessel. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* x, The elder and younger son of the house of Crawley were, like the gentleman and lady in the *weather-box, never at home together. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* vii, But art thou not an inconsiderate *weather-brained fellow, to set forth as thou wert about to do, without any thing to bear thy charges..? 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* i. (1858) 10 There was a weather-brained tailor in the neighbourhood, who used to do very odd things, especially, it was said, when the moon was at the full. 1607 DEKKER *Knt.'s Conjur.* (1842) 9 The storme beeing at rest, what buying vp of almanacks was there to see if the *weather-casters had playd the doctors to a haire. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiv. 315 A sort of *weather-cloth, which .would certainly make her more comfortable in heavy weather. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 547/1 A coil of rope for head-rest, a discarded sail for weather cloth. 1746 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 169 The *Weather-Cord is an Hygrometer of a very ancient Invention. 1906 E. V. LUCAS *Wanderer in Lond.* 170 One of the old *weather-cottages, with a little man and a little woman to swing in and out and foretell rain and shine. 1850 *Rep. Committee* in G. Moorsom *Admeas. Tonnage* (1853) 167 The Depth in Midships from the Underside of the *Weather Deck to the Ceiling at the Limber Strake. 1906 ATTWOOD *War-ships* 46 Wood is now only used for weather decks [etc.]. 1908 PAASCH *From Keel to Truck* (ed. 4) 75 *Weather-deck*, Term given to an upper deck on account of its exposure to the sun, rain and wind. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 17 There appeared in the North-East the frustum of a large rainbow... They call it here in Cornwall a *weather dog...and pronounce it a certain sign of hard rain. 1865 R. HUNT *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* (1881) 434 'Weather dogs'..are regarded as certain prognostications of showery or stormy weather. 1753 F. PRICE *Observ. Cathedral-Ch. Salisbury* 40 The upper part of the Spire..just below the *weather Door. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Weather-door*, a door in a level to regulate the ventilating current. 1611 COTGR., *Poille*,..also, an Vmbrello, or great 'weather-fanne. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 140 The *weather-fane which terminates the conductor. *a* 1850 W. L. BOWLES *Poems, Sylph of Summer* 466 Yon eastern downs, That *weather-fence the blossoms of the vale. 1886 H. G. SEELEY *Freshw. Fishes Europe* 248 In Germany and Austria it [*Misgurnus fossilis*] is regarded as a weather prophet, and sometimes is called the *Weather-fish, because it usually comes to the surface about twenty-four hours before bad weather, and moves about with unusual energy. 1611 COTGR., *Girouette*, a fane, or *weather-flag. 1808 SIBBALD *Chron. S. P.* Gloss., *Waddlir-glim*, clear sky, near the horizon; spoken of objects seen in the twilight or dusk; as 'between him and the wedder-glim'. 1817 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 84/1 While ..the weather-gleam of the eastern hills began to be tinged with the brightening dawn. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 185 Nae cloud owr-head the lift did dim, But i' the western weddir-glim A black up-castin'. 1905 E. CLODD *Animism* § 11. 58 Indra, the old Vedic *weather-god, has been completely elbowed out as an object of worship by special rain-gods. 1885 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 338/2 The pioneers attend to this work, trenching the ground, *weather-guarding the shelters. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, **Weather-head*, the secondary rainbow. 1904 EDITH RICKERT *Reader* 318 The old folk watched for weatherheads and talked of storms. 1632 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Iron Age* i. i. C 2, And now faire Troian *Weather-hen adew, And when thou next lonest, thinke to be more true. 1899 B. THOMAS & GRANV. BARKER (*title*), The Weather-Hen. 1728 *Post-Man* 1–3 Sept. 2/2 Advt., The Gentlemen, Ladies and Farmers famous new invented *Weather Houses. 1784 COWPER *Task* i. 211 Peace to the artlist, whose ingenious thought Devis'd the weather-house, that useful toy! 1820 LATHOM *Dash of Day* i. i, He is always in bed when I am up, and I am always at rest, when he is stirring; our movements put me in mind of the man and woman in the Dutch weather-house. 1915 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Nicky-Nan* xiii. 156 A man has no business to stand grimacing in his own doorway..like a figure in a weather-house. 1830 R. MUDIE *Pop. Guide Observ. Nature* 302 As little was the injury done at the '*weather-line', just by the surface of the earth, where the durability of timber is put to the severest test. 1888 EMILY GERARD *Land beyond Forest* II. 30 *note*, Instances of *weather-makers are also common in Germany. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Oct. 7/2 A weather-maker for an almanack got into conversation with a shepherd. 1883 STALLYBRASS tr. *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1132 The gift of prophecy and the art of *weather-making. 1545 ANCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 152 Therefore in shootynge there is as muche difference betwixt an archer that is a good *wether man, and an other that knoweth and marketh nothynge, as is betwixte a blynde man and he that can se. 1656 *2nd Ed. New Almanack* 3 If the *weather-mongers rule hold true. 1841 *Few Words to Churchwardens* 1, (Camb. Camden Soc.) 10 You may see what is called the *weather-moulding of the old roof remaining. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 165 A hollow projecting moulding containing the foliage, capped by a weather moulding. 1698 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 4 The *Weather plates are to be put upon the Frame [of a portable barometer], by setting them to the same height, at which the Mercury stands in a common Barometer. 1866 STRINMETZ *Weathercasts* 7 The most successful *weather-prophet of modern times,..the late lamented Admiral Fitzroy. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Handbk. Dom. Canada* 4 The metaphors of political weather-prophets. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Weather-ropes*, an early term for those which were tarred. 1884 *Graphic* 13 Dec. 610/3 The New York '*weather-sharps', who have to their westward some three thousand miles of land studded with signal stations. 1757 DYER in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) III. 62, I think I never was so *weather-sick; the deep snows forbid me air and exercise. 1892 MEREDITH *Ode to Comic Spirit* Poems 1898 II. 222 A statue losing feature, weather-sick. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 691, I can tell The *weather-signs of love; you love this man. 1915 *19th Cent.* Jan. 190 His prophecies [about India] are perpetual, and he read the weather-signs at a glance. 1903 ALICE M. EARLE *Two Cent. Costume Amer.* II. 617 Another name for a safeguard was a *weather-skirt. 1870 *Lond. Society* Sept. 266 A..house, *weather-slated from top to bottom. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xvi. 269 Buildings of lath and plaster, covered on the most exposed parts with *weather-slating. 1632–3 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 698 The Windowes in ye Roofe, to be of good Oake Timber, with *Wether sparrs handsomely wrought. *c* 1595 DONNE *Sat.* i. 59 And sooner may a gulling *weather Spie By drawing forth heavens Scheme tell certainly [etc.]. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 168 It being all of it good *weather-stone, but not enduring the fire. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 361/2 A weather fillet, or *weather table, which projects half an inch from the general face of the window. 1906 *Antiquary* Jan. 7/2 A weather-table on the north wall. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2568/2 Siding-tiles are sometimes called *weather-tiles. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 230 A somewhat quaint little inn, having a *weather-tiled upper story. 1904 A. C. BENSON *House of Quiet* iv, One wing is weather-tiled. 1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 286 *Weather-tyling Is the Tyling, (or Covering with Tyles) the upright Sides of Houses. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 438 The weather-boarding may be covered..with what is called weather-tiling. 1847 C. A. JOHNS *Forest Trees* I. 357 *note*, I think there will be rain,..for the *weather tree is shewing its white lining. 1721 BAILEY, **Weather-vane*. 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* x, The pointed gables, with stone cornices and glittering weather-vane on the summit. 1896 *Tablet* 1 Feb. 167 *The Pall Mall Gazette* even prefers to regard him as a Royal weather-vane. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 235/1 A *weather wall in the centre will run the whole length [of the pier]. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Weather-warning*, the telegraphic cautionary warning given by hoisting the storm-drum on receiving the forecast. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmagundi* (1824) 122 This is the universal remark among the..*weather-wiseacres of the day. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. B 3 b, False Prophets, *Weather-wizards, Fortune-tellers. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 23 Weather-wizzards, planet-prognosticators, and fortune-spellers! 1776 COOK *3rd Voy.* I. iii. (1784) I. 34 The caulkers were set to work..to caulk the decks and inside *weather-works of the ship.

8. *Naut.* Used attrib. or as adj. with the sense: Situated on the side which is turned towards the wind; having a direction towards the wind; windward; opposed to *lee, leeward* adjs.; as **weather-anchor, -beam** (BEAM *sb.*[1] 17), **-bowline, -brace, -division, -earing, -gangway, -gun, -leech, -lift, -lurch, -port, -quarter, -rail, -roll, -sheet, -shore, -shrowd, -spoke, -tack, -tide, -topping-lift, -wheel**; **weather-bow**, the bow that is turned towards the wind; hence as *v. trans.*, to turn the weather-bow to; **weather-gage, -gauge** (see GAUGE *sb.* 5); hence as *v. trans.*, to keep the weather-gage of; **weather-helm**, a tendency in a ship under sail to come too near the wind, requiring the tiller to be kept constantly a little to windward. Also (*to the*) **weatherward** adv.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Weather-anchor*, that lying to windward, by which a ship rides when moored. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 140 Two sail..gave us chase and..kept on our *weather-beame till morning. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-beam*, a direction at right angles with the keel, on the weather side of the ship. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 On the *weather bow. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi. So 'take a peep over the weather-bow..and tell me what ye see there. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxvi, We made but little by *weather-bowing the tide. 1869 STUBBY *Mariner's Mag.* I. 18 Set in the Lee-Braces, and haul forward by the *Weather Bowlines. *Ibid.* 27 Let go the..Lee-Braces;.. set in your *Weather Braces. 1562–9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 308 The sheet and weather-brace they now seaud by. 1846 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxv[ii], 'A small pull of that weather main-top-gallant brace—that will do,' said the master. 1906 *Discovery* Nov. 309/2 Nelson had intended his *weather division to be in line ahead. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iv, The first [sailor] on the yard goes to the *weather earing, the second to the lee, and the next two to the 'dog's ears'. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiii, Walk this boy up and down the *weather gangway. 1892 *Field* 2 July 30/3 Daffodil.. was sufficiently far to windward to *weather-gauge her. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 120 We..run our *weather-guns out. 1892 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 126 *Weather, or Leeward Helm..may be fitted to promote or hinder the Sailing upon occasion. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 190 A screw ship carries more weather helm than a sailing ship. 1846 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxv[ii], The Aurora dashed through at the rate of eight miles an hour, with her *weather leeches lifting. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 279 The weather-leech of the lower stun' sails began to flap. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Weather-lurch*, a heavy roll to windward. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 127 A great sea poured through one of the *weather-ports. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 19 Boord him on his *weather quarter. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 9 The Commodore being on the Weather-Quarter, bore down under our Lee, and spoke with us. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise of Midge* i. (1836) 16 The felucca was now within long pistol-shot of our weather-quarter. 1888 E. J. MATHER *Nor'ard of Dogger* 358 We had to hang on the *weather-rail, the seas rolling along like mountains. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), **Weather-Rolls*, those inclinations which a ship makes to windward in a heavy sea. *a* 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 76 If the *weather-sheate be as large as the Bulkhead. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xiii. 67 The tremendous strain upon the main-sheet had parted the weather-sheet. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 30 Come to an Anchor vnder the Ley of the *weather shore. 1697 J. PUCKLE *New Dial.* 16 A North-West Wind..makes Holland a Lee and England a Weather Shore. *a* 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 32 Then cutting the *weather shrowdes, the mast will instantly and without danger fall over board. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* vi. (1856) 59, I looked to the wheel.. as he coolly gave her half a *weather-spoke more. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 56 Haul on the *weather-tack and lee-sheet. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), **Weather-Tide*, denotes that which, by setting against a ship's lee-side, while under sail, forces her up to windward. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 163 The fiddle-block is hooked to the *weather-topping lift. 1557 TOWERSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 127 At night the Minion, and the pinnesse came vp to vs, but could not fetch so farre to the *weatherward as we, and therefore they ankered about a league a wether the castle. 1600 (25 Dec.) *Adm. Ct. Exam.* 34 (P. R. O.) [A ship] to the weatherward about a league. 1904 DOWDEN *R. Browning* 73 The boat veers weatherward. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Weather-wheel*, the position of the man who steers a large ship, from his standing on the weather-side of the wheel.

Weather (we'ðəɹ), *v.* Forms: 5 **wederyn**, 5–7 **wether**, 6– **weather**. [f. WEATHER *sb.*

OE. had *wedrian, widrian, wudrian, gewiderian*, to be (good or bad) weather = ON. *viðra*: see WEATHERING *vbl. sb.* 1. Cf. MHG. *weteren* (mod. G. *wettern*), to subject to wind and sun (= sense 1 below), *witeren* (mod. G. *wittern*) to storm, etc.] also WITHER *v.*]

1 *trans.* To subject to the beneficial action of the wind and sun; to air. **a.** *Hawking* (see quot. 1856). Also *refl.* and *intr.* in passive sense.

14.. in Harting *Perf. Bk. Keepinge Sparhawkes* (1886) Introd. p. ix, For wetheringe yor hauke offer yor hauke water. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 134 When you haue kept hir two houres vpon the fist, then set hir in the Sunne to weather hir half an houre. *c* 1575 *Perf. Bk. Kepinge Sparhawkes* (1886) 11 Set her to wether fastinge a longe tyme. *Ibid.* 14 In myste they will neuer wether, nor flye well. 1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentus.* i. vii. 88 Then he shall bee sure to weather his Hawke abroad euery euening except on her bathing daies. 1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Faulconry* 191 Of Bathing and Weathering Hawks. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. iv. § 5. 223/2 Hawks must also be weathered; that is to say, they should be put out on perches..in the open air, and then left..for many hours a-day, but not in the rain.

transf. 1590 SPENSER *Muiopotmos* 184 And then he [the butterfly] pearcheth on some braunch thereby, To weather him, and his moyst wings to dry. 1596 — *F. Q.* v. iv. 42.

b. To air (linen, etc.); to dry thoroughly (a harvested crop).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wederyn, or leyn or hangyn yn the wedyr, *aero*. 1530 PALSGR. 780/2, I wether a thyng, I lay it abrode in open ayre. *Ye ayre*...It shall be well done to weather your garmentes in March for feare of mothes. *a* 1569 KYNGESMILL *Man's Est.* xii. (1574) F vj b, They may not flourish long: Euen as herbes that growe in the shadowe, neuer well weathered with the warme sunne. 1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 129 Maides, mustard seede gather, for being too ripe, and weather it well. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. i. 269 After reaping..the produce of the several plots was well weathered, and then thrashed. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Weather*, to dry clothes in the open air. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* xvii. 173 'Well, the stuff [cut reeds] is rather heavy, ain't it?' 'It want to be weathered, bor.'

c. To expose (land, clay for brick- or tile-making) to the pulverizing action of the elements.

1548 [see WEATHERING *vbl. sb.* 3 b]. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov. 5/4 The clay bank, where the raw material is stored and 'weathered'.

2. To change by exposure to the weather. **a.** *trans.* To wear away, disintegrate, or discolour by atmospheric action. Const. *into, to* a specified form or condition. Chiefly in *passive*. Also with *away*. Also, to produce as an incrustation *on* a surface by the action of the weather. Spec. in *Geol.*

1789 tr. *J. F. Henckel's Pyritol.* v. 62 This leady clay.. derived from a lead-ore, weathered and reduced to earth. *Ibid.* 87 On this sister..we find glitter, iron and copper pyrites, not conveyed by streams of water, nor agglutinated, but weathered thereon, or produced by weather or damps. 1789 [see WEATHERED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 210 The face of the limestone is hollowed out and weathered

into such forms as are seen in the calcareous cliffs of the adjoining coast. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* xiii. (1870) 267 The rain-cloud hangs low..overhead; the smoke hovers around; and they weather the finest sculptured surface. 1878 Anstead *Water & Water Supply* 89 It [*sc.* percolation] acts also very powerfully in weathering the rocks through which the water passes. 1918 H. Balfour in *Man* XVIII. 147 The nose either was not represented or has been weathered away.

b. *intr.* To become worn, disintegrated, or discoloured under atmospheric influences. Const. *into*, *to* a specified condition. *To weather out*: to become prominent or isolated by the decay or disintegration of the surrounding rock.

1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* II. 20 The grey granite begins to weather or decompose. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxiii. 441 The lower shale is here clearly seen beneath the limestone, and weathers to the same light ash-colour as in Salop. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* I. I. 7 Hard crystalline rock, decomposing or weathering by the constant action of the sea and weather. 1883 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xcii. 207 The dark rock weathers easily into surface soil. 1885 Sir J. W. Dawson *Egypt & Syria* v. 112 The pillar-like masses of salt that weather out of the salt cliff of Jebel Usdum. 1914 Moir in *Man* XIV. 179 Those fragments of flint would in time, by thermal effects, 'weather out' and leave a clean-cut groove behind.

c. In *pass.*, esp. of a crop: To be deteriorated by too long exposure to bad weather.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 74 With feet nigh shoeless.. And napless beaver, weather'd brown. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 185 All barleys that have been weathered in the field..should be rigidly rejected [for malting].

d. *intr.* To wear (well or ill) under atmospheric influences.

1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 436/2 For outside work, boiled oil is used, because it weathers better than raw oil.

3. *Naut.* a. *trans.* To sail to the windward of (a point or headland, another ship, etc.).

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 18 Our carvell plyinge up into the winde weathered the salle which came from the shore. 1608 W. Hawkins in *Hawkins' Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 383 We lay close E.S.E. with a S.W. wynd, seeking to wether Socotora but could not. 1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* xii. 57 You cannot boord him except you weather him. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 170 When they have weather'd the Cape of Good-Hope. 1694 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 383 Not being able to weather the Lizard Point because of the strong south west wind. 1703 Burchett *Mem. Trans. at Sea* 141 Our Blue Squadron..by a shift of Wind had weather'd the French. 1801 Nelson in *Nicolas's Disp.* (1845) IV. 314 The Agamemnon could not weather the shoal of the middle, and was obliged to anchor. 1820 Scoresby *Arctic Regions* II. 476 An impervious mass of ice..which..we could neither weather, nor discover a passage through. 1878 Dixon Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 378/1 To weather is to pass on the windward side of an object. In cross tacking the vessel 'weathers' another that crosses ahead of her.

b. *fig.* To get safely round; to get the better of.

1626 Donne *Serm.* xxi. (1640) 210 That soule which is but neare destruction, may weather that mischiefe. 1654 Whitelocke *Swed. Embassy* (1772) I. 449 Butt, through mercy, he weathered this point also. 1708 Addison *Pres. St. War* 15 We have been tugging a great while against the Stream, and have almost weather'd our point. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxvii, Peter, read me about Jacob, and his weathering Esau with a mess of pottage.

† c. To aim wide of (the mark) on the windward side. *Obs. rare*—1.

1588 Lucar *Tartaglia's Colleg., Lucar Appendix* 4 Euery Gunner ought to weather the marke according to the hardnes of the winde, and the distance.

d. intr. *To weather on* or *upon*: to gain upon in a windward direction; also *fig.*, to get the advantage of, take liberties with.

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 16 Some fowre leagues of, wee sawe a saile to weather on us. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 35 How well soever he can weather upon others, he is never able to fore-reach upon his Commander. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 163 We had both weathered and fore-reached upon her considerably. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xvii, How do you think the scoundrels weathered on me at last? 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 475, I weathered upon my duty without discredit, my leisure without care, my liquor without quarrelling. 1853 Reade *Hard Cash* I. ix. 253 The other [pirate] .came up to weather on him and hang on his quarters, pirate fashion. 1881 *Daily News* 9 June 5/4 There is a triumph, too, which only a genuine yachtsman can feel when inch by inch a dreaded rival is weathered on.

4. *trans.* a. *Naut.* To withstand and come safely through (a storm). Often with *out* (also *absol.*).

1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* viii. 255 Such old Seamen in so strong a Ship that had weathered so many storms without loss. 1681 H. Nevile *Plato Rediv.* 22 [No more than] the Pilot and Marriners [are answerable] for not weathering out a Storm, when the Ship hath sprung a planck. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 62 Had they [the masts] weathered the preceding storm, it would have been impossible..to have stood against those..tempests we afterwards encountered. 1790 Cowper *On Receipt of Mother's Pict.* 89 As a gallant bark..(The storms all weather'd and the ocean cross'd) Shoots into port. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. xli, But the ship labour'd so, they scarce could hope To weather out much longer. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 204 In the port lay fleets of great ships which had weathered the storms of the Euxine and the Atlantic. 1864 Tennyson *Enoch Arden* 135 To sell the boat—and yet he loved her well—How many a rough sea had he weather'd in her! 1866 R. M. Ballantyne *Shifting Winds* ii, She had sailed from the antipodes, had weathered many a gale.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context. To come safely through (a period of trouble, adversity, affliction, etc.); to sustain without disaster.

1535 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. xvi. 190 He Weathered out the Raign of Queen Mary. 1671 Cahyl *Sir Salomon* IV. 66 My designs of Revenge are vain, and unjust. I must pull down my Sailes to weather out this storme. 1674 Boyle *Excell. Theol.* I. iii. 95 Afflictions slight and short may well be weather'd out by these Philosophical Avocations. 1726 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 78 They value no such Puffs, if they can but weather a Beating. 1772 Mackenzie *Man of World* II. xx, After having weathered so many disasters, I at last arrived near the place of my nativity. 1775 Jefferson *Let.* 4 July in H. S. Randall *Life* (1858) III. 568 If we can weather out this campaign, I hope that we shall be able to have a plenty [of gunpowder] made for another. 1787 Burns *Let. Earl Glencairn* Dec., My brother's farm is but a wretched lease, but I think he will probably weather out the remaining seven years of it. 1834 Creevey in *C. Papers* (1904) II. xii. 296 The Government.. could not have weathered the session. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 623 They were..thrown into the shade by two younger Whigs,..who weathered together the fiercest storms of faction. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiv, Pa told me, only yesterday morning,..that he couldn't weather the storm. 1865 — *Lett.* (1880) II. 242, I rather doubt..their being able to weather it out. 1889 *Contemp. Rev.* June 906 Their proprietors are less indebted and weather a crisis better. 1900 G. C. Brodrick *Mem. & Impr.* 143 The other weathered a serious illness and lived on for two or three years.

c. *gen.* To pass through and survive (severe weather).

1680 Otway *Orphan* IV. i, The Beasts that under the Warm Hedges slept, And weather'd out the cold bleak Night, are up. 1742 T. Woodroofe in Hanway *Acc. Brit. Trade Caspian Sea* (1753) I. I. xvii. 113 We had weathered out the inclement season with as good spirits as could be expected in so bad a neighbourhood. 1785 Cowper *Let. Lady Hesketh* 9 Nov., Wks. 1835 I. 171, I began..to fear I should never be able to weather out the winter in so lonely a dwelling. 1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* I. 513 My husband, Sir, Was of Kirkoswald—many a snowy winter We've weathered out together. 1808 — *Waggoner* III. 80 Among these hills, from first to last, We've weathered many a furious blast. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* xiv. (1863) 275, I weathered some merry snow storms.

† d. To take shelter from (a storm). *Obs.*

1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. iii, They said there was a violent shower of rain coming on, which they intended to weather there [i. e. at an alehouse]. 1749 — *Tom Jones* XII. viii, Partridge, with much earnest Entreaty, prevailed with Jones to enter, and weather the Storm. 1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy, Winter* 290 Beneath whose trunk I've weather'd many a show'r.

5. intr. *To weather along*, † *to weather it on*: to sail or make headway in spite of wind and weather. Also *to weather her way*.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* D 3, [All] that euer Yarmouth vnshelled or ingendred to weather it on till they lost the North-starre. 1836 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 91, I have ever since made my calculations to 'weather along', as the sailors say, for some time to come, without any of the funds I have invested. 1882 J. K. Scott *Galloway Gleanings* 14 See the 'Press Home' steerin' strecht for Ian', Will she weather her way to the shore?

6. *trans.* To set (the sails of a windmill) at the proper angle to obtain the maximum effect of the wind-force. Cf. Weather *sb.* 4.

1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 1 All which Sails [of a water-wheel] are weathered in the same Manner as those designed for Windmills. 1759 Smeaton *Ibid.* LI. 144 Plain sails weather'd according to the common practice. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 138 From which it appears that sails weathered in the Dutch manner produced nearly a maximum effect.

7. *Arch.* To slope or bevel (a surface) so as to throw off the rain; to furnish (a wall, buttress) with a weathering or water-table.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 860, 13 feet 6 inches oak wrought, framed, and weathered (beveled to throw off the wet). 1878 MacVittie *Ch. Ch. Cathedral, Dublin* 66 A plinth which is weathered in the depth of the buttresses by nine courses of Water-tables. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 294/1 Fig. 391 shows the manner in which the sill is sloped off, or 'weathered'.

Weather, obs. f. Wether, Wither *sb.*

Weather-beaten, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

1. Beaten or buffeted by wind and rain; that has been exposed to severe weather.

c 1560 T. Mowntayne in *Narratives Reform.* (Camden) 210 Thence to Colchester, and there toke shypynge, thynkynge to have gone ynto Seland,..but we were so whether-beatyn that of force we were glad to returne bake agayn. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* IV. (1565) 102 b, Most of our shyps were thus broosed and weatherbeaten. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 32 To rest our wearie and weather-beaten bones. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 16 The galleys of Sardegna being (by a great tempest) wether-beaten and driven to that shore. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb* VI. § 137 The King's harassed, weatherbeaten, and half-starved troops. 1720 Croxall *Fables Æsop* xli. 76 The Sun..darted his warm sultry Beams upon the Head of the poor weather-beaten Traveller. 1820 J. G. Strutt *Sylva Brit.* 141 It becomes harder and tougher in proportion as it is weather-beaten. 1882 'Ouida' *Bimbi* 98 The tall old houses are weatherbeaten into the most delicious hues. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 16 July 9/2 Another weather-beaten pigeon sought rest on the brigantine Jantzre.

fig. or in *fig.* context. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 22 At that time when Saint Cyprian liued, the whole world was iudged to be very much weather-beaten. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. xxxvii. 94 Mean time Jerusalem was a poore weather-beaten kingdome. 1668 Dr. E. Hopkins *Van. World* Wks. (1710) 29 If honourable, we are but raised above others to be the more weather-beaten.

2. As adj., expressing the result.

a. Of things: Worn, defaced, or damaged by exposure to the weather.

a 1547 Surrey *Eccles.* iii. 12 Auncient walls to race,..and of their wether beten stones, to buylde some new demyne. 1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., Middx.* 38 Pancras Church standeth all alone..old and wetherbeaten. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* I. B 3, Orators wiues shortly will bee knowne like images on water staires, euer in one wetherbeaten suite. *a* 1618 Ralegh *Royal Navy* 27 They make their Ocum..of old seere and weather-beaten ropes. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3360/4 Wearing a Weather-beaten Periwig. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* i, A very small and weather-beaten old cow's-skin trunk. 1860 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* xii, Under the weather-beaten winkers and shabby harness of a four-horse waggon.

b. Of persons, their countenances, etc.: Bronzed, coarsened, toughened, hardened by exposure to all kinds of weather.

1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Weather beaten, as men be that have lyen in the felde or see. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 175/1 Harold answered, that they were not priests, but wetherbeaten and hardie souldiers. 1607 Dekker *Knt.'s Conjur.* ii. D 1 b, Neither they, nor the weather-beatenst Cosmographicall Starre-catcher of em all. 1662 Herbert *Syntagma Theol.* II. 144 Such was his undoubted resolution, that neither their great words, nor their high looks could daunt him, Weather-beaten-souldier (as I may so speak) in Christianity. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) A 22 a, s.v. *Emmarine, Matelot emmarin'd*, a case-hardened or weather-beaten tar; a veteran sailor. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 5 May (1815) 63 An old man, with a wooden leg and a weather-beaten face. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xviii. 209 The scarred and weatherbeaten features of the old warrior. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 613 Two weatherbeaten old seamen who had risen from being cabin boys to be Admirals.

Similarly † **Wea·ther-beat** (*dial.* -bet) *ppl. a.* Also † **Wea·ther-beat** *v. trans. rare*—°. † **Wea·ther-beating** *vbl. sb.*

1586 [? J. Case] *Praise Mus.* vi. 75 Alas what pleasure could they take at the whippe and ploughtaile in so often and vncessant labours, such bitter weatherbeatings. 1598 Florio, *Sbattere*,..to thrash, to wetherbeate. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* vi. 243 [Ulysses] So wet, so weather-beate. 1682 T. Grangre *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 3. 319 The teeth..standing like weather-beate stakes,..falling out one after another. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 158 The Devil he was so Weather-beat, He was forc'd to take to a Tree. 1886 *S. W. Lincs. Gloss., Weather-bet*, weather beaten.

† **Wea·ther-bit, -bitten,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. Da. *veirbidt*, Norw. *vederbiten*, Sw. *väderbiten.*] Nipped, gnawed, or worn by the weather.

1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. ii 60 Now he thanks the old Shepheard (which stands by, like a Wenther-bitten Conduit, of many Kings Reignes). 1624 Heywood *Captives* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, What are you poore soules Thus wett and weather-bitt?

Wea·therbitt, -bit, *sb. Naut.* [See Bitt.] An extra turn of the cable about the bitts in bad weather. Also *v. trans.*, to give this extra turn to (the cable).

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Weather-bit*, a turn of the cable of a ship about the end of the windlass, without the knight-heads. It is used to check the cable, in order to slacken it gradually out of the ship, in tempestuous weather, or when the ship rides in a strong current. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxiv, Weather-bit your chain and loose the topsails! 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk*, *Weather-bitt*, is that which holds the weather-cable when the ship is moored. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 192 To weather bitt a cable is to take another turn round the bitt end. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 600/2, I now moor ship, weather-bitt cables, and leave the sloop *Spivey*..safe in port.

Weather-blate, -blade, -bleat. *Anglo-Irish.* [Etymologizing perversion (after Weather *sb.*) of Ob. *hæferblǽte*; see Heather-bleat.] The snipe.

1802 G. V. Sampson *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 459 The weather-blate, or snipe, flying high in a calm night, is a good sign. 1890 D. A. Simmons *Words Armagh & S. Donegal* (E. D. D.), *Weather-blade*, a snipe which utters a sound like a goat. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 2/3 The black water-hen and the sad weather-bleat.

Wea·therboard.

1. One of a series of boards nailed horizontally, with overlapping edges, as an outside covering for walls. Also *collect. sing.*

1539–40 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 268, C fowt of whether borde to whetherborde the howes end. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 287 Some of the weather-boards were thrown outwards to the bottom of the garden. 1802 *Barrington's Hist. N. S. Wales* x. 420 The stores were of brick, and the guard-house of weather-boards. 1845 J. O. Balfour *Sk. N. S. Wales* 87 Settlers..have, according to their means, built of free-stone, brick, or weather-boards, cottages and houses. 1883 Sladen *Austral. Lyrics* 25 The other, sore-dinted, scarcely crawled to the sheltering weatherboards. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* vi. 62 The more ambitious buildings are of weather-board, sawn pine or hardwood boards, roofed with large sheets of galvanised iron.

attrib. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets, etc.* 173 The weather-board walls creaked and groaned like a ship's timbers in a gale.

b. A board laid over builders' work or material as a protection.

1832 *B'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* Apr. 30 Every heap [*sc.* of quick lime] being covered by mats or weatherboards. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 195 Unfinished walls should be covered with straw, on which boards, called weather-boards, should be laid.

2. A board placed sloping over a window or other

opening to throw off or keep out rain; †*pl.* louver-boards; also, a board used to carry off water.

1568 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 128, ij bordes to make wether bordes for the windowes in the steple. 1569 *Ibid.* 138, iij bordes..ffor wetherbordes in the steple windowes. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 210/2 *Deliquium*,..water boords, or weather bordes; gutters whereinto the house eaues doe drop. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 577 The Cathedrall Church of Holen hauing..also beames and weather-bourdes, and the rest of the roofe proportionally answering to this lower building. 1741 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 498 A great Number of large Holes, regularly placed,..with Weather-boards placed over each Range of Holes, so as to hang over them obliquely downwards. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* iii. 80 Such hats!—fit for monkeys—I'd back Mrs. Draper To cut neater weather-boards out of brown paper. 1833 T. HOOK *Love & Pride, Marquess* xii, Rattle went all the windows—*slap* went the weather boards [of an omnibus]. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Archit. Publ. Soc.), *Weather board*, a board fixed.. at the bottom of a door or window, to keep out driving rain.

b. *Naut.* (See quots.)

1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 304 On the 30th we took down our weather-boards. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Weather-Boards* are pieces of plank placed in the ports of a ship, when laid up in ordinary; they are fixed in an inclined position, so as to turn off the rain without preventing the circulation of the air. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1908 PAASCH *From Keel to Truck* (ed. 4) 546 *Weather-boards*,..boards fitted closely together.. in front or on the sides of a bridge, poop or raised quarter-deck.

3. *Naut.* [See WEATHER *sb.* 8 and BOARD *sb.* 12. Cf. Icel. *veðr-borð*.] The windward side of a ship.

a 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 12 The weather-boord, that is as much as to say, to windward. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Hence **Wea·therboard** *v. trans.*, to nail weather-boards upon (a wall or roof); also *absol.* **Wea·ther-boarded** *ppl. a.* **Wea·therboarding** *vbl. sb.*, the work of covering a building with weatherboards; also *concr.*, weatherboards collectively.

1515 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiaries St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 461 Et in solutis duobus carpentariis conductis ad wetherbordandum finem coquinæ. 1535–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 370 Paid ffor viij c di. of borde ffor to wederborde the sowth side of wolston wynnys howse. 1623 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) 464 The Towne howse now in the tenure of Thomas beare..would requier to be weather-boorded. 1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 300 The boarding and weatherboarding of howses shedds and hovells. 1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 285 Weather-boarding..is us'd to signifie the Boards themselves, when nail'd up. 1737 W. SALMON *Country Builder's Estimator* (ed. 2) 16 To build a Barn with all new Oak-Timber, to thatch, underpin, and weather-board with Feather-edged Deals. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 211 Farm houses ..with weatherboarded barns. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 48 The outside covered over with strong weather-boarding. 1847 J. D. LANG *Phillipsland* 283 A neat, comfortable, weather-boarded cottage. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 606/1 Narrow strips of weather-boarding.

Wea·ther-bound, *ppl. a.* Detained by bad weather; prevented by stress of weather from sailing, travelling, or other outdoor activity.

1590 R. FERRIS *Dang. Adventure* B 1, There we were wether bound, and constrained to stay full seuenteene dayes. *a* 1642 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 334 The messenger who carried those Letters, being weather bound and sea-beaten, could not come so soone. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 193/4 The Fleet of Colliers that lay here weather-bound, are now under sail for the Thames. 1726 R. GALE in *Mem. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 187, I lye weatherbound here by a deep snow. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* I. xvii. 346 Two young Americans..were in the house, equally weather-bound with ourselves.

fig. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Milton*, This dependence of the soul upon the seasons..may, I suppose, justly be derided as the fumes of vain imagination...The author that thinks himself weather-bound will find, with 'a little help from hellebore, that he is only idle or exhausted.

Weather-breeder. A day of exceptionally sunny and calm weather, popularly supposed to be a presage of a coming storm. Also *fig.*

1645 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 160 The King had intentions of being present at the General Assembly; but this lucid interval proved but a weather-breeder. 1659 J. ARROWSMITH *Chain Princ.* 391 Look at a very fair day, as that which may prove a weather-breeder, and usher in storms. 1780 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 281 A most delightful day; a weather breeder. 1808 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, s. v., A cloudless sky, after a succession of rainy weather, denotes rain, and is said to be a *weather-breeder*. 1879 J. BURROUGHS *Locusts* 98 Weather-breeders..are usually the finest days in the calendar, all sun and sky. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 10 Feb. 5/2 Isolated fine days in February are known in Surrey as 'weather-breeders'.

So **Weather-breeding** *a.*

1899 R. M. GILCHRIST *Nicholas* 23 The last se'nnight of March had been dull and weather-breeding.

Wea·thercock, *sb.* Forms: see WEATHER *sb.* and COCK *sb.* [Cf. Du. *weerhaan*, G. *wetterhahn*, Sw. *vädder-*, Da. *vejrhane*.]

1. A vane in the form of a cock, which turns with its head to the wind. Also used *gen.* for a vane of any form. Often mentioned as a symbol of mutability or fickleness.

a 1300 *Nacham de Utensil.* in Wright *Vocab.* 115 *Ventilegium*, veder-coc. 1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Peruore hi byeþ ase þe wedercoc þat is ope þe steple, þet him went mid eche wynde. *a* 1400 CHAUCER *Agst. Woman Unconstant* 12 As a wedercok, that turneth his face With every wind. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cresс.* 367 Thairfoir, I reid þe tak thame as þe find, For thay ar sad as Widdercock in Wind. 1546 *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees) 86 The said Steple havyng a whether cokke theruppon all gylt. 1683 D. A. *Art of Converse* 21 Some are as changeable as weather-cocks in their humours. 1790 COWPER *Let. Lady Hesketh* 22 Mar., I have as many opinions about it as there are whims in a weathercock. 1833 L. KITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 37 The Duc de Choiseul..consoled himself by setting up the head of Voltaire as a weathercock. 1867 H. LATHAM *Black & White* 100 The most conspicuous weather-cock in the town is a golden trumpet on the spire of one of the churches.

2. *fig.* a. of things (in various obvious allusions). † *Upon the weathercock*, inclined to turn and vary.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 48 No doubt your mother was made of a Weathercocke, that brought foorth such a wauering companion. 1662 GODOLPHIN *View Adm. Jurisd.* Introd. (a), He that vents his own Notions, or sails by the weather-cock of his own Brain. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 465 The Word's a weathercock for ev'ry wind. 1702 VANBRUGH *False Fr.* I. B 2, As much upon the Weather-cock as the Ladies are, there are some the Wind must blow hard to fetch 'em about. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxix. 35 Newspapers are powerful in three ways, as narrators, as advocates, and as weathercocks.

b. of persons; esp. one who is changeable or inconstant.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 97 What plume of feathers is hee that indited this Letter? What vaine? What Wethercocke? 1598 — *Merry W.* III. ii. 28 Where had you this pretty weather-cocke? 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* II. (1608) C 2, I thinke we loose part of our happinesse when we make these weathercocks our equalls. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 21 The word which I have giv'n shall stand like Fate; Not like the King's, that weathercock of State. 1799 NELSON 6 Apr. in Nicolas *Disp.* III. 316 The last are weathercocks, and will always be on the side of the conqueror. *a* 1850 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) II. 178, I ask the advocates of this doctrine, in what do they differ in their actions from the mere trimmer, the political weather-cock? 1870 R. BROUGH *Marston Lynch* xiv. 118 He was..a terrible weathercock in the matter of opinion.

3. *attrib.* and *appos.*, passing into *adj.* = changeable, inconstant.

a 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 558 The wavering and weathercock resolutions of men. 1710 in Hearne *Collect.* 7 Mar. (O. H. S.) II. 356 Not weather-Cock Kennett such turning can show. 1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 316 Miss Harrison was one of those every-day sort of weather-cock characters who veer about with every varying gust of prejudice, folly, or envy. 1818 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 216 Their political opinions depend with weathercock uncertainty on the winds of rumour that blow from France. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 162 In affairs of the heart, Mr. Turchill belonged to the weathercock species.

b. *Comb.*: *weathercock-like* adj., *-wise* adv.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 2 Inslaved by Weather-cok-like-spirits to make their Buildings according unto things *a la mode*. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Guynne* II. vii. 192 It was not in his steadfast nature to veer about, weather-cock-wise.

Hence **Wea·thercockish, -cocky** *adjs.*, fickle, changeable. **Wea·thercockism**, changeableness.

1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVII. 301 Thiers will always be regarded as the very condensed essence of weathercockism. 1886 'OUIDA' *House Party* ix. (1887) 198 She is what her husband characterises as 'weathercocky'. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Feb. 213/2 To do these Radicals justice, there is a great deal of consistency in their weathercockism.

Wea·thercock, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

†1. intr. *To weathercock it*: to veer or vary like a weathercock. *Obs.*

1654 J. P. *Tyrants & Protectors* 39 Men that will be of the Kings Religion, he he of what Religion he will, and are clamorous against all that cannot weather-cock it like themselves.

2. *trans.* To provide with a weathercock; to serve as a weathercock for.

1658 *S. Austin's Naps upon Parnassus* B 4, But that's a work onely befits the Gods, To Weather-cock their Eyes with fishing-rods. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 17 Whose blazing wyvern weathercock'd the spire. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 698/2 Elaborately adorned gables,..scrolled, and weather-cocked.

3. To send (a person) up to the weathercock. *jocular nonce-use.* *a* 1845 [see MAST-HEAD *v.* 1].

Weather-coil, *v. Naut.* ? *Obs.* [See WEATHER *sb.* 3 and COIL *v.*4] *intr.* Of a ship (see quots.). Also **Weather-coiling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 115 *Weather-coile* is when a ship is a hull, to lay her head the other way, without loosing any saile; which is only done, by bearing up the helme. It is an excellent condition in a ship; for most ships will not weather-coile. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 29 Weather coyle 1627 — *Sea Gram.* ix. 40 If shee will weather coile, and lay her head the other way without loosing a saile, that must bee done by bearing vp the Helme. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Serv.* (1685) 222 The Weather-coiling of a Ship, is, when being a Hull [etc.]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Weather-Quoil*, or *Coile*. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-coil*, when a ship has her head brought about, so as to lie that way which her stern did before, as by the veering of the wind; or the motion of the helm, the sails remaining trimmed. *Weather-coiling*, a ship resuming her course after being taken aback; rounding off by a stern-board, and coming up to it again.

†**Wea·ther-driven,** *pa. ppls.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [See WEATHER *sb.* 6 c. Cf. Sw. *vädderdrifven*.] Driven by stormy weather.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccxlii. (1811) 230 He, in his course of saylyng, was weder dryuen, and by tempest, into ye countre or prouynce of Pontife. 1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Weather driuen, as a shyppe is that is let go at all aduentures, *abandonner*[sic]. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 193 A certain frenshe ship laden with Scotishe peeces wetherdryven at South schelis. 1600 CAREW *Cornwall* II. 131 Philip..during his voyage..towards Spayne..was weather-driuen into Weymouth. 1629 O. WALKER *Oratory* 16 Like a weather-driven ship destitute of her Pilot.

Weathered (we·ðəd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEATHER *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Worn, stained, or seasoned by the weather or by atmospheric influences. Also *weathered out.* Chiefly *Geol.* (See WEATHER *v.* 2 a, b.)

1769 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 490 This weathered or dissolved copper is found in many places in the state of an ochre or of a loose powder. 1800 *Edin. Philos. Jrnl.* III. 185 The weathered surface of several specimens of calcareous sandstone. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* IV. 212 The weathered aspect of the towers. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. I. vii. § 26, I have never yet seen any restoration or cleaned portion of a building whose effect was not inferior to the weathered parts. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* I. xi. 254 The weathered surface of each block was black. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 54 The weathered ice of the surface..could be cloven with great facility. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 230/1 Practice enables a geologist to discriminate some rocks by the feel of their weathered or fresh surfaces. 1906 *Cornish N. & Q.* Ser. I. 235 A collection of weathered-out crystals of felspar. 1914 MOIR in *Man* XIV. 180 What we have regarded as deep striæ caused by immense pressure are in all probability simply weathered out shattered scratches.

2. Of a crop of grain or hay: Deteriorated by too long exposure to the elements.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 185 Weathered barley has a dull and often a dirty appearance. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Weathered*, damaged, but not spoilt, by too long exposure to weather—wet and bad harvesting weather: said of hay or corn. 1892 *Daily Chron.* 6 Sept. 3/3 Barley is particularly liable to become 'weathered' and unfit for malting.

3. *Arch.* Made sloping, so as to prevent the lodgement of water; furnished with a weathering or water-table.

1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 2/1 Two octagonal turrets..strengthened by massive double buttresses in three stages, the lower part terminating in weathered canopies, the middle having weathered offsets. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 294/1 Copings are worked with..an inclined or 'weathered' upper surface.

Wea·ther-eye. [? a jocular use of the *Naut.* sense, WEATHER *sb.* 8; or perh. = the eye which is specially used for observing the weather. Cf. ON. *veðr-eygr*, ? keen-eyed.] Used in fig. phrases, such as *to keep one's weather-eye open*, to be watchful and alert, keep one's wits about one.

1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* 189 Howbeit his weather eye the seaman aim'd Across the calm, and hinted by his speech A gale next morning. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. v, You look out. Keep your weather eye awake. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *She* vii. 88 Job returned in a great state of nervousness, and keeping his weather eye fixed upon every woman who came near him.

Wea·ther-fend, *v. trans.* [f. WEATHER *sb.*] To defend from the weather; to shelter. Also *fig.* Hence **Wea·ther-fending** *ppl. a.*

A Shakesperian word echoed by later writers.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 10 In the Line-grone which weather-fends your Cell. 1768 CROWE *Lewesdon Hill* 4 This friendly mount, that weather-fends My reed-roof'd cottage. 1800 COLERIDGE *Pitt & Buonaparte* in Haslitt *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 396 A young man,..sheltered and weather-fended from all the elements of experience. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 420 A penthouse, framed..To weather-fend a little turf-built seat. 1858 EMERSON *Adirondacs* 35 We..Barked the white spruce to weatherfend the roof. 1873 RUSKIN *Crown of Wild Olive* App. 191 Finding its work prosper, the little medicinal and weather-fending company took vows on itself.

Weather-gall. Also 6, 9 *Sc.* **-gaw**, 9 **-go.** [f. WEATHER *sb.* + GALL *sb.*2 Cf. G. *wettergalle*, Du. *weergal*; also WATERGALL 2 and WINDGALL.] An imperfect rainbow, believed to be a presage of storm: = WATERGALL 2. Sometimes applied to other appearances in the sky to which the same significance is attributed.

1613–35 MARKHAM *Eng. Husb.* I. I. iii. 12 If you shall see one or more Weather-galls which are like Raine-bowes, onely they arise from the Horizon but a small way upward. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Time's Curtain drawn* L 7, He..taukes of Starres, and clipses of the Sun,..Of wether-gaws and many sike as these. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 30 These Lights are called Weather-galls by the Sea-men. 1808 JAMIESON, *Waddir-gaw.* 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* IV, See how much heavier the clouds fall every moment, and see these weather-gaws that streak the lead-coloured mass with partial gleams of faded red and purple. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 23 A little before sunset, a weather-gall (or the limb of a rain-bow), of extraordinary brilliancy, appeared. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss., Weather-gall*, a secondary rain-bow. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., A weather-gall at morn, Fine weather all gone. *Ibid.*, *Weather-go*, the end of a rainbow, as seen in the morning in showery weather. 1878 J. VEITCH *Hist. Scot. Border* xiv. 515 They eyed carefully the weather-gaw, or broken bit of rainbow above the horizon.

Wea·ther-glass. [Cf. Du. *weerglas*, Da. *vejrglas*, Sw. *vädderglas*, G. *wetterglas*.]

† 1. A kind of thermometer, used to ascertain the temperature of the air, and also to prognosticate changes in the weather. *Obs.*

It consisted in its simplest form of an upright tube filled with water, terminating at the top in a bulb containing rarefied air. The water sank or rose in the tube as the air in the bulb expanded or contracted.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 97 Cold..doth manifestly Condense; As wee see in the Contracting of the Aire in the Weather-Glasse. 1634 J. [BATE] *Myst. Nat. & Art* 28 A Weather-glasse is a structure of, at the least, two glasses, sometimes of three, foure, or more, as occasion serueth, inclosing a

quantity of water, and a portion of ayre proportionable, by whose condensation or rarifaction the included water is subject unto a continuall [illegible] either [illegible]rd or downward; by which motion of the water is commonly foreshewn the state, change, and alteration of the weather. *a* 1643 SUCKLING *Brennoralt* II. i, His colour..sanke down As water in a weather-glasse Prest by a warme hand. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 257 For the true discovery of the nature and temper of the Air, as to its density or rarity, we have not met with a more certain or compleat invention than the Weather-glass. *Ibid.* 259 The Weather-glass or Thermoscope. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. ii. (1672) 36 As in some wether-glass my Love I hold; Which falls or rises with the heat or cold. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 105 A tender Weather-Glass or Thermometer. 1700 *Ibid.* XXXI. 117 Two Thermometers, the one the common seal'd Weather-glass, having no Communication with the outward Air, wherein the temper as to Heat and Cold was shewn by the swelling or shrinking of the included Spirit.

2. A barometer.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3103/4 A Portable Barometer, or Weather-Glass. 1720 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 220 P 3 Toricellius, the Inventor of the common Weather Glass. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 P 2 Weather rainy. Consulted my weather-glass. 1849 CLOUGH *Bothie* II. 17 The weather-glass, say they, is rising. 1885 *New Bk. Sports* 23 There is no trusting the weather-glass among the Highland hills.

3. *fig.*

1664 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 276, I shall onely refer you to the Politicians Weather-glasse, whereby he not onely foreseeth (but discerneth aright when fallen) the unseasonable weather of his respective Place he liveth in. 1681 D'URFEY *Progr. Honesty* xiv. 32 His Bone's his Weather-Glass, and his Back Is his perpetual Almanack. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 24 June, My uncle, who is my political weather-glass, and whose quicksilver rises and falls with the least variation of parliamentary weather. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 180 When the weather-glass of my pride got up again, I found I had gone too far to recede. 1864 G. A. LAWRENCE *Maurice Dering* II. 80 Besides, I'm not at all sure that he *was* losing heavily: his own face is a bad weather-glass.

4. *Poor Man's*, or *Shepherd's*, *Weather-glass*: a name for the scarlet pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*, from its closing its flowers before rain.

1827, 1872 (see SHEPHERD *sb.* 7d). 1836 J. T. MACKAY *Flora Hibern.* I. 194 Common Pimpernel, or Poor Man's Weatherglass.

† Wea·ther-headed, *ppl. a. Obs.* [Prob. f. WETHER (cf. *sheep-headed*), but admitting of association with WEATHER (expressing the notion of instability).] Light-headed, foolish.

a 1692 BROWN *Queen & Concub.* IV. iii. 86 Here come more of our weather-headed wise neighbours. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for Love* II. vii. 36 For that old Weather-headed Fool, I know how to laugh at him. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* vii, You deserved to be ducked for it..for a weather-headed puppy.

Weathering (we·ðəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 **wederung**, 2 **widerung**, 4 **wedring**, **weduring**, **-ynge**, **widdringe**, 4–6 **wederyng(e**, 5 **wedryng(e**, **weddrynge**, **wedyrryng**, 5–6 **wethering(e**, **-yng(e**, 6 **wedering**, 7 **wethring**, 6– **weathering**. [In sense 1, repr. OE. *wederung*, f. *wed(e)rian* (see WEATHER *v.*); in later uses f. WEATHER *v.* + -ING¹.]

† 1. Weather conditions; (good or bad) weather; in nautical use chiefly with reference to the direction and force of the winds. *Obs.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1085, & þæs ilcan [illegible] swiðe hefelic gear..& swa mycel ungelimp on wederunge swa man naht mæðlice gebencean ne mæg swa stor þunring & læsc wes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Gif ze mine bibode healded þenne sende ic eou rihte widerunge. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* lxxvi, God hath..send wederyng on erthe Cold & unkynde. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. vii. 74 After suche stormes [in budding-time], how hard is it to avoyde, til efte wedring and yeres han maked her circute cours al about, er any frute be able to be tasted! 1425 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 290/1 Grett rayne, and longe abydyng upon the water, be fortune of wederyng or otherwise. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wederynge, of þe ayre, *temperies*. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 284 Ze prayen to God forto haue kynde wedryng to all maner of sedys þat ben cast yn þe erthe. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 324 And wyte it, that by fortune of wedryng, they were well eyght monethes vpon the see. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxvi. 206 That no mynne or other fowll wedryng myght lette þaire entree within the tounne. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 314 By reason of the vnreasonable wederynge, as in yᵉ laste yere fell, yᵉ whete was solde for xv. s. a quarter. 1528 R. COPLAND tr. *Rutter of Sea* (*c* 1530) D viij b, The maister and his mariners trimmeth not their sayle as it should be, and ill wethering taketh them in the sea. *c* 1565 SPARKE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 537 He did consider what time he should spend ere he could get so farre to windeward againe, which would haue bene with the weathering which we had 10 or 12 dayes worke.

† b. Propitious or suitable weather. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1 Whan þis weith at his wil weduring hadde, Ful raþe remmede he rydinge þedirre. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 23 We shul preyen..for alle treweshipmen, ..yᵗ godd for his grace yeue hem wederyng and passage. *c* 1400 in *Verb Manuel* (Surtees) 221 Ze schulle þ also bidde þat god..suche widdringes vs sende on erþe þat þe fruyt þat is þer inne thriue. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 262 So þou synfull n..excusyst þe, & seyst, I may nozt kepe þe halyday, for I wil sende no wederyng on þe werkeday. 1530 TINDALE *Pres. Matt. v.-vii.* 59 Where the prieste oughte to praye a mother tounge..for wedering and frutes [etc.]. 1563 [illegible] *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 236 b, Ye shal pray for al manner of frutes..yᵗ almightye God..maye sende suche wederynges, yᵗ they maye come to the sustenaunce of man.

† c. Stormy weather; also, a storm. So *great*, *strong weathering* [cf. F. *gros temps*]. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Contin. Brut* 482 Þere was such wedryng & lightnyng, hayll and rayne, þat the peple were sore adredde. *c* 1480 LOVELICH *Grail* II. 68 So thanne Cam þere bothe [illegible]

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 52 The duke Eneas and Dyde fleynge the wedrynge, shalle rendre hemself bothe togydre alle alone. *Ibid.* 55 Vnto the tyme that the sayde cloudes were well thyk gadred with the stronge wedrynge that surprised them all atones. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cii. (1811) 76 Both hostes were so greuously betyn with the sayd tempest and wederynge. *Ibid.* VII. ccxxiii. 249 In..the v. daye of October, passynge tempeste of wederynge fell in sondry places of Englonde. 1526 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 626 For defense of great wyndes and outragious wetheringes. 1605 STOW *Ann.* 633 On Candlemas euen..was great weathering of wind, hayle, snow, rayne.

2. The action of exposing a hawk to the action of the weather. (Cf. WEATHER *v.* 1 a.)

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 76 He muste remember euery euening to tye out his hawke a weathering. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* II. (ed. 2) 168 *Weathering*, is when you air your Hawk in Frost, Sun, or by the Fire-side. 1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Faulconry* 264 *Weathering*, the setting out of a hawk to take the air.

attrib. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* v. ix. 5 Ev'n like the Hawlk, (whose keepers wary hands Have made a prisner to her wethring stock). [See STOCK *sb.*¹ 19.]

3. The action of the atmospheric agencies or elements on substances exposed to its influence; the discolouration, disintegration, etc. resulting from this action.

1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 88 The weathering of so many Centuries of Years. 1787 tr. *J. F. Henckel's Pyritol.* v. 87 The ore on sinter is a plain and easy proof in behalf of a weathering, or a production by damps, rather than by way of streaming. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 489 The miners have called this decaying of the sulphurous ores of copper, iron, and other metals and semi-metals, the weathering of these ores. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 211 It is snow-white, a description which is very applicable to the newer part of the deposit at San Filippo, where it has not become darkened by weathering. 1845 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 702/2 The weathering of the surfaces of buildings by the fluctuations of heat and moisture is partly dependent on the structure and composition of the stone. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xvii. § 2 Now this sculpture by streams, or by gradual weathering, is the finishing work by which Nature brings her mountain forms into the state in which she intends us..to..love them. 1878 *A. K. Johnston's Africa* viii. 94 Hills of red sand formed from the weathering of a ferruginous sandstone of which the plain.. is composed. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 122 Through weathering, the iron..becomes converted into acsquioxide. 1914 MOIR in *Man* XIV. 179 The second part of my paper ..deals with the 'weathering out' of scratches upon flint.

b. The action of the elements (on land, clay, etc.) as a beneficial agency; the state of being pulverized and rendered workable by this action.

1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (1562) 16 And I feare me this land is not yet rype to be plowed. For as the saying is: It lacketh wetheryng: This geare lacketh wethering, at least waye it is not for me to plough.

c. *Philol.* Phonetic decay. *rare.*

1870 F. A. MARCH *Gram. Anglo-Sax.* § 102 Weathering of Case-endings. *Ibid.* § 226 Weathering of Inflexion Endings.

d. Exposure (of the face or skin) to all kinds of weather.

1887 STEVENSON *Mem. & Portr.* vi. 96 His face..was ruddy and stiff with weathering.

4. *Naut.* The action of passing (an object) on the windward side. Also *attrib.*

1876 DIXON KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 378/2 *Weathering.*—A relative term used in sailing to define the action of one vessel that is eating to windward of another. 1894 *Times* 30 July 7/3 Britannia had stood far enough out into the English Channel to get weathering distance.

5. *Arch.* A projecting course on the face of a wall, serving as a 'drip' to throw off rain-water; a sloped 'set off' of a wall or buttress; the inclination or slope given to a surface in order to prevent the lodgement of water.

1739 LABELYE *Piers Westm. Bridge* 69 The Sally, or Projection of a Cordon or rustic Cornish..serves also as a Weathering to the Stone-work. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 545 The measurer takes a line or tape and begins..at the plinth, then stretching the line to the top, bends it into the offset, or weathering. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1882 The massive buttress, with its deep weatherings, or water-tables between each graduation or stage of the height. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit., Weathering*, a slight inclination given to horizontal surfaces, especially in masonry, to prevent water from lodging on them. 1875 BRASH *Eccl. Archit. Ivel.* 98 The weatherings..were contrived with skill and judgment.

attrib. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Weathering course*, bricks set out from the wall round the bottom of a chimney, to protect the thatch where it joins the chimney.

Weathering (we·ðəriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WEATHER *v.* + -ING².] That wears away or disintegrates through the action of the weather.

1835 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 82 Syenite usually does so in our damp climate, from the 'weathering' effect of frost and rain. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxi. 148 The cliffs of the Breithorn are much exposed to weathering action. 1892 in A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 676 The uses of the clays derived from the weathering shale are only in their infancy as yet. 1912 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 106 What we call changing physical objects—weathering hills or ageing suns.

Weatherliness (we·ðərlinés). [f. WEATHERLY *a.* + -NESS.] Weatherly quality (of a ship).

1883 DIXON KEMP in *Portsm. Rev.* 1 Sept. 324 The Mosquito ..carried her ballast much lower than any existing yacht. This..was a principal cause of her weatherliness. 1893 MAHAN *Infl. Sea Power* I. 203 The superior speed and weatherliness of the Spanish ships might have enabled them seriously to molest the British.

† Wea·therling. *Obs.*⁻¹ [-LING.] A student of the weather.

Weatherly (we·ðərli), *a.* (and *adv.*).

† 1. Of or pertaining to the weather. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 61 Any proposition or prognostication (as well touching weatherly events as arbitrary contingents).

2. *Naut.* Of a sailing vessel: Able to sail close to the wind without drifting to leeward. Also used loosely (see quot. 1904).

1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 57, I proposed to make a Ship work far better to Windward, than it is possible for the most Weatherly one to do at present. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* viii, Notwithstanding her weatherly qualities, the heavy cross sea, as she drove into it, headed her off bodily. 1846 G. WARBURTON *Hochelaga* I. 29 Those stout weatherly boats crowding up to the wharves, have just now returned from fishing for cod. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Weatherly*, said of a well-trimmed ship with a clean bottom, when she holds a good wind, and presents such lateral resistance to the water, that she makes but little lee-way while sailing close-hauled. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea Painter's Log* 226 For downright weatherly qualities, lead and leverage will beat beam without depth. 1904 *Dixon Kemp's Yacht & Boat Sailing* 649/2 *Weatherly*, the quality of hanging to windward well or holding a good wind. This term is often improperly used to denote good behaviour in a sea way or in bad weather.

† 3. *adv.* To the windward. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 Three of their Ships being almost as far Weatherly as we were.

Weathermost (we·ðəɹmoust), *a. Naut.* [f. WEATHER *sb.* (8) + -MOST.] Furthest to windward.

1557 TOWERSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 125 The Christopher being the headmost & the weathermost man. 1622 SIR R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* lix. 140 But in equitie and reason, the le-ward shippe ought euer to giue way to the weather most. 1726 G. ROBERTS *Voy.* 292 Having got the Length of the Weathermost of the little Islands, I bore away afore the Wind for the Fuurno. 1762 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* III. 43 One of Them made use of small Arms, which carried off the weathermost Corner of Ned Gage's Hat. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xlvi, The brig rounded up on the wind, shooting up under the sterns of the two weathermost schooners.

Weatherology (weðɔ·lŏdʒi). [f. WEATHER *sb.* + -OLOGY.] The science and study of the weather and its phenomena.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xlii, Whatever other blunders lie Upon my shoulders, here I must aver My Muse a glass of weatherology. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 563/1 But the poverty of Australian hydrography is aggravated by the singularities of the so-styled 'weatherology'. 1881 S. T. S. LECKY *Wrinkles Pract. Navig.* I. xv. 114 Weatherology.

Wea·therproof, *a.* (*sb.*) [See PROOF *a.* 1 b.] Impervious to the weather.

c 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 16 Our Bark's not weather proof. 1647 HERRICK *Noble Numb., Thanksgiving to God* 4 A little house, whose humble Roof Is weather-proof. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 45 Some are hard and Weather Proof; some soft, and subject to Decay. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) I. xvi. 66 'O never mind the old Beldame,' cried the Captain; 'she's weather-proof, I'll answer for her' 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lix, The house stands, large and weather-proof, in the long dull street. 1914 *Illustr. Lond. News* 3 Jan. 32/3 Weather-proof overcoats, suits, and costumes.

b. *sb.* Weatherproof material.

1876 SMILES *Sc. Nat.* x. 186 Nothing but the stiffest weather-proof can keep the water out.

Weather side.

1. *Naut.* The windward side (of a vessel, etc.).

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 77 Þan lay þe lordis a-lee with laste and with charge,...And warned him wisely of þe wedir-side. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 21 b, The Caricke was on the wetherside and the Regent on the lye side. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Weather*, When a ship under sail presents either of her sides to the wind, it is then called the weather-side. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* ii, I stood in the waist on the weather side. 1888 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 3 Salutes on Board Ship. The starboard side in harbour, and the weather side at sea, is the officers' side.

2. The side (e. g. of a building, a tree) that is most exposed to injury from weather.

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 136 Most Trees are unequally balanced, and show what is called a 'weather-side', usually to the west and south-west, in this island. 1827 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 48/1 Many shepherds..had hair-breadth escapes, and some perished in wearing their flocks from the weather-side of the hills. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 338/2 On the occasion of repairing the weather side of the tower of the Lady Church, at Munich. 1880 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* 96 The weather side of all such mountains as the Andes is the wet side, and the lee side the dry.

fig. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* I. 22, I now am present, Sir, you see, So leave the weather side to me.

Weather-stain. A stain or discoloration caused by the weather. Also *fig.*

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, The grey old towers..bearing the rusty weather-stains of ages. 1827 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* vii, Though I have endeavoured to leave them as much mould, mildew and weather-stain as possible. 1847 EMERSON *Poems*, '*Butler, fetch the ruby wine*' 43 Give me wine to wash me clean Of the weather-stains of cares. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) II. 54 A marble statue, grey with ancient weather-stains.

Also **Weather-stained** *ppl. a.*, **Wea·ther-staining** *vbl. sb.*

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi, She was a ship of the old

school...Long-seasoned and weather-stained in the typhoons and calms of all four oceans. 1868 Boyd *Lees. Middle Age* 26 The lowly dwelling..with its weather-stained walls. 1884 *Daily News* 4 Sept. 3/1 The only detriment time has wrought in the monument is the weather-staining of the marble statues.

Weather-wisdom. The traditional lore of weather prognostics.

1822 *Lights & Shades* II. 53 That science of guesses commonly called weather-wisdom. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. 29 Another reason, founded apparently upon some limited empirical maxim of weather-wisdom taken from the climate of Greece. 1866 Steinmetz *Weathercasts* 7 'Weather-wisdom' is very far from being a mere superstition.

Weather-wise (we·ðəɹwaiz), *a.* [f. Weather *sb.* + Wise *a.*] Skilled in prognostics of the weather.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 350 Wederwise shipmen. 1596 S. Burrough in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 319, I maruelled why he departed so suddenly, and went ouer the shoales...But after I perceiued them to be weather wise. 1637 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Drinke & Welcome* C 3 b, Some by their cornes are wondrous Weather-wise. 1735 B. Franklin *Poor Richard* (1890) 50 Some are weatherwise, some are otherwise. 1800 Coleridge *Dejection* 1 If the Bard was weather-wise, who made The grand old ballad of Sir Patrick Spence. 1849 James *Woodman* vi, Auguring rain to the minds of the weather-wise. 1866 Steinmetz *Weathercasts* 35 A certain weather-wise nobleman, Lord Portarlington, predicted the intensely hot summer of last year. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* I. xv. 167 Are you weather-wise?—able to tell when the clouds will hold off or pelt?

b. *fig.*

1582 W. Stafford *Exam. Compl.* I. (1876) 87 Some weather-wise fellowes, that coulde chaunge their opinions as the [illegible] theirs. 1927 Gwynn & [illegible] was weatherwise in [illegible] which might lead to unforeseen disturbance.

†**Weather-wiser.** *Obs.* [ad. Du. *wederwijser, weerwijser*, f. *weder, weer* Weather *sb.* + *wijser*, agent-n. f. *wijsen* to show; cf. Way-wiser.] An instrument serving to foretell the weather.

1667 Sprat *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 255 Several Discourses about Thermometers, Hygroscopes, Baroscopes, and other Weather-wisers. 1676 Glanvill *Ess.* III. 40 He hath there given an account of the defectiveness of common Weather-Glasses,..and Ascent of Water by Cold in the ordinary Weather-wisers. 1708 R. Neve *Baroscop.* 4 By which means it is now become an excellent Weather-wiser, to predict dry and moist Weather. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 152 The flowers of pimpernel; the opening and shutting of which ..are the countryman's weather-wiser, whereby he tells the weather of the following day.

Weathery (we·ðəri), *a. rare.* [f. Weather *sb.* + -y 1.] Fitful, changing like the weather.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Hastings* xiv, As nought may last, so Fortunes weathery cheare With powtyng lookes gan lower on my Syre. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* II. vi. 82 The flitting fancy of boy and girl, who pop upon one another, and skip through zig-zag vernal ecstasy, like the weathery dalliance of gnats.

Weavable (wī·văb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Weave *v.*1 + -able.] That may be woven.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 Weffabylle, *texibilis.* 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xvii. § 37 The world..got weavable fibres out of the mosses, and made clothes for itself.

Weave (wīv), *sb.* [f. Weave *v.*1]

†1. Something that has been woven, a woven fabric. *Obs.*

1582 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 171 A couerlet fine aloft, Of woollen weaue. 1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* iv. 11 So righteous are allurde by sins deceit, And oft inticed into sinners weave. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* v. xv. 257 This habit of Iohn, was..rather some finer weave of Camelot.

2. A particular method or pattern of weaving.

1888 C. P. Brooks *Cotton Manuf.* 139 This weave is not confined to the making of fabrics with an unbroken pile surface. 1888 R. Beaumont *Woollen Manuf.* x. 279 It may..be useful to consider how, from a plain weave warped and woven one thread black and one thread white, the solid lines of these colours..have been formed. 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 11/1 With reference to linens there has been a larger demand for weaves of this kind.

Weave (wīv), *v.*1 Pa. t. wove (wōuv); pa. pple. woven (wōu·v'n). Forms: *Inf. and pres. stem* 1 wefan (2 *sing.* wyfst, 3 *sing.* wefð, wifeð, wyfð), weofan, 3–6 weve, 4–5 wewe, wef(e, 5–6 weyve, *Sc.* weif(f, weff, 6 weeve, wayve, wyeve, *Sc.* weive, weiwe, wif(f, wyf, wywe, 6–9 *Sc.* wyve, 6– weave. *Pa. t. sing.* 1 wef, wef, 4 wof, woof, 4–5 waf, wafe, wave, 6– wove; *weak forms* 4 wevede, 7 weavde, 6–9 weaved. *Pa. t. pl.* 1 wǽfon, 4 weven, woven. *Pa. pple.* 1 wefen, gewefen, giwefen, *North.* geuoefen, 3 iweove, iweven, 4 iweve, wovun, ywoven, (i)-wovyn, 5–6 *Sc.* weif, 6 *Sc.* weefin, wiffin, woifen, wowein, wolvin, 7–9 wove, 4– woven; *weak forms* 4–6 weved, 4 weft, woved, 5 weuyd, 7 weevd, weavd, 6–9 weaved. [A Common Teut. strong verb (not recorded in Gothic): OE. *wefan*, pa. t. *wæf*, pl. *wǽfon*, pa. pple. *wefen*, corresponds to OFris. **weva* (NFris. *wevven*, WFris. *wive, wevje*), (M)LG., (M)Du. *weven*, OHG. *weban, wepan* (MHG., mod. G. *weben*), ON. *vefa* (MSw. *väva*, Sw. *väfva*, Da. *væve*):—OTeut. **web-* (: **waf-*: **wēf-*) :—Indogermanic **webh-* (: **wibh-* : **ubh-*), represented in Skr. *ūrṇavābhi* spider (lit. 'wool-weaver'), Gr. ὑφή, ὕφος, web, ὑφαίνειν to weave. The same root occurs in *web* (and *abb*), *weft, woof.*

In the 14th and 15th c. the form of the pa. pple. became assimilated to that of the pa. pples. of strong verbs with root ending in a liquid (e. g. *steal, stolen*), and, as in most verbs of that class, the *o* of the pa. pple. was extended to the pa. t. both sing. and pl. The weak inflexion has been occasionally used in all periods from the 14th c. onwards, but has never become general.]

1. *trans.* To form or fabricate (a stuff or material) by interlacing yarns or other filaments of a particular substance in a continuous web; to manufacture in a loom by crossing the threads or yarns called respectively the warp and the weft. Also with obj. the web itself, a garment made up of such a stuff or material. † *To weave out*: to complete the weaving of.

† *To weave in a stroł*: see Stool *sb.* 3.

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* IV. XXV. (1890) 354 Hīo smeolo hraxel weofaþ & wyrcaþ. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 504/2 *Ordiretur*, wefen wæs. *c* 1200 *Virtues & Vices* 39 Al swa nan webb ne mai bien iweuen wiþ-uten twa beames. *c* 1290 *St. Edmund Conf.* 167 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 436 Heo [a hair shirt] nas i-sponne ne i-weoue, ake i-broide strengus longue. *c* 1300 *Assumpt. Virg.* 668 This ilke wubbe here self woof. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 237 Thei tawhten him a Las to breide, And weve a Pours. *c* 1430 *Mirk's Festial* 246 Scho occupiet hir craft of weuyng clopes and ornamentes to þe auter. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 To Wefe, *texere.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XIII. viii. 86 The precyus wedis, Wrocht craftely, and weif of goldin thredis Quhilum be fair Andromachais hand. 1528 More *Dyalogs* III. x. O v b/2 Yt were as sone done to weue a new web of clothe. as to sowe vppe euery hole in a net. 1530 Palsgr. 779/1 The weyver sayeth he can nat wayve my clothe tyll he have more yarne. 1535 Coverdale *Job* vii. 6 My dayes passe ouer more spedely, then a weeuer can weeue out his webbe. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Textrina*.., the place where thinges be weaued or wounden. 1539 Bible (Great) 2 *Kings* xxiii. 7 Where the wemen woue hanginges for the groue. *c* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 73 b, For all the copes and Vestementes wer but of one pece, so wouen for the Crow in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 15 The silke ..beeing ill woven will shrink and pucker. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 340 These Purple Vests were weav'd by Dardan Dames. *Ibid.* IX. 651 The Mantle..which I wove with Care. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XV. 139 Accept, dear youth, this monument of love, Long since, in better days, by Helen wove. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 541 Woollen stockings..of excellent quality are wove by the Germans, especially in Germantown. 1856 G. Roberts *Soc. Hist.* 376 Our lace was not wove. It had neither warp nor woof. 1878 Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 69 The shawls and the textile furniture used in the rites of religion were frequently woven in the temples.

b. in figurative context.

In many langs. the equivalent vb. is used in metaphorical expressions relating to the contriving of plots or deception: so Gr. ὑφαίνειν, L. *texere, ordiri*, Fr. *ourdir.* Cf. 2 f.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* XXX. 1 Wo I..seith the Lord, that 3e schulden do counseil, and not of me; and wefen a web [Vulg. *ordiremini telam*], and not bi my spirit. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* v. 1. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 85 All the wiles Weeud in the loomes of greatnes, and of state. *c* 1620 Morvson *Itin.* Suppl. (1903) 191 If..each Deputy should giue in writing to the State in England a full relation of his gouernment and the State of that kingdome [Ireland], so as his successour might weaue the same webb he had begunn, and not make a newe frame of his owne. *c* 1660 Heylin *Cypr. Angl.* 64 For much they feared that Abbot would unravel all the Web which Bancroft with such pains had weaved. 1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 220 The robes of the seasons, wove in the changeful looms of nature. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. xvii, O what a tangled web we weave, When first we practise to deceive! 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* I. i, All this helped silently to weave charmed webs over Viola's imagination. 1893 F. Thompson *Poems* 59 Better thou wov'st thy woof of life than thou didst weave thy woof of song.

c. said of the loom.

1804 W. L. Bowles *Spir. Discov.* II. 275 Thy mariners..furled th' embroidered sails, That looms of Egypt wove.

d. To depict in tapestry.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2360 She hadde I-wouyn In a stamyn large How she was brought from Athenys In a Barge. *Ibid.* 2364 And al the thyng that Tereus hath wrought She waf it wel & wrot the storye a-boue. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V. v. 13 Quhairon wes weif in subtell goldin threidis King Troyus son [etc.]. *a* 1683 Oldham *Rem.* (1684) 114, I have seen a handsomer Mortal carv'd in Monumental Gingerbread, and woven in Hangings at Mortlock. *fig.* 1820 Scott *T. Rhymer* III. xvi, Their loves, their woes, the gifted bard In fairy tissue wove.

e. *fig.* To contrive, fabricate, or construct (a mental product) with elaborate care. Also with *out, up.*

c 1420 *Wyclif Bible* I. 72/1 Of whom the first [Isaiah] is not seyn to me to weuen prophecie, but euangelie. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1598) 331 Your wise, but very darke speeches..are wouen vp in so intricate a maner, as I know not how to proportion mine answere vnto them. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VI. vi. 6 For answer whereunto Acesius weaveth out a long History of things that hapned in the persecution under Decius. 1698 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. XXXV. (1674) 44 The Author's subtilty in weaving of his Poem. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* I. 165 Then weave in rapid verse the deeds they tell. 1819 W. S. Rose *Lett. N. Italy* I. 24, I had already woven a little romance for him in my imagination. 1844 Lamb *Elia, Blakesmoor*, Contemplations on the great and good..weave for us illusions. 1849 Miss Mulock *Ogilvies* II, Katherine had already woven out the whole romance of the stranger's life. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* I. i, *You* stole the and you have woven a plot to lay the sin at my door. 1882 Spencer *First Princ.* I. iii. § 21 (1875) 66 The original materials out of which all thought is woven. 1894 M. Creighton *Hist. Ess.* I. (1902) 42 The..desire for reality that made him [Dante] weave his poem around himself. 1896 Thompson *Chron. A. de Ush* 186 The evil arts of brewing charms and weaving spells. 1885–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* May 15 Pathetic strains and passionate they wove, Urgent in ecstasies of heavenly sense. 1913 W. K. Fleming *Mysticism Chr.* 108 In his writings, his weakness lay in his proneness.. to weave endless allegories out of the Old Testament writings.

f. To form (e. g. a basket, a wreath) by interlacing rods or twigs, flowers, etc.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clii. (1495) 704 Stakes be pyghte in the grounde and there aboute ben wrethes wouen and wounden of thornes. 1599 T. Cutwode *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) cxxiv, And others very busie do begin: To weaue their litle baskets..to put their hearbs and all their flowers in. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 839 Adam the while.. had wove Of choicest Flours a Garland to adorne Her Tresses. 1727 Dyer *Fleece* I. 375 Hurdles to weave, and chearly shelters raise, Thy vacant hours require. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* V. xiii, But, Lady, weave no wreath for me, Or weave it of the cypress-tree! 1839 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 21 Among the Brobdignagian sedges..the nightshade..weaves a perfect matting of its poisonous garlands. 1839 Emerson *Poems, The Problem* 25 Know'st thou what wove yon woodbird's nest Of leaves, and feathers from her breast? 1842 Macaulay *Horatius* lxix, When the girls are weaving baskets, And the lads are shaping bows. 1900 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* viii, With the skill of ghastly practice some of them wove a litter on which the body was placed.

fig. 1893 Liddon *Life Pusey* I. App. A. 451 Legend has woven a wreath round the early history of the family.

g. *Sc.* To knit. Also *dial.* to plait (hair).

1695 *Rec. Old. Aberd.* (New Spalding Club) I. 160 Privat schooles..wherein children ar taught to sew or wyve. 1785 Burns *Epist. to J. Lapraik* 2 Apr. ii, On Fasteneen we had a rockin, To ca' the crack and weave our stockin. 1825 Jamieson, To *Weave* v. a. and n. To knit, applied to stockings, &c.; pron. Wyve. Aberd. 1884 J. C. Egerton *Sussex Folk* 132 He..used to go regularly twice a week to the house of one of his principal customers, 'to weave his cue', or, in less professional language, to plait his pigtail.

¶h. In figurative use app. sometimes confusedly: To spin, twine (a cord, thread).

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24413 The cordeler that wal the corde Of pes, vnyte, and concorde,..Hyr name was called 'Charyte'. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 19 The Indians uproar had weaved for us a thread of long discourse. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xxv. 249 The men weave their long yarns with peals of rattling hearty laughter between.

2. *absol.* or *intr.* To practise weaving; to work with a loom.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xv. (Z.) 104 *Twi ancilla texit* Ðin wyln wefð. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 170 Hire moder..Bad that sche schulde..lerne forto weve and spinne. *c* 1440 Capgrave *St. Gilbert* I. 129 A conuerse of þat same ordre..sat stille in his craft weuyng. 1588 E. D. *Prayse of Nothing* A ij b, For equity would not..that Arachne weaue in the frames of Minerua. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. vi. 194, I can sing, weave, *Ribbon Weavers* 118 My father is a silk weaver; it is about twenty years since I first began to weave. 1828 Carlyle *Heyne* Ess. 1840 II. 41 The poor cottage, where his father had weaved. 1912 T. R. Glover *From Pericles to Philip* I. 17 [In Egypt] Women go to market and men stay at home and weave, and they weave down where others weave up.

fig. 1620 Fletcher *Sp. Curate* II. i, They that pretend to wonders must weave cunningly.

3. *trans.* Of a spider, insect: To spin (a web, a cocoon). Also *absol.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 468 Ðe spinnere..werpeð ðus hire web and weueð on hire wise. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lix. 5 The webbis of an attercop thei wouen [*v. r.* weueden]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xi. (Bodl. MS.) Þe femele leiþ egges and þeroof comeþ smal spiþeres and þe mele setteþ hem to weue as sone as þei beþ yheiȝt. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19269 As an vreyne wewyth a calle, To make fliyes there-in to falle. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 30 She..beganne to devyse & spynne a new webbe, lyke a spyder that dayly weveth when hys calle is torne. 1604 Drayton *Owle* E 2 b, The spyders woue their webbs euen in his wings. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* III. 111 Silke-wormes..infold themselues in a piece of silk they weaue of an ouall forme and yellow color. 1784 Cowper *Task.* 595 While ev'ry worm industriously weaves And winds his web about the rivell'd leaves.

fig. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 340 My Brayne, more busie then the laboring Spider, Weaues tedious Snares to trap mine Enemies. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 139 He..Could twist as tough a Rope of Sand, And weave fine Cobwebs, fit for Skull That's empty when the Moon is full. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* I, Men the flies of latter spring, That lay their eggs, and sting and sing And weave their petty cells and die.

4. To form a texture with (threads, filaments, strips of some material); to interlace or intertwine so as to form a fabric.

1538 Elyot *Dict., Licia*, be threades, whiche sylke women do weaue in lyncelles or stooles. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 46 The Spinsters and the Knitters in the Sun, And the free maides that weaue their thred with bones. 1608 — *Per.* IV. Gower 21 When they weaude the sleded silke, With fingers long, small, white as milke. 1656 H. Peacham *Valley of Varietie* 131 There remains fine hairie threds, like unto Flax, which are woven into cloth. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* X. 103 This while I sung, my Sorrows I deceiv'd, And bending Osiers into Baskets weav'd. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 27 Aug. 3/2 A young lady of Milton lately spun 70 skeins of thread cott. of a pound of Cotton—which another young lady wove. 1826 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* V. 272 To send cotton yarn from the mills..into the remote glens of the Highlands, for the purpose of being weaved. 1877–80 *Cl.* ..wove-in the silk white,

and dyed the flowers their natural colour in the piece. *a* 1908 C. Bigg *Orig. Chr.* (1909) 459 The art of weaving flax had been introduced from Babylon.

b. To entwine or wreathe together.

1578 [see Intertex *v.*]. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 167 Citizens daughters..weare nothing vpon their heads but their haire wouen with laces, and so gathered on the fore-part of the head. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* ix. 57 The Grottoes cool, with shady Poplars crown'd, And creeping Vines on Arbours weav'd around. 1727 [Dorrington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 42 He bent the branches..and weaved them across one another. 1830 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxviii, Again at Christmas did we weave The holly round the Christmas hearth.

c. *fig.* To intermingle or unite closely or intimately as if by weaving; to work up *into* an elaborate and connected whole. Also with *in*.

1545 Gardiner in Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 97 In the tragedy untruth is so malliciously weaved with truth [etc.]. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. i. 17 This weaves it selfe perforce into my businesse. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Lady Kilconquhair* 8 Aug., Is not this hell and heaven woven thorow other? 1638 Sir T. Herbert (*title*), Some Yeares Travels..Describing especially the two famous Empires, the Persian, and great Mogull: weaved with the History of these later Times. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 25 Can they receive and assent to adventitious Notions, and be ignorant of those, which are supposed woven into the very Principles of their Being..? 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 40 P 2 An Author might as well think of weaving the Adventures of Æneas and Hudibras into one Poem. *a* 1719 — *Evid. Chr. Relig.* v. (1733) 42 When religion was woven into the civil government, and flourished under the protection of the Emperors. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. cxii, And for these words, thus woven into song, It may be that they are a harmless wile. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* (1866) I. 203 Science weaves phenomena into unity. 1875 Ouseley *Mus. Form* ix. 49 Put the melody in the bass, or in an inner part, and weave in a new melody with it in the upper part. *c* 1904 Bridges *Voltaire* Poems (1912) 381 Grave Dante weaving well His dark-eyed thought into a song divine.

d. *intr.* for *refl.* To become woven or interwoven. Also *fig. rare.*

1613–26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 30 The amorous Vine which in the Elme still weaues. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. lxxi, Tears weave with smiles to form the bridge to heaven!

e. *intr.* With quasi-passive sense: To admit of being woven.

1842 R. Oastler *Fleet Papers* II. 26 It will not spin into good yarn, nor weave into wearable cloths.

†f. intr. *To weave out*: to become unwoven. *nonce-use* (suggested by the context). *Obs.*

1641 Milton *Reform.* II. 78 The government of Episcopacy, is now so weav'd into the common Law In Gods name let it weave out againe.

5. *trans.* To enmesh or entangle, to wrap up, as in a net, etc. In quots. *fig.*

1600 [? G. Bryden] *Horæ Subs.* 394 And thus being wouen in their [Roman] nets, they be in a manner destitute of all possibility of recouery. 1869 Lowell *Study Wind., Condescension in Foreigners* (1871) 43 The mind can weave itself warmly in the cocoon of its own thoughts.

6. To cause to move in a devious course; to direct (one's steps) in a devious or intricate course, as in dancing.

1630 Heath *Clarastella* 11 Her steps with such an evenness she wove, As shee could hardly be perceiv'd to move. 1839 De Quincey *Mem. Grasmere* Wks. 1890 XIII. 132 Sarah was going about the crowd, and weaving her person in and out. 1893 Kate D. Wiggin *Cathedral Courtship* 136 To weave that donkey and that Bath 'cheer' through the narrow streets..is a task for a Jehu.

b. To go through the intricate movements of (a dance).

1720 Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* II. 36 Weave the light dance and swell the choral song. 1862 Neale *Hymns East. Ch.* 46 They..to that eternal Pascha Wove the dance and raised the strain.

Hence **Weaved** *ppl. a.* = Woven *ppl. a.* Also *weaved-up*.

1552 Huloet, Weued, *textus*. 1561 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* VI. R vj, Lyke as the flye that smallest is in weued Cobweb hye. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 229 (Qo. 1608) And must I rauell out My weaud vp Folly?

Weave, *v.*[2] Also 6 **wheave**, 7 **weive**. [Continuation of ME. Weve.]

1. *intr.* To move repeatedly from side to side; †to toss *to and fro*; to sway the body alternately to one side and the other; to pursue a devious course, thread one's way amid obstructions.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iv. 10 Whilest thus amidst the billowes beating of her Twixt life and death, long to and fro she weaued [*rhymes* bereaued, deceaued]. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 146 Their fantasticall gestures exceed all barbarisme, continually weauing with their bodies, and often iumping vp-right (as is the manner in dauncing). 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 72/4 By and by I saw him weaving from one side of the Pulpit to t'other. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* VII. 700 Him who grinds The hurdy-gurdy, at the fiddle weaves, Rattles the salt-box [etc.]. 1854 Miss A. E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Weaving*, moving backward and forward in a chair when uneasy or in trouble. 'You're weaving your web of sorrow,' is often said to any one so doing. A metaphor from the loom. 1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* xx, The preacher..begun in earnest too; and went weaving first to one side of the platform and then the other. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang, Weave* (American), to work along from one side to the other...A drunken man 'weaves along'. 1898 Crockett *Standard Bearer* II. 14 Twenty or thirty dragoons were urging their horses forward in pursuit, weaving this way and that among the soft lairy places.

b. *spec.* of a horse: To move the head, neck, and body restlessly from side to side of the stall.

1831 Youatt *Horse* xix. 345. 1869 Fitzwygram *Horses & Stables* § 194. 121 As a general rule, horses do not weave, unless they are tied up.

2. *trans.* To move (the hand or something held by it) *to and fro, up and down.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 404 Make the ointment to sinke wel into the flesh, by holding a hot broad barre ouer the place annointed, weauing your hand too and fro, vntil the ointment be entred into the skin. *Ibid.* 417 Hauing annointed all the raw places with this ointment, make it to sinke into the flesh, by holding and weauing vp and downe ouer it, a hot broad barre of yron.

3. To make a signal to (a ship or its occupants) by waving a flag or something used as a substitute. Also *intr.* with *for*.

1593 P. Nichols *Sir F. Drake Revived* (1628) 27 He wheaued vs with his hat, and his long hanging sleeues to come a shoare. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 41 The nexte daye..he came to the sea sid, and weaved for a boate. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 566 Then shaking a pike of fire in defiance of the enemie, and weauing them amaine, we bad them come aboord: and an Englishman in the gallie made answer, that they would come aboord presently. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 33 Which when they perceaved, they weived us with naked swords. 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 59 Although I shott towardes them and weaued them to follow me.

4. *Pugilism.* (*trans.* and *intr.*) To creep close into (one's opponent) before delivering one's blow; to step in feinting and try to approach close to one's opponent in order to administer punishment. Also (? *Obs.*), to get (the adversary's head) 'in chancery'.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) II. 23 Spring held his opponent's hand..to prevent being weaved. *Ibid.*, Painter..endeavoured to weave his antagonist. *Ibid.* III. 133 Neither were expert hands at weaving, and Martin was thrown. *P. Egan's Boxiana* (1829) III. 397 The strength and opponent's 'knowledge-box', and was endeavouring to weave it under his arms, but [etc.]. 1921 *Times* 29 June 10/6 Defensively he [*sc.* Dempsey] is a much better boxer than one might easily suppose...His body sways as he weaves in and out, making him a very elusive target and very difficult to land on with a hard punch.

Weavel(l, obs. ff. Weevil.

Weaver[1] (wī·vəɹ). Forms: 4 **wefere**, 4–5 **wevere**, 5 **wevyr**, **wewar(e**, **weiver**, **weyver**, 5–6 **weffer(e**, 5–7 **wever**, 6 **wevar**, **wayver**, 6–7 *Sc.* **wiver**, 6, 9 *Sc.* **weyver**, 7 *Sc.* **weifer**, 8 **weever**, 9 *Sc.* **wyver**, 6– **weaver**. [f. Weave *v.*[1] + -er [1].]

1. One who weaves textile fabrics; a workman or workwoman whose occupation is weaving.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 99 Wollene websteris and weueris of lynen. 1382 Wyclif *Job* vii. 6 My dayes swiftliere passiden than of the weuere the web is kut of. *c* 1450 Capgrave *St. Gilbert* l. 31 Þe apostell, whech was a weuer of cloth. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. i, A wayuer or fuller shulde be an unmete capitaine of an armie. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 146, I would I were a Weauer, I could sing all manner of songs. 1638 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 388 The wiveris friemen within this burgh feirit that [etc.]. 1675 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 80 Last week there was ane uproar in London occationed by the weavers. 1765 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 95 May, Many thousand Weavers rose, on a bill for their relief being thrown out of the House of Lords. 1768 *True Copy Poll City Oxf.* 16 Mitchel, James, Wytham, Weaver. *c* 1778 *Life Capt. Socivisca* 28 Every Wallachian Man is his own Cartwright, and every Woman a Weaver for her own Family. 1851–3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) II. 857/2 The weaver..pressing with one foot on one of the treadles,..lowers one of the healds, [etc.]. 1871 C. Gibbon *Lack of Gold* v, The weavers obtained employment principally from the manufacturers of Kingshaven. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Weavers*, women employed in the manufacture of cloth.

b. One who plaits. Also *Sc.*, one who knits.

1783 *European Mag.* Sept. 176 Betty got the hair wove into a tail at the..wig-makers..assuring the nimble-fingered weaver, it was for herself. 1825 Jamieson, *Weaver, wyver*, ..a knitter of stockings, Aberd.

2. *fig.* One who weaves, in metaphorical senses of the vb.; one who contrives, constructs, etc. (something specified).

In the first quot. the word may be misread for *weners* Wenner.

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 77 Þanne comeþ forþ good hope; To saue man he wolde fonde: 'Þou wronge weuere ouerhope! I make him free, þou woldist make him bonde.' 1587 M. Grove *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 73 Yet say not nay-thelesse that I..am the weauer of your woe. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 207 Sedentary weavers of long tales Give me the fidgets. 1885 Clodd *Myths* I. iii. 50 The savage is not a conscious weaver of allegories. 1905 J. B. Firth *Highways Derbysh.* xvi. 245 A weaver of rhymes.

3. *Sc.* A spider.

1825 Jamieson, *Wyver*, a spider, Aberd. 1892 *Ibid.*, *Wyvers'-nubs*, cobwebs.

4. One of numerous Asiatic or African tropical birds of the family *Ploceidæ*, so called from the elaborately interwoven nests that many of them build. Also more fully *weaver-bird* (see 6).

1826 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 240 *Ploceus Philippinus*, Tem...Philippine Weaver...*P. Abyssinicus*...Abyssinian Weaver. 1844 Lady G. Fullerton *Ellen Middleton* (1854) II. xiv. 149 The weavers with their endless tails. 1894–5 *Lydekker's Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 363 The red-billed black weaver (*Textor niger*) is found in the Transvaal. 1909 *African Monthly* VI. 270 A colony of Spotted-backed Weavers.

5. A water-beetle of the family *Gyrinidæ*. = Whirligig *sb.* 4. 1864 Webster.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weaver-body*, *-boy*, †*-craft*, *-girl*, *-leg*, †*-trindle*; also in the names of certain birds, as *weaver-bird* (see sense 4), *-bunting*, *-finch*, *-oriole*.

1826 J. F. Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIV. 34 Ploceus, Cuvier. *Weaver-bird. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* ii. 38 The pendulous nests of the weaver-bird are a protection from snakes and other enemies. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, Ye are willing to be guided by the Glasgow *weaver-body's advice. 1817 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXII. 98 The appellation of '*Weaver Boys' was..bestowed on the speakers at the numerous meeting, held at Manchester, in November last. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* III. 193 *Weaver Bunting. 1815 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 87 Robert Rossell being freman of the *wever Crafte sworne saith [etc.]. 1876 A. R. Wallace *Distrib. Anim.* II. 286 The Ploceidæ, or *Weaver-finches, are especially characteristic of the Ethiopian region. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* i, The *weaver-girls in their flowers and ribbons. 1875 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* II. 44 He wad..rin as fest as his wee *weyver (*spider*) legs cud wag. 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 435 *Weever Oriole. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/2 A *Wefler tryndylle, *fusubulus*.

b. Possessive combinations, as *weaver's beam*, †*brush*, *-craft*, *-glue*, †*hand-roll*, †*-jack*, *-loom*, †*-weight*, *-winder*; †**weaver's beef** of Colchester, a name given to sprats; **weaver's bottom, weavers' cramp** (see quots.); **weaver's knot**, a sheet-bend or single bend, used for joining threads in weaving; †**weaver's larum**, an alarum made of a candle, a weight, and string; **weaver's lights** (see quot.: cf. *weaver's windows*); **weaver's shuttle**, (*a*) the shuttle used by weavers: (*b*) a shell *Radius* (*Oviculum*) *volva*; **weaver's windows** (see quot.: cf. *weaver's lights*).

1539 Bible (Great) 1 *Sam.* xvii. 7 Y^e^ shafte of his spere was like a *weuers beame. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. i. 24. *a* 1679 J. Ward *Diary* (1839) 112 Sprats are proverbially called *Weaver's beef of Colchester 1865 W. White *East.* the bursa over the ischial tuberosity from pressure. 1583 *Rates Customs ho.* A vij, Brusshes called *weuers brusshes of heare, the dosen, ij.s. vj.d. 1462 in C. A. Markham *Northampton Bor. Rec.* (1898) I. 298 Euery persone that shall occupie and set vp the seide *Weyvere-crafte within the ffraunchese of this town. 1881 W. Rivington in *Brain* IV. 257 The patient, who had been a weaver, suffered from what we may call '*weavers' cramp', by which is meant a condition analogous to 'writers' cramp'. 1872 C. W. Heaton *Experim. Chem.* iii. 308 When cotton thread or cotton fabrics are bleached, it is merely in order to remove the oily, sweaty, and mealy substances (**weaver's glue*, &c.) which have become attached to them during spinning and weaving. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 251/1 A *weavers hand Roll. *Ibid.*, A *Weavers Jack. 1532 [G. Walker] *Dice Play* B iij b, To turne his pricke vpward, and cast a *weauers knot on both his thumbs behind him. 1678 Wanley *Wonders Little World* I. x. 16 With the flexure of her Tongue only she could readily tye that fast Knot, which we call the Weaver's Knot. 1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 555 This little Apparatus goes commonly by the Name of the *Weaver's Larum, from its being chiefly or originally made use of by Persons employed in that Trade. 1866 *Morn. Star* 14 Aug. 4/3 Broad windows extending the breadth of the house, and known as '*weavers' lights'. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xvii. 7 The shaft of his speare was like a *weuers lome. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Radius*,..a *wayuers shyttell, wherwith he throweth the yern in to the webbe. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Job* vii. 6 My dayes are swifter then a weuers shittle. 1815 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Weaver's Shuttle, *Bulla Volva*. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 80 When *weauers weight is found in huswiues web. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 19 The trades taught are those of the..weaver, *weaver's winder, carpenter, and blacksmith. 1896 K. Snowden *Web of Weaver* xii. 152 The house had what we used to call *weavers' windows—three or four narrow lights together.

Weaver[2]. [f. Weave *v.*[2] + -er [1].] A horse that 'weaves' or rolls the neck and body from side to side.

1847 T. Brown *Modern Farriery* 387 Animals of an impatient, irritable temper,..will sometimes keep moving their head, neck, and body to and fro, like the motion of a weaver's shuttle: these have been called weavers. 1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's L.* xi, T' horse was a weaver, if iver one was. 1880 W. Day *Racehorse in Training* i. 6 If a horse is a weaver put him into a box, for in it he is more contented and often forgets his tricks.

Weaver, obs. f. Waver *sb.*[1]; var. Wreaver.

Weaveress (wī·vərės). [f. Weaver [1] + -ess.] A female weaver.

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6194/7 Mary Griffin,..Weaveress. 1877 J. H. Blunt *Dursley* 222 He found two looms alone remaining at work in the hands of an ancient weaver and weaveress. 1890 *Tablet* 4 Jan. 23 An old weaveress, a widow 72 years of age.

†**Weaverly**, *adv. sb. Obs. rare.* [f. Weaver [1], + -ly [1].] Weaver's work.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* VI. 92 In Weavering and in Fulling, I have..Skill; And underneath my Weavering-Beam, There stands a Fulling-Mill.

†**Weaverly**, *a. Obs. rare*[—1]. [f. Weaver *sb.* + -ly [1].] As a depreciatory epithet: Like a weaver.

1643 J. White *First Cent. Scandalous Malignant Priests* 47 [He] calls his parishioners..Plow joggers, Rawling dogges, Weaverly lacks, and Church-Robbers.

Weavill, obs. form of Wevil.

Weaving (wī·viŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. WEAVE *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of the *vb.* WEAVE; *esp.* the operation of forming cloth or other stuff by the interlacing of yarn or other filaments in a loom.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 444 Cloth þat cometh fro þe weuyng is nouȝt comly to were. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xl. (Bodl. MS.), Þe female [spider] is more of bodie þan þe male and haþ lengre feete and more pliaunte and more able to meuynge and to weuynge. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 As myche for gardyng, spynnyng, and wevyng. 1511–12 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 The Wever whiche shall have the wevyng of eny wollen yerne to be webbed into cloth. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. lvi. I. 188 Weaving was the invention of the Ægyptians. 1774 BRYANT *Mythol.* (1775) II. 525 Erech; in which place likewise the weaving of linen, and making of nets was first found out. 1843 J. S. KNOWLES *Secretary* III. i. 25 His grace the duke Is in a net of his own weaving caught. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 45 Weaving was an art in which the Egyptians excelled.

† **b.** *concr.* A tissue, plexus. *Obs.*

1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Dd 3, *Varicosum Corpus*, that Weaving of Blood-Vessels, which enters into the Testicles.

2. *slang.* (See quot. 1865.)

1803 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 326 Weaving—Is securing one or more cards upon the knee, under the table played at. 1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Weaving*, a notorious card-sharping trick, done by keeping certain cards on the knee, or between the knee and the underside of the table, and using them when required by changing them for the cards held in the hand.

3. *attrib.*, as *weaving-factory, -frame,* † *-house, -loom, -mill, -room, -shed,* † *-shop,* † *-work.*

1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. IV. 95 Some being 'spinning-factories', some '*weaving-factories', and some both conjoined. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 *Wevyng frame, *mestier. c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 *Wevynge howse, *textrinum.* 1772 [see SPINNING-HOUSE 1]. 1496 in Weaver *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 343 A *weving lome wt his apparell and portenances. 1675 in Jeaffreson *Middx. County Rec.* (1892) IV. 63 Wooden frames of weaveing Loomes. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 380 A *weaving-mill near Manchester. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. ii, Nor should the *weaving-room be forgotten. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 455 Whom soon they found, within the weaving-room, Bent earnestly above the rattling loom. 1844 *Penny Mag.* Jan. Suppl. 38 We next descend to the '*weaving-shed',..Here we find eight hundred and forty power-looms in one room. 1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 432 The men from the..imperial weaving-sheds. 1564 *Inv.* in Noakes *Worcs. Relics* (1877) 13 In the 'weaving shoppe ij loomes, v geares [etc.]. ?14.. in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 159 Fro vndern to none sche ocupied hir in *weving werke. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* ii. 11 Anna..wente daylie to the weeuynge worke.

Wea·ving, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Pugilism.* [f. WEAVE *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] (See WEAVE *v* [2] 4.)

1820 *P. Egan's Boxiana* (1829) III. 465 In closing, after a struggle, they broke away from each other. Neither of them seemed to have any idea of the weaving system. 1827 DE QUINCEY *Murder* i. in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 210/2 In the course of this round we tried the weaving system, in which I had greatly the advantage, and hit him repeatedly on the conk. 1897 R. G. ALLANSON-WINN *Boxing* 262, I was obliged to retreat, and did so, as slowly as possible, using the weaving guards with both arms and completely escaping punishment.

Weaving (wī·viŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WEAVE *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That weaves, in senses of the verb.

c 1000 *Sonq Hezekiah* in *Lambeth Ps.* (Lindelöf) 236 Forcorfen is swylce fram wefendum wife [= *uelut a texente*] lif min. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 80 Weauing Spiders come not heere. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 429 Weaving Oriole. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xiii. (1818) I. 412 The weaving spider..presses her spinners against one of the walls, and thus glues to it one end of her thread,

Weavle, obs. f. WAVEL *v. Sc.*

† **Weavy,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WEAVE *v.*[1] + -Y.] Suitable for weaving.

16.. CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 44 Others fell'd Wood, and some dye weavy Yarn, The Women Spun.

Weasand, Weazell: see WEASAND, WEEZLE.

Weazen (wī·z'n), *a.* Also 8 **weesen,** 9 **weazen.** Altered form of WIZEN *a.*

1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. 10 His little weezen face as sharp as a razor. 1793 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Old Manor House* I. iii. (ed. 2) 53 However she may set her weazen face against it..she likes at the bottom of her heart a young fellow of spirit. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Inn Kitchen* I. 317 A little swarthy Frenchman, with a dry weazen face. 1839 DICKENS *Nicholeby* lxii, A little, weazen, hump-backed man. 1877 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* (1892) 76 A weazen little body, with over ladylike manners.

fig. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 577 Their policy was not weazen and anæmic.

b. *Comb.*: **weazen-face, -faced** *adjs.*

1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 37 He is but a poor, weazen-face chicken of a gentleman. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav., Bold Dragoon* (1848) 30 A pale, weazen-faced fellow. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ii, A little weazen-faced old lady. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xi, A little blear-eyed, weazen-faced, ancient man came creeping out.

Weazen (wī·z'n), *v.* Also 9 **weesen.** [Altered form of WIZEN *v.*] *intr.* To shrink, shrivel. Also *trans.* (? *nonce-use*) to cause to shrink.

1821 *Lonsdale Mag.* II. 409, I put those three shillings.. into a hole, and I found them weezened every time I went to look at them...I have just found it out that Dick has weesend them. 1830 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. ii. 605 Nothing retards their [*sc.* pigs'] feeding so much as allowing them to be pining and weasening for their anticipated regular meal.

Weazened (wī·z'nd), *ppl. a.* = WIZENED *ppl. a.*

1842 THACKERAY *Sultan Stork* Wks. 1900 V. 739 The old woman blushed as far as her weazened old face could blush. 1860 SALA *Seven Sons* III. iv. 65 Jockeys..dwindled from strong men into little weazened brats of children. 1879 J. PAYN *Under One Roof* i, A small grey man, frail of limb, somewhat weazened as to face. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 12 May 289/2 Weazened black and tan terriers.

transf. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. xi. 115 Old and weazened as that piano is. 1882 CONSTANCE F. WOOLSON *Anne* i. 22 The small face showed the most profound, almost weazened, solicitude.

Weazeny (wī·zĕni), *a.* [f. WEAZEN *a.* + -Y [1].] Somewhat weazen.

1854 LOWELL *Fireside Trav., Roman Mosaic* (1909) 208 A half-dozen of weazeny baked pears. 1865 MRS. H. WOOD *Mildred Arhell* xxviii, A thin, weazeny sort of man.

Weason, weasond, obs. ff. WEASAND.

Web (web), *sb.* Forms: 1 **web,** 1–2 **webb,** 3 **weob,** 3–8 **webb,** 4–5 **veb**(b, 4–7 **webbe,** 5–7 **webe,** 6 **wabe,** 3– **web.** Also *Sc.* and *north.* 6 **vob, wobb**(**e,** 6–9 **wob,** 7 **woob,** 8–9 **wab.** [OE. *web*(*ò* neut., corresp. to OFris. *web, wob* (WFris. *web, webbe,* NFris. *wëb, wdb*), OS. *webbi* (MLG. and LG. *webbe*), MDu. and Du. *webbe, web,* OHG. *wappi, weppi, webbi* (MHG. *weppe, webbe*) neut., ON. *vef-r* masc. (genit. *vefjar*; Da. *væv,* Sw. *väf*):—OTeut. **wabjo-m, -s,* f. **wab-* ablaut-var. of **web-*: see WEAVE *v.*[1]]

I. 1. A woven fabric; *spec.* a whole piece of cloth in process of being woven or after it comes from the loom. Also *collect.*, woven stuff. Often as cognate obj. to *weave.*

Regularly used to translate L. *tela.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 89, 90 *Telum,* web. *Textrinum,* webb. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* (1889) 216 *Tela consummatur filis,* webb byþ ȝefylled mid þrædum. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 39 Al swa nan webb ne mai bien iweuen wiþ uten twa beames. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Wule a weob beon, et one cherre, mid one watere wel ibleched? *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 A webe to wewen. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* 496 Þe wefand þat sheris doun þe web are it be fulfild. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 92 þenne I wussche hit [a new coat] weore myn, and al þe web aftur. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* vii. 6 My dayes swiftliere passiden than of the weuere the web is kut of. 1514 *Act* 6 *Hen. VIII* c. 9 § 2 The Weaver..to restore..the Surplus of the same Yarn, if any shall be left not put into the same Web. 1546 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 236 Ane vob of tartane, contenand x ellis. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 38 b, Flaxe.. being beaten to a softnesse, serueth for webbes of Linnen. 1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* (1903) III. 78 Christane Reid in Clett cam in ane maid errand, seiking woft to ane wob. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 633 Her Hand the Web forsakes. 1789 BURNS *Robin shure in hairst,* I gaed up to Dunse, To warp a wab o' plaiden. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 835/2 The breast-bar, a smooth square beam in which there is an opening to let the web through as it is wove. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 81 A whole web or piece of calico is printed by them in three minutes. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara* 8 Ye shall pay Each fortieth web of cloth to me, As the law is. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* (1901) I. i 5 Peter was dressed like his master —coat, waistcoat, and breeches of the same web. 1909 R. LAW *Tests of Life* xv. 312 The pattern of the cloth is more clearly displayed in the web than in the patch.

in figurative context. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 114 Should I..recant now in mine aged years,..and as it were begin a new webbe? 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 102 Vnwisely weaues, that takes two webbes in hand. 1587 GREENE (*title*), Penelope's Web. 1771 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 6 Sept., How long shall we be constrained to weave Penelope's web?

† **b.** ? A breadth of woven material. So med.L. *tela,* OF. *toile* (Du Cange).

c 1460 *Inwent. Sir J. Fastolfe* in *Archæologia* XXI. 263, ij fustian Blanketts, every of hem vj webbys. 1465 *Paston Lett.* III. 435, ij. payr shytes of iij. webbys, ij. hedshytes of ij. webbys, vj. payre shytes of ij. webbys.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* Something likened to a woven fabric; something of complicated structure or workmanship. Also, the texture of such a fabric.

1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* i. 10 Skarse nature yet my face about, Hir virile wob had spun. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 83 The webbe of our life is of a mingled yarne, good and ill together. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) To Rdr., Some there be who may object to the silly web of my stile. 1663 CHARLETON *Chorea Gigant.* 98 Having thus, thread after thread, unravell'd Mr Jones his long Web of Reasons, which he thought so closely and artificially woven, as to be strong enough to bind his Readers to a belief of his Opinion, that Stone-heng was a Roman Structure. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., A Royal Poet* I. 171 That passionate and fanciful amour, which has woven into the web of his story the magical hues of poetry and fiction. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. v. (1869) 122 The web and texture of the universe..is a mystery to them. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. i. 24 The web of diplomatic negotiation and court-intrigue which had been slowly spreading over the leading states of Christendom. 1894 LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* III. 108 Sir Ralph..is soon trying to disentangle the complicated web of John Denton's debts. 1917 O. WILDRIDGE *Captains & Co.* xx. 235 His cheeks had a web of criss-cross wrinkles.

d. Used for WARP. *lit.* and *fig.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Licitatorium,* a weauers shyttel, or a sylke womans tauell, wheron sylke or threde beinge wounden, is shot through the web or lome. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* x. 51 How mungrell nature weaves Wisdome and Folly in the self-same Loome, Like webbe and woof. 1782 COWPER *Expost.* 331 He..Strikes the rough thread of error right athwart The web of ev'ry scheme they have at heart. 1868 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* I. iv. (1873) 98 Services and prayer are the web and woof of the Christian life. 1883 OGILVIE, *Web,* locally, the warp in a loom.

2. An article made of woven stuff (e.g. a garment, tapestry, a winding-sheet). Also *collect.* woven stuff of a particular material or pattern. Now chiefly literary or *arch.*

In quot. *c* 1205 *gode webbe* app. represents OE. *godwæb, godewæb,* 'fine linen', etc., the first element being perh. interpreted as = 'good'.

Beowulf 995 Goldfag scinon web æfter wæġnum. *c* 1205 LAY. 29947 Iacrud mid gode webbe. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 20584 Þe king.. caste on his rugge swiþe riche webbes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1323 All þe wawis withoute in webis of ynde. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 19 The riche Baldkins, the coistlie velvet wobbis. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* III. 902 If Phœbus tired in Latonas webs Came courting. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 540 What nation did not seek, Of thy new-modell'd wool, the curious webs? *Ibid.* III. 59 A diff'rent spinning ev'ry diff'rent web Asks from your glowing fingers. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. 133 Common woollen stocking web. 1813 J. THOMSON *Inflammation* 283 Linen cloth is the web on which the plaster is commonly spread. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. ix, Kneeling down at the bedside and kissing the sheets out of respect for the web that was to hold the sacred person of a King. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* VI. 477 With richest webs the marble walls were hung. 1871 ROSSETTI *Staff & Scrip* XXX, Fair flew my web [a banner]. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. vii, Costly fabrics and dainty webs.

† **b.** ? A kind of net for catching fish. *Obs.*

1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 To take or distroye in or by meanes of any wele..lepe hyve crele rawe webbe lister syer ..the yonge frye..of any kynde of Salmon.

† **c.** A bandana or large handkerchief. *Obs.*

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* IV. iv. 369 The waste cotton-shrub,..have ye not..made it into beautiful bandana webs? 1850 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lanes & Downs* iv. 53 The inimitable web of cambric carefully folded. *Ibid.* vi. 74 The flash, reared up fellow, in the light blue pantaloons and huge web of satin round his neck!

† **d.** *pl.* Stockinet pantaloons. ? *nonce-use.*

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 87 Our tall friend in the webs.

3. A band of material woven strongly without pile. Also *collect.* = WEBBING. Cf. GIRTH-WEB.

1337–8 [see WAME-TOW]. 1395 [see WAME-TOW *attrib.*]. 1794 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 7 The Coffin was.. lowered down with Ropes and Webb. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 115 Procure two yards, more or less, of web, of broad tape, or cloth listing. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3841, Elastic gusset webs. *Ibid.* No. 4962 The elastic web is so placed as to allow the free rising of the instep. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Web* 5. (*Vehicle.*) Stout bands of textile fabric, used as straps to limit the extension of the hood.

b. *attrib.* (and *Comb.*). Made of webbing.

1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 351 A web-headed halter with two reins. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* x, Have you no. breaking-bit, or web surcingle? 1918 'IAN HAY' *1st Hund. Thou.* viii, Sam Browne belts have been wisely discarded by the officers in favour of web-equipment. 1918 P. MACGILL *Amateur Army* 100 Web-belts were cleaned, and every speck of mud and grease removed.

4. A cobweb. Also applied to the filmy textures spun by some caterpillars. Also *collect. sing.*

So L. *tela,* F. *toile.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 468 De spinnere..werpeð ðus hire web. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxxix. 10 As þe crayn makes vayn webbes forto take fleghis with gile. *c* 1392 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 3 Thi Riet shapen in manere of a net or of a webbe of a loppe. *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 625 *Un teile de flaundre,* A web of gossomer. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23576 The place is not..Clenly kept with reuerence; For beforn, and ek behynde, Yraynes and webbes men may fynde. 14.. in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 55 Yeff ye se at morowe a dewe vpon þe grounde that is callid webe off arayne bongynge vpon þe grasse. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 219 Her bodye was..full of that laune wherof they make their webbes. 1606 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* G 3 b, Th' admirable Silke-worme Whose daintie webbe doth cloath potentates. 1718 *Poor Robin* Feb. A 3 b, Cut Caterpillars Webbs from Tops Of Twigs. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 82 Some [caterpillars] spin themselves a cone or web, in which they lie secure till they have arrived at maturity. 1823 BYRON *Juan* X. lxxxiv, With a soft besom will I sweep your halls, And brush a web or two from off the walls. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 108 A gilded summer fly Caught in a great old tyrant spider's web. 1869 J. J. WEIR in *Trans. Entom. Soc.* I. 21 Larvæ which spin webs..are eaten by birds, but not with avidity; they appear very much to dislike the web sticking to their beaks. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* xvii. 317 At the end of September..acres of furze may be seen covered with web in the morning.

b. A single thread or line spun by a spider, used in optical instruments; = COBWEB 1 b.

1877 LD. LINDSAY & D. GILL in *Dun Echt Observ. Publ.* II. 11 The webs *a, b, c, d,* and *f* are all attached to the frame which is moved by the micrometer screw. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 848/1 A spider..is caught..and placed on a wire fork. The insect immediately attaches a web to the wire.. This web is wound up on the fork till ten or twelve turns.. have been secured.

c. *fig.*; esp. (*a*) a subtly-woven snare or entanglement; (*b*) something flimsy and unsubstantial; fanciful reasoning or the like. Cf. COBWEB 3.

When the spider is not indicated in the context, it is often difficult to decide whether the quot. belongs here or to 1 c.

1574 *Mirr. Mag., Q. Elstride* XXVI, O wretched wight bewrapt in webbes of woe. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* I. i. 5 They taught that man..by his owne faulte,..brought into the worlde death and damnation, together with a webbe of miseries, out of whiche it can not ridde it selfe. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 269 With as little a web as this, will I ensnare as great a Fly as Cassio. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 5. 19 The Schoole-men..did out of no great quantitie of matter, and infinite agitation of wit, spin out vnto vs those laborious webbes of Learning which are extant in their Bookes. 1672 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* I. ii (end), I..Silk-worm-like, so long within have wrought, That I am lost in my own Webb of thought. 1848 PARSCOTT *Ford. & Ju.* I. Introd. 88 The law seemed only the web to ensnare the weak. 1851

Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxiii, He..felt that accident and artifice had spun a web about him. 1889 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* vi, He is entangled in a web of crime and guilt from which there is no escape. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 780 Who wove coarse webs to snare her purity, Grossly contriving their dear daughter's good.

5. *Paper-making.* **a.** An endless wire-cloth working on rollers and carrying the pulp. **b.** A large sheet or roll of paper made in this way.

1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 369 A horizontal frame,.. furnished with a roller or cylinder at each end, over which is stretched an endless web of brass wire, of the requisite texture or fineness for the paper about to be manufactured...The web proceeds slowly forward with a tremulous motion, which arranges and disperses the pulp regularly over the whole surface of the web. 1854 C. Tomlinson *Obj. Art-Manuf. Paper* 30 A continuous or endless web of wire cloth, stretched over two or more revolving rollers. 1854 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* II. 263/1 An endless wire-cloth, over which the web of paper is formed. 1855 Herring *Paper & Paper Making* 76 The web, as it is termed by the paper-maker, being thus severed longitudinally. 1867 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* III. 514/2 White paper, supplied by the paper-maker in large rolls of web, about 18 inches in diameter.

II. 6. A tissue or membrane in an animal body or in a plant. Also applied to similar pathological formations.

c 1290 *St. Michael* 720 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 320 A smal weob it [the fœtus] bicluppes al aboute, to holden it togadere faste. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. i. (Tollemache MS.) Sumtyme an ey hab twey yolkes, bat ben distingued a tuo by on webbe and call [*una tela*]. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* E iij b, The sayde webbe or tunycle called Rethina. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Ear*, A delicate Web, that lines the *Vestibulum*, *Cochlea*, &c. 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 324 The five filaments of the *Celosia*, Cock's-comb, are connected at their lower part by a membranous web. *a* 1827 Good *Study Med.* (1829) III. 511 When these sinuosities are first formed or scooped out, their walls are soft, irritable, and of the common cellular web. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Web*, in *Anat.*, any membrane-like, semi-transparent structure. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 812 Chronic stenosis of the larynx, ..due to..the formation of membranous webs.

attrib. 1876 tr. *E. Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 267 The circulation in the web-membrane is retarded after closure of the femoral artery. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 812 Cicatricial web formations [in the larynx] should be divided by cutting dilators.

b. The omentum or caul of cattle.

1808 Jamieson, *Web*, the covering of the entrails, the cawl, or omentum, apparently denominated from its resemblance to something that is woven. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., 'The web of the body'; the omentum. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 212 Meal is understood to darken the flesh, web, and lights of the animal [a calf].

†**7.** A thin white film or opacity growing over the eye; a kind of cataract, albugo, leucoma, or pterygium. Also *pin and web*: see Pin *sb.*[1] 11. Also *fig. Obs.*

1387 T. Usk *Test. Love* i. ii. 280 That hath caused my cominge in-to this prison, to voyde the webbes of thyne eyen, to make thes clerely to see the errours thou hast ben in. 1388 Wyclif *Tobit* vi. 9 To anoynte ijen, in whiche is a web. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vii. xvi. (1495) 234 Another suyll of the eyen we calle a webbe and Constantin calleth it Albugo and Pannus. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Sometyme commeth to be houndes sekenes in hir eyenn, for per commeth a webbe vpon hem and waxynge fleshe. 1464 *Mann. & Housh. Exp.* (Roxb.) 280 For a webbe and a pynne in yhe. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Suffusio*, a webbe in the eye. *c* 1575 *Perf. Bk. Kepings Sparhawkes* (1886) 31 Pyn or Web or other dymnes by strokes &c. must be speedely loked unto. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 28 If a horse haue a web in his eye. 1622 Banister *Treat. Eyes* vi. iii. H 8, Of the webbe or cataract, called in Greeke, *hypochyma*, in Latin, *suffusio, gutta, aqua, imaginatio*. *a* 1638 Mede *Whs.* (1672) 645 Lord! that the whole strain of Scripture..should not cure this web, and take this filme from the eyes of men! 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 67 Drop a drop or two at a time into the Eye, and it takes away all.. Spots, Webs, or any other Disorder whatever. *a* 1827 Good [illegible] o], as well as [illegible], from

†**b.** *gen.* A crust or film. *Obs.*

1594 Plat *Jewell Ho.* i. 61 [The candle] alwayes supporting it selfe aboue the water, by a thin crust or webbe, which it worketh about the flame in the nature of Camphire.

8. The membrane or fold of skin which connects the digits of an animal; esp. that which connects the toes of an aquatic bird or beast, forming a palmate foot.

1576 Turberv. *Venerie* lxxiii. 201 They [*sc.* otters] are footed like a Goose: I meane they haue a webbe betweene theyr clawes. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 533 The lower part of the toes and webs black. *Ibid.* 548 Mr. Ray calls this a cloven-footed gull; as the webs are depressed in the middle, and form a crescent. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 150 Each foot [of the otter] is furnished with five toes, connected by strong broad webs like those of water fowl. 1823 J. Thomson *Inflammation* 77 The capillary vessels in the web of the foot of the frog. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 269 Like some full-breasted swan That..takes the flood With swarthy webs. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxvi. 296 My hands pricked at the thin fine skin between the fingers that we call the webs. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 865 The burrows [of the itch insect] will generally be found in the webs between the fingers and toes.

b. *Path.* An extension of the normal fold which occurs as a congenital malformation in the human hand or foot.

1886 Barwell in *Med. Press* 25 Apr. 416 On examining the fingers I found them connected together, not merely by a thin web, but by a thick layer of tissue covered..by skin from corresponding parts of the fingers. 1876 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) II. 300 When the fingers are well formed, the Surgeon should, if possible, divide the web.

9. The series of barbs on each side of the shaft of a bird's feather; the vane or vexillum.

1723 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* vii. i. 375 *note*, The Mechanism of the Vanes, or Webs of the Feathers. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 590 The greater quil feathers are black; the exterior webs of the next are a fine green. 1826 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 216 First feather of the tail white, with a black square spot on the interior web. 1837 Gould *Birds Europe* V. Pl. 372 The shaft and the narrow inner web white; the outer web broad and deep bluish black. 1893 Gadow in Newton *Dict. Birds* 230 The rami, radii, and cilia compose the inner and outer web, vane, or *vexillum* of the feather.

III. 10. A sheet of lead, such as is used for roofing and for coffins. ? *Obs.*

Cf. med. L. *tela plumbi*: 1312 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 492/18 m. 2 (P.R.O.).

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. xi. 857 After she was put in a webbe of lead & than in a coffyn of marbyl. 1489 in Peck *Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. vii. 10 For the Balmynge, Fencyng and Scowering of the Corse, with the Webbe of Led and Chest. 1555 *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees 97) 152 Leade. In the covering upon the same colledge M[l] Dxiiij squar yerdes of webbe. 1577 in *Assoc. Archit. Soc. Rep.* (1866) VIII. 301 One webb of Lead lyynge in the gutter within the said battlement cont. in lenght iij[xx] yardes and in bredth one yarde. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* x. xxvi, And there with stately pompe by heapes they wend, And Christians slaine rolle vp in webs of lead. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxi. vi. II. 411 Those pipes be called properly in Latin Denariæ, the web or sheet whereof beareth ten fingers in breadth. 1660 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington* etc. (Surtees) 197 For taking upp the high roofe of the leades and laying the webbs againe. 1852 R. Burn *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. s.v., Web of lead, *feuille de plomb*.

†**b.** A quantity of glass. Cf. Way *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

1545–1656 [see Way *sb.*[2]].

11. The piece of bent iron which forms a horseshoe.

1587 Mascall *Cattle, Horses* (1596) 156 Make your shooes with a broade webbe. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* 111 That no gravell be remaining betwixt the web of the shoo and the sole. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Shoeing*, The Shoe must be made of Spanish Iron, with a broad Web, fitting it to the Hoof. 1831 Youatt *Horse* xvii. 318 The inside part of the web is bevelled off, or rendered concave, that it may not press upon the sole. 1908 *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 227 The whole of the substance of the shoe is called the 'web'.

12. †**a.** The blade of a sword or of a carpenter's plane; the iron head of an axe or hatchet. *Obs.*

1600 Fairfax *Tasso* II. xciii, A sword, whereof the web was steele. *Ibid.* vii. xciv, The brittle web of that rich sword. 1676 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 223 This informant got hold of the head or web of the ax. 1747 Hoosen *Miner's Dict.* R 3 b, This [Rudder] we use to let in the ends of Sliders, or Headtrees, where the Web of the Hack is too short for the purpose. 1818 P. Nicholson *Mech. Exerc., Joinery* 204 Web of an Iron, is the broad part of it which comes to the sole of the plane, the upper edge or end of the web has generally one shoulder, and sometimes two, where it joins the tang.

b. (See quot.)

1784 J. Small *Ploughs* 23 The web may be three inches broad at the broadest, and taper from a foot down all the way to the point. 1819 Rees *Cycl., Web of a Coulter*,..that part of it which is drawn out thin and sharp, in order to cut and separate the ground...In the sock, too, any thin sharp part has the name of web or wing.

c. The detachable long narrow blade of a frame-saw or fret-saw. Cf. *web-saw*.

1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 330 It [the Grecian saw] consists of a square frame, having in the middle a blade or web, the teeth of which stand perpendicular to the plane of the frame. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning*, etc. II. 725 The mill-saw webs [are used] for cutting deals into thin boards. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 508/1 The Ribbon-saw.. consists of a very long band—or web, as it is called—of steel, usually very narrow, and with finely-cut teeth.

13. The bit of a key; also, each of the 'steps' or incisions in this.

1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Web*, the thin broad part of an instrument, as the web of a key. 1800 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVIII. 241 So that the webs or bits of the Key may clear the Tumblers in the lock. 1856 *Trans. Brit. Archæol. Assoc.* XII. 125 This key has a solid or blank web. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6105, The 'bits' or steps on the 'web' of the key, that act on the levers inside the lock.

14. The vertical plate (or its equivalent) which connects the upper and lower laterally-extending plates in a beam or girder. Also applied to each of these lateral plates or flanges.

1851 Dempsey *Builder's Guide* 144 The two [flanges of the girder] are united by a vertical rib or web of just sufficient thickness to connect the flanges properly. 1856 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* XV. 155 On the Relative Proportions of the Top, Bottom, and Middle Webs of Iron Girders and Tubes. 1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. 409 Cast-iron girders, with their lower webs considerably larger than their upper, were ordinarily employed where the span was moderate. 1870 B. Baker *Strengths of Beams* etc. 190 The experiments on the model tube for the Britannia bridge indicated clearly that diagonal strains, both compressive and tensile, occurred in the webs of the tube. 1877 W. H. White *Nav. Archit.* ix. 333 So long as the beam is in one piece, or so long as the pieces forming its web are well connected together edgewise, there is no difficulty in meeting this racking strain. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Web*, The iron plate, fixed vertically, in a single web girder; or two plates in a tubular girder.

b. The upright portion between the tread and the bottom flange of a rail. † Formerly applied to the tread and the bottom flange (*upper, lower web*); also to the upright ridge of an edge-rail.

1858 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 269/1 The lower web is, in some examples, not so wide as the upper web by nearly half an inch. 1840 H. S. Tanner *Canals & Rail Roads U.S.* 156 Which lip extends upwards and laps over the lower web of the rails on that side. *Ibid.* 264 *Web*, the outer projection of a rail, intended to prevent the wheels of carriages from running off the track. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 225/1 There was a waste of metal in these early rails..owing to the excessive thickness of the vertical web.

c. The arm of a crank, connecting the shaft and the wrist.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Aug. 4/7 Cranks having the additional strength provided by an increase of metal in the webs of the crank itself. 1889 Hasluck *Model Engin. Handybk.* 79 It is best to turn the shaft and outsides of the crank webs first; the insides and the pin can be turned after.

d. The thinner part of an anvil, between the head and the base.

1874 Knight *Dict. Mech.* I. 120/2 Body or web of the anvil.

e. (See quot.)

1908 Paasch *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 770 *Web*,..that part of a boat-oar, between the blade and the loom.

f. In a sheave (see quot.).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 153 *Web*, the thin partition on the inside of the rim, and between the spokes of an iron sheave.

g. A solid disk connecting the centre and the rim of a wheel, instead of spokes.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Web* 3. That portion of a car-wheel which extends between the hub and the rim. *Ibid.* s.v. *Web-wheel*, Clock and watch wheels are cast or stamped with webs and then *crossed out*.

15. The basketwork of a gabion.

1852 R. Burn *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. s.v., Web of a gabion, hurdle, &c., *clayonnage*. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 255 Gabions are..2 feet 9 inches high, in the web.

16. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-mining, Web*, the face or wall of a long-wall stall in course of being holed and broken down for removal. The web varies in thickness (according to the height of the seam) from 2 or 3 to 7 feet. Fig. 135 shows a cross-section of a long-wall with a web of coals after drawing the timber. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 51 *Plane*, a working room driven at right angles to or facing the plane joints. *Ibid.* 72 *Web*, the plane.

17. *Math.* A tangential net.

1911 Webster s.v. *Net*, But if [represented] in line coordinates, the net is tangential or a web.

IV. 18. *Comb.*, as *web-like* adj.; **web-fingered** *a.*, having the fingers united for a considerable part of their length by a fold of skin; also, applied to a fish, *Prionotus carolinus* or *palmipes*; **web-frame**, (*a*) the frame to which the spider-threads are attached in a filar micrometer; (*b*) in iron ship-building (see quot.); † **web-garn** [Garn *sb.*], weaver's yarn; † **web-lace** (see quot.); **web-lead**, sheet-lead; † **web-loom**, a weaver's loom; **web-machine, web-(perfecting) press**, a printing machine which is automatically supplied with paper from a roll or web (see 5); **web-plate** (see quot. 1908); **web-printing**, printing on a web-press; **web-saw**, a frame-saw; † **web-stand**, a folding tray-stand with a top composed of strips of webbing; **web-toed** *a.*, web-footed; **web-weaver**, in quots. applied to a spider; **web-wheel** (see quot. and 14 g); **web-work**, a tissue like that of a woven fabric; also *fig.*; **web-worked** *a.*, worked with cobweb; **web-worker**, a spider that spins a web; **web-worm** *U.S.*, a name for various lepidopterous larvæ which are more or less gregarious and spin large webs in which they feed or rest. Also

Web-beam, -foot, -footed.

1781 Bland in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 362 Of these [children] 2 was *web-fingered. 1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 59 Prionotus Carolinus, Cuv., Web-fingered Grunter. 1852 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 237/1 He was, it is said, web-footed, naturally, and partially web-fingered. 1873 T. Gill *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 21 Prionotus carolinus..Web-fingered sea-robin; Carolina robin. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/2 As the *web-frame is generally thicker than the fork, the web will now be stretched across the former, with a certain amount of tension. 1898 Kipling *Day's Work* 81 A huge web-frame by the main cargo-hatch. 1908 Paasch *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 81 Web-frames consist of strong plates fitted transversally to the frames to which they are riveted...They serve for extra strength or in lieu of hold-beams, etc. 1440 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 78 That noon of the said craft shal make no capes of *webb garn nother blew ne meld nor noon other collour. 1801 Felton *Carriages* (ed. 2) II. Gloss., *Webb Lace*, a thick coarse kind of lace, mostly used for footman holders. 1894 *Athenæum* 14 Apr. 482/3 The casting of *web lead for roofs. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 390 This 'web-like expansion of the ethereal strings. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* II. (1818) I. 32 The web-like nests [of the larva of *Bombyx chrysorrhœa*] which so often deform our fruit trees. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 3/3 The silk Chantilly laces..are.. very pretty and weblike. 1326 in Rock *Test. Fabr.* (1870) 96 Pro *weblomes emptis, xxs. 1404 *Rec. Borough Nottingham* 27 Aug. II. 22 Appretiatores unius wollyn weblome cum uno cam et j. slay. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 16 Sept. 5/6 The splendid *web machines now in use. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Web machines*, cylindrical printing machines in which the paper is laid on by tapes. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, s.v. *Web Printing-machine*, The *web-press is a late improvement. *Ibid.*, A *web perfecting-press. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 176/1 The web perfecting press, containing two printing cylinders, printing both sides of the paper. 1878 *Scoffern's Technol. Dict.* III., *Web*, *Web-plate* (iron ship-b.).

1908 Paasch *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 203 *Web-plate.* Term given to a plate of great breadth and thickness, as for instance to one forming a shifting-beam in a hatchway. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 198 Printing from continuous paper is known as '*web-printing', 'roll-printing' or 'reel-printing'. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Web-saw. 1889 *Century Mag.* Jan. 418/2 The web-saw, the glue-pot, the plane, and the hammer are the principal tools used. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 435 A large tray of glasses..stood in the room on a *web stand. 1872 Mivart *Anat.* 236 In some cases these folds extend far along, binding the digits together, and causing the person so affected to be what is called 'web-fingered' or '*web-toed'. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 622 *Macrorhamphus.* Web-toed Snipe. 1550 Bale *Apol.* 15 b, It hath bene so handeled and toted amonge the spyders *webbe weuers of Babylon..that it is become moche larger both in length and breidthe than afore. 1886 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xxxvii. 31 The instinct of a crippled spider so completely changed, that from a sedentary web-weaver it became a hunter. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Web-wheel*, a wheel in which the hub and rim are connected by a web or plate, which is sometimes intact and sometimes perforated. ..The term is applied in contradistinction to one with spokes. 1790 R. Merry *Laurel of Liberty* (ed. 2) 10 A *web-work of despair, a mass of woes. 1818 [see Venomed *ppl. a.* 2 c]. 1864 Lytton *Str. Story* II. 199 The tyro who dissects the webwork of tissues and nerves in the dead. 1874 J. T. Moggridge *Suppl. to Harvesting Ants* 200 A glutinized, *web-worked purse, about three inches long. *1658 Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1071 All Net-workers, and *Web-workers amongst Spiders. 1841 T. W. Harris *Insects Inf. Vegetation* (1862) 357 The little caterpillars known by the name of fall *web-worms, whose large webs..may be seen on our native elms, and also on apple and other fruit trees, in the latter part of summer. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 4/5 The webworm..did considerable damage to the stands. 1896 Lodeman *Spraying of Plants* 256 Fall Web-worm (*Hyphantria cunea*). *Ibid.* 325 Web-worm (*Dr presuaria heraclina*). *Ibid.* 332 Privet Web-worm (*Margarodes quadristigmalis*).

Web (web), *v.* [OE. *webbian*, f. Web *sb.* All the senses after 1 are new derivatives from the sb.]

1. *trans.* To weave (a fabric) in the loom. ? *Obs.* In OE. only in fig. phr. *wroht webbian*, to devise a (false) accusation.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Webbon, or webbe clothe of lynnyne, *linifico.* 1449 in Hudson & Tingey *Rec. Norwich* (1910) II. 285 Providinge alwey that the clothinge he webbed be the avyse of the said wardeyns. 1512–13 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 6 § 1 The Wever whiche shall have the wevyng of eny wollen yerne to be webbed into cloth. 1530 Palsgr. 778/2, I webbe a clothe, *Je courdis.* I have nat yerne ynough to webbe my clothe with all. 1809 J. Barlow *Columb.* II. 513 Her sprightly mind A vesture white had for the prince design'd; And here she seeks the wool to web the fleece. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Web*, to weave.

†**2.** *intr.* Of a spider: To spin its web. *nonce-use. Obs.*

a 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 195 The roofe of Westminster Hall, where no English Spider webbeth or breedeth to this day.

3. *trans.* To cover with (spider's or caterpillar's) web; to weave a web upon.

1853 *Zoologist* XI. 4044 The canker-worm..forms itself a house by webbing the corner of a leaf.

b. *transf.* To cover with a web or fine network.

1895 *Forum* (N.Y.) Jan., Continents were being ribbed with railways, the atmosphere was being webbed with telegraph wires. 1903 P. Landon *Lhasa* I. 361 An exquisite head-dress in which the high aureole..was barely recognisable under the strings and riggings of pearls which webbed the whole thing.

c. To stretch threads of spider's web across (a micrometer, etc.).

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/1 Method of Webbing the Filar Micrometer. The webbing of a micrometer is a process that should be familiar to all practical astronomers. 1890 W. F. Stanley *Surv. & Levelling Instrum.* 50 It is a somewhat delicate process to web a diaphragm...The webs are taken from a rather small or young garden spider. *Ibid.* 100 The diaphragm of the telescope of the Y-level is generally webbed with plain cross webs.

4. To entangle or envelop in, or as in, a (spider's) web. Also with *round.*

1864 Webster *Web* v.t., to unite or surround with a web, or as if with a web; to envelop; to entangle. 1901 *Punch* 30 Apr. 289/2 A peasant kills a giant spider who has webbed a fly. 1907 *Black Cat* June 26 The girl was ready when again they [*sc.* wolves] webbed her round, each trumpet-mouthed with his own hunting cry. She lashed out.

5. To connect (fingers, toes, etc.) with a web or membrane. Also with *together.*

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 45 Nature..by broad skins, has webbed their toes together. 1890 W. P. Ball *Effects of Use & Disuse* 147 Use-inheritance..aids in webbing the feet of water-dogs, but fails to web the feet of the water-hen.

b. To imprint with the marks of web-feet. *nonce-use.*

1866 Howells *Venetian Life* xiv. 203 The ground was webbed with the feet of geese.

‖ **Webb, webbe.** *Amer. Indian. Obs.* [perh. obs. Algonkin.] (See quots.)

1634 W. Wood *New Englands Prospect* Nomencl. O 3 b, *Web*, a wife. 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 20 The Indian Webbes make use of the broad Teeth of the Fawns to hang about their Childrens Neck when they are breeding of their Teeth. *Ibid.* 62 One Christopher Luxe..was healed again by an Indian Webb, or Wife, (for so they call those Women that have Husbands). 1676 I. Mather *War with Indians* 28 A party of English came in a Warlike posture upon some of their Webbs (as they call them) *i. e.* Women, as they were gathering corn.

†**Webbe.** *Obs.* Also 5 web. [ME. *webbe* represents (1) OE. *webba* masc.; (2) OE. *webbe* fem. (only in *freoðuwebbe* peace-weaver, woman); OTeut. types **wabjon-*, *-ōn-*, f. **wab-*; **wab-*: see Weave *v.* The word survives in the surnames *Webb, Webbe.*]

1. A male weaver.

c 1200 in Wr.-Wülcker 288/10 *Textor*, webbe. *a* 1327 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 188 The webbes ant the fullaris assembleden hem alle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 362 A Webbe, a Dyere, and a Tapycer. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 12 Johanni de Bokkynge, webbe, ciui Londonie. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 204 These eremytes..Whilom were workmen, webbes and taillours. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 99 Some þat assembiyd yn a toune, & herberd hem yn a webbe hous, to whom þat nyght a child was born. 1403 *Will of John Oxstrot* (Somerset Ho.), Johanni Anketell Webbe de Sarum.

b. In gen. sing. or plur. (OE. *webban, webbena*), with *light* and *loom.*

1346 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 3 Si aliquod instrumentum textoris, videlicet Webanlam [*sic*] de nouo fiat. *Ibid.* 4. 1403 *Will of Ralph Styllé* (Somerset Ho.), Lego ad lumen beate marie vocatum Webben lyȝt xl d.

2. A female weaver, a webster.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 215 My wyf was a webbe and wollen cloth made. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1525 (Trin.) She ... þe formast web [*Cott.* webster] in kynde þat men of þat crafte dud fynde.

Web-beam. [Cf. OHG. *weppi-, weppe-, webboum*, mod.G. *webebaum.*] The roller in a loom on which the web is wound as it is woven.

c 1200 in Wr.-Wülcker 287/11 *Liciatorium*, lorh, *uel* webbeam. *Ibid.* 288/4 *Insubula*, webbeaman. 24.. *Ibid.* 696/19 *Hoc liciatorium* [*sic*], a webbeme. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 835/2 From this opening the web passes to the knee-roll or web-beam, round which it is rolled by means of the spokes.

Webbed (webd), *ppl. a.* [f. Web *sb.* + -ed 2.]

1. Furnished with a web or connecting membrane; *esp.* of the feet of certain birds.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 5 The Common Fly..her wings look like a Sea-fan with black thick ribs or fibers, dispers'd and branch'd through them, which are webb'd between with a thin membrane or film, like a slice of Muscovy-glasse. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* III. III. 322 Such [birds] as have all four toes web'd together. 1773 Pennant *Genera of Birds* p. xi, The toes of birds that swim are either plain,.. or pinnated, .or entirely webbed or palmated. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 47 Three toes full webbed, the fourth toe..quite free. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* 72 Arms (except the ventral pair), webbed high up. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1873) 142 What can be plainer than that the webbed feet of ducks and geese are formed for swimming?

b. *Path.* Having a 'web' as a congenital malformation. See Web *sb.* 8 b.

1862 E. J. Chance *Bodily Deform.* I. 86 The Fingers or Toes may be more or less webbed together. 1876 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) II. 300 Webbed fingers and toes are another common deformity. 1913 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Penis, Webbed penis*, a penis that is inclosed by the skin of the scrotum.

c. *Machinery.* In various uses: see Web *sb.* 14.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 154 Sheaves..are made.. of iron, with a brass coak, either open or webbed. 1913 J. B. Bishop *Panama Gateway* v. liii. 365 Each [lock gate] is a huge webbed steel box, the girders of which are covered with a steel sheathing.

2. Covered with, or as with, cobweb. In *Bot.* = Cobwebbed 2.

1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 210 The tender blades of trefoil were still webbed in silvery gossamer. 1868 Thornbury *Turner* I. 360 There were skies of an orange purple, skies webbed with grey showers. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 191 Carduus crispus..involucre webbed. 1903 E. T. Thurston *Traffic* II. ii, Only the gaunt, gray forms of the stunted poplars stood out, webbed, against the leaden colour of the sky.

†**Webber.** *Obs.* Also 5 webbare. [f. Web *v.* + -er 1.] A weaver.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512/1 Loome of webbarys crafte (*v.r.* of webstare), *telarium. Ibid.* 519/1 Webbare of lynnyne clothe, *linifex. c* 1515 *Cocke Lorelles B.* (Percy Soc.) 9 Gyrdelers, forborers, and webbers.

Webbing (we·bing), *vbl. sb.* [f. Web *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action or process of weaving. ? *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Webbynge, of wullyne clothe, *lanificium*...Webbynge, of lynnyne, *linificium.* 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 501/2 Withoute dyversite in webbyng, fullyng, knottyng and burlyng. 1483 *Vulgaria abs Terentio* 3 Wyth woll and webbynge wemen were wont to gete their lyuynge. 1552 in *Ang. Hist. Rev.* (1897) XII. 439 Which yerely fee ferme was paid so long as webbyng in the said citie was used. 1562 Phaer *Æneid* IX. E e ij, In webbing wasting tyme to eas thereby myne aged care [*tela curas solabar anilis*]. 1637 J. Watts *Scribe* etc. Author's Epist. b 2, Woman, get you home, and follow your own businesses of spinning and webbing.

2. *concr.* A woven material.

1784 Pococke *Trav.* (Camden) II. 25 Welch Webbings.. a thick sort of flannel, of which the Soldiers' clothing is chiefly made. 1883 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 5/6 In elastic webbings there is no improvement in the trade for gussets [of boots]. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 84/1 Webbing made of reed and used in substitution of fir-lathing.

b. Woven material in the form of a strong wide band, used by upholsterers and others. Also *attrib.* in *webbing belt, tape.*

1794 Girth-webbing [see Girth-web]. 1796 *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 76 A chain, webbing, strap or line, is applied on the ledge on the face of the wheel. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 634 A box footstool..The top is formed of an outside frame, on which is stretched strong webbing, for the purpose of supporting the stuffing above. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Webbing tape*, a kind of broad tape. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 5 May 5/2 A broad band of Turcoman webbing of extremely fine texture. 1888 Jacobs *Printers' Vocab.*, *Webbing*, a term for the wider tapes of a printing machine; also applied to the girthing used for running in and out the carriage of hand-presses. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 548/2 Trench coat, rifle, bayonet, webbing belts [etc.].

3. Material for a (spider's) web. ? *nonce-use.*

1883 G. Macdonald *Princess & Curdie* xxvii, A huge spider,..which, having made an excellent supper, was full of webbing.

4. = Palmation 2. Also *Path.*, a webbed state of the fingers or toes.

1872 Erichsen *Surg.* (ed. 6) II. 208 Webbing of the Fingers is occasionally met with. 1888 *Med. Press* 18 July 59/2 In the feet..the webbing is less thick and complete than in the hands, the terminal phalanges being separate from each other. 1894 *Century Mag.* Jan. 353/2 As the palmation, or webbing [of the larger moose's antlers], is not so wide as in the first variety, the points are longer.

Webby (we·bi), *a.* [f. Web *sb.* + -y.]

1. Consisting of web; resembling web or a web.

1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 289 The Caruleous [Spider] causeth a paine of heart, deep sleep and vomiting of a webby matter. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 396 They delight to..entangle the feeble in their webby filaments. 1854 Lady Lytton *Behind the Scenes* I. i. iv. 124 His gloves were..of some webby elastic texture. 1904 E. Nesbit *Phœnix & Carpet* x. 185 The big darn in the middle of the carpet was all open and webby like a fishing-net.

2. Of the digits: Furnished with a web, palmated. Also *fig.* of a person.

1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 381 Bats on their webby wings in darkness move. 1861 G. H. K[ingsley] in F. Galton *Vacation Tourists* iv. 165, I am of so fishy and webby a nature, that I take to the water at once. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 2/1 If I have not pointed ears or webby fingers, [etc.].

Weber (vē·bər, wē·bər). *Electr.* Also **veber.** [After the German physicist Wilhelm *Weber* (1804–91).] A name (now disused) for the unit of electrical quantity (now Coulomb) and the unit of electrical current (now Ampère).

1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 3 The unit quantity of electricity in general use has been called a *weber.* 1879 G. Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 469 In the veber current and the electro-motive force, we have the data for comparing the work of these machines. 1[illegible] *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 425 The current produced by a Volt acting through an Ohm ..is called a Weber. 1885 S. P. Thompson in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* XXX. 32/2 To tear away a single gramme of hydrogen from the oxygen with which it is combined requires no less than 95,050 webers ('coulombs') to flow through. 1888 J. Swinburne *Pract. Elestr. Units* 28 The coulomb has taken the place of the weber as unit of quantity, and the ampère is used instead of the weber-per-second as unit of current.

Weberian (wĭbē·rĭăn), *a.* [f. name of E. H. *Weber* (1795–1833), a German anatomist + -ian.] *Weberian corpuscle* or *organ*, a tubular vesicle in the prostatic portion of the urethra. *Weberian ossicles*, a chain of small bones between the ear and the air-bladder in certain fishes; *Weberian apparatus*, the set of structures, including the ossicles, which connect the air-bladder with the ear.

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1413/2 The Weberian organ or corpuscle. 1889 *Amer. Naturalist* May 427 Hypophthalmus possesses an air-bladder connected with the auditory organ by intervention of a Weberian apparatus, formed of parts of the anterior vertebræ. 1889 *Proc. Roy. Soc.* 20 June 309 The Air-bladder and Weberian Ossicles in the Siluridæ.

We·b-foot. [See Web *sb.* 8.]

1. A foot with webbed toes. Also, the condition of being web-footed.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lxxv. 325 *note*, It was common to say a fenman was an amphibious creature; and that their children were born with web-feet. 1777 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* IV. 5 This is among the species taken notice of by Aristotle on account of the broad feet, which, he says, assist them in swimming: as web-feet do the water-fowl. 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 64 If it dive, it will generally have a hull-shaped body, short legs, and web-feet.

2. A bird or other animal having web-feet.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1911 Webster.

3. a. A nickname for a dweller in the Fens. ? *Obs.* b. A native of the State of Oregon. So called on account of the moist climate.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lxxv. 325, I would fain rouse up the spirits of some of my brother webfeet. [*Note.*] This is a contemptuous term given to fenmen. 1873 J. H. Beadle *Undeveloped West* xxxv. 750 Everybody and everything we saw had the unmistakable 'Oregon look'. We were among the 'Web-feet' at last, and a comely race they are. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 The inhabitants of Alabama are Lizards;..Oregon, Hard-cases or Web-feet.

We·b-footed, *a.* Having web-feet.

1681 Grew *Museum* I. § iv. iii. 69 Web-footed Fowl or Palmipede's. 1745 P. Thomas *Voy. S. Seas* 337 Flamingoes. ..The Legs are..Web-footed like a Goose. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 191 It [the capibara] is in a manner web-footed. 1818 Keats *Endym.* IV. 245 Web-footed alligators. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 137/1 One of these men..was, it is said, web-footed, naturally, and partially web-fingered. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 352/1 Platypus..is of aquatic habits, being web-footed.

Hence **We·b-footedness** (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Webless (we·blĕs), *a. rare.* [f. Web *sb.* + -less.] Not furnished with a web.

1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* II. v. [iv.], O'er still and webless looms The listless craftsmen through their elf-locks scowled.

Webster (we·bstər). *Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 1 **webbestre**, 4 **web(b)ester**, **webister**, 4–5 **webstere**, 5 **webstar**, 6 **wyebster**, 3– **webster**;

Sr. 5–6 **wobstar**, 6–7 **wobster**, 6– **webster**. [OE. *webbestre*, fem. of *webba* weaver, WEBBE: see -STER.] A weaver: a. as the designation of a woman.

c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 188/11 *Textrix*, webbestre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1525 Scho was þe formest webster þat man findes o þat mister. 1378 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 330 Anota Milner, Webster. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 793/8 *Hoc textrix*, a webster.

b. extended, or applied *spec.*, to a male weaver.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 99 Wollene websteris [1377 B. Prol. 219 Wollewebesteres, 1393 C. I. 222 Webbesters] and weueris of lynen. 1379 *Poll. tax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* V. 14 Thomas Webester..Webester vj *d. Ibid.* 15 Johannes Clerke.., Webester vj *d.* 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xvii. 7 The shaft of his speer was as the beem of websters. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1587 Wrightes, websters, walkers of clothe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Webstar (or weware), *textor, textrix.* 1467 *Ord. Worcester* § 17 in *Eng. Gilds* 383 Spynners, websters, dyers, shermen, and other laborers or artificers apperteynynge to the same [i. e. cloth-making]. 1525 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1530–1, 219/2 The best and worthiest of the haile craft of the websteris within the burgh. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 4106 Find me ane Webster that is leill, Or ane Walker that will nocht steill. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 32 Sell webster thy wull. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 626 The wooll of Istria and Liburnia, which if it were not for the spinning in Portugall, and the web-sters Art thereupon, it were no better then haire. *a* 1733 *Shetland Acts* 16 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 199 That the webster's ell be 3 feet 4 inches, or 40 inches long, on which only unscoured cloth is measured. 1792 BURNS *'Willie Wastle dwelt on Tweed'* i, Willie was a webster guid, Cou'd stown a clew wi' ony bodie. 1841 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) VI. 12 Is it likely that it is only because the websters and hosiers do not set about it themselves? 1847 H. S. RIDDELL *Poems* 194 The websters weary at their looms, Maun still at them be thruming. 1892 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, Tod was a webster to his trade.

c. *attrib.*, as *webster beam, loom.*

1334–5 *Leicester Borough Rec.* (1901) II. 17 Websteres bem. 1509 *Lanc. & Cheshire Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 152 Webster Lomes.

d. *appositive.*

a 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 43 A weid..Weill wrocht in the lwmis with wobster gwmis [see GOME 1]. 1721 RAMSAY *Elegy on Patie Birnie* xii, A crishy Webster Loun. 1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* ix, An' there, a batch o' wabster lads, Blackguarding frae Kilmarnock. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi. A puir wabster body. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 225 Good webster-wives weave in white borders made of their sheep's wool.

Websterite (we·bstərəit). *Min.* [Named in 1822 after T. *Webster*, who discovered it: see -ITE.] A synonym of ALUMINITE.

1823 H. J. BROOKE *Crystallogr.* 452. 1837 DANA *Min.* 450. 1855 PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 386.

† **We·bstery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WEBSTER + -Y.] Goods made by a webster; woven materials.

1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 7 They do sell none of their silkes there by the yard, neither any other kinde of webaterie,..but by the waight. *Ibid.* 368 There is also great store of flaxe, cotton, and other kinde of webatrie.

† **Wecche**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **weccan**, 3 **wecche**, 4 **wechche**. *Pa. t.* 3 **weht(e, wehte**, 3–4 **welte(e)**, 4 **wight**. [OE. *weccan* = OHG. *wecchen* (mod.G. *wechen*), ON. *vekja*, Goth. (*us-*) *wakjan*, f. root **wak-*: see WAKE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To rouse from sleep. (Cf. AWECCHE *v.* 1.)

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lxiv. 461 Se kok..ærðæmðe he crawan wille, hefð up his fiðru, & weceð hine selfne. *a* 900 *Crist* 887 (Gr.) Englas ælbeorhte on efen blawaþ byman on brehtme,..weccaþ of deaþe dryhtgumena bearn. *c* 1205 LAY. 798 Ohtliche heom slæð on & weccheð heom of slepa. *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 446 That hi ne welte nogt the [sleeping] fliches, leste hi here schip breke. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2925 We weore aslepe, Darie us wight. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1628 Thous [he] the king bigan to wechche, And saide, 'Sire, vp ! vp ! hit is dai !'

2. To stir up, excite (e. g. wind, fire, passion, strife). (Cf. AWECCHE *v.* 2.)

Beowulf 2046 Onginneð ȝeomormod ȝeongum cempan.. wigbealu weccean. *c* 900 *Beda's Hist.* IV. iii. (1890) 268 Forþon Drihten lyfte ontyneð, windas weceð. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 Ne beo þu noht..wilful to wecchen lust þar to. *Ibid.* 161 [The devil] wecche6 among hem flite and win. *c* 1205 LAY. 16216 Þa wind wæht [*c* 1275 wehte] þat fur þæt hit wunderliche born.

Wech(e, obs. ff. WATCH, WHICH, WITCH, WYCH.

Wechesafe, obs. form of VOUCHSAFE.

Wecht, Wechty, Sc. ff. WEIGHT, WEIGHTY.

Weck, obs. form of WEAK *a.*, WICK.

Weckid, -it, obs. forms of WICKED.

Wed (wed), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 1, 4 **wedd**, 3–6 **wedde**, (5 **wede, weed**); 5–9 *Sc.* **wad**, (5 **vad**), 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **wadd**; 7 **wade**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wed*(*d* neut. = OFris. *wed* neut., pledge, covenant, OS. *weddi* neut., pledge (MLG. *wedde* pledge, wager, etc.), (M)Du. *wedde* fem., wages, OHG. *wetti* neut. (MHG. *wette, wet* neut., fem., pledge, wager, etc., mod.G. *wette* fem., wager), ON. *veð* neut., pledge (MSw. *vð* neut., pledge, wager, Sw. *vad* neut., wager), Goth. *wadi* neut., earnest-money, pledge:—OTeut. **wadjo-m*, cogn. w. L. *vadem* (*vas*) masc., surety (whence *vadimonium* bail), Lith. *wadóti* to redeem a pledge. The OTeut. word was adopted in the Rom. langs.: see GAGE *sb.*[1], WAGE *sb.*]

1. A pledge, something deposited as security for a payment or the fulfilment of an obligation; sometimes of a person, a hostage.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1016, & heora freondscipe þær gefæstnodon, ȝe mid wedde ȝe mid aþe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 394 Ne telleð me him god feolawe þat leið his wed ine Giwerie uorto acwiten ut his fere? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6798 If þat þou..O pur man tas wedd o cloth Yell[d] again þat cloth..Ar sun ga dun þat ilk dal. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 He hath hewe sum wher a burthen of brere, tharefore sum hay-ward hath taken ye wed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 244, I lerned amonge Lumbardes and Iewes a lessoun..to legge a wedde and lese it. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xviii. 7 He shal ȝeelde the wed [Vulg. *pignus*] to the dettour. *c* 1389 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 91 And qwo-so come after prime be smeten, he shal pay ȝd, or leye a wed. 1436 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 107 Item I wolle that the prioresse & the house of Chesthunt haue freely theire Weddys ayen withouten any mony payenge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Wedde, or thynge leyyd yn plegge, *vadium, pignus.* *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 155 And he nother his heires shold never take wedde of the forsaide Anneys or of her assignes. 1458 *Forman's Monumt. Christ's Hosp., Abingdon* 70 For now is Culham hithe i com to an ende,..Few folke there were coude that wey wende, But they waged a wed or payed of her purse. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 78 Yf any man of our landis..take any tolle or custume of the citezeins of London other wyse than they shuld the Sherefs of London shall take wed of hem at London. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* Prol. iii, My buke to borrow greitlie scho did Inquyre, Ane wed thairfoir scho said scho wald doun lay. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 49 Some things are borrowed and lent, be giving and receaving of ane wad. *Ibid., Stat. Alex. II.* 18 And gif he may not giue wades..he sall remaine as wade: aye and quhill he enter the pledges, quhilkis he promised. 1776 *Herd's Sc. Songs* II. Gloss., *Wad* or *wad*, pledge, wager, pawn. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiv, I thought the chield Morris looked devilish queer when I determined he should remain a wad, or hostage, for my safe back-coming.

b. *fig.*, or in reference to staking one's life (cf. 2 c, 4).

[illegible] ros þis adopcion is ase weddes ase sayþ saynte paul huerby we byþ sikere þet we ssolle habbe þe eritage of oure uader. [Cf. Vulgate *pignus*, Eph. i. 14.] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 195 Hedde I be Marchal of his Men.. I durste haue I-leid my lyf, and no lasse wed, He hedde beo lord of þat lond. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 624 For oure sawete one quhilk [tree] vas he put, & his blud schede, & for wa put nane vthir wed. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 309 And ho so grucche or grone, azeins her grette willes, May lese her lyff lyghtly, and no lesse weddis. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2984 No les wed þen lyvis ! *c* 1530 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 59 He that lawith at a mynstrels worde, gevith to hym a wedde.

† c. A nuptial pledge or promise. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 400 Here-of in vitnesyng remanis ay þe forsad ryng one þe fyngire of þat ymag of vad of weding in-to vag. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 94 Bot ferst, er thou be sped, Thou schalt me leve such a wedd, That I wol have thi trowthe in honde That thou schalt be myn housebonde.

† 2. In various phrases the sb. assumes the contextual sense: The condition of being pawned, mortgaged, given up as a hostage, etc. (Cf. PLEDGE *sb.* 6.) *Obs.*

a. *To, in wed*: as a pledge or hostage. *In wed of*: as security for (a payment, etc.).

For *dead wed* (= MORTGAGE) see DEAD *a.*

Beowulf 2998 Ond þa Iofore forgeaf angan dohtor, hamweorðunge, hyldo to wedde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2198 Dis symeon bi-lef ðor in bond, To wedde under Ioseþes hond. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiv. 88 But if þou pay now, I shal holde thi wif to wed, tyll tyme þat I be paied fully my salary. 1460 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 405 That na induellande of this burgh..tak in wed ony gudis that Wat Cutlaris wife bryngis for ony penyworthis oythir than dry siluer. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 98 [13*l.* 10*s.*] quhilk he had gevin away at the Kingis command, and had the Thesauraris signet in wed tharof. 1530 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 28 Item, that na maner of parsonis man nor woman tak ony claith in wedd fra vtheris. 1561 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 79 Ane chenyie of gold..quhilk the Lady Caterene..deliverit him in wed of the sowme of ane hundreth and tuenty merkis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 333 The Scotis sulde gyue Cumbirland,..in wedd of payment of the hail soume.

† b. *To set, put, lay to* or *in wed, to betake on wed*: to pawn, pledge (valuables), to deposit (money) as security; to mortgage (land); to give up (a person) as a hostage. *To take out of wed*: to redeem (something pledged). *Obs.*

? *a* 900 *Ælfred's Dooms* xxxvi, Ȝif mon..hræȝl..to wedde selle. *c* 1205 LAY. 25172 Mi lond ich wulle sette to wedde for seoluere. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8083 He..leide willam is broþer to wedde normandye & borowede þer uppe of him an hondred þousend marc. 1382 WYCLIF *Amos* ii. 8 And on clothis leyde to wedde thei eeten bysidis eche auter. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 321 Hym was levere legge to wedde [L. *distrahere*] his vessel of silver and of gold..þan greve provinces and londes and þe senatoures. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4904 And yf he stire you and meeve Your jewels ley in wedde, certein he Lovethe your estate and prosperitee. 1430 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 38/2 Wyt yhe me in my strenyeand myster til haf put in wede til my lowyt ..frend Andro Osteler..al the landis of [etc.]. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 205/2 His plate and other goodes sold, and in wed layed. *c* 1450 *Merchant & Son* 162 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 143 Fadur, y schall do my parte to helpe yow owt of peyne, Yf y schulde leye my selfe to wedd, or that ye come ageyne. 1462 in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 92 His tua sponys ..at wer leid in wede to the said Thome. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 421/1 To take owt of Wedde, *depignerare.* *c* 1500 *Lyt. Gests Robyn Hode* 212 My londes bethe sette to wedde.. To a ryche abbot..Of seynt Mary abbay. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1822) I. p. lvii, He that sald his sword, or laid it to wed, was degradit of auctorite, and banist, as unworthy creature, out of thair cumpany. 1567 in *6th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 643/2 Layd in wed to Maister Robert Rychartson..in pledge of fywe thousand pundis thir jowellis after following. 1573 in *Inventaires de la Royne Descosse* (Bannatyne Club) Pref. p. cliii, All that was lefte of the jueiles unlayde to wed. 1597 J. S. *Cert. MS. Poems, Way to Thrift* F 6, And lay to wed both pot and panne When the fire clean is blowne out. 17.. *Druken Wife o' Gallowa* v. in Herd *Sc. Songs* (1776) II. 39 My Sunday's coat she has laid it a wad.

† c. *fig.* Often, *to lay one's life, head, to wed*, used to confirm or guarantee an assertion or an undertaking (cf. 4). *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 132 Þæs Halgan Gastes, se wæs of heofenum onsended..to wedde þæs heofonlican ecles. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16670 þare he gaf his suete flesche for ur ransoun in wedd. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 246 Sir Adam of Stretton fulle hard was he led, Nouht without encheson, I lay my gloue to wed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 31 Lyf seyth þat he likth and leyth his lif to wedde, þat [etc.]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 423 Herby þei myght bye mennis synnes, and laye hor soules in wedde, þat oþer mennis soules shulde be saved. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 95 And thus his trowthe he leith to wedde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xv. 167 Thei.. profreden here hedes to wedde, but ȝif it wolde falle as thei seyden. *c* 1400 *Gosp. Nicodemus* (Galba) 200 Paire carping þare no thing þou knew, We lay oure heuiddes in wed. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xxiv. (1554) 194 b, The sweord of Arthur he durst not abide, Lest he should lay his lyfe to wed. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 56, I dar lay my heede to wed, Or that we go vntill oure bed That we shall here anothere. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 633 Ilk felle Sothron left the lyff to wed. *Ibid.* IX. 1209 My hed to wed, Lochlewyn he past to se. *a* 1500 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 247 A leche hath layd hys hed to wed To make a plaster that wolde me please. *c* 1530 *Hickscorner* C j, I warraunt you she wyll neuer saye you naye My lyfe I dare laye to wedde.

† d. *To lie* or *be to* or *in wed*: to be in pawn. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 360 Lat hym be war, his nekke lith to wedde. 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 146 For in London lyth to wedde many ryche jowells of ouris. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 345 Item..giffin to the Prothonotar, to quit out the Duke of Yorkis broune hors that lay in wed in the toune, xiiij lib. *c* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2168 He may rynse a pycher, for his plate is to wed. 1556–7 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 5 The forsaid pece of land wes lyand to hyme in wed of ten pundis.

† 3. Something taken or left that serves as evidence. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4402 Bot for mi cri ful suith he [Joseph] fled And left wit me a taken wedd [*Gött.* a tokin in wedd]; His mantel es bi-left wit me, þat ilk man þee sothe mai see. *Ibid.* 7706 Fra þe kinga aun bedd þus he [*sc.* David] broght a priue wedd.

4. A stake in a game or wager. Also *fig.* † *To lay wed*: to wager (cf. 2 c).

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 320 Now bo[t] e her wedde lys, And play þai biginne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 488 Lat Symone one fer stand fra þe bede, And ȝe sal se, I lay wede, þe fendis craft sone onbyde. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 278 He harde the Kynge say..that He trestyd to gett that proffett that never Kynge of Scottes had, and He shulde other have yt, or yt shulde coste Hym the best wed He had to leysse. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* 166 It is a dear wade, when your Life lies upon last Stake. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Wed*, a gage or pawn; a word still retained in the Country sport, called *Pray my Lord a course in your park.* 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 19 A Wad is a Fool's Argument. Spoken when, after hot disputing, we offer to lay a Wager that we are in the Right. 1808 SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. P.* IV. Gloss., *Wadds*, a youthful amusement, wherein much use is made of pledges. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wadds*...In this game, the players being equally divided..each lays down one or more *wads* or pledges at that extremity where the party, to which he belongs, chuse their station. A boundary being fixed at an equal distance from the extremities, the object is to carry off the *wads* from the one of these to the other.

† 5. A gage of battle. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8404 Tak ȝe non hede of þeyr grete host, ffor wel ȝe wot þei ar bot bost,..ffor þem our wed schal nought be leued. *c* 1488 in Kingsford *Chron. London* (1905) 54 'This shull I preve with my body, and se here my wedde': and threwe fforth his hode.

† 6. *Comb.* (all *Obs.*): **wed-bed**, the marriage bed; **wedbedrip** *Law*, some kind of BEDRIP (the force of *wed-* is uncertain); **wed-breach**, breach of covenant (*O.E.*), adultery; **wed-break** [as if OE. **wedbreca*], an adulterer; **wed-brother** [cf. ON. *veðbróðir*], a sworn brother; **wed-fee**, a wager, the prize in a contest; **wed-fere**, a spouse; **wed-keeper**, a stakeholder; **wedman**, a married man; *pl.* married people; **wed-shooting** (Sc. *wad-*), shooting for a prize; **wed-spite** *nonce-wd.* = SPITE-WED.

In the later instances referring to marriage prob. directly associated with WED *v.*

a 1650 *Old Robin* 9 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 235 They had not in their *wed bed laid, scarcely were both on sleepe, but vpp shee rose. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 367 Those priests the wed-bed who renounce. *c* 1325 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) I. 575 Et debet unam *Wedbedrip pro voluntate domine. *c* 1000 WULFSTAN *Hom.* XXXIII. (1883) 164 Eac syndan wide..þurh aðbrycas and ðurh *wedbrycas and ðurh mistlice leasunga forloren and forlogen. 1638 W. LISLE *Heliodorus* II. 89 This crime of wed-breach. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlix. 18 If..with *wedbrek [Vulg. *cum adulteris*] þi dele þou sete. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1016, Coman began þa cyningas to gædre..& wurdon feolaxan & *wed broðra. *c* 1205 LAY. 14469 Send after mine sune Octa & after..Ebissa his wed-brother. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 295 He tok wit him anoþer þat was hornes wed broþer. *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (Abbotsf. Club)

263 We beth wed brethren and trewthe iplight. *c* 1400 *Brut* (1906) 120 O þow false traitours! haste þow my trewe wedbroþer slayn for cause of me? *c* 1420 *Anow. Arth.* x, Butte carpe we now of ther othir thre, How thay preuyd hor *wedde-fee. 1504–5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 128 Item, to Dande Doule, that the King tynt on ane woodfee, xiiij *s.* *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Poems* iii. 7 Sleep na mair in sleuth and sin, Bot..richtly rin That hevinly wedfe for to win Vhilk he prepairs for his. 1620 in A. MAXWELL *Hist. Old Dundee* (1884) 403 [He] put in the hands of Thomas Scot..twa double-angels of gold upon ane woodfie betwix himself and Alexander Hering. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Alex. Gordon* 16 June, It is folly then for men to say, this is not Christ's plea, he will lose the wed-fee, men are like to beguile him: that were indeed a strange play. 23.. *Sir Beues* (A) 3168, I trowe, he is nou3t now here, þat schel be me *wedde-fere! 1591 R. BRUCE *Serm. Edin.* C 4 b, For as to this conscience, it is a faithfull *wed-keeper: the gages that it receiveth, it randeris. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 400 Me thynk my hert ryfis,..To se sich stryfis *wedmen emong. *Ibid.* xiii. 65 We sely wedmen dre mekyll wo. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 806/28 *Hic sponsus*, a wedman. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. 309 Many amuse themselves..with shooting for prizes, called here *wad-shooting. *c* 1560 SIR T. SMITH in Strype *Life* (1698) App. 24 You may well be called Mr. Agamus or Misogamus, Surnamed in right English, *Wedspite, or Spitewed. For I never heard Man speak so despitefully against Wedding and Marriage of the Queens Majesty in my Life.

Wed (wed), *v.* Inflected **wedded** (also **wed**), **wedding.** Forms: 1 **weddian**, 2–3 **weddenn**, 3–4 **wedden**, **weddi**, **-y**, 3–5 **wedd**, (4 **weed**, 5 **weede**, **wid**, **weddon**), 3–6 **wedde**, 8–9 *Sc.* **wad**, 4– **wed.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *weddian* corresponds to OFris. *weddia*, MLG. *wedden*, OHG. *wettôn* (MHG., mod.G. *wetten*), to pledge, wager, ON. *veðja* to pledge, Goth. *ga-wadjôn* to espouse (ἀρμόζεσθαι):—OTeut. **wadjôjan*, f. **wadjo-m* WED *sb.*

The form *wed* in the pa. t. is now only dialectal; in the pa. pple. it is common *dial.* but otherwise rare exc. in poetry.]

†**1.** *intr.* To engage, covenant (to do something). Only OE. (Const. *genitive* or *to* with gerundial inf.)

a 1000 *Laws Æthelstan* § 23 (Liebermann) Gif hwa ordales weddize, ðonne cume he [etc.]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 5 And hi3..him weddedon feoh to syllenne.

2. *trans.* To wager, stake (e. g. money, one's life, one's head). *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 129 And 3if þou worchest hit in wit Ich wedde boþe myn Eres, þat lawe schal ben a laborer. 1393 *Ibid.* C. III. 36 My lyf ich dar wedde, He shal lese for hure loue a lappe of trewe charite. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 27 & þat dare I my hedde wedde. 1560 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 262 Stene Robesone weddit ten merkis of money aganes the said tar barrell that scho suld nocht mary the said king of Swane. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xlvi. 8 Shute on; lat sie vho first my wedfie wins; For I will wed ane apple and a nute. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry & Prayer* xv, Or faith! I'll wad my new pleugh-pettle, Ye'll see't or lang. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvi, I'll wad ye a plack, as we say in the north, that you get the pardon from the king. 1843 in T. Doubleday *Coquet-Dale Fishing Songs* (1852) 110 I'se wad a pund, when night comes round, That, creel for creel, we bang them a'! 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Wad*, to ·idge; to bet. 1894 A. REID *Sangs o' the Heatherland* 54 I'll wad that sune our neebors' heids Will doors and windocks thrang.

3. To marry. (Common in dialects; otherwise only *literary.*) **a.** *trans.* Originally, to make (a woman) one's wife by the giving of a pledge or earnest. More fully, † *to wed* (a woman) *to wife, to* or *unto his wife.* Hence, of a person of either sex: To take in marriage; to become the husband or wife of (a person) by participating in a prescribed ceremony or formal act.

a 1000 *Laws Edmund, Be wifmannes beweddunge* § 1 (Liebermann) Gif man mædan oððe wif weddian wille, & hit swa hire & freondan 3elicize, [etc.]. *Ibid.* § 6 Gif hy þonne mices þinges sammæle beon, ðonne fon maxas to & weddian heora maxan to wife. *c* 1205 LAY. 22243 Þis maiden he gon wedde and nom heo to his bedde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1090 Two ðor werren quam him ðo3te ear To wedden his two do3tres ðear; Loth hem warnede. *c* 1275 LAY. 4300 A king of Britayne hadde hire i-wedded [*c* 1205 biwedded]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A 772 Quat-kyn þyng may be þat lambe, þat þe wolde wedde vnto hys vyf? *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1422 Wolde he be my worldly make & weddy me to wyue. *Ibid.* 2012, & she hym wedede after þan þat was hure fader fo. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xv. 70 Þe lady had mykill sorow þat scho had wedded him. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 925 Wed ane worthie to wyfe. 1485 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 48 My lord Schanchler publyshed in the Parlament house the same day, that the Kings gud grace shall weede my lady Elizabeth. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxii. 216, I wyll wed her to my wyfe. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony* 24 With thys ring I thee wed. 1552 HULOET, Wedde, *denubo*, for the woman; *desponso*, for the man. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. ii. 118 If you loue her, then to morrow wed her. *a* 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* IV. i. (1664) 124 *Parz.* If she be my wife Sir? I have wedded her and Bedded her, what other Ceremonies would you have? 1794 BURNS *Weary Pund o' Tow* iv, And 'or I wad anither lad, I'll wallop in a tow. 1826 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. iv. 248 The husband, now no longer tied May wed a new and blushing bride. 1856 AYTOUN *Bothwell* I. xxiv, I wed A trembling, sickly, shrewish dame, And put her from my bed. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ix. 133 To think that your aunt would forbid your wedding a King's daughter!

fig. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 339 Cristis Chirche is his Spouse...And fer be it fro Cristene men to graunte þat Crist hab weddid þe fend. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 15 O true valeyntyne is oure lord to me...With his blode, Seynt dauid! he did me wedde. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. i. 94 Come, come, in wooing Sorrow let's be briefe, Since wedding it, there is such length in Griefe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 216 They led the Vine To wed her Elm. 1670 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 113 In gaining him, I gain that Fortune too Which he has Wedded, and which I but Woo. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 289 As woodbine weds the plant within her reach.

† **b.** Phrase. *To wed* (*a*) *wife*: to get married.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6708 Me sede þe king þat he moste nede wede wif. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3216 Abraham wald in his lijf þat ysaac had wedded a wijf. *c* 1325 *Lai le Freine* 248 Than was ther..A riche knight..yong, and jolliue; And had nought yete y-wedded wiue. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 149 He hath wedded a wyf with-inne this 3yr monethes. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 139 The fader of Gefrey Plauntgenet wedded a wyf only for beute. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 124 b, To one demaundyng when best season wer to wedde a wife.

4. To bind (the contracting parties) in wedlock; to conduct the marriage ceremony for (a man and woman); also *absol.*

1... *Rule of Chrodegang* (Napier) 81 Brydguman & bryde mid gebedum & mid ofringum mæssepreost aceal bletsian & weddian hi & betæcan hi be lagum. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 21 We schewyn acurayd..alle preestys þat..weddyn ony obere but here owyn paryaschenys wyth-oute leve, or weddyn wythoute þe banys askyd. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 1 Alle men of religion þat howselith, or weddith, or anelith any man or woman, with-out leve. *c* 1450 *Contin. Brut* 425 The Archebisshop of Caunturburi..weddid hem togederis there by ordynnaunce of God and holy chirche. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxii. 214 How Huon..went to Rome to the pope, who weddyd togyther Huon and the fayr Esclaramonde. 1546 *Vorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 228 The sayd incumbent shuld..burye, wedde, and christen wythin the sayd chappell. 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. xxxii, The *Helmsley Courier* devotes three columns to the describing of..how they were clad, who wed them, [etc.].

b. To give (a woman) in marriage; to cause to be married.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 863 And whi here fader tarieth so longe To wedden here vn-to som worthi wight. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 47 Þe kinge of þat cunctre of nev his douchtir vedit had. 1843 J. S. KNOWLES *Secretary* II. i. 81 My father cannot wed me 'gainst my will.

5. *pass.* To be joined in wedlock; to be married † *with*, † *unto*, *to* (a husband or wife); also, to be joined together as husband and wife.

c 1200 ORMIN 1942 & 3uw birrþ witenn þatt 3he wass Weddedd þurrh Godess wille Wiþþ an weppmann off hire kinn. *Ibid.* 1990 & forrþi wass 3ho till Josæp Wiþþ Godess la3he weddedd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 394 Auh þauh heo were iwedded him heo muhte i-wurðen so unwrest, [etc.]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1127 To-mo[r]we ye sholen ben weddeth, And, maugre þin, to-gideres beddeth. 138.. WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 334 She [yvede sevene 3eer wiþ hir housbonde þat was weddid wiþ hir fro her maidenhod. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xlvii–xlix. 66 After the knight was wedded to another wiff, and he and the secounde wiff leued togedre..v. yere. 1529 FRITH *Antithesis* 96 b, The Pope sayeth.., my prestes also shall not be wedded. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 37 In Siracusa was I borne, and wedde Vnto a woman, happy but for me. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 231 Cecille..was wedded to Thomas Greie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 828 And Adam, wedded to another Eve, Shall live with her enjoying, I extinct. 1673 J. W[ADE] *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 21 Before that ever we were wed. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxiv, When I returned..I found her wedded to a Gascon squire. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 1. 162 Eleanor the daughter of Simon of Montfort..was wedded to him [Llewelyn] at the English court.

fig. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 131 Hir hart was to him weddid with a Ringe. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xl. 253 Ihesu, my soule is weddet to þe.

6. *intr.* († also *refl.*). To enter into the matrimonial state; to take a wife or husband; to contract matrimony. Const. † *to*, *with.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Nolde him liken betere þen þauh me seide him þet heo gleowede & gomede, & wedde mid oðer men, & liuede in delices? *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Marriage* 18 Bet ys to wedde than brenne in worse wise. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 170/1 Aurelyan..came to domycelle for to wedde and accomplissh the maryage by force ageynst hir wyll. 1530 PALSGR. 778/2 There be seasons forbydden to wedde in. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 132 Who wedth ere he be wise, shall die ere he thriue. 1592 KYD *Murther. I. Brewen* Wks. (1901) 292 'But if I were so minded' (quoth he), 'I would be twice aduised how I did wed with such a strumpet as thy selfe'. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* III. ii. 17 Hee'll wooe a thousand,..Yet neuer meanes to wed where he hath woo'd. 1619 J. DYER *Counterpoyson* (1620) 21 And yet how many sticke not to wed to Canaanites! 1721 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 248 A Country Fellow had the Misfortune to wed with one of the Godly. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 554 As if the poet, purposing to wed, Should carve himself a wife in gingerbread. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 434 Yet..there were times of joy, (The day they wed, the christening of the boy). *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 59 Alas! alas! this is the misery of it, that so many wed and so few are Christianly married! 1889 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 227 And may you..live to wed with her whom first you love. 1884 H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 255 Dissenters..were made free to wed by a purely civil rite.

fig. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1517 He hauð iweddet him to mi meiðhad mit te ring of rihte bileaue. 1621 HEYLIN *Microcosmus* 243 [The Thames] flieth through Berks, Buck: Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and Essex; and so weddeth himself with the Kentish Medway.

7. *trans.* To unite as in marriage. **a.** To attach (a person, his thoughts, etc.) indissolubly by affection *to* something. Chiefly in *passive*, to be obstinately attached *to* (an opinion, one's own will, a habit, a faction, etc.). Also (rarely) *refl.*, to addict or devote oneself *to* a party.

c 1387 CHAUCER *Lack Stedf.* 28 (MS. Cotton) O prince.. Drede god..And wed thi folk ayen to stedfastnesse. 1421 *26 Pol. Poems* xviii. 6 Swete þoust in deuocion, þis weddid to chastite. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 279 b, This Pompeius.. wedded hymselfe wholly to the faccion of Sylla. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 181 b, The kyng perceiued & knewe that the quene was wedded to her awne opinion. 1562 HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* L ij b, I was wedded vnto my wyll. 1575 FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* To Indifferent Rdr., The Bucolikes of Virgil..I haue translated into the Englishe tongue, wedding my selfe (as it were) to ye vulgar and common phrase o^f^ speach. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* III. i. § 5. 9 It highly commends his diligence and iudgement, that he was not so wedded to any author, as affected with the loue of truth. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. XXXI. 47 They are so wedded to superstition, that some adore the Devil. 1703 R. NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 45 Nations..are very apt to be wedded to their own Ways and Methods. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 80 The frivolous Cares that wed you to the Town. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. vi, Your Honour has it in your power to wed me still closer to your interest! *c* 1730 SHENSTONE *Love & Hon.* 88 The love That weds each bosom to its native soil. 1800 CAMPBELL *On leaving a Scene in Bavaria* xvii, Then wed thee to an exile's lot. 1866 TROLLOPE *Cloverings* iii, He was not wedded to the joys of his college hall, or the college common room. 1887 COLVIN *Keats* ii. 34 Ready to entertain..any set of ideas..., he could never wed himself to any as representing ultimate truth. 1889 MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* viii, You have been wedded to your comforts all your life. 1913 WOODROW WILSON *New Freedom* vi. 129 There are those, of course, who are wedded to the old ways.

† **b.** To unite by liking or custom *with.* *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 364 And errour in weiyng of þis love makiþ many fals weddingis; as men ben weddid wiþ þer habitis, and þer custumes, and þer singular maners, as 3if þei weren Cristis comaundementis.

† **c.** To commit or pledge (a person) irrevocably *to* a course of action. *Obs.*

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 251 Hauing maried a woman which did but diahonour the countrey, and had wedded him vnto a war so daungerous, as [etc.].

d. To join or couple (a thing) intimately *with* or *to* something else; to associate closely *together.*

1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 408 Above his head, Four lily stalks did their white honours wed To make a coronal. 1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* x, Whilst we were panting with the sultry weather, And hardly cared to wed two words together. 1881 WESTCOTT *Introd. Study Gospels* I. (1860) 78 The LXX. wedded Greek language to Hebrew thought. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* ii. (1890) 46 The *Ecclesiastical Polity* remains a book in which matter and manner are wedded as in few other books of the same kind. 1891 *Lindley's New Holidays in Essex* 38 There is an excellent thing locally wedded with Blackwater boating. It is sausages.

† **8.** To espouse, adopt (a cause, a course of conduct, a custom, etc.). *Obs.*

1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 4 Men, who willingly wed the manners, and affections of those on whom they see theyr fortunes depend. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 49 And though..most of the principal men of the House of Commons were again elected to serve in this Parliament, yet they were far from wedding the war. *Ibid.* II. § 57 Most of the King's Privy Council..now as frankly wedded that interest as any of the leaders. 1748 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 51 O lead my mind,..and fix my firm resolve Wisdom to wed. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. ii, Or, in milder language, They have *wedded* their delusions: fire nor steel, nor any sharpness of Experience, shall sever the bond.

Wed (wed), *ppl. a. rare.* [pa. pple. of WED *v.*] = WEDDED.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 700 This werre..That warnes me wyrchippe of my wedde lorde. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 5 The sexte commandement forbeddes vs..to foly fleschely with any womane owþer..wedde or unwedde. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* XXXV. 95 He was a wed man. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XI. xlvi, A rib's a thorn in a wed gallant's side, Requires decorum.

Wed(d, obs. forms of WEED *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *v.*[1]

Wedaw, obs. form of WIDOW.

Wedda, variant of VEDDA.

1876 B. F. HARTSHORNE in *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 406 The Weddas, or, as they are more commonly but inaccurately called, the Veddas of Ceylon. 1900 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar 453 Practices, which are worthy of the Weddas or the Maories.

† **We·ddable,** *a. Obs.*[—0]. [f. WED *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be wedded.

1621 COTGR., *Mariable*..Mariable, weddable, mariageable.

Wedde, obs. form of WIDDY *Sc.*

Wedded (we·dĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. WED *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Joined in wedlock; living in the married state.

? *a* 800 *Conf. Abp. Ecgbert* xx. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 146 Ða geweddodan fæmnan [L. *puellam desponsatam*] hire yldran hi ne moton syllan oðrum men. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þe weddede wiues. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4604 Weddedd were & weddedd wif. 13.. *Cursor M.* 10458 (Gött.) Quar-of suld i haue ioy or bliss, Quen i mi weddid lauerd miss? *c* 1382 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 355 The wedded turtil with hire herte trewe. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2623 And many wedded couples haue I knowe. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony* 13 b, N. wilte thou haue this woman to thy

sound to the eare. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 77 Let wealth, let honour, wait the wedded dame. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 205, I have been a close observer of the behaviour of wedded folks. 1778 T. MORTON *Speed the Plough* v. i, She is my wife...My lawful, wedded wife. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxiii, If she lives, she shall be my wedded wife. 1908 G. TYRRELL in M. D. Petre *Life* (1912) II. 380, I thought that Utrecht would faint at the idea of a wedded

c 1250 *Hali Meid.* 5 Þat blisful as of heh alle widewen under hire & weddede bade. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 149 She fayled not..the chastyte of vyrgyns ne the plentecousenesse of wedded. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 62 Who pleads for thee thus, thy wedded shall be.

2. Of or pertaining to marriage or to married persons.

1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 137 (Fo.) Go aske his name: if he be married, My graue is like to be my wedded bed [*Qq.* wedding bed]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 750 Halle wedded Love, mysterious Law, true source Of human ofspring. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 184 P 2 As soon as she took upon her the wedded Condition. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxi, I care not myself for the wedded state. 1830 Coleridge *Table-t.* 27 Sept., Luther has sketched the most beautiful picture of the nature, and ends, and duties of the wedded life I ever read. 1866 Neale *Sequences & Hymns* 130 And wedded troth remains as firm, and wedded love as pure. 1888 Bungo *Lives 12 Gd. Men* II. v. 8 The sun of his wedded happiness set in this same year.

3. Obstinately attached (to an indulgence, a habit, opinion, party, etc.).

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 117 If thou be either so wicked that thou wilt not, or so wedded that thou canst not abstein from their glauncos. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* I. 1 The wedded Opinions of the Generality to the Custom and Practice of their Neighbours. 1854 C. E. Norton *Lett.* (1913) I. 106 New Hampshire,..the most wedded of all the Northern States to the Democratic party.

4. Of things: Coupled or joined together.

1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 43 Then fled she to her inmost bower and there Unclasp'd the wedded eagles of her belt. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 572/1 The country-side [Italy].. with its wedded vines and elms.

†5. *Wedded brother = wed-brother* (see Wed *sb.* 6). *Obs. rare.*

c 1350 *Athelston* ii. (Zupitza), For loue of here metyng þare þey swoor hem weddyd breþeryn for euer mare, In trewþe trewely dede hem bynde. *Ibid.* xiv, Þy weddid broþir.

Hence †**We'ddedhood** [-hood], **We'ddedness** [-ness], wedded state or condition.

a 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 818 Dedly synne hyt ys forthe broght, Saus in here wedhode [*v. r.* wededhood] That ys feyre to-fore gode. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* July 281/1 His weddedness. 1903 Ld. R. Gower *Rec. & Remin.* 338 He and his wife appear exceedingly fond of one another, a rare and refreshing state of weddedness nowadays.

Wedder (we·dəɹ). [f. Wed *v.* + -er 1.] One who weds. *Penny wedder* (? cf. Penny-*wedding*).

1886 *Morning Star* 13 Sept. 2/5 The sounds of hobnailed feet and giggling was heard in the church porch, denoting the arrival of the first batch of penny wedders. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Wedder, obs. and dial. f. Weather, Wether.

Weddesette, obs. form of Wadset *v.*

Weddewede, obs. form of Widowhood.

Wedding (we·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 **weddung,** 3 **weddingue,** 4 **weddin,** 5 **-yn,** 4–5 **wedding, -yng,** 4–6 **weddyng(e, -inge,** 6 *Sc.* **wedding,** 3– **wedding.** [f. Wed *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of marrying; marriage, espousal. Chiefly *gerundial.* † Also, the married state, wedlock, matrimony (*obs.*).

c 1000 *Gosp. Nicod.* vii. 3 In Thwaites *Hept.* (1698), Seo weddung was beweddod, eal swa eowre axene ðeoda secgaþ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1428 Siðen men hauen holden skil, first to freinen ðe wimmanes wil, Or or men hire to louerd giue, for wedding or for morgen-giwe. *c* 1290 *St. Edmund Conf.* 97 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 434 Wel he huld is treuþe setþe and his weddingue also, And trewe spouse was inoȝ. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 423 Hit nere no fair wedding Bitwexe a þral & a king. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 178 Summe..For Couetise of Catel vnkuyndeliche beoþ maried, And Careful Concepcion comeþ of such weddyng. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 267 Wedding is the hardest band That ony man may tak on hand. *a* 1400 Chaucer *Envoy to Bukton* 24 So may happe That the were leuer to be take in Frise Than eft falle of weddynge in the trappe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xlii. 92 Be well war of wedyng. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 Ye secund Weddynge, *bigamia, deutrogamia.* 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xiv. 52 My sone hyemen, whiche is named the god of weddynge. 1564 *Brief Exam.* *****iij, Who vsed the ring fyrst in weddyng? the Heathen. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* II. i. 76 Wooing, wedding, and repenting, is as a Scotch jigge, a measure, and a cinque-pace.

Prov. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 129 Weddyng and hangyng are destany.

2. The performance of the marriage-rite; the ceremony of a marriage, with its attendant festivities.

This is the word in general use for this sense.

c 1300 *K. Horn* 1295 (Laud) He rongen þe bellen þe wedding [*Cambr.* wedlak] for to fullen. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's T.* 25 The feste that was at hir weddynge. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* lxiii. 163 Moche ioye was there made atte theyr weddynge. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxii. 10 The weddinge was furnyssbed with gestes. 1530 Palsgr. 287/2 Weddyng, *noptes.* 1602 Shake. *Ham.* I. ii. 178, I thinke it was to see my Mothers Wedding. 1663 Killigrew *Pars. Wedd.* v. ii, I'll run and invite them to the Wedding. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* V. lv. 347 Every woman's heart leaps..when a wedding is described. 1797 Sir F. M. Eden *St. Poor* I. 598 The custom of a general feasting at weddings and christenings. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* v, The very wedding looked dismal as they passed in front of the altar. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* x, Are you to be at the Milton wedding next week? 1897 Stopf. Brooke in Jacks *Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 532, I am told the wedding went off well.

fig. *a* 1901 F. W. H. Myers *Hum. Personality* (1903) II. 295 Since that great wedding between Reason and Experience, which immortalises the name of Galileo.

b. Phr. *Penny wedding*: see Penny 12c. *Silver wedding* [G. *silberhochzeit, silberne hochzeit*], the 25th anniversary of a wedding (see Silver *sb.* 20). *Golden wedding,* the 50th anniversary. *Diamond wedding,* the 60th or 75th anniversary (see Diamond *sb.* 12).

1882 *Illustr. Lond. News* 25 Nov. 485/3 The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Prince William of Hesse and the Princess Charlotte...This 'golden wedding', as such an event is called [etc.]. 1894 Longf. *Hanging of Crane* vii, It is the Golden Wedding day.

†3. Occas. found in other senses of the verb: Close union or association; the action of pledging or wagering. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 364 (see Wed *v.* 7 b). *Ibid.* 431 But Lord! wheþer weddyng wiþ alche signes helpiþ to holde religioun of Crist, and love hym of hert? — *Wks.* (1880) 448 Wedding wiþ þes newe bilawis, passinge þe wedding wiþ goddis lawe, makiþ þes newe rotun sectis. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 401 Item, the xj day of October, to the King quhilk he tynt on wedding with the Abbot of Cambuskinneth, xiiij s.

4. *attrib.,* as *wedding-anniversary, -appearance, -banquet, -bed, -bell, -chamber,* †*-cheer, -clothes, -coat, -dinner, -dower, -dress, -feast, festival, -gown, -guest, -journey, -mass, -night, -peal -present, -robe, -sermon,* †*smock, -song, -suit, -supper, -table, -torch,* †*trim.*

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 13 Aug. 1673, It being his *wedding anniversarie. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 257 How bravely shall we enter a court,..dressed out each man, as if to his *wedding-appearance. 1825 Longf. *Hiaw.* xii. 372 Thus the *wedding-banquet ended 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 137 (Qo. 1599) If he be married, My graue is like to be my *wedding bed. 1685 ? Dryden *Daphnis* 64 in *Sylvæ* 118, I bargain for a wedding Bed at least. *a* 1849 Poe *The Bells* ii, Hear the mellow *wedding bells. 1552 Huloet, *Weddynge chamber, *thalamus.* 1611 Bible 2 *Esdras* x. 2 When my sonne was entred into his wedding chamber, he fell downe and died. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 87 Our *wedding cheare [turns] to a sad buriall Feast. 1676 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 737 The Bride, That with her *Wedding-cloaths undresses Her Complaisance and Gentilesses. 1884 Miss Mitford *Village* I. 288 Betsy.. prepared her wedding clothes, and looked hourly for the bridegroom. 1837 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 26 A pair of common nankeen tights,..and blue *wedding-coat. 1633 Rowley *Match at Midn.* II. i. D 2 b, One *wedding dinner must serve both marriages. 1835 Dickens *Sk Boz, Mistaken Milliner,* Miss Amelia Martin was invited..to honour the wedding-dinner with her presence. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* III. i. 78 Then let her beauty be her *wedding dowre. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* ii, They helped her on with her *wedding-dress. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* III. v, They that now dreame of a *wedding-feast, May chance to mourne the lusty Bridegromes ruine. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* xi (*heading*), Hiawatha's Wedding-feast. 1795–6 Wordsw *Borderers* I. 331 The villagers Are flocking in—a *wedding festival. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 118 My *weddynggown and all my clothis of gold. 1767 Murphy *School for Guard.* IV. iv. 66, I have brought your young lady's wedding-gown. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* I. 31 The *Wedding-Guest here beat his breast, For he heard the loud bassoon. 1881 Howells (*title*), Their *Wedding Journey. 1612 Webster *White Devil* II. i. 190 Accursed be the priest That sang the *wedding masse. 1661 Pepys *Diary* 10 Oct., So home, and intended to be merry, it being my sixth *wedding night. 1682 Otway *Venice Preserved* I. 7 The very bed, which on thy wedding night Receiv'd thee to the Arms of Belvidera. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Wathins Tottle* i, I spent my wedding-night in a back-kitchen chimney. 1808 Skurray *Bidcombe Hill* 25 *note,* In the village of Horningsham..It is customary, when a young person dies unmarried, to ring the *wedding peal on muffled bells, immediately on the interment of the corpse. 1898 G. B. Shaw *Plays* II. *Candida* 81 A travelling clock in a leather case (the inevitable *wedding present). 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 238 Thys noble yonge lorde ys clad in a new *weddynge robe. 1694 T. Brown *Lottery for Ladies & C.* Wks. 1711 IV. 169 Dr. B——s shall preach the *Wedding Sermon. *c* 1620 Beaum. & Fl. *Scornf. Lady* I. i, If my *Wedding smock were on. 1648 Herrick *Hesper.,* *'Come sit we under yonder Tree'* 22 Next we will..talke of Brides; and who shall make That wedding-smock, this Bridal-Cake. 1598 R. Bernard *Terence, Adelphi* v. vii. (1607) 327 They which sing the *wedding song. 1594 *Taming of a Shrew* (1844) 22 For this I sweare shall be my *wedding sute. 1728 Cibber *Provoked Husb.* III. i. 53 The Wedding-suit of a first Dutchess. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* IV. xv, Ha, ha, ha! That a Man shou'd have a Stomach to a *Wedding Supper, when the Pidgeons ought rather to be laid to his feet. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* IV. 53 To tell how meikle cakes and ale..Was serv'd upon the *wedding-table. 1591 Shake. 1 *Hen. VI,* III. ii. 26 Behold, this is the happy *Wedding Torch, That ioyneth Roan vnto her Countrey men. *a* 1729 Tickell *Colin & Lucy* 43 He in his *wedding-trim so gay, I in my winding-sheet!

b. **wedding-breakfast,** the entertainment formerly given at the bride's house after the marriage-ceremony and before the departure for the honeymoon; **wedding-cake,** a large rich cake, covered with icing and decorated with sugar ornaments, cut and distributed to the guests at the wedding-feast and sent in small portions to absent friends; also *attrib.*; **wedding-cards,** cards, bearing the names of the two parties, sent out to friends as an announcement of the wedding; **wedding-chest,** an ornamental chest made to contain a bride's clothes, etc.; †**wedding church door** = *wedding door*; **wedding-coffer** = *wedding-chest*; **wedding-day,** the day on which a marriage is performed, or which is fixed for the marriage; also, an anniversary of this day; also *attrib.*; † **wedding door,** the church-door, or porch, at which couples were married; **wedding-favour,** a knot of white ribbon, or a white rosette, sometimes worn by guests at a wedding; **wedding-finger** = Ring-finger; **wedding-flower,** (*a*) *Morsea* (*Iris*) *robinsoniana,* of Lord Howe's Island, N.S.W.; (*b*) *Dombeya natalensis,* of S. Africa; **wedding-garment,** a garment appropriate to, or customarily worn at, a wedding; also *fig.* (with ref. to Matt. xxii. 11–12); †**wedding-garter,** a garter worn as a wedding-favour; †**wedding-house** = Bride-house; †**wedding kirk door** = *wedding door*; †**wedding-knives,** ? a pair of knives worn at the girdle by a bride; **wedding-knot,** (*a*) *fig.* the bond of matrimony; (*b*) *Naut.,* a tie for uniting the looped ends of two ropes (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wedding-march,** a march (Mendelssohn's, if not otherwise specified) composed for performance at a wedding; †**wedding-monger,** one who is busied about a wedding; **wedding-ring,** a ring, usually of plain gold, placed by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand as part of the ceremony, and worn by her ever after; also *fig.*; **wedding-sheet,** a sheet laid on the bridal bed and sometimes kept to form a shroud for the bride at her death.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxx, To make the furnished lodging decent for the *wedding-breakfast. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* xv. 372 It must be borne in mind that the wedding-breakfast is not a *dinner.* 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Bride-Cake,* This day my Julia thou must make For Mistresse Bride, the *wedding cake: 1798 Coleridge *Three Graves* 60 The wedding cake with her own hand The ruthless mother brought. 1879 Mrs. F. D. Bridges *Jrnl. Lady's Trav.* iii. (1883) 43 The Palace, somewhat of the wedding-cake style of architecture, all over stucco ornaments and whitewash. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxix, I..noticed a basket containing some of the *wedding cards. 1888 A. K. Green *Behind Closed Doors* ii, My daughter's wedding-cards are out. 1874 J. H. Pollen *Anc. & Mod. Furniture S. Kens. Mus.* 127 Coffer..The figures of angels..on the ends and the front panel are uninjured. It has been a *wedding chest. 1560 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 97 Paid..for mendynge..the window over the *wedinge churche dore. 1904 *Studio* Sept. 303/2 *Wedding-coffers, or 'cassones,' as they are sometimes called. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. iv. (Arb.) 26 What weepe on the *weddyng day? be merrie woman. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 35 O Sonne, the night before thy wedding day, Hath death laine with thy wife. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Nov. 1659, Sir John Evelyn invited us to the 41st wedding-day feast. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 9 Though wedded we have been These twice ten tedious years, yet we No holiday have seen. Tomorrow is our wedding-day. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxxvii, The third day from this must be our wedding-day, Jane. 1470–3 *Rec. Andover* 11 Paid vnto John helyer for reperacon don at the *weddyndor, vid. 1636 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 205 A gallerie over the Wedding doare in the Church. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 592/1 A *wedding favour, *Lemniscus nuptialis.* 1882 Besant *Revolt of Man* xi. (1883) 263 The church was crammed with the guests in wedding-favours. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* P ij, The *weddyng fynger (whiche is the nexte to the little fynger). 1548 Patten *Exped. Scot.* H iv, Hurt vppon the weddyng fynger of hys righte hande. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* xiii, She slipped it on to her wedding-finger. 1869 in *Gardeners' Chron.* (1872) 23 Mar. 393/3 A large Iridaceous plant, termed the '*Wedding Flower'. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxii 11 The kynge..spyed there a man which had not on a *weddinge garment. *c* 1540 Coverdale *Fruitful Less.* To Rdr. (1593) A 4 b, The old Adam ought we to lay aside..and to put on Christ the Lord, as the new wedding garment. 1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 51 Is supper ready, the house trim'd,..and euery officer his wedding-garment on? 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 524 Are these the fruits o' th' Protestation,..Which all the Saints, and some, since Martyrs, Wore in their Hats, like *Wedding-Garters. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 *Weddynge (howsa *K.*, hous *P.*), *idem quod* hirydale howse, *supra.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 A Weddyng howse, *nuptorium.* 1684 D'Urfey *Pills* (1719) II. 31 Willy was late at a Wedding house, Where Lords and Ladies danc'd all arow. 1530 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 137 He wan found in the *wedding kirk dur with his bonat on his heid. 1596 *Edw. III,* II. ii. 173 Here by my side doth hang my *wedding knifes. *c* 1620 Dekker *Match me in London* v. (1631) 70 See at my Girdle hang my wedding knives. 1902 'Roma White' *Backsheesh* iii. [illegible]

march. 1903 J. L. Allen *Mettle of Pasture* ii. 33 The loud crash of the wedding march closed their separate parts with a single melody. 1671 Caryl *Sir Salomon* II. 29 By that time the Lawyers, the Taylers, the Semstresses, and riming Poets, with the rest of the 'Wedding-Mongers, will have all things in readiness. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 812 And heere agayn my clothyng I restoore, And eek my *weddyng ryng. *c* 1540 Coverdale *Fruitful Less.* (1593) Kk 2 b, The same holie Ghost, who is..the earnest pennie of saluation, the wedding ring of grace. 1590 Shake. *Com Err.* II. ii. 139 Wouldst thou not..from my false hand cut the wedding ring? 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 41 The sand about us seemes to be our wedding Ring, and the riches of the Sea our Dowrie. 1704 Prior *To Yng. Gent. in Love* 70 The Moral of the Tale I sing (A Posy for a Wedding Ring). 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxvii, The only article of ornament of which she stands possessed appears to be her wedding-ring. 1604 Shake. *Oth.* IV. ii. 105 Prythee to night, Lay on my bed my *wedding sheetes, remember. 1842 Lockhart *Reg. Dalton* I. viii. (1842) 46 Her wedding-sheet, which, according to the primitive fashion of the district, had been carefully laid by for that purpose, was formed into the shroud which enveloped her remains.

¶ For alternative forms of many of these collocations see Bridal 2, Bride *sb.*1 5 a, 6, Marriage 8, Nuptial *a.* 1. The adjectival force of *wedding* is recognised in the following quot.:

1530 Palsgr. 309/1 ('The Table of Adjectyves') Weddyng, belongyng to maryage, *nuptial.*

Weddinger (we·diŋəɹ). *dial.* [f. WEDDING + -ER 1.] A wedding-guest; *pl.* the whole wedding-party, including bride and bridegroom.

1808 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 458 After a few days' carousal among the groom's friends, the weddingers move towards the bride's country. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* IV. 185 But wont you have some cake, ladies, before the weddingers come to church? 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. xv, 'Good luck to the weddiners!' they said. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* (ed. 2) 205 The weddingers passed down the little slope leading to the churchyard gate.

Weddir(e, obs. ff. WEATHER, WETHER.

Weddow(e, obs. forms of WIDOW.

Weddre, -ur, -yr, obs. forms of WEATHER.

† Wede, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 wédan (3 *sing. pres.* wét(t), 3 weden, -enn, 3–5 wede, (3 weede, 4 wed, wedde, 3–4 wide), 5 *Sc.* weide, weid, weyd. [OE. *wédan* = OS. *wódian*, OHG. *wuoten* (MHG. *wuoten*, mod.G. *wüten*), ON. *óða*:—OTeut. **wōdjan*, f. **wōdo-* mad: see WOOD *a.*]

1. *intr.* To be or become mad. Cf. AWEDE.

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* v. xiii. (1890) 438 Cwæð he; Ne wede ic [L. *non insanio*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John x. 20 Deofol is on him & he wet. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1964 Þes keiser..as mon þet bigon to weden & to wurðen ut of his ahne witte, wodeliche þeide [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3749 Me es sua waa, almast I weede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2509 He..went hom azeine, Weping as he wold wide for wo & for sorwe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B 1585 So was þe wy3e wytles, he wed wel ner. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 539, I am all in aunter, as akis me þe wame, Of werke well ne I wede. *c* 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 936 He..ferde als he wolde wede. *a* 1413 *Anturs of Arth.* 358 (Ireland MS.) Ne3thond Syr Wauan wold wede, So wepputte he fulle sore.

b. Phrase. *To wede* (*out*) *of, but wit.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 13975 Of þis womman þe grete fairede Did mani man of witt to wede. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. x. 1903 Bot ay withe roris reythe he [rerde], Wedande but wit as a wode man. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 651 Nighe of witte she wold wede. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 205 Thocht I for wo all out off witt suld weid!

2. To be wild with anger or desire; to rage. Const. *again*; *to* (do something).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xvi. 225 He [the Devil] wet nu swiðe and wynð on ða cristenan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14140 Fra þatt gredinesse þatt doþ þe mann to wedenn rihht To winnenn erþlic ahhte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 264 Hwon mon logge8 him bi ure Louerde, þeonne on erest biginne8 þe deoflen to weden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2408 Quen þai þe see, for þi fairhede To reue me þe þan sal þai wede. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. vi. 1179 Fra þine he ceasit for to weide Agayne þe cristyn men in deide. *Ibid.* v. xiii. 4624 In ire as he was wedande þen. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xv. 47 No wonder if I wede, I that may do no dede; how shuld I the-der wyn ffor ald? *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 2480 Wedand in a rage.

b. Of waves, pestilence: To rage, be furious.

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* III. xv. (1890) 200 Þa yða weollon & weddon þæs sæs. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. iii. 230 In Scotlande þat 3here in wiolence [Was] wedande þe thride pestilence.

Hence † **We·ding** (Sc. *wedand*) *ppl. a.*, raging, raving.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* L 198 *Limphaticus*, woedendi. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 4 Hwa mæx þæm weldendan xietsere xenoh forgifan? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 572 Almacius cane til hire say: þat wedand wodnes do away, & sacrafy oure godis til. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xl. 2776 Al brym he belyt in to brethe, And wrythit al in wedand wrethe. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 1644 Fore wedand Joy beand in vages Lattis al suthfast gud knawleges.

Wede, obs. form of WEED.

Wedenisdai, obs. form of WEDNESDAY.

† Wedenonfa'. *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 wedonynpha (vedumfa), 8 wytenon-fa, 9 weidinonfa. [f. OE *wéden-* (in *wéden-heorð, -stoc*) mad + *onfa'*, ONFALL. Cf. WIDDENDREAM.] Ague (in later use *spec.* puerperal ague, WEED *sb.*3), or a fit of this.

c 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 57 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 300 The worme, the wareit wedonynpha [*Maitl. MS.* vedumfa], Rumbursin, ripplis, or bellythra[w]. 1597 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* (Bannatyne Club) II. 27 Item, for

klippert in a cauld day. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wedonypha*... This [see quot. 1755] is rendered 'trembling, chattering'. But it is the term generally used in the North, to express that disease peculiar to women, commonly called a *weid*; *weidinonfa*. Ang[us].

Weder(e: see WEATHER, WETHER, WHITHER.

‖ Wederdoper. *rare*−1. [Du. *wederdooper*, f. *weder* again + *dooper* baptizer: see DOPPER 2.] (See quot.)

1647 N. WARD *Simp. Cobler* 16 The Crowds of foraigne Wederdopers, that is Anabaptists.

Wederlyng, corrupt f. *querdlyng*, CODLING 2.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 108 Þe wines and þe wederlyng.

Wedester. *Obs.*−1 (Meaning uncertain.)

1346 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 22 [Ordinaciones pro fullonibus.] Item ordynee est qe nul mestre paye a nule femme quest appelee Wedestere..synoun jd. le iour.

Wedeu, -ew(e, Wedewer: see WIDOW, -ER.

Wedge (wedʒ), *sb.* Forms: 1 wæcg, weog, wegge, (4 weeg), 4–7 wegge, (5 vegge, weegge, weggbe), 5–6 weg(e, 5–7 wagge, 6 wadge, wegg, 7 wedg, 8– wedge. Pl. 6 wedgies, *Sc.* vagis, wagis. [Com. Teut. (not found in Gothic): OE. *wecg* masc. corresponds to OS. *weggi* wedge (MLG. *wegge, wiggе*, LG. *wegge* wedge, wedge-shaped cake), MDu. *wegge, wigge* (mod.Du. *wegge* fem., wedge-shaped cake, *wig* fem., wedge), OHG. *weggi, wecki*, wedge (MHG. *wegge, wecke*, wedge, wedge-shaped cake; mod.G. dial. *weck, wecken* masc., wedge, wedge-shaped cake), ON. *veggr* wedge (Norw. *vegg*, Da. *vægge*, MSw. *vägge, vigge*, Sw. *vigg, vägge*):—OTeut. **wagjo-z*.

The affinities of the word are somewhat uncertain. Some scholars regard it as cognate with OHG. *wagansso* (see *wagense* in Grimm *D. Wb.*), ON., Norw. *vangr*, Gr. ἄβαξ (Hesychius) ploughshare, OPrussian *waginis* coulter, Lith. *vagis* pin, plug, f. Indogermanic root **wogh-*. (Teut. **wag-*): cf. Skr. *vah-* to force.

The LG. and Du. form with *i* for *e* (whence perh. the Sw. form and the Eng. WIG *sb.*1, a kind of cake) is not easy to account for. It may be due to a special sound-change in some local dialect; the hypothesis that it represents an ablaut-variant (OTeut. **wegjo-z*) is inadmissible.]

1. A piece of wood, metal, or other hard material, thick at one end and tapering to a thin edge at the other; chiefly used as a tool operated by percussion (or, less frequently, pressure) applied to the thick end, for splitting wood, stone, etc., forcing apart contiguous objects, dilating a fissure or cavity, tightening or securing some part of a structure, raising a heavy body, and other similar purposes. Hence, in *Mechanics*, the type of simple machine of which the wedge proper is an example, and which includes also knives, chisels, and cutting and piercing instruments in general; formerly reckoned separately among the 'mechanical powers', but now regarded as a variety of the inclined plane.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 970 *Cuneus*, waecg. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxvii. (1889) 103 Ysele treowes on oste ysel nægel oððe wecg on to fæstnizenne ys. *a* 1250 *J. de Garlande* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 137 Et cum cuneis [*glossed* wedgys] et cavillis. 1357 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III* m. 34/2 lj. Wegges ferri. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. xiv. 4 Thorw wich pyn ther goth a litel wegge which þat is cleped the horn, þat streyneth alle thise parties to hepe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 235 Goode wegges schall we take þis tyde, and feste þe foote [of the cross]. *Ibid.* 242 Gyffe me þis wegge, I schall it in dryue. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 81/2 Clyte, or clote, or vegge, *cuneus*. † 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 147, j weegge of yron. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The ploughfote is a lyttell pece of wodde, with a croked ende set before in a morteys in the ploughe-beame, sette fast with wedges, to dryue vppe and downe. 1542 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 184 To..reforme and mend the artillery, and to mak carttis, boolis, vagis, and all vder necessaris belangand thairto. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 369 The marble stone..they breake and cleaue with wedgies of iren. 1589 SPENSER *Theat., Sonets* v, I heard the tronke to grone vnder the wedge. 1613 [illegible] faculty is the Wedge, which is a known instrument, commonly used in the Cleaving of wood. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 711 Tyrrheus..left his Wedge within the cloven Oak. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* II. (ed. 4), *Wedges* are us'd to make fast the Mast in the Partners. They also put a Wedge into the Heels of the Top-Masts, to bear them upon the Tressel-Trees. 1728 CHAMBERS (*cyl., Wedge, Cuneus*, in Mechanicks, the last of the five Powers or simple Machines... To the Wedge may be refer'd all Edge-Tools, and Instruments which have a sharp Point, in order to cut, cleave, slit, chop, pierce, bore, or the like; as Knives, Hatchets, Swords, Bodkins, &c. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 44 The sharper the wedge, or the more acute its angle, the easier it will divide any thing or overcome any resistance. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 43 Forth goes the woodman..To wield the axe And drive the wedge in yonder forest drear. *a* 1790 W. NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius* X. xviii. (1791) 266 The distended ropes..are then confined at the holes with wedges, that they may not slip. 1842 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 73 The wedges employed to secure the rails in the chairs are similarly compressed. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Wedge*, ..a small fastening for a door or window. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wordbk., Setting-up*, raising a ship from her blocks, shores, &c. by wedges driven between the heels of the shore and the dock foundation. 1882 W. E. NICHOLSON *Gloss. Terms Coal Trade* (E.D.D.), *Wedge*, a sharp or flat pointed

seen in statues.

b. *Grafting.* (*a*) A peg to keep the cleft open. (*b*) The tongue or tapered end of a scion or stock.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 136 Thou muste haue..a mallet, to dryue the knyfe and thy wedge in-to the tree. 1653 AUSTEN *Fruit-Trees* 48 Being cloven with the knife, and a wedge of Box, or other hard wood knockt in, to keep it open, then prepare the Graft [etc.]. 1832 *Planting* 30 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The upper division of the scion made by the slit, termed the tongue or wedge, is then inserted into the cleft of the stock.

c. The movable slip of wood, tapered on one side, by means of which the blade of a carpenter's plane is adjusted and fastened in the stock.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 64 This knocking on the Britch [of a plane] raises the Iron, so it also raises and loosens the wedge: therefore..whenever you knock upon the Britch, you must also knock upon the wedge, to fasten the Iron

d. *Arch.* A voussoir.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Architt.* I. 73 b, The last wedge, which is called the key-stone, shou'd be cut according to the lines of the other wedges, but left a small matter bigger at the top, so that it may..drive the lower wedges closer together. *a* 1790 W. NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius* VI. xi. (1791) 147 In edifices which are built with piers and arches of wedges with the joints tending to their centers, the extreme piers are to be made of a greater breadth, that they may resist the force when the wedges, [illegible]ed by the weight of the walls, and impelling toward the center, thrust against the abutments. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 20 We might conceive an arch whose voussoirs should be wedges, not of stone..but of wood.

2. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 278 Take an other unvanquishable argument such as all yᵉ Heretiques wedges with all their Beatelles and malles cannot beat abroad. *c* 1600 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 13 Now I am cum to a knot that I have noe wedg to cleave. 1648 FULLER *Good Th. in Bad Times* II. vi, The same wedge will serve to cleave the former difficulty. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 78, I hope these Reflections will not be misinterpreted..as a Wedge to make way for any Design of mine. 1842 CALHOUN *Sp.* Wks. 1861 IV. 12 This bill is the entering wedge for all the measures of the session. 1887 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* xxvii. 267 Just as he had fixed on the astute question which was to drive the first wedge into the mystery. Guy turned..and met him full. 1909 G. A. T. MIDDLETON *Eng. Ch. Archit.* I. 17 England became a wedge of paganism driven in as it were between the Christianity of the Continent..and the Christianity of Ireland. 1913 R. LUCAS *Ld. North* xiv. II. 168 Shelburne..perceived that there was room for a wedge to be driven in between the French and the Americans.

b. Phr. *The thin* (*little* or *small*) *end of the wedge*, a small beginning which it is hoped or feared may lead to something greater. Also *attrib.*

1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* XXXI, (Chapter-heading) The Small End of the Wedge. *Ibid.*, We have all heard of the little end of the wedge...That pill had been the little end of Lady Arabella's wedge. Up to that period she had been struggling in vain to make a severance between her husband and her enemy [the doctor]. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. x. 460 The rule [of Chrodegang] was but the small end of the wedge. 1884 *Graphic* 20 Dec. 639/3 Cremation advocates have managed to get in the thin end of the wedge in France.

attrib. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 5/1 How many reforms have the Tories resisted with the thin-end-of-the-wedge argument.

3. An ingot of gold, silver, etc. ? *Obs.*

Presumably so called because the ordinary form of an ingot was that of a wedge; cf. Heb. *lā'ōn*, lit. 'tongue', used in the same sense; but in the Eng. use of the word there appears to be no evidence of any reference to shape. The OE. *wecg* is in translations of Matt. xvii. 27 used for 'piece of money' (rendering L. *stater*).

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 26 Berende on wecga orum ares & isernes, leades & seolfres. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 60 Hi behwyrfdon heora ars..on sumum gyldenum wecge, and done on an awurpan. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 141/34 *Metallum*, seices kynnes wecg vel ora oððe clyna. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 49 Þei wilen not touche an halpeny or ferþing wiþ þe coyn..of the kyng...a weeg of siluer or a cuppe of gold þei wolen handil faste. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 171 Also Pruse mene make here aventure Of plate of sylvere, of wegges gode and sure In grete plente. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Aug.* (1910) 48 He..made þe vesseles of syluyr whech longed on-to þe cherch to be molten, and þe weggis þerof be sold and departed to por men. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXVIII. 16 No wedges of gold of Ophir. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Josh.* vii. 21 Two hundreth shekels of siluer and a wedge of golde of fyftie shekels weight. [So 1611 (*margin*, Heb. tunge)]. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Aurum purum, infectum*,..gold vnwrought, and in the wedge. 1613 [see INGOT 1]. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 140 Fifty thousand Talents of vncoyned Gold, besides siluer wedges. 1694 BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* v. 194 'Tis like a child's slighting a wedge of gold, and rather pursuing an empty bubble because it shines and glitters. 1720 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 196, I found there..some small Bars or Wedges of Gold.

b. *Cant.* Silver, whether money or plate.

1725 *New Cant. Dict., Wedge*, Plate, or Silver or Gold Moveables and Trinkets: Also Money. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 209 A convenient fencing repository, from the lady's tyke to the nobleman's wedge. 1821 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 98, I had some wedge planked in a garret in North Leith...I was anxious to convert it into blunt. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May 2/1 Between two and three I turns over a pawnbroker's shop, and gets safe away with a lot of wedge—that's silver plate.

attrib. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s. v. *Wedge*, A wedge-feeder, a silver-spoon. 1839 AINSWORTH *Jack Sheppard* II. xiv, A wedge-lobb, otherwise known as a silver snuff-box.

4. A lump or cake of any solid substance.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 146 b, The Creame ..is..put into a vessell..wherin with often beating and mooving up and downe, they so shake the milke, as they seuer the thinnest part of from the thicke, which at the fyrst gather together in little crombles, and after with the continuance of the violent mooving commeth to a whole wedge, or cake [L. *in massam cogatur*]. 1708 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 57 When you have churned, wash your Butter..and beat it well..; let it stand in a Wedge..till the next morning. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Berkeley* I. iv. 74 Different kinds of rude money..; skins in one country, shells in another, and wedges of salt in a third.

5. *transf.* a. A formation of troops tapering to the front or van, in order to cleave a way through an opposing force. (Orig. after L. *cuneus*; cf. *wedge-battle* in 10.) Now more widely of a body of people.

1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* III. xii. § 7. 152 Taking a choise Companie of the most able men, whom he cast into the forme of a Wedge, or Diamond. 1615 H. PEACHAM *Relat. Affairs Clove & Gulick* C 2 b, The Horse..were showne in the field in order of fight: their manner was in forme of a Pile or wedge, called of the old Romans, *Cuneus*. 1674 MILTON *P. R.* III. 309 See how in warlike muster they appear, In Rhombs and wedges, and half moons, and wings. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 842 One Soul inspiring all, Form'd in a Wedge, the Foot approach the Wall. 1820 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v. 1878 SHELLEY *Hellas* 377 Thrice their keen wedge of battle pierced our lines. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 2/1 A wedge of 15 or 18 policemen were endeavouring to be driven into that meeting. 1900 M. HEWLETT *Richard Yea-and-Nay* II. ix, The wedge held firm; and work for axe and

swords while it lasted. 1913 J. H. Morrison *On Trail Pioneers* I Every entrance is blocked, and down every gangway a long wedge of standing people has been driven deep into the heart of the house.

b. The V-shaped formation adopted by a number of geese or other wildfowl when flying.

[1785 Watts *Logic* II. ii. § 2 The wild Geese flew over the Thames in the Form of a Wedge.] 1869 Blackmore *Lorna Doone* xxix, So like half a wedge of wildfowl, to and fro we swept the field. 1889 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 5/3 There drifts over the moor a wedge of clangorous geese, making for the Channel.

c. *gen.* Something in the form of a wedge; a wedge-shaped part or piece of anything.

1821 Shelley *Adonais* I, One keen pyramid with wedge sublime, Pavilioning the dust of him who planned This refuge for his memory. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Making a Night of it*, A pot of the real draught stout, and..cushions of bread, and wedges of cheese. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xii. 89 The glacier here..was cut up into thin wedges. 1889 H. Saunders *Man. Brit. Birds* 660 The three outer primaries are of a dusky-black which becomes paler towards the edges of the inner webs, though there is no grey 'wedge'. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 430 It is better, instead of removing such a kidney, to treat each focus independently by scraping or by the excision of a wedge.

d. A strip of land narrowing to a point.

[1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Wedge*, a Sand so called, being broad at the West end, and sharp at the East end, and lies on the North side of the Margat Sands.] 1867 Murchison *Siluria* xvii. (ed. 4) 412 The Coal-field..thins out..so much that to the west of Bethune it has merely become a narrow wedge. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 771/2 The white wedge of Kildin Island is now on our port bow.

e. In an organ (see quot.).

1852 Seidel *Organ* 78 The wedge of the mouth..is the interval between the under lip and the language.

f. *Meteorol.* A narrow wedge-shaped area of high pressure between two adjacent cyclonic systems; also the representation of this on a weather-chart.

1887 R. Abercromby *Weather* ii. 26 Between the two cyclones the isobar of 29·9 ins. projects upwards, like a wedge or an inverted letter V., but this time encloses high pressure; this shape of lines is called a 'wedge'.

g. The wedge-shaped stroke in cuneiform characters. Also *attrib.*

1881 Rich *Babylon & P.* (1839) 249 The wedges in the third [kind of inscription] cross each other. 1883 G. Evans *Ess. Assyriol.* 6 The kind of writing in the copies, with the wedge as its fundamental element, was to them perfectly new.

1881 Tylor *Anthrop.* I. 21 Deciphered from the wedge-characters of Nineveh. 1915 Pinches in *Proc. Soc. Bibl. Archæol.* XXXVII. 90 We have a direct testimony to the practice outside the wedge-inscriptions.

h. Short for *wedge-shell* (see 10).

1815 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wedge, *Donax.*

6. *Geom.* a. A triangular prism. b. A simple solid formed by cutting a triangular prism by any two planes.

1710 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 87 Let ABC represent a Wedge; and let CG be perpendicular to AB. 1809 *Nat. Philos., Mech.* II. x. 43 (U.K.S.) A Wedge is a solid figure, which is called in geometry a triangular prism. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 24/2 The wedge being merely the frustum of a triangular prism, we have at once [etc.]. 1895 A. Lodge *Mensuration* 7 If from a triangular prism of indefinite length, a piece is cut off by two transverse planes which are not parallel, this piece is called a wedge.

7. *Her.* A charge consisting of an isosceles triangle with a very acute angle at its vertex.

1716 S. Kent *Gramm. Her., Proctor of Norfolk*; He beareth Or, three Wedges Sable. 1780 Edmondson *Her. II. Alph. Arms, Iram* or *Isham*. Vert, three wedges ar. 1847 W. S. Evans *Gramm. Her.* 151 The Nail (sometimes called the Passion-nail)..must not be confounded with the Wedge, which is of course wider at the top, and in shape something like a pile.

8. Cambridge University. *The (wooden) wedge*: the student last in the classical tripos list.

This counterpart to the older 'wooden spoon' (see Wooden

famous as an English etymologist.

1822 Bristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 253 Of the remainder, five were Wranglers, four of these Double men, and a fifth a favorite for the Wedge...The last man is called the Wedge, corresponding to the Spoon in Mathematics.

9. Combinations, chiefly similative, as *wedge-block, -bolt, -fashion, -form, -head, -shape, -stone, -wood*; *wedge-billed, -sided* adjs.

1836 E. Stanley *Fam. Hist. Birds* xiii. (1848) 289 Tribe 2. Cuneirostral (*Wedge-Billed). 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munitions of War* 55 The breech is opened and closed by a *wedge-block worked by a hinged lever. 1892 Greener *Breech-Loader* 22 A round steel *wedge-bolt. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* 190 These [stones] also were either of a *Wedge fashion, or wedged under the Great One. 1800 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 295 This *wedge-form of the whinstone masses. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 June 4/2 A disc on which black and white wedge-forms alternated. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 343/1 These [bars of steel] are welded together by forging to *wedge-heads, tying together with wire [etc.]. 1822 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb., Scot.* I. 43 The white thorn [hedge] ... sharpened into a wedge-shape. 1892 *Mechanics' Mag.* 20 July 83 When taper or '*wedge-sided' type is employed, the cylinder need not be more in circumference than the size of the sheet of paper. 1844 Cr. E. de Warren tr. *De Saulcy's Round Dead Sea* II. 123 The voussoir, or early *wedge-stone. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 53 *Wedge wads of two ... dges connected by a piece of cane...These wads are to be rammed home ... irately after the projectiles.

10. Special comb.: †**wedge-battle** = sense 5 a; **wedge-bill**, a bird with a wedge-shaped bill, as (*a*) the Australian *Sphenostoma cristatum*; (*b*) a S. American humming-bird of the genus *Schistes*; **wedge-bone**, †(*a*) the sphenoid bone; (*b*) a small bone sometimes occurring in lizards on the under-surface of the spinal column at the junction of a pair of vertebræ; **wedge-coral** (see quot.); **wedge-draining**, a mode of draining land, somewhat similar to *plug-draining*; **wedge-fern**, a fossil fern of the genus *Sphenopteris*; **wedge-fid** *Naut.* (see quot.); **wedge-form, -formed** *adjs.* = Wedge-shaped; **wedge-grafting** (see quots.); **wedge-gun**, a field-gun in which a wedge is used in closing the breech; **wedge-leaf fern** = *wedge-fern*; **wedge-micrometer**, a graduated wedge-shaped piece of metal or glass, to be thrust between two fixed points to determine their distance apart; **wedge-photometer** *Astr.*, an instrument consisting of a wedge of glass, used for measuring the comparative brightness of stars; **wedge-press**, a press used for extracting oil from seeds; **wedge-shell**, a marine bivalve, belonging to *Donax* or allied genera; **wedge-tailed** *a.*, having a wedge-shaped tail; used *spec.* in the names of birds, as the wedge-tailed eagle (*Uroaetus audax*) of Australia, and the wedge-tailed gull, *Rhodostethia rosea*.

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 78 Out of a square of men hath bin reduced a triangle or *wedge battell in perfect order to fight. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 273 The wedge battell of the Christians could not of the Turks be broken. 1848 Gould *Birds of Australia* III. Pl. 17 Crested *Wedge-bill. 1861 — *Trochil.* IV. Pl. 219 *Schistes personatus*,..Masked Wedge-bill. *Ibid.* Pl. 220 White-throated Wedge-bill. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 442 *Sphenoides* or the *Wedge-bone. 1872 Huxley *Anat. Vert.* v. 217 Such a ..sub-vertebral wedge-bone is commonly developed beneath and between the odontoid bone and the body of the second vertebra. 1860 Gosse *Actinol. Brit.* 324 The Smooth-ribbed *Wedge-coral. *Sphenotrochus Macandrewanus. Ibid.* 326 The Knotted Wedge-coral. *Sphenotrochus Wrightii.* 1830 *Cumb. Farm Rep.* 67 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The *wedge or brick draining..is certainly not so well known among practical farmers as its merits deserve. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 36 Sphenopteris (*wedge-fern). 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Wedge-fids*, for top and top-gallant masts; in two parts, lifting by shores and sett-wedges. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 221 Ovatedly *wedge-form. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 15 In many plants the wedge-form plates..appear as an irregular cellular tissue. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 188 A longitudinal, *wedge-formed, equivalved bivalve. 1862 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 265 These packets cohere into many wedge-formed masses in Orchis. 1838 W. Barron in *Gardener's Mag.* XIV. 80 The grafting of the *Cedrus Deodara* on the Cedar of Lebanon..is accomplished by what I call *wedge-grafting. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* § 657 Wedge-grafting..is a modification of side-grafting. *Ibid.* § 664 Herbaceous wedge-grafting is effected by paring the scion into a wedge shape, and inserting it into a corresponding slit in the stock. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wedge Gun. 1851 Mantell *Petrif.* 32 The other characteristic Wealden plant is the Sphenopteris (*S. Mantelli*), or *wedge-leaf fern. 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Micrometer*, *Wedge-micrometer. 1883 C. Pritchard in *Mem. R. Astron. Soc.* XLVII. 304 The question, then, arises as to the applicability of the *wedge-photometer to the measurement of the magnitude..of such stars. 1844 *Penny Mag.* Sept. 382 The triturated seeds were put into woollen bags which were wrapped up in hair-cloths, and then submitted to the *wedge-press. 1880 Wodarch *Introd. Conchol.* 23 Donax.—*Wedge-shell. 1848 Gould *Birds of Australia* I. Pl. 2 *Wedge-tailed Eagle. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 316 Wedge-tailed, or Ross' Rosy Gull. 1898 'R. Boldrewood' *Canvas Town Rom.* 73 The great wedge-tailed Eagle soaring above them.

Wedge (wedʒ), *v.*[1] Also 5–6 **wegge**. [f. Wedge *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To tighten, fasten tight by driving in a wedge or wedges. Also with *in, on, up*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wedge, wythe a wedge [*Winch.* Wegge with a wegge], *cuneo*. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 24 Than maye he..tothe the rakes..and driue the tethe vpwarde faste and harde, and than wedge them aboue with drye ... then well wedg'd up. 1722 A. Philips *Briton* III. v. 32 My Chariot straight; another, for the Prince. Store them with Spears; wedge on the keenest Scythes. *a* 1790 W. Newton tr. *Vitruvius* VI. xi. (1791) 146 When posts are placed under them, and wedged, the beams cannot settle or be damaged. 1816 Jane Austen *Emma* xxviii, I have been assisting Miss Fairfax in trying to make her instrument stand steadily... You see we have been wedging one leg with paper. 1826 Gwilt tr. *Vitruvius* VI. xi. (1860) 148 When posts are introduced and wedged up under them, the beams are prevented from sagging. 1840 H. S. Tanner *Canals & Rail Roads U.S.* 151 The wooden key used in wedging fast the upper string piece. 1842 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 78 Compressed trenails..would hold tighter than the trenails now used, which require to have the points split and wedged up. 1875 *Carpentry & Joinery* 55 The simple but useful operation of wedging tenon and mortice joints.

†b. *transf.* and *fig.* To fasten firmly or attach *to*. *Obs.*

1629 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* IV. 191 Both the Emperours..seeking to win and wedge men to their severall Factions, by faire Promises. 1630 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. II. 46 They find the Prelates and Popes themselves, so wedg'd and link'd to Secular advantages, they have not time to think upon God.

†c. To render (a gun) useless by the insertion of a wedge. *Obs.*

1680 *Exact Jrnl. Siege Tangier* 8 Leaving the Guns double shotted, spiked and wedged with steel. *Ibid.* 11 The Men of Charles Fort having Spiked and Wedged their great Guns.

d. *To wedge up*: to raise a ship before launching, by means of slivers or wedges driven between the false keel and the bilgeways.

1879 'H. Collingwood' *Secret of Sands* xix, Four months ..saw her caulked, her seams paid, her hull painted, and, in short, everything ready, even to wedging up, for launching.

2. To cleave or split by driving in a wedge.

1530 Palsgr. 778/2, I wedge a blocke, I put in a wedge to cleave it, *je coigne*...Wedge this blocke, it wyll ryve the soner. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. 35 My heart, As wedged with a sigh, would riue in twaine. 1678 [see Wedging *vbl. sb.* 2].

b. To split *off*, to force *apart, asunder*, or *open*, by driving in a wedge. Also *fig.*

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlvi. (1856) 423 And even now great ledges are wedged off from the hillsides by the ice. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. vi. (1873) VIII. 201 Friedrich and he are wedged asunder by that dike of Russians and Austrians. 1873 Moggridge *Harv. Ants* I. 33 Having contrived to wedge off several large flakes of the rock. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) Oct. 4 It is not commonly the big things but the little ones which wedge pastor and people apart. 1914 H. Balfour in *Jrnl. R. Anthrop. Inst.* XLIV. 33 A billet of lime wood, split at one end and wedged open with a stone.

3. *transf.* To drive, push, or squeeze (an object) into something where it is held fast; to fix firmly by driving in, or by pressing tight. Const. *into, in, under, between*. Also with adv., as *in, up, down*.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. xv. 85 Quhill that the lance.. wedgyt deip within hir cost stude. 1607 Dekker *Whore of Babylon* L 1, Fall thunder, And wedge me into earth, stifle as I am. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 58 Among the crow'd i' th' abbey, where a finger Could not be wedg'd in more. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* 190 These [stones] also were either of a Wedge fashion, or wedged under the Great One. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. vii. 195 Besides what Gold and Sand they take up together, they often find great lumps, wedg'd between the Rocks. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 285 Sergestus in the Centaur soon he pass'd, Wedg'd in the Rocky Sholes, and sticking fast. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. iii, Squeezing my legs together, [he] wedged them into the narrow-bone above my waist. 1764 Foote *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 353, I was wedged so close in the pit, that I could scarcely get out. 1806 A. Duncan *Life of Nelson* 12 They became..fast wedged in the ice. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 336 If a coach or a cart entered those alleys, there was danger that it would be wedged between the houses. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* vii. 43 The boy..tried to wedge some of his cake into her mouth. 1869 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, Driven into that nook, and wedged as he had described, was Gaffer's boat. 1870 *Spectator* 19 Nov. 1370/1 If they are permitted to go on, they will wedge themselves in between the Germans, and be able to enfilade the corps on each side. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 239 In its persevering search for the snails, it had got its head tightly wedged some distance into the wall. 1908 H. Walks *Old Allegiance* I. 14 He..sat with..his pipe firmly wedged in the corner of his mouth.

b. *fig.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. iii. 30 Nay your wit will not so soone out as another mans will, 'tis strongly wedg'd vp in a blocke head. *a* 1699 Br. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) I. xxvi. 340 He wedges in the other Prayer for a competency of temporal things. 1730 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 29 Having been wedged down in this detestible place [the Fleet prison] by an incurable and painful malady, poverty and tatters.

4. To pack or crowd (a number of persons or animals) in close formation, or in a limited space. Also with *together*.

1720 Pope *Iliad* XVII. 846 While Greece a heavy, thick Retreat maintains, Wedg'd in one Body like a Flight of Cranes. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* I. (1782) I. 16 The strength of the phalanx depended on sixteen ranks of long pikes, wedged together in the closest array. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* III. 766 Here Zamor ranged his ax-men deep and wide, Wedged like a wall and thus the king defied. 1844 Maria T. Azmar *Mem. Babylonian Prince.* II. 68 The crowd was prodigious. Men, women, and even children were wedged in one dense mass. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* xiv. (1858) 465 A dense mass of pilgrims who sit or stand wedged round it. 1871 Carlyle in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* (1883) I. 8 The 2,000 human figures, wedged in the huge room into one dark mass, were singular to look down upon.

5. *intr.* a. To become fixed or jammed tight by (or as by) the operation of a wedge.

1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 55 Which all wedge together and intersect one another both with equal and unequal Angles. 1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 197/2 The men started carefully, holding the saw quite true that later it might not wedge.

b. To force one's way *in*. *rare*.

1626 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* III. iii. 56 This comes of ..haunting The *Globes*, and *Mermaides*! wedging in with Lords, Still at the table!

c. *To wedge their way*, to fly in a wedge-shaped formation, tapering to the front or van. *poet.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 426 Part loosly wing the Region, part more wise In common, rang'd in figure wedge their way.

Wedge (wedʒ), *v.*[2] In 7 **wage**. [Of obscure origin; the modern form is prob. less correct than the earlier *wage*, but cf. Wedge *sb.* 4.] *trans.* To cut (wet clay) into masses and work them by kneading and throwing down, in order to expel air-bubbles. Hence **We'dging** *vbl. sb.*

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 123 [Potter's clay] is brought to the wageing board, where it is slit into flat thin pieces..: This being done, they wage it, i. e. knead or mould it like bread. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 461 Wedging the clay is a similar process [to that of slapping]...The presser cuts off, with a thin brass wire, a piece of clay from the mass, which he slaps forcibly between the palms of his hands, and then with great violence throws it on the board. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1011 The first of which is called the potter's *sloping* [ed. 5, 1860 *slapping*] or *wedging*. 1880 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xxvii. 297 The [pug-]mill, however, continued to work, and in time convinced the men of their stupidity; and now, if a man were ordered to 'wedge' his own clay, his answer would be 'Aw'll stroike first'. *Ibid.*, The clay..is..thrown into the 'pug-mill', or 'wedging-mill', a large upright cylinder, in which it is forced or screwed gradually downwards, and extruded at the bottom in a continuous cubical mass.

Wedge, obs. var. WAGE *sb.* and *v.*

1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Wedge a pledge, *gaige, pleige.* *Ibid.* 778/2, I wedge, I lay in pledge, *je gaige.* I wedge my heed it is nat so.

Wedged (wedʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEDGE *sb.* and *v.*[1] + -ED.] Shaped like a wedge.

1552 HULOET, Wedged, *cuneatus.* 1722 A. PHILIPS *Britton* 2. I. 2 In Chariots, fang'd with Scythes, they scour the Field: Drive through our wedged Batalions with a Whirl. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 307 The Key-Stone in the middle is wedged, and, as we say, Swallow-tail'd. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* III. xxv, With..arrowy frize, and wedged ravelin. *a* 1813 A. WILSON *Foresters* Wks. (Belfast 1846) 250 Above, around, in numerous flocks are seen Long lines of ducks o'er this their fav'rite scene; Some to the lake in wedged divisions bend. 1847 *Encycl. Lond.* XXII. 806/2 Two fore-teeth, of which the upper are wedged, the lower are acute. 1867 EMERSON *Poems, May-day* 29 Or hark, Where yon wedged line the Nestor leads, Steering north with raucous cry Through tracts and provinces of sky. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 336 The cover being secured by wedged buttons worked with a spanner. 1891 *Century Dict., Wedged,* in *zool.*, wedge-shaped; cuneiform or cuneate: as, a wedged bone; the wedged tail of a bird.

Wedge-like (we·dʒlɔik), *a.* [f. WEDGE *sb.* + -LIKE.] Like or resembling a wedge.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 48 There are commonly sixe bones, which compasse the braine on eche side, besides that which is called the wedge-like bone, which is vnder the pallat of the mouth. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 456 The Wedge-like-forme of the country. 1652 BENLOWES *Theophila* x. xci, But still thy knotty Brain with wedg-like Anguish cleave. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 239 Of these [teeth] there are six rows,..sharp-pointed, and of a wedge-like figure. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 125/1 They are farther secured by a wedgelike pin driven into their centres. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 598 Diminished by degrees into mere wedge-like streaks.

Wedge-shaped (we·dʒiʃēpt), *a.* Shaped like a wedge, cuneiform; *Bot.* and *Zool.* = CUNEATE.

1788 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 143 The tail [of this bird] is long and wedge-shaped. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 843 Leaves wedge-shaped. 1837 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 24/2 The rafters to be of wood.. and the section to be wedge-shaped. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* i. (1858) 10 If very much wider at the point than at any other part, they [leaves] are *cuneate* or *wedge-shaped.* 1867 SCHELE DE VERE *Studies in English* 10 The wedge-shaped inscriptions of Cyrus, Darius, and Xerxes. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 90 Changing to high and sharply pointed wedge-shaped cells.

Wedgewise (we·dʒiwəiz), *adv.* [f. WEDGE *sb.* + -WISE.] After the manner, in the form, of a wedge.

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Cuneatim,* wedgewyse, by lyttell bandes or companies, imbattayled wedgewise. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. I. 79 They..with a pointed battaile wedgewise pierced through and made themselves passage. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 456 It lieth Wedg-wise upon the sea. 1657 R. CARPENTER *Astrol.* 28 That these words may be understood to the bottom, and withstand all Objections; and that no opposition may wedge-wise enter upon them. 1793 NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 10 Bricks moulded..Wedge-wise, broader above, than they are below. 1852 DE MORGAN in Graves *Life Sir W. R. Hamilton* (1889) III. 415 Nothing but two sheets of thin pasteboard..with three bits of book-covering cloth..pasted on, so as to open out wedgewise. 1900 M. HEWLETT *Richard Yea-and-Nay* II. ix, Inside the town gate they took up close order, wedgewise, linked and riveted.

Wedging (we·dʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEDGE *v.*[1] and *sb.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of driving in a wedge or wedges, or of fixing or cleaving by this means; the condition of being thus fixed.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 98 They drive a Wedge so far in the kerf as they dare..and so provide the Saw a freer and easier passage through the Stuff: This Wedging they continue so oft as they find occasion. 1823, 1842 FOXTAIL wedging [see FOXTAIL 4]. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 140 We saw the oval notochord transverse section still wedged in between the cells of the mesenteron...In the region of the later segments we still find the former condition of the wedging.

b. *concr.* A wedge-shaped piece or pieces of some hard material driven in for tightening or securing.

1823 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 337 The wheels are fixed on the shaft by means of a wedging of hard wood, driven in all round.

2. *Geol.* The jutting *out* or flaking *off* (of rock, etc.), as if by the operation of a wedge.

1819 J. FOSBROKE *Geol. Land's-End District* (1820) 91 At one point of this natural section, an instructive example of what is called by geologists the *wedging out* of a bed, is observable. 1880 A. GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VII. 908 Their naked precipices are kept bare and steep by the wedging off of successive slices of rock along lines of joint.

3. *Sport.* (See quot.)

1887 *Encycl. Sport* I. 583 *Spraint,* the excrement of the otter; also called *wedging.*

4. *attrib.,* as *wedging joint*; **wedging crib, curb** *Mining* (see CRIB *sb.* 12 and CURB *sb.* 10).

1839 URE *Dict. Art* 972 Three kinds of cribs are employed: called wedging, spiking, and main cribs. *Ibid.* 973 The flange for the wedging joint is best turned inwards. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Wedging-curb* or *Wedging-crib,* Eng.

Wedgwood (we·dʒwud). Also incorrectly **Wedgewood.** [A proper name: see below.]

1. Used *attrib.* to designate the pottery made by Josiah Wedgwood (1730–95) and his successors at Etruria, Staffs. The best-known kinds are vases, plaques, medallions, etc., of fine clay lightly glazed, with classical designs in white relief on a blue or black ground.

Sometimes spelt with lower-case initial.

1787 COLMAN *Inhs & Yarico* III. i, She's..quite dark; but very elegant; like a Wedgwood tea-pot. 1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 568 A piece of black Wedgwood-pottery. *Ibid.,* Wedgwood-ware. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 374 A still simpler..method is to place the filters in a wedgewood basin on the sand bath. 1861 J. GARDNER *Househ. Med.* 410 Two Wedgwood-ware mortars..and pestles to match. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6897, Solid jasper, that is the material now exclusively called Old Wedgwood Ware. 1873 SIR J. D. HOOKER in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) II. 133, I sent Gladstone a Wedgwood medallion of my Father.

b. Used to designate the blue colour which is characteristic of Wedgwood ware.

1900 *Bladud* (Bath) 28 Mar. 6/3 You will recollect how many of the Christmas cards were wedgewood blue last year. *Ibid.* 7/1 The wedgewood frock I have described. 1909 *Daily Graphic* 20 Oct. 13/2 Touches of cherry colour or Wedgwood blue insets of velvet.

c. *sb.* = Wedgwood pottery or ware. Also, with *pl*, a piece or specimen of this.

1863 SIR J. D. HOOKER in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) II. 78 Wedgwoods are an unspeakable relief to me. I look over them every Sunday morning, and poke into all the little second-hand shops I pass in London, seeking medallions. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Mar. 3/1 Mr. Cornelius Cox's unique collection of wedgwood. 1892 *Ibid.* 25 Mar. 6/3 The very choice collection of old Wedgwood belonging to the late Mr. W. D. Holt, of Liverpool.

2. Designating the scale of temperature used in the pyrometer invented by Josiah Wedgwood for testing the heat of kilns. The zero corresponds to 1077° F.

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 510 Flint-glass melts at the temperature of 19° Wedgewood.

Wedgy (we·dʒi), *a. rare.* [f. WEDGE *sb.* + -Y[1].] Resembling a wedge; shaped like a wedge.

1799 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXVIII. 525 An attraction of cohesion..which is darting its wedgy crystals in every direction, and severing, with resistless interstitial force, the comparatively loose and feeble organization of every contiguous state. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Lucian & Timotheus* Wks. II. 31/2 He..pushed his wedgy snout far within the straw subjacent. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life in Tigerland* 296 She shoots from aloft and cleaves the water with her wedgy beak.

† We·dhood. *Obs. rare*[-1]. [f. WED *ppl. a.* + -HOOD.] The married state.

a 1450 [see WEDDEDHOOD].

Wedir, weder, obs. forms of WHETHER.

Wedir(e, obs. forms of WEATHER.

Wedirwyn(e, variants of WITHERWIN.

Wedlock (we·dlɔk), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wedlác,** 2–3 **wedlac,** (*Ormin* **weddlac**), 3–4 **wedlak(e, wedlayk,** 4 **weddelak, wedlek,** (5 **vedlak**), 6 **wedlaike**; 4–7 **wedlok,** 4–6 **wedloke,** 5–7 **wedlocke,** 7– **wedlock.** [OE. *wedlác,* f. *wed* pledge, WED *sb.* + *-lác* suffix forming nouns of action: see -LOCK in *Additions,* etc., Preface to the letter L.

In two vocabularies of the 11th c. *wedlác* renders L. *arrabo* earnest-money; but the sense, if it existed, did not survive into ME.]

†1. The marriage vow or obligation. Chiefly in phrases, *to hold, keep wedlock,* to be faithful in marriage; *to break (one's) wedlock,* to commit adultery. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Aldhelm Gloss.* in *Zeitschr. f. deutsches Alterthum* IX. 498/2 *Pacta sponsalia refutans,* wedlac wiðsacende. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6499 And tohh wass hah & soþ weddlac Haldenn onn sæþerr hallfe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 19 Ȝif ha hare wedlac laheliche halden. *c* 1275 *Vl Pains of Hell* 205 in *O. E. Misc.* 150 Heo þat her wedlac brekeþ To heore mupe þe flod takeþ. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 505 For alle kepid they here maydynhed Or ellis wedlak. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 3 Kepe youre wedloke. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 207 How wedlocke betwyxte man and woman shulde be kepte after the lawe of god. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 35/2 There is..noman so hardy that dare breke his wedloke. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. xxi. 50 Howe he it she kept but euyll the sacrament of matrimony, but brake her wedloke. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v, 32 And whosoever maryeth her that is diuorced, breketh wedlocke. 1552 T. WILSON *Rhet.* Pref. A iii, None remembred the true obseruation of wedlocke. 1579 RICE *Inovect. Vices* Eiv, Christe answered,..Thou shalte not breake wedlocke: Thou shalte not kill. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 142 *Æmil.* That she was false to Wedlocke? *Oth.* I, with Cassio. 1611 — *Wint. T.* v. i. 124 Your Mother was most true to Wedlock.

2. The condition of being married; marriage as a state of life or as an institution; matrimonial relationship. Now only in literary or legal use.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Uor hwuso hit euer is idon,..hwte one ine wedlake, hit is deadlich sunne. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus MS.) 13 Hit [*sc.* coition] is tah in wedlac summes weis to poluun. *Ibid.* 33 Wedlac hauеð hire trut þritti fald in heuene; widewehad, sixti fald. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11202 For many come neuer yn wedlak But for þe fyrst cunnaunce þat men spak. *c* 1360 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 200 (MS. T.) 8 lawe haþ y-graunted þat iche man haue a make in man— wedlak. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 20 Noon oother lyf, seyde he, is worth a bene, For wedlok is so esy and so clene That in this world it is a Paradys. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* IV. 353 In a nyȝt whan þei hadde I-payde dette of wedlok eyþer to oþer. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xiii. 261 In lele wedlak þou lede þe. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 108 Yf scho had conceyuet out of wedlocke, þe Iewes wold haue sayde scho had ben a lechore. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xlii. 46 Iuno, the goddesse of wedlocke. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Marriage* 14 b, Forasmuche as N. and N. haue consented together in holye wedlocke. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 287 They put away their wyues, and enter againe into wedlocke. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68 Of Venus in wedlock thee daughter [*Veneris nurus*]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 217 Your brother is Legittimate, Your fathers wife did after wedlocke beare him. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. § 2 That kind of loue which is the perfectest ground of wedlocke is seldome able to yeeld any reason of it selfe. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 39 [The Banians] so extreamely honour Wedlocke, that they seldome are vnmarried at seuen yeares of age. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 353, I pray'd for Children, and thought barrenness In wedlock a reproach. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. 9, I look upon wedlock to be a kind of lottery. 1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 170 He offered Haswell his sister in wedlock. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 362 Children from wedlock we by laws restrain. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. i, Sir Arthur had two children by wedlock. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* VI. iii. (1864) III. 441 Heribert himself, the great Archbishop, was a married man; his wedlock had neither diminished his power nor barred his canonisation. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* I. iv. 34 In her early days of wedlock, he neglected her.

fig. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxii. 25 To god, thi wedlok wiþ loue holde. *c* 1530 TINDALE *Jonah* Prol. (1863) B ij b, This euell..nacion (which breake yᵉ wedlocke of faith wherwith they be maried vn to God).

transf. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 303 Instructed thus, produce him [the stallion] to the Fair; And join in Wedlock to the longing Mare.

b. *Born in* (or †*under*), *out of wedlock*: said distinctively of legitimate or illegitimate offspring. Now the most frequent use of the *sb.*

c 1205 LAY. 305 Assaracus heuede enne broþer þe was under wedlac iboren. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 8261 Som þat er in lele wedlayk born. *c* 1400 *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 252 In wedlayk [*v. rr.* wedlake, wedloyke] was he born. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxiii. 451 Sire Aglouale was his fyrste sone begoten in wedlok. 1547 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 262 His bretheren and susters gotten in wedlaike. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* v. 219 Those children..which are born under wedlock. 1675 *Charac. Town-Gallant* 2 He is so bitter an Enemy to Marriage, that one would suspect him born out of Lawful Wedlock. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 434 A legitimate child is he that is born in lawful wedlock. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 21, I forgave the fellow..his two heinous crimes, of having been born in wedlock, and inheriting my estate. 1892 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 97 He did not believe that little Bessy was born in wedlock. 1912 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 379/2 The question remains, how far, if at all, English law recognises the legitimacy of a person born out of wedlock.

c. In particularized sense: A matrimonial union; a married life.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 132 And þus þourw cursed caym cam care vppon erthe; And al for þei wrouȝt wedlokes agein goddis wille. 1450–1520 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 206 Thys lesson tellyth..how holy a wedlocke was betwyxte Ioachym and Anne. *Ibid.* 207 Whyle he [God] beheld all the rightwys and honeste wedlockes that shulde be from the fyrste makeynge of man vnto the laste day. 1582 STUDLEY *Seneca's Herc. Œtæus* II. 197 O woefull wight, it pitieth vs to see Thy wedlock in this tickle state to bee. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. (1640) 64 Tis sacrilege to violate a wedlock. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xii, It was then your mother..of whose unhappy wedlock you have spoken? 1846 JERROLD *St. Giles* xxxiv, And Snipeton, his wife in her winding-sheet, might so have solemnised a second wedlock.

†d. A marriage ceremony, wedding. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 1254 Hi Runge þe belle þe wedlak for to telle.

†3. A wife. *Obs.*

a. 1561 NUCE *Seneca's Octavia* IV. I. F iij, Cæsars wedlock are you. 1587 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 149 b, [Ulysses says] But I, not forcing of their giftes, did loue my wedlock best. 1587 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1593) 213 He heard his wedlocks shrieking out, and did her calling knowe. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. iii, Which of these is thy wedlocke, Menelaus? thy Hellen? 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* I. ii. 118 Valerio, here's a simple meane for you To lye at racke and manger with your wedlocke. 1606 MARSTON *Parasitaster* II. i. C 3, But to lie with ones brothers wedlocke, O my deare Herod, tis vile and vncommon lust. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I. i. E 4 b, He watches For quarrelling wedlockes, and poore shifting sisters. 1617 FLETCHER *Valentinian* v. vi, The most true constant lover of his wedlock. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebast.* II. ii, For his Wedlock for all her haughtiness, I find her coming.

4. *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib. (now *rare* or *Obs.*) as in *wedlock-band, -bed, -debt, -knot,* etc.

1402 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 194 To pay wedlak dette hit is of no syn. 1587 *Will Y. Amoretes* (Somerset Ho.) In the choyse of their wedlockmates. 1588 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 457 By wedlocke copulation we came into the world. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI,* III. iii. 202 He loyne mine eldest daughter..To him forthwith, in holy Wedlocke bands. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 32 She kneeles and prayes For happy wedlocke houres. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 150 Whiles a Wedlocke Hymne we sing. 16..MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* v. i, Will it please you to taste of the wedlock courtesie? 1624 DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* II. (1661) 27

Since our marriage, I have perform'd So fairly all Judicial wedlock-offices, That [etc.]. 1635 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Old Old Man* B 3 b, She dead, he ten yeares did a Widdower stay; Then once more ventred in the Wedlock way. 1671 Milton *Samson* 986 Who to save Her countrey from a fierce destroyer chose Above the faith of wedlock-bands. *Ibid.* 1009 Love-quarrels oft in pleasing concord end, Not wedlock-treachery endangering life. 1819 Scott *Noble Moringer* i, It was the noble Moringer in wedlock bed he lay. 1844 Symmons tr. *Æschylus' Agamemnon* 64 To Ilion came the wedlock-woe.

† b. **wedlock-bound** *a.*, bound in marriage; **wedlock-breaker**, an adulterer; so **wedlock-breaking** *sb.* and *a. Obs.*

? *a* 1400 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 370 Werne euery man..Off wedloke-brekynge wer to be. *c* 1500 *Mayd Emlyn* in *Anc. Poet. Tracts* (Percy Soc.) 23 All wedlocke brekers. *c* 1530 Tindale *Jonah* Prol. (1863) B ij b, This smell & wedlocke breakinge nacion..seke a signe. 1552 Latimer *Serm. Lincs.* I. (1562) 67 Thou shalt not be a wedlock breaker. 1568 Tossell *Serpents* 167 Wedlocke breakers, & Cockold-makers. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 905 Alreadie linkt and Wedlock-bound To a fell Adversarie.

Hence † **We'dlock** *v. trans.*, to unite in marriage (in quots. *passive*); also (nonce-use), *to wedlock it*, to get married. † **We'dlockable** *a.*, marriageable. † **We'dlockhood**, the married state.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus MS.) 33 Of þeos þre had, meidenhad & widewehad, & te þridde, wedlachad [*Bodley MS.* wedlac]. 1557 Phaer *Æneid* VII. (1558) S iij, One doughter did remayne..Now husbandripe, now wedlockable full, of lawfull yeres. 1644 Milton *Divorce* II. xv. (ed. 2) 60 Is it not most likely that God in his Law had more pitty towards man thus wedlockt, then towards the woman that was created for another. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., That man..will never feel himself less at ease for being wedlockt but to one. 1737 Ozell *Rabelais* III. ix. 90 A single Person is never seen to reap the Joy and Solace that is found among those that are Wedlockt. Wedlock it then in the Name of God, quoth Pantagruel.

Wedmell, -mole, -moll, obs. ff. Wadmal.

(we·nzdə, -di). Forms: α. 1 **Wódnes dæs** (ðæs), **dei**, 3 **Wodnesdei**, 3–4 **-day**, (3 *pl.* **-dawes**), 3–5 **Wodenes-**, 4 **Wodenis-**, 5–6 **Wodene-**, **Wodinsday**. β. 3 **Wednes-**, **Weodnes-**, **Wendesdei**, 3–4 **Wednesdai**, 4 **Wendes-**, 4–5 **Wedenis-**, **Wedenys-**, **Wedenes-**, **Wednesday**, **-dai**, 4–7 **Wedins-**, 5 **Wyndenesse day**, *Sc.* **Wedynnisda**, 5–6 **Wed(d)ens-**, **Wed(d)yns-**, **Wednys-**, 6 **Weddynnis-**, **Wednis-**, **Wedns-**, *Sc.* **Veddynis-**, 6–7 **Weddins-**, 3– **Wednesday**. γ. **Wannesdai**, 5 **Wan(n)ys-**, **Wones-**, **Won(n)ysday**; 5 **Wenness-**, **W(h)enysday**, **Wenstay**, 5–6 **Wennysday**, **Wensdaie**, 6 **Wenes-**, 4–7 **Wensday** (e. [OE. *Wódnes dæg* = OFris. *wónes-*, *woenis-*, *wern(s)s-*, *wernes-*, *wers-*, *wer(ren)dei*, *wénsdei* (mod. WFris. *woansdei*, *wansdai*, *wensdei*, *wernsdei*, NFris. *winjsdei*, *wadensdei*), MLG. *Wódenesdach*, *Gudensdag*, MDu. *Woensdach* (mod.Du. *-dag*), ON. *Óðinsdagr* (Sw., Da. *Onsdag*), 'the day of (the god) *Woden*', a translation of late L. *Mercurii dies*, whence the name of the day in the Rom. langs. (F. *Mercredi*, Sp. *Miercoles*, It. *Mercoledì*). In High German the day appears always to have been called 'mid-week' (mod.G. *Mittwoch*), although for the other days (exc. Saturday) the translated Roman (planetary) names were adopted as in the other WGer. langs. and ON.

The name of Woden (OE. *Wóden*, OS. *Wôden*, OHG. *Wuotan*, ON. *Óðinn* :—OTeut. **Wōdonо-z*) is referred to the Teut. root **wōd-*, found in OTeut. **wōdo-* mad, furious (see Wood *a.*), ON. *óð-r* , inspiration; cognate with The identification of of the Teutonic pantheon, with Mercury, appears already in Tacitus ('Deorum maxime Mercurium colunt', *Germ.* ix); it was probably chiefly suggested by Woden's character as the god of eloquence; another feature common to the German and the Roman deity is their swiftness and wide range of travel.

As representing the OE. *Wódnes dæg*, the β forms are anomalous. The same irregularity appears in some of the Frisian forms above quoted, and in the English pl names Wednesbury and Wednesfield, Staffordshire, and Wensley, Derbyshire (1086 Domesday *Wednesleai*, *c* 1200 *Wodnesle*). Some scholars have proposed to account for the change of vowel by the assumption that an unrecorded form **Wódne-s* (=**Wódno-s*, with suffix-ablaut) existed in OE. and OFris. beside the form without umlaut; but the supposition involves some difficulties.

The uncontracted pronunciation (we·d'nzdə), though not recognised in the dictionaries (Webster 1911 gives it as 'in British use, esp. in the north'), is not unfrequently heard from speakers belonging to the northern and north midland counties. The contracted pronunciation now prevailing goes back to the 15th c.; the earlier metathetic form *wenzdesdai* (*c* 1475) is noteworthy.]

The fourth day of the week.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark *Introd.* p. 5 *Floria Mill.* wodnes doeg. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. III. (*heading*), On Wodnesdæg. *c* 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1123 (Laud MS.) On an Wodnes dei. *a* 1205 *Leg. Kath.* 2075 þet wes on Wodnesdei [*v. rr.* Wednesdei, Weodnesdei] þet he þus wende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 Iðen Aduent, & iðe Umbridawes, wodnesdawes, & fridawes. *c* 1275 Lay. 23925 Tyden we þeðse tiadei Woden we þeðue wendesdei. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2432 In oure tonge ycleped in honour of him is wodnes day [*v. rr. 14–15th c.* Wednesday, Wodenesday, Wenesdaye]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 270+2 *Luna* Monenday *Mars* Tisday *Mercurius* Wednesday. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 154 In a signe of the Saterday that sette firste the kalendare, And al the witte of the Wednesday of the nexte wyke after. *c* 1385 Fordun *Chron. Gentis Scot.* v. lii. (1871) 253 Quartam [feriam] suo nomini dedicantes, diem Woden vocabant, quæ consuetudo per Anglos etiam hodie servatur, vocant enim eundem diem Wodenisday. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xii. 29 Al þe wukis in þe summir, sal ye faste..þe wedenisdai and te fryday. *Ibid.* 1708 Wedinsday. *c* 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 107 Other men or wymmen that have non peyse of their owen growyng, lett hem gedur hem twyse in the weke on Wennesday and on Friday. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 Yche Wenysday and Fryday, he made hys confessour bete hym wyth a 3arde apon þe backe al bare. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3411 On a wednesday he fell seke. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* (1911) 206 The wonysday Afore wytsonday. 1457 *Paston Lett.* I. 414 At Norwich hastly, the Wenstay in Ester weke. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 1280 Now thai him kep to martyr in London toun On Wednysday, befor King and commoun. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1505 On þe weddysday, ower lord..made..fyschе In flod. 1490 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 132 On Wedynnisda the xxiiij da of Marche. 1509 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 324 To morow at nyght or wenesday by none at the ferthest. *a* 1533 Berners *Huon* lxviii. 235 On a wednysday they came to Parys. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1299/2 The day before his maundy, that is to wyt the wedynsday before hys passyon. 1538 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 39 The 17th day of May, beinge Weddensday. 1537 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 59 At the Wodensday next after pentecost. 1544 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 34 The thirleth of July (beinge Wensdaye). *Ibid.*, Wednsdaye (the sixth of August). 1544 in *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 98 By the Wennysday in the Wytsonweke. 1552 Huloet, Wensdaye, *mercurij dies*. 1556 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 214 And upon Wedynsday..she ..departed. 1558 in T. Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 4 Mr. Teylle wil be with you apon Wensdaye week. 1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 11 Every Wednesdays ..which heretofore hathe not by the Lawes or Customes of this Realme bene used and observed as a Fishe Daye..shalbe hereafter observed and kepte as the Saterdays in every Weeke bee or ought to be. 1583 Wiuset *Bk. Quest.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 126 The Kirk of God heirfor, obseruing..abstinence..on Wodinsday generalie in the orient Kirk. 1574 [? Whittingham] *Brieff Discours* 40 The next daie beinge wensdaie. 1579 Fulke *Heskins's Parl.* 456 On Sunday and Wednesday,..and on other dayes. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* I. iii. 64, I look'd vpon him a Wensday halfe an houre together. 1639 Sir T. Hope *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 100 On 3 July, Weddinsday, was the tumult of women in Edinburgh. 1715 Gay *Trivia* II. 419 Wednesdays and Fridays you'll observe from hence, Days, when our sires were doom'd to abstinence. 1808 Jamieson, *Wensday*, Wednesday. 1822 Downes *Lett. fr. Mecklenburg* 173 The evening of Wednesday was a gloomy one. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* ii, Wait till you see my leader in Wednesday's issue.

b. In names of certain days of the ecclesiastical calendar, as Ash-Wednesday [= med.L. *dies cinerum*, Fr. *jour* or *mercredi des cendres*, It. *dì delle ceneri*, G. *aschermittwoch*, Du. *aschdag*, ON. *øskudagr*, *øsku-dœnsdagr*, Da. *askeonsdag*, Sw. *askonsdag*], the first day of Lent, also called † Pulver-*Wednesday* [from the words 'pulvis es et in pulverem reverteris', used in the service]. Also *Good W.*, *Holy W.*, *Spy W.* (*Anglo-Irish*: see Spy ednesday before Easter.

1297, 1387 [see Ash-Wednesday]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 8a 3e schull begyn your fast at Aske-Wanysday. *c* 1454 [see Pulver *sb.* b]. 1471 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 26/1 Onne gude Wednisday in passioun woulk. 1842 [see Spy *sb.* 5]. 1845 *Dublin Rev.* June 425 On Holy Wednesday at the words in the Passion, 'et velum templi scissum est', it [the veil] is torn open in two parts. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss.*, Good Wednesday.

c. *attrib.*

138. Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 423 Bigynnynge first at þe Wednesdai gospel in þe firste woke of Advent bifore Cristemasse. 1630 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. (1907) IV. 242 The defrayinge of the chardge for the Wenesdays lecture. 1672 Marvell *Rehearsal transpros'd* I. 246 You say that the Clause 5° Eliz. of the Wednesday-Fast has been the original of all the Puritan-Disorders. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 100 To your long business about the Clause to the Wednesday Act, and its binding the Conscience or no, I answer, [etc.]. 1819 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 304 Several of my liberal Wednesday-evening guests have been made peers. 1848 Dickens [illegible] Wednesday nights came regularly round. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* vii, They're going to play my 'Dream of Venice' at Hoffmann's Wednesday Concerts.

Similarly † **Wodnes-niȝt**, Wednesday night.

c 1000 *Ecgb. Pœnit.* II. § 21 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 190 Æfre Sunnan-nihte & Wodnes-nihte. *c* 1000 *Wulfstan's Hom.* lviii. (1883) 305 Sunnannihtum..ne Wodnesnihtum. *c* 1207 *Babet* 1125 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 138 His wei wodnes-niȝt out of þe toune he nam.

Wedo, obs. form of Widow.

Wedonympha, var. obs. Sc. Wedinonfa'.

Wedou(e, -ow(e, obs. forms of Widow.

Wedre, -ur, obs. forms of Weather.

Wedred, obs. form of Withered *ppl. a.*

Wedset(t, -sette, obs. forms of Wadset.

Wedue, wedw(e, obs. forms of Widow.

Wedy, obs. variant of Widdy.

Wedyr, obs. f. Weather, Wether, Whether.

Wee (wi), *sb.* and *a.* Originally *Sc.* Forms: 4 **wei**, **weȝ(e**, 4–6 **we**, 6–9 **wie**, 7 **wee**, 8 **wi**, 6– **wee**. [Northern ME. *wei*, repr. earlier Anglian *wæg*, *wæge* = WS. *wæg*, *wǽge* (see Weigh *sb.*); the later *wee*, *wee* shows the normal loss of the final palatal spirant which is still indicated in all the rhymes of the earliest texts.

In the sb. the original sense of 'quantity', 'amount', is very slightly recorded, the word being mainly used (almost always with *little*) as a measure of time or space. In adjectival use, however, the idea of quantity or size has been retained; this use evidently originated in the Sc. idiom exemplified by Bit *sb.*[2] 9 (*a bit thing* = 'a bit of a thing', 'a little thing'); cf. *wee bit* in B c below. It is however remarkable that, although found as early as the 15th c., the adj. is rare in Sc. writers before 1721, though our quots. from Shakspere and Heywood show that it had become known to Englishmen early in the 17th c. The word (both *sb.* and *adj.*) is current in the dialects of some English counties (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), but there is no evidence to show that it was commonly used in England before the 19th c.; see however Way-bit.]

A. *sb.* In earlyuse almost always *a little wee*, later also *a wee* : = 'a little', 'a (little) bit'; in various applications (chiefly as adverbial accusative).

† 1. a. A little or young thing; a child. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8419 He ne es yitt bot a littel wei, þow do him for to foster alei.

b. A small quantity.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christopher*) 605 þe kinge tuk þan a lytil we of þe fresche blude, & vet his ee.

c. To a small extent, in a small degree.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. ix. 61 The quene Dido, astonist litle wie [1710, we] At the first sycht. 1720 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 85 It lulls a wee my Mullygrubs, To think upon these bitten Scrubs. 1793 *Regal Rambler or Devil in London* 69 Dinna be angry,..I have been drinking a wi, and I believe the Devil was in me.

d. Qualifying an adj. or adv.: Somewhat, rather.

1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxvii, His brain was a wee ajee, but he was a braw preacher for a' that. 1818 — *Br. Lamm.* xxv, I thought it right to look a wee strange upon it at first. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* I., 'Are you sure you know the way?' ..'I maybe kend it a wee better fifteen years syne.'

2. A short time.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11665 Quen sco had sitten þar a wei [*Gött.* wey] Sco bihild a tre was hei. *Ibid.* 12531 [James, stung by an adder] Bolnand in a litel wei, þat al-mast bigan he to dei. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 449 Quhene he.. wist þat in a lytil we for falt of met þe barne suld de. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 182 The Kyng than vynkit a litill we. *c* 1500 *Priests of Peblis* 817 Ane lytill wie befoir the feist of Jule. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 183 Now will I leif of this ane lytill we. *Ibid.* II. 139 So at the last the cloude ane lytill we Discouerit was, that tha micht better se. *c* 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 154 Scho was wyteles a lytill we. 1592 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* lvi. 2 Stay, passinger, thy mynd, thy futt, thy ee: Vouchsaif, a we, his epitaph to viеu, Quha [etc.]. *a* 1700 *Gaberlunzie-Man* lv, They raise a wee befor the cock. *a* 1708 Ramsay *Ode Birth of Drumlanrig* 47 Ye hardy Heroes..Forsake a wee th' Elysian Plains. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xiv, Bide a wee—bide a wee; you southrons are aye in sic a hurry. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* vii. 120 In a wee they baith felt their wames leavin' them, an' they maist lost their senses.

3. A short distance; a little way.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 217 Arrowes that felly Mony gret woundis can thame ma, And slew fast of thair hors aisua, That thai vayndist a litell we. *Ibid.* XVII. 677 Behynd hir a litill we It fell. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxxiii. 5788 We sal fenȝhe we as we walde fle, And wipe draw wa a litil we.

B. *adj.* Extremely small, tiny. (In Sc. use with weaker sense, as a synonym of *little*.) Often more emphatically *wee wee*, *little wee*, *wee little*.

The Shaks. example is not found in the quarto of 1602; as this has 'a whay-coloured beard' in the corresponding sentence, it has been conjectured that the 'wee-face' of the Folio may be a mistake for *whey-face* (cf. *Mach.* v. iii. 27). However, the reading of the Folio may be taken as evidence that the adj. was known in 1623. In this and in quot. 1617 the adj. is hyphened to the following sb., and preceded by *little*.

c 1420 Holland *Howlate* 649 The litill we Wran, That wretchit dorche was. ? 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* (1623) I. iv. 32 He hath but a little wee-face, with a little yellow beard. 1617 Heywood *Fair Maid of West* II. i, Hee was nothing so tall as I, but a little wee-man, and somewhat huckt backt. 1638 in W. N. Clarke *Coll. Lett.* (1848) 173 Her ministers gangand in guid apid little short cloakes, with wea blacke velvet neckes. *Ibid.* 180 Upon his weake wea nagg. 1692 [? Calder] *Sc. Presbyt. Eloq.* 204 The very wie-ones [*marg.* Little Children] were than so serious that [etc.]. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* A 178 A wie [*Foot-note*: little] Mouse will creep under a mickle Corn-stack. *Ibid.* B 35 Better a wie Fire to warm us, than a mickle Fire to burn us. 1721 Ramsay *Poems* Gloss. 307 *Wee*, Little; as, A wanton wee Thing. 1726 *Fleming's Fulfilling Script.* (ed. 5) Table Scots Phr., *Wie*, little or small. 1786 Burns *Inventory* 37 Wee Davock hauds the nowt in fother. 1792 — *Song*, She is a winsome wee thing. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* v, It wad aye serve to keep the pulr thing's heart up for a wee while. 1819 J. R. Drake *Culprit Fay* xv, He banned the water-goblins' spite,—For he saw..Their little wee faces above the brine. 1827 Darley *Sylvia* 31 Neater, I ween, though not much ampler, Than wee mice works upon her sampler. 1832 Motherwell *Poems, Oh Wae be* 6 The wee wee fifes piped loud and shrill. 1846 H. Coleridge *Poems* II. 23 Like a wee bird struggling in the nest. *a* 1856 in Strang *Glasgow & Clubs* 534 You have only to raise the window, hand up

your wee finger, and, [etc.]. 1884 Q. Victoria *More Leaves* 204 We met little Alix on her wee pony. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* iii, She would be free..to hie herself to London-town and take a dear wee little flat.

b. in *superlative*.

1728 Ramsay *Reasons Hackney Scribblers* 22 To wiest Insects even'd and painted. *a* 1896 in Strang *Glasgow & Clubs* 372 They're a' awa, fra the wee'st to the biggest o' them. 1863 'Holme ..who wore such amg tween the ranks of inf over. 1878 A. J. C. Hare *Story of Life* (1898) I. 206 Tell me all about the wedding—every smallest, weest thing. 1883 Black *Shandon Bells* v, The boat the wee-est black speck on the silver of the water.

c. *A wee bit*: = 'a wee' (see A. *sb.*). Often quasi-*adj.* (cf. Bit *sb.*2) and quasi-*adv.* (qualifying an adj.).

a 1661 [see Wat-bit]. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* A 183 A wie House well fill'd, a wie bit Land well till'd, and a wie Wife well will'd will make a happy Man. 1785 Burns *Cottar's Sat. Night* 23 His wee-bit ingle, blinkan bonille. 1823 Moor *Suffolk Words* 474 'A wee bit of a thing'—applied to a child, and to almost every little thing. 1868 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxvii, A boat will wait for you..at a wee bit creek about half a mile westward from the head of the Tay. 1902 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xxviii. 140 The champagne..that I had this morning has given me just a wee bit of a *migraine*.

d. *The wee folk*: the fairies.

1819 W. S. Mason *Stat. Acc. Irel.* III. 27 The curate has heard a man swear most solemnly, that he has seen some hundreds of the 'wee folk' dancing round these trees. 1834 Allingham *Fairies* 5 Wee folk, guid folk, Trooping all together; Green jacket, red cap, And grey-cock's feather. 1894 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* 162 The quotation suggested a fairy story,..But the Wee Folk were under a cloud: sceptical hints had embittered the chalice.

e. *The Wee Free Kirk*: a nickname given to the minority of the Free Church of Scotland which stood apart when the main body amalgamated with the United Presbyterian Church to form the United Free Church in 1900. Hence *Wee Frees*, *Wee Kirkers*, the members of the 'Wee Free' church.

1904 *Monthly Rev.* Oct. 5 The Free Kirk and the 'Wee' Kirk. 1904 *Times* 31 Dec. 8/1 The funds must be handed over to the remnant of the old Free Church—the 'Wee Frees', as Scotland nicknames them. 1905 P. W. Wilson *Why we believe* v. 61 Scotland is convulsed because the property of the United Free Church has been handed over by a court of law to a remnant of Wee Kirkers.

Wee (wī), *int.* Imitation of the squeal of a pig.

a 1842 in Halliwell *Nursery Rhymes* 119 This little pig said Wee, wee, wee! 1860 *Hist. Five little Pigs* 31 Poor Piggy ran off crying out in great pain, '*Wee! wee! wee!*' all the way home.

† **Wee** = *wi've*, with you. *Obs.*

1611 Chapman *May-Day* iv. 67 And yet I speake no hurt of them neither. *Inno.* No Captaine, thus farre, I goe wee.

Wee, obs. f. Wē, Why, Woe; var. Wy *Obs.*, man.

Wee-bit: see Way-bit.

Weeble, obs. or dial. form of Wevil.

Weech, obs. variant of Wych.

Weed (wīd), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 *wēod*, *wīod*, 3 *wied*, (*wod*), 3–4 *wed*, *weod*, (4 *pl. weoden*), 4–6 *wede*, 4 *wyed*, (5 ? *wade*), 5–6 *Sc. weid*, 6 *wyde*, *Sc. weyd*, 6–7 *wide*, 5–7 *weede*, 5– *weed*. [OE. *wēod* neut. = OS. *wiod* neut., mod. LG. *wēd*. Flem. dial. *wied*, EFris. *wiud*; the ulterior etymology is unknown.]

1. A herbaceous plant not valued for use or beauty, growing wild and rank, and regarded as cumbering the ground or hindering the growth of superior vegetation.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxiii, Swa hwa swa wille sawan westmbære land, atio ærest of..ealle þa wood þe he gesio þæt þam æcerum derigen. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 129 For þi is þis westren forgrouwen mid brimbles and mid þornes and mid iuele wiedes. *c* 1290 *St. Mary of Egypt* 108 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 264 Heo ne et no mannische mete bote weodes and wilde more. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xiii. 224 On fat londe and ful of donge foulest wedes groweth. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Weed, or wyyld herbe, *aberigo*. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 445 [They] stoppen the dyches with þe wedes of their gardeyns & other swepyng of their houses. 1532 Hervet *Xenoph. Housek.* 49 b, The grounde must be clene kept and deliuered from wides. 1592 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 946 They bid thee crop a weed, thou pluckst a flower. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 128 To keep a field from over growinge with wides. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 87 Whilest they [*sc.* Hedges] are yet young, they are to be constantly weeded, least the Weeds prevent the thick spreading of the Hedge at the bottom. 1726 J. Laurence *New Syst Agric.* 451 Couch-Grass is a pernicious Weed, keeping the Land hollow and loose. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 214 But grace abus'd brings forth the foulest deeds, As richest soil the most luxuriant weeds. 1815 Wordsw. *White Doe* vii. 1896 Plate of monumental brass, Dim-gleaming among weeds and grass. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxii, In the garden there was not a weed to be seen. 1865 Miss Braddon *Wyllard's Weird* I. i. 32 The soil teemed with flowers. There was no room left for a weed.

b. A plant that grows wild in fresh or salt water. Cf Ore-weed, Pondweed, River-weed, Seaweed, Water-weed.

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Alga*, reyte, or wedes of the see. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* ii. ii. 109 As Weeds before A Vessell vnder sayle, so men obey'd, And fell below his Stem. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 246 Both Ilands [Jersey and Guernesey] burne a weede of the Sea or Sea coales brought out of England. 1653 Walton *Angler* ix. 177 This fish..loves..to live..in standing waters, where mud and the worst of weeds abound. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 63 *marg.*, Of Sea-weeds, and Weeds in Rivers. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 177 They are bred from eggs, which are laid upon the weeds along the sea-shore. 1824 Sir H. Davy in *Phil. Trans.* CXV. 329 Weeds and shell fish. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* vi, The weeds were new to me—some green, some brown and long, and some with little bladders that crackled between my fingers.

c. *collect. sing.*

c 1200 *Bestiary* 245 [The ant] gaddre6 ilkines sed boßen of wude and of wed. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 593 Among þe wede [*Cott.* wode], among þe netle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1240 Isted o þin oper sede, Ne sal þe groue bot thorne and wede. 1434 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 20. no. 1 Ricardus Kynge jacitat le weede gardini sui in Skykkis lane. 1523–24 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 54 The grasse that groweth vppon falowes is not good for sheepe; for there is moche of it wede. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. vii. 4 When suddenly behind her backe she heard One rushing forth out of the thickest wood. 1791–3 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 232 The coat of weed, which was likely to fix upon it during the winter. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 197 A wild and wanton pard..Crouch'd fawning in the weed. 1865 Mrs. L. L. Clarke *Common Seaweeds* I. 18 They [needles] will be extremely useful in laying out the weed.

d. Prov. † *The weed overgroweth the corn. Ill weeds grow apace.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. viii. 224 To see suche a ladde to matche suche a knyghte as the wede ouer growe the corne. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* i. x. (1867) 22 Ill weede growth fast ..wherby the corne is lorne. For surely the weede ouergroweth the corne. 1594 Shake. *Rich. III*, ii. iv. 13 Small Herbes haue grace, great Weeds do grow apace. 1616 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 216 An ill weede groweth apace. *a* 1692 Pollexfen *Disc. Trade* (1697) 100 As ill Weeds grow apace, so these Manufactured Goods from India. 1721 J. Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 319 The Weeds o'er grow the Corn, the bad are the most numerous.

e. Used, with defining word, to form the names of wild plants, as Bindweed, Cottonweed, Cudweed, Duckweed, Dyer's weed, Greenweed, Hogweed, *hungerweed* (Hunger *sb.* 4 e), Ironweed, Knapweed, Knotweed, *matweed* (Mat *sb.*1 8), Milkweed, Mugwort, Neckweed, Ragweed, *yellow-weed* (Yellow C. 1).

2. *gen.* Any herb or small plant. Chiefly *poet.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 30 Ȝif sceares weod [Vulg. *fenum agri*]..God swa scryt,..þam mycle ma he scryt eow. 13.. *R. Alis.* 796 Mury time is the weod to sere [*Laud MS.* is wede sere]; The corn riputh in the ere. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. i. 52 And then with words, and weedes, of wondrous might, On them she workes her will to vses bad. 1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* 56 The Sun-burnt Reaper had yet scarcely rid The ridged Acres of their richest Weed. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 365 These evils have all come upon you through tea! Cursed weed. 1859 *Vivien* 321, I once was looking for a magic weed.

b. Applied to a shrub or tree; *esp.* to a large tree, on account of its abundance in a district.

1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 165 Cotton-trees..are the biggest Trees, or perhaps Weeds rather, in the West Indies. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 604 The Rasberry Tree..is rather a Weed than a Tree, never living two Years together above ground. 1860 W. White *Wrekin* xi. 99 There is no lack of wood or of 'Herefordshire weeds', as oaks are called. 1885 Mosley *Remin.* II. 206 The ash is the weed of the county [Northants]. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 127 The elm, which from its abundance in the country, is still known as the 'Warwickshire weed.'

3. *spec.* Tobacco.

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiv. xci. (1612) 369 An Indian weede, That feum'd away more wealth than would a many thousands feed. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* iv. 19 Where, if you cannot reade, exercise your smoake, and inquire who has writ against this diuine weede. 1687 Montague & Prior *Hind & Panth. Transv.* 17 Your Pipe's so foul, that I disdain to smoak; And the Weed worse than e're Tom. I....s took. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 251 Pernicious weed! whose scent the fair annoys. 1797 *Sporting Mag.* X. 38 And chaunt the song, and puff the weed. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* i. vi, He knocked the weed from his pipe. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 153 Tobacco vertigo and the other nervous consequences of the weed resemble those of neurasthenia.

b. A cigar or cheroot. *colloq.*

1847 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* Introd. (1879) 9 Pulling a melancholy looking weed from the lining of his hat. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xli, We..kept up with brandy and soda-water and weeds till four. 1885 C. Lowe *Bismarck* I. 388 *note*, The strategist carefully selected the best weed in the Chancellor's case.

4. *fig.* An unprofitable, troublesome, or noxious growth. (Formerly often applied to persons.)

† *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4322 Latt no wykkyde wede waxe, ne wrythe one this erthe. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 164 So rysyth of the roote of an..appert traytoure, othyre rebellis, many wickid wedis sone growynge, that al trewe men in londe Sore greuyth. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 349 And if..any persons..entended the contrary, there must also be deuised howe such euill wedes may be destroyed. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 7 Justices, to disburden their shire of corrupt weeds, as they tearme it, do picke out the scumme of their countrie for the warres. 1604 Shake. *Oth.* iv. ii. 67 Oh thou weed: Who art so louely faire, and smell'st so sweete, That the Sense akes at thee, Would thou had'st neuer bin borne. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 72 An immoderate ambition ..is a weed (if it be a weed) apt to grow in the best soils. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 183 P 11 Envy is, indeed, a stubborn weed of the mind, and seldom yields to the culture of philosophy. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxvIII. (1862) VI. 156 Intolerance is the natural weed of the human bosom, though its growth or development may be counteracted by liberalising causes. 1913 F. S. Oliver *Ordeal by Battle* II. v. 246 Militarism is a tough weed to kill.

5. *slang.* (Cf. Weedy *a.*1 4.) a. A poor, leggy, loosely-built horse.

In Shaks. *Mids. Ivr M.* I. iii. 20 the ——— Theobald's explained to mean 'an ill-conditioned hors correction, 'steeds', may be right.

1848 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 281 The necessity..for constant renewal of the blood..without which the breed degenerates into weeds. 1899 Levien *Davenport Dunn* ii, He bore the same relation to a man of fashion as a 'weed' does to a 'winner of the Derby'. 1861 *Farmer's Mag.* LV. 1/2 A leggy weed that can go the fastest for half a mile or so over the flat. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Drauw* iii. 28 Here she pointed to her steed, a ———

b. A lank delicate person without muscle or stamina.

1869 A. L. Smith in Morgan *Univ. Oars* (1873) 231, I know men who, from being weeds, have grown into strong and healthy men on the river.

† 6. *Mining.* (See quot. 1710.) *Obs.*

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2108 (Tin), So [we] continue sinking from cast to east..till we find either the Load to grow small, or degenerate into some sort of wood..as Mundick, or Many ..Daze,..Iremould. *Ibid.* 2103 The Load is usually in an hard..Countrey, made up of metal, spars and other weeds. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Weed*, in the Miners Language is the Degeneracy of a Load or Vein of fine Metal, into an useless Marchasite.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. simple attrib., as *weed-bed*, *-bush*, *-case*, *-field*, *-fish*, *-nosegay*, *-root*, *-seed*. Also Weed-hook.

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 23 They went into the Weed-beds of the Gulf of Florida. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Neref. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 330 A weed-fish, somewhat like a haddock. 1782 Mrs. Delany *Autob.* (1861) I. 368 My amusement was running after butterflies and gathering weed nosegays. 1792 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 279 The weed seeds having spent themselves..the dressing will be turned in. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 993 The weeds and weed-roots will then be seen upon the surface. 1848 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* xlv. 395 Metal weed-cases. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* x, Even if marriage was but one weed-field of temptations, as these miserable pedants say. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 884 One of those curious round weed-bushes known as 'tumble weeds'. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 199/1 He would make the rod bend like a bow and quiver as he ran out the line, always making for the weed-bed at the bottom.

b. instrumental, as *weed-choked*, *-entwined*, *-fringed*, *-grown*, *-hidden*, *-hung* adjs.

1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* II. 202 O'er each Runic altar, weed-entwined. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 65 Weed-hidden roots. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* i, Weed-grown walks. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* viii. 216 This weed-fringed tide-pool. 1870 H. Macmillan *True Vine* v. (1872) 188 The idleness of another is seen in the meagre, weed-choked produce of his neglected fields. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courr.* iii. 57 The weed-hung flukes of the little anchor.

c. objective, as *weed-cutter*, *-grubber*; *weed-cutting* vbl. sb.; also *weed-like* adj.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii. 32, I save the Expence of the Weed-grubbers. 1729 Savage *Wanderer* II. 413 Upsprung, such weed-like Coarseness it betrays, Flocks on th' abandon'd Blade permissive graze. 1863 Hawthorne *Old Home, Consular Exp.* I. 16 The weedlike decay and growth of our localities. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 3/2 An endeavour is being made on the 'I'est to have all weed-cutting completed by the middle of May. 1903 *Ibid.* 2 Oct. 2/1 Patent weed-cutters, worked by machinery.

d. † weed-ash, ? soda-ash (which is made from sea-weed); weed-killer, a preparation of arsenic used for killing weeds.

1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. lxxxvIII. 407 Also pot-ash, weed-ash, and pearl-ash. 1890 *Daily News* 6 Sept 2/7 In mistake [he] took up a bottle of weed killer, some of which he drank.

Weed (wīd), *sb.*2 *arch.* exc. in sense 6 b. Forms: 1 *wēd*, *wǽde*, *North. wōde*, *wōde*, 3 *Orm. wede*, *pl. weaden*, 3–6 *wede*, 3–4 *pl. weden*, 4 *north.* and *Sc. wed*, *veid*, *ved*, (5 *pl. vedis*), 4–7 *Sc. weid(e*, 5–6 *Sc. weyd*, 6–7 *wide*, 4–7 *weede*, 5– *weed*. [ME. *wēde*, repr. two formations: (1) OE. *wēd* fem. = OS. *wād* (MLG. *wāt*), OHG., MHG. *wāt* (early mod.G. *wat*), also in comb. *Ītnwōt* fem., linen (= Du. *lijnwaad* neut.; mod.G. in perverted form *leinwand*), ON. *vāð*, *vǫð* fem. (Norw. *vaad*, Sw. *vād*) :—OTeut. **wēdi-z*; (2) OE. *wǽde* str. neut. = OS. *wādi* (MLG. *wāde*), prob. shortened from the collective formation OE. *gewǽde* (ME. I-wede), OS. *giwādi*, Du. *gewaad*, OHG. *giwāti* :—OTeut. type **gawēdjo-m*.

It is disputed whether the Teut. **wēdi-* descends from a pre-Teut. **wēti-*, root **wē-* to weave (= Skr. *vā*), or from **wēdhi-*, root **wēdh-* (= Zend *vad* to clothe oneself; the Goth. *ga-widan* (OHG. *wetan*), to join together, is by some regarded as cognate).]

1. An article of apparel; a garment.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvii, Deah nu se unrihtwise cyning Neron hine ȝescyrpte mid eallum þam wlitegestum wædum. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 300 Martinus me bewændde mine mid ðyssere wæde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Uorði þet heo hefde fleamed one wummone to one wake on of hore weeden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1972 He..boden him sen If his childes wede it mȝte ben. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2963 Ȝif we walken in þes wedes..what man so ys metes may vs sone knowe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2358 Hit is my wede þat þou ... þat like wouen girdel. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 219 Of sadde lewes of þe wode wrowte he hem wedes. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 289 b, By & by dooyng on hym a wede aunswerable vnto his presente fortune, he fled awaye secretely. 1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* xxv. 56 There was an obstinate strife..concerning the habite, or apparel of S. Augustine, that is to sale, whether he did weare a blacke weede vpon a white Coate, or a white weede vpon a blacke Coate. 1624 Camden *Rem.*, *Apparel* 233

They..began to wanton it in a new round curtall weede which they called a Cloake. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgr.* v. vi, To my house now, and suite you to your worths; Off with these weeds, and appeare glorious. *a* 1726 in *Watson's Collect. Sc. Poems* I. 35 On Sabbath days his Cap was fedder'd, A seemly Weid. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVI. 293 An aged mendicant in tatter'd weeds. 1764 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* v, One in a long, woolen weed. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* III. 457 Spare diet, patient labour, and plain weeds. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. vi, The Baron dons his peaceful weeds. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 168 Her innocent vesture, the pure Chrisom weed. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* v. 9 In words, like weeds, I'll wrap me o'er, Like coarsest clothes against the cold.

2. *collect. sing.* Clothing, raiment, dress, apparel.

a 1000 *Daniel* 103 þæt þam gangum þrym gad ne wære wiste ne wæde. *c* 1290 *St. Mary of Egypt* 160 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 263 Ne wilne þou nouȝt þat ich þe abide, for ich am withoute wede. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1032 We schulle chaungi wede: Hause her clobes myne, & tak me þi sclauyne. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXIII. 211 Lacke shal þe neuere Wede ne worldlich mete. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9, I stale forþe yn pore wede. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 140 Wyllynge that eche should at his nede, Haue breade and broth, harbour and wede. 1576 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socr. Schol.* II. XXXIII. 198 A little before he had bene deposed.. for apparelling himselfe in such weede as was not decent for the dignity and order of priesthood. 1595 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 713 For each mans worth is measured by his weed. 1616 CHAPMAN tr. *Musæus* F 6, This sayd, his faire Limbes of his weede, he strip't. 1788 BURNS *Written in Friars-Carse Hermitage* 2 Be thou clad in russet weed. 1868–70 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. 1. 250 In face, in figure, and in weed, She wholly changed before his wondering eyes. *Ibid.* 325 Who robbed me, and with blows Stripped off my weed and left me on the way.

†**b.** In the expletive phrase *in* or *under weed*, usually appended to an adj., as *worth(i)y, wight, wise*. Cf. *under gore*, GORE *sb.*[2] 2. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 30 Twoo ladyes..That worthi were in wede. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 585 Of lumbardie a dukes doujter ful derworþ in wede. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* ix. 37 Iohn of Coupland, a wight man in wede. *c* 1400 *Emare* 850 Then sayde þat wordy vnþur wede. *a* 1425 *Torr. Portugal* 2397 One of the feyrest knyghtis That slepith on somer nyghtes Or walkyd in wede. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 392 Many bold mene and wyght, Wyse undere wede. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xviii. 230 Yond worthy wyghtys in wede. *a* 1580 *Morning Maiden* 53 in *Maitl. Fol. MS.* 361 Than wepit scho lustie in weyd.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* (e. g. our 'garment' of flesh).

c 1300 *Cast. Love* 657 God..þat from heuene dude alihte, And vnder vre wede vre kynde noun. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1431 O blake nyght..That shapen art by god þis world to hide At certeyn tymes with þi derke wede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 335 Sche fiih before his yhe a Crowe ..To kepe hire maidenhede whit Under the wede of fethers blake. 14.. LYDG. *Ballad of Deceitful Women* 26 Hir galle is hid under a sugred wede. 1557 GRIMALD in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 96 As morning bright, with scarlet sky, doth passe the euenings weed. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* II. 221 Therefore the Greekes calle Baptisme, ἐνδυμα, That is, the Weede of immortalitie. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 256 And there the snake throwes her enammel'd skinne, Weed wide enough to wrap a Fairy in. 1613–26 BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i. 11 That heart..That neuer wore dissimulations weed. *a* 1618 RALEGH *Rem.* (1644) 116 Being stripped out of this mortall weed. *a* 1639 CAREW *Comparison* 20 Thy skin's a heavenly and immortall weede. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* vii, Aft, clad in massy, siller weed, Wi' Gentles thou erects thy head. 1793 — *By Allan Stream* 20 How cheery through her shortening day Is Autumn, in her weeds o' yellow. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XXXIII. 60 Father,..thou gavest These weeds of miserable flesh we wear; And do thou strip them off from us again.

4. Used contextually for: Defensive covering, armour, mail. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* Also *iron, steel weed.*

c 1205 LAY. 23773 Þe king mid his weden [*c* 1275 wede] leop on his stede. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 3533 WAS non so stif stelen wede þat withstod his wepen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 580 A chemeyr, for till heill his veid, Aboue his armyng had he then. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3994 Thei.. drow out horses and stedes And here strong Iren wedes. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 112 The thrid he straik throuch his pisand of maile, The crag in twa; no weidis mycht him waill. 1480 *Rebt. Devyll* 910 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 254 Greate horses stamped in yron wedes. 1513 *Scottish Field* 537 in *Chetham Misc.* II, They will sticke with their standarts in their stele weedes. 1611 W. AUSTIN in *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses g 5 b, His garments..Which heretofore like weedes of proofe Serued him to keepe the colde aloofe. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. XX, Oh for his arms! Of martial weed Had never mortal Knight such need!

5. A garment, or garb, distinctive of a person's sex, profession, state of life. **a.** *sing.* (collect. or particular).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4918 Sire bissop wu ne ylfatus of þine wite brede þat þon est þi sulf at þi masse in þine vayre wede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23981 Wede o walth wil i namar, Clething wil i me tak o care. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 1721 Gif seye a man of rewly bie Go in pilgrims wede. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2343 Sebyn toke þe knyȝt palmers wede. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6548 þat day þat cuthbert toke bischop wede. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. ix. 705 They..sawe the good man in a relygyous wede. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 276 b, Such as are buryed in the cowle & weede of a Franciscane Fryer. 1587 FLEMING *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1280/1 Wherin also is buried John Yoong..in his doctors weed. 1609 ERONDELLE *Pr. Gard.* G 3 b, It is not the weed yᵗ maketh the monke. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 16 This was the ordinary weid of thir his majestie's foot guards. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 153 They neither have the Pilgrim's Weed nor the Pilgrim's Courage. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1528 This poor gown, This silken rag, this beggar-woman's weed.

b. *pl.*

1561 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 7 Apparayled as a Palmere In pilgrimes wedes. *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 229 Sche eschapede thens in a mannys weeds. 1570 GOOGE *Popish Kingd.* III. 39 b, Who can declare the massing weedes? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. Introd. i, Whose Muse whilome did maske..in lowly Shepheards weeds. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 89, I wold never have shaken off my mariners weeds. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 479 They who to be sure of Paradise Dying put on the weeds of Dominic. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. Father Greyb.* 74 A Conformist Minister with all his Aaronical weeds on. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. 104 Though he was habited in the humble weeds of a slave. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 81 In shirt of hair and weeds of canvass dress'd. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. XXI. III. 372 The spirit of the soldier burned strong and bright under his monastic weeds.

c. Sometimes without specifying word = a palmer's dress, the religious habit, etc. (as indicated by the context).

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1338 If ane so for wikkid dede Leue hir abbay & hir wede. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXI. 459 He shet the dore of his chapell, and toke his wede & his staffe. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. Z ij, The frier..beesought me to lett him goe downe, and not to showe suche shame to the weede. 1706 [see 6 b]. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 147, I gave her two-pence, re-assumed my former garb, and left my weeds in her custody.

6. With defining word, esp. *mourning*: A black garment worn in token of bereavement; mourning apparel. Also, a scarf or band of crape worn by a mourner.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 165 This other sall pas in dolorus weid, on ane blak hors. 1546 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. A. 4 Commandment was given ..to..put on them every man his mourning weeds. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. iii. 20 Let Fortune doe her worst, She will not rob me of this sable weed. 1603 H. PETOWE *Elisa's Funeral* A 4, Then weepe no more, Your sighing weedes put off. 1636 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 289 Being clad in a long mourning weed, he appeared in the Colledge of the Litterati. 1787 BURNS *On Death Sir J. Hunter Blair* 15 A stately Form In weeds of woe. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XXVII, People who saw him in the street..knew of his loss only by the weed on his hat. *Ibid.* XXVIII, A long strip of black crape, torn from the funeral weeds. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Weed*, a band of cloth or crêpe for a man's hat in time of mourning. W. Yks.

b. *spec.* The deep mourning worn by a widow, including a crape veil, 'weepers,' etc. Now always *pl.*; with or without *widow's* prefixed. (The sing. seems to have been used formerly to mean the veil.)

The only use of the word now generally known; quite *collog.*

1595 *Lucrine* v. i. 24 Let her there prouide her mourning weeds And mourn for euer her owne widdow-hood. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Platonick Lady* I. iii. 14 The disconsolate Wife having borrowed a Weed of her Neighbour, is consulting her Glass to see how it becomes her. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Weed* or *Weeds*, a Garment or Suit of Cloaths; whence it is still us'd for a Frier's Habit, a Widow's Vail, &c. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 44 P 4 An afflicted Widow in her Mourning-Weeds. 1735 — *Drummer* II. i, The Taylor had made her Widow's weeds. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 117 What a charming widow would she have made! How would she have adorned the weeds! 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. i, As this [her habit] changed from weeds to black, from black to grey, from grey to white. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* vii, The mother wore a widow's weeds. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* iii, There were no entertainments..during the year of her weeds. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 428 He had heard the cook remark..that his mother would now wear weeds.

†**7.** A cloth, covering, hanging, or the like. Also *collect. sing. Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 8171 All þatt wæde þatt tær wass Uppo þe bære fundenn, All wass itt off þe bettste pall. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 372 And þan sylen to sitte vppon silke wedis. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 830 Eek as for hail a russet weede is To keet vpon the querne [L. *Panno rosso mola cooperitur*]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 With black weede the altar is hanged.

Weed (wīd), *sb.*[3] *Sc.* and *Anglo-Irish.* Also weid. [The first syllable of *weeden-* WEDENONFA', wrongly analysed as *weed an' onfa'* (see quot. *c* 1830).] A sudden febrile attack; esp. a kind of puerperal fever.

1790 A. DUNCAN *Med. Comm.* Dec. II. V. 300 It may be difficult, therefore, in the beginning, to distinguish puerperal fever from accumulations of fæces in the alimentary canal, especially if joined to an Ephemera, or Weed. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xii, Dinna ye hear the bairn greet? I'se warrant it's that dreary weid has come ower't again. 1819 *Edin. Mag.* Mar. 220 There to appearance she still lay, very sick of a fever, incident to women in her situation, and here termed *a weed*. 1830 CARLETON *Traits Irish Peas.* (1843) I. 308 Besides, I'm a bit bothered on both sides of my head, ever since I had that weary *weid*. *c* 1830 in *Proc. Berwick. Nat. Club* (1916) 86 Ephemeral colds, vulgarly called weeds and onfas. 1908 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 19 July 209 A touch of the 'weed' (or weid), which means a sudden febrile attack.

b. A feverish disease in cattle.

1811 J. TROTTER *Agr. Surv. W. Lothian* 168 Milch cows, however, are not unfrequently subject to what is here called a weed, which is a kind of feverish affection. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 523 Irritation and inflammation of the absorbent vessels and glands..constituting the disease termed *weed* [in horses].

Weed (wīd), *v.* *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* **weeded.** Forms: 1 **wēodian**, 4–6 **wede**, (4 **wed**), 4–7 **weede**, (5 **wedy**, 6 **weade**, 7 **weydde**), 6 *Sc.* **weid**, 6– **weed**; *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* occasionally 5–9 **wed**, 8 **wedd**, 9 *Sc.* **wede**. [OE. *wēodian* = OS. *wiodôn* (LG. *weden*), (M)Du. *wieden*, (M)LG. *weden*, WFris. *wjedde*, *f.* OE. *wēod*, OS. *wied*, WEED *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* (or *absol.*) To clear the ground of weeds; to pull up weeds.

a 1200 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 261 Me [*read* Mon] mæiȝ.. on sumera fealȝian..tymbrian, wudian, weodian, faldian. 1383 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 66 And alle þat helpen me to erye oþer elles to weden, Shal haue leue, by our lorde to go and glene after. *Ibid.* 186. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 The chyefe instrument to wede with is a paire of tonges made of wode. 1593 HYLL *Art Garden.* 74 If any by ignorance doth weede about the plantes without gloues on their handes. 1600 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 128 A man that helped to weydde in the garthinge iij days, iijˢ. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* v. § 21 Whoever hath a mind to weed will never want work. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 221 The Sheep can't weed amongst them [Beans and Peas], and eat up the wild Oat and Curlock. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. V, To the garden then they all went, and saw him upon the ground, weeding. 1847 F. W. ROBERTSON *Human Race* vii. (1881) 73 When once the farmer has sown, he can do little more except weed. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xxix. 349 The gardens adjoin the inclosure, and there I saw boys digging, hoeing and weeding amid plentiful crops of cabbage and beans.

2. *trans.* To free (land, a crop, plant) from weeds.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 156 Vostre lyn en tens sarchet [*glossed*] wed thi flax. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxv. (1495) 642 It nedyth that corne be clene wedyd and clensyd of..euyll wedys. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 289 And waitre hem..Ek delue hem al aboute, and wede hem clene. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 359 A man went to wede hys vynys. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 How to wede corne. 1534 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For a woman wedyng bens ij days, iiij d. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* IV. 34 They..came into his gardein..and found him weding of his ground. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 52 When it is an inche long, it must be diligently wedede wᵗ handes & not wᵗ a weding yron. 1646–47 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 94 To the gardener for weeding yᵉ garden and the walkes. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. i. iii. 5 Your small Plants, as Strawberries, Lettice, Succory, &c. require to be often Weeded, the better to perform their Duty. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 301 One Garden wᵗʰ Grass plotts and Earth walks Cut and wedd. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Turnep* 7 Q b/1, I hand-hoed them once, and wed them twice. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 685 Weed the beds of onions, lettuces, carrots, and leeks. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 1352 Garden-pincers..Their chief use is to weed ponds. 1858 SIGHT & BURN *Bk. Farm Implements* 328 The hand draw-hoe is used for weeding corn sown in rows. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 942 As now Men weed the white horse on the Berkshire hills To keep him bright and clean as heretofore. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *In South Seas* II. ii. (1900) 152 The alleys where we walked were smoothed and weeded like a boulevard.

b. *fig.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 17 Herte hatte þe herber þat it [the tree of Patience] in groweth, And *liberum arbitrium* hath þe londe to ferme, Vnder Piers þe plowman to pyken it and to weden it. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 77 God! sowe þi merci amonge my seede, þanne schal it growe þouȝ y sowe late, And Repentaunce my corne schal weede. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* 46 b, The kynges grace began wel to wede the garden of Ingland. 1579 BP. ELY in W. Wilkinson *Conf. Eliz. Fam. Love* Back of title-p., That our Church of England might be well weeded from to to grosse errors. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 45 Prouided that you weed your better iudgements Of all opinion that growes ranke in them. 1648 EARL WESTMORLAND *Otia Sacra* (1879) 41 So let our Hearts be throughly wed of Sin, And then They'll prove good ground agen. 1662 EVELYN *Sculptura* i. 10 It is not to shew how diligently we have weeded the Calepines, and Lexicons..but the result of much diligent collection. 1735 SWIFT *Gulliver, Introd. Let. fr. Capt. Gulliver*, I desired you would let me know..when..courts and levees of great ministers [were] thoroughly weeded and swept. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 106 Could I weed Thy soul of care. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 454 A lusty brace Of twins may weed her of her folly. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* X. 210 The Senate was at once weeded of many of its disreputable members. 1897 *Bookman* Jan. 129/1 The story would be better from a literary point of view if weeded of some of its cleverenesses.

3. To remove (weeds) from land, esp. from cultivated land or from a crop. Also with *out*, *up*.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 173 Heretykys have lefte there frowardnes, Wedyde the cokkeille frome the puryd corne. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 Dogfenell, goldes, mathes, and kedlokes are yll to wede after this maner. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* (1878) 231 In June get thy wedehoke,..and wede out such wede, as the corne doth not lous. 1611 A. STANDISH *Commons Compl.* 44 Weede the grasse cleane vp from about the rootes. 1668 FOLKINGHAM *Panala Med.* 77 Like a discreet Damsell, which preserues wholesome Herbes, and weeds vp hurtfull Weeds. 1636 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xvi. (1674) 28 So great abundance of Weeds grew up..[they could not] undergo the charges they were at in weeding them out. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 32 Wild Oats..are not easily weeded when in the Blade. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* II. 146 The natural grass is to be considered as a weed, which, if not at first wed out of the ground, will soon destroy..the artificial grass. 1902 W. W. JACOBS *At Sunwich Port* II. 13 Mr. Wilks..weeded two pieces of grass from the path, and carefully removed a dead branch from a laurel.

†**b.** *transf.* To remove (vermin, noxious animals). *Obs.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* T ij b, The Kite canne weede the worme, can kill the Moulewarpe. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 167 Bushie, Bagot, and their Complices, The Caterpillers of the Commonwealth, Which I haue sworne to weed, and plucke away.

c. *fig.* To eradicate (errors, faults, sins, etc.); to remove (things or persons) as noxious or useless. Also with *away*, *out*.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 30 By holy exercyse of

the same plucketh out by the rotes & wedeth away all þe euill customes of synne. 1526 TINDALE *N. T.* To Chr Rdr., Thou hast here..the newe Testament..Which I haue loked ouer agayne..with all dilygence,..& haue weded out of it many fautes. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 62 Your Hyghnes..haith..supplanted, and, as it were, weeded out, a great numbre of valiaunt and sturdye monckes, fryers, (etc.). *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 56 If wise fathers, be not as well ware in weeding from their Children ill thinges. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 857 To weed this Wormewood from your fruitfull braine. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 284 Twice trebble shame on Angelo, To weede my vice, and let his grow. 1615 *John Flodder* in Rollins *Pepysian Garl.* (1922) 38 And weed away from euery place and Cittie, Such idle Drones, you cherish with your pittie. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* 1. (ed. 2) 24 That they were assembled for the good of the King and kingdome, and to weed from about him, such Traytours as he continually held with him. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 43 These customs savour of their antient Idolatry. The Ministers do all they can to weed it out of them by little and little. 1690 LOCKE *Educ.* § 147 Where you may..gently correct and weed out any Bad Inclinations, and settle in him good Habits. 1736 BERKELEY *Disc.* Wks. 1871 III. 415 Those who are so active to weed out the prejudices of education. 1817 BYRON *Lament. Tasso* iv, I weed all bitterness from out my breast. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind., Chaucer* (1871) 170 Sir Harris Nicolas, with the help of original records, weeded away the fictions by which the few facts were choked and overshadowed.

4. To clear *away* (plants, not necessarily noxious or useless); to take *out* (plants or trees) to prevent overcrowding; to thin (a crop).

1543– [see WEEDING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1791 W. GILPIN *Rem. Forest Scenery* I. 85 If you want to shelter a nursery of young trees, plant Scotch firs: and the phrase is, you may afterwards *weed them out*, as you please. 1825 JAMIESON, To *Weed*, to thin growing plants by taking out the smaller ones; as, 'to weed firs', S.

¶ b. The refrain of Jean Elliot's song (quot. *c* 1760) has often been quoted in the form 'The flowers of the forest are a' wede away'. In allusion to this, Scottish writers have sometimes used *wede away* (app. without associating it with the verb *weed*) in the vague sense 'carried off by death'; sometimes it has been interpreted as 'withered, faded'. Similarly *to wede away* used intr. for 'to die off', trans. for 'to carry off by death'.

c 1760 JEAN ELLIOT in F. Elliot *Trustworthiness of Border Ballads* (1906) 166 The Flowers of the Forest are weeded away. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* VI. XXXVI, One of those flowers, whom plaintive lay In Scotland mourns as 'wede away'. 1824 — 4 Apr. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xx. 198 How sad it is to see those whom we love gradually weeded away from the world in which we are left. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 28 Ava my gude auld native parish, the Browns and the Sproats are a weedin awa. 1851 A. MACLAGAN *Sk. Nature* 225 If sad Fate before me should Wede him away.

c. *transf.* To remove (inferior or superfluous individuals) from a company, herd, etc.; also with *out*.

1863 E. FARMER *Scrap Bk.* (ed. 3) 27 The hounds have been 'weeded', some sold and some hung. 1869 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Songs & Verses* 87 Faster and faster comes grief and disaster, All but the good ones are weeded at last. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* I, She had her house, as heretofore, all her old society (excepting such as she had judiciously weeded out). 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Great Mutiny* 3 Those unfit for foreign service were carefully weeded from the service companies. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 15 Mar. 5/7 If a herd is to be made profitable, about one fourth of the cows must be weeded-out every year.

d. *intr.* Of a company: To become thinned *down*.

1887 SIR R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* v. 90 The field has weeded down to the select few.

5. *slang.* (See quots.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Weed*, to pilfer or purloin a small portion from a large quantity of anything;..an apprentice or shopman will *weed* his master's *lob*, that is take small sums out of the till...To *weed the swag* is to embezzle part of the booty, unknown to your *pals* before a division takes place. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf*, To *weed*, to steal part only. 1894 J. G. LITTLECHILD *Remin.* XV. (ed. 2) 158 Thus, in the case of a famous American bank robbery, he is suspected of having 'weeded the swag' to the amount of nearly £10,000.

Weed, obs. form of WED *v.*

Weedable (wī·dăb'l), *a.* [f. WEED *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be weeded.

1611 COTGR., *Sarcable*, weedable, fit to be weeded.

Weedage (wī·dĕdʒ). [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + -AGE.] Weeds collectively. Also *fig.*

1845 LYNCH *Rivulet* CIX. VII, When [wilt Thou] with last desolations Earth's weedage consume. 1866 REDGRAVE *Cent. Painters* II. 112 The weedage, leafage, and flowers have been painted white, or approaching to it.

†**Weedbind.** *Obs.* = BINDWEED 1.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. L vj b, The properties of byndweed. The iuice of weedbynde, purgeth the belly.

Weede, obs. form of WED *v.*, WIDE.

Weeded (wī·dĕd), (*ppl.*) *a.* [f. WEED *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] + -ED.]

1. Covered with weeds. Of a crop: Abounding in or choked with weeds; weedy.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 293 Upon a wooded rock this old man sat. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 785 [It] sent up only weeded, raggy, and mixed crops. 1830 TENNYSON *Mariana* I, Unlifted was the clinking latch; Weeded and worn the ancient thatch Upon the lonely moated grange.

2. Freed from weeds. Also *fig.*

1766 *Sch. agst. Suspending & Dispensing Prerogative* in *Parl. Hist.* (1813) XVI. 320 It was the rump of a well weeded parliament that abolished the monarchy. 1846 Mrs. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. i. 5 The fields are covered with fine well-weeded turf.

3. Of a crop: Thinned out; sparse.

1831 T. MACQUEEN *Gleaming Amusem.* 65, O! white, white was his weedit hair.

†**Wee'den,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + -EN [4].] Composed of weeds.

1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 54 We that had our weeden pillowes.

Weeder (wī·dəɹ). [f. WEED *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. An implement used to eradicate weeds.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wedare, *runco*. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. XX. (ROXB.) 246/1 The Fift is a long staffe, with a Broad Hooke of three teeth turning vp made fast on the end of it...This is termed a weeder. 1826 ASHTED *Channel Isl.* IV. XX. 478 Weeding is commonly done by hand with a small weeder. 1875 J. GRANT *One of 'Six Hundred'* ii, Occupied with a weeder, which he always carried, and with which the ends of all his walking-sticks were furnished.

2. A person employed to remove weeds from a crop, land, etc.

1534 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For mett & drynk for ij weders ij days, ij d. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Sarritor, & sartor*, a weder of corne. *Ibid., Stirpices*, wieders in gardeynes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 52 b, The beddes and the borders must be so cast, as the weeders hands may reach to the middest of them. 1645 WITHER *Fox Pacif.* 74 Some Weeds, and Corne, are in the blade so like, That many Weeders have deceived bin. 1691 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 136 To y[e] weiders in y[e] yard to drink, 0 4 0. *a* 1720 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 385 My wheat was putting out into ear when I sent weeders to weed it. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. XXXIV, Whilst I am worth one [*sc.* shilling] to pay a weeder—thy path from thy door to thy bowling-green shall never be grown up. 1794 J. BOYS *Agric. Kent* 25 Women weeders, per day..0*s*. 8*d*. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 47 Each morning now, the weeders meet To cut the thistle from the wheat. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1699 [Among Officers of Richmond, Yorks., corporation] Weeder of Footpaths. 1870 *Inquiry, Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* 80 He is employed as weeder in the garden at Wighill Park.

fig. 1607 [see WATERER 1]. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 648 Novels, Poems, Plays, and Periodical Trash, without end, press upon us for notice—it must be left to the weeders.

3. An extirpator (of weeds). Chiefly *fig.* Also with *out*.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 223. I was a packe-horse in his great affaires: A weeder out of his proud Aduersaries. 1598 YONG *Diana* 228 Thou art a weeder out Of vices, from the place of vertues graine. 1611 COTGR., *Eschardonneur*, a weeder of thistles.

4. *attrib.*, as *weeder woman*; **weeder-clips** *Sc.* = *weeding shears* (see WEEDING *vbl. sb.* 3).

1748 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Bute* 10 July, I generally rise at six, and as soon as I have breakfasted, put myself at the head of my weeder women and work with them till nine. 1787 Weeder-clips [see WEEDING-HOOK].

Weedery (wī·dəri). [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + -ERY.] Weeds collectively; also, a place where weeds abound.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul, Psychozoia* II. lxxii, Hard by there was a place, all covered o're With stinging nettles and such weedery. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* VI. 46 The weedery which through The interstices of those neglected courts Uncheck'd had flourish'd long, and seeded there. 1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 629 Two poplars at the end of a strip of weedery. *a* 1890 MARIANNE NORTH *Recoll. Happy Life* (1892) I. i. 29 Our garden was much of a weedery in those days at Hastings.

Weedful (wī·dful), *a. rare.* [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Abounding in weeds. *lit.* and *fig.*

1614 SYLVESTER *2nd Sess. Parl. Vertues Royall* Ded., Need-full in this Weed-full Time. 1849 MANGAN *Poems, To Yes. Brenan* 14 Unheedful Of the thorns and tares, that choked the weedful Garden of my mind!

Wee'd-hook. In 1 *wéodhóc*, 4 **wyed hoc**, 5 **weod hook, wedhoc, -hoke, -huke**, 4–6 **wede-hoke.** [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + HOOK *sb.*] A hook for cutting away weeds. Also in fig. contexts.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* S 80 *Sarculum*, ueodhoc. 1340 *Ayenb.* 121 Þe yefþe of drede..is þe wyed hoc of þe gardine þet uordeþ al þet kueade gera. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 527 *Sarcle*..Wedehoke. 1408 *Wyclif's Bible* Isa. vii. 25 (and text, MS. K.) A sarpe, *id est*, a weod hook. *c* 1420? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1361 Then Reson & Sadnesse toke wede hokes tweyn, and all wylde wantones out of the fyide gan wede. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* lxxix, In June get thy wedehoke, thy knife and thy gloue. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xi. § 11 (1562) 72 Learne that thou hast nede of a wedehoke, not of a scepter, that thou mayste doo the worke of a Prophete. 1620 J. ROBINSON *Justif. Separat.* 117 How dare the Prelates..take this forbidden weedhook into their hands, & vse it against any tare amongst them? 1631 MABBE *Celestina* i. 21 To root it out streight with the weed-hooke of good workes. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 32 These [thistles] may be weeded off with a Weed-hook, or Stabbing-knife. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 941 The only implements used in weeding corn are the hand drawhoe, and the weed-hook. 1858 SLIGHT & BURN *Bk. Farm Implements* 328 The Weed-Hook..consists of an acute hook of iron, flattened,..with the two inner edges as far set asunder as to embrace the stem of succulent herbaceous plants, and made as sharp as easily to cut through them.

Weeding (wī·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEED *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. The action or process of freeing (land, a crop, etc.) from weeds.

c 1200 *Gloss.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 705/3 *Runcatio*, weodung. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Weddynge, *runcacio*. 1468–9 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 200 For wedyng in the whete, iij *s.* j *d.* 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 After a shoure of raine it is beste wedynge. *Ibid.*, But as for terre, there wyll noo wedynge serue. 1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 10 John Hewode for the dresing, wyedinge and kyplinge of the gardenes..foure and tynty shillynges. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 52 The weeding and worming of every bed both in that, and all other Gardens thereabout. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 126 The common price of weeding of it [*sc.* wood] is about eight pence an Acre. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 381 When draining is properly attended to, there will be little occasion for weeding. 1901 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 8 Sept. 574/3 The subsequent weeding of the young crop [of teak] until it can hold its own against the rapid growth of weeds and useless trees.

b. The eradication (of weeds); also with *out*. Also *fig.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 68 b, The wedyng out of Heretikes. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xvi. 28 It was..ridiculous to compare the purging of the world from seditious spirits, with the weeding of noysome hearbs out of a Garden. 1901 *Scotsman* 13 Mar. 9/4 One who..was all for the weeding out of incapacity and the selection of the fittest officers.

c. That which is weeded out.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 96 Hee weedes the corne, and still lets grow the weeding.

2. The action of thinning out plants, trees, etc. Also *concr.* (*pl.*) the plants removed in the process.

1543 *Act 35 Hen. VIII* c. 17 § 5 Persons..which haue..Woods or Coppice..shall, at the felling or weeding thereof, leave standing..twelve Trees of Oak. 1718 BURNET *Own Time* (1734) II. 274 They charged him (L.d. Halifax) for another Grant..to the waste of the Timber...[He replied] His Grant in the Forest of Dean was only of the Weedings. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 254 At a second weeding, when it appears necessary, another third of the original number may be cut down. *Ibid.* 255 Ditto number of weedings, taken out before 20 years, and valued at one half-penny each. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weedins*, what is pulled up, or cut out, in thinning trees, &c. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1098 To erect a pyramid of 3 small trees or weedings of larch or Scots fir.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* II. I, The accession of Mr. Canning to the cabinet..soon led to a further weeding of the Mediocrities. 1853 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lx. 342 It seemed agreed on all hands that their party rather wanted weeding than increasing. 1870 *Daily News* 11 Nov., The feeling..is so strong, that a great weeding of the judicial bench is probable if the Republic lasts. 1884 *Athenæum* 20 Dec. 800/3 Its value would have been greater if the two volumes had been reduced to one by the judicious weeding of the articles dealing with the controversy with Mill.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weeding season, time*; in the names of many tools used in removing weeds, as *weeding chisel*, †*dog, forceps, fork*, †*iron*, †*knife* (lit. and fig.), *pincers, shears*, †*tongs* (lit. and fig.), *tool*, also WEEDING-HOOK; **weeding dues** *slang* (see quot. and WEED *v.* 4 e); **weeding shim** *dial.* (see quot.); **weeding-woman** (cf. *weeder woman*, WEEDER 4).

1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Weeding-chisel*, an useful tool with a divided chisel point, for cutting the roots of large weeds within the ground. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 392/2 In the Base is..a Gardiners **Weeding Dog*. It is made with a Taper Fork, and a Cross bar of Iron, some six or eight Inches above, (etc.). 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s. v., Speaking of any person, place, or property, that has been weeded, it is said **weeding dues* have been concerned. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Weeding-forceps*, or *Tongs*, the tool of the nipper kind which is made use of for taking up some sorts of plants in weeding corn and other crops. 1611 COTGR., *Serfoil*, a weeding hooke, or **weeding forke*. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Weeding-Fork*, a strong three-pronged fork, used in cleaning ground of weeds. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* June 769/2, I was summoned into the house..and leaving my weeding-fork and basket, was absent..perhaps an hour. 1562 **Weding yron* [see WEED *v.*[1] 2]. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard.* (1907) 149 Pull up the roots cleanly, taking the help of the weeding-iron where needful. 1728 SWIFT *Pastoral Dial.* xi. Misc. 1732 III. ii. 38 Him on my Lap you never more should see; Or may I lose my **Weeding-knife*—and Thee. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift's* (1752) 183 The scythe of time, or the weeding-knife of a judicious editor, will cut down the docks and thistles. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 381 When large weeds only are to be pulled out of shrubberies, this may sometimes be done with **weeding pincers*. *a* 1720 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 385 The latter end of the **weeding-season*. 1906 ALICE WERNER *Natives Brit. Central Africa* VI. 137 In the planting and weeding seasons, people set out for the gardens before daylight. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. XX. (ROXB.) 246/1 He beareth Gules, a paire of Weeding Tonges Or, else a paire of **Weeding Sheares*, erected and open. 1850 OGILVIE, *Weeding-shears*, shears used for cutting weeds. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Weeding-Shim*, an implement..made with a frame somewhat like that of the common wheelbarrow...It is a very useful and convenient tool for the purpose of tearing up weeds. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 16 The whiche shal be great hurte to the corne, whan it shall be sowen, and specially in the **weding-tyme* of the same. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 298, I was obliged several Years after, to cut them up in Weeding-time. *a* 1888 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 462 Yf god..perchaunce beginne..to poure hys showers vpon you: to nippe you with his **weeding tonges*, &c. 1688 [see *weeding shears*]. 1850 OGILVIE, **Weeding tool*, an implement for pulling up, digging up, or cutting weeds. 1720 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 221 He gave me positive Orders to turn off an old **Weeding-Woman*. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 40 Two old weeding-women, cheek by cheek, taking up daisies.

Weeding-hook. = WEED-HOOK.

1378 *Acc. Roll Downe, Wandsworth, Surrey* (Westm. Chapter Munim.), iij Wedynghokes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wed[e]-hoke, *runco*. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 And if it be drye wether, than muste ye haue a wedynge-hoke. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 270 When weeding-hooks and rakes The first Smiths made. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* III. 22 The common weeding-hook will not go

deep enough to take out the whole of the long slender tap root of this plant. 1787 BURNS *Answ. Gudewife of Wauchope-House* ii, The rough burr-thistle, spreading wide Amang the bearded bear—I turn'd my weeding heuk (*Ibid.* Wks. 1800 III. 378 weeder-clips] aside, An' spar'd the symbol dear! 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 138 The weeding-hook, which is a narrow strap of iron forked at the lower extremity, and a wooden handle at the other, is also used for raising weeds. *fig.* 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. v, He little dreamt then that the weeding-hook of reformation would after two ages pluck up his glorious poppy from insulting over the good corne.

Weedless (*wī*·dlės), *a.* [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Free from weeds. *lit.* and *fig.*

1611 DONNE *Anat. World, 1st Anniv.* 82 For all assum'd vnto this dignitee, So many weedlesse paradises bee. 1699 W. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pharon.* III. i. 93 Whose weedless banks no pining winter knew. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. (1672) 35 When troubled most, it does the bottom show, 'Tis weedless all above; and rockless all below. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. 164 The thousand treeless, bushless, weedless hills of grass. 1874 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 371 A clear, weedless, rocky pool. 1908 H. WALES *Old Allegiance* viii. 137 Straight shaded walks and weedless lawns.

Weedling (*wī*·dlin). [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + -LING.]

1. A small weed.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 62 And though thou seem'st a weedling wild, Wild and neglected like to me. 1882 R. BUCHANAN *God & the Man* III. i. 17 Beyond this moss there seemed no other sign of vegetation;..not even the weedlings of the rock.

2. A slight, weakly person.

1890 *Universal Rev.* 15 July 410 What is pathetic is the maternal anxiety shown by the weedy lady for her weedier child... Her whole care is that the weedling's days shall be long [etc.]. 1911 *Times* 9 Aug. 6/1 The strong, able-bodied ones go off to the Colonies and only the weedlings remain.

†**Weedwind.** *Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wedewinde* = G. *wehdwinde* (see WITHWIND), with assimilation of the first element to WEED *sb.*] a. Black Bindweed, *Polygonum Convolvulus*. b. Wild Convolvulus, *Convolvulus arvensis*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. liii. 394 Of blacke Withlwinde, or Bindeweede..This kinde of Bindeweede is called in shoppes *Volubilis media*, that is to say, The meane Bindeweede..In English Weedewinde, and Windweede, or Iuybindweede. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Table Engl. Names, Weedwind, that is withywind. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 82 Sweete Trefolie, Weedwind, the wholesome Wormewood. 1663 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 465 Weed wind, see Withy wind.

Weedy (*wī*·di), *a.*[1] [f. WEED *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].]

1. Full of, abounding or overgrown with, weeds.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 219 Lond, weet, wodi, wedi, or stony, to remedie. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 55 But I.. Like warie Hynd within the weedie soyle, For no intreatie would forgoe so glorious spoyle. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xlix. 21 The noise thereof was heard in the Red [*marg.* weedy] Sea. *a* 1632 DONNE *Lett. to Persons of Honour* (1651) 50 A sullen weedy lake, where I could not have so much as exercise for my swimming. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 100 If Wheat is weedy it must lie upon the Gravel. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 261 Dividing the field in such a manner as to give each method a fair proportion of the weedy and clean parts. 1828 DAVY *Salmonia* 47 The fish here are large, and the river weedy, so you must take care of your fish and your tackle. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxii, The waggon rolled up a weedy gravel-walk. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiv, The garden was weedy and the lawn unshaven. *fig.* 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 122, I haue Nought reaped but a weedye crop of care. 1628 PAYNNE *Brief Surv. Cosens* 15 The infallibilitie of the Church of Rome, from whose weedie Garden, this Garland of Deuotion hath beene gathered. 1839 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xliii [x], A sad downfall if we forget what human nature, in its green weedy Spring, is composed of. 1892 *Daily Tel.* 31 Aug. 5/4 [The library] of the Church House is still scrappy, weedy and incomplete.

2. Of the nature of or resembling a weed; made or consisting of weeds.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 175 When downe the weedy Trophies, and her selfe, Fell in the weeping Brooke. 1612 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* i. 1, Let..nettles, kixe, and all the weedie nation, With emptie elders grow, sad signes of desolation. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 349 The Sheep..in quest of their weedy Food. 1753 DODSLEY *Publ. Virtue* i. ii. 94 His new machine; form'd to exterminate The weedy race. 1881 GRANT ALLEN *Evolutionist at large* 44 Thus the crowfoot, too, cannot blossom to any purpose below the water;..only those lucky individuals whose chance lot it was to grow a little taller and weedier than the rest, and so overtop the stream, have handed down their race to our time. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 30 June 4/6 Grasping in their tired little hands the weedy spoils of the hedgerow. *fig.* 1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* ii. 84 The brawny Tritons, with their weedy hair. 1835 WATERWORTH *Exam. Distinctive Princ. Protestantism* 9 These weedy prejudices never will be torn up. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xxvi. 238 A long-legged gentleman with weedy whiskers. 1886 D. C. MURRAY *Weaker Vessel* xiv, Some of them are clever in a way; rooted fools by nature, who bear a weedy little blossom of wit, and suppose themselves to flower all over.

3. Having a taste or tang of weeds.

1892 J. M. WALSH *Tea* 107 The liquor [of Nellgherry] is thin, muddy and rank or 'weedy' in flavour.

4. *colloq.* (Cf. WEED *sb.*[1] 5.) a. Of animals, esp. horses and hounds: Lean, leggy, loose-bodied, and lacking in strength and mettle.

1800 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 207 The poor, slight, weedy, spindle-shanked stock of brood mares. 1824 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxxviii. (1901) II. 15 He rode a weedy chestnut. 1865 MOSLEY *Mod. Characteristics* 11 A very shabby old brougham drawn by a pair of very weedy horses. STABLES *Pract. Kennel Guide* 37 *Weedy* a very expressive word, as applied to a dog who looks leggy, thin, and apparently going to seed. 1888 R. BOLDREWOOD

Robbery under Arms xi, We drafted out all the worst and weediest of the cattle.

b. Of persons: Unhealthily tall and thin; lanky and wanting physical vigour; also, weakly, of poor physique.

1832 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxi, 'Nice size, too,' continued he,..'plenty of substance..(puff)... Hate a weedy woman—fifteen two and a half—that's to say, five feet four, 'a plenty of height for a woman'. *a* 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daus.* viii, Grace..is looking rather pale and weedy. 1892 *Nation* 21 Apr. 295/3 In order to fill the ranks large numbers of weedy men have been enlisted.

5. *Comb.*, as *weedy-haired*, *-looking* adjs.

1819 KEATS *Lines to Fanny* 36 That monstrous region, whose dull rivers pour, Ever from their sordid urns unto the shore, Unown'd of any weedy-haired gods. 1834 WHYTE MELVILLE *Gen. Bounce* vii, His fastidious taste cannot but admit that there are 'some weedy-looking ones among 'em'. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxiii, Tom thought them weedy-looking animals. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1139/2 Various genera of coarse weedy-looking plants.

Weedy (*wī*·di), *a.*[2] [f. WEED *sb.*[2] + Y[1].] Of a woman: Wearing widow's 'weeds', clad in mourning.

1848 LONGF. *Life* (1891) II. 133 A weedy woman came sweeping up to us, and introduced herself as an admirer. 1850 DICKENS *David Copp.* xvii, She still wore weeds. I think there was some compromise in the cap; but otherwise she was as weedy as in the early days of her mourning. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* 155 Think of the blank despair that would take hold of the weedy widows and desolate orphans when they applied for their share of the surplus.

Weef (*wīf*). Also **wef.** [? Var. of WEETH, dial. f. WITHE *sb.*] (See quot.)

1832 *Planting* 90 in *Husb.* (L.U.K.) III, *Bavins.* Housefaggots, bound with two withers or weefs. *Ibid.*, The tops of hedge-stakes, coopers' ware, &c., bound with one wither or wef. *Ibid.*, *Withers* or *wefs.* The pliant shoots of hazel, ash, willow, &c., for binding the spray and prunings of trees into faggots, brooms, &c.

Weef, Weeft: see WEFFE, WEFT.

Weegle, Sc. var. WAGGLE *v.*

Weehee: see WEHEE.

Week (*wīk*), *sb.* Forms: α. 1 wice (rare), wicu (inflected wican, wicean), 3–5 wike, 3–6 wyke, 5 wyeke, 6 wieke; 4 wycke, 6–7, 9 *dial.* wick; β. 3–6 weke, 6 weeke, weicke, weake, 6– week; γ. 1 wucu, 2–3 wuke, 3–5 wouke, 4–5 woke, 4–6 wok, 5 wooke, wouyk, wowke (wokk), 5–6 wolk(e; δ. *Sc.* 4–8 ouk, owk(e, 5–8 oulk, owlk, ulk, olk, 6 wke, 9 ook. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wice* wk. fem. corresponds to OFris. *wike* (WFris. *wike*, NFris. *week*, *wik*), OS. *-wika* in *crūcewika* Passion Week (MLG., LG. *weke*), MDu. *weke* (Du. *week*), OHG. *wehha*, *wohha* (MHG., mod.G. *woche*), ON. *vika* (Norw. *vika*, Sw. *vecka*, Da. *uge*), ? Goth. *wiko* (once only, rendering *τάξις* 'order' in Luke i. 8) :—OTeut. **wikōn-*.

As there is no reason to suppose that the Germanic peoples used a reckoning by weeks before they came in contact

perh. it meant 'succession, series,' and this may have been the sense of Goth. *wiko* in the only recorded example. The root **wik-* is found in ON. *vikja* to turn, move, OHG. *wehsal* (mod. G. *wechsel*) change.

The remarkable diversity of forms in the Eng. word is due to the different effect, in different dialects, of the initial (w) on the following vowel. The original form with *wi-* appears rarely in OE. literature (exc. in combinations, where it was general); the β type represented by the standard English form descends from this. The form *wucu* (inflected *wucan*) is the ancestor of the γ type (ME. *woke*, *wouke*, etc.), whence the δ type was developed in the North by the loss of the initial (w) before the labial vowel. (The written *l* in many of the Sc. forms, *wolk*, *oulk*, etc., was never pronounced.)]

1. The cycle of seven days, recognized in the calendar of the Jews and thence adopted in the calendars of Christian, Mohammedan, and various other peoples; a single period of this cycle, i. e. a space of seven successive days beginning with the day traditionally fixed as the first day of the week.

The Jewish week began with the day after the sabbath, and this beginning was adopted by the Christian church. The days of the Jewish week, except the seventh (the Sabbath) were not named, but distinguished only by number; in early Christian use the name Sabbath was retained for the seventh day, and the first was called the Lord's day (ἡ κυριακὴ ἡμέρα, *dies dominicus*), the other days being numbered only. The English names, Sunday, Monday, etc., belong to an astrological week which, quite independently of the Jewish-Christian week, arose from the practice of assigning the successive hours to the seven planets in the order of their distance, and then naming each whole day (of 24 hours) from the planet supposed to rule its first hour. The planetary names, *Dies Solis*, *Dies Lunæ*, *Dies Martis*, etc., came into common use in the Roman empire, and were adopted in translated form by the English (before they came to Britain) Mercurius, etc., were rendered } to correspond

to these: for details see the articles TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, etc.

α. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 878 (Parker MS.) On here seofoðan wiecan ofer Eastren. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* v. ii. (Miller) 388 Mid by hie ða án wilce ðara fæstnes gefylled wæs. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 12 Ic fæsto twize in wico [*c* 978 *Rushworth* wicu]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 Alle oðer dazes of þe wike beoð to þrældome to þis del [sunnen del]. *c* 1205 LAY. 13927 Þenne seorde dai i þere wike heo sifuen hiss [Woden] to wurðscipe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 Euerich wrideis of ðe yer holdeð silence, bute gif hit beo duble feste; & seonne holdeð hit sum oðer dai iðe wike. *c* 1250 *S. Eng. Leg.* 312/438 Þe seoue Dawes in þe wyke. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 430, I shal nomore com here þis wyke. *c* 1384 *P. Pl. Crede* 13 Þo Lenghe of a Lenten, ſeoch moot y leue...And Wednes-day ich wyke wiþouten flesch-mete. *c* 1420 *Wyntoun & Gaw.* 3058 Ilkone of us, withouten lesyng, Might win lik wike fourty schilling. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 172 [A Saracen said to a Christian] Þis is þe wyke þat youre gret profete deyt in. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* i. L 4 The seconde parte ys of youre seuen storyes, accordynge to the seuen dayes of the wyke. 1498 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 57 My lord of Norwich shal the next wyke visite the hous of Hykelyng. 1500 in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 272 James..went to St. James' faire to Bristowe the last wick.

β. *c* 1275 [see a. *c* 1205]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 2 Þe Wednesdai in þe firste weke of Advent. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 116 He..Of sevene daies made a weke. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 On þe Saterday it rynnes fast, and all þe weke elles it standes still. 1529 MORE *Let. to Wife* 3 Sept., Wks. 1419/2, I shal (I think)..get leaue this next weke to come home and se you. 1556–7 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 458 The said [Recorder] shall thre daies every weicke gyve attendaunce. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 That thre daies in the weke they tame theyr body with fastynge. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 587 [*Proverb*] Thursday come, and the week's gone. 1740 CIBBER POMFRET in *Cibber Hartford's Corr.* (1805) I. 208 As this is a week of great devotion and retirement with all good catholics, so it is a week of great idleness and equal retirement with us protestants. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 222 At Cheripe,.. there is a constant store of provisions prepared for the vessels who go thither every week from Panama. 1857 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 121 We may probably consider the Week, with Laplace as 'the most ancient monument of astronomical knowledge'. 1887 DICKENS *Pickw.* xliv, You couldn't make it convenient to lend me half a crown till the latter end of next week, could you? 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* i, 'The present week is yet but at Thursday, and on Monday [etc.]. 1867 E. A. FREEMAN in Stephens *Life* (1895) I. 391 Last week I have been working at the early life of Lanfranc.

γ. *c* 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (1888) 31 Þæt beon an mælcere wucan saltere..gesungenne. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1118, On þison ȝeare on þære wucon Theophanie wæs anes mænes swyðe mycel lihtinge. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4173 Itt iss 833 heh messedæȝ Att here wukeas ende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 And hit [*sc.* Advent] lasted þre wuke fulle and sum del more. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2432 Vr eldore him [*sc.* Woden] bitoc of þe wouke þen verþe day. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 32 Ant te baillifs..eche woke oþer eche forteniȝt ate leste suffen maken enquestes of men herburgers. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 454 Þus þe persoun þat al þe wouke disposiþ hym to preche to his sheep [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xli. 29 Al þe wukis in þe summir, sal ye faste ilke wuke tua dais. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxv. 261 For thei schryven hem and shewsele hem evermore ones or twyes in the Woke. 1425–6 in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 13 The secunde terme begynnande the Monunday of the first hail wolke of lenteryn with lik continuacion of termes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Woke (*v. rr.* wuk, wooke), *ebdomada*, *septimana*. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 231 To gefe to þe power nedy paryssheins of bloxham euery woke & euery ȝere halfe a quarter of corne mengiyd. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 303 The peple desyris..the mare to se him na he rade every day, or every wolk or moneth. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 51 Als well on the Satterday as ony other day of the wouke.

δ. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1343 With reualing and reuay all the oulk hale. 1526 *Cartul. S. Nicholai Aberd.* (New Spald. Club) I. 154 With ane trentell of messis in ye ouik [*read* oulk] yat ye said obit sall happin in. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 332 That na sellaris be oppynnit bot thryis in the ouik for selling of thair geir. 1566 in Hay Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 495 Nocht onlie the twa Sondayis bot also the hole reat of the olk. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 282 Ther ahalbe four Sermones in the ouk; twa on the Sunday, and twa on the ouk-dayes. 1608 *Rec. Inverwick* in A. I. Ritchie *Ch. St. Baldred* (1880) 114 The examination to begin ye nixt olk. for that purpose. 1728 RAMSAY *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* 31 Last ouk I dream'd my tup..brak his leg. 1807 TANNAHILL *Soldier's Return* II. iii, Wife—fetch my bonnet that I caft last owk. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. xi. 137, I'll think aboot it whan ance I'm throu wi' this job. That'll be neist ook or thereabouts, or aiblins two days efter.

b. With prefixed word, denoting some particular week of the year.

The weeks of the ecclesiastical calendar commonly thus referred to are *Easter week*, *the Ember weeks* (EMBER[2]), PASSION-WEEK, HOLY WEEK (also called GREAT *week*), ROGATION *week* (also called GANG-WEEK, GRASS-*week*, PROCESSION-*week*), WHIT-*week* (also called WHITSUN-*week*, †WHITSUNDAY-*week*, †*Pentecost-week*).

a 950 *Guthlac* (Prose) xx. 161 On þære eastorwucan. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 437 In Cristemesse wike. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 278 In Penthecoste wyke...In trynyte wyke. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 94, I perposed to a bym with yow in the estern weke. *c* 1500 *Cartul. S. Nicholai Aberd.* (New Spald. Club) I. 259 One Wedin-day in ye penthicost owk nixt efftir ye synod. 1620 LAUD *Diary* 23 Apr., Wks. 1853 III. 138 Being the Tuesday in Easter week. 1692 PEPYS *Let. to Evelyn* Easter Monday, The last being Confession, this in all good conscience should be Restitution Week.

¶ c. Sometimes applied *transf.* to other artificial cycles of a few days that have been employed by various peoples, *e.g.* the eight days' 'week' of the Romans (see NUNDINE), the five days' 'week' believed to have been used by the ancient Germans, etc.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. ii. 433 They accompted their weekes by thirteene dayes, marking the dayes with a Zero or cipher.

2. A space of seven days, irrespective of the time from which it is reckoned. † *All a week*: for a whole week.

† *Forty weeke*: often used for the length of the period of gestation.

¶ 1895 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 288 On þam

beo6 twa & fifti wucena. *c* 1205 LAY. 22931 To fecowver wikene [*c* 1275 wekene] uirste þat wrec [*read* werc] was isorðed. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2473 So woren forð .x. wukes gon, gret adde Iacob birigeles non. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 66 And two ȝer and al-mest þreo wyke. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7940 þis ost..bisegede þen castel, six wuke wel vaste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18587 He..Was tua and thritti wintres ald, And monet sex and wyckes tua. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM v. 110 In þysssere ioye we scholde by-louken Al hyre ioyen of nourti woken þe wylest he ȝede wyþ chylde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9353 Al a wyke þe kyng þer lay, He spilte his tyme. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 359 He gert his menȝe busk ilkane, Quhen sex owkis of the sege wes gane. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 100 And in þe wombe of þat wenche was he fourty wokes. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. ix. (1495) 354 A monthe conteynyth foure wekes and a weke seuen naturall dayes. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2047 For foure wookis full, or he did hir entere, She lay in lede within his house. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. XXV. 2375 þat about þe hundrethe day, Wouyk, monethe or moment (etc.) *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1662a He regnede not foure ȝere here, By sixe wykeus as yche vnderstonde, þat he was martrid. 1466 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 108, I thynke of every day a wyke tyl ye be content. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 273 Hyr dochtir had of xij wokkis ald a knayff. *a* 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1003, I haue not kept her yet thre wokys. 1594 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 214 Whiche catall hath ben..Impoundyd by the tyme and space of ten wykes at the leste. 1553 *Edin. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 278 The expensis of the ulk precedand the xxvj day of Marche. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 36 So many Dayes, my Ewes haue bene with yong: So many weekes, ere the poore Fooles will Eane. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 248 Efter mony oulkes quhen mekle tha had wrocht and mekle had swat, tha [etc.]. 1625 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 9 He hath byn in this place a wick, and never came into the English howse till now. 1734 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 93 A Buck was then a week's repast, And 'twas their point, I ween, to make it last. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 24 A man determines..that he will walk to such a place with a staff a week hence. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 214 Thinking every Day a Week, and Week a Month. 1751 F COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* II. xii. 236 As he had expected a Parcel from London by the Coach for a Week before, he naturally concluded this to be the same. 1787 HOV *Let.* 31 Oct in *Burns' Wks.* (1809) II. 120, I should give him nought but Stra'bogie castocks to chew for sax ouks, or ay until he [etc.]. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. ix, She was within six weeks of seventeen, and surely she need not be sent down again to the schoolroom. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xiii, Then there came a week of rain.

b. Seven days as a term for periodical payments (of wages, rent, or the like), or as a unit of reckoning for time of work or service.

1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 66 Also payd to Thomas Seviere and his felawe to set vndir þe clerkis chamber dore þe o m ason a hole woke iiij s. iij d. 1492 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 205 And for alimos, gevin woulkly, of xxiiij wokkis, xlviij li. 1527 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 473 After the rate of 18*d* by the wooke. 1552–3 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 342 Item to Andro Mansioun for half ane ulk's wage. 1557–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 409 Payde to wyllyam Elsame for j quarter and vj wyekes the soms of xix s. vj d. 1580 *Fermor Acc.* in *Archæol. Jrnl.* (1851) VIII. 181 P4 for xii weickes bord for Mr. Richard Farmor and his man, at viij*s* the weicke iiij*l* iij*s*. 1784 *Morn. Chron.* 26 May 4/1 Advt., The above premises may be taken by the week, and entered upon immediately. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii. (end), The house is full of boarders,..many of whom..contract by the week for their board and lodging. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxi, Eighteen shillings a week would buy him outright until his engagements begin again. *Ibid.* xxii, And in two days more the week's rent would be due. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* ii. (ed. 3) 39 A week's notice is the general rule before vacating rooms. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xviii, I have two thousand a year...I don't know how much that is a week, but I'll work it out some day in shillings and see.

†**c.** Followed by *day* used pleonastically. (See DAY *sb.* 11.)

c 1440 *Partonope* 6634 This lyfe they ladde vj. wekes day. *c* 1670 [see DAY *sb.* 11].

d. Used vaguely for an indefinite time, as in *a week or two*, implying a moderate space of time; *weeks*, referring to a duration which is felt as long.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 567 But thurgh his magik for a wyke or tweye It semed that alle the Rokkes were aweye. *c* 1420 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 174 My freend, aftir, I trowe, a wike or two That this tale endid was, hoom to me cam, And seide [etc.]. 15.. LYNDESAY *Play* 1048 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 505 Than scho deit to, within ane olk or two. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 193 How often hast

mounths, alas! the wkes and dayes, ... foolishe sports and plays. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxix, He *did* feel the same, Elinor—for weeks and weeks he felt it. I know he did. 1892 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* vi, 'Oh, Vere is not going for weeks—weeks,' declared Mrs. Jock with great decision. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 18 Apr. 183/2 The unbounded hospitality of a time when a few letters of introduction gave weeks of princely entertainment.

● **Feast of weeks** *Heb. Antiq.* [tr. Heb. *ḥag šābūōṯ*] = PENTECOST 1.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXXIV. 22 The solempnyte of weekis. 1535 COVERDALE *ibid.*, The feast of wekes. [So the later versions.]

8. The six working days, as opposed to the Sunday; the period from Monday to Saturday inclusive. Cf. WEEKDAY.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 244 Elf se terminus gescyt on sumon dæl,e þære wucan þonne byð se sunnan dæg þær after easter dæg. 1340 *Ayenb.* 212 Þeruore me let of bodiliche workes of þe woke nor betere to onderstonde to bidde god. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 243 For summe of my seruaunte beoþ seke oþer-while, Of alle þe wike [*v.r.* wyke, woke, wowke] heo worcheþ not so heor wombe akeþ. 1600 SHAKS. *Hem.* I. i. 76 Why such Impresse of Ship-wrights, whose sore Taske Do's not diuide the Sunday from the weeke. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxix, On this Sunday morning, when the old man looked as if the cares of the week were off his mind.

4. a. *Week of years*: used in Lev. XXV. 8 by Wyclif, Tindale, and in the Douay Bible (after the Vulgate) for 'a period of seven years' (Coverdale has 'yeare sabbathes', and the other versions 'sabbaths of years', following the Heb.). Also used by commentators in explanation of the 'weeks' mentioned in Dan. ix. 24–27, where periods of seven years are meant.

1382 WYCLIF *Levit.* XXV. 8 And thow shalt noumbre to thee seuen wekes [1388 woukis] of ȝeerys. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *God's Arrow* ii. (1593) D 1 b, This worde *Hebdomada*..is sometimes taken for a weeke of daies, that is, seauen daies...But at other times it signifieth the space of seauen yeares, and then is it called *Hebdomada Annorum*, A weeke of yeares. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 147 Doe wee not obserue how in three weeks of yeares three are dead? 1650 SCLATER *Expos. Rom.* iv. Ep. Ded. A 2, Having now, (by the space of full three weeks of years, and more)..had a strong dispute with my thoughts, whether [etc.]. *c* 1680 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Script.* II. iii. (1726) 278 They know Daniel's seventy weeks..clearly takes in his [the Messiah's] coming, and though it were taken either for weeks of days, or of years, it must long since be expired, but if they should mean weeks of ages, then for many thousand years his coming could not be yet expected.

b. *Week of days*: used by Bible commentators (following a mistranslation of Dan. x. 2) to denote a literal week as opposed to the 'week of years': see quots. in 4 a.

It is not clear whether Scott's use for 'a whole week' is an echo of this, or whether it was a current phrase.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Dan.* x. 2 At the same time, I Daniel was in heauines for three weekes of daies. *Ibid.* 3 Til thre weekes of daies were fulfilled. 1611 *Ibid.*, Three full weekes [*margin*, Heb. weeks of dayes]. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* x, They dared not keep me a week of days in durance.

5. In various idioms. **a.** *A week* [see A. *adj.* 2, 4, *prep.*1], every week, weekly, per week. (See also 2 b.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Of alle swuche þinges schriue hire enes a wike ette leste. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 415 He usede twyes a wooke to sitte al day to fore þe chirche dore. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 12 A good woman..that fasted .iij. tymes a woke. 1862 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* ix. 118 It is repeated seven times a-week.

b. In expressions serving to fix a date. *This day, tomorrow, Monday*, etc. *week*: seven days before or after the day specified. Similarly *this day*, etc. (so many) *weeks*. *Yesterday, Monday*, etc. *was a week* (dial.), seven days before the day mentioned. † Formerly also *four* (etc.) *weeks day*, exactly four weeks (cf. 2 c).

1398 *Munim. de Melros* (Bannatyne Club) 490 [Gif] defaut be of þir paymentis..ovre runnene ande ganeby sex wowkis daye eftir þe lymite terme. 1454 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 281 That al maner of men of Iryshe blode..avoyde [*i.e.* quit Dublin] by this day iiii. wekys. And gyff eny of this Irysah blode..may be founde within the said cite or fraunchels after the said iiii. wekys day, they shall..be put in prisone. 1531 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 187 The same Court so adiorned to be kepte ther that day thre wekes next ensuyng. 1582 SIR J. POPHAM in H. Hall *Soc. Elis. Age* (1886) 262, I mene if God please to be at Salisburie the wekes-daie at night before Easterdaie. 1700 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) Oct. 181 Wee heard..of her being ther last 4th day was a weeke. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 160 The whole of the money must be made good that night week. 1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* v, Allow me to recommend some of the kipper—it was John Hay that catcht it, Saturday was three weeks. 1832 *Lincoln Herald* 23 Sept. 4/4 Early on Monday morning week, an attempt was made [etc.]. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xliv, Send Charley to me this night week —'for the letter'. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. vi, The crisis came on Saturday, the day week that Thompson had died. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xx, Last Saturday was a week I touched at Liverpool with a cargo of furs (etc.). *Ibid.*, When I came back last Saturday week. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiii, Can you make it convenient to be there this day week? 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* i, Let us say Thursday week, dear—This is Saturday, so it is quite enough notice to give.

c. *Week and week about*: in alternate weeks.

1892 KIPLING *Light that Failed* vi. 94 The girls were supposed to market week and week about.

6. Proverbial phrases. † **a.** *To be in by the week*: to be ensnared, caught; *fig.* to be deeply in love. *To go to it by the week*: to commit oneself thoroughly.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 69 This prouerbe shewth the in by the weeke. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. ii. 4 He is in by the weke, we shall haue sport anon. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1595) 47 Yet now we be in, let vs go to it by the week. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 61 O that I knew he were but in by th' weeke. 1598 R. BERNARD *Terence, Andria* I. i. (1607) 12 He is in the snare; he is in for a bird, hee is in by the weeke. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* E 1, Enter Flamineo and Marcello guarded, and a Lawyer. *Law.* What are you in by the weeke.

b. *Too late a week*: a jocular understatement for 'far too late'. Now only as echo of Shaks.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 74 At seauenteene yeares, many their fortunes seeke But at fourescore, it is too late a weeke. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* (1890) I. 105 If she had her youthful activity, and could manage things, it..would amuse her. But I fear it is too late a week. 1829 *Ibid.* II. 220.

c. † *The week of the four Fridays*: an imaginary date that will never arrive (*obs.*). *A week of Sundays*: seven Sundays or weeks as representing a long

1562–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Quat.* (1892) I. Ded. p. ix, At the period that the hogs shall..feed along with the herrings! ..or on the week of the four Fridays, so long looked for by astrologians. 1898 'C. HARE' *Broken Arcs* I. iii. 73 Tea wark ,never done, an' nar' a bit o' play for I...no, not in a week o' Sundays. 1901 D. SLADEN *My Son Richard* IV, 180 ..got to know her more intimately in that five minutes than he might otherwise have done in a week of Sundays.

d. Pugilistic slang. *To knock* (a person) *into the middle of next week*: to give (him) a decisive blow, to punish severely; to astound, flabbergast.

1821 MONCRIEFF *Tom & ...* the middle of next week— ... eye—only see how red it is! ... *Downing* xv. (1833) 93 The first clip I made was at Amos,—but he dodged it, and I hit one of the Editors of the Globe, and knocked him about into the middle of next week. 1846 W. T. PORTER *Quarter Race Kentucky* 105 The next moment he was knocked into the middle of the next three weeks! 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* XVI, I believe you would knock me into next week if I were to have a battle with you. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 720/2 It would not be comfortable to be knocked by his heels into the middle of next week.

7. Combinations: † **week-boy**, a boy hired by the week, as distinguished from an apprentice; **week-long**, continuing for a week; **week-night**, a night in the week other than Sunday night; also *attrib.*; **week-old** *a.*, that has lived or lasted a week; † **week-silver**, some kind of feudal dues (prob. in commutation of WEEK-WORK).

1562 *Act 14 Chas. II* c. 5 § 17 No Master Weaver..shall.. sett on worke above two Apprentices or any *weeke-Boy to weave in a Lombe in the said Trade in worsted weaving. 1683 [see DEVIL *sb.* 5 a]. 1898 *Daily News* 13 Sept. 6 4 The ladies, true to their *week-long enthusiasm,..made the University College Theatre look very bright. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. clxviii, I lay at the feet of Jesus,..yokir- down my struggling flesh with week-long fastings. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xl, Both he and Ellen thought it strange that their mother should insist on that book on a *week-night; they never usually read it [the bible], save on Sunday evenings. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 120 Week-night services. 1892 *Lichfield Mercury* 23 Mar. 8/5 If we obstinately shut our eyes and keep company with the hapless *week-old kittens. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 113 Out of the darkness we reach For a handful of week-old papers And a mouthful of human speech. 1430 in *N. & Q.* 13th Ser. I. 449/1 Exceptis redditibus, seruiciis,..et xvij. s. annuis vocatis *Weikseluer.

Hence † **Wukemalum** *adv.* [-MEAL], by weeks.

c 1200 ORMIN 336 Drihhtin Godd To þewwtenn wukemalumm. *Ibid.* 554.

Week (wīk), *int.* Also 8 **weeck**, 9 **weke**. [Cf. WHEAK *v.* and *sb.*, WHICK *v.*, WEE *int.*] Imitation of the squeak of a pig or mouse.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 146 Weeke, weeke, so cries a Pigge prepared to th' spit. *a* 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 87 Weeck, Weeck, Weeck, squeak'd the Pig. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo Lippi* 12 Harry out..Whatever rat, there, haps on his wrong hole, And nip each softling of a wee white mouse, *Weke, weke*, that's crept to keep him company!

Week(e, obs. forms of WEAK, WICK.

Weekday (wī·kdē). Forms: see WEEK *sb.* and DAY *sb.* [OE. *wicdæg*, f. *wic*(*u*) WEEK. Cf. OHG. *wehhatag*, ON. *vikudagr*.]

† **1.** A day of the week. (In quot. *c* 1200 a literal as opposed to a metaphorical day.) *Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. v, Þæt hi þy feorðan wicdæge & þy syxtan fæstan to bones. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13188 Alls itt off þiss werr[illegible]

likes o þat land, þat anes o þe wok day, þan es sco liked al a-way. 1496 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 166 [They] do mare the Sonday or the haly day na othir wolk dayes.

† **2.** A day of the week other than market-day or Sunday. *Obs.*

1477 in *Charters* etc. *Edin.* (1871) 141 The nolt merket.. [to be held] about the Trone,..and nocht on the wolk day. 1588 in G. P. Scrope *Castle Combe* (1852) 332 That none shall bye any grayne or other vittell on our markett-daye before nyne of the clocke in the fore-none, nor in the wicke-dayes more then shall serve their owne howsolde.

3. A day of the week other than Sunday.

c 1546 COVERDALE *Calvin's Treat. Sacrum.* etc. F 1 b, In lyk maner as thou seist this blessed sacrament ministred on the sonday, euen so wyth lyke reuerence do they vse it at the same houre on those wyke dayes, that the congregacyon.. hath appointed to that vse. 1563 *Homilies, Of Place & Time of Prayer* I. II. 239 For although they wyll not trauayle nor labour on the Sunday, as they do on the weeke day, yet they wyll not rest in holynes. 1593 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 57 That..vpone the oulk dayes thai begin at viij houris and end precisellie at ix houris. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sunday* ix, Thou art a day of mirth! And where the week-dayes trall on ground, Thy flight is higher. 1654 J. AUDLAND in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1919) XVI. 135, I have been in Bristoll severall first dayes. and I have gone into the Countrey, in the Weekdayes. 1732 SWIFT etc. *What passed in London* Misc. III. 263 My Wife and I went to Church (where we had not been for many Years on a Week-day). 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Seven-Dials*, Pass through St. Giles's in the evening of a week-day, there they are in their fustian dresses. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Mar. 277/2 His [*sc.* Spurgeon's] father was a hard-working man on week-days, and a preacher on Sundays.

b. *attrib.*

[1598 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 72 In the oulk dayes preiching in Glasgw it is denyrit that the ministeris keip precisellie the hour.]. 1698 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 147 That house where the week-day lecture had been kept. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 345 One solid dish his week-day meal affords, An added pudding solemnis'd the Lord's. 1762 *Charge Dioc. Canterb.* (1772) 233 Diligence..

fit bringing your People to the holy Communion, and where it can be, to Week-Day Prayers. 1822 Wordsw. *Sonn.* '*I grieved for Buonaparté*', The talk Man holds with week-day man in the hourly walk Of the mind's business. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* lii, He knew nothing of week-day services, and thought none the worse of the Sunday sermon if it allowed him to sleep from the text to the blessing. 1877 A. Maclaren (*title*), Week-day Evening Addresses.

Week-end. a. (with *a* and *pl.*). The holiday period at the end of a week's work, usually extending from Saturday noon or Friday night to Monday; esp., this holiday when spent away from home.

1879 *N. & Q.* Ser. v. XII. 428/2 In Staffordshire, if a person leaves home at the end of his week's work on the Saturday afternoon to spend the evening of Saturday and the following Sunday with friends at a distance, he is said to be spending his *week-end* at So-and-so. 1889 Miss Braddon *Day will Come* xxiv, Theodore and his friend betook themselves to Cherlton Chase on the following Friday, for that kind of visit which north country people describe as 'a week end'. 1892 *Times* 18 Mar. 8/2 They had evidently taken the house for week-ends. 1899 S. R. Gardiner *O. Cromwell* vi. 192 Oliver..may be regarded as the inventor of that modified form of enjoyment to which hard-worked citizens have, in our day, given the name of the 'week-end'. 1905 *Spectator* 26 Aug. 289/1 What a 'week-end' it must have been for the host, whatever it may have been for the guest.

attrib. 1887 *Advt. of G. W. R.* (in Lancs.), Week-end tickets. 1896 *Hetton-le-Hole* (Durham) *Gloss.* s.v., 'Week-end trips' are now advertised on most of the [railway] lines.

b. The period from Saturday to Monday during which business is suspended and shops are closed.

1878 J. Almond *Bunch of Water-cresses* 4 If I get my 'bacco now, I can manage to see th' week-end o'er very well. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 17/3 The Money Market was steady with a fair demand for advances over the week-end at about previous rates.

c. The end (i. e. the last day) of the week; Saturday. *dial.*

1880 C. H. Poole *Staffs. Gloss.*, *Week-end*, Saturday.

Hence **Week-end** *v. intr.*, to spend a week-end holiday. **Week-ending** *vbl. sb.* Also **Week-ender**, one who spends the week-ends away from home.

1880 *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. I. 42 Lodging-house keepers and tradesmen in Llandudno, Rhyl, and other holiday resorts in n. Wales, employ the derivative form 'week-enders'.. when they speak of..visitors who come on Saturday and go on Monday. 1901 C. G. Harper *Gt. North Road* I. 144 Three bedrooms for the use of the week-enders. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 31 July 7/2 Where shall we week end? 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Oct. 490/1 Saturday morning is quite time enough for the week-enders to get away. 1906 B. Vaughan *Sins of Society* 66 You see 'week-endings' have become part of the British Constitution, and nowadays everybody who is anybody has to be out of town in the season, say from Saturday to Tuesday. 1913 W. J. Locke *Stella Maris* xv. 201 Where have you been week-ending? 1914 A. N. Lyons *Simple Simon* I. iii. 42 He week-ends at Paris-Plage.

†**Weekfish.** *Obs.* [ad. Du. *weekvisch*, f. *week* soft + *visch* fish. Cf. Weakfish.] A fish of the Dutch East Indies, the size of a whiting, esteemed a delicacy.

1686 Ray *Willughby's Hist. Pisc.* App. 6 Pisces Indiæ Orientalis a Joanne Nieuhofs Descripti...Wit fish or Week fish.

Weekly (wī·kli), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Week *sb.* + -ly 1.] **A.** *adj.*

†1. Of or pertaining to the week (either as a seven-days period or as opposed to Sunday). *Obs.*

1563 *Homilies, Of Place & Time of Prayer* I. II. 238 That vpon the Sabboth day..they shoulde cease from all weekely and workeday labour. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xi. 178 Hengists noble heyres; their Idols that to raise Heere put their German names vpon our weekly daies.

2. That occurs, is done, made, given, etc. once a week.

Weekly Bill: see Bill *sb.*2 10. *Weekly tenancy*: one determinable at the end of any week.

1489 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1528, 120/1 In the delivering of thir oulkly penny to God and to Sanct Jhonne. 1525 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1527, 97 The forsaid wolklie penny and halpeny salbe payit lik Setterday. 1576–77 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 582 His raleif of the said owklie wagels as accordis. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xix. § 1 The Iewes haue alwaies had their weekely readings of the law of Moses. 1621 (*title*) Corante: or weekely newes from Italy, Germany, [etc.]. 1682 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 16 With a weekly markett and two free faires yearly. 1699 G. Harvey *Van. Philos. & Physick* vi. 46 The daily, weekly, or frequent use of Opiates. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 79 P 9 The Indiscretion of the Books themselves, whose very Titles of Weekly Preparations..lead People of ordinary Capacities into great Errors. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 289 P 2 The Use I make of the above-mentioned Weekly Paper. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 264 The Man of Ross divides the weekly bread. *a* 1806 Horsley *Serm.* (1812) II. xxiii. 227 A public weekly assertion of the two first articles in our Creed. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iv, The weekly charge in this establishment for each female patient is three dollars. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 390 In this way he gathered materials for weekly epistles destined to enlighten some county town. 1899 S. R. Gardiner *O. Cromwell* vi. 192 He found repose in a weekly visit to Hampton Court. 1900 *Act* 10 & 11 *Geo. V* c. 30 § 2 Entitled..to receive payments ..at weekly or other prescribed intervals.

b. With a personal designation: Performing some action, or employed in some capacity, once a week; that has a contract by the week.

Weekly man Austral., an extra hand taken on for one or more weeks. *Weekly tenant*, 'one paying rent by the week, and liable to removal on a week's notice' (Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, 1858).

1722 Prior *Extempore Invit.* 1 Our Weekly Friends To-morrow meet At Matthew's Palace. 1737 Pope *Hor. Ep.* I. i. 155 They change their weekly Barber. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xx, Filling up the station with a lot of weekly men.

† c. slang. *Weekly-accompts* pl., a name given to the small square white patches on each side of a midshipman's collar.

1819 Vaux *Mem.* I. 69 The midshipmen proceeded to cut off the weekly accompts from the coat I had on.

B. *sb.* A newspaper or review published once in each week.

1846 C. Mitchell *Newsp. Press Directory* 81 Not any of the newspapers published at the close of the week display more activity or success than this [the *Observer*] in the acquisition of news, which, after the preceding six days, has been swept and exhausted by the immense resources of the *dailys*; and this is the great difficulty in a *weekly*. 1898 *Times* 29 Nov. 6/3 Clever weeklies and less clever dailies. 1863 *Morn. Star* 3 Jan., To-day a new literary Weekly of high pretensions begins its existence. 1914 in *Civil Service Year Bk.* (1916) 294 They take 6 penny daily papers and 3 halfpenny ones; 3 weeklies costing 3*d.* each and 5 weeklies costing 6*d.* each.

Weekly (wī·kli), *adv.* [f. Week *sb.* + -ly 2.] In each or every week, week by week. Usually, once in seven days.

1465 in *Paston Lett.* II. 193 He payth for hys borde wykely xx*s*. 1474 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 29 It is statut ..that the said penny be rasit wolkly on the Monundaye. 1522 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 400 No man shalbe made fre unlesse he can specke the Englishe tonge and shave his upper lipe wicklye. 1540 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 378/1 That pair be wokly thre market dais for selling of breid within the said toune. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 182 The Legates sat weekely, & euery daie were argumentes on bothe partes and nothyng els doen. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxx. 427 There was one Priest alone resident continually, the which they changed weekely. 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 15 Our daughter..tells me she gives your Ladyship weekely an account of her selfe. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Sept. 1665, There perishing neere 10,000 poore creatures weekly. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 140 As these Persons are oblig'd to perform the Communion Service..in their turns Weekly, they are sometimes called Hebdomadal Canons. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxvi, An acute Gallegan..who gave me weekly a faithful account of the copies sold. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* xv. 142 You had arranged for her [a governess] to come here two or three days weekly.

Weekman (wī·ksmæn). [f. *week's*, genitive of Week. Cf. *month's-man*, Month *sb.* 1 6 b.] A functionary whose term of office is a week; *spec.* (see quot.).

1855 Hare *Cases Chancery* X. 298 Until..1850 (when the Defendants..were appointed day oyster meters), all monies received in respect of such compensation were divided equally among them. A list was kept, and each of the eighteen meters in rotation took upon himself the duties of 'weekaman,' whose office it was to allot the boats to each of the meters in his turn.

Weekwam, obs. form of Wigwam.

Week-work. *Hist.* [OE. *wic-, wiceweorc*, f. *wic(u)* Week + *weorc* Work *sb.* Cf. OS. *wekewerk*.] In Old English Law, work done for the lord by the tenant so many days a week. Also *attrib.* in †*weekwork-silver* (cf. *week-silver*, Week *sb.* 7).

c 1000 *Rectitudines* in Thorpe *Laws* I. 434 On sumen lande is þæt he [sc. the *gebúr*] sceal wyrcan to wicweorce .ii. dagas swile weorc swilc him man tæcð ofer geares fyrst ælcre wucan, and on hærfest .iii. dagas to wicweorce [etc.]. ? 1060 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* No. 462. III. 450 Consuetudines in Dyddanhamme..Se gebur sceal his riht don; he sceal erian healfne æcer to wiceweorce. 1355 *MS. Rental of* [illegible] work—i. e. work for the lord for so many days a week, mostly three days. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* July 73 A feature which reminds us of the week-works of the villein under our own manorial system.

Weel 1 (wīl). *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 1 wél, 3 wel, 4, 6 wele (4–5 welle), 6 vele, 6–7 weill, 7 weell, 8–9 wiel, weil, wheel, 9 weal, 4, 7–9 weel. [OE. *wél* masc. and neut. = WFris. *wiel*, OLow Frankish *wâl* (pl. *wâlâ*), 'abyssus', MDu. *wael* (Flem. *weele*), MLG. *wêl* (LG. *weel*, *weele*, whence mod.G. *wehl* masc., *wehle* fem.).] A deep pool; a deep place in a river or the sea; a whirlpool or eddy.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* Envoy 469 Ac se wæl wunað on weres breostum..diop & stille. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 52 *Hic gurges* þis wæl, þæt is, deop water. *c* 1000 Ormin 19690 Godd..þatt mihhte heumm alle..Inn helle [illegible] 'n *O. E. Misc.* þat fule pool. 1616 Stob, Snaken and neddren heom imetaþ, And dreyeð heom in-to a wel þer heo þolyeþ al vnsel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2903 Bituixand þal sink in þat wele þar neuer man sank þat was o sele. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxv. 9 And with welle [*Harl.* weel] of þi liking al Sal tou drinke þam [Vulg. *torrente voluptatis tuæ potabis eos*]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/1 A Welle, *gurges*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. ii. 13 Tybir flowand soft and easely, Wyth swirland wellis [L. *vertiicibus rapidis*] and mekle yallow sand. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xlviii, The gretest vele heirof is namit Corbrek; for it will othir sink, or ellis draw ane schip to it, howbeit it be distant thairfra ane mila. 1583 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 26 Sir Jhone Cunygam,..settis the tan half of his bait gangand apone Sant Katrynis weill in Clydisholm to Wylyam Pumfra. 1599 Alex. Hume *Hymnes* iii. 921 The bels and circles on the weills, Throw lowpping of the trouts. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words*, *Weel*, Lanca. a whirlpool. 1682 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 18 From the said foord of Gellie to the weell of Buckmeneem. 1786 Burns *Hallowe'en* xxv, Whyles owre a linn the burnie plays,..Whyles in a wiel it dimpl't. *a* 1800 *Rare Willie* viii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 128/2 In the deepest well in a' the burn, Oh, there she fand her Willie! 1817 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxvi, The deep waters and weils o' the Avondow. 1818 W. Phillips *Geol.* 113 The pool of still water or wheel, above the falls. 1834 Hogg *Dem. Manners Scott* (1909) 59 In a few minutes we reached Gleddie's Weal, the deepest pool in all that part of Tweed. 1909 *Jedburgh Gaz.* 28 May 3/7 A large, deep pool known as the 'Old Weal'.

b. *attrib.*

1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray*, A *Wheel-pit*, whirl-pool. *a* 1800 *Young Hunting* xvii. in Child *Ballads* II. 153/1 They douked in at ae weil-heid, And out aye at the other.

Weel 2 (wīl). Forms: *a.* 3–5 wyle, 6 wyele, 7 wile; 6 wyll(e, whyll. *β.* 5 wele (5–6 welle), 5–7 weele (6 weyle, weale), 7– weel, (6 *Sc.* weill, 7 well, 9 weal); 6–9 wheel (7 wheele). [OE. *wile-* (in *wile-wise*), a reduced form of *wilige*, *wilie* basket: see Willy. The form *wele*, *weel* is a normal development from this.]

1. A wicker trap for catching fish, esp. eels.

1296 *Northumb. Assize Roll* (Surtees) 103 Fit destructio [in the Tyne] salminiculorum per wyles et per minuta retia. 1369–70 *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon Abbey* (Camden) 19 In wylys at pottus, iij *s.* 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18037 Lyke a wyle in a ryver, to cache the fysche bothe fer and nere; the entre large, the comynge out is so strayt, it stant in dout. 1450–1 *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon Abbey* (Camden) 130 Et in welez emptis pro piscibus capiendis in fossato Conuentus, iiij *s.* x *d.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/1 A Welle, *nassa*. 1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C vj b, *Nassula*, a wyll, or a leepe. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* Z 1 b, One hath robbed my wyele, *prede nassam diripuit*. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 87 Watch ponds, go looke to weeles and hooke. 1649 E. Reynolds *Hosea* iii. 26 We are like Fishermens wheels, wide at that end which lets in the Fish, but narrow at the other end, so that they cannot get out againe. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.*, Weel,..made of Osier-twigs, which are supported by Circles or Hoops, that go round, and are ever diminishing;..Its Mouth is somewhat Broad, but the other end terminates in a Point: It's so contrived, that when the Fishes are got in, they cannot come out of it again, because of the Osier Twigs, which advance on the inside, to the Place where the Hoops are, and which stop the Passage, leaving but a small opening there. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 163 It does not often take a bait, but is generally caught in weels. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 71 § 15 Any basket, trap, or device for taking fish, except wheels or leaps for taking lamperns. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 125 Weels used on the apron of Weirs for taking Lamperns. 1908 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 163 The moveable eel-trap or 'grig-wheel', like a crayfish basket, only larger.

b. in fig. context.

1639 Mayne *City Match* III. iv, 'Slight who would think your Father should lay weeles To catch you thus? 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 80/1 A weele with two ends, or boles: for fish to get in at; which when in, there is no getting out againe, from whence came the proverbe, I catched him with a weele: that is I got him in so, that he could not get out. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xiv, When did you ever hear that..any body ever got out of this Weel without leaving something of his behind him.

c. *Her.* A conventional representation of such a fish-trap, borne as a charge.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 80/1 He beareth Azure, a Weele with its hoope vpward, Or. 1780 Edmondson *Her.* II. Gloss., *Weel*, for catching of fish, is always drawn in armory, as in Plate VIII. Fig. 39. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss.

d. *attrib.*, in †*weel-net*.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 218 Weaving them close together in a round and large forme, after the maner of a fishers leape or weele net.

2. A basket, *esp.* one in which fish are kept.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 319 Moyses..was putte in a weele made of rishes [L. *in fiscella scirpea*] dressede with picche, and caste in to the water. *Ibid.* IV. 353 The fader and mother abhorrenge to sle theire owne son..putte hym

... Torriano, *Cavagna*..a fisher's-weel, or haske. 1678 Littleton *Dict., Lat.-Eng., Fiscella*,..a wile wherein fishes are kept. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 125 Hard Weels [are] large baskets in which eels and lamperns are kept alive until sold.

Wee'l, obs. contr. form of *we will*.

1652 Cotterell *Cassandra* v. (1676) 543 Wee'l set our selves up again.

Weel(e, obs. forms of Weal *sb.*1, Well.

Weeld, obs. form of Weald.

Weeld(e, obs. forms of Wield.

Weele, wee'll, obs. contr. forms of *we will*.

1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 6 Why then wee'll make exchange. 1598 Chapman *Blinde Beggar Alexandria* B 3 b, Weele strike vp a drumme. 1606 Marston *Parasit.* IV. G 2, Stay foole weele follow thee. 1620 T. May *Heir* I. (1633) B 4 b, Lay it [the child] to him, weele out face him tis his.

Weelful, -som, var. ff. Wealful, -some.

Weely, var. Wealy *a.*2 *Obs.*

Weem (wīm). [a. early Gael. *uaim* (now *uaimh*) cavern.] The name applied in Scotland to a cave or underground dwelling-place used by early inhabitants of the country.

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 202 An artificial cave or subterraneous passage, such as is sometimes called by the country people a weem. 1851 D. Wilson *Prehist. Ann.* I. iv. (1863) 107 The general name applied in Scotland to these subterranean habitations is Weems, from the Gaelic word *uamha* a cave. 1865 C. W. Kett in *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* Apr. 247 We find in Scotland underground dwelling-places formed

of large unhewn stones without cement of any kind; these are called *weemes*. 1892 D. MacRitchie *Underground Life* 47 It would be an easy matter for proprietors to fence in and otherwise protect existing 'weems'.

Weem, var. WAME.

Weemen, obs. pl. of WOMAN.

† Ween, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1–2, 3–4 **wen**, 3–6 **wene**, (3 **wæne**), 4–5 **weene**; *Sc.* and *north.* 4–5 **weyne**, 4 **vene**, **veyn**, 5 **weyn**. [OE. *wén* fem. (rarely masc. or neut.) corresp. to OFris. *wêne* opinion, OS. *wân* masc., hope, OHG., MHG. *wân* masc., opinion, hope, etc. (mod.G. *wahn* fem., delusion), ON. *vân* fem., hope, Goth. *wēn-s* hope :—OTeut. **wēni-z*, f. Teut. and Indogermanic root **wen-* to love.]

1. Opinion, belief. (Cf. WONE *sb.*)

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 3 Ne bið lof na ðy læsse, ac is wen þæt hit sie þy mare. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* 390 *note*, Efter monnes wene. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 73 Þis ik wort in ebrisse wen, He witen ðe soðe ðat is sen. *Ibid.* 3271 Egipcienes woren in twired wen queðer he sulden folȝen or flen. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 215 in *O. E. Misc.* 115, & ich her ȝu wille leren wenes mine, wit & wisdome.

2. Expectation, hope. (Cf. WONE *sb.*)

Beowulf 383 (Gr.) Þæs ic wen hæbbe. *c* 1205 LAY. 28141 Of þine kume nis na wene for no weneð heo nauere to soðe þat þu cumen aȝin from Rome. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 631 (Camb. MS.) To hire was mi meste wene, For to habbe to mi quene. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 88 It were betre be refused Than forto worchen upon weene.

3. Probability, supposition; doubt.

Beowulf 1845 (Gr.) Wen ic taliȝe.. þæt þe Sæ-Ȝeatas sċlran næbben to geceosenne cyning æniȝne. *c* 1205 LAY. 13503 Hit bið a muchele wæne wher ȝe i-seon me auere mare. *Ibid.* 18752 Þa ȝet hit weore a wene whar þu heo mihtes aȝe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1104 Bituixand þei þe southe had sene O thing þai wist noght bot a wene.

4. Phrases. a. *Wen is, is wen*: the probability is (*that* . . .), it is probable (*that* . . .).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 72 Forðæm hit is wen ðæt se ne mæȝe oðerra monna scylde ofaðwean [etc.]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 235 Wen is þæt ic ȝefyrenode. *Ibid.* 239 Cum nu mid us.. þy læs wen is þæt hi us eft ȝenimon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John viii. 19 Ȝif ȝe me cuþon, wen is þæt ȝe cuþon minne fæder. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7152, & wen iss þatt he wass forrdredd & serrbfull in hiss herrte.

b. *Without(en (any) ween, but ween* (Sc.), *for-out(en ween* (Sc.): without doubt.

c 1200 ORMIN 4326 Þu findesst wiss wiþþutenn wen Rihhte ehhte siþe an hunndredd. *c* 1205 LAY. 6311 To soðen wiðuten wene þe laȝe hehte Marciane. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 468 In þat curt þat is so clene, May na filth in dwell wituten wene. † *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 574 Withouten wene, Wel semyde by hir apparayle She was not wont to gret trauayle. *c* 1374 — *Troylus* IV. 1593 Er Phebus suster lucyna the shene, The leon passe out of þis arïete, I wol ben here with-outen ony wene. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 162 Thai presit hym so fast, That, had he nocht the bettir beyn, He had beyn ded forouten veyn. *Ibid.* XIX. 292 The erll sperit giff he had seyne The Inglis host; 'ȝa, schir, but weyne'. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 104, I will go witte with-owten wene. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Houlate* 382 Of Scotland the wer wall, wit ȝe but wene, Our fais force to defend. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2880 The thrid .was o manly knycht, but weyne. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 51 Twentie and fiue, quhen thay war red but wene.

† Ween, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. ON. *vǽnn*:—OTeut. type **wēnjo-*, f. **wēni-* WEEN *sb.*] Beautiful.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 945 Ho watz þe fayrest in felle.., & wener þen Wenore [Guenever], as þe wyȝe þoȝt.

Ween (wīn), *v. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **weened** (wī'nd). Forms: 1 **wénan**, **wēnan**, 2–4 **wenen**, 3 **weone**, 3–5 **wen**, 3–6 **wene**, 4–5 **whene**, *Sc.* **ven(e**, **vein**, 4–6 *Sc.* and *north.* **weyn(e**, 5 **veyn**, 6 **wean**, 6–7 *Sc.* **wein(e**, 4–7 **weene**, 5– **ween**; 3–4, 6 **win(n**, **wyn(n**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wénde**, 3–6 **wende**, 3 **wænde**, 3–6 **wend**, 4 *Sc.* **whende**, **vend**, 5–6 *Sc.* **weind**, **weynd**; 3–6 **went(e**, 4 *north.* **weint**, 5 **wentt**, **whente**, (6 *Sc.* **wont**, **wount**, **wint**). *Pa. pple.* 4–6 **wend(e**, **went**, 5 **whent**. [A Common Teut. weak verb: OE. *wénan* corresp. to OFris. *wêna* to think, OS. *wânian* (MLG. *wênen*, *wânen*, LG. *wanen*), OLow Frankish *wânan* (MDu., Du. *wanen* to fancy, think), OHG. *wânnen*, *wânen* (MHG. *wænen*, mod.G. *wähnen* to suppose wrongly, imagine), ON. *vǽna* to hope, Goth. *wēnjan* to hope :—OTeut. **wēnjan*, f. **wēni-* WEEN *sb.*

The word seems to have gone out of general use in the 17th c. It has survived as an archaism, esp. in the parenthetic formula illustrated in 1 h.]

1. *trans.* In regard to what is present or past: To think, surmise, suppose, conceive, believe, consider. In ME. often with *well*. a. *Const.* object-clause, with or without *that*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 55 Þa word þe he wenþ þæt him leofoste syn to ȝehyrenne. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Al þe tunscipe ðuȝen for heom, wenden ðæt hi wæren rauieres. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11585 Forr þatt te deofell shollde Wel wenenn þatt he were mann. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 1543 Ysaac wende it were esau. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7557 Quat! wyne þou i am a hund? 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10596 He went he had be hys brother. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 148 Whan they gave Iupiter, they had went he had ben half man and half hors. 1530 PALSGR. 756/2 The castell whiche men wente had ben ——— downe nowe. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 455/1 If they had but tolde the myracles that Christ did, the countries to whom they were sent, wouldе haue went that they had lyed. 1580 FULKE *Martiall Confuted* iv. 169 Let him looke in his lexicon, where I weene al his Greeke is. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* v. xxxix. 803 The Romanes..weening that there was none left alive. 1614 CAMDEN *Rem., Prov.* 313 They that be in hell wene there is no other heauen. 1721 *Coltin's Mistakes* iv. 3 Well I ween, That..Dan Spenser makes the fav'rite Goddess known. 1803 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* III. xxxi, Some said that there were thousands ten; And others ween'd that it was nought But Ɫoven clans, or Tynedale men. 1838 MRS. BROWNING *Deserted Garden* xii, Though never a dream the roses sent Of science or love's compliment, I ween they smelt as sweet. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VI. i, But well I ween that Gryffyth will never keep troth with the English.

† b. *Const.* infin. *To ween to be* or *do* = to think that one is or does. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Sume weneð bien sacleas of ðessere senne [of swearing], for ðan ðe me nett hem to ðan aðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 24535 Æic wende to beon betere þene oðer. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12119 Þof þou wen make-less to be, þat nan in lare sal teche þe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 96 So that she wende haue al his hert yknowe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 15 Betwen tuo Stoles lyth the sal, Whan that men wenen best to sitte. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* CXI. 151 After this sorw, that she went to haue loste her sone, she hadde another. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 131 Quhen we best wene To haue Virgill red, understand, and sene, The richt sentence perchance is fer to seik. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 150 The parret..weening to see another parret in the glasse.

† c. *Const.* obj. and compl. (sb. or adj.). *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 10 Al is þet tu wendest golt, lwurðe to meastling. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 40 Weenynge his lif glorious þat is vicious. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 12 Men schal nat wenyn euery thyng a lye For that he say it nat of 3ore ago. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxvi. (1869) 100 Gretli i am abasht þat þou þat i wende a nice man answereat me so wel. 1533 MORE *Answ. poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1036/1 They..should shortlye perceiue in euery place where they wene themselfe many, how very few they be. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 44 Weene you..thee Greekish nauye returned? 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vi. 21 Shee her selfe more worthy thereof wend.

† d. *Const.* obj. and infin. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 534 So wis wenst þou þe be. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 96, I wot thou wolt nothing forbere Of that thou wenest be thi beste. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 265 That thai may be kend wenand thame self till have rychtwis caus. 1528 in Pocock *Rec. Reform.* I. 85 We wening the same to have been our way. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 19 While the eye weeneth a round Globe..to be a flat and plaine Circle. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 43 Kenning a farre of Pompeis gallies..and weening them to be his owne.

† e. With simple object (usually a neut. pronoun): To think, believe, credit (something). Also, to surmise or suspect to exist. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xlii, Nis þæt ðeah no licumlice to wenanne, ac gastlice. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 440 Þeah..us ȝedafenað þæt we hit wenon swiðor þonne we unrædlice hit ȝeseþan. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 11 Hwen þus is of þe riche, hwat wenes tu of the poure. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2154 Na man ille dede shuld wene þar, whar gude lyf byfor has bene. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 944 Hit were a wonder to wene. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 1031 But herke, Pandare, o word, for I nolde That thow in me wendest so gret folye. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 78 Þis quhen þe king had herd & sen, þe Ioy he had wald na man wen. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5672 Is no man wrecched, but he it wene. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 239 Neither must we here consyder, what the greatest multitude weneth, but what the trewthe is. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xx. 117 Quhat sall we wene of tratours kene. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 65 These matters..So straunge, and so incredible to weene.

† f. coupled or contrasted with *wit* (*wot*, etc.).

c 1290 *Holy Cross* 11 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 1 Ich wene þat ich wot ȝwat þis somunce amounti schal. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 47 Þer wonys þat worþyly I wot & wene. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 771 But quhethir scho..Wenit, or vist it vitterly, It fell eftir all halely As scho said. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1559 Wot ye well and not wene, Whan eyther of hem had other sene, Smertely rerid her dede. 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 69 Before I ween'd, but now I wat.

g. *elliptic.* or *absol.* Usually with adv. or conj. (*as, than, when*, etc.).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 2 Uton healdan unc þæt wit ne wenen swa swa þis folc wenð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9826 Annd tatt wass mikell wherrfeddlesȝc þatt dide hemm swa to wenenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 222 Moni þet ne weneð nout bredeð in hire breoste sum llunes hweolp. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 706 Ich am a mad man..Forto wene in þis wise. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 3 Bot þai wene wrang. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 470 Riȝt so rude men..Louen and by-leuen by lettred mennes doynges, And by here wordes and werkes wenen and trowen. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1019, I am wastid wor þan I wend. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 19 Thow art not so wyse as thow weneste. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. v. 189, I know you better than ye wene. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* L (Arb.) 45 Which is an opinion not so trewe, as some men weene. 1601 *Song of Mary* in FARR *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) 432 Farre more they be than we can weene. 1625 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* Nativ. x. (1629) 90 And sure, the way is not readie to hit;..It is but a foolish imagination, so to ween of it. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. viii. 26 If haply right I ween. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xxi, Even our good chaplain, as I ween, Since our last siege we have not seen. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *House of Clouds* viii, Named as Fancy weeneth.

h. used parenthetically (esp. in *I ween*) rather than as governing the sentence. In verse often a mere tag.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* I. 257 Elles of þisse teres schadde þe apostel leste ich were [L. *fudit fortasse apostolus*] þa þe he seiðe [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Nis, ich wene, no mon þet [etc.]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 655 Þre dayes þer-biforn, I wene, Ete he no mete. *c* 1400 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 278 Of royall rychesse wantyd she noone I wene. *c* 1500 *Nut-Brown Maid* xxviii, Ye shape some wyle, me to beguile, and stale fro me I wene. 1564 ANNE LADY BACON tr. *Jewel's Apol.* (1859) 47 And do all they themselves, ween you, agree well together? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 741 Nor turnd I weene Adam from his fair Spouse. 1784 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iv, He, I ween, is no sacred personage. 1787 BURNS *Humble Petit. Bruar Water* iii, A panegyric rhyme, I ween, Even as I was he shor'd me. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* iii, See what tidings that horn tells us of—to announce, I ween, some hership and robbery. 1833 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. v, And never, I ween well, had she greater need of true friends than now. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Ingol. Penance* 8 A stalwart knight, I ween, was he. *a* 1873 DEUTSCH *Lit. Rem.* (1874) 251 There will be a greater harvest still, we ween.

2. In regard to what is future or contingent: To expect, anticipate, count on; to surmise, suspect; to think possible or likely. *Const.* object-clause, with or without *that*, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 10 Þa he þær mæst comon wendon þæt hiȝ sceoldon mare onfon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 178 Ne wene non of hele liue þet heo ne beo itempted. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2045 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 165 Wenst þou þat ichulle fleo? *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 384 Who wolde haue wend þat yn so lytel a þrowe Fortune oure loye wolde han ouerþrowe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 210 My lif wend I thair suld be gane. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 182 [He] gafe the sauf condyt, wenand it wald be obeyde. 15.. *Freiris of Berwik* 246 Quha wenit that ȝe sa lait wald haif cum hame? 1535 *Goodly Primer* P ij, I had wente that I shulde haue gone to my graue in my beste dayes.

† b. with direct object (sb. or neut. pronoun).

In OE. the object is in the genitive. So (rarely) in early ME.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 51 Ȝif we ane hwile beoþ on hwylcum earfoþum þær we ures feores ne wenaþ. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Lamb. Hom.* 187 Nai soþes nai. Ne wene hit neuer no mon. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 161 in *O. E. Misc.* 118 Monymon wenep þat he wene ne þarf, longes lyues. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* (and version) 650 Ac þanne þu hid lest wenest þe luþere þe biswiket. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10128 Prophecies com al to end, Quen Iues alþerlest it wend. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 317 Whan William was comen, & wende no treasoun, Sone was he nomen, & don in prisoun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 81 Thei that wende pees Tho myhten finde no reles Of thilke sword which al devoureth. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1973 So nere hys herte the sorowe sought All-moste hys lyffe wolde no man wene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. ii. 38 Ȝour first reskew..Furth of a Gregioun cetie sall be schaw, Quhilk thow lest wenis [L. *quod minime reris*].

Prov. c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 400 Hym thar nat wene wel that yuele dooth. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 227 (Scottish Proverbs) He that evil does, never good weines.

c. With inf., present or perfect, with or without *to* († *for to*, † *till*): To expect, hope, wish; to purpose, intend, be minded.

Beowulf 933 Ðæt wæs unȝeara, þæt ic æniȝra me weana ne wende..bote ȝebidan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1140, Eustace..wende to biȝæton Normandi þær þurh. *c* 1205 LAY. 1848 Þa heo best wende to fleonne, þa weoren heo fale. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 814 He [the fox] wende oþre hunde at wrenche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6853 Your fass þat yow winnes [*v. r.* wenis] witstand Sal haue na might o fote and hand. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5098 In-to Egipte þen schiped he, ffor wel wend he þer siker haue be. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 50, I wend neuir till here that of the I 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. vi. 83, I lytel wende to haue met with yow at this sodayne auenture. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 17 b, A colde sweat brake out, so that he wened to dye straght waye. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 41 And ramping on his shield, did weene the same Haue reft away with his sharpe rending clawes. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 88 Thy Father..Leuied an Army, weening to redeeme, And haue install'd me in the Diademe. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Macc.* v. 21 Weening in his pride to make the land nauigable. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 86 They weend That self same day by fight, or by surprise To win the Mount of God. 1803 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* II. xxix, Ye ween to hear a melting tale, Of two true lovers in a dale. 1854 J. S. BLACKIE in *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 666 Beyond the bounds of earth to fly Impious he weened.

d. ellipt. with adv. (e. g. *least*), or conj. (*ere, sooner, than*, etc.), instead of inf. or object-clause.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 2 Þonne hy læst wenaþ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 50 Þonne cymþ ðæs weles hlaford on þam dæȝe ðe he na ne wenþ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 222 Ich chulle ..worpen hire oðere half, & breden uerliche adun er he lest wene. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9471 As he stod, er he lest wende, He was schot to dede. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1376 That may fal soner than som wenes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 23 And wis menis etling cumis nocht Till sic end as thai weyn alwayis. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* V. 211 And heer an ende, er then y wende, y fynde. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiii. 31 What houre we wene not þe sonne of man shal come. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 62 Quhen ȝe leist wein, ȝour baks may to the wall. 1814 CARY *Dante, Purg.* XXXI. 53 Round I turned With purpose of my lady to inquire..But answer found from other than I weened.

† 3. With neut. adj. or adv. and prep.: To think (much or highly) *of*; to feel or be affected *towards*; to trust *in*. Also without const. (cf. *overween*). *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Þanne þe man wenþ more of him-selue þanne he sceolde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 109 Whan he most in his strengthe wende. *Ibid.* 222 Bot wolde god that grace sende, That toward me my lady wende As I towardes hire wene I 1563 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 125 He winneth not most abroad that weeneth most at-home.

† 4. *intr.* with *of*, *for*: To dream of, look for, expect. *Obs.*

1589 *Martins Months Minde* E 2 b, Howbeit, it was not that so well, as they do ween for, (being perhappes reserued for his two sonnes hereafter). 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, V. i. 136 Weene you of better lucke, I meane in periur'd Witnesse, than your Master, Whose Minister you are..?

5. In renderings of certain Latin words. † a. *trans.* To esteem, respect; to reckon or esteem equal *to*.

c 1000 *Lamb. Psalter* LXXXVII. 3 *Aestimatus sum cum descendentibus in lacum*, ȝewened ic eom mid nyþerastiȝendum to seaðe. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* LXXXVII. 3, I am wened

in ilka land To þas þat ere in flosche falland. *Ibid.* cxliii. 3 Lauerd, whilk es..sone of man, for þou weenest him [Vulg. *quia reputas eum*]?

†b. To impute (an offence) *to* (a person). *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxi. 2 Sell man to wham noght wenes hauerd sinne [Vulg. *cui non imputavit Dominus peccatum*].

†6. In impersonal use. Only in the absol. pres. pple. *weening* = it seeming, as (because, since) it seemed (*to* some one). *Const.* clause (usually with *that*) or inf. *Obs.*

c 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xxxiii. 42 For þat same had he do or þis tyme had not Valery sent him owt of þe weye, wenyng to many men þat he schuld not sone come a-geyn. c 1470 Gregory *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 234 Wenyng unto the thevys that the boxys hadde ben sylvyr ovyt gylt, but was but copyr. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 92 Wherof they were sore aferde.., wenyng to them that it had be the deuyl. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. cclxv. 391 They came..to a village called Puiernon, and toke their lodgynge, wenyng to them to be in surety. *Ibid.* ccclxxxv. 632 Ye duke and his went to Berwyk, wenyng to the duke to haue entred into the towne;..but the capitane of the towne ..refused to him the entre, and closed the gates agaynst hym and his. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 233 Aiax..in his madnesse..slewe a greate noumbre of theim, weenyng to hym that he had slain Ulysses and his coumpaignie. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 276 The commons of Roane and of Beuioys.. sodainely met with the Englishe Marshallas, wenyng to them they had bene Frenchmen.

Weend(e, obs. forms of Wend *v.*, to go.

†Wee·ner. *nonce-wd.* [f. Ween *v.* + -er 1.] One who weens; *easy weener*, a credulous person.

For an earlier doubtful instance see quot. c 1430 s. v. Weaver 1 2.

1604 Edmonds *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* vi. v. 13 The inconuenience of ouer light credulitie, leading such easie weeners to a disappointment of their hopes.

Wee·ness. *rare.* [f. Wee *a.*] Smallness.

1880 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s. v.

Weening (wi·nin), *vbl. sb. Obs.* or *arch.* [f. Ween *v.* + -ing 1. Cf. OHG. *anawânunga* 'existimatio', *piwânunga* 'deliberatio', MHG. *wænunge*, *wenunge*(*e*, G. *wähnung*.]

1. The action of thinking, supposing, expecting, etc. In ME. often = mere opinion, surmise or suspicion (as opposed to certain knowledge).

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xix. (MS. Ca.) Þæt heo ða wenunge ær nyhstan ðurhteah. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7423 Þer wenyng þat day þey tynt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 213 Hit is ope substance, þet is, uirtuous and substanciel aboue vnderstondinge and wenynge. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 33 Wenynge is no wysdome ne wyse ymagynacioun. 1397 *Rolls of Parl.* III. 370/2 It was my menyng and my wenyng for to have do the best. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2602 Hit is but foly and wrong wenyng To aske so outrageous a thyng. c 1420 *Pross Life Alex.* 36 Ze wende hafe done till vs as 3our eldirs didde sumtyme till kynge 3erses, bot 3our wenyng dessayued 3ow. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 22 An old Proverbe, In a Bushell of weenings, Is not found one handfull of Cunninge. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* 2 Surmountyng the imperfection of coniecture, weenyng and opinion. 1625 Gill *Sacr. Philos.* i. 96 These upstart weenings are so witlesse, as they are false. a 1633 G. Herbert *Outlandish Prov.* 811 Weening is not measure. 1652 H. Bell *Luther's Colleg. Mensalia* 225 A Preacher..should..not build upon a weening,..but must bee sure of the Caus. a 1761 Law *Behmen's Myst. Magn.* xl. (1765) 231 It lies not in any Mans own willing, weening, running, or going to will.

†b. Phrases. *To be at* or *in weening*: to be in a state of uncertainty or expectation. *To* (*one's*) *weening*: to the best of one's belief. *To put in weening*: to make (a person) think or believe. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 595 in *O. E. Misc.* 54 As heo stode and speken and weren at wenynge Of vre louerdes aryste and fele oþer þinge. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 765 Sen thai ar in sic venyng, Forouten certane vitting. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlvi. (*Anastace*) 184 As he wend he had done til his wenyng Inuch. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. cviii. (1869) 57 Vn yrened j took it thee, for to my weenynge thou shuldest bere it the bettere. c 1440 *Partonope* 8588 Ye haue chose some new thinge, And wolde put me in wenyng That it were for good Partonope. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xvii. (Arb.) 42 Nay I shal brynge you out of wenyng and shewe it you by good wytnes.

†2. Arrogant opinion, self-conceit. *Obs.* Cf. *overweening*.

1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 88 Temporall riches bring with them pride and wening to him that hath them. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1016 Yong gentlemen..filled with a great weening and opinion of themselves.

†Wee·ning, *ppl. a. Obs.* [-ing 2.]

1. That weens or thinks; cogitative.

c 1382 Chaucer *Boeth.* iii. pr. x. (1886) 72 Yif so be þat this good be in hym by nature, but that it is diuers fro hym by wenynge resoun [*sed ratione diversum*].

2. Self-conceited, arrogant, overweening.

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* ix. 465 The Swizzers being of nature proude and weening, became more raysed and lifted vp in minde by the estimation that others had of them.

Weenong (wī·nɒŋ). [Jav. *winong*.] The Javanese name for the tree *Tetrameles nudiflora*.

a 1838 Horsfield in J. J. Bennett *Pl. Javan. Rariores* 80 Weenong of the Javanese. It is a large tree. I found it in full flower..in 1815. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Tetrameles*. This tree is the Jungle-bendy of India, and the Weenong of Java.

Weent, var. Went *sb. Obs.*

Weeny (wī·ni), *a. dial.* and *colloq.* Also 8 **weny**, 9 **weany**. [f. Wee, with ending imitated from Tiny, Teeny *a.*2] Very small, tiny. Also *teeny-weeny* (see Teeny *a.*2).

1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Wee and weny*, very small. North. 1833 *Christmas Improvement* lii. (1842) 40 Such a little tiny weeny pill can never cure such a great big headache as I have got. 1876 *Mr. Gray & Neighbours* II. 140 You have to keep her head the tinyest, weanyest bit in the world to the nor-east. 1911 C. Beadle *City of Shadows* vii, The cupid bow of a mouth opened just the weeniest bit. 1922 W. J. Locke *Tale of Triona* ii. 23 They're little tiny weeny shells.

Weep (wīp), *sb.* Also 3 **woep**, **weop**, 3, 4 **wep**, 3–6 **wepe**, 6 **weepe**. [f. Weep *v.* Cf. Wope.]

†1. Weeping, lamentation. *To burst a-weep*: to burst out weeping. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 21991 Þe iherde þeosne weop [cf. *wop* ibid. 5970, 15066]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2328 He..brozte hem bi-for Iosep Wid rewell lote, and sorwe, and wep. a 1300 in *Anecd. Lit.* (1844) 90 Al the blisse of thisse live Thou shalt, mon, henden in woep. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5702 For comunlych afyyr wepe, Fal men sone on slepe. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7871 (Laud MS.), Michel weep, mychel waylyng. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 408 She bygan to brest a wep a-noon. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 20496 (Trin.) Whil she mened þus hir mone Wiþ wepe [*other texts* weping] & sorwes mony one. 1512 *Holyas* in Thoms *Pr. Rom.* (1858) III. 116 The which in weepe piteously bewayled her good spouse. 1545 *Hen. VIII's Primer, Lauds* C iij b, Deuout prayer, meynt with wepe, Suffreth not the hart to slepe.

b A fit or bout of weeping.

Also in 'Hence these weeps', a burlesque alteration of 'Hence these tears'.

1836 C. Shaw *Mem.* etc. (1837) II. 574, I had nothing else for it, but in the middle of the night to go aside and have a very hearty weep by myself. 1876 J. P. Struthers in *Life & Lett.* iv. (1918) 49 But those days are gone. Hence these weeps. 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, *Mare's Nest* 43 There was a scene—a weep or two—With many kisses.

2. An exudation, percolation, or sweating of moisture.

1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 213/2 Weeps which in iron would speedily be stopped by the natural operation of rust, go on in copper indefinitely, working their way like worms in wood. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Weep*, exudation, sweat, as of a gum-tree. 1901 *Oxf. Times* 2 Mar. 3/4 The water..did not come by any jets or spouts..but by simple oozes or weeps or whatever term they used to describe what took place.

3. Comb.: †**weep-drop**, a drop of moisture like a tear; **weep-hole**, an opening through which water percolates or drips.

1509 Fisher 7 *Penit. Ps.* ii. Wks. (1876) 120 A mannes brethynge whan it toucheth ony thynge that is colde as yren or glasse, anone it is resolued in to wepe droppes of water. 1851 *Colon. Mag.* July 8 The water..filters through the red sand, running through 'weep holes' made of brick, into a reservoir.

Weep (wīp), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wept** (wept). Forms: a. *Inf.* 1 wǽpan, wépan, 2–3 **wepen**, (*Orm.* -enn), 3 **weopen**, 3–6 **wepe**, (3 **weape**), 4 **wipe**, **weope**, 3–4 **wep**, (5 **wepyn**, **wape**), 5–8 *Sc.* **weip**, 6 *Sc.* **veip**, **vepe**, 6–7 **weepe**, (7 **weap**), 7– **weep**. *Pa. t.* 1 wéop, 2–4 **weop**, 3 **weap**, **wiep**, 3–4 **wep**, **wop**, 3–5 **wepe**, (4 **weep**, **wip**, 5 **wippe**); 3 **wepude**, 4 **wepped**, 4–5 **weped**, (4 **wepid**, **wepet**), 4–6 **wepit**, (4 **weppit**, 5 **wepput**, 6 *Sc.* **weipit**, **vepit**), 6–9 **weeped**, 4– **wept**. *Pa. pple.* 1 wópen, 4 **wopen**, 1–**wepe**, 4 **wepen**; 4 **wepid**, 8 **weeped**; 4 **ywept**, **wepte**, 7 **weept**, 4– **wept**. [A Com. Teut. vb., prob. originally weak, but in WGer. assimilated to the reduplicating conjugation: OE. *wépan* (pa. t. *wōp*) corresponds to OFris. *wēpa* to cry aloud (str. pa. pple. *wōpin*, *-en*), OS. *wōpian* to bewail (pa. t. *weop*), OHG. *wuofan* to bewail, pa. t. *wuof* (MHG. *wuofen*, pa. t. *wief*), also OHG. *wuoffen*, pa. t. *wuofita* (MHG. *wüefen*, pa. t. *wüefte*), ON. *ópa* (pa. t. *épta*) to scream, shout (whence ME. Epe *v.*), Goth. *wōpjan* to cry aloud, call; f. the OTeut. **wōpo-* represented in OE. *wōp* masc., weeping (see Wope), OS. *wōp* masc., lamentation, OHG., MHG. *wuof* masc., lamentation, ON. *óp* neut., cry. Outside Teut. no certain cognates are known.

The weak inflexion first appears in the 13th c., and became prevalent in the 14th.]

I. *intr.*

1. To manifest the combination of bodily symptoms (instinctive cries or moans, sobs, and shedding of tears) which is the natural, audible, and visible expression of painful (and sometimes of intensely pleasurable) emotion; also, and in mod. use chiefly, to shed tears (more or less silently).

In mod.English somewhat rare in non-literary use, being superseded by *cry*; recently a sense of the inappropriateness of that verb as applied to silent manifestations seems to have in some degree revived the colloquial currency of *weep* in the sense 'to shed tears'.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. xiv. (1890) 198 He ongon wepan hluttrum tearum. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 75 And he eode ut & weop [Vulg. *ploravit*] bityrlice. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Nu bi-gon paul to wepen wunderliche, and mihhal heh engel þer weop forþ mid him. c 1205 Lay. 6650 Þer Elidur þe king weop [c 1275 wep] mid his eȝenen. *Ibid.* 28895 Þa stremite gon to weopen. 1297 R. Glouc. 6924 Þe quene wepinde [v.r. wepude] wel sore, þe king ansuerede þis. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14023 Þis womman [Mary Magdalene] wepand on his fete. 1340 *Ayenb.* 93 Ne þet ne is naȝt lyf of man ac of child þet nou wepþ nou lheȝh. 1388 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 249 Þei shulden..wipe wiþ men þat wepen here. c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 244 She was..so pitous She wolde wepe if that she saugh a Mous Kaught in a trappe, if it were deed or bledde. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 570 Scho wippe and hir hondis wronge. c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 30 And a-noon this othir [child] began to crye and wape. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 150 The tyme sall cum that he sall weip and murne. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. i. 143 She..So hangs, and lolls, and weepes vpon me. 1820 — *Temp.* iii. i. 74, I am a foole To weepe at what I am glad of. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 498 Sight so deform what heart of Rock could long Drie-ey'd behold? Adam could not, but wept. 1700 Dryden *Sigism. & G.* 578 Away, with Women weep, and leave me here, Fix'd, like a Man to die, without a Tear. 1788 Miss Burney *Cecilia* iv. i, Mrs. Harrel..had shut herself up in her own room to weep and lament. 1890 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxx. v, 'They rest', we said,..And silence follow'd, and we wept. 1880 Tyndall *Glac.* i. xxv. 191, I could have wept like a child.

b. said of animals.

c 1400 Maundev. (1919) xxxii. 198 Þeise serpentes [sc. crocodiles] slen men & þei eten hem wepynge. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* iii. ii. 282 Let the strucken Deere go weepe. 1612 Webster *White Divel* D 3, Here is a Stag my Lord hath shed his hornes. And for the losse of them the poore beast weepes. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* vi. 167 The Indian elephant is known sometimes to weep. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 361 Man..is..affected with the inclination to weep more than any other animal.

c. Const. *for*, *over*, †*on* (a person or thing regretted or commiserated).

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 30 July 132 Þa weop eall Romana dugoð for þære dæde. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 28 Nallaþ ȝie woepa ofer mec [Vulg. *super me*] ah ofer iuh seolfo woepaþ. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 He iseh Martham and Mariam Magdalene þe sustren wepe for hore broðer deð. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 He weop oðe rode, & o Lazre, & o Jerusalem. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4149, .xxx. daiȝes wep Israel for his dead. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17799 For þar miadeles wepe þai þan. c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* ii. pr. ii. (1868) 35 Paulus ..whan he hadde take þe kyng of perciens weep pitouslyfor þe captiuitee of þe self kyng. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xix. 41 He seynge the citee, wepte on it [Vulg. *flevit super illam*]. a 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 32 Þen for Ion segh mony wepe for hyr, Ion sayde to hyr: Drusyan, ryse vp. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ii. 25 The prophet hieremye vepit for the stait of the public veil of babillone. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. i. 87 Weepe thou for me in France; I, for thee heere. 1602 — *All's Well* i. i. 3 And I in going Madam, weep ore my fathers death anew. 1623 Cockeram iii. s. v. *Crocodile*, Hauing eaten the body of a man, it [*sc.* a crocodile] will weepe ouer the head, but in fine eate the head also. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 70 ⁋ 8 Instead of weeping over the Wound she had received, as one might have expected from a Warrior of her Sex. 1803 M. G. Lewis *Sir Agilthorne* iv, They who can weep for others' woes, Should ne'er have cause to weep their own. 1827 Carlyle *Ess., Richter* (1840) I. 29 Like him we have long laughed at them or wept for them. 1833 Tennyson *Two Voices* 149 In some good cause ..To perish, wept for, honour'd, known. 1855 — *Maud* i. viii, An angel watching an urn Wept over her, carved in stone. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iv, I knew by that time ..how you had mourned for me, and wept for me.

d. Const. *for* (the emotion that prompts weeping). Similarly with *to* and inf., or a *that*-clause.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6954 Þe bissopes þat hir ladde vor loye wepe al so. a 1352 Minot *Poems* xi. 22 For wo will he wepe. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xx. 237 Thar wes nane in that Cumpany That thai ne wepit for pite. c 1420 *Anturs of Arthur* 360 (Douce MS.) Thus wepus for wo Wowayne þe wighte. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* ii. iii. 12 A Iew would haue wept to haue seene our parting. 1593 — *2 Hen. VI*, iii. ii. 121 Henry weepes, that thou dost liue so long. 1593 — *Rich. II*, iii. ii. 4, I weepe for ioy To stand vpon my Kingdome once againe. 1648 Herrick *Hesper.*, *To Daffadills* 1 Faire Daffadills, we weep to see You haste away so soone. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 991 So saying, she embrac'd him, and for joy Tenderly wept. 1784 Cowper *Task* vi. 700 Maidens wave Their 'kerchiefs, and old women weep for joy. a 1806 H. K. White *Solitude* vi, I start, and when the vision's flown, I weep that I am all alone. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* iii. i. 104, I have wept for wrath Sometimes and for mere pain, but for love's pity I cannot weep at all.

e. To call †*on*, cry or pray *to* with weeping. *rare.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7822 He wep on god vaste ynou & criede him milce & ore. c 1460 *Merita Missæ* 103 in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 251 And how he dide for the weep To his fader on olywete. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Num.* xi. 13 For they wepe vnto me, saying, Giue vs flesh that we may eat. 1845 Mrs. Norton *Child of Islands* (1846) 43 Then sweet St. Mary stands in her recess, Worshipped and wept to, as a thing divine.

f. Phr. *To weep one's fill* or *bellyful.*

a 1250 *S. Eustace* 293 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 215 Ich habbe I-wopen al mine fille. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xi. 28–31 They folowed hir: suspectyng that.. she woulde haue gooen to the graue, and there to wepe hir belly full. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, ii. v. 113 He beare thee hence, where I may weepe my fill.

g. Proverbial expressions.

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 28 Nale good childe, better children wepe then olde men. 1626 T. Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 23 It is better that children weepe, then old men. [1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* ii. ii. 122 But man..Plaies such phantastique tricks before high heauen, As makes the Angels weepe.] 1899 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xliii, To see a young fellow like that..only ripe for the gallows at five-and-twenty, is enough to make the angels weep. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* xii, Ye Gods! it is a sight to make the angels ——.

2. Phrases. †*To weep Irish*: to weep unfeelingly, as a professional mourner weeps at an Irish wake. *To weep with* (or *over*) *an onion*: fig. to weep with feigned grief.

1586 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* viii. 44/2 in *Holinshed*, They follow the dead corpse to the graue with howling and barbarous outcries, pitifull in apparance: whereof grew, as I suppose, the prouerbe: To weepe Irish [orig. *Hibernice lacrimari*]. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iv b, Ile make thee to

forget Bishops English, and weep Irish. 1690 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xii. § 15. 247 Surely the Egyptians did not weep-Irish with feigned and mercenary teares. 1881 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1305 To weep Irish, or to feign sorrow. [1602 Shaks. *All's Well* v. iii, 321 Mine eyes smell Onions, I shall weepe anon.] 1816 *Withals' Dict.* 557 *Flere ad aquarum tumultum*, to weepe with an Onion. 1882 T. G. Bowles *Flotsam & Jetsam* 144 Here again is..the Vicomte weeping ruefully over the strongest onion that ever man sliced.

8. Of the eyes: To shed tears.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 16 And wowis vaine, quhilk thay did neuer keip. Sall gar thame gnasche thair teith, & eyis weip. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 59 (Qo. 1600) Titus, prepare thy aged eyes to weepe. 1780 Cowper *Boadicea* iii, Princess! if our aged eyes Weep upon thy matchless wrongs, 'Tis because [etc.]. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxii, 'Twas an hero's eye that weep'd. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* viii, Her eyes are always weeping for the loss of her beauty. 1872 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxi. 85 Her innocent Eyes do weep to be going.

b. *fig.* of the heart. (Cf. 6 b.)

13.. *Adam Davy's Five Dreames* 64 Myne herte wop for grete drede. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 163 The other sorte..Do make my harte wepe whan they come to my mind. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 335 My heart weepes to see him So little, of his great Selfe. 1796 *Let. to Cowper* in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 32 My heart wept for thee..with the tenderest solicitude for thy welfare.

4. *transf.* Of things: To shed water or moisture in drops; to exude drops of water. Also, to waste *away* in drops.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 3 The preost..selde þat þere come nevere reyn .i but the trees hadde i-wope in þe eclipses of þe sonne and of þe moone. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) vii. 78 And there besyde ben 4 Pileres of Ston, that alle weys droppen Watre: and sum men seyn, that thei wepen for our Lordes Dethe. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 75 Clayes wepe Vncerteynly, whos teres beth right swete. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xv. 1 3e Montaines, murne; 3e valayis, wepe. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokesh.* (1891) 78 In these buildinges you shall finde..all the walles of the house to be all weapinge and covered with streames of water. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* II. ii. 168 When all our Offices haue beene opprest With riotous Feeders, when our Vaults have wept With drunken spilth of Wine. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 126, I saw..Women..waiting the distilling of Water from its [the tank's] dewy sides; which they catch in Jarrs, and ..carrying it away, leave it only weeping. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 23 If you lay dung on a sandy or rocky ground ..it will be weeping away. 1732 P. Miller *Gard. Kalendar* (1762) 280 Where..resinous trees..require some of their branches to be cut off, this is the best season..for now they are not so subject to weep. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxxv, The birch-trees wept in fragrant balm. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II. xxvii. 501 The sky ceased to weep, and the vail of clouds was withdrawn. 1909 *Engl. Rev.* Mar. 617 Within the forest nought weeps save the rain.

b. To issue in drops; to trickle or fall as tears. Also with *out*.

1596 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 58 The blood weepes from my heart, when I doo shape [etc.]. 1739 [S. Berington] *G. De Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 173 Gold..comes oftentimes in great lumps from the Mineral Rocks, as if it wept out from between the joints. 1828 Spearman *Brit. Gunner* 340 The water will continue to weep or run from the holes. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 3 May 5/3 There would evidently have been some difficulty in keeping the tunnel clear of water, which 'wept' into the heading at the rate of 447 gallons a minute. *fig.* 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VI. 251 Down thro' her limbs a drooping languor wept. 1872 — *Gareth & Lynette* 213 Barefoot..The Lady of the Lake stood; all her dress Wept from her sides as water flowing away.

c. Of a boiler, etc.: To allow small drops of water to percolate or trickle through; to leak in drops from a joint or rivet.

1869 Sir E. Reed *Shipbuild.* i. 12 Every rivet being tested not one of them was found to weep. 1869 *Daily News* 21 Aug., Nearly all new boilers 'weep' for the first few weeks. 1886 R. C. Leslie *Sea Painter's Log* 31 He will admit, 'she veeps a trifle in her garboards'.

d. Of a sore, etc.: To exude a serous fluid.

1882 *W. Worc. Gloss., Weep*, to run as a sore does. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 843 The fluid escapes just as any raw surface weeps. *Ibid.* VIII. 559 It [i. e. psoriasis] never weeps.

5. To hang limply; to droop. Of a tree: To droop its branches. Cf. Weeping *ppl. a.* 6.

1764 Churchill *Gotham* I. 285 The Willow weeping o'er the fatal wave, Where many a Lover finds a watry grave. 1830 Tennyson *Dying Swan* ii, One willow over the river wept. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 207 Young plants, raised from seeds of the Weeping Ash.., had a tendency to 'weep' in their first branching.

II. *trans.*

6. To shed tears over; to lament with tears.

'*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* x. 61 Đæt ðætte oðre menn unaliefedes dot he aceal wepan sua sua his agne scylde. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxvii. 34 He..weop his sunu lange tide. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 Oððe hwa is swa heard heort þæt ne mæg wepan swylces unzelimpes? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1387 Pi fader sin now wepes he. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9028 Sche wepede wel dyng..for scheo had loued longe byfore þe kyng of Denmark. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VIII. 95 þe monkes come unneþe at þe laste, whan þey had longe i-wope [*v.r.* ywept] þe wrong of her violent out puttynge. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* I. xii. 32 Many..by swetenes of the sauour, are styrred to wayle and to wepe theyr synnes. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 221 His fortunes I will weepe. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* v. N 2, Now they 'gin to weepe The mischiefe they haue done. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 648 Nor was I neer to close his dying Eyes, To wash his Wounds, to weep his Obsequies. *c* 1728 Savage *Epist. to Dyer* 54 My sympathising breast his grief can feel, And my eye weep the wound I cannot heal. 1790 Cowper *Castaway* lx, No post wept him: but the page Of narrative sincere..Is wet with Anson's tear. 1828 Scott *Marm.* v. xvi, A child will weep a bramble's smart. 1828 — *Talism.* xvii, Edith, for whom he dies, will know how to weep his memory. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv. 30 Nor is it Wiser to weep a true occasion lost. 1860 C. Reade *Cloister & Hearth* lxxii. (1896) 209 The princess went barefoot to Loretto, weeping her crime and washing the feet of base born men.

fig. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Vertue* i, Sweet day,..The dew shall weep thy fall to night, For thou must die.

7. To let fall from the eyes, to shed (tears).

The object is freq. expressed by a synonym, as *water, drop, brine*, or a hyperbolic term, as *flood, sea, rain*, etc.

To weep crocodile tears: to feign grief (see Crocodile 2).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 65 Þat þridde þing..is wop þe we for ure synnes wepeð. *Ibid.* 149 Swiche teares wiep þe holie spuse uppen hire spus. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 44 þenne Ron Repentaunce and Rehersed þis teeme, And made William to weope watur with his eyen. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 941 Sithen þat þow hast wopen [*v.r.* wepen] many a drope. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 33 Thou shin'st in euery teare that I doe weepe. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 84 When we vowe to weepe seas. 1612 *Two Noble K.* I. iii. 25 Women That haue sod their Infants in..The brine, they wept at killing 'em. 1632 Milton *Epit. March. Winchester* 56 Here be tears of perfect moan Weept for thee in Helicon. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 620 Tears such as Angels weep, burst forth. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 519 The wretch..Has wept a silent flood, revers'd his ways, Is sober, [etc.]. 1819 Keats *Lamia* II. 66 She..wept a rain Of sorrows at his words. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* xxv, All tears had been wept out of her long ago. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxix, The eyes of Nero had to weep crocodile tears.

b. *fig.* Of the heart, or a wound: *To weep* (*tears of*) *blood.*

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 1054 His soft flanke, whose wonted lillie white With purple tears that his wound wept, was drencht. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* III. ii. (1607) F 4 b, My heart Weepes bloud, in anguish. 1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iii. 49 His wound (yet sore) That grieu'd, it could weepe blood for him no more. ? *a* 1634 ? Chapman *Rev. for Hon.* iv. i. (1659) 48 My heart weeps tears of blood, to see thy age thus like a lofty pine fall. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XIII. 160 My heart weeps blood to see your glory lost!

†**c.** *To weep millstones*: cf. Millstone 2 b.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 245 *Clarence.* Bid Glouster thinke on this, and he will weepe. *1st Murderer.* I Millstones, as he lessoned vs to weepe. [Cf. *Ibid.* I. iii. 354 Your eyes drop Mill-stones, when Fooles eyes fall Teares.]

d. To declare, express, utter with lamentation. Also with *forth*. *rare* (chiefly *poet.*).

1599 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* v. (1602) H 3, Ile weepe my passion to the senseless trees. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 559 Leontes opening his free Armes, and weeping His Welcomes forth. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 347 Both chain'd togeather..complaining and weeping their sorrowes to those walles. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* III. ii, The poor woman wept her thanks. 1790 Cowper *On Receipt Mother's Picture* 31, I..drew A long, long sigh, and wept a last adieu! 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 24 'My fault' she wept 'my fault! and yet not mine'.

8. quasi-*trans.* with adv. or compl. **a.** in phrases expressing excessive or prolonged weeping; esp. *to weep out one's eyes* or *heart.*

c 1290 *St. Lawrence* 40 In *S. Eng. Leg.* 341 That hadde so much i-wope That he weop out both is eiyene. 1602 Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 90 O I could weepe My Spirit from mine eyes. 1630 *Pathomachia* v. iv. 44, I haue wept out mine Eyes for Griefe, I cannot read. 1688 Prior *Ode Exod. iii. 14* viii, Weep out thy Reason's, and thy Body's Eyes. 1887 F. M. Crawford *Saracinesca* vi, It seemed unspeakably pathetic to hear her weeping her heart out.

b. To bring (oneself, another, etc., into a specified state or condition) by weeping. Const. *into, to*, or with adj. complement.

1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 14 Why my Grandam hauing no eyes, looke you, wept her selfe blinde at my parting. 1605 — *Mach.* IV. iii. 2 Let vs seeke out some desolate shade, and there Weepe our sad bosomes empty. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* I. 1 'And Joseph fell upon his fathers face' as willing to have wept him alive again, if possible. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 108 Weeping her selfe into a stone fountaine. 1818 Shelley *Rosalind & Helen* 363 But now—'twas the season fair and mild When April has wept itself into May. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 116 She wept her true eyes blind for such a one. 1891 *Temple Bar* Dec. 600 Phil wept herself to sleep in her sister's arms.

c. with advs. *To weep* (a thing) *back*: to recover it by weeping. *To weep out*: to remove, put out, extinguish, by weeping; also, to expend (one's life) in weeping. *To weep down*: to weep until the setting of (the sun).

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. i. 48 The senceless Brands will sympathize The heauie accent of thy mouing Tongue, And in compassion weepe the fire out. 1595 — *John* IV. iii. 105, I lou'd him, and will weepe My date of life out, for his sweete liues losse. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 111 *Men.* Pompey doth this day laugh away his Fortune. *Eno.* If he do, sure he cannot weep't backe againe. 1626 Chapman *Mons. D'Olive* I. i, He like a mortified hermit clad, Sits weeping out his life. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxvi. 453 As it is with the eye when anything offends it, it cannot leave twinkling and watering till it have wept it out. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XXI. 240 Thus had their joy wept down the setting Sun.

d. esp. *To weep away*: (*a*) to spend, consume in tears and lamentation; (*b*) to remove or wash *away* with tears of commiseration. (Said also of the tears.)

(*a*) 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. i. 113 Since that my beautie cannot please his eie, Ile weepe (what's left away) and weeping die. 1599 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v. vi, Ile weepe away my braine In true affections teares. 1709 Addison *Italy* 2 Mary Magdalene..is said to have wept away the rest of her Life among these solitary Rocks. 1839 Thirlwall *Visions* 734 Nothing left But into some low cave to crawl, and there..weep my life away.

(*b*) 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* v. iii, My father managed his affliction otherwise;..he neither wept it away, as the Hebrews and the Romans—or slept it off. 1819 Peard *Austrolasia* 262 And the mild Charity which day by day Weeps every wound and every stain away.

9. To shed (moisture or water) in drops; to exude (a liquid, etc.). Also *to weep forth.*

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 47 Ormus Iland, has no fresh water, save what the fruitfull Clouds weepe ouer her, in sorrow of her desolation. 1652 Bruce *New Disc.* P 79 Celandin weepeth a golden juice. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 248 Groves whose rich Trees wept odorous Gumms and Balme. *Ibid.* IX. 1003 Skie lowr'd, and muttering Thunder, som sad drops Wept at compleating of the mortal Sin. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 328 Cut a vine in January..you shall find it weep forth a deal of insipid water. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* IV. 35 The Knotted Oaks shall show'rs of Honey weep. 1705 Pope *Spring* 62 And trees weep amber on the banks of Po. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. ix, Forgetful that its branches grew Where weep the heavens their holiest dew On Alpine's dwelling low. 1880 Tennyson *Tithonus* 2 The vapours weep their burthen to the ground. 1879 *Edinb. Med. Jrnl.* Dec. 514 The surface of the..integument had been weeping a bloody sanies for three days.

Weep, obs. var. Wype *dial.*, lapwing.

†**Weepable**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Weep *v.* + -able.] Deplorable, lamentable.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xvi. 86 Bi this now seid cause bifille the rewful and wepeable destruccion of the worthi citee and vniuersite of Prage. *c* 1456 — *Bk. Faith* Prol. (1909) 110 For which so bireweable and wepeable perel whiche the clergie may se in the lay party, which ouȝte [etc.].

Weepe, obs. form of Wipe *v.*

Weepentack, obs. f. Wapentake.

1676 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westmorld. Antiq. Soc.* (N.S.) XX. 247.

Weeper (wī·pəɹ). [f. Weep *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who weeps or sheds tears, *esp.* one who is constantly weeping; also one who has tears at command.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 142 Crist chese to him wepers; & þei chesen to hem myrye syngers. 1382 Wyclif *Judg.* iii. 5 The name of that place [Bochim] is clepid, of wepers, or of terys. [Similarly in 1611 *marg.*] *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 46 Seynte marie..do fauour to weperes. 1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 124 To make the weeper laugh, the laugher weepe. 1646 Crashaw *Steps to Temple* 1 The Weeper. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* x. 46 Laughter is easie; but the Wonder is, What stores of Brine supplyd the Weepers Eyes. 1735 Craig tr. *Veda's Past.* i. (1736) 267 Thus, while he sigh'd and dropt a tender Tear, The Heifers.. Nor Crystal Brooks, nor sprouting Grass regard, So much they in the Weeper's Sorrow shar'd. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xi. III. 230 My first wife was a weeper, Ma'am; and I *did* hope to have escaped a second. However, it seems you are come of a crying family. 1842 C. Whitehead *R. Savage* xii, Had I been at any time of my life a weeper and wailer. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. vii. 212 Cowper's tears..never..suggest that the weeper is proud of his excessive tenderness.

b. *spec.* A hired mourner at a death-bed or funeral.

1412–20 Lydg. *Troy Bk.* IV. 3062 It neded hem no wepers for to here,—þei hadde I-nowe of her owne stoor. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 835 With wepers to þe erth yow hym bryng. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balsac's Lett.* I. 386 At funerals in Paris, weepers are usually hired for money. 1714 Swift *Poems, In Sickness* 23 Ye formal Weepers for the Sick. 1824 Morier *Adv. Hajji Baba* xxv, Leilah, who is a professed weeper at burials. 1895 Petrie *Egypt. Tales* Ser. I. 115 The weepers crouching at the door of thy tomb shall cry aloud the prayers for offerings.

c. One of a number of little images in niches on a funeral monument, representing mourners.

1656 Dugdale *Antiq. Warw.* 354, xiv Images embossed, of Lords and Ladyes in divers vestures, called Weepers, to stand in housings made about the Tombe. 1790 Pennant *Lond.* 64 The sides [of the tomb] are..embellished with figures of mourners, *pleureurs*, or weepers, frequently in monastic habits. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxiii. (ed. 3) 388 Eight compartments, each of them having a canopied effigy or 'weeper'. 1912 J. S. M. Ward *Brasses* 85 A magnificent canopy with figures either of saints or of 'weepers' in niches.

d. *Ch. Hist.* One of the lowest class of penitents (προσκλαίοντες, *flentes*) in the early Eastern Church.

1841 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 132/2 That abject class of penitents, mentioned in ancient ecclesiastical canons as mourners, kneelers, and weepers,..who, covered with sackcloth and ashes, were enjoined to perform penance in the open air. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 486/1.

2. The Capuchin monkey (*Cebus capucinus*) of South America. Also *weeper sai, capuchin, monkey.* Cf. F. *singe pleureur* and Bewailer 2.

1781 Shellie *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 174 The sai, which some travellers have called the weeper, is somewhat larger than the sajou. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quad.* I. 204 Weeper monkey. 1881 Helen M. Williams tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* V. 532 Those bearded monkeys called *capuchins*, which must not be confounded with the weeper or sai. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 417/1 One of the most common species is the Weeper (*Cebus Apella*). 1894 H. O. Forbes *Hanitsch. Primates* I. 216 When sleeping the Weeper Çai curls itself up, covering its face with its arms and tail.

3. A conventional badge of mourning. Usually *pl.* **a.** A strip of white linen or muslin formerly worn on the cuff of a man's sleeve. Cf. F. *pleureuse.*

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6255/2 All..being enjoyned to appear ..in long black Cloaks, Cambrick Bands, Chamoy Shoes, Weepers, &c. 1746 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 1 Aug., I.. was assisted by the sight of the Marquis of Lothian in

weepers for his son who fell at Culloden. 1760–6 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xcvi, Our merry mourners clap bits of muslin on their sleeves, and these are called *weepers*. 1827 HOOD *True Story* 115 There comes some unexpected stroke And hangs a weeper on the cuff. 1892 D. FRASER *Autob.* ii. 4 Our cuffs were covered with white linen 'weepers'.

b. A broad white cuff worn by widows.

1755 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 148 Making 6 shirts ..6 suit double mobs—6 lawn hoods—6 pair weepers. 1786 BURNS *On a Scotch Bard* 25 Auld, cantie Kyle may weepers wear, An' stain them wi' the saut, saut tear. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 47 With weepers she has tipped her sleeve The while she's laughing in it. 1843 THACKERAY *Bluebeard's Ghost* in *Fraser's Mag.* Oct. 413/1 She [the widow] had her beautiful hair confined in crimped caps, and her weepers came over her elbows. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xix, Mrs. Antrobus..wore very deep and very wide weepers.

c. A long black hat-band formerly worn by men.

1832 STANDISH *Maid of Jaen* 40 The plumes broad floating in the air, And weepers which the followers bear. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xli, My father..tore off the crape weepers, and then threw them on the floor as he walked away. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* I. vi, The undertaker.. was..tying the weepers on the hats.

d. The long black crape veil of a widow.

1880 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. xii, He might cherish the mean project of heightening her grief at his death by leaving her poorly off, in which case she was firmly resolved that she would have scarcely any weeper on her bonnet. 1872 — *Middlem.* lxxx, If anybody was to marry me, flattering himself as I should wear those hijeous weepers..for him.

e. *transf.* A streamer of moss hanging from a tree.

1837 B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* xiv. (1858) 144 The firs were hung with weepers of black-green moss.

4. Usually *pl.* Long flowing side-whiskers as worn by 'Lord Dundreary' (E. A. Sothern) in the play 'Our American Cousin'. So *Dundreary* (or *Piccadilly*) *weepers*.

1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* I. (1912) 4 He wore an immense pair of drooping auburn whiskers, of the kind that used to be called Piccadilly weepers. 1903 *Athenæum* 13 June 760/3 A mid-Victorian Englishman with 'Dundreary weepers'. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 20 June 775/2 Sir James Day was..adorned with the 'weeper'—a form of whisker..at one time a popular forensic compromise between the bare face and the full beard.

5. A hole or pipe in a wall for the escape of dripping water. (Cf. *weep-hole* in WEEP *sb.* 3.)

1890 *N. Y. Tribune* 2 Feb. (Cent.) The eyes with which it [sc. the aqueduct tunnel] weeps are rightly called weepers, being small rectangular openings in the side walls, through which all the water collected and collecting on the outside of the masonry pours into the inside. 1893 G. D. LESLIE *Lett. Marco* xxxvii. 255 A drain-pipe, or what builders term a weeper...The weepers in it are to allow the water from the bank behind it to escape.

Hence **Wee'pered** *a.*, furnished with weepers.

1908 EDITH SOMERVILLE & 'ROSS' *Further Exp. Irish R. M.* ii. 54 John Cullinane, very dusty, and waving a crushed and weepered hat.

† Wee'pful, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WEEP *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of weeping, mournful.

1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xviii. 10 And wepful weiling [L. *flebilis planctus*] of bewepte 3unge childer was herd. [1880 in WORCESTER (citing *Wiclif*), and in later Dicts.]

Weeping (wī'piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEEP *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb in the various senses; an instance of this.

1. The expression or manifestation of sorrow, pain, etc. by shedding tears.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 53 We muʒen michel eðere forðen wepinge þene song. *c* 1275 LAY. 5970 Mochel was þar wepinge. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 600 My sorowe is turned to playnyng And al my laughter to wepyng. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 158 Flodes..of trewest sorow and wepyng. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I. D ij, The great Alexander, hearing a certayne Philosophers oppinion to be that there were infinite worldes, fell in weping. 1573 BEDINGFIELD tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* II. (1576) 16 b, The wepyng of yᵉ heire is the weepynge of one that laugheth vnder a vizar. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Ps.* cxxxvii. 5 There we laid asteeping Our eyes in endlesse weeping For Sions fall. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. vi. 27 Sudden Dejection is the passion that causeth Weeping. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 95 P 3 There is nothing, on these Occasions, so much in their Favour as immoderate Weeping. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. xxxii, Weeping and wailing loud arose. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. i, So must this book begin with tears and weeping. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* xix, Such weeping as he had seen before had been so much a matter of damp white faces, red noses, and hair coming out of curl.

b. With *a* and *pl.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4180 He hurde..Of a womman a deoluol cry & a pitos wepinge. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. ii. (1868) 9 And wiþ þe lappe of hir garment..she driede myn eyen þat were ful of þe wawes of my wepynges. *c* 1440 *Prymer* (1895) 52 [Ps. cxvi. 8] He haþ delyuerld..myn iʒen fro wepingis. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. cccxcvi. 683 Euery day encreased the complayntes, wepynges, and cryes, made to Phylyp Dartuell. 1630 MILTON *Passion* 51 Should I ..Take up a weeping on the Mountains wilde. 1777 THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) II. 51 You seem to hear the groans, weepings, and bewailings, from the dying. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xx, And then what a weeping and a wailing there was!

2. The exudation or dripping of moisture generally; the flow or discharge of humours from the body, of gum, etc. from a tree; also the liquid so falling. Also *fig.* the produce (of the vine).

a 1625 G. S. in Hartlib *Ref. Commw. Bees* 29 The B.. gather out of the weepings of Pine..Trees..abundance, both of Honey and Wax. 1699 W. SALMON *Pharm. Baiocum* (1713) 654 They are good against a Gonorrhœa, Whites, Gleets, Weepings, &c. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 453 The mucous Particles and Steams arising from the Lungs, made a constant weeping of a thin slavery Liquor from the Mouth of the Pipe. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 28 The weepings of the lentiscus and cypress. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Veiled Prophet* 499 Vases, filled with Kishmee's golden wine, And the red weepings of the Shiraz vine. 1877 A. W. BENNETT tr. *Thomé's Bot.* 48 A process on which depends, for example, the 'weeping' of wounded grape-vines. 1889 WELCH *Naval Archit.* x. 118 Any weeping of the rivets or caulking which results, is rectified.

3. The drooping or downward sweep (of hair).

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* viii, The dark soft weeping of her hair.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weeping-match*, *-scene*; **† weeping-dale** = 'vale of tears' (VALE *sb.*1 2 b); **weeping-hole**, an opening through which moisture percolates; **weeping-ripe** *a.*, ready to weep; **† weeping-room**, opportunity for weeping; **† weeping-spot**, a spot or stain where a tear has fallen; **weeping-time, -while**, a time when one weeps or may weep.

c 1400 *Pety Job* 410 in *26 Pol. Poems* 134 In thys wofull wepyng dale, I byde alwey. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 817/2 Holes are left through the wall called '*weeping-holes'. 1903 C. BALD *Indian Tea* vii. (1917) 97 It is imperatively necessary to have weeping holes, to carry off any water which may get behind the building. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xi. 117 They often assemble by concert for a general *weeping-match. 1548 *Llyot's Dict., Lachrymabundus*, ..*weepyng rype. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 174 The King was weeping ripe for a good word. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 172. *a* 1624 FLETCHER *Valentinian* I. iii, Then as Souldiers. they tell their wounds Even weeping ripe they were no more nor deeper. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Pastorall to King* 7 Behold him weeping ripe. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxiv. 534 Ilion Shall finde thee *weeping roomes enow. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 285 Had I not previously been witness to a *weeping-scene of this description, I should certainly have been apprehensive of some disastrous catastrophe. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2370 The *weping spottes in no wise Thei coude with noo craft gete a-way While thei had weth it so many a day. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1907) 191 And of thise three *wepynge tymes speketh holy writte. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 71 Smile, sweet baby, smile, For you will have *weeping-while.

† b. *Anat.*, as *weeping corner* (of the eye); *weeping-flesh*, the lachrymal caruncle; *weeping vein*, the ophthalmic vein. *Obs.*

To ope the weeping vein: to cause weeping. *poet.*

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. iv. 257 b, In the weping corners of the eyes, there groweth a fistula [etc.]. 1616 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* X. 519, I granted, went, and op't the weeping veine In all my men. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* II. i. (1656) 65 The *Veines* which we do usuallie open, are; First the two *Temple-Veines*...Secondlie, we open the two *Eye* or *weeping-Veines*. *Ibid.* II. xv. 494 First let him bloud in the neck and weeping veines. 1656 J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 120 A Haw in the Eye..is discerned from the weeping flesh, because the roots of the Nail ever inclineth most to whitenesse. *Ibid.* 345 An Ulcer of the weeping flesh, namely an Ægylops.

Weeping (wī'piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WEEP *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That weeps. Said of persons, also of the eyes.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* vi. 21 Hi ofslogon..ða wepende cild. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6938 Þe quene was þo vorþ ilad mid moni a wepinde eye Of bissopes & of heyemen. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 14023 (Trin.) Were þis mon prophete so good þis wepynge wommon [*Earlier texts* þis womman wepand] on him wood He auʒte to witen what she were. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 233 The gretnes of godhed was mekely hyd in the lytel body of a weping chylde. 1554 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 145, I bequeath to my nece Mary Gifford..my ringe with the wepinge eie. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers, Mask Mountacute* 164 That so he might be shewed..Unto us all, whose weeping eyes dyd much abhorre the sight. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 53, I feare hee will proue the weeping Phylosopher when he growes old, being so full of vnmannerly sadnesse in his youth. 1627 R. WHITE *Cupid's Banishm.* in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) III. 893 The Weeping Drunkard next. 1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* IV. iv, *Cyd.* More cruel than the Tyger o're his spoil; And falser than the Weeping Crocodile. 1697 — *Æneis* V. 797 Turning to the Sea their weeping Eyes. 1706 ROWE *Ulysses* IV. i, Sadly attentive to the weeping Queen. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 252 P 3 There is something so moving in the very Image of weeping Beauty. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 146 A weeping eye indicates a gentle heart. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 44 Disease, and Sorrow's weeping train. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxv, Edith looked down upon the weeping girl, and once kissed her. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, He had taken leave of his weeping sweetheart. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* III. 124 When men speak of Jeremiah, they think of him as the weeping prophet.

† b. *absol.* Persons weeping. *Obs.*

c 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 84 He..fulbitterly beganne to wepe and with rennyng terys sorofully sobbyd as wepyng doth [L. *ut plorantes solent*].

c. *Weeping monkey*: a name applied to the sapajous. Cf. WEEPER 2.

1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 48 Their name of *Weeping Monkeys* is derived from their plaintive voice.

2. Of the voice, the countenance: Tearful, lachrymose. Of utterances: Accompanied with weeping, tearful. Of emotion: Expressed by weeping.

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* I. xii, Ða..onsendon hi serendwrecan to Rome mid gewritum & wepindre bene [L. *lacrimosis precibus*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) vi. 7 Forðam þe Drihten hyrde mine wependan stefne [Vulg. *vocem fletus mei*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17947 Wiþ wepynge preyere. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* vi. 20 With a wepynge voice [Vulg. *voce lacrimabili*]. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xi. 46 Repentaunce makeþ wepyng moon [= moan]. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1900) 161 For undoubtedlye it is not meete for a Gentle manne to make weeping and laughing faces. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, I. i. 34 Her words yclad with wisedomes Maiesty, Makes me from Wondring, fall to Weeping loyes, Such is the Fulnesse of my hearts content. 1632 LITHGOW

him with weeping gratitude. 1807 POLLOK *Course T.* IX. 156 Bards..bewailed them much, With doleful instruments of weeping song.

3. † **a.** *Weeping tears*, abundant weeping. Rarely in *sing. Obs.*

a 1470 HARDING *Chron.* cxl. x, He shroue hym then vnto abbots three With great sobbyng and hys contricion, And wepyng teares. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 644 The troians toke the body of parys with wepyng teres and bare hit vnto the cyte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. iv. 40 Wyth silk plente of bittir wepand teris. 1580 tr. *J. Fisher's Godly Treat. Benef. Prayer* H 2, With many sighes and aboundaunce of wepyng teares. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1375 Many a dry drop seem'd a weeping teare, Shed for the slaughtred husband by the wife. 1652 C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* i. 7 This Message was receiv'd with weeping teares. *a* 1700 *Pet. Patience* in Halliw. *Yorks. Anthol.* (1851) 359 With weeping tears she did reply, My heart is overwhelm'd with grief. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Weeping-tears*, A very odd pleonasm, but in very common use for excessive sorrow.

b. Falling or issuing in drops like tears. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 79 The Springs on, or near the tops of hills, if weak and weeping, may proceed from rains. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 30 Let India boast her plants, nor envy we The weeping amber or the balmy tree. 1735 J. PRICE *Stone-br. Thames* 6 To empty out the weeping Water and Springs. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Lucern*, Except it be obstructed by a stratum of rock, or chilled at root by weeping springs. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* v. 98 Though poets.. talked and sang Of brooks, and crystal founts, and weeping dews. 1832 WORDSW. *Sonnet Depart. Sir W. Scott* 1 A trouble, not of clouds, or weeping rain..Engendered.

4. Exuding moisture: **a.** Of soil: Oozing, swampy.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 27 b, Yf it be wette or weepyng ground, or subiect vnto other inconueniences. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 39 A riuer..Vpon whose weeping margent she was set. 1625 MARKHAM *Inrichment Weald Kent* 9 The Haisell ground being dry, and not subiect to Winter-springs, or teares of water (for which some call such, A whining or weeping ground) is to be handled thus. *Ibid.* 19 A sandy and grauelly ground that is wet and weeping. 1644 G. PLATTES in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 216 The last Experiment, shewing how weeping land may be drained where there is no level. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 2 June 1676, The soil a cold weeping clay, not answering the expence. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 33 Ray-Grass..is reckoned to grow on any Land, but chiefly in Cold sour Clays, and weeping Grounds. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 409 Upon poor, weak, weeping clays, where..the dung is locked up,..the application of lime is equally salutary. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 40 The shaley rock, covered with a grey loam of a moderate staple, and producing a very wet and weeping surface. 1826 *Trial Berkeley Poachers* 30 There I could see, for there was a wet or weeping place, the tracks of sixteen men.

b. *Path.* Of the eyes: Running, watering. Also of diseased tissues or structures from which moisture exudes. *Weeping eczema*, a variety of eczema characterized by abundant exudation.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Curing Horses Dis.* XXVIII. 15 Of weeping or watering eies. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 140 It appeared that at the time of sale the horse had weeping eyes. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 503 A general raw, red, weeping surface is produced. *Ibid.* 608 Squamous or weeping eczema. *Ibid.* 749 The epidermis is exfoliated..leaving the skin underneath red and tender but never moist or weeping as in eczema.

c. In general use.

1550 BALE *Acts Engl. Votaries* II. O vj, I coulde here shewe ye wonders of wepinge Roodes, and sweating ladies. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 647 The yawning Earth disclos'd th' Abyss of Hell: The weeping Statues did the Wars foretel. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Apr. (1744) 45 His Bark clean without fungi or Toad-stools, no weeping Holes or decayed Boughs upon him. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 283 Oozing springs,..weeping rocks. 1903 E. CHILDERS *Riddle of Sands* ix. 92, I returned, with a shock, to the present, to the weeping walls, the discoloured deal table, the ghastly breakfast litter.

d. † *Weeping Bower*, the name given in Barbados to a tree that exudes a gum of some kind. *Weeping Gum*, the name of two species of Eucalyptus, *E. pauciflora* and *E. viminalis* (Morris *Austral Engl.* s.v. *Gum*).

1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 II. 43 Arbor.. Scenam topiariam efformans Lachrymifera, fortè Stactefilus, *s.* Myrrham liquidam fundens...Nostratibus Colonis Weeping Bower nuncupata.

5. Of climate, weather, skies, etc.: Dripping, rainy.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 62 A naked subiect to the Weeping Clouds. *a* 1668 DENHAM *To Sir John Mennis* 2 All on a weeping Monday,..Little Admiral John To Bologne is gone. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 6 Sept., This country would be a perfect paradise, if it was not, like Wales, cursed with a weeping climate. 1819 KEATS *Otho* v. v. 39 Gauzes of silver mist, Loop'd up with cords of twisted wreathed light, And tassell'd round with weeping meteors! 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* iv, The inconveniences arising from a cold soil and a weeping climate. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 981 In a weeping season, the hay on one property was effectually saved by the use of the tedding-machine. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* xxxviii, It was a weeping day—a cold, cloudy day, at the very beginning of September. 1884 ANNIE S. SWAN *Carlowrie* ii. 30 The rain still falling desola[illegible] from weeping skies.

1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Three Sealers*, The weeping fog rolled fold on fold the wrath of man to cloak.

transf. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIX. 646 Joy and griefe together Her breast inuaded: and of weeping weather Her eyes stood full.

6. Used to designate trees (less frequently other plants) the branches of which arch over and hang down drooping. Chiefly in the distinctive names of particular species or varieties. [So F. *pleureur* in *saule pleureur* weeping willow, *frêne pleureur* weeping ash.]

Weeping oak, the Californian white oak, *Quercus lobata*; also, a cultivated variety of the English oak, *Quercus Robur*. The *weeping ash, beech, birch, elm*, etc. are varieties of certain species of those trees; in botanical works they are designated by the addition of *pendula* after the specific name. See also WEEPING WILLOW.

1606 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ouranie* F 4 b, The weeping Elme, the Beech, the Byrch. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 41 There is another variety also of this tree, called the weeping elm. *Ibid.* 66 Of the white birch there is a..variety, sometimes called the lady-birch, or the weeping-birch. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 61 The weeping variety of the Common Ash. 1838 LOUDON *Arboretum* II. 1214 *Fraxinus pendula*...The pendulous, or weeping Ash. *Ibid.* III. 1691 *Betula pendula*..the weeping Birch. *Ibid.* 1732 *Quercus pendula*..the Weeping Oak. *Ibid.* 1952 *Fagus pendula*..the weeping Beech. 1849 *Florist* 273 Among weeping trees, we found the weeping purple Beech, the weeping Holly, the new weeping Elm,..the weeping Yew, the weeping Oak, weeping silver Fir, and weeping red Cedar. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 343 The..rhizome of Goniophlebium dissimile..allows to droop on every side its long, weeping fronds. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 202 Weeping and drooping trees. 1882a *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. iii. 436 At the upper end stands..a purple beech, and a weeping elm, there being weeping ashes elsewhere. 1895 CORNISH *Wild Eng.* 92 On the shaded bank, a line of weeping-birches dips into the pool. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl.* 171 Rice Grass, Meadow, *Microtæna stipoides*. Called also *Weeping Grass*. *Ibid.* 306 *Weeping-Myall*, an Australian tree, *Acacia pendula*. Cunn.

Weeping Cross.

1. A place-name occurring in several English counties, presumably indicating the site of a stone cross (now destroyed) formerly known by this designation.

The present Ordnance Map shows places so named (1) about 2 miles S.E. of Shrewsbury; (2) about 2 miles S.E. of Stafford; (3) about 2 miles S.E. of Banbury; (4) near Bury St. Edmunds (see quot. *a* 1500); (5) near Ludlow. See also quot. 1893. All the places seem to be at cross-roads. It is said that the remains of the 'weeping cross' near Banbury were removed in 1803 (Beesley *Hist. Banbury*, 1841); with reference to that near Ludlow cf. quot. 1826. It is usually assumed that the name indicates that acts of devotion at these crosses were enjoined upon penitents, but there appears to be no evidence of this. Pennant's explanation (quot. 1782) seems to be merely a conjecture; another conjecture (Beesley *Hist. Banbury*) is that the cross marked the place at which bodies carried to interment were set down for the bearers to rest.

[*a* 1300 in *East Anglian* (1887–8) II. 226 [Bury St. Edmunds.] Falda incipit juxta riperam apud Wlnothes, et procedit ita ulterius ascendendo versus Austrum usque ad Crucem Lacrymantem.] 1675 OGILBY *Britannia* (1698) 39 At 21's come to Weeping-Cross a noted Place, where 4 Ways meet;..and at 22's enter Banbury. 1782 PENNANT *Journ. from Chester* 78 After leaving the town [Stafford] I crossed the Wolverhampton Navigation at Radford Bridge...A little further is Weeping Cross; so stiled from its vicinity to the antient place of execution. 1826 T. WRIGHT *Hist. Ludlow* (ed. 2) 173 Passing along the road which leaves the town at the bottom of Holgate Fee, we come to a small tump of earth and stones which marks the boundary of the parish. The name of the 'Weeping Cross', yet retained by this land mark serves to preserve the traditionary record of a Cross. 1893 *Dublin Rev.* July 557 There is a road outside Salisbury named 'King John's Lane,' leading from Clarendon to Old Sarum; it is crossed by another road, and at this point there is a clump of elm-trees. These trees are known as 'the weeping cross trees.'

2. Used allusively, esp. in the proverbial phrase *To come home by Weeping Cross*, to suffer grievous disappointment or failure.

Cf. the occasional variants 'to come home by broken cross' (1662 Howell *New Engl. Grammn., Perumb. Spatiu* 68) and 'to make our prayers at whining crosse' (1602: see WHINING *vbl. sb.* b).

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46 They..pull the house on their owne heds, returne home by weeping Crosse, and fewe of them come to an honest ende. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 243 The tyme will come when comming home by weeping crosse, thou shalt confesse [etc.]. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 2, Heerein I hold the Tailor for a necessary member to teach proud nouices the way to weeping crosse. 1612 WITHER *Pr. Henries Obseq.* Ded. A 3, For here I mourne, for your-our publike losse; And doe my pennance, at the Weeping Crosse. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* I. i, One is a kind of weeping cross, Jack, A gentle Purgatory. 1643 TRAPP *Gen.* iv. 16 God fetcht Jonas home again by weeping-cross. 1665 J. DAVIES tr. *Scarron's Novels* II. iv. 125 And so the poor Boy was forc'd to get back again to Madrid with a weeping-cross. 1741 OZELL tr. *Brantome's Sp. Rhodom.* (1744) 56 Making an Irruption into Provence, he came home by Weeping-Cross. 1884 W. MORRIS *Archit. & Hist.* (1900) 16 How different that [*sc.* artistic finish] is from mechanical or trade finish, some of us, at least, have learned, maybe, by the way of Weeping Cross.

†Wee·pingly, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. WEEPING *ppl. a.* + -LY¹.] Tearful.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. (1878) 259 The Emperoure gothe into swiche a chaumbr glad I-nowe, but when be comythe outa.al his visage is wepingly [*tota facies eius est lacrimosa*].

Weepingly (wī·pĭŋlĭ), *adv.* [f. WEEPING *ppl. a.* + -LY².] In a weeping manner.

1340 *Ayenb.* 192 Huet yefbe is þet..þet þe on nimþ gied liche and þe oþer hit lyest wepindeliche? *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 7205 Ful tendirly the teres he dide down lete, and so wepyngly he torned ageyn. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Lachrymose*,..weepyngly: as though one wepte. SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 207 Their kind acceptance we..beseecht. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 76 Thy sap..weepingly bewray thy paine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mawdlin*, weepingly Drunk. 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. xxx, It is four months..since Wolferstan went—since, weepingly, his love said to him, 'God keep you, Anthony!' 1890 W. C. RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* II. xxv. 259 My mind revolving..blackly and weepingly.

Weeping willow. [See WEEPING *ppl. a.* 6. Cf. F. *saule pleureur*, G. *trauer-, thränenweide*.] A species of willow, *Salix babylonica*, a large tree, native of Eastern Asia, having long and slender pendulous branches, cultivated in Europe as an ornamental tree and regarded as symbolical of mourning.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Salix; orientalis*,..The Weeping..The weeping willow twig to have. 1898 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxi. 224 A weeping-willow, trimly trained in the accurate Dutch fashion.

†Wee·ply, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WEEP *sb.* or *v.* + -LY¹.] Lamentable, tearful.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. i. (1868) 5 My wepli compleynte [*querimoniam lacrimabilem*]. *Ibid.* III. met. xii. 106 By hys wepely [*v. r.* wepply] songes [*flebilibus modis*].

Weepy (wī·pi), *a.* [f. WEEP *v.* + -Y¹.]

†1. Weeping, mournful. *Obs.*

1622 DAVISON *Poet. Rapsody* C 2, And when I weep, And sigh full deep, A weepy sighing Voice againe thou lendest.

2. Inclined to weep or shed tears, tearful.

1863 'HOLME LEE' *A. Warleigh* II. 95 She appeared with..her watery eyes more weepy than ever. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* IV. (1912) 166 The bold dragoon sang..'My Sister Dear',..with such pathos,..that his audience felt almost weepy in the midst of their jollification. 1897 BRAM STOKER *Dracula* XIX. (1912) 276, I shall put a bold face on, and if I do feel weepy, he shall never see it.

3. *dial.* Exuding moisture, damp, oozy.

1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng., Weepy*, abounding with springs; moist. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v., One o' the fat cheeses is weepy. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., Terr'ble weepy field o' ground. 1906 KIPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* 196 An old marlpit full of black water, where weepy, hairy moss hangs round the stumps of the willows and alders.

Wee·quashing, *vbl. sb. U.S.* Also wigwassing. [f. Algonkin *wigwas* birch-bark (canoe) + -ING¹.] The spearing of eels or fish from a canoe by torchlight.

1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 436 Vast quantities [of suckers] are taken..by spearing by torchlight or 'weequashing'. 1902 A. F. CHAMBERLAIN in *Jrnl. Amer. Folk-lore* Oct. 267 The word *weequashing*, or *wigwassing*, would seem to be derived from *wigwas*, a widespread Algonkian..term for 'birch bark', the immediate source of the word being Passamaquoddy or Micmac.

Weer, obs. form of WEIR, and var. WERE *Obs.*

Weer, obs. pa. t. of WEAR *v.*, BE *v.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 2617 And therfor wisdom weer..Nevir to dele with hem. *Ibid.* 3049 And wher weer þow Ibore?

Weerd, obs. form of WEIRD.

Weere, var. VEERE, spring; obs. form of WEIR.

Weerie, obs. form of WEARY *v.*

Weerish, var. WEARISH *a.*

Weerne, var. WARN *v.*² *Obs.*

Weerock, var. WIERROCK.

Wees, obs. form of *was*: see BE *v.*

Weesand, obs. form of WEASAND.

Weese, weese (wīz), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 *wésan*, 5 wese, 6–7 wheese, 8–9 *dial.* weese, 6– weese. [OE. *wésan* (:—**wēsjan*), f. *wēs* OOZE *sb.*¹] *intr.* To ooze, drip or distil gently.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 44 Ponne ærest onginne se healsgund wesan. 14.. *Seven Deadly Sins* 58 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 246 He toke me 'carytas', and put it in a clout, And bade me bame me well aboute, when hit wolde other water or wese. *a* 1555 BRADFORD *Writ.* (Parker Soc.) I. 303, I will not speak of the often weesing out. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 79 At his knots his Water wheeses forth. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 11 It seemes I heare the water wheesing in. 1790 D. MORISON *Poems* 105 Yon greetin' cheese, Frae which the tears profusely weese. 18.. in var. dial.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Weese.*

Weese, var. WASE.

Weese allan (also **wease alley**), an alleged local name of the skua (cf. SCOUTY-ALLIN), Isles).

Wees-l(1: see WEASEL, WEESLE.

Weeshy (wī·ʃi), *a. Anglo-Irish.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. WEE *a.*] Very small, tiny.

1830 CARLETON *Traits Ir. Peasantry* (1843) I. 141 The first man he met was the weeshy fraction of a tailor, as nimble as a hare. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, And what weeshee little balls thim is, sir. 1894 M'NULTY *Misther O'Ryan* v. 48, I had larned..as a weeshy lad, to repate some 'Spaches from the Dock'.

Weesil(l, var. ff. WEASEL, WEESLE *Obs.*

†Wee·sle, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [dim. of WEESE *v.*] *intr.* To ooze.

a 1555 BRADFORD *Writ.* (Parker Soc.) I. 304 For a time the streams of our affections may be stopped..; howbeit so yet they will weesel out now and then.

Weesle, obs. form of WEASEL.

Weeson, obs. form of WEASAND.

Weesp, Sc. form of WISP *sb.*

Weesshe, ? obs. form of WISH *v.*

Wee'st heart, var. of the northern dial. phrase *wae's t'heart*: see WOE *sb.*

1698 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. ii, Nurse, where's your young Mistress? *Nurse.* Wee'st heart, I know not, they're none of 'em come home yet.

Weet (wĭt), *v.*¹ *arch.* Also 6 wete, 6–7 weete. [repr. ME. *wēte*(*n*, var. ff. *wite*(*n* inf. and pl. pres. ind. and subj., and *wite* imperative and sing. pres. subj., of WIT *v.* (for the other parts of the verb see WOT *v.*, WIST *v.*). From the middle of the 16th c., if not earlier, the form *weet* seems to be obsolete in ordinary speech, but down to the second decade of the 17th c. it was frequent as a literary archaism (chiefly *poet.*), as attributed in the drama to rustic speakers, and as a variant of *wit* in the phrases *to do* or *give* (a person) *to wit*, (*that is*) *to wit*. The archaistic use in the 16th and early 17th c. was confined to the inf., the plural present, and the present participle; but the poets of the 18th c. and later, who have used the word in imitation of Spenser, have often treated it as a regular verb, with 1 sing. pres. *I weet*, and inflexions *weets, weeted*.

For the examples of *wete* before 1350, and of the phrases above-mentioned in which *to weet* = 'to wit', see WIT *v.*]

a. *trans.* To know (a fact, the answer to a question); also with clause as obj. **b.** *intr.* To know of something.

In Shaks. only once: see quot. 1606.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 144 Then we in dout to Phebus temple sent Euripilus, to wete the prophesye. 1560 PILKINGTON *Aggeus* D j, Thy money..shal waste away, thou not weetynge how nor when. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O vj b, The innocent children, that could not only be in no fault, but not so much as weetting of their fathers yll doonga. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* II. iii, Tush, man, is Gammers neele found? That chould gladly weete! 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches*, xv. xxvi. (1886) 443 Then would I wéet of our witchmongers the reason why. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 3 Forth he comes into the commune hall, Where..waite him many a gazing eye, To weet what end to straunger knights may fall. *Ibid.* I. xii. 3 That aged Sire..looked forth, to weet, if true indeede Those tydings were. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* Author's Pref., Curious parents may haue an art and maner to discouer the wit of their children, and may weet how to set each of them in hand with that science wherein he shall principally profit. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 53 Others diuine that they themselues did weete No other tree could yeelde their silken threede. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokesh.* (1892) 103 When Percellye weareth a hatte All Pembrokeshire shall weete of that. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. i. 39 In which I binde One paine of punishment, the world to weete We stand vp Peerelesse.

1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* iv, Me all too mean for such a Task I weet. 1717 — *Alma* II. 289 Well I weet, thy cruel Wrong Adorns a nobler Poet's Song. *a* 1721 — *Wandering Pilgr.* 5 The gracious Knight full well does weet, Ten farthings ne'er will do, To keep a man each day in meat. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolm.* 251 Nor weeting how the Muse should soar on high Wisheth, poor starveling elf! his paper kite may fly. 1747 [G. RIDLEY] *Psyche* x. in *Museum* III. 83 Thou weetest not what Med'cines in them are. 1752 MENDEZ *Seasons* xi. in Pearch *Collect. Poems* (1768) II. 238 And while the lambs in fainter voices bleat, Their mothers hang their head, in doleful plight I weet. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IV. xiv, But, when one meets Another at the shrine, he inly weets, Though he says nothing, that the truth is known. *a* 1846 LUNDIE *Mission. Life Samoa* iii. 17 Ah! little weet those who dwell at ease among their own people, what the missionary endures! 1861 PATMORE *Angel in Ho.* II. ii. xv, Nature's infinite extent Of lovely flowers..That weet not whether any heed. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads, St. Dorothy* 302 That is a noble scripture, well I weet, That likens women to an empty can. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 111 Well weeting that Fortune is fair and constant to no man.

Weet (wĭt), *int.* and *v.*² [Echoic. Cf. WEET-WEET and TWEET.] **a.** *int.* An imitation of the cry of certain small birds. **b.** *v. intr.* Of a bird: To chirp or twitter. Hence **Wee·ting** *ppl. a.* Also **Weet-bird**, the wryneck.

1852 *Zoologist* X. 3649, I was completely surrounded by curious, restless weeting little willow-wrens. 1863 WISE *New Forest* 186 The wry-neck..is in the Forest known as the 'weet-bird', from its peculiar cry of 'weet', which it will repeat at short intervals for an hour together. *a* 1897 LADY C. GURDON *Suffolk Tales* etc. 160 A robin weeting or chirping at the window foretells a death in the house.

Weet(e, obs. and Sc. forms of WET.

Weete, obs. form of WHEAT.

1464 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 68 The chirchemen of Dudcote wer in bargenyng off a ryke of weete for the welfare and help off the church.

Weetingly, obs. var. WITTINGLY *adv.* (Cf. WEET *v.*¹ and next.)

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 23 b, That a manne should weetyngly & willingly come in the presence..of theim. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 100/45 Weetingly, *sciens & prudens*. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iii. 22 This ill state,..To which she for his sake had weetingly Now brought her selfe. 1642 H. MORE

Song Soul II. i. III. xv, That man is wood That wastingly hastes on the thing he hates.

Weetless (*wī*·tlĕs), *a. arch.* [f. WEET *v.*[1] + -LESS. App. coined by Spenser; distinct from *witless.*] Unknowing, unconscious. † Also (quot. 1579), meaningless.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 35 Syker, thous but a lassie loord, and rekes much of thy swinck, That with fond termes, and weetlesse words to blere myne eyes doest thinke. [E. K. *Glosse*, Weetlesse, not vnderstoode.] 1590 — *F. Q.* III. ii. 26 But the false Archer, which that arrow shot So slyly, that she did not feele the wound, Did smyle full smoothly at her weetlesse wofull-stound. 1596 *Ibid.* VI. viii. 47 And now all weetlesse of the wretched stormes In which his louse was lost, he slept full fast. 1747 [J. UPTON] *New Canto F. Q.* XIX. 13 Nathless the Soul, from her true heavenly Way, Caught by some Semblance fair, too weetless wends astray. [*Footn., Weetless*, thoughtless, careless, unknowing: too thoughtless goes astray.] 1781 MENDEZ *Seasons* XXX. in Pearch *Collect. Poems* (1768) II. 246 Or how the way-ward mother to chastise When from her vetchy nest the weetless vagrant flies. 1767 MICKLE *Concub.* I. XX, Bashfully the weetlesse Boy did look. 1802 LEYDEN *Cout of Keeldar* XXXVIII, 'Twas here for Mangerton's brave lord A bloody feast was set, Who weetless, at the festal board, The bull's broad frontlet met. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* X. 31 And I was with him, weetless of ascent, But as a man, that weets him come, ere thinking. 1829 G. DARLEY *Wedding Wake, Anniv.* 73 Look how the weetless, reckless air Moves its dead tresses now! *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 256 Mother dear, thy happy heart is weetless of my dolour.

Weet-weet, *int.* and *sb.*[1] [Echoic.]

1. *int.* (*wī*·t,*wī*·t). An imitation of the cry of certain birds, esp. the sandpiper and chaffinch. Also *sb.* as the name for this cry.

1808–13 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) III. 170, I could still hear their low note of *weet weet*, as they approached near to the vessel below me. 1831 HOWITT *Seasons* (1837) 196 The weet-weet and pink-pink of the chaffinch. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 221 The 'weet weet' of the sandpiper.

2. *sb.* (*wī*·twī). Used as a name for the sandpiper.

1832 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* IV. 350 *Actitis.* Weet-weet. *Ibid.*, The Weet-weets are small migratory birds, which frequent the sandy and muddy margins of lakes, rivers, and estuaries. *Ibid.* 351 *Actitis Hypoleucos.* The White-breasted Weet-weet. *Ibid.* 356 *Actitis macularia.* The Spotted Weet-weet 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 625 Weet-weet, the Common Sandpiper.

‖ **Weet-weet** (*wī*·t,*wī*·t), *sb.*[2] [Native Australian: see quot. 1878.] An Australian toy (see quot. 1878), contrived to be capable of being thrown to a great distance.

1878 R. B. SMYTH *Aborigines of Victoria* I. 332 The plaything (Fig. 170) called by the natives of the Yarra *Wi-tch-wi-tch, Wa-a-witchi, Weet-weet*, or *Wa-voit*, is one of the most extraordinary instruments used by savages... The head—in shape like two cones placed base to base—is about four inches and a half in length and one inch in diameter; and the stem, not quite two-tenths of an inch in diameter, is about twenty-one inches in length. 1886 *Daily News* 20 Dec. 5/3 The Australian toy called the *weet-weet* which can be thrown for several hundred yards, bounding off the ground at frequent intervals all the way 1912 T. A. JOYCE *Handbk. Ethnogr. Coll. Brit. Mus.* 117 A peculiar toy is the weet-weet or 'kangaroo-rat', which the practised player can throw to enormous distances.

Weet-weet, *v.* [f. WEET-WEET *int.*] *intr.* To cry 'weet, weet'.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. ii. (1871) 7 A sand-piper glided weet weeting along the shore.

Weety (*wī*·ti), *a. Sc.* Also 7 weytie, 9 weetie. [f. *weet*, Sc. f. WET *a.* + -Y[1].] Rainy, wet.

1698 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 222 The crop was verie pure, be reasoun of the spring tyme, quhilk was verie cold and weytie by the space of many weekis. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Mutual Compl.* 23 In sunshine, and in weety weather. 1887 SERVICE *Dugnid* 241 Noo the spring time was weety and cauld. 1915 SIR J. WILSON *Lowland Scotch* 169 [Written Eng.] a wet day. [Spoken Sc.] a weetee day.

Weeve, obs. form of WEAVE *v.*

Weever (*wī*·vəɹ). Also 7 wiver, 7–9 weaver. [Prob. originally *wiver*, a. OF. (north-eastern) *wivre* the weever (13th c.), a transferred use of *wivre* serpent, dragon (see WYVER, WYVERN). = Central OF. *guivre* (mod. heraldic F. *guivre*, *givre*), repr. L. *vīpera* VIPER; the more normal OF. descendant of L. *vīpera* is *vivre*, the weever (whence VIVER[2], QUAVIVER), mod.F. *vive*. The fish was called 'viper' from its venomous spines: see quot. 1622.] A fish of the genus *Trachinus* or family *Trachinidæ*, common on the coasts of Europe; esp. *T. draco*, the Greater, and *T. vipera*, the Lesser Weever. They have sharp dorsal and opercular spines with which they can inflict painful wounds.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXV. 167 The Weaver, which although his prickles venom bee, By Fishers cut away, which Buyers seldom see. 1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 187 *Aranæus*, a Weaver, or Wiver. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 88 To Broil Weavers. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 263 Trachinus.. The Weever. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* I. xviii. 292 Here too are found the *vyvre*, or, as we call it, weaver: remarkable for its long, sharp spines, so dangerous to the fingers of the fishermen. 1832 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 7 These are, the greater weaver..and the tadpole fish. 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 171 It was the Lesser Weever.

Comb. 1867 J. G. WOOD *Routledge's Pop. Nat. Hist.* III. 97 The Great Weaver, or Weever Fish.

Weevil (*wī*·v'l, *wī*·vil). Forms: *a.* 1 wibl, wibil, wifel, 5 wyvyl, -oll, 6 wyvel(l(e, 6–7 wivel(l; 5 wevel, -yl, 6 wevell (wew-), -yll, 6–7 wevill, 6–8 wevil; 6 weevill (7 -il), 6–7, 9 weevel (7 -ell); 6 weevell, 6– weevil (6–7 -ill). *β. dial.* 7 wibel, -ill, 9 wibble; 8–9 weeble, 9 weabel. *γ. dial.* 7 whule, 8–9 whool, 9 wheul, whewl, wule, weuel, yule. [OE. *wifel* masc., beetle, corresp. to OS. (*gold-*)*wivil* glow-worm, MLG. *wevel*, OHG. *wibil*, *wipfl* beetle, chafer, ON. *vifill* in *tordyfill* dung-beetle (MSw. pl. *torddöffla*, Sw. *tordyfvel*, Norw. *tordivel*; cf. OE. *tordwifel*) :—OTeut. **webilo-z*, f. **web-* to move about briskly (see WAVE *v.*) or **wēb-* to WEAVE, 'from the filaments spun for the larva-case' (Skeat). From the same root is the synonymous OE. *wibba* (:—**webjon-*) beetle, glowworm.

For the special phonology in English cf. *beetle* repr. OE. *bitela*; the OE. *i* when lengthened in an open syllable became *ī* in ME. The *β* and *γ* forms illustrate normal dialectal alterations of the *v*.

In the 16th and 17th c. some writers app. confused the name of the weevil with that of the weasel, using *wesell*, *weasel*, for the insect; see the quotations under WEZEL.

1. In OE., a beetle of any kind; in later use, any beetle classed under the group *Rhyncophora*, the larvæ of which, and sometimes the beetles themselves, are destructive by boring into grain, fruit, nuts, the bark of trees, etc.; esp. a beetle belonging to any of the numerous species of the family *Curculionidæ*, the true weevils; also one belonging to the families *Brenthidæ* and *Bruchidæ*.

The best known are the corn-weevil, *Calandra granaria*, a small red beetle that does much damage in granaries by boring into the grains of corn in order to deposit its eggs, and the NUT-WEEVIL. For *clover-*, *grain-*, *palm-*, *pea-*, *rice-weevil* see those words.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 152 *Cantarus*, wibil. *Ibid.* P 110 *Pavipila*, wibl. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xli. 73 (Gr.) Is þæs gores sunu gonge hræðra þone we wifel wordum nemnað. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Wevyl, or malte boode (Winch. MS. *gurgulio*). 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 324/2 Whether ye Malt be bad or good, all is cast togeder in soo grete a multitude, that noo man can kepe it from Wormes called Wevels. 1469 in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 21 Also that you gar the malt be windowd, or it be laid in any garners, for ells there will brede wyvolls in it. 1528 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 174 The wyche malte was etten with wewells. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvi. (1617) 284 The Husbandman createth not the wiuell in the Corne. 1623 T. SCOT *Highw. God* 78 Mothes are no worse in cloth, rust in yron, nor whules in Mault, then these in the Commonwealth. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 696 A Worm called a Wevill.. that feedeth upon Roots. 1628 MAY *Virg. Georg.* I. 10 There little Weeuills heapes of corne destroy. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. vi. 284 Your Malt..not having had Time to contract ..Weebles, (an Insect that eats out the Heart of Malt). 1750 W. ELLIS *Country Housew. Fam. Compan.* 7 Whools, or Wevils, or Maggots, may be screened and sifted from the Flower. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 95 Pease..are very apt to breed worms, wevils, and mites. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* II. xxiii. 322 The whole tribe of weevils (*Curculionidæ*). 1834 *J. Ross's Van Diemen's Land Ann.* 70 The wheat of New South Wales is seldom six months old before it is affected with the weavel. 1863 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 474 We now arrive at a vast group of beetles, embracing several thousand species, which are popularly classed under the name of Weevils. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* v, If you had the pluck of a weevil in a biscuit you would catch them still.

b. *collect. sing.*

1866 *Standard* 16 July 5 The plaintiff stated that he found the malt contained 'weevil,' a very destructive insect. 1908 *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 99 Beans should be hard and dry..and free from weevil.

c. and in fig. context.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.*, Sat. VI. E 3, If that some weevill, mault-worme, barly-cap, Hearing my lines halfe-snorting ore his kanne, Swearres them for good. 1793 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Epist. Pope* 179 The French are..downright devils; In heavenly wheat, accurs'd destructive weevils!

2. Applied to other insects or their larvæ.

1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 42 One of the ewes was kill'd, and..its liver was putrid, and replete with the insect called the Fluke or Weevil.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weevil-beetle, tribe*; *weevil-damaged* adj.; † **weevil malt**, malt infested with weevils.

1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xi. 202 In the End of the Year they commonly brewed with Wyvel Malt. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXI. II. 235 The weevil tribe. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II viii. (1890) 208 In some weevil-beetles..there is a great difference between the male and female in the length of the rostrum or snout. 1890 *Kapunda Herald* 26 July 2/4 Sheepskins.—..Broken and weevil-damaged skins bring from 2½d. to 3½d. per lb.

Weeviled (*wī*·v'ld), *a.* [f. WEEVIL + -ED.] Infested with weevils.

1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 409 The system which flogged the men and fed them on weeviled biscuit.

Weevily (*wī*·vĭli), *a.* Also 8 weavely, 9 weevilly. [f. WEEVIL + -Y[1].] Infested with weevils.

1787 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* 21 Rotten, musty, weavely Flour. 1803 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) V. 280, I sincerely hope no weevily bread will be sent. 1889 SALA *Tw. Round Clock* (1861) 365 Men who are sometimes brought to live when on shipboard upon weevily biscuit that breaks the teeth. 1889 MRS. C. PRAED *Romance of Station* 45, I threw out [to the hens] a handful of weevily rice. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 6 Some old salt who has forgotten the tough salt horse and weevilly biscuit.

Weevle, *v. rare*[1]. [? f. WEEVIL *sb.*] *refl.* To wriggle (oneself) *out*.

1889 A. T. PASK *Eyes of Thames* 234 The small boy weevles himself out from the boxes.

Weeze: see WEEZE.

† **Weezel** (also 6 weesell), erron. var. of WEEVIL.

a 1533 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1539) 101 Nor the darnell amonge the corne, nor the weesell amonge the grayn, ..dothe so muche domage. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 266 The Corn devouring Weezel [L. *curculio*] here abides, And the wise Ant her wintry Store provides.

† **Weezle.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 weesel, -sill, 6–7 wesell, -ill, -yll, weesell, -sil(l, weasill, weazill, 7 weasell, wizzel(l, 8 weesle. [First recorded in the 16th c., but perh. repr. an OE. **wēsel*, corresponding to G. dial. *waisel*:—WGer. **waisilo-*, from the same root as WEASAND. Substitution of *-el* for *-en* is however possible.]

1. The trachea or windpipe: = WEASAND 2.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Curculio*, ..the wesyll of the throte of a man, wherby he drawyth wynde. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Demosthenes* (1595) 908 But wise men laughing at his fine excuse, tolde him it was no sinanche that had stopped his wesill that night, as he would make them beleeue. ? *a* 1597 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* (1599) B iv, The mastiues of our land, shall werry ye, And pull the weesels from your greedy throtes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 174 The Weasill or Wind-pipe. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* III. iv, Death you Pander, Forbid the banes or I will cut your wizzell.

b. *Comb.*

1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 198 Blood..If it doe come from the throate, or weasell-pipe..It is voyded by hemming. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xliv. 269 The Weesell-pipe of a man's Throat or Lung-pipe. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* III. 34 From the Weesle pipe to the Joynt of the Neck.

2. The epiglottis.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 86 The weesell of the throte, which is a litle fleshy and spongie bodie, in figure like to a pine-apple, hanging at the end of the palat. 1598 FLORIO, *Epiglotti*, the couer or weasill of the throte. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XX. ix. II. 51 The ashes of the root being burnt, cure the Vvula or swelling of the wezill in the throat. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 292 He [a cock] wants..such a tongue as we have, nor has he a weesil [L. *nec (adest) epiglottis*].

Weezon, obs. form of WEASAND.

Wef, obs. form of WEAVE *v.*; var. WEEF, WEFFE.

Wefde, wefed, var. forms of WEVED, altar.

Wefe, var. of WEVE *v. Obs.*

Wefere, obs. form of WEAVER[1].

Weff, obs. Sc. form of WEAVE *v.*

† **Weffe**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 wef, 4–5 weef(e, 4–6 weffe. [Of obscure etymology; represented later by *weft* WAFT *sb.*[1] I.]

1. A (foul or unsavoury) scent or odour: = WAFT *sb.*[1] 1 b. Cf. WHIFF *sb.*[1] 3.

a 1300 *Body & Soul* (Laud MS.) in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 335 And nou3 so lodly thou3 list grenne, fro the come þ a wikke wef. 13.. *Ibid.* (Vernon MS.) 342 A wikked weef. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Sprach.* LVII. 288 Wondur him þou3t þat of þat bodi [= corpse] wef hedde he nou3t. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 (MS. K.) Weffe, *vapor*.

2. Flavour, taste; ill-savour: = WAFT *sb.*[1] 1 a. Cf. WHIFF *sb.*[1] 3 b.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Weef [*Winch. MS.* Weefe], or summe what semynge to badnesse, *inclinacio ad malum*. 1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Weffe tast, *goust*. *Ibid.* 475/1, I can nat awaye with this ale, it hath a weffe..*elle est de mauluays goust*.

† **Weffe**[2]. *Obs.*—[1] [? f. WEVE *v.*] A blow or cut. (Cf. WAFF *sb.* 3.)

13.. *Coer de L.* 5891 He took to hys mace off bras,..And gaff hym a sory weffe, That hys helme al to-cleff.

† **Weffe**[3], earlier form of *weft* WAFT *sb.*[1] 6 (a small flag waved as a signal).

1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Dial. Health & Sickness* 76 b, Then Ariadne rente from her, her womanly apparell, making a weffe thereof upon the ende of a pole.

Weffer, obs. form of WAFER, WEAVER.

Weffin, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

Weffler, var. WHIFFLER[1].

Wefforne, obs. form of WYVERN.

Weft (weft), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 wefta, weft, wift, 4 wyft, weeft, 4–6 weffe, 4– weft; 6 woft(e, 7–9 *Sc.* woft, waft. [OE. *wefta* wk. masc., *weft* str. masc., ? *wift* fem., corresp. to ON. *veptr* masc., *vipta* fem., weft, MHG. *wift* masc., fine thread; repr. OTeut. types **wefton-*, **wefto-z*, **wefti-z*, f. **web-* to WEAVE.]

1. *Weaving.* The threads that cross from side to side of a web, at right angles to the warp threads with which they are interlaced: = WOOF 1.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) D 57 *Depenile* wefta. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 263 He sceal fela tola to tune tilian & fela andlomena to husan habban..Fela towtola: flexlinan, spinle, reol, gearnwindan, witte, weffe, wulcamb, [etc.]. *c* 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 287/32 *Depenile*, wefta, *uel* weft. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xiv. 23 A thread of the weeft. *Ibid. Exod.* XXXIX. 3 He made hem into thredes, that thei myȝten be plattid with the weft of the rather colours. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xi. (Bodl. MS.), 3if þe wefte is ibroke þei begynneþ to amende it. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 696/21 *Hec trama*, a wefte. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 92 Wefte, wofte, *stamen*. *Ibid.* 157 Y^e Woft of a web, *subtegmen*. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. iii. 89 The one they call warpe, the other weft, or els Woofe. 1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* (1903) III. 78 Christane Reid in Clett cam in ane maid errand, seiking woft to ane web. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 46 In the Silk Ribbans, you might plainly see the Contexture, how the Warp and the Weft

cross one another at right Angles. 1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxi, She..wets it—dries it—then takes her teeth to both warp and weft of it. 1768 PICKEN *Poems Scot. Dial.* 248 Gloss., *Weft*, woof. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxii, And we have many of foreign knacks Of finer waft than woo' or flax. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* ix. 206 My father used to..set my mother to card and spin the raw cotton for the weft. 1860 SMILES *Self Help* iii. 34 'Blackburn Greys,' consistir[illegible] xv. 36 weft.

with a weft of gold, known among us as 'baudekins'.

fig. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Richard Dk. Glouc.* xx, Of ambicion behold the worke [? *read* warpe] and weft, Prouoking me to do this haynous treason. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 237 Wouldst thou..untwist all the Threads of the warp and the waft of the weer'd Sister Parques?

b. The strips of cane, palm-leaf, straw, etc. used as the filling, in weaving baskets, mats, etc. Also, the woven fabric.

1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. i. 218 Many workmen thoughtlessly force their feet between the weft or horizontal branches of the hurdle. 1859 C. WILLIAMS *Narr. & Adv. Trav. Africa* xvii. 289 Flags, reeds, and bulrushes..are woven..into mats..and so close is their weft that neither light, nor wind..can penetrate it. 1859 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 1015 For these purposes wires.. may be used as the warps of the fabric, and straw or rushes or other materials being the weft. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Straw-fabric Loom.* A loom for making goods the weft of which is straw.

2. Yarn to be used for the weft-threads.

1795 AIKIN *Country Round Manchester* 233 Employed in spinning cotton wefts for check-makers. 1820 *Banchs's Manch. & Salford Directory* 29 Brown, Richard and Co. dealers in twist, weft, &c. 1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 677 All sorts of wefts, from the lowest to the highest numbers, are now spun by means of this machine. 1898 *Daily News* 16 May 8/5 Tow wefts..have been dealt in to a larger extent than for weeks back. 1902 *Times* 29 July 11/3 Doubled wefts are offered at easy prices; single wefts are dull.

3. That which is spun or woven.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lv. (1495) 896 Certen smalle wormes as it were attercoppes..done spynne and weue and make webbes and weftes abowte the hony combes. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 58/45 Weffte, wofte, *stamen*. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 381 Then Weavers stretch your Stays upon the Weft. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Weft*, a thing woven; as *A Weft of Hair*. 1799 H. GURNEY *Cupid & Psyche* xx. 44 See those crones that on the left Weave the many-colour'd weft. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 102 Let thy weft Be of one woof and warp 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Trachin.* 675 The investiture O' the robe, a weft of wool, fleecy and white.

b. *fig.* and in figurative context.

c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxi. 64 In helle is shewed euell-sponnen wyft. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* II. 435 Yey, ill spun weft ay comes foule out. 1719 HAMILTON *Ep. to Ramsay* 24 July v, I'm unco iri, and dirt feart I mak' wrang waft. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 738 The weft of the world was untorn That is woven of the day on the night. 1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* II, I cannot unravel the weft of it. I've made and helped to make a sight of victual in my day, and now [etc.].

4. Transferred uses. † **a.** A film formed over the eye. *Obs.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 29 The ashes of the head of a black Cat..put into the eye .helpe the haw, weft, and web in the eye. *Ibid.* 105 The gall [of the Rock-goat] cureth the weft in the eye.

b. A layer of closely interwoven hyphæ produced in certain fungi; also a 'mat' of hairs on the stem or leaf of a plant.

1875 COOKE *Fungi* II. 26 Certain filaments of the weft of the fungus. 1879 *Academy* 11 Jan. 33/1 The access of.. injurious insects to the flower is prevented..by the dense weft of woolly hairs which covers the stem and leaves. 1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi* v. 217 The peripheral portion of the delicate hyphal weft..takes an active part in the further growth.

c. (See quot.)

1847 HALLIWELL, *Weft*,..(5) The ground of a wig.

5. A streak of cloud; a thin layer of smoke or mist. Cf. WAFT *sb.*[1] 2 d, WAIF *sb.*[3]

a 1822 SHELLEY *Queen of My Heart* ii, And thy beauty more bright Than the stars' soft light, Shall seem as a weft from the sky. 1883 SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* 97 Exceedingly soft and grey, with rose-tinted weft of steam upon its summit, stood Vesuvius above us in the twilight. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 187 The mountains..opposite were just enough illumined to let one see the wefts and floating veils of blue-white mist upon them.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weft cop* (COP *sb.*[2] 3), *dealer*, *thread*, *warehouse*, *winding*, *yarn*; **weft-finger** (*Knitting*), the forefinger; **weft fork** (*a*) a pronged *weft stopper*; (*b*) (see quot. 1875); **weft-hook** (see quot.); **weft line, flax** (see LINE *sb.*[1] 1 b) for the manufacture of weft-thread; **weft (stop) motion, stopper**, a device that automatically causes a stoppage of the loom when the weft-thread breaks or fails; **weft-way** (see quot.).

1881 *Weft cop [see TWIST *sb.*[1] 20]. 1892 *Daily News* 16 July 7/1 There is only a very small demand for twist and weft cops for the home trade. 1820 *Banchs's Manch. & Salford Directory* 34 *Weft and twist dealer. 1880 [MRS. FLOYER] *Plain Hints Needlework* 37 The..fore, or '*weft', finger; the thumb, or 'rest;' the second, or 'position' finger. 1851 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 309 Improvements in the manufacture of *weft forks..for looms. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Weft-fork*, one used in certain kinds of looms where the filling is laid in, one piece at a time. 1898 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 2/1 As soon as either thread breaks the machine is stopped immediately by the weft forks. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Weft-hook*, one for drawing in the filling in the case of slat-weaving looms and some forms of narrow-ware and ribbon looms. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 9/4 The range of *weft lines continues unchanged at 3*s*. 1½*d*. 1863 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Weaving* II. (1871) 410 That part of the loom known as the '*weft motion' for stopping the loom when the weft breaks. 1878 A. BARLOW *Hist. Weaving* xxiv. 261 The fork and grid *weft stop motion. 1853 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Weaving* (1861) 408 An improved *weft stopper for two or more shuttles. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 177/1 Into this shed..he throws the shuttle containing the *weft-thread. 1820 *Banchs's Manch. & Salford Directory* p. iv, Twist, *weft and calico warehouse. 1888 C. P. BROOKS *Cotton Manuf.* 168 **Weft-way*, yarn twisted over to the right in spinning. Weft may be either twist-way or weft-way. 1865 B. WOODCROFT *Brief Biogr.* 44 A *weft-winding engine. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 330 It must be spun into warp-yarn and *weft yarn, each of peculiar grist.

† **Weft,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 waift, **wayft**, 7–8 **waft.** Variant or perversion of WAIF *sb.*[1]

1579 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1895) XI. 196 Claiming the ship and goodes as a weft dewe to the lordes of the soile. *Ibid.* 247. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 36 The gentle Lady..did.. wander wide At wilde aduenture, like a forlorne weft. 1596 *Ibid.* IV. ii. 4. *Ibid.* IV. xii. 32 For that a waift [i. e. Florimell], the which by fortune came Vpon your seas, he claym'd as propertie. 1591 *Art. conc. Admiralty* 21 July § 46 Those, which vpon the high Seas, haue found any..Boates forsaken, or wayfts, driuing, or floating, without any creature in the same. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. ii, The Lord of the soile ha's al wefts and straies here? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Brother* IV. iv, You are Lord o' the soile Sir, Lilly is a Weft, a Straie, shee's yours, to use Sir. 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* V. i, Do you know that I am Lady of the Mannour: and that all Wefts and Strays belong to me? *a* 1680 BUTLER *Characters* (1908) 127 His Belly is provided for,..his Back..takes other Courses to maintain itself by weft and stray Silver Spoons, straggling Hoods and Scarfs, [etc.]. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm* (1729) I. 532 It is as a waft or stray, that belongs only to the head landlord of the world, to whom therefore you must restore it. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. II. xii. 498 The Causes competent to the Admiralty Court of Scotland, are these among others...Wafts, and Strays, and Deodands, and Wrecks. 1838 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 360 Farther corrections I shall make..for a posthumous edition, in which also I shall embody some wefts and strays.

Weft (weft), *v. rare.* Also *Sc.* **waft.** [f. WEFT *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To form a weft or web; to interlace the weft with the warp. Hence **We·fting** *vbl. sb.*

1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. J. Lapraik* viii, Ne'er mind how Fortune waft an' warp. 1897 *Westm. Gas.* 19 Jan. 8/1 The warping, wefting, milling and finishing occupied 3h. 15 min.

Weft, Sc., dial., and Naut. form of WAFT *sb.*[1]

Weft, obs. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

† **We·ftage**[1]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. *weft* var. WAFT *v.*[1] + -AGE.] Conveyance: = WAFTAGE.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 175 The naturall faculty needeth no vehicle or weftage, because it is inbred in euery part.

Weftage[2] (we·ftédʒ). [f. WEFT *sb.*[1] + -AGE.] The arrangement of the threads of a woven fabric. Chiefly *transf.*

1681 GREW *Museum* I. § i. 3 Whereby also the weftage of the fibers..of the Muscules might more easily..be observed. 1746 G. ADAMS *Microgr.* XXXVII. § 4. (1747) 303 The Weftage of the Fibres [of wood]. 1901 F. E. TAYLOR *Folk-Sp. S. Lanc.* (E. D. D.), *Weftage*, the texture of woven cloth.

Wefted (we·ftéd), *a.* [f. WEFT *sb.*[1] + -ED.] Composed of interwoven hyphæ.

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 554/1 The thallus..is..composed of..cell-filaments, with apical growth (hyphæ), or of more or less complex wefted sheets or tissue-like masses of such (mycelium).

Wefty (we·fti), *a. rare.* [f. WEFT *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].] Of the nature of a weft (of thread, filament, vapour).

1867 W. BARNES *J. Poole's Gloss. Eng. Colony Forth & Bargy, Wexford*, s. v., *Wefty*, webby, cobwebby. 1876 J. W. MARSTON *Dram. & Poet. Wks.* II. 379 There stood a gaunt form pale But regal...His brow Was circled by a wefty coronet.

Wegg(e, obs. forms of WEDGE.

Wegh, var. WYE *Obs.*, a man; obs. f. WEY.

Weghe, obs. form of WEIGH *v.*

Weght, obs. form of WEIGHT *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

Wegion, -yon, obs. ff. WIDGEON.

Wegotism (wi·gǒtiz'm). [A jocular formation on WE and EGOTISM.] An obtrusive and too frequent use of the first person plural by a speaker or writer.

1797 *Brit. Critic* IX. 424 A more trifling matter of objection is the use of the plural form [we] throughout in speaking of himself...In an individual preacher..it seems a strange desertion of propriety; and if used to avoid egotism, leads to that

we migh[illegible] KING C[illegible] *wegotism* and *egotism*; but Cæsar writes 'dixeram' and 'scripsimus'. 1881 H. J. JENNINGS *Curios. Crit.* 156 What has been called the 'wegotism' of the press.

Wehee (wihī·), *int.* and *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: a. 4, 6 **wehe** (4 **wey**), 4 **wehee**, 6–7 **weehee**, 7 **wehie, weahae**; 9 *Sc.* **wehaw.** β. 4 **whi** (? **wihi**), 6 **wyhie, wigh-hie**, 6–7 **wihy**, 7 **wihee** (**whhi-hhee**), 7–9 *dial.* **wighee.** [Echoic.]

A. *int.* A conventional representation of the sound uttered by horses.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 73 (MS. T.) As wilde beeste wip wehe worp vp togedere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 146 Whan the hors was lous, he gynneth goon Toward the fen, ther wilde Mares renne Forth with wehee [B. v. wehe]. *c* 1390 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 477 And Annot wolde be nyce, and laughes, 'tehe, wehe'. 1567 *Triall of Treasure* E iij, We. he, he, he, he, ware the horse beles I saye. 1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* IV. ii. 194 Hee neither would cry wyhie, nor wag the taile. 1603 DEKKER *Patient Grisill* 367 So they can crie wighee and hollow, kicking lade. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* I. i. 30 One cannot crie 'wehie', but straight shee [your Barbaric mare] cries 'tihi'. 1634 [see TEHEE *int.*]. *c* 1690 *Roxb. Ballads* (1890) VII. 56 The Tapster bid them welcome then, and wee-hee did cry.

b. Used to a horse.

1821 MACTAGGART *Gallov. Encycl.* 472 *Wehewl* a cry which displeases horses. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wighee*, an exclamation to horses.

B. *sb.* An utterance of this sound; a whinny or neigh.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 21 3it wol he make moni a whi [*v. rr.* many (a) wehe, wey] er he come here. *c* 1580 *Whip for Ape* 26 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 418 Such hahaes, teehees, weehees, wild colts play. 1592 *Def. Conny-Catching* in *Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) XI. 59 The olde Churle comming an hower before Supper time,..for an amorous wehe or two, as olde Jades wynnie when they cannot wagge the tayle. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, There's ne're a Gentleman i' the countrey has the like humors for the Hobby-horse as I haue? I haue the Methode for the threeding of the needle,..and the wigh-hie, and the daggers in the Nose,..all the Humors incident to the qualitie. 1618 FLETCHER *Women pleas'd* IV. i, His [the hobby-horse's] lewd wihies. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* To Rdr., Rosinante looks for your Tih-hee, and you shall have his Whhi-hhee. 1673 *Char. Coffee-House* 6 To..make an Oration to Caligula's Horse, whence you can only expect a weehee or Jadish spurn.

† **Wehee,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 6–7 **wighy**, 7 **wighie, wihy, wyhee, weyhey.** [f. prec.] *intr.* To neigh or whinny, as a horse does.

1599 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. (1602) F 8, Tis an old horse can neither wighy, nor wagge his taile. 1606 — *Parasit.* IV. G 1 b, Al that can wyhee or wag the taile, are vpon grievous paines of their backe summond to be assistant in that Session of loue. 1615 [HOBY] *Curry-Combe for Coxe-Combe* iv. 156 'Tis an ill Horse that can neyther wey-hey, nor wagge his taile. 1618 BRETON *Courtier & Countryman* (Grosart) 8/2 The young Colts wighie at their parting with their Fillies. 1668 DAVENANT *Rivals* III. 36 Tho' lightly on the hobby-horse and dancers, He learns to Wighy, and the rest to prance—Sirs. 1847 HALLIWELL, Wehee, Wihie.

Wehl, obs. form of WAIL *v.*[1]

Wehrgeld, -gelt: see WERGILD.

Wehrwolf: see WERWOLF.

Wehte, pa. t. of WECCHE *v. Obs.*

Wehy, var. WYE *Obs.*, a man.

Wei, obs. f. WAY, WEIGH, WEY, WHEY, WOE.

Weid(e: see WEED *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *v.*[1], WEDE *v.*, WIDE *adv.*

Weidenagemoot, obs. form of WITENAGEMOT.

Weido, obs. Sc. form of WIDOW.

Weie, obs. form of WAY, WEIGH *v.*, WEY, WYE.

Weierstrassian (vəiəɹsträ·siăn), *a. Math.* [f. name of Karl W. *Weierstrass* (1815–97), an eminent German mathematician + -(I)AN.] Pertaining to or invented by Weierstrass, esp. *Weierstrassian function.*

1878 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1896) X. 434 We have thus in all 21 equations which exhibit the form of the Weierstrassian functions $al(u, v, w)_{12}, \ldots, al(u, v, w)_{67}$. 1884 DANIELS in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* VI. 256 The Weierstrassian proof of this..is as follows. 1901 OSGOOD in *Ann. Math.* Ser. II. II. 122 The Weierstrassian function ℘

Weiete, obs. form of WET *a.*

Weif(f, obs. Sc. forms of WEAVE *v.*[1]

Weife, obs. form of WIFE.

‖ **Weigela, Weigelia** (wəidʒi·lă, -i·liă). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. name of C. E. *Weigel*, a German physician (1748–1831).] A genus of caprifoliaceous shrubs from China and Japan cultivated for its flowers, now commonly merged in *Diervilla*; a plant of this genus.

1846 *Jrnl. Horticultural Soc.* I. 66 A Weigela..from the North of China. 1851 GLENNY *Handbk. Fl. Garden* (18[illegible] 401 Weigela. Very handsome hardy deciduous shrul adapted for planting against ornamental walls. 1875 [illegible] CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 384 Weigelia is out in glory. 1888 *Garden* 18 Mar. 184/2 All the Weigelas delight in a good, free soil.

† **Weige·lian,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* [f. the proper name *Weigel* (see below) + -IAN.] **A.** *sb.* A follower or adherent of the German mystic Valentin Weigel (1533–88). **B.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Weigel, his opinions or followers.

1657 BAXTER *Present Tr.* 4 The persons holding this third Opinion are the Paracelsians (under whom I comprehend the Weigelians and the rest of the Enthusiasts). 1676 W. HUBBARD *Happin. People* 28 No man, unless a Weigelian Scepitck, ever did account Moses less fit to be a Leader unto Israel because he was learned in all the wisdome of the Egyptians.

Weigh (wē), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **wǽg(e, wǽg**, 2 **weiȝe**, 3 **weie**, 4 **waye, weih, weȝe**, 4–5 **weigh(e**, 5, 9 **wee**, 5–7, 9 *dial.* **wey**, 6 **wye**, 7–9 **way**, 9 *dial.* **weigh.** [OE. *wǽg* str. fem., *wǽge* wk. fem. (both meaning 'balance' and 'weight'; see WEY), corresp. to OS. *wâga* (MLG. *wâge*, MDu. *wâghe*, Du. *waag*; see WAW *sb.*[2]), OHG. *wâga* (MHG. *wâge*, mod.G. *wage*), ON. *vág* (Sw. *våg*, Da. *vaag*):—OTeut. **wagiz-*, *-ōn-*, f. **wag-* (+ **wag-*): see WEIGH *v.*]

†1. A weight. *Obs.* (For the word as the name of a particular denomination of weight, see WEY.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxii. (Z) 58 *Pondus*, byrðen oððe wæge [*v. r.* weg]. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 11 Godd us forbett ðat we ne sculen habbe twifeald wæige ne twifeald imett.

2. A balance, pair of scales. †a. *sing.* *Obs.*

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxiv. (1889) 97 Wordu soðlice snotera on wæge beoð awegene [*Ecclus.* xxi. 28 *statera ponderabuntur*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Auh seint Austin deð þeos two boȝe in one weie, wilnen, & habe wille uorte beon iwilned. 1340 *Ayenb.* 255 Þe wordes of þe wyse byeþ y-weȝe ine þe waye. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 947 Þou waltres al in a weih & wel y vnderstande whider þe belaunce bremliest bouwes al-gate. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xi. 1 A treccherous weȝe [Vulg. *statera*] abominacioun is anent God. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 221 Then come thylke brennet dekon, and layde a grete pot on þe wey þe whech anon weyit vp al togedyr.

b. *plural* (sometimes construed as *sing.*). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* †Also, the zodiacal constellation Libra.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxi. 10 *Mendaces filii hominum in stateris*, lease bearn monna in wegum. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 148/16 *Trutina*, wæga. 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* lxi. 9 Leighers in weighes, that is, on the weighes of rightwisnes. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 74 Heruest bygynnes whenne þe sonne entrys þe first degree of þe tokenynge of weighes. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. iv. 693 Pap Siluestir gert þaim he layide In til a weyis. 1482–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 97, ¼ par Weez lign. cum ponderibus. 1533 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 451 Ane pair of woll weyis, ane pair of ballendis of brass. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 2286 Sanct Mychaell, with his wyngis and weyis. 1573 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 10 A pair of weyis witht baikis, pryce xl. d. 1578 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 282 The kitchinge..A pair wyes and wyghts, ij s. vj d. *c* 1587 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xviii. 12 Hald evin the Weyis. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Burrow Lawes* c. 125 § 3 The heire..sall haue...ane flaill, the weyes [L. *staterim*], with the wechts, [etc.]. 1808 JAMIESON, *Weyes, Weyis*, a balance with scales for weighing. 1825 *Ibid.*, Weyes, Wees.

c. *Sc.* (See quot.)

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Weighs*, a weighbridge; a waggon-weighing machine.

3. A pole borne on the shoulders of two men, for carrying a water-vessel. ? *Obs.* Also *wey and bolkins* (dial.) · see quot.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 12/2 A Runge or Soe: which is a kind of vessell that Tanners, Glouers, and Beere-brewers use to carry Water in, being borne on a Way or pole betweene two men. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rural Life* Gloss. 368 *Wey an' bodkins*, a set of spreaders for hitching two horses to the same part of a sull or harrow. The first, the *Wey*, is fastened at its middle to the plough or harrow by a *cops*..and the *bodkins* are connected by a crook on their middle to *clipses* on the two ends of the wey.

Weigh, *sb.*[2] In *under weigh*, a common var. of *under way*, from erroneous association with the phr. 'to weigh anchor'. See WAY *sb.*[1] 38.

1788 CUMBERLAND *Observer* xii. [ix.] P 7 This perverse wind has at last..come about to the east, so that we are all in high spirits getting under weigh. · 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 182 Mr. Evans stood upon the beach till the packet got under weigh. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, She got under weigh with very little fuss, and came so near us as to throw a letter on board. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* xxxii. (1844) II. 2, I embarked..and was glad to get underweigh. 1855 F. C. ARMSTRONG *Warhawk* I. xii. 258 The following morning he embarked with his attendant, O'Regan, on board The Royal Anne, which got under weigh shortly after.

Weigh (wē), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **weighed** (wēd). Forms: 1 wegan (3*rd sing.* wigeð, wihð; wegde, wehð), 2–4 weiȝe (3 *3rd sing.* weihð), 3–4 wegȝe, weygȝe, 4 weghe, 6 weygh(e, waygh, 6–7 weighe, waigh(e, 6– weigh; 2–6 weie, 3–7 weye (5 wheyhe, 5–7 *Sc.* veye), 4–7 (9 *Sc.*) wey (5–7 *Sc.* vey); 4–7 waie, 5–7 waye (5 whaye), way, 6–7 weay; 5–6 *north.* and *Sc.* wye (5 whye), 7 *Sc.* wie; 5 whe, 6 *Sc.* we-, ve-, 9 *Sc.* wee. *Pa. t. a.* 1 wæg, *pl.* wǣgon, 3 way, *pl.* weȝe, 4 weȝ, wey, weyȝ(e, weygh, wayȝ, weghe, weie, (?woghe). *β.* 3–4 weide (3 *pl.* weiden), 3–5 weiede, 4 we(y)ȝed(e, etc., 4–7 weied, weyed, 6–7 wayed, waied, waighed, etc., 6– weighed. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 wegen, 2–3 iweiȝen, 4 yweȝe, weyen, (i-), (y)wey(e, (i)weie; 5 wawyn, wowyn, wowne. *β.* 4 yweid, (i)weied, weȝed, 4–7 weyed, 5 weiede, 5–6 weyd, 6 wei(e)d, wayed, wayd(e, etc., 7– weighed. [A Com. Teut. strong verb: OE. *wegan* (*wæg, wǣgon, wegen*) corresponds to OFris. *wegu, weia* to move, weigh, OSax. *wegan* to weigh, (M)Du. *wegen* to weigh, OHG. *wegan* to move, shake, weigh (MHG. *wegen*; mod.G. has *bewegen* to move, while the simple verb is represented by the two verbs *wägen* trans., to weigh, *wiegen* intr., to weigh, be of a certain weight), ON. *vega* to lift, weigh (Sw. *vägа*, Da. *veie*, to weigh), Goth. *ga-wigan* (only Luke vi. 38 in pa. pple. fem. *gawigana* shaken). The Teut. root **weg-*, **wag-*, **wāg-* (for words representing the several grades see WAY *sb.*; WAG *v.*, WAGON, WAIN, WAW *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]; WEIGH *sb.*[1], WEY) is:—Indogermanic **wegh-*, **wogh-*, **wēgh-*, found in Skr. *vah*, L. *vehĕre* to carry, Gr. *ὄχος*, *ὄχος* vehicle.

The remarkably early appearance of the weak conjugation was prob. due to confusion with WEIGH *v.*[2]; the two OE. verbs *wegan* and *wegian* coincided in the form *wegeð* of the 3rd sing. pres. (though the former verb had also the more normal *wigeð*). The strong inflexion of the pa. t. died out in the 14th century, and that of the pa. pple. in the 15th.]

I. To bear, carry, hold up; to bear up, lift.

†1. *trans.* To bear from one place to another; to carry, transport. *Obs.*

In quots. 13.. ? To carry round and serve (wine).

Beowulf 1207 He þa frætwe wæg..ofer yða ful. *c* 1000 *Narratiunculæ* (1861) 9 Micel mænigeo elpenda þa þe gold wægon & læddon. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1420 So faste þay wejed to him wyne, hit warmed his hert. *Ibid.* 1508 Wege wyn in þis won, wassayl, he cryes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1403 Wyzes þe walle wyn wejed to hem oft.

†2. To bear (arms); to wear (a robe, etc.). *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xiii. 77 On ðæm selfan hræȝle, ðe he on his breostum wæg. *c* 900 *Beda's Hist.* II. ix. (1890) 123 Hæfde he & wæg mid hine twiegge handseax ȝesettred. *c* 1205 LAY. 24471 Heo weȝe on heore honde feouwer sweord of golde. *Ibid.* 26279 Ælc weiede an sculdre sceld swiðe godne. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1022 (Cott.) He miȝte bet tecche ane bore To weȝe [*Jes.* bere] boþe sheld & spere.

†3. With *up*: To hold up, support. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 49 He ðe weiȝ upp mid his fingre heuene and ierðe.

4. †a. With *up*: To hoist, to lift up. *Obs.*

1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Dialogue* 402 Right as a theef þat hath eschapid ones The roop, no dreede hath eft his art to vse, Til þat the trees him weye vp, body and bones. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1472/2 They tooke the sayd Roode and weyed hym vppe and set him in his olde accustomed place. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* viii. § 1. 132 With which Tongs you may Beclip the [Hop-]Pole at the bottom, and resting the Joynt thereof on a block of wood, you may weigh up the Pole.

†b. *fig.* To raise up, exalt. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cvii. xiv, [God] from want the poore doth waigh.

c. *Naut.* To set up (a mast).

1841 DANA *Seaman's Man.* 134 *Weigh*, to lift up; as, to weigh an anchor or a mast.

5. *Naut.* To heave up (a ship's anchor) from the ground, before sailing. Now usually *to weigh anchor* (without art.). †Formerly also with *up*, *in*.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 103 Cables þay fasten, Wiȝt at þe wyndas weȝen her ankres. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 740 Wyghtly one þe wale thay wye up þaire ankers. 1482 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 245/1 Compelling of þe saidis Wegeantis seruitouris to wey þer ankeris. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 108 Come to our shyp our ankers ar in wayde. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 14 Than Cocke wayed anker, and housed his sayle. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 44 b, [illegible] y. 1628 DIGBY *Voy.* 19, I weighed anchor and sett sayle. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 45 The windes fauouring vs, we weighed Ankors. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Gothick Wars* I. 11 Constantianus wayed Anchor from Epidaurus. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* x. (1840) 173 We weighed anchor the same tide, and stood out to sea. 1814 SCOTT *L.d. of Isles* III. iv, Cormac Doil..Hoisted his sail, his anchor weigh'd. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* v. 77 We immediately weighed anchor.

b. *fig.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 17, I will streight weie anker, and hoyse vp sayle. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* Prol., Our Author weighs up anchors, and once more Forsaking the security of the shore, Resolves to prove his fortune. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* II. 36 As often as this sacred Anchor [of Religion] is weighed, so often the Ship of the Common-Wealth is tossed. 1882 *Century Mag.* Sept. 707/2 He for whom the sexton has tolled the bell has 'weighed anchor'.

c. *absol.* = to weigh anchor. Hence, to sail (*from*, *out of* a port, etc.).

1513 SIR E. HOWARD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 215 We cowd ryd no lenger ther withowt gret danger,..we weyd to get us in to the Downes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The maister..bald the marynalis lay the cabil to the cabilstok, to veynde and veye. 1556 W. TOWNSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 101 Wee wayed and set saile. 1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 1 The 14th in the morning we wayed out of the roade of Bantam for Japan. *a* 1647 PETTE in *Archæologia* XII. 226 On Wednesday..we weighed from Limehouse, and anchored right against the Tower. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iv. (ed. 4) 47 On the 3d of November we weighed from Madera. 1808 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* IV. 193, I found about 60 of the convoy had lost their anchors in attempting to weigh. 1867 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 July 9/1 It would have been necessary for each ship to weigh singly, which would have occupied fifteen minutes each. 1893 H. M. DOUGHTY *Wherry in Wendish Lands* 20 In the morning we weighed early.

6. To raise (a sunk ship, gun, etc.) from the bottom of the water. Also with *up*.

a. *a* 1500 in *Arnold's Chron.* (1811) 133 After tyme she was weyed and toued to the hauyn at Calcis. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 26 Leuyng the gonne (because the master carpenter sayde y^t he woulde shortely way it out of the water). 1578 W. BOURNE *Treas. Trav.* IV. viii. 17 Then it will waygh or lyfte the sunken Shyppe from the bottome. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 Rules to weigh Ships, or Guns, or any thing else in the Water. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 259 [The diver] could find but one small gun, which he weigh'd and brought ashore. 1777 J. PUTNAM in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 540 Should the enemy succeed in weighing the chevaux-de-frise, and proceed up the river. 1783 COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 20 Oct., I must beg leave, however..to mourn..that the Royal George cannot be weighed.

b. 1545 DR. SUFFOLK in Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 229. I trust by Monday or Twisday..the Mary Rose shalbe wayed upp and saved. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xxiii. 104/2 The Reuenge had in her diuers faire brasse peeces, that were all sunke in the sea, which they of the Island were in good hope to weigh vp againe. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 7 A great Gunne..was overthrowne in a deep Pond of water;..the Master Carpenter taking with him a hundred labourers, went and weyed it up. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 June 1687, A vast treasure, which was sunk in a Spanish galloon..was now weigh'd up by some gentlemen. 1725 S. GALE in *Archæologia* I. 289 *note*, One of these stakes, entire, was actually weighed up between two loaded barges at the time of a great flood. 1760 S. DERRICK *Lett.* (1767) I. 26 She being effectually sucked in by the heavy sandy bottom, all attempts to weigh her up have been ineffectual. 1782 COWPER *Loss of Royal George* 25 Weigh the vessel up..; Her timbers yet are sound, And she may float again. 1825 *Local Act* 55 *Geo. III* c. lv. § 73 If any Boat..shall be sunk in any Part of the said Canal,..and the Owner..shall not, without loss of Time, weigh or draw up the same.

†c. *intr.* for *refl.* To be raised *up*; to admit of being raised. *Obs.*

1635 W. HAMMOND *On death of Brother* (No. 2) Only this difference, that sunk downward, this Weigh'd up to bliss. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 If the thing sunk be upon Sands or Rocks, it will weigh the better.

II. To balance in the scales; to ascertain the weight of; to consider or compare in this respect.

7. *trans.* To ascertain the exact heaviness of (an object or substance) by balancing it in a pair of scales, or on a steelyard, against a counterpoise of known amount.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xiii. 84 Ælc þæra ðinga, þe man wihð on wægan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 374 Genim geoluwne stan & salt stan & pipor & weh on wæȝe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Gif hit chepinge be, þe me shule meten oðer weien. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 He wile hes habben wel imotet and bi rihte wæiȝe wel iwæiȝen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne þo þet zelleþ be wyȝte purchaceþ and makeþ zuo moche þet þet þing þet me zsel weȝe zseweþ more heuy. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* xiv. 26 He weiede [1388 weiside] the heeris of his heed with two hundred siclis bi the comoun weiȝt. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 273 When..þe woolle worth weye, woo ys þe penne. *a* 1400 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 356 þe kynges by whas wyȝte hit be yweye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/1 Wowyn, or weyyd, *ponderatus, libratus*. 1489 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 21 The wheight stone that the wooll was weyed with. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 255 Are there ballance heere to weigh the flesh? 1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 42 A Beame to waye spice with. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 98 They weigh the cheese when it is set on Table, and taken away, being paid by the weight. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 28 P 9 Engines should be fixed in proper places to weigh chairs as they weigh waggons. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 279 We have weighed it green, that is, just after mowing, against all the other pasture grasses, and it out-weighs them all. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 387 A graduated transfer jar containing the gas to be weighed.' 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xiii, While the numbers were going up, and the jockeys being weighed. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 212 When we weighed their riders after the morning's work, we found that Peter was giving Foxhall two stone and a half.

b. *absol.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl* A. v. 118 Furst I leornede to lyȝe a lessun or tweyne, And wikkedliche for to weie was myn oþer lessun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 122 Libra..hath figure and resemblance Unto a man which a balance Berth in his hond as forto weie. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vii. (1883) 138 And by the potte and elle ben signefyed them that haue the charge to weye and mete and mesure truly.

c. In Horse-racing. *To weigh out*, *in*: to take the weight of (a jockey) respectively before and after a race. (Cf. 9.)

1890 *Rules of Racing* in *Encycl. Sport* (1898) II. 224 The Stakeholder shall not allow a jockey to be weighed out for any horse until such horse's stake [etc.] have been paid. *Ibid.* 225 The Clerk of the Scales..shall in all cases weigh in the riders of the horses.., and report to the Stewards any jockey not presenting himself to be weighed in.

8. To measure a definite quantity of (a substance) on the scales. Usually with *out*: To portion out (a quantity measured by weight) from a larger mass; to apportion (such a quantity) *to* (a person or persons); † to measure exactly or to the full weight (*obs.*). Also with *in*, *into*: To introduce a specified weight of (a substance), to add as an ingredient.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 745 And of that coper [he] weyed out [*Cambr. MS.* vp] but an ounce. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 33 b, We began to way out the bisket vnto the gallie slaues. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 35 For at the first they all created were In goodly measure, by their Makers might, And weighed out in ballaunces so nere, That not a dram was missing of their right. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 88 We wayed out the wax which came in the Hoseander, and fownd it want a tonne. 1616 *Ibid.* 111 We waid out the pepper to day for the king. *Ibid.* 217 He deliuered or wayd out much more to Tomo Dono and Cushcron Dono. *a* 1646 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* iii. (1650) 197 Never did any skilfull Physitian more carefully weigh out to every dram what the potion should be that is to be given to a child, than God doth weigh out every affliction that he sendeth upon his children. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iii. (1842) 75 No further difficulty will now arise in the way of graduating a tube. The 34.25 grains of mercury are to be weighed in...Another 34.25 grains of mercury are to be weighed into the tube to the metal already contained in it. *Ibid.* xii. 283 If it be found that as many parts of the acid have been used as of grains of the carbonate weighed out, the acid is of proper strength.

†b. To measure (a sum of money) by weight, in order to pay it *to* (a person). Chiefly in Biblical renderings. Also with *out*, *down*. *Obs.* (So OE. *awegan*, G. *wägen*, *dar-*, *zuwägen*.)

1382 WYCLIF *Zech.* xi. 12 And thei weyeden my mede, thritti platis of syluer. 1388 — *Job* xxviii 15 Nether siluer schal be weied [1382 peisid] in the chaungyng therof. 1535

Coverdale *Jer.* xxxii. 10, I..weyed him there the money vpon the waightes. — *Zech.* xi. 12 So they wayed downe xxx. syluer pens, ye value that I was pryced at. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 492/2 An officer that weyed out mony for soldiers wages. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw.-Hoe* II. i, Some [are] cutting purses, some cheating, some weying out bribes.

c. *fig.* To dispense or administer (justice) impartially.

c 1400 *tr. Pol. Poems* I. 14 Weye o lawe in euenhede, Bytwen fiauour and vengeaunce. 1582 A. Scott *Poems* i. 29 (*To Q. Mary*) Waye Iustice, equale without discrepance.

9. *intr.* in *Horse-racing.* Of a jockey: To take his place in the scales, in order that his declared weight may be verified by the clerk. *To weigh out, in,* to do this before and after a race. (Cf. 7 c.)

1805 *Weatherby's Racing Cal.* XXXII. p. xxxviii, That every person who shall ride at Newmarket for Plate, Sweepstakes, or Match, shall be obliged to weigh when he comes in. 1838 *Rules of Racing* § 37 Jockies are required to weigh at the usual place of weighing, before the race,..and every rider is, immediately after the race, to ride his horse to the usual place of weighing,..and to weigh to the satisfaction of the person appointed for that purpose. 1868 Whyte Melville *White Rose* I. xiv. 174 Their riders are drinking sherry..preparatory to 'weighing in'. *Ibid.* 182 Mr. Snipe, *of*

is said to have weighed in and weighed out with a whip weighing 7 or 9 lbs. and to have exchanged it for a lighter whip before and after the race. 1880 Manefield *Right Royal* 33 When the clock struck three and the men weighed out. *Ibid.* 119 Then the riders weighed-in, and the meeting was over.

b. Hence *To weigh in with*: to introduce or produce (something that is additional or extra). *colloq.*

1885 *Daily News* Nov. (*Passing English*, 1909) The journal 'weighs in' with a prismatic Christmas number. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 464/1 Carver..used to sit up and snort a bit when we weighed in with hock and seltzer instead of tea. 1921 D. Mackail *Romance to Rescue* i. 9 A Rhodes scholar weighed in with praise of Greenwich Village.

10. *trans.* To hold (an object) in the hand (or in both hands) in order to observe or estimate its weight; to balance an object in the hand (or hands) as if estimating its weight.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. iii. M j b, Waye me this gyrdel heuy with moche golde .i. fele me this girdell, howe heuy it is with golde. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 343 Who poises and proportions sea and land, Weighing them in the hollow of his hand. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* lvii, 'But why should he know of it?' said Glossin, slipping a couple of guineas into Mac-Guffog's hand. The turnkey weighed the gold, and looked sharp at Glossin. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxiii, Mr. Bumble..counted the teaspoons, weighed the sugar-tongs. 1848 — *Dombey* lvi, He remained before him weighing his white hat in both hands by the brim. 1911 H. W. & F. G. Fowler *Concise Oxf. Dict.* s.v., [He] meditatively weighed his stick in his hand.

b. To keep (the wings) evenly outspread in flight. *poet.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1046 Satan..in the emptier waste, resembling Air, Weighs his spread wings.

11. *fig.* (with more or less retention of the literal idea or expression): To estimate, assess the value of (a person, a condition, quality, etc.), as if by placing in the scales.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 63 in *Lamb. Hom.* 163 Þer me scal ure werkes weien biforan Þe heuen king. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 152 Þe same Mesure Þat ȝe Meten A-mis oÞer elles, ȝe schul be weyen per-with whon ȝe wenden hennes. 1382 Wyclif *Job* vi. 2 Wolde God, my synnes weren weȝed..in a balaunce. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 129 Þou art i-weye on a balaunce and i-founde Þat Þou hast lasse [Dan. v. 27]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 29 b, Our sayd lorde..at the houre of our iudgement shall ponder and wey euery mannes encrease or decrease. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, Not waiyng our merites, but pardonyng our offences. 1557 North *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* Prol. A i, God doth not way us as we are, but as we desier to be. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 27 Accursed vsurie was all his trade, And right and wrong ylike in equall ballaunce waide. 1670 Dryden *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 22 Friendship..weighs by th' lump, and, when the cause is light, Puts kindness in to set the Ballance right. 1736 Berkeley *Discourse* Wks. III. 419 Were all men to be weighed in the exact scale of merit. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 97 Where such a cross-grain'd Piece of Stuff is concerned..one should ponder with inward Consultations, to be able to weigh him to a Hair. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 366 That heav'n will weigh man's virtues and his crimes With nice attention, in a righteous scale. 1813 Byron *Hebrew Mel., Vis. Belshazzar* vi, He, in the balance weigh'd, Is light and worthless clay. 1872 Blackie *Lays Highl.* 134 God numbers not the heads, but weighs the hearts Of them that worship. 1897 'Ouida' *Massarenes* xxii, [She] had mentally weighed him, and found him wanting.

b. To balance *with* or *against* (another object regarded as a counterpoise) in order to a comparative estimate. Also *to weigh together.*

1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 47/1 Waye the good that they doo, with the hurte that commeth of them. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., If those men will waye their labor, with the

loue against some other Maid. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ii. 45 For by no meanes the false will with the truth be wayd. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horn.-bk.* i. heading, The old world & the new weighed together. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 8 Then wisely (good Sir) weigh Our sorrow with our comfort. 1647 Cowley *Mistress, Love undiscovered* ii, Forbid it Heaven my Life should be Weigh'd with her least Conveniency.

1781 Cowper *Hope* 178 The fragrant grove, th' inestimable mine, Were light when weigh'd against one smile of thine. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Tombs in Abbey*, While we had been weighing anxiously prudence against sentiment. 1829 Napier *Penins. War* II. 265 He anxiously weighed his own resources against those at the enemy's disposal. 1868 Helps *Realmah* VI. x. (1876) 118 But of what weight was any mere earthly consideration of that kind when weighed against the danger of impiety? 1917 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 16 They held their lives to be of little price, when weighed against a nation's fidelity to its engagements.

c. To make equal, balance (the year; *i. e.* to make night and day of equal length). *poet.*

Cf. Columella x. 42 Cum..paribus Titan orbem librauerit horis.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 419 Now sing we stormy Stars, when Autumn weighs The Year, and adds to Nights, and shortens Days. 1720 Pope *Iliad* XXII. 39 The Year when Autumn weighs.

12. To consider (a fact, circumstance, statement, etc.) in order to assess its value or importance; to ponder, estimate, examine, take due account of; to balance in the mind with a view to choice or preference.

c 1380 Wyclif *Whs.* (1880) 323 Ȝif we weyn aryht dispensis bi lore of þe hooly goost *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 384 (398) And weyen every thyng by equite. 14.. Lydg. *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 150 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 81 Ye prudent Iugis ..Weieth this mater in your discrecioun. 1436 Sir G. Have *Gov. Princis* (S. T. S.) 147 Cast all thair counsaillis ilkane till othir in thy mynde, and wey thame as thou thinkis the caus requeris. 1533 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 300 They wayeing in thaire myndes the force of the saide acte. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 266 b, He desyreth them..that they would way the whole case diligently. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 20 She, now weighing the decayed plight And shrunken synewes of her chosen knight. 1612 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, II iv. 197. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 181 If thou hast seriously weighed the foregoing rules. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 70 Weigh in your Mind the various Chance of War. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 43 P8, I have well weighed that Matter. 1748 Fielding *J. Andrews* III. iii, I weighed the consequences on both sides as fairly as I could. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* III. i, I have been likewise weighing and balancing what you were pleased to mention concerning duty. 1847 Yeowell *Anct. Brit. Ch.* iii. 34 Let any thinking man weigh this singular circumstance. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 39 The jurymen,..being little accustomed to weigh evidence, followed without scruple the directions of the bench.

never came to a decii
and cons. 1863 Geo.
the moment was too pressing for him to weigh distant consequences. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. II. 390 The king is wise; his wrath will well be weighed.

absol. 1796 Wordsw. *Borderers* II. 645 Men who are little given to sift and weigh.

b. To ponder and examine the force of (words or expressions). *To weigh one's words*: to speak deliberately and in calculated terms.

1340 *Ayenb.* 255 Huo þet ne weȝþ his wordes ine þe weye of discrecion. *Ibid.* 256 Huer me sseel weȝe þet word er hit be yzed. 1576 Gascoigne *Steel Glas* 215 Words of worth, and worthy to be wayed. 1579 Lodge *Def. Plays* 16 If we way Poetes wordes and not ther meaning, our learning in them wilbe very mene. *a* 1584 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1164 Then Hope replyd,..And wyselie weyd his words. *a* 1631 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 309 The old King thought the preacher never had thought of his sermon, till he spoke it... I knew that he had weighed every syllable, for halfe a year before. 1655 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 14, I must..weigh my words before they are sent abroad. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIII. 62 His words well-weigh'd, the gen'ral voice approv'd. 1846 J. Martineau *Ess.* (1869) II. 64 The moralist..has far other work than to weigh expressions and analyze definitions. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxii, Mr. Carker read this slowly; weighing the words as he went. 1877 Huxley *Techn. Educ.* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 82, I weigh my words when I say that if the nation could purchase a potential Watt, or Davy, or Faraday, at the cost of a hundred thousand pounds down, he would be dirt-cheap at the money.

c. with object-clause. Now *rare.*

Often *to weigh by, with, within oneself.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 152 Ponderynge and weyenge also that of all vertues mercy is moost necessaryly requyred to this mysserable worlde. 1549 E. Allen *Jude's Par. Rev.* xi. 16 Whether any suche thynge..maye hereafter happen, let euery true christen harte..well consyder and wey by himselfe. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* v. 81 They wayed also that both the sauegard of them, and of the king lay in the handes of one that was a prisoner. 1553 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xi. 30, I beseech yow..waye wyth your self, what a good Master our hevenlye Father ys vnto yow. 1573 Bedingfield tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* II. (1576) 18 b, If they would waye wyth themselues, that all men.. haue the vse of reason. 1578 Whetstone *and Pt. Promos & Cass.* v. v. M 2, Good Maddame way, by lawe, your Lord doth dye. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxx. 8 And I a tyrant haue no leasure taken To waigh how once I suffered in your crime. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* A a b, Well weighing with my selfe, that it was a Work might yeeld some profit to my Countrie men of England. 1673 Dryden *Aureng.* v. (1676) 80 You thought me dead, and prudently did weigh Tears were but vain. 1683 *Pennsylv. Arch.* (1852) I. 75 We ye free People of ye Town..of Salem..weighing well in ourselves y^t nothing can more readily conduce to our..Happiness, then a fair and just settlement of our Foundations [etc.]. 1803 Eldon in Vesey *Chanc. Cases* (1827) VIII. 427 The Court ought to weigh, whether the doubt is so reasonable and fair, that the property is left in his hands not marketable. 1814 Scott *Tallism.* III, He weighed within himself, whether [etc.]. 1841 Myers *Catk. Th.* III. § 42. 161 Let any one weigh well what it is to translate such a collection of documents as constitute the Bible.

d. *To weigh up*: to appraise, form an estimate of (a person). *colloq.*

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 3/1 The Liberal delegates were fervid only when 'weighing-up' the House of Peers and insisting upon its disestablishment. 1897 'O. Rhoscomyl' *White Rose Arms* 43, I will watch him closer for the future. I should have come up earlier now, but that I was weighing up his servant, an arrant Whig and a spy to boot. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 14 Jan. 7, 'I knew too much about her,' she said. 'I had weighed her up.'

†13. To esteem, value, think highly of; to count dear or precious; to ascribe value or importance to. Often with negative: (Not) to care for or regard. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 336 Kunde of gode heorte is to beon offeared of sunne, þer as non nis ofte; oðer weien swuðer his sunne summechere þen he þurfte. Weien hit to lutel is ase vuel, oðer wurse. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Kn.'s T.* 923 That lord hath litel of discrecion, That in swich cas kan no diuision, But weyeth pride and humblesse after oon. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. x. 335 Whi therfore schulen we ouer miche weie and apprise his seiyng? 1496–7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 12 Preamble, The same Kyng.., not fearyng Almyghty God in breking his seid promys nor weiyng his Honour in the same. 1567 Harman *Caveat* 64 Take no care for that, for I doe not greatly waye it; it was worth but three shyllinges foure pens. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 73 Nought weigh I, who my song doth prayse or blame. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 27 You weigh me not, O that's you care not for me. 1592 Daniel *Compl. Rosamond* xxiii, Henry the second, that so highly weigh'd mee. 1595–7 Lyly *Wom. in Moon* III. ii. 289, I, he wayes more his flocke then me. 1633 Massinger *New Way* III. iii, My deeds, nephew, Shall speake my loue, what men report, I waigh not. 1676 Sir W. Temple in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 81 The Estates would bee enough inclinable to it as weighing interest more than honour. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 1306/2, I do not weigh you a pin..*Non ego te flocci facio.*

† b. with adj. compl. (*light, dear*, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxvi. v, Thy people all beholding, Who dear their deaths dost weigh. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* I. i. 361 To let them see how light I wey their words. *a* 1599 Spenser *F. Q.* VII. vi. 55 Them all, and all that she so deare did way, Thence-forth she left. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 43 In cases of defence, 'tis best to weigh The Enemie more mightie then he seemes. 1601 — *All's Well* III. iv. 32 Let euerie word waigh heauie of her worth, That he does waigh too light.

†14. *intr.* a. To pay heed or deference *to*. *Sc.*

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxx, Myn effectis grete, Vnto the quhich ȝe aughten maist weye. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 157 Suppos thai have na soverane to quham thai wey, bot anerly God allane.

† b. with *of*: To ponder, consider (something); to judge of, estimate, value, care for. *Obs.*

1573 *New Custom* D iij b, God waieth not..Of any vesture, or outward apparance a mite. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* v. v. 82 But weye of this euery man as pleaseth him. 1584 Lodge *Forbonius & Prisc.* 35 Solduvius, not.. willing to weigh of the submissiue request of his daughter, interrupted her thus. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 29 Vnworthy she to be belou'd so dere, That could not weigh of worthinesse aright.

† c. with negative: (Not) to hesitate *to* (do something). *Obs.*

1573 Lloid *Pilgr. Princes* 14 The women of Scithia called Amazones..wayed not to encounter with Hercules in the fielde.

III. To have heaviness or weight.

15. *intr.* Of a material object or substance: To have a greater or less degree of heaviness, as measured by the scales. a. To be equal to or balance (a specified weight) in the scales.

The specifying word is to be regarded as a predicative complement rather than as governed by the verb.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 92 Se sester sceal wegan twa pund he sylfyr ȝewyht. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xlv. (1883) 228 Ælc an hazelstan wegeð fif pund. 13.. *Sir Beues* 1484 A dede Beues binde to a ston gret, þat weȝ seue quarters of whet. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 454 Hir couerchiefs..I dorste swere they weyeden ten pound, That on a sonday weren vpon hir heed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 207 Oon of the hameres weiede twele so moche as anoþer. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 111 One framosian had promysed to hym as moche weyght of pure gold as the heed weyed. 1589 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1883) 177 Ane silver spune and a maser veand 3 uncis. 1593 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 34 The fleshe therof weyed xlvij. pound weyght. 1599 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 28 Here's the note How much your Chaine weighs to the vtmost charect. 1665 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 69 A little..Key, not weighing a Shilling. 1675 R. Vaughan *Coin & Coinage* 75 They'd have it..so as the Pieces of Silver and Gold should weigh one the other. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 44 Some of them [*sc.* marmots] are found to weigh above twenty pounds. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 891 The gum weighed 3 per cent of the almonds analysed. 1896 J. Richardson *Recoll.* I. vi. 145 In person he was tall and corpulent, weighing something over twenty stone.

b. with adv. or pred. adj.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 Hwon two bereð one burðene ant te oðer bileaueð hit, þeonne mei þe bet holden hit up luelen hu hit weiheð. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 305 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 311 Heouene geth al aboute þe eorþe, euene it mot weyze. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 237 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 66 He lep in [the bucket], and way sumdel. 13.. *St. Cristofer* 364 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 458 The childe swa heuy woghe þat ofte-nythes one knees he hym droghe. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1788 (Fairfax) And as she woke, hir bed she felt presse. What best ys that, quod she, that weyeth thus? *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXII. 336 A! sir, yhe whe wele! *c* 1475 *Macro Plays, Mankind* 692 Ther ys to moche cloth, yt weye as ony lede. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* CXXXVIII. 305 They.. becam stronge, and delyuer in suche wyse that the armes that they have weyed nothyng as them semed. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* x. 174 His shield that weightie waied. 1586 Whitney *Choice Emb.* 41 The beaute leade, did weye so harde behinde. 1608 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xv. 32 Heere's sport

indeede: How heauy weighes my Lord? 1779 Cowper *Yearly Distress* 48 Like barrels with their bellies full, They only weigh the heavier. 1828 Scott *Br. Lammm.* x, His fingers fumbled as if..the other [sc. his beaver] had weighed equal with a stone of lead.

16. *fig.* (with more or less retention of the literal idea or expression).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 *Misericordia superexaltat judicium* [Jas. ii. 13]:..his merci touward us weleð euer more þen þet rihte nearuwe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 91 Loue is þe wyȝte ine þe balance..uor non oþer þing ne may were, huanne me comþ to nime ech his zsepe, bote loue and charite. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 243 Thy regne is doon, thou weyest noght at al. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 275 Ther ben manye of these Lovers, that thogh thei love a lyte, That scarsly wolde it weie a myte Vit wolde thei have a pound again, As doth Usure in his bargain. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 43 3e weyin now in mennys hertys, in dreed of 3oure myȝt, more þan all þe world, for all þe world dare noȝt wythstonde 3ou. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlv. 177 For synne is not lyȝt, but it is hevy, and weythe more than lede. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 332 One must proue greatest While they weigh so euen, We hold our Towne for neither: yet for both. 1599 — *Much Ado* v. i. 93, I know them, yea And what they weigh, euen to the vtmost scruple, Scambling, out-facing, fashion-monging boyes. 1602 — *All's Well* III. iv. 31 Let euerie word weigh heauie of her worth.

† **b.** To amount or be equivalent *to*. *Obs.*

1529 More *Dyalogs* IV. xi. 108 b/2 Yt gaue hym occasyon to dowt lest Luther ment not al thing so euyl as his wordys seme to way to. 1588 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. iv. (ed. 3) 158 Whether a man doe actually vse force in his entrie, or doe come so readily appointed and araied for it,..it seemeth to weigh to a violent (or *Forcible*) entrie.

† **c.** *To weigh with* (also *even with*): to counterpoise in power, value, etc.; to be of equal value or importance with. *Obs.*

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 196 In euery thing, the purpose must weigh with the folly. 1607 — *Timon* I. i. 146 Giue him thy Daughter, What you bestow, in him Ile counterpoize, And make him weigh with her. 1636 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. (1674) 4 France may vie and weigh even with Greece it self, in point of Learning.

d. *To weigh against*, † *again*: to counterbalance, countervail.

c 1410 [see 20]. 1590 Greene *Never too late* II. (1600) K 4 b, Hee that seeketh to way against his owne will, oftentimes kicketh against the prick. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 55 Much more, in this great worke..should we../know our owne estate, How able such a Worke to vndergo, To weigh against his Opposite? 1833 Ht. Martineau *Manch. Strike* iv. 47 Such evils..can neither be helped nor be allowed to weigh against the advantages of union. 1884 Gilmour *Mongols* xviii. 216 He believes that every sin will weigh against him, and drag him down in the scale of being.

e. quasi-*trans.* To equal (something else) in weight or value; to counterbalance; † to be tantamount or equivalent to.

1583 Greene *Mamillia* I. 6 b, So that eyther thou couldest sooth her with a frumpe, or els lay a loading carde on her backe, should wey a scoffe. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 26 Indeed I waigh not you, and therefore light. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 12. *Ibid.* III. ii. 259 The heads of all thy Brother-Cardinals..Weigh'd not a haire of his. 1893 *Westm. Gas.* 21 Mar. 3/2 There are difficulties..in the poem. Only they do not weigh the enormous difficulty of a multiplicity of Homers.

† **f.** *absol.* Of two things: To balance each other. *Obs.*

1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. xliii. 59 So that finally the good and the yuell wayed.

17. *intr.* To be of (much or little) value or account; to be regarded as considerable or important; to have influence *with* (a person) when he is forming an estimate or judgement.

c 1386 Chaucer *Parson's T.* 367 (Hengwrt MS.) Dedly synne, whan the loue of any thyng weyeth in the herte of man as muche as the loue of god or moore. 1535 W. Stewart *Cron.* (Rolls) III. 313 And his command with him richt litill weyit. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 5 Why things so light in their owne nature should weigh in the opinions of men so much. 1639 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 179 Younge Darby [6th Earl], whoe nowe weighes much less then his name formerly hath donn. 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* III. 107 Pleasing to God, or not pleasing, with them weighed alike; and the worse most an end the weightier. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Dec. 1680, In truth, their testimonie did little weigh with me. 1708 Atterbury *Serm. bef. Queen* 28 Oct. 20 A Wise Man is then best satisfy'd..when he finds ..that the same Argument, which weighs with Him, hath weigh'd with Thousands..before him. 1744 Kames *Decis. Cri. Sess. 1730-52* (1799) 79 Nor ought it to weigh that Murray run the hazard of his factor's bankruptcy. 1838 Macaulay *Lat. to Napier* in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) II. vii. 12 There is another consideration that weighs much with me. *a* 1853 Robertson *Lect.* (1858) ii. 31, I have not the vanity to say..that my name had weight with many; but it did weigh with some. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks., Rousseau* 338 Every man feels instinctively that all the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action. 1899 Doyle *Duet* xiv. 199 Holland is a sound man, and his opinion would weigh with any judge. 1920 Bert *Rise of Papacy* ii. 79 The Roman verdict weighed much throughout Christendom.

IV. To affect, or be affected, by weight.

18. *trans. To weigh down*: to draw, force, or bend down by pressure of weight; *fig.* to depress, oppress, lie heavy on. Similarly, *to weigh back*, † *on one side*, *to the earth*.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vii. 17 He..ikyd to be seruaunte of syn, swa þat his synn weghe him down, þat he neuer rise till þe rist of heuen. 1563 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Degrauare*, The vine lodeth and weigheth downe the elme. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 232 The watrie wette weighed downe his head. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* IV. lxxvi, O could the mighty but glue bounds to pride And weigh backe fortune ere shee pull them downe. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 7 O gentle Sleepe..how haue I frighted thee, That thou no more wilt weigh my eye-lids downe..? 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* XIV. ii. 201 Then the rowers thought best to way the gallie on one side [L. *unum in latus inclinare*], and so to sincke her. 1611 Bible *Wisd.* ix. 15 The corruptible body presseth downe the soule, and the earthy tabernacle weigheth downe the minde that museth vpon many things. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 494 P 4 There are many excellent Persons, who are weighed down by this habitual Sorrow of Heart. 1783 Cowper *The Rose* 4 The plentiful moisture incumber'd the flower, And weigh'd down its beautiful head. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. xi. 625 The people were weighed down by an insufferable taxation. 1858 Drayson *Sport. Scenes S. Afr.* 208 The Kaffirs returned, almost weighed down by the immense weight of meat. 1865 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1303 Falling and weighed back by clamorous arms Sharp rang the dead limbs of Eurytion. 1879 Pattison *Milton* xiii. 215 Causes other than the inherent faults of the poem long continued to weigh down the reputation of *Paradise Lost*. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 252 What, then, was the *consuetudo carnalis* which thus weighed to the earth this soul of fire, striving to ascend to its true home?

† **b.** Without adv.: To depress, dispirit. *Obs. rare.*

1633 Fletcher & Shirley *Night-walker* I. (1640) B 3, You are light Gentlemen, Nothing to weigh your hearts.

† **19.** *intr.* **a.** Of the scale of a balance (with *up* or *down*): To rise or sink according as it holds the lesser or greater weight. Also *gen.* (with *down*): To sink through its own heaviness or load. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 750 A gret pot..In þat balance has he done; þane ourys veyt vpe tycht [*read* rycht] sone. ? 1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquin in Trance* 65 That Deuill..doth all that he can to make his parte [of the balance] way downe the heauier. *a* 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 610 The Cause is the plenty of the Sap, and the Softnesse of the Stalke, which maketh the Bough, being ouer-loaden, and not stiffely vpheld, weigh downe.

† **b.** *To weigh with*: to move with, follow the motion of (something that shifts or varies). *To weigh against*: to strive to make head against (the wind). *Obs.*

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* IV. 34 b, Waying with the worlde, according as the tyme should alter [*semper ex auspitii mutatione temporum pendens*]. *a* 1557 Mary Basset tr. *More's Treat. Pass.* M.'s Wks. 1372/1 A fainte harted mayster of a shippe..shrinketh from the sterne, and..suffreth the ship alone to waye wyth the waues [*puppim permittit fluctibus*]. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 263 And where thou sekes a quiet port, Thou dost but weigh agaynst the winde.

20. *trans.* Of an object set in the scales (with *down*, *up*, † *out*; also † *to weigh to the beam*): To turn the scale when weighed against (something else); to outweigh, cause to rise in the scale. Also *to weigh down* (the balance or scale). Often *fig.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 7 At þe laste þe stoon was leide in a balaunce, and he weiȝ [*MSS.* α, β, γ, weygh, weyȝ, wayȝ] up al þat me myȝte leie aȝenst hym in þe oþer side. *c* 1410 Hoccleve *Mother of God* 81 Helpe me to weye Ageyn the feend, þat with his handes tweye, And his might, plukke wole at the balance To weye vs doun. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 66 Her..euell dedes..weyed downe and ouercome her good dedes. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 221 When alle his synnys wern layde on þe balans and was nygh ouercomyn, then come thylke brennet dekon, and layde a grete pote on þe wey þa whech anon weyit vp al togedyr. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. iv. 89 But in the Ballance of great Bullingbrooke, Besides himselfe, are all the English Peeres, And with that oddes he weighes King Richard downe. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. ix. 2 Hard is the doubt, and difficult to deeme, When all three kinds of loue together meet, And doe dispart the hart with powre extreme, Whether shall weigh the balance downe. *Ibid.* V. ii. 46 Yet all the wronges could not a litle right downe way. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* II iii. 162 We poizing vs in her defective scale, Shall weigh thee to the beame. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 88 My Friends, They that must weigh out my afflictions. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 14 Four Ounces of *Virgo* Dust, shall weigh him down more, than four Tun of Honesty. 1711 Swift *Examiner* No. 26 One Whig shall weigh down ten Tories. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vii, Where all other inducements were wanting, the habitual carelessness of his disposition stepped in and still weighed down the scale on the same side. 1900 *Westm. Gas.* 27 Mar. 7/3 Whose mistakes..are a thousand times weighed up by his countless individual deeds of true friendship.

† **21.** *trans.* To sway or influence (a person); to induce (a person) *to* (do something). *Obs.*

1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* 121 When these wordes waighed him nothing, his owne man..began to reprove him for not relenting to so rich a proffer. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 83/2 By the procurement as well of the archbishop as of all the cleargie [the legate] was weighed to giue the citizens absolution.

22. *intr.* with *on* or *upon*. **a.** Of a thought, feeling, circumstance: To lie heavy on, depress (a person, his spirits, etc.). Also in indirect passive.

1775 Sheridan *Duenna* II. iv, If either of you had known how each moment of delay weighs upon the heart of her who loves. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 43 Where am I now? Not in your heart while care weighs on your brow. 1832 Tennyson *Lotos-eaters* 57 Why are we weigh'd upon with heaviness? 1838 Lytton *Alice* II. ii, Something seemed to weigh upon her spirits. 1838 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 387 This London atmosphere weighs on me. 1863 Mary Howitt tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xii. 47 The sceptre of despotism weighs oppressively on all free public life. 1909 J. L. Allen *Bride of Mistletoe* v. 147 The illness began to weigh upon

b. To insist or dwell *upon* (a fact, argument, etc.). *rare.*

1817 H. T. Colebrooke *Algebra*, etc. Notes & Illustr. p. xlii, These facts will be further weighed upon as we proceed. 1818 — *Import Colonial Corn* 70 Without weighing upon this surmise.

23. The vb.-stem in combination: **weigh-balk** *north.* and *Sc.*, the beam of a pair of scales or steelyard; *pl.* scales; **weigh-bar** = *weigh-shaft*; **weigh-beam**, a balance or steelyard; **weigh-brods** *pl. Sc.*, boards used for the scales of a large balance; † **weigh-gilt** *Sc.*, a payment for weighing (after Du. *waaggeld*, G. *wage-*, *wägegeld*); † **weigh-leaf**, a board or plate used as a scale; **weigh-lock** *U.S.*, a canal-lock at which barges are weighed and their tonnage is settled; **weighman**, a man employed to weigh goods, etc.; in a colliery, one who weighs the tubs of coal as they leave the cage at the pit-mouth (for *check-weighman* see Check-); **weigh-master** (cf. G. *wagemeister*, Du. *waagmeester*), the official in charge of a weigh-house or public scales; **weigh-out**, the verification of a jockey's declared weight before a race (see 9); **weigh-shaft** = Rock-shaft. Also **Weigh-bridge**, **-house**, **-scale**.

1485 *Inv.* in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 371, j *weybalke cum skales. 1593-4 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) II. 380 Quhatsumever parson..in tym cuming borrow the use of thair wey balk to wey irone or wther geir. 1608 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 190 Ane grit weybak with the balance brodis thereto for weying the ore. 1814 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xxiii, To see a' ane's warldly substance capering in the air in a pair of weigh-bauks, now up, now down. 1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 93/2 A lever is fixed upon the cross-head working in a link connected to a second lever fixed on a shaft or *weigh-bar across the engine, whereby a rocking motion is produced. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 16 Beam-engine with its weigh-bar gearing. 1492 in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 178 My *weybernes [? *read* -bemes] with all my weights of lede. 1804 *Local Act 44 Geo. III* c. lv. § 2 To..erect and set up.. Weighbeams, Cranes. 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 1497 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 74 Hous hir, 12s. *veygyll, *Stranger in Amer.* II. 140 The object of the greatest interest to me, in Utica, was a *weigh-lock—an American invention if I am not mistaken. The toll for freight on the canal is proportionate to weight. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Weighman*. See *Weigher*. 1907 [see Weigh-house]. 1927 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 630/1 The bigger fish were weighed on an ingenious balance, consisting of a long steel rod with a sliding weight, the whole suspended on a bit of string held aloft by the weighman. 1617 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 428 The *Weymaster and his porters, which attended at the Guildhall. 1689 Ravenhill *Acc. Comp. Grocers* 4 The Grocers..may be well presumed (time out of Mind) to have had the management of the King's Beam, as an Office peculiar to them;..they having had all along..the naming of the Weigh-Master, and the naming, placing, removing and governing of the four Porters, attending that Office, all to be elected out of their own Company. 1886 *Racing* (Badm. Libr.) 67 It was, indeed, this absolute certainty as to the accuracy of the *weigh-out, which led to the detection of the attempted fraud when Catch-em-alive won the Cambridgeshire. 1887-92 N. P. Burgh *Mod. Marine Engin.* 73 Motion is imparted to the lever *weigh shaft by a toothed quadrant keyed thereon. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms* 407 Weigh Shaft or Way Shaft.—..Sometimes called a reversing shaft.

† **Weigh**, *v.*[2] Only OE. and early ME. Forms: 1 **wegan**, *3rd sing.* **weȝeð**, *pa. t.* **weȝ(e)de**, *pa. pple.* **ȝeweȝd**, 3 *3rd sing.* **weieð**, *pa. t.* **weide**, 4 *pa. pple.* **yweid**. [OE. *wegan* = OHG. *wagan*, MHG. *wegen* (weak vb., with umlaut *e*; distinct from OHG. *wegan*, MHG. *wagen* str. vb. = Weigh *v.*[1]), Goth. *wagjan* to shake; f. Teut. root **wag-*, ablaut-var. of **weg-*: see Weigh *v.*[1]] *trans.* To shake, toss, agitate, move about.

a 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* vii. 35 Wyrce him siðþan his modes hus, þær he mæȝe findan..grundweal ȝearone: se to glidan ne þearf þeah hit wecge wind woruldearfoþa. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cviii. 25 Hi wegdan..heora beafod. *c* 1205 Lay. 20137 Swa þe hæȝe wude, þenne wind wode weieð hine mid mæine. *Ibid.* 21869 Heo waiden in hære ærmen heore children ærmen. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* i. 370 Þat makeþ man so hardiliche To stonde, and so merie Ine goste, þat he ne may nauȝt yweid be Wiþ blanding ne wiþ boste.

Weighable, (*wē·ăb'l*) *a.* [f. Weigh *v.*[1] + -able.] That can be weighed; heavy enough (or reckoned as heavy enough) to be weighed in scales.

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 349/1 Woll, and al maner þinge weiable. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* c j b, Of euery one, the Content knowen, in your least waight, that is weyable. 1626 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 144 All weyabill merchand waris, sic as lint, hemp, irn, woll. 1796 T. Twining *Trans. Amer.* (1894) 162 It was applicable..in every wholesale warehouse of weighable goods. 1864 Dickens *Hard T.* III. vii, Anything so..ridiculously shameful as the whelp in his comic livery, Mr. Gradgrind never could by any other means have believed in, weighable and measurable fact though it was. 1898 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 50, I am not aware that the soul of Shakespeare or of Newton, when they died, added any weighable powers to the dust to which they returned. 1885 *Leeds Mercury* 5 Aug. 3/2 Where he found a weighable quantity was in the liver.

†Wei·ghage. *Obs.* Also 7 way-, weyage, -edge. [f. WEIGH *v.*[1] + -AGE.] A duty or toll paid for the weighing of goods.

1547 *Charters vel. Glasgow* (1906) II. 521 All..oure Custwmis of oure ciete and burgh of Glasgw, with mettage and [illegible] in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 176 That tak na mair for weyage bot ane penny for the stane [of wool]. 1611 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) 441 We..finde..that the Towne is defrauded of that dew of weyage as it ought to receave by wayenge of goods saleable at the King's beame. 1632 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 843 Weyages and heaven dewteis dew to be payed in harbereis. 1683 in *Somerv. Tracts* (1748) I. 180 [London dues] Meetage, Weighage, Scavage, Hallage. *a* 1702 LEVINZ *Rep.* (1702) III. 37, 8 d. per Tonne pur chescun Tonne de Cheese port de ascun lieu en Angleterre al Port de London..en nom de Weighage. 1824 CHITTY *Laws Commerce* II. 26 Weighage, called either *tronage* for weighing wool at the king's beam, or *peasage*, for weighing other avoirdupoise goods. 1836 BOUVIER *Law Dict. U. S. A.* (ed. 6) II. 647.

Weighboard: see WAY-BOARD.

Wei·gh-box. s. One of a set of boxes, used in the operation of 'drawing' wool, in which the wool is more accurately weighed. b. A weigh-house. c. A chute which weighs and delivers coal at a railway coaling-station (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl. 1909).

1884 MᶜLAREN *Spinning* vii. 120 (2) the spindle gill box; (3) the 4-spindle drawing box; (4) the 6-spindle weigh box. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 25 June 9/2 The following is a complete list of the cars which weighed in at the public weigh-box.

Wei·gh-bridge. [Cf. G. *brückenwage.*] A platform scale, flush with the road, for weighing vehicles, cattle, etc.

1796 R. SALMON in *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 74 Weigh-bridges or engines, with their apparatus, for the purpose of weighing carriages. 1825 in *Newton's Lond. Jrnl. Arts* (1828) XIV. 253 Certain improvements on Weighing Machines which Machines he (the patentee) denominates German Weigh Bridges. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1194 The cart-steelyard or weigh-bridge. 1849 F. B. HEAD *Stokers & Pokers* viii. (1851) 75 [The] trucks..are immediately drawn by horses first over a weighbridge. 1886 *Daily News* 26 July 2/2 The heaviest lamb turned 169lb. on the weighbridge.

fig. a 1834 COLERIDGE *Hints Th. Life* (1848) 21 The positions of science must be tried..on the weigh-bridge of common opinion and vulgar usage.

Weighed (wēˑd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEIGH *v.*[1] + -ED.]

1. That has had its weight ascertained by the scales.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Weyd, or wowon, *ponderatus, libratus.* 1669 [see SQUASH *sb.*[2] 1]. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. (1842) 600 Then ascertain whether the weighed portions equipoise each other. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 763 A weighed quantity of the solid..is carefully introduced. 1886 JAGO *Chem. Wheat* etc. 407 Counterpoised and Weighed Filters.

2. Of judgement, opinion, etc.: Considered, balanced. †Of a person: Having a balanced and steady judgement. Cf. WELL-WEIGHED.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 349 Secretary Walsingham, and Secretary Cecil, a pair of the best weighed statesmen this island hath bred. 1647-8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 18 The Admiral, with more weighed Counsel, opposed the Princes opinion. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. i. (1676) 4 Aureng-Zebe, by no strong passion sway'd, Except his Love, more temp'rate is, and weigh'd. 1689 T. R. *View Govt.* [illegible] been of a 'd, than to [illegible] 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 3/1 The [illegible] judgments of the staid 'councillor'.

3. With *own*: Depressed, downcast.

1822 BYRON *Werner* I. i. 309 'Tis past fatigue which gives my weigh'd-down spirit An outward show of thought.

Weigher (wēˑəɹ). Forms: 4 wier, weir, 4-5 weiere, weyere, 5 weyor, -ar, 5-6 weyer, 6 waier, weygher, 6-7 wayer, 6- weigher. [f. WEIGH *v.*[1] + -ER[1]. Cf. MLG., MHG. *weger.*]

†1. ? One who bears up or supports (a person).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22115 þe wicked gastes his wiers [*Gött.* weirs] Him foluand in al his afers.

2. One who heaves up or weighs (an anchor).

1598 FLORIO, *Salpatore*, a wayer or heauer of ankers. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 5 The weigher of the anchor.

3. A person who is employed to weigh commodities; an official appointed to weigh or to supervise weighing, to test weights, etc.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 618/3 *Trutinator*, a weyere. 1463 *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden Soc.) 111 Brouwurs weyers porters tresourers clerkys [etc.] of the Staple. 1476 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) II. 5 And whan I haue weyyde heme to..pay..to the weyor ffor euery sake j d. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 342 Where before tyme yᵉ weyer vsyd to lene his draught towarde the marchaundyse, soo that the byar hadde by that meane .x. or .xii. li. in a draughte to his aduauntage. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 14 (§ 2) The waier of the Wollen within the said Porte. 1677 W. B. *Touch-stone Gold & Silver Wares* 20 Their Assay-Office,..wherein is a Sworn Weigher. 1701 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* V. 79 Mr. Fitch, cheif weigher of the gold and silver at the Mint. 1794 GRIGGS *Agric. Essex* 26 Two men are nominated..whom we call public weighers, whose business it is to..examine the weights of all millers and shopkeepers. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 22 At landing the Goods, the Weigher is to call out the full and true gross weight in the scale. 1845 H. G. DALTON *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 568 Licensed Weighers or Gaugers. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* II. 9 The crowd mash one another to pulp in the effort to get the weighers' attention to their trunks. 1886 *Act 49 & 50 Vict.* c. 49 § 16 The Admiralty may appoint ..persons to be meters and weighers at and within the harbour.

b. in fig. sense or context.

1388 WYCLIF *Prov.* xvi. 2 The Lord is a weiere [1382 peisere] of spiritis. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xx. (Roxb.) 146 The time and the sunne j made myn owen and in my balaunce j putte hem. Bi myn outrage j haue maad my self weyere ther of and sellere. ? 1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquin in Trance* 64 b, *marg.*, Saint Michaell wayer of soules. 1750 [E. YOUNG] *Conj. Orig. Comp.* 72 Old Time, that best weigher of merits. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 172 Do you, like a skilful weigher, put into the balance the pleasures and pains. 1903 *Critic* (U. S.) XLIII. 360/1 Now that you are becoming a professional weigher of books yourself.

c. A machine for weighing.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 4/1 The coal is then placed into a weigher, which dips at each quarter of a ton.

†4. Used to translate L. *æquator* (EQUATOR 1). Cf. WEIGH *v.*[1] 11 c. *Obs.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 17 This same cercle [the equinoctial] is cleped also the weyere, *equator*, of the day.

Hence **Wei·ghership**, the office of (public) weigher.

1885 *American* XI. 68 After all, Mr. Sterling seems likely to miss the Brooklyn weigherahip.

Wei·gh-house. [Cf. MLG. *weghûs*, G. *waagehaus.*] A public building to which commodities are brought to be weighed.

1438 *Cal. Patent Rolls, Hen. VI* (1907) III. 192 [By the way which runs between] le Weyhous [of the said staple, and the said] Wolbrigge. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 35 Robert Basset, clerc of the Weyhous at London. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1572) 278/2 Thirty or forty sturdy lubbers,..of which yᵉ weakest shall be as strong in the belly when he commeth vnto the manger, as the mightiest porter in yᵉ weyhouse. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 150 On the North side of this street [Cornhill]..one large house is called the Wey house, where marchandizes brought from beyond the seas, are to bee weighed at the Kinges Beame. 1649 W. GREY *Chorogr.* 17 Under the Town-Court is a common Weigh-house for all sorts of Commodities. 1658 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 170 The baillies and counsell ordaines the wechts in the wiehous. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 154 Public Stores and Weigh-houses. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXI, I might hae hung there till the day of judgment..wi' my head hinging down on the tae side, and my heels on the tother, like the yarn scales in the weigh-house. 1829 HEATH *Grocers' Comp.* 186 The general Weighhouse and King's Beam were in Cornhill, upon the site of the present Sun-Court. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 46 § 107 A weigh-house for the use of the inhabitants..with the necessary weights, scales, and measures. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 698/1 Every scale in the weigh-house is painted some distinguishing color. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 9/2 A large motor-car..backed into a public weigh-house at Blairgowrie (Perthshire)...The building was damaged and the steelyard destroyed...The weighman was in the house at the time, but was uninjured.

Weighing (wēˑiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see the vb.; also 5 **weyng(e.** [f. WEIGH *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of lifting, raising, or hoisting. Also with *up*, †*out*, etc.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 27 Paid..for the weying of an Anker..ij*s*. 1497 *Ibid.* 172 The brekyng vp of the hede at Portesmouth weyng vt of the piles & shorya. 1545 in Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 131 My Lorde Admyrall..told me that he had a good hope of the waying upright of the Mary Rose this afternone or to-morrow. *a* 1687 SIR W. PETTY in T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* (1691) 119 The..weighing up of a Ship. 1755 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 128 A Windlass, for the more easy weighing a Ship's Anchor at Sea.

2. The action or process of ascertaining the weight of an object.

1430 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 134 The ouersight of the weyng, and the sealyng of weightes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Weyynge, wythe whytya, *ponderacio, libracio.* *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) 36 Whynge appartayneth not vnto tronage. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5869/2 Owners of Hops are to give Notice..of the..Hour of bagging and weighing. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ii. (1842) 65 The method of double weighing..invented by Borda. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* I, Certain weighing of soap and tobacco was going forward. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 24 A second weighing gives the quantity of metallic lead. 1884 LD. KELVIN in S. P. Thompson *Life* xix. (1910) II. 802, I shall be greatly interested to hear more of your silver weighings.

b. *concr.* (See quot.)

1828 WEBSTER, *Weighing* a. As much as is weighed at once; as, a weighing of beef.

3. *fig.* Balancing in the mind, pondering, considering.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 364 And errour in weiyng of þis love makiþ many fals weddings. 1560 tr. *Fisher's Godlie Treat. Prayer* H 6 b, Ouerrunnyng a multitude of wordes with small consideration or weyghing of them. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 636 After mature deliberation and weighing of the matter. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* III. v. rule 8 § 12 The truth..is determinable by a just weighing of all that which very many wise Men have said, being put together. 1827 *J. J. Powell's Devises* (ed. 3) II. 251 If the 'weighing of inconveniences' were to be made on every particular will, the relative situation of the heir and devisee being thrown into the scale. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xv, Will's love had no blushings, no downcast eyes, no weighing of words. 1883 *Law Rep.* 15 Q. B. D. 137 The statute requires that there should be a real inquiry, a real weighing and sifting of evidence.

4. (Downward) pressure.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lv. (1495) 191 b, This skynne is deeled other slakyd somtyme..by to grete weyghte & weyenge downwarde of the other membres.

5. *Comb.*, as *weighing-cage, -fee, -house, -scales, -yard*; **-machine**, an apparatus (e. g. a [illegible] nbination of [illegible] a spring-balance) for weighing heavy bodies; †**weighing-post**, a post on a race-course, indicating the place appointed for the weighing of the riders.

1829 REES *Cycl.*, **Weighing-Cage*, ..an open box or cage, by means of which any small animal, such as a pig, sheep, calf, ..may be..expeditiously weighed... It is constructed on the principle of the common steel-yard. 1796 *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 77 The main or long lever of the **weighing-engine.* 1861 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vict.* c. 97 § 34 Any House, Building, or Weighing Engine erected for the better Collection, Ascertainment, or Security of any such Toll. 1828 *Rules of ... Club* § 30 The **weighing* fee for plates and stakes is 10*s.* each horse, and 10*s.* extra for the winner. 1829 REES *Cycl.*, **Weighing-House*, a building furnished with a dock, and conveniences for gauging or ascertaining the tonnage of boats that are to be used on a canal. 1829 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* vi. II. 155 It would be necessary to have some [illegible] ing c small book-men in his agitation; dashing from the ring to the weighing-house. 1796 *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 75 (page-heading) Patent for an Improvement in **Weighing-Machines.* 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 343 The Weighing-machine is an important article of the barn furniture. 1864 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 231 There is a weighing-machine at our green-grocer's. 1868 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5312/4 Every Horse shall be shewn that day three weeks before the Race, at the **Weighing Post* of Caythorp Course. 1734 CHENY *List Horse-Matches* 22 *Small-hopes* came in first, but the Rider alighting off before he came to the weighing Post, the Gelding was deem'd distanc'd. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 116/2 There is an office for the clerk of the market, and a **weighing-room.* *c* 1450 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 99, j par **weyenge scales de ligno, iiij d.* 1892 [R. BOLDERWOOD] *Sydney-side Sax.* xii, [After the race] Possie rode up to the **weighing yard with me.*

†**Wei·ghing,** *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] Heavy. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 71 Ley vpon þy wombe an hoot sherte and weyand [*camisiam calidam ponderosam*].

Weighment (wēˑmĕnt). *Anglo-Indian.* [f. WEIGH *v.*[1] + -MENT, after *measurement.*] The action of weighing (commodities).

1878 J. INGLIS *Sport & Work* xii. 135 They..cheat in the weighments and measurements. 1889 V. BALL tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. 447 The methods of weighment employed by Tavernier and Schrauf respectively. 1903 C. BALD *Indian Tea* xiv. (1917) 213 A careful examination of leaf, load by load, before weighment. 1906 J. A. ELLIOTT in *Padri Elliott of Jalsabad* 220 The Deputy Opium Agent ..let him set up a shop in the opium-camp during the two months that the weighments were on.

Weigh-scale. Orig. *north.* In 4 **weye scale, 5 weyscale, -scill, 6 weye skaile, weyskale.* [ad. Du. *waagschaal* or MLG. *waguschale* (whence MSw. *vågskal*, Sw. *vågskål*, older Da. *vægskol*, Norw. *vaagskaal*) = G. *wagschale* (†*wage-*), OE. *wégscalu* (once). See SCALE *sb.*[1] and next. In recent use perh. a new formation.] The pan of a balance; *pl.* a pair of scales.

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 313 Þe ffendes leide in a weye scale Alle pers synnes grete and smale. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 204 Hym þoght þer was fowle blakk men þatt putt all his ill dedis in a weyskale. And on þe toder hand hym þoght þer was fayr men, bod þai wer passand hevy, & said þai had no gude (*sic*) de of his to putt in þe toder weyskale agayns his ill dedis. 1447-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 87 Pro uno drawghrape et uno smalrape pro Weyscill, 15*d.* 1489-60 *Ibid.* 89, j par del Weyscales cum diversis ponderibus. 1582 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 45, i paire of weye skalles. 1620 *Mem. St. Giles's, Durh.* (Surtees) 27 Paid for mendinge of a weyskale. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* viii. 179 A tall woman who had been sitting on a weigh scale dropped down into the schooner.

b. *To be on the weigh-scales*: to be undecided.

1886 M. MOORSOM *Thirteen all Told* 43 Elliot was still on the weigh-scales about going.

†**Wei·gh-shale** (5 **weyschalle, weschale**), var. of prec. (perh. directly representing OE. *wégscalu*).

1465 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. cccxviii, j par weschalis cum diversis ponderibus. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 412/2 (Addit. MS.) A Weyschalle, *vbi* A balane.

Weight (wēt), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 1 **gewiht, gewyht,** 2 **iwicht**; 1-3 **wiht,** 3-5 **wyht, wiȝt(e,** 4-5 **wyȝt(e, wyght(e,** (4 **wygthe**), 4-6 **whyght(e,** 4-5 **wighte,** 4-7 **wight** (5 *Sc.* **vycht**); 4 **wythe,** 5 **wyt(e, whyt(e,** 4-5 **witte, wytte.** *β.* 3 *Orm.* **wehht,** 3-6 **weght,** 4-5 **weghte, weȝt(e,** 4- *Sc.* **weght** (6 **vecht**); 3-4 **weiht,** 4-5 **weyht(e, weiȝt(e, weyȝt(e,** 4-6 **weyght(e,** 4-7 **weighte** (5 **weigt-e, wheight-e**; 5 *Sc.* **weicht,** 6 *Sc.* **veicht, veycht, veyght, weycht**), 4- **weight**; 5 **waȝt-,** 6-7 **waight(e, waycht(e,** (6 *Sc.* **waicht, waycht,** 7 **wayht**); 4-5 **weit(e,** (*pl.* **wettes**), 5 **weyte, wheyt(e, weyth(e, wheith, whet(e),** 6 **waithe,** 6 *pl.* **waytts,** 6-7 **wait(e,** 7 **wayte.** [OE. *wiht* (? fem.), = OFris. *wicht* (WFris. *wicht*, NFris. *wegt, wacht*), MDu. and Du. *wicht*, MLG. and LG. *wicht, wigt* (whence MDa. *vegt*, Da. *vegt*, Norw. *vegt*; MSw. *vekt, vikt*, Sw. *vigt*), G. (irreg.) *wucht*, ON. *vætt, vátt* fem. :—OTeut. type **wexti-z*, f. root **weg-*: see WEIGH *v.*[1] The more usual form in OE. was *gewiht(e* str. neut. = MDu. *ghewicht* (Du. *gewicht*), MLG. *grwichte, gewechte*, MHG. *gewichte* (G. *gewicht*) :—OTeut. type **gewextjo-m.* As the prefix *i-, y-* (:—OE. *ge-*) in sbs. fell away in

early ME., the two formations coalesced in the 13th c. The normal descendant in mod.English of the OE. *wiht* would be **wight*; the vowel of the *β* forms may be due partly to the influence of the prehistoric ON. **weht*, and partly to association with *weigh* vb.]

I. Measurement of quantity by means of weighing; quantity (in the abstract) as determined in this way.

1. ***By weight***: as determined by weighing. †***Without weight***: taken unweighed.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 146 Ȝenim þas wyrte & swinen smeru..mȝþres ȝelice micel be wihte. [Cf. *Ibid.* I. 148 Ȝenim ..ealra þyssa wyrta ȝelice fela be ȝewihte.] *a* 1123 *O. E Chron.* an. 1086 (Laud MS.) Manig marc goldes & ma hundred punda seolfres. Þet he nam be wihte..of his landleode. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 503 (Ritson) He made thre condlen by wyht. 1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne þo þet zelleþ be wyȝte purchaceþ and makeþ ruo moche þet [etc.]. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* 1238 Alle soules..That shal to blisse, I peyse hem alle be wyte Whether in goodnesse thei ben heuy or lyghte. *c* 1460 *Contin. Brut* 402 It was ordeyned þat þe gold in Englissh coygne shuld be weyed, & none receyved but by weght. 1539 Bible (Great) 2 *Kings* xxv. 16 The brasse of all these vesselles was without wayght. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 32 To distribute the bysket..by weight. 1601 F. Tate *Housch. Ord. Edw. II* § 15 (1876) 13 The serjant chaundeler shal receve the wax & lightes bi waight from the clarke of the spicery. *c* 1612 *Turners Dish* in Rollins *Pepysian Garl.* (1922) 36 You that sel your wares by waight, and live vpon the trade. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* II. iii. 98 Besides iewels, and brasse, and iron, without weight, with Cedars and stones without number. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 561 With Axes first they cleave the Wine, and thence By Weight, the solid Portions they dispence. 1730 Conduitt *Observ. Coins* (1774) 10 Foreigners who take our guineas in quantities only by weight, may melt down the heavy ones. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 440 The proportions of acid and water were equal by weight. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribblemania* 15 Of paper a pile.. Which by weight had been purchas'd.

2. Associated with *measure* and *number*, esp. in figurative expressions referring to due proportion.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 439 Met of corn, and wixte of fe, And merke of feide, first fond he. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23364 (Edin.) Of his werkes es nobi vnhale, bot al in mette and welht and tale. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7690 For he made alle thyng thurgh myght and sleght In certain noumbre and mesure and weght. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 321 It is good & resonable men to hane chirchis in mesure, & in numbre, & in weyhte, aftir þe hooly trinitee. *c* 1400 *St Pol. Poems* xiv. 68 Let comon lawe his cours hold, Euene mesure, mett, and wyȝt. *c* 1480 Henryson *Swallow* 1666 All creature he maid for thi behute..In number, wecht, and dew proportioun. 1581 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 362 You that by disceyte haue wonne, Were it in weyght or in measure. 1588 A. King in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 214 To vse falset in buying, selling or changing, in pryce, in weicht or mesure.

3. Ponderability, as a general property of material substances; relative heaviness.

Also *transf.* in Phrenology (see quot. 1860).

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 231 (Fairf. MS.) His gilte here was corowned with a sonne I-stede of golde for heuynesse and wyght. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxxx. (1493) 938 Two thynges makyth weyghte: lightnesse and heuynesse. 14.. Lydg. *Beware of Doublenesse* 92 In balaunce whan they be peised, For lakke of weght they be bore down. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 57 They..seide it was a thynge impossible to charge, they [the stones] were of soche gretnesse and wight. 1600 Shaks. *All's Well* II. iii. 126 Our bloods Of colour, waight, and heat, pour'd all together, Would quite confound distinction. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 315/1 The Axe for the cutting of the great and large Bones..hath weight and substance in it. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 183 As clocks to weight their nimble motion owe, The wheels above urg'd by the load below. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 74 The wool had then very likely gained weight considerably. *a* 1790 Henry *Hist. Gt. Brit.* (1793) VI. 634 If the number of coins..did not actually make a pound in weight. 1858 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 154 Air possesses, in common with all material substances, the qualities of impenetrability, inertia, and weight. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Weight or Resistance*,..a faculty common to man and the lower animals..taking cognizance of weight and other kinds of mechanical force.

Phr. 1857 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Liv.* I. He had slowly gravitated on into his present position, on the old Ring principle—'weight must tell'.

b. In *fig.* or *transf.* uses.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. iii. (1886) 25 Yif any frute of mortal thinges may han any weyhte or pris of welefulnesse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 41 b, In the weyght of this noble treasure, standeth all the effecte of the pilgrymage of perfeccyon. 1587 A. Day *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) title-p., Excellently describing the weight of affection, the simplicitie of loue. 1638 Flecknoe *Enigm. Char.* 12 He hovers in his choice, like an empty Ballance with no weight of Judgement to incline him to either scale. 1787 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode upon Ode* Wks. 1812 I. 443 And really I would rather be knock'd down By weight of argument than weight of fist. 1892 Cayley *Math. Papers* (1897) XIII. 110 It is for this purpose convenient to introduce the notion of 'weight'; say a triangle has the weight 1, then a quadrangle, ..divisible into two triangles, has the weight 2.

c. Impetus (of a heavy falling body; also of a blow).

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 603 The gynour..swappit out the stane That evin toward the lift is gane,..And with gret wecht syne duschit doune. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2163 Ther strokes shuld come with grete wight.

d. In scientific use: (see quots.).

a 1721 Keill *Maupertius' Disc.* (1734) 3 A secret Force, we call Weight or Gravity, attracts, urges or impels Bodies towards the Center of the Earth. 1826 O. Gregory *Treat. Mechanics* I. 46 It will not be difficult to attach a just and scientific meaning to that which is commonly called weight: it is the effort necessary to prevent a body from falling. 1827 N. Arnott *Physics* I. 14 Weight, therefore, is merely general attraction acting everywhere.

e. *Prosody.* (See quot.)

1898 Sweet *A.S. Rdr.* Introd. (ed. 7) 86 Stress and quantity together constitute weight. *Ibid.* 92 This double alliteration is not essential to the metre like that caused by extra weight.

4. In various phrases (see also sense 1):

a. *In* (or †*of*) *weight*, added to adjs. such as *heavy*, *light*, *great*, etc.

[illegible] my bely shold be a precious stone more of weyght than I am. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d iij, That noon be heuyer then an other bot like of weyght. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 128 The said bales..were myche heuyar in weight than they shulde naturally haue ben. 1910 W. Parker in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 352/1 They [opossum skins] are..not only very light in weight and warm, but handsome.

fig. 1570 B. Googe *Popish Kingd.* 13 b, The Dorekeeper instructed than, what things he ought to do Whenas this office great of waight he there doth come vnto.

†**b.** *Of weight* (as adj. phrase) : Heavy. *Obs.*

1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1385 (Campsall MS.) For swyfter cours cometh þyng þat is of wighte Whan it descendeth þan don þynges lyghte. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* 739 Any thinge that hevy be As stoon or lede or thynge of wight. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5473 Lamprays of weȝt Twa hundreth pond ay a pece. 1599 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S. T. S.) *Hymn* vii. 113 Crosbowes of waight, and Gnosik gainyeis kein. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 47 Materials of weight, as Sauder, wherewith an unconscionable Plummer can ingrosse his Bill.

†**c.** *Of weight*: of full or standard weight. *Sc.*

1500 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 253 [Certain coins] all of vycht. 1524 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 41/1 Þe gold sall have comone courase..þe Hary noble of Weiht for xl^{s}.. þe scottis demy of wecht xviij^{s}. 1597 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 228/2 Rois nobilis of gold and wecht.

5. The amount which an article of given price or value ought to weigh. Chiefly *ellipt.* in predicative use = 4 c. *Short weight*: see Short *a.* 15.

a 1400 *Eng. Gilds* 354 Ȝif þe ferþingloff is in defawte of wyȝte ouer twelf pans, þe bakere is in þe amercy. 1435 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* 73 That no man..shulde putte ffforth ne profre no golde..but yff yt helde the weyht. 1530 Palsgr. 770/1, I pray you, go way this angell, and tell me and he be weygt [F. *de poyx*]. *a* 1585 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 521 Spanishe gold of best and those [pieces] that be weight. 1623 Fletcher & Rowley *Maid in Mill* IV. iii, We must be weight in love, no grain too light. 1640 Quarles *Enchirid.* II. xlv, If thou finde him weight, make him thine owne. 1691 Locke *Consid. Lower. Interest* (1692) 149 Your heavy Money, (*i. e.* that which is weight according to its Denomination, by the Standard of the Mint). 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* vii. (1840) 119 It was near two ounces more than weight in a pound. 1808 Mar. Edgworth *Pop. Tales, Murad* i, I..protested..that I had never furnished the people..with bread that was not weight. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 212 The miller..ordered her to bring the scales, to see if the money he was going to pay was weight.

†**6.** The action of weighing. *Obs. rare.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 63 One of these clerkes dayly, to be at the weyghtes of wax in the chaundrey.

7. Ponderable matter; that which weighs.

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 53 What resistance dust can be, when waight is laid upon it. 1735 Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* I. iii. viii. 196 They are suffered to be overcharged with Weight laid upon them, that they expire presently. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 526 Slowly falling as a scale that falls, When weight is added only grain by grain.

II. An amount determined or determinable by weighing; a definite quantity weighed or capable of being weighed.

8. A portion or quantity weighing a definite amount. Often preceded by an expression indicating the amount: in OE. in the genitive, as *anes pundes*, *preora punda wihtes*; now in attributive or a[illegible] often abbreviated *wt.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 374 Ȝenim..of micere þisne wyrte xx penega wiht. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21429 If he his mone (= money] moght not gett,..þat lik weght þat þar was less, He suld yeild of his aun flesk. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1106 The barres were of gold ful fyne..Full heuy gret and no thyng lyght, In eueriche was a besaunt wight. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 397 Þe monkes..took wiþ hem..a weyȝte of bræde for the iorney [L. *pondus panis diurni*]. *c* 1450 *Chev. Assigne* 155 She sente aftur a golde-amyȝte to forge here a cowpe; And..delyuered hym his weyȝtes. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 314 For iij pund wecht foure vnce ..of gold. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 41 You'l aske me why I rather choose to haue A weight of carrion flesh, then to receiue Three thousand Ducats? 1655 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 99 How to make one pound weight to raise an hundred as high as one pound falleth. 1669 Earl Sandwich tr. *Barba's Art of Metals* I. (1674) 12 Lemnian-Earth..is esteemed as rich as Gold, and sold so weight for weight. 1728 E. S[mith] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 164 Mix the Pulp and Meat together, and take the weight and half of Sugar. 1794 Vancouver *Agric. Cambridge* 55 The grass..produced from the water-meadows, is chiefly inferior to that (weight for weight) which grows..upon unwatered ground. 1807 Steuart *Planter's G.* (1828) 130 Close-planting, pruning, and other means are employed to obtain what is considered the greatest possible 'weight of wood'. 1845 Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* v. 26 About 112 lbs. weight of biscuits are put into the oven at once. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Techn.* (ed. 2) I. 256 The quantities of heat contained in equal weights of water and air at the same temperature.

Ag. 1382 Wyclif *2 Cor.* iv. 17 [The] lyȝt thing of oure tribulacioun worchiþ..the euerelastyng weiȝte of glorie in vs.

2611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. v. 88 Is she with Posthumus? From whose so many weights of baseness, cannot A dram of worth be drawne. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* x, Impartial Justice holds Her equal Scales; 'Till stronger Virtue does the Weight incline. 1852 Tennyson *Ode Death Wellington* 240 One, upon whose hand and heart and brain Once the weight and fate of Europe hung.

transf. 1855 Hopkins *Organ* II. 493 [In the New Organ] there are several reservoirs producing different weights of wind.

b. *ellipt.* A pennyweight of gold.

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 9 Aug. 4/6 Tried a crushing, and didn't get four weights to the ton.

9. *Its, his*, etc. *weight in* or *of gold, silver*, etc.: a quantity of gold, silver, etc. of the same weight. Chiefly in hyperbolical statements of value.

c 1205 Lay. 30835 For nauer neoðer nalde for his sefne wiht of golde þat þe king hit wuste þat [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 630 (Cambr. MS.) Ȝe habbeþ iherd of blauncheflur, Hu ihc hire boȝte..For seuesiþe of gold hire wiȝt. 23.. *Sir Beues* 1725 An hors he hadde of gret pris..; For him a ȝat seluer wiȝt, Er he þat hors haue miȝt. 24.. *Guy Warw.* 8122 He wold have yove for the fyndyng [of the sword] The weyght of gold and of other thyng. *a* 1500 Medwall *Nature* (Brandl) II. 324 Thou art worth the weyght of gold. 16.. *Eger & Grine* 1154 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 390 He is worth to her his waight in gold. 1614 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* etc. (Hakl. Soc.) 204 Muske, worth the wayht in Siluer. 1634 ?S. Rowley *Noble Soldier* II. i D 2, I would not drinke that infernall draught..for the weight of the world in Diamonds. 1678 Petty *Pol. Anat. Irel.* (1691) 68 Gold has been worth but twelve times its own weight in Silver. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 783 Add to the solution twelve times its weight of distilled water. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 130 A Tasso worth its weight in gold. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. xxvi, The dear old nurse ..whom George Rivers would have paid with her weight in gold, for taking care of his new daughter.

10. The amount that something weighs; the quantity of a portion of matter as measured by the amount of its downward force due to gravitation; the amount of resistance offered by a body to forces tending to raise it. *Live weight*: see Live *a.* 7.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1118 Sakkis ful of gold of large weyghte. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 205 Þanne he took heede þat þe hameres were of dyuers weiȝtes. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. v. (Bodl. MS.), Þouȝ it [*sc.* gold] be in fire it wasteþ nouȝt, bi smokinge and vapoures noþer leseþ his weiȝt [L. *nec etiam in pondere minoratur*]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xviii. 84 Marchands sophisticatez peper, when it is alde..and so by cause of þe weight it semes fresch and new. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 286 The pore pepyll..be oppressyd..In yevyng theym to myche weythe into the spynnyng. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 276 The weight of an hayre will turne the Scales betweene their Haber-de-pois. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. ii, To a friend in want, hee will not depart with the waight of a soldred groat. 1685 N. Carpenter *Geogr. Del.* I. iv. (1635) 73 The parts are indowed with an equall waight. 1698 Flover *Asthma* (1717) 196 The Morning Weight [of the Asthmatic] was 178 Pound. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 491 The Weights of homogeneous Bodies plac'd near one another. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 74 The weight tended for great quantities, because of the strength. Brewster *Newton* I. xii. 323 The weight of all bodies is diminished by the centrifugal force, so that the weight of any body is greater at the poles than it is at the equator. 1876 Tait *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* xiv. (1885) 357 The weight of a pound of matter varies from place to place on the earth's surface.

fig. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 276 Mi weyhte of love and mi mesure Hath be mor large..Than evere I tok of love ayein. 1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* xiv. (1633) 46 When he was forced to silence with the waight of truth. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1595) 128 If men wold but throughly enter into the weight of their estates, and truly consider with themselues what of duty appertaineth to very reputation. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 9 Heerein I see thou lou'st mee not with the full waight that I loue thee.

transf. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1671) 128, I know not the weight of the pension the King will give me.

b. In phrases stating how much a thing weighs, as *of two pounds weight*.

1389 *Eng. Gilds* 30 Also a knaue chyld..beren a candel yat day, ye wygthe of to pound. ?1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 22, ij. tapers of wax of ij. lbs. wyght. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 And ij salt salers of syluer of the weyth of x vnse or xj. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 34 The fleshe therof wayed .xlvij. pound weyght. 1557 Recorde *Whetst.* R j, A Cube of Brasse of 4 inches square, doth weighe 7 pounde weightes. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. iv. 24 Twill be heauier soone, by the weight of a man. 1758 *Payne's Universal Chron.* 29 July–5 Aug. 241/2 A Turtle of upwards of 500 lb. wt.

c. In figurative phrases.

1627 Morvson *Itin.* III. 37 The vastnesse of their Empire, falling with his owne weight. 1794 Gouv. Morris in Sparks [illegible] their weight.

d. Chem. *Atomic weight*: the relative weight of the atom of any element.

1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 3) 236 A compound of 1 atom of hydrogen and 1 atom of chlorine, their respective weights being 1 and 36. 1858 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 256 This would raise the atomic weight to 31·74.

e. *transf.* in *Mechanics*. (See quots.)

1810 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) XIII. 53/1 When two forces act against each other by the intervention of a machine, the one force is called the power, and the other the weight. 1849 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 77 The *Inclined Plane*..is always inclined obliquely to the *weight*, or the *resistance* to be over-

11. A heavy mass; usually, something heavy that is lifted or carried; a burden, load. Also *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. v. (1886) 35 Allas what was he pat fyrst dalf vp the gobetes or the weyhtes of gold couered vndyr erthe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), A philosophir was preued whi an horrible man is more heuy þanne eny burþon oþir weiȝte [*ed.* 1495 wytte]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxi. 117 Ther he was nye dreynte, for gret weyte of his burdon. 1535-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 90 With the weyght therof it pulleth the corne flatte to the erth. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 78 Not to lyue..as an vnprofytabul weyght and burden of the erth. 1562 BP. PILKINGTON *Abdias* Pref. A a v, The greater weights that is cast on, the soner it breakes. 1584-7 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 75, I found it built..so slenderly, as ye least waight was able to pash it into innumerable peeces. *c* 1600 FLETCHER *False One* v. iv, My free mind, Like to the Palm-tree walling fruitful Nile, Shall grow up straighter and enlarge it self 'Spight of the envious weight that loads it with. 1642 *Decl. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 393 New invencions.. to raise ponderous weightes with. 1699 DRYDEN *Heroick Stanzas* xv, His palms, tho under Weights they did not stand, Still thriv'd. 1698 FLOYER *Asthma* iv. 127 All strait Cloaths, and the weight of Blankets hinder the Extention of the Breath. 1764 [J. BURTON] *Pres. St. Navig. Thames* 39 There will be no Occasion to penn up such a vast Weight of Water pressing on the Weir. 1792 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 363/2 It is an Absurdity..to load the Extremities with more Weight of Metal than the Midships. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* v. xx, Strong are mine arms, and little care A weight so slight as thine to bear. 1852 MALPAS *Builder's Pocket-bk.* 57 The whole weight is thrown upon the beam. 1865 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1871) 14 The simplest form of work is the raising of a weight.

transf. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. x. 12 Let your sense be clear, Nor with a weight of words fatigue the ear. — *Art of Poetry* 260 *note*, The Verses..were so heavy with a Weight of Spondees.

12. *spec.* a. In horse-racing or riding: The amount (expressed in stones and pounds) which the jockey or rider is required or expected to weigh, or which the mount can without difficulty carry. *Catch weights*: see CATCH- 4.

1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2773/4 None but Gentlemen to ride; The weight 12 Stone. 1740 *Act* 13 *Geo. II*, c. 19 § 3 Any Horse..carrying less than the Weights herein before directed to be carried. 1771 [P. PARSONS] *Newmarket* I. 108 Who ever heard of a rider's throwing away part of his weight, or tearing his pocket that the shot might run out? 1828 *Rules of Racing* § 38 Each jockey shall be allowed 2 lb above the weight specified for his horse to carry and no more. 1883 'RAPIER' *Types of Turf* 74, I remember how eagerly in a certain stable the weights were expected for last year's Cesarewitch.

b. Without article.

1734 CHENEY *List Horse-Matches* 12 The highest Horse to carry 12 *st.* and all under his Size to be allow'd Weight for Inches. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 115 He carries weight! he rides a race! 1886 EARL SUFFOLK *Racing* 145 Weight for age is the basis of trials with old horses. 1889 BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 117 The chief objections to an Arab are..his frequent inability to jump and to carry weight. 1891 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* viii, He was a dark brown horse..up to weight, and good across country.

Comb. 1853 MISS BRADDON *Aur. Floyd* xiii, The bay filly which was to run in a weight-for-age race at the York Spring [meeting]. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 196/2 Weight-for-age races are of three varieties.

c. *Boxing.* A match between boxers of a particular weight.

1914 *Varsity* 24 Feb. 13/1 An experienced boxer..who won this weight last year at Cambridge. *Ibid.*, Selected to do duty in the two weights.

III. In figurative senses from the above.

13. A burden (of responsibility, obligation, suffering, years, etc.).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Eng. Wks.* I. 66 Þei [the Jews] shal bere to þe ende of þe worlde the wiȝte of þe olde lawe. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* 90 He held him-self onworþi to þe birden of swech a wyte. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Num.* xi. 11 Seynge that thou puttest ye weyght of all this people vpon me. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* v. iv, With heaped weights of their own sinns oppresse These most ungratefull rebells unto thee. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 36 But were we burdned with like waight of paine, As much, or more, we should our selues complaine. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 303 You that groane vnder the waight of Gods displeasure. 1661 F. HOWGILL in *Extr. S. P. rel. Friends* II. (1911) 129 The Imprisonment of Freinds lyes as a weight vppon the Nation. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 2 The weight of seventy Winters prest him down. 1718 PRIOR *Power* 694 Permit me strength, my weight of woe to bear. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 540 For my Part I had a Weight taken off from my Heart. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXLVII. vii, Ye, who bow with Age's Weight. 1821 BYRON *To Thyrza* 43 Oft have I borne the weight of ill, But never bent beneath till now! 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vi, The child, overpowered by the weight of her sorrows and anxieties..burst into a passion of tears. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 397 He was an aged man..and seemed enfeebled by the weight of years.

b. Burden (of proof), onus.

1824 J. MARSHALL *Constit. Opin.* (1839) 312 The whole weight of proof..is thrown upon him who would introduce a distinction.

14. a. The force of an onslaught or encounter in the field; pressure exerted by numbers.

c 1300 *Melusine* xix. 106 Wel ye wote that two knyghtes may not susteyne & bere the weight ayenst wel LXXX. or houndred thousand paynemys. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron., Hen. III* (1653) 127 And so undertaking the main weight of the battell, [he] perished under it. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 1071 They bear him back; and whom by Might They cannot Conquer, they oppress with Weight. 1734 tr. *Rol. Hist.* (1827) IX. 289 No longer able to support the weight of the enemy, they thought fit to retire. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xl, The tumult..forced asunder, by the weight and press of numbers, the Prince and Douglas.

b. *To feel the weight of*: to suffer from (by receiving a heavy blow or undergoing severe pressure). Freq. *fig.*

1553 *Respublica* 284 He that ones wincheth shall fele the waite of my fiste. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 98 He had felt the weight of her Majesties power. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xvii. 317 His enemies felt the weight of his prayers, and the church of God reaped the benefits thereof. 1701 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) I. 268 They, who lately felt the weight of the English Arms. 1705 DE FOE *New Test Ch. Eng. Honesty* Writ. 1705 II. 306 The Church, who by this time began to feel the Weight of the King's Hand, had been Dispossess'd of Magdalen College in Oxford. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* II. 21 I've a made that great lutterputch feel the weight o' me hand.

† c. *To give a weight to*: to add force or vigour to.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* VI. iv. III. 202 To see her thus completely disconcerted, gave a weight to the mischievous malice of Mrs. Arlbery.

d. *Missing.* (See quot.)

1890 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Weight.* A weight is the gradual or sudden lowering of the roof of a mine after the coal has been worked on the long-wall system.

15. Importance, moment, claim to consideration; esp. (*a*) in phr. *of weight, of great* (*little*, etc.) *weight.*

(*a*) 1521 WOLSEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 279 A smale conceylement..of no regarde, weight, or importance. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 79 b, In matters of weight and difficultie. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 113 What obedience than is due to them in matters of small waight, of small importaunce. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors, Garnet* etc. 103 Such new matter as shalbe worth the hearing, as being indeed of waight and moment. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 50 So should we in our journeyes, travailes, attempts of weight,..beseech him that his good hand might appeare.

> *Æneis* VII. 345 Pond'ring future Things of weight. 1709 LAW *Serious C.* XV. (1732) 274 It is certain, that all such bodily actions as affect the soul, are of great weight in Religion. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) II. xix. 377 This is an argument of weight. 1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. 1792 II. 417 The objection is of weight. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* xi. 214 The night-mares of care and trouble cease to weigh as if they were the only things of weight in the world.

(*b*) 1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* To King a v, As the importance and vecht of the mater requyris. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 4 Ceremonies haue more in waight then in sight. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* IV. vii. § 2. 299 Considering better ..the weight of the businesse, which he had taken in hand. 1662 HOWELL *New Engl. Gram.* 16 In French she [the letter Y] is of that weight that she makes somtimes a whole word of her self. 1708 SWIFT *Sacram. Test* Misc. (1711) 328 But there is no great weight in this. 1742 WATTS *Improv. Mind* II. iv, The weight and force of argument which should influence the mind. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* I. 223 Yet weight must be allowed to the opinion of Northcote. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 513 Weight of moral character was indeed wanting to Edward Seymour. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* (1869) III. v. 324 Having no wealth to give him weight. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. viii. 106 The two elections..are the best evidence of the weight of this consideration.

b. *spec.* The relative value of an observation.

1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 138 The method of finding an average is this: multiply every observation by its weight and divide the sum of the products by the sum of the weights.

16. Persuasive or convincing power (of utterances, arguments, evidence); impressiveness (of matter or speech).

1534 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* Prol. (1535) A iv, It sufficeth to gyue for the weyght the sentence. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Erasm. Pref. ✠iiij b, A famous speaker.. geueth to the sayinges moche weight and grace also. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 5 A matter of gravity is to be delivered with waight. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Arminn.* 113 A Sentence of sufficient antiquity and weight to put a period to this Controuersie. 1716 ADDISON *Free-holder* No. 19 P 3 Having nothing of any manner of weight to offer against the principles of their antagonists. 1783 BLAIR *Rhet.* xviii. I. 365 Nothing derogates more from the weight and dignity of any composition, than too great attention to ornament. 1829 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 158 But this detracts not from the weight of your reasoning. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 172 No man spoke with more weight and dignity in council and in parliament. 1866 MRS. WHITNEY *L. Goldthw.* ii, The 'O father!' was not without its weight.

17. Weightiest or heaviest part; greatest stress or severity; preponderance, superior amount (of evidence, authority) on one side or the other of a question.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 621, xv. thousand men, in whom consisted the weight and peyse of the whole enterprise. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* 199 Weight of Judgment has ever given Invention Priority before Language. 1722 DE FOE *Hist. Plague* (1754) 8 The Parish of St. Giles's, where still the Weight of the Infection lay. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. x. 168 The weight of evidence is in favour of the latter hypothesis. 1883 *Law Rep.*, 11 Q. B. D. 501 An order..for a new trial on the ground..that the verdict was against the weight of evidence.

18. In various phrases:

a. *To lay weight upon*: † to urge (a person) to do something (*obs.*); to attach importance or value to.

(*a*) 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIX. 1238 The woman laid great wait upon me to depart out of those quarters.

(*b*) 1708 SWIFT *Sacram. Test* Misc. (1711) 336 We are apt to lay some weight upon their Opinion. 1819 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv, We lay no weight whatever upon the pretended information thus conveyed. 1823 B. TAYLOR *Quaker Widow* xvi, And it was brought upon my mind..That we on dress and outward things perhaps lay too much weight.

† b. *To hold weight with*: to vie in greatness with. *Obs.*

1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 148 For there are but few deliverances temporall, that hold weight with the delivery from the paines of child-birth.

c. *To have weight*: to make an impression on, weigh *with* (those who judge a matter); to receive favourable consideration; to be recognized as valid or important. Similarly *to carry weight.*

1638 SIR K. DIGBY *Let. to Ld. G. Digby* (1651) 29, I conceive they are to have no more weight with those that have ability to examine them, then [etc.]. 1797 FRIEND *Peterboro's Cond. Sp.* 108 The latter opinion had its weight, and prevail'd. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 213 If.. such narrow motives have so little weight with me. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lix. 308 The conditions which constitute this right must be taken together. Separately, they have little weight. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 368 If the tenant,.. were likely to be prejudiced by not being named, this objection would have weight. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1872) I. 31 The *visé* of a minister carries more weight.

† d. *Upon the weight of*: on the strength of, by relying on the value of. *Obs.*

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 4 Introd., I shall not pretend to raise a Credit to this Work, upon the Weight of my politic News only.

e. *To give* (full, due) *weight to*: to allow (a plea, argument, circumstance) its proper force; to weigh equitably; to treat as valid or important.

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 June 5/3 His Holiness has given due weight to the many conflicting aspects of the case. *Ibid.* 10 July 5/1 It is proper to give full weight to the exculpatory evidence adduced.

19. Influence or authority (of a person) due to character or ability, position, office, wealth, or the like. Chiefly in phrases *of weight, of* (great, etc.) *weight.*

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 4 P 7 Those Persons at the Helm are so useful, and in themselves of such Weight. 1747 *Frauds & Abuses Coal-Dealers* (ed. 3) 5 In all popular Assemblies, it has been found necessary to place some Man of Weight and Dignity in the Chair. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. France* (1789) I. iv. 95 Their opinions have considerable weight on the manners and opinions of people of rank. 1835 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 253 It could hardly be doubted that they were directed by some leader of great weight. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Nov. 5/3 Political economists of weight refused to join the Commission.

IV. A standard of quantity determined by, or employed in, weighing.

20. † a. A standard of weight. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Laws Edgar* III. viii. in *Liebermann* 204 Gange an gemet and an gewihte swylce man on Lundenbyriz and on Wintancæstre healde. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 212 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 173 Godes wisdom is wel muchel..& nis his milce naut lesse, ac bi þan ilke iwichte. *c* 1200 *Ibid.* 384 (Trin. MS.) *ibid.* II. 231 Þar ne sullen [hi] habben god alle bi one wihte. *a* 1400 *Eng. Gilds* 356 Þare þe kynges wyȝte by-lyþ. *Ibid.* 356 þe kinges by whas wyȝte hit be y-weye. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 349/1 It was ordeinid..yat on weiȝte and on mesure be bi al ye Reme, as wel with oute ye Estaple as with yinne.

b. With addition of a distinguishing word, as in *troy, avoirdupois weight*: Any of the various systems (consisting of a series of units in fixed arithmetical relation to each other) used for stating the weight of a quantity of matter.

a 1300 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 191 Ther beth iij maner weyghtis, that is to wete, troy weyght, suncell weyghtis, and lyggynge weyght. 1340 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 292 Euery person..shuld sell the same by liefull weight called Haberdepoys. 1545 *Rates Custom-ho.* d v, Fyrst of the wayght of Troye..By thys wayght is bought and solde golde..and iewels. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Weights*, There are two sorts..in use with us; the one called Troy weight..the other *Avoir-du-pois.* 1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 35 P 7 Ten Pound Averdupoise Weight of this Philosophical Snuff. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier* I. (1730) 15 Twenty Shillings will weigh Six Pounds Butter Weight. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., Short, statute or imperial weight.—2,240 lbs. to the ton..Long weight.—2,400 lbs. to the ton.

21. A unit or denomination of ponderable quantity.

c 1200 ORMIN 7812 All þatt mann sholde biggen ut wiþþ fife wehhte [= shekels] off silliferr. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28437 Again þe lagh..haf I wyned fals weght and mette. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* vi. xvii. (MS. Addit. 27944) Mna is a certeyn wiȝte and valewe. 1623 COCKERAM II, A weight of three graines, *Kirat.* 1857 J. H. WALSH *Dom. Econ.* 620 The last mentioned goods may be sold either by the heaped measure, or by the standard weight. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aur. Floyd* xxxi, She knew—to the smallest weight employed at Apothecaries' Hall..how much sugar Mr. Bulstrode liked in his tea.

b. In pl. and coupled with *measures.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 227 Caym..tornede symple lyuynge [of] men to fyndynge of mesures and of wyȝtes [L. *ponderum et mensurarum*]. 1596 (*title*) The Pathway to Knowledge. Conteyning certaine briefe Tables of English weights, and Measures. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Weights*, One Phidon an Argive is said to have bin the first finder out of Weights and Measures. 1792-8 GRAY *Agricp.* 42 The power To judge of weights and measures. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 199 The operations relative to a general uniformity of weights and measures. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 393 The Weights and Measures Act (5th Geo. IV., c. 74).

† c. Used in various localities as a name for the customary unit for weighing particular commodities (e. g. wool, hemp, cheese, potatoes); the quantity denoted differs greatly in different places (see quots.). Cf. WEY, and MEASURE *sb.* 5 b. *Obs.*

1490 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 291, I have xviij weyghts of walle beyonde the bequestes aforesayd. *a* 1500

in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 163 The weyght *of* ——— is..CCC. weyght, fyne score xij. li. for the C. The weyght of Suffolk chese is xij. score and xvi. li. 1892 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 382 Ane neif full of swirrie weicht of voll. 1698 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Pattern* (ed. 3) 193 There are some other denominations of these weights in several places, as..Rooves, Weights, Leads. 1887 A. LOVELL *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 98 The Inhabitants make Five thousand Weight of Silk yearly, with the Money whereof they pay their Tribute. 1881 RIMMER *Old Country Towns* 278 A 'weight' for some unexplained cause, was the Boston method of expressing 256 pounds. 1890 *Edin. Cycl.* VII. 221/2 [In Cork] Potatoes, when retailed in market, are sold by a measure called a weight, generally containing 21 lb. 1896 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1287 (Dorsets.), of wool, a weigh or weight is 30 lbs., and ½ lb. or 1 lb. over in some places. Weight (Dorsets.), of hemp, 8 heads of 4 lbs., twisted and tied, making 32 lbs. (Somers.), of hemp, 30 lbs.

22. A piece of metal or other substance, weighing a known amount and identical with one of the units or with a multiple or aliquot part of a unit in some recognized scale.

In early instances *false weights* is ambiguous, as it may be referred either to this sense or to 24 (pair of scales); probably the writers did not always distinguish, the virtual sense being 'fraudulent weighing'.

1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne me heþ diuerse wyȝtes..and beggeþ be þe grattueste wyȝtes..and zelleþ by þe leste. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXXI. (1495) 940 Somtyme massy thynges and heuy by the whyche the heuynesse is assayed is callyd a weyght. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46, I ȝeve to þe sam William a beme þat I weye þer-wyth, and ij ȝeuys, also iij^o of ledyn wyȝtis. *c* 1430 *Contin. Brut* 448 In þat tyme þe gold of þe realme went by weght; And euery man had a payr ballaunce And weghttes in hys sleve for þe gold. 1467 *Eng. Gilds* 383 That all other wightes w'yn the cite..be ensealed accordynge to the kynges standart. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iv, (1883) 107 A man holding in his ryght hand a balance And the weyght in the lifte hand. 1540 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 222 Sufficient beames scales and weightes sealid..for true seruing of the byers. 1583 *Rates Customs ho.* A vj b, Brasse weights called pile weights the c, l s. 1698 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 536 The lightest little waight, giving motion to the Ballance, they call a Grain. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying* 59 Press it with a four pound weight, or..with a lighter weight. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. cxvii, Scales and Weights.

b. *Athletics.* A heavy lump of stone, or ball of metal, which is thrown from one hand placed close to the shoulder. Commonly in the Sc. phr. *putting the weight* (see PUT *v.*[1] 2, PUTTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 8). Also *attrib.* as the name of this sport.

1869 *Field* 21 Jan. 34/1 Throwing the hammer, putting the weight.

23. A block or lump of metal or other heavy substance, or a heavy object, used to pull or press down something, to give an impulse to machinery (e. g. in a clock), to act as a counterpoise, or the like. Cf. *letter-weight, paper-weight, sash weight,* JACK-WEIGHT.

c 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 1943 þis worthy, wylde werld, I wagge with a wyt [= wyȝt]. 1515 in *Archæol. Cant.* XXXIII. 17 Payed for mendyng off the waitche off the clock ij d. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xxi. 13 Ouer Ierusalem wyll I stretch forth the lyne of Samaria, and the weyghte of the house of Achab. 1606 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 175 Payed for the jacke, the cordes and pullies, xxv^s; the weight and cheans, v^s. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 66 The dores likewise by waights are made to shut of themselves at the heeles of him that comes in. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 166 A delicate Clock with weights to it. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 48 Let the Weight at the End of the Line be pretty heavy. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 Sash pullies, weights and lines. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* II. 299 A weight being attached to the hook *b*, the spring..is drawn downwards. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 216 There was a clock without a case, the weights being visible. *Ag.* 1822 BACON *Hen. VII*, 189 By Gods wonderfull prouidence, that..hangeth great Weights vpon small Wyres. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 109 Great weights hang on small wyers. 1641 GAUDEN *Love of Truth* 22 Love is the weight and motor of the soule.

†b. *To go on weights* (see quot.). *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Gallimeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 50/4 The small, thinne, and Hens-fashoned hippes and legges, wherof we commonlye say 'they goe one Wayghtes'.

V. A means of weighing.

†24. *pl.*, less commonly *sing.* (A pair of) scales, a balance. Also in figurative context. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Poalter* lxi. 10 Lythers sones of men are al In weghtes [L. *in statera*]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1734 Þy wale rengne is wait in weztes to beng, & is funde ful fewe of hit fayth dedes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 332 If that I mihte finde a sleyhte, To leie al myn astat in weyhte. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXX. (1495) nn iij, In this wyse..the thynge in the whyche a thynge is wayed is callyd a weyghte. 1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 508/2 Where ye Kinge Weightes and his Beem ben sette. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 763 The world would put her and her kindred in the wight, and say that they had..broken the amitie and peace. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 200 One of these byrdes with her nest put in a paire of gold weightes,.. hath waid no more than .ii. *Tomini*. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 45 The false he layd In th' other scale; but still it downe did slide, And by no meane could in the weight be stayd. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. i. § 3 (1622) 174 That.. weigheth the mountaines in a waite. 1629 *Z. Boyd Last Battell* IV. 499 Dauid in his time put them in the weights together [Ps. lxii. 9].

VI. 25. a. *attrib.*, as *weight balk, beam, -charge, -equivalent, scale, sense, stone, thermometer*; **weight-clock**, a clock operated by weights; **weight cloth**, a cloth carried by a jockey to make up his riding-weight; †**weight-house**, a weigh-house; **weight nail** (see quot.); **weight-plate**, a plate on which articles are set to be weighed in a weighing-machine.

1578 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 255, j olde *weight balke with skayles, ij d. 1462 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* (Bundle 37, No. 4 b), A *weght beme de ferro, precii iiii *s.* 1898 *Daily News* 7 Dec. 2/7 The *weight-charge on packets above 1lb. in weight. 1850 DENISON *Clock & Watch-m.* 110 The great wheel of a *weight-clock rides on the barrel arbor. 1869 *Daily News* 4 June 3/8 Before..her driver could return to weigh in, his *weight cloths were abstracted from the sulky. 1897 SINGER & BERENS *Some Unrecognised Laws Nat.* 107 The volume-equivalent would be too great and the

but not so fine, have square heads, and are used for fastening cleats, &c. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blasmaurie* 169 The colliery engineer was quickly on the ground, [and] the *weight-plate removed. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 357 A similar bow was formed on the back of the armature, to which the *weight scale was attached. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 709 The *weight sense was lost in the hands as well as in the feet. 1469 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 21, I have a counterpais wheith of the *wheight stone that the wooll was weyed with. 1849 R. V. DIXON *Heat* I. 52 One an air thermometer,..the other a mercurial *weight thermometer.

b. *Comb.*, as *weight-carrier* (*esp.* a horse that can carry a heavy rider), *-carrying, -lifting, -maker, -raising, -resisting, -thrower*, †*-wiser* (= indicator).

1862 G. A. LAWRENCE *Barren Honour* xix. II. 90 Red Lancer is a very model of a fast *weight-carrier. 1893 F. F. MOORE *I Forbid Banns* (1899) 31 It has the build of a weight-carrier, that chair. 1883 MRS. E. KENNARD *Right Sort* xix, Mounted on a huge *weight-carrying hunter. 1897 *Daily News* 14 May 3/2 Our baggage animals—to the limit of their weight-carrying capacity. 1896 *Ibid.* 6 Apr. 5/7 The London *Weight-lifting Club. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 Apr. 3/3 A series of weight-lifting competitions. 1647 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 103 No *Wayght Maker that doth cast Brass Wayghtes and..put them to sale. 1850 DENISON *Clock & Watch-m.* 245 The going part is also reduced..to a mere *weight-raising machine. 1708 PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 265 Hazel, and *weight-resisting Palm. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 461/2 Any one of her five *weight throwers could beat the best man at Cambridge. 1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1003 We find, by several sorts of Barometers (or *Weight-wisers) not only that [etc.].

Weight (wēt, *Sc.* weyt), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 2 wehit, (wheit), 4 wyeygt, whight, 4–5 weght, 8-9 weight, 6– weght. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Possibly a special application of prec. 21, orig. denoting a utensil capable of containing a certain weight of grain.] A farm utensil resembling a sieve in form, with a bottom of sheepskin or wood (unperforated), used for winnowing corn, also as a measure.

For *timbre wecht*: see TIMBRE *sb.*[1] b.

1283 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) 23 Et j. wheit de scatmalt, et j. [illegible]

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/2 A Weght, *capisterium*. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 181 My bairn has tocher of her awin..A Wecht, a peet-creel and a cradle. *c* 1780 M. LONSDALE in S. Gilpin *Songs & Ballads Cumbld.* (1866) 279 Theer was whangs an' shives, thick an' thin, I' weights an' riddles putt'n. 1786 BURNS *Halloween* xxi, Meg fain wad to the Barn gaen, To winn three wechts o' naething. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 283 Wechts or maunds for taking up corn are made either of wood or of skin, attached to a rim of wood...Wechts should be made of [two] different sizes. 1898 J. COLVILLE *Sc. Vernacular* 12 When snow covered the ground, the barn wecht or close sieve was the favourite [bird] trap.

Hence **We'chtful**, the amount contained in a 'weight'. Also **Wecht** *v. trans.*, to winnow (corn) with a 'weight'.

1804 TARRAS *Poems* 67 She wechts the corn anent the blaw. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wechtful*, as much as a wecht can contain. 1832 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 29 Potatoes were little in use then; a 'wechtful' was stored up to be eaten perhaps about Halloween. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 273 Another woman, with a smaller wecht, takes up the good grain..and divides the wechtful between the other two women. *Ibid.* 283.

Weight (wēt), *v.* [f. WEIGHT *sb.*[1]]

†1. *trans.* To oppress (the mind); also *pass.*, to be oppressed in mind or spirit. *Sc. Obs.*

1647 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (1842) III. 3 However this silence sometimes weighted my mind, yet I found it the best and wisest course. 1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* 10 Apr. (S.H.S.) II. 230 Shoe told me my daughter Elizabeth had found under hir soaknesse a deserted condition and now shoe was weyghted with it. 1728 P. WALKER *Life Peden* (1827) I. 80 When he awak'd, he seem'd more than ordinary weighted, and groan'd heavily, saying, Sad Days for Scotland.

2. To load with a weight; to supply with an additional weight; to make weighty. Also with *down*.

1749 HOGSON *Miner's Dict.* G 3 b, If the Wholes be too soft, that we think it will let the Forks settle when they come to be weighted, we put a Sill under them. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 65 The large masses [of stone] used for weighting the levers of the cider-presses. 1831–4 TOMLINSON *Cycl. Arts & Manuf.* II. 31/1 The boards..are..filled with earth to weight them down. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Sept. 5/3 A bough is cut from a tree..weighted with a few heavy stones and then dragged over the soil.

Ag. 1824 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* 78 We may see with complacency the Arrows of Satire feathered with Wit, weighted with Sense, and discharged by a strong Arm, fly home to their mark. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 46 Intricate nets of diplomatic intrigue,..thoroughly weighted with Mexican gold.

b. *fig.* To oppress with weight, to weigh down; chiefly *pass.*, to be heavily burdened (*by* or *with* oppressive conditions or circumstances). Also with *down*.

1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xvii. 445 Weighted as he was with faults,..he fought his battle bravely. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xlvi, It wants to have a House of Commons which is not weighted with nominees of the landed class. 1880 SWINBURNE *Study Shaks.* 236 The memory of Mr. Tennyson would be weighted and degraded by the ascription of whole volumes of pilfered and diluted verse.

c. *techn.* To add weight to (an inferior commodity) by the admixture or use of an adulterant.

1862 C. O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Printing & Dyeing* 19 A sulphate of baryta..is used for 'weighting' that is, for giving weight and apparent body and firmness to inferior goods. 1886 *Daily Tel.* 24 June (Cassell) Dark arts are in certain quarters practised..in disguising and weighting teas. 1895 *Daily News* 1 Oct. 6/3 The ingenuity of the foreign dyer was such that he was able to 'weight' or adulterate his silk.

d. *Statistics.* To multiply the components of (an average) by compensating factors.

1901 A. L. BOWLEY *Elem. Statist.* 111 The very important statistical method known as 'weighting the average'. *Ibid.*, Should we weight the numbers given by the total numbers of inhabitants of the contributing counties, or by their distance from London, or by some quantity derived from these?

3. To assign to (a horse) the weight he must carry in a handicap race. (Cf. WEIGHT *sb.*[1] 12 a.)

1846 DARVILL *Engl. Race Horse* (ed. 3) II. 286 Such horse is generally highly weighted, to bring him on a fair equality with the others. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. i. § 2 Horses are constantly entered and run solely with the view of inducing the handicapper to 'weight' them at a low scale. 1883 'RAPIER' *Types of Turf* 73 A very bad colt..was weighted in a manner ludicrously disproportionate to his capacity.

fig. 1865 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* ii. (1870) 30 So long as this potential motherhood is her lot, woman will be found to be fearfully weighted in the race of life. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* v. 29 The plebeians, however unfairly weighted in the race for riches, could not be always kept in poverty.

4. (In senses of WEIGH *v.*[1]) *trans.* To ascertain the weight of (goods, etc.) by means of a weighing machine; to weigh. *lit.* and *fig.* Also *colloq.*, to feel the weight or heaviness of (something held in the hands).

1865– [see WEIGHTING *vbl. sb.*]. 1898 L. QUILLER-COUCH *Span. Maid* xiv. 202 Why, there hasn't a-bin a touch of cold in the air..; an' heavy!—you can a-most weight it in yer hands.

b. Of a jockey: *To weight out, in*, to undergo weighing before or after a race. = WEIGH *v.* 9.

1877 *Rules of Racing* § 34 (iii), It is optional for the jockey to weight out or in with his bridle.

Weight, obs. form of WAIT *sb.*, *v.*[1], WIGHT.

Weighted (wē'tèd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEIGHT *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. †a. Of one's mind or spirit: Overburdened, oppressed. *Obs.*

1660 [see WEIGHTEDNESS (below)]. *a* 1732 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 168 Their weighted and sorrowful life will be succeeded with a fulness of joy.

b. Burdened with a heavy weight; loaded. Of the eyelids: Heavy with sleep.

1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* xiii, His head fell forward..and his weighted lids went softly down over his eyes. 1905 'J. OXENHAM' *White Fire* xiii, Their weighted progress was slow.

2. Furnished with a heavy substance to give additional weight.

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 360 When filled and covered with a weighted board, they [*sc.* the bladders] will supply a constant stream of gas. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1286 The warp and web are kept longitudinally stretched by a weighted cord. 1872 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Raising* etc. (ed. 2) 182 A stationary rod, on which is mounted a weighted lever.

b. *fig.* Of words, etc.: Made weighty.

1879 *19th Cent.* Oct. 596 Supposing Mr. M.'s argument to be..that of a special pleader who uses weighted words even in preparing to open his discussion. 1914 D. MACMILLAN *Life R. Flint* xii. 344 Its objectivity is equally evident, if one compares it, say, with the more subjectively weighted definings.

c. *Weighted average*, an average in taking which each component is multiplied by a factor chosen to give it its proper importance.

1901 A. L. BOWLEY *Elem. Statist.* 111.

Hence **Wei'ghtedness**, the condition of being weighted.

1660 J. DURHAM *Expos. Rev.* v. i. 264 Secondly, There is a disappointment, *vers.* 3. Thirdly, There is John's exceeding great heavinesse and weightednesse therewith, *vers.* 4.

†**Wei'ghtful**, *a. Obs.*—° [f. WEIGHT *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Weighty.

1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Weyghtfull, *pondereux*.

Weightily (wē'tili), *adv.* [f. WEIGHTY + -LY[2].] In a weighty manner; with or as with weight. Usually *fig.*

1552 HULOET, Weyghtelye, *ponderiositate*. 1570 ROSSEWELL *Armoris* II. 25 b, It is very needefull..diligently to see, and weightely to consider the cote armors, which are put to them to bee painted. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discov.* Wks. 1640 II. 101 No man ever spake more neatly, more pressly, more

weightily. 1667 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. xiv. (1668) 157 How few..do seriously spend their studies in any thing weightily Moral or Intellectual? 1725 Broome *Pope's Odyss.* Notes VII. 379 II. 170 He makes his agents speak weightily and sententiously. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* II. 409 Abuses, which..told most weightily on the serious judgment of the age. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. xix. 410 There was some division of opinion upon the bench on the question thus weightily opened.

Weightiness (wē·tinės). [f. Weighty *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being weighty: **a.** *fig.*, the fact of being of much weight, importance, or consequence; grave or serious character.

1530 Palsgr. 287/2 Weightynesse, *aggravation.* 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 152 b, The weightines of the cause also requireth, that many of vs should come to the counsell. 1596 Lodge *Marg. Amer.* 42 If thou faint through feeblenesse of bodie, I will default through waightinesse of discontent. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* C 3, I had..complained..of the weightinesse of the Office imposed vpon me. *a* 1665 J. Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 371 The weightiness or penetrating force of those arguments. *a* 1713 Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1714) 15 The Weightiness that was upon their Spirits and Countenances. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 14 Observing the Weightiness of the Concern, this was my Method of proceeding. 1905 'J. Oxenham' *White Fire* xvi. 161 'The matter is worth consideration,' he said, with an assumption of weightiness.

b. of material things.

1539 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* III. vii, There is felt in the entrayles..a weyghtynesse with tension or thrustyng outwarde. 1591 Spenser *Ruins of Time* 571 The Caue..with her owne weightinesse Vpon them fell. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxx[i]. § 18 The peculiar Weightiness, and yellow Colour of Gold. 1832 L. Hunt *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 33 It was relieved from an appearance of too much weight by the very weightiness of the hanging sleeves. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 25 A deathless spirit's state, Freed from gross form and bodily weightiness.

Weighting (wē·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Weight *v.* + -ing¹.]

1. The action of the verb.

1865 Janet Hamilton *Poems* etc. (1870) 134 It's England mak's an' sign's the peace..; Whan Europe's balance gangs agee, She trims the scales for wechtin'. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Jan. 3/1 A different system of weighting,..&c., may cause a difference of 1, 2..per cent. in the index numbers.

b. *spec.* The action or process of fraudulently adding weight to textiles (see Weight *v.* 2 c).

1904 *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug. 480/2 *Woollen Draper's Terms*, Weighting: A process by which sulphate of zinc and other metals is absorbed in wool, and so adding weight.

2. *concr.* Something used as a weight to press down, steady, or balance.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1464/1 *Weighting.* Blocks put on a flask to keep the cope down under the upward pressure of the body of iron poured into the mold. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 13/1 Another evening frock..has weightings of jet and silver at the foot and about the décolletage.

Weightless (wē·tlės), *a.* [f. Weight *sb.*¹ + -less.] Without weight, having comparatively little weight.

a 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. 1054 But she was gone, And suttly fled into the weightlesse aire. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 33 Did hee suspire, that light and weightlesse dowlne Perforce must moue. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* X. (1626) 214 The Swans that drew Idalia's waightlesse charriot through the aire. 1652 Benlowes *Theophila* III. xxx, Those lights..Who would portray, as soon may find A way to paint the viewless, poise the weightless wind. 1860 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* I. v. 77 The captain of the Liberty Hall boat ..had long since observed young Saxon, his form slim therefore weightless. 1890 K. Pearson in *Messenger Math.* XX. 28 Suppose the load at the free terminal not to be produced by a suspended load but by a weightless spring.

b. of immaterial things.

1608 J. Robinson in Bp. Hall *Apol. Brownists* (1610) 3 *margin*, [They] are oft times emboldened to roule vpon them as from aloft very weake and weightlesse discourses. 1662 Dryden *To Ld. Chancellor* 155 The glorious course you have begun..must both weightless and immortal prove. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* VII. 814 For neither weightless was Amata's name. 1858 W. Arnot *Laws fr. Heaven for Life on Earth* and Ser. ii. 22 A voluble tongue..may..not add one grain to the stock of human wisdom by the impeding bulk of its weightless product.

Hence **Wei·ghtlessness.**

1884 E. Fawcett *Rutherford* xvii. 195 The hand which she gave him had wasted into almost utter weightlessness.

Weighty (wē·ti), *a.* Forms: 5 **wehty**, 6 *Sc.* **wegh-, veoh-, vyoh-, wyoh-, waioh-, wayohtie**, 6–7 *Sc.* **wechtie**, 7 *Sc.* **weyohtie**, 6, 9 *Sc.* **wechty**; 6 **weyghty(e**, 6–7 **weightie**, 5– **weighty**; 6 **wayghty, wai(h)ti, wayt(t)y**, 6–7 **waighty, -ie.** [f. Weight *sb.*¹ + -y¹.]

I. 1. Of a considerable or appreciable weight; that weighs a good deal, heavy.

1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Onerosus*, heuy or wehty. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* XXVII. 3 The stone is heuy and the sonde weightie: but a fooles wrath is heuyer then they both. 1577 B. Goodge *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 24 b, The best seede also is that which is waightiest. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 351 A very great Frost..had covered with Ice, both the Marshes and Rivers, that they would bear the greatest and most weighty Carriages. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* i. § 4 Let all the Heale Rods be..no weightier than you can easily manage with one Hand. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 1264 Now stern Æneas waves his weighty Spear Against his Foe. 1711 Pope *Temple Fame* 439 As weighty bodies to the centre tend. 1830 Malpas *Builder's Pocket-bk.* 43 Many ceilings..have heavy cornices, pendants, and other weighty matters attached to them. 1879 J. C. Cox *Ch. of Derbysh.* IV. 141 He..lies buried under a weighty uninscribed tomb.

fig. 1642 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 63 By that path, their Crowne of glory had neither been so certaine, nor so soone, nor so weighty.

b. Of persons or animals: Of more than the usual size, large or bulky of body, corpulent. † Of soldiers: Heavily armed or equipped.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. Catal. Princes 39 And Iton breeder good Of waightie felterd felled sheepe. 1590 R. Ferris *Dang. Adventure* B 2, We recouered him and got him vp againe (although he were a verie waightie man). 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* II. 59 Ostorius..could hardly stay thir flight; till the waighty Legions coming on, at first beys'd the Battel, at length turn'd the Scale. *a* 1701 Maidwell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 124 Upon the bough there sits a good weighty Fellow, to press it down to the bottom [of the water]. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry storm'd* (1827) 49 Auld Saunders Clerk, a man o' echty, Though eild-encumber's now and wechty.

c. Of great weight in proportion to its bulk, of high specific gravity.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Argentum graue*,.. weightie siluer, or siluer in bulleon, as they call it. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 June 1664, It look'd like a fungus, but was weighty like metall. 1748 J. Hill *Hist. Fossils* 13 Friable, weighty, fine red Bole. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 138 Baroselenite..Rough and harsh, but appears weighty. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 816 The successive percussions that it receives, determine the weightier matters, and consequently those richest in metal, to accumulate towards its upper end.

† **d.** Of coin: Of full weight, of the standard or legal weight. *Obs.*

1627 Morvson *Itin.* I. 294 He that brings a weighty French crowne *In specie* to the Gold-smyths, they will give him six shilling six pence for it. 1691 Locke *Consid. Lower. Interest* (1692) 156 He will..contract to be paid in weighty Money. 1730 Conduitt *Observ. Coins* (1774) 52 If foreigners, who take our money in large parcels only by weight, are suffered to pour in light money upon us, at the same rate as if it were weighty.

2. Bearing down heavily as if weighted or of great weight; falling with force or violence.

1583 tr. *Maison Reuve's Gerileon* I. 62 b, If he had not by his agillitie and nimblenesse, eschewed the weightie blowes of the Giaunte. 1605 R. F. *Dedekind's Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 101 Another must both brawling words and weightie blows abide 1725 Pope *Odyss.* X. 198 Then leaning on the spear with both my hands, [I] Up-bore my load, and prest the sinking sands With weighty steps. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* XXXII. viii, Whoe'er like Horse and Mule withstand,..I bruise beth my weighty Hand.

II. 3. a. Of great gravity or significance; requiring earnest thought, consideration, or application; highly important, serious, grave, momentous.

1489 Earl of Northumberld. in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 61 For right weighty consideration me moving concerning the pleasure of the Kings highnes. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 28 Preamble, Grant and weyghtye maters concernyng the comen weale of this lande. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 163 My lordes, we haue perceiued the kyng your masters requests, which be greate and of a waightie importaunce. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 62 This was your default, That being Captaine of the Watch to Night, Did looke no better to that weightie Charge. 1606 Stock tr. *Whitaker's Answ. Campian* 93 A waighty question..concerning lawfull ceremonies. 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 129 You may judge how gladly I would impart things of waightier and more pleasing consequence. 1693 W. Freke *Sel. Ess.* XXVI. 154 By Dissimulation and Trifles, sometimes the Weightiest Matters haue been discouered. 1728 *Freethinker* No. 65. 71 What weighty Negociations did He bring to a Conclusion! 1737 Pope *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 379 Or choose at least some Minister of Grace, Fit to bestow the Laureate's weighty place. 1769 Burke *Observ. Late St. Nation* Wks. 1842 I. 80 The questions of war and peace, the most weighty of all questions. 1809 Coleridge *Friend* No. 7. 109 There are three weighty motives for a distinct exposition of this Theory. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, And now I am going seriously to tell you..four secrets. Mind! Serious, grave, weighty secrets.

b. Of a substantial or solid nature; ranking high in respect of importance or value.

In quot. 1744 employed sarcastically with allusion to sense 1.

1558 Bp. Watson *Seven Sacram.* XXX. 193 To exchaunge the short and light affections of thys tyme, wyth the eternall and weyghty ioyes in the Kyngdome of heauen. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1593) 49 The authority of Example is also very weighty. 1596 Nashe *Saffron-Walden* S 2, Were they weightie Treatises? 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol.* inferiour, except when he is retrograde. 1744 *Def. People* title-p., Full Confutation of the Pretended Facts, advanc'd in a late Huge, Angry Pamphlet...In a Letter to the Author of that weighty Performance. 1826 Singer *Playing Cards* 165 Mr. Dibdin whose authority on the subject is the weightiest that could be possiby adduced. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 41 In these days, when the most weighty books may be had cheaply, in the lightest form. 1877 Huxley *Techn. Educ.* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 84 Steps which will have a weighty and a lasting influence on the growth and spread of sound and thorough teaching.

4. a. Of an argument, utterance, etc.: Producing a powerful effect; adapted to influence or convince; forcible, telling, potent.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 124 With meete weightie wordes. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter Bk.* (Camden) 12 Your wurship hath harde what forcible and waiti reasons M. Nevil hath usid against me. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. i. 148 Lyes weighty Arguments.

But on the other hand several weighty objections had to be urged. 1856 Kingsley *Misc.* (1859) I. ix. 332 Reflections very wise and [illegible] 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. iv. 334 Few and weighty were the words which the great Earl spoke that day. 1890 *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 684/2 I must adopt the evidence on the other side, which I think is more weighty.

b. Of persons: Having great authority or influence; important or impressive in respect of position, views, or utterance.

1662 Howell *New Engl. Gram.* To Rdr. 4 Mr. Ben Johnson a Weighty man and one who was as patient as hee was painfull in all his composures. 1668–7 Pepys *Diary* 27 Feb., A mighty quick, ready man, but not so weighty as he should be. 1708 Swift *T. T's* Author's Apol. P6 Since the weightiest men in the weightiest Stations are pleased to think it a more dangerous point to laugh at those corruptions in religion. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 49 There is not any necessity that men should aim at being important and weighty in every sentence they speak. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* XI. v, The great commoner, the weighty speaker, the expert man of business. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life* v. (1861) 112 The argument is scouted, until by-and-bye it gets into the mind of some weighty person; then it begins to tell on the community. 1879 Huxley *Sensation* Sci. & Cult. (1882) 246 We sometimes hear it [this maxim] enunciated by weighty authorities, as if its natural consequence..had the force of a moral obligation.

5. Hard to bear or endure without failing or giving way; oppressive, burdensome, grievous.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* v. iv. Z ij b, I am tourmented withinforthe..with so weighty a charge of conscience. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 653 Like a wise prince, he alleged his insufficiencie for so great a rome and weyghty a burden. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. xvi. 73 He was beholden to the Romanes, that eased him of so weighty a burthen, and lessened his cares of gouernement. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 308 P 1 The weighty Cares which you have thought fit to undergo for the publick Good. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xxii, I have lived till, and the world has been too weighty with me. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xviii, There are hundreds, here, whose weightiest evil would be that they awoke an hour earlier than their wont.

† **b.** Rigorous, severe. *Obs. rare.*

1607 Shaks. *Timon* III. v. 102 We banish thee for euer.., If after two days shine, Athens containe thee, Attend our waightier Iudgement.

† **6.** Serious, grave; expressing seriousness or gravity, earnest, solemn. *Obs.*

1599 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., If any spirit breathes within this round, Vncapable of waightie passion. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, Prol. I. 2, I come no more to make you laugh, Things now, That beare a Weighty, and a serious Brow,..We now present. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sir Greg. Nonsense* Wks. (1630) II. 3/1 With that the smug-fac'd Pluto shook his vestment, Deepe ruminating what the weighty Iest ment. 1677 Penn *Trav. Holland* etc. (1694) 212 The Countess..look't upon me with a weighty countenance, and fetcht a deep sigh, crying out, O the cumber and entanglements of this vain World!

7. = Heavy *a.* 20.

1828 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 337 My chief fear of the work is that..it may prove..in some parts heavy. I shall work it up, however, as much as possible, and endeavor to lighten it where it is weighty.

Weih, var. Wy. *Obs.*, man. **Weiht,** obs. f. Weight, Wight. **Weik(e, Weiket, Weikit,** obs. ff. Weak *a.*, Wick, Wicked, Wicket. **Weil,** var. or obs. f. Weel¹, Well *adv.*, Wheel, While.

† **Weila,** *int. Obs. rare.* [OE. *weg lá*: see Wellaway, and cf. Wella *int.*] Alas!

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* lxix. 4 (Thorpe) Ealle..þe me word cwedon, Wegla, wegla [Vulg. *qui dicunt mihi, Euge, euge*]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 23 Weila þat reowðe. *Ibid.* 39 Weila [*v.r.* wala], lutel þarf þe earien for þin anes liueneð.

Weilaway, -awei, -awey, var. ff. Wellaway. **Weiloum,** obs. Sc. f. Welcome *v.* **Weil(e,** obs. ff. Wield. **Weile,** obs. f. Well. **Weil(e)fair,** obs. Sc. ff. Welfare. **Weill,** obs. f. Veal *sb.*¹, Weel, Well. **Weillaway(e,** var. Wellaway. **Weille, Weill-fair,** obs. Sc. ff. Well *a.* and *adv.*, Welfare.

Weily, var. of (or error for) Welly *adv.*

1732–8 Swift *Pol. Convers.* II. (1738) 170 Well; I'm welly [b]rosten, as they says in Lancashire.

† **Weimer.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Cf. WFris. (17th c.) *wemersang* 'song of woe'.] Lamentation.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 29 Þeos ne schulen neauer song singen in heuene, ah schulen welneres leod al mare in helle.

Weind, obs. form of Wind, Wynd; Sc. var. Wend *v.*² (to ween).

† **Weine,** *v. Obs.* [a. ON. *væna* = OE. *wénian* Wone *v.*] *intr.* To lament, wail.

c 1205 Lay. 25857 Þa iherde he wepen, wunder ane swiðen, wepen and weinen. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xv. (1859) 18, I se can nought done, but cryen, and wayne That charyte nought reckyth of my payne.

Weine pain, var. Waynepain *Obs.* **Weing,** obs. Sc. f. Wing. **Weinscot,** obs. f. Wainscot. **Weipe,** obs. Sc. f. Wipe *v.*

Weir (wiəɹ), *sb.* Forms: α. 1–2 **wer**, 3–8 **were**, 5 **werre**, 5–7 **weere**, 5–8 **weer**; β. 7 **ware**, 6–8 **weare**, 7–9 **wear**; 6–7 **weire, weyre**, 7– **weir**; 6–8 **wier.** γ. 6–7 **wyre**, (7 **wyer**), 7–8 **wire.** [OE. *wer* m., = OS. *werr*, MLG. *wer, were, weir, were* (LG. *wehr*, *were*), MHG. *wer, were* (G. *wehr*; † *wilir*; dial. *wier*) neut., f. the stem of OE. *werian* to dam up: see Ware *sb.* OIcel. *vør*, *var-*, landing-place, is possibly related.

Normally the standard modern form would have been *weer* (*wēr*.); this is represented by the dialectal *weir*, *were*. The late variant *weire* is difficult to account for.]

1. A barrier or dam to restrain water, *esp.* one placed across a river or canal in order to raise or divert the water for driving a mill wheel; also, the body of water retained by this means, a mill-dam; now gen., a dam, of which there are various forms, constructed on the reaches of a canal or navigable river, to retain the water and regulate its flow.

a. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxviii. 279 Se se ðe ðone wer bricð, & ðæt water utforlæt, se bið fruma ðæs yflites. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 30 With all dwellynges þe which been vppon the were of þe milles. 1482 Caxton *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 543 The mayer of London..and the comynalte dyde do brake vp al the weerys that were bytwene Medewey and Kyngeston. 1491 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 373 To arrest ther mill horses,..and to kepe them.. tyll they..make the saide werre. *a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1769) IV. 90 A Damme or Were to serve the Kinges Milles a little lower then the Dammes. 1583 in W. H. Turner *Sel. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 434 A locke or weare by Rewlie lock, to bende the water in sommer and to drawe uppe in wynter. 1653 Walton *Angler* iii. 89 [The trout] wil about (especially before) the time of his Spawning, get almost miraculously through Weires and Floud-Gates against the stream. 1695 *Act* 6 & 7 *Will. III*, c. 16 (title) An Act to prevent Exactions of the Occupiers of Locks and Wears upon the River of Thames Westward. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1756) 170 A Weer or Stop upon the River, made to raise the Water for the Barges which go up and down the River. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 21 The navigation of the river in the town being absolutely impeded by the wear which is made across it in favour of the corn mills. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 314 There are no other reservoirs than those which are formed by the dams or weirs by which the streams are raised for the purpose. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xiii, I'm the best swimmer in Devon. That was proved by my living in that weir in flood time. 1866 M. Arnold *Thyrsis* ii, The Vale, the three lone weirs, the youthful Thames. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 3 About 380 million gallons flow over the weir every four-and-twenty hours.

β. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 203 A good kiln ought to have such a draught as to roar like wires on a river. 1738 *Descr. Thames* 100 Farmer's Wires or Weirs..Day's Wires, [etc.]. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 33 There was.. a Wire or a Stone Dike almost quite a-cross the River. 1875 H. R. Robertson *Life Upper Thames* 40 A boat descending the stream meets with no impediment till it reaches the dam or 'weir' (pronounced 'wire' by the riverside people), as it is technically called.

b. *Her.* A charge representing a weir.

1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Wears, Weir*, or *Dam, in Fesse*. It is made with stakes and osier twigs, wattled or interwoven as a fence against water.

2. A fence or enclosure of stakes made in a river, harbour, etc., for taking or preserving fish. (Cf. *fish-weir* Fish *sb.* 7.)

In OE. also used to render L. *captura* in the sense of a 'catch' of fish.

a. 839 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 398 Twyzen weoras in fluvio qui dicitur Stur. 902 *Ibid.* II. 247 An wer on Ycenan. 996 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* VI. 136 Ðes healfan weres æt Brezzentforda. 1052–87 *Ibid.* IV. 221 Al ðare þinge ðe ðarto mid richte gebirð..on waterin and on weren. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, þa twa dæl of Witlesmere mid watres & mid weres & feonnes. *a* 1200 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 171 In captura..piscium quæ terræ illi adjacet, ubi sunt scillicet duo quod nostratim dicitur Weres. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 35 As why this fish, and nought that, cometh to were. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxv. (1869) 130 It is maad as a were for fysh; Entree ther is, but issue nouht. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 365/2 And a were called Petersam were..to be had for evermore to the seid Priour and Monkes. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 Diuers weres & ingins for fisshynge, made & leuied in the same hauen. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches*, xii, xvii. 226 [He] robbed a millers weire and stole all his eeles. 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 315 The delicate..Golden-eye, Kept in a Weyre, the widest space doth spy. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 838 A very goodly Weare for the catching of Salmons. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 465 Their only Food is a small sort of Fish, which they get by making Wares of stone, across little Coves, or branches of the Sea. 1724 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 233 An act for demolishing.. Fishing Dams, Wears & Kedles set across the River Schuylkill. 1792 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 240 The [Salmon] Weir..consists of a strong dam or breastwork, ten or twelve feet high, thrown across the river. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 81 *note*, The Wigo, or weir, is like that of Western India. 1894 *Outing* Feb. 401/1 Close to the weir—a kind of circular fish-trap made by driving stakes into the bottom close together.

fig. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* v. 4–7 Satan hath fishers of his owne too; who dooe..towle theim into the were and nette of damnacion.

β. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* I. 7 The people were fled, but their wires afforded vs fish. 1638 Suckling *Aglaura* v. i. 35 Like wanton Salmons comming in with floods, that leap o're wyres and nets, and make their way. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 106 They carry them alive to Jamaica, where the Turtles have wires made with Stakes in the Sea to preserve them alive.

b. A weel for catching fish. †Also *Her.*, a representation of this, borne as a charge.

1821 Cotgr., *Boissel d'osier.* A weele, or weere of Ozier twigs. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 80/1 He beareth Azure, a Weele with its hoope vpward, Or. This is also termed a Fishard, or a Ware. 1834 Whittier *Mogg Megone* 841 The clear stream where The idle fisher sets his weir. 1848 *Peter Parley's Ann.* VI. 52 A weir is a basket loose and open at one end, and smaller at the other, into which the fish were driven.

3. A pond or pool. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

For the forms *weyre*, *weair* see Wayour.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cvi. 35 He set in weres of [L. *in stagna aquarum*] wildernes. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 143 And soo was hit hyd þer yn [to] þe tyme þat byschopys of þe tempull let make a were [*v. r.* wayre] yn þe same plas, forto waach schepe yn. 1657 J. Watts *Scriba*, etc. *Dipper Sprinkled* 31 To make choise of a common Pond or Weyr to dip your two new converted holy Sisters in. 1691 Ray *S. & E. Country Words*, *Were*, or *Weir*, a pond or pool of water. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Weir*, a pond.

4. *local.* a. A fence or embankment to prevent the encroachment of a river or sea-sand, or to turn the course of a stream.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 22 The burdensome detrimentes of our hauen, which euery twelue-month deuoures a Iustice of peace liuing, in weares and banckes to beate off the sand. 1680 *N. Riding Rec.* VII. 30 Roger Beckwith..and other of the adjoyning neighbours have taken care to make a weare to keep the said river in its antient channel. 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Weer*, an embankment against its [*sc.* a river's] encroachment. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Words* (ed. 3), *Were*,..an embankment to prevent the encroachment, or turn the course of a stream. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wear, weir*, a structure of stone mixed with rice (brushwood) for protecting a bank from the wash of a stream.

b. (See quot.)

1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wear, Weer*, the landing place and fishing ground at a salmon-net fishery.

5. *Sc.* A hedge. (Cf. Wear *v.* 2 3.)

1789 D. Davidson *Seasons* 51 Now weir an' fence o' wattl'd rice, The hained fields inclose. *a* 1894 J. Shaw in R. Wallace *Country Schm.* (1899) 355 *Weir*,..a hedge.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weir-bank*, *-bridge*, *-dam*, *-frame*, *-head*, *-hack* (Hack *sb.*[1] 2), *-hole*, *-pile*, *-pool*, *-stream*; *weir-keeper*, *-owner*; **weir-boat**, a boat kept at a weir for the use of the weir-keeper; †**weir-dike**, a bank that serves as a dam; **weir-hatch** [Hatch *sb.*[1] 6], the flood-gate or sluice of a weir; **weir-hedge**, a bank made on each side of a river to narrow and deepen its water; †**weir-hook** (see quot.); **weir house**, a trap for salmon at a salmon weir; †**weir-net**, a net for taking fish at or from a weir; **weir-shot net**, a fishing net that is shot or cast in a circular form, used in salmon fisheries on the Tweed (see quot. 1855).

1583 *Inquis. Sewers Linc.* (1851) 16 That all *weare banks & all other Bankes heretofore in Commission..& all close ditches & draines..shall be ditched sufficiently before Michaelmasse. 1436 *Catal. Anc. Deeds* IV. 273 (A. 8182) [Two boats called the] feriboot [and] a *wereboot. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* iii, He found on the *weir-bridge two of the keepers. 1793 R. Mylne *Rep. Thames* 22 Without a Lock in the said Cut, or a *Weir-dam in the bed of the River. 1518 *Sel. Pleas Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 130 A lytull growndе inclosyd in the fenne by Reasun of makyng of a *Weyr dyke. 1902 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 6 The holes and angles of the *weir-frame. 1898 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 204 As when a *weir-hatch is drawn, Her tears..With a rushing of sole in a shower were strawn. 1817 Scott *Waverley* ix, A large brook..leapt in tumult over a strong dam, or *wear-head. *c* 1467–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 641 Pro extraccione et imposicione lez stapyls pro le *Warehek molandini. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* VI. Aa 4, s. v. *Canal*, Jetties, or *Weir-hedges have formerly been made, for diminishing the width of the river below the several shoals. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Antiq.* 610 **Wareshole*, *Weirhole*, a hole into which the back water of a mill stream falls. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 86/2 A *Weare, or fish cage hooke. It is a large and strong Iron hooke with a sockett at the end, to be fixed on a long pole, or staffe, to take fish out of weares or cages. 1792 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 256 The [Salmon] Weir ..consists of a strong dam...At one end of the dam, is a '*weir house' or trap. 1792 R. Mylne *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 15 By disuniting the Care of the Pound Locks from the Miller and the *Wear-Keeper. 1881 *Taunt's Thames Map* 66/1 The weir-keeper is another old hand on the river. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 256/2 *Excipulus*,..a *weare net. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 28 In September they take in Weeles and Weere-nets an incredible number of most sweete and sauery eeles. 1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unlocked* § 358, p. 101 Part hee shutteth up in repositorles, from whence when there is need hee taketh them out with a warenet. 1670 R. Vaughan *Water-Workes* H 1 b, *Weare-owners. 1864 Meredith *Sandra Belloni* 22, She saw the white *weir-piles shining. 1889 'J. Bickerdyke' *All-round Angler* III. 90 A man taking a chance day on the Thames has small chance of success unless he sticks to the *weirpools. 1885 *Archæol. Æliana* IV. 302 The *wear-shot net is rowed by means of a boat into the river in a circular form, and is immediately drawn to the shore. 1887 *Local Act* 50 & 51 *Vict.* c. cxlviii. § 62 Every Person who shall shoot or work any Wear Shot Net in the River within the Distance of Thirty Yards of any other Wear Shot Net. 1900 *Daily News* 1 Jan. 8/7 The well-known *weir stream which skirts the grounds of Eton College.

Weir (wɪəɹ), *v.* [f. Weir *sb.*] *trans.* To provide with a weir. Chiefly in pa. pple.

1670 R. Vaughan *Water-Workes* G 2 b, The Riuer of Wie ..was..so Weared & fortified, as if the Salmons therein.. had been forbidden their vsuall walkes. 1794– [see Weiring *vbl. sb.*]. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Weer*, to make a protection of a bank. 1904 *Times* 13 Feb. 13/6 The main channel was locked and weired for navigation.

Weir, Sc. var. Vere *sb. Obs.*, War *sb.*[1], Were *sb.* and *v.*, Wire *sb.*

Weirai, var. Warray *v. Obs.*

Weird (wɪəɹd), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wyrd**, 3–5 **wird**, (4 **wired**, 5 **wirid**), **wirde**, 4–5 **wyrde**; 4 **wyerde**, **wierde**, 4–6 **werd** (5 **werid**), **werde**, 4– **weird** (5 *Sc.* **weird**), 7–8 (9 *Sc.*) **wierd**; *Sc.* 6 **waird**, 6–7 **weard**, 8 **weerd**. [OE. *wyrd* fem., = OS. *wurd* (pl. *wurdi*), OHG. *wurt*, ON. *urð-r*, from the weak grade of the stem *werþ-*, *warþ-*, *wurþ-* to become: see Worth *v.*

The word is common in OE., but wanting in ME. until *c* 1300, and then occurs chiefly in northern texts, though employed also by Chaucer, Gower, and Langland. The normal later and modern form would have been *wird*, and the substitution of *weird*, *wird* (which is natural in south-eastern ME.) is difficult to account for in the northern dialects. In senses now current the word is either Scottish or archaic (chiefly under the influence of Scottish writers).]

1. The principle, power, or agency by which events are predetermined; fate, destiny.

Beowulf 455 Gæð a wyrd swa hio scel. *Ibid.* 477 Hie wyrd forsweop on Grendles gryre. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 5 Ac þæt þæt we wyrd hatað, þæt bið Godes weorc þæt he ælce dæg wyrce. *a* 1000 *Seafarer* 115 Wyrd bið swiðre, meotud meahtigra, bonne ænges monnes gehygd. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 249 What wyrde has hyder my iuel vayned. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2134 Worþe hit wele, oþer wo, as þe wyrde lykez hit hafe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 443 Þat sygnyfys þe same man þat sett is, be wird, So many prouynce to pas. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 244 As werd will wyrk, thi fortoun mon thou tak. *c* 1585 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xxxiii. 1 Vhom suld I warie bot my wicked weard, Vha span my thriftles thrauard fatall threed? 1603 *Philotus* c, Quhat wickit weird hes wrocht our wo? [1895 W. Morris *Beowulf* 16 Weird wends as she willeth. *Ibid.* 17 Weird swept them away.]

b. Magical power, enchantment.

1823 Hogg *Queen's Wake* 79 He heard the word of awsome weird, And he saw their deedis of synn.

2. *pl.* The Fates, the three goddesses supposed to determine the course of human life.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) P. 15 *Parcæ*, wyrde. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.*, *Hypermnestra* 19 The werdys that we clepyn destene Hath shapyn hire that she mot nedis be Pyetous sad. *c* 1450 *Crt. of Love* 1173, I mene, the three of fatall destinè, That be our werdes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/2 Wyrdis, *parce*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. i. 30 Gif werdis war nocht contrair [*si qua fata sinant*]. 1547 Surrey *Æneis* IV. 581 (Roxb.) F iij, The werdes withstande [*fata obstant*]. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 326 'Woe worth', quoth the Weirds, 'the wights that thee wroght!' 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 5 And whilst from Phleg'ran fields, the weirds me call, I in Elisean plaines, am forc'd to fall. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* II. 13 Ye're grown sae braw: now weirds defend me! 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 89 'Career ye on,' Have to their spindles cried..the Weirds [*Parcæ*].

b. One pretending or supposed to have the power to foresee and to control future events; a witch or wizard, a soothsayer.

1625 Hevlin *Microcosmos* (ed. 2) 509 These two..were mette by three Fairies, or Witches (Weirds the Scots call them). 1654 Vilvain *Enchir. Epigr.* II. lxxx, The 3 Scots courtiers, who met three Wierds or Witches which foretold their fortune. 1682 C. Irvine *Hist. Scot. Nomencl.* 22 *Arioli*. Weards, Sooth-sayers, or Second-sighted-men. 1834 A. Smart *Rambling Rhymes* 164 Puir auld wives..Were seized in Superstition's clutches, An' brunt to death for wierds an' witches. 1899 J. Spence *Shetland Folk-lore* 143 With this green nettle And cross of metal I witches and wierds defy.

3. That which is destined or fated to happen to a particular person, etc.; what one will do or suffer; one's appointed lot or fortune, destiny.

Often in *to dree one's weird*: see Dree *v.* 2 c.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 433 *Sortem*, wyrd, *condicionem*. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. § 1 Ic wille secgan þæt ælc wyrd bið good, sam hio monnum good þinc, sam hio him yfel þince. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3453 Strang weird was giuen to þam o were þat þai moght noght þair strif for-bete. *Ibid.* 9968 Had neuer womman sa blisful wird..As maria maiden. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2418 Dalyda dalt hym hys wyrde. *c* 1400 *Ant. Arthur* xvi. (Irel. MS.) 'Ways me for thy wirde!' cothe Waynor. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4680 Þai grett, þai sorowed þair sary werde. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 761 My waryed werd in warld I mon fullfill. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 109 Euerie ladie pansit hame ..Weipand full soir and wareand hir werd. 1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lxiii, It made myne iyes in very teares consume: When I beheld the wofull werd befall, That by the wrathful wyl of Gods was come. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlvi. 31 They haif wroght my weird Vnhappiest on eird. 1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. viii, It's a wise wife that kens her weird. *a* 1774 Fergusson *On Seeing Butterfly* Poems (1845) 18 Those Whose weird is still to creep, alas! Unnoticed, mang the humble grass. 1795 Burns '*O tell na me*' iii, Let simple maid the lesson read, The weird may be her ain. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, My weird maun be fulfilled, Mr. Butler. 1892 J. A. Henderson *Ann. Lower Deeside* 79 The weird of this kirk is that it will fall in time of worship. 1909 Belloc *Marie Antoinette* 255 It was one more of those hammer-blows of Fate exactly coincident with the sequence of the Queen's weird.

b. *pl.* (often in reference to a single person).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15279 Þe gait it es al graid, He mai sai wirdes warid þat forwit him es laid. 1320–30 *Horn Ch.* 456 Wilf thai toke, and duelled thare; In Inglond com thai no mare, Her werdes for to bide. *c* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxiv. 3 Sum says it was my weirdis; sum says the sterne of my birth gert me syn. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. i. (1886) 1 The sorful wierdes of me okle man [*mœsti mea fata senis*]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 94 Whan thei at mi nativite My weerdes setten as thei wolde. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 241 As hus werdes [*v. r.* wirdus] were ordeined. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* ix, So vncouthly hir werdes sche deuideth. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* LXXXV. iv, Fortune, false executryse of weerdes [= Chaucer *Troylus* III. 617], That euermore..To all debates thou strongly so enberdes. 1572 Sir J. Maitland in *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXVII. 108 Then warreitt war thy weirdis and wanhap. 1579 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 140/1 That they can tell þair weardis deathis & fortunes.

c. *spec.* An evil fate inflicted by supernatural power, esp. by way of retribution.

[*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8981 Bot hard it es, þe wird o sin þat

yarked was till adam kin I] 1874 'Ouida' *Two Little Wooden Shoes* 132 Swallows do not tell their secrets. They have the weird of Procne on them all. 1877 Trench *Lect. Med. Ch. Hist.* 178 But a weird was upon him and upon his race. 1885 Jean Ingelow *Sleep of Sigismund* 7 The weird is on him to grope in the dark with endless Weariful feet for a goal that shifteth still.

4. a. A happening, event, occurrence.

Prov. *After word comes weird*, the mention of a thing is followed by its occurrence or appearance.

a 900 *Cynewulf's Christ* 81 Ne we þære wyrde wenan þurfon toweard in tide. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Þa gelamp wundorlic wyrd þæt se leg ongan slean & brecan ongean þone wind. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 340 It were a wonder wierde To sen a king become an hierde. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* 5459 It befell þis wondir werde. 1721 J. Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 2 After Word comes Weird; fair fall them that call me Madam. 1883 Hall Caine *Shadow Crime* xxxvi, Weel, weel; after word comes weird. That's why the constables are gone, and that's why Robbie's come.

b. That which is destined or fated to happen; predetermined events collectively.

c 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1082 Thair wil nane wyis, that ar wis, wary the werd. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. vii. 48 Bot we from werd to werd and chance mon wend. 1876 W. Morris *Sigurd* I. 3 A tale that the elders have told, A story of weird and of woe.

5. †**a.** A decree (of a god). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 270 Þe werdes Of my gracious goddis, þe grettest on erde. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. xii. 202 And thou, Tellus, mast nobill God of erd, Hald fast the speris hed by 3our werd.

†**b.** An omen or token significant of the nature of a future event; a prognostic. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. xiii. 150 Jove..bad hir hald doun baldly to the erd, For to resist Juturnais ire and weird [*L. omen*]. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S. T. S.) II. 233 Þe senat ..said þai acceppit þe weird þat followit one þir wourdis.

c. A prediction of the fate which is to happen to a person, etc.; a prophecy.

1785 *Poems Buchan Dial.* 18 Altho' his mither, in her weirds, Foretald his death at Troy. 1802 C. Gray *Poems* (1811) 73 Then, as to his fortin tellin',..he ne'er liket to be sellin' His weird for wind.

d. A supernatural or marvellous occurrence or tale.

1814 W. Nicholson *Poet. Wks.* (1897) 40 [She] Could tell her tale or lilt her sang,..Wi' weirds and witcheries aft atween, And unco sights that some had seen. *a* 1829 A. Tait in Jas. Watson *Living Bards of Border* 151 What legends and weirds these fair scenes still awaken.

6. *Comb.*, as *weird-fixed*, *-set* adjs.; **weird-licht** *Sc.* the light of destiny; †**weird-man**, a seer; **weird-woman**, a witch.

1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 181 Now was come the *weird-fix't hour Ordain'd to break the Papish power. 1844 W. Thom *Rhymes & Recoll.* 54 There's a bricht e'e looks love to me, Like the *weird licht o'er me shining. 1806 Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 238 'Dire is the doom', the *wierd-man said; 'Nae mair, O lady, speir I' 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 46 The *weird-set day begins to daw. 1845 J. E. Carpenter *Poems & Lyrics* 34 The *weird-woman had stol'n away.

Weird (wi·ɹd), *a.* Also 5 **wyrde**, 5–6 *Sc.* **werd(e**, 6 **veird**, 7 **weyard** (**weyward**), **weer'd**, 8 **weird**, 9 **weard**. [Originally an attrib. use of prec. in *weird sisters* (see sense 1), the later currency and adjectival use being derived from the occurrence of this in the story of Macbeth.

The evolution of the forms found in Shakspere's *Macbeth* was app. from **weyrd* to *weyard* (retained in Acts III and IV in the First Folio) and *weyward* (used in Acts I and II); the latter was no doubt due to association with *wayward*, a word used many times by Shakspere. (The later folios retain the *weyward* spelling, and alter the other to this or to *wizard*.) In several passages the prosody clearly requires the word to be pronounced as two syllables; hence Theobald's use of the diæresis in his emendation *weïrd* (see quot. 1733 below), giving rise to the scansion of quot. 1755 in sense 1, and quot. 1820 in sense 4.]

1. Having the power to control the fate or destiny of men, etc.; later, claiming the supernatural power of dealing with fate or destiny.

Originally in *the weird Sisters* = †(*a*) the Fates; (*b*) the witches in *Macbeth*.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 2818 Vberis saild sche was, I trow, A werde-sister, I wait neuir how. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. xviii. 1862 Þa women þan thoucht he Thre werd systeris mast lyk to be. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 420/2 (Addit. MS.) Wyrde systres, *parce*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V. xiii. 74 Admit mynde asking, gif so the fatis gidis,..Or 3it werd sisteris list gif thaim that cuntre. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. (1872) 64 The tail of the three veird systirs. 1577 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 243/2 *marg.*, The prophesie of three women supposing to be the weird sisters or fairies. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. iii. 32 The weyward Sisters, hand in hand,..Thus doe goe, about, about. *Ibid.* III. i. 2 Thou hast it now, King, Cawdor, Glamis, all, As the weyard Women promis'd. *Ibid.* III. iv. 133, I will to morrow..to the weyard Sisters. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 237 The weer'd Sister Parques. 1733 Theobald *Shaks. Macb.* I. iii. *note*, In every passage.. my Emendation must be embraced, and we must read *weïrd* [ed. 1740 *Wïerd*, or *Wïerd*]. 1755 J. G. Cooper *Tomb Shaks.* 99 Where three swart sisters of the weird band Were mutt'ring curses to the troublous wind. 1765 *Birth of St. George* 47 in Percy *Relig.* III. 218 To the weird lady of the woods He purpos'd to repaire. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmagundi* (1824) 129 He had rather see one of the weird sisters flourish through his key-hole on a broom-stick. 1820 Shelley *Let. Maria Gisborne* 106 And here, like some weird Archimage sits I, Plotting dark spells. *a* 1894 H. Reed *Lect. Brit. Poets* V. (1857) 189 The weird women with beards meet to seal the deep damnation of their victim.

2. Partaking of or suggestive of the supernatural; of a mysterious or unearthly character; unaccountably or uncomfortably strange; uncanny.

1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IX. viii, Some said, I was a fiend from my weird cave, Who had stolen human shape. 1820 — *Witch Atlas* 670 It is A tale more fit for the weird winter nights Than for these garish summer days. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. xii, This solitude has something in it weird and awful. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* I. 14 Myself too had weird seizures, Heaven knows what. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. i, Both men then looked with a weird unholy interest at the wake of Gaffer's boat. 1878 Lucy *Diary Two Parl.* (1885) I. 393, I hear a weird story in connection with the private history of the family.

absol. 1888 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 4/7 Miss Seward, according to Sir Walter Scott, was a mistress of the weird in oral narrative. 1899 Sir G. Douglas *James Hogg* V. 201 Unlike the German's, Hogg's 'weird' is seldom or never morbid, fevered, hectic.

b. of sounds or voices.

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 30 In lone and silent hours, When night makes a weird sound of its own stillness. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 12 The weird rattle of the débris which fell at intervals. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. i, The person of the house gave a weird little laugh here. 1876 Smiles *Sc. Natur.* vi. 100 He was awakened by a weird and unearthly moaning

3. Of strange or unusual appearance, odd-looking.

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 448 Mutable As shapes in the weird clouds. 1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 23 The soft yielding carpets of greenest verdure and weirdest patterns, woven by these tiny plants on the floor of shadowy old forests. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* Prel., He begins to people the weird places of the earth with weird beings. 1907 Br. A. Robertson in *Trans. Devon Assoc.* 53 Bampfylde Moore Carew, King of the Gipsies, [not] the only weird, extravagant figure that has moved across Devon's stage.

4. Out of the ordinary course, strange, unusual; hence, odd, fantastic. (Freq. in recent use.)

1820 Keats *Lamia* I. 107, I..bade her steep Her hair in weird syrops, that would keep Her loveliness invisible. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. xxxvi, The prophet up the plain, Gathering weird simples, pass'd. 1865 Dickens *Holly-Tree* i, He was a man with a weird belief in him that no one could count the stones of Stonehenge twice, and make the same number of them. 1912 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 833 The 'Guacciadim' of p. 140 is a weird misprint for Guicciardini.

5. *Comb.*, as *weird-looking* adj.

1860 [Eliz. Johnston] *Gifts & Graces* xix. 184 All the trees grim and shadowy, every familiar object weird-looking. 1867 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 437 The Prophet first pointed out a weird-looking creature, a turnkey. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., A cruel, weird-looking scene, fantastic, unreal, and bizarre as one of Doré's marvellous conceptions.

Weird (wi·ɹd), *v. Sc.* and †*north.* Also 4 **weirrd**, **werd**, **wired**, **wiird**, 6 **waird**, 8 **weerd**, 9 **wierd**; 7 *pa. pple.* **weard**. [f. Weird *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To preordain by the decree of fate; esp. in *pass.* to be destined or divinely appointed *to*, *into*, or *unto* (with inf. or sb.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23368 Ne hert mai think þan loies sere, þat iesus crist has dight til his, þat weirrded er vnto þe blias. *Ibid.* 25225 All þe men þat werded es for to be broght into þi blis. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 360 (Sc. Prov.) A man may wooe where he will, but he will wed where he is weard [ed. 1, where his hap is]. 1742 R. Forbes *Ajax Sp.* (1755) 14 These darts that weerded were To tak the town o' Troy. 1885 J. Lumsden *Rural Rhymes* 236 Gin the gude Mr. Hootsman is weirdit to be married a third time neist week.

2. To assign to (a person) as his fate; to apportion as one's destiny or lot.

c 1550 *Clariodus* (Maitl. Club) I. 1030 The Waird Sisteris ..wairdit me, gif ane knave chyld war I, That efter I was sevin 3eiris old To be transformit in ane lyoun bold. *a* 1800 *Kempion* iii. in Scott *Minstrelsy* (1802) II. 93, I weird ye to a fiery beast, And relieved sall ye never be, Till [etc.]. 1806 Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 238 Say..what the doom sae dire, that thou Doest wierd to mine or me? *a* 1869 C. Spence *Fr. Braes of Carse* (1898) 182 A lesson teaching poor and rich That nane should weird ill to a witch.

3. To warn or advise by the knowledge of coming fate.

1806 Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 237, I wierd ye, gangna there! *Ibid.* II. 174, I weird thee, to lat me be were best.

Hence **Wei·rding** *vbl. sb.* in Comb. *weirding peas*, peas employed in divination.

1804 Tannas *Poems* 68 Jock Din is to the yard right sly, To saw his wierdin pis. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xvii, Say, what hath forged thy wierded [*footn.* fated] link of destiny with the House of Avenel?

Wei·rddom. [f. Weird *sb.* + -dom.] The supernatural world.

1863 B. Brierley *Chron. Waverlow* Introd. p. xv, Stories of eld and weirddom are vanishing too.

Weirdish (wi·ɹdiʃ), *a.* [f. Weird *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat weird.

indeed, is only the accompaniment to their weirdish arias. 1914 E. F. Benson *Dodo the Second* iii. 68, I was always weirdish, and I am too old to change now.

Weirdless (wi·ɹdlĕs), *a. Sc.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -less.] Destined to ill fortune, ill-fated, unlucky; hence unbusinesslike, incapable, worthless.

c 1800 *Mary Hamilton* iii. in Child *Ballads* III. 391/2 And wae be to that weirdless wicht. 1821 *Joseph the Bookman* 99 Ye weirdless, naughty, spendthrift man. 1825 Jamieson, *Weirdless* a. Destitute of any capacity to m worldly affairs. S. 1886 Latto *Tam. Bethlin* x. 93 could she think..but that I behooved to be some weirdless, ne'er-do-weel?

Hence **Wei·rdli**

1825 Jamieson, *W*

Weird-like (wi·ɹdlaik), *a.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -like.] Suggestive of the supernatural, ominous, eery, uncanny. Of a person: Uncanny-looking.

1824 Grace Greenwood *Haps & Mishaps* 213 The almost deathly quiet, the oppressive loneliness, the strange deep, unearthly gloom of this mouldering city of the dead are things to be *felt* in all their melancholy and weird-like power. 1826 Miss Mulock *J. Halifax* vi, Still I hear the awe-struck, questioning, weird-like tone. 1875 G. Jacque *Hops* iii. 35 Along that dismal silent road A weirdlike man was seen to plod. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 45 So weird-like was the feeling of the place.

Weirdly (wi·ɹdli), *a. Sc.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -ly 1.]

1. Favoured by fate, happy, prosperous.

1807 Hogg *Mtn. Bard* Poet. Wks. 1838 II. 211 Harden was a weirdly man. 1819 — *Jacobite Relics* II. 189 In thy bien and weirdly nook Lie some stout Clan-Gillian banes.

2. Pertaining to, or suggestive of, witchcraft or the supernatural.

1831 Hogg *Magic Mirror* in *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 630 A hill for weirdly deeds renowned. 1858 Masson *Milton* I. 538 In such studies and weirdly phantasies let the night pass. 1880 J. E. Watt *Poet. Sk.* 19 (E. D. D.) Though a warlock had waggit his weirdly wand To bring doon the lift on my head.

Hence **Wei·rdliness.**

1859 Masson *Brit. Novelists* 243 Passages..to which, for visual weirdliness, there is nothing comparable in the pages of his rival.

Wei·rdly, *adv.* [f. Weird *a.* + -ly 2.] In a weird or fantastic manner.

1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 840 Elaine..past beneath the weirdly-sculptured gates. 1861 J. Thomson *Ladies of Death* xx, That face Of subtle loveliness though weirdly pale. 1888 Annie S. Swan *Doris Chayne* IV. 71 A low, moaning wind.. waved the bare tree boughs weirdly to and fro.

Wei·rdness. [f. Weird *a.* + -ness.] The fact or quality of being weird.

1869 E. W. Benson in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) I. 289 Then fell the weirdness that still comes betimes When, after earnest talk, I fall to talk For talking's sake. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 44/2 The greatness, vastness, and, if the word be permissible, weirdness of an empire that is the ruler of countless millions.

Wei·rdsome, *a.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -some.] Uncanny, mysterious.

1885 J. F. Molloy *Royalty Restored* I. 304 These dark and weirdsome gulphs. 1910 *Spectator* 9 July 51/2 She.. sent the animal on its weirdsome errand into the darkness of the night.

Wei·rdward, *a.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -ward.] Bordering upon or approaching the supernatural.

1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 697 Unnumbered sisterhood Of wierdward birth.

Wei·rdy, *a. Sc.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -y.] Fateful.

1804 R. Couper *Poetry* II. 21 Life's ember suffers unco throwes—What will ye, weirdy time, disclose!

Weire, Sc. var. War *sb.*[1] **Weirelyk,** obs. Sc. var. Warlike *a.*

Weiring (wi·ɹiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Weir *v.*] The constructing of a weir or of weirs; also, *concr.* materials used for making a weir or of which a weir is composed.

1794 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 289 Hitherto, piles and planks had been used, to confine the rapid Tavey within its channel; much valuable timber having been used ..in 'weiring'. 1888 *Act* 45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 38 § 25 The making..of any works for any of the following purposes..: (iv) Embanking or weiring from a river or lake. 1902 *Spectator* 27 July 119/1 In the canalised stream..there were numbers [of crayfish], which made homes in..sides of locks, and in the wood of the weiring.

Weirlie, -lyk (e, obs. Sc. ff. Warlike. **Weirlie, -ly,** var. ff. Warly *Obs.* **Weirwal,** var. Werewall *Sc. Obs.* **Weische,** obs. Sc. f. Wash. **Weise,** var. Wase; Sc. var. Wise *v.*

Weisht, Sc. var. Whisht *sb.* and *int.*

Weism (wai,iz'm). [f. We *pron.* + -ism, after *egoism*.] The too frequent use of 'we' (see We *pron.* 2 b) by a speaker or writer. Cf. Wegotism.

1890 *Anti-Jacobin Rev.* V. 58 What intolerable weism! more revolting than the worst species of egotism! 1891 *Fraser's Mag.* Apr. 505 His 'egotism', so offensive to the ee-ism of the press.

Wei·smannian, *a.* and *sb.* [f. as next + -ian.]

a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Weismann or his biological theory. **b.** *sb.* One who accepts the theory of Weismannism.

1903 *Amer. Naturalist* May 349 The line of argument will probably not be convincing to even the milder Weismannians. 1903 *Science* 5 June 906/1 The method, in which..there is no reduction division in the Weismannian sense. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Mar. 1/3 Objections to the Weismannian theories.

Weismannism (vai·smăniz'm). [f. the name *Weismann* (see below) + -ism.] The theory of evolution and heredity propounded by the German biologist, August Weismann, esp. in regard to the continuity of the germ-plasm and the non-transmission of acquired characteristics.

1894 H. Spencer in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 592 (*title*) Weismannism once more.

Weissite (vai·sait). *Min.* [Named (G. *weissit*) after C. S. *Weiss*, German crystallographer: see -ite.] An altered form of iolite.

1876 T. Thomson *Outl. Min.* 280 Weissite occurs thinly scattered in a chlorite slate in kidney shaped pieces about the size of a hazel nut. 1849 J. Nicol *Min.* 263 Weissite,

externally like fahlunite, but said to be monoclinohedric. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 302 Weissite, iberite, buronite, are supposed to be altered iolite.

Weist, obs. f. WEST; var. WIGHT *a. dial.* **Welt,** obs. Sc. f. WET; obs. f. WHITE, WIT *v.*; var. WITE *sb.* **Weith,** obs. f. WIGHT. **Weive,** obs. f. WAIVE *v.*[1], WEAVE; var. WAIVE *v.*[2] **Weise,** var. WASE; Sc. var. WISE *v.*

Wejack, earlier form of WOODCHUCK.

1796 S. HEARNE *Journ. N. Ocean* 377 The Wejack and Skunk are never found in the Northern Indian country. 1829 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 52.

Wek, obs. form of WEAK *a.*

Weka (we·ka, wē·kä, wī·kä). Also **waika.** [Maori, so named from its cry.] The native name for the flightless rails *Ocydromus australis* and *O. brachypterus* of New Zealand. Also called *weka rail.*

1843 E. J. WAKEFIELD *Adv. New Zealand* II. iv. 95 Two young *weka,* or wood-hens, about as large as sparrows. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3400 The eggs of the Weka (*Ocydromus*), obtained in the Middle Island, New Zealand. 1873 *Ibis* Ser. III. (1874) IV. 97 Wood or Maori Hen. *Weka.* 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 9/2 The weka rails are also flightless. 1914 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Nov. 731/1 The weka...is very common throughout the New Zealand bush.

†**Weke,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. ON. *veku, voku,* obl. case of *vokva* moisture.] Moisture; liquid.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4698 Tilmen..Als þal war won þair sede had saun, Bot alkin weke it was wit-draun. *Ibid.* 12215 He þat þe walud wand moght ger In a night leif and fruit ber, Witvten weke or erth a-bute. *Ibid.* 24453 Bot als ferr-sum i moght reke, To kis þat tre was blodi weke.

Weke, obs. f. WEAK, WEEK *sb.*, WICK *sb.*[1]; var. WEEK *int.* **Weket, -ett,** obs. ff. WICKET. **Wekid, -it, Wekir,** obs. ff. WICKED, WICKER. **Wekke,** var. VECKE *Obs.*, WICK *a.* **Wekked, Wekker, Wekyt,** obs. ff. WICKED, WICKER, WICKET.

Wel: see WAL, WEEL[1], WELL.

W'el, obs. contraction of *we will.*

1677 C. D'AVENANT *Circe* IV. ii. 35 Let him dye, to his groans w'el dance and w'el sing.

Wel-adaie, -aday, etc.: see WELLADAY. **Welans (-anys), -ly,** Sc. var. ff. VILLAINS *a.*, -LY. *Obs.* **Welany,** obs. Sc. f. VILLAINY. **Welawei, -way,** etc., **Welawo:** see WELLAWAY, WELLAWO. **Welawylle, -wynne:** see WELLA *adv.* **Welbede, -bode,** obs. forms of WOODBUT. **Wel bego(n, bigoo:** see WELL BEGONE. **Welch,** obs. form of WELSH.

Welcome (we·lkəm), *sb.*[1], *int.*, and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wilcume (wilcymo),** 2–3 **wilcume,** (3 **wilkume**), 6 *Sc.* **wyloum, wylcome**; 1 **wylcume, wylcyme,** 3 **wulcume,** 3–5 **wolcome.** *β.* 2–3, 5 **welcume,** 3–4 **wel come,** 3–6 **wel-come, welcum,** 4 **welkum,** 4–7 **welcom** (5 *Sc.* **welcom**), 7 **well come** (7 *Sc.* **weillcome**), 7–8 **well-come,** 3– **welcome.** [Originally OE. *wilcuma* (f. *wil-, will-* will, desire, pleasure + *cuma* comer, guest) = OHG. *willicomo,* MHG. and MLG. *willekome, -kume* (whence OF. *wilecome*), with subsequent alteration of the first element to *wel-* WELL *adv.*, and identification of the second with the imperative or infinitive of the verb *come,* under the influence of OF. *bien venus, bien veignies,* L. *bene venisti, bene venias,* etc., and possibly of the Scand. forms given below.

Parallel developments appear in the cognate languages, either with retention of the original form of the first element, and reduction or extension of the second, as in older G. *wille-, willkum(m), -komm,* G. *willkomm,* LG. *willkām,* MDu. *willecomen,* MLG. *willekomen* (LG. *willkamen*), MHG. *willechomen, -komen* (G. *willkommen*), or with substitution of *wel-* for *wil-,* as in MDu. *welcome* (Du. *welkom*), *-comen*; also MLG. *wolkemen,* WFris. *wolkom.* It is not clear whether the ON. *velkominn* (Norw. *velkomen*; MSw. *val-, vällkomin,* Sw. *väl-,* Da. *velkommen*) is an independent formation or the result of LG. and Romanic influence.

The occasional ME. forms in *wol-* may represent either the southern *wul-* from *wyl-, wil-,* or the *wol* which appears as a variant of *wel* WELL *adv.*]

†**A. 1.** One whose coming is pleasing or desirable; an acceptable person or thing. *Obs.* (OE. only.)

Beowulf 1894 He..cwæþ þæt wilcuman Wedera leodum scaþan scirhame to scipe foron. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* IV. ix. (1890) 290 Me is, cwæð heo, þin cyme on miclum ðonce; & þu eart leof wilcuma [L. *et bene venisti*]. *a* 1000 *Riddles* lx. 11 (Gr.) Ic..hæleþum bodige wilcumena fela weþe minre.

B. In predicative use, passing into *adj.*

2. Of a person: Acceptable as a visitor, companion, etc.; also in phrase *to make* (a person) *welcome.*

a. Beowulf 388 Ʒeaxa him eac wordum, þæt hie sint wilcuman Deniga leodum. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 617 (Gr.) Ƶe sind wilcuman! gað in wuldres leoht to heofona rice. *c* 1205 LAY. 8528 Wulcume mrt þu Iulius. *Ibid.* 15995 Maerlinc þu mrt wilcume. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 394 Biturn þe and cum ayean, wilkume schaltu beon me. *c* 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 1265 For ther nere hi nost welcome: for the schame bifore, And the desclandre of Seint Thomas. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Welcome, *excepcus.* *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXVII. 38 Quhen schow growis malk and tame, Schо saibe wytcome hame.

β. a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 99 Ʒif ðar cumþ ani þeht oðer ani word a godes half his bið hire swiðe welcume.

Owl & Night. 1600 Vor þan ic am hire wel welcume. 1599 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10456 Þe king..wel adoun alcne..To þe erchebissopes fet..& sede leue fader wel come mote þou be. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3148 Ʒe ben welcom to me bi crist þat me made. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. T.* 103 Algates wel comè be ye, by my fey. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9392 He..was welcom I-wis to the weghes all. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXLII. 276 And no creature warned that feste, but alle were welcome. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxviii. 235 They that ayue are euer welcome. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Pain* 597 In dede, very many do him entertayne Lyke as there were none more welcome then he. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. ii. 23 *Timo.* O Apermantus, you are welcome. *Aper.* No: You shall not make me welcome: I come to haue thee thrust me out of doores. 1667 M. POOLE *Dialogus* 150 And the oftner they come to him, the welcomer they are. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 83 Since for a little money all are welcom, one may eat as many as he pleases. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V. i, Harlequin..was always welcome on the Stage. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* iv, Lord Chartley and his friends were right welcome. 1892 *Theologr. Ann.* II. 635 Visitors from abroad..are always welcome.

b. In attributive use.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 901/1 When we shall see them..bee in credit and be the welcomest men in the world which fight against God and his trueth. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* I. 312 They..with full Mirth receive the welcome Guest. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 240 The kindest host, the welcomest guest. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Jan. 8/2 A heartily-welcome member of the family.

3. Of a thing: Acceptable, agreeable, pleasing. † *To be evil welcome*: to be badly received.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24819 His presand welcum was and he, Als bringand wont was to be. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 20276 (Fairf.) Thyne offeryng heþer is welcome. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (1583) 1620/2 As for death, if it come welcome bee it. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 69/2 Dogs that barke against the seruants of God, seeking nothing so much as to..cause their doctrine to be euill welcome. 1654 COCKAINE *Dianea* I. ii. 47 Knowing a full Relation will come the welcommest to me. 1657 in *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. 304 A few instructions would have beene welcome. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 1 P 11 Praise is not so welcome to the Idler as quiet. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, I think fetters of gold are like no other fetters—they are ever the weightier the welcomer. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. ix, This letter was by no means welcome. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. i, Human Portraits, faithfully drawn, are of all pictures the welcomest on human walls.

Phrases. 1598 FERGUSSON *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 52 Of untymous persons. He is as welcome as water in a rivin ship. He is as welcome as snaw in harvest. 1659 HOWELL *Lex., Prov., Engl. Prov.* I. 11/1 As welcome as water into ones shoes. As welcome as Flowers in May. 1672 T. HUNT *Abeced.* 28 *Scholast.* 90 As welcome as Snow in the Harvest.

b. In attributive use.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 189 b, Till the swallow with her appearing, promise a welcommer season. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, I. i. 66 And he hath brought vs smooth and welcome newes. †1622 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* V. iii, Why this..will be A welcomer present to our Master Philip Than the return from his Indies. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* XXXVII. 309 The People, upon a very well-come Occasion testified their Joy by numerous Bon-fires. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* I. 244 The Trojans, worn with Toils, and spent with Woes, Leap on the welcome Land. 1760 FAWKES tr. *Anacreon* Introd. p. vi, A Person of Anacreon's Character must..meet with a welcome Reception wherever Wit and Pleasure were esteemed. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 49 Pork and bacon would prove a most welcome addition to their farinaceous diet. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 686 There are many other welcome signs of the drawing together of the Churches.

4. Freely permitted or allowed, cordially invited, (*to* do or *to* have something).

13.. *Sevyn Sages* (W.) 3822 He bad them say, That thai war welkum alway To soiorn in that same cetè. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) II. 1924 To get þat golde.. Thai said he suld be richt welcume. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 71 Forsuith thow suld be wel-cum to pas hame with me. 1785 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 40 They were very welcome, if they thought fit, to go. 1799 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 40, I told him he was welcome to have the lend of it till Martinmas. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXV, You're very welcome to pass another night here. 1862 PALMERSTON in *Antob. Ld. C. Paget* (1896) Pref. p. vii, I must have so or 24 Iron-cased ships—you are quite welcome to have 40 or 48. 1882 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* XVIII, He's welcome to call me what he pleases.

b. *And welcome,* added to a statement to imply: And he is (you are, etc.) freely permitted or cordially invited to do so, to have it, or the like.

1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 22 Preamble, He may suerly comme bedir and welcome. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 104 So lo: now eate and welcome neighbour (quoth he). 1609 SHAKS. *Per.* II. iv. 82, I. *Lord.* Lord Hellicane, a word. *Hell.* With me? and welcome, happy day my Lords. 1755 *Mass No.* 39. 5 And if this be done, let them judge and welcome. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 136 On the continent let them use the scythe and welcome, because there their weather is not so unsettled as ours. 1836 MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 75 Here are some cakes;.. take 'em, and welcome. 1869 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 2 Burgoyne may surrender and welcome.

c. Freely offered or open to all. *nonce-use.*

1772 PENNANT *Tour Scot.* (1774) 364 My hall was filled with my friends and kindred..and hecatombs of beeves and deer covered my rude but welcome tables.

C. 5. Used in the vocative as a form of address to a visitor or guest; hence as *int.*, serving as an expression of good will or pleasure at the coming of a person. (Sometimes addressed to a thing personified or quasi-personified.)

a. c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 256 He ongan.. þus cweþan: 'wilcuman la, mine hlafordas, wilcuman la, mine hlafordas!' *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. XXV. 23 *Ƹæg,* wilcymo. *c* 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 191/23 *Euax,* wil-*a* 1225 LAY. 22485 Wulcume eire Arður, wilcume leaserd (*c* 1275 welcome). 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* LXXV. 52 Now tak me be the hand, Wylcum! my goik of mairaland. 1568 *Henryson's Orpheus & Eurydice* 155 (Bannatyne MS.) Fair weill my place..And wylcum woddis wyld.

β. c 1190 *De Vita et Miraculis S. Godrici Heremitæ de Finchale* (Surtees) 306 Dixit enim hæc verba Anglice.. 'Welcume, Simund; welcume, Simund'. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 259 A seið warschipe, welcume, lines luue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8168 Alsuith sum he þat king had knaun, He said, 'air welcum to þin aun'. 1386 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XII. 62 Al hayl, quod on þo, and I answered, welcome and with whom be ȝe. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 228 Welcom, my swete son and cosyn. *c* 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 940 What! whom haue we here, Jenkyn Joly? Nowe welcom, by the God holy! 1552 HULOET, Welcome euen with all my herte, *optato adventisti.* 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. 1. 92 Faire Princesse, welcom to the Court of Nauar. 1636 COWLEY *Misc.* 31 Welcome learn'd Cicero, whose blest Tongue and Wit Preserves Romes greatness yet. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. i, Wellcome! thou worthy partner of my laurels. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* XII, Welcome, welcome, Moses! well, my boy, what haue you brought us from the fair? 1842 MACAULAY *Lays, Horatius* li, Now welcome, welcome, Sextus! Now welcome to thy home! 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i. 76 Look, Here come my riddle-readers. Welcome all. 1879 TENNYSON *Falcon* (1884) 105 Welcome to this poor cottage, my dear lady.

b. *To bid, wish* (a person) *welcome* (*home*): to tell (him) that he is gladly received (*home* or as a guest, etc.).

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 15060 (Fairf.) Þe resceyues þine awen folk & biddis welcome hame [*Gött.* and bidden þe welcum hame]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I i. 201 Wife, bid these gentlemen welcome: come, we haue a hot Venison pasty to dinner. 1720 N. BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 162 My Wife sent Ned Howard to Wooton to wish my Lady well-come-home.

c. The word 'welcome' displayed in letters.

1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 42 The rooms were ornamented with 'welcomes' and wreaths of maple.

6. † *Welcome to our house,* a name for the Cypress Spurge, *Euphorbia Cyparissias.* Also *Welcome home-husband.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXXXII. 407 The fifth [is called in English] Cypresse Spurge, or among women, Welcome to our house. 1668 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 465 Welcome to our house, see Cypres spurge. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Welcome-home-husband,* Cypress Spurge.

Welcome (we·lkəm), *sb.*[2] [f. prec. or next. Cf. Du. *welkom,* G. *willkomm,* MHG. *willekum.*]

1. An assurance to a visitor or stranger that he or she is welcome; a pleasant or hearty greeting or reception given to a person on arrival at a house or other place.

To outstay, or *overstay, one's welcome*: see the vbs.

1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. 433 She had neuer before ben at Parys, therfore the burgesses of Parys gaue her her welcome [Fr. *Si luy deuoient les bourgeois de Paris sa bien venue*]. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* V. i. 111 And to thee, and thy Company, I bid A hearty welcome. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 560 Me thinkes I see Leontes opening his free Armes, and weeping His welcomes forth. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Waud. Wonders of West* 15 A house..where I tooke a welcome, a supper and a bed, till the next morning. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* II. i. 20 I'll promise you nothing but an English-Dinner, and an English-Welcome. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 223 The little smiling cottage, where at eve He meets his rosy children at the door, Prattling their welcomes. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. vii, Warm was his welcome to the haunts of men. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xiv. 242 That he was the friend beloved by Everard, was sufficient to insure him a welcome from Evelyn. 1847 MARY HOWITT *Ballads* 144 Then the abbot he pray'ed them all be still, And let their welcomes wait. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 6. 145 The welcome of the townsmen made up.. for the ill-will..of both clergy and monks.

b. *transf.* (esp. with *adjs.*) A greeting or reception of an unpleasant or unsatisfactory nature.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 39 b, But when they aproched the toune, the artillarie beganne to shote...This welcome semed very straung to kyng Edward, ponderynge together yestardayes promise, and this dayes doynge. *c* 1600 T. PONT *Topogr. Acc. Cunninghame* (Maitl. Club) 10 Bot Vallace with a veill armed companey gifs them a very hote welcome. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. xii. 78 The Invaders finding so ill a welcome, returned. 1795 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 11 We..then went on to Mr. Jolly's, where we met but with a cold welcome.

†c. A special award in a lottery, made to the persons first drawing lots or blanks on the opening day or on each of the subsequent days. *Obs.*

1567 (Aug.) *Proclam. Gen. Lottery* (Arch. Bodl. F. c. 12, fol. 108), The first person to whome any Lot shall happen, shal haue for his welcome..the value of fiftie poundes sterling. *Ibid.*, The Second..shall haue..for his welcome.. thirtie pounds. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 128 Welcomes. To him that first shall be drawne out with a blanke, 100 Crownes. *Ibid.* 129 The prizes, welcomes, and rewards, shall be payed in ready Mony, Plate, or other goods.

2. *Welcome home,* entertainment provided to celebrate the return home of a person; also, expressions of greeting made at a person's home-coming. Also *transf.*

1530 TYNDALE *Answ. More* IV. fl. Wks. (1572) 323/1 As when we call one that is new come home to breakfast and set a Capon before him and say, this is your welcome home. 1571 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 296 She had good prouision of embracings, & wanton toyes, to feast him at his welcome home. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* VIII. VII. 776 Scilla of Carthage, upon my returne to Rome, after I had been long absent, invited me to a supper for my welcome home. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett. to J. Kennedy* Lett. (1664) 186 Our little inch of time-suffering is not worthy of our first night's welcome-home to heaven. 1680 LADY RUSSELL *Lett.* 6 Mar, (1807) 3, I am very earnest to hear,..how my brother is after his journey, and melancholy welcome home. 1885 'MRS.

ALEXANDER' *Valerii's Fate* II. I hope Madeleine has not forgotten my fire,' murmured Miss Riddell, as she walked.. down the Champs Elysées. 'Such evenings as these one wants a welcome home.'

b. *Sc.* (See quots.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Welcome-hame*, the repast presented to a bride, when she enters the house of a bridegroom. 1818 *Edin. Mag.* Nov. 415/1 On Monday evening, just about gloamin, the husbands and wives of the village assemble at the house of the newly-married couple, to celebrate the welcome hame, by a good drink and funny crack.

3. Hearty or hospitable reception of a stranger or guest.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 26 Small cheere and great welcome, makes a merrie feast. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* Ind. i. 103 Go sirra, take them to the Butterie; And giue them friendly welcome euerie one. 1641 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 39 It will much depend upon what assurance of welcome we shall have from home in more then beare words. 1845 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* I. iii. 137 Edilwalch, king of Sussex, received him (Wilfrid) with welcome. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 387 A youth, that following with a costrel bore The means of goodly welcome, flesh and wine. 1879 — *Falcon* (1884) 205 And welcome turns a cottage to a palace.

4. A welcoming salute. Also *attrib.*

1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I 63 The Duch envited the King of Firando abord their ship, and gifve hym 3 pec. ordinance for a wellcom. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. ix, The gunner held his linstock yare, For welcome shot prepar'd. *Ibid.* I. x, The cannon from the ramparts glanced, And thundering welcome gave.

† **5.** *Powder of welcome*, a medicament for the eyes.

The origin is obscure: *welcome* is merely a rendering of the name used in the orig. L. of the quot. 1541, viz. *pulvis benvenuti*. Cf. *Treasure of Poore Men* (1540) 8 'Of pouder called Bonauenture'.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Forme.* Y 1 b. Fyfthly is put the powdre of welcome, of myne owne makynge for all spottes of the eyes.

Welcome (we·lkəm), *v.*[1] Forms: α. 1 (ge)-wilcumian, wylcumian, 3 wil-, wulcumen, woloume, 4 woloome. β. 1 wellcuman, 2 welcumien, 3 -cumen, 4–5 welcum, -kum (5 whellcwm, *Sc.* welcum); 3–5 welcome (6–7 *p. t.* -commed). [Originally OE. *wilcumian*, f. *wilcuma* WELCOME *sb.*[1], with later alteration of the first element in the same way as in the noun.]

1. *trans.* To greet (a person) with 'welcome!'; to receive (a visitor) gladly and hospitably; to accord a friendly reception to; to make welcome.

α. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 47 Gif ge þæt an doð þæt ge eowre gebroðra wylcumiaþ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iii. 507 And basilius sende sona him to-geanes and hine wylcumode. *c* 1205 LAY. 17098 Þe king..nt him gon ride ..to wulcumen Mærlin. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 440 Þe lilie mid hire faire wlite wolcomeþ [*Jesus MS.* welcumeþ] me. *c* 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 690 That folc to him drouȝ And wolcome him and makede feste. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4290 And worbili hire he welcomed wen he hire mette.

β. *c* 1000 in *Engl. Studien* VIII. 478 Dæt folc..wellcumiaþ Fenix *c* 1160 *Ags. Gosp.* (Hatton) Matt. v. 47 Ȝyf ge þæt an doð þæt ge eowre gebroðre welcumieð. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1396 And laban cam to þat welle ner, faiȝer welcumede he þer eliezer. *c* 1290 *Beket* 696 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 126 þat folk sone to him drouȝ And welcomeden him. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4015 He welcumd iacob xelli fair, He wist he was his fader air. 13.. *Sayn Sag.* (W.) 3850 Dame, in hert I am sary, That we haue noght al ful plenti, To welkum swilk a lord als he. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 849 Criseyde, at shorte wordes for to telle, Welcomed him, and doun by hir him sette. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2411 For to welcum with wordes fre Euvr-ilk man in þer degre. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxv. 447 [They ride] till thei come to logres the thirde day, and ther were thei richely welcomed. 1530 PALSGR. 770/1, I welcome with wordes or gentyll intreatyng. *Je bienuiengne.* 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.*, July x, Then welcome thy haruest folke, seruauntes and all: with mirth and good chere, let them furnish thine hall. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 49 The yong Emperor welcommed him full sore against his will. 1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 130 Almost euery body would welcome the King and not a few expect him. 1725, 1732 [see SPEED v. 10 d]. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 195 He would have found that the nation was not yet prepared to welcome an armed deliverer from a foreign country. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 6. 405 The exiled merchants of Antwerp were welcomed by the merchants of London.

b. Const. *to*, *into* (a place). Also with advs. of place, as *ashore*, *back*, *up*; esp. *to welcome home.*

c 1205 LAY. 10957 He nom forð rihtes six wise cnihtes, to Custance heom sende, & wileumede hine to loude. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15060 Þe receiues þin aun folk, And welcums þe hame. *a* 1380 *S. Bernard* 1039 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 58/2 Þe erchebishop azein him sent A worþi clerk of good entent, Him to welcome curteisliche In to þat ilke into þe cyte of Ierusalem. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 439 And there they hull, expecting but the aide Of Buckingham, to welcome them ashore. *Ibid.* v. iii. 260 Your wiues shall welcome home the Conquerors. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 71 Probus was welcommed into Britaine. 1629 MILTON *Christ's Nativ.* 18 Hast thou no..solemn strein, To welcom him to this his new abode..? 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* vi, They were interrupted..by the entrance of their landlord, who called to welcome them to Barton. 1894 LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* III. 293 No one welcomed him back with the womanly love which mother and sister would have lavished upon him.

c. *fig.* Also with *in.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 7 Yet I know no cause Why I should welcome such a guest as greefe. 1599 SHAKS. etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 109 For she [the lark] doth welcome daylight with her ditte. 1783 COWPER *Task* IV. 41 So let us welcome peaceful ev'ning in.

d. Const. *to* (an entertainment).

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 31 Our Ambassadour, the Gentlemen his followers and Sea-captaines were welcommed to a very neat and curious Banquet.

2. To greet or receive *with* (or *by*) something (esp. of an unpleasant nature).

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 38, I am..driuen out of doores with it [*sc.* a beating] when I goe from home, welcom'd home with it when I returne. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 1 Zeale to promote the common good..is welcommed with suspicion in stead of loue, and with emulation in stead of thankes. 1639 DU VERDIER tr. *Causus' Admir. Events* 2 Venon..at his returne found himselfe welcomed with two disasters. 1653 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Certain Trew.* 13 Good Mrs. Martin who welcom'd me with good whit wine. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* I, If you return within an hour you will be welcomed by a brace of bullets.

3. a. To greet heartily or joyfully (the return of a person, etc.).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 761 His little Children climbing for a Kiss, Welcome their Father's late Return at Night. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 283 Thy sweet mate will..welcome thy return with eyes Bright in the lustre of their own fond joy. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* v. 191 Since he no more should welcome their return From war.

b. To greet with pleasure the coming or occurring of (an event, etc.).

1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 131 He..would have welcomed an escape from the dilemma perhaps as warmly as Henry would have welcomed it himself. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 3. 68 The religious movement..was welcomed with an almost passionate fanaticism. 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 207 Such..difficulties..are welcomed..as subjects of debate.

† **Welcome,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. WELCOME *sb.*[1] and *a.*] *intr.* To be welcome.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xlii. 278, 280 Ful lowde to hem they gonne to Crye, and seide 'welcometh' Al An hye..'Welcometh' quod Iosephes ful Sekerlye.

Welcomed (we·lkəmd), *ppl. a.* [f. WELCOME *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Made welcome; gladly received.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Cc iij, Philotimus, my wished frend, and welcomde guest, how dost thou? 16.. W. BOSWORTH *Arcadius & Sepha* I. 553 This [wound] being slighted gan to fester in, And having got a newly welcom'd skin, Began to fester more. 1826 SHERER *Notes & Refl. Ramble Germany* 45 A man who had been drenched by the very same midnight rain, and..had been dried by the same welcomed sunbeams as myself.

We·lcomeless, *a.* [f. WELCOME *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Without a welcome; also, unwelcome.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* x. iii, Amidst blank and welcomeless faces, Maltravers passed into his study. 1848 — *Harold* v. iii, The treasures of the King are well nigh drained in feeding these hungry and welcomeless visitors.

Welcomely (we·lkəmli), *adv.* [-LY[2].] In a welcome manner. a. With an expression or feeling of welcome; gladly, hospitably.

a 1595 SOUTHWELL *Hundred Medit.* (1873) 510, I shall.. find the gates..wide open, and..shall be welcomely received. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* v. § 26. 428 Amitie with such Kingdomes will be earnestly desired, and welcomely embraced. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 9 There I stayd till the next day noone, being well and wellcomely entertained. 1693 W. FREKE *Sel. Ess., Art of War* 259 Such an Army [Militia] You may easily Disband ..and, every Man knowing his home is Welcomely receiued. 1776 in J. RAE *Adam Smith* (1895) 26 [In a letter of 22nd May 1776..the Glasgow Senatus tell the Master and Fellows of Balliol plainly that the Scotch students had never been] 'welcomely received' [at Balliol]. 1822 T. CHALMERS *Mem.* (1850) II. xiv. 359, I have been very kindly and welcomely entertained. 1884 *Westmorland Gaz.* 1 Nov. 5/6 Both were welcomely received by the husband's daughter.

b. In a manner that is welcomed; so as to gratify or please.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. iv. 112 The same we meet with in Juvenal, who by an handsome and metricall expression more welcomely engrafts it in our junior memories. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 100 The interesting guest who so unexpectedly, but so welcomely arrived. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* x. v. (1873) III. 258 His Portrait (a welcomely good one, still to be found there). 1874 *Daily News* 22 May 5 Upon all the sun shone most welcomely.

† **Welcomen,** obs. var. WELCOME *a.* 2.

c 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 150 (Digby MS.) Welcome, louerd, wel þou be,..ffful welcomen art þou ous. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* I. 409 If thei wasche theire feete, thei thenke that thei be welle commen.

We·lcomeness. [-NESS.] The state of being welcome or of being welcomed.

1620 *Sinetsham Arraigned* (1880) 61 Oh, Madame, I haue such welcomenesse! For me, what is't? 1660 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* § XXV. (1700) 151 Yet will they [*sc.* our joys] really still continue new..upon the scores of their welcomeness and freshness. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 123 (Montriul) The poor little fellow press'd it [the snuff-box] upon them with a nod of welcomeness..*Presses en—presses*, said he.

Welcomer (we·lkəmər). [f. WELCOME *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who, or something which, welcomes or greets (a person or thing).

13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 252 In prima porta.. inueniest tres 'welcomores' horribiles, videlicet..nakednesse Reminge feblesse. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. i. 90 Farewell, thou woful welcommer of glory. 1822 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXVII. 329 Welcomers of libertinism, but not of impudence. 1849 C. ROSE *Four Years S. Africa* 306 Yes,—you [*sc.* a sea-fowl] are a fitting welcomer to my country. 1850 J. STRUTHERS *Poet. Wks.* Life, p. lxix, The welcome was acceptable, though the welcomer was not by any means promising or prepossessing. 1905 SIR A. LYALL *Mary. Dufferin* I. vii. 266 They were received by a concourse of welcomers and a profusion of bandeaux.

Welcoming (we·lkəmiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WELCOME *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of greeting with welcome or of making welcome; a welcome.

maden him glad welcominge. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14460 Thei..grete the kyng with wordes curteis; And he..thanked sone her welcomyng. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 302 He came anon without taryeng, And curteisly gaue them ther welcomyng. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clx. 177 And to his welcomyng to Dignon, many ladyes and damoesis were come thyder to se hym. 1820 J. POLY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 325 For the welcoming of whom [*sc.* all strangers] they bring up great store of douues, of chickens, and of such like commodities. 1870 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1851 V. 24 Elidure..runns to him with open Arms; and after many dear and sincere welcomings, convaies him to the City Alclud. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* vi. xii, But soon there breathed a wind on me..It mingled strangely with my fears, Yet it felt like a welcoming. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 377 Where every zephyr-sigh pouts, and endows Her lips with music for the welcoming. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, Nothing was to be heard but talking, laughing, welcoming, and merriment. 1883 *Athenæum* 17 Nov. 627/1 The spontaneous welcoming of a given book by an audience that is in size and influence a public.

Welcoming (we·lkəmiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That welcomes or gives a welcome.

1656 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 285 Their famous new come preacher, makinge the wellcomming speech in the name of the rest. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 132 With how much more reason may God expect a welcoming entertainment for the least adorned parts of a Book, of which [etc.]. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 77 The returning husband, and the welcoming wife. 1822 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 161 Then as the glad sun breaks the clouds in a shower Tears melt in a welcoming smile. 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. x, Wolferstan stepping to meet her, with his low laugh and his welcoming eyes.

fig. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) III. iv. 350 The happy-looking cottages, with their..welcoming porches.

Hence **We·lcomingly** *adv.*

1884 *Century Mag.* Nov. 58/2 She..listened welcomingly to Juan's glad promises of the joy that was to be.

Weld (weld), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 4–6 welde, 6–weld (8 wield). β. 5–6 wolde, (olde), 5– wold (5 oold), 7–8 would, 8 woold, 8–9 woald. γ. *Sc.* 5– wald. [OE. **wealde*, Anglian **walde* = MLG. *walde* (*wolde*), *wasde* (still in LG.), MDu. *woude*, *wouwe* (Du. *wouw*; hence G. *wau*, †*waude*, Sw. and Da. *vau*), possibly a derivative of *wald*, wood, forest. The Germanic word is the source of Sp. *gualda*, Pg. *gualde*, F. *gaude.*

The later forms of the word show the same development of the vowel as the West Saxon *weald* WEALD and Anglian *wald* WOLD.]

1. The plant *Reseda Luteola*, which yields a yellow dye. Also, the dye obtained from this plant.

α. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 17 No Madyr, welde, or wod no litestere Ne knewh. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Welde, or wolde, herbe..*sandix, altriplex.* 1597 GERARDE *Herball* II. cxxviii. 398 *Luteola*..In English Welde and Diers weede. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Kent* II. 57 Weld or Wold:—Know, Reader, that I borrow my Orthographie hereof (if it be so) from the Dyers themselves. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 795 Diarsweed, Weld or Would. 1707 [J. JOHNSON] *Clergyman's Vade Mecum* 217 Woad, Saffron, Wield, are all small Tythes. 1763 W. LEWIS *Chem. Philos.-Techn.* 412 The cloth ..is then passed through a copper of weld or woold, prepared as for dying yellow, which is supposed to soften the cloth. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 207 A plat of weld I had planted the autumn before. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 339 Weld readily imparts its colour to water; it is used in the proportion of from three to six pounds for every pound of cloth. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 126 The boil of weld, by which the dye of black cloth is frequently finished. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 141 Dyer's Mignonette or Weld (*R. Luteola*) is cultivated for dyeing yellow.

β. 14.. in *Sax. Leechd.* III. 349/2 Wolde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Weld, herbe, or woode..*sandix.* 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fyschynge* b ij, Put therein two handful of coldys or of wyxen...Lete woode your heer in an woodsfatte a lyght plunket colour. And thenne sethe hym in olde or wyxin. 1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Wolde herbe. 1582 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1599) II. i. 163 Yellowes and greenes are colours of small prices in this realme, by reason that Oldo and Greenweed wherewith they be died be naturall here. *a* 1661, 1676 Wold, would (see α.). 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 165 Weld or Would is a rich Dyers Commodity. 1763 Woold [see α.]. 1791 HAMILTON tr. *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. 259 Weld or woald is a plant yielding a yellow colour. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 29 The ram shall..change his fleece, Wi h now the sweetly-blushing purple dye, With now the saffron wold.

γ. 1498 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 203 Item sald hym a town of wald for 7 li. 15 s. 15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (MS.) XXIV, Thre hall pokis of wald. 1672 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1824) VIII. 63/2 Noe vther incorporation..to buy or sell..Wald and vther materialls for dying. 1743 R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Agric.* 368 For every Pound of Yarn allow three fourths of a Pound good English Wald. 1808 JAMIESON.

† **b.** Applied to other species of *Reseda. Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxviii. 396 Of Sesamoides, or bastard Weld or Weade, out of Dioscorides..3 *Sesamoides maius Scaligeri.* Barren Welde. 4 *Sesamoides parvum Matthioli.* Bucks horne Welde.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weld plant, seed*; *weld-dyeing, liquor, vat, yellow*; **weldwoorts,** Lindley's name for the N.O. *Resedaceæ.*

1876 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 325, I have found out and practised the art of *weld-dyeing. 1763 W. LEWIS *Chem. Philos.-Techn.* 413 The passing through *weld liquor, after scowering with soap, is entirely unnecessary. 1809 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 337 Sheep..will not touch

the *weld plants. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 147 The French sow their *weld-seed in July. 1839 MACKAIL *W. Morris* I. 317 Madder or *weld vats. 1845 LINDLEY *School Bot.* (new ed.) 72 Resedaceæ—*Weldworts. 1899 in Mackail *W. Morris* I. 312 Madder red, *wald yellow.

Weld (weld), *sb.*[2] [f. WELD *v.*]

1. A joining or joint made by wel

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 96 Should the bars of iron not be..long enough, they are to be welded, and the welds separated. 1860 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 634 Tires for locomotive engines are also exhibited, made without a weld. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 279/2 Each barrel has a weld running down its whole length. 1892 *Profess. Papers Corps R. Engineers* 10 It was desirable, with such a weld, that the two surfaces should not be at an angle and this form of weld was called a 'butt' weld.

2. The act, process, or result of welding; the state or fact of being welded.

1862 *Times* 12 Aug. 9/4 Where soundness of weld might have been expected,..thin layers of interposed 'cinder' have ..prevented perfect union between contiguous laminæ of iron. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 68/1 Copper phosphide would be formed, which would..effectually prevent a weld. '1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* I. 7 Under these conditions but moderate pressure is required to ensure a perfect weld.

3. Comb.: **weld-iron**, wrought iron; **weld-steel**, puddled steel.

These terms have not been generally adopted.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, Weld-iron. Weld-steel. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 266/1 Steel which will harden from any cause..is termed weld steel.

Weld (weld), *v.* [Alteration of WELL *v.*, prob. under the influence of the pa. pple.]

1. *intr.* To undergo junction by welding; to admit of being welded. Also *fig.*

1599 JAS. I *Basil. Doron* III. 153 Mixinge through dailie conuersation, the men of euery kingdome with an other, as may with time make them to growe and weld [*orig. MS.* well] all in one. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* I. 10 They say it makes the Iron weld, or incorporate the better. 1724 RAMSAY *Song, Widow* 21 Strike iron while 'tis het, if ye'd have it to wald. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* X. 204 When heated to whiteness..the particles cohere or weld together perfectly.

2. *trans.* To soften by heat and join together (pieces of metal, esp. iron, or iron and steel) in a solid mass, by hammering or by pressure; to forge (an article) by this method.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* I. 9 And so weld, or work in the doubling into one another, and make it become one entire lump. 1680 AESOP *Mischief Imposit.* vii. 51 A Cutler's b y ..was making a knife, and unluckily the steel fell off when he had welded it. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 341 They are usually made of iron and steel welded together. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* XXX. (ed. 3) 209 In this difficulty, the contractors resorted to a mode of welding the gun-barrel. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, I heard the smith welding arms on the anvil. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 284 The bayonet consists of a steel blade welded to a wrought-iron socket.

b. *fig.* and *transf.* To unite intimately or inseparably; to join closely together.

(*a*) 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 243 Let us love, and die, And weld our souls together, night! 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. vi, If boys and men are to be welded together in the glow of transient feeling, they must be made of metal that will mix. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, Habits, inexorably welded into the being of the man.

(*b*) 1839 MURCHISON *Siluria* xi. (ed. 3) 301 The lower part being welded on to the Upper Silurian by thin fissile strata. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 139 All the glaciers..are welded together to a common trunk. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 690 A hypertrophic condition of the horny layers of the epidermis—the cells becoming condensed or 'welded' together.

Weld, obs. f. WEALD; obs. f. (and *pa. pple.*) of WIELD; var. WOLD *sb.*

Weldability (weldăbi·lĭti). [f. WELDABLE + -ITY.] The quality or property of being weldable.

1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* I. 8 The above-mentioned elements harden malleable iron, and probably affect its weldability. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 300/2 Its weldability depends upon the viscosity it [*sc.* glass] assumes at a bright-red heat.

Weldable (we·ldăb'l), *a.* [f. WELD *v.* + -ABLE] Capable of being welded.

1864 *Reader* 9 Apr. 449/1 We have the various kinds of steel, which are highly elastic, malleable, ductile, forgeable, weldable. 1881 *Metal World* No. 24. 372 Pure malleable and weldable nickel. 1889 *Nature* 19 Sept. 510/2 Many metals not hitherto considered weldable, such as tool steel, copper, and aluminium are readily welded.

b. *transf.* Of plastic substances: Capable of being united in a solid mass.

1881 *Knowledge* 25 Nov. 67/1 Wax, pitch, resin, and all other solids that fuse, gradually cohere, are weldable..when near their fusing point. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 300/2 Outside of the metals there is a multitude of weldable substances. Glass is a typical example of these.

Weldar, obs. form of WIELDER.

Weldbore, var. WILDBORE.

Welde, obs. form of WELD *sb.* and *v.*

Welded (we·ldĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. WELD *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. United by welding.

1869 *Scientific Opinion* 10 Feb. 270/1 The wire had been drawn from welded palladium. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 2/1 The immensely expensive welded-iron gun to which Sir W. Armstrong was wedded.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1837 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* (1844) Ded. 4 The welded mass of haut ton, or low ton. 1860 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. xxiii, The welded strength of its sinews was best shown in the lightness and grace of its movements. 1876 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* lxxi, Welded lines with clinch *Of* ending word and word. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 2008 The firm, thick, fibrous septum of the welded valve-structures.

2. *Welded joint*, = *welted joint*: see WELT *v.*

1882 W. J. CHRISTY *Joints* 197 This variety [of overlapping joint] thus compactly rolled together is otherwise termed a welded joint.

†**Wel-dede.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wel-dǽd, 2–4 **weldede (wel-dede, wel dede).** [OE. *weldǽd* = MDu. *weldaet* (Du. *weldaad*; LG. *wolddâd*, WFris. *woldied*), OHG. *wolatât* (MHG. *woltât*, G. *wohltat*), Goth. *wailadêds*: see WELL *adv.* and DEED *sb.*] A good deed; a benefit.

a 1000 *Phænix* 543 [Hie] stigað to wuldre wlitige gewyrhtad mid hyra wel-dædum. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 346 Do well on eallum ðinum life, and we sloðan æfter ðinum weldædum bliðne ðe eft genimað to us. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Vre lauerd seinte paul..muneged..to godes worde and to weldede. *c* 1205 LAY. 3160 Worðschepe haue þu þire weldeda. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 62 For-þi I lere 30u, lordynges, such writynge ȝe leue, To writen in Wyndouwes of ȝoure wel dedes.

Weldende, weldent, var. ff. WALDEND *Obs.*

Welder (we·ldəɹ). [f. WELD *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who welds; spec., a smith employed exclusively in welding.

1828–32 WEBSTER. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 146 The spirals being thus formed, the welders commence their day's work. 1854 *B'ham P. O. Directory* 683/2 Of the gun trade are the following:..gun barrel borers, filers, welders, ribbers. 1928 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Aug. 532/2 This was done by engaging every available machinery welder and patcher.

2. A welding-machine.

1896 *Cyclist* 8 Jan. 25 A 40 kilowatt welder..occupies the following floor space.

Welder, obs. form of WIELDER.

Weldinde, var. f. WALDEND *Obs.*

Welding (we·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. WELD *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb WELD; the process of joining with a weld.

1603 [see 2]. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 14 Their Pintells..never having had their due welding. *Ibid.* 23 To give it its due welding or working. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 11 The fire for welding should be free from phur. 1854 J. SLOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 438 The kaligenous metals, potassium and sodium,. readily admit of welding. 1881 J. EVANS *Anc. Bronze Implem.* 293 The term 'welding' is, however, inappropriate to a metal of the character of bronze.

b. Capacity for uniting under the operation of heat and pressure.

1805 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 784 *Welding.* The property of conjunction possessed by some metals at high temperatures. 1806 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 556 The property of welding, which belongs to platinum and iron at a high degree of heat only, is possessed by this substance [sodium] at common temperatures. 1868 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 236 When hot, it [wrought iron] possesses the peculiar property of 'welding'.

c. = *welding heat* (see 3).

1842 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 106 A piece of the same iron heated to welding, and left to cool, broke..in one blow.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* The action of uniting, or the fact of being united, closely or indissolubly.

1603 JAS. I *Basil. Doron* III. 149 The vniting and welding of them heerafter in one, by all sort of friendship, commerce, and alliance. 1857 I. TAYLOR *World of Mind* 669 These are solderings of the social system..but Love is a welding. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xi. 212 Nor was it in their welding of the bricks alone that these craftsmen showed their science. 1903 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* xii, The harmonic welding of the order and traditions of our Lord's Own time with the full vivid life of the twentieth century.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *welding-machine, process, state, swage*; **welding heat,** the degree of heat to which iron is brought for welding; **welding point,** degree of heat requisite for welding; also *fig.*; **welding powder,** a flux used in welding.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, **Welding-Heat*, is a Degree of Heat which Smiths give their Iron in the Forge, wh n there is occasion to double up the Iron, and to Weld..the Doublings. 1776 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 510, I heated a piece of iron to a white heat, or what the smiths call a welding heat. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 301/2 Cast-steel requires a low welding-heat. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Welding-machine*, one for uniting the edges of plates previously bent, [etc.]. 1858 JOYNSON *Metals* 69 Each quality of iron has a different *welding point. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* I. 16 The feeling..may be a warm one, but not warm enough to heat us..to the welding point. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 361/1 The steel to be welded..is then dipped into the *welding powder, and again placed in the fire. 1907 E. WILSON & LYDALL *Electr. Traction* I. 95 The electric *welding process..welds the rails together. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 108 The parts first fused are gathered on the end of a similarly fabricated rod, in a *welding state. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Welding-swage*, a block or fullering-tool for assisting the closure of a welded joint.

Welding, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. WELD *sb.*[1]] The process of dyeing with weld.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 350 The cloth is prepared as for welding, and dyed yellow.

Weldish, variant of WEALDISH *Obs.* [To this may belong the following:—

1336–7 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 6 In C. Weldishord' empt's ad eandem [hargiam]. 1419 *Will of Richard Haltum* (Somerset Ho.) Cum j pare linth[eamium] de Weldyssh-clothe.]

Weldless (we·ldlĕs), *a.* [f. WELD *sb.*[2] + -LESS 1.] Made without a weld.

1869 *Athenæum* 30 Sept. 442/1 Weldless tyres. 1869 F. COHN *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 182 Weldless Tubes. 1894 *Daily News* 14 June 6/4 The Triumph Weldless chain, an American invention.

Weldsomly: see WIL(D)SOMLY *adv.*

Wele, obs. f. WEAL, WEAL *sb.*[1], WEEL, WELL *sb.*[1] and *adv.*, WHEEL.

†**Wele,** *v. Obs.* [ad. ON. *velja*: cf. WALE *v.*[1]] *trans.* To choose, pick *out.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7340 Whan..Oure Prynces perceyue þer ar so fele, þe ȝonge dur þey nought out wele, Bot þulke of twenty wynter elde Or more. 13.. *Ibid.* (Petyt MS.) 2732 Sex hundred of hyse weled [*Lambeth MS.* colede] he out.

Wele, we'le, contr. ff. *we will.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* IV. iii. 74 Lyke louing frends, wele meete him on the way. 1677 C. DAVENANT *Circe* V. ix. 57 Then we'le retire.

Weled, obs. pa. t. of WIELD *v.*

Weleful, var. WEALFUL *Obs.*, WILFUL.

Welew, obs. f. WILLOW. **Welewe(n,** var. ff. WALLOW *v.*[2] **Weleygh(e,** obs. ff. WILLOW.

Welfare (we·lfeə), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4– **welfare,** (4 **wilfare**), 4–8 **wellfare** (5 **wellefare**); 5 **welfar, whelfar**; 7 **welfaire, wellfair.** *β.* 4–5 **welefar(e,** (4 **weylfare,** 6 **-far**), 5 **weelfare,** *Sc.* **weillfair, weilfar(e, weill-, weyllfar, -fayr,** 5–6 *Sc.* **weil-, welefair,** (6 **veilfair, -fayr(e, -fare**). [f. the verbal phrase *wel fare* (see FARE *v.*[1] 7), the verb being replaced by the noun (FARE *sb.*[1]). Cf. ON. *velferð* (Sw. *välfärd*, Da. *velfærd*) welfare, *velfǿr* parting, leave-taking.]

1. The state or condition of doing or being well; good fortune, happiness, or well-being (of a person, community, or thing); thriving or successful progress in life, prosperity.

a. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3028 3yf þou euer haddyst sorow oþer kare Of þy neghëburs welfare. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* (Fairf.) 582 My lyfe, my lustes, be me loothe, For al welfare and I be wroothe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 216 So ouercast is my welfare, That I am schapen al to stiif. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9835 Thow art boundë to deuyse Hys goostly [h]elthë & wel-ffare. ? 1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 77 Desyryng to here of yower wellefare and prosperyte of body and sawle. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. Dj b, I..had myne eye contynually vpon his welfare, I ouerpassed nothynge that myght profyt him. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* D 4 b, Whereupon dependeth either the welfare or ilfare of the whole realm. 1574 *Mirr. Mag., Elstride* XXVII, [Thou] Didst liue a life deuoyde of all welfare. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* C 3 b, Your laudable endeuours for your welfare and commodity. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 139 Above all let the King or Master Bee be Long, Shining, and Chearfull,..for upon his Success depends the wellfair of the whole Swarm. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 65. 71 It was one continued Series of Actions, for the Welfare of the People. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 186 Their welfare pleas'd him, and their cares distress'd. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iii, Her first wish in life is for your happiness and welfare. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 264 They know not, cannot guess How much their welfare is a passion to us. 1892 *Weekly Reporter* 17 Dec. 97/1 The welfare of the child—religious, moral, and social, as well as physical and pecuniary—is the paramount consideration for the court.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1715 3yf þou fordost þe weylfare Betwyx þo þat weddyde are. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 434 That our hert be noght to hegh for no welefare, Ne ouer mikel vndir for hane yvel fare. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1354 Ful glad was sir Gawayne, Of the welefar of Sir Ywayne. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Sheep & G.* 498 Where pees restith, ther is al weelfare. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 524 Spek I will off Wallace glaid weillfar. 1581 G. DOUGLAS in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 293 Concernyng ye weylfar and surte of his derrest nevo the Kyng. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 224 Pray..[that] Hir grace lang space may in gude weilfair stand. 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* v, Brothers and sisters meet, And each for other's weelfare kindly spiers.

†b. As the name of a ship. *Obs.*

1312 *Rot. Scotiæ* 90/1 Will's le Fissbere de Gravesende mag'r navis que vocatur la Welefare de Westm'.

†2. A source of well-being or happiness; *pl.* the good things of life. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1040 For certes she was ..My worldes welfare and my goddesse. *c* 1374 — *Troylus* IV. 228 Lyth Troylus byraft of eche welfare I-bounde in þe blake bark of care. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 450 Som tyme þer was a knyght þat leste all his possessions & his wurshuppis and his welefaris, and made hym a monk.

†3. Good cheer, good living or entertainment.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 602, & set þane til ane þis haf þaim he can, & gert mak þaim welfare of al thing þat was necessare. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 350 To wasten, on welfare and on wykked kepynge, Al þe worlde in a while þorw owre witte. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 186 þe iiij. ny3t, þei weryn herberwyd at an-oþer good mannys hows, & haddyn gret wel-fare. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) IV. ii. 162/1 Whan that yonge folke wexe rebelle ayenst fader & moder & gyue them to suche ryot & welfare & ydlenesse. 1598 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 45 Both in welfare and wede, With oute doute they farre excede The nobles of the region. 1577 W. HARRISON *Descr. Scot.* i. 9/1 in *Holinshed*, Those that are giuen much vnto wine and such welfare.

†b. Abundance (*of* meat, drink). *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 82 Þei..han lordeschipis, rentis, gaie houses & oxen, & welfare of mete & drynk. *a* 1398 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. lxxii. (W. de W. 1494), He that.. delytes in welfare of mete or drynke.

4. *Comb.* In recent use with sense of 'relating to or concerned with the welfare of' (workers, children, etc.) as *welfare-committee, policy, work*; **welfare-manager, -worker**, a person engaged in looking after the welfare of people working in factories, mercantile establishments, etc.

1904 *Century Mag.* Nov. 61 The welfare manager..who may be either a man or a woman, is a recognized intermediary between the employers and employees of mercantile houses and manufacturing plants. *Ibid.* 63 The welfare worker of a large retail establishment. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Jan. 11/1 Another scheme..is well described..by its title, 'the welfare policy'. The home of 'the welfare policy is the city of Dayton, Ohio. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 6 Sept. 4/5 The camp was managed by the Men's Welfare League. 1916 *Daily Express* 29 Mar. 6/5 Welfare work tends to improve the conditions of life for women and girls employed in factories, etc.

† **Wel'fare**, *vbl. phr. Obs.* Also 6 well fare, 7 wellfare. [f. as prec. Cf. FAREWELL.] The optative phrase *well fare* (you, it, etc.), used either as a genuine expression of good wishes (= 'May it go well with', 'good luck to') or employed ironically.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1214/2 Welfare your hert, good Uncle, for this good counsell of yours. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 2 Well fare London yet, for a policie besides water..pull downe the houses burning. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 42 But thine my Deare (welfare thy heart my deare). 1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Script.* III. 35 Yet welfare another learned Iesuit that had beene at Rome. 1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 32 Now welfare Brownist. 1672 S. PARKER *Pref. to Bramhall's Vind.* a a Well fare poor Macedo for a modest Fool!

b. Used as sb. with *a*.

1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. Relig.* 2 A well-fare to my Reader if he be either of *birth* or *breeding*: A farewell to the rest.

Wel-farende, welfaryng(e: see WELL-FARING *ppl. a. Obs.*

Welfed, obs f. WELL-FED. **Welful**(l, var. ff. WEALFUL *a. Obs.* **Welge**, Sc. var. VAIL *v.*[1] *Obs.*

‖ **Weli, wely** (we'li). Also 9 wali, wullee. [Arabic *walī, welī* friend (of God), saint.]

1. A Mohammedan saint or holy man.

1819 T. HOPE *Anast.* (1820) I. 341 Notes, *Hafees*: holy, but in a less degree than the Wely or saint. 1840 J. B. FRASER *Trav. Koordistan* etc. I. 312 He..had on his head a magnificent turban of cashmere shawl—somewhat inconsistent in a dervish; but saints and *wullees* are now-a-days privileged people. 1876 STOBART *Islam* 204 Those faqirs who attain to great sanctity are called 'Walis'.

2. The tomb or shrine of a weli.

1838 E. ROBINSON *Res. Palestine* (1841) I. 322 Rachel's Tomb..is merely an ordinary Muslim Wely, or tomb of a holy person. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* iii. 114 The white-domed wely of an obscure Mohammedan saint.

Welk (welk), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 3 welken, 4–7 welke, 5 wylke, 7 wilke; *ppl. a.* 6 wealked, 9 *dial.* wilkt. [ME. *welken*, prob. of Continental origin: cf. (M)Du., LG., OHG. (MHG. and G.) *welken* (also OHG. *welhen*, MHG. *welchen*), in the same sense, and LG. *welk, wälk*, OHG. *welk, welc* (G. *welk*) adj., withered, flaccid, sere, etc.]

1. *intr.* Of a flower, plant, etc.: To lose freshness or greenness; to become flaccid or dry; to wilt, wither, fade. Also with *away*.

c 1250 [implied in WELKED *ppl. a.*]. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxix. 6 It wites ais gresse areli at dai;..At euen doun es it broght Vnlastes, and welkes and gas to noght. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 707 A man may likend be Til a flour, bat.. Welkes and dwynes til it be noght. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 77 No manere of tree leseb bere his leues; no floures bere welkeb. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 262 Thou faryst as a vyne wyth brode levys that sone welkyn. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) IV. xxiii. 289/1 They [the garlondes] shall alwaye be grene & fresshe, & neyther welke ne fade. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. xiv. 213 b, Saffron.. These flowers are gathered..before the rising of the Sunne, whych would cause them to welke or flitter. 1641 BEST *Farming Bks.* (Surtees) 31 Soe soone as the pennie-grass beginne to welke and seeme dry, then is it time to beginne to mowe. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 7 Some particular vines.. doe daily wilke and wither away. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s. v., Mown grass in drying for hay is said to welk. 1805 BROCKETT *N. C. Words, Welk*, to dry, to wither.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (or in fig. context).

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxii. 27 Behaulde the laste endinge of wicked men, when thair flour welkes, & wytes awaye. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xl. 105, I, as a seer tree, without burjoning or frute, alwaye welke. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 42 And so I quenchid be forseid superfluites..so bat bai bigan to dry and to welk and fall away. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* Pref. 4 For Bookes translated doe,..like remov'd Trees, welke. 1627 REEVE *God's Plea* 232 This world..can bold nothing in it long, the whitest flowers welk and drop.

†**2.** To become less, to diminish, to shrink. Of the sun or moon: To wane, lose brightness. *Obs.*

In the waine is sayde of Lidgate to welk.] 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 23 When ruddy Phoebus gins to welke in west. 1632 QUARLES *Samson* xlii. 74 When the Sun was walking in the West. 1642 MILTON *Reform.* I. 29 The Church that before by insensible degrees welk't and impair'd, now with large steps went downe hill decaying.

3. *trans.* To cause to fade or wither.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov., 13 But nowe sadde Winter welked hath the day. 1594 *Zepheria* xvi. C 4 b, Oh how hath black night welked vp this day? *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk*...2. To expose to sun and air, and turn over in order to be dried; as grass to be converted to hay.

Hence **We'lking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1400 *Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 6 *Emerces*, to wex drie and welkynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welkynge, *marcor*. 1630 J. LANE *Contn. Squire's T.* IX. 295 (Ashm.) While welking Phoebus went down to the west.

† **Welk**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Related to WALK *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]] *trans.* To roll or knead together.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* i. 300 in *Anglia* XVIII. 300 Take garlek & hony & an eyis gelke, Do hem to-gedyr wel bete & welke. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk*,..To soak, roll, and macerate in a fluid.

Welk(e, obs. forms of WHELK.

Welk(e, obs. pa. t. of WALK *v.*

Welked (welkt), *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. WELK *v.*[1]] **a.** Withered, faded, dried up. † **b.** Dulled in lustre.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2107 And .vii. lene [ears] riȝt 8or-bi, welkede, and smale, and druȝte numen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 410 For which ful pale and welked is my face. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. 37 Mistrust with foly, with yvel wil medled, engendreth that welked padde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 357 That which was whilom grene gras, Is welked hey at time now. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 71 Hyngyng in maner of a welked grape [*pendantis instar uuæ marcidæ*]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16380 A drye stobyll, or..a welkyd leef. *Ibid.* 16325, I, the most wrechchyd Wyght off alle synnerȝ, and most dyffadyd and wylked with synne. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* XCV. xii, The grasse and corne, that welked were afore..waxed grene and gan reuert. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xii, Her wealked face with woful teares besprent. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 73 By that, the welked Phœbus gan auaile His weary waine. 1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 258 Our faces..are most deformedlye welked and crumpled. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Warr* VI. xxxix, There comes proude Phaeton tumbling through the cloudes,..And setting fire vppon the welked shrowds [*ed.* 1619 His Chariot tumbling from the welked Shrowds]. 1879 CUBBANS *Hertfordsh.* III. 321 Shep likes tunnups better when they're wilkt.

† **Welken**, *v. Obs.* [f. WELK *v.*[1] + -EN 5.] *intr.* To wither, fade.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. ix. (Tollemache MS.), Hoie froste..makeþ herbes and floures up on þe which he falleþ welkenen. 14.. *A Goodly Balade* 52 in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1532) 234 b, Myn hert welkeneth thus sone.

Hence † **We'lkening** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 144 There is the flouer of 3outhede yt neure shal knawe welknyng.

† **Welken**, obs. var. WELKED *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welkyd, or walkyn [*Winch. MS.* welkyn], *marcidus*.

Welkin (we'lkin). Forms: α. 1–2 wolcen, wolcn (2 wlcn), wolc, 2–3 wolcne, 3–4 wolkne, (1) 4 wolken(e, wolkon; *pl.* 1 wolcnu, -na, 2 wolcne (wlcne), wolkne. β. 2–3 weolcne (also *pl.*), 4 weolkyn; 3–5 welkne, 4–5 welkene, 4–7 welken (4 welcon); 4–6 welkyn, 5 -yne, 5, 7 welkine, 6– welkin (7 -ing, wellkin, wilkin). γ. 3–5 walkne, walkene (4 -en), 4–5 walkyn(e. [OE. *wolcen, wolcn* neut. = OFris. *wolcn-* (*olcn-, ulcn-*), *wolken* (*olken, ulken*; WFris. *wolken, wolk-e*, NFris. *wolk*), OS. *wolcan, wolcn-* (MLG. *wolke-n, wulke*, LG. *wolk-e, wulk-e*; MDu. *wolcke*, Du. *wolk*), OHG. *wolkan, wolchan* (MHG. *wolken*, G. *wolke*); the word is lacking in the Scand. group and not recorded in Gothic. A rare OE. *wolcna* wk. fem., is also represented in early ME.

The phonology of the ME. forms with *eo, e*, and *a* in the stem is irregular. It has been suggested that the *eo* and *e* are due to mutation, but there is no obvious reason for the change, and the explanation still leaves the forms with *a* unaccounted for. In a number of the early ME. instances it is difficult to decide whether the forms are to be taken as singular or plural.]

† **1.** A cloud. *Obs.*

In OE., esp. in poetry, freq. in plural, esp. in the phrase *under wolcnum* = under the sky or heaven (cf. sense 2).

Beowulf 651 Sceaduhelma gesceapu scriðan cwoman, wan under wolcnum. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* civ. 39 Aðenede wolcen þ gescildnisse heara. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxix. 285 Se ðe him æfic wolcn ondrædt, ne ripð se næfre. *Ibid.*, Se wind drifeð ðæt wolcn. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Ealle þa gewitaþ swa swa wolcn. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 64 Æfter þysum ge geseoð mannes bearn..cumendne on heofones wolcnum. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (C.) an. 979 Þy ilcan geare wæs gesewen blodig wolcen on oft siðas on fyres gelicnesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 11974 Swurken vnder sunnen sweorte weolcnen. *Ibid.* 25592 Þa com þer..winden mid þan weolcnen a berninge drake.

2. The apparent arch or vault of heaven overhead; the sky, the firmament.

In later use (from 16th c.) only literary (chiefly *poet.*) and *dial.* (Lanca.).

a. 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) Hi segon on norð east fir micel & brad wiþ þone eorðe & weax on lengþe up on an to þam wolcne & se wolcne un dide on fower healfe and fæht þær to geanes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Þe sunne teð water from eorðe up to þe wolcne. *c* 1205 LAY. 27452 Þa wolcne gon to dunien, Þa eorðe gon to biuien. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. E 4 Þer hi bigan his fiȝt, & sley him swiþe an hey Vp bi þe lofte fer, and þe wolkne was wel ney. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM VII. 68 Þe wolkne by-clepþ al þe molde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 399 Ethelbert spak wiþ hem out of house under þe wolken [*sub dio*].

β. *c* 1205 LAY. 2883 He ferde swiþe heiȝe þere weolcne he was swiþe nih. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Al þene world leitende of swarte leite up into weolcne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 768 (Jesus MS.) We habbe stefne hehte & sitteþ vnder weolkne bi nyhte. *a* 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 114 Ase þe sterre sythe ant oft..As sterres beth in weolkne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 160 Al þe wyde worlde...Bothe weolkne and þe wynde, water and erthe, Heuene & helle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 439 It is ful likynge to us to beholde þe weolkene and þe sterres of heuene. *c* 1400 *Antwrs of Arth.* 328 (Douce MS.) Þe windes, þe wederȝ, þe weolkene vnhides. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Creation* 81 To be a divident to twyne the waters aye | Above the welkin, benethe also. 1549 MORE *Dyalogr* III. Wks. 1222/2 He..caste vp his eyen in to the welkin and wepte. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 7 Whiche parte is aboue all the foure Elementes, and compasseth them about, and is called the Skie, or Welkin. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 414 That lightly born..Safe through the Welkin I my course may take. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 82 When the welkin had put aside the vizard of the night. 1666 HERBERT *Syntagma Theol.* I. 29 Light..diffuseth in an instant the whole welkin over. 1678 VAUGHAN *Thalia Redix., Daphnis* 28 Not one Black cloud, no rags, nor spots did stain The Welkins beauty. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* I. 3 No chirping Lark the Welkin sheen invokes. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lviii, There would he linger, till the latest ray Of light sat trembling on the welkin's bound. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. ii, If a sail but gleam'd white 'gainst the welkin blue. 1837 LONGF. *Sandalphon* 44 When..the welkin above

[illegible] And all the heavens revolve In the small welkin of a drop of dew.

γ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 96 Do god bad ben ðe firmament, Al abuten ðis walkne sent. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1737 (Laud MS.), Ich haue moo knyȝtes to werren þan ben in þe walken sterren. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 355 Shipmen and shepherdes..Wisten by þe walkene, what shulde bityde. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1006 As sterris in the frosty nyght, Whanne walkne is most bryght, With-oute cloude or any skye. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Creation* 86 The secunde day watyr I make The walkyn also ful fayr and bryth.

b. Considered as the abode of the Deity, or of the gods of heathen mythology: The celestial regions, heaven.

1559 *Mirr. Magistr., Hen. VI*, xiii, If..such as say the welken fortune warkes, Take Fortune for our fate. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 6 But Iuno heards from Welkin high, this cruell iarre. *Ibid.* II. 31 Of Gods thou Ioue the soueraigne chiefe, and Lord of Welkin hie Of aire, and of this earth below. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 327 How glitttereth now this place of great request, Like to the seat of heavenly welkin hie? 1633 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* III. vii. 157 It is Nectar and Ambrosia such as will make the wilkin roar. 1852 KINGSLEY *Andromeda* 34 Far-seeing Apollo Watched well-pleased from the welkin.

c. in phrases descriptive of loud sounds, as *to make the welkin ring, to rend the welkin*, etc.

1587 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* IV. ii. 1489 (Brooke) As when a fiery exhalation Wrapt in the bowels of a freezing cloude, Fighting for passage, makes the Welkin cracke. *a* 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* IV. ii. 1103 O heare Iarbus plaining prayers, Whose hideous ecchoes make the welkin howle. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 47 Thy hounds shall make the Welkin answer them. 1625 QUARLES *Embl.* viii. 33 One frisks and sings,..and makes the Welkin rore. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 246 Sound forth, my Brayers, and the welkin rend. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 137 The Welkin rings, Men, Dogs, Hills, Rocks, and Woods In the full Consort join. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* III. 368 That shout, Which, like a thunder-peal, victorious Spain Sent through the welkin, rung within his soul Its deep prophetic echoes. 1828 WORDSW. *Inscr. Hermit's Cell* V. 10 When storms the welkin rend. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. vii, 'Live the Fatherland!' rings responsive to the welkin. 1854 SUBTEES *Handley Cr.* I, Away they go full cry, making the welkin ring with the music of their deep-toned notes. 1874 DIXON *Two Queens* VII. I. II. 2 The citizens rent the welkin with their shouts.

d. in the asseveration *by the welkin*.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. i, This villanous poetrie will vndoe you, by the welkin. 1820 SCOTT *Peveril* XXXVII, Which, by the welkin and its stars, you would not be slow in avenging.

e. *To the welkin*, 'to the skies' (SKY *sb.*[1] 3 d).

c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 38 This Rascot..roost meh Bitch to the varra Welkin.

3. The upper atmosphere; the region of the air in which the clouds float, birds fly, etc.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 525 Wrope wynde of þe welkyn wrasteles with þe sunne. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 313 Ne in al the welkyn was no clowde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7621 Ouersbotyng with shoures thurgh þere sbene tenttes, As neuer water fio the welkyn hade wayntt before. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 160 Men of all þe nacyons..werne comen togedyr ynto þe tempule for fere of þe berst þat þay herd yn þe welken. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 234/21 The Welkin, aire, *aura, aër.* 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 Thee stars imparted no light, thee welken is heauye. 1602 W. PERCY *Cuckquesmes & Cuckolds Errants* V. iv. (Roxb.) 69 Hold vp thy Lynk I say, I may observe the state of the welking. Rayne or no Rayne? Ha. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 42 The Royall Eagle, in the welkin towers. 16.. CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 160 One might perceive such cl in the King As hath th' inconstant wellkin in the [illegible] 1723 CROXALL *Orig. Canto Spenser* x. (1714) 12 When [illegible] blasting Mildew's dreary Bane With noisom Breath infects the Welkin sheen. 1787 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* Epil., If this welkin angry clouds deform. 1843 C. BRONTË *Villette* XXXV, Down washed the rain, deep lowered the welkin. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig.* 19 Breath that drew the rolling rivers From the welkin's dewy cells. 1880 WEBB *Goethe's Faust* I. ii. 67 The baleful powers of air, Which through the welkin stream.

fig. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 65 Who you are, and what you would are out of my welkin, I might say Element, but the word is over-worne.

† **4.** In the Ptolemaic system: A 'heaven' or sphere. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 268 And euerlic on ðat halden wid him

[Lucifer]..fellen ut of heuones liȝt In-to ðis middil walknes niȝt. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 185 þe planetes and þe neyþer wolkene moeueþ out of þe west in to þe est. *Ibid.*, The meouynge of þe ouermeste wolken out of þe est in to þe west.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *welkin-country*, *-dome*, *-way*; *welkin-high*, *-like* adjs.; †**welkin-eye**, a heavenly or blue eye; **welkin-wise** *adv.*, after the fashion of the welkin; †**welkin-wisard**, an almanac-maker who makes astrological forecasts.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 15 The God his mansion keepes, In *Welkin Countrey he remaines. 1860 G. P. Morris *Poems* (ed. 15) 169 When victory rent the *welkin-dome He earned a sepulchre—at home. 1611 Shake. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 136 Come (Sir Page) Looke on me with your *Welkin eye. 1804 J. Grahame *Sabbath* 875 The joyous choir unseen, Poised *welkin-high, harmonious fills the air. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 254 That high and *welkin-like infinity. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 9 He leaves the *welkin way most beaten playne, And, rapt with whirling wheeles, inflames the skyen With fire not made to burne. 1854 J. D. Burns *Vision of Prophecy* 122 A luminous element of gladness Now vaults our sphere of being *welkin-wise. 1596 Barlow tr. *Lavater's Three Serm.* i. 10 The coniectures of these *Welkin Wisards [*marg.* Almanacke makers], whose Prognostications of euerie yeares warres, diseases, heate, colde, [etc.]..proue either manifest vntruthes, or coniecturall ghesses.

Welky, var. Whelky *a.*[2]

1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 357 A welky or bubukled face.

Well (wel), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 wælla (uuella), 1, 3 **welle** (1 uuelle), 3–5 **walle**, 3–4 **wall**, 4–5 **wal**; *Sc.* and *north.* 6– **wall** (6 vall, 9 wal), 6–7 **woll** (6 vol). β. 1 **wella**, 1, 3–5 **welle** (4–5 **wele**), 1– **well**, 3–7 **wel**. γ. 1 **wylla**, **willa**, **wielle**, 1, 4 **wylle**, 1, 3–4 **wille**; 1 **wyl**, 1–4 **wyll**, 1, 5 **will**. [OE. *wielle* (*wylle*), **wiell* (*wyll*, *will*), str. masc., **wiella* (*wylla*, *willa*; Anglian *walla*, *walla*), wk. masc., *wielle* (*wylle*, *wille*; Angl. *wælle*, *welle*), wk. fem., f. the stem of *weall-an* to boil or bubble up: see Wall *v.*[1] Cf. OHG. *wella* (G. *welle*) wave, ON. *vella* boiling heat.]

1. A spring of water rising to the surface of the earth and forming a small pool or flowing in a stream; a pool (or, rarely, a stream) fed by a spring. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

α. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xli. 2 Swe swe heorut ȝewillaþ to wællum wetra swe ȝewillaþ sawul min to þe god. *c* 1205 Lay. 17055 Summe heo uerdon a-nan þat heo comen to Alaban þat is a wælle. *a* 1240 [see 2 d.]. *c* 1440 *Floris & Bl.* 891 (Cambr. MS.) Aboue þe walle stant atreo. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 179 Anon sprang a fayr walle. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 219 Out of ane woll discendand fra ane spring, He send that tyme cald water for to bring. 1567 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 39 That na personis wyache ony clathis ..at the burne nor yit at Sanct Mungois wall. 1595 [illegible] eyen in ye wall fall. 1778 *Companion to Map of Peebles* 107 There is a remarkable fine spring, called Geddes's wall, near the top [of Broad Law]. *a* 1806 R. Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 61 Tak me to yon wall fair; You'll wash my bluidy wounds o'er and o'er.

β. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* v. x. (1890) 418 Is ðæt ec sæd þætte in ðære stowe, þær hio ofslæȝene weran, weolle an welle. *c* 1205 Lay. 19782 Heo comen to þere welle and heore bollen feolde. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 62 A welle he sekeð þat springeð ai boðe bi nigt and bi dai. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 15 Vor engelonde is vol inoȝ of frut & eke of tren, Of wellen swete & colde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12470 þe spring..o well,..þof it euer vte rinnand es þe wel es neuer mar þe less. †*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1417 About the brinkes of thise welles ..Sprang up the gras. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 326 He strawhte him forto drinke Upon the freisshe welles brinke. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 245 [In autumn] Wellis wythdrawen ham, grene thynges fadyth, Frutes fallyth. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 40 Thay walkit be the syde of ane fair well. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* vi (1870) 141 There be welles, the whyche doth tourne wood in to Irone. 1574 T. Hill *Art Garden.* II. *Bees*, etc. 69 And when ryuers and wels be shallower of water than customably, doe then declare raine to follows. 1603 Stow *Surv.* 11 Then was there 3 principall Fountaines, or wels in the other Suburbs, to wit Holy well, Clements well, and Clarkes well. Neare vnto this last named fountaine, were diuers other wels. 1663 R. Lowe *Lancs. Diary* (1876) 8, I went with Mary and other wenches to a well [at the] bottome of towne feild. 1775 R. Chandler *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 121 At a well was a marble pedestal perforated, and serving as a mouth. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* I. 249, I laid myself down one noontide, and slept under a palm-tree by the side of a scanty well. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* vi. 68 The well flows in a pure and abundant stream from the granite rock. 1870 *Handbk. Orkney Isl.* 94 There are several mineral wells in the island. 1892 J. A. Henderson *Ann. Lower Deeside* 169 He at last reached what proved to be a well of water.

γ. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* IV. vii. § 10 An wæs þæt on Pisceno þæm wuda an wielle weol blode. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii. (1890) 38 And þa sona hraðe beforan his fotum wæs wyl upp ȝruende...And nu seo wylle & þæt water [etc.]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 116 Ðeos wyrt [watercress]..of hyre sylfre canned bið, on wyllon & on brocen. *Ibid.* II. 32 And aþweah eft þa eaxan on clænum wylle. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 895 in *E. E. P.* 55 For þer is a wille fair ynouȝ..In þe stede as he lai on. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* v. 55 þe wylle þat hys in paradys Fol wel by-tokeneþ hys auys. 13.. *Cursor M.* 10212 (B. Mus. Add.) Sche dide of hure clopes alle, and wasche hure with water of wille.

b. A miraculous spring of water (or oil); a spring of water supposed to be of miraculous origin or to have supernatural healing powers; also, in later use, a medicinal or mineral spring.

Freq. in proper names assigning the well to a particular saint.

854– [see Holy well]. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 295, 297 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 55 A wil spring vp þere stod..þat me cleped seint kenelmes welle: þat manie man haþ inoȝ. *c* 1440 *Stacyons of Rome* 828 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 171 Two wellis there bethe, I tell thee, that sprynggythe oyle. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 14 And whan he was buryet, at þe hed of þe tombe sprong a well of oyle þat dyd medysyn to all seke. 1582 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI*, III. 212/2 Aganis passing in pilgramage to chapellis wellis and croces. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 84 *Th.* Where meete we? *Pro.* At Saint Gregories well. 1632 Rowzee (*title*), The Queenes Welles. That is, A Treatise of the nature and vertues of Tunbridge Water. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 5 [Papists] encroaching upon many Houses and Farmes, enriching themselves, as namely at Winifreds Well (so termed by them) where they had bought an Inne. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Poems, Daft Days* 171 Reaming ale, Mair precious than the well o' Spa, Our hearts to heal. 1806 P. O'Neill *Tour Orkney* etc. 26, I likewise visited the wells of Kildingie...These wells or springs, are situated in the Mill Bay. 1824 Scott (*title*), St. Ronan's Well. 1882 W. Taylor *Researches Hist. Tain* i 27 *note*, A copious fountain of pure water situated on..the girth boundary in the heights of the parish..has from time immemorial borne the name of St. David's well. 1904 A. C. Fraser *Biog. Philos.* i. 26 The Priory..and the well and chapel of St. Modan on the hill, were my favourite haunts.

c. *pl.* A place where medicinal springs exist, to which invalids resort; a watering-place or spa.

1673 Shadwell *Epsom-Wells* I. i, Enter Mrs. Woodly,.. to Toby and others, drinking at the Wells. 1707 in J. Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* (1882) II. 113 The New Wells at Epsom, with variety of Ruffling Shops, will be open'd on Easter Monday next. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5459/1 The Princess set out..for the Wells of Medway. 1728 Young *Love Fame* v. 23 Thro' every sign of vanity they run; Assemblies, Parks,..Balls, Wells, Bedlams, [etc.].

†d. *Her.* The representation of a stream, used as a bearing. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Her. e vj b, And of hym y^t beris thes armys ye most say..He berith of golde and .iij. Wellis.

e. A fountain fed by a spring; a structure erected above a spring for convenience in obtaining the water; a drinking-fountain. Chiefly *Sc.*

1575–6 in *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 457 Item, to Johne Wilsoun for four geistis to the woll in Gallowgait..viij lib. 1630 *Ibid.* 373 The new woll in the Trongait to be sklaittet in the best forme. 1638 *Ibid.* 390 Ane warrand..for taking doun the wall at the Croce. 1656 *Ibid.* (1881) 351 The twa new wallis newlie buildit in Trongait and at the vennall. 1823 Galt *R. Gilhaize* III. 34 She was mobbet, and the wells pumped upon her by the enraged multitude. 1843 James *Forest Days* i, It had on the south side, a well, and an iron ladle underneath.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. In allusive contexts directly suggestive of the nature (flowing, etc.) or uses (drinking, taking water) of a spring.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* vii. 49 (MS. Hatton) Hio (the speech) aweoll of anum wille [*Cott.* welle]; ðeah heo an tu tefleowe, ðeah wæs sio æspryng sio soðe lufu. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 341 Ðanne we ðus brennen bihoueð us to rennen to cristes quike welle,..drinken his wissing. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 In hire he heldeð nout one dropemele, auh ȝeoteð vlowinde wellen of his grace. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 310 Fader is he cald for-þi þat he is welle þat neuer sal dri. *Ibid.* 21023 O þe wel o witt he dranc. *c* 1315 Shoreham v. 61 Þys wulle hys god self man by-come, Of hym þys ioyen beþ alle y-nome. 13.. *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 190 Crist was þe furst qwyk welle of grace. *c* 1420 *Prymer* 68 Mi soule þirst de to god, þat is a quyk welle! 1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 52 O noble hart whose Well of grace, shall spring and neuer drie. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 98 Not one who, early by the Muse beguiled, Drank from her well the waters undefiled. 1840 Longf. *Sp. Stud.* I. v, O sleep,..Holding unto our lips thy goblet filled Out of Oblivion's well, a healing draught! 1899 J. P. Fitzpatrick *Transvaal* i. 25 The effect of the annexation was to start the wells of plenty bubbling—with British Gold.

b. That from which something springs or arises; a source or origin.

α. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxv. 10 Forðon mid ðe is wælle lifes. *c* 825 *Vesp. Hymns* xi. in *O.E. Texts* 417 Leht lehtes & wælle lehtes. 1533 Gau *Richt Way* (S. T. S.) 27 The bibil quhilk is the grund and vol of al godlie doctrine and hawinlie visdom. 1599 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S. T. S.) *Hymn* vi. 110 He made the Sun a lampe of light, A woll of heate to shine by day.

β. *c* 1000 *Lambeth Psalter* xxxv. 10 Forðan þe mid þe is welle lifes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 80 Uayrhede, wyt, prouesse, mysse, vridom and noblesse; þise byeþ six wellen of ydelnesse. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 30 And þat is wytte and wisdome, þe welle of alle craftes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 272 And fro diafragma it mai go to þe brayn, þat is þe welle of alle nerues. 1473 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 51 Athenes, that was the welle of connyng and of wisdam. 1538 Starkey [illegible] hym that hath it. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 416 [He] purg'd with Euphrasie and Rue The visual Nerve..; And from the Well of Life three drops instill'd. 1859 FitzGerald *Omar* xxxiv, Then to this earthen Bowl did I adjourn My Lip the secret Well of Life to learn.

γ. *a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) xxxv. 9 Forþæm mid þe is lifes wylle. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 135 Vndyrstondynge is the begynnynge and will of al vertues.

c. Applied to persons regarded as a source or abundant manifestation of some quality or virtue.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 11 Þu art welle of waisdom. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiii. 94 Ofte y crie merci, of myselue thou art welle. 1377 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 218 Prince Edward That welle was of alle corage. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 107 Crist, that of perfeccion is welle. *a* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* v. 1 (1859) 74 He is the welle of all manere of goodnes. *c* 1440 *Parlonipe* 206 That thay may say as ye passe by strete: Loo, yonder gothe the welle of gentylnesse. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi. 78 O þou welle of euerlastyng loue, 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxvii. 7 Oure lustie quein, The vall of velth, guid cheir, and mirrines. 1589 *Mirr. Mag., Edw. IV*, vi, A Salomon that was of wit the well. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. ii. 32 Dan Chaucer, well of English vndefyled, On Fame's eternall beadroll worthie to be fyled.

d. A copious flow (of tears or blood). Also hyperbolically applied to a weeping person.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 256 For þui he [Jeremiah] bed welle of teares to his eien, þet heo ne adruweden nanmore þen welle. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 289 þe ilke fif wallen [*r. v.* wellen] þet of þi blisfulle bodi sprungen and strike dun strondes of blode. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* ix. 1 Who shal ȝyue to myn hed watir, and to myn eȝen a welle of teres? *c* 1530 *Hickscorner* 19 She sawe her sone, all deed, Splayed on a crosse with the fyve welles of pyte. 1606 Shake. *Tr. & Cr.* v. x. 19 There is a word will Priam turne to stone; Make wels, and Niobes of the maides and wiues.

e. A whirlpool.

Applied spec. to certain whirlpools in the Orkneys as a rendering of the native designation *hield* = ON. *hvelda* spring. Tennyson's use may either be independent or derived from Scott.

a 1634 Blaeu *Le Theatre du Monde* v. 159–60 Map, Orcades..Souna..The Welles. *Ibid.*, Spurness well. 1693 J. Wallace *Descr. Orkney* 7 The Wells of Swinna, which are two Whirl-pools in the Sea. 1780 M. Mackenzie *Orcades* 5/1 One of these Whirlpools or Wells, as they are called in Orkney. 1774 G. Low *Tour Orkney* etc. (1879) 29 The whirlpools called the Wells of Swona, so long famous for the alledged danger in passing over or near them. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxxviii, Even as the wells of Tuftilee can wheel the stoutest vessel round and round, in despite of either sail or steerage.

1890 Tennyson *In Mem.* x, If..the roaring wells Should gulf him fathom-deep in brine. *Ibid.* cviii, To scale the heaven's highest height, Or dive below the wells of Death.

3. A pit dug in the ground to obtain a supply of spring-water; spec. a vertical excavation, usually circular in form and lined with masonry, sunk to such a depth as to penetrate a water-bearing stratum.

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 6 Uses..ðer uælle iacobes. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 12 in *O. E. Misc.* 84 Iesus at ore walle reste him seolf al one. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13229 Here nu quat herodias did, In a wall his heued sco bid. *c* 1395 *Plowman's T.* 298 They folowe Christ that shedde his blodde To heven, as bucket in-to the wall. 1882 'Jack Robinson' *Auld Tales* 11 (E.D.D.) T' horrator war prayan fer a girt wal et he cud drop intul.

β, γ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 6–7] ær wæs Iacobes wylle Se hælend sæt æt ðam wylle. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2947 In euerilc welle, in euerilc trike, men funden blod al witterlike. *c* 1275 Lay. 19810 þo wende to þan wille cnihtes swiþe snelle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11701 Mak vs a well for mine sake,] at all mai plente o water take. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1584 Or as a welle that were botemeles Ryght so can fals Iason haue no pes ffor to desyryn [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 3 Whanne ȝoure welle is made..ȝe muste haue a wyndas, & a roop, & a bokett, to drawyn vp watyr to drynke, be-cause ȝoure welle is so deep. 1485 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 29 For the well a Bokett with a cheyne of yryn. 1530 Palsgr. 287/2 Well made of stone, *puis*, *putalie*. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* VII. 146 The ryuer of Oxus..being a water vnholsom to be dronke..the Macedons fell to digging of welles. 1590 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 99 No: 'tis not so deepe as a well, nor so wide as a Church doore, but 'tis inough. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit* 281 A Well of an exceeding depth. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geogr. Delin.* II. iv. (1635) 60 Starres from the darke bottome of a deepe Well or Mine will shew themselues at mid-day. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 155 A little out of the Way is erected an high-wall'd Well. 1700 Dryden *Fables, Pal. & Arc.* II. 82 Now up, now down, as Buckets in a Well. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* I. vi, The ground being dug after the manner of wells, which they call *siros*, receives the fruits. 1842 Tennyson *St. Sim. Styl.* 63 For many weeks about my loins I wore The rope that haled the buckets from the well. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1871) I. 337 There is no familiar object connected with daily life so interesting as a well. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 402/2 When the population of a district is scattered it is possible to supply individual wants by means of streams, springs, or shallow wells.

fig. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 193 Now we han medycyns drawen of .ij. wellis & of manie maistris. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1592) 998 The well of Gods secrets is so deepe, that no bucket of man can sound it. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* xii. 3 With ioy shall yee draw water out of the wels of saluation. 1635 W. Spurstowe (*title*), The Wels of Salvation opened. 1781 Cowper *Convers.* 564 Hearts may be found..Whose wisdom, drawn from the deep well of life, Tastes of its healthful origin. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xviii, After stating this curious and unexpected fact, Mr. Toots fell into a deep well of silence.

b. *Her.* A bearing representing the stone curb or border of a well.

1780 *R. Glover's Ord. Arms Augm.* 49 in Edmondson *Her.* II. O, Gu. three wells ar. water az. 1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I.

4. In various proverbial sayings or phrases. (See also Pitcher[1] 1 b.)

(*a*) 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 70 Well well (quoth she) many wels, many buckets. 1757 B. Franklin *Poor Richard* (1890) 278 Then as Poor Dick says, When the Well's dry, they know the Worth of Water. 1832 J. J. Blunt *Reform. Eng.* 240 We know not, says the proverb, what the well is worth till it is dry. 1860 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* xiii, 'He's as deep as a well, is my master,' answered old Isaac. (*b*) 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 182 If Truth, as Democritus fansied, lies at the bottom of a deep Well. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxii, He tried a glass of grog; but melancholy truth was at the bottom of that well, and he couldn't finish it. 1888 J. M. Corban *By Telegraph* iv, The depth of the well at the bottom of which truth is hid was nothing to the unfathomableness of his designs.

b. *To put* (a person) *in the well* (see quot.). *slang.*

1812 Vaux *Vocab. Flash Lang.* (1819) s.v. *Garden*, To *put* a person *in the garden*..or *in the well*, are synonymous phrases, signifying to defraud him of his due share of booty by embezzling a part of the property, or the money it is fenced for.

5. *transf.* † a. = Fontanelle 1 a. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 216 Make him .iij. cauterijs.. oon bihinde þe nolle in þe welle þerof, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 309 Also in þe welle vnder þe eeris & bihinde þe eeris þou schalt make cauterijs for passiouns of ijen.

b. *A well of a* (place): like a well, as being damp and cold or deep and dark.

1843 Dickens *Chr. Carol* ii, He then conveyed him..into the veriest old well of a shivering best-parlour that ever was been. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xliv, She had gotten it in a great well of a cupboard.

6. *Naut.* a. A vertical shaft protecting the pump below the lower (or upper) deck in a ship's hold. *To sound the well*, to ascertain, by means of a sounding-rod, the depth of water accumulated in the hold.

1611 Cotgr., *Lessee*, the sinke, or well, of the pumpe of a ship. 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 21 The Pumpe, the pumpes-well, the pumpes brake, [etc.]. 1627 — *Sea Gram.* ii. 9 The Dutch men vse a Burre pumpe..to pumpe vp the Billage water that..cannot come to the well. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor.* 1762–9 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 464 They sound the well. 1845 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prine.* xv. III. 401 The ship seemed rapidly settling..yet no one dared to sound the well. 1836 Marryat *Pirate* iv, The well was again sounded. Nine feet water in the hold. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 14 Feb., So long as the sounding-rod gave a dry well, the men's courage kept tolerably steadfast.

b. A cistern or tank in a fishing-boat, in which the catch of fish is preserved alive. Cf. Well-boat 1.

1614 Gentleman *Eng. Way Wealth* 19 Fresh fish, which they of purpose do keepe aliue in their boates in Wells. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* ii. (1840) 37 This well [was of] the same kind which the small fisher-boats in England have to preserve their fish alive in. 1828 Davy *Salmonia* 49 He.. is landed. A fine well-fed fish, not much less than 4 lbs. Throw him into the well. 1848 Johns *Week at Lizard* 259 The store-pot is emptied and its contents transferred to a well in the hold of the vessel. 1912 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 4 The Betsy was running for harbour for all she was worth. Her 'well' was full of live cod.

7. A shaft or pit bored or dug in the ground. In various specific applications.

a. An excavation for the storage of ice.

1681 *Cal. Treas. Bks.* 8 Building an ice well for his Majesty's use in Windsor Great Park. 1850 *Gardeners' Mag. of Bot.* I. 82 Section of ice well...*a*, well; *b*, porch. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 364/1 There must be perfect drainage insured from the bottom of the well, so that the ice will be kept dry.

† b. *Mil.* = Shaft *sb.*[3] 2.

1708–12 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4) I, *Well*, a Depth the Miner sinks into the Ground, and thence carries on the Branches, or Galeries, to find out, and disappoint the Enemies Mines, or to prepare one. 1736 J. Campbell *Milit. Hist. Pr. Eugene* etc I. 217 We now began to perceive that their Miners were in search of our Mines, and that they worked in sinking Wells in order to get into our Galleries.

c. (See quot.)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Observatory*, The Royal Observatory..furnish'd with all sorts of Instruments..and a dry Well for Discovery of the Stars in the Day-time.

d. A shaft sunk to obtain oil, brine, gas, etc.

1799 *Asiatic Researches* VI. 127 An Account of the Petroleum Wells in the Burmha Dominions. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 713 In 1819 a well bored for brine in Wayne county, Kentucky, yielded so much black petroleum that it was abandoned. 1892 [see Gusher 2]. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 743/2 The first flowing [petroleum] well, or 'gusher,'..was struck in 1861.

e. A shaft to carry water through a retentive to a porous stratum or to a drain; a sink for sewage.

1856 J. C. Morton *Cycl. Agric.* I. 692 It will be proper.. to cut a drain of four feet in depth only, and then to sink small wells down to the watery bed. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct. 5/2 The system of drainage adopted is that of running the pipes of each house into a dead well...These wells are made of bricks, without any cement.

f. *Engin.* A hollow cylinder or shaft of masonry sunk and filled in solid to form a foundation.

1883 L. F. Vernon-Harcourt *Harbours & Docks* I. 405 Where the thickness of the mud exceeded 13 feet, square masonry wells were sunk through it on to the rock... These wells, being..filled in solid with masonry, form piers for arches. 1900 in Webster.

8. a. The central open space, from roof to basement, of a winding, spiral, or elliptical staircase; the open space in which a lift operates.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Nov. 1644, a paire of oval stayres all of stone and voide in the well. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* [illegible] which consist[s] [illegible] two feet and [illegible] the staircase, by a cord of black and yellow, hangs a Gothic lantern. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxi, If you choose to consider it, and sit on the landing, looking up and down the well! 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* iv, The same passing brightness showed me the steps were of unequal length, and that one of my feet rested that moment within two inches of the well. 1902 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/8 Fall down a hoist well. *Ibid.*, The cage...was at the bottom of the well.

b. The space on the floor of a law-court (between the Judge's bench and the last row of seats occupied by Counsel) where the solicitors sit.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* I, The various solicitors in the cause..ranged in a line, in a long matted well..between the registrar's red table and the silk gowns. 1899 Escott *England* II. 209 In the 'well,' a seat a step below that of the Queen's counsel, sit the solicitors. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii, Wigged heads went together in the well of the court, and papers were rustled to and fro on the table.

c. A deep narrow space formed by the surrounding walls of a building or buildings, serving for the access of light and air.

1839 Dickens *T. Two Cities* II. v (end), Climbing to a high chamber in a well of houses, he threw himself down in his clothes on a neglected bed. *a* 1861 T. Wirthmor *Cecil Dreeme* v. (1876) 64 Through a most unsavoury alley into a court, or rather space, serving as a well to light the rear range of a tenement house. 1913 *Spectator* 29 May 748/2 The back-rooms look south—into the well.

9. a. A space left, in stacking hay, to serve as a ventilating shaft. *dial.*

1710 Hilman *Turner Rediv.* Aug. (1744) 102 Some prescribe leaving a Hole or Well in the Middle of the Mow.. by keeping therein a Basket or Barrel, and raising it as the Mow increases. 1842 C. W. Johnson *Farmer's Encycl.* 1261 *Well*, a..vent hole left in a rick or mow of hay or other similar materials, to prevent its overheating.

b. In *Ship-* and *Boat-building* applied to various vertical apertures: see quots.

1874 Thearle *Naval Archit.* § 192 When it is not considered necessary to provide a well for raising the propellor. 1894 Paasch *From Keel to Truck* 108 Well. The deepening between the ends of two waterballast-tanks, or between the ends of a double-bottom and a bulkhead. 1897–8 *Encycl. Sport* I. 179 *Well*, the opening in a decked canoe to admit the putting in of cargo and to accommodate the crew.

10. a. A box-like receptacle in the body of a vehicle, for articles of luggage.

1783 *Morn. Chron.* 24 Mar. 4/2 Advt., A very roomy crane-necked Travelling Coach, with well to the bottom, and luggages behind. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) II. 199 The Well of a Carriage is a strong box conveniently placed at the body to carry luggage. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvi, The baggage was strapped on. Francis came out with his master's sword, cane, and umbrella tied up together, and laid them in the well. 1912 Sir W. Butler *Autobiog.* xx. 354 He..took three or four brace of grouse from the bag, and..put the birds in the 'well' of the vehicle [an Irish car].

b. A comparatively deep receptacle at the bottom of a piece of furniture, esp. of one fitted with trays, drawers, compartments, etc.

1841 Savage *Dict. Printing.* 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* VII. ii, He peered into the well [of an escritoire], and opened the drawers. 1879 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III. 47 There was an old-fashioned work-table, with a faded red silk well, beside the open window. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Well*, a receptacle under the cases in the upper part of a composing frame, for holding copy, etc. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* III. iii. § 4 Kipps..draws out the marvellous till; here gold is to be, here silver, here copper—notes locked up in a cash-box in the well below.

11. A hole or cavity containing or to contain a liquid. In various applications.

a. The water-tank at the base of a shot-tower, into which the drops of melted lead fall.

1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 514/1 For the carrying out of this invention shot-towers and shot-wells have been constructed. 1884 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 362/2 They are sufficiently hardened by cooling to bear the shock of striking the surface of the water in the well below.

b. A cavity at the bottom of a furnace, into which the molten metal falls.

1864 Webster. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.* s. v., *Well.* The crucible of a furnace.

c. A sunk receptacle for a liquid, as ink, etc.; also, an indentation or cavity in a dish, tray, etc.

1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 166/2 The bath should be..larger than the well, which must be a square hole, a little larger than the plate, and about an inch deep. 1881 *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* 165 A small glass 'naphtha well', set in the case, similar to an 'ink well'.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *well-covering, -drill, -grating, -hook, -mouth, -plate, -pump, -roof, -rope, -shaft, -side, -stage, -tubbing* (Tubbing *vbl. sb.* 2), *-yard*; *well-maker*; *well-like* adj.

1845 G. Petrie *Eccl. Archit. Ireland* 449 *Well Coverings. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Well-drill*, a tool for boring wells. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 420 It is the duty.. of the eldest boy in the school..to see that the *well gratings are closed. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 302/1 *Lupus*,.. a *well hooke. 1910 Rider Haggard *Q. Sheba's Ring* xvi. 241 [He] pointed to a jagged, *well-like hole blown out..by the recoil of the blast. 1666 *Despauterii Grammat. Institi.* VII. (Jam.) *Aquilex*,..a *wel maker. 1895 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 5/4 When the second slip took place, the well-maker was suffocated. 1537–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 377 Paid for j lode of bryk for his *well mowthe. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 130 The well-mouth, from being dry, becomes full of water. 1886 *Leckwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Well Plate.* A cast-iron plate put over the mouth of a well to carry the pumps, &c. 1889 *Daily News* 5 Aug. 2/7 A substantially constructed set of *well pumps, even if fitted down a well 100 or 200 feet from the ground level, may be utilised as a fire engine in large establishments. 1886 Mrs. Flor. Caddy *Footsteps Joanna D'Arc* v. 88 Chemillé has a romanesque church and the usual domical stone *well-roofs. 1573 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 297/1 For a bucket ye hoopes, and a *well Roape..xiiij[d]. 1524 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 231 It. Roberto Raper pro ij wallerapis. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 465 Rigwoodies, tethers, wallropes. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 July 2/1 He went to a well and clambered down the well-rope. 1897 Dickens *Dorrit* I. iv, In one corner of the hall..there was a little waiting-room, like a *well-shaft. 1696 Earl. Mourn. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xcvii. (1674) 231 The Rope which hang upon the Bucket by the *well-side. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xx, For all she can sit idle by a well-side the whole day, when she has a handsome young gentleman to prate with. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Well Stage.* A framing of timber erected over the mouth of a well to carry the pumps and pipe connections. 1898 F. Davis *Silchester* 41 Roman wine casks that have served the purpose of *well tubbing. 1480 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 446 Thatt plum house by þe *well-yarde yate.

13. Special comb.: **well-basket**, a long deep basket formerly used by street-hawkers; **well-beam**, the wooden beam or roller over which the rope of a well-bucket runs; **well-borer**, (*a*) one who bores wells; (*b*) a machine or apparatus for boring a well; **well-boring** *vbl. sb.*, the process of sinking a well by drilling through earth or rock; also *concr.*, the shaft of a well; **well-brick** (see quot. 1889); **well-bullock**, one used (in India) to turn the windlass at a well; **well-cabin** (see quot.); † **well-carse** (see Well-cress); **well-chapel**, one enclosing a holy well; **well-cistern**, one fed by a spring; **well crane** (see quot. 1888); † **well crank**, a windlass for raising and lowering a bucket at a well; **well-curb**, (*a*) the stone border round the mouth of a well; (*b*) see quot. 1892; **well-digger**, one who digs or bores wells as a profession; **well-dish**, a meat-dish with a depression at one end as a receptacle for gravy; **well-drag** (see quot.); **well-drain** *Agric.*, a drain for wet land, made after the manner of a well, with a boring through which the water rises to be carried off by the drain; **well-draining**, a system of land drainage (see quot. and prec.); hence **well-drain** *v.* (Webster 1847–54); **well-dresser**, one who takes part in well-dressing; **well-dressing** = *tap-dressing* (Tap *sb.*[1] 6); **well-eye** *Sc.* and *north.*, a spot in a bog where a spring rises to the surface; a small pool of spring-water; *fig.* a source; † **well fern**, the maiden-hair *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris*; **well-flowering** = *tap-dressing* (Tap *sb.*[1] 6); **well-girse, -grass** *Sc.* = Well-cress; **well-god**, a tutelary deity of a well; **well-horse**, a horse that turns the windlass of a well; **well-house**, a small building or room enclosing a well and its apparatus; **well-karses, -kerses** *Sc.* and *north.* (see Well-cress); **well-kerb** = *well-curb*; **well-packing** (see Packing *vbl. sb.*[1] 2 note); † **well-pipe**, a conduit-pipe; in quot. *fig.*; **well plum**, a local name of the pochard, *Fuligula ferina*; **well-pole**, (*a*) a well-sweep; (*b*) see quot. 1893; † **well-reeve** (see quot. and Reeve *sb.*[1] 2); **well-rig** (see quot.); **well-room**, (*a*) the place on the floor of a boat or ship where the water collects, and lies until it is pumped out; (*b*) = *well-house*; (*c*) see quot. 1858; **well-shanker** *Sc.* = *well-sinker*; **well shrimp**, a fresh-water crustacean found in wells; **well-sinker** = *well-borer, -digger*; **well-sinking** *vbl. sb.* = *well-boring*; **well-smack** = Well boat[1]; **well-spherometer**, 'a form of spherometer for accurately measuring the radius of curvature of a lens' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **well-staircase, -stairs, -stairway**, a winding or geometrical staircase with a well or open centre; **wellstead** [Stead *sb.* 7], a site for a well; **well-sweep** (see Sweep *sb.* 23); **well-tomb**, a prehistoric tomb having a well or shaft for an entrance; **well-trap**, (*a*) a depression in a drain, in which water lies and prevents the escape of foul air; (*b*) see quot. 1893; **well-tube**, the casing-pipe of a driven well; **well-way**, the shaft of a well; **well-wheel**, the wheel that turns the axle of a windlass at a well; **well-work**, the making of a well; **well-worship**, the worship of a well or its guardian spirit; also **well-worshipping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also Well-boat, -bucket, -cress, etc.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 485/1, I give two shillings for a 'shallow'; that's a flat basket with two handles; they put 'em a top of '*well-baskets', them as can carry a good load. 1895 Kipling *Soldiers Three*, etc. (1917) 273 He will hang him by the heels from the *well-beam. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 50 George Naylor, of Louth, in the County of Lincoln, *Well-borer. 1852 *Mechanics' Mag.* 6 Nov. 370 Thomson's Artesian Well-borer. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 10 Oct., Experienced well-borers ..will endeavor to find petroleum. 1825 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 57 Mine and artesian *well-boring. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 74/1 Many years ago, in a well-boring,..the flanks of the buried Primary rocks were reached at a depth of 1100 feet. 1784 *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 3 To build a wall of clay against the morassy sides of the well, with a wall of *well-bricks internally, up to the top of it. 1889 *N. W. Line. Gloss., Well-bricks*, curved bricks used for lining wells. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Housek. Managem.* 72 One of the *well-bullocks had a violent attack of the malady. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Well-cabins*, those in brigs and small vessels, which have no afterwindows or thorough draught. 1838 J. T. Blight *Anc. Crosses E. Cornw.* 94 *Well-chapel, Menscuddle, St. Austell...The length of this building is 12 feet...The spring rises in the east end. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* July 130 A *well-cistern of clear spring water. 1903 W. Holman Hunt *Pre-Raphaelitism* II. xl. 289 To judge from the company round the well-cisterns..it [Cana of Galilee] was at the time a happy neighbourhood. 1849

J. Glynn *Constr. Cranes* 35 The *well crane having been found inconvenient for raising great weights, because of the insufficient resistance of the ground at the well top. 1882 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Englin., Well Crane*, a fixed post crane, one-half of whose post is above ground and the other sunk in a pit, or well, dug to receive it. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 *Welle crank, *tollinum*. 1877 Talmage *Fifty Serm.* 23 Will you sit down in front of the *well-curb, when a few more turns of the windlass might bring up the.. buckets? 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1899) 56 We have trodden the mart and the well-curb. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-curb*. The ring of elm or metal upon which the lining of a well is built. 1693 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 254 A Borer (such as *Well-Diggers use). 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 By trade he is a well-digger. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xlvii, When a coal comes to table in a *well-dish. 1887 Wright *Obs. & Provinc. Dict.*, *Well-drag*, a three-pronged drag to bring the bucket up when it falls in. Leic. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Well-drain*, in Agriculture, that sort of vent or discharge for the wetness of land, which is constructed in somewhat the well or pit manner. *Ibid.*, *Well-draining*, that means of clearing lands from wetness, which..is accomplished by making large deep pits or wells. 1898 R. M. Gilchrist *Willowbrake* I. Within five minutes the curtain would be drawn aside and the *well-dressers set free to join the turbulent outside revellers. 1860 *Well-dressing [see *tap-dressing*: Tap *sb.*1 6]. 1888 C. F. Keary *Outl. Prim. Belief* ii. 87 Fetichism survives in the honours paid to wells and fountains,..in England known under the name of 'well-dressing'. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 170 Thay knew nocht the ground, and fell sometimes in swards of mossis, and sum time in *well-eys. 1820 *Marmaiden of Clyde* ii. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 422 An' the marmaid's goun was green as grass In the cauld wall-ee that grows. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xxxv, The cause o' our national decay, and agricultural distress, .come a' thegither frae anither well-ee. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Adiantum*..It may be called Venus heare..other name it to be *well ferne. 1824 E. Rhodes *Peak Scenery* 315 An ancient custom still prevails in the village of Tissington...It is denominated *Well-Flowering. 1874 *Murray's Handbk. Derbysh.* etc. (ed. 2) 188 An ancient..custom of dressing the 5 wells or springs of this village..is still kept up, and is known as 'Tap Dressing' or 'Well Flowering'. 1903 Sacconbe & Allen *Age Shaks.* I. i. 44 His [Browne's] Devonshire has a large population of river-gods, *well-gods, and nymphs. 1673 D. Wedderburn *Voc.* 18 (Jam.) *Nasturtium aquaticum*, *well-gram. 1823 Jamieson, *Well-grass, Well-girse, Well-herses*, Water-cresses. 1894 Meredith *Lett.* (1912) II. 462, I am under an engagement..to deliver a novel in the Spring, and have to go the round of a *well-horse daily. 1354–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 555 In una sera reparanda pro le *Welhousdore. 1466–7 *Ibid.* 641 Pro punctuacione super stabulum hospitum et le Wellehouse infra abbathiam. 1507 in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 369, 1500 ston lat nail for ye well house. 1893 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxvii, I made a rush swiftly round the corner, and entered the well-house. 1889 Kipling *Soldiers Three* (ed. 3) 67 Losson..lowered the cage [of the parrot] into the cool darkness of a well, and sat on the *well-kerb. 1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Well-packing. 1540 Coverdale *Fruitf. Lessons* T 4 b, Here are opened the conduites and *well pipes of life. 1862 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 *Wellplum, the Red-headed Pochard. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 160 Well plum. 1886 Longf. in S. Longfellow *Life* (1886) I. 86 There is so little..to remind one that he is out of town: no corn-fields..no slab-fences: no *well-poles. 1893 *S. E. Worc. Gloss., Well-pole*, a pole having at the end a hook, with which the bucket is lowered into the well for the purpose of bringing up water. 1613 *Coventry Lost Bk.* II. 81 Apr. 11 Jas. I. leaf 63 (MS.) Such said aldermen..and such ten persons..shall choose and elect two persons dwelling in everie particular ward where any comon well is..to be *well-reeves for one whole year. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2759/1 *Well-rig* is the term applied to the whole *plant* for well-boring, consisting of the derrick, its engine [etc.]. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), s. v. *Limbers*. The water..is conveyed to the *well-room, where the pumps are fixed. 1852 *Hist. Co. Oxford* 278 A very curious well-room of the time of Henry II has been discovered in the centre of the keep tower. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Well-room*, an apartment or building containing a mineral spring or spa, where the waters are drunk by invalids. 1882 *Well-shanker [see Shanker 4]. 1853 *Gard. Chron.* 23 Apr. 260/2 A *Well Shrimp, a small white crustaceous animal, about half an inch long. 1924 *Brit. Mus. Return* 171 Well-shrimp. 1604 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 156 A *well-sinker, vj days sinkinge the well..iijs. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/4 Wanted..three good Well-sinkers. 1858 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 6 All sorts of earthwork, in embanking, boring, and *well-sinking. 1925 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 1 The authorities have requisitioned all workmen with a knowledge of well-sinking..and are sending them..to work on drilling artesian wells. 1768 *Museum Rust.* IV. 238 The *well-smacks employed in our cod-fisheries. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlviii, A little out-of-the-way door at the foot of the *well staircase flew briskly open. 1868 *Daily News* 4 Aug., If space is an object, two or three well-staircases ..might be employed. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-stairs. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 347/1 The central column around which these *well-stairways usually wind. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 132 For a *wellsteede..for a wellstede and a fyrshyng. 1878 *Whitby Gloss., Wellstead*, the site of a well. 1828–32 Webster, *Well-sweep. *c* 1850–60 Alice & Phoebe Cary in M. C. Ames *Mem.* (1873) 252 A grape vine, shaggy and rough and red, Swings from the well-sweeps high, sharp head. 1886 E. S. Morse *Jap. Homes* ii. 73 In this sketch a regular New England well-sweep is seen. 1889 *Nation* 21 Apr. 303/1 The graves belong to the type of '*well-tombs'. 1850 Ogilvie, *Well-trap*, the same as *stench-trap*. 1893 J. Watson *Confess. Poacher* 133 The well-trap is a square, deep box, built into the ground opposite to a smoot-hole in the fence through which the rabbits run. As the rabbits run, the floor opens, and they drop into the well. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Well-tube. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. ii. xvi. 69 The method of keeping them clear of water, is by a large scoop which is suspended..over the *well-way. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 772/2 A sea-going hydraulic dredge having the ladder for the suction-pipe and cutter in a well-way in the centre. 1935 *MS. Rowl. D. 777* fol. 84 b, ix new moroppes to staye the Rynge of the *well wheell to the spokes. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 84 *marg.*, The scoldyng of brathels is no more to bee passed on, then the squekyng of welle wheles. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 308 You take insult like a donkey on a well wheel. 1898 Sryeing *Builders' Prices* 76 The digging will only be applicable to *Well-work, as that for Drains must of course depend upon their depth. 1820 C. O'Conor *Columbanus's Third Let.* 84 Origin of Irish *Well-worship. 1888 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. 320 Well-worship continues to this day, and votive gifts..are still thrown into the clear spring waters. 1820 C. O'Conor *Columbanus's Third Let.* 79 *Well-worshipping was a Druidic superstition. 1892 *Catholic News* 23 July 5/5 A race of *well-worshipping semi-pagans.

†**Well**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [f. Well *adv.*, substituted for Weal *sb.*1 under the influence of F. *bien*.]

1. Well-being, welfare, advantage, profit. a. In contrast to *woe*.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 687 Neuere..3e nere out of myn hertis remembraunce For wel or wo, for carole or for daunce. *c* 1420 J. Page *Siege Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 35 Thes were the syghtys of dyfferauns,..That one of welle and þat othyr of wo. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 111. 320 For the soulle when yt ys departed fro the body by dethe receyueth anon welle or wo. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 160 But do thou nothing wickedly, Neyther for wel nor yet for wo. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 350 A resolute intent..in well, and in woe, to remaine constant.

b. In general use; freq. in *for the well of —*.

1424 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 72 3if it so be þat thei towche the well of the kyng..or his realme. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 588 My saide lorde desireth that it like the king of his goode grace, for the grete welle of bothe his royaumes, to ordeyn,..that [etc.]. ↑1497 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 74 For the welle of hys saule he can noo lesse doo then sue for absolucion. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* 229 For worldly ryches, the trouth nat playne to tell, Puttynge bodely profyte before eternall well. 1525 Berners *Froiss.* II. xx. 17 b, For yᵉ well of the peace..we desyre them to sette to their seales. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 43 That may restore you to your wonted well. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 414 Hungary aboundeth..in all things the earth can produce for the well of man. *a* 1645 Ld. Napier *Mem.* (1793) 43 My Lord Lowdon..might have thought me willfull against my owne well.

2. *Well public* = Weal-public 2. *rare*—1.

1579 Lodge *Def. Plays* 6 Though Plato could wish the expulsion of Poetes from his well publiques,..yet the wisest had not all that same opinion.

3. Good or honourable report.

c 1500 *Melusine* 135 She..desired moche to see him for the well that it was said of hym. [1820 Coleridge *Ode to Rain* 28 I'll nothing speak of you but well.]

Well (wel), *a.* Forms: 3–7 wel, 4–6 wele, 5 welle, 5–well; *Sc.* and *north.* 5 weyll, 6–7 weill (6 weil), 6– weel. [From Well *adv.* in predicative use: see sense 1.]

1. Used predicatively to denote a state of good fortune, welfare, or happiness: †a. With the dative of the personal pronouns, esp. in the formula *well is me, thee, him*, etc., or *well worth him*, etc. *Obs.* (Cf. L. *bene est mihi*, etc.)

Beowulf 186 Wel bið þæm þe mot æfter deaðdæge Drihten secan. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiv. 21 [Hie] cwedon: wel ðe, wel ðe [L. *euge*]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xii. 13 þæt me wel siʒ for þe, and min sawul lybbe for þinum intingan. *Ibid. Num.* xi. 18 Wel us wæs on Egipta lande. 12.. *Moral Ode* (Egerton MS.) 388 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 183 Of him to sene nis no[n] sed, wel hem is þe hine bi-healdeð. *c* 1205 Lay. 23079 Wel wurðe þe Vortiger þat þu ært icumen her. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 124 Wel is me uor mine gode, & wo is me þauh for þin vuel. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2387 'Wel me,' quað he, 'wel is me wel, bat ic aue abiden ðus swil[c] sel!' 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5752 A voys sede, as him þo3te, þes wordes þoru þe soun, Wel is þe, wel is þe, as he vel adoun. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 59 Suete Jhesu, wel may him be, That the may in blisse se! *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 350 Lord wel is hym þat may be of yow oon. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 256 And so at þe daie of dome, God shal not seie, Wel be þee. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* liii, A I wele were him that now were In thy plyte! 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lxxxii. 558 Wel is me that I haue mette with yow. 1523 Skelton *Garl. of Laurel* 718 O wele were hym that herof myght be sure. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxxviii. 2 O well is the, happie art thou. 1599 T. Storer *Life & D. Wolsey* B 3 b, But well is me where e're my ashes lie, If one teare drop from some religious eie. 1630 J. Carstaires *Lett.* (1846) 63 If so, wells me for evermore. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 512 Well is me if this be true. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words, Weel's-mon-thee!* God bless you.

†b. With nouns, orig. in the dative, but latterly (by loss of inflection) capable of being construed as nominatives. Also rarely with *to* or *for*. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Laws Cnut* lxxxiv. (Lieberm.) 368 Wel þære heorde, ðe ʒehlyst[ð] þam hyrde. *a* 1300 *Assumpt. Virg.* 99 Wel beo þe time þat þu were ibore, For al þis wordle were forlore. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1797 A place to pleye, ordeyned Brutus,—Corineus was wel of þat graunt—ffor to wrastle wyþ þat geaunt. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* ii. 5 It es

47 For weel is þe child þat wiþ synne wole not be filid. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 225 Well were that maiden that so feire a knyght wolde requere hir of love. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* 135 Well is that londe, and ioyous may it be, Whiche is defendyd by suche a noble estate. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* 141 Yet well-worth the Master-Ape. 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* III. ii. 19 Well were thy name and thee Wert thou indicted in great secrecie. 1620 Carew *Cornwall* 1. 37 In times past..Holdings were so plentifull and Holders so scarce, as well was the Land-lord who could get one to bee his Tenant. 1628 Rollock 1 *Thess.* 84 Well is that man in whose mouth this word is put: and well is that people that hes a man in whose mouth the Lord hes put his word. 1678 Swan *Serm. Gal. vi.* 10, 16 Charity..is made the constant Companion..of all Virtues..and well it is for that Virtue, where it most enters, and longest stayes.

c. With the nominative forms of the personal pronouns, or with nouns clearly construed as nominatives.

In this usage freq. placed, like other adjectives, after the vb.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5765 He wende to heuene & was wel ynou. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1452 Now er men wele, now er men wa. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 33 He þat ledes vs þis wel vre herborwe schal wisse. Þei founden hit newely, so wel weore þei neuere. *Ibid.* 659 We weore so wel of vr-self, we nuste what we duden. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 18 Whil thy power [O Health!]..Regned in me & was my gouernour, Than was I wel, tho felte I no duresse. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Counc. Jews* 91 *Cayphas*. Fare wel, sere, and wel þe be. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 528 Now wold I be well in my ship in the myddes of the see, for if I abyde him, he shall make an ende of me. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. liii. 38 All haill our native goddis, weill þe be! *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. 302 And well were they whoes handes might touch the cordes. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 983 They fell to singyng...Well was he that could reache the hyest note. 1595 J. King *Serm. Queen's Day* in *Lect. Jonas* (1597) 703 O well were wee in the daies of Queene Elizabeth. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* 183 Wel was he that could hide himself in a corner. 1688 Penton *Guardian's Instruction* 94 He was never well but when he was managing or talking of his Dogs. 1818 Shelley *To Mary* —— 11 Mary dear, come to me soon, I am not well whilst thou art far.

2. In favour, in good standing or estimation, on good terms, *with* (a person). Also rarely with *together*.

Originally with *to be* (see also the special senses below); now common only with *keep* or *stand* (see Stand *v.* 15 e), with approach to an adverbial force. The gap in the evidence between the 15th and 18th cent. is remarkable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9521 He had an anlepe son, þat wit his fader was sa wele þat [he] wist his wisdom ilk dele. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2878 She is fayr, and she is fre,..þertekene she is wel with me. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* III. 152 There she [Meed] is wel with þe kynge, wo is þe rewme. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1948 That man was well with god all-myȝt. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 26 She was fayre and comly, and well was with the kyng almyhty.

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 76 There was nothing I outwardly omitted to be well with her Majesty. 1739 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* XVII. ii. (ed. 2) VIII. 30 Antigonus..had ..intreated Philip to keep well with Aratus. 1741 Chesterf. *Lett.* 8 Aug., The last [report] I had from Mr. Maittaire was so good a one, that you and I are at present extremely well together. 1750 *Ibid.* 26 Apr., He is well with..many people of the first distinction at Paris. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* II. xii. 87 That he might stand well with a son, whose character..made his father half afraid of him. 1770 in Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* (1844) I. 66 For although they are by no means well together, yet they would both find their advantages in a war. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* II. 66 She chose to keep well with the Dudleys in all appearance. 1881 Mrs. Lynn Linton *My Love* I. i. 13 He desired to keep well with Stella's father. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xiv, The new heir..had good reasons for standing well with his neighbours.

fig. 1820 T. Brown *Lect. Philos. Human Mind* IV. c. 608 'The true secret of happiness', says Fontenelle, 'is to be well with our own mind.'

b. *spec.* On terms of intimate friendship or familiarity *with* (a woman).

1704 Cibber *Careless Husb.* v. iii, But it's so natural for a prude to be malicious when a man endeavours to be well with anybody but herself. 1784 Bage *Barham Downs* I. 91 You must know Sir, I have the honour to be well with Mrs. Gadbury, Lady Conollan's woman. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* III. v. P 2 All our set were well with some fine woman or other. *Ibid.* III. vii. P 3 Do not suppose that you are well with a Duchess.

†c. Pleased or satisfied *with* (oneself). Also *well to do*. *Obs.*

1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* I. 22 He could not avoid being extremely well with himself. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* vii. (1901) I. 62 He went on 'Change with..a strut that plainly told how well he was to do with himself. 1865 'Annie Thomas' *On Guard* I. iv. 61 His horses..rattled over the stones..at a rate he would not have driven them had he been well with himself just then.

†d. Without const. In favour. *Obs.*

1694 M. Prior in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 213 Neither the Dauphin or Monsr Luxemberg are very well in Court. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett.* 22 Sept., However, be as well at court as you possibly can. *Ibid.*, In short, make yourself well there, without making yourself ill somewhere else. 1776 in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 203, I have the pleasure to inform you that I am extremely well in the opinion of the senatorial part.

3. In a state of prosperity or affluence; more explicitly *well in goods* or *cash*, *well in the world*; = Well off I c. (See also Well to do, to live, to pass.) Now *rare* exc. in *well to do*, *well off*.

To leave (a person) *well*, *to be well left*: to leave or be left well off by devise or inheritance.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 68 Thanked be ffortune and hire false wheel, That noon estat assureth to be weel. 1463 Ashby *Prisoner's Reft.* 78 Whiche greuyd me sore..To be in pouert and of goodes bad, That before was well in goodes and reat. 1606 Dekker *Sev. Sinnes* v. (Arb.) 36 Richmens sonnes that were left well, and had more money giuen by will, then they had wit how to bestow it. 1682 in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. IX. 436/2 He has left euery body that is related to him good Legacyes and his wife extreame well. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 130 A Family that is not very well in the World. 1746 W. Horsley *Fool* (1748) I. 189 Vanesius was well in Cash. 1780 *Mirror* No. 91 He imperceptibly became, 'in easy circumstances, well in the world,

of great credit, [etc.]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 4 He must be very well in the world. 1835 *Politeness & Good-breeding* 97 Two boys..the one high-born as to rank, and.. the other well in the world as to riches. 1875 [see LEAVE v.1 a b].

†b. *Well and warm*: in comfortable and affluent circumstances. *Obs.*

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. ix. (1633) 114 But you are well and warme and so hold you. *a* 1670 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 129 A. W. seemed very sorry at this news, because he was well and warme where he was. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greybeard* 4, I shall not get a penny by your custome; neither do I desire it. For I am well and warm.

c. Favourably circumstanced; having things as one wishes them to be; = WELL OFF I a. Now *rare*.

c 1440 *Partonope* 5281 When wymmen be well they can not cese. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 278 *An.* Wil't please your worship to come in, Sir? *Sl.* No, I thank you forsooth, hartely; I am very well. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 33 We vse To say, the dead are well. 1643 BURROUGHES *Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea* II v. 351 You who are thorough Gods mercy in his way, you are now well, know when you are well, and keep you wel. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. 24, I am afraid we have seen our best days, we knew not when we were well. 1784 BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 64 But every body, Mrs. Susan, don't know when they are well. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit., Academies* P 2 Not without a little hesitation—for apparently they found themselves very well as they were..—they consented.

4. In a sound or undamaged state; *spec.* in marine insurance, of a vessel.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 475 God shewed merualle in apert. Pe bell was wele al swythe. 1580 H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 470 Wee were afraid that she [the ship] had taken some hurt, but she was well. 1667 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 288 He..came..to inform me..that the Rupert was driven from them by force of weather, but doubts not, that she is well. 1848 J. ARNOULD *Marine Insur.* I. 586 In order to protect himself from liability to any loss before a given day, the underwriter frequently causes a warranty to be inserted in the policy that the ship was 'all safe', or 'well', on the day.

5. Sound in health; free or recovered from sickness or infirmity: more explicitly *well in health*. Const. *of* (a sickness, wound). Also *not well* (Sc. *no weel*) = UNWELL *a.* 2 († formerly with *of a sudden, o' th' sudden*).

1555 CARD. POLE in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) July 529 Thos my passage over the see was not so quyet..yet after I was londed I found myself very wel. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 428 b, She was not very wel in health. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 238 Not sicke my Lord, vnlesse it be in minde, Nor wel, vnlesse in minde. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. i. 80 *M. Page.* I am glad to see your Worships well. 1599 — *Much Ado* IV. i 63 Is my Lord well, that he doth speake so wide? 1634 MILTON *Comus* 1000 Where young Adonis oft reposes, Waxing well of his deep wound. 1650 CROMWELL *Let.* 30 July in *Carlyle*, The Major-General will, I believe, within few days be well to take the field. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Dec., He .drinks no claret yet, for fear of his rheumatism, of which he is almost well. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 220 This shall be yours when you bring back My husband safe and well. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* XXXII, Ursel.. is restored to you well in health. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* XXIII, I hope you are well. I am happy to see you. 1864 TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* XX, 'The fact is this; I'm very well, you know;—as strong as a horse.' 'You look pretty well'

(*b*) 1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old-one* V. H 2 b, Troth I am not well of a suddaine. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without Money* III. i, A proper Gentleman: I am not well o' th' sudden. 1667 DRYDEN *Secret Love* I. iii, Dear Asteria lead me, I am not well o'th sudden. (*She faints.*)

†b. *Well in* (one's) *wits*: of sound mind. *Obs.*

1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I (1900) 90 A manne may assuredly thinke him not to be wel in his wittes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. viii. 206 What man that were wel in his wittes would say to kinges [etc.]. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 4 If I shuld say it, rather I (than you) might be thought scarce wel in my wits. 1645 SIR R. WESTON *Husb. Brabant* (1652) 26 Such profitable Terms, as no man, that is well in his wits, but will venture at them 1686 W. CLAGETT *17 Serm.* (1699) App. 18 No body, well in his wits can be misled by it. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* 90 A Man would hardly be supposed well in his Wits, that should seriously entertain any the least Doubt..concerning it.

c. Used attributively, esp. with *man* (†sometimes hyphened). Now only *U.S.*

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 14, I tooke a view of my well men. 1634 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 95 Our division of the living is not so much into Physitian, and Patient, as into well Physitian, and sick Physitian. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 12 Feb., In spite,..ill people would breathe in the faces, out of their windows, of well people going by. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. vii. 50 He..could take no rest until his wounded finger was digested, yet his pain was not so great in his Wound, as in his well fingers. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cock & Fox* 402 But neither Pills nor Laxatives I like, They only serve to make a well-man sick. 1737 B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 73 Poor Dick eats like a well man, and drinks like a sick. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 62 One of the ships..with no more than 65 guns..and but 472 well men at quarters. 1842 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlv. 80 Of those who are alive, there are not well ones enough to take care of the sick. 1874 HOWELLS *Chance Acquaint.* iv. (1882) 97 Calling Kitty's attention to his ingenuity by a pressure with her well foot. 1879 — *L. Arroostook* (1883) II. 10 They welcomed him back to animation with the patronage with which well people hail a convalescent. 1900 MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 128 Two days later he 'began to eat like a well man'.

d. *absol.* (as pl.). Those who are sound in health.

1676 *Prine. Chronicle Lond.* 104 For our S. P. never worketh on the Well, either by Vomit or Stool. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. Dr. Brocklesby* 29 Aug., in *Boswell*, It is great consolation to the well, and still greater to the sick. 1842 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlii. 69 Leaving about 30 sick, and about an equal number of well to take care of and protect them. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* XLV, Every body feels it, the sick and the well, the patient and the nurses. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 16/1 It should be the business of the doctors to prevent the well from getting sick.

e. *Well day*: a day on which one is free from sickness, esp. from an attack of an intermittent disorder. (Sometimes hyphened.)

1652 WOOD *Life* Aug. (O. H. S.) I. 176 What in the well-days his stomach had contracted, he would on the sick-day vomit it out. *a* 1687 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 175, I scarce enjoy'd one well day in ten Weeks absence. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 96 The 30th was my Well-day..and I went abroad with my Gun. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 113 As it was one of his well days, he walked in without help. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 301 Repeated cold and hot fits..with one or more well-days between them. 1869 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) II. 251, I struggle to hang by my 'Work'..and generally do get a particle or two of it done every well-day.

f. Of a person's health or spirits: Sound, good. Of sickness: Cured.

1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Oct., Lord-treasurer has had an ugly fit of the rheumatism, but it is now near quite well. 1760–8 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* v, His health, thank Heaven, is still pretty well. 1802 ELIZ. HELME *St. Marg. Cave* III. 186 Your health is, I fear, not well. 1836 SOUTHEY *Cowper's Wks.* III. 137 Yet he described his spirits as tolerably well in the day. 1847 SURTEES *Hawbuck Grange* iv. 74 Indeed he had fully determined, if his cold was well enough, to ride over to Snailswell.

6. In the phrase (*It is*) *well* (*that*) or *to*: a. Advisable, desirable, to be recommended.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 82 It is welle to undrestonde that ye haue no protectoure, kepar, ne defendour but it come of God. 1603 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. 2 Then 'twer well, It were done quickly. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* XXXVIII, If thou think'st well To trust, fair Madeline, to no rude infidel. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XLVI, I never thought to look at him again, ..but it's well I should, perhaps. 1864 'ANNIE THOMAS' *D. Donne* III. 97 Suggestions as to the seat it would be well for him to take. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/2 When a trout rises it is well to count 'ten' before striking.

b. Gratifying, fortunate, lucky; forming a matter for satisfaction or thankfulness.

1665 DK. ORMONDE in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 13 It is well wee have time to looke about us before the next assault. 1701 DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* 23 'Tis well that Virtue gives Nobility. 1717 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. 161 It is well they afford us both these. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 271 Such a dinner as we had to-day! it was well it was a christening! 1848 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, It was well for us, that we were in this humour, for the road [etc.]. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 421 Well is it that no child is born of thee. 1865 LE FANU *Guy Deverell* III. 149 It is well when these sudden collapses of the overwrought nerves occur.

c. *As well . . if* or *that*, in preceding senses.

1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. XXVII. 209 Perhaps in this case..it were as well they did not. 1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 288, I think it would be as well if John was to go off..this afternoon. 1889 MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* vii, Perhaps it was just as well..that Ebeneser remained in his cabin.

7. Of a state of things, work, an undertaking, etc.: Satisfactory; of such a nature, or in such a condition, as to meet with approval or give content.

1382 in Knighton *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 139 For if the ende be wele, than is alle wele. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 14 If it be thynne, sowe thycker the nexte yere; and if it be well, holde his hande there other yeres. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 763 He can neuer leue warke whylis it is wele. 15—H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 471 We did tarrie for her to know whether all was well with her. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 76 The warre they deeme not well for them. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 45 Goodmorrow (good Lieutenant) I am sorrie For your displeasure: but all will sure be well. 1620 T. MAY *Heir* I. (1633) B 2, That's well, that's very well. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. vi. 20, I have enough in my possessing, 'Tis well. 1798–1803 JANE AUSTEN *Northanger Abb.* x, Though it is vastly well to be here for a few weeks, we would not live here for millions. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Wife* (1821) I. 35 She saw..with the quick eyes of affection, that all was not well with him. 1859 E. FITZGERALD *Omar Khayam* lxiv, He's a Good Fellow, and 'twill all be well.

Prov. 1382 [see above]. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 21 Well aunt (quoth Ales) All is well that endes well. 1600 F. L. *Ovid's Remedie of Love* etc., To Rdr. E 3 b, Yet take this old Prouerbe with a right application..All is well that endeth well. And so end I. 1784 P. WALKER *Peden* (1827) Pref. p. XXVII, The old Saying holds, that All's well that ends well. 1902 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* iv. 206 All's well that ends well! You won't have the services disturbed again.

b. of material things.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 118 It [*sc.* a cheese] is, saith an other, well as can bee. 1595 in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 389 Because the walles ryse and be not well nor all of one collore, the most be wheyted at the plasterers charge. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 172 *Kate.* The meate was well. ..*Pet.* I tell thee Kate, 'twas burnt and dried away. 1599 MINSHEU *Span. Dict.* 3 This water is now well [*Ya esta buena est agua*], you may now wel wash Sir. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* ciii, Were it not sinfull then striuing to mend, To marre the subiect that before was well. 1762 FOOTE *Lyar* I. ii. (1786) 14 Do you know now, that..I honour the Park? forty thousand million of times preferable to the play house! Don't you think so, my dear? *Miss Godfrey.* They are both well in their way.

absol. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 78 Sweet Censors take my silly worst for well.

q. *To let* (or *leave*) *well alone*: to refrain from trying to make better that which is already well.

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* Pract. Ess. p. XXXVI, When a Person is tolerably well, and is subject to no painful or ... Distemper, I think it his Duty..to let Well alone. 1830 [see LET v. 28 b]. *a* 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daus.* XXXII, Why can't you leave well alone? 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* XII, Tom was very near yielding...But Mr. Carroll could not let well alone, and unfortunately he went on 'Whom am I to believe, [etc.]'

d. *All's well*: a sentry's reply when he has received the password in answer to his challenge. (See also quot. 1769.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *All's well!* an acclamation of safety or security pronounced by a centinel..at the time of striking the bell each half-hour during..the night watch. 1800 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Pass, All's Well*, a term used by a British sentry after he has challenged a person that comes near his post, [etc.]. 1803 T. DIBDIN *Engl. Fleet* III. ii, Duet, 'Who goes there? Stranger—quickly tell!' 'A friend,'—the word—'Good night—All's well'.

e. *Sc.* Quite ready. *rare*.

1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 40 With hunger smit, may hap they to feel, Or cry, ... weel! 1825 JAMIESON s. v. *Weil*, Is the denner weel?

8. In conformity with approved standards of action or conduct; right, proper. Now *arch.*

1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 315 John..toke the seid iiij horses..and theym impounded, as well and lawfull it was..for hym to doo. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. v. N ij, That is well, or well done, let hym be brought in. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. ii, O Portius, was this well!—to frown on her, That lives upon thy Smiles!

†b. qualifying a noun of action. *Obs.* (For the similar use with verbal sbs., see WELL *adv.* 30.)

1583 in Neal *Hist. Puritans* (1754) I. 267 The archbishop has power to make laws for the well government of the church. 1635 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) I. 482 That he see to the upholding of my Houses and well Usage of my Grounds. 1677 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 148 The well payment of their Rents depending much upon the well paying of the Army.

c. Good; of a character or quality to which no exception can be taken. Now *arch.* or *Obs.*

1661 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 70 The things [clauses in the Act] seem to me generally well and desirable. *Ibid.* 344 Which thing, as it hath a well and certain foundation, so it is your wisdome [etc.]. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1703 Nothing is here for teares,..no weakness, no contempt, Dispraise, or blame, nothing but well and fair. 1695 A. CHARLETT in Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 499 His behaviour was very well during his illnesse; was very patient and Quiet. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* xi, Our honest neighbour's goose and dumplings were fine...It is true, his manner of telling stories was not quite so well. 1773 — *Stoops to Conq.* II. i, Yet the fellow, but for his unaccountable bashfulness, is pretty well too. He has good sense. 1780 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1887) IV. 84 Yes, they *are* very well, Sir; but you may observe in what manner they are well. They are the forcible verses of a man of a strong mind, but not accustomed to write verse. 1798–1803 JANE AUSTEN *Northanger Abbey* V, It is really very well for a novel.

9. †a. Of good or satisfactory appearance. *Obs.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 119 Hee'll make a proper man: ..His leg is but so so, and yet 'tis well. 1611 — *Wint. T.* v. iii. 20 But here it [*sc.* a statue] is:..behold, and say 'tis well. *c* 1720 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 248 In this parke stands another pallace St. James, wch is very well. 1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 162 He is a lively Gentleman, well enough in his Person. 1748 — *Clarissa* (1768) I. 7 But then, stepping to the glass, she complimented herself, 'That she was very well'.

b. *Well to see, well to be seen*: (of a person) good to look upon, comely. *rare*.

1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1890) 111 To be seer she's a sarvant, but weel to be seen. 1808–9 LAMB *Poetry for Children, Three Friends* 23 Well to do and well to see Were the parents of all three. 1900 CROCKETT *Dark o' Moon* vii. 43 In person she was short, well-to-see, rosy-cheeked, buxom.

10. In concessive use, followed by an objection or contrary view expressed or implied: a. *It is all very well*: it is right and proper in itself or under certain circumstances.

1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 And where as they saye that the Goupell must be taught after the interpretations approued by the churche (that is very well) but all the stryfe is, which is the trewe church. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 283 It is all very well, sir; I know what you will say—that you [etc.]. 1864 TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* XXIII, That's all very well, Amelia. 1879 RUSKIN *Lett.* 31 Oct. Wks. 1908 XXXIV. 238 Written contracts are all very well, but if the contractor stops payment —where are you? 1905 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* v, Oh, it's all very well, vicar,..we know you never say anything against anyone.

b. *He* (*it*, etc.) *is all very well*: there is no fault to be found with him, it, etc.

For the force of the appended phrase *in his (her, its, their) way* see WAY *sb.* 14 f.

1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* II, As to the curate, he was all very well; but..the curate wasn't a novelty, and the other clergyman was. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 746/2 As a curiosity the black swan is all very well..but it has none of the beauty and grace of the white swan. 1898 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* XXVII. 288 Mr. Cornish is all very well in his way. But we're not fools.

c. Similarly with *well enough*.

1798 WORDSW. *Goody Blake* 37 'Twas well enough, when summer came...But when the ice [etc.]. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., Their higher wines, indeed, are well enough ..yet I cannot but remember the generous qualities of my sound old Oporto. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* XV, This is well enough, but nevertheless I cannot..incline towards the Shakers.

d. Without vb.: *Well and good*. Also (? *Obs.* or *dial.*) *good and well*.

1699 Bovse *Royal Dict.*, Eng.-Fr., Well and good, *à la bonne heure.* 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* x. x. (1782) IV. 71 My mother's predictions were always favourable to those who solicited them: if they proved true, good and well: but when they came back to reproach her [etc.]. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* x. x. (Rtldg.) 564 My mother always sold good luck for good money; if the accomplishment trod on the heels of the prediction, well and good. 1884 Surtees *Handley Cr.* viii. (1901) I. 74 These people arrive to-day. If you...can find anything out about them, you know, well and good. 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* vii, 'If you like to bow and scrape to rich people, well and good', I said.

e. For *very well*, without verb, see Well *adv.* 25.

†11. Quite sufficient (as a statement). *Obs.*

1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 152, I have been often told that there are in Paris a million and a half of people, whereas it is well if there be half a million. *Ibid.* 379 A free State... as the Inhabitants boast, for above 2000 years, but its wall if half so long.

12. Easy (to deal with). *rare*[-1].

1816 Jane Austen *Persuasion* iii, In the way of business, gentlemen of the navy are well to deal with.

Well (wel), *v.*[1] *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* **welled (weld).** Forms: 1 wiellan, wyllan, wællan, 1–2 wellan, 4 wallen; 2–6 welle, (6 wel), 3–well (4 will); *Sc.* 9 wall. *Pa. t.* 3 welden (*pl.*), 4 wellyd, 4–5 wellyde, 5 welledе, 5–7 wellid, 6 weld, 4– welled. *Pa. pple.* 3 iweld, 3–4 iwelled, 4–5 wellid, wellyde, 5 wellyd, *Sc.* wellit, 4– welled. [OE. *wiellan* (*wyllan*; Anglian *wællan*, *wellan*), causative verb from the stem of *weallan* to boil, Wall *v.*[1] Cf. MDu. and Du., MLG. and LG., MHG. (and G. dial.) *wellen*, to cause to boil, to boil or well up, etc., WFris. *welje* to well up, NFris. *wél* to boil, ON. and Icel. *vella* (p. t. *valdi*) to boil (trans.).

The form is appropriate only to the trans. senses; in the intr. it has taken the place of the original strong verb *wall.*]

†1. *trans.* To boil (a liquid, ingredients, etc.). *a* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 72 Ȝenim þa ylcan wyrte betonican & wyl on ealdan wine. *Ibid.* II. 22 Ȝenim wudurofan & wudu merce..& wel on buteran. *Ibid.* 374 Ȝepunа ða wyrte to somne & wæl to somne. *c* 1290 *St. Lucy* 145 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 205 Þo nomen huy pich and brumston, and welden it wel faste. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1736, I walde be wellyde alle qwyke, and quarterde in sondre, Bot I wyrke my dede. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 29 Take brede and peper and ale, And temper þo brothe..And welle hit to-geder. 24.. Lydg. *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 375 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 32 [Mutton] Wellid with growel.

†b. *fig.* (Cf. 3 b.) *Obs.*[-1]

c 1450 Holland *Howlate* 499 The wyls quhar the wicht went war in wa wellit.

†c. To thicken or curdle (a liquid, esp. milk) by boiling or heating. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Welle, mylke or oþer lycure, *coagulo.*

d. *spec.* (See quot.)

1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v. *Welling*, 'They're welling livers', obtaining the oil from the livers of fish, in the way of making it flow by an adapted heat.

†2. To liquefy (metal) by heat; to melt down, cast, found. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 Þe calliz þet was imelt iðe fure & stroncliche iwelled, and seoðden..so swuðe ueire afeited. *c* 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* 272 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 208 Þe feondes weldan led and brass, and in heore moulpes caste. *a* 1300 *Holy Rood* (Ashm.) 301 He made him drynke led iweld. 1382 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 136 Men schal welle [1388 *Isa.* lii. 4 welle togidere: Vulg. *conflabunt*] hor swerde into plowgh-schares. 1388—2 *Chron.* xxxiv. 17 Thei han wellyd togidere [Vulg. *conflaverunt*] the siluere, which is foundun in the hous of the Lord. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Welle, metel, *funde.* 1530 Lavnde *Manip.* 55/14 To wel iron, *conflare.*

b. To soften (metal) by intense heat; to join while heated, to weld. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Du. and LG. *wellen* also have this sense.

1484 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 152 Pro scharpyng et wellyng of wagges de ferro. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (?1510) R iij, As two peces of Iron fare In the fyre whan they wellyd are. Ley that one that other vpon And geue them a stroke anon, Throughe hete they together bynde.

[illegible] 175 F[illegible] inge the springe and for makinge nailles to the cocke [clock?] borde, iij d. 1626 *Ibid.* 172 P[illegible] to Thomas Pearson for mendinge the greate bell tounge, vj s...P[illegible]..about the wellinge and helpinge Thomas Pearson, xij d. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *To wall*, To beat two masses into one. 1824 [Carr] *Craven Gloss.*, *Well*, to weld. 18[illegible]- in various northern glossaries.

3. *intr.* To boil. (Said of a liquid, of ingredients, and also of the containing vessel.) Also with *up.*

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 210 in *Archæologia* XXX. 356 Take..yᵉ whyte of tweyne eyre And a porcyon of rye mele, And late it well to geder welle. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 5 Take sope, cast in hys potage; þenne wylle þe pot begyn to rage And welle on alle. *c* 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Perser.* 3594 Go þou to helle, þou devyl..In bras & brimston to welle! *c* 1430 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3371 When þe caldroun began to well þe tempest sesst. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/2 To Welle, *bullire, ebullire.* 1554–9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 12 Full lean be thi pottage where the pote wellis. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Well*, to boil.

†b. *fig.* Chiefly in the phrase *to well in woe.*

Cf. *welling woe*, *welling wood*: Welling *ppl. a.* 1 b, c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23166 Gas to þe deuil, þar sal yee gu, for to well þar in his wa. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xl. 40 In such wondryng for wo y welle. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 99 Thar thai sal euermare duelle, And wafullic in pines welle. *a* 1400 *Min. Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xliv. 8 Þe Man þat is taken in dedly synne, He may wel when In wo to wellen. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 232 For-thi after þaire warkes were, is wo sall þai well.

†c. Of metal: To melt and boil up. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 166 And I breke me a cheyne & halfe seyde in þe fyer, And it wexedde in my honde & wellede so faste, That I toke þe ofþur fyve & fro þe fyer caste.

†d. *fig.* To unite as by welding.

1591 Jas. I *Basil. Doron* III. (MS. = ed. 1599, p. 153) Mixing..the men of euerie Kingdome with another, as maye with tyme make thaime to grow & well all in ane. [Cf. Weld *v.* 2.]

4. Of liquids, esp. of a well or spring of water: To rise up to the surface (of the earth) and flow in a copious stream. Also with *up*, *out*, *forth.* † Const. *of.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 59 In þis cites welleþ vp and springeþ hote baþes. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. i. (MS. Add. 27944) Other watir sprynge þ and welleþ owte of the ynner parties of the erthe as welles watir and pittes watir. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3377 Thane cho wente to the welle by the wode euis, That alle wellyde of wyne. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 135 Fayre welles there wellyde fast. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* U ij b, That [earth] turneth to brymstone Which wellyth vpsomtyme anon. 1530 Palsgr. 778/2, I well up, as water that bobylleth, or cometh out of the yerthe. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 34 Thereby a Christall streame did gently play, Which from a sacred fountaine welled forth alway. 1624 Bp. Hall *Contempl.* v. iii. 62 Hee might (if he had pleased) haue caused a spring to well out of the plaine earth. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 807 From his two springs, ..Pure welling out, he..rolls his infant stream. 1787 Burns *Death Sir J. H. Blair* ii, Lone as I..mus'd where limpid streams, once hallow'd, well. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* III. 81 Fast by a spring, which welling at his feet With many a winding crept along the mead. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xvii, A clear small stream, that welled from a rock hard by. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 49 The..fountains were..believed to well up from the Scamander. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 190 The molten matter, which wells up the throat of a volcano.

fig. 1812 D'Israeli *Calam. Auth.* xxii. (1879) 178 A few of those public works whose waters silently welled from the spring of Leland's genius. 1838 Lytton *Leila* I. ii, As the water glides from yonder rock,..I see the tide of empire welling from my hands. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 71 O who may count The drops from that eternal Fount Of heavenly Intercession, welling night and day?

b. *transf.* of vapours, etc., that rise up to the surface, or flow forth in a stream; *poet.* of sound.

(*a*) 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii, What sparkling bubbles glanced upon the waves, and welled up every moment to the surface. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 82 The smoke.. ascendeth, swelleth, welleth, vanisheth. 1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* 720 The heat is gradually welled up from below, penetrating the moist and yielding beds. 1893 S. Crane *Red Badge* v, Smoke welled slowly through the leaves.

(*b*) 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* IV. iv, What sweet sounds from her fast-closed lips are welling. *a* 1849 Poe *Bells* i, Keeping time..To the tintinabulation that so musically wells From the bells. 1867 Morris *Jason* XIV. 45 White bodies moving,..Wherefrom it seemed that lovely music welled.

c. *To well over*, to overflow. *lit.* and *fig.*

1843 James *Forest Days* i, It had a pond, which was kept clear by a spring at the bottom, welling constantly over at the side next the road. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* viii, His heart welled over with joy. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* i, The spring of imaginative passion..lay there, ready to bubble up and well over into a strong current at the touch of the divining-rod.

5. Of tears: To rise (*up*) to the eyes in a copious flood; to flow *down.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 815 But þo by-gan a lytel his herte vnswelle Thorugh teris which þat gonnen vp to welle. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* XIX. 375 And þanne welled water for wikked werkes, Egerlich ernynge out of mennes eyen. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* IV. xciv, Downe from her eies welled the pearles round, Vpon the bright Ennamell of her face. 1602 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* E 4, Still the pearles round Stil through her eies, and wel vpon her face. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* iv, Tears welled into her eyes as she spoke these words. 1858 G. Macdonald *Phantastes* xiii. 157 She lay with closed eyes, whence two large tears were just welling from beneath the veiling lids. 1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* ii, As she looked, the tears welled slowly up to her eyes which had been dry before. 1894 J. A. Stuart *In Day of Battle* vii, My heart welled into my eyes in thankfulness.

6. Of blood or corrupt matter: To flow from the body, a wound, or sore.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 287 Herodes..was..I-tormented ..wiþ wormes þat welled þat sprang out of his prive harneys. *Ibid.* 289, 14.. *St. Mary of Oignies* (MS. Douce [illegible] it wyt[illegible] heart vpon the crosse. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 47 Her dried dugs..Hong downe, and filthy matter from them weld. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* x. 1184 With clotted Locks, and Blood that well'd from out the Wound. 17..Broome *Iliad* x. Poems (1727) 128 Blood o'er the crimson Field Well'd from the Slain. 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Agamem.* 271 When forth-welling from the wound, The purple-streaming blood shall fall. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 838/2 The blood..wells up abundantly from the bottom of the wound. 1858 G. Macdonald *Phantastes* xiii. 182 His hand was pressed against his side...The blood was welling from between the fingers. 1890 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 Mar. 707 Many small cavities were exposed. They were tensely filled with foul pus, which welled out freely from them.

b. *transf.* of the source or a place. Const. *of.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 235 (MS. γ) He wellede ful of wormes. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3819 Alle wellys fulle of blode, there he awaye passes. *c* 1480 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 32 Also y behylde the right syde of the ymage of oure lordis body and hit wellid oute of blode.

7. *fig.* To spring or originate; to issue or flow *forth* or *out.* Of qualities, conditions: To emanate † *of*, *out of*, *from* a person or thing as a source.

13.. tr. *Ælfred* in *Engl. Studien* VII. 321 Þyne ryuesse beþ holy scriptures, þat welleþ out fro þe welle of wysdom, þat is Crist. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. ii. 151 Trewly, al maner of blisse and preciousnesse in vertue out of thes springen and wellen. *c* 1400 *I'ety Job* 438 in *26 I'el. Poems* xxv. 135 Vertues, lorde, though I haue none, Late thy grace in me now welle. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. x. 77 Considre all þinges as welling of þe hyest & most souereyn good. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 20–24 The woordes whiche proceded from the mouth of Jesus..welled foorth from a brest replenished with the heauenly spirite of God. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vi. 25 With augred words and gentle blandishment, Which as a fountaine from her sweet lips went, And welled goodly forth. 1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xv. (1857) 223 Those old artless compositions which have welled out from time to time from among the people. 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* Feb. 134 The Pilgrim's Progress..welled up from the deep fountains of the author's own mind, and ..flowed on without reserve. 1883 R. W. Church *Spenser* v. 129 The abundance of his ideas, as they welled forth in his mind day by day.

8. *trans.* a. Of a spring: To pour forth (water, etc.). Also with adv., as *up.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 391 þis þere at Fynchamstede in Barrokschire a welle was i-seie welle blood fiftene dayes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 340 There was wellit to wale water full nobill, In yche place of the playne with plentius stremes. 1799 Savage *Wanderer* v. 88 Rills..Meet in yon Mead, and well a River's Source. 1820 Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 32 Some classic fountain, that had once welled its pure waters in a sacred shade. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 227 Another green bank from which a spring wells up to the light its sparkling waters.

b *fig.* To pour out (something) in or as a stream. Also with *out*, *forth*, *up.*

[illegible] parte it welleth vp all mocyons of concupyscence. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ii. 8 She sate, Welling out streames of teares. *Ibid.* x. 26 Behold the boyling Bathes at Caitbadon, Which seeth with secret fire eternally, And..to their people wealth they forth do well. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict. in Heaven* xlviii, How nimbly will the golden phrases flie, And shed forth streames of choycest rhetorie, Welling celestiall torrents out of poesie? 1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1853 I. 24 Deep is the solitude of millions who, with hearts welling forth love, have none to love them.

Well, *v.*[2] [f. Well *sb.*[1]]

1. *slang.* To defraud (one's confederates) by embezzling part of the booty; to conceal (booty) from one's confederates; to conceal (a portion of one's estate) from creditors.

1812 Vaux *Flash Dict.* (1819) s.v. *Well*, To *well* your accomplice, or *put him in the well.* 1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulgar Tongue*, *Well*, to divide unfairly...A cant phrase used by thieves, where one of the party conceals some of the booty, instead of dividing it fairly amongst his confederates. 1824 *Compl. Hist. Murder Mr. Weare* 255 Probert frequently alluded to the money..and his apprehensions lest Thurtell should *well it* (meaning keep it to himself). 1893 *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* 22 July 76 6/1 Out of the salvage of my fortune—for something had been safely 'welled', you may be sure—I purchased a tricycle.

2. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 450 To well the ship.—This operation [for stopping a leak], consisting in the building of a bulk-head or partition on the fore part of the leak, and caulking it, so as to confine the water within it.

Well (wel), *adv.* Forms: α. 1–7 wel (1 uel, 3 wuel, wæl), 1, 5– well (2 weall, 5 whell), 5 welle. β. 4–5 (8–9 *Sc.* and *north.*) weel, 4 wiel, *Sc.* 5 veill, 5–6 weill, 6 wyell, 7 weell (weall); 4–5, 7 (6 *Sc.*) weile, 5 weile, *Sc.* veyle, 6 weele. γ. (Chiefly *north.*) 4–5 will (5–6 wyll), 5 wil, 5–6 wyl; 4 wille, 5 wile, wyle, wylle. See also Wol *adv.* [Common Teutonic: OE. *wel*, *well* = OFris. *wel* (NFris. *wel*, *well*, WFris. *wel*, *wol*), MDu. and Du. *wel*, OS. *wel*, ON. and Icel. *vel* (Norw., Da. *vel*, Sw. *väl*); also OS. *wela*, *wola* (MLG. and LG. *wala*, *wal*), OHG. *wela*, *wala*, *wola*, *wol* (MHG. *wole*, *wol*, G. *wohl*), Goth. *waila.* The stem is regarded as identical with that of the verb Will.

An early lengthening of the vowel is indicated by the ME. *weel* (*wiel*, *weele*, etc.), which appears in northern and Scottish texts from the 14th cent., and is still the current form in Scottish, northern, and north midland dialects. The forms *will* and Wol probably originated in unstressed positions.]

I. 1. In accordance with a good or high standard of conduct or morality; in a way which is morally good. Chiefly with *do* vb.

c 885 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxv. 4 [He] ealde ongeotan ðæt [he] wel dyde [L. *bene egerret*]. *a* 1000 *Doomsday* 119 Welan ah in wuldre se nu wel þenceð! *a* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 12 Hyt ys alyfed on reste-dagum wel to donne [L. *bene facere*]. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1086 Litel rihtwisnesse was on þisum lande..buton mid munecan ane þær þær hi wæll ferdon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 231 Đe mon þe wel deð, he wel ifehð. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 37 Ne scal na mon..slawen wel to done. *c* 1300 *Relig. Songs* I. in *Owl & Night.* etc. (Percy Soc.) 63 Mon, lat sunne and lustes thine; Wel thu do and wel thu thench. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 888 He says he has no wille to fale Ne to understand for to do wele. *Ibid.* 1087 Þe last day of man is hyd..For he shuld kepe wele al þe other dayes. *c* 1420 *Rule St. Benet* vii. 12 For þi lokys þat ye do wel. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 1 Perfore gouerne the wele the while til I come home ayen. *c* 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 47 *Qui bien sera bien aura*, Who doth well shall

well hane. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 21 Doo well, and haue well, men say. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1602) 299 It is better to doe well then to doo good; for a man cannot offend in doing well. 1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 355 Let me see a Man that keeps his shop and buys and sells, and yet lives well and keeps the Laws of Christ. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Mark x. 17 It is not talking well, and professing well, but doing well, that entitles us to heaven and eternal life. 1809 Wordsw. *Prelude* VIII. 527 That, by acting well, And understanding, I should learn to love The end of life. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 606 If thou livest well and teachest well, thou wilt be a judge of all; if thou teachest well and livest ill, thine own only.

b. Satisfactorily in respect of conduct or action.

a 1000 *Riddles* [li]. 5 He him wel herep, þeowaþ him gewyrce. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 82 Wisdom in godes drede Vse wel, þat be my rede. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Kat.'s T.* 968 And they him sworen his axyng faire and weel. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4838 To loue god & serue hym wyle. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 11. 65 Deuoute redyng..causeth moche grace and comforte to the soulle yf yt be well and dyscretely vsed. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 60 The same Archas gouerned hym so wele and so wisely that [etc.]. 1526 Tindale 1 *Tim.* v. 17 The seniours that rule wele are worthy of double honoure. 1534 *Cal. Irish Chancery Rolls* I. 11 Ye swear that ye well and trulie shall serve our Sovraigne Lord the King. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 349 If any charge do come vpon the king and his realme, howe it may be well and honourably supported. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 218 P 4 A Woman must think well to look well. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLIX. 13 He there worked well and never touched alcohol. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Antigone* 1323 'Tis counselled well, if well with ill can be.

†c. Justifiably, rightly. *Obs.*—1

1382 Wyclif *Jonah* iv. 4 And the Lord saide, Gessist thou, wher thou art wel [L. *bene*] wroth? *Ibid.* 9.

2. In such a manner as to constitute good treatment or confer a benefit; kindly, considerately; generously: charitably.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxx[i]v. 4 Wel doa [L. *bene fac*], dryhten, godum & rehtum on heortan. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past C.* xli. 304 Far mid us, ðæt we ðe mægen wel don. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 44 Doð wel þam þe eow yfel doð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 Þenne Mon he lufede and welbihohte. 1404 *E. E. Wills* 57 No man meruell þogh I do well to him, for, [etc.]. 1540 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 270 Your grace was veray moch displeasyd Saying I am not well handelyd. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Bene*, To be well vsed for little coste. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 11 Oct., Opportunities will often fall in my way, if I am used well. 1896 Gladstone in *Daily Chron.* 8 Oct. (1903) 5/2 My danger is the danger of being too well used..by my biographers.

b. *To deserve well of*: to be entitled to gratitude or good treatment from (a person). See Deserve 3 b. Cf. L. *bene mereri de*, F. *bien mériter de.*

1585–6 Earl Leycester *Corr.* (Camden) 423 He can tell you whether I dyd vse Paul Buis, and deservyd well at his handes, or no. 1709 Addison *Tatler* No. 117 P 1 A great Man, who has deserved well of his Country. 1709–1840 (see Deserve *v.* 3). 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. ii. You do right, child,..to speak well of those who deserve well of you.

c. With verbs of greeting, receiving, etc.: In a kindly and friendly manner; with friendly words; with favour or welcome.

Cf. *to stand well with*, s. v. Well *a.* 2.

c 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Diplom.* IV. 214 Eadward king gret wel Willem biscop. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 675, Ic Agatho..grete wel seo wurðfulle Æðelred. *Ibid.* an. 1137, He fur to Rome & þær was wel underfangen fram þe pape. *c* 1205 Lay. 15084 Uortigerne..gratte wel Hengest. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1420 Laban and his moder..fagneden wel ðis sondere man. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 52, [I] grete þe wel, fadyr myn. 1443 Hen. VI in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 79 Right dere in God we grete you wele. 1483 Rich. III. *Ibid.* Ser. II. I. 159 Right reverend Fadre in God, right trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele. 1706 tr. *De Piles' Art Painting* 336 He was well receiv'd at Court, and in favour with Four Kings successively. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* v, You receive him very well considering you do not like him?

d. With verbs denoting feeling or intention.

1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 87 Not as intending well to the King, for they are vowed rebells. 1661 J. Barwick in *Extr. S. P. rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 128 A Gentleman that wishes well to the King. 1729 T. Innes *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 17 At least I meant well, and aimed only at truth. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* iv, I am an Englishman, and wish dearly well to my country. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Shops & Tenants*, We wished the man well, but we trembled for his success. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xxv, There is a great difference between wishing well to a cause and supporting it in person.

e. With verbs of thinking or speaking (†also of hearing) *of* a person, etc.

1448 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 Easyly with the thus thi men live, thou seith of hem evir wele. *c* 1460 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxiii. 108 Whether þei say wel, whether þei say evel, þou art not þerfore a noþer man. 1526 Tindale 1 *Tim.* v. 10 Soche a wone as was..well reported off in good workes. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Add., *Bene audire*, to be well spoken of. 1576 R. Peterson *G. della Casa's Galateo* 22 Eache man desireth to bee well thought of. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* Answ. Let. A iv b, If you haue heard so well of my poore house. 1598 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 37 Signior Baptista, of whom I heare so well. 1612 — *Temp.* II. ii. 95 His forward voyce now is to speake well of his friend. 1628 M. Henry *Christianity no Sect* (1847) 290 Ill-will never speaks well. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xlviii. 388 One would be willing to be well thought of by the worthy. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xliii, Papa thinks well of Mrs. Pipchin. 1865 (see *a* b). 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 12/2 'The Ebb Tide' was practically by Mr. Stevenson himself, and he was disposed to think very well of it.

f. With equanimity or good nature; without resentment. Chiefly with *take*.

† *To take* (a thing) *well a worth*: see Worth *sb.*

1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* III. x. 133 They did not suffer her to go out of her chamber; which she took not well. 1903 R. A. Freeman *Dr. Thorndike's Case-Bk.* i. 31 'And how did the coloured gentleman take it?' 'Not very well.'

8. With courage and spirit; gallantly, bravely.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 84 So many doughty dyntes was bituex tham tueye, Wele þai did togidere, better may noman saye. 1447 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 20 Dourysh acquytted hym well. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vi. 97 Alle the barouns that weren of valoure and wele hadde don. *Ibid.* xxxii. 654 Sir Gawein and his felowes dide merveilles and wele. 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 134 Hee that escapes me without some broken limbe, shall acquit him well. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 29 Servant of God, well done, well hast thou fought The better fight. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxi, Well and chivalrous did De Bracy that day maintain the fame he had acquired.

II. 4. Faithfully, heedfully, carefully, attentively: a. With verbs of holding, keeping, attending to, etc.

c 831 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 446 Ic..bebiade Eadwealde..ðet he ðis wel healde. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 1236 Þreo tacen..þæs þe hi hyra þeodnes wel wordum and weorcum willan heoldon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 109 Hit is..nytlic þæt hie heora fulwiht-hadas wel geheoldan. *c* 21.. Ormin 1033 Þatt follkess haliȝdomess..wærenn inn an arrke þær Wel & wurrþlike ȝemmde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 209 And preide, he shulde yeme hire wel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6849 Haldes his wille [*Gött.* wele], i bid yow now. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 438 (Fairf.) He gaf an mast of al þat wele hif he coude a keppet hit weel. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 218 Ze suld..Haiff chosyn ȝow a king, that mycht Have haldyn veyle the land in rycht. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 477/1 And well and truly kepe the seid godes. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 124 I hawhe promysyd hym a bow and I trwste that he wyll se whell to yowr hors. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 130 To cart gap and barne, set a guide to looke weele. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 53 Touchyng seede, this is to be well seen to. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xxxix. 12 Take him and looke well to him, and doe him no harme. 1788 Burns *I'll go & be a Sodger* 6, I gat some gear wi' meikle care, I held it weel thegither.

b. With verbs of observing, considering, studying, etc.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 103 Mid þy þe þa Cristenan leode þæt wel sceawodan, ða gesawon hie [etc.]. *c* 1200 Ormin 1829 Wel birrþ uss lokenn þær whatt uss þatt name maȝȝ bitacnenn. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 202 And gyff ony thar-at war wrath, That watyt hym wele with gret scaith. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* (Fairf.) 335 Of thyn answere avise the ryght weel. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) 11 And tat ye recorde wel þe cumantemens of god. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 191 Loke wele aboute,..Unfayllyngly, unfeynynge, and unfeynte. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* 1338 She well consydered with due dyscrecyon Of this present lyfe the great wretchydnesse. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 97 Note and marke wyl thys parcele. 1538 Starkey *England* 117 Me thynke you pondur not al wel and depely. 1603 Harsnet *Popish Impost.* 36 Heere is her lesson read ouer: and marke the scholler how well she conned it. 1611 Bible *Prov.* xiv. 15 The prudent man looketh well to his going. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. vii. 117 Philip, who well observ'd our simple Guest, Laughs in his Sleeve. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 610 Feversham..had looked at himself well in the glass. 1873 *Punch* 4 Jan. 9/2 After thinking the matter well over, we have determined not to compete.

5. In a way appropriate to the facts or circumstances; fittingly, properly: a. With verbs of saying or speaking. †Also rarely in other contexts (quot. *c* 1175).

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 151 Be ðære ildinge suiðe wel Dryhten ðreade Iudeas, ða he ðurh ðone witzan cuæð. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 547 Ðæt is wel cweden swa gewritu secgað, þæt [etc.]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 17 Cuoð to hir se hælend, uel ðu cuede þætte ic ne hafu uer. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 9 Wel þæt wæs gecweden, forþon þe [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 He com bi þis forwundede mon. Wel he com bi him, þa he bicom alswich alse he. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3097 Þou hast wel spoken, Dalmadas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 19 Zuych folie is wel y-clepede onwythede. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xv. 7 Ysay, the prophete, prophesiede wel of you. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1835 Whanne the Sowdon had hard hym sey so will, 'Generydes', quod he, 'I geue yow grace'. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xxxvi. 472 This is wel sayd, saide Morgan le fay. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I. (1900) 94 And you say wel, that [etc.]. 1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. i, Wel said, let there be a fire presently. 1620 Donne *Pseudo-Martyr* 170 Sepulueda..saies well..That the soule doth exercise *Herile Imperium* vpon the body. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 7 It is well observed by an ancient Orator [etc.]. 1668 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 1 If so, as Maimonides well observes, the whole Religion of Moses is overthrown. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 253 Well hast thou spoke (Eurualus replies). 1779 *Mirror* No. 37 P 8 The delightful occupations of a country life, which Cicero well said..are next in kindred to true philosophy. 1809 Roland *Fencing* 219 It was well suggested..that it would be better [etc.]. 1835 Paley *Æschylus* (1851) Pref. p. vi. *note*, Hermann himself well says of certain critics of the old school [etc.]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Electra* 252 If I speak not well Have thou thy way.

sie healle mærre. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Wel þæt ȝeras þæt heo were eaðmod. *Ibid.*, Wel þæt eac ȝedafenaþ þæt he to eordan astige. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1036 Syððan hine man byriȝde, swa him wel ȝebyrede, ful wurðlice, swa he wyrðe wæs. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11914 Nys non on lyue..þat semeþ so wel his beryng. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 793 Wlonk whit was her wede, & wel hit hem semed. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 394 And in spek wilsyt he sum dell; Bot that set him rycht wonder well. † *c* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 170 Sone the semelyor was sett, as hyme wel semyde, At the kynges owenne borde.

1520 Athynson tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxiv. (1893) 203 It acordeth nat to well to my hert. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 265 As our bulk begouth his weirfair tell, So, weill according, dewile bene annext Thow dreary preambill. 1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. i. 126 An Onion will do well for such a shift. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 4 It would doo well to set the Deares horns vpon his head. 1620 Massie tr. *Aldemon's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 167, I haue inlarged my selfe in speaking more already, then may well become mee. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxiv. 185 She is dissatisfied with what she has written: But I tell her, I think it will do very well. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 274 Almost any.. inflammable vegetable matter will probably answer equally well. 1848 T. Aird *Chr. Bride* II. 2, Yea, well that forehead's beauty undebased Becomes the scion of a prince's side.

c. *To do well*: to act prudently or sensibly. Also *ironically.*

1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 12 Ye do Ryghte welle to set hyt in a suerete. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 176 Ye have well doon, swete knyghte, for to have brought your horse here. *c* 1530 Hennes *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 535 It were well done that I sholde cause be armed v. hondred knightes. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 192 The Huntsman..shall do well to stop up his earthes if he can finde them. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 53 You shall doe well to put in some few Slices of Eryngium Roots. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 22 Roomes on moist grounds, do well to be Paved with Marble. 1673 Dryden *Amboyna* III. i, He do's well to take his time. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 180 Whoever shall follow the same, or a like track,..will do well to make a year of it. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* (3rd) 14 June, You will do well to keep a watchful eye over.. Villiams. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* ix, Lord Bittlebrains would do weel to remember what his folk have been. 1896 Mrs. Oliphant *Magd. Hepburn* I. 275 'Boy, thou dost well to beard me', cried Sir Roger. 1884 *Chr. Commw.* 2 May 688/3 Clergymen who have nothing better to do than incite to war would do well to seek some other calling.

6. Prosperously, successfully, fortunately, happily; without harm or accident. (Cf. 11.) Freq. with *do, fare, go.*

To be well rid of: cf. Rid v. 3c.

Beowulf 1045 Beowulfe, soðer Ingwina onwald geteah wicga and wæpna; het hine wel brucan. *Ibid.* 2162 Bruc ealles well. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxix. 2 Drihten was mid him; se man wæs wel donde on eallum þingum. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2983 Him stondes wel þat god child strenes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 404 Well worth you all thre, most doughty in dede! 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xx. 7 Yf he saye then: It is good, then standeth it well with thy seruant. — 2 *Kings* iv. 26 Axe her yf it go well with her. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* III. iii. P], All hayle moche .i. god sende the well to fare. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia, P. Giles* (1895) p. c, Thus..I byd you moste hartely well to fare. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 48 Too lustie of courage for wheat doth not well. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* IV. i. 21 Farewell my Wife,..Ile do well yet. 1611 Bible 2 *Chron.* xii. 12 Also in Iudah things went well. 16.. Sir W. Mure *Ps.* xxxvii. 7 And fret not that his wayes go weell, Laud plotts to passe who brings. 1632 Shirley *Sch. Compl.* v. I. 68 Woo'd I were well rid of you. 1665 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 40, I am weele confident..that the bussiness of our familie shall goe weall. 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Jan., 'I his took well, and turned off the discourse. *a* 1721 Prior *Epitaph* 5 If Human Things went Ill or Well. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 275 The gooseberry..and the common nightshade..succeed equally well. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 332 All went well as far as the foot of the ice-fall.

b. With verbs of going, bringing, getting, etc., and adverbial complement.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5024 Ledes wit yow beniamin, Godd giue yow þedir will [*Fairf.* wele] to wine. *c* 1470 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 210 God ȝeve yow goode nyghte and bringe yow welle home and in schorte tyme. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Rane*, Good speede the, and send the well to returne. *Ibid.* s. v. *Coves*, To call and praie to god to send well in our corne. 1636 Sanderson *Serm. Ad Aulam* iv. (1689) 415 So he came well off at the last, though he was dangerously engaged onward. 1708 S. Sewall *Diary* 18 Dec., Got home well in my slay, had much adoe to avoid slews. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 184 God send him well out of the kingdom! 1748 Smollett *R. Random* ix, We proceeded on our journey, blessing ourselves that we had come off so well. 1822 Scott *Nigel* xv, I wish you weal through, my lord, but it is an unequal fight. 1852 E. Warburton *Darien* I. xiii. (1860) 210 His regard for what was left of his reputation concurred with his greed of gold in wishing his great seal away. 1860 Bala *Badd. Peerage* I. xviii. 307 However, I'm well out of it, I don't mean Newgate, but my Spanish courtship. 1876 H. Brooke *Natal* 109 After he had got well off from the tribes in the old neighbourhood.

c. Successfully in some material respect; profitably; advantageously.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 245 To be had and to be hold..freely quyetly..wele and in pease. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. ii. 208 What a father doth to marie his daughter wel, is to give her a great portion in mariage. 1673 Jarkway *Heaven upon Earth* (1847) 79 Consider..before you make light of this business, and know when you are well offered. 1729 T. Cooke *Tales* etc. 102 Mentimia wrong'd the tender Soul shall move, And Anthony well lose the World for Love. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxx. 236 Will four thousand pounds be well laid out in a quarter-partnership? 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vii. 231, I sold all my oxen well in Bloemfontein. 1864 Trollope *Small Ho. Allington* xxvi, 'Amelia has done very well [in her marriage], my dear.' 'Oh, if you call it doing well for your girls, I don't.' *a* 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xxxii, Mamma..always says you have done very well for yourself [in marriage].

†d. *spec.* Profitably for the seller or buyer; at a high or low price respectively. *Obs.*

c 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 6 And for þere prophetis thre we se it [the pearl] oft welle bocht be. 1480, 1576 [see Well-bought]. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 59 They are exceeding fat [geese] & wel sold [L. *optimè fiert*].

7. a. In a state of plenty or comfort. See also LIVE *v.*[1] 4 d.

c 1000 *Ælfric's Colloq.* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 9 Se maxon ..butan minon cræfte lif adreogan, ac na lancge ne to wel [L. *adeo bene*]. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 106 Panne forðe þe worlde as a feld þat ful were of bestes, Whan euerì lud liche wel lyuede up-on erþe. 1874 DASENT *Tales fr. Fjeld* 302 He would be able to live well and good all his days.

b. Satisfactorily or excellently in respect of health or recovery from illness. Usually with *do*.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 251 A bruther of his askid hym how he did, and he said, wele. *a* 1478 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 89, I trust to God þat he sal doo ryght weile, and so doth þe fesechane. 1530 PALSGR. 524/1, I do well: *ie me porte bien.* 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. iv. 40 How doth the Prince? *Mes.* Well Madam, and in health. *Ibid.* III. i. 96 How fares our Noble Brother? *Yorke.* Well, my deare Lord. 1612 BIBLE *John* xi. 12 Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleepe, he shall doe well. 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Mar., Mrs. Percival's youngest daughter has got the small-pox, but will do well. 1842 H. GREVILLE *Diary* Ser. I. (1883) 152 A fine child, and the Queen doing well. 1863 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 25 Bowditch is wounded through the arm; C. through both shoulders... Both doing well.

8. With good reason; naturally; as a natural result or consequence.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* II. i. (Schipper) 110 Cwæð he: Wel þæt swa mæg, forþon hi englelice ansyne habbað. *c* 1205 LAY. 983 Wel ich hit mai suggen, to soþe ich hit wene. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 26 Siþ lordis and men of grete statis..ben so muche biholden to destroie it, & mowne welle don it in dede. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 183 Men..wel it calle may The daisie, or elles the ye of day. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xiv, Wist thou thy payne to cum..For sorow and drede wele myght thou wepe and waille. 1483 CAXTON *Malory's Arthur* Pref. 2 In hym..myght wel be aretted grete folye and blyndenesse. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 279 Rude is thy wede,..Wele aucht thou be afiret of the licht. 1576 T. N. tr. *Cong. W. India* 60 Alleagyng..that he who had common 5000 leagues by Sea, mought well goe 70 leagues by lande. 1678 B. R. *Let. Pop. Friends* 3 Well may our Irish Friends, cry Oh Hone! Oh Hone! 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. x. 70 What I are you confounded?—Well you may, if you cannot answer me as I wish! 1792 COWPER *Iliad* I. 319 Now Priam and his sons may well exult. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xliv, Ye could hardly weel be said to breakfast this morning. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 368 The government did not venture..to enforce a regulation of which the legality might well be questioned. 1870 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 5 Another might well have said of him what he..said of his famous contemporary. 1901 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* viii, 'How do you get it all up to Abergavenny?' 'Ah, you may well ask.'

b. In clauses introduced by *and* or *as*.

a 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 632 Þe children awoke þo anon..Sore hi beoþ offerd and wel maze. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 192/1 With thys vncomely outrage the King was much displeased (as he myght full well). 1650 ELIZ. CROMWELL *Let.* 27 Dec. in *Carlyle*, Which makes me think my writing is slighted; as well it may. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 785 Back to the Thicket slunk The guiltie Serpent, and well might. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 May 1686, Which dispensation..gave umbrage (as well it might) to every good Protestant. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. viii. 219 The dear creature.. took pride, as well she might, in her hair. 1892 GLADSTONE *Gleanı.* (1879) IV. 81 The capital was in amazement at the boldness of the Judges: and well it might. 1871 'MARK TWAIN' *Eye-Openers* 87 All the high houses..were full, windows, roof, and all. And well they might be.

c. In concessive sense: Indeed, certainly. † *How well* (after F. *combien que*), although.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xiii. 116 Alas syr, sayd the lady..I must nedes reste me. Ye shal wel, said kyng Pellinore. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 93, I haue not Intencion for to obeye his comandement how well that he is my fader. 1474 — *Chesse* I. i.i. (1883) 13 How well that the lyon be the strongest beste, yet somtyme a lityll birde eteth hym. *Ibid.* II. iv. 47 How well he was kynge by right. 1583 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xiv. 15 They do labour & til the ground, how wel there groweth no corne... But well there groweth certaine other graine and hearbes of small estimation. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* I. i. (Arb.) 19 Who..may well be sayd a versifier, but not a Poet. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 811 These thoughts may startle well, but not astound The vertuous mind.

9. Without difficulty or hindrance; readily, easily.

c 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* vii. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 346 Hy mihton þa wel habban wif on þam dagum. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Wel þu myhtes faren all a dmis fare, sculdest þu neure finden man in tune sittende. *c* 1250 *Prayer to Virgin* 19 in *O. E. Misc.* 196 Helpe þruh þin milde mod for wel þu mist [*rime* liht]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20116 (Edin.) Alle þa leuedis þate þare wern, Ful wel þai miȝtin hir forberne. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* i. 36 Þat lord of heuyn mot Edward lede And maintene him als he wele may. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXV. 114 Þai may wele hase swilk clathes, for þai er of lesse prys þate þan wollen clathez er here. *c* 1440 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxix, For he that schope bothe sunne and mone, Fulle wele may pay for alle! *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 19059 (Laud) Thow maiste wele se now our wone Yeftes haue we to the non. 1482 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiii. 41 Who that myght haue the parfayt scyence therof, he myght wel knowe how the world was compassed. 1551 R. ROBYNSON *More's Utopia* (1895) 53 All their housholde stuffe, whiche is verye lytle worth, though it myght well abyde the sale. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 303 With respect to this query,..I cannot so well answer. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 16 Nor were the refugees such as a country can well spare. 1888 [G. C. LEWIS] tr. *Boeckh's Pol. Econ. Athens* I. 318 These ambassadors remained absent three months, although they might have equally well returned at the end of one.

b. Used to denote the possibility or likelihood of an occurrence or fact.

† *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1788 So may the wynde weile turnne, I quytte hym or ewyne. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. iii, He that is..atte vpperest of the whele of fortune, may wel falle doune. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 373 This right hand well mought haue ben her defense. 1828 W. LAWSON *New Orchard & Gard.* (1623) 7 The chilling cold may well some little time stay, or hinder the proud course of the sap. 1860 QUARLES *Feast for Worms* xi. I j, Was not this my Word,..When this mis-hap mought well haue bin escaped? 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 2. 178 Though no size for the heighth of the Puppets can be well asserted. 1709 BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* § 144 A little consideration will shew us how this may well be. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xii. 66 That a learned man and a linguist may very well be two persons. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 188 This was as strong a case as could well come before the Court. 1874 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. T.* 5 No transcript..can well be found which does not differ from its prototype in some small points. 1887 'L. CARROLL' *Game of Logic* I. 20, I grant you they couldn't well be fewer. *Ibid.* 35 Your Premisses..are as fallacious as they can well be!

c. In negative or comparative clauses.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 38, I can not wele tell you what was the occasyon. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 31 b, The thinge seemed graver unto him then that he mighte well speake of it. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 4 *Kings* XXV. Comm., There was so exceding much, that they wel could not, or did not weigh it. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 173 The Base striketh more Aire, than it can well strike equally. 1642 *Tasman's Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 135 The Wind would not well suffer them to go to the Northward. 1686 [ALLIX] *Dissert.* i. in W. Hopkins *Ratramnus' Body & Bl.* (1688) 7 His Answer..could not be well written before the Year 868. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 27 Apr., I see not how they can well want him..and he would make a troublesome enemy. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* II. 14 (*Passport, Paris*), By the time La Fleur had well told me, the master of the hotel came..to tell me the same thing. 1837 DISRAELI *Vix. Grey* v. vii, Before Vivian could well finish his sentence. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 192 He can praise a sharp remark before it is well out of another's mouth. 1898 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xiii. 135 Appearing to know more of that abode of evil than she well could.

† **d.** At least, assuredly. *Obs.*

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxi, Surely, if I am willing to confer such confidence, it is well thy part to answer it.

10. To all appearance; by good evidence.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17900 Þenne coom a mon..þat semed wel to haue ben eremyte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 369 Wel semed eche of hem a fair burgeys. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 237 That yt appere wel that she ys hys mother. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. vii. 192 Thou semest wel to be a good knyght.

b. With acute reasoning; shrewdly.

c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 95 When thei herde these words, [they] supposed wele what he ment. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xciv. 116 They supposed well before that the Kyng of Englande wolde come into Bretayne. *a* 1687 COTTON *Angler's Ballad* ii. Poems (1689) 76 And full well you may think, If you troll with a Pink, One too weak will be apt to miscarry.

III. 11. Effectively; successfully as regards result or progress.

Beowulf 2570 Scyld wel gebearg life and lice læssan hwile ..þonne his myne sohte. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boethius* xli. § 4 Swiðe wel þu min hæfst geholpen æt þære spræce. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 39 Þe childre þewuen wuel. *c* 1205 LAY. 23121 For ich hine wulle in Norwæge neowe king makien and hine wæl lere to witezen wel þa leoden. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 322, I sal helpe þe wondire veill. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1911 But the oynement halpe me wele. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xiii. 270 Scheldes & hawberkis al to-broke, So wel they gonne there hem beweld. 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 262 The printer gets on well with my History.

12. In a manner, or to an extent, approaching thoroughness or completeness.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 322 Ȝecnua [þa wyrta] wel. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19308 He..hafde himm sellf wel filledd All þatt tatt cwiddedd hafde ben Off himm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 229 He.. heled him ðat side wel ðat it ne wrocte him neuere a del. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 388 Thise clerkes beete hym wel, and lete hym lye. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 321 Now schalle we wreke fulle wele the wrethe of oure elders! *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 6 Take otemele, an grynd it smal, an sethe it wyl. *Ibid.* 26 Menge hem wylle to-gederys. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 83 Ageyne meruaylously the colowre of hys face was reuyuyd and welle shewyd. 1583–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 35 Corne,..if it be well wynowed or fande,..wyll be solde the derer. 1535 COVERDALE *Es.* xxiv. 5 Let it boyle well, & let the bones seyth well therin. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Bene*, Well accompanied or with a good companie. 1618 W. LAWSON *New Orchard & Gard.* (1623) 12 All your labour..about an Orchard is lost vnlesse you fence well. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. xix. 31 Of late some English travellers climbing this mountain were well wetted. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 295 This from his Weaning, let him well be taught. *Ibid.* IV. 191 Lab'ring Well his little Spot of Ground. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* IV. i. (1706) 30 'Till..that poor bleeding King be well reveng'd. 1799 G. S. CAREY *Balnea* (ed. 2) 76 The market here is not very well supplied. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlv, The pockets of the defunct..had been pretty well apung'd. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 302 She, as well As her weak hand could any meaning tell, Motion'd him to be silent. 1890 *Retrospect. Med.* CII. 307 After being well dried with an antiseptic sponge or dry gauze.

13. Used as an intensive to strengthen the idea implied in the verb, or to denote that the action, etc., indicated by it attains a high point or degree.

(*a*) *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 2 Ne meaht þu win wringan on mide winter, þeah ðe wel lyste wearmes mistes. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 148 Syle him ðas ylcan wyrte wel drincan on wætere. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1521 Niðede ðat folk him fel wel, And deden him flitten bise ostel. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1266 Þan william wiȝtly, as he wel coube, profered him þat prisoner. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 21 Thai suld weill hawe pryss That in thar tyme war wycht and wyss. *Ibid.* XVIII. 87 Thai saíd weill at thai suld do sua. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. 1 As reisoun also it weel confermeth. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 172 Mr. Deighton's bitch, who beat her opponent well at the finish. 1877 H. SMART *Bound to Win* III. 158 Ever since..the twain had got on very well together.

(*b*) *c* 1200 ORMIN 19300 Þiss birrþ þe full wel trowwenn. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* I. 41 Gai þai war and wele þai thoght On þe Erle Morre and oþer ma. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 149 He thocht weile..That he suld alely fynd the gate [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2507 That may i noght do, bileves wele, for me bus go. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 67 þe kynge.. wente wele it were sothe alle þat she seyde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXXII. 655 Thei bothe fill to the erthe as he that trusted wele vpon his felowes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXXI. 34 *Thomas.* Sir, What so euer ye bid vs do We assent vs well ther to. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 12 In trowthe I hadde wil hopide that your horsis shulde a ben here as þis night.

(*c*) 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 215 b, Many moo then one to had well deserued to bee whipped. *a* 1669 [see DERRYNE *v.* 3]. 1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* Ep. Ded., You were then pleas'd to express an high esteem for the Author, as he very well deserves it.

b. with verbs of pleasing († *like, pay*), liking, or loving.

(*a*) *Beowulf* 639 Dam wife þa word wel licodon. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 918 Þam þe him on mode ær..wel gecwemdun. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 34 Wel mæg *vel* wel licas [L. *sufficit*] ðæm dæg werignisse his. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 29 Þis is min se leofa sunu, on þæm me wel gelicode. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 230 There ne es prelatte, ne pape,..That he ne myghte be wele payede of thees pryce metes! 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 39 Your plainnesse and your shortnesse please me well. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. li. 410 Sir Hargrave did not seem so well pleased.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 548 Wit bestes doumb man has his fele, O thyng man liks, il or welle. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 34 Sythen seche to þe courte.., And þou shalt lyke fulle wele yf þou may lyfe aftur. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXX. 607 Kynge Ban ..be-hilde the maydenys, and liked well theire companye. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 2 He trusted I shu d lyke it right wele. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 419 Perhaps, while some of us are for Martyn, and others for Luther,..God likes well of us All. 1847 RIDDELL *Cottagers Glendale* III. XXV, Our Mary liket weel to stray Where clear the burn was rowin'.

(*c*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21310 O pouert na dedeigne had he þat biddes vs luue wel pouerte. 1338 R. BRUNNE (*Aron.* (1810) 36 In Ingland neuer before was kyng lufed so wele. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *C. T.* Prol. 634 Wel loued he garleek, oynons, and eek lekes. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince.* 3892 Thei love as vel as doth sustir & brothir. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Aug.* I. 3 We rede of hym..þat he hated þe Greke letteris and loued weel þe Latyn. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 139 Let them kisse one another! For they lou'd well When they were aliue. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xx, It is a spot connected with the legendary lore which I love so well.

c. Placed before past pples. to denote a high degree of the state, etc., described. † Also occas. following the pple.

c 1205 LAY. 340 Þa wepmen weren iwexan, þa wimen wel iþowene. *c* 1300 *E. E. Poems* (1862) 153 Þis wes is ful wel iwroȝt. *c* 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 242 Now I find þe here, wele set is my trauaile. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* iii. 101 Þe Inglis men war armed wele Both in yren and in stele. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *C. T.* Prol. 29 The chambres and the stables weren wyde And wel we weren esed atte beste. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9900 (Trin.) A deep diche is þere aboute wel wrouȝte wiþouten doute. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iii. 150 Eer thei be weel adauntid and weel schamed of her folie. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 112 Is nayne in warld, at scaithis ma do mar, Than weile trastyt in borne familiar. 1553 ASCHAM *Rept. Germany* 3 We were wel affrayd then, the sickenes would haue proued also to vs..very contagious. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 Whan the number of Byasshoppes was wel increased, they beganne the Counsell. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, A Leopardes skynne well spotted. *Ibid.*, The poleaxe at the point being well steeled. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, V. ii. 335 Maides well Sommer'd and warme kept, are like Flyes at Bartholomew-tyde. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Crabtree Lect.* 46, I am neither well litter'd, nor well provender'd.. nor well rubb'd, nor well curried, nor indeed well any thing'd. 1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 272 Some say the Sweade is well beaten by the Dane and Dutch. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. iv. 190 Well fraught with numbers is the rhyming trade. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 255 Wood-ashes well sifted. 1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Med. Commun.* I. 285 Tincture of roses, well acidulated. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 497 Pots..either new or well cleaned in the inside. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* XXVII, She had been drawn on into wider schemes, and could not retire until these..were well started.

d. With past pples. followed by prepositions or adverbs.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Add., *Artitus*, well instructed in sciences. 1681 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Pop.* IV. (1689) 112 The land by that means well-purged of these overspreading Locusts. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 178 Surgeon Macpherson being well learnt in northern knowledge. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. xii. 198 He had not been kept well imbued with the policy which his Government was pursuing. 1899 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 7/1, I conceived that his system was not well-bottomed on facts.

e. With adjs. in *-ed* (cf. 32).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e j b, An hert heeded weele.

14. Clearly, definitely, without any doubt or uncertainty.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 95 Wel woetu þat hi doþ þar ymme. 1298 HEN. III *Proclam.* 18 Oct. 2 Þæt witen ȝe wel alle þæt we willen [etc.]. *c* 1290 *Beket* 219 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 110 For we it mowen wel i-wite..þat..it is godes sonde. *a* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Digby MS.) 57 Þou miȝt wel witen bi mi play þat ich wile hauen mine away. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 866, I sagh wel þat I misferd. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 91 Men seþ wel! at þe see sas-þ & stinteþ. *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1355 There were, and that wote I full well, Of pome garnettys a full gret dell. *c* 1386 — *Merch. T.* Epil. 7 And from a sooth euere wol they weyue; By this Marchaunttes tale it preueth weel. 1412 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 He knoweth wel that..he ne hath noght born hym as he shulde hav doon. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXXII. 655 Segramor..hadde well sein and parceyved whiche was Petrina. 1483 CAXTON *Golden*

Leg. 469/1 The kyng theodoryk that wel wyste of it commaunded (etc.). *c* 1483 Skelton *Death Edw. IV*, 37, I se wyll, they leve that doble my seris. 1526 Tindale *John* iv. 26, I wot well Messias shall coume. 1582 Rich *Farew. Milit. Prof.* Ep. Ded. a ij, Wisdome now hath warned me, that I well knowe Cheese from Chalke. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 22 b, Which hee well perceiued, and smiling, tolde mee that he saw wel that I dissembled. 1624 Br. Mountagu *Immed. Addr.* 95 As..his most sacred Maiestie can well remember. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* II. 33 The number of my enemies is great, I see it well. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 985 Well thou knowst I stood Thy fiercest. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 78 P 7 We well know, Sir, you want no Motives to do Justice. 1741–2 Gray *Agrippina* 60, I well remember too (for I was present). 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* IV. xxiv. 191 Nor does it well appear that their kings did afterwards introduce any of another sort. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 158 All is done by an impulsion which one does not well understand. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 24 He..could well remember the political contests of the reign of James the First. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 544/1 The parties know perfectly well beforehand what are the points in dispute.

b. Intimately, familiarly; closely, in detail.

(*a*) *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 225 Mi brober wele it [a ring] knewe, Mi fader 3af it me. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 253 Peter þe apostel..wel hym knewe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13508 Wele his conyn he knew, & kaght hym in armys. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxx, The kinge his bugulle con blaw, His knyȝtus couthe hitte welle knaw. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VI. iii. 186 We here knowe the wel that thou arte ȝyte Launcelot du laake. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxix. 5 We knowe him well. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 153 You know me well. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 442 The Shepherd knows it well; and calls by Name Hippomanes. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 58 P 2 He being well known to us all. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* xxvii, I know him..too well to think he will ever apologize!

(*b*) *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 44 He couth..wele as Aristotill þe artis all seuyn. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 122 Arystotle..well kowth the lawes. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3698 Be cause ye knowe so will this contre. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* Prol. 46 Vnlesse you know the subiect well you may returne home as wise as you came. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* vii, He thought himself happy in having found a man who knew the world so well. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, I can well of woodcraft.

15. In a skilful or expert manner.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxii. 3 Wel singað [L. *bene psallite*] in wynsumnisse. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 668 Sum mæg fingrum wel..hearpan stirȝan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 109 Ne mei him na Mon alka wel demen ne alsa rihte. *c* 1205 Lay. 41 A Frenchis clerc, Wace wes ihoten, þe wel couþe writen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3166 So wi-liche he made hit & so wel þat me leuede him uaste. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 122 Ful weel she soong the seruice dyuyne. *Ibid.* 384 He koude.. Maken Mortreux and wel bake a pye. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* II. 23b8 This Tubal koude forge weel. 1529 More *Dialogue Heresyes* Wks. 108/2 And men mutter amonge them selfe, that yᵗ boke was not only faultles, but also very wel translated. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 The same gate or tower..well and warly was made ouer the gateloups. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii. 2nd Masque, How well Diana can distinguish times? 1626 — *Staple of N.* IV. i, Well play'd, my Poet. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* I. IV. iv. 3 A Man..able to discourse wel. 1706 tr. *De Piles' Art Painting* 386 He was a universal Painter; he perform'd well alike in all kinds, Landskip only excepted. 1741 C'tess Pomfret in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) II. 277 Lord Strafford..looks extremely young..but talks very well. 1803 Scott *Cadyow Castle* xvii, Aim'd well, the Chieftain's lance has flown. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. § 102 A great work is only done when the painter..determines to paint it as well as he can. 1878 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 381 Every one of these poets has said many things well and many things the reverse of well.

b. In a sufficient or satisfactory manner.

The exact sense varies in different contexts.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1541 He seruede his fader wel Wiõ wines drinc and seles mel. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XI. 50 God may richt weill our werdis deill. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Squire's T.* 18 He..kepte alwey so wel roial estat, That ther was nowher swich another man. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 2 Alle weldynge god..Wele he wereth his werke with his owne honde. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Mar., The quicksets..do not grow so well as those famous ones on the ditch. 1853 *Frnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. II. 367 The machine..could not cut laid corn well. 1895 *Poultry Chron.* II. 523 She appears moping, but eats very well. 1893 *Weekly Notes* 85/1 The existing practice has worked well, and..ought to be maintained. 1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 40 Very fine Irises..grow well in that garden.

c. With good appearance or effect; elegantly.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 256 After þe Inglis kynges he says þer pris þat all in metir fulle wele lys. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 332 This markis..hir sette Upon an hors, snow-whyt, and wel ambling. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 44 Thider comie to hym a comely man wele arraied. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 135 Yt wold garnyche wyll thy face. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 212 P 4 A Woman must think well to look well. 1778 D. Loch *Tour Scot.* 14 Upon the whole, it is a neat well laid out town. 1779 *Mirror* No. 11 That [science] of the serjeant, as it teaches a man to stand well on his legs. 1884 E. Yates *Recoll.* I. 142 The gardens were large and well laid out. 1898 A. Balfour *To Arms* vi, I was a big, strong fellow, carrying my six feet well.

IV. As an intensive with adjectives, numerals, adverbs, etc.

16. With adjectives. Formerly in common use, the sense varying from 'fully, completely' to 'fairly, considerably, rather'. Now *rare* exc. as in b.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxv, Seo leo, þeah hio wel tam se,.. heo forgit sona hire niwan taman. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. ii. 295 Wæron her stronge cyningas and wel cristene. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 217 Þa wæs he þær dæges wel manize. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 180 Pisan..ȝesodena..on wine wel scearpum. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Ah leofemen godalmihtin hauեð isceawed us wel muchele grace. *c* 1205 Lay. 25694 We habbeð wiõ him iuohten wel feole siffen. *c* 1200 *Rectl. ary* 112 His muõ is ȝet wel unkuõ wiõ pater noster and crede. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1 Engelond his a wel god lond. *Ibid.* 7693 Þoru out al engelond he huld wel god pes. *c* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* i. 24 He him wel aiker, þer-to he schel. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4 In þat forest..þer woned a wel old cherl. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 44 In a wel perilous place þat Purgatorie hette. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 23 I haue peynt a wel faire man. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) ix. 35 A lytill cites and a narow, bot it es wele lang. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 160 Hit shold be wele lawfull to the same Abbesse. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* ii, Wel hyghe fro the ground. *a* 1533 Berners *Huon* lii. 176 He thought hymselfe ryght wel happy. 1577 Harrison *England* II. ii. 62/1 in *Holinshed*, The Ogur or Gur..is a welfaire streame. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. xxxi. 489 A branche of leaues, very well like to the leaues of the Lentil. 1599 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v. iv, Tis well brim full. Euen I haue glut of blood. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 160 They have enough and more then is well suitable to their vow..of poverty. 1664 H. More *Apol.* vi. in *Myst. Iniq.* 520 When he was once well warm in his Dignity. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* I. 151 Nor well alive nor wholly dead they were. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Painting*, To Paint on a Wall: when well dry, they give it two or three Washes of boiling Oil. 1822 *Scoresby's Jrnl. Whale Fish.* (1823) 448 We..made her well fast for another night's lodgings.

b. In modern use esp. in *well able*, *aware*, *worth*, *worthy*.

c 1480 *Sir Amadace* xxxi, Ze mone haue maysturs euyrqware, As wele wurthi ȝe ar soe. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 224 Amen, if you loue her, for the Ladie is verie well worthie. 1611 Bible *Num.* xiii. 30 Let vs goe vp at once and possesse it, for we are well able to ouercome it. 1618 R. Ch. *Olde Thrift newly reviued* 64 Though it be a seemely and large tree, and well worth the hauing, yet [etc.]. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 906 Himself well worthy of a happier Throne. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 78 P 9 You are well able to settle this affair. 1780 Coxe *Russ. Discov.* 187 He was well aware that the only method [etc.]. 1804 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 164 Every day produces letters as well worth attention as most of Cowper's. 1837 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Knts.* I. iii, I was well aware that these intrigues were carpentered. 1885 *Law Times' Rep.* LII. 650/2 She thought the property was well worth that amount.

†17. With numerals, or terms of measurement, denoting fulness of the number, distance, etc. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xv. 37 Se godspellere..ðær þurhwunode wel twa ȝear mid him. *c* 1000 — *On New T.* (Grein) 13 For þan þe ic ȝesett hæbbe..wel feowertiȝ larspella on Engliscum ȝereorde. *c* 1290 *St. Kenelm* 232 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 352 Folk þat þis wonder isaiȝ..awaiteden wel a dal ȝweare þe kou bicome. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1747 He tok sone knithes ten, And wel sixti oþer men. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* vii. 57 Knightes war þare wele two score. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 521 Seraphe takes of heore men wel a two hundred. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xxii. 196 Wel a .iiij. quarteres of a furlong ore more. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Ireland* xxi. 52 Wel thre þousand men. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 446 He was there well thre owres seechyng yf he coude fynde ony hoole or caue. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 23 They were well an hondred men or more. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. xvi. 17 There was deed in the place, well to the nombre of ccc. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. iii. 8 A great Harbour, which reacheth into the Lande sixe leagues, and at the entering it containeth well as much more.

18. †**a.** With adverbs. (Cf. 16.) *Obs.*

See also Well-a-fine, -most, -near, -nigh, and Ywherr *adv.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 8 Wel late ich habbe me bi-þocht; bute god me nu rede. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 36 For þine wle lete Wel ofte ich my song furlete. *c* 1275 Lay. 25340 Folk þar com wel sone to þare borh of Rome. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 446 Wel wele y knowe,..Herhaud, so god me rede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4989, I hote þe in hert it liked him wel ille. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 67 The moste my[s]chief on molde is mountyng wel faste. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 33 There is wel onethe game non That from myne bokys maketh me to gon. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2513 Down to the erthe wele lowe thay loute. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* xxi. 17 They beren it welle grevously ayens him. 1563 Winȝet tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* ix. Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 27 The writtingis of sum auld aunciant man weil dirklie setfurth.

b. With advs. and preps. of place or direction, in later use freq. in figurative phrases.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11097 Til elizabeth þan welforth stadd, Hir child in wamb [began] be gladd. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 22 His name, it sprong wel wide. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 17 Þat is in oþer bookes iwrite welwyde. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 549 He thoght to be wele on hys way Or it war passed the thryd day. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. iv. 20 Welnyȝ or weel toward the al hool lawe with which Cristen men ben chargid. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 92 Som men thynke it wysdom..to be theer now weell owt off the weye. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 176 But or ever he was vnbounde, the other were well ferre. 1530 Palsgr. 862/1 Well forwarde, *bien amant.* 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1132 Well within the banke we harboured. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 173 Whose Force..so gauled Seva Gi, that he wish'd him well off. 1788 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 109 Being well in with the westward-most point of a very large bay. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxxv. 133 The Captain stood well to the westward, to run inside the Bermudas. 1855 M. Pattison in *Oxford Ess.* 287 Though not published till 1830, which was well into the second period. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xvii, She held her head well up. 1895 *Law Times' Rep.* LXXII. 817/1 A woman well past the age of childbearing.

†**c.** *Well at ease*: see Ease *sb.* 7 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17651 He was gestend ful wel at ese. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 42 Of þat men myȝte-wonne, þei made hem wel at ese. 1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Well at ease, *bien ayse.* 1551 T. Wilson *Logic* D j, Nature hath denied some men health of body, that thei are neuer wel at ease. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 232 He felte hymselfe skant well at ease. 1706 tr. *De Piles' Art Painting* 229 By these high Prizes Guido found himself, in a little while, very well at ease, and liv'd nobly. 1829 Jennings *Obs. Dials W. Eng.*, *Well-at-ease*, hearty, healthy.

d. With various prepositional phrases or adverbs denoting a state or condition.

c 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Perseu.* 1702 Þou art a party wele in age. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* IV. iii. 179 They were wel at peace, when I did leaue 'em. 1643 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xlii. 168 A woman reasonably well in years. 1702 W. Wotton *Hist. Rome* i. 17 Marcus went to Lectures to this Man..when he was well in Years. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, It takes no mean qualities to keep a boat's crew well together and in order. 1879 Mrs. Argles *Airy Fairy Lilian* III. 100 Taffy and Mabel Steyne can be seen a little lower down, holding well together.

†19. With comparative adjs. and advs. (esp. *bet* or *better*, *worse*, and *more*): Much, considerably, rather. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 287 Man þou art lwis To winne ȝyt a kingdom wel betere þan min is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2438 Abram went ham and his wijf sare, He luued hir wil mare þan are. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2359 Men sese noght ne knawes what it es, þarfor men dredes it wele þe les. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 95, I deme men þat don ille, and ȝit I do wel worse. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 905 It had be wel bettir, he had be wele I-lernyd. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxxviii. (1859) 63 Thenne began she to wepe wel faster than byfore. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 304, I was wel wrother with Iudas. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 199 Fra that tyme furth the weill les he thame dred. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* xi. 141 Your next is well worse.

V. 20. As well as: **a.** In as good, efficient, satisfactory, (etc.) a way or manner as. (Also, in early use, simply *well as.*)

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 44 And wele as Aristotill [be couth] þe artis all seuyn. 1435 *Coventry Lect Bk.* (1907) 182 But neuer-the-later..he makithe cardes ther-of as well as he may. 1530 Palsgr. 831/2 As well as is possyble,..As well as can be or maye be. 1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 267 Certaine propheticall rymes, which might be constred two or three wayes as well as to that one whereunto the rebels applied it. 1600 *Look about you* I 2 b, I see Prince Iohn coorted as well as I. 1634 Milton *Comus* 801 This is the place, as well as I may guess. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* IV. i, *Ped.* How hast thou sped? *John.* My Lord, as well as wishes. 1793 *Piper of Peebles* 6 Fan cummers fled and hurl'd as weel On ice, as ony vaidy chiel. *a* 1809 J. Palmer *Like Master* (1811) I. xii. 174, I am left to rough it as well as I can. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 74 She affected..to listen with civility while the Hydes excused their recent conduct, as well as they could.

b. To the same extent, in the same degree, as much, as.

OE. *eal swa wel..swa swa* occurs in the same sense (Ælfric *Hom.* I. 274).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* I. 75 He..sayde he was a synner & mysterd forgyfnes of his syn als wele as sho did. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. i. (1481) b j, He..swore to hym..that also wel he was and shold he his frend..as euer he had ben tofore. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Swearing* II. G iv b, Aswell they vse the name of God in vayne..as they whiche do promise [etc.]. 1628 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. (ed. 3) 235 Why hath Daulis and Thebes no Swallowes..as well as the rest of Greece. 1720 Addison *Whig Exam.* No. 4 P 1 A man may as well hope to distinguish colours in the midst of darkness, as to find out what to approve and disapprove in nonsense. 1891 R. W. Church *Cæf. Movement* xix. 347 The English Church was after all as well worth living in and fighting for as any other.

c. With weakened force, passing into the sense of 'both . . and', 'not only . . but also'. Also †*so well . . as.*

In early use the rendering 'not only..but also' is applicable only if the two contrasted words or expressions are transposed.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 49 And therto hadde he riden..As wel in cristendom as in Hethenesse. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 117 For al schal deie..Als wel a Leoun as an asse, Als wel a beggere as a lord. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 93 Þus þai do als wele in winter as in somer. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 60 Blode is norischyng of al membres, als wele of sadde as of softe. ? 1467–8 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) I. 100 The Shireff shewyd ij comyssions of this graunt as well of the lordes as of the comyns. 1533 Chamber *Let. to Dean of Arches* Misc. Writ. (Parker Soc.) II. 253 That you take all manner of depositions as well for the one part as for the other. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xx. G j b, In equiangle triangles aswell the contayning as the subtending sides of equall angles are proportionall. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 329 All of them as well the men as women and children were clothed with shamway skins. 1645 Gataker *God's Eye on Israel* 30 Consisting of both sorts, as well vnfaithfull as faithfull, as well bad as good. 1668 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iv. § 2 Which..must certainly comprehend as well the morall as the ceremoniall part of Moses his Law. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *Ƿ. Kettlewell* I. xiii. 38 Making Use as well of his Eye..as of his Tongue. 1749 C. Middleton *Free Inq.* Pref. p. xxxiii, It is allowed.. by all, as well friends as enemies. 1868 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiv, Our churchmen have become wealthy, as well by the gifts of pious persons, as by..bribes.

(*b*) 1548 Bale *Image Both Ch.* xiii. (1550) d viij, Comprehending in him so wel Mahomyte as the Pope, so well the ragynge tyraunt as the styll hypocryte.

d. Used to denote the inclusion of one thing (person, etc.) or class with another.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. vii. 316 The multitude of the lay peple, as weel as of clerkis. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. xxxvi. 397 Whan men ben hote in dedes of armes ofte they hurte their frendes as wel as their foes. 1623 Hieron *Serm.* Wks. 1614 I. 335 Whereas the children of God in many things are trespassers aswell as the vngodly. 1649 Howell *Dodona's Grove* (ed. 3) 3 Nor is she lesse abounding in all things conducing to pleasure also, aswel as profit. 1695 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 201 My heart as well as purse being quite sunck. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* II. (1726) 37 I find..the Latins mean Courage by the figure of Virtue, as well as by the word it self. 1758 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 127 The two first..are made of Tin as well as the third. 1769 *Junius Lett.* II. 23 Educated..by..a most

spirited as well as excellent scholar. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing* etc. vii. 404 The back-ground as well as other parts is dotted or stippled. 1854 Mrs. Jameson *Commn.-pl. Bk.* (1877) 38 These are different sorts of strength as well as different degrees. 1896 *Law Times' Rep.* LXXIII. 615/1 A highway for carriages as well as for foot-passengers.

21. As well. a. Also, in addition; in the same way.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 576 As she dyde, he dyde yn dede;..Ryȝt as she dede, he dede as weyl. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Epist. 1 As vell it bringis furtht..boilsum frute of honour. *a* 1631 Donne *Paradoxes* (1652) 60 They should love their brothers as wel. 1669–70 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 302 The next news will be, that..they [the Lords] have as well complyed on their part also. 1875 *Economist* 23 Jan. 95/1 But the state of the French Exchange is such that gold is taken from London as well. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxvii, Because she was a dressmaker, and lived at Stepney, he would be a workman and live there as well.

b. To the same extent.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. ix. 299 Wherfore as weel or miche rather Cristen men ouȝten be waar forto entirmete with like ymagis. *Ibid.* II. xviii. 260 Wherfore as wuel and as allowe-abiili y mai seie this speche.

c. With *may*, *might*, *had*, etc., implying the equivalence or equal result of one action in comparison with another.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 249 Sir, we myght als wele talke tille a tome tonne! 1608 Dod & Cleaver *Expos. Prov. xi. and xii.* 87, I might as well haue thrown my mony down the riuer. 1632 Shirley *Brothers* iv. v, He might as well have murdered me, for I Shall have no heart to live. 1692 E. Walker tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* xviii, As well you might Wish Vice were Virtue, wish that Black were White. 1730 *Lett. to Sir W. Strickland rel. to Coal Trade* 25 Dyers..buy wholly of the Lightermen, tho' they might as well..buy of the Masters. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Le Patisser*, As I am at Versailles, thought I, I might as well take a view of the town. 1800 Wordsw. *Hart-Leap Well* II. ix, You might as well Hunt half a day for a forgotten dream. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* iv. ii, It had been As well had there been time to have got together, From my own fief..more Of our retainers—but it is too late. 1870 J. E. T. Rogers *Hist. Gleam.* Ser. II. 151 He thought he might as well strive to promote his own ends. 1879 Miss Braddon *Cloven Foot* xxxviii, You really may as well let me have a little food.

22. a. With qualifying adverb prefixed, as *too well*, *pretty well*.

Also freq. with *so*, *very*, *full* (see Full *adv.* 1 c), *right* (see Right *adv.* 9 a).

(*a*) *c* 888 Ælfred *Boethius* vii. § 3 For ðæm þæt ðe ðissa woruldsælða to wel ne lyste. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 185 Ic lærde þæt men..ufgengra welena to wel ne truwodon. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 344 Then must you speake Of one that lou'd not wisely, but too well. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. ix. 59 Those [facts], however, would too well justify him. (*b*) 1599 Massinger etc. *Old Law* v. i, The Dutch Veny I swallowed pretty wel. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 214 Give the Horse pretty well of my Cordial Ball. *Ibid.* 215 He has pretty well of Flesh upon his Back. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. vii. 40 Their father..by that time, had pretty well got over his grief. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* ii, He..had his heart pretty well hardened by long, baneful licence. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxviii, They had got by this time pretty well all they clamoured for. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* xi, Lassie kept her composure pretty well. 1902 J. K. Mann *Hist. Popes* I. i. 417 The pallium..had then..pretty well its modern shape. (*c*) 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 117 We have had a jolly good lesson, and it serves us jolly well right.

b. *Well enough*: sufficiently well, adequately.

In the 16th cent. occasionally written as one word.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 295 And thanne him thoghte wel ynouh, It was fantosme. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 215 When sho saw þis maister of þe knyghtis, sho knew hym well enogh & he hur. *Ibid.* 414, I know þe not, bod I know þat gown well enogh. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. i. 839 And by cause of hyr fayre speche Syr Mordred trusted hyr wel ynough. 1579 J. Stubbes *Gaping Gulf* D 7, Which mought wel ynough be the cause why the Pope decked hym with hys title of most christian king. 1585 Parsons *Chr. Exerc.* Pref 4 The vulgar translation is known welinough. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxx. (1592) 473 But the Rabbines saw wellynough that the miracles of Iesus could not be denied. 1632 Shirley *Sch. Compl.* v. i. 68 He grue me two or three kicks, which I deseru'd well enough. 1710–11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 11 Jan., The scheme..would have done well enough in good hands. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* I. xvii. 119 They liked not the humour he seemed to be in well enough to comply with his request.

VI. 23. Employed without construction to introduce a remark or statement, sometimes implying that the speaker or writer accepts a situation, etc., already expressed or indicated, or desires to qualify this in some way, but frequently used merely as a preliminary or resumptive word.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. § 4 Wella, wisan men, wel, gað ealle on þone weȝ [etc.]. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* I. 283 Wel, broþer, Ne non ne may icrihtned be Ar he his boren of moder. [1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xliv. 16 He..is chaufid, and seide, Vah, or weel, I am hat. 1388 — *Ezek.* xxvi. 2 Wel I the ȝatis of puplis ben brokun.] *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 305 'Well,' seyde Apollo, 'yef he on erthe bee, Wyth my brennyng chare I shall hym confound.' *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.*, *Counc. Jews* 76 Wel, seryn, ȝe sal se..I xal correcte hym for his trespas. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xxi. 87 b, Well quod I yet wold I wit one thyng more. 1550 Crowley *Way to Wealth* 320 Wel, loke to this geare be tyme. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 13 Wel, thee to please, I wil [go] to Ioue. 1589 [? Lyly] *Pappe w. Hatchet* B ij, Squirrilitie were a better word: well, let me alone to squirrell them. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 47 This is a very scuruy tune to sing at a mans Funerall: well, here's my comfort. *Drinkes.* 1692 H. Bell *Luther's Colleq. Mensalia* 293 They..take from us what wee have. Well! they will repent it. 1691 tr. *Emiliana's Observ. Journ. Naples* 207 Well, (said he) I shall make a shift ..to eat them with my Fingers. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 3 Nov., Well, but as I was saying, what care I for your Mayor? 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* xii, Well, my boy, what have you brought us from the fair? 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 261 He asked, 'Well, and how is George?' 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xvii. 151 'I understood that Mr. Mailings..was one of your most particular friends.' 'Well, and what of that?' 1863 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 170 Well, I returned from that visit quite set up. 1894 Fiske *Holliday Stor.* 181 As works of art—well, they were rather too highly coloured for works of art.

b. *ib.* An instance of this use of the word.

1866 Lowell. *Biglow P.* Ser. II. Introd. (1912) 282 A friend ..told me that he once heard five 'wells'..precede the answer to an inquiry. 1885 *Proc. Amer. Soc. Psych. Research* I. 312 (Cent.) The 'wells' and 'ahs', 'don't-you-know's' and other stop-gap interjections.

24. *Well, well*, denoting surprise, resignation, or acquiescence.

[1388 Wyclif *Ps.* xxxiv. 21 Thei seiden, Wei, wei! oure iȝen han sien. *c* 1400 *Prymer* (1895) 66 (*Ps.* xl. 15) Here þei her confusioun anoon, þat seien to me, 'wel! wel!'] *c* 1480 Henryson *Town & C. Mouse* x, 'Weill, weill, sister,' quod the rurale mous [etc.]. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 70 Well well (quoth she) many wels, many buckets. 1675 Cotton *Burlesque* 183 *Apol.* Well I well! but he were best take heed How he attaques my Maiden-head. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 533 ? 2 Well, well, you may banter as long as you please. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xlii, But well, well I—it will last my time. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. vii. 117 Well, well, we will leave these heights, and descend in little drops of criticism. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xv, 'Father'..'you must not talk like that.' 'Well, well, my dear,' said her father, 'well, well.'

b. with intervening noun (in vocative).

c 1550 R. Weve *Lusty Juventus* (*c* 1560) D j b, Well wanton well, I wysse I can tel [etc.]. 1554 *Interl. Youth* (facs. Waley) B iij, Well wanton well, fye for shame. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. (1601) B 2 b, Well Cosen well, I see you are e'ene past hope Of all reclaime. 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* II. i. E 2, Well, wag, well, wilt thou still deceiue thy father..? *a* 1632 Brome *Mad Couple* I. i. (1653) B 6 b, Well wag well, you must not now put me off with my wife.

25. *Very well*, denoting agreement, approval, or acquiescence.

In the absence of construction the distinction between the adverbial and adjectival use becomes obscured: cf. Well *a.* 7 and 10.

1564 *Brief Exam.* D j b, You wyll say, we haue a commaundement of the Lorde...Very well. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 518 We were chas'd..By five Sloops,..says the Fellow...Very well, said I, then it is apparent there is something in it. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xlvii. The Baronet, though highly offended, could only say, 'Very well, sir, it is very well.' 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xxxv, At last he said..'I agree—I must have time.' 'Very well. It is a bargain.' 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* vi. iii, 'Very well, then,' sighed Thomasin, 'I will say no more.'

26. *Well then*, introducing a conclusion or further statement, or implying that one can naturally be drawn or made.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 237 Wele þan, We sall frayst er they founde vs fer fro. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxix. (Percy Soc.) 138 Well then, quod she, I shall you nowe tell Howe the case standeth. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* iv. 15 Well than, I will graunte the to take cowes donge, for the donge off a man. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* N viij b, Well then go forthe, in the nexte space I fynd one counter, which I remoue forward. 1628 J. Doughty *Serm.* 10 Well then, let both principles of Church tenents and Scripture stand in force. 1647 Cowley *Mistress, Wish* i, Well then; I now do plainly see, This busie world and I shall ne're agree. 1679 Dryden *Œdipus* III. i. 34 *Dio.* Basely you kill'd him. *Adr.*..Well then, I kill'd him basely. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 136 *note*, Well then, since we must stop somewhere, we will stop at a trillion. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* III. i, Well then, there were Bolingbroke and Pitt. 1884 B. L. Farjeon *Gt. Porter Sq.* (ed. 6) xxxvii. 290 'Well then!' she exclaimed; winding up the argument thus, as is the way with women.

27. With various additions, esp. *well now*, *oh well*, *ah well*.

(*a*) 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* iv. iv, Well now master Snip, let mee see your Bill. 1615 T. Adams *Spiritual Navig.* 29 Well yet, as salt and bitter as this Ocean the world is, there is some good wrought out of this ill. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. iii, 'Well now,' said he, 'remember the sin of this breach of appointment lies wholly at your door.' 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* xix, 'What are you thinking about, Stevie?'..'Oh! well really, I can't say.'

(*b*) *a* 1779 D. Graham *Writ.* (1883) II. 56 *Sawny.* A well a well then good day to you good-mither. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxix, Aweel, Duncan—did ye say your name was Duncan or Donald? 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxxi, The old woman tried to comfort her, beginning with her accustomed—'Well-a-well!' 1868 Le Fanu *Lost Names* I. xxii. 220 'Oh! well, after luncheon, then,' said he.

VII. *Comb.* The adverb *Well* is extensively employed in combination with various parts of the verb, esp. the past and present participles, and in parasynthetic adjectives ending in *-ed*. In modern practice the latter are regularly hyphened. In attributive use the participial formations are properly hyphened, and the hyphen is also frequently employed even when the construction is predicative. On account of the large number of such combinations, all those of any standing (either by common or continued use, or in virtue of their source) are treated as main words, the less important or less common being printed in smaller type without definition, after the model of similar words in Un-. The normal insertion or omission of the hyphen, according to the construction of the word in the sentence, is indicated by printing it within parentheses, as *well(-)baked*.

In the following enumeration of the different types of combinations the illustration is chronological, and partly includes words more fully exemplified below.

28. With past pples., as *well-born*, *-bred*, *-done*, etc., in predicative or attributive use.

Beowulf 1927 Hyȝd swiðe ȝeong, wis, welþungen. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 111 Ðæt hwæt welgedones biċ. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xix. 19 Monn sum welboren. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John vi. 45 Alle larwas *vel* welgilærde. *c* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 385 Bot off lymmys he was weill maid With..schuldrys braid. *c* 1386 [see Dispossed 2]. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. viii. 190 It is marytorie and weel doon forto ȝeue thilk ensaumple. 1474 Sir J. Paston *Lett.* III. 107 He..lefte a greet garnyson theer, weell ffornyssheyd in victuayll, and all other thynge. 1525 Berners *Froiss.* II. clxviii. 469 A well trauelled knight and well knowen. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 128 His legges wel sette. *a* 1623 Fletcher *Love's Cure* III. iv, *Cla.* 'Tis ill for a fair Lady to be idle. *Say.* She had better be well-busied. 1632 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 548 An ancient and well allied familie. 1661 Boyle *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 178 The hardness of a well-blown Bladder. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. vi. 58 Venus decks the well-bemoney'd Swain. 1793 Holcroft tr. *Lavater's Physiogn.* xxiii. 116 Well-arched and short forehead are..not of long duration. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xxi, This was said in well-accentuated..English. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* xxxiii, The well-clothed, well-fed, well-amused passage through barren hours.

29. With present pples. in adjectival (predicative or attributive) use.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 107 Onȝean ða godan & ða wellibbendan. *Ibid.* lvii. 439 Wyrta..swiðe welstincenda. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) cl. 5 Heriað hine on cimbalum wel swegendum. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xci. 13 Wel suffrende thei shul be. — *Ecclus.* xlvii. 14 A son weel felende [*filius sensatus*]. 1432 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 405/2 The wynes..were..faire, fyne, wele drinking. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xx. 274 Thilk word..is..so weel teching and dreasing. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 182 If ther be among theym eny prik horse in especiall that he be well trottyng. *a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 40 Accompanied with..the well inchaunting skill of Musicke. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 38 a Then with a well-cuttinge sawe, sawe of the whole legge. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 148 The People express'd it with such exact harmony of well agreeing voices. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 12 If a lad has but a lusty and well-bearing memory..he proves a brave clergyman. 1844 W. H. Mill *Serm. Tempt. Christ* iii. 77 That..view, even when sobered to a well-calculating morality. 1864 De Coin *Hist. & Cult. Cotton & Tobacco* 279 Sticks split from some good or well-splitting wood. 1884 M'Laren *Spinning* (ed 2) 36 A vessel..containing a well-closing lid. 1889 Baden-Powell *Pigsticking* 12 A sport which draws so well paying a visitation on to their village.

30. With verbal sbs., as *well-building*, *-guiding*, *-joining*, *-keeping*, etc.

The later tendency is to employ *good* with the vbl. sb., and restrict *well* to the gerund.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxviii. 91 With þi wele-setting [L. *ordinatione*] lastes dai. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 49 Finding paine in ill doing, and pleasure in well studying. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 14 Weeting of my well-deeming. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xvii. xcvi, Through my well guiding is your voiage donne. 1623 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 152 *Car.* And euer may your Highnesse yc gether..my doing well, With my well saying. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* C 2 b, A..large Armorie..with other Weapons and munition, which for goodnesse,..and well-keeping, is not second to any Noblemans in England. 1624 Wotton *Elem. Archit.* 1 Well building hath three Conditions. 1641 Sanderson *Serm., Ad Aulam* xiii. (1674) II. 195 In the well-joy[n]ing consisteth the strenth of structure.

b. Freq. with vbl. sbs. followed by *of*.

c 1440 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. lxiii, Vayne gladnes & wel payeng of thiselfe. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. iii. (1912) 19 The well bringing up of the people. 1596 Harington *Anat. Metam. Ajax* Ep. I. ij b, The wel handling of the matter. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* B 3 b, His goods are but lent him, by him that will one day call him to a reckoning, for the well or ill disposing of them. *a* 1639 W. Whately *Prototypes* III. xxxix. (1640) 17 The wel-husbanding of abundance. 1655 D. Dickson *Ps.* xcii. 4 in Spurgeon *Treas. David* IV. 272 One of the parts of the well-spending of the Sabbath. 1667 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 305 For the well constituting of the said corporations. 1668 Dryden *Drum. Poesie* 46 The copiousness and well-knitting of the intrigues we have from Johnson. 1690 Child *Disc. Trade* (1698) 158 The well-making of our Woollen-Manufactures. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 119 The safety and well sailing of a Vessel. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 48 In the well draining of Coralands lies a main advantage. *Ibid.* 50 The well covering of the Seed must be of great advantage. 1739 Trowell *Trust. Husb.* etc. 4 The well ploughing of the Land is a very great Advantage to all Seeds sown. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Plough*, The well going of the plough wholly depends upon the placing of this.

c. With gerunds followed by an object or preposition.

? 1568 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 61 Rules and Ordinances for the well-governing the Affairs of the Society, etc. 1685 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. xiv. 383 For the love of her..hee would not faile in well-looking to his charge. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 138 Because of..the wel-seating it..he allured out of Babilon sixe hundred thousand soules. 1693 G. St. Lo *England's Safety* title-p., A Sure Method for..Raising Qualified Seamen for the well Manning Their Majesties Fleet on any Occasion. 1699 T. C[ockman] tr. *Tully's Offices* 135 By Moderation..we mean ..the Knowledge of Well-timing whatever we do. 1765 Galt in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 297 The well-peopling the

colonies, and securing our new acquisitions. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Lucern*, The grand secret of well-managing a trading populous country. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 352/2 The..all-important necessity of well matching the poultry. 1890 A. P. Morton tr. *Le Roux' Acrobats & Mountebanks* 168 In well calculating the strength of the steed.

31. With verbs, as *well-ally*, *-clothe*, *-employ*, etc. Now *rare*.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* civ. 9 He was mined..of his wite-word hende..þat he weleset [Vulg. *disposuit*] for Abraham sake. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 602/23 *Persoles*,..to wel-wone. 1563 Man *Musculus' Commonpl.* 286 b, Seyng that the mystery of the holy Trinitye did not well lyke with that people. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xvii. 6 That of so great Descent, and of so large a Dower, Might well-allie their House. 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* III. 129 Prowlers..intent upon all occasions..to pamper and well line themselves. 1852 (*title*) Robert Owen's Journal. Explanatory of the Means to Well-place and Well-feed, Well-clothe, Well-lodge, Well-employ, Well-govern, and Cordially unite the Populations of the World.

32. Forming parasynthetic adjectives in *-ed*, as *well-ancestored*, *-dispositioned*, *-eared*, etc.

Cf. OE. *wohwilledness*.

1530 Palsgr. 442/2 This swerde is well backed. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 495 Of bodie he was slender,..well membred, and strongly made. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 34, 63 He had bin a well-sinewed man. 1592 Greene *Farew. Folly* (1617) I 4 b, The Gentleman is well forehanded and well foreheaded. 1630 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* xlii. 107 Why perfectly limmed; not a cripple? Why well-sensed; not a foole? 1672 Woodhead *St. Teresa* II. vii. 52 That those that shall be received, be thereto called by God, and be well-dispositioned. 1688 J. Grubb *Brit. Heroes* vii, Castor the flame of fiery steed, With well-spur'd boots took down. 1704 *Hymn to Victory* lx. 41 Old English Courage scorns those trifling things, The Higher Ground, the Well-flank'd Wings. 1804 Mitford *Inquiry* 372 A well-eared poet will of course avoid cacophony in rimes. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 452 Her eggs are well formed and well-shelled. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* xi. 326 The formidable Shark, a well-toothed adult. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* July 318/1 The well-ancestored, rich,..respectability from which she springs. 1894 *Outing* Sept. 427/2 The five brace of grand, plump, well-plumaged birds.

33. With adjectives.

a 1780 *Bruce & Yarrow* vii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 165/1 Nine well-wight men lay waiting him. 1797–1803 Jane Austen *Northanger Abbey* xxviii, The two girls..found themselves so well sufficient..to themselves, that it was eleven o'clock..before they quitted the supper-room. 1853 *Tait's Mag.* XX. 267 Its accession..would bring no well-wieldable strength with it. 1886 J. Corbett *Fall of Asgard* I. 115 The charm of his face were the well-open eyes.

Well, obs. dial. var. Fell *v.*

1521 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd..for well-yng treys iii d. [See also Welling.]

Well, obs. f. Weel, Will *sb.* and *v.*

† **Wella**, *int.* and *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 wel lá, 3–4 wella, wela, wele, (3 wælla, wælle, welle, wellen). [OE. *wel lá* (see Well *adv.* and Lo *int.*), partly confused with *wá lá* (see Wale *int.*) and *weg lá* (Weila). Cf. also OE. *wel gá*, *weol gá*, glossing L. *heia* and *euge* respectively.]

A. *int.* a. Well then. b. Ah! alas!

Also followed by a sb. as object = alas for.., or a clause = alas *that* ...

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 8 Wella, men, wel. *c* 1050 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* iii 627 Hwæt þa se leoce..cwæð mid wope: wella basilius, gif ðu sylf noldest, nære þu git forðfaran. *c* 1205 Lay. 3456 Wallan, dæð, wela, deað, þat þu me nelt forlemen. *Ibid.* 9875 Welle broðer Nennius þat ich þe quic nabbe.

B. As adv. or intensive prefix: Very, exceedingly.

c 1205 Lay. 5970 Wælle muchel wes þa wop, þæ Belin þeonne wende. *Ibid.* 12805 Þeder com þe ohte mon, wælla wel wes he ibon. *Ibid.* 29622 Welle wain [*c* 1275 wele glad] wes he þer uore. *Ibid.* 31258 Wellen henden wes þe mon Oaric ihaten. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 831 Þe gestes gay & ful glad..Welawynnely wlonk. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 518 Wela wynne is þe wort þat waxes þeroute. *Ibid.* 2084 Wela wylle was þe way, þer þay hi wod schulden. *a* 1400 *Wars Alex.* 1970 Wella [*v.r.* wele] wide ware þe wele,..Miȝt þou þe marches of Messedoyne mayntene þiselfe.

Well-abused, *ppl. a.* 1879 Huxley *Hume* ii. 36 The offer..was particularly honourable to so well abused a man.

Well-accepted, *ppl. a.* *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess. Men & Manners* Wks. 1768 II. 42 He had such entire possession of the hearts as well as understandings of his friends, that he could soon make the most surprizing paradoxes believed and well-accepted.

† **Well-accomplished**, *ppl. a.* 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 56 A well accomplisht youth. 1630 Weldon *Crt. K. Jas.* 19 A well accomplished Gentleman. 1702 A. Murphy *Ess. Life & Genius Johnson* 141 At Mr. Thrale's he saw a constant succession of well-accomplished visitors. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* x, I know you to be a worthy, kind, and well-accomplished gentleman.

Well-accorded, *ppl. a.* 1582 Sidney *Def. Poetrie* (Arb.) 46 The Liricke, ..with his tuned Lyre and well accorded voyce. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 221 The lights and shades, whose well-accorded strife Gives all the strength and colour of our life.

Well-according, *ppl. a.* 1814 Byron *Lara* I. xx, Blest are the early hearts and gentle hands That mingle there in well according bands.

Well-accoutred, *ppl. a.* 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xii. (1720) 285 When those [animals] that are able to shift for themselves, are left to their own Discretion and Diligence, but the Helpless well accouter'd and provided for. 1881 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Jan. 42 That the Tridentine dogma survives all the determined and well-accoutred assaults made thereon goes without saying.

Well-accredited, *ppl. a.* 1847 Mrs. Goar *Castles in Air* xxix. (1857) 268 The subterfuges which tarnish many a well-accredited transaction on the turf.

Well-accustomed, *ppl. a.* Much frequented by customers. *Obs.* or *arch.*

v. 24 The St. Crispin..was a well accustomed house, and the inner doors were swinging to and fro in the usual fashion.

Well(-)acquainted, *ppl. a.*

† **1.** Familiarly known (to others). *Obs.*

1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* xiv. 509 These Authorities..be..wel acquainted, and known vnto the World. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 2 There's not a man I meete but doth salute me As if I were their well acquainted friend.

2. Having a good acquaintance *with* (= knowledge of) a person or thing; familiar *with*. Also without const. (of two or more persons).

1728 Cibber *Provoked Husb.* I. i. 7 He is a Man too well-acquainted with the Female World to be brought into a high Opinion of any one Woman, without some well-examined Proof of her Merit. 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. xii. 666 Mounier was well acquainted with our language. 1864 Pusey *Daniel* (1876) 311 Habakkuk's hymn shows one well-acquainted with the Psalms. 1877 W. S. Gilbert *Sorcerer* I. Ballad, Time was when Love and I were well acquainted.

Well-acted, *ppl. a.*

1. Meritoriously conducted or lived.

1798 A. Murphy *Ess. Life & Genius Johnson* 85, I boast no knowledge glean'd with toil and strife, That bright reward of a well acted life.

2. Cleverly feigned or simulated.

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvi. 'Alas! my lord,' said Varney, with well-acted pas-ion. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* x, 'My dear Malfi', said Mark, in well-acted wonder and commiseration, 'what is the matter?'

3. Skilfully performed on the stage.

1890 'L. Falconer' *Mlle Ixe* vi. 156 With far less emotion than a well-acted play would have excited in her.

Well(-)adapted, *ppl. a.* 1723 Steele etc. *Guardian* No. 64 P 18, I am charmed with his artificial Expressions in well adapted Similes. 1885 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 164 Her gown was a drab silk..of a cut well-adapted for the display of her fine shape. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii, With a rude eloquence, well adapted to the comprehension of his hearers.

Welladay (we·lădē·), *int.* (*sb.*, *v.*) Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 well a daye, 6–7 wel(-)aday, (8 wel-a-day), 6 wellada, 7 wel-adaie, weleaday, welady, welody, welliday, 7, 9 well a-day, 6– well-a-day, welladay. Also 6, 8–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* wal(l)aday; 6 wer(e)aday, 9 *dial.* werraday. [altered f. Wellaway, by substitution of Day (or Aday), as in *wo worth the day*, *lackaday*.]

A. *int.* An exclamation expressing sorrow or lamentation; = alas! Also with *ah* or *O* prefixed.

c 1570 W. Elderton in *Collect. B. L. Ballads* etc. (1867) 1 Well a daye, well a daye, well a daye, woe is me. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 196/42 Wel aday, *heu*, *hei*. 1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 417 Ah (waladay) there is no end of paine. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 37 A welady [Q. 2 werada], hee's dead, hee's dead. *Ibid.* IV. v. 15 Oh weladay [Q. 2 wereaday], that euer I was borne. 1599 T. Cutwode *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xxxix, But welladay, he was not there aware of Cupids shaft. 1602 W. S. *Thomas Ld. Cromwell* IV. ii. 22 A, welliday for my Cowe! 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 198 Alas and weladay, what shall we doe? 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Mad Maid's Song* iii, Alack and welladay! 1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* xiii. 105 Then quire of Boys and Ladies sighing Welody, With Hymns and Paeans making dolefull Melody. 1729 D'Urfey *Pills* VI. 284 Alack and a welladay. 17.. *Gaberlunzie-man* v. in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1762) I. 79 She clapt her hand, cry'd, Waladay. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 428 Well-a-day, the title page was lost! 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* II. 135 [139] Ah wel-a-day! [*later* well a-day!] what evil looks Had I from old and young. 1813 Moore *Twopenny Post Bag* viii. 35 Thou know'st the time, too, well-a-day! It takes to dance that chalk away. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Lay St. Cuthbert*, Well a day! Well a day! All he can say Is but just so much trouble and time thrown away. 1851 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* I. viii. 154 But, welladay, we hear a shrill voice of affliction. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Werraday*, welladay.

b. in redupl. form *wella, welladay*.

1805 G. McIntosh *Poems* 92 The precious clay, Which in the tomb, with tears, I laid, Wella welladay! 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xiii, And as she mutter'd 'Well-a—well-a-day!'

B. *sb.* The utterance of this exclamation; lamentation; a lament.

1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* lxxxii. (Arb.) 118 At last, though late, farewell olde wellada. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* I. xvi. 57 Their ioyfull song was turn'd to mournfull cries, And all their gladnesse chang'd to welladaies. 1598 Petowe *2nd Pt. Hero & Leander* C iij b, This all alone sad Lady gan to play Framing sweet musick to her welladay. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. iv. 49 (1st Qo.) His daughters woe and heauie welladay. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lacy* II. 291 Her ears were alternately assailed by the peccavis of penitence and the well-a-days of love.

transf. 1593 G. Harvey *New Let. Notable Cont.* C 2 b, Let him be the *Falanta downe-diddle* of Ryme, the *Hayhohalliday* of Prose, the *Welladay* of new writers.

C. *v. intr.* To cry 'welladay'. *nonce-use.*

1835 Clare *Rural Muse* 153 The swains are sighing all, and well-a-daying.

Well-adjusted, *ppl. a.* 1735 Thomson *Liberty* II. 330 The swelling mantle's well-adjusted flow. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xxi, The marabout raised his head gently from the ground, ..moving with a well-adjusted precaution.

Well-adorned, *ppl. a.* 1626 Chapman *Odyss.* VII. 239 He.. Aduanc't him to a well-adorned Throne.

Well(-)advised, *ppl. a.* In 4–5 **avised**.

1. Of persons: Prudent, wary, cautious, circumspect.

In modern use chiefly predicative, as 'He would be well-advised to give up the idea'.

a. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 2314 A man þat is wel auysed, he dredip his leet enemy. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 141 Hooly Awstyn, and and wel avised, Knowne by signes this compleynt was no fable. *a* 1466 Gregory *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 158 That Parlyment hadde an evyle faryng ende, to shamefully for to be namyd of any welavysyd man.

β. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xli. 2 Be ȝe ane luvar, think ȝe nocht ȝe suld Be weill adwysit in ȝour gouerning? 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. 15 b, A most valiant & well aduised knight. 1594 Shaks. *Rich III*, IV. iv. 517 Hath any well-aduised friend proclaym'd Reward to him that brings the Traytor in? 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turkes* (1638) 288 The well aduised and valiant captaine Kanaconites.

absol. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Prov.* xiii. 10 With the wel aduised is wisedome. (And so 1611.)

† **b.** with const. Careful or heedful *of* or *that* —. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 398 Be well auysed on that ilke nyght..That noon of vs ne speke nat a word. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xviii, Also þat he be..wele auysed of speche. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 45 Quod the kynge, Be well avised that ye knowe it is he. And thei seide, We knowe verely it is he. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 57 To another he put forth a question, who was to be well aduised of his aunswer.

† **c.** In one's right mind, sane. *Obs.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 434 And were you well aduis'd? 1590 — *Com. Err.* II. ii. 215 Am I..Sleeping or waking, mad or well aduisde?

2. Of actions, etc.: Based on wise counsel or careful consideration.

a 1470 Harding *Chron.* clxxvi. viii. (1812) 314 The kyng full sad, with wordes well auysed, Thanked them all. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. viii. 140, I hope I should not be found wanting either in spirit or perseverance to carry out well-advised plans. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxiv. VIII. 203 Construing their studied and well-advised silence into a proof of oblivion.

Hence **Well-advisedly** *adv.*

1587 Golding *De Mornay* ix. (1592) 127 He..seemeth to speake discreetely and weladuisedly. 1648–58 Hexham II, *Wel-bedachtelick*, Well-adviseedly, or Considerately.

Well(-)affected, *ppl. a.*

1. Favourably disposed, inclined to be favourable or friendly (*to* or *towards* a person or thing); *spec.*, well-disposed towards existing authority, loyal.

1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 150/2 If any good men were well affected or minded toward religion. 1609 R. I. *Nova Britannia* title-p, Nova Britannia: Offering most Excellent fruites by Planting in Virginia. Exciting all such as be well affected to further the same. 1611 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* To Rdr., To the well-affected and favourable Reader. 1664 D. Fleming in *Extr. St. Papers Friends* III. (1913) 213 How Lives in a very well affected Towne, both to the church and State. 1671 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 502 The Presbyterian..party..never were well-affected to a French alliance. 1746 Br. Sherlock *Let.* 10 June in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 291 The well-affected Clans. 1832 Lytton *Eng. Arain* I. ix, I know you are an honest man, Bunting, and well affected to our family. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 359 Sicily..was unlikely to give her further trouble, and that, not because she was well-affected, but simply because she was exhausted.

absol. 1643 (Angier) *Lanc. Vail. Achor* 10 Whilest the Siege lasted against Manchester, the heavens held a sympathy with the well-affected. 1658 *Dom. State Papers* 360 The petition of the well affected of Gateshead. 1779 Arnot *Hist. Edin.* I. vi. 206 It had been a common practice of government, to screen the well-affected from the punishment of their murders.

2. Adroitly assumed or simulated.

1907 *National Church* 15 Oct. 877/1 By this process in matters of religion the state will have washed its hands of any responsibility for the moral character of its citizens—a Gallio in its well-affected impartiality of indifference.

† **Well-affectionate**, *a.* *Obs.* [Cf. next.] Well disposed. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 62 Then each to other well affectionate, Friendship professed with vnfained hart.

Well-affectioned, *a.* [Cf. prec.] = Well-affected I. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1628 tr. *Mathieu's Powerfull Favorite* 107 A Senatour whom hee knew to bee a good Citizen and well affectioned to Tiberius. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 702 They were obedient to the laws, and well-affectioned towards the gods.

Well-a-fine, *adv.* and *int.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [See Afine *adv.*]

A. *adv.* Right well, well indeed; to good purpose, thoroughly.

c 1330 *Kyng of Tars* 780 Icham nou glad wel a fyn, Mal no mon blithur be. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2752 Now ȝ knowe wel-a-fȝn, þy message schendeth me. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3690 For no man..maye..of the reyȝns haue the wyne, Tyl grapes ripe and wel a fyne Be sore empressid. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1393 The tale wol be ryff Of me, & of noon othir; I knowe riȝte wel a fyne. 1573 Tusser *Husb.*, Author's Life xix. (1878) 210 A Moone,..Which well a fine me thought did shine. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E. D. S.) 82 Chem a lared well-a-fine aready. 1880 Jago *Dial. Cornw.* 309 That's all well a-fine. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Well-a-fine*, adv. phr., very well; truly; indeed.

b. Altered to *well and fine*.

c 1400 *Gamelyn* 427 Anon as Gamelyn hadde eten wel and fyne. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 303 Fawnus lete hym clatir & cry wel & fyne. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb. MS.) 9086 Gye lokyd theron wele and fyne. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 6880 This knowen ȝe alle wel and fyn.

B. *int.* (See quot. 1880.)

1880 *E. Cornw. Gloss., Well-a-fyne*, a common interjection, meaning 'It's all very well'. 1892 'Q' *Three Ships* II. 33 Well-a-fine! What a feasin' armful is woman, afore the first-born comes!

† **Wellage.** *Obs.* *rare*—1. In quot. welleage. [f. Well *sb.*1 + -age (denoting a material).] (See quot. and *press-mare* s. v. Press *sb.*1 16.)

1600 Sherwood *Medullus* 92 Welleage is a kind of Press-

ware for the speedy making of Wells, farre cheaper then the rounds, which are made of Brick to keepe the earth from falling downe.

†Well-aged, *a. Obs.* Advanced in years, of a good age.

c 1470 Ashby *Active Policy* 815 Loke that youre counsell be rather godly set, Wele aged, of goode disposicion. 1535 Coverdale *Josh.* xiii. 1 Thou art olde & well aged. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* ii. (Arb.) 141 The Latin tong, concerning any part of pureuesse of it,..did not endure moch longer, than is the life of a well aged man.

Well-aimed, *ppl. a.*

1598 Chapman *Iliad* xi. 99 Atrides with his wel-almde lance smote Isus on the brest. 1606 — *Gentl. Usher* i. i, You come not neere him, but discharge aloofe Your wounding Pistoll, or well aymed Dart. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix 173, I rock not, so it light well aim'd. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* xxi. 4 Who now can bend Ulysses' bow, and wing The well-aim'd arrow thro' the distant ring. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xlIII, The wearied horse of Ivanhoe, and its no less exhausted rider, went down , before the well-aimed lance and vigorous steed of the Templar. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxv, He retreated before a well aimed blow. 1868 G. V. Cox *Recoll. Oxford* 206 A well-aimed orange,..thrown from the gallery, struck him forcibly on the face.

†Well aired, *a.* [f. Air *sb.*] Having a sweet breath. *Obs.*

1505 in *Mem. Hen VII* (Rolls) 231 The said queen is like for to be of a sweet savour and well eyred.

Well(-)aired, *ppl. a.*

1. Thoroughly ventilated; favoured with good air.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* Note 3 The situation in the centre of the High Street rendered it [the Tolbooth] so particularly well-aired, that when the plague laid waste the city in 1645, it affected none within these melancholy precincts. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* v. 62 The bed-room of a patient labouring under fever should be well-aired. 1871 Naphevs *Prev. & Cure Dis.* i. i. 47 Well-aired locality.

2. Dimp-freed by exposure to air or heat.

1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxxi, She..went on to assure Mary the bed was well aired.

Well-alli'ed, *ppl. a.* 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 109 The vice is of a great kindred; it is well allied. 1632 [see Well *adv.* 28]. **Well-ally'**, *v. trans.* 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xvii. 6 A Nymph..That of so great Descent, and of so large a Dower, Might well-allie their House.

Well-anear, *int. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [app. altered f. Wellaway by substitution of Anear.] Alas! alack-a-day!

1600 *Look about you* ii. B 1 b, Now well a neere that ere I liu'd to see, Such patience and so much impiety. 1608 Shake. *Per.* III. Prol. 31 The Lady shreekes, and wel-a-neare, Do's fall in trauayle with her feare. 1640 J. D. *Knave in Grain* III. I. G 2, Wherefore was it? well a neare. 1677 W. Nicolson in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) Ser. II IX. 322 *Wellaneer*, well away, alack-a-day. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Wellaneer.* Alas. N. *a* 1836 in 'S. Gilpin' *Pop. Poetry Cumb* (1875) 207 Bit, welleneer! when he sud tean his kiss,..Hur elbow rease an' barr'd him fra his bliss.

So **Well-anea'ring**, in same sense.

1683 G. M'Eriton] *Yorks. Dial.* 4 Wellaneerin, well-aneerin, run fast run, Hye thee Hobb, and bid my Mawgh Herry come *Ibid.* 7 Ey wallaneerin, wilta gang and see. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray, Wellaneering*, alas.

Well-anneal'ed, *ppl. a.* 1831 Brewster *Optics* xxi. 184 Thin plates of well-annealed flint glass. 1854 *Pereira's Polarised Light* (ed. 2) 139 A well-annealed piece of glass, all of whose parts possess equal elasticity, is a single refractor. **Well-anoi'nted**, *ppl. a.* 1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Sat.* II. v. 142 Upon his naked back Her heir sustain'd the well-anointed pack [*cadaver unctum oleo large*]. 1880 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* I. ix, Mr. Rappit, the hairdresser, with his well-anointed coronal locks tending wavily upward.

Well(-)apai'd, *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Heartily pleased or satisfied.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5031 Darie was wel apaied Of that Archelaus haveth ysaide. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1314 Whanne þemperour it wist, he was wel apayed. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 108 And eche pore man [was] wel apayed to haue pesen for his huyre. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 383 He cowþe feyne hym glacious and wel apaied when he were wroþ, and wroþ when he were wel apayed. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* xviii xxiii. 767, I am wel apayed, said sir Gareth, that I may knowe him. *c* 1500 H. Medwall *Fulgens & Lucres* E iv b, He she wroth or well a payde. 1576 Knewstub *Confut., Serm.* Q 8 b, There is good cause, not only to be content, but also well appaide with it. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ii. 47 She therewith well apayd, The drunken lampe downe in the oyle did steepe. 1611 R. Fenton *Trea. Usury* To Rdr. 3, I shall thinke my selfe well apaid, if I can cause them but to feele those wounds. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxiv. 47 He joyeth over her with singing, as wel-apaid of his choyce. 1824 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Well-apaid*, appeased; satisfied. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. II. 32 'Or all is nought Whereof I think,' at last a wanderer said, 'Or of my tale shall ye be well apaid'.

Hence **†Well-apai'dness**. *Obs.*

1633 [D. Rogers] *Treat. Sacr.* i. 190 This complacence and well apaidnesse of heart.

Well(-)appa'relled, *ppl. a.*

1530 Palsgr. 329/1 Well appareyled or well decked, *garnier.* 1576 R. Peterson *G. della Casa's Galateo* 18, I would haue euery man well appareled, meete for his age and calling. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 27 When well apparel'd April on the heele Of limping Winter treads. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. 1 *All Fool's Day*, The goodly ornature of well-apparelled speech. 1860 Longf. *Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* xiv. ix, Never, while they cruised and quarrelled, Old King Gorm, or Blue-Tooth Harald, Owned a ship so well appareled.

Well-appli'ed, *ppl. a.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xiii. (1912) 463 By the diligent care of friends and well applied cunning of surgeons. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. ii. 5 Timoclea, with well-applyed language, began to question her Guest. 1764 Doodley in *Shenstone's Whs.* (1768) II. 317 A stone seat.., with this well-applied inscription. 1768-74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 646 A discreet and well-applied industry in the service of mankind. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* vi, Giving him a hearty cuff on the ear, which would have knocked him down, only that Oonah kept him up by an equally well applied box on the other.

Well-appoi'nted, *ppl a.* Properly equipped or fitted out.

1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Well apoynted, *bien a poynt.* 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* li. 22 They ride vpon horses wel apointed to ye batell agaynst the. 1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 190 The gentle Arch-bishop of Yorke is vp, With well-appointed Powres. *c* 1600 Drayton *Mis. Marg.* clxxviii, Ten thousand valient well-appointed men. 1636 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Brutus* iv, One would have thought t' had heard the morning crow, Or seen her well-appointed Star Come marching up the Eastern Hill afar. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 676 In him thy well-appointed proxy see. Arm'd for a work too difficult for thee. 1807 Worusw. *White Doe* 639 Nor wanted at this time rich store Of well-appointed chivalry. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 165/2 The well-appointed silk, waterproof, ivory-handled, umbrella of his friend. 1864 'Annie Thomas' *D. Donne* I. ii. 29 She saw that he had good horses and a well-appointed mail-phaeton. 1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 3 A well-appointed hotel.

Hence **Well-appoi'ntedness**.

1632 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 82 They have Breast-plates of Iron, which shows the courage of these Saracens, and their well-appointedness for War. 1850 H. James *Tragic Muse* xxvi, He remembered too..her actual smartness, as London people would call it, her well-appointedness.

Well-appro'ved, *ppl. a.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 65 Henglst and Horsus, well approu'd in warre. 1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 7 My trustie seruant well approu'd in all. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xvii. 437 He cald to friend, these well-approu'd supplies; Th' Aiaces, and the Spartan king. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 212 There dwelt also not far from thence one Mr. Skill, an antient and well approved Physician.

Well-argued, *ppl. a.* 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 20 With winning Rhetoric and well-argu'd Law.

Well-a'rmed, *ppl. a.*

1. Adequately armed for war or combat. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1290 *St. Christopher* 143 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 275 Wel I-armede heo wenden forth. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2582 Faire chevalry him cam fro Mede, Wel y-armed, on heygh stede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 170 Þet þe man by wel y-armed uor to ouercome parfitliche senne. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. clxxix. 6723 His hors weill armyt wes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 469 A thowsand shall I assay, and mo, well armed ilkon. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul* I. i. 216 In strong proofe of chastity well-arm'd. 1605 — *Lear* III. vii. 20. 1635-56 Cowley *Davideis* IV. 699 A vast, well-arm'd and glittering Host. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* IX. 96 Forth rush'd the guard well-armed. 1875 Higginson *Hist. U. S.* xv. 133 The Indians' arrows did not put them on an equality with the well-armed Englishmen. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 206 Create a regular and well disciplined army, and secure a well-armed diplomacy.

2. Furnished with a powerful armature.

1832 Brewster *Nat. Magic* xi. 273 A strong and well-armed loadstone.

Well-armoured, *a.* 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. II. 578 The King's brave well-armoured folk.

Well-arra'nged, *ppl. a.*

1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 377 Dr. Dalton listened, in mute astonishment, to this well-arranged, extravagant plan. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxvii, A well-arranged and handsomely trimmed beard. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ix, A well-arranged public library of some ten thousand volumes. 1903 *Athenæum* 7 Oct. 469/3 A good deal of interesting and well-arranged information will be found in the sections which come before the main list of biographies.

Well(-)array'ed, *ppl. a.*

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 472 Al to selde iwys Is ony pouere man wel fedde Or wel araied. *c* 1374 — *Troylus* II. 630 And also blisful Venus wel arayed Sat in hire seuenthe hous of heuene þo. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 350, I and þow be here allone, ilíche wel i-horsed, and i-wepened, ilíche wel arrayed. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IX. xxv. 2826 Wiþ a nobyll company Weil arayit and dantely. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* I. x. 49 The two kynges were come ouer the see with thre honderd knyȝtes wel arayed both for the pees and for the werre. 1605 R. F. *Daiekind's Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 16 At length, when thou art well araide, let both thy hose hang downe About thy heeles. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 234 Ye well-array'd! Ye lilies of our land! Ye lilies male! who neither toil, nor spin.

†Well a'rted, *a. Obs.* Artistically wrought. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xviii. 356, I made A number of well-arted things; round bracelets, buttons braue. **Well-asse'rted**, *ppl. a.* 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xc, Not all the marvels of Baroosa's fight,..Have won for Spain her well asserted right. **Well-asso'rted**, *ppl. a.* 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* (ed. 2) 13 The rich variety to be found in the well-assorted warehouses of the dissenting congregations. 1836 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 302 The after-dinner small-talk of a well-assorted circle. **Well-assu'red**, *ppl. a.* 1475 Caxton *Jason* 78 During which time he helde him wel assured in his palais. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Sept. 8/3 If they do not go out to well-assured situations they go to hunger, want, disease, and possibly death in a country which is wild and disappointing. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* xix. 131 With well-assured hearts the pair made themselves ready for what remained to be done. **Well-atte'mpered**, *ppl. a.* 1845 Neale *Seaton. Poems* (1864) 9 Vain the trust in lance and mail And well-attemper'd sword. 1852 Tennyson *Ode Wellington* 74 A man of well-attemper'd frame. 1866 Felton *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. ii. ix. 442 The soft and well-attempered air of spring. **Well-atte'nding**, *ppl. a.* 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 18 She.. admonish'd thus his well-attending mind.

Well-atte'sted, *ppl. a.*

1667 Glanvill. *Consid. Witches* etc. 5 Standing publick Records have been kept of these well attested Relations. 1756 Burke *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 20 Other well-known and well-attested ones [as slaughters]. 1774 E. Long *Jamaica* III. 874 There are well-attested instances in Jamaica of the voracity of the alligator. 1887 Geo. Eliot *Ess.* (1884) 36 The well-attested facts of his life. 1871 Naphevs *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. i. 45 A well-attested case of longevity.

Well-atti'red, *ppl. a. poet.*

†1. Properly equipped or furnished. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Orfeo* 158 (Sisam) He..brouȝt me to his palays, Wele atird in ich ways.

2. Richly arrayed.

1637 Milton *Lycidas* 146 The Musk-rose, and the well-attir'd Woodbine. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xviii. 473 Charis, Vulcan's well-attired spouse.

Well-authe'nticated, *ppl. a.*

1786 Polwhele tr. *Theocritus*, etc. (1792) II. 218 Amidst the legends of superstition, it is in vain we search for well-authenticated truths. 1820 W. Irving *Sk. Bk., Spectre Bridegroom*, Events of the kind are extremely common in Germany, as many well authenticated histories bear witness. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* v. 167, I have endeavoured to select only those arguments which rest on well-authenticated facts.

Well-avised: see Well-advised.

Wellaway (we'lăwē'), *int.* and *sb.* Now *arch.* Forms: *a.* weg lá weg, wei lá wei (2 wi lá wei), 3 wailawai, 3–4 wailawai, 3–5 -wai (6 *Sc.* -wa), 4–5 wellawey, 3–5 -way, 5–6 weill-away (5 -weye), 4–5 weylaway (5 weyle-away, -awey); 4–5 weylowey (weyllo-), weyloway, 5 woilowey, -wale; 4–5 welle-, weyleway. *β.* 3–4 wailawai, 3–5 -way; 3–4 waile-wai, 4 -way, 5 -wey (3–4 wailwai), 4–5 wailoway, 6 waile a way; 3–5 wayla-, 4–5 wayle-, waylo-way. *γ.* 3–4 walawai, 4–5 -waie, walewai(e; 3–5 (9) walaway, 4–5 -waye, -wey(e, 4 wale-(a)way, woleway; 4–5 walo(w)way; *Sc.* 6–7 walla-, 6 wallo-, 7 wallouway, 8 walawaya, 9 wally-waa. *δ.* 3 welawai, 5 -weie, 4–5 -wey, 4 -weye; 4–7 welaway, 4–6-waye, 5-waie, whela-, weloway; 4–5 well-, welle awey, 5 well y weye, 5–6 well-, 6 welle awaye; 5–7 (9) wellaway (well-away, well-a-way); *Sc.* 6 welloway, 9 wellawa, 8–9 williwa (9 will a waes). *ε.* 4–5 weleawey, 4–6 -away, 6 *Sc.* weill away, 6–7 wealaway, weale away. [OE. *weg lá weg, wei lá wei*, an alteration of *wá lá wá* (see Wellawo), by substitution of the OScand. interjection **wei* (ON. and Icel. *vei*; see Weila) for OE. *wá*. The later forms are partly normal phonetic developments, partly the result of contamination with forms representing OE. *wí lá wí*, and partly due to the first element being identified with, or replaced by, *wel, wele* Well *adv.* (cf. Welia).]

A. *int.* An exclamation of sorrow or lamentation. (Cf. Welladay, -anear, -a-wins.)

Formerly often in phr. *to sing wellaway, my* (*his*, etc.) *song is wellaway.*

a. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Weilawei [*Bodl.* wila wei]. *c* 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xxxix. 16 *Qui dicunt nihi euge euge*, þa þe cweþaþ me wegla weg *vel* wala wa *vel* eala eala. *c* 1205 Lay. 17918 Wælawæi, wælawæi,..muchel is þa sorȝe þe laiȝen is to londe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Weilawei, min eie haueð irobbed al mine soule. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8193 De mount scabiouse was ualawe, weilaway. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12238 Biside þe toumbe þis womman lay, & often cried 'wey la way!' *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 152 Iohn..gan to crie: harrow and weylaway. 1412-20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 4392 For now her trust of knyȝthod was away, Her worþi men slayen, weillaway! *c* 1440 *Ps. Penit.* (1894) 29 Defautes fele that me deface, Maketh me synge weylawey.

β. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 220 Þu singist anicht and noȝt adai & al þi song is wailawai [*Jesus MS.* waylaway]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8669 Bot wailawai! it sua bitide, Mi felaw smord hir barn in bedd. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 197 (Harl. MS.) And þer he herd a Frankeleyn wayloway syng. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 1614 Women and children cried 'out and waile-a-wny'.

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9056 Has þou, coth þai, þi lau renaid? Yaa, soth haf i, walawai! he said. 13. *Gosp. Nicod.* 1314 (Sion MS.) For come he here, I haue greete drede we mi say waloway. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2434 Þan sal walaway be þi sang. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* v. 36 Now, alas, and walo-way! *c* 1480 Henrysoun *Fox & Wolf* 155 Now, quod the Foxe, allace and wallaway! *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 378 Now, walloway, is thair no help? 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1775) I. 236 Walaways! I dow to do! *δ.* *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 408 Louerd, wultu smiten?..Welawei! þu meiht wel. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11214 'Welaweye' þey cry and sey. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 338 But welawaye, to far hen thei to fecche. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 125/63 Therfore my song is well-y-wey! *c* 1440 *Partonope* 6407 Hys songe was not but wellawaye. 15.. *Adam Bel* st. 99 In Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 87 Alas that euer I se this daye!..Alas and welawaye. 1553 Bradford *Serm. Repentance* (1574) E v, But alas and welaway..Gods anger..hath taken him away by death. 1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 410 Wellaway surely may Purgatory sing, if it have no better Proctour to uphold it, then Luther. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. viii. 46 Harrow and well away [ed. 1609 weal-away]. 1657 W. Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 139 Alas and well away. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxii, There is not a farmer but shall sing well-a-wa over a burnt barnyard and an empty byre. 1820 [A. Sutherland] *St. Kathleen* IV. 116 Will a waes, man, but ye hae a lang account to settle. 1878 A. Mary F. Robinson *Handful Honeysuckle* 80 Alas, and Wellaway!

ε. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4481 (Laud MS.) For Oreatre & Darriadas He grade weleaway & allas. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* (Roxb.) 1958 But weleaway! so is myne hert wo. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 10 In hunger, in cold, in thurst, weleaway! Afftyr here almes ay waytyng. *c* 1488 *The Epitaffe*

etc. in Skelton's *Why.* (1843) II. 391 Alas for sorowe therefore! Oute and welewey. *c* 1530 *Hyckescorner* 549 We all may say welewaye For synne that is now-adaye. 1580 H. Gifford *Gilliflowers* (1875) 102 Her song was woe, and weale away. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. i. 13 Alas and weale away, since now I stand In such a plight.

b. with *so* or *full* prefixed.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15366–7 He mai sai walawai Full walwa þan mai he sing. *Ibid.* 20703 þis midelerth, ful wail wai [*Edinb.* ful wailewai, *Trin.* so wayleway], Al to noght sal brin awai. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Bk. Duchesse* 709 Phyllis also for Demophon Henge hir selfe, so weylaway. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* vi. 24 For vs is wrought, so welaway, Doole endurand nyghte and day. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. i. 52 Quhairin he porturit ala, full welloway, The luif abhominable of quene Pasyphe.

c. followed by *that* and clause, expressing the ground or subject of lament. †Also with *what* = how!

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 A wellewai, þu fule hold, þat ich auere was to þe iteied. *c* 1205 Lay. 8031 Wæila wæi wæila wæi þæt he is þus i-faren awæi. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17575 Walawai quat þai war blind. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6801 (Kölbing) Quaþ king Angvisaunt: Woleway, þat ich euer bot þis day. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 286 Helas, mi Soster, walleway, That evere I sih this ilke day! *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 309 So wala way þat euere I was in witte or wille þat tristy trewe for to be-traye. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. i. 15 Ah woe is me, and well away (quoth hee)...That euer I this dismall day did see.

†**d.** Followed by a sb. = alas for . ., woe worth . . . Also with *to* or *for* + sb. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 936 Walawai þe stunde! Wailaway þe while! 23.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 400 Wayle-way þat stounde. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1078 Allas þi wyle Serueth of nought, so wel-awey þe while. *Ibid.* 1695 But cruel day, so wel-awey þe stounde, Gan for to aproche. *c* 1400 *Emare* 812 He wepte and sayde, Welle-a-wey, For my sone so dere! *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4564 Wallaway to wriches, & wa is 3ow in erthe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* vi. 93 Sa welaway for harde peyne. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 58 Wel-away the while I was so fonde.

B. *sb.* **1.** The utterance of this exclamation. Hence, lamentation, a lament.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1478 (Camb.) He makede Rymenhilde lay, & heo makede walaway. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24352 Bot quen i raxsild vp in rage, I ne wist bot wail wai [*Gött.* walaway, *Edinb.* walewai]. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Cain & Abal* 193 Now wyl I go wende my way With sore syeng and wel away. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 3474 With lowde allace and ay. 1583 Bradford *Serm. Repent.* (1574) To Rdr. B ij b, Then was weale away, mourning and woe. 16..

... ts of grief, ...
For Isabel, sweet Isabel, will die. 1823 Galt *Entail* II. 160, I wish that I was dead, but I'm no like to dee, as Jenny says in her wally-wae about her father's cow and auld Robin Gray. 1884 Woolner *Silenus* 22 Syrinx he saw..plunge in the stream Aland her young spirit pass into the reeds That now were whispering her sad well-away.

b. *transf.* A cause of lamentation.

1593 G. Harvey *New Let. Notable Cont.* A 3 b, Who honoureth not..the very name of the renowned Lepanto;.. the Halleluia of Christendome, & the Welaway of Turky?

†**2.** Sorrow, distress, misery, woe. *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11222 So, betwyxe fals and coueytous, ys welaweye broȝt to hous. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 22472 (Fairf.) Quar-to suilde we be borne to-day & se bot sorou & waleway. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 227 Wote no wighte..what is witterly wel til weyllowey hym teche. 1402 *Fr. Daw Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 212 Thou shalt have the weleaway of Gelboth hilles, the sorowe of Sodome, and al sinful citeis. 1597 *Guistard & Sismond* I. B 3 b, Bringing forth the night, and care, and wele-away. 1640 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) 240 Thou had sorrou fall the, and another tyme wallouway fall the.

†**Well away,** *compound adv. Obs.*

1. Qualifying a comparative: Far and away, much. Cf. Wella B.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 215 þis is þe lif of þis lordis.. And wel-a-wey wers and I shulde al telle. 1377 *Ibid.* B. xii. 263 þe larke, þat is a lasse foule, is more louelich of ledne, And wel away of wenge swifter þan þe pecok. ? *a* 1386 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 219 And somdele lasse it [the river] was than Seyn But it was strayghter wel away.

2. Used elliptically with *can* and a verb implied: *well away with* = put up with, tolerate, endure. Cf. Away 16.

1569 Blague *Sch. Conceytes* 2 Whose pride I could not well away with. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 97/1 He.. could well awale with bodilie labour [1577 II. 334/2 could well endure trauaile and bodily labour]. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 14. (1619) 532 They can well away with either religion, but care greatly for neither. 1620 Gataker *Spirituall Watch* (ed. 2) 70 It is no small degree of guilt, when a man can well away with guilt in others. *a* 1629 Hinde *S. Bruen* xxxvii. (1641) 116 This Master Done being young and youthly,..could not well away with the strict observation of the Lords day.

b. To bear or submit *to* (do something).

1579–80 North *Plutarch, Alcib.* (1595) 234 Notwithstanding the people of Athens could well away to liue like subiects vnder the gouernement of a fewe.

Well-a-wins, *int. Sc.* In quots. will-, weel-, wull-. Altered form of Wellaway.

a 1774 Fergusson *Poems* (1789) II. 79 Ah! willawins for Scotland now. *a* 1800 *Lady Jane*, in Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* (1806) II. 82 O willawins! that graceless scorn Should love like mine repay. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xi, Wull a wins! —such a misfortune to befa' the House of Ravenswood, and I to live to see it! 1829 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 51 But will-a-wins! Your hands are toom. 1871 W.

Alexander *Johnny Gibb* iii. 23 Weel-a-wuns, than, Jinnie, ..we'se lat 'im rest's banes in peace an' quaetness.

†**Wellawo,** *int.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: α. 1 wá lá wá, 3–4 walawa (4 walwa, walaiwa). β. 3 wala-, 4 walowo; 3 wola-, 4 wole-, 5 wolowo. γ. 3, 5 welawo, 5 wellawoo; 4–5 welleswoy, welloway. δ. 4 wellawo, 4–5 weylawo (5 weyle a woo). [OE. *wá lá wá*, f. *wá* Woe *sb.* and *lá* Lo *int.*; cf. Wale *int.* In the γ-forms the first element has been assimilated to *wel* Well *adv.* (cf. OE. *wel lá* Wella), and in the δ-forms to ME. *wey-* in *weylawey*: see Wellaway.]

1. *int.* = Wellaway A.

α. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 1 Walawa þæt ða ungesælixan menn ne magon gebidon hwonne he him to cume. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* II. i. (1890) 96 Wala wa! þæt is sarlic, þætte [etc.]. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Wala wa, þæt æniȝ man sceolde modiȝan swa. *c* 1205 Lay. 19632 Wa la wa [*c* 1275 Wo la wo] þat hit scuide iwurðen swa. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15367 Ful walwa! þan mai he sing. *c* 1300 *Ibid.* 15979 (Gött.) He mai sai walawa his werd þat forwid him es!

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Wellawei & wolawo, heo seiȝ. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 412 þu singest a wynter wolawo. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 742 (Kölbing) Wolewo, mi swete maide. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* 327 (Brandl) 3e world is nou, so wo lo wo, in suc bal I bound.

γ, δ. 23.. *Minor Poems of Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 225 Wellawei & wellawo, þat synne was I-wrouȝt! *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 120 (Linc. Inn) Syngand allas and weylawo. *c* 1425 *Processional Nuns Chester* (1899) 31 Thy white body was blacke and bloo. Oure synnes it made so weyle A woo. *c* 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* st. 438 in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 77 Alas and well a woo!

2. *sb.* = Wellaway B. 2.

c 1275 Lay. 26769 Welawo was 3am lbore þat in hire wey were bivore. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 142 (Kölbing) To Winchester þai flowen þo Wiþ mani sighing & walewo. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 235 He hath a greuous penaunce, þat is welawo whan he waketh.

Well(-)baked, *ppl. a.* 1632 Rowzee *Quenes Welles* 67 Bread of good pure wheate, well handled..and well baked. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Sat.* II. viii. 89 A guest like me, polite to entertain With bread well baked, with sauces season'd right. 1811 *Regul. & Orders Army* 169 Each Soldier is to receive, as his Allowance for Four Days, a well-baked Loaf. †**Well-baken,** *ppl. a. Sc.,* well-baked. 1549 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 269 Breid, that be guid stuf,..and weill bakin.

Well-ba·lanced, *ppl. a.*

This is prob. the true reading (as suggested by Rowe) in Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 104, for 'weale-ballanc'd' of the Folios.

1. Exactly poised or equilibrated.

1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xii, While the Creator Great His constellations set, And the well-ballanc't world on hinges hung.

2. Having an orderly or harmonious disposition of parts.

1859 J. White *Hist. France* 69 A tumultuous republic of knights and barons had become a well-balanced kingdom.

3. Having or betokening a good balance of the mental faculties; sane and sensible; not flighty or eccentric.

1861 Buckle *Civilis.* II. vi. 424 Hutcheson..rightly supposed, that an admiration of every kind of beauty..is essential to a complete and well-balanced mind. 1880 Besant *Demoniac* i. 7 A perfectly healthy, steady, and well-balanced young man. 1912 *World* 7 May 679/1 Mr. Long's speech was a practical, well-balanced, and thoroughly sane fighting speech.

Well-bea·ten, *ppl. a.* (Beat *v.*[1] 3, Beaten 2.)

a 1704 Locke *Cond. Underst.* § 28 Their Master's Rules.. mislead those who think it sufficient to excuse them, if they go out of their way in a well beaten Tract. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiii. 163 Ascending the mountain by a well-beaten path. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. x, The well-beaten pathway.

Well(-)becо·ming, *ppl. a.* Highly befitting or suiting.

1530 Palsgr. 329/1 Well becommyng, *bien aduenant.* 1611 Cotgr., *Bienseant,*..well-beseeming, well-becomming. 1662 Gunning *Lent Fast* 44 This is the wel-becoming order which all Churches..do observe. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 94 A well becoming, but a weak Relief. 1832 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xxxii, A fate well-becoming his odious crimes. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. ii. 102 On the brow of the industrious crofter..we may yet see the well-becoming pride..that, in the fifteenth century, took the honours and distinctions of France as a natural right.

Well-be·dded, *ppl. a.* 1626 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* V. xviii. 557 Then you shall lay it on a well-bedded kilne. **Well-beh·tting,** *ppl. a.* 1845 Poe *Haunted Palace* 23 A throne where, sitting..In state his glory well-befitting, The ruler of the realm was seen.

†**Well bego·ne,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 4 wel bigoo. [See Bego *v.* 8.]

1. Well-contented, cheerful, joyous.

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 693, I was neuer..So ioly† nor so wel bigoo Ne merye in herte as I was thoo. *c* 1382 — *Parlt. Foules* 171 But lord, so I was glad and wel begoon.

2. Fortunate, well off.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 294 Yif me youre hond, for yn þis world is noon, If þat you lyst, a wyght so wel begon. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5533 And certeyn he is wel bigone Among a thousand that fyndith oon. 1421–2 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xx. 21 How welthye a man be or well be-gone, Endure it shall not. 1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Well bygoone, *bien a peynt*, or *bien ayse.*

Well(-)begu·n, *ppl. a.* Favourably or fully started. Chiefly in proverb (see quot. 1539).

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 36 For accordyng to our englishe prouerbe, a thyng well begoonne, is more then halfe dooen. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 3 Well begun is halfe ... 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 2066 And dost thou chuse what ends, ere well-begun?

Well-beha·ted, *ppl. a.* 1772 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 22 Oct., His cousin..is going to him with a commission from Louis the well-behated. [Instead of 'well-beloved'.]

Well-beha·ved, *ppl. a.* Displaying good conduct or manners; decorous.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 39 Hee..gaue such orderly and wel-behaued reproofe to al vncomelinesse. 1632 Foxe *'Tis Pity* II. vi, A very modest welbehau'd young Maide. 1728 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 235 His sons were very pretty, wellbehaved youths. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* iii. 126, I have met one or two creatures like you ...ll-behaved.

P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 253 To give all due encouragement to the well-behaved.

Well-being (we·lbīing), *vbl. sb.* [Cf. F. *bien-être*, mod.L. *bene esse.*]

Occas. written without the hyphen, as one word or two.

The state of being or doing well in life; happy, healthy, or prosperous condition; moral or physical welfare (of a person or community).

a 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 46 Man did but the well-being of this life From Woman take; her Being she from Man. 1617 Woodall *Surgeon's Mate* (1639) Pref. 2 So many wales in use for the health and wel-being of mankinde. 1648 Benbrigge *Usura Acc.* 8 The publicke-Weale wherein our owne Being, and Well-being are wrapped up. 1705 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (ed. 2) 32 An erect Position is essential to the well being of the Body of Man. 1713 Berkeley *Ess. Guardian* xiv. Wks. III. 191 That behaviour which best suits with the common well-being. 1741 A. Monro *Anat. of Nerves* (ed. 3) 10 Circumstances..necessary to the Being or Wellbeing of this or that particular Creature. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 168 Water..is necessary to the well being of man in all ages. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. iv. 121 That paternal solicitude for the well-being of his rural dependants. 1849 Cobden *Sp.* 56 High prices are incompatible with the well-being of this country. 1861 Lowell *E Pluribus Unum* Writ. 1890 V. 46 A living fact with a direct bearing on the national well-being. 1865 Pusey *Truth Engl. Ch.* 38 A body of faith,..which to 'know and believe', is essential to the well-being of all Christians. 1883 J. M. Fothergill *Indigestion* etc. 275 Most healthy persons feel..a sense of well-being after a meal.

b. Satisfactory condition (of a thing).

1708 Calamy *Abridgm. Baxter's Life & Times* vii. 137 He says, That Imposition of Hands is..a proper means necessary not to the Being, but the Well-being of Ordination. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii, His loudly-expressed anxiety at every stage, respecting the safety and well-being of the two bags, the leather hat-box, and the brown-paper parcel. 1849 Ruskin *Seven Lamps* Introd. 4 The principles necessary to the well being of the art.

c. *pl.* (= individual instances of welfare).

a 1672 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* 207 He is the Author of our beings and our well-beings. 1714 J. Fortescue-Aland *Prof. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 4 So that it may be said with Justice, that we owe our Beings to God, and under him our Well-beings to the Law.

†**Well-beknow·n,** *ppl. a. Obs.* In 6 Sc. *wellbiknow.* Well-known. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. ii. 17 On bankis wellbiknaw and fluidis bay. †**Well-belie·ving,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Easy of belief, credulous. *c* 1710 Congreve tr. *Ovid* Wks. 1730 III. 314 But let not powder'd Heads, nor essenc'd Hair, Your well-believing, easie Hearts ensnare.

Well-belo·ved, *ppl. a.* and *sb.*

A. *ppl. adj.* **1.** Dearly loved, greatly beloved.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 215 And wel biloued and famulier was he With frankeleyns ouer al in his contree. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 247 Wyth lefe and welbelowid Pepill lagh and Play. *c* 1440 tr. *Bonaventura* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1896) I. 218 Mari Mawdeleyne, þat wele-beluffed discypulas of Ihesu. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 The chrysten man, as the welbeloued chylde of god. 1602 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 180 Through this [rent], the wel-beloued Brutus stabb'd. 1648 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 208 Susan Despotin, my well-beloued wife. 1799 Ht. Lee *Canterb. T., Old Woman's T.* (ed. 2) I. 335 Lothaire..was the trusty and well-beloved page of Louis IX. 1832 Scott *Ct. Robt.* iii, Our well-beloved and highly-gifted daughter. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cii, We leave the well-beloved place Where first we gazed upon the sky.

2. In letters, decrees, etc., of a sovereign or lord, prefixed to the names or designations of the persons addressed or referred to. Usually '(right) trusty and well-beloved'; cf. Trusty *a.* 2. Also *absol.* (with omission of sb.), and †(*Sc.*) with plural ending.

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 248/2 Ryght worshipfull and worshipfull Faders in God, oure ryght trusty and welebeloved. 1443 Hen. VI in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 79 Our right trusty and right welbelouyd Cousin Therl of Suffolk. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 603 Our welbeloued in crist the Abbesse and Covent of Godestow. 1516 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 493/2 Our welebelovit knycht and counsalour William Scot of Balwery. 1534–Hen. VIII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 239 Trusty and welbiloved we grete you wele. 1544 in Rymer *Foedera* (1719) XV. 19 Oure Welebelovittis Hew Cunnyngahame, and Thomas Bischop. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 241 Our right trustie and right wellbeloued cousin the Earle of Lauderdaill. 1803 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 111 Our right trusty and welbeloved George Keith baron Keith of Stone Haven. 1814 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. x. 312 He would tell you of my departure with our trusty and well-beloved Erskine. 1884 *Rep. Comm. Housing Working Classes* Prof. 3 Victoria [etc.], To Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor Sir C. W. Dilke, 1904 *Burke's Peerage* 2 Barons are..addressed officially by the Crown, 'Our Right trusty and well-beloved'. *Ibid.* 3 A Viscount..is officially addressed by the Crown as 'Our right trusty and well-beloved Cousin'.

B. *sb.* A dearly loved one.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* VI. 79 Teobynge Beda his welbelovyde while that he lyvede. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse of Govt.* III. iii,

Wks. 1910 II. 47 Nowe my welbeloved, and what sayth the.. Markgrave unto you? 1611 Bible *Cant.* i. 13 A bundle of myrrhe is my welbeloued vnto me. 1795–1844 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VII. 349 The great, the good, The well-beloved, the fortunate, the wise,—These titles emperors and chiefs have borne. *c* 1805 H. K. White *Hymn, 'Awake, sweet harp'* iii, God sees his Well-beloved's face. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xv. 317 Then he comes back to me, for his well-beloved is here.

Well-benched, *a.* [Well *adv.* 3a.] Used to render Homer's *εὐσσελμος*, epithet of a ship.

1848 Buckley *Iliad* II. 33 Let him lay hands upon his well-benched black ship. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* VII. 522 From their well-benched ships The Achaians also issued. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* II. 414 They brought forth all and laid it within the well-benched keel.

Well-be·neficed, *a.* 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1904) I. 678 A wealthy well-beneficed clergyman. **Well(-)be·see·ming,** *ppl. a.* = Well-becoming. Hence **Well-be·see·mingly** *adv. rare*—0. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 56 (Qo. 1600) Romes royall Empresse, Vnfurnisht of her well beseeming troope? 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 24 In mutuall well-beseeming ranks. 1611 Cotgr., *Bienseant*, .. well-beseeming, well-becomming. *Ibid.*, *Bienseamment*, comelily, agreeably, well-beseemingly.

†Well beseen, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 4 be-, biseye. [See Beseen *v.* II.] Good-looking, of good appearance: well appointed or apparelled; well furnished *with*; versed or accomplished *in*.

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 821 Fetys he was and wel beseye [*Coinctes fu et de bel atour*]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 308 My wif.. Which is with reson wel besein. *Ibid.* III. 191 Sche [Virgo] is with sterres wel beseie. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1978 Tentys large, full riche and wele beseen. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 213 Likle he was, richt byge and weyle beseyne. 1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Well byseene, *bien accoustré*. 1576 R. Peterson *G. della Casa's Galateo* 10 A Noble gentleman, courteous and well beseene in all good behaulour. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 247 Teodor Gaza ane weill beseme man baitht in Lattine and greik. 1591 Spenser *Virgil's Gnat* 651 Eftsoones he gins to fashion forth a place,..squaring it in compasse well beseene. 1596 — *F. Q.* v. viii. 29 The Briton Prince him readie did awayte, In glistering armes right goodly well beseene. 1736 W. Thompson *Epithal.* xiv, Our dearling Prince to meet Augusta well-beseen. *a* 1911 Æ. J. G. Mackay *Pitscottie Gloss.* s. v. *Beseine*, Still used. 'Ye are weel beseme the day', *i. e.* well clothed or fit to look upon.

†Well bespo·ken, *ppl. a. Obs.* Fair spoken, of courteous speech. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 73 Archas.. was right wise and well bespoken. 1474, 1483 — [see Bespoken 2]. 1490 — *Eneydos* x. C viij, Fayr and wel byspoken. **†Well-bestra·tted,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Amply distended or plumped out. 1648 Herrick *Hesper.*, *Oberon's Feast* 34 He..eates the sagge And well-bestrutted Bees sweet bagge. **†Well-betee·mingness.** *Obs. rare*—1. In quot. **-beteamn-.** [Beteem *v.*1] Readiness to vouchsafe or grant. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 178 That it [Grace] may appeare in all the excellency and fulnesse, freedome, bounty, unchangeablenesse and wellbeteamingnesse thereof. **Well-blacked,** *ppl. a.* 1822 Scott *Nigel* ii, His low, flat..cap, and his well-blacked, shining shoes, indicated that he belonged to the city. 1860 G. H. Kingsley in Galton *Vac. Tour.* 140 A basin..and a well blacked crock. **Well-ble·nded,** *ppl. a.* 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 603 Whose liquid Store Abundant, flowing in well blended Streams The Natives shall applaud.

†Well-bloo·ded, *a. Obs.* Also 7 -bloudied. [See Well *adv.* 3a and Blooded *a.* 2.] Having plenty of blood.

16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* v. I, Trust me, a lusty woman, able bodied, And well blooded cheeks. *Cla.* Oh she paints my Lord. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* (1668) 342 His Countenance chearful and well-bloudied.

Well-boat. [See Well *sb.*1 6 b.]

1. A fishing-boat provided with a well or tank for the storage and transport of live fish.

c 1600 [see Tode *sb.*1]. 1614 Gentleman *Engl. Way to win Wealth* 19 And these be Pinks and Wel-boats of the burthen of fourty Tunnes. 1683 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxx. 121 Others..get their living by selling fish alive, which to that purpose they keep in great well-boats. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 301 They [carp] are th-re a great article of commerce, and sent in well-boats to Sweden and Russia. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* xv. 438 Fish wasting in Well-boats at Gravesend. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 211 Severn Fisheries Board...Model of Trunk or Well Boat.

†2. A flat-bottomed boat for landing troops and stores. *Obs.*

1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 482 The 40 well boates built at Deptford, which carry about 20 or 30 oars each, to land men in shoal water. 1693 *MSS. Ho. of Lords* (N. S.) I. 187 An able seaman to take charge of the well-boats at Portsmouth and the stores to be put on board them. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2926/3 Three of the Bomb Ships, with the Brigantines and Well Boats went in and Anchored within half a Mile of the Town.

Well-bo·den, *ppl. a. Sc.* [See Boden *ppl. a.*] Well provided or furnished; fully armed or equipped. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxxviii. 6833 Well bodyn Frankis men. 1496 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 60 That al fresmen.. compeir..at the Cunneger hill, welbodin and abilyeit for weir in ther personis. 1598 Ferguson *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 49 He is weill bodden ther ben that neidis nather borrow nor lend. 1808 Jamieson s. v. *Boden*, *Well-boden*, or *ill-boden*, well or ill provided in whatever respect.

Well-bo·died, *a.* [Well *adv.* 3a.] Having good bodily development.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 59 Sche ys as goodly a 3eunge whomane as fayr as whelbodyd [etc.]. 1484 Caxton *G. de la Tour* C iij b, Loo ther is a welbodyed woman which is wel worthy to be belouyd of somme knyght. 1594 *Knack to know a Knave* E 4, My Lord, she is..Well bodied, but her face was something blacke, Lyke those that follow houshold businesse. *a* 1653 Binning *Comm. Princ.* Wks. (1735) 28/2 By this he grew to the Stature of a tall and well-bodyed Christian. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 42 All as a partridge plump, full-fed, and fair, She form'd this image of well-body'd air.

Well-bo·ding, *ppl. a.* 1719 Oldisworth *Callipædia* II. 317 Or when the Lyon or the Centaur shines, Or the auspicious and well-boading Twins. **Well-boiled,** *ppl. a.* 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 818 A knotty Lance of well-boil'd Oak he bore [*tatum solidum nodis et robore cocto*].

Well-boned, *a.* [Well *adv.* 3a.]

1. Having large or strong bones.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8571 Pikke mon he was ynou..wel iboned [*MS.* y boned] & strong. 1530 Palsgr. 320/1 Well boned, *osseux*. 1553 Ascham *Rept. Germany* 16 Marches Albert is..rather wel boned for strength, then overloded with flesh.

2. Properly stiffened with whalebone.

1891 [see Boned *ppl. a.* 2]. 1901 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 6/7 It is made over a carefully fitted, well boned lining.

Well-boo·ted, *a.* [Well *adv.* 3a.] 1647 Trapp *Comm. Ephes.* vi. 15 (1656) 772 As one that is well booted or buskind can walk unhurt amidst bryers and brambles. 1786 Burns *Ronalds of Bennals* 41 Though I canna ride in weel-booted pride, And flee o'er the hills like a craw, man. 1894 A. Lang *Ban & Arrière Ban* 45 Lady, lady neat Wherefore dost thou hie, Stealthy, down the street, On well-booted feet?

Well(-)born, *ppl. a.* [See Born B. I d. Cf. Da. *velbaaren*, Du. *welgeboren*, G. *wohlgeboren* (MHG. *wolgeborn*).

The lack of examples in ME. is noticeable.]

1. Of good birth or lineage, of gentle blood.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xix. 12 Monn sum wel·boren [L. *nobilis*] foerde on lond un-neh. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* I. 15 Ic nam wise menn and welborene [Vulg. *nobiles*].

1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 278 As many and as well-borne bloods as those. 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 146 To see well borne men to despise honest callings. 1667 Dryden *Secret Love* I. iii. (1668) 13 My Cousin is..Valiant and wise; and handsome; and well born. *Qu.* But not of Royal blood. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XIII. xii, There is a something in persons well-born, which others can never acquire. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlix, Mrs. Crawley is not very well born. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* XIII. 120 You would not be considered well-born enough nor rich enough.

b. *absol.*

The well-born: a nickname formerly given to the Federalists of the U. S., derisively adopted by their opponents from the serious use of the term by J. Adams (see quot. 1787).

1787 J. Adams *Def. Const. Govt. U.S.* Pref. I. p. x, The rich, the well-born, and the able, acquire an influence among the people, that will soon be too much for simple honesty and plain sense, in a house of representatives. 1788 *Amer. Museum* June (1702) 527 Under such a government, men of education, abilities, and property, commonly called *the well born*, will be the most likely to get into places of power and trust. 1842 Helps *Ess., Domestic Knts* (1849) 52 The well-educated or the well-born. 1883 McMaster *People U. S.* I. 469 In most of the squibs and pasquinades that filled the papers the Federalists were reviled under the name of 'the well-born'.

2. Having the personal qualities naturally associated with good birth; noble in nature or character. (In early use after F. *bien né*.)

c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xii. 16 He herde that the king of Denmark had .iij faire doughtres well born [*moult bien nées*].

1697 Dryden *Æneis* II. 455 Heav'n, that well-born Souls inspires, Prompts me..To..rush undaunted to defend the Walls. 1857 Emerson *Poems, Celestial Love* 45 Counsel which the ages kept Shall the well-born soul accept.

Well bo·ttomed, *ppl. a.* Having a good foundation, firmly based. 1699 Bover *Royal Dict., Eng.-Fr.*, Well-bottom'd, *bien fondé*. 1762 Wilkes *Corr.* (1805) III. 33, I said..that it would be soon seen how well-bottomed I was. 1874 Morley *Compromise* iii. 105 Obviously only three ways of dealing with the great problems of which we have spoken are compatible with a strong and well-bottomed character.

Well-bought, *ppl. a.* †a. Bought at a fair price; worth the price paid. (See Well *adv.* 6 d.) b. Valiantly won. (Cf. Dear-bought.)

1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 56 Sum standardes of mayll whelbhowte. 1576 *Ded. Verses* in Turberv. *Venerie*, A Booke well bought, God graunt it so be solde, For sure such Bookes are better worth than golde. 1811 Scott *Don Roderick* III. xiii, For never, upon gory battle-ground, With conquest's well-bought wreath were braver victors crown'd!

Well-bound, *ppl. a.* Said of a book. Also *fig.*

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV* st. 265 Whose Volumes Numberless Nature doth Summe In one Compendious Abstract; Well-bound Man! 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 745 To see the name of idol self, Stamp'd on the well-bound quarto, grace the shelf. 1845 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. I. 220/2 Most well-bound books have a little appendage at the top of the back-edge, called the 'head-band'. 1880 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 4/7 The rubbishy but well-bound book keeps its place on the shelves.

Well-braced, *ppl. a.* Healthily strung up. 1839 Meredith *K. Feverel* xix, The young ladies..looked..anything but well-braced. **Well-branched,** *a.* [Well *adv.* 3a.] 1649 C. Wase *Sophocles, Electra* 22 A spotted well-brancht Stag. **Well-brawned,** *a.* [Well *adv.* 3a.] 1577, 1609 [see Brawned 1]. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 448/2 *Torosus*,..well fleshe:..well brawned. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XIII. 155 From forth the hauens high crest, Branch the well-brawn'd armes of an Oliue tree.

Well-breathed (-brēd, -brɛ̄pt), *a.* [Well *adv.* 3a + Breathed 1 and 6.] Sound or strong of wind; exercised so as to be in good wind; not out of breath.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVIII. xviii. 758 He is a noble knyghte, and a myghty man, and wel brethed. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 76 To make hem hardie, deliver, and wele brethed. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 678 And on thy well-breathed horse keep with thy hounds. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 289 A well-breath'd Body, nimble, sound, and strong. 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* IV. i. 54, I, take heat after heat, like a well-breath'd Courser. 1720 Pope *Iliad* XXII. 244 As through the forest..The well-breath'd beagle drives the flying fawn. 1826–43 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 120 Bruce..saw, too, that his own infantry were still fresh and well-breathed. 1849 J. Forbes *Physician's Holiday* ii. (1850) 23 The experienced, well-breathed, and robust traveller.

b. said of a speaker or reciter.

1647 N. Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 16 It is a most toylsome taske to run..after a well-breath'd Opinionist. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 631 To speak the rest, who better are forgot, Would tire a well-breath'd Witness of the Plot. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* ix, A less matter would hold a well-breathed minstrel in subject for recitation for a calendar month.

Well-bred, *ppl. a.*

1. Of good family and bringing up. Usually: Displaying good breeding; having refined manners; courteous in speech and behaviour.

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 26 A Gentleman well bred, and of good name. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 2 If my thoughts haue wandred, I must intreat the well-bred Reader to remember, I haue wandred through many deserts. 1652 Kirkman *Clerio & Lesia* 100 Neuling speeches, which well-bred women should avoyd as a dangerous Precipice. 1698 J. Collier *Immor. Stage* 60 A well Bred Man will no more Swear than Fight in the Company of Ladies. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 635 Tho' learn'd, well-bred; and tho' well-bred, sincere. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett. to Son* 19 Sept., The officers,..when of a certain rank and service, are generally very polite, well-bred people. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 193 A moral, sensible, and well-bred man Will not affront me, and no other can. 1813 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xlv, Whose endeavour to introduce some kind of discourse proved her to be more truly well bred than either of the others. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. x. 327 The first well-bred and well-dressed girls I had ever seen.

b. of speech, behaviour, etc.

1699 Bentley *Phal.* 251 I'll give him leave to tell me again in his well-bred way, That my head has no Brains in't. 1728 Young *Love Fame* I. 115 It makes dear self on well-bred tongues prevail, And I the little hero of each tale. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 413 With a well-bred whisper close the scene. 1808 Mrs. C. Kemble *Day after Wedding* 27 You sit at such a well-bred distance from each other, one would swear you had been married 24 years, instead of 24 hours. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* I, Lady Staunton only answered this hint with a well-bred stare, which gave no sort of encouragement. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* vii. 173 His manner was grave to sadness, but extremely well-bred.

2. Of good breed or stock. Said of animals.

1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 118, I knew in their day, runners of fair repute, and as well bred as any horses upon earth. 1849 Claridge *Cold Water Cure* 202 When the horse is well-bred, and his wind is unimpaired.

Well(-)brewed, *ppl. a.* 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 135 A small and well brewed Beer. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Deronda* i, It was near four o'clock on a September day, so that the atmosphere was well-brewed to a visible haze. **†Well(-)broke,** *ppl. a. Obs.* 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Tulipa*, These do, in time, break into various beautiful Stripes, according to the Ground of their former Self-colour: but this must be intirely thrown off, otherwise they don't esteem a Flower well broke. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* viii. (1813) 104 Having thrown on a little good and well-broke mould. **Well(-)broken,** *ppl. a.* 1580 Blundevil *Art of Riding* II. x. 19 b, To say the truth, weariness and lack of breath, may cause anie horse, be he neuer so well broken, to do the same. 1728 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 316 All horses are ungovernable, that are not well-broken. 1857 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Feb. 173/1 Though his stud was not numerous or choice, it may be said to have been well broken. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 147 A brace of remarkably well-broken pointers. **Well-brooked,** *a.* Abounding in streams. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* XV. 295 And by Crouni was she running, and the well-brooked Chalcis' shore [*Χαλκίδα καλλιρόοιο*]. **Well(-)brought-up,** *ppl. a.* [See Bring *v.* 27 b.] 1611 Cotgr., *Morigené*,.. well brought vp. 1887 Earl Mount-Edgcumbe *Mus. Remin.* (ed. 2) 112 She was the daughter of an English gentleman..., and well brought up. 1862 Mill *Utilit.* iii. 40 An ordinarily well-brought up young person. 1896 Mrs. Caffyn *Quaker Grandmother* 6 She had an adaptable well-brought-up face. **Well-browed,** *a.* [See Well-eyed 1483.] **Well-browned,** *ppl. a.* 1883 'Annie Thomas' *Mod. Housewife* 59 A well-browned crust of bread. 1904 Sladen *Lovers in Japan* ii. vi, 'Won't a cigarette do?' he asked, pulling out a well-browned leather case. **Well-brushed,** *ppl. a.* 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* vi, His clean linen and well-brushed coat. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, A well-brushed suit of black.

We·ll-bu·cket. [Well *sb.*1 3.] A bucket used to draw water from a well by means of a rope and pulley or windlass.

Often in pairs, one on each end of a rope, so arranged that the empty bucket descends while the filled one is raised.

w't a rope & a Cheyne, xij^{d}. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 206/2 He beareth Argent, a Bucket, Sable, the Handle and Hoops, Or. This is termed for distinction, a Well Bucket. 1695 Dryden *Dufresnoy's Art Paint., Observ.* 120 The Muscles ..are so many Well-buckets; when one of them acts and draws, 'tis necessary that the other must obey. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 6. 3/1 You like two Well-Buckets Appear, Which always must clash when they're near. 1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 346, I saw a large well-bucket, and all the chains and wheels belonging to such a concern.

Well-buildded, *ppl. a.* Also 4 -bild. = next.

c 1400 Maundev. ix. (1919) 38 An Abbeye of Monkes wel bylded. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1569 Grete palis of prise, plenty of houses, Wele bild all aboute on the best wise. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* ii. 7 When I had brought you in to a pleasaunt welbuylded londe. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XVIII. 332 Twentie Tripods..To set for stooles about the sides of his well-builded hall. 1649 H. More *Song of Soul* II. App. xcvi. 215 Saving those few that were kept safe in store In that well builded ship.

Well-built, *ppl. a.*

1. Of a house, town, ship, nest, etc.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VI. 14 Axilus, that did dwell In faire Arisbas well-built towres. 1615 — *Odyss.* XIII. 152 The well-built Ships. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 196 The bastion of a well-built city. 1822 SHELLEY '*When the Lamp*' 18 When hearts have once mingled, Love first leaves the well-built nest. 1858 W. ELLIS *Madagascar* xii. 329 The houses were all well-built, with clean swept court yards around them. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 239 On arriving at the well-built cairn, the prospect is magnificent.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* (e. g. of a person or animal, a suit of clothes, a poem).

1682 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xv. 292 This is well-built consolation which reaches the heart. 1706 [see BUILT *ppl. a.* 2]. 1707 PRIOR *Sat. Poets* 125 The Author then, whose daring hopes would strive With well-built Verse to keep his Fame alive. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. x, This Gentleman..was of a middle Size, and what is called well built. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 269 His tall, well-built figure was shown off to advantage by his magnificent dress. 1881 BRYANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. iii, She was a strong, well-built woman, of about six or seven and twenty. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* vii, He was wearing a remarkably well-built suit of rough yellowish stuff.

Hence **Well-buiʻltness.** *nonce-wd.*

1899 H. WRIGHT *Depopulation* 2 One saw the city standing out in all its strength of substantial well-builtness.

Well-burʻnished, *ppl. a.* 1787 BURNS *To W. Creech* 2 Auld chuckie Reekie's sair distrest, Down droops her ance weel-burnish't crest. **Well-burnt, -burned**, *ppl. a.* 1727 DE FOE *Compl. Eng. Tradesman* I. iii. (1732) 33 The brick-maker's men..turn'd their hands from the grey hard well-burnt bricks to the soft sammel half-burnt bricks. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 288 A piece of well-burned charcoal. 1890 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* (1893) 115 On a well-burnt moor the best poaching method is by using a silk net. **Well-caʻlculated**, *ppl. a.* 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 157 Their convictions were matured by well-calculated expedients. **Well-calved**, *a.* 1744 *Essay on Acting* 14 A..prominent Chest, and a well-calv'd Leg. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 136 A pair of superfine ladies' footmen, with well-calved legs and broad shoulders.

Well(-)carriaged, *a.* See CARRIAGED.

Well-carved, *ppl. a.* 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VIII. 614 Nausicaa..Stood by a well-caru'd Columne of the roome. **Well-caulked**, *ppl. a.* 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 575 And well calk'd Gallies in the Harbour ride. **Well-changed**, *ppl. a.* 1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 30 Lo, with pure hands thy heav'nly Fires to take, My well-changed Muse I a chast Vestal make! **Well-chaʻracterized**, *ppl. a.* 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xiv. 176 Further to the south.. are flagstones, sandstones, and other well-characterized beds of the system. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. ii. 31 Well-characterised hornblende slate. † **Well-cheered**, *a. Obs.* Of good cheer, cheerful. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* i. 3 God lufis wele chered gifers. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. viii. 89 Per doutles welcheryd þa sal hym see. † **Well-choosing**, *ppl. a. Obs.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1912) 210 Neither hath the one any feare, but a well choosing judgement.

† **Well-chose**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

1682 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 139 Of well-chose words some take not care enough. 1752 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 188 Confirm it by a few well-chose arguments.

Well(-)choʻsen, *ppl. a.* Carefully or happily selected.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1902) 19 The girle thy well chosen mistresse, perchaunce shall defend thee. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 7 Heere comes the King. *Rich.* And his well-chosen Bride. 1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. last line, But, Lo! they 'arriv'ed now at th' appointed place; Well-chosen and well furnisht for the Chase. 1697 WALSH *Dryden's Virgil* Life 24 A well-chosen Library, which stood open to all comers of Learning and Merit. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 93 ¶ 10 The Mind never unbends itself so agreeably as in the Conversation of a well chosen Friend. 1753 YOUNG *Centaur* I. 5 Well-chosen Pleasure is a branch of happiness. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 393 Then to his book, Well chosen, and not sullenly perus'd In selfish silence.

b. esp. of words or language.

a 1704 LOCKE *Cond. Underst.* § 31 Well-chosen Similies, Metaphors, and Allegories. 1733 *Trnsl. J. Massey* 21 The Terms in which he express'd himself were strong, and well-chosen. 1828 WHATELY *Rhet.* III. ii. § 9. 243 A well-chosen epithet may often suggest..an entire Argument. 1845 LONGF. *Poets & P. Europe* (1871) 600 His language is simple, well-chosen, and beautiful.

Well-circumstanced, *a.* In good circumstances, well off. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 99 Parents, even the well-circumstanced, receive gladly..this boon of free education for their children.

Well(-)clad, *ppl. a.*

1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* vii. (Ellis) 91 To a Knyght appertayneth ..to haue fayr harnoys and to be wel cladde. 1684 *List Military* To Rdr, Four Thousand advantagiously Trained, and well clad Men. *a* 1796 BURNS *As on the banks* 19 When a' my weel-clad banks could see Their woody pictures in my tide. 1907 MCCARTHY *Needles & Pins* xx, You shall be well clad, well weaponed, well horsed.

Well-cleansed, *ppl. a.* 1598 CHAPMAN *Seven Iliads* VII. 135 Which when he had Infunde Into the greene wel-clensed wound,..this wound did bleede no more. **Well-closed**, *ppl. a.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 97 But that it [her breath] hoped to bee drawne in againe to that well closed paradise. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 132 Each of them [draws] a Ball from forth a well-closed Urne. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 28 The dry mass is..transferred to well-closed bottles. **Well-clothed**, *ppl. a.* 1636 CRASHAW *Temperance* 21 A well-cloth'd soul; that's not oppress Nor choak't with what she should be drest. 1727 SOMERVILLE *Occas. Poems* 353 He how'd, obey'd, well-cloath'd, well-fed, And with his Patron's Children bred.

Well-coloured, *ppl. a.*

c 1400 [see COLOURED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1449-50 METHAM *Wks.* 92 Qwan the myd lyne ya..t.. ..fyth a mygthi stomake. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xv — He was but a childe, well coloured, and beautyfull to loke vpon. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 37 These eyes that now thee now well coloured, Shall see thee withered, bloody, pale, and dead. 1666 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 184 In which time the Wine usually becomes well-coloured and bright. 1732 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 153 The rich Buffet well-colour'd Serpents grace. 1903 *Oxford Mag.* 6 Nov. 67/2 The author writes..in a well-coloured and original style.

† **Well-commeʻnded**, *ppl. a.* 1603 R. PRICKET *Scouldiers Wish* C 1, For God commands each welcommended means Be vsde to shield a kingdome from extreames.

Well-compaʻcted, *ppl. a.*

1628 VENNER *Baths of Bathe* 1 Bathe..is a little well-compacted Cittie. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXII. 6 Advancing o'er the Fields Beneath one Roof of well-compacted Shields. 1725 — *Odyss.* XXI. 253 At ev'ry portal let some matron wait, And each lock fast the well-compacted gate. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, The accuracy of proportion displayed in his nervous and well-compacted figure. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. v. (1864) II. 21 The solid and well-compacted body of Roman law. 1874 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf.-P.* 815 Close by the stream where well-compacted boats Were moored.

† **Well-complexioned**, *a. Obs.* Having a good complexion (constitution, colour, etc.).

1413 [see COMPLEXIONED 1]. 1628 S. WARD *Life of Faith in Death* (1627) 203 Such soules..as place all their felicitie to be in a full fedde, and well complexioned body. 1635 BERKETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 105 Proper, personable, well-complectioned men. 1688 COLLIER *Several Disc.* (1725) 15 And yet when Nature seems thus vigorous and strong, thus healthy and well complexion'd, 'twill then sicken, and sink on the sudden. 1715 [see COMPLEXIONED 3].

Well(-)compoʻsed, *ppl. a.* 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 79 The Grecian youths are .well compos'd, with guift of nature. 1652 GATAKER *Ridley* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* 504 His very outward making, promised a well-composed inside. 1792 BURKE *Let. Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. 1907 V. 210 It was a complete system,..well digested and well composed in all its parts.

† **Well(-)conceiʻted**, *a. Obs.*

1. Displaying good fancy or invention; witty, ingenious.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 39 Well conceited, Davy. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanis* II. vi. E 6 b, Such straines of well-conceited poesie.

2. Of persons: Having a favourable opinion (*of* a person or thing).

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 227 Weakely..affecting them who have beene..welconceited of me, tender and indulgent. 1649 [see CONCEITED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* Ded., I am not..so well conceited of any Composition..of mine, as to think I shall do you any Honour by this Dedication. *a* 1677 [see CONCEITED *ppl. a.* 2].

Well-conceʻrted, *ppl. a.*

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XXIII. 33 With well-concerted art to end his woes. 1748 YOUNG within..Smil'd at th 1768-74 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* (1834) I. 483 Wisdom..pursues invariably one grand and well concerted design. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xvii. 282 By a well-concerted opposition and peaceable exposure of their grievances.

Well-conceʻcted, *ppl. a.* 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* IV. vi. 324, I opened it by Incision, and discharged a well-concocted Matter. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., Sobriety in our riper years is the effect of a well-concocted warmth. 1782 COWPER *Truth* 496 The well concocted juice. **Well-conʻcorded**, *ppl. a.* Duly harmonized. 1821 *Henry & Isabella* I. 227 Of all the utilities of this well concorded creation, the propriety of calamities..is one of the last which we learn to comprehend.

Well-conditioned, *a.*

1. Of good disposition, morals, or behaviour; having good 'conditions' or qualities; right-minded.

c 1482 *Monk Evesham* (Arb.) 75 He yat was so honeste of leuyng and wele condycyonde in hys demenyng. *a* 1500 *Prompt. Parv.* 521/1 (MSS. K., H.) Well condicionde or manerȳd, *morosus, vel bene morigeratus.* *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 581 Alle that good and wel-condicioned be. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 30 Their King (then, sixteene yeares old, and well-conditioned). 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* V. p. 241 See, in this well conditioned Soul, a Third To match with your good Couple. 1835 POE *Hans Pfaall* (init.), The well-conditioned city of Rotterdam. 1880 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 398 See what allowance vice finds in the respectable and well-conditioned class. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* 285 (*M. Aurelius*) They sincerely regarded it [Christianity] much as well-conditioned people, with us, regard Mormonism. 1880 FROUDE *Bunyan* vii. 91 This book is wrought into the mind and memory of every well-conditioned English or American child. 1903 R. GARNETT *Shakes.* 56 And, for thy full assurance, I have feigned her Contrite and well-conditioned at the last.

2. Having a good physical condition; being in a sound, healthy, or satisfactory state.

a 1623 RALEGH *Let. to Pr. Henry* Sceptick, etc. (1651) 128 In a well conditioned Ship, these things are chiefly required. 1628 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 240 Not a barrell that was missing, and .they were sound and well-conditioned. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 541 Father Simon..was a jolly well condition'd Man, very free in his Conversation. 1728 *Bradley's Family Dict.* II. s. v. *Sugar*, The other well-condition'd Boilings. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxiii. 172 A pretty estate, which, tho' not large, was well-conditioned, and capable of improvement. 1765 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 5 The Goods are arrived and brought a-shore safe and well-conditioned at Ancona. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* XVII. 203 The devoted horse is in fact a well-conditioned animal. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xix, Surveying with an eye of satisfaction his ..well-conditioned cattle.

b. *spec.* in *Surg.*

1679 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. iii. 10 If you judge the Wound to be so well conditioned that there is neither fear of Putrefaction nor Mortification. 1696 — *Surg.* II. i. 285 If the Constitution be good, and the Serum well-conditioned. 1883 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Well-conditioned*, ..in *surg.* being in a state tending to health; as, a well-conditioned wound or sore.

3. Established on good terms or conditions.

1649 FULLER *Gd. Th. in Bad T.* IV. vi. 103 A well-conditioned Peace. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* lxviii, An irksome submission to restraint, only made bearable by his thinking of it as a means of by-and-by securing a well-conditioned freedom.

Well-conduʻcted, *ppl. a.*

1. Properly directed, managed, or carried out.

1749 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art P.* 34 *note*, A regular well-conducted Piece. 1752 MASON *Elfrida, Lett. Drama* III. p. lx, The advantage the Audience receiv'd from a well-conducted Chorus. 1803 CHALMERS in *Life* (1851) I. 479 A series of judicious and well-conducted experiments. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 185 Hence land, after a well-conducted fallow, is always more productive of good grain than when it has undergone any other preparation. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 157 Every well-conducted restaurant nowadays is conducted on these principles.

2. Displaying exemplary conduct, well-behaved.

1838 DICKENS *Nicholeby* iv, Whether you consider me a highly virtuous..and well-conducted man in private life. 1853 THACKERAY *Sorrows of Werther* 15 Charlotte..Like a well-conducted person, Went on cutting bread and butter. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 306 Well-conducted and meritorious citizens.

Well(-)conneʻcted, *ppl. a.*

1. Linked together in good order or sequence; exhibiting proper sequence or coherence of thought.

1734 BERKELEY *Analyst* ii. 5 When from the distinct Contemplation and Comparison of Figures, their Properties are derived, by a perpetual well-connected chain of Consequences. 1781 JOHNSON *L. P., Milton* I. 262 It [*Samson Agonistes*] wants that power of attracting the attention, which a well-connected plan produces. 1884 [see CONNECTED *ppl. a.* 2].

2. Of good family and connexions.

1840 [see CONNECTED *ppl. a.* 4]. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. i, He learnt from other sources that the Ernscliffes were well connected. 1871 LE FANU *Rose & Key* I. xiv. 186 The vicar is a well-connected old gentleman.

absol. 1882 W. S. GILBERT *Iolanthe* I. (*Ballad*), Spurn not the nobly born With love affected, Nor treat with virtuous scorn The well-connected.

Well-conned, *ppl. a.* 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. Introd. 229 From me, thus nurtur'd, dost thou ask The classic poet's well-conned task? † **Well-conʻscienced**, *a. Obs.* (WELL *adv.* 30.] 14.. *T. Beckington's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 168 Such wele conseyenced persones. 1534 [see CONSCIENCED]. **Well-conseʻnting**, *ppl. a.* 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 370 Let both unite, with well-consenting mind.

Well-consiʻdered, *ppl. a.*

1. That has received due heed or consideration; carefully reflected on.

1769 BURROW *Rep. K. B.* (1776) IV. 2347 A solemn well-considered Determination. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. 1897 I. 107 We besought the King, in that well-considered address, to inquire into treasons. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 75 The cock..wading at their head With well-consider'd steps. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* III. iii, Mrs. Deane was a thin-lipped woman, who made small well-considered speeches on peculiar occasions. 1865 [see CONSIDERED *ppl. a.* 2].

2. Highly esteemed.

1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xii. 112 He..was a well-considered poet in his own tongue.

Well-conseʻrted, *ppl. a.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 12 So forth they pas, a well consorted paire.

Well-coʻnstituted, *ppl. a.* Of good make or constitution; rightly formed or framed.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* Wks. 1768 II. 279 If we should strive to please a well constituted taste. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* II. i. (1876) 145 So reluctant is a well-constituted mind to reflect on its own motive principles. 1836 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 263 A healthy and well-constituted nurse. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iii. 74 When asked what made an orderly and well-constituted state, Solon answered, 'When the people obey the rulers, and the rulers obey the laws'.

Well-construʻcted, *ppl. a.* 1784 COWPER *Tirocin.* 503 If shrewd, and of a well-constructed brain.

Well(-)conteʻnt, *a.* Highly pleased, gratified, or satisfied.

c 1440 [see CONTENT *a.* 2]. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXVI. 557 Whan rowlande sawe that they were armed, he was not well contente wyth it. 1556 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 298 Off the quhilk sowme forsaid I grant me weill content, satisfit, and pait. 1645 WALLER *Battle Summer Isl.* iii. 32 Now would the men with half their hoped pray Bee well content. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 805 He that finds One drop of heav'n's sweet mercy in his cup, Can dig, beg, rot and perish, well content, So he may wrap himself in honest rags At his last gasp. 1786 [see CONTENT *a.* 2]. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 373 So Philip rested with her well-content.

Well(-)conteʻnted, *ppl. a.*

1555 R. POWNALL *Musculus' Temperiues* iii. E j b, Being wel contented to suffre & indure al that the Lord hath ordeined for me, in that behalf. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxxii, If thou survive my well contented daie. 1621 *Tarlton's Jests* (1638) B 2, The Gentleman noting his mad humour, went his way wel contented: for he knew not how to amend it. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* xiii. (1673) 238 Then there was no such root Of gods, as now: a few did serve throughout The well-contented skies. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 88 From the woods Came voices of the well-contented doves. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. II. 431 Unless The dawn.. should creep Cold-footed o'er their well-contented sleep.

Well-conteʻnting, *ppl. a.* 1646 TRAPP *Comm. St. John* xxi. 24. 231 Humility..would chuse to live and dye in its well-contenting secrecy. **Well-conteʻnted**, *ppl. a.* 1824 *Oxf. Jrnl.* 28 Jan. 1/2 Wimbledon Common,..where Belcher

has fought many a well-contested round. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, River*, A well-contested rowing-match on the Thames, is a very lively and interesting scene. **Well-conti·nued,** *ppl. a.* Diligently carried on or maintained. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xvii. (1553) Q viij b, Howbeit, if this persecucion come, we be by this meditacion and well continued entente and purpose beefore, the better strengthed and confirmed. 1644 Milton *Educ.* 2 Their untutor'd Anglicisms, . . not to be avoided without a well continu'd and judicious conversing among pure Authors.

Well-contri·ved, *ppl. a.*

1613 Zouche *Dove* B 2 b, Like Natures rarest workmanship, the Eye, The well contriued instrument of seeing. 1692 [see Square *sb.* 19 b]. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 56 The well-contriv'd Stair-case of the Castle of Chambor. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 603 Nor taste alone and well-contriv'd display Suffice to give the marshall'd ranks the grace Of their complete effect. 1826 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* V. 23 A deep large well-contrived ditch secures it from the north.

Well-contro·lled, *ppl. a.* *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* IX. 128 Twelue yong horse, well shap't and well controld. **Well-cooked,** *ppl. a.* 1611 [see Cook *v.* 2]. 1836 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 285 Plain well cooked animal food, not too recently killed. *a* 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xxviii, Then the meals, light and well-cooked, suited his taste and delicate appetite so much better than [etc.]. **Well-corked,** *ppl. a.* 1774 E. Long *Jamaica* III. 886 A scorpion, a house-spider, and a cockroach, were put all together for experiment into a well-corked phial.

Well-corned, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Covered with a good crop of corn. *Obs.*

1632 Mayne tr. *Donne's Epigr.* Paradoxes 98 Glebes, which were long of sun and skie bereav'd, Now the Dutch Plowman sees wel corn'd & sheav'd.

2. Of cereals, beans, peas: Bearing a good head of grain or seeds.

1800, 1861 [see Corned *a.*[1] 4].

3. Of beef: High-cured by salting.

1778 *Ann. Reg.* 221 While I, half-famished, ev'ry hour Biscuit and well-corn'd beef devour.

4. Exhilarated with liquor. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1825 Jamieson s. v. Corn *v.* 2.

Well-corre·cted, *ppl. a.* Properly disciplined or regulated. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 100 P 4 When a well-corrected lively Imagination and good Breeding are added to a sweet Disposition.

Well-couched, *ppl. a.*

1. Of a structure: Firmly bedded or based.

1538 [see Couch *v.*[1] 3 b]. 1608 Bp. Hall *Char. Virtues & Vices* II. 104 He is the wheele of a well-couched fireworke, that flies out on all sides, not without scorching it selfe. 1639 [see Truncheon *sb.* 6]. 1675 [see Couched *ppl. a.*].

2. Of speech: Skilfully framed or expressed.

1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. i. 325 He, in well-couched Language, beseeches Pollarchus to use his fortune moderately. 1644 Milton *Educ.* 6 Logic . . with all her well coucht heads and Topics. 1649 — *Eikon.* iv. 28 Wee have heer . . a neat and well-couch'd invective against Tumults. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1723) I. 158 Whilst harmonious Musick and well-couch'd Flattery entertain his Hearing by Turns.

3. Skilfully or craftily planned.

1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 97 Not force, but well couch't fraud, well woven snares.

Well-counterfeited, *ppl. a.* 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. xi. 29 With well-counterfeited griefe.

Well-coupled: see Coupled 3.

Well-covered, *ppl. a.*

1697 Walsh *Dryden's Virgil* Life **2 In other Writers there is often well cover'd Ignorance; in Virgil, conceal'd Learning. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1776 (1904) II. 46 My worthy booksellers and friends, Messieurs Dilly in the Poultry, at whose hospitable and well-covered table I have seen a greater number of literary men, than at any other. 1853 Soyer *Pantropheon* 121 They are then cooked without water, in a well-covered vessel. *a* 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xxxiii, Till he had placed him, nothing loth, at the well-covered dining-table. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 9 May 445/3 Thrusting his elbow into the well-covered ribs of Mr. W. H. Smith.

Well-crammed, *ppl. a.* 1743 Blair *Grave* 324 Where are thy boasted implements of art, And all thy well-cramm'd magazines of health? †**Well-created,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Noble, valiant. (Cf. obs. F. *bien créé.*) *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 130 She strengthened her well created heart.

Well-cress. Now *dial.* [OE. *wyllcerse, -cerse*: see Well *sb.*[1] and Cress.] Water-cress, *Nasturtium officinale.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 140 Seoð mid wylle cærsan [L. *cum fumo graveol.*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 298/16 *Feniculum*, wyllecerse. 1393 Langland *P. Pl.* C. VII. 292 3ut were me leuere . . lyue by welle-carse(s) þan haue my fode and my fyndynge of false menne wynnynges. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/24 *Nasturcium*, walcarse. *Ibid.* 712/17 *Hoc nastucium*, welcresse. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 105 Sche commandit the said Johne . . to eat valcarss. 1808 Jamieson, *Well-kersses*, water-cresses, called also *wall-* or *well-grass*. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v. *Kars, Watter-kars*, water-cress; also called *well-kersses.*

Well(-)cre·sted, *a.* [Well *adv.* 32.] Furnished with a good crest; *fig.* proud, high-spirited.

1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb) 76 It being the greatest glory of a King, to be King of a free and well-crested people. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1768/4 A White grey Roan Gelding, . . well Crested.

Well-cropped, *ppl. a.* Bearing a good crop. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* (1821) I. 235 These rich meadows, and well-cropt acres. **Well-crushed,** *ppl. a.* 1880 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* I. xii, The precious inland products, the well-crushed cheese and the soft fleeces.

Well-cu·ltivated, *ppl. a.*

c 1720 Congreve tr. *Ovid* Wks. 1730 III. 304 And plenteous Crops of golden Grain are found, Alone, to grace well-cultivated Ground. 1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) IV. 221 A student of acute parts, and a well-cultivated understanding. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxx. III. 172 The banks of the Rhine were crowned . . with elegant houses and well-cultivated farms. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* I. ix. 181 The thriving, cheering aspect of our well-cultivated kingdom. 1879 Mrs. Hawker *Art of Dress* 124 We are offending well-cultivated eyes and well-regulated minds.

Well-cu·ltured, *ppl. a.* 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 87 Kitchen-herbes and roots require very fat, light, warme, and well-cultured ground.

†**Wellcurds (also weale, wel-),** obs. var. *welled curds*: see Welled *ppl. a.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Schiston*, the mylke that remayneth after that the mylke is sodden, whiche is callyd well courdes. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Schistum*, weale cruddes. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 148 Of the Whay that commeth from the Cheese, being sodde with a soft fyre, tyl the fatnesse of the Cheese swym aloft, are made Welcurdes [*Marg.in* Wellcurds].

Well-cured, *ppl. a.* 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xvii (ed. 1), A side of streaky, well-cured bacon. 1875 'S. Beauchamp' *N. Hamilton* II. 256 The kitchen . . was well furnished, too, with well-cured hams and good thick sides of bacon. **Well-curled,** *ppl. a.* 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 177 See that they [*sc.* sheep] . have a soft greasie well curled close Wooll. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* I. xi, The well-curled damsels, standing at the shop-doors. 1839 *Habits Gd. Society* iv. 286 The feather . . should be full, well-curled, long and firm. **Well-curried,** *ppl. a.* 1813 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 1 My palfrey a long-ear'd and well-curried ass. **Well-curved,** *ppl. a.* 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 117 The light Dorset swing-plough . . has a well-curved iron breast. **Well-cu·shioned,** *a.* 1826 Miss Yonge *C'tess Kate* I, Round, white, well-cushioned limbs. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 2/1 So he speedily settles down to his well-cushioned life. **Well(-)cu·stomed,** *ppl. a.* 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* I. 66 But this [trick of the vintners] is daungerous vnlesse it bee in a house well customed. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1578/4 A Large and well customed Inn.

Well(-)cut, *ppl. a.*

1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* IV. 288 His Epbod, Mitre, well-cut Diadam on. *a* 1691 Sir G. Mackenzie in *Watson's Collect. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 79 A well cut Cristal, in a richer Case, Covers and Shews at once that Virgin's Face. 1721 in *New Collect. Poems by Prior* etc. (1725) 18 Close, Carver! by some well-cut Books, Let a thin Busto tell; In spight of plump and pamper'd Looks, How scantly Sense can dwell! 1841 Emerson *Conservative* Wks. (Bohn) II. 274 Your roads are well cut and well paved. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xi, A well-cut, well-made gown. 1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* x, A well-cut holiday suit.

Welld, obs. form of Wield *v.*

Well-dea·ling, *ppl. a.* Fair in dealing or business with others. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. i. 7 The rancorous outrage of your Duke, To Merchants our well-dealing Countrimen. **Well-dealt,** *ppl. a.* 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* v. 191 One well-dealt blow settles the whole matter.

We·ll-deck. [Well *sb.*[1] 9 b.] An open space on the main deck of a ship, lying at a lower level between the forecastle and poop; also *attrib.* Hence **We·ll-decked** *a.*, furnished with a well-deck. Also **We·ll-de·cker,** a ship with a well-deck.

1888 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. 2/1 The objection to the well-deck ship is not due to structural form. 1888 *Engineer* 8 June 468/3 Steamers of the 'well-deck' type. 1888 *Iron* 22 June 554 A well-decked steamer of 270 feet length. 1888 *Ibid.* 20 July 65 The *Harworth* has a poop, long raised quarter-deck, long bridge . . , and a topgallant forecastle, leaving only a short well-deck. 1889 *Engineer* 1 Mar. 192/2 A large proportion of the steamers built and owned at West Hartlepool are 'well-deckers'. 1898 Kipling *Day's Work* 83 The deck amidships, which was a well-deck sunk between high bulwarks.

Well(-)decked, *ppl. a.* [Decked *ppl. a.*]

1. Finely adorned.

? *a* 1500 [see Deckid *ppl. a.* 1]. 1530 Palsgr. 329/1 Well apparayled or well decked, *gorrier.* *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* X. 4 As quicke lightnings flie From well-deckt-Iunos soueraigne, out of the thickned skie. 1865 [see Decked *ppl. a.* 1].

2. Built with a good deck.

1887 Morris *Odyss.* IX. 127 The well-decked ships.

†**Well-dee·ded,** *a. Obs.* [f. Well *adv.* 32 + Deeded. Cf. Wel-dede.] Characterized by good deeds.

1612 R. Carpenter *Soule's Sent.* 92 The witnes and inward testimony of a well-deeded life . . will relieue and comfort you in death. 1623 — *Conscionable Chr.* 69 There is a reward in heauen for all well-deeded Christians prepared. 1650 Trapp *Comm., Numb.* xxii. 28 A well-spoken and well-deeded person.

†**Well-deemed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Of good report, much accounted of. 1592–5 Spenser *Colin Clout* 695 By slaundring his well deemed name. †**Well-defe·nced,** *ppl. a. Obs.* 1618 [see Defenced]. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Apol. Voy. Guiana* (1650) 15 From hence . . we sayled to Gomarrah, one of the strongest and well defenced places of all the Islands.

Well-defe·nded, *ppl. a.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xxviii. (1912) 316 Pressing upon Zelmane in such a wel defended manner, that [etc.]. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 407 Whose salt imagination yet hath wrong'd Your well defended honor. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xviii. 244 Vaine entrie seeking vnderneath our well-defended wals. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 933 Soon repuls'd they fly, Or in the well-defended Pass they dye. 1809 Scott *Anne of G.* xxxiii, Instead of attempting to secure a well-defended frontier. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. 169 We . . freely will appoint for thee Threefold and fourfold recompense, should Jove Give up to sack this well-defended Troy.

Well-defi·ned, *ppl. a.* Clearly indicated, marked, or determined.

1704 Newton *Optics* II. 1, (1721) 171 When the Rings . . known species. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxviii. 279 There was one well-defined lead which . . lost itself to seaward. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 146 Its well-defined geographical and historical range. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* xxxix. 278 If Kit had looked closely he would have seen that his frankness had brought a well-defined blush to her cheek.

Well-deli·vered, *ppl. a.* 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* iii. 52 These cuirasses . . were not proof against a well-delivered thrust of the point of sword or spear. **Well-dema·ned,** *ppl. a.* Of good manners or behaviour. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* III. v. (1655) 54 A very hand-som fellow, And well demean'd. 1838 Haliburton *Clockm. Ser.* II. xii, The young queen . . was . . well-dressed and well-demeaned. **Well(-)deri·ved,** *ppl. a.* Of good descent or stock. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 146 Thou art a Gentleman, and well deriu'd. 1602 — *All's Well* III. ii. 90 My sonne corrupts a well-deriued nature With his inducement. **Well(-)descended,** *ppl. a.* Of good descent. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 303 Stay, Sir King. This man is better then the man he slew, As well descended as thy selfe. 1630 Heath *Clarastella* 13 But she is high and wel-discended; true; My birth stiles me as freeborn too. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. 269 A rich and well-descended country gentleman.

Well(-)dese·rved, *ppl. a.* Rightfully merited or earned.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxii. § 9 We . . caused the wicked Historian to conclude his history, with his owne well-deserued death. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi. 20 The lignage right, From whence he tooke his well deserued name. 1619 Drayton *Bar. Wars* II. xliv. 25 Your Bayes must be your well-deserued blame, For your ill actions quench my sacred flame. 1756 C. Smart tr. *Horace* (1826) II. 95 He who derived a well-deserved title from the destruction of Carthage. 1815 Scott *Talism.* v, Until his awful judge shall at length appoint the well-deserved sentence to be carried into execution. 1889 J. B. Bury *Later Rom. Emp.* I. 76 The Gildonic war, through which Stilicho won well-deserved laurels.

†**b.** In active sense or loose construction = 'having well deserved it.' *Obs.*

1602 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 192 If I breake time, or flinch in property Of what I spoke, vnpittied let me die, And well deseru'd.

†**Well-dese·rver.** *Obs.* One who deserves well (*of* another).

1617 A. Newman *Pleasures Vision* 32 Then well-deseruers well regarded Would be. 1622 F. Markham *Bk. War* I. vi. 22 This Reward of martiall excellence . . extended fourth it-selfe, euen to the lowest souldier in his Campe and meanest wel-deseruer. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* Ded., The Court: A place of forgetfulness, at the best, for well deservers. 1709 Steele & Swift *Tatler* No. 70 P 6, I shall think my self a Well-Deserver of the Church, in recommending all the dumb Clergy to the famous speaking Doctor at Kensington.

†**Well-dese·rving,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Good desert.

1609 Bible (Douay) 3 *Kings* vi. Contin. Ch. & Relig. 704 Boos . prayed God to render to Ruth a ful reward for her wel deserving. 1620 Gainsford *Glory Eng.* II. xxviii. (ed. 2) 331 Whether I flie with the wings of vaine-glorie, in the amplia-tion of our well deseruing. 1622 Wither *Faire-Virtue* K 4 b, Shall a Womans Virtues moue, Me, to perish for her loue? Or, her well-deseruing knowne, Make me quite forget mine owne?

Well-dese·rving, *ppl. a.* Highly meritorious or worthy.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 117 How deepely the common wealth is growne in your debte, for your meritorious and wel deseruing behauiour. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* Apol. Poetrie ¶ iij b, Traitors that sell their princes fauours, and rob welldeseruing seruitors of their reward. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 66 The . . Generals diuided innumerable spoyles, to their well-deseruing Captaines. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 784 Now what avails his well-deserving Toil. 1798 Wordsw. *Peter Bell* 936 Calm is the well-deserving brute.

absol. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 100 To defend and relieue the distrest and wel-deseruing. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. v. (1674) 8 Only the most vertuous and well-deserving commanded.

Hence **Well-deservingness.**

1632 Massr *Celestina* xii. 141 The gentlenesse and well-deservingnesse of Melibea.

Well-desi·gned, *ppl. a.* 1709 Atterbury *Serm.* (1726) II. 231 The Ill Success, that has been observed to attend well-design'd Charities. **Well-desi·gning,** *ppl. a.* 1736 Addison *Free-holder* No. 14 P 5 Under the name of Tories, I do not here comprehend multitudes of well-designing men, who were formerly included under that denomination, but are now in the interest of his Majesty and the present government. **Well(-)desi·red,** *ppl. a.* Much sought after. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. i. 206 (Hony) you shall be well desir'd in Cyprus. **Well-deve·loped,** *ppl. a.* 1838–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 435/2 Well-developed systems of arteries. 1861 Mill *Utilit.* iii. (1863) 49 Any mind, of well developed feelings. **Well-devi·sed,** *ppl. a.* 1825 Scott *Talism.* xv, Some well-devised stratagem. 1861 Brougham *Brit. Const.* v. (1862) 77 A well-devised system of registration. **Well(-)dieted,** *ppl. a.* Subjected to a good regimen of diet. 1475 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 242, I may not ete half i-nough, when I have most hungyr, I am so well dyettyd. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv. 1 What! the well-dieted Amorphus become a water-drinker? 1605 [see Dieted *ppl. a.*].

Well(-)dige·sted, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Of good digestion; *fig.* able to assimilate one's learning. *Obs.*

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii, If they should confidently praise their workes, In them it would appeare inflation: Which in a full, and wel-digested man Cannot receiue that foule abusiue name.

†**2.** Fully matured or ripened. *Obs.*

1637 Jer. Taylor *Disc. Friendship* 12 Some have splendid fires, aromatic spices, rich wines, and well digested fruits. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 111 The strong tone of its vessels and its precipitant circulation drive on the juices before well digested, and are apt to throw crudities into the fruit.

3. Carefully and methodically arranged.

1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xi. 340 The College . . s . . a well digested Library. [illegible] *Hist. Lit.* III. 253 At the end of each Volume [is] a ——— well-digested Index. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. III. § 2. 354 Regular and well-digested Accounts of the Phaenomena of the Natural World.

4. Carefully pondered or thought out.

1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 284 Each man, whatever his peculiar notions be, if he has any serious well-digested ones, may find something in them, which [etc.]. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) Pref., The well-digested plan which the large brewers have acted upon. 1867 A. Barry *Sir C. Barry* VIII. 287 A scheme . . which will probably be thought to show well-digested principle.

Well(-)dire·cted, *ppl. a.* Aimed, addressed, guided, conducted, with skill and care.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xi. § 2 With a number of well directed Pioners. 1694 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xx. § 18 (ed. 2) 223 The pleasure . . of well directed study in the search . . of Truth. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* III. ii. 3 To hurl the well-directed spear. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 606 Any well-directed industry. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 239 They breath'd in faith their well directed pray'rs. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 7 June 2/4 The Penelope . . whose well-directed fire . . had shot away the main and mizentopmasts. 1836 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 279 The power we possess of modifying the constitution by well-directed regimen is very great. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 236 The Dartmouth poured on them a well directed broadside. a 1871 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* ii. 36 If . . we . . explain it only as a well-directed choice and discretion on the part of the individual.

Well(-)di·sciplined, *ppl. a.*

1. Kept under good discipline; strictly trained or controlled.

1595 [Lewkenor] *Estate Engl. Fugitives* R iv, Like wel disciplined souldiours that keepe still good and warie watch, though they be neuer so farre from the enemie. 1642 Earl of Cork in Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 8 These seasoned and well disciplined companies. 1702 J. Dennis *Ess. Navy* title-p., England's Advantage and Safety, prov'd Dependant on a Formidable and well-Disciplined Navy. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 339 A well-disciplined imagination. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 528 The power of self-government which is characteristic of men trained in well disciplined camps to command and to obey. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* x, At first sight, all but peculiarly well-disciplined minds were apt to turn from her with annoyance.

2. Soundly flogged.

1659–60 *Arsy Versy* vi, It did now, like a Truant's well-disciplined Bum, With the rod of affliction harder become.

Well-disgui·sed, *ppl. a.* 1724 Fiddes *Morality* Pref. p. lxxv, What we term public spiritedness . . is nothing more than a refined and well-disguised hypocrisy. **Well-dispe·rsed,** *ppl. a.* 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 236 In heaps, like Ambergrise, a stink it lies, But well-dispers'd, is Incense to the Skies.

Well(-)dispo·sed, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** In good physical condition, healthy. *Obs.*

c 1386 [see Disposed 2]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xli (1495) 157 Yf these [organs] ben in good state and yf they ben hoole and well dysposed, the beest is al hoole. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 247, I shall you say shortely What thynges makyth the body fat, moiste, and well dysposid. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxix. § 4 Such a full and evident perception as it [the mind] does receive from an outward object operating duly on a well-disposed organ. a 1716 South *Serm.* (1842) III. 475 An healthful body and a sound mind, vigorous faculties and well-disposed organs.

†**b.** Of reason: ? Sound, sane. *Obs.*

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. iii. 148 Wherfore no doom of weel disposid reson reprouyth and weerneth the seid hauyng and vsing of ymagis in the chirche.

†**c.** Of the weather: ? Temperate, fair. *Obs.*

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 54 b, The fayr sonne shone clere . . and the weder was softe and well disposed.

2. Suitably or skilfully placed, arranged, or adjusted.

c 1470 Ashby *Active Policy* 307 Be ye rather clept an executer Of wisdam . . Than to be proclamed a wise speker, . . Of bothe, weldisposed, fame shal arise. 1576 R. Peterson *G. della Casa's Galateo* 71 Long and continued talke: which would be well disposed, wel vttered & very wel set forth. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Vine*, To plant an Acre of such Ground with Vines, in some well-disposed place on the declivity of an Hill. 1748 Melmoth *Fitzosborne Lett.* lxi. (1749) II. 116 The grace and harmony of well-disposed lights and shades.

3. Of a good disposition; *esp.* disposed to be friendly or favourable, well-affected.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 325/1 Every wele disposed persone of yis lande. 1486 *Paston Lett.* I. 392 The Comons of Kent . . ar not all weel disposid. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 15 b, An honeste or weldisposed manne. 1570 Elviden *New Yr.'s Gift* (Huth 1873) B ij, Though the wicked syer Shoulde seeme for to prouoke His well disposed sonne to yll. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xvii. (1912) 259 A certain sparke of honour, which rose in her well-disposed minde, made her feare to be alone with him, with whom alone she desired to be. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, II. i. 206 You loose a thousand well-disposed hearts. 1622 Withers *Faire-Virtue* K 4 b, Should my heart be grieud . . Cause I see a Woman kind? Or a well disposed Nature, loyned with a lously Feature? 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 286, I was in a humour so well disposed that I accepted very willingly. 1663 Boyle *Excell. Theol.* (1674) 139 Studious and well-dispos'd Readers may certainly understand such [truths] as are necessary for them to believe. 1709 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) II. 74 While he . . stands so well-dispos'd towards the Laws and Government of his higher Country. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. ii, The charity of well disposed people . . supplies him with the whole fund of his subsistence. 1814 Scott *Guy M.* iii, An obliging, well-disposed, and civil neighbour of mine. 1858 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 93 The Government should have done their best to secure a well-disposed House.

absol. 1699 South *Serm.* (1679) 72 The Unprepossessed on the one hand, and the well disposed on the other. 1865 Brougham *Brit. Const.* xv. 233 The indolence and timidity of the well-disposed enabled the enemies of the people to prevail.

Hence **Well-dispo·sedness.** *rare.*

1621 Br. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* § 10 By a well-disposednesse of mind, we may correct the iniquity of all hard euents.

Well-dispu·ted, *ppl. a.* 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 900 Amid the Main, two mighty Fleets engage Their Brazen Beaks . . Actium surveys the well disputed Prize. 27 . . Congreve *Homer's Hymn to Venus* Wks. 1730 III. 369 The Martial Maid . . O'er War presides, and well-disputed Fights. 1728 Pope *Dunciad* II. 245 This well-disputed game. **Well-disse·cted,** *ppl. a.* 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 353 Thy Specular Orb Apply to well-dissected Kernels.

Well-disse·mbled, *ppl. a.*

1693 *Dryden's Juvenal* iv. (1697) 84 Unhappy Youth! whom from his destin'd End, No well-dissembled Madness could defend. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 394 The Grove it self resembles Ida's Wood; And Simois seem'd the well dissembl'd Flood. 17 . . Congreve *Homer's Hymn to Venus* Wks. 1730 III. 370 While to conceal the Theft from Juno's Eyes, Some well-dissembled Shape the God belies. 1746 Thomson *Spring* 383 The well-dissembled fly, The rod fine-tapering with elastic spring. 1763 Colman *Terence, Andrian* I. i. 25 Then! there! the frighted Pamphilus betrays His well-dissembled and long-hidden love. 1817 Scott *Ivanhoe* xiv, The cup went round amid the well-dissembled applause of the courtiers.

Well-disti·nguished, *ppl. a.* 1706 Watts *Horæ Lyr.* (1727) 70 Lo, from afar the promis'd Day Shines with a well-distinguish'd Ray. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 538 Servants, all arranged in well-distinguished grades. **Well-divi·ded,** *ppl. a.* 1606 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 53 He was nor sad nor merrie. *Cleo.* Oh well diuided disposition. 1634–40 Habington *Castara* (Arb.) 82 If the Swans of Thames . . Oth' sudden heare thy well-divided breath. [Cf. Divide v. 11.]

Well-doer (we·l,dŭəɹ). One who does well; one who lives virtuously or acts uprightly.

c 1430 *Mirk's Festial* 1 To bryng . . weldoers to be blys þat euer schall last. 1530 Palsgr. *Ep. to King* p. iv, Well doers in any kynde of vertue. 1648–58 Hexham II. s. v. *Wel, Een wel-doender, oft wel-dader*, a Benefactour or a Well-doer. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. v. (1699) 92 Who is so general a well-doer, that no Body complains of him.

Well-doing (we·l,dŭiŋ), *vbl. sb.*

1. The action or practice of doing good; virtuous life and behaviour.

1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 62 Slownes is a cursid thing: For it is evere werl of weel doyng. c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 3 Ladies . . that . . were . . honoured . . for her well-doinge and goodnes. 1526 Tindale *1 Thess.* iii. 13 Brethren be not weary in well doynge. 1574 Hake *Touchstone* E 1 b, Of sinne commeth death: Of wel doing commeth life. 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xv. (1687) 128 He suffered for well doing, and we for ill. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 59 We are so made, that well-doing as such gives us satisfaction. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xiv, Laugh at your ain toom pouches—it will be lang or your weel-doing fill them. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Antigone* 703 Welldoing and fair fame of sire to son, Of son to sire, is noblest ornament.

†**b.** Valour, martial prowess. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* XXVII. 550 But the cristin ne myght but litill space endure, ne hadde be the well doinge of the v knyghtes of the reame of logres.

c. *pl.* Good deeds or actions.

1552 Latimer *Serm., 1st Sund. Epiph.* (1584) 300 b, Seeing wee shall haue no rewarde for our well doynges.

2. Thriving condition; health, prosperity, welfare, success.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. x. 290 In hope of weldoing, and of getting agayn the double of thy lesing. 1557 Q. Mary in Mary A. E. Wood *Lett. Roy. Ladies* (1846) III. 313 The lady Latimer, who, of a natural and motherly affection, doth tender the well-doing of her said daughter, hath been of late an humble suitor unto us for our letter, desiring [etc.]. 1579 *Manutius' Phrases Lat.* (1595) 154 Your welfare and weldoing reioyceth me as much as mine owne. 1625 Ld. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 262 We are glad to hear of your well doing. 1699 B. Harris *Parival's Iron Age* 215 He began to make head again, and was in a way of well-doing, when he received the Kings command to disband. 1763 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* II. 415 For . . the increase and well-doing of the plants. 1800 Wordsw. *Michael* 432 A good report did from their Kinsman come, Of Luke and his well-doing. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 338 Houses . . for fatting wild fowl, . . whose well-doing was so considered, that [etc.]

well-doing.'

We·ll-doing, *ppl. a.*

1. That does good or acquits oneself well; †valiant; diligent in performance of work or duty; well-behaved, respectable.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 4773 Four score . . Hardi & wele doinde knistes. 1597 Shake. *Lover's Compl.* 110 And controuersie hence a question takes, Whether the horse by him became his deed, Or he his manaadg, by th' wel doing Steed. 1622 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* II. 1, 331 That his Master may find him doing, yea welldoing. 1822 Byron *Heaven & Earth* I. iii, I am safe, not for my own deserts, but those Of a well-doing sire, who hath been found Righteous enough to save his children. 1882 D. Grant *Sc. Stor.* 76 Sic an honest, weel-daen woman as I kent my wife to be!

2. *Sc.* Well-to-do, prosperous, thriving.

1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* V. 59 He was a douce and discreet man, fair and well-doing in the world. 1827 'L. Keith' *My Bonny Lady* VII. 67 'Do you know nothing of her folk?' 'Nothing, forby that they are well-doing in the world.'

Well(-)done (we·l,dŭn), *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Wise, prudent, virtuous. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 Du ses wel don mon, and þarto wurðlich. c 1205 [see Ydo(n).

2. Skilfully or rightly performed or executed.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. viii. 190 It is a merytorie and a weel don deede. 1479 *Coty Papers* (Camden) 22 Hyt wher wheldoyng to enquer . . how he mythet be payd. 1622 Shake. *Twel. N.* I. v. 253 We will draw the Curtain, and shew you the picture . . Is not well done? 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* V. ii. 328–9 What worke is heere Charmian? Is this well done? *Char.* It is well done, and fitting for a Princesse. 1892 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 82 This is a clear and well-done translation. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 2/1 A well-done landscape of late

——

b. as an exclamation, expressing approval of what some one has done.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 347 *Secundus Miles.* Well done! 1538 Elyot *Dict., Euge*, well done. 1611 Bible *Matt.* xxv. 21 Well done, thou good and faithfull seruant. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* 3 Oct., Well done, my dear boy!—O bravo! 1791 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 189 Tam . . roars out, 'Weel done, Cutty-sark!' 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 243 *Ion.* I obtained the first prize of all, Socrates. *Soc.* Well done.

c. quasi-*sb.* The utterance of this exclamation, as an expression of commendation.

1608 Earle *Microcosm., Self-conceited Man* (Arb.) 32 Two excellent well-dones haue vndone him. 1790 *Proc. African Assoc.* 40 A single well-done from your Association has more worth in it to me, than all the trappings of the East. 1840 R. H. Dana *Two Yrs. bef. Mast* xi. (1854) 49 Fortunately I got through without any word from the officer, and heard the 'well done' of the mate, when the yard reached the deck.

†**d.** quasi-*sb.* What is well doue. (In quot. personified.) *Obs.*

1608 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IX. liii. 236 And curious thay That, dribling Almes by Arte, disband wel-Meant from wel-Dons pay.

3. Of meat: Thoroughly cooked.

1846 Soyer *Gastron. Regen.* p. xxi, Veal and pork must be well done. Venison must be underdone.

Well-dow·ered, *ppl. a.* 1822 Scott *Nigel* iii, Unless you think rather of taking a pretty, well-dowered English lady. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* II. iii. 253 Then each shall dwell in homes well-dowered.

Well(-)drawn, *ppl. a.*

1. Skilfully delineated. Also of the human form: Well modelled or proportioned.

1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* Ded., As a dark soil in a well drawn picture. 1709 Shaftesb. *Moralists* I. iii. 30 Not captivated by the Lineaments of a fair Face, or the well-drawn Proportions of a human Body. 1825 Kingsley *Glaucus* 162 Two little 'Popular' Histories . . furnished . . with well-drawn and coloured plates.

2. Strongly stretched, straightened out, etc.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 262 In fighting fields as far the spear I throw, As flies an arrow from the well-drawn bow. 1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. 363 A thick coat of well-drawn dry wheat-straw is then laid over them [*sc.* the potatoes].

Well(-)dressed, *ppl. a.*

1. Clothed in good and becoming attire.

1576 R. Peterson *G. della Casa's Galateo* 20 They be neuer redie: euer a trimming: neuer well dressed to their mindes. 1712–14 Pope *Rape of Lock* II. 5 Fair Nymphs and well-drest Youths around her shone. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 19 Sept. 1777, A well-drest elderly housekeeper . . shewed us the house. 1849 James *Woodman* IV, This was no well-dressed and splendid assemblage. 1876 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims* II. Wks. (Bohn) III. 177 The lady who declared 'that the sense of being perfectly well-dressed gives a feeling of inward tranquillity which religion is powerless to bestow'.

2. Properly prepared, cultivated, trimmed, cooked, etc.

1693 Congreve *Juv.* Sat. xi. 136 Scarce a Slave, but has to Dinner now, The well-dress'd Paps of a fat pregnant Sow. 1768 Boswell *Corsica* (ed. 2) 280 At dinner we had no less than twelve well-drest dishes. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 1) II. 811/2 The wool must be of a good quality, and well dressed. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 465 The sloping banks of the Tay are finely wooded, with well-dressed walks on the top. *Ibid.* 470 Surrounded with well dressed fields to the south.

Well-dried, *ppl. a.* c 1624 Chapman *Hymn to Hermes* 93 Seuen strings, of seuerall tunes, . . Made of the Entrailes of a sheepe well dried. 1728 E. S[mith] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 133 Then put in three quarters of a pound of Flour well dried. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 467 The most proper fuel . . for drying the flax, is either charcoal, or well-dried turf. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* xx. 225 At least 200,000 well-ripened and well-dried seeds were now gathered.

Well-drilled, *ppl. a.* [See Drill *v.*[2]]

1. Thoroughly trained, exercised, or disciplined.

1817 Lady Morgan *France* I. 53 A certain mechanical immobility of the well-drilled countenances. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 170 Immediately afterwards Richelieu handed over a well-drilled territory to Louis XIV. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 257 Its vast and well-drilled army of Jesuits.

2. Skilfully pierced or perforated.

1873 W. Pengelly *Cave Men Devon.* in *Manchester Sci. Lect.* Ser. v. & vi. 125 A bone needle with a well-drilled eye in it. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Story of Ung* 31 No store of well-drilled needles.

Well-dri·ven, *ppl. a.* 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* III. viii. (1607) H 3 b, *Mos.* O, that his well-driu'n sword Had beene so curteous to haue cleft me downe, Vnto the naull, ere I liu'd to see [etc.]. c 1612 Chapman *Iliad* XI. 386 This said, he threw quite through his shield, his fell and well-driuen

——— **Well-dunged,** *ppl. a.* 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 33 b, The Beane delighteth in riche and well dounged ground. 1760 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* II. 62 Barley, which delights in a well-dunged soil. **Well-dying,** *vbl. sb.* 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 77 Seldome doth hee dye well that liues ill; therefore in the course of your life practise well doing, and, at parting you shall haue the comfort of well dying. 1695 *D'Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Orders* 209 Of the Order of the Fathers of Well-dying. **Well-dy·ing,** *ppl. a.* 1633 Earl Manch.

Al-Mondo (1636) 104 But to assure there are joyes in Death, what saith the Scripture to well-dying men?

Welle, obs. form of WELL.

Well(-)earned, *ppl. a.* Fully deserved or due; merited or acquired by good work or behaviour.

1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 343 The big hopes And well-earned treasures of the painful year. 1749 WARTON *Tr. Isis* 61 To wear the well-earn'd wreath that merit brings. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VIII. 593 The ruddy boys Withdrew, on summons to their well-earned meal. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 75 Yet William might have had a more tranquil reign if he had postponed for a time the well earned promotion of his chaplain. 1855 PALEY *Æschylus* (1861) Pref. vi, Its well-earned character for practical utility and careful editorial supervision. 1896 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. viii. 205 No pirate who ever swung on a well-earned gallows had committed darker crimes.

Welled, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. WELL *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

†**a.** Of metal: Molten, cast. Also *welled together*, rendering L. *conflatilis*. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Seyn Julian* 54 A chetel wol of iwelled bras bluore þis maide was ibrozt. 1382 WYCLIF *Hab.* ii. 18 A wellid thing to gidre [Vulg. *conflatile*], and a fals ymage. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Wellyd, as metel. *Fusus*. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. vi. 173 And þilk ymage is clepid there a graued thing, and a wellid to gidere thing.

b. Of milk: Boiled, curdled. Of curds: Coagulated. Cf. WELLCURDS. *Obs.* exc *dial.*

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 53 Melle white brede in dyshes aboute, Powre in wellyd mylke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Wellyd, as mylke, *coagulatus, concoctus*. 1552 HULOET, Welled curdes, *s[c]histon*. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* III. I. viii. 238 From the Whey, if set on the Fire, will arise wild Curds by putting new Milk and sour Butter-milk to it. 1879 *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v. *Wailed*, I toud yo' to wesh 'em i' the walled w'ey.

Welled, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. WELL *sb* [1] + -ED [2].]

1. Having a well or hollow on the surface, pitted.

1848 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 337 A series of ill-defined welled depressions. 1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* p. xxix, A broad flat border, with a welled centre, characterise this class of plates.

2. Having a tank or cistern in which fish are carried or preserved alive.

1864 *Rep. Comm. Sea Fisheries* (1866) II. 456 In the year 1712, at Harwich, . welled smacks were first constructed, suitable for fishing in the North Sea for cod-fish, &c. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Aug. 4 Your fish . . are brought to the city alive in welled fishing boats. 1874 H. MAYHEW *Lond. Characters* 335 These salmon mostly come . . in welled steamers.

Well-edged, *a.* Having a sharp edge. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XI. 57 Then drew I from my Thy, My well-edg'd sword.

Well-e'ducated, *ppl. a.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 99 Define, define, well educated infant. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* iv. 103 Whoever went to take him by the Hand in the Way of Salutation, Peter with much Grace, like a well educated Spaniel, would present them with his Foot. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* I. ii, I was reckoned an uncommonly well-educated boy. 1885 W. H. WHITE *M. Rutherford's Deliv.* iv, She was attractive and well-educated.

Well-embo'died, *ppl. a.* 1776 BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* III. 55 Firm to their cause the Titans wide display'd A well-embodied phalanx. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* vi, Being the outcome of a happy, well-embodied nature.

Well-endow'ed, *ppl. a.*

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iii. § 20 Whilst the Desire of Esteem, Riches, or Power, makes Men espouse the well-endow'd Opinions in fashion. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. i. P 65, I found myself a well-endowed widow. 1870 HULLAH *Speaking Voice* 4 A well-endowed but incomplete vocalist. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* lviii, In Rex's well-endowed nature . . the passionate stirring had gone deep.

†**Well-e'ntered**, *ppl. a.* Duly initiated. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 6 'Tis our hope sir, After well entred souldiers, to returne And finde your grace in health. **Well-entitled**, *ppl. a.* Obtained by good title. 1675 BROOKS *Golden Key* Wks. 1867 V. 519 The crown of life notes a well-entitled crown: a crown that comes by a true and noble title. **Well-equi'pped**, *ppl. a.* 1875 J. FORREST *Explor. Australia* 79 A well-equipped vessel might have landed explorers at various points. 1890 *Hardwiche's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 254/2 A well-equipped observatory.

†**We'ller.** *Obs.* Also 6 **wellar.** [f. WELL *v.*[1]]

1. A caster or founder (of metal).

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* vi. 29 Leed is waastid in the fier, the wellere [Vulg. *conflator*] wellide in veyn. *Ibid.* li. 17 [see WELLING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1547 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 445 The master wellar at xij[d] the daye, and iij wellars with him at viij[d] the daye.

2. A salt-boiler.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Saltare, or wellare of salt, *salinator*. [1864: see SALTWELLER.]

Welleresque (welərə'sk), *a.*, **Wellerian** (welī'riăn), *a.* [see -ESQUE, -IAN], typical or reminiscent of Sam Weller or his father, two celebrated characters in Dickens's *Pickwick Papers*. Also **We'llerism**, a speech or expression employed by, or typical of, either of these characters.

1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* x, 'I'm the wretch that did it, sir,' said the new member, with a Welleresque nod to Mr. Pickwick. 1886 (*title*) Wellerisms from 'Pickwick' and 'Master Humphrey's Clock'. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Feb. 5/2 Sam Weller's story of the muffins is not Wellerian at all.

†**Wellesay.** *Obs.* Also **wele a saye, wyllosay.** [var. of WELLAWAY: for the ending cf. HARNESAY.] Alas!

14.. *Lamentacio Peccatoris* 52 in *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 117 Euer þer sang ys wyllosaay. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1430 Sche caste up many a rewfull rerde, And seyde ofte Wele a saye! *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 91 Breris.. This sely innocentis wole vnclothe And wellasay to tere her skynnys bothe.

Well-esta'blished, *ppl. a.*

1709 SHAFTESB. *Inq. Virtue* Charac. (1711) II. 38 That sound and well-establish'd Reason, which alone can constitute . . a uniform and steddy Will and Resolution. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xviii. § 27 We ought . . to stand firm in such well-established principles, and not be tempted to change . . for the sake of every difficulty. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 188/1 There are therefore many well-established families in this last-mentioned place. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* xi. 337 Although there are some well-established cases of national decay. 1870 BOWEN *Logic* xii. 394 Any well-established Law of Nature. 1887 *Spons' Househ. Man.* 714 Some well-established shop, famed rather for the soundness of its goods than for their apparent cheapness.

Well-este'emed, *ppl. a.* 1749 CHERWOOD *Hist. Stage* 219 Mr. Sparks . . has, by incessant Attention to the Drama, arrived to be a well-esteemed Person in the Business of the Theatre.

Welleword, var. WOOLWARD.

Well-exa'mined, *ppl. a.* 1728 CIBBER *Provoked Husb.* I. i. 7 He is a Man too well-acquainted with the Female World to be brought into a high Opinion of any one Woman, without some well-examin'd Proof of her Merit. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lvi. (1749) II. 76 To descend to truth thro' the tedious progression of well-examined deductions, is considered as a reproach to the quickness of understanding.

Well-expe'rienced, *ppl. a.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 59 Concerning the foresaid islands I inquired of diuers wel-experienced persons. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. i. 164 Like an arrow shot from a well experienst Archer hits the marke. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* IV. xv. 52 Men well experienc'd and of worthiest parts 1668 GERBIER *Princ. Building* 22 A well-experienced Surveyor. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* Introd. § 1. I. 10 This great and well-experienced judge. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 104 Of a well-experienced magician they say 'That is quite a Lapp'.

†**Well-eyed**, *a. Obs.* [WELL *adv.* 32.] Having good eyes; keen-sighted.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xviii, And also þat he be both in felde and at wode delyuere and wele yʒed and wele auysed of speche. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 330/a This ymage . . was well eyed, well browed [etc.]. 1581 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc* (1573) 59 Let the gallauntes of this worlde, . . so well eyed, and gorgeously apparelled, marke these thynges well. 1591 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiii. 17 They doo nought else but dote, that wilbe wel eyed and quikwyghted of themselues. 1599 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 154 Shepheard mought be . . well eyed, as Argus was. 1596 — *State Irel.* Wks (Globe) 626/2 Yet there appeareth amongest them some reliques of the true antiquitye, though disguised, which a well-eyed man may happely discover and find out.

Well-fa'bricated, *ppl. a.* 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* III. ii. 215 But in Medals, and well-fabricated Pieces, you can discover Beauty, and admire the Kind.

†**Well-faced**, *a. Obs.* [WELL *adv.* 32.] Having a fair face or good countenance. Also *fig.*

1553 ASCHAM *Rept. Germany* 29 He was now of the age of xxxii. yeares well faced. *a* 1569 KINGSMILL *Godly Advise* (1580) 13 Not so well faced as well lived, I meane not so well attired in the outward man as clothed in the inward manne. 1597 E. S. *Discov. Knts. Poste* A 4, If my credit be better then yours, with this my wel-faste hoastice. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 2 Hee that hath any well-faced phansy in his Crowne. 1693 [? CALDER] *Sc. Presbyt. Eloq.* (ed. 2) Postscr. 102 A great Hantle of Bonnie braw well fac'd Lasses. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4368/4 On the 15th Instant a pretty well Fac'd Boy . went away from School.

Well-famed, *ppl. a.* Of good fame, famous. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 273 My well-fam'd Lord of Troy. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 89 While he, forgetting clean The sorrow and the joy his eyes had seen, Lies quiet and well famed.

Well-fa'ncied, *ppl. a.* Designed or devised with good invention and taste; displaying a happy fancy.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 248 P 1 She was mounted on a Pad, with a very well-fancied Furniture. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 202 This happened to be the first day of her putting on a very rich, and extremely well-fancied gown. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 304 What think you of a bracelet, or a well-fancied aigret? 1779 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 312 Rendering odious a well-fancied oath from the mint of the metropolis by his vile provincial pronunciation. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXX, The dress of Raleigh was a well-fancied and rich suit.

Wellfare, obs. f. WELFARE.

Well-fa'ring, *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *arch.*

†**1.** Of handsome or well-favoured appearance; good-looking; also, robust, healthy. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 452 Than founde I sytte euen vpright A wonder welfaryn; knyght. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 240 Sche . . thoghte hou nevere creature Was so wel farende as was he. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* ii. 51 Welfaryng men of armes. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. i. 184 Hym thought he sawe neuer . . soo wel farynge a man. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clvi. (1811) 144 He was fayre and welfarynge of body, and

Pilgr. Tale 170 in *Th* walkyng i

Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg. 47/3 and welfaring man.

†**2.** Couched in proper or appropriate terms. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Isumbras* 333 A chartir was mad fulle wele farande, . . That thofe he never come in his lande, That scho solde qwene bee.

3. *arch.* Doing well, prosperous.

The spelling indicates association with *welfare*.

1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* II. 116 If only his Lord would leave him here other two or three years!—then would he be fully at his ease, and a welfaring

Well-fa'shioned, (*ppl.*) *a.*

1. Of good make or fashion; well made.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Art of Riding* I. iii. 3 His thighes large and long, with bones well fashioned. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Art of Love* I. 579 Wear well-fashion'd Cloaths, like other Men. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 108 When down in thy ship well-fashioned at last thou drawest anigh To the Three-horned Island.

†**2.** Of polite manners or demeanour. *Obs.*

1621 CORYAT, *Mercurii*, . . well behaued, of good carriage, well fashioned. 1629 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xvii. 396 Behaving himselfe with so well-fashioned modesty. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 143 (1699) 259 First, a disposition of the Mind not to offend others; and, Secondly, the most acceptable, and agreeable way of expressing that Disposition. From the one, Men are called *Civil*; from the other *Well-fashion'd*. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* an. 1646 (Chandos) 189 His daughter, a pretty well-fashioned young woman. 1712 STEELE *Tatler* No. 198 P 2 A young Man of Two and twenty, well-fashioned, learned, genteel.

Well-fa'tted, *ppl. a.* 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVIII. 51 A Kid's well-fatted entrails (tasteful food I). 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IX. 578 Oxen and sheep they slaughter'd, many a plump Well-fatted brawn extended in the flames.

Well-fa'voured, *a.* Handsome or attractive in appearance, good-looking.

1420-22 LYDG. *Thebes* I. 754 He was a semly knyght, Wel fauoured in euery mannys sight. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 40 Your weel favoured face. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XIV. ii, Thy wel faverde and moost fayre lady. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) B iij b, If one be well fauourder than another, will ye punishe him bicause ye looke for an equalitie of all things? 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 15. 1633 C. FAREWELL *E.-India Colation* 15 A man of a liuely countenance and well fauored. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 220 The Boy was in very mean Cloaths, but of a very fresh and well-favoured Countenance. 1787 BURNS *Song, There's a Youth* 3 He's honie and braw, weel-favour'd withal. 1848 ACKERMAN *Anc. & Mod. Coins* V. 89 A well-fed and well-favoured man. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, She was a tall, upright, well-favoured woman, though severe of countenance.

β. In Sc. form (*weill* or *weel*) *faird, faur'd, far'd, far't, faurt*, etc.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 4333 Now, wallie fall that weill fairde mow! 15.. in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 399 A weill-faird muy. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 307 There I met with a welfar'd Lass. 1781 BURNS '*On Cessnock banks*' i. (var.) The graces of her weel-faur'd face. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii, He's vera weel, . . but no naithing so well-far'd as your colonel. 1830 A. PICKEN *Dominie's Legacy* III. 32 The delinquent and his wife want to get their own infamous conduct shifted now over upon that well fard boy. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxiii. 277 I'll never deny that in the days o' yer youth ye war a weel-faured lass.

b. of an animal, a locality, a plant.

1539 BIBLE (Great) *Gen.* xli. 4 The euyll fauored & leane fleshed kyne did eate vp the seuen welfauored & fatt kyne. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* 112 The purple goat's-beard, . . the corn blue-bottle are well-favoured plants. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 403 This ill-named and not very well-favoured spot formed the nucleus of Abbotsford.

†**c.** *transf.* (cf. WELL-FAVOUREDLY b).

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. v. 34 [He] bangs the mule at a well-favor'd rate.

†**Well-fa'vouredly**, *adv. Obs.* In a well-favoured manner.

a. Beautifully, handsomely; attractively, gracefully.

fayre, beautifully, well fauoredly. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 We dooe not put images to makyng but onely to suche werkemenne of whom wee see some noumbre of images welfauouredly and myniouly made afore. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 143 Teatche me to shoote as fayre, and welfauouredly as you can imagen. 1562 TURNER *Bathes* I b, He that had ben in Italye and Germany, and had sene howe costly and wellfauouredly the bathes are trimmed and appoynted there. . woulde[etc.]. 1790 SHIRREFS *Poems* Gloss. 39/1 *Weelfav'dly*, cleverly, with a good grace. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weil-faur'dlie, adv.* 1. Handsomely, S.

b. Ironically, in reference to thrashing, punishment, etc.: Severely, soundly, 'handsomely'.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 100 Diogenes . . tooke abrode thongue . . and the same wel fauouredly bestowed about ye ribbes and pate of Midias. 1568 *Kyng Daryus* 404 (Brandl) He wil not away til I camuis him wel fauoredly. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Antonius* (1595) 990 They them selues were oftentimes put to flight, and wellfauouredly beaten. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xxiv. (1640) 74 He would often give a smart jest, . . and sometimes he was well-favouredly met with; as the best fencer in wits school hath now and then an unhappy blow dealt him. 1682 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* II. 151 The [Russian] women . . think themselves neither loved nor regarded, unless they be two or three times a day well favouredly swadled. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Canct. Crew, I Swing'd him off*, I lay'd on and beat him well-favoredly.

c. ? Lavishly, liberally.

1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 259/1 About the sute whereof when much monie was bestowed on both sides welfauoredlie.

d. By good fortune, happily. *Sc.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, Eclogue* 96 Whan I shoot my nose in, ten to ane If I weelfardly see my ane hearthstane.

Well-fa'vouredness. Now *rare* or *Obs.* The quality or condition of being well-favoured; beauty, comeliness.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 140 Nature it selfe taught men to ioyne alwayes welfauouredneese with profytableneese. *a* 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 129 He is reported greatlie to have mervayled at their wifte and welfavordnes. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 69 It maketh your Gelding haue a delicate fine leane head, of a comely shape, well fauorednesse and proportion. 1642

Howell *Pro. Trans.* (Arb.) 75 The longevity, well favouredness and innated honesty of the people. 1780 M. Madan *Thelyphthora* (1781) I. 213 A worthy man, who was in love with a married woman upon account of her modesty, and well-favouredness of her children. 1829 Jamieson, *Well-favour'dness*, handsomeness. 1885 Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 33 Khalid..was pleased with his well-favouredness and elegant aspect.

Well-feasted, *ppl. a.* 1672 Milton *Samson* 1419 The well-feasted Priests [are]then soonest fir'd With zeal, if aught Religion seem concern'd.

Well(-)feathered, *ppl. a.* 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 269 Well fepered flon floungen aboute. 1591 Spenser *Visions Bellay* xi, A Bird all white, well feathered on each wing. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. x. (1640) 58 And herein he discovered his want of judgement, being indeed like an arrow well-feathered, but with a blunt pile; he flew swift, but did not sink deep. 1672 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. xiii. 75 Like some young Bird, not so well-feathered. 1833 *Poultry Chron.* II. 419 Short, well feathered legs.

Well-featured, *a.* Having good features. Formerly also in wider sense: Well formed or shaped.

c 1300 *Three Kings Sons* 111 And many tyme he wold.. thinke yn his mynde that they were passing wele fetured and goodly folkes. 1590 *Tarlton's News out of Purg.* 11 A bare faced youth, well featured, of a liuely countenance. *c* 1600 Ignoto in I. D. & C. M. *Epigr.* (? 1830) D 5 b, Wel featurde lasse, Thou knowest I loue the deere. *a* 1618 J. Davies (Heref.) *Wits Pilgr.* etc. (Grosart) 27/2 Well featur'd Flesh too base a Subiect is For Sou'raign Loues diuine, ay-blest, Imbrace. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2354/8 An Indian Black, about 18 years of Age, well featur'd. 1787 Burns *Song*, *' There's a Youth'* 10 Weel-featur'd, weel-tocher'd, weel mounted and braw. 1860 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* v, Who, to do him justice, was a gentleman-like, well-featured fellow enough. 1874 Motley *John Barnev.* II. xvii. 226 A tall,..well-featured, mild, gentlemanlike man.

Well(-)fed, *ppl. a.*

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 471 Al to selde iwys Is ony pouere man wel fedde. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxv. 6 Fat and welfed beastes. 1600 *Sir J. Oldcastle* III. i. 99 Weele strike the stugge our selues Shall fill our dishes with his wel-fed flesh. *c* 1621 Chapman *Iliad* IX. 208 Then of a well fed swine A huge fat shoulder he cuts out. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 535 Bid some swain to lead A well-fed bullock from the grassy mead. 1786 Burns *The Vision* I. xiv, There, well-fed Irwine stately thuds. 1820 Lamb *Elia* I. *Christ's Hosp.*, Sleek well-fed blue-coat boys. 1828 Davy *Salmonia* 49 A fine well-fed fish, not much less than 4 lbs. 1874 J. M. Fothergill *Maintenance of Health* 344 Good meat has its red meat marbled or interstreaked with fat. This shows it is well-fed

Well-feed, -fee'd, *ppl. a.* 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. ix. (1699) 93 The rich Man shall not then have..well-Fee'd Lawyers to defend his Process. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Sept. 8/1 Twelve angry litigants, each assisted by bewigged and well-feed counsel. **Well-fee'ding**, *ppl. a.* *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* III. 282 On Troyes well feeding soyle [*ἱπὶ χθόνα πουλυβότειραν*]. †**Well-fee'ling**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Sensible, intelligent. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* vii. 21 Wile thou not gone awei fro a wel felende womman [Vulg. *a mulierr sensata*].

Well-feigned, *ppl. a.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 492 Under shew of Love well feign'd. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XVIII. 57 Ulysses then with art, And fears well-feign'd, disguis'd his dauntless heart. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* v. xix, [He] look'd with well-feign'd fear around. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 136 The Colonel expressed a well-feigned astonishment at the appearance of the table.

Well-fenced, *ppl. a.* 1705 Mandeville *Grumbling Hive* 25 'Till some well-fenced Retreat is found; And here they die, or stand their Ground. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (Globe) 148 Some enclosed Piece of Ground, well fenc'd either with Hedge or Pale. **Well-fe'nded**, *ppl. a.* 1825 Allingham *50 Mod. Poems, Southwell Park* II. 118 The well-fended nunlike child. **Well-ferme'nted**, *ppl. a.* 1731 Arbuthnot *Nat. Aliments* (1735) 193 Well fermented Bread, and well fermented Liquors. **Well-filed**, *ppl. a.* 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xviii. 251 The best Poets, with their well filed, and long studied verses.

Well-filled, *ppl. a.*

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XXI. 374 Giue banquet; and the rest (Poeme and Harpe) that grace a wel-fill'd boorde. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IX. 5 The well-fill'd palace, the perpetual feast. 1781 Crabbe *Library* 148 The dull red edging of the well-fill'd page. 1786 Burns *To Auld Mare* xii, But thy auld tail thou wad hae whisket, An' spread abreed thy weel-fill'd brisket. 1832 Longf. *Coplas de Manrique* lxi, He left no well-filled treasury. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Deronda* xlii, Whose light-brown hair was set up in a small parallelogram above his well-filled forehead. 1878 J. Buller *New Zealand* I. iv. 33 They came in fleets of their well-filled canoes.

Well-finished, *ppl. a.* *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* Wks. 1768 II. 173 One truly splendid action, or one well-finished composition, includes more than all the results from more trivial performances. 1901 *Sentsman* 3 Apr. 7/3 For cattle, well-finished animals met a brisk selling trade.

Well(-)fitted, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Fully equipped or furnished. *Obs.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 45 A man of soueraigne parts he is esteem'd: Well fitted in Arts, glorious in Armes. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Resurrection* ii, Lo how the Years to come, a numerous and well-fitted Quire, All hand in hand do decently advance.

2. Exactly adjusted, shaped, or suited.

1791 Cowper *Iliad* XVIII. 758 A pond'rous helmet bright Well-fitted to his brows. 1839 Ainsworth *Jack Sheppard* III. ii, It was a night well fitted to their enterprise—calm, still, and profoundly dark. 1904 A. C. Fraser *Biogr. Philos.* iv. 142 An easy flow of well-fitted words.

Well-fitting, *ppl. a.*

1827 Duppaeam *Lett. High Life* vi. 59 A well-fitting white waistcoat. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxvii, His well-fitting cord breeches. 1882 J. W. Hayward *Orthop. Surg.* 72 Only well-fitting boots, with a sufficiently wide sole, should be

The complete Well-fixed necessity and end of all things.

Well(-)flavoured, *ppl. a.* **a.** Having a good natural flavour. **b.** Mixed with an ingredient which imparts a good flavour.

1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 311 The natural history of this well-flavoured fish. 1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 297 The flesh, when boiled, is of a pale red, but well flavored. 1868 *Epicure's Year-bk.* 185 Serve it with a well-flavoured sauce or purée. 1884 E. Yates *Recoll.* I. iv. 154 The culinary preparations..were well flavoured, highly seasoned, and much relished by us.

Well-fledged, *ppl. a.* Well-feathered. 1743 R. Blair *Grave* 767 The weary bird..dozes till the dawn of day. Then claps his well-fledg'd wings, and bears away. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* IV. 148 A well-fledged arrow that had never flown.

Well(-)fleeced, *ppl. a.* 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 46 Thou hast a well-fleec'd flocke feede to and fro. 1650 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *The Search* 27 They..drove home to the Tent Their well-fleec'd traine. 1724 [see Fleeced *ppl. a.*²].

Well(-)fleshed, *ppl. a.*

1. Well furnished with flesh; plump, brawny. Also *fig.*

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 448/2 *Torosus*,.. well flesht. 1858 [see Fleshed *ppl. a.* 1]. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Deronda* lxix, Happiness is considered as a well-fleshed indifference to sorrow outside it. 1901 H. Sutcliffe *Mistr. Barbara Cunliffe* v, 76 Well-fleshed men could never stand up long agen an ale-pot.

2. Inured to or eager for bloodshed.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 370 As grayhounds well fleasht follow after wilde beasts. 1693 Dryden *Epit. Sir P. Fairborne's Tomb* 11 Against the Moors his well-flesh'd Sword he draws.

Well-fletched, *ppl. a.* Well-feathered. 1636 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, 2nd Olymp.* x, Leave, wanton Muse, thy roving flight, To thy loud String the well fletcht Arrow put.

Well(-)floored, *ppl. a.* 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 194 Chambers boorded after the maner of owre waynscotte and well flowred. **Well(-)floured**, *ppl. a.* 1728 E. S[mith] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 108 Put under it two or three Sheets of Cap-Paper well floured. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 3 Oct. 8/1 The potatoes and flour are worked into dough on a well-floured board.

Well(-)flowered, *ppl. a.* **a.** Richly embellished with flowers or figures of flowers. **b.** Bearing a good head of flowers.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 64 Why then is my Pump well flower'd. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 135 Echinatemon cuspidatus, well flowered.

Well-fo'llowed, *ppl. a.* (Follow *v.* 6 b.) *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. viii. (1912) 390 Thus with the well-followed valure of Amphialus were the other almost overthrowne.

Well(-)forewarning, *ppl. a.* 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 85 What boaded this? but well fore-warning winde Did seeme to say, seeke not a Scorpions Nest.

Well-forged, *ppl. a.* 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XIII. 233 The well-forged helmet. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* VI. ix, He school'd us in a well-forged tale, Of scheme the Castle walls to scale. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song of English, Victoria*, The tested chain holds fast, The well-forged link rings true!

Well-formed, *ppl.* of persons and material things.

c 1520 W. Walter *Gwystarde & Syg.* (Roxb.) A iij, Of shape and persone she was well fourmed. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1922) 58 The kissing of her wellformed mouth. 1645 Waller *Poems, Palaemede to Zelinda* 1 Fairest piece of well form'd earth, Vrge not thus your haughty Birth. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 159 The well formed head is like a Mallet or a Sphear. 1788 Mrs. Hughes *Henry & Isab.* xviii. II. 88 Not a pleasing view,..or a well-formed tree, was passed without furnishing matter for her observation. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* VII. 206 A range Of well-formed characters, with chalk inscribed Upon the smooth flat stones. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* iv, A man of thirty-two or thirty-three years of age, tall, well-formed, handsome. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* 160 Well-formed flint hatchets. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xi, He had a large and well-formed body, plump but not corpulent.

b. of immaterial things.

1643 Dorney (*title*), A briefe and exact Relation of..Passages that hapned in the late well-formed (and as valiently defended) Seige laid before the City of Glocester. 1725 Watts *Logic* IV. Introd., A well-formed Proposition, or a just Argument. 1746 Francis *Horace, A. P.* 230 The Child, who now with firmer Footing walks, And with unfaultering, well-form'd Accents talks. 1759 Goldsm. *Pros. State Pol. Learn.* xi. (Globe) 444/2 In a well-formed education a course of history should ever precede a course of ethics. 1787 Burns *Prol. spoken by Woods* 23 Well-form'd taste and sparkling wit.

Well(-)fortified, *ppl. a.*

1538 [see Fortified]. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 19 For I protest we are well fortified, And strong enough to issue out and fight. 1618 Gainsford *Glory Eng.* I. viii. 60 They can bring you into well fortified Cities. *a* 1625 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 68 If a Peece have much mettle in any part, they say, she is well fortified. 1692, 1737 [see Fortified *ppl. a.*]. 1821 tr. *Iliad* II. I. 41 The well-fortified city of Ilium.

†**Well-fo'rtunate**, *a.* *Obs.* = next.

1523 Ca

well fortt

a 1533 Berners *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* xliii. (1535) 84 Certaynly the prince is glorious, and the people well fortunate, and the senate happy, whan all agree in one counsell.

†**Well-fo'rtuned**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Favoured by fortune.

1484 [see Fortuned]. 1571 Caxton *Recuyell* 249 Greyng..fro the enquyer vnknowen and well fortuned. 1530 Palsgr. 329/1 *Well fortuned, bien eurd.* 1598 *Flowes Aurelio & Isab.* O2, Harlowe ladey well fortuned founde you disposede in her fauour.

Well-fought, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Inured to fight. *Obs.*

1598 Chapman *Seaven Iliads* v. [IX.] 90 The Curets ware did hold With the well-fought Etolians [*Αἰτωλοὶ μαρναμένοιο*].

2. Valiantly contested.

1717 Tickell *Epist. fr. Lady to Gent at Avignon* 74 Our Sex has..purchased Fame in many a well-fought Street. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIV. 402 Oh! had he perisht on some well-fought day. 1761 Foote *Lyar* I. ii. (1786) 17, I returned to reap the harvest of the well-fought field. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* IV. xx, Who in the well-fought conflict fell. 1828 Newman *Poems* (1905) 48 The strange events of many a well-fought day.

†**Well-fou'ghten**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* = prec.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 28 In this glorious and well-foughten field. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxii. 1377 Broughton..there lastly gaue his bloud To that well-foughten Field.

Well(-)found, *ppl. a.*

†**1. a.** Used in the vocative (like *welcome*) to greet a person when met. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Ipomadon* 6715 (Kölbing) Well founde, mayde Imayne. *c* 1350 *Lybeaus Disc.* (Ritson) 1660 The constable seyde, Well founde, Noble knyght of the table rounde.

†**2.** Of tried goodness, merit, or value; well-approved, commendable. *Obs.*

In quot. 1887 prob. an echo of Shakspere's use.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 105 Gerard de Narbon was my father, In what he did profesee, well found. 1607 — *Cor.* II. ii. 48 In our well-found Successes. 1887 Mrs. Lynn Linton in *Portn. Rev.* May 728 Many [of the Athenian hetaerae] lived comparatively well-found lives.

3. Fully furnished or equipped.

1793 [see Found *ppl. a.* 2]. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 144 The garrison is large and well found. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* x, He seemed very old, being over twenty, and well-found in beard. 1891 A. H. Markham *Sir J. Franklin* 301 A well-found steamer.

Well(-)founded, *ppl. a.* Built on a good and solid base. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 902 (Fairf.) And which a goodely softe speche Had that swete,..So frendely, and so wel y grounded, Vp al reason so wel y-founded [*Fondée sur toute raison*]. 1671 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. xxiv. 164 My Prayer began to settle itself, like a well-founded Building. 1706 Congreve *Pindar. Ode to Queen* 5 Britain's Queen, Fix'd on the Base of Her well-founded State. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing*, etc. vii. 366 We will for this purpose establish a set of well-founded principles for our standard.

b. esp. of a belief, sentiment, statement, etc.; Having a foundation in fact; based on good or sure grounds or reasons.

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. vii, Her jealousy, already but too well founded, received every hour the poisonous nourishment of fresh conviction. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xi, A well-founded disbelief in the co-operation of the English Jacobites kept many Scottish men of rank from his standard. 1827 — *Two Drovers* ii, The Cumbrian Squire, who had entertained some suspicions of his manager's honesty, was taking occasional measures to ascertain how far they were well-founded. 1845 [see Founded 2]. 1905 F. Harrison *Chatham* iii. 42 There was no personal malignity in his accusations, he believed them to be well-founded.

Hence **Well-fou'ndedly** *adv.*

1888 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Oct. 486/2 They had prided themselves, not too well-foundedly, that..they had far the better of England.

Well-framed, *ppl. a.* Well shaped, fashioned, constructed, or composed.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* v. (1912) 146 Like a man whose best building was a well-framed conscience. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xi. 188 As soone as I shall come to shore..some well-framed lye shall happely bring me to hen. 1718 Prior *and Hymn Callim.* 73 In the well-fram'd Models, ..Thou shew'dst, where Towers or Battlements should rise. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* IX. 70 Yet when thy speech is to the Kings of Greece It is well framed and prudent. 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xxxv, A well-framed reflective man with a grey beard.

Well-fraught, *ppl. a.* 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., That well-fraught world of words that answers works. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 371 The well-fraught Bowl Circles incessant. 1808 Mrs. Iliff *Poems* (1818) 98 How wise Ulisses' well-fraught tale Did o'er Nausicaa's fears prevail. **Well-fre'ckled**, *ppl. a.* 1649 G. Daniel *Trivmph.* To Rdr. 140 For Leopard Learning is a finer Beast Then a Sire or Damme; well-freckled witts shew best. 1836 Marryat *Alidsh. Easy* xxiv, He was broad-faced, broad-shouldered, well freckled, and pug-nosed. **Well-fre'ighted**, *ppl. a.* 1663 Cowley *Country Mouse* 82 Loe, in the midst of a well fraited Pye, They both at last glutted and wanton lye. **Well-freque'nted**, *ppl. a.* 1725 Pennecuik *Tweeddale* 20 An old and well frequented Inn. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 278 An amicable well frequented port. 1778 D. Loch *Tour Scot.* 5 A well-frequented weekly market each Thursday. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* I. 289 The well-frequented Rose inn. †**Well-freshed**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 970 In a bucket, that [shepherd] (Well-fresht himselfe) bears some unto his Flock. **Well(-)fruited**, *ppl. a.* 1626 Br. Hall *Contempt., O. T.* xx. xl. 251 So wee haue seene the kernell of a well fruited plant degenerate into that crab, or willow, which gaue the originall to his stocke. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T. Mark* xii. 8 A vineyard is..a place well planted, well fruited.

Wellful, var. Wealful *Obs.*

Well(-)furnished, *ppl. a.* Amply provided, stocked, equipped, etc. (see Furnished).

1494 *Paston Lett.* III. 107 He..lefte a great garnyson there, well flornyshyd in vytayll. 1583 [see Furnished a c]. 1586 Rainter (*title*), The Palace of Pleasure, Beautified adorned and well furnished with pleasaunt Histories and excellent Nouels. 1628 Gainsford *P. Warbeck* 45 The Kings Forward being full of companie and well furnished. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* IV. end, Lo! they arriv'ed now at th' appointed place; Well-chosen and well furnisht for the

Chase. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2240/4 A thick well furnished grey Gelding, full aged. 1710 CONGREVE *Doris* II Wks. 1730 III. 293 Her sparkling Eyes she still retains, And Teeth in good Repair; And her well-furnish'd Front disdains To grace with borrow'd Hair. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxix. (1862) VI. 193 A year's campaign..would enable them to return with a well-furnished purse.

b *esp.* of a house or room.

1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 682 Well-furnisht-Chambers, for in each there stood, A narrow Couch, Table and Chair of wood. 1809 *Anniversary* 122 He has..a fair estate, .a well furnished house, [etc.]. 1830 LYNCH *Theoph. Trinal* vii. 133 A well clad woman in a well-furnished room.

Hence **Well-fu·rnishedness.**

1643 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1662) 118 In respect of the fulness and well-furnishedness of the Earth.

Well-furred, *ppl. a.* 1611 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Scourge of Folly* (Grosart) 99/1 The well-furrd Deane. 1837 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* I. (1844) 22 These well-furred and awful plenipotentiaries. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xviii. 329 Well-furred skins.

Well-gai·ted, *a.* 1721 [see *Gaited* ppl. a. (GAIT *sb.*1)]. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weill-gaitit*,..applied to a horse that is thoroughly bróke. **Well(-)ga·rnished,** *ppl. a.* 1597 [see GARNISHED]. 1838 MARG. FULLER *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 265 More than one well-garnished mansion. **Well-geared,** *ppl. a.* *c* 1470 [see GEARED 1]. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 72 Like a well-geared piece of machinery. **Well-gi·fted,** *a.* 1643 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 20 Though Ministers might be well-gifted, and well-affected men. 1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. iii, Jack brag'd of greater Abilities than other Men; he was well-gifted, as he pretended.

Well-girt, *ppl. a.* Firmly encircled or secured by a girdle or girth; esp., after Gr. εὖζωνος (*dvrip*), girt up for exercise, in good trim for walking; hence *fig.* (of time) strenuously bestowed.

1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 88 A well-girt houre gives every man content. 1796 WORNSW. *Idiot Boy* 39 The well-girt saddle. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* I. iii. 1 Some three hours' journey for a well-girt man. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 57 To be Homerically well girt..in half the battle for the traveller in Spain. 1882 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* I. 3 A well-girt man can survey the whole in a day's walk.

b. *transf.* of a building or stronghold.

1736 HOME *Douglas* IV. i, The trembling mothers, and their children [are] lodg'd In well-girt towers and castles.

† **Well(-)gi·ven,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Well-disposed.

1535 [see GIVEN 2]. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Brutus* (1595) 1053 CASSIUS..was Brutus familiar friend, but not so well given, and conditioned as he. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 72 The Duke is vertuous, milde, and too well giuen, To dreame on euill, or to worke my downefall. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Ho* II. ii, Why are you a burden to the worlds conscience, and an eie-sore to wel giuen men? *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 176 This said, the wel-giuen souldiers prayed.

Well-gleb·ed, *a. c* 1645 W. E. in *Cleveland's Poems* (1677) 124 A well-gleb'd Vicarage. **Well-glossed,** *ppl. a. c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 264 By Telamon was giuen A faire well glossed purple waste. **Well-gloved,** *ppl. a.* 1864 'ANNIE THOMAS' *D. Donne* III. 10 She laid her well-gloved hand on his arm.

Well-go·ing, *ppl. a.* (Said of an animal, a machine, etc.)

1523 LIBLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* (Crawford) 66 Make me now ready a well going horse. 1786 BURNS *Inventory* 10 My han' ahin's a weel gaun fillie. — *Addr. Unco Guid* 5 Whase life is like a weel-gaun mill, Supply'd wi' store o' water. 1789 COWPER *Let. to S. Rose* 5 June, It seems they are well-going clocks, and cheap. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* XXXII. 236 Her well-going talk eased my heart in the midst of so many troubles.

Well-go·tten, *ppl. a.* Obtained by good means, honourably gained. (Cf. ILL-GOTTEN.)

1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Well gotten, *de bon acquest*. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxviii. 235 Duke Naymes wolde take neuer a peny, for he thought al that rychys was not wel goten. 1658 COWLEY *Mistr., Dialogue* ii, I'll the well-gotten Pleasure Safe in my Memo'ry Treasure. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. IV. iii, Your father has wealth well-gotten, and I am nameless and poor.

Well-go·verned, *ppl. a.*

1. Following a good rule of life and behaviour; controlled by reason.

c 1410 *Lantern of Light* 10 Whanne þi neiȝbour is wise, wel gouerned. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. vii. 179 Deuout and weel gouerned pilgrimes. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 70 Verona brags of him, To be a vertuous and well gouern'd youth. 1598 F. MERES *Pallad. Tamia* 281 b, A man of vertuous disposition..and wel gouerned carriage. 1614 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* V. vi. 137 How highly God doth esteeme a well gouerned Seale. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 703 And that which is not good, is not delicious To a well-govern'd and wise appetite. 1855 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. vii, Yes, but..a well-governed mind can be soured sitting!

2. Of a state or society of men: Ruled by a good government.

1570 *Homilies* II. *Disobed. & Rebellion* IV. (1574) 590 In anye well gouerned common wealth, where good lawes are in force. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. XXV. (1674) 27 The rewards..which were practised in well-governed Common-wealths. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 413 The whole Empire was a well-governed affectionate family. 1816 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* I. (1852) 22 By the happy organisation of a well-governed society. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 395 If you go away from well-governed states to.. Thessaly, where there is great disorder and licence.

Well-go·verning, *vbl. sb.* 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* XV. 141 Had he..known how to distinguish. between the wholsome heat of well Governing, and the fevorous rage of Tyrannizing. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. li. (1674) 202 [His] Wit was miraculous in the well-governing of those people. † **Well-go·vernment.** *Obs.* 1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Prof. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* p. xvi, Positive Institutions for the Well-government of the People. † **Well-go·vernor.** *Obs.* One who governs well. 1388 WYCLIF *1 Tim.* V. 17 The prestis that ben wel gouernouris [1382 that ben wel bifore, Vulg. *qui bene præsunt*].

† **Well-graced,** *a. Obs.* Full of grace or graces.

1593, 1605 [see GRACED].

Well-gra·ded, *ppl. a.* Having easy gradients. 1857 [see GRADED 3]. 1878 J. S. CAMPION *Spain* XXI. (1879) 266 The well-graded waggon-road to Lerida. **Well-grassed,** (*ppl.*) *a.* 1731 [see GRASSED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1886 R. P. WHITWORTH *Bailliere's S. Austral. Gazetteer* Advts. p. xix, Large and well-grassed paddocks. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* VIII, An open, thinly-timbered, well-grassed country. **Well-gra·velled,** *ppl. a.* 1799 G. S. CAREY *Balnea* (ed. 2) 220 A beautiful well-gravelled walk.

Well-greaved, *a.* Used to translate Homer's εὐκνήμιδες (pl.).

1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* II. 331 But come, ye well-greaved Greeks, remain all here. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. 23 Well-greaved Achaians. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* II. 402 Telemachus now already are thy well-greaved fellows there.

† **Well-gri·nded,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Well ground. 1632 VAUGHAN *Praise Countrie-life* ii. Wks. 1914 I. 127 In populous Cities their Corne is either mouldie, or not wel-grinded. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 92 A soft and well-grinded pouch of meal.

Well-groomed, *ppl. a.* a. *lit.* of a horse.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* XVI, The well-groomed, high-conditioned team..plunged at their collars. 1900 E. H. COOPER *Monk wins* VI. 40 Young men in smart riding suits on well-groomed hacks.

b. of persons: Neat and trim, spick and span, with hair, skin, etc. carefully tended.

1886 [see WELL-TAILORED]. 1889 *Daily News* 9 Dec. 5/5 He had a well-groomed air, though he seemed carelessly dressed. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* I, Tables crowded with well-groomed men and pretty women.

Hence **Well-groo·medness.**

1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 553/2 The first thing I observed, when he was shown in, was his well-groomedness.

Well-grou·nded, *ppl. a.* Of immaterial things: Based on good grounds, firmly founded, having a good basis or foundation.

c 1369 [see WELL-FOUNDED]. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ded., What in most English wryters vseth to be loose,..in this Authour is well grounded. 1621 A. STAFFORD *Niobe* I. 162, I would onely desire to see my natiue countrey voide of erronious doctrine, and flourish vnder a liuely, well grounded faith. 1644 (*title*) Humble Desires and Propositions for a Safe and Well-grounded Peace. 1648 [see GROUNDED 1 b]. 1654 T. BROOKS (*title*), Heaven on Earth, or a Serious Discourse touching a well-grounded Assurance of Mens Everlasting Happiness. 1671 T. JORDAN *London's Resurr.* 22 A Vnion well-grounded no Malice can hurt. 1709 BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* Ded., The great and well-grounded esteem I have conceived for you. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xi. 60 No man..can be well-grounded in any branch of learning, who has not been at one of our famous Universities. 1776 LOWTH *Larger Consist. Bp. Hare* 58 The whole of this evidence must be laid together, before we can..proceed to a well-grounded conclusion. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. ii. 38 His well-grounded knowledge of the jurisprudence of his country. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* lvi. VII. 132 It was not through a paltry jealousy, but from a well-grounded anxiety. 1866 LOWELL *Study Wind., Swinburne's Trag.*, Indeed, we have some well-grounded doubts whether England [etc.]. 1888 ANNA K. GREEN *Behind Closed Doors* ii, To determine whether our fears are well-grounded.

Well-grown, *ppl. a.* Showing a satisfactory growth or development.

1597 MARKHAM *Devereux* 80 b, As..well-growne Cedars [exceed] marish-shaken Reeds. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 219 A well growne Bel-weather. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* III. ii, Twines of Iuie round The well growne Oake. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 213 Especially if his pasture be not large and well grown. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 359 The last Winter and Spring have been remarkably mild; and well-grown fleeces, and great crops of lambs are the consequence. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 446 The leaves of any well-grown pine plant cannot be tied up without injuring them. 1882 J. M. FOTHERGILL *Food we eat* 116 A well-grown, yet growing girl. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* XVII. 189 The second rhino proved to be a well-grown youngster.

b. *Ship-building.* (See quot.)

1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 141 *Well-grown.* This term implies that the grain of the wood follows the shape required, as in knee timber, &c. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Well-gua·rded, *ppl. a.* 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 252 We set forward, being wellguarded round about with our keepers. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXII. 651 Whom Ilion calls Astyanax, from her well-guarded Walls. 1846 *Commercial Mag.* Oct. 235 The compensation, to which the proprietors are as much entitled as his lordship is to his well-guarded purse. **Well-gui·ded,** *ppl. a. a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. XIII. (1912) 234 They set upon Tiridates campe, with so well-guided a fiercenes, that..he was like to be overthrowen. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 42 His goodly reason, and well guided speach. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Soliloquies* XIV. Wks. 1662 III. 427 A tender, and well-guided Conscience. 1709 PRIOR *Cupid Mistaken* ii, Swift to His beauteous Parent's Heart The too well-guided Arrow flew. **Well-gui·ding,** *vbl. sb.* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XVII. XCVI. Through my well guiding is your voiage donne. **Well-gui·ding,** *ppl. a.* 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* III. XXXII. 59 Torleton..On the Queenes part with all his might doth stand, To lay this charge on her well-guiding hand.

Well-hained, *ppl. a. Sc.* a. Of a person: In good condition; well-preserved.

1722 W. HAMILTON *Wallace* 39 But English-Men, who wanted not for Gear, Were well hain'd Callans. and had ay good Chear. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* VI. x, Some buxom widow, or well-hained spinster.

b. Carefully saved up or hoarded.

1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* xi, The Dame brings forth.. To grace the lad, her weel-hain'd kebback, fell. 1787 — *Brigs of Ayr* 173 Wha waste your weel-hain'd gear on d—d new Brigs and Harbours!

Well-haired, *ppl. a.* Having a good growth of hair. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 339 Whom first, faire well-haird Charis saw. 1683 G. M[ERITON] *Yorks. Dial.* (1684) 76 As weel hair'd as thy self. 1847 O. THOMAS in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 434 Tail well-haired. † **Well-haled,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Pulled up properly, drawn tight. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 157 Hame wel-haled hose of þat same grene. **Well-ha·llowed,** *ppl. a.* 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 293 To put forth My rightfull hand in a wel-hallow'd cause. **Well-ha·mmered,** *ppl. a.* 1714 GAY *Trivia* I. 33 Let firm, well-hammer'd soles protect thy feet Thro' freezing snows. **Well-ha·nded,** *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Dexterous, clever. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1230, I know well inough ye are bothe well handyd To grope a gardeuyaunce, though it be well bandyd. 1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 216 Giving us the right and well-handed interpretations of Scriptures. 1900 CROCKETT *Dark o' Moon* VII. 46 A weel-handed, through-gaun wife. **Well-ha·ndled,** *ppl. a.* 1477 *Paston Lett.* III 188, I thynke notte a mater happy, nor weell handelyd, nor polesykly dalte with, when it can never be fynyssheyd with owte an inconvenyence. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* IV. iii. 254 If the Habit of Body be tolerably good and the Ulcers well-handled. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 4/2 A small and well-handled force of mounted men. † **Well-hanged,** *ppl. a. Obs.* = WELL-HUNG 2 a. 1611 COTGR., *Couillatris*, well hangd (betweene the legs). **Well-ha·rdened,** *ppl. a.* 1663 COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Pr.* iv. (1906) 409 Here a well hard'ned active youth we see, Taught the great Art of chearful Poverty. † **Well(-)ha·rnessed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Well armed or equipped. *c* 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 377 Than come ther thorwgh the cyte ten Well yharneysyth men. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 55, I troste to Jhesu that I am whel-harnest to kepe London wt. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* iv. 7 They sawe that the Heithen were mightie and wel harnessed. 1606 [see WELL-HEARTED]. **Well-ha·rvened,** *a.* Provided with a good haven. 1790 COWPER *On Receipt Mother's Pict.* 90 As a gallant bark.. Shoots into port at some well-haven'd isle.

We·ll-head. [WELL *sb.*1]

1. The place at which a spring breaks out of the ground; the head-spring or source of a stream or river.

1340-1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 539 In structura unius domunculi supra le Welleheued, 23*s.* 6*d.* 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 364 Wattes out vch walle-heued, in ful wode stremes. *Ibid.* 428 To-walten alle þyse welle-hedez & þe water flowed. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. iii. (1495) 441 Euery ryuer..apryngith out in welle heedes. 1574 *Cal Laing Charters* (1899) 225 Vp the face of the hill to ane lang veit welheid onder the craigis. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 6 Great Dame Nature, from whose fruitfull pap Their welheads spring. *a* 1626 PRESTON *New Cr'st.* (1629) 210 There would be different streames, there would be divers well-heads. 1832 TENNYSON *Eleanore* 16 From old well-heads of haunted rills. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. xi. 195 By the well-head of the water of Ferentina. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* XXIV. 240 We.. travelled on eerie mountains and among the well-heads of wild rivers.

b. *Sc.* A spring in a marsh or morass.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XV, The charger on which he was mounted plunged up to the saddle-girths in a well-head, as the springs are called which supply the marshes. 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Queen's Maries* XXXI, The horse had got bogged up to the girths in a well-head, as those particularly soft pieces of morass are called, which abound on the Scottish moorland. 1884 SPEEDY *Sport in Highlands* XVII. 299 Extensive unfrozen marshes, abounding in 'well-heads'.

2. *fig.* The chief source or fountain-head of anything.

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* Pref. (1870) 256, I..beynge at the well-hed of Physycke [*sc.* at Montpelier]. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* II. 18 The Veynes are spred foorth throughout the whole bodie, howbeit from one welhead, that is to say from the Liuer. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ix. 26 Or that he likened was to a welhed Of euill words and wicked eclaunders by him shed. 1606 BRYSKETT *Cav. Life* 42 Knowing that the well bringing up of children, was the spring or wel-head of honest life. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 309 We must suffer our understanding to be directed to the well-head of the history it selfe. 1654 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 5) 141 Oxford, and Cambridge, two Well-heads of Divinity. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 20 It was the spring, the well-head from which every thought and feeling gushed into act. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* III. 20 The Bible, which is the well-head of all that is useful and conducive to the happiness of society. 1854 PATMORE *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 15 As Poets of grammar, Lovers are The well-heads of morality. 1890 *Spectator* 28 June, The County Council..had better endeavour to find some well-head of money which has hitherto remained untapped.

3. The top of a draw-well. Also a more or less elaborate structure erected over this.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 133 At euery fiftie paces there is a Well-head, fitted very substantially of free-stone, with buckets for the neighbours to fetch water. 1892 *Builder* 28 Nov. 403/1 Wrought-iron Well-head. 1908 W. C. GREEN *Old Cottages Surrey* 69 Fig. 102 shows one of these well heads with a rough roof over it. 1913 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 553 The thoroughly characteristic Italian well-head of the twelfth century in the Lateran cloister.

Well-hea·ded, *a.* 1610 MARKHAM *Master-piece* I. ci. 201 The Greeke horse..is swift, bold, well headed. 1642 [see HEADED 3]. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Potage*, Well-headed Cabbages.

Well-hea·rted, *a.*

† 1. Stout-hearted, courageous. *Obs.*

1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Iustine* XXXVIII. 121 The Scithians besides that they be well harnessed, and well harted (*præter arma virtutemque animi*). *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 223 But nocht half sa resolut and weill-harted to fight in the quarrell as our men war. 1724 R. SMITH *Poems of Controversy* (1853) 61 Athols souldiers,..Quick, Swift, well hearted & most prompt in hands.

2. Well-disposed, kind-hearted, generous.

1766 Lp. Kames in *Complete Farmer*, s. v. *Flax* 3 M 1 b. This prospect must be agreeable to every well-hearted Briton. 1861 Quinn *Heather Lintie* (1863) 96 But then his son Is a weel-hearted winsome chiel, And's fond o' fun. 1920 Mrs. Harker *Montagu Wycherly* I. 22 A kind little girl...so transparently 'well-hearted' towards all the world.

Well-hea'ted, *ppl. a.* 1845 Eliza Acton *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 2) 185 Bake the meat from five to six hours in a well-heated oven. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* xiv. 82 There were wooden benches round a well-heated earthenware stove. †**Well-he'king**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [See Heling.] Good concealment (in quot. a personification). *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5837 Thanne shal delite and wel beelynge [Fr. *Bien-Celer*] Fonde shame adowne to brynge.

Well-hewn, *ppl. a.* 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Life & Fame* ii, A lasting Life in well-hew'en Stone they rear. **Well-hinged**, *ppl. a.* 1868–70 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. II. 510 And there he saw a door within the wall, Well-hinged, close shut. †**Well-hired**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Receiving a good salary. 1706 Mandeville *Grumbling Hive* 20 That a poor Bee should Ten times come, To ask his Due,...And by some well-hir'd Clerk be made, To give a Crown, or ne'er be paid. **Well-hoarded**, *ppl. a.* 1786 Burns *Halloween* vii, The auld Guidwife's weel-hoorded nits Are round an' round divided. 1842 D. Vedder *Poems* 200 Sae Ranald shooled out, in the shape o' a fee, A weel-hoarded guinea frae out o' his spleuchan.

Well-hole. [Well *sb.*1]

1. a. An opening through a floor or series of floors, for a staircase, chimney-stack, or for the admission of light, etc.

1680 Leybourn *Primatt's City & Country Purchaser* III. 187 Note..that..you do afterwards take the dimensions of the Well-hole for the Stairs. 1690 — *Curs. Math.* 901 In the measuring of flooring,..you must deduct out of it the Well-holes for the Stairs and Chimneys. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* (1793) § 42 A Well Hole was begun to be left upon these courses for stairs in the center. 1819 Rees *Cycl., Well-hole*, in Building, is the hole left in a floor, for the stairs to come up through. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-hole*,..the opening through a floor or floors, in a large warehouse, whereby light can be obtained from a glass roof over it, to each floor.

b. The empty space round which the stairs of a winding staircase turn.

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 185 Stairs that have a well-hole, or hollow in the centre, are called geometrical stairs. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 597 A cylinder..of the size of the well-hole of the staircase. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 423 The well-hole of the stair is shown at *w*.

c. A vertical passage-way (for machinery, a lift, etc.); a shaft.

1841 Bakes *Gloss. Civil Engin.* 207 *Well-hole*, a hole connected with some mechanical contrivances, and adapted for the reception of a counterbalancing weight, and for other purposes. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 5 The uprights or guides of the shaft or well-hole [of a lift].

2. The compartment at the lower end of a ship's pump.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 412 If..plates of copper..were..continued down the main-top-gallant-mast, the main-top-mast, and part of the main-mast, into the well-hole.

Well-horned, *a.* 1725 Pope *Odyss.* xx. 368 Where to the pastern-bone by nerves combin'd, The well-horn'd foot indissolubly join'd. 1900 Elworthy *Horns of Honour* ii. 205 A bull with a human head, well-horned.

Well(-)horsed, *ppl. a.* Furnished with, mounted on, drawn by a good horse or horses.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 359, I and þow be here allone, ilíche wel i-horsed and i-wepened. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xvi. 2484 Twenty thousande men Weil armyt and weil horsit. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. x. 48 Vlfyus and Brastias..rode forth wel horsed and wel armed. *a* 1533 (see Horsed 1). 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, To New Year* ii, His well-horst Troops, the Months, and Days, and Hours. 1666 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 200 Nothing now being talked of but war, whoever has money will not spare it to be well horsed. 1884 [see Horsed 1 b]. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 66/2 The smart and well-horsed army service wagon. 1901 *Scotsman* 3 Apr. 8/2 The force was well-armed and well-horsed.

Well-housed, *ppl. a.* 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxiii, It was a night for the well-housed and fed to draw round the bright fire and thank God they were at home. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 445 A well-fed, well-clothed, and well-housed population. **Well-hued**, *a. a* 1568 R. Semple *Ballat* 75 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 357 With vlis to rennew it and mak it weill hewit. 1615 [see Hued]. †**Well(-)hu'moured**, *a. Obs.* [Well *adv* 3a.] Good-humoured. 1683 Dryden *Life Plutarch* 12 As we say in English, a well humour'd man and a good companion. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 108 He, who had the better of the Argument, wou'd be easy and well-humour'd.

Well-hung, *ppl. a.*

1. a. Furnished with large pendent organs.

1611 Cotgr., *Oreillé*, eared; well hung, or hanged; which hath great eares. 1682 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 574 In the name of Dulness be The well-hung Balaam and cold Caleb free. 1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.*

b. Decorated with rich hangings or tapestry.

a 1667 Cowley *Ess. Verse & Pr.* I. (1906) 389 A painted Cage; Or the false Forest of a well-hung Room.

2. Of the tongue: Working readily and freely; glib, fluent.

1678 *Quack's Acad.* 6 If niggardly Nature or more pernicious Education have not afforded you a Tongue well hung. 1730 J. Fisher *Poems* 57 Be sure to keep a well hung tongue, Your knav'ry to defend. 1853 Hickie *Aristoph.* (1872) II. 376 Thou well-hung tongue.

3. Suspended or attached so as to hang well. Said, e. g., of a window-sash, a carriage, a gate, a lady's skirt.

1761 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* V. xvii, Susannah did not consider that nothing was well hung in our family,—so slap came the sash down like lightning upon us. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* 26 June, The carriage is remarkably commodious and well hung. 1847 Surtees *Hawbuck Grange* xl. 224 Some well-hung green gates. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* I. x. 204 The light, easy, well-hung, well-finished barouche. 1896 *Daily News* 4 July 6/3 Nothing is fresher or prettier than a well-hung skirt of white or cream colour.

4. Of meat or game: Hung up for a sufficient time.

1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1079/2 Well-hung four-year-old mutton. *Ibid.* 1080/1 A fine, well-hung neck of venison.

Well-hu'sbanded, *ppl. a.* 1600 Surflet *Country Farme* II. liv. 383 You shall plant their shootes after the same manner, in a well husbanded and digged ground.—1642 Milton *Animadv.* 52 A well-husbanded nursery of plants and fruits. 1885 Ruskin *Ulric Farm Serv. Pref.* p. v, In the quiet mornings of his well husbanded and well spent days. **Well-ima'gined**, *ppl. a.* 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 13 A well-imagined, or well-timed compliment. 1829 [see Imagined 2]. **Well-i'mitated**, *ppl. a.* 1744 Armstrong *Preserv. Health* III. 91 With the well-imitated fly to hook The eager trout. **Well-impro'ved**, *ppl. a.* 1641 [see Improved 2]. 1709 T. Molyneux in *Ir. Archæol. Soc. Misc.* (1846) I. 177 From thence to Moat, thro' a well improv'd, well planted country. 1725 Berkeley *Querist* § 413 A handsome Seat amidst well-improved Lands.

Well-in, *adj. phr. Austral.* [f. dial. use of *in* = furnished, provided, 'off'.] Well-off, well-to-do.

1891 'R. Boldrewood' *Sydney-side Sx.* Introd., He's a well-in squatter, that took up runs or bought them cheap before free selection.

Well-inclin'ned, *ppl. a.* Of good natural inclination or disposition; well-disposed.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 323 These words being spoken (like a furious storme) presently caried away their wel inclined braines. 1611 Rich *Honest. Age* (1615) 12 Zelous, and well inclined married wiues. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* VII. 235 The well-inclin'd, And sacred order of Alcinous mind. 1683 H. Prideaux in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 185 We looke on him as a studious well-inclined yong Gentleman. 1709 Atterbury *Serm.* (1726) II. 237 For the sake of those, who..may be well-inclin'd to Works of Mercy. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 207 P 1 A well inclined young Man..must needs take Delight in being agreeable to his Elders. 1881 Gladstone *Let. to Forster* 8 Sept. in R. B. O'Brien *Life Parnell* (1898) I. 304 To reduce the following of Parnell by drawing away from him all well-inclined men.

Well(-)informed, *ppl. a.* Well equipped with information; fully furnished with knowledge, whether of a special subject or of things in general; having a well-stored mind.

c 1440 [see Informed *ppl. a.* 2 b]. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* Ep. Ded. 94 Great Princes, well inform'd and deckt With gracious vertue. 1614 [see Informed *ppl. a.* 2 b]. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett. to Son* 23 June, He is a very pretty and well informed man. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1783 (1904) II. 485 This great man..was yet well-informed in the common affairs of life. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* i, A well-informed mind..is the best security against the contagion of folly and of vice. 1827 Sir J. Barrington *Pers. Sk.* I. 352 Colonel Burr was..a well-informed, sensible man. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Painters* IV. v. v. § 20 The perfect and well-informed decision of Albert Durer and his fellow-workmen. 1863 B. Woodcroft *Brief Biogr.* 18 Crompton..was intelligent, though not what is generally called 'well-informed'. 1898 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* I. v, Her aunt, who was no doubt a well-informed woman, had been attending to her education.

absol. 1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Bacon & Hooker* II. 65, I have observed, among the well informed and the ill informed, nearly the same quantity of infirmities and follies. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii, Not to impress the thoughtful and the well-informed, but the ignorant and heedless. 1922 G. K. Chesterton *Man who knew* vii. 124 It startled the well-informed by being a new and fantastic idea they had never encountered.

Welling (we'lin), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Well *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The action of boiling or scalding. Also comb. **welling-lead**, a cauldron.

1371–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 577 In emendacione unius Wellynglede in pistrino. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, of mylke and oþer lycure, *coagulacio, decoccio.* 1588 L. M. tr. *Bk. Dyeing* 22 Take so much water as will go into the small kettle, so let it have a welling or two on the fire. 1691 Ray *S. & E. Co. Words*, 'Welling of whey' is heating it scalding hot, in order to the taking off the curds.

b. The boiling up (of a liquid in a pot).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, or boylynge of playynge pottys, *ebullicio, bullicio.*

†2. a. The melting or founding of metals. *Obs.*

1388 Wyclif *Jer.* li. 27 Ech wellere togidere is schent in a graun ymage; for his wellyng togidere is fals [Vulg. *quia mendax est conflatio eorum*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, of metel, *fusio.*

†b. = Welding *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib. Obs.*

1660 tr. *Parmelius' Archidoxis* I. vii. 109 Smiths..compactly consolidated their Irons together as if they had been conglutinated with a true compaction, or welling. 1795 G. Pearson in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 328 The substance made white hot, by the forge, had the glassy smooth surface of iron, in what is termed the welding or the welling state.

3. The bubbling *up* and overflowing (of water); the flowing *forth* or *out* (of a stream); the swelling (of flood-water, the sea).

c 1400 *Cantin. Brut.* ccxxiv. 292 Þere arose suche a sprynggynge and wellinge op of waterez and floodes, bothe of þe see and also of freshe ryvers & sprynger, þat [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, or boylynge vp as water iro þe erthe or sprynge, *scaturicio.* *a* 1500 *R. Bald's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 135 The ix day of Octobre was such a wellyng and spring of waters..that [etc.]. 1869 Myers *St. Paul* (1896) 38 Welling of waves, disconsolate and tender, Sighed on the shore. 1891 Macqueen *Mem. Pastmet* xxiv. 306 The welling up of the Jordan in the caverns at the base of giant Mount Hermon.

b. *fig.*

1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xiv. 279 The notes..strike the mind by their loudness and variety, as the wellings forth from joyous hearts, of praise to Him who fills them with overflowing gladness. 1896 F. M. Crawford *Corleone* xxvii. (1897) II. 122 With a wild welling up of hope, Francesco galloped along the road. 1916 Mrs. H. Ward *Lady Connie* I. v. 95 It was a moment for her of strong reaction, of a welling-up and welling-back of life, after a kind of suspension.

We'lling, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Wall *sb.*1 + -ing 1.] The action of making a well or shaft; in quot. *concr.*, shaft-work.

1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Oct. 7 He was assisting in placing a pile in the 'wellings' when the chain slipped from the 'crab'.

Welling (we'lin), *ppl. a.* [f. Well *v.*1 + -ing 2.]

1. Boiling: said of a liquid, of molten metal, etc.; also of a pot. *Welling hot*, boiling hot.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21042 In a tun was welland hat sild of o3 he did him schott. *Ibid.* 26753 Alle your entrailles ilkon in welland pottes sal be don. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6578 Whoso handlyth pycche wellyng hote He shal have fyllthe therof sumdeyl. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 7126 It salle be hatter þan ever was Molten led or welland bras. 1370–80 *Visions of St. Paul* 234 in *O. E. Misc.* 227 And þei sodun euerichon In wellyng pich and Brimston. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4080 Till he come blesenand on a brym was welland hate. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxviii. 385 Some after come ij. deuyls yelling, and broughtyn a Cawderon full of hote wellyng brasse.

†b. *fig.* in phr. *welling woe* (of hell). Cf. *to well in woe*, Well *v.*1 3 b. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21836 He demed me in-till hell depe, Euer in welland wa to wepe. *c* 1378 *S. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 634 [Christ] tholit þare dyspituise ded, Fra welland wa vs al to led.

†c. *Welling wood*, raging mad. (Cf. Walling *ppl. a.*1 1.) *Obs.*

13.. *St. Cristofer* 53 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 455 Buthe togedir away þay sode Als þay hade bene welland wode. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 344 Thes folk shall flyt no far, If he go welland wode.

2. Of a spring, tears, etc.: Flowing abundantly, surging. Also *fig.*

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. 86 Or els to see the sight that might al my wellinge sorowes voyde. 1388 Wyclif *Gen.* xxvi. 19 Thei diggiden in the stronde, and thei founden wellynge watir. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. N. T.* Pref. 7 He was a continual wellyng fountayne of eloquence,..a botomlesse spring of largesse. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* 50 Alongste my stayned cheekes eche houre the welling teares doe trill. 1819 S. Rogers *Human Life* 741 Their questions, their replies, Fresh as the welling waters, round him rise. 1850 Disraeli in G. E. Buckle *Life* (1914) III. viii 238 There should be more variety in the movement. Something to break the low, tho' welling, chorus of the agrestic multitude. 1858 Farrar *Eric* I. xiii, Soft hair, tangled with welling blood. 1890 H. H. Johnston in *Nature* 13 Nov. 46 A welling, brackish pool.

3. That pours out a stream or streams. Of a wound, etc.: Bleeding copiously. Also *fig.*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 181 The Sun..and Windes ..Extract as much still of her humours thin, As weeping Aire, and welling Earth pours in. 1814 Byron *Lara* II. xvii, Kneels Kaled watchful o'er his welling side. 1920 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Feb. 225/1 His speeches..have the air of happy improvisation, as though they came from a welling heart.

Welling, obs. dial. var. Felling *vbl. sb.*

1513 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For wellyng of ij elmys jd. 1520 *Ibid.*, Payd for wellyng off xv pyesys off tymber.

Welling, obs. form of Willing *vbl. sb.*

Wellington (we'lintən). [Named after Arthur, first duke of *Wellington*, 1769–1852.]

1. *attrib.* a. *Wellington boot* = sense 2.

1828 M. Birkbeck *Notes Journ. Amer.* (ed. 4) 88 Americans ..in pantaloons and Wellington boots. 1839 Dickens *Nicholeby* ii, Grey mixture pantaloons, and Wellington boots drawn over them. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 64. 332 The Wellington boot at present worn by our dragoons under their trousers. 1884 E. Yates *Recoll.* I. ii. 46 No gentleman could wear anything in the daytime but Wellington boots, high up the leg, over which the trousers fitted tightly, covering most of the foot, and secured underneath by a broad strap.

b. Used to designate other articles of clothing introduced by the Duke, or named after him, as *Wellington coat, hat, trousers.*

1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* i, The preposterous length of their great-coats, and the equally fashionable latitude and longitude of their Wellington trousers. 1868 Cheever *Papers* etc. (1904) II. 155 Yesterday morning he made his first appearance in a new 'Wellington' Coat (a kind of a half-and-half great Coat and undercoat, you know, meeting close and square below the knees). 1832 Marryat *N. Forster* xxxii, The above look much more scientific than Wellington trousers. 1893 Geo. Hill *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 254 Wellington hat with the yeoman Crown.

2. A high boot covering the knee in front and cut away behind. Also a somewhat shorter boot worn under the trousers.

1817 Moncrieff *Giovanni in Lond.* i. iv, And wear of wellingtons a pair, To shine from top to toe, sir! 1822 Keats *Modern Love* 8 Miss's comb is made a pearl tiara, And common Wellingtons turn Romeo boots. 1834 C. Knight *Once upon a Time* II. 266 The tops lasted till Wellingtons and trousers drove them out. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 416 The cavalry have Wellingtons and jackboots. 1906 *Stores' Price List*, 2 Pairs Calf Wellingtons.

3. A variety of cooking apple, large, roundish, and with yellowish white flesh. Also *W. apple.*

1821 *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1821) IV. 329 Mr. Richard Williams sent..specimens of an Apple called the *Wellington*,

a very handsome and long keeping variety. 1839 C. M'Intosh *Orchard* 18 Dumelow's Seedling [*Syn.* Wellington Apple, Dumelow's Crab]. 1882 *Gardon* 18 Mar. 180/3 Cooks go generally for the Wellington as a cooking Apple.

Wellingtonia (welinɡtōˈniă). [Named by Lindley after Arthur, first duke of Wellington (1769–1852): see -IA 1.] The popular name in England of *Sequoia* (*Wellingtonia*) *gigantea*, a large coniferous tree, native of California; the 'big tree' or Washington cedar.

[1853 *Gard. Chron.* 24 Dec. 820/1 Wellington stands as high above his contemporaries as the Californian tree above all the surrounding foresters. Let it then bear henceforward the name of *Wellingtonia gigantea*.] *Ibid.* 823/3 These considerations seem to leave no room for doubt that Wellingtonia is an entirely new coniferous form. 1858 *Morning Star* 18 June, A group composed of three gigantic Wellingtonias. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xxvii, Gardens rich in monkey-trees, deodaras, Wellingtonias.

Wellingtonian (welinɡtōˈniăn), *a.* [See prec. and -IAN.] Belonging to or characteristic of the duke of Wellington.

1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 439/2 She performs this duty, too, in a true Wellingtonian spirit, coming off her nest with quiet dignity. 1889 *Academy* 14 Sept. 159/1 The Wellingtonian legend was once as strong in England as the Napoleonic in France. 1907 *Nation* 5 Oct. 9/1 There is a Wellingtonian vigour in his way of stating a case.

† **Well-inhabited**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Populous.

1585 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 286 The Ilande of saynt Laurence..beinge well inhabited and of temperate ayer. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvi. 17 The Bourg .[is] well inhabited. 1709 T. Molyneux in *Ir. Archæol. Soc. Misc.* (1846) I. 169 It seems to have been of old a well inhabited and thriving town. 1709 Shaftesb. *Moralists* II. i. 40 At its foot a River and well-inhabited Plain. 1780 Coxe *Russ. Discov.* 30 Two well-inhabited islands.

Wellink (weˈliŋk). *dial.* Also **wallink**. [app. worn down from **well* (Well *sb.*1) *-lemke*: see Lemeke and Brooklime.] A provincial name of the Brooklime, *Veronica Beccabunga*.

1831 W. Patrick *Plants Lanark.* 46 Brooklime..The Wallink of the village herbalist. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, Well ink. 1881 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XVII. 278 Brooklime. 'Wellink'.. co. Antrim.

Well-instituted, *ppl. a.* 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 49 No Nation, or well instituted State, if they valu'd books at all, did ever use this way of licencing.

Well-instructed, *ppl. a.*

1583 [see Instructed]. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Ecclus.* xxvi. 14 There is nothing so muche worthe as a woman wel instructed. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 903 But let the wise and well-instructed hand Once take the shell beneath his just command. 1835 *Cour. Mag.* VI. 224/2 A well-instructed appreciation of his public claims. 1838 Fr. A. Kemble *Jrnl. Resid. Georgia* (1863) 24 Mary's brother..performs all the offices of a well-instructed waiter with great efficiency. 1865 Pusey *Truth Eng. Ch.* 224 Deadly sins could hardly be committed in ignorance by any one of well-instructed conscience.

Hence **Well-instructedness**. *rare*—1.

1608 [see Instructedness].

Well-intended, *ppl. a.* Characterized by a right and sincere intention; well-meant.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xiv. (1912) 437 Especially setting forth their noble gratefulnes, in never forgetting well-intended services. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. xxvi. 83 So, by bad circumstances, [we] poyson a well-intended principall. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 263 The meanest, well-intended labours may claim thy patronage. 1777 Johnson *Let. to Dr. Dodd* 26 June in *Boswell*, In requital of those well-intended offices which you are pleased so emphatically to acknowledge. 1827 Higgins *Celtic Druids* 66 The perhaps well-intended but nonsensical and fruitless efforts of our priests. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 208/2 The pamphlet is well-intended, sensible, and temperate.

† **Well(-)intentionated**: see Intentionated.

Well-intentioned, *ppl. a.*

1. Of a person: Having good intentions.

1598 Parsons in *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) I. 25 Yf the magistrates were knowen to be godly and well intentioned men. 1726 Addison *Freeholder* No. 50 P 2 Among us, This has been a mark of such well-intentioned persons, as would betray their country, if they were able. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 681 Believing me a well-intentioned body, but a little bewildered by dealing too much among heathen authors. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. 115 Dame Banks was in fact a well-intentioned, worthy woman. 1839 Burgon *Sir T. Gresham* I. ii. 65 The truth seems to be, that however well intentioned, he did not possess the requisite abilities for the office he filled. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. vii. 307 These well-intentioned, though mistaken, men.

2. Of actions, utterances, etc.: Due to or based upon good intentions.

currency have thus been frustrated. 1883 *American* XI. 44 A well-intentioned argument.

Hence **Well-intentionedness**.

1799 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 315, I see enough of the boy to be fully convinced of his goodness and well-intentionedness.

Well-invented, *ppl. a.* Cleverly fabricated or made up. Cf. It. *ben trovato*.

Well invented occurs as pa. t. in Spenser's *F. Q.* IV. ii. 2, IV. xii. 2.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* II. 206 He full of fraudful Arts This well invented Tale for Truth imparts. 17.. Bysshe *Art Engl. Poetry* (1762) I. Pref. p. vii, The well-invented Fables of the Antients were design'd only to inculcate the Truth with more Delight.

Wellish (weˈliʃ), *adv. dial.* [f. Well *adv.* + -ish.] Pretty well. *Wellish off*, fairly well to do. Also *not wellish* adj., rather unwell.

1737 Byrom *Rem.* (1856) II. i. 122 Mr. Lloyd complained of being hot, faint, not wellish. 1875 'S. Beauchamp' *N. Hamilton* II. 134 They [the hops] looks mighty kaind so fur, an they bin a taakin hold wellish. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss., Weelish off*, in easy circumstances.

† **Well-ito·ne(n, -ito·we(n**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [See Tene *v.*1 and cf. Untowen, Wanton.] Well trained or instructed; well-conditioned, modest.

c 1205 Lay. 10099 Luces wes wel itoȝen. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 Þe Scorpiun of Lecherie..haueð swuche kundles þet in one wel itowune muðe hore summes nome ne sit nout uorto nemnen; nor þe nome one muhte hurten alle wel itowune earen. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 35 Muche dale læðluker þen eni wel-itohe muð for schome mahe seggen. c 1275 Lay. 12913 A child þat was wel itowe.

Well-joined, *ppl. a.*

1553 Ascham *Rept. Germany* 1 If proper and naturall wordes, in well ioyned sentences do ſyuely expresse the matter. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xvii. (1912) 260 Alas, how painefull a thing it is to a devided minde to make a well-joyned answere? c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XIII. 626 As through fallow fields, Blacke Oxen draw a well-ioyn'd plough. 1615 — *Odyss.* XXI. 197 Thus, below A well-ioyn'd boord he laide it. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 38 The intolerable yoake of a never well joyn'd wedlocke.

Well-jointed, *ppl. a.* 1413 [see Jointed]. 1874 J. M. Fothergill *Maintenance of Health* 282 The rain should be collected into sufficient and well-jointed spouting.

Well-judged, *ppl. a.* Marked by sound judgement, judicious; wisely estimated, correctly calculated.

1785 Berkeley *Proposal* Wks. III. 230 An extensive and well-judged charity. 1780 Cowper *On Burning Ld. Mansfield's Libr.* 7 The well-judg'd purchase. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* II. 59 His next measure..was perfectly rational and well-judged. 1868 Geo. Eliot *Ess.* (1884) 325 A vast crop, that..can be come at, not at all by hurried snatching, but only by a well-judged patient process. 1895 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 7/3 Stoddart being out to a well-judged catch at long-on.

Hence **Well-ju·dgedly**, *adv.*

1768 Miss Burney *Early Diary* (1889) I. 18 Never was parent so properly, so well judgedly affectionate!

Well-ju·dging, *ppl. a.* Having or exercising or characterized by sound judgement.

1751 *Pope's Wks.* V. 240 *note*, An Age so distinguished for well-judging Patrons. 1755 Young *Centaur* i. 5 Well-judging Wit is a flower of wisdom. 1789 Cowper *Catharina* 34 When the mind is endued With a well-judging taste from above. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* viii, He always speaks to the purpose; open, straight forward, and very well judging. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxviii, A good and prudent and well-judging woman. 1868 Geo. Eliot *Ess.* (1884) 334 The foresight, the conscience, that will make him well-judging and scrupulous in the use of it [*sc.* the franchise].

† **Well-kempt, -kemmyt**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Carefully combed.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* X. xiv. 13 Hys weyll kemmyt berd, hyngand full straucht Apon his breist. 1540 J. Heywood *Four PP.* 878 Theyr hornes well gylt, theyr clowes full clene, Theyr taylles well kempt. **Well-kenned, -kent**, *ppl. a. Sc.* Well-known, familiar. a 1796 Burns *On Willie Chalmers* 9, I doubt na, lass, that weel-kend name May cost a pair o' blushes. — *Epigr. to Artist* 7 You'll easy draw a weel-kent face, But no sae weel a stranger. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* i, Others, all well-kenned gentlemen, had pleasure in his society. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxvii. 205 So I was here upon well-kenned ground.

Well-kept, *ppl. a.* Carefully preserved or stored; faithfully observed or guarded; maintained in good order or condition.

14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 233 He shall never have good larder, faire gardeyn, nor wele kepte councell. 1613–26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 43 That well kept Register wherein is writ All ills men doe. c 1670 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1881) II. 348 How much reall comfort a Christian hath in a well kept fast. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 143 A well-kept garden. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* I. 19 Ruddy as a well-kept apple. 1871 Le Fanu *Ross & Key* II. 271 A well-kept road across a melancholy moor. 1898 Miss Yonge *Keble's Parishes* xiv. 157 Well-kept, picturesque cottages. 1915 *Edin. Rev.* July 101 The well-kept secrets of the older Gods.

Well-knit, *ppl. a.*

1. Firmly conjoined or compacted; closely linked or connected.

1445 tr. *Claudian* 43 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 261 Ner for noise of litel offence [Fidelity] dissoluyth not knottis wele knytte. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* I. 380 His spirit contains The well-knit Mass. 1708 J. Phillips *Cyder* II. 458 Anger-kindling Taunt, the certain Bane Of well-knit Fellowship. 1872 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* II. xiv. 122 Declaring the will and answers of the gods..in well-knit harangues.

2. Of a person, his frame: Strongly and compactly built, not loose-jointed.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 77 O well-knit Sampson, strong ioynted Sampson. 1674 Cotton tr. *B. de Montluc's Comm.* 179 He was..strong and well knit. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XVIII. 250 Thy well-knit frame. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* iv, Joe was a well-knit, characteristic-looking blacksmith. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xv, The square form and well-knit figure of an ordinary English aristocrat.

fig. 1867 M. Arnold *Immortality* 13 His soul well-knit, and all his battles won.

Well-knotted, *ppl. a.* 1845 D. Costello *Stories fr. Screen* 120 Bundles tied up in well-knotted handkerchiefs. 1888 F. H. Woods tr. *Montelius' Civil. Sweden* 61 Upon the head was a well-knotted worsted net. † **Well-knowing**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Intelligent and well-informed. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 9 Most well-knowing men have

know·ledged, *ppl. a.* Furnished with sound knowledge.

1898 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* (1882) I. 407 He had the *momentum* of a strong, clear, well-knowledged mind.

Well(-)known, *ppl. a.*

1. Known to many, widely or generally known.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 22 It is weyle knawyne on mony diuers syde, How thai haff wrocht in to thair mychty pryde. 1479–80 *Paston Lett.* III. 269 He is well knowe in London. 1568 Turner *Herbal* III. 8 Medewurte is an herbe well knewen unto all men. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. vii. § 2 He by enquirie gotte to the wel-knowne house of Kalander. 1613 Chapman *Rev. Bussy D'Ambois* III. i, He not wreng My well knowne Brother for Anonymos. 1682 Br. Montagu *Diatribæ* 19 The well-knowne and avowable practice of the Ancients. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 141 The fruitful Isle of Crete, well known to Fame. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 127 P 3 It is well known we have not had a more moderate Summer these many Years. 1780 *Mirror* No. 87 She instanced the well-known lines of Shakespeare. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, The well-known leader of the Porteous mob. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 163/1 Dry Rot, a well-known disease affecting timber. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt.* II. i. (1874) 140 It is well known that art has in general preceded science. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 46 His father being a very well-known man. 1907 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 95 Any well-known brand [of Bromide paper].

2. Intimately or thoroughly known.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. v. 27 A narrow foord, to them well knowne. 1596 *Ibid.* v. viii. 40 The dreadfull sight did them so sore affray, That their well knowen courses they forwent. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 391 The Stallion snuffs the well-known Scent afar. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 4 P 2 There are..many to whom my Person is as well known as that of their nearest Relations. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XVI. 9 Some well-known friend (Eumæus) bends this way. 1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* X. xii, A well-known voice reached her ears. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* IV. xxv, The boy..Implor'd for aid each well-known face. 1867 Morris *Jason* II. 15 So lightly through the well-known woods he passed.

absol. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 158/2 It is always best to begin with the well-known, and proceed to the less known or altogether unknown.

Wellkyn, var. Wilkin *Obs.*

Well-la·boured, *ppl. a.* Skilfully wrought or elaborated; thoroughly tilled. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 343 When they to the vocal Shell Warble melodious their well-labour'd Songs. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XXIV. 287 A large, well-labour'd bowl. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 41 Lancashire is the fertile and well-laboured soil in which the seed of factory knowledge will bring forth fruit one hundred fold. **Well-la·bouring**, *ppl. a.* 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 127 Whose well-labouring sword Had three times slaine th'appearance of the King. **Well-laced**, *ppl. a.* (See Laced 6.) 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* vi, A powerful draught of the woodman's high flavoured and well-laced compound. **Well-la·den**, *ppl. a.* 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* Epil. 22 Devoutly praying..That some well-laden Ship may strike the Sands. **Well-laid**, *ppl. a.* Also with adv., as *in, on.* 1679 Oldham *Sat. Jesuits* I. (1681) 19 That damn'd Committee, whom the Fates ordain Of all our well-laid Plots to be the bane. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* iv. 31 A well-laid-on whack o' the tawse. 1847 Surtees *Hawbuck Grange* xii. 247 Our friends now got among nice, level, well-laid, well-pleached fences. 1854 — *Handley Cr.* li. (1901) II. 92 Jorrocks, who is well-laid in on the road for a view, screeches and holloas them on. † **Well-la·nded**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Possessed of much land. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XVIII. iii. I. 550 Rich and substantiall men were tearmed in Latine, Locupletes, as one would say, Loci-pleni, [*i.e.* well-landed]. a 1623 Camden *Rem., Armories* (1636) 212 Ralph de Cuiva Spina or Creythorne, descended from an Ancestor well landed in Kent.

† **Well-la·nguaged**, *a. Obs.* Having a good command of language. Also, skilled in languages.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 172 A wel-langaged lud. 1523 [see Languaged 2]. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) E 3 b, *margin*, Men that will be demed to be well languaged. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 37 Well-languag'd Danyel. 1639 Saltmarshe *Policy* 231 Where entreaties are of moment, use well languaged men; thus were the men of Lystra perswaded. 1671 [see Languaged 1].

b. Expressed in good language, well-worded.

1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 169 His..well languag'd Sermons.

† **Well-learned**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) 5 Euer sal be in his þoht þat his munkis be wel lered. a 1774 Fergusson *Poems, Drink Ecl.* 53 As weel-lear'd travellers tell.

Well-learned, *ppl. a.* Now *rare*. Having sound knowledge or instruction; deeply read or versed (*in* a subject).

1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 25 Maister Iohn Blodwelle, a weel lerned man bolden. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xx. 129 A sad and weel learned clerk in moral philosophie. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. v. 100 With reuerend Fathers and well-learned Bishops. a 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xxiv. § 5 And for discharge of a Bishops Office, to be well minded is not enough, no not to be well learned also. 1641 Milton *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1851 III. 90 He that thinks it the part of a well learned man..to be no stranger to the volumes of the Fathers. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxiii. 336 A Man he was well learned in the Scripture. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xii. 90 He's a weel-meanin' man, an' a weel-learn't. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* XI. 432 She, well-learned in sin.

b. Of a weapon: Skilfully directed. *poet.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 22 His well learned speare Tooke surer hould.

Well-leaved, *a.* Full of foliage. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 32 A little Robin Red-brest..Sate sweetly singing on a well-lean'd Thorne. 1901 H. Seebohm *Birds of Siberia* xxx. 307 A well-leaved branch of a pine-tree.

Well-led, *ppl. a.* 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts*, Heb. xiii. 7 Their well-led lives. 1676 Dillingham *Serm. Funeral Lady Alston* 26 A Survey of an holy and well-led Life. 1890 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (ed. 4) 48 Are two well-led cotillions Have danced themselves away. **Well(-)left**, *ppl. a.* (See Leave *v.*1 9 b.) 1600 T. May *Heir* I. (1633) B 1, I must expresse a griefe Not vsuall, not like a well left heire For his dead father. 1898 'C. Hall' *Broken Arcs* VIII. 108 A

widow 'well left', who kept a small shop. **Well-legged,** *a.* 1552 HULOET, Brawned or well armed, or legged, *torosus.* 1883 *Pass. Morrice* (1876) 82 Some were..perfect of bodie, yet ill legged; other, which were well legde, shaled with their feete *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 53 For his mither tell'd him the women look'd ay to the men's legs or they marry'd them, and the well-legged louns gade ay best aff.

Well-le·ttered, *ppl. a.* Having a good knowledge of letters; imbued with learning.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7804 (Bodl. MS.) Prest weyl lettred ys to blame þat letteþ nat..To pleye wyþ wymmen. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 217 A bisshop þat was a passyng sutell clerk, & a well-letterd. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 427/1 The which..was..also in theologye wel letterd. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 265 Quintius Valerius, a wise and well lettered man. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* lvi. I. 220 Happy and well-lettered peasantry. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xlii. 212 The Bishop..would not himself have made a bad cardinal, being polished and plausible, well-lettered, yet quite a man of the world.

Well-li·ghted, *ppl. a.* 1631 MILTON *Epit. March. Winch.* 20 With a scarce-wel lighted flame. *a* 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxvi, The rooms are not well-lighted to-night, are they, Mr. Preston? 1867 H. LATHAM *Black & White* 84 Each family occupies a separate corridor, high, well-lighted.

Well-liked, *ppl. a.* [Cf. OE. **wel-gelicod,* glossing L. *beneplacitum.*] Regarded with much affection or approval. Also †*well liked of.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 12 This their well liked fellowship. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. IV. 174 To put himself into possession of his new, and well lik'd of charge. 1860 A. MCNAY *Poet. Wks.* 33 (E. D. D.) The herd came rinnin' o'er the lea, His weel-liked cur to see. 1896 *M'Clure's Mag.* VI. 446/1 A good politician, and, on the whole, a very well-liked man.

†**Well-li·king,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Cf. OE. *wellícung,* glossing L. *beneplacitum.*] Favourable regard, fondness; approbation or love (*of*).

1572 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 12. 214 All well-lyking of reason and honestie was quite banished. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 401 But this man lacking luck, did also lacke wel lyking. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1625) 46 Whilest by an outragious well-liking of your selfe, you become ignorant of your owne mischiefes. 1603 DANIEL *Def. Ryme* Wks. (1717) 6 Drawn farther on by the Well-liking and Approbation of my worthy Lord 1644 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 65 His approbation and wel-liking of those Innovations. 1679 PEPYS *Let.* 6 May, Which you were pleased..to express your well-liking of.

Well-li·king, *ppl. a.* [Cf. OE. *wel-licendlic* adj., pleasing. For †*well like* v. see WELL *adv* 31.]

1. In good condition and of lusty appearance; thriving, healthy, plump. *arch.*

13.. *Prose Psalter* xci. 14 Hij shul ben wele likand. † *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1564 Aboute it is gras sprynging, For moiste so thikke and wel likyng That it ne may in wynter dye. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 1087 Strong he was and wele lykyng. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* xcii. 13 They..shalbe fat and wel lyking [1611 flourishing]. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 119 The Popes clergie shal be well fed, faire and welliking. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 46 Houselike..is alwaies greene and well liking. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. i. 90 A Carthusian of a ruddy colour, and well liking. 1685 H. MORE *Illustrat on* etc. 2 They refusing the King's portion, grow fair and well liking with pulse and water. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* Introd. 16 But be very careful daily to observe whether your patient continues in good health, and is fat and well-liken. 1795 *Jemima* I. 176 His Lordship..looks altogether smug and well liking. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxix, There came into the camp at Brandon, riding on an ambling pad, himself fat and well-liking, none other than Sir Deda. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl Karp.* 121 There was a tendency in the conditions at the farm to make one fat, lazy, and well-liking.

fig. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 268 Wel-liking wits they haue, grosse, grosse, fat, fat. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* Ep. Ded. 3 To grow wel-liking and flourishing in goodnesse.

† **2.** Pleasant, agreeable. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. xlvii. 478 It beseemeth a man..to be well liking, gentle and acceptable [*se rendre plaisant, doux et aggreable*] to an honest and vertuous wife.

Well-limbed, *a.* Having good or fine limbs.

1418–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2043 [Jason] So wel l-lemed and compact by measure. 1535 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 151 Thinhabitantes are of high and goodly stature, well lymmed and proportioned. 1626 *Maldon* (Essex) *Documents* Bundle 108 No. 9 A well-lymb'd gekling. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 14 The people are..well limmed and proper, nor want they courage to their limmes. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4240/4 Lost..a..Horse,..a very strong well-limb'd Punch. 1792 *Ann. Reg., Charac.* 359 She was well limbed tho' ugh so low of stature. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. liv. 137 He was tall and slender, well-limbed, of a graceful address.

Well-limned, *ppl. a.* Also 7 -limb'd, lim'd, limmed. *lit* and *fig.* (See LIMN *v.* 3, 3b.)

Quot. 1616 perh. belongs to WELL-LIMBED.

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xiv. 18 The crafts-man..makes the idoll comely, faire, and great, With well limnd visage, and best fashioned shape. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 80 Neere this the curious Pencell did expresse A large and solitary wildernesse, Whose high well limmed Oakes in growing show'd As they would ease strong Atlas of his load. 1637 S. MARMION in T. Heywood *Descr. H.M. Ship* (1638) To Author A 3b, Now for a Homer whose immortall Verse In well lim'd lines, and raptures might rehearse The bravery of this Vessell. 1652 *F. Greville's Sidney* Ep. Ded., Both your Bloud and Vertues do so strongly intitle you to this well-limb'd Piece. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 468 It is the part of Poetry to have a judicious Reception of a well-lim'd Notion.

Well-lined, *ppl. a.* [See LINE *v.*1 1, 3.] Furnished with a good lining. Also *fig.*

1580 BULLEIN *Bulwk. Def., Sick Men* (1579) 6 The pacyent to haue light warme clothes, and slyppers, cleane, & well lyned. *c* 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVI. 338 Well couer'd in a well-lin'd shield. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 737 His cap well lin'd with logic not his own.

b. *spec.* Of a purse: Full of money. †Of a person: Affluent. *Obs.*

1612 COTGR., *Aisé en son message,* of good estate, well lined, well to liue. 1677 MIEGE *Fr.-Eng. Dict. s.v. Chaud,* He wants for nothing, he is warm, or well lined. 1892 [see LINED *ppl. a.*1]. 1880 [see LINE *v.*1 3]. *a* 1832 BENTHAM *Constitut. Code* Wks. 1843 IX. 208 It is the interest of all highwaymen, not only that travellers should be numerous, but that their purses should be well-lined. 1832 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xxxvii, A well-lined pouch of chamois leather.

†**Well-li·quored,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Stocked with liquor. 1628 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* 6 His blushing Lattice would looke pale and wan, Nor could he long be a well liquord man. **Well-li·veried,** *a.* 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* II. iv, Thinking of his own well-liveried menials.

Well-li·ving, *vbl. sb.* A virtuous manner of life.

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Verse) 243 For who to wele-liing sall win, With greuaims grete þaim bus bigin. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. (1687) 169/2 The first [part of Philosophy], concerning well living.

Well-li·ving, *ppl. a.* That leads a good life.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* x. 432 Pere aren witty and wel libynge (*Iusti atque sapientes*), ac her werkes ben yhudde In be hondes of almyty god. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* III. 76 Wel lyuyng man [is] hardy of kynde. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 87 Thi self waand thy witchecraft, altogidder contrarius to the natour of weill levand personis. 1870 NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* I. iv. 55 The piously-minded and well-living people in all ranks of the community.

Well-loa·ded, *ppl. a.* 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 196 Were I empow'r'd to regulate the lists, They should encounter with well-loaded fists. 1821 tr. *Iliad* IX. I. 275 When I have dragged to the sea my well-loaded vessels. **Well-lodged,** *ppl. a.* 1781 COWPER *Table-t.* 201 His form robust..Supplies with warm activity and force A mind well-lodg'd.

Well-looked, *a. Obs* exc. *Sc.* [See WELL *adv.* 32 and LOOKED 2.] Of good appearance, good-looking.

1664 PEPYS *Diary* 19 Aug., His lady..is a well-looked, fat, short, old Dutchwoman. 1722 W. HAMILTON *Wallace* VIII. (1816) 145 Nine thousand Scots..All swinging, able, lusty, well look'd men. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 651/2 The Officers were very apt to discharge an old Soldier, as often as they could find a clever well-look'd young Fellow ready to list in his Stead 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 154 A very genteel well-looked man. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* III. 126 A worthy excellent woman rather well looked. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* vii, A well-looked, well-meant, and..well-dispositioned girl. 1897 J. WILLOCK *Shetland Minister* 30 (E. D. D.) Well-looked ladies.

Well-loo·king, *ppl. a.* Of good or attractive appearance, good-looking: **a.** of persons.

Formerly very common, but now less usual than GOOD-LOOKING.

1708 STEELE *Funeral* I. i. 4 That Hale Well-looking Puppy! 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 176 A well-disciplin'd Army of above 7000 Collectors, and a peaceable well-looking one of 18000 Men. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quixote* III. iv. (1783) I. 151 A well-looking elderly gentleman. 1811–13 JANE AUSTEN *Mansfield Park* xix, You should tell your father he is not above five feet eight, or he will be expecting a well-looking man. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, The sisters were rather well-looking young women. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 6 He was..well-bred, and something more than well-looking. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 66 His brother Piet (a fine well-looking fellow).

transf. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conquer* I, Tell me, Constance, how do I look this evening? Is it one of my well-looking days, child? am I in face to-day?

b. of an animal, plant, building, etc.

1772 *Ann. Reg.* 7 The blades..produced well-looking ears; but these were hollow, and totally destitute of grain. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *Planting* II. 8 This [the horse-chesnut] is a large well looking tree. 1832 G. C. LEWIS *Lett.* (1870) 18 Avignon is a well looking town. 1819 E. RIGBY tr. *Chateaubriand's Italy* 76 Almost every farm maintains a well-looking horse, which goes in a small two-wheeled cart. 1860 GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) II. 171 The well-looking lines of building on each side of the Arno. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* xi. 189 The houses of the wealthy and moderately wealthy classes are solid and well-looking.

c. *fig.* Of an idea: Specious, attractive.

1812 *Henry & Isabella* II. 174 The well looking idea of befriending an inexperienced young woman.

Well(-)lost, *ppl. a.* Lost in a good cause or for a good consideration. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 112 Never can God himselfe perswade me, that Pyrocles life is not well lost, for to preserve the most admirable Philoclea. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 254 Would your honor But giue me leaue to trie successe, I'de venture The well lost life of mine, on his Graces cure, By such a day, an houre. 1678 DRYDEN (*title*) All for Love, or the World well Lost.

Well-lotted: see LOTTED b.

Well-loved, *ppl. a.* = WELL-BELOVED.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7288 Prophet he was, sir samuel, Wel luued wit godd, for he was lel. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar Angus* (1879) I. 166 Our landis of Clagnenady in Glenyleff to our welluvyt frend Wilzam coly. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 35 This is my son, mine own Telemachus,..Well-loved of me. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* II. 415 E'en so as they had been bidden by Odysseus' well-loved son. 1895 *Catholic Mag.* Aug. 228 St. Cuthbert's well-loved Melrose.

Well-lunged, *a.* Furnished with good lungs. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* v. 3 Whether to the well-lung'd Tragedians Rage They recommend their Labours of the Stage.

Well-made, *ppl. a.* Also 5 -makyd.

1. Of a person or animal: Well-proportioned, of good build.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8307 Quatte he was & wel ymad vor to be strong. *a* 1320 in *Wright Lyric P.* 36 Hee hath a mete myddel smal, Body arm brest wel made al. *c* 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 385 Off lymmys he was weill maid, With banys gret & schuldrys braid. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 206 Tho men whyche haue wel-makyd and synewy and stronge legges. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 586 War he ane mawdy man, as he is weill maid, He war full michtie. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 786 She was..moderate of stature, well made, & very wise. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 25 Aug., He is a comely and well-made man. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4391/4 A bay gelt Horse..well made and well ribb'd. 1783 MRS. COWLEY *Bold Stroke* V. (1784) 75 Let me see—a good air, and well made, you are the man for a dancer. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* iv, His stature was rather tall, and he was well-made and wiry. 1896 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. xx. 204 She was a tall, well-made woman.

2. Of things: Skilfully fabricated, constructed, or contrived.

15.. DUNBAR *Poems* XXVIII. 21 Ze tailzouris, with wellmaid clais Can mend the werst maid man that gais. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 42 b, We conteat ourselues with our earthen floores, wel made and of good earth. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 254 Halfe won is match well made. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 238 Greater quantities] of well-made cloth. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Mr. Watkins Tottle* I, Her complexion..was as clear as that of a well-made wax doll. 1887 *Spons' Housek. Man.* 715 A well-made toque is graceful, becoming, and comfortable. 1897 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 6/1 There has been a very decided reaction against the 'well-made' novel- that is the novel cunningly planned and ingeniously conducted to a definite dénouement.

Well-ma·naged, *ppl. a.*

1. Carefully and skilfully controlled, handled, carried on, or dealt with.

1665 WALLER *Upon H. M. New Buildings* 25 From a confin'd, well manag'd Store, You both employ, and feed the Poor. 1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* I 5 A well-manag'd War. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 800 When his vote, Well-manag'd, shall have earn'd its worthy price. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Tour Manuf. Districts Lancs.* 137 The operatives in a well-managed country mill. 1848 *Florist's Jrnl.* 221 A collection of 15 stove and greenhouse plants..which contained many well-managed plants. 1876 MISS YONGE *Womankind* iii. 17 Many well-managed children are uncomfortable if they do not repeat 'their Catechism' straight through on the Sunday. 1884 E. YATES *Re-coll.* I. 203 In those days the little Adelphi was a popular and well-managed resort.

2. Of a horse (see MANAGED 1).

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 1226 His Courser..Well mouth'd, well manag'd. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xiii, The Baron..mounted on an active and well-managed horse.

Well(-)manned, *ppl. a.* Equipped with a proper complement of men.

c 1450 *Contin. Brut* 469 Grete vessels,..stronge and well-manned. 1482–3 *Paston Lett.* III. 294 With iij. good carts well mannyd and horsyd. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xviii. (1912) 460 A well-mand Galley. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 191 Then should the sucking Elephant support Upon his shoulders a well-manned Fort. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 2 Six great and wel-mann'd ships. *a* 1684 R. LEIGHTON *Comm. Pet.* I 5 (1693) 64 So long as the place..is of sufficient strength and well man'd..they are in safety. 1720 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 181 A wood o' masts, wiel mann'd. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, River,* A well-manned galley shoots through the arch. 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archipelago* II. 50 Their long well-manned praus.

Well-ma·nnered, *a.*

† **1.** Endowed with good morals, displaying virtuous conduct and behaviour. *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 260 A mayde wel ymanered, of good men ysprunge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6320 Patroclus, þe proud kyng, was..Wel manert & meke. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. XXV. 37 Hou awete it is..to se fervent & deuoute brepren & wel manerd [*bene morigeratos*] & under discipline. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 113 Wele manered people bene of goode lif. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 45 Whiche were in theyr conuersacyon ryght honest & well maneid. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* 78 In Chirches well ordered and well mannered [*in ecclesiis bene institutis atque moratis*] there was [etc.]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 235 A man quha feirit God, and Was Weil manerit, and of singular conditiounis [*singulari morum probitate praeditus*]. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 382 To nurse you vp in a ciuil & well-mannered country.

2. Displaying good manners, courteous.

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* iii. (1870) 132 The people of the Englyshe pale be metely wel manerd,..but naturally they be testy. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 74 Haue a care to be well mannered: for with good manners, more than with any other thing we withdrawe our enimies, and do sustaine our friends. 1682 DRYDEN *Medall* Ep. to Whigs, By which well-mannerd and charitable Expressions, I was certain of his Sect, before I knew his name. 1693 — *Juv.* Ded. (1697) p. lxv, A Well-manner'd Court-Slave. 1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 38. I was too well manner'd to take the Black, and leave none to attend your Ladyship. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 227 Where's your well-manner'd Deceiver gone, Child? says she. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* VI, Though good-looking, and even well-mannered, because courteous and unaffected, they had no pretension to be ladies. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* I. I, The boy was so lively, yet so well mannered.

absol. 1896 LEVER *Martins of Cro' Martin* xxiii. 244, I have given up association with the well-bred and the well-mannered, to rub shoulders with the coarse-minded, the rough-hearted, and the vulgar.

Well-marked, *ppl. a.* Clearly defined or outlined, easy to distinguish or recognize.

1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (ed. 2) 72 Any well marked example of this disease. 1830 HERSCHEL *Archit. Notes German Ch.* 43 These arches have well-marked mouldings. 1835 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 74 Shells..of large size, and well-marked forms. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 894 *note,* A play which has several well-marked resemblances to this. 1893 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 175 Even languages of so limited area as the Basque in the Pyrenees, have their well-marked dialectic forms. 1873 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 243 Each [cell] has a well-marked oval nucleus. 1886 DRUCE *Fl. Oxf.* 348 This well-marked plant occurs on wall-tops and dry banks.

Well(-)ma·rried, *ppl. a.* Fortunate in one's marriage. Also, ? legally married. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 77 Shee's not well married, that liues married long, But shee's best married, that dies married yong. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 94 He is not like to marrie me well: and not being well married, it will be a good excuse for me hereafter, to leaue my wife. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxii. 273 Is it not a sad thing to think of, that ladies, let them be young or old, well-married or ill-married, cannot live without intrigue? **Well-ma·rshalled**, *ppl. a.* 1645 WALLER *At Penshurst* II. 16 If shee walk, in even rankes they stand, Like some well marshall'd and obsequious band. **Well-masked**, *ppl. a.* 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 212 Vice imagines virtue to be well-masked vice.

Well-matched, *ppl. a.*

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 356 And sacrilege and she, A well-match'd pair, got graceless heresie. 1749 G. WEST tr. *Pindar, Olymp. Odes* v. (1753) I. 46 The well-match'd Coursers. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 358 Now to be wed a well-match'd couple came. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* liii, You are a well-matched pair of mean, rascally, pettifogging robbers. 1884 *Poultry Chron.* II. 310 All perhaps very good birds, but..not forming a well-matched pen.

Well-ma·ted, *ppl. a.* 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxi. 142 Then the well-mated pair proceeded to hold high discourse of fate and freewill. **Well-matu·red**, *ppl. a.* 1676 EVELYN *Terra* 53 Cast..on this a layer of well-matur'd Dung. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lvi. (1749) II. 81 Sound thought and well-matured reflection. 1897 *Century Mag.* May 104 This quiet but intense thinking and the well-matured ideas which resulted from it.

† Well-meaned, *a. Obs.* [See WELL *adv.* 32 and MEANED.] Furnished with considerable means.

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* v. [iii.] H 2 b, He thats of faire bloud, well meand, of good breeding.

† Well-meaned, *ppl. a. Obs.* [MEAN *v.*[1]]

1. Kindly disposed. *Sc.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1041, I haiff spokyn with lord Clyffurd that knycht, Wyth thair chyftanys weill menyt for your lyff.

2. = WELL-MEANT.

a 1721 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. II. 94 Well-mean'd, tho' wandring Pray'rs. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 606 *The Christian Common Prayer Book*... Sensible, moderate, and well-meaned.

Well-mea·ner. One who means well or is well-intentioned.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* To Rdr. A 6 b, With well-meaners even good Meanings and Aimes in Authors attone their Failings. 1683 DRYDEN *Vind. Dk. Guise* 59 Deluded well-meaners come over out of honesty, and small offendors out of common discretion, or fear. 1700 — *Pal. & Arc.* III. 205 Well-meaners think no Harm. 1855 M. BRIDGES *Pop. Mod. Hist.* 432 On its benches sat many enthusiasts, no sages, a few well-meaners, and some colossal scoundrels.

Well-mea·ning, *vbl. sb.* Disposition to do what is right; good intentions.

1569 ELVIDEN *Closet of Counsels* (1573) To Rdr., I craue thy curtesie to respect of my well meaning, rather than of my abilitie. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 57 The almightie powers, whom I invoke as triers of mine innocencie and witnesses of my wel meaning. 1657 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* v. xxvi. (1713) 487 If that be at the bottom,..their well-meaning is commendable. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* III. ii. 38 Sir, your Deportment has been very surprizing to me,..but your Youth and Well-meaning may in a great measure excuse you. 1744 MASON *Musæus* (1748) 13 Let my well-meaning mend my ill essay. 1768 *Woman of Honor* I. 209 A few men of good sense, and real well-meaning. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 254 Though I give the Bishop credit for well-meaning in his refusal of the pictures offered to St. Paul's.

Well-mea·ning, *ppl. a.* Having, or actuated by, good intentions; animated by a kindly purpose or friendly disposition.

Often with a somewhat derogatory implication of inefficiency or unwisdom.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. v. 117 Right as see yeveth flood, and draweth see ebbe, and pulleth ayen under wawe al the iirste out-throwe, but-if good pyles of noble gouernaunce in love, in wel-meninge maner, ben sadly grounded. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 124 And albeit that he were not lerned, yet was he a vertuous and well meanynge man. *a* 1557 GRIMALD in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 106 That nothyng hyndred your welmeanyng minde. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* B ij, Take this briefe freindly and well meaning aunswere to your exceptions in good part. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 128 My brother Gloucester, plaine well meaning soule. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xvii. 158 What a Cordial and well meaning helper they had of him abroad. 1673 *True Worship of God* p. iv, Some out of a well meaning mistake, thinking that which they call Preaching, the only means of Salvation. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded. P 1 ' Tis the fault of many a well-meaning Man, to be officious in a wrong place. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 299 P 3 She..treats me like a plain well-meaning Man, who do's not know the World. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* lxxxi, The annuity we have agreed upon, is only to be given in case of success—not merely for well meaning attempts. 1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table Talk* I. 349 The well-intentioned but injudicious actions of what are called well-meaning people. 1919 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 440 The paternal attitude of the Tudor monarchy was at least well-meaning towards the education of the poor.

Hence **Well-mea·ningly** *adv.*; **Well-mea·ningness.**

1680 I. C. *Vind. Oaths & Swearing* (ed. 2) 37 That some expedient may be found out for their ease in this Point, to such especially as do erre ignorantly and well-meaningly. 1900 *Spectator* 13 Jan. 52/1 Sloppiness, mental and moral, and vague well-meaningness.

Well-meant, *ppl. a.* Rightly, honestly, or kindly intended; said or done with good intention.

? 1476 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 159, I have herd oft tymys Rychard Stratton sey that ye can and wyll take every thyng well that is well ment. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 67 His demand Springs not from Edwards well-meant honest Loue, But from Deceit, bred by Necessitie. 1628 R. HAYMAN in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 32 The poore successe of diuers of these well meant generall treatises. 1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm. Bennet* 4 Had I err'd in this case, it had been a well-meant Mistake. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, My ill-timed, though well-meant, request. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxiv, Valentine's well-meant, but perhaps injudicious interference.

b. quasi-*sb.* (with personification).

1602 [see WELL-DONE 2 d].

Well-mea·sured, *ppl. a.*

1. Composed in good measure or rhythm.

c 1645 MILTON *Sonn. to Lawes* 1 Harry whose tuneful and well measur'd Song First taught our English Musick how to span Words with just note and accent. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. vii. § 9 Puttenham is perhaps the first who wrote a well measured prose.

2. Wisely calculated or adjusted.

1839–40 WORDSW. *Punishm. Death* viii, Yet, as she may, for each peculiar case She [the State] plants well-measured terrors in the road Of wrongful acts.

Well-meated: see MEATED *a.*

Well-met, *ppl. a.* (See also MEET *v.* 4 b and HAIL-FELLOW A. b.) *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xi. (1912) 223 To stand upon the best defensive gard he could..sometime with strong and well-met wards. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* v. 57 Haste then, let's joyn our well-met Hands together. **Well-me·ttled**, *ppl. a.* Liberally supplied with precious metal; well paid or remunerated. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Humours Heaven* (Grosart) 38/1 But, Fortune from the same these Scripts did pull, And in exchange fill'd either fist with Gold: For, while they had but Papers they were dull; But being wel-mettl'd they were blithe and bold. *a* 1734 [see METALLED 3]. † **Well-me·ttled**, *ppl. a.* [METTLED 1] 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 Horses.. must have also good eyes, obedient mouthed, and well mettled. 1693 J. D. MARSH in Congreve *Old Batchelor* To Author, Like a well-metled Hawk you took your flight Quite out of reach.

Well-mi·nded, *a.*

1. Having, or actuated by, a good disposition or intention; right-minded, loyal; † generously or favourably disposed, benevolent.

1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 74/1 By whiche thy speache and talking, thou shalt not onely profite thy selfe as thou sholdest haue done by thy well minded sylence, but also [etc.]. 1584 Q. MARG. in Mary A. E. Wood *Lett. Roy. Ladies* (1846) I. 324 Your grace shall understand that there is many lords well-minded to the same. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xiii. (1912) 88 An honest and well-minded gentleman. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. (1689) 211 By their affected poverty diverting the Charity of well-minded people from those that were truly poor. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 233 Sober, well-minded men, who were real lovers of the peace of the kingdom. 1651 GATAKER *Bane* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* 507 Being ransomed by certaine charitable and well-minded Merchants. 1824 SOUTHEY *Life* (1849) I. 115 He was a well-minded boy, and has made a very respectable man. 1859 TROLLOPE *He knew* etc. I. ii. 12 Had he been perfectly well-minded in the matter, he would have gone too.

2. Wishful or determined (*to* do something).

1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer* 243 Forty thousand weather-cocks Each well-minded to keep his place.

Well-mi·ngled, *ppl. a.* 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* II. (1727) 231 How blest the lovely Pair, Beyond Expression, if well-mingled Loves And Woes well-mingled could improve our Bliss! **Well-mi·xed**, *ppl. a.* 1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* 10 Others thinke the name of Soule is vaine, And that we onely well mixt bodies are. 1680 OTWAY *Compl. Muse* xv, How to frame a Commonwealth, And Democracy, by stealth; To palliate it at first, and Cry 'Twas but a Well-mixt Monarchy. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* iii. 204 Th'according music of a well-mix'd State. **Well-mo·delled, -mo·duled**, *ppl. adjs.* 1621 [see MODULE *v.* 2]. 1666 BURNET *Mem.* in *Miscell. Sc. Hist. Soc.* (1904) II. 340 We enjoy the purity of Religion under a well modelled government.

† Well-mo·neyed, *a. Obs.* Well supplied with, having plenty of, money.

1479 [see MONKYED 1 b]. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. I ij, The storer of some well mioneyed maayster [*cellarius cuiuspiam nummatioris domini*]. 1592 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lvi. 86 The soldiers..desigued out the well moneyed masters[*cities domines*] to pray vpon. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. viii. 180 So well-moneyed he was, that for ten yeares together he might for every day expend an hundred marks. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. vi. 38 The goddesses, Persuasion and Venus, grace the well-monied man.

Well-mo·ralized, *ppl. a.* Regulated by good morals. 1652 [see MORALIZED 3]. 1692 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 69 There are more Examples of Ill Living than of ill Thinking, and a well-moralized Conversation, is a greater Rarity, than an Orthodox Head. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1578 Chaucer, whose native manners-painting verse, Well-moralis'd, shines thro' the Gothic cloud.

† Wellmost, *adv. Obs.* Also 6–7 **welmost(e.** [Formed after ALMOST, by substitution of *well* for *all*. See WELL *adv.* 18.] Almost, well-nigh.

1530 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 166 There are pore people, welmoste innumerable, That are dryuen to begge. *Ibid.* 324 They had boeth sore legges,..Al rawe from the fote welmost to the knee. 1556 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* Transl. Epist. A ij b, In this point..Englishmen are much inferiour to well most all other Nations. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess* To Rdr., Which hath made me welmost a meere Peripateticke in my studies. 1620 R. HARRIS *Sermon* To Rdr., Our vnthankfulnes and vnfruitfulnes hath welmost vndone vs. 1626 — *Hezekiah's Recou.* (1630) 30 It [sickness] turnes him well-most into an Image.

Well-mo·tived, *ppl. a.* 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxv. 377 This villanous, though well-motived trick of his. **Well-mou·lded**, *pa.* 1849 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 91 A quick brunette, well-moulded, falcon-eyed. 1850 L. C. D'OYLE *Notebks* 39 The well-moulded form in which those bones had once been encased.

Well(-)mou·nted, *ppl. a.*

1. Seated on a good horse.

1598 SHAKS. *John* v. vi. 42 These Lincolne-Washes haue deuoured them, My selfe, well mounted, hardly haue escap'd. 1830 CAPT. J. SMITH *True Trav.* vii. 82 Turlushaw with a noise of Howboyes entred the fields well mounted and armed. 1833 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dotage* i, Shadows well-mounted, dreams in a career. 1908 BOYER *Siege Toulon* II. 28 A Trooper well mounted and armed. 1828 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, He was accosted by a well-mounted stranger. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, He was well-mounted upon a sturdy chestnut cob.

† 2. ? Having a good bodily carriage, well-developed, 'well set up'. Also *fig. Obs.*

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-hater* IV. ii, A handsome, young, fair enough, and well mounted wench. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild-goose Chase* II. ii, Of a small body, she has a mind well mounted.

3. Fully equipped, well-appointed.

1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* (1852) 11 Sir Gordon Mosley and his white cravat are essential portions of every well mounted dinner-table. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxviii. XI. 495 After all the wants of a well-mounted peace-establishment were satisfied.

4. Skilfully fixed or fitted.

1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 47/2 Offered in exchange for two well-mounted slides, or other unmounted micro material.

Well-mouthed, *a.* Having a good mouth (in various senses).

14.. in *Harrow. Hell* Introd. 95 The horse..well-mouthid, well-wyndyd. 1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* 73 b, The master that instructeth, ought first to giue to his scholler a strong bridle and sharpe bit, to the intent he may be well mouthed, so that no man take him with lies. 1590 COGAINE *Treat. Hunting* B 3 b, Hounds..well mouthed, cold nosed. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* I. i, With harmonie Of well mouthed hounds. 1641 BEST *Farming Lks.* (Surtees) 13 Such [ewes] as are whole and well wool'd, and indifferent well mouthed. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2056/4 Sixteen Couple of middle sized Harriers, well mouthed. 1692 SIR W. HOPE *Fencing Master* 122 A well mouthed horse, that will answer your Briule-Hand and spurres. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 123 One Tragic sentence..Which..well mouth'd Booth with emphasis proclaims. 1842 J. ARTON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 237 The mutton of a well-mouthed wether is better than that of a young wether.

Well(-)named, *ppl. a.*

1. Called by an appropriate or suitable name.

1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 This damysel corrupcion is right wele namyd. 1861 L. CAMPBELL *Theocritus* p. vii, 'It was written' (so the last page informs us) 'by the hand of John', (well-named) 'Calligraphus'. 1879 SYMONDS *Shelley* v. 129 This poem [*Prometheus Unbound*], they cried, is well named, for who would bind it?

† 2. Having a good name or reputation. *Obs.*

1390 [see NAME *v.*[1] 2 b]. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* ix. 12 A good woman, wel named and charitable. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 535, I comonyd late with a worschipful and a wele namyd, a good thrifty man of this cuntre. *a* 1533 [see NAME *v.*[1] 2 b].

Well-na·tured, *a. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1. Having, or showing, a good or benevolent disposition; kindly, good-natured.

1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 86 For which reason we feare not in common speache to call one man well natured, and an other of euell nature. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 443/2 A quiet and well natured mind. *c* 1655 DOR. OSBORNE *Lett.* xlix. (1903) 222 If this be a fault in me, 'tis at least a well-natured one. *c* 1656 SIR H. CHOLMLEY *Mem.* (1787) 28 He was a well-natured man, charitable to the poor. 1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc.*, Apol. Her. Poetry c 1 b, These four lines, which have been sufficiently canvas'd by my well-natur'd Censors. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1729) II. 212 This great satisfaction of mind in doing any generous well-natur'd action. 1759 ADAM SMITH *Theory Moral Sentim.* IV. i. (1781) 276 The social and well-natured James the First of Great-Britain. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XXV, His brother's disgrace seemed to have removed from his well-natured bosom all recollection of their differences. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* v. (1819) II. 97 Brave indeed, well-natured, and affable. 1888 D. GRANT *Sc. Stor.* 37, I kea that he's weel-natured an' richt kind-hairted.

b. *fig.* Accommodating, obliging.

1721 *Country-Man's Lett. Curat* 74 So well natur'd are some Arguments that they can equally serve two contending Parties.

† 2. Of soil: Kindly, fertile. *Obs.*

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 52 This [trenching] is to be done in severals, as deep as you think fit, that is, so far, as you find the Earth well natur'd.

Hence **Well-na·turedness.**

1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. (1692) 225 You had better leave off valuing your selves upon the Mercy and Well-natur'dness of that Tenet.

Well-near, *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Early ME. *wel-ner*, f. WELL *adv.* 18 + NEAR *adv.*[2]] = WELL-NIGH.

c 1200 ORMIN 15517 An wif, patt was purrh blodless flod Well ner all brohht to dæpe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4760 pan Iacob and his suns warn For defaut wel ner for-farn. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 191 Welnere he com to late. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 2585 So was he wyȝe wytles, he wed wel ner. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 387 Weiner at the fyist cok. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 438 He for wo weyle ner worthit so weide. *a* 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 6 He lettes me to pursue a conquest welnere wonne. *c* 1578 in

phildia 471 Who then had well-neere crack'd her spleene With very extreame laughter. 1596 HEYLIN *Serv. France* 298 Well-neer three miles in circuit. 1728 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* iv. 60 The Public Stock was well near exhausted. 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 43 The last Time of these two had well near been fatal to me. 1869 STEWART *Rhymes*

5 (E.D.D.) Trees bow'd weel-near uprootin'. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.* s. v., There were wall-near a hundred people in the field. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Well-near*, an occasional var. of *Welly*, but not nearly so common.

†**Well-necked**, *a. Obs.* 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* II. B vij b, The fellawe is wele decked, Dysgysed and wele necked. 1578 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. iii. 6 [The nurse shall be] broade breasted, and wel neckt.

Wellness (we'lnés). [f. WELL *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being well or in good health.

Rather a nonce-wd. than of settled status like *illness*.

1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 197, I..blessed God..for my daughter's wealnesse. *c* 1655 DOR. OSBORNE *Lett.* xxviii. (1903) 126 You..never send me any of the new phrases of the town...Pray what is meant by wellness and unwellness? 1792 T. TWINING *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 145 When I say 'well', I can't be supposed to mean the wellness that one should predicate of a professor who makes those instruments his study. 1836 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 33, I feel really very well at present; and could almost persuade myself it were the natural state of *wellness*. 1864 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 210 Some weeks of such comparative ease and well-ness. 1896 MRS. DREW in A. C. Benson *Life Abp. Benson* (1899) II. 774 We were all struck by his *wellness*. 1903 H. H. COLVILL *Stepping Stone* 264 With an old man like that, wellness was illness, and illness didn't seem not so very different from wellness.

Well-nigh (we'l,nəi'), *adv.* Also as one word or two. [OE. *wel néah, néh*, f. WELL *adv.* 18 + NIGH *adv.*] Very nearly, almost wholly or entirely.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 999 (MS. F.) Welneah eall West Cent. *a* 1135 — an. 1132 (Laud MS.) Sua ðæt te king was wel-neh bepaht. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Hie forwunde-den him welneih to deaðe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 44 Hire horte was so gret, þat welneȝ hire fuast atschet. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 477 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Hit wes welneyh mydday þo busternesse com. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 281 Wel nyh alle his lyf tyme. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 539 Of werke well ne I wede. 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. i. 7 Weelnyȝ thorus al the chapiter. 1581 RICH *Farew. Milit. Prof.* Pj, There was alreadie a whole yeare and a halfe welnie paste. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iv. 81 (Qo.) They swore that you were welnigh dead for me. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. vi. 22 The experience is common (welnie) in all beasts. 1612 *Two Noble K.* III. ii, Tis now welnigh morning. *a* 1657 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* (1658) 34, I had wel-nigh forgotten the distance. 1780 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) I. 6 The blow which killed a son had well nigh killed a father also. 1848 WHITTIER *Pæan* 2 The dreary night has wellnigh passed. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 263 Though before they were well-nigh beggars. 1896 *Law Times* C. 489/2 Suspicion pointed strongly, well-nigh overwhelmingly against the prisoner. 1900 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 144 The amiable and wellnigh faultless hero.

†**Well-nosed**, *a. Obs.* Keen-scented. 1611 COTGR., *Nasilleux*, well nosed. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XVII. 433 He was a passing wise, and well-nos'd Hound. 1625, 1709 [see NOSED 1 b]. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 41. 280 Like a cunning and well-nosed Blood-Hound.

Well-no'ted, *ppl. a.* 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 21 In this the Anticke, and well noted face Of plaine old forme, is much disfigured.

Well-nou'rished, *ppl. a.* [See further s. v. NOURISHED 1, 2.] 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 237 The body..may endure longe tyme, yf the kynde of man be Well y-noryschid..by ettynge and drynkynge. 1883 J. M. FOTHERGILL *Indigestion* etc. 280 Stout, well-nourished persons do not die of wasting maladies. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. p. lxxv, His ruddy cheeks, and his well-nourished appearance.

Well-nu'rtured, *ppl. a.* 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xxvi. 14 A well nurtured mynde. 1605 R. F. *Dedakind's Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 4 Well nurturde youth. 1782 COWPER *Table-T.* 634 A well-nurtur'd train Of abler votaries. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* iii A well-nurtured boy, brave and gentle.

Well-oared, *a.* 1772 MURPHY *Grecian Daus.* I. i, A well-oar'd galley. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. 362 On board his well-oared bark.

Well off, *adv.* and *a.* [See OFF *adv.* 11 and quot. 1636 in WELL *adv.* 6 b.]

1. In predicate, normally without hyphen: **a.** Favourably circumstanced, fortunately situated; **b.** well provided, having no lack (const. *for*, † *in*); *esp.* **c.** in easy circumstances, well-to-do.

a. 1733 *Trav. J. Massey* 18, I was well off if he only call'd me a Libertine. 1762 [see OFF *adv.* 11]. 1796 T. MORTON *Way to get Married* I. (1800) 5 Why don't you go to the other inn? I'll tell you—cause you know when you are well off, ha, ha! *a* 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* I, She was a silly little thing, and did not know when she was well off.

b. 1800 COLERIDGE *Let. to Poole* in J. D. Campbell *Life* (1894) 115 In gardens, etc., we are uncommonly well-off. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* viii, We are well-off for wild-flowers here.

c. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* vi, I began to conceive a great grudge against all who were well off in life. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* ii. (1901) I. 16 He was pretty well off, that is to say, he had more than he spent. 1866 TROLLOPE *Claverings* iv, If he dies, she will be well off, of course. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* i, He was rich (or at least certainly well off).

2. *attrib.* or *adj.* (with hyphen). In sense 1 c. Also *absol.*

1884, 1888 [see OFF *adv.* 11]. 1893 FURNIVALL *Child-Marriages* Pref. 49 A well-off widow. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 301 The poor and hard-working are subject to mental upset during nursing in much larger numbers than the well-off. 1908 *Sociolog. Rev.* Apr. 131 The long-continued refusal of the well-off classes to enter public hospitals.

Hence **Well-o'ffness.** *nonce-wd.*

1866 MRS. OLIPHANT *Madonna Mary* vi, Hesketh's well-off-ness..was trying to a man. 1913 H. JAMES *Sense of Past* (1917) 289 His being in 1820 as 'rich' as he is, or was, in 1910—which counts for an immense well-offness at the earlier period.

Well-oiled, *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* II. 34 The well-oil'd Champion shone. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1821) I. 54 Rip Van Winkle..was one of those happy mortals, of foolish, well-oiled [illegible] she [the gun] has slumbered in well-oiled security.

Well-o'mened, *a.* 1754 FRANCIS *Constantine* V. v. 56 These well-omen'd Thunders..Shall drown the Cries of Death. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 211 Not a very complimentary or well-omened name, certainly.

†**Well-opi'nioned**, *a. Obs.* Having a good opinion (*of* oneself). 1615 T. ADAMS *White Devil* 61 The insolent hauty, well-opinioned of themselues. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 47 He is not so well opinion'd of himselfe, as industrious to make other.

Well-o'rdered, *ppl. a.* Exhibiting good order; rightly regulated; carefully arranged; following good lines of conduct or procedure.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 180 There is a Law in each well-ordred Nation To curbe those raging appetites that are Most disobedient and refracturie. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIX. 158 Nothing else, the cause Of all these blessings, but well order'd Lawes. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* v. (1672) 96 Well-ordered charity makes no man poor. 1710 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. 318 A Vertuous and Well-ordered Life. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 417 P 5 The *Æneid* is like a well ordered Garden. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 23 It is of the utmost importance to have a well-ordered imagination. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 116 The well-ordered ranks of Romans and Barbarians. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xl, White, well ordered teeth. 1877 HUXLEY *Techn. Educ.* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 77 A well-ordered elementary school. 1886 PASCOE *London To-day* xx. (ed. 3) 193 To church or chapel in the morning, at least, is the custom of most well-ordered persons in London.

Well-o'rdering, *vbl. sb. a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 21 The well ordering of a banquet. 1614 MARKHAM (*title*) Cheape and Good Husbandry, for the well-Ordering of all Beasts, and Fowles. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Sept., The well-ordering of the men [at a muster of the Guards].

Well-o'rdering, *ppl. a.* 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* v. (1672) 246 The over-ruling and well-ordering hand of God.

Well-o'rganized, *ppl. a.* 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* i. § 14 A well-organized nation. 1877 H. SMART *Bound to It in* III. 151 A well-organized robbery.

Well-packed, *ppl. a.*[1] [PACKED[1].] Closely and compactly put together; in quot. of a horse = compactly or solidly built. 1848 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 243 A stumpy, sturdy, well-packed [horse].

Well-packed, *ppl. a.*[2] [PACKED[1].] Skilfully selected or manipulated. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1715) IV. 163 The Legerdemain of a well packed and paid Jury. 1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* IV. ii, 'Mod. Greek', Blind-hookey sees how well I squeeze The well-packed cards in shuffling.

Well(-)paid, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Highly pleased or satisfied. Const. *of.* (See PAID 1, PAY *v.*[1] 1.) *Obs.*

c 1400 [see PAID 1]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 166 Iohn, bisshop of exetur, was plesid & well paide of þe gifte. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 425, I hope they wyll nott be well payde when thay thare shepe lak. *a* 1846 in M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table-bk., Leg.* III. 259 If he's struck my daughter I shall make him a weel-paid wife.

2. Liberally remunerated.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 4 b, Souldiours well payd, and chiefly being subiects to the Prince that they serue. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. i. 32 With his Banners, and his well paid ranks. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xviii. 147 The well-payed Incomes of Regenting-Doctors. 1726 *Learned Diss. Dumpling* (ed. 4) 17 The Well-Fed, Well-Read, Well-Pay'd C—— J—— Esq. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* IV. 63 It is the duty of well-paid labourers to become capitalists if they can. 1845 SYD. SMITH *Ir. R. C. Ch.* Wks. 1859 II. 334/1 A well-paid Protestant clergyman.

Well-pai'nted, *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*) 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1443 To this well painted peece is Lvcrece come. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. i. 268 Oh well-painted passion. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 67 The rule in building should be good joints and well-painted joints.

Well-paired, *ppl. a.* 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 18 Man and wife, like well paired Heyfers, beare all burthens together. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 98 The well-pair'd mules. 1729 JENYNS *Art of Dancing* III. 84 Rang'd on each side the well-pair'd Couples stand.

Well-parked, *ppl. a.* 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 115 A very beautiful and well-parked farm.

Well-paved, *ppl. a. c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 77 Of all that trod The well-pau'd Ilion. 1738 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 157 From the full Cistern lead the ductile Streams, To wash thy Court well-pav'd.

Well-penned, *ppl. a.* Well written. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* H 4, His huge long scraped stock Of well penn'd playes. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 81/2 A wel-pen'd Poem. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* I. ii, He will not..lend Upon the assurance of a well-pen'd Letter. 1757 [see PENNED *ppl. a.*[2] 1]. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXX, The stranger then, in a well-penned speech, announced herself as that famous Lady of the Lake.

Well-peo'pled, *ppl. a.* Full of inhabitants; populous.

1588 [see PEOPLED b]. 1628 R. B[ELING] *Sixth Bk. Sidney's Arcadia* (1629) 504 The desolation of their wel-peopled country. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 31 July, The Isle..is but ten miles in circuit, but in those days very rich and well-peopled. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XX. II. 196 A well-peopled hive. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 279 Large, flourishing, and well-peopled towns.

Well(-)placed, *ppl. a.* Set in a good place or position; rightly, fittingly, or judiciously placed.

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* IV. i, How strong an influence works in well plac'd words. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* V. iii, To cosen him of all, were but a cheat Well plac'd. 1633-48 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 505 A well-plac'ed Tapers light, Adds a becoming horror to the sight. 1674 *Barbette's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 5 The Bone is well-placed, if in the second dressing, you find all even. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. iii. (1811) 86 Well-placed kindness. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 96 They have perverted in themselves..all the well-placed sympathies of the human breast. 1896 *Courtney Calendar* 21 Filey..after losing ground at the start, got well placed.

b. Holding a good social position. In quot. *absol.*

1893 JEAFFRESON *Sir Everard's Dau.* 204 That distrust and commiserating disdain which the rich and well-placed are so prone to feel for the poor.

Well-pla'cing, *vbl. sb.* 1672 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada*, Def. Epilogue 107 Well placing of Words for the sweetness of pronunciation was not known till Mr. Waller introduc'd it. 1674 *Barbette's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 4 A broken Bone requireth four Manual Operations; Extention, Conjoyning, Ligature, Well-placing. 1725 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 34 Great care taken in the well-placing of Stair-cases.

Well-planned, *ppl. a.* 1735 J. NIXON in Somerville *Chase* To Author, The well-plan'd System. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xvii, A large, strong, well-planned stockyard.

Well-pla'nted, *ppl. a.*

1. Well stocked with growing plants.

a 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark xii. 8 A vineyard is a place enclosed, a place well planted, well fruited. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lv, Where the fine old turf sloped..towards a lilied pool and well-planted mounds.

2. Of a blow or the like: Skilfully placed, directed, or delivered.

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 271 Sancho..held out his face and beard to the first, who treated him with a well-planted twitch. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XXVI, He could have settled her with a well-planted blow.

Well-pleased, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Received with approval. *Obs.*—1

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxl[i]. 5 In the wel plesid thingus of hem [Vulg. *in beneplacitis eorum*].

2. Highly gratified or satisfied.

c 1400? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 180, I am wellplesyd, quod thys Eolus. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Matt.* iii. 17 This is my beloued sonne, in whom I am well pleased. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. x. 25 Sufficeth, that I haue maintaines my state, And sends the poore well pleased from my gate. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* III. lxxxiv. 48 Where Welcome look'd with a well-pleased face. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* III. 26 The well pleas'd Sun With all his Beams survey'd their guiltless Flame. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 118 And home well-pleased we went 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. ix, 'I drink to my hostess and her family,' says the Prince, with no very well-pleased air.

Hence **Well-plea'sedly** *adv.*, **Well-plea'sedness.**

1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* ii. 36 So that former anger is turned into welpleasednesse. 1644 HAMMOND *Tracts, Consc.* § 58 Serving God εὐαρέστως (*i. e.* either well pleasedly, cheerfully, willingly, or well pleasingly, so as God may and will accept). 1658 *Whole Duty Man* vii. § 1. 158 This contentedness is a well-pleasedness with that condition ..that God hath placed us. 1702 BEVERLEY *Praise of Glory of Grace* 21 The pure and perfect Eudokia, or the Well-Pleasedness of his Will in it self.

Well-plea'sing, *vbl. sb. rare.* The fact of being highly pleased, or of giving great pleasure.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxxxviii. 18 In thi wel plesing [Vulg. *in beneplacito tuo*] shal ben enhaunsid oure horn. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. liv. 130 Ioy þou..in my welplesing & worship [*in mei solius beneplacito ac honore*]. 1628 BACON *Ess., Unity Relig.* (Arb.) 423 The Fruits of Vnity (next vnto the well Pleasing of God, which is All in All) are two.

Well-plea'sing, *ppl. a.* Giving great pleasure or satisfaction.

1382 WYCLIF *Col.* iii. 20 This is wel plesynge to the Lord. 1607 *Statutes* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 66 Thus the displeasinge hardnes of learninge shalbe made easie in the welpleasinge manner of teachinge. 1611 BIBLE *Phil.* iv. 18 A sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 856 My Sister Goddess, and well pleasing Wife. 1718-19 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) II. 76 Upon such Principles and Grounds as are well-pleasing to God. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* xii. 344 We ask the Holy Spirit of counsel to give us light to know what is right, what is well-pleasing.

Hence †**Well-plea'singly** *adv.*

1644 [see WELL-PLEASEDLY *adv.*].

Well-ple'nished, *ppl. a.* 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xliii. V. 56 Surely there was no room, behind so well-plenished an equipage, for the slave who [etc.]. 1897 'SARAH TYTLER' *Lady Jean's Son* 274 A well-plenished dower-house.

†**Well-pli'ghted**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [= *plighted*: see PLIGHT *v.*[2]] 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ix. 21 Her well plighted frock.

Well-plumed, *ppl. a.* 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 55 The well-plum'd Goshawke. 1743 R. BLAIR *Grave* 156 But see! the well-plum'd Heroe comes nodding on Stately and slow.

Well-poi'nted, *ppl. a.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 55 Her welpointed weapons. 1823 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 349 A well-pointed punch of German steel.

Well-poised, *ppl. a.* = WELL-BALANCED, WELL-WEIGHED (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. I. 14 The well poys'd Oares Of the poore Fisher-man that dwelt thereby. 1642 CHAS. I *Answ. XIX Propositions* 17 The ancient, equall, happy, well-poised..Constitution. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgrim* (1687) 409 Humility and Charity..are sufficient to carry us thorow this evil World with an equal and well-poised mind. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* Ep. Ded. A 2 b, We who have the happiness to be born under so equal, and so well-pois'd a Government. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Agamem.* 271 Comes sloth, and from her well-pois'd sling Scatters the piled up stores. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 611 By this he forms..His well-pois'd estimate of right and wrong. 1792 BURKE *Let. Member Nat. Assembly* (near end), They were offered a well-poised, free constitution. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* ii, The well-poised mind of the veteran. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. I. 30 Announcing the moral..in well-poised sentences.

†**Well-policied**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = next. 1592 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 65 The necessitie of an Officer of this sort is inevitable in every well-policied Kingdome. 1652 HOWELL *Venice* 198 This powerfull and so well policed Commonwealth.

†**Well-po'licied**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Having a good

polity or government. 1647 Cotterell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* I. 4 Well policied Government. 1668 Petty *Taxes* 19 This, I conceive, were the worst of Taxes in a well policyed State. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 11 In every well-policied kingdom.

Well-po·lished, *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1613 Chapman *Odyss.* v. 312 A faire wel polisht helme. 1623–8 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. (1675) 246 Camplan was ..of a sweet Disposition, and a well-polished man. 1636 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxiii. (1674) 39 You have lived in the well-polisht Court of Rome. 1661 Waller *St. James's Park* 37 Here a well-polisht Mall gives us the joy To see our Prince his matchless force imploy. 1717 Pope *Ep. Jervas* 40 This small, well-polish'd Gem, the work of years. 1853 Hickie tr. *Aristoph.* II. 577 Say something clever and well-polished.

†**Well-posse·ssed,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Having large possessions. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* I. i. 100, I am my Lord, as well deriu'd as he, As well possessd.

Well-pra·ctised, *ppl. a.* Skilled through long or good practice.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ix. 43 He through long and perfect Industry, Therein well practisd was. 1597 Shake. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. ii. 121, I will..humble my Intents, To your well-practis'd, wise Directions. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacrif.* II. E 3 b, He's a well practis'd gamester. 1634 Milton *Comus* 310 Without the sure guess of well-practis'd feet. 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. i. 21 A well-practised Musitian. 1845 J. Coulter *Adv. Pacific* xli. 159 They..paddle [the canoe] with a well-practised arm. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. iv. vii, An eye well-practised in nature.

Well-prepa·red, *ppl. a.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iv. 37 With weapons well prepard. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 234 Now are we well prepar'd to know the pleasure Of our faire Cosin Dolphin. 1603 Drayton *To K. Jas.* A 3, Well-prepared pollicie. 1662 Boyle *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 67 A well-prepar'd Medicine of duly refin'd Silver. 1703 Kelsey *Serm.* 153 We bring not good, well-prepared Minds to them. 1868 Geo. Eliot *Ess.* (1884) 325 He knows that for an article to be worth much.. there must be well-prepared material.

Well-prese·rved, *ppl. a.*

(Often used to describe elderly persons who carry their years well.)

1844 *Weekly Oregonian* Dec. 9 (Thornton) Antiquated entleman.., well preserved, but somewhat wrinkled. 1859 Jno. Eliot *Adam Bede* v, Her well-preserved faculties, and her old-fashioned dignity. *a* 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daus.* vi, All the furniture in the room was as old-fashioned and as well-preserved as it could be. 1872 'M. Legrand' *Cambr. Freshm.* 20 They were well-preserved women for their time of life.

Well-primed, *ppl. a.* (See Primed, under Prime *v.*[1]) 1703 Tate *Warriour's Welcome* xxxiv, Then try your Skill: a well-prim'd Canvass stretch.

Well-pri·ncipled, *a.* Holding, actuated by, or founded upon, good principles.

1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 133 A Pious and well-principled Education. 1691 *Moralist* title-p., By way of Dialogue, between a Well-Principled Lay-man, and a Professor of Theology. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1754 The wild and pernicious ravings, under the name of Philosophy, which were thus ushered into the world, gave great offence to all well-principled men. 1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 60 An intelligent, spirited, and well-principled population. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 157, I should like to see a well-principled reform in diet tried. 1873 Mrs. Brookfield *Not a Heroine* I. 5 Four children had grown up—amiable, well-principled, and good-looking.

Well-printed, *ppl. a.* 1778 E. Harwood *Edn. Classics* (ed. 2) 33 This Edition of Polybius..is a well printed book, and very correct. 1852 Cotton *Edn. Bible* (ed. 2) 70 This is a well-printed book. **Well-prized,** *ppl. a.* *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad.* XI. 478 Loth he should taint the wel-prisd fat, of any stall-fed steere. †**Well-propo·rtionate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* = next. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. App. iv. 205 Keeping a well-proportionate space One from another. 1657 [see next, quot. 1579–80].

Well-propo·rtioned, *ppl. a.* Having good or correct proportions.

c 1386 Chaucer *Squire's T.* 284 The hors of Inde..So wel proporcioned for to been strong. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* III. 3093 He was..Weel proporcionned. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Add., *Amussitatus*, made by line, welle proporcyoned. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 55 If they found him.. well proportioned [ed. 1657 p. 41 well proportionated] of all his limmes. 1592 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 290 When a Painter would surpasse the life In limming out a well proportioned steed. 1662 Cowley *O. Cromwell*, '*Curst be the man*' ii, Who would be rather a great Monster, than A well-proportion'd Man. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 18 Well proportioned Doores and Windowes. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 247 When we view some well-proportion'd dome. 1812 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xliii, A large, well-proportioned room, handsomely fitted up. 1832 Scott *Anne of G.* iii, A young man, unusually tall, well-proportioned and active. 1890 *Spectator* 3 May, He does not present us with a clear and well-proportioned historical sequence of events and dates.

Well-proved, *ppl. a.*

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. viii. 331 Weel proued men in leernyng and in lyuyng. *Ibid.* V. x. 537 For such pretendid and weel proued cauuis. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xi. 17 His well proued weapons. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XII. 357 The well-prou'd mightie Lycian Chiefs. 1717 Pope *Iliad* X. 309 A well-provd casque, with leather braces bound.

Well-proven, *ppl. a.* = prec. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines* 283 Old and well-proven mines. **Well-pro·vended,** *ppl. a.* 1584, 1707: see Provender *v.* 2. 1861 Ld. Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 79 When he [winter] Closed his well-provender'd days. **Well(-)provi·ded,** *ppl. a.* 1736 J. Campbell *Milit. Hist. Pr. Eugene* etc. I. 385 The Garrison was far from being strong or well provided. 1799 Ht. Lee *Canterb. T., Old Woman's T.* (ed. 2) I. 382 His eyes silently rested on..the height of the walls, the well-provided state of the ramparts.

Well(-)qua·lified, *ppl. a.* 1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman-hater* I. iii, You shall present me as a Gentleman well qualified, or one extraordinary seen in divers strange mysteries. 1612 *Relat. Euro. Prague* A 2, States-men Directors and other excellent and well qualified personages. 1720 T. Innes many able and well quali- *Eng.* vi. II. 32 William ok the lead in the Upper House; and he was well qualified to do so. †**Well-qua·lified,** *ppl. a.* 1600 [see Qualified *a.*] 1689 N. Lee *Princ. Cleve* III. i. 36 Are your Wives handsome and well qualited? 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* XVIII. 335 A wife Well-qualified and well-endow'd. **Well-qua·rtered,** *ppl. a.* (Said of animals.) 1642 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 3 Goode, fatte, and well-quartered lambes. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1770/4 A thick well quartered Horse.

†**Well-queme,** *a. Obs.* In 3 wel-, wilqweme. [f. Well *adv.* 33 + Queme *a.* (cf. OE. *wel-gecwéme, -gecwémness*), or *wil-* as in *wilcume* Welcome.] Well-pleased, content, satisfied.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1744 Porphire & Auguste wurðen of þeos wordes..swiðe wilcweme [*v.r.* welcweme]. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 32 Ah habbich þin anes help, ich am wil cwema.

Also †**Well-queme** *sb.*, **-quemeness,** that which is pleasing or agreeable to one. †**Well-que·ming** *ppl. a.*, pleasant, pleasing.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 18 In þi welequeme [*in beneplacito tuo*] vphouen bes oure horne. *Ibid.* xci. 15 Yhite felefold in elde ofe fulhed þai sal, And welquemand be. *Ibid.* cxl. 5 In welequemenesses ofe am [*in beneplacitis eorum*].

Well-raised, *ppl. a.* 1582 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 65 The Tragedy shoulde be still maintained in a well raised admiration. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* II. 113 Not suffering well-raisd Troy to fall. 1649 [see Coupled *ppl. a.* 3]. 1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 919 The cleanliness, comfort, and well-raised foundation of the Fijian houses. **Well-ranged,** *ppl. a.* 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* I. 671 An inward Square by well-rang'd Trees was made. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 74 A curious frame of well-ranged bulks. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 61 The well-rang'd Files of Trees. 1752 'Sir H. Beaumont' *Crito* 16 The Teeth should be middle-sized, white, well-ranged, and even. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* IX. 666 They, all obedient, took their seats on board Well-ranged.

Well(-)read, *ppl. a.*

1. Well-informed by reading, learned *in* (a subject). Also *gen.*, versed or skilled (*in*).

1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii, 170 This yong man..well read in Poetrie, And other bookes. 1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman-hater* I. iii, A Gentleman, well read, deeply learned, and thoroughly grounded in the hidden knowledge of all Sallads and Pot-herbs whatsoever. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Milan* III. i, We embrace you, As one well read in all the points of honor. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. ii. 150 All the world holds him very well read in the Art of dissembling. 1700 Dryden *Fables, Pythag. Philos.* 15 Then thus a Senior of the Place replies, (Well read, and curious of Antiquities). 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 8 P 7 As I am very well read in *Waller*, I repeated to her the four following Verses. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* IV. xxiv, The author, so well read in human nature. 1778 Barrington in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 312 Not only a well-read naturalist, but an active sportsman. 1864 Pusey *Daniel* (1876) 380 Well-read as he was in Greek. 1876 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Quot. & Orig.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 212 Our high respect for a well-read man is praise enough of literature.

2. Of a book: Attentively perused; read in a proper or profitable way.

1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 77, I speak therefore of good novels only..Well read, indeed, these books have serious use. **Well-rea·died,** *ppl. a. Sc.* [Ready *v.* 3 b.] Well-cooked. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* IV. 50 An old serving-maid brought in a well-readied meal. †**Well-reared,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [Rear *v.*[1] 1 b.] *a* 1648 Digby *Closet Opened* (1671) 149 Put this into coffins of fine light well reared Crust. **Well-rea·soned,** *ppl. a.* 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. iii. 45 Whether from constitutional temperament, or well-reasoned argument, I find our state far from desperate. 1872 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* ix. 457 A well-reasoned book. **Well-reco·rded,** *ppl. a.* 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxxxv, So perish all in turn, save well-recorded Worth. **Well-reeved,** *ppl. a.* Securely fastened. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xviii, The well-reeved guns, the netted canopy. **Well(-)refi·ned,** *ppl. a.* 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* lxxxv, Euery Himne that able spirit affords, In polisht forme of well refined pen. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xxv. 6 A feast..of wines on the lees well refined. **Well-refo·rmed,** *ppl. a.* 1636 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Plagues Egypt* xvi, The sacred cheare That new begins their well-reformed Year. 1657 J. Gauden in J. Watts *Scribe* etc., To Rdr. 9 A bed-rid Church (whose once well reformed Religion seems not onely decayed, but dying and deplored). **Well-refre·shing,** *ppl. a.* *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. (1912) 118 The noble Pamela having delivered over the burthen of her fearefull cares to the naturall ease of a well refreshing sleepe.

Well-re·gulated, *ppl. a.*

1709 Shaftesb. *Moralists* II. iv. 108 If a liberal Education has form'd in us..well-regulated Appetites, and worthy Inclinations. 1714 R. Fiddes *Pract. Disc.* II. 250 The practice of all well regulated courts of justice in the world. 1812 J. Joyce *Sci. Dial., Astron.* xii. II. 126 The equation of time..is the adjustment of the difference of time, as shown by a well-regulated clock and a true sun-dial. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lviii, A remissness for which I am sure every well-regulated person will blame the Major. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Halib.* I. v. 87 It appeared, to her well-regulated mind, like a clandestine proceeding. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 165 The newspaper, a never wanting adjunct to every well-regulated American embryo city.

†**Well relea·sed,** *a. Obs.* [See Release *sb.*[2], *v.*[2]] Clear in utterance, melodious. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 50 Chapleynes and clerkes of the Chapell..clene voysed, well released and pronouncynge. †**Well-re·llished,** *a. Obs.* Savoury. (*lit.* and *fig.*) 1594 [see Relished *a.*]. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Relish*, well relished, *qui a bon goût.* †**Well-re·llishing,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Having a good flavour. (*lit.* and *fig.*) 1652 Vaughan *Praise Countrie-Life* li. Wks. 1914 I. 197 The Husband-man..is alwaies furnished with wel-rellishing bread. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 155 A well-relishing Latine Writer of the Annals of his times.

Well(-)remo·mbered, *ppl. a.*

1. Appropriately or appositely brought to mind. 1482 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 290 And, well remembred, I wot well ye ought not to have me in jelusye. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* II. viii. 26 Marry well remembred. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxviii, 'Aye, that is well remembered,' said Dorothée.

2. Clearly or distinctly remembered.

1698 [see Remembered *ppl. a.* 2]. 1760 A. Murphy *Deserted Isl.* II. 28 Each well-remember'd object strikes my view. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 446 Emily [was] going to hail the well-remembered old ferryman. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The well-remembered voice of my godmother. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xiii, He whirled..along the well-remembered road.

Held in good repute. 1592 Shake. *Two Gentl.* II. vii. 43 Fit me with such weedes As may beseeme some well reputed Page. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 295 A Woman well reputed. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* viii. 37 The most of them being..of knowne and well reputed ancestry. †**Well(-)reso·lved,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Resolute. 1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. v. 96 Like a valiant well resolued man. 1627 [? Falkland] *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 114 Three hundred well-resolved Gallants. 1671 Milton *Samson* 408 Who with a grain of manhood well resolv'd Might easily have shook off all her snares. **Well(-)respe·cted,** *ppl. a.* † Duly considered or regarded (*obs.*)† highly esteemed. 1596 Shake. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 10 If well-respected Honor bid me on. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, Hos.* xi. 4, I did to them, as a kind husbandman to his well-respected teame; I tooke off the yoke from them. 1829 *Anniversary* 122 He..is..well connected, and well respected. **Well-ribbed,** *a.* 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 74 [Cows] wel ribbed. 1707 [see Ribbed *ppl. a.* 1]. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 80/2 A heavy and well-ribbed carcass. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Apr. 3/1 Large, well-ribbed umbrellas warranted not to blow inside out.

Well-rigged, *ppl. a.*

1. Said of ships.

1580–9 [see Rigged *ppl. a.*[1] 2]. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xi. 4 The Ferriman..With his well rigged boate. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ix. 313 Madock..Put forth his well rigg'd Fleet. 1715 Pope *Iliad* I. 405 Mean time Atrides launch'd with num'rous Oars A well-rigg'd Ship.

2. Of a person: Well dressed or clothed.

a 1743 Ozell tr. *Brantôme's Sp. Rhodom.* (1744) 18 A well-rigg'd, spruce, proper Man. 1838 Haliburton *Clockm. Ser.* II. ii, A tidy, well-rigged nigger help.

Well-ringed, *a.* 1838 Lytton *Alice* XI. v, Warming his white and well-ringed hands by the fire. **Well-ri·pened,** *ppl. a.* 1660 Dryden *Astræa Redux* 170 'Twas not the hasty product of a day, But the well ripened Fruit of wise delay. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 459 With good culture, in twelve months, they will have..4 feet of well-ripened cane. **Well-ri·sen,** *ppl. a.* †a. Of a horse or deer: † Having an erect chest and well-carried neck. *Obs.* b. Of bread or paste (see Rise *v.* 10 c). 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 Those three [properties] of a Hart, are to have lean and dry legs, to be well risen before, and a lean head. *Ibid.*, Horses..to have a great belly, well risen before, straight backt. 1728 E. S[mith] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 133 When 'tis well risen, put in a pound of Carraway-comfits. †**Well-rode,** *ppl. a.* Skilled in riding. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* III. 269 The wel-rode Peeres of Troy. **Well-rolled,** *ppl. a.* 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 351 We tread the wilderness, whose well-roll'd walks [etc.]. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. T.* ix. 288 This layer..contains many well-rolled tertiary pebbles. **Well-roofed,** *ppl. a.* 1832 James *Phil. Augustus* xxii, Like a heavy shower of hail upon some well-roofed building. 1845 Syd. Smith *Ir. R. C. Ch.* Wks. 1859 II. 334/1 A well-windowed and well-roofed house.

Well(-)roo·ted, *ppl. a.* a. Firmly implanted. b. Well furnished with roots.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* VII. 138 Two high hill-hred Okes, Well rooted in the binding earth. 1627 May *Lucan* I. A 3 b, And round about well rooted Trees doe grow. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 4 A well rooted Set. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 253 The advantage of taking off cuttings in spring is, that they can be well rooted before winter.

fig. 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xxxiii, Well-rooted local people. 1878 [see Rooted *ppl. fig.*].

Well-ro·tted, *ppl. a.* 1796 Boys *Agric. Kent* (ed. 2) 120 Fifty cart-loads of well rotted farm-yard dung and mould. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 91 Each pot is half filled with well-rotted manure. 1858 Glenny *Everyday Bk.* 82/2 Top-dress Strawberry-beds with a coat of well-rotted dung.

Well-rou·nded, *ppl. a.* a. *lit.*

1752 'Sir H. Beaumont' *Crito* 17 The Knee should be even, and well-rounded. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* III. vi, Such things bring lines in well-rounded faces.

b. *fig.* (Cf. Rounded 6, 6 b.) Of a person, his life: Complete and symmetrical. Of a period: Full and well turned.

18.. Longfellow (Cent.) Something so complete and well-rounded in his..life. 1875 Plumptre in *Expositor* I. 414 His well-rounded periods would be to such an one what the rhetorical morality of Cicero was to Augustine. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 277 Assuredly the preacher mistakes his errand..when he strives after fine phrases,..well-rounded periods. 1897 Peery *Gist of Japan* 224 The great variety of work necessitates a well-rounded man.

Well-rowed, *ppl. a.* 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XV. 596 Swift to the town the well-row'd gally flew. **Well-ruled,** *ppl. a.* (See Ruled 1 a.) **Well-ru·ling,** *ppl. a.* 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. v. 25 T'obay the heasts of mans well ruling hand. **Well-run,** *ppl. a.* 1876 *Courring Cal.* 38 A well-run course of good length. **Well-ru·nning,** *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*) *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1067, I have a wele rinand page, Wil stirt thider right in a stage. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Ded. (ed. 2) 2 If I shou'd instruct some of them to make well-running Verses, they want Genius to give them strength as well as sweetness.

Well-sai·ling, *ppl. a.* 1608 Shake. *Per.* IV. iv. 27 Well saying ships, and bounteous winds Have brought This king to Tharsus. **Well-sa·nded,** *ppl. a.* 1707 [see Sanded

ppl. a. 3 c]. 1843 *Chambers' Edin. Jrnl.* 43/2 A smiling infant..crawling over the well-sanded floor. **Well-saved**, *ppl. a.* Carefully kept, stored, or hoarded. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 160 His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide For his shrunke shanke. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xx. 107 She herself owned a score or two of well-saved dollars. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Their racks full of well-saved oaten hay. **Well-sa'vouring**, *ppl. a.* Sweet-scented. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 172 Many wele-sauoryng spycis. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. E ij b, Folfoote is a well sauoringe herbe. **Well-say'ing**, *vbl. sb. nonce-wd.* 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 132 *King.* You haue said well. *Car.* And euer may your Highnesse yoake together..my doing well With my well saying. **Well-sce'nted**, *ppl. a.* a. Keen-scented. b. Sweet-scented. 1579 [see SCENTED 1]. 1618 GAINSFORD *P. Warbeck* 105 Well-sented hounds. 1726 J. LAURENCE *Agric.* 268 Its beautiful well-sented Flowers. **Well-schemed**, *ppl. a.* 1728 FROWDE in *Theobald's Double Falsehood* Prol., Most modern Authors..The well-schem'd Plan keep strict before their Eyes. 1909 H. BALFOUR in *Museums Jrnl.* IX. 14 A well-schemed plan of campaign.

Well-sea'soned, *ppl. a.*

1. Said of meat or drink (see SEASON *v.* 1).

1684 EARL ROSCOM. *Ess. Transl. Verse* 248 Well-season'd Bowls the Gossyps Spirits raise. 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 69 The eating of a well season'd dish, suited to a Man's pallate. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* I. xxii. 330 He took the same pleasure in falsehood that an epicure receives from a well-seasoned dish.

2. Well matured and fit for use. Chiefly of timber: Thoroughly dried and hardened. Also *fig.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. D j b, These be well seasoned reasons, and substantiall asseuerations in deed. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. 27 Letter-Boards..ought to be made of clean and well-season'd Stuff. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 26 To form strong buskins of well-season'd hyde. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* iv, Well-seasoned timber is an expensive article.

3. Of persons or animals: Fortified by training or experience. Also, inured *to*. (Cf. SEASONED 3 c.)

1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. v. 55 A well-seasoned lawyer. 1834 JAMES *J. Marston Hall* x, Our horses were strong and well-seasoned to hard work. 1849 — *Woodman* iv, My well-seasoned staves would have drank the whole beer in the town without rolling. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* v. iv. (1866) 741 Twenty thousand well-seasoned and disciplined veterans.

Well-sea'ted, *ppl. a.* Having a good seat or site. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Camillus* (1595) 150 Eighteene fayre great cities..all of them very strong, and well seated. 1621–2370 [see SEATED 2]. 1705 MANDEVILLE *Grumbling Hive* 22 The once gay, Well seated Houshold Gods. **Well-seeing**, *ppl. a.* Sharp-sighted. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxlviii, O cunning loue, with teares thou keepst me blinde, Least eyes well seeing thy foule faults should finde. **Well-see'ming**, *ppl. a.* Presenting a good or specious appearance. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 185 Mishapen Chaos of welsee[m]ing formes. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. i. 232 This well-seeming Angelo.

Well(-)seen, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Well provided or furnished. Const. *of*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1011 O selenes es it [Paradise] wel sene. *c* 1450 [see SEEN 1 c].

2. Skilled, versed, proficient *in* (some subject or affair). Now *arch.*

1528 [see SEEN 2]. *c* 1545 J. HEYWOOD *Four P.* (W. Copland) B j, Syr, ye seme wel sene in womens causes. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 80 Matthiolus a man otherwyse well sene in symples. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xiv. 63 He was..excellently well seen in all martiall affairs. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 13 A man well seen in Natural Causes and Effects. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol Gen.* 1107 Well-seen in a business, *callentissimus*. 1759, 1886 [see SEEN 2].

†**3.** Plainly visible, evident. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 66 Now be we caytyues, as it is wel seene. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxvii[i]. 24 It is well seene (o God) how thou goest. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 20 Her perfections then should have beene as well seene as Pamelas. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* I. i, Daftly wad ye hide Your well-seen love and dorty Jenny's pride.

Well-sele'cted, *ppl. a.* 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* I. i. 54 There is generally, in a well-selected society of this nature, talent sufficient to meet the forwardest. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxi, My cellar of well-selected wine in Baker Street. **Well-se'lling**, *ppl. a.* 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. i, Some words, pickt out of Proclamations,..or well-selling Pamphlets. **Well-served**, *ppl. a.* [Cf. F. *bien servi.*] 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 344 A numerous and well serv'd artillery. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, A well-served table. 1876 *Coursing Cal.* 26 A party of upwards of thirty sat down to a capital and well-served dinner. 1880 RUSKIN *Bible of Amiens* I. 1 At this halting-place.. there is a well-served buffet. 1882 SIR G. WOLSELEY in C. Royle *Egypt. Campaigns* (1886) I. 319 In full view of the enemy, and under the fire of his well-served artillery.

Well(-)set, *ppl. a.*

1. Skilfully, fittingly, or happily placed, fixed, settled, arranged, or adjusted.

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 828 So had she Surmountyd hem all of beaute..Of stature and of well set gladnesse. *c* 1400 MANDEV. (1919) vi. 25 The town & the cytee weren full wel sett in a fair contree. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 118 For that requeris obligacioun and trew consent, with wit seker and wele sett. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 75 The people that were welle set. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 787 She verteously denied hym, but..with so good maner & words so well set, that she rather kindled his desire then quenched it. 1533 COVERDALE *Isa.* iii. 24 For wellset hayre there shalbe baldnesse. *c* 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 51 Like a well-set plant In best soiles. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 348 Above the well-set Orbs

CROCKETT *Men of Moss-hags* XXXVIII, The air of well-set distinction which marks the man of ancient family.

b. with *on*.

1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horseman.* I. iv. (1656) 41 The Trunchion small, long, well set on. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* I, A light, well-set-on head.

†**c.** Of a blow: Well planted or delivered. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. viii. (1912) 391 While Ismenus doubled two or three more valiant, then well set blowes.

2. Of a person, animal, the limbs: Strongly built, firmly knit.

13.. *Guy Warw.* 6015 He was michel & wele y-sett. 1330 PALSGR. 715/2 The felowe is well sette, or well pygbt. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 250 This kyng Edward was ..brode brested and well set. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 115 If shee be well sette, then call hir a Bosse. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 74 [Cows] Wel set and compacted legs. *Ibid.* 666 A thicke, round, and well set Hogge. 1666 *W. Boghurst Loimographia* (1894) 95 Strong well sett men dyed commonly in two dayes. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. liii. 273 The Tartar was a lusty Man, and the Sailor short, but well set. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gas.* 21 Dec. 4/2 Run away,..a clever smart looking boy, well set. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* i, His figure was well set.

b. Now usually *well set-up*. (Cf. SET *ppl. a.* 10.)

1867 [see SET *ppl. a.* 10]. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxvii, Very pretty damsels, and well set up. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxii, The men's..muscular,well set-up figures.

†**3.** Well-disposed. *Sc. Obs.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* To Rdr., Referring the well set Reader to the History it selfe. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 5 The marquess of Huntly, and some weill sett freinds settled this feid.

†**4.** Of wine: Matured by keeping.

1720 RAMSAY *Edinb.'s Salut. Ld. Carnarvon* iv, The wale of well set ruby juice..I can afford.

5. *Cricket.* Said of a batsman who is playing the bowling with ease and seems unlikely to get out.

1880 *J. Lillywhite's Cricketers' Annual* 62 There were only 49 runs left to get with six wickets to fall, one batsman thoroughly well set, and the ground by no means favourable for the bowlers. 1903 JEPHSON in Hutchinson *Cricket* 112 A bowler that..might bowl a man at any period of his innings, however well set he might be.

Well-se'ttled, *ppl. a.* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxxi, She could not alter his well settled thought. 1695 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* V. xiv. 382 He delivered this severe speech with so mild and well-settled a countenance. 1691 MAYDMAN *Nav. Spec.* 177 In all well-setled Governments. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 4 In which the most confus'd Head, if fraught with a little Invention,..might exert it-self to as much advantage, as the most orderly and well-settled Judgment. **Well-sha'ding**, *ppl. a.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. x. P 7 The grasse (which plentifully grewe, brought vp vnder the care of those wel shading trees). 1626 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 64 Here the fine setting of well shading trees.

†**Well-shape.** *Obs.* In 4–5 -schap(p. [irreg. f. WELL *adv.* + SHAPE *sb.*, perh. after *well-shape* pa. pple. (see below).] Shapeliness, beauty of figure.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 4 Proude of worldly goodes, of beaute, of wel-schap, of strenghe of body. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 69 Prowde of þin herytage, & of þi bewte, & of þi wel-schapp.

Well(-)shaped, *ppl. a.* Having a good shape, form, or figure.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 186 Schuft shulders aright, well ischaped armes. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 917 The man is well shaped. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* X. 372 Steeds More white then snow, huge, and well shap't. 1654 LIGON *Barbados* 72 This tree..is well shap'd, her body straight, her branches well proportion'd. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 53 P 8 A delicate well-shaped Arm held a Fan over her Face. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Pears*, A very large wellshaped Pear. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xxxix, A..small, well-shaped mouth. 1889 J. B. BURY *Later Rom. Emp.* I. 173 He was of middle height,..well shaped, so that his body was neither too weak nor too weighty.

Well(-)shapen, *ppl. a.* Now *arch.* Also 4–5 shape (schape, i-shape). = prec.

a. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 421 Be she neuere so faire or wel I-shape [*v.r.* wel schape]. 14.. in *W.-Wülcker* 584/14 *Formosus*, Welshape. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 232 Reynawde had xvl, fete of lengthe, & was well shape of body after yᵉ gretnes.

β. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 6 Clene handes and wele shapen nailes. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxiii. 235 His fayre & wel shappen body. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Order Dieting Horses* ix. 4 b, A well shapen horse. 1687 BLOME *Pres. Fl. Amer.* 41 Chusing them [*sc.* Negroes] as men do Horses in a Fair, and according as they are handsom, lusty, well shapen, and young. 1720 SHAFTESB. *Adv. Author* Charac. (1712) I. 164 Tis the Unhappiness of those Wits,..that..they can bring nothing well-shapen or perfect into the World. 1849 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* vi, A good-looking woman,..well-shapen, light-footed

Well(-)sharpened, *ppl. a.* 1628 DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 45 At thy well sharpned thumb from Shore to Shore The Treble squeaks for fear, the Bases roar. 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* II. (1727) 206 So whole Forests fall..by one single Ax, And Steel well-sharpned. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. III. 207 And let the knife, well-sharpened, fail not finally. **Well(-)sha'ven**, *ppl. a.* 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 The Shanks [of the pin] well shaven, the pointe well and rounde fyled. 1842 D. VEDDER *Poems* 200 M'Lauchlan, the priest, wi' his weel-shaven crown. **Well-sha'ttered**, *ppl. a.* 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* II. 14 The white-flowering Almond..in well-sheltered places. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 389 Lahong, a well-sheltered spur below Darjiling. **Well-shod**, *ppl. a.* 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Dieting of Horses* xix. 15 First then see that he be well shod, that is to say, with shooes that be neither too short nor too long. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 22 It ill becomes Christians any thing well-shod with the preparation of the Gospel, to meditate flight from their deare Countrey. 1780 *Gibbon* 82 Finding soon a smoother road Beneath shod feet. †**Well-shoo'ted**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [app. f. *shooted*, irreg. wk. pa. ppls. of SHOOT *v.*] Well grown or developed.

†**Well-spea'king**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Eloquence; good delivery. 1557 CHEKE in Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* ad fin., The roundnes of your saienges and welspeakinges of the saam. 1561 HOBY *Ibid.* I. I j b, I am sure he would muche sooner haue desired wel doing in himself then wel speaking in an other. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* A iv, A man no lesse versed in the art of well-speaking then himself. 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vii. § 2 *marg.*, In them [*sc.* the connecting particles] consists the art of well speaking. †**Well-spea'king**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Eloquent. (See SPEAKING *ppl. a.* 1 b.) **Well-sped, -speeding**: see SPEED *v.* 7, SPEEDING *ppl. a.* 2.

Well-spent, *ppl. a.*

1. Of time, life: Passed profitably and virtuously.

1534 MORE *Dial. Comfort* III. xvii. (1553) Q. viii b, The well spent time. 1662 G. WHARTON *Cal. Carol.* Feb. B 5 b, Who..laid down Their well spent Lives for Charles's Injur'd Crown. 1721 POPE *Temp. Fame* 330 The constant tenour of whose well-spent days No less deserv'd a just return of praise. 1780 *Mirror* No. 90 An old man, looking back on a well-spent life. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lii, She beats all the women I have ever seen in the course of all my well-spent life.

2. Expended judiciously or to advantage.

1749 B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 188 'T is a well spent penny that saves a groat.

Well-spiced, *ppl. a.* 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 63 Some well spic't bruage. 1708 W. KING *Art of Cookery* (1709) 75 Well-spic'd Hippocras. 1829 A. CUNNINGHAM in *Anniversary* 137 Bowls well spiced and reeking.

Well(-)spo'ken, *ppl. a.* Also 5 -spoke.

1. Of a person: Gifted with good or ready speech; courteous and refined in speech.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 394 When þis chylde was waxen he was fayr & semely & wele-spoken. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 138/2 Eloquent, or welle spoke man or woman, *eloquens*. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 137 He is wel spokyn in Inglyshe, metly well in Frenshe. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Christmas Day* (1584) 273 b, Shee did not as our welspoken dames do; Shee tooke not in hand to preach. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 348 For Clarence is well spoken, and perhappes May moue your hearts to pitty, if you marke him. 1604 BACON *Apol. Earl Essex* 37, I told her, my Lord was an eloquent and well spoken man. 1713 ADDISON *Drummer* v. end, Mr. Vellum, you are a well-spoken Man: Pray do you thank my Master and my Lady. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* iii, A very well-spoken, genteel, shrewd lady, she seemed to be. 1846 EMERSON *Ess., Nom. & Real.* P 3 Strong, punctual, practical, well-spoken England. 1899 *Daily News* 5 June 4/7 A pretty, well-spoken girl of 18 years.

transf. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 29 Since I cannot prove a Louer, To entertaine these faire well spoken dayes. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Induct. 4, I vse'd it

..the rather To giue these ignorant wel-spoken daies Some tast of their abuse of this word Humor.

2. Of words: Spoken well or with propriety.

a 1592 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* (1598) E 1 b, Well spoken fellow in thine owne behalfe. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 488 Fore God, my Lord, well spoken, with good accent, and good discretion. 1605 — *Lear* II. iv. 239 Is this well spoken?

3. With *of*: Favourably mentioned.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Add., *Bene audire*, to be well spoken of. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 252, I have heard Henry's *History of Britain* well spoken of.

Hence **Well-spoken-of-ness.** *nonce-wd.*

1872 W. H. GILLESPIE *Argum. Being & Attrib. God* v. ii. (ed. 6) 179 The word *Blessedness*..may stand for consummate *Well-thought-of-ness*, or *Well-spoken-of-ness*.

Well-spread, *ppl. a.*

1. Widely extended; † *spec.* of a horse, broad in the rear (*obs.*).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* III. 115 b, If he be brode hanched, & well spred behind, and goeth wide, his pace wilbe the surer. 1590 GREENE *Black Book's Messenger* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 18 Hee was a faire large Gelding well spread and forheaded. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 395 An ancient and well spred Family. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 He must have..large Thighes, round well spread Buttocks. 1676 WORLIDGE *Vinetum Brit.* 31 Any Fruit on a low well-spread Tree, is better and fairer than that on a tall Tree. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2062/4 Lost a black Coach Mare.., well spread behind. 1708 ROWE *Royal Convert* II. i. 18, I took my usual Way, To seek the Coolness of the well-spread Shade. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 308 Woods of tall and well-spread trees.

2. Of a surface: Plentifully or elegantly covered with articles spread over it. Of a table: Laid out for a good meal.

1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Choeph.* 356 The well-spread couch Inviting soft repose. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 408 Proud of his well-spread walls. 1829 SCOTT *Betrothed* viii, A well-spread bleaching-field! 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. v. 166 The curious neophytes that surrounded the well-spread board. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxiv, The pawing of a horse..caused him to look up from his well-spread table.

Well-spring. [OE. *welspryng, wylspring*: see WELL *sb.*[1] and SPRING *sb.*[1]]

1. The source or head-spring of a stream; a fountain-head.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 22 God..asende ren of heofonum feowertig daga togædere, and geopenode þær togeanes ealle wylspringas. *c* 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 578/9 *Latex*, welspreng. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1843 An angel..Tazte her þor a welle spring. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 293 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 55 A wil spring vp þere stod Of þe stede þer he lai on. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 338 A litill brooke that com rennynge of two welle sprynges of a mountayne. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* xlii. 1 Like as the hart doth breath and bray the well-springs to obtaine. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i. 12 When of that streame he had discouered The fount, the well-spring, or the bubling head, He there would sit. 1645–50 BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* vii. (1652) 54 The water of these Well-springs is for the most part cool, clear, and pure. 1796 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Midl.* II. Gloss., Wall-spring. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 290 Such ditches.. should be cut at the feet of the adjacent rising grounds..so as to intercept the wall-springs and land-floods. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 233 The Water..drawn recently from a well-spring.

2. *fig.* A source of perennial emanation or supply.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lxv. 467 Dæs waterscipes welsprynge is on befonrice. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 52 Seo soðe lufu is wylspring and ordfruma ealra godnyssa. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 195 Al englene were..Sigge& and singe& þet tu ert liues welsprung. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1208/1 Surely yᵉ riche mannes substaunce, is yᵉ welspring of the poore mannes liuing. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* I. vi. 54 True fayth is the welspryng and roote of all vertues. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xvi. 22 Vnderstanding is a well-spring of life vnto him that hath it. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 75 This City was the Mother & Well-spring of all liberall Arts and Sciences *c* 1710 PRIOR *My Birthday* 23 Well-spring of all my joy and woe, Clotilda. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix, It was because they bore in their own hearts an inexhaustible well-spring of affection and devotion. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* II. xxii. 21 War for liberty became unexpectedly a well-spring of opulence.

Well(-)squared, *ppl. a. lit.* and *fig.* (like Gr τετράγωνος). *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 126 Thinking it want of a well squared judgement to leave any meane unassayed of saving their lives. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 79 A large well squared stone. **Well-stacked,** *ppl. a.* 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 444 The well-stack'd pile of riven logs. **Well-stained,** *ppl. a.* 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 70 The well-stain'd canvas, or the featur'd stone. **Well-starred,** *ppl. a.* Born under a lucky star, fortunate. 1867 M. ARNOLD *New Poems* 133 *Him*, I count *him*, well-starr'd. 1892 W. WATSON *Poems* 83 Friend, in whose friendship I am twice well-starred. † **Well(-)stayed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Steady, sober. 1550 HARINGTON tr. *Cicero's Bk. Friendship* (1562) 33 A wel stayed mind. *Ibid.* 48 In full growen ages and well stayed wyttes. **Well-steeled,** *ppl. a.* Stoutly armed with steel. 1613 WITHER *Abuses* II. iv. S 6, Let's trim our rusty Armes, and scoure Those long vn-vsed, well-steeld blades of our. 1781 [see STEELED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 702 The well steeled spears. **Well-steered,** *ppl. a.* 1749 G. WEST *Odes Pindar, Iphigenia in Tauris* II. (1753) I. 169 Swift the well-steer'd Vessel sails. 1809 WORDSW. *Epist. Chiabrera* iv, Fifty years Over the well-steered galleys did I rule.

Well(-)stocked, *ppl. a.* [STOCKED 6.]

1634 MILTON *Comus* 132, I shall e're long Be well stock't with as fair a herd as grac'd About my Mother Circe. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 235 In this happy dwelling, and this well-stocked farm. 1796 BURNS *Hey for a Lass* 4 O, gie me the lass wi' the weel-stockit farms. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 255 Several handsome, well-stocked shops. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, A well-stocked orchard. 1876 C. GIBBON *Robin Gray* v, He had a well-stocked steading.

† **Well-ste·mached,** *ppl. a. Obs.* 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 292, I wolde be gladde to have a weell stomakyd felawe that wolde for my sake everye daye see the seyde woodes.. and to knowe iff any weer fellyd heer affire. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Well stomaked, *bien encouraigé*. **Well-sto·ried,** *ppl. a.* 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 291 ..the vessell of your hart, as a wellstopped pot. 1774 E. LONG *Jamaica* III. 775 The fruit when..dried is packed in well-stopped bottles. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 197 The lozenges should..be kept in a well-stopped glass.

Well(-)stored, *ppl. a.* Amply stocked or furnished.

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lvi. 86 The wellstoared grounds [*refertos agros*]. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii 54 From one well-stor'd garden to another. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Plagues of Egypt* xii, The well-stored Egyptian year Began to cloath her Fields and Trees anew. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 184 His head..well stor'd with subtle wiles. *a* 1704 LOCKE (*end. Underst.* § 18 His Head was so well stor'd a Magazine. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XV. 520 The well-stor'd Quiver on his Shoulders hung. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VII. lxx, While you are attentively listening to the information or opinion of a well-stored man. 1835 [see STORED *ppl. a.* 2].

† **Well-strained,** *a. Obs.* [f. STRAIN *sb.*[1]] Coming of a good stock or breed. *a* 1710 CONGREVE *To Earl Godolphin* 85 And now a while the well-strain'd courtiers breathe. **Well-strained,** *ppl. a.* [f. STRAIN *v.*] 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XII. 264 And ye may hear across the well-strained shrouds The longed-for wind. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 53 Put a layer of well-strained boiled rice into the dish.

† **Well-strand,** *north.* and *Sc. Obs.* [f. WELL *sb.*[1] + STRAND *sb.*[2]] A small stream flowing from a spring.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 123 We wol wassche us..bi þis welle strende. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4618 Of whilk like welle strondys thi blode brast out freely. 1808 C. FINDLATER *Agric. Trebles* 16 *note*, The designation of the smallest rill of water is a syke, or a well-strand, if from a spring-well. [1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin of Flow* ii. 21 The little well-strand that trickled into the burn at our feet.]

† **Well-stream.** *Obs.* [OE. *wylle-stréam*: see WELL *sb.*[1] and STREAM *sb.*] A stream flowing from a spring.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 105 Swa se sæbela fuxel..wunað wylle-streamas. *c* 1205 LAY. 2849 King Bladud baðen iwrohte.. mid ane stæn-cunne..þe he leide in ane walle stream. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6058 Þe blod of knistes dede & of destrers & of stede Ran hem after al day so 3erne, So water out of wel streme. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 187 Colde welle stremys..That swemyn ful of smale fisshis lite. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III 93 For wher the hulles ben most hyhe, Ther mai men welle stremes finde.

Well-stricken, -strooken, -strucken (*in years* or *age*): see STRICKEN A., STRUCKEN A. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* I. 7 Booth were wele stricken in age. 1576 R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 11 The same gentleman .was a man well strooken in yeares. **Well-strung,** *ppl. a. c* 1600 DRAYTON *Mis. Margaret* xciv, Out goe the Browne Bills, with the well-strung Bowes. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVIII. 85 Gods! how his nerves..Swell o'er his well-strung limbs. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 45 The man of hard, well-strung, healthy nerves.

Well-stu·died, *ppl. a.*

1. Produced or devised by careful study.

1644 MILTON *Educ.* 7 While..the whole Symphony with artfull and unimaginable touches adorn and grace the well studied cords of some choise composer. 1727 POPE *Epist. Jervas* 33 Here thy well-study'd marbles fix our eye. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxii, Orestes..waved his hand for silence, and began his well-studied oration. 1855 PALEY *Æschylus* Pref. p. xxiv, The well-studied wisdom of iambic verses.

† **2.** Of a person: Well read, learned. Also, versed or proficient *in* (a subject). *Obs.*

1596, 1608 [see STUDIED 2]. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. ii. 45 An excellent book-man in reading of men, and otherwise well studied. 1652 FULLER etc. *Abel Rediv., Bolton* 587 He was also well studyed in Metaphysicks, Mathematicks, and School-Divinity. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* i. 9 A well-studied Divine. 1810 [see STUDIED 2].

Well-stuffed, *ppl. a.* 1483 [see STUFFED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* vii. 75 This stronglie to performe, a well stuft braine would need. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* III. (1848) 227 The carriage .moved slowly under the weight of so many well-stuffed trunks and well-stuffed travellers. † **Well-succee·ding,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Having a happy issue. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxi. § 2 She vsing so straunge, and yet so well-succeeding a temper, that she made her people by peace, warlike. **Well-sung,** *ppl. a.* 1727 POPE *Eloisa to Abelard* 365 The well-sung woes will sooth my pensive ghost. 1785 BURNS *To W. Simpson* vi, Till echoes a' resound again Her weel-sung praise. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxx, Here repair Many familiar with his well-sung woes. **Well-sustai·ned,** *ppl. a.* 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 41 Our Comment on the Comedy, Pleasing Reflections on Parts well-sustain'd, Or purpos'd Emendations. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 249 A slow but well-sustained progress. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* lii, The bugler, lifting his instrument to his lips, gave one long well-sustained blast. **Well-swelled,** *ppl. a.* 1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* iv, Till a' their weel-swall'd kytes belyve Are bent like drums. **Well-swollen,** *ppl. a.* 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* ii. 225 The well-swoln ties an equal homage claim. **Well-tai·lored,** *ppl. a.* 1886 PASCOE *Lond. To-day* iv. (ed. 3) 60 For aught one can see in Rotten Row on a Midsummer morning, all the world may be prosperous, dignified, well-tailored, and well-groomed. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cat's-Eye Rings* 36 The..well-tailored, dapper little man. **Well-ta·ken,** *ppl. a.* (In various senses: see e.g. TAKE *v.* 3, 33 b, 42.) 1639 DAVENPORT *Too late to call* 18 Times oft Wel-take Lock. 1761 FOOTE *Liar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 288 Some compliments in verse.., well-tim'd, and, what was better, well-taken. 1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isab.* I. xii. 175 Mrs. Maitland's dressing-room was ornamented with many well-taken copies and elegant designs. **Well-tamed,** *ppl. a.* 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VI. 538 While Winter like a well-tamed lion walks. **Well-tanned,** *ppl. a.* 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 51 The rest..content With base materials, sat on well-tann'd hides.

Well-ta·sted, *a.* Now *rare.* [See TASTED B.]

1. Having a good taste or flavour.

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 673 A pure, well-tasted, wholsome Fountain. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Aug. 1645, In this place are excellent oysters, small and well tasted like our Colchester. 1771 in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 321 Carp..will grow within two Summers..to be fleshy and well-tasted. 1803 *A. Hunter's Georg. Ess.* I. 429 Sweet and well-tasted butter from the milk of cows fed upon turnips. 1850 GOSSE *Rivers of Bible* (1878) 232 The water was found by this traveller to be well-tasted

fig. 1642 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* A 2 b, To upnold their now well-tasted Hierarchy by what faire pretext soever they could. 1746 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 2183 With thee bring, Not hideous visions, as of late; but draughts Delicious of well-tasted, cordial, rest; Man's rich restorative.

2. Of a person: Gifted with good taste.

1911 R. BROOKE in *Memoir* (1918) p. lxvii, So many intelligent and well-tasted people didn't seem to have any idea what I was driving at.

Well-taught, *ppl. a.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 127 At mete, wel ytaught was she with alle. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 294 He was..Nocht large of tong, weille taucht and debonayr. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Eccius.* xxxi. 19 How litle is sufficient for a man wel taught? 1594 KYD *Cornelia* V. 52 Our warie wel-taught troopes. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* IV. v, When that well-taught dame Had her Qu: giuen her, to crie out a rape. 1645 WALLER *Poems, To Flavia* ii, The graces of a well taught minde. 1722 POPE *Temp. Fame* 165 Wise Aurelius, in whose well-taught mind With boundless pow'r unbounded virtue join'd. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 155 Some of the German birds are well-taught musicians.

absol. a 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Leaves fr. Note-bk.* Ess. (1884) 361 The well-taught, an increasing number.

Well-taxed, *ppl. a.* 1775 BURKE *Sp. Concil. Amer.* Sel. Wks. 1897 I. 226 If you tax the import of that rebellious Colony, what do you tax but the goods of some other obedient and already well-taxed Colony? 1896 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. v. 59, I labored..with all the ingenuity of a well-taxed mind, to keep up the spirits of my comrades.

Well-te·mpered, *ppl. a.*

1. † **a.** Having a good bodily 'temperament' or constitution. *Obs.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 220 Rede coloure tokenyth complexcion wel temperit. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xi 189 His wel-tempered veynes. *c* 1655 A. SYDNEY in *19th Cent.* (1884) Jan. 63 Like a strong well-tempered stomach. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1842) IV. 270 He sends them into the world with a well-tempered and rightly-disposed body.

b. Having a well-balanced mental temperament (*obs.*). In later use, good-tempered.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. iii. (1912) 19 [Arcadia is noted for] the well tempered minds of the people. 1595 SPENSER *Amoretti* lxxxiv, Modest thoughts breathd from wel tempred sprites. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Eclog.* VI. xx, Thy well-temper'd soul. 1657 J. GAUDEN in J. Watts *Scribe* etc., To Rdr. 3 One of the most learned, judicious, grave, and well tempered Divines in this County of Essex. 1691 MAYDMAN *Nav. Spec.* 199 Therefore, I wish him to furnish himself with a well-tempered Disposition, To be as Wise as a Serpent, and as Harmless as a Dove. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* viii. 347 Christian Wisdom..depends not so much upon great parts, as a willing and well-temper'd Mind. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conquer* II, Yet she appears to me a pretty well-tempered girl. 1825 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxi. IX. 193 A discreet and well-tempered officer. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 538/2 Crowds were walking in the middle of the road way—merry and well-tempered.

transf. 1790 G. WALKER *Serm.* II. xxv. 216 Christianity is a mild, pleasant, and well-tempered religion.

† **2.** Of climate or season: Temperate. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 65 Well-tempered Sumater Sub-equinoctiall. 1601 *Mary Magd. Lament.* vi (Grosart) 123 A calme and bright well-tempered day. *a* 1628 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* ii. (1652) 30 That well-tempered, though over-zealous, and superstitious Region of Italy.

3. **a.** Of steel: Brought to the right degree of hardness and elasticity.

1597 C. MIDDLETON *Chinon* (1925) 18 His well tempered sword. *c* 1668 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 263 A well-tempered Turkish or Persian Scymeterre. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 734 His Back and Breast, Well temper'd Steel and scaly Brass invest. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Lett. Catholics* i. Wks. 1859 II. 336/2 No power in Europe, but yourselves, has ever thought ..of asking whether a bayonet is Catholic, or Presbyterian, or Lutheran; but whether it is sharp and well-tempered. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 735 The pallet-knife, is mostly a thin well-tempered blade of steel.

fig. 1668 GAUDEN in *Hooker's Wks.* Ep. to King A 3 b, Agreeable to right Reason and true Religion (which makes this well-tempered Peice a file capable to break the teeth of any that venture to bite it). 1726–46 THOMSON *Winter* 676 That wit..which with Attic point And kind well-tempered satire, smoothly keen, Steals through the soul, and without pain corrects.

b. Of clay or mortar: Well mixed or compounded.

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 9 Like Clay, well-temper'd with informing Skill, He may be moulded to what Shape you will. 1833 *Wauldby Farm Reg.* 120 in *Libr. Useful Knowl., Husb.* III, On this lime a bed of well-tempered clay is directly laid. 1850 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* ii. § 28 The builder who lays good bricks in well-tempered mortar.

4. *Mus.* Tuned in equal temperament.

Only in renderings of G. *das wohltemperirte Klavier*, the title of Bach's double set of 48 Preludes and Fugues in all the keys. Cf. TEMPERED 1 e.

1884 CLARA BELL & FULLER-MAITLAND tr. Spitta *Bach* II. 6 *note*, The Well-tempered Clavier. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 482 The well-tempered Clavichord.

Well-te·nded, *ppl. a.* 1793–1824 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 167 Many a sheltered and well-tended plant. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 97 The sloping hill-side..is covered with well-tended vineyards.

Wellthe, obs. form of WEALTH.

†Well-thewed, *ppl. a. Obs.* [See THEWED.] Having a good character or disposition; well-conducted, well-mannered, virtuous.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Þe wise manne and þat wel-beaud child habbeð boðe on laze. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1914 He wulde ðat he sulde hem ten ðat he wel-ðewed sulde ben. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 89 Tweye ȝongelynges..wel i-þewed [*moribus compositos*]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 51 It sit a prest to be wel thewed, And schame it is if he be lewed. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. 1121 This Calistenes, in youthe riht weel thewed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/1 Wele thewyd, *morigeratus*. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 147 Malapert, medyllar, nothyng well thewde. 1642–7 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. I. xxiii, Well thewed minds the mind do alwayes setten free.

b. *transf.* of speech, etc.

c 1325 SKELTON *Why nat to Court?* 328 Thy tonge is nat wel thewde. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 96 To nought more..my mind is bent, Then to heare nouells of his deuise: They bene so well thewed [E. K. *Glosse*, that is Bene moratæ, full of morall wisenesse]. 1594 *Zepheria* I. 2 Many their well thewd rimes doe fayre attemper Vnto their amours. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 35 The Prayers of the Church, in our Common Liturgies,..are very well thewed and composed for the nonce, to fit the dispositions and affections of men.

a matchles man.

Well-thought, *ppl. a.* In comb. with a prep. or adv., as *of, on, upon, out.*

1579 GOOGE *Lopez de Mendoza's Prov.* Ep. Ded., This gentleman..deserueth of all men to be welthought of. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1922) 173 Philanax..beganne a well thought on discourse. 1611 COTGR., *Bienvoulu*, well beloued, well thought of. 1648–58 HEXHAM II, *Wel-bedacht*, Well-advised, or Well-thought upon. 1865 tr. *Erckmann-Chatrian's Waterloo* ii. 10, I had rather remain poor and hardworking, than become rich and well-thought-of in this manner. 1901 E. PHILLPOTTS *Striking Hours* 250 You'm gwaine to blacken your awne name, an' that of a well-thought-on fam'ly. 1902 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Scotsman* 13 Jan. 7/7 Well-thought-out plans.

Hence **Well-thought-of-ness.**

1872 [see WELL-SPOKEN 3].

Well-thri·ven, *ppl. a.* *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 14806 (Fairf.) Þis man is wele þriuen [*Cott.* fast es he throd and thriuen]. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) II. 7 Then I have a quarrel against his face, though in his person, for a well-thriven man, tolerably genteel. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 698 A well-thriven ox. **Well-thumbed**, *ppl. a.* Bearing marks of frequent handling. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Villages* III. 271 She used to hear me read French out of a well-thumbed copy of Telemaque. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXVII, A couple of well-thumbed tambourines. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 254 A large collection of greasy well-thumbed *Miscellany* volumes.

Well-ti·mbered, *ppl. a.*

1. Strongly built or constructed of wood.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. xi. 29 As when the Mast of some well timbred hulke Is with the blast of some outragious storme Blowne downe. 1852 DUBOURG *Violin* (ed. 4) 344 Instruments..should be sufficiently *well-timbered*; their durability is much affected when they are finished off too weak in wood.

2. Having a good structure or constitution; well-

timbered fellow, nee would na made a good columne and I had been thought on when the house was a building. 16.. T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 40 A well timbred Horse. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 269 The Devil of Subornation came next, which was a good-complexion'd, and a well-timber'd Devil. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. 76 Let them [*sc.* the 'animal spirits'] be as Sleek and well Timber'd, as those Atoms Epicurus made his Soul of. 1769 *Stratford Jubilee* II. i, I'm as well timbered about the legs and face, as one can meet. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iv, Niel, a clean, tight, well-timbered, long-winded fellow. 1861 *Times* 27 Sept. 5/5 Cart-horses, young, and well-timbered, and quick walkers,..50 to 65 guineas.

3. Well-wooded.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3794/4 Piggott's Farm..within a Mile of the Thames, being well Timbred, having a new-built House [etc.]. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* I. iv, You descend into a well-timbered enclosure. 1904 A. C. FRASER *Biogr. Philos.* I. 26 The charming well-timbered parks which surround it.

Well-timed, *ppl. a.*

1. Occurring, done, or made at a good or fitting time; timely, opportune.

1633–36 COWLEY *Davideis* III. 839 But Jonathan..With well-tim'd zeal, and with an artful care, Restor'd, and better'd soon the nice affair. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 225 But Wisdom's triumph is well-tim'd Retreat. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* v, This well-timed present pleaded more powerfully in his favour, than anything I had to say could obviate. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xli. IV. 504 Their well-timed and rapid charge decided the conflict. 1835 PALEY *Æschylus* Pref. p. xix, By a well-timed humility they might have escaped the curse of ancestral guilt. 1874 R. TRENCH *Sketch. Club* 149 A slight and well-timed frost next morning. 1901 J. BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 76 The question was well-timed.

2. Actuated in regular time or at the right moment.

1697 TUTCHIN *Search Honesty* vi. 9 Two gentle Charons, Rowing, he espy'd, With Well-tym'd Oars, upon the Ebbing-Tyde. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* III. 26 Ev'n now the well tim'd Oars With sounding Strokes divide the sparkling Waves. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lxxvi, With well-timed groupe the nimble coursers veer.

Well-toothered *Sc.* : see under TOOTHER *v.*

We·ll-to-do, *adj. phr.* [See WELL *a.* 3.]

1. Possessed of a competency, in easy circumstances; thriving, prosperous: a. as predicate (with or without hyphens).

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* 230 *Weel-to-doe*, well to do—living comfortably. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* iii, Her husband had returned well, and *well to do*. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Jerry Jarvis's Wig*, A reputable grazier of Ivychurch, worthy and well-to-do. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 310, I am rich and well-to-do. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. vi. 119 For Corsicans they [the Napoleon family] were well-to-do.

b. in fuller form *well to do in the world.*

Cf. *well in the world*, WELL *a.* 3.

1825 MRS. CAMERON *Crooked Paths* (*Houlston Tracts* I. XXV.) 6 He is what is called very well to do in the world. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xiii. (1901) I. 93 They are very respectable—that's to say..people well-to-do in the world. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 The Corporation of the Steelyard were too well to do in the world to be other than..thoroughly Anglican. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 647/2 Both were well to do in the world.

c. *attrib.* (with hyphens).

1839 THACKERAY *Stubbs's Cal.* Jan., My father was..a well-to-do gentleman of Bungay. 1850 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 208 It is only idle and well-to-do people who kill themselves. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xiii. 143 The well-to-do squirearchy of England. 1898 GARDINER *Student's Hist. Eng.* 489 The Colony of Virginia grew into a tobacco-planting, well-to-do community.

d. *absol.* (as pl.).

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xiv. 136 He has strayed into the paradise of the well-to-do. 1891 MRS. OLIPHANT *Jerusalem* IV. ii. 441 The well-to-do of every village gathered conspicuous on the road.

e. *transf.* Indicative of easy circumstances, prosperous-looking.

1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* vi, Still, in spite of disorder like this, there was a well-to-do aspect about the place. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* i, A comfortably furnished apartment, where shaded lamps and handsome curtains gave things a well-to-do and homelike look.

2. Of an animal or plant: Thriving.

1875 F. I. SCUDAMORE *Day Dreams* 16 The cattle in the forestalls were sleek and well-to-do. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Well-to do*,..thriving, applied to trees, cattle, &c., as well as men. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* iii. 25 Fat and well-to-do rabbits.

3. Pleased or satisfied *with* oneself. *rare*[−1].

1854 [see WELL *a.* 2 c].

Hence **Well-to-do-ism, Well-to-do-ness**, prosperity.

1848 CLOUGH *Poems* (1862) Mem. p. xv, Well-to-do-ism shakes her Egyptian scourge, to the tune of 'ye are idle, ye are idle'. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* II. iii, The house had an air of solidity, and well-to-do-ness about it. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng.* III. 234 Even the poverty of wealth is better than the well-to-do-ness of the humble. 1887 E. MONEY *Dutch Maiden* xxii, 'It [an inheritance] is nothing wonderful,' he added, 'but well-to-doism for a fellow like myself.' 1905 J. BONE *London Perambulator* 127 All the nice well-flavoured old things [at a pastry-cook's in High Street] that suggested Kensington 'well-to-do-ness'.

Well-told, *ppl. a.* 1723 STEELE *Guardian* No. 42. P 3 Yet the very same Occurrences shall please them in a well-told Story. 1884 J. HALL *Chr. Home* 88 It must be a well-told tale that holds its place in the memory for thirty or forty years.

Well to live, *adj. phr.* Now *rare*; latterly *Sc.* and *U.S.* [See WELL *a.* 3.] Prosperous, well to do. Also *well to live in the world.*

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 349 And furthermore, to shewe that hee was well to liue, and that his house was rich and wealthie, he bringeth foorth these proofes. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 55 His Father..is an honest exceeding poore man, and God be thanked well to liue. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 95 Shee..was married in the end to one of an honest condition, and well to liue. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 249 The Piemontese are generally well to live. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 137 He was well to live, and was said to have plenty of money besides his stock. 1829 *Anniversary* 172 They were..well to live in the world, extensive dealers in corn and cattle. 1836 CARLYLE in *Atlantic Monthly* (1898) Sept. 295/1 The Doctor looks very well and sonsy; he seems in good health and well to live.

attrib. 1897 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 4 Jan. 10/1 Unable to collect money from well-to-live people who have owed it to her for six months.

b. Partly intoxicated.

1829 R. HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* Ep. Ded. A 2 b, One is coloured, another is foxt, a third is gone to the dogs, a fourth is well to live. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weil to live.* 2. Tipsy, elevated with drink, half seas over. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* [New England.]

Well-toned, *a.* Having a good tone, in various senses: see TONED.

c 1480, 1748 [see TONED 1 a, 1 b]. 1771 C. BURNEY *Pres. St. Mus. France & Italy* (1773) 145 The voice, which was a woman's, was well toned. 1827 EARL MOUNT-EDGCUMBE *Mus. Remin.* (ed. 2) 74 David..was..the first tenor of his time, possessing a powerful and well-toned voice. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 213 Harmonious and well-toned colouring. 1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* x. § 64. 176 The..consequent discolouration, caused in a person of lax tissues by a blow which leaves in well-toned tissues no trace.

†Well-tongued, *a. Obs.* Gifted with good speech. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Benedicus*, a man wel tunged, or faire spoken. 1600 *Narcissus* (1893) 462, I was a well toung'd nimphe. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 94/1 Which well-tonge'd Mercury shal faire relate. **†Well-took**, *ppl. a. Obs.* (See TAKE *v.* A. 5 § and B. 19 b.) 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 83 Meane time we thanke you, for your well-tooke Labour.

Well to pass, *adj. phr.* Now *Sc.* [See WELL *a.* 3.] a. In predicate: Well off, well to do. Also *well to pass in the world.*

1610 T. SCOTT *Philomythie* (1616) A 7 His Mothers Husband..being rich and well to passe. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. xv. (1650) 152 Their Masters are both of them very well to pass, and of good repute. 1708 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* ix. 29 Those who are well enough to pass in the World. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 100, I..am mistress of this inn, and thank God well to pass. 1818 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvii, Our poor friend has died well to pass in the world. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House with Green Shutters* 11 They were an able lot, and..most of them were well enough to pass. *Ibid.* 266 Johnny Coe, idle and well-to-pass.

b. *attrib.* (with hyphens).

1908 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawhin of Flow* xvii. 228 With a neatness that any well-to-pass housewife might have envied, were ranged sack upon sack of oatmeal, barley and peas.

c. *absol.* (as pl.).

1908 BARRIE *Little White Bird* xii. 124 They were children of the well-to-pass.

d. Well provided, well off *for* (something).

1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* I. 63 Charles XII. of Sweden (although himself a king, and not very well to pass for sense even among them).

Hence **†Well-to-passer** *nonce-wd.*, a person of good estate.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 504 Horace met with such Selfe-applauding well-to-passers, triumphing over anothers inferiority in Estate.

Well-tossed, *ppl. a.* *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegy.* III. ix [x.] 31 When well-toss'd [*iactatæ*] mattocks did the ground prepare. **†Well-traced**, *a. Obs.* ? Having a good foot-print. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxii, þer beth some hyndes wele traced, þe whiche haueth þe soole of þe foote as a staggard. **Well-tra·ded**, *a.* Having a good trade. 1585, 1610 [see TRADED 3]. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Well*, A well-traded Town, *une Ville fort marchande.*

Well(-)trained, *ppl. a.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. 350 His well-train'd Athenian troopes. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* II. ii. 164 A hundred well trained and ordered souldiers will beat a thousand of them. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 103 Well-trained trees in a nurserie. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 297 A pil'fring Race; well-train'd and skill'd in all the Mysteries of Theft. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xi, The well-trained ear of this guardian of the gate. 1868 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. § 105 A well trained youth. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 184 Well-trained dogs transmit these qualities.

Well-tra·velled, *ppl. a.* That has travelled far; experienced in travel; also *fig.*

In the first quot. the word may be = well travailed; the Fr. probably means 'active', 'energetic'. Cf. also quot. *c* 1420 s.v. TRAVAILED.

1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. 467 Sir Johne Rosseau, who was a well trauelled knight and well knowen [*bien trauaillant et congneu en plusieurs terres*]. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 208 Hystories..wrytten by wyttie and expert men well trauayled in the worlde. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, To Dr. Scarborough* iv, And Thy well-travell'd knowledge too does give No less account of th' Empire Sensitive. 1870 DK. OF ARGYLL *Iona* i. 2, I have heard well-travelled men declare that nothing they had seen in any part of the world had ever produced such an effect upon them [as Fingal's Cave].

†Well-tricked, *ppl. a. Obs.* Artfully adorned. 1599 DRAYTON *Idea* Son. iii, Many there be excelling in this kind, Whose well trick'd rimes with all inuention swell.

Well-tried, *ppl. a.* Often tried or tested with good result; thoroughly tried.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. vi. 312 Neither bi eny sufficient euydence of Holi Scripture or of other special and peculiar sure weel tried reuelacioun. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 40 [They] ransackt Greece well tryde, when they were wroth. *a* 1631 DONNE *Elegy.* xiv. 60 The bright Signe of a lov'd and wel-try'd Inne. 1870 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 33 Physick..is made up of severe reason, and well-tryed experiments. 1715 POPE *Odyss.* XVI. 263 Thy well-try'd wisdom, and thy martial fame. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 148 Love, Confirm'd by long experience of thy worth And well-tried virtues. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxviii, A well-tried friend has appointed to meet me in this neighbourhood. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. i. 20 Our sledge then is made of well-tried oak.

Well-trimmed, *ppl. a.* (In various senses of TRIM *v.*)

1667 DRYDEN & DR. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* III. (1668) 26 A Woman's in a sad condition, that has nothing to trust to, but a Perriwig above, and a well-trim'd shoe below. 1728 GARDINER tr. *Rapin Of Gardens* II. (ed. 3) 90 When with a low and well-trim'd Head They [*sc.* cypresses] circling round adorn some flow'ry Mead. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiii, The mass of hair (now limited to a well-trimmed beard). 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ix, A well-trimmed lamp. 1842 — *Amer. Notes* v, The well-trimmed lawns and green meadows of home are not there. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxx. 412 His coil of walrus-hide, a well-trimmed line of many fathoms' length.

Well-trod, *ppl. a. poet.* = next.

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 131 Then to the well-trod stage anon.

Well-tro·dden, *ppl. a.* Frequently trodden; much used to walk on. Also *fig.*

1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* 164 A smooth and well-trodden part of the road. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 142 A solid, hot, stone pavement is not so agreeable..as the cool, fresh turf, or the well-trodden path. 1881 TYLOR *Anthropol.* xv. 387 We need not go over the well-trodden ground of later history.

Well-trussed, *ppl. a.*

†1. Of the human or animal frame: Well-knit; firmly and compactly built. Also with *together.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xxii. 392 Men of my stature, well-trust, short and tough. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 He must have..a well-trussed

together Body. 1741 *Compl. Family-Piece* III. I. 304 The Tumbler..is a well-truss'd Dog.

2. Securely tied in a bundle.

1633 HERBERT *Temple, Ch.-porch* xxiv, Man is a shop of rules, a well truss'd pack, Whose every parcell under-writes a law.

Well-tru·sted, *ppl. a.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 83 Like the clyent that committes the cause of all his worth to a well trusted advocate. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Pr.* (1906) 412 (tr. *'Beatus ille'*) How is he pleas'd th' encreasing Use to see Of his well trusted Labours bend the tree? 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xxiii. 233 My well-trusted friend.

Well-tuned, *ppl. a.* Melodious, in good tune.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cl. 5 Prayse him vpon the welltuned cymbala. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 18 The Hounds, Replying shrilly to the well tun'd Hornes. 1591–5 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 418 That well tuned song Which late he sung vnto a scornfull lasse. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* viii. 5 The true concord of well tuned sounds. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Atheism* II. viii. (1712) 62 A Pack of well-tuned Hounds. 1660 J. BROOKBANK (*title*) The Well-tuned Organ. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 1212 What I see well-formed or hear well-tuned.

transf. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 41 Whose well-tun'd eares, chast-object-louing eyne Ne'er heard nor saw the workes of Aretine.

Well-turned, *ppl. a.* [TURN *v.* 4, 5.]

1. Skilfully turned or rounded.

[*a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 July 1670, The arches of the cellars beneath are well turn'd by Mr. Samuel the architect.] 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVIII. 77 His nervous thighs By just degrees like well-turn'd columns rise. 1812 J. MILNER *Eccles. Archit. Eng.* Pref. p. xv, The well-turned arches of the intercolumniations. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 117 The slice, gradually ascending along this well-turned plate, operates with an equal friction on its whole surface.

2. Of the body or limbs: Symmetrically shaped or rounded.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* II. vi, To play with this smooth, round, And well torn'd chin, as with the Billyard ball. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2281/4 A large well turn'd Chesnut,..15 hands. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. 670 Her well-turn'd Neck he view'd. 1728 RAMSAY *Bonny Kate* iv, How straight, how wall-turn'd and genteel, are Her limbs! 1838 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 89 They are a well-made race, ..with well-turned thighs and legs. 1886 J. CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 66 Her well-turned form, so girlish and dainty still.

3. Of speech: Neatly finished, felicitously expressed.

1623 B. JONSON in *Shaks. Wks.* To Mem. Author 68 In his well torned, and true-filed lines. 1668 DRYDEN *Of Dram. Poesie* 39 The labour which is requir'd to well turn'd and polish'd Rhyme. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 556 ₱ 3, I made a Speech consisting of about half a Dozen well-turned Periods. 1773 BOSWELL *Tour Hebrides* 22 Oct. (1785) 432 It contains a just and well-turned compliment to my illustrious friend. 1888 BURGON *Twelve Good Men* I. 41 Enshrining the friend's name in a note, commonly with the addition of ..some well-turned phrase.

†4. Of the mind: Having a good bent, well disposed. *Obs.*

1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 354 Nothing then remains, even in minds well turned, but a sense of mutual duty.

Well-tu·tored, *ppl. a.* 1648 J. QUARLES *Fons Lachrym.* 41 Let thy well tutor'd grief Know rather how to purchase a relief, Than plagues and torments. 1764 COWPER *Tiroc.* 195 And thus, well-tutor'd only while we share A mother's lectures and a nurse's care. 1792 — *Iliad* XVIII. 744 They, with well-tutor'd step, now, nimbly ran The circle. **Well-twi·sted,** *ppl. a.* *c* 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 106 Well-twisted cords. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 81 Well-twisted threds. *a* 1687 WALLER *Maid's Trag. altered* (1690) 42 Like a well twisted Cable, holding fast The anchor'd Vessel in the lowdest Blast. **Well-understoo·d,** *ppl. a.* *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, A skreene..accurately cutt in topiary worke, with well understood Architecture. 1790 BURKE *Sp.* (1816) IV. 55 Without the guide and light of sound well-understood principles. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 101 She only followed a well-understood practice among her countrywomen. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* iv. 123 Homer may seem, then, to designate, though not as by absolute and well-understood synonyms, but rather with a certain vagueness, substantially the same persons. **Well-urged,** *ppl. a.* *c* 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* X. 378 Till your well vrg'd and rich returne proue my relation sound. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lxvii, Now the heart he shakes, And now with well-urg'd sense th' enlighten'd judgment takes.

Wellus, var. VELLOUS *Sc. Obs.*

Well(-)used, *ppl. a.*

†1. Well practised or exercised. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 379 For thai war wicht, and weill wayt in wer.

2. a. Rightly or effectively used.

1594 *Selimus* xx. H 2 b, A societie of puddings, did you marke that well vsed metaphor? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 200 [He] only us'd For prospect, what well us'd had bin the pledge Of immortalitie. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xvii, As she stands above him with her hardened manner, and her well-used eyes.

b. Much or often used.

1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 36 Where the well-us'd plough Lies in the furrow. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* I. viii. 54 A little further on was a baker's shop, with a well-used oven. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* liii, That's the sexton's spade, and it's a well-used one, as you see.

Well-va·ried, *ppl. a.* 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Trag.* I. i, In the well varyed seasons of the yeare. 1764 DODSLEY *Descr. Leasowes* in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1765) II. 293 A small lawn of well-varied ground. **Well-ve·ntilated,** *ppl. a.* 1818 KITCHINER *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 2) Pref. p. xliv, A well-ventilated larder. 1887 *Spons' Househ. Man.* 39 A well-ventilated drain.

Wellvet, obs. Sc. form of VELVET.

†Well-vi·saged, *ppl. a. Obs.* *c* 1420 *Pross Life Alex.* 74 Bisonde þat riuers þay saw wonder faire & wele vesaged women cledd in foule clethyng. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. i. 213 He was..brode in the sholders & wel vysaged. ? **Well-voiced,** *a. Obs.* Having a good or powerful voice. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 86 A well voiced boy..sings Eulogies to Mahomet. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* I, The aforesaid..able-bodied and well-voiced apprentices. **†Well-wai·ting,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Compliant in attendance. 1582 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 38 Poetrie euer setteth vertue..out in her best cullours, making Fortune her wel-wayting hand-mayd. **Well-waled,** *ppl. a. Sc.* Well-chosen. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xx, She her man like a lammy led Hame, wi' a well-wail'd wordy.

Well-walled, *a.* Having good walls. (Cf. Gr. *εὐτείχεος.*)

c 1400 [see WALLED 1 b]. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* I. 130 The sacke of well-wall'd Troy. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* I. xv. 126 Valenciens..is very spacious, well walled, and full of ancient buildings. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* III. 153 Admetus from the well-walled Pherae came.

Well-wared, *ppl. a. Sc.* [See WARE *v.*[2] d.] Well spent or bestowed. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Parishioners* 13 July, O then wel-wared pained breast and sore back..in speaking early and late to you! 1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes Berwick* 14 The best fish i' the Tweed..Shall be thy weel war'd meed. **Well-warmed,** *ppl. a.* 1838 STERLING in Carlyle *Life* II. vii. (1872) 143 We slept..at the Village of Simplon, in a very fair and well-warmed inn. 1891 KIPLING *Light that failed* 136 Men..who've done their work in a well-warmed studio all their lives. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 May 4/7 The sturdy beggars..who are just now making their annual exodus from well-warmed workhouses to a life of freedom on the road.

Well-wa·rranted, *ppl. a.* Authorized, guaranteed, or approved by good warrant.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 254 You, my noble and well-warranted Cosen. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* Post-scr., A well-warranted rule. 1648 BP. HALL *Sel. Th.* lxxxi. 239 His well-warranted judgment. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Deronda* XXXVII, He was rather ashamed that Hans's hopes caused him uneasiness in spite of his well-warranted conviction that they would never be fulfilled.

Well-washed, *ppl. a.* 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 384 Repeated this, till deep the well-wash'd fleece Has drunk the flood. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 377 If a dilute solution of glycerin be mixed with well-washed yeast. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 70 She wanted to make out she was nice, and wholesome, and well-washed, and particular.

Well-wa·ter. [WELL *sb.*[1] Cf. WFris. *wel-wetter.*] Water issuing, or drawn, from a well or spring.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 330 Seoðe þonne his sceallan on yrnendum wylle wætere. *c* 1205 LAY. 19792 We habbeoð þe ibroht..cæld welle water. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 94 Vith þat þat servand mad hym ȝare,..þe velvatter for to brynge. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 129 For meth,..Asester of vinsomed hony do In sextris vj of welle water cleer. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xi. 45 They haue none other water to drinke then well water. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* li. 123 All experience teacheth vs that Well-waters arising from deepe springs, are hoter in Winter, then in Summer. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 164 Well-water is to be found at a small Depth almost in every Part of the Island. 1860 *Family Economist* 28 Apr. 271/1 Some of the well waters of London contain eighty grains of chalk in a gallon. 1912 MARY JOHNSTON *Long Roll* v. 49 Lifting the gourd of well water to his lips. *fig. c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Þe ter þet Mon wepð for laðe of þisse liue is inemned welle water, for he welleð of þe horte swa do'ð water of welle.

Well-wa·tered, *ppl. a.* [WELL *adv.* 28.] Plentifully supplied or moistened with water.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 438 in *Babees Bk.*, Litere..Wele watered, I-wrythen, be craft y-trode. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xiii. 10 Lot..beheld all the plaine of Iordane, that it was well watered euery where. 1621 [see SEATED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 323 The Ouse, dividing the well-water'd land. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* III. 170 A plain well-watered, set with trees. 1919 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 347 The stirring population.. of well-wooded and well-watered Asturias and Galicia.

Well-wea·poned, *ppl. a.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2479 He..bad him nimen him feres mide, Wel wopnede men. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 8 Knyghtes and þe skyers well I-horsed and well y-wepened. *c* 1450 *Robin Hood & Monk* viii. in Child *Ballads* III. 97/1 Take twelue of þi wyght ȝemen, Well weppynd, be þi side. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 162/2 in *Holinshed*, A thousand well weaponed and appointed men. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 108 The foresaid Arch-Bishops..attended with a numerous train of well-weaponed servants. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* II. 61 Thick upon the shoar stood several gross bands of men well weapn'd.

Well-wea·ring, *ppl. a.* [WEAR *v.*[1] 15.] *a* 1568 [see WEAR *v.*[1] 15]. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 29/1 A man ..composed of those well-wearing materials, which adapt a person for situations where genius and refinement would only prove a source of misery and of error. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* I. 53 One is never thoroughly sociable with flowers till they are..provided with decent, homely, well-wearing English names. **Well-wea·ving,** *vbl. sb.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxv. (1912) 310 The same disdainesfull scorne, which Pallas shewed to poore Arachne, that durst contende with her for the prise of well weaving.

Well-weighed, *ppl. a.*

1. Carefully estimated; duly pondered or considered.

1582 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 70 Liuely to expresse diuers passions, by the low and lofty sounde of the well-weyed silable. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* vii. 34 The well-weigh'd works of the Almightie hand. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxviii. 236 A deliberate and well-waighed Covnant. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. xviii. (1716) 106 The well weighed thoughts of their Hearts. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded. (e) 4 A well-weigh'd Judicious Poem. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Cond. Understd.* § 26 Well-weighed Reasons are to determine the Judgment. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 209 To Worth or Want, well-weigh'd, be Bounty given. 1754 MISS BOOTHBY in *Life Johnson* (1805) 76 Not without deliberation and well-weighed choice. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* IV. ix, Nor ever might light motive him From well-weigh'd purpose bend. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 278 The well weighed and prudent letter of William was read. 1883 R. B. SMITH *Ld. Lawrence* II. 536 In this document he had set forth, in well-weighed language, alike his methods and his motives.

†2. Of persons: Displaying deliberate purpose and balanced judgement. *Obs.*

1701 COLLIER *M. Anton.* (1726) 135 He was a person modest, prudent, and well-weigh'd. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xlii. 408 This Bullinger was a right prudent, peaceable, well-weighed, and learned Man.

Well-wei·ghing, *vbl. sb.* 1627 RAWLEY *Resuse. Bacon* Life (C 2), Which may be imputed..to the well weighing of his Sentence, by the Skales, of Truth, and Reason. 1767 MANSFIELD in Burrow *Rep. Cases* (1776) IV. 2016 Barbuit's Case..was solemnly argued before and determined by Lord Talbot, on considering and well-weighing..all the foreign Authorities. **Well-wei·ghing,** *ppl. a.* Heavy. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 203 Or whether he thinkes it were not possible with well-waighing summes of gold to corrupt him to a reuolt. **Well-whipped,** *ppl. a.* 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* Dial. i. 70 All the well-whipt Cream of Courtly Sense. 1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* (1849) 277 She spins round like a well-whipped top. **Well-wigged,** *ppl. a.* 1792 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 11 The well-wigged justices. 1832 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 177 Our well-wigged ancestors.

†Well-will, *v. Obs. rare. trans.* To wish (one) well, to regard with favour.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Maidens Blush* 688 Weening therefore these Augures all fulfill'd In Joseph now, him every one well-will'd. 1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 217 He..is well knowne in Court, and well willed by great Ones.

Well-willed, *a. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north.* [See WILLED *a.* 2.] Kindly or favourably disposed.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxv. (1495) 727 Of good men and well wylled: dronkenesse makyth euyll men and wycked. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2186 Though I be nat wys, Wel-willed am I. 1484 RICH. III. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 166 Oure sayde soverayn Lord, as a welewilled, diligent, and couragious Prince. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Wellwylled, *de bonne voulenté.* 1598 D. FERGUSON *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 82 Nothing is difficile to a well willit man. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 65 This was but one of the many exploits of a like nature achieved by this well-willed being. 1899 J. SPENCE *Shetld. Folk-lore* 212 The weel-willed man is the beggar's bridder.

b. Const. *to, unto*; also *to* (do something) or *that* (something be done).

1417 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 38 Y pray hem þat þey be well wyllet..to here. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 295 And þuf all he waf not welewillid þerto, yit he was compellid to drynk. *c* 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 5 All the Cite was vnto thaym frendly and wellwillid. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 202 As for the woman that made the clayme,..he ys wellwyllyd that she shold be seyn to in the way of almys. *c* 1473 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 27, I will be as wellwilled to doe things for your pleasure. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 178/1 Wherunto the more partie of the inhabitaunts..be right welwilled and agreable. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxi. 254 Certayne yonge knyghtes..well wylled to do some dede of armes. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxii. 163 But see sic a han'le as that state o' maitters gies to them that's but owre weel-will't to be lords owre God's spiritual heritage.

We·ll-wi·ller. Now *rare.* [See WILLER 1 and cf. GOODWILLER.] One who bears good will or wishes well (to another, to a cause, etc.); one who is disposed to be kind or friendly.

In very frequent use from 1450 to 1700. Since then largely superseded by WELL-WISHER.

1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 69 All hys mene, and all that ben hys wele wyllers. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxxi. 465 Wherfore he thoughte to slee hym and alle his wel wyllars in that countrey. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) II. 78 Those with whome we are conuersant, being rather well-willers, than true friendes. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 121 Is the diuell our friende or our foe, our welwiller or our enemie? *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. x. (1912) I. 209 No man durst shew himself a wel-willer of mine. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. iv. 242 We may have many well-willers, but very few speciall friends: well-willers be generall friends. 1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 148, I feare our inland friends will not be sufficyent, vnlesse our well-willers abroade clubb to ye reckoninge. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 62 Every body and every-thing had a black and a white side, as ill-willers and well-willers were pleased to report. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 102 Evil befall the foul fiend and all his well-willers. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* VI. 280 And those Well-willers' iron beds [*ferreique Eumenidum thalami*]. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. After Scene 352 The Well-willer, the kindly Might That balances the Vast for weal.

b. Const. *of, to* (*unto*, Sc. *till*).

1463 *Irish Acts 9 Edw. IV* c. 68 Gouuernyng..by theim that ben welwillers to the Kyng. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 78 b, Som of the welwillars of the king appollo. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 82 They..scornefullie mocke his worde, and also spitefullie hate and hurte all well willers thereof. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. § 14 If now the Communion booke make for them too..it may be hoped that being found such a welwiller vnto their cause, they will more fauour it then they haue done. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* v. (1906) 38 Give mee leave..as a well-willer unto you and your studies, to beare you company part of the way. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 67 Lovers and Well-willers of Art. 1698 F. R. *Free but Modest Censure* 4 A friend and well-willer to that Cause. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxxvi. 253 Ye ken brawly that I never was a weel-wuller till gyaun awa' fae the Pairis' Kirk. 1874 SWINBURNE *Bothw.* I. i. (1882) 6 Men Who are well-willers to this common state.

†c. One who is addicted or devoted *to* a study (esp. astrology). *Obs.*

1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Lanc. Witches* V. i, Though he be no witch, he is a wel-willer to the infernal science. 1653

W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 18 For the satisfaction of the well-willers to Astrology. 1654 Cleveland *Char. Diurnal-maker* 5 He is the first tincture and rudiment of a Writer, dip't as yet in the preparative blew, like an Almanack well-willer. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 840 [He] with the Moon was more familiar Than e'er was Almanack well willer. 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesy* 4 One that is so much a well-willer to the Satire, that he spares no man. 1671 Blagrave *Astrol. Pract. Physick* 188 To all such who are Students, and well-Willers unto this most excellent Science of Astrology. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 285 A Virtuoso is a Well-willer to the Mathematics. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. vii. 245 To us Well-Willers nothing can be plainer, than that Comets are Flammeous, or Lucid Expirations.

† We·ll-wi·lling, *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1. The act of wishing well (to another); good will, favour, kindly regard.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxlvi. 12 Wellwillynge is til lord on dredand him [*Beneplacitum est domino super timentes eum*]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 503 Better he cowde enforme hem of youre volunte, for he is with hem a-queynted and theire welwellinge. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xviii. 67 By thy well wyllynge, and by the yeftes & alle other thynges that I haue doon vnto the. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* C c j, In those daies I wearied thee with my welwilling and yet I am not tired to procure thy welfare. 1640 tr. *Verderr's Rom. of Rom.* II. xx. 75 It begot a well willing in her towards him. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Ther. Theol.* (1710) I. 30 Benevolence, or Well-willing, to the Object beloved.

2. (One's) good pleasure; what it seems good to a person to do, intend, or allow.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxl. 7 My prayere in þaire welewillyngis [*oracio mea in beneplacitis eorum*]. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iv. iv. 439 This was doon..bi Goddis welwilling that it schulde be doon. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. ix. 50 He chose þe welwillyng of god [*divinum beneplacitum*] before mannys solace. *Ibid.* III. lv. 132 Do wiþ me þi desired welwilling [*desideratum beneplacitum tuum*].

3. Right or virtuous intention; willing what is good.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 27 Eftere my rightwisnes.. That is eftere my welwillynge þat is in my saule. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 355 Pes to the men of welwillinge In erthe be among ous here [Lk. ii. 14]. 1397 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxi. § 12 Simplie to will proceedeth from nature, but our welwilling is from grace.

We·ll-wi·lling, *a.* (and *sb.*) Now *rare* or *dial.* [Cf. Du. *welwillend.*]

A. *adj.* Wishing well to another; disposed to be kind or friendly; benevolent, propitious; loyal, well-affected.

c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* viii, Ne beon hiz modlze..ac.. welwyllende, & mildheorte. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 59 Þæt he hraðe dælde þearfum and wædlum mid well-willendum mode. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 41 How that he fand nane weill willand, Bot all war fais that euir he fand. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 214 This fowle is sacred unto Jupiter, The lord of briddis in the highe heven, Wele willyng planete beholdyng from so ferre. 1448 Hen. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 379, I..pray my said heirs..that they shewe them self welwillyng feithful and tender lovers of my desire in this behalf. *a* 1533 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* I. D iij b, Goddes law requyreth a thynge to be done wyth a well wyllynge harte. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Ep. Ded. A ij b, The louyng and well ... subiectes. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 120 His folkis..was nocht so weill willing as he requyred. 1597 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 410 They cam in a loving and well-willing maner to inquyre. 1611 Cotgr., *Bienveuillant*, well-willing, favourable.

absol. c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiv. 229 Da welwillendan [L. *benevoli*]. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 677 That the weill willing may be rememberit, and the obstinat constrenit to thair dewitie.

b. Const. *to*, *towards*, *unto*.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 18 It semeth love is welwillende To hem that [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 964 To ther desire the kyng was welewillyng. 1461 *Paston Lett.* (1904) IV. 14 I knew..not whedyr they wer well wyllyng to yow or not. 1549 J. Old *Erasm. Par., Ephes.* Prol. D ij, Sondry other curates & ministres..are honest and diligently well wyllynge towardes the trueth. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 50 b, Those which stand welwilling vnto his instructions. 1598 R. Bernard *Terence, Hecyra* v. i. (1607) 338 Your speach hath made mee fauorable and welwilling towardes you now. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* Transl. to Reader, Through the persuasions of diuers well-willinge Dutchmen to the English nationе. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* Prol. 20 He was one of those who are.. ruggedly faithful and well-willing to their friends.

c. Ready or desirous *to* (do something).

c 1440 *Generydes* 2182 To wayte on hym ther were [they] well willyng. 1585 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 437 Sic persouns..as ar knawin to be..maist cairfull and weill willing to seik the saifitie and preseruatioun of the same.

† B. *sb.* One who is well disposed to another; a (person's) well-wisher or friend. *Obs.*

In pl., either unaltered or with *s*.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8948 He spak so wyþ þe kyng of þat land, þat he was his wel willand Vpon Bretaigne a route to renge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 112 Þe echedayes dol þet god yefþ to his wel wilynde. *c* 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 368 Oure sib men and oure welewillandes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 209 If that thou wistest al, What Cheste doth in special To love and to his welwillinge. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. ix. 3048 Obir gudis..þat langit til hym or til his men, Or til his weil willandis þen. 1423 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1450*, 30/2 Til al lordis our frenddis and wele willand effectuusly we praye. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 12 To al oure frendes, and wel wyllynges. 1463 *Paston Lett.* II. 138 Wretyn..Be your welewylland, Abbot of Langeleye.

Hence **† Well-willingness.**

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxxi. 44 Embe his efencempan he hæfde welwillendnysse and micele lufe. *a* 1390 *Wyclif Bible, Exodus*. Prol., I monest you to comen with wel willingnesse [Vulg. *cum benevolentia*].

Well-wi·lly, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [See Willy *a.* Cf. Sw. *välvillig*, Da. *velvillig*.] Full of good will, benevolent, well-disposed, generous; = Good-willy *a.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1257 Venus mene I, þe wel willy planete. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Sainte* 111. (*Andrew*) 807 Al þai þat vele wylly was to þe apostil. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 627 A I faire lady I welwilly founde at al. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. iii. in *Anglia* VIII. 258 Pees in londe to men þat are wele willy. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. vii. 522 Wherfore ther mai not so greet a multitude be weel willi to religioun, if [etc.]. 1808 Jamieson, *Weill-willie, Weill-willit*, Liberal, not niggardly. 1821 *Leic. Glass., Well-willing*, and *Well-willy*, favourable to; having a kindly feeling towards; bearing good will towards.

Well-wi·nded, *a.* Sound or strong of wind. 14.. in *Harrow. Hall* Introd. p. xxv, The horse hath xxv properteis...After the asse, well-mouthid, well-wyndyd. **Well-wi·ndowed**, *a.* 1845 [see Well-roofed]. **Well-winged**, *a.* 1623-26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 66 He past them o'er, quick, as..well-wing'd Shaft forth of a Parthian bowe.

Well-wi·shing, *sb.* Now *rare*. An act of wishing well to another; a good wish. Const. *to*, *for*.

1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 435 If..these speeches haue proceeded only from your well-wishes to mee, I must be sorry for them. 1623 Bp. Hall *Best Bargaine* Wks. (1625) 518 Our zealous well-wishes..for the vndoubted truth of our Maker and Redeemer. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* II. § 13 If this be true, I must confesse I am charitable only in my liberall intentions, and bountifull well-wishes. 1654 J. Sherman (*title*) White Salt: or, A Sober Correction of A Mad World, In some Well-wishes to Goodness. 1708 Addison *Pres. St. War* 8 Any one that hath..a well Wish for his Friends or Posterity. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 288 Sends hearty wellwishes to Barnes'..design. 1816 Keats *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 46 You know with what Reverence I would send my Well-wishes to him. 1872 Michie *Deeside Tales* xiv. (1908) 138 The bridegroom..got presents o' corn an' ither gear in token o' their well wishes. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 226 Testifying their thanks and well-wishes to the captain and steward. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 June 9/2 The exhibition has received the well wishes of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

† Well-wish, *v. Obs. intr.* To wish well *unto* (another).

1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 14 Thinke how exceedingly I have always well-wished unto you.

† Well-wished, *ppl. a. Obs.* Attended by good wishes.

1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 27 Euen so The generall subiect to a wel-wisht King Quit their owne part, and in obsequious fondnesse Crowd to his presence.

Well-wi·sher. One who wishes well to another, a cause, etc. Const. *to*, *of*, or with possessive.

1590 *Tarlton's Newes Purgatorie* 1 Amongst the rest of whose welwishers my selfe being not the least. 1630 G. Platter *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* To Rdr., So I take my leave and rest, Your hearty Well-wisher. G.P. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 8 All well-wishers either to the clergy or learning. 1721 Addison *Spect.* No. 10 P 7, I know several of my Friends and Well-wishers are in great Pain for me. 1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 356, I am..a constant well-wisher to the progress of arts and sciences. 1780 *Mirror* No. 82 Yet the tale has a moral, by no means flattering to the well-wishers of this country. 1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 24 July, He seemed to feel that he spoke to a safe and a sympathising well-wisher. 1836 C. Wordsworth *Athens* xi. (1855) 66 Some wise well-wisher to the Areopagus. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* I, It would be a nice opportunity for any of his well-wishers to pay him a visit. 1903 *Times* 10 May 10 Those who are not well-wishers of either country.

† b. One who aspires *to* (be or become). *Obs.*

1710-11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Mar., The latter has a good deal of learning, and he is a well-wisher to be an author.

Well-wi·shing, *vbl. sb.* The action of wishing well to another; also, an expression of good wishes.

1569 Elyden *Closet of Counsels* (1573) Ep. Ded., Wherefore..I haue beene bolde to offer you this same, as a token of my well wishing. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 14 Not forgetting our accustomed greetings and interchangeable wel-wishings. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 29 Hee who knowes so to live with Italians..as he can gain their well-wishing. *a* 1672 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* 306 Religion..will teach them..to be generous and large in their well-wishing and their well-doing. 1909 J. R. Harris *Side-Lights N. T. Research* ii. 78 There is much hand-shaking and well-wishing. 1912 Craik *Clarendon* xxi. II. 190 Some one, 'who was believed to wish well to the King'—with that sort of well-wishing which characterised the time-serving of Bennet and his confederates.

Well-wi·shing, *ppl. a.* That wishes well to others, benevolent; **† loyal.** Also *transf.*

1685 Dryden *Threnod. Augustal.* xiii. 373 A plenteous Crop.. Of purest and well winow'd Grain. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* ii, Seldom seen at large assemblies, she was eagerly sought after in the well-winnowed *soirées* of the elect. **Well-wired**, *a.* 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 117 Artificial flowers were taught to twine round mock marble columns, and fragrant lights to spring spontaneously from well-wired boughs of trees.

Practises or the Counsell of a well-wishing Souldier. 1586-94 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1894) II. 279 Thy candid well-wishing eye. 1842 Loyde *Handy Andy* xvii, And glass after they did drink in all sorts and shapes of well-wishing a... 1898 Black *Briseis* xviii. 229 Marked by a perfect self-possession—a self-possession sweet and serene and well-wishing.

† Well-wi·tted, *a. Obs.* Gifted with good wits.

c 1480 Metham *Wks.* 147 He that ys born that day schuld be trwe and wele-wyttyd. 1496 *Paston Lett.* III. 136 Thys Bysq is..well wittyd, well mannerd. 1529 *Comment. Petitions in Froude Hist. Eng.* I. 198 Such subtle interrogatories..as are able quickly to trap a simple unlearned, or yet a well-witted layman without learning. 1532 Huloet, Able to reasone, or well wytted, *eupleus*.

Well-won, *ppl. a.* Gained by hard or honourable effort.

1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 51 ... well-won [Ff. -worne] thrift Which he cals interest. ... *To Auld Mare* iv, Tho' it was sma', 'twas weel-won gear. 1791 — *To R. C. of F.* 43 His well-won bays, than life itself more dear. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, I..will not lose well-won gear with the like of him if it may be helped. 1849 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 59 A well-won penny is worth an ill-won pound. 1879 R. Lowe in *19th Cent.* June 990 The great and well-won reputation of Mr. Wallace as a scientific observer.

Well-woo·ded, *a.* Covered with growing trees. *a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1764) III. 28 The Soile..very good, and encloaid, and metely wel woddyd. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* I. xi. (1824) 248 This pretty well-wooded and well-watered estate. 1780 Coxe *Russ. Discov.* 211 Well-wooded mountains. 1889 E. P. Warren & Cleverly *Wanderings' Beetle'* 190 Past long well-wooded islands. 1914 D. Macmillan *Robert Flint* v. 111 The land is fertile and well-wooded. **Well-woo·ing**, *ppl. a.* 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 101 Rain-scented eglantine Gave temperate sweets to that well-wooing sun. **† Well-woolled**, *a. Obs.* Having a thick or rich fleece. 1611 Cotgr., *Mouton à la grande laine*, a Sheepe well-woolled, or of great burthen. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 13 A score of large and well-wold weathers.

† Well-word, *v. Obs. trans.* To eulogize.

1605 J. Davies (Heref.) *Humours Heaven* 39 The other twaine..Whiles he was speaking, his speech seem'd to praise, ..And now, by word, well-word they what he salue.

Well-worded, *a.* Couched in proper terms.

1636 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, The Muse* I, Figures, Conceits, Raptures, and Sentences In a well-worded dress. 1841 Longf. *Childr. Lord's Supper* 87 The fathers and mothers Stood behind them in tears, and were glad at the well-worded answer. 1865 Pusey *Truth Eng. Ch.* 127 Yet even from Italy came a distinct, well-worded objection from the Bishop of Mondovi. 1907 J. H. McCarthy *Needles & Pins* x, I thought that some at least of what I said was rather well-worded.

Well-worked, *ppl. a.* a. Thoroughly operated. b. Skilfully wrought. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 43 On very middling soils..thirty bushels an acre is considered as only a decent crop, after tolerably well-worked fallow. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 195 The well-worked implements of the tumuli. **† Well-wo·rker.** *Obs.* One who does good. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxxv. iv, As the well-workers, soe the right beleevers, Lord favour further. **Well-wo·rking**, *vbl. sb.* **† a.** Doing good, well-doing. *Obs.* b. Skilful fashioning or forging. c. Successful activity or operation. 1611 *Norton's Calvin's Inst.* Table of Contents X xx 1 b, Against all them which say that if this doctrine [of Predestination] take place, all endeuour of well working decaieth. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 79 According to the goodness and well working of the Iron, some prove of longer durance than other. 1879 Spencer *Data of Ethics* vi. § 34. 84 The well-working [of pleasure and pain] in essential matters is ignored; and the ill-working in unessential matters is alone recognised. **† Well-wo·rking**, *ppl. a. Obs.* That does good, virtuous. *a* 900 Ælfred *Blooms* 1, in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 269 Ic þe halsie, ðu arfæsta, wel wilende & wel wyrcende drihten. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* III. 120 Thou was alway well wirkand, to me trew as stele.

Well-worn, *ppl. a.*

1. Much worn or used; *fig.* trite, hackneyed.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 53 It is a well worne saying, That [etc.]. 1786 Burns *Tam Samson* Epit., Tam Samson's wee-worn clay here lies. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, The old man was seated by the fire with his well-worn pocket Bible in his hands. 1842 Tennyson *Gard. Dau.* 108 A well-worn pathway. 1849 Sir F. B. Head *Stokers & Pokers* iii. 39 That variety of free and easy well-worn costumes in which quiet-minded people usually travel. 1858 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* IIv. (1863) VI. 412 The mind of the educated classes still flowed freely enough in the well-worn channels of literature. 1905 G. Thorne *Lost Cause* v, It is a trite and well-worn aphorism that no event is trivial.

2. Becomingly carried or displayed.

1824 Byron *Lara* I. xxvii, To whom he showed nor deference nor disdain, But that well-worn reserve which proved he knew No sympathy with that familiar crew.

Well(-)wo·rthy, *a.* Worthy in a high degree. 1597 Markham *Devereux* 35 b, Thou liuely worke of her great excellence, Wel-worthy Matter for her powre to frame. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. § 91 Behold here good people, my Sonne Edmund..; how comely and well worthy he is of all your fauors. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 918 Unless the world were all prepar'd t'embrace A plan well worthy to supply their place. 1796 *Steward's Anecdotes* III. 145 The Admiral [Coligny] approaching the Emperor with a reverence well-worthy of the greatness of the Prince..said [etc.].

Wellwott, obs. Sc. form of Velvet.

† Well-wou·lder. *Obs. nonce-wd.* A conditional or would-be well-willer.

1643 *Plain English* 28 These are well-woulders to the Parliament and Kingdome.

† Well-wove, *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

c 1710 Congreve tr. *Ovid* Wks. 1730 III. 305 The well-wove Tours they wear, their own are thought; But only are their own, as what they've bought.

Well-wo·ven, *ppl. a. lit.* and *fig.*

1591-3 Spenser *Astrophel* 97 There his welwoven toyles and subtil traines He laid, the brutish nation to enwrap. 1663 South *Serm.* (1727) V. 206 No such Instrument to carry on a refined, and well-woven Rebellion, as a tender Conscience, and a sturdy Heart. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 97 Not force, but well couch't fraud, well woven snares. 1768-74 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 279 When thy well-woven

bands unite societies. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xviii. 741 Ev'ry maiden neat-attir'd In finest linen, and the youths in vests Well-woven. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Trachin.* 602 This well-woven robe. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* v. 58 The Nymph.. of the hair well-woven.

Well-wreathed, *ppl. a.* Skilfully twisted. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* II. 609 They..with well-wreath'd halsers hoise Their white sailes. *Ibid.* xxi. 543 As one..doth..In tuning of his Instrument..lend To euery wel-wreath'd string, his perfect sound. †**Well-writing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesie* 33 All passions may be lively represented on the Stage, if to the well-writing of them the Actor supplies a good commanded voice.

Well-written, *ppl. a.*

1598 Barnfield *Poems* (Arb.) 119 Drayton, whose well-written Tragedies, And sweete Epistles, soare thy fame to skies. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* I. 171 A well-written and well-set scene of recitative. 1779 *Mirror* No. 36 A well-written preface. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* xi. vi. (Rtldg.) 405 This well-written statement.

Well-wrought, *ppl. a.*

1. Well made or fashioned, skilfully constructed or put together: a. of material things.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 341 To Westmynster þei hym brouht, Biside his fadere is laid in a toumbe wele wrouht. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1024 Hir nose, hir mouth, and eyhe and cheke Wel wrought [*bien fait*]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1739 We haue a Cite..Well wroght for the werre, walls full high. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Add., *Adfabrum*, well wrought. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xi. 202 Yet pierc't it not his wel-wrought zone. 1640 Habington *Castara* iii. (Arb.) 120 And so I in thy favour dye, No memorie For me a well-wrought tombe prepare. 1723 Mandeville *Fable Bees* (ed. 2) I. 185 From Caves..we are come to warm and well wrought Houses. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* ii. 208 Tho' each by turns, the other's bound invade, As, in some well-wrought picture, light and shade. 1864 Earl Derby *Iliad* v. 22 Idæus from the well-wrought chariot sprang.

b. of immaterial things, esp. literary or musical composition. Also with *out*.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 370 This is well wroght gere that euer may be. 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesie* 20 The Plots of their Plays being narrow, and the persons few, one of their Acts was written in a less compass then one of our well wrought Scenes. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 11 P 4 In Answer to your well-wrought Tale, I will give you..the History of Inkle and Yarico. 1849 Helps *Friends in C.* II. i. (1854) I. 269 A store of goodly thoughts in well-wrought words. 1876 *Mus. Times* 1 June 492/1 Concluding his performance with a well-wrought-out fugue on this subject.

†2. Of ale: Thoroughly 'worked' or fermented. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 26/1 Put them in new well-wrought Beer or Ale.

†3. Of a convert: Fully persuaded. *Obs.*

1684 I. Mather *Rec. Illustr. Provid.* ix. 291 He is..judged to be a well wrought Convert and real Christian.

Welly (we·li), *adv. dial.* [Colloquial reduction of Well-nigh.] Well-nigh, almost, nearly.

1615 W. Goddard *Neasts of Waspes* No. 81 Shee screakes, cryes shees soe full, she burst-shall wellie. *Ibid.* No. 82 Shee scarce gone, hir back not turned wellie. 1641 Brome *Jovial Crew* iii. (1652) G 4, Your Worships Charity to a poore Crytur welly starv'd. 1649 *Man in the Moon* No. 30. 235 Our long night of sorrow is now welly past over. 1727 *Obliging Husband* 10 You've welly gally'd me with ta'king on't. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 40 Beleemy, Tummus, I welly lost my wynt. 1855 Mrs. Gaskell *North & S.* xvii, A pack of spiritless, down-trodden men; welly clemmed to death. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* lii, I should ha' been sure of her then, as she wouldn't go away from me to Snowfield, welly thirty mile off.

Welm(e, var. ff. Walm *sb.*, *v.* and Whelm *v.*

†**We·lmish,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 7 **whelmish.** [Origin obscure. Cf. Qualm *sb.*3] Of colour: Pale, sickly (?).

1688 Holme *Armoury* I. 23/1 Sky colour, or a light welmish Blew. *Ibid.* II. 23/2 If it [the rainbow] consist all of Yellow, this is palish; if white, its defiled, or whelmish. *Ibid.* III. 147/1 Green Verditer, a Welmish or Willow green.

Welmost(e, var. forms of Welmost *adv.*

Welogh, obs. form of Willow *sb.*

Welonye, obs. form of Villainy.

Welp, obs. form of Whelp.

Welsh (welʃ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: α. 1 Wilisc, Wilsc, 1–2 Wylisc, 2 Wylsc. β. 1 Uuelesc, 1–3 Welisc, 4–5 Welische (Welisse); 2–3 Welsc, 4 Welsse, 6 Welshe (7 Welse), 6–9 Welch, 6– Welsh. γ. 1–2 Wælisc, 3 Walisc, 4 Walish, Walysch, 5 Walische, Walysshe, Wallish, Wallych, 6 Walyssh; 2 Wælsc, 3 Wailsc, 3–4 Wals, 4–5 Walsch(e, Walssh, 4–6 Walshe (6 Walche), 5 Walsshe, 6–7 Walsh. [OE. (West Saxon) *Wilisc, Wylisc*, (Anglian and Kentish) *Welisc, Wælisc*, f. *Wealh, Walh*, Celt, Briton, = OHG. *Walh, Walah* (MHG. *Walch*, G. *Wahle*) Celt, Roman, etc., ON. **Valr* (pl. *Valir*, Gauls, Frenchmen): see etym. note to Walnut, and cf. Walach and Vlach. To the English adj. correspond OHG. *wal(a)hisc, walesc* (MHG. *walh-, wælhisch, walsch*, etc., G. *welsch, welsch*), Roman, Italian, French, Du. *waalsch* Walloon, ON. *valskr* Gaulish, French (MSw. *valskr*; Sw. *välsk*, Da. *vælsk* Italian, French, southern); cf. the note to Walshnut.

In OE. the final *h* of the stem normally disappeared before the adjectival ending. The West Saxon type **Wielisc* (from *Wealh*) did not survive beyond the OE. period; the two Anglian and Kentish types (from *Walh*) existed concurrently till the 16th cent., after which *Welsh* became the sole form in general use, *Walsh* remaining only as a surname. (The AF. *Waleis*, which is rarely employed in ME., also survives in the surname *Wallace*.)

The spelling *Welch* is retained in the titles of the Welch Regiment and the Royal Welch Fusiliers.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons: a. Originally: belonging to the native British population of England in contrast to the Anglo-Saxons. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* b. In later use: belonging to Wales by birth and descent; forming (part of) the native population of Wales.

α. 688–695 *Laws Ine* § 32 Be Wilisces monnes londhæfene. Gif Wilisc mon hæbbe hide londes [etc.]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Laws, Dunsetas* § 3, 2, xii lahmen scylon riht tæcean Wealan & Ænglan: vi Englisce & vi Wylisce. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1052 Griffin se Wylisca cing. *Ibid.* (MS. C.) an. 1055 Tremerig se Wylsca biscop. *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1097 Ða Wylisce menn syððon hi fram þam cynge gebuzon.

β. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1052 Eac man sloh [illegible] Dalton, 31. 4*d*. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 10 And this sufficeth of the Welsh conspiracies and battailes. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* II. i. 209 Sir, there is a fray to be fought, betweene Sir Hugh the Welch Priest, and Caius the French Doctor. 1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 9 As infamous as a Welch-harper that playes for cheese and onions. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 135 Here a Welsh regiment of the King's..assaulted the works. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 147 Henry I of England, planted a colony of Flemings on the frontiers of Wales,..none of the Welsh princes being powerful enough to oppose them. 1836 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 475 Here I have found out who the Welsh attorney was who [etc.]. 1862 Borrow *Wales* xlix, Why, you told me you were of Welsh parents. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* x, The sly Welsh girl was indubitably awed.

γ. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1050 Mid Gryfines fultume þæs Wælisscan cynges. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 241 Had þei had a spie among þe Walsh oste..þei had bien men lyuand, þat ber to dede went. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 320 'A I A!' nais the Walsche kynge 'wirchipid be Criste!' *c* 1420 *Contin. Brut* 368 þere was a man þat was clepid 'þe walsch clerke,' and apelyd a knizt..of treson. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xxiii. 767 And there with al he aspyed a walysshe knyghte where he was to repose him. [*a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commonw. Eng.* I. xiii. (1583) 15 To defende themselues yet from them which were walsh and strangers,..[they] agreed..to consult in common.]

2. Of things: Of or pertaining to Wales or its inhabitants, † or to the British race in Anglo-Saxon times.

In OE. the wider sense of 'foreign' appears also to have been current, but clear instances are rare.

Laws Ine § 46. 1 Gif hit ðonne bið Wilisc onstal, bið se að na ðy mara. *Ibid.* § 70, xii ambra Wilisc ealað. 805–12 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 459 Selle mon..xxx. ombra godes uuelesces aloð. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 852 Wulfred scolde ȝifen..twa tunnan fulle hlutres aloð..& ten mittan Wælisces aloð. *c* 1205 Lay. 13021 Vortiger hafde Walisc [*c* 1275 Wals] lond. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. G. 146 Fram þe walische see ywis, Fram seint dauid to þe see. 1300–1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. XX. 591 Edward his sone..þat of þe wellische londe clanliche al out I wan þe seignorize. 1532 *Prayer & Compl. Plowman* F j, They haue enclosed it [God's leasow]..so hygh, there may no shepe come there within, but yef it be a walysh lepre [= leaper] of the mountaynes. 1555 L. Saunders in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 188 Not in hope of rebellion or fulfilling vnprofitable, yea pestilent welshe prophecies. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 112 All the water in Wye, cannot wash your Maiesties Welsh plood out of your body. *Ibid.* v. i. 83 Henceforth let a Welsh correction, teach you a good English condition. 1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Polyolb.* ix. 390 In the Welsh Prouerb *Mon mam Cymbry*. 1762 Goldsm. *Ess., Taste*, The native, genuine, and salutary taste of Welch beef. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr. (1) At eight..we go..to the Pump-room; which is crowded like a Welsh fair. 1774 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1904) [illegible] tion of inferior freemen. 1862 Borrow *Wales* I, I reached a large village, the name of which, like those of most Welsh villages, began with Llan.

Proverbial (and allusively). *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 7 As long as a Welsh pedigree. 1725 Young *Love of Fame* III. 121 Till I surpass in length..A Welch descent. *a* 1764 Churchill *Serm.* 1 ed. 60 (1771) p. iii, When thou art to thyself, thy Sire unknown, A whole Welsh genealogy alone?

b. In the names of various products of, and commodities obtained from, Wales, as † **Welsh cloth** (see *Welsh cotton*); **Welsh coal**, coal obtained from the South Wales coal-fields; anthracite; † **Welsh cotton**, a kind of woollen cloth with a nap; **Welsh dresser** (see quot. and Dresser 1 2); **Welsh flannel** (see quot. 1858); † **Welsh frieze** = *Welsh cotton*; **Welsh glaive** (see quot.); **Welsh lay**, a class of roofing-slates; † **Welsh lining**, a woollen cloth without a nap (cf. Cotton *sb.*2 and Frieze *sb.*1 1); **Welsh lump**, a kind of fire-brick made in large pieces; **Welsh mutton**, mutton obtained from a small breed of sheep pastured on the Welsh mountains, highly esteemed for the delicacy of its flavour; **Welsh oilstone** (see quot.); † **Welsh plain** = *Welsh flannel*; **Welsh rag** = Rag *sb.*2 1 b; † **Welsh scarlet** (see Scarlet *sb.*1); **Welsh snuff** (see quot.); † **Welsh stone-coal** = *Welsh coal*. Also Welsh bill, Welsh hook.

1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 7 § 1 *Welsh Clothe and Linyng, commonly called Cottons Fryzes and Playnes. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Invent. Shipping* 41 Our Newcastle, or our *Welsh Coales. 1743 *London & Country Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 277 At a famous Town in the West for brewing Beer, they burn this Welch Coal in a moveable Iron Grate. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 211 Welsh coal..is a very durable fuel, peculiarly well suited to these boilers. 1546–7 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 5, iij yardes d. *welshe Cotton at vj*d* yard. 1551–2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 1 And that..Walshe Cottonne..shall not be streched on the Tentor..above a nayle of a yarde in bredith. 1580 Welsh cotton [see Manchester 1]. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 578/1 A peculiarly effective combination of oak and mahogany is found in the dressers ..made on the borders of Staffordshire and Shropshire. ..The expression '*Welsh dresser'..is now no more than a trade term,..applied to all dressers of this type. [1598 *Welsh flannel; used allusively in referring to a Welshman: see Flannel 1 d.] 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Welsh-flannel*, the finest kind of flannel, made from the fleeces of the flocks of the Welsh mountains. 1860 Hunt *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. s.v. *Flannel*, Wales is the country in which flannel was originally made, and the Welsh flannel is still held in much estimation. 1551–2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 1 All *Walshe Frices..made and wrought within the Shires of Cardigan and Pembroke..or elsewhere of lyke makinge. 1786 Grose *Anc. Armour* 56 The *Welch glaive is a kind of bill, sometimes reckoned among the pole axes. 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Lay*1 *n.* 8 **Welsh lay*, a slate measuring 3 by 2 feet. 1557–8 *Act* 4 & 5 *Phil. & Mar.* c. 5 § 5 Everie Gode of *Welche lyning shall..be three quarters of a yarde in Breadthe. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 509 The most convenient fire bricks are what are called *Welsh or Stourbridge lumps. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 1826 Fire bricks... This sort of brick is made also in various parts of Wales, whence they are called Welsh lumps. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.) *Welsh lump*... It can be had up to 3 ft. long, 10 ins. by 5 ins. thick. 1830 Le Keux *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 141 The genuine *Welsh mutton is highly esteemed. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 653/1 Idwal or *Welsh oilstone, used for small articles. 1584 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 370 For ix yardes of *welshe playne. 1725 [see Plain *sb.*1 9]. 1823 Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 396 Patent slating was originally composed of slates called the *Welsh Rags. 1887 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Rag slate*, or *Welsh rag*. 14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* A. v. 113 (MS. T.) I may hit not leue He scholde wandre on þat *walsshe scarlet, so was it þred-bare. 1845 Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* v. 148 There are many kinds of snuff called 'high-dried', such as '*Welsh' and 'Lundyfoot'. 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 143 *Welch stone-coal.

c. in the names of plants, beasts, insects, etc., indigenous to or found chiefly in Wales, as *Welsh cattle, pony; runt* (see Runt *sb.* 2); **Welsh clearwing, club-moss** (see quots.); **Welsh poppy**, a perennial poppy of the genus *Meconopsis* (see Poppy *sb.* 3); **Welsh sorrel, speedwell, wave** (see quots.).

1834 Youatt *Cattle* 47 Howell Dha..describes some of the *Welsh cattle in the tenth century, as being 'white with red ears'. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 759 *Pilularia annotinum*...*Welsh Clubmoss. On the mountains of Caernarvonshire. 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 25 The *Welsh Clearwing (*Sesia Scoliæformis*). 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr. (3), Patience is like a stout *Welsh poney; it bears a great deal, and trots a great way; but it will tire at the long run. 1831 Youatt *Horse* 58 The Welsh pony..has a small head, high withers, deep yet round barrel, short joints, flat legs, and good round feet. 1741 *Compl. Family-Piece* II. iii. 374 *Welsh-poppy. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 462 *Meconopsis cambrica* Vig. Welsh Poppy. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 353/1 A broad blue china bowl is brilliant with..Welsh Poppy. 1659 Howell *Lex. Tetragl., New Sayings* v. 8/1 He thrives as well as a *Welch Runt in Rumney Marsh. 1727 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 76 The Steward should be advis'd to stock the Ground with Scotch Keylys or Welch Runts. 1768, 1886 [see Runt *sb.* 2]. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 540/2 Welsh cattle are well known in the Midland counties..where, under the name of 'Welsh runts', large herds of bullocks are fattened on the pastures. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* VI. x. 745 *Acetosa Cambro-Britanica Montana*. Mountaine *Welsh Sorrell. *c* 1710 Petiver *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. iii, Welsh Sorrel. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Veronica*, *Welsh spiked Speedwell, with a hairy Bugle Leaf. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 12 *Veronica hybrida*...Welsh Speedwell. Bugle-leaved Speedwell. 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 76 The *Welsh Wave (*Venusia cambricaria*).

d. in other collocations: **Welsh acre** (see quot.); **Welsh ambassador**, a name for (*a*) the cuckoo; †(*b*) the owl (cf. *Welsh falconer*); **Welsh aunt** (see quot.); **Welsh bait**, a rest, without other refreshment, given to a horse on reaching the top of a hill (see Bait *sb.* 5); also *fig.*; † **Welsh brief** (meaning obscure); **Welsh carpet**, † **comb, cornice** (see quots.); † **Welsh cricket**, a louse; **Welsh diamond** (see quot.); **Welsh drake**, the gadwall or gray duck, *Chaulelasmus streperus*; † **Welshdraper**, a maker of, or dealer in, 'Welsh cotton'; a woollen draper; **Welsh ejectment** (see quot.); † **Welsh falconer** = *Welsh ambassador* (*b*); † **Welsh fiddle** (see quot.); **Welsh groin, groining** *Arch.* (see quots.); **Welsh ham** (see quot.); **Welsh main** *Cockfighting* (see Main *sb.*2 3); **Welsh mile**, a distance of a mile and more; a long and tedious mile (chiefly proverbial); **Welsh mortgage** (see quot.); **Welsh niece**, a first cousin (cf. *Welsh aunt, W. uncle*); **Welsh**

onion = CHIBOL 1; †**Welsh parsley** (see quots.); †**Welsh pearl**, ? an inferior or counterfeit pearl; †**Welsh-pot shell** (see quot.); **Welsh road** (see quot.); **Welsh springer**, a kind of spaniel (see SPRINGER[1] 8 b); **Welsh uncle** (see UNCLE 1 d); **Welsh vault, vaulting** *Arch.* = *Welsh groin, groining*; **Welsh wig**, a worsted cap. Also WELSH BEAN, WELSH HARP, WELSH RABBIT.

1704 *Dict. Rust.*, **Welch-acres* It's usually two English Acres. 1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old One* IV. H 2, Thy Sound is like the cuckowe, the *welch Embassador. *c* 1620 *Welsh Embass.* IV. 2501 (Malone Soc.) Pray m^r Reese ..what is the reason that wee english men when the Cuckoe

1683–4 (1904) 135 Mr. Clerke, commoner, complain'd of Sir Chernock, demy, for abusing him.., calling him foole, Welsh ambassadour (an expression for an owle). 1894 G. F. NORTHALL *Folk-Phr. Four Counties* 85 The Welsh ambassador = The cuckoo. 1878 *N. & Q.* 10 Aug. 105/1 Some Radnorshire Words..**Welsh Aunt*, first cousin of father or mother. 1603 T. POWELL (*title*) *Welch Bayte to spare Prouender. Or, A looking backe vpon the Times past. 1698 HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt* I. vi. 32 In this place he takes a Welsh bait, and looking back makes a Muster of his Victories. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 7 The Proverbs...Give your horse a Welch-bait. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. i, It is a thing of greater consequence, Then to be borne about in a blacke boxe, Like a Low-countrey vorloffe or *Welsh-briefe. 1854 *Household Words* 2 Sept. 53/1 This *Welsh carpet is a pattern produced on the brick floor by staining the brick squares in figures with dockleaf juice. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), **Welch Comb*, the thumb and four fingers. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 459 These walls..should have what is called a *Welsh cornice (two or three oversailing (protruding) courses of brickwork, one of which has dentils formed by the ends of bricks projecting at equal and regular distances) to finish with at top. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 2, A..Gentleman Marchant Tailor, giuing armes and the holye Lambe in his creast, where before he had no other cognisance, but a plaine Spanish needle with a *welsh cricket on the toppe. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 215 Rock crystal..also known as 'Bristol', '*Welsh'..or 'Irish' diamond, is also used by watch jewellers. 1844 J. P. GIRAUD *Birds of Long Island* 306 At Egg Harbor a few [gadwalls] are seen..and are there known by the name of '*Welsh Drake' or 'German Duck'. 1482 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 480 Hugh Walker..*welch-draper. 1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, **Welsh Ejectment*, to unroof the house, a method practised by landlords in Wales to eject a bad tenant. *a* 1647 FLETCHER, etc. *Lovers Progr.* III, I hear by th' Owls, There are many of your *Welch falkoners about it [*sc.* a house). *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Welsh-fiddle*, the Itch. 1778 W. PAIN *Carpenter's Repos.* Pl. 58 Make a semi-circular Arch..that is commonly called a *Welch Groin. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 465/2 Groins, Welsh, or Underpitch...The system of vaulting is called underpitch groining, or, as termed by the workmen, *Welsh groining. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 173 Vaulting..in which the side vaults..cut the higher and main vault at a level lower than its crown..is vulgarly known as 'Welsh' groining. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1107 A *Welsh ham is simply the name given to a fat leg of mutton which has been cured and smoked like an ordinary ham. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xv. 247 All the contrey was of hem covered the length of a *walshe myle. 1652 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Journ. Wales* (1859) 21, I hired a guide who brought me to Swansey (sixteen well stretch'd Welch mountainous miles). 1706 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Welch Mile.* Like a Welch mile, long and narrow. His story is like a Welch mile, long and tedious. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* II. xv. 1. § 19 There is another kind of mortgage..called a *Welsh mortgage, in which there is a perpetual right of redemption. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 878/1 A Welsh mortgage is one in which..a creditor..takes the rents and profits in lieu of interest.., the estate being

l. 1886 r rather

v. *Cepa* M m/1 The *Welch Onions are only propagated for Spring Use also: These never make any Bulb, and are therefore only fit to be us'd green for Sallads, &c. 1884 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 3813 Welsh onion, or ciboule (*Allium fistulosum*, L). 1778, 1832 [see CIBOL]. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Brother* I. ii, In tough *Welsh Parsly, which, in our vulgar Tongue, is strong Hempen Haltera. 1638 RANDOLPH *Hey for Honesty* IV. i. (1652) 30 This is a Rascal deserves..To dance in Hemp *Derricks Caranto*: Lets choke him with Welch Parsley. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § vi. ii. 146 *Welsh-Pearl...They are most of them flatish, and of a shining blackish colour. *c* 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VII. Tab. 69 Fig. 5 Carolina Lattice furrowed, *Welsh-pot Shell,..Like our Garden Snail, but Lattice-furrowed and waved with yellow, like our Welsh Pot-ware. 1890 O. CRAWFURD *Round Caland. in Portugal* 212 The scent of those deep, damp lanes, green with ferns, which in this county [Monmouthshire] we call '*Welsh roads'. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 375/2 [Dogs.] *Sporting*...spaniel..*Welsh springer. 1848 RICKMAN *Styles Archit. Eng.* p. lliii, This [roof] is distinguished from the previous examples by having what are called *Welsh vaults over the clerestory windows. 1835 R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* vii. 78 *note*, Such cells are termed *Welsh vaulting cells. 1838 *Ecclesiologist* XIX. 165 North transept, Welsh vaulting from circular shafts. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 2 Uncle Ben..is seen galloping, in a *Welsh wig and strange apparel, in the rear of a pack of Lilliputian beagles. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lv, His Welsh wig..was as plain and stubborn a Welsh wig as ever was worn. 1859 SALA *Gas-lit & D.* xi. 199 Disguised in lamp-black, pomatum, Welsh s dyed black.

As the designation of the language of the Welsh people; hence, written or spoken in the Welsh language; of or belonging to the language or literature of Wales.

1547 SALESBURY *Dict. Engl.-Welsh* Ded., Seyng ther is many of your graces subiectes in Wales that readethe partlyiye the walshe tonge..I haue written a lytle englyshe dyctionary with the welshe interpretation. 1587 FLEMY *Equity Supplic.* 48 Vngodly welsh bookes are fraught with these Idolatries. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 32 Where I might learn the Welch tongue. 1682 W. RICHARDS *Wallogr.* 121 One in our Company..having got a Welch Polysyllable into his Throat, was almost choak'd with Consonants. 1729 T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 257 Mr. Edward Lhuyd, in his Welsh preface to his *Archæologia*. 1758–9 A. BUTLER *Lives Fathers, Bruno* (1821) IV. 226 Vawr, as the Welsh adjective Mawr great, is writ in several parts of Wales. *Ibid.*, *Winefride* XI. 75 Lluydh, in his catalogue of Welch manuscripts. 1840 W. J. REES (*title-p.*) The Liber Landavensis...Published for The Welsh MSS. Society. 1877 RHYS (*title*) Lectures on Welsh Philology. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Welsh cases*, cases of special lay for composing works in that language.

B. *sb.* (Elliptical uses of the adj.)

1. a. *pl.* The Britons as distinguished from the Anglo-Saxons. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1120 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1050 On þam ilcan geare comon upp on Wylisce Axa of Yrlande. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1121 Þa Wyliscean him onzean coman. *c* 1205 LAY. 5574 Bruttes & Wallsce [*c* 1275 Walse]. *c* 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9392 Of the welsse þat mid him beþ ne dorre ze nozt drede. 1729 T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 40 The old Midland Britains..known..by the name of Walenses (Welch, a common name to all that spoke the British language). 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 14 The Britons or Welsh, as they were named by the conquerors, were thus driven back to the western side of the island.

b. The inhabitants or natives of Wales.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 237 Þe Walsah wer alle day slayn. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* II. xi. Wks. (1573) 899 Then he bringeth in how the wilde Irish and the Welch pray, when they go to steale. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* (Globe) 635/2 The same was also common amongest the Brittons, and is not yet altogither left of by the Welsh which are theyr posteritye. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 652 These are distinctly knowen still from the Welsh, both by their speech and manners. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ix. 320 So that the Welsh may challenge priority, of finding that new world, before the Spaniard. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 699/1 The Welsh, in their own language, call their country *Cymry*, and their language *Cymraeg*. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* viii, Two very strong bodies of Welsh attempted to carry the outer defences of the castle by storm. 1862 BORROW *Wales* lviii, Amongst the proverbial sayings of the Welsh, which are chiefly preserved in the shape of triads, is [etc.]. 1882 RHYS *Celtic Britain* 130 The more legendary traditions of the Welsh.

†c. *sing.* A Welshman. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 167 Godfrei of Garlesschire and Griffin þe walsche. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VIII. 265 Þe false Walsche David roos aȝenst kyng Edward in Palme Sonday. [1601 F. TATE *Housh. Ord. Edw. II* § 91 (1876) 55 Annote the walsh.] 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) Epist. *4 At Naisby..to beat nine thousand..soldiers, the most part raw and new levied Welshes.

2. The Welsh language.

Dragones heed' on Englysch. 1470–85 CAXTON *Malory's Arthur* Pref. (Sommer) 3 Many noble volumes be made of hym..which been not had in our maternal tongue, but in walsshe ben many & also in frenssbe, & somme in englysshe. 1547 W. SALESBURY (*title*) A Dictionary in Englyshe and Welshe. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* V. (1908) II. 82 It [Shrewsbury] is comonly caullyd now in Walche Moythik. Writers in Walsche caul it Penguern, *id est, caput Alneti*. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 193 My Wife can speake no English; I no Welsh. 1656 J. LEWIS in *Baxter's Certainty Worlds Spirits* (1691) 130 He could perceive the whisper of a Voice in Welch, bidding him hold his peace. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* IV. 74 If I don't..speak Spanish, Italian,..Welch and Irish. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* IV. XXV. 191 The next remains of the Britons, are Hoel Dha's Laws...Of these there are several copies, both in Welch and Latin. 1820 SCOTT *Let. to C. Scott* 19 Dec. in *Lockhart*, You hear the Welsh spoken much about you. 1862 BORROW *Wales* lix, I learned to read Welsh and to write it at the same time. 1882 RHYS *Celtic Britain* 145 The latter [*sc.* Clyde], being..Clut in old Welsh, could only yield Clûd in later Welsh.

b. *transf.* A strange language; speech that one does not understand.

1648 WINYARD *Midsummer-Moon* 5 Hebrew to them is Welch. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 33 Amelcorne. This English Word (which I find in the English Cambden) is Welsh to me. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* Suppl. s.v. *Welsh*, 'He's talking Welsh!' 'That's Welsh!' means 'I don't understand you'.

3. Short for: Welsh coal.

1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* iv. 44 We're supposed to be burning No. 2 Welsh. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 26/2 Have you got that 'Welsh' trimmed?

C. Comb.: *Welsh-begotten, -born, -English, -like, -rooted, -speaking, -wrought* adjs.; **Welsh-Briton** = WELSHMAN 1 a; **Welsh-Keltic** *a.*, Cymric.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Satyr. Ess.* 291 He is the onely friend of Lawyers (if they be *Welch begotten). 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* XV. xii, I wonder whether any one who is not *Welsh-born can understand my delight. 1672 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* IV. 165 Kentwin the other West-Saxon King..chac'd the *Welch-Britans..to the very Seasshoar. 1759 T. RICHARDS (*title*) Antiquæ Linguæ Britannicæ Thesaurus: being a British, or *Welsh-English Dictionary. 1883 D. H. WHEELER *By-Ways Lit.* 100 It is believed that the *Welsh-Keltic manuscripts are unusually vicious in the texts. 1844 *Browton's Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 96 *note*, Of this *Welch-like name [Apthomas] I am unable to offer any explanation. 1863 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 8 Their *cadawys..is a *Welsh-rooted word. 1893 *Hampden's Mag.* Dec. 423/2 A *Welsh-speaking rebel against the tithe. 1896 MORRIS *Sigurd* III. 200 And they see the sheathed Wrath shimmer mid the restless *Welsh-wrought [= foreign] swords.

Welsh (welʃ), *v. Racing.* Also †**welch.** [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To swindle (a person) out of money laid as a bet (see WELSHER[1]). Hence WELSHING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1857 *Morn. Chron.* 8 June 8/3 He got his living by 'welching' and taking in the 'flats'. 1867 *Sporting Life* 21 Sept., Money which people have been 'welshed' out of. 1868 *Morn. Star* 20 Mar., Some two or three of the prolific 'welshing' fraternity did manage to carry on their nefarious operations. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 12 Mar. 5/2 He will receive his winnings and run no risk of being 'welshed'. 1894 HENTY *Dorothy's Double* I. 57 He..had a narrow escape of being lynched by the crowd for welshing. 1902 *Times* 8 Mar. 14/3 In France..betting..had increased..because people were not now afraid of being welshed.

†**Welsh bean.** *Obs.* Also 6 **Welch.** [ad. G. *welsche bohne*: see WELSH *a.* and BEAN *sb.*] The French or kidney bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*).

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 210/1 *Phaseolus, delichus*, ..Welch beanes: beanes of Rome, or kidney beanes. 1598 FLORIO, *Fagiuoli, Fagiuoli*, a kind of pease like vnto a beane, called faseoles, french peason, welsh beanes, or kidney beanes.

†**Welsh bill.** *Obs.* In 5 **Walshe, Wallish, Wallyoh,** 7 **Welch bill.** [f. WELSH *a.* + BILL *sb.*[1] 4.] = WELSH HOOK.

1475 *Malden* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 49, No. 8 Insultum fecit..cum 1 Walshe byll, precii xx*d*. 1484 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 310 Cum quodam Wallishbyll..in capite percussit. [Cf. *ibid.* 311 Cum quodam le Forest byll.] 1485 in *Sanctuarium Dunelm. & Beverlacense* (Surtees) 13 Jacobus Manfeeld..insultum fecit, et eundem in corpore cum uno le wallych byll felonice percussit. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, *Lapet.* Did not I say, this Whirrit, and this Bob, Should be both Pica Roman. *Clown.* So said I, Sir, both Picked Romans, And he has made 'em Welch Bills.

Welsher[1] (weˈlʃəɹ). Also †**welcher.** [Cf. WELSH *v.*] A bookmaker at a race-meeting, who takes money for a bet, and absconds or refuses to pay if he loses.

1860 LD. W. LENNOX *Pict. Sporting Life* I. 119 A gang of miscreants called Welchers, who make bets with the unwary, which they never dream of paying if they lose. 1868 E. YATES *Rocks Ahead* III. v, I know him, a defaulting ringman, a mere common welsher. 1912 *Times* 24 Apr. 3/4 Counsel said..the real definite charge was that the plaintiff was a welsher.

transf. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xvii, He was ..a 'welsher' in the matter of marbles and hardbake before his fifth birthday. 1904 SLADEN *Playing the Game* II. iii, The Japanese traders who dealt with them were, many of them, welshers who looked to repudiations for their profits.

We·lsher[2], *nonce-wd.* [f. WELSH *a.* + -ER[1].] A Welshman.

1862 BORROW *Wales* I. v. 47 [A waggoner *log.*] They are small men mostly, Measter, them Welshers.

Welsh harp. [WELSH *a.*] A name specifically applied to the triple-strung harp; also called *Welsh triple harp.*

a 1637 B. JONSON *Masque, For Honour of Wales* Wks. (1641) 33 Yow s'all heare the true Pritan straines now, the ancient Welse Harpe. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 June 1649, With him was one Carew, who play'd incomparably on the Welsh Harp. 1753 *Scots Mag.* May 215/1 A Welch-harp. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Harp*, The triple or Welsh harp, with three rows of strings, two rows tuned diatonically in unisons or octaves, the third or inner row arranged to supply the accidentals, sharps or flats. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 489/2 The comparatively modern Welsh triple harp is always strung with gut. 1889 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* IV. 443 Welsh Triple Harp.

†**Welsh hook.** *Obs.* [WELSH *a.*] A bill-hook; a weapon of this form. Cf. WELSH BILL.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, IV. vi, [and Stage dir.] Enter with Welch hookes, Rice ap Howell, a Mower, and the Earle of Leicester. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 372 Hee of Wales, that..swore the Deuill his true Liege-man vpon the Crosse of a Welch-hooke. 1599 G. SILVER *Paradoxes Def.* 31 The Welch hooke or Forrest bill, hath aduantage against all maner of weapons whatsoeuer. 1611 COTGR., *Riverasse*, ..a Welsh hooke, or hedging bill made with a hooke at the end. 1617 J. SWETNAM *Sch. Sci. Defence* 143 When you encounter with any man that hath a Staffe, a Welch-hooke, or a Halbert. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* B 4 b, A Watch-mans bill, or a Welch-hooke falles not halfe so heauy vpon a man. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Masque, For Honour of Wales* Wks. (1641) 33 Owen Glendower, with a Welse hooke, and a Goats skinne on his backe. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. vii. 25 Their Claws..grow as crooked as a Welch Hook, or a Hedging Bill.

We·lshify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. WELSH *a.* + -FY.] *trans.* To give a Welsh form to (a word).

1889 GRETTON *Memory's Hardback* 320 Are we to account for this, and so many other traces of Latin words Welshified, by the Roman occupation of the country?

We·lshly, *adv. nonce-wd.* [-LY[2].] In a Welsh manner.

The allusion is probably to the proverbially long Welsh mile (see WELSH *a.* 2 d).

1629 BP. FIELD in *St. Papers Dom.* Chas. I, CL. 210 A sooner journey willbe very cumbersome & jeopardous in regard of wayes, now deepe and dangerous, at all times steepe, craggy, and welshly tedious.

Welshman (weˈlʃmən). Forms: see WELSH (also 4 **Welss-, Welise-,** 6 **Wealch, Welsch**; 4 **Walss-, Walis-, Walesch,** 5 **Wallisch-,** 6 **Walls-**), and MAN *sb.* [f. WELSH *a.* + MAN *sb.*]

1. †a. A native Briton. *Obs.* b. A native of Wales.

In the early examples the adj. and noun are still separate

a. 688–95 *Laws Ine* § 32 Gif Wilisc mon habbe hide

londes, his wer bl5 cxx scill. *c* 1000 *Ags. Laws, Donustan* § 6 Nah naðer to færenne ne Wilisc man on Ænglisc land ne Ænglisc on Wylisc ðe ma, butan gesettan landmen. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1053 Eac Wylsce menn geslogan mycelne dæl Englisces folces.

β. c 1205 Lay. 2120 Þat Cambrie was ihaten þat is þat wilde lond þat Welsce [*c* 1275 Walse] men liuieð. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5140 Here we englisse men mowe yse some, Mid woche riȝte we beþ to þis lond ycome; Ac þe wrecche welissemen beþ of þe olde more. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 9 Manie Welshmen, and..the greater parte of all Wales, were confederate with these rebbells. 1579 Fulke *Refut. Rastel* 764 The Welshmen that vnderstand not english, haue their common praier in their Welshe tongue. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 477 You cannot guesse wherefore the Welchman comes. 1598 Bastard *Chrastol.* III. xxxiii. 70 A Wealch and English man meete on the way. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* I. B 4, The Northerne man loues white-meates,..the Welshman Leekes and Cheese. 1663–4 Pepys *Diary* 22 Feb., The Duke of Monmouth's mother's brother..being a Welchman. 1782 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 625 *note*, The malicious Welshman [= Giraldus Cambrensis] insinuates, that [etc.]. 1852 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 250/2 The men..are about three-fifths Irishmen, a fifth Welchmen,..and the remainder Englishmen. 1882 Rhys *Celtic Britain* 145 The northern portion..is spoken of in the Saxon Chronicle as that of the Strathclyde Welshmen.

γ. c 1205 Lay. 2124 For þan duke Gualun Walsce [*c* 1275 Walse] men me heom hateð. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 35 Edgat..went to Kerlion, þe Walsch men he band With homage & feaute. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 35 In Seint Edward his tyme Walsche men schulde not passe þat diche wiþ wepoun vppon a grete payne. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 93 He commandede..alle þe Britones..To ben y-cleped Wallishemen. *Ibid.* 96 Saxsones clepud hom..Walshemen. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 6 Ther was the Erle of Pembroke takene..and two M^l. Walschmenne slayne. 1523 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 510 Whiche kynge expulsed.. All brutes and walshemen clere out of his londe. 1565 Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 132 b, Inhabited by the olde Britons and walsh men.

2. *U.S.* A name applied locally to the black bass (*Micropterus*) and other fishes.

1714 J. Lawson *Hist. Carolina* 150 The brown Pearch, which some call Welch-men, are the largest sort of Pearches that we have. 1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 908/1 A black bass ..becomes..a 'welshman' in North Carolina. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 55 On the Tar River of North Carolina, it [the Black Bass] is called 'Chubb', and on the Neuse, 'Welshman'.

3. Possessive combinations. **Welshman's button** = *hazel-fly* Hazel[1] 4 c. † **Welshman's hose**, in phrases like *to make a Welshman's hose of, to make like a Welshman's hose*, to stretch or wrest the meaning of (a word, sentence, etc.); cf. *shipman's hose* Shipman 3 b. **Welshman's hug** (see quot.)

1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 117 The *Welchman's Button or Hasle comes on about the latter end of July. 1880 F. Francis *Angling* vi. (ed. 5) 230 The Welshman's Button; where it is found, it is a capital fly. 1523 Skelton *Gart. Laurel* 1239 And after conueyauns as the world goos, It is no foly to vse the *Walshemannys hoos. *a* 1529—*Col. Clouts* 780 A thousand thousande other, That..make a Walshmans hose Of the texte and of the glose. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Robt. Tresilian* xi, And wurde that wer most plaine whan thei by vs wer skande, We turned by construction lyke a welchmans hose. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 737 Of omnigatherine now his glose: He maid it lyk a Wealchman hose; *Tempora mutantur* was his text. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Scotch-Fiddle.* s. The itch, more commonly called the *Welshman's hug.

Welshness (we·lʃnés). [f. Welsh *a.* + -ness.] Welsh character.

1682 W. Richards *Wallogr.* 82 The shabbiness of their Bodies and the Bœticalness [? = Bœotian dullness] of their Souls, and that, which cannot any otherwise be expreat, the Welchness of both. 1797 T. Twining in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 203, I was much amused with the extreme Welshness of the good lady. 1894 *Athenæum* 22 Dec. 866/3 Prof. Rhys ..is not backward in recognizing what may be called the Welshness of the whole body of histories concerned with the 'blameless king' and his knights of the Round Table. 1912 Amelia H. Stirling *Life J. H. Stirling* iv. 68 In spite of the strangeness, the *Welshness*, of Pontypool, Stirling had been disappointed to find that it was not *in* Wales.

Welsh rabbit. [Welsh *a.* + Rabbit *sb.*[1] Cf. *Scotch rabbit* Scotch *a.* 4, and, for the jocular use of the noun, Capon *sb.* 3.] A dish consisting of cheese and a little butter melted and mixed together, to which are added ale, cayenne pepper, and salt, the whole being stirred until it is creamy, and then poured over buttered toast: also, simply, slices of toasted cheese laid on toast.

1785 J. Byrom *Rem.* (1854) I. i. 108, I did not eat of the cold beef, but of Welsh rabbit and stewed cheese. *Ibid.* 109, I had a scollop shell and Welsh rabbit. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ix. 97 To make a Welch-Rabbit. Toast the Bread on both Sides, then toast the Cheese on one Side, and lay it on the Toast, and with a hot Iron brown the other Side. 1771 in Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) I. 130 When we meet to browse over a pot of Castalian Porter and a Welsh Rabbit. 1825 Scott 12 Oct. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xxiii. 354 A welch rabbit and a tankard of ale. 1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* I, A desire for welsh-rabbits and good old glee-singing led us to the Cave of Harmony. 1876 Fr. E. Trollope *Charming Fellow* II. xi. 164 She had.. prepared a welsh rabbit..for a little party of friends.

Welsh rarebit. [An etymologizing alteration of prec. There is no evidence of the independent use of *rarebit*.] = prec.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Rabbit*, a Welch rabbit, bread and cheese toasted, i. e. a Welch rare bit. 1845 Alb. Smith *Fort. Scattery. Fam.* xliii, One of those inextricable visions which are alone dependent upon love, or Welsh rarebits, for their origin. 1865 *Morn. Star* 20 Apr., Then you advance to steaks,..thence to marrow-bones, thence to Welsh rarebit. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* I. vi. § 6 He had also eaten two Welsh rarebits—an unusual supper.

Welshry (we·lʃri). Also 4 **Walschrie**; 7 **Welshrye**, 9 **Welshery**. [f. Welsh *a.* + -ry, or ad. med.L. *Walescheria* (1249).]

† **1.** Welshmen or Welsh people collectively. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) II. 244 After þam alle he sent, To fend þe Walschrie with him at þer powere.

2. That part of a town or county (inhabited by English and Welsh) which is appropriated to the Celtic population, as distinguished from the English.

1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* iv. (1891) 38 This Shere is taken to be devided into two partes, that is to the Englishrie, and Welshrye as shall be more lardgilie declared hereafter. 1804 J. Evans *Tour S. Wales* 256 This country [in Pembrokeshire] is still divided into what is called the Englishry and Welshery; the latter, containing the original inhabitants. 1862 Borrow *Wales* II. xxx. 347, 'I have no Welsh, sir,' said she. 'How is that?' said I; 'this village is I think in the Welshery'. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 338 Up to the time of Æthelstan Exeter had remained..a common possession of Teutonic and Celtic inhabitants. No doubt there was an English and a Welsh town, an Englishry and a Welshry.

3. Welsh origin or nationality.

1894 Grant Allen in *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 2/1 Sometimes..I have even known them indignantly deny the imputation of Welshry.

Welshwoman (we·lʃwumăn). Also **Welsh woman.** [f. Welsh *a.* + Woman *sb.*] A woman of Welsh nationality.

1442 *Rolls Parlt.* V. 45/1 So that the saide William to a Walsshwoman in no wise marie him. 1586 J. Hooker *Girald. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 24/2 There came vnto him a Welsh or a Camber woman. 1656 S. Holland *Zara* II. v. 118 Thy Mother sure was some Welsh woman, who instead of her own fostered thee with Mares Milk. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Angelina* iii, Bartrand,—you have no ears, Welshwoman as you are!

Welshy (we·lʃi), *a. rare.* In 8 **Welchy.** [f. Welsh + -y[1].] Resembling that of Wales or its inhabitants; Welsh-like.

1794 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Ellen* II. 210 [Her name, Winifred] had such a welchy vulgar sound, she chose to be called Maria. 1848 *Bentley's Misc.* Jan. 106 Then we get towards a wild and Welshy country.

Welsom(e, -sum : see Wealsome, Wilsome *a.*[1]

Welt (welt), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 5 **walt**, 6 **walte**; *Sc.* 6 **wat**, 6, 9 **waut**, 9 **waat**; *north. dial.* 9 **wolt, wote, woat, waut.** *β.* 5–6 **weltte, welte**, 6 **wealte**, 6– **welt.** [Of obscure origin; the variation in the vowel suggests an OE. **wealt*, with Anglian variant **walt*.]

1. *Shoemaking.* A strip of leather placed between and sewn to the edge of the sole and the turned-in edge of the upper in soling a boot or shoe.

α. 14.. *Garlande's Dict.* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 125 *Pictaciarii* (clowtars) *viles sunt, qui consuunt sotulares veteres, renouando picturas* (clowtys), *et intercucia* (waltys), *et soleas, et impedeas.* 1500 *Ortus Vocab., Intercutium*, anglice a walte of a shoghe. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 213 Stra wispis hingis owt [of thy boots], quhair that the wattis [*v.r.* waltis] ar worne. 1899 *Leeds Merc. Suppl.* 14 Oct. (E.D.D.) If tha doesn't mind, tha'll court thisen off o' t' waits.

β. c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 664/35 *Hoc intercucium*, weltte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welte, of a schoo, *incucium, vel intercucium.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/1 A Welte, *intercucium.* 1530 Palsgr. 287/2 Welte of a shoe, *ourelure.* 1737 Dyche & Pardon *Dict., Welt*, that Slip of Leather, or Part of a Shoe that joins and holds the Sole and upper Leather together. 1880 *Times* 21 Sept. 4/4 To attach a narrow strip of flexible stout leather (the welt) to the outer edge of the upper, and the two to the insole. 1895 *Boot Mending & Making* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) vi. 93 Whether the work is to be..left plain, which is called a 'blind-welt', or the stitch sunk, and the welt fudged to imitate stitching.

2. A narrow strip of material put on the edge of a garment, etc., as a border, binding, or hem; a frill, fringe, or trimming.

Frequently associated with Guard (*sb.* 11).

α. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 115 Item, for ane waut of Rislis broun to it [a kirtle], iij *s.* 1804 W. Tarras *Poems* 38 Gin onie chiel had coolie scaw't, Sic's groogl't crown, or raggit waut, Wad we na jeer't.

β. 1530 Palsgr. 287/2 Welt of a garment, *ourelet.* 1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 9 One half having a border of black Letters & thother half having ij Rounde weltes of black vellett. 1582 Breton *Flourish Fancy* etc. (Grosart) 25/1 Wherof good stoare of cloathe..in fashions may be spent: In gardes, in weltes, and iagges. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. iv. § 3. 908 Their Cassockes were..of linnen, trimmed and set out with very broad Gards or Welts. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 355 A Scarlet Cloak, edg'd with a Welt, Was thrown him o're. 1748 *Earthquake Peru* I. 63 Their Habit is grey, with a purple Welt. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxix, The unction with which he dilated upon welts, laces, slashes, and trimmings. 1831 Carlyle *Sartor Res.* I. vii, Welts, a handbreadth thick,..waver round them by way of hem. 1894 J. Davidson *Ballads & Songs* 113 Maid Marian's kirtle, somewhat old, A welt of red must now enhance. 1903 *Times* 8 Sept. 10/4 Very particular attention is devoted..to the welts on the undress overalls. Some Fusilier battalions substitute a narrow stripe stitched on in place of the orthodox welt.

fig. 1637 B. Jonson *Discov.* (1641) 92 There are certaine *Scioli*..that are busie in the skirts..of Learning..They may have some edging, or trimming of a Scholler, a welt, or so: but it is no more.

† **b.** Phrase. *Without welt or guard*: without ornamentation or trimming. *Obs.*

1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* B 3 b, I sawe they were a plaine payre of Cloth breeches, without eyther welt or garde. 1632 Jordan *Nat. Bathes* Ded. (1669) 4 A plain suite of our Country Cloath; without welt or gard. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 36 He was cloath'd in a close Coat of coarse cloth, without welt or guard.

† **c.** *fig.* (Also *without welt or cover.*)

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* 2140 Marke you maisters, heere a plaine honest man, without welt or garde. 1594–1629 [see Guard *sb.* 11 b]. 1603 Harsnet *Popish Impost.* 167 Loe heere..plaine Gentilisme, without welt or couer. *a* 1734 North *Examen* I. i. § 7 (1740) 18 And of these irrefragable Authorities some he affords great Encomiums to, others pass without Welt or Guard.

d. Used by R. Holme (and hence by later compilers) as a heraldic term, in contrast to *border*.

1688 Holme *Armoury* I. 31 An edg, or hem, or welt, only runs on the sides of the Ordinary; but the Border..goeth clear round the same. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Welt*, or *Edge*, a narrow kind of border to an ordinary, or charge, sometimes improperly called a fimbriation, but the cross..should have the fimbriation run all round it,..which the *welt* or *edge*, does not. [Hence in Ogilvie (1850) and in later Dicts.]

† **3.** A binding strip or band. *Obs.*

In quot. 1607 perhaps an error for 'netts'.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 215 Hauing found out the field or hill where the beasts are lodged, they compasse it ..with welts and toils inuented for that purpose. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. iii. xxi. 183 The Edges [of the baskets] both above and below [must] be so well wrought as not to unravel; There must be also a Welt round about the middle for the same reason. 1698 Froger *Voy.* 133 Their Privy-parts, which they cover with a little Cotton-welt [Fr. *ceinture de coton*], that hangs down by their Legs.

4. A narrow ridge, a raised stripe. *Obs.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 5 Their hauen..hauing but as it were a welte of land..betwixte it and the wide Maine. 1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* IV. 375 Her muskie Mouth ..A swelling Welt of Corall round behems, Which smiling shows two rows of orient Gems. 1614 Markham *Cheap & Good Husb.* II. Of Hawks i. 137 And these Stones if they be full of crests and welts, they are the better. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* I. (1683) 78 The Trunk or Body thereof [of the palm tree] is naturally contrived for ascension,.. having many welts and eminencies. 1694 Motteux tr. *Rabelais* V. xxiii. 107 Their dainty Chops and Gullets were lin'd through with Crimain Satin with little Welts, and Gold Purls.

b. spec. in *Nat. Hist.* Now *rare.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. xxxv. 192 Of Floure Deluce or Iris...In the leaues [of the flower] that hang downewardes, there are certaine rough or hearie weltes lyke vnto a browes. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. xxxv. § 3. 50 Flowers of a purple or violet colour,..with a white hairie welt downe the middle. 1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* xiv. 958 Upon the shoulders [of the butterfly] there is a kinde of sandy dusky coloured roll or welt. 1698 Froger *Voy.* 131 The Toucan,..whose bill is..all over nothing but black and white welts or streaks, like Ebony and Ivory interlaid. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. 94 On the upper margin of them, in a ferrugineous welt, lies the seed. 1713 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 208 Its Leaves generally single,..with a large forked welt which saddles the Stalk. 1892 A. A. Crozier *Dict. Bot. Terms, Welt*, a broad, raised stripe or ridge upon the surface of a fruit, as is occasionally seen in the orange and lemon.

c. A ridge on the flesh, esp. the mark of a healed wound; a seam.

1800 *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 8 The cicatrix formed a hard welt, tender to the touch. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* iv, From shoulder to flank, sir, I am one mass of welts and weals. 1876 *E. Wagner's Gen. Path.* 30 If the actual cautery be applied upon a corpse, there arise only..more or less hard or leathery welts. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 534/1 The slight welt of a sabre cut on one cheek.

transf. and *fig.* 1882 G. F. Pentecost *Out of Egypt* I. 12 Who can tell what the first hot and burning welt of pain was which followed the first stroke of passion's whip? 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads* L'Envoi 53 O the blazing tropic night, when the wake's a welt of light.

5. Technical uses. **a.** A flange on a horse-shoe. **b.** *Saddle-making.* A narrow strip of leather stitched in between the skirts and the seat. **c.** *Glove-making.* (See quots.) **d.** *Knitting.* (See quots.) **e.** A strip or fillet laid over a seam or joint or placed in an angle to secure or strengthen it. **f.** The lap or fold of a welted joint (see Welted *ppl. a.* 4). See also sense 1.

a. *c* 1770 T. Fairfax *Compl. Sportsm.* 21 [Horse] Shoes with swelling welts, or borders round about them, are used in Germany, &c. 1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 172 Ordinary [horse] shoes..are either light flat disks,..or of much greater strength, with welts or knobs on the toes.

b. 1871 *Saddlers' Gaz.* 1 Nov. 10/1 The skirts being properly edged up, you will now make the welt and fix it to the skirt. 1904 *Saddlery* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) iii. 29 Place the thin horsehin welt along the upper edge of the seat and stitch the skirt and welt together...From the point to which the seat is stitched, a wider welt doubled like the narrow one must be stitched to the skirt.

c. 1883 S. W. Beck *Gloves* xii. 179 One minor..process, known as 'felling the slit-welt'—that is, the turning over and hemming of the welt on the edge of the opening of the gloves. 1886 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 10 Apr. 226/2 Out of the parts left he cuts pieces..for the binding round the top and the opening [of a glove]..which are called 'welts'.

d. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Welt*, ribbed knitting. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Welt*, (*Knitting-machine*) a flap of work (as a heel-piece) disengaged laterally and knitted separately from the main body, and subsequently joined thereto by re-engagement of loops or by hand-knitting. 1879 *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., The ribs of knitting at the top of a sock or stocking are called welts.

e. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Carvel-built*, The edges of the plates are brought flush together and riveted to a lap

or welt in the rear. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Englin., Welt*, the covering strip used in butt riveting.

£ 1888 J. W. Clarke *Plumbing Pract.* viii. 81 A mandrel must be fixed inside for the welt to be worked in quite closely.

6. A stroke with a lash or pliant stick; also, a heavy blow with the fist. (Cf. Welt *v.*[1] 5.)

1863 *Cornhill Mag.* VII. 453 There's thirteen of us to do the punishment, and we must have two welts a piece. 1900 A. McIlroy *By Lone Craig-Linnie Burn* v. 54 Every man claimed the right of bestowing a 'welt' on a restive horse with his ash 'plant' as he passed.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in the names of shoemakers' tools, appliances, and materials, as *welt-beater, -cutter, file, -guide, -knife, -leather, -machine, -mill, shoulders* (cf. Shoulder *sb.* 5 b), *-trimmer.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 14 Cobler's-wax and welt-leather. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* Brit. II. No. 4671, Curried Welt Shoulders. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2760 Welt-cutter, -guide, -knife, -machine, -trimmer. 1895 *Boot Making* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) v. 83 If they are too thick, reduce them on the flesh side in a welt mill or skiving machine. *Ibid.* vii. 107 The welt file, used for smoothing the welt. 1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* 637 To dress..welt leather and flexible splits.

† **Welt**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. Cant.* (See Rum *a.*[1] 2 b.)

Welt (welt), *v.*[1] Forms: *α.* 5 *Sc.* and *north.* walte, waut, 6 *Sc.* walt, wawt, wate, vat. *β.* 6 welte, wealt, 6– welt. [f. Welt *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To furnish (shoes) with welts; to repair or renew the welts of.

α. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 407/1 To Walte, *intercuciare.* 1500 *Ortus Vocab., Intercutio*, to walte a schoghe.

β. 1729 P. Walkden *Diary* (1866) 49 Paid for welting and soling my shoes, 12. 6d. 1854 G. Borrow in Shorter *E. & his Circle* xxxii. (1913) 374 My boots were worn up by the time I reached Swansea and was obliged to get them new soled and welted. 1914 *Daily News* 30 June 4, I cannot canonise the machine which stitches uppers and welts soles.

2. To border, hem, or ornament (a garment) with welts or strips of material. Also with *about.* Also *absol.* (Cf. Welted *ppl. a.* 1 a.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

α. 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 762 Thre quartaris of veluus to waut hir gowne. 1541 *Ibid.* VIII. 22 For grene velvet to walt ane cote. 1546 *Ibid.* 438 Tua elnis..blak velvot..to walt the said goun and kirtill.

β. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Border & couvrir le bord*, to border, to welt. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* D 1 b, In making of veluet breeches, where there is required silke lace,..and such costly stuffe, to welt, gard, whip, stitch, edge, face, and draw out. 1755 Johnson, To *Welt*, to sew any thing with a border.

† 3. ? To bind in strips. *Obs. rare.*

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 412 If any be sicke, a speare is set vp in his Tent with blacke Felt welted about it.

4. Technical uses: a. To bind with strips or a strip of leather, spec. in *Glove-making* and *Carriage-building.*

1795 [see Welting *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* I. xviii, Some welted, or hemmed the gloves round at the edge of the wrist.

b. *Plumbing.* To join (the ends of a pipe, etc.) by turning the edges one over the other and pressing them together. Cf. Welted *ppl. a.* 4.

1888 J. W. Clarke *Plumbing Pract.* viii. 81 At a sanitary exhibition..were exhibited some joints..made by welting the ends of the pipes together.

5. To beat, thrash.

1823 Moor *Suffolk Words, Welt*...to beat severely—so as to raise wales or weals. 1837 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. II. xxii, And they gist fell to and welted him all the way into the town with the tip eend of their lassos. 1855 F. C. Armstrong *Werkawk* I. xii. 248 I'll welt you with a rope's end if you don't mizzle. 1894 Astley *50 Years Life* I. 105 My ribe ached as though they had been welted with a single-stick. 1901 E. Phillpotts *Striking Hours* 12 Next time ..I'll welt the hide off your bones.

Welt, *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Pa. t. 4–5 welt(e. [a. ON. **welta* intr. strong verb (Icel. and Norw. *velta*, MSw. *välta*), and trans. weak verb (Icel. and Norw. *velta*, MSw. and Sw. *välta*, Da. *vælte*); the latter corresponds to OE. *-weltan* (Angl.), *wyltan*, OHG. *waltzen, welzen* (MHG. *welzen*, G. *wälzen*), Goth. *waltjan*, f. the *a-* grade of the stem *welt-, walt-*: see Walt *a.* and *v.*]

1 *intr.* To roll or turn over (also with *over*); to fall over (also with *backward*); to sway or be unsteady.

23.. *St. Cristofer* 631 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 462 Whene þe kynge hade of hym syghte In his chayere he welte vpryghte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7488 Philoc with felle angur frusshet to Remo, Till bothe welt backward of hor bare sadles. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. x. 136 So tyll hys hart stoundis the prik of deith, He weltis our, and saldis vp the breith. *Ibid.* xi. xii. 83 And stedis throwand on the ground that weltis. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 59/1 To Welt, *neuter*,

1876
into
over, to incline on one side.

fig. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 115 Hit was a wenyng vn-war þat welt in his mynde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4891 We, as vn-wise men, welt into pride, Answarth hym awterwart with angur & skorne.

b. To gush *out.* Cf. Walt *v.* 4.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 839 (MS. Ashm.) So hard him hittis on the hede hit hernes out wantid [*MS. Dublin* weltyn].

2. *trans.* To cast or throw *down*; to throw to the ground; to overturn; to beat down; also to roll, trundle. Cf. Walt *v.* 2.

†*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3138 Walles he welte downe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7490 Aither wegh other woundit, & welt to þe grene. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vii. 76 The burgeonit treis on buird thai bring for airis, Weltis down in woddis gret mastis. *Ibid.* IX. viii. 127 Down welting elk of huge wecht gret stanys. *Ibid.* x. iii. 21 Ane Agmon of Lyrnesys fast tharby Presys, wyth all the fors in his body, A felloune stone to welt the wallys tyll. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 59/1 To Welt, *actiue, exertere.* 1703 Thoresby *Let. Ray, Welt*,.. overturn cart or wain. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, Grass or corn is said to be welted when it is beaten down by wind or rain, &c. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Welt*, v. t. to overset, to overturn. 1898 B. Kirkby *Lakeland Words, Welt*, .

Welt (welt), *v.*[3] Chiefly *dial.* [? Alteration of Welk *v.* Cf. the earlier Welter *v.*[2] and Wilt *v.*]

a. *trans.* Of the sun or weather: To wither (cut grass, etc.). Chiefly *pass.* b. *intr.* To become withered by exposure to the sun and air.

1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 333 That wheat which is mowed will require many days of hot weather to welt the grass and weeds. 1830 Spurdens *Forby's Voc. E. Anglia* App., *Wilted*, shrivelled as an apple. Also *Welted*: the same word. 1854 Miss A. E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s. v. *Welted*, 'It is well welted:' or 'It is not fit to carry, it wants a good welting first'. 1863 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. II. 350 Mown grass becomes first *welted*, then ferments. 1865 *Ibid.* 2nd Ser. I. II. 412 It is good management to give these turnips on grass, and to let them 'welt', or become dry from exposure to the sun and air.

Hence **We·lting** *vbl. sb.*

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 388 Cut the herb in the morning; and put it into the vats as soon as possible, in order to prevent its welting or heating. 1854 [see above].

Welt, obs. form of Wealth.

Welt, welte, obs. contr. ff. *wieldeth, wielded*: see Wield *v.*

Welted (we·ltĕd), *ppl. a.* Also 8 whelted. [f. Welt *v.*[1] or *sb.* + -ed.]

1. a. Furnished with a welt as a border or edging. Of a gown, etc.: Adorned or trimmed with 'welts' (hence of a person with reference to this). ? *Obs.*

Freq. in 16th cent. in const. *welted with.*

(*a*) *c* 1507 in *Etoniana* (1865) 214 Servants cots of black cotton welted with yelowe. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 111 My blake gowne of cloth weltede with velvet. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* G 1, I saw fiue fat fellowes all in damaske cotes and gowns welted with Veluet very braue. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1378/4 A Bar Gown faced and welted with Velvet.

fig. 1631 J. Burges *Answ. Rejoined* 435 It stands..welted and guarded with so many reasons.

(*b*) 1595 Lodge *Fig for Momus* Sat. iv. E 4, They say thy welted gowne, and ruffes of lawne, When thou wert warden last was but a pawne. 1606 Dekker *Newes fr. Hell* Wks. (Grosart) II. 137 Hee shall meet a number there, who once went in black veluet coats, and welted gownes. 1606 — *Seven Deadly Sins* 10 The welted Vsurer, and the politick Bankrupt. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. xii. 157 When in your gowne (not a Clericall habit of any Learning) but welted and crosse-lac'd.

b. Of boots or boot-soles: Furnished with a welt. *Welted work*: the making of welted boots.

1895 *Daily News* 20 Apr. 2/1 A piecework statement for welted work at Northampton should be prepared. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 7/3 Hitherto America has produced practically all the machinery for the making of welted boots.

2. *Nat. Hist.* Furnished with a raised welt or projecting edge. *Welted thistle*: see Thistle 3.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. xxxv. § 8. 50 The flower [of the Germaine Flower de-luce]..consisting of sixe great leaues, ..welted downe the middle. 1599 — *Catal. Arb. in horto* 4 *Brassica fimbriata*. Welted Colewoorts. 1703 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1494 (2) These Leaves very much resemble the Virginian Sumach, with a winged or welted Stalk. 1712 J. Morton *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 409 Fowls of the Fin-toed Tribe, that is, such as have their Toes welted or Finn'd, as it were, all along on each Side with appendant Membranes; but not webb'd together, by an intervening Skin, as are those of Ducks. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 52 Its deep Scarlet Flowers, and square welted Pods.

b. Marked with a ridge or with ridges.

1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. West* II. v. 61 The face of the moor is in places welted to such an extent that it alters the character of the scene.

3. Marked with a welt or raised wound or mark of a lash.

1895 Wiseman *Fabiola* II. xxi, The mangled limbs, and welted backs, of the tortured Christians. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 3/1 The unfortunate servant of the Christian was set free and given 5 dols. Hassani, to heal his welted skin.

4. *Welted joint*, a plumbers' joint made by turning the edges to be joined, one over the other, and pressing them together.

1888 J. W. Clarke *Plumbing Pract.* lx. 94 About two years ago, a series of lectures was given by a master plumber ..and he showed a specimen of a welted joint. 1892 *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Welted joint.* The old system of making a junction of the sides of two lengths of lead on a church roof, is preferred to the present system of a deal roll.

Welter (we·ltər), *sb.*[1] [f. Welter *v.* Rare before 19th cent.; cf. Walter *sb.*]

1. A state of confusion, upheaval, or turmoil.

Freq. from *c* 1870, often with suggestion of 2 or 3.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 277 He feiret be that confunctione suld follow sum Welter in t' casting doune of the Kirkes, Monasteries and 465. 1619 Bp. Andrewes *96 Serm., Nativ.* xiii. (1629) 195 Away with peace, *moueatur terra*, let all the earth be on a welter. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. VI. II. 285 [Danton] was heard to ejaculate..'I leave the whole business in a frightful welter behind me!' 1870 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 2/1 The Empire is in a welter of confusion. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. 1 The whole Empire was in a welter. 1873 Trollope *Prime Minister* I. 1 The Duke's affairs were in a welter. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxxiii, Everything was in a welter of confusion. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxiii. 362 Rome was in a welter of confusion. 1880 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* 1 Florence was in a welter of excitement. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xxxiii, The whole place was in a welter. 1885 Manch. *Exam.* 23 Feb. 5/1 The Liberal party is in a welter of confusion. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. 1. xxxvi. 3 The Democrats were in a welter of confusion. 1889 Froude *Short Stud.* IV. II. 1. 1 Ireland was in a welter of confusion. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxxiii, The whole house was in a welter. 1895 Weyman *Under Red Robe* xxiii, The whole country was in a welter. 1897 Allbutt's *Syst. Med.* II. 1. 1 Medicine is in a welter of change. 1900 Lecky *Hist. Eng. 18th Cent.* I. 1. 1 Europe was in a welter of confusion. 1901 Kipling *Kim* 1 The Punjab is in a welter of change. 1902 Gardiner *Hist. Eng.* I. 1 Europe was in a welter of confusion. 1903 Wells *Mankind in Making* 1. 1 The world is in a welter of change. 1904 Hall Caine *Eternal City* I. 1 Rome was in a welter of excitement. 1905 Lecky *Leaders Public Opinion* 1. 1 Ireland was in a welter of confusion. 1906 Conrad *Mirror of Sea* 1 The world is in a welter of change. 1907 Wells *Future in America* 1. 1 The United States is in a welter of change. 1908 Bennett *Old Wives' Tale* I. 1 The house was in a welter of confusion. 1909 Galsworthy *Fraternity* 1. 1 The country was in a welter of confusion. 1910 Hall Caine *Prodigal Son* I. 1 The house was in a welter of confusion. 1911 Conrad *Nostromo* 1. 1 The country was in a welter of confusion. 1912 Wells *Marriage* 1. 1 The world is in a welter of change. 1913 Bennett *Old Wives' Tale* I. 1 The house was in a welter of confusion. 1914 Galsworthy *Fraternity* 1. 1 The country was in a welter of confusion. 1915 Conrad *Nostromo* 1. 1 The country was in a welter of confusion. 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c. To roll or lie prostrate (*in* one's blood); hence (hyperbolically) to be soaked with blood or gore; also *fig.* of a nation, etc. Now only *poet.*

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 10 Till all these Princes weltring in their bloods, The Crowne doe fall to Countie Sacrepant. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, II. v. 2181 Vpon my weapons point here shouldst thou fall, And welter in thy goare. 1643 *Decl. Commons Reb. Ireland* 26 Two Protestant Nations [were] ready to welter in each others blood. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 1218 Prostrate on the Plain, Welt'ring in Blood, she sees Camilla slain. 1744 P. WHITEHEAD *Gymnasiad* III. 73 Down dropt the Hero, welt'ring in his Gore. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 252 Three successive generations were doomed to welter in their own blood. 1803 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 4/2 The deceased.. was weltering in his blood, and bore every indication of having been robbed as well as murdered. 1849 D. G. MITCHELL *Battle Summer* (1852) 35 They lie—the fifty corpses—weltering in their blood. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* II. 667 Slaughtered, and weltering each in the blood from the others that flows.

2. *fig.* †a. To revel, live at ease. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4503 Man þat weltres in his welis And, thoru his welth, na fautes felis. 1381 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXVI. (1887) 140 The midle sorte of parentes which neither welter in to much wealth, nor wrastle with to much want.

b. = WALLOW *v.*[1] 6. Now *rare.*

1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* XXIII. 18 But they yᵗ feare God, eschue all soch and lye not weltringe in synne. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 13 b, Who in the meane tyme swell with pride, and welter away in filthy pleasures. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 12/2 He suffered his owne bodie to welter in all vice and voluptuousnesse. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. i. 19§ Numbers of them lay senslesse and weltring in wine. 1646 H. P. *Medit. Seige* 7 Luxury..in which thou hast weltred with securitie. 1867 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 767 Happier are those that welter in their sin.

c. To be sunk or deeply involved *in.*

1689 J. COLE *Of Death* 192 Let us then no longer lye weltring in sorrow, lest by overlong lamenting wee encrease Gods wrath. 1642 PRYNNE *Sov. Antidote* Pref., To make England in the selfesame desperate deplorable condition, as Ireland now lies weltring in. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 16 Suffers them to welter in their fears, doubts and complaints. 1656 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 153 We seem, indeed, in perusing the narrative before us, to be weltering in a dream of horrors. *a* 1872 R. CHAMBERS in *Cas. Lit.* (1874) Ser. II. I. 264 They..leave you weltering in astonishment.

d. *transf.* of inanimate things.

1847 KINGSLEY *Poems, Sappho* 4 Upon the white horison Atho's peak Weltered in burning haze. *a* 1849 BRYANT *Hymn of Sea* 42 The fertile plain Welters in shallows.

3. Of a ship: To roll to and fro (on the waves). Also *fig.* Cf. WALTER *v.* 1 b.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* XXIV, We pullit vp saile, and furth ure wayis went. Vpon the wawis weltering to and fro. 1609 HEALEY *Discov. New World* I. II. VII. 92 But our boat.. did so welter from side to side. 1828–36 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. (1856) V. 266 My mind tossed, as it seemed, upon the billowy ocean, and weltered upon the weltering waves. 1876 J. SAUNDERS *Lion in Path* IX, The soldier's barque was weltering aimlessly, helplessly, hopelessly upon the waves. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* IV. 350 The keels roll down the sea-dale, and welter up the steep.

b. Of a dead body: To be tossed or tumbled about (on the waves); to roll or tumble about (in water). Also *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 14 All the sinnes of the first World now welter, souse, & beate vnquietly in the Sea. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 13 He must not flote upon his watry bear Unwept, and welter to the parching wind. 1728 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 155 But he whose name you crave Moulders in earth, or welters on the wave. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* III. 115 Whether he on the continent hath fall'n By hostile hands, or by the waves o'erwhelm'd Of Amphitrite, welters in the Deep. 1806 SCOTT *Poems, Palmer* 40 A corpse amid the alders rank, The Palmer welter'd there. 1823 S. ROGERS *Italy* XXI. *Campagna of Florence* 149 Arno,..where, exulting, he had felt A swimmer's transport, there, alas, to float And welter.

4. To roll down in a stream; to flow.

c 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlii. (*Agatha*) 306 A gret hyl..brak owt in fyre & brynt don, weltrand, as a borne had bene. 1508 DUNBAR *Twa Maryit Wemen* 439 With that wateris myn ene, and welteris doune teris. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. xii, From the left arm..the blood weltered slowly. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc., Sleeping on Waters* 44 And Nile, soft weltering nigh, Sings him to sleep. *Ibid., Bathing* 2 Around the rushy point comes weltering slow The brimming stream.

†b. To flutter (*down*). *rare*—[1].

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 290 [It] sall be licht as leif of the lynd lest, That welteris doun with the wynd, as wauerand it is.

5. Of waves, the water, sea: To roll; to toss and tumble; to surge. Also *fig.* Now only *poet.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 700 The strem sa sturdy was, That wawys wyd (that) brekand war Weltryt as hillys her and thar. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 170 The watter is the warld, ay welterand With mony wall of trubulatioun. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 83 As oft the seas we see The storme the boistrous surge to raise, weltring now low now hie. 1787–9 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 128 There, waves that, hardly weltering, die away, Tip their smooth ridges with a softer ray. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. I. 203 The sea that welters drearily Around the homeless earth! 1821 BRYANT *Ages* XVIII, Till the North broke its flood-gates, and the waves Whelmed the degraded race, and weltered o'er their graves. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & B., Song in Time of Order* 7 It swells and welters and swings, The pulse of the tide of the sea.

b. *transf.* Of a mass of persons or things: To be in a state of agitation, turmoil, or confusion.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. I, When a Nation..must now seek its wild way through the New, Chaotic,—where Force is not yet distinguished into Bidden and Forbidden, but Crime and Virtue welter unseparated. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. iv, We sit in a cloud..while right below Welters the black fermenting heap of life On which our state is built. 1853 — *Hypatia* XXIX, The mob had weltered and howled ineffectually around the house for some half-hour. 1889 JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 128 Huddled like vermin in sewers, they welter, and sicken, and sleep. 1897 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. (1900) 317 The whole Left was surging and weltering about the champion, all bent on wringing his hand.

6. †a. Of a vehicle: To sway or rock unsteadily; to overturn. *Obs. rare.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 25 A litill stane oft, as men sayis, May ger weltir ane mekill wane. 1535 COVERDALE *Nahum* II. 4 The charettes rolle vpon the stretes, & welter in the hye wayes.

b. To go with a heavy rolling gait; to flounder. Also *dial.*, to reel, stagger.

1595 R. JOHNSON *Seven Champions* II. (1608) 52 Oh that some ravenous harpey woulde welter from his denne. 1674–91 RAY *N. C. Words, Welter*, to goe aside, or heavily, as women with child, or fat people. 1785 *Brus New Wark* (E.D.S.) 188 Should a kraken welter up the sands..ye mud weel be astonished. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* XVII, [The whale] was lying perfectly still, in a deep part of the voe into which it had weltered. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* XLI. 324 With desperate energy I plunged and weltered through it [the water]. 1884 D. GRANT *Lays & Leg. North* 75 [She] Weltered hame through bogs an' hillocks Aifter mony a weary fa'.

fig. 1837 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 70 On the eighth day after this I am to make my appearance as a Lecturer!.. Some way or other we shall 'welter through it'.

II. *trans.* †7. To move, turn, or force by rolling. *Obs.*

†*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1140 3itt es þe warlow so wyghte, he welters hyme vndere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. ix. 183 For sum weltris a gret stane wp the bra. 1520 M. NISBET *N. T. Scots* Matt. XXVII. 60 He weltirit a gret staan to the dure of the beriele. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* XXVI. 27 And he yᵗ weltreth a stone, shal stomble vpon it hymselfe.

refl. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* XXVI. 14 Like as the dore turneth aboute vpon the tresholde, euen so doth the slouthfull welter himself in his bedd. — *Micah* I. 10 Thou at Betaphra, welter thy self in the dust and ashes.

†b. In pa. pple. with *in. Obs.* (Cf. I b, 2 b.)

1535 COVERDALE *Judith* XIV. 15 Then sawe he the deed body of Holofernes.., weltred in his bloude vpon the earth. 1576 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VIII. 110 In whiche absurditie many are weltred. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 30 Foure bodies lying weltred in bloud. 1652 *Persuasive* 26 Princes, who are..weltered in their own blood. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. Father Greybeard* 257 England, as well as other Countries, has been disciplin'd, 'till weltred in blood and ruine.

†8. To cause to roll; to toss up and down. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Perser.* 2003 Byttyr balys þei [his enemies] brekyn on brode, Mankynde in wo to weltyr & waue. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iii. 90 The wyndis welteris the see continually. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 536 Fomy Nereus..From bottoms depth doth weltre up the seas. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i. 223 And they so wrackt and weltred by the waues, As euery tide tilts twixt their oken sides.

9. To overthrow, overturn, upset: also with *down.* Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 469 Wrightis welterand doune treis. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cresseid* 436 All is decayit, thy weird is welterit so. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 51 This cruell dochtyr of the auld Saturn The marbyll hyrst can weltyr and ourturn. 1571 [see WALTER *v.*[1] 7]. *a* 1663 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 257 Were it but an ox, or an ass..that lay weltred in a ditch. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., *To welter a cart*, to turn it upside down.

†10. To wear *out* (one's days) in a state of trouble or disquiet. *Obs.*—[1]

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 138 They returne to their old acquaintance with selfe, and so welter out their daies in utter misery.

Hence **We'ltered** *ppl. a.*

1590 T. WATSON *Melibœus* Poems (Arb.) 175 Castor and Pollux,..two welcome messengers, Conuey great comfort to the weltred minde.

We'lter, *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Cf. WELT *v.*[2] and -ER [5]; the ending may have been suggested by *wither.* Cf. WILTER *v.*] *intr.* To wither. Hence **We'ltered, We'ltering** *ppl. adjs.*

1645 BP. HALL *Remedy Discontent.* V. 24 As for Beauty, what is it, but..a flower, which with one hot Sun gleam weltreth and fals? 1657 F. COCKIN *Div. Blossomes* 18 Your fading honour I esteem as dung, Earth's weltering glory as the dirt in street. 1825 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 62 These vermin prefer weltered and flagging leaves to those that are quite fresh. 1860 I. TAYLOR *Ultimate Civilis.* I. I. v. 40 The weltered hearts, and blighted memories of those whom we have..gathered from out of the..lost and wretched. 1887 *Kentish Gloss., Welter*, to wither. 'The leaves begin to welter.'

We'ltering (we'ltərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. WELTER *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of turning or twisting the body about (on the ground), rolling (in the mire), wallowing (in sin), etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1448–9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1631 This lyoun..Wypt on the gres hys blody mowth; and in hys welteryng Made alle blody Cleopes kerchyff in hys wypyng. 1520 M. NISBET *N. T. in Scots*, 2 Pet. II. 22 The hound turnit agane to his spewing, and a sow [that] is weschin in weltring [*Wycl.* walwyng] in fenn. 1596 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 206 All kind of superfluitie, riot, and weltring in pleasures.

†2. The action of rolling or turning round; unstable condition; political agitation. *Obs.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxiii, To se the sudayn weltering Of that Ilk quhele [of Fortune]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. XXX, If in the Scottish Court be weltering yet. 1588 in *Rep. Commiss. Univ. Scot.* (1837) III. 193 In this confused tyme (quhen all folkis ar loukand to the weltering of the warld).

3. The rolling and tossing (of waves); the surging (of water, the sea). Also *fig.*

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VI. 138 The surpassing life..incapable of change, Nor touched by welterings of passion. 1807 POLLOK *Course T.* V. 595 And oft in dreams, the.. sinner..heard the weltering of the waves of wrath. 1852 TRENCH *Poems* 73 'Mid the long weltering of the dreariest surge. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* IV. 681 A figure standing, with wide wings of gold, Upright, amid the weltering of the sea.

We'ltering, *ppl. a.* [f. WELTER *v.*[1] + -ING [2].]

1. Of the sea: That tumbles and tosses; raging, surging.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 719 The Se wald rys on sik maner, That off the wawys the weltrand hycht Wald refe thaim oft off thar sycht. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 203 Qwhil þe weltrande wawis keyn Sulde a part aswagit beyn. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* c, In the huge weltering wawis..Off lufis rage. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales, Epit.* etc. 170 No..wrath of weltring waues could stay, those martiall mates at home. 1669 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xii, While the Creator Great..bid the weltring waves their oozy channel keep. 1771 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. liv, The deep roar Of the wide-weltering waves. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 7 The straining and groaning of bulk-heads, as the ship laboured in the weltering sea. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XIV. 20 As when the face Of the great deep grows dark with weltering waves. 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 306, I trembled for his life in such a weltering whirl of rock-torn sea.

b. That is in a state of agitation, turmoil, or confusion.

1831 CARLYLE *Misc., Nibelungen Lied* (1840) III. 71 A firm sunny island amid the weltering chaos of antique tradition. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* XXVIII, The weltering mass of bullocks, pigs, and human beings. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. XVIII. 329 That vast weltering mass of idolatry and corruption. 1890 J. PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* I. 195 You restless, heaving, weltering kingdoms of Time, mock us not.

†2. *Sc.* a. Moving clumsily or unsteadily. b. Rolling. *Obs.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 111 The wyld Once, the Buk, the Uelterand Brok. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xl, Thair micht I se..The welterand stone wirk Sisiphio mich cair.

3. That is tossed about on or by the waves.

1609 HEALEY *Discov. New World* III. ii. 129 They..hold it fondnesse to hazard their liues either on a stumbling iade, or in a weltring barge. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* VI. XX, Another flash!—the spearman floats A weltering corse beside the boats. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. xliii. 377 They had drifted fourteen days, tossed up and down on the heaving waves of Adria, a weltering plaything for the gale.

4. Lying prostrate in blood; saturated with blood.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. li, And Slaughter heap'd on high his weltering ranks. — *Siege of Cor.* XVII, It is humbling to tread O'er the weltering field of the tombless dead.

Welter weight. [WELTER *sb.*[3]]

1. †a. Heavy weight (of a horseman). *Obs. rare.*

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 280 He was always well mounted for his welter weight.

b. A heavy-weight rider.

1850 'H. HIEOVER' *Pract. Horsemanship* 191 A horse belonging to a friend, a welter weight. 1883 PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 344 A welter weight never went better to hounds in a fast run. 1897 *Daily News* 12 Mar. 3/4 Horses equal to carrying a welter-weight of fifteen stone or more.

c. *Horse-racing.* An extra weight sometimes imposed in addition to weight for age.

1880 W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* 201 They have.. added to other improvements the introduction of welter-weights; so that it only requires a little alteration—more long races with heavy weights, and fewer short courses with light weights—to complete the reform.

2. A boxer or wrestler whose weight is between that of a light-weight and a middle-weight. Also *attrib.*

1896 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 3 Oct. 3/1 Welterweight champion of California. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 19 Sept. 3/3 Not even an indomitable spirit will bring a bantam-weight and a welter-weight together. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 351/2 The boxing rules of the American Amateur Athletic Association differ slightly from the British..The recognised classes by weight are: Bantam,..Feather,..Light,..Welter, 145 lb and under; Middle..and Heavy.

Welthe, weltht, obs. forms of WEALTH.

Welting (we'ltiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also *Sc.* and *north.* 6 wawting, 7 valting, 7–8 walting, 8? waiting; 7, 9 waltin, 9 wattin. [f. WELT *v.*[2] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of furnishing with a welt. a. The edging, binding, or ornamenting (a garment) with a welt or welts; chiefly *concr.*, an edging, a border, fringe.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 135 Item, for grathing of foure sadilles..and wawting of thaim with weltus, xlviij s. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 219 The garmentes welted aboute with blew & yellow gould tinsell conteyning xxxᴵᴵ yardes weltinge. 1558 — *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 93, viij plackardes of the same Masks and the welting and jagginge therof. 1600 ROWLANDS *Letting Humours Blood* II. 54 The welting hath him in no cherdges stood, Being the ruines of a cast French hood. 1627 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 100 Item for 4 elnes of Tours waltings to his claithes 0 10 0. 1727 *Ochtertyre House Bookes of Accomps* (S.H.S. 1907) 80 For ¾ of a yeard of cherry waiting [*sic*: *the Glossary gives* wating]. 1875 *Plain Needlework* 16 They can be stitched (like welting) and finished off with strings. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Welting*, ..a seam; a seaming.

transf. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* XXI, A westerly breeze played with the half ripe pods of gorse, and the brown welting of the heather.

b. In techn. senses, esp. in shoemaking.

1795 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) II. Gloss., *Welting* is the sewing a narrow strip of leather over the corner seams,.. which..keeps out the wet. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 15 Jan. 6/2 [Shoe trade.] Welting machinery is making progress, and hand labour for welting is being trained. 1893 Eliz. Roseveare *Text-bk. Needlework* etc. 405 Welting or Ribbing is usually knitted at the top of stockings, socks, muffatees, and sometimes throughout a garment.

2. A beating, a thrashing.

1840 Cockton *Val. Vox* xii, Do you want a good welting? ony say, and you shall catch, my dear, the blessedest rope's-ending you ever had any notion on yet. 1862 H. Marryat *Year in Sweden* I. 233 She received a sound welting..from her father. 1887 G. Meredith *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 191 He [a dog] bewhimpered his welting, and I Scarce thought it enough for him.

3. *attrib.*, as *welting cord*; †**welting stake**, some kind of armourer's anvil.

1660 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 128 Welting stakes. 1887 Jamieson *Suppl.*, *Waltin-Cord*, *Wattin-Cord*, cord used in forming welts for seams and hems of gowns.

Weltir, weltre, obs. forms of Welter.

Weluette, -uot, -wet, etc., obs. ff. Velvet.

‖ **Welwitschia** (welwi·tʃiă). [mod. L., named by J. D. Hooker (1862) after Dr. Friedrich *Welwitsch* (1806–72), Austrian botanist: see -ia.] A genus of gymnospermous plants (N. O. *Gnetaceæ*) consisting of one species *W. mirabilis*, native to the sandy regions of western Africa.

1862 *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1864) I. 1 On Welwitschia, a new Genus of Gnetaceæ. By Joseph Dalton Hooker. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Welwot, obs. Sc. form of Velvet.

Welwous, variant of Vellous (velvet).

Wely, var. Wealy *a.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. form of Wily.

Welze, var. north. form of Vail *v.*[1] *Obs.*

Wem (wem), *sb. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 3–wem (5 *Sc.* vem), 3–7 wemme, 4 wembe (6 wemb), 4–6 weme, 6 weam(e. [ME. *wem*, substituted for OE. *wam*(*m*, *wom*(*m* (see Wam), under the influence of the verb.]

1. Moral defilement; stain (of sin). Chiefly in phr. *without*(*en*) *wem* = Immaculate *a.* 1. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

(*a*) *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 Cleane religiun & wiðuten wem is iseon & helpen widewen [etc.]. *c* 1290 *St. Cecilia* 10 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 490 Lat, louerd, myn herte wiþoute wem be. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 647 Marie..Clene maide and clene wyf, Clene widewe with oute wem. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xviii. 14 If thar ware noght lordid of me, than i sall be withouten wem. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 304 Jamus tellip of two religions; þe first is clene wit-oute wem, ..þe secounde is veyn religioun. *c*.1460 *Towneley Myst.* x. 37 My son shall in a madyn light..wythouten wem, os son thrugh glas. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 466 That god..of the virgyn unfold Was born without wemme in hir attamed. 1538 Bp. Longland *Serm. bef. King* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 1253/2 Impollutus. He was vndefyled. He lyued cleane, without spotte or blotte, without wemme or stayne. 1561 Daus *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 29 Therefore was the Church of Smyrna right excellent, howbeit not vtterly without any wem. 1858 Morris *Def. Guenevere* etc. 123 Rapunsel sings ..Mary, maid withouten wem, Keep me!

(*b*) 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3111 Make not thy soule so wykked a wem To do wykkedness for pryde of hem. *Ibid.* 7446 Þe predde [sin] yn þe werste wem. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. 74, I wot wel, wem ne spot may not abyde there so noble vertue haboundeth. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. xxii. (1859) 26 So clene of wem, that no thyng nedeth the To weyle, ne to wepe thy sinnes fore?

†b. With defining term, as *of sin*, etc. *Obs.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xviii. 14, I sall be withouten wembe [*v. r.* wem] of dedly gilt. *c* 1349 — *Prose Tr.* 38 For in hir [Mary] was full-hede of all vertus with-owttyne weme of synn. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 136 A mayde..Without wommanes wem in-to þis worlde brouhte hym. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11208 (Trin.) Iesu hir childe bar she þore.. Mayden wiþouten wem of flesshe. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 77 Oure Lord Ihesu Crist þat oure lady conceyuet of þe Holy Gost wythout wem of hyr body. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* Prol. 5 Mary..wold not be defylyde With spot nor wem of man. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 8 b, Our lady bare a chylde without any spot or wem of her virginite.

2. Material blemish, defect, injury, or stain. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 Hwon þe gost iwent ut..wiš-ute bruche & wiš-ute wem, of his two huses. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1003 Saffer helde þe secounde stale, þe calsydoyne þenne withouten wemme. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 930 That other bowe was of a plante Withoute wem, I dar warante. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 285 Vppon þat hulle lettres þat were i-write in poudre were i-founde wiþ oute wem [L. *illibate*] at þe 3eres ende. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 4028 Alle herre clothus..were..clene wtout spotte ore wemme. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* ix. 157 Yf hit [water] be cleer apperyng like the skie, Withouten wem or signe of thingis vile. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* ii. 114 A bowe..not marred with knot, gaule, wyndeshake, wem, freate or pynche. 1553 *Respublica* ii. iii. 565 Nale, Honestie will not see a wemme on your Cote. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bæda's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 151 All the clothes, that were about hym, semed.. without wem or any blemish. 1697 C. Beck *Universal Char.* M 3 A wemme, v. *flaw*. 1691 Ray *S. & E.-Country Words*, *Wem*, a small fault, hole, decay, or blemish; especially in cloth, *Essex*. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wem*, a small fretted place in a garment. 1889 *N. W. Line. Gloss.* s. v., I'd no idea that tree was so full o' wems as I've fan it out to be.

†b. Hurt, harm, injury. *Obs.*[-1]

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 76 So grete vengeance he nam of men of holy kirke, þat not did no wem tille him ne no trespas.

†c. *fig.* A break or pause (in time). *Obs.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 43 This scuffling or hopeapp in the darke they had a while without weame or bracke.

3. Bodily blemish, disfigurement, or defect; also, the mark of a bodily injury, a cicatrix, a scar. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6897 Þif..hirevet in eny wemme be ybro3t, Holdeþ hom gulti of þe dede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19721 Men lete him dun Vte ouer þe walles o þe tun, Witvten ani wond or weme. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2460 Þat barn þe best adoun sette Wiþouten eny maneť wem þe worse it to greue. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xii. 5 It shal ben a lombe without-outen wemme [Vulg. *absque macula*]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 231 He schewed opounliche þe wemmes of the sore woundes [L. *vulnerum cicatrices*] þat he hadde i-fonge in Egipt. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 247 Macula is a wem in a mannys ije. 1448–9 Metham *Amorvus & Cl.* 1866 Hole and sound, with-owte wemme off-yowre woundys, Nowe vpryse. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (T 1510) Z iij, If a man..haue a wemme in a lym Shal a man vpbreyde it hym. 1526 R. Whytford *Martilage* 122 b, A martyr slayne by yᵉ swerde, whose holy body..was founde .xl. dayes after his dethe..hole wᵗout wemme. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 90/1 There appeered in his head the signes and prints of ten wounds or more; all the which were growne into one wem. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 463 This is the Glasse Ladies wher-in I woulde haue you..rubbe out the wrinckles of the minde, and be not curious about the weams in the face. *a* 1613 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 196 Although the wound be in some sort healed, yet the wem or scar still remaineth. 1820 Scott *Monast.* x, 'It is even so,' he added,..' neither wem nor wound—not as much as a rent in his frock!'

fig. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. I. 46, I knaw and felis the wemmys and the way Of the ald fyre and flamb of luffis heit. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon, Comp. Rom. Manner of War* X 8 b, You spots and wems of noble Mars [tr. Lipsius *vos maculas et vibices generosi Martis*], which make the warres a refuge and sanctuarie for your villanies.

4. (By confusion with Wen 1.) A raised spot; a protuberance.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 36 b, Theophrast sayth that it [the Cedar tree] is of marveylous highe growth,..about the bodie without wem or knot. 1584 D. Fenner *Def. Ministers* (1587) 123 Wemmes, bunches, and needlesse waightes of fatte. 1610 Donne *Pseudo-Martyr* iv. § 31. 138 The Reformers.. thought to..take off euery Mole, and paire away euery Wemme.

Wem, var. *whem* Whim *sb.*[1]

1769 *Ann. Reg., Nat. Hist.* 101/1 Four horses,..at a common wem or engine, are sufficient to keep the mine clear.

†**Wem,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 wemman, 3 wemmy, 5 wemme; *pa. t.* 1–2 wemde, 4–5 wemmed; *pa. pple.* 3 (*Orm.*) wemmedd, 3 y-, 4 i-, 4–6 wemmed (3 y-wemmed); 3 i-, 4 wemmid, 4–5 wemmyd; 3 i-wemmet, 5 *Sc.* wemmyt; 4 wemed, 6 wembde. [OE. *wemman* (and *gewemman*), f. *wamm* Wam. Cf. Awem *v.* and OHG. *bi-*, *giwemman*, Goth. *anawammjan* to blame.]

1. *trans.* To disfigure, mutilate (a person, his body); to impair (the mind); to injure (a thing).

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xxxii. (1890) 382 Wæs in ðæm mynstre sum ȝeong monn, ðam unwlitiȝ swyle & atolic his eaȝan wyrde & wemde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1426 Ah þæt wes miracle muchel, þæt nowðer nes iwemmet claš þæt ha hafden. *c* 1275 Lay. 6380 Þat þorh his wrabþe his wit was i-wemmid. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6965 Ladeþ me þanne to mi sone, þat he mowe yse Min fet aboue & ek bineþe, wer hii ywemmed be. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22824 If þat ani..Was wemed, or on fote or on hand,..it sal na wem o þam be sene. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 678 Þenne com on fro þe filt þat foule was wemmed, Was striken of þat on Arm and bar hit in þat oþer. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 213 He ordeyned þat a man þat were i-wemmed in his body [L. *vitiatus corpore*] schulde fonge non ordres.

2. To desecrate or violate; to hurt or harm.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelm.) lxxxviii. 31 Ȝyf rihtwisnys min hi wemmaþ [L. *profanaverint*]. *a* 1000 *Ags. Laws* (Thorpe) II. 142 Ȝif he oðres ceorles wif wemme [L. *maculaverit*]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4197, & þe wule he wolde þis tendre þing wemmy foule ynou. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19504 (Fairf.) For god him gette, þat knawes al gode, þat he wemmed neuer saules blode.

3. To spot or stain with sin or impurity.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Alse þe liuendes godes sune in to þe meidene com & ho of hire meiden-had nawiht ne wemde. *c* 1200 Ormin 2326 Sannte Marȝe salh, þatt ȝho þe shollde wurrþenn Wiþþ childe, swa þatt ȝho þerrþurrh Ne shollde nohht ben wemmedd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10021 Hir maidenhad..neuer wemmed was a dele. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 213 Also he seide þat Adam his synn wemmed [L. *lassit*] Adam alone. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. vi. 174 If the hous of Laban hadde be wemmed so curaldil as with the synne of ydolatrie. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (T 1510) G iij b, And she after chylde berynge Shalbe wemmyd of nothynge.

4. To stain; to mark with spots.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxix. (Tollem. MS.) Whan sche [the moon] passeþ upwards to þe heyer cercella, sche is bryȝte and clene; and þan sche semeþ nouȝt wemmid with no spiek and suttynge. 1567 Drant *Horr. Art Poetrie* Ded. ᵃ iij, The verie Crownes and Scepters of best Monarks and princes had bene rustie, wembde, and warpde with oblivion.

Hence †**Wemmed** *ppl. a.*

c 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Margaret*) 697 God forbed þat I With wenemyt [*read* wemmyt] handis sla þe in hy. 1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xii. 15 Other vnclene is were, that is, wemmed and feble, other cleene, that is, hool and withouten wemme.

Wem, obs. form of Wame.

†**Wemay,** *int. Obs.* Also wemo, wemmow. [Cf. We *int.*] An exclamation, app. denoting impatience or surprise.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 148 Wel ·ryn a Wemay, man, I hold the mad! *Ibid.* 198 Wemo, wemo, foure (sheuves), lo, here! *Ibid.* xxvii. 291 *Lucas.* wemmow! where is this man becom?

Wemb(e: see Wame, Wem *sb.* **Wemble,** var. Wamble. **Weme:** see Wame, Wem *sb.* **Wemed, Wemel:** see Wemod, Wamble. **Wemen,** obs. pl. of Woman.

†**We·mless,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wem *sb.* + -less. Cf. Icel. *vammlauss* faultless.]

1. Without stain of sin; undefiled, immaculate.

c 1275 *Orison Our Lord* 10 in *O. E. Misc.* 139 Þo þu hire to come heo mayde wes, And mayde heo wes after wemmeles. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xiv. 2 Lauerd, in þi telde wha sal wone?..Whilke þat incomes wemless, And al wirkes rightwisenes. 13.. *Bonaventure's Medit.* 812 My sone ys alawe here afore myn ye þe whyche y bare wemles of my body. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Swan* 151 Are I þat worthliche wrethe, þat al þis world wrouȝt, Betere is wemles weende of þis world wyde. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Ballad* 104 Minor P. (1911) I. 258 O wemles mayden, enbelysshed with his byrthe.

2. Free from material blemish or imperfection; spotless.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18839 His for-hed fair, wemless to sight, Wit-vten ani runkel slight. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 736 This makelles perle..is wemles, clene & clere. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxvii. (1495) 338 Noo thynge [is] more Impassyble and wemles..than lyght.

3. Free from hurt or harm; uninjured.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7906 He bar hym so in þat pres þat of wounde he was wem-les. *a* 1400 *Mirror St. Edmund* in *Hampole's Wks.* I. 222, I..panke þe þat me..þou hase kepid,..in þis nyghte..hale, safe, and wemles. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4066 [He] wendis a-way with that word & wemles þaim leuys. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 99 Bot thow mend hym that mys .Thow sall rew in thi ruse..Or thou wend of this wane wemeles away!

Wemlock(e, var. forms of Wam-lock.

†**We·mming,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 3 wemmunge, 3–4 wemning(e, -ynge, 4 wemmyne. [f. Wem *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb; defilement; injury.

1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 4317 (Napier 113) *Lenocinii* wemminge. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 19 Alswa deð meidenhad [preserve] meidenes cwike flesch, wiðuten wemmunge halt alle hire limen & hire wittes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11208 Ihesu crist hir barn sco bar,..and maiden neuer less, Wit-vten wemming of hir fless. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6895 [Let them step on red-hot shares] & ȝif hire vet beþ þanne sauf wiþoute wemminge [*v.rr.* wemninge, wemnynge] Grauntep hom alle quit. 1300–1400 *Ibid.* App. XX. 236 Heo ȝaf out þe king & hadde hure broþer wiþoute wemning. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machar*) 201 Angelis..It kepit alyk fare fra wemmyne of þe fyr..oþir in body or in clath.

Wemmow, wemo: see Wemay *int.*

†**Wemod,** *a. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 wéamód, 2–3 wemod, 3 weamod, 4 waymot. *β.* 3 wamed, wemed. [OE. *wéamód*, f. *wéa* affliction, trouble, malice + *-mód*: see Mood *sb.* The *β*-forms may represent an OE. variant **wéamdde*.] Passionate, angry.

a. c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 289 Ongean ðæt sint to manianne ða weamodan & ða grambæran [L. *iracundi*]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne beo þu þeretoure prud ne wilde ne stere ne wemod ne ouer modi. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 118 Pellican is..so weamod & so wrəðful þet hit sleað ofte uor grome his owune briddes..þis pellican is þe weamode ancre. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg., St. George* 690 He is..Proud and wemod, and drinkare: and in wrathþe al-mest wod. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 492 Why art þou so waymot wyȝe for so lyttel?

β. c 1205 Lay. 6368 Of alle þingen heo weore god ȝif heo neore to wamed. A-nan se he wes wraþ wid eni mon i þan stude he hine wolde slæn. 13.. R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. H 25 A knyȝt he was swiþe god, ac to wemed of ynou.

Wempel, -pill, obs. forms of Wimple.

Wen[1] (wen). Forms: 1 wenn, wenn, 2 wean, 4, 7–8 wenn, 5–7 wenne, 4– wen. [OE. *wen*(*n*, *wænn*(*n* = Du. *wen*, WFlem. *wan*, app. related to MLG. *wene* (1403), LG. *wehne*, *wöhne* tumour, wart; the ultimate etym. is obscure.]

1. †*a.* A lump or protuberance on the body, a knot, bunch, wart. *Obs.* b. *Path.* A sebaceous cystic tumour under the skin, occurring chiefly on the head.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 34 Wiþ wenne on eagon genim þa holan cersan [etc.]. *Ibid.* III. 46 Ȝif men synd wennas gewunod on þæt heafod foran oððe on ða eagan. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 420/2 *Impetigo*, eagan wenn. *c* 1440 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 8 In doynge awey þat is to myche skyn: as wertis or wennys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wenne, *verucca*,..*gibbus*. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 792/7 *Hic gibbus*, a wenne. 1545 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 57 As he that wolde haue slaine Prometheus, wounded his wenne with his swoorde, whereby he was healed of that disease. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. ii. 72 The seede of Darnell..consumeth wens, hard lumps, and such like excrescence in any part of the body. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 997 It would be tried, with Cornes and Wennes, and such other Excrescences. 1672 Wiseman *Treat. Wounds* II. ii. 20, I saw the Bullet lye like a small Wen or Scrophul, thrusting out under the Skin. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 59 P 4 Cicero, who was so called from the Founder of his Family, that was marked on the Nose with a little Wen like a Vetch. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 290 Others..fewer exhalations.. will merely be deformed with wens and swellings about the joints. 1819 Keats *Otho* II. ii, Erminia has my shame fixed upon her, sure as a wen. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xi, A tall, meagre man, with a nose like a wen. 1884 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 4) I. iii. 188 The acquired sebaceous ..are more common on the head and ñ than elsewhere..; when on the scalp they are known as '..ns'.

Comb. 1886 Winter *Sea. Rose* 200 That cabinet of v like

c. Applied to the swelling on the throat characteristic of goitre. Also *Comb.*

1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Wenne in the throte, *gouesytre, gouistre.* 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 67 The men and women have great wens upon their throats, with drinking the waters that passe the Mines. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Apr. 1646 (Alps). People having monstrous gullets or wenns of fleshe growing to their throats. 1830 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* I. v. 204 Others who have unseemly wens on the throat, as large as cocoa-nuts. 1832 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 111 The wen-necked women.

d. An excrescence or tumour on the body of a horse.

1559 in *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 133 One grey nagge with a wen in his side. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xxviii. 788 For the wen [Fr. *loupe*], open it when you shal perceiue it to be full of matter. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 19, I hired a Horse.., she had two wens as big as clusters of Grapes hung over both her eyes. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1240/4 A black Coach Horse.., a wen upon the far foot behind. 1845 W. C. SPOONER *Veterinary Art* 77 Wens are oval or round bodies, found floating loosely under the skin.

† e. An excrescence on a tree. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Molluscum*, the wenne of a tree. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 108 With this wood [Maple] tables are coueredand other fine workes made, specially of the knobbes or wennes that growe out of it. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 330, I think those of eight or ten Inches circumference to grow better than smaller ones, provided the Bark be smooth, tender and void of Wens. 1785 T. TAYLOR in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 88 One old oak..had a kind of excrescence or wen upon it,..its semicircle was thirty-two feet. 1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 66 And aldes embosst With prominent wens globose.

f. transf. and *fig.*

Sometimes applied *spec.* to London; cf. quots. 1783, 1821.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. ii. 113 *Prince.* I do allow this Wen [Falstaff] to bee as familiar with me, as my dogge. 1640 BASTWICK *Lord Bps.* iv. D 2 b, They are not the Body it selfe of the Church, but wennes, or swellings grown up, and..incorporated into the Body. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 12 Saint Michaels Mount..is a barren stony little wen or wart. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref. ** 2 b, This Digression of ours..is no Wen, or Excrescency, in the Body of this Book; but a Natural and Necessary Member thereof. 1763 in *Eliz. Carter's Lett.* 3 Sept. (1809) III. 118 This hot weather makes me languid...In Stoic language, I feel myself to be a wen. 1783 TUCKER *Four Lett. Nat. Subj.* iii. 43 If..the Increase of Building [in London].. was looked upon to be no better than a Wen, or Excrescence, in the Body Politic. 1821 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) I. 32 But what is to be the fate of the great wen of all? The monster, called..'the metropolis of the empire'? 1844 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) II. 6 Locke at once applies the knife to those huge wens of 'ontology'..which had so long impoverished..philosophy. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* iii, Port of Spain would be such another wen upon the face of God's earth as..the city of Havanna.

† 2. A spot, blemish, stain. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.* (Confused with WEM *sb.*)

1340 *Ayenb.* 262 Þis boc is y-mad..Ham uor to berze uram alle manyere sen þet ine hare inwytte ne bleue no uoul wen. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxviii. (1495) 720 The rote [of the wylde vyne] sod in reyne water and medlyd wyth wyne dooth awaye wennes [L. *maculas*]. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xxii. 22 Yf it be blynde, or broken, or wounded, or haue a wen..they shal offre none soch vnto the Lorde. 1552 HULOET, Wenne or fleshe spotte, *nevus.* *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* I. v. 18 Not one wen in her body could I spie.

Wen[2] (wen). [a. OE. *wen* var. of *wyn* WIN *sb.*[2]] The name of the Old English runic letter ƿ (= w) and of the manuscript form of this (þ p) in Old and early Middle English.

c 1300 *McClean MS.* in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1912) VI. 442 Wen. þ. Pimman. Þepman. Ponie. 1705 WANLEY *Antiq. Lit. Septentr.* Pref. † b a, Quod a Runicis Thorn and Wen clauditur. 1758 WISE *Some Eng. Europe* 145 Ð þ, Th or Thorn, and þ ƿ, W or Wen, are of Northern growth. 1884 EINENKEL *Life St. Kath.* 125 The scribe took the *wên* of his original for a *þorn*. 1907 J. E. WELLS *Owl & Nightingale* 3 In a number of places *thorn* is dotted, and so is like *wen*.

Wen: see WEEN *sb.* and *v.*, WHEN, WHENNE.

† **Wenbote**, var. WAINBOTE. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 83 Debet habere wenbote, scilicet, unum quodque plaustrum, unum lignum. *Ibid.* 96, 133.

Wench (wenʃ), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 wenche, (4 weynche, 5 wenge, 6 wenshe, whence), 4– wench; *Sc.* 6 winsch, wynch, vinche, 8–9 winch. [ME. *wenche*, shortened form of early ME. *wenchel*: see WENCHEL.]

1. a. A girl, maid, young woman; a female child. Now *dial.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg., St. Kath.* 75 Nou is þis..gret schame ..to sende a-boute..After þe grettiste Maistres, for-to despuyti a-3en a fol wenche. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxvii. 27 Bifor come princes samened to singand þar, In midde wenches of timpans war. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1901 William & his worþi wenche [*sc.* Melior, his betrothed] þan were bilþe of þe help. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 59 Crist came to þe hous of þis prince þat þe wenche lay deed inne. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 202 Then cryed þe fende and sayde: 'Alas,..al my myzt ys lorne, now such a 3eong wenche hath ouercomen me'. 1529 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 25 Than we wyll have lytell Nell, A proper wenche, she daunceth well. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par., Luke* I. 57, 58 To whom it had been an happie chaunce to haue brought foorth a wenche, but a muche more luckie happe it was, to haue brought foorth a sconne. 1586 in Wadley *Bristol Wills* (1886) 250 If my wief be with Child whether it bee a Boye or a wenche I doe geve and bequeath vnto yt xx^li. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 36 Prythee how many Boyes and Wenches must I haue. 1648 CROMWELL *Let. to Norton* 3 Apr., The money I shall need for my two little Wenches; and thereby I shall free my Son from being charged with them. 1665 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 33 One Mr. John Vicaridg his child (a wench) of 11 years old. 1787 BURNS *Let. W. Nicol* 1 June, A clean-shankit, strae tight, weel-far'd winch. 1820 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. ii, 'It seems a bit of a pity, though', said Mr. Tulliver, 'as the lad should take after the mother's side i'stead o' the little wench'. 1892 CROCKETT *Men of Moss Hags* xl. 287 For she was ever the most spirity wench in the world.

b. A girl of the rustic or working class.

1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 145 She was but a milkmaide, and a plaine cuntrie wench. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 12 She to her gan call,..But the rude wench her answer'd nought at all. 1600 SHELTON *2nd Pt. Quix.* II. 59 Seeing none but the three wenches, he was somewhat troubled. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. Pope* 2 Apr., These wenches [daughters of Greek gardeners]..pass their time at their looms. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* V, His taste lies amongst country wenches.

c. As a familiar or endearing form of address; used chiefly in addressing a daughter, wife, or sweetheart. Now only *dial.* or *arch.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 97 [Juno to Pallas] Go we my wench, and let vs shew this disarde here at ful, What power ..we two haue. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, IV. ii. 167 [Katharine to Patience, her woman.] When I am dead, good Wench, Let me be vs'd with Honor. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* li, 'I fear ye lie, wench,' said her father. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* iii, Thou'lt have enough to do and to bear, poor wench, to-morrow. 1896 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 1056 The mother held her tight, Saying..'Why wench, why wench, The squire speaks to you now'. 1889 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 189 Of course it annoyed me, wench, to see Frank so obstinate.

2. A wanton woman; a mistress. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

More explicitly *common, light*, or *wanton wench, wench of the stews.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 51 Ermytes on an hep wiþ hoteide stawes, Wenten to Walsyngham & here wenchis after. 1377 *Ibid.* B. xix. 433 Wenches of þe stuwes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 958, I am a gentil womman and no wenche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 263 Envie..Is of the Court the comun wenche. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 3360 Kyng Edgarus doustere yche wene he was, Y-kete bot vpon a wenche. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 970 Vpon these beestes rydynge, Naked boyes strydynge, With wanton wenches winkyng. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxiii. 16 Take thy lute (saie men to her) and go aboute the citie, thou art yet an vnknowne wensche. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 55 Nay, she is worse, she is the diuels dam; And here she comes in the habit of a light wench. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. B 2, A lodging of your prouiding? to bee cal'd a Lieutenants, or a Captaines wench! 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Aug., Find my wife mightily out of order, and reproaching of Mrs. Pierce and Knipp as wenches, and I know not what. 1698 [see LIG-BY]. 1763 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* (ed. 7) I. iv. 65 His spendthrift Son, who spurns the portion'd Bride, And keeps a common Wench. 1782 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 8 May, Chief Justice —, who loved a wench, summed up favourably, and she was acquitted.

3. A female servant, maidservant, serving-maid; also † handmaid, † bondwoman.

1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 861 Thy neyzboris howe, wenche ne knaue Coueyte hem noȝt. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 206 Lord and lady, grome and wenche Of al the Troyan nacioun. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 74 As God bad bi Sara, Kast out þe wench and her son. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 89 He [Peter] that for a worde of a wenche forsoke hym. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xiv. 66 There cam won of the wenches off the hyest preste. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 27 He determined to send one of the wenches to call her maister. 1659–60 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Mar., My wife was late making of caps for me, and the wench making of a pair of stockings. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 248 P 5 The Wench in the Kitchen sings and scowers from morning to night. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. iv. 19 O! said she, if the wench, (for so she calls us maiden-servants,) takes care of herself she'll improve. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 26 P 3 Scarcely a wench was to be got for *all work*. 1819 SCOTT *Bride Lamm.* vi, It is the wench of the house clattering to the well in her pattens. 1843 LEFEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. 8, I..was informed by a dirty looking wench who opened the door, that the young ladies were gone. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* III. viii, Tea..is brought out to them, in an arbour overlooking the stream, by a stout wench.

attrib. 1552 HULOET, Wenche seruaunte, *ancilla*...A.. maid seruaunte, or pore wenche seruaunt.

b. *U.S.* (See quots.)

1765 *Boston Gazette* 27 June (Thornton) 'Tis said the Fire was occasioned by a Negro Wench carrying a Quantity of Ashes. 1828–32 WEBSTER *Wench.* 3. In America, a black or colored female seryant; a negress. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 1891 *Century Dict., Wench.* 3 (*c*) A colored woman of any age; a negress or mulattress, especially one in service. (Colloq.)

4. Comb.: **wench-like** *a.*, girlish.

1552 HULOET, Wenche lyke, *puellaris.* 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 230 Do not play in Wench-like words with that Which is so serious.

Wench (wenʃ), *v. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. WENCH *sb.*] *intr.* To associate with common women.

† *To wench out* (time): to spend (it) in wenching.

1599 PORTER *Two Angry Wom. Abingdon* H 1, Indeed tis true, I am thus late a wenching, But I am forc'st to wench without a wench. *c* 1624 CHAPMAN *Hymn to Hermes* 324 'Tis better here to Imitate the Gods, And wine or wench out all times Periods. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* i. (1906) 20 To be drunke, sweare, wench..are the attributes and markes now adayes of a great part of our Gentry. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* IV. ii. As I am a Gentleman, a man of the Town, one who weare good Cloathes, Eates, Drinks, and Wenches abundantly. 1722 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* IV. ii, Sir, I never saw a Man that wench'd soberly and discreetly, that ever left it off. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IX. i. (Rtldg.) 321 Tell me where Signor de Santillane is fallible. Is he fond of play? does he wench?

† **Wenchel.** *Obs.* Forms: 1, 3 wencel, (1 winœl), 3 wenchell, (*Orm.* wenchell), wancel. [OE. *wencel* n.:—**wankil-*, prob. related to *wancol* WANKLE *a.* The form *wincel* may represent a variant **winkil-*.] A child (of either sex); also, a servant or slave; also, a common woman.

c 890 WERFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 21/20, & þa arn an wencel [L. *mancipium*] mid treowenum seocne..to þære wyllan. *c* 1000 *St. Basil's Admonitio* ii. (1849) 34 And he for his wife ne for his wenclum ne dearr hine sylfne beiddian. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3356 Forr 3uw iss borenn nu to dazz Haelennde off 3ure sinness, An wennchell þatt iss Jesu Crist. *c* 1205 LAY. 31834 Quelenn þa wifmen, quelen þa wanclen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 334 And hu [he] biseinte Sodome & Gomorre, men & wummen & children [*MSS. T, C*, were & wif & wenchel]. *c* 1300 *11,000 Virg.* 98 in *E.E.P.* 68 His Cardynals were þeras3en þat he his dignete gan reuse Wiþ wenclen [*S. Eng. Leg.* 89/96 fole wummen] forto go.

Wencher (we·nʃəɹ). Also 7 wentcher. [f. WENCH *v.* + -ER[1].] One who associates with common women.

1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 8 Those I suspected to be wenchers. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* I. i, I am a whoremaster, And such a one as dare be..pointed at to be a noble wencher. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table Talk, Clergy* P 5 Like the Fellow that was a great Wentcher. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 29 July, My cosen Roger told us..that the Archbishop of Canterbury, that now is, do keep a wench, and that he is as very a wencher as can be. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* II. vii. 76 He must be..no Gamester, Wencher, Fopp. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 274 P 2 Impotent Wenchers.

Wenching (we·nʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WENCH *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb: also *attrib.*

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. x. II. 545 Given he was exceedingly to wenching. *c* 1620 FLETCHER *False One* IV. ii, You were told what this same whorson wenching long agoe would come to. 1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* II. i, Love alone, is either plain wenching, where every Curtizan is your Mistriss,..or else..plain whining after one Woman. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 P 5 [They asked] whether he was not ashamed to go a Wenching at his Years? 1778 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* II. i, Between ourselves, he is most confoundedly given to wenching. 1821 BYRON *Hints fr. Horace* 706 The youth who trains..Must bear privations..Be call'd to labour when he thinks to dine, And, harder still, leave wenching and his wine. 1873 L. O. PIKE *Hist. Crime* I. 93 In reality the Priest took to Money-getting and Wenching. *attrib.* 1590 *Tarlton's Newes Purgatorie* 5 And some I can tell you haue come thither for wenching matters. 1592 *Def. Conny catching* in *Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) XI. 62, I omit Miles the Millers cossenage for wenching affaires. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* IV. i. E 3 b, I hope you thinke my wenching daies are past.

Wenching, *ppl. a.* [f. WENCH *v.* + -ING[2].] That habitually associates with common women.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. iv. 35 Whats become of the wenching rogues? 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 268 To Wenching Smell-smocks give I these. 1913 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Oct. Suppl. p. iv/1 Fox was himself a gambling, drinking, wenching.. rascal.

Wenchless, *a. rare*[—1]. [f. WENCH *sb.* + -LESS.] Unprovided with a wench or wenches.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. ii. 5 Mettelyne is full of gallants, wee lost too much money this mart by beeing too wenchlesse.

Wencus, obs. Sc. form of VANQUISH *v.*

Wend (wend), *sb.* Also Vend; 8 Winde. [ad. G. *Wende, Winde* (pl. *Wenden, Winden* = Da. *Vender*, ON. *Vindr*, OHG. *Winida*, OE. *Winedas, Weonod-*, med. L. *Venedi, Veneti*), of doubtful origin.]

1. A member of the Slavonic race now inhabiting Lusatia in the east of Saxony, but formerly extending over Northern Germany; a Sorb.

1786 tr. *J. R. Forster's Hist. Voy. North* 101 *note*, The Vandals mentioned here, are indubitably the Wends, or that tribe of the Sclavonians which opposed the Moguls and the Tartars. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 700/1 (*Austria*), The Windes, who are mixed with the Germans in these countries. 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 340 The Vends are a well-made, strong, courageous, and industrious people. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 206/2 The language of the Vends.. dates its first literature from the Reformation. 1862 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages* 155 Canute was still unable to subdue the Wends, who..made the Baltic a Slavonian lake. 1886 BARING-GOULD *Germany* xliii. 264 Henry I. had created the Margravate of Brandenburg as a bulwark against the heathen Wends, who lived on the Baltic.

2. *Southern Wends*: (see quot.).

1822 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. V. 242 In 640, the Sclavonians took possession of Illyria,..and they still retain it, under the names of Servians, Croatians, and Southern Wends. *Ibid.*, The southern Wends..are now mixed with Germans in Carniola, Carinthia, and Lower Stiria.

Wend (wend), *v. Pa. t.* and *pa. ppl.* wended (we·ndĕd). Forms: *Infin.* a. 1 wendan (*North.* wœnda), 2 wenden (wenden), 3–4 wenden (3 *Ormin* wendenn), 5 wendyn, *Sc.* wendin; 3–6 wende (4 whende), 4–5 *north.* and *Sc.* vend, 4–wend; 3 *sing. pres.* 1–4 went (2 want); β. 3 wiende, 4–5 weende, *north.* and *Sc.* 4–5 weind, weynd, 5 weynde; γ. 4 winde, wind, 5 wynde, wynd; δ. 4–6 went. *Pa. t.* 1–4 wende (3 *Ormin* wennde); 2 wente (wante), 4–5 wente, 4–went (5 whent); *north.* 4 weint, 4–5 wynt; 6–wended (5 *north.* weyndut). *Pa. ppls.* 1 gewend, 3–4 iwend, 4 ywend, -e (wende), 3–5 wend (3 *Ormin* wennd); 2 i-want, 3–5 i-, iwent, went, wente, 4 y-, ywent, 5 i-wente; *Sc.* 6 wynt: 1, 4, 6– wended. [Common Teutonic:

OE. *wendan*, = OFris. *wenda* (WFris. *weine*, *wine*, NFris. *wên*, *wên*), MDu. (and Du.) *wenden*, OS. *wendian* (MLG. and LG. *wenden*, LG. *wennen*), OHG. *wentan* (MHG. and G. *wenden*), ON. and Icel. *venda* (Norw. *venda*; Sw. *vända*, Da. *vende*), Goth. *wandjan*; f. **wand-*, the preterite stem of *windan* WIND *v.*[1], of which *wendan* is the causative. The original forms of the pa. t. and pa. pple. are respectively *wende* and *wended*, *wend*, but the forms *wente*, *went* appear beside these from *c* 1200, and latterly become the more usual; in the refl. and intr. senses *went* finally replaced the older preterites belonging to *go*, and from *c* 1500 is most naturally regarded as the pa. t. of that verb, while *wend* was provided with the new form *wended*.

The following are illustrations of the less usual forms of the infinitive and present. The *β*-forms represent a normal lengthening of the vowel in certain dialects. The *γ*-forms are merely graphic (by confusion with WIND v.[1]), as the rhymes regularly indicate *wênd* or *wend*. The *δ*-form is due to the influence of the pa. t. and pa. pple. in the form *went(e*.

β. c 1290 *St. Silvester* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 391 To-nizht þou schalt..wiende to þe pine of helle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3363 ȝee sal weind til a better land. 13.. *Northern Passion* 198 (Camb.) Vnto þat cite sone gan þai weynd. 1386 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 171 Elles schal al dye, and to helle weende. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 450 Thow weyndez by Watlyng-strette, and by no waye elles. 1421 HOCCLEVE *Minor P.* xxii. 561 On my behalue to thy lady weende [*rhymes* seende = send]. *c* 1480 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 132 Good brother, let vs weynd sone.

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3364 Til vnwelth windes al his wald. *Ibid.* 8019 Haf god-dai, for nov wind i. *a* 1400 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 805 (MS. B.) þat ich was wond to wynde Mid so mony hondred knyztes a boute in eche ende. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5014 (Ashm.), I warne þe, or I wynd. *Ibid.* 2150, 2177, etc. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 107 He takythe leve at lorddys hend, And on hys way gan he wynd. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* i. 330 To hys blys that ye may wynd At your last day.

δ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27748 It wentes man fra godd his will. *Ibid.* 28681 þou fand..all for to went his will. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 237 And thi Ferrand..Sall richt to Paris went. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2027 When þai sal went in cuntre. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* i. 330 Scho prayde he wald to the lord Persye went. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 75 Thow seruis better for to haue punischement,..nor halie gaitis to went.]

I. Transitive and reflexive senses.

1. †a. To alter the position or direction of; to turn (something) round or over: also with *across*, *adown*, *away*. *To wend down*: to overthrow, destroy. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i. § 2 Þa wendon hi me heora bec to. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 191 Petrus cwæþ, þa he com to þære ġeþe,..'Wendaþ min heafod ofdune'. *a* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 16 Cleem ȝonne on arfæt; læt standan nyȝon niht; wende man ælce dæȝe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vi. 29 And þam ðe þe slyhð on þin ȝewenge, wend oðer onȝean. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 377/18 *Convoluens*, wendende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hie wenden þe eorðe & wurpen god and þaronne. *c* 1205 LAY. 46 Lazamon leide þeos boc & þa leaf wende [*c* 1275 torude]. *Ibid.* 26539 Bos..his hors wende wunder ane swiðe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 Louerd, seiȝ Dauid, wend awei mine eien vrom þe worldes dweole. *Ibid.* 430 He..went þe neruwe ende of þe horne to his owune mube. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1649 Iacob wiȝ hire wente ðat ston. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lx. 7 Þair cites doune dide þou wende. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 711 (Add. MS.) Here moubes were to here nek went. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2152 Bi þat þe wyȝe in the wod wendez his brydel. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxxii. (1495) 646 Heye is ofte reysed torned and wended. *Ibid.* cxlvii. 702 It falleth to powder while it is tornyd and wende and kneden in the honde. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2837 They made hir takelyng redy, & wend þe saill a-cros. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 23 And yf the rayn bishoure, Wende hit [hay] not til hit be parfit drie. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1349 Bors de gawnes stille stode And wrothe a-way hys yȝen wente.

absol. 1475 *Partenay* 6566 Ho it metre will,..Be it in balede, uers, Rime, or prose, He most torn and wend. metrely to close.

†b. *fig.* To turn over, revolve (thoughts, etc., in the mind). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98, & ȝet hwon he is forðe, heo went in hire þuhte ofte swuche wordes.

†c. *To wend away*, to take away, remove. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2613 Egipte wimmen..boden ðe childe letten ðer, Oc [3]he wente it awei wiȝ rem. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 42 Oway I will it wende full wyght. *Ibid.* 46 Now sene þe erthe þus ordand es,..to growe with gres, and wedis þat sone away base went.

d. *Naut.* To turn (a ship's bow or head) to the opposite tack. Also with *about*, *aloof*. (Cf. 6 c below, and WIND *v.*[1] 8.)

To wend (a boat) *off*: to float (a stranded boat) by this operation.

1598 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* lvii. 206 Better wende your ship a loofe: and take sea roome: Then roon here on rockes. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* XXXIV. 84 And laying out an Anchor, we sought to wend her off. 1672 PELLHAM *Gods Power* 6 Some of our companie..were perswaded, to wend about the Boates head the second time, unto the Southwards. *Ibid.* 7 We wended the Shallop..unto the Northward. 1675 *Adm. Court Exam.* 52, 22 Oct., The Neptune being then newly wended from the Sheare. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.*, *Wending*, is a term for bringing a Ships' Head about. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xliv, He hauled-to the launch, and wending her how to the privateer, directed her carronade..to where the Frenchmen were crowded the thickest. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

†2. *fig.* a. To turn (one's mind, thoughts, will, etc.) in a new direction; to alter (one's mind or intention). Const. *from*, *to*. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 4 Ic wolde nu þæt ðu wende þin inġeþonc from þæm leasum ġesælðum. *Ibid.* xxxv. § 7 Swa hwa swa..his mod went to ðæm yflum ðe he er forlet. *c* 1205 LAY. 8836 Nu ich wulle wende mi mod, æȝnes uuel ich wulle don god. *c* 1290 *St. Kath.* 26 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 92 Sire, heo seide,..þov scholdest þi wisdom and þi wit to some guode wende. *c* 1290 *Beket* 998 *Ibid.* 135 All we worþez i-brouȝt to nouȝte, bote þov þi þouȝt wende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10646 Al hir might and all hir tent To godds seruis had sco went. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7807 Anon tys wif his wille he went. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 235 If hire lord his herte wente To love in eny other place.

†b. To turn (a person) *to* or *from* a course of life or condition; to alter (a person's will or purpose). *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 3442 Forrþi þatt he þeȝȝm wollde þa To rihhte læfe wendenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 110 Forte wenden us uromard þe licunge þet flesches lustes askeð. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 693 To wenden men fro godes read, To newe luue and to newe dred. 13.. *Cursor M.* 24804 (Gött.) þaa þat he had na giftes till, wid hightes faire he went þair will. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 194 My broþer..Is riche of tenement, his sonnes strong & stith, þer wille wille not be went.

†3. a. To change the character of; to alter. *Obs.* Rarely also with adj. complement.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 730 [758] Þy læs þa tydran mod þa ġewitnesse wendan þurfe. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 He..makede mani weorkes & wende þe tun betere þan it er was. *c* 1205 LAY. 7128 Þe uncuðe weoren.. wenden heore [*sc.* the burghs'] nomen. *c* 1230 *Juliana* 38 Ant he wende heowes & warð swuch as he her wes unwiht of helle. *c* 1290 *St. Kenelm* 60 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 347 Þe king of kent was þo kyng of al þe londe of kent, þat weren inne tweis bischoprichas, and þeot nis it nouȝt i-went. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 144 That sche ne mai..speke a word, ne ones loke, That he [a spy] ne wol it wende and croke And torne after his oghne entente.

†b. To 'turn' from one language into another; to translate. Const. *on* (= into), *till* (= to). *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* Prol. 7 Ða ongan ic..ða boc wendan on Englisc. ?*c* 900 — *Boeth.* Proem, Ælfred kuning wæs wealhstod ðisse bec, & hie of boclædene on englisc wende. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 113 ȝiff mann wile witenn..Whi icc till Ennglisash hafe wennd Goddspelless hallȝhe lare.

†c. To change the form or nature of; to transform, transmute, or turn *to*, *into*. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 168 Ȝif ðu Godes Sunu ey, wend þas stanas to hlafum and et. *a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxiii. 8 He wendeð stan on widne mere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 Þer, þurh hire bone, was water iwend to wine. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1464 (Cott.) þat child bi me hit understond An his unred to red went. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 90 Selcuþ dude vre dryhtin þat he water wende to win. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Cambr. MS.) 470 Þanne is mi þralhod Iwent in to knihthod. 1340 *Ayenb.* 60 Hi alle..wendeþ to guode al þet þe guodeman deþ oþer zayþ. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 2132 Þourȝ har chauntement To worme þey hadde me went.

†d. To bring (into a certain state). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2896 Louered, qui was ic hider sent? Sin folc is more in sorwe went.

†4. *refl.* To turn, direct, or betake (oneself). Freq. with advs. or preps. *Obs.*

Orig. in purely reflexive use, with the accusative of the pronoun, which is subsequently replaced by the dative.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 1 Ic wolde..ðæt wit unc wenden sume hwile to þises folces sprece. *c* 893 — *Oros.* III. vii. § 4 [He] hiene siþþan wende on his þrie ȝebroðor. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894 Þa se cyning hine þa west wende. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xlii. 24 He wende hine lithwon fram him and weop. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6576 þatt sume off ure little flocc.. Hemm wendenn oþerr stund fra Crist. *Ibid.* 11390 Forrþrihht se Jesuss fulihtnedd wass, He wennde him inntill weaste. *c* 1205 LAY. 24177 Wend þe hider Howeldin..haue þu Bulune. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 18 Þer efter wendeð ou to vre Leafdi onlicnesse, and cneoleð mid fif aues. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 87 Þo kinges hem wenten and hi segen þo sterre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5693 Þir wimmen went þam ham a-gain. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. xii. (1868) 107 He wente hym to þe houses of helle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 238 And fro his lond with Sail updrawe Thei wente hem forth. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 30 He went hym to þe kyng henry, & hym swith besoght [etc.]. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 11/2 He thought long yer he could wend himselfe ouer into Ireland. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 263, I know it stands us upon to wend us hence assoone as we conveniently can.

†b. *lit.* of a vane: To revolve (*with* the wind). 1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Hi byeþ ase þe wederccoc þet is ope þe steple, þet him went mid eche wynde.

II. Intransitive senses.

†5. Of events, etc., or impers. with *it*: To have or take a certain course; to take place, happen, or come about. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1739 Ac him eal woruld wendeð on willan. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 2 Ac ic wundrie swiðe swiðlice forhwi hit swa went swa hit nu oft deð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9400 Cuþeþ to day þoure manhade þat it mowe wende To þou & to þoure children to honour wiþouten ende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18789 Bot godd for-bede sua þat it weind, þat we vr sa mak of ur freind. 23.. *Ibid.* 7660 (Gött.) Þare mani a man fel vnder schild, Bot wid dauid went þe feld. 1340 *Ayenb.* 262 Nou ich wille þet ye ywyte hou hit is y-went þet þis boc is y-write mid engliss of kent. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. pr. 180 For so is þis worlde went wiþ hem þat han powere That who-so seyth hem sothes is somest yblamed. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 276 If myn happ were so well went, That for the hole I mihte have half. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2264 Then Beryn..seid, 'is this a sermon or a parchement? Yee nat wont her-to, how is this I-went'

6. †a. *To wend again*: to turn back, to return. *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.*

In OE. also without adv., and with *on hus*.

O. E. Chron. an. 895 Þa hie ðe oft ut of Norð Wealum wendon mid þære here hyðe þe hie ðær genumen hæfdon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xvii. 31 And se ðe bið on mosre ne went he on-bec. *Ibid.* xxiv. 33 And hig arisen..& wenden [*c* 1160 *Hatton* wenten] to hierusalem. *c* 1205 LAY. 1390 He wende on þaan sone & be obtliche feaht. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 979 An angel..bad hire sone wenden agen. *Ibid.* 3724 We wilen..wenden in-to egipte agen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3027 Þai went again to bersabee. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 1867 (Fairf.) Agayne he dide þe waters wende, þe ship on lande bigan to lende. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 137 Wende þou ayeyne, malkedras, & gete me þe cheynes.

†b. Of the wind: To change in direction. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 9407 Þe wind wende forð riht framward þan stronden in to þissen londe. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 703 And sente.. For to seke Gamelyn..To telle him tydinges how the wind

†c. *Naut.* Of a ship: To turn her head about (see 1 d above). *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 91 Wateres..ȝware bi þe salpes mowe come fram þe se & wende And bringe alonde god inoȝ. 1330 PALSGR. 779/2, I wende, I turne, as a shyppe dothe with the tyde. 1337 *Adm. Court Oyer & Term.* 73. No. 38 The said wood hoye..dyd wende abowte for to cum to an anker. *a* 1609 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* (1657) 32 About me the Gallions let slip Cable in the haulse, and with their top sails wended and drew towards the shore on the left hand of the Bay. *a* 1618 RALEGH *Observ. Royal Navy* (1650) 9 The lesser [ship] will turne her broad sides twice, before the greater can wend once. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* Wks. III. 65 East and by South, West and by North she wends. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* s. v. *Wending*,..They say, How wends the Ship? i. e. Which way does her Head lie?

†7. To turn from one condition or form to another; to change *to* or *into*. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* lv. Forþan went nu fulneah eall moncyn on tweonunga, ȝif [etc.]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 248 Ponne ne magon þas þing helpan for þon ðe þæt wilc wendan os water bollan. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 321 (Lucifer) Wente in to a wirme, and todo eue a tale. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 His blode..waxus dri and cald, Til vnwelth windes [*v. r.* wendis] al his wald. 1340 *Ayenb.* 6 Þe wone is kueaduol and may wel wende to zenne dyadliche bot yef him ne loki. *Ibid.* 69 þet him zsolde by triacle, to him went in to uenym. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 208 Wo in-to wel mowe wende atte laste. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 153 Be-holde thy-Selfe, that thow arte Erthe and into Erthe thow shalte wende. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 11 Must not the world wend in his commun course From good to bedd, and from badde to worse?

†8. Of persons: To turn in thought or purpose *to* or *from* (a person, course of action, etc.); to betake oneself (*to* something different); to change or vary one's purpose. Said also of the heart. *Obs.*

For further illustration see 17 a.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xlii, Forðæm hit nis no unnet þæt we hopien to Gode, forðæm he ne went no swa swa we doð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Euer so þe wittes beoð more ispreinde utwardes, se heo lesse wendst inwardes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3310 Oc horedom ðat ðu ne do, Ne wend no lecherie to. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1705 From him ne mithe [might] his herte wende, Ne fro him, ne fro his wif. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23049 (Edin.) [They] went vnto religioun, And did þair bodis in prison. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 804 For ȝe ben cousaltouse kid & kunne nouht blinne, But suere wenden to winne wordliche godus. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 313 Þair-for of þam I spek no fare, Bot to þe first I wend o-gayn. 1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 132 b, Can plague nor payne Make you refrayne, Nor from wickednes wende? 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 35 Christ..To saif vs is ful playabill, Gif we repent and to him wend.

†9. To turn round, over, or from side to side; to turn or twist the body. *Obs.*

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Nihtes when y wende ant wake. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8197 When þey [the dragons] hadde longe to-gyder smyten,..Wyppyng wyþ wenges, ouer-wepen & went. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 43 Forthi may no certeinete Be set upon his iugement, Bot as the whiel aboute went He yifth his graces undeserved. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5903 In on estat ne myght he noght sogourn; Here on bakke laide, efte the bely vppon, Torning and wendyng euer enuiron. 15.. *Schole Ho. Women* 1014 in Hasl. *E. P.* IV. 115 Rub a scald horse vpon the gall, And he wil bite, wins and went. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. *vj, [Wrestlers] haue..certain suer poinctes and wayes bothe to catche holde, and also to wend out of holde. 1562 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 4 He wendeth and waltereth, and happely his head and fete do mete together. *fig.* *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 287 Hir daunger made him boþe bowe and beende, And as hir lyste made him tourne and wende.

†b. *To wend to ground*, to fall from one's horse. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 302 What yf grace be [that] we to grownde wenden?

10. To go off, away, or out; to depart. Also with preps., as *into*, *to*, *from*, or *to* with *inf.* Now *arch.*

In later use not clearly distinguishable from sense 13.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXV. 425 Oð þæt hi onmeowen þæt se cena iudas him wið-feohtende wæs and wendon ða to horsum. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 Ihc wile turnen ageo to mine huse þe ich er ut of wende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 162 As ofte as ich euer was, be seiß, among men, ich wende from ham [*L. recessi*] leasse mon þen ich er was. *c* 1250 *Beket* 840 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 Þo þov wendest of his seruise he ne Axede þe no-þing. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 860 Wen Adam sagh he had misdon He went to hide him al-eon. *Ibid.* 14186 Yee sal Vnto Iade weind wit me na. 1386 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 120, I..askede hire þe helpe wey wher Clergye dwelleþ..Ne tyme is þat I wende. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 21 In Southwerk at the Tabard as I lay Redy to wenden on my pilgrymage. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2493 Thare salle wende to this vnge sir Gawayne hym selfene. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 523 In soth, quod he, I will nat fro þe dorre wend.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 246, & pere for withe owten longer delay he made althinge Redy for to wende. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) X j b, Whan the soule at the ende Shal out fro the body wende. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 80, I may not wende out of my lande, for mine awne sonnes will rise against me, when I were absent. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 130 Wend you with this Letter. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xx, Wend on your way, in the name of God and St. Dunstan. 1879 Butcher & Lang *Odyss.* 11 To the end that after thou hast bathed..thou mayst wend to the ship Joyful in spirit.

b. with advs., as *away, out, hence.*

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1030 Se cyng þa sende after þam scypum..þe ær ham wendon. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 *Hinc ex quo uteres emigrauere coloni.* Aure ne88an þe ealde tilie henne wenden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 50 Witeð þer our elen, leste þe heorte etfleo & wende ut. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 623 He and hise wif wenten ut fre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6160 Quen þis time was al broght to end, Of egypte godis ost vte vend. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 329 Seþþe þou schalt hennes wende, whanne þou komest to kourt..bere þe boxumly & bonure. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 82 Þe iewes knewe hemseluen Gultier..and wenten awey for schame.

c. In various obs. phrases, as *to wend to bed, to church, to meat, to seat.*

c 1300 *St. Brandan* 881 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 925 Þe monekes wende to bedde & slepe: þo soper was ido. 13.. *Cursor M.* 19046 (Gött.) Petre and iohn..went to kirc to make þair bone. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 72 When þay had waschen, worþyly þay wenten to sete, þe best burne ay abof. *c* 1460 *Destr. Troy* 2558 Than comaund the kyng the courtte for to ryse; Askit water wightly, wentton to meyte. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 161 And whenne it drowȝe to þe nyȝte he wendethe to bedde.

†11. To depart by death. Usu. with advb. phr., as *to wend of* or *from life*, (*out*) *of this world, forth, hence, to death*, etc. (See also 17 d.) *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 195 Forþon ure yldran swultan & swiþe oft us from wendan. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 272 in *O. E. Misc.* 118 Not no mon..þene ende hwenne he schal heonne wende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3884 Aaron ðo wente of liwe ðor. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1272 Þou prai him þat he word me send Quen I sal o þis werld wend. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* in *Archæologia* XIX. 323 The time of deth at our last end, When that we schul from henns wend. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 152 For þe same Mesure þat ȝe Meten A-mis oþer elles, ȝe schul be weyen þer-with whon ȝe wenden hennes. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 632 in *26 Pol. Poems* 142 But oute of the world sone shal I wende. 1422 Hoccleve *Minor P.* xxiii. 136 Lord god shal y now die and hennes wende? *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1081 Quhasa with wourschip sall of this warld wende. 1563 B. Googe *Eglogs* etc. (Arb.) 73 The enuyous fates..in the mydst of all his toyle, dyd force hym hence to wende. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 13 Grant vs grace, quhen we sall die, And fra this present lyfe we wend.

b. Similarly *to wend to, into* (heaven, hell, bliss, etc.).

c 1200 Ormin 8426, & alþþenn shall all Cristess hird Wiþþ Crist till heoffne wendenn. *c* 1250 in *O. E. Misc.* 186 Alle bac-biteres wendet [*c* 1275 wendeþ] to helle. *c* 1305 *St. Andrew* 99 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 101 Þat liȝt ileste iwis Forte þe holi soule wende þerwiþ to heuene blis. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3557 Þan sal his saul wende Til blis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 13 And uor þo scele wolde he efter his dyaþe wende in to helle. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 269 Ȝif I..for here werkis & for here wyt wende te pyne, þanne wrouȝte I vnwisly. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 55 Þe whylk, yf þay dyde wele, myght wend To blys þat es with-outyn end. *c* 1480 Henryson *Sheep & Dog* 219 And efter deith [thay will] to I panis wend.

†12. *transf.* and *fig.* of things: To pass away; to disappear, perish, decay. Also with *away. Obs.*

For further illustration see 17 e.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 57 (Gollancz) Ȝealhð he þa domas..wonlan & wendan of woruld-ryhte. *a* 1300 *Seven Sins* 46 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 19 To world-is wel nab þou no triste, hit went awei so doþ þe miste. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2167 The grete toures se we wane and wende. *c* 1480 Henryson *Age & Youth* 46 Quhen thy manheid sall wendin as the mone. 1580 Rolland *Seven Sages* 118 This being done, the well away sall went.

13. To go forward, proceed; to journey, travel; to take one's way. Now *arch.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 999 Her com se here aft abuton in to Temese & wendon þa up andlang Medewæzan to Hrofe ceastre. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 86 He ane is eure an ilche stude, wende þer þu wende. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 6 And thurgh the strete men myghte ride or wende. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XVI. 161 And bere hit in þy bosom abowte wher þou wendest. *c* 1400 *Parce Michi* 1 in *26 Pol. Poems* 143 By a forest syde, walkyng as I went, Disporte to take. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox & Wolf* 96 Neid causis me to steill quhair euer I wend. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XII. XXXII, Downe from the tree I came in hast, And tooke thee vp and on my iourney wend. 1613–26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. III. 54 Vpon her walkes she all the day attends, And by her side she trips where ere she wends. 1775 J. Tait *Land of Liberty* I. XLVI. 23 The hero saw, amaz'd, A crowd of nobles o'er the country wend. 1824 Scott *Lord of Isles* III. XXIV, For know, that on a pilgrimage Wend I. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. I. II, The Merovingian Kings, slowly wending on their bullock-carts through the streets of Paris. 1850 'Sylvanus' *Rye-lanes & Downs* II. 21 This 'racing-man'..to whose cottage I was wending so pleasantly.

b. with advs. Now *arch.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Ho him forwundeden..and wenden forð. *c* 1205 Lay. 29517 At Tanette he com hider in & swa he up is iwend. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 823 Þo þis King [Leir] adde iwond aboute in such soruol cas Attelaste he com to carric. *Ibid.* 11317 Þe king was among þe freres & hil manion Radde him vor to wenden in. *c* 1350 *Wild. Palerne* 3338 Men..wendeþ out wiþil & wiþ-3our fon meteþ. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 427 Collegians wenden out & prechen & quykenen many partis of englond. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 673 The IX. 171 Vlysse the wisest takes his leaue, and forth doth forr most wend. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. I. 28 Then mounted he vpon his Steede againe, And with the Lady backward sought to wend. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 13 Whither away wend you so late? *a* 1653 Chalkhill in Walton *Angler* iii. 76 Then care away, and wend along with me. 1796 Coleridge *Sonnet to Stanhope* i, Since scorning Faction's low and partial aim Aloof thou wendest in thy stately pace. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xvi, It was not unusual for those who wended home alone at midnight, to keep the middle of the road. 1848 Lytton *Harold* I. v, When I depart; Rolf, thou wendest back to thy marches. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* ix, To avoid which end the disappointed palmer wended homeward once more.

†c. With predicative adj.: To go or move about in a certain state. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 34 Nouht walde we now but naked we wende. 13.. *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 476 We war vnclene, ȝe ken, hale thurgh his word we wend.

14. *transf.* and *fig.* of things: To move, flow, run (in a specified course or direction); to go *up* or *down.* Of a road: To extend or stretch in a continuous line.

c 1205 Lay. 29914 Alse þet watre Desse wendeð into þere se. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 179 Fos me clupeþ þilke wel þat bi manī a god toun deþ wende. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 37 As wide as þe werd was, went worde of þaire teching. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 80 And þanne it [the blood] wendyȝ vp to þe haterell. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 447/2 He smote.. his wiff on the hede, that the brayne wende oute. *c* 1450, *a* 1500 [see 17 g]. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* XXVI. 373 That assist Her weaker wandring Streame tow'rds Yorkeshire as she wends. 1816 Shelley *Sonn. Dante* 4 Ascend A magic ship, whose charmed sails should fly With winds at will where'er our thoughts might wend. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* XXIII, Adieu, and may the blessing of God wend with you! 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 230 A river wending towards a portal of black rock. 1866 J. B. Rose *Ovid's Met.* III. 99 The hero started, as the tremors wend Through every vein.

15. With adverbial accusative, esp. *way*: To go or journey in a certain way or direction. Also, †to go on (an errand, voyage). Now only with possessive pron., *to wend one's way* (†*gate*, †*ride*), a phrase which was revived *c* 1800, and is now the most familiar use of the verb.

c 1250 [see 17 h]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3930 To madian lond wente he his ride. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10365 Quen þou again sal wend þi gate, þou sal mete at þi wijf anna. *Ibid.* 13087 Nu yee sal mine erand wend, Til þat gret lauerding iesu. *Ibid.* 14194 Qua has to wenden ani wai God es to go bi light o dai. *Ibid.* 14942 Sex dais forwit pask-dai Wit his he went þe strete. *c* 1325 *Song Deo Gratias* 41 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 125 Out of þat chirche I went my way. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 153, & so þei..maken þe peple..to wende þe weie to helle whanne þei wenen to goo to heuene. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 428 And þen he went furth his way. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xli, I haue my ways for to weynde, For to speke with a frynde. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 115 He that schall wend soche a wey, Yt were nede for hym to pray. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Last Judgm.* 138 But well I wott that ilke way that Abraham went, weind I may. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* IV. 616 She was left alone Uncompanied, great viages to wende In desert land. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1922) 42 The turning of Zelmanes eye, was a strong sterne enough to all their motions, wending no way, but as the inchaunting force of it guided them. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* II. XXVI, Now back they wend their watery way. 1829 G. Head *Forest Scenes N. Amer.* 109 We wended our way down the ravine. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* XXXIII, Mr. Weller turned, and began wending his way towards Leadenhall Market. 1839 — *Nicklehy* XI, As she wended her way homewards. 1866 Neale *Sequences & Hymns* 186 Wending my way to the City. 1885 Sladen *Poetry of Exiles* (ed. 2) I. 27 Pleasant it was to wend his way back to familliar Kent.

transf. and *fig.* *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29222 For-þi to weind þe seker wai, I rede we be in panance ai. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog.* VIII. § 394 On the Australian side, an ice-bearing current is found wending its way from the Antarctic regions.

†16. *fig.* (of persons). To go to and fro on business or procedure; to busy oneself; to fare, 'get on'. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4063 For ȝif we in þisse manere wendeþ, we ne fayleþ on none wyse þat we ne wolleþ abbe þe maistrie, wanne we defendȝ vre franchise. *a* 1400 Chaucer *Amorous Compl.* 78 (Skeat) Ever have I been, and shal, how-so I wende, Outher to live or dye, your humble trewe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1522 Fawnus had so goon a-bout I-turned & I-went, That he had brouȝt his sone to-fore þe Emperour [etc.].

†17. The compound tense *is, was*, etc. *went* (or *wend*), originally a true passive (= 'is, was turned'), was used as the perfect of the prec. intrans. senses = has, had gone, departed, etc.: a. in sense 8.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 567 King Iotrines herte was al & clene vp hire iwent. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3113 In wrechedom er now all went, To lare o godd gif þai na tent. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 791 Þat shal y shewe when we be went Vnto þe pryde comaundement. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* XXI. 51 Whon I was went from him wiþ wronge. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6185 They ben fro clene Riligioun went.

b. in sense 10.

c 1205 Lay. 17574 To þere se beoð Iwende Gillomar & Passen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1377 Androge þat was to rome mid þe emperour Iwent. *Ibid.* 11857 [They] were in hor dedut Iwend an hontinge. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 53 Þanne weren from hem went wiues & children. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 479, I trow that he be went For tymber, ther our Abbot hath hym sent. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3005 To a wyldernesse he is went. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 126 All oure saules ar wente, and none ar in hell.

c. in sense 10 b.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9399 Þo hii were alle henne ywend. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3994 All þe ileies were went awai. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 119 Whan an unclene spirit is went out from a man. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 75 Hoom to Surrye been they went ful fayn. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXII. 33 To wildernesse he is wente owte. 14.. in *Babees Book* (1868) 357 Whan he fro the ȝe wente A-way.

d. in sense 11.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 605 God ȝyue vs grace, or we be went, To kepe þys fyrst comaundment. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2876 Whan þat he is out of þis worlde went. *c* 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 1664 Þe sekatouris schul seyn it is here be-houe to make us mery, for he is went, þat al þis good gan owle. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XII. LXX, But when he saw her gentle soul was went.

e. in sense 12.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16410 Al rightwismes awai es went. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* vi. 9 When all yowre wele es went. *a* 1400 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 257 Loue is out of lond iwent. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 29 When al the welth of this world is went from hem away. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XLI. 347 My age is went, I feyll no fray. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 388 This wykyd warld away is wente. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1132 As all his welthis in warld had ben away went. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4142 For, siclyke as the snaw doith melt in May,..Thir gret Impyris rychtso ar went away.

f. Of a period of time, a season, etc. = is gone, past, elapsed, or ended. Also with adv., as *out, over.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* 326 (Caius) Thus lyueth Guy in grete turmente Till the feest was ouer wente [*Auchinl.* was al to-went]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prioress's T.* 88, I wol do my diligence To konne it al er Cristemasse is went. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4586 Winter was went. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy-Bk.* 10045 The nyȝt is went, the day dawes. *Ibid.* 17072 Terme is went out of the trewe. 15.. *Tayis Bank* 42 (Bann. MS.), Wod Winter with his wallowand wynd But weir away wes went.

g. in sense 14.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1272 Þou hase so ferr to ryde þat þe sonn sall be went doune Or þou come whider þou ert boune. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) Z j b, Whan some [stars] go doune, some up are went With meuyng of the fyrmament.

h. with *one's way*: see 15.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1429 Eliezer is went his wei. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVIII. 245 He is resen and wente his way.

†**Wend**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* [f. *wend*(*e*, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Ween *v.*] *intr.* To think, suppose.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 63 And that now of his enterprise none of them all should wende, He caused his souldiours hap him wel with buckler and with targe. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* XXXIX. 39 Hir freindis ay weindis To caus hir to revok. *a* 1650 *Merline* 1280 in *Percy Folio MS.* I. 462 See yee nought the young man that the shoone hath bought? he wendes to liue them to weare.

Wend(e, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Ween *v.*; obs. ff. Wind *sb.*[1]

†**Wendagains-lane.** *Obs.* [f. Wend *v.* (see 6 a) + genitival *agains* (see Again).] The name of a cul-de-sac in London. Cf. *turn-again lane* s.v. Turnagain 4.

1308–9 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* I. (1889) 204 [The lane called] Wandayeneslane. 1328 *Ibid.* 335 Wendazen lane. 1337 *Ibid.* 422 Wandageynslane. 1348–9 *Ibid.* 531 Wendageyneslane.

Wendage, var. Vendage.

1496 *Dives & Pauper* VII. xiii. (W. de W.) a iij b, *Dives.* Of what thynge is a man bounde to tythe. *Pauper.* Of corn in heruest, of wyne in wendage, of fruyte, [etc.].

†**Wenday.** *Obs.*[—1] [f. *wen-*, comb. f. ME. *wēn*, OE. *wān, wægn* Wain *sb.* Cf. Wenseves.] A day allowed to a tenant for preparing his wain in order to carry grain in harvest.

c 1250 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 83 Et debet habere j wenday, scilicet, unum diem ad carrum suum preparandum antequam cariet, quietum de omni alio opere.

We·nded, *ppl. a.* [f. Wend *v.* + -ed [1].] Twisted, plaited.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 137 Her Bongrace of Wended Straw.

We·ndian. *rare*—[1]. [f. Wend *sb.* + -ian.] = Wend *sb.* 1.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 345/1 Russniaks, Slovacs, Croats, Wendians..(these four..are of Slavonian origin).

Wendic (we·ndik), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Windic.** [f. Wend *sb.* + -ic. The form *Windic* is after G. *Winde*, var. of *Wende* Wend. Cf. *Windish* = Wendish.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Wends. **b.** *sb.* The language of the Wends, Sorabian. (For a wider use see quot. 1861.)

1861 Max Müller *Lect. Sci. Lang.* 186 The fifth branch, which is commonly called *Slawonic*, I prefer to designate by the name *Windic. Ibid.* page-heading, Windic class. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 139 Those remnants of the Slavic population of Lusatia who still speak the Wendic tongue. 1883 Morfill *Slavonic Lit.* ii. 36 The Wendic mountains..are mentioned by the geographer Ptolemy.

We·nding, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Wend *v.* + -ing [1].]

†1. The action of turning or changing; a change or turn. *Obs.*

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlii. 306 Hit gedeð hit self him selfum suiðe ungelic for ðære gelomlican wendinge. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xl. (1889) 63 Earfoðe ys ferlic wendinc [L. *permutatio*]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 12 But at the wendyng [L. *ubi ad verrorum venerint*] slake The yook, thyn oxon nekkis forto cole.

2. The action of going; *esp.* a going away, departure.

13.. *K. Alis.* 900 Nis in this world so siker thyng So is deth, to olde and yyng! The time is nygh of houre wendyng! 13.. *Guy Warw.* 1218 He gaf him to his fader þo, þat for his wending was ful wo. *c* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* civ. 36

Egipt was fayn in thaire wendynge [L. *in profectione eorum*]. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1630 And by my þryft my wendynge out of Troye A-noþer day shal torne vs alle to loye. — *Boeth.* II. pr. i. (1868) 32 If þou wilt write a lawe of wendyng and of dwellyng to fortune. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9967 She went ageyn with hir meigne; The third day aftir hir wending, [Generides] ther was crovned king.

†**3.** A journey. *Obs.*

23.. *K. Alis.* 3284 (Laud MS.), And þer he ordeyneþ his wendyng Toward Darrye þe riche kyng. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 207 Jon dred þat wendyng, to France wild he

[illegible] the Emperial Baron.]

We·nding, *ppl. a.* [f. WEND *v.*] Going, proceeding. (In comb., as *backward-wending.*)

1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* I. i, Egbert's true grandchild..backward-wending pilgrims say, was seen [etc.].

Wendish (we·ndiʃ), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7, 9 Windish, 9 Vendish, Vindish. [f. WEND *sb.* + -ISH, or ad. G. *Wendisch, Windisch.*] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Wends.

1614 [see VOIVODE *β*]. 1788 *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 479 The people..are called in Saxony *Wenden*, i. e. Wendts, or Vandals, or Wendish. 1790 DORNFORD *Pütter's Develop. Germ. Emp.* III. Index, Wendish or Venedic countries. 1822 DOWNES *Lett. fr. Mechlenburg* 157 Pribislaus, a Wendish chief. 1822 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. V. 242 The Wendish dialect of the Sclavonian. 1892 DOUGHTY *Wherry in Wendish Lands* 113 Country places are still known by their Wendish names.

B. *sb.* The language of the Wends, esp. the Sorabian tongue spoken in Saxony.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 68 In the villages of Carinthia..the Countrey people speake Wendish, or the tongue of the old Vandals. 1788 *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 480 Every Saturday one of them preaches, in Wendish, a sermon in the university church. 1822 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. V. 243 A language consisting of a mixture of Wendish and German. 1887 MORFILL in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 150/1 The Slovenes are sometimes called 'Wends' and their language 'Windish' or 'Wendish'. 1915 *19th Century* Nov. 1045 Carniola, where Vendish, a Slav dialect, is spoken.

†**We·ndling**, *sb. Obs.*–1 (Possibly f. WEND *v.*, and = 'wanderer', 'vagabond', but more prob. an error for *findling* 'foundling'.)

c 1300 *K. Horn* (Hall) 729 (Laud MS.) Henne þou foule wendling [*Harl.* fundlyng] Out of boure flore.

Wendo- (we·ndo), combining form of WEND *sb.*

1853 FREUND in *Jrnl. Ethnol. Soc.* (1856) IV. 77 The boundary-line of Low-German and Wendo-Sclavonian. *Ibid.*, Wendo-Sclavonic cities.

Wendoye, obs. form of WINDOW.

Wene, pseudo-arch. var. WANE *sb.*[2]

1823 HOGG *Queen's Wake* II. (1814) 174 In yon green-wood there is a waik, And in that waik there is a wene. *Ibid.*, In that green wene Kilmeny lay.

Wene: see WEAN *v.*, WEEN *sb.* and *v.*

Wenem, -im, -ym, obs. forms of VENOM.

Wenene, var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence.

Weneth(e, var. ff. UNEATH *adv.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 136, 187.

†**Wengand**, variant of (or error for) *wenyand* WANIAND.

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Sir N. Burdet* lii, Wylde wengand on such ire, wherby the realme doth lose.

Weng(e, obs. forms of VENGE *v.*, WING.

Wengeance, -aunce, obs. forms of VENGEANCE.

Wenhill, obs. form of WEANEL, WENNEL.

1711 *B.N.C.* (Oxf.) *Docum.* A[4]. 20 One Bull, eight Wenhill Calves.

Weniaunce, obs. form of VENGEANCE.

†**Wening**, var. of WAINING or WONING *vbl. sb.*

c 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* xxi. 54 Who-so had I-hard þe wepynge, & þe wenynge, & the sorow that thay mad.

†**Wenlich**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *wenlic*, f. WEEN *sb.* + -LY[1]. Cf. OS. *wānlik* beautiful, MHG. *wænlich*, early mod. G. *wahnlich, wähnlich* probable, supposed.] a. Beautiful. b. ? Worthy, excellent.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assman *Ags. Hom.* 108 Heo wæs swiþe wlitiȝ & wenlices hiwes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 þe shadewe [i. e. her reflection in a mirror] hire tacheð hwu hie mai hire seluen wenlukest makien. *Ibid.* 83 And swo warð hturnd þat folc of ateliche to wenliche. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 103 in *O. E. Misc.* 108 þe mon þe on his youhþe yeorne leornep..may beon on elde wenliche lorþen.

Wenlock (we·nlǫk). The name of a town in Shropshire, used attributively in **Wenlock formation**, **group**, a formation of Upper Silurian age, typically developed near Wenlock. Also **Wenlock limestone, shale, slate.**

1834 MURCHISON in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* II. 14 The lower part of this formation is termed the 'Wenlock shale'. *Ibid.*, The shale beneath the Wenlock limestone. *Ibid.* 15 The Ludlow and Wenlock formations appear in the same escarpment. 1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol.* etc., *Wenlock slate.* Called also Wenlock shale. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 247 Splendid examples of Wenlock fossils.

Hence **Wenlo·ckian** *a.*, of or belonging to the Wenlock formation.

1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 104 The genera being mostly Wenlockian and Ludlovian.

Wenne: see WIN *sb.*[2], WHEN.

Wennel; see WEANEL.

Wennesone, obs. Sc. form of VENISON.

Wennion, variant of WANION.

We·nnish, *a. rare*–1. [f. WEN[1] + -ISH.] Of the nature of a wen.

1614 WOTTON *Lett.* 16 June *Relig. W.* (1672) 434 The incision of a wennish tumour grown on his thigh.

Wennome, obs. Sc. form of VENOM *sb.*

We·nny, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WEN[1] + -Y.]

1. Of the nature of or similar to a wen.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxvi. 463 A remedie against.. hard wennie swellings. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Goitreux*, The wennie bags that breed vnder the throats of the most inhabitants of the Alpes. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. App. i. 79, I have had some persons..so deformed with these [cicatrices], as they have suspected them to be wenny. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 536 Wenny Tumours of a monstrous Size. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* Dd 1, *Capellets*, in horses, are particular swellings..of a wenny nature, which grow on the heel of the hock, and on the point of the elbow.

2. Afflicted with wens; goitrous.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 60 The women are.. for the most part wemmy, that is, having great bunches under their chinnes with drinking snow water. 1786 tr. *Bechford's Vathek* 110 Others..with hump-backs, wenny necks, and even horns.

Wenomose, obs. Sc. form of VENOMOUS.

Wenquis, obs. Sc. form of VANQUISH *v.*

Wenscote, -skot(te, etc., obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

†**Wenseves**. *Obs. rare.* [f. *wen-* (see WENDAY) + *seves* pl. of SHEAF *sb.*] Sheaves given as payment for carrying grain in harvest.

c 1250 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 88 Nec aliud debet recipere..nisi wensenes [*read* wenseues] quando cariat bladum. *Ibid.* 135, ij garbas que vocantur wensewes.

Wenskett, obs. form of WAINSCOT.

Wensleydale (we·nslidēl). The name of a district of the North Riding of Yorkshire, used *attrib.*, and hence *ellipt.* as *sb.*, to designate a. A breed of long-woolled sheep originally raised there; b. A local variety of blue-mould cheese.

1881 J. P. SHELDON *Dairy Farming* 250 Though the Wensleydale cheese are so small. 1893 J. WRIGHTSON *Sheep* 39 The Wensleydale is a large, high standing sheep, with a characteristic blue in the skin of the face and ears. 1896 J. BENSON & J. LONG *Cheese* 105 The Stilton-shaped Wensleydales are..classed as British blue mould cheeses.

Went (went). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **weent**, 6 *Sc.* **vent**, 8 **wont**, 9 *dial.* **want**, **wint**. [Related to WEND *v.*[1]]

1. A course, path, way, or passage. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

In later use esp. in pl. with *three* and *four*; also in combs. *three-went-way* THREE B. III. 2, and FOUR-WENT-WAY.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 136 Ilc sterre..He settes in ðe firmament, Al abuten ðis walkne went. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 398 (Fairf.) Hyt forthe went Dovne by a floury grene went Ful thikke of gras. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* 182 In a forest, as they wente, At a turninge of a wente. 1428–80 J. PAGE *Siege Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 17 Govnnys goode and redy bente, They were layde in many went. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10380 By peryllous weyes and by wentys I hadde had gret adversyte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iv. 40 Ontill ane cave we went, Vndir a hingand hewch, in a derne vent. *Ibid* 113 And followit furth the samyn went we haue, Quhar so the wynd and sterisman wa draue. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 66/8 A went, lane, *viculus.* 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 47 To the three fatall sisters house she went. Farre vnder ground from tract of liuing went. 1640 SOMNER *Antiq. Canterb.* 20 The Iron crosse, which sometime stood at the East-end of Castle-street, at the meeting of the foure wents. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* VI. 475 Where these ways part was called by the ancients Τρεῖς Κεφαλαί, or, the Three Heads, signifying I suppose the same we do by *Three Wents.* 1854 W. GASKELL *Lect. Lancs. Dial.* 20 We have also..'wint',..a passage. *a* 1896 BARDSLEY *Dict. Surnames* (1901) 802 There are one or two wents, still so called, in my late parish [Ulverston].

fig. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 384 Logitianis knawis heirin myne entent, Ondir quhais boundis lurkis mony strange went.

†**b.** A journey, course of movement. *Obs.*

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. 2145 [They]..ful accordid be Thoruh Itaille for to make her went Toward Roome. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 46 But here my wearie teeme nigh ouer spent Shall breath it selfe awhile, after so long a went.

†**2.** A course of action or plan for attaining some end; a trick, contrivance, device. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 529 þe byssshop made a clerk þan wryte Al þat she seyd,..And alle how she made here went. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 218 The Steward tok the gold and wente, Withinne his herte and many a wente Of coveitise thanne he caste. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* VII. 263 Ich made meny wentes, How ich myght haue hit, al my wit ich caste. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* IV. 929 Thanne do ye wrong ageyn her entent On what-maner wise ȝe make your went.

†**3.** A turn or course of affairs; an occasion or chance. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 63 Do him vnto þe suerd, withouten jugement, If ȝe may Griffyn take bityme at any went. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. x. 123 Eneas..The fatis of goddis..Rehersing schew, and syndry strange wentis. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vi. 3 He knew the diuerse went of mortall wayes.

†**4.** A turn or change of direction; a turning about. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 63 For which yn wo to bedde he wente, And made er it was day ful many a went. *Ibid.* V. 1194 Vp on þe walles made he many a wente. 1422–30 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* I. 2713 Vn-to hir chambre in hast sche is goon, Where vp and down sche made many went. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 219 The monstre wente here and there, And made many wentes wyth oute seeyng and knowing where he wente.

†**b.** ? A turning or winding of a stair. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 b, The staier of the said halpas was caste of passage by the wentes of brode steppes.

Went, pa. t. (and pa. pple.) of WEND *v.*[1]; now used as the pa. t. of GO *v.*

†**Went**, app. used as pa. pple. of WIND *v.*

c 1300 *World and Child* 46 (Manly) I am not worthely wrapped nor went, But powerly prycked in powerte.

†**Wentie**, *v. Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wentelen* (also mod. Du.) = MLG. and LG. *wentelen*, G. dial. *wenteln.*] *intr.* To roll or tumble about. (Used only by Caxton.)

1482 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 18 Whan he was so wery, he wentled and tombled nyghe half a myle...And whan he was seen so comyng fro ferre, Some doubted what it myght be that cam so wentelyng. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 475 Al nyghte he coude not fall a slepe, but wentled in his bed without ony rest.

Wentletrap (we·nt'ltræp). Also 8 **ventle-**. [a. Du. *wenteltrap* winding stair, spiral shell, = G. *wendeltreppe.*] A marine shell of the genus *Scalaria* or the family *Scalariidæ*, esp. *Scalaria pretiosa.*

1758 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 9 Feb., I have seen a little ugly shell called a Ventle-trap sold for twenty-seven guineas. 1776 MENDES DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 152 Gualtieri ranks the famous Shell the Wentletrap, or Stair-case, with Vermiculi. 1818 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157. 1821 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* 16 *note*, A Wentle-trap which fetched 40 guineas in 1701 (Rumphius) was worth only 20 guineas in 1753, and now may be had for 5*l.* 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Institt.* 1860, 188 Family *Scalariadæ.* (Wentle Traps).

†**Wentsunday**. *Obs.*–1 [Of obscure origin.] The Sunday after Michaelmas.

c 1350 *Westminster Chapter Muniments* No. 27926 Usque diem dominicam proximam post festum Sancti Michaelis que dicitur Wentsounday.

Wenyand(e, variant forms of WANIAND.

Wenym, obs. form of VENOM.

Wenyson, wenysoune, obs. ff. VENISON.

Weod, obs. form of WEED; variant of WOOD *a.*

Weofud, -od, -ed: see WEVED *Obs.*, altar.

Weol, obs. form of WHEEL.

Weolde, obs. form of WIELD *v.*

Weole, obs. form of WEAL *sb.*[1], WHEEL.

Weolk, obs. pa. t. of WALK *v.*

Weolthe, obs. form of WEALTH.

Weoman, obs. form of WOMAN.

Weonlete, variant of WAY-LEET *Obs.*

Weonne, obs. form of WHEN.

Weop(e, obs. forms of WEEP *v.*

Weopmonne, variant of WAPMAN *Obs.*

Weore, obs. form of WORK.

Weord, obs. form of WORD.

Weore, obs. form of *were*: see BE *v.*

Weork, obs. form of WORK.

Weor(e)ld(e, -uld, obs. forms of WORLD.

†**Weorne**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *weornian* (also *forweornian*), possibly related to *wisnian* to wizen.] *intr.* To wither.

a 1380 *Virg. Antioch* 215 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 89 þe riht hond..Of him weorned and wox al drie [L. *aruit*].

Weorne, obs. form of WARN *v.*[1]

†**Weote**, variant of WITE.

†**Weothe**, *v. Obs.*–1 [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* ? To rush.

c 1205 LAY. 6508 þat deor to-dede his chaffles and to þan king weoðede, and for-bat hine amidden a twa.

†**Weothele**, *v. Obs.*–1 [ME. *weoðelen, wiðelen*, = MHG. *wedeln* to flutter, etc.] *intr.* To become unsteady or uncertain.

wiðere, weoðeleden

[illegible]

Weovil, obs. form of WEEVIL.

Wep, obs. variant of WAP *v.*[2]

Saints xv. (*Barnabas*) 206 Al þe fyre..þal of lede. *Ibid.* xxvii. (*Machar*) 221 Weppit [illegible] I can lay.

Wep(e, obs. forms of WEEP *v.*, WIPE *v.*

Wepen(e, -in, obs. forms of WEAPON.

Wepentake, obs. form of WAPENTAKE.

Wepit, variant of WHIPPET *sb.*

Wepman, -mon(ne, var. ff. WAPMAN *Obs.*

Wepne, weppen, -on, -un, -yn: see WEAPON.

Wept (wept), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of WEEP *v.*] **a.** Of tears: Shed in weeping. Also *fig.* of poetry. **b.** Of a person: Mourned for, lamented, with tears. Also *absol.*

1594 *Zepheria* ix. C 1, He wip't wept teares from Tellus bosome. *Ibid.* x. C 2 b, Since that, how often haue they sent wept Elegies To beg remorse at thy obdurat hart? 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* II. 83 Near the wept Fair, her Harp Cecilia strung. 1829 J. F. COOPER *Borderers* I. 2 *heading*, The Borderers; or the Wept of Wish-Ton-Wish.

Wepte, weput, var. ff. *wiped* pa. t. of WIPE *v.*

Wepun, -yn, obs. forms of WEAPON.

Wepyntaille, -tale: see WAPENTAKE.

Wer, dial. f. OUR; Sc. var. VER *sb.*[1]; obs. f. WAR *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], WAR, WAUR *a.* and *adv.*, WEAR *a.*, WEAR *v.*; var. WERE *sb.*[2], *sb.*[3], *v.*; var. *were*, pa. t. of BE *v.*; obs. f. WHERE, WHETHER.

Wer-, variant of WERE-.

[1820 SCOTT *Minstrelsy* II. 200 A wild story of a warwolf, or rather a war bear.] 1838 *Court Mag.* XIII. 262 A curious

story of a *were-bear*..is quoted by Sir Walter Scott. 1900 *Folk-lore* June 157 *note*, The were-tiger beliefs, which are held..by the Peninsular Malays. 1904 G. C. Kiehel *Man-Fox in Japanese Tradit.* I (MS.) The werfox, if we may so call him, is invisible. 1905 C. K. Meek *North. Tribes Nigeria* I. 184 The villagers next day taxed the British officer with the death of the Galadima, who was known to be a were-hyena.

Weraly, obs. form of VERILY.

Weratie, obs. Sc. form of VERITY.

Weray, obs. Sc. f. VERY; var. WARY *v. Obs.*

Werbi, -by, obs. forms of WHEREBY.

Werble, -ul, variant forms of WARBLE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[3]

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Fuste, avec ses pesons*, the quill of thread, or the spindle and thread with the werble.

Were, obs. form of WORK. **Weroe**, obs. form of WORSE. **Werch**, obs. Sc. form of WRETCH.

Werch(e, werck, obs. ff. WORK.

†**Wercock**, *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. COCK *sb.*, with obscure first element.] Some kind of bird.

1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 36 Oþer smalle bryddes.. As osel, smityng, laverock gray, Pertryk, werkock.

Werd, obs. form of WEIRD *sb.*, WORD, WORLD.

†**Werde**, *v. Obs.* Also 1 woerda, 3 weordenn. [OE. (Anglian) *werdan* (Northumb. *wærda*), = WS. **wierdan*, *wyrdan*, f. the stem *ward-* (WS. *weard-*), which appears also in OS. *a-wardian*, *-werdian*, OHG. *wart(ê)an*, *wertan* (MHG. *werten*), *far-warten*, Goth. *fra-wardjan* to spoil, corrupt, injure, etc., with cognates in the Slavonic languages.] *trans.* To harm or injure.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 136 *Officit*, werdit. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 45 Da menigo ðec ȝeðringað & woerdað [L. *affligunt*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxvi. 4 Wæron eaxan mine eac mid wæcceum werded awyþe. *c* 1100 *Ælfred's Boeth.* (Bodl. MS) xvi. § 2 Þa smalan wyrmas, þa ðone mon ȝe innan ȝe uton werdaþ [*Cott. MS.* wyrdaþ]. *c* 1200 Ormin 4851 Þe flæshess fule wille, Þatt allre werrst.. Werdeþþ þe wrecche sawle. *Ibid.* 6249 Ne birrþ þe shendenn nanl mann Ne weordenn þine þannkess.

Werde, obs. pa. t. of WEAR *v.*, WERE *v.*; obs. f. WEIRD *sb.*, WORD, WORLD.

†**Werder**. *Obs.*[1] (Meaning obscure.)

c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 3188, I a-wede nelez of wit for þo werder bestes, þat folwe ȝour felachip, so ferli þei are.

Werdingale, var. FARTHINGALE, VARDINGALE.

Werdliche, obs. form of WORLDLY.

Werdour, var. *verdour* VERDOR *Obs.*

Werdy, Sc. variant of WORTHY *a.*

†**Were**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 wer, 2–3 were. [Common Teutonic: OE. *wer* = OFris., OS., OHG. *wer*, ON. and Icel. *verr*, Goth. *wair* = L. *vir*, OIr. *fer* (Gael. *fear*), W. *gŵr*, related to Lith. *vyras*, Skr. *vîrâ*, man, hero.]

1. A male person; a man.

Beowulf 993 Fela þæra wæs wera and wifa. *Ibid.* 1352 Oðer..on weres wæstmum wræclastas træd. *c* 900 *Laws Ælfred* § 21 Ȝif oxa ofhnite wer oððe wif. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Salomones reste was..ymbseted..mid syxtigum werum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 136 Þeos ylce wyrt ȝedeþ þæt maþer ze wera ze wifa feax waxeþ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Wisdom birieð weran. *Ibid.* 131 Bitwuxe were and wife nes nefre mare mon þenne he. *c* 1200 Ormin 7615 Þatt hallȝhe were Symeon Himm toc bitwenenn armmess. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 532 And on ðe sexte hundred ȝer Wimmen welten weres mester. *Ibid.* 3977 So was ðis were to wunder broȝt, Shoȝ ðe asse spac, frigtede he nogt.

2. A husband.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. § 1 Heora wif..sændon..his him woldon oðerra wera ceosan. *a* 900 *Laws Ælfred-Ine* § 38 (*title*) Be ðon ðe rihtȝesamhiwan bearn habban, ond ðonne se wer ȝewite. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 185 Wif ic lærde þæt hie heora weras lufedan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxi. 22 Bete swa micel swa ðæs wifes wer ȝyrneð. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 31 Ne lipnie wif to hire were, ne were to his wiue. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 Hire latere were..lesse haueð þen hauede ear hire earre. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1341 For god wif may..Bet luuyen hire owe were, þan on oþer hire copinere.. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 30 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Go and clepe þine were and cumeþ hider y-mene.

Were (wɪəɹ), *sb.*[2] *Hist.* Also wer. [OE. *were*, var. of *wer* (dat. *were*), abbreviation of *were-, wergild.*] = WERGELD.

1607 Cowel *Interpr.* 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 127 *Wera* or *Were* sometimes signifieth amerciament or compensation. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 190 Who shall commit perjury upon holy things, let him lose his hand, or half his *were*. 1819 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 124 He paid the *were* for the death of Ælfwin. 1842 Sir H. Taylor *Edwin the Fair* II. v, He that within the palace draws his sword Doth forfeit an Earl's were. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* 236 *note*, In later days it was a principle of Land-right that no freeman should be amerced 'above his wer'.

†**Were**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: α. 3–5 were (5 *Sc.* vere), 4–5 wer (4 werr, 5 *Sc.* ver), 4, 5–6 *Sc.*, weyr, (9 *Sc.*) weir (5 *Sc.* weyre, veir), 5 weere (8 *Sc.* weer). β. 4 wehere, 4–5 where, 5 wher, wheer. γ. 5 wyre. [Of doubtful origin, but possibly the same word as northern ME. and Sc. *were*, var. of ME. *werre* WAR *sb.*[1], retaining the original sense of 'confusion', 'perplexity', which is prominent in OHG. *werra*, etc. The form agrees with north-eastern OF. *were* (also *weire*, *wiere*, *wyere*), which is the immediate source of ME. and Sc. *were* 'war'.

In R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8216 and *Rom. Rose* 3699 the use of *were* is suggested by *guere* and *guerre* in the French originals. Although employed by some midland and southern writers, the word is chiefly characteristic of northern texts and latterly confined to Scottish use. Except in senses 5 b, 6, and 7, it most frequently occurs in the phrase *in (a) were.*]

1. Danger, peril, jeopardy.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1788 Engel wirð a-gen him cum, Als it were wopnede here, Redi to silden him fro were. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 319 His life was alle in wehere. He bed grete catelle, his lif forto saue. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machar*) 274 He þat quyk sawit moyses..has defendit þis barne here, þat lyk was to be in gret were. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2850 They had levir saille forth, þen put[ten] hem in were, Both lyve & goodis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8266 All in wer for to walt, wayueronde he sote, But he held hym on horse. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxvi. 2 Sen thy lyfe is ay in weir, And deid is evir drawand neir.

b. *In were of*, in danger of. Also Sc. *in weres to* (with inf.).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7498 Bothe were þai bold men borne to þe grene, Woundit full wickedly in wer of hor lyues. *Ib.* 13001. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 75 For outterly ... and her cyte Shal mor & mor in were of deth depende. 1[illegible] Tarras *Poems* 42 Lums [= chimneys] in wiers to get a d[illegible] [= shock] Or downward flung.

2. A condition of trouble or distress.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8495 Qui did þou vs þus in were, þat said þi wijf þi sister were? *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 828 He regned foure & þrytty ȝer In pes wyþouten wo & wer. 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 95 Þe Inglis men put þam to were Ful baldly, with bow and spere. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2827 Swete speche That hath to many oon be leche To bringe hem out of woo and were. *c* 1400 *Minot's Poems* (Hall) App. ii. 79 Þan sal þe land duel in were. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3061 Fro day to day most ful of moone, Solytarye, and allone, As a woman in gret wer. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 82 Adam..liffyd..In sorow and in trauell strang, And euery day he was in were. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 84 O woful wrech, that levis in to were.

b. A state of uncertainty or instability.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 460 Þis present lyfe Is ..vndirlout to chansis sere, sa þat men liffis ay ine vere. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 8 Bot we that duelle under the mone stonde in this world upon a weer. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 129 in *26 Pol. Poems* 185 Thus mannes tyme ys in a were; But thy tyme stondeth in oo degre.

3. Apprehension, fear, dread.

a 1300 *Sermon* lix. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 7 Loke þat ȝe nab no were, for seue ȝer ȝe habbiþ to pardoun. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 228 Þe Soudan was in wehere þe Cristen had suilk onte, Sir Edwarde's powere ouer alle he dred moste. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 318 Sin eftir can crist appere To petir, at wes in sic were, and sad [etc.]. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 259, I am þi broþer, be nout agast to come me ner. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 3420 He was boþe ferful & in were, In gret dispeire and inly ful of drede. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21663 For dred off hyre, I was in were. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 146 Loke in and loke with-outen were. 15.. *Colkelbie Sow* 541 (Bann. MS.) Is nocht this a nyce caiss, That..in so mony dengeris, He eskapit with weris?

1808 Jamieson s.v. *Were, I haif nae weir of that*, I have no fear of it, S. B.

b. A state of mental distress or trouble.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5676 Pers..on hys dreme gan pynke, Syghyng with mornyng chere, As man þat was yn grete were. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2686 (Fairf.) Dredе of dethe doth hir so moche woo That thries doun she fele in swiche a were.

4. Perplexity; confusion of mind; doubt or uncertainty how to act or regard one's position, etc. Also with *a*.

(*a*) 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 82 William was in wehere, whan he herd þat tiþing. ? *a* 1400 *Hampole's Prose Tr.* 35 Be þou noghte in dowte ne in were when þou prayes or thynkes one Godd. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13160 A myst & a merknes mynget with rayn, þat wilt vs in were & our way lost. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxx. 50 He vaneist away with stynk and fyrie smowk;..And I awoik as wy that wes in weir.

(*b*) 1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B. xi. 111 In a were gan I waxe and with my-self to dispute. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 207 Ha, fader, be noght in a wer: I trowe ther be noman..That halt him lasse worth thanne I To be beloved. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 129 in *26 Pol. Poems* 297 Thus he wandreth in a were As a man blynde. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 2901 And thus I stood al in a rage .Wavering as in a were. 1418–20 — *Chron. Troy* I. 4873 But in a were he abydynge longe, Aforn hym sawe þe myȝty Grekis stronge.

5. A (subjective) state of doubt or uncertainty with regard to the truth or reality of anything; undecidedness of belief or opinion. Const. *of*, *what*, *that*, etc. Also with *a* and pl.

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7069 Her-of thar naman be in were. *Ibid.* 17069 All men was in dute and wer bot þou, leue hall mai! 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 306 For þei were euer in wehere,..Whilk was best banere, with þat aide forto hold. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 294 If the prest be in were [*v. r.* dowte] of him that sal take it [baptisme] Whethir he be baptized or he be noght. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 3993 So þat ȝe shal of no þing be in were Of al þat euere þat I seie ȝou here. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22228, I stood in a maner wher, What tokenes that it myght be, The thynges that I dyde se. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* XXIII. 74 Fowle haue we leued many a yeare, and of our weninge bene in were. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 89 In weir that he was ȝit on lyf, I hai ran ane rude speir in his syde.

(*b*) *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3513 William was in a wer bat it were him-selue. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 3 Ac ȝet I am in a were, what charite is to mene. *a* 1393 Hylton *Scala Perf.* II. xl. (W. de W. 1494), Therfore they falle ofte in suche weeres and doubtes of hemself. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1872 All that tyme stood I in a wyre [*rhyme* desyre] Whyche way furst myn hert wold yeue more To looke. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc. 30 Sa that thi confessour be wyse and discreit, That can the discharge of every doute and weir.

b. *To have no were*, to be in no doubt. Also Sc. *to have weres.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 22135 (Fairf.) Of þine elde we haue na were; vnnebes artow of vij. ȝere. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 216 For of reward sche haþ no were þat þus abidiþ in charite. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Dyrect. Bk. 60 Of your moblys and all other geyr ȝe will me serf alkyke, I haue na weyr. 1535 W. Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 5 So that it be substantious of sentence In plane termis, thairof haif thow no weir. 1768 Ross *Helenore, Sonys* 129, I thought ere I died to have anes made a web, But still I had weers o' the spinning o't.

6. The condition of being (objectively) doubtful or uncertain; a state of affairs such as to give occasion for hesitation or uncertainty; a matter of doubt.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20794 Disput, he sais, es na mister Bituix te wis in swilk a wer. 13.. *Ibid.* 23824 (Edinb.) Þat like dai we se and here, we ah it noht to hald in were. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 462 Þan ys doute & grete were [*v. r.* weyr] To wyte where-of tiremys come. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 378 For-thy it is in wer gyff þis be paulis hewid or nocht. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 706 Sone is Wymond, I wait, it worthis na weir. ? *c* 1500 *Clariodus* I. 1320 Quhair for this knicht we tuike in this maneir To save our aithes, traist weill this is no weir.

7. Often in phr. (usually introduced as a mere tag) *but, forouten, out of, without were*, without doubt. Also occas. with *any*.

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8157 Arphaxat lliued wit-outen were Threhundret aght and tuenti ȝere. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2296 Þan er we certayn, with-outen were, þat at our last ende þai sal apere. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2872 Hast þou gode chere þy faire tour to gete ȝean wyþ-oute any where. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 51 To yive me drynke of her tonne, Of which she hath, with-oute wer, Couched tweyn in hir celler. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1027 With-owtyn ony wyre, þer xall ye se hym. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 83 This worde was wretyn withowt were For many a man, þat shuld dredе. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 5288 Elie sayis, withouttin weir, The warld sall stand sax thousand ȝeir.

(*b*) *c* 1305 *Land Cokaygne* 21, I sigge for soþ, boute were, Þer nis lond on erthe is pere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 70 We lat ȝow wyt, but ony ver, þat of lord criste Ihesu,..we are þe seruandis & mene. 1486 Sir G. Hayr *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 109 That he is his soverane..is but were. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 499 For na gold on this ground wald I, but weir, Be fundin fals to the King. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 37 I hay within ane lytill stound Began to myrrie be but weir. 1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 390 Thair suld be plantit throw this land At euerie Kirk..Ane Preichour at the leist but weir.

(*c*) 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 282 Bot he wes fule, forouten weir, That gaf treuth to that Creature. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 288 He will be found in his fault that wants, forouttin weir.

(*d*) *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3799 (Trin.) He seide, oure lord out of were I wist not his wonyng here. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 230 'Out of weir', said the King, 'I wayndit neuer to tell'.

Were, *sb.*[4] *rare.* [f. WERE *v.*]

†1. A defender, protector. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2680 Moyses was louered of ðat here, Ðor he wurð ðane egyptes were.

2. *Sc.* Defence.

a 1878 Ainslie *Land of Burns* (1892) 237 At guard auf wier lay Andro Keir—He faught to haud his ain.

Were (wɪəɹ), *v. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 1 werian (werȝan, werigean), 2–3 werien (3 werlin, 5 weryyn), 3–4 werie, 4 werye(n); 2–3 weren (3 *Orm.* werenn), 4–5 were, wer (4 werr, 5 werre), 5 weire, 5–6, 9 *Sc.* weir, 6 weere (9 *dial.* weer), weare, 8–9 *Sc.* wear. *Pa. t.* 1–4 werede (1 -ode), 4 wered, -id, werde, 5 werit (*Sc.* -yt); 5 were, wore, *Sc.* wor. *Pa. pple.* 4 werd, 9 *dial.* weard. [Common Teut.: OE. *werian*, *wergan* = OS. *werian* *werean* (MLG. and LG. *weren*), OFris. *wera* (WFris. *weare*, *warre*; NFris. *weeri*, *wiare*), MDu. and Du. *weren*, OHG. *warian*, *werian*, etc. (MHG. *wergen*, *weren*, *wern*, G. *wehren*), ON. and Icel. *verja* (Norw. *verja*; Sw. *värja*, Da. *værge*, *verge*), Goth. *warjan*. The extent to which the two senses of preventing or checking, and defending or protecting, are represented, varies in the different languages; the greater currency of the second in English, though already prominent in OE., may have been assisted by the agreement with ON. *verja*.]

1. *trans.* To check or restrain; to ward off, repel. Also with *away*, *off*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

men ðe heora axen secan willen, and hy for nanum medsceattum ne werian. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 108 [He] Of hise egen weres ðe mist, wiles he drecches fore. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2898 Ic sal hem lesen fro, And here fon weren wiþ wo. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2543 His gloue he put þer inne þe sonne to were oway. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2015 Fyrst he clad hym in his clopes, þe colde for to were. *c* 1375 *Leg. Rood* viii. 297 Þe Cros I calle þe heerdes yerde,..And wiþ þe yerde þe wolf be werde. *a* 1470 Harding *Chron.* xcviii. xiii. (1812) 181 By whiche he maye the wolf werre [*v. r.* bete] fromе the gate. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 180 Of his Father the wraith fra vs to weir.

1791 Learmont *Poems* 47 Lord wear aff the featour's blow Frae honest fock! 1829 Brockett *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Weer*, or *Wear*, to stop or oppose, to keep off, to guard.

2. To defend, guard, or protect from assault or injury.

Beowulf 1205 Siððan he under swyne.....af[illegible] *Ibid.* 1327 Ðonne we on oriege hafelan werodon. *a* [illegible] *O. E. Chron.* an. 755 Se cyning on þa duru eode, & þa

hine werede. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* vi. 79 Hie for þæm hungre þa burh werian ne mihton. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1016 (Laud MS.), His rice he heardlice werode þa hwile þe his tima wæs. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Al þos godnesse hom ne mihte werien, þæt ho ne wenden alle in to helle. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5305 þa birrþ þe standenn þær onnæm, & werenn Cristess þeowwenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 3696 And swiðe wel heom wereden þa walles of Rome. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 834 Bute he can clymbe swiþe wel; þar myd he wereþ his greye vel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23766 Eth es for to win wit heer, þe ture þat nan es bute to were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 129 Þou best kueade beawes þet þe ssolle lede to þe dyaþe of helle bote þe grace of god þe ne werie. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XX. 379 All tym had I Handis, myne hede for till were. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2346 He of iustice is bounden hem to were And to diffende. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryyn', *idem quod* defendyn. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 283 Wallace..Wichtly him wor [*v. r.* did him weir], quhill he a suerd had tayne.

a 1800 in Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 251 He tethered his tyke ayont the dike, And bade him weir the corn. 1807 J. STAGG *Misc. Poems* (1808) 40 For tho' wi' witch wood weard, yet weel They kend auld Hornie's tricks.

† b. Const. *with* or *against*, *from* (or *of*). *Obs.*

(*a*) *a* 1000 *Exodus* 237 Þa þe..ne mihton..breostnet wera wiþ flane feond folmum werigean. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ic eou wille werien wið elcne herm. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10227 To fihhtenn forr þe leode, To werenn hemm wiþþ wiþerrþeod Þatt wollde hemm oferrganngenn. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1244 Þe þrydde hys icleped 'coniurement' Azenys þe foule þynge to werie þe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 248 Hir enchantement Ayein the Serpent scholde him were.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11168 Hir sun he sal and fader baþe Be to wer his folk fra waþe. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3284 And fro my liown i sal the wer. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 44 For holy chirche hath us..happid with grace, to were us from wederes of wynteres stormes. *c* 1485 *Macro Plays, Cast. Perser.* 2046 Fro seuene synnys we schul hym were. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 58 Luke that wisly thow wirk, Cryste were the fra wa!

(*c*) 1801 HOGG *Sc. Pastorals* 23 For wearin' corn of hens an cocks...His match was never made.

† c. To defend, uphold, or give support to (a cause, etc.); to maintain (one's opinion). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3714 Burȝes stronge and folc w[a-]friȝt, stalwurði to weren here riȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1476 Wit antecrist þan sal [Enoch] fight For to werye cristen right. 1340 *Ayenb.* 69 Þer byeþ some..þet none guode techinge ne onderuongeþ, ak alneway weryeþ hare sentense huet þet hit by.

d. To keep or hold (a means of entrance or exit); † to have or possess as one's own.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9312 Þe Erl.. þoughte no feyþ til [him] wold bere, But he in pes his wyf myght were. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1965 At Sterlyng bryg he ordand thaim full rycht, And thar to byd, the entre for to wer. 1802 *Fray of Suport* ii. in Scott *Minstrelsy* I. 187, I set him to wear the fore-door wi' the speir. *a* 1894 J. SHAW in R. Wallace *Country Schm.* (1899) 355 To wear a gate at sheep-shearing, to open and shut it.

† e. To protect or save by removing. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 151 If thay with wrong away wold wrast, outt of the way I shall the were.

† 3. *refl.* To defend or guard (oneself, etc.); often followed by *against*, *from*. (Cf. 1 b.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 541 Wit unc wið hronfixas werian þohton. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 82 Ælfere & Maccus..hi fæstlice wið ða fynd weredon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 Crist..ȝeue us wepne ..Mid gode werkes for us to weren. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1406 Acc þu mihht werenn þe fra þeȝȝm þurrh rihhte læfe o Criste. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Were þe, ȝif þu konst, aȝean me. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2083 Dor-fore ic am in sorge and hagt, for ic ne migte me nogt weren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2227 Þal culd find on no manere How to wer þam fra þe flode. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 114 For we beþ of nonn power To weryen ous fro schame. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 845 Ólyuer tok is spere & eke ys scheld & heng hit on þer-wiþ him-self to were. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1692 Foyne if hym list on foote, hym self to were. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1195 From al hir fon hir self to were, In her ryght honde she had a spere. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 902 A suerd he drew, rycht manlik him to wer.

† 4. *absol.* a. To make a defence, to offer resistance. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 2046 Þuss mihhte ȝho bitellen wel & werenn þurrh þatt biane. *c* 1200 *Mor. Ode* 325 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 230 Ne muje we werien naðer ne wið þurst ne wið hunger. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 851 Fowre [kings] on-seken and fifue weren. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3533 The spies on bothe sydes goth, Of Alisaundre, and eke Darie, How eche schal from othir werye.

† b. To act as a shield or protection. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11108 Sho..Hade no helme on hir hede fro harmys to weire. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 21840 (Fairf.) Hit is our shilde & our spere, a-gainis þe feinde for to were.

Hence † **We·ring** *vbl. sb.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxi. 20 And þou, lauerd, ne fer þi help fra me; At mi weringe bihald and se. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2798 The saut com so thikke and swithe, That no weryng ne myghte heom lithe. *a* 1322 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXV. 75 Send mi soule god weryyng.

Were : see BE *v.* A. 6, 7.

Were, var. or obs. f. WERE *sb.*, VERY, WAR *sb.*[1], *v.*, WAR, WARE *a.* and *adv.*, WARE *a.*, WEAR *v.*, WEIR, WHERE, WHETHER, WIRE *sb.*

Were- (wi·ər). The first element of WEREWOLF used in combination, chiefly with names of animals, to indicate a human being imagined to be transformed into a beast; as *were-animal*, *-ass*, *-bear*, etc.; also *were-man*. Cf. WER-.

1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. Interl. v. 4 The were-wolf is a legend old, But the were-ass is something new. 1883 J. F. M'LENNAN in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 90 The Arcadians, or bear-tribe, sprang from the were-bear Callisto. *Ibid.*, In Ashango-land,..a were-leopard was..charged with murder and mutila- 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Sept. 289/2 The simple explan..that that beast was a were-calf. 1897 SIR H. H. JOHNSTON *Brit. Centr. Afr.* 439 In this respect the belief in 'were' animals..is nearly universal.

Wereangel, -angle, var. forms of WARIANGLE.

† **Wered.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 werud, -od (2 werod), 1–3 wered; 1 weorod, 1, 3 weored; 1 *north.* uorud, 3 wored. β. 2–3 werd, 3 word, 3–4 wird, 4 weird. [OE. *werod*, *weorod*, etc., without parallels in the cognate languages.] A band, troop, company, host.

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 407 *Agmen*, weorod. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 131 Ac se heaþrym þæs Godes hades þeam englicum weorodum simle ondweard wæs. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 34 Ealle þas þing se halend spræc mid bi3-spellum to þam weredum. — Mark xv. 16 Hi to-somne eall werod clypedon. *c* 1205 LAY. 2598 He bi-com..vppen ane weorede of wlfan awedde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Ase þer beoð niene englene ordres [*MSS. B, C* weoredes]. *a* 1240 *Urthsun* in *Cott. Hom.* 195 Al englene were[d] and alle holie þing Sigged and singed þar tu ert liues welsprung.

Comb. c 1205 LAY. 509 3if he heom mihte bi-winnen mid his wored strencðe.

β. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke vi. 17 He stod on feldlicere stowe & micel werd hys leorningcnihte. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 22 Hali is..þe lauerd of heouene riche wordes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1786 Als he cam ner cananeam, Engel wirð [*sic*] a-gen him cam. *Ibid.* 1790 Þor ði3 wird of engeles metten him. *a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 697 in *O. E. Misc.* 138 Bi ford dages he is aferd of sticke & ston in huge werd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20282 He þat i bar, þat bligh brid, Sal me send of heuen wird [*Gött.* weird].

† **We·reful**, *a. Sc. Obs.*[-1] [f. WERE *sb.*[3] + -FUL.] Doubtful.

1456 SIR G. HAY *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 104 To geve the ensample and instructioun to wysly governe the in mony thingis that now ar werefull to the.

Weregeld, -gild, var. forms of WERGELD.

Wereit, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WORRY.

† **Werel**, *Obs. rare*[-1]. [Of obscure origin: cf. MHG. *wedel*, *wegel*.] A fan or fly-whisk.

lepis,
litle 3

Werelbone, obs. form of WHIRLBONE.

Wereld(e, obs. forms of WORLD.

Werelie, obs. Sc. form of VERILY and WARLY.

Werelike, obs. Sc. form of WARLIKE.

Werely, obs. Sc. var. WARLY *a.*

Werena, *Sc.* = were not: see NA *adv.*[3]

Weren't, colloq. contraction of 'were not'.

Werew, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

† **Werewall.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 wer-, 6 weir-. [f. WERE *v.* + WALL *sb.*] A bulwark, rampart. In quots. *fig.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 382 The armes of the Dowglass ..Of Scotland the wer wall. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxii. (S. T. S.) I. 229 Þai war campit to be ane were-wall for defence of Veanis. 1536 — *Cron. Scot.* XIV. viii. (1821) II. 383 The..surname of Dowglas, quhilkis war evir the sicker targe and weirwal of Scotland aganis Inglismen.

Werewolf, werwolf (wi·ə·-, wə·rwulf). Forms: α. 1 werewulf, (3 -wlf), 7–9 -wolf; *pl.* 5 -wolfes, 9 weir-, werewolves. β. 4–7, 9 werwolf (6 *Sc.* -woif); *pl.* 4 -wolfs, -wolues, 9 werwolves. γ. 5–7 *Sc.*, 9 warwolf, 5–7 -wolfe, (7 *Sc.* warewolf, warwoof); *pl.* 6 *Sc.* -wo(o)lfes, 7 *Sc.* -woophs. δ. 9 wehrwolf. [OE. *werewulf* (once), = MDu. and Du. *weerwolf*, MHG. *werwolf* (G. *wer-*, *wehrwolf*), LG. *werwulf*; also WFris. *waarûl*, *warûle* (and *waarwolf* after Du.), Da. and Norw. *varulv*, Sw. *varulf*. The latter may represent an ON. **varulf-r*, whence ONF. *garwall* (Marie de France, *c* 1175), later *guaroul*, *-ou*, *garoul*, *-ou*, *warou*, *-eu* (mod.F. *loupgarou*); ON. *vargulf-r* (by association with *varg-r* wolf) occurs only in the translation of Marie's lay of Bisclavret.

The first element has usually been identified with OE. *wer* man WERE *sb.*[1], but the form *were-* in place of *wer-* (cf. however *were-* and *wergild* WERGELD), and the variants in *war-*, *var-*, makes this somewhat doubtful.

Evidence for the real currency of the word (chiefly in the β and γ forms) is rare, and confined to Sc., after the 17th cent. In modern use it has been revived through folk-lore studies, and until recently the most usual form has been *werewolf*, and occas. *wehrwolf* from German.]

1. A person who (according to mediæval superstition) was transformed or was capable of transforming himself at times into a wolf; † also, an exceptionally large and ferocious wolf.

α. *c* 1000 *Laws Cnut* XXVI. (Lieberm.) Þæt se wodfreca werewulf to swyðe ne slite, ne to sela ne abite of godcundre heorde. *c* 1212 GERVASE OF TILBURY *Otia Imper.* XV. in Leibnitz *Script. Brunsv.* (1707) I. 895 Quod hominum genus *gerulfos* Galli nominant, Angli vero *Werewolf*, dicunt. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, Per beth some [wolves] þat eten children and men..And þei be cleped werewolfes, for men shulde be were of hem, or þe asann see hem. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* 237 The were-wolues are certaine sorcerers, who hauing annoynted their bodyes, with an oyntment which they make by the instinct of the deuil; and putting on a certaine inchanted girdel, do not only vnto the view of others seeme as wolues, but to their own thinking haue both the shape and nature of wolues, so long as they

a punishment for his ferocity he [*sc.* Lycaon] was deprived by Jupiter of the human form, and ended his days a were-wolf. 1863 W. K. KELLY *Curiosa. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 253 Stories about v...rolves are still current in Germany. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. iii. 77 The old doctrine of Werewolves, not yet extinct in Europe. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* XXVI. 213 Stories of magic and vampires and were-wolves told them by travelled youths.

fig. 1872 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. Interl. i. 23 The brutes that wear our form and face, The were-wolves of the human race!

β. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 25 Þat while was þe werwolf went a-boute his praye. *Ibid.* 3836, I wold him hunte as hard as euer hounde in erthe honted eny werwolf. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 459 Þei ben wilde wer-wolues, þat wiln þe folk robben. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. xi. 793 His wyf..made hym seuen yere a werwolf. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 251 Wod werwolf [*v. r.* warwolf], worme and scorpion venemous. ?1568 DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Past., Man in Moone* G 8 b, About the fields religiously they went, with halowing charms the Werwolf thence to fray. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* XXV, All the German superstitions of nixies, oak-kings, wer-wolves, hob-goblins. 1868 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1870) 215 Lycaon,..after passing through all the stages I have mentioned, becomes the ancestor of the werwolf. 1912 E. O'DONNELL *Werwolves* xiii. 212 As in France, the werwolf, in Belgium, is not restricted to one sex.

fig. 1902 *Spectator* 5 July 17/1 When from that underworld..The werwolves of the darkness pour by night And show..their misery and their guilt.

γ. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Parl. Beasts* xiv, The warwolf and the pegase perillous. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 A Warwolfe, *rapus*. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* civl *a*. 602 Huon the soueraryne kyng of the fayry..wolde condempne hym parpetually to be a warwolfe in the se [Fr. *iusques au mer*]. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* LXXV. 206 Some Wolues,..kill children and men sometimes: and then they neuer feede nor pray vpon any other thing afterwards...Such Wolues are called *Warwolues*, bicause a man had needs to beware of them. [Cf. *c* 1400 in α.] 1597 JAS. VI *Dæmonol.* III. i. 62 And are not war-woolfes one sorte of these spirites also..? *c* 1628 ROWLEY, etc. *Birth of Merlin* v. i. 206 Where no Night-bag shall walk, nor Ware-wolf tread. 1668 SIR J. LAUDER (Fountainhall) *Jrnl.* (1900) 83 Instead of our red dracons and giants they have *lougarous* or *warwoophs*. *a* 1800 *Kempion* xvii. in Scott *Minstrelsy* (1802) II. 96 O was it warwolf in the wood..? 1817 COLERIDGE *Zapolya* II. i. 1. 337 Madam, that wood is haunted by the war-wolves. 1897 BARING-GOULD *Gwaves* xvi, They hold Loup [a tamed wolf] to be naught else but a war-wolf.

δ. 1834 W. J. THOMS *Lays & Leg., France* 57 The Lay of Bisclavaret; or, the Wehr-wolf. 1855 D. COSTELLO in *Bentley's Misc.* XXXVIII. 361 Lycanthropy in London; or The Wehr-Wolf of Wilton-Crescent. 1884 J. DAVIDSON *Bruce* IV. iv, The wehrwolf, ravening in the warren, growls. 1913 R. HODDER *Vampire* VIII. 43 The wehrwolf who discards his human form to bury his fangs in the throats of sleeping children.

2. *Sc. dial.* (See quot.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Warwolf*..a. A puny child or an ill-grown person of whatever age; pron. warwoof, Ang.

3. *attrib.*, as *werewolf nails*, etc.; **werewolf girdle**, the enchanted girdle by means of which a man could transform himself into a wolf.

15.. *Rowll's Cursing* 192 (Bannatyne MS.), Dragoun heidis and warwolf nalis, With glowrane evne as glitterand glass. 1863 W. K. KELLY *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 255 In Germany..the skin of a man that has been hanged makes as good a werewolf girdle as the skin of a wolf. 1879 M. D. CONWAY *Demonol.* I. 158 The Were-wolf superstition, which exists still in Russia. 1883 STALLYBRASS *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1096 Bodin's Dæmonomanie..has several werewolf stories.

Hence **We·rewolfery**, = LYCANTHROPY 2; **We·rewolfish** *a.*; **We·rewolfism**, = LYCANTHROPY 2.

1831 A. HERBERT in *Will. & Werwolf* (Roxb.) 3 It is obvious to suspect that the most ancient Lycians were proficients in *werewolfery. 1912 E. O'DONNELL *Werwolves* i. 3 Persons accused of werwolfery. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Werewolfish. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* viii. 100 The traditional belief in *were-wolfism must, however, have remained long in the popular mind. 1901 *Edin. Rev.* July 198 In fact 'were-wolfism' is now known to have made the round of the globe.

‖ **Werf** (werf). *S. African.* Also **werft.** [Older and dial. Du. *werf* (*werft*) = NFris. *werw*, *werrew*, LG. *warf*, in the same sense; orig., a raised plot on which a house is built, and identical with the same forms in the sense of 'wharf': see WHARF *sb.*[1]] The Cape-Dutch name for a homestead or the space surrounding a S. African farm.

1818 LATROBE *Jrnl. S. Afr.* 191 We therefore took leave, pitched the tent on the werft, and kindled a fire. 1861 ANDERSSON *Okavango River* XVI. 179 Five minutes' further walk brought us to a werft consisting of between twenty and thirty huts. 1888 A. BRIGG *Sunny Fountains* 231 A Dutchman calls his homestead his *werf*. 1895 *Times* 19 Jan. 5/3 They arrived at the deceased's werf on November 7, possessed themselves of the guns and arms on the werf..and then shot Mr. Christie.

Werfore, obs. form of WHEREFORE.

† **Werg.** *dial. Obs.* (See quot.)

1707 E. LHUYD *Archæol. Brit.* I. 24/3 A Willow-Tree was Anciently call'd *Willig*; whence the Modern *Werg* [a Willow] us'd in Berkshire and some other Countreys, seems corrupted.

Wergeld (wə·rgeld), **-gild.** *Hist.* Forms: α. 5 *Sc.* weregeheld, 5 weregyld, 7–9 weregild, 9 -geld. β. 5 *Sc.* wergeld (7 vergelt), 7, 9 wergeld; 9 wehrgeld. γ. 8–9 wergild. [ad. OE. (Anglian and Kentish) *wergeld*, (WSaxon) *wergield*, *-gild*, *-gyld*, late *weregild* (f. *wer* man WERE *sb.*[1] + *geld*, *gield* YIELD *sb.*) = OFris. *wergeld*, *-ield*, OHG. *wer-*, *wergelt* (MHG. *wergilt*, G. *wer-*, *wehrgeld*, Du. *waergeld*); the equivalent ON. term is *mannsgjold*.

The three OE. types *wergeld*, *wergild*, and *wæregild* are represented in the modern forms; the spelling *wehrgeld* is due to the incorrect German form.]

In ancient Teutonic and Old English law, the price set upon a man according to his rank, paid by way of compensation or fine in cases of homicide and certain other crimes to free the offender from further obligation or punishment.

a. a 1214 *Assize Will.* c. 14 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 375 De weregehelde furis. De unoquoque fure per totam Scociam est weregehelde xxxiiij vacc. et dimid. 14.. *Ibid.*, Of þe law þat is callyt weregylt. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 389 *Were* is before deliuerd in *Weregild*, and is called *pretium Redemptionis* in the lawes of the Confessor. 1714 J. FORTESCUE-ALAND *Pref. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 32 A Payment in Money called the *Verregelt*; from which no Body can doubt, but our Saxon Ancestors had their *Weregild*. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1762) I. App. 1. 156 The price of the king's head, or his weregild, as it was then called, was by law 30,000 thrimsas. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxiii. 308 In those times, when a private pecuniary transaction, called a *weregild*, was constantly paid to the party injured, or his relations. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* ii. ii. (1819) I. 230 Such were the weregilds of the barbaric codes. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* v. vi, There is no weregeld for manslaying on the head of him who smiles so in death on his old comrades in life! 1863 H. Cox *Inst.* II. x. 533 The Weregild, or compensation for murder was regulated according to the rank of the person slain. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* vii. 193 He..died, like Samson, says old Paul, having got good weregeld for the loss of his eyes.

β. a 1250 *Reg. Maj.* IV. xii. in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 634 De unoquoque fure..est wargeld triginta vacce et vna iuuenca. 1609 SKENE tr. *Reg. Maj.* IV. xix. 70 b, The Vergelt, or Ransom of ane theif, throw all Scotland is threttie kye; and ane zoung kow. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 204 This wergeld or werigeld is often met with in the Salique lawe. 1848 MRS. HORROCKS tr. *Menzel's Hist. Ger.* I. 33 The Wergeld or fine seems to have been introduced at a later period. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. v. I. 395 In the Burgundian law..the life of every man..is assessed..at a certain value, and the wehrgeld may be received in atonement for his blood. 1902 F. SEEBOHM *Tribal Custom Ags. Law* I. 1 The Anglo-Saxon wergelds were stated, with perhaps one exception, in silver scillings.

γ. 1762 M. FOSTER *Rep. Proc. Surry* etc. 287 The Anglo-Saxons..in Case of Homicide contented themselves with a pecuniary Compensation, which they called the *Wergild*, the Price of Blood 1802 A. RANKEN *Hist. Fr.* II. 249 Culpable homicide was punished with banishment, besides the wargild [*sic*], or fine, paid to the nearest kin of the deceased. 1860 HOOK *Lives Archbps.* I. v. 243 His position in society was, according to the custom of the age, marked by the amount of his wer-gild. 1870 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. 629 By this treaty provision is made for wergilds.

†Wergeldthief. *Old Eng. Law. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wergeldtheof** (-gild-), 3 **weregelt thef**; 3–5 **wer(e)gelthef** (4 **wergiltif**, 5 **werkelthef**). [OE., f. prec. + *þéof* THIEF.] A thief or other criminal whose 'wergeld' was paid as a satisfaction for his crime; also *ellipt.* jurisdiction over a thief of this description.

*c*890 *Laws Ine* § 72 Gif mon wergildðeof gefehð. 761 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 334 Nec etiam fures illos quos Saxonice dicimus unergeldtheuas alicui foras reddant. 1235 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 208 [With] soc and sac,..infangenthef, utfangenthef, wergeldthef, hamsocn [etc.]. *c*1290 *Fleta* I. xlvii. (1647) 62 Weregelt thef, latronem qui redimi potest. 13.. HIGDEN *Polychron.* (Rolls) II. 94 De quibus [legibus] nonnulla vocabula adhuc frequentata.. hic inserere dignum duxi:..Wergelthef, id est, solte de laroun eschape. *c* 1437 JOHN BROMPTON in Twysden *Hist. Angl. Script.* (1652) 957 *Weregelthef* est solutio latronis evasi, i. soute de latrone eschape.

Weri, var. WARY *sb. Obs.*, obs. f. WEARY *a.* **Werid,** var. WARIED *ppl. a. Obs.*; obs. pa. pple. of WEAR *v.* **Werie,** obs. f. or var. VERY, WARY *v. Obs.*, WEARY *a.* **Werielie, Werietis,** obs. Sc. ff. VERILY *adv.*, VERITY. **Werihede** *Obs.*: see after WEARY *a.* **Wering,** obs. var. WARRING *vbl. sb.* **Weris(e)he,** obs. ff. WEARISH. **Werius,** obs. f. VERJUICE *sb.*

Werk(e, obs. ff. WARK *sb.*[1] and *v.*, WORK.

†Werke. *Obs. rare.* [a. MLG. *werk* (LG. *wark*): see WORK *sb.*] Honey-comb.

The quots. refer to Hanseatic traders of 1395–8.

15.. HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 167 Fiue pieces of waxe, foure hundred of werke, and halfe a last of oamundes. *Ibid.*, Diuers goods and marchandises, namely oyle, waxe, and werke, to the value of 300. pounds.

†Werkhop. *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A measure containing two bushels and a half.

c 1300 *Battle Abbey Customals* (Camden) 55 Cottarii maiores..debent triturare..unum werkhop, quod continet ij. bussellos et dimidium, scilicet de frumento..De ordeo vero, ij. werkhops ejusdem mensure.

Werkyn, werkyng, obs. ff. WORK, WORKING.

Werlaugh(e, werlaw(e, etc.: see WARLOCK[1].

Werld(e, obs. forms of WORLD.

†Werle. *Obs.*[-1] [? f. *were* WEAR *v.* + -LE.] ? Covering, attire.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 209 A pyȝt coroune ȝet wer þat gyrle,..Hiȝe pynakled of clar quyt perle,..To hed hade ho non oþer werle.

Werlik, Werlot, obs. Sc. ff. WARLIKE, VARLET. **Werlde,** obs. f. WORLD. **Werlyng,** var. WARLING *Obs.* **Werm,** obs. f. WORM.

†Wermod. *Obs.* Forms: 1, 3–5 **wermod** (1 **wer-, wyr-,** 4 **wr-**), 2 **wermot**; 1, 5 **weremod**; 4–5 **wermode, wormod(e.** [OE. *wermod* = OS. *wer(i)môda, wermôde* (MLG. *wermede*), OHG. *wer(i)muota, wer-, wormôta*, etc. (MHG. *wermuote, -muot*, G. *wermut, -muth*, whence F. *vermout* VERMOUTH), of obscure origin.] = WORMWOOD.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 9 *Absinthium*, wermod. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xli. 60 Swylce ic eom wraþre þonne wermod sy. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 Deos wyrt þe man absinthium & oþrum naman wermod nemneð. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 296/24 Weremod. *a* 1200 *Ibid.* 544/35 Wermot. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* v. 4 Bitter as wormod. —*Lam.* iii. 19 Recorde..of wrmod [1388 wermod] and of galle. 1400 *Friar Daw* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 52 Wermode, Jak, moost verreli was Wiclif, your maister. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 344 The soure almaund & wermode & feyn greek. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 1 Absinthium..gallice aloine, anglice wermode.

Wern(e, obs. ff. WARN *v.*[1]; var. ff. WARN *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Wernage, Sc. var. VERNAGE, WARNAGE.

†Wernard. *Obs.* [a. AF. **wernard* = OF. *guernart* 'trompeur' (Godefroy).] A deceiver, liar.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 98 For wel ȝe witen, wernardes, but ȝif or wit fayle, þat fals is a faytur. *Ibid.* B. III. 179 Wel þow wost, wernard, but ȝif þow wolt gabbe, þow hast hanged on myne half elleuene tymes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 260 (Corpus) Pus saistow, wernard, god ȝiue þe meschaunce.

Wernerian (wɑɪnĭə·rĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [See -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Of or relating to A. G. *Werner* (1750–1817), a German mineralogist and geologist, who advocated the theory of the aqueous origin of rocks; favouring Werner's views; agreeing with Werner's system or theory.

1811 *Edin. Rev.* XIX. 202 We cannot help thinking, that the Wernerian geology is faulty. 1842 SEDGWICK in *Hudson's Guide Lakes* (1843) 226 The Wernerian hypothesis has now passed away. 1859 J. HAMILTON *Mem. J. Wilson* I. 12 The discussion..between Wernerian and Huttonian theorists.

B. *sb.* A supporter of Werner's theory; a Neptunian.

1815 W. PHILLIPS *Outl. Min. & Geol.* 283 These two parties are termed volcanists and neptunists; or more familiarly by geologists; Huttonians and Wernerians. 1858 SCROPE *Geol. Extinct Volcanos Central France* Pref. p. vi, The error of the Wernerians in undervaluing..the influence of volcanic forces. 1890 *Nature* 3 July 218/1 The Wernerians were retreating before the Huttonians.

Hence **Werne·rianism,** the Wernerian or Neptunian theory or system.

1892 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 181/3 Ignoring the importance of volcanic action as a geological agent, Wernerianism saw even in such lava-like rocks as basalt nothing more than precipitates from aqueous solutions.

Wernerite (wɜ·nərəit). *Min.* [Named in honour of A. G. *Werner* the German mineralogist: see -ITE.] Silicate of aluminium and calcium, the most important member of the scapolite group.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 203 Wernerite is generally reddish. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Crystallogr.* 489 Scapolite.. Wernerite. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* iv. § 1. 364 Felspathic substances. Triphane;..Wernerite.

Wernne, var. WARN *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Wernysh-, obs. form of VARNISH *v.*

Werowance (we·rowans). Forms: 6–7 **wer-, wiroance, wiroans,** 7 **wyroaunce, -ance, wyroun(n)ce,** 7–9 **werowance.** [Amer.-Indian.] A chief of the Indians of Virginia and Maryland in old colonial days.

1588 HARRIOT *Brief Rep. Virginia* E 2, One onely towne belongeth to the gouernment of a Wiroans or chiefe Lorde. *Ibid.* E 3 b, What subtilty soeuer be in the Wiroances and Priestes, this opinion worketh so much [etc.]. *a* 1589 R. LANE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 738 There be sundry Kings, whom they call Weroances. *c* 1608 E. M. WINGFIELD *Discourse Virginia* in *Capt. J. Smith's Whs.* (Arb.) I. p. lxxvi, Both these wyroaunces haue euer since remayned in peace and trade with vs. 1612 CAPT. J. SMITH *Map Virginia* Wks. (Arb.) I. 81 This word Werowance which we call and conster for a king, is a common worde whereby they call all commanders. 1635 *Relat. Maryland* 26 Their Government is Monarchicall, he that governes in chiefe, is called the Werowance. 1705 BEVERLEY *Hist. Virginia* III. xi. (1722) 194 A Werowance is a Military Officer, who of Course takes upon him the Command of all Parties.

1893 M. A. OWEN *Old Rabbit* i. 3 She was accepted as a child of the Werowances. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* June 725/2 The canoe of the Nansemond werowance.

Werp(e, obs. forms of WARP *sb.* and *v.*

Werr, obs. f. WAR, WAUR *a.*, WEAR *v.*[2] **Werra, -ly, -ment,** obs. Sc. ff. VERY, VERILY, VERAMENT. **Werrand:** see WARRANT.

†Werrar, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. *werr* WAR, WAUR *a.* + -ER.] = WORSER *a.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 49 Þey semen werrar þan þe fend, þat asked stonis to be turnid in to bred.

Werrate, obs. Sc. f. VERITY. **Werray:** see VERY *a.*, WARRAY *v.* **Werrayour:** see WARRIOR.

Werre, variant of VERE *Obs.*, spring-time.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 194 In tyme of wynter and of werre [*v.r.* veer] Whan boistous wyndes put see-men into ferre.

Werre, obs. f. VERY, WAR, WARE *a.*, WORRY *v.* **Werrei,** var. WERRAY *v. Obs.* **Werreles,** obs. f. WARLESS *a.*

†Werrell. *Obs.* (See *sea-poult* SEA *sb.* 23 d.)

1698 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* III. 53 The handsome Rhombusses of the Sea-poult or Werrell, on either side the [illegible]a.

Werrest, obs. f. WORST. **Werrey,** obs. f. VERY. **Werrey(e,** var. ff. WARRAY *v. Obs.*, WORRY *v.* **Werreyoure, -iour,** obs. ff. WARRIOR. **Werrie,** obs. Sc. f. VERY.

Werrit (we·rit), *v. dial.* [Local variant of WHERRIT or WORRIT.] *trans.* To tease, annoy.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, s.v., He would request not to be *werrited* so much about it. 1828 CARR *Craven Glocs.* 1865 W. S. BANKS *Wakefield Words* 80 *Werritin*, wearying; fretful and tiresome. 'What a werritin barn thah are!'

Werrse, Werrsenn, obs. ff. WORSE, WORSEN *v.*

Werry, var. VERRY *a. Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-arm.* b v b, The threde [coat-armour] is called werry, whan the felde is made like gobolettys of dyuerse colowris.

Werry, obs. or dial. f. VERY; var. WARRAY *v. Obs.*, WARY *v. Obs.*; obs. f. WORRY *v.* **Werry-o(u)r,** obs. f. WARRIOR.

Wers(e, obs. ff. VERSE, WORSE. **Wersell,** obs. f. WRESTLE. **Werset,** obs. f. VERSET.

Wersh (wɔ̈ʃ; *Sc.* werʃ, wɛ̈rʃ, warʃ). *a. Sc.* and *north dial.* Forms: 5 **warsch(e,** 6 **wairsche,** 7–9 **warsh,** 9 **wairsh, wearsh, whersh,** 8– **wersh.** [Prob. a contracted form of WEARISH. Cf. WERSHED *a.*]

1. a. Of persons: Sickly or feeble in appearance. Also Comb. *wersh-like, -looking.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eur.* 233 Lene and dedelike, pitouse and pale of hewe, Rycht warsch [*v.r.* warsche] and wan, & walowit as a wede. 1824 CARLYLE in Froude *Mem.* (1884) I. 244 A harmless, intelligent enough, rather *wersh*-looking man. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xli. 289, I thocht she was luikin' warsh-like.

b. Physically weak or sickly; squeamish.

1758 R. FORBES *Ajax* etc. *Jrnl. to Portsmouth* 29 It was enough to gi' a warsh-stamack'd body a scunner. 1872 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Joshua Davidson* VI. 119 We were getting whersh and weak for want of food.

2. Destitute of savour; insipid, tasteless, or sickly-flavoured; unsalted. = WEARISH *a.* 1. Also *fig.*

fig. 1599 ROLLOCK *Serm. Epist. Paul* viii. Wks. 1849 I. 398 He callis it not simplie and bairlie with ane wairsche word, the gospell,..bot he callis it the licht of the gospell. 1618 W. BARCLAY *Well at King-horne* A vij, So ceasing to prosecute this warsh matter of water, I will never cease to continue Your l.. most humble and obedient seruitour. 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* 48 This was Balaams warsh wishing, his desires were so weak, that they pearced not his heart, how could they pearce the heaven? 1720 RAMSAY *Wealth* 133 And Helicon's wersh well thou ca's divine. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 80 As articles, they were not so musty as those of the old Scots Magazine..nor so wersh. 1884 SWINBURNE in *19th Cent.* Oct. 556 Charles Reade's Dominican is worth a dozen such 'wersh', ineffectual, invertebrate studies.

lit. 1823 J. WILSON *Marg. Lyndesay* xxix, Water's unco wersh, and does na sloken weel. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. II. 345/2 Sage-stuffing and apple-sauce—without which indeed your goose is wersh. 1853 SHERER *Gold-Finder Australia* 261 It is my opinion, this mutton's unco wersh, Watty. Ha'e ye ony saut? 1861 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. II. 61 It's a' vera true, but a kiss and a tinniefu' o' cauld water maks a gey wersh breakfast. 1921 *Glasgow Herald* 2 May 8 To be sure, unfermented wine is wersh stuff.

3. Of weather or wind: Unrefreshing; raw.

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* VII. vi, The breeze, as it comes from the surrounding lofty woods, is wersh. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xl. 336 The yellow mist..had a wersh (raw) unkindly feel about it.

†Wershed, *a. Obs.*[-1] [Cf. prec.] Tasteless.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xcv. (Tollemache MS.) With oute salte nyȝe all metes is werschid [1535 werishe] and unsauery [*insipidus et insaleus*].

Wershly, *adv. Sc.* [f. WERSH *a.*] Insipidly; without animation or cordiality.

1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* 101 The Scribes spake warshly, as men doing some other businesse; or as Boyes in the Schoole, rehearsing other mens inventions. 1676 ROW *Suppl. Blair's Autobiog.* xi. (1848) 364 The Moderator thanked him as slenderly and wershlie as before.

Wersikill, obs. Sc. f. VERSICLE.

Wersil, wersale, obs. ff. WARSLE.

Wersalete, error for BERCELET *Obs.*, hunting dog.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. 2610 *note.*

Werst, obs. 2 sing. pa. ind. and subj. of BE *v.*

Werst, obs. f. FIRST, WORST. **Werstil, -tle,** obs. ff. WARSLE.

Wert, 2 sing. pa. ind. and subj. of BE *v.*

Wert(e, obs. ff. WART, WORT. **Werteous,** obs. f. VIRTUOUS. **Werterean, -ian, -ism:** see WERTHERIAN, -ISM. **Wertew,** obs. f. VIRTUE.

Werth(e: see WORTH *sb.*, *a.*, *v.*

Wertherian (vaɪtĭə·rĭăn), *a.* Also **Werterian, -ean.** [f. G. *Werther*, the hero of Goethe's romance 'Die Leiden des jungen Werther' (1774) + -IAN.] Morbidly sentimental.

1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* II. v, Their mad Petrarchan and Werterean ware. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* Sept. 249 Some who are accustomed to consider that poem [*Locksley Hall*] as Werterian and unhealthy. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xli, The Byronic despair, the Wertherian despondency. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barch. T.* XXXIV, An ancient love-lorn swain.. full of imaginary sorrows and Wertherian grief.

Wertherism (vɜ·tərĭz'm). Also **Werterism.** [f. as prec. + -ISM.] Morbid sentimentality.

1831 CARLYLE *Charact.* Edn. 1872 IV. 26 Werterism, Byronism, even Brummelism, each has its day. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 471 My German stopped At germane Wertherism. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* x. ii. 345

Goethe..cured himself very soon, and the author of 'Werther' had no indulgence for Wertherism.

Werlow, wertu, obs. ff. VIRTUE. **Wertual(l, Wertuo(u)sse,** obs. ff. VIRTUAL, VIRTUOUS.

We·rturn. [var. of *wartern*, dial. f. QUARTERN *sb.*[2] 3 c (quot. 1883).] A particular weight of wool (see quots.).

1833 IRBERSON *Woollen Manuf. Guide* 13 Threads of slubbing, varying from 4 to 12 skeins per werturn. *Ibid.* 89, 2,520 yards are a standard skein. Six pounds, or 1,536 drams, are a standard werturn.

Wertu(u)s, wertuwisse, wertus, obs. ff. VIRTUOUS. **Wertwale,** var. WARTWALE. **Werty,** obs. f. WORTHY.

† **Werve.** *Obs.* [OE. *weorf* (rare) a beast of burden.] A 'beast' for riding on.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 [He] bond his wunden & brohte him huppen his werue. *Ibid.* 85 Uppen his werue [= Lk. x. 34.]

Wervel, variant of VARVEL.

Werwolf: see WEREWOLF.

Wery, obs. f. VERY; var. WARY *v.*; obs. f. WEARY, WORRY *v.* **Weryauns,** obs. f. VARIANCE.

† **Weryer.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. ME. *werien* WERE *v.*] A defender, guardian.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 926 After ðis spac god to abram: 'ðin ber3 and tin werier [OE. *wergend*; L. *protector*] ic ham.

Weryfy, Weryly, obs. ff. VERIFY *v.*, VERILY. **Weryouns,** obs. f. VARIANCE. **Weryson,** var. WARISON *Obs.* **Weryte,** obs. Sc. f. VERITY.

Wes, obs. f. *was*, pa. t. of BE *v.* **Wesage,** obs. Sc. f. VISAGE. **Wesand(e, -a(u)nt,** etc., obs. ff. WEASAND. **Wesar,** obs. Sc. f. VISOR.

Wesch, obs. f. WASH. **Weschael(le, -ail, -ale, -all,** obs. Sc. ff. VESSEL. **Weschoraft,** obs. f. WITCHCRAFT. **Wesche,** obs. f. WASH, WISH. **Weschel, -ele, -ell,** etc., obs. Sc. ff. VESSEL.

Wese, obs. pres. imper. of BE *v.*; obs. f. VIZY *v.* **We'se** = *we shall*: see SHALL *v.* A. 5.

† **Wesel.** *Obs. rare.* (Meaning obscure.)

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 52 For wesels. Fyrst grynde porke, temper in fere With egges [etc.].

Wesel(e, obs. ff. WEASEL. **Wesell,** obs. f. WEASEL; var. WEEZLE *Obs.* **Weser,** rare obs. Sc. f. WIZARD.

Wesh, dial. f. WASH *sb.* and *v.*

We-ship. *nonce-wd.* [f. WE *pron.* (2 b) + -SHIP (3 b).] *His we-ship*, a mock title applied to a writer who has used the impersonal 'we'.

1673 MARVELL *Rehearsal Transp.* II. 105 'Tis most graciously done that his We-ship will allow them it.

Wesil, obs. f. WEASEL. **Wesill,** obs. f. WEASEL; var. WEEZLE *Obs.* **Wesing,** rare obs. f. WEASAND. **Wesit,** obs. Sc. f. VISIT *v.* **Wesle,** obs. f. WEASEL.

Wesleyan (we·sliăn, we·zliăn, wezlī·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 Weslean, Weslean. [f. the name of John *Wesley*, 1703–1791, originator of Methodism + -AN. The accepted pronunciation among Methodists is (we·sliăn).]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Wesley or his teaching; belonging to the Wesleyans as a religious organization.

1771 J. W. FLETCHER *Checks to Antinom.* Wks. 1795 II. 277 Upon the scheme of what you call the 'Weslean orthodoxy.' Christ is really the Saviour of all men. —— HAMP-

Wesleyan chapel, without any broken windows. 1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 39 D. and I drove to see a fine Wesleyan church. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 56 A Wesleyan meeting.

b. *Wesleyan Methodist*, a member of the society of Methodists as constituted by John Wesley; also *attrib.* passing into *adj.*, of or pertaining to the Wesleyan Methodists as an organization. *Wesleyan Methodism*, the religious principles, practice, and organization of the Wesleyan Methodists.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Univ. Geog.* I. 280 In 1788, the number of Wesleian Methodists in the United States, stood thus. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 142/2 Since his decease, the prevalence of Wesleyan Methodism in North America has been very great. *Ibid.*, The Wesleyan Methodist church in Upper Canada. 1848 [see METHODIST 4 a]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 286/1 Herein was the actual and vital beginning of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, that is, of Wesleyan Methodism.

B. *sb.* A follower of John Wesley; a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, a Wesleyan Methodist.

1782 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. 1. 20/2 The Wesleyans found fault with the curate for the topics of his discourses. 1832 in Flor. M. Hawtrey *Hawtrey Family* (1903) II. 25 That John should leave the Westlians [*sic*] puzzles me. 1877 F. G. LEE *Gloss. Liturgy. Terms, Wesleyan*, a person who belongs to the sect of Arminian Methodists founded by John Wesley.

Wesleyanism (we·sliăniz'm). Also 8 **Weslelanism.** [f. WESLEYAN + -ISM.] The system of Arminian theology introduced and taught by John Wesley; the doctrines and church polity of the Wesleyans; Wesleyan Methodism.

1774 J. FLETCHER *Hist. Ess.* Wks. 1795 IV. 20 They have departed from what we call Christianity, and what you are at full liberty to call Wesleianism. 1842 PUSEY *Present Crisis* 163 Wesleyanism then was said to be 'degenerating into a developed heresy,' in that it substitutes for the Catholic teaching, a doctrine of justification, for which there is 'no warrant in the Word of God'. 1862 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 343 No sooner did he find that Wesleyans formed the majority of —— Parish, than he began to preach and to talk Wesleyanism. 1904 *Q. Rev.* July 243 Wesleyanism was traditional in the family.

We·sleyanised, *pa. pple.* [f. as prec. + -IZE + -ED.] Affected by Wesleyanism.

1849 KEBLE in J. T. Coleridge *Mem.* xv. (1869) 353 [Isle of Man] The clergy a nice set, but rather Wesleyanised. *c* 1905 J. HUNTER in L. S. Hunter *Life* (1921) 220 The English Congregational Union. Its churches and ministry..are getting to be religiously more and more 'Wesleyanised'.

Wesleyism (we·sliiz'm). *rare.* = WESLEYANISM.

1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xx. 394 Wesleyism also flourishes. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 22 Apr. 3/3 Wesleyism and Quakerism..had no hold on him.

We·sleyite. *nonce-wd.* = WESLEYAN *sb.*

1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 594 Among the Wesleyites, and some other denominations of Dissenters.

Weslyng, var. WISSELING *Obs. Sc.*

Wesp, obs. form of WISP.

Wess, obs. f. WASH *v.* **Wessande,** obs. f. WEASAND. **Wessayle,** obs. f. WASSAIL. **Wessch,** obs. f. WASH *v.* **Wesschael(le,** obs. Sc. ff. VESSEL.

Wesse, obs. f. WASH *v.*; obs. pa. t. of BE *v.*

Wessel, *adv. Sc.* Also **westle, wastle, wassel,** etc. [f. WEST *adv.*: cf. EASSEL.] Westward.

Awestill 'to the west of' occurs in 16th c. Sc.

1815, 1829 [see EASSEL]. 1827 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws of Marches* XIV. 157 We was jickering along wessil, as I say, wi' our heads bent to the weather.

Wessel(e, -ell(e, obs. ff. VESSEL. **Wesseyl(e,** obs. ff. WASSAIL. **Wessh(e,** obs. ff. WASH. **Wessie,** obs. f. VIZY *v. Sc.*

West (west), *adv.*, *sb.*[1], and *a.* Forms: 1–west (1 **weest**), 3 *Orm.* **weast**, 3–7 **weste** (5 *Sc.* **veste**), *Sc.* 5, 7–9 **wast**, 6–7 **weast(e,** (6 *Sc.* **weist, weyst**, 7 *Sc.* **vaist**). [Com. Teutonic: OE. *west* adv. = OFris. *west* (WFris. *west*, NFris. *wêst, wâst*), OS. *-west* (in *north-, sûthwest*; MLG. and LG., MDu. and Du. *west*), OHG. *west-* (G. *west*), ON. and Icel. (with *r*- suffix; cf. *austr* EAST, etc.) *vestr* (MSw. *vâster*, Sw. *vester*); MSw. *vâst* (rare), Norw., Sw., Da. *vest* (prob. after LG.); not recorded in Gothic. The primitive Germanic stem **wes-t-* appears to be an extension of the **wes-* found in Gr. ἕσπερος, ἑσπέρα, L. *vesper, vespera* evening, west. In HG. dialects *abend* is similarly used for 'west'.

In OE. *west* occurs only as an adv., the use as noun and adj. being a later development. In the cognate languages it is usually (in some exclusively) a noun in the earlier periods, the adverbial use coming later, and the adjectival being represented only by the first element in compounds (OE. *west-* in *west-dæl*, etc.).

The fact that the Romanic forms for 'east' (F. *est*, etc.) have been adopted from English indicates that this, rather than any other Germanic language, is also the source of F. *ouest* (OF. *west*), Sp. and Pg. *oeste*.]

A. *adv.* Towards or in the direction of that part of the horizon where the sun sets.

1. a. With reference to movement, extension, or direction.

In Sc. (and Anglo-Irish) use freq. added to verbs of going or coming to indicate the general direction: see quots. under (*b*).

(*a*) *O. E. Chron.* an. 886 Her for se here eft west þe mr east gelende. 944 *Charter of Eadmund* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 541 þonne west andlang weges on ðone lytlan beorg. *c* 995 *Battle of Maldon* 97 Wodon þa wælwulfas,.. west ofer Pantan. 1033 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 45 Of ðam herpaðe west..on ðone stan; of ðon stane west..on Fiducforda. *c* 1205 LAY. 1278 Heo ferden forð & seuer heo drowen west & norð. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 1068 (Kaluza) Whan sche was take wiþ gile, He flij for greet perile West into Wirhale. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVII. 333 *Sattan*..I schall walke este and weste, And garre þame werke wele werre. 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 216 A man to pass to Edinburgh to haist the gunnis west. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35 b, Where it weneth to go east, it gothe west. 1582 BOROUGH *Discourse Var. Compass* (1585) G j, The course set downe from Sillie to Cape Raso is due West. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. 1. 145 There lies your way, due West. 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. iii. 2, I intended once to have gone due West this Journey. 1760 R. ROGERS *Jrnls.* (1769) 197 We..kept the following courses 1..west-by-north one mile, west two miles. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 480 If the basilica orientated west. *Ibid.* 484 The remaining three..have their altars facing due west. 1899 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXV, Splendid pastures, which stretch west farther than any man has been yet. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* etc., L'Envoi, It's North you may run to the rim-ringed sun..Or West to the Golden Gate.

(*b*) *a* 1704 *Ew-bughts, Marion* 32 in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.*, And soon as my chin has nae hair on, I shall come west, and see ye. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* viii. (1754) I. 281 He told us we must go West a Piece (though there was no Appearance of the Sun) and then incline to the North. 1887 ANNIE S. SWAN *Gates of Eden* I. 24 West a weel, sell them I'll come wast when I'm ready.

b. In special applications: (*a*) *To go west*, of the sun; also *fig.*, to die, perish, disappear. (*b*) To America, or to the Western States.

Also (*c*) in Highland Sc. and Anglo-Irish use freq. rendering Gael. *siar, iar* (= west, back) in the sense of 'back', 'away', 'up', or 'down'.

The immediate source of the modern use in (*a*), which became common during the Great War, has not been established.

(*a*) *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13363 For hit was nyght, the sonne goth west. *c* 1500 *Chaucer's L. G. W.* 61 (Trin. Camb.) Assone As the son gynneth go west. 18.. *Poems Gray MS.* vi. 42 (S.T.S.) 55 Women and mony wilsome wy as wynd or wattir ar gane west. 1912 E. COBB *Thirty Yrs. Boxing Referee* 2, I shall once again be in the company of dear old friends now 'gone West'. 1919 J. B. MORTON *Barber of Putney* ix, 'All the Lawis guns gone west,' someone said. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 368/2 Their parcels..went persistently 'west'. 1923 COLE *Death of Millionaire* vi. 57 Wilson sighed. 'There's valuable evidence gone west', he said. 'It may be hard to pick up the trail now.'

(*b*) 1839 MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xviii. 122, I could not help thinking that one must come 'west' in order to learn a little of everything. 1851 J. L. B. SOULE in *Terre Haute Express* (Hoyt) Go West, young man! Go West. 1878 W. NASH *Oregon* 6 After some debate we settled to go West by the Pennsylvania railroad, going South..to Philadelphia, and thence West by way of Pittsburg. 1879 W. SAUNDERS *Through Light Cont.* 35 'Go West, young man,' was Horace Greeley's advice, and West I went accordingly.

(*c*) 1893 W. R. LE FANU *70 Yrs. Ir. Life* vii. (ed. 2) 90 'Why didn't you wash the back of your neck?' 'Twas too far west, my lady.'..'Tis not a cold I have at all..'tis a fly that's gone west in my stomach.'

2. With reference to place or location.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIX. § 13 Se..æfensteorra, þonne he bið west ʒesewen, þonne tacnað he æfen. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894 Þa he þa wiðr þone here þær west ablʒod wæs. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 129 Ierusalem..is west þonon from þære stowe on anre mile. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12255 Þa fowwre daless alle þatt Æst, & Weest, & Suþ, & Norrþ þiss middellærd bilukenn. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 923 East & west, soup & norþ, I do wel fayre my meister. *c* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 59 Whether y be south other west. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 2128 Est, west, norþ and soupe, Be maistris of har moupe Many man coup þey schende. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 18 Londay and the old hede of Hindilforde lye west and by north. 1559 CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glass* 172 Fiue Ilandes..Of which that whiche is most west, is called properlye Ebuda. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 459 Where it [Suffolk] lieth West and toward Cambridgeshire. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atlantis* 14 The Phœnicians..

man 9, I hae been east, I hae been west. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 256 Another imaginary line so many degrees east or west of the meridian of Greenwich. 1903 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. v. § 1 We shall have a nice little flat somewhere, not too far west.

b. Followed by *of*.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. I. 49 b/1 in *Holinshed*, The Kenet ryseth aboue Ouerton, v or vj myles west of Marleborow. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 19 West of this Forrest, scarcely off a mile, In goodly forme, comes on the Enemie. 1728 [see WESTERLING]. 1784 FILSON *Kentucky* 22 Lees town is west of Lexington. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 219 The Lakes..lay south-west, and west of Keswick. 1875 RUSKIN *Mornings Florence* I. 5 A few hundred yards west of you..is the Baptistery of Florence.

c. *U.S.* In the West, out West. (Cf. C. 3 b.)

1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* xi. 126 One of 'em married West, and her husband left her.

3. With modifying addition (in senses 1 and 2), as *west by south*, etc. Also **WEST-NORTH-WEST, -SOUTH-WEST.**

1577 HARRISON *England* II. I. 48 b/1 in *Holinshed*, The Winrush..meeteth wyth the Isis west by south of Northmore. 1760 R. ROGERS *Jrnls.* (1769) 197 We..then steered ..west-by-south two miles, west-by-north four miles.

4. *Sc.* Ellipt. as *prep.* **a.** At, in, or to the west of. **b.** Towards the west along (a road, etc.).

1587 *Reg. Mag. Stg. Scot.* 480/2 Insuper creavit dictum Burgum de Anstruther super occidentali terrentis (went the burne). 1589 *Ibid.* 573/1 Strekand west the hie streit to the dyk. 1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 48 But step ye west the Kill A Bow-shot, and ye'll find my Hame. *Mod.* I saw him rinnin' wast the road. He bides wast the toun.

B. 1. Quasi-*sb.* = C.

c 1200 ORMIN 11258 All þiss middellærd ias ec O fowwre daless dæledd, Onn Æst, o Weest, o Suþ, o Norrþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22139 Fra est to west, fra north to soth, He sal do mak his sarmun cuth. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 2177 (Camb. MS.) Ihc habbe go mani Mile, Wel feor bi ponde weste. *c* 1392 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 15 A longe croye in 4 quarters from est to West, fro sowth to north. *c* 1400 *St Pol. Poems* XXIV. 208 Lord, whenne þou comest to deme so Al þe world be fyre, bope est and west. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXIV. 23 Thocht he this warld had eist and west, All wer pouertie but gladnes. 1575 A. FLEMING *Verg. Bucol.* II. 67 Th' increasing shadowes doubleth the sunne going downe at West. 1577 D. SETTLE *Frobisher's Voy.* B iij, Wee..followed our course between West and Northwest, vntill the 4. of Iulie. 1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 472 The Romaine Eagle From South to West, on wing soaring aloft Lessen'd her selfe. 1648 T. SHEPARD *Clear Sun-shining of Gosp.* 30 A brighter day..wherein East & West shall sing the song of the Lambe. 1674 SIR J. MOORE *Math. Compend.* 93 From West to East the account is by degrees and parts, or by hours. 1789 S. SHAW *Tour W. Eng.* 444 The principal street extending from east to west is remarkably paved. 1819 KEATS *Song Four Faeries* 45 So you sometimes follow me To my home, far, far, in west. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 64 Our statues!—not of those that men desire,..Nor stunted squaws of West or East. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* etc. 75 Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet. 1924 H. BELLOC *Old Road* 32 Sea-going vessels..would have calm water..so long as the wind was south of

2. *By west*: †a. In the west; on the west side; also westward *of*. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Horn* 5 (Harl.) Kyng he was by weste. *c* 1300 — 1306 (Laud) He wonep alby weste. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 18 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 48 Temese into þe est see, & seuerne bi weste. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM vii. 64 By weste hy grendeþ, alle byrie, And comeþ aʒen þer hy aryse. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* (1901) 696 As I wandrede her bi weste ffaste vnder a forest syde. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 419 Quhare wourschip walkis be west. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1764) III. 7 A Castel a Mile by West from Markesin. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. 30/1 in *Holinshed*, The Weie or the Waye rising by west, cometh from Olsted. *Ibid.* 53/2 By west of Auterton point also lyeth another hauen. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. vi. 22 Not farre away, but little wide by West, His dwelling was.

†b. As a compound prep.: On the west side of, to the west of (see BY *prep.* 9 c). Also *fig.* (quot. 1612). *Obs.*

c 1275 LAY. 2136 Camber hafde al him seolf bi weste Seuarne. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 16 And by west belille and Ortingere southwest. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 203/1 In Southe Wales, by west the blak Montayne. 1529 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1527*, 96/1 Nixt befor Sanct Michaelis altar be West the said altar. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland* etc. (1787) 177 Whereupon grew that bye-word used by the Irish, viz. that they dwelt *by west the low*, which dwelt beyond the river of the Barrow. 1661 LAMONT *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 139 The Earle of Weyms beganne to bueld a new harbory for shipping, a little be west Saltgreine. 1714 R. SMITH *Poems of Controv.* (1853) 2 Let all be-west the Spittel cone.

c. *Naut.* Indicating certain points of the compass (see BY *prep.* 9 b).

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 14 Huschaunt and the pople hope lien north and by west south. *Ibid.* 20 For cause of that Rok þe must go north and by west. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xciii. 165 We held our course ..from thence south West and by West, vnto the cape *de Bona Speranza*. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 242 South and by west the threatening demon blew.

C. *sb.* (Usually with *the*.)

1. That one of the four cardinal points which lies opposite the east and at right angles to the north and the south; that part of the horizon or of the sky which is near the place of the sun's setting.

In the west, of the wind, = blowing from the west.

c 1280 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 118 Inde versus le West per viridem viam. *a* 1295 *Ancr. R.* 94 Ase is þe sunne gleam, þet smit from east into þe west. *c* 1290 *Brendan* 48 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 221 We comen to a watur..þat euere fram-ward þe est, toward þe west it drovȝ. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 13 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 48 Engelond..is..two hondred [miles] brod iwis Fram þe est in to þe west. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* x. 19 The Lord..made blow the moost hidous wynde fro the west. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 45 þe lengþe of þe erþe þat men wonep ynne from þe est to þe west, þat is from Ynde to Hercules is pliers. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 46 Toward the West, is the Contree of Coston. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 204/28 þan is hys hed leyde into þe west and hys fette into þe est. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xii. 54 When ye se a cloude ryse out off the west, strayght waye ye sayes we shall have a shower. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 42 Leauing open a space for twoo doores, a fore doore and a backe doore, but so, as neyther of them open to the West. 1624 E. WRIGHT *Dialling* C 2, Your face being turned towards the North, your right hand sheweth the East, your left hand the West. 1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* v. ii, I in the Eastern Parts, and rising Sky, You in Heav'ns Downfal, and the West must lie. 1722 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 422 Pikes..never bite more freely, than when the Wind is in the West. *a* 1723 BINGHAM *Antiq. Chr. Ch.* XI. vii. § 6 In renouncing the Devil they had their Faces to the West. *a* 1748 WATTS *Summer Evening* 5 Now the fair traveller's come to the west,..He paints the sky gay, as he sinks to his rest. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* III. xxiv, Her blue eyes sought the west afar. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 156 A rood,..between which and the communion-table was a small prayer-desk facing the west, i. e. the people. 1876 BRIDGES *Growth of Love* xxix, I travel to thee with the sun's first rays, That lift the dark west and unwrap the night. 1923 J. METCALFE *Smoking Log*, etc. 116 When the wind was in the west.

transf. and *fig.* 1613 DONNE *Epithal.* 181 May never age, or error overthwart With any West, these radiant eyes, with any North, this heart. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 47 O joyfull day! Thou hast restord our light, Wrapt up in constant night, In one continu'd West. 1655 FANSHAWE *Camoens' Lusiad* I. xxxii. 7 But now he fears that Gloria's neer it's West, In the black Water of Oblivion.

b. That quarter which with regard to the speaker or some particular place lies in a westerly direction.

1537 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Club) I. 412 His tenment lyand in Auld Abirdene aforneut þe cors of þe samynge one þe weist. 1672 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 448 A Sunny hill..Back'd on the North and West by a thick wood. 1773 NOORTHOUCK *Hist. Lond.* 597 Cordwainers-ward..is bounded..on the west by Bread-street-ward. *a* 1887 KEMBLE *Horæ Ferales* (1863) 25 The Lithuanians of Prussia on the west.

c. Followed by *of*.

1623 ZOUCHE *Dove* B 6 b, Aboue Iudæa, bord'ring on the West Of great Armenia, lesser Asia lyes. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 152 The armie marched to Bellaghnegrege on the weaste of Aleaga. 1725 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 328 According as the Meridian of the one lies to the East or to the West of the Meridian of the other. 1789 S. SHAW *Tour W. Eng.* 563 To the west of this..lies Overton. 1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* IV. ii, Harrow-on-the-Hill..lying to the west of the green on which they walked.

2. *spec.* a. The western part of the world. Now commonly, Europe as distinguished from Asia.

c 1205 LAY. 1231 Bi-ʒende France i þet west þu scalt finden a wunsum lond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2 Engelond his.. leet in þe on ende of þe worlde as al in þe west. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* viii. 11 Manye shulen come fro the est and *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 703 Waynour gared wisely write in þe west, To al þe religious to rede and to singe. 1563 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 154 All the wealthy Kingdomes of the West. 1613 ZOUCHE *Dove* B 4, First Bacchus..set vp trophees in the conquer'd East: Oh would he had gone on as he begunne, And neuer turned to subdue the West! 1762 GRAY *Descr. Odin* 63 In the caverns of the west. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 811 Eastern Java there Kneels with the native of the farthest west. 1820 WORDSW. *Extinction of Venetian Rep.* 2 Once did She hold the gorgeous east in fee; And was the safeguard of the west. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 348 He never yet had set his daughter forth Here in the woman-markets of the west, Where our Caucasians let themselves be sold. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* etc. 188 The Lords of Their Hands assembled; from the East and the West they drew. 1902 A. S. HURD *Naval Efficiency* 109 In the West there seems to be an impression that the fleet of Japan is a mere matter of show.

b. The western portion of the Roman world after its division into two empires in A.D. 395.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrates Schol.* VI. i. 360 When yᵉ Emperour Theodosius had departed this life..his sonnes tooke in hand the gouernment of the Romaine empire. Arcadius ruled the East and Honorius the West. 1620 R. FIELD *Fifth Bk. Ch.* XXXV. 194 The Bishop of Rome ..called a Synode of al the Bishops of the West. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXXIII. (1787) III. 327 Honorius, emperor of the West. 1790 PRIESTLEY *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 332 Having seen what was doing in the East, let us now turn our eyes towards the West, where Valentinian governed. 1840 MILMAN *Hist. Chr.* II. viii. II. 207 Of the persecution under Severus there are few, if any, traces in the West. 1865 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* iii. (1866) 97 Odoacer..resolved to..extinguish the title and office of Emperor of the West.

c. The western parts of Europe.

1916 J. BUCHAN *Nelson's Hist. War* XIII. 121 A strong offensive in the West might induce the Allies to make a premature counter-attack.

3. The western part of a country, region, or area; *spec.* a. of England, Great Britain, Scotland, or Ireland.

14.. *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 67 The Boor' is farr in to the west, That shold vs helpe wᵗ shild and sper'. 15.. *Ladye Bessie* (Percy Soc.) 53 When thou rydest into the weste, I pray the take noe companye But such as shall be of the beste. 1632 HEYWOOD (*title*) The Fair Maid of the West. 1632 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 54 Thir ministeris..held thair awin secreit meetingis in the west. 1666 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 158 From Kingsale I intend to go to Bandon to settle that town, and all the West. 1693–4 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 248 Letters from the west say, our Streights fleet are clear of the Lands End. 1732 *Flying Post* 20 Aug. 2/1 Edinburgh..The Earl of Aberdeen is set out for the West to visit his daughter. *a* 1734 WODROW *Collect. Lives Reformers* (1834) I. 109 Mr. Willock was appointed..Superintendant of the West. 1793 COLERIDGE *Sonn. River Otter* 1 Wild streamlet of the West! 1836 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 465 My purpose is to..take Cuthbert with me into the West by way of Bristol. 1841 LEVER *O'Malley* xii, He was peaceably taking his departure from the West on Saturday. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* xii. 189 The aunt..resided in the vicinity of the capital of the west [i. e. Glasgow].

b. The western States of North America.

Formerly the country west of the original thirteen states, now usually taken to mean the country west (or north-west) of the Mississippi River. Sometimes limited, as *The Far, Middle West*.

1849 EVERETT *Orat. & Sp.* (1850) I. 203, I have made a journey of between three and four thousand miles in the west. 1837 PECK *Gaz. Illinois* Introd. p. vi, No state in the 'Great West' has attracted so much attention..as that of Illinois. 1855 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Apr. 380/2, I am disgusted with the West. If ever you catch me at large, anywhere west of the Alleghanies, again, you may shoot me. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 165 The States west of the Mississippi continue to be called the West. 1878 H. H. VIVIAN *Notes Tour Amer.* 201 Omaha is the last city of the West. After you pass it you are in the 'Far West'—in the State of Nebraska. 1886 F. M. CRAWFORD *Tale Lonely Parish* v, In the mining districts of the West, in up-country stations in India.

c. The western part *of* a specified country, etc.

1613 ZOUCHE *Dove* B 5, The west of Asia, once Eartha Paradice. 1769 S. SHAW (*title*) A Tour to the West of England. 1838 DOWLING *Introd. Eccl. Hist.* 37 The political and social condition of the west of Europe. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXXVII, Pretty nigh all over the West of England. *ellipt.* 1894 C. VICKERMAN *Woollen Spinning* 232 Our super west cloths are all tender..when finished. [*Ibid.* 272 A plain super west of England cloth.]

d. The West End of London.

1823 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. iii, Let the West boast of their highflyers as they will, you'll find there are still some choice creatures of society left here. 1872 A. AUSTIN *Golden Age* 34 In one brief hour behold him curled and drest, And borne on wings of fashion to the West!

4. *Ch. Hist.* The Catholic Church in the Western Roman Empire and countries adjacent to it; the Roman or Latin Church.

1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* lx. 94 Look vpon the East and the West, the Greeke and Latine Churches, and you shall finde this to be true. 1632 E. SPARKE *Scint. Altaris* 4 Do not all the golden Fountains of the Fathers (both of the East and West, the Greek and Latine Church) flow with the same streams? 1790 PRIESTLEY *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 314 Though the bishops of the West had been deceived at Arminum, they had all abjured the blasphemies of that council. 1850 NEALE *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. Introd. 9, I shall constantly reckon among the Saints those whom the Eastern Church, whether with or without the consent of the West, so accounts. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 233 According to the universal custom of the West, this water should be cold.

5. The west wind.

1604 E. G[RIMESTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. v. 133 They have reckoned two other windes, the East of summer, and the East of winter, and by consequence, two Weests. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XII. 478 Now out flies The gloomy West, and whistles in the skies. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI. xxi, Dark rolling like the ocean-tide, When the rough west hath chafed his pride. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads* Ser. I. 128 As roses, when the warm West blows, Break to full flower.

b. A westerly direction of the wind.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* XVI, Some nautical authority had told me a day or two previous, 'anything with west in it, will do'.

D. *adj.*

1. Lying towards the west; situated at or in the west; western, westerly. †Of a planet: Seen in the western part of the sky (tr. L. *occidentalis*).

c 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* li. (*Paul*) 70 Syne Nero In þe weste partis has lattyn hym go. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 123 þere I sawe sothely..Out of þe west coste a wenche, as me thouȝte, Cam walkynge in þe way. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxiv. (1495) 362 A weste sterre that hyghte Vesperus. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 44 At Marrok, upon the West See, duelte the Calyffe of Barbaryenes. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 176, j. rodde of Arable londe vppon Otehulle at forthsheter, þat is to say, the more weste Rodde. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 204/1 Grete part of the Westbordures of Scotlande. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1764) III. 9 The very Westeste Pointe of Cornewaulle. *Ibid.* 46 The Est and the West Gates be now the fairest. 1577 D. SETTLE *Frobisher's Voy.* title, A true reporte of the laste voyage into the West and Northwest regions. *Ibid.* B viij, On this West shoare we found a dead fishe floating. 1689 *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 54/2 That two friggetts be gott to cruse on the west coasts. 1789 N. PORTLOCK *Voy.* 324 There is anchorage to the Northward of the West point of Morotoi. 1801 M. DOWNIE *Observ. Atmosphere* 89 Those parts of the West coasts of Africa which lie between the Tropics. 1895 'P. HEMINGWAY' *Out of Egypt* II. 185 The west sky grew pale and gold.

b. Of western Europe, as opposed to the east; *esp.* belonging to the Roman or Latin church; = WESTERN 4. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 141 b, The Occidentall or weast Churches thorow out all Europe. 1565 HARDING *Answ. Jewel's Challenge* 86 b, Yet had they of that nation their Seruice then in Latine, as all the West churche had. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrates Schol.* V. xxiv. 358 In the West empire there was one Eugenius, [etc.]. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xi § 12 The West Church vsing vnleauened bread, as the Iewes in their passouer did. 1628 BP. HALL *Old Relig.* xii. 116 The most eminent Diuines of both East and West Churches.

c. *spec.* †west isles, the western isles of Scotland; †west world, the new world, America.

1587 HARRISON *Descr. Eng.* I. x. 39/2 in *Holinshed*, The Iles that lie about the north coast of..Scotland..are either occidentals, the west Iles, [etc.]. 1613 S. DANIEL *1st Pt. Hist. Eng.* 5 As now, we see all the West world (lately discouered) to bee.

d. Of or pertaining to the west.

1572 TWYNE *Dionysius' Surv. World* 1 Two winds, ..the Hesperian or Sicilian wynde, whiche is West, and the Southeaste, whiche bloweth from the sea Aegæum. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 549 All the West Allies of stormy Boreas blow. 1900 H. S. HOLLAND *Old & New* 97 Whether East or West, we all with one consent excuse ourselves from our responsibilities.

2. With proper names: a. Denoting the western part of a country, district, etc., or the more westerly of two places having the same name.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. ii. 162 The lord of westwalis promysed to bryngе xxx M men. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 17 § 10 In West Depyng or Est Depyng yn the countie of Lyncoln. 1645 BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1652) 6 East-Meath and Catherlogh or Carlo..West-Meath, Kildare, Kilkenny, [etc.]. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (Bannatyne Club) II. 388 The French are like this year to have very bad successe, both in Italie, Spaine, and West Flanders. 1724 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 27, I..set forward through west and East Jarsey. 1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 566 The principal town in West Florida is Pensacola. 1811 WILLAN (*title*) A List of Ancient Words at present used in the mountainous district of the West Riding of Yorkshire. 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New Engl.* I. 44 The term *wench* is used in the honourable of the West Midland.

b. Denoting the western division of a race, nation, or people. Cf. WEST-SAXON.

1561 DAUS *Bullinger on Apoc.* lxi. 430 The Westegothes possessed all Spayne. 18.. T. C. LUBY *Life & Times O'Connell* 342/1 Thomas Spring Rice..was probably the first Irishman who nicknamed himself 'a West Briton'. 1909 JANE BARLOW *Irish Ways* 3 Not to believe in, at least, fairies, argues you a west-Briton, if nothing worse.

c. With sbs. and adjs. derived from the names of countries, districts, or peoples.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 80 Kings of West-gothique bloud. 1883 GRAVES *Rom. Law* in *Encycl. Met.* (1845) II. 765/1 A manuscript of the Westgothic compilation, called the *Breviarium Aniani*. 1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* I. Pl. 18 West-Australian Goa-Hawk. 1852 HENFREY *Veget. Eur.* 169 Thus we get four sections of Germanic plants, viz.: .. *c.* the west-Germanic. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 363 The West African River Shrew.

3. *Eccl.* Situated in or at that part of a church (normally the actual west) which is farthest from the altar or high altar.

1412 *Catterick Ch. Contract* (1834) 9 The lenght of the body of the Kirke..with the thicknes of the west walle. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Aug. (end) 1641, There hang near the West window [of the church] two models of shipps. 1773 NOORTHOUCK *Hist. Lond.* 629 The west front [of St. Paul's] is graced with a most magnificent portico. 1828 RICKMAN *Engl. Archit.* 72 The west doors of York are of

choir and its old established west-gallery musicians.

4. Facing to the west.

1383 T. Fale *Horolog.* 7 b, The making of the East and West Erect Dials. 1638 S. Foster *Art of Dialling* 13 Those plaines are called East and West inclliners, whose horisontall line lyeth full North and South, and their inclination is directly towards either East or West. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vii. 167 In a West-window in summer time towards night, the Sun grows low. 1832 *Planting* (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) 26 The soil of the nursery must be..under a south, east, or west exposure.

III. In combination: **a.** with vbl. sbs. and ppl. adjs. as † *west-coming*; *west-facing*, *-going*, † *-walling* adjs.

1592 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 53 That thai report testimoniall heirintill agane thair first west cuming in this cuntrey. 1595 Markham *Trag. Sir R. Grinvile* xxxiv, The great west-walling boisterous sea. 1866 *Good Words* 1 June 390/1 During the first two days we passed upwards of a hundred west-going waggons. 1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 181 A long..west-facing gallery.

b. with advbs., as *west-about*, *-away*.

1579 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1581 73/1 Thairfra passand west about as the new stank brais lyis. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *West-about* adv., around toward the west; in a westerly direction. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvii, Will onybody.., grumble at the treaty that opened us a road west-awa' yonder? 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxx, If you sailed right west away far enough, you'd surely come to the edge, and fall over cleve. 1875 *Anderida* II. xi. 195 Three ships ran down the coast westaway.

c. With adjs., as **west-central** *a.*, belonging to the western half of the central postal division of London.

1880 *All Year Round* No. 66. 372 A small street off one of the west-central squares. 1885 'Annie Thomas' *On Guard* II. 265 The show-room of the west-central Mantalini for whom she worked.

West (west), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] A sty or inflammatory swelling on the eyelid.

1569 Androse tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. i. 4 To heale a West that riseth vpon the eye liddes. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4185/4 A down Look, having a West in one of his Eyes. 1847 Halliwell. 1899 C. K. Paul *Memories* 250, 'I have a west coming in my eye'.

West (west), *v.* Also 4 **weste**. [f. West *adv.*] *intr.* To move towards the west. Chiefly of the sun: To draw near to the west, to sink in the west.

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 166 On a bed of gold sche lay to reste Tyl that the hote sunne gan to weste. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 61 Whanne the sunne be-gynnys for to weste. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. Introd. viii, Foure times his place he shifted hath in sight, And twice has risen, where he now doth West, And wested twice, where he ought rise aright. 1607 Walkington *Optic Glass* 162 Phœbus beginneth low to west. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* X. 213 From Mohawk's mouth, far westing with the sun, Thro all the midlands recent channels run. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 443 The sun at length westing to the valley brow. 1889 in F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* (1903) II. 340 A ship going round the world making east all the way would gain a day, and by westing would lose one.

West, obs. Sc. f. Vest *v.*; obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Wit *v.*[1]

Westar, obs. Sc. form of Waster *sb.*[1]

We·st-bound, *a.* [West *adv.*] Travelling to the west or in a westerly direction; connected with travel in this direction.

Orig. *U.S.* of railway-trains. In more general use from *c* 1900, freq. of Transatlantic steamers.

1881 *Chicago Times* 12 Mar., The west-bound express was laid up all night at Kearney. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Sept. 2/3 He will at once give you a west-bound ticket to Chicago. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 67, I watched my chance.. and got on a west-bound freight train. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 1/3 The West-bound traveller..would choose his 'bus .along the Embankment.

† **We·stbury apple**. *Obs.* (See quot. 1676.)

1676 Worlidge *Vinetum Brit.* 160 The Westberry-Apple, taking its name from Westberry in Hampshire,..its one of the most solid Apples that grows, of a tough rind, [etc.]. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 537 The Westberry Apple [1721 The Westbury Apple]. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xxi. 264 Pippins,..Westbury Apples, Russetting.

West-by(e (we·st,bəi·), *adv. Sc.* [f. West *adv.* + By *adv.* I.] In a westerly direction, westwards.

1790 A. Shirrefs *Poems* 72 We met wi' Bessy..Wha taul's ye gaed west-by a wee before. 1864 Latto *Tammas Bodkin* xxvii. 283 Tibbie's letters bein' aye left wastbye at Janet Wabster's to be forwarded.

West country. [West *a.*] The western part of any country; the district or region towards the west; *spec.* of England or of Scotland.

Usually the remoter counties west (or south-west) of the speaker, or of London (in Scotland west of Edinburgh); sometimes *spec.* the south-western counties (Somerset, Devon, etc.).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XI. iii. (Bodl. MS.) In þe est londes and contreyes is muche more plente of fruytes and floures þanne in þe northe and in þe weste contreye. *c* 1400 *Brut* CCXXVIII. 302 In þe same 3ere, aboute þe Sowthcuntreys and also in þe west cuntre, þere fell so much reyne..þat [etc.]. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 171 Our wast contre thar statute is so strang, Into the north my purpose is to gang. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 10 The Erle of Warwyke londede in the west countre. 1534 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 395 Ye do detayne..teyne londes in the cuntrey contrary to all right. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1596) 474 At Dartmouth in the West countrie. 1639 G. Platter *Discov. Sudeten. Tyrol.* xl. 51 Every one may see in the west Country, where such a multitude of Firre trees doe lie covered so deepe in the earth, that [etc.]. 1819 Scott *Leg.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. v. 136, I had very little acquaintance..with the gentry of the west country. 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* xiiii. I. 339 The Whiggamore Raid, all the force of the West Country, 6,000 strong, is already there. 1906 J. E. Vincent *Highways Berks.* ix. 241 It is a little strained, perhaps, to include Berkshire in the West country.

b. *attrib.* (Frequently hyphened.)

a 1693 Bidding *Usef. Cases Consc.* (1693) 40 They think these Malignants better than the West-Countrey forces. 1698 T. Jordan *Tri. Lond.* 14 Some honest plain West-Country-men. 1699 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3579/2 Edinburgh...Several Thousands of the West-Country Men have offered to Serve Their Majesties against the Highlanders. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 5805/4 Speaks in a broad West-Country Dialect. 1809 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 435 Sheep..of the Devonshire, or west-country breed. 1820 Scott *Monast.* Introd. Ep. A west-

[illegible] living in a west-country town.

fig. 1853 W. D. Cooper *Sussex Gloss.* (ed. 2) 85 *West-country Parson*, the Hake; so called from the black streak on the back, and from its abundance along the West Coast.

† **Westdeal.** *Obs.* In 1 **westdæl**, 3 **westdel**, *Orm.* **westdale**. [See West *adv.* and Deal *sb.*[1]] The western part or district, the west.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxiv. 7 Ne from eastdæle ne from westdæle. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Þy fiftan dæge..se heofon tobyrst from þæm eastdæle oþ þone westdæl. *c* 1200 Ormin 16406 Westdale off all þiss werelld ias Dyaiss bi name nemmnedd. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cii[i]. 12 Hou mikle eatdel stand westdel fra, Fer made he fra vs oure wickenes swa.

† **Weste**, *sb.* [Reduced form of OE. *wéstен* (see Western *sb.*[2]), or f. next.] A desert, wilderness.

c 1200 Ormin 11747 Þær i þe weaste þær he wass Himm ane. *Ibid.* 17408 Alls he comm wiþþ all þe folle Inntill a wilde weaste. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 On his þuweðe he fleh fro folke to weste. *Ibid.*, Weste was his wunienge.

† **Weste**, *a. Obs.* Also 3 **west**. [OE. *wéste*, earlier *wéste* = OFris. *wôste* (WFris. *woust*), MDu. and Du. *woest*, OS. *wôsti* (MLG. *wôst*, *wüst*, LG. *wöst*), OHG. *wôsti*, *wuosti* (MHG. *wüeste*, G. *wüst*), f. the stem **wôst-*, related to L. *vāstus*: see Waste *a.*]

1. Of places: Uninhabited and uncultivated or untended; desert, desolate, waste.

Beowulf 2456 [He] gesyhð sorhcearig..winsele westne. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxviii. 26 Sie eardung heara woestu. *Ibid.* lxxiv. 7 From woestum muntum. *c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* I. xv. 52 Is sæd of þære tide..þæt hit [*sc.* þæt land] weste wunige. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 15 Deos stowe ys weste. *c* 1200 Ormin 1417 All forrþi wass heoffness serd Swa summ itt weaste wære. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 He..þerfore ferde into weste wilderne. *c* 1205 Lay. 10391 Al þat lond heo makeden west. *Ibid.* 17330 Ich wulle..maken him weste paðes & wildernes monie. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1528 Wowes weste [*v.r.* west] and lere huse. *a* 1300 *Mastmian* 211 (MS. Digby 86) Þis world me þinkeþ west.

2. *West(e) land*, waste land; desert.

c 1030 *Sherburn Surv.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Jan. 18 Ond þys synd weste land: Ane is Sal-leze; oðer is Grante-leze. *c* 1200 Ormin 9239 Sannt Johan i wesstelanndd Wass wurrþenn cuþ þatt time. *Ibid.* 21429 All swa summ weesteland iss all Forrworrpenn & forrlæstenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 16268 He sunde west lond [*c* 1275 in west lond], leoden of-alesȝene.

† **Weste**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *wéstan* (:— *wôstjan*: see Weste *a.*) = OS. (*d*)*wôstian*, OHG. *wuostan* (MHG. *wuesten* G. *wüsten*).] *trans.* To lay waste.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. x. § 1 Hie..wæron fiftene ȝear þæt lond herigende & westende. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxviii. 7 Hi..his wic-stede westan. *Ibid.* lxxix. 13 Hine..wilde deor westaþ and frettaþ. *c* 1205 Lay. 1754 Þus heo westen þat lond. *Ibid.* 20941 Heo..sæiden þat heo wolden..westen Arðures lond. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3915 Þis folc..his lond tok...And westen al to flum Iordan.

Weste, obs. pa. t. and pple. of Wish *v.*, Wit *v.*[1]

Westecoateer, var. Waistcoateer.

Westelur, var. Wisseler *Obs.*

† **We·sten**, *a. Sc. Obs.*[—1] [f. West *adv.* Cf. Eastern *a.*] Western.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 61 The feyrd cardinal vynd is callit fauonius or occidental, quhilk vulgaris callis vestin vynd.

† **Westen**, *adv. Obs.* [OE. *westan* (f. *west* adv.) = OFris. *westa*, OS. *westan* (*wind*), ON. and Icel. (Norw., Sw.) *vestan* (Da. *vesten*): cf. Western *adv.* and Bewest.] From the west. Also with *fro*.

a 900 *Genesis* 8.6 Þif her wind cymð westan oððe eastan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Se þridda henfod-wind..blæwð westan. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3096 On wind cam fro westen, and so [h]opperes nam.

West end. [OE. *west-ende* (see West *adv.*) = Du. *westeinde*, WFris. *westein*, MLG., G. *westende*. In later use f. West *a.*]

1. The western end or extremity of anything.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 3 Hire on westende is Scotland. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1036 Syððan hine man byrigde ..æt þam west ende, þam styple ful gehende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 244 Toward þe west ende of þe worlde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1733 A selly nounbre Of wrichis & wirlingis out of the west endis. 1408–17 in *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) Introd. p. xcvi, A Tent withowt the west ende of the church yerd made of Clothe. *a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1764) II. 7 The West Ende of Eweim Parochie Chirch. *Ibid.* IV. 124 There be 2. Wooden Bridges at the West Ende of the Towne. 1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* v. iii. 9 Goe thou with her to the West end of the wood. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, Having two spires and middle lanterne at the West end. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5906/3 We met an English Runner off the West-end of this Island [Jamaica]. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* III. iv, He privately took a lodging at the west end of the town. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid.* vi, The west end of the defile formed by the Luckenbooths was secured in the [illegible] 1847 [see Rumford *sb.* 2]. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* vii, A fashionable neighbourhood at the west end of the town. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 39 The upper row of stalls..at the west end of the chancel.

2. *spec.* *The West End*, that part of London lying westward of Charing Cross and Regent St. and including the fashionable shopping district, Mayfair, and the Parks; also, those living within this area.

1807 tr. *Goede's Trav.* I. 38 The devices at the west end, are usually crowns, stars, crescents. 1823 *Edinb. Mag.* III. 143 As you're staying with a relation at the west end..there's no harm in making a genteel acquaintance—eh? 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz*, *Dancing Academy*, It was not in the West-end at all—it rather approximated to the eastern portion of London. 1863 O. W. Holmes *Old Vol. Life* (1891) 97 We know what the West End of London wishes may be result of this controversy. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* vii, She was setting up a dressmaker's shop;..she had hopes of support, even from the West End, where she had friends.

3. *transf.* The fashionable or aristocratic quarter of a town or other place.

1823 Byron *Juan* XI. xlv, The great world..Meaneth the west or worst end of a city. 1830 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Richter* (1872) III. 33 Richter, for his part, was quite excluded from the West-end of Hof: for Hof too has its West-end...So poor Richter could only be admitted to the West-end of the Universe. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 159 There was, however, a sort of West-end to the room, where the fashionables and the Vons seemed instinctively to congregate. 1854 tr. *Hettner's Athens & Pelop.* 28 This is the fashionable part, or 'west end' of New Athens. 1863 Speke *Source Nile* xii. 339 A number of huts..were at once assigned to me, on the face of a hill...It was considered the 'West End'.

4. *attrib.* (from senses 2 and 3.)

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 4/1 A refuge for the West-end destitute of all denominations. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* I, Doctor Parker Pep's West End practice. 1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* xxxiii, A colour that West-End tailors had vainly striven to emulate. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 28/2 Spacious west-end quarters in cities. 1889 Lowell *Latest Lit. Ess.* (1891) 67 With that West-End view of the realities of life which Englishmen of a certain class feel it proper to take.

Hence **We·st-e·nder**, one who lives at the west end of a town, *esp.* of London; **We·st-e·ndian** = prec.; **We·st-e·ndish** *a.*, of or characteristic of the West End; **We·st-e·ndism**, West-end quality or character.

1839 Dickens *Nicholby* xxxvii, A pleasant fiction invented by jealous *West-enders. 1874 H. Mayhew *Lond. Characters* 209 Already there is a sort of *esprit de locale*..amongst the inhabitants of the new quarters that the old West Ender never dreamed of. 1885 Hor. Smith *Gaieties & Grav.* II. 322 *West-endians and Bond-street loungers. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 9 June 5/4 An advanced..*West-endish sort of woman. 1878 Blackie *Introd. to C. Blachie's Etymol. Geog.* 33 Such-like apish mimicry of metropolitan *West Endism.

† **We·stene**, *adv. Obs.* [OE. *westane* = OS. *westana*, OHG. *westana*: cf. Western *adv.*] From the west.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 24 Da beorgas..onxlinnaþ westane fram þæm Wendelsæ. *c* 1205 Lay. 25591 Þa com þer westene winden mid þan weolcnen a berninge drake.

Wester (we·stəɹ), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 1 **westra**, *Sc.* 4 **westyr**, 4–6 **westir**, (5 **vestir**, 6 **vester**, **weister**), 7 **waster**. [OE. *westra* (f. *west* West *adv.*) = ON. and Icel. *vestri*, *vestari* (Norw., Sw., Da. *vestre*). The comparative ending is different from that which appears in OHG. *westar-*, MHG., LG., Du., Fris. *wester-*, western.] Lying (more) towards the west; western.

963 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 363 Se westra crochyrst. 967 *Ibid.* 486 Se westra east healh. 1365 *Antiq. Aberd. & Banff* (Spald. Club) IV. 158 Omnes terras..de Westir Drummelochi. 1389 *Ibid.* III. 261 Terras de Westyr Badfothellis. 1438 *Exch. Rolls Scott.* V. 56 De medietate terre de Westercloveth in Strathdone. 1474 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 33/1 Þe landis of þe westir part [illegible] the oone is called the wester chambre. 1584 R. Norman tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 7 Keep off from the wester shore, for.. the easter shore is deeper. 1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 43 He was gone to the Wester side of the Iland. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 35 We had..coasted the Wester side. 1688 A. Haig in J. Russell *Haigs* xl. (1881) 309 The apple trees which is within the uppermost waster quarter. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4430/3 The Magistrates and Town-Council of *Anstruther-Wester*. 1777 Watson *Philip II* (1793) I. x. 448 From the Easter to the Wester Scheldt. 1892 *Hartland* (Devon) *Gloss.*, *Easter*, eastern. Similarly we have Wester, Nother, and Suther. Fields are frequently distinguished as Easter and Wester. 1898 A. Balfour *To Arms* vi, Away in the wilds of wester Dumfries.

† **b.** *Naut.* (Cf. Easter *a.* and Board *sb.* 15.)

1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 81 But the Winds hanging in the westerbord, and blowing hard, oft put us by our Topsails; so that we could not fetch it.

Wester (we·stəɹ), *v.* [f. West *adv.* + -er 5.]

1. *intr.* Of the sun, moon, or a star: To travel westward in its course; to draw near the west. (Freq. after 1850.)

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 906 Þe sonne Gan westren faste. 1412–20 Lyd. *Chron. Troy* Prol. 136 And Esperus gan to wester dovn, To haste hir cours ageyn þe morwe graye. *Ibid.* I. 2674 Vp-on þe point whan Phebus with his liȝt I-westrid is.

1390 Cowper *Iliad* XXIII. 295 And now the lamp of day, Westering apace, had left them still in tears. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. I. ii, The Sun shines; serenely westering, in smokeless mackerel-sky. 1890 Doyle *Rennen* II. Post.

Wks. 1875 I. 36 The little star..westers to its setting. 1889 Clarke Russell *Marooned* vi, The moon was westering and looking over our foretopsail yard-arm. 1901 A. E. Housman *Last Poems* xxvi, The half moon westers low.

fig. 1845 R. W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* x. 330 Instead of turning to the sun of a once mighty prosperity as now fast westering and going down.

2. Of the wind: To shift to the west.

1580 H. Smith in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 468 The wind did Wester, so that we lay South southwest with a flawne sheete. 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 93 The wind northered vpon vs. Att night it westered againe. 1699 T. Allison *Voy. Archangel* 11 We..began to consider..as to our safety in that place, should the Wind Wester. 1823 Scoresby *Jrnl.* 373 The wind having unfortunately westered. 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of Sea* x. 233 The wind westered so fast that I nearly jibed the mainboom.

3. To be moved farther west. *nonce-us.*

1803 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* I. 361 Let Germany awake, and give herself a better constitution..and the frontiers of France will wester again.

Wester, var. Waster *sb.*[3]

Westeria, var. Wistaria.

We·stering, *vbl. sb.* [f. Wester *v.*] Westward movement, declension westwards.

c 1410 Lydg. *Life Our Lady* lxxi. (MS. Ashm. 39 lf. 89) This sterre..To shewe hys light in euery shrowed & shade With oute westrynge or drawynge to declyne.

Westering (we·stərin), *ppl. a.* [f. Wester *v.*]

1. That declines from the meridian towards the west. (Said chiefly of the sun when it is nearing the western horizon.)

In very common use from *c* 1840.

1637 Milton *Lycidas* 31 Oft till the Star that rose, at Ev'ning, bright Toward Heav'ns descent had slop'd his westering wheel. 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* xi. 19 Earthward he slopes again his westering wheels. 1795 Southey *Lett. Spain* (1799) 34 Hills beyond hills,..part involved in shadow, and the more distant illumined by the westering sun. 1800 Leyden *Lord Soulis* xx, And bloody set the westering sun. 1831 Moore *Summer Fêtes* 132 Warned..by the daylight's westering beam. 1839 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* liii, The low westering sun shone right on the shoulders of the old Binton Hills. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* vii. 56 By the light of the westering moon.

fig. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* i. 403 Learn The strong man's impulse..and discern By his clear westering eye, the time of day. 1883–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* March xiv, Eros..was Cupid named anew In westering aftertime of latin lore.

2. That moves in a westward direction. Of the wind: That shifts to the west.

1747 Collins *Ode Liberty* 84 Mona,..Where thousand Elfin Shapes abide, And Wight who checks the west'ring Tide. 1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve of Rev.* 66 Asia, that sawest their westering waters sweep With all the ships and spoils of time to carry. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Three Sealers* 142 There comes no good o' the westering wind that backs against the sun.

We·sterliness. [-ness.] Westerly situation.

1730 Bailey (Folio) s.v. : also s.v. *Occidentalness.*

†**We·sterling.** *Obs.* [f. Wester *a.* + -ling.] An inhabitant of a western country or district.

1630 Capt. J. Smith *True Trav., Adv., & Observ.* xxiii. (Arb.) 891 The Country being then reputed by your westerlings, a most rockie, barren, desolate desart. 1631 Byfield *Doctr. Sabb.* 85 The Westerlings, the Easterlings, the Europeans, and the Asians. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 129 The Magrebins, or Westerlings, comprehending those of Barbary, Fez, and Morocco, who meet at Caire. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. i. 215 The common appellation of Westerling, they [Turks] give to all such as inhabit West of Egypt. 1848 T. Cooper *Purgatory of Suicides* i. lxxx, Some hoary teacher..Whose wisdom's lustre doth..transcend The glimmering lights your westerlings revere.

Westerly (we·stəli), *a.* and *sb.* [f. West *adv.* Cf. *easterly*, etc., and next.]

A. *adj.*

1. Coming from the west.

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 20 What time so euer it be doone, you must looke that the winde be Westerly. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. i. 51 Is this wind Westerlie that blowes? 1690 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 221 A fine gentle westerlie sea winde blowing. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. iii. 140 The westerly winds..are almost perpetual in that part. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 611 She..had been detained in Holland..by strong westerly winds. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxxii, They got on a lee shore in Cardigan Bay, before a heavy westerly gale. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xiii, She tore through the seas at a great rate, pitching and straining, and pursued by the westerly swell. *Comb.* 1868 Johnson *Metals* 116 Even the weather has to be consulted,—a westerly-wind day is the best.

2. Situated in or towards the west.

1577 Harrison *England* ii. i. 49 b/1 In *Hollinshed*, Two waters..whereof the westerly called Basingwater, commeth from Basingstoke. 1584 R. Norman tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 20 The most westerly houses of Wieringhen. *a* 1609 Sir F. Vere *Comm.* (1657) 51 Flores and Corvo, the westerliest Islands of the Azores. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 677 But the more Westerly part is not so fruitfull. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 147 This Table..sheweth how much a Ship is more..Easterly or Westerly, by sailing upon any Point..of the Compass. 1763 R. Rogers *Concise Acc. N. Amer.* title-p., The Interior, or Westerly Parts of the Country, upon the Rivers St. Laurence, the Mississippi, [etc.]. 1823 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* III. 381 All the water on the westerly side of the town, was of a clear wine colour. 1870 *Daily News* 1 Feb., The eight twelve-pounders moved forward from one of the more westerly batteries.

b. Of a person: Dwelling in the west.

1863 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. xiv. 241 Nor are more westerly historians always exempt from similar weaknesses.

3. Situated near the western horizon.

1801 Southey *Thalaba* vi. v, Nor stay'd he till over the westerly heaven The shadows of evening had spread. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xxx, The distant landscape, partly illumined, with ominous lustre, by the now westerly sun.

4. Extending towards the west; facing the west. Of motion, progress, etc.: Directed towards the west or the western horizon.

1637 R. Norwood *Sea-mans Pract.* lx. (1655) 115 Then shall you have..the Latitudes and Longitudes of all Places as you saile, which may more easily and exactly be expresst upon this Chart, then the Easterly or Westerly distances. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 153 The Westerly [distance] is 168½ Leagues. 1801 C. Findlater *Agric. Prelim* 18 The hills..of a southerly or westerly exposure, are generally more verdant. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* (1850) [illegible] of the latter [planet]. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 362 This..leads from Ntamo to the Atlantic in a nearly due westerly direction.

B. *sb. pl.* The prevailing westerly winds found in certain latitudes.

1876 Spry *Cruise of 'Challenger'* 109 The strong westerlies caused the weather to be of such a boisterous character. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 86 The dirty weather and variable squalls, which nearly always precede the 'westerlies'. 1898 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Oct. 303 The beginning of the régime of the prevailing westerlies came at about latitude 40° S.

Westerly (we·stəli), *adv.* [f. as prec. Cf. ON. *vestarliga.*]

1. In a westward direction; towards the west.

1625 Hymners tr. *Blaeu's Sea-Mirr.* iii. 3 You must goe first southwest or somwhat westerly to the Helder. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 154 S. W. b. W. ½ Westerly 190 Leagues. 1680 J. Collins *Plea Irish Cattell* etc. 7 Our Ships..Westerly or Southerly bound, Victual here. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* viii, We began to steer away westerly. 1772 *Cook's 1st Voy.* 96 A small white cloud..from which a train

1835

Prairies 70 Our plan was..to keep westerly, until we should pass through..the Cross Timber. 1863 *Daily Tel.* 6 Apr., The principal channel..running in a straight line with the opening between the heads, westerly, out to sea. 1891 Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* ii, We're going to get a breeze..i nothing to harm..if it don't draw westerly.

2. (Blowing) from the west.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4443/3 The Wind blowing fresh Westerly, oblig'd 'em to anchor. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. vii. 214 We found the wind to hang westerly. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 51 The winds now came more westerly.

†**Westermore**, *adv. Sc.* In 5 **westermar**, 6 **westirmair.** [Cf. next and -more.] Farther west.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* i. 307 Wallace ansuerd, said; 'Westermar [1570 Westir mair] we will.'

We·stermost, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Wester *a.* + -most.] Lying or situated farthest west; = Westernmost.

1585 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 381 The Westermost poynte of the Trepoyntes. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 337 The riuer Ob is the most Westermost part thereof. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* i. iii. (1635) 65 The Meridian about the Westermost of the Azores. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 421 Three of the Islands were pretty large; the Westermost is the biggest. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. 24 Sagor the westermost Chanel of the Ganges. 1775 Romans *Florida* App. 37 At the east end of the westermost key is another channel 8 feet deep. 1821 Southey *Vis. Judgement* i. 20 From far Glaramara, Bleacrag, and Maidenmawr, to Grisedal and westermost Withop.

Western (we·stəm), *a.* and *sb.*[1] Forms: 1, 6–7 **westerne**, (1, 6 **westerne**); 4–6 **westeren**, 6– **western**; 1 **westrene**, 2 **westrene**, 4–7 **westren.** [OE. *westerne* (f. *west* West *adv.* + -ern): cf. OS. and OHG. *westrôni*, ON. *vestrænn* (Norw. dial. *vestren*).]

A. *adj.*

1. Coming from the west. Of the wind, a gale, etc.: Blowing from the west. Of a current of water: Flowing from the west.

c 1050 *Beda's Hist.* v. xix. (MS. B.) Sona ðæs þe he on scip eode, ða astah westerne wind & bleow. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* in Napier *O. E. Glosses* xxiii. 17 *Zepheri*, westernes windes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xv. (Bodl. MS.) Whanne þe westeren winde blowiþ. 1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Westerne wynde, *le vent daual.* 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* ii. 83 When as the western winde doth meete a field of graine, In haruest time. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* iii. iv. 128 They saile with a westerne winde vntill they come to the burning Zone. 1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* i. iv. 79 A westerne milde, and pretty whispering gale. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* Rome 386 The commixture of the warm Southerly and Western air, with the cold Northerly and Eastern. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* i. x. 103 The western winds which blew almost constantly there. *a* 1771 Gray *Song* 9 Western gales and skies serene Speak not always winter past. 1796 Nelson *Let.* in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. Add. p. lix, I am endeavouring to get to the Eastward, but we have an amazing strong western current. 1800 Leyden *Mermaid* viii, Softly blow, thou western Breeze! 1827 Stuart *Planter's G.* (1828) 331 Removed Trees..appearing unaffected by the western, and southwestern blasts. 1867 Morris *Jason* iv. 94 The piping of the following western

2. Dwelling in the west (of a country, esp. of England or Scotland); *spec.* living or originating in the 'West country' or south-western counties.

c 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an, 1015, & com Æþelmær ealdorman þyder & þa westrena Þegenas mid him. 15.. *Ladye Bessie* (Percy Soc.) 62 Hee..drewe an eigle upon the entrye, That the westeren men myghte yt see. 1570 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 316 Muche are the Westerne men bound..to Polydore, who..remouing the infamous reuenge from Dorsetshyre, laieth it vpon our men of Kent. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* I. i. 4 A Western man [would speak it] thus, *Chud eat more cheese an chud it.* 1693 T. Pitts *New Martyrol.* (ed. 4) 527 The..Christian Courage of the Western Sufferers. 1820 Scott *Halidon Hill* i. II. 497 O, were my western horsemen but come up, I would take part with you! 1841 Lever *O'Malley* xiii, Few Western gentlemen were without constant intercourse with the Athlone attorney. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* xxv. 376 There was a respectable muster of western folks got up for the occasion.

b. Of things: Of or belonging to the south-western counties.

1545 *Rates Custom-ho.* d vj b, A dossen karsay, iij. A westerne dossen, ii. 1653 W. J. *True Gentlew. Delight* 85 To scald Milk after the Western Fashion. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 129 ¶ 3 Being a Lawyer of the Middle-Temple, a Cornishman by Birth, I generally ride the Western Circuit. 1781 R. Locke (*title*) The Western Rebellion. 1886 Kington Oliphant *New English* I. 364 The Western dialect appears, as *ch'am, ich cham, vilthy.*

3. Having a position relatively west; lying towards or in the west. *Western hemisphere*: see Hemisphere 3.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. ix. (Tollemache MS.) Amonge þese tripliciteis of houses, þo þat beþ in þe Este ben strenger in here worchynge..þan þe Westren. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 96 With a great armie out of Mercia and other westerne countries. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 694 *Pennigent*, which among the Westerne hils mounteth aloft aboue the rest. 1649 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 14 The farthest Western Parish of..Cornwall. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iv. 25 He brought our Saviour to the western side Of that high mountain. 1692 Sir G. Mackenzie *Vind. Govt. Scot.* 12 As to the bringing in the Highlanders on the Western shires..it is answered, that [etc.]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. ix. 224 Tempestuous weather from the western quarter. 1784 Cowper *Task* vi. 484 Where England, stretch'd towards the setting sun,..o'erlooks the western wave. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* i. viii, The Hunter marked that mountain high, The lone lake's western boundary. 1848 B. Webb *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 117 The plan is quite basilican, containing a western bay between two western towers. 1870 W. H. Knight *W. Australia* i The colony of Western Australia was founded on the 1st June, 1829. 1870 Godman (*title*) Natural History of the Azores, or Western Islands. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxiv, We were to pass through the western end of the country of Balquhidder.

b. of the sky or the horizon, esp. as the place of the sun's setting; also of the sun, or the evening star (cf. West *a.* 1).

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. i. 1 The Sun begins to guild the westerne skie. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ix. 35 As the bright sunne, what time his fierie teme Towards the westerne brim begins to draw. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* vi. lxxvii, But see, the stealing night, with softly pace, To flie the Westerne Sunne, creeps up the East. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 92 Now was the Sun in Western cadence low From Noon. 1718 Prior *Solomon* ii. 370 The Sun declin'd had shot his Western Ray. 1747 Collins *Ode to Evening* ii, The bright-hair'd Sun Sits in yon western Tent. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* iii. xxiv, Her blue eyes sought the west afar, For lovers love the western star. 1853 A. Smith *Life-Drama* iv. Poems (1854) 60 From yonder trees I've seen the western sky All washed with fire. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. xxi. 146 The sun was near the western horizon.

c. Of or belonging to the west; found or produced in the west.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* ii. i. 166 Yet markt I where the bolt of Cupid fell. It fell vpon a little westerne flower. [illegible] And [illegible] ane [illegible] the western search.

†**d.** *Western barge* (*boat*, or *wherry*), a barge, etc., used on the Thames westward of London. Hence *Western bargee, pug, man*, a navigator of a Western barge or boat.

1505–6 *Will of J. Rede* (Somerset Ho.), My body..in the nyghte season..to be layde in..a bote or A westurne barge. 1591 Lyly *Endym.* iv. ii, In a Westerne barge, when with a good winde and lustie pugges one may goe ten miles in two daies. 1592–1611 Western pug [see Pug *sb.*[2] 3]. 1603–4 *Act 1 Jas. I* c. 16 § 1 Westerne Barges Milboates and all other Vessells ordinarilie serving for other vses then the carryinge of Passengers. 1607 Dekker & Webster *West-w. Hoe* ii. ii, The Lob has his Lasse,..the Westerne-man his Pug, [etc.]. 1666 Western bargee [see Bargee]. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1719 III. 324 A Western-Boat, stow'd with a Mixture of both Sexes. *Ibid.* 328 Others crowded into Boxes, like Passengers into a Western Wherry. *Ibid.* 329 He was a Western Bargeman.

e. in the specific names of animals or plants.

1784 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* (1792) II. 289 Western Duck. *Anas Stelleri*, Pallas. 1824 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XII. ii. 206 Western Pochard. (*Fuligula dispar.*) 1848 Gould *Birds Australia* I. Pl. 12 *Ierocides occidentalis*, Gould. Western Brown Hawk. 1876 F. G. Waterhouse in Harcus *S. Austral.* 288 Western gerygone. *Ibid.* 290 Western ground parrakeet.

4. Of or pertaining to the Western or European countries or races as distinguished from the Eastern or Oriental.

1600 Fairfax *Tasso* iv. xvi, These westren rebels, with your power withstand, Plucke vp these weedes, before they ouergroe The gentle garden of the Hebrewes land. 1602 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 121 For such an other piece of ground..is not to be found againe in all our western world. 1704 Atterbury *Serm.* (1726) I. 339 Those Conspiracies and Rebellions, with which they have..disturb'd the Quiet of this Western World. 1771 C. Burney *Pres. St. Mus. France & Italy* (1773) 270 *note*, As yet there is no

regular catalogue of the western MSS. in the Vatican library. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 307/1 The little intercourse that subsisted between the inhabitants of India and the Western nations. 1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 449 They who are desirous of ascertaining..the reaction of Eastern on Western affairs, may examine the Egyptian question. 1883 T. Watts in *19th Cent.* Mar. 413 The mystic type of all Eastern, and yet the mother of all Western, beauty.

Comb. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* 6 After years of residence with the Bedawin, the Western-born..will stop and wait the passing of the stately brute.

b. *Western Church*, the Latin as distinguished from the Greek or Eastern Church; also, one or other of the early Churches of Western Europe.

1608 Bp. Hall *Old Relig.* viii. 72 The Westerne, or Romane Church. 1659 H. Thorndike *Whs.* (1846) II. 557 Those controversies about which a settled division is once formed, as now in the western Church. 1838 W. Palmer *Ch. Christ* I. 276 The Western churches..were in communion..with the great apostolical church of Rome. 1850 Neale *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. Introd. 9 The tendency of the Western Church..has been to embroil herself with the kings and kingdoms of this world.

c. Of or belonging to, connected with, characteristic of, the Western Church.

1699 Burnet *39 Articles* xxi. (1700) 201 All the First General Councils were made up for most part of Eastern Bishops; there being a very inconsiderable Number of the Western among any of them. 1755 Amory *Mem.* (1769) I. 83 *note*, The eastern christians, called in contempt Arians by the western tritheists. 1790 Priestley *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 311 The Western bishops in general and Liberius himself at their head, were the avowed advocates of the Nicene faith. 1850 Neale *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. 317 The whole body of Eastern and Western Liturgies may be divided into four branches. 1853 C. Hardwick *Chr. Ch., Mid. Age* 265 Gregory VII., who seems to have expected that Crusades, while strengthening his throne, would tend to reunite the Eastern and the Western Christians. 1880 A. P. Stanley in *Fraser's Mag.* May 600 The Roman Church..remains the great trunk from which the other communions have been divided in Western Christendom.

d. *Western Empire*, the more westerly of the two parts into which the Roman Empire was divided in 395 A.D. So *Western emperor*, etc.

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvii. (1787) III. 38 Maximus would have obtained, without a struggle, the sole possession of the western empire. 1790 Priestley *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 332 After the death of Constantine, the Western emperors were of the Nicene faith. 1840 Milman *Hist. Chr.* III. i. II. 343 In the Western provinces, Gaul, Spain, and Britain.. the constitution of society was very different. 1865 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* 69 Odoacer..did not abolish the Western Empire as a separate power.

5. With *States*: Constituting the more westerly of the United States of America: cf. West *sb.* 3 b.

1829 Everett *Orat. & Sp.* (1850) I. 206 Allow me..to propose the following sentiment:—The Eastern and Western States. 1879 W. Saunders *Through Light Cont.* 131 The conditions under which first-class stall-fed beef may be produced in the Western States.

b. Of or belonging to the Western States.

Freq. in the names of animals and plants resembling those of the Atlantic coast but whose habitat is west of the Mississippi.

1834 R. C. Sands *Writings* II. 179 One of the favorite and most expressive words of Western invention. 1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 284 Adding, in western phraseology, 'The way in which folks'll stare, squire, will be a caution' 1845 P. B. St. John *Trapper's Bride* 69 The Eutaws reined in as the two hunters faced them with the deadly western rifle levelled in their direction. 1871 *Leisure Hour* 336/1 A quality of tobacco, the 'stemmed' variety commonly called in the trade 'Western Strips'. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* June 747 The changing conditions in agriculture caused by Western competition.

6. Directed towards the west; facing westward.

1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* To Rdr. ¶ 7 Touching the westerne Nauigations, and trauailes of ours, they succeede naturallie in the thirde and last roome. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. 21 Of the Western Aspect...The Western Exposition begins at half an Hour after Eleven, and continues till the Sun sets. 1713 Addison *Guard.* No. 107 ¶ 8 A ship at sea has no certain method, in either her eastern or western voyages,..to know her Longitude. 1766 *Midnight Spy* vi. 32 The passengers on the western road must furnish him with his demands. 1784 Filson *Kentucky* (1793) 23 Salt river..runs a western course near ninety miles. 1795 Cowper *Moraliser Corrected* 18 Distant a little mile he spied A western bank's still sunny side. 1819 Keats *Eve of St. Mark* 6 And on the western window panes, The chilly sunset faintly told Of unmatur'd green vallies cold. 1886 *Lond. Society* Aug. 128 Hunstanton..is the only watering-place on the east coast of England with a western aspect.

7. *fig.* Of a person's life or days: Declining.

1615 Tomkis *Albumazar* v. vi, Fye, that a gentleman.. Crown'd with such reputation in your youth, Should in your Westerne dayes, loose th' good opinion Of all your friends. 1879 Longf. in *Life* (1891) III. 299 We, who are on the western side of life, must forget ourselves a little, and see with their eyes, who are looking out at the eastern windows.

8. Hinder, posterior. Cf. West *adv.* 1 b (*c*).

1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xxiv, What have you done to the western side of your gown? 1840 Haliburton *Clockm. Ser.* III. ix, I'd a-kicked them till I kicked their western ends up to their shoulders.

B. *sb.*

1. A member of a Western race; a native or inhabitant of the West, as distinguished from an Oriental or Asiatic.

1708 Ockley *Hist. Saracens* (1848) 337 The folly of the Westerns in despising the wisdom of the Eastern nations. 1863 *Smith's Dict. Bible* II. 295/2 (*Medicine*) He [Hippocrates] extols the discernment of Orientals above Westerns, and of Asiatics above Europeans, in medical diagnosis. 1882 J. Neil *Palestine* 44 The former figure 'wings of the morning' to a Western is not a little obscure. 1884 *Athenæum* 12 Jan. 54/3 It may not be altogether superfluous to remind Westerns that Russia is now celebrating the three hundredth anniversary of her first printer, Ivan Fedorof. 1917 T. R. Glover *From Pericles to Philip* vii. 218 The employment of the camel in war strikes the Western oddly.

2. A member of the Western or Latin Church.

1860 W. Bright *Hist. Ch.* 313–451, 50 Among the bishops who had received the sympathy of the Westerns was Paul of Constantinople. 1865 Pusey *Truth Engl. Ch.* 60 S. Basil ..blamed the Westerns for their 'pride, haughtiness, precipitancy'. 1900 J. K. Mann *Hist. Popes* I. 1. 30 Despite the express declaration of Justinian..some of the Westerns persisted in maintaining [etc.].

3. *U.S.* An inhabitant or native of the Western States.

1845 G. Warburton *Hochelaga* II. 22 There were Southerners and Northerners, Downeasters, and Westerns. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. lxv. II. 480 He was a raw rude Western, a man of the people.

†**Western**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [Old Northumbrian *wéstern*, var. of OE. *wésten*, *wéstен*, f. the stem **wōst-*: cf. Weste *a.* The ending *-ern* for *-en*(*n* also appears in *éfern* Even *sb.*, *fæstern* Fasten *sb.* and **lenctern* Lenten *sb.*] A desert, wilderness.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 1 In western iudeæ [*in deserto iudææ*]. *Ibid.* Mark viii. 4 On western [*in solitudine*]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 129 Ich am his steuene þe remeð in þis westerne. *Ibid.*, For þi is þis westren forgrouwen mid brimbles and mid þornes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1298 Þarne he lukyt one ilke syd of þat westerne, brad & wyd.

†**Western**, *sb.*3 *Obs.* Also 6 **westorne**. [Of obscure origin.] The sand-martin, *Cotile riparia*.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 5/2 A westorne or marten, whiche breedeth in water bankes, *riparia*. 1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.* I. 1702 Birds, A Marten, or westerne. *Ibid.* 1705 A westorne, vide marten. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 90 *Hirundo Riparia*..the Sand, or Bank Marten, or Western.

We·stern, *v.* [f. Western *a.*] *intr.* Of the sun: To decline in the west. (Cf. Weste *v.* 1.) Hence **We·sterning** *ppl. a.*

1851 Pugin *Chancel Screens* 83 The warm tints of a westerning sun. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 5/4 The sun was rapidly westerning.

†**Westernals**, *adv. Obs.*—1 [App. an alteration of OF. *bestorneis*.] Wrongfully, perversely.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 307 Ze setten hys wordes ful westernays þat louez no þynk [= thing] bot ze hit syze.

Westerner (we·stəɹnəɹ). [f. Western *a.* + -er.]

1. An inhabitant or native of the Western States of America.

1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 21 'We are apt to think,' said a westerner to me, 'that..we are just as great and good.' 1872 Howells *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 196 Those expressions of surprise at the existence of civilisation in a westerner which westerners find it so hard to receive graciously. 1888 *Century Mag.* Feb. 506/2 Cowboys, like most Westerners, occasionally show remarkable versatility in their tastes and pursuits.

2. One belonging to a western race, as distinguished from an Oriental.

1910 *Times* 5 Mar. 6/1 The crowd crushing at the window at Peking clamouring for tickets..is a spectacle which affords constant amusement to the Westerner. 1919 Ribbany *Syrian Christ* 146 Some Westerners have an exaggerated idea of Oriental generosity.

3. One who lives in, or is a native of, the west part of a country.

1905 *Daily News* 24 Apr. 2 The Westerners [Gloucester and Bristol ringers] hope to eclipse this performance with a peal containing 12,345 changes.

We·sternism. [f. Western *a.* + -ism.]

1. An idiom or expression peculiar to the Western States of America.

1884 *Home Missionary* (N.Y.) Jan., A Westernism originating in Nebraska, I believe. 1885 *American* IX. 378 It will become better known if he keeps his strength, as an alleged Westernism has it. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 773 'It hasn't—ah—panned out.' He involuntarily made a droll face as he uttered this Westernism.

2. Western characteristics, practices, etc., as distinguished from Eastern or Oriental.

1892 W. W. Peyton *Memor. Jesus* 298 Our theology is too Eastern: we want our Westernism in it. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 20 Feb. 3/4 A great moral conflict between the teachings of two schools, the Slavophils and Westernism.

Westernize (we·stəɹnəiz), *v.* [f. Western *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To make western in character; esp. to make (an Eastern country or race) more Western in regard to its institutions, ideas, etc.

1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 617 She herself pleads to having become so Westernized, as no longer to be a competent painter of Western peculiarities. 1848 *Eerie Laird* 247 A remnant of it [*sc.* the palace], rather clumsily Westernized, is now the official habitation of the British resident at Delhi. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Sept. 340/1 Bulgaria is being..more and more Westernized.

Hence **We·sternized** *ppl. a.*; **We·sternizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **We·sterniza·tion.**

1893 *Sketch* 1 Feb. 38/2 The westernising of India is.. shown in the most curious ways. 1900 *Speaker* 9 June 284/2 The Young Turkish or Westernising party. 1903 Fairbairn in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xix. 701 He regarded Aristotle as a westernised Mohammadan rather than as a Greek. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 3/3 The process that is generally called the Westernisation of Japan.

Westerly (we·stəmli), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. Western *a.* + -ly1. Cf. Westerly *a.*]

1. Situated in or towards the west.

1620 Blundevil *Exerc., Descr. Univ. Maps* (ed. 6) 790 The Westernly [1597 Westerly] 28 Meridians. 1657 J. Watts *Scribe* etc. *Dipper Sprinkled* 30 Our Westerly Northen Climate is colder much then those Easterly Southern.

2. Directed towards the west; extending westwards.

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 32 Wee.. after altered that course and bear for the coste of Florida, a more westernlie course. 1643 G. Wilde *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* 3 Mar. 27 To look East upon the Rising Laity, and to reflect a Westernly Glance upon the declining Clergy. 1848 B. Webb *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 482 Thus nineteen churches have an easternly orientation;—and exactly nineteen also have a westernly direction. 1897 *Daily News* 22 May 5/5 The road..next turns in a westernly direction.

†**We·sternly**, *adv. Obs.* [f. Western *a.* + -ly2.] Towards the west.

1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) B 3 b, France..beeing westernly seated neere great Brittaine. 1692 Ray *Creation* 136 Why the same Eclipse..should be seen to them that live one degree more Westernly.

We·sternmost, *a.* [f. Western *a.* + -most. Cf. Westermost.] Farthest towards the west; most westerly.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3937/3 The Westernmost Rocks of the Minques. 1778 Forster *Observ. Voy. World* 197 There is a small species of scorpion in the tropical isles of the South-Sea, but more common to the Westernmost than the Society Isles. 1846 G. Warburton *Hochelaga* II. 191 Not more than four thousand square miles of all this westernmost country is capable of cultivation. 1884 Helen Jackson *Ramona* ii, The two westernmost rooms had been added on. 1892 J. L. Allen *Blue-Grass Region* etc. (1900) 259 Pine Mountain, the westernmost ridge of the Alleghany system.

Westfalite (we·stfăləit). Also **-falit, -phalite.** [ad. G. *Westfalit*, f. *Westfalisch-* (Westphalian), in the name of the original manufacturing company.] An explosive compound, used in three varieties, of which the principal ingredient was ammonium nitrate.

1896 *Glasgow Herald* 29 Feb. 7/7 The high explosives, ammonite..securite, and westfalit. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 7/4 The manufacture of the high explosive known as Westphallite. 1906 Sanford *Nitro-Explosives* (ed. 2) 294 West Falite No. 1. West Falite No. 2. 1909 Guttmann *Manuf. Explosives* 52 Saxonite..Bobbinite..Westfalite.

†**West-half.** *Obs.* [OE. *westhealf*: see West *adv.* and Half *sb.*] The western side, the west.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 8 On westhealfe [is] se sæ þe mon hætt Propondítis. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1016 [Hie] drogon heora scipa on west healfe þære brycge. *c* 1205 Lay. 29287 An æst halue, an west halue, wa wes Brutten þere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20093 On þe west half o þat cite Bi id o cristen men was he. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6334 (Laud MS.) A Folk þer wone þ in þe west half þat steþ nojher Cow ne chalf. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvi. 550 Quhill thai, besyde Enuerkethyne, On vest half, toward Dunfermlyne, Tuk land.

Westinary, error for Westmony (q. v.).

West I·ndia. Now only *attrib.* Also 7 *pl.* India's. [West *a.* Cf. East India.]

†1. = West Indies. Also *pl.* *Obs.*

1555 Eden (*title*) The Decades of the newe worlde or west India. 1576 T. Nicholas (*title*) The Pleasant Historie of the Conquest of the Weast India, now called new Spayne. 1598 *Cures of Diseased* C, A great Fruit that growes in the West India, called *Pina*. 1648 Gage (*title*) The English-American his Travail by Sea and Land: or, A new Survey of the West India's.

2. *attrib.* (sometimes hyphened.) Of or pertaining to, connected with, the West Indies. *West India Islands*, the islands lying between North and South America.

1696 Whitelocke *Mem.* (1853) IV. 281 An account of the engagement with the West India Spanish fleet. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4528/3 Three other of the West-India Ships were also taken. 1732 Arbuthnot *Aliments* (1735) 177 The West-India dry Gripes are perhaps occasion'd by the too great Quantities of Acids. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* vii. xxviii. II. 273 All sorts of lumber for the West-India trade. 1774 E. Long *Jamaica* III. 806 West India Tea —*Capraria, erecta ramosa* &c. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 644/1 In Jamaica and others of the West India islands. 1818 *Mathews's Bristol Directory* 28 West India Brokers. *Ibid.* 41 West India Merchants. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xxvii, The thin partitions of the West-India house.

West-I·ndiaman. [f. prec. 2.] A vessel engaged in the West India trade.

1689 *Treas. P* III. 196 (P. R. O.) The French Fleet has taken 5 dutch West Indiamen that came from Cuirecoe. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 161 The steward of a West-Indiaman. 1794 *Plan London-Dock* 12 Whether the London-Dock..cannot be of extensive usefulness to West Indiamen..? 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvii, A voluminous silk handkerchief, like the main-sail of one of his own West-Indiamen. 1861 Brougham *Brit. Const.* xx. 393 Compare the numbers of men in a West Indiaman and in a Baltic or Hamburgh trader.

West I·ndian, *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 *vulgar* **-injine.** [f. West India.]

1. *sb.* †*a. pl.* The original inhabitants of the West Indies. *Obs.*

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* III. xv. 50 The West Indians doo the like. 1597 J. King *Jonas* (1618) 177 Those [cruelties] that were practiced by the Spanish nation vpon the west Indians. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Gard.* xii. (1623) 42 Also I read in the History of the West-Indians, out of Peter-Martyr, That [etc.]. 1628 Phillips, *Worsnop*, a name given to any great Lord, among the West-Indians.

b. An inhabitant or native of the West Indies, of European origin or descent.

1661 E. Hickeringill *Jamaica* 120 The Major part of the Inhabitants being old West-Indians. 1727 [Burke]

Europ. Settlem. Amer. VI. x. II. 112 In the foregoing manner the West-Indian would state some part of what he conceives to be his grievances. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* I. (1781) 11 This is one of Lofty's companions, a West-Indian of an over-grown fortune. 1771 CUMBERLAND (*title*) The West Indian. 1811 JANE AUSTEN *Sanditon* (1925) 78 And I have heard that's very much the case with your West-Indines. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown*, etc. 97 Yet here sat that young West Indian..Alexander Hamilton. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* I. iii, She had no notion how her maternal grandfather got the fortune inherited by his two daughters; but he had been a West Indian—which seemed to exclude further question.

2. *adj.* Of or pertaining to, situated in, connected with, the West Indies.

1611 COTGR., s.v. *Arroyse*, A round..ornament of feathers, worne by the West-Indian Sauages at their backes. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 4 The Sub-planters of a West-Indian Island. 1667 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 239 The West-Indian fleet consists of an hundred and thirty five sail. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § iv. iv. 80 A Great Nest of an other West-Indian Bird. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Rum*...a West-Indian Drink stronger than Brandy. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* 3 Nov., The West Indian war has thrown me into a new study. 1811 T. DWIGHT *Trav.* II. 458 Horses they sell at New-Haven and Hartford for the West-Indian market. 1835 MOODIE *Ten Yrs. S. Afr.* I. 20 Some cold rum-punch..made..in the West Indian fashion. 1885 TENNYSON *Wreck* iii. 6 A rich West-Indian isle.

b. in specific names.

1781 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* I. i. 287 West Indian Green Parrot. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 108 West Indian Pike. 1825 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 100 *Voluta Musica*, West Indian Music Shell. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 West-Indian-bark, *Exostemma caribæum*.

West Indie, obs. var. WEST INDY.

West Indies. [WEST *a.* See INDIES and cf. EAST INDIES.] †**a.** The parts of America first discovered by Columbus and other early navigators. *Obs.*

b. The West India Islands.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 208 Suche thynges as I haue seene in yowre Empyre of the West Indies. 1577 EDEN & WILLES (*title*) The History of Trauayle in the West and East Indies. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc., Descr. Univ. Maps* (1597) 368 b, America, which we now call the West Indies. 1625 BACON *Ess., Vicissitudes of Things* P 2 The great Burnings by Lightnings, which are often in the West Indies. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Leaving Me* 15 Mine too her rich West-Indies were below, Where Mines of Gold and endless treasures grow. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 4 All those strange species of animals seen in the West-Indies. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Melo*, Those Melons which are produc'd in the West-Indies are generally very large. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* xx, He was heir to a fortune..left him by an uncle in the West Indies. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxvii, Providing the infant negroes in the West Indies with flannel waistcoats.

Comb. 1616 CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* Wks. (Arb.) 225 The next was a West Indies man, of 160 tuns. [Cf. next and WEST INDIAMAN.]

West Indy, -*ie*, obs. or vulgar var. WEST INDIA.

West Indy man = WEST INDIAMAN.

1616 CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* Wks. (Arb.) 225 Within two dayes after, we were haled by two West Indy men. *Ibid.* 226 Vnder the colour to take Pirats and West Indie men. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 45 Her West Indy Fleet..is subject to casualties of Sea. 1650 E. WILLIAMS *Virgo Triumphans* 42 The West Indie Potatoe.

1817 JANE AUSTEN *Sanditon* (1925) 77 A West Indy Family and a school. That sounds well.

Westing (we·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEST *adv.* or *v.*]

1. *Naut.* The net distance made by a vessel towards the west. (Cf. EASTING *sb.* 1.)

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 91 But for easting and westing, great diligence is required not to fall into error. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xvii. 202 In the eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh Columns, set down the Northing, Southing, Easting, and Westing. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 642 The Lesser Easting or Westing, subtracted from the Greater, shall give you the Departure. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 384 The Westing we should gain in going to California would make amends for what we should lose. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. 579 After leaving Ascension we made a good deal of westing. 1820 SCORESBY *Arctic Reg.* II. 369 A decrease of the variation of the compass, tends to give them more westing than they calculate upon. 1839 MARRYAT *Phantom Ship* ix, Their easting and westing could only be computed by dead reckoning. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 257 Furthest westing N. of Equator 26½° W.

2. Direction or course towards the west.

1820 SCOTT 29 June in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 280 How sets the vane..? Due north I hope, with a westing towards Abbotsford. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xviii. 330 The westing we were making brought us among people who are frequently visited by the Mambari, as slave-dealers. 1872 — *Let. to N. Y. Herald* (Feb.) in *Daily News* 29 July 5/6, I..at last found that the mighty river left its westing and flowed right away to the north.

b. *Astron.* Attainment of the western limit of the apparent course.

1823 PROCTOR *Gt. Pyramid* iii. 139 The easting, southing, westing, and northing of heavenly bodies.

3. Of winds: The fact of blowing from, or shifting to, the west.

1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) iv. 79 Hitherto winds with westing in them have been most prevalent. *Ibid.* v. 227 The forces of diurnal rotation assist to give these winds their westing. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 144/1 The westing of these great aerial currents is due to..the rotation of the earth round its axis.

We·sting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] Tending towards the west.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. ii. 147 In the like manner you must do if your Course were North or Westing. 1836 *Scott. Monthly Mag.* July 207 The westing sun's beam Cast gold on the grass. 1880 MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* XXVI, A shade against the westing sun.

We·stland. Chiefly *Sc.* Also *Sc.* 6 **vestland,** 6, 9 **westland,** 8 **westlan'.** (Cf. WESTLIN *a.*) [f. WEST *a.* (or OE. *west-*) + LAND *sb.*]

1. The western part of a country; *esp.* the West of Scotland.

1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 107 To pass with letteres of the Kingis for the Lordis of the Westlande. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 291 He passit ..to the toune of Air and to the pairtis of the wastland. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXXV, He uses maist partly the westland of Scotland. 1894 K. HEWAT *Little Scot. World* v. 58 It was understood Montrose would make a descant on the Westland.

2. *attrib.* **a.** Of persons: Living in, coming from, the West of Scotland.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 776 A hundyr fyrst till him self he has tayne, Off westland men. *Ibid.* X. 308. 1522 Q. MARGARET in *MS. Cott. Calig.* B. VI. fol. 270 b, On the on syde, the vestland lordys and my lord of Angus vas forth. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 205 All the rest of the norland men and wastland men mett the King at Stirling. 1652 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) Diary (S.H.S.) II. 74 The vyle band which seven Westland gentlemen had subscryved. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXIV, When he raised his militia..against the wrang-headed wastland whigs. 1827 — *Two Drovers* i, The strong west-landman laughed aloud. 1828-43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 239 On the rear division were the westland and Stirlingshire men.

b. Of places: Situated in the west.

1523 Q. MARGARET in *MS. Cott. Calig.* B. VI. fol. 440 The erl of Huntlay hath all the ruil of the north partys, the erl of Lenoss all the vestland part. 1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 30 Ane Associatioun concludit and drawn up among the Westland schyres. *c* 1670 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XXI. 69 Throwghout the Westland presbiteries belonging to that synod [*sc.* Glasgow]. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 608/1 Had she not given..reason to believe she thought them the greatest people on Westland ground. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* VIII. 248 All the Westland earth beneath their yoke shall lie.

c. Proceeding from the west; blowing from the west, westerly.

1650 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 90 They censured the Westland Remonstrance mor nor Northland Band. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Monadnoc* 136 Smoking in a squalid room Where yet the westland breezes come.

Hence **We·stlander**; **-landways** *adv.*

a 1676 H. GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1702) 238 The West-Landers advanced towards Edinburgh. *Ibid.* 240 The Westlanders ..were all poor ignorant Creatures, taken from their Husbandry. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XXXVI, A few shots were exchanged betwixt them and the Westlanders. 1820 — *Monast.* XXIV, Instead of that comes news that he has gone westlandways about some tuilzie in Ayrshire.

We·stlin, *a. Sc.* Also 8 **-len.** [var. of *westlan'* WESTLAND 2.] Western; westerly.

17.. *Patie & Peggy* Chorus in RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.*, Sun, gallop down the westlin skies. 1721 RAMSAY *Keitha* 27 Ye westlin Winds that gently us'd to play On her white Breast. 1728 — *To Starrat* 6 Welcome, as Westlen Winds, or Berries ripe. 1785 BURNS *Ep. to Davie* 6 To..spin a verse or twa o' rhyme, In hamely, westlin' jingle. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake, Kilmeny* li, When the fringe was red on the westlin hill. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* I. ii, The goodwill of the westlin winds. 1898 J. LUMSDEN *Edin. Poems & Songs* (1899) 168 A-doun the Westlin welkin.

We·stlins, *adv. Sc. rare*⁻¹. [f. WEST + *-lins* -LING 2.] Westwards.

1728 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. 1, Frae East Nook of Fife the Daw'n Speel'd Westlines up the Lift.

†**West-looker.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [f. WEST *adv.*] A name for the hare.

a 1300 *MS. Digby 86* fol. 168 b, Þe westlokere..Þe sidlokere and eke Þe roulekere [*read* -lokere].

†**Westly,** *adv. Obs.*⁻° [f. WEST *adv.* Cf. MLG. *westelik*, G. *westlich*, Da. and Sw. *vestlig.*] Towards the west.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Westward, or westly, *occidentaliter*.

Westm, var. WASTUM *Obs.*

Westment, obs. form of VESTMENT.

Westminster. The name of the abbey on the north bank of the Thames at London, used *attrib.*, esp. with reference to Westminster Hall as a court of justice, to the assembly of divines held in 1643, or to St. Peter's School.

1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 28 Thus thys bargayne became a westminster matter; the lawyers gote twyse the valure of the horse. *a* 1614 TIMME *Silver Watch-bell* vii. (1634) 140 If his neighbor do damnifie him but the value of two pence, he will prouide a conserue of Westminster-hal wormewood for him out of hand. 1671 (*title*) Westminster Drollery. Or a choice Collection of the Newest Songs & Poems. 1691 *Hist. Rel. Late Presbyt. Gen. Assembly* 12 The Minister of Abbots-Hall was accused for neglecting the Catechism of the Westminster Divines. 1693 *Acc. Estabt. Presbyt. Govt. Scot.* 43 Such a vast number of Propositions as are contained in the Westminster Confession. 1698 *Concubinage Disprov'd* 5 It does not appear by anything our Author says, that his Marriage with Mary Tomkins was any other than *Congressus Furtivus*, a Westminster Wedding. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Westminster-Wedding*, a Whore and a Rogue Married together. 1719 *Collect. Conf. Faith Ch. Scot.* I. Pref. p. xi, Every body knows in what unhappy distracted Times, the Westminster Assembly met and compos'd that Confession of Faith. 1720 *Pref. to Addit. Westminster Confession* 182 Other catechisms, which..are for no other valuable quality any ways comparable to the Westminster Catechisms. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 79 A Westminster-Fool. Take a Penny-loaf, cut it into thin Slices, wet them with Sack..take a Quart of Cream, beat up six Eggs..[etc.]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXV, The waiters, from their costume, might be mistaken for Westminster boys. 1843 HETHERINGTON (*title*) History of the Westminster Assembly of Divines. 1856 SARA T. L. ROBINSON *Kansas* (ed. 3) 38 The old Westminster catechism allows works of necessity and mercy to be done on the Sabbath day. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* I. 13 The Nonsense Club, consisting of seven Westminster men who dined together every Thursday.

b. *ellipt.* A present or former pupil at Westminster School.

1690-1 SMALRIDGE in *Epist. Corr. Atterbury* (1783) I. 17, I suppose you expect to do little good but upon the Westminsters. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* I. 13 The set was strictly confined to Westminsters. Gray and Mason, being Etonians, were objects of its literary hostility. 1895 *Spectator* 23 Nov. 729 The Busby Trust, managed by thirteen trustees, who must be old Westminsters.

Hence **We·stminsterism,** the principles characteristic of the Westminster Assembly of 1643.

1824 CALDERWOOD in *U. P. Mag.* July 366 Several things had occasioned opposition to the admission of the Cumberland Church, such as these:—its deliberate alteration of the Westminster Confession, its avowed antagonism to what was often named 'Westminsterism'.

Westmonaste·rian. *rare*⁻¹. [f. *Westmonasterium*, Latinized f. WESTMINSTER.] One educated at Westminster School.

a 1695 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 274 Richard Rhodes,..a confident Westmonasterian.

†**We·stmony.** *Obs.* [ad. Icel. *Vestmannaeyjar* (Da. *Vestmanøer.*)] A group of islands off the south coast of Iceland. In quot. *attrib.*

Erroneously printed *Westtinary* in Bisnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 260.

1663 *Act* 15 *Chas. II*, c. 7 § 13 For the Encouragement of the Herring & North-Sea, Island [= Iceland], & Westmony Fisheries.

We·stmost, *a.* Forms: 1 **westmest,** 1, 6 *Sc.*, **westmest** (1 **weste-**), 6 *Sc.* **-mast,** 6-7 *Sc.* **-maist**; 3, 6- **westmost** (9 *Sc.* **wastmost**). [f. WEST *adv.* + **-MOST.**] Most westerly; westernmost.

825 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 542 Ærest of þam west mæstan æwylle..upp to þam ealdan herepaðe. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. i, Romana [onweald]..is mæst & westmest. *Ibid.*, On þæm westemestan [onwealde], þæt is Roma. *c* 972 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 262 þæs landes æcmæra þe gebyriað into þære westmestan hide. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4495 Fram þe weste syde of þe world to þe est moste ende, þo adde king arþure ywonne fram þe west moste se. 1486 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* VI. 224 Onerat se..de ix li. de Mydmeststede de Warmwod. Et de ix li. de Westmeststede ejusdem. Et de ix li. de Estmeststede de Langhop. 1510 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 70 The haile foirland of the said tenement with the westmost 3harde. 1595 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 90/2 To the westmest dyk of the eistmest cornefauld. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 23 Gayetta, the West-most confine of the Neapolitan Kingdome. 1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 684 They are the westmost portion of the horde. 1805 *State, Leslie of Powis* etc. 56 (Jam.) That the westmost sight was above the Fluicky-shot. 1871 *Daily News* 27 Jan., A vague ..attempt on the part of the French..batteries at St. Ouen to enfilade our westmost one at Ormeson.

West-north-west, *adv.*, etc. [See WEST *adv.* and NORTH-WEST. Cf. MLG. *westnortwest*, Du. *-noord-*, G. *-nord-*.] In or from the direction situated midway between west and north-west. Also as *sb.* and *adj.*

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc., 1889) 12 The Ilonde and Berwik haven lien west north west and Est South est. *Ibid.* 18 The streemys of Briggewatir sit west norwest. *c* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 287 Anglice west-north-west versus Seynt Davyes. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1764) III. 30 The secund [creke] lyith West North West. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 70 Proceading..at the lengthe towarde the weste northe weste. 1625 HYNMERS tr. *W. Blaeu's Sea Mirr.* II. 112 When that Lagernesse is westnorthwest from you, then goe on southeast. 1685 T. PHELPS *Acc. Captivity* 28 Our course by the North-Star was West-North-West. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5360/5 With little Wind at West North West. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 212 The land lying away from the west-north-west to the south-east-by-south. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* XXXI, A strong west-north-west breeze. 1883 R. H. SCOTT *Elem. Meteorol.* 359 The wind flies round to West, or West-north-west.

Hence **West-north-westerly** *a.*

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 5/2 She met with a tremendous west-north-westerly gale.

Weston(e, obs. forms of WHETSTONE.

Westour, obs. Sc. form of WASTER *sb.*¹

Westphalia (westfē·liă). Also 7 **Westfalia.** [med.L., f. OHG. *Westfalo* (G. *-fale, -phale*) an inhabitant of the district now called *Westfalen* in German.] The name of a province of western Germany lying between Hanover and Rhenish Prussia, used *attrib.* with *bacon, gammon*, or *ham.*

c 1650 TOWNSHEND *Poems* (1912) 8 Give us a salt Westphalia Gammon, Not meat to eat, but meat to drink. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Westphalia Bacon. 1664 F. HAWKINS *Youths Behav.* II. 178 A Westfalia Ham of Bacon. *Ibid.* 180 A Westphalia Ham. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. 178 His face..recalls the good Westphalia-Ham. 1710 P. LAMB *Royal Cookery* 66 To make a Westphalia-Ham. 1715 LADY G. BAILLIE *Housek. Bk.* (S. H. S.) 102 For 17½ lb. westfalia hamb at 11d., 0 15 7.

Westpha·lian, *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to, connected with, Westphalia.

b. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Westphalia.

1604 MARSTON & WEBSTER *Malcontent* IV. iii, The sallow-westfalian-gamon-faced slave. 1668 J. WILSON *Erasm. Praise of Folly* (1913) 25 As plump and round as a Westphalian Hogg. 1708 ADDISON *Present St. War* 34 The

Westphalian Treaty. 1764 Falconer *Poems, Demagogue* 128 Her vital blood, that pour'd from every vein, So late to fill th' accurs'd Westphalian drain. 1778 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 311 Wernerus Rolewinck, a Westphalian. 1800 *Mem. Crt. Westphalia* 220 The Westphalian troops performed miracles at Moskwa. *Ibid.*, The Westphalians lost, in this battle, many valuable officers. 1824 Byron *Juan* xv. lxv, They also set a glazed Westphalian ham on. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xviii, I have seen many a Westphalian hog quite as tall.

† **Westphalie, -phaly,** obs. vars. Westphalia.

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 148 The Gamonds of Fraunce,..which I suppose were none other but the flyches of Westphaly, so greatly esteemed at this day. 1662 Rabisha *Cookery* 20 A good piece of Westphalie Bacon. *Ibid.* 136 A Westphalie Gammon of Bacon. 1725 Mandeville *Fable Bees* (ed. 4) I. 263 For the Small Beer they sent abroad, they receiv'd large Returns of Westphaly-Hams [etc.].

West-Pointer. *U.S.* [f. *West Point*, the name of a village on the west bank of the Hudson River in the state of New York.] An officer trained at the United States military academy at West Point.

1863 *Congr. Globe* 16 Jan. 327/3 There have been wounded since this war opened, from thirty to forty general officers. Many of them were West Pointers. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 85 A West-Pointer enjoying the *soubriquet* of 'Shanks'. 1895 J. L. Allen *Kentucky Cardinal* xiii, The West-Pointer had been writing for some months in regard to the wild behaviour of his cousin.

Westralian (westrē'liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Westralia*, a telegraphic abbrev. of *West Australia*.]

a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to West Australia. b. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of West Australia; *pl.* West Australian mining shares.

a. 1896 *Economist* 14 Mar. 385/1 The position of the Westralian Government in the matter is a serious one. *Ibid.* 25 Apr. 532/2 Westralian shares have been somewhat more freely dealt in. 1896 *19th Cent.* Nov. 711 (*title*) The Westralian Mining 'Boom'. 1900 *Speaker* 12 May 153/1 The Westralian Outlander complains that all the taxation falls on the gold-mines. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 398 Westralian finance copied the bad features of the Kaffir Circus.

b. 1896 *Economist* 20 June 809/2 Westralians have been weak on balance. 1896 *19th Cent.* Nov. 711 When..every department of the Stock Exchange was inactive, Westralians came to the rescue. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 7/1 The boom in Westralians which does not come off.

Hence **Westra'lianism.**

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 May 9/1 Statements..on the subject of Westralianism. 1905 *Daily Report* 9 Sept. 6/1 Scandals, such as during recent years have made the term 'Westralianism' one of evil significance.

Westre, obs. form of Vestry.

Westring, var. of Westering.

West Saxon, *sb.* and *a. Hist.* Also **West-Saxon.** [f. West *a.* + Saxon *sb.* and *a.*, after OE. *West-seaxan* pl.]

A. *sb.* 1. *pl.* The division of the Saxons in England occupying the area south of the Thames and westward from Surrey and Sussex; also *sing.* an individual belonging to this group or area.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VI. 403 Plegmundus..ordeyned.. fyve [bishops] to be lond of Giweyays, þat beeþ West Saxons. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* VII. 99 Edmunde Irensyde..subduede to hym the Westesaxons anoon. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 155 The thyrde [realm] was West Saxons, famous and myghty. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 238 Aidan winnis the feild vpon the Pechtis and Westsaxonis. *a* 1643 Baker *Chron.* (1653) 7 The third Kingdome of the Heptarchie, was of the West Saxons. 1714 Addison *Spect.* No 509 P 2, I was the other Day with honest Will. Funnell the West Saxon. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Money*, Ina King of the West-Saxons. 1782 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 618 *note*, Cerdic, the West Saxon. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* IV. i, Thou art but a West-Saxon: *we* are Danes!

2. The dialect of Old English used by the West Saxons.

1844 Garnett in *Proc. Phil. Soc.* II. 17 The plural..totally unknown in West-Saxon. *Ibid.* 18 The discrepancies from the ordinary West-Saxon are specified. 1876 Sweet *Ags. Reader* p. xii, The West Saxon of the eleventh century differs in many respects from that of Alfred's reign. 1893 A. C. Champneys *Hist. English* 85 Northumbrian retains some very ancient forms not found in West Saxon.

B *adj.* Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, the West Saxons or their speech.

1570 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 20 Kent was vnited by King Egbert..vnto the Westsaxon Kingdome,..and.. gouerned after the Westsaxon law. 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* III. 121 Before the West-Saxon Kingdome. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 231/2 During the West Saxon, Anglo-Saxon, and Anglo-Danish dynasties. 1848 Latham *Eng. Lang.* (ed. 2) 91 The Psalter also exhibits this West-Saxon form. 1876 Sweet *Ags. Reader* p. xii, The old Northumbrian poems were also copied in the West Saxon dialect. 1893 A. C. Champneys *Hist. English* 86 The Southern or West Saxon plural, *-aþ*.

Hence † **West-Sa·xonry,** the kingdom of the West Saxons.

1650 Elderfield *Civil Right of Tythes* x. 70 Kenulph King of West-Saxon-rie.

† **West-sexene,** ME. form of OE. *West-se(a)xena*, gen. pl. of *West-se(a)xan* (see prec.).

† *a* 1300 *Shires Eng.* in *O. E. Misc.* 146 On is west-saxene lawe.

West side. Also **west-side.** [West *a.* Cf. WFris., MLG. *westside*, Du. *-zijde*, G. *-seite*.] The side situated in or lying towards the west.

c 1290 *Kenelm* 62 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 347 Þe bischopriche of Roucestre þat in þe west-side is next. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3127 Als þe leveneyng out gas in short tyde Fra þe est, and shewes it in þe west syde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1 Ther is at the West syde of Ytaille..A lusty playne.

c 1391 — *Astrol.* I. § 6 The west side is cleped the left side. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 17 On the west side of Milforde. 1503 *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 30 The utter west syde of his swynstye. 1597 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 211/2 At the west syde of the Blak-tour. 1669 Earl Winchilsea *True Relat. Mt. Etna* 16 The two Torrents of Fire forward ..had on the West-side branched it self into several Streams. 1681 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 6 The west syde of the high way. 1789 S. Shaw *Tour W. Eng.* 378 A pleasant little town on the west-side of a hill. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* iv, On the west side of this road Umlugulu's impi was stationed.

b. *transf.* (Cf. Western *a.* 8.)

1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xxv, Rubbing herself on her '*west*' side, as the Philadelphia ladies call it.

† **West-south,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [See West *adv.* and South *adv.* OE. had *westsuðwind*.] The south-west.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 476 To þe on ende of engelond, as in þe west soup A lute bi norþe cornewaile.

West-south-west, *adv.* etc. [See West *adv.* and South-west. Cf. MLG. *westsüdwest*, Du. *-zuid-*, G. *-süd-*.] In or from the direction situated midway between west and south-west. Also as *sb.* and *adj.*

a. *adv.* 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 11 It flowith west southwest. *Ibid.* 13 Yif..the wynde be west south west. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 470 And west southwest [L. *in fauonium*] hem for to order best is. 1513 Sir E. Howard in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 214 On mondey the wynd cam west sowth west. 1584 R. Norman tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 21 b, The floud sets east northeast, and the ebbe west southwest. 1698 Hennepin *New Discov. Amer.* I. 78 Steering our Course West-South-West, with a favourable Wind. 1760 R. Rogers *Jrnls.* (1769) 197 We..kept the following courses: west-south-west two miles, west-north-west three miles. 1833–4 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 544/2 Less certain and continuous fissures passing nearly East North-East and West South-West.

b. *adj.* 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XI. iii. (1495) 386 The weste Southweste wynde hyghte Zephirus. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 14 All the havens be full at a west south west moone. *a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1764) III. 12 An Hospital of S. John yet stonding at the West South West End of the Town. 1611 Cotgr., *Vent d'aval*, a West South-west wind. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 123 The West South west end of this once Regall Towne.

c. *sb.* 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 77 The shores bended.. sumetyme towarde the Weste and westesouthwest. *a* 1592 Greene & Lodge *Looking Gl.* (1598) E 1, Now the wind doth serue, And sweetly blowes a gale at West, Southwest. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. iii. 61 One of these branches rises in the west south-west. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. i. 8 On the west-south-west of the same district.

Hence **West-south-we·sterly** *a.*

1881 W. Powell in *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* (N. S.) III. 92 A long straight piece of coast, running in a west-south-westerly direction.

Westum, var. Wastum *Obs.*

† **Westvale.** *Obs.* Also 4 **-fale,** 4–5 **-vall** (**-uall**), 5 **westevale.** [a. MLG. *Westvale, -val* Westphalian.] A variety of cloth of Westphalian origin.

1385 in S. Bentley *Excerpta Hist.* (1831) 139 Item lego ducentas vlnas de Westfale ad faciendum lintheamina. 1392 *Exped. Earl Derby* (Camden) 35 Pro ix vinis Westuall.. emptis pro trussura dictorum pannorum. *Ibid.* 168 Pro coopertorio tele Westvall pro dresseur. 1396 *Will of Hervey of Kedwelly* (Comm. Ct. London), Lego Waltero Burtone vnum lectum de Westuale. 1397–8 *Exped. Earl Derby* 356 Westuall de worsted. 1403 *Will of R. de Chestrefeld* in *Lincoln Chapter Acts* (MS.), Cum vno Doser de Westvale steyned cum ymaginibus. 1423 *For. Acc.* 2 *Hen. VI*, L (P. R. O.) Computat in..westevale, pellibus lanutis [etc.].

Westward (we·stwəd), *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a.*[1] Also 5 weste-, 5–6 westwarde, 7 westheard. [OE. *westweard*, f. West *adv.* + -ward. Cf. MLG. *westwart, -wert, -wort*.]

A. *adv.* 1. Towards the west; in a westerly direction: a. Of motion or direction.

For *Westward ho!* see Ho *int.*[1] 2 b.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 893, Her..for se micle here..of þæm eastrice westweard to Bunnan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 270 Þa seoson steorran..gangende eastan westweard. *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1058 Hi..gewendon heom þa westweard oð þet hi comon to Portlande. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1039 So þat he drou him westward,..þe se he wende nei & bihuld west. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 128 Her suster.. cam..Euene out of þe est, and westward she loked. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 17 Espie diligently whan this same firste sterre passeth..westward. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxviii. 127 It lastes westward to þe ryuer of Phison. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 658 Whan that he hath hys cours [y-]goon,..Ageyn westwarde he doth repaire. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 9 Thei fledde westwarde to the see syde, and toke there here schippys. 1535 Coverdale *Eccl.* xlv. 7 As farre as reacheth westwarde and eastwarde. 1593 T. Fale *Horolog.* 9 b, If the declination of your plat be Westward, or from C. toward B. 1613 Donne *Poems* (1633) 170 Goodfriday, 1613. Riding Westward. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) 32 Hence forward the Sun of the Kings cause declined, verging more and more Westward, till at last it set in Cornwal. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 2316 But westward to the Sea the Sun declin'd. 1752 Berkeley *Verses Planting Arts & Learn. Amer.* 21 Westward the course of empire takes its way. 1783 J. King *Thoughts Difficulties* III. 89 We were told by a priest..that all the virtues were flying westward. 1816 Keats *Ep. Geo. Keats* 141 Why westward turn? 'Twas but to say adieu! 1822 Scott *Nigel* V, The citizen..rode on westward along the Strand. 1848 B. Webb *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 169 Projecting westward from the nave-arch is a stone rood-loft. 1877 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* III. 40 Look, as you recross its bridge, westward, along the broad-flowing

b. Of relative position.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1036 Estward ther stood a gate of Marbul whit, Westward right swich another in the opposit. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 103 And thanne upon that other syde westward..The brother..Anfrique nam. 1482–78 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 157/2 Almaner Woll..except Wolle to be shipped westward in Galees or Carrykkes, to be shipped and caried oute of this Reame, shal be conveyed to the Staple of Calays. 1530 Tindale *Exod.* xxvii. 12 And in the bredth of the courte westwarde, there shalbe hangynges of fyftye cubettes long. 1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* I. xciii. 171 We..compassed about yᵉ other corner that lay westward from vs. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VI. xxx. I. 149 He telleth..that Westward there are people..whose king hath but one eie. 1632 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 642 A cer-

Bloomsbury. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxvi, Due westward, fronting to the green, A rural portico was seen. *a* 1861 Clough *'Say not, the struggle nought availeth'* 16 In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly, But westward, look, the land is bright!

c. Followed by *of*.

1692 *Hist. Rel. Late Presbyt. Gen. Assembly* 6 For twenty Miles Westward of Perth, there were but two or three Ministers. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 238 Westward of these..Iles The long-lost Isle of Ithacus the wise. 1821 *Acc. Peculations in Coal Trade* 4 Their papers should not be sent from the ship until she has arrived westward of Blackwall. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxvi, It is situated about twelve leagues..westward of Madrid.

d. *Comb.*, as *westward-blowing, -flowing*, etc.

1871 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 584 Those far-rolling, westward-smiling seas. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 105/1 The problem of the destination of the westward-flowing rivers. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 19 Nov. 393/1 The westward-looking portion of this volume. 1895 *Daily News* 24 Dec. 6/1 That fierce westward-blowing gale of fire.

† 2. *spec.* In allusive use: To Tyburn. *Obs.*

1600 *Looke about You* A 2 b, If they doe so, faith, westward then with Skinke. 1605 Chapman etc. *Eastw. Hoe* II. I. B 3 b, *Touch.* Sir, Eastward hoe, will make you go Westward hoe. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* IV. ii. G 1 b, You..look as if you were going westward indeede. 1626 H. Parrot *Cures for the Itch* A 2 b, If any thing happen.., it must accrew from the next Sessions, prouided there be some to trauel westward. 1647 A. B. [? Brewer] *Countrie Girle* I 3 b, *Greg*..Is't not time he should now goe downward? *Hu.* And time, that you should goe Westward.

3. quasi-*sb.* = next.

1697 Dryden *Æneid* IX. 909 Like the Storm that flies From Westward, when the Show'ry Kids arise. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* IV. vii, My followers guard each pass's mouth, To east, to westward, and to south.

B. *sb.* That direction or part which lies to the west of a place, etc.

1682 H. Phillipps *Geometr. Sea-man* 79 Which..differs in longitude from the former place 90 degrees to the Westward. 1673 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 316 To make cleare and pave the street on the cock of the Castell to the westheard. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3099/3 The same day passed by the *Hastings*, with about 12 sail to the Westward. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 308 They.. saw two rockets rise up from the westward. 1762 Falconer

Arno to the westward. 1874 J. Forrest *Explor. Australia* (1875) 224 Sure enough there were the tracks of horses coming from the westward.

b. Const. *of*.

1766 Smollett *Trav.* xii. I. 213 The river Var falls into the Mediterranean..about four miles to the westward of Nice. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 60/1 *Q.* Where is that place? *A.* To the westward of Sasseram. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 138 Directing his course to the westward of Cape Farewell. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xv, About three miles to the westward of the mountain.

C. *adj.* Having a westerly situation or direction; lying, facing, moving, etc., towards the west.

1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 333 On completing the worst part of the climb, and obtaining a westward prospect. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *London To-day* xxvi. (ed. 3) 241 Let us retrace our steps..to the westward end of Cheapside. 1896 Howells *Impress. & Exp.* 262 One of the westward avenues. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 134 A further link in the westward series..was finished in 1837.

† **Westward,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [OE. *westweard*: cf. prec.] Westerly (= the west, or western part, of).

847 *Charter* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 434 Donon on ða lytlan

Spaine. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Westward, *occidentalis*.

Westwardly, *a.* [f. Westward *adv.*]

1. a. Of wind: Blowing from the westward.

1683 *Nisena* 107 [They] hoist up their Sails, the wind being Westwardly, and good for their intended Navigation. 1706 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 10 The wind being westwardly, a general embarkation..is making at Harwich for Holland. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 249 *note*, He expected a continuance of fine, clear weather, with westwardly winds. 1876 Davis *Polaris Exp.* 259 The pack was driven in by a westwardly wind.

b. Moving or flowing westward.

1870 Proctor *Other Worlds* iv. 108 *note*, The relatively cold and westwardly equatorial currents.

2. Situated to the westward.

1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1634 The Section [seamed] to be a small matter more Westwardly. 1793 *Act 33 Geo. III* c. 132 title, The road leading from Uttoxeter to the westwardly part of Hardiwick heath.

Westwardly, *adv.* [f. as prec.] In or to the westward; in a westerly direction.

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 27 And next from

them westwardly, Here by himselfe, alone doth ly Ireland. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems, Love-Lect. Shadow* 19 If love once faint, and westwardly declyne. 1786 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 76 After steering their course westwardly a few days, they met with a shabby company of strollers. 1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 69 Thence extending westwardly. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. v. 96 The travellers took final leave of the Sweet Water,..keeping westwardly. 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 327 Westwardly..traveled an interminable caravan of emigrants.

We'stwardmost, *a.* [f. as prec. + -MOST.] Most westerly; farthest west.

1685 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 175 We..came to an anchor..on ye Westwardmost Brace. 1788 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 209 The westward-most point of a very large bay. 1894 *Daily News* 7 May 6/3 They propose to commence at once on the wustwardmost bay of the chapel.

We'stwards, *adv.* and *sb.* Also 6 -wardes. [f. WESTWARD *adv.* + -S. Cf. Du. *westwaarts*, G. *westwärts*, and OE. *westweardes* (once).]

A. *adv.* = WESTWARD *adv.* 1 a.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII* c. 17 The way from the barres in Holborne westwardes to the farre ende of high holborn. 1581 BOROUGH *Discourse Var. Cumpas* (1585) F iv, From hence Westwardes to Meta Incognita. 1614 E. WRIGHT *Dialling* E 1 An occidental Dial looketh directly Westwards. 1632 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. 96 He..informs us that he sailed not Westwards, but more towards the South. 1915 J. BUCHAN *Nelson's Hist. War* V. 126 The bulk of the Russian army went westwards to reinforce the van.

b. = WESTWARD *adv.* 1 b.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 b, A mountaine Westwards, and fiue miles from the Citie. 1599 E. WRIGHT *Haven-finding Art* 11 Helmshude (which place is Westwards from the North Cape of Finmark). 1854 tr. *Hettner's Athens & Pelop.* 162 Westwards yonder, towards the sea, lies Lerna.

B. *sb.* = WESTWARD *sb.* (Also with *of*.) Now *rare*.

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* 47 To the Westwardes of your towne. 1581 BOROUGH *Discourse Var. Cumpas* (1585) G ij, Wheras y^e Narue..should be from S. Nicholas.. to the Westwardes. 1584 R. NORMAN tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 37 Then he shall see the towne to the westwards before him. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 28 b, Vpon the North coast, and to the Westwards of Foy, few or none are taken. 1669 EARL WINCHILSEA *Tryne Relat. Mt. Etna* 22 The other Torrent.. in probability could not easily overflow to the Westwards. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s. v. *Wind*, The Easterly Trade-Winds blowing to the Westwards thereof.

West wind, west-wind. [OE. *westwind*, = OS., MLG., MDu., G. *westwind*, WFris. *westewyn*, NFris. *wästwinj*. OE. had also *westanwind* = ON. *vestanvindr* (Norw. *vestan-*, Da. *vestenvind*), MHG. *westenwint*.] The (or a) wind blowing from the west. Also with *a* and *pl.*

c 900 *Beda's Hist.* v. xix. (1890) 458 Sona þæs he he on scyp eode..bleow westwind. *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 567 *Vent galerne*..west-wynde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 West wynde, *zephirus*. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XI. iii. 386 Fauonius, the Weste wynde aryseth in the Weste. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* X. 19 The Lorde turned a maruelous stronge west wynde. 1577 D. SETTLE *Frobisher's Voy.* B vij, Within foure dayes..the Northwest and West windes dispersed the yce into the Sea. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 989 And West winds, with musky wing About the cedar'n alleys fling Nard. 1645 BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1652) 176 As the West-winds are much more common in Ireland,..than the East. 1715 POPE *Iliad.* IV. 319 The Cloud condensing as the West-Wind blows. 1819 WORDSW. *Sonn.* 'Lone Flower' 11 Bright jonquils, their odours lavishing On the soft west-wind and his frolic peers. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* etc 178 The West Wind called.

attrib. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* X. lx. I. 301 Some are of opinion that the wind will engender them: for which cause also they are called Zephyria [*i.* West-wind-egs].

Hence **West-winded, West-windy** adjs.

1831 G. W. CURTIS *Nile Notes* xliv. 221 That west-winded, rose-odoured street. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1883) 379 It being a bright, westwindy, bracing day.

†**Westy,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4 **wysty.** [OE. *wǽstig, wéstig*, f. *wǽste, wéste* WESTE *a.* Cf. WASTY *a.*] Desolate, waste.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark I. 35 [He] eode on woestiȝum stowum [*c* 975 *Rushw.* in westige stowe]. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 449 Of Angle..se a syððan stod westig betwix Iutum & Seaxum. *c* 1205 LAY. 1180 Leode nere þar nane, ne wapmen ne wifmen, bute westije pæðes [*c* 1275 weste paþes]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 42 (Bodley MS.) Þet tu.. schalt grenin godles in-wið westi [*Titus* wasti] wahes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2189 Now iwysse, quoþ Wowayn, wysty is here; þis oritore is vgly.

We'sty, *a.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Confused; giddy.

1599 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i. 158 While hee lies wallowing with a westie hed And palish carkasse, on his brothel-bed. 1674–91 RAY *N. C. Words, Westy*, dizzy, giddy. 1867 *Comh. Mag.* XV. 741 He's a bit westy by times is Ashford. 1881 EVANS *Leicest. Gloss.* s. v., My head's very westy and bad.

Wesy, obs. f. VIZY *v. Sc.* **Wesyng,** rare obs. f. WEASAND. **Wese,** obs. f. *was*, pa. t. of BE *v.*

Wet (wet), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 **wǽt,** 3 **wet** (*dat.* **wete**), *Orm.* **wet** (*dat.* **wette**), 3–6 **wete,** (5 **whete**), 4–6 **weete,** 4–5, 6– *Sc.* **weet,** 6 **weat**(e, 5–6 *north.* and *Sc.* **weytt,** 5–7 *Sc.* **weit.** β. 4 *north.* **wat**(e. γ. 6– **wet,** 6 **wette,** 7 **wett.** δ. 9 *Sc.* **wat.** [OE. *wǽt* neut. (substantival use of *wǽt* adj., = WFris. *wiet*), giving normally ME. *wǽt, wete, weete* and later *weat*(*e*. The other ME. and mod. forms are due to the influence of the adj. OE. had also *wǽta* wk. masc., represented in ME. by **WETE**; in later use the two become undistinguishable, and some of the examples given here (in sense 1) may really be survivals of *wǽta*.]

1. Moisture; liquid or moist substance.

In occasional use applied to water, blood, sweat, sap, etc.

α. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIII. § 5 Swa þæt heora nan oðres mearce ne ofereode, & se cile ȝeþrowode wið ða hæto, & þæt wæt wið þam dryȝum. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 73 Hise seðres fallen for ðe hete, And he dun mide to ðe wete Falleð in ðat welle grund. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 187 Hwa is þenne unwaschen þe haueþ þis halwende wet inwið his heorte. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 668 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 318 Man hath of eorþe al is bodi, and of watere he hauez wete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 634, I se wel how ye swete, Haue heer a clouth, and wipe awey the wete. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1022 [He] smote þe Damesell vndir þe ere, þe weet gon vpward spyn. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 3375 Whan he [Phoebus]..drieþ vp þe moysture & þe weete Of herbe & floure with his feruent hete. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/1 Weytt, *maditas*. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Bocchus & Sydrache* (? 1510) M ij b, After a man hath in hym most Of wete of dryeth hete or colde Shall his complexcyon be tolde. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 124 The quyckeset wyll take no rote, excepte it haue greate weate.

γ. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 40 Like vsery applying wet to wet. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Providence* XXIX, When th' earth was dry, thou mad'st a sea of wet. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* (1734) 437 Divide the Sum of all those Dips or Wet Inches by the Number of Places you dipp'd in, and the Quotient will be the Mean Wet of all those Dips. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying* 32 If you cut the Cheese when young, you will find, that there is a Moisture, or Wet, in every Place where the Eye is,..which Wet or Moisture is called Tears. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* liv, The foam was on his lips; the wet stood on his forehead. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 129 The drippings made worms of wet in the thick dust of the road. 1897 MAX PEMBERTON *Queen of Jesters* iii. 109 The floor of the staircase was covered with wet and slime.

2. Rainy or damp weather.

α. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 123 Man..þoleð..hwile druie and hwile wete, hwile chele, wile hete. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 21, I haue walked ful wyde In weete and in druye. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 23 Þer falles oft sithes grete derth of corne..by cause of ouer mykill wete. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 4 Now in hurt, now in heyll, now in weytt, now in blast. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Garm. Guide Ladeis* 24 Hir mantill of humilitie, To tholl bayth wind & weit. 1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 27 That nicht being..full of wind and weit. *Ibid.* 32 Tempestis of weit and wind. 1790 BURNS *Young Jockie* iii, Thro' wind and weet, thro' frost and snaw.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6365 Ne for na drught, ne for na wat, Changed neuer þai þare state. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 7611 In wate and drye, in hate and cald.

γ. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 92 Ily sowing in wet, is little to get. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I 28 There is nothyng more hurtfull to Winter Corne,..then the wette of Winter. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 157 This distempered messenger of wet, The manie colour'd Iris. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 801 Great numbers came to see him. But, after they had stood long in the wet, he disappointed them. 1802 WORDSW. *Sparrow's Nest* 8 The Sparrow's dwelling, which..in wet or dry My sister Emmeline and I Together visited. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xviii, Make haste in out of the wet, Tom. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* XXXIII. VI. 419 The sermon intended to be preached at the stake was adjourned, in consequence of the wet, to St. Mary's. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 15 July 82/1 It is the alternation of wet and fine which brings every crop in its season.

b. Atmospheric moisture precipitated as rain, mist, or dew.

α. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 604 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 317 Swane þe sonne hath þudere idrawe þene mist for hete, It ne may no feor for þe colde, ake bicometh al to wete, And gaderez þare to one watur-cloude. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. vii. (S.T.S.) I. 41 Ane horribill tempest..made this nobil prince ..Inviaibill with thik schoure of wete and myst. 1794 BURNS *My Nannie's Awa'* 6 And violets bathe in the weet o' the morn.

γ. 1613 T. CAMPION *Relat. Royal Entert.* A 4 b, Because some wet had fallen that day in the forenoone..all her footway was spred with broad cloth. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 68 The Pace of the Moyrye, by reason of much wet lately fallen, ..was hard to passe. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 433 And now the Sun..Had..dry'd the wet From drooping plant, or dropping tree. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* II. vi. (1851) 159 When no rain or visible wet is falling. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxiv, The silent thin wet that seemed to hang in the atmosphere like a vapour. 1901 A. M. FAIRBAIRN in Selbie *Life* (1913) 385 Nothing but wet and water fills the whole scene.

c. Rain, water, or damp regarded as deleterious or detrimental. Also, standing water which collects in pools, or which makes the ground muddy.

α. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2006 Þre dayes þroly þai..duret vnder hacche, For wete of þe waghes þat wastis ouer hed. *Ibid.* 9633 [They] Turnit to þere tenttes..Thurgh the rug, & the rayn, þat raiked aboue, All wery for wete, & for wan strokes. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow & Birds* 218 The woddis grene wer wallowit with the weit. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 54 Pelte-rotte..commeth of greatte wete, specyally in woode countreyes. 1545 *Acc. Ld. High. Treas. Scot.* VIII. 342, xxiiȝ pyonaris..quhilkis drew the cannonis and artalze.. within the munitioun hous to saife the stokis thairof from weit. 1595 in J. Bulloch *Pynours* (1887) 68 Salt and vther girnell guid subject to the perrell of weyit and rayn. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bann. Club) I. 207 Monro caused bigg up betuixt the croces ane court de guard, for saiffeing his souldiers frae weitt and cauld on the night.

γ. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure united* 74 The Infirmitie of this Creature [the Asa] is mostly in the Feet, occasioned by standing or travelling in the wett. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Feb. (1744) 16 The reason why unharrowed Beans set in Clay are apt to dye, is because the Wet fills the Holes and rots them. 1730 SWIFT *Panegyr. Dean* 109 Familiar grown to dirt and wet, Though daggled round, I scorn to fret. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lix, The wet had penetrated my dress. 1898 J. M^cD. STUART *Jrnls. Explor. Australia* (1864) 18 All our rations..being perfectly saturated with wet. 1860 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 74 On high, safe out of wet's way. 1886 WHITMAN *Amer. Feuillage* Poems (1868) 93 Parties of snowy herons wading in the wet to seek worms. 1882 HARDY *Wessex Tales* (1888) I. 5 The gable-end of the cottage was stained with wet.

Comb. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 30 June 3/7 Wet-proof wire coverings.

d. (With *pl.*) A burst, storm, downpour, shower, or spell of rain.

α. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 217 On þe day at he was berid on, þer fell suche a wete and a rayn, þat ij dayes after þai mott nott berie hym. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. xii 53 A huge weit gan doun pour and tumbill. 1548 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 53 A mysseliyng rayn gendreth a great weat. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 312 Terribill windes with raine and weittis quhilk continewit xlviij houris togidder. 1606 in *Sel. Rec. Kirk Sess. Aberd.* (Spalding Club) 53 The gryt invndatioun of weittis liklie to rott the cornis. 1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 8 Much unseasonable weather, the lyke quhairof wes not usuall for weittis, cold, frostes and tempestis. 1661 CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 65 Earthquakes always succeed great wets.

γ. 1611 SPEED *Hist.* (*1. Brit.* IX. XXI. (1632) 1011 The weather extreame in wets and frosts. 1726 J. LAURENCE *Agric.* 281 Gardens which..are apt to be overflowed or soak'd with Water in the Winter, (for Summer Wets never hurt them). 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 47 The Wets that generally fall then. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 391 The weather often turning into sudden wets.

3. Liquor, drink. In mod. use only *slang*; esp. in *heavy wet*, malt liquor.

α. *c* 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Bened. Rule* xliii. 69 Ac he ana ȝeroerde..and be dæle set and wæt ȝewanod sy. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 66 He ne mæȝ ætes oððe wætes þrucan. — *Saints' Lives* XVI. 270 He. to micel nimð on æte oððe on wæte [*c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 on ete oðer on wete]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7852 Himm birrþ lokenn himm full wel Fra luffsumm æte & wæte.

γ. 1821 EGAN *Life in London* iii. 226 The soldiers and their *trulls* were seen tossing off the *heavy wet* and spirits. 1821 [? EGAN] *Real Life Lond.* I. xviii. 390 note, *Heavy wet* —A well-known appellation for beer, porter, or ale. 1839 J. GRANT *Trav. Town* I. 167 Pots of foaming heavy wet. 1894 ASTLEY *50 Years Life* II. 197 After a lot of talk and a certain amount of 'wet' he and I made three matches.

†**4.** Phr. *Without wet*, without being wetted. *To take wet*, to be injured by damp. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18547 Apon þe see wit-vten wete Gangand als apon a strete. 1513 [see TAKE *v.* 44 b]. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 378 After they had beene weakened with this daungerous wet that they tooke. 1632 PELLHAM *Gods Power* 24 Wee found that all our Frittars of the Whale were almost spoyled with the wet that they had taken. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 7 He that considers how Mischievous and Mortal a thing, taking Wet in the Feet is to those, who have been bred nicely. 1718 [see TAKE *v.* 44 b].

†**5.** *In wet* = in fresco (see FRESCO *sb.* 2). *Obs.*

1628 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* (1634) xii. 141 He wrought in distemper (as we call it) or wet with size, sixe histories of patient Iob. *Ibid.* 149 Making in his Cloyster many Histories in wet, after Masaccio's manner.

Wet, *sb.*[2] *colloq.* [f. WET *v.*] A drink or draught of some alcoholic beverage; a glass of liquor.

In the 18th c. app. sometimes confused with WHET *sb.* 2 b.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 125 At Noon he gets up for a wet and to Dine. *c* 1752 *Narr. Journ. Ir. Gentl. Eng.* (1869) 47 Valerius protested he could not walk back to dinner until he had taken a wet, as he called it: and..he went into a tavern..and produced some cold roast beef, Cheshire cheese, and a cool tankard. 1789 *Trifler* No. XXXVIII. 487 John Whip enquired of his knot of brethren on the roof whether they would take a wet. 1880 BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* XXIV, Do you, Elijah, hand a wet round. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush-Life Queensland* III. (1888) 22 No bargain could be completed without a 'wet' over it. 1890 *Beeton's Christmas Ann.* 17 You look dry; let's have a wet. 1910 LOUISE GERARD *Golden Centipede* x, Chrys won't dare to hide the wets when there are visitors in the house.

Wet (wet), *a.* Forms: α. 1–2 **wǽt** (**wát**), 1 *Anglian* **wét** (**uét**), 3–4 **wet,** 3–6 **wete,** 4–5, 9 *Sc.* **weet,** 4–6 **weete,** 5 **weiete,** *north.* **weytt,** 5–7 *Sc.* **weit,** 6 **weat**(e. β. 4 *north.* **wat,** 4–5 *north.* and *Sc.* **wate,** *midl.* **wote,** 5–6 *Sc.* **wait.** γ. 4– **wet,** 4–7 **wette,** 4–8 **wett,** (6 **whet**). δ. *Sc.* 6 **watt,** 6– **wat.** [Three distinct types are represented here: (1) the α-forms, originating in OE. *wǽt* adj. = OFris. *wêt* (WFris. *wiet*, dial. *weet*; NFris. *wiat, wit*), ON. *vátr* (Icel. *votur*, Norw. *vaat*; Sw. *våt*, Da. *vaad*), a word not found outside of the Anglo-Frisian and Scandinavian groups; (2) the β-forms resulting from the adoption of the OScand. **wât*- (ON. *vátr*), giving the common northern ME. *wate, wait*, and the rare midland *wote*; (3) the γ-forms, properly the pa. pple. of the verb, which finally supplant the others except in dialect. The Sc. *wat* may either be a variant of this or of the earlier *wate*.]

1. Consisting of moisture, liquid. Chiefly as a pleonastic rhetorical epithet of water or tears.

In OE. used with ref. to mediæval physiology = MOIST 2 d, HUMID b.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIII. § 5 Sie eorðe is dryge & ceald, & þæt wæter wæt & ceald. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXX. 441 Forxif, drihten, þæt þyrres fyres hæto sy ȝecyrred on wætne deaw. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 752 Al ðat eure smelleð swete, be it drie, be it wete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23679 Waters rennand alwais wat. 13.. *K. Horn* 970 (Harl. MS.) Horn.. spec wiþ wete tearen. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 9058 Þre dayes hit was þey nought ete, Ne nought drank þat was wete. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 89 This cely Venus

nygh dreynt in teres wete. — *Treylus* v. 1109 Phebus with his hete Gan..To warmen of þe Est See þe wawes wete. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. v. 82 Careit throu feill large haw stremys wait. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vii. 71 Be your teares wet? Yes faith: I pray weepe not. 1862 Mrs. Browning *Last Poems, My Heart & I* iii, Our voice which thrilled you so, will let You sleep; our tears are only wet. 1894 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Dec. 3/1 At Suez, Padishah gave way to tears—actual wet tears—when Potter became the owner of the birds. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas* 85 But, oh, the little cargo-boats, that sail the wet seas roun'.

Comb. 1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* xix. 18 The drie-land foule, did make the sea their nest, The wet-sea fish did make the land their rest.

2. Of weather, a period of time, a locality: Rainy.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. iii. 102 Of untidlican gewideran, þæt is, of wætum sumerum, & of drygum wintrum. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 96 As wete somers nurishen siche tares. *c* 1461 *Bale's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 145 Upon Thursday which was a wete day. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 21 b, You must not plowe in wette weather. 1634 Milton *Comus* 930 Wet Octobers torrent flood. 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 382 The wettest and windiest day that I have seene. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Oct. 1679, A very wet and sickly season. 1785 Burns *Halloween* xv, The simmer had been cauld an' wat. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xii, They had passed a long wet day together without ennui. 1861 J. H. Bennet *Shores Medit.* I. vi. (1875) 161 [In] the Riviera..it is seldom or never, at the same time, cold and wet. 1863 [see Soaking *ppl. a.* 6]. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 46 The wettest spot in England being near Seathwaite in Cumberland.

b. Of the air, wind, etc.: Holding or carrying moisture in the form of vapour.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12474 Wintur vp wacknet with his wete aire. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 42 In the tunnel a cold, wet draught..blew.

c. Of a star: Bringing rain.

c 1425 *MS. Digby* 233 lf. 225/1 At holy rode day..bygynneth þe myst & þe strenghe of þe wete sterre arture.

d. *transf* and *fig.* (Cf. Rainy 2 b.)

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies*, Gen. xi. (1662) 38 Ergo, saith the Miser, part with nothing, but keep all against a Wet day. 1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 34 The children of this World.. will [not] let slip any other advantage..of providing against a Wet Day. 1865 J. Hatton *Bitter Sweets* v, You'd most likely come down topsy-turvy, and have a werry wet welcome at the end of it. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxix, Scotland was evidently bent on giving us a wet welcome.

e. *Comb.* (adj. + sb. used as an attrib. phr.).

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* III. vi, It was an innocent enough wet-day amusement! 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 96 The torrential downpour of the wet-season rain. 1901 C. Holland *Mousmé* 323 Their huge wet-weather hats.

f. *absol.* = wet season.

1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 371 When the Ogowé and its neighbouring rivers come down in the 'long wet'. *Ibid.* 375 In February comes the short dry, then the short wet till May.

3. Of land or soil: Holding water, saturated with water, heavy.

a 900 *Leiden Riddle* 1 Mec se ueta uong, uundrum freoriz, oð his innaðae aerest caendæ. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 90 Deos wyrt..bið cenned gehwær on ameþum landum & on wætum. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* (1883) 249 *Loca humentia*, þæt beoð wæte stowa. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1318 Gyson, fison, tigre, eufrate, þis four mas al þis erth wate. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIX. 602 For I haf gert spy wa a gat. Suppos that it be sum-deill wat, A page of ouris we sall nocht tyne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 41 þe wylde worme vnder weet erthe. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. xi. 968 þe watyr of Nyle our fletis it all Withe mowynge spryngis wiþ outtyn spate, Qwhen Egipte nedis to be wate [*MS. W.* wait]. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 35 Sa wundir wait wes the way. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 14 [Oats] wylle grow on weter grounde than any corne els. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* § 38 When pasture is gone, and the fildes mier and weate. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 286 Thay contendet to cum out of that narow and watt place ful of dubis and myres.' 1625 G. Markham *Inrichment Weald Kent* 9 A cold, stiffe and wet clay. 1784 *Young's Annals Agric.* II. 43 In many of their fields they are troubled with springs; they call the wet spots *squalls*. 1842 Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 383 This is not, however, a turnip soil, being much too wet and heavy. 1847 [see Soaking *ppl. a.* 6]. 1911 G. Macdonald *Roman Wall Scot.* 132 The field at the bottom is still wet and marshy.

absol. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* viii, Miss Clara cares little for rough roads..Zounds! she can spank it over wet and dry.

fig. 1824 W. Irving *Tales Trav.* II. *Club Queer Fellows*, A good joke grows in a wet soil,..but withers on your d—d high dry grounds.

Comb. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 70 A wet-land Farm.

b. Of a crop: Grown in a moist or watery soil.

1885 W. W. Hunter *Imp. Gaz. India* (ed. 2) II. 63 The most valuable of the 'wet' crops is sugar-cane.

4. Made damp or moist by exposure to the elements or by falling in water; sprinkled, covered, or permeated with rain, dew, etc. Const. *with*, † *of*.

a. of things, esp. clothing.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* v. xii. (1890) 436 Næfre he ða his wætan hræl & þa cealdan forlætan wolde, oðþæt hig eft of his seolfes hire clopes al wete weren. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 775 Aurora with the stremys of hir hete Hadde dreyed vp the dew of erbis wete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Weet, wythe reyne, *complutus*. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 281 As for hercules all that he had vpon hym was weet and nothing drye. 1596 Raleigh *Discov. Guiana* 9 The weete clothes of so many men thrust together. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 98 O you shall see him laugh, till his Face be like a wet Cloake, ill laid vp. 1725 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (ed. 4) I. 271 In comes the nimble Messenger smoaking hot, with his Cloaths as wet as Dung with the Rain. 1800 Wordsw. *Two Thieves* 9 The traveller would hang his wet clothes on a chair. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, The sky was dark and gloomy, ..the streets wet and sloppy. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xviii, She ..slipped off her shoes..and walked deliberately..through the wettest of the wet grass. 1866 Swinburne *Poems & B., An Interlude* 2 In the greenest growth of the Maytime, I rode where the woods were wet, Between the dawn and the daytime. 1884 Par *Eustace* 23 Eustace..was not long in divesting himself of his wet garments.

b. of persons (together with their clothes) or a part of the body. Also of animals.

c 1205 Lay. 28080 Þa wes ich al wet, & werl of sorȝen and seoc. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 380 Thouch thai wate war and wery. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 187 Wery and weet as beest is in the reyn Comth sely Iohn. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 279 Wherof hercules and exione were all wette of the washing and springyng of the wawes. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxxiv. 805 b, Suche as were wete & colde made fyers to warme them. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, III. i. 27 Canst thou (O partiall Sleepe) giue thy Repose To the wet Sea-Boy, in an houre so rude. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* I. xiv, He..shooke his wings with roarie May-dewes wet. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Oct. 1641, We were forced to walke on foote very wett and discompos'd. 1728 Ramsay *Anacr. Love* 8 A poor young wean a' wat! 1789 W. Blake *Songs of Innoc., Little Boy Lost* 6 The child was wet with dew. 1885 Corbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 399 The farm-house.. from the warmth and good fare of which we do not mean to stir, until we can do it without the chance of a wet skin. 1849 James *Woodman* xlvi, Set me a seat by the fire,..and then call in the slave. He is wetter than we are. 1861 E. D. Cook *P. Foster's Diau.* i, Besides, I hate to get wet. 1918 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Oct. 678/2 Mad as a wet hen because I refuse to take his word for it that the titles are O.K.

c. with prefixed intensive pple., as *wringing* (see Wringing *ppl. a.*), *dripping*, † *dropping wet*. *Wet through*. *to the skin*: having one's clothes completely saturated (cf. Wet *v.* 4 c).

sta
wet
a good showre of rayn that the skoler was well wassbyd and wete to yr skyn. 1591, 1770 [see Dropping *ppl. a.* 1 c]. 1811, 1764 [see Skin *sb.* 5 e]. 1798 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 61 But all this does not make it the more agreeable to get wet through. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* xiii, Some dripping wet, having fallen into the river. 1840 Longf. in *Life* (1891) I. 359 The last eighteen miles it rained like fury, and I reached Hartford wet through. 1899 F. E. Paget *Curate Cumberworth* 343 The rain set in..so heavily, that in half an hour I was wet to the skin.

d. absol. *The wet* = one's wet clothes.

17.. *The Ploughman* iii. in Herd *Songs* (1776) II. 145 Cast aff the wet, put on the dry, And gae to bed, my deary. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxvi, And then the man casts aff the wat and puts on the dry, and sits down..ahint the ingle.

5. a. Suffused with tears; moist with weeping or with being wept upon. Const. *with*, † *of*.

c 1205 Lay. 30268 Wete weoren his wongen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 278 Bihold mid wet eien þine scheomeful sunnen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2356 Euerilc he kiste, on ilc he gret, Ilc here was of is teres wet. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23999 Þat þou mai sai al wit þe prophet, Mi weping mas mi bed al wet. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt's T.* 422 The pure fettres on his shynes grete Weren of his bittre salte teeres wete. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 98 Hire yhen smale and depe set, Hire chekes ben with teres wet. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 226 His eyen wexed weete agen for pite. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 133 Repentence ay with cheikis wait, No pane nor pennence did eschew. 1612 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 35 These her Women ..who with wet cheekes Were present when she finish'd. 1667 Dryden & Dr. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* IV. i, Lord! her innocency makes me laugh my Cheeks all wet. 1785 Cowper *Task* IV. 17 Epistles wet With tears, that trickled down the writer's cheeks. 1871 Bryant *Odyss.* V. 105 Gazing with wet eyes upon the barren deep. 1885–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* May xxvi, And when at night her lover kisst her, lo! Her tender face was wet with tears of grief.

b. Suffused or covered with blood; dripping or oozing with blood. (Only of wounds, or with explicit mention of blood.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25628 Þat was blod þan of him ran, þe place was þar-wit wett. *Ibid.* 24082 His bodi al blodi wat. 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 80 Sche froted hir honden and hir fet, And crached hir visage, it bled wete. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1433 þe woundes grene and weet, Wiuche þat weoren on honden and feet. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1329 Wyde woundes & wete. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVIII. 283 Þat swete, þat for my loue tholed woundes wete. 1804 W. L. Bowles *Spir. Discov.* IV. 84 The evil of his march through cities stormed, And regions wet with blood!

c. Moist or damp with perspiration.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8436 Of his forhede barst the swote, That al his face ther-of was wote. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 84 After violent perspiration, a linen or cotton shirt becomes wet.

6. Made moist or damp by dipping in, or sprinkling or smearing with, water or other liquid.

Freq. of new-printed matter (newspapers or books), esp. in the phr. *wet from the press*.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 264 Tho lay ther certein wode cleft, Of which the pieces nou and eft Sche made hem in the pettes wete, And put hem in the fyri hete. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxiv. (1495) 280 The water slydeth of as it were of a wete hyde. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Wete þin dyasche in þe hony, & with þe wete dyasche ley þe malmenye & þe cofyns. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* I. 267 Then the white nackes schalle be humectate or made weiste with goide. *c* 1490 *Mirk's Festial* 191 Byd hym goo ynto þe chirch, and se how al þe pament ȝet ys wete of þe holy watyr. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 53 Do we not see..weakly that continu'd Court-libell..Printed, as the wet sheets can witnes, and dispers't among us for all that licencing can doe? 1721 E. Ward *Wand. Spy* I. (1799) 3 Then a wet Finger does its Duty, And robs the Bar-board of its Beauty. 1784 *Connoisseur* No. 29 P 2, I snatch up the favourite sheets wet from the press and devour every syllable. 1798 Coleridge *Recantation* xx, With the morning's wet newspaper. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 494 It should be afterwards cleaned with a wet sponge. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIV. 337 Just published, and wet from the press, 'The Stranger's Guide through Little Pedlington'. 1838 Dickens *Mem. Grimaldi* I. vii. 186 No sooner did they arrive wet from the press, than men on horseback were immediately despatched with them to Canterbury. 1839 De Quincey *Wordsw. & Southey* Wks. 1889 II. 316 Wordsworth's habits of using books..were not vulgar; not the habits of those who turn over the page by means of a wet finger. 1890 F. K. Hunt *Fourth Estate* II. 220 Just as the wet Newspaper, fresh from the News-boy, is being opened at the eight o'clock breakfast table. 1859 FitzGerald *Omar* XXXVI, I watch'd the Potter thumping his wet Clay.

† **b.** *With a wet finger*: easily, with little effort. Also (*b*) readily, without hesitation; (*c*) slightly, lightly. *Obs.*

Perh. from the practice of wetting the first or second finger on one's tongue in order to facilitate turning over the leaves of a book or to rub out writing on a slate. Cf. quots. 1721 and 1839 in 6.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* To Rdr. *iv, A large and plain table..whereby..to any good matier in the booke contained, readie waye and recourse maye with a weat fynger easily bee found out. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 78 With a wet fynger ye can fet, As muche as maie easyly all this matter ease. 1589 *Rare Tri. Love & Fortune* III. C 4, And I can finde One with a wet finger that is starke blinde. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* 2, I hate brawles with my hart: and can turne-ouer A volume of wronges with a wett finger. 1600 *Wisd. Dr. Dodypoll* III. E 3 b, *Flo.* Canst thou bring me thither? *Peas[ant]*. With a wet finger sir. 1644 Featly *Roma Ruens* 5, I could with a wet finger produce divers decrees of Popes..flat repugnant one to the other. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 293 How easily..even with a wet finger, (as we say) could God..have overturned Jacob. 1708 [De Foe] *Street-Robberies* 47 When our Tryal came on, we got clear with a wet Finger, as the Folks say. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) V. 152 If thou likest her, I get her for thee with a wet finger, as the saying is! 1754 Foote *Knts.* I. 15 If Dame Winifred was here, she'd make 'em all out with a wet Finger; but they are above me. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, If we could but find ony ane to say she had gien the least hint o' her condition, she wad be brought aff wi' a wat finger.

(*b*) 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. 39 The broker will giue mony for them, with a wet finger. 1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* I. A 4, If ever I stand in needs of a wenche that will come with a wet finger.

(*c*) 1586 [? J. Case] *Praise Mus.* vii. 79 To let passe all generalities which I touched before with a wet finger. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 45 The slightnesse and slendernesse of his Answeres, with a wet finger (as we say) passing by the manifold allegations produced.

c. in other proverbial expressions.

To cover oneself with a wet sack: see Sack *sb.*[1] 3.

1561 tr. *Calvin's 4 Serm. Idol.* i. A iij b, Thinking that he is escaped when he is couered, as the common saying is, vnder a wette sack. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 61 For so many pleasures vanished, as an Ele through a wette hande. 1579, *a* 1621 [see Sack *sb.*[1] 3]. 1616 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 218 He holdeth a wet eele by the taile. 1679 *Lett. Gent. Romish Rel. to Brother* 32 There being no more hold of them than of a wet Eel by the tail.

d. *To come with a wet sail*: to make swift progress to victory, like a ship with sails wetted in order to keep close to the wind.

1876 *Coursing Calendar* 326 Westeria, coming with a wet sail, rushed by and ultimately killed. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 8/2 Bury, who were expected to come with a wet sail, went down before their local rivals at Bolton.

7. Of timber: Full of sap, unseasoned.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1480 And as it queynte, it made a whistlynge, As doon thise wete brondes in hir brennynge. 1468–9 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 203 Let not hit be wete tymbyr in hond. 1900 Hueffer in *Academy* 18 Aug. 127/2 The wet-wood smoke drives us winking blind. 1906 H. Van Dyke *Ideals* xii. 266 Wet wood will not burn.

8. Of paint, varnish, ink: Not yet dry, sticky, liable to smudge.

1519 [see Blotting-paper]. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 139 For drying of stayning paynting and other wett pasted and mowlded woorkes. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 81 The ruddinesse vpon her Lippe is wet: You'le marre it, if you kisse it. 1850 Miss Mulock *Olive* XX. (1890) 157 Ha! don't come near my picture. The paint's wet. Get away. 1883 M. E. James *How to Decorate* 19 Remember that tempera is many shades lighter when it is dry than when it is wet. 1914 'Bartimeus' *Nov. Occas.* vii. (1916) 50 The younger girl wiped a foot of wet paint off the coaming of a hatch, and said sweetly it didn't matter in the least.

9. *Fort.* Of a ditch: Containing water.

For the sense cf. Wet Dock.

1590 Sir R. Williams *Discourse War* 50 No drie ditch can bee compared for strength vnto a wet ditch. 1823 *Ann. Reg., App. to Chron.* 130 The whole of the fortification is surrounded by a wet ditch. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 193 The citadel is separated from the mainland by a wet ditch of artificial construction.

10. Of fish: **a.** Cured with salt or brine. **b.** Fresh, not dried.

a. *c* 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) July 523 Wett newland fishe, ye c, i li. Drye fishe, the hondert, o li. 10 sh. 1580 R. Hitchcock *Polit. Plat* a iv, Twentie thousande of the beste and middle sort of wette fishe (at the leaste) called blanckfishe, and tenne thousande drie fishe. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4421/7 The Cargo of the Prize-Ship Margaret of Nants, consisting of about 11000 Wett, or Mud-fish. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 64 The preparation of white herrings ..consists of packing the fish in salt, which soon turns to brine, and this method of preparation is termed the 'wet cure'.

b. 1892 Matthew *Lond. Labour* I. 62/2 All fresh fish is 'wet'; all cured or salted fish, 'dry'. 1899 *Daily News* 24 Jan. 5/1 The inexpensive kinds of fish are cod, hake, skate, sprats, and 'wet' haddock.

11. Of confections: Preserved in syrup; of a

syrupy nature. Of surgical or naturdl-history specimens: Bottled in spirits.

1612 *Sc. Bh. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 318 Wett confectionis—Preserved barbareis..Marmalad [etc.]. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 259 Sweat-meats Dry and Wet, upon small Porcelaine Plates. 1896 [Mrs. Traill] *Ba. hw. Canada* 46 The American Crab, these beautiful little scarlet apples so often met with as a wet preserve among our sweetmeats at home. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 87 The 'wet specimens,' those bottled in spirits. 1891 *Century Dict., Wet preparation*, a specimen of natural history immersed in alcohol.

12. Of measure: Used for liquid articles. ? *Obs.*

1597 Skene *De Verb. Signif.* s. v. *Gangiatores*, Al measures, & weichts, baith dry & weete. 1662 Malynes *Lex Mercat.* 39 The Romanes in times past, called the wet Measure by Ounces, as wee doe the weight. 1638 L. Roberts *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 238 Wet Measures are also derived from this pound Troy.

13. *Med.* a. Designating certain diseases which are characterized by moist secretions.

1565 Blundevil *Curing Horses Dis.* lxix. (1580) 89, I call it the wet cough, bicause the horse in his coughing, will voide moiste matter at his mouth. *Ibid.* cxxvii. 58 Of the wet Spauen, or through Spauen. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xiv. 232 The paralytic-atrophic cases are designated 'dry beriberi' or beriberi atrophica; the dropsical cases, 'wet beriberi' or beriberi hydropa. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Wet brain, Wet scald, Wet tetter.*

b. *Wet cup, cupping*: see Cupping *vbl. sb.* 1.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 275 Wet-cupping the loins to the extent of several ounces may be of service. 1913 Dorland *Med. Dict., Wet-cup*, a cupping-glass to be used after scarification.

c. Designating various modes of hydropathic treatment, as in *wet bandage, compress, pack, packing, sheet.*

1843 Sir C. Scudamore *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 16 Wet Bandages. 1848, 1870 [see Compress *sb.* 1]. 1859, 1899 [see Pack *sb.*[1] 11]. 1874 [see Packing *vbl. sb.*[1] 1 c]. 1874 Bucknill & Tuke *Psychol. Med.* (ed. 3) 754 The Wet Sheet or Wet Pack..acts as an energetic sudorific.

fig. c 1864 J. B. Paton in *Life* (1914) 85 We cannot submit to have these men..wrapped in the eternal wet-sheet of a monastic college.

14. *colloq.* a. Primed with liquor; more or less intoxicated. (Cf. Wet *v.* 7 b.)

1704 Prior *Celia to Damon* 66 When my lost Lover the tall Ship ascends, With Musick gay, and wet with lovial Friends. 1834 Coleridge *Table T.* 20 Jan., Some men are like musical glasses;—to produce their finest tones, you must keep them wet.

b. Addicted to drink.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wet-Quaker*, a Drunkard of that Sect. *c* 1713 in Aitken *Steele* (1889) I. 395 It's a very wet town, and the voters are wet too. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words, Wet-hand*, a drunken person. 1900 'R. Guthrie' *Kitty Fagan* 207 It might keep some o' the wet hands oot o' the pub.

c. *transf.*

1598 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 57 Those that keep a wet corner for a friend, and will not thinke scorne to drinke with a good fellowe and a Souldior. 1803 [see Bargain *sb.*[1] 7]. 1824 W. Irving *Tales Trav.* II. *Club Queer Fellows*, His jokes, it must be confessed, were rather wet, but they suited the circle over which he presided. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xi, As he knew he should have a *wet night*, it was agreed that he might gallop back again in time for church on Sunday morning. 1905 Vachell *The Hill* iii. 49 Some of us had a wet night of it, last night.

15. *colloq.* Of a Quaker: Not very strict in the observances of his sect. (See also 14 b.)

1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* Wks. 1720 III. 89 Would you buy any naked Truth, or Light in a dark Lanthorn? Look in the Wet-Quakers Walk. *a* 1708 T. Ward *England's Reform.* II. (1710) 44 Quakers, and Wet-Quakers, or Merry-ones. 1785 Geo. A. Bellamy *Apol. Life* (ed. 3) I. xiii 78, I had not indeed dressed myself with the studied formality of a rigid Quaker, but only so plain and neat as to entitle me to the denomination of a wet Quaker; a distinction that arises chiefly from the latter's wearing ribbands, gauzes, and laces. 1838 *Bentley's Miscell.* IV. 297 Who has not heard of..a wet Quaker? who *thees* and *pays*, wears no collar to his coat..; but is in other respects..living that sort of life which, in England, is called that of a jolly dog. 1839 Marryat *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. I. 255 Mr. Buffum..was dressed as what is termed a wet Quaker. 1866 Carlyle in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 53 An enthusiastic young 'Wet-Quaker'.

transf. 1832 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 461 Mine host, the Rev. C. R. Reaston Rodes..is a kind of *wet* parson, if I may borrow that phrase from the Quakers. 1855 Newman *Callista* vi. (1856) 48 Agellius is but a wet Christian; ..not obstinate, like his brother there. 1876 March. Dufferin *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 295, I believe our one friend here is a 'wet' Mormon, and at his house, where we spent the evening, we only met one-wifed men.

16. a. Consisting of alcoholic liquor.

1779 *Remembrancer* VIII. 277 Saturday last arrived here from Cadiz, a polacre, with a large and general assortment of dry and wet goods. 1837 J. Cottle *Early Recoll.* I. 320, I think he carries on a snug business in the smuggling line, and..is on the look-out for some wet cargo. 1882 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 2/1 The central office for 'wet goods', i. e. wines and spirits. 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 26 Jan. 58/2 Casks of vinous liquors, technically known as 'wet goods'.

b. Concerned with the sale and consumption of alcoholic liquor.

1892 [see Dry *a.* 11 a]. 1899 H. Wyndham *Queen's Service* 97 Canteens..are known as either 'wet' or 'dry'. In the former, beer, porter, and stout, but no spirits, are sold. *Ibid.* 98 The hours during which 'wet' Canteens are open. 1913 R. H. Gretton *Med. Hist. Engl. People* I. 90 Whereas at ports the customs arrangement allowed 'bonding' on a large scale, there was no such possibility in inland towns, except in some 'wet' trades.

c. *U.S.* Permitting the sale of alcoholic liquor: accepting or adhering to this as a principle; opposed to the prohibition of the liquor traffic. Freq. in recent use.

1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* liv. II. 350 *note*, Some States, e.g. Georgia, have adopted a local option system, under which each county decides whether it will be 'wet' or 'dry' (i.e. permit or forbid the sale of intoxicants). 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 12/1 A map of the United States, with prohibition States white, licence States black, and States partly 'dry' and partly 'wet' under local option indicated by shading. 1919 H. L. Wilson *Ma Pettengill* 36 Like a cowhand with three month's pay hitting a wet town.

d. *absol.* or quasi-*sb.* (from prec. sense).

1906 *Mission Field* Aug. 144 The 'wets' would carry such cities as Guthrie, Oklahoma City and Shawnee. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 637/1 The party calling themselves 'The Wets' still believed that the President would intervene to avert such legislation. 1920 [A. G. Gardiner] *Windfalls* 17 The wasp..shares man's weakness for beer. In the language of America, he is a 'wet'.

17. Designating various technical processes or operations.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 398 Analysis by the wet way. 1807 Aikin *Dict. Chem.* II. 427 Tin is soluble in acid of tartar, and this solution is of importance in manufacture, as it is the method by which wet tinning is performed on copper and brass. 1854 C. Tomlinson *Obj. Art-Manuf., Paper* 24 The paper..is subjected to a second pressure, called wet pressing, by which a further portion of the water is got rid of. 1859 Reeve *Brittany* 6 The wet collodion process. 1878 Abney *Treat. Photogr.* vii. 50 The following are collodions. for the wet process. 1882 *Imperial Dict., Wet-puddling*, in metallurgy, pig-boiling. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 70/2 A convenient wet-way method for small quantities is to boil the recently precipitated chloride ..with caustic soda-ley. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 989 The dangers consequent upon the manufacture of arsenic have been much diminished..by what is technically known as the 'wet method'.

18. *Naut.* Of a vessel: Liable to ship water over the bows or gunwale.

1832 Marryat *N. Forster* x, She was what sailors term rather *a wet one*, and the sea broke continually over her bows. 1884 Clark Russell *Jack's Courtship* xvii, The *Strathmore*..had the reputation of being a very fast sailer, though what is termed a wet ship. 1891 M. Roberts *Land-travel & Sea-faring* 9 The *Seringapatam* was a very 'wet ship', that is, she was very much inclined to ship heavy seas.

19. In combination with pa. ppples.: a. predicative, as *wet-crushed, -picked, salted, situated, spun, woaded.*

1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines* 419 The cost of drying the *wet-crushed ore. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 225/2 It [esparto] is again '*wet-picked' after boiling. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 274/1 Hides brought to the tannery in this condition are known as '*wet salted'. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 472 When clay land is *wet situated. 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 12/1 The demand for *wet spun yarns. 1660 Fuller *Mixt Contempt.* xlix. 76 What may be the cause why so much cloth so soon changeth colour? It is because it wet wadded, which giveth the fixation to a colour.

b. parasynthetic, as *wet-bottomed, -eyed, -footed, -footed, -lipped.*

1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 222 *Wet-bottomed land. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 89 Much wet-bottomed land..is ill suited for rearing lambs. 18.. Leigh Hunt *Robin Hood & Outlaws* xvii, Never woman [came] for redress, And went away *wet-eyed. 1892 Hardy *Tess* xl, He knelt down at the bedside wet-eyed. 1864 Dickens *Mrs. Lirriper's Legacy* i, It was in vain for me to ..tell him he'd be..*wet-feeted to death by the slop and mess. 1833 Hood *Public Dinner* 174 *Wet-footed, spoilt-beaver'd,..You haste home to supper. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. vi, She has come home wet-footed and cold. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 232 The *wet-lipped west wind.

20. Special collocations (see also 13 above): **wet bargain** (see Bargain *sb.*[1] 7); **wet bob** [Bob *sb.*[7]], a boy at Eton who devotes himself to boating; also *gen.*; **wet-bulb**, designation of that one of the two thermometers of a psychrometer the bulb of which is covered with muslin, which is wetted at the time of observation so as to indicate the 'temperature of evaporation'; †**wet cloth**, cloth that has been wetted in the process of fulling; **wet cooper** (see Cooper *sb.*[1] 1); **wet fly** *Angling* (see quot. 1875); also *attrib.*; **wet frost**, a frost accompanied by damp air; †**wet glover** (see Glover b); †**wet larder**, one where moist or liquid provisions were stored; **wet meter**, a gas-meter in which the gas passes through a body of water; **wet plate** *Photogr.*, a sensitized collodion plate exposed in the camera while the collodion is moist; also *attrib.*; **wet rot**, decay in timber caused by excessive moisture; †**wet-salter** (in contrast to Dry-salter); **wet steam** (see quot.).

1865, 1886 *wet bob [see Bob *sb.*[7]]. 1892 *Daily News* 7 Aug., The 'wetbobs' of the Solent are not so absolutely the creatures of the weather office as the 'drybobs' of Canterbury. 1901 D. Sladen *My Son Richard* I, Only on the river they have this much mutual respect for each other —each recognises that the other is a good wetbob. 1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 228 The *wet-bulb Thermometer was generally 10° lower than the dry one till the beginning of June. 1916 *Lancet* 25 Jan. 142/2 A man..can do far more work with less fatigue at a low wet-bulb temperature than at a high one. 1425 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 178 No walker..Shall Rakke no Clothe on the Teyntur that schall be solde ffor *wette-clothe. 1439 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 30/2 Messrynge for the dosenne of wete Clothe xii yerdes and xii ynches, and of secce Clothe nought wete, xiiii yerdes and xiiii ynches. 1873 F. Francis in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 38/2 In the majority of instances it is the custom to let the tackle soak, and when fishing to allow the fly to sink a little under the surface—to fish with a '*wet fly', as it is called. 1904 Gallichan *Fishing Spain* 207 The ordinary winged patterns used for wet-fly fishing. 1832 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 382 Wall-fruit is, when destroyed in the spring, never destroyed by dry-cold; but ninety-nine times out of a hundred, by *wet-frosts. 1688, 1724 *wet glover [see Glover b]. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s. v., The Wet-glover is for Sheep, Goats, Lambs, and Castlings Skins..; for the dressing whereof, he only uses Lime and Bran. 1544 *Inv.* in *Surrey Archæol Collect.* VII. 238 The dry larder...The Kechyn...The *Whet larder. Itm in the Wett larder A musterd quern, iiij d. 1574 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 247 In the wett larder ij kymlinges, one trowghe. 1605 in *Archæologia* XIII. 330 The Clarcke of the Kitchine..is to see into the wette and drie larders, what provisions there bee. *c* 1865 Letheby in *Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 127/1 There are two objections to the *wet meter, which are insurmountable. 1869–71 *Cassell's Housek. Guide* II. 17/2 The gas meters now in general use..are known as 'wet' and 'dry' meters. 1899 Reeve *Brittany* 123 Our camera, already charged with a *wet plate. 1878 Abney *Treat. Photogr.* xi. 77 Wet-plate photography. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, Sparrows were there, cats were there, dry-rot and *wet-rot were there. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 161 Wet-rot is the destructive agent at work more or less on all telegraph poles. 1726 De Foe *Eng. Tradesman* I. viii. 98 The orange-merchants and *wet-salters about Billingsgate. 1898 R. Murray *Marine Engines* (ed. 3) 237 *Wet steam is steam which holds watery particles in mechanical suspension.

Wet (wet), *v.* Forms: a. *Inf.* 1 **wētan**, *Anglian* **wētan**, 3–6 **wete**, (5 *Sc.* **wet**, **vete**), 4–7 **weete**, (6 *pa. t.* **weeted**), 5–6 *Sc.* **weit**, 6 **weate**, 7 **weat**, 6– (chiefly *Sc.*) **weet**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wētte**, 3 **watte**, 4 **wat**, (5 *pl.* **watten**), 6– *Sc.* **wat**; 4–5 **wete**, (5 *Sc.* **vet**), 4–6 **watte**, 4–7 **wett**, 5– **wet**. *Pa. pple.* 4–5 **y-wet**, **y-wette**, 4–6 **i-wet**, **wette**, (5 *Sc.* **wete**, **vete**), 5–7 **wett**, 4– **wet**. β. *Inf.* 5–6 **wette**, 6–7 **wett**, 6– **wet**. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* 6– **wetted**. [OE. *wētan* (Angl. *wētan*), f. *wēt* (*wǽt*) Wet *a.*, = ON. *vǽta* (Icel., Norw. *væta*, Sw. *våta*, Da. *væde*). The normal shortening of the vowel in the pa. t. and pa. pple. in ME. was finally extended to the infin. and present.]

I. *trans.*

1. To make (an object) humid or moist by the application of water or other liquid; to suffuse, sprinkle, moisten, drench, bathe *with* (water, etc.); to dip, steep, soak *in*, † *on*.

a 950 *Guthlac* xxii. (Prose) Heo..genam þa þæs gehalgodan sealtes..and wætte and drypte in þa eagan. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xii[i]. 10 Hwilum mec..dol druncmennen..wætteð in wætre. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 134 Wæt þæt lip mid ecede. *Ibid.* 350 Wæt þæt ȝewrit on þam drence. *c* 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 103 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 Þat bred þat ich on wyne wete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17682 And wit a deu mi face he wette. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1215 Therwith his pows and pawmes of his hondes They gan to frote, and wete his temples tweyne. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 36 Send Lazar doun..And do that he his finger wete In water. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2332 There barbours ware bownne, with basyns one lofte, With warme watire I-wys they wette theme fulle sone. *c* 1400 Maundev. xviii. [xiv.] (1919) 205 Ȝif a man..wete hem with may dew ofte sithes. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 52 Take fayre Paynemayn y-wette in Wyne. ? 1550 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquin in Trance* 24 They..wet the graue with vnholy water, and they perfumed it with Frankincense. 1560 Whitehorne *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 39 b, A stoppell of cotten wet in oyle of gineper. 1677 J. White *Rich Cabinet* 143 You must let the Paper dry of it self after you have once wetted it. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure united* 93 Cleansing their mouths..with a spung or Linnen cloath wett in Beer. 1707 *Ir. Act 4 Geo. I*, c 11, § 13 If any of the persons aforesaid shall..wet their hay, or use any other fraud or deceit to make any carr-load of hay to be of the weight prescribed. *c* 1770 T. Fairfax *Compl. Sportsm.* 31 Then having wetted your hand in water, rub his body all over. 1813 Southey *Nelson* I. 235 All the shrouds and sails of his ship, which were not absolutely necessary for its immediate management, were thoroughly wetted. 1859 *Handbk. Turning* 83 A small camel's-hair brush..used for wetting postage stamps. 1869 Claridge *Cold Water Cure* 190 Her head, throat, and chest, were frequently wetted with cold water. 1907 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 103 As soon as the paper is wetted with the solution.

Proverb. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 58 He loueth well sheeps flesh, that wets his bred in the wul.

2. To suffuse with tears, bedew with weeping. Also said of the tears.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* vi. 7 Mid tearum strene mine ic wetu. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vi. 6 With mi teres in mi bede Sal i wete mi liggynge-stede. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 47 Un-wunne haveth myn wonges wet. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciana*) 950 Quhen I had lange tyme gret, & al myn face with teris wete. 14.. *Sir Beues* p. 35 (MS. E.) So moche rewþe he hadde þere þat þe teres watten hys lere. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 44 And all the way she wetts with flowing teares. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* lx. 1 Is it for feare to wet a widdowes eye, That thou consum'st thy selfe in single life? 1624 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* B 3 b, Glue not your friends cause to wet their handkerchers. 1626 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xxxiii, Who wets my graue, can be no friend of mine. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 289 Then they..kissed his feet, and wetted them with tears. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* III. xii, A river of tears ran down her lovely cheeks, and wet the handkerchief which covered her bosom. 1836 Landor *Pericles & Asp.* lx, Her tears wetted my cheek. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xii, Laying her head on her arm, Jo wet her little romance with a few happy tears.

†3. Of wine: To moisten, fill with moist 'humours'. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 246 Ne þæt win is to þicgenne

þette hatep & wateþ bone Innoþ. 1561 Goose tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* III. (1561) F iij, Apace we feede and scarce canne ryue, so wetes the wyne our brayne.

4. To make moist or damp by exposure to rain, by a fall into water, or the like. *To wet through, to the skin*: to drench the clothes of (a person).

a. Said of water, rain, etc.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6578 þat water..wax euere vaste, ..& watte is soon & is vet. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23685 Waters þat wete þan cristes flexs. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 25 þe water wolde..wete [MS. y weete] al her clopes. *c* 1480 Henryson *Age & Youth* 4 Periy dropis of þe balmy schowris Pir wodis grene hed with þe watter wet. 1530 Palsgr. 780/2 In the begynnyng of the yere the dewe weteth the grounde swetely. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in *Lyly's Whs.* (Bond) III. 394 We care not for a Scottish mist, though it wet vs to the skin. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 218 Men..of as bad a nature and base a moulde as euer water wette, or winde dried. 1698 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 57 Wee had not above 4 shots of powder and that the worst that euer water wet. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* an. 1646, These waters in some places breaking in the fall wett us as if we had pass'd through a mist. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 554 The Place was not deep, but it wetted me all over. 1796 Southey *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 60 The clouds wetted me as they passed along. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* v. (1818) 179 During the night we had two smart showers of rain, which..wetted us through. 1839 Dickens *Nicholby* xiv, 'It doesn't take much to wet you and me through, Mr. Crowl,' said Newman, laying his hand upon the lappel of his threadbare coat. 1858 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 73 If a capillary tube be plunged in a liquid which wets it. 1874 March. Dufferin *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 171 A thunder-shower..which wetted us to the skin. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 229/2 The water..soaked under the wall and wetted the mud below it.

fig. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 17 *Apparuerunt fontes aquarum*..þat is þe sothfastnes of precbours is seen, þat wetis men wiþ halesome lare. 1627 E. F. *Edw. II* (1680 fol.) 93 What can he do to England, which hath a wooden wall will wet his courage?

b. *absol.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 10340 Wyþ rynyng wawes, ..Fer aboute hym wil he [the lake] wete. *Ibid.* 10343 þe wawes þat so wetes. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* v. 44 All is not gold that gleitis..Nor water all that weitis. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 27 The propertie of raine is to wet, and fire to burne. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 373 All they ever have is a dew, which is so slender it never wets at all. 1661 Boyle *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 187 Though every wetting Liquor be fluid, yet every fluid Body does not wet. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 82 The purest water wets soonest and most.

c. *passive.* Often *to be wet through*, (also † *thorough* or *through wet*), *wet to the skin* (cf. a).

The form *wet* of the pa. pple. is sometimes difficult to distinguish from Wet *a.* 4 c.

c 1400 tr. *Higden* VII. 151 In processe of tyme þat body y-wette wiþ dewy droppes knewe þe comoun corrupcioun of dedly men. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12942 So faste doun the water 3et, That thei were alle thorow wet. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 129 The Newe making of a last of gonnepoudre wett in saltwater. 1535 Coverdale *Dan.* iv. 15 With the dew of heauen shall he be wet. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 99 b, But if he had been wetted from toppe to toe, no man standyng by to see it, then had he been miserable in veraye deede. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xvii. (Arb.) 289 As the drie ground that thirstes after a shower Seemes to reioyce when it is well iwet. 1594 [see Through *adv.* 4]. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 44 So that the miserable Stipend..will hardly buy wood to make a fire for him when hee comes home to dry him, when hee is through wet. 1659 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 141 Hee..was wett to the skin before he came half way. 1759 Johnson *Idler* No. 72 P9 He..heard with great delight a shower, by which he was not wet, rattling among the branches. *a* 1766 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Biddulph* (1796) IV. 53 The bottom of that vile ditch into which he had fallen was full of water, and he had been wet quite through. 1775 A. Burnaby *Trav. N. Amer.* 36, I had been wet to the skin in the afternoon. 1820 Southey *Wesley* I. 78 Having slept on the floor one night, because his bed had been wetted in a storm. 1842 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 78 Some of the compressed trenails had been wetted by accident, and could not be afterwards driven into the holes in the chairs. 1856 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 24 We were caught in two or three showers..but got back.. without being very much wetted. 1858 A. Balfour *To Arms* vii, The street was paved with large, rounded stones, which ..were splashed and wetted by dirty water thrown from above. 1904 A. N. Cooper *Quaint Talks* 10 Few things have struck people as more wonderful than how I have survived being wet through so often.

5. Of a person or animal: To get (oneself, one's body or clothes, also another person or object) moist or damp by contact with, or immersion in, water or other liquid.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 204 Sir kyng rise vp & skip, for þou has wette þi hater. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 129 She lest no morsel from hir lippes falle Ne wette hir fyngres in hir sauce depe. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vi. 21 þat wymmen schuld mow wade ouer and nost wete þaire kneene. 1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* 542 When they can fiye no further [they]fall into the water, and hauing wette their wings take a newe [illegible] againe. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Summers* [illegible]. 40 You know you need not wet your foot to seek them, they are your own already. 1770 C. Jenner *Placid Man* v. vii. II. 142 If you can be contented..to return at night,.. having in four or five hours tired a pair of coach-horses, wetted two servants to the skin [etc.]. 1816 G. S. Faber

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Twa finer dentier wild-ducks never wat a feather. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* xliv, In traversing the ford of the Stour..they have wetted the bag of powder. 1873 March. Dufferin *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 82 The gentlemen..in getting into the canoe..were upset, and wet all their clothes.

b. *Proverb.*

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 1785 For ye be lyke the sweynte catte, That wolde have fissh but..He wold no thinge wete his clowes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 39 As a cat wolde ete fisshes Withoute wetinge of his clee. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 405 þou woldest not weten þy fote, & woldest fich kacchen. 1545 Taverner *Erasm. Prov.* 59 b, The cat wold fyshe eate, but she woll not her fete weate. 1548 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 28. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 234 The Cat loves fish well, but is loath to wet her foot.

c. To void urine in (one's bed, clothes).

1767 *Ordinary's Acc. Elis. Brownrigg* 10 The deceased child had wetted the bed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 239 The man who wets his bed, rather than take the trouble to get out and make water, is insanely idle.

6. Of a river, sea, etc.: a. To water, irrigate (land).

1773 J. Ramsay *Scots Poems* (1871) 1. 17 Whan Leith wi' glowrin eyne and lifted hands Sees how the Firth wi' vengeance rows and rands, And how the Tide comes in with sic a force As wets the Links and gushes round the Cross.

Son *Leith Races* iv, I dwall amang the caller springs That weet the Land o' Cakes.

b. To lave, border with water (a coast, country). *rare.*

1572 T. Twyne tr. *Dionysius' Surv. World* A v, The Sea ..which..wetting the countrie Isaica..is called Issicum. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Auld Reekie* 319 As lang as Forth weets Lothian's shore.

7. a. *To wet* (one's) *whistle, weasand, mouth*, etc.: to take a drink. See also Clay *sb.* 4 b.

c 1386 [see Whistle *sb.* 2]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 103 Had She oones Wett Hyr Whystyll She couth Syng full clere Hyr pater noster. 1530, 1653 [see Whistle *sb.* 2]. 1612 Cotgr., *Crocquer la pie*, to wet the whistle, or weason, throughly; to drinke hard. 1688 N. O. *Bolleau's Lutrin* II. 154 Wetting their Whistles with the good Ale-pot. 1722 Croxall *Fables Æsop* xcviii. 169 I'll give you a Dram to wet your Whistle. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Auld Reekie* 4 Whare couthy chielsat e'ening meet Their bizzing craigs and mous to weet. 1785 Burns *Scotch Drink* xiv, Monie daily weet their weason Wi' liquors nice. 1850 Dickens *Copperfield* vii, The wine shall be kept to wet your whistle. 1888 R. Buchanan *Heir of Linne* i, I ne'er can sing till my throat's wetted, Tammas. 1910 W. H. Hudson *Sheph. Life* xi. 135 The starlings..singing and talking and swallowing elderberries between whiles to wet their whistles.

† b. *passive.* To be primed with liquor. (Cf. Wet *a.* 14 a.) *Obs.*

c 1440 *Partenope* 5198 And so they dronke þat bobe they bene Welle I-wette [*Rawl. MS.* Well wet]. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* III. i. (1557) 130 At bankettes and festes, whan they be well wette with drynke.

† c. *refl.* To imbibe liquor, take drink. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 94 Itt were appreue to my persone þat preuely 3e paste me, Or ye wente fro this wones Or with wynne 3e had wette yowe. 1672 R. Wild *Poet. Licentia* 27 And if the fiery trial should return, Most of you wet your selves too much to burn.

d. *To wet the other* (or *t'other*) *eye*: to drink one glass after another.

1745 *Life Bamfylde-Moore Carew* 89 The Officers..filled him out a Bumper of Cherry Brandy, which when he had drank they forced another upon him, persuading him to wet the other Eye. 1840 J. T. J. Hewlett *P. Priggins* xiii, Take one more jug of beer—wet t'other eye, we call it. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxii, Moisten your clay, wet the other eye, drink, man! *a* 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Hints Hist. Play* 47 There's not a drop left him to 'wet t'other eye'.

e. *absol.* To drink alcoholic liquor; to 'liquor up'.

1840 Haliburton *Clockm. Ser.* III. xi. 147 But come, let's liquour; I want to wet up. 1880 Baring-Gould *Mehalah* xxi, I'm dry after my row and want a wet. As I wet I will talk.

f. To accompany (solid or dry food) with liquor.

1878 T. Hardy *Ret. Native* VI. iv, Maul down the victuals from corner-cupboard..and I'll draw a drop o' sommat to wet it with.

8. To celebrate by drinking; to have a drink over. The earliest use is *to wet a commission* (in the Army or Navy).

a 1687 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Milit. Couple* Wks. 1715 I. 128 He was as Drunk as a Chaplain of the Army upon wetting his Commission. 1698 J. H. *Farquhar's Love & Bottle* Prol., Come on then; foot to foot be boldly set, And our young Author's new Commission wet. 1720 C. Shadwell *Fair Quaker Deal* II. 27 *Crib.* Ay, the two Ships would serve us nicely. *Easey.* Then we should have Commissions to wet. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 88 P 4 Three Quarts to my new Lord for wetting his Title. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xvi, They..declared I should give them a dinner to wet my commission. *a* 1854 L. Beecher *Lect. Intemperance* 93 Until in some places a man can scarcely wear an article of dress, or receive one of equipage or furniture, which has not been 'wetted'. 1876 Hindley *Cheap Jack* 268, I shall be back again shortly, when we will wet the deal. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets* 16 Drinks is to be redooced to-day from a shillin' to sixpence, so we'll wet the occasion.

9. † a. *Naut.* To cast or drop (an anchor). *Obs.*

a 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 168 We wat ane anchor evin betuixt they tua. 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 95 One Anchor more, perhappes, I have never yet cast, or wet, which is to pretend old age, sickneasse, [etc.].

b. *To wet one's line*: to start fishing, to fish.

1653 Walton *Angler* iii. 80, I have not yet wet my line since I came from home. 1898 G. A. B. Dewar *In Pursuit of Trout* 165 On days when nothing was doing..he might not rarely be heard remarking that he had not wetted his line.

10. a. To steep or soak (grain) in water in order to convert it into malt.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3076/4 A large Mault House that wets 300 Quarters per Annum. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 88 In a great Brew-house..they wetted or used a considerable Quantity of Malt in one Week. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* xxv, The farmer would get a good price for his barley, the poor man would be able to 'wet' and

b. To infuse (tea) by pouring boiling water on the leaves. *dial.*

1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* III. ii. § 3 Ann..stooped with the kettle-holder to wet the tea. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 499/1 'Aye, aye, sir,' replies the duty servant. 'Tea just being wetted.' (We never 'make' tea, we always 'wet' it.)

11. *To wet down*, to damp (sails, paper, embers) with water.

1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* iv, We..continued wetting down the sails by buckets of water whipped up to the mast-head. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Wetting down*, the process of damping paper for printing purposes. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 2/5 Holland said that when he came on his watch there was no supply of coal in the bunkers, and that Jensen would not wet down his ashes.

12. *Dyeing. To wet out*, to soak in water.

1882 Crookes *Dyeing* 106 The yarns or pieces are first wetted out uniformly with water. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 8 Before dyeing, the bodies [of hats] are well wetted-out in boiling water.

13. *Glass-making. To wet off, up.* (See quots. and cf. Wetter 1 b, Wetting *vbl. sb.* 3 d.)

1849 A. Pellatt *Curios. Glass Making* 85 The pontil secures the whole preparatory to its being whetted [*sic*] off the bowl..by the touch of the cold pucellas. 1908 Rosenhain *Glass Manuf.* 57 The virgin clay and chamotte having been intimately mixed, the whole mass is 'wet up' by the addition of a proper proportion of water and prolonged.. kneading. *Ibid.* 99 The blower..detaches the bottle from the pipe..by locally chilling the glass—a process known by the descriptive term of 'wetting off'.

II. *intr.*

14. To become wet. Also *to wet through*.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 The water that it [*sc.* a stone] wetes yn, Y-wis hit wortheth al to wyn. 1757 in *Phil. Trans.* L. 361 The millers do not deny..that *some* whiting is carried to all the great mills. The excuse alleged for it is, that it makes the flour *wet*, and consequently *bake*, the better. 1902 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* xviii, I thought any leather would wet through in the snow!

15. To rain, drizzle. *dial.*

1740 Richardson *Pamela* II. 88 Dont you think that yonder Cloud may give us a small Shower? and it did a little begin to wet. 1825 Jamieson, *To weit, weet*, to rain. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Wit*, to rain gently. 1886 *Ches. Gloss., Weet* or *wet*, to rain slightly.

16. *Naut.* Of a vessel: To ship water.

1675 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. 214 A reef should be taken in directly the boat begins to wet.

Wet, *adv. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Wet *a.* in Wet nurse.] As a wet nurse.

1697 Vanburgh *Relapse* v. v, I who had suckled it, and swadled it, and nurst it both wet and dry.

Wet, obs. form of What, Wit *v.*

Wetale, obs. Sc. form of Victual.

Wet blanket.

1. A blanket that has been drenched in water; esp. one used for quenching a conflagration. Chiefly in allusive use.

1662 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 95 Of quenching an house on fire. The Instruments are..forks, wet-blankets, ladders, ..pails, &c. *Ibid.* 97 Cover the out-side with wet blankets, hair-cloths, &c. that neither the flame get out nor air get

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Summer, and never catch Cold. 1772 Cumberland *Fashionable Lover* I. i. 4 His humours damp all mirth and merriment, as a wet blanket does a fire. 1821 Byron *Juan* III. xxxvi, Lambro's reception at his people's banquet Was such as fire accords to a wet blanket. 1838 Pusey in Liddon *Life* (1893) II. xxi. 54 It seems like a wet blanket cast upon all the fire we have been fanning.

2. *fig.* a. Something that acts as a damper to activity, enthusiasm, or cheerfulness.

1810 Sir G. Jackson *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 243 It would have been a cruel stroke of fate..if..a wet blanket [had] been thrown over them [*sc.* galeties]. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 406 All was in readiness..when a wet blanket was thrown upon all their hopes. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* II, It was an unlucky toast or sentiment..It was a wet blanket to the evening. 1894 Jerrold *Rand. Roaming* VI. 193 That chilling maxim—the wet-blanket of enthu-

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b. A person who has a depressing or dispiriting effect on those around him.

1837 Mrs. Mathews *Tea-Table T.* I. 185 Such people may be termed the wet blankets of society. 1875 S. Beauchamp *N. Hamilton* II. 18 As he is of course the wet blanket of the party, they are none of them sorry when he leaves again. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* II. iv, She would spoil the whole thing; she is such a wet blanket. 1897 Mrs. Oliphant *W. Blackwood* I. iii. 128 Sometimes he called her a wet blanket, when she thus damped his ardour.

Hence **Wet-bla·nket** *v. trans.*, to throw a damper on, discourage, depress. Also (*nonce-wds.*) **Wet-bla·nketing** *ppl. a.*; **Wet-bla·nketiveness**; **Wet-bla·nketty** *a.*

1866 J. D. Coleridge *Let.* in *Life Ld. Coleridge* (1904) II. 140, I think any one would have felt 'wet-blanketed' by the utter commonplaceness of the whole affair. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xxi, I know Meg would wet-blanket such a proposal, but I thought you had more spirit. 1893 W. A. Sher *My Contemp.* iii. 47 Such people..should ..not be allowed to wet-blanket the world with their stolid stare. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Mar. 9/3 Power traction..had been effectively wetblanketed for fully two generations. 1843 J. F. Murray *World of London* I. 132 The impossible-mongering, cold-water-throwing, 'wet-blanketting-fellows, bowled in this way about the Thames tunnel. 1894 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 422 Throwing off the 'wet-blanketiveness' which usually extinguishes your social qualities. 1848 *Zoologist*

VI. 2048 Adapting my phraseology to the author's, I would say such parts of the book are very '*wet-blankety'.

Wetche, obs. form of WATCH.

Wetched, -et, obs. forms of WATCHET.

Wet dock. (In contrast to DRY DOCK.)

†1. = DOCK *sb.*3 1 (where see quot. 1627). *Obs.*

2. (See DOCK *sb.*3 4.)

1661-2 (see DOCK *sb.*3 4). 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2512/4 A Pink about 30 Tun, lying in the Wet-Dock at Deptford. 1724 *Ibid.* No. 6321/3 The great wet Dock in Rotherhith. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. lxxxvi. 400 The harbour or wet-dock..will contain eighty men of war. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, The little inlet of water..where, as in a wet-dock, the skiff..was still lying moored. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 26/1 It is proposed to construct a ship canal from Newhaven Harbour to Lewes, with a wet-dock and basin at Lewes. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 466.

†Wete. *Obs.* [OE. *wǽta* wk. masc. In later ME. merged in WET *sb.*1 1.] Moisture; a liquid, liquor, drink.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 73 Se wæta ðara innoða [*humor viscerum*]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 209 Swiþe wynsum ond hlúttor wæta utflowende. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 6 Hit forscranc forþam þe hit wætan nafde. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 298 Ne dranc he wines drenc, ne nan ðæra wætena þe druncennysse styriað. c 1205 LAY. 19769 Vt heo drojen sone amppullen scone ifulled mid attere, weten alre bitterest. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 164 Hwo þet bere a deorewurðe licur, oðer a deorewurðe wete, as is bame, in a feble uetles.

Wete, obs. f. WEET *v.*1, WET, WHEAT, WIT.

Weter, obs. f. WATER *sb.* **Weteri, -y**, obs. ff. WATER *v.* **Weterly**, var. WITTERLY. **Wetewold**, obs. f. WITTOL.

†Weth, var. WAITH *sb.*2

1622 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 476/1 Cum parvis custumis,.. wrak, wair, weth et proficuis quibuscumque. 1632 *Ibid.* 633 Cum lie gressingis, scheillingis, multuris wraik, wair, weth.

†Wethe, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. an alteration of *weve* (cf. BIWEVE *v.*1 2), or related to south-western dial. *weath* pliant, supple.] *trans.* To twist or twine.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxliv. (Bodl. MS.), Som wolies beþ..so pliaunte þat þei brekeþ nought but beþ made stronge wiþ weþing [*ed.* 1495 weuynge] and windinge as þrede is wt twynyng. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 676 Too bowes..they take And bynde, and wethe [L. *torquet*] hem so that germynynge Commixt vp go.

Wethe, obs. form of WITHY.

†Wethead. *Obs. rare.* In 4-5 **wetehed(e.** [f. WET *a.* + -HEAD.] Wetness.

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. 1. I. iv. 11 b, And wirketh as frost doth in the wetehede. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 238 Moysture, wetehed, softhed & neschhed.

Wethen, var. WHETHEN *Obs.*, whence.

Wether (we·ðəɹ). Forms: α. 1, 3 **weðer**, 3-4 **weþer**, 4-5 **wethur**, **-ir**, 5 **wethyr**, **-ire**, 6 **wethar**, 6-9 **weather**, 4- **wether**; 4-5 **whethir**, **-ur**, 4-6 **whether**, 5 **whetther**. β. 4, 6 **weder**, **wedir**, 5 **wedyr**, **wedor**; 5-9 **wedder** (5 **-ur**, **-yr**); *Sc.* 5-6 **vedder**. **weddir**, 6 **wadder**, **wodder**, **weadder**. [Common Teutonic: OE. *weðer* = OFris. **wether* (NFris. *wether*, WFris. *weer*), OLFrank. *wither* (MDu. *weder*, Du. *weer*), OS. *withar*, *-er* (MLG. *weder*, *wêr*, LG. *weer*), OHG. *widar*, *-er*, *-ir* (MHG. *wider*, G. *widder*), ON. and Icel. *veðr* (Norw. *veder*, *ver*; MSw. *vädhur*, *wädhur*, etc., Sw. *väddur*, Da. *vædder*), Goth. *wiþrus* (= lamb), prob. related to L. *vitulus* calf.]

1. A male sheep, a ram; esp. a castrated ram. See also BELL-WETHER.

a. c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 34 He breac on þam healftre for biddelse & weþera fella for sadole. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 376 His bixleofa wæs ælce dæg..hundteontix weðera. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3998 On ilc alter fier aldorneðer, And ðor-on an calf and a weðer. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1210 Vourti þousend of ruþeren he let quelle þer to, & of fatte weþeren an hondred þousend al so. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21649 Wolf and weþer, leon and ox, Sal comen samen, and lamb and fox. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXX. 35 And he seuerde that day the she geyt, and the sheep, and the hyed geyt, and the wetheres. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. x. (1495) 310 As a whetther in lyenge vpon oo syde tornyth and chaungyth by egall tymes. c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 8: Ymac..was delyvred fro dede And a wethire cleving in breres sacrified in his stede. 1533 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 2 John Horley oon whether,..ii yewes. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren., Precedents* (1591) Y y j b, Tres oues castratas (anglicè vocatas Weathers). a 1589 MASCALL *Cattle, Sheep* (1596) 236 In some places they doe..point the wethers, the yeaws, and the lambes ech by themselues. 1599 SHAKS. etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 272 My weathers bell rings dolefull knell. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iv. 95 The Weathers bell that leads our flocke around. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 536 Who shore me Like a tame Weather, all my precious fleece. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1122/4 Lost or stolen..45 Sheep, called Western Weathers. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 409 Some mingling stir the melted tar..; Others the unwilling wether drag along. 1747 SMOLLETT *Reproof* 71 All senior members of the horned race.—The weather, goat, ram, elk and ox were there. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 343 Two pigs, a cow, and wethers half a score, Increased his stock. 1861 *Times* 7 Oct., For wethers the average prices obtained were 38s. to 56s. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XII. 541 As when a shepherd carries home with ease A wether's fleece.

β. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxiv. 14 Cled ere wedirs of shepe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 115 And ane of thame apon his hals A mekill bundyn weddir bare. *Ibid.* 132 Thai slew the weddir at thai bar. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 127 Daniel seiȝ þe fifte siȝt and visioun of þe weder þat hadde hornes nouȝt al i-liche. c 1425 *Non-Cycle Mystery Plays* (1909) 33 Turn þe & take þat wedyr there, & sacrifye hym on þat awtere. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 290 At ans he wolde ete a quarter of a weddur, or ij hennys, or a guse. 1479 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 53 And also the same Edmund haue cccc weders in my flokke of Ryngmer. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 53 It is than best tyme to..seuer theym in dyuers sortes,..the lambes by theym-selfe, wedders and the rammes by them-self. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5443 Quhat holynes is thare within Ane wolf cled in ane Wodderis skin? a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 205 Fore store of lambes and lang-tailde wedders. c 1610 SIR J. MELVILLE *Mem.* (Bannatyne Club) 382 Bot some yearly nomber of wethers wilbe easely granted, be them that posses presently the saidis stoir rowmes. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 85 Two three beggars,..Who stealing public geese and wedders, Were freed, by rendering skin and feathers. 1796 W. MARSHALL *West Eng.* I. 263 The wedders, of the best dera. 1861 *Times* 16 Oct., Wedders commonly clip 7½lb. of wool. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life Tigerland* 96 What might be the price of wedders now in Australy?

b. *transf.* of a man; *spec.* a eunuch.

1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 187 b, So the great wether which is of late fallen..so craftely, so scabedly, ye & so vntruly iuggled wyth the kynge, that [etc.]. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 114, I am a tainted Weather of the flocke, Meetest for death. 1724 GAY *Captives* Epil. 19 But the soft voice of an Italian weather, Makes them all languish three whole hours together.

†2. Occasional uses. a. A battering ram. b. The zodiacal sign of the Ram.

14.. *MS. Digby 233* lf. 182/1 As þe instrument þat hatte þe wether smyteþ þe walles of a cyte þat is byseged. 1565 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* XI. PP vij, The other by the Balance runnes, and by the Wethers face.

3. *Grey wethers*: boulders of hard sandstone found lying on the surface of the Downs in Wiltshire and Devonshire.

1661 CHILDREY *Brit. Baconicæ* 49 Upon the Downs between Marleborough and Aubury..are to be found abundance of great stones, commonly called by the Country thereabout, the Gray Weathers. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. 291 A course sort of Jasper Stones, knockt off from those in Wilts-shire near Marleborough, called The Grey-Weathers. 1743 STUKELEY *Abury* 48 An infinite quantity of immense stones, or sarsens, or gray-weathers. 1801 H. SKEINE *Rivers Gt. Brit.* 331 Those vast stones called 'The Grey Withers [*sic*]', are scattered irregularly about the country. 1835-95 [see GREY *a.* 8].

4. *Comm.* The fleece obtained from the second or any subsequent shearing of a sheep.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 260/1 (Wool) To good, healthy, sound fleeces more than one year old the term 'wethers' is given. 1895 *Agric. Gas.* 17 June 538/3 Super-super wethers, 9½d.;..selected Yorkshire wethers, 7½d.; deep wethers, 9d.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wether fleece*, *-flock*, *haggis*, *-mutton*, *-skin*; **wedderbouk** *Sc.*, the carcass of a wether; **wether-gammon**, a leg of mutton; **†wether gang** *Sc.*, a pasture or right of pasturage for wethers (see GANG *sb.*1 4 c); **wether-getter**, a ram kept for breeding wethers; **†wether goat**, a castrated goat; **wether head**, a sheep's head; *fig.* a stupid person; **wether hog**, a male sheep (castrated or not) before its first shearing; also *wether hog sheep* (cf. HOG *sb.*1 4); chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*; **wether lamb**, a male lamb; **†wether-silver** *Sc.*, money in lieu of a wether paid as a customary rent or tax; **wether teg** = *wether hog*. Also WETHER SHEEP.

15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), Ijs. Scottis for half ane *wedderbouk. 1482 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* (1898) 163 Pelleus.. Sende..Iason..into the Ile of Calcos to wyn the *wethyr flees of golde. a 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 321 In favour rather of keeping a *weather-flock than an ewe-flock on the hill-country. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 31 Wedder flocks are generally kept on the highest hirsel of the farm. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, The wether flock which had been lost. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, Drink Eclogue* 84 Wi' skelps like this fock sit but seenil down To *wether-gammon. 1561 in *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bannatyne Club) 427 Item the bouplaces and *wedder gangis within the parrochin of Dunfermling, lxxxxvj. li. 1609 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1610*, 154/1 Cum pastura super Pidmidle et lie Weddergang earundem. 1790 W. MARSHALL *Midland Co.* I. 422 The characteristic difference between what is called a 'ramgetter', and a '*weddergetter' or a 'good grazier's sheep'. 1671 T. HUNT *Abeced. Scholast.* 52 *Caper*, a *Weather-Goat. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 35 To drub this Signior Barbi-castron, this false-bearded wether-goat. 1789 BURNS '*Ken ye ought*' 8 Is he slain by Highlan' bodies?..And eaten like a *wether haggis? a 1796 — *Grace bef. Dinner*, And send us from thy bounteous store A tup or *weather head! 1869 LE FANU *Wyvern Myst.* II. 102 Why didn't ye tell me, ye d——d wetherhead? 1537 *N. C. Wills* (Surtees 1908) 103, I geve unto..John half a hundreth of share *wedder hogges. 1541 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 118 Item, lix wether hogg shepe at xiiijd. the pece. 1614, 1794 [see HOG *sb.*1 4 b]. 1776 *Compl. Grazier* (ed. 4) 149 So of the male sheep, we may reckon them weddar or wedder hogs, after they are..of a year's growth. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 38 [In Scotland] a female is called a *ewe-hogg*, a male a *tup-hogg*, and a castrated male a *wether-hogg*. c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 758/12 *Hic agnus*, a *wedyrlombe. 1595 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 62 Unus agniculus (Anglice 'a wether lambe'). 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 360 Wedder lambs..are selling from 10s. to 12s. per head. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 227 She..gave me a detail of their management in buying their wether lambs and fattening their wethers. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 115 The best ewe lambs..are retained, and all the wether and the second ewe lambs are sent to the market. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 171 She never dress'd *Weather-Mutton, when she could get Ewe or Goat. 1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 281 Does Mr. Giblet, the butcher, reserve his..weather-mutton for better customers? 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 100 Wether-mutton is the meat in perfection. 1557 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1908, 223/1 Custum-mert-sylver, custum-wadder-silver. c 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* li. 128 Bettir we bath wer bysnd hyddis And *weddir skynnis at haine. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 676/2 [*temp.* 1750-90] Wood and wedder-skins and grain packed for export to the South. 1550 in Phillipps *Wills* (*c* 1890) 180 Forty *Wether Teggs. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 39 In England..sheep bear the name of lamb until 8 months old, after which they are called ewe and wether teggs until once clipped.

Wether, obs. f. WEATHER, WHETHER, WHITHER.

Wethering(e, obs. forms of WEATHERING.

Wether sheep. = WETHER 1.

13.. *St. Peter & Paul* 244 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 79 Þan Nero gart his heuede of strike, For þe wedir schepe was him like. 1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 449 For tedderisto tua wedder scheip..xxjd. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 31 If that you take the maw of a weather sheepe new killed. 1583 in Phillipps *Wills* (*c* 1830) 273, I bequeath unto my Sonne..six wether shepe. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 638 Of the Weather-sheepe...Al Nations do distinguish him from the ram, because of one property or defect in him, for that hee is not fit for generation. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties* 5 Such Weather-sheep..as are.. for the Ships use. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 284 Fatting of Oxen, or Wether Sheep. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 506 The next year it carried upwards of forty wether sheep.

Wetherun, wetherwine, var. ff. WITHERWIN *Obs.* **Wethewinde**, obs. f. WITHWIND.

Wethir, obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER, WHETHER. **Wethirwyne**, var. WITHERWIN *Obs.* **Wethring**, obs. f. WEATHERING. **Wethy**, obs. f. WITHY. **Wethyr**, obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER.

Weting(e, obs. ff. WEETING, WETTING.

Wetish, var. WETTISH.

Wetly, *adv.* Also 6 **weatly**. [f. WET *a.*] In a wet manner or state.

α. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* Dd iv b, Walke thou weatly, walke thou dryly: In thy walke, walke not hyly. β. 1822 BYRON *Werner* I. i. 254 *Idan.* How fares he? *Gab.* Wetly and wearily, but out of peril. 1866 R. BUCHANAN *Poems* (1884) 163 For the world rolls on with air and ocean Wetly and windily round and round. 1890 MISS BROUGHTON *Alas!* II. vii, February has come wetly in, with rain wildly weeping against the casements. 1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 3 The immense beast, black, shining wetly.

Wetness. Also 1 **wétnis**, 5-6 **wetenes**, 6 **-ness(e**, 7 **weatness**; 4-6 **wette-**, **wetnes(se.** [f. WET *a.* + -NESS.] The fact or condition of being wet; also *concr.*, moisture, wet.

a. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 6 Oðer feall ofer stan and ..fordruxade forðon ne hæbde wetnise. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 546 The king..of that wetenes [*sc.* tears] was affraied That by his arme and his shuldres ran. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Wetenesse, *moilleure, moisteure.* 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 285 The weteness of the grounde and grete inundations of waters. 1573 *Kent & Surrey Sewers Comm.* (1909) 163 These men..were extreamly hindred thorowe the extreamenes of the wetenesse of the wether. 1664 J. CARSTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 149 See that it be kept verie dry, the least weatness will much prejudice me.

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 10352 Schal he neuere take scathe, Ne haue wetynge [*Petyt MS.* haf wettenes] ne waþe. c 1400 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 149 A lanterne..þat myȝt nouȝt be quenched nouþer wiþ wynde ne wiþ none moyste ne wetnes. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 99 What worser for barlie than wetnes and cold? 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 141 b, The wettenesse hereof doth not onely hurt..their feete, but also spoyleth their coates. 1648-50 BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* XXI. § 3 (1652) 165 Which inconstancy and wetness of the weather is..troublesome to men. 1699 MEAGER *New Art Garden.* 42 If the Vine stands against damp Walls, the wetness perishes the Clusters that touch it. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 136 The wetness of land from its situation may be prevented. 1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 57 This meadow land..in that state of wetness. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 229 The suffocating wetness and cold of the furrows. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 152 The sensation of dryness or wetness does not depend upon the absolute amount of aqueous vapour present in one cubic foot of air.

b. A wet spot or patch of ground.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Pl. XLVI, The plan of draining wetnesses on the tops of hills and banks.

Wet nurse, wet-nurse, *sb.* A woman who is hired to suckle and nurse another woman's child. Cf. DRY-NURSE.

1580 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* II. ii, I call the Wet Nurse hither. a 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 45 Shee was both wet-Nurse, and dry-Nurse herselfe. And yet this his handmaid was his Mother. 1689 *Full Answ. Depos. Birth Pr. Wales* 7 Query, Whether she did not use to provide a Wet-Nurse, at her other Deliveries. 1776 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 8 Feb. 70/2 Wants a place, as Wet Nurse, a young woman with a good breast of milk. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. iii, A wet-nurse being wanted at the great house.

China has acted the wet-nurse to Mongolia, and discharged her duty well.

Wet-nurse, *v. trans.* To serve as wet nurse to, suckle (another woman's infant). Also *transf.*

1784 *Morn. Chron.* 13 Apr. 4/4 Advt., Wanted, a Child to Wet Nurse, by a Young Woman, with a good breast of milk. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 62 At the house of the woman who had wet-nursed him. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Professor* I. 25 A *mythus*..Such as Livy told about the wolf that wet-nursed Romulus and Remus.

b. *fig.* To treat tenderly or take under special care, as if helpless.

1873 *Stilted* 109 A curious youth..Who, ere his whiskers had completely grown, Possessed a comic paper of his own; But though wet-nursed by someone in Debrett, It died quite young. 1891 *Telegr. Jrnl.* 13 Feb. 103/2 The system of wet-nursing adopted by the Post Office authorities in the case of the telegraph service has not been one of uniform success. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 6/1 A member of independent spirit —not wet-nursed for party purposes by political gold. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 584/1, I was wet-nursed by an elderly old buffer of a General.

Wet-saffe, obs. form of VOUCHSAFE.

Wet-shod (†**-shoed**), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: α. 4–5 **wete-schood**, **-shoed**, **-shode**; 5 **wet-schoede**, **-schode**, **-shood** (**whetshood**), 6 **-shoode**, 7 **-shooed**; 5 **watschoed**, **-schood**. β. 4–6 **wete-shodde**, 5 **wate-shodd**; 5– **wet-shod** (5 **-schod**, 7 **-shodde**; 5 **wadsshod**, 7? **wet-shot**). (Also in many dialect forms: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [f. *wete*, *wate* WET *a.* + SHOED, SHOD, *ppl. adjs.*] Having the feet wet.

α. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 1 Wolleward and wete-shoed went I forth after. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XVII. 14 And 3ut is wynter for hem wors, for wet-shood þei gangen. †*a* 1400 *Arthur* 469 Þere men were wetschoede All of brayn & of blode. *a* 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* In *Hist. Collect. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 207 They fulle ungoodely smote owte the heddys of the pypys and hoggs hedys of wyne, that men wente wete-schode in wyne. 1630 FULLER *Pisgah* II. v. § 2 Moses foretold that he should be wetshooed in olle.

β. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 161 And 3it is wynter for hem worse, for wete-shodde thei gange. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XXI. 1 Wo-werie and wetschod wente ich forth after. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 178 A preste þat hight Stephan on a tyme was wate-shodd. *a* 1512 STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B vj, I am wete shodde, *Pedes humectant.* 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* XXX. (1870) 293 Beware of takyng colde in the legge, or ryding, or goynge wetshod. 1592 LYLY *Gallathea* I. iv. 10 Ile warrant by this time he is wetshod. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* CXCII, Scarse a man but wet-shod went in gore. 1657 T. M. *Life Sat. Puppy Nim* 10 They which followed the Coffin to buriall, went wetshod in those affectionate Teares. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 235 So he went over [the river] at last, not much above wet-shod. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 320 Your Billy has not yet been accustom'd to be wet-shod. 1775 CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* 41, I passed the stream several times without being wet-shod. 1825– in many dialect glossaries (cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

b. *fig.* (or in figurative context).

1575 FENTON *Golden Epist.* (1582) 249 You seeme..to wade continually wetshoode in the lake of this miserable worlde. 1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* B j b, He will make their wits wetshod, if the ale haue his swift current. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Martyr* III. iii, All my hopes are scam-rent, and go wet-shod. *a* 1652 BROME *City Wit* IV. i, Virtue goes often wetshod, and is forc'd to be cobled up with base means, to hold out water and cold necessity. 16.. *Times* I in *Cleveland's Whs.* (1687) 239 To speak in wet-shod Eyes, and drowned Looks.

Wetshode, obs. form of WATCHET.

Wettable, *a.* [f. WET *v.*] Admitting of being wetted.

1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 484 His only wettable garment being his loin-cloth.

Wette, var. WIT *sb.* and *v.*

Wetted, *ppl. a.* [f. WET *v.*] Made wet; moistened, damped.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXII. 561 Cleane each boord & Throne With wetted Sponges. 1719 *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 1084, I touch'd the end A with a wetted Finger. 1766 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 249 They sound the well, and..Along the line four wetted feet appear. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 402 The eggs are covered with a tough white skin, like wetted parchment. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* XXXIII, He saw her sitting up in bed,..her head bound round with wetted cloths. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 170/1 Spreading over it a strip of wetted paper.

Wetter. [f. WET *v.*]

1. One who wets; *spec.* one who damps paper to be used in printing.

1737 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 33) II. 93 Wetters of paper for [rolling-press], 1760 *Court & City Reg.* 130, 7 Layers of Paper, and 2 Wetters of ditto. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Wetter*, the workman whose duty it is to 'wet down' paper preparatory to printing.

b. *Wetter-off*, in glass-making, a workman who detaches glass by wetting it. (Cf. WET *v.* 13.)

1883 H. J. POWELL *Glass-making* 86 If the bottle be large it is handed, whilst still attached to the blowing-iron, to the 'wetter off', who detaches it by applying a moistened tool to the neck. 1888 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/7 The glass is never attached to any part of the machine, and so the 'wetter-off' is dispensed with.

2. *colloq.* A wetting, soaking.

1885 SLADEN *Poetry of Exiles* (ed. 2) I. 28 Unheedful of the dew..Until a shiver told him that he'd 'had a thorough wetter'.

Wetter, dial. form of WATER; var. WITTER *sb.*[2]

Wetterly, var. WITHERLY *adv. Obs.*

Wetting, *vbl. sb.* [f. WET *v.*]

1. The action of making wet, or the fact of becoming wet; also (with *a* and pl.), an instance of this: a. Of persons, esp. by rain or falling into water.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 268 Þo Marie hadde i-blessed þat watur with hire honde, With-oute wetingue þare-ouer heo zeode. *c* 1330 [see WETNESS 3]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1529 Pight vp with pillers..[for] Weghis into walke for wetyng of rayn. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 211 That's more to me than my wetting. 1646 BP. HALL *Remedy Discont.* 149 It must be our wisedome..some whiles to abide a wetting; that, if need be, wee may endure a drenching also. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 May 1645, So that one can hardly step without wetting to the skin. 1836 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 490 At the cost of a thorough wetting under a succession of heavy showers. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* XXVI, Many a wetting — got amongst the mountains. 1856 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* XII. (ed. 4) 250 The sea was like a sheet of glass; so that he had little fear of getting a wetting during his few hours' stay.

b. In general use. Also in fig. context.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* I. 3 He salle be as a tre that.. has ay wetynge of the watirs of grace. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 27 þat men þoru hem moun take weetynge of hevenly deew to her drie hertis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 39 As a cat wolde ete fisshes without wetinge of his clee. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/2 Wetynge, *madefaccio, madidacio.* 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 119 b, Your stable must be buylt in a dry place, for wetting the Horses hoofe. 1683 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 285 The wettinge and late cominge downe of thier goods. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 59 The second thing that is to be done, after having remov'd Fig-Trees out of the Conservatory,..is (to use the Phrase of Gard'ners) to give them a good Wetting in every Case; which is, one good substantial Watering. 1728 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Narcissus of Japan*, They must have a sound wetting, steeping the Pots in Water until you find it swims upon the Surface. 1769 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 23 It can be of no service to the lowest parts of the meadow, unless as a wetting in Spring or Summer. 1813 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 255 The wetting of the slate was merely superficial. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 197 The only sensible effect is the wetting of the wires. 1886 *Athenæum* 20 Feb. 268/2 It is functionally protective against undue wetting by rain.

2. The action of moistening the throat with liquid; a small quantity of water or liquor used for this purpose.

my share,..mony a time, no a weetin'. 1884 *Punch* 11 Oct. 180/1 'Twas like the free run of a Bar, And Politics wants lots o' wetting. 1906 *Times* 6 Mar. 9/6 Drinks and 'wetting', ruinous to health and morals, are part of the business plant.

3. The action of making wet or moist as part of a special process: a. Of cloth. (Also in fig. contexts.)

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 501/2 That every Cloth of Kersey ..be parfitly wette, and after that wetyng redy to the sale,.. conteigne in lengh xviii yerdes. 1540, 1592 [see SHRINK *v.* 8b]. 1593 GREENE *Mamillia* II. E 4, The cloath is not knowne till it come to the weeting. 1616 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 189 He will not abide the touchstone. He shrinketh in the wetting. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* B 3, Like No[r]therne Cloth shrunke in the wetting. 1631 R. BOLTON *Comf. Aff. Consc.* iv. (1635) 16 A professour of the truest and heavenliest dye that holds out in the wetting and shrinkes not in the Day of adversitie. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2415/2 The stretch is taken out of it by repeated wettings and stretchings.

b. The steeping of barley in the process of malting; the quantity steeped at one time.

1467 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 46 That the occupier..shall haue his wetyng of his barley in the fate of the seid Denyse during maltyng tyme,..the seid Denyse on wetyng and the seid occupier an other wetyng. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3790/4 Every Cistern..or other Vessel,..made use of for the Wetting or Steeping of Corn. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 5864/2 The Intire wetting..shall be charged with the Duty of 6d. per Bushel.

c. *fig.* (Cf. WET *v.* 11.)

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 53 He must have his double Jug, before he weighs,..because wetting of his Sails, will make him run the faster.

d. *Glass-making.* (See quot. and WET *v.* 13.)

1888 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/5 The bottle is cut off from the blow pipe by means of a steel chisel and cold water. This is called 'wetting' or 'wetting off'.

4. *concr.* A liquid mixture employed to wet something else. (See also *E.D.D., Wetting* sb. 3.)

1728 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 134 Make a Hole in the midst of the Flour, and pour all the wetting in.

5. *attrib.*, as *wetting-board, -machine, -place, -trough.*

1790 *Act* 31 *Geo. III*, c. 7, § 18 The Cistern, Uting-fat, or other Wetting-place or Utensil. 1800 *Act* 41 *Geo. III* c. 6 § 3 Damaged Barley in the Cistern,..or other wetting Place. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Wetting boards*, the boards placed between the different reams in the press in the wetting department. *Ibid.*, Wetting machines. *Ibid.*, Wetting trough.

Wetting, *ppl. a.* [f. WET *v.*] That makes wet or moist.

1661 BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 187 The distinction betwixt a fluid Body and a wetting Liquor. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 134 Here you have the Grotto of Cupid with the wetting-stools, upon which sitting down, a great spout of water comes full in your face. *Ibid.* 150 The great variety of water-works, grots, and wetting sports. 1728 ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 403 The wetting winds had thaw'd the Alpine ..... 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 397 The plant..is regularly drenched with heavy wetting dews. 1844 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* vi. (1858) 120 There came on a thick, wetting drizzle. 1902 MABEL BARNES-GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 296 The chilly evenings and the heavy wetting mists in the morning.

Wettish, *a.* [f. WET *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat wet.

1648 R. JOSSELIN *Diary* (Camden 1908) 53 A wett night, and wettish day. 1851 in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1652) 99, I have been with Doctor D. about Lucern, who tells me that it groweth best in wettish grounds. 1723 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 47 This loose Earth..should be ploughed and sowed in a wettish Time. 1764 J. FARMER *Lect.* 59 Wettish or sandy ground. 1788 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1861) II. 98 It continues wettish and windy. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 16 Flowers are odoriferous in wettish air. 1828 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) I. 424 She looked..eastward with wettish eyes. 1872 — in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* III. 190 Weather mild though dim and wettish. 1882 *Garden* 6 May 305/1 Particularly in deep, wettish soils.

Hence **Wettishness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Moistness*, wettishness, dampness.

Wettrion, obs. f. WATER *v.* **Wetty**, obs. f. WITTY *a.* **Weturly**, var. WITHERLY *adv. Obs.* **Wetye**, var. WITIE *v. Obs.* **Wetyng**(**ly**, obs. ff. WEETING(LY. **Weuch**, Sc. var. WOUGH *sb. Obs.*

†**Weve**, *sb. Obs.*[-1] [f. next.] A short or quick movement. *In little weve*, in a moment.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22927 All þe flexs þat was o þe man.. sal be delt in littel weue [*Edinb.* wefe]; þat was o beast [= beast] al sal bileue [= remain].

†**Weve**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3–5 **weve**, 4–5 **wefe**; *pa. t.* 3 **wefde**, **weft**; *pa. pple.* 4 **y-**, **i-weved**, **veved.** [Perh. a dial. var. of WAIVE *v.*[2] (a. ON. *veifa*); possibly repr. an unrecorded OE. **wǽfan* = ON. *veifa*. Cf. BIWEVE *v.*[2] Although disappearing from literary use in ME., the verb appears to have survived in speech, and to be represented in mod. Eng. by WEAVE *v.*[3]]

1. *intr.* Of persons: To go from one place to another; to travel, wander, pass.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 85 Þenne þe iuele gost farefð ut of þe manne and weuefð wide..sechende reste. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2033 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 165 Into þe cloistre of Cauntorburi with grete noyse heo comen weue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1475 Ȝef he com mid is ost in to þis loud weue. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 318 Þou wylnes ouer þys water to weue.

b. Of things: To go, pass, make way.

c 1275 LAY. 28049 And ich ig[rap] my gode sweord..and smot of Modred his hefd, þat hit weiðe [*c* 1205 wond] a [the] felde. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 545 He hitt hym a-bown appon þe heuede, þat to þe scholdire þe swerde wefede. *Ibid.* 564 Otuell says 'my suerde kan schere', & in to þe erthe it weuede.

c. To move to and fro; to toss about.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24839 Þe weder..son bigan to rug and reth, þat ilk wau til oþer weft, And bremli to þo barges beft. *c* 1300 *Metr. Hom.* 40 But thurt him noht haf tint his heued, Yef he als red [= reed] wald baf weuid. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4368 To cold coles ache schal be brent ȝit or come eus, & þe aschis of hire body with þe wind weue.

2. *trans.* To move or remove from one place to another; to convey or bring; to strike *down.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 3807 With his sweord he wolde his heved Fro the body have y-weved [*Bodl. MS.* yreued]. 13.. *Sir Beues* 954 A leide on wiþ þe bor is heued, Til þat hii were adoun i-weued. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 40 Gif me in a disse weued Sain Jon the Baptist heued. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 976, I an-endes þe on þis syde Schal sve [= follow], tyl þou to a hil be veued.

b. To wave or brandish (a weapon). Also *absol.*, to beckon, make signals.

c 1305 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 122 Hir ald fader bird hir lefe, And on hir lemman clep and wefe. *Ibid.* 123. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (MS. Ashmole 42) fol. 100 Borne he was bothe doumbe & defe and peres on him gon call & wefe. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 544 His brond aboute he weued; All þat he hitte he cleued. *c* 1440 [cf. WEVING *vbl. sb.* below].

c. ? To toss about, trouble.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 922 Auntrose is þin euel, ful wonderliche it þe weues; wel I wot þe soþe.

3 a. *To weve up*: to open (a window, a gate): = WAIVE *v.*[2] 2. b. *To weve off*: to throw off (a garment). Cf. WAIVE *v.*[2] 4 a.

a. *c* 1205 LAY. 29003 Þa cnihtes weoren swiðe [*stc*] whæte, and weiðen up þa castles ȝæte, & letten hine binnen fare. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2978 [She] weued vp a window þat was toward þe place.

b. *c* 1290 *Beket* 951 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 133 Þo seint thomas hadde is masse i-songue: his chesible he gan of weue.

4. To give (to a person).

13.. *Gow. & Gr. Knt.* 1976 Þe lorde Gawayn con þonk, Such worchip he wolde hym weue. *Ibid.* 2359 Hit is my wede þat þou weres,..Myn owen wyf hit þe weued, I wot wel for soþe.

Hence † **Weving** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Wevynge, or mevynge wythe tokne, *annutus.*

†**Weve**, *v.*[2] *Obs.*[-1] [OE. *wǽfan* to wrap. Cf. BIWEVE *v.*[1]] *trans.* To wrap up, cover.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) b v b/2 The name of Seraphyn menyth thynge that is not weyled [= veiled] neyther weuyd.

Weve, obs. form of WEAVE *v.*

We've, contracted f. *we have* (HAVE *v.* A 2 d).

1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 313 When, too late, we see what we've miss'd. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* XXVI, Do you mean to say that we've got to have dinner?

†**We-ved.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 **wio-**, **weobud**, **weofud**, **-od**, **weofed-**, 3 **weofed** (*dat.* **weofde**), **weoued.** β. 1 **wefod**, 3–4 **wefed** (*dat.* **wefde**), 3–5 **weued** (4 **-yd**), 4 **wyeued** (*dat.* **wyefde**). [OE. *wéofud*, *-od*, earlier *wío-*, *wíobud*, f. *wíoh-*, *wíoh-*, *wih-* (*wig-*) holy, sacred + *béod* (masc.) table. In OE., however, the second element very commonly appears as *-bed* (in the forms *wío-*, *wíe-*, *wig-*, *wíbed*) and was evidently identified with the noun *bed*, being sometimes inflected *-beddes*, etc.; in agreement with this the usual gender of *wéofod* is neuter. As an independent word the first element in OE. is a noun meaning 'idol', corresponding to

OS. *wēh*, ON. *vé* holy place, sanctuary, and OHG. *wih* (MHG. *wîch*, G. *weih-*), Goth. *weihs* adj. holy.] An altar.

a. *c*897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 117 Gif se weobud ufan hol nære. *Ibid.*, Hwæt elles getæcnad ðæt weobud buten rybtwisra monna sawla? *c*960 ÆTHELWOLD *Bened. Rule* lxii. 113 Healde he simle þone stydе..butan þære þeunge anre þæs halgan weofodes. *c*1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 35 Zacharias..þone ðe ofslogon betweox þam temple and þam weofode. *c*1205 LAY. 31951 He Peteres weofed þere wunliche isohte. *a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 346 Ualle8 biuoren ower weoued a creoix to þer eorðe. *a*1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Ich..bi-seche þe..þurh þine eadi leeche and þine ihlescede blode i-sacred oðe weouede.

β. *c*1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 23 Gif þu bringst þine lac to wefode..læt þær þine lac beforan þam altare. *c*1130 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1125, He sang done hehmesse on Eastran dæi æt Cristes wefed. *c*1205 LAY. 28747 Meleon..fleh to are chirche and *for8* riht anan wende forn to ane wefde. *c*1290 *Beket* 1082 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 137 He let maken is bed ..Op in þe heie chirche bi-twene twei weuedes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4593 At glastinbury..at uore þe heye weued anydde þe quer. 1340 *Ayenb.* 14 Þe sacrement of þe wyefde. *Ibid.* 236 Ghdes table is þe wyeued. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 261 Þe auters and weuedes of þat peple. *c*1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* xviii. 42 Yn the modyr chyrche,..& to-for the weued.

Wevede, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

Wevel(l, Wever(e, obs. ff. WEEVIL, WEAVER.

† **Weventerte.** *Obs.* In quot. **wewestrete.** [f. WEVE *v.* + STERT *sb.*[1] Cf. WAGSTART.] The wagtail.

14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 617/44 *Truga, quedam avis*, a wewestrete.

We'vet. *south-west. dial.* [f. WEAVE *v.* Cf. WEFT *sb.*[1]] A cobweb. † Also *collect.*

1499–1500 *Churchw. Acc. S. Edmund, Sarum* (1896) 51 To Will. Belrynger for Strykyng downe of the Weuet in the Churche. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 56 b, Ye skyppe over the open Oracles of truth, and are entangled in the wevett of errour. [Cf. *spider-wevet* s. v. SPIDER 10.] 1824 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 234 Tha church war durty.—Wevets here Hang'd danglin vrom tha ruf. 1886 W. BARNES *Dorset Glass.*, *Wevet*, *wivet*, a cobweb.

Wevil(l, -yl(l, obs. forms of WEEVIL.

Wew, obs. Sc. f. VIEW; var. WHEW *int.* **Wewe**, obs. f. VIEW *sb.*, WEAVE *v.* **Wewell**, obs. form of WEEVIL. **Wex(e**, obs. ff. VEX *v.*, WAX *sb.* and *v.* **Wexin**, obs. f. WAXEN.

Wey[1] (*wē*). Forms: 1 *wǽg* (*wés*), *wége*, 4–8 **weye**, 5– **wey** (5 **wegh**), 5–7 **way** (6 **waye**, **wale**), 7 **waigh(e**, 7– **weigh.** [Identical in origin with WEIGH *sb.*[1] Cf. WAY *sb.*[2] and WAW *sb.*[2]]

1. A standard of dry-goods weight, varying greatly with different commodities. (See quots.)

a. Of cheese.

899–10 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 459 Gif hit ðonne festen dæg sie, selle mon uuæge cæses & fisces. *c*833 *Ibid.* 577 An weg spices & ceses. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 93, I wolde be gladder..Than þouȝe I had þis woke ywonne a weye of essex chese. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Arts* K v b, The very weights of it [*sc.* cheese] are cloues and weies, so that a clous shoulde contayne 7 pounde: and a wey 32 cloues, that is 224 poundes. 1590 PAYNE *Brief Descr. Irel.* (1841) 8 You may haue yearely..fortie great wayes of cheese, of the milke gathered betwixt May and Michaelmas. 1596 *Records Gr. Arts* 162 And so much [256 pound] weyeth the weigh of Suffolke cheese...The Wey of Essex Cheese containeth 16 score, and 16 pound. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 239 The true weight of cheese and butter, called the Waighe. *Ibid.*, The Waighe of Suffolk cheese being 256 li. and the waighe of Essex cheese 336 li. averdupois. 1728 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Cloves*, In Suffolk they allow forty two of these Cloves or three hundred thirty six pounds to the Wey. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 419 A wey in Suffolk 32 cloves, or 256 lbs. A wey in Essex 42 cloves, or 336 lbs.

b. Of wool.

*a*975 *Laws Edgar* III. § 8 Ga seo waxe [*v. r.* wæx] wulle to cxx. p[enninga]. [*c*1300 *Fleta* II. xii. (1647) 73 Et dum wayæ lanæ faciunt unum saccum.] *a*1300 *Arnoldе's Chron.* (1811) 100 Of the sac wulle goyng out of London of iij. weys, ..the Sherif out to haue xl*d*. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 239 The sacks of wooll formerly so famoused by the staplers, did weigh 364 li. averdupois, two waighes of the Wooll it self. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 262/1 A Wey [of Wool] contains six Tods and a half. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 888 Wool..is weighed out in double stones of 28 lb., each being called a weigh.

c. Of salt.

1443 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 83 In a Wegh et di. grossi salis empt., 50*s*. 1481 *Paston Lett.* I. 298 That ye sold a wey salt but for xx*s*. that she might hafe had xl*s* for every wey. 1499 *Malden* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 34 No. 2, vi weyes de baysalt, prec. le wey xxvi*s*. viii*d*. 1533–4 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 255, 2½ qu. [salis] vocata ½ wey. 1545 *Rates Custome ho.* c v b, Salte called baysalt the waye xiii*s*. iiii*d*. *a*1585 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 517 You must lade for every thousand fishe a weye of salte or rather more. 1612 in Picton *Liverpool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 179 Ev'ry Way of Salt, conteyning by measure x barrells. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Garner* III. 635 Likewise, the Buss cannot conveniently stow, at once, above ten Weys of salt. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 248 A tunne of Salt at Plimouth is greater than a weigh of London by 32 gallons. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 70 Salt is reckoned by the Hundred and Wey. In 1 Hundred of Salt 104 Weyes, in 1 Wey 40 Bushels. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4060/3 About 30 Weigh of Salt, out of the La Senie. 1748 W. BROWNRIGG *Art making Salt* 214 The law now allows three bushels duty free, for every wey (or forty bushels) of British salt carried coastwise.

d. Of coal, corn, etc., or in general use.

? *c*1300 in *Rep. Comm. Weights & Meas.* (1758) 19, xiv petre faciunt unum pondus, quod Anglice dicitur weye. *a*1400 *Rel. Ant.* I. 70 Sevene waxpund makiet onleve ponde one waye, twelf weyen on fothir. 1472 *Churchw. Acc. Yatton* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 107 For ij wey cole, x*s*. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9. § 5 The said common meater to haue for the measuring of euery way of corne ..ii.d. 1560 *MS. Acc. Bk. Butchers' Co., Lond.*, The price of a Waie of tallowe was this yere Rated..at 30*s*. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Weigh*,..in some parts of this land it signifies a quantity of Corn (most commonly of Barley or Malt) containing six quarters. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 385 Out of the Mounts of Libani in Cuba, there was one [piece of gold] taken weighing 3310 weighs. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wey*, the greatest Measure for dry things, containing five Chaldron: *Weys* or *Weighs*, are also 163 Pounds, 180 Pourds, or 200 Pounds and a half for a Charge. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Wey*, A Weigh of Barley or Malt, is six Quarters or forty eight Bushels. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 54 During which time five or six weys of culm were raised. 1823 J. GUY *Tutor's Assist.* 51 How many weys and bushels, in 72 lasts? *Ans.* 144 weys, 5760 bus. 1891 L. CLARK *Dict. Metric Measures* 97 *Wey*, or *Load* (dry measure) = 40 bushels = 5 quarters.

attrib. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 137 Neither ys the Cranoke or Wey measures vsed in selling thereof [corn].

† **2.** ? A pound. (Vulg. *libras centum.*)

*a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 Nicodemus brouhte uorte smurien mid ure Louerd an hundred weien of mirre & of aloes.

† **Wey.**[2] *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; the variation in the stem-vowel would normally indicate an OE. *wæg*, *wǽg-*.] ? A bill or halberd.

*c*1205 LAY. 30980 Breken brædе weijes [*c* 1275 weyes], brustleden scaftes. *Ibid.* 21505 Cheorles..mid clubben swiðen grætе, mid speren and mid grætе wæjen. *Ibid.* 21506 Moni cniht mid heore wahjen [*c*1275 wawes]..ualden heom to grunden.

Wey, obs. f. WAY *sb.*, WEIGH *v.*, var. WY *Obs.*, man. **Weyard**, obs. var. WEIRD *a.* **Wey-bit**, var. WAY-BIT *Obs.* **Weybred**, obs. var. WAY-BREAD. **Weyche**, obs. Sc. f. WITCH *sb.* **Weycht**, obs. Sc. f. WEIGHT, WIGHT. **Weydde**, obs. f. WEED *v.*[1] **Weyde**, obs. f. WIDE *adv.* **Weydraught**, obs. f. WITHDRAUGHT.

† **Weye**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also **waye.** [OE. *wégan* to delude, deceive.]

1. *trans.* To deceive, lead astray.

*c*1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 370 Þat he ne may nauȝt yweid be Wiþ blanding ne wiþ boste. *Ibid.* VII. 648 The deuel.. dorste nauȝt adam assayly, Al for to weye.

2. *intr.* To go astray.

*c*1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 301 Bote hi ariȝt icristned be, Fram heuene euere hi weyeþ.

Weye, obs. f. WAY *sb.*[1], WEIGH *v.*, WEEK; var. **Wy** (man) *Obs.* **Weyfe**, obs. f. WAIF *sb.*[1], WAIVE *v.*[1] **Weyffe**, obs. f. WIFE. **Weyghe, Weyghte**, obs. ff. WEIGH(T. **Wey-hey**, var. WEHEE *v.* **Weyhte**, obs. f. WEIGHT. **Weyit**, obs. Sc. f. WET *v.* **Weyk(e**, obs. ff. WEAK *a.*, WICK. **Weylawey**, obs. f. WELLAWAY. **Weyld**, obs. f. WIELD *v.* **Weyle**, obs. f. WAIL *v.*, WALE *v.*[1], WEEL[2]. **Weyle & woo**, var. WELLAWO *Obs.* **Weylecott**, var. WYLIECOAT *Sc.*

† **Weyleyship.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. *wey* WEIGH *v.* Cf. METLEYSHIP.] The office of weigher.

1587 LD. BURGHLEY in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. (1890) 12 [Concerning the office of the] weyleyship and metleyship [in Penrith].

Weylico(l)tt, obs. ff. WYLIECOAT *Sc.* **Weylsum**, var. WEALSOME *a. Obs.* **Weyme**, obs. f. WAME. **Weymen**, obs. pl. WOMAN. **Weyment(e**, var. ff. WATMENT.

Weymouth (*wē*ːməþ). [The title of the first Lord *Weymouth*, by whom the tree was extensively planted after its introduction into England in 1705.] *Weymouth Pine*, the American white pine, *Pinus Strobus.*

[1731 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Pinus*, *Pinus Americana*,..Lord Weymouth's Pine.] 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Aphernousli*, The white Canada-pine, which is better known in England by the name of Weymouth-pine. 1781 *Westminster Mag.* IX. 133 The Weymouth-pine has been long naturalised here; the patriarch plant still existing at Longleat. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 82 The Weymouth-pine has very little picturesque beauty to recommend it. 1862 ARNTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxi. (ed. 2) 456 The Weymouth pine, the stone pine,..and the larch, are all occasionally seen. 1882 *Garden* 16 Sept. 251/2 Weymouth Pine, Scotch Spruce, and Silver Fir timber sold at a low figure.

Weyn, obs. f. VAIN *a.*; north. f. WEEN *sb.*, *v.* **Weynd(e**, obs. ff. WEND *v.* **Weyne**, obs. f. VEIN, WAIN *sb.*[1], WINE; north. f. WEEN *sb.*, *v.* **Weyng(e**, obs. ff. WING. **Weynscot, -scotte, skot**, obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

Weynt, ? var. *queynt*, pa. pple. of QUENCH *v.*

*a*1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1108 Hast þou for slowþe I-be so feynt þat al þy wylle has be weynt.

Weype, obs. form of WIPE *v.*

† **Weyr.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Some piece of timber in the structure or fittings of a vessel.

1296 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/30 m. 2 b, In xiiij lignis de longitudine .l. pedum emptis..ad Weyres. *Ibid.* m. 3 b, In duobus Weyris ad Hargiam emptis de Henrico de Wermue. *Ibid.* m. 4 b, In Weyris Spurchis et aliis emendacionibus factis in Galea et Bargia.

Weyr, Sc. var. VER spring. *Obs.* **Weyre**, Sc. var. WERE *sb.* doubt, etc. **Weyrly**, var. WARLY. **Weysand(e**, obs. ff. WEASAND. **Weysse**, obs. f. WISE *a.* **Weyst**, obs. Sc. f. WEST. **Weyte**, obs. f. WHITE. **Weyth**, obs. f. WITHE.

† **Weythernoy**, error for **vethervoy*, south-western var. *fetherfoy*: see FEATHERFEW.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Weythernoy is Feuerfew. [1663 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 465 Weyther-ney, see Feaverfew.]

Weythwynde, obs. f. WITHWIND. **Weyve**, obs. f. WAIVE *v.*[1]; var. WAIVE *v.*[2] *Obs.*; obs. f. WEAVE *v.* **Weyward**, = *weyard* obs. var. WEIRD *a.* **Wezand, wezen, wezzand**, obs. ff. WEASAND. **Wezzer**, obs. f. VIZIER. **Wezill**, var. WEEZLE *Obs.* **Wez(z)on**, obs. ff. WEASAND.

Wh.

WH, a consonantal digraph, normally represents initial *hw* in words of OE. origin, as in *hwæt* what, *hwisprian* to whisper. In words of other origin, its occurrence may be due to analogy resting on the supposed phonetic appropriateness of the 'aspirate' sound, as in *whip*, *whisk*; it sometimes varies with *h* or simple *w*; e.g. *whortleberry* and *hurtleberry*, *whoop* and *hoop*, *whelked* and *welked*. Historically OE. initial *hw* represents OTeut. *χw* (under which Indo-Eur. *qʷ* and *kw* were levelled), which appears as *hw* in the early forms of the Germanic languages, but is variously modified in their modern forms, appearing in High and Low German as *w*, in the Scandinavian languages, according to dialect, as *hv*, *kv*, and *v*, in English as *wh*. For typical forms see WHAT.

The normal OE. spelling *hw* was generally preserved in early ME. till late in the 13th century, e. g. in the Nero MS. of Ancren Riwle (with occas. variants in *w*, as *wase* whoso), and the pieces contained in An Old English Miscellany (E. E. T. S); it persists in the Ayenbite of Inwyt in the form *hu*, as *huich*. The modern spelling *wh* is found first in regular use in the Ormulum, e. g. *whillc* which; it is the commoner spelling in the earlier text of Layamon's Brut (with frequent variants in *w*), the Harl. MS. of King Horn, and the earliest MS. of Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle, and continues thence without interruption to the present day; sporadic anticipations occur in the 11th century in the interlinear Rule of St. Benedict, as in *æiwhæþera* (ed. E. E. T. S., p. 81), *whænne* (ib. 103), and in the 12th century in the Peterborough Chronicle (e. g. *whilc*, an. 675), and the Lambeth and Cotton Homilies. A few instances of the omission of *h* occur in some early texts (e. g. *sinwurbul* 'teres' in Epinal Gloss., *willum* 'nunc' in 9th century Bede Glosses), and there are some in the 11th century Rule of St. Benedict (e. g. *wylce* which, *wanon* whence); it becomes more frequent in the 12th century, chiefly in words of the interrogative class, e. g. *wilc*, *gewilcum*, *wat*, *wænne*, and (*sum*)-*wile*, for *hwilc*, *gewhilcum*, *hwæt*, *hwænne*, and *hwile* (Cato Glosses, Canterbury Psalter, Peterborough Chronicle, Homilies, etc.). Many examples of simple *w* are to be found in the two versions of Layamon and other 13th century texts, and this variant spelling continues in widespread use till 1500.

Strong enunciation of the back (guttural) element in the pronunciation of (hw) is shown by the spellings *chua*, *chuæt*, *chwæm*, *chuelc* = *hwā*, etc. of the Lindisfarne Gosp., and began to be denoted in ME. of the 13th century by the use of *qu* (*quu*, *qw*), first in East Anglian texts (once in the Bestiary, *qual* whale; regularly but not exclusively in Genesis and Exodus). It remained a feature of East Anglian spelling till *c* 1450 (as in the Paston Letters and the works of John Metham), but after 1300 it became more especially a characteristic feature of northern English, surviving in Scottish, esp. in the form *quh*, till the 18th century. (For the converse use of *wh* for *qu* (kw), see the letter Q.)

Early in the 15th century appear spellings with *wh* of words with initial *h* followed by an *o*-sound. It occurs first before *ƀ* (= *d*), e. g. *whom* for *hƀm* (OE. *hām*) in Brut *c* 1420 (E. E. T. S.), pp. 346, 370, *whalle* for *hƀlle* (OE. *hālan*) in Chron. Vilod. *c* 1420, 3368, and Camb. MS. of Guy of Warwick 3482, *whote* for *hƀt* (OE. *hāt*) in Partonope, *whore* for *hƀre* hoar (OE. *hār*) in Revel. Monk of Evesham (1482); *wholy* for *hƀly* is used by Tindale, 1526. Later, other words normally spelt with initial *ho-* (of whatever origin) became subject to the same variation of spelling; e. g. *whore* for *hƀre* (OE. *hōre*), *whole* for *hƀle* (OE. *hōl*), *whood* for *hood* (OE. *hōd*), *whoord* for *hƀrd* 'hoard' (OE. *hord*). Some of these spellings were especially frequent in the 16th century; thus *whood* 'hood' is used by Hall the chronicler, Nashe, Harvey, John Davies of Hereford, and Sylvester. The *wh*-spelling has become standardized in two of these words, viz. *whole* and *whore*, and their derivatives, in which it became common *c* 1600. The corresponding labialized pronunciation is current dialectally only in *whole*, but it survives in several other words where the standard form has preserved the original *ho-*, as in *hoard*, *hold*, *hole*, *home*, *hot*; in *home*, pronunciations such as (wom), (wuəm), (wəm) cover a wide area. For details of the evidence see the various words in this Dict. and Eng. Dial. Dict.

Spellings of *How adv.* with initial *hw*, *wh*, and (consequently) *quh* are on a different footing, as they are due in the first place to association of the word with the interrogative *why*, *where*, etc.

From the fourteenth century onwards there are sporadic instances of initial *whr* for *wr*, as *whrighte* (R. Brunne's Chron. Wace 8711), *whrassid* 'wrested' (St. Cuthbert, 6041), *whretchedly* (Bale, 1560). For the relationship of *hurlpool*, *hurlwind*, *hurtleberry* to *whirlpool*, *whirlwind*, *whortleberry*, etc., and of *thwack*, *thwang* to *whack*, *whang*, etc., see these words.

Pronunciation. In OE. the pronunciation symbolized by *hw* was probably in the earliest periods a voiced bilabial consonant preceded by a breath. This was developed in two different directions: (1) it was reduced to a simple voiced consonant (w); (2) by the influence of the accompanying breath, the voiced (w) became unvoiced. The first of these pronunciations (w) probably became current first in southern ME. under the influence of French speakers, whence it spread northwards (but ME. orthography gives no reliable evidence on this point). It is now universal in English dialect speech except in the four northernmost counties and north Yorkshire, and is the prevailing pronunciation among educated speakers. The second pronunciation, denoted in this Dictionary by the conventional symbol (hw), and otherwise variously denoted by phoneticians, (wh), (ʍ), (w̥), (ʌ), is general in Scotland, Ireland, and America, and is used by a large proportion of educated speakers in England, either from social or educational tradition, or from a preference for what is considered a careful or correct pronunciation.

The 15th or 16th century Welsh transcript of the English Hymn to the Virgin (E.D.S. Misc. 3, p. 27) shows the voiceless pronunciation, rendering *where* by *hwiar*, and the evidence of the 16th century and later orthoepists goes to show that this was the prevailing pronunciation among cultured speakers, but there are indications that it was not of universal currency. Towards the end of the 18th century the voiceless was ousted by the voiced sound, and the lexicographer John Walker (1791) notes that in London speech 'the aspirate *h* is often sunk', and includes the voiced pronunciation of *wh* among the four faults of the speech of the metropolis. The restoration of the voiceless pronunciation which took place in the 19th century was due in part to Scottish and Irish influence, and in part to conscious reference to the spelling. Some early orthoepists admitted a pronunciation of *whole*, *wholesome* with (hw). This must have been familiar to Samuel Johnson, for in the Grammar prefixed to his Dictionary he remarks that 'in *whore* only, and sometimes in *wholesome*, *wh* is sounded like a simple *h*.' The dialectal pron. (wōl, wul) are widespread.

In Sc. dialects north of the Tay the voiceless bilabial (hw) has become the voiceless labio-dental (f) in interrog. prons. and advs., as *fa* who, *fat* what, *fan* when; in Aberdeen and Banff in other words also, as *fite* white, *foip* whelp, *fup* whip. (Cf. FALL *sb.*[3]).

Wha(a, dial. forms of WHO; var. WHAU *int.*

Whaaped, var. WHAPED *pa. pple. Obs.*, WHAUP.

Whack (hwæk), *sb. colloq.* Also 8–9 *Sc.* **whawk**, **whauk**, 9 **wack**. [? Echoic; perh. as alteration of THWACK.]

1. A vigorous stroke with a stick or the like; a heavy resounding blow; also the sound of this.

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 13 As sair greets the bairn that's paid at e'en, as he that gets his whawks in the morning. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 477 *Whack*, a blow, a thump. 1832 BARRINGTON *Pers. Sk.* III. xviii. 242, I m[ade] any dangerous contusion from what they called 'whacks' of the shillelah. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* lxxiii, Bill gave the boy two or three more hearty whacks, and then kicked him into the hosier's shop. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* v, Benny's 'Ah!' or little cry was followed by a *whack*, which I heard as clear as anything I ever heard in my life.

b. *To have* or *take a whack at*: to make an attempt or attack upon. *U.S.*

1891 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 22 June 2/2 There are thousands ..who..are anxious to have a whack, at the polls, at the party that deceived them. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 20 Dec. 428/1 Mother's got over her long weak spell, and is able to take a whack at doings.

2. A portion, share, allowance; *esp.* a full share, a large portion or amount.

Chiefly in phr. *to get, have, take one's whack.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whack*, a share of a booty obtained by fraud. 1790 ALEX. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 51 Whauks o' guid alt-farll sewins Synet down wi' whey. 1869 C. PAGET in *P. Papers* (1896) II. 162 My whack of prize money..will be about fifty thousand Pounds. 1870 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxxiv, 'I'll punish the port to-morrow.'..'I'll take my whack to-day.' 1874 *Slang Dict.* 338 To go whacks, to divide equally; to enter into partnership. 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 119 He could not trust himself to take a fair whack of liquor without taking too much. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* July 43/2 I've had a run for my money this whack of leave.

b. A dividing *up* of accounts.

1885 HORNADAY *Two Yrs. in Jungle* xxiv. 284 When the Colombo rice merchants, shopmen, and hotel-keepers have their quarterly 'whack-up' with the government.

3. As *int.* or *adv.*; With a whack (in sense 1).

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Archit. Atoms*, Jill.. bobbs plump against him, whack! 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* v, Whack came the cane on Johnny's shoulders. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, Whack, whack, whack, come his blows.

Whack (hwæk), *v. colloq.* Also 8–9 *Sc.* **whauk**. [See prec.]

1. *trans.* To beat or strike vigorously, as with a stick; to thrash.

1721 *Ramsay's Poems* I. Gloss. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 334 Many and many a good time have I whacked the Rascal's Jacket. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* Introd. (1879) 3 The sheriffs..whacked each other soundly with their wands. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 225 When the husband loses his temper,..he whacks his wife.

absol. or *intr.* 1852 C. W. DAY *Five Yrs.' Resid. W. Indies* I. 304 Whacking away, I finally severed his head from his body. 1898 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Crook of Bough* xxiii, Her tough tweeds whacked on the ivory lintel.

b. *fig.* To beat in a contest.

1877 *Holderness Gloss.* s. v., Ah can whack him eany day at sums.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Substituted for 'put', 'bring', 'get', etc., with implication of vigorous or violent action; cf. *knock up*.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* viii, Why should we..thole nae aft the Spleen to whauk us Out of our Reason? 1861 J. BARR *Poems* 154 (E.D.D.) A rotten stump my brain had rackit..Till Doctor Manning oot did whack it. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* x. 229 If I design to paint a head, or a foot, or an arm, I get my little old Sarah Jane to peel the particular charm, and just whack her in on the canvas. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* v. 115 When they whacked up a match 'twix' his sister Hitty an' Lorin' Jerauld. 1903 — *Their Lawful Occas.* 1. in *Traffics & Discov.* 117 Can we whack her [*sc.* a torpedo-boat] up to fifteen, d'you think?

3. [See prec. 2.] To share, divide. Also with *up*.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Wack*, to share or divide any thing equally. 1821 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 94 We got twenty-two screaves by this adventure, which we whacked. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xlviii, We hadn't much trouble dividing the gold, and what cash there was we could whack easy enough.

Whack, dial. form of QUACK *v.*[2]

1807 HOGG *Mountain Bard*, *Padlar* xxiv, The ducks they whackit, the dogs they yowled.

Whacker (hwæ·kəɹ). *colloq.* [f. WHACK *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. a. A heavy blow. *dial.*

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 477 *Whacker*, a blow, a thump.

b. A driver of animals, a drover. *U.S.*

1880 *Harper's Mag.* LX. 679 The whacker's long whip cracking..as he lashes his unwieldy beasts [*sc.* oxen] into position. 1889 H. O'REILLY *Fifty Yrs. on Trail* xvi. 172 To search round for bull-whackers to drive them over.

2. Anything abnormally large of its kind; *esp.* a 'thumping' lie; a 'whopper'.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Whacker*, a lie. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXII. 416 Though the fences are whackers, the brooks they are small. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, Oh, there's a whacker!..we haven't been within a hundred yards of his barn. 1872 J. R. GREEN *Let. to E. A. Freeman* 18 Sept., The Dome which ought to be a whacker is a poor wee thing.

Whacking (hwæ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb. colloq.* [f. WHACK *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb WHACK.

1. Beating.

1860 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* I, Then take your whacking! 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Nov. 2/2 There is a sound of the whacking of staves and sticks.

attrib. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 5/1 We turned away followed by the beaters, one of whom tucked his long whacking-stick under his chin.

2. Dividing up or sharing.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 134 At last Long J—— and I got to quarrel about the 'whacking'; there was chestin a-goin' on.

Whacking (hwæ·kiŋ), *ppl. a. colloq.* [f. WHACK(ER + -ING[2].] That is a 'whacker'; abnormally large; 'thumping', 'whopping'.

Often quasi-advb in *whacking big, great.*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd. 7 A certain whacking

priest in our neighbourhood. 1829 — *Jrnl.* 26 Apr. (1890) II. 268 This whacking reason. 1853 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* II. 193 We saw a whacking great building. 1873 C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond., Wadsworth Jumpers* 91 A good whacking kiss that echoed all over the archway.

Whad, Whaddie: see What, Waddy.

Whaey, Whafer, Whaff, Whaffle: see Wheyey, Wafer *sb.*, Waff *v.*[1], Waffle *v.*

Whahoo, variant of Wahoo.

Whales: see Why.

Whaiet, obs. dial. f. Quiet.

1582 N. Woodes *Conf. Conse.* III. iv, Ay wawd he wer brunt that ay mawght be whaiet.

Whaile, obs. var. Quail *v.*[2], to curdle.

c 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 453 At the first boyling take hom off the fyre that they whaile noght.

Whaint, Whair(e, Whaish, Whais(h)le, whaisle, Whaite, Whake: see Quaint, Where, Wheyish, Wheeze, Wheezle, Wait *v.*[1], Quake.

Whaker, north. dial. form of Quaker.

1700 in Sir C. Sharp *Chron. Mirab.* (1841) 51 Att ye Whakers metting house. 1802 R. Anderson *Ball Cumbld.* (1805) 88 The neist was a Whaker, caw'd Jacob, He turn'd up the wheyte o' his een.

Whale (hwēl), *sb.* Forms: 1 hwæl, 3–4 whal, wal, 4–5 wall, 4–7 whall, 5 wale, 5–6 whalle, 7 whaill, wheal, 4– whale; chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* 3 qual, 4 quale, 5 qwal, qwall(e, qwaylle, 5–6 quhail(l, 6 quhale, quhell. [OE. *hwæl*, corresp. to OHG., MHG. *wal* (G. *walfisch* Whalefish, q. v.), ON. *hvalr* (Sw., Da. *hval*), related to OHG. *wâlira, welira*, MHG. *wâlre*, and MHG., G. *wels* (= **χwalis*) sheath-fish; cf. Pruss. *kalis* sheath-fish.

The present form *whale* represents oblique forms (OE. *hwales*, etc.); the OE. nom. *hwæl* gave 14th–17th cent. *whall* (cf. *small, awl*, † *all*, from *smæl, æl*).]

1. Any of the larger fish-like marine mammals of the order *Cetacea*, which have fore-limbs like fins and a tail with horizontal flukes, and are hunted for their oil and whalebone; in wider (scientific) use, any cetacean of the groups *Mystacoceti* or whalebone-whales, and *Odontoceti* or toothed whales (which are distinguished by the names dolphin, grampus, porpoise, etc.).

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 16 Se hwæl bið micle læssa þonne oðre hwalas. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* i. 21 God gesceop þa þa micelan hwalas and eall libbende fisc-cinn. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 310 Þa myclan hwalas, & þa lytlan sprottas. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 735 He is blac so bro of qual. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 753 He tok þe sturgiun, and þe qual. *c* 1385 *Metr. Hom.* 136 Kiht als the quale fars wit the elringe, And riht als sturioun etes merling. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2495 He hadde a bodi as a whal. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 222 Me thynketh they been lyk Iovinyan Fat as a whale and walkynge as a swan. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625/21 Wale, *cete.* 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 704/15 *Hic cetus*, a whalle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523 Whale, or qwal, grete fysche. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 83 Fludis monstreis, sic as meirswyne or quhailis. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 23 And there they flye or dye, like scaled sculs, Before the belching Whale. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 140 Steep your Corn, or any other Seed, in Oil of Whale. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 35 Whales are still seen one hundred and sixty feet long. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 272/2 The Toothed Whales are subdivided into those which have teeth in both jaws and those which have teeth in the lower jaw. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist* x. 259 The pursuit of the whale, whether that species which our hardy mariners seek amidst the ice-floes of the Polar Seas, or the still huger kind which wallows in the boundless Pacific.

collective sing. 1637 I. Jones & Davenant *Brit. Tri* 15 And then on Rock he [*sc.* the giant] stood to bob for Whale. 1845 Coulter *Adv. Pacific* vii 78 While cruising for whale, the look-outs are on the cross trees.

b. With defining words for various species:

e. g. Bottle-nose(d w., Ca'ing-whale, Fin-, Finback(ed, Finner, Greenland, Grey (*a.* 8 b), Humpback, Ice-, Pike-, Piked, Pike-headed, Pilot, Rostrated, *round-lipped* (Round *a.* 16 b), Scrag (*sb.*[1] 5), Spermaceti *w.*, Sperm whale, Whalebone- *w.* Also **Beaked, Black, Bowhead, Sowerby's, White Whale:** see quots.

1758 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 123, I shall call it Balæna rostrata, or Nebbe-hval, the *Beaked Whale. 1900 *Brit. Mus. Return* 89 Cuvier's Beaked Whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*). 1834 Dewhurst *Cetacea* 16 *note, La Baleine Franche*...Common *Black Whale. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* vi, The sparmaceity don't take the harpoon quite so quietly as the black whale does. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 296/1 The Whalebone Whale or Black Whale of the South Seas. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 201 Slabs of whalebone of *Bowhead Whale. 1900 *Brit. Mus. Return* 201 Tooth of a *Sowerby's Whale (*Mesoplodon bidens*). 1834 Dewhurst *Cetacea* 190 *Delphinapterus Beluga*, or the *White Whale.

(*b*) **Right Whale,** a whalebone-whale, esp. of the genus *Balæna*. Hence *right-whaling, right-whaler*, etc.

1725 P. Dudley in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 256 The Right or Whalebone Whale is a large Fish, measuring sixty or seventy Feet in Length. 1844 J. F. Cooper *Pilot* xvii, 'Tis a right whale,..I saw his spout. 1874 Darwin *Desc. Man* II. xvii. (ed. 2) 516 The males of the right-whales do not fight together. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 527/2 A right whale fishery of great importance. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Dec. 2/1 Just before I took to 'right' whaling.

2. Applied to the 'great fish' which swallowed Jonah (*Jonah* i. 17).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 40 Sue forðon wæs Ionas in innað *vel* in wom huales ðrim dagum & ðrim nihtum [1382 Wyclif As Jonas was in the womb of a whall three dayes and three nyztis]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 247 Now is Ionas þe Iwe iugged to drowne;..A wylde walterande whal..bi þat bot flotte. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 57 Grete god..þat saued þe prophete with in þe whall. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 22–28 Euen as did ye whale reuomit the prophet Ionas. *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxxi. 36 Ionas, in þe quhellis bellie, þow safit thre dayis. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 42 Jona's Whale is also to go to Paradise.

† **3.** *Whale of the river, river-whale:* = Sheathfish[1], a large freshwater fish, *Silurus glanis. Obs.*

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 69/2 *Silurus*,..a fish much like a Sturgeon; a sheathfishe; a whale of the riuer. 1611 Cotgr., *Silure*, the rauening sheat fish, or Whall of the riuer.

4. *transf.* (from 1). An object resembling a whale; *Astron.* (with cap.) the constellation *Cetus.*

1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 267 The greate Whale, containyng 22 starres. 1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 5 In the evening of that day it [*sc.* a comet] was to come into the jaw of the Whale. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 66/1 The comet..passed..toward the whale's jaw. 1866 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 2) 356. 1905 F. M. Crawford *Gleam. Venet. Hist.* I. 5 When the first fugitives, blind with terror, stumbled ashore upon the back of one of the sand whales in the lagoon.

5. Allusive, proverbial, transf, and fig. uses of sense 1. **a.** Prov. phr. (*To throw out*) *a tub to the whale*: see Tub *sb.* 9 b. *Very like a whale* (after Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 398): see quot. 1859.

[1591 *1st Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) C 3 b, The mariner, Spying the hugie Whale, whose monstrous bulke Doth beare the waues like mountaines fore the wind, That throwes out emptie vessels, so to stay His fury.]

1859 *Slang Dict.* 115 *Very like a whale*, said of anything that is very improbable.

b. *allusively.*

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iii. 249 A..lasciuious boy, who is a whale to Virginity, and deuours vp all the fry it finds. 1606 Dekker *Seuen Deadly Sinnes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 27 Be wise therefore,..play with these Whales of the Sea, till you escape them that are deuourers of your Merchants. 1914 Marriott in *Edin. Rev.* July 1 Amid a shoal of minnows they promptly pose as authoritative whales.

c. fig. phr. *A whale on . . .*, having a great capacity or appetite for . . ., very good at or keen on . . . *A whale of* (U.S.): 'no end of'. *colloq.*

1893 McCarthy *Red Diamonds* xxiii, He was not, as he put it himself graphically, a whale on geography. 1899 A. Marshall *Peter Binney* xvi. 326, I should be a whale on parental authority myself if I were in your place. 1913 *19th Cent.* Sept. 621 [They] had what the Americans call 'a whale of a good time'.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whale-blubber* [Blubber *sb.*[1] 4], *-butt, -calf* [Calf[1] 3], *-catching, -cub, -cutter, -drive* [Drive *sb.* 1 c], *-duty, -guts, -hunter* (cf. OE. *hwælhunta*), *-hunting* (cf. OE. *hwælhuntaþ*), *-killer, -killing, -kind, -meat, -spoilt, -steak, -striker, -striking, -trade, -vessel*; also in names of weapons, etc. used in hunting whales, as *whale-gun, -lance, -line, -net, -rope, -spade*; also *whale-like, -mouthed, -tailed* adjs. **b.** Spec. Combs.: **whale-acorn-shell** (see quot.); **whale-barnacle** = Coronule 2; **whale-brit** [Brit *sb.*[1]] = *whale-food*; **whale-deep** = *whale-hole*; **whale-feed** = *whale-food*; **whale('s) food** [tr. G. *walfischaas*, 1747], a general name for the small animals upon which whales feed; *spec.* a mollusc, *Clio borealis*; **whale-foots** [Foot *sb.* 22], the refuse in refining whale-oil, used by soap-makers and tanners; **whale-gull,** the ivory gull (Gull *sb.*[1]); **whale-head,** the shoebill or whale-headed stork, *Balæniceps rex*; also called **whale-headed** *stork*; †**whale-horn,** whalebone; **whale-laid** *a.* of a rope (see quot.); **whale-louse,** a small crustacean of the genus *Cyamus*, parasitic on whales; **whale-mouse** = *whale's guide*; **whale-pool** *humorous*, the Atlantic ocean (cf. *herring-pond*); **whale's belly, -tail,** etc., stars in the constellation *Cetus* (see 4); †**whale's guide,** the animal called by Pliny *musculus piscis* (cf. note s.v. Mysticete[1]); **whale-shark,** (*a*) a very large shark, *Rhinodon typicus*; (*b*) the basking-shark (Basking *ppl. a.* 2); **whale-ship** = Whaleboat; †**whale-shot** [Shot *sb.*[1] 19], spermaceti. Also Whaleback, -bird, -boat, -bone, -fin, etc.

1815 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 194 *Balanoides*, Small, striated Acorn S[hell]. *Diadema*, *Whale Do. 1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 305 *Whale-Barnacles (*Coronulidæ*). 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 626 *Whale-blubber..forms a good compost for turnips. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* x. 214 A piece of putrid whales-blubber 1835 Batman in K. Cornwallis *New World* (1859) I. 369 The 'Belinda', of Sydney, with a cargo of *whale-butts. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Whale-calf*, the young whale. 1685 R. Turner in W. Penn *Furth. Acc. Pennsylv.* 13 Three Companies for *Whale catching. 1885 J. G. Wood in *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 552 The *whale cub, when first formed, has no baleen. 1632 Pelham *Gods Power* A 4 b, Thomas Ayers, *Whale-cutter. 1668 Prynne *Aurum Reg.* 127 This *Whale Dury hath been totally suspended, from the death of King Henry the 8, till the first year of King James, for want of a Queen Consort. 1853 *Househ. Words* VI. 401/2 The little red creatures (*'whale feed', sailors call them) are retained by the fringe [of the baleen]. 1767 tr. *Crantz' Hist. Greenland* I. 209 This *whale's-food is found in the greatest quantity between Spitzberg..and Greenland. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* 166 The immense aggregations of close-packed swimming invertebrata so well known to mariners in Arctic regions under the appellation of 'whale-food'. 1892 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 508 *Cetaspar actes eburneus.* The Ivory *Whale-gull. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 149 The crew..murdered the Captain and third officer by shooting them with a *whale-gun. 1780 Coxe *Russ. Discov.* 256 Cloaks,..made of thin *whale guts. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 654 *Balæniceps rex*, the Shoe-bill or *Whale-head, of Africa. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 739/1 The gigantic *Whale-headed Stork, *Balæniceps rex.* 1900 *Inv. Mary Q. Scots* (Bannatyne Club) Pref. p. xxviii, *note*, xij bowtis of *quhaill horne. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 4 He was come as far towards the North, as commonly the *whale hunters vse to trauell. 1851 H. Melville *Whale* xvi, Some of these same Quakers are the most sanguinary of all sailors and whale-hunters. 1615 *Trade's Incr.* 52 The Greenland company, out of the pretence of their first *Whale-hunting. 1868 Gordie *Sunnm. & Wint. in Orkneys* viii. 323 The whale-hunting fleet. 1623 *Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Archæol. Amer.* (1860) IV. 305 When he enters into the sounds, our *whale-killers doe presentlie sallie forth to meet him. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrimes* III. iii. 461 The first setled, ordinary, and orderly Voyages for the *Whale killing. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. ii. 57 About Christmas these are mostly imployed in Whale-killing. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Manati*, a Fish of the *Whale-kind that breeds about the Island of Hispaniola. 1812 Manby *Ess. Preserv. Shipwr Persons* 17 It may likewise be coiled in the manner used in the whale fishery. *Whale laid. 1823 Scoresby *Voy. N. Whale-fishery* 112 Armed only with a *whale-lance, he..set out on his adventurous exploit. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 1016 This mighty Fish, of *Whale-like hugeneese. 1885 Leifchild *Cornwall* 166 The large whale-like back of a prostrate pillar. 1785 *Act 25 Geo. III* c. 56 § 2 Short Chucking, Half Clean, *Whale-line, or other Toppings. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 12 The whale-line, manilla rope like yellow silk, 1½ inch round, was brought on deck. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 91 A small animal, of the shell-fish kind, called the *Whale-louse, that sticks to its body. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s. v. *Whalebone*, Time has passed since the people of England reveled in *whale meat. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 504 A little fishe called..in Greeke Mysticetus, the *Whale-mouse. 1656 Osborn *Adv. Son* (ed 4) To Rdr, As I did then, in imitation of Sea-men by designe, so I may perhaps now cast out some empty stuffe, to find play for the *Whale-mouth'd gapers after Levity. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xiv. (1856) 426 Stalwart fellows, practiced in the kayack, and the sledge, and the *whale-net. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Pen Sketches* (1879) II. 145 This is one of the good turns for which I am grateful to our friends across the *whale-pool. 1857 in Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 342 A coil of *whale rope. 1573 W. Bourne *Regim. Sea* (1580) 50 b, The names of the Starres..*Whales backe. Whales belly...Whales tayle. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 125 *Cetorum Dux*..the *Whales Guide 1706 Phillips (ed. 6), *Mysticetus*, a Fish, call'd the Whale's Guide. 1884–5 *Rivers side Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 78 The Rhinodontidæ embraces only two species of large sharks, one of which well deserves the name *whale-shark, which is applied to it. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 159 The crew of a *whale-ship usually consists of 40 to 50 men. 1618 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 332 *Whale shote the barrell, xx li. 1852 Munby *Antipodes* (1857) 104 The harpoon, the axe, the lance, and the *whale-spade. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 349 They heard *whale-spouts near them. 1613 *Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Archæol. Amer.* (1860) IV. 289 Then the Banks, our *whale-strikers, went presentlie back againe to the Foreland with their shallops. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xx, No *whale-striking, bird-nesting favourite for me. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 537 *Whale-tailed Manati. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* v, He had been forty years in the *whale-trade. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxxviii, A garland of faded ribbons, such as are used to decorate *whale-vessels.

Whale (hwēl), *v.*[1] [f. prec.] *intr.* To engage in whale-fishing; see also Whaling *vbl. sb.*[1]

c 1700 in *Chever's Whalem. Adv.* i. (1850) 5 [To] whale out in the deep for sperm whales. 1822 *Sydney Gaz.* in *O'Hara's Hist. N. S. Wales* (1817) 386 The brig Active..was at Frederick Henry Bay whaling.

Whale, *v.*[2] Now *U. S. colloq.* [Of obscure origin. Commonly regarded as a spelling of Wale *v.*[1], but there are difficulties of form, chronology, and meaning. Perhaps orig. = to thrash with a whalebone whip (see Whalebone 3 b).]

1. *trans.* To beat, flog, thrash.

1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whale*, to beat with a horsewhip or pliant stick. 1801 Col. G. Hanger *Life* II. 162 Whaleing a gentleman is but a vulgar revenge. 1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* iii, He used to always whale me when he was sober and could get his hands on me.

2. *transf. intr.* To do something implied by the context continuously or vehemently.

1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang, To whale away*, (Amer.), to preach, talk, or lecture away continuously or vehemently. 1908 H. Day *King Spruce* xxiv, You don't think I've whaled up here..to talk about women, do you? 1915 *Morning Post* 1 June 4/4 They..snatched these rifles up, and whaled away at our chaps.

Whale, var. Wale.

Whaleback (hwēl'-lbæk). [f. Whale *sb.* + Back *sb.*]

1. An arched structure over the deck of a steamer; = Turtle-back 1.

1886 *Times* 20 Apr. 10/2 He was standing under the whale-back.

2. A kind of steam vessel having a spoon bow and the main decks covered in and rounded over, ting the back of a whale.

Pall Mall Gaz. 10 June 2/2 The Americans claim that, in Captain Macdougall's steel 'whalebacks', they the universal ship of the future.

3. *Geol.* A large mound of the shape of the back of a whale.

1893 HOWORTH *Glacial Nightmare* II. 774 Glaciers cannot explain the mounds called eskers, kames, or whalebacks.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Furnished with a whaleback (sense 1); of the shape of the back of a whale.

1891 *Daily Graphic* 24 July 14/1 The first 'whaleback' boat which has crossed the Atlantic arrived at Liverpool on Monday. 1894 *Engineer* 13 July 33/3 A new craft is expected to take part in the yacht races at Galveston. She was built in Fort Worth, and may be classed as a whaleback yacht. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 4/4 Beneath a hot sun Belgrade lies bleaching on her whaleback promontory.

Hence **Wha'lebacked** *a.*, shaped like a whale's back; **Wha'lebacker**, a whaleback steamer.

1879 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/7 Whale-backed station of the London and South Eastern Railway Company. 1891 *Daily Graphic* 24 July 14/1 These 'Whalebackers' as they are termed offer very little resistance to the sea. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations, Sussex* 19 Our blunt, bow-headed, whale-backed Downs.

Wha'le-bird. Name of various birds which inhabit the places where whales are found, or which feed on their oil or offal: (*a*) a petrel of the genus *Prion* or *Procellaria*; (*b*) the turnstone, *Strepsilas interpres*; (*c*) the red or grey phalarope; (*d*) the ivory gull.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 217 Another bird, not much unlike a quail, which they call here the whale-bird, from its feeding on the offal of those fish. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Whale-bird*, a beautiful little bird seen hovering in flocks over the Southern Ocean. 1875 MELLISS *St. Helena* 200 The Whale Bird (*Procellaria glacialoides*). 1879 *Bulletin U.S. Nat. Mus.* No. 15. 85 *Phalaropus fulicarius*,.. 'Shatgak', Cumberland Eskimo. 'Whale-bird', or 'Bow-head Bird', of whalemen.

Wha'le-boat. A long carvel-built boat, sharp at both ends, and steered with a rudder or an oar, used in whale-fishing. b. A boat of this kind carried as a life-boat by large passenger-steamers and warships.

1756 R. ROGERS *Jrnls.* (1769) 13 Our rendezvous was appointed at Albany, from thence to proceed in four whale-boats to lake George. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* IV. iv. (1849) 415 A picked crew of daring fellows set off for her in a whale-boat. 1871 *Good Words* 713 Having come to her moorings, she is immediately surrounded by a multitude of whale-boats.

Whalebone (hwēi·lbōən), *sb.* Forms: see WHALE *sb.* and BONE *sb.*; also 4 huelbon, 7 whel-, whal-, whealbone, quhallboa; (in sense 1) whales bone, etc.

†**1.** Ivory from the walrus or some similar animal confused with the whale: chiefly in phr. *white as whale's bone. Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 2363 Þe walles of stone, Þe duren of whales bone [*c* 1275 wales bone]. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 38 A wayle whyt as wisalles bon. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 212 Her bele more blaxt þen whallez bon. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 537 Lady, as whyte as whales bone. † 1467 *Paston Lett.* II. 298 But yef ye purposid to falle hastely in my Lady Anne P. lappe, as white as whales bon, &c. *c* 1500 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 472 An hundred steppis mountyng to the halle, One of iasper, another of whalis bone. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 138 Hir Mouth so small, hir Teeth so white as any Whale his bone. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 332 This is the flower that smiles on euerie one, To shew his teeth as white as Whales bone. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 213 Legges as white as whales bone. 1610 TOPTE *Hon. Acad.* IV. 162 Her hands were white, as Whale his bone. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. i, Purer than white whales' bone.

β. 13.. *Coer de L.* 62 All it was whyt of huel-bon. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3055 Alse qwyte & qwem as any qwalle bon. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 46 Toungis now are maid of quhyte quhaill bone, And hairtis ar maid of hard flynt stone.

2. The elastic horny substance which grows in a series of thin parallel plates in the upper jaw of certain whales in place of teeth; baleen: used esp. for stiffening parts of the dress, etc.

Formerly supposed to be obtained from the whale's fins.

1604 *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 107 For whelbone to ye bodes ix^{d}. 1613 *Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Archæol. Amer.* (1860) IV. 311 They cut of his head, containing his toung and his finnes, commonlie called whalbone. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 P 4 A Female who is thus invested in Whalebone is sufficiently secured against the Approaches of an ill-bred Fellow. 1712 BUDGELL *ibid.* 277 P 8 The Petticoat has no Whale-bone. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 457 Fifteen feet is the greatest length of the whalebone. 1878 J. W. HAYES *Draper & Habord.* (ed. 4) 87 Stay Whalebone is prepared and cut into suitable lengths for corsets. *Ibid.*, Dress Whalebone is sold in lengths varying between 27 in. and 54 in. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. xi. 390 At a Christmas party, [she] acted any part—that depended on whalebone [*i.e.* stays]—admirably.

3. A strip of whalebone, esp. used as stiffening in women's stays, dresses, etc.

1602 [? MARSTON] *Yach Drums Entert.* IV. F 4, Oh I could crack my Whalebones, breake my Busks, to think what laughter may arise from this. *a* 1635 CORBET *Iter Bor.* 391 She was barr'd up in Whale-bones that did leese None of the Whales length, for they reach'd her knees. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 107 If they fish with a Cane or Whalebone. 1712–24 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 40 Fans clap, silks rustle, and tough whalebones crack. 1891 *Figure Training* 106 In order to insure a good fit, and to keep it perfectly in place, the busk in front, and the whalebones behind, are made somewhat longer than the present fashion.

b. A riding-whip of whalebone.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* III, Smarting under a sense of injury and whalebone. 1867 A. L. GORDON *Poems* (1912) 96 Ah! there goes Fred's whalebone a flanker.

4. The jaw-bone of a whale. (Cf. G. *walfischbein.*)

1846 R. E. E. WARBURTON *Hunting Songs* viii. 25 Where 'twixt the whalebones the widow [*sc.* Maria Hollingsworth, a German by birth] sat down.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whalebone-cutter, -hired, -man*; **whalebone-hair**, the hairy fringe of whalebone; **whalebone-tree**, an Australian urticaceous tree, *Pseudomorus brunoniana*; **whalebone-whale**, a whale of the family *Balænidæ*, having plates of whalebone developed from the palate instead of teeth; a right whale.

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 672 Philip Benton, of Gainsborough,.. *whalebone-cutter and merchant. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 451 Large shreds of old thin canvas, *whalebone-hair, and a quantity of ashes. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. I. iii. (1743) 331 Great whales of the Baleen, or *whale bone kind. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* lx. Wks. (1641) 808 The *whale-bone man That quilts those bodies, I have leave to span. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 591 *Pseudomorus Brunoniana*,..called *Whalebone Tree in Southern New South Wales. 1725 *Whalebone whale [see WHALE *sb.* 1 b (*bb*)]. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 272/2 The Toothless or Whalebone Whales.

b. as *adj.* Stiffened with strips of whalebone; made of or containing whalebone; also *fig.*, 'stiff', affected.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i. (1905) 28 Your whale-bone-bodies. 1603 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 31 Ane par of quhallbon bodis. 1630 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 193 And to that end..shut up their Wastes in a Whale-bone prison. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 20 Nov., Have you got the whalebone petticoats among you yet?..a woman here may hide a moderate gallant under them. 17.. in *Lyra Elegant.* (1867) I. 3 Last Sunday at St. James's prayers I, dress'd in all my whale-bone airs. 1801 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Good Fr. Gov.*, A few words in defence of sacks, long waists, and whalebone stays. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 6 (1812) I. 119 A plentiful stock of whims, and oddities, and whalebone habits. 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* lxviii, To make his bow before the world in the picturesque long robe and whalebone wig which everyone of taste admires. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 38 A light umbrella was one not made with whalebone ribs.

Hence **Whaleboned** (hwēi·lbōund) *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*, stiffened with whalebone.

1641 J. DAY *Parl. Bees* (1881) 29 Such whale-bon'd-bodied rascals. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. vii/2 A mantelet..whaleboned in such a manner as to prevent it from crushing the dress. 1908 EDITH WHARTON *Hermit*, etc. IV. 150 A laced, whaleboned, frizzle-headed, high-heeled daughter of iniquity.

Whale-eyde, obs. f. WALL-EYED.

Wha'le-fin. ? *Obs.* Also 7 **whales-finne.** Whalebone, formerly supposed to be the fin of the whale.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 332 Whale fin the fin, xl*li*. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. xvii. (ed. 2) 433 The Inhabitantes holde trade with other Samoeds ..for..Beauers, Downe, Whales-Finnes. 1742 *Daily Post* 12 Apr. 1/3 On Tuesday was imported..from Holland 9 C. Whale-fins. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. lii. 207 By whale-fin has always been meant the barb, from which the whale-bone is really obtained. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 415 Whale-bone, or whale-fine, as the substance is sometimes, though incorrectly named.

†**Whalefish.** *Obs.* Also 6 wall-, whal(le)-, 6–7 wale-. [repr. unrecorded OE. **hwælfisc*, or a. MLG., MDu., Du. *walvisch* = OHG. *walvisc* (MHG. *-visch*, G. *walfisch*), ON. *hvalfiskr*: see WHALE *sb.* and FISH *sb.*[1]] A whale.

c 1521 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 There by be many walefyzshes & flyinge fyzshes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxlviii. 7 Prayse the Lorde vpon earth, ye whalfishes and all depes. 1546 *Gassar's Prognost.* A v b, The Son in the same euening shall go doune or set with the tayle of the Whalle fish. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 6 b, These people doe mainteine themselues with rootes of hearbes, with Sea Woulfes, and Whale fish. 1613 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 91, 2 pec. wale fyshe. 1623 R. JOHNSON *Hist. Tom a Lincolne* (1828) 105 The whale fishes lay wallowing in the waves. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 440 About two Years ago there came a Stranger to me, who had two Penis's of the Whale Fish.

Wha'le-fi'sher. [f. WHALE-FISHING: see -ER[1].] = WHALER 1. So **Wha'lefisherman**, = WHALER 1 and 2; **Wha'le-fishery**, (*a*) the occupation or industry of whale-fishing; (*b*) a locality where whale-fishing is carried on or where whales abound.

1773 BERRIDGE *Chr. World Unmasked* (1805) 43 In Greenland among the *whale-fishers. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 271 The salt in the sea..destroys the tenacity of the bay-ice,..and, in the language of the whale-fisher, completely rots it. 1874 A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* I. 1 Hither [*sc.* to the Arctic Regions] our brave whale-fishers have annually ventured for many years. 1724 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 193 Our *Whale Fishermen of Nantucket. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 74 Foreign Protestants also, who had served three years on board of any British whale-fishermen. 1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1703 When our Ships return'd from the *Whale-Fishery. 1732 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 535 About Greenland, and in other places where there are whale-fisheries. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 76 The British whale-fishery of 1758 was very unsuccessful. 1874 A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* I. 8 The ships engaged in the whale fishery are all most substantially built.

Wha'le-fi'shing. [f. WHALE *sb.* + FISHING *vbl. sb.*] The occupation of taking whales, whaling.

1580 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 460 To the end we may turne our new found land fishing or Island fishing or our whale-fishing that way. 1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 109 A Flemish Fly-boat bound to Greenland, for Whale-fishing. 1721 ELKING *View Greenland Trade* (1899) 95 We can..carry on the whale-fishing trade..much cheaper than the Hollanders. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 257 Ice becomes exceedingly fragile towards the close of the whale-fishing season. 1889 C. EDWARDES *Sardinia* xviii. 345 The industry [of tunny-fishing] is as speculative as whale-fishing or silver-mining.

Whal eie, obs. f. WALL EYE.

Whaleman (hwēi·lmən). [MAN *sb.*[1] 4 p, 14.]

1. = WHALER 1.

1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 133 And Whale-men then will be very serviceable in this Expedition, which having a promise made to them, that they shall be released in good season to go home a Whaling in the Fall. 1830 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. iv. 21 He launched out.. into tremendous laudations of whalemen; declaring that whalemen alone deserved the name of sailors. 1856 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* xvi. 198 A smarter whaleman than Mistah Jones did not live.

2. = WHALER 2.

1767 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 19 Whalemen fitted out for the Straits of Belle Isle, and Davis Straits. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* vii, The ship was the Cortes, whaleman, of New Bedford. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 254 There were two or three whalemen in port.

Wha'le-oil. Oil obtained from whale-blubber.

1433–6 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 418, ii shippes of waloill, conteynyng xlviij.^{xx} iii. v. oyll. *c* 1580 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) July 520 Whale oyles that come frome newfound Land. 1672 *Act 25 Chas. II* c. 7 § 4 Noe English built Shipp..importing Whale oyle or Blubber or other Fish, Oyle. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 137 We have Oil of Camomile and Linseed..when Train or Whale-Oil is dear. 1896 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* (ed. 2) II. 37 The pure whale oils, pale, brownish-yellow or brown.

attrib. 1853 *Zoologist* XI. 4044 Syringing the young tree well with whale-oil-soap. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 368/2 Flavilla lit the..whale-oil lamp.

Whaler (hwēi·lər). [f. WHALE *sb.* or *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. A person engaged in whaling; a whale-catcher.

1684 *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 437 Without you do now imploy the Wheelers to do't, Ye ne'r will be able to bring all about. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 79 The North, or Grand Bahama bank, is little frequented but by whalers and turtlers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 752/1 The whalers kill the calves in order to capture the mother. 1895 GORE-BOOTH *Sea Fishing* (Badm. Libr.) xvi. 476 Two bollard heads (pronounced 'bullet heads' by the Scotch whalers).

2. a. A vessel used in whale-fishing. b. = WHALE-BOAT b.

1806 *Sydney Gaz.* in *O'Hara's Hist. N. S. Wales* (1817) 270 Arrived..same day, the Aurora south whaler. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lxi, Stopp'd by the elements, like a whaler. 1893 *Times* 3 July 6/2 Some loose oars..with which I supported myself until picked up by the Dreadnought's whaler. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* v. 62 The First Lieutenant.. had the whaler's crew sleeping all handy by. 1900 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 320/2 The original plan was to descend the Mackenzie to the Beaufort Sea, leaving the stores to come round by whaler.

3. Anything unusually large of its kind; a 'whacker', 'whopper'. *U.S. slang.*

a 1860 *Georgia Scenes* 184 (Bartlett) 'He's a whaler!' said Rory; 'but his face is mighty little for his body and legs.' 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 25, I shared..a cabin with a captain who had been a whaler for forty years; and he *was* a whaler! and great at 'whalers'.

Whalery (hwēi·lərі). [f. WHALE *sb.* + -ERY.]

1. The industry of whale-fishing, or the establishment for carrying it on.

1683 W. PENN *Let. to Free Soc. Traders* 9 The Whalery [is conveniently posted] for a sound and fruitful Bank. 1685 — *Further. Acc. Pennsylv.* 8 We justly hope a considerable profit by a Whalery. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 25 Since I sailed away to the whalery, When I was a bit of a lad. 1899 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 6/4 South Sea whaleries.

2. A tank to keep a whale in.

a 1880 F. T. BUCKLAND *Notes & Jottings* (1882) 345 When the whale had been in his whalery about three hours, he had quite recovered himself both in mind and body.

Whales bone: see WHALEBONE.

Whaling (hwēi·lin), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. WHALE *sb.* or *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action, practice, or business of catching whales.

1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 133 Whalemen..having a promise made to them, that they shall be released in good season to go home a Whaling in the Fall. 1831 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi, 'But what takes thee a-whaling?'..'Well, sir I want to see what whaling is.' 1895 GORE-BOOTH *Sea Fishing* (Badm. Libr.) xvi. 407 The Arctics seem to have an extraordinary and incomprehensible attraction for some people; and when it is coupled with whaling, to the author it becomes almost irresistible.

b. *attrib.* or as *ppl. a.*

1821 SCOTT *Pirate* v, Ill-faur'd tools they had in their hands, whaling knives they ca'ed them. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrn. N. Whale-fishery* 34 The practice of such kinds of harmless frolic, as the circumstances of a whaling voyage will admit. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Conver. Whale Fishery* 6 There was a whaling ship fitting out for her voyage. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 752/1 The number of whales has greatly decreased on the whaling-ground. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* II. 33 He listened to the brilliant promises of a whaling captain. 1889 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xvi, Stores had to be purchased by the whaling-masters. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xvi, The barque was empty and the whaling gear in trim.

Wha'ling, *vbl. sb.*[2] *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. WHALE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] Beating, thrashing.

1850 Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxvi, How did you whaling agree with yer, Tom? 1859 'C. K. CRADDOCK'

Periph. Ct. Smoky Mts. ii. 44 From fear of a whaling by his active parent.

Whalish (hwēi·lĭʃ), *a. rare.* [f. WHALE *sb.* + -ISH 1.] Of the nature of or resembling a whale.

a 1892 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 424 A big, wide-flippered whalish-looking creature.

Whalke, Whall(e: see WALK *sb.*1, WALL. **Whallabee,** var. WALLABY. **Whallup,** obs. f. WALLOP *v.*

Whally (hwē·li), *a. rare.* Also 9 **-ey.** [? f. *whall*, WALL *sb.*3, 'whally eyes' being equivalent to 'eyes of wall', i. e. wall-eyes.] Of the eyes: ? Showing much white, glaring.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 24 A bearded Goat, whose.. whally eyes (the signe of gelosy). 1808 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 669 His low vile forehead, whalley eyes, pendulous cheeks.

Whalm, Whalp: see WALM, WHELM, WHELP.

Whaly (hwē·li), *a. rare.* [f. WHALE *sb.* + -Y 1.] Of whales.

1620 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* xxxix, The ocean's monarch..The great controller of the whaly ranckes.

†**Wham.** *Obs. nonce wd.* [A factitious word made by altering the vowel of WHIM.] A whimsical or fantastic person.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 953 The Author of it was a whim and a wham, a Fellow that invented ridiculous Principles.

Wham, Sc. and north. dial. form of WHOM.

Whamble, var. WHEMMEL *Sc.*, overturn.

Whame. *Obs.* or *dial.* A gadfly.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 937 This Fly [*Curvicauda*] the English in their proper tongue call a Whame and a Burrell-fly. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 51 *note*, *Tabona* [*sic*] is Spanish for a whame or horsefly. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 *Oestrus Bovis*, Whame or Burrel Fly. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* ii, He mistook a large stonefly..for a genuine oestrus, a lot-fly, whame, or tabanus.

Whamera, var. WOOMERA. **Whamire,** dial. var. QUAMIRE *Obs.* **Whammel,** var. WHEMMEL *Sc.*, overturn. **Whampee,** var. WAMPEE. **Whan,** obs. f. WHEN, WHOM; obs. pa. t. of WIN. **Whand,** Sc. var. WAND *sb.* **Whane, Whanene:** see WHEN, WHENNE.

Whang (hwæŋ), *sb.*1 *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* **quhayng, quhaing,** 7 **whange,** 9 *Sc.* **quhang;** 7 **whanok,** 7– **whank.** [Variant of *thwang*, THONG.]

1. = THONG *sb.*

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 32 Quhen Hengist had gottin the grant of sa mekill land as he micht circle alswt with ane bull hide, he schure it in maist crafty and subtell quhaingis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 117 Ane gret scheiff of arrowis knet together in ane quhange of leathir. *a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (1785) 647 Mony ane tines the haff-mark whinger for the halfpenny whang. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 289 Of other mens lether, men takes large whanges. 1691 — *Coll. Words* (ed. 2) 131 Shoe-whang. 1717 DR FOX *Mem. Ch. Scot.* III. 268, I had not the worth of a Spur Whang of any Man's, but was mounted of Horse and Arms of my own. 1737–8 *MS. Par. Bk., Pennal, Ms.*, Church gate mending a beast face and Whange, 1s. 0d. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiii, Never weigh a MacGregor's bluid against a broken whang o' leather. 1837 Sir F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* i. 16 Their sacks..tightly bound by many a whang and thong.

2. A large or thick slice, esp. of cheese, bread, etc.

1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 57 What a whanck's there. *a* 1700 *Gabertunnie Man* viii. in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 86 The twa, with kindly sport and glee, Cut frae a new cheese a whang. 1818 HOGG *Tales & Sk., Adv. Allan Gordon* (1836) I. 264 A good whang of solid fish. 1866 W. HENDERSON *Folk Lore N. Counties* 3 The whang must be taken from the edge of the cheese, and divided into portions. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 33 With a glass, a whang of bread, and an iron fork, the table is completely laid.

Whang, *sb.*2. Chiefly *dial.* [Echoic. Cf. WHANG *v.*2] A resounding blow or stroke, or the sound of such a blow; a bang.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl., Whang*..a blow, or rather a lash with a whip. 1868 KINGLAKE *Crimea* IV. v. 279 The 'whang' of the round-shot. 1889 'Q' *Splendid Spur* ix. 130 Soon the whang-whang! of the hammer below rous'd me. 1891 *Century Mag.* Dec. 246 Our gear came down with a whang as the ship forged ahead.

Whang, *v.*1 *Sc.* and *dial.* [Variant of THONG *v.*; cf. WMANG *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To beat as with a thong; to lash (also *fig.*); *gen.* to beat, strike, hit or knock violently.

1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 54 If she hear she'l whang me varra sayer. 1786 BURNS *Ordination* iii, Heresy is in her pow'r, And gloriously she'll whang her. 1889 BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 91 A savage would consider it the height of sport to go and whang a pig on the head.

b. To throw, drive, pull, etc. with force or with violent impact.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 2) 60 I'd just streak'd down, and with a swish Whang'd off my hat soak'd like a fish. 1829 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* xix, Whang the steel bolt through his ribs. *Ibid.* xxxiv, Bring back every true lad that can whang bow, or gar sword-iron whistle.

2. To cut in 'whangs' or large slices. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

a 1743 *Argyll is my name* in Whitelaw *Bk. Scot Song* (1866) 104 I'll aff to the Highlands as hard's I can reel. And whang at the bannocks o' barley meal. 1821 W. BEATTIE *Tales* (1823) 8 At last, cane cheese..My uncle set it to his ; And whang'd it down.

Whang, *v.*2 [Cf. WHANG *sb.*2] *intr.* To make a loud resounding noise, as of a heavy blow or explosion, of shot flying through the air, etc.

1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* V. vi. 426 Another of the mighty 18-pounder shot flew whanging over the heads of our soldiery. 1912 MASEFIELD *Widow in Bye Street* II. liv, The organ whangs, the giddy horses reel.

b. The vb.-stem used adverbially: cf. BANG *v.* 8.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxi. 335, I..went falling, and falling through air till my crown came whang against the ground. 1855 BROWNING *Up at a Villa* ix, Bang, whang, whang goes the drum.

Whang, dial. f. WANG 1.

Whangee (hwæŋgī·) Also **w(h)anghee.** [Chinese *kuang* bamboo sprouts too old for eating, a hard white-skinned bamboo (Giles).] A cane made of the stem of one or other species of *Phyllostachys*, Chinese and Japanese plants allied to and resembling bamboos. Also *whangee-cane.*

1813 W. MILBURN *Oriental Comm.* II. 545 Wanghees, sometimes called Japan canes, should be chosen pliable, tough, round and taper. 1836 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 56 Duties of Customs Inwards.. Canes, *viz.*.. Whangees, Jumboo..and other Walking Canes or Sticks, the 1,000.. 0. 3. 0. 1891 A. DOBSON *Hogarth* ii. 31 A short-trowsered tar of the Tom Bowling era is deliberately executing a nautical *pas seul*..with the aid of a whangee. 1906 OXENHAM *Profit & Loss* vi, A tough flexible whangee cane.

Whanger (hwæ·ŋəɹ). [f. WHANG *v.*1 + -ER 1.] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Whangers*, or Codwhangers. Fish-curers of Newfoundland. An old term for a large sword.

Whanhope, obs. form of WANHOPE.

Whanne, obs. f. WHEN; var. *wan*, obs. pa. t. of WIN *v.* **Whannen,** var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence. **Whannes,** obs. f. WHENCE.

†**Whannow,** *int. Obs.* Also **wannowe.** [? f. WHAT + NOW. Cf. WHAU, which is similarly used.] What! I say! Come, come!

c 1450 *Northern Passion* (MS. Addit.) 147/59 'Wannowe', sayde kayme, 'her es Envy; My smoke goes down and thyne goes hye.' *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 184 *Thomas.* Whannow, peter! art thou mad?

Whanse, var. WANZE *v. Obs.* **Whante, Whantite,** obs. ff. QUANT, WANT, QUANTITY. **Whap,** var. WAP *v.*3 *Obs.*, to bark, WHAUP *Sc.*, curlew, WHOP.

†**Whaped,** *pa. ppls. Obs.* Also 4 **whasped,** 5 **waped.** [Cf. AWHAPE.] Bewildered, dismayed.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 215 Turnid is in quakynge all my daunce My suretee in a whasped [*v.rr.* waped, wavped, whaped] countenaunce. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 401 That bei wib derknes were waped & amate. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1297, I was so whapyd & amaat.

Whapper, etc.: see WHOPPER, etc.

Whappet (hwo·pĕt). *dial.* Also 9 **wappet.** [f. **whap*, WAP *sb.*2 + -ET.] A small dog addicted to 'wapping' or yelping.

1577 HARRISON *England* III. vii. (1878) 48 The whappet or prick-eard curre. 1620 S. WARD *Life of Faith* (1627) 62 As the sturdie Steede dashes out the little Whappets braines, so easily doth Death with the least kicke..the stoutest Constitution. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wappet*, a yelping cur.

Whapple, var. WARPLE. **Whapto,** var. WAPPATO(O. **Whar,** obs. f. *were*, pl. pa. t. indic. of BE *v.*; obs. f. WARE *a.*; Sc. and n. dial. f. WHERE; obs. contr. f. WHETHER.

†**Whar,** *v. Obs.* Imitative of a rumbling sound.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2203 What! hit wharred, & whette, as water at a mulne.

‖**Whare** (hwā·re, hwo·ri, wo·ri). Also **ware, warree, warré, wharre, wharry.** [Maori *whare, ware* house.] A Maori hut or native dwelling.

1833 H. WILLIAMS in H. Carleton *H. W.* (1874) 151 The Europeans, who were near us in a raupo whare (rush house). 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 179 A capital breakfast..was served in a handsome glass-windowed and carpeted warree. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 Sept. 9/2 Lounging among the wharres of a pah. 1875 WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 31 He pulled up..beside a wharry. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 63 A smart man he, and transacted his business in a very handsome whare.

Whare, obs. shortened form of WHARROW.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 272/1 A Ropers Whare or Wharve, or Wheele Spindle.

Whare, obs. form of WHERE.

Wharel, obs. f. QUARREL *sb.*2, quarry.

c 1356 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 557 Wharel-wegges.

Wharf (hwŏɹf), *sb.*1 Pl. **wharfs** (hwŏɹfs), **wharves** (hwŏɹvz). Forms: 1 **hwearf, wearf, hwerf,** 1, 4 **warf,** 4 **wharf(e, warffe, wharghffe, quarf,** 5 **qwerf,** 5–7 **warff, wharff(e,** 5–8 **wharfe,** 6 **quarfe, (wharthe),** 7 **hwarf,** 7– **wharf.** [Late OE. *hwearf* (cf. earlier poetical comp. *merehwearf* sea-shore), corresp. to MLG. *warf, werf* mole, dam, wharf, raised site protected from flooding (LG. *warf*), whence EFris. *warf, werf*, Du. *werf* shipyard, G. *werf* wharf, pier, *werft* dockyard. Ultimately related to WHARP *sb.*2, WHARVE *sb.* and *v.*

* Mr. Pickering notices this form of the plural of *wharf*, as peculiar to Americans. The English say *wharfs*. In the Colony and Province Laws of Massachusetts, Mr. Pickering says he has observed the plural *wharfs* (or *wharfes*) as late as the year 1735; but after that period the form *wharves* is used' (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, 1848).]

1. A substantial structure of timber, stone, etc., built along the water's edge, so that ships may lie alongside for loading and unloading.

Often with prefixed sb., as *fish-wharf, quay-wharf.*

10.. *Charter of Eadweard* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 221 Ic wille þat sainte Petre and ða gebroðera in Westminstre habben ðat land and ðone wearf..be Ulf and his wif..gafon. 1067 in *Charter Roll 9 Edw. III*, m. 18 De uno hwearfo quod est ad applicationem navium ad caput pontis filius civitatis [*sc.* London]. 1080–3 in H. W. C. Davis *Regesta Regum Anglo-Norm.* (1913) 126 Unum warf quod est ad caput pontis Londonie. *c* 1320 *Domesday of St. Paul's* (Camden) 158* An qwarve sive kaya, muri sive walle. debite reparentur. 1320 *Rolls of Parl.* I. 370/2 In aboyis suis super Warfam predictam. 1397 *Ibid.* III. 372/2 De la novell Keye autrement appelle la Wherf [1432 *Act 10 Hen. VI*, c. 5 § 2 Qwerf] a le cost du dit Port de Caleys. 1442 *Ibid.* V. 54/2 Diverse Wharves and Keyes beyng by the water sides. 1485 *Cal. Pat. Rolls* 6 [Keeping the] hawes and wharfes of Walton and Waybrigge. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 37 § 5 Too Cotages or Messes wyth Howses & Wharfes..in Stepeney. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Pen. & Perf.* 8 If any Custom-house Officer..keep any Wharfe, or hold any Hostelry, or Tavern. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Aug. 1654, A wharfe of hewn stone, which makes the river appeare very neate. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 241 Its [*sc.* Blackfriars bridge] length, from wharf to wharf, is about nine hundred and ninety-five feet. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, The bell at London-bridge Wharf rang; and a Margate boat was just starting. 1878 NARES *Polar Sea* I. i. 2 H.M. ships 'Alert' and 'Discovery' cast off from the dockyard wharf, Portsmouth. 1886 J. RHYS *Celtic Brit.* ii. 46 The wharfs for the tin-barges were erected.

†**2.** a. An embankment, mole, or dam. *Obs.*

1038 *Charter of Harold* in Thorpe *Charters* 341 Þa gyrnde he þæt he moste macian foran gen Mildryþe æcker ænne hwerf wiþ þon wodan to werianne. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XV. 196 b, Untill that hee the bowring wharf besyde the hauen tooke [orig. *Tendit ad incurvo munitos aggere portus*]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XL. ii. 1091 Lepidus..raised the great causey or wharfe at Tarracina. 1601 — *Pliny* VI. xxviii. I. 140 The Apamians..set open the sluces, and breake up the wharfes and bankes that keepe these two rivers asunder.

† b. A terrace or raised platform. *Obs.*

1533 in W. H. St. John Hope *Windsor Castle* (1913) I. 249 The makyng off a new wharff upon the north syde of the said Castell. 1535 *Ibid.* 262 The buttresses made on the bakesyde of the new Wharffe.

c. † The bank of a river (*obs.*); also, a gravel or sandbank.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 33 The fat weede That rots it selfe in ease, on Lethe Wharfe. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 218 From the Barge A strange inuisible perfume, hits the sense Of the adiacent Wharfes. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Wharf*, in hydrography, is a scar, a rocky or gravelly concretion, or frequently a sandbank,..where the tides throw up dangerous ripples and overfalls.

† d. A large raft. *Obs. rare.*

1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 219 They were brought upon warffs or raffts of many pines and firs.

e. A place raised or otherwise marked out on which stuff is deposited for subsequent removal to another place.

1705 in *Dig. Proc. Crt.-lest Savoy* (1789) 22 For making a dung wharfe or lay stall at the lower end of Fountain Court

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wharf-end, -frontage, -head, -holder, -house, -land, -man, -master, -measure, -property, -side, -stead, -wall*; **wharf-boat,** (*a*) *U.S.* a boat supporting a platform and moored at a bank, used as a wharf; (*b*) a boat employed about a wharf; † **wharf-gelt,** ? an impost levied on shipping for the use of a wharf; **wharf-rat,** (*a*) the common brown rat, *Mus decumanus*, which infests wharfs; (*b*) a man or boy who loafs about wharfs, often with the intention of stealing (*slang*).

1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 227 In the *wharf-boat..I expected to find a bed for the first night. 1880 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s. v., On the Western rivers the height of the water is so variable that a fixed wharf would be useless. In its place is used a rectangular float..It is generally aground on the shore side, and is entered by a plank or movable platform. This is a *wharf-boat.* 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 225 She was used as a 'wharf-boat' or store-ship. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* iv. 95 Her rigging flew knotted and tangled like weed at a *wharf-end. *Ibid.* x. 216 Statistics of boats, gear, *wharf-frontage, capital invested,..and profits. 1505 *Cal. Pat. Rolls Hen VII*, 404 [Without paying any] sandegelt, *wharfgelt. 1860 *Acland. Ann. Reg. Chron.* 351/1 All goods whatsoever, that are not disembarked at the *Wharf Head. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 486 Whether the persons for whom the weighing was done were *wharfholders or not. 1598 in *Hertford Sess. Rolls* (1905) I. 428 [Encroaching upon the river Lea] by building a *wharfe house..thereon. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 5 Aug. 5/3 Converting a piece of *wharfland on the Isle of Dogs into a public pleasure-ground. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. ii. § 6 Bargemen, sailors, *wharfmen. *a* 1628 RALEIGH in *Rem.* (1661) 179 From any Port Town..the Bridge-master or the *Wharfmaster..will deliver a true Note of the number of Lasts of Herrings brought to their Wharfes. 1881 *Acc. Peculat. Coal Trade* 13 All coals sent out, *wharf measure. 1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 140 The whole *wharf property ..was liable to be taxed. 1880 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, **Wharf-Rats.* 1. Rats that inhabit wharves. 2. Thieves that infest the wharves of seaport towns. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Boston* I. 289 Lolling on long-boats,..as sailors and old wharf rats are accustomed to do. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xi, A crowd of high-pressure steamboats, clustered together by a *wharf-side. 1892 MEREDITH

One of our Cong. xxv, A hanged heavy look, suggestive of a wharfside crane. 1868 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wharf-stead*, a ford in a river. In Ray, it is *warstead*, q. d. waterstead. 1832–3 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 604/1 A *wharf wall ..at the East end of His Majesty's dock-yard, Woolwich.

† Wharf, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [OE. *hwearf* (poet., alliterating on *w*), corresp. to OS. *hwarf* crowd, MLG. *warf*, *werf* circle, assembly sitting in a circle, court of justice, OHG. *warb* (MHG. *warp*, *warf*) : cf. prec.] A crowd, assembly.

In the first quot. from Layamon's *Brut* perh. = change (OE. *hwearf* : cf. OFris. *hwarf*, *werf*, OHG. *warba*, MHG. *warbe* (with numerals) time(s, (M)LG. *werf*, *warf*, (-*ve*) turn, time ; cf. WHARVE *v.*).

a 1000 *Guthlac* 234 Beorg ymbstodan hwearfum wræcmægas. *c* 1205 LAY. 3070 Þus is þis eitlond igon from honde to hond, þet alle þa burhjes þe Brutus iwrohte. .bi06 swiðe afelled þurh warf of þon folke. *Ibid.* 17485 Þider com Aurilie..& al his folc mid him. Whiten-sunendæie he þer werf makede [Wace *Altre gent asseis assemble Feste tinf*].

Wharf (hwɔ̄f), *v.* Also 7 **warfe**. [f. WHARF *sb.*[1]]

† 1. *trans.* To strengthen or make firm (e. g. the bank of a river) with a wall of timber or stone. *Obs.*

1569 *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (1909) 6 To..cope and wharfe xxiiij[te] roddes of the walle. 1613 *Crt.-roll of Gt. Waltham Manor, Essex* (MS.), Precipitum est .. sufficienter cumulare (Anglicè, to wharfe) fossatum suum. 1618 in F. Devon *Issues Exch.* (1836) 335 For three bridges to go over the sewers, and for wharfing the sides with strong timber. 1674 JOSSELYN *Two Voy. New-Eng.* 162 The houses are for the most part raised on the Sea-banks and wharfed out with great industry and cost. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Mar. 1667, I proposed to my Lo. Chancellor Monsieur Kiviet's undertaking to warfe the whole river of Thames, or Key, from the Temple to the Tower ..with brick. 1724 [see WHARFING *sb.*]. 1793 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames* 37 The Road ought to be raised and wharfed.

transf. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Remamb.* I. 192 Is this that Iland, which our love..Did wharfe about (within her watry Dike) With mighty Rocks, and Cliffes?

2. To bring to shore or discharge at a wharf.

1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* viii. 87 A Master of an English Barke..who had wharft ouer a hundred French. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3024/4 Goods will be Wharfed here at easier Rates than heretofore. 1798 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 351 Every species of property (whether landed, funded, wharfed, warehoused, or shipped). 1803 W. TATHAM *Rep. Imped. Thames* 73 Nor would it be a very difficult matter to dock or wharf the whole of their commerce.

3. To accommodate (vessels) at a wharf.

1902 *Times* 1 Nov. 5/6 A large stone basin, capable of wharfing a dozen battleships of the first class.

4. *intr.* To come to wharf.

1891 *Voice* (N.Y.) 2 Jan., When the Mayflower wharfed at Plymouth Rock. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 4 June 3/4 The Royal Squadron wharfed..at half-past seven.

Wharfage (hwɔ̄·rfédʒ). Also [3 **wheruagium**, 4 **querfage**, **werphagium**], 5, 8 **wharffage**, 6 **warfeage**, 8 **warf(f)age**. [f. WHARF *sb.*[1] + -AGE.]

1. The provision of or accommodation at a wharf ; the stowage of goods on, or loading or unloading at, a wharf.

[1295 *Memoranda R. R.* 23 & 24 Edw. I (P.R.O.), In cariagio dicte lane..vsque London..cum wharuagio et portagio eiusdem. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 351/2 Ore sont ils constreintz de paier pur Messuage de chescune Sarp' ob. Et un autre ob. pur Querfage. 1395 *Compotus Will. Chert custodis collegii Cantuar. Oxon.* (1881) 28 Item pro werphagio eiusdem (meremii capelle) iij*s.* iij*d.*] 1469–71 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 206 Paid..for C and vj li. of Iren, iiij. s. v.d, for the wharfage, j d., for bringyng of the seid stuffe to Derteford, vj. d. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) II. 29 There is great Warfeage of Timbre and fer Wood on the West Ende of the Bridge. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 341 Renting out the Toll or profit of the wharfage. 1687–8 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 545 Expences for sawing, carriage, and wharfage of Cedar. , 1795 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Nav.* Addenda 109 For wharfage exceeding six months, to make a reasonable recompence. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. v. § 3 The rents of wharfage, dock and harbour room. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 189/2 Duties for defraying the expenses of pilotage, wharfage, lighthouses, and lights and buoys.

2. The charge or dues exacted for the use of a wharf.

1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 23 Lordes Marches..shall have within..their said Lordeshippes .. wreke de mere, wharfage and customes of Strangers. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 135 All marchants..may come into our kingdome..without paying wharfage, pontage, or pannage. *c* 1683 *Citizens Loss* in Somers *Tracts* (1748) I. 180 Wharfage, with Power to distrain for the same. 1718 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5387/3 The Wharfage, Duties, and Profits arising .. by and out of Billingsgate-Dock. 1795 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Nav.* Addenda 105 Wharfage for more than twenty-four hours, to be a reasonable allowance. 1894 *Times* 25 Aug. 5/4 The company is gradually issuing through rates, inclusive of Ship Canal toll and wharfage.

3. Wharfs collectively ; wharf accommodation.

1827 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 406 The company assembled on the insular wharfage. 1836 JESSE *Angler's Rambles* 295 The little secluded harbour, with its small planked wharfage. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. i. § 4 The wharfage or harbour-room. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 9/2 At the terminus of the railway the Dominion Government is erecting complete wharfages to make the harbour suitable for oil vessels.

4. *attrib.*

1724 LADY G. BAILLIE *Housek. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 30 For warfage porters carts to the Lodging etc., 2. 9. 2. ..For warfage bale and carfing to the Lodgine, 0. 2. 6. 1862 G. T. LLOYD *35 Yrs. Tasmania* xvi. 415 Wharfage accommodation. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Wharfage dues*, the dues for landing or shipping goods at a wharf ; customs charges in particular. .. Wharfage charges are demanded even from a ship of war !

Wharfe (hwɔ̄f). Short for **Wharfedale** (*machine*) : see quots.

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Wharfedale machine*, a cylindrical machine manufactured in Yorkshire and called after the place of that name. *Wharfe*, short term for the Wharfedale printing machine. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 210 The Wharfedales, Bremners, and other machines on which is printed most illustrated work. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 3 Dec. 9/7 Printer's Minder, 31, seeks Situation ; Wharfes, platens, gas engine.

Wharfing (hwɔ̄·rfiŋ). [f. WHARF *sb.*[1] + -ING[1].]

† 1. = WHARFAGE 1, 2. *Obs. rare.*

1466–7 *Mann. & Housh. Exp.* (Roxb.) 290 Item, fore warffenge at the keye, ob.

2. A structure in the form of a wharf ; materials of which a wharf is constructed ; the facing of seawalls, etc. by planks secured by ties.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxxviii, To go into the Thames..will cost a Man 300 l. with the slighter sort of Wharfing. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Sylva* I. ii. (1776) 49 A..strong stone-wall, which was a kind of wharfing against a river running by it. 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. iii. 87 The Mill Tayl, or Floor for the Water below the Wheels is Wharft up on either Side with Stone, ..at the End of this Wharfing is a Grating of Wood. 1791 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames* 7 An old Wharfing, bent over into the Stream, which formerly supported a Parish Road along the Shore. 1829 *Naval Chron.* XXIII. 81 The destruction of the wharfing of the basin. 1897 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 612 Wharfing along the sides with short posts and rough boards.

Wharfinger (hwɔ̄·rfindʒəi). Also 8 **wharfenger**. [app. for earlier **wharfager* (f. WHARFAGE + -ER[1]), like *harbinger*, *passenger*, *messenger* for earlier *harbager*, *passager*, *messager*.] An owner or keeper of a wharf.

1552–3 *Act 7 Edw. VI*, c. 7 § 3 No person..shall buy any suche Wood Coles or Fuell but onelye suche as will .. consume the same,..without fraude or covine, or Wharfingers or Bargemen. 1642 *Two Orders of Ldz. & Comm.* 3 Dec. 2 No Carrier, Waggoner, Watchman, Wharfinger. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4024/4 Francis Haslewood, of London, Cornfactor, and Wharfenger. 1761 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 119 Whether the wharfingers are accountable for the thefts committed on board their lighters. 1838 REDFIELD *Law Railways* xvi. § 7. 250 *note*, A delivery to the wharfinger without notice, if warranted by the usage of the place, was sufficient. 1912 SIR H. CRAIK *Life Clarendon* I. ii. 42 Their goods were thus delayed at the caprice of the wharfinger.

Wharfless (hwɔ̄·rflés), *a.* [f. WHARF *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no wharf.

1822 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XCVII. 35 Wharfless shores. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 10 Mar. 1/7 Exercises in embarkation and disembarkation on a wharfless beach.

Wharl (hwāl), *v.* Also 5 **warl-**. [Imitative.] *intr.* To pronounce the letter *r* with a burr or guttural sound ; = BURR *v.*[3] 1. Hence **Wharl** *sb.* = BURR *sb.*[6], **Wha·rler**, **Wha·rling** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37/2 Blafforde or warlare, *traulus*. (P. *Traulus peccat in R, peccat in S sidunus.*) *Ibid.* 523/2 Wha[r]lare, in speche. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 517 As for Carleton, as one would say, the husbandmens towne,..wherein..all in maner that are borne,..have an illfavoured, untunable, and harsh maner of speech, fetching their words with very much adoe deepe from out of the throat, with a certaine kind of wharling. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. xviii. 92 The Tarrenteens, whose Tongues runne so much upon *R*, that they wharle much in pronunciation. 1656 DUCH. NEWC. *Natures Pict.* etc. 376 Not stuttering, nor wharling in the throat, or speaking through the Nose. 1662 CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 109, I have heard from some that were this Country [Leicestershire] men, that it is Breson that is the Town of the Wharlers, and not Carleton. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 251 The Northumberland R, or Wharle. 1825 JAMIESON.

Wharl(e : see QUARREL *sb.* 1, 2, WHORL.

Wharp, erron. form of WARP *sb.* (sense 6).

Wharre, **wharry**, **Wharrel**, var. WHARR, QUARREL *sb.*[2], quarry.

Wharrow (hwa·rəu). Also 6 **whar(r)owe**, **wherrow(e**, 9 **worra**. [By-form of WHARVE *sb.*] = WHARVE *sb.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (= grooved pulley in spinning-wheel). Also attrib. *wharrow-spindle* (a heraldic bearing).

[*c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 794/18 *Hoc vertebrum*, a worowylle.] 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 149 b, I wotte nat where is my spyndel with the wharowe. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 298 Theyr wharrowe, Theyr rybskyn and theyr spyndell. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xxix. 695 The fruite whiche is large, and almost fashioned lyke to a wherrowe or buckler. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. vii. 204 The round Ball at the lower end serueth to the fast twisting of the threed, and is called a Wharrow ; and thereof this is called a Wharrow Spindle. 1726 S. KENT *Gram. Her.* s.v. *Trefoure of Cornwall*, A Chevron between three Wharrow Spindles Sable. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 84 The spill and worra are attached to the common spinning-wheel. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Wharrow-Spindle* is represented in heraldry with a hook at the end, to spin with a distaff.

Wharry, dial. f. QUARRY *sb.*[2]

Whart(e, **Wharter**, **Whartfull** : see QUART, THWART, WART, QUARTER, QUARTFUL *a.*

Wharth, obs. var. WARTH.

c 1490 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5717 How anes at eland se full se, On þe wharth sodanly, A way wax dry. *Ibid.* 5797–9.

Whartonian (hwɔ̄tō·niən), *a.* *Anat.* Applied to certain structures discovered or described by Thomas Wharton, English anatomist (1610–73), as *Whartonian* (also *Wharton's*) *duct*, *gelatine* (*jelly*) : see quots.

1840 W. J. E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 474 The excretory duct (Wharton's) of the submaxillary gland commences upon the papilla, by the side of the frænum linguæ. 1851 BUTLOCK tr. *Cazeaux' Midwifery* 209 These vessels are surrounded by a gelatinous substance . . . led Wharton's gelatine. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Whartonian Duct. 1894 C. H. JONES & SIEV. *Path. Anat.* (ed. 2) 137 The Whartonian jelly of the umbilical cord.

Wharve (hwɑ̄v), *sb.* Forms : 1 **hweorfa**, 5–7 **wharve**, (5, 7, 9 **warve**), 9 **warf**), 9 **wharve**. [OE. *hweorfa* = OHG. *werbo*, *werpo* wk. masc., *werbil* wk. fem. rotating object, whirl, vorter :– *χwerbon*, f. *χwerb-*, as in OE. *hweorfan*, Goth. *hwairban* (see next).] The whorl of a spindle.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 310 Wiþ ceaca adle, nim þone hweorfan þe wif mid spinnað. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 618/46 *Vertebrum*, a wherve, or a reele. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* ibid. 627 Colus cum fuso vertebrum [*glossed* warve, *misprinted* warbe] filum, alabrumque. 1538 ELYOT, *Spondilus*, a wherue, whyche is a rounde thynge of stone, or wodde, or leadde, put on a spyndell to make it runne rounde. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis*, etc. 95 Three wheru's [orig. *rudios*] fyerd glystring, with Soutwyndz ruffiered buffling. 1590 HARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* v. xxiv. (1596) 339 He did lay and bind vnto Ganglium, a thick round peece of lead like vnto a wherue. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xxiv. I. 323 Sofine..a thread she [*sc.* the spider] spinnes, hanging thereunto her selfe, and using the weight of her owne bodie in stead of a wherve. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 266/2 The Warve or small Pulles. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxvii. 237 Wouldst thou..blunt the Spindles, joynt the Wherves, slander the Spinning Quills,.. of the weer'd Sister Parques? 1805 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Spinning* (1866) 125 The making the haft or warf at times to shift or remove from off the spindle. 1832 *Ibid.* 256 The warve is driven by a band passing round it and round the spindle'drum. 1884 W. S. B. M[C]LAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 171 The wharve, B, together with sliding tube, C, runs loosely on the spindle and carries the bobbin.

† Wharve, *v. Obs.* Forms : 1 **hweorfan**, **hweorfan**, **hwierfan**, **hwerfan**, **hwyrfan**, 2 **hwærfan**, 3 **wharfen**, **wharuen**, **weruen**, **hwarefen**, **warfen**, (*Orm.*) **wharrfenn**. [Three (for the most part) synonymous vbs. existed in OE. : (1) *hweorfan* = OFris. *hwerva* to turn, OS. *hwerban* to turn, change (MLG. *werven* to be active or busy, gain, obtain), OHG. *hwerban*, *hwerfan* (MHG. *werben*, *werfen*) to be active, turn, return, set or be in motion, ON. *hverfa* to turn, return, disappear, Goth. *hwairban* to go ; (2) *hwærfan* = OS. *hwarbôn*, OHG. *warbôn*, *warpôn* to wander, proceed, ON. *hvarfa* to turn round, wander, Goth. *hwarbôn* ; (3) *hwierfan*, *hwirfan*, etc. = OS. *gihwerbian* to turn, change, OHG. *hwarban*, *hwerban* (MHG. *werben*) to turn, roll, return, *giwerben* to turn, divert, ON. *hverfa* to cause to turn : all f. *χwerb-* : *χwerbo-* to turn (cf. prec. and WHARF *sbs.*[1] and [2]).]

1. *trans.* To change, turn. Cf. BLINDWHARVED.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvi. 236 He hwierfde his stemne nalles his mod. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13289 & forrþi wass he wurrþ þatt Crist Hiss name himm sholde wharrfenn. *Ibid.* 14137 Forr þatt he wollde..þurrh þe þife off Halȝ Gast Uss wharrfenn all fra sinne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Gief hie wuniende hwarefeð, hie turneð fram iuele to ȝ *c* 1205 LAY. 6319 Alfred..whærfde hire nome on his dæge and cleopede hee Mærcene læge. *Ibid.* 30738 Wiþ him warfte Brien al his iweden. [13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2250 He rusched on þat ilke, ..& wyth quettyng a-wharf, or he wolde lyȝt.]

2. *intr.* To turn, revolve.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 3 Þære eare þe eall þes rodor on hweorfð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3641 All þiss middellærdess þing Aȝȝ turnenþþ her & wharrefþþ..swa summ þe wheol.

3. To roam, wander.

c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* IV. lix. (1900) 347 Swa oft swa he wæs hwearfende mid þam lican scipa. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 He wandrede wide werucnde longe sechende his. *c* 1205 LAY. 31680 Eifer freten ofer, swa hund deð his broðer, and leten heore whelpes wharuen heom bi-sides elc oðer quelle.

4. To proceed, turn out, happen.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv, Gif seo wyrd i[s] on yfelra manna gewill. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8420 Swa shall itt tanne wharrfenn Bitweenenn Cristess halȝhe þeod & deofless laȝe gange.

Hence **† Wharfed** (*wherrfedd*, *warrfedd*) *ppl. a.*, perverse ; whence **† Wha·rfedlaik**, perversity, error.

c 1200 ORMIN 9721 Forrþi þatt wherrfedd folc hemm hallt Forr gode & forr rihhtwise. *Ibid.* 9825 & tatt wass mikell wherrfeddlæȝe þatt dide hemm swa to wenenn.

Wharve(s : see WHARF *sb.*[1]

Whas, obs. f. *was*, pa. t. of BE, WASH *v.*

Whasche, etc. : see WASH *v.*

Whas(e : see WHOSE, WHOSO.

Whasp(e, obs. ff. WARP *sb.*

What (hwɒt), *pron.*, *a.*[1], *adv.*, *conj.*, *int.* (*sb.*) Forms : 1 **hwæt**, **hwæt**, **hwæd**, 1–4 **hwet**, 2–4 **hwat**, **wet**, 2–5 **wat**, 3 (*Orm.*) **watt**, **whæt**, **wæt**, (**wahi**, **wehi**, **whæht**, **waht**, **ȝwæt**), 3–4 **whet**, (4 **huet**, **wad**), 3 (*Orm.*), 5 **whatt**, 3–6 **whate**, (5 **whad**, **wath**), 5–6 **whatte**, (9 *dial.* or *vulgar* **wot**), 3– **what** ; 3–5 *north.* **quat**, (3 **quæt**, 4–5 **quatt**, **qwat**, 5 **qhat**), 4–8 *Sc.* **quhat**. [OE. *hwæt* = OFris. *hwet*, *wet*, *hwat*, *hat*, *hut*, etc. (Fris. *wet*, *wat*, *wut*, *hat*, etc.), OS. *hwat*, (M)LG., (M)Du. *wat*, OHG. *hwaz*, *waz* (MHG. *waz*, G.

wæt), ON. *hvat* (Sw. *vad*, Da. *hvad*); Goth. *hwa* :– OTeut. **xwat* :– Indo-eur. **q''od* (cf. L. *quod*), neut. sing. of the interrog. pron. **q''os* WHO, q.v.]

Of the various possible arrangements of the uses of this word the following has been adopted as likely to be most convenient to the reader. The main classification is according to meaning: Branch A. comprises the uses of *what* as an Interrogative, B. as an Exclamatory word, C. as a Relative, D. as an Indefinite (non-relative), and E. as a Substantive. Within these divisions meanings and uses are arranged according to the part of speech; the following is a key to this arrangement :—Pronominal and substantival uses, A. 1–12, B. 6, C. 1–7, D. 1, E. 1–3; Adjectival, A. 13–18, B. 5, C. 8–10; Adverbial or Conjunctional, A. 19–21, B. 4, C. 11–12, D. 2; Interjectional, B. 1–3.

A. Interrogative and allied uses.

I. *pron.* * In direct questions.

1. As the ordinary interrogative pronoun of neuter gender, orig. sing., in later use also pl., used of a thing or things: corresponding to the demonstrative *that* (THAT *dem. pron.* B. 1 a).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 1 Hwæt mæg ic þy mare secgan be þæm woorðscipe .. þisse worulde? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 Hwæt wilt þu þæt ic þe do? *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* xix. (1848) 184 Hwæt hatte Noes wif? *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Unwraste man, wat lacede þeu an alle mire rice? *c* 1200 ORMIN 10970 Whatt wass þatt te Faderr sellf þær off hiss Sune seggde? *c* 1205 LAY. 3004 Waet seist tu? *Ibid.* 29623–4 Whæt þenchest þu, Austin, what þenchest þu, leof min? 12.. *Moral Ode* 46 (Egerton MS.) Wet sulle hi segge oþer don at þe muchele dome? 1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Sleȝþe zayþ, 'God, wet ssolle we do?' *a* 1400 *Pistill of Swsan* 287 What þese sawus þat þou seis? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 50 þe furste question was þis, What was þe grettest mervayle & fayreat þing þat evur God made in leste rowme? 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. xiv. 205 What is your broders name? *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1249 Qwat sey þe? 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Ezra v. 4 What are the names of the men..? — Zech. xiii. 6 What are these woundes in thine handa? 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 65 One demaunded, 'What do you meane by Catholike Religion?' 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 949 What will they say of their deserting Chief? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xii, 'Nubbing Cheat', cries Partridge, 'pray, Sir, what is that?' *Ibid.* XV. xii, 'What is the Name of the Street?' cries Jones. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. ii, Odd people? and in what are we so very odd? 1813 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* XXV, What has come to you? 1863 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Auteur de mon Chapeau*, What are the technical words..? 1884 W. S. GILBERT *Princ. Ida* II, *Fie.* But what are these? *Hill*... Why, Academic robes, Worn by the lady undergraduates, When they matriculate. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* XX, I do not find the female society of Montefiano very—what shall I say?—sharpening to the intellect.

2. Of a person (or persons), in predicative use (cf. THAT *dem. pron.* B. 1 b): formerly generally, in reference to name or identity, and thus equivalent to *who*; in later use only in reference to nature, character, function, or the like. Also in phr. † *what for a...* = what kind of: see FOR *prep.* 19 c.

For the OE. construction with a partitive gen. see 13.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxiii[i]. 10 Hwæt is se gewuldroda kyning? [L. *Quis est iste rex gloriæ?*] *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XXVII. 32 Þa cwæð Isaac: Hwæt eart þu? He andwirde and cwæð: Ic eom Esau. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Hwat is þis þe astihð also dai rieme? *c* 1205 LAY. 25869 Whæt sert þu, fære wiht [*MS.* whit]? eært þu angel, eært [þu] cniht[t]? *Ibid.* 27372 What beoð þeos ut-lazen? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3685 'And quat art þou?' þe fader said, 'Sir, i esau, þi mest es graithid.' *Ibid.* 13592 'Quat haldes þou þat man?' said þai. 'A prophet,' said he. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 15 'What is þis wommon', quod I, 'þus wonderliche A-tyrest?' *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1623 What be ye, That make here this rily moone? *c* 1430, *c* 1440, 1470–85 (see HIGHT *v.*1 B. 5 β b, d). *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IV. 120 What ben ye, lordes, that are soo countrefayt, are ye paynemes, or of what countrey ben ye? 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* VII. 13 What are these which are arayed in longe whyte garmentes? *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. i. 47 What art thou that talkest of reuendge? 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. ii. 62 *Tra.* What is he Biondello? *Bion.* Master, a Marcantant, or a pedant, I know not what. 1604 — *Oth.* I. i. 94 *Bra.*... What are you? *Rod.* My name is Rodorigo. 1692 in J. Russell *Italy* (1882) 325 For it is not now as it was of old, *What is he?*..but, *What has he?* 1753 FOOTE *Englishm. in Paris* I. i, *Buck*... And what are you, hey? *Burk.* Je suis Peruquier, Monsieur. 1782 COWPER *Hope* 497 What were they? what some fools are made by art, They were by nature, atheists. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* v, 'You noticed that young man, sir, in at Darby's?' 'Yes. What is he?' 'Deserter, sir.' 1872 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 755 About his feet A voice clung sobbing till he question'd it, 'What art thou?'

3. In rhetorical questions, implying an emphatic contrary assertion.

What am I but..? is equivalent to 'I am nothing but..', *What did he (do) but..?* to 'He actually did..', *What can he not do?* to 'He can do anything'.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 346 Hwæt sind þas buton ðrymsetl heora Scyppendes, on ðam ðe he wunizende mannum demð? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Hwet halt þe wredðe? 1340 *Ayenb.* 137 Huet am ich bote eassse and speariken? *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 546 What did this Eolus but he Toke out hys blake trumpe of bras. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Horz, Shepe & G.* 420 What but thi wolle was cause of al the strif? *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xl. 239 What dude he but purveyde him of so muche mony? 1535 COVERDALE *2 Esdras* xvi. 5 Plages are sent vnto you, & what is he that ... them awaye? 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 414 What could he see but mightily he noted? What did he note, but strongly he desired? 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 48 What did me he, but..chopt aloft. 1611 *Bible* Judges xiv. 18 What is sweeter than honie? and what is stronger than a Lion? 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 303 What cannot Praise effect In Mighty Minds? 1780 *Mirror* No. 96 P 6 Give a young woman admiration, and what more can she wish for? 1798 WORDSW. *We are Seven* 4 A simple Child, That lightly draws its breath,..What should it know of death? 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 329 What else is the meaning of our Trades-Unions?

b. In predicative quasi-adj. use: Of what account, consequence, value, or force?

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxliii[i]. 3 *Quid est homo quia innotuisti ei?* hwet is monn ðæt ðu cuðades him? 1388 WYCLIF hows, that thou broȝtist me hidur to? 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 77 What is a woorkman, without his tooles? 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 237 What's Fame? a fancy'd life in others' breath. 1782 COWPER *Truth* 107 Your sentence and mine differ. What's a name? 1842 BROWNING *Pippa passes* III. ad fin. (*Song*), What's death? You'll love me yet! 1852 *Household Words* 6 Sept. 553/1 What are my strength and weight compared with that one pillar? 1885 MRS. ALEXANDER *At Bay* IX, I am an Englishman of unblemished character. What would your assertion be against mine?

4. a. With ellipsis, esp. of the remainder of the question; hence (*colloq.*) short for 'What did you say?' or 'What is it?'

23.. *Sawyn Sag.* (W.) 2193 'On the falte..swich a maner vileynie, As hadde the burgeis for his pie.' 'O, maister, he saide, what? what? I the praie, tel me that.' *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* IV. 283 *Isaac.* A, good sir, abide; ffader! *Abraham.* What son? *Isaac.* to do youre will I am redy. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1224/1 Why wife quod her housebande what woulde you doe? What? by God goe forwarde with the beste. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 163 What when we fled amain,..and besought The Deep to shelter us? 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Steam Excurs.*, 'Oh! oh!—I'm so frightened!' 'What at, dear?—what at?' said the mother. 1837 — *Pickw.* xix, 'What's your name?' 'Cold punch', murmured Mr. Pickwick, as he sunk to sleep again. 'What?' demanded Captain Boldwig. No reply. 1898 M. M. DOWIE *Crook of Bough* I, 'That's a queer start o' young Sam's', said one voice. 'Wot is?' said another.

b. Substituted for a word or phrase of which explanation is asked.

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* I. 11 *Sir Sam.* Gad I'll do't instantly, in the twinkling of a Bed-staff... *Bruce.* In the twinkling of what? *a* 1814 *Manœuvring* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 78 Sure enough, my lady's the greatest policizer under the sun. *Kit.* Polly what? 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prince.* XI. III. 218 'Here, Sir, take away the Tiffin'. 'The what, Sir Frederick?' said the principal waiter. 'The Tiffin, Sir', repeated his Excellency, in a voice of thunder. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XLII, 'Your chummage ticket will be on twenty-seven, in the third.' 'Oh', said Mr. Pickwick. 'My what, did you say?' 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* II. 47 'Because—' 'Because what?'.. 'Because you've—' but before the sentence could be finished, Eve had flown upstairs.

c. As an interrogative expletive (sometimes with *ok*) usually at the end of a sentence, esp. in recent trivial or affected colloq. use.

1785 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 Dec., He [*sc.* George III] said, 'What? what?'—meaning, what say you?..'it is not possible. Do you think it is?—what?' 1850 *Househ. Words* 16 Nov. 177/2 What is all that about the—eh—what—law of ex—what?—pansion—eh? *c* 1892 J. S. WINTER *Lumley* XV, But then, she's so beastly *chic*, dontcherknow—eh, what! 1906 MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* XVI, Good-bye, Miss Thornton, awfully jolly evening—what? 1924 A. N. LYONS *Simple Simon* I. i. 16 Can't say I've read it. It's a bit too literary for me. What? But they say it's jolly clever. You had it at school, I dare say. What?

5. Phrases. **a.** In elliptical phr. with adv., conj., or prep., the precise sense of which varies with and may usually be inferred from the context or circumstances: cf. defs. below.

† *What else?* what else should be the case?; used as an emphatic affirmative reply: = certainly! † *What for-thy?* what of that? (see FOR-THY *conj.* b); also parenthetically as advb. phr. = in spite of that, nevertheless. *What if* († *what and, what an(d if* arch.)..? what is or would be the case if..? what will or would happen if..? what does it matter if..? etc.; often expressing a hypothesis or proposal: = 'suppose..', 'supposing..'. *What of..?* what is to be said of..? what do you think of..? what comes of or follows from..? etc. *What then?* what happens or would happen in that case? what of that? (see THEN *adv.* 4); so *What next? What though..?* (somewhat *arch.*) what happens or would happen in view of the fact that, or on the supposition that..? (nearly = *what if..?*, but implying some opposition between the circumstance mentioned and the possible one implied: cf. THOUGH 4); † also absol. *what though?* what if it is (or were) so? what does it matter? what then? See also WHAT-NOT.

c 1200 ORMIN 8103 Acc whatt forrþi nass þatt nohht don.

Bible, Prof. Fr. St. Jerome II. 93 What if edlik beest se hadden herd tellinge his owne wordis! *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 Saynt Basil sayd; 'what & I dye nott or tomorn?' 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (1555) K j, What thoughe quod he, draw you not abacke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Prol. 200 Quhat of bewte, quhar hone-tie lyis deid? 1584 [see THEN *adv.* 4]. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iv, 9 What and if His sorrowes haue so ouerwhelm'd his wits? 1590 — *Mids. N.* I. i. 228, I am thought as faire as she. But what of that? Demetrius thinkes not so. 1591 LYLY *Midas* IV. iii, *Pet.* Wel, tis hard to haue ones browes imbroidered with bugle. *Licio.* But canst thou blowe it? *Hunts.* What els? *Min.* But not away. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 51 Heere wee haue no Temple but the wood..But what though? Courage. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 174 What if all Her stores were op'n'd, and this Firmament Of Hell should spout her Cataracts of Fire. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 255 What tho' we let some better sort of fool Thrid ev'ry science, run thro' ev'ry school? 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* XX, My ship sails to-morrow;..what if you go in her as a passenger? 1819 KEATS *Otho* I. i, To me! What of me, ha? 1827 HEBER *Hymn*, '*From Greenland's Icy Mountains*' ii, What though the spicy breezes Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle... In vain with lavish kindness The gifts of God are strown. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XIX, But if..they..dropped off and left me one by one, what then? 1876 BROWNING *Fears & Scruples* X, What, and if your friend at home play tricks? 1889 J. S. WINTER '*Mrs. Bob* II, 'Did anybody tell you about the Manor Lodge?' 'No, not a word; what about it?' 1904 IAN HAY '*Knt. on It heels* XIII. § 5 Game and rubber..! Now, what about bed?

b. In various other phr. (See also 8, 10, 11.)

† *What is thee?* [THEE *pron.* 2 b], what is the matter with thee? † *What lack you?* or *what do you lack?* [LACK *v.*1 3], a salesman's cry: hence as an appellation for an itinerant vendor or pedlar. *What say you* (mod. *what do you say) to..? what think you* (mod. *what do you think) of..?* are you inclined for..? how would you like..? *What's my thought?* a guessing game (the same as *I'se and No*: see YES 1 b). See also WHAT-D'YE-CALL, WHAT'S-HIS-NAME.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9720 Þo sede on to an oþer, merlin, wat is þe? Þou faderlese sarewe, wy misdoteu me? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1951 Bernard, hwat is þe? Hwo haues þe þus ille maked?

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 14 A secular wit that hath liued all daies of his life by what doo you lacke. 1597 BRETON *Wit's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 16/2 The sonne of What lacke you, was become the onely right worshipfull. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* B 1, What lacke you sir? faire stuffes or veluets? 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. i, His Father was a..Pedler, a what do you lack, Sir.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 17 What say you to a Neats foote? 1649 DK. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* II. i. 23 Betweene us too, what thinke you of a wench? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* X. iv, 'What think you of some Eggs and Bacon, Madam?', said the Landlady. 1793 COWPER *Beau's Reply* 27 What think you, Sir, of killing Time With verse address'd to me?

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 188 We..like as many girls ..play'd Charades.. And *what's my thought* and *when and where and how.*

¶ *But what?* (a Gallicism = *mais quoi?*): but, after all.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 59 Ye shall haue verie few, but saie, that they are enimies to evill... But what? As they never knew what goodnes ment, so they know as litle of the contraie. 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* N 7 b, O Marguerite!..thou hast beene heeretofore greatly esteemed in France, but what? all other thinges doe wither, ..as well as flowers.

** In dependent clauses. (In early use occas. followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).)

Here the interrogative force varies according to the nature of the principal clause; after verbs or phrases of asking, wondering, or the like, the dependent clause is more or less explicitly an indirect question (e. g. 'I asked him what he meant' = 'I asked him "What do you mean?"'); after verbs or phrases of knowing, saying, or the like, it is only implicitly so, but the sense is essentially the same, and is to be distinguished from the compound relative (= 'that which': see C. I.* below), which however it sometimes closely approaches, the construction being often identical; cf. 'I did not know what he meant' (which implies the mental question 'What did he mean?') with 'I did not hear what he said' (where *what* simply = 'that which').

The dependent clause may by inversion of construction become a subject-clause: e. g. 'What he meant was unknown to me' = 'I did not know what he meant.' (Cf. quot. 1766 s.v. HOW *adv.* 8 a.)

6. In indirect questions, and clauses of similar meaning (see remarks above): corresponding to the direct use in 1. Of a thing: either (*a*) in finite clause, or (*b*) as obj. of a following infinitive (cf. TO *prep.* B. 16).

735 BÆDA *Death song* 4 To ymbhycggannae..huaet his gastae..doemid uuaerthae. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* liii. 405 He..him ætsehte hwæt hi on ðæm don sceolden, hwæt ne scolden. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Nu we willen sæȝen sumdel wat belamp on Stephnes kinges time. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 79 He wat wet þenkeð and hwet doð alle quike wihte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2904 Josepp..mikell ummbeþohhte, Off whatt himm wære battst to don. *Ibid.* 9992, 3 þatt birrþ uss lokenn whatt itt les & whatt itt wile seggenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 25334 Ær beom milite iwurðen waht heo don wolde. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1441 Hit nuste neauer hwat hit was. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 11/350 He..Axede heom of þe croyz 3wat were þe tokninge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9249 To loke wat were best to do. 1340 *Ayenb.* 264 Me him acseþ huo he ys, huannes he comþ, huet he heþ yzoȝe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 3 What schal befalle hierafterward God wot. 1450 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 31 Qhat the cawse is I wote nott. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. lxii, He demandit my answer, quhat I said? 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 7 It is neidful first to ane seik man to knaw quhat is his seiknes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 89 Demaunding of them what the matter was. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 160 O thou knowest not what it is. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iii. 9 Iealousie, what might befall your trauell. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1346, I am sorry what this stoutness will produce. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XV. vii, No to be sure, it signifies nothing what becomes of them. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. i, I believe they are in actual consultation upon what's for supper. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* X. ii, Something strange ..must have happened, but what, she had no means to know. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 540 What such a force.. could effect..was proved, a few years later, at Killiecrankie. 1850 *Househ. Words* 15 June 285/1 It will be time enough then to think what next. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* VI. 186 Has it never come in upon your mind what you are doing? 1891 *Spectator* 2 May 632/2 The Socialist no longer thinks of dictating to society what it ought to be.

(*b*) *c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 9037 (MS. B.) Hii nuste wat to do. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1121 Haue alwaies what to doe in your hands. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* I. 16 We tooke more Coũ then we knew what to

doe with. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 423 Jove will inspire him, when, and what to say. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* I. (1725) 47 I know not what to think of it. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* II, Cousin Mark was not hardened with more money than he knew what to do with.

7. Of a person, in predicative use (with distinctions of sense as in 2).

[illegible]
Sonne
[illegible]
St. Brandan 627 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 237 Ich eschte him 3wat he were. He seide, 'ich am þin Abbot.' 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 919 Þe king eschte wat hii were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4931 Þe folk asked quat þai suld be, 'Theues,' coth Ioseph. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 63 Is he a clerk or noon? telle what he is. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* XXVI. 99 The kynge, that gretli desired to knowe of his estate, asked of hym what he was, of what lande and of what lynage. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Table X iij, Athlete [= -æ], what they be that are so called. 1596 [see 2]. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 74 And knowing what I am, I know what she shallbe. 1605 in Dixon *Tower* (1870) II. xi. 104 To ansoure to formall interrogatours..as quhat he is, for I can neuer yett heare of any man that knowis him. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 301 To write a Letter to the Governor, to inform him what we were, and on what account we came. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 1104 He..ask'd his airy Guide, What, and of whence was he. 1832 DISRAELI *Cont. Flaming* vii, I was to be something great, and glorious, and dazzling; but what, we could not determine. 1864 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* li, Who or what he was, .. no one ever cared to inquire.

8. Phrases. a. *To know what's what* [KNOW *v.* 15]: to understand the qualities or values of things; to have a good judgement or apprehension; to have clear or full knowledge of the matter in hand, or of the state of the case; to know what is fitting or profitable. So with other verbs, as *perceive, show*, etc. *colloq.*

c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 432 Ful sarily than thare I sat, For wa I wist noght what was what. 1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Dial.* 278 in *Min. Poems* 138 They me oghten haue in greet cheertee, And elles woot I neuere what is what. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1296 Neither knew I kirke ne saint Ne what was what ne who was who. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. ii. (Arb.) 17 Enamoured quod you? haue ye spied out that? Ah sir, many nowe I see you know what is what. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Epigr. XXV. 31 Tut, tell me not what's what; I know the law. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 149 He knew what's what, and that's as high As Metaphysick Wit can fly. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 215, I dare venture to say..that not a common Farrier in the Universe knows what's what. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* v, I had so much claret on board, I did not much know what was what. 1911 *Times* 26 Oct. 8/4 My distinguished friend ..who appeared as a witness had told me what was what.

b. Phrases used as sbs. *I know* or *wot not* (mod. *I don't know*) *what, Lord* or *God knows what* (LORD *sb.* 6 b, GOD 10 b), *who knows what?* †*know-not-what* (see KNOW-), *watna what* (see WATNA), etc.: something unknown or only vaguely apprehended or suggested; cf. L. *nescio quid*, F. *je ne sais quoi*. So ... *and I don't know what all* (colloq.) = '... and various other things unknown or unspecified', '... and all sorts of things besides'. *You know what*, †(*you*) *wot what*: something that need not be specified (see YOU 11).

a 1000 *Riddles* liv. [lv], Hyse..hrand under gyrdels hyre stondendre stiþes nathwæt. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXX. 39 Thay luve no man effeminat, And haldis thame, bot I wat not quhat, That can nocht be wtout thame. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 765 Sent, no man wist whether, to be done wyth, God wot what. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XV. 113 3e worke maist lyke 3e wat not quhat With your Politick heidis. 1587 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 70 Which when they did see they putt theyre hands they could not tell to whatt. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 154 When he was about to speake (I wot not what) as touching painting-craft. 1662 *Rump Songs* I. 52 Next come those idle Twittle-twats, Which calls me many God-knows-whats. 1702 WALLIS in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 330 Under penalty of.. (who knows what?). 1708 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* Transl. Pref., The Grandeur, Eloquence, Neatness, and I know not what all, of an Author's Expression. 1823 [see GOD 10 b]. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Aug., Shouting out, 'Aha!' and '*Sapprrristis!*' and I don't know what. 1858 THOREAU *Let. to Mr. B.* 21 May, So we shall save some of our money..and lose—I do not know what. 1859 DICKENS *Haunted House* vii. 33/1 There's examine, and catechises, and I dunno what all for him to be put through.

c. *To know what it is*: to apprehend what it implies or may involve; hence, to have had experience of it. Usually with *inf.*

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 615 Thou know'st not what it is, With iauelings point a churlish swine to goare. 1608 KELLISON *Reply to Sotcliffe's Answ.* Ep. Ded. a v, Till miserie had taught the prodigal Sonne wit, he neuer knew what it was to liue at home in his Fathers howse. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 26 P 7 Though I am always serious, I do not know what it is to be melancholy. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, On Two Children in Black*, As for the first night at a strange school, we most of us remember what *that* is. 1902 W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xiii. 58 To know what dust is, you must come to Switzerland in August; the road was like driving through sand.

d. *ellipt.* for 'what it is', 'what is the truth of the matter', 'what is the thing to do', or the like, in *I('ll) tell you what* (and similar phrases now *obs.* or *dial.*), used to emphasize or call special attention to what is said (='let me tell you'), or (*mod. colloq.*) in making a proposal.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 694 Ye be lyke the swynt catte That wolde have fisshe, but wostow whatte He wold no thinge wete his clowes. 1596 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* (Arb.) 78 Disdaine him not: for shal I tel you what? Such clime to heauen, before the shauen crownes. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 86 This tricke may chance to scath you, I know what, You must contrary me. 1594—*Rich. III*, III. ii. 92 Wot you what, my Lord, To day the Lords you talke of, are beheaded. 1596 — *Merch. V.* I. i. 86, I tell thee what Anthonio, I loue thee. 1637 in *Bound's Pop. Antiq.* (Bohn) I. 121 I'le tell thee what, To-morrow thou shalt see Me weare the willow. 1773 G. A. STEVENS *Trip Portsm.* I. 10 *Sir Flimsey.* I'll tell you *what*, madam—. *Miss Flirt.* And I'll tell you *when*, Sir Flimsey. When you take a lady out with you, don't domineer so. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 442/1 I'll tell you what, we'll row down. 1899 H. WYNDHAM *Soldiers of Queen* VIII. 176 Tell you what, Bill, you can start your stock with one of my old shirts for the price of a quart.

*** Various special uses and collocations (in direct questions or in dependent clauses). See also 17.

For *what becomes* (*is become*, etc.) *of* ... see BECOME *v.* 4.

9. With intensive additions, as *what the deuce* (*devil, dickens*, etc.), *what in the name of* ..., *what in the world, what on earth*, etc.: see also the sbs. (Cf. How *adv.* I b.)

c 1385– [see DEVIL *sb.* 20]. 1596– [see PLAGUE *sb.* 3 d]. 1600– [see DICKENS 2.]. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* II. 133 What a Goda name, hinders him from doing it? 1709 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 110 P 4 What-a-Pox hast thou to do with Ladies and Lovers? 1757– [see DEUCE¹ b¹.]. 1818 SHELLEY *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) II. 116 What on earth does he mean by some of his inferences? 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xii, Thinking what in the universe it could be made of. 1836 [see HELL *sb.* 9]. 1897 S. CRANE *Third Violet* XV. 101 What the mischief have I done? *Ibid.* XVI. 109, I wonder what in blue thunder you mean.

10. Of quantity, amount, or price: How much, how many. So of the time of day, in *what's o'clock, what's the time* (see CLOCK *sb.*¹ 3, 4, TIME *sb.* 13).

The orig. use was with partitive gen.; later, partitive *of* occurs.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii[i]. 84 Hwæt synt þinum esne ealra dagena? *c* 1400 *Avow. Arth.* XXXIII, Quat is thi rawunsun opon ryste? *c* 1425 *Craft. Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 96 Yf þou wold wete qwat is 4 hundryth times 4. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 274, I knaw quhat thou of rethorike hes spent. *c* 1525 *Vox Populi* 374 in Hasl. *E. P. P.* III. 281, I knowe not whates a clocke, But by the countre cocke. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* C vij b, That there be geven Warrants..what shall be paid to any such Pencioner wekly. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 319, I pray you, what i'st a clocke? 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 34 As 26 to 7: So is 8 to what? 1824 *J. H. Moore's Pract. Navig.* (ed. 19) 130 What is Greenwich Time when it is Noon 75°, or Five Hours, West of Greenwich? 1826 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* IX, But I'll see what o' them can be gotten back. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Parlour Orator*, He can tell what's o'clock by an eight-day, without looking at the minute hand, he can. 1839 *Habits Gd. Soc.* xi. 305 What of that essential harmony.. can there possibly be between a hundred..people? 1904 SIR H. HAWKINS *Remin.* II. 2 Lloyd must have made £20,000 a year..: what I made is of no consequence.

11. *What for* (introducing a clause; sometimes written as one word; Sc. and north. dial.; earlier north. ME. †*for what*, replacing OE. *for hwan*); now, in polite colloq. use, only *What ... for* (in independent or dependent clause), or *What for?*: for what purpose, with what object? for what reason, why, wherefore? Also †*through what*: how? So †*what to* (*till*): to what end, whereto.

c 1200 ORMIN 199 Þurrh whatt maȝȝ icc nu witenn þiss? *Ibid.* 4814, 5 Forr whatt iss Dribhtin me þuss wrahþ? *Ibid.* 14113 Forr all mannkinn to shæwenn swa Forr whatt he comm onn erþe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1657 Iacob tolde him for quat he swanc So fer. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 28 (Camb. MS.) God .. wat quhat-to [*Edin. MS.* quhat-till] all thing efferis. *c* 1760 D. HUME in *Ramsay's Remin.* v. (ed. 18) 116 What for should I burn a' my..bukies? 1799 BURNS *'What ails ye now'*, ix, 'Geld you!' quo' he, 'and whatfor no?' 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* IX, The children wondered whatfor an honest man should be brought to punishment. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. i, The boot he had just pulled off flew straight at the head of the bully..' Confound you, Brown, what's that for!' 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Conse.* I. viii, What are you staring at a fellow like that for?

b. When subordinated *what ... for* comes to mean 'the reason why'.

1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 236 But what I cited all these passages for is to shew [etc.].

c. As sb. phr. in the slang phr. *to give* (one) *what for* = to inflict severe pain or chastisement.

1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 137/1 It'll give you what for if it touches your lips. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* I. 31 Taffy..was a match for any *maître d'armes* in the whole French army, and Svengali got 'what for'.

12. As indefinite final alternative in a disjunctive question. Chiefly *colloq.*

1766 J. ADAMS *Diary* 29 July, Wks. 1850 II. 198 In what is this man conspicuous?—in reasoning, in imagination, in painting, in the pathetic, or what? 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 28 Feb., Is it owing to the vast, massy buildings of that place, to the many waters round it, or to what else? 1842 E. FITZGERALD *Let. to Barton* 16 Sept., Have you supposed me dead or what? 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 341 We shall further discover whether the true path is a circle, an ellipse, an oval, or what.

II. *adj.*

13. As the ordinary interrogative adjective, sing. or pl., used of a thing or things, a person or persons, in direct questions: often with ellipsis, as *what cheer?* (CHEER *sb.* 3 b), *what news?* etc.

The meaning was expressed in OE. by *hwæt* with a partitive gen.

[*Beowulf* 237 Hwæt syndon ȝe searohæbbendra byrnum werede? *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 164 Hwæt is þinga þe biterre sie on ðæs lareowes mode..ðonne se ansia ðe for ryhtwisnesse bið upahafen?] *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Hwet godd heiestu ant hersumest? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19034 Quat bote is fra mete to min And dedeil for to lig in sin? 1382 WYCLIF *1 John* iii. 12 And for what thing slew he him? *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 525 'And what sovne is it lyke?' quod hee. *Ibid.* III. 1058 And everyche cried, what thing is that? And somme sayde, I not never what. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 683 Quat sterne is it at ȝe stody on? *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 13154 (Trin.) What maner þing. *c* 1440– [see CHERE *sb.* 3 b]. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xliii. 3 Quhat tydingis gossep, pear or weir? *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. ii. (1912) 14 What cause then, made you venter to leave this sweete life? *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. iii. 71 Sirra, what newes? 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 88 What impossible matter wil he make easy next? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* X. ix, What saucy Fellow..told you any 'I hing of my Lady? 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, 'What Mr. Bertram?'..'not Mr. Bertram of Ellangowan, I hope?' 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* XXXVII, A story! What story? 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* XXII, But what good would it do?

(*b*) *What way* (Sc. and north.): how? why?

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 197/3 Whatway, *quâ, quomodò?* 1729 RAMSAY *To Arbuckle* 6 [He] diena care for A how, a what way, or a wherefore. 1799 MITCHELL *Scotticisms* 95 What way did it happen? 1900 J. J. BELL *Wee Macgregor* v, Macgreegor, ..whit wey did ye strike puir Wullie Thomson?

b. In rhetorical questions, implying a contrary assertion: cf. 3.

c 1440 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) XXVIII, Quat wundur were hit, thaȝhe him were wo? 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 105 Quhat cristnit clerk suld hym haue consallit bettir, Althocht he nevir was catholik wight? 1590 SHAKS. *Com. & Ad.* 565 What waxe so frozen but dissolues with tempring? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 770 With what becoming Thanks can I reply! 1790 BURNS *Ball. Dumfries Election* XI, What Whig but wails the good Sir James Dear to his country by the names, Friend, Patron, Benefactor! 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 387 What hope of refuge, or retreat, or aid? 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* XIII, What wonder if the children take them at their word and act accordingly?

14. In indirect questions, and dependent clauses of similar meaning, with varying interrogative force, sometimes approaching the compound relative use (C. 8): cf. I.** above.

c 1200 ORMIN 7ȝe Godess enngell sezȝde himm þær, Whatt name he shollde settenn Uppo þatt illke child. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 34 Bot be the fruit may scilwis se, O quat verta is ilka tre. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2746 Þey ȝede spiande her & þer In what bataille þe kynges wer. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 33 Tell þes men whad þou hast yseyne, and whad joy þes men han lost. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. XXIX. 460 Thenne sire Tristram lete denyse the bataille in what manere that it shold be. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect 1st Sund. after Epiph.*, Graunt that they maye both perceyue and knowe what thynges they ought to do. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xlviii. § 2 To examine..what dependencie it hath on God. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 741 Till first I know of thee, What thing thou art. *c* 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 25 They called frequent councils of war what course to take. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Mr. Watkins Tottle* II, How, or at what hour, Mr. Watkins Tottle returned .. is unknown. 1918 *Cornh. Mag.* June 637 He made no attempt ..to suggest upon what lines that future might be shaped.

b. *I know not what, Heaven knows what*, etc. used as adj. phr. = some unknown or undefined ..., some ... or other: cf. 8 b.

a 1635 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) III. 43 There was present on horse-backe, I knowe not what poetical preacher, named Pourcase. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. 111. 205 There has been already some disgusts.., about I know not what reducement of the Light-horse. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* VIII, And I know not what other menaces of formidable import.

15. In reference to quality or character: = What kind of (= L. *qualis*). Also followed by *a* (*dial.*).

†*What done, what dones*: see DONE *ppl. a.* 2.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 225 He wolde lwite 3wat man þe child scolde be. *Ibid.* 315 Brut sende vp þere þre hondred men..to loke 3wat lond þat were. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1305 *Dido*, Allas what weman wele 3e of me make? *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 314 Tel nou me trewly, vnder what tre? 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 Jou..askiat what life this man hath had. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 27 b, It is to be learned..in planting, what ground is best for Vines, what for other trees. 1608 A. WARREN *Poor Man's Past.* etc. H 2, I dare not call thee Asse, but aske thy selfe, What eares thou hast. *a* 1725 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. ii. 318 It was a common piece of raillery in the Court, upon the death of any Prince, to ask what a person his widow was. 1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* vi. 98 He wants a God as the support of his authority; what God he cares very little. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Conse.* I. vi, 'What wine is this, Fisher?' 'Johannisberg, sir.'

16. In reference to quantity or amount: How much, how many.

Cf. the OE. use with partitive gen. (10 above).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 203 'Quhat folk ar thai?' 'Schir, mony men.' 1603 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. iv. 126 *Mach.*..What is the night? *Le.* Almost at oddes with morning, which is which. 1634 *Kirk Sess. Rec.* in Jas. Campbell *Balmerino* (1899) 408 To stent and sie what bolls of victuall everie heritor was. 1820 DIBDIN *Ivanhoe* II. i, Pray thee what money hast thou brought? 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 728 What water have you? The question to the man sounding, as to the depth of water which the lead-line gives. *Mod. colloq.* What pudding is there left?

17. In predicative use, corresponding to a predicative adj. in direct statement: usually referring to quality (cf. 15) = of what kind, character, or disposition.

Syntactically indistinguishable from the pron., but essen

tially adjectival in meaning, and sometimes implying ellipsis of sb.: e. g. in quot. *a* 1450 *what..more* = 'what more wits'.

1340 *Ayenb.* 264 'And huet is helle?'..'Helle is wyd wyþ-oute metinge, dyep wyþ-oute botme.' *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* viii, What is þi good rede? *a* 1400 MYSC 1333 Here ben þe wyttes fyue, How þey ben spende, telle me blyue, And whad þou hast in herte more. 1526 TINDALE *Jas.* i. 24 He goeth his waye, and hath immediatly forgotten what his fassion was. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 269, I see you what you are, you are too proud. 1605 — *Lear* II. ii. 121 What was th' offence you gaue him? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 178 To search the Land, and where the Cities lye, And what the Men (Virg. *quive habeant homines*). *Ibid.* XI. 516 Noble his Mother was, ..But what his Father's Parentage, unknowe. 1818 DUPPA *Treas. Italy*, etc. 3 What the Transfiguration may have been, as to execution and colouring, I cannot tell. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xvi, You know what he is about anything disagreeable—how he simply ignores its existence.

18. In parasynthetic compounds, as *what-fashioned*, *-natured* adjs. (= of what fashion, nature). So *what countryman* (= a man of what country): see COUNTRYMAN 1.

1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* P 1 b, Some of you knowe what natured man they be. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 237 [One] may well doubt whether lockesmithes..vsed files..or rather what fashioned files they had. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 302 He began to aske of me what Country-man I was? I told him that I was of Sevill. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 196 Turning round to Manuel, he asked him what countryman he was. 1807 [see COUNTRYMAN 1].

III. *adv.*

†19. For what cause or reason? for what end or purpose? why? *Obs.*

What needs: see NERD *v.*[2] 2 b, 2 b, 5 b.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. § 2 Hwæt murcnast þu þonn[e] after þam þe þu foriure? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 137 Hwæt secgestu minne naman, for þon þe is mycel & wundorlic? *c* 1205 LAY. 13632 Whanne [*c* 1275 wi] is þæt þu murnest. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2218 *Ariadne*, What shulde I more telle hire compleynynge? *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5907 Without more (what shulde I glose?). *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. v. 162 What ben þe greuoos to this womman? 1579 FULKE *Heshins' Parl.* 248 But what stand we trifling about this testimonie? 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. ¶ 4 But what mention wee three or foure vses of the Scripture? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 329 What sit we then projecting Peace and Warr? *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* I. 7 What should I mention beauty? that fading toy?

20. In what way? in what respect? how? *Obs.* or *arch.* (See also AIL *v.* 4, quots. *c* 1450–*c* 1817.)

c 1200 ORMIN 14018 Ure Laferrd Jesu Crist þuss sezzde till hiss moderr; Whatt falleþþ þiss till me wiþþ þe, Wifmann, þiss þatt tu maniesst? 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XX. 9 What han we synned in thee? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2523 Quat knawis þou þat? 1457 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 744 What hath Englonde so felly the offende, This noble prynce..To Rauyshe so fro vs? *c* 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 250 A, ihesu! quat hast þou gylt? 1535 COVERDALE *Baruch* iv. 17 But alas, what can I helpe you? 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xv, It just cam open o' free will in my hand—what could I help it? 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 250 For what are men better than sheep or goats.. If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer..?

b. To what extent or degree? how much?

Chiefly with such verbs as *avail*, *care*, *matter*, *signify*, or with *the* and comparative, as *the better*: cf. NOTHING B. 1, 2 c, NOWT C. 1 b. Also †*quhat fels* (Sc. obs.) = how many?

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXXVII. 26 What shal it profit vs if we sleen oure brother? *c* 1460 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1664 What were they bothe amendyd that day? *c* 1470 HOLLAND *Howlat* 627 Quhat fele armes on loft, ..The said persewant bure. *a* 1535 FISHER *Spir. Consol.* Wks. (1876) 357 And what am I now the better for all this? 1590 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 807 What were thy lips the worse for one poore kis? *Ibid.* 985 What cares he now, for curbe, or pricking spurre? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 784 Now what avails his well-deserving Toil! 1757 [see SIGNIFY 7]. 1865 RUSKIN I. § 32 What do we, as a nation, care about books?

21. As mere sign of interrogation, introducing a question. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Often taken as interjection (cf. B. 1), and printed with following comma or mark of exclamation.

c 1000 *Lamb. Ps.* Cant. vi, Hwæt la [Vulg. *Numquid*] nis he sinder þin? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5182 Quat ha' yee broght him wit yow hider? 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 309 'What, is þis Arþures hous,' quod þe haþel þenne. 1592 MARLOWE *Mass. Paris* 938 Come on sirs, what, are you resolutely bent? 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 57 What dares the slaue Come hither..To fleere and scorne at our Solemnitie? 1602 — *Ham.* I. i. 29 Say, what is Horatio there? 1677 RAVENSCROFT *Wrangling Lovers* II. i. 13 What's he a Spy too? 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* XXXII. 243 What have they been extinguish'd by Sorcerers, as they had been form'd by supernatural Prodigies?

B. Exclamatory and allied uses.

I. *int.* **†1.** Used to introduce or call attention to a statement: Lo; now; well. *Obs.*

wurdon. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 856 He seyde syn I shal beginne the game What welcome be the cat a goddes name.

2. As an exclamation of surprise or astonishment (sometimes mixed with indignation): usually followed by a question.

c 1200 ORMIN 19429 Whatt Abrahham, whatt Moysess, Whatt tiss & tatt profetæ, Ne sæghenn þegg nohht Drihhtin Godd Inn hiss goddcunnde kinde? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1298 Hwat, heo seyde, vle, artu wod? 13.. *Cursor M.* 20456 (Gött.) Quat? wenis þu i be a fole? 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 184 'What?' quod clergye to conscience 'ar þe conseitouse nouthe After ieresyenes?' 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2900 What, hath ache nat fro deth and fro distresse Preserued þe, and 3it þou takest noon hede? 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 5 What, what, latine in the mouth of a plaine fellow? 1623 FORD *'Tis Pity* IV. iii, What, crying, old Mistresse! 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræmia* 303 What againe? quoth Paul when his wife made him cuckold the second time. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XV. vii, 'O, Mr. Jones, I have lost my Lady for ever.'—'How! what! for Heaven's Sake tell me.' 1810 CRABBE *Borough* XXII. 74 None put the question,—'Peter, dost thou give The boy his food?—What, man! the lad must live.' 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 33 What! are the ladies of your land so tall? 1886 BARING-GOULD *Cvrt. Royal* xii, 'What!—not Sunday clothes?' 'Sunday is nothing to us.' 'What! no go-to-meeting clothes?'

b. With intensive additions, as in A. 9 (of which use this may be partly an elliptical variant).

c 1420? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 405 'Ys hit thus!' quod Attropos, 'what in the deuyllys date!' *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 795 What the deuyll I can yeagre no better? 1754 RICHARDSON in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) III. 13 What a duce, must a man be always writing? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, If there is a word..that I abominate, it is energy. ..What the deuce! Am I to rush out into the street [etc.].

3. Used to hail, summon, or call the attention of a person; also formerly for incitement, or as an expression of excitement or exultation. *arch.* and *dial.* **a.** in phr. *what ho!*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 251 What how, what do ye maister Nicholay? 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 5 What ho, thou iollye shepheards swayne, Come vp the hyll to me. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* III. iv. (1616), What ho, Officers, Gentlemen, Hye to the presence to attend the Emperour. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 313 What hoa: slaue: Caliban. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. XXIV, 'Malise, what ho!'—his henchman came. 1864 BALLANTYNE *Lifeboat* x, 'What ho! Coleman,' cried Bax, ..'have you actually acquired the art of sleeping on a donkey?' 1899 H. WYNDHAM *Soldiers of Queen* vi. 237 'What ho! Did you get your bloomin' ticket this time?' demands a brother 'Lancer'.

b. simply. Now *dial.*

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 22 What Tibet, what Annot, what Margerie. Ye sleepe, but we doe not. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 89 What? courage sirs my felowes al. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 3, 4 *Nurse*..I had her come, what Lamb: what Ladi-bird, God forbid, Where's this Girle? what Iuliet? 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* v. i, Chamberlain, call in the music, ..What! we'll make a night of it. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 33 What Ariell; my industrious seruant Ariell. *Ant.* What would my potent master? here I am. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* I. iii, Here they are both! What Sirs, disputin. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* III. viii, What, Diggory? You are having a lonely walk.

II. 4. *adv.* To what an extent! in what a way! = How *adv.* 7. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Beowulf 530 Hwæt þu worn fela..beore druncen ymb Brecan sprecze! *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 167 Juliana! hwæt þu glæm hafast. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Eala hwæt Drihten deoflas costunga ʒeþyldelice abær. ? *c* 1250 in *E. E. Lyrics* (1907) 2 Ei, ei, what this nicht is long! *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23175 Quat he war wijs þat moght Stedfast hald þis dal in thoght! 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2203 What hit wharred, & whette, as water at a mulne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 A god huet we hedde guod wyn yesteneuen and guode metes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 215 A! quhat thai dempt thaim falonly! *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xiv. 72 A! lorde, what the wedir is colde! 1536 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 60 What rebellyous they were. *Mod. Sc.* What bonny!

III. 5. *adj.* Used (as *sing.* or *pl.*) to express the surprising or striking nature of the thing(s) or person(s) denoted by the sb.; in *sing.* usually, now always, followed by the indef. art., exc. with a sb. in collective or abstract sense. Often with ellipsis (cf. A. 4, 13).

Formerly usually, and still in archaic style, with inverted construction as in a direct question; being distinguished from this by intonation, and in the (non-collective) sing. by the presence of the indef. art.; cf. 'What a place is this!' (mod. 'What a place this is!') with 'What place is this?'

c 1315 SHOREHAM II. 119 O swete leuedy, wat þe was wo, þo ihesus deyde on rode! *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 530 O, worthy god, what wela is me! 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 119 O wyth what reuerence, ..wyth what inwarde deuocyon..oughte we to haue vs in euery place. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* IV. 1157 What a fawte it was, The seruaunte, alas, His master to forsake! 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 105 O what a Cyte, and what a se royall Hath had first name of pore men and rurall. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 48 What a coile is there Dromio? who are those at the gate? 1596 — *Merch. V.* I. iii. 161 O father Abram, what these Christians are. 1601 — *Jul. C.* I. iii. 42 Cassius, what Night is this? 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 315 What a piece of worke is | 1622 — *Cymb.* IV. i. 26 What Mortalitie is? 1625 Swaines prove in a moment! 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 307 What a strain'd unnatural Similitude must this seem to a Modern Reader? 1776 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 160 What a house! What people! what manners! 1798 G. HAY in *Ushaw Mag.* (1913) Dec. 288 What shocking times we live in! 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* I, What was the surprise of the Saracen, when, dismounting to examine the condition of his prostrate enemy, he found [etc.]. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* II, What a consternation of soul was mine that dreary afternoon! ..Yet in what darkness, what dense ignorance, was the mental battle fought! 1855 BROWNING *A Lovers' Quarrel* I, Oh, what a dawn of day! How the March sun feels like May! 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* XII, What rubbish you talk.

b. In dependent clauses, after verbs of thinking or perceiving.

Here the exclamatory force varies as the interrogative force does in the corresponding interrogative use (A. 14), with which this often nearly coincides: cf. remarks under A. I.[*a*]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1620 Quat was his reut [= ruth] þan all mai see. 1554 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1913) July 528 When I consyderee ever what servants of God they were and so dyed.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 21 Me thought what paine it was to drowne. 1620 — *Temp.* I. ii. 251 Do'st thou forget From what a torment I did free thee? 1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 216 You cannot imagine what a parcel of cheating brutes the work people here are. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 119 P 1 We may see after what a different manner Strada proceeds. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. vi, See what a woful look was given. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxix, You may judge with what devotion he..clung to this girl. 1916 SANDAY *In View of End* 93 Let..the ordinary church-goer call to mind what a large proportion of the best of our hymn-tunes are German.

IV. † **6.** *pron.* Used in exclamation to denote something surprising or striking; sometimes with inverted construction, as in 5. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xxiii. 23 In his tymes it shal be seide to Jacob and to Ysrael, What the Lord hath wrouʒt! [Vulg. *quid operatus sit Deus*; 1611 What hath God wrought!] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 54 Lo now, my Sone, what it is A man to caste his yhe amis. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 1121 in *Macro Plays* 72 Haue mynde, Soule, wat Gode hath do!

C. Relative and allied uses. (In early use often followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6), rarely *as*.)

I. *pron.* * as compound relative (combining antecedent and relative).

1. That which, the thing which. (Sometimes with pleonastic correlative *that*.) Also *occas.* (*b*) more generally, A thing which, something that.

Not used of persons, exc. in the idiomatic phr. *but what*: see 5 below.

The line of division between the dependent interrog. use (see A. I**) and the pure relative use is in certain conditions, esp. in the early periods, difficult or impossible to draw.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 *Quod quagsir uenenu afficit.* .. Hie..attreð hwat heu prikeð. *c* 1205 LAY. 31618 3e habbeoð alle iherd whæt Penda king hafueð iseid. *c* 1250 *Will. Palerne* 2578 Mekli þan to meliors he miʒte what he þouʒt. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. 12 This booke tretith of what shalbe in euery seasun moste durable. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. vi. 172 That thou wolt folewe Holi Writt, and take for the lawe and seruice of God what that Holi Writ allowith. 1521 *Perth Hammermen Book* (1889) 16 Item giffin to Andro Scot of quhat wes awand him,..iiij s. 1590 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 88 So offers he to giue what she did craue. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 219 Notwithstanding what I haue heard, that I will report. 1599 *George a Greene* G j b, What as Bradford holdes of me in chiefe, I giue it frankely vnto thee for euer. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* iv. 36 He..justifi'd and abetted them in what they did. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xii, I ken sum mair than ye..Of quhat sall afterwart befall. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. p. lxxxi, So incurable is the Love of Detraction, perhaps beyond what the charitable Reader will easily believe. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXXIV, And what I am beheld again What is. 1851 *Household Words* 6 Sept. 560/1, I was going to ask you to dine with me on what I have left. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* I. § 20 Milton means what he says. 1884 W. S. GILBERT *Princ. Ida* II, What we have Of hair, is all our own. 1886 *Law Rep.* 32 Chanc. Div. 71 It appears to me that they acted very reasonably in what they did. 1889 MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* I. (1891) 8 His duties were performed with the precision of an automaton. What he did one day, that he did the next.

(*b*) 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 56 Dr. Radcliffe..finding him feverish, prescribed what restored him to health in five days. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 55 If cushion might be call'd, what harder seem'd Than the firm oak of which the frame was form'd.

b. In reference to a prec. sb., esp. after *but*, *except*, *only*, *than*, *like*, etc., with quasi-adj. force: The one which; chiefly as *pl.* those which; †also (*rare*) of persons, those who.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 4, Wee will..draw no Swords, but what are sanctify'd. 1611 *Bible* 2 Cor. I. 13 We write none other things vnto you, then what you reade or acknowledge. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Jan., To the King's house, and saw *The Usurper*, which is no good play, though better than what I saw yesterday. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* II. i, An easier yoke than what you put on me. 1677 *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 218 Ye Parties which lost it now was greater than wt carried it when ye perpetuating clause was lately ordered. 1681 M. FOX in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1912) July 139 Hauing noe body to bee with at home but what is noe Friends. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* xvi. 475 He was under no obligations to take humen nature, only what arose from his free..promise. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* (1774) I. i. 24 We feel a gradual dilatation..of mind, like what is felt in an ascending series. 1824 L. MURRAY *Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 233 All fevers, except what are called nervous. 1868 M. ARNOLD *Sch. & Univ. Cont.* 82 The Revolution made a clean sweep of all old endowments; what exist date from a time since the Revolution.

2. With special implications. **a.** Expressing quantity or amount (cf. A. 10): So much (or many) as, as much as.

1646 in M. Sellers *Eastland Co.* (Camden) Introd. 66 They desire, that what as hath allready bene equallie disburst,..be brought to accompt, and what as remayned in Cash be returned vp. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Mar., Their service was six biscuits a-piece, and what they pleased of burnt claret. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 62. 44 The Romans learnt, what they knew of this Mysterious Doctrine, from the Etrurians. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 9 Apr. 3/2 What of the votes in Newhampshire for President, we have seen, are nearly equally divided.

b. Expressing quality or character (cf. A. 2, 15, 17): Such as; the kind of thing (or person) that.

a 1638 CLEVELAND *Rustick Rampt.* 114 He delighted to be ..acknowledged for what he was. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 901 And what Æneas was, such seem'd the Shade. 1768–71 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 468 The court is still very splendid, though much altered from what it was in the year

1726. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. 1. 285 The country was not what it had been twenty-two years before. 1862 Thackeray *Round. Papers, On being Found Out,* Would you have your wife and children know you exactly for what you are? 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 533/1 The book is very much what might have been expected from the author.

c. Expressing parallel relation or correspondence (with *to* in principal clause and in relative clause).

1673-4 Grew *Anat. Pl.* III. (1682) 127 And what the Mouth is, to an Animal; that the Root is to a Plant. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* IV. § 21 Intellect is to the mind what sight is to the body. 1853 Ruskin *Stones Venice* III. iv. § 12 What the elm and oak are to England, the olive is to Italy. 1914 *Month* Dec. 608 Jingoism is to true patriotism what bigotry is to true religion.

3. a. In a parenthetic phrase (chiefly with *call*) qualifying a following word or phrase; equivalent to an adjective phrase, or to a following phrase with *as*: e. g. *what is called* . . . = 'the so-called . . .', or '. . ., as it is called'.

1697 J. Lewis *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 25 A fortification, mounted with small guns, and what were stiled his great ones, which were four little brass cannon. 1794 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 8 Other demonstrations of what they call Loyalty. 1821 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 346 Calvert is..what is well called a handy man. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 211 A very small pea, ..a kind of what is called squashies. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* i. 9, I, writing thus, am still what men call young. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* v. 40 She is what she calls 'taking your measure'.

b. Introducing a prefatory (usually parenthetic) qualifying clause, equivalent to a following clause with *which* (or to an adv., e. g. *what is more* = furthermore, still more).

1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 5 Where we saw (what we always feared) a Ship [etc.]. 1713 Pope in Earl Orrery *Rem. Swift* (1752) 36 If it be true, what I have heard often affirmed by innocent people, That [etc.]. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 40 And, what was reckon'd very odd, the Cabbin-Bell came ashore. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* v, She wore, what was then somewhat unusual, a coat, vest, and hat, resembling those of a man. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Feb., I got from him .. a .. silver-laced waistcoat, .. and, what's more, I had no less than three golden guineas in the pocket of it.

4. In generalized or indefinite sense: Anything that: = Whatever 2 a. Now only in such phrases as *what you please, come what may*, or esp. (*b*) *for what I know, care, can tell.* †Formerly also in a qualifying dependent clause: = Whatever 3 a.

c 1325 Shoreham iv. 159 Ac tyde þe what by-tyde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 43 Oþer be uenym, oþer ine oþre manere, huet þet hit by. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 68 What it be þat 3e bidde, 3our bonus i graunte. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 13748 (Trin.) He had hir aske what [*Cott.* quatsum, *Fairf.* quateuer] she wolde. 1469 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 30 To make therof qwat that he can. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* i. 24 Catell, wormes and what as hath life vpon earth. 1601 Shaks. (*title of play*) Twelfe Night, Or what you will. 1635 Vaughan *Silex Scint., Mt. Olives* i, Such ill-plac'd wit, Conceit, or call it what you please, Is the braines fit, And meere disease. 1670 in *Marvell's Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 299 Its therefore my request to you to..be assisting to him with your Certificates, or in what else you can serve him. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 208 With your Flat Chissel or Gouge, (or what is nearest at hand) knock softly. 1749 Hartley *Observ. Man* i. i. § 2. 80 Be the Cause what it will. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* ix, One thing she was determined on, not to give up her lover, come what would. 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* xix, To sacrifice his pride, his ambition, his what-you-will.

(*b*) 1697 J. Lewis *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 55 You may have half a dozen [legs] for what I know, as it is difficult to discover any under the petticoats you wear! 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* I. 82 She may die for what you know. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, It may have been murdered, for what I can tell. 1875 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lx. 332 You may think, for what I care, what you please in such matters.

† b. Of a person or persons: Whoever. *Obs.*

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* 43 Ilke man, what þat he be, þat in-calles þe name of Godd, þat es to say askes saluacione by Ihesu and by his passione. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 445 And whad he be, let hym be sowght. 1448–9 Metham *Amoryus & Cl.* 916 He redy schuld be For hys lady sake to iuste, ayens yche knyght in general,..and qwat he were myght yeue hym a falle. 1592 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 43 Be what thou wilt, thou art my prisoner. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 47 That..my Accusers, Be what they will, may stand forth face to face.

c. with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever, so*, etc. following (now only immediately following: see Whatever, Whatso, etc.): cf. 9 b below.

9 Orrin 2504, & all-was mannelike þing Whatt littl[e] se þe33 haffdenn. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 80 What as eny man accuse. *Ibid.* 203 What as evere that ye seie. 1464 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 68 What that euer he wer to by straw, he must pay in honde. ?1481 Caxton *Chesse* III. iv. (ed. 2) g v, To alle trewe marchauntis and other what that someuer [*ed.* 1474 other what som euyr] they be.

d. *What else*: orig. ellipt. = whatever else there may be; hence, with loss of the relative force, anything else, anything and everything.

1579 *Expos. Termes Lawe* s.v. *Reservation*, Theyr reseruations were as wel..in victuills, whether flesh, fishe, corne, bread, drinke, or what els, as in money. 1585–6 Earl of Leicester in *Archæologia* (1790) XIII. 316 Her Majesty..hath..promised to..procure the liberty of his Sister, and what else, To strengthen and support King Edwards place. 1629 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 387 That..you will afford the best of your assistance..and what else needfull. 1873 Ruskin *Crown Wild Olive* App. xl. 201 The right to keep everything and every place about you in as good order as you can—Prussia, Poland, or what else.

5. *But what* (after a negative expressed or implied): except what (or who); which (or who) not (= But C. 12 b): see also But C. 30.

1596 Shaks. *Taw. Shr.* v. ii. 14 Padua affords nothing but what is kinde. 1660 Evelyn *Sculpture* Table, Never any of the Antients excelled in these Arts, but what were Gentlemen. 1688 South *Serm., Matt. xxii.* 12 (1697) II. 333 Few are Confident, but what are first Careless. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 247/2 Of the mills that were left, I believe there is not a cloth but what has a shot through it. 1780 Bertram *Introd. Mor. & Legisl.* xiv. (1789) p. clxxxv. *note*, There are few madmen but what are observed to be afraid of the strait waistcoat. 1796 Charlotte Smith *Marchmont* IV. 133 Not one of these insinuations but what gathered something from malevolence.

b. *loosely* as conjunctional phr.: But that, that .. not (= But C. 12): see also But C. 30. *colloq.*

▶In quot. 1807 exceptionally without preceding negative: = But C. 11 a.

1662a (see But C. 30). 1753 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 43 There hardly arose an Incident, but what our Fellow-Traveller would repeat twenty or thirty Verses in a Breath. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* No. 9 (1824) 144 In vain did the wind whistle and the storm beat—my aunt would waddle through mud and mire, over the whole town, but what she would visit them. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* vi. (1895) 284 Not but what many changes had been wrought. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xxi. 257 You should have kept quiet in the house to-day. Not but what you are certainly looking better than you did early this morning.

6. Used redundantly after *than* introducing a clause. *dial.* or *vulgar.*

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, I think I laughed heartier than than what I do now.

** 7. As simple relative (*sing.* or *pl.*): Which (or who); that. a. referring to a pron. (demonstr. or indef.), occas. to a noun; orig. introducing a dependent question in apposition with it (A. 6); esp., in later use only, in *all what* (now *dial.* or *vulgar*).

Apparent instances in OE. are due to imitation of Latin; þæt hwæt dauid . . . . .). 22. . *Ælfred's* . . . . . [*Cott. MS.* ℔] he willniaþ hi bigitaþ.] *c* 1200 Orrin 1215 Nu ice wile shæwenn þuw all þatt whatt itt bitacnebþ. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4866 Þe king..wende toward bangor þo To destruye þe brutons, wat he founde mo. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 86 He told þaim all what at he saw. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. ix. 191 Aftir al this what is tretid upon the firste.. gouernaunciz. 1532 Tindale *Expos. Matt. v–vii* (*c* 1550) 20 b, Here seist thou ye vttermoost what a christen man must looke for. 1587 North *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* 244 They do al thinges what they lyst, and nothing what they ought. 1597 G. Harvey *Trimming of Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 53 The beast Ephemeron, which because shee hath but one day to liue, hath manie legs, foure wings, and all what Nature can affoord, to giue her expedition to see about the world. 1645 Fuller *Good Th. in Bad T.* (1841) 36 For matter of language there is nothing what grace doth do, but wit can act. 1697 S. Titus *Killing no Murder* 9 They..thought it not adultery what was committed with her. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *J. Kettlewell* III. § 78 He continued Unmoveable in all what he Believed to be his Duty. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* xxiii. I. 57 Do you think that so dutiful a Son as our Neighbour..does not pride himself, for all what he said at Table, in such a pretty Maiden? 1929 J. B. Morton *Barber of Putney* xv, If I sat down to write a book, I'd want to shove in all what I saw.

† b. in dependence on a prep.; spec. in phr. *for what* (replacing OE. *for hwon*) = for which purpose or reason, wherefore. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Þis moune me mei sermonen mid godes worde, for hwat he scal his sunne uor-saken and bileuen. *c* 1200 Orrin 2832 Ure preost..nohht ne mihhte trowwenn þatt word tatt himm þurrh Gabriel Wass sezzd o Godess hallfe, Forr whatt himm wass hiss speche..þurrh Dribhtin all biræfedd. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 39 Gif þu na þing ne luuest..ðurh hwat ðu miht forliesen godes luue. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Knmeð þe coue..& fret al þet of hwat heo schulde uorð bringen hir cwike briddes. *Ibid.* 382 He ..bid me ofte techen him sum þing mid hwat he muhte his licome deruen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2533 Hengist..him grantede..is dozter abbe to wif, Vor 3wat þe king 3eue him þe contreie of kent. *a* 1300 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* 3451 (MS. B.) Hii vnder 3ete a welle..Of wat [*MS. A.* wan] þe king ofte dronk. *a* 1300 *Seven Sins* 11 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 29 Þi fair schrute mid whate þou art ischrid aboute.

c. *gen.* (Now *dial.* or *vulgar.*)

a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 121 In folowyng so preciselie, either the matter what other men wrote, or els the maner how other men wrote. 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 34 To add that to the weight what the washers had taken away. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 122 That incisure or resemblance of cutting what is common to most of them [*sc.* insects]. *c* 1842 in T. W. Reid *Life Forster* (1888) I. v. 144 Be like Long Forster, what walked to Colne and back before breakfast. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, Them's her lights, Miss Abbey, wot you see a-blinking yonder.

II. *adj.* (*sing.* or *pl.*, of things or persons; always as compound relative exc. in 10 b.)

8. That (or those) . . which (or who); such . . as; often expressing quantity, So much (or many) . . as: cf. C. 1, 2 a.

c 1390 *Will. Palerne* 1114 Fondes to do þe duk what duresse 3e may. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 608 Tak what þing þe profred is Whon þou maiȝ redi hauu. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 130 By what things I was conioyned vnto you, those things..I haue giuen vnto you. 1604 Shaks. *Lear* III. vi. 2, I will peece out the comfort with what addition I can. 1877 in *16th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 36 Lord I _____ heat he can to consume his ladie's fortune by gaming. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 169 ℙ 2 Do we..destroy the use of what organs we have? 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* vi. 363 What few to guard the town Unwilling had remained, haste forth to greet The triumph. 1874 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xlii. 129, I will take what indulgence the..reader will give me.

9. In generalized sense: Any . . which (or who), any . . that: = Whatever 2 b. Now only in certain collocations: cf. C. 4. Also = Whatever 3 b.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 311 What man seiþ þeyr to sicke autecristis shal haue part of heere werkis for assent þat he 3iueþ. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. III. 34 What man þat me louyeþ and my wille folweþ, Shal haue grace. 1440 *E. E. Wills* (1882a) 50, I bequeth to what thenge þat is most necessary in þe same Chirch, v. marc. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xxxviii. 475 What Knyghte maye ouercome that Knyght..shal haue me and alle my landes. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 101 Into what cleare Fountaine or River he swimmeth, he infecteth it. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. vi. 3 Come what sorrow can. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 149 Provide a good large Box..and of what depth you shall judge convenient. 1711–14 Pope *Rape Lock* i. 70 Spirits..Assume what sexes and what shapes they please. 1852 Thoreau *Summer* 23 June, The red color of cattle also is agreeable in a landscape, or let them be what color they may. 1891 Morris *Poems by Way* 126 Unmoved I stand what wind may blow.

b. with the generalized sense indicated by *ever, so, soever*, or *somever* following (now only, exc. with *soever*, immediately following: see Whatever, Whatso, Whatsoever, Whatsomever).

c 1200 Orrin 10711 Whatt mann as itt iss þatt hafeþþ tweȝenn kirrtless, 3ife he þatt an þatt illke mann þatt iss wiþþutann kirrtell. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1249 (Göll.) To quat contre so þu wend, Sal þu na man find to freind. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 1 (Harl. MS.) That knyȝt shall dye by my crafte, yn what cuntre of the wordle so euer þat he be ynne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 3 In what rede that euer ye haue. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xli. 481 What knyght someuer he were that smote doune sir Palomydes shold haue his damoysel to hym self. 1492 in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 230 A strange marchaunt..what that ever condicion he be of. 1558 Q. Kennedy in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 98 Quhat sect or opiniouu that evir thou be of. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 82 By that same God, what God so ere it be. 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* IV. 66 Let what harmony soever be between Lovers at first, in a short time it turns to scurvy jangling. 1716 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 367 What Pow'r soe'er provokes our lifted Hand. 1822 K. H. Digby *Broadstone Hon.* Pref. p. v, The Gentlemen of England, of what rank or estate soever they may be. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 11. 460 All people ceased What talk they held soever.

c. Usually with *soever*, in indef. (non-relative) sense (cf. 4 d): Any . . at all, any whatever: = Whatever 4 a, Whatsoever 3 a.

In first quot. 1836 = some . . or other.

1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 18 Let all right beleuers..be of good comforth vnder what cross or distresse soeuer. 1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspir.* v. i. Plays 1873 II. 243 Rise then for euer Quit of what guilt soeuer. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 44, I loue thee not a larre o' th' Clock, behind What Lady she her Lord. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* II. 91 At which Angle of Inclination the perpendicular will be equal to 29 inches, let the Tube be of what length soever. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 197 Not to come any nearer, upon what occasion soever. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 721/2 Goods, Chattels, and Things of what Nature or Value soever. 1819 Scott *Talism.* xx, She wore not upon her person any female ornament of what kind soever. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, First Visit Eng.*, Mr. Landor..has a wonderful brain,..by what chance converted to letters. *Ibid.*, Whatever is didactic—what theories of society, and so on,—might perish quickly. 1881 Swinburne *Mary Stuart* I. ii. (1899) 52 We took in hand to cut this peril off By what close mean soe'er and what foul hands Unwashed of treason.

10. *What time* (later also †*at what time*), as conj. phr.: At the time, or at any time, at which; when; whenever. So *what day*. Now only *poet.*

1387 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 65 Teche tham thair childir ..What tyme so thai er of eld to lere tham. *c* 1386 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 124 Seynt Jon..seide what tyme he lyved þat penne weren many antecristis. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4225 What tyme that eny kyng weddid shuld be,..The kyng and she shuld neuer togeder mete. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* viii. 14 Like as I deuysed to punysh you, what tyme as youre fathers prouoked me vnto wrath. 1627 Milton *Lycidas* 28 What time the Gray-fly winds her sultry horn. 1648 Evelyn *Let. to R. Browne* 18 Dec., Abstaining from using uncivil terms at what time they differed in judgment. 1792 Cowper *Iliad* XX. 190 What time the monster of the Deep pursued The Hero. 1883–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Sept. ii, Was the trial waged What day the Sirens with the Muses strove.

† b. (with *what* as simple rel.): At which time; when; and then. *Obs.*

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 65 The kinges Ambassadors repulsed of the French king returned, at what tyme he sent another Ambassade vpon the lyke cause. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 128, I read..that it was builded..in the time of Edward the third of England; at what time our Kings..had as yet nothing to doe in this Citie. 1633 H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. § 3 He gave up the Ghost about the third hour of the night, at what time a black Cat..ran to his bed.

III. *conj.*

† 11. a. During the time that; while. *Obs. rare.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us þeanne neod.., wet we on þisse middelard liuien, sod scrift.

† b. Up to the time that; till, until. (See also Allwhat.) *Obs.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Si leps..adilegede..wat hit com to þe time þe god sende þe halie wiȝte. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Þu best ibiholde þet beste wyn wat nu,

c 1325 Shoreham v. 245 Fram crystes resurrecioun, Wat comeþ hys ascencioun. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (*A.*) 4900 In þat cite þai bi-leued þere What Tirry was hote & fere. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5000 No fined þai neuer swiche a sleiȝt, What þai to Galleriet com riȝt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 87 Wyþoute comynge ayen of huyche þinges, non ne is ury in þise wordle, huet hi is y-do.

12. To the extent that; as much as, so far as. (Cf. C. 2 a, 8.) *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 35 Ector..Caste on a day wiþ Grekes for to fighte As he was woned to greue hem what he myghte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1794 He .. welcomyt hym worthely as a wegh noble, And frayntt hym with frendship qwat the fre wold. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) Q viij b, As thoughe shee woulde .. allure what she can the eyes and affection of whoso beholdeth hyr. 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 52, I speak these things to excuse, what I may, my Countrymen in the hearts of all. 1690 Penn *Rise & Progr. Quakers* (1834) 6 They changed what they could, the kingdom of Christ..into a worldly kingdom.

†13. (? after F. *que..on.*) Whether (with correl. *or*).

c 1580 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 797 Refoir my Maiestie.. Or my deputis quhat thay be greit or small.

D. Indefinite (non-relative) uses.

I. *pron.* (*sb.*). † **1.** Something; anything: only OE. exc. as surviving in phrases in which *what* is qualified by a quantitative or identifying word, (sometimes a genitive), e. g. Anywhat, Elsewhat (OE. *elles hwæt*), Little-what (OE. *lytles hwæt*, ME. *litles what, what litles*, Little B. 3 c), Many-what, Mostwhat, Muchwhat (also *mickle what*, Mickle A. 3), Nowhat, Otherwhat, Somewhat, q.v., whence was evolved a subst. use of *what* = thing. *All what*: all sorts of things. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 9035, & ȝet forr all an oþerr whatt Seȝȝde þe laffdiȝ Marȝe, þatt Josepp Cristess faderr wass. *Ibid.* 18553 Þatt all þatt strenedd las off Godd, Off Godess ahhenn kinde, All las Itt all þatt illke whatt þatt Godd las inn himm selffenn. *c* 1290 *St. Edmund* 408 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 442 ȝwat lutles it was þat he et, was al of grete þingue. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5963 ȝyf þou recoyuedyst any what Of one þat hys þyng forgat. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. 104 (Camb. MS.) She a lytel what smylynge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 98 Florent..syh this vecke wher sche sat, Which was the lothliest what That evere man caste on his yhe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3046 So fell fliȝt was of flanys..Of arrowe & of all quat. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 118 Doo, say, or syng, in any what, Thou art a minion marmsat. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 31 Come downe, and learne the little what, that Thomalin can sayne. 1596 — *F. Q.* VI. ix. 7 They..gaue him for to feed Such homely what, as serues the simple clowne.

II. *adv.* or *conj.*

(Often, esp. in early examples, capable of being construed as a pronoun = 'some'.)

2. Introducing (*a*) each, or (*b*) only the first, of two or more alternative or co-ordinate words or phrases: (*a*) *what . . what*, (*b*) *what . . and* († *as*, † *so*) = Some . . others; both . . and; including . . and; as well . . as; partly . . partly. Now *rare* exc. with special implication (see b).

(*a*) *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Of þe folce we sigge6 þat hit cumþ fastlice..wat frend, wat fa. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1132 Hor folc hii lore..Wat in bataile, wat in þe se, and hore hors nei echon. *Ibid.* 5548 Wat þoru is stalwardhede, wat þoru godes grace, Mony was þe gode body þat he slou. *Ibid.* 8089 Wat adreint, wat aslawe, tuelf princes þer were ded. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2893 Quat for luue and quat for doute. *Ibid.* 3907 Quat of his wiues tuin in apus, And wat of hand wimmen in hus, Tuelue suns had he o þea. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8873 What wiþ wristling, wat wiþ togging, What wiþ smiteing & wiþ skirminge, On bobe half so þai wrouȝten, Her kinges on hors þai brouȝten. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 968 The thinges that I herde there What a lovde, and what in ere. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Rozb.) xxv. 118 Fyfty comacy of men, what of hors men, what of fote men. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. viii. 189 He schal, what in the firste partie, and what in the iȝe. partie, fynde herto proof ynouȝ. 1531 Tindale *Prol. Jonas* Wks. (1573) 28/2 All the noble bloud was slayne vp, and halfe the commons thereto, what in Fraunce, and what with their owne sword, in fightyng among them selues for the crowne. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 23 b, These Lordes had much people folowing them what for feare and what for entreatie. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 634 The Severn sea..what beeing driven backe..with a Southwest winde, and what with a verie strong pirrie from the sea troubling it, swelled [etc.]. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 128 Most of the Kings ships which, what great, what little, were about forty. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* II. VIII. 350 A hundred and fifty Horse (what Gentlemen, and what of his own Guards). *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. i. 19 Seven Children at the least (what Male what Female) were brought forth. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* XXVI, I conceive they may be—what of yeomen—what of commons, at least five hundred men.

(*b*) *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xxviii. 170 What on horse & on fote, mo þan CC. Mt. persones. 1442 *Beckington's Jrnl.* (1828) 101 There is in pypes, what in the towne so in the castel, moo than CC legge herneys. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 483 What of rayne, thondere and lightnyng and hayll. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 240 Many riche rayments..were made what for the spouse as for the ladyes & damoyselles. *Ibid.* 266 About xviii. C what balesters as Archers. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* III. iii, The very perfect bryghtnes, What of the tower, and of the cleare sunne. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxxiv. 219 b/1 They rode so long what night and day. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* III. IX. 441 They had been mann'd out with above four hundred and fifty, what Mariners, and Souldiers.

b. Introducing advb. phrases formed with prepositions (in the earliest periods chiefly *for*, later usually, now almost always, *with*), implying (in early use only contextually) 'in consequence of, on account of, as a result of; in view of, considering (one thing and another)'.

In quot. 1591 without alternative: *what for* simply = 'for, because of'.

(*a*) *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Alle we beo6 in monlifald wawe..hwat for ure eldere werkes, hwat for ure ȝeone gultes. *c* 1290 *Beket* 391 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 117 ȝwat for eiȝe, ȝwat for loue, no man him ne with-seide. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7100 What for sorow, and what thurgh smoke And what thurgh cald, and what thurgh hete..þai salle ay grete. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1743 What for hungyr, what for thriste, þe shipmen of na lykyng lyste. 1496 *Paston Lett.* III. 161, I ame somewhatt crased, what with the see and what wythe thys dyet heer. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 116 The .ii. corners, what wythe fordyes and shelues, and what with rockes, be very leoperdous. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 909/2 What for the pillage of the Danes, and what by inward theues and bribers: this land was brought into great affliction. 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 83 What with the war; what with the sweat, what with the gallowes, and what with powerty, I am Custom-shrunke. *a* 1672 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* I. iii. (1675) 36 What through their vicious affections..; what through their inadvertency or neglect..they are not to be convinced. 1673 Marvell *Rehs. Transp.* II. 181 The Penalty of the Bonds should have differ'd, what in case he run the Subject only into Errour, and what in case of Sin. 1678 J. Williams *Hist. Gunp.-Treas.* 18 What for avoiding the Report of too much Credulity,..what from the care of doing any thing that might redound to the blemish of the Earl of Northumberland,..it was resolved [etc.]. 1736 *Monitor* No. 35. I. 325 What by..diminution of trade: what by the immense weight of taxes;..some were actually ruined. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xliv, Athelstane's spirit of revenge, what between the natural indolent kindness of his own disposition, what through the prayers of his mother Edith..had terminated [etc.]. 1842 De Quincey *Mod. Greece* Wks. 1890 VII. 331 What through banks, and what through policemen, the concern has dwindled to nothing. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* ii, The track, what with pack-horses' feet, and what with the wear and tear of five hundred years' rainfall, was a rut three feet deep and two feet broad.

(*b*) *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 46 The foweles..What for the seson and the yonge grene Ful loude songen hire affeccions. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* XVIII. 85 What þorw werre and wrake and wycked hyȝdes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 781 Quat of stamping of stedis & stering of bernes, All dymed þe dale. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3173 What by-cause of þe hele of þis gode wyff, & also of þe meracle þe whiche þer was do. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 13 What for calde & for holdyng in þe watir, I was nere-hand slayn. 1579 Twyne *Phis. agst. Fort.* I. XXX. 41 What by the wonderfulnesse and number of the woorkes, there was nothyng in all the whole world to be wondred at, but Rome. 1592 Greene *Maiden's Dream* 154 She..wrong out sighes so sore: That what for grief her tongue could speak no more. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 166 What by Themistocles on shore, and Leonidas at Sea, at Salamis and Thermopylæ, his huge Army melted away. 1702 De Foe *Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 29 Alas the Church of England! What with Popery on one Hand, and Schismaticks on the other; Now has she been Crucify'd between two Thieves. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Fragment* I. 106 What for poisons, con-

[illegible]

bination Laws and Libel Laws, a human being..scarcely knows what he dares do or..say. 1867 Parkman *Jesuits in N. Amer.* XXIII. (1875) 346 What with hunting, fishing, canoe-making, and bad weather, the progress of the august travellers was so slow. 1870 Dasent *Ann. Eventf. Life* XXXVI, Aunt Mandeville,..what between the White Lady and the warm verses, was quite upset.

*** For other indefinite (non-relative) uses see C. 4 d, 9 c.

II. Substantival nonce-uses (from A., B., C.).

1. The question 'What?', 'What is it?', or the like, or the answer to such question; the essence or substance of the thing in question.

1636 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Extasie* vi, An unexhausted Ocean of delight Swallows my senses quite, And drowns all What, or How, or Where. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* v. vi, 'What, ma'am?—how?—what?—' 'Nay, nay, don't be frightened. Come down to dinner, and we'll talk over the hows? and the whats? afterwards.' 1832 Motley in *Corr.* (1889) I. 18, I was summoned before the Senate of the University, and then wrote my name and my whences and whats, etc., etc., in a great book. 1844 L. Hunt *Blue-Stocking Revels* II. 171 Poems 114 My lady will know all the what and the why. 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subsec.* Ser. II. 101 Desiring to divine the essences rather than the appearances of things—in search of the *what* chiefly in order to question it, make it give up at whatever cost the secret of its *why*. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 431 It must seem utterly inconceivable that we should ask for the 'what' of a thing, and yet look for the answer in anything except that which this thing is and does.

2. A something.

1644 Whitlock *Zootomia* 149 We have seen the Pittifull who's, and in short the slender whats are against modest Learning in Religious Division. 1903 A. Maclaren *Last Sheaves* 54 We are not seeking a What; we are seeking a Whom.

3. An instance of the exclamation 'What!'

1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 254 His partner..gave..a 'What!' of such sharp, shrill astonishment, that you could not but have laughed at it. 1785 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 16 Dec., The *What!* was then repeated.

†What, *a.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1 hwæt, 3 hwat, whæt, wat. [OE. *hwæt* = OS. *hwat* keen, bold, OHG. *hwaz*, *waz* sharp, rough, severe, ON. *hvatr* bold, vigorous: related to Whet *v.*, q.v.] Quick, active; stout, brave.

Beowulf 1691 Nses ofgeafon hwate Scyldingas. *a* 1000 *Bi Manna Cræftum* 81 Sum biþ to horse hwæt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 To gode þu ware slau and let; and to eusele spac and hwat. *c* 1205 Lay. 7137 Þer weoren eorles swiðe whæte [*c* 1275 wate] and leiden þone king bi ane gate.

What, Sc. f. Whet *v.*

Whatabout(s (hwɒ·tăbout(s). *rare.* [f. What *pron.*, after *whereabout(s.*] What one is about; doings, occupations.

1830 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 170 Then you might know of all my..whatabouts and whereabouts from Henry Taylor. 1841 N. Hawthorne in *N. H. & Wife* (1885) I. 227, I bethink me that you may have no objections to hear something of my whereabout and whatabout. 1868 Eliz. Prentiss *Life & Lett.* (1882) 244, I was right glad..to learn of your whereabouts and whatabouts.

† What-call-ye-him, also simply **what-call.** *Obs.* = next.

1473 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 104 Ber the cuppe evyn, as What-calle-ye-hym seyde to Aslake. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 130 His Page shal say..he is so busie with my L. How-call-ye him, and my L. What-call-ye him. 1598 *Servingman's Comf.* (1868) 166 M. what-call-you-hims man. 1609 *Ravenscroft's Deuteromelia* 82 This other day I start a hare On what-call Hill.

What-d'ye-call-'em (-um), **-her, -him, -it** (hwɒ·tdjə-, wɒ·tʃəkɑ̃ləm, etc.). *colloq.* Less commonly **what-do-you-call-'em,** etc.; also variously abbreviated (see quots.); also simply 7–8 **what-d'ye-call.** See also *β* below. [What *pron.* A. I.] An appellation for a thing or person whose name the speaker forgets, does not know or wish to mention, or thinks not worth mentioning. Also *occas.* substituted for any word (e. g. an adjective) which the speaker fails to recall.

1639 [J. Taylor (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 217, I..gave her a sound spurnne upon the Buttocks:..O my what doe you call't, said shee. 1641 Cowley *Guardian* v. v, *Dog*...How the what-d'ye-call-'um runs? What do ye call it? *Tun.* Time, Sir. *c* 1646 Milton *Sonn., On new forcers Consc.* 12 By shallow Edwards and Scotch what d'ye call. 1678 Dryden *Kind Keeper* III. i, His Father was Squire what-d'you call him, of what d'you call 'em Shire. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* Pref. 17 Spoken by Mr. Whatdicall'um. 1752 Foote *Taste* II, She was a kind of a what d' ye call 'em ..a sort of a Queen or Wife, or something or other to somebody, that liv'd a damn'd while ago. 1768 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xix, There being so many tendons and what d'ye call-'ems all about it. 1773 H. Walpole *Let. to W. Cole* 8 Jan., Mr. What d' ye-call-him's pamphlet. 1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 16 June, Miss What-d' ye-call-her. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* III. 257 We went to that public house or what-d'ye-call, in Piccadilly. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* iii, There is good accommodation at the what-d' ye-call-'em arms. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* XXV, To break up old associations and what-do-you-callems of that kind. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 74 As legitimate a subject of human study as the glacial period or the silurian what-d'ye-call-ems. 1875 F. E. Trollope *Charm. Fellow* i, College is out of the question..unless he entered himself as a what-do-you-call-it?..A sizar.

† *β.* In contracted forms **whatd'ecall, what d'ee cal't, what-d'ye-caw't, whatchicalt, whatsha-callum,** etc. (cf. Washical): sometimes analysed as = *what shall I call . .?* *Obs.*

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 57 Hollinsheads engrosing; some-bodies abridging; and whatchicalles translating. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. ii. (1601) B 4, Didst thou not see a fellow here in a whatsha-callum doublet? 1632 Brome *North. Lasse* v. v, Your great acquaintance, and alliance in the Whatshicall Court *Non obstante*. 1641 — *Jov. Crew* II (1661) F 2, Rogue enough though, to offer us his whatd'ecalts? his Doxies. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 121 What think you Sir of your what-sha'come Water and Diiascord? 1658 A. Fox tr. *Wirtz' Surg.* II. xxviii. 188 It is called also the not-named, or (a [illegible], no body knows what it is. onely to..be a witness for [illegible]'t. 1692 Mrs D'Anvers *Academia* 10 'Tis, let me see, now, whach'ee call, Syncategorematical. *a* 1807 J. Skinner *Songs & Poems* (1859) 43 That camsteary—what-d'ye-caw't? (I think it's genius, walie fa't). 1820 Scott *Abbot* XXVI, My Lady What-shall-call 'um's powder.

γ. So **what-ye** (*or* **-you**) **-call(-it,** etc.), later usually **what-you-may-call-it** [What *pron.* C. 4].

1598 Chapman *Blinde Beg. Alexandria* Plays 1873 I. 28 *Eli.* Why hees a what you calt. *Mar.* A what you call it can you not name it. 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 74 Good euen good Mr what ye cal't. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, *Lis.* Heeres your first weapon ducks meat. *Sim.* How, a dutch what you call em, Stead of a German falchion. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXVII, There is no What's-his-name but Thingummy, and What-you-may-call-it is his prophet! 1870 Mary Bridgman *Robt. Lynne* XXIV, Fine place, Bob; built by the what-you-may-call-its. 1892 Kipling *Light that Failed* IX, Say good-bye to the what-you-call-um girl.

† Whate, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 *pl.* hwata, 3 hwat, 3–4 quate, 3–5 wat(e, what(e, 5 qwate. [OE. pl. *hwata*, **hwatan* (gen. *hwatena*), related to *hwata* augur, *hwatung* divination.]

1. Divination, augury; ? foreboding.

c 1000 Ælfric *Lev.* xix. 26 Ne eton ge blod, ne ne gimon hwata ne swefna! *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 Warienge, and handsalne, and time, and hwate, and fele swilche deueles crafte6. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1054 ȝet sat loth at þe burȝes gate, After sum geste stod him quake [*read* quate]. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19567 (Fairf.) Of wate he [*sc.* Simon Magus] was ful wonder wise.

2. Fortune, destiny, fate, luck.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 þe unbileffulle..Werþe6 þat gilt..uppen hwate, and seiþ, nahte ich no betere wate. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 800 Alas alas þou luþer wate [*MS.* & fortune], þat vilest me þus one. *Ibid.* 8519 Vor gode wate

afterward he nadde in none dede. 13.. *St. Gregory* (Vernon MS.) 294 þis is a child of goode whate. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13681 þen fortune his fall fellì aspies, Vnqwemys his qwate, & þe qwele turnys. 14.. *MS. Cantab. Ff. v. 48*, lf. 94 (Halliw.) To bilde he hade gode quate.

b. ? Good fortune, luck.

c 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 14 And be bit erll and be bit late To thi wille thou schalt haue whate.

† Whate, *adv. Obs.* [f. WHAT *a.*[2]] Quickly. The identity of the word in the phr. *Also (A)swat se* (= as soon as) is uncertain.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Al se hwat se he forgulte wes..þet him er luuede he him for wundeden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 71 Alse wat swo þe man his sinne sore bimurneð, ure drihten leðeð þe sinne bendes. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2639 (Laud MS.) To Tebes ward hij wendeþ whate, Hij sheteþ ayeins hym þe gate. *a* 1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1741 Lambard ladde hym forth well whate.

Whate, obs. north. f. WOT.

Whatever (hwɒtɛ·vəɹ), *pron.* and *a.* Also *post.* **whate'er** (hwɒtɛ·ɹ); 6–7 **whatere.** [Orig. two words, WHAT A., B. and EVER *adv.* 8 e.]

1. *interrog.* An emphatic extension of *what*, used in a question (direct or indirect), implying perplexity or surprise. Now *colloq.*

(More properly written as two words: see EVER *adv.* 8 d.)

a. *pron.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 3514 Son, what may al this noys be, ..Whateuer sal it sygnyfy? 14.. in *Anglia* XXVII. 285 Scho..thoght: what euer menes þis message to me. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxiii. 85 *Petrus.* Brethir, what euere 3one brightnes be? 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 409 Whatever possessed her, I know no more than the child unborn. 1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* xiv. 143 'Gracious heart alive, whatever in all the world was that?' asks one. 1880 MRS. OLIPHANT *He that will not* etc. xxiii, Whatever can you want to emigrate for?

b. *adj.*

Mod. Whatever [*or* What ever] contrivance is that? I wonder whatever [*or* what ever] queer thing he'll do next.

2. As compound relative, in a generalized or indefinite sense: see EVER *adv.* 8 e. (Occas. with correl. demonstrative following.)

a. *pron.* Anything at all which, anything that; sometimes contextually (esp. *poet.*), all that, everything that.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 321 (Fairf.) Quat euer þe haly gaste wille, þe fader and sone wil tyte fulfil. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 31 Holdynge ferme & stable what euyr he wolde do ther-with. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 228 Quhatever sik men dois, it is comperit to the dede of a beste. 1567 *Guds & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 39 Quhat euer I haif, all that is thyne. 1590 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 623 Being mou'd he [*sc.* the boar] strikes, whatere is in his way. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 149 Whose constant perseverance overcame Whate're his cruel malice could invent. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. v, It is a Maxim among these Men, That whatever has been done before may legally be done again. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* vii. 88 In a few months we shall have stores of whatever we want. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* i, We'll lay in whatever you want to-morrow.

b. *adj.* (*sing.* or *pl.*, of things or persons): Any . . at all which (or who), any . . that; sometimes (*post.*), all or every . . that.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 343 Whatever reasoun men maken of Crist, of Petir, or oþer good ground, it goiþ opinli aʒen sich a pope. 1382 — *Rush.* xxxiii. 12 The riʒtwisnesse of a iust man shal not delyuere hym, in whateuer day he shal synne. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. viii. 463 What euer gouernaunce God in his Holi Scripture of the Newe Testament blameth. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 29 Quhateuir thing the handis of men had twechet, ..frome al sik thay abstenit mony dayes thaireftir. 1690 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 22 What-ever successive Duration, shall be bounded at one end, and be all past and present, must come infinitely short of Infinity. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 113–117 Whatever fruits in different climes were found, ..Whatever blooms in torrid tracts appear...Whatever sweets salute the northern sky..: These, here [*sc.* in Italy] disporting, own the kindred soil. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 374 They will hear homilies of whatever length Or form they please. 1887 GOLDW. SMITH in *Contemp. Rev.* July 3 The Governor-General has been stripped of whatever little authority he retained.

3. Introducing a qualifying dependent clause equivalent to a conditional or disjunctive clause, often with verb in subjunctive (*whatever happen* = 'if any (sort of) thing happen', 'whether one thing or another happen'). a. *pron.* = 'No matter what'; frequently implying opposition (equivalent to a conditional clause with *though*): = 'Notwithstanding anything that'.

As predicate sometimes (esp. of persons) expressing quality or character, and thus approaching a pred. adj. (cf. WHAT A. 17). Often with ellipsis (*whatever its merits* = 'whatever its merits may be').

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlix. 344 Whon þe þef passeþ quyt a-way, þe trewe mon haþ schome, what-euer men sai. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11143 (Trin.) But what euer he had in boust Mis-likyng chere had he nouʒt. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Jack Cade* i, Whatever it were this one poynt sure I know. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 100 Take no repulse, what euer she doth say. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xciii. 11 Whatere thy thoughts, or thy hearts workings be, Thy lookes should nothing thence, but sweetnesse tell. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 109 What ere you are That in this desert.. Loose, and neglect the creeping houres of time. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 77 *Æne.* If not Achilles sir, what is your name? *Achil.* If not Achilles, nothing. *Æne.* Therefore Achilles: but what ere, know this. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL *1st Folio Shakes.* A 3, But, what euer you do, Buy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 162 Whatever dolegs what can we suffer more ..? 1668 DRYDEN *Secret Love* I. iii, *Phil.* And yet, there is a thing, which time may give me The confidence to name. *Lys.* 'Tis yours whatever. 1697 — *Æneis* VI. 326 Mortal, what e're, who this forbidden Path In Arms presum'st to tread, I charge thee stand. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 497 P 3 Whether it were from Vanity, ..or whatever it was, he carried it so far, that [etc.]. 1780 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 342, I am glad to hear you speak of a little horse, whatever his colour be. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, So Richard asked her; whatever she said, it wasn't No. 1842 — *Amer. Notes* iii, Whatever the defects of American universities may be, they disseminate no prejudices. 1898 NEWMAN *Univ. Sk.* (1902) 191 Men of one idea and nothing more, whatever their merit, must be to a certain extent narrow-minded. 1837 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 326, I have had nothing to suffer from heat, whatever else.

b. *adj.* = 'No matter what . .'; often implying opposition: = 'Notwithstanding any .. that'.

Also (after a prep.) with ellipsis, passing into sense 4 a (*c*).

1561 WINJET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 77 We addict our selfis to the doctrine of na man, of quhateuir leirning and auctoritie he be. 1598 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 84. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* v. 17 What-ever Considerations of this nature you propose to this Atheist, ..he hath this one subterfuge from them all. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 148 P 10 Money, in whatever hands, will confer power. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 74 Whatever fables they have mixed with the narrative, they preserve the material parts. 1889 *Nature* 19 Sept., Rocks of whatever origin, crushed and ground to pieces, ..reconstruct themselves into new forms. 1906 H. BELLOC *Hills & Sea* 176 In whatever place a man may be the spring will come to him.

4. As indefinite adj. or pron., with loss of the relative force: cf. WHAT D.

a. *adj.* (*sing.* or *pl.*, of things or persons); Any . . at all. † (*a*) preceding the sb.: cf. WHAT C. 9 c. *Obs.* or merged in the elliptical use under 3 b.

c 1383 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1911) Oct. 742 Prelatis curatis & preestis or what euere clerkis: shulen not de symonie. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvii. 99 Lete hem not come into what euer examynacioun of argumentis whiche mowe be mad ther upon. 1620–55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 12 Accounting it their chiefest Glory to be wholly ignorant in whatever Arts. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 442 If thence he scape into what ever world, Or unknown Region. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* II. II. I. iii. 93 The Bull alone makes head against the Lion, or whatever other invading Beast of Prey.

(*b*) following the sb.: usually, now only, after *any*, *no*, *all* (*anything*, *nothing*), etc., which it qualifies like an adv. = 'at all'; cf. EVER 8.

1623 N. ROGERS *Str. Vineyard* 78 We see that the Barke of the Vine seemeth more withered and dry than the..Barke of any other Tree whateuer. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 13 (1689) 42 The most holding Bait of all other whatever. 1718 PRIOR *Poems* Ded. (1905) p. xx, He was so strict an Observer of his Word, that no Consideration whatever, could make him break it. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. i, I shall not look on myself as accountable to any Court of Critical Jurisdiction whatever. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvii, Fortifying her strong castle against all assailants whatever. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iv, I know nothing whatever of Mr. Jellyby. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. ii. 195 All bodies whatever are liable to the state of sonorous vibration. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 94 That a player using a racket had no chance whatever against an opponent catching and throwing the ball.

b. *pron.* Anything at all: cf. WHAT D. 1. *rare.*

1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 211, I surely should not put this behinde what ever else. 1892 M. DODS *Gosp. John* II. xiv. 218 The torrent bursts in on me and pours over my wasted bulwarks, resolves, high aims, and whatever else.

What ho: see WHAT B. 3.

† Whatkin, *sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. WHAT D. 1 + -KIN.] A little 'something'; a minute particle.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 112 It self [*sc.* a leasting or atom] being an unthroughfaresom whatkin.

† Whatkin, -kins, *a. Sc.* and *n. dial. Obs.* (Sometimes as two words.) Forms: see WHAT *pron.* and KIN *sb.*[1]; also 5 **what skynnes.** [f. WHAT *a.*[1] + KIN *sb.*[1] 6 b. In later use Sc.; cf. WHAT'N.]

1. Interrogative or exclamatory: Of what kind; what kind or sort of; what.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 963 Tell me..Howgat and wit quatkin-thing, I sal couer þi saghteling. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 772 we, whatkin goddes er þise? *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 76 If ze will wit whatkyn letters þai vse, here ze may here þam. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. Prol. 1 Now haf ȝhe herd on qwhatkyn wyse I haf contenyt þis tretyis. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 592 Quhat kin a fallow was that ane? 1561 WINJET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 60 Quha declaris expreslie quhatkin a faith that haif in God.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3687 (Gott.) 'Sir,..þi mete es graid.' 'And quatkines mete?' 'sir, venisun.' *Ibid.* 10442 Ne wate þu noght..Quatkines a fest it es to day? *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1596 Take gode hede on hys de-gre, Of what skynnes lyuynge þat he be. 1457 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 752 To spye..whatkyns passage wer for an hoste to ryde.

2. Relative: That kind of . . which, such . . as; usually in generalized sense (sometimes with *so* or *soever*): Whatever.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* iv. 10 [lvi. 9] In what-kin dal I cal the nou, Loke, I knew that mi God art þou. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III 315 Men clepid men of holi Chirche may..do what kynne sinne, what kynne treasoun, likeþ hem. 1425 MIDYN *Fire of Love* I. vii. 14 Slike one & so grete he is, whatkyns or so mykill aone odyr is, no nouer may be. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 210 On what skynnes maner so hyt be wrogt, Dedly synne hyt ys forthe broght.

† Whatliche, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **hwætlice,** 3 **hwatliche,** *Orm.* **whattliche**; *comp.* 3 **watloker,** 4 **whatloker(e, -likere**; *sup.* 4 **whatlokest.** [OE. *hwætlice*, f. *hwæt* WHAT *a.*[2] + *-lice* -LY[2].] Quickly.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) CXXVII[I]. 4 [3] Sehyr me hwætlice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12166 þatt deofell let to Laferrd seon Whatlike inn an hannd while Off all þiss wide middellærd þe kinedomess alle. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1708 Þeos hule spac wel baldeliche, For þah heo nadde swo hwatliche lfare after hire here, Heo walde neobeles ȝefe answare.

b. *comp.* Sooner, more readily, rather; *sup.* soonest.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 87 Buta ðu iswik, ðe hwatliker hit to scall mure ma rewen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8846 Worri he wolde watloker mid worde þan mid arme. *c* 1300 *Robert* (Percy Soc.) 1249 And whatlokere [v.r. wel rabur] scholde such an heȝ man ne come he nost so sone, And nother ich ne he habbeth with oure bischops to done. *a* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 315 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 56 Whaþer of þuse tuei schires whatlokest miȝte awake Al sauf scholde wende forþ. 13.. *Lay. Reed* 30/142 þe raþer [v.r. whatlikere] it him was ucryese.

What-like, *interrog. a.* (*sb.*) *arch.* and *dial.* (Also as two words.) [orig. Sc.: f. WHAT *pron.* + LIKE *a.* (q.v. I b ¶), as in '*What* is he *like*?', after SUCH-LIKE.] Of what appearance or aspect. (Usually predicative.)

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, I should be glad to know myself what like the fellow was. 1827 JAS. HAMILTON *Less. Ct. Biog.* 309 It would be interesting to know what like man was in the primeval paradise. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* ix, What like is Miss Havisham? 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* I. 751 Meanwhile unhappy Dido .. asked ..With what-like arms Aurora's son had come unto the King.

b. as *sb.* Aspect, appearance. *nonce-use.*

1853 C. C. LEITCH in *Mem.* (1856) 123 The..questions of the whereabouts and the what-like of a new bungalow.

Whatman (hwɒ·tmăn). [From the name of the maker.] In full *Whatman paper*: A kind of paper, made in various qualities, used for drawings, engravings, etc.

1880 *Macm. Mag.* No. 245. 380 For rapid sketching, thin rough Whatman, properly stretched upon a board, is as good as any other paper. 1886 H. R. ROBERTSON *Art of Pen-and-Ink Drawing* 37 Some old Whatman paper.

What'n, whatten (hwɒ·t'n), *a. Sc.* and *n. dial.* Forms: 6 **quhaten, quhattane,** -**in(e, whattin,** 9 **whaten,** -**an, whatten.** Also β (with indef. art.) **what'n a, whatna.** [Reduced form of WHATKIN *a.*; cf. THAT'N, THISEN.] Properly, What kind of; hence, what.

a 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 245 Quhat will ȝe sayis me now for quhasten plycht? *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXVIII. 16 Quhattane ane glaikit fule am I. 1561 WINJET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 57 Quhattin a Papist I am in this samin ruid Bulk of Questionis..I tak on hand to preue..the maist haly Martyris,..to bef bene the samin Papistis. 1600 [? LYLY] *Maydes Metam.* III. ii, Priapus quoth a? Whattin a God might that bee? 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, I wish I had whaten books ye wanted. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, Whatten o'clock is't? 1892 MORRIS *Poems by the Way* 157 And whatten a bed for me?

β. *a* 1796 BURNS '*There was a lad*', But what'n a day o' what'n a style I doubt it's hardly worth the while To be sae nice wi' Robin. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxix, But whatna wife's this, wi' her cresel on her back? 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* ix, Think, oot o' whatna pit the laddie has been digged.

Whatness (hwɒ·tnés). [f. WHAT *pron.* + -NESS; transl. L. *quidditās* QUIDDITY.] That which makes a thing what it is; essential nature, essence: = QUIDDITY 1.

1611 FLORIO, *Quidità*, the whatnesse of any thing.

of a thing, or the quiddity, the Whatnesse. 1890 MORLEY *Stud. Lit.* (1891) 266 Pressing for definition, you never get much further than that each given quiddity means a certain Whatness. 1889 MIVART *Truth* 218 We must..have the conception of the kind of thing the object is—'what' it is, or the idea of its 'whatness'.

† b. Used by N. Fairfax for: Statement of what a thing is, definition. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 80 The definition or whatness of a thing ought to be of a thing as a thing.

What-not, whatnot (hwɒ·tnɒt). [Properly an ellipt. interrog. phr. (see first quot. below, and cf. WHAT A. 5).]

1. Usually and preferably as two words (hwɒt nɒt): Anything whatever; everything; 'anything and everything'; 'all sorts of things': mostly, now only, as final item of an enumeration: = anything else, various things besides. (Also occas. of persons.)

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. ii. Y iij b, Excesse of fleshely pleasures..hath taken awaye all thynges..my goodes or substance, my name & my good name and fame, my frendes, my glory & my renoume or estimation, what not? & what thyng is it that she hath not taken from me? 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 185 His minde was so altered, his conditions so changed, and what not in him so alienated. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 110 Marrie peace it bends, and loue, and quiet life, An awfull rule, and right supremacie: And to be short, what not, that's sweete and happie. 1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. iv, I have..Borne out the shock of war, and done, what not, That valour durst. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 21 Dec., The strange variety of people..bakers, brewers, butchers, draymen, and what not. 1728 POPE *Lett.* (1735) I. 263 Our evening Walks in the Park, our amusing Voyages

on the Water, our Pharmacopœial Suppers, our Lectures, our Dissertations, our Gravities, our Reveries, our Fooleries, our what not? 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. xix. 46 A Gentleman .. who is my Master, and thinks himself intitled to call me Bold-face and what not. 1849 in B. Gregory *Side Lights* (1898) 462 Well off with the profits of his books and whatnot. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. iii, The blessed king's rosaries, the medals which he wore, the locks of his hair, or what not. 1879 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxix. 392 We had our chops and what not in the parlour of the inn. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Fencing, dam-making, cattle-droving, what not. 1912 *Athenæum* 24 June 711/1 They were too apt to go to law and fight over their lands and fishing rights and what-not.

b. A thing or person that may be variously named or described; a nondescript. *rare.*

1600 *How Chuse Good Wife* v. l 1 a, Why you Iacke sawce, you Cuckold, you what not. 1903 ALICE M. EARLE *Two Cent. Costume Amer.* II. 482 Besides the furbelows and *prettinatilles*, or 'whatnots', were hurly-burlies and *fanfreluches*.

¶ Confusedly used in *pl.* for 'various things'.

a 1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 53 Passengers who are constantly to make portages will not encumber themselves with what-nots. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* ix, I profess to be an impartial chronicler of poor Phil's fortunes, misfortunes, friendships, and what-nots.

2. An article of furniture consisting of an open stand with shelves one above another, for keeping or displaying various objects, as ornaments, curiosities, books, papers, etc.

1808 SARAH, LADY LYTTELTON *Corr.* (1910) 54 The old chairs, tables, what-nots, and sofas. 1831–4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* (1838) 330 There was a 'what not' on the right of the fire-place. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5674, Canterbury what-not. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, About Warwick* I. 140 Such delicate trifles as we put upon a drawing-room table..or a whatnot.

What-now. *nonce-wd.* = QUIDNUNC.

1890 C. MARTYN *W. Phillips* 256 The wits of the pot-house and the what-nows of society were..mightily amused.

What reck, whatreck, *interrog. phr.* (*adv.*) *Sc.* Also 6 quhat ra(o)k, quhattrak, quattrack, 9 foutrack. [f. WHAT *a.*[1] (13 b) + RECK *sb.*[1] 2.] What matter? what does it matter? Also parenthetically as *adv.*: For all that, nevertheless.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 30 Thocht a man half a brokin bak, Half he a gude crafty tehour, quhattrak, That can it cuver with craftis alle. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3209 The Mers sould find me beif and kaill. Quhat rak of bread! *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Poems* (S.T.S.) 280 'And thow steill a cow, quhat they will hang the.' 'Quattrack, Lord, of that? For anis mon I die.' 1787 BURNS *When Guilford good our Pilot stood* ii, But yet, whatreck, he, at Quebec, Montgomery-like did fa', man. 1808 A. SCOTT *Poems* 114 Yet they whatreck in population spread. 1825 JAMIESON *s.v. Foutrack*, One, who hears any unexpected news, exclaims, Foutrack! i.e., Indeed! Is it really as you say? 1847 J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 165 But yet, what reck?

So **Whatrecks** (6 quhatt rax, 9 *Sc.* fatrecks) [WHAT *adv.* (20) + RECK *v.* 8 b] in same sense.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 1540 (Bann. MS.) Now quhill the king is sound sleipand, Quhatt rax to stelll his box? 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 108 Her mill into some hole had fawn Whatrecks, quoth she, let it be gawn. 1804 TARRAS *Poems* 12 'Fatrecks!' quo' Will, 'it needs nae badder.'

Whatsaile, -saill, obs. ff. WASSAIL.

What-sha-callum, what-sha'-come, etc.: see WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM.

What's-his-name (hwɒ·tsʰɪznēm). *colloq.* Substituted for the name of a man or boy (loosely, of a thing) which the speaker forgets, does not know, or is unwilling to mention. So **What's-name** (of a woman or girl), **What's-its-name** (of a thing), **What's-your-name** (of a person addressed).

Whatsonname (quot. 1866) represents an ambiguous form which is not uncommon. *What's-their-names* (quot. 1773) is very rare.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 61 Two Figures on the sides emboss'd appear; Conon, and what's his Name who made the Sphere. 1757 FOOTE *Author* I, Look ye here, Mr. What's-your-name? 1773 G. A. STEVENS *Trip Portsm.* ii. 28 The what's-their-names at uproars squall. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Concl., 'And what became of old Mrs What's her name, the housekeeper?' 'Mrs Wilson, madam', answered I. 1829 MARRYAT *Frank Mildmay* xxiii, Mr. Thingamy, you will take the what's-his-name. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxxi, Those great folks in what's-its-name Place. 1846 — *Cricket on Hearth* i, There was soon the very What's-his-name to pay. 1848 — *Dombey* xxi, 'But seclusion and contemplation are my what's-his-name—' 'If you mean Paradise, Mamma, you had better say so, to render yourself intelligible.' 1868 READE *Griffith Gaunt* xv, He.. almost persuaded Whatsename, another heathen gentleman, to be a Christian. 1872 EARL PEMBR. & G. H. KINGSLEY *S. Sea Bubbles* I. 29 The back-sliding individual is looked upon..by the more..decent of the community as little better than one of the what's-his-names. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* i, It makes one feel like What's-her-name in the 'Trovatore'.

Whatso (hwɒ·tsəʊ), *pron.* and *a. arch.*, chiefly *poet.* [ME. *w(h)at so, quatso, hwat so,* (Orm.) *whattse,* reduced form of OE. *swā hwæt swā,* early ME. *swa hwet swa,* generalized form of *Awæt* WHAT *pron.*: see So *adv.* 17 d.]

1. a. *pron.* = WHATEVER 2 a.

c 1200 ORMIN 426 Forr swa we don unnhayherrilȝ Whattse we don to gode. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1324 Oc abraham it wulde wel Quat-so god bad. *c* 1275 LAY. 25703 We lateþ him one don wat so [*c* 1205 Faren heu swa] he wolle. 13.. *Gawn. & Gr. Kn.* 255, & quat so þy wylle is, we schal wyt ——*a.* 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 359 What so we worchen in þis worlde,..For his sake þat it sente sopli we worchin. 1389 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 36 Mekely to suffre what so him sente were. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 511 And thow mat me ony mair, cum efter quhat sa may, Thow and I sall dyntis deill. 1594 R. CAREW] *Tasso* (1881) 7 When Sire eternall.. Lookes downe, and..in one vew, Compriseth all what so the world can shew. 1620 WITHER *Fair-e-Virtue* N 2 b, And, my Care, it addes not to What-so, others say, or doe. 1735 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* I. 70 And whatso He commands, that I must speak. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* XII. 182 Whatsoever God Is in the air, or whatso rules the blue sea with its rod. 1900 BERCHING *Confer. Bks. & Men* Ded., Despatches, sermons,—whatso goes Into their brain comes out as prose.

b. *adj.* = WHATEVER 2 b.

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 682 And whatso other hearb.. The ioyous Spring..brings forth..He planted there. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. Prol. 27 His fleet held whatso keel could swim From Jutland to Land's End. 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Hell* vii. 31 Whatso power he have.

2. a. *pron.* = WHATEVER 3 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9036 Ne [er] þe gode þe were to prais, Quat-so men o þe wick sais. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 382 Gawan I hatta, þat bede þe þis buffet, quat-so bi-falles after. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 128 Al worth as þow wolte, what so we dispute. 1487 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 747 What so men gat cousetyne nocht hym fylde. *a* 1542 WYATT *Poems, Synce lous wyll nedes* iii, Whatso befall, till that I sterve By proof full well it shall be known. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* v. lxxviii, Loue calles it follie, what so wisdome saith. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 1. 445 And fearless will I enter here And meet my fate, whatso it be. 1870 *Ibid.* L'Envoi (1890) 444/1, I love thee, whatso time or men may say.

†b. Of a person: Whoever. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 6555 What se [*c* 1275 wose] hæfde richedom, he hine makede wræcche mon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Ancre, hwat se heo beo, alse muchel ase heo euer con & mei, holde hire stille. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 522 But it were any person obstinat, What so he were, of heigh or lough estat Hym wolde he snybben. 1412 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 The forsaid lord or his ayris qwhat sa thai be for the tyme. 1564 J. HALL *Crt. of Virtue* 103 b, The poore man,..As well as he, What so he be, That ryches doth endue.

c. *adj.* = WHATEVER 3 b.

1867 MORRIS *Jason* VI. 456 Whatso thing the next day bring, Right merrily shall pass these coming hours.

3. *adj.* = WHATEVER 4 a.

1902 A. AUSTIN *Crowning of Kingship* ii, And, like the sea, let whatso tempests shrill, One, world-wide,..and free.

Whatsoever (hwɒtsoe·vəɹ), *post.* **whatsoe'er** (hwɒtsoe·ɹ), *pron.* and *a.* Also 5 **quat-sever, 6 whats'ever.** (In early use often as two words or three.) [f. WHATSO + EVER *adv.* 8 e; cf. SOEVER.]

1. a. *pron.* = WHATEVER 2 a.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 270 Wisdom þe made ilc þing of noȝt, Quuat-so-euere on heuone or her is wroȝt. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 420 Riht ne spare þ for to jugge What-so-euere soþ wol suigge. *c* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xlvii, Quat-seuer ȝe wille with the kingus men do. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 301 What so euer thou wylt aske of god thy fader I knowe wel he wyll graunte it vnto the. 1526 TINDALE *John* xiv. 13 Whatsoever ye axe in my name, that will I do. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 252 Whats'ever now the Heav'ns wide arms embrace. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlvii. § 2 Whosoeuer hath the name of a mortal man, there is in him whatsoeuer the name of vanitie doth comprehend. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 297 He knew whats'ever's to be known. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IV. xii, Whatsoe'er my wakened thoughts create. 1874 PUSEY *Lenten Serm.* 103 More grievous will be that fire, than whatsoever man can suffer in this life.

b. *adj.* = WHATEVER 2 b.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. ii, None, for what so euer myght that he haue ought not to despreyse the other. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* Iv. 8 Whatsoever thynge are true, whatsoever thynge are honest,..those same have ye in youre mynde. 1564 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 139 Whatsoeuer thinges are seen with bodily iyen. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 587 In whatsoever shape he lurk, of whom 'thou telst. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 1. 71 Whatsoever things We asked for,...those were ours.

2. a. *pron.* = WHATEVER 3 a.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10308 (Gött.) Þu ma gode chere Quat so euer þu se or here. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 37, I will knowe the soth, what-so-euer it coste. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliii. 143, I woll not be dyspleased what so euer thou sayest. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 16 Meaning by the state (whatsoever they otherwise pretende)..the welfare of some few..upholden by this new religion. 1676 DRYDEN *Aureng.* IV. 61 And, whatsoe'r my Letter did pretend, I made this meeting for no other end. 1681 — *Abs. & Achit.* 797 Whatsoe'r their Sufferings were before, That Change they Covet makes them suffer more. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 213 Any force by which bodies tend towards each other, whatsoever be the cause. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 287 They frose me, or affronted me..whatsoever I did.

†b. Whoever: = prec. 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 46, I Counsell, what-so-euer thow be. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 122 Pay iustly thy tithes whatsoeuer thou bee. 1582 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 69 Quhatsaeuer ȝe be yat ar baptised in Christ ȝe haue put on Christ. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 124. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] xi. 89 Could'st thou that readest this, whatsoever thou art..?

c. *adj.* = WHATEVER 3 b.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxlix. 568 Ye ought to praise our lord god, what so euer losse ye haue had. 1546 in Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 68 Quhatsoevir estait or ordour he be of. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 1 Afore the eyne baith of our Nobilitie, and of the lai people, in quhatsaeuir state or degrie. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 125 P 8 Those whom they ought to look upon as their Common Enemies, whatsoever Side they may belong to. 1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* i. (1885) 7 The art which so disposes and adorns the edifices raised by man, for whatsoever uses, that [etc.]. 1874 L. MORRIS *Songs of Two Worlds* Ser. II. *Reply* ii, Whatsoever chance befall, Of myself I'd die possest.

3. a. *adj.* †(*a*) = WHATEVER 4 a (*a*). *Obs.*

1589 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 177, I will put it in practice, nothwithstanding whatsoever inclinacion to the contrary. 1605 A. WOTTON *Answ. Popish Pamph.* 76 [We] who submitt whatsoeuer our expositions to be compared with the Scriptures. 1621 *Bible* Transl. Pref. P 3 He would not suffer it to be broken off for whatsoeuer speaches or practises. 1622 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 125 Fornication..is any whatsoeuer breach of Chastitie. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 232 One True God, from whom is all Whatsoever Nature. *c* 1679 HOBBES *Rhet.* Pref., The Art of speaking, which.. is able to bring about whatsoever Interest.

(*b*) = WHATEVER 4 a (*b*).

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 34/1 In this Parlement, or any other Parlement afore this tyme holden whatsoever notwithstondyng. 1549 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) II. 9 This realme of Englande and other the Kinges dominions whatsoeuer. 1582 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 80, I build not my faith upon any one man whatsoever. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 216, I promist we would be Contributors, And beare his charge of wooing whatsoere. 1692 HICKERINGILL *Geoot Old Cause* Wks. 1716 II. 535 You may easily know to get an Antidote against Death, and Losses, and Crosses, whatsoever. 1792 ALISON *Anecd. W. Pitt* II. xxix. 127 In every circumstance of government and legislation whatsoever. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* ix, He felt in himself no title whatsoever to that epithet.

†b. *pron.* = WHATEVER 4 b. *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 1023/1 Other wil become horne madde and be at defiance with whatsoeuer. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 134 It was also well furnished..with whatsoeuer els necessary for a Trenche. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* III. 158 The pompe and solemnity exceeded whatsoever of former times.

†**Whatsome,** *pron. Obs.* In 4 **quat-sum, -sim.** [f. WHAT *pron.* + SUM *rel. adv.*] Whatever.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 702 Quat sum first þar was gain saw, Al for noght þai ette it bath. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 9036 (Fairf.) Quat-sim men of þe wikked saise.

Whatsomever (hwɒtsŏme·vəɹ), *pron.* and *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (In early use often as two words or three.) [f. prec. + EVER *adv.* 8 e.]

1. a. *pron.* = WHATEVER 2 a.

c 1400 *Maundev.* (Roxb.) xxvi. 123 þai will graunt þam what sum euer þai asch. *c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 312 Yff your Grace wold witsaffe to wrȝght iij. wordes to the sayd Archibishope shewyng hyme, whatt so mever hathe ben wrytyn. 1582 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 274 The vther number of the congregation, Redaris, exhortaris, or quhatsumeuir thay be. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 249 And what someuer els shall hap to night, Giue it an vnderstanding but no tongue. 1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Otia Sacra* 67 Wha.some'r both Earth and Air afford.

b. *adj.* = WHATEVER 2 b.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 504 But what som euer woo they fele, They wole not pleyne. 1583–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 168 Whatsomeuer thynge is gyuen vnto them for the loue of hym, he taketh it as it were done to hym-selfe. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 58 Quhatsumeuer thinga ar treue, quhatsumeuer thinga ar honest. *c* 1620 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) b 2 b, Favourites..who..take pleasure of whatsomever Recreation they find the Prince inclined to. 1634 in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 207 Whatsomever bonds are in Moneys in my behoof.

2. a. *pron.* = WHATEVER 3 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10508 'Anna,' he said, 'þou ma god chere Quat-sum euer þou se or here.' *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2804 Wel am I wroken on the, What som euer fal on me. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1935 Whatt-so-mewer yow be-tyde. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* ii. Wks. (1876) 35 Alwaye content what someuer god sent vnto them. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxii. 106 b/2 Our subiectes, comons, colleges, vniuersities, or syngular personnes, what someuer they be. 1603 *Philotus* lxxvii, Quhat sumeuer me befall.

†b. Whoever: = WHATSO 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1450 in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 98 That the Justice may do vpon them trew Jugement, what some ever they be. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 398 Quhat sumeuer that he be, Bring him haistely to me. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 641 Nor na other, quhat-sumeuir that thai be, Haldis of ȝow or ȝour auctoritie. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 54 What somere he is He's bravely taken heere.

c. *adj.* = WHATEVER 3 b.

1482 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) I. 363 No man.. schal be i-saued, but he be verrey repentaunt, what sommeuer penaunce he doo. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxii. 107 b/1 Subiectes, (whatsomeuer estate or condicion they be of). 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 7 In quhatsumeuir way It sall happin. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 102 All mens faces are true, whatsomere their hands are.

3. a. *adj.* = WHATEVER 4 a.

1429 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 10 Any other accyons qwatsevmewer be twyx thaim. 1482 in *Charters Edin.* (1871) 153 Ony vther place quhatsumener neidful, or amangis quhatsumeuir merchandis. 1588 in *J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 266 All and whatsumever persones, avowit or suspected to be Papists. 1678 G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xi. § 5. (1699) 202 In all the Courts of Bishops, Abbots, and the Lords whatsomever. 1721 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 132 Him his heirs and successors whatsomever. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Dead Drummer*, I can't see no Drummer-boy here whatsumdever. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xviii, Silver Sand had no cloak or plaid whatsomever.

†b. *pron.* = WHATEVER 4 b. *Obs.*

1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Otia Sacra* 54 Our Lust, our Pride, Ambition, Or whatsome'r beside.

Whatstane, obs. form of WHETSTONE.

Whatte, obs. form of WOT.

Whatten, -in: see WHAT'N.

Whatway: see WHAT A. 13 (*b*).

What-wise, *adv. phr. rare.* [Properly two words, WHAT *a.* (13) + WISE *sb.*] In what manner; how. Also *in whatwise.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20398 Of vs es nan þat wat for quam, Ne wat quat-wis we beder cam. *c* 1380 *Will. Palerne* 904 Seie me in what wise þat þat hache þe baldes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxix. 36, I shall you tell what-wyse and how. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Prol. 188 With Venus heuinis quhat wyse may I flite? 1905 J. B. BURY *Life St. Patrick* vii. 139 Tell us how we may know him, in whatwise he will appear.

What-you-(may-)call-it, etc.: see WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM.

Whau, *int. north. dial.* [A natural exclamation; perh. also contained in WHANNOW.] Also **wha, whaugh.** Well! Why! Also = WAUGH a.

1589 'MARPRELATE' *Hay any Work* 30 Whau, whau, but where haue I bin al this while. 1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* Gloss., *Whaugh*, a word of Admiration, as God bless us, etc. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Wha*, well. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene Aram* IV. ix, Depend on it, they are two of a trade—augh!—bother! —whaugh! 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whau*, why! yes. *North.*

Whaule eyed, obs. form of WALL-EYED.

Whaup(hwōp, hwāp), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 6 quha(i)p, 7 whoup, 7–9 whaup, 8–9 whaap, 8– whaup, (8 whape, wap, 9 whawp, quhaup). [Perhaps for **whalp* and allied to OE. *hwilpe* (Seafarer 21), = early WS. **hwielpe*:— **χwalpjon-*, f. *χwalp-* : *χwelp-* a stem imitative of the bird's cry, and represented also in LG. *regenwilp, -wölp* sandpiper, WFris. (*greate*) *wylp* curlew (*reen-, wetter-wylp, lytse wylp* Numenius phæopus), Du. *wulp, wilp* curlew. (WFris. *wettergulp*, LG. *regengilp* show a variant with *g.*) The dial. name *curlew-help* may be for **curlew-whelp*, and so attest the former existence of a variant **whelp*; but cf. the form *hilpe* (1530 in *Ancestor* XI. 179).] The larger curlew, *Numenius arquata.*

Also † *great whaup, stock whaup* (see STOCK *sb.*1 64).

1538 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 92 A quhap that is greitt xij d. 1553 *Ibid.* 185 The best quhaip viij d. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 Quhilk gart the quhapis for fleyitnes fle far fra hame. 1683 ALEX. GARDEN in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S. H. S.) II. 133 The Whap also uses to be eaten. 1733 T. GIFFORD *Zetland Isl.* (1786) 26 Wild fowl..such as pluvers, whapes. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* V. 188 The wild land fowls are plovers, pigeons, curlews, (commonly called whaap). 1839 STODDART *Songs & P.* 28 An' his dirges lang and dreary Pipes the grey whaup to the morn. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxix, Not so much as a whaup came near me on that great, wide, dappled hill.

Whaur, Sc. f. WHERE.

Wha(u)ve (hwōv), *v. dial.* Also 7 **whoave,** 9 **wauve.** [nd. ON. *hvalfa, holfa*: see WHELVE.]

1. *trans.* To turn upside down; to turn (pottery) when drying.

1611 COTGR. s. v. *Dent, Mettre vn pot &c. à dents*, to turne it vpside-down, to whauve it with the mouth downewards. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 123 When the Potter has wrought the clay either into hollow or flat ware, they are set abroad to dry..turning them as they see occasion, which they call whaving.

2. a. *trans.* To cover over. b. *intr.* To hang over.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, To *Whoave*; *Chesh.* to cover or whelm over. We will not kill but whoave. *Prov. Chesh.* ab A.S. *Hwolf, Hvalf*, a covering or canopy; Verb. *Hwalfian*, camerare, fornicare. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Whauve,..*to whelm. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whave*, to cover, or hang over.

Hence **Whauve** *sb.*, (*a*) *techn.* the amount of the dish (DISH *sb.* 5) of a wheel; (*b*) *dial.* the arched covering of turf over a grave (*Shropsh. Word-bk.*); **Wha'ver** (in quoits: see quot. 1818).

1674 Whaver [see RINER]. 1818 WILBRAHAM *Gloss. Cheshire* 25 in *Archæologia* XIX, A Riner is when the Quoit touches the peg or mark. A whaver is when it rests upon the peg, and hangs over. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 389/3 Add to this twice the wauve (dish) of the wheels, *i. e.* 5 in.

Whaw, obs. form of VAU.

1758 WISE *Some Eng. Eur.* 137 *note*, The Hebrew ו Vau or Vhaw.

Whawl, Whax, Whay, Whayle, Whaynt, Whayte, Whazle, Whe, Wheadle: see WAUL, WAX, WAY, WHEY, WHOLE, QUAIL, QUAINT, WAIT, WHEEDLE, WE, WHO, WHEEDLE.

Wheak, *v. dial.* Also 6 **qu(h)aik,** 6, 9 **whoek,** 9 **weak, week.** [Imitative.] *intr.* To squeak, whine. So **Wheak** *sb.*, a squeak or whine.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. ix. 79 With mony pant, and felloun hauchis and quhaikis. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* XIII. viii. (1886) 245 The wheeking of a little pig. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Wheak.

† **Wheal** (hwīl), *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **whele,** (5 **whelle, wheel,** 6 **wheell, wele**), 6–7 **wheale,** 7–8 **wheal.** [OE. **hwele* (Somner), related to WHEAL *v.*1: cf. WHELK 2.] A pimple, pustule.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 523/2 Whele, or whelke, soore (*K.* whelke, *S.* qwelke, *P.* wheel), *pustula.* 1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Whele in the hande, *boubette, bubette*; *nassie.* 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 120 Sumetymes happeneth to ye chyldren wheles and blysters on theyr tounges and mouth. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* (1), Applye it to the scrupulous and weles, it kylleth and heeleth them. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* K 3, I durst not let out a wheale for feare through it I should bleede to death. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. vi. II. 437 It killeth the itch, and healeth angrie . . 1623 HART *Arvologium. Ur.* II. iii. 46 Small wheales like the small Pose. 1726 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2317 When she scratched the little Pimples or Wheals that arose on its surface.

fig. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 71 The assemblies of ye people swarmyng about the same orateurs, he called the pymples or little wheales of gloria.

b. *attrib.* **wheal-worm,** an insect producing wheals, as the itch-mite or harvest-bug.

1648 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. xvi. 115 What strang discoveries of extream minute bodies (as lice wheal-worms, mites, and the like). 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1095 The most vertuous Lady of Penruddock..was for ten years troubled with these wheal-worms. 1668 CHARLTON *Onomast.* 56 Syrones in cute, Wheal-worms. [1849 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 663 From the glossy wheals which its [*sc.* the harvest-bug's] bite produces, it has sometimes been called Wheal-Worm.]

Hence † **Whealy** *a.*, pimply.

1611 COTGR., *Bothereal*, wheales, poukie, pushie.

Wheal (hwīl), *sb.*2 [Misspelt form of WEAL *sb.*2 Cf. WHEAL *v.*2] a. The ridge raised on the flesh by a blow: = WALE *sb.*1 2, WEAL *sb.*2

1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess of Gertr.* I. 26 Cover her neck over that I may not see the wheals on it. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* May 396/2 Each blow raised a wheal upon the place where it fell. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* V, Without supper—covered with wheals. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* IX, Across his face was a blue wheal where the whip had fallen.

b. In modern medical use, a flat, usually circular, hard elevation of the skin, esp. that characteristic of urticaria.

So called because resembling the 'wheal' raised on the skin by a blow.

1808 WILLAN *Cutan. Dis.* I. p. xi, Wheal; a rounded, or longitudinal elevation..with a white summit,..not containing a fluid, nor tending to suppuration. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosologia* (ed. 3) 326 It [*sc.* Urticaria] is distinguished by those elevations of the cuticle, which are usually denominated wheals. 1876 BEMROSE *Theory & Pract. Med.* 290 A wheal may be regarded as a form of tubercle.

Comb. 1876 BEMROSE *Theory & Pract. Med.* 542 The internal coat of translucent wheal-like thickenings.

c. *gen.* A ridge.

1855 NEWMAN *Callista* XV, They [*sc.* locusts] moved right on like soldiers in their ranks..; they carried a broad furrow or wheal all across the country. 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* XII, The water in its track rose in a boiling wheal crested with steam.

Wheal, *sb.*3 *local.* [Cornish *huel.*] A mine.

1830 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.*

† **Wheal,** *v.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **hwelian,** 5 **whelyn,** 6 **whele,** 6–7 **wheale,** 6– **wheal.** [Late OE. *hwelian*; pa. pple. *gehwelod*, f. **hwele* WHEAL *sb.*1]

1. *intr.* To suppurate, gather; to develop or become affected with wheals.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 282 Gif þæt lic heard sí, utan lege on þane læcedom þe þæt heard forði hwelige. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* XV. (1889) 77 *Multi..de bonorum prefectibus invidie liuore tabescunt*, Manige..be goddra fremum andan mid wunde hwelias. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whelyn, as soorys.., *pustulo.* 1530 PALSGR. 780/2 Outher you have many wormes, or els you be nat well in your lyver, for your handes wheale a pace. 1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* V. i, Now gin the leprous cores of ulcered sins Wheale to a heade. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2).

2. *trans.* To suppurate or bring to a head; to affect with wheals. Only in *pa. pple.* suppurated, pustuled, pimpled.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 275 Forðamðe hie [*sc.* speech]..ðæt gehwelede on ðæm oðrum geopenaðe & utforlæt. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 208 Siþþan þæt geswel biþ gehwelod & tobyrst. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 1182 Domingos nose that was wheled. 1536 WITHALS *Dict.* 76 b/2 Matter, as in a wounde when it is wheuled, *pus.* 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 651 If they be whealed and filled with matter. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I. xiii. 63, I..washt the Parts whealed and swelled with *spir. vini.*

Hence † **Whealing** *vbl. sb.*, suppuration.

c 1440 [see VENTOSING *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whelynge, of sorys, *pustulacio.*

Wheal (hwīl), *v.*2 [Misspelt form of WEAL *v.*]

1. *trans.* To mark with wales or weals.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 135 Batts and Wasps.. following their Aggressors till they have Whealed them into Contrition for their unadvised Provocation. 1702 STANHOPE *Pious Breathings* VII. xii. 339 His Body rent and whealed with Scourges. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLI. 24 The horse..would have been whipped and whealed. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. II, His eyes were bloodshot, his cheeks whealed and puffed. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* V. 235, I..now am whealed, one wide wound all of me.

2. *intr.* To be marked with weals or ridges.

1570 GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* III. 34 b, The bloud sprang out a pace, and eke their backs did swell and wheale With multitude of stripes.

Wheale, Whealke, Wheam, Whean, Wheang, Whear: see WEAL, WHEEL, WHELK, QUEME, QUEAN, WHEEN, WHANG, WHERE.

† **Whease,** *v. Obs.* [?] *trans.* To signal.

1600 R. CAREW *Cornwall* I. 32 b, By crying with a loud voice, whistling through his fingers, and wheasing casting diuersified signes, with a bush, which hee holdeth in his hand. 1630 J. REYNOLDS *Flower Fidel.* 151 The Master upon the Poop with his silver Sword to whease them to Lee-ward.

Whease, Wheasle: see WHEEZE, WHEEZLE.

Wheat (hwīt), *sb.* Forms: 1 **hwæte,** 2–5 **hwete,** 3–6 **wete,** 4–5 **wheet(e, whet,** 4–6 **whete,** 6–7 **wheate,** (1 **hwæte,** 3 **whæte, hweate,** 4 **huete, whyte, wit,** 5 **whegte, white,** 5–6 **whett(e,** 6 **whyt,** 6 **whettt, whaytt, whiett, wett(e, weate),** 6– **wheat**; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 4–5 **quhet, qwet,** 5–6 **quhete, qwheit,** 5–7 **quheit** (4 **quete,** 5 **qw(h)ete, qwheet, qhete, qwete, qwyte, qwyet, quhe(y)t,** 6 **quheitt, quhait, quheite, qwheyte, queat, quhyt(t, vhyt).** [OE. *hwæte* str. m. = OFris. **(h)wēte* (NFris. *wēte*), OS. *hwēti* (MDu. *weite*, Du. *weit*), MLG. *weiten, wēten* (LG. *weten*), OHG. *weizzi*, (MHG. *weize, weitze*, G. *weizen*), ON. *hveiti* (Sw. *vete*, Da. *hvede*), Goth. *hwaiteis* :—OTeut. **χwaitjas*, derivative of **χwīt-* WHITE.]

1. The grain of a cereal (see sense 2), furnishing a meal or flour which constitutes the chief bread-stuff in temperate countries.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxiv. 14 [lxv. 13] *Conualles abundabunt frumento*, dene genyhtsumiað hwæte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 12 He gegaderað hys hwæte on his bern. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10527, I þa þatt sweltenn windwebþ Crist & cleunsebþ here hiss whæte. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 292 in *O. E. Misc.* 20 Đe mire suneð ðe barlic, Đanne ȝe finð te wete. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Ane wummon..þet windweode hweate. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 18 Vor engelonde is vol inou, of frut, & ek of tren, Of wit [*v.rr.* whyte, whyt] & of wolle god. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10091 Þe vble ys made of whete, Þe louelyest corne þat men ete. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22327 (Gött.) Þe mett of qwet, ala it es tald, For a peni it sal be sald. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVI. (*Nycholas*) 214 Ia þe hawine schipis gret Ware arywit, chargit with quhet. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 361 Full benelie stuffit..Of beinis, and nuttis, peiss, ry, and quhite. 1489 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 291 The bussehell of whette be boghte for xii. *d.* *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 287 The rasour of whete was solde for fourty shelynges and twenty pence. 1550–3 *Decaye Eng.* in S. Fish *Supplic.*, etc. (1871) 99 Allowe to euery person ij. quarters of weate. 1596 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 4 Thys yere a bushelle of wett was at five shillinge. 1589 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 218, L. stroke quest unbarrowed. 1603 DEKKER *Batchelar's Banquet* Wks. (Grosart) I. 176, I can tell you their mouthes will not be stopt with a bushell of wheat that speake it. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos Eaters* 167 An ill-used race of men..Storing yearly little dues of wheat, and wine and oil.

b. in allusive and proverbial use: often opposed to *chaff, tares.*

a 1225 *Juliana* 79 Hwen drihtin o domes dei windweð his hweate. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 59 It were a schort beyete To winne chaf and lese whete. 1561 WINJET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 120 Guid and euill, expressit in the Euangell, be the similitude of quheit and fitchels. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Pain, Quiers tu meillaur pain que de fourment?* Wouldst thou haue better bread then's made of wheat? 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 46 Malt is above the wheat with him. *Cylicum remiges.* 1874 *Sankey's Sacred Songs* (1878) 21 Let us keep

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sackful of the most unnutritious chaff."

2. The cereal plant (closely related to barley and rye) which yields this grain, esp. common wheat, *Triticum vulgare* (*sativum*), cultivated in temperate climates.

With qualification denoting a particular kind, as DUCK-BILL *wheat, goat's-wheat* (GOAT 4 c), GUINEA *wheat, Indian wheat* (INDIAN *a.* 4 b), *Lammas-wheat* (LAMMAS *sb.* 4), POLAND *wheat, Pollard wheat* (POLLARD *sb.*2 B. 1), RED WHEAT, *Rivet-wheat* (RIVET *sb.*2 b), *Spelt-wheat* (SPELT *sb.*1 2), *Summer wheat* (SUMMER *sb.*1 4 c), TURKEY WHEAT, WHITE *wheat*, WINTER *wheat*; also applied to some plants of other genera, as BUCKWHEAT, COW-WHEAT, *French wheat* (FRENCH *a.*).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 25 Mið ðy uutedlice ȝeslepdon..ða menn cuom fiond his & ofer-ȝeseawu..alfðe In middum hwæte. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 692 Hue tilede in hur time on þe touh erþe, & whete sobliche sew. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxviii. (W. de W.) V ij/2 Of whete is dowble kynde: One maniere kynde is red wythout.. and is moost whyte wythin, & heuy...The other maniere whete is yelowe wythout and clere and whyte wythin: and is lyghte. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXX. 134 In þis cuntree es lytill qwheat or barly. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 80 Sithia, and all hukis that scheris quheit. 1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 49 Graie wheat is the grosest, yet good for the clay...Much like vnto rie be his properties found. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 185 When wheate is greene, when hauthorne buds appeare. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 60 A third kinde of wheate..which is called holie wheate or sommer wheate. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 415, I found the Wheat here growing higher then my head. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 846/1 The three principal kinds of bad wheat are, the blighted, the smutty, and the worm-eaten. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* V. (1870) 103 Wheat will not thrive in hot climates. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II, 287 The tall wheat, coloured by the August fire Grew heavy-headed.

3. *pl.* Wheat-plants; crops of wheat; kinds of wheat.

1796 *Scots Mag.* LVII. 544/1 In Lancashire..their wheats are not yet on the bloom. 1797 *Sporting Mag.* X. 297 The new Wheats already thrashed out. 1809 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 429 They are frequently also sown on the young wheats and clovers in the spring. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 339 The bread of Perth in particular, where those wheats are alone used, equals any in the united kingdom. 1888 *Daily News* 23 Oct. 2/6 Foreign white wheats..have hardened to a small advance on the week. 1894 *Times* 22 Jan. 4/2 The young wheats..looking little or none the worse for their week beneath the snow.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **wheat-area, -awn, -barn, -blade, -blossom, -blossoming, -braird, -bran, -bread, -chaff, -close** (CLOSE *sb.*1 2), **-colour, -crop, -crust, -drill, -eddish, -fallow, -field, -flour, -garner, -gluten** (GLEAN *sb.*1 1), **-grain, -ground, -grower, -harvest, -haulm, -house, -leaf, -loft, -malt, -mill,**

-mew, *-pit* (PIT *sb.*[1] 11), *-plant*, *-producer*, *-production*, *-reed* (REED *sb.*[1] 2 c), *-rick*, *-ridge*, *-riping*, *-screenings* (cf. SCREEN *sb.*[1] 5), *-scrip* (SCRIP *sb.*[4]), *-seed*, *-seeding*, *-sheaf*, *-sowing*, *-stack*, *-stalk*, *-starch*, *-straw*, *-stubble*, *-threave*; *wheat-coloured*, *-fed*, *-growing*, *-hid* adjs.; applied to insects, fungi, etc. destructive to wheat, as *wheat-bug*, *-caterpillar*, *-gall-fly*, *-gnat*, *-insect*, *-joint-worm*, *-louse*, *-maggot*, *-midge*, *-mildew*, *-mite*, *-moth*, *-plant-louse*, *-weevil*, *-worm*; applied to implements used in obtaining or preparing the wheat-grain, as *wheat-brush*, *-dryer*, *-flail*, *-heater*, *-ridder*, *-riddle*, *-separator*, *-sieve*. b. Special Combs.: **wheat-barley** = *naked barley* (NAKED *a.* 12 c); **wheat-berry**, the grain of wheat; **wheat-bird**, a bird that feeds on wheat, esp. the chaffinch; **wheat-duck**, the American widgeon, *Mareca americana*, found in flocks in wheat-fields; **wheat-fish**, the squeteague; **wheat-fly**, name for various insects whose larvæ infest the wheat plant, as the Hessian fly, the wheat-midge, etc.; **wheat-grass**, name for various species of the genus *Triticum*, esp. couch-grass, *T. repens*; **wheat-lay** *dial.*, the sowing of land with wheat; **wheat-rent**, in the Channel Islands, wheat paid as rent (cf. QUARTER *sb.* 4 b). See also WHEAT-CORN, etc.

1884 *Spectator* No. 2932. 1165 Whether the *wheat-area of the world will be maintained. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lxxiv, I caught a limb, and tore it (like a *wheat-awn) from the socket. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. viii. 460 *Hordeum Nudum*. Naked or bare Barley, *Wheate Barley. 1377 in *Cal. Close Rolls* 509 [The grange called the] *whiteberne. 1474-5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 156 Pro tectura.. super le Whitebarn Manerii de Eluet. 1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 42 In the whiett barne, whaytt and rye. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 8/1 The *wheatberry, to become blood, bone, and flesh, must be broken up. 1768-71 M. CATESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 444 They [*sc.* exotic Birds] arrive [in Virginia] annually at the time that Wheat..is at a certain Degree of Maturity...They have attain'd the Name of *Wheat-Birds. 1867 EMERSON *Poems, May-day* 201 The dead log touched bursts into leaf, The *wheat-blade whispers of the sheaf. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiii. 154 The nipping Winds..which..might destroy the tender *Wheat Blossoms. *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 209 The cows milk abates about *wheat-blooming time. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 150 The *wheat-braird was strong. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C.) 1622+21 3yt was he wonte before eche day,..Of *whyte brawne to haue a mease. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 75 Tak whete branne als myche as sufficeþ. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 257 If a little Wheat-bran is boiled in our ordinary Beer. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 120 Pough *whete bred me faille. 1552 *and Prayer-bk. Edw. VI, Commun.* rubric, The best and purest wheate bread, that conueniently maye be gotten. 1703 J. BRAND *Descr. Orkney* 18 An for Wheat-bread it is rare. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 945/1 **Wheat Brush*, a device for scouring grain. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat-bugs. *Miris tritici* and *M. erraticus*. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxi. III. 277 This door is to serve the moth for its exit, like that formed by the *wheat-caterpillar. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 46 *Wheat chaffe lay vp drie. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 149/1 Supposing that the stomach be distended by light materials, as wheat-chaff, chopped straw. 1599 *George a Greene* C j b, Madge pointed to meete me in your *wheate close. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxix, He's in Gaffer Gabblewood's wheat-close. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 150 The hair on the upper [lip] being thin and short of a *wheat Colour. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Mar. 3/2 The *wheat-coloured straw. 1581 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 42 All the *wheat crope, that is sowen upon my farmhold. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 338 That my wheat-crops would be hurt by the north-easterly winds. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xiii. § 1. 834 Land which might have been supposed to have been exhausted of its phosphates by a previous wheat-crop. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. ii. 65 Your course *wheat-crust would bee kneaded with hot-water. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xxii. 318 In the Side of a Mortise of a *Wheat-Drill. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 113/1 Model of the Patent *Wheat Dryer. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. xxiv. 76 Immediately after harvest I turn them on the *wheat eddishes. *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 20 They..will not allow a load of ..dung at harvest to come through their *wheat-fallow. 1898 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Feb. 89/3 The *wheat-fed pork of the North West. 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 108 That no man take away his bestes fro the comyn herd..to go in the *qwete feld to lese the qwete. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 209 By laying corne-grounds and wheat-fields to his owne demaines. 1840 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* III. i. Over the wheat-fields, where the shadows sail. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 706/2 That the *wheat firlot shall contain 29 pints and two joucattes. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 111 The Squeteague...Some old authorities use the name '*Wheat-fish'. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 31 When..þer is added þerto white of eiren and oyle, wiþ wax and *whete floure. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxx[ii]. 16 He shulde fede them with the fynest wheate floure. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk Secrets* 102 Fry them together till they be thick with a little wheatflower. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 456 A mucilaginous vegetable paste.. as wheat-flower and water. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 175/1 Gruel made of fine wheat-flour. 1708 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex., Virginian* **Wheat fly*, a mischievous insect in the American state: It eats the grain, and is a moth in a perfect state. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 951 The wheat-fly, *Cecidomyia tritici*. 1453-4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 634 Operanti..super..emendacionem de le *Whetgarner. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 96 The *whete glene crowned above the greyne. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xliv. IV. 221 The Ichneumon of the *wheat-gnat. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5590 An hundred mavis [? mowis] of *whete greyne. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iii, It has now..sifted out the true wheat-grains of National Deputies. 1918 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Aug. 320/1 For years millers have laboured to provide us with a perfectly white loaf, throwing away some of the most valuable parts of the wheat-grain in so doing. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 73 *Wheat-grass.. either the greater used for the making of frails: or the lesser. 1768 *Museum Rust.* VI. 442 Common Wheat-grass, or Couch-grass. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 173 Sea Wheat-grass. Rush Wheat. *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 17 He sows on his *wheat-ground..about February. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 348 That is a profit more than the rent of the ground, and half as much again above the profit of the *wheat-grower. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 18 The pioneer upon the prairie is a wheat-grower. 1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 93 Pennsylvania, then one of the best *wheat-growing States. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXX. 14 And Ruben goon out in tyme of *wheet hergest into the feeld. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiii. 154 If their Wheat Harvest in Sicily be about the 20th of May. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 130 Genim gate tord & *hwæte healm gebærn to duste. 1748 *Lond. & Country Brewer* IV. (ed. 2) 255 Wheat Straw under a Hair-Cloth is reckoned the best Fuel by most, Rye-Straw next, and Wheat-Haulm worse. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 30 And lonely chirp the *wheat-bid quails. 1559 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 143 For covering y^e *whete house ut patet per billam. 1710 HILMAN *Tweser Rediv.* June (1744) 78 Lay it in the best Place you have, for which the Wheat-Houses now in request.. are I think the best. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. United States* II. 53 The Hessian fly, or *wheat insect (*Tipula tritici*). *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 304 It may be proper to fold till Christmas, and then go on the *wheat-lay. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 208 The Baillye.. Weyed ageyn his bredde wiche was to leight in the 1st *Whete loffe iiij ounces. 1587 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 26 [A] *whete lo't. 1452 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 275 Drege malte, pese, benes, *whetemalte. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 93 Wheat-Malt also differs much from Barley-Malt. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 304 The *wheat-midge (*Cecidomyia tritici*). 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 184/1 *Chondrocopium farrarum*,.. a *wheate mill or (as some say) an otemeale mill. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat-mite. An acarus infesting stored corn. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) Index, *Wheat moths. *c* 1700 *Bagford Ballads* (1876) I. 66 Both his *Wheat Mows & his Hay, By Flames of Fire are consum'd away. 1808 COBBETT in *Friendsh. Mary R. Mitford* (1882) I. 43 The hares will be heard squeaking like rats on the breaking up of a wheat-mow. 1884 DEPEW in *Harper's Mag.* (1886) XII. 217 In the *Wheat Pit at Chicago in a single year was buried more of the future prosperity of this republic than the sum of all the traffic which flows through that great city in a decade. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xi. 112 If the How-Plow goes so near to the Rows as it ought, it would be apt to tear out the *Wheat-Plants along with the Stubble. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 17 A disposition to increase the breadth of *wheat-planting. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat plant-louse, *Aphis granaria*. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 6/3 Canada aims at being the great *wheat-producer of the world. 1884 *Spectator* No. 2932. 1165/2 To increase *wheat-production in India. 1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* Gloss., **Wheat-reed*, straw preserved unthrashed for thatching. 1682 WARBURTON *Guernsey* (1822) 94 A man, that has either house or land which he wishes to dispose of,..sells it to another to hold to him and his heirs for ever, paying yearly so many quarters..of *wheat rent. 1694 FALLE *Jersey* iii. 95 Together with several Parcels of Lands and Meadows, Wheat-Rents, Escheats. *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 182 In that fashion, without thatching, they make *wheat-reeks in the Isle of Wight. 1823 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) I. 255 A..farm-house,..with a wheat-rick standing in the yard. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 Take a seve or a *wheterydoun. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 200 Our Wheat-ridder Sieves. 1479-80 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. cccxlvii, ij *whetridils, iij haveridils, et ij cribria. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 45 Windowed my wheat the chaff out of it, but, for want of a wheat riddle, we could dress it no further. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 281 A wheat-riddle of wood. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xi. 110, I find by measuring my *Wheat Ridges in the Spring, that none of them are quite a Foot High. 1860 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 323 No one ever remembers the aspect of the wheat-ridges so mournfully unpromising. 1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xv. 1 Whanne the dais of *whete ripynge stooden yn. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 343 *Wheat-screenings, cracked corn,..or buckwheat, may be added to their diet. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 309 The ..*Wheat-seed Plough. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 225 He..had worked with other horses all the wheat-seed time. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 724 Certaine waxe candles, which euer and onely they vsed to light in *wheat-seeding. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 44 When he ended his wheat seeding. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 946/2 **Wheat Separator*. The separation of mustard, cockle, and grass seed from the wheat is effected by passing the mixed grains over inclined plates perforated with holes. *c* 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 329 Item a greate Bason with a *Wheyte Sheffe in the bottom. 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 127 God knowes who shal pay goodman Yeoman, for his wheat sheafe. 1782 HIGHMORE *Ramble Coast Sussex* (1873) 15 Nature..shewed us her Wheatsheaf—and her Autumn Horn. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 403 A wheat-sheaf should never contain more than two or three handsful. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 375 The cones [of the kidney] which are often compressed in their centres to the well-known wheat-sheaf shape. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 390 It should be pounded till it will run through a *wheat-sieve. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* XXV, October for *wheate sowing, calleth as fast. 1824 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) II. 178 Wheat-sowing is yet going on, on the Wold. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 126 To-day..nine men,—three boys,—three teams,—and four carriages, have made a very handsome *Wheat-Stack of eighteen harvest loads. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 1. 28 The stalke or steale thereof [*sc.* of rye] is smaller then the *Wheate stalke. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiii. 138 The lower parts of the Wheat-stalks must receive the greater share of Heat. 1880 MEREDITH *Phœbus with Admetus* iv, Stately stood the wheatstalk, with head bent high. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.*

now..sifted out the true wheat-grains of National Deputies. 1918 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Aug. 320/1 For years millers have laboured to provide us with a perfectly white loaf, throwing away some of the most valuable parts of the wheat-grain in so doing. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 73 *Wheat-grass.. either the greater used for the making of frails: or the lesser. 1768 *Museum Rust.* VI. 442 Common Wheat-grass, or Couch-grass. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 173 Sea Wheat-grass. Rush Wheat. *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 17 He sows on his *wheat-ground..about February. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 348 That is a profit more than the rent of the ground, and half as much again above the profit of the *wheat-grower. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 18 The pioneer upon the prairie is a wheat-grower. 1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 93 Pennsylvania, then one of the best *wheat-growing States. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXX. 14 And Ruben goon out in tyme of *wheet hergest into the feeld. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiii. 154 If their Wheat Harvest in Sicily be about the 20th of May. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 130 Genim gate tord & *hwæte healm gebærn to duste. 1748 *Lond. & Country Brewer* IV. (ed. 2) 255 Wheat Straw under a Hair-Cloth is reckoned the best Fuel by most, Rye-Straw next, and Wheat-Haulm worse. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 30 And lonely chirp the *wheat-bid quails. 1559 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 143 For covering y^e *whete house ut patet per billam. 1710 HILMAN *Tweser Rediv.* June (1744) 78 Lay it in the best Place you have, for which the Wheat-Houses now in request.. are I think the best. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. United States* II. 53 The Hessian fly, or *wheat insect (*Tipula tritici*). *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 304 It may be proper to fold till Christmas, and then go on the *wheat-lay. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 208 The Baillye.. Weyed ageyn his bredde wiche was to leight in the 1st *Whete loffe iiij ounces. 1587 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 26 [A] *whete lo't. 1452 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 275 Drege malte, pese, benes, *whetemalte. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 93 Wheat-Malt also differs much from Barley-Malt. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 304 The *wheat-midge (*Cecidomyia tritici*). 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 184/1 *Chondrocopium farrarum*,.. a *wheate mill or (as some say) an otemeale mill. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat-mite. An acarus infesting stored corn. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) Index, *Wheat moths. *c* 1700 *Bagford Ballads* (1876) I. 66 Both his *Wheat Mows & his Hay, By Flames of Fire are consum'd away. 1808 COBBETT in *Friendsh. Mary R. Mitford* (1882) I. 43 The hares will be heard squeaking like rats on the breaking up of a wheat-mow. 1884 DEPEW in *Harper's Mag.* (1886) XII. 217 In the *Wheat Pit at Chicago in a single year was buried more of the future prosperity of this republic than the sum of all the traffic which flows through that great city in a decade. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xi. 112 If the How-Plow goes so near to the Rows as it ought, it would be apt to tear out the *Wheat-Plants along with the Stubble. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 17 A disposition to increase the breadth of *wheat-planting. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat plant-louse, *Aphis granaria*. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 6/3 Canada aims at being the great *wheat-producer of the world. 1884 *Spectator* No. 2932. 1165/2 To increase *wheat-production in India. 1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* Gloss., **Wheat-reed*, straw preserved unthrashed for thatching. 1682 WARBURTON *Guernsey* (1822) 94 A man, that has either house or land which he wishes to dispose of,..sells it to another to hold to him and his heirs for ever, paying yearly so many quarters..of *wheat rent. 1694 FALLE *Jersey* iii. 95 Together with several Parcels of Lands and Meadows, Wheat-Rents, Escheats. *a* 1782 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 182 In that fashion, without thatching, they make *wheat-reeks in the Isle of Wight. 1823 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) I. 255 A..farm-house,..with a wheat-rick standing in the yard. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 Take a seve or a *wheterydoun. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 200 Our Wheat-ridder Sieves. 1479-80 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. cccxlvii, ij *whetridils, iij haveridils, et ij cribria. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 45 Windowed my wheat the chaff out of it, but, for want of a wheat riddle, we could dress it no further. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 281 A wheat-riddle of wood. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xi. 110, I find by measuring my *Wheat Ridges in the Spring, that none of them are quite a Foot High. 1860 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 323 No one ever remembers the aspect of the wheat-ridges so mournfully unpromising. 1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xv. 1 Whanne the dais of *whete ripynge stooden yn. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 343 *Wheat-screenings, cracked corn,..or buckwheat, may be added to their diet. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 309 The ..*Wheat-seed Plough. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 225 He..had worked with other horses all the wheat-seed time. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. 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MS.* ii. 755 in *Anglia* XVIII. 325 His stalke is gret as *whete-stro. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 27 The wheate strawe, that they pourpose to make thacke of. 1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 43 The hay is almost as long, coarse, and dry, as wheat-straw. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 90, 100 sheaves of wheat-straw reed. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 303 It is..said that Wheat-straw may be melted into a colourless glass with the blow-pipe. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 48 They plough in the *wheat stubble in December. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 337 The wheat stubbles are ploughed as soon as the wheat sowing is over. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 330 The *wheat-threave consists of twenty-eight sheaves. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) 83 The true grain-weevil or *wheat-weevil of Europe. *Ibid.* 453 They have been called *wheat-worms, gray worms, and brown weevils...The name of grain-worms has likewise sometimes been applied to them.

Hence **Wheatless** *a.*, having no wheat.

1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CXXXVII. iii, I opened many a..book, ..But all the leaves were wheatless straws. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 336 The laity look on while theologians thrash their wheatless straw. 1917 *Times* 30 May 7/4 What will be the attitude of those portions of Greece..if they remain wheatless.

Wheat, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To crop with wheat.

1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. 1. 61 The land must not be wheated oftener than the soil will admit.

Wheat, obs. form of WHITE.

Wheat-corn. Now *rare.* [OE. *hwætecorn* = MHG. *weiz(en)korn* (G. *weizenkorn*), ON. *hveitikorn* (MSw. *hvetekorn*, etc.): see CORN *sb.*[1]]

1. A grain of wheat.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 34 Genim hnutcyrnla & hwæte corn. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 241 Þis bread was imaced of ane hwete corne. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXI. 102/4 But 3if þat a whete-corn ffalle into be eorþe lowe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 165 He vaid to putt whete-cornys in his ere, & he lernyd a white dowffe to stand opon his shulder & take þaim oute. 1526 TINDALE *John* xii. 24 Except the wheate corne fall into the grounde and deye, it bydeth alone. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVII. xiii. II. 291 Little berries..of the bignesse of wheat corns. 1854 SPENCER in *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 140 Our own systems [of weights], both troy and avoirdupois, are derived primarily from wheat-corns.

†2. = WHEAT *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 108 Nother comyn herd ne sched herd com in the qwyte corn feld to the korn be lad awey. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 1. 1 The wheat-corn was remarkably backward, though it, in general, promised to be a good crop.

Wheatear[1] (hwī·t,i·ə). [EAR *sb.*[2]] An ear of wheat.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 27 Þe seuen barayne 3eres þat ware betakned by þe seuen deed qwhete eres. [1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. 103/3 Our old English terms were these ..Whet-herys, Wheat Ears.] 1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Summer* 52 Shot up from broad rank blades that droop below, The nodding wheat-ear forms a graceful bow. *c* 1840 ELIZA COOK *Song of Sun* iv, Who else can purple the grape on the vine, Or flush the wheat-ear with gold? 1878 MEREDITH *Love in Valley* 158 Slain are the poppies that shot their random scarlet Quick amid the wheatears.

attrib. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 105/2 *Wheatear Stitch.* This stitch is a combination of Point Natté and Chain Stitch.

Hence **Wheat-eared** *a.*, full of wheat-ears.

1792 *Ess. towards new Ed. Tibullus* 21 Be thine, blond Ceres, from my wheat-ear'd field, A pendant crown thy temple's doors to grace.

Wheatear[2] (hwī·t,i·ə). Also 6 **whekere** (?), 7 **wheat ears, wheatgear** (?). [Early evidence wanting prob. on account of local origin; but the orig. form is app. still represented in the 17th cent. by *wheatears* (*a* 1661) for **whiteeres*, f. *whit-*, WHITE *a.* (cf. for the phonology the place-name *Whittern*, OE. *hwītærn*) + *eares*, *ers*, ARSE, the name being given in allusion to the bird's white rump; cf. Cornish dial. form *whiteass*, the similar dial. names *white rump*, *wittol* = *white tail* (in Cotgr. *whittaile*, glossing F. *culblanc* 'white-rump'), and Du. *witstaart*, G. *weiss-schwanz*. From *wheatears*, taken as pl., a supposed sing. *wheatear* was inferred, and association with WHEAT *sb.* (see quot. 1653, etc.) established the spelling of the first syllable.] A small passerine bird, *Saxicola œnanthe*, widely distributed over the Old World, having a bluish-grey back, white belly, rump, and upper tail-coverts, and blackish wings; esteemed as a delicacy.

1591 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 70 A courleve xvj[d]; thrie whekeres [*so printed*], xvj[d]; larkes and yowloringes, iiij[d]. 1653 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trav. Uncert. Journ.* 17 There were rare Birds I never saw before.. Th'are called *Wheat ears*, less than Lark or Sparrow...The name of *Wheat ears*, on them is ycleap'd, Because they come when wheat is yearly reap'd. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) III. 98 Wheat-ears is a bird peculiar to this County [*i. e.* Sussex], hardly found out of it. It is so called, because fattest when Wheat is ripe, whereon it feeds...That Palatemen shall pass in silence, who being seriously demanded his judgment concerning the abilities of a great Lord, concluded him a man of very weak parts, because once he saw him at a great Feast feed on Chickens when there were Wheat-Ears on the Table. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Wheat-gear*, a Bird smaller than a Dottrel. 1724 DE FOE *Tour*

Gt. Brit. I. n. 57 The Bird call'd a Wheatear, or as we may call them, the English Ortolans. 1770 Cumberland *West Indians* III. ii, A hot-brain'd headlong spark, that would run into our trap, like a wheat-ear under a turf. 1889 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 111 The wheat-ear uncovered its white rump as it flitted from rock to rock. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Hand-bk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 291 The winter home of the Wheatear extends from the North-western Himalayas to Persia, and also to North-eastern and Eastern Africa, as well as to Senegambia.

Wheaten (hwī·t'n), *a.* Now *rare.* Forms: 1 hwæten, huæten, 3 ȝweten, 4 huesten, 5, 6 whetyn, 6 whettyn, whe(a)ton, 7 wheten, 6– wheaten. [OE. *hwǽten* = MDu. *weiten*, MHG. *weiz(e)n*: see Wheat *sb.* and -en 4.]

1. Composed of the grain or flour of wheat.

Sometimes applied *spec.* to bread made of the whole grain ('wholemeal') as distinct from white bread.

893–32 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 444, cxx huætenra hlafa & xxx clenra. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 322 Mid hwætenan meluwe. *c* 1290 *St. Cuthbert* 52 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 360 Clene ȝwetene flour. 1340 *Ayenb.* 82 Þe wyfman grat myd childe, þet more hi uynt smak in ane soure epple þanne ine ane huetene lhoue. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 33 Bynd hym vppe with flfiour of Rys, oþer with whetyn flioure. 1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Whetynbreed, *pain bourgeis.* *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 120, I clynge as doth a wheton cake. 1577 Harrison *England* III. i. 93 b/1 in *Holinshed*, Wheaton bread, so named because the colour..resembleth the graie wheat. 1608 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 140 Wheate ..to be ground into meal and baked into white and wheten bread, and the wheaten to contayne xj oz. the penny wheten loffe, and the three-halfpenny white loves after the same rate. 1638 Penkethman *Artach.* H 2, The Law doth appoint three sorts of Bread only to be made, *viz.* white, wheaten, and houshold. 1709 *Act* 8 *Anne* c. 19 Table, The White Loaves are One Half, and the Wheaten Three Quarters of the Weight of Household Loaves. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 4 Our penny wheaten brown bread loaves. 1818 Colebrooke *Import Colon. Corn* 69 The bread made of this mixed flour is found to be..better..than that made with plain wheaten meal. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 367 Rye-bread is denser than wheaten-bread. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xiii. § 2. 830 Bread made from wheaten flour. 1919 *Q. Rev.* July 182 The food and fuel regulations respecting wheaten bread, sugar, and 'lightless nights' had been withdrawn.

2. Of or belonging to wheat as a plant; made of the stalks or straw of wheat.

c 1000 *Agr. Gosp.* John xii. 24 Þæt hwætene corn wunað ana, buton hyt fealle on eorþan & sy dead. 1552 Huloet, Wheaten branne. 1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* II. (1587) 17 There waited summer naked starke all saue a wheaten hat. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. i. 1 Apparent shew of wheaten leaues. 1602 Shake. *Ham.* v. ii. 41 As Peace should still her wheaten Garland weare. 1681 Grew *Museum* IV. iii. 376 The Stalk as thick as a Wheaten-straw. 1730 Thomson *Autumn* 1 Crown'd with the sickle and the wheaten sheaf. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 49 Oft making 'love-knots' in the shade, Of blue-green oat or wheaten blade. 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., In Mem. Landor* 9 In many a tender wheaten plot Flowers that were dead Live.

†3. *Wheaten plum* = Wheat-plum. *Obs.*

1542 [see Wheat-plum, quot. 1538]. 1552 Huloet, Wheaten plummes, whiche be whyte or yelowe plummes, *cerea prunа*. 1594 Barnfield *Affect. Sheph.* II. xlii, Bullas and wheaton Plumbs.

Wheat-land. Land on which wheat is grown or suitable for growing wheat on.

977 *Charter of Oswald* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 159 Buton .lx. mcran ðæt hæft se arcebisceop ȝenumen into Cymesige to his hame him to hwæte-lande. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 128 Thry fallow once ended, go strike by and by, Both wheat land and barlie. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 59 *marg.*, Wheate lands howe dressed. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* II. 12 He gave five plowings to a piece of wheat-land. 1822 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 173 The same Power..That browns the wheat-lands in their summer-stain. 1916 *Times* 27 Nov. 10/4 Many thousand acres of our richest wheatland is to-day totally uncultivated.

Wheatmeal (hwī·tmīl). [OE. *hwǽtemelu* = MHG. *weiz(en)niel* (G. *weizenmehl*), ON. *hveitimiol* (MSw. *hvetemiol*, etc.): see Meal *sb.*1] Meal or flour of wheat. Also *attrib.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 354 Ȝebriw wel swiþne briw þær on mid hwæte melwe. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxix. 2 Of puyr whete meele thow shalt make alle thingis. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clviii. (W. de W.) Twiȝ b/1 The flowur of whete meele hyghte Simula: and is the cheyf meele of whete. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 72 Tak cow mylk, and put þerto a subtile whete meel. 1579 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 103 Wheat meale the best iiijt the bushell. 1681 Grew *Museum* II. II. ii. 222 It must be mixed nothing near so stiff as our Wheat-Meal. 1767 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 61 The bill to continue..the free importation of wheat and wheat-meal. 1870 *Daily News* 6 Dec., The mixed diet of linseed cake, barley, bean-meal, wheatmeal, peameal. 1918 *Ibid.* 5 Jan. 4 It is specially necessary that the sick and wounded should not go short of wheatmeal bread.

†**Wheat-plum.** *Obs.* (or *dial.*) [orig. a misinterpretation of L. *cērea prūna* waxen or wax-coloured plums (Virgil, *Ecl.* ii. 53), *cērea* being misapprehended as **cērea* wheaten (f. *Ceres* wheat, corn); subsequent association with *white* is probable (cf. Wheatear 2 and Du. *witte pruimen*).] Name of a supposed variety of plum.

1538 Elyot Addit., *Cerea prunа*, wheate [*ed.* 1542 wheaten] plummes. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 76 Januaries abstract. Of trees or fruites to be set or remooued..Wheat plums. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 96 Wheate Plomes, and horse Plomes, wherewith they vse to fatte Hogges. 1611 Cotgr., *Prune blanche*, the wheat, or white Plumme. 1697 C. Bick *Univ. Char.* M 3, A wheat plum-tree. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 629 There groweth wild in some places of the Woods a Plum somewhat like our Wheat-Plum. 1793 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 294, I am uncertain what he intends by the Wheat-plum. 1847 Halliwell, *Wheat-plum*, a large fleshy plum, sometimes called a bastard Orleans plum. *Linc.*

Wheatstone (hwī·tstən). [Called after Sir Charles *Wheatstone*, who in 1843 brought into notice the 'differential arrangement' apparatus, which had been invented by S. Hunter Christie in 1833.] Short for *Wheatstone('s) bridge*: an apparatus for measuring electrical resistances.

1872 *Jrnl. Soc. Telegr. Eng.* 8 May 196 A Differential Resistance Measurer,—or, as it is commonly called, a 'Wheatstone's Bridge'. 1883 Watson & Burbury *Math. Th. Electr.* I. 221 The principle of the instrument known as Wheatstone's Bridge. 1898 *Daily News* 21 May 7/4 The clicking of the needles, the tapping of the Wheatstones.

†**Wheat·ty**, *a. Obs.* [f. Wheat *sb.* + -y 1.] Containing grains of wheat.

1598 Yong *Diana* 259 Ripening fruit, and wheatie eares. 1611 Cotgr., *Fourmentier*, wheat-yeelding, wheatie. *a* 1623 H. Ainsworth *Annot. Deut.* xxxii. 14. Ee 2 b/2 With fat of wheaty kidneyes fine [see Kidney 4].

Wheay, Wheaze, Whech(e, Whecker, Whed(d)er, Whed(d)le, Whee: see Who, Wheaze, Wheeze, Which, Witch, Witch, Whicker, Weather, Whether, Whither, Wheedle, Quey.

Wheedle (hwī·d'l), *sb.* Now *rare.* Forms: see the vb. [f. next.]

1. An act or instance of wheedling; a piece of insinuating flattery or cajolery; also *gen.* wheedling speech.

1668 Etheredge *She wou'd if she cou'd* I. i, Dost thou think to pass these gross Wheadles on me too? 1681 Hickeringill *Black Non-Conf.* vii. Wks. 1716 II. 61 It looks like a Wheedle, or a Trepan, to drill a Man into a Court by Process in a feigned Suit. 1687 Sedley *Bellamira* IV. i, You have several times talked to me of a sister of mine, lost from our house in Devonshire; but I always look'd upon it as a meer wheedle. *a* 1708 T. Ward *Eng. Ref.* II. (1710) 87 In Cant and Wheedle most Expert They were. 1755 Sheridan *Lydia* (1760) II. 284 She .., by a soft insinuating wheedle, took possession of the divine's good opinion. *a* 1814 *Word of Honor* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 368, I cannot stand this wheedle. 1861 Thackeray *Round. Papers, Ogres*, So were the Sirens ogres—pretty blue-eyed things..singing their melodious wheedles.

†2. A wheedler. *Obs.*

1673 Wycherley *Gent. Dancing-Master* IV. i, *Hipp.* You saw I cou'd dissemble with my Father, Why shou'd you think I cou'd not with you? *Ger.* So young a Wheadle? 1682 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* III. i, Dainty Wheadle, here's a Fellow for ye. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Parasite*, a Trencher Friend, a meer Wheedle. *Ibid., Wheadle*, a Sharper.

Wheedle (hwī·d'l), *v.* Also 7 whed(d)le, 7–9 wheadle. [Origin obscure. Possibly a survival in a specialized application of OE. *wǽdlian* to beg, orig. to be poor, f. *wǽdl* poverty.]

1. *trans.* To entice or persuade by soft flattering words; to gain over or take in by coaxing or cajolery.

1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Whead* or *Wheadle*, is a late word of fancy, and signifies to draw one in, by fair words or subtile insinuation, to act any thing of disadvantage or reproof. 1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* IV. 52 Come Sir, don't think to Wheadle me at this rate! 1675 Tully *Let. to Baxter* 23 To be wheadl'd with bare Talke. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* I. i. (1840) 12 He wheedled Eve, deluded Adam. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* II. 254 Smooth words he had to wheedle simple souls. 1850 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xxxii, He was crossing you and wheedling you. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* xxxix. II. 78 The citizens are too numerous to be all wheedled or threatened.

b. with various preps. and advs., or with inf.: To bring into a specified condition by such action.

1667 *Leathermore*: *Advice conc. Gaming* (1668) 7 If the Winner be bubbleable, they will..wheedle him into play and win all his Money. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 247 By laying the Net in such haunts, and wheedling them [*sc.* pigeons, etc.] in by a Stale. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 129 To wheedle one almost to make himself away. 1673 Dryden *Amboyna* Prol., Religion wheedled you to Civil War. 1687 in *Magd. Coll.* (O. H. S.) 167 They were wheedled off of it by some few sugar words. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* I. (1840) 12 The major..was wheedled away by a couple of young rogues. 1726 — *Hist. Devil* I. i. (1840) 12 How he wheedled the people..into the absurd..undertaking of building a Babel. 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* I. I.. should have no idea..how to wheedle a man into ordering something he doesn't want. 1869 Mrs. Stowe *Oldtown Folks* xl. (1870) 467 He has a tongue that could wheedle a bird out of a tree. 1876 C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 284 Whom he wheedled over not to betray him. 1892 Kipling *Light that Failed* xii. 232, I have seen you wheedle an angry Mahdieh woman into giving you dates.

2. To do (a person) *out of* a thing, or to get (a thing) *out of* a person, by such action.

1670 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 196 The M[asters] are wheedled out of one [Act]. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* III. xviii, I have already a deed of Settlement of the best part of her Estate; which I wheadl'd out of her. 1739 Franklin *Hist. Penn.* Wks. 1840 I. 589 These proprietaries..would have either bullied or wheedled the inhabitants out of the privileges they were born to. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* III, I wheedled an old woman out of these [ballads]. 1892 — *Cast. Dang.* xi, I suffered the abbess to wheedle the secret out of me. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxiv, Wheedling my money from me while I lay half conscious.

3. *absol.* or *intr.* To use soft flattering words; (of an animal) to fawn; †*to wheedle in with*, to curry favour with; †*to wheedle with* = sense 1.

1684 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 333 His business was to pump and wheedle. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 290 Lancaster goes down to the Dean of X^t. Church, and began to wheedle with him. 1716 Swift *Phyllis* 87 Johnny wheedled, threaten'd, fawn'd, Till Phyllis all her trinkets pawn'd. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. i. (1840) 283 Secretly wheedling in with the dignified clergy. 1811 *Ord & Justice* I. 204 She wheedled with the housekeeper. till she insured a glass of cordial from her. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* v. 152 Wheedling and siding with them! 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Satia te Sanguine* xiv, As a tame beast writhes and wheedles.

b. *Cant.* = Widdle *v.*

1720 Palmer *Proverbs* 197 Sing in the Proverb, Is the same that our Newgate-Birds call Wheedle; which is, when one of the Gang Tattles, Confesses, and Accuses the Rest.

Hence **Whee·dled** *ppl. a.*; **Whee·dling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (chiefly of conduct, manner, etc.); whence **Whee·dlingly** *adv.*; also **Whee·dler**; **Whee·dlery**, wheedling; **Whee·dlesome**, **Whee·dly** *adjs.*, of a wheedling character.

1675 R. Head *Proteus Rediv.* 226 His gulled or *Wheedled Patient. 1773 *Ainsworth's Lat. Dict.* II, *Delinitor*..a cajoler, or *wheedler. *a* 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 41 Smith, wheedler of trout. 1868 L. M. Alcott *Little Women* xiv, You get everything you want out of people...you are a born wheedler. 1909 'G. G.' *Winkles* 58 The fond daughter continued her *wheedleries. 1863 L. M. Alcott *Hosp. Sk.*, etc. 94 Anything more irresistibly *wheedlesome I never saw. 1674 R. Head *Jacksm's Recant.* B 1 b, Incomparable at the Art of *wheedling, which some call Complaisance. 1708 Pope *Wife of Bath* 163 By murm'ring, wheedling, stratagem, and force, I still prevail'd. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* v, Notwithstanding all kinds of coaxing and wheedling, there were Mr. Winkle and the horse going round and round each other for ten minutes. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxxi, Wheedling availed as little as argument. 1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* IV. 60 Pox on't what a *wheadling Rogue art thou now? 1694 F. Bragge *Disc. Parables* II. 42 His sly and wheedling insinuations. 1713 Rowe *Jane Shore* I. i, A laughing, toying, wheadling, whimpering she. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lii, 'I wonder Master didn't take you with him, Rob,' said the old woman in a wheedling voice. 1896 Meredith *Shav. Shagpat* i. 18 'Wheedlingly she looked at him. 1904 W. S. Gilbert *Fairy's Dilemma* i, *Al.* (*wheedlingly*). What am I to get for this, eh? 1898 Sarah, Lady Lyttelton *Corr.* (1912) 282 The maids of honour..are very coaxy and *wheedly with me.

Wheef(f)le, Sc. forms of Whiffle.

Wheel (hwīl), *sb.* Forms: 1 hweogol, -ul, -el, hweowol, -ul, hweowl, hweohl, 1–3 hweol, hwel, 3–4 weole, wel, 3–6 whel, 3–7 whele, 4–5 wele, (whiel), *north.* quele, 4–6 *Sc.* quhele, 4–7 wheele, *Sc.* quheill, (1 hwiol, 3 wheol, weol, ȝweol, ȝwele, 4 wheole, woele, huezel, whewel, *north.* quel, quile, quil, *Sc.* quhel, 5 wheyle, whelle, whyll, wyle, *north.* quheyll, qweyll, qwell, 5–6 wheylle, *north.* qwhele, qwele, quheil(e, quhell, 6 wheill, whefyll, wheale, whieale, weil, whyl(l)e, qwyl, *Sc.* vheill, vhel(e, while, 7 *Sc.* quheele). 4-wheel. [OE. *hweogol*, *hweowol*, *hwēol* = OFris. **hwēl* (EFris. *weel*, *wēil*, NFris. *weil*), (M)LG. *wēl*, (M)Du. *wiel* (whence G. *wiel* in technical senses), ON. *hjól* (Sw., Da. *hjul*), *hvél* :– OTeut. **χwe-(g)ula-*, **χwexula-* :– Indo-Eur. **qᵘeqᵘlo-* repr. by Skr. *cakrá-* circle, wheel, Zend *caxrəm*, Gr. κύκλος; reduplicated f. **qᵘelo-* : **qᵘolo-*, repr. by ON. *hvel*, *hvela* (Norw. *hvel*), OPruss. *kelan* wheel, Gr πόλος axis, pole, ploughed-up land, L. *colus* distaff, OSl. *kolo* wheel; the root meaning of **qᵘel-* is 'to turn' (cf. Skr. *cárati* to move, Zend *čaraiti* 'versatur', Gr. πέλεσθαι to be in motion, L. *colere* to till, *in-quil-īnus* sojourner).]

I. 1. A circular frame of wood, metal, or other hard substance (sometimes in the form of a solid disk, but usually of a ring (*rim* or *felloe*) with spokes radiating from the central part or *nave*) attached or capable of being attached at its centre to an axle around which it revolves; used, in many different forms and sizes, for communicating, facilitating, or equalizing motion, and for other purposes.

a. In a vehicle, plough, locomotive engine, etc., each of two or more such appliances which support it and, by rolling upon the ground or other surface, enable it to move along with the least possible friction.

At or *in the wheel*, of horses, next to the carriage, in the place of the wheelers (see Wheeler 3) as opposed to the leaders. *On the wheel*, *on wheels*, riding in wheeled vehicles. (See also 12 b.)

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 7 Swa swa on wænes eare hwearfiað þa hweol. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 26 Dec. 8 An plezende cild arn under wænes hweowol ond wearð sona dead. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 270 Se firmamentum went on ðam twam steorran swa swa hweoxel [*a. rr.* hweogul, hweowul] tyrnð on eaxe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 336 Elles hweoles þet weren furene. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8437 An quointe tour hii lete make..Vpe four woeles..it was idriue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21267, I sal tell..Quat mal be yock, and quat quale [*Fairf.* quile, *Trin.* wheel] mai be, Bridel quat es, and quat axeltre. *c* 1315 Shoreham IV. 223 Me makeþ prynses þe host to gouerni, And ase wheweles þe linnes To-gadere beldeþ hy. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 118 He ryden in

a chariot with foure wheles. 1393-94 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 2 In Kente they haue other maner of plowes, somme goo with wheles, as they doo in many other places. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 130 Hoy out (*sic* carter) the hog fro thy wheele. 1599 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) III. 9 Two turfe waynes furnished with whiles and axeltrees. *a* 1620 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 185 The bound dolphin, tumbland lik a whele. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 490 They.. have moving houses built on wheeles. 1782 COWPER *John Gilpin* 41 Smack went the whip, round went the wheels. 1820 A. SUTHERLAND *St. Kathleen* III. 216 It widna be Christian-like to stay cosie at hame, an' a' the country-side on the Wheel. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 223 Noble lords were now and again to be seen following the chase on wheels. 1884 J. E. T. ROGERS *Work & Wages* 23 Plain wheels—that is, wheels formed from the trunk of a tree, with holes bored through them for the axles to run on. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Three leaders and a pair of great upstanding half-bred horses at the wheel. 1893 DUNMORE *Pamirs* II. 298, I took my tarantass with five horses attached, three in the wheel and two leaders.

b. Generally, in machinery or mechanical apparatus of any kind.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 500 (Napier 15/1) *Rota haurtoria*, hindtrendle, hweowla, hweowl. 14 . *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 600 *Panus, virgula illa circa quam trama involvitur. Idem et canellus dicitur*, a Quele. 14 .. *Nom.* ibid. 696/10 *Hec vertubrum*, a whella. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 260 A carte-qweel, drye & vngrecyd, creyth lowdest of opere qwelys. 1479-81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 102 Nayle to amende the whele of the Sanctus bell. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 A Wheylle of A drawe wele, *anclea*. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII.* (1896) 189 Wheles for to wynde up the Mayne Sayle. 1516 *Stratton Churchw. Acc.* in *Archæologia* XLVI. 204 A new whefyll for the gret bell. 1545 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 82 A while to the secounde tenor. 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 47 Whereby they should faile to strike iust vpon the wheeles being fire-lockes. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* H 6, Some wheels were taken off.. And some stood vseless, so the Clock was spoild. 1708 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. I. iii. 39 A curious engine compounded of wheels screws and pulleys whereby a lady with a single hair of her head might raise a stone of two hundred weight. 1893 MRS. P. L. POWYS *Pass. fr. Diaries* (1899) 354 Before you enter the [silk-]manufactory you pass an immense wheel; by that one 99,947 other wheels are all turn'd. 1846 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 185 Other wheel and pinion work..modifies this motion.

c. *Wheel and axle* (or †*axis*), as one of the mechanical powers: see POWER *sb.*[1] 12.

1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Wheel and axle*, a machine to raise weights. One of the mechanic powers. 1799 JAS. WOOD *Princ. Mech.* iv. (ed. 2) 63 The wheel and axle consists of two parts, a cylinder *AB* moveable about it's axis *CD*, and a circle *EF* so attached to the cylinder that the axis *CD* passes through it's center, and is perpendicular to it's plane. 1821 *R. Turner's Arts & Sci.* 85 In using the wheel and axis as the weight is raised, the rope coils round the axis and enlarges the diameter, hence the advantage of the power is diminished. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiv. § 124 (1875) 325 The advance from the lever to the wheel-and-axle is an advance from a simple agent to an agent made up of several simple ones.

d. With prefixed defining words indicating kind, structure, use, etc.

There are numerous compounds, as CART-WHEEL, COG-WHEEL, DRIVING-WHEEL, FLY-WHEEL, etc., etc. *Fifth wheel*, *idle wheel*; see FIFTH A. 1 c, C, IDLE *a.* 5 b.

II. A wheel or wheel-like structure, or an instrument or appliance having a wheel as its essential part, used for some specific purpose.

2. A large wheel, or contrivance resembling one, used in various ways as an instrument of torture or punishment. *To break on the wheel*: see BREAK *v.* 7 b.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Þæt unstille hweol Se Ixion was to gebunden. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xiv. 86 Het se arleasa casere gebindan georium on anum bradum hweowle. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1963 Ha schal beon to-hwiderest, wiþ þe hweoles awa, in an hondhwile. *c* 1290 *St. George* 58 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 295 So sone ase huy þis guode man a-boue busse 3weole brou3te, þat 3weol to-brac. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 545 Þare brocht wes a quhele made Awfule & hye, & in it hade Sharpit swerdis scherand in al syde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 134 A whele set full of howkes yn þat on syde of þe whele, and swerde poyntys in þat oþyr syde a3eyne þat. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 111 By the same iudgement was Ponifre.. broken vpon a wheele. 1608 DEKKER *Dead Tearme* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 11 As if hee were a Male-factor, and hadde beene tortured on the Germaine Wheele. 1709-10 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 233 P 3 To rescue him from the Ignominy of the Wheel. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 435 The lifted axe, the agonizing wheel. 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xli, He was swoln like a corpse three days exposed on the wheel.

b. *Wheel of Ixion* (Astron.): see quot.

1550 T. HOOD *Use of Celestial Globe* 39 b, *Corona Australis*, the South garland..Others call it the wheele of Ixion.

3. Various mechanical contrivances. **a.** The revolving part of a turning-lathe, or of a potter's lathe (*potter's wheel*: see POTTER *sb.*[1] 3); also allusively, as in phr. *on the wheel* = in process of being fashioned, in the making. **b.** = MILL-WHEEL. **c.** = SPINNING-WHEEL. **d.** = TREAD-WHEEL; also, a treadmill. †**e.** *Musical wheel*, the revolving barrel of a barrel-organ or musical box. **f.** An instrument for measuring distances: = PEDAMBULATOR 2. **g.** = *Grinding-wheel*: see GRINDING *vbl. sb.* 2. **h.** *Naut.*, etc. = *Steering-wheel*: see STEERING *vbl. sb.* 3 b. **i.** = PADDLE-WHEEL.

a. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xviii. 3 And Y cam doun in to the hous of the crockere, and lo! he made a werc vp on a wheel. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. v. R ij b, As well proportioned as if it had ben made of a tourners hande, at his wheele. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* I. xviii. 153 While they are upon the Wheel (as a Potters Vessel in the Prophet) they are often marred. 1698 J. SAGE *Fund. Charter Presbytery* (1697) 9 Our Reformation was on the Wheel. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Pottery*, The Wheel and Lathe are the Chief, almost the only Instruments, used in Pottery. 1875 JEWITT *Plate* (ed. 2) III. 47 Potters..have their wheel at hand, that they may work a little when they please.

b. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxv. (1859) 30 The whele of a mylle lyghtly torneth alwey to ther that he bygan. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. x, For the swyftnesse of the water he must nedes passe vnder the whele of the mylle. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 115 b, Of ane milne and ane man slane with the quheill thereof. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 102, I loved the..dark round of the dripping wheel.

c. 1467 *Maldon, Essex, Crt. Rolls*, Bundle 43, no. 14 (MS.) vii cusshones, 1 whyll, 2 par cardarum, 1 hemper. *c* 1525 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 10 Item j qwele, j par of kayrds, j rakyncrok, xij*d*. 1617 in W. F. Shaw *Manw. Eastry* (1870) 229 One payer of wollen cards two wollen whiles. 1652 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 61 Sum pure pepill quha wer spyning that day loist thair quheillis and wer brokin. 1789 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 57 A Jersey wheel to wind spoyles on. 1834 D. CROCKETT *Life* iv. 32 My wife had a good wheel, and knowed exactly how to use it. 1890 HARTLAND *Sci. Fairy Tales* i. (1891) 7 The women at their wheels; and while they spin they sing love ditties.

d. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* A 6, In a Wheele I saw a comely Asse .. draw as it were from the infernall pit..So..coole a water. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 114 Envy is..a vice they say which keeps no holydays, but is always in the wheel, and working upon its own despair. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 331 To climb daily Life's worn wheel, Which draws up nothing new. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 22 Mar., It..makes one feel like a dog in a wheel, always moving and never advancing. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Last Cab-driver*, He positively refused to work on the wheel; so after many trials, I was compelled to order him into solitary confinement.

e. 1659 LEAK *Waterwks.* I ij b, Let there be a Musical Wheel..so when the said water Wheel shall turn it shall cause the Musical Wheel to turn.

f. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 319 One by the Wheel was Sixteen Perches round, another in walking Seventy six Paces. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marit. Surv.* iii. 7 Some Surveyors measure their Distances by a Wheel.

g. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 433 Running at the Grinder, [he] made him quit his Wheel. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 289 The blades, after being hardened, are directly carried to the grinding-mill, or wheel, as the establishment is called.

h. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 8 There broke a Sea in the Ship, which carried me over the Wheel. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, It took two men at the wheel to steer her. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxxiii, Most of the people were below, and the few on deck were clustered near the wheel. 1906 C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Car of Destiny* xxxiii, Taking the wheel himself,..he backed the big, reddish-brown car off the barricade.

i. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* i, The two great wheels turn fiercely round for the first time; and the noble ship..breaks proudly through the..water.

†**4.** A turnstile or similar contrivance at the entrance of a convent. Also *turning-wheel* (TURNING *ppl. a.* 7). *Obs.*

14.. in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 257 The kepers of the wheyles, grates, gates, or entres into the clausures. *a* 1652 BROME *City Wit* III. i, He never sung to the wheele in Saint Brides Nunnery yonder. 1669 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xxxi. 192, I wished him to go, and put up a Wheele, and a Grate, in the House appointed for the Nuns dwelling.

5. In full *wheel of fortune* (see II a): = *Lottery-wheel*: see LOTTERY 5. Also *allusively*.

1698 *Post Boy* 3 Jan. in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 1402 We have divers wheels agoing. 1730 *New Jersey Archives* Ser. I. (1895) XII. 640 The [Lottery] Ticketts will be putting into the wheels on Wednesday. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 548 Beware the Wheel of Fortune—'tis a gin, You'll lose a dozen times for once you win. 1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* II, I believe Toby will hardly thank me for going into the wheel. 1801 T. MOORE *To the Large & Beaut. Miss* ——4 But how comes it that you, such a capital prize, Should so long have remained in the wheel? 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 167 Stalls, provided with wheels-of-fortune, at which the Norman lass boldly ventures her solid sous for empty hopes. 1880 *A. M'Kay's Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 121 Wheel-of-fortune men, offering to make all rich in a jiffie.

6. **a.** A rotatory firework in the form of a wheel. (See also CATHERINE WHEEL 3, PIN-WHEEL 2.) **b.** *Wheel of colour*: = CHROMATROPE. **c.** *Wheel of life*: = ZOETROPE.

1629 in Hodgkin *Rariora* (1904) III. *Fireworks* 16 Girondelles or Fierie Wheeles. 1683 *Van Etten's Math. Recreat.* 272 How to make Wheels of Fire. 1826 HOOD *Vauxhall* 13 Wheels whiz—smash crackers—serpents twist. 1872 Wheel of life [see ZOOTROPE]. 1877 WOOD *Nature's Teach., Optics* ii. 306 The Chromatrope, or Wheel of Colour.

7. orig. and esp. *U. S.* A bicycle or tricycle; also *abstr.* (with def. art.) the practice of riding on one, cycling; (with indef. art.) a cycle-ride.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 303/1 The wheel was a new thing in New York ways. 1888 P. FURNIVALL *Phys. Train-*..3, I am more accustomed to the wheel than the pen. ..3 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 140/2 It would have been a most lovely wheel had we chosen to explore it on bicycles. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* vii, Hoopdriver..felt a pleasing sense of having duly asserted the wide that binds all cyclists together, of having behav as becomes one of the brotherhood of the wheel.

III. Something resembling a wheel in form or movement.

8. An object having the form or figure of a wheel; a circle, or something circular; a disk.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 5 May 74 He sende þæt þa dribtnes forlastas weoron beworht mid mirne hweole. *c* 1000 *Hymns* (Surtees) 22/25 Þære sunnan hweogul [orig. *solis rotam*]. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 986 Yf that thow 'lhorwe on water now a stoon Wel wost thou hyt wol make anoon A litel roundell..And..thow shalt see wel That whele sercle wol cause another whele. *a* 1300 *Assemb. Ladies* 55 With stayres going doun Inmiddes the place, with turning wheel, certayn. 1596 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) F vj, The pecocke puttes in a whylle his galiede fethers. 1611 COTGR., *Roue de mer*, the sea-wheele; a huge, round, and monstrous sea-fish. *a* 1681 SIR J. SKEFFINGTON *Herve of Lorraine* (1652) 71 Let the Peacock please himself with the glorious wheel of his train. 1838 R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* vi. 64 Wheels occur mixed with the tracery and pannelling of the Italian Gothic. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Forms Anim. Life* 550 The calcareous deposits..are..represented..by wheels (= rotulae), e. g. in *Chirodota*. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 Oct. 8/3 Trimmed with smart wheels and tassels of brown silk.

9. The celestial sphere or firmament, or one of the spheres of the planets, etc. in the ancient astronomy, regarded as revolving like a wheel. *Obs.* or merged in figurative senses (see 12, 13).

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b. *On wheels*: (*a*) With rapid and continuous movement or action; chiefly in phr. *to go* or *run on wheels*, to proceed swiftly or uninterruptedly;

spec. (*c*) in *Needlework*, an open pattern or decoration with radiating threads; (*d*) in *Arch.* an ornament with radiating tracery (*cf. wheel-window* in 18); (*e*) in *Zool.* a wheel-like structure, as the *wheel-organ* or trochal disk of a rotifer, or a *wheel-spicule* in an echinoderm or sponge.

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b. *On wheels*: (*a*) With rapid and continuous movement or action; chiefly in phr. *to go* or *run on wheels*, to proceed swiftly or uninterruptedly;

to go smoothly, make good progress; to go on actively or incessantly; (humorously, of a clock) to go too fast or irregularly. (*b*) In working order, in normal condition for action (*dial.*).

1547 GARDINER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 734/2 The euell willers of the realme will take corage and make accompt.. that all goeth on wheles. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 317 Then may I set the world on wheeles, when she can spin for her living. 1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Passe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/2 From the blaines and kibes vpon my heeles; And from a madding wit that runnes on wheeles,..The blessed Lord of heau'n deliuer me. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* XVIII. 31 While his tongue Thus runs on wheels. 1732-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 108 *Col* Pray, my Lord, what's a Clock by your Oracle? *Ld. Sparkish.* Faith, I can't tell, I think my Watch runs upon Wheels. 1800 J. CLARE *Poems* 89 If fate's so kind to let's be doing, That's—just keep cart on wheels a going. 1831 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry Milner* III. xv. 307, I can..let my jointure run up to liquidate debts; and then, when it is clear, we shall be on our four wheels again.

†c. *A word on its* (or *upon the*) *wheels*: an echo of the marginal 'Heb. spoken vpon his wheeles' in the A.V. of Proverbs XXV. 11, where the text has 'fitly spoken'. *Obs.*

Heb. אֹפַנָּיו (dual or pl.) of this passage is now regarded as ἅπαξ λεγόμενον, and עַל־אֹפַנָּיו interpreted as 'in its turns, 'in (right) circumstances'; formerly referred to אוֹפָן a wheel.

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. (1669) 36/1 A word in season is a word on its wheels. *c* 1657 P. HENRY in *Life* (1699) 23 There never was Truth..more seasonable to any than this was to me: It was a word upon the Wheels.

13. With allusion to sense 1 b, denoting a constituent part or element of something figured as a machine.

1625 BACON *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 405 So that if these three wheeles goe, Wealth will flow as in a Spring tide. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Saints Daily Exerc.* (1629) 116 It sets all the wheeles of the soul the right way. 1692 W. LLOYD *Pract. Fr. Invas.* 15 The French King (the main Wheel in this designed Restauration). 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 363 Nor does He find the wickedness of men improper wheels for carrying on His most important designs among them. 1771 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 31 Mar. (1827) III. 415 In the Methodist discipline, the wheels regularly stand thus: the Assistant, the Preachers, the Stewards, the Leaders, the people. 1916 *19th Cent.* Apr. 822 The protagonist sets the wheels of fate in motion.

b. *Wheels within wheels*, less usually *a wheel within a wheel* (after Ezek. i. 16): a complexity of forces or influences; a complication of motives, designs, or plots; also *gen.* any complexity.

1679 PRANCE *Add. Narr.* 32 Yet the Wheel within the wheel moved upon other grounds, God making use of his Soveraignty over his Creatures, in raising and stirring up One Nation or Person to punish the Evils of Another. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) I. 114 Thus we have Wheels within Wheels. And in some National Constitutions..we have one Empire within another. *a* 1754 E. ERSKINE *Serm. Wrath of Man* Wks. (1791) 711/2 There is a wheel within a wheel, which will turn matters about so, as the wrath of man shall praise God, and advance his interest, instead of ruining it. 1824 L. MURRAY *Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 457 They are wheels within wheels; sentences in the midst of sentences. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., There's a wheel within a wheel, or you wouldn't have got that. 1861 GUROWSKI *Diary* (1862) 75 McClellan ought to..have direct action; and not refer to Scott. What is this wheel within a wheel? 1900 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Isle of Unrest* vi, There are wheels within wheels..in the social world of Paris.

14. *fig.* A reiterated or recurring course of actions, events, or time; an endless round or cycle.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Uorte leren us þet we of be worldes torpeinesse, & of sunne hweol, ofte gon to schrifte. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xl. 9 Erthly godes þat tornes wiþ þe whele of seuen dayes. 1382 WYCLIF *James* iii. 6 The tunge..set afijre of helle, enflaumeth the wheel of oure birthe. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* Pref. p. xiii, All Buddhists..call their religion the doctrine of 'The Wheel of the Law'.

†b. *Alch.* A series of operations by which one element was supposed to be converted into another.

1472 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashmole (1652) 133 The Wheele of Elements thou canst turne about. *Ibid.* 187 Then to wyn to thy desyre thou needst not be in dowte, For the Whele of our Phylosophy thou hast turnyd abowte. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, I' haue another worke;..That three dayes since, past the Philosophers wheele, In the lent heat of Athanor; and 's become Sulphur o' nature.

†c. = TURN *sb.* 28. *Obs. rare.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 214 Me sholde ordeyne that euery gouernoure had tene Vicaries in his hoste, and euery vicarie ten lederis in his whele.

16. [Partly f. WHEEL *v.*] A movement like that of a wheel. a. A movement in a circular or curved course; a circling motion (usually, through a single complete circle); a revolution.

1624 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. XXVIII. 493 In these daunces they made twoo circles or wheeles [orig. *dos ruedas de gente*]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 741 Satan.. Throws his steep flight in many an Aerie wheele. 1805 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XVI. 91 They..Whirl'd round together in one restless wheel. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. XXXI, Amid his senses' giddy wheel. 1825 — *Guy M.* XXII, A rough terrier dog..scampered at large in a thousand wheels round the heath. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* I. iv. 34 Merrily whirled the wheels of the dizzying dances.

b. A movement about an axis or centre; a rotation; a turn (usually, not completely around); *spec.* (*Mil.*) such a movement of a rank or body of troops about a pivot (PIVOT *sb.* 2); occas. = CARTWHEEL 3.

a 1680 *Contempt. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 69 The captain mounting on a white horse, did leade the musketires, without any wheeles, but went the high beaten way. 1672 T. VENN *Militt. Discipl.* 19 There may be a Counter-march for the gaining of Ground; but I conceive them wholly useless but where you have not ground to make your Wheels. 1788 D. DUNDAS *Princ. Mil. Movem.* App. 5 All wheels or fillings made from the halt into column or line, are made at a quick step. 1797 J. BAILEY & CULLEY *Agric. Northumbld.* 123 At the first appearance of any person they set off in full gallop; and at the distance of two or three hundred yards, make a wheel round, and come boldly up again. 1832 *Prop. Reg. Instr. Cavalry* II. 20 Right Wheel. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xi, Tea and coffee were enlivened by a collision between the footboys. Stiffneck with the tea-tray made a sudden wheel upon No. 7 with the coffee-tray. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* XXVIII, The reckless speed and practised wheel of the trained stock horses. 1904 JOHNSTON *H. P. Liddon* XI. 302 The 'gamins' who used to wheedle pennies from him by making 'wheels' for his amusement.

16. *Prosody.* A set of short lines forming the concluding part of a stanza, usually five in number, varying in form and length, but generally having the first line riming with the last, and often the intervening three riming with each other; the first line in some types is very short, and is then called the *bob*.

1838 GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* II. 290 Besides the staves which originated in mixed and continuous rhime, there are others, which have sprung from the use of the Wheel and Burthen. By the latter of these terms I would understand the return of the same words at the close of each stave, and by the former the return of some marked and peculiar rhythm. *Ibid.* 332. 1906 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Engl. Prosody* I. 105 The bob being of two syllables, and the wheel an irregular but unmistakable ballad-quatrain.

V. Combinations.

17. General: a. *attrib.* Of, pertaining to, consisting of, or connected with a wheel or wheels, as *wheel bearing, -belt, -box, -boy* (cf. WHEELMAN), *-cage, -case, -circle, -coulter, -flange, -grease, -lathe, -mark, -nave, -rim, -ring, -road, -rod, -rut, -spoke, -sweep* (SWEEP *sb.* 16 c), *-timber, -tire, -tooth, -top, -track, -train* (TRAIN *sb.*[1] 15), *-tread* (TREAD *sb.* 10 b), etc.; furnished with or moving on a wheel or wheels (of vehicles = 'wheeled'), as *wheel-arquebus, -bier, -bridge, -clock, -crane, -harrow, -machine, mail, -sled, -vehicle.*

1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* 2. 369 These arms were denominated *wheel-arquebuses [F. *arquebuses à rouet*]. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 390 The castors at the front feet work upon *wheel bearings. 1884 W. S. B. M'LAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 158 There can be no slipping of the twine *wheel-belt. 1898 F. D. HOW *Bp. Walsham How* 371 A simple *wheel-bier decorated with flowers received the coffin. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* liii, [A carriage] with silver *wheel-boxes. 1892 BLACK *Wolfenberg* xi, The solitary figure slowly pacing up and down by the wheel-box [of a ship]. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 493 Little or no attendance is required from *wheel-boys or followers. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Aug. 1641, The *wheel-bridg, which engine his Excellency had made to run over the moate when they exported Sets of wheel timbers 1,056. 1891 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 145 According as the metal is intended to be reduced to the strength of *wheel-tyre, hoop-iron, or different sized bars. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 529 The points of the *wheel-teeth must not be rounded off. 1529 HARDYNG *Past. Pleas.* XXVII. (Percy Soc.) 118 Beholdynge Mars how wonderly he stode, On a *whele top with a lady of pryde. 1552 HULOET, *Whele tracte or rutte, *orbita*. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Naples* 115 The wheel-track worn for centuries. 1839 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 285 A vineyard, with a wheel-track through the midst of it. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *'*Wheel-train*, a number of wheels so arranged that the revolution of one causes the revolution of all. 1735-6 *Wheel-tread [see TREAD *sb.* 10 b]. 1734 J. ROWE (*title*) All sorts of wheel-carriage improved; ..Waggons, Carts, Coaches, and all other *Wheel-Vehicles. 1836 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 48 The wheel-vehicles making no noise.

b. Objective, as *wheel-bearer* (= ROTIFER), *-cutter, -maker, -tapper, -turner; wheel-bearing, -cutting, -greasing, -resembling, -turning* sbs. and adjs.; instrumental, as *wheel-engraving; wheel-going, -made, -marked, -smashed, -spun, -turned, -worn* adjs.; similative, parasynthetic, etc., as *wheel-broad, -footed, -like* adjs.

1861 H. J. SLACK *Marv. Pond-life* 23 Following the Protozoa, come the Rotifera, or *Wheel-bearers. 1877 WOOD *Nature's Teach., Optics* II. 306 Soon after the powers of the microscope became known, these Wheel-bearers were discovered. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 6 The order itself Rotifera, or *wheel-bearing. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* I. Prol., *Wheel-broad hats. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 308/2 *Wheel-cutting..comprehends the modes of cutting the teeth in the wheels used by watch and clock makers. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 68 The circular brass plate in a wheel-cutting engine. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 946/1 *'Wheel Engraving'..As distinguished from sand-blast engraving or acid etching. See *Glass Engraving*. 1788 COWPER *Gratitude* 9 This *wheel-footed studying chair. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* i, At Semlin ..I had come, as it were, to the end of this *wheel-going Europe. 1835-6 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* I. 607/1 The cilia constitute the..*wheel-like organs of the Rotiferous Infusoria.

Jrnl. Derbysh. Archæol. Soc. X. 50 *Wheel-made ry in the barrows of the district. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 688/15 *Hic votarius*, *whelmaker. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1154 The principle which directs the modern wheel-maker. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 398/1 Along a wide and *wheel-marked trail. 1596 R. LINCHE *Diella* (1877) 68 Great (Iouernour of (*whele-resembling) Heauen. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wheelspun*, very stout worsted yarn, spun on the common large wheel. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) Index 178 *Wheel tapper. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristophanes* II. 293 O thou clear lustre of the *wheel-turn'd lamp. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-turning Lathe*, one with two very solid head-stocks with large face-plates, and two slide-rests operated by a ratchet-feed from an overhead rock-shaft. 1727 BROOME *Jason & Medea* Poems 242 Along the *Wheel worn Road they hold their way. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 82 The chariots bounding in her wheel-worn streets.

18. Special Combinations: **wheel-animal, -animalcule** = ROTIFER; **wheel-assembler**, one who fits together the parts of the wheels of bicycles, etc.; so **wheel-assembly**, the operation of doing this; **wheel-back**, a back resembling a wheel, characteristic of chairs made by Heppelwhite about 1775; **wheel-barometer**, a mercurial barometer having a float attached to a string passing over a pulley-wheel on which the index turns; **wheel-base**, the distance between the points of contact of the front and back wheels of a vehicle, as a bicycle or railway-carriage, with the ground or rail; †**wheel-bed**, a trundle-bed; **wheel-bird**, a local name for the night-jar or goat-sucker, from its cry suggesting the noise of a spinning-wheel; **wheel-boat**, a boat with wheels, *esp.* (*Sc.*) a steamboat with paddle-wheels; **wheel-bug**, a large reduviid insect (*Prionidus cristatus*) of the southern United States and W. Indies, with a semicircular serrated crest suggesting a cog-wheel; **wheel-chain** (see quot.); **wheel-chair**, a chair with wheels, *esp.* a Bath chair; **wheel-cross**, a variety of ring-cross with arms radiating from a small circle in the centre of the ring; **wheel-draught**, a current of smoke and hot air in a steam-engine, circulating continuously in one direction; †**wheel-fire** [mod. L. *ignis rotæ*], in *Old Chem.*, a fire completely encompassing a crucible; **wheel-guard**, (*a*) a circular guard on a sword or dagger; (*b*) a guard to protect a wheel from dirt or injury, or to prevent it from chafing some other part of the vehicle or machine; **wheel-head**, (*a*) the nave or central part of a wheel; (*b*) 'the headstock of a spinning-mule' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); (*c*) 'the lathe-head of a seal-engraver's engine' (*Cent. Dict.*); **wheel-horse**, a horse harnessed between the shafts of a vehicle, next to the wheels, as distinguished from a *leader*; *fig.* a person who bears the chief burden of a business; **wheel-insect** = *wheel-animal*; **wheel-iron** (see quot. 1837); **wheel-ladder** (see quot. 1888); **wheel-map** (see quot. 1899); **wheel-money**, name for certain prehistoric metallic objects, supposed by some to be money, made in the form of a wheel, i. e. of a cross surrounded by a ring; **wheel-organ**, *Zool.*, see 8 (*c*); **wheel-pair**,

with composition,..tied to the rim of a wheel or rotating piece of fire-works. *c* 1384 *Whele sercle [see 8]. 1671 HUNT *Abced. Schol.* 110 By the Press we make men immortal, by *Wheel-clocks we are made companions of time. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 77 Automata..are certainly not older than wheel-clocks. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-colter, a sharp-edged wheel running in advance of the breast of the plow, to cut the sod or weeds in the line of the furrow. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) II, *Crane*, a *wheel-crane, built on a wharf. *a* 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* II. vi. (1664) 99 Ever since yellow starch and *wheel Fardingales were cry'd down. 1859 *Newton's Lond. Jrnl. Arts* 1 Feb. 115 The pressure of the *wheel-flange will tend to crush any obstructing substance upon the chairs. 1583 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 269/1 *Axungia*,..*wheele grease. 1901 *Academy* 8 June 495/2 Derby, with its locomotives and everlasting Midland wheel-grease. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 399, j *qwhele harow. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-lathe*, a lathe for turning railway-wheels and other large work. 1770 FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 288 A Wooden Bridge..by which Horses and *Wheel-machines do easily Cross the Water. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* XXVII, It was problematical whether the contractor was running a *wheel mail or not. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* XXXIX, Following the old *wheel-marks on the gravel. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 332 The Witch-Elm..is good for *Wheel-naves. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 162 The payntit povne..Kest vp his taill, a provd pleasand *quheil rym. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 133/2 My rear wheel-rim. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Fence*, This timber is of excellent service..for ploughs, axle-trees, *wheel-rings, harrows, &c. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* I, To my own contemporaries, who have known *wheel-road, bridle-way, and footpath for thirty years. 1888 MORRIS in Mackail *W. M.* (1899) II. 67 The wheel-roads across the downs are doubtful. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 95 The breadth betweene the *wheele-ruts of one of their carres. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 59 Little is laid open to us but two wheel-ruts and two hedges. 1570 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 195 That na *quheill sleddis..cum vpon the brig. 1586 WITHALS *Dict.* (1608) 19/1 A *whele spoke, *radius vel modiolus*. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 326 Oak..for..Shingles, Wainscott, Wheel Spokes. 1892 HARDY *Tess* XXXIII, It had stout wheel-spokes, and heavy felloes. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1244 The Pulborough stone paving of the *wheel sweep. 1376 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 584 Rob'o Yoll, carpentario, culpanti *qwheltimber. 1573 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1893) 139 Item herds cowper tymber wheles and whele tymber. 1626 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 130 Plow-timber, cart-timber, wheel-timber. 1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 42 In 1787 were

a pair of wheel-horses; **wheel pen**, a pen with a small toothed wheel instead of nibs, for tracing dotted lines (Webster 1920); **wheel-piece**, (*a*) a lateral part of a car-truck, supporting the pedestals or axle-boxes; (*b*) a post fixed beneath a door-sill on each side, to take the strain of the wheels of a vehicle when passing over it; **wheel-pit**, (*a*) a space enclosed by masonry for a large wheel, as a fly-wheel or turbine, to turn in; (*b*) *dial.* a whirlpool; **wheel-plate**, (*a*) the part of a solid wheel between the rim and the hub; (*b*) see quot. 1892; **wheel-plough**, a plough having wheels running on the ground to reduce the friction or regulate the depth of the furrow; **wheel-press**, (*a*) a form of rotary printing-press; (*b*) a hydraulic press for moulding a solid wheel, or for fixing it on the axle; **wheel-race**, the part of a mill-race in which the mill-wheel is fixed; **wheel-rood** = *wheel-cross*; **wheel-rope**, *Naut.*, †(*a*) cf. quot. 1495 in 1 b; (*b*) a rope passing round the barrel of the steering-wheel to the tiller; **wheel-seat**, the part of an axle encircled by the wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884); **wheel-shaped** *a.*, having the shape of a wheel; *spec.* in *Bot.* = ROTATE *a.*; †**wheel-sick** *a.*, giddy; **wheel-skate**, a roller-skate; so *wheel-skater*, *-skating*; **wheel-spicule**, *Zool.* one of certain disk-shaped calcareous concretions, with an appearance of radiating spokes, in the skin of some holothurians; also, a wheel-shaped spicule in sponges; **wheel-spur** (ME. -spore), the ridge on the inner side of a wheel-rut (cf. SPOOR *sb.*[1], and *cart-spur* s.v. CART *sb.* 6); **wheel-stitch** (see quot.); **wheel-stock** (*local*), (*a*) the nave of a wheel, or timber to be used for this; (*b*) wood materials for wheel-making; **wheel-stone**, a fossil consisting of a detached joint of the stem of an encrinite, and having the form of a circular disk with a central perforation; an entrochite; **wheel-swarf** [SWARF *sb.*[2]], the pasty substance produced by the friction of a grindstone and the cutlery ground upon it, consisting of a mixture of particles of stone and steel, and used as an air-tight coating in steel-manufacture; **wheel-tax**, a tax on wheeled carriages; **wheel-tracery**, tracery radiating from a centre, as in a *wheel-window*; **wheel-tree**, (*a*) a S. American tree (*Aspidosperma excelsum*), also called *paddle-wood* (cf. quot. 1866 s.v. PADDLE *sb.* 11); (*b*) an Australian tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*) with flowers in circular clusters; (*c*) *Mining* (see quot. 1886); **wheel vat**, in *Tanning* = PIN-WHEEL *sb.* 3; **wheel-way**, a way, road, or track along which wheeled vehicles run; also *fig.* (cf. RUT *sb.*[2] 1 c); †**wheel-whirl** (see quot.); **wheel-window**, a circular window with mullions radiating from the centre like the spokes of a wheel (= CATHERINE WHEEL 2); **wheel-wise** *adv.*, in the manner or form of a wheel; (of swimming) with the arms moving like the spokes of a wheel. See also WHEEL-BAND, WHEELBARROW, etc.

1768 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 The *Wheel-Animal, or Vorticella .. is found in rain water that has stood some days. 1834 *Lancet* 24 May 290/2 We see in this *wheel-animalcule, the *hydatina senta*, many of those muscular bands passing longitudinally from the head, nearly as we saw in the holothuria. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 277/2 Although the arts of the *wheel-assemblers. *Ibid.* 279/2 They are then sent to the *wheel-assembly department, to receive the bearings, spokes and rims. 1909 G. O. WHEELER *Old Engl. Furnit.* (ed. 2) 489 Heppelwhite's *wheel-back chair .. may be found with cabriole legs, and later with typical straight tapered ones. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 155 My *Wheel-barometer I could never fill so exactly with Mercury, as to exclude all Air. 1840 *Hutton's Recr. Math.* 652 Several expedients have been adopted for lengthening the scale of the barometer... The most popular expedient is that adopted in what is called the wheel barometer. 1886 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Mar. 201 The distance between the supporting wheels is four feet, which thus forms the rigid *wheel-base of the truck. 1588 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 92 On pare of bed stocks, one pare for a *qwele bedd. 1589 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1860) 206 One standinge bedd and a wheelebed in ye parlor. 1619 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 238 For a wheele bedd vjs. 1817 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. 1. 147 This species [European Goatsucker] makes a .. noise, which has been compared to that of a large spinning wheel, .. and has on that account been called the *wheel bird. 1862 [see WHEELER 6]. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* viii, 'How did you come from Glasgow?' 'By the *wheel-boat, or steam-boat, as they ca'd it, to Lunnon.' 1864 WEBSTER, *Wheel-boat*, a boat with wheels, to be used either on water or upon inclined planes or railways. 1813 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 210 The *wheel-bug can .. communicate an electric shock to the person whose flesh it touches. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 316 The *Reduvius*, or wheel-bug, is found in gardens, feeding voraciously upon caterpillars. 1891 H. PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 194 **Wheel Chains*, chains used in place of the rope for connecting the steering wheel and the tiller. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Jan. 1662, My Lord Aubignie .. shew'd us .. his *wheele-chaire for ease and motion. 1904 LEE *Recoll. Gen. R. E. Lee* 196 When put in her wheel-chair, she could propel herself on a level floor. 1882 WORSAAE *Industr. Arts Denmark* 66 The ring-cross was sometimes employed indiscriminately with the *wheel-cross to indicate the wheels of the gun-carriage. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 529 A *wheel-draught; that is to say, the current of flame and smoke, after passing along the bottom of the boiler, rises up at the end. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 165 Make a good fire of Charcole about it, wch is called a *Wheel-fire of cementation. 1880 HEWITT *Anc. Armour* II. 218 The guard took a variety of forms, as the cross-guard, that composed of two knobs, and the *wheel-guard. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-guard Plate*, (*Ordnance*), an iron plate on each side of the stock of a .. gun-carriage to prevent its being chafed by the wheels when turning. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. vi, On naked beams above were suspended .. *wheelheads, &c. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 7/2 The wheel-head crosses of Ireland. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4424/1 Which enjoins Waggoners to draw with a Pole between the *Wheel-Horses. 1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. 20 He falls into it as certainly as a new wheel-horse in a mail. 1911 H. S. HARRISON *Queed* xxvii, The only speech was made by the Solon who had the bill called up, a familiar organization wheelhorse. 1800 J. ANDERSON *Recreat.* II. 257 There has been discovered among the *animalcula infusoria*, one which .. has been called by the English, the *wheel insect. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XXIII. 388 What we call a *wheel-iron, placed, as usual on the nose of an axle-tree. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* 87 Splinter Bar Stays, to resist the action of the draught. Formerly these were affixed to the ends of the axles, and called 'wheel irons'. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 *Wheele ladder for haruest. 1720 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 117 Cart Ladders and Wheel Ladders are Frames on the Sides and Tail, to support light Loads as Hay, &c. 1883 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Wheel-ladder*, a lade for the back part of a wagon, having a small roller or windlass attached, by which the ropes for binding the load can be strained tight. 1899 *Geog. Jrnl.* Mar. 296 The mediæval *wheel-maps, in which Jerusalem was accepted as the centre of the world, whence the main geographical lines radiated like the spokes of a wheel. 1907 T. C. MIDDLETON *Geogr. Knowl. Discov. Amer.* 18 The 'wheel-maps' of the globe, devised by St. Isidore. 1861 *Archæol. Cambrensis* Ser. III. VII. 215 These specimens of *wheel and ring money, which were fabricated in the latter place [*sc.* Calta]. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 138 This *wheel-organ—so-called from the movement of its cilia—varies greatly in character. 1794 in *Chamb. Jrnl.* (1858) 9 Oct: 234/1 The postilion so managed the *wheel-pair, that the princesses .. were .. enabled to leap from the carriage without injury. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 889 The sill of the door .. sunk level with the threshing-floor, and supported by two stout posts or *wheel-pieces. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, **Wheel-pit*, a whirlpool. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-pit*, a walled hole for the heavy fly-wheel of a train of rolls, etc. 1859 *Carriage Builders' Art Jrnl.* I. 7/2 In Broughams, .. when a *wheel-plate twenty-two inches in diameter is used, a shortening of nine inches is gained between the fore and hind wheels. 1881 J. W. BURGESS *Coach-Building* 92 The central circle is the wheel-plate, or, as the Americans term it, the fifth wheel. 1892 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.*, *Quadrant Plate, or Wheel Plate.*—The plate which carries the stud wheels in the change wheel series for screw cutting in the lathe. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 38 The Hertfordshire *Wheel-Plough. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 119 A Wheel-Plough for Stony, and a Swing Plough for Clay. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 646 It must be admitted, even by the advocates of the wheel-plough, that .. they cannot by any means be brought so handily to follow the undulations of the surface. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Wheel press*, a hydrostatic press for forcing car-wheels on to their axles and removing them. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 185 The wheel-press of Benjamin Dearborn. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 104 The *wheel-race should always be built in a substantial manner with masonry. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 259 Here, above the chancel arch, hung a *wheel-rood of exceeding beauty. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII.* (1896) 37 *Whele Ropes feble ..]. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 483 The pressure of the helm strained a new wheel-rope. 1823 — *Jrnl.* 358 We lay to under a close-reefed main top sail, until new wheel-ropes were arranged. 1775 J. JENKINSON tr. *Linnæus' Brit. Plants* 231 *Wheel-shaped. 1895 R. DAVEY *Sultan & Subj.* (1897) I. 25 An enormous wheel-shaped box, divided into compartments. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* 141 As boyes when they have made themselves *wheel-sick with turning round will lay hold on the next post to keep them from falling. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Suppl. 8/2 A pair of *wheel skates. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* vi, The *wheelskaters, and poker-players .. of our time. 1875 *Field* 2 Jan. 1/3 The *wheel-skating at Brighton and at Prince's. 1877 *Encycl. Brit* VII. 639/2 *Wheel-spicule of *Chirodota vitiensis*. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/1 *Whele spore (*K.*, *H.* welspore), *orbita*. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., If, to avoid the deep rut, a carriage drawn by a single horse was ventured upon the quarter, the horse was obliged to make the wheel-spur his path, often a very unsafe one, particularly in stiff soils. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 195/2 **Wheel Stitch*, a stitch resembling a spider's web, and worked into the material, and not over an open space, like English wheel and other lace Wheels. 1833 DAV. WEBSTER *Rhymes* 12 (E.D.D.) My mither .. hang'd her bobbin down on the *wheel stock. 1884 C. S. SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 515 Manufacturers of cooperage and wheel stock. 1888 ELWORTHY *W Somerset Word-bk.*, *Wheel-stock*, .. the nave of a wheel. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 46 The detached vertebræ are well described by the common English name of '*wheel-stones'. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 229 In Sheffield, a mass of the stiff ferruginous mud, called *wheelswarf, .. is generally used. 1888 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 5/4 There had been enough of this sort of *wheel-tax policy tried in other places. 1913 M. BARRETT *Scott. Monast. of Old* II. v. 178 The west window contained a splendid specimen of *wheel tracery. 1882 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 438 *Wheel Tree, or Paddle-wood (*Aspidosperma excelsum*) .. when cut transversely the section has the appearance of the rays of a wheel. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Wheel-tree*, a prop to which the pulley on a short self-acting incline is fastened. 1885 *Wheel vat [see WHEEL *v.* 27]. a 785 *Charter of Offa* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 342 And on *hweoxel weg to þan rahbeze. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Æthus.* vi. (1867) 124 To lie supine in the ruinous wheel-way of chance. 1889 *Century Mag.* Aug. 570/2 Nearer the wheelway and upon the outer edges of the public road. 1668 TOPSELL *Serpents* 213 The tayle [of the Newt] standeth out betwixt the hinder-legges in the midle, like the figure of a *wheele-whirle [tr. Gesner: *rhombi figuræ quadam similitudine*]. 1835 R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* vi. 63 *Wheel windows are exceedingly prevalent in Italy; unfortunately the tracery is often removed. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 105 Embossed christall eies affixed, wherein 'wheelewise were circularly ingrafted sharpe pointed diamonds. 1859 W. H. GREGORY *Egypt* I. 276 Swimming as schoolboys call it wheel-wise.

Wheel, *v.* Forms: see prec. [f. WHEEL *sb.*]

I. To move like a wheel (and connected senses).

* 1. *intr.* To turn or revolve about an axis or centre, like a wheel on its axle; to rotate; to whirl.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 356 Heo beoð her hweolinde ase hweoles þet ouerturneð sone, and ne lesteð none hwule. c 1386 CTESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CVII. x, Now shipp with men do touch the skies: .. For now the whirlwinde makes them wheele: Now stop'd in midst of broken round As drunckards use, they staggring reele. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. xi. (1890) 262 His Glory sound thou first Mobile, which mak'st all wheel In circle round. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 426 If the Earth wheels around it's axis. 1813 SCOTT *Triferm.* III. xxi, When the whirlwind's gusts are wheeling. 1819 SHELLEY *Mask of Anarchy* lxxvii, Let the horsemen's scimitars Wheel and flash, like spherelevs stars. 1886 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.* I. 23 The gates which lead to the Elysian fields may slowly wheel back on their adamantine hinges.

b. *fig.* of time, the seasons.

1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1687) 859/2 When they beheld the course of the Heavens, and the various Seasons of the year, to wheel about, and return in certain order. a 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 35 When Years have wheeled. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. II. iii, I wait, and Time around me wheels.

c. To reel, as from giddiness; to be affected with giddiness. Also *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 183 Why doe not all thinges wheele and swarue topsie-turuy? 1620 [G. BRYDGES] *Horæ Subs.* 116 If these giddy goers bee forced to giue a reason for their wheeling vp and downe the streets. 1638 'R. JUNIUS' *Drunkard's Char.* 154 No man ever saw mee so much as wheele in the streets; I am therefore no drunkard. 1838 MARRYAT *Newton Forster* XXVI, [His] head wheeled with the sudden change in his prospects.

2. *trans.* To turn (something) on or as on a wheel; to cause to revolve about an axis; to rotate; to cause to move in a circle or cycle.

Used with variety of context, lit. and fig.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 139 Fortune on loft And vnder eft gan hem to whislen bothe. c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Husb.* XXVII, This fair is of fortoun: As ane cummis vp, scho quheillis ane vther doun. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* III. met. IX. 3 Thou .. who time from first Bidst go, and stable stedy all elz dost while. 1623 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. XVII. 284 In the execution of their rites, shaking and wheeling their heads like madde men. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Elis.* IV. 532 Affaires in Court were not long wheeled about upon one Axell-tree. 1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 197 The Lord semes to be wheeling al things about to the re-establishing of that Covenant agayne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 501 Now Heav'n. rowld Her motions, as the great first-Movers hand First wheeld thir course. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* IV. II. 161 Others will have the Arm to be wheeled about by the *Infraspinatus*. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 64 While through the thronged streets your bridal car Wheels round its dazzling spokes. 1855 E. FORBES *Lit. Papers* IX. 250 The Lamas, whose temples, modes of worship, .. compendious methods of wheeling their prayers, [etc.]. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol., Herakles* 1307, I shall play Ixion's part quite out, the chained and wheeled.

b. *spec.* To twirl or flourish (a stick) in menace or challenge. Also *absol.* (in Irish use).

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 243 If at any time we went slowly, hee wheeled his cudgell about his head, and crying *Wohowa Rose* [etc.]. 1875 *Daily News* 26 Feb., 'Wheeling,' said he, 'is one of those challenges which is given by this energetic population to express their own anxiety for a free fight.' 1893 LE FANU *70 Yrs. Irish Life* iii. 32 One man 'wheeled,' as they called it, for his party; that is, he marched up and down, flourishing his blackthorn, and shouting the battle-cry of his faction.

3. *Mil. intr.* Of a rank or body of troops: To turn, with a movement like that of the spokes of a wheel, about a pivot (PIVOT *sb.* 2), so as to change front.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 111 The Ruyters vse to Wheele about with their whole Troupe. 1672 MILTON *P. R.* III. 393 He saw them in thir forms of battell rang'd, How quick they wheel'd. 1672 VENN *Milit. Discipl.* 62 Right half ranks, wheel about to the right until they be even a breast with the front half files. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 212 The Colonel.. said, wheel to the left of the Battalion. 1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, Leading file, to the right wheel—trot. 1899 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 9 Left wheel into line. Quick march.

b. *trans.* To cause (a rank or body of troops) to turn in this way.

1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* XX. 243 *marg.*, Wheele the Body to the right hand. c 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 104, I wheeled off my troop. 1824 SCOTT *Waw.* XXXIX, He wheeled his little body of cavalry round the base of the castle. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 34 The ranks are then wheeled up.

4. *intr.* To turn so as to face in a different direction; to turn round or aside, esp. quickly or suddenly. Often with *round*, *about*, †*off*.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. XI. 127 The French and English wheeling about, charged the Turks most furiously. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 148 The rebells wheeled off

behind their owne cannon and musqueteers. 1735 Somerville *Chace* III. 105 How to the Head they prest, Justling in close Array, then more diffuse Obliquely wheel. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 518 His steed Declin'd the death, and wheeling swiftly round..Baffled his rider. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* V, A party of five Highland soldiers .. wheeled suddenly into sight. 1867 J. T. Headley *Farragut & Nav. Comm.* 575 [The captain] wheeled out of line and ran with a full head of steam on straight into the ironclad monster. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* VII, He wheeled round from the window as if he was about to confront Halliday and offer to fight him on the spot.

b. *fig.* To change or reverse one's opinion, attitude, or course of action; to turn aside, deviate, decline *from* some course or attitude.

1632 G. Herbert *Church Militant* 54 Plato and Aristotle were at a losse, And wheel'd about again to spell Christ-Crosse. 1663 Heath *Flagellum* (1672) 87 Who had wheeled from his Loyalty during the War. *a* 1716 South *Serm., 2 Thess. ii. 11* II. Wks. 1727 IV. 413 From Independents they improved into Anabaptists. From Anabaptists into Quakers: From whence being able to advance no farther, they are in a fair Way to wheel about to the other Extreme of Popery. 1784 P. Wright *New Bk. Martyrs* 807/2 Jeffreys summed up the evidence against the parson, but wheeled at last into this.

c. *trans.* To turn (a person, animal, or thing) round or aside.

1808 Scott *Last Minstr.* II. viii, So had he seen, in fair Castile, The youth in glittering squadrons start, Sudden the flying jennet wheel, And hurl the unexpected dart. 1829 G. Head *Forest Scenes N. Amer.* 121 Wheeled round every now and then by the wind, we were enveloped in clouds. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* XIX, Wheeling his horse suddenly round, he charged along the advancing front of the people.

** **5.** *intr.* To move like a point in the circumference of a wheel; to move in a circle, spiral, or similar curve; to circle, revolve; to go round about.

1600 Holland *Livy* XXXIV. XIV, He commaunded two elect cohorts of footmen to wheele about the right flanke of the enemies. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. VI. 19, I was forc'd to wheele Three or four miles about. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 185, I might see him send two horsemen after me, who wheeling about the mountaines,..suddenly rushed vpon me. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 72 These two Planets have Moons wheeling about them. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 441 The son of May.. wheeling down the steep of heav'n he flies, And draws a radiant circle o'er the skies. 1726-46 Thomson *Winter* 145 The cormorant on high Wheels from the deep. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* XCVIII, When all is gay With sport and song,..And wheels the circled dance. 1863 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* XXIV, The gulls that wheel and dip around me. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads, L'Envoi* IX, The old lost stars wheel back, dear lass, That blaze in the velvet blue.

fig. 1662 J. Stephens *Procurations* 128 But I wheel too far about. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 132 Those occurrences which wheeled in their Sphere. 1749 Smollett *Regic.* IV. ii, Love, Jealousy, implacable Despair In Tempests wheel.

b. *trans.* To cause (something) to move in this way; to perform (a movement), trace (a course), spend (a time) in this way.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 704 'Till the twelfth moon had wheel'd her pale career. 1750 Gray *Elegy* II, Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. XX, Wheeling their march, and circling still, Around the base of Flodden hill. 1817 Coleridge *Sibyl. Leaves, Happy Hus-*

steady rounds above the rice-fields. 1846 Tennyson *Golden Year* 24 The Sun flies forward to his brother Sun; The dark Earth follows, wheel'd in her ellipse.

6. *transf.* **a.** *intr.* To extend in a circle or curve. ? *Obs. rare.*

1648 Gage *West Ind.* XVII. 114 In'a narrow passage where the way went wheeling. 1769 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 112 Coal and coal metals..wave and wheel. 1791 W. Gilpin *Rem. Forest Scenery* II. 120 A forest-lawn, .. which wheeled around us in the form of a crescent.

†**b.** *trans.* To encircle, surround, encompass. *Obs. rare.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 55 He spyed his person with Troian coompanye wheeled. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 783 Half these draw off, and coast the South With strictest watch; these other wheel the North.

*** **7.** *intr.* To roll along like a wheel. *rare.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 183 Halle mixt with fire must rend th' Egyptian Skie And wheel on th' Earth, devouring where it rouls. 1875 F. T. Buckland *Log-Bk.* 355 The waves at the outer end wheeled at a swift gallop.

II. To move on, or by means of, wheels.

* **8.** *trans.* To convey in a wheeled vehicle, or on a chair, sofa, etc. moving on wheels.

1601 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 139 For whellinge forth XXV quarters of colles, vj*d*. 1740 Mrs. E. Montagu *Corr.* (1906) I. 41 Lord Berkshire was wheeled into the rooms on Thursday night, where he saluted me with much snuff and civility. 1761 Colman *Jealous Wife* I. 22 You shall clap Her into a Post-Chaise,..wheel Her down to Scotland. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* XXIX, Let the gardener..press the leaves into full barrows, and wheel them off, still they lie ankle-deep. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* VI, She was able to totter to the sofa and be wheeled into the adjoining room.

b. *fig.* To pass or convey easily or smoothly, as if on wheels. *rare.*

1638 Harrington *Oceana* 23 Through the paucity of her Citizens, her greater Magistracies are continually wheeled through a few hands. 1689 Hickeringill *Ceremony Monger* VI. Wks. 1716 II. 444 We'll have as many Organs..if we have nothing else to do with our Money; or cannot tell how to wheel off an hour or two in Devotions. 1832 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 309 As some smooth river which has overflowed Will slow and silent down its current wheel A loosened forest.

9. *intr.* To travel in or drive a wheeled vehicle; to go along on wheels, as a vehicle; *mod. colloq.* to ride a bicycle or tricycle, to 'cycle'.

1782 Ramsay *Content* 351 He found he could not walk,.. and wheel'd away. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., The Address*, By the time he [*sc.* a coachman] had wheel'd round the court, and brought me up to the door. 1798 Jane Austen *Northang. Abb.* XX, The chaise and four wheeled off with some grandeur. 1884 *Century Mag.* Sept. 643/2 A youth on a bicycle, who wheeled attentively by her side. 1898 Hamblen *Gen. Manager's Story* V. 48 Both trains were wheeling down under the bridge at a forty-mile gait.

10. *trans.* To push or draw (something) on wheels.

1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 37 Let fall the curtains, wheel the sofa round. 1832 Lytton *Eugene Aram* I. V, The sofa was wheeled into the hall where they dined. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XLIX, He wheeled the table close against Florence on the sofa. 1883 *Law Times* LXXIX. 47/1 A porter.. put all the luggage on a trolley..and wheeled the trolley on to the platform. 1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* IX, The other man in brown had a bad puncture and was wheeling his machine.

** †**11.** ? To wind *up* the mechanism of: in quot. *fig. Obs. rare.*

1632 *Mason's Turke* (ed. 2) Argt., There are other passages of Triuiall Inferior persons, Interwouen into this peice, which serue as a foyle to the Brauery and hight of the Tragedy, yet are Instruments aptly set going to wheele vp the worke.

III. Miscellaneous uses.

†**12.** *intr.* Of a peacock: To spread the tail in a circular form like a wheel. Also *trans.* with the tail as *obj. Obs.*

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 1805 Prowde as a Pecocke whelynge full brycht. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* I. XIX. 115 You neede no other signe then his [*sc.* the peacock's] viewing of himselfe, and couering of his whole bodie with the feathers of his taile, and then we say hee wheeleth. 1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 137 The most fair is the Peacock, ever and anon wheeling his glorious tail. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* VIII. XI.

13. *trans.* To make like a wheel; to give a circular or curved form to. *rare.*

1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 803 The hair covereth the chiefest part of the head, being wheeled on the crown [*capilli..rotati in vertice*]. 1808 Scott *Marm.* V. VI, At every turn, with dinning clang, The armourer's anvil clash'd and rang; Or toil'd the swarthy smith, to wheel The bar that arms the charger's heel.

14. To furnish with a wheel or wheels.

1661, 1898 [see Wheeling *vbl. sb.* f]. 1808 H. Martin *Helen of Glenroe* I. 46 She begged leave to paint, glaze, new carpet, and new wheel the old coach.

†**15.** To torture or 'break' on a wheel. *Obs. rare.*

1611 [implied in Wheeling *vbl. sb.* b].

16. To form or shape on a wheel, as pottery.

17. *Tanning.* = Pin-wheel *v.*

1885 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* 530 The skins next go into the England wheel vat..and are 'wheeled' in sumach liquor.

Wheel: see Weel, Wheal.

Wheelage (hwī·lédg). [f. Wheel *sb.* + -age]

1. A toll paid for the passage of wheeled vehicles; cost of carriage in a wheeled vehicle, cartage. *Hist.*

1611 Cotgr., *Droict de Rouage*, wheelage. 1672 (*title*) Deed between William Osbolston .. and the Mayor and Corporation of London, relates to the Collection of Tolls, or Wheelage over Old London Bridge (MS.). 1765 *Lond. Chron.* 25 Apr. 398 The Committee..lett..the toll of carts and wheelage over London-Bridge. 1808 *Hist. Worcester* 93 A ton of coal, threepence for wheelage. 1894 C. Welch *Tower Bridge* 48 The Sheriffs never had anything to do with the wheelage, which was collected by a City-officer.

†**2.** Wheel-making. *Obs. rare*—°.

1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 1312 Wheelage, or wheel-work, *rotarum fabricatio.*

Wheel-band. [f. Wheel *sb.* + Band *sb.*²]

†**1.** The tire of a wheel. *Obs.*

1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 202 Item pro j wheleband, j scho pro curru, et emendacione currus, v gr. 1557 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 93 In the hay house..iiij. qwele bannes. 1598 Chapman *Iliad* VII. R 3 b, [XI. 466] The chariote tree was dround in bloode, and th' arches by the seat Disperpled from the horses houes, and from the wheelbandes beate.

2. A band or strap that goes round a wheel, as the driving band of a spinning-wheel. *dial.*

a 1696 *Rosb. Ball.* (1881) IV. 101 It is a well twined Wheelband. 1693 C. Mather *Wond. Invis. World* (1862) 159 One Susanna Sheldon..had her hands Unaccountably ty'd together with a Wheel-band. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2166 To prevent the Recipients being drawn from its place by the motion and tug of the Wheel-band.

Wheelbarrow (hwī·l,bærəʊ), *sb.* Forms: see Wheel *sb.* and Barrow *sb.*³; also 4 wil-, 6 whil-; 4 -bargh, 5 -berghe, -berwe, 6 -barugh, -berow, 7 -barrough. A barrow or shallow open box mounted between two shafts that receive the axle of a wheel at the front ends, the rear ends being shaped into handles and having legs on which it rests; also applied to similar contrivances with more than one wheel.

a 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 218 Sikeman lith in hore-bere.. And the crepul in the wilberwe. 1394 in *Archæologia* XXIV. 308 Et in j welbargh empt' pro stauro Manet' xij d.

24.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 572/1 *Consecatorium rotatum*, a wheelberwe. 1533 *MS. Rental. D.* 776 lf. 149 Wheie-barrowes ffor labourers to serve brykkayers with. *c* 1563 *Jack Juggler* (1912) B iv b, I shall make thee not able to go? nor ryde But in a dungcart or a whilberow lying on on syde. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* V. ii. 231 Hand-barrowes, and wheele-barrowes to carrie earth. 1698 Otway *Friendship in F.* III. i, I can act the rumbling of a Wheelbarrow, 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 90 Another Fellow driving a Wheel-Barrow of Nuts. 1825 Dilamer *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 8 Two doors,..wide enough to admit a wheel-barrow, or a small cart.

†**b.** *transf.* applied to a light carriage. *Obs.*

c 1600 Day *Begg. Bednall Gr.* V. (1882) 114 To be jaunted up and down London Streets in a lethern wheelbarrow. 1609 B. Jonson *Staple of News* II. iii, You thinke I can runne like light-foot Ralph, Or keep a wheele-barrow, with a sayle in towne here To whirle me to you. 1776 *King. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Yarmouth*, People are carried here all over the town..for 6d. in what they call a coach, but it is only a wheel-barrow, drawn by one horse. 1794 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Pindariana, Hymn to Adversity*, Morality.. may..Throw by his wheel-barrow, and keep a carriage. 1819 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. 290 You know of old how I detest that mania of driving wheel-barrows up and down, when a man has a handsome horse and can ride him.

c. In allusive and proverbial phr.: see quots.

1597 Breton *Wits Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 9/1 It is not a little treason in youth, to catch age in a wheele-barrow. 1618 T. Adams *Gods Bountie* I. Wks. 864 This oppressor must needs goe to heauen,..But it will bee, as the by-word is, in a Wheele-barrow; the fiends, and not the Angels will take hold on him. 1675 Cotton *Burlesque upon B.* 128 When drunk as Drum, or Wheelbarrow. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. ii. 36 Behold the Reason of the Wheelbarrow! That goes to rumble. *Ibid.* X. 159 The Believing Collier whirles right to Heaven in a Wheel-barrow. 1709 [see Drunk *ppl. a.* 1 b].

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wheelbarrow-load, -man, race, tub*; *wheelbarrow fashion* advb. phr.; **wheelbarrow-machine** (see quot.).

1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* XVIII, Laying hold of the navigator *wheelbarrow fashion. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home, Outside Glimpses Engl. Pov.*, The wealthier inhabitants purchased their coal by the *wheelbarrow-load. 1856 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 402 Mr. Applegarth .. has also invented a beautiful little machine for printing the borders on silk handkerchiefs, called the *wheelbarrow machine, from its being worked by the hand round the cloth, which remains stationary. 1718 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 209 The *Wheelbarrow-Men make five or six Stages, according to the Length of the Way. 1788 *Massachusetts Spy* 26 Nov. 2/1 It is said the perpetrators were of that class called wheelbarrow men, but this is rather improbable, as their object did not appear to be plunder. 1837 D. Walker *Sports & Games* 341 *Wheelbarrow Race. .. Along this course, over the bridge, and up to the goal, the candidates must drive their barrows blindfolded—if they can. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 731 More economical to convey the milk thither in *wheelbarrow tubs.

Hence **Wheelbarrow** *v. trans.*, to convey in a wheelbarrow (whence **Wheelbarrower, Wheelbarrowing** *vbl. sb.*); **Wheelbarrowful**, as much as a wheelbarrow holds.

1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 44 (1726) 244 The greatest part of his heavy compliments are 'wheel-barrow'd from the lime-kiln. 1827 Baring-Gould *Gaverocke* XIV, Onions.. wheelbarrowed into the town. 1893 W. Wallace *Scot. Yest.* 73 He became the regular *wheelbarrower at the Castle. 1837 Thackeray *Ravenswing* VIII, The theatre servants wheeled away a *wheelbarrow-full. 1851 *B'ham & Midl. Gard. Mag.* Apr. 31 At the rate of one wheelbarrow full to every twelve of soil. 1893 W. Wallace *Scot. Yest.* 74 Often I saw him pausing in his *wheelbarrowing.

Wheel-carriage.

1. Carriage (Carriage 1) or conveyance by wheeled vehicles.

1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 30 Ashes or Soot.. are seldom used, because they generally lie too distant for Wheel Carriage from London. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 247 Where the country proves clay, marl, or rich or spungy soil, ..and yet much wheel-carriage necessary, and no turnpike.

2. A carriage (Carriage 23) moving on wheels, a wheeled vehicle; also as a part of a machine (Carriage 29).

1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 319 Its fore-part lying on the Stock of the Wheel-Carriage as the Fallow-plough does. 1796 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 369 The only gap of the Alleghany at present made passable for wheel-carriages. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 123 The wheel-carriage on which the roller rests is then wheeled onward. 1863 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* II. 304 The roads.. that led from town to town were barely passable to wheel-carriages.

Wheeldom (hwī·ldom). *nonce-wd.* [f. Wheel *sb.* + -dom.] The domain or 'world' of wheeled vehicles, esp. bicycles or users of them.

1897 *Cycl. Tour. Club Monthly Gaz.* Mar. 123 A prominent interest in matters pertaining to wheeldom.

Wheeled (hwīld, *poet.* hwī·lĕd), *a.* Also 7 wheeld, whilde. [f. Wheel *sb.* + -ed².] (In OE. in parasynthetic comb. *fyrhwehled* four-wheeled, *hlihhwolad* high-wheeled.)]

1. Furnished with a wheel or wheels, or with any revolving disk; *esp.* of a vehicle, mounted or moving on wheels. Also in parasynthetic comb., as *two-wheeled*, etc.

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. XIV. 73 The wheel'd seate Of Fortunate Cæsar. 1632 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* III. viii. (1810) 322 Pickaxes and Whildebarrowes. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 219 The wheeled plough. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 378 An inland country, destitute

of navigable rivers, and not suited to wheeled carriages. 1836 Prichard *Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 3) I. 258 Ever shifting their wheeled houses. 1855 Hewitt *Anc. Armour* I. p. xxii. The knights appear to have rejected with particular obstinacy the innovation of the wheeled spur. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* ii. 134 Roads for wheeled vehicles are now unknown in any part of Palestine. 1875 Reynardson *Down the Road* 107 A tinker with one of those wheeled grinding-stones.

b. *transf.* Effected on wheels or by wheeled vehicles.

1845 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 348 Wheeled carriage is unknown;...no wheeled conveyances could be used. 1881a T. G. Bowles *Flotsam & Jetsam* 110 The almost entire absence of wheeled traffic. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* May 640/2 The country through which we passed in our wheeled pilgrimage to Land's End.

2. Of the form of a wheel. *poet. rare.*

1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 233, I see a chariot...Its wheels are solid clouds,..A guiding power directs the chariot's prow Over its wheeled clouds.

Wheeler (hwī·ləɹ). Also 4 **whelere**, 5–6 **wheler**. [f. Wheel *sb.* and *v.* + -er 1.]

I. Senses derived from the sb.

†1. *Wheeler dog*, ? orig. a turnspit dog; *transf.* a roasting-jack or similar instrument. *Obs. rare.*

1379 *Will of Carter* (Comm. Crt. London), Vnum instrumentum vocatum a whelere dogge.

2. A wheelwright or wheel-maker.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 109 Whelers and Smythes tolles. 1549 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 570 A wheler to make wheles. 1666 *Bedloe's Narr. Popish Plot* 6 A Paper with a Ball of Wild-fire,..was found in the Nave of a Wheel, in a Wheelers-yard. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 19 The Stones that..ever will be the Cause of a greater Charge of Smith's and Wheeler's Bills. 1830 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. 84 The wheeler's shop, always picturesque, with its tools, and its work. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 468/1 *Wheelers*, .. the mechanics of a battery engaged in setting up the wheels of the gun-carriages. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 12/2 Wheelwrights.—Wanted a good wheelers.

3. A wheel-horse (see Wheel *sb.* 18) or other draught-animal in the same position; often opp. to *leader* (Leader 1 6 b).

1813 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 82 My leader took fright..but luckily I kept my wheeler in. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv, Now, the coach was lying on the tails of the two wheelers; and now it was rearing up in the air. 1883 *New Bk. Sports* 171 Few things are more distressing than to see..one wheeler hanging away from the pole, and the other hugging it.

4. One who attends to the wheel in a spinning-machine.

1876 Smiles *Sc. Natur.* fil. 47 Each spinner had three boys under him—the wheeler, the pointer, and the stripper.

5. *Needlework.* One who makes 'wheels': see Wheel *sb.* 8 (*a*).

6. = *wheel-bird*: see Wheel *sb.* 18.

1862 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 Wheel-bird, or Wheeler, the Nightjar.

7. Something, as a vehicle, a boat, etc. furnished with a wheel or wheels: chiefly in compounds, as Four-wheeler, Sternwheeler, etc.

1886 A. Watt *Electro-Depos.* 314 The whole bicycle fraternity, who had been accustomed to plain steel or painted wheelers.

8. ? A nail used in fixing the parts of a wheel.

1873 *Iron* 1 Feb. 75/1 Nails..Wrought.. Best Derby Countersunk Dub deep Wheelers, 3 [lbs.] 2/9.

II. Senses derived from the verb.

9. One who wheels a vehicle, or conveys something in a wheeled vehicle (esp. a wheelbarrow).

1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 55 With wheel-barrows; three barrows for two wheelers and one filler sometimes doth well. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 261/1 *Wheeler*, is him that carryeth the Clay from the Pit, to the Moulding Board foot. 1881a Smiles *Engineers* III. iii. 84 The younger boys worked as wheelers or pickers on the bank-tops. 1884 C. T. Davis *Bricks, Tiles* etc. (1889) 131 The wheeler gathers the stones and hard lumps of clay that have been thrown out .. and wheels them to some out of the way place.

†10. One of a series of projecting stones in a battlement: see quot. *Obs. rare.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 470/2 A Tower with a plain Battlement; that is, the Battlement is not made with Wheelers and Kneelers, but is streight, and even in the Walk of the Wall. *Ibid.* 472/1 (Terms of the Fractable on a Gable end) A Wheeler, are wrought stones that ly levell and streight, yet make outward Angles when other stones are joyned to them.

11. *Mil.* The man at the outermost end of the rank in wheeling.

1798 Sir W. Young *Instr. Armed Yeom.* 13 The man on the other Flank, or Wheeler, will move round square, to Dress by the Pivot Man.

12. One who turns so as to face another way; *fig.* one who changes his opinion or attitude, a turncoat, a 'weathercock'.

1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 40 He..is one of the most notorious wheelers in Parliament.

13. One who rides a bicycle or tricycle, a cyclist. *colloq.* 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang.*

Wheelerite (hwī·ləɹəit). *Min.* [Named from Lieut. G. M. *Wheeler*, of the U. S. Army: see -ite 1.] A yellowish fossil resin occurring in lignite in the cretaceous strata of New Mexico.

1874 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. VII. 572.

Wheelery (hwī·ləɹi). *rare.* [f. Wheel *v.* + -ery.] Wheeling, circumgyration.

1847 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Tyrants*, With curlings and twistings, and twirls and wheeleries.

Wheel-house.

1. A structure enclosing a large wheel, *e.g.* a water-wheel; *spec.* a house or superstructure containing the steering-wheel, a pilot-house; also, the paddle-box of a steam-boat.

1830 B. Taylor *Eldorado* i. (1862) 3 On the morning of July 5th, I took a station on the wheel-house. 1883 Greslky *Glass. Coal-Mining* 285. 1892 J. S. Fletcher *When Chas. I was King* (1896) 26 The mill at Wentbridge, where the stream was pouring through the wheel-house like a cataract.

2. A building in which cart-wheels are stored.

1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 472 The wheel-house under the barn, 25 feet square.

Wheeling (hwī·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wheel *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Wheel, in various senses.

a. Turning or revolution about an axis or centre; rotation. Also *fig.* b. *Mil.* (See Wheel *v.* 3.) Also *Attrib.* c. A turning aside or in a different direction, deviation; also *fig.* d. Motion (or *transf.* extension) in a circle or curve; circling, circuitous movement; also *fig.* e. Conveyance of something in a wheelbarrow or the like; travelling in a wheeled vehicle, or (*colloq.*) on a bicycle or tricycle. Also *attrib.* f. Furnishing or fitting with a wheel or wheels. g. *Needlework.* The making or working of 'wheels': see Wheel *sb.* 8 (*a*); *attrib.* as in *wheeling stitch, yarn*, etc. †h. Torturing or 'breaking' on a wheel. *Obs.* i. The process of shaping or forming something by means of a wheel; in quots. *attrib.*

a. 1483 Earl Rivers *Ball.* 6 in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1877) 150 This world being Of such whelyng Me contrarieng. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiii. 223 The wheelings about of the Skye. 1594 Nashe *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 269 As the firmament is still mouing and working, so vncessant is the wheeling and rolling on of our braines. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 318 All Rotations and Wheelings cause a kind of Giddiness in the Brain. 1773 Mrs. Grant *Lett. fr. Mount.* (1807) I. xiii. 105 The 'boiling' and 'wheeling' of the waters below.

b. 1603 'Jack Dawe' *Vox Graculi* 38 What wheelings, what windings, what summoning to parlees. 1625 Markham *Souldiers Accid.* 22 Wheeling (as by conversion or turning to either hand). 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 15 In division Wheelings, the whole keep closed lightly towards the hand they wheel to, and must avoid pressing the pivot man off his ground. 1832a *Prop. Regul. Instr. Cavalry* II. 10 Wheeling should at first be practised in single rank. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 20 The Wheeling Step, or March, is 120 steps of 30 inches each, or 300 feet in a minute. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 236/1 The wheelings and dress are fully equal to the best regular regiments.

c. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 182 His unconstant whilinges to Ormond. *a* 1712 Ken *Anodynes* Post. Wks. 1721 III. 432, I sooner cou'd of shifting Wind, The Rise, Recess, and Wheelings find, Than of my heart detect the Wiles.

d. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 24 After all this wheeling about, we are not a step further than we were. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 15 A different dip or declivity of the strata, which is occasioned by the waving and wheeling of the strata. 1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* xvi. 101 We had been watching the wheelings and flittings of a flock of prairie hens. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxx, The hovering and wheeling of Grandcourt's caprice.

e. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 213 When stones can be got within a wheeling distance, or about sixty or seventy yards. 1881a *Prospectus Cycle Touring Club*, The encouragement of all that is admirable in the art of wheeling. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 727/2 Travelling in the saddle was..a necessity, wheeling is now everywhere easy.

f. 1661 in Swayne *Churches. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 334 Stocking and wheeling of the same [*sc.* bells]. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 120 Far more suitable for amateurs than building or 'wheeling' as it is termed. 1898 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 6/5 The gearing and wheeling of the cars.

g. 1808 Jamieson, *Wheelin*, coarse worsted. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4032, Fingering, lambs-wool, and wheeling hosiery. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 29 Wheeling yarn.

h. 1611 Corvat *Crudities* 388 The fifth and last punishment is wheeling, which is onely for murderers.

i. 1881a *Standard* 16 Sept. 8/2 Brickmakers' plant and stock, comprising..iron wheeling plates. 1884 *Bham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 2/4 Tin and Iron-plate workers, &c...Wiring, Swaging and Wheeling Machines.

Wheeling (hwī·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Wheel *v.* + -ing 2.] That wheels, in various senses.

a. Turning like a wheel; revolving about an axis; rotating, rolling, whirling, swirling. Also *fig.* of a recurring or 'revolving' period of time. b. *Mil.* (See Wheel *v.* 3.) *Wheeling flank*, the outward flank in wheeling, which describes the largest curve. c. Turning round or aside; changing direction. d. Moving, or executed as a movement, in a circle or similar curve; circling. †In first quot., wandering about, roving. e. Moving on wheels.

a. 1628 Milton *Vac. Exerc.* 34 Where the deep transported mind may soare Above the wheeling poles. 1635 L. Foxe *N.-W. Fox* 187 Wheeling streames like edie tides. 1636 W. Cartwright *Royal Slave* v. ii, Hemm'd in on every side With Beauties, which his wheeling eye runs o're All in a Minute. 1728 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, With Patience then I'll wait each wheeling Year. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1274 What arm Almighty put these wheeling globes In motion? 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* XXXIII, The deep and wheeling stream of the river.

b. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 42 An officer or under officer from the wheeling flank..of each squadron. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 23 The outward wheeling man.. lengthens his step.

c. 1716 Pope *Iliad* V. 53 As he to Flight his wheeling Car address'd. *a* 1769 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 388 The pilots..Still with the wheeling stern their force repel. 1882a 'Ouida' *Bimbi* vi. 186 He endeavoured to soothe his fretting and wheeling beast.

d. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. i. 137 Tying her Duties, Beautie, Wit, and Fortunes In an extravagant, and wheeling Stranger. 1630 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 163 We are faine to use a wheeling-stride, and go as it were in orbe. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 803 Dark as a Cloud they make a wheeling Flight. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 487 Happy he who tops the wheeling chase. 1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* III. 93 Around whose eyes glared wheeling flames. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., 20th Sunday after Trin.*, The wheeling kite's wild solitary cry. 1905 Treves *Other Side of Lantern* II. xxii. 142 Pigeons sweep round this square in wheeling flocks.

e. 1896 Sir J. Davies *Orchestra* CXV, A wheeling Cart. 1637 Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 21 Goe harnesse straight my wheeling chaire. 1773 Lady Mary Coke *Jrnl.* 22 Aug. (1896) IV. 225 He was placed in a wheeling chair, as he has not the use of his legs. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 907/2 A new stretcher, which could be used either as a light portable or as a wheeling stretcher.

Hence **Wheelingly** *adv.* on wheels. *rare.*

1611 Florio, *A rudita*, wheelingly.

Wheelless (hwī·ləles), *a.* [f. Wheel *sb.* + -less.] Without a wheel or wheels; having no wheels; not adapted to wheeled vehicles.

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* XXVII, The carpet..was..strewed with headless dolls, tailless horses, wheelless carts. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXXVII, Withers..stood upright..behind her wheel-less chair at dinner-time. 1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 470 In many a rollicking expedition in wheelless Liddesdale.

Wheel-lock. [f. Wheel *sb.* + Lock *sb.*2] 1. A form of gun-lock in which the powder was fired by the friction of a small wheel (wound up with a spring) against a piece of iron pyrites. Also *attrib.*

1670 Cotton *Espernon* I. IV. 181 The wheel-lock of a Pistol, ready wound up. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 71 These..have been much used for Carabines and Pistols, whil'st Wheel-locks were in fashion. 1881 Edgeworth *Mem.* (ed. 2) I. 279 Guns,..some with old match-locks,..and others with wheel-locks. 1880 Hewitt *Anc. Armour* III. 589 Their [*sc.* German Reiters' or pistoliers'] characteristic arm, the wheel-lock pistol. 1904 Tylor *Anthropol.* I. 17 The match-lock led up to the wheel-lock, and that again to the flint-lock musket.

2. A form of letter-lock (see Letter *sb.*1 8) with a series of wheels or disks upon the edges of which the letters were inscribed

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

3. (See quot.)

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-lock*, a wagon-lock, to retard the revolution of the wheels in descending a hill.

Wheelman (hwī·lmæn). Pl. **-men.** Also **wheelsman.** [f. Wheel *sb.* + Man *sb.*1]

1. A man who attends to a wheel in some piece of mechanism; *U. S.* a helmsman.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 643/1 The wheelsman..tries to entice her up to his pilot-box, which towers above the vessel. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 72.

2. A man who rides a bicycle or tricycle; a male cyclist. *colloq.*

1881 *Tribune* (N. Y.) 5 Apr., An enthusiastic wheelman of Boston had not up to January 1, missed but one day riding on his 'steely steed' since the winter season commenced. 1887 *Morning Post* 8 Apr., A reconnaissance can be carried out more quickly..by wheelmen than by horsemen.

So **Wheelwoman**, a female cyclist.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Sept. 11/2 Wheelmen and wheelwomen.

Wheelwork (hwī·lwɜk). [f. Wheel *sb.* + Work *sb.*] A set of connected wheels forming part of a machine or mechanical contrivance.

1670 Evelyn *Sylva* xxiii. (ed. 2) 115 The Cornel-tree..is exceedingly commended for its durablenesse, and use in Wheel-work, Pinns, and Wedges. 1772 C. Hutton *Bridges* 99 Pile Driver, is an engine for driving down the piles...It is worked..either with or without wheel work. 1828 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 347 These spindles are connected with wheel-work. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 29 This axle, by the aid of intervening wheel-work, is set into rotation.

b. Applied to the trochal apparatus of a rotifer or *wheel-animalcule.*

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) I. 448/2 The most remarkable part of this animalcule is its wheel-work.

Wheelwright (hwī·lɹəit). Forms: see Wheel *sb.* and Wright.

1. A man who makes wheels and wheeled vehicles.

1281 *Pat.* 9 *Edw. I* m. 22 d. in *50th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 22 Richard le Whelwryht. 1482 *Howard Housh. Bks.* (Roxb.) 198 To the whele wryte of Boxford for exyng of a carte v.d. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 A Whele wryght, *retarius.* 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 134 If there be ashes in it, [I advise thee] to sell..the gret ashes to whele-wryghtes. 1534 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 373 Thomas Hobe..the qwylwryght. 1682 in *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archæol.* (1883) VI. 90 To Jno Blomfield Wheelewright as by his bill, 02 05 00. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 486 They carry with them only their best wood for spars and wheelwright's work. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* Introd., The wheelwright putting the last touch to a blue cart with red wheels.

†2. One who works at or turns a wheel: applied to Fortune (cf. Wheel *sb.* 11 a). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Poem on Fortune* v. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 8 A wifman of so much myȝth, So wonder a whelwryȝth, Sey I nevere with syȝth. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxi. (Thornton MS.) False fortune in fyghte, That wondirfulle whele wryghte.

Hence **Wheelwrighting**, the business of a wheelwright; the making of wheels and wheeled vehicles.

1894 *Review of Rev.* Apr. 441/2 Wheel-wrighting also grows of necessity out of the making and care of the wagons and other vehicles of the farm.

Wheely (hwī·lĭ), *a. rare.* [f. WHEEL *sb.* + -Y 1.] Of or pertaining to a wheel.

c 1626 BOSWORTH *Arcadius & Sepha* I. 957 Fortune (whose continual wheely force Keeps constant course). 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 80 To exercise the pointed Steel On the hard Rock, and give a wheely Form, To the expected Grinder.

Wheem(e, dial. forms of QUEME *a.*

Wheen (hwīn), *a.* and *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4–5 quheine, qwheyn(e, 4–6 quheyn(e, -en(e, (5 qwhayne, 7 whein, wheene, 9 whean), 7–9 whin, 7– wheen. [Represents OE. *hwéne* (*hwǽne, hwēne*) in some degree, somewhat, instrumental case of *hwón* WHON = (*a*) few, the meanings of which it took over in ME.]

1. Few, not many.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 368 The king..With a quheyn [*Edin. MS.* quhone] lik poueraige, Vencust him vith a gret menge. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vi. 45 Of mony wordis, schortlie, a quhene sall I Declair. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antig. Scot.* XLV. 237 A wheen of..canny wise professors. *Ibid.* 241 A whin knaves. 1682 PRYDEN *Lord's Trumpet* 20 O sirs! Christ had a whein noble worthies in Scotland. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* LXV. What use has my father for a whin bits o' scarted paper? 1816 — *Antig.* XXIV. There will be a wheen idle gowks coming to glower at the hole as lang as it is daylight. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* III. 23, I wouldnae like the Balfours to be humbled before a wheen Hieland Campbells. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Gr. Shutters* 72 'Have the carriers a big load?' 'Andy has just a wheen parcels, but Elshie's as fu' as he can haud.'

3. *A wheen* as advb. phr.: A little, somewhat.

1869 C. GIBBON *Robin Gray* x, The auld wife's a wheen better.

Wheen(e, obs. or dial. ff. QUEEN *sb.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* v. 4463 Þe qwene [*MS. Bowes* 136 wheene] of Amasons.

Wheen, Wheenerd, Wheenge: see WHINE, WINNARD, WHINGE.

Whee-oh, -oo. Imitative of the cry of some birds, of a bullet whistling through the air.

1892 LOWNDES *Camping Sk.* 19 The shrill 'whee-oh' of the widgeon. 1913 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 5 June 426/1 Whee-oo! whistled a bullet..uncomfortably close to my head.

Wheep, *sb.* [Echoic.] A long-drawn sound of a steel weapon drawn from its sheath.

1892 KIPLING *Life's Hand., Head Distr.* V, The soft wheep, wheep of unscabbarded knives. 1905 CROCKETT *Cherry Ribband* XIVI, With the long clean wheep of steel leaving steel, he unsheathed his sword.

Wheep (hwīp), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative.] = WHEEPLE *v.*

1808 JAMIESON, *To Wheep*, 1. To give a sharp whistle at intervals. 2. To squeak. 1894 A. REID *Songs o' Heatherld.* 39 The plover wheepit owre the lea.

Wheep, Sc. form of WHIP.

Wheeple (hwī·p'l), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To utter a somewhat protracted shrill cry, like the curlew or plover; also, to whistle feebly (*intr.* and *trans.*). So **Wheeple** *sb.*

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 601 *note*, I wad na' gie the wheeple of a whaup for a the nightingales that ever sang. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck, Hunt of Eildon* V, Like Redwings wheepling through the mist. *a* 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 284 We've a' been heathens—now we pray, And sing and wheeple. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Gr. Shutters* 80 He sometimes wheepled a tune.

Wheer, Wheese, Wheesh, Wheesht, Wheest, Wheeson: see WHERE, WEASE, WHEEZE, WHISH, WHISHT, WHIST *int.*1, WHITSUN.

Wheetle (hwī·t'l), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* [Imitative: cf. *wheeple.*] *intr.* To whistle shrilly. Also reduplicated.

1825 JAMIESON, *Wheetle*, sharp peeping sound made by young birds. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* XVI, A loud clear wheetle-wheetling note from some curious fowl. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* I, Parrots..who, crowded in long rows, kissed one another, and wheetled idiotically.

Wheetle, Sc. var. WHEEDLE.

Wheeze (hwīz), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An act of wheezing; a whistling sound caused by difficult breathing.

1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 477 *note*, A loud sibilant or dry sonorous rhoncus, corresponding with the loud sighing wheeze, audible by the naked ear. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XX, A wheeze very like the cough of a horse. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* 90 A ladylike sneeze, Or a portly papa's more elaborate wheeze.

b. *transf.* A sound resembling this.

1833 LOWELL *Outre-Mer, Vill. Autenil* (1886) 35 The last wheeze of the clarionet died upon my ear. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 100 A somewhat hoarse and reedy wheeze from the scrannel-pipe of a lesser player than Pan.

c. *Phonetics.* A whisper (see WHISPER *sb.*) intensified by further contraction of the glottis.

1890 SWEET *Primer of Phonetics* (1902) 22 Wheeze. If we strongly exaggerate an ordinary whisper, we get that hoarse, wheezy sound known as the 'wheezing' or 'stage whisper'.

2. orig. *Theatr. slang*, A joke or comic gag introduced into the performance of a piece by a clown or comedian, esp. a comic phrase or saying introduced repeatedly; hence, (*gen. slang* or *colleg.*) a catch phrase constantly repeated; more widely, a trick or dodge frequently used; also, a piece of special information, a 'tip'.

1864 P. PATERSON *Glimpses Real Life* 131 The art of getting up 'wheezes', as the clown's jokes are called. 1884 G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* XIV, Up to the present, only one 'wheeze' had been found. 1885 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 18 He [*sc.* the comedian]..would, for a quarter of an hour together, improvise 'wheezes' to keep the house in a roar. 1890 *Spectator* 17 May 698/2 The now hackneyed wheeze, 'A sudden thought strikes me, let us swear eternal friendship,' is taken from 'The Rovers'. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 534/1 He is now wisely convinced that this wheeze is played out. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 30 Aug. 2/6 Someone gave the defendant the wheeze. 1910 *Dundee Adv.* 2 July 6 The old wheeze about one touch of nature making the whole world kin.

Wheeze (hwīz), *v.* Forms: 5 whese, 6 whiese, weese, 6–8 wheese, wheese, 6–9 wheese, 8 wheez, 7– wheeze. [prob. a. ON. *hvæsa* to hiss (MSw., Sw. *hvässa*, Da. *hvæse*). (There is no connexion with OE. *hwōsan*, 3rd pers. pres. ind. *hwōst*, pa.t. *hwēas* to cough, dial. HOOSE.)]

1. *intr.* To breathe hard with a whistling sound from dryness or obstruction in the throat, as in asthma.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XVI. 472, I lagh that I whese. 1538, etc. [see WHEEZING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*]. *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 222 Not stretcht upon his bed, Nor wheasing with a stopt-up spirit. 1648 WINYARD *Mids.-Moon* 6 Hee shortly be a Baptist without a voice, and wheazes already, as if he fed on nothing but Locusts and Grashoppers. 1679 DRYDEN *Troil. & Cress.* I. i, Tickling his spleen, and laughing till he wheeze. 1684 SOUTHERNE *Disappointm.* II. i, I must laugh at him; not sooth him in his vanity, nor tickle him, till he wheeze. 1697 R. PRICE *Bath Mem.* II. ii. 278 She..wheezed, as they vulgarly term it here, when the Windpipe makes a Noise in Breathing. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VII. ix, Wheezing as he went with corpulency and terror. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. II. (1878) 282 'I'm not a bit afraid to die', said the old woman, wheezing. 1875 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* XIV, He chatted, he chuckled, he coughed and wheezed, and told his stories.

b. *transf.* To make a similar sound.

1854 G. W. CURTIS *Potiphar Papers* IV. (1866) 127 That elegant youth has pumped life dry, and now the pump only wheezes. 1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* V, Like a firework... It wheezed and banged with a mighty power.

2. *trans.* To utter with a sound of wheezing.

1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* XIV, 'If you'll look in that glass yonder, which is opposite the mirror, you'll soon see I' wheezed out the old man, maliciously. 1880 P. LUDLOW *Nick Hardy at Coll.* VI, A hand-organ grinder..began to wheeze forth the entrancing strains of 'Old Dog Tray'. 1905 A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* III. X. 362 A barrack clock, wheezing out the hour. 1908 F. YOUNG *Sands Pleas.* II. VII, Listening to the strain of *Dies Irae* wheezed out on an old harmonium.

3. *Comb.*, as *wheeze-belly* used attrib.

1728 VANBR. & CIBBER *Prov. Husb.* I. i, We were in hopes to ha' come Yesterday, an' it had no' been that th' owld Wheaze-belly Horse tyr'd.

Wheese, obs. form of WEESE, to ooze.

Wheezer (hwī·zəɹ). [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who wheezes; *esp.* a broken-winded horse.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* X. 196 The Wheezer utters a sound not unlike that of an asthmatic person when a little hurried. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 227.

transf. 1925 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 259/1 Beastly cold on top of this old wheezer [*sc.* omnibus].

Wheezing (hwī·zĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb WHEEZE.

1538 ELYOT *Addit., Asthma*..a syckneese, where one maye not fetche his wynde but with moche difficultie, with weasynge [1565 COOPER wheesing] of the breast. 1576 [T. TWYNE] *Schoolem.* I. XXVIII. D iij b, Cresses..cleanse the Lunges, and take away the wheesing. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 178 Coughs, Wheesings, Shortness of Breath. 1738 *Phil. Trans.* L. 572 She had a frequent and severe cough, with great shortness of breath and a wheezing. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXVI, The Major..fell into a fit of wheezing. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 283 In the treatment of the attacks of wheezing, so often met with in emphysema.

transf. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 9 The working of a Newcomen engine is..accompanied by an extraordinary amount of wheezing, sighing, creaking, and bumping.

Wheezing (hwī·zĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ING 2.] That wheezes; characterized by wheezing.

1560 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* 121. (1561) F iv, Heare soundes with wheasyng noyse, The boxes shalme. 1606 MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* II, ii, A cough o' the lungs, or say a wheezing matter. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 745 The wheasing Swine With Coughs is choak'd. 1730 SWIFT *Panegyr. Dean* 178 Wheezing asthma, loth to stir. 1874 LESLIE CARR *Judith Gwynne* I, The..dismal droning of the wheezing old organ. 1905 TREVES *Other Side Lond.* II. XII. 90, I entered the hallowed town in a wheezing carriage.

Hence **Whee·zingly** *adv.*

1886 *Hamlet. Rev.* (U. S.) Nov. 422 Wheezingly saying to himself in secret, 'Soul, be of good cheer'. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* II. IX. 233 He laughed wheezingly.

Wheezle (hwī·z'l), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8–9 wheazle, whaizle, 9 wha(i)zle, wheasle, wheesel, whaale, whoozle, etc. [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -LE.] *intr.* To wheeze. Hence **Whee·zling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1779 *Mirror* No. 40 P 3 One of your damnation apoplectics kill'd him in the chucking of a bumper; you could scarce have heard him wheazle! 1786 BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* x, But sax Scotch miles thou try't their mettle, An' gart them whaizle. 1808 MAVNE *Siller Gun* II. XXII, Tho' wheazling zair and cruppen down Auld Saunders seem'd. 1839 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. I. 83 Gin the wis' were out o' your whaisling hause, I'd marry again and be woggie, O. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v. *Waaslin'*, Do you hear the chile waaslin' in his cheat?

So **Whee·zle** *sb.*, a wheeze.

1820 HOGG *Perils of Man* II. 346 My voice went away to a perfect wheesle. 1849 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Whaale*, an indication of asthma.

Wheezy (hwī·zĭ), *a.* [f. WHEEZE + -Y 1.] Characterized by wheezing; resembling a wheeze.

1818 KEATS *To a Cat* 10 The wheezy asthma. 1820 GOOD *Study Med.* I. 466 Many persons have a thick or wheezy respiration. 1843 THACKERAY *Fitz-Boodle's Conf., Ottilia* II, The Chancellor is..too fat and wheezy to preside at the Privy Council. 1890 'F. ANSTEY' *Voces Pop.* Ser. II. 13 A couple of Matrons converse in wheezy whispers.

b. *transf.* Making a wheezing sound.

1847 THACKERAY *Love Songs, Cane-bottomed Chair*, The rickety, ramshackle, wheezy spinet. 1899 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XII, A lean, wheezy old clock. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* IX, The strains of 'He's got 'em on', jerked ..out of a wheezy accordion.

Hence **Whee·zily** *adv.*, **Whee·ziness.**

1884 *Punch* 27 Dec. 306/2 Breath that comes not wheezily. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 288 More or less wheeziness and constriction of the chest.

Wheft, variant of WAFT *sb.*1

Whefyll, obs. form of WHEEL.

Whegh, var. WIE, WY, MAN.

Wheill, obs. form of WHEEL.

Whein, Wheint, obs. dial. ff. QUEAN, QUAINT *a.*

Wheire, obs. form of CHOIR, QUIRE.

1528 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 248 In the hie wheire of oure Blisside Ladie in the pariche church of Ellughton.

Wheisht, Wheit, Wheither: see WHEISHT, WEIGHT *sb.*2, WHET, WHETHER.

Whel, whele, obs. forms of WEEL, WHEAL, WHEEL, WHILE.

Whelk 1 (hwelk). Forms: *α.* 1 wioloc, wiloc, wyloc, (2 wilque), 4–5 wylke, 4–8 wilke, 5–9 wilk. *β.* 7–9 whilk. *γ.* 1 weoloc, -uc, (2 welche), 2–7 welke, 4–7 welk, 6 wealk. *δ.* 5–6 whelke, 7– whelk. *ε.* 5 wolke, 5–6 walke. [OE. *wioloc, weoloc* = WFlem. *willok, wullok* (whence OF. *willo*): of obscure origin. The unetymological spelling with *wh* begins in the 15th cent.] A marine gastropod mollusc of the genus *Buccinum*, having a turbinate shell, esp. *B. undatum*, common on the European and North American coasts, much used for food.

Also applied, esp. with qualifying word, to molluscs of allied genera, as the hairy or ribbon whelks of the genera *Fulgur* and *Sycotypus*, the red whelk (*Chrysodomus antiquus*), the rough whelk (*Urosalpinx cinerea*), the Dog-WHELK of the genus *Nassa*; see also quots.

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 865 *Cuccum*, wioloc. *c* 875 *Erfurt Gloss.* 267 *Cuc(h)leas*, uuyiocas. 1312–13 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 10 In lampetis, Wylkes. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 642/6 *Hec toringa*, wylke. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Pa.....* LXXII. 24 At your hie Croce, ..thair is bot crudis and milk; And at 3our Trone bot cokill and wilk. 1565 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* VII. A a j, Scallops of the baye, And Wilks, & Irchin eke. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* V. 180 One..hid himselfe in the Weeds, and liued onely on Wilkes and land Crabs. 1678 P. H. BRUCE *Mem.* XII. 424 Their shell-fish are conques, perriwinkles, conchs, sogers, wilkes, etc. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, Divers specimens of a species of small (*wilks*, we think they are called). 1842 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* III. 238 Searching for..wilks, periwinkles, and other shellfish.

β. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 182 *Cochlea*, Sea-Snails, Whilks, or Porwinkles, & Periwinkles. 1713 TYLDESLEY *Diary* (1873) 79 Cos Tom Carus and his lady supt with us on whilkes in the shell. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 30 Sept., Muscles and whilks in their natural state. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, Whilk c. Whelk.

γ. *c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 26 Hēr beoð swylce renihtsume weolocas, of þam bið geweorbt se weolocreada tælgh. *c* 1050 in Wr.-Wülcker 603/25 *Coclea*, weoluc. *c* 1170 MARIE DE FRANCE *Fables* XII. 3 Ure welke [*v.rr.* welche, wilque] truva entiere. 1290 in *Archæologia* XV. 352 Pro ij lampred' iij^s pro welkes vi^d. 13.. *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 244 Oysters, welkes, muskeles ou scoil. 1320 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 23/1 De anguillis, estrie, conchiris, welkes, floundris et aliis quibuscunque minutis piscibus venalibus. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 17 Take welkes and washe fayre. 1556 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 237 The shelles of certayne great welkes. 1626 N. BLANFEIN *Sydney's Ourania* D 1 b, There growes the Scallop, Cockle, Welke, and Oyster. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. § 7. 229.

δ. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625 Whelke, *concha*. 1583 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 361 For mendinge of iij whelkes shelles and Coulorainge them. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 164 Periwinckles or Whelks,

77 Limington Bottle Whelk. 1858 S. BROOKS *Stromboli Lucifer*, Spiked Whelk. 1864 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 503 The whelks, clams,..and occasionally the crabs, are used by the fishermen as bait for their white fish lines. 1874 A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* II. 19 By way of supper I was initiated into the mysteries of 'whelks'.

c. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Take Walkys an sethe in Ale. 1444 *Maldon, Essex Crt.-rolls* Bundle 26 No. 1 b (MS.) Vendidit in mercato pisces fetentes, viz. wolkis. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* I. 1724 A walke, or wrinkle, *turbo*.

† b. The shell of this mollusc, or a representation of it. *Obs.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1907) 52 Tunneyz, Concha, & wealks: all engrauen by exquisit deuise and skill. 1605 JONSON *Masques, Of Blacknesse* Wks. (1616) 894 Torch-bearers.. all hauing their lights burning out of whelks, or murex shells.

† c. A structure resembling a whelk-shell; a testudo. *Obs.*

1408–9 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* IV. xiv. (Roy. MS. 18 A. XII) lf. 103 The gynne that is clepede the snayle or the welke.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whelk-boat, -man, -pot* (Pot *sb.*[1] 5 b), *-shell, -snail, -stall, -tribe; whelk-like, -shaped* adjs.; **whelk-tingle**, the Doo-WHELK.

1429 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 343 Item, quantum debit *welkbot de v tandles. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Aug. 7/1 Two fishermen went off in a whelk boat. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 180 A *whelk-like dentition. 1852 MAYNEW *Lond. Labour* I. 163/2 The *whelkmen, who are the biggest rogues in Billingsgate. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 10 Set of *Whelk Pots with Gear. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 185 One group . in which the shell is thin and *whelk-shaped. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 530 *Conquilium*, *wiloc scel. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Capricorne þat is þe signe of a goot in a welke shelle. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. vi. i. 131 'Tis usual to give Drink to Children that have the Chin-Cough, out of a Wilk-shell. 1892 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 71 The hermit crab..which always lives in empty whelk shells. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. VI. i. 132 The *Wilk-Snail winding, from the Mouth towards the right Hand. 1842 *Punch* III. 74/2 The adjacent *whelk-stall. 1882 *Standard* 26 Sept. 2/2 The dog-whelk or '*whelk tingle'. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 279 The Buccinidan or *Whelk tribe.

Whelk[2] (hwelk). Forms: 1 **hwylca**, 4–7 **whelke**, 5 **qwelke**, 5–6 **welke**, 6 **whealke**, **welk**, 9 *dial.* **w(h)ilk**, 5– **whelk**. [Late O... (WS.) *hwylca*, prob. for **hwelca* (cf. late *hwylp* for *hwelp*), f. *hwelian* WHEAL *v.*[1] For the formation cf. *swelca* swelling, f. *swellan* to swell.]

1. A pustule, pimple; = WHEAL *sb.*[1]

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 162/17 *Varix*, cwydele, *uel* hwylca. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 632 Ne oynement that wolde clense and byte, That hym myghte helpen of the whelkes white. 1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* xiv. 56 This is the lawe of al lepre..and of litle whelkis [1382 bleynes] Vulg. *papularum*] brukynge out. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxiv. (1495) a] b/a In the face ben redde pymples & whelkes, out of whom ofte renne blood & matere. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 241 *Obtolmia* is clepid a whit' welke or a reed poynt'. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 116 Whelkes or bladders on the body. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 108 His face is all bubukles and whelkes, and knobs, and flames a fire. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mats* Wks. (1653) 198 If the patient sick of the Collick have certaine small whelks or pushes arising upon his belly. 1632 tr. *Brasl's Praxis Med.* 398 Purple colour spots, or else little whelks arise. 1865 R. HUNT *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. II. 240 Those little gatherings which occur on the eye-lids of children, locally called 'wilks'.

Comb. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 72/2 *Mordella*,.. a whelke flie, or blister flie.

2. Used by confusion for WEAL *sb.*[2], WALE *sb.*[1]

a 1761 CAWTHORN *Poems, Wit & Learn.* (1771) 153 I'll lay thee, miscreant! on my knee, And print such welks thy naked seat on. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 894 And on their flanks and shoulders, red The whelks arose. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk, welt*..to give a sound beating, which is likely to raise weals, welks, or welts. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. II. 47 A bloody whelk Rose where the golden sceptre fell.

Whelked, welked (hwelkt, welkt), *ppl. a.* Also 7 **welkt, welk't, wealked**. [f. WHELK[1] + -ED[2].]

1. Formed like a whelk; twisted, convoluted, or ridged like the shell of a whelk.

a 1580 PHAER *Æneid* X. (1562) Gg j b, Him Triton combrous bare that galeon blew w' whelkid shell [orig. *concha*]. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* V. 61 b, With crooked welked [orig. *recurvis*] hornes that inward still doe terue. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 71 Hornes wealk'd [*Qos.* welkt, welk't], and waued like the enraged [*Qos.* enridged] Sea. 1627 [R. NICCOLS] *Beggars Ape* A 4, He with..shaggy beard And welked hornes so Satir-like appeard. 1876 A. S. PALMER *Leaves Word-Hunter's Note-Bk.* iv. 73 Look up at its [*sc.* the tree's] towering expanse of branches, observe its whelked and furrowed bole.

2. Marked with ridges on the flesh, waled, wealed: cf. WHELK[2] 2. (Sometimes as pa. pple. of an assumed verb **welk*: see also below.)

1727 GAY *Fables* I. xliv, The smacking lash he smartly plies; His ribs all welk'd, with howling tone The puppy thus expreat his moan. 1822 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 235 Stripes from the fiend attain her heart, And the whelk'd bosom scar. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxii, The labour of their welked hands. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxx, My hand has been too much welk'd and hardened by practice of the bow.

¶ In the following Scott uses *welk* as an intr. verb (? = rise in ridges) in the collocation *welk and wave* based on a misunderstanding of Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 71, which he echoes directly in quot. 1827.

1822 SCOTT *Pirate* ii, The..boatmen saw the horns of the monstrous leviathan welking and waving amidst wreaths of mist. 1827 — *Napoleon* I. viii. 331 Looking out upon the tumultuary sea of pikes, agitated by the fifty thousand hands, as they rose and sunk, welked and waved.

† **Whe·lky**, *a.*[1] *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. WHELK[1] + -Y[1].] Formed in a shell.

1592 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 105 Ne ought the whelky pearles [orig. *conchas baccas*] esteemeth hee, Which are from Indian seas brought far away.

Whelky (hwe·lki), *a.*[2] *rare.* [f. WHELK[2] + -Y[1].] Pimply.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, His shining bald pate and whelky red face streaming with moisture.

Whell(e: see QUELL *v.*[1], WHEEL, WHILE.

Whelm (hwelm), *sb.* Also 6 **whealme**, 6–7 **whelme**. [f. WHELM *v.*]

1. A wooden drain-pipe: orig. a tree-trunk halved vertically, hollowed, and 'whelmed down' or turned with the concavity downwards to form an arched watercourse. Now *dial.*

c 1376 in *Catal. Archives All Souls' Coll.* (1877) 37 Quidam truncus vocatus a whelme. 1384 *Crt.-roll Wormingford, Essex* (MS.), Cursus aquae vocat. The whealme est in decasu. 1613 *Ibid.*, [To place] sufficientem truncam (Anglicè a whelme) in regia via. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 157, I strongly recommend these carrier ditches to be open, though at the expence of a whelm at the bottom of a field where a cart-way is necessary. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 478.

2. The overwhelming surge of waters. *poet.*

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 287 Dark yawn'd a cleft in the midst of the whelm. 1888 SWINBURNE *Armada* VI. iii. Poems 1904 III. 203 They sink in the whelm of the waters.

Whelm (hwelm), *v.* Forms: 3–5 **quelm**, 4 **welme**, 4–7 **whelme**, 5–6 *Sc.* **quhelm**, 8–9 **'whelm**, 5– **whelm**; 9 *dial.* **whalm, whawm, welm**. Also WHEMMEL. [? representing OE. **hwelman*, parallel to **hwelfan* WHELVE.]

† 1. *intr.* To overturn, capsize. *Obs.*

In second quot. perh. pass. of sense 4.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24862 Þaa sori loked ai sua for-suonken, Quen þe scip suld quelm and drunken. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 509 By the mysgydynge of the steryaman, he was set vpon the pylys of the brydge, and the barge whelmyd.

2. *trans.* To turn (a hollow vessel) upside down, or *over* or *upon* something so as to cover it; to turn with the concave side downwards. Now *dial.*

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 360 *Apres beyuer kanaþ endente*, welme the cuppe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/1 Whelmyn a vessel, *suppino*. 14.. *Med. Receipts* in *MS. Lincoln A. 1. 17*, lf. 285 (Halliw.) Tak a bryghte bacyne, and anoynte it with mylke reme, and whelme it over a prene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. xii. 18 And, with that word, his helm Befoir thair feit all void down did he quhelm. 1530 PALSGR. 780/2 Whelme a platter upon it, to save it from flyes. 1590 LUCAR *Lucarsolace* IV. i 147 Whelme a new elme bole in the bottome of the said hole. 1604 N. F. *Fruit. Secr.* 18 Whelme downe the maunds, emptying them gently, into small baskets. 1628 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 201 The barbarous whelmed their shields over their heads. 1643 LIGHTFOOT *Gleam. Ex.* (1648) 47 On the top..lay a golden dish whelmed downe. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 178 A tub.. which as soon as you have emptied, suddenly whelm it upside down. 1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 2 That the Earth is like a Trencher, and the Heavens a Dish whelmed over it. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 254 It was found with the Mouth whelm'd downward. 1796 TROUTBECK *Scilly Isl.* 171 Their ovens are large iron pots which they whelm over things to be baked, upon heated iron plates. 1842 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) III. 24 Pansies that were planted out in the autumn, should be protected by whelming a small pot over each plant. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s. v., Whelm that dish over them currants.

† b. *gen.* To turn downwards: in quots. with reference to Fortune's wheel. *Obs.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1225 Quhan on-fortone quhelmys the quheil. 1532 *Chaucer's Wks., Troylus* I. 139 And thus Fortune a loste And vnder efte gan hem to whelmen [*MSS.* whielen, weyle(n)] bothe.

† c. To cover (a thing) by turning a vessel, etc. upside down over it. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Bk. Curtayse* 703 in *Babees Bk.*, A qwyte cuppe of tre þer-by shalle be, Þer-with þo water assay schalle he; Quelmes hit agayn by-fore alle men. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v. (*c* 1550) 24 b, As men lyghte no candle to whelme it vnder a bushell. *a* 1652 GATAKER *Parker* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* 524 Those that are wont to wrap up their talent in a towell, and whelm their light under a bushell.

d. To throw (something) over violently or in a heap upon something else, esp. so as to cover or to crush or smother it.

1624 DONNE *Serm.* xix. (1640) 185 Hill upon hill whelmed upon it. 1637 POCKLINGTON *Altare Christianum* 96 This Milstone of a consequence the Author has whelmed upon himselfe. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 166 Fig. 3. is to be whelmed upon Fig. 2. so that A. in Fig. 3. touch A. in Fig. 2. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* I. i, Not seals of adamant, not mountains whelm'd On guilty secrets, can exclude the day. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s. v. *Whawm*, Whawm that cloth over that pancheon. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* vi, With..a broad hat whelmed down upon his hairless white face.

† e. To turn *over* (soil, etc.) so as to expose the under parts. Also *absol. Obs.*

1652 BLITHE *Eng. Improver Impr.* XXVIII. 193 The phin made broad, descending or whelming to the right hand. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. ix. 49 In this plough, the place of the breast-board must be supplied by an iron plate, which..is..carried back, and gradually brought to whelm, as if it would fall upon the furrow. 1795 VANCOUVER *Agric. Essex* 180 To bury every weed by whelming the slice or furrow completely over.

† 3. *intr.* (*poet.*) To come or pass over something so as to cover it. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 683 Garcy hyt Otes on the helme, That vpon hys hedd hyt can whelme. 1692 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. i, The Waves whelm'd over him. 1697 — *Æneis* IX. 725 The Tow'r that follow'd on the fallen Crew, Whelm'd o're their Heads, and bury'd whom it slew. 1700 BLACKMORE *Job* 98 Dismal floods of grief whelm o'er thy head.

4. *trans.* a. To cover completely with water or other fluid so as to ruin or destroy; to submerge, drown; occas. to sink (a boat).

1555 PHAER *Æneid.* I. (1558) A ij, Let out thy windes & all their ships do drown w' waters wylde, Disperse them all to sondrie shores or whelme them downe w' deepe. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 143 Giue fire: she is my prize, or Ocean whelme them all. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 455 He saw his Friends, who whelm'd beneath the Waves, Their Fun'ral Honours claim'd. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 658 Whelm'd in the bottom of the monstrous deep. 1818 SCOTT *Battle of Sempach* XXXVI, He 'whelmed the boat, and as they strove, He stunn'd them with his oar. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 295 Marsh land..has at last been overflowed, and thousands of the inhabitants whelmed in the waves. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* ii. 103 Flocks, and herds, and corn and hay being whelmed in the deluge.

b. To bury under a load of earth, snow, or the like.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. iii. 35 So whelmed in sande and grauell, that there is nothing but mere barreine. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* X iv, Whelmd be the World with fire and brimstone, that [etc.]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. vi. II. 437 To coole oisters forsooth, they must needs whelme and cover them all over with snow. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiii. § 60. 601 A couragious Esquier of Yorkeshire, whom the sodaine ruine of a Tower, whelmed and slew outright. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xiii. 32 The Pancreas doth lie out of the reach of Medicaments, being deeply whelmed among the Bowels. 1793–AIKIN & MRS. BARBAULD *Even. at Home* (1805) IV. 3 He.. dug over the whole bed, and whelmed all the relics of his flowers deep under the soil. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 52 A size of furrow-slice is raised sufficient to overlap or whelm up all the weeds. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. viii. A day that wrecks ships by fleets;..that whelms trains in snowdrifts.

5. *transf.* To engulf or bear down like a flood, storm, avalanche, etc.; hence, to involve in destruction or ruin. a. in material sense.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 141 Who..with solitarie hand..at one blow Unaided could have finisht thee, and whelmd Thy Legions under darkness. 1740 DYER *Ruins Rome* 529 The Goth and Vandal..Rush, as the Breach of waters, whelming all Their Domes. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. vi, The files compact Whelmed me. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 45 Some were whelm'd with missiles of the wall. 1864 — *En. Ard.* 668 Where either haven open'd on the deeps, Roll'd a sea-haze and whelm'd the world in gray. 1883 *Forin. Rev.* Feb. 162 The wind that would whelm the wilderness.

b. in immaterial sense.

1553 *Primer Edw. VI, Prayer for ryche menne*, Lustes, whyche whelme men into perdicion and destruction. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xliii. 2 The light of lyfe driueth away the mist vnder which wee were whelmed in heauinesse. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* v. iv, My minde is so whelmed with feare, hope, ioy. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d' Alf.* II. 265, I lay buryed and whelmed-over head and eares in a well of miseries. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 204 Sorrow whelm'd his soul. 1832 CAMPBELL *Ode to Germans* ii, And the tyrants now that whelm Half the world shall quail and flee. 1860 J. P. KENNEDY *Life W. Wirt* I. xx. 302 Many other ladies were also whelmed in this awful catastrophe. 1891 A. P. PEABODY *King's Chapel Serm., Acts xiv. 11.* 138 Christ..whelmed with his forgiving love the penitent who wept at his feet.

Hence **Whelmed** *ppl. a.*, **Whe·lming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1819 KEATS *Otho* I. i, In my grave, Or side by side with *whelmed mariners. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 145 A common saucer and whelmed pot. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 75 These tortures to distract her [*sc.* France] underneath Her whelmed Aurora's shade. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/1 *Whelmynge, *suppmacio*. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 282 (Scott. Prov.) If I can get his cairt at a whelming [1678, p. 379 at a wolter], I shall lend it a put. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 157 Under the *whelming tide. 1652 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* XXVIII. 194 The Coumb or Wing so fixed..to the Share, with its true whelming, hollow, cross wisding, compass, just answring the cast or turn of the Furrow. 1698 W. BURTON *Itin. Antonin.* 92 The all-whelming deluge of Time. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 210 Doom'd to welter in the whelming main. 1792 WORDSW. *Descrip. Sketches* 207 By Him who saves Alike in whelming snows and roaring winds. 1799 COWPER *Castaway* 13 Not long beneath the whelming brine, Expert to swim, he lay. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* CXVIII, If he may live for joys or sink in 'whelming pain. 1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* 166 At a crisis of growing darkness and whelming confusion. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-Killers* 143 Hidden by a whelming mass shot down from the hill above.

Whelm, variant of WALM *v. Obs.*

† **Whelmer.** *Archit. Obs.* [? f. WHELM *v.* + -ER[1].] ? A stone placed horizontally. (But cf. WHEELER 10.)

1618 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 207 Dorestedes with.. whitestone heads with whelmers and kneelers over the same of free stone. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 472/2 A Wall whose Door head, Cap, or Cover is called a Square, or a Cover of Whelmers and Kneelers.

Whelp (hwelp), *sb.* Forms: 1 **hwelp**, (**hwoelp, huoelp, hwealp, hwylp**), 1, 4 **welp**, 3 **hweolp, 3welp**, (*Orm.*) **whallp, wheollp**, 3–7 **whelpe**, 4–5 **welpe**, 6 **whelppe**, 4– **whelp**; *Sc.* and *north.* 4 **quelp(e, quilp(e**, 4–7 **quhelp(e**, 5 **qwelp(e, quhalp, quholp(e**, 8–9 **whalp**. [OE. *hwelp* = OS. *hwelp*, (M)LG., (M)Du. *welp*, OHG. (*h*)*welf* (MHG., G. *welf*), ON. *hvelpr* (Sw. *valp*, Da. *hvalp*): further relations uncertain.]

1. The young of the dog. Now little used, superseded by *puppy*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 27 Soð hiu cwoð ȝea drihten forðon & huoelpas brucas of screadungum ða ðe falles of bead hlaferda hiora. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 368 Ȝyf þu on foreweardon sumera þigest hwylcne hwelpan þonne ȝyt ungeseondne. *Ibid.* II. 172 Ȝif þu wille þæt wif cild habbe oþþe tife hwelp. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ver.* in Wright *Voc.* 78 *Catulus*, hwylp. *c* 1205 LAY. 31679 Let þu þa hundes.. eiðer freten oðer swa hund deð his broðer, and leten heore welpes whæruen heom bi-aides. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 278 He folouyt hyre as it had bene þe mekeste quhelpe wes euir sene. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 61 Seuenne welpes she sawe sowkynge þe damme. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 19 So must I dispraysse his methode in writing, which following the course of amarous Poets, dwelleth longest in those pointes, that profite least: and like a wanton whelpe, leaueth the game, to runne riot. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 139 That Whelpes..of one and the same Bitch, be neuer suffered to couple. *a* 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Tracts* v. (1684) 119, I kept an Eagle two years, which fed upon Kats, Kittlings, Whelps and Rutts. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 37 P 2 Trips, a Whelp just set in. 1765 GOLDSM. *Elegy on Mad Dog* iv, Both mongrel, puppy, whelp, and hound. 1816 SCOTT *Let. to Terry* 18 Apr. in *Lockhart*, His whole pack rushed out upon the man of execution, and Dandie followed them..exclaiming, 'the tae hauf o'them is but whalps, man.' 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* I. v, I want to call at the Hall Farm on my way, to look at the whelps Poyser is keeping for me. 1894 KIPLING *The 'Mary Gloster'* Verse 1919 I. 175 Mean as a collier's whelp Nosing for scraps in the galley.

b. † (*Great*) *with whelp*, now *in whelp*: (of a bitch) pregnant, in pup.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxv. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 260 b/2 þe bitche ȝeþ wiþ whelpe in here wombe iiij^ti daies. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 203 They bytch great with whelpe. 1634 BERKETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 37 A bitch in whelp. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 297/2 All the bitches that missed last year have this season got in whelp, and mostly to the same dogs.

2. The young of various wild animals, *esp.* and now only (chiefly as a literary archaism) of such as the lion, tiger, bear, and wolf, to the young of which the name *cub* is now usually applied.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xvi[i]. 12 Swe swe hwelp leon eardiende in dezulniasum. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxiv. (1889) 93 *Raptis fœtibus*, ȝegripenum hwealpum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5838 Forr leness whellp þær þær itt iss Whellpedd, tær liþ itt stillie þre dazhess. *c* 1290 *St. Edmund* 72 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 299 And rist as he he [*sc.* a wolf] wolde is owene ȝwelp with wilde bestes it wuste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7103 A lion quilpe þat ran ouerthuert, Rampand to sampson he stert. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 491 As by the whelpe chasted is the leon. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. XXVI. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 137 b/1 [The whale] loueþ his whelpes with a wonder loue. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 307 þer was wulfe-whelpis þerin. *Ibid.* 478 þe propurtie of þe ape is to hafe ij whelpis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lix. 243 (Harl. MS.) We haue longe tyme feede here with þe serpente & hir whelpes. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 302 Ane kow of Sauchie that calffit xxv grew quhelpis. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recr.* I. (ed. 2) 134 When the she-Bear perceiveth her self with whelp, she withdraws her self into some Cave. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 233 To let the lioness suckle her own whelps. 1825 J. NEAL *Brother Jonathan* III. 265 The whelp of a bitch-catamount. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiii. 439 Stripes can be plainly distinguished in the whelp of the lion. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XVII. 161 Firm as stands A lion o'er his whelps.

b. *transf.* A young child; a boy or girl. Now only *jocular*.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 265/1 Thou arte moder of a right noble whelp. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 185 Not rod in mad braines hand is that can helpe, But gentle skill doth make the proper whelpe. 1592 MORYSON *Let in Itin.* (1617) I. 14 Imbrace in my name our common friend G. B. and of my loving hosts family let not a whelpe goe unsaluted. *c* 1592 *Rob Stene's Dreame* (Maitl. Club) 5 Bot ȝe sowld cheifly mene his caice, To quhalpis ar of his nobill raice. 1858 KINGSLEY *Let.* in *Life* x. (1870) I. 273, I and my gardener George, and my little whelp Maurice and Dandy, Went out this afternoon fishing.

c. *fig.* (from 1 or 2) with literal language retained, often with implication as in 3.

Lion's whelp is used allusively, partly after Shaks. *1 Hen. IV.* III. iii. 167, *Hen. V.* I. ii. 109, for 'a valorous youth sprung from a valorous race'.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 þe Unicorne of Wreððe..haueð six hweolpes. þe uormest is Cheaste, oðer Strif. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1733 'A-ȝilt þe,' a seide, 'þow fox welp' *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* v. (Shaks. Soc.) 51 And save thi servaunt from helle qwelp. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 281 Two of thy whelpes, fell Curs of bloody kind Haue heere bereft my brother of his life. 1596–7 *Min. Archd. Colchester* (MS.) lf. 147 Calling them [*sc.* neighbours] doggs, slye whelpes, and that they might have barked before they had bitt. 1631 A. WILSON *Switzer* II. i, And ther's a whelp [*points at Alcidonus*] wo'd haue a Marybone. 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* IV. vi, This bouncing Bear of a Colonel will break the Back of my little Whelp of a Captain. 1832 JAMES *Philip Aug.* XXVII, You were but a whelp, where you are now a lion! 1922 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Feb. 123/1 A time when young Englishmen were just as formidable lion's whelps as they are to-day.

3. a. Applied depreciatingly to the offspring of a noxious creature or being. (Cf. *son of a bitch*.)

1398 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 281 Cambinhoy beres him coy, þat fendes whelp. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lvi. 5 Warldis lufers bat are the whelpis of deuels. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. (1564) I. 407 Those whelpes of Rome. 1580 H. GIFFORD *Gillyflowers* (1875) 6, I would..likes all such whelpes of Zoilus, to that..cankerly naturde curre. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) C 2, Use not dice, for they be fortunes whelpes. 1600 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 283 The Son, that she did littour heere, A freckeld whelpe, hag-borne. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* 203 Their Bishops, those whelpes of Antichrist.

b. An ill-conditioned or low fellow; later, in milder use, and esp. of a boy or young man: A saucy or impertinent young fellow; an 'unlicked cub', a 'puppy'. Also *attrib.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4516 Him to helpe, To fizt ogain þe Sarrazin welpe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 426 Thou art an yll qwelp ffor angre. 1612 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i, Let me but finde you againe with such a face: You Whelpe. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 20. 3/2 He's a Silly Whelp. 1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 161 Sir Thomas Mansel and Tom Harley met me in the Park, and made me walk with them till nine, like unreasonable whelps. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 11 When she was beginning to complain of the whelp lord's impertinence. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goods. Man* II. i, Stupid whelp! But I don't wonder: the boy takes entirely after his mother. 1809 SCOTT *Let.* 7 Aug. in *Lockhart*, It is funny enough to see a whelp of a young Lord Byron abusing me. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* 192 *Whelp*, a boy with dog's-tricks. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* III, Bad company, you whelp! 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* I, The shabby whelp gambling for marbles in the gutter. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Oct. 458/1 These whelps have been before the magistrates charged on their own confession with murder.

4. *Naut.* One of the longitudinal projections on the barrel of a capstan or the drum of a windlass.

The object designated in the first quot. is uncertain.

1356 in *Pipe Roll 30 Edw. III* m. 34/1 Idem computat expendisse .. in factura .iij. Whelpes .j. grossi Wynche .. c. lb. *a* 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), The Whelps are like Brackettes, sett to the bodie of the Capstaine close vnder the Barrs, downe to the Decke, and are theie which giue the Sweepe to the Capstaine. Theis are made soe in partes that the Cabell maie not be so apt to surge, as it would if it did run vpon a whole round bodie. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ii. 8 The Whelps are short peeces of wood made fast to it, to keepe the Cable from coming too high in the turning about. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s. v. *Capstern.* 1847 KEY *Recov. H.M.S. Gorgon* 19 The space between which had been filled up with wood, like the whelps of a capstan.

b. One of the teeth of a sprocket-wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

† **5.** *Naut.* One of a fleet of auxiliary war vessels established in Charles I's reign, app. orig. so called because designed to attend upon H.M.S. Lion. *Obs.*

1628–9 *Cal. St. Papers, Dom.* (1859) 455 [When she [*sc.* a small man-of-war] heard] our Whelps bark so loud and saucy, and saw them put up the King's colours, [she endeavoured to escape]. 1631 SIR J. PENNINGTON *Jrnl.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 276 Our whole fleete being 4 sayle in all, vizt the Convertive, Admirall, the Assurance, Vize Admirall, the Tenth Whelpe, and the Second Whelpe. 1634 BERKETON *Trav* (Chetham Soc.) 158 Here we saw the 9th Whelp lying at anchor, to guard the fleet which now is ready to go hence to Bristoll fair. 1641 PRYNNE *Disc. Prel. Tyrr.* ii. 135 Being imbarqued in one of the Kinges Whelpes,..he landed at Dover. 1660 BURNEY *Κράτιστον Δῶρον* 53 When he visits the Navy, and even boards the Whelps and Frigots. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 227 A class of smaller craft, each of 185 tons, was decided on. They were called 'whelps', and were vessels built for sweeps as well as sails.

6. *Comb.*, as *whelp-robbed* adj.

1627 MAY *Lucan* V. H 8 b, Swifter then whelpe-robb'd Tyger.

Hence **Whe'lphood**, the condition of being a whelp; **Whe'lpish** *a.*, of, resembling, or characteristic of a whelp; **Whe'lpless** *a.*, having no whelps, deprived of whelps; † **Whe'lplich** [-LY^2] *adv.*, like a whelp; **Whe'lpling**, a young whelp; also *contemptuously* of a person.

1886 SWINBURNE *Misc.* 211 A vapid and effeminate rhymester in the sickly stage of *whelphood. 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 49 Though *whelpishe daies, his nature did disguise Yet time at length vnto my euell lucke Bewray'de his harte. 1687 MIÇGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.*, Whelpish, *mechant, mauvais.* 1721 G. CARY *Phys. Phylactic* 3,34 You mightily hugged this whelpish Thought. 1883 J. CHRISTIE in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. VI. 263 Thou gar'd the rocks and hallows ring Wi' whalpish glee. 1598 YONG *Diana* 9 Angry more then *whelplesse Beare. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. XXV, Her eye shot forth with all the living fire That haunts the tigress in her whelpless ire. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 83 The old lion, glaring with his whelpless eye. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 481 He..scrapid the dorr *welplich. *a* 1628 SYLVESTER *Profit of Imprisonment* Wks. (1621) 625 As, when the Lion fierce .. Runnes mid-st a million swords, his *whelplings to defend. 1780 ELPHINSTON *Martial* XII. CLXXI. [I. LXXIII.] 460 On thy lov'd lips, the whelpling lambent hung. 1889 FARRAR *Lives of Fathers* I. v. 222 That whelpling [*L. canicula*] Diogenes sought to find a man.

Whelp (hwelp), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To bring forth (a whelp or whelps).

c 1200 ORMIN 6089 Þatt deor þatt wass I leoness like, þatt rizhh o þe þridde dazz Afftерr batt itt iss wheolipedd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Monie mo hweolpes þen ich habbe fremmed haueð þe Lium of Prude ihweolped. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 241 b/2 þe female wolfe whelpiþ manye whelpes as þe bitche dope. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 145 Whan a lyon hath yonge whelpes they shall lye as dead thre dayes after yt they ben whelped. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 155 b, As soone as they be Whelped, cast away such as you mislike. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recr.* I. (ed. 2) 135 [Bears] are whelped most commonly in March, sometimes two, and not above five in number. 1732 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 352/2 A Litter of young Lions was whelped at the Tower, from a Lioness and Lion whelp'd there 6 years before. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 103 They all come on shore in December, to whelp their young. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* III, Jacko's the dog as can draw a brock..agin any Lonnun dog as ever was whelped. 1892 *Brit. Founder* 19 Feb. 71/2 His bitch Dainty..has just whelped a..fine litter to Mrs. Dainty's Dictator.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To bring forth: often with contemptuous implication.

1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 82 b, Two detestable lyes whelped at one lytter (so pregnant is this worme). 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iv, Vnlesse shee had whelpt it her selfe, shee could not haue lou'd a thing better. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 422 Antignus, Boethus, Sadoc, and such mungrels were scarce whelped in Epiphanius his dayes. 1678 HOBBES *Odyss.* VIII. 470 Sing now of the Horse of Wood..Which in Troy-Town destruction to it whelpt. 1782 COWPER *Table-T.* 536 Having whelped a prologue with great pains. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, Out, you diminutive pint-pot, whelped of an overgrown reckoning! 1908 WISTER *Virginian* XV, None of 'em was whelped savage enough to sing himself bloodthirsty.

2. *intr.* To bring forth whelps.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxiv. (Bodl. MS.), þat wessels conceyue atte moube and whelpiþ atte ere. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 470 The tygre aftyr thys batayle, Whelpede sone for hyr trauayle. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. i, Your lyons whelping in the Tower. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* Digress. 368 A Bitch that was said to be almost ready to whelp. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 208 On Paris' tomb The flocks insulting frisk, And whelps the lioness in Priam's hall. 1827 SWINBURNE *Learning* IV. ii. 98 No she-wolf whelps upon the wold Whose brood is like thy mother's.

fig. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 874 The foliage in which Fame, the eagle, built Her aerie, while Dominion whelped below.

Hence **Whelped** *ppl. a.*, **Whelping** *vbl. sb.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), In bicches melk is founde many daies bifore þe whelpinge. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. xiii. 105 She was then lately dead in whelping. 1804 W. TAYLOR in *Robberds Mem.* (1843) I. 491 Licking the whelped bears into courtliness at one's leisure. 1907 R. LEIGHTON *New Bk. Dog* 378 Breeding and Whelping.

Whels, obs. form of WHEELS.

Whelve (hwelv), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 hwylfan, 3 hwelfen, 5– whelve. (9 whilve). [Late OE. *hwylfan* = **hwielfan*, Anglian **hwelfan* (also in compounds *ā-*, *be-*, *of-hwylfan*) = OS. *bi-hwelbian* to cover over, (M)Du., (M)LG. *welven*, OHG., MHG. *welban*, *welwen* (G. *wölben*) to vault, arch, ON. *hvelfa* to arch, turn upside down :– OTeut. **χwalbjan*, causative vb. f. *χwalb-* (: *χwelb-*, *χulb-*), whence OE. *hwealf* sb., arch, vault, adj. vaulted, OHG. *walbe* (MHG. *walbe*), curved object, gutter-tile, roof-gutter, *walbī* 'volubilitas', *walbēn* to roll, ON. *hvalf* vault, concavity, *hvalfa*, *holfa* to capsize (see WHAUVE); further related to Goth. *hwiftrī* coffin, Gr. *κλαῖνω* bosom: the radical notion being 'rounded, arched'.]

1. *trans.* To turn (a vessel, etc.) upside down so as to cover something; *gen.* to turn or roll over, overturn; to upheave. *To whelve over*, to overwhelm: = OVERWHELVE.

c 1000 in *Techmer's Zeitschr.* (1885) II. 125 Donne þu hild habban wylle, þonne hafa þu þine wynstran hand samlocene and eac swa þa swyþran and hwyif hy syþþan ofer þa wynstran eal swylce þu cuppan hlide. [*c* 1000 *Regius-Psalter* etc. (Roeder) 276 Cneoris min alæd & ofhwylfed [Vulg. *convoluta*] is frami me.] *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 513 in *O. E. Misc.* 51 He hwelfde at þare sepulchre-dure enne grete ston. [*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. iii. (1868) 39 þe horrible wynde aquilon moeueþ boylyng tempestes and ouer whelweþ þe see.] *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 161 For harm & stryf of that vpon thy selue May rise, yhe & perchaunce ouer thee whelue [*v. r.* the overwhelve]. 1854 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 84 (Surrey) I'll whelve a pot over 'em, to keep off the sun. 1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. X. 479 (Cornwall) *Whelve* or *Whilve*, to turn upside down any hollow vessel.

† **2.** To cover over with anything; to hide, bury.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 393 Ek whelue a seriol ther-out that haue Grauel vp to the myddes. 1566 W. P. tr. *Corio's Pasquine in Trances* To Rdr., The candell whelued vnder the Bushell wil burne a hole throughe. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Whelm* or *Whelve*, to cover.

Whemo, var. QUEME *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

Whemon, obs. f. *women*, pl. of WOMAN.

Whemmel (hwe·m'l), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see next. [f. next.] An overturn, upset, overthrow; a state of confusion.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXII, Nae doubt, nay doubt—ay, ay—it's an awfu' whummle—and for ane that held his head sae high too. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* CIV, The chaise made a clean whamle, and the Laird was lowermost. 1830 — *Lawrie T.* III. V, Many a joint-dislocking jolt, and almost headlong whamle. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl., *Quhewla*.. a rock, toss; a rocking, tossing. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* XIVIII, His horse also fell from rock to rock, and among a great whammel of stones, reached the bottom of the defile.

Whemmel (hwe·m'l), *v. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 6, 9 quhemle, quhomle, 7–9 whemmel, 8–9 whomel, whemble, 9 w(h)emmle, whammle, wham(b)le, whommle, whum(m)el, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Metathetic form of WHELM *v.*]

1. *trans.* To turn upside down; to overturn, capsize; to drink off (liquor) to the bottom; also *transf.* and *fig.* to upset, throw into confusion.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron.* Proheme ii. (1541) F iv, And schyll Triton with his wyndy horne Quir quhemlit all the flowand occean. 1684 [MERITON] *Yorkish. Dial.* 47, I whemmeld Dubler ow'r th Meat, To keep it neaf and warm for you to Eat. 1725 RAMBAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. xix, On whomelt tubs lay swa hag daile. 1732 — *Prospect of Plenty* 196

thou hearts shall own their honest flame, With ____, and whomelt to her name. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xi, ____ I see the coble whombled keel up. *Ibid.* xii, He took the curbstane, and he's whomled her as I wad whomle a toom bicker. *c* 1850 *Deuhaus Tracts* (1893) II. 31 Put into a wheelbarrow and whemmeled over upon the muck-midden. 1883 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Soc.* 55 *Whommle*, 'to turn a trough, or any vessel, bottom upwards, so that it will drain well'; used in West Virginia.

b. To cover (something) by turning a vessel, etc. upside down over it.

1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whomble*, to cover with a bowl. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* s. v. *Whommled*, To be whommled beneath a bushel. 1855 [J. D. Burn] *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* (1859) 57, I was, like the turkey, whomalled under a tub.

2. To submerge in or as in a flood; to drown.

1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 51 Quhomlit in sorow and plungeit in cair. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* s. v. *Whemmled*, 'To be whommled by a wave,' to be whelmed in the deep.

3. *intr.* To tumble over, capsize; also, to move unsteadily, stumble about.

1825 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxiii, The deil whummelt on his hearthstane! 1897 — *Lads' Love* iii, When.. your hoggs [are] whammelin' in the black hags by the score.

When (hwen), *adv.* (*conj.*, *sb.*) Forms: *α.* 1–3 hwonne, (1 huonne), 3 wonne, 3–4 whonne, 6 *Sc.* quhone. *β.* 1–3 hwanne, 3 wæne, quanne, (quuanne, 3wanne, 3wane), 3–4 wane, 3–5 whanne, wanne, quane, 4 huanne, 6 whane, *Sc.* quhane. *γ.* 1 hwenne, hwænne, (hoenne), 2–3 wenne, 3 hwenne, weonne, 3–5 whenne, 4 quenne, qwenne, quene, *Sc.* qwene, qwhene, 4–6 *Sc.* quhene, 5 whene. *δ.* 3–4 hwon, won, (4 w3on), 4–5 whon, 5 qwon. *ε.* 3–4 hwan, (3 quuan, quæn), 3–5 wan, quan, 3–6 whan, (4 van, 5 whann), 5–6 *Sc.* quhan. *ζ.* 3 hwen, 3–5 wen, 4–5 quen, (4 qwheyn, 5 qwen, qwhen), 4–8 *Sc.* quhen, 4–when. [OE. *hwanne*, *hwænne*, *hwonne*, (Nth. *hwænne*), late WS. *hwænne*, corresp. to OFris. *wanne*, (*h*)*wonne* until, if (Fris. *wan* when, if), OS. *hwan* when, *hwanna* at some time, when, (MLG. *wan*, *wen*, *wenne*, *wenne*, MDu. *wan*, *wen*, surviving in Du. *wanneer* when = OS. *hwan ℏr* as soon as), OHG. *wanne*, *wenni*, *-e* (MHG. *wanne*, *wenne*, G. *wann* when, *wenn* if), Goth. *hwan* when, how: a derivative of the interrog. stem *χwa-* Who, What, as *then* is of the demonstrative *þa-*; cf. Avestic *kvm* how, L. *quom*, *cum* when, OPruss. *kan* if, OIr. *can*, W. *pan*.

The formations present points of difficulty; the following related forms have a denial suffix: OFris. *hwande*, *hwante*, *wande*, *want*, *hwende*, *hwent(e* (Fris. *want*) for, because, as, OS. *hwanda*, *hwand* when, for, because (MLG. *wan'te*), OHG. (*h*)*wanta* why, L. *quando* when (cf. Skr. *kadâ* when, Lith. *kadà* where, etc.).]

I. Interrogative uses.

1. In a direct question: At what time? or what occasion? Sometimes passing into the sense: In what case or circumstances? (cf. 8). Also with ellipsis of the remainder of the question (see also b).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 37 Hwænne ȝesawe we ðe hingriȝende, & we ðe feddon? *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xl[i]. 5 Hwonne ær he beo dead, oþþe hwænne his nama aspringe? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 65 Weinne ȝeal þos bode us god don? 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xli[i]. 3 Whan I shal comen, and apere befor the face of God? *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 864 Whan schol ye þre to vs be reconsiled? 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iv. v. V j b, Thou shalt haue gold tolde out to the. *Lat.* Whan, at the Grekish calendes? 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 13 When spake I such a word? 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 387 When should People strive their Bonds to break, If not when Kings are Negligent or Weak? 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* III. 537 When shall I die?—when shall I live for ever? 1841 *Punch* 24 July 21/2 When is a horse like a herring?—When he's hard rode. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. xiv, When shall I come to see you, Mr. Boffin? 1867 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 855 Who shall blazon it? when and how?

† **b.** *ellipt.* as an exclamation of impatience. *Obs.*

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* III. i. 47 No more, I say: to the tortures, when! 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr* IV. i. 147 Off with my boots, you rogues: you villaines, when? 1623 Middleton *More Dissemblers* v. i. (1657) 66 Why when? begin Sir: I must stay your leisure.

2. In a dependent question or clause of similar meaning: At what time; on what occasion; in what case or circumstances. Also *ellipt.*

Say when, colloq. formula used by a person pouring out drink for another, to ask him to say when he shall stop.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 7 Herodes..befran hi ȝeorne, hwænne se steorra hym æteowde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5446 Nou rek i neuer quen i del. *c* 1375 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 124/1 Alle ȝe haue herd told & rad How & whanne god þis world mad. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xiv. 57 That it maye be knowne, whan eny thinge is vncleane or cleane. 1676 N. French *Unkinde Deserter* i. 22 I'o know when to speake, and when to be silent. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Oct., I wonder when this letter will be finished. 1834 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* i. (1901) I. 11 He knew when to lay hold of his hounds, and when to let them alone. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* IV. iii, Say when you've put it safe back, Mr. Venus.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 244 Deaȝ þet we beoð siker of & uncliket hwonne. *c* 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 263 Deye we swelin silkerliche? bot god wot wanne & were. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 125 Whych matter was once excellentlye disputed vpon, in the Scooles, you knowe when. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. me wherefore. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 499, I am to bruise his heel; His Seed, when is not set, shall bruise my head. 1779 H. Walpole *Let. to Selwyn* 5 July, Can you tell me if the Duchess of Leinster still goes to Aubigny; and, if she does, when? 1828 Hazlitt *Self Love & Benev.* Sk. & Ess. (1872) 104 What might be the consequence to myself the Lord knows when? 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xi, Well, now, if you want to know, I'll tell you when. The last moment I can manage; and that's when. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* ii, I haven't seen such food I don't know when. 1889 *Mod. Society* 6 June (Farmer's *Slang*) 'Say when,' said Bonko, taking up a flagon of whiskey and commencing to pour out the spirit into my glass.

3. After a prep. (esp. *since*, *till*), in a direct or a dependent question: = What time?

Cf. F. *depuis quand*, G. *seit wann*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5670 Sin quen was þou vr dempster? 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* N iv, If any circumstance of where, or when, or whome, may make a probable Argument. 1808 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiv, Since when is it, good Father, that the principal libertine has altered his morals so much? 1861 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xix, 'Since when have you missed her?' 'Since yesterday afternoon.'

II. Relative and conjunctive uses.

Formerly (now *arch.*) also followed by *that* (That *conj.* 6).

4. As compound relative (cf. What C.*), or as correlative to *then* (implied and sometimes expressed): At the (or a) time at which; on the (or an) occasion on which.

Also *ellipt.* with only the predicate expressed, e. g. *when a boy* = when he (I, etc.) was a boy; *when cold* = when it is cold.

a. In reference to a definite actual occurrence or fact, chiefly with verb in past tense: At the time that, on the occasion that; sometimes with verb in present tense = now that (sometimes with mixture of sense 9 a).

a 1000 *Guthlac* 909 Hwonne hy mid mengu maran cwome, þa þe for his life lyt sorgedon. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 576 Sexe hundred ȝer noe was bold Quan he dede him in ðe archewold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8958 Quen þat sco to þe cite com Sco com in at þat ilk yatte, þar þis tre lai in hir gatt. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2484 Wan þei þider come, þei founde al awei fare. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1689 Qwhen this Citie was set.. Then meuyt to his mynde [etc.]. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* xxix, Qwen he was gone on this kin wise, Thenne ichs mon sayd thayre deuise. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x lxx. 536 Whanne he sawe her make suche chere he ferd lyke a lyon that there myghte no man withstande hym. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. xxiv. (S.T.S.) II. 230 We suld nocht leif oure clete now quhen It hes sa mony ruynouss housis. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 239 When that he was certified.. that the Ethnicks offred sacrifice..in that place..he sharply rebuked Eusebius. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. 154 Sone efter that the Counsell cround 3oursell, Quhan godly Murray as a regent rang 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* II. ii. 27 Listning their feare, I could not say Amen, When they did say God blesse vs. 1763 J. Brown *Poetry & Mus.* v. 67 Music had then its greatest Power, when the Melody was most confined in its Compass. 1775 Harris *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 339 It was by being attacked when asleep.. that the gigantic Polypheme fell a sacrifice to Ulysses. *Mirror* No. 23. P 3 He lost his father when an infant.

Thackeray *Van. Fair* liii, It was ten o'clock when he ..oke up. 1863 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xxvi, When I was a child..I used to think that I should like to play at Chinese Enchanter. 1894 Baring-Gould *Bk. Fairy T.* 70 It is not the time for violets, when the snow lies deep?

b. In reference to a future time (whether in the present or the past).

972 Blickl. Hom. 97 He sceal winnan & sorȝian, hwonne se dæȝ cume. *c* 1275 Lay. 643 He..þrettede þan castle, and þat folk wiþ ine, wanne he hit mihte awinne. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 21 Vr lord bi-het me þere Wiþ Oyle of Milce smere me whonne hit tyme were. *c* 1420 *Anow. Arth.* xxiv, Quen thou art armut in thi gere, Take thi schild and thi spere. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) 1 Sam. iii. 12 When I begin, I wil also make an end. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 145 What will Berowne say when that he shall heare Faith infringed? 1646 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xxxi, I desyrit our people to convein quhen the bellis suld be rung. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1805) 109 When your head is boiled, rub it over with the yolk of an egg. *a* 1824 [see That *conj.* 6]. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xxxi, Pray St. Etheldreda to be with us when the day shall come. 1889 Tennyson *Crossing the Bar* 16, I hope to see my Pilot face to face When I have crost the bar. 1915 'Ian Hay' *First Hundred Thou.* II. xx. 303 The Oxford Dictionary of the English Language will have to be revised and enlarged when this war is over.

c. Indefinitely or generally: At any time, or at the several times, at which; on any occasion that: most commonly with vb. in pres. tense.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Wanne hie seȝen men wanred þolien oðer on sinne bifallen..þer-of hie hadden reuðe. *c* 1250 *Bestiary* 26 in *O. E. Misc.* 1 Wanne he is ikindled Stille lið ðe leun. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 324 Ich singe an eue a riȝte time & soþþe won hit is bedtime. 1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Huanne he yalȝ oþer yherþ þe guod of oþren..þanne him comþ a sorȝe to þe herte. 1482 Paston *Lett.* I. 541 To see that the contre be allweys redy to come bothe dies in me, and hors men, qwen they be sent for. 1583 *Respublica* 894 Solace we muste nedes have whan that we are werie. 1592–3 Spenser *Astrophel* 29 There was no pleasure nor delightfull play, When Astrophel so euer was away. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 87 When God will, all winds bring raine. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 26 P 7 When I look upon the tombs of the great, every emotion of envy dies in me. *a* 1774 Golden. *Elegy Mrs. Mary Blaize* 26 She never slumbered in her pew,—But when she shut her eyes. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* v, The answers which he received from him, when conversing on religious topics. 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, I am overpowered when I think of you and your hospitable home.

5. Introducing a clause as the object of a verb, or (later) governed by a preposition: = The or a time at which; † a case in which (cf. 6).

This use arises from the dependent interrog. use (sense 2), and the OE. examples are only particular cases of this.

972 Blickl. Hom. 227 Hine ðæs beardost langode hwanne he of ðisse worulde moste. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1433 Hæleð langode..hwonne hie of nearwe..stæppan mosten. *c* 1378 *Cursor M.* 5939 (Fairf.) Sette us terme & queme [*Cott.* term wen] we salle pray for þe & þi men. *c* 1412 [see *De Reg. Princ.* 1131 ?

zyght ... gon, And day gan at my wyndowe in to pryc. 1489 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 266 They loke every owre when the comens of the town schall ryse. 1568 [see Look v. 3 c]. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 21, I haue seene When after execution, Iudgement hath Repented ore his doome. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., To the Lark*, And know thy when To say, Amen. 1689 Milward *Selden's Table-t.* Ded., In your Fancy carry along with you, the *When* and the *Why* many of these things were spoken. 1838 S. Sharpe *Hist. Egypt under Ptol.* 186 As to the when, the why, or by whom the pyramids were built. 1867 Morris *Jason* xvii. 100 Since when I am dead, By none but him the people shall be led. 1868 — *Earthly Par.* Prol. 202 Expecting when our turn shall come to die. 1884 *Dailys of Sudden Fen* x, I was a grown young man of twenty by when it happened.

6. As simple relative (cf. What C.**): At which time, on which occasion; and then. Sometimes implying suddenness: = and just then, and at that moment.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1265 Siððan hundtwelftiȝ geteled rime wintra on worulde wræce bisȝedon fæȝe þeoda; hwonne fiea wolde on wærlogan wite settan. 1461 Paston *Lett.* I. 541 Wrytyn the xxiij. day of Janware in haste, wan I was not well at hesse. 1562 Winȝet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 2 Haistelie maid one Pasche twiaday,..1562, quhen thair apperit ane daingerous seditioun in Edinburgh. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 320 His testie maister goeth about to take him, When lo the unbackt breeder full of feare,.. swiftly doth forsake him. 1634 Ford *Perkin Warbeck* II. E 2 b, There haue beene Irish-Hubbubs, when I haue made one too. 1712 Budgell *Spect.* No. 77 P 1 We took a turn or two more, when, to my great Surprize, I saw him squirr away his Watch a considerable way into the Thames. 1780 *Mirror* No. 78 P 3, I had not been above three years at college, when the death of an uncle put me in possession of a very considerable estate. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 26 There they reposed,..When from the slope side of a suburb hill,..came a thrill Of trumpets. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 62/2 An inspector..tested the drain, when he found that the joints of the pipes were not properly cemented. 1894 Baring-Gould *Bk. Fairy T.* 58 Scarcely had she touched the spindle when she pierced her hand with it.

b. As *quasi*-pronoun after a preposition (esp. *since* or *till*): = which time.

13.. *Cursor M.* 20180 (B. M. Add. MS.) Hauep he me sette any day Aȝens when I me greithe may? 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 12 But then a suter will I be, til when I wish (my child) You from the battayle do absteine. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI* II. ii. 89 *Ed.* I was adopted Heire by his consent. *Cla.* Since when, his Oath is broke. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 145 Since when it [sc. Persia] was vanquished by Tangrolipix the Turke, an. 1030. 1712 Mrs. Centlivre *Perplex'd Lovers* III. i, Till when, thou Charmer of my Soul, Farewel. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. ii. 40 Thy steeds will pause at even, till when farewell.

7. With *time*, *day*, etc. as antecedent: = at or on which.

The following OE. quot. exemplifies the kind of context out of which this constr. might arise:—*Guthlac* 82 Fyrst was on godes dome, hwonne Guðlace on his ondȝietan engel sealde þæt [etc.].

c 1200 Ormin 133 Att ænne time whanne hiss lott Wass cumenn upp to þeowwtenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19716 To wait þe time Quen þai moght cum to murther him. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 1 In A somer seson whon softe was þe sonne. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 326 Nat tell I can the tyme Whan they to bedde goon, it is so late. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xii. 38 (Harl. MS.) A day was set whanne the king shuld come and see hire. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 32 On a day when Cupid kept his court. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 79 A time will come, when my maturer Muse, In Cæsar's Wars, a Nobler Theme shall chuse. 1788 Cowper *Let. to S. Rose* 29 Mar., At all times, when it shall suit you to give us your company. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 9 The ages of faith, the ages when the Church bore away over every action of life. 1865 Newman *Hist. Relig. Opin.* iv. 202 Charges..which..I fully believed at the time when I made them. 1876 Swinburne *Note Engl. Repub.* 16 Time was when England herself might have claimed..this noblest of human rights. 1876 Meredith *Beauch. Career* iv, There are times when an example is needed.

8. With the notion of time modified by or merged in that of mere connexion: In the, or any, case or circumstances in which; sometimes nearly = if. Often *ellipt.* with only the predicate expressed.

The clause with *when* is often equivalent to a phrase with preposition and gerund (*when he sees* or *saw* = 'on seeing'; *when he says* or *said* = 'in saying').

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Mildheortnesse me kuð him solues, þ(w)enne he him biȝengð þet he isuneȝed hauæð and þet sare bimurneð. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 302 in *O. E. Misc.* 16 Ȝef ðu it soȝe wan it flet. 1387 *Lay Folk's Catech.* (T.) 518 That is when we will noght do to god alnightes,..That us augh for to do. 1370–80 *Visions St. Paul* 198 in *O. E. Misc.* 128 He opened þe Mouþ of þet put, Hit stonk foule wȝon hit was vnechut. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 63 Ȝers and reals dedys shal bettir come to a kynges mynde whon enbyed. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iv. (1885) 117 Whan a kynge reiith his reaume only to his owne profite..he is a tyrant. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 181 The quhilk tining the scripture meanes quhen it sayis [etc.]. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 44 Oh tis the curse in Loue.. When women cannot loue, where they're belou'd. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxxv. 1 God..takes his opportunity, (for we are best, when at worst). 1724 De Foe *Tour Gt.*

Brit 15 When I have said this, I think I have done Malden Justice. 1782 COWPER *Table-T.* 148 Most confident, when palpably most wrong. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* i. § 42 A painter designs when he chooses some things, refuses others, and arranges all. 1890 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Sp.* 7 May in W. S. Lilly *1st Princ. Pol.* 161 *note*, When great national interests are at stake,..the party system breaks down.

b. As simple relative (cf. 6): †(*a*) with *case* as antecedent: = in which: (*b*) in which case; whereupon; and then.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Except in case whan you vnderstande not yᵗ ye rede therin. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 564 It may be opened with a lancet or a needle, when the fluid will run out. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 695/1 The ribbon ..is sometimes couped or cut short, when it becomes a *bâton*.

9. With the notion of time passing into that of cause or contrast. a. It being the case that, seeing that, considering that, inasmuch as, since. (Often, and now only, with implication of opposition or contrast, thus approaching b.)

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Hwen þus is of þe riche, hwat wenes tu of the poure? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8215 Wanne ȝe abbeþ fourme of men, beþ men an alle wise. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1272 Otuwel, whan it is so, Tak þe bataille a godes name. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* xxviii, Quat wundur were hit, thaghe him were wo, Quen alle his godus were spendutte him fro. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 112 What madnesse rules in braine-sicke men, When for so slight..a cause, Such factious emulations shall arise? *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Timber* Wks. (1641) 118 And indeed when the attaining of them [*sc.* all knowledges] is possible, it were a sluggish and base thing to despaire. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 64 But where to find that happiest spot below, Who can direct, when all pretend to know? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. iii, What's the good of my pretending to stand out, when I can't help myself? 1886 (E. H. DERING) *In Light of 20th Cent.* iv. 85 'If you would only..look at the question without prejudice—' 'Prejudice! I like that, when you are full of prejudices about it.'

b. In adversative sense: While on the other hand, while on the contrary, whereas.

† In quot. *c* 1489 = although.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7770 Hii wolde euere abbe ynou, wanne þe pouere adde wo. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 153 And whan the kyng gaaff you not his suster but a simple damoysell, yet oughte you to beleve hym. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 145 To follow rather the Gothes in Ryming, than the Greekes in trew versifiyng, were euen to eate ackornes with swyne, when we may freely eate wheate bread emonges men. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 139 You rub the sore, When you should bring the plaister. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (1689) 26 Little things do great works, when great things will not. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, An estate like yours yields braw content, When we but pike it scantly on the bent. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* lvii, I..received fifty shillings, when I ought to have received, at least, ten pounds. 1888 F. HARRISON *Cromwell* vi. 118 He was solemnly debating a treaty, when he never inteuded to keep any treaty at all.

III. Indefinite and substantival uses.

†10. *adv.* At some time (only OE. with *niȝ, seld(um)*); *when and when*, at one time and another, now and then. *Obs. rare.*

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* II. i. (1890) 94 He nu hwonne on þam ilcan biſ on wuldre arisende mid oþrum hyrdum þære halgan cyricean. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXXI. iv, And Scottes also that false wer when and when.

b. As the second element of a compound: see ANYWHEN, AYWHEN, ELSEWHEN, EVERYWHEN, NOWHEN, SELD-*when*, SOMEWHEN.

11. as *sb.* The time at which something happens (or did or will happen): = *time when* (see 7); also *vaguely*, Time, duration.

Often conjoined with *where* or *how* similarly used.

1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* XXXIII. Wks. 777 Thou art but gone before, Whither the world must follow. And I, now, Breathe to expect my *when*, and make my *how*. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. XXI, The gardener..troubled his head very little with the *hows* and *whens* of life. 1819 SHELLEY *Ode to Heaven* 6 Deep, immeasurable vast, Which art now, and which wert then Of the Present and the Past, Of the eternal Where and When. 1864 NEWMAN *Apol.* VI. 362, I have very little reason to doubt about the issue of things, but the when and the how are known to Him. 1867 CARLYLE *E. Irving in Romin.* (1881) 101 The *when* of my first call there I do not now remember. 1885 TENNYSON *Anc. Sage* 104 Thin minds, who creep from thought to thought, Break into 'Thens' and 'Whens' the Eternal Now.

When, var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence.

Whenabouts (hwe·năbəuts). *nonce-wd.* [f. WHEN, after *whereabouts*.] The time at which a thing happened.

1898 L. A. TOLLEMACHE *Talks with Gladstone* i. 19 The whenabouts and the whenabouts of my interviews with him.

Whenas, when as (hwen,æz, hwe·n æz), *adv., conj. arch.* [f. WHEN + AS *adv.* 27.]

1. At the, or a, time at which; in a case in which: = WHEN 4, 8.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* ii, Quhen as I lay In bed allone waking,..Fell me to mynd of many diuerse thing. 1550 LEVER *Serm. 4th Sund. Lent* A vij b, Ye shall heare, when as much people commynge vnto Iesus,..what Iesus did. 1574 T. HILL *Art Gardein., Bees* 66 This is a great token of raine to follow, when as the Sunne in the day time, and the Moone in the night, do appeare pale, or blackish of colour. 1622 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. Hab, At the mid of noone, When as the Sun-God rides in all his glorie. 1638 QUARLES *Hieroglyph.* VII. iv, Subjects must wail, whenas their Sov'reigne's by. 1798 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. LXV, Whenas we found he would not here be pent, To him the better sort this friendly message sent. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* I. XXVIII, Whenas the Palmer came in hall, Nor lord, nor knight, was there more tall. 1844 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* II. VI, Whenas he hesitated .. she came forward in a pretty, shy way.

†b. At which time; and then; whereupon: = WHEN 6. *Obs.*

1553 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 159 Vntill the xxvijᵗʰ daye of the same monethe wen as the same..sur-

1632 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 254 Hugh had scarce continued one yeare of probation, when as the foresaid Abbot Wido departed the world. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 203 Where's that Other Duration or Succession before Time,..whenas 'tis confessed there was none.

2. a. Seeing that, inasmuch as: = WHEN 9 a.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. B ij b, When as the greater Galanga is..without any..euell sauoure I wold rather take great Galanga for Acorus, then the comon calamus. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 57 How can he be a Doctor in his book.. whenas all he teaches,..is but under..the correction of his patriarchal licencer? 1708 in *Sewell's Letter-bk.* (1886) II. 240, I may well condole the bereavement, whenas so much personal friendship is therewithall vanished. 1899 C. W. DOYLE *Taming of Jungle* i, Whenas my back smarted.. from the blows of the chuprassi's shoe,..I took the oil from my chirag and anointed my back therewith.

b. In adversative sense: Whereas: = WHEN 9 b.

1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 95 They doe verie childishly erre, which do consider originall sinne onely..in the inordinate motion of appetites: when as it fulfilleth the reste of reason and the whole part. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, v. vii. 34 So luctus kist his master, And cried all haile, when as he meant all harme. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 272 He brings in this Date of Solon's Death, out of Phanias: as if it was a point uncontroverted, and allow'd by Plutarch himself. Whenas Plutarch barely mentions it. 1721 SEWALL *Diary* 14 May (1879) II. 311 Through the Goodness of God I had little or no hurt, when as my Horse's Nose bled for it.

Whence (hwens), *adv., conj.* (*sb.*) Forms: 4–5 **whannes, whennes**, (4 **huannes, wannes, whennus, -ys**), 4–6 **whens**, 5 **qwens**, 6 **whense**, *Sc.* **quhens, quhence**, 6– **whence**. [13th c. ME. *whannes, whennes*, f. *whanne*, WHENNE + *-s suffix*. In all senses often preceded by redundant *from*, †*fro* (FROM 15 a), occas. *of* (obs. or arch.).]

I. Interrogative uses. (Now replaced in ordinary colloquial speech by *where . . . from*.)

1. From what place? a. in a direct question.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 161 (Camb. MS.) Whannes beo ȝe, faire gumes, þat her to loude beoþ icume. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XVI. 8 Whens comyst thow, and whithir goist thow? *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 431 What do ye here, madam? Fro whens come ye? [*ed. Copland* (*c* 1550) Of whens be you..?]. 1526 TINDALE *John* VI. 5 Whence shall we bye breed that these might eate? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. V. N ij, From whense haste thou brought hym hyther? 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* XXVII. (1870) 192 Of whens be you? I am of England. 1596 SHAKS *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 103 Of whence, I pray? *Tra.* Of Pisa, sir. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 945 Whence am I forc'd, and whether am I born? 1720 DELANY *News fr. Parnass.* 19 From whence is this Fool? 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* V, My wife, as I'm a Christian. From whence can she come? 1855 TENNYSON *The Brook* 22 O babbling brook,..Whence come you?

b. in an indirect question.

c 1300 *St. Brandan* 288 We nuteth nost hote thurf God whannes hit is i-brouȝt. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 532 þis folke frayned hym firste fro whennes he come. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 44 They axed hym of whens he was. 1526 TINDALE *John* IX. 29 Thys felowe, we knowe not from whence he ys. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 262 The Kidd..Asked..who, and whence that he were. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 1193 He.. ask'd his airy Guide, What, and of whence was he. *Ibid.* VIII. 150 Resolve me, Strangers, whence, and what you are. 1712 DE FOE *Ess. Public Credit* 6 We..hardly know whence it [*sc.* the wind] comes, or whither it goes. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* V, He inquired whence the water came. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* XXV, There was no question put of whence I came or whither I was going.

2. *gen.* and *transf.* From what source, origin, or cause? a. in a direct question.

c 1303 *Pop. Treat. Sci.* (1841) 139 Loke bou crokede thu were ther,..Whannes [*earlier text* Fra ȝwam] cometh bit siththe to bere the so heye? 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* XXI. 25 Of whennes was the baptem of Ioon; of heuene, or of men? 1526 TINDALE *Luke* I. 43 Whens hapeneth this to me, that the mother off my lorde shulde come to me? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 9 From whence these Murmurs, and this change of Mind? 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. XVII, But whence ..have you concluded..that the writer is of our church? 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* XIX, From whence have we derived that spiritual profit?

b. in an indirect question.

1483 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 53, I am wel admeruaylled fro whens that cometh to the suche presumpcion to speke so hastyly. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* VIII. 28 There are some that can tell..from whence you borrow..your much bragd. of Concent. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 856 Strange point and new! Doctrin which we would know whence learnt. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* I. 459 Ask Reason now, whence Light and Shade were giv'n. 1782 COWPER *Truth* 237 An apt similitude shall show Whence springs the conduct that offends you so. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* VII, The laughter and mirth of her uncle, and Hannah, and Mary, she could not tell whence originating. 1859 TENNYSON *Pelleas* 320 For so the words were flash'd into his heart He knew not whence or wherefore. 1867 F. HARRISON in *Questions Ref. Parlt.* 255 No man can say from whence the greater danger to order arises.

II. Relative or conjunctive uses.

3. From which place; from or out of which.

Also with ellipsis of *there* or *thither* in the main clause.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* CXXXIX. 1, I rered vp myn eyen in to the mounteynes; whennys [1388 fro whannus] shal come helpe to me. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* XI. 10 The londe of Egipte, whence ye came out. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) *Isa.* II. 3 Loke vnto the rocke, whence ye are hewen. *a* 1592 EVELYN *Diary* 30 June 1644, A dreadfull cliff, from whence the country and river yeald a most incomparable prospect. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 920 Mossy roots, Whence on each hand the gushing waters play. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXXIV, The little room..looked into a garden, whence a wicket-gate opened into a small paddock. 1887 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 141 The quarter from whence

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 37 Let him walke from whence he came. 1591 — *Two Gent.* II. iv. 188 Now tell me: how do al from whence you came? 1611 *Bible* Job X. 21 Let me alone that I may take comfort a litle, Before I goe whence (COVERDALE thyther, from whence) I shall not returne.

†b. as *compound relative*: From the place in which, from where. *post. Obs. rare.*

1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. ii. 124 Come thou home Rossillion, Whence honor but of danger winnes a scarre, As oft it looses all. 1607 — *Timon* I. i. 22 Our Poesie is as a Gowne [*printed* Gowne] which vses [*i.e.* doses] From whence 'tis nourisht.

4. *gen.* and *transf.* From which source or origin (as a product); from which cause (as a result); from which fact or circumstance (as an inference).

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 61 This opinion is not French, but plaine Turckishe: from whens, nom French fetche moe faultes, than this. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 1 Vertue..Whence spring all noble deeds and neuer dying fame. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 32 To lay down such Principles, as from whence it would follow, that any Real Entity in Nature did come from Nothing and go to Nothing. 1732–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd 89 From whence I did then conclude..that Wine doth not inspire Politeness. 1782 COWPER *Expost.* 111 Faith, the root whence only can arise The graces of a life that wins the skies. 1899 JEFFSON *Brittany* vi. 82 St. Ive .. became a successful advocate, whence he is now venerated by Breton lawyers as their patron. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 400 During its revolution a tip bows or nods successively to all points of the compass; whence the name nutation.

III. 5. as *sb.* (*nonce-use.*) That from which something comes or arises; place of origin; source.

1832 MOTLEY in *Corr.* (1889) I. 28, I was summoned before the Senate of the University, and then wrote my name and my whences and whats, etc., etc., in a great book. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *Hitherto* XVIII. 242 We start from some whence, and are expressed through to somewhere. 1873 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* I. iv. (1878) 30 Uncertain as to the Whence and Whither of humanity.

Whenceforth, *adv. rare.* [Properly two words, WHENCE and FORTH *adv.* 3.] †a. Forth from which. b. From which time onward: cf. *henceforth*. (With redundant *from*.)

1590 SPENSER *Muiopot.* 316 The God of Seas..strikes the rockes with his three-forked mace; Whencefoth issues a warlike steed in sight. 1638 HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* 34 From whenceforth God proposeth unto the People no otherwise then by Moses.

Whencefo·rward, *adv. rare.* [Properly two words, WHENCE and FORWARD *adv.*; cf. HENCEFORWARD, THENCEFORWARD.] a. = prec. b. From which place onward.

a 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Shropshire* (1662) III. 16 Whence forward and not before, his Forces deserved the name of an Army. 1899 *Daily News* 1 July 4 6 From hence it is no great way to Woodford, whenceforward the return journey is but a repetition of the outward.

†**Whence-from**, *adv. Obs.* [An inversion of *from whence*: cf. HENCE-FROM, THENCE-FROM.]

1. *interrog.* = WHENCE I.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 29/2 Whence-from did our Lord Iesus Christe and his Apostles drawe their doctrine, but out of Moses? 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Arк* 306 Whence (shall I say) then, whence-from comes it..That [etc.]. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* Pref., I have divers times weighed with my selfe, whencefrom it should proceed [etc.].

2. *rel.* = WHENCE II.

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (1676) 236 Whereunto all the blood ..doth naturally tend;..and whence-from it will in no wise depart.

Whencesoever (hwens,ŏsoe·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Also *post.* **-soe'er** (*-soe·ə·*). (In early use as two words.) [f. WHENCE + SOEVER.] From whatever place or source; wherever . . . from. (Also with redundant *from*.)

1522 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 29 This Cytie of Jherusalem..stondeth vpon suche a grounde that from whens soever a man commyth theder he must nede ascende. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 22 It is my Sonne, young Harry Percie, Sent from my Brother Worcester: Whence soeuer. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 208 (1) Whencesoever the name came, it is antient. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. ii, From whence-soe're their Hate our Houses drew, I blush to tell you, I have none for you. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* XXXVIII, Whoever or whencesoever you are. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* I. (1848) I. 2 Whatsoever or whencesoever be the origin of Sin. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* I. 20 O Goddess, ..from whencesoever ye may, Gather the tale. 1902 G. B. GRAY *Crit. Introd. O. T.* 200 He re-moulds his material, whencesoever derived.

Whencever (hwens,ĕ·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Also *post.* **whence'er** (hwens,ĕ·ə·). Earlier as two words, **whence ever**. [See EVER *adv.* 8 e.] = prec.

1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 793 Whence ever I thy cruel Essence bring, I own thy Influence. 1888 CLOUGH *Poems, Fragm. Myst. Fall* XII, A thing, whence'er it ___ To be forgotten and considered not. 1899 BELLOC *Danti...* IV. 219 The enthusiasms which, from whencever they blow, are the fresh winds of the soul.

†**Whenceward**, *adv. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. WHENCE + -WARD; cf. THENCEWARD.] *From* whence.

1702 RAY *Creation* II. (ed. 3) 366 In those Ponds from whenceward they steered their course.

Whench, variant of QUENCH *v.*

Whene, obs. f. QUEEN, WAIN, WHEN.

Whenever (hwen,e·və), *adv., conj.* (In

early use as two words.) Also *poet.* **whene'er** (hwen,ēə·ɹ). [f. WHEN + EVER (see below).]

I. As relative adverb or conjunction: cf. WHEN 4.

1 [EVER *adv.* 8 e.] At any time when; every time that, as often as. In a qualifying (conditional) clause, the meaning becomes: At whatever time, no matter when. Also with the idea of time weakened or lost (cf. WHEN 8): In any or every case in which.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 354 As þe popis clerkis feynen þat þei done miraclis whanne evere þei syngen, moo and more woundirful þan ever dide Crist or his apostlis. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1245 Ser, on to hir loggyng, When euer it please yow, I shall be your gyde. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. 2 Whanne euer he takith vpon him for to..correpte his Cristen neiȝbour. 1509 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I 293/2 Landis .. that sall happin to cum in the Kingis hands .. throu the said Henrys deceis quhenevir it sall happin. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 15 When euer you haue need, You may be armed and appointed well. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 771 His doom is fair, That dust I am, and shall to dust returne: O welcom hour whenever! 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* p. xiv, So might you welcom your death with pleasant smiles when ere it comes. 1766 GOLDSM *Vicar W.* xxx, You may, at a minute's warning, send them over England whenever your honour thinks fit. 1848 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ix, Whenever an Englishman would cry 'All right!' an American cries 'Go ahead!' 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 25 Roguery and lying..are instantly to be flogged out of the way whenever discovered. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xiv, She still had access to the Emperor whenever she desired. 1921 *Oxford Mag.* 28 Jan. 163/1 When the official story..is published, whenever that may be, minor details.. will require correction.

2. [EVER 8 c.] At the very time or moment when; as soon as. (Now only in *Sc.* and *Irish* use.)

1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* VIII. 7 He gave me a good supper last night when ever I came within his doors. 1800 *Monthly Mag.* IX. 323/2 We will go to our dinner whenever the clock strikes two. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 589 One-third of the mixture is introduced at first; whenever this is melted, the second third is thrown in. 1875 A. WILSON *Abode of Snow* xxxviii. 360 And whenever my tent was set up I went to sleep in spite of the wind.

II. 3. As interrogative adverb, an emphatic extension of *when*. (Properly two words, and usually so written: see EVER 8 d.) Now *colloq.*

1713 ADDISON *Cato* i. i, When-e're did Juba, or did Portius, show A Virtue that has cast me at a Distance? *Mod.* When ever did I say that? I waited and waited, and wondered when ever he would come.

† **Whenne, when,** *adv., conj. Obs.* Forms: α 1 hwænone, 3 hwanene, whanene, wanene, hweonene, wheonene, wenene, whonene, whonnene, wonene, (whænnenen). β. 2 hwonne, 3 hweonne, whone, wanne, 3–5 whenne, 4 *Sc.* quhene. γ. 1 hwanon, -an, -un, hwonan, -on, 3 hwannen, whannen, -in, wannen, wanen. δ. 1 huona, hwona. ε. 4 wen, wan, *north.* quen, *Sc.* quhen, 4–5 when. See also WHYNE. [OE. *hwanone, hwanon, hwonan* = OS. *hwanon, -en*, whence (*nēlthwanen* from somewhere or other), OHG. (*h*)*wanana, wanân, wannen* (MHG. *swannen* = **sô wannen sô* whencesoever): a derivative of the interrog. stem *χwo-* WHO, WHAT, as HEN, HENNE (= hence) is of *χi-* HE, and THENNE, THEN (= thence) of *þa-*.]

1. *interrog.* = WHENCE 1, 2.

Beowulf 333 Hwanon ferigeað ge fætte sceldas? *Ibid.* 2403 Hæfde þa ȝefrunen, hwanan sio fæhð aras. *c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* v. § 3 Wast þu hwonan elc wuht cume? *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 43 *Unde hoc mihi ut veniat mater domini mei ad me*, huona [*Rushw.* hwona; *Ags.* hwanun; *Hatton* hwanen] ðis me þætte cyme moder drihtnes mines to me? *a* 1000 *Gosp. Nicod.* iv. (Thwaites) 2 Hwanone sceold-ar þu specan on Hebreisc? *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Ic ðe warni..ðat tu..understande and lierne fastliche ða ȝekyndes of sinnes, hwannen and hwanne hie cumen. *c* 1205 LAY. 1430 Whonene [*c* 1275 Wanene] beo ȝe cnihtes? *Ibid.* 6193 He..hæhte heom suguen wannen heo weoren. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2407 He easte hom wanen [*v.r.* of wanne] hi were & wo him bider broȝte. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1724 Gij..seyd, 'wen comestow, pilgrim?' 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XII. 75 He..asked him after, Of when þat he were. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2547 'Ihesu lord', quaþ Olyuere; 'fro wan comeþ al þis gold?' 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 265 Of Envie noman knoweth Fro whenne he cam bot out of helle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 13929 (Trin.) Whenne he shal com shal noon knowe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 416/1 Whenne, *unde.*

2. *rel.* or *conj.* = WHENCE 3, 4.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 25 Þa he næfde hwanon he hyt agulde. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 Parais, from hwonne þe engles a-dun follon. *c* 1205 LAY. 2034 He hire sette name on .to munien his ikunde whone he icomen weore. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4498 Toward þe wode wanene [*v.r.* fram wanne] hii come þe brutons gonne to fle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 212 To .go..To Rome, whenne that sche cam.

b. Qualified by *ever*: = WHENCESOEVER.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 156 He which was a Bacheler, Mi fader, is now mad a Pier; So whenne as evere that I cam, An Erles dowhter now I am. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 497 Where [*v.r.* when] he euer come or what he is.

Whenne, Whennes, -**us,** obs. ff. WHEN, WHENCE.

Whe·nness. *nonce-wd.* [f. WHEN + -NESS.] Condition in respect of time.

1720 DE FOE *Ess. Public Credit* 6 It has no Wherenese, or Whenness, Scite, or Habit.

Whena, whense, obs. ff. WHENCE.

Whenso (hwe·nsəu), *adv., conj.* Forms: see WHEN and So. [ME. *hwenne*, representing OE. **swâ hwanne swâ*: see WHEN and So *adv.* 17 d.]

† 1. = WHEN 4. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 In þe deie of liureisun hwenne god almihtin wule windwin þet er wes iporschen. *c* 1205 LAY. 15054 Weonne so ich beo uorð faren, Hengest eow wul makien kare. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 ȝe ȝet moten chaungen ham hwonse ȝe euer willeð. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* CXVIII, Quhen so my teris dropen on the ground,..the lytill birdis smale Styntith thaire song. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 502 Quhen swa this cruell murthour was committit,.. nevir ceisit he of his wickit..pretense.

2. = WHENEVER 1. *arch.*

c 1200 ORMIN 1466 Whannse þu forrȝifesst tuss þin wrabbe & ec þin wræche, A33 þanne lakesst tu þin Godd Gastlike i þine þæwess. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 861 When so we ȝern ony thing þat may fall vnto fleesch likyng, Thinke we god waites vs weterly! *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2542 in *Macro Plays* 153 It is good, whon-so þe wynde blowe, A man to haue suin-what of his owe. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 178 He sal haue the fredome of hoslary quhenawa at it be sufficiand. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 809 Whenso loue of letters did inspire Their gentle wits. 1866 NEALE *Sequences, Hymns*, etc. 216 Whenso that battle seems going against us, remember the legend. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* III. 40 Phrontis,..who excelled the tribes of men in piloting a ship, whenso the storm winds were hurrying by.

Whensoever (hwensəue·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Also *poet.* **whensoe'er** (-ēə·ɹ). [f. prec. + EVER *adv.*; cf. SOEVER.] = WHENEVER 1.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 177 Thet whensoever the appul he ȝete, Thorwhe deth that lyfe he shulde forlete. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 332 To .. whom-so-euer or which-so-euer and whan-so-euer he wolde yeve bequeth..hit. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d ij b, Whensoeuer and whersoeuer thay se any tame Dookes. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xiv. 7 Ye shall have povre with you all wayes: and when soever ye will, ye maye do them goode. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 158 What he with..all probation will make vp full cleare Whensoeuer he's conuented. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm., James iii.* 16 Wks. 1727 V. 397 Whensoever the Romans conquered an Enemy, it was indeed the General himself only, who was said to triumph. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 20 Whensoever Mr. Southey issues from the press, we find him arrayed in a different costume. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* v. x. 3 Whensoever he should please, He could speak of rocks and trees In poetic metre. 1853 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* III. II. 51 The bishop first blessed the attire with which those ministers were to be arrayed whensoever they had to go about their holy office.

b. *ellipt.* with loss of relative force: At any time.

1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 210 (Qo. 2) If his fitnes spenkes, mine is ready: now or whensoeuer, prouided I be so able as now. 1652 tr. *Life Father Paul Sarpi* 10 Either rising from the board, or from his bed at midnight, or whensoever applying himself wholly..to the subject.

Whensomever (hwensʌmˌe·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Now *dial.* or *vulgar.* [See SOMEVER 2.] = prec.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 61 When-someuer þe pacient feleþ tyklyng or ychyng or prykkyng in þe lure. 1507 *Com. Lect Bk.* 608 When-sume-euer and as often as the case shall require. 1558 Q. KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 99 Quhensumevir questioun or debait rysis. 1621 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 547 The next degree I expecte is some violent fryars and Jesuites inciting..the Catholick Princes against hereticks. ..Which whensomever it bee I confidently beleeve you shall see yᵉ tragedie begin in France. 1810 *Splendid Follies* III. 112 You have my consent, sir, to marry the girl whensumdever it's convenient.

Whent, Wheoder, Wheol(e: see QUAINT *a.*, WHETHER, WHEEL.

Wher, obs. f. *were*, pa. t. indic. pl. of BE *v.*; obs. f. WHERE; obs. or dial. contr. f. WHETHER.

Wherble, obs. form of WARBLE.

Where (hwēə·ɹ), *adv.* and *conj.* Forms: α. 1–2 hwær, (1 huoer, hwoer, wær, uer), 1–3 hwer, 1–4 huer, (3 whær(e, wer), 3–5 wer, 3–6 wher, 4 hwere, 4–6 were, 6 whear, *Sc.* vher, 6–7 wheare, 7 (9 *dial.*) wheer, 4– where; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 3–5 quer, 4–5 quere, 5 qwer(e, qwher, 6 quheir, 7 quher(e. β. 1–3 hwar, (1 hwara), 2–4 war, (3 wahr, ȝwar, ȝware), 3–5 ware, (8 *Sc.*) whare, (8–9 *Sc.*) whar, 4 hware, 5 whaire, 6–7 vhair, (9 *Sc.*) whair, 9 *Sc.* whaur; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 3–4 quar, 4–5 quare, 4–6 quhar, quhare, 5 qwar, qware, qwhar, qwhare; 5–6 quair, 5–8 quhair, 6–7 quhaire. γ. 3 wor, quor, quuor, 4 hwore, quore, 4–5 whore, 5 whor. δ. *n. e. Sc.* 6 for, 9 faur (*Irish* far). [OE. *hwiér, hwâr*, corresp. to OFris. *hwêr*, OS. *hwâr* (MLG. *wâr*, LG. *waar, woor*, MDu., Du. *waar*), OHG. (*h*)*wâr, wâ*, MHG. *wâ*, G. *wo* (*wâr* surviving in G. *warum*). A disyllabic OE. form *hwâra* (ME. *whâre*) also existed; cf. *þâra* there. Forms with short vowel appear in OE. *hwar, hwara*, (ME. *whar, whare*), OS. *hwar*, OHG. *wara*, MHG. *ware, war* whither, ON. *hvar* (Sw. *var*, Da. *hver*), Goth. *hwar* where.

Derived from the interrog. stem *χwa-*, as HERE is from *χi-* HE, and THERE from *þa-*; cf. Lith. *kur* where, L. *cûr* (:—**quêr*) why, Skr. *kâ-hi* when.]

I. Interrogative uses.

In dependent clauses formerly sometimes followed by *that*: see THAT *conj.* 6. For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative use, cf. WHAT A. I.**

1. In or at what place (region, country, etc.)?

a. In direct questions.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xli. 4 [xlii. 3] Hwær is god ðin? *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 9 God..cwæð: Adam, hwar eart þu? *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 241 Þis is hare bread, hwer scule we win finden? *c* 1200 ORMIN 12734 Lef maȝȝstre, whære biggenst tu? *c* 1205 LAY. 4454 Whær beo ȝe mine cnihtes, whar beo ȝe mine kempen? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 356 Þu, nu, quor art, adam, adam? *Ibid.* 1311 Quar sal ben taken Þe offrende þat ðu wilt maken? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1123 Caym ware es þi broþer abell? 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 9 The Lord God clepide Adam, and seide to hym, Where art thou? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 683 Quat sterne is it at ȝe stody on, quare stekis it in beuyn? 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 6 The secounde questioun that is to say quhare was bataill first fundyn. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 402 *Primus pastor.* Bot I will go before, let vs mete. *Ijus pastor.* whore? *Iijus pastor.* At the crokyd thorne. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* lvi. 13 Vhair go they then? 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 50 Where were ye Nymphs when the remorseless deep Clos'd o're the head of your lov'd Lycidas? 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 285, I have been preaching this morning, and am going to dine,—where?—in the afternoon. 1838 P. EGAN *Pilgr. Thames* 259 Where the deuce am I? 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXVI, My dearest Edith, .. where on earth have you been? 1896 BARRIE *Sentim. Tommy* iii. 34 Whaur heard you that name?

b. In dependent clauses.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. x. § 3 Ȝesecgað me nu Romane, cwæþ Orosius, hwonne þæt ȝewurde oþþe hwara [etc.] 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 241 Þine stefne ic ȝehiere, ac ic ne wat hwær þu eart. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 ȝe hereð, ware heo com to ure helende. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* 106 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 107 Ful wel þu me iseie..Hwar ich was and hwat ich dude. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 10/325 He wuste ȝware þe rode lai. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 157 Hit sal be reddynn þanne..How he was born and quen and ware [*v.rr.* quare, whare]. *Ibid.* 17288 + 223 Þai haf taken my lord, .. and doyne him ine wote whore. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 65, I ne wyste in þis worlde quere þat hit wnce. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 17, I have knowelege quere the shippyng shall be. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lvii. 512 Yet wold not sire Launcelot telle me certeynte of you where I shold fynde yow. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 117 Where hops will growe, here learne to knowe. 1645 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 56 Ye will certainly knaw whair to find wa with the Regiementis. 1648 CROMWELL *Let. to T. Saunders* 17 June in *Carlyle*, You may send to Colonel Herbert, ..who will certainly acquaint you where he is. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* vii, I..Speird, quhair he had been sae lang? 1784 COWPER *Exp. to J. Hill* 47 An emp'ror, a wise man—No matter where, in China or Japan. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iii. You did not tell him where I lived, you knave? 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, Little does it signify to us, when the soul has departed, where this poor body lies. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xv, You come from no one knows where; you live no one knows how.

(*b*) In dependence on an int. or vb. of looking: *Lo, see, look, behold where* (he comes) = Here or there (he comes)! *arch.*

c 1205 LAY. 5029 Leo wær here þa wombe þe þu læie inne swa longe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3117 Lowe where is a lomb! a fayre whyte lomb! lo! lo! 1591 SHAKS *Two Gent.* v. i. 7 See where she comes. 1593 — *3 Hen. VI*, I. i. 50 My Lords, looke where the sturdie Rebell sits. 1605 — *Macb.* v. viii. 55 Behold where stands Th' Vsurpers cursed head. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* II. 1125 See where the Princely Barque in loosest Pride, With all her Guardian Fleet, Adorns the Tide! 1742 GRAY *Spring* i, Lo! where the rosy-bosom'd Hours, Fair Venus' train, appear. 1839 HOOD *Quakers' Courtship.* II. 29 Lo! where the Soldier walks, alas! With Scars received on foreign Grounds.

c. *colloq.* with *from* or *to* at the end of the sentence or clause: *where . . . from?* = whence? *where . . . to?* = whither?

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 103, I must go suddenly, but where to? 1838 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, Where on earth the husband came from. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii, Where do these brats hail from?

2. In general and fig. senses: In what position, situation, or circumstances? at what point or stage (of action, speech, or thought)? in what passage or part (of a writing)? in what particular? in what respect? in what? also (contextually, with *get*, etc.) from what source?

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Aske8 him, Hwat beo ordre, & hwar he ifinde in holi write religiun openluker descriued..þen in sein Iames canoniel epistle? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 892 & þan sunfulle ic helpe al so Vor ic him teche hwar is wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2800 Godd..þat made þat sinful folk sa madd, þat þai ne wist war þai war stad. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 Hys angyll..tellyng hym redely wher and how oft he haþe don amys. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xiii. (1883) I. 131 In defendynge of oratours and poetes I had all moste forgoten where I was. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. v. 15 Where haue they this mettell? Is not their Clymate foggy, raw, and dull? 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 32 O, I know where you are. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. vii. 28 If there were no opposition where were the triall of an unfained goodnesse and magnanimity? 1728 LAW *Serious C.* ix, You must not deceive yourself with saying, Where can be the harm of clothes? 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XXXII, 'But where is the use of going on,' I asked. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* XXII, 'I see..You were attracted by the ancient inscriptions?' 'Naturally: without inscriptions, where are you?' 1906 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 47 That is all very well: but where do I come in?

3. To what place? Now, in ordinary use, taking the place of WHITHER; cf. HERE *adv.* 7, THERE 8. (Formerly freq. with BECOME, q.v. I b.)

c 1000 *Wanderer* 92 Hwær cwom mearg? hwær cwom mago? *c* 1205 LAY. 21913 Wær scullen we bicumen? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13748 Quar ar þai cummen, þin wiþerwins þat þe had nummen? 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7490 Þat þrostel sagh he no more; Hyt become, he ne wyst whore. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 166 Were þere a belle on here heiȝ..Men myȝte wite where þei went and awei renne!

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. iv. 846 Where are al my noble knyghtes becomen? 1587 Harrison *England* i. xi. 47/1 in *Holinshed*, Whose eies are so blinded with the thicknesse of that element, that they cannot see where to become. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* iii. i. 166 Where shall we go? 1621 — *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 304 *Aut.* Get you hence, for I must goe Where it fits not you to know. *Dor.* Whether? *a* 1708 T. Ward *Eng. Ref.* i. (1720) 86 His Soul departed, God knows where. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 289 We shall now mention where every one of those Entries..lead. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* iii. iii. ⁋ 8 Unconscionable dogs! Where do they expect to go when they die? 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* iii, Who departed this life I don't know when, and whose coaches are all gone I don't know where.

4. In rhetorical questions having the effect of emphatic negations (cf. What A. 3): e.g. *where is* —? implying or suggesting '— has vanished' or 'there is no — anywhere'; *where not* = everywhere (cf. What not).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xix, Hwær synt nu þæs Welondes ban, oððe hwa wat nu hwær hi wæron? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 25 Da cwæþ se hælend, hwar is eower geleafa? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1083 Hwere mithe i finden ani so hey So hauelok is, or so sley? *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 86 Where is become cesar, þat lorde was of al? *c* 1580 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2055 Where is nowe my Welth and my noble estate? 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 174 Quhair sall men find steidfast Stabilnes? 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 34 All went to wracke in England, Scotland, Flanders, Germanie, Polony, and where not. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 282 And where is Emma's Joy, if Henry flies? 1842 Mrs. Trollope *Vis. Italy* i. iii. 49 As to pictures, where could I find foolscap enough to catalogue the multitude I have seen? 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* i. v, Where would be the good of Mrs. Boffin and me quarrelling over it? 1906 Bigg *Wayside Sk.* vi. 154 Where shall we find him [*sc.* the perfect reformer] except in the Son of Man?

II. Relative and conjunctive uses.

Formerly often followed by *that* (That *conj.* 6).

* In senses referring to physical position.

5. as compound relative, or as correlative to *there* (implied and sometimes expressed; cf. What C.*, When 4): In or at the (or a) place in or at which; at the part at which.

[*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 21 *Ubi enim est thesaurus tuus ibi est et cor tuum*, þer *vel* huer forðon is strion ðin, ðer is & hearta ðin.] 13.. *Northern Passion* i. 138 Þei souhte anoþer where þei myhte. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) i. 22 Þer where he was schotte. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 89 A hors shal neuer henny whore he dwellys. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 102 The Lordis..ordanis that letteris be writin to the schireffis quhar the said landis liis. 1548–9 [see Thither 1 c]. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* E j, Wher God buildes a church, the deuill builds a chappell. *a* 1592 Greene *Orpharion* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 33 Where the sea is most deepe, there it is most calme. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 48 He is where he would be. 1779 Cowper *A Tale*, '*Where Humber*', Where Humber pours his rich commercial stream, There dwelt a wretch, who breath'd but to blaspheme. 1820 Crabbe *Borough* ii. 45 Where the common eye Can but the bare and rocky bed descry, There Science loves to trace her tribes minute. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* i. § 2 Inverness, placed where it might ennoble one of the sweetest landscapes. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* iv, I shall stay where I am.

b. To the (or a) place in or at which (= *thither where*).

[*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xi. 32 *Cum uenisset ubi erat iesus*, Miðdy cuome ðer *vel* huoer was se hælend.] *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 100 To þe prince sa spak he þane, þat quhare petire wes, he wane. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) *Nj*, They fare as a lefe on the tre That turnes whare the wynd wylbe. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxxiv. iii, Me seemes I see them going Where mulberies are growing. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iii. 244, I will bring thee where thou soon shalt quit Those rudiments. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi. 44 He took his Way, Where, new in Death, lamented Pallas lay. *Med.* I'll take you where we shall get a better view.

6. Introducing a clause as obj. of a verb or prep., or as predicate: = a or the place in (or to) which.

Originating in, and not always distinguishable from, the use in indirect questions (1 b).

[*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 20 *Filius..hominis non habet ubi caput reclinet*, Sunu..monnes ne hafis huer [*Rushw.* wær] heafud ȝehlutes: 1388 Wyclif but mannes sone hath nat wher he reste his heued.] *c* 1200 Ormin 12985 Þeȝȝ tokenn þær to fraȝȝnenn Crist Off whære he wass att hame. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* Brief Descr., Not hauyng where they durst at any tyme rest. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* iii. iii. 27 From where the day out of the sea doth spring, Vntill the closure of the Euening. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* ii. xvii. 170 The Iewes will not quite empty any place of water, that on the Sabbath these fierie soules may finde where to coole them. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* v, Within about twenty paces of where we were sitting. 1766 — *Hermit* 3 And guide my lonely way To where yon taper cheers the vale With hospitable ray. 1876 Tennyson *Harold* v. i, I can see it From where we stand. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* iv. (1898) 42 He..showed her where the liquor stood to ferment.

7. as simple relative. a. With antecedent *place*, or some sb. denoting a place or receptacle; introducing a defining or restrictive clause completing the sense: In or at which.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 27 Al-wat hi kani over þo huse war ure louerd was. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 324 He bad his man to gon and spire A place wher sche myhte abyde. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1666 And honest place for to be in, Whor þai may sit with-outyn dyn. 1457 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 207 Att Saynt Nicholas auter before the stall quer I ordir at messe. 1530 in *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 230, I sell leid the to the place for the freir swewyt the. 1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 23/2 The Superintendent, and Ministeris of that Prouince quhair the benefice lyis. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xlviii. 2 In hauthornes vher thou hyis thy self and hants. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 732 Th' unhappy Climes, where Spring was never known. 1768 Picken *Poems* 27 At yon burnie..Whar the shinan peebles lie. 1835 Marryat *Jacob Faithful* xiv, I hastened to the black hole where Tom was confined. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* iii, Looking for all the world like some great dog that has entered a house where dogs are forbidden.

b. Introducing an additional statement, the sense being complete without the relative clause: In or at which place; and there.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 950 Vnto þe wreched werld to gang, Quare þou sal thinc þou liues to lang. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 354 To Sanct Androwis he come..Quhar the byschop.., Resavyt him. *c* 1440 *Anturs Arth.* xxxvii, By þat on plumtone land a palais was pigte, Were neuer freke opone folde had fougtene bifore. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, Theyr probacyon in deserte, where god proued theyr fayth and hope. *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 222 Then to the Douns, vhair that we raid a space. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 72 Russet Lawns, and Fallows Gray, Where the nibling flocks do stray. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xiv, We were shewn into a little back room, where there was only a venerable old man. 1820 Keats *Lamia* i. 380 A pillar'd porch..Where hung a silver lamp. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxviii, I have been in America, where, if anywhere, the people have it their own way.

8. as compound or simple relative: (In, or to, the place) to which; whither.

13.. *Cursor M.* 2154 (Gött.) Wid all þu sal biholden vile, Quar þu wendis in exile. 1508 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 250/2 Quhether the saidis P. and J. pass in the realme of France or uther partis quhare ples thaim. 1594 Shake. *Rich. III*, i. ii. 106 He is in heauen, where thou shalt neuer come. 1655 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 209 A letter.. which..hee vndertooke to transmitt where it was directed. 1774 Chesterf. *Lett.* I. i. 2 Holland, where you are going, is, by far, the finest..of the Seven United Provinces. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvi, Tom..looked up for help where he had always been used to look. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* i, Him I am going to meet in this Paris where I go without aim.

9. In generalized or indef. sense: In, or to, any (or every) place in, or to, which; wherever.

The indef sense is more explicitly expressed by the addition of *ever, so*, † *sum*: see Wherever, Whereso, Whersome, Wheresomever.

c 1200 Ormin 5904 Whære o lande summ itt iss þatt mann off Goddspell spelleþþ. *c* 1205 Lay. 3320 Lete we sum þis mo hele folc fare wher [*later text* woder] ha wulleð. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6617 Euere ware he com gode lawes he broȝte. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6136 (Gött.) Mas sacrifis ȝour lauerd vntill, Quar and hou so þat ȝe will. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) ix. 20 None letes him þe way to wende whore he will. 1395 *E. E. Wills* 8 Ware that euer I deye. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 99 Lett thi name wher we rydy or gon..Be owre defence ageyn owre mortal foo. 1552 Huloet, Where you will, *ubilibet*. 1603 Shake. *Lear* iv. v. 10 Where he arriues, he moues All hearts against vs. 1781 Cowper *Table T.* 298 Sing where you please. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii. viii, I won't stand in your way. Go where you like.

** In general and figurative senses.

10. as compound relative. a. In the passage or part (of a writing) in which; at, or to, the point or stage (of action, speech, etc.) at which.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 906 In his godspel, whaire he says þus: 'Nolo mortem peccatoris'. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* Prol., In þe first capitle Ad Romanos, where he saide þat he was dettour on-to wise men and onwise. 1580 R. Parsons *Brief Disc.* 40 Throughe out the scripture, where Idoles are forbidden, they translate it Images. 1620 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* xi. 97 But we returne where we left. 1662 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 196, I marked the booke where there is a passage full of treason. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 136/2 Where Powell parted company most fiercely from the Radicals was in his steadfast patriotism.

b. In a or the case in which (often nearly = When 8); in the circumstances, position, or condition in which; in that respect or particular in which. (Sometimes with implication of contrast or opposition: cf. 12 b.)

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 227 Were þe socour of the watir faillede þere men schulde defende hem in þe lond by help of þe wal. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1634 He wold deele where he had no charge. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. Prol. 199 Quhar schame is lost quyte schent is womanheid. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 44 When women cannot loue, where they're belou'd. 1633 Quarles *Embl.* i. xii, Ther's nothing wholsome, where the whole's infected. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) I. v. 192 We cannot be easy, where we are not safe. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxii, 'By my soul, Clara, I will make you repent this!' said Mowbray, with more violence than he usually exhibited where his sister was concerned. 1850 Newman *Diff. Anglicans* ix. 221 They are rude where they should be reverent. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 5. § 1 (1) Where it is proposed to make any such Order..a draft of the Order shall be presented to each House of Parliament.

(*b*) Contextually indicating a person or persons as the object of love or marriage.

1621 Beaum. & Fl. *King & No K.* iii. i, O she is far from any stubbornness..and no doubt will like Where you would have her. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* i. iv, Thee know'st we canna love just where other folks 'ud have us. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* i. iv, I saw that..it would be better she should marry where she wished.

c. with construction as in 6: = † a case in which; † a person to whom; the point or particular in which. (Cf. When 5.)

a 1300 *K. Horn* 691 (Camb. MS.), Ibe herde whar he sede, & his sweord for-þ leide, To briege þe of þyne. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 30, I herd nesnir quhar so lang vmwynd Wes gevin. 1602 Shake. *Jul. C.* i. ii. 85 I have heard, Where many of the best respect in Rome..Haue wish'd that Noble Brutus had his eyes. 1612 — *Cymb.* ii. iv. 121 The Vowes of Women, Of no more bondage be, to where they are made, Then they are to their Vertues. *Med.* That was where he failed. (*collog.*) That's just where it is!

11. as simple relative. a. Introducing a defining or restrictive clause (cf. 7 a): In or at which; † *rarely* with person as antecedent, In whom.

c 1300 *Melusine* 238 She consyderyng the daunger where bothe she & her peple had be. 1585 Jas. VI *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 53 Ignorants obdurde, quhair wilful [illegible] lyis. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, v. ii. 5 *York.* Where did I leaue? *Duch.* At that sad stoppe, my Lord, Where rude misgouern'd hands..Threw dust..on King Richards head. 1692 Dryden *St. Evremont's Ess.* 98 There is no life so regular, where particular Actions don't sometimes exceed the general habit and conduct. 1792 *Trnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 641/1 In a Cause where the Officers had broken into a Bedchamber. 1887 W. P. Frith *Autobiogr.* I. xxi. 284 It is difficult to put one's finger on the precise spot where confidence merges into conceit.

b. Introducing an additional statement (cf. 7 b): In or at which; and there; hence, † whereupon, and then.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 283 Who so leueth nouȝte þis be soth loke in þe sauter glose, In *miserere mei deus*, where I mene treuthe. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxi, With that anon ryght sche toke vp a sang, Quhare come anon mo birdis and alight. 1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* i. i. 29 To be in loue; where scorne is bought with grones. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 67 The Agent for the English Merchants inuited vs to a Banquet, where he shewed a heartie Entertainment. 1694 tr. *Martin's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 128 The Seamen let them alone until the Whale be killed, where they take him without any trouble. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 372 The controversial field, Where deists, always foil'd, yet scorn to yield. 1831 Scott *Kenilw.* Introd., The Yorkshire Tragedy, a play erroneously ascribed to Shakspeare, where a Rake..throws his wife down stairs.

12. † a. It being the case that; in view of the fact that; forasmuch as, inasmuch as: = Whereas 2; cf. When 9 a. (Chiefly in legal or other formal documents.) *Obs.*

1421 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 First, where the forsaid Lord the Roos..compleyneth hym by a Bille, surmettyng on the saine Robert [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 85 Women of relygyone, in redynge bokys of latyn, byn excusyd of grete vndurstondyng, where it is not ber modyr tonge. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., And where heretofore, there hath been great diuersitie..within this realme: Now from henceforth, [etc.]. 1580–3 *N. C. Wills* (Surtees) II. 36 Where that..Hadoile the smythe hathe gyven to me his eldest sonne Christopher as my owne, I will he be put unto the schoale. 1599 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 336 Where it is considered by the Maior, Sheriffs, and citizens of this citie how greatly the citye is impoverished. 1637 *Bk. Com. Pr. Scot.* Table & Kal., And where [1662 whereas] the Cxix. psalme is diuided into xxij. portions,..it is so ordered [etc.].

† b. In adversative sense: While on the contrary: = When 9 b, Whereas 3. *Obs.* (or merged in 10 b).

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 358 It fordoþ Cristis privylege, þat where Cristene men shulden be free, now þei ben nedid to hire a preest. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1134 Now A dayis I lese all that I wanne, Where here before I was a threfty man. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 62 Purple in those dayes was for the wearyng of none but kynges & princes, wher now it is communely taken vp with euery sowter. 1596 *Edw. III* iv. iii, And, where tofore I loued thee as Villein, Hereafter Ile embrace thee as my selfe. 1668 Rolle *Abridgm., Action sur Case* 40 He swore, that the Wood was worth 40*s.* where it was dear of 13*s.* 4*d.* 1681 in Pepys *Diary & Corr.* 11 Apr., All Baptist's bases are singable, where many of Pedro's are not so.

III. Indefinite and substantival uses.

13. With preceding qualifying words (*one, other*, etc.), forming adverbial phrases: In or at (one, another, etc.) place.

Chiefly as second element in compounds: see Allwhere, Anywhere, Aywhere, Eachwhere, Elsewhere, Everywhere, Manywhere, Nowhere, Onewhere, Otherwhere, Somewhere, Widr-where.

1508 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 321 Suth it is, and sene in all our qubare, No erdly thing but for a tyme may lest. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xiii. 33 For it cannoit be that a prophet perishe eny other where save att Jerusalem. 1528 — *Obed. Chr. Man* 74 We must stere vp some warre one where or a nother. *c* 1550 *Syr Tryam.* in Utterson *E. P. P.* (1817) I. 58 They hunted and rode many a where. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cvii. xii, How many where doth he convert Well watred grounds to thirsty sand? 1620 Ambrose *Ultima* (1659) 286 His Apostles are scattered in the garden, his garments at the Cross, his blood how many wheres! *a* 1694 Tillotson *Serm.* VII. 208 Though they be very active, yet they can be but one where at once. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* I. (1839) 10 He got victuals enough one where or other. 1815 J. Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 453, I still preach, one where or other.

14. as *sb.* Place, locality; in mod. use *esp.* the place at which the thing spoken of is or happens.

1443–9 Pecock *Donet* xvi. (1921) 92 More of þis mater..may be seen..in þe book of dyuyne office in manye a wher. *c* 1449 — *Repr.* i. v. 27 In othere wheris of my writingis. 1560 Phaer *Æneid.* ix. 58 He trouti[l]ous vewes their wals, & ryding nakes ech entring where. 1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lxvi, In euery where or sworde or fyer they taste. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* iii. iv. 29 Finding the Nymph a sleepe in secret wheare. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 36 Resolved to leave no where thereabouts vnsearched for her. 1720 De Foe *Ser. Regl. Crusoe, Vis. Angelic World* iv. (1801) 223 For if we are to be, we must have a where. 1813 Byron *Corsair* i. xiv, The why—the where—what boots it now to tell? 1863 Longf. tr. *Dante, Parad.* xxvii. 109 In this heaven there is no other Where Than in the Mind Divine. 1896 A. Austin *England's*

Darling I. i, While he roams abroad,...Spying the where and whither of his foes.

IV. 15. In senses of branches I and II, in comb. with advs. and preps.

For history of this use see HERE *adv.* 16; cf. THERE 17.

a. With advs., as †*whereforth*; **whereaway**, whither, in what direction. b. With preps.: = what or which (†*occas.* whom), as *whereagainst, wherealong, whereamong(st,* †*wherenigh, whereover, whereround,* †*wherewithout.* See also main words, WHEREABOUT to WHEREWITHAL.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxi. 15, I will geve you a mouth and wysdom *were agaynste all youre adversarys shall not be able to speake. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 113 That body, where against My grained Ash an hundred times hath broke. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 251, I was.. driven to seeke out some Wall, where-against to leane. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. i. vii. 201 The organs or other channels *wherealong they pass. 1582 MUNDAY *Engl. Rom. Lyfe* v. 55 Reliques, *where among he named the Nayles, that nailed Christe on the Crosse. 1620 tr. *Boccaccio's Decam.* 160 Isabella fell into abundance of teares, where-among she mingled many sighes and groanes. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. XXVIII. 485 Growing almost as high as the wheat or corne..*whereamongst it groweth. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 637 And *quhair awa, quhither to hevin or hell. 1824 *Whistle-binkie* Ser. III. 84 He daunert on, ne'er thinkin' whar-awa. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Where away?* in what bearing? a question to the man at the mast-head to designate in what direction a strange sail lies. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 212/2 Much pondering where-away The Northeast Passage lay. *c* 1290 *St. Cuthbert* 77 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 361 He ne miȝte nouȝt finde is fore, *ȝwareforth he wende a-wel in snowe ne in þe flore. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 339 Ac þorw werkes þou myght wite wher forþ he walkeþ. 1642 *Inch Puffe* 16 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 315 The shockt mount, whereforth a Mouse did clime. 1658 BURTON *Comm. Itin. Antoninus* 90 Our learned Antiquary therefore hath shewed very good judgement in descrying the ground, *where-nigh it stood of yore. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 72 It was never seen that any countre..did encrece welle *wherover many nedeles officers..was reignyng..over theym. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 74 Wherouer the holie Ghost hath made them ouerseers. 1843 T. PARKER *Disc. Death Webster* Wks. 1865 XII. 28 A great gulf..., wherecver neither Dives nor Abraham, nor yet Moses himself, can pass. 1889 SWINBURNE *Cent. Roundels* 68 Love lies bleeding in the bed wherecver Roses lean. 1910 *Spectator* 4 June 927/2 The storm-grey Manse, *Where-round tall rhododendrons dance. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* v. xiii. 572 The conductes of Water, *wherewithout nienne cannot commodiously liue. 1578 *Bk. Chr. Prayers* B ij, Thou light, wherewithout all things are deepe darcknesse.

Where, obs. f. CHOIR, WERE, WHETHER.

Whereabout (hwēˑərăbŏuˑt: stress var.), *interrog.* and *rel. adv., sb.* [f. WHERE 15 + ABOUT.]

1. a. *interrog.* About where? in or near what place, part, situation, or position? Now *rare*: replaced by WHEREABOUTS 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15429 Quar abute abide yee nu? 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. xiii, My broder and my freud where aboute is thy sore? *c* 1566 J. ALDAY tr. *Boaystuau's Theast. World* (1581) K iij, My shooe is new...wel made, but you know not where about it doeth hurt & grieue me. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 39 His Ephemerides directing whereabout it is to be. 1720 S. SEWALL *Diarry* 4 Nov. (1882) III. 274, I ask'd her Whereabout we left off last time. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iv, One irregularity after another embarrasses things to such a degree that they know not whereabout they are. *c* 1850 *Anal. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 175, I desired the owner of the ass to enquire whereabout the house .. was. 1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xviii, She .. used to look over to where the ship lay beneath the sea, and wonder whereabout it was. 1908 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 188 'And whereabout do they go?' I asked. 'Oh, all about anywheres.'

(*b*) Contextually, with *love*: cf. WHERE 10 b (*b*).

18.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 308 Fane wald I luve, bot quhair abowt? Thair is so mony luvaris thairowt, That thair is left no place to me.

† b. *rel.* About or near which place; in the neighbourhood of which. *Obs. rare.*

1722 WHISTON *Th. Earth* II. 218 At..Pekin..whereabout probably Noah liv'd immediately before the Deluge.

2. † a. *interrog.* About or concerning what? on what business or occupation? *Obs.*

13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 85/2 We wist noght whare obout þou went. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perser.* 2367 in *Macro Plays* 148 Where-a-bowte stonde ȝe al day? 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) 1 Sam. xxi. 2 Let no man knowe whereabout I send thee. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 107, I must not haue you henceforth, question me, Whether I go: nor reason whereabout. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* IV. iii, Whereabout goest thou?

b. *rel.* About, concerning, or in regard to which. ? *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Operatio*, the wark, or that wherabouts a man laboureth. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxvii. § 12 Those things whereabout they differ. *a* 1633 BINNING *Serm., Rom. viii. 2* Wks. (1735) 200 That whereabout the Thoughts and Discourses of Men now run.

3. *rel.* About or around which. ? *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 267/2 *Axis*,..the axeltree or the axetree where about the wheeles turne.

4. as *sb.* (hwēˑərăbout). [from 1.] With possessive or *of*: The place in or near which a person or thing is; (approximate) position or situation. Now replaced by WHEREABOUTS 3.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. i. 58 For feare Thy very stones prate of my where-about. 1786 COWPER *Let. to Bagot* 17 Nov., Wks. 1836 II. 263 That..I shall derive considerable advantage..from the alteration made in my *where-about.* 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XII. 87 A voice That made me seem like needle to the star, In turning to its whereabout. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. ix, By degrees, the eye grown accustomed to its new Whereabout. 1881 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads & Battle-F.* 190 Both armies..were then within a few days of each other's whereabout.

Whereabouts (stress var.), *adv., sb.* [f. prec. + advb. *-s*: cf. HEREABOUTS, THEREABOUTS.]

1. a. *interrog.* = prec. 1 a. Also *fig.*

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 167 Sonne, whereabouttes art þow? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. v. N j b, Whereaboutes is our hostes house? 1621 I. C. in *T. Bedford's Sin unto Death* P vj, Except they know..whereabouts the daunger is. 1648 DUPPA *Soules Solil.* 9 Many..go away informed..where abouts the Spleen lies, or where the Liver. 1791 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 357, I ask him whereabouts he is with the claims of the German Princes. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* liii, Whereabouts were your apartments, Mr. Pickwick? 1899 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 97 The natives pointed out to me whereabouts they passed in the valley below.

† b. *rel.* About the amount at which. (Cf. THEREABOUTS 2 b.) *Obs. rare.*

1766 J. INGERSOLL *Lett. rel. Stamp-Act* 6 *note*, The Parliament have..settled the above Duties just whereabouts they are stated in the above Letter.

† 2. *interrog.* and *rel.* = prec. 2 a, b. *Obs.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. D j, What studyeth he .i. whereaboutes gothe he? 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 224 Neyther had I any thing at all, where about to occupie my penne. 1630 BEDELL in *Ussher's Life*, etc. (1686) 452 Only he labours about Kildromfarten: Whereabouts I purposed to have spoken with your Grace.

3. as *sb.* (hwēˑərăbouts). [from 1.] = prec. 4. Also *fig.*

1798 T. TWINING *Let. to Parr* 15 Feb. in *P.'s Wks.* (1828) VIII. 273 By way of giving you the whereabouts of my present political opinions. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scot.-Yard*, Not all his knowledge of the history of the past .. may help him to the whereabouts .. of Scotland-yard. 1878 BAYNE *Puritl. Rev.* I. 12 Bunyan wrote the Pilgrim's Progress..without giving a hint of his ecclesiastical whereabouts. 1903 *Times* 3 May 3/6 The prisoner..succeeded in concealing his whereabouts.

Whereafter (hwɛərɑˑftəɹ), *rel. adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [WHERE 15.] After which.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 113 He tane had halely þe treasoure, Quhare-eftyre socht þe emperoure. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. 7 He hath ynogh at done..to loke whereafter he hunteth. 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 78 So loste he that he had, and that whereafter he did snatche. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 819 The Parish and Lordship of Clipesby..gave name..to a familie of ancient note..whereof there hath beene diuers Knights; where after it had passed in the names of Algar, Elfled, and Odberd, all sirnamed de Clipesby. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* viii. (1642) 489 The image and similitude of God, whereafter God made man at first. 1847 HARE *Vict. Faith* 68 Whereafter in another generation Consciousness was asserted to be the ground of all existence. 1885 SWINBURNE *Misc.* (1886) 163 The judicious Dr. Nott has written in the margin 'This is much too unqualified': whereon—or at least, as I presume, whereafter—a pen was struck through the last fourteen words.

So † **whereafterward** *rel. adv. Obs. rare*[−1].

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 354 b/1 Whereafterward..it was shewed..that by cause that place was ouer lytil..they shold do make..another chirche.

Whereagainst, -along, etc.: see WHERE 15.

Whereanent (hwēərănēˑnt), *rel. adv.* Orig. and chiefly *Sc.* [f. WHERE 15 + ANENT *prep.* II.] Anent or concerning which.

1579 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI.* lxii. (1814) III. 182/2 The auld fundationis..notwt-standing q'anent his mans..dispenssis. 1629 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 7 b, The debaitable matter, quhairanent the summons is made. 1682 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 15 That the said letters..passe the great seale per saltum whereanent these presents shall be a sufficient warrant. 1899 tr. *Dante's Paradiso* XXXI. 379 To question my Lady concerning things whereanent my mind was in suspense.

Whereas (hwɛəɹæˑz), *rel. adv., conj.* (*sb.*). In early use as two words.

I. As relative adv. or advb. phr.: cf. *where that* s.v. WHERE II.

† 1. = WHERE 5, 7–11. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1782 þei..tok forþ here wey..to sum wildernesse where as þei bredde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 74 Nat fer fro Pedmark ther his dwellyng was Where as he lyueth. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1566 The helthe of love[rs] mut be founde Where as they token firste hir wounde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 242 The grete distruxion where-as the kynge Aguysanz hadde I-be. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer*, Collect 4th Sund. aft. Easter, That..oure heartes may surely there be fixed, where as true ioyes are to be founde. 1567 J. SANFORD *Epictetus* 23 Whereas vtilitie is, there is pietie. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. XX. 172 Auicularia groweth..in fields amongst wheate, or where as wheate hath growen. 1578 *Bible* (Geneva) To Rdr., Whereas the Ebrewe speache seemed hardly to agree with ours, we haue noted it in the margent. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. LXXXV. I. 39 All that levell whereas the river Meander now runneth by goodly medowes. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 12 Ornaments on that upright, whereas the Southerly windes raise much dust. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 655 And quickly too he gat Unto the place whereas the lady sat.

II. As illative or adversative conjunction.

2. In view or consideration of the fact that; seeing that, considering that, forasmuch as, inasmuch as. (Chiefly, now only, introducing a preamble or recital in a legal or other formal document.)

1424 *Information against Walter Aslak* in *Paston Lett.* I. 16 Where as the seyd William Paston, by assignement and commaundement of the seyd Duk of Norfolk..was the

1488–9 *Act 4 Hen. VII* c. 9 Where as it was of old tyme .., that ther was for the weale of the Kyng .. Fynours and parters of Gold and Silver [etc.]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* civ. 348 Where as thou sayest I am a craytoure I shall shewe the how thou lyest. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Kings viii. 18 Where as it was thyne hert to buylde an house vnto my name, thou dyddest well, that thou wast so mynded. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 31 Whereas the Emperour and the Catholicke Princes by many Letters made intercession, that the displaced Bishops might be mercifully dealt withall .. shee answered [etc.]. 1713 *Act 13 Anne* c. 28 § 1 Whereas Part of the Highway .. is become so very ruinous that [etc.]. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 6 Preamble, And whereas the Army Act will expire in the year, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen on the following days.

3. Introducing a statement of fact in contrast or opposition to that expressed by the principal clause: While on the contrary; the fact on the other hand being that. (The principal clause usually precedes, but sometimes follows as in 2.)

† In quot. 1542, Notwithstanding that; though (*obs.*).

1535 COVERDALE *2 Esdras* vii. 5 There are layed vp for vs dwellynges of health & fredome, where as we haue lyued euell. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 This knaue, whereas he is the greattest glutton .. that maye bee, yet is he the moste idle lubber. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, II. v. 76, I derined am From Lionel Duke of Clarence..; whereas hee, From Iohn of Gaunt doth bring his Pedigree. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 520 Hee might haue worne the Diadem many yeares, whereas he bare the title of King no longer than two moneths. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iii, Whereas he had received a very handsome fortune with his wife, he had now spent every penny of it. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* XXVI, 'Yet, they are great whiskered fellows, six feet high each.' 'Whereas..., Harry, you will never be any thing more than a little pale lameter.' 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* XXIV, I brought him up in ignorance of his father, whom he had always imagined to be a gentleman; whereas he was only a sergeant in a Line regiment. 1890 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 319 Whereas a pinhole has no focus, every lens has a focus.

III. 4. as *sb.* (from 2). A statement introduced by 'whereas'; the preamble of a formal document.

1795 COLERIDGE *Plot Discov.* 23 While the contrary remains unproved, such a Whereas must be a most inadequate ground for the present Bill. 1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., To follow a whereas; to become a bankrupt..: the notice given in the Gazette that a commission of bankruptcy is issued out against any trader, always beginning with the word whereas. 1804 F. L. HOLT *Land we live in* II. i. (1805) 30, I am as long-winded as the *Whereas* of a proclamation. 1863 GUROWSKI *Diary* 18 Oct. (1864) 347 A new *whereas* calling for three hundred thousand volunteers.

Whereat (hwɛəɹæˑt), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + AT *prep.*]

1. *interrog.*: At what? *rare.*

In first quot. app. = for what cause or reason, wherefore: cf. AT 34, 37.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3837 Quað god, 'quor-at calles þu me?' *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 503 Now luge ȝe all quhairat Schir Lowrence leuch. 15.. *Adam Bel & Clym of Clough* cxlvii, 'I hold hym neuer no good archar That shuteth at buttes so wyde.' 'Wherat?' then sayd our kyng. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. iii. G j, Thou wottest fulle lyttell wherat thou reioysest. 1755 JOHNSON s. v., Wherefore are you offended?

2. *rel.* At which. **a.** in local and allied senses.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXVI. 122 A wyndowe, whare at þe light commez in. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. viii. 33 A litle gett., Quhairat was wont alane Andromacha To entir. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* h iv, Giff ȝow wald knaw ye dominicall lettre of ony hundereth ȝere, quhairat ȝe orure of ye first table according to ye awld kallendar is interrupted. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* V. xi. 425 At this Cart hang many..Ropes, whereat all the people hale and pull. 1626 GOUGE *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* § 1 Take notice of the generall Scope whereat the Holy Ghost aimeth in this Chapter. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 84/2 The Pit or Hole, from the Body, or stock there is whereat the branches sprout out. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i. 78 Albeit I think Ye have caught the mark whereat my heart is bent. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 27, I returned to the spot whereat the Squire kept dreary watch.

b. in reference to occasion or cause.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 11 Wherat many were offended. 1599 T. STORER *Life & D. Wolsey* F 4, What had the wiser sort wherat to smile? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 389 With full assent They vote: whereat his speech he thus renews. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 205 Whereat his horse did snort, as he Had heard a lion roar. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvi, Nell could not help weeping..; whereat..the simple schoolmaster shed a few tears himself. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Choir Invis.* ii, The inventor..said..that..he would demonstrate by his own model that some day navigation would be by steam; whereat they all laughed kindly at him for a dreamer.

Whereaway: see WHERE 15.

Wherebole, obs. form of CUIR-BOUILLI.

a 1400 *Warres of Jewes* (MS. Cott. Calig. A. ii) in Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* Sect. X. (1840) II. 106 Whippes of wherebole [*Laud MS.* quyrbole] bywent his white sides.

Whereby (hwɛəɹbəiˑ), *adv.* [f. WHERE 15 + BY *prep.*]

I. 1. *interrog.* **a.** By, beside, or near what? in what direction? **b.** By what means? how? (BY 29, 30.) **†c.** For what reason? why? (BY 36).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 780ȝ þat þai bath er slain, quar-bi Wat þou it es sua? *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2256 Wharbi seistow so so þe god help? 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 436 Wherby wote men whiche is wrytes if alle pinges blake were? *a* 1450 MYRC *Parv. Pr.* 4 In-to þe dyche þey fallen boo, For þey ne sen where by to go. 1576–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xvi. 277 Be ye a knyght of Cornewalle? where by aske ye hit? said sir Tristram. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* I. 18 Wherby shall I knowe this? 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 9 *Clo.* Thereby hange

a tale. *Mus.* Whereby hangs a tale, sir? 1735 JOHNSON s. v., Whereby wilt thou accomplish thy design?

II. *rel.* **2.** By means of or by the agency of which; from which (as a source of information); according to which, in the matter of which, etc.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 81 We wolden sen sum fortocne of þe, Warbi we mihten cnowen 3if it soð were þat þu seist. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 573 Mete quorbi 3ef miȝten liuen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 40 Lyflode..Wher-of or wherfore or where-by to lybbe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 294 A staf, wherby, he seide, he wolde That Adrian him scholde holde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 195 Summe spyritual visyon wherby þat he myȝt haue ben confortyd yn sowle. 1450–1500 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11. 234 A starre of Iacob wherby ys vnderstonde oure lorde iesu cryste. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Jer. xxxiii. 8, I will cleanse them from all their iniquitie, whereby they haue sinned against me. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 192 The absolut power, wharbe .. the haill privileges of the thrie Esteates of the Realme is weakned. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iii. § 3 The rationall evidence of that divine authority whereby Moses acted. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 411 Every lower faculti[e] Of sense, whereby they hear, see, smell, touch, taste. 1697 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 516 His Return of rep[re]sentatives for Council was produced, qrby it appeared [etc.]. 1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 61 Stated Lengths, whereby we measure Objects. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* II. 92 An universal plastic power, whereby every body in nature receives its .. specific form. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Ajax* 1025 This..sword-point—this whereby Ebbed out thy life. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Mar. 122/2 There is no convention in war whereby the loser can convert disaster into stalemate.

3. In consequence of, as a result of, or owing to which; from which (as a cause or reason); wherefore; sometimes practically equivalent to 'so that', 'in order that'. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Whs.* (1880) 310 Þise men lousen crist þat maken hise membris heere special patrouns, & leuen to haue crist oonliche heere patroun, werbi þei louen lasse crist. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. c. 49 b/1 The table rounde, wherby sprange the fame of so many noble knightes through out all the worlde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, It was put in to my mynde to drawe it in the englysshe tonge, wherby it myght be the more accepte to many. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. i. 67 We were inforc'd for safety sake, to..raise this present Head, Whereby we stand opposed by such meanes As you your selfe haue forg'd against your selfe. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 232 Wee buried the slayne people in deep graues, whereby lackals should not open vp their graues. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii § 81. 472/2 He was suddenly seised with a Cancer in the Reins of his back, whereby he rotted above ground. 1844 HOOD *Univ. Feud* 105 Whereby it so may happen as that neither of them Scholars May be the proper Chairman for the Glorious Apollers! 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xv, I ought to be..going peacefully to bed, whereby I should wake up with a clear head.

b. Upon which, whereupon. *dial.* ? *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 104 Goodwife Keech..telling vs she had a good dish of Prawnes; whereby y[e] didst desire to eat some: whereby I told thee they were ill for a greene wound. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* xxiv, Whereby he told the captain that .. he would heave him overboard. *Ibid.*, We heard firing, whereby we made for the place.

4. Beside or near which; along, through, or over which. Now *rare.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 21 Wateres .. 3ware bi þe seipes mowe come fram þe se. 14.. *Master of Game* xix. (MS. Digby 182). A kenell shulde haue a gutter or two, wherby alle þe pisse of þe houndes..may renne oute. 1586 LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 154 b, Hee .. hideth him selfe vnder some .. rocke, or any other place, whereby hee seemeth to bee. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. l. 193 He occupies and standes in a way quhairby the men of weir fled. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxxiii, The brawling brook, where-by..glide the sauntering hours With a calm languor. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 359 Fear .. wing'd Her transit to the throne, whereby she fell Delivering seal'd dispatches. 1893–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Feb. 10 At Aphrodite's golden gate—whereby They came as night was close on twilight dim.

Where-ever: see WHEREVER.

Wherefore (hwē·ɹfōɹ), **wherefor** (hweːɹfɔːɹ), *adv.* (*sb.*) Forms: α. 2–3 hwarfore, 3 waruore, quor-fore, 4 quar-fore, quer-fore, huervore, werfore, 4–5 warfore, 4–7 wherfore, 5 wharfore, wher-fforе, qw(h)erf(f)ore, *Sc.* qwharfore, 5–6 *Sc.* quharfore, 6 *Sc.* quhairfore. β. 3 werefore, ware uore, 4 warefore, where-fore, 5 wharefore, qwerefforе, *Sc.* quharefore, 6 *Sc.* quherefore, 5– wherefore. γ. 4 wharfor, quarfor, querfor, 4–5 warfor, 4–6 *Sc.* quharfor, 5 werfor, qwer for, 5–6 wherf(f)or, 6 *Sc.* qwarfor, quhairfoir, 6–8 *Sc.* quhairfor, 7 *Sc.* quherfoer. δ. 4 quere-for, 6, 9 wherefor. [f. WHERE 15 + FOR *prep.* Cf. Du. *waarvoor*, ON. *hvar fyrir*, MSw. *hvarfore*, Sw. *varför*, Da. *hvorfor*, G. *wofür*. For the spellings cf. THEREFORE.]

I. Interrogative uses.

For the dependent or indirect interrogative use, and its distinction from the relative, cf. WHAT A. I.**

1. For what? *esp.* for what purpose or end? (Often scarcely distinguishable from 2.)

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 45 Þu finst fawe 3e wile þiuen 3e ani þing, bute hie witen hwarfore. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1296 Seth þen sette him spell o-mend And taid him warfor þat he ... *Ibid.* 1734 (Gött.), He tald þat resun to mani a man, Quarfor he quilk a schip bigan. 1496 *Steuen Paperes* (Camden) II. 12 (MS.) I vnderstonde there schalle be a gret Counsell, whereffore I wat nere. 1535 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 299 As herunder the partyes names and somes of money due and wherfore particlerly ensue.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 40 *E. Ant.*..Open the dore. *S. Dro.* Right sir, Ile tell you when, and you'll tell me wherefore. *Ant.* Wherefore? for my dinner. 1593 — *Rich. II*, II. iii. 122 Wherefore was I borne? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 657 But wherfore all night long shine these..? 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxix, Here I am—wherefore come, I have to learn.

2. For what cause or reason? on what account? why? (Freq. with ellipsis; often coupled with *why* for emphasis.)

c 1250 *Hali Meid.* 15 Þe seondes sian sleoð awei azain on him seluen, and loke hwarfore. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1632 Iacob calde Sat stede betel; Quor-fore he it dede, he wiste wel. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 31 His felau thoht herof ferly, And asked him quarfor and qui. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lii, As I lay In bed allone waking..Fell me to mynd of many diuerse thing, Off this and that; can I noght say quharfore. 1535 COVERDALE *Num.* xii. 23 Now that it is deed, wherfore shulde I fast? 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 54 Ze may maruell paraventure, quhairfore I sould haue writtin in that mater. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 8 Whose honesty they all durst swear for, Though not a man of them knew wherefore. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 12 Hard lot of man—to toil for the reward Of virtue, and yet lose it! Wherefore hard? 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. ix. (Rtldg.) 362 You..ran away..without leaving me word why or wherefore. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xx, If he be ever asked how, why, when, or wherefore, he shuts up one eye and shakes his head. 1873 LONGF. *Michael Ang.* I. IV, But wherefore should I jest?

II. Relative uses.

3. For which. Now distinguished by stress and spelling (*wherefor*).

† *Without anything wherefore*, without a return or equivalent; † *to do wherefore*, to make a return, give an equivalent.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7526 Willam hit sende hire vaire inou wiþoute eny hing ware uore. 1377 [see WHEREBY 2]. *a* 1400 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 353 No wollemongere..ne may habbe no stal in þe heye-stret of Wynchestre bote he do war fore. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 27/22 Þa þat serue sal ta yeme til þam þat etes, þat tay haue na defaute of þat tay sal haue, wharfore þai make na noise. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* III. i. Wks. (1573) 304/1 That we be bounde to beleue the church in thinges, wherefore they haue no scripture. 1552 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 62, I..gaue you that wherefore ye sought. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 2 Peace to this meeting, wherefore we are met. 1923 *Act* 3 & 4 *Geo. V* c. 20 § 118 (1) (d) All sums (not exceeding..one hundred pounds) due in respect of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, the liability wherefor accrued before the said date.

4. On account of or because of which; in consequence or as a result of which. Chiefly with *sb.* (esp. *reason* or *cause*) as antecedent. *arch.*

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Gode werkes þet bieth þo offringes..werefore se christenman..of-seruet þo blisce of heuene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10784 Þar es resuns.. Quar-for godd wald sco spused were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 45 Greate blasfemies of god and of his halȝen hueruore god him wrebeþ. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 145 Þou schall fynd na thing with vs whairfore þou schuld werray apon vs. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* I. iii. (1883) 13 The causes wherfore this playe was founden ben thre. 1495 *Liber Festivalis* v iij/a, I denounse .. all tho that purchasen lettres of ony lordes courte wherfore letynge is made in cristen courte. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v lxiii. § 1 The true reason wherfore Christ doth loue believers is because their belief is the gift of God. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 187 The reason is sufficiently manifest wherefore a preference for republican institutions should hitherto have been shown.

5. Introducing a clause expressing a consequence or inference from what has just been stated: On which account; for which reason; which being the case; and therefore. (Now always *wherefore.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16806 Þen com word to sir pilat..Of all thinges þat by-fell, Wharfor he wex radd. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1194 Wher-for worldes worshepe may be cald Noght elles. 1496 SIR G. HAVE *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 238 This barne is all innocent..., quharefore he aw nocht to be grevit. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 361 And ryght forth said geffray, 'I chalenge the, wherfor deffende the.' 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 15 Sowtaris, with schone weill maid and meit, 3e mend the faltis of ill maid feit, Quhairfoir to Hevin 3our saulis will fle. *c* 1600 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 10 Quherfoer in this case I wald commend to our men the imitation of the greek and latin. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. Wakef.* xxii, I could not continue a silent spectator of her distress; wherefore, assuming a degree of severity in my voice and manner [etc.]. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 248 More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice Rise like a fountain for me night and day. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxix, A person, you see, is an individual, or an indivisible thing. Wherefore, let us not despise our neighbour.

† **b.** Followed by *soever*: For whatever reason; on whatever account. *Obs. rare.*

c 1250 *Hali Meid.* 61 Sone so þu telles te betere þen an oðer —beo it hwerfore se hit euuer beo,..þu marres ti meidenhad. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* lxxv. (1814) 332 He is in a great study, wherfore so euer it be. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxxii. (1592) 514 But come they once in Question, wherefore soeuer it bee, let them not escape.

III. 6. as *sb.* A question beginning with *wherefore*, or (more usually) the answer to such question; cause, reason. Often following *why* similarly used.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 45 *Ant.* Shall I tell you why? *S. Dro.* I sir, and wherefore; for they say, every why hath a wherefore. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* III. i, Such as are vnderstanding in their draughts, And dispute learnedly the whyes and wherefores. 1642 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* xiii. 144 But let him first answer our *Therefores*, and I will quickly answer his *Wherefores*. 1729 RAMSAY *To* ... 6 [He] disna care for A how, a what, na ... re. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxii, They will ... the why and the wherefore, and will take nothing for granted. 1884 ANNIE S. SWAN *Dor. Kirke* xiv, I am carried back to the days when I rebelled and demanded the wherefore of all God's dealings with me.

† **Wherefro'**, *adv.* Chiefly *Sc.* (quhairfro). *Obs.* [f. WHERE 15 + FRO *prep.*]

1. *rel.* = next.

In quot. 1585 *ellipt.* = to the place whence.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. viii. 467 The occasioun wherbi and wherfro the goostli harme and synne comen. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 57 Amang the grene rispis and the redis, Arrivit sche, quhar fro anonn thare landis Ane husdreth ladyes. 1541 COPLAND *Galyen's Tymp.* B j b, The thyng wherfro nothyng can be taken, nor put to it. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 48 He tolde me then, how she flew bak againe, Where fra she came. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* h iv, It behoueth ye cowrse of ye dominicall lettre to be Interrupted, euerie hundereth 3eire quhairfra is subduced ane day. 1643 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. VIII. 66 Thomas Irwing..being verie seik in Quondale, quherfra he was flitting.

2. *indirect interrog.* = WHENCE 1 b.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. vii. 206 To se quhayrfra the grundyn dart dyd glyde. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 23 This guse 3eirlie in the spring tyme returnes to wa: quhairfra can na man tell.

Wherefrom (hweːɹfrɒm), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + FROM *prep.*] From which; whence.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xii. 45 There is the Region of thire, wherfrom we haue wythdrawen .. all this people. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm., 1 Cor. vii. 24* (1674) I. 205 Some Calling; wherefrom he may be altogether averse, and whereto altogether unfit. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 40 We have none others wherefrom to describe anything conceivable to our imagination. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Lofty galleries; wherefrom dames of honour..may sit and look. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xvi, Wherefrom Hereward opined that Gilbert had need of him. 1893 J. CAIRD *Fundam. Ideas Chr.* vii, Akin to the infinite source wherefrom they proceed.

† **Wherehen, -hence**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: α. 4 whar hanne. β. 6 wherhens, wherhence, 6–7 where-hence, wherehence. [f. WHERE 15 + HENNE, HENCE. Cf. HEREHENCE, THEREHENCE.]

1. *interrog.* = WHENCE 1, 2.

c 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 7726 Wonder it was whar hanne [*v.rr.* wanene, whannen, whens] it com. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3383 Off norreies Anon gan hym to enquere; Wherehens he cam. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* III. ii. 336 Where hence haue Schismes, and Heresies sprunge vp, or wherehence doo they springe, onlesse [etc.]. 1584 *Copie of a Letter* 78 And wherhence (I pray you) ensueth al this?

2. *rel.* = WHENCE 3, 4.

c 1475 *Partenay* 5489 Where-hens thay shull noght depart veryly Fro thys vnto the day of Iugement. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* II. 84 b, Not after the fleshe onely (wherhens in dede the begynnyng of this saluacion hath proceded). 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 27 But wherehence soeuer the name is deriued, this is moste assured, that of all other birds of pray, the Falcon is most excellent. 1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 321/2 Dust of the earth .. Wherehence we came, and whereunto we must. 1611 COTGR. *Cruditiés* 448 This part of the country..was .. inhabited by a kinde of people called Triboces, .. wherehence it was called *Tribocum regio*. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* vii. 5 God will lay them in the slimy valleyes,..wherehence also they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath.

Wherein (hwēriːn), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + IN *prep.* Cf. Du. *waarin*, G. *worin*, MSw. *hvarinne*, Sw. *vari*, Da. *hvori*.]

I. Interrogative. **1.** In what (thing, matter, respect, etc.)?

In quot. 1600 = in what dress? (IN *prep.* 6.)

For the distinction between the use in dependent clauses and the relative use, cf. WHAT A. I.** note.

c 1250 *Hali Meid.* 39 Hare confort & hare delit, hwerin is hit? *c* 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 46 Cleikys wryte, off gret and smal, Her namys and naturys, and qwere-in thei noy be kend natural. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 289 To shewe wherin this..prynces may wel be lykened..vnto the blessyd woman Martha. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xxii. 27 His rayment is his onely couerynge of his skynne: wherin he slepeth. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 234 How look'd he? Wherein went he? 1611 *Bible* Isa. ii. 22 Wherein is hee to be accounted of? 1671 MILTON *Samson* 564 To what can I be useful, wherein serve My Nation? 1728 LAW *Serious C.* x, Wherein does the sinfulness of this behaviour consist? 1850 M'COSH *Div. Govt.* I. iii. (1874) 60 It is not needful to show wherein the weakness of this theory lies. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, Oh, Britannicus! wherein have we offended?

II. Relative. **2.** In which (place, material thing, writing, etc.); where.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 26 A felde whare in bawme growes apon smale brusches. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* iv, A grete purse wherin were a thousand Crownes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxv. 39 b/2 The cytie..was destroyed, and the churches of godde wherin that god was honoured. *c* 1600 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 14 Anie latin word, quharein now we sound *c* as *s*. 1634 MILTON *Comus* ... Stay the cloudy Ebon chair, Wherein thou rid'st

Archit. (ed. 4) 1027 A species of building wherein the faces of the stones are..picked with the point of a hammer. 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Childr.* ii, Peering keenly into the shadow wherein she stood.

(*b*) with ellipsis of antecedent: cf. WHEREWITH 2 b.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 99 The world is made as much for stirring in its kind, as any share of it, if it had but a wherein to stir.

b. In, at, during, or in the course of which (time).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxxix. [xc.] 15 The yeares wherin we haue suffred aduersite. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Ded., We liue in these dales wherein euels raigneth. 1629 MILTON

Nativity l, This is the Month, and this the happy morn Wherin the Son of Heav'ns eternal King..Our great redemption from above did bring. 1733 Berkeley *Th. Vision Vind.* § 70 In an Age wherein we bear so much of Thinking and Reasoning. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. i. 31 Length of days Wherein to act the deeds which are the stewards Of their revenue.

3. In which (matter, fact, action, condition, etc.); in respect of which.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 88 He hab god þis þat he moost lufiþ, and wer in he tristiþ, as in God. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* cli. 105 þies er sophyms & subtelties, whare-in I wastis all my dayes. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xi. 22 He taketh from him his harnes wherin he trusted. 1611 *Bible* Luke i. 4 That thou mightest know the certainetie of those things wherein thou hast bene instructed. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 33. ¶1 Poor Daphne was seldom submitted to in a Debate wherein she was concerned. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* I. 265 A very sharp action ensued, wherein..the Athenians got the better. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* v. ii. 205 Whate'er this be wherein you were aggrieved. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* xiv, There began a round of pleasure for Julia wherein she was the central figure.

(*b*) *ellipt.* or as *comp. rel.* = in that respect in which; that one, something) in which.

1530 Shaks. *Mids. N* III ii. 179 Wherein it doth impaire the seeing sense, It pales the hearing double recompence. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlvi. § 2 There is wherein to exercise patience. 1628 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 30 Your Wisdome will supply it, wherein it is defectiue. 1728 H. Home *Ducls. Crt. Sess. 1710–28* To Rdr., No Decision is taken Notice of, but wherein some new Point is established. 1894 *Forum* (N. Y.) Oct. 248 This is wherein a bracing climate..accounts for much with the New Englanders.

4. Into which: = Whereinto 1.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxiii. 81 A coufre wherin that men shal put pryue thynges. 1526 Tindale *John* vi. 22 There was none other shyppe there save that won wher in his disciples were entred. 1583 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II x. 44 We came to an anker very nigh the castle, wherin when our patrone would followe vs [etc.].

†**Where,inne**, *adv. Obs.* [f. Where 15 + Inne, Inne. In later instances perh. only a variant spelling of *wherein*]

1. *interrog.* = prec. 1.

1382 Wyclif *Matt.* v. 13 3if the salt shal vanyshe awey, wherynne shal it be saltid? *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 7208 (Trin.) Til she þe sope made him say Wher ynne al his strengþe lay.

2. *rel.* = prec. 2, 3, 4.

c 1275 Lay. 26336 Ear hii come ride anon to þe tealdes dore war ine was þe caisere. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5026 An chirche of sein Martin ,War inne me seolde gudes seruise do. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Þis zenne is þe dyeules panne of helle, huerinne he makeþ his frliinges. *Ibid.* 109 Þe þridde bene huerinne we byddeþ oure uader of heuene þet his wyl by ydo. *Ibid.* 178 Uor þe zennes ueniale huerine me ualþ ofte. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 475 Þou hast not wereynne to doo suche a 3ifte, for þyn soule is ful of covetise. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 38 Þis es þe rihte gate whareinne þu salle life.

Where,insoe'ver, *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Wherein + Soever.] In whatever matter, respect, etc.

1526 Tindale 2 *Cor.* xi. 21 Wherin soever eny man dare be bolde..I dare be bolde also. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* Exhortation, To examine your lyues.. and wherinsoeuer ye shall perceyue your selues to haue offended, ..there bewaile your owne synful lyues. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 456 That their own person, whereinsoever it consists, shall be made accountable for the actions performed by it in this life. 1845 Keble in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 472 The Impression..of its being my own fault, not theirs, wherein-soever I am found wanting. 1870 Myers *Poems* 56 Whereinsoever breath may rise and die Their generations follow on.

†**Where,intil**, *adv. Sc. Obs.* In 6–7 quha(i)r-. [f. Where 15 + Intill.] Wherein.

1516 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 36/2 For ye aurty of oure Soveranis person quharintill we confess we aboue all utheris bundin & obliat. 1567 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks*

wers (1855).

Whereinto (hwēər,intū'. hweər,intʊ), *adv. arch.* [f. Where 15 + Into.]

1. Into which.

1539 *Bible* (Great) John vi. 22 None other shyp..saue that one wher into his disciples were entred. 1569 Golding tr. *Heminge's Postill* Ded. a vij b, The death wherinto all mankynde was falne. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 211 Proverbs, and Apophthegmes, whereinto a great deale of wisedome is abridged. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 9 They find..some things which they call by these Names, to be that whereinto Bodies are dissolved. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 519 Voluntary agents..can.. change the course whereinto bodies had been thrown by impulse. 1865 Chr. Rossetti *Memory* II. i, I have a room whereinto no one enters Save I myself alone.

†2. In which (cf. Into 22). *Sc. Obs.*

1560 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 63 Ane bulk, quhairinto was contenit, that thair sould be in this realme tueif superattendentis.

†**Whereinto, -mide**, *adv. Obs.* [f. Where 15 + Mid *prep* 1, Mide. Cf. Du. *waarmede*, MSw. *hvarmädh*, Sw. *varmed*, Da. *hvormed*.] With which, by means of which, wherewith.

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 25 Þa he næfde hwær-mid he hyt agulde. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Nah ich waremide leden mi lif i þisse worlde. *c* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 274 Nothing he ne founde..Wermide his honger aquenche mitte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 266 Þe toknen of þe passion he heþ ine his bodye, huermyde he ous boate.

Whereness (hwēə'nės). [f. Where + -ness; cf. Hereness, Thereness.] The condition, quality, or fact of being where it is; position, situation, location, *ubi* (as an attribute of something, or *vaguely* of things generally).

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 43 It would crack my brain to find so many whernesses there, to stow each of them in. 1702 Grew *Cosmol.* I. iii. 11 A Point..hath no Dimensions, but only a Whereness. 1733 Watts *Philos. Ess.* VI. v. (1734) 165 The *Ubi* or Whereness of a Spirit. *a* 1842 Southey *Doctor* cxcii. (1848) 509, I..can never be lost till I get out of Whereness itself into Nowhere. 1887 *Mind* Jan 18 Any special whereness or thereness. 1895 G. Macdonald *Lilith* iii, You know nothing about whereness.

Wherenigh: see Where 15.

Whereof (hwēərǫ'v), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + Of *prep.* Cf. (M.)Sw. *hvaraf*, Da. *hvoraf*; Du. *waarvan*.]

I. *Interrogative.* Of what.

1. †a. in various obsolete senses of Of: *esp.* From what source, whence; to what purpose, what . . for; for what reason, wherefore.

c 1200 Ormin 2931 He sahh þatt 3ho wiþþ childe wass, & nisste he nohht whæroffe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3530 Hu he sulen maken De tabernacle, and wor-of taken De gold, and silluer. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9687 Quar-of serues ani a-riue Of sothfastnes, or of iustise, Bot for to yeme þe pes in land. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 283 in *26 Pol. Poems* 130 Wherof than shulde I presume To be hygh-herted or lyghtly wroth? 1528 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 273/2 Wherof shal reason serue if man had no power of himself towarde the direccion of his own workes? 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 19 *marg.*, Manipulares whereof so called.

b. in various current senses of Of.

c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 64 Where-of is mad al mankynde? *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 150 Whare off þe wall es made, can na man tell. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 71, I not what to asken, ne wherof for to speke. 15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 310 Thus wait I nocht quhairof to wryte. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 4 What stuffe 'tis made of, whereof it is borne, I am to learne. 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 312 Now Gods that we adore, Whereof comes this? 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 64 To know..how this World ..first began, When, and whereof created. 1755 Johnson s.v., Whereof was the house built?

II. *Relative.* Of which.

2. From or out of which (as source or origin, in the way of result or consequence, liberation or privation, etc.), whence (Of I–III).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 12 Auh hwarse wummon lineð oðer mon bi him one..of þincges wiðuten hwarof scandle ne kume, nis nout muche strencðe. *c* 1275 Lay. 26090 Telle of þine cunne war of þou hart ispronge. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 60 A cours of kynde wher-of we comen alle. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* ccix. 305 The holy sepulcre where he laye deed in, and out wherof he aroos fro deth to lyf. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 96 b, [Polygala] hath sede beasyde euery lefe, wherof it is called the male. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* lv. 5 The ruite quhair of I did spring. 1611 *Bible* Deut. xxviii. 27 The itch, wherof thou canst not bee healed. 1613 W. Cowper *Holy Alph.* 236 Wherof we learn, that..if when we haue fallen, we rise & repent, it is euer to be imputed to God that teacheth vs. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 259/2 By Avoir-du-pois Weight is weighed..all things whereof comes waste.

b. Of which material substance (Of VII).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 368 Þe mater of be four elements..Quar of was serenes siben scapen. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 49 That matter whereof Kernels are made. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 10 These and al other diphthonges I wald counsel the teacheres not to name be the vouales quherof they are maed. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 518 Mineral and Stone, Whereof to found thir Engins. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 107 The pre-existent..matter whereof bodies are formed.

3. For, by reason of, because of, or on account of which; wherefore (Of 13, 14). Chiefly in constructional dependence on certain classes of words.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 80 b, Send .iiij.i. chosene knigttes..to seon were he be sik ware of he soined him of sik bedde. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2, I knowe wele that I haue failled..yow,..wherof I beseke yow of grace and mercy. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xi, [He] oughte to doo good.. wherof other may preyse hym. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 106 He knewe well that they were of his faders folke. Werof he was full sory for it. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxii. 215 Huon gaue her a ryche gyft, wherof humbly she thanked hym. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. cxxvi. 3 The Lorde hath done greate thynges for vs all ready, wherof we reioyse. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 139 The Feauer, whereof all our power is sicke. 1618 *Southampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1907) III. 544 The wall..is much impared & verye daungerous whereof wee desier the same to be amendyd verye speedelye.

4. By means of which, with which, whereby, wherewith (Of VI). *Obs.* or *rare arch.* exc. with *full*, etc. (= of which).

Also with ellipsis of antecedent as obj. of a vb.: = that by which, that with which: cf. Wherewith 2 b, Herewithal 2 b.

1340 *Ayenb.* 119 Þise byeþ þe graces huer-of be wes al uol. 1377 [see Wherby 2]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 For þe whilk land ilke a gude Cristen man þat may, and has wharoff, suld enforce him for to conquere oure right heritage. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 3e hadden ynogh wherof to haue fed me. 1583 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxi. 154 [They] kept their wyues..vnder lock and key, for feare least they should gette of theyr neyghbours, whereof sometymes theyr iealous husbandes could not furnish them. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* III. iv, Borgia's wine, Whereof his sire..was poyson'd. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 194 Dry vp thy Marrowes, Vines, and Plough-torne Leas, Whereof ingratefull man..greases his pure mindc.

5. About or concerning which; in regard to or in respect of which (Of VIII, IX, XI).

In quot. *c* 1400 *ellipt.* or as *comp. rel.* = in that in respect of which.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16024 Als it in noe flod be-fell, Quare of I sal yow siben tell. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2211 Where of that thou be vertuous, Ne be not straunge ne daungerous. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xvii. 19 Thys newe doctrine wher off thou speakest. 1560 T. Wilson *Rhet.* Prol. to Rdr., That I was in farther perill, then wherof I was aware. 1583 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 19 b, He had vnderstanding, that the Frigate..was of Malta, whereof he thought very straunge. 1611 *Bible* 1 John iv. 3 This is that spirit of Antichrist, whereof you haue heard, that it should come. 1678 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 408 We shall now shortly come to a good issue. Whereof therefore you may please to advertise your worthy Society. 1742 H. Walpole

precious gifts..Whereof not e'en in dreams they could have thought.

6. Of which, in *objective* senses (Of X).

1469 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 50 In wittenesse qwherof I haue set to myn seele. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. To Rdr., Whereof I geue to the godly reders a new profe in this setting fourth of this boke. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 880 Like one that spies an adder,..iust in his way, The feare whereof doth make him shake, & shudder. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 18 In dispensing whereof, he was guided more by the rules of Appetite, than of Judgement. 1676 Ray *Corr.* (1848) 123 Reputation (to the vanity of any affectation whereof I desire to be wholly mortified). 1827 Hood *Plea Mids. Fairies* xxxv, We be the handmaids of the Spring, In sign whereof, May .. Hath wrought her samplers on our gauzy wing.

7. Of which or whom, in *partitive* sense (Of XIII).

Also with ellipsis of antecedent as obj. of a vb.: = some or something of which (Of 45).

c 1390 in *Kel. Ant.* II. 54 To han wherof to spenden on these myraclis. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 473, xiij. spones, wherof oon is gilt, weiyng xvij. unces. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* iii. 11 Hast thou not eaten of the tre, wherof I commaunded the, yᵗ thou shuldest not eate? 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. ii. 11 Edwards seuen sonnes (whereof thy selfe art one). 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 38 The greene sowre Ringlets ..Whereof the Ewe not bites. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 584 Lethe the River of Oblivion.., whereof who drinks, Forthwith his former state and being forgets. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. vii, Civil Wars, the last whereof was happily put an end to by this Prince's Grandfather. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* lxix, I presume that you have many titles, whereof some are more grateful to your ears than others. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, The two bottles: whereof one held Scotch ale and the other rum.

8. Of which, in *possessive* and related senses (Of XIV).

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4380 Þe faire florysche filds of floures & of herbys, Quare-of þe breth as of bawme blawis in oure noone. 1554 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xvii. 43 By reason wherof we affirm Purgatory..to be the Doctrin of Antichrist. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* xxviii. 72 You shal seke the hart in heaths and broomie places, wherof they then delight to crop the flowers and toppes. 1662 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 23 Hodmin. hath one street..on the South side whereof it hath a great high hill. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 219 In the eyes of those tenants whereof he had assumed to be protector. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xviii, Dangerous sickness, the issue wherof is in the will of Heaven. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxxiii, All that work for your grandfather whereof you now sweetly reap the benefit.

†9. To which, whereto (Of 58). *Obs. rare*—¹.

1659 Leak *Waterworks.* 25 Let there be a water wheel to the Axtree, whereof let there be fastned a Wheel of thirty six Teeth or more.

Hence †**Where-o'ffen** *adv.*, in quot. in sense 5.

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxvii. 11 Where-offen they spoken ful pleyn.

Whereon (hweərǫ'n), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + On *prep.* Cf. Du. *waaraan*, G. *woran*.]

I. 1. *Interrogative.* On what?

c 1205 Lay 15516 Ne milhten heo nauere finden..whær on hit weore ilong. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1310 Do wurð Se child witter and war Dat Sor sal offrende ben don, Oc ne wiste he quuat, ne quor-on. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 268 Quare-on muse 3e sa mekill, maister? 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 59 Tell me whereon the likelihood depends? 1602 — *Ham.* III. iv. 124 Whereon do you looke? 1611 *Bible* 2 Chron. xxxii. 10 Whereon doe ye trust, that yee abide in the siege in Ierusalem? 1755 Johnson s. v., Whereon did he sit?

II. *Relative.* On which. 2. Of local position (On *prep.* 1–4).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16762+116 Til our lord in erth so mikel was not leued, Whar on þat he miȝt rest on is wery heued. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xl. 48 A stane wharon oure Lord satt and prechad. *a* 1508 Dunbar *Twa Maryit Wemen* 5 Ane gudlie grene garth,..Hegelt..with hawthorne treis; Quhairon ane bird..birst out hir notis. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Exod. iii. 5 Yᵉ place whereon thou stondest is holy grounde. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 164 A horse whereon the Governor doth ride. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 506 He [sc. the Serpent] lick'd the ground whereon she trod. 1822 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xlix, On yon long level plain, at distance crown'd With crags, whereon those Moorish turrets rest. 1896 A. Morrison *Child Jago* xiv, The ground was bought whereon should be built a church.

3. Of time, esp. with antecedent *day* (On *prep.* 6).

1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* h vj, The astrologians estiming ye haill varietels of ye change to tak end in 19 yeres and returne yairefter to ye same dayes quhairon yai fell before. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 156 On that day at noone, whereon he sayes, I shall yeeld vp my Crowne. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 238 Vpon eight seuerall daies of the yeere besides, whereon the Meores feastes are solemnized. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* v. xxxvii, The eve of that great day Whereon the many nations..Decreed to hold a sacred

Festival. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Electra* 278 That fatal day whereon Our father by her treachery she slew.

4. Of immediately subsequent or consequent action (On *prep.* 7). Now more usually Whereupon (sense 4).

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 82 Your Highnesse..strooke me..Whereon (as an Offender to your Father) I..did commit you. 1688 Fountainhall *Hist. Obs.* (Bannatyne Club) 146 He..had very near shot Douglas himselfe dead, had not the Whig's carabine misgiven, whereon Douglas pistoled him presently. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* iii, Whereon she curled up her lip. 1883-94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxi, Whereon she quickly led him down on earth, And show'd him Psyche.

5. Of motion or direction to or towards (On *prep.* 14–16): Onto which.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1896 Noe..Lete vte a doue þat tok hir flight And fand na sted quare-on to light. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 310 Ane skaffald quhairon they pat this innocent man. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 897 He..will therein set His triple-colour'd Bow, whereon to look And call to mind his Cov'nant. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Glass*, The Table, whereon the Glass is to be run, is of Pot Metal. 1800 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy, Spring* 259 The oaken shelf whereon 'tis laid.

6. In reference to the object of an action, feeling, etc., and in various constructional uses (On *prep.* 20–22, 28).

1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Verst be þe heauede, hueran me zet ofte grat cost. 1526 Tindale *John* iv. 38, I sent you to repe that wheron ye bestowed no laboure. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 47 To thinke, that you haue ought but Talbots shadow, Whereon to practise your seueritie. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 3 If the string whereon he striketh chaunce to be vncapable of harmonie. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. i. 2 If you shall chance..to visit Bohemia, on the like occasion whereon my seruices are now on-foot. 1782 Cowper *Conversat.* 676 Fly-blown flesh whereon the maggot feeds. 1821 Shelley *Ginevra* 193 A corpse whereon A vulture has just feasted. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxi, I take the grasses of the grave, And make them pipes whereon to blow.

†**7.** Of which, whereof (On *prep.* 27). *Obs.*

c 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 48 To declare her greefe of the gret offence To theym done by Eolus, wheron they
§ Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. ccxxxiv. [ccxxx.]
ll sycke, wheron he dyed. 1583 Stocker
C. III. 112 No milke to be solde, whereon
butter might be made. 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* Medit. 17 The parts, whereon the World consists.

Whereout (hwe·raut), *adv. arch.* [f. Where 15 + Out *adv.* Cf. Du. *waaruit*, G. *woraus.*] Out of which, out from which (in various senses: see Out *adv.* and Out of).

1340 *Ayenb.* 248 Lottes wyf lokede behinde hire þe cite þet bernde, huerout hi wes iguo. 1375 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 132/1 Þe tre of mercy..Where out renep oyle of lyf. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 428 He hath betrapped me wythin his gynnes whereoute I can not scape. 1535 Coverdale *Micah* ii. 3, I deuyned a plage, whereout ye shal not plucke youre neckes. 1578 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 300 In the whole — lxvij^{li} ij^{s}. whereout abate vj^{li}. viij^{s}. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 245 The very breach, where-out Hectors great spirit flaw. 1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* VII. 75, I have not whereout to frame a History. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 615 The general good becomes the root whereout all our schemes and contrivances..are to branch. 1885 Tennyson *Anc. Sage* 13 The heavens Whereby the cloud was moulded, and whereout The cloud descended.

†**b.** From which, whence (as an inference). *Obs.*

1569 J. Rogers *Glasse Godly Love* (New Shaks. Soc.) 179 The wife must bee obediente vnto her husband, as vnto Christ himselfe; whereout it foloweth, that the saide obedience extendeth not vnto any wickednesse or euilll. *a* 1626 W. Sclater *Exp. 4th Ch. Rom.* (1630) 92 The end was, that he might be Father of Believers in both people: whereout amounts the conclusion intended.

†**c.** Also *whereout of* (cf. Wherein to). *Obs.*

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 21 Yet did hee sauour of the earth, wherout of his bodie was taken, and wherin hee was placed to liue. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xxiv. 149 Being humbled in our selues by beholding the miseries whereout of we be waded. *c* 1632 in G. Barry *Orkney* (1805) 474 The Baillie of the paroch whereout of he has fled, shall cause him be jogged at the church.

Whereover, Whereround: see Where 15.

Whereso (hwē·sōu), *adv., conj. arch.* [ME. *whær swa, se*, representing OE. *swá hwér swá*: see Where and So *adv.* 17 d; Ormin's form **whæres** is influenced by ON. *hvars* = *hvar* where + *es* rel. particle.]

1. = Wherever 2, 5.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 War se me tiede þe erthe ne bar nan corn. *c* 1200 Ormin 1574, & whæres itt las. *Ibid.* 4874, & whærse icc amm bitwenenn menn Icc butedd amm & þutedd. *c* 1205 Lay. 9202 Ah where swa he foode enne gume; þe of Rome weore hider icumen, he lette smiten him of þet hæfde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1349 Þou maght til he aren quike, Hwore so he o werde aren. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1797 And red wher so þou be or elles songe, That þow be vnderstonde god beseche. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. vii. 99 Penne was ich a-redy .. to lacke myn neghebores, Here werkes, here wordes wher-so ich sete. *c* 1480 *Play Sacram.* 337 Syr Almyghty god mott be your gyde And glad yow where soo ye rest. *a* 1542 Wyatt *How to vse the court* 33 Stay him by the arme where so he walke or goo. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. 18 That short reuenge the man may ouertake, Where so he be. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 118 Since I find not one..Whereso I be or whithersoo I turn. 1870 W. Morris *Earthly Par.* IV. 163 Few indeed were there Who did not pray that well he still might fare Whereso he was. 1889 F. Thompson *Poems, Corridor Song* iv, Whereso you keep your state Heaven is pitched over you.

2. = Wherever 3.

c 1290 *Beket* 1363 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 145 To spene to him and alle his ȝware-so heo euere come. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1154 Quar-sa þou wendes in exile. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 118 Wher so yow lyst..Beren yours body in to euery place. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vi. 29 Ne would the Prince him euer foot forsake, Where so he went. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* IX. xii, I follow thee, where so thee list to goe. 1852 Neale *Med. Hymns* 134 On must the faithful warrior go Whereso the Chief precedeth.

3. = Wherever 4.

a 1225 Hwarse [see Wherfor 2]. *c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* 2 Whare-so I be, whare-so I sytt, what-so I doo. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3202 Wher so as her sort was set, The knot never was vnknet. *a* 1547 Surrey *Poems, 'Set me whereas the sonne'* 11 Thrawle, or at large, aliue whereso I dwell; Sike, or in healthe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 722 Hee oft Frequented their Assemblies, whereso met. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* Prol. 89 To seek your own land, whereso that may be.

†**4.** = Where 1 b. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 8436 (Gött.) Þe kind of thinges lered he, Bath of tres and grimes fele, Quilk war þair vertus lele ..Quer-so þai grew in wode or playn.

Wheresoever (hwē·sōue·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Now *formal* or *arch.* Also *poet.* **wheresoe'er** (-ē·ɹ); **-ere, -e're**; also 4–5 *contr.* **wher(e)sere.** [f. Where(so + Ever; cf. Soever.]

1. = Wherever 2, 5.

13.. *Cursor M.* 8931 (Gött.) Bot quar-sua-euer [*Cott.* quar-sum-euer] þis tre lay, God schued þar-on his milites ay. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 644 Quere-so-euer þys mon in melly was stad, His þro þost was in þat, þurȝ alle oþer þyngez. .. *Bk. Curtayse* 105 in *Babees Bk.* 302 Where-sere þou sitt at mete in borde, Avoide þe cat. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxvi. 13 Wheresoever this gospell shalbe preached.., there shall also thys thatt she hath done, be told for a memoriall of her. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 35 We worschipe Christ him Selffe and his Sancts, quhairsoewir thay ar repræsentit vnto ws be thair images. 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 79 Conquerours, who leave behind Nothing but ruin wheresoe're they rove. 1733 Watts *Philos. Ess.* I. x. (1734) 35 Wheresoever Body is, there Space is not. 1899 Ruskin *Two Paths* i. § 23 Wheresoever the search after truth begins, there life begins. 1890 Bridges *Shorter Poems* IV. xxv, But wheresoe'er he take his way, He killeth our delight.

b. *elipt.* = Wherever 2 b.

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) H j b, Meeting in the market place or wheresoever anye friende. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. § 7 The person of Christ is whole, perfect God and perfect man wheresoeuer. 1633 J. Done *Hist. Septuagint* 58 In all the Treasors, neyther in all the Cabinets, or other wheresoeuer, was not to bee found any thing so rich.

2. = Wherever 3.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Hall.) 431 Ne helpyth him nothyng whersere he wynde. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2215 And whor so euer þai gang o-boute, þe ȝonger sal þe elder loute. 1535 Coverdale *Mark* xiv. 14 Where so euer he goeth in, there saye ye to the good man of the house [etc.]. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 77 And wheresoere we went, like Iunos Swans, Still we went coupled and inseperable. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 1124 This way and that his winding Course he bends; And wheresoe're she turns, her Steps attends. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 134 ¶ 6 [She] still goes on laying waste wheresoever she comes. 1818 Shelley *Rugan. Hills* 30 Wander wheresoe'er he may. 1865 Tennyson *Captain* 20 He..Hoped to make the name Of his vessel great in story, Wheresoe'er he came.

3. = Wherever 4.

a 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* etc. 64 Hit is to tyne [= tyþe]..Off hey, where-sere hit growes. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 759 The nixt vacant..That hapnis in France, quhair sa euer it fall...I gif the heir heritabilly. 1573 D. P. *Cert. Rules Geog.* A iv, Where so euer you are, imagine a poynt or pricke directly ouer your head, which is called Zenith. 1648 Jane *Lost Sheepe* 267 Wheresoere they are, or whatsoeuer doing, they soe behaue themselues, as if with Saint Hierome, they heard the sound of the Archangells trump. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxx, Wulf, too, had gone to his own place, wheresoever that may be.

†**Wheresome,** *adv., conj. Obs.* [f. Where + -some^{3}, Sum *rel. adv.* 2.] = Wherever.

c 1200 Ormin 6411 Sone summ ȝe findenn himm, Whær summ he beoþ onn eorþe, Wiþþ ȝure maddmess lakeþþ himm. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18057 Þat ilk tung quar-sum þai war, Til ilk lede þai gaf ansuar. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 30 On ilka syde wharesum þai yede.

Wheresomever (hwē·səʊmē·vəɹ), *adv., conj. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Where + Somever.]

1. = Wherever 2, 2 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8931 Bot quar-sum-euer þis tre lai, Godd sceud þar-on his mightes ai. 1452 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 131/1 All and sindri my landis..within the realme of Scotland quharesumeuer. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xvi, Oo Hys grete wynges..that bare hym..hyghe and lowe, where someuere he wolde be. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxvi. 275 And take there your lodgys tofore them wheresomeuer it playse you. 1522 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* II. i. (1893) 179 Wheresomeuer we be in this worlde, we be as pylgryms and straungers. 1629 J. Williams *Serm. Apparell* (1630) 30 The soules house is there, wheresomeuer it worketh.

2. = Wherever 3.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. vi. 221 Where someuer ye goo I wylle folowe you. 1502 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 136 Wheresomeuer it shuld please the king to sende theym. *a* 1590 Greene *Alphonsus* I. ii, Arragon, Who..Doth play the diuell where some ere he comes.

3. = Wherever 4.

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 21 Wheresomeuer one dye the weye to the other warde, it alle like. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 533 Mawgye hȳ whosomeuer toward wheresomeuer he went. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 7 Would I were with him, wheresomeere hee is.

†**Wherethorough,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Where 15 + Thorough *prep.*] = next.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Þeo þet dronc eni drunch, oðer el þing dude hwarðuruh no childe ne schulde beon of hire istreoned. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1393 Echman paide a peni,..War þoru he wuste hou moni men in al þe worlde were. *Ibid.* 2463 Tounes grete & heye Ware þoru him & is men in vair wariaon he brozte. *Ibid.* 7493 He nadde no ——e war þoru be seodde an drope blod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6446 (Cott.) Ietro gaue him counsail Vnder bailfis for to sett, Quar thoru in right þai suld be gett. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 984 (Fairf.) Quen he con breke þe comaundement Quar þorow his cospringe was shent. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* liii. 234 (Harl. MS.) And thenne yaf him medesyne, wherthorowe he was hole. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 45 Hit happed on a day her chapelein was sike that he might not synge, wherthorugh she must go home withoute masse. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. xxxviii. 475 A posterne where thorou he shold flee. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII* c. 34 § 10 Offices and inquisicions dailly be founde..wherethorough suche Maners..be seased into the Kinges handes. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 80 The Authors of these new toyes, wherthorow they offended, shalbe giltie of their deathes. 1607 Speed *England* X. § 2 The ayre..is cleansed..by the Billowes that ever worke from off her environing Seas, where-thorow it becommeth pure and subtill.

Wherethrough (hwe·ɪθrʊ·), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + Through *prep.* Cf. Du. *waardoor*, G. *wodurch.*] Through which (in various senses of Through *prep.*).

1. In reference to movement or direction in space, etc., or to duration in time (Through *prep.* 1–4).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 170 Veire weles .. þwar þorȝ me mai wende Fram þe on ende of engelond vorþ to þe oþer ende. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) viii. 30 Him behoues passe by þe Reed See .. whare thurgh þe childer of Israel went drye fote. 1588 *Bible* (Bishops') Wisd. xix. 8 The drye earth appeared ..; Wherethrough all the people went that were defended with thy hande. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xxiv, Mine eyes haue drawne thy shape, and thine for me Are windowes to my brest, where-through the Sun Delights to peepe, to gaze therein on thee. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 281 The top is couered, and hath three holes, where-through they let the dead Christians fall downe. 1842 Tennyson *Ulysses* 19 All experience is an arch wherethro' Gleams that untravell'd world, whose margin fades For ever and for ever when I move. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 349 The many years Wherethrough thou waitedst. 1896 A. Morrison *Child Jage* v, A hole where-through a very small boy might squeeze.

2. In reference to agency or instrumentality (Through *prep.* 7): By means of which, whereby, wherewith. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

13.. *Northern Passion* I. 25/222 It es my fleas þat I sow gif, Whar thurgh ȝe may þe better lif. 13.. *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 284 We say a spirit enclosed he has, wharthurth all thinges he wate. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 128 Force of Powere, wher-throgh he may his reme kepe, mayntene, and defende. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIII. xviii. 638 Whanne shalle the holy vessel come by me where thurgh I shalle be blessid. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 1868/2 A great tempest .. wherethrough sixe houses in that towne were borne downe. 1678 R. Barclay *Apol. Quakers* xiii. § 2. 446 That..Spiritual Body of Christ; whereby, and wherethrough, he communicateth Life to Men.

3. In reference to reason or cause: By reason of which, on account of which, wherefore; in consequence of which, from which, whereby, whence (as result or inference); *rarely* referring to a person = by whom: cf. Through *prep.* 8. *arch.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 779 in *O. E. Misc.* 25 Amonges men a swete smel He let her of his holi spel, Wor-ðurȝ we muȝen folȝen him In-to his godcundnesse fin. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 236 Ne nis na þing hwerþurh monnes muchele madschipe wreðeð him wiþ mare. *c* 1300 *Beket* 839 Whar thurf me thingth that of nothing thu ne schalt ansuere nozt. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 170 Schir Ihon the Balleoll .. Assentyt till him, in all his will; Quhar-throuch fell eftir mekill lil. *Ibid.* VII. 89 Quhar-throu. 1390–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvii. 103 For lawchtir neir I brist; Quhairthrow I walknit of my trance. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 27 This was done without the chancellaris counsall quhair throw he was hichlie offendit. 1638 Penkethman *Artach.* I 3, There could be none found for money, where-through many poore people were constrained to eat Barks of Trees. 1829 Scott *Leg. Montrose* ii, Your Spaniard .. is a person altogether unparalleled in his own conceit, wherethrough he maketh not fit account of such foreign cavaliers of valour as are pleased to take service with him. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 7 Folk cried the name Of him wherethrough the weary struggle came.

Wheretill (hwe·ɪtɪ·l), *adv.* In later use *Sc.* [f. Where 15 + Till *prep.* Cf. (M)Sw. *hvartill*, Da. *hvortil.*]

1. *interrog.* †**a.** = next, 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7021 'Lauerdinges,' he said, 'sais me quartill Haf yee me sett?' *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 173 Þis ys þe ffygure of wys ypocras; where-tyll haue ȝe askyd me þerof?

b. To what place, whither.

1829 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 32 She tauld the friskie fairy thing Whairtill to flee on rapid wing.

2. *rel.* = next, 3.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxx, Though thy begynnyng hath bene retrograde, Be froward opposyt quhare till aspert, Now sall thai turn, and luken on the dert. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 56a How Carentius schew his Desyre to thir Twa Kingis, quhairtill thai grantit baith richt gladlie.

Whereto (hwe·ɪtʊ·), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + To *prep.* Cf. Du. *waartoe.*]

I. Interrogative.

1. To what? (in various senses of To *prep.*); in what direction, whither?

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24488 Quen i migh son warto þal tight, Al mi ileam can þal light, And mi mode a-mend. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 293 Whar-to so þal turn þair mode. *Ibid.* (prose) 38 þan sal man rede hir þe reule, þat sho may wite witerli whar-to sho salle halde hir. *c* 1420 in *26 Pol. Poems* 149 Wherto ye a man more lyke, Then to a floure that sprynygeth in may? 1484 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 152 Wherto thys schall growe I can nott saye. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 154/40 Wherto, *quorsum*. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 256 Lysander, whereto tendes all this? 1848 Emerson *Misc.* vii. 56 What is matter? Whence is it? and Whereto?

†2. [To *prep.* 8.] To what end? for what purpose? for what reason? wherefore? what.. for? *Obs.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 16 Hwerto schuld I tellen þe .. of ure cunde? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 464 Wan min erende is ide, Sholde ich bileue? nai: war to? 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxvi. 50 Jhesus seide to hym, Frend, wherto art thou comen? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 287 How sche that scharpe swerdes blad Receive scholde and do withal So as sche wot wherto it schal. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxii. 145 Qwhare to þan..graders þou þe ricches of þis werld? *c* 1420 *Pross Life Alex.* 46, I ame..sent vn-to þe fra kyng Alexander to wiete where to þou tariss to come till hym to gyffe hym batelle. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* xl. 311 Quhar to suld I her off lang process mak? 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* iv, What is that whiche thou berest on thy fyste and wher to is it [*sc.* a spere-hawk] good. 1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorbodue* iv. ii, We marueyle muche wherto this lingeryng staie Falles out so longe. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 633 Quhairto suld he come heir? 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iii. 46 Whereto serues mercy, But to confront the visage of Offence? 1790 Sheffer *Poems Sc. Dial.* 144 But whare-to did yu't, oman, lat me hear?

II. Relative.

3. To which (in various senses of To *prep.*).

1340 *Ayenb.* 169 Þeruore is þe seuende staþe of þise uirtue þe ilke þet oure mayster Iesu crist deþ þerto huerto þe filosofes ne mizte come. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxiii. 352 The sone of a maide hath not wherto he may lay his hede. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 82 b, The fruytes of the heuenly countre, wherto they go. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 21 This night I hold an old accustom'd Feast, Whereto I haue inuited many a Guest. 1602 — *Ham.* v. i. 234 That Lome (whereto he was conuerted). 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 308 Whereto th' Almighty answer'd, not displeas'd. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 356 The perfection whereto their natures are destined. 1810 Vince *Astron.* xxi. 230 A matter whereto I gave not all the attention requisite. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* XII. 162 The mast-step, whereto shall the cords be tied.

†b. In addition to or besides which (To *prep.* 15).

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 27 Quhairto, till deif þow wt tome clatter, Ar nane sic in the floit as echo.

†4. For which (purpose): cf. To *prep.* 8. *Obs.*

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* lv. 11 The worde also that commeth out of my mouth .. shal .. prospere in the thinge, wherto I sende it.

Hence **Wheretoever, Wheretosoever** *advbs.*, to whatever place, whithersoever. *rare.*

1609 *Bible* (Douay) *1 Sam.* xviii. 5 David also went forth to al thinges wheretosoever Saul sent him. 1635 Person *Varieties* I. 5 Because the Heavens, of all the parts of the World are most conspicuous, as that wheretoever we bend our eyes, being the most glorious Creature.

Whereunder (hwĕərʌ·ndəɹ), *adv. arch.* [f. Where 15 + Under *prep.* Cf. Du. *waarender*, Da. *hvorunder*, G. *worunter*.] Under which.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1348 Him thoght it raght fra erth til hell, Quare vnder he sagh his broþer abell. 1340 *Ayenb.* 221 Þe mayde marie made of spoushod hire mentel hueronder wolde by godes sone y-conceyued and y-bore. 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* II. D j b, Thus haue we heere what is done already, and what is it to come vnder this sixt trompet blowyng (where vnder we are now) which al belongeth to the second wo. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xv. lxii, Her amber tresses .. Where vnder loue himselfe in ambush placed. 1615 *Southampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1907) III. 493 He ought to shutt downe the Sciuce where vnder the water Runeth. 1627 W. Sclater *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1629) 162 The miserable bondage vnder sinne and Satan, wherevnder who groanes not? 1836 Landor *Pericles & Aspasia* I. xxiv. 49 The flowery bank of youth, whereunder runs the stream that passes irreversibly! 1888 'H. S. Merriman' *Yng. Mistley* x, Snowy froth whereunder lay the wise trout.

Whereuntil (hwĕərʌntɪ·l), *adv. dial.* [f. Where 15 + Until.] = next.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 493 Wee know where-vntill it doth amount. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, This victim, who is rescued from the horns of the altar, whereuntil she was fast bound by the chains of human law.

Whereunto (hwĕərʌntʊ·, -ʊntʊ), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + Unto.]

1. *interrog.* Unto what? †to what end? for what purpose? wherefore? = Whereto 1, 2.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxviii, Than said I thus, 'quharevnto lyve I langer?' 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* liv. 249 Alle they that ben here, knowe well wherunto the thynge is come. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xi. 16 But whearevnto shall y lyken this generacion? — *Acts* v. 24 When..the hye prestes herde these thynges, they doubted off them, where vnto this wolde growe. 1552 Latimer *Serm., St. Andrew's Day* (1562) 119 When Andrew hearde wherunto Christ was come, he forsoke his maister Iohn, and came to Christe. 1865 Pusey *Eirenicon* 174 Which, whereunto it may lead, one had rather not think.

2. *rel.* Unto which: = Whereto 3.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxix. 111 The operacyons and wodnesses of helle..wherunto she hath subdued and submytted herself. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xiii. 2 Seperat me Barnabas and Saul for the worke where vnto I have called them. *Ibid.* xxvii. 8 A place called Goode porte. Neye where vnto was a citte called Lasea. 1530 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 50 Decrees .. wherevnto the said Abbott was neuer partye. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Deut. iv. 26 The land, whereunto ye go ouer Iorden to possesse it. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 24 The Water of Storth is ane arme of the Sea, and a place quhairwnto the sey flowis and ebbis. 1622 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. vii. 13 With those Legions Which I haue spoke of whereunto your lewis Must lie suppliant. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. ii. 6 The omnisciency of God, whereunto there is nothing concealable. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* iv. (1690) 76 It is also material to examin, how many of them do get more than they spend, and how many less. In order whereunto it is to be considered, that [etc.]. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 128 Your family-vault, ..whereunto even my Harry must finally adjourn. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* xiv. 302 The too sudden variations of temperature whereunto the glass would be subjected. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* xxxiii. (1860) 464 Unlike as was his outward appearance to that whereunto their eyes were accustomed. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 552 The lower valve of the shell being fixed immediately to the rock whereunto the animal is attached.

Whereup (hwɛərʌ·p), *adv.* (*conj.*) *rare.* [f. Where 15 + Up *prep.*]

†1. = Whereupon 2, 3 b. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Hy comþ doun of þe heze roche hueroppe hi ys yset. 1485 *Paston Lett.* I. 21 Wher up. ..I prey yow hertily to sette al these matieres in continuaunce.

2. Up which; upwards along which.

1880 *Athenæum* 27 Apr. 502/3 The spiral track Whereup ..flash perfect Souls. 1916 H. E. G. Rope *Relig. Ancilla* 29 The never-ending ranks of vine .. Whereup the purple haze of even climbs.

Whereupon (hwĕərʌpɒ·n), *adv.* Now *arch.* or *formal* exc. in sense 4. [f. Where 15 + Upon.]

I. 1. *Interrogative.* Upon what? = Whereon 1; †in early use = at what? about or concerning what? upon what ground, wherefore?

13.. *Cursor M.* 18774 (Gött.) God men of galile, Quar-apon sua wonder se? 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxviii. 6 Where wast thou, when I layed yᵉ foundacions of the earth? .. Where vpon stonde the pilers of it? 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* x. 183 So that I to him brought From out your campe some certain newes, & whervpon you thought, Whether you meant to take the sea, or to your tackle stand. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 42 The King hath sent to know The nature of your Griefes, and whereupon You coniure from the Brest of Ciuill Peace, Such bold Hostilitie. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 99 Neighbour Quickly (sayes bee) receaue those that are Ciuill; for (sayth hee) you are in an ill Name: now hee said so, I can tell whereupon. 1666 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 192 The sense of the nation's extreme necessity makes us exceeding tender whereupon to fasten our resolutions.

II. *Relative.* Upon which.

2. Of local position: = Whereon 2. (In first quot. *fig.*)

1390 Gower *Conf.* I 42, I thenke..speke of thing [*sc.* love] ..wherupon the worlde mot stonde, And hath don sithen it began. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 154 In þe myddes ..es a lytill hill, whare apon es a lytil palace. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 259 Godys son..hase not where apon his hede to rest. 1535 Coverdale *Judges* xvi. 26 The pilers wher vpon the house stondeth. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 521/1 *Ouum vrinum*, ..an addle egge, whereupon the hen sitteth not. *c* 1660 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 262 A small hill whereupon is built a strong castle. 1843 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 20 The site whereupon stood the Bastle.

†b. Over which, as superior. *Obs. rare*—1.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 97 Thys monastery of Syon, where vpon our lady is chyef lady & quyene.

3. Upon which as a basis of action, argument, etc., and in various constructional uses.

1521 Fisher *Serm. agst. Luther* I. Wks. (1876) 313, .iij. great groundes wher vpon Martyn dothe stable in maner all his articles. 1566 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 46 For payment of the sowmis quhairvpoun the samin [landis] lyis in wadset. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 55 In his death .. he fand the mercy of his God, whereupoun he ever exhorted all men to depend. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 214 Our king..hes, of ȝeirlie rentis, quhairvpon he royallie may sustenie his court. 1620 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* xvii. iv. 625 The text whereupon all this prophetesses words haue dependance. 1643 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 15, I haue at this place found a very concerning occasion wheyrvpon to renew my desyre. 1720 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 232 We declare that the not delivery herof .. shall be no..ground whereupon to reduce quarrell.

†b. (with clause as antecedent.) On which account, for which reason, wherefore; (of derivation or inference) from which, whence. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Hayt *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 80 Force is ane of the principale foundementis of bataill, quhareapon men suld wit that syndry folk..has the body rycht lytill, and ȝit thai have the hert and the curage grete. 1587 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 17 Panteron is a stone of all colours..wherevpon it is so named. 1612 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 763 One that will eyther push-on, or pluck-back, thy Businesse there: whereupon I command thee to open thy Affaire. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 137 It seemes a worke hanging in the Ayre, whereupon it is called Stoneheng vulgarly, and is reputed among Miracles. 1674 Playford *Skill Mus.* (ed. 7) I. xi. 46 In the which [*sc.* Airy Musicks]..that liveliness of Singing is in that place to be omitted, and not any Passion to be used which savoureth of Languishment. Whereupon we see how necessary a certain judgment is for a Musician.

4. Upon (the occurrence or occasion of) which; immediately after and in consequence of which; and when that happened, or was done or said.

The chief current sense; resembling 3 b in having a clause or statement as antecedent, but expressing a different shade of meaning.

1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 27 The said the Kyng hade wreton to dyvers persones here quych hade promysed men, quer- I promysed a man. 1382 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. xiv. 7 ..ageine daunced before them: and pleased ..n [Tindale, Wherefor] he promised with an othe, to giue her whatsoeuer she would aske of him. 1834 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 121 Sultan Tohomac..assailed him, whereupon ensued a most bloody and furious battaile. 1727 De Foe *Engl. Tradesm.* ii. (ed. 2) 28 Last month I receiv'd my fortune..; whereupon I have taken a house in one of the principal streets of the town of ——. 1828 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 269 The lord of the manor..sold the lands to John Podger in fee, who..died two years after; whereupon the estate descended to his son Marmaduke. 1883 Swinburne *Misc.* (1886) 332 She assented on condition that the divorce could be lawfully effected without impeachment of her son's legitimacy; whereupon Lethington undertook .. that she should be rid of her husband without any prejudice to the child.

5. Upon the subject of which; about, as to, or concerning which. Now *rare.*

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lii. 4 Then they..shewyd hym there conclusyon where a pon they were agreyd. 1611 *Bible* Acts xxvi. 12, I persecuted them euen vnto strange cities. Whereupon [Tindale, About the which thynges; R.V. 1881 *margin*, On which errand], as I went to Damascus [etc.]. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 201, I did steere Toward this remedy, whereupon we are Now present heere together.

6. Of motion or direction towards something, etc.: = Whereon 5, 6.

1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Amos iv. 7 One piece was rained vpon, and the piece whereupon it rained not, withered. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xx. 6 An eye..Gilding the obiect where-vpon it gazeth. 1611 *Bible* Ezek. xxiv. 25 The desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds. 1640 tr. *Verderr's Rom. of Rom.* II. 22 This young Prince .. took infinite delight in the object of this picture, whereupon his eies were incessantly fixed.

Wherever (hwɛərɛ·vəɹ); contr. (*poet.*) **wher-e'er** (hwɛərēə·ɹ), *adv., conj.* Originally as two words (and so still in sense 1); subsequently often with hyphen, *where-ever* (*where-e'er*), etc.; now always in contracted spelling *wherever* (*where'er*), the final *e* of *where* coalescing with the initial *e* of *ever*. [f. Where + Ever *adv.* 8 d, e.]

1. *interrog.* An emphatic extension of *where?* implying perplexity or surprise. Now *colloq.*

More properly written as two words: see Ever *adv.* 8 d.

[971 *Blickl. Hom.* 167 Hwær ażylte he æfre on his ȝeȝerelan, se þe mid þon anum hræȝle wæs ȝeȝyrwed þe of ofslonde hærum awunden wæs?] *c* 1275 Lay. 26127 Þo hii þat heued iseȝen, sellich heom þohten ware euere onder heauene soch heued were ikenned. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portyngale* 625 'Seynt Mairre', seyd the chyld so fre, 'Wher euyr my jentyll squyer myght be, That I with me to wod browght?' 1864 T. A. Trollope *Beppo* III. vi, Where ever am I to find a girl that can pull me up out of my chair in the way you do? 1875 Parish *Sussex Dial.* s.v. *Mask*, Why! you're one mask! Wherever have you been? 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvii, Wherever did the cayenne come from?

2. *rel.* At (or to) any place at which.

Occas. introducing a subject-clause = any place at which; also with correlative *there, thither.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4672 Ioseph .. Did gader sariantz and squier..Quar-euer þat [*Gött.* Quare þat euer] þai funden were. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xvii. 37 Where euere the body schal be, also the eglis schulen be gederid to gidere thidur. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 67 Quhair evir we meit thairto my hand I hecht, To red thy rebald ryming with a rowt. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. iii. 141 Good Vncle helpe to order seuerall powres To Oxford, or where ere these Traitors are. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 423 P 2 Where-ever you are Damon appears also. 1756 Burney *Mem. Metastasio* I. 227 Wherever a great personage happens to be, will become the principal place. 1857 Pusey *Real Pres. Doctr. Engl. Ch.* iii. 325 Wherever our Lord and Saviour is, there He is to be adored. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxviii, Wherever there are Englishmen, working, fighting, or sporting, there are some of those families among them.

b. *elipt.* (with loss of relative force): At any place whatever, at some place or other. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 449 Not onely to the Sons of Abrahams Loines .. but to the Sons Of Abrahams Faith wherever through the world. 1671 — *P. R.* IV. 404 Our Saviour..Hungry and cold betook him to his rest, Wherever, under some concourse of shades Whose branching arms ..might shield..his shelter'd head.

3. To (or at) any place to which; whithersoever.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 741 Send me quhare-ewyr þu wil. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 2154 (Fairf.) Wiþ al þou sal be halden vile Quare-euer [*Cott.* Quarsa] þou comys in exile. *c* 145 þat was wont

a 1576 Lindesay (
Quhair evir he raid he was convoyit with ane thowsand horsmen. 1692 Prior *Ode Imit. Hor.* 2, Where-e'er old Rhine his fruitful Water turns. 1740 Gray *Let. to his Mother* 2 Apr., I desire you to give my duty to my father, and wherever else it is due. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 247 Wherever he came, the gentry flocked round him. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iii, 'Don't you want to go there?' 'Where, sir?' 'Where? Why, wherever you are going,' said the gentleman.

4. Introducing a qualifying (equivalent to conditional or disjunctive) dependent clause, often with verb in subjunctive: In (or to) whatever place; whether at one place or another; no matter where.

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1461 In worlde where ever he be bestedd, And he wyste of thys case, Hyddur he wolde take hys pase. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 99 Flye to my loue, where euer that she bee. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 170 Of other Creatures, as him pleases best, Wherever plac't, let him dispose. 1703 Earl Orrery *As you find it* II. ii. 28 Wherever they come from,..they have perform'd very well. 1772 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 45, I should not chuse to be farther removed from that blessed spot, where ere it be. 1844 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxii. 352 England claimed the right of visiting and searching merchant ships, to wh[illegible]atio belonging, whatever the [illegible] ever the destination. 1854 Mrs. Jameson *Comm.-pl. Bk.* 69

Unhappy that nation, wherever it may be, where the question is yet pending between servitude and civil war!

5. *gen.* or *fig.* In any case, condition, or circumstances in which (cf. WHERE 10 b).

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 87 *Phe.* Why I am sorry for thee gentle Siluius. *Sil.* Where euer sorrow is, reliefe would be. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* VI. 246 Wherever he hath receded from the Mosaick Account of that Earth, he hath...receded from Nature, and Matter of Fact. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* XX, For wherever there is genius there is pride. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 402 Wherever the state of the patient's strength is sufficient to undergo the process..., it ought frequently to be practised. 1884 FAIRBAIRN in *Congregationalist* Apr. 268 Wherever the laws of mechanics rule, necessity rules; wherever necessity rules, freedom is absent.

Wherewith (hwɛəɹwi·ð), *adv.* (*sb.*) Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + WITH *prep.*]

I. 1. *Interrogative.* With what?

c 1200 ORMIN 1718 & tiss me birrþ nu shæwenn ȝuw Whatt itt ȝuw mazz bitacnenn, & whærwiþþ itt mazz fesstnenn ȝuw Inn ȝure rihhte læfe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* Prol. 131 Wher with sholde he make his paiement If he ne vsed his sely Instrument? 1530 *Bible* (Great) Judges vi. 15 Oh Lord, wher with shall I saue Israel? 1557 *N. T.* (Genev.) Matt. v. 13 But if the salte haue lost his sauour wher with shal one salt? 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 264 Which with, O with, but with this I passion to say wherewith.

II. *Relative.* With which.

2. In instrumental and allied senses: By means of which; whereby.

Sometimes followed by *to* and inf. (see To *prep.* B. 26, and cf. b c below).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 585 Min handax..ȝware wiþ ich abbe geans & maniman aslawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5399 Now haue we noght ware-wit we mai Lenght our liue wit fra þis dal. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3835 Þe pape þe kays bers, Whar-with he bathe opens and spers. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 214 Sche..hath ynow wherwith to plese Of worldes good whom that hire liste. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. vii, He brake the cord wherwith he was bounden. 1526 TINDALE *Eph.* ii. 4 The greate love wherwith he loved vs. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vi. 17 Those honors..Wherewith your Maiestie loades our House. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* x, He gat water in a pan, Quherwith he slokend out the fyre. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 29 That royal robe of heroic verse wherewith he had clothed the ungrown limbs of limping..tragedy. 1904 J. T. FOWLER *Durh. Univ.* 5 Without even a shirt of his own wherewith to cover his body.

b. With ellipsis of antecedent, or as compound relative involving antecedent (cf. WHAT C. I.*): That, or something, with which; the means by which. (*a*) with following clause, usu. with *to* and inf.; (*b*) with ellipsis of following clause.

(*a*) *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 11 As gentille wimmen mest alle nu o worlde þat nabbeð hwerwiþ buggen ham brudgume. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 419/46 Me þinchez .. þe feste feble were Bote Men hadden ȝware-with þe wombe loye a-rere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 302 And bisily gan for the soules preye Of hem þat yaf hym wher with to scoleye. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6710, I wole..Telle how a man may begge at nede That hath not wherwith hym to fede. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* liv. 181 He had not wherwith to arme him. 1611 *Bible* Ps. cxix. 42 So shall I haue wherewith to answere him that reproacheth me. 1768 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lviii. 460 They will have wherewith to purchase the produce of other countries. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. iv, Here is wherewith to build the school. *a* 1891 R. W. BARBOUR *Thoughts* (1900) 80 Where is one to get wherewith to help another if not from the healed scars in himself?

(*b*) 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 317 Roberd þe ryfaler on *reddite* lokede, And for þer was nat wher-with he wepte ful sore. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCV. 99 They..taryed.. to refreashe theym..for they founde in that abbey well wherwith. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 21 Holde the candle to them that haue wherewyth, and wyll sette lustily to it.

c. = WHEREWITHAL 2 c, which is more usual.

(*a*) 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 99 A least bitling is made as much for cleaving, if it had but a wherewith to be cloven. 1876 SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* § 15. I. 19 Heavily taxed in providing the wherewith to meet excessive loss by radiation.

(*b*) 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Wherewi'*, property, estate; money.

3. With which as cause or occasion; in consequence of which; on account of or by reason of which, whereat; by the agency or effect of which, whereby.

c 1440 *Generydes* 3577 Where with the Sowdon was full wele apayde. 1561 WINJET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 67 In ony controuersie affirmit be scu, quharewith thai be offendit. 1691 in Fuller *Abel Redev.*, *Melancthon* 239 He fell into an Ague, wherewith in few dayes he dyed. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 346 The World will need such a good example, to reform the evil wherewith it abounds. 1814 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. x. 313 Every body that I see talks highly of your steady interest with the public, wherewith..I am pleased but not surprised. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* XXIII, I have far too much wherewith to reproach myself.

4. Along with or together with which; against which; in addition to or besides which.

14..*Ephyphanye* in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 123 Saf among we knele among the racke Wherewith the son was somtyme thi pleasance. 1611 *Bible* 2 Chron. XXXV. 21, I come not against thee this day, but against the house, wherewith I haue warre. 1698 EARL MONM. tr. *Perusta's Wars Cyprus* 82 To boot wherewith, he had secret instructions given him.

b. With which occurrence, act, etc.; whereat, whereupon, 'and with that'. *arch.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lvii. 193 As sone as the lady saw Geramme she knew him, wherwith she began to chaunge colours. 1573 *Bp. T. Cooper's Reg.* (Linc. Epise. Rec. 1912) 203 He gott her neck vnder his arme & with his leyshe wouldo have bound her wherwith she cried out. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 62 Yet after this he wils his hast, wherewith such speed she makes. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 187 We saw the monster stir and move,..wherewith we made hast from him. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Last Confess.* 133 Then all the blessed maidens..laughed up at once..Wherewith I woke.

Wherewithal (hwɛəɹwiðɔ̱·l), *adv.* (*sb.*) [f. WHERE 15 + WITHAL.]

I. 1. *Interrogative.* = prec. 1. *arch.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* CXVIII[I]. 9 Where withall shall a yonge man cleanse his ways? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. liij b, Where withal I beseche the..shall men bye or make prouysion for our cates? 1611 *Bible* Matt. vi. 31 Wherewithall shall wee be clothed? 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 96 He never was so hard run for money. Knew not wherewithal to pay his duties.

II. *Relative.*

2. = prec. 2. *arch.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. XXVII. 353 The iuyce of Aloë.. openeth the belly, in purging..humours, especially suche wherewithal the stomacke is burdened. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, V. i. 55 Northumberland, thou Ladder wherewithall The mounting Bullingbrooke ascends my Throne. 1615 WITHER *Shep. Hunt.* IV. E 5, The rest Wherewithall thy minde is blest. *a* 1673 HORTON *Expos. Ps. Lxiii.* 7 (1675) 590 He is not like the Egyptian Task-masters, which require brick, and give no straw wherewithal to make it. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VIII. III. 88 The..marks of his good-will and gratitude wherewithal they had been honoured. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXXI, Mrs. Miff has heard..that the lady hasn't got a sixpence wherewithal to bless herself. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 344 The love I had therefor was not so much above That wherewithal I loved the silver ring.

b. With ellipsis of antecedent, or as compound relative: = prec. 2 b. (*a*) followed by inf. with *to*; (*b*) with ellipsis of inf. (See also c.) *arch.*

(*a*) 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 93 If he haue not wherewithall to maintaine his estate. 1639 MILTON *Hirelings* 32 No people to pay him tithes, but his own children and servants, who had not wherewithall to pay him, but of his own. 1693 *Mem. Count Teckely* III. 66 Teckely being in the Neighbourhood, without having wherewithal to attempt any thing by force. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. I, When your ladyship's livery was stript off, he had not wherewithal to buy a coat. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* XXXI, They gave him what they had, and hulled him with every shot...He had not wherewithal to return the compliment.

(*b*) 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* I. ii, The charge is small charge, syr; I thanke God my father left me wherewithal. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. iii. 59 That Churchman Beares a bounteous minde indeed...His dewes fall euery where...*L. San.* He may, my Lord, H'as wherewithall. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* I. ii, My husband and I cannot live by Love, as they say; we must have wherewithal, as they say. 1730 RAMSAY *Fables* VI. 21 Them that wanted wherewitha', He dang them back. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xix, 'Here is wherewithal', said Martin.

c. Preceded by the definite (rarely the indefinite) article, which qualifies the omitted or implied antecedent: (*a*) followed by inf. with *to* = means by which, resource with which (*to do* something); (*b*) with ellipsis of inf. (chiefly *colloq.*), thus becoming a *sb.* = means, *esp.* pecuniary means; resource or supply (esp. money) needed for the purpose in view.

(*a*) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. VIII. P 2 There is a wherewithal to satisfy your craving. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* XII. 127 A..hope..that this day's post would have brought the wherewithal to build up new expectations. 1917 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 490 To supply him with the wherewithal to pay for the defence of the border.

(*b*) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. XII. P 13 How the devil does she mean that I should get the wherewithal? 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads & Battle-F.* 14 The design comprised a harbour for vessels carrying forty guns; but the wherewithal failed. 1890 BESANT *Demoniac* III, Our English girls, when they have got the wherewithal, do in the second generation easily assume the aristocratic manner and appearance.

† 3. = prec. 3. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 695 He forgot Diana, wherewithall she was very angry. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 83 The accents of the voice..made him conclude that they proceeded from a person very much afflicted: wherewithall he was so moved to pity, [etc.].

4. = prec. 4. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

1628 WITHER *Motto, Nec Cura* 193 A knowledge wherewithall He is prepar'd for whatsoe're may fall. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses* II. *P.'s Corr.*, With precisely the same complacency of conscience, wherewithal he contemplates the volume of discourses above-mentioned.

† b. = prec. 4 b. *Obs.*

a 1542 WYATT *Poems*, '*The longe love, that in my thought*' 9 Where with all, vntoo the herte forrest hee fleith. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 99 Wherewithall considering the..obligation wherein he was bound to her affection, he resolved to let her see how sensible he was of a benefit.

Wherewithout: see WHERE 15.

Wheritte, Wherk: see WHERRET, WORK.

Whark, dial. var. QUIRK.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Y 2 b, *Wharh* [is] a small and unlooked for turning in the Stone, Side, or Ore.

Wharken, dial. var. QUARKEN, to suffocate.

Wharl, etc.: see WHIRL, etc.

¶ **Whern**(e, error for *wherne*(, WHARVE *sb.*

1552 HULOET, *Wherne.* Loke in wharle. 1631 *A Conuertes' Gate Tongues* 98 [They] draw their whether it be with a reele, or with a spindle, and it whirne.

Wherne, obs. form of QUERN 1.

Wherpole, -pool, obs. ff. WHIRLPOOL.

Wherret (hwɛ·rɛt), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6 wheritte, whyrit, -rret, 6–8 whirrit, 6–9 whirret, 7 wherret, -it, 7–9 wherrit, 7– wherret. [? Echoic.] A sharp blow; esp. a box on the ear or slap on the face.

1577 KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 17 b, Thou fearst a pat on pate, or els a whirrit on the eare. 1581 RICH *Farewe.* (1846) 208 And with this up with his fiste, and gave Phylotus a sure wherritte on the eare. 1589 [? NASHE] *Martins Months Minde* Ep. Ded. A 2, I haue giuen them both now one Cuffe more: which albeit in truth bee but a whirret. 1621 MOLLE *Cameron. Liv. Libr.* v. ii. 324 He..gaue one of them such a whirret with his sword-hilte, that [etc.]. 1664 [J. SCUDAMORE] *Homer à la Mode* 25 She striking him two or three wherets O'th ears, tooke hold of's bunch of carrets. 1727 'S. BRUNT' *Voy. to Cacht.* 67, I returned the Compliment with a Wherret of my Fist, which knock'd him over. 1881 *Isle of Wight Glass.* s. v., I'll ghee thee a wherret in the chops.

fig. 1718 *Cases D'Auney's Wks.* 116 Let her Conduct be never so void of Offence, she cannot shun the Whirrits of their Malice.

b. *Comb.*: †**wherret-stopper**, a contrivance on a boat to prevent injury from collision, etc.

1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* IIii, Owners..shall Mark and Number..Boats, with plain Figures on the Linings on each side, just abaft the Wherrit-Stoppers of every Boat.

Wherret (hwɛ·rɛt), *v.* Now *rare.* [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To give a blow or slap to; †occas. *transf.* with the blow as object. Also *fig.*

1599 MINSHEU, *Cachetteder*, whirreted on the cheeke. 1678 LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.* II. s. v. *Pugnus*, To box or wherret one. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. vi. 59 Their most considerable Knocks had been..ierked and whirrited within the Curtines of his Sweet-heart. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Sept., The Whigs are in a rage about the peace, but we'll wherret them, I warrant. 1866 WHITTIER *Marg. Smith's Jrnl.* Prose Wks. 1889 I. 49 The Deacon .. seeing him in this way, wherreted him smartly with his cane.

Wherrit, *v. dial.* [Possibly local form of *thwart*, THWART *v.* Cf. dial. *whart* and *whartle* (beside *thwartle, thurtle*). See WERRIT.] *trans.* To tease, pester, annoy.

1762 BICKERSTAFF *Love in Village* I. ix. (1763) 17 Find some other road, can't you? and dont keep wherreting me with your nonsense. 1767 *Woman of Fashion* I. 35 What the dickens! Must I be wherretted with your Advice too? 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wherrited*, teased. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* XXI, With..the missus a-nigh wherrited to death wi' trouble.

Wherrow, var. WHARROW.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. XXIII. 379 The roote is rounde lyke a wherrow or wherle, or rather like a litle round appel.

Wherry (hwɛ·ri), *sb.*[1] Also 5–6 **whery**(e, 6 **wherrye, -ey, where, whire, whyr**(i)e, **whyrry**(e, -ie, **wheary**, 6–7 **wherie, whirr**(e)y, -ie, 7 **wheery**, 9 **whurry**. [Etymology obscure; perh. f. WHIRR with suggestion of rapid movement.]

1. A light rowing-boat used chiefly on rivers to carry passengers and goods.

1443 *For. Acc. 21 Hen. VI* G *dorse* (P. R. O.), Vnius Batelle vocate Whery. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 6 There came suche a winde fro wynchester That blewe these women ouer the ryuer, In wherye. 1534 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 24 For murderinge of two straungers in a wherie in the Thames. 1536 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 277 Payd to Robert Day..for 1 day with his where with my Lady,..viij *d.* 1558 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. 16 Preamble, The Whiries & Boates nowe occupied & used and of late tyme made for Rowing upon the said Ryver [Thames]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 635 He toke a Whirry, and so escaped to London. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Six Serm.* (1594) 83 They tremble for feare, like women that shrike at euery stir in the whirry. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Sept., My pictures and fine things, that I will bring home in wherrys. 1689 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 302 John Temple..flung himself over a wherry when it was shooting London bridge. 1703 SWIFT *Judge Boat* 24 Our Boat is now sail'd to the Stygian Ferry, There to supply old Charon's leaky Wherry. 1759 *Universal Chron.* 14–21 July 231/2 Two young fellows going up the Isis in a wherry with a sail, were overset by a sudden gust of wind. 1780 FALCONER *Dict. Marine*, *Yawl*, a wherry or small ship's boat, usually rowed by four or six oars. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. IX, Nothing moving on the stream but watermen's wherries and coal-lighters. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* II. 177/2 The Thames wherry..is stoutly built and is constructed to carry about eight passengers. It is usually managed by one sculler or two oarsmen. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* XXVII, Smaller craft—wherries, steam-launches, tenders, and what not.

2. A large boat of the barge kind: see quots. *local.*

a 1589 R. LANE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 740, I tooke a resolution with my selfe..to enter presently so farre into that Riuer with two double whirries, and fourtie persons one or other. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2672/3 Four large Wherries..which we brought..from Dublin, in which were put 130 Grenadiers. *a* 1788 in *Orig. Forty-Five* (S. H. S. 1916) 260 They were alarmed by five wherries, the same, as they supposed, that landed the Campbells the night before... The wherries sailed by to the southward without ever stopping. 1849 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Wharry, wherry*, a large boat—a sort of barge or lighter. 1857 WRIGHT *Prov. Dict.* s. v., A wherry ..on the East-Norfolk and East-Suffolk rivers it is a large sailing boat, carrying from 15 to 25 tons of merchan 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Wherry*, ..a decked v used in fishing in different parts of Great Britain and Ireland. 1891 *Daily News* 3 Oct. 3/8 A coal wherry belonging to Atkinson, Shields.

3. A large four-wheeled dray or cart without sides. *local.*

1881 [see *wherry driver* in 4]. 1886 *Leeds Mercury* 1 Apr., One new light Spring Wherry, carry one ton.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *wherry-boat*,

-rower, *-slave*, *-wharf*, (sense 2) *wherry yacht*, (sense 3) *wherry-driver*. Also WHERRYMAN.

1598 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 134 Passynge the rivers of Thames or Medwaye by barge or *wherlbote. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXV. x, The Captaine..escaped to the key, where he tooke a small barge or whirrie-bote. 1681 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) Index 178 *Wherry driver. *c* 1825 *Coche Lorell's B.* 11 *whery rowers, and dysers. 1869 JEWEL *Def.*

H. COLLINGWOOD *Under Messrs' Flag* xxiv, We reached the *wherry-wharf at Kingston. 1896 *Daily News* 3 June 5/6 At Lowestoft..Dr. Jameson..boarded a *wherry yacht.

Hence **Wher·rry** *v. trans.*, to carry in or as in a wherry; **Wher·rrying** *vbl. sb.*, the plying of a wherry.

1827 MONTGOMERY *Pelican Isl.* I. 244 Buoyant shells, On stormless voyages..Wherried their tiny mariners.

poaching, wherrying.

Wher·rry, *sb.*[2] *dial.* = WHERRET *sb.*

1726 VANBRUGH *Journ. Lond.* I. (1728) 14 Somewhat fetcht me such a wherry a-cross the Shins, that dawn came I flop o' my Face.

Wherry, obs. var. WHIRRY *v.*

Wherryman (hwe·rimăn). Pl. **-men.** Forms: see WHERRET *sb.*[1]; also 6 whirriman, 6–7 wherriman. [f. WHERRY *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1] 4 p.] A man employed on a wherry (sense 1 or 2).

1535 COVERDALE *Esth.* XXVII. 28 All whirry men, and all maryners vpon the see. 1542 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) I. 116 John Peers..of the parishe of Sainte Olyff in the Burge of Sowthwerke wherryman. 1549 LATIMER *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 176 There is neuer a whirriman at Westminster brydge, but he can answere to thys. 1593 BACON *Let. to Earl of Essex* 10 Nov., As he that is an excellent wherryman, who you know looketh towards the bridge when he pulleth towards Westminster. 1681 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1912) 130 Thomas Tracey of Great Yarmouth .. wherryman. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 145 The society of watermen and wherrymen. 1905 A. I. SHAND *Days of Fast* II. 19 They had run the old wherryman and scullers off the Thames.

1681 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) Index 178. 1893 P. H. EMERSON (*title*) On English Lagoons, being an account of the Voyage of Two Amateur Wherrymen on the Norfolk and Suffolk Rivers and Broads. 1897 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 5/3 Wherrymen and anglers report the destruction of large numbers of coarse fish in the lower reaches of the Norfolk tidal rivers.

Whersere, obs. contr. f. WHERESOEVER.

Wherth, variant of WERTH *a.*

Whert, var. QUART, QUERT *a.* and *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

Wherve, variant of WHARVE.

Wherwille, Whery, Whes, Whesen, Whesille, Whess, Whest, Whestion, Whestone: see WHIRL, VERY, WHOSE, WHITSUN, WEASEL, WASH *v.*, QUERT *sb.*[1], QUESTION, WHETSTONE.

Whet (hwet), *sb.* [f. WHET *v.*]

1. An act of sharpening; *transf.* the interval between two sharpenings of a scythe, etc.; also *fig.* an occasion, turn, 'go'. Now *dial.*

a 1608 J. PRESTON *Saints Daily Exerc.* (1629) 32 The whetting of the sithe, though there be a stop in the work for a time, yet, as our common saying is, a whet is no let. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 32 A good mower will goe the breadth of those broade-landes with a whette. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* XXX, If the afflatus comes, give way, Robert; never heed me: I'll bear it this whet (time). 1892 HOLE *Mem.* xvi, (1893) 194 'Well, Booth,' a visitor said to his sick neighbour, 'thee'd like to get better, wouldn't thee, Booth?' 'But thee mun dee, this whet.'

2. *fig.* Something that incites or stimulates desire; an incitement or inducement to action.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 112 *marg.*, The sloth of the Moors a whet to the Banyans. 1720 S. PALMER *Proverbs* 6 Diversion shou'd never be any more than a Whet in order to the better..Pursuit of our Work. 1770 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 32/2 The carnage at Patras gave a new whet, which was not at all wanted, to the..revenge of the Greeks. 1846 LOWER *Hand-bk. Lewes* 24 Should any facts I may state serve as a whet for the visitor's curiosity. 1880 J. CAIRD *Univ. Addr.* (1898) 234 For some minds..the whet of society is indispensable in order to the attainment of the right temper and use of their powers. 1882 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* III. (1892) 123 Solitude: an excellent thing in itself, and a good whet for company.

b. Something that whets the appetite; chiefly, light refreshment taken as an appetizer or to stave off hunger till the next meal; *esp.* an appetizer in the form of a small draught of liquor; a dram, a drink (cf. *wet*).

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* II. 23 Let's whett; bring some Wine. Come on; I love a Whett. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. v. (1693) 191 The President of the Council..engaged me to take a Glass of Wormwood Wine as a whet before dinner. 1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* XI. 209 An Ivy'ry Table is a certain whet; You would not think how heartily he'll eat. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 279 Fruit, Wine, Tobacco, and Salt Bits for a Whet, being placed before them, they continue Drinking till Midnight. 1736 FIELDING *Pasquin* I. 6, I have brought the Colonel to take a Mc[illegible]'s Whet with you. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1[illegible]lo They whipt out two Bottles of Champaigne _____, for a Whet, as they called it. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 139 To make a nice Whet before Dinner. Cut some slices of bread..; fry them in butter, [etc.]. 1772 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl., To Sir W. Phillips* 8 Aug., I have seen turnips make their appearance, not as a dessert, but by way of *hors d'œuvres*, or whets. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 477 As he walks out in the morning he takes what is called a small glass (half a gill) of bitters..at the first grog-shop he passes; and commonly takes a second whet (another half gill) before he gets to work. 1833 in *F. D. Palmer Diary & C. J. P.* (1892) 110 The Corporation gave a 'whet' at the Town Hall. 1882 W. JERDAN *Autobiogr.* I. xxiii. 189 He..swallowed his two dozen of green oysters as a whet, and proceeded to dine. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 90 Father Michael..gave me a glass of liqueur to stay me until dinner...The whet administered, I was left alone.

Whet (hwet), *v.* Forms: 1 hwettan, 4 quette, 4–7 whette, 5–7 whett, (5 wete, qwete, *Sc.* quhete, 6 wette, wheit), 7–8 wet, 6– whet; *pa. t.* 1 hwette, 3 whatte, 3wette, 4 wette, 4–6 whette, 6–7 whet, 8 *Sc.* whatt; *pa. pple.* 3 iwhet, 4–5 ywhet(e, whette, 4–8 whet; *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4–5 whettid, 5– whetted. [OE. *hwettan* = (M)Du., (M)LG. *wetten*, OHG. *wezzan* (MHG. *wetzen*, G. *wetzen*), ON. *hvetja* (Sw. *vässa*, Da. *hvæsse*) :– OTeut. **xwatjan*, f. *xwat-* (whence OE. *hwæt*, etc.: see WHAT *a.*[2]).]

1. *trans.* To sharpen, put a sharp edge or point upon.

c 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* XXVI. 186 Swa se læce grapað, & stracað, & hyt his seax & hwett [*v.r.* hwæt]. 971 *Blickl. Gloss.* 239 Hy hwetton, *exacuerunt*. *c* 1205 LAY. 14215 He..whætte his særes alse he scheren wolde. *c* 1290 *St. George* 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 296 Heore wepne huy drowen forth and ȝwetten hem. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 1760 Ofte tyme I fynde þat þey inette with blody strokes.. Assayinge how here speres were whette. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4306 A swerde, scharp[e] grounde & whet. 1530 PALSGR. 780/2, I love better whettynge of knyves afore a good dyner than whettynge of swordes and bylles. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 244 Foole, foole, thou whet'st a Knife to kill thy selfe. 1596 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 379 For a fylle to wheit the blakstone naw iiii d. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. 42 b, Like an ill Mower, that mowes on still, and neuer whets his Syth. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 418 It became very hot towards the Point, the Edge being whet away to a Wire. *Ibid.* 419, I whet it again strongly in the same manner, and it changed again. 1721 E. WARD *Merry Trav.* I. (1729) 18 The Butchers..Some wetting Knives upon a Steel. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* II. 121 As in smooth oil the razor best is whet. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, Thou whett'st our very banquet-knives To tools of death and war. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* IV. i. 115 You do not think It is my wrath or will that whets this axe Against his neck?

b. Of a boar or other animal sharpening its tusks or teeth in preparation for an attack.

c 1000 *Ecel. Inst.* (in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 396/6 Of..þæm undeadlicum wyrmum þa hwettaþ hyra blodigan teþ to þon þet hig..urne lichoman wundian. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6607 (Laud MS.) In her mouþ ben teeþ trebble sshet, None bores better ywhett. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 178 þai whettid þer tethe agayns þaim. 1583 EDEN *Treat. News Ind.* (Arb.) 16 He fyleth and whetteth his horne on a stone. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 387 Boars whet their Tusks; to battel Tygers move. 1747 W. DUNKIN in Francis tr. *Hor., Ep.* II. ii. 42 A very Wolf..Now whetting keen his wide devouring Jaw. 1799 SOUTHEY *God's Judgem. Wicked Bp.* 77 They have whetted their teeth against the stones, And now they pick the Bishop's bones. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xlii, The eagle whets his beak.

c. In allusive and fig. phrases (in which the literal language is freq. retained, e.g. *to whet the teeth, the sword*, etc.) usually expressing preparation for attack; often in echoes of Ps. lxiv. 3, cxl. 3.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) CXXXIX. [CXL.] 3 Hi hwetton tungan heora swa swa nædran. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 218 þe sword of sorowe whett with fals pleasaunce. 24.. *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 95 For to skape the cruell vyolence Of nadis swyrd whettyng with violence. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Worthy receauing Sacr.* I, Therfore (saith Ciprian) when we do these thynges, we nede not to whet our teeth. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 6 A hie point forsooth for them to whet there tunge about. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) 7 They..had not yet whetted their tongues to slaunder their neighbours, gaue not their mindes to cruelties. 1633 COWLEY *Post. Blossoms, Constantia & Philetus* 74 Yet hee by chance had hit his heart aright, And on Constantia's eye his Arrow whet. 1674 W. SHERLOCK *Disc. Knowl. Christ* 56 That now we may look Justice in the face, and whet our Knife at the Counter door, all our Debts being discharged by Christ. 1706 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) III. 266 'Combined Nations,' says she, 'and formidable cities whet the sword against me.' 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* ii. 26 The writer who is seen to be thus whetting afresh his words. 1866 LIDDON *Divin. Our Lord* vii. (1875) 357 The edge and point of every weapon that might be forged or whetted by the ingenuity of passionate animosity.

d. *absol.*; also *fig.* to get ready for an attack (like a boar whetting his tusks).

1398 [see WHETSTONE 1]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XVI. 318, I mon whett lyke a bore. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 19 Those who cease whetting at Gods secrets..(as not belonging to them)..have a marke upon them of such as shall be saved. 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* IV. –, I have been whetting all this while. 1682 — *Medall* 240 They..grin and whet like a Croatian band.

† **2.** *fig.* To incite, instigate, egg or urge *on to* or *to do* something. *Obs.*

Beowulf 204 Done sidfæt him smoþere ceorlas lythwon logon, ..hwettun higerofne. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 493 Ofer [gast] hine tyhteð & on tæsso læreð..& ðurh þæt his mod hweteð. *c* 1000 *Maldons* in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 41 Þa zehyrde hio fram me þæt ic hig hwette to fleanne. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2828 On was þer þat ful euele spak To whette Brenne to reyse contak. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 1364 Liche a lyoun whetted wiþ woodnes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Meddaus's Comm.* 462 b, Certen biting libelles..wherin were some thinges to whet the people. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Pamn. Love* 26 b, By Dauid George his Maisters whetting him forward..he became the sonne of perdition. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 181 Now that their soules are topfull of offence,..I will whet on the King. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Clerum* II. (1689) 37 If he would whet them up to the battle. 1624 QUARLES *Fob Militant* Medit. 3 A gloomie night Whets on the morning, to returne more bright. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* XXVII. 214 They..are but whetted and inrag'd by what they suffer'd, against those whom they look upon as them that caus'd their sufferings. 1728 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* I. § 8 He would be often discoursing..about Points..of Religion, that he might thereby whet those who sat at Table with him. 1762 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 491 When she to murther whets the tim'rous Thane.

3. To sharpen, render (more) acute, keen, or eager (a person's wits, appetite, interest, curiosity, etc.).

a 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 2490, I attellyd neuer athens with armes to entre, Bot you questions to enquire to wete [*Ashm.* qwete] with my wittes. *c* 1420 *Rom. Rose* 6197 How high that euere his heed he shere With resoun whetted neuer so kene. 1422 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 243 They that to wommen ben ywhett so kene. 1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* III. 262 b, The very weight of yᵉ thing it self shal whet our endeuor. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 187 Diuers coulours offende the eyes, yet hauing greene among them, whette the sight. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 116 Madam, I come to whet your gentle thoughts On his behalfe. 1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 282 [He] seekes new wayes to whet dull appetite. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 9 Aduersities doe often whet our wits. 1648 W. [illegible] (Uln. MSS Comm.) II.

1752 [illegible] whetted by so much new gain. 1759 — *Hist. Eng., Tudors* II. *Elis.* iii. 547 Theological controversy daily whetted the animosity of the sects. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXXII, Efforts to stimulate the popular taste and whet the popular curiosity. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* II. iii. 210 The desire of revenge whetted their exertions.

absol. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 831 The Cause, why Onions, and Salt, and Pepper, in Baked Meats, moue Appetite, it is by Vellication of those Nerues; For Motion whetteth.

† **4.** In renderings of Deut. vi. 7 and echoes of it, translating Heb. *shānan* lit. to sharpen, fig. to inculcate. (Const. *on, upon.*) *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* To Rdr. 13 Moyses saith Deutro. vj. Heare Israel let these wordes which I commaunde the this daye steke fast in thine herte, and whette them on thi childerne. 1548 BECON *Sol. Soul* Wks. 1564 II. 115 b, And euer bee whettynge of that in thy mynde. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xxii. (1627) 255 Use all diligence to apply every piece unto them, to whet it upon them. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Being filled with the Spirit* (1867) 229 Was it thoroughly known, and frequently whetted upon the thoughts and minds of men [etc.].

† **5.** Of a bird: To preen (the feathers). *rare.*

a 1678 MARVELL *Garden* 54 There like a Bird it sits, and sings, Then whets, and combs its silver Wings.

6. † **a.** *intr.* To take an appetizer. **b.** *trans.* in phr. *to whet one's whistle* (in which *whet* has been substituted for the earlier *wet*): to clear the throat or voice by taking a drink.

1674 FLATMAN *Belly God* 46 First whet thy whistle with some good Metheglin. 1688 [see WHET *sb.* 2 b]. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. xi, Give the gentleman a glass to whet his whistle before he begins. 1809 in *Sir C. Jackson's Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 20 Punch..served very agreeably to wet, or whet, my whistle. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. III. vi, See that they have plenty of Madeira to whet their whistles with.

7. *Comb.*: **whetsaw**, a bird allied to the cuckoo, so called from its making a noise like the whetting of a saw; **whet-slate**, a hard slate used for hones; novaculite.

1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 475 The Whetsaw is of the cuckow kind, being like that a solitary bird, and scarcely ever seen,..it makes a noise like the filing of a saw. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1141 *Whet-slate*, or *Turkey hone*, is a slaty rock, containing a great proportion of quartz. 1896 PAJE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* viii. (1876) 161 Among the minor products may be mentioned whet-slate and ragstone.

Whet, obs. f. WAIT *sb.*, WHAT, WHEAT.

Whetblowe, obs. f. WHITLOW.

Whete, obs. f. WET, WHEAT.

† **Whe·then**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3 weðen, queðen, 4 whepin, -yn, whethene, quepen, quiþin, queyþen, weþen, wethen, wythenne, 4–5 whepen(e, whethen, quethen, 5 whepon, whethyn, whythene, -yne, quethin, qu-, qwethun. [a. ON. *hvaðan* (MSw. *hwädhan*, MDa. *hvaaden*; f. root of WHO + *-ðan* as in *heðan, þeðan*), with vowel-assimilation to HETHEN, THETHEN.] = WHENCE; and, like that word, often preceded by redundant *fro* (occas. *of*).

1. *interrog.* = WHENCE 1, 2.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Weðen is me cumen þat mi louerdes moder cume3 to me? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1401 Al he tolde hem fro queðen he cam. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2619 (Gött.) 'Agar,' he said, 'quaþen comes þou, Or quaþerward wil þu ga nou?' 13.. *Cons. & Gr. Kut.* 461 Neuermore þen þay wyste fram quaþen he was wonnen. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* XXVIII, Whaþene [*a. r.* whythene] is þe comli knigte? *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 535 þe kynge askede anone what was his name And what mon And whethen þat he wasse.

2. *rel.* = WHENCE 3.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXL. 1, I liftid myn eghyn in hillis whaþen help cum till me. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 3303 Ierusalem..fra whethen þe crosse for yhow I bare. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4118 That he was lord of that kyndome Fro whethen alle that riches is come.

b. In generalized or indefinite sense: From whatever place, whencesoever.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 871 Whepen in worlde he were, Hit semed as he myzt Be prynce with-outen pere.

Hence † **Whethenward** *adv. Obs.*, in phr. *fra whethenward* [cf. -WARD 4, 7], from whence, whence.

c 1200 ORMIN 16668 Þu ne makhtt nohht witenn .. Fra whepennwarrd gast cumebb forþ.

Whether (hwe·ðəɹ), *pron., adj., conj.* (*sb.*) Forms: see below. [OE. *hwæþer* and *hweþer*, corresp. to OFris. *hwed(d)er, h(w)oder, ho(e)r* (NFris. *weder*), OS. *hweðar* one of two, whether, OHG. *hwedar, wedar* which of two, neut. whether, either, (MHG. *weder*, surviving in G. *weder* neither), ON. *hvaðarr*, nom. pl. *hvárer* (whence sing. *hvárr*), which of two, each, neut. whether (Sw. *hvar* each, mod. Icel. *hvorr*), Goth. *hwaþar* which of two :— OTeut. **xwaþaras*, **xwe-*, f. *xwa-*, *xwe-* WHO + comp. suffix (Indo-eur. *-tero-*) as in OTHER (cf. Skr. *katará-*, Gr. *πότερος*, Lith. *katràs*). *Either* (OE. *ǽghwæþer*) is a compound of *whether*. With forms of the γ-type cf. OHG. *diu hwiduru, thohwidaro* THOUGH-WHETHER, early mod.G. *wider* neither; with forms of the δ-type OFris. *hwoder*; and with forms of the ε-type OFris. *hoer, hor* (but in ME. north. texts *hwor* may represent ON. *hvárr*).] **A. Illustration of Forms.**

α. 1 **hwæðer**, **-þer**, **-der**, 1–3 **hwaþer**, 3 **whaðer**, **whaþer**, **-der**, (**wahðer**), 3–4 **waþer**, 4 **quaþer**.

8.. in *O. E. Texts* 444 Suę hwæder suae. *Ibid.* 452 Hwaðer. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894 (Parker MS.) Bi swa hwaþerre efes swa hit þonne fierdleas wæs. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 33 Hwæðer ænig man him mete brohte? *c* 1205 LAY. 20877 Whaðer [*c* 1275 waþer] swa ich wulle don oðer slæn oðer ahon. *Ibid.* 23593–5 Whaðer unkere..wahðer vinkere. 13.. *Cursor M.* 13596 (Gött.) To mistrouu..Quaþer forwid blind al had he bene. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 486 Waþer þe wil or no.

β. 1 **hueðer**, 1–3 **hweðer**, **-þer**, 3 **weðer**, **-þer**, **queðer**, (**3weðer**, **-ur**), *Orm.* **whəþþr**, 4 **wheiþer**, **queþer**, **quedir**, **-ur**, *Sc.* **quhethyr(e**, 4–5 **wheper**, **-ire**, **-ur(e**, **whethere**, **-ir(e**, **-yr**, **wethir**, **quether**, **-þir**, **whedir**, **-ur**, **queder**, 4–6 **wheder**, *Sc.* **quhethir**, **quhedir**, 4–7 **wheither**, 5 **whethur**, **wheithir**, **whedere**, **-yr(e**, **wedir**, **quethire**, **-ur**, **qweþer**, **-ther**, **-þire**, *Sc.* **quheþer**, **-ir**, **quheythir**, **qwheþir**, **-dyr**, **-yar**, 5–6 **wheddur**, 6, 9 *dial.* **-er**, *Sc.* **quhether**, 4– **whether**.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxxviii[i]. 24 *Et vide si via iniquitatis in me est*, & geseh hweðer weg unrehtwisnisse in me is. *c* 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 17 *Quem uultis dimittam uobis*, hueðerne wallas gie ic forleto iowh? *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101 Loc hweðer þæra gebroðra oðerne oferbide. *c* 1200 ORMIN 526 Illc an hird wel wisste inoh, Whəþþr itt to serrfenn shollde [etc.]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 155 On is weðer þe eorðe beo bicumeliche to þe sede, þat oðer weðer hit beo riht time þer to. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1471 Queðer here sulde birðen bi-foren. *c* 1290 *St. Austin* 60 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 25 Are ich habbe more vnderzite: þwepur þis Message beo trewe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 44 Quedur [*v. rr.* queþer, wheþer] þai be worthi or bale or bote. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2098 Betere is i go miself, and se Hweþer he sitten nou, and weseylen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1109 Sware with trawþe, Queþer, leude, so lymp lere oþer better. 13.. *Northern Passion* 1006 (Camb. Gg. 5. 31) Wheder he will hym safe or spyll. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 272 Wheiþer þeih wolen, or þeih nelle. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1829 He es uncertayne Whether he sal wend til ioy or payne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 421 Quhedir he A lele

Editors of Shakspere have printed *whêr, whê'er*, and *whe'r*, with no authority from the folios or quartos.

c 1205 LAY. 13839 Of eou ich wulle iwiten..whar þe wullen beon treowe. *Ibid.* 18543 Ah inest whær [*c* 1275 ware] heo hine luuede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2747 He easte at is cl——, ware it to leue were. *Ibid.* 6903 Þe king hire easte sturneliche wer heo wolde þe dom do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13452, I dar noght sai Quere þis was þat ilk or nai. *Ibid.* 23803 We haf us forwit wales tua, þe tan to wel, þat toþer wa, Quer we will frell nai we ta. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1119 Godrich ..seyde, 'hwor þou wilt be Quen and leuedi ouer me?' *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 84 Ony synful wrecche, þat wot neuere where he schal be dampnyd or sauyd. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1381 þat mayde..askede war he hed On his body any woande. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1539 Ne reccheth neuere wher I synke or fleete. ? 1460 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 56 Where ye wil come in to Devenshire to abide other no. 1569 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* xv. (? 1580) M iv, I doubtfull stoode where powre or vertue were the best of twaine. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 75 But where I be as true begot or no. 1628 WITHER *Motto, Nec Habeo* 196, I care not wher' they thinke I loue or no. 1660 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 334 The captain..asked him where he was willing to shed blood. 1823 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 180 I'll hirn auver an see where I can't help 'em.

B. Signification.

I. *pron.* and *adj.* Which of the two. *Obs., arch.*, or *dial.*

Occas. used loosely of more than two: cf. EITHER A. 2 c, 4 c. The pron. is occas. found with the gen. inflexion *-es, -s.*

1. In direct questions. **a.** *pron.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 31 Hwæðer þara twegra dyde þæs fæder willan? *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 Hweðeres fere wult tu beon? *Ibid.* 364 Of two men, hweðer is wisure? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14045 Queþer o þir tua aght luue him mare? *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3477 And whether schulde Mayster be, Thei of Grece or Troye Cite? 1528 MORE *Dyalogs* I. Wks. 163/2 Whether of them would ye beleue best? 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 73 There is both a reading and a preaching ministerie: whether doe you prefer before the other? 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 23 Whether doest thou professe thy selfe, a knaue, or a foole? 1662 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. xi. § 13 (1712) 78 Whether of them, think you, is the plainer pledge of a knowing and a designing Providence? 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) II. v. 71 Perturbations delightful, or undelightful, Harriet, whether? 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 333 Whether would ye? gold or field?

b. *adj.* (*rare.*)

1629 GAULE *Pract. Theories Christ* 115 We know which Sex Fell first; whether can boast of more honour in the Recouerie? 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colleq.* 524 Whether thing is heavier water or wine?

2. In indirect questions, or dependent clauses of similar meaning. (Cf. note s.v. WHAT A. 1**.)

a. *pron.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 256 Gif man openað deaddra manna byrgynu, nast ðu hwæðer beoð þæs rican mannes ban, hwæðer þæs ðearfan. *c* 1095 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 303 Cweð hwæðer þe selre þince. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 240 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Niten hweðer hem doð wers. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2564 Me nuste to weþer hil bicome þe children þat hil bere. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 970 Ilke man þat haþ resun wot wheþer ys better to chese. 1424 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 35 Þe processe is..retournable at þe ouptes or þe quinzisme, I not qwether. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xvii. 238 There was none that beheld them myghte knowe whether was lyke to wynne the batayll. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 82 Now new, now olde, now both, now neither, To serue the worldes course, they care not with whether. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. II. x. § 3 They did not rightly apprehend the manner of the worlds destruction by them, nor whethers course was first passed. 1624 MASSINGER *Parlt. Love* I. v, I am troubled With the toothach, or with love, I know not whether. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, We came in full View of a great Island or Continent, (for we knew not whether). *a* 1794 SIR W. JONES in *Pars's Wks.* (1828) VII. 210 It is indifferent to me, as a friend to the people, whether of the two sit in Parliament. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xii. (1857) 172 The question ..whether of the two sections held the abstract right.

b. *adj.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. I. § 6 Þæt is mid Crecum þeaw þæt mid ðæm worde bið ȝecyþed hwæðer healf hæfð þonne ælce.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 773 He nuste to ȝweþer doxter betere truste þo. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 217 Whan the fader..sih to whether side it drowh. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 405 The manifestacion of a notable signe wheder parte awe to be folowede. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 655 What children there [*sc.* in Eden] they earned, and how many, Of whether sex. 1613 DAY *Dyall* IX. (1614) 218 A controversie there is which they are that are in whither Table. 1696 BRAMHALL *Replic. ad.* 43 Whether the separation be criminous, whether party made the first separation,..whether side gave the cause,..is not so easy to be discerned. 1692 T. BURNET *Rev. Th. Earth* 46 You know in whether Scale the Natural Reasons are to be laid. 1702 H. DODWELL *Apol.* in S. Parker *Cicero's De Finibus* 28, The Dispute..whether Life is the more to be preferred, the Active, or the Contemplative.

c. Phr. *whether is whether*, which is which (of the two). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3447 Þan wete m[e] whæþer ys whæþer. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 9250 (Fairf.) Wele salle he knaw quaþer is quilk. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 20 She vneath discerned, whether whether weare. 1828 *Craven Gloss. s. v. Whether*, I cannot tell whether is whether.

3. In generalized or indef. sense: Whichever of the two: (*a*) as *comp. relative*, the implied antecedent belonging to the principal clause; (*b*) introducing a qualifying clause: No matter which of the two. **a.** *pron.*

(*a*) *c* 1205 LAY. 23593 Whæðer unkere ssa bezst þere sonne he bið þe inðere. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9567 Hii accorde..þat weþer of hom tueye lengere aliue were þat he scolde be oþeres eir. 13.. *Curs* oþer ouercome in feild, þe

CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 371 Now chese your seluen whether þat you liketh. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 33 Serue it forth for a potage, or for a gode Bakyn mete, whæder þat þou wolt. 1521 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 86 To kepe still the one of this .ii. kingdomes, whether he would. 1611 *Bible* Eccles. xv. 17 Before man is life and death, and whether him liketh shalbe ginen him. 1683 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 333 You are to p'sent noe..p'son both for lands and goods, but for whethr you estimate to be of the better value. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* V. 29 Let them take whether they will. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 123 Put it into your sillabub-glasses or pots, whether you have.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2463 Queder þou ches, on right or left, ti sal ta me þat þou haues left. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 249 Weþer þat it be, He þat comes ones in þine hande schal he neuer þe. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* I. It was in doubt, whether he wanne more fauour for his wit, or feare for his ryches: .. but sure whether it were, he had gayned the heartes of all the people. 1632 BROME *Novella* II. ii, There is some hidden vertue in this fellow, Or dangerous ill; but whether let it be.

b. *adj.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 404 Whæþer pope men nennen, þei bileven not þat he is Cristis viker. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* 32 Bothe ȝonge & oolde, whæþir ȝe be, in cristis name good cheer ȝe make. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 144 Nowe arte thou at thy lyberty, to chose whether waye thou wylt. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* V. I. 179 It seemed, whether part were vanquished, should come to finall destruction. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 15 But cal the day by which, or whether term of them you please. 1672 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* i. 3 Whether way soever it be taken, it is apparent [etc.].

† **c.** With the indef. sense expressed by adding an intensive adv: see WHETHEREVE WHETHERSOEVER, WHETHERSUM. *Obs.*

II. *conj.*

1. As an interrogative particle introducing a disjunctive direct question, expressing a doubt between alternatives. Usually with correlative *or*; occas. repeated before the second alternative (cf. 3). *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 25 Hwæðer wæs Iohannes fulluht, þe of heofonum, þe of mannum? *Ibid.* Luke v. 23 Hwæðer is eðre to cwebenne, þe synd þine synna forzyfene; hwæþer þe cweban, aris & ga? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12892 Leif sun, me sai, Queþer þou put barn or nai? 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* XXVII. 17 Whom wole ȝee, I leeue, or delyuere, to ȝou? wher Barabas, or Jhesu. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (CAXTON) I. XXX. (1859) 34 Whether shal the lord refuse this seruaunt either els he shal receyue hym? 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2955 Sir, quhidder is ȝour pardon black, or blew? 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 134 Whether hadst thou rather be a Faulconbridge,..Or the reputed sonne of Cordelion? 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 117 Moue these eies? Or whether riding on the bals of mine Seeme they in motion? 1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* X. XXVI. (1620) 375 Whether would he haue vs subiect to those Angels that declare the wil of the Father vpon earth, or vnto him whose will they declare? 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* I. (1725) 5 Whether does Doubting consist in embracing the Affirmative or Negative Side of a Question? *a* 1820 SHELLEY *Ion* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 215 Whether do you demonstrate these things better in Homer or Hesiod?

† **b.** Introducing an alternative statement, or standing at the end of a disjunctive question or phrase with *or* (cf. EITHER B. 5). *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 803 Wheþer hade he no helme ne hawbergh nauþer,..Ne no schafte, ne no schelde,..Bot in his on honde he hade a holyn bobbe. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* vii. 17 Was this a louer, or a Letcher whether? —— P. HALL *Pharis. & Chr.* (1609) B 3, The Sect (or order whether) of the Pharisais ceassed with the Temple.

† **2.** Introducing a simple direct question, thus becoming a mere sign of interrogation (but often with verb in subjunctive, and almost always without inversion of subject and verb, as if depending on a principal clause understood: cf. 4). *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 15 Hwæþer þe þin eaxe manful ys, forþam þe ic god eom? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5178 Lauerd! quer i sal him euer se? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 902 Godrich..seyde, 'Hwæþer she sholde be Quen and leuedi ouer me?' 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 106 Eche loked on ouþer..And seyd, 'lorde wheþer hyt be y?' 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* XIII. 55 Wher is nat this the sone of a smyth, or carpenter? Wher his modir be nat seid Marie? *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 1213 Wher þe holy goost wolnot as gladlyche wone Vnder a mantyl y-furned w[t] beuer..As vnder a mantyl y-furned w[t] a row gotus felle? 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 Whedirnot, *sciam, nunquid, nonne.* 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 38 Whither wyl he alowe a subiect to much?..Whether haue any man here in England to much? 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 67 Quhat is Baptisme? and quhidder it be necessare to all mankynd?

3. Introducing a disjunctive dependent question or its equivalent expressing doubt, choice, etc. between alternatives: usually with correlative *or* († *other*, † *þe*, etc.). Sometimes repeated after (or without) *or* before the second or later alternative. Often with verb in subjunctive (and so in following 1); also with *to* and inf.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 120 Eft fa Gregorius bæfran, hwæðer þæs landes folc cristen wære ðe hæ[þen]. *c* 1205 LAY. 903 [wæ]re was moni riche mon þe cuðe lutel reden weðer (*c* 1[275 wa]ber) beom wrecne wnsumre to færen þe to wonien. *Leg. Kath.* 2312 Loke nu..hweðer þe beo leouere don [..]t ich þe lære..oðer þis ilke dæi., deien. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Exod.* 3272 Egipcienes woren in twiȝred wen quoðer be suiden folȝist or ben. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4507 In woch half tunne he nuste þe weþer eat þe weot. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4918 Now wel is sone Queþer þat ȝee be fule or clene, *Ibid.* 23451 [see *h. cl.*] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 268 And where he be sauf or nouȝt sauf þe sothe wote no clergye.

quheythir bataill be lefull to be done. *c* 1300 *Lancelot* 2186 Qwheyar if yone bee Our presoner, my consell Is we see. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxiv. 195 b/1 The kynge lende or gaue him I can nat tell wheder, a .lx. thousande frankes. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XXI. 31 Whedder of these ij fulfylled there fathers wyll? 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 80 Quhedir he be pape or patriarch. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 60 Quhether the lyne be lang or short.

γ. (1 **hwiðer**), 4 **whydyr**, 5 **whyder**, **qwydyr**, 5–6 *Sc.* **quhither**, 5–7 *Sc.* **quhidder**, 6 *Sc.* **whidder**, **quhiddir**, **qwhider**, 6–7 **whither**, 7 *Sc.* **quither**.

9.. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 330 (Cott. MS.) Hwonne biþ ðæt, ðæt ðu nyte hwiðer ðu maran wilnige? 13.. *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1258 Noman wot whydyr he may be worþy to haue hate or loue of god. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 92 Here may we chese, Whyder we our-self wyll saue or lese. 1480–1530 *Myrr., our Ladye* I. xviii. 48 Whither comest thow to chyrche to slepe or to wake? *c* 1480 METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 146 Qwydyr y[t] schuld preue fayr or foule. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Sheep & Dog* 1199 (Harl. MS.) Quhidder the scheip suld answer in iugement Before the wolf. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 144 Quhither it wes, thairof half I no feill. 1546 *Suppl. Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 4 Whither this lawe be indifferent or not. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 283 Whidder hir malisone tulke effect, Or gif it was the gude wyne sect. 1614 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* iii. (*title*), Ane reply to I cair not quither I get hir or no. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVIII. cix, Yet whither you will bow down your Consent To our meek Doctrines.

δ. 4 **woþer**, **wother**.

13.. *Northern Passion* 1984 (Camb. Gg. 1. 1) Ihesus..bad echo suld to Petir gane..Wether a ben in boure or halle. *a* 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (1724) 388 Woþer of hem tueye lengur alyue were.

ε. *contr.* 3 **wher**, **wer(e**, **ware**, 3–5 **whar**, 4 **hwere**, **hwor**, **war**, **quer(e**, 4–7 **wher**, (9 *dial.*) **where**, 5 **wherr'**, **quar**, **quare**, 7 **wher'**.

† 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 499 [487] 'Westow' quod he 'wher this be wif or maide?' 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 4866 She lokkid hym vnder swiche a kaye, þat he wot nat wher to lyue or deye. 1528 MORE *Dyalogve* II. Wks. 177/2 There was principally in question whither woorshyppyng of ymages..were lawfull or not. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 172 The Scottis than wauld wist nocht in that caice, Quhidder to byde or follow on the chace. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 176 If I shoulde aske you whether in the making of a good swoorde, yron were more to bee required, or steele. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 123 Whether this be, Or be not, I'le not sweare. 1638 W. BURTON *Anton. Itin.* 102 There remain yet two doubts: First, whether this Pretenture, or Wall, was made of Stone, or of Turfs. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 63 He does not remember whether every Grain came up or not. 1819 SHELLEY *Lett.* Prose Wks. 1888 II. 292, I am exceedingly interested in the question of whether this attempt of mine will succeed or no. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 464 His neighbours might well doubt whether it were more dangerous to be at war or at peace with him. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* I. 3 More than two generations had almost ceased to care whether there be any moral order or not.

4. By suppression of the second alternative, *whether* comes to introduce a simple dependent question, and becomes the ordinary sign of indirect interrogation = IF 9.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 25 Cwyst þu, lareow, hwæðer ic hyt sie? *Ibid.* xxvii. 49 Utun geseon hwæþer helias cume & wylle hyne alysan. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xlvi. (1883) 233 Donne se ðe oðerne tæcan wille, þonne.. bebence [he] hine sylfne..hwæðer hine ne mæge swiðe man getælan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Lokiað hweðer enies monnes sar beo liliche mine sare. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6471 Me ne dar nozt esse, weþer he were kene þo & prout. *a* 1300 [illegible] Yee ask [illegible] sauuete suld com,..Or his word he send vs þan Queþer we sal bide a-noþer man? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 371 Wher me was wo, that is no question I kan nat make of it discripsion. *c* 1395 *Plowman's T.* 834 Ech man loke whether that I ly. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xx. 244 He mette with a poure man..& asked hym whether he mette not with a knyghte. 1521 FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* Iv. Wks. (1876) 317 Se now here wheder chryst was not the mouthe of Peter whan he promoted his cause. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 9 Some are doubtfull whether any man may seeke for it [*sc.* the ministry] without offence. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* xcvi, Who shall doubt, Donne, where I a Poet bee, When I dare send my Epigrammes to thee? 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 122 Tell me whether any such bird be known to you. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 P 2 A loud chearful Voice enquiring whether the Philosopher was at Home. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxxi, Uncertainty.. whether her letter had been ever forwarded. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 390 Thither the Londoners flocked..to hear whether there was any newes.

5. Introducing a disjunctive clause (usually with correlative *or*) having a qualifying or conditional force, and standing in adverbial relation to the main sentence (cf. WHATEVER 3, WHEREVER 4): *whether..or* = whichever of the alternative possibilities or suppositions be the case; in either of the cases mentioned; if on the one hand.. and likewise if on the other hand.

Sometimes repeated with each alternative (occas. with omission of *or*, or substitution of *and*); but most frequently with ellipsis in the second alternative, the *or* connecting two predicates, objects, etc., or the second alternative being reduced to a simple negative or the like (*or not, or otherwise*, etc.: see also NO *adv.*[1] 2, and 6 b below).

hweþer] heo wule wel þe wronge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6618 O þis watur he gert ilkan Drinc, quer he wald or nan. 13.. *Ibid.* 10503 (Götz.) If þai ani child miht haue, Queþer þat it ware scho or he. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 322 þat þis world is beterid bi everyþing þat falliþ þerinne, where þat it be good or yvel. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. v. 81 Ye shal abyde whether ye will or nyll. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 156 Thou shalt remaine here, whether thou wilt or no. 1611 *Bible* Rom. xiv. 8 Whether [TINDALE yf] we liue, we liue vnto the Lord: and whether [TINDALE yf] wee die, we die vnto the Lord: whether [so in TINDALE] wee liue therefore or die, we are the Lords. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 174 For Loyalty is still the same, Whether it win or lose the Game. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 12 Alike in ignorance, his reason such, Whether he thinks too little, or too much. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 389 Now I am forced to finish my letter, whether I will or no. 1818 COLERIDGE *Friend* I. 335 That Reason which remains always one and the same, whether it speaks through this or that person. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. vii. 347 Whether it is fair, or whether it is wet, he pursues his labours with equal success.

b. with ellipsis in both alternatives: often virtually equivalent to *either*.

c 1205 [see WHETHER A. 2] 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* XXXIII. vi, But what to me? where false or true, Where liue or die, for aye Adue. 1626 BP. HALL *Medit. & Vows* I. x, So great distrust is there in man, whether from his impotencie or faithlesnes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 503 The Stairs were then let down, whether to dare The Fiend by easie ascent, or aggravate His sad exclusion from the dores of Bliss. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VII. § 12 This, I say, whether right or wrong. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* lii, I knew he would act a good part whether vanquished or victorious. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 463 All other governments, whether republican or monarchical, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. App. D. 627 William, whether by accident or by design, was not admitted. 1873 *Daily Graphic* 19 Feb. 8/1 The increase in the number of officials.., which should give pause to every man, whether Liberal or Tory.

6. *Whether or no* (No *adv.*[1] 2), less freq. *not*. a. as *conj. phr.* introducing a dependent interrog. clause, as in 3.

1630 SANDERSON *Cases* (1678) 93 The next enquiry must be, Whether or no the words of the Engagement will reasonably bear such a construction. *a* 1637 SIR W. MURE *Ho. Revallane* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 240 Not verie certaine whey^r or not brethren y^of at one & the same time, do beare the armes of the paternall coat. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 P 5 Whether or no they are real Husbands or personated ones I cannot tell. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. ix, What matters whether or no I make my way in life. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 174 As Protestants always ask of so much of Catholicism as they have dropped, whether or no it is true.

b. introducing a qualifying clause, as in 5.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* II. iv. 27 They..help to make the man good, whether or no they make his style be thought so. 1868 SWINBURNE *Blake* 88 The shape or style of workmanship each artist is bound to look to, whether or no he may ..trouble himself about the moral..bearings of his work.

c. *elipt.* as *adv. phr.* In any case, at all events.

1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* I. 182 Whether or no, this coat shall be my favourite coat. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxviii, Was it natural that at that instant, without any previous impulse or design, Kit should kiss Barbara? He did it, whether or no. 1873 MORLEY *Struggle Nat. Educ.* 79 You may say that this is to degrade the state. Possibly. But whether or no, this is the principle already..acted upon. 1904 WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaye* xiii, 'God help us whether or no!' the Vicomte answered in senile anger.

7. *Whether for a penny*: undecided, uncertain. *dial.*

1672 W. WALKER *Parœm.* 28, I am unresolved; I am whether for a penny.

8. as *sb.*, with pl. *whethers*. a. In phr. *At whethers*: see quot. *dial.*

1828 *Craven Gloss.* s.v. *Whethers*, 'To be at whethers', to be in a state of doubt or uncertainty. 'I stand at whethers'.

b. *nonce-use* (from 4).

1827 HOOD *Kangaroos* 68 In weighing every why and whether. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, Whether she was engaged, whether she was pretty,..and many other *whethers* of equal importance.

† **Whether**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 hwæþ(e)re, 2 hweðer(e, 4–5 queþer, qwhethir, 5 qwhedyr, queder. [OE. *hwæþ(e)re*, advb. formation from *hwæþer* WHETHER *pron.*] Nevertheless, however, and yet, for all that.

Beowulf 555 Hwæþre me gyfeþe wearð, þæt ic aslæcan orde geræhte, hildebille. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 256 Ne sceal mon hwæþere þisne drincan sellan on foreweardne þone ece. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 He cweð þat him of-þuhte þat he efre mancinn þesceop þa wes hweðere an man richwis et-foran gode. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4622 (Göttz.) 'Do queþer,' he said, 'þar-of na strijf.' 13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 153 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 Queþer mony porer in þis place is putte into graue. *a* 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 381 Queþer ȝit, for any quat a quyle latt him kepe. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxviii. 4791 He said: 'Na hast'; qwhedyr perfay His folk walde fayne haf beyn away.

b. in comb. THOUGH-WHETHER (*the-whether*), q.v.

12.. *Moral Ode* 232 (Egerton MS.) Þeh [*v. r.* þeih] hweðer we it iluuet wel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21009 Þair modres þo-queþer bath mild, Yoede at ans wit þair child. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 332 The quhethir he glaid was and ioly. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxxix. 6949 Þe qwhebir oft ryot walde þai ma To preik and poynde.

¶ *Never þe queder*: app. a confusion of *nevertheless* and *the-whether*.

a 1400–30 *Bk. Curtasye* 713 In *Babees Bk.* 323 The ouer bassyn þay halde neuer þe queder, Quylle þo keruer powre water in-to þe nedur.

c. app. as *adversative conj.* Although.

a 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 2090 Quethire days thre þurȝe-out thraly we fosten, .. And ȝit þe lawest at þe last ve limpid to bee.

Whether, obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER, WHITHER.

Whe·thered, *ppl. a. dial.* So **Whethering** *vbl. sb.* (See quots.)

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb., Bull* etc. XXXVI. 60 Of a Cow that is whethered. This disease is when a Cow after her caluing cannot cast her cleaning. 1847–54 WEBSTER, *Whethering*, the retention of the after-birth in cows. *Gardner.*

† **Whethere·ver**, *pron. Obs.* [WHETHER *pron.* + EVER *adv.* 8 e.] Whichever of the two.

1621 BP. HALL *Heav. upon Earth* § 23 Whether euer ouercommeth, is troubled both with resistance and victorie. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 13 But whether ever beginneth, he may be sure the other will follow.

† **Whe·therso**, *pron.* and *conj. Obs.* (Mostly as two words.) [WHETHER + SO *adv.* 17 d. In OE. *swa hwæþer swa*, reduced to *swæþer* (*swa*).]

1. *pron.* = prec.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 113 He hadde auȝene kere to donne hwaðer swo he wolde. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 482 Vlke man answere for his owne dedys and be dampnyd or sauyd whebir-so [*v. r.* whethir-sum] þey haue seruyd. 1389 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 74 To come to þe exsequies of hym or of hir þat is deede, whethir-so it be. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28788 (Cott. Galba) Whether so askes more rightwisly, Sall be herd of god almighty.

2. *conj.* = WHETHER B. 5 (the addition of *so* emphasizing the idea of indefiniteness).

c 1200 *Bestiary* 357 in *O. E. Misc.* 12 Alle þe oðre folezen, weðer so he swimmeð or he wadeð. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 491 Queðer so it þocte hem inel or good. *c* 1325 *Song Deo Gratias* 59 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 126 Wheþer so þou beo in baie or blis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prouhl. T.* 30 Ye shul it leme wher so ye wole or noon. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2560 Wherso be he yong or old. *c* 1478 *Rauf Coilȝear* 382 Quhidder as it gang to greif or to gawin.

Whethersoever, *pron.* and *conj.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [See SOEVER.]

1. *pron.* = prec. 2.

1532 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* v. 2–3 (1536) yeh, So that whether so euer I fele fyrst, the same certifyeth me of the other. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 307 Whether soeuer or who else besides winne it by conquest. 1613 DAY *Dyall* ix. (1614) 238 Whether soever of you had beene slaine in that quarrell. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* 219 What matters it whether I go for a flower, or a weed, here; whethersoever, I must wither. 1879 CHEVNEY *Vind. Oathe* 19 Whethersoever be named, both are included.

2. *conj.* = prec. 2.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 606 Queþer-so-euer he dele neach oþer harde. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1763 Wheder so euer þai sit or stand. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* R 2, Whethersoever the Lids be Stone, Mixt-beds, &c.

† **Whethersum**, *pron.* and *conj. Obs.* [See SUM *rel. adv.* and *conj.*] = prec.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10503 Queþer-sum it war sco or he. *Ibid.* 10503 Quersum i haf, maiden or knaue. 1357 [see WHETHERSO 2].

Whetile, Whetned, Whetsaw: see WITWALL, WHETTEN, WHET *v.* 7.

Whetstone (hwe·tstōun). Forms: see WHET *v.* and STONE *sb.*; also 4 whestoun, 4–5 whestan, weston(e, 4–6 whestone, 5 whestoon, watstone, queteston, 5–6 whatstane; β. 6 *Sc.* quhitstane, 7 whitston, 8 whitstone. [OE. *hwetstān* (*huete-, huetistān*) = (M)Du. *wetsteen*, MLG. *wettesten* (LG. *wettstein*), OHG. *wez(z)istein* (MHG. *wetz(e)stein*, G. *wetzstein*): f. WHET *v.* + STONE *sb.*]

1. A shaped stone used for giving a smooth edge to the cutting tool of a mower, reaper, or scythe.

heardlice gnide þone hneccestan mealmstan æfter þæm þæt he þence þone scelestan hwettstan on to gersceanne. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 631 A whaston (*v. r.* weston) is no keruyng Instrument, And yet it maketh sharpe keruyng tolys. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xxiii. (Tollem. MS.), Ben diuerse maner of whetstones, and some neden water and some neden oyle for-to whette. 1472 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 247, j whatstane. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 61 Get grindstone and whetstone, for tools that is dull. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cxcii. 150 And, as it is saide a good Cooke can make you good meate of a whetstone. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 916/1, I am .. taken suddenlie with a thing about my stomach, that lieth there along as cold as a whetstone. 1606 DEKKER *Newes from Hell* Wks. (Grosart) II. 99 Some pittifull fellowes (that haue..wittes colde as Whetstones, and more blunt). 1692 SOUTH *Serm., John viii. 17* (1697) I. 270 Diligence is to the Understanding, as the Whetstone to the Razor. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 239 Some argillites and sandstones/ these last form the coarser whet-stones. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* xi. § 2. (1862) 775 The..skins..are carefully smoothed with a whetstone upon a beam. 1896 J. DAVIDSON *Fleet St. Ecl.* Ser. II. 14 Still and anon The whetstone shrieked against the curving blade.

β. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 62 Sum..on quhitstanis thair axis scharpis at hame. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xv. (S.T.S.) I. 84 þow suld cut þat quhitstane in þi hand with ane rasoure.

b. Any hard fine-grained rock, as novaculite, of which whetstones are made; hone-stone.

1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery* H iij b, Like as what stone, ..hardiest is with toole to bee graue, Doth sooner breake in peeces, then it bendeth. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 111 This shire is well stored with Milstones, Crystal, Alabaster and Whetstone. 1788, 1806 [see HONE *sb.*[1] 3, 4]. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Whetstone*, or *Whetstone-still*, strata of argillaceous and siliceous hazle-stone in the carboniferous limestone formation.

c. *transf.* (See quots.)

1580 T. NEWTON *Approved Med.* 93 b, A Mole in a womans body, otherwise called a whetston, or a moone Calfe [*i. e.* a false conception]. 1683 THORESBY *Diary* (ed. Hunter) I. 135 This place [Grantham] is..chiefly noted of travellers, for a peculiar sort of thin cake, called Grantham Whetstones. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Whetstun*, .. any hard swelling. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss., Whetstone*, a lump in the udder of a cow, consequent upon the ducts having been overcharged.

2. Allusive and fig. uses. a. *gen.* with reference to the use of a whetstone.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 341 He..whette þe rude soules to goode wiþ þe whestoun of vertues. 1547–64 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 111 Except the sinful heart of man..be often scoured with the whetstone of aduersity. 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprel.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 137 Shooting out their venemous shafts, with mischeeuous heads, sharpened vpon Martins most malicious whetstone. 1603 DEKKER *Wond. Year* Wks. (Grosart) I. 147 The very name of Londoners being worse then ten whetstones to sharpen the sword of Iustice against them. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 165 Rhetoricall Topicks are such Whetstones, that even the Sword of the Spirit (that two-edged Sword) hath often used. 1763 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* IV. 59 He serves for nothing but a mere Whetstone of your Ill-humour. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. XXXVIII, Boileau, whose rash envy could allow No strain which shamed his country's creaking lyre, That whetstone of the teeth—monotony in wire! 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XV, The face of the Sovereign was a whetstone to the soldier's sword.

b. In allusion to the former custom of hanging a whetstone round the neck of a liar; esp. in phr. *to lie for the whetstone*, to be a great liar.

[1364 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) IV. 60 Juggement de Pillorie par iij heures, ove un egrue pier entour soun col, pur mensonges controeves.] 1428 *Cal. Let.-Bks. Lond., Let.-Bk. I* (1909) 197 He, as a fals lyere..shal stonde..upon þe pillorye ..wiþ a Westone aboute his necke. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXI. 60 A, good sir, lest hym cone; he lyes for the queteston, I gyf hym the pryce. 1470 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 372 Nor that they frobenceforth enbrase eny jure, vppon the peyn to lese at þe first defalt, C s., and at þe ij de defalt to lause the whestone

their nekkes. 1590 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 296/2 ——senture he that was the inuentor fyrst of thys tale of the stone, was disposed to lie for the whetstone: Wherfore in my mynde he is worthy to haue it. 1877 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* 437 You haue sayd enough, M. Allen, to winne the whetstone, if it were as bigge as any mountaine in the worlde. 1579 — *Confut. Sanders* 356 Of all the lowde lyes that euer I heard, this may goe for the whetstone. 1592 Nashe *Strange Newes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 267 Ware stumbling of whetstones in the darke there, my maisters. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 211 He might ..for his labour challenge to be preferred to the Clarkship of the whetstone. *Ibid.* 215 Our worshipfull Clarkes of the whetstone, Doctour Clare [etc.]..diuers late Historiologers, and..this new Tale-founder himselfe. 1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 98 O intolerable lying villayne, that was never begotten without the consent of a whetstone! 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 639 They will presently giue both these Authors and me the Whet-stone for rare vntruths. 1698 [H. Edmundson] *Fellow-trav.* 285 A great Person..had in a frolick set on some wanton wits to lye for the Whetstone. 1709 Mrs. Centlivre *Busie Body* III. iv, If you be not as errant a Cuckold, as e're drove Bargain upon the Exchange,..I am the Son of a Whetstone. 1792 Budworth *Ramble to Lakes* vi. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.*

β. 1778 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 79 What a gurt Lee es thate!..thek Man shou'd a' had the Whitstone.

c. Something that sharpens the wits, desires, etc., or incites to action.

1551 T. Wilson *Logic* Ep. A iij, I professe it to be but a spurre, or a whetstone, to sharpe the pens of some other. 1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* Ep. to King, By the readyng of wyttie artes (which be as the whette stones of witte). 1583 Greene *Mamillia* 8 b, The court Mamillia, is ye whetston of lust, the baite of vanity, the call of Cupid. 1588 — *Pandosto* B 2 b, Preferment to a meane man, is a whetstone to courage. 1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* B 3, Wits whetstone, want. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 37 For a whetstone, to pull on a cup of wine, we have dryed Neats tongues. 1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 358 The Wits..made him their Whetstone. 1752 Hume *Pol. Disc.* ii. 31 Anger, which is said to be the whetstone of courage. 1821 Shelley *Epipsych., Passages* etc. 100 Let them read Shakespeare's sonnets, taking thence A whetstone for their dull intelligence. *a* 1857 R. A. Vaughan *Ess. & Rem.* (1858) I. 7 Their wit could content itself with no less royal a whetstone than himself and his son Pius.

β. 1617 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 240, I am of opinion that Goresano, our late *iurubasso*, is a whitston to egg hym on against us.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whetstone-mountain; whetstone-shaped* adj.; †**whetstone-leasing** (Leasing *sb.*): cf. 2 b above.

1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. vi, *Whet-stone leasings of olde Maundeuile. 1851 B. Thorpe *Northern Mythol.* I. 72 The club was dashed in pieces, of which one portion fell on the earth, whence come all the *whetstone mountains. 1853 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 680/1 *Whetstone-shaped crystals. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 214 The mucus..contains whetstone-shaped bodies.

†**Whetstones-park.** *Obs.* (See quot. *a* 1700.) Hence †**Whetstone whore.**

1688 *News fr. France* 4 You may as soon make those of Whetstones-park among you blush, as put them out of countenance. 1684 Dryden *Ovid's Amours* II. xix. 31 Let him who loves an easie Whetstone Whore, Pluck leaves from Trees, and drink the Common Shore. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whet-stones-park*, a Lane betwixt Holborn and Lincolns-Inn-fields, fam'd for a Nest of Wenches, now de-park'd.

Whett, obs. form of Wheat.

Whetted (hwe·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Whet *v.* + -ed 1.] Sharpened.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* lxx, The whetted tuske, and furrowed forhead hye. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* x. 365 One, who at sight of Supper open'd wide His Jaws before, and whetted Grinders try'd. 1794 Coleridge *Fall of Robespierre* I. 185 Who from a bad man's bosom wards the blow Reserves the whetted dagger for his own. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. III. 391 Then light the torch, and draw the whetted sword! 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* II. iv, Every one else..beginning to eat with the whetted appetite that going to church always seems to engender.

Whet-tell, dial. form of Witwall.

†**Whetten,** *v. Obs.* [f. Whet *v.* + -en 5.] *trans.* To whet.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 79 My mynd was greedelye whetned Too parle with the Regent. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 82 Sathan now whettens his hornes.. to goore the more dyrefully. 1624 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. 1[1]. iv. (ed. 2) 386 To..make him..more lealous, to whetten his loue.

Whetter (hwe·təɹ). [f. Whet *v.* + -er 1.]

1. A sharpener of an instrument.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 20 a/2 A whetter, *acutor, qui instrumenta acuit.* 1611 Cotgr., *Affilaur*, a whetter, or sharpener of edg'd tooles. 1781 J. Moore *View Soc. It.* lxxl. II. 363. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Whetter*, a sharpener; as a whetstone, hone. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 43 Blade Whetter.

†2. *fig.* One who urges *on. Obs.*

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* xviii. 1096 The blacke bands.. serued as good examples and whetters on of the residue of his armye.

3. *fig.* One or that which sharpens, stimulates, or incites the intellect, desires, appetite, etc.

1617 Fletcher *Valentinian* IV. i, You whetters of my follies. 1633 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. xii. Wks. (1712) 82 Sympathy and Antipathy..are notable whetters and quickeners of the Spirit of Life in all Animals. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* I. i, The Air upon Barnstead Downs is nothing to it for a Whetter. 1749 Fielding *J. Andrews* III. ii, Love, like other sweet things, is no whetter of the stomach. 1850 Scott *Jrnl.* 27 July (1890) II. 348 No whetter of genius is necessity, though said to be the mother of invention.

b. *spec.* A habitual drinker of 'whets' (Whet *sb.* 2 b); a dram-drinker. ? *Obs.*

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 238 P 4 A sort of Persons commonly known by the Name of Whetters, who drink themselves into an intermediate State of being neither drunk or sober before the Hours of 'Change. 1725 *View Lond. & Westm.* 38 Here is likewise a religious Ambulatory for the Whetters and Wenchers.

c. = Whet *sb.* 2 b. ? *Obs.*

1735 *Connoisseur* No. 87 P 2 They frequently have recourse to whetters and provocatives, to anticipate the call of hunger. 1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 205 Fifty verses we've sung—and we scarce can do better, Than to finish our ditty by taking a whetter.

Whetting (hwe·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whet *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Whet.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), þe whestone haþ þre propertees þ^t it scruþ anoþre þinge in whettinge and wasteþ hym silfe some and some. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/1 Whettynge, or scharpynge, *acucio.* 1574 W. Bourne *Regim. Sea* vi. (1577) 28 b, I would not wish them to meddle with..whettyng of the side of the needle. 1616 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 176 Whetting (vis. of kniues and sithes) is no letting. [Cf. quot. *a* 1628 s.v. Whet *sb.* 1.] 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 2) § 131 Recreation is intended to the minde, as whetting is to the sithe. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* xiv. 344 That we should sacrifice the one [*sc.* the Churches peace]..to the whetting and inflaming of the other [*sc.* curiosity]. 1774 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Sept., The titmouse..early in February begins to make two quaint notes, like the whetting of a saw. 1852 M. Arnold *Empedocles* II. 264 With one arm over his head, Watching how the whetting sped.

attrib. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Join.* v. P 26 They wedge the blade of the Saw hard into the *Whetting Block. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1081 It..furnishes shoemakers with..*whetting-boards to smooth the edges of their knives upon. 1706 Farquhar *Twin Rivals* I. i, I have brought you a *Whetting-Glass, the best Old Hock in Europe; I know 'tis your drink in a Morning. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 417 A *qwettenge-ston.

Whettle, dial. form of Whittle.

Whew (hwiū, hiū, wiū), *sb.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* qwe, whewe, 6 *Sc.* quhew, 7, 9 *dial.* whue, 9 wheugh, 7– whew. [Echoic.]

†1. A musical instrument, a pipe. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6051 For to wacche and to wake for wothis of harme, With qwistlis & qwes, & other qwaint gere. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 (Addit. MS.), A Whewe, *fistula.*

2. A sound as of whistling or of something rushing through the air; *spec.* the cry of the plover.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. xi. 46 Than from the hevin dovne quhyrland wyth a quhew Come queyne Juno. *c* 1610 *Robin Hood & Curtall Fryer* xxxi. (Ritson), The fryer set his fist to his mouth, And whuted whues three. 1710 Ruddiman *Gloss. Douglas's Æneis, Quhew*, the sound which a bird's wings make in the air. Scot. Bor. *a Few*, vox ex sono conficta. *a* 1784 *Rookhope Ryde* x. in Scott *Minstrelsy*, Then oer the moss, where as they came, With many a brank and whew. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. vi, The whew of lead still singing in their ears. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xiii. 289 The yelping of the guid-guid, and the sudden whew-whew of the cheucau. 1851 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) II. 22 The shrill whew of the plover.

3. An utterance of the interjection *whew!*

1751 Smollett *Per. Pickle* xxii. [xix], He uttered a long and loud whew! which was succeeded by an exclamation of 'Damn my old shoes! a bite by G—!' 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. iii, A sound from the old oak, like an 'ah' or a 'whew'. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xix, At sight of which Yeo gave a long wheugh.

4. (Also *whew-duck*) = Whewer.

1804 Bewick *Brit. Birds* II. 352 Wigeon. Whewer, Whim, or Pandled Whew. 1832 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 83 *Mareca Penelope.* The European Wigeon. Common Wigeon. Whew Duck. Pandle-Whew.

Whew (hwiū, hiū, wiū), *v.*1 Also 6 *Sc.* quhew. [Echoic.] *intr.* To whistle; to make a whistling or rustling noise; to utter the interjection *whew!* Hence **Whew·ing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 (Addit. MS.), To Whewe, *fistulare.* 1590 Burel in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1709) II. 31 Eyrus ..With quhewing, renewing, His bitter blasts againe. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* VI. 32 Mewe at passionate speeches, blare at merrie,..whew at the childrens Action, whistle at the songs. 1765 [see Whew *int.*]. 1802 Robt. Walker (Tim Bobbin 2nd) *Plebeian Pol.* 23, I met two pa's'ns weh grete geawns on, whewink i' th' wind. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* III, I heard them [*sc.* the plovers] aye whewing e'en an' morn. 1848 Aird *Mother's Blessing* I. i, Down all at once a wind Came whewing from the hollow of the hill. 1896 *Idler* Mar. 324 Friend: 'Whew—w!' Man in Love (irritably) 'Don't go "whewing" all over the place like that.'

Whew (hwiū, wiū), *v.*2 Also **wheugh, whue, whiew.** [perh. the same as prec.] 1. *intr.* To move quickly; to hurry away, depart abruptly (*dial.*); to bustle about (*U.S.*).

1684 Otway *Atheist* III. i, Methought indeed the Coach whew'd it away a little faster than ordinary. *a* 1743 Relfe *Misc. Poems* (1747) 27 See! owr the field the whurlin sunshine whiews. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'To whew off,' to turn off abruptly, to depart without ceremony. 1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* xxxiii. (1876) 427 Bel Bree had not been brought up in a New England farm-house, and seen her capable stepmother 'whew round', to be hard put to it now over half a dozen cups and tumblers more or less.

Whew (hwiū, hiū), *int.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* quhewe, 7 whew heu, 7–8 whew, 8 whiew, whu, 8–9 whuh, 9 wheugh, 6– whew. An exclamation of the nature of a whistle uttered by a sign of astonishment, disgust, dismay, etc.

The identity of the word in the first quot. is uncertain.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxix. 4949 (MS. Auchinl.) Ihit þai wipin set wp a schout And cryit lowde and said 'Quhewe! [*v.r.* Quhow] Now haif we heire the Montagew'. 1598 Shake. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 30 A plague vpon't, when Theeues cannot be true one to another. *They Whistle.* Whew: a plague light vpon you all. 1821 W. Percy *Cock queanes* etc. III. iv. (Roxb.) 38 *Dem.*..Come on thy wayes. *Jol.* I come. *Pig.* When heu, when heu, now goe thy wayes. 1908 Ramsay *The Lure* 110 Whieu,—Whieu,—he whistled. 1768 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxii, Whu—v—v—whew—w—w—whuved Margarita. 1766 *Ibid.* IX. xxxiii, Whew—u—u— cried my father; beginning the sentence with an exclamatory whistle. 1770 Cumberland *West Indian* II. viii, Whuh! What's the hurry the man's in? 1800 E. D. Clarke in *Life* (1824) V. 433 And now let the scene change—Whew!—away with inscriptions! 1813 Scott *Guy M.* xxxix, 'But how did your joint production look the next morning?'..'Wheugh! capital—not three words required to be altered.' 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xliv, Whew! said the housebreaker, wiping the perspiration from his face. 1898 H. S. Merriman *Roden's Corner* xxxii, 'Whew!' ejaculated Roden, when the danger seemed to be past, and they could breathe again.

Whew, obs. form of Hue *sb.*1

Whewellite (hiū·ĕlait). *Min.* [f. the name of Professor William *Whewell* (1794–1866) + -ite 1.] Calcium oxalate, occurring in colourless or white monoclinic crystals.

1852 Brooke & Miller *Phillips' Elem. Introd. Min.* 623.

Whewer (hwiū·əɹ). *dial.* [app. f. Whew *v.*1 + -er 1.] The female wigeon, *Mareca penelope.*

1634 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) p. xxiii, Peckards 3—broadbills 5—whewers 2. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 100 *Boscas*, alias *Anas Fistularis*.. the Whewer, or Whistling Widgeon. 1674 in *Corr. J. Ray* (1848) 16, I have put up in a box..a Widgeon and a Whewer. 1734 Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 88. 1824 [see Whew *sb.* 4].

Whewl (hwiūl, wiūl), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6 whewl, 7, 9 whule, 9 wewl. [Echoic.] *intr.* To cry plaintively, moan, whine, howl. Hence **Whew·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1560 Phaer *Æneid* X. (1562) Dd 4 b, Whiles whewling and he sat. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VII. 497 Lamenting for his sonnes mischaunce with whewling in the Aire. 1609 *Old Meg of Herefordsh.* Ded. (1816), Twaire-pipe that famous Southren Taberer..who for whuling hath beene famous through the Globe of the world. 1618 Chapman *Odyss.* XII. 135 For here, the whuling Scylla, shrowds her face. 1626 S. S. *Honest Lawyer* II. D 4 b, A Virgin..Could not with whuling nay's be so peruerse. *Ibid.* IV. H 4 b, You know the layle. Ha you neuer bin hir'd to yawle for the whole prison? and whule to the passengers? 1847 Halliwell, *Whule*, to whine; to howl. *Suffolk.* 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss., Wewling*, a plaintive note in crying, commonly with a view to excite charity.

Whey (hwē), *sb.* Forms: 1 hwæg, hwæs, hwæig, 3 weȝe, wei, hwey, 4 qwhey, 4–5 wheye, 5–6 way, 5–7 (9 *dial.*) whay, 6 qway, quay, *Sc.* quhay(e, 6–7 whaye, wey, 9 *dial.* whew, 5– whey. [OE. *hwæg, hweg* = OFris. **wei*, (WFris. *waei*, NFris. *wâi*, EFris. *wêi*), MDu. *wey* (Du. *wei*, LG. *wei, waje*) = OTeut. **χwajo-*, of which an ablaut-variant is found in MLG. *huy, hoie* (LG. *hui, hoi*, Du. *hui*) = **χujo-*.]

1. The serum or watery part of milk which remains after the separation of the curd by coagulation, esp. in the manufacture of cheese.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 272 *Serum*, hwæg. *a* 1050 *Rect. Sing. Pers.* § 14 (Liebermann) 452 Sceaphyrdes riht is, þæt he habbe..blede fulle hwæzes oööe syringe ealne sumor. 12.. *Sidonius Glosses* (Aneed. Oxon.) I. v. 34/3 *Hoc serum*, i. weȝe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1002 (Cotton MS.) Hi drinkeþ milc & wel [*Jesus MS.* hwey] þar to. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 9/2 *Cerum, i. quidam liquor*, qwhey. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 200 A purgacioun with gotis whey. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 56 Take croddys of þe deye, & wryng owt þe whay. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* VI. 43 Thai aid grit cheir of..curdis and quhaye. 1587 Marcall *Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 56 See..that your cheese be well and close gathered, in pressing foorth cleane all the whay. Surflet *Country Farm* .. I. xiv. 90 The whale may serue for the feeding of the hogs and dogs. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. I. 252 Of all Drinks, Whey is the most relaxing. 1792 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. vi. 183 My uncle drinks the whey here, as I do ever since I understood it was brought to his bedside every morning at six, by a very pretty dairy-maid. 1893 J. P. Sheldon *Brit. Dairying* xv. 263 On dairy farms where cheese and butter are made, pigs are useful to consume whey and skim-milk.

b. with qualification: *whey of butter*, buttermilk; *atum whey*, whey formed in the coagulation of milk by powdered alum; *celery whey, mustard whey* (Mustard *sb.* 3 c), *sack whey* (Sack *sb.*8 2), *wine whey*, names of beverages or medicinal drinks; *white whey* (see quot. 1837).

1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Whay of butter, *babeurre.* 1733 Cheyne *Engl. Malady* III. i. (1734) 268 To drink plentifully of small Sack Whey, or Water-Gruel. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 80 Drink half a Pint of Cellary Whey. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 313 To make Wine Whey. Put a pint of skimmed milk, and half a pint of white wine into a bason. 1784 J. Potter *Virt. Villagers* II. 88 Wine and mustard wheys. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* II. 424 (Libr. Useful Knowl.), That which is pressed by hand from the curd, is termed 'white whey', and contains a considerable portion of oily matter. 1898 Ellwanger *Engl. Traits* xiv. 246 The making a better sick-chair and a better wine-whey for an invalid. 1899 Mrs. G. L. Banks *Forbidden to Marry* viii, To prepare a whey of alum-and-milk.

†2. The serum of the blood. *Obs.*

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* V. 80 The whey of blood ought by the reynes to be strayned out. 1615 Crooke *Body of*

Man 95 The whey is derived by the vreters into the bladder. 1718 Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* I. v. § 4 The aforemention'd Food mixes itself with another Humour, Water, or Whey, which the Anatomists call the *Lympha*.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whey-bath*, *-colour*, *-curd*, *-house*, *-lead* (Lead *sb.*[1] 5), *-pot*, *-tub*; *whey-drinker*; *whey-colour(ed)*, *-like* adjs.; in reference to the pale colour of whey, as *whey beard*, *countenance*, *face*; *whey-bearded*, *-pale* adjs.; **whey-bacon**, bacon from a *whey-pig*; **whey-beard**, (*a*) a person having a 'whey beard'; (*b*) the whitethroat, *Sylvia cinerea*; **whey-bird**, the woodlark, *Alauda arborea*; also = *whey-beard* (*b*); †**whey-blooded** *a.*, cowardly; †**whey-brained** *a.*, weak-brained; **whey-brose**, brose made with whey instead of water; **whey-butter**, butter made from whey or from *whey-cream*; **whey-cream**, the cream which remains in the whey after the curd has been removed; **whey-drop**, **-eye**, **-spring**, a hole in an imperfectly pressed cheese in which the whey collects; **whey-face**, a person having a pale face; so **whey-faced** *a.*; **whey-pig**, a pig fed with whey; **whey-porridge**, porridge made with whey instead of water; **whey-whig**, a beverage made of whey flavoured with herbs; **whey-worm**, see quot. 1828; *fig.* a whim; hence **whey-wormed** *a.*, marked with whey-worms.

luxury..indulge in *whey baths. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* iv. F 3 b, Father *whay-beard. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* xv. 84 He is leane, crooked, or beetle-browed, a thin whay Beard. 1831 Rennie *Montagu's Ornith. Dict., Whey beard*, a name for the White Throat. 1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* I. (1556) 46 b, As soone as he waxed *wheybearded. 1825 Jamieson, *Whey-bird*, the wood-lark, .. Lanarks. 1862 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 Whey-bird, the Whitethroat. 1675 Duffett *Mock Tempest* I. i, The *Whey-Blooded Rogue looks as if his heart were melted into his Breeches. 1660 Tatham *Rump* I. i, A *Whey-brain'd fellow. 1894 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* viii, The *whey-brose was perfection. *a* 1722 Isle *Husb.* (1757) 406 They skimmed the cream off to make *whey-butter. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 211 The quantity of whey-butter per cow is about half a pound per week. 1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* ix. 89 When..the river..looketh of a *whay colour. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 171 If the weather be dark or Whey-colour. 1845 James *Arrah Neil* ii, That indistinct hue which may be called whey-colour. 1600 *Shaks. Merry Wives* II. i, I take it hee is somewhat a weakly man: And he has as it were a *whay coloured beard. *a* 1738 Arbuthnot *Diss. Dumpling* Misc. Wks. 1751 I. 67 A y Whey-colour'd Beard. 1838 Combe *Digestion* I. v, ni-transparent whey-coloured fluid. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* E 2 b, A *whay countenance, short stooppes, and carthen dampish-voyce. 1750 W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. i. 170 When Butter is wholly made with *Whey-cream, it is then justly named Whey-butter. 1597 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Requeson*, *whey cruds. 1740 Baynard *Health* (ed. 6) 80 Such a Tormenter never rages 'mong *Whey-Drinkers in poor cottages. 1812 W. Aiton *Agric. Surv. Ayrs.* 452 (Jam.) Putrifying holes, which, in the dairy language of Ayrshire, are termed *whey-drops. *Ibid.* 455 Whey-springs, or *eyes, are seldom met with in the cheeses of Ayrshire. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* v. iii. 17 *Mach.*..Whnt Soldiers, Patch?.. What Soldiers *Whay-face? *Ser.* The English Force, so please you. 1733 Jane Collier *Art Torment.* I. ii. 46 If her complexion is fair, call her Whey-face. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* I. *Mrs. Mosse*, A little .. man, with a Jerry-Sneak expression in his pale whey-face. 1649 Davenant *Love & Hon.* iv. iv. so Marke, sir, that *whey-fac'd fellow in the red. 1697 Prior *Ep. to Sir F. Sheppard* 49 That sneaking Whey-fac'd God Apollo. 1733 Foote *English. in Paris* I. i, One whey-fac'd Son of a Bitch..call'd me *Bête*. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xvii, Your tutor, whey-faced Mr. Vining. 1663 Pepys *Diary* 10 June, To the Royal Theatre... Thence to the *whay-house, and drank a great deal of whay. 1872–4 Jefferies *Toilers of Field* (1892) 164 Against one wall are the *whey-heads. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 174 A *whey-like juice. —— Good *Study Med.* II. 189 Whey-like urine. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 521/1 *Porcus serarius*, ..a *whey pig. 24.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 624/4 Whey i. olla *whey potte. 1784 Twamley *Dairying Exempl.* 13 Faults ..in Cheese such as..*Whey Springs. 1811 [see *whey-eye*]. 1813 Rudge *Agric. Glouc.* 209 Butter-milk .. is sometimes saved in the *whey-tub. 1811 Willan in *Archæologia* XVII. 163 *Whey-Whig*, whey impregnated with mint, balm, and walnut leaves. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 222 The Essex men hauynge wylde *whaye wormes in their beddes. 1808 *Craven Gloss., Whey-worms*, pimples, from which exudes a wheylike moisture. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 553 A sory face *Whey-wormed about.

b. as *adj.* Whey-coloured (cf. *whey beard*).

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 245 His tawny Beard .. The upper part thereof was Whey, The nether Orange mixt with Grey.

†**Whey**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To separate the whey from (milk); hence in *vbl. sb. attrib.*, as *wheying cloth*; also, to make (the blood) wheyish or thin.

1660 in *Sir R. Sadler's St. Papers* (1809) III. 358 Two fleeting dishes, six turning cloathes, and five wheying cloathes. 1661 Feltham *Resolves* (ed. 8) II. xi. 201 It is most true that in matters unjust, Christian Religion wheyes the bloud and makes a Coward of man. 1728 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 73 The Idolatry of Covetousness .. had so whey'd or coagulated all it's Mass of Blood. 1728 E. Smith *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 85 Take the Curd of a gallon of Milk, and whey it well. *Ibid.* 105 Take a gallon of new Milk, set it as for a Cheese, and gently whey it.

Whey, north. f. Quey, heifer, Way *int.*

Wheyey (hwēⁱ·ĭ), *a.* Forms: 6 **wheye**, 6–7 **whayey**, 7 **whayie**, **wheyie**, **whaey**, 7– **wheyey**. [f. Whey *sb.* + -y[1].] Of the nature of whey; consisting of, containing, or resembling whey.

1547 Recorde *Judic. Uryne* 13 b, Urine is the superfluitie or wheye substaunce of the bloude in the hollow vayne. 1572 J. Jones *Bucklestones Bathes Banefyte* 18 The whayey, thinne, and subtyle humoures. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 93 The serous or wheyie part of the bloud. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 23. 2/1 The more Wheyey Parts of the Chyle. 1778 Pennant *Tour in Wales* (1883) I. 54 Discolored by a wheyey tinge. 1800 Good *Study Med.* IV. 81 The surface of which [*sc.* the bladder] pours forth a cheesy or wheyey fluid. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 29/1 A separation of the buttery and wheyey parts.

Hence **Wheyiness**, wheyey quality.

1660 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 220 They prefer Asses milk before the rest, by reason of its thin substance, and very much wheyiness.

Wheyish (hwēⁱ·ĭʃ), *a.* Also 6 **whaish**, 6–7 **whayish**(e. [f. Whey *sb.* + -ish[1].] Having the nature or quality of whey; like or resembling whey in consistence, colour, or other quality; watery, thin; palish.

1565 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 46 b, The vayne..whiche bryngeth the whayishe humour into the left kydney. 1572 Twyne *Dionysius' Surv. World* E viij, A wheyish Topase. 1585 Banister *Tumors* xxxiv. Wks. (1633) 114 A watrish or whayish and unprofitable substance. 1685 B. Jonson *Staple of News* II. 2nd Intermeane, If it be fresh and sweet butter; but say it be sower and wheyish? 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 130 Some River-Water will look of a wheyish whiteish Colour. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 295 A cow.. lately had the yellows, and the first coming of them to be known was by her milk being wheyish. 1801 Beddoes *Hygeia* VI. (1802) 43 These break..and discharge the ill-conditioned, wheyish, and curdy matter. 1807 Jas. Hall *Trav. Scot.* II. 327 The liquid oozing from the roof in a few minutes seems to be formed into a wheyish substance.

Hence **Whey'ishness**, wheyish quality; also *fig.*

1637 Markham *Engl. Housew.* II. (ed. 5) 107 To prevent the wheyishnesse of the Custard. 1803 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 453, I have read Cowper's 'Odyssey'..to cure my poetry of its wheyishness.

Wheyl(l)e, obs. forms of Wheel. **Wheyn**, var. Whyne *Obs.* whence. **Wheynte**, obs. f. Quaint *a.*

Wheyte, north. f. Quit *v.* **Whhi-hhee**: see Wehee. **Whi**: see Wehee, Why, Wie.

Whib(b)le, etc., obs. variants of Quibble, etc.

1604 Babington *Comf. Notes Exod.* ii. 25 Whiblers and pratling pick-thanks, tatlers, and tale-tellars. 1624 Gee *Foot out of Snare* (ed. 3) 82, I doe not heare, that any of those snarling whibbling Curres can barke. If they dare open their snapping mouthes, let them doe it whilest men lliue that may refute them. *a* 1626 Middleton *Mayor Quinb.* v. i. (1662) 63, *2 Cheat.* The Whirligig, the Whibble, the Carwidgen. *Sym.* Hey day, what names are these! *2 Cheat.* New names of late.

Whibibbe, obs. form of Cubeb.

1358–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 555 Et in una libra de Whibibbes prec. iiij s.

†**Whiblin**. *Obs.* Of doubtful origin and meaning; perh. a slang term denoting 'thingumbob', 'what-d'ye-call-it'; but cf. Whibble and Quiblin.

With quot. 1604 cf. Whifling, Whimling.

1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* I. i. ii, Hees a very mandrake, or else..one a these whiblins, and thats worse, and then all the children that he gets lawfully of your body sister, are bastards by a statute. 1623 Marston *Insat. C'tess* II. D j b, A rare whiblin, To be reueng'd, and yet gaine pleasure in't. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 234/1 Projects..of planting the Ile of Dogs with Whiblins, Corwhichets, Mushromes and Tobacco. *a* 1652 Brome *Lovesick Court* v. i, Come, Sir, let go your whiblin. (*Dis.* snatcheth his sword away.)

Whioche: see Whitch, Witch.

Which (hwitʃ), *a.* and *pron.* Forms: see below. [OE. *hwelc*, *hwilc*, *hwylc* corresp. to OFris. *hwelik*, *hwel(e)k*, *hwak*, *hulk*, *huk*, *hok* (Fris. *wolk*, *wwk*, *huk*, etc.), OS. *hwilīc*, MLG. *welik*, *welk*, MDu. *welc*, (LG., Du. *welk*), OHG. **hwalīh*, *wualīh*, *hwelīh*, *welīh*, *-ich*, *-eh* (MHG. *welh*, *welch*, G. *welch*), Goth. *hwileiks* :— OTeut. **xwalīk-*, **xwilīk-* 'of what form', f. *xwa-*, *xwi-* (Indo-eur. *q^wo-*, *q^wi-* Who, etc.) + **līko-* body, form (cf. Like *a.*). OE. *hwelc* (OWS. and Anglian), *hwælc* (Northumb.) and *hwilc* (chiefly WS.), represent primitive **hwalīk-* and **hwilīk-* respectively; later OE. has a rounded form *hwylc* of *hwilc*. The three OE. types *hwalc*, *hwilc*, *hwylc* gave three ME. types **hwelch*, *hwilch*, *hwillch*, which became, by loss of *l* (cf. Such), *hwech*, *hwich*, *hwilch*; the second of these types alone has survived in mod. English, the other two not remaining current after the 15th century. The forms with non-palatalization of the final consonant *whilk* (*quhilk*), occas. *quhik*, are northern (in ME. also East Anglian); cf. Swilk, Sic. Forms showing the absorption of *w* as in *hulch*, *huch* (cf. *such* for *swuch*, and OFris. *huk*) are rare.

Certain continental forms are compounded with other derivatives of the same pronominal stem; Goth. *hwaleiks* with the instrumental *hwē* (cf. *hwaleiks* how great); ON. *hvatr* (MSw. *hwilken*, *hwilkin*, *hwil*[1]*kin*, Sw., Da. *hvilken*) with the locative *hvē*; OHG. *hwelīh*, *wiolīh* (MHG. *wielich*) with the adv. *hwuo*, *wuo* (G. *wo*) how.

For the compounds *gehwilc*, *ælhwilc*, see Each.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. † **hwelc**, **huelc**, **hwylc**, **huylc**, **hucolc**, **hwelch**, 4–5 **whelche**, **weche**, 5 **whech**, **qwech**(e, **quelche**, (**qhelche**); 3 **qwel**, 4 **quelk**.

[*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* Q 74 *Quo cumque modo*, ȝehwelcī wega.] *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xviii. 13 [xix. 12] *Delicta quis intelleǥit*, scylde hwelc ongeteð? *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ix. 34 *Disputauerunt quis esset illorum maior*, ..ȝefliston hua *vel* huelc woere hiora mara. *Ibid.* xii. 19 *Si cuius frater mortuus fuerit*, ..ȝef huelc *vel* ænig broðer dead sie *vel* bli̇. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 An hwelche wise ic mihte beast sahtlin wið mine halend Criste. *c* 1250 qwel [see B. 8]. *c* 1275 *Cursor M.* 27236 (Fairf.) Þe prest agh spire..Of men þat ar in religioun Quelk recheles prelatis is. 1387 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 2 The chests..weche they haue of myn. 1428 *Ibid.* 44 Þe money þe qweche Oliner hath in his hand. 14.. *Cast. Love* 578 (MS. Bodl. Add. B. 107), Herkeneth wheche loue, wych bucsomnesse, Whiche grace & whiche swetnesse, That good from hevyn to alyght ches! 1449 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 82 Abok of sofystre..the qheche my seyd brother beheestid my moder. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xxxii, þat þei schuld not denye o tyme whech þei graunted anoþer tyme. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 20, I am enformyd, ye schall recuver of hard and but a part, the qwech schuld be dere of the sute.

2. *a.* 1–3 **hwilc**, **wilc**, 3 **hwilch**, **w(h)ilch**, **whilc**, *Orm.* **whillc** (*gen.* **whillkes**, *pl.* **whillke**), 3–4 **wilk**, 4 **wylke**, 4–5 **whylke**, 4–6 **whilke**, 4–6, 7–9 *dial.* **whilk**, 5 **wilke**, 5–7 *dial.* **whylk**, (6 *Sc.* **vhilk**, *pl.* **vhilks**, 6–8 *Sc. pl.* **whilks**); 3–4 **quilc**, **quilke**, 4 **qwilk**, **quylk**, **quhylk**, (**quil**), 4–5 **quilk**, 4–8 *Sc.* **quhilk** (*pl.* 5–7 **quhilkis**, 6 **quhilks**).

a 950 *Ælfred's Boeth.* xxxiv. § 10 Hwilc ure mæg ærecean medemlice ures scyppendes willan? *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp. Matt.* xxi. 24 Ic ek eow sæcge in wilce mæh[t]e ic þas do. *c* 1200 Ormin 471 whillc [see B. 4]. *Ibid.* 3283 O whillkess kinnes wise. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Which lean aust ðu te hauen of godd? *Ibid.* 125 ȝif þu wilt witen wilke eiȝene ðe hierte muȝe habben. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Hlistեð nu for hwat and o wilche wise. 13.. quhylk [see B. 7 a]. 13.. *Northern Passion* 236 (MS. Camb. Gg. 5. 32), þai lukyd..Whylke [*v.r.* wylke] of þayme it myght be fall. 1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 57, I wul my wyf haf my best aumbeler, and my sone.. wylk him likeþ best. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 14 The vapouris..Whilks syne in cloudds are keiped closs and well. *c* 1634 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* iv. i, Lere me whylk way he wended. 1721 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 132 To be..granted to the said decesst Robert lord Nairn and the airs male of his body whilks failzieing to the said Margaret now lady Nairn his daughter. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* iii, Their damnable skirlin' pipes, whilk they themselves pretend to understand.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2350 Seiđ him quilke min blisses ben. *Ibid.* 3631 Quilc frud, quat offrende, quilc [*MS.* quil] laȝa. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4788 Lok quilk of us sal tak on hand For vs alle do þis trauail. *Ibid.* 8454 Þe kind o thinges lerd he, .. Quil war þair mightes soth and lele. 1387 in *Edin. Charters* (1871) 35 In fourme the quylk eftir folowys. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* 1 The rubryis .. be the quhilkis men may better knaw [etc.]. *a* 1592 whilke [see B. 2 b]. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 123 The bukes of the Assemblie, all quhilkis I had preserved hole. 1724 Ramsay *Vision* xvii, Starrie gleims, Quhilk prinkled.

β. 2 **hwic**, **wic**, 2–3 **hwich**, (**ȝwich**), 3–6 **wyche**, **wich**, 4 **hwych**, *pl.* **huiche**, 4–5 **wiche**, 4–6 **whiche**, **whyche**, **wych**, 5 **whych**, (**wycche**, 6 **wyech**, *Sc.* **vich**, **vhich**), 4–**which**; 4–5 **quiche**, **quyche**, 5 **quich**, **quych**, **qwiche**, **qwych**(e, 5–6 *Sc.* **quhich**; 5 *Sc.* **quhik**.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 238 Wic ȝeie, wic drednesse wurð þer. *Ibid.* 243 Hwic scule beon ure aceld, sanctus paulus hus seiđ. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 136 Lutel he hit scawerđ hwice bete is þer þa saule wuneđ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 141 Lusteđ..wiche wise hie hine bisohte and hwich andswere he hire giaf. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 326 Vor to wite in ȝwiche stede is wonii[n]ggе were. *c* 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.)

...lde oþer i.....

must come titist to heyuen. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 311 A costrel..hwych ys ful of þat bame cler. 1390 which [see B. 7 b]. 1415 in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec.* 584 On ye morou ye Fryday ye quich was yis day fourteneghte. 1472 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 138 Wycche mony I pray sow that [ye] bestowe yt as I wryth to sow. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* 215 A mane,..quhilk al his fantasy Has geffyne to vice. 1552 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 63 Ye.. Wych wythout me had come to nought. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vii. 6 The master of my skiffe, whiche presently..was made fast by the leg. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn.* lvi. 6 My teirs which so abound.

3. *a.* 1 **hwylc**, 2 **hwulch**, **hulch**, 2–3 **wulc**, 3 **whulc**(h, **wulch**, 5 **whulche**.

871–899 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 452/52 Swa hwylc mon swa hio wonie & breoce. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Hwulc mon is þet nauet to broken elche del þas godes laȝe þe ic eou nu cweð. *Ibid.* 27 hulche [see B. 6]. *Ibid.* 49 Nu ȝe habbeð iherd wulc hit is for to iheren godes weordes and heom ethalden. *c* 1205 Lay. 2303 Þu nast of whulche londe heo com heder liðen. *Ibid.* 20735 For whulches cunnes þinge ligge we þus here. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon MS.) 207, I wolde fayn, & i wiste whulche.

β. 3 **hwuc**, **hwu**(**o**)**ch**, **wuoch**, 3–5 **wuch**(e, **woch**(e, 4 **whuche**, (**wȝuch**), 4–5 **whuch**, **whoche**, 5 **whoch**, **huch**.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 And to-ȝenes hwuch fo man agh furðien seiđ þe holi apostle. *Ibid.* 219 For woche þinge he nemnede [etc.]. *a* 1225 hwuc [see B. 1]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1378 Bo wuch bo þo. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 110 Alles wȝuch serue and deol þer wes! *c* 1400 *Beryn* 276 Hurh þe Pardoner, & he, prynely in hir pouchis þey put hem afterward. 1402 *26 Pol. Poems* III. 36 Whoche party may streagure

be. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 143 Wylde beestis, amonge woche euery olt hym aboue hym to whome he is preure [? pere].

B. Signification.

I. Interrogative and allied uses.

For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative, cf. note a. v. What A. I.*

†**1.** *adj.* Most usually *predicative*: Of what kind, quality, or character; also *attrib.* what kind of: = L. *qualis*. (The interrogative corresponding to the demonstrative Such.) *Obs.*

In attrib. use (in *sing.*) sometimes followed by *a*.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* lxv. 467 Ðær ic habbe getæht hwelc hierde bion sceal. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vii. 39 He wiste hwæt & hwylc þis wif wære.., þæt heo synful is. *c* 1205 Lay. 10130 Men..talden him tiðende of alle þere fore þe Petrus dude in Rome, and whulcne [*c* 1275 wochne] martirdom Petrus hauede vnder-fon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Hwon Godes prophete makede swuche mone of eien, hwuc mone wenestu is to moni mon .. icumen .. of hore eien? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3218 Ðor he stunden for to sen Quilc pharaon wið hem sal ben. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1189 So hii mi3te lerni wiche brutons were. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 53 To w3uche a Castel he alihte, þo he wolde here for vs fihte. 1388 Wyclif *James* i. 24 Anoon he forzat which he was. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 104 Whiche ys þy fayth, and þy lawe? *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 302 in *Babees Bk.*, To aske his nome, and qweche he be.

2. As general interrogative. (Mostly *Obs.*) †**a.** *adj.* = What A. 1, 3, 14. *Obs.* (or merged in 3 a.)

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xx[i]v. (1890) 348 Hwylc þearf is ðe husles? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 3 Segе us..hwilc tacn si þines to-cymys. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Þe engel ..sewеð a whilche wise and þuregh hwam þis blisse cumen sholde. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2323 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 173 In 3wat manere he was a-slawe and 3wuch tyme he was ded. *c* 1305 *Jud. Isc.* 101 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 110 Siþþe ic fond mie louerd aslawe y not in whiche wise. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Cant. 515 He leryd him in whilk degre,..and how he sould luf him. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. i. 105 *Clo.* From my Lord to my Lady. *Qu.* From which Lord, to which Lady? 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1745) II. 65 Nor ought any one to wonder, which way such vast Quantities of earthen Ware came there. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett.* ccxcvi. (1792) IV. 6 In some congratulatory poem prefixed to some work, I have forgot which.

b. *pron.* = What A. 1, 6. Also (OE. and occas. later) = Who. *Obs.* exc. as a humorous substitute for *what*.

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 169 Hwylc mteowde eow to fleonne fram ðon toweardan Godes erre? *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 569 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 235 Man mai i-seo 3wuch it is to 3yuen oþur mannes þing with wou3. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 240/738 Aftur þis schaltou witen þen W3uche ben þe comaundemens ten. *c* 1400 *Brut* 82 (*heading*), How iiij kynges curteisely helde al Britaigne; and whiche beth here names. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catech.*, Tell me how many [commandments] there bee... Tenne. Whiche be they? *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, i. 657 Sike is the werld, but whilke is he I sawe? 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* ii. i. 107, I haue manie ill qualities? *Bene.* Which is one? *Mar.* I say my prayers alowd. 1648 *G. Sandys's Par. Ps.* cxiv. 9 Recoyling Seas, which [*ed.* 1638 what] caus'd your dread?

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxviii, 'I want a so-and-so' he says—some hard name or other. 'A which?' says the Captain. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* ix, Who's interfering with which?

3. In limited sense, expressing a request for selection from a definite number: What one (or ones) of a (stated or implied) set of persons, things, or alternatives. (The current use.) **a.** *adj.*

Sometimes, as in *which way*, indistinguishable from **a** a.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 9 Hwylc man is of eow xyf his sunu hyne bit hlafes sylst þu him stan? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 158 Whilk way is he geen? *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12659 Þen þai fraynet qwiche freke, þat schuld first enter. 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* iii. 8 Which waye wil we go vp? 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* I iv, I know on which syde my bread is buttred. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* ii. ix. 11 Neuer to vnfold to any one Which casket 'twas I chose. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 73 Which way shall I flie? 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* ii, A wise man should well weigh which party to take for. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxi, Bound for some American port—I forget which. 1918 T. R. Glover *The Jesus of Hist.* iv. 70 When the question is asked, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' the obvious reply is, 'Which Messiah?'

b. *pron.* (†occas., in dependent clause, with *the*.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 27 *Quis autem uestrum* .. hwelc uutetlice iurre? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xix. 24 Ne alite we hy, ac uton hleotan hwylces ures heo sy. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 928 Among hom .. strif me mi3te ise Woch mest maisters were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15075 Ful wel I wat þe quilk o yow þe treun has purսaid. 13.. *St. Alexius* 207 (MS. Laud 108) Lauedi, I wille ful fayn, and I wiste wilk. 1400 *Jack Upland* 28 Frere, how many orders be in erthe, and which is the perfitest order? *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 919 Quhilk that happynnit the lak, Couth na leid say! 1526 Tindale *John* viii. 46 Which of you can rebuke me off synne? 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 77 In making or mending as needeth thy ditch, get set to quick set it, learne cunningly whitch. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. iv. 72 Which is Beatrice? *Beat.* I answer to that name. 1602 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 2 Of these two I doe not know which to prefer. 1621 Shaks. *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 94, I cannot tell..for which of his Vertues it was. 1662 Fuller *Mixt Contempl.* xiii. 21 Two young Gentlemen were comparing their revenues together, vying which of them were the best. 1792 Cowper *Let. to W. Bagot* 28 Mar., Indisposed..with gout or rheumatism; (for it seems uncertain which). 1897 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* Addenda 192 *note*, The contest between them is not..which shall get everything for himself. 1889 Stevenson *Ballantrae* iii, But which is it to be? Fight or make friends?

4. *adj.* and *pron.* Repeated (in sense 3): **a.** in each of two (or more) separate clauses, usually connected by a conj.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* lix. 452 He us getacnode for hwelcum ðingum we scealden ure godan weorc helan, & for hwelcum we hi sceolden cyðan. *c* 1200 Ormin 4712 Preatesss..& dæcness..Shiffedenn hemm bitweenenn Whillc here shollde serrfenn firrst, Whillc sibbenn i þe tæmpple. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1562 Me nuste Woch was on ne woch was oþer. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) Prol. 17 To here...whilk were foles, & whilk were wyse. 1378 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 159 To note the naturall disposition of his Hawkes: as, whiche will flee beeing high.., and whiche beat, when she is kepte lowe, whiche will flee beat when she is set most sharpe and eager, and whyche contrary, and whiche in a meane betweene both. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 407 Which ballot boxes were to be green and which red, which balls were to be of gold and which of silver..and a hundred more such trifles, were gravely considered. 1880 Shorthouse *John Inglesant* xxvii, Trying.. to make out..which was noble and which was groom.

b. in the same clause, in abbreviated expressions, esp. *which is which* = which is the one and which is the other; so *which goes with which*, etc.; also with another interrog., as *who is to have which*.

A jocular variant is contained in the phr. *to tell tother from which*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9930 Wel sal he cun knau quilk es quilk, Fra the wick þe god to scil. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. iii. (Bodl. MS.), þe furste manere hawkes takeþ onelich here praie fleinge briddes and þe secunde manere haukes.. reeseþ on briddes þat setteþ one þe grounde. And þe briddes knowiþ whiche is whiche. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 445 Som tyme, afer men myghten lordes knowe By there array, from oþer folke; but now A man schal..musen a long throwe Whiche is whiche. 1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* K 4, It was not to bee iudged by the greatnes or smalnes, but which was whose. 1564 Harding *Answ. Jewel* 73 It is hard to fynde which keye serueth which locke. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Mark xv. 24 Casting lottes vpon them, who should take which. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* iii. iv. 127 What is the night? Almost at oddes with morning, which is which. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 41 ¶ 4 There does not need any great Discernment to judge which are which. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxiii, Caroline, looking round, met a new Robert, —the real Robert...'Well,' said he, ..'which is which?' 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* xii, To see which went best with which.

II. Exclamatory use.

†**5.** *adj.* (in non-collective sing. followed by *a*): = What B. 5, 5 b. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Gif ge nu ȝesawan hwelce mus þæt wære hlaford ofer oðre mys,..mid hwelce hleahtre ȝe woldon bion astered. *a* 1175 [see A. 2 β]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Nimað ȝeme..hwilche ȝife he us ȝefeð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 134 Þenc hwuch pinen he þolede. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7237 Hii seye þe soþnesse In wuch lecherie & oþer sunne þe prestes songe hor messe. *c* 1305 *11,000 Virgins* 62 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 67 Louerd, which a cumpaignye of clene maidenes was here. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 27 Whiche lordes beth þis shrewes? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 714 Lo which a wyf was Alcestem. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1807 He tellis quyche a tunne of tresoure he hauys. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iii. v. (1869) 139 Harrow, which gret woodshipe is þis. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 102 Lo, whiche a worschip sche hadde, & whiche a ioye.

III. Relative uses. * as simple relative.

6. *adj.* The ordinary relative adj.

Formerly in Sc. with pl. inflexion *-s*, *-is*: see A. 2 a. For the construction with a prep., cf. 7 a.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Þesne mon ic habbe itaken to mine ȝene bihoſþe. Ma monna ic scolde biȝeten ȝwa, bi hulche monna seiȝ drihten in his spelle þa he þus cwaþ (etc.]. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Lecherie, spusbreche, Roberie,..and alle oþre euele deden, þurch wyche þinkes man ofserueth þet fer of helle. 13.. *Northern Passion* 1309 (MS. Camb. Gg. I. 2) Þe tre of lif On woche [*v. r.* whilke] tre þat appil grewe. *c* 1400 *Brut* 229 His flesshe was restorede ȝeein,..for whiche miracle þe good man & his frendes louede God and Seint Thomas. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 101 The thrydde realme was of Estesex..The kynges of whiche place..were obediente to other kynges. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 166 He fond him ontretable; for whech cause the bischop curseid him. 1526 Tindale *Col.* iii. 6 Fornicacion, vnclennes,..and covetousnes..: for which thynges sakes the wrath of god falleth on the chyldren off vnbeleve. 1585 Jas. I *Est. Poesie* (Arb.) 55 They are figures of Rhetorique and Dialectique, quhilkis airtis I professe nocht. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* i. ii. 277 She did confine thee..Into a clouen Pyne, within which rift Imprison'd, thou didst painefully remaine A dozen yeeres. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 72 It rain'd all Night and all Day,..during which time the Ship broke in pieces. 1800 Wordsw. *Hart-Leap Well*, The monuments spoken of in the second Part of the following Poem, which monuments do now exist as I have there described them. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* i. i, Concerning which last, indeed. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 883 A 5×4 camera..(which size is now the most popular).

7. *pron.* The ordinary relative pronoun introducing an additional statement about the antecedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause; thus sometimes equivalent to 'and that (it, they, etc.)'. (Cf. That *rel. pron.* 2.)

In this and following senses formerly sometimes followed by *that* (That *conj.* 6), occas. by *as* (cf. As *adv.* B. 27).

a. As obj. of a prep., which usually precedes *which*, but occas. stands at the end of the clause.

If the prep. depends on some other word (e.g. a sb. or numeral), that word (with any that qualify or govern it) usually stands immediately before the prep.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Drihten him bi-tahte twa stanene tables breode on hwuche godalmihti heofde iwriten þa ten laȝe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 9540 (Göt.) Ilk-an graf he substance an,.. Widuten quhylk on nan manere Milst he in þes his kingriche passe. 1505 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* iii, A boke.. Off quhich the name is ——. Suppl. (1902) 23 A letter..quych I send yow a copy of. 1600 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xi. 29 A springing well, From which fast trickled forth a siluer flood. 1803 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 32 One payer of little organes wth a board w^t they stand on. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 17 Our Ship stuck a ground, with the noise of which, our Captain awoke. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 113 Their Boards & Mustachoes..which they take a particular Pride in the Length or Largeness of. 1848 Carlyle *Frederk. Gt.* II. vii. I. 231 The Pope .. being held .. at a distance: the result of which was what we see. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* ii, A..Scotsman, who carried the economy of his race even to the extent of flesh, of which he was sparse.

b. As subject or object of a verb.

Formerly sometimes used where *as* is now idiomatic, as in quot. 1688; cf. 10.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lx. 16 In þis snare whilke þai hid swa. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 132 His herbe propre is Rosmarine, Which schapen is for his covine. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 23391 (Cott. Galba) Þe bils of heuyn, Whilk seuyn vertues vntill vs wina, And als fordose seuyn dedly sins. 1483 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 193 Eche took an hors..which ranne at al aduenture. *c* 1580 Rolland *Crt. Venus* Prol. 22 Complexiounis..Quhilkis ar thir four;.. Phlegmatike .. Sanguineane .. Colerike .. Melancolie, Quhilkis of nature ar wonder different. 1592 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4375 This is ane marueillous Monarche, Quhilk hes power Imperiall Both of the body and the Saull. *a* 1613 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* (1622) 201 The Italian, French, and Spanish: all which in a barbarous word haue beene called Romanse. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* I. xiii. 41 The Hebrews measuring their land by a bow-shot, ..which..admits of variation. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 331/2 The Pitchfork (or Pikel, which we vulgarly call it). 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 48, I spy'd a small Piece of a Rope, which I wonder'd I did not see at first. 1824 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* x. III. 209 'And so good night'; saying which, he urbanely shook hands. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* I. 3 Ideas..whose forms were old.., but which were full of seemingly inexhaustible novelty. 1875 Jevons *Money* xix. 246 The United States government tried a similar experiment, which was soon discontinued.

c. Referring to a fact, circumstance, or statement.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 12 To make pes betwen the kynges ..Which is the propre duete Belongende unto the presthode. 1516 in E. Lodge *Illustr.* (1838) I. 17 He would advise me to get me to some little house, with a few persons with me, which I have done. 1542 in *Essex Rev.* XIII. 221 If she [*sc.* the ship] come not well home, which God forfende. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 34 You must now speake Sir Iohn Falstaffe faire, Which swimmes against your streame of Quality. 1669 Boyle *Contn. New Exper.* I. xxxiv. 118, I order'd the Air to be let in very leisurely, upon which we could plainly see [etc.]. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* xii. 320 The last part of the Sentence not..answering to the first; which is the proper definition of a Solœcism. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. xxiv, I dragged her after me, by means of which she fell backwards soes against the bridge. 1787 J. Fea *Fish. Sc. Isl.* 31 We have no Methodists settled amongst us, which is very fortunate. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, Looking as amiable as they possibly could—which, by the by, is not saying much for them. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1076 Yellow rosin contains some water, which black rosin does not. 1886 [E. H. Dering] *In Light of both Cent.* iv. 65 Observation..only shows what is visible, which life is not. 1924 'Ian Hay' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 3 They conformed to the rules,..observing the spirit rather than the letter of the law. Which was just as well.

d. With a conjunction in the relative clause, usually following *which*, rarely preceding. *arch.*

In early use more frequently with pleonastic personal pronoun (see 14). For syllepic uses see 15.

[1310: see 13 b.] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 214 b, To conuey hym selfe into some other place, without delay, which if he did they assured hym, y^t he should haue neither hurte nor damage. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 193 Oliver Herbert was forced to fly France, which, that he might do the better, I paid the said fencer 200 crowns. 1748 Fielding *Amelia* III. viii, The tears began to overflow—which, when he perceived, he stopt. 1796 Mrs. Inchbald *Nature & Art* xi. (1820) 89 Explanations followed all these questions; but which .. require no recital here. 1835 Chatto *Rambles Northumbld.* 106 A girl..returning home from milking..saw many fairies gamboling in the fields, but which were invisible to her companions. 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* iii. 14 It was not [then] esteemed of absolute necessity to put agreements between Christians in writing! Which if it were not now, you know we might save a great deal of money. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* II. iv. 76 Which when he saw, thither full fast ran he.

e. Introducing a parenthetic qualifying clause inserted in the principal clause. (Cf. sense 11, quots. 1599, 1719.)

1580 Rolland *Seven Sagis* (Bann. Club) 50 He purpost, quhilk was wors, My awin Lady..to defors. 1621 Beaum. & Fl. *Maid's Trag.* III. ii, Are not you, Which is above all ioyes, my constant friend? 1640 E. Reynolds *Passions* xvi. 174 Strange Sinnes too (which is the curiositie and corruption of Nature) are marvellous attractive. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* ii. 40 Primarily, which is very notable and curious, I observe that men of business rarely know the meaning of the word 'rich'. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* vii, When, which happened every day, they forgot their disguises for a while, they talked quite freely.

8. Introducing a clause defining or restricting the antecedent and thus completing the sense. Regularly so used after the antecedent *that* (That *dem. pron.* 6), or after a prep. (see b); in other cases the more regular relative is *that* (That *rel. pron.* 1).

In modern printing usually distinguished from 7 by the absence of a comma before the relative (as in speech by the absence of a pause).

†*All which* continued in literary use till *c* 1850.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 170 So made god..Al erue, and wrim, and wilde der, Qwel man mai sen on werlde her. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 1434 Þe woundes..W3uche þat weoren on honden and feet. *c* 1350 *Apol. Lollt.* 42 Man was maad to lord in alle creaturis, and forfetid not þat wyche synnip not. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. ii. (1601 Qo.), That land or nation best doth thrive, Which to smooth-fronted peace is most proclive. 1600 Shaks. *Temp.* v. i. 204 It is you, that

house chalk'd forth the way Which brought vs hither. 1611 *Bible* Gen. I. 7 God..diuided the waters, which were vnder the firmament, from the waters, which were aboue the firmament. 1619 in *Hales' Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 125 This is all which is done this week. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 335 Repairing the destruction, which they must often suffer, by their quick reproduction. 1844 L. MURRAY *Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 74 After all which can be done, to render the definitions..comprehensive and accurate. 1874 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. xix. 293 This is the path which leads to death. 1848 PUSEY *Parochl. Serm.* I. iv. (1873) 71 All which we are, except sin, He became. 1875 JEVONS *Money* xx. 234 Let us suppose that there is a town which is able to support two banks. 1918 *Act* 8 *Geo. V* c. 5 § 4 (2), If any person..makes..any statement which is false.

b. As obj. of a prep., which usually precedes the relative as in 7 a.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 Alle þo sennen þurch wiche me liest þo luue of gode almichti. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 74 þat friday was our leuedy day On wilk our lord slayn was. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 17, 18 And of the secte of which þat he was born He kepte his lay to which þat he was sworn. *c* 1450 *Merlin* li. 32, I moste go in to that contre ffro whiche these be come to fecche me. 1663 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1912) 173 Many more thinges which the controuersy of the Lord is against. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* II. iii, The Guilt with which you wou'd asperse me. 1830 MACAULAY *Ess., Moore's Life Byron* (1843) I. 336 They wrote concerning things the thought of which set their hearts on fire. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornw.*, etc. xiv. 459 A bar upon which the sea breaks occurs at the entrance of the Kingsbridge estuary.

¶ c. In anacoluthic construction, as in THAT *rel. pron.* 8. *rare.*

1709 LAW *Serious C.* Ix, Direct your common actions to that end which they did.

9. Used of persons. Now only *dial.* except in speaking of people in a body, the ordinary word being *who* (objective *whom*) or (in sense b) *that*.

a. Introducing an additional statement, as in 7: thus sometimes = 'and he (they, etc.)'.

a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* cxlv[ii]. 3 Traiste never..in men sones, in whilk hele es nane. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 94 Hire freendes whiche þat knewe hir heuy thoght Conforten hire, — *Shipman's T.* 153 Yow which I haue loued specially. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Cecilia* 202 Lord Jhesu Cryst, wych al thyng knowyst. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 65 The holy man whiche had pitee of his neuew, sorufull he yede into his chapell. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 547 Charlemagn toke a messager whiche he sente to reynawde. 1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* xv. 57 Thankes be vnto God, whych hath geven vs victory. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins* and Collect, O God, which art author of peace, and louer of concorde. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 342, I am all the Subiects that you haue, Which first was min owne King. 1692 O. WALKER *Grk. & Rom. Hist.* II. 310 He had nine Wives, all which he cast off successively. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 254 The Master-Bricklayer, or else his Foreman (which ought to be an ingenious Workman). *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* (1775) I. 200 A couple of women.., one of which..leaned on the other's shoulder. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, Had been told it herself by Mrs. Mudberry which kept a mangle, and Mrs. Bunkin which clear-starched. 1879 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 114/1 His mother had ten children, of which he was the oldest.

b. Introducing a defining clause, as in 8.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 224 Whan þei were inowe, on whilk þei mot ate. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 981 If ther be a confessour to which he may shriuen hym. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 206 Because he marlit without his consent quhilk is his ourlord. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v. 10 Blessed are they which suffre persecucion for righteweesnes sake. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 28 b, Entendyng to be reuenged on them whiche he sought for. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VI. xxii. 803 The reader which is carefull of his health, may learne to make choise of such wine. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 215 Euery one heares that, which can distinguish sound. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Luke iv. 24 That Minister which prostitutes his Authority, frustrates the end of his Ministry. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. p. xiv, Those people which, I term Amonians. 1836 JAS. GRANT *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* x. 224 Dugald Stewart, one of the greatest men which Scotland has produced. 1841 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* IX. lxix. 202 The wounded, which were carried past.., never failed to salute the Emperor. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 July 2/2 He is on the high road to get all the men for which he has asked.

c. Still regularly used of a person in reference to character, function, or the like, in which case the sense is really 7 or 8.

1643 HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 233 The subject of this Discours were more proper to One of the long-Robe, which I am not. 1797 BP. WATSON *Apol. Christ.* vi. (ed. 6) 180 He put two maid servants, which were called ministers, to the torture. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* (1843) II. x. 208 He was by no means the profound philologist which the notary had represented him to be. 1853 NEWMAN *Callista* xii. 108 He was not quite the craven..which she thought him.

10. Rarely used after an antecedent to which the ordinary correlative is *as*. a. after *same*: = THAT *rel. pron.* 4. b. after *so* or *such*: often equivalent to 'that it (he, etc.)'.

1340, etc. (see SAME A. 1 a). *c* 1386 [see SUCH B. 12]. 1530 VERON *Godly Sayings* Ep. Ded. (1846) 19 Who is so [illegible]

1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Ni...* 43 *Barvoch, Hebr.* the same which Bennet, blessed. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 326 A kind of wilde horse which hath hornes like a Hart, and therefore I take it to bee the same which is called Hypellaphus. 1703, 1888 [see SUCH B. 12]. 1822–32 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 321 There is not any argument so absurd, which is not daily received.

** as compound relative (or with ellipsis of sedent).

†11. *pron.* That which, one which, something that: = WHAT C. 1, 3 a; also of a person, One who; *pl.* Those which or who. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 2167 Al Albanakes folc folden l-eochten Butan while þat þer at-wood þurh wode burge. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2837 He dremed of you which him affrayed. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 321 Na men he tuk bot quhilk he hydder brocht. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* vii. 31 Should he do greater thynges then whiche this man doeth?

officer, and which is more, a householder. 1643 DEGGS *Unlawf. Taking up Arms* 8, I shall desire one thing especially may be remembred, as which hath great influence upon all cases. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 16 An ambiguous word is which indistinctly signifieth things that in nature are divers. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 75, I had the loose Earth to carry out; and which was of more Importance, I had the Ciefing to prop up.

12. In generalized sense (*adj.* or *pron.*), with or without qualifying adv. (*ever, so*, etc.): Any (person or thing) that, whatever; usually, now always, with limitation of reference, as in 3: = WHICHEVER 1; also (with *ever* or *soever*) = WHICHEVER 2.

OE. *swá hwilc* (*swá*), ME. *hwilch..so, se* (see WHICH-SO), north. *quilk sum*, were ultimately superseded by *which ever, soever* (see WHICHEVER, WHICHSOEVER).

a 890 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 451 Swa hwylc minra fædrenmexa swa ðæt sío. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 755 (Parker MS.), Þæs cyninges þegnas..þider urnon swa hwelc swa þonne gearo wære þ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxvii[i]. 4 [3] Swahwylce daga ic þe deorne cige. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 5 in *O. E. Misc.* 1 Bi wilc wele so he wile. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 O hwuche wise se heo euer wule. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 497 Brut bad corineus for to chese of ech contrei..3wich.. him likede best. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16373 Aak quilk sum yee will haue. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) liii. 35 Þabbesse.. oubir a-nobir nunne, wilke sam sho cumandis. 1464–5 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1874) XII. 321/1 Thai personis..sall outhir entire þe kingis ward..or thane dewoide þe realmes..quhilk þat salbe seine maist expedient. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxli. 917/2 Whiche of them yᵗ euer should breake this peace..shoulde rynne in the sentence of the pope. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 134 Whiche of these wayes so euer it cume it shall be very good to bathe the chylde. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 13 My Vertue or my Plague, be it either which. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Home* ix, Nothing but drought and dearth,..Which way so-e're I look, I see. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 75 Which way I flie is Hell; my self am Hell. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 10 Which way ever we take our measures, to me it seems evident [etc.]. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 69 P 10 Which way soever he turned his thoughts, impossibility and absurdity arose in opposition. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xvi, [He] lets a'things about the manse gang whilk gate they will. 1844 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* xv. 243 The table was so large that, place it which way they would, it could not be prevented from shewing above water. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* II. ii. 141 But wherefore is the wind, Which way soever the vane-arrow swing, Not ever fair for England?

*** 13. The which. *arch.* a. as *adj.* = 6.

13.. *Cursor M.* 9434 (Göttt.) Þe first law was cald 'of kinde,' ..Þe toþer has 'possitiue' to name; Þe whilk lawe was forbed Adam. Forto ete þat fruit. 1447–8 J. SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden 1871) 26 The whiche copies all y pray yow avysely to over rede. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* x. 20 By the which will we are sanctified. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 466 There was a lioneasse which had whelpes in her den, the which den was obserued by a Beare, the which Beare on a day finding the den vnfortified,..entred..and slew the Lions whelpes. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* note, Wks. (1842) 793/1 Finished copying August..1820; the which copying makes ten times the toil of composing. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 98 Of the which thing I bethought me to speak unto her.

b. as *pron.* (*a*) = 7.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1127 Wo & wikkede paine, þe whiche þe heie godus haten. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 42 Desiryng to herre of your welfar and good prosperite, the qwyche [*sic*] I pray God encrease. 1510 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 69 If the whiche shuld contynewe..your seid Towne..shall wexe empty. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* v. 21 The dedes of the flesshe..off the which I tell you before, as I have tolde you in tyme past. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 36 Sweet slombring deaw, the which to sleepe them biddes. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* lii. (1905) 209 He told too, the which I had almost forgot, how Diabolus had put the Town of Mansoul into Arms. 1818 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XXII. 146 [This world] o'er the which we stride So fiercely. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* Prol., He holp the King to break down our castles, for the which I hate him.

(*b*) = 8.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 246 How god bigan þe law hym gyfe þe quilk the Iuus in suld life. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. vii. 809, I told hym the peryls the which ben now fallen. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* XXVI. 16 To make the..a witnes both off the thynges which thou hast sene and off tho thynges in the which I will apere vnto the. 1611 *Bible* James ii. 7 Doe not they blaspheme that worthy Name, by the which ye are called?

†c. as compound relative: = 11. Also qualified by *soever*: = 12. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xx. 22/2, I knowe yᵗ the most worthy.., knight of my realme shall acheue for me, the whyche I coulde neuer attayne vnto. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 89 For there is no ways so profitable ..as the whiche hath a shewe and colours of iustice. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 67 We follow not your fayth, as the which we have tasted to bee..most detestable. 1680 HEVLIN *Hist. Quinquart.* II. 7 To put his hunting spear amongst them, and the which of them soever should lay hold upon it, should be..drawn out of the water.

†d. Of persons: = 9.

1 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 32 Emme þe queene..of þe ..t was born Alfred & Edward. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 452 This Briton clerk hym asked of solawes The whiche

þat he had knowe in olde dawes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xviii. 64 Kynge Ryence of North walys the whiche was a myghty man of men. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 184 The metire and the cuning..Quhilk I submyt to the correccioune Of ysim the quhich that is discret & wys. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 172 Geue Christ, the quhilk hes me redreist, Be on my syde. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. i. 78 There are other Troians that yᵘ dream'st not of, the which (for sport sake) are content to doe the Profession some grace. 1666 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Justine* XXIII. 85 He the which was Lord of infinit riches to daie, was scarce maister of any to morrow.

**** Peculiar constructions. (See also 7 d, 8 a.)

14. (as *pron.* or *adj.*) With pleonastic personal pronoun or equivalent in the latter part of the relative clause, referring to the antecedent, *which* thus serving merely to link the clauses together: (*a*) with the pers. pron. (or the antecedent noun repeated) as subj. or obj. to a verb (principal or subordinate) in the relative clause, which is usually complex; (*b*) with genitive of pers. pron. (or equivalent, as *thereof*), *which* together with this being equivalent to the genitive of the relative (*whose, of which*): cf. THAT *rel. pron.* 9.

(*a*) *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 654 þis is he, which þat myn vncle swereth he mot be ded. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 84 Yowr wurschupfull astate, the whyche All myghte God mayntayne hyt. 1481 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 493 Which yf it so be, we haue gret cause of displeasure. 1526 TINDALE *John* XXI. 25 There are also many other thynges which Jesus did, the which yff they shulde be written every one, I suppose [etc.]. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 159 Ye finde these words, *penetrate, penetrable, indignitie*, which I cannot see how we may spare them. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 27. 175 A Schedule containing his heresies, (which what they were may be collected by that which ensueth). 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. v. § 42 (1694) 196 Provisions..which how much they exceed the other in value,..he will then see. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* Pref. p. vii, Scandalous and unjust Aspersions..which, how far I deserve them, I shall leave to the candid opinion of every unprejudiced Reader. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* II. *Fragment*, The history of myself, which, I could not die in peace unless I left it as a legacy to the world.

(*b*) *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 318 Þe kynges dere sone,.. which alwey for to do wel is his wone. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. xi. 705 Ther is in this Castel a gentylwoman whiche we and this castel is hers. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 270 To do many thynges, the whyche the hurte therof lyghteth on theyr owne neckes. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 164 Take away ..mens credits, and estates.., which lies not afterwards in their power to make restitution thereof. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Whs. Nat.* 90 Bulbous-rooted Plants, which when the Leaves of them decay, a new framed Root..supplies their Loss.

¶ b. Hence, in vulgar use, without any antecedent, as a mere connective or introductory particle.

1723 SWIFT *Mary the Cook-Maid's Let.* 23 Which, and I am sure I have been his servant four years since October, And he never call'd me worse than sweetheart, drunk or sober. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xvi, 'That noble young fellow', says my general...Which noble his conduct I own it has been. 1870 BRET HARTE *Truthful James, Answ. to Let.* viii, Which I have a small favor to ask you, As concerns a bull-pup, which the same,—If the duty would not overtask you,—You would please to procure for me, game. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 21 Oct. 4/7 If anything 'appens to you—which God be between you and 'arm—I'll look after the kids.

¶ 15. In sylleptic construction, e. g. as obj. of two different verbs, or of a prep. and a verb, or as obj. of one verb and subj. of another; giving the effect of ellipsis of a personal pronoun (*it, them*).

1687 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 238 Dr. Dolbein..did read much of his sermon before the king..which the king telling him of, he never after did. *a* 1697 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* v. (1702) 302 To see me roll Sisyphus his Stone, which when I have brought to such a pitch, rolls down again. 1741 *Johnson's Debates* (1787) I. 390 A quality.. which, if we could obtain, would add nothing to our honour. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 272 They still retained an authority over his mind, at which, though his pride revolted, his understanding could not conquer. 1818 H. F. CLINTON *Lit. Rem.* (1854) 84 These were works which, though I often inspected, I did not accurately study.

16. Preceded by *and*. a. in regular construction, *and* connecting two relative clauses, or an adjectival

DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. 1900 I. 78 We have many plays of ours as regular as any of theirs, and which, besides, have more variety of plot and characters. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Addison* (1868) 225 Two books yet celebrated..for purity and elegance, and which, if they are now less read, are neglected only because [etc.]. 1824–6 SYD. SMITH *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 284 The habit of contradicting, into which young men..are apt to fall; and which is a habit extremely injurious to the powers of the understanding. 1832 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 40 The subject,..was one of great difficulty and which required very serious consideration. 1896 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* LXX. VI. 325 If the dog have the good fortune to find a master, he has a possession..better than bones; and which, indeed, he will..leave, not his meat only, but his life for.

¶ b. in erroneous or illogical use, either *and* or *which* being superfluous.

288 His forefeet being like hands, are forked and twisted very strong, & with which it fighteth and taketh his prey. 1748 G. WHITE in *Syml. Sacred Lit.* (1863) July 290 For the proper return to virtue and Good-works is Honour, & Love; this is their Due, and which ought to be rendered to

...ll people. 1796 Mrs. Inchbald *Nature & Art* xvi. (1880) 42 The dean had just published a pamphlet in his own name, and in which that of his friend the bishop was only mentioned with thanks for hints. 1848 W. Templeton *Locomot. Eng.* (ed. 2) 71 A recent occurrence..seems..to have established the fact of steam being highly charged with electricity, and which may..be the means of increasing our knowledge [etc.]. 1861 Dasent *Burnt Njal* I. p. lviii, ...ple must contain a ring of at least two ounces in ... and which the priest was to bear on his arm.

(ch)e, var. Which *Obs.*, chest.

Whichever (hwitʃe·vəɹ), *a.* and *pron.* [Orig. two words, Which and Ever *adv.* 8 e.]

1. As compound relative: Any or either (of a definite set of persons or things, expressed or implied) that . . .; that one (or those) who or which (with implication that it is unknown or undetermined which). †Formerly also without restriction to a definite set: = Whatever 2.

Often following, and in apposition with, a pair or set of alternatives connected by *or*; the construction is then app. identical with that in 2, but is really different, and distinguished by intonation.

1388 Wyclif *Ps.* i. 3 Alle thingis which euere [*first vers.* what euere] he schal do schulen haue prosperite. 1418 in *Engl. Gilds* 445 þat the bretheren and susteren ... yerely chese on Alderman and Maistres, ..qwicheuer [hem] thinketh most best. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xix. 112 He..allowith which euer of thilk weies and meenis he take. 1754 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 48 Upon their attaining their respective ages of eighteen years compleat or their being lawfully married whichever of these events should first happen. 1801 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester* xi, At a walk, trot, or gallop, whichever you please. 1844 Als. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xlii, They were..permitted to go whichever way they chose. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* x. 145 To dinner—or supper, whichever it ought to be called. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 46 § 16 (1) Copyright shall subsist during the life of the author who first dies and for a term of fifty years after his death, or during the life of the author who dies last, whichever period is the longer.

2. Introducing a qualifying dependent clause: Whether one or another (of a definite set); no matter which.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xvii. § 3 Which-ever [*ed.* 1714 Whichsoever] of these he takes, and how often soever he doubles..it, he finds [etc.]. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 296 Both Sides hang out their Trophies too, which ever comes by the worst. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxiii. (1788) 135 Whichever way he flies, the Hue and Cry of the country pursues him. 1847 De Quincey *Joan of Arc* Wks. 1890 V. 390 On whichever side of the border chance had thrown Joanna, the same love to France would have been nurtured. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xlii. V. 29 To whichever of the two camps..he should repair, his own jealous nature feared to awaken the jealousy of the other. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxviii, In politics you are used as the counters of a game... You get nothing, whichever side is in.

†**Whi·ch-like**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Which + Like *a.*, after *such-like.*] Of which kind.

1641 Sanderson *Sermons* (1681) II. 4 By long accustoming themselves to which-like outward observances, they had almost lost the vigor and soul of true religion.

Whi·ch-so, *pron. arch.* [= Which and So *adv.* 17 d.] †**a.** Whoever, whatever. **b.** Whichever.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 26 Hwuch-se wule beon of þe lut of his leoueste freond. *Ibid.* 45 Beo he cangun oðer crupel, beo he hwuch-se he euuer beo. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 771 He is knihtes echone, Vor coust binome him, bote an vif men one, Wuche so hii were to serui him. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 31 Wuche so a uinden þer of gulti, a sullen punisnen hoem. 1890 W. Morris in *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* June 695 Let the Hoary One..carry me to life or death, which-so he will.

Whichso(e·ver, *pron. arch.* [f. Which + see Soever.]

1. = Whichever 1.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 532 To the said Allisaundre and molde his wyf and to ther heires or ther assignes or whom-so-euer or which-so-euer and whan-so-euer he wolde yeve bequeth selle or assigne hit. 1795 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 65 To go to whichsoever [side] their interest, convenience, or inclination, might prompt them. *a* 1843 Southey *Cid* II. xiv, Saying that to whichsoever God should give the victory, to him also would he give up the kingdom. 1862 Johns *Brit. Birds* 235 Hunting..for whichsoever article of their diet happens to be in season.

2. = Whichever 2.

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xxi. 64 Whiche so euer way ye take, it shall not be without me. 1692 T. H[alk] *Acc. New Invent.* f9, [The] Proposal of an obvious..Remedy to the said Evil, to whichsoever of the supposed Causes the ...

he must discover [etc.]. 1818 Scott *Tales of Grandfather* Ser. I. (ed. 6) II. 274 To whichsoever he might attach himself, he was sure to become an object of hatred and suspicion to the other. 1853 Dickens *Repr. Pieces, Noble Savage*, Yielding to whichsoever of these agreeable eccentricities, he is a savage. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* x, With whichsoever of the many tongues of Rumour this frothy report originated, it.. never reached..the ears of young Snagsby.

†**Whick**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To squeak, as a pig.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlii. 207 The .. whicking of Pigs, gushing of Hogs.

Whick(e, etc.: see Quick, etc.

Whicker (hwi·kəɹ), *v. dial.* and *U.S.* Also 9 wicker, whecker, whihher. [Imitative. Cf. *nicker, snicker*, and MHG. *wiheren* (G. *wiehern*).]

1. *intr.* To utter a half-suppressed laugh; to snigger, titter.

a 1656 Usher *Ann.* VI. (1658) 284 Having never seen the like done before, he fell a whickering. *c* 1790 Hawkins *Dorset. Voc.* in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1883) VIII. 45/2 To *whicker*, to laugh. 1808 Jamieson, *Whihher*, ..to titter. 1891 Hardy *Tess* I, The green-spangled fairies that 'whickered' at you as you passed.

2. Of a horse: To whinny; also of a sheep or goat, to bleat, of a dog, to whine, etc.

1808 Jamieson, *Whihher*..to *wicher*, to neigh or whinny. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, To *Whecker*, ..to neigh. 1888 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v. *Wickery.* 1893 Kipling *Many Invent.* 215 The mare whickered. 1912 Masefield *Widow in Bye St.* VI. xxxii, The wall-top grasses whickered in the breeze.

So **Whi·cker** *sb.*, a snigger; a whinny.

1882 *Harper's Mag.* June 53 The whicker of old Molly at the foot of the lane, and the answer of the colt in the lot. 1909 'O. Henry' *Roads of Destiny* ix, Through the intense silence, he heard the whicker of a horse.

Whid (hwid), *sb.*¹ Forms: 6 whydd, 7– whid, 9 *Sc.* whud. [Origin uncertain. That it is a dial. variant of OE. *cwide* speech (otherwise not represented in the language) is possible, but the absence of parallels is a serious objection. The sense-development is remarkably similar to that of Yed.]

1. A word. (Usually in *pl.*) *Thieves' cant.*

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 84 To cutte bene whydda, to speake or geue good wordes, to cutte quyre whyddes, to geue euell wordes or euell language. *Ibid.* 86 Stowe your bene, cofe, and cut benat whydds. 1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 49 Be wary. Stow your whids. 1728 [De Foe] *Street Robberies Consider'd* 34 Plant the Whids, take Care what you say. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* x, The swaggering vein will not pass here, you must cut boon whids. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* lv, I pray Heaven thou mayest prove to paint better than thou cuttest whids.

2. A lie, fib, falsehood; an exaggerated story. *Sc.*

1791 Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* I, Ev'n Ministers, they hae been kenn'd, ..A rousing whid, at times, to vend, And nail't wi' Scripture. 1883 M. Dods *Early Lett.* (1910) 330 Your *φεῦδον ψεῦδος, i. e.* Your fundamental whid. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xlvi, Kennedy thinks no more o' tellin' a whud (lie) than o' slappin' a cleg that nips him on the hench bane.

3. A dispute, quarrel. *dial.*

1847 Halliwell, *Whid*, a dispute; a quarrel. *East.*

Whid (hwid), *sb.*² *Sc.* Forms: 6 quhyd, 8–9 whid, whud. [? a. ON. *hviða* squall = OE. *hwipa.*]

†**1.** A squall, blast of wind. *Obs.*

1590 Burel in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 24 The wind, with mony quhyd, Maist bitterly thair blew.

2. A quick noiseless movement, esp. of a hare.

In or wi' a whid, in a trice.

1719 Ramsay *2nd Answ. to Hamilton* I, Wi' a Whid, .. She'll rin red-wood. 1785 Burns *To W. S******n* xii, Jinkin hares, in amorous whids. 1788 R. Galloway *Glasgow Fair* II. vi, He lent a blow at Jonny's eye, That rais'd it, in a whid.

Whid (hwid), *v.*¹ *Sc.* Also whud. [f. Whid *sb.*¹] *intr.* To talk cant; to lie, fib. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T., Whidding*, talking cant. *Scotch cant.* 1881 Walford *Dich Netherby* v, A fair-farrend, whuddin' youngster. 1892 'H. Haliburton' *Ochil Idylls* 90 Whiddin's an airt.

Whid (hwid), *v.*² *Sc.* Also 9 whud. [f. Whid *sb.*²] *intr.* To move nimbly without noise.

c 1730 Ramsay *1st Answ. to Somerville* 94 You range After the fox or whidding hare. 1790 Burns *Elegy on Capt. M*—— *H*——vi, Ye maukins whiddin thro' the glade. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* III, Ye see yon other light that's gaun whiddin' back and forrit.

Whidah, whydah (hwi·dä). [Name of a town in Dahomey, West Africa. *Whidah bird* is an alteration of Widow-bird, q.v., due to association with this as one of the habitats of these birds.]

1. In full *whidah-bird*, etc.: = Widow-bird.

1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. 2 178 Whidah B[unting]. .. Rather less than a Hedge Sparrow. *Ibid., note*, Whidah Bird. 1872 Livingstone *Last Jrnls.* 29 June (1874) II. vii. 299 The young whydah birds crouch closely together at night for heat. *Ibid.*, Whydahs, though full fledged, still gladly take a feed from their dam. 1896 G. E. Shelley *For. Finches* 273 The Whydahs..form a natural group of Finches, nearly allied to the Weavers.

2. Whidaw goat, a West-African species of goat, *Capra reversa*. **W. thrush**, *Pholidaugas leucogaster.*

1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 57 Goat .. Whidaw. Capra reversa. ..From Juda or Whidaw, in Africa. A small kind: the horns short, smooth, and turn a little forwards, ... belly, wi kingdom of Whidah, in Africa.

Whiddelynge, obs. f. Whitling.

Whidder: see Whether, Whither *sb.* and *v.*

Whiddle (hwi·d'l), *v. slang.* Also 8 whidle, whidel, widdle. [? f. Whid *sb.*¹] *intr.* **a.** To divulge a secret, turn informer, 'peach'. **b.** See quot. 1725. Hence **Whi·ddler.**

c 1661 *Mary. Argyle's Last Will* in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 28/1, I understand..he hath made so large a Progress in Discovering, that he can pay it now to himself—The Devil was in me to suffer such a pitiful Fellow to whiddle before me. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whiddler*, a Peacher (or rather Impeacher) of his Gang. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., To Whiddle*, to enter into a Parley, to compound with, or take off by a Bribe. 1756 J. Cox *Nurs. Thiefs-takers* 66 The Prisoner..then swore he wished he had cut off his Head, for then he would not have whiddelled again.

C. Parker *View Soc.* II. 273 About Dorkey [*i. e.* twi- ... or when Oliver don't whiddle [*Note*, The Mom not 1820 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., Don't you whiddle it so and so, that is, don't mention it.

Whider, Whie, Whieale, whiel, Whiet, Whieu, whiew, Whife: see Whether, Quey, Why, Wheel, Quiet, White, Whew, Wife.

Whiff (hwif), *sb.*¹ Also 6–7 whiffe, 8–9 whif. [? Partly an alteration of ME. Weffe (= offensive odour or taste, vapour, hoisted signal), partly a new onomatopœic formation. The senses are in part identical with those of Waff *sb.* and Waft *sb.*¹]

I. 1. A slight puff or gust of wind, a breath.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 334 The Winde..Whirls with a whiff the sails of swelling stout. 1600 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 495 With the whiffe and winde of his fell Sword, Th' vnnerued Father fals. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 2 295 Their ensignes..Waue to and fro with whiffes of wind. 1786 in *Mme. D'Arblay's Diary* 6 Oct., A whiff [of wind] from the King's stairs, enough to blow you half a mile off! 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxix, Give her a whiff of fresh air with the bellows, Charley.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A 'breath', 'blast', 'burst'.

1644 Milton *Areop.* 24 That the whiffe of every new pamphlet should stagger them out of thir catechism. 1649 — *Eikon.* xxvii. 222 Deny'd and repuls'd by the single whiffe of a negative. 1766 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IX. ii, A whiff of military pride had puffed out his shirt at the wrist. 1823 Byron *Beppo* liii, They had their little differences, too; Those jealous whiffs, which never any change meant. 1852 Brimley *Ess., Wordsw.* (1858) 174 The Quarterly Review.. issued a mild whiff of qualified approval. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* v. ix, There seemed to be not a whiff of life left in either of the bodies. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xx, This little whiff of temper seemed to cool Silver down. 1912 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 June 241/2 Factories .. brought with them the first whiff of cotton-spinning democracy.

c. A slight attack, 'touch'; = Waff *sb.* 3 b.

1837 Carlyle *New Lett.* (1904) I. 58, I have twice had flying whiffs of cold.

2. An inhalation of tobacco-smoke; smoke so inhaled; in early use also, †the 'taking' of tobacco, smoking (*to take the whiff*, to smoke).

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Dram. pers., His chiefe exercises are taking the Whiffe, squiring a Cocatrice, and making privy searches for Imparters. *Ibid.* III. i, *Sog.* ..Doe you professe these sleights in Tabacco? ..*Punt.* But you cannot bring him to the Whiffe so soone? 1600 Marston, etc. *Jack Drums Entert.* I. (1601) B 3, Iust like a whiffe of Tabacco, no sooner in at the mouth, but out at the nose. 1603–27 Breton *Poste with Packet Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 35/2 Tobacco is like to grow a great commoditie, for there is not an Ostler nor a Tapster, but will be at his whiffe or two. 1607 Walkington *Optic Glass* ix. 54 Tobacco..must needs be very pernicious in regard of the immoderate & too ordinary whiffe. 1690 J. Stevens *Jrnl.* (1912) 239 Seven or eight will gather to the smoking of a pipe and each taking two or three whiffs gives it to his neighbour. *a* 1718 Prior *Epigr., Frank carves very ill*, Four Pipes after Dinner he constantly smokes; And seasons his Whifs with impertinent Jokes. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* IV. xvi, Gaffer Andrews..complained bitterly that he wanted his pipe, not having had a whiff that morning. 1812 Heyne *Tracts on India* (1814) 392 The Malays..roll a little tobacco in a small piece of plantain leaf, ..and after it is lighted, take only a few whiffs, and throw the rest away. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* I, He had taken his pipe from his lips, after a very long whiff to keep it alight. 1886 G. R. Sims *Ring o' Bells* Prol. 1 He took a couple of whiffs at his long churchwarden.

†**b.** A sip or draught of liquor. *Obs.*

1605 *Tryall Chev.* III. i. E j b, I had but a whiffe or two; for I was passing dry. 1624 Bp. Hall *True Peacemaker* Wks. (1625) 539 In beds of lust, chests of Mammon, whiffes and draughts of intoxication. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. vi. 31, I will yet go drink one whiffe more [orig. *encores quelque veguade*].

3. A wave or waft of (usually unsavoury) odour.

1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 137 The Poysonous Whiffs she sends from her Toes and Arm-Pits. 1731 Swift *Strephon & Chloe* 12 No noisom Whiffs or sweaty Streams ..Could from her taintless body flow. 1776 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. 1842 I. 172 To whom a single whiff of incense withheld gave much greater pain, than he received delight in the clouds of it. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 469 A whiff Of stale debauch. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* v, That whiff of russia leather, too, and all those rows on rows of volumes, neatly ranged within. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xiii. 182 A whiff of honeysuckle was borne to us as we passed. 1884 Mrs. C. Praed *Zero* I, Is not the very name Monte Carlo like a whiff of some intoxicating draught?

b. *fig.* Flavour, savour.

1872 Morley *Voltaire* vii. 321 Apologising for some whiffs of orthodoxy which Voltaire scented. 1895 Rashdall *Univ. Eur.* II. 514 *note*, There is a whiff of the Renaissance about the very words of the Statute.

4. A puff of smoke or vapour, esp. of tobacco-smoke.

1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 568 ₱ 1, I lighted it at a little wax candle..and, after having thrown in two or three whiffs among them, sat down. 1732 *Lady's Curiosity* 10 He..knocks you down with a whiff, or a f—, if you ask for an argument. 1839 Longf. *Wreck of Hesperus* 19 The skipper he blew a whiff from his pipe. 1875 Howells *Foregone Conclus.* vii, The.. heaven, in whose vast blue depths hung light whiffs of pinkish cloud.

b. *transf.* A cigarette or small cigar.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 60 Cheroot Maker. .. Whiff Maker. 1896 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 5/4 The popular form of these daintily-got-up cigarettes is a 'whiff' of about two inches in length.

5. A puffing or whistling sound, as of a puff or gust of wind through a small opening; a short or gentle whistle; hence freq. = Whew (also as *int.*).

1728 Abbuthnot *John Bull* IV. i, Nic...pull'd out a Boat-swain's Whistle; upon the first Whiff, the Tradesmen came jumping into the Room. 1848 Lytton *Pelham* xxxii(ii), Sir Willoughby.. made..no other reply than a long whiff, and

a 'Well, Russelton, dash my wig..but you're a queer fellow.' 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 58 But yonder, whiff! there comes a sudden heat. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* ix, Now we read the 'Hercules' on the engine, and anon it pulls up with a whiff, a puff, and a whistle. 1869 LOWELL *Cathedral* 74 Sunshine, whose quick charm..wiled the bluebird to his whiff of song. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 387 A like whiff or blowing sound follows each sonorous expiratory shock of cough.

b. A discharge of shot or explosive.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VII. vii, Six years ago, this Whiff of Grapeshot was promised. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Feb. 90 He might clear the gangway for the boarders with a 'whiff' of this terrible projectile [*i. e.* grapeshot]. 1915 'IAN HAY' *First Hundred Thou.* II. xviii. 252 A whiff o' shrapnel.

6. *In a whiff*: in a short time, in a jiffy. *dial.*

1885 BROCKETT *N. C. Glass.* s. v., In a whiff, in a short time. 1888 *Lippincott's Mag.* Apr. 454 All this passed through his mind in a whiff.

II. 7. A flag hoisted as a signal.

Cf. WAFF *sb.* 1 b, WAFT *sb.*[1] 6, WAIF *sb.*[2] 2, WEFFE, WHIFFLER[2] 3, WHIFT *sb.* 2.

1693 LYDE *Retaking Ship* 20, I took a Sash from one of them,.. and put it out for a Whiff. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xlviii, The stranger..hoisted a whiff, half-mast down.

III. 8. A light kind of outrigged boat for one sculler, used on the Thames.

1859 *Guardian* 13 Apr. 331/1 The accidental upsetting of a pleasure-boat, called a 'whiff', on the river Cherwell. 1875 H. R. ROBERTSON *Life Upper Thames* 209 A funny is an open, out-rigged sculling-boat, having stem and stern alike, the keel falling away in a sloping curve from either end. A whiff resembles a funny in every point, except that the stern is upright, and not sloped away as the bows are. 1880 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 5/1 Every Etonian who has passed an examination in swimming may boat..in skiffs or whiffs, gigs and outriggers. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 100/1 Whiff. Length. 20′ to 23′. Beam. 1′ 4″ to 2′ 6″...Whiff Gigs. 19′ to 20′. 2′ 8″ to 2′ 10′.

Whiff, *sb.*[2] [?Same word as prec.] A name for various flat-fishes or flounders, as the sail-fluke or mary-sole, *Rhombus megastoma*, the smear-dab, *Pleuronectes microcephalus*.

1713 JAGO in *Ray's Synopsis Piscium* 163 Passer Cornubiensis asper, magno oris hiatu. A Whiff. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 251 The Whiff. The Carter, *Cornwall.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Whiff*, the *Rhombus cardina*, a passable fish of the pleuronect genus. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 27 Citharichthys microstomus. ..Whiff.

Whiff, *v.*[1] [f. WHIFF *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To blow with a whiff or slight blast; to move with or make the sound of this. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 545 When through their green boughs whiffing winds do whirl With wanton puffs their waving locks to curl. 1608 *Ibid.* II. iv. *Schisme* 680 A sudden whirl-winde, with a whiffing Fire. *Ibid., Decay* 652 The whiffing flashes of this Sword so quick. 1645 Z. BOYD *Holy Songs* in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 12/2 Their head on neck could not abide, off chop't with whiffing steele. 1821 WALSHE *Dis. Lungs* 93 The character of the murmurs is hollow, whiffing, and moderately metallic. 1866 J. MACGREGOR *Rob Roy on Baltic* x, The whiffing of the strong wings of the wild goose. 1890 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 3/1 A raw and biting breeze whiffing about his grey hairs.

b. *trans.* To utter with a whiff or puff of air.

1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xxvi, Then whiffing out a sentimental heigh ho! 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee Crt. K. Arth.* xxvi, They crossed themselves, and whiffed out a protective prayer or two.

2. *trans.* To drive or carry by or as by a whiff; to puff or blow *away*, etc.

1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuck. Err.* I. ii. (Roxb.) 11, I take him by the sleeue,.. bid him looke to himself, Than round as a Jugler's boxe, whiffe his vpper vestment, and away. *Ibid.* I. iii. 16 Neither keene knife, nor yet Thumbe, May whiff him by slit or by numbe. 1615 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* II. 395 How oft, as Straw before the winde, are They, And as the Chaff with Tempest whift away! 1620 B. JONSON *News from New World* Wks. (1641) 42 The smoake took him and whift him up into the Moone. 1697 FARINDON *Serm.* v. 108 That Joy which is..raised as a Meteor out of dung and is whiffed up and down by every wind and breath. 1818 W. TENNANT *Auster Fl.* xii, John Frost.. Whiff'd off the clouds that the pure blue conceal'd. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. ii, And then his 'sincere attachment', how was it scornfully whiffed aside! *Ibid.* vi, A rabble to be whiffed with grapeshot. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 59/1 Troops would not always remain in the open to be whiffed out of existence by shrapnel.

b. *intr.* To move with or as with a puff of air.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xvi. 105 The Index hath whiffed round all the points of the Compass. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* ii, I have sought to stay myself.. against what looked to be a solid trunk, and the whole thing has whiffed away at my touch like a sheet of paper.

3. *trans.* To puff out tobacco-smoke from a pipe, etc.; hence, to smoke. (With the smoke or the pipe, etc. as object.) Also *fig.*

1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 2218 Every..skip-lacke now will have his pipe of smoke, And whiff it bravely till hee's like to choke. 1627 BRATHWAIT *Sol. Jov. Disput.* etc. 271 These smokers of our Age; they whiffe me [Time] out in fume. 1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Good-f.* (Percy Soc.) 34 She whiff her pipe, she drunke her can. 1636 QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy* Medit. 16 What pleasure tak'st thou in that breath, which draws and whiffs perpetuall smart? 1796 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Cl.) 166 He put his pipe in the cheek next him, and whiffed it in his face. 1899 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxii, Richard..found him furtively whiffing tobacco. 1867 *Good Cheer* 7 These formal toasts..having been all drunk, the men whiffed their pipes.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

1602 DEKKER *Satiromm.* C 4 b, Morrow, Captaine Tucca, will you whiffe this morning? 1639 JUNIUS *Sin Stigmatized* 269 They are bound..to be powring in at their mouths, or whiffing out at their noses. 1713 TYLDESLEY *Diary* (1873) 88, I found honest Tho. Barton very harty and free, but the 2 Wadsworths only whiffed. 1714 tr. *Joutel's Jrnl. Voy. Mexico* (1719) 148 Then they made us all smoke round, and every one of them whiff'd in his Turn. 1862 H. A. KENNEDY *Waifs & Strays* 203 Luxuriously whiffing away at my after-breakfast cheroot.

†4. *trans.* To imbibe, drink (liquor). Also *fig.*

1609 DEKKER *Gul's Horn-bk.* iv. 28 Hee..that would striue to fashion his legges to his silke stockins, and his proud gate to his broad garters, let him whiffe downe these obseruations. 1630 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* vi. 20 The most generous wine in Lovain and Paris, is known by the name of *vinum theologicum*: the divines (those Sorbonists) do so whiffe it off. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 141 She whiffed off a.. good Draught.

5. To inhale, sniff; also *intr.* to smell, sniff.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* IV. vii. (1718) 213 Let us both retire, And whiff the dainties of the fragrant field. 1646—*Sheph. Oracles* x. Wks. (Grosart) III. 231/1 Which like a Sun in this our Orbe, Whiffes up the Belgick fumes. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* lviii, The pack..now whiffing with curious nose round the hollies, and now trying up the rides. *Mod.* (*slang*). What a horrid smell! Can't you whiff it?

b. *intr.* To emit an unpleasant odour. *slang.*

1899 KIPLING *Stalky* iii. 79 Then she'll whiff. Golly, how she'll whiff!

Hence **Whi·ffing** *vbl. sb.*[1] (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*; also **Whi·ffer**, one who whiffs.

1592–1866 [see sense 2] *c* 1614 Tobacco-whiffer [see TOBACCO 3]. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 435 The Alehouse is their Church.., their singing of Psalmes the whiffing of Tobacco. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 191 Opening his tobacco-box, soon commenced his whiffing operation.

Whiff, *v.*[2] *Angling.* [Perhaps same as prec.] *intr.* To angle for mackerel, etc. from a swiftly moving boat with a hand-line towing the bait near the surface. Hence **Whi·ffing** *vbl. sb.*[2] (also *attrib.*).

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 172 Hand-line fishing for Pollacks is called whiffing. 1863 JOHNS *Home Walks* 164 We generally threw out our whiffing lines as we cruised about. 1886 *Globe* 22 July 3/1 When you 'whiff' at Scilly, you whiff for pollack.

Whiffet (hwi·fĕt). *U.S.* Also **whiffit**, **wiffet**. [? f. WHIFF *sb.*[1] + -ET.]

1. (Also *whiffet dog.*) A small dog.

1802 *Olio* (Philad.) 42 (Thornton) Who heeds the Whiffit's bark, when tempests howl? 1879 J. BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild Honey* 30 The king-bird will worry the hawk as a whiffet dog will worry a bear.

2. *transf.* An insignificant person; a whipper-snapper. *colloq.* (Cf. WHIFFLING.)

1839 *Congress. Globe* Jan., App. 105/3 There was not a Whig whiffet in the country but could ask [etc.]. 1876 WHITMAN *Specimen Days* 2 Sept., Writ. 1902 IV. 157 This gusty-temper'd little whiffet, man. 1883 L. A. LAMBERT to him, and to all the glib little whiffets of his shallow school. ¶ The sense 'a little whiff or puff' given in Webster 1864 is not authenticated.

Whiffle (hwi·f'l), *sb.* [f. WHIFF *sb.*[1] + -LE.]

†1. Something light or insignificant; a trifle.

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 253 Such a childish trifle or sleight whiffle.

2. An act of whiffling; a slight blast of air; a veering *round*.

1842 in Gosse *Birds Jamaica* (1847) 366 At first two or three whiffles make darkened tracks on the glassy waters. 1870 Miss ALCOTT *Good Wives* xxi, Amy keeps me pointing due west most of the time, with only an occasional whiffle round to the south. 1909 BEGBIE *Cage* x, The whiffle in the air grew more distinct.

Whiffle (hwi·f'l), *v.*[1] Also 6 **wyffle**, 7 **whifle**. [f. WHIFF *v.*[1] + -LE. Cf. Flem. *weyfelen* 'vacillare' (Kilian).]

1. *intr.* To blow in puffs or slight gusts; hence, to veer or shift *about* (of the wind; hence, of a ship). Often *fig.* or in fig. context: To vacillate, to be variable or evasive. Now chiefly *dial.*

1568 [see WHIFFLING *ppl. a.*[1] 1]. 1672 R. BOHUN *Wind* 56 Near mountainous Islands, or shoares, they [*sc.* winds] whiffle up and down, and shift from one point of the Compasse to another. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 413 The Wind had been whiffling about from one part of the Compass to another. 1699 *Ibid.* II. iii. 62 If the Winds also whiffle about to the South. 1737 ORELL *Rabelais* III. xxxv. 236 *note*, A Man who is continually turning and whiffling about to all the Points of the Compass. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 235 Were we to give a full latitude to sympathy, we should whiffle about with every wind. 1802 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IX. 370 She yaws and whiffles about like a weathercock. 1812 TENNANT *Auster F.* IV. liv, The whizzing wind..whiffling through the wooden tubes so small. 1840 [LADY BURY] *Hist. Flirt* xii, They whiffle about like a weathercock. 1894 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s. v., The wind whiffles about so. 1921 *Nation* (N.Y.) XXXII. 400 Who like a manly man, will not whiffle, or quibble, or evade. 1909 F. HARRISON in *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Nov. 2/3 If he finally whiffle round to tax foreign food.

2. *trans.* To blow or drive with or as with a puff of air. Often *fig.*

1642 TRAPP *Theol. Theol.* viii. 338 Whiffled and tossed too and fro with every wind of doctrine. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* IV. 3, I so whiffled him on the face with my Torch [orig. *je lui passe le flambeau par devant le nez*] that I burned off almost all his beard. 1660 S. FISHER *Rustica ad Aead.* Wks. (1679) 132 Like men in a Ship that are whiffled up and down in a troubled Sea. 1664 H. MORE *Enthus. Triumph.* ix. 163 Such as would whiffle away all these Truths by resolving them into a mere moral Allegoria. 1685 HOWE *Redeemer's Tears* Pref., Swollen with the conceit, that they have whiffled Christianity away, quite off the stage, with their profane breath. 1827 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* XXVI, No easy dupe, to be whiffled off and on, the sport of a coquette. 1843 MIALL in *Nonconf.* III. 225 The world is not destined to be whiffled out of its own independent reason by a handful of priests and statesmen.

b. *fig.* To dismiss by evasion; to say or state evasively.

1644 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* Suppl. 227 This he whiffles off slightly, that 'tis a Parabol. 1678 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 43 He whiffles, those were the Jewish Ceremonies.

3. *intr.* To move lightly as if blown by a puff of air; to flicker or flutter as if stirred by the wind. Often *fig.*

1662 HERBERT *Body Div.* II. 26 Any anabaptistical humorist, who hath a company of phanatique toyes whiffling about his understanding. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Saddueismus* II. (1726) join'd. 1827 J. GILCHRIST *Intell. Patrim.* 148 Better chirp with the cricket, or chatter with the sparrow, than whiffle round this eternal monotony of futility. 1828 HAZLITT *Engl. Comic Writers* viii. (1907) 216 He whiffles about the stage with considerable volubility. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* xvi, Suddenly the flame inside began to whiffle. 1870 JULIA P. SMITH *Widow Goldsmith's Dau.* xxxvii, She would whiffle and whirl up and down like a withered leaf.

4. *intr.* To talk idly; to trifle. *dial.* (See also WHIFFLING *ppl. a.*[1] 3.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Whiffle*, to trick one out of a thing, to stand trifling. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whiffle*, to talk idly. *North.*

5. *intr.* To make a light whistling sound; *trans.* to utter with such a sound.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 262 The two strangers whiffled and hissed together, in an unknown very rapid tongue. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 448 Master Silence whiffling his scraps of ballads. 1893 *Daily News* 13 Feb. 6/1 Where a keen cold blast whiffles and blusters about the black and sullen monsters. 1909 *Ibid.* 14 Sept. 3 When a bear comes 'whiffling' about your snow hut. 1913 *Glasgow Herald* 9 Aug. 8 Shells flew 'whiffling' over our heads.

†6. a. *trans.* To smoke (tobacco). b. *absol.* To drink. *Obs.* (Cf. WHIFF *v.*[1] 3, 4.)

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 265 The constant and common whiffling it [*sc.* tobacco]. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol. 15 Those..importunate sots who..constrain an easy, good-natured fellow to whiffle, quaff, carouse [orig. *tringuer, voire caros et allus*].

Hence **Whi·ffling** *vbl. sb.*[1]

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* v. Wks. 1687 I. 65 Such as are.. versatile whifflings and dodgings. 1681 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* iv. 367 Too much whifling up and down in the little levities of Fancy. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* VII. ix. Wks. (1702) 203 In her Course, upon the whifling of the Air, a snagged Bough of a Tree took hold of his Hair. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* xvi, The whiffling of the flame was remedied now. 1882 'F. ANSTEY' *Vice Versâ* iv, 'I his infernal whiffling and sniffing, sir, I will not put up with.

Whi·ffle, *v.*[2] *nonce-wd.* [Back-formation f. WHIFFLER[1].] *intr.* To act as a whiffler.

1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* App. viii, Nobody can use his fists without being taught the use of them,..no more than any one can 'whiffle' without being taught by a master of the art...The last of the whifflers hanged himself about a fortnight ago..there being no demand for whiffling since the discontinuation of Guildhall banquets!..let any one take up the old chap's sword and try to whiffle.

Whi·ffiegig, *a. colloq.* Trifling, 'whiffling'. Also **Whi·ffmagig** = WHIFFLER[2] 2.

1830 H. LEE *Mem. Manager* I. i. 10 Not one of your puny punsters, or..whiffle-gig word-snappers. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* liv, Plenty of foreign whiffmagigs are to be found, but you won't come upon a fellow like that.

Whiffler[1] (hwi·flə). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 6 **viffleur**, **wyffler**, **wyff-**, **wiffeler**, **wyfler**, **weffler**, 6–7 **wiffler**, **whiffeler**, 6–8 **wifler**, 7 **whyfler**, 7–8 **whifler**, 6– **whiffler**. [f. WIFLE javelin, axe + -ER[1]; the spelling with *wh* is prob. due to association with WHIFF and WHIFFLE *v.*[1]] One of a body of attendants armed with a javelin, battle-axe, sword, or staff, and wearing a chain, employed to keep the way clear for a procession or at some public spectacle.

the triennial musical festival.

1539 in *Archaeologia* XXXII. 33 The chamberlayn & councellors of the cytye, & the aldermens deputyes whiche were assigned to be wyffelers on horsebacke, were all yn cotes of whyte damaske..w[t] great chaynes abowte theyre necks, & propre javilyns or battle axes yn theyre handes... The wyffelers on fote were iiij C propre lyght personnes apparellyd yn whyte sylke or buffe jarkyns,..every man havyng a slaugh swerde or a javelyn to kepe the people yn araye, w[t] chaynes abowte theyre necks. 1544 in Rymer *Foedera* (1729) XV. 53 [At the King's departure from Calais] Furst, the Drommes and Viffleurs, then the Trompets, then [etc.]. 1554 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, XIX. ii. 303 The captain of the Spaniards..asketh allowance for the wages of himself, his petty captain, his standard bearer, drum, fife, wifler, surgeon and priest. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* LII. v, Drums, fiffes, flags, and wiflers. 1560–1 in *Old City Acc. Bk.* (Archæol. Jrnl. XLIII). Payde for iij staves for weffelers. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V* v. Chorus 12 The deep-mouth'd Sea, Which like a mightie Whiffler 'fore the King, Seemes to prepare his way. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. 30 They..were..scomefull toward particulars, which

their manner was to vse .. as .. Sergeants and Wifflers .. to make way .. for their opinions. 1628 Br. Hall *Right-eous Mammon* Wks. (1625) 701 Some vaine whiffler, that is proud of a borrowed chaine. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* iv. 30 His former transition was in the faire about the Jugglers, now he is at the Pageants among the Whifflers. *a* 1658 Cleveland *Poems*, etc. (1677) 112 First as a Whifler before the show enter Stamford, one that trod the Stage with the first, travers'd his ground, made a Leg and Exit. 1707 E. Ward *Hud. Rediv.* VI. II. 23 The Colours that their Whifflers wear, And diff'rent Ensigns that they bear. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 536 P 5 Our fine young Ladies .. retain in their Service .. as great a Number as they can of supernumerary .. Fellows, which they use like Whifflers. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Whifflers*, men who make way for the corporation of Norwich, by flourishing their swords.

b. *transf.* A swaggerer, braggadocio.

1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 113 Yet another place of S. Paule out of the whiche this wylde wiffler may rushe upon us with his leaden dagger. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* II. i, Your right whiffler .. hangs himselfe in Saint Martins, and not in Cheape-side. 1644 Featley *Levites Scourge* To Rdr., They fight .. rather like whifflers with vizards on their faces. 1881 Shorthouse *John Inglesant* ix, A motley company of mummers, masquers, fantastic phantoms, whifflers, thieves, ruffians. 1889 'Q' *Splendid Spur* xiii, The crew of gipsies, whifflers, mountebanks, fortune-tellers.

¶ The sense 'piper, fifer' found in Dicts. from Kersey's ed. of Phillips (1706) onwards is baseless.

Whiffler [2] (hwi·flər). [f. Whiffle *v.*[1] + -er [1].]

†1. A smoker of tobacco. *Obs.* (Cf. Whiffer.)

1617 Middleton & Rowley *Fair Quarrel* IV. i, How likest thou this, whiffler? 1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trumps.* 117 So may we allow Vesuvius and Etna to smoke, without conceding that privilege to every puny whiffler.

2. A trifler; an insignificant or contemptible fellow (cf. Whiffling *ppl. a.*[1] 3); also, a shifty or evasive person.

1639 *Lady Alimony* v. iv, Such Whifflers are below my scorn, and beneath my spite. 1675 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 279 Here are every year abundance of Whiflers in those scraps of learning. 1678 H. More in Glanvill *Sadducismus* Postscript (1681) 45 O the impudent profaneness .. of perverse shufflers and whifflers. *a* 1745 Swift *Public Absurd. Eng.* Wks. 1841 II. 311/1 It is a common topic of satire, which you will hear .. from the mouths .. of every whiffler in office. 1809–12 Maria Edgeworth *Absentee* iv, He was not a whiffler to stand upon ceremony about disturbing a gentleman in his last moments. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 187 These metaphysical whifflers draw no blood. 1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 25 June 935/2 [Giving the Gospel message] requires single-mindedness; no whiffler can succeed.

†3. A flag. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. Whiff *sb.*[1] 7.)

1759 Durand *Mem. Capt. Thurot* (Percy Soc.) 28 The commodore and second vessel carried white whifflers or pendants forward.

4. The whistlewing or golden-eye duck, *Clangula glaucion. local U. S.*

1888 G. Trumbull *Names of Birds* 79.

Whiffery (hwi·fləri). *nonce-wd.* [f. prec.: see -ery.] Action characteristic of a whiffler; trifling.

1838 Carlyle in Froude *T. C.* (1884) I. 60 Life is no frivolity, or hypothetical coquetry or whifflery.

Whiffletree, U. S. variant of **Whippletree**.

1855 Bristed in *Cambr. Ess.* 65 Whiffle-tree, the invariable American for splinter-bar. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 256 A boy can lead a horse, with a suitable chain attached to the whiffletree. 1896 *Century Mag.* Nov. 23 With trace-chains rattling and whiffletrees snapping over the stumps of trees.

Whi·ffling, *vbl. sb.* [f. Whiffl(er [1] + -ing [1].] The action of a whiffler in clearing the way; also *attrib.* or as *ppl. a.*, used by, or acting as, a whiffler.

1628 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 183 For 14 doz. of whiffling staves and 1 doz. of truncheons, .. *li. 5s. 0d.* 1675 V. Alsop *Anti-Sosso* iii. § 2. 156 These whiffling Slanders do but make way for the Show. 1683 [J. Norris] *Mirrival of Knaves* 16 The Rabbles Darling, small Birch-rod Of Loyalty, a Whifling Blade.

Whiffling (hwi·flin), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Whiffle *v.*[1] + -ing [2].]

1. That whiffles; blowing, or blown, in light puffs; [illegible] whiffling dust which flies in the faces of Travellers. 1685 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 135 No raine fell from the 26 Jan. .., only a little whiffling snow. 1723 Rowe *Jane Shore* IV. i, Like a dry leaf, an idle straw, a feather, The Sport of every whifling Blast that blows. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. xvi, Those whiffling vexations which come puffing across a man's canvas. 1880 Hurdis *Fav. Village* 32 The whiffling breese .. among the bents. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* xvii, Where the whiffling winds had left the earth nearly bare [of snow].

b. Making or characterized by a light whistling sound.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iv, Some whiffling husky cachinnation. 1911 Galsworthy *Patrician* xix, Rain, which the wind drove horizontally with a cold whiffling murmur.

2. Inconstant, shifting; evasive.

a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 109 This puts him upon perpetual Apologies .. in a Kind of whiffling Strain. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* ix. (1802) 79 A person of a whiffling and unsteady turn of mind, who cannot keep close to a point of controversy, but wanders from it perpetually. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* 139/1 That it should be got rid of by the whiffling way of an adjournment. 1826 Hazlitt *Pol. Ess.* (1828) 343 A whiffling turncoat. 1849 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* ix, Hes had .. a whiffling double voice, shifting abruptly from a treble to a thorough-bass. 1896 Emerson *Engl. Traits* viii. 243 The national temper, in the civil history, is not flashy or whiffling. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 323 The whiffling and unsteady frame of mind of the Imperial workman.

8. Trifling, pettifogging, fiddling, fussy; (passing into) paltry, insignificant, 'piffling'.

1613 Hoby *Counter-snarle* 3 Some vile blurr, and malevolous aspersion, from one or other her suborned Pandars and whiffling agents. 1671 Crowne *Juliana* I. 8 A pittiful whiffling small-beer Duke. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 847 A meer Whiffling, Evanid, and Phantastick thing. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 7. 3/1 Whiffling, Noisy Whelp apace Barks. 1729 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) IV. 107 The whiffling Gallants of the Inns of Court, Do hinder their Studies certainly. 1827 Hazlitt *Times Newsp.*, Wks. 1902 III. 171 The lo[illegible] their literary jeal[illegible] *Whistling*, slight, [illegible] fellow.' 1903 R. Bridges *To a Socialist in Loud.* III The least petty whiffling ephemeral insect.

Hence **Whi·fflingly** *adv.*, in a trifling manner.

1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. 482 All the Articles of our Faith .. might be most frivolously and whifflingly allegorised into a mere .. Fable.

Whiffling, *ppl. a.*[2]: see Whiffling *vbl. sb.*

Whiffmagig: see Whiffleigig.

Whiffy (hwi·fi), *a. slang.* [f. Whiff *sb.*[1] + -y [1].] Having an unpleasant smell.

1905 R. Marsh *Spoiler of Men* xvii. 149 It [*sc.* his tobacco] is a bit whiffy, ain't it?

†**Whifling.** *Obs.* [f. Whiff *sb.*[1] + -ling.] An insignificant creature. (Cf. Whiffler [2] 2.)

1635 Glapthorne *Hollander* I. i, Hang him young whifling, he know a Lady, pity of his life first.

Whift (hwift), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [var. of Whiff *sb.*[1] with excrescent *-t*.]

1. A whiff or slight blast of wind; a snatch (of song).

1614 Gorges *Lucan* v. 208 So hauing said, the surging whifts The ship ten times together lifts. 1855 Browning *Fra Lippo Lippi* 52 A sweep of lute-strings, laughs, and whifts of song.

2. A small signal flag. (Cf. Whiff *sb.*[1] 7.)

1839 Beale *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* xii. 255 Two or three small flags, called 'whifts', which are inserted in the dead whale, in case the boats should leave it in chase of others. 1846 Young *Naut. Dict.* 359 *Waft*, *Weft*, or *Whift*, a signal (most frequently for a boat) made by hoisting a flag rolled up lengthways and bound together with a few stops.

†**Whift**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Whiff *v.*[1] (cf. sense 4) + *-t* = -ed [2].] Drunk, intoxicated.

1611 Cotgr., *Entrebeu*, halfe drunke, almost whift.

Whig (hwig), *sb.*[1] Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 **whyg(ge**, 6–7 **whigge**, 6–7, 8–9 *Sc.* **wig**, 7, 9 *Sc.* **whigg**, 7, 8–9 *Sc.* **wigg**, 9 *Sc.* **quhig**, 6– **whig.** [Of unascertained origin, but presumably related to Whey. (The variation of *whig* and *wig* in Sc. is remarkable.)] Variously applied to (*a*) sour milk or cream, (*b*) whey, (*c*) buttermilk, (*d*) a beverage consisting of whey fermented and flavoured with herbs.

1528 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 100 Lyvynge on mylke, whyg, and whey. 1562 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* IV. H v, My lusty gotes with kid they swel, ne want I whigge, nor whay. 1589 [? Lyly] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 406 Martins conscience hath a periwig; therefore to good men he is more sower than wig. 1625 Markham *Country Contentm.* II. iv. 114 As for the Whey you may keepe it also in a sweet stone vessell: for it is that which is called Whigge, and is an excellent coole drinke and a wholsome. 1633 Hart *Diet of Diseased* II. xvii. 209 Sowre whey .. is in very great request in the Northerne parts of this Iland, where it is called of some whigge, and of others wigge. 1684 [Meriton] *Yorksh. Ale* Gloss. 114 *Whig* is Clarified Whey, put up with Herbs to drink. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 273/1 Thick Milk, Butter-milk made thick through the heat of Summer, the bottom part falling to a Whigg. 1799 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XXI. 142 Cream, too long kept, and purified by drawing off the thin part, or wig, for drink, was converted into butter. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 736/1 *Whig* .. is the provincial name in the south-west of Scotland for that blue-and-yellowish, thin sub-acid liquid which gathers on the surface of whey or butter milk.

fig. 1661 Needham *Hist. Engl. Reb.* xlii, There lies the Cream of all the Cause; Religion is but Whig.

Whig (hwig), *sb.*[2] and *a.* Forms: 7 **whige**, **whigh**, **whigue**, *Sc.* **uhig**, **uig**, 7–8 **wig(g**, 8 **quig**, 7–9 **whigg**, 7– **whig.** [Origin unascertained; prob. shortening of *whiggamer*, Whiggamore; the occurrence of sense 1 (if it belongs to this word) some years before the date of the 'whiggamore raid' points to the existence of *whig* in a general sense before that event.

The supposition that this word is identical with Whig *sb.*[1] (cf. the following quots.) has no historical foundation.

1727 Da Foe *Mem. Ch. Scot.* III. (1844) 68/2 The word is said to be taken from a mixt Drink the poor Men drank in their Wanderings compos'd of Water and sour Milk. 1742 Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* II. II. I. 263 The poor honest People, who were in Raillery called Whiggs, from a Kind of Milk they were forced to drink in their Wandrings and Straits. *a* 1754 North *Exam.* II. v. § 20 (1740) 322 This [*sc.* the name Birmingham Protestants] held a considerable Time; but the word was not fluent enough for hasty Repartees; and, after diverse Changes, the Lot fell upon Whig, which was very significative, as well as ready, being vernacular in Scotland, (from whence it was borrowed) for corrupt and sour Whey. Immediately the Train took, and, upon the first Touch of the Experiment, it run like wild Fire, and became general. And so the Assistant of Tory was ballanced, and soon began to run up a sharp Score on the other Side.]

†1. A yokel, country bumpkin. *Obs. rare.*

c 1645 T. Tully *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 3 And needs he [*sc.* Leslie] would retreat to Newcastle, till great Barwise set himself first into the water; and the rest, following him, so frighted y[e] fresh water countrie whiggs, y[e] all of them answered the Motto, *veni, vidi, fugi*. *c* 1655 J. Gwynne *Mil. Mem. Gt. Civil War* 11. (1822) 90 Most of them were no souldiers, but countrey bumkins, there called Whigs.

2. An adherent of the Presbyterian cause in Scotland in the seventeenth century; applied orig. to the Covenanters in the West of Scotland who in 1648 wrested the government from the Royalist party and marched as rebels to Edinburgh; in later years, to the extreme section of the Covenanting party who were regarded as rebels. *Hist.*

'By rigid Episcopalians, it is still given to Presbyterians in general; and, in the West of S[cotland], even by the latter, to those who, in a state of separation from the established church, profess to adhere more strictly to Presbyterian principles' (Jamieson, 1808).

1697 in Jas. Campbell *Balmerino* (1867) 213 Having fallen in among the Whigs of Kilmany. 1666 Nicoll *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 432 The Generall [Dalyell] having marched towards the West, he took and killed sindrie persones, callit The Whigs. 1666 *Cal. State Papers, Dom. 1666–7* (1864) 302 Now not one [*sc.* of the rebels] dares call himself a Whig. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 121/1 We were informed that the Whigs had privately in the night stollen down the heads of 4 of the Rebels that were set up in Glasgow. 1679 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1885) III. 163 The Whiggs horse and foot fell in pell, mell, upon the Dragoons. 1683 Claverhouse in *Clavers, the Despot's Champion* (1889) xli. 142, I am as sorry to see a man day, even a whigue, as any of themselfs. 1684 *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1903) II. 196 The bearer wil tell you the kindness the Whighs has for your lordship, which is no ill argument of your lordship's seal in the King's service. *a* 1699 Kirkton *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1817) 46 This was done at the Whiggs' Road, as was called. 1708 in Brand *Hist. Newc.* (1789) I. 424 *note*, [In St. Andrew's Register, November 1708, this burying-ground for dissenters is called] the Quigs buring-place. *a* 1718 Burnet *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 43 Those in the west [of Scotland] come in the summer to buy at Lieth the stores that come from the north: And from a word Whiggam, used in driving their horses all that drove were called the Whiggamors, and shorter the Whiggs. 1875 tr. *Ranke's Hist. Eng.* XVI. ix. IV. 121 Doubtless, in Scotland also, the republican tendencies appeared; for instance, in October 1680, the King and the Duke were excommunicated with due form; .. These were, however, rather Anabaptist than Presbyterian views; their adherents were indeed called Whigs, but 'wild Whigs'. 1888 M. Morris *Claverhouse* ix. 159 The men of the hill-sides and moorlands of the West, the wild Western Whigs, who feared .. the name of Claverhouse.

3. Applied to the Exclusioners (*c* 1679) who opposed the succession of James, Duke of York, to the crown, on the ground of his being a Roman Catholic. *Hist.* (Opposed to Tory A. 2.)

1679 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 432 After the breaking out of the popish plot severall of our scholars were tried and at length were discovered to be whigge, viz. .. Georg Reynell of C. C. C., looked upon as alwayes a round-head. 1681 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 124 The latter party have been called by the former, whigs, fanaticks, covenanteers, bromigham protestants, &c.; and the former are called by the latter, tories, tantivies, Yorkists, high flown church men. 1682 *Tories Confess.* vi, What pimping Whig shall dare controule, or check the lawfull Heir. 1683 [J. Norris] *Mirrival of Knaves* a Whig and Tory .. The one of Caledonian Race, T'other has an Hibernian Face. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 632 In 1678 .. he closed with the Whiggs, supposing that party would carry all before them. *a* 1734 [see etymology above]. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* xii. (1876) II. 439. 1905 C. S. Terry *Pentland Rising* 84 The .. controversies which cleft the Whigs in 1679, to the paralysis of serious military achievement, were absent in 1666.

b. *fig.* A rebel.

1682 Dryden *Another Epil. Dk. Guise* 22 When Sighs and Prayers their ladies cannot move, They rail, write Treason, and turn Whigs to love.

4. Hence, from 1689, an adherent of one of the two great parliamentary and political parties in England, and (at length) in Great Britain. (Opposed to Tory A. 3.)

Since the middle of the 19th c. [illegible] (exc. as a historical term) by *Liberal* (see Liberal A. 5, B. 1 b), but used occas. since then to express adherence to moderate or antiquated Liberal principles.

1702 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* I. Pref. p viii, We have lived .. to see the two great Parties, of late known by the Names of *Whig* and *Tory*, directly change their ground. 1704 C. Leslie *The Wolf Stript* 82 A Whigg is a State-Enthusiast, as a Dissenter is an Ecclesiastical. 1713 *Guardian* No. 2 P 4, I am, with relation to the government of the Church, a Tory, with regard to the State, a Whig. *a* 1723 Burnet *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 43 All that opposed the Court came in contempt to be called Whigs. 1742 Hume *Ess., Parties Gt. Brit.* 132 A Whig may be defin'd to be a Lover of Liberty, tho' without renouncing Monarchy; and a Friend to the Settlement in the Protestant Line. 1776 Johnson *ap.* Apr. in *Boswell*, 'And I have always said, the first Whig was the Devil.' *Boswell.* 'He certainly was, Sir. The Devil was impatient of subordination.' 1791 Burke (*title*) An Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs, in consequence of some late discussions in Parliament, relative to the Reflections on the French Revolution. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* VI. iii, 'I look upon an Orangeman,' said Coningsby, 'as a pure Whig.' 1892 Ld. J. Russell in S. Walpole *Life* (1889) II. 236 *note*, The term Whig .. has the convenience of expressing in one syllable what Conservative Liberal expresses in seven; and Whiggism, in two syllables, means what Conservative Progress means in other six. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 21 July 67/2 The Gladstonian Moderate, the 'Whig' as he is locally called, has ceased to have a reason for existence [illegible] 1911 B. Holland *Spencer Compton* II. this [1886]

the word 'Whig' was still in common use to denote a connection loosely bound together, the moderate Liberals, led by the chiefs of certain families of long standing. Since 1886, the word has been used in a purely historical sense, while 'Tory' has still a living meaning.

5. *Amer. Hist.* a. An American colonist who supported the American Revolution.

1768 *New York Gaz.* 14 Mar., (*title of article*) The American Whig. 1768 *Boston Gaz.* 11 Apr. 3/2 On reading, in the American Mercury, an advertisement of a weekly paper to be published, under the title of *A Whip for the American Whig*; I could not help falling into a train of serious reflections, on the persecuting genius that inspires the high flying Tory party, in the episcopal church. 1775 Thacher *Mil. Jrnl. Amer. Rev.* (1823) 12 The..majority.. are united in resolution to oppose..the wicked attempts of the English Cabinet. This class of people have assumed the appellation of Whigs. 1775 Johnson in *Boswell* 21 Mar., When the Whigs of America are thus multiplied, let the Princes of the earth tremble in their palaces. 1818 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 6 June 240/2 A great battle is said to have been fought about the 1st May, between the 'whigs' of Caracas and 'tories' of Coro, the latter being aided by some 'regulars' from Porto Rico. 1884 A. Johnston *Hist. Amer. Pol.* (ed. 2) 6 As soon as independence was announced, in 1776, to be the final object of the contest, the names Whig and Tory lost, in America, whatever of British significance they had ever possessed.

b. A member of a party formed in 1834 from a fusion of the National Republicans and other elements opposed to the Democrats; it favoured a protective tariff and a strong national or central government, and was succeeded in 1856 by the Republican party. (See quot. 1

1834 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 12 Apr. 101, Connecticut the term 'whigs' is now used by the opponents of the administration when speaking of themselves, and they call the 'Jackson men' by the offensive name of 'tories'. 1839 *Congress. Globe* Jan., App. 105/1 In 1796,..Whig..was synonymous with Democrat,..or, in the Federal language of the times, was fit for the common people;..but now for political effect, the same party have taken the term Whig to themselves. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. liii. II. 340 The majesty and beneficent activity of the National government..was generally in fact represented by the Federalists of the first period, the Whigs of the second, the Republicans of the third. 1905 *A. Johnston's Amer. Pol. Hist.* II. 239 His [*sc.* James Watson Webb's] ; the *Courier and Enquirer*, had originally su Jackson, and had been driven into the opposition by the President's course. In February, 1834, he baptized the new party with the name of 'Whig', with the idea that the name implied resistance to executive usurpation, to that of the Crown in England and in the American Revolution, and to that of the President in the United States of 1834.

B. *adj.* That is a Whig; of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a Whig or Whigs; holding the opinions or principles of a Whig.

1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 32 (1713) I. through it. 1683 Dryden *Vind. Dk. Guise* 22 As for Knave, and Sycophant, and Rascal, and Impudent, and Devil, and old Serpent,..I take them to be only names of Parties: And cou'd return Murtherer and Cheat, and Whig-napper. 1683 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 279 Commenting on several proceedings of those called the whig party. 1719 T. Gordon *Char. Indep. Whig* (ed. 2) 19 Let them not.. give up Whig Boroughs into Jacobite Hands. 1732 P. Walker *Cargill* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 100 They said 'Take up the old damn'd Whig-Bitch.' 1768 *Boston Gaz.* 21 Mar. 3/1 May the best of Heaven's Blessings ever attend the Whig Cause. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* x, Free and safe as a whig ballie on the causeway of his own borough, or a canting presbyterian minister in his own pulpit. 1837 Syd. Smith *Lett. Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 276/2 Lord John Russell, the Whig leader. 1839 Whittier *Pr. Wks.* (1889) II. 323 The late Whig defeat in New York. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. liii. II. 333 The other section, which called itself at first the National Republican, ultimately the Whig party. 1912 G. O. Trevelyan *Geo. III & Fox* I. 292 A rallying point for the hardy Whig militiamen of the Carolinas.

C. *Comb.*, as *Whig-Radical* sb. and adj.; *Whig-defeating*, *-hunting* adjs.; †**Whigland** (*obs. slang*), the land of Whigs, esp. Scotland; hence †**Whig-lander**, a native or inhabitant of 'Whigland'.

1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 65 (1713) II. 252 A Cause-confounding, *Whig-defeating..Dispensation. 1905 C. S. Terry *Pentland Rising* 2 The familiar *Whig-hunting duty of Claverhouse. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 45 (1713) II. 39 The Territories of *Whiggland. 1683 [J. Norris] *Murnival of Knaves* 16 Patron of all Dissenters, and The Demogorgon of Whigland. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whig-land*, Scotland. 1682 *Ballad, Happy Ret. Old Dutch Miller* I, I am so Zealous for *Whiglanders Crew, I'l cure their Distempers with one Turn or Two. 1820 J. Rickman *Extr. Life & Lett.* 20 Feb. 215 The address of the Yorkshire *Whig Radicals.

Hence (mostly *humorous* or *contemptuous nonce-wds.*) **Whi·ggarchy** (-aiki) [Gr. ἀρχή rule], government by Whigs; **Whi·ggess**, a female Whig; **Whi·ggify** *v.*, *trans.* to make Whig or whiggish (so **Whi·ggifica·tion**); **Whiggi·ssimi** [jocular f. with L. superl. ending], extreme or absolute Whigs; **Whi·ggise** *v.*, *intr.* to act like a Whig, play the Whig; **Whiggolo·gical** *a.*, relating to Whig principles; **Whi·glet**, **Whi·gling**, a small or petty Whig (also *attrib.*); **Whigo·cracy** [-ocracy], government by Whigs; *concr.* a body of Whig rulers; **Whi·gship**, the personality or quality of a Whig; †**Whi·gster** [-ster], a contemptuous appellation for a Whig.

1722-23 Swift *App. to Cond. Allies* Wks. 1841 I. 437/2 That they will not recognise any other government in Great Britain but *Whiggarchy only. 1776 *Pennsylvania Journ. Post* 2 Jan. 3/2 A reasonable *Whiggess scorns all implicit faith in the state as well as the church. 1839 Lady Lytton *Cheveley* II, Whiggesses always make their 'début' later than other girls. 1832 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 387 We were all along against the *whiggification of the Tory System. 1682 *Philanax Misopappas* *Tory Plot* II. 3 If he preach up nothing but Hell and Heaven, and a good Life,..D...me, says he, this Fellow's *Whiggesi'd. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 364 They may aid..in whiggifying some of the propositions of the government. 1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 484 A whiggified Radical is a jobber. 1795 Swift *Lett. to Sheridan* 25 Sept., Because they are above suspicions, as *Whiggissimi and Unsuspectissimi. 1832 J. Rickman *Extr. Life & Lett.* 18 Apr. 204 Whigs, Whiggamores, Whiggissimi. 1832 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 708, I don't like a Whig..but..I have even less affection for a *Whiggising Tory. 1827 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 135 Mr. Bentham will no doubt be thankful for so striking an illustration of his *whiggological theories. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 36 (1713) I. 232 Some tolerable Reasons why the little *Whiglets engag'd themselves in such an Affair. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 221 You have made some of the Radicals and Whiglets, both of Edinburgh and Glasgow, feel. *Ibid.* 3 Tears of joy and gratitude at beholding the *whiglings placed so near his Majesty's seat of honour. 1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 41 The carping jibes of Whigling envy. 1823 J. Wilson *Ess. Hist. & Biogr.* xvi. 289 The whole breed of Radicals, and Whiglings, and Cockneys. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 568 Any of the *Whigocracy. *a* 1796 Burns *Stanzas on Naething* 37 Her *whigship was wonderful pleased. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Johnson & John Horne* (*Tooke*) Wks. I. 266/2 People, of your cast in politics are fond of vilifying our country. Is this your whigship? 1683 *Romulus & Hersilia* Prol., Now I dare swear, some of you *Whigsters say, Come on, now for a swinging Tory Play.

Whig, *v.*[1] *Sc.* [Cf. *jig* (vb.[3]), *frig*, *jig*.]

1. *trans.* To urge forward, drive briskly.

1666-7 G. Blackhal *Brief Narr.* (1844) §8. 163, I did sie the contrie people whigging their meres, to be tymously at the kirk.

2. *intr.* To jog along.

c 1690 *Killiecrankie* in C. Mackay *Jacobite Songs* (1861) 38 The solemn league and covenant, Cam whigging up the hills, man. 1702 De Foe *Trueborn Eng.* I. 222 Scots from the northern frozen banks of Tay, With packs and plods came whigging all away. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxiv, Just when I..was whigging cannily awa hame.

Whig, *v.*[2] [f. Whig *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To behave like a Whig towards; *intr.* to play the Whig.

1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 258 They will Whig us bravely indeed, if by the Pretences of the Fear of Popery and Arbitrary Government, Flanders and Germany should..fall into the Scale of France. 1695 in C. Mackay *Jacobite Songs* (1861) 43 Say, was it foul, or was it fair, To come a hunder mile and mair, For to ding out my daddy's heir, And dash him wi' the whiggin o't. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxvi, I think he will hardly neglect the parade of the feudal retainers, or go a-whigging a second time. 1832 Lytton in *Life*, etc. (1883) II. viii. I. 280 They Whigged everything they touched. They gauged and docketed all the objects of Poetry.

Whig, *v.*[3] *dial.* [f. Whig *sb.*[1]] *trans.* and *intr.* To turn sour; to curdle.

1756 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 196 The milk is whigged, and still pretty sour. 1825 Jamieson s.v., Stale churned milk, when it throws off a sediment, is said to whig. 1835 De Quincey *Tory's Acc. Toryism*, etc., Wks. 1863 XV. 224 If you pour milk upon rum, and do it so slowly or so unskilfully as to coagulate the mixture, you are said 'to whig it.'

Whig(g, variants of Wig *sb.*[1], kind of bun.

Whiggamore (hwi·gămōr). *Hist.* Forms: 7 **whigimyre**, **whiggamaire**, **-mer**, **whigmuir**, **wickhamer**, **wiggomer**, 7– **whiggamore**, 8 **whiggamor**, **whigamoor**, 9 **whigamore**. [The form *whig(g)amore*, used by Bp. Burnet in the often cited passage given s.v. Whig *sb.*[2] 2, and later popularized by Scott, is app. an erratic form (like *whigmuir*, *whigimyre*) of *wiggomer*, *whiggamaire*, which is prob. f. Whig *v.*[1] + *mere*, Mare *sb.*[1]

The word *whiggam* adduced by Burnet as a term used in driving horses is unsupported by evidence.]

Originally, One of a body of insurgents of the West of Scotland who in 1648 marched on Edinburgh, their expedition being called the 'whiggamore raid, road, or inroad'; later (*contemptuous*), = Whig *sb.*[2] 2. Also *attrib.*

1649 Sir Jas. Balfour *Hist. Wks.* (1825) III. 388 Anent the Scotts last going into England, and the Englishe, with Cromwell and Lambert, ther heir-comeing at the Whiggamaire roade. *Ibid.* 420 Since Julii last, 1649, and the Whigamore road. 1654 in *R. Baillie's Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bann. Club) III. 368 Some hes maid a report..that wee wer raysing a Whigimyre road vnder Argyle. 1666 in Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* I. iii. (1721) I. 151 There was another Statue in a Whigmuir's Habit, having the Remonstrance in his Hand. 1666 *Cal. State Papers, Dom. 1666-7* (1864) 300, 68 of the Wickhamers. 1666 in *Dom. State Papers Chas. II* CLXXIX. lf. 136 (MS.), The Wiggomers, for so they call the mutineers, being a middle sort betwixt Anabaptist and Presbyterian, are quite quelld onely that they shifft their quarters as they heare they are pursued. 1670 Sir Jas. Turner *Mem.* (1829) 68 So soone as the news of our defeate [*sc.* of the Scots at Preston] came to Scotland, Argile and the Kirks partie rose in armes everie mothers sonne; and this was calld the Whiggamor rode. *a* 1718 [see Whig *sb.*[2] 2]. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* viii, There's a thousand merks on the murdering whigamore's head. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xxv, It isna good for my health to come in the gate o' the whigamore bailie bodies. 1821 — *Pirate* iv, 'Hear to him,' said an old whigamore carline. 1830 J. Rickman *Extr. Life & Lett.* 17 Sept. 267, I hear the Whiggamores begin to be frightened. 1826 Stevenson *Kidnapped* ix. 77 *note*, Whig or Whigamore was the cant name for those who were loyal to King George (an. 1751). 1891 Gardiner *Hist. Civil War* lxvi. III. 491 The Whiggamore leaders constituted themselves..into a Committee of Estates. 1898 W. S. Douglas *Cromwell's Sc. Camp.* 9 It is certain that after the events of 1648 they must have considered the 'Whiggamores' more closely bound to their interest than that body proved to be.

Whiggery (hwi·gəri). [f. Whig *sb.*[2] + -ery.] Whig principles or practice; Whiggism. (Mostly *hostile* or *contemptuous*.)

1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 66 (1713) II. 161 What other Whiggery have you? 1714 G. Lockhart *Mem. Scot.* (ed. 3) 128 The first of these was..after the Revolution, raised to the Bench upon Account of his Whiggery and Disloyalty. 1824 Scott *Waw.* xxx, That's a' your Whiggery, and your presbytery, ye cut-lugged, graning carles! 1843 E. Quincy *Life of W. L. Garrison* iii. 92 Great opposition was made to David Lee Child on account of his bias towards Whiggery. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 275 Noisy zealots, whose only claim to promotion was that they were always drinking confusion to Whiggery, and lighting bonfires to burn the Exclusion Bill. 1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 213 Whiggery meant sound views on the tariff. 1884 Courthope *Lib. Movem. Engl. Lit.* ii. 50 Whiggery, in Burke's days, meant simply adherence to the principles of the Revolution of 1688. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 9 May 586/2 We must congratulate Mr. Asquith on disregarding the shrill cries of antiquated whiggery.

b. *fig.* Rebellion. (Cf. Whig *sb.*[2] 3 b.)

1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* I. 3 When the day happened to be wet, the poultry were accustomed to murmur their sullen and envious whiggery against the same weather [etc.].

Whi·ggish, *a.*[1] *rare.* In 6 **whigbish**. [f. Whig *sb.*[1] + -ish[1].] Pale as whey.

1590 Fenne *Frutes, Hecuba's Mishaps* Cc 4, Whose whigbish skin the muddy mire with filthy spots had hild.

Whiggish (hwi·gĭʃ), *a.*[2] Also 7–8 **whigish**, 8 **wiggish**. [f. Whig *sb.*[2] + -ish[1].] = Whig *a.*; also, Having or indicating something of the character of a Whig, inclined to Whiggism. (Usually *hostile* or *contemptuous*.)

1680 *Roxb. Ball.* (1883) IV. 637 Great York in favour does remain, In spight of all the Whigish train. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 23 (1713) I. 150, I scorn the Trade of Lying, if it were for nothing else, but that it makes a Man look so Whiggish. 1684 in T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* (1795) I. 308 *note*, I suspect you, of the Massachusetts, are more whiggish, and your neighbours more toryish, to express it in the language of late in use. 1709 E. Ward *Hud. Rediv.* II. 20 Mix'd with some High Church Vindications Against false Whiggish Defamations. 1779 Burke *Corr.* (1844) II. 270 Your liberal, wise, and truly whiggish principles. 1790 Burns *Epit. Capt. M— H—* viii, If ony whiggish whingin sot, To blame poor Matthew dare, man. 1813 Miss Mitford 11 Apr. in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. vii. 229 If not a Reformer I am nothing; for I have as pretty a contempt for the ministers as my whiggish papa. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* v, The whiggish and perverse opposition to established rank and privilege.

†b. *fig.* Rebellious, factious. *Obs. slang.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whiggish*, Factious, Seditious, Restless, Uneasy.

c. *transf.* Liberal, 'broad': cf. Liberal *a.* 4 b.

1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 17 In the same fourth Century there were some Whiggish Pamphlets publish'd by some Moderate Heathens. 1907 P. T. Forsyth *Positive Preaching* iv. 120 They gave the gnostics a huge advantage over the whiggish apologists and their liberal Christianity.

Hence **Whi·ggishly** *adv.*, **Whi·ggishness**.

1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 32 (1713) I. 209 That was as *Whiggishly objected as ever I heard in my Life. 1684 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 295 There have been commissioners appointed, who..have turn'd out those persons in hospitalls and other publick places who are whiggishly inclined. 1708 Swift *Lett. to Sheridan* 18 Sept., I fancy you may do some good with the Primate,..if you wheedle him and talk a little Whiggishly. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xii, Whiggishly inclined. 1889 *Academy* 16 Nov. 311/1 Mr. Walpole has himself that trait of *Whiggishness which peculiarly fits him to paint the portrait of the chief of the Whigs. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 402/2 Johnson would have tolerated his coxcombry as little as he would have borne with his inveterate Whiggishness.

Whiggism (hwi·giz'm). Also 7–8 **Whigism**. [f. as prec. + -ism.] The principles, tenets, or methods of the Whigs; moderate or antiquated Liberalism. (Opposed to Toryism.)

Parkinson from the University for whiggisme. 1702 De Foe *Shortest Way with Dissenters* 25 We can never enjoy a settled uninterrupted Union and Tranquility in this Nation, till the Spirit of Whiggisme, Faction, and Schism is melted down like the Old-Money. 1776 J. Adams *Let. to Sergeant* 21 July, Wks. 1854 IX. 425 But when persons come to see there is greater danger to their persons and property from toryism than whiggism, the same avarice and pusillanimity will make them whigs. 1813 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXXII. 275 An account of the Kit-cat club, throws light on the history of Whiggism. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* VI. iii, I look upon an Orangeman..as..the only professor and practiser of unadulterated Whiggism. 1844 *Punch* VI. 46/1 The velocity with which Lord Brougham turns round from Whiggism to Toryism. 1880 Green *Hist. Eng. People* IV. IX. I. 220 The King [*sc.* Geo. III] still called himself a Whig, yet he was reviving a system of absolutism which Whiggism..had long made impossible.

b. (with *pl.*) A Whiggish principle or tenet.

1830 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 222 The whiggisms that are abroad upon this question of representation.

Whighen, obs. form of Quicken *sb.*[1]

Whighhie, var. f. Wheen.

Whight, whigt: obs. forms of WEIGHT *sb.*², WHITE, WIGHT.

Whigmaleery (hwi·gmăli·ri). *Sc.* Also -me-, -ie. [Origin obscure.] Anything fanciful or whimsical; a fantastic notion, whim, crotchet; a fanciful ornament, contrivance, etc. Also *attrib.*

1720 RAMSAY *Mau with Two Wives* 18 But Bess the whig .. Took figmalitries, and wald jump. 1786 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 96 Gin ye be a Brig as auld as me,.. There'll be, if that day come, I'll wad a boddle, Some fewer whigmeleeries in your noddle. 1793 — *Lett. to Mrs. Dunlop* 5 Jan., I had two worthy fellows dining with me the other day, when I.. produced my whigmaleerie cup. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, It's a brave kirk—nane o' yere whigmaleeries and curliewurlies and open-steek hems about it. 1878 MRS. OLIPHANT *Primrose Path* vii, A' the whigmaleeries of the auld steeple.

Whigwham, variant of WIGWAM.

Whiht, obs. form of WIGHT.

Whik(k, -en, obs. dial. ff. QUICK, QUICKEN.

Whil, Whilberow, Whilo, whiloh, Whilde, obs. ff. WHILE, WHEELBARROW, WHICH, WILD.

While (hwəil), *sb.* Forms: 1, 4 hwil, (1 huil), 2–5 wil, 3 hwile, (3wile, 3wyle, 3uile), 3–5, 7 whil, 4 huile, (wyel), 4–5 whyl, whylle, 4–6 whyll, wyle, 4–7 whyle, (chiefly *Sc.*) whill, 4–5 wile, 5 wyl, wyll, (weil, whylghe), 5, 7 whille, 6 wylle, will, (whyell, vyl, *Sc.* vhyle, vhill), 3– while; 3–4 quil, 3–5 quile, 4 quyl, quyle, quille, 4–6 *Sc.* quhile, qwhil, 4–7 *Sc.* quhil, (9 *arch.*) quhill, 4–8 *Sc.* quhyle, 5 qwile, qwyle, qwil, qwill, *Sc.* qwhile, (qwhiel), qwhill(e, quhille, 5, 6 *Sc.* qwyl, 5–6 *Sc.* quhyl, qwhyl, 6 *Sc.* quhyll. β. 3 hwule, whule, wule. [OE. *hwīl* str. fem. = OFris. *hwile, wile* (Fris. *wil*), OS. *hwil, hwila* time (MDu. *wile* hour, moment, Du *wijl*), OHG. *hwil, (h)wila* point or period of time (MHG. *wile*, G. *weile*), ON. *hvíla* bed (Sw. *hvila*, Da. *hvile* repose, refreshment), Goth. *hweila* time :— OTeut. **χwīlō*, the first syllable of which derives from Indo-eur. *qᵘei-*, represented by L. *quiēs* rest, *tranquillus* (= **-quilnos*) quiet, OSl. *počiti* to rest; cf. the sense of ON. *hvíla* and *hvild* rest, repose, and of the continental forms of the verb.]

I. 1. A portion of time, considered with respect to its duration; = TIME *sb.* 1, 2, rarely 4 or 6. Now almost exclusively in certain connexions (see below), the ordinary word being *time*. Formerly with gen. *while's*. Rarely *pl.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 125 Hwilce hwile hine wille Drihten her on worlde lætan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1591 And swu ·e longe hire is þe hwile, An ek steape hire þunþ a mile. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22161 Als symon magus in his quile Right sua sal he þe folk bigile. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12562 Holy cherche, despyse and fyle, þat wyl y bleþly, alle my whyle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 221 He despeired for the while. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 89 They shall dwell ther I wot no whyighe. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 82 After a whyle of tyme. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poys. Bk.* Wks. 1053/2 Though ye see euery man dye here for the whyle, yet I shall..reyse them all vp..at the last day. 1547–8 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 32 During the whiles thies maskes were a makyng. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 277 Have but that while's patience, you

Wks. (1686) 73 Thy prudent Conduct had so learnt to measure The different whiles of Toil and Leisure. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 133, I am now.. stealing whiles of time for the *Colloquies*, which are approaching to their close. 1829 CARLYLE *Ess., Novalis* (1840) II. 228 After short whiles, all is again swimming vaguely before them. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* liv, Filling up the while with nonsensical garrulity. 1894 in Milne *Rom. Pro-consul* (1911) 26 We had a capital while together.

b. with adj. expressing quantity, as *good* (GOOD *a.* 19), *great, little, long, short*; also *any, no, some*: forming esp. adv. phr. = for a (long, etc.) time.

Beowulf 146 Wæs seo hwil micel. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 486 Lytle hwile sceolde he his lifes niotan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 He wes to sume wile anstandende. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2392 3ho bliæf wiþþ hire frend 3et afterr þatt summ while. *c* 1290 *St. Dunstan* 51 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 80 A guode þwyle it was a-gon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3124 He began to lur him sua þat he moght na quil him for-ga. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 632 Whether he lyf lang or short while. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 374 in *Macro Plays* as Ewynsonge hath be in þe saynge, I trow, a fayer wyll; I am yrke of yt. ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xxviii. (1541) 45 To liue lesse ..) than other men. 1549 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 175 b, Philippus..had slept a great long while together. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 82 The shorter while you stale vpon the discord, the lesse offence you giue. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 506 Having enioied these honors a small while. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 33 P 2, I do not know any thing that has pleased me so much a great while. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 201, I have not written to you a long while. 1836 NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) II. 297, I am not more lonely than I have been a long while. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* II. 23 A little while since, I was paying a visit in Ireland. 1887 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* I, The two sat for a little while at the other end of the carriage.

c. *A while* (also rarely *one while*): (*a*) as sb. phr., a time, esp. a short or moderate time (chiefly with certain preps., viz. *after, for, in,* †*within*); contextually = a considerable time, some time, as in *quite a while* (colloq.). (*b*) as advb. phr. = for a (short or moderate) time (see also AWHILE).

Once in a while: see ONCE 8 c.

(*a*) [*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke iv. 5 *In momento temporis,* in hull tidea.] *a* 1300 *Havelok* 722 Ne were neuere but ane hwile þat it ne gan a wind to rise. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1620 þe burne byfore baltasar was brost in a whyle. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4373 Wyþinne a wyle þer wer y-dyȝt, Mo þan ten þousant of Sarȝyns wyȝt. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. x. 226 Within a whyle they sawe a toure as whyte as ony snowe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. iv. 89 Quhen Apollo list.. leif the flude Exanthus, for a quhile, To vesy Delos. 1526 TINDALE *John* xvi. 16 After a whyle ye shall nott se me. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxi. 213 They were within a whyell far fro yᵉ londes of yᵉ..ii. admyralles sarasyns. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) V viij b, After a whiles silence. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 218 Pleasantly they passed a while together. 1718 HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* XV. (1720) 232 After a while's Practice. 1847 HALLIWELL s. v., A while's work, work requiring a certain time. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xliv, It is to be forgotten now; to be forgotten for a while. 1870 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. YY 700 So Eadwig escapes, at least for one while. 1900 *Longman's Mag.* Mar. 450 She..rather enjoyed getting wet through once in a while. 1903 ELINOR GLYN *Vicius. Evang.* 149 It was quite a while before he elicited the facts from me.

(*b*) 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2352 He sede he moste wende a wule out of þis lond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2309 Quen seth a quil had loked in, He sagh..mikel welth and win. *Ibid.* 3622 A wyel sco hir vmbithogt. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* li, I..toke a boke to rede apon a quhile. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 97 The sayde league continued but a while. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 928 The warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his Voyage. 1733 FIELDING *Don Quix. in Eng.* II. xiv, My landlord and the coachman won't overtake them one while, I warrant. 1762 JOHNSON *L. P., Fenton,* He was a while secretary to Charles earl of Orrery. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. ii, I will sit down a while. 1873 SPENCER *Study Sociol.* vii. (1877) 148 The Smallpox epidemic, which a while since so unaccountably spread.

d. with demonstr. adj. *that* or *this* (now only with *all* preceding), forming advb. phr.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 39 Makyne, I haif bene heir this quhyle; at hame god gif I wair. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 16 Her other sisters.., Who all this while were at their wanton rest. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 177, I haue this while with leaden thoughts beene prest. 1629 GAULE *Pract. Theories Christ* 355 The Iewes rested that Sabbath now; Christ rested that while in his Graue. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 51 P 8 He would see he has been mistaken all this while. 1872 SMILES *Charac.* ii. (1876) 34 All this while, too, the training of the character is in progress.

e. with qualifying sb.: The duration of, or time needed for (what is denoted by the sb.). *Obs.* or *arch.*

Breathing-while, life-while, minute while, paternoster while, etc: see the sbs.

13.. [see TWELVEMONTH 3]. 1377, 1501 [see MINUTE *sb.*¹ 3]. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 286 To speke with hym but a speche whyle. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 274 Al the bellys schal be ronge one *Miserere* whyle at leste, and than the chaptyr belle schal be ronge oo *Pater noster* while. 1593, 1873 [see BREATHING *vbl. sb.* 10]. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i, Stay but a making Water while, (as one may say) and I'll be with you again.

2. a. *The while* (OE. *þā hwīle* accus.): (*a*) as advb. phr.: During the time, in the meantime, meanwhile; (*b*) followed by conj. †*the* or *that*, and later with ellipsis. *arch.* = WHILE *conj.* 1. b. *All the while* (with constructions as above): During the whole time (that). †c. *To while* (with constructions as above): For a time; for the time, meanwhile; for the time that, while. So *per hwile*, etc.: see THEREWHILE. *Obs.* †d. *In the while*: in the mean time, meanwhile. *Obs.* (For *in the mean while* see MEAN WHILE.) †e. *Most while* (cf. MOST C.): on most occasions, for the most part. †f. *By while*: on occasion, from time to time. *Over while*: at times. Cf. UMQUHILE.

a. (*a*) *c* 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) ix. 33 Man þreo reedinga rædе and þry reþras, and ealle þa gebroþra þa hwile sittan. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1273 Þe king þe wule londone bisegede uaste. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 8 What schul we wimmen worche þe while? *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3889 (Trin.) Þe while [*Cott.* to quils] holde lya in bedde penne shal þou rachel wedde. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II* II. i. 211 He not be by the while. 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 84 If you'l sit downe Ile beare your Logges the while. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* I. xi, 'I will go,' said she, sobbing, 'and pray for him the while.' 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xx, Mr. Chuckster..telling him he was wanted inside, bade him go in and he would mind the chaise the while. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* iv, Wouldn't you like some lollipops to eat the while?

(*b*) *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boethius* x, Eall hit [æ. eorþcræftnesse] us þynceð þy leohtran ða hwile þe þa oncras fæste bioð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 Swa we sceolan þa hwile þe we lifgaþ þer on worlde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þis witezede dauið salm scop in þe saltere mucheł eorþon þa wile he ... *a* 1250 *St. Cuthbert* 3 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 359 Þe swyle þat he ... a yong child. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1962 Þo was traen al a louerd þe wule it wolde ylaste. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Ire.* 26 The whill the host was thus in Ossory. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i. A 4 The while thine eyes attract their sought for ioyes. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. ii. 32 Vnsafe the while, that we must laue Our Honors in these flattering streames. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sacrifice* XXVIII, I for both have wept When all my tears were bloud, the while you slept. 1650 CARTWRIGHT *Lett.* (1826) 68 Not the whyle I was at home with you nor since. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 68 Beseeching him, the while his hand she wrung, To change his purpose. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. ... so while his slight [hand] did shade His eyes from the ... sun.

b. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. v. 49 For al þe while he was so seek, He seied neuere hise ne lith, þurfore hym þouȝte hetter legles. 1482 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 109 Hyt was not comen to Bregye all the whyle he was there. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Sam. xxii. 4 They dwelt wᵗ him all the whyle that Dauid kepte him selfe in hold. 1600 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 485 He remeanit in the town all the whyll. 1634–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 685 All the while I was speaking, I was much concern'd in Statira's looks. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 539 All the while Sonorous metal blowing Martial sounds. 1700 HICKES in *Pepys's Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 206 She was shut up all the while we were there. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VIII. vi, The rogue had an eye all the while to quarter-day. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Septimius* (1872) 152 But all the while he was gone there was the mark of a bloody footstep impressed upon the stone doorstep of the Hall.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 13 *Qui ad tempus credunt,* þeðe to tid *wel* to hul ȝelefað. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 348 Þonne meaht þu hine betan to hwile. *c* 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 2104 We sulen it fren, Dor quile ðu wilt eor-inne ben. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22060 (Edinb.) An angel,..To þe dragune sulþ he wanne,..And in þat pitte him sperid faste, To quile a thusande ȝier to laste. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4141 To whyle þe kyng & his cosyns In loue loken ar þer lynes, Richesse þey hadde ynow to wylle. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 72 To while þat he was freech þel fond him fulle austere.

d. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 77 Yet in yᵉ while, thei would neuer the more folee the steppes of thesame good menne. 1605 B. JONSON *Sejanus* II. ii, In the while, Take from their strength some one or twaine, or more Of the maine Fautors. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 11 In the while, wee must labour to keepe a watch over our soules. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 121 Mary, in the while, being frighted almost to death.

e. *c* 1383 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1911) 742 Neiþir preestis neiþir dekenis shulden ben occupied in ony seculer office in lordis courtis most whil seculer men ben sufficient to do suche seculer office.

f. 13.. *Orfeo* 8 Sum [layes ben] of happes þat fallen by whyle. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 97 He cessiþ to harme hem, or sendiþ hem ouer wyl.

3. *spec.* The time spent (connoting the trouble taken or labour performed) in doing something. †a. in phrases such as *to quit* or *yield* (one) *his while*, to repay (him) for his trouble, also ironically, to 'pay (him) out'; *to lose* or *spill* one's *while*, to waste one's time or effort. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Mon sulle his elmesse 3enne he heo 3elet sulche monne þe him deð..wiken and cherres and benches mid his elmesse forȝelden him heo hwile. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1020 He mizte bet sitte stille Vor al his wile he sholde spille. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2476 Send after help..& ichulle hor wule ȝelde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 113 A clerk hadde litherly biset his whyle But if he koude a Carpenter bigyle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 131 The proverbe is, who that is trewe, Him schal his while nevere rewe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4392 If Ielousie doth thee payne, Quyte hym his while thus agayne. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 171 in *Babees Bk.*, And be þat weal dooþ, þou qwite him weel his whyle.

b. Now only in phr. *worth the while* (now rare or arch.), *worth* one's *while*, *worth while*: often merely = worth doing, profitable, advantageous (the notion of time being weakened or lost). *To make it worth* (a person's) *while*, to give (him) sufficient recompense.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 355 The queene..beet Iudas ful ofte, but al for nouȝt, for it was not worþ þe while. 1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. Conc. Relig.* (1651) 123, I would not think my pains lost, or study of the Fathers not worth the while. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 18 It had not been worth while for the soul to have been in the body. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 166 Nor is it worth ones while to teach him out of other Authors. 1785 MRS. F. BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 4. 24 In one word, madam, make it worth my while. 1842 LEVER *Jack Hinton* XXVII, It is worth while being a soldier in Ireland. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. xix, 'Keep dark upon it, Bethel,' he said; 'I will make it worth your while.' 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 93 It may be worth while to explain the kind of information which they give.

†4. (without article.) Sufficient or available time, leisure for doing something: = TIME *sb.* 8.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 3if 3e habbeð hwule, siggeð þeose psalm, 'Levavi oculos meos'. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 87 Whanne he myȝte have while he wroot fables. *c* 1440 *Mirk's Festial* 225 On Settyrday þay myȝt not haue whyll. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VI. x, If they might have had while and time as well to follow it. *a* 1638 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xix. (1640) 233 He can have while to ruminate upon the evil things which Satan and the fleshe doe stirre up.

†5. a. Term or period of office; *transf.* office, function, 'place'. *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 351 Schaw quhilk of ȝe twa sal ye chese To supple þe quhyle of ludas. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xvi. 386 Thous þis ... which now lyueth performe not the deede for his while.

¶ b. Used in the Wycliffite Bible to render L. *vicissitudo* in senses of *turn*: (*a*) a service rendered (= TURN *sb.* 23); (*b*) *by whiles*, by turns (TURN *sb.* 28). *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* xxiv. 20 The Lord ȝeelde to thee this while [Vulg. *vicissitudinem hanc*], for thai, that to day thou wroust in me. 1388 — *1 Kings* v. 14 So that in twei monthis bi whilis thei weren in her howsis.

II. 6. Time at which something happens or is done; occasion; †proper or suitable time; †season; = TIME *sb.* 13–15. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.* (or as in c below).

Mostly with qualifying word, either with prep. preceding, or with ellipsis of prep. forming advb. phr. (cf. 1 b–d, e), e.g. *that while* = at that time, on that occasion, then; *another while* = another time, on another occasion; *every while* (also as one word, after *everywhere*), †at every time,

always (*obs.*); every time, on every occasion (*Hal.*). See also below, and OTHERWHILE, SOMEWHILE.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 55 *In illa hora*.., in ðæm tíd *uel* in ðære huile. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 þat Israelisshe folc was walkende toward Ierusalem,..and þo wile was hersum godes hese. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 13130 (Fairf.) Seynt Iohn þis quile in prisoun lay. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2140 Þus wyle was he on halle sittyng with is puple atte mete, Þan com þer an heþene kyng rydynge atte ȝate. *c* 1400 *MS. Serm.* (Tollem. MS.), We been not sufficiaunt to knowe þe tymes or þe whiles þat þe fadir of þe Trynyte haþ put in his owne power. 1418–20 J. PAGE *Siege Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 33 The Fraynysche men in the same whyle, Forthe they went with Umfrevyle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 3 Whete heruest now in tempur lond is while Forto conclude. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. v. 218 Hope ye so that I maye ony whyle stand a proued knyght. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* vi, Thow did promyt, in Mayis lusty quhyle, For to discryve the Rose. 1532–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 129 At dyuers other tymes betwene those whiles. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 842 The [dragon's] taile on a time fell out with the head, and complained, saying, it would another while go before, & would not alwaies come behind. 1648 CRASHAW *Steps, Hymn Epiph.* 30 But every where, and every while, Is one consistent solid smile. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colleq.* 149 *Eu.* Were those women who encouraged thee with thee that while? *a* 1892 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 100 What while a lady greets me with her eyes. 1884 *Cheshire Gloss., Every while stitch*, every now and then; at times. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxii, There are whiles..when ye are altogether too canny and Whiggish to be company for a gentleman like me.

† b. *One while* (adv. phr.): at one time, on one occasion, in one case (usually opp. to *another while*, sometimes to *then*, *again*, *anon*). Also rarely = on some future occasion, 'some time'. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI. xvii. 688 Soo wente they dounewarde in the see one whyle bakward another whyle forward. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. iii. 21 One whyle his tonge it ran and paltered of a cat; Another whyle he stammered styll vppon a rat. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. I. III. *Furies* 450 One-while the Boulime, then the Anorexie, Then the Dog-hunger. 1664 SOUTH *Serm., John xv. 15* (1697) II. 86 Those, who are one while courteous..and obliging,.. but within a small time after, are so supercilious, sharp, [etc.]. 1744 ELIZA HAYWOOD *Female Spect.* V. (1748) I. 262 One while we are transmogrified into milk-maids—then into a kind of Amazoniana. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 73 One while a silky fluid should be secreted, at another none.

† c. With qualifying sb. (cf. TIME *sb.* 13 b), as *dinner while*, *mass while*, *service while*, *supper while*, etc.: see also the sbs. (Sometimes including the idea of duration, as in 1 e.) *Obs.* (or *rare arch.*).

13.. [see MASS *sb.*[1] 7]. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. x, With desire in meet qwhiel to ȝerne. 1557 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 148 My lord of London begane the durge, with ys myter [on] alle the durge wylle. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 119 The gouernour of Macon, a Magitian, whom the diuell snatched vp in dinnerwhile. *a* 1667 C. HOOLE *Accidence* (1672) 110 *Inter cænandum*, at supper while. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* I. 321 Be it but a straw 'twixt work and whistling-while.

d. In exclamations of grief: cf. similar use of *day*, *time*. Chiefly *poet.* *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1400 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 244 This is the cold that wolde the fyr abate Of trewe mening; alas! the harde whyle! *c* 1440 *York Myst.* vi. 51 That we shulde haue alle welthis in walde, wa worthe þe whyle! 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. viii. 77 Alace the quhile! *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* XXI. 25 O! waryit be the vhyle That euer we wer acquent! 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 146 God helpe the while, a bad world I say. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xv, Woe the while That brought such wanderer to our isle! 1825 — *Talism.* x, He conceives himself, God help the while, ungratefully treated.

e. Phr. with pl.: *At whiles*, at times, sometimes, at intervals. *Between* (*betwixt* obs. or arch.) *whiles*: see BETWEEN-WHILES.

[*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xx. 273 Good and profitable to be had at certein whilis.] 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* V. i. X iv b, Me semeth now and than, or at whiles that [etc.]. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rom.* ii. 15 Meanwhile, or, Betwixt whiles. 1727 BERKELEY in *Mem.* (1784) 61 A sort of..dashing (as it were) of waves, and between whiles, a noise like that of thunder. 1800 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blond.* Wks. 1826 II. 62 To drive away the gloom, that yet, at whiles, hung upon his brow. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i. 66 To think what grievous fear I have 'twixt whiles Of mine own self and of base men.

While (hwəil), *adv.* (*adj.*), *conj.* (*prep.*) Forms: 1–3 **hwile**; from *c* 1300 onwards as in WHILE *sb.*; also 4 **quel**, 5 **whele**, *Sc.* **quhel**, 6 **whel**, 8 **wile**, 9 *dial.* **whell**; 6 **whol**, 9 *dial.* **wol(l.** [As adv., OE. *hwile*, accus. of *hwil* WHILE *sb.*; as conj., abbreviation of OE. phr. *þā hwile þe*, ME. *þe while þat* = 'during the time that' (see WHILE *sb.* 2 a), = OHG. *dia wila* (*unz*) so long as (MHG. *die wile* while, G. *dieweil* while, because), Du. *dewijl*; similar abbreviation has given G. *weil* because, Du. *wijl*, NFris. *wil*.

In senses A. 1 and 2, ME. *while* may be in some texts a reduced form of *whilen*, WHILOM.]

A. *adv.* (*adj.*)

† 1. At a time or times, sometimes; *esp.* introducing each of two or more parallel phrases or clauses: At one time... at another time; now... then: = WHILOM 1. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Hymns* iii. 44, 5 (Gr.) Hwile mid weorce, hwile mid worde, hwile mid gebohte þearle sceyldi. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Ure helend sæwð hu halie word hwile þurh his agene muðe and hwile þurh fere apostlene muðe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Eȝen bihelden þat he ne sholden, wile idel, wile unnut, wile ifel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7433 Quil wit glen, and quil wit sang,..þus be serued saul lang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 338 For knawiage off mony stails May quhile awaillje full mony gatis. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* (Royal MS.) I. Prol. 30 For Romans to rede is delytabyle, Suppose that thai be quhyle bot fable. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 611 Quhill wald he think to luff hyr our the laiff, And othir quhill he thocht on his dissaiff. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXXI. 24 Lufe sall him hald W^tin the dungeoun of dispair; Quhyle hett, quhyle cald. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* VI. 91 While vp he lifts his head, while lets it fall. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 184 The intellect (fixing it selfe, while on one, and while on another wonder of matter and workemanship).

† 2. At one time, formerly, once: = WHILOM 2.

c 1000 *Deor's Compl.* 36 (Gr.) Ic bi me sylfum secgan wille, þæt ic hwile wæs Heodeninga scop. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Ne do þu þin uuel on-gein uuel swa me dude hwile. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1016 Þeȝ eni god man to hom come, So wile dude sum from rome. *c* 1300 *St. Andrew* 29 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 99 Þe gywes while nome And slowe him as he worþie was. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2580 Þat god of miȝt.. Hwich of marie þat mayde briȝt while tok flesche & blode. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. Prol. 15 Thai þat set haly þare delite Gestis or storyis for to write,..As Gwydo de Calumpna quhile.

† b. as *adj.* That formerly existed, occurred, etc.; former, 'late': = UMQUHILE B., WHILOM 2 b.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 363 Þey..were y-dubbid of a duke ffor her while domes. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. viii. 756 For honoure of his modyr qwhile.

† 3. For a or the time, temporarily; at the same time, meanwhile. (See also THEREWHILE.) *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Colbelbie Sow* 828 (Bann. MS.), Thocht he wald preve the thrid penny quhyle hid, Quhilk for the tyme no fruct nor proffeit did. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 428 Thow beggit with a pardoun in all kirkis,..And ondir nycht quhyle stall thou staggis et stirkis. *c* 1648 HOWELL *Lett.* I. II. x. (1690) 110 Yours while J. Howell.

B. *conj.* (or in *conj. phr.*) and *prep.*

1. *While* (*that*): during the time that. (Now expressed by *while* alone: cf. THAT *conj.* 7.)

Often with ellipsis before a pple. or other predicative word or phrase, e.g. *while walking*, *while at rest*, *while an infant*.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Det lastede þa .xix. wintre wile Stephne was king. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2393 Whil þatt ȝho wass Wiþþ hire kinn att hame. *c* 1275 LAY. 14873 Þat we solle batie wile þat we libbeþ [*c* 1205 þa while þa we luuien]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6088 (Gött.) Ne hones noght quile ȝe er etand. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2537 While men hunted after hem þai han a-wai schaped. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. lvii. (1859) 55 While that thou and I were coupled to geders, thou madest me to lede a ful vnthryfty lyf. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. v. 71 Quhill that of Troy and Ilion stude the ring. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 178 While that the Armed hand doth fight abroad, Th' aduised head defends it selfe at home. 1611 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* ii. 67 Quhil in this weak estait, all meanes I soght To be aweng'd on him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 977 While thus he spake, th' Angelic Squadron bright Turnd fierie red. 1779 *Mirror* No. 32 P 6 While we were sitting together, talking of old stories,..John entered. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 662 Cornish was arrested while transacting business on the Exchange. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* XV, While he was laughing the door opened.

b. With special reference (*a*) to the extent of the time: During the whole, or until the end, of the time that; as long as (see also 2 a); (*b*) to the limits of the time: Within, or before the end of, the time that.

(*a*) *c* 1230 *Halt Meid.* 6 He wule carie for hire..hwil he riht luue6 him. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 301 Da þeit hwo it hire yeue Euere-more hwil i lfue! *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2235 Yf it worth sall to wy whil þe world standes. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 161 Whyle an hooke is a yonge Spyre, hit may be wonde into a wyth. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Wasshem..whele þey ben slepyr. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 74/2 Chylde, whyle hyt can not speke, *proles*. 1589 MORE *Dyalogs* I. xv. 20/2, I shall loue her ye worse whyle I lyue. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 120 While thou liu'st keepe a good tongue in thy head. 1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* xix, Nought done the Hero deem'd, while ought undone remain'd. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. iv, She told her 'while there was life there was hope.' 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXXII, The confidence of this house.. is not to be abused..while I have eyes and ears.

(*b*) *c* 1300 *Havelok* 363 Him for to hosien, and forto shriue, perwiþ. *c* 1450 *Myrr. Oure Lady* 5 Wherfor, syrs, byn here, make yth amendes for your mys-dedys. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 77 in *Macro Plays* 4 Lett we be mery wyll we be here! *c* 1550 LYNDESAY *Tragedie* 303 Amend your lyfe now, quhill your day Induris. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 263 Set him betimes to School..While yet his youth is flexible and green. 1845 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xi. III. 253, I wish..that to-morrow..you would step down to the Tower;..while you are there, you might just go to the London Docks. 1866 RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* iii. 103 All the greatness she [*sc.* England] ever had,..she won while her fields were green and her faces ruddy.

† c. Without necessarily implying duration: At the time that; when. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Fragm. Pop. Sci.* (Wright) 62 As me mai the mone i-seo while heo is nue riȝt. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Hall.) 403 For in tyme whill he fre was, He bede with him bothe Merci and Pes. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 25461 (Trin.) Whil ȝe se me kisse him Leye hondes on him allone. 1497 *Reutal Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 209 We half grantyt to the forsad Paton and Jonat the tak of Rechy Jak quhel it ma vake.

d. During which time; and meanwhile.

c 1400 *Warres of the Jewes* in Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1774) I. x. 321 In Tyberyus tyme the trewe emperour Syr Ȝesu hym self sayed in Rome Whyle Pylot was provest under that prynce ryche. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 309 Thus have I sung of Fields, and Flocks, and Trees,.. While mighty Cæsar, thund'ring from afar, Seeks on Euphrates Banks the Spoils of War. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* vi, Moses sate reading, while I taught the little ones. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 242 He pass'd,.. while her eyes Follow'd his steps. 1905 ELINOR GLYN *Visits. Evang.* 79 Mr. Montgomerie said rather gallant things to me,..while the girls looked shocked.

2. *transf.* with various connotations. a. As long as, so long as (implying 'provided that', 'if only').

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 60 Thar mycht succed na female, Quhill foundyn mycht be ony male. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 24 Þe kirk may not iustli priue þe comyning of cristun men, nor taking of þe sacraments..wyle he is iust. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xlvii. § 4 Neither boldnes can make vs presume as long as we are kept vnder with the sense of our owne wretchednes; nor, while we trust in the mercie of God through Christ Iesus, feare be able to tyrannize ouer vs. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 47 The encroachments of the ecclesiastical power..produced much more happiness than misery, while the ecclesiastical power was in the hands of the only class that had studied history.

b. At the same time that (implying opposition or contrast); *adversatively*, when on the contrary or on the other hand, whereas; *concessively*, it being granted that; sometimes nearly = although.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 74 Painefully to poare vpon a Booke, To seeke the light of truth, while truth the while Doth falsely blinde the eye-sight of his looke. 1617 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* XXI. 23 Whill others aime at greatnes bought with blood, Not to bee great thou stryves, bot to bee good. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 7 While they deny a Deity, they assert other things on far less reason. 1719 WATTS *Ps.* XXIII, There would I find a settled Rest, (While others go and come). 1749 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. I. § 2. 75 White is vulgarly thought to be the most uncompounded of all Colours, while yet it really arises from a certain Proportion of the Seven primary Colours. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. x. 608 While the object of the people was to free themselves from the yoke, the object of the nobles was merely to find new sources of excitement. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* v. (1875) 52 In rude and unsettled states of society men respect forms and obey facts, while careless of rules and principles. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vi. 52 While regretting the sorrow which had fallen upon him, Miss Cuthbert was nevertheless glad that her brother was free.

c. In modern colourless use: At the same time that, besides that, in addition to the fact that; often = and at the same time, and besides.

[1730 SHENSTONE *Ode Rural Elegy.* 162 There, while the seeds of future blossoms dwell, 'Tis colour'd for the sight, fum'd to please the smell.] 1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's ues Chess* 165 A very good move, for while it brings the ieen into a more attacking position, it at the same time ..fends White's Queen's Pawn. 1904 *Times* 25 May 3/6 The walls..are decorated with white enamelled panelling, while the frieze and ceiling are in modelled plaster.

3. († Also with *that*, *at*.) Up to the time that; till, until. Now *dial.* (chiefly *north.*).

Occas. with reference to place, etc.: † *while it come to* = as far as, up to.

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1644 Dwelle thou, wil ich arisen be. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 763 Man is in-to dreding..of thingis to cum, quhill he Haue of the end the certante. 1419 *Munim. de Melros* (Bann. Club) 502 Þe qwhilkis Indentours þe forsaid Nychole has delyuerit till þe said abbot and Conuent..qwhile at þai be fullely assythit of þe said fowrty pund. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 46 Fyrst sethe þy mustuls quyl shel of lepe In water. *c* 1460 *Battle of Otterburn* liv. (Child *Ball.* VI. 298), They swapped together whyll that they swette. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Bludy Serk* 40 To fecht with him..Quhill ane wer dungin doun. 1524 Q. MARG. in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 129, I thowt best to put them both in the castel of Edynbrou, vhol that thay fynd a vay how the Bodars may be vel reuliyd. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 7 Thair was nevir perfytt stabilitie quhill that the Douglas was perisch deid and gane. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* IV. iv, Faste and welcome sir, while hunger make you eat. 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprel.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 117 Let him swell while he burst. 1688 BUNYAN *Heavenly Footman* (1724) 77 Run sweet Babe, while thou art weary, and then I will take thee up and carry thee. 1739 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 9 Take horse-aloes..give him the purge..., and ride him out again while he purges. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 81 They drank of the byshopis wyne Quhill they cuide drynk ne mair. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v., Stay while I come back. 1872 *J. Hartley's Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. II. 17 We blushed wol us faces wor all in a blaze.

b. as *prep.* Up to (a time), up to the time of; till, until. Now *dial.* (chiefly *north.*).

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1276 þat þou fast nost whil to morne. 1464–5 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1874) XII. 30/2 þt þe lew be proclamit to xiij s. iiij d. fra fasterin sewyn furth next tocum and quhill thane to haue course as thai haue now. 1589 in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 268 They.. wald not beleif me..quhill now. 1587 GREENE *Euphues* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 251 Their commaunds were dated but while death. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. i. 44 While then, God be with you. 1626 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. xxiii. § 4 The Apothecary gathers his simples in Summer, which haply he may not use while Winter. 1720 *Lett. Lond. Jrnl.* (1721) 14 Tho' he sweat and scrub while Doomsday. 1722 in *Rutland Gloss.* (1891) 39, I was 2 dayes; And my Son was 2 days. And the third day wife three a Clock. 1824 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s. v., It wants a quarter while nine o'clock.

4. *While as* (also occas. as one word, cf. WHENAS, WHEREAS). a. = 1. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

1563 GOGGAN *Eglogs* etc. (Arb.) 69 Whyle as the ranenyng Wolues he prayed his gyltelas lyfe to saue. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, I. i. 225 Pirates may make cheape penyworths of their pillage,.. While 'as the silly Owner of the goods Weepes ouer them. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 138 Hee spares while as the faults of men are young. *c* 1820 N. BURN in *Rosb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 608 Burn cannot his grief

sauvage, whiles his dayes endureth. 1768 *Hav'et Rig* (1802) xci, But now, whiles the show'r does last, 'Tis no thought proper they shud fast. 1822 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XXV. 79 Whiles I spake.

† b. = 2 b. *Obs. rare.*

1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 13 The chiefe..part of Physicke diagnosticke.. is..neglected; while as the ordinarie sort of Physitians do onely labour to know..the nature..of the disease by the..indication of the..vrine. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptisme* (1647) 98 To Christ they give but one nature, while as all Divines since his Incarnation give him two.

C. Combinations (*rare*): † **while-being** *a.* temporary, or temporal; **while-ever** (**whilever**) *conj.* [see EVER *adv.* 8 e; for the abbreviated spelling cf. *wherever*], as long as.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 40 This time-lasting World, and every while-being thing in it. 1776 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 73/1 He solemnly declared, that while-ever he sate in that house, he would not endure such language. 1878 JAS. THOMSON *Plenipotent. Key* 19 She had had her husbands five, And would have more whilever she was alive.

While, *v.* [f. WHILE *sb.*

A new formation, having no continuity with early ME. I-WHULEN to have leisure, or connexion with the continental forms OHG. *wīlēn* (MHG. *wīlen*, G. *weilen* to stay, linger), ON. *hvīla* (Sw. *hvila*, Da. *hvile*) to rest, Goth. *hveilan* to pause, cease (cf. WHILE *sb.* etym.).]

† 1. *trans.* To occupy or engage (a person) for a time, or for the time; to fill up the time of. *Obs.*

1606 BP. HALL *Medit. & Vows* I. § 88 Hee findes not-any worthy employment to while himselfe withall. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII. xi. 592 The..still Lakes, thicke Woods, and varietie of the Continent-obseruations, haue thus long whiled vs. *a* 1639 OSBORN *Misc.* Pref. B 8, The First Cause of their projection, being rather, for the intent to While my Selfe, then Busie others.

† 2. with *it*: To keep it up, 'stick it out'. *Obs.*

a 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 137 They are poore, not brought up to it, not able to while it, wife and children might begge, [etc.].

3. To cause (time) to pass without wearisomeness; to pass or get through (a vacant time), esp. by some idle or trivial occupation. Also, to divert the attention from, 'beguile' (sorrow, pain). Usually, now almost always, with *away*.

Possibly developed from sense 1 by transference of the object from the person to the time. Association with such phr. as *beguile the day, the time* (Shaks.), L. *diem decipere*, F. *tromper le temps*, has led to the substitution of WILE *v.* by some modern writers.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. xiii. 34 Nor do I beg this slender inch, to while The time away, or falsly to beguile My thoughts with joy. *a* 1644 — *Sol. Recant.* solil. II. 36 And like a pain-afflicted stripling, play With some new Toy, to while thy grief away. 1706 BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* (ed. 3) I. i. 17 Those .. who frequent our Religious Assemblies..to while away the Time that lies useless upon their Hands. 1726 POPE *Let. to Bethel* 9 Aug., Let us while away this life; and (if we can) meet in another. 1769 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XII. 374 There will be a danger likewise of whiling away time. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* X. iii, Such dangerous expedients to while away chagrin. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Anecd. Engl. Lang.* (1814) 229 To while away so much time in perusing this Disquisition. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 13 (1821) II. 75 These moments of mental gloom, whiled away by the cheerful exercise of our pen. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. viii. (Rtldg.) 434 A delightful residence, where he whiled away three weeks. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. xiv, Then shall my handmaids while the time along. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ix, When she left her own little room to while away the tedious hours. 1888 *Mrs. Raven's Temptation* I. 3 There was nothing for the young traveller to while the time with.

b. *intr.* Of time: To pass tediously. Now *dial.*

1712 [see WHILING *ppl. a.*]. 1898 HARDY *Wessex Poems* 206 All that year and the next year whiled, And I still went thitherward.

† 4. *While off*: to put (a person) off for the time.

1646 LOCKYER *Serm.* 31 If you cast them off too, when they have cast off all for you, or if you shall while them off, when they tell you, Sir, this is our last meale in the barrell [etc.].

While, obs. f. WHEEL, WILE.

Whileas: see WHILE *conj.* 4.

† **Whilemeal,** *adv.* In 4 **whilmele.** [f. WHILE *sb.* + -MEAL.] Used to render L. *vicissim* by turns.

1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* v. 14 Ten thousand bi eche moneth whilmele [1388 bi whilis].

Whilen, obs. form of WHILOM.

† **Whilend,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *hwilende*, rare var. of *hwilwende* (cf. WHILWENDLIC), f. *hwil* WHILE *sb.* + *wend-* to turn, WEND *v.*] Temporary.

a 1250 *Liber Scintill.* lx. (1889) 49 Hi na to þeare hwilendre mihtan dædbote becuman. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þeos world is whilende and ontful and swiðe lewe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Vorte beon martirs eſning, þuruh a wilninde [*v. r.* hwilinde] wo. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 For þat hwilende [*v. r.* hwilinde] lust. *a* 1272 *O. E. Misc.* 94 Þis world fareþ hwilynde hwenne on cumeþ an oþer goþ.

† **Whileness.** *Obs. rare.* [Abnormally f. WHILE *sb.* + -NESS.] Used to render L. *vicissitudo* in senses (*a*) = TURN *sb.* 23 (cf. WHILE *sb.* 3 a, 5 b); (*b*) change, variation.

1382 WYCLIF *Joel* iii. 4, Y shal þeelde the whilenesse to þou on þour hed. — *James* i. 17 The fadir of lizt, anentis whom is not ouerchaungynge, nether schadewing of whilenesse or tyme.

Whilere (hwəilɛ·ə'r), *adv. arch.* [Orig. two words, WHILE *adv.* 2 and ERE; for the abbreviated spelling cf. *wherever*.] A while before; some time ago. = EREWHILE.

a 1000 *Judith* 214 Þa þe hwile ær eldeodigra edwit boladon. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 778 Helpeth me now as a dide yow whil eer. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1317 Whyl er, my sone, tolde I naght to þe What habundance in youth I hadde of good. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 377 Son, take þy knyfe as y taught þe whilere, Kut bravne in þe disshe riȝt as hit liethe there. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 28 That cursed wight, from whom I scapt whyleare. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 127 Will you troule the Catch You taught me but whilearе? 1630 MILTON *Circumcision* 10 He who with all Heavn's heraldry whilеare Enter'd the world, now bleeds to give us ease. *a* 1652 BROME *Weeding of Cov.-Garden* I. i, Mark how he stands, as if he had learn't a posture at Knightsbridge spittle as we came along while-eare. 1767 MICKLE *Concub.* I. ii, Melodious Mulla! when, full oft whyleare, Thy gliding Murmurs soothd the gentle Brest Of hapless Spenser. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* v. Introd. 139 My harp..Whose Anglo-Norman tones whilere Could win the royal Henry's ear. 1884 J. PAYNE *Tales from Arabic* I. 225 How joyous and how solaceful was life in them whilere!

Whiles (hwəilz), *sb.* (advb. gen.), *conj.* (*prep.*), *adv. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 3 **hwihles**, 3–4 **wiles**, 4–5 **whilis, whylys, whilles, whils**, 4–6 **whyls**, 4–8 **whyles**, 5 **whilen, whilys, whylis, whyllys, willis, wylys, whills**, (**whels**), 5–6 **whilse**, 6 **whylse**, 4– **whiles**; 3–4 **quiles**, 4 **quyles, quilis, quylis, qwylys, quils, qwhylles**, *Sc.* **quhilles**, 4–6 *Sc.* **quhillis**, 6 *Sc.* **quhillis, quhylis, quhyles, quhyls**, 7–8 *Sc.* **quhiles**. [orig. in advb. and conj. phr., as *sumchwiles* formerly, *ōðerhwiles* at times, *þerhwiles* while, meanwhile, formed with advb. -s on *sumhwile, ōðerhwile, þerhwile* (see SOMEWHILE(S, OTHERWHILE(S, THEREWHILE(S); on this type were modelled the expressions *þis* or *þat quiles, to quiles, long whiles, a* (*good*) *whiles*, etc. and the simple conj. *whiles.*]

I. † 1. Preceded by a demonstrative adj., indefinite article, or other qualifying word, forming advb. phrases: e. g. *that whiles*, at or during that time; *long whiles*, for a long while, etc. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 5495 (Gött.) Þat quiles ras þar a neu king. *Ibid.* 5713 Þis quilis [*Fairf.* alle þis quyle] was in israel þe folk ledd in mekil vnwele. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10198 In þat louh ar sexti iles—In þo þe dwelte longe whyles. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 42 Lat it sebe esyli,. a good whylys. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 9833 Thanne schal neuere kyng Arthewr..his lond in pes thanne non whyles holde. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Engl. Hist.* (Camden 1846) 254 In the meane whiles. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Leys le Roy* 85 b, It endured but a whiles. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 233 Ye haue beene as sheepe going a great whiles astray. 1633 PRYNNE *Histrio-m.* I. 50 All which, if our Actors..would but a whiles consider [etc.]. 1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Mtg. Worc.* 91 Where God one whiles insinuates himself into the conscience in the language of a familiar Friend, another while reclaims it with the indignation of an incensed Judge. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. 289 Nor have the Wardens ventur'd all this whiles, To lay, except my selfe, one in those lies.

2. *The whiles*, advb. and conj. phr. = *the while*, WHILE *sb.* 2 a, b. † Also (rarely) *in whiles* as conj.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3309 Bot al þe quils he ne fan To behald þat leue maidan. 13.. *Ibid.* 1729 (Gött.) Bot euer þe quilis þat he [*sc.* Noah] wroght, þe folk to preche forgat he noght. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 435 The king, the quhilis..Red to thaim..Romanys off worthi Ferambrace. 14.. *Northern Passion* 430 (Camb. Ii. 4. 9) Here ȝe schuln me A byde þe qwylys [*v. rr.* to whyls, whils] I go here be syde. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. v. R j b, We wyll walke vp and downe ..the whyles. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 4 b, All suche pointes, as thei could iustly finde them selues agreeued, and in whiles he gouerned, deminished. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 62 The whiles my hands I washt in puritie, The whiles my soule was soyld with foule iniquitie. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XIX. xii. 141 Paulus all the whiles was the prompter..of these cruell enterludes. 1632 HOLLAND *C*[illegible] draw other t[illegible] in *Prose Serv.*[illegible] with elastic steel: The whiles he wins his whiffling way. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* I. xiii, They feasted..The whiles a Northern harper rude Chanted a rhime of deadly feud.

† 3. *To whiles*, advb. and conj. phr. = 2. Also as conj., to the time that, until. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1729 Ai to-quils þat [noe] sa wroght þe folk to preche for-gate he noght. *Ibid.* 3889 To quils haa lya in þi bedd, For-soth þan sal þou rachel wedd. *Ibid.* 4923 Þan war þaa breþer..privelis til þe thrid morn,..To-quils sent ioseph þe yepe Men þair harnais for to kepe. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 230 Sulik ribaudie þei led,..To-whils Sir Edward had seisid alle Euesham. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 139 To whiles that his bodi lai in the graue, The saule with the godhede went untill hell. *a* 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8645 Þe while [*Petyt MS.* Towhils] þer fader was on lyue For þe royalme gon þey to stryue. *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1079, I dar yow hight, To have him her or the thrid nyght; Towhils efter yowr kownsayl send.

II. 4. *conj.* = WHILE *conj.* 1; also with *that*, † *as.*

c 1200 *Bestiary* 256 in *O. E. Misc.* 8 Ðus ȝe tiled ðer, wiles ȝe time haueð. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 144 We schulde..vs ibidde nyht and day hwiles þat we libbe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1833 For quils þat godd þam raght his grace, Littel roght þam of his mannace. *Ibid.* 1948 To lof leute quils þou mai lif. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3631 Thies ware the cheefe armes Of Arthure.. qwhylles he in erthe lengede. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4037 Whels he sleppe this cursyd creature Full trayturly with hir is goo. *c* 1465 *Chevy Chase* XXXVII, Fyghte ye, my myrry men, whyllys ye may. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v. 25 Agre with thine adversary at once, whiles thou arte in the waye with hym. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Prol. A ij b, He that whilse other men faight, standeth in the top of a tre. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXIII. 108 Thir vsurars all scho had, quhyls scho stude aw Of God Eternes. 1599 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. i. 39 The Tyger will be milde, whiles she doth mourne. 1632 PRYNNE *Histrio-m.* I. Ep. Ded., The [illegible] drew me whiles I was yet a novice. *Closet*

Opened (1669) 156 No longer then whiles you can say the Miserere Psalm very leisurely. 1736 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Caldness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 189 Whiles Mr Calderwood went through the colledge..with the fathers, Daniel attended me. 1898 MORRIS *Welland River* 230, I pray you, understand me, my knight, Whiles that I have my breath.

† b. *transf.* = WHILE *conj.* 2. *Obs.*

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Prol. A iij b, For now (say they) euery man with out any study..will become a Phisician.., Whiles by occasyon of thys boke, euery man, nay euery old wyfe will presume not without the mordre of many, to practyse Phisick. 1580 FULKE *Retention, Discov. Dang. Rech* xii. 248 Whiles the one will vrge a prerogatiue of Peter, the other will forge a Bysshoplike office in the Apostles. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 72 Whiles Gallienus..gave himselfe ouer to..riotousnesse, the State of Rome..lay dismembred as it were. 1668 EVELYN *Let. to Sir W. Coventry* 2 Oct., Sir William D'Oyly and myself have near ten thousand upon our care, whiles there seems to be no care of us.

† 5. *conj.* and *prep.* Till, until: = WHILE *conj.* 3.

1398 *Munim. de Melros* (Bannatyne Cl.) 489 To be.. haldene..qwhillez þt..satisfactioun and pavement .. be.. made. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 177 Whiles þe Morwen to Middai and mare. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7498 Þare he bade whils he ware deede. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 259 Whyles the nexte martyns. 1548 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. 37 b, I coulde..reken vp suche a rable of shoters that be named..in postes, as wolde holde vs talkyng whyles tomorowe. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. iii. 29 He shall conceale it Whiles you are willing it shall come to note.

6. *adv.* † a. Formerly: = WHILE *adv.* 2. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVII. (*Vincencius*) 3 Þis name vincencius to say Is man þat ourcumys ay, As sancte vincent quhilis dide Thru his pacience. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xli. 94 That Bogill thair that þe hard blaw, With quhome quhyles ȝe wer small content.

b. Sometimes: = WHILE *adv.* 1. Chiefly *Sc.*

In mod. use apprehended as sb. pl. : cf. WHILE *sb.* 6 e.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 7 Quhyle vnder busk, quhyle vnder breir, Quhylis in the corne. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 356 Lufe..alteris ay to ewerie kinde and stait: Quhylis to, quhylis fra. *a* 1587 GRIMALDE in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 103 Italian whiles, and Spanish you do hear, and know full well. 1661 R. BAILLIE in *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1884) I. 96 My hert whiles trimbles for you. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) II. 462 She took whiles fits of distraction. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v., It rains whiles. 1830 NEWMAN *Verses Var. Occas.* (1868) 42 Keen regret and tearful yearning, Whiles unfelt, and whiles returning. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* XXVI, So we lay.., whiles whispering, whiles lying still.

Whilest, obs. form of WHILST.

Whiling (hwəi·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WHILE *v.* + -ING 2.] Of time: Passing tediously, tedious: see WHILE *v.* 3 b.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 448 P 2 The whiling Time, the gathering together, and waiting a little before Dinner, is the most awkwardly passed away of any Part in the four and twenty hours. *Ibid.* 322 P 2 To pass away the whiling Moments and Intervals of Life.

Whilk (hwilk). [?.] Local name for the scoter, a species of wild duck.

a 1705 RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 138 *Anser maximus niger*, The Whilk dictus, incunte Bruma primum adveniens. [Hence in later books.]

Whilk, var. WHELK; dial. f. WHICH.

Whill, obs. form of WHILE.

Whillaloo (hwi·lălū). *dial.* Also 8 **whilly lou**, 9 **whillaluh, whillilu, whillilew, whillalew.** [Ir. *ullilúgh.* Cf. ULULU.] A cry or song of lamentation; an outcry, uproar, hubbub.

1790 JAS. FISHER *Poems* 63 She's sleeping now! Yet wakens wi' a greeting eye, An' whilly lou. 1800 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Castle Rackrent* Tales 1832 I. 3 Then such a fine Whillaluh! you might have heard it to the farthest end of the county. [*Ibid.* 100 The declining taste for the Ullaloo in Ireland.] 1820 HOGG *Winter Even. Tales* I. 162 What whillilu is that, Thou keep'st a trilling at? 1841 LEVER *O'Malley* LXXX, And sure I set up a whillilew myself.

Whille, -ll(e)s, -llest, -llom(e, -llon, obs. ff. WHILE, WHILES, WHILST, WHILOM.

Whilly (hwi·li), *v. Sc.* [? Short for WHILLYWHA *v.*] *trans.* = WHILLYWHA *v.*

1722 RAMSAY *Addr. to Town-Council Edin.* 10 They .. The honest Lieges whilly'd. 1737 — *Sc. Prov.* (1797) 92 Wise men may be whilly'd wi' wiles. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XVI, Those baptised idols..whillied the old women out of their corn and their candle ends.

Whillywha (hwi·lihwā, -ă), *sb. Sc.* Also **-whaw, -whaa, -wa, whilli(e)wha, whullywha.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. A wheedling or insinuating person; a flattering deceiver. Also *attrib.*

c 1680 [F. SEMPILL] *Banishm. Poverty* in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1706) I. 12 We fear'd no Reavers for our Money, Nor Whilly-whaes to grip our Gear. 1724 RAMSAY *Elegy Cowper* v, He gather'd Gear..and left it a'! May be to ane sad Whillilwhaw O' fremit Blood. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xii, He's a whilly-whaw body and has a plausible tongue of his own. 1892 SERVICE *Notandums* xix, Ony whillywha o' an Englisher.

2. Wheedling speech, flattery, cajolery.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* v, I wish ye binna beginning to learn the way of blawing in a woman's lug wi' a' your whilly-wha's. 1843 BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* x. 225 'Gae wa' wi' your whillywhaws,' said Nanny.

Whillywha, *v. Sc.* [See prec.] *trans.* To take in or persuade by flattery; to wheedle, coax, cajole.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xi, He canna whillywha me as he has done mony a ane. 1822 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, The fower lads..tried to whillywha him to be quiet.

Whilmele, -nesse: see WHILEMEAL, -NESS.

Whilom (hwəi·lɔm), *adv.* (*adj.*), *conj.* Forms: 1 hwilum, -on, -an, -un, wilum, 3 (*Orm.*) whilumm, hwilem, (h)wylem, hwylen, ȝwilene, wilen, 3–4 whilen, 4 whylon, (whilhom), 4–5 whilum, 4–6 whylome, 4–7 whylom, 5 whylum, whilene, 6 whillon, (*Sc.* vhylome), 7 *Sc.* whillome, 8 whillom, 4– whilome, whilom; 3–4 quilum, 4 *Sc.* qwhilom, 4–5 *Sc.* quhilom, 4–6 *Sc.* quhilum, quhylum, 5 *Sc.* qwhilum, qwhylum, qwylum, 6 quilome. [OE. *hwilum*, later *-on*, *-an*, = OS. *hwilon* at times (MDu., MLG. *wilen* formerly, Du. *wijlen* late = deceased), OHG. *hwîlôn*, *-un* (MHG. *wîlen*, *wîlent*, G. *weiland* formerly) dat. pl. of WHILE *sb.*]

A. *adv.* (*adj.*)

†1. At times: = WHILE *adv.* 1, WHILES 6 b. *Obs.*

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 7 July, Ymb twegen dagas, hwilum ymb þry, hwilum æfter ealre wucan. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxix. 53 Hwilum cerreð eft on uprodor ælþeorhta leg, leoht lyfte; ilxað him behindan hefig hrusan dæl, þeah hit hwilan mæ eorðe ælo cealde oninnan hire beold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25166 Þar es resun qui vr bon Es noght granted us quilum sun. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1788 Whilum þei went on alle four..& whan þei were wery þei went vp-riȝtes. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1145 Thal tiltine to-gederz; Whilome Arthure ouer, and other-while vndyre. ? *a* 1550 *Freirs Berwik* 353 in *Maitland Folio MS.* (S. T. S.) 143 And quhylum he sat still in ane studeying, And quhylum on his buik he was reyding. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlii. 24 Flie vhylome love, and it will folou thee.

2. At some past time; some time before or ago; once upon a time: = WHILE *adv.* 2, WHILES 6a. *arch.*

c 1200 ORMIN 4868 Ure Laferrd Crist himm sellf Uss ȝaff heroffe blane, þær þær he sæȝȝde himm sellf whilumm þurrh hiss prophetess tunge. *c* 1205 LAY. 28633 Þa wes hit iwurðen þat Merlin seide whilen. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 87 Hi offrede Stor, þet me offrede wylem be þo ialde laghe to here godes sacrefise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6786 To cumlinges do yee right na suike, For quilum war yee seluen alike. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1 Whilom as olde stories tellen vs Ther was a duc þat highte Theseus. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. Prol. 22 As Orosius qwhilum wrate. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 2021 Auncient poetes .. Whilom flouryng in eloquence facundious. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 66 Oyntments..T'aswage the palne: the which whilom the cunning Chyron taught To Esculape. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 This Polydor whillon..Too king Treichus was sent. 1698 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxi. (1674) 213 The whilome powerful Kingdom of Hungary. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 35 The Lute I whilom strung. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* X. viii. The squire..began to roar forth the name of Sophia as loudly..as whilom did Hercules that of Hylas. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* IV. xi. Where oft whilom were captives pent. 1878 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* I. 10 The wistful eyes which whilom glanced down.. upon the sweet clover fields.

b. as *adj.* That existed, or was such, at a former time; former; †of a person, 'late', deceased (*obs.*): = WHILE *adv.* 2 b. *arch.*

1452 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 387 All them that had arte or parte of the slaughter..of whylum William, Erle of Douglas, my brother. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 70 Thy whilome sire neuer quaild in mortal loyne. *a* 1657 SIR W. MURE *Hist.* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 249 Desigueing her the wife to whillome Sr Adame Mure. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. iii, General Doppet, a whilom Medical man. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 151 Mexico..that whilom dependency of the Spanish Crown. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* lxxvii. III. 17 When superstition and the habit of submission have vanished from the whilome subjects.

†3. At a future time, some time; in future.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17732 Quilum sal þis ilk barn Be to sum men in uprising, Til oþer sum in dun falling. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 81 Therfore I purpose..All suche ydlenes whylom to refuse.

B. *conj.* = WHILE *conj.* 1, 3. *dial.*

1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. 121 A man..With whom his father held much conversation Whilome he liude. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 51 Subjects their King, the King his Subjects greete, Whilome the Scepter and the Plough-staffe meete. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Whilom*, whilst, during which time. 'Stay whilom I come.'

¶ Aberrant uses. *Of whilom*: for some time past. So *this whilom.*

1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* IV. ii, This many I do give ye, because of whilom You have been thought my son. *c* 1860 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 72, I wot not, what in mee is come to pass, In mee this whillome who most gladely was.

Hence [with *-s*, after WHILES] †**Whilloms** *adv. Sc. Obs.* (5 quhillumys, 6 quhyllum(m)is, quhylomis; cf. WFris. *wilens*), at times, sometimes.

a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* 219 Gef quhillumys plesels ioculatoris, .. Fenȝe þe þar fantasy to here. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 508 In þe bark of ane bowrtrie, quhyllumis they bed it. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* I. 69 Whilloms they tented, an' sometimes they plaid.

Whilse, obs. form of WHILES.

Whilst (hwəilst), *adv.*, *conj.* (*prep.*) Forms: 4 quilest, -list, quylest, -ist, 5 qwhilste, whylst, 5–6 whylest, 6 whillest, whylyst, wylst, *Sc.* quhylest, 6–7 whilest, 7 whil'st, 6– whilst. [f. WHILES + *-t* as in *amongst*, *amidst*.]

1. a. In advb. phr. *the whilst* (obs. or rare arch.), also (rare) †*to whilst*, *in the whilst*, or as simple adv. *whilst* (obs. exc. dial.): During that time, meanwhile. Also †*a whilst*: for a time.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 6417 (Fairf.) Þe quilest moises beide vp his hende Hit was wele in þe batel kende, For ay to quilest witerly Had goddis folk þe ouer maistri. 1588 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 226, I served a whilest with the late Erle of Leycester. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. ii. 4 Doe it quickly. Ile call sir Toby the whilst. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Rev.* II. v, Go run, And tell the Duke; And whilst I'll close her eyes. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Commun. Angels* 113 If God would doe all, and men might sleepe the whilest. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colleg.* 228 Alway, except that in the whilest at the first, I lived four years at Padua. *c* 1672 *Rosh. Ball.* (1888) VI. 300 Though present you be, all the whilst that they dine. 1683 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1901) 67 Pray..forget not the proposal of Sr: Yours Really whilst I. Place. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* x, But a small sum; something in hand the whilst. 1895 JAS. PRIOR *Renie* XXI, Why don't you send for the p'liceman whilst?

b. *The whilst*, conj. phr. (also with *that*): During the time that, while; †when. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 2966 (Fairf.) Þe folk ware ful of pride þe quylest he dwelled ham bi-side. *Ibid.* 13461 Þe quilist þat ȝe me se him kis Lay hande on him. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 79 Thee whilst fayre Phœbus thee yeers course roundlye reuolued. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 104, I saw a Smith stand with his hammer (thus) The whilst his Iron did on the Anuile coole. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* I. i, Make your mirth, the whilst I bear my misery. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 25 (1799) II. 237 Each his head..Shakes, the whilst his tale is told.

2. *conj.* (†also with *that*) = WHILE *conj.* 1, b, d, WHILES 4.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 2085 (Fairf.) He liued lelly quylist he mogt. *Ibid.* 5491 Quylest atte Ioseph regned þare His breþer in egipte regnande ware. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. ix. 91 Slike frenschyp is fenyd, for it may not last bot qwhilste lust & profett bydis. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 308 A clothe, up on the which the professours must lygh prostrat whylst the letany is in syngyng afȝyr masse. 1569 *Rec. Priuy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 4 The parliament held quhylest scho wes in Lochlevin. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* I. P ij b, Whilest that the childe is young, let him be instructed in vertue and lyterature. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 186 Ile nere be drunk whilst I liue againe, but in honest, ciuill, godly company. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm., Ps. xxxii. 6* (1640) 597 Woe unto us, if we seeke him not whilest he affords us these helpes. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. viii. 73 During the time of his humiliation here on earth, or whilest hee became hostage for our Redemption. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 222 The Trees..and Fields are now naked, unless cloathed in white, whilest the Countrey-man sits at home, and enjoyes the Fruit of his past labours. 1703 DE FOE *More Reform.* 12 With lame pretences they revive Those Lines when Dead, he blush'd at whilst alive. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* III. 7 All in less time than whilst one could cry—'A good riddance'. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, Fetch us up a bottle of the Burgundy,..And I say, Craigie, you may fetch up half-a-dozen whilst you are about it. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXV, Be quiet whilst the tempest lasts. 1918 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V* c. 27 Sched. I. ii, Such revocation shall not be made whilst the Bill..is pending in either House.

†b. *prep.* During. *Obs. rare*—1.

1592 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 286 Whilest the time that the Emperour Charles the fift was at Nece .. I was requested..to make him a fygure.

3. *transf.* = WHILE *conj.* 2 a, b, c.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* vi. 26 Whilest they catche after a vayne reward here, they be disapointed of that, whiche onelye aught to be desyred. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 15 Whilest they [*sc.* the Stoics] granted to mans power such an excellent and divine disposition, they lift him up in a vain presumption. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 88 His company must do his minions grace, Whil'st I at home starue for a merrie looke. *c* 1600—*Sonn.* XXXVII. 10, I am not lame, poore, nor dispis'd, Whilst that this shadow doth such substance giue. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. 2 There is a place..where thousands of the Heads of Oxen were digged up, whereat the Ignorant wondred, whilest the Learned well understood them to be the proper Sacrifices to Diana. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* II. 20 Portia Laments her barren Curse, and begs a Son. Whilst Iris, his cosmetick Wash, must try, To make her Bloom revive, and Lovers dye. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. iii. 152 The Knights..considered him as the pride and ornament of their order, whilst he, to ingratiate himself the more with them, affected always..to boast of that extraction. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXIX, Whilst her appearance was an utter failure..Mrs. Rawdon Crawley's *début* was, on the contrary, very brilliant. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 4 One day the right leg would be disabled, whilst the next day it would be the left leg that suffered. 1907 *Athenæum* 3 Aug. 129/2 It is not to be found in the Boston,..or the Congress Libraries, whilst the copy at Harvard is imperfect.

4. *conj.* Till, until: = WHILE *conj.* 3, WHILES 5. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1320 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 324, I pray you, Larges, here to remayne, Whylest I knowe what this letter dothe contayne. *Ibid.* 685 Tary whylyst that I come agayne. 1896 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl. Lond.* 451 My wife might blow whilst she burst. 1633 *Cloria & Narcissus* I. 308 There to remaine, ..whilst she heard some newes of Narcissus.

Whilt(e, obs. north. ff. QUILT *sb.*[1]

Whilum, obs. form of WHILOM.

†**Whilwendlic**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *hwilwendlic*, f. *hwil* WHILE *sb.* + stem of *wendan* to turn, WEND + *-lic* -LY[1].] Lasting for a time, temporary.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 21 Hyt næfþ none wyrtrum on him ac is hwilwendlic. *c* 1200 ORMIN 18825 Þatt arrke iss whilwendlike þing & oldaþþ & forrwurrþeþþ.

Whilwh, Whily, obs. ff. WILLOW, WILY.

Whim (hwim), *sb.*[1] Also 8 whym. [See WHIM-WHAM. The transference of meaning from branch I to branch II is similar to that in ENGINE and GIN *sb.*[1]]

I. †1. A pun or play on words; a double meaning. *Obs.*

1641 BACON *Jew. Crew* I. (1652) B 2 b, There was the whim, or double meaning on't. *Ibid.*, One told a Gentleman His son should be a man-killer, and hang'd for't; Who, after prov'd a great and rich Physician, And with great Fame lth' Universitie Hang'd up in Picture for a grave example. There was the whim of that. Quite contrary! *Ibid.* B 2 b, Shall Squire Oldrent's Daughters Weare old rents in their Garments? (there's a whim too).

2. †a. A fanciful or fantastic creation; a whimsical object. *Obs.*

1676 BUTLER *Hud.* III. I. 208 When he..Had rifled all his Pokes and Fobs Of Gimcracks, Whims and Jiggumbobs. 1710–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Jan., I came home at seven, and began a little whim, which just came into my head; and will make a threepenny pamphlet. 1731 CHENEY *List Horse-Matches* 89 This Prize is call'd a Whim or whimsical Plate, because the Conditions of running for the same, are different from those of all other Prizes. 1782 HURD *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 275 Were the testimony of history less positive..such a Government [as that of Sparta] would appear a mere philosophical whim or fiction. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 111 Some may praise the grass-plat whims, Which the gard'ner weekly trims.

†b. A whimsical fellow. *Obs.*

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 371 P 2 That sort of Men who are called Whims and Humourists.

c. In ombre, the deciding on the trump suit by turning up the top card of the stock.

1874 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 41 *note*, Volteretta, though known in England (under the name of the Whim), was not appreciated there.

3. A capricious notion or fancy; a fantastic or freakish idea; an odd fancy.

1697 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* II. ii, Walking pretty late in the Park..A Whim took me to sing Chevy-Chace. 1702 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 80 Many such like Whims [as perpetual motion] are pretended to by Designing Men. 1713 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) IV. 254 The New-Printing House just erected, wch is (it seems, out of a Whim) to be called Typographeum Clarendonianum. 1782 COWPER *Truth* 89 See the sage hermit,..Wearing out life in his religious whim, Till his religious whimsy wears out him. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* viii, The scheme was no whim of the moment. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlii, Mrs. Dombey may be in earnest, or she may be pursuing a whim, or she may be opposing me. 1899 CONAN DOYLE *Duet, Confessions*, There are all..degrees of love, some just the whim of a moment, and others the passion of a lifetime.

b. In generalized sense: Capricious humour or disposition of mind.

a 1721 PRIOR *Enigma*, 'Form'd half beneath, etc.' 7 They [*sc.* skates] serve the poor for use, the rich for whim. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 153 Sneering Goode, half malice and half whim. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. i. (Rtldg.) 423, I came up to pay my devotions; but whim, or perhaps revenge.. determined her to put on the stranger. 1884 STEVENSON *Mem. & Portraits* XVI. (1887) 275 Mr. Besant so genial,.. with so persuasive and humorous a vein of whim.

c. *Comb.*

1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 25 These whimm' Crown'd sheets, these fashion-fansying wits. 1786 BURNS *Bard's Epit.* I, Is there a whim-inspir'd fool, Owre fast for thought, owre hot for rule,..Let him draw near.

II. 4. A machine, used esp. for raising ore or water from a mine, consisting of a vertical shaft carrying a large drum with one or more radiating arms or beams to which a horse or horses, etc. may be yoked and by which it may be turned, the rope being wound on the drum by the horse's motion. Also *horse-whim.*

1738 *MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 177 This Lord has destroyed the old ridiculous water works and whims that were then when made much in vogue. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist.* I. *Cornwall* 11 A Wheel and Axle, (which they call a Whim). 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 143 A proper working Shaft, upon which a Whym may be erected. 1829 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXXVI, They above.. were rigging a rope to an old horse-whim. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* XLIV, The whole plant, the whim, the tools, ..—every mortal thing down to a worn-out hide bucket—was sold.

b. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *whim-driver, -engine, -gin, -horse, -house, -kibble, -rope, -round, -shaft.*

1787 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 504 The whim-house shook so terribly, that a man there at work ran out of it, concluding it to be falling. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 144 A whym Shaft to draw the Deads and Ore from the Sump of the Mine. *Ibid.* 130 Two horses..go round upon a platform named the Whym-round. *Ibid.* 165 In deep Mines, some whym ropes cost fifty or sixty pounds. *Ibid.* Gloss. s. v. *Kibbal*, A Whym-Kibbal is a larger [bucket], which.. serves to draw water with, or bring up the Ore to grass. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newc.* II. 684 In a whim gin the ropes run upon two wheel pullies over the shaft. 1834 *2nd Rep. Cornwall Polytechn. Soc.* 42 The Steam Whim Engine. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 139 Shafts..intended for the extraction of ores (called whim-shafts where horse-whims are employed for extracting the produce). 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1882) 84 Whim Driver. 1896 J. HOCKING *Fields of Fair Renown* I, The boy who drove the 'whim horse' cracked his whip.

¶ In sense 4 a variant *whin* is found.

1878 *Statis. Publ. Whs. Gt. Brit.* II. 3 Cutting the whin ropes nearly through. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Whin* (Mining), a machine for raising ores and refuse. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 June 5/2 Rolling a large oak tree with a timber whin.

Hence **Whimmed** *a.*, ? possessed with a whim or odd fancy; **Whimmery**, a piece of whimsicality; **Whim-wham**, mock title for a whimsical person.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. viii. 29 Our Don (or if Sancho

had the _____ were *whim'd in the whisky) might very well from that encounter have still'd himself a Knight of Millan. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 333 Had not Mr. Pugin's attention been too exclusively engrossed by that architectural *whimmery. 1906 T. Sinton *Poetry of Lochaber* 182 We can imagine the swing of his bow with many a panse and twirl carrying through the whimeries of the rhyme. 1793 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 337 You're sure to find his *Whimship there.

Whim, *sb.*[2] [Of unknown origin.] The European wigeon.

a 1705 Ray *Syn. Avium* (1713) 146 *Penelope* Aldrov. An *Anas fistularis*? The Wigeon, or Whewer, or Whim. [Hence in later works.]

Whim (hwim), *v.* [f. Whim *sb.*[1]]

1. †a. *intr.* with *it*: To play the whimsical fellow. †b. *trans.* To put *off* by a whim or fancy. c. To desire capriciously, to have an odd fancy for. Hence **Whi·mming** *ppl. a.*, whimsical, capricious.

1704 T. Baker *Act at Oxf.* III. ii. 32 *Bla.* [*Aside*] The Rogue whims it rarely. 1710 R. Ward *Life H. More* 216 He knew not, how he came to be whimm'd off from it (as his expression was). 1787 Howie *Plain Reas. Diss.* 215 [The motion] was rejected on the whimming pretence there was no present danger. 1842 Mrs. Trollope *Vis. Italy* I. x. 153 What he whimmed to will, that he had power to do. 1860 S. Martin *Westm. Chapel Pulpit* II. 15 He expects us to do not what we whim.

2. *intr.* Of the head: To be giddy, to 'swim'. Now *dial.*

1700 Congreve *Way of World* IV. 61 My head begins to whim it about—Why dost thou not speak? thou art both as drunk and as mute as a Fish. 1726–20 *Lett. Mist's Jrnl.* (1732) I. 88 The first Night he retired to his Chamber, his Head whimm'd immediately.

Whim, var. Queme *a.*, Whin, Wim *v.*

Whimberry (hwi·mbĕri). *local.* Forms: 1 winberise, 5 wynneberie, 7 win(ne)berry, 8 wind-berry, 9 wimberry, w(h)imberry. [Assimilated f. *whinberry*, alteration of *winberry* (representing, with normal vowel-shortening, OE. *winberige*; cf. Winberry) by association with Whin[1].] The bilberry or whortleberry.

a 1100 in Napier *OE. Glosses* 132/5194 *Baccinlarum*, winberigena. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 78 Aftur mete peeres, nottys, strawberies, wynneberies, and hardchese. 1610 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 189 Given to a wenche which brought winberries from Burneley woode, iiij[d]. 1621 Cotgr., *Morets*, winne-berries, hurtle-berries. 1634–5 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 131 Winberries made me subject to fainting also, and are churlish things for the stomach. 1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem.* 228 Blackworts. .. Biberries [*sic*]. Wind-berry. 1847 Halliwell, *Whimberries*, bilberries. 1857 Pratt *Flower. Pl.* III. 351 Bilberry, or Whortleberry .. This elegant shrub .. is sometimes called also Whinberry. 1860 W. White *Wrekin* viii. 74 Bilberries,—wimberries, as the rustics call them. 1862 Kingsley *Water Bab.* i, The heath was full of bilberries and whimberries. 1882 Lees & Clutterbuck *Three in Norway* xxi. 177 Four wimberry tarts .. and a venison pie. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 10/1 Bilberry .. is merely the Midland name for the bleaberry of the North, the whortleberry of the West, and the whinberry of the Welsh Border.

Whimble: see Wimble, Wimple.

Whimbrel (hwi·mbrĕl). Forms: 6 whympernell (?), 7, 9 wimbrel, 9 whimbrell, 7– whimbrel. [? f. Whimp or Whimper *v.*, from the bird's cry. Cf. for the ending *dotterel*, *titterel*.] Applied to various small species of curlew, esp. the European *Numenius phæopus*.

1530–1 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 46, 3 curlews et 1 whympernell 13*d.* 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 294 The Whimbrel: Arquata minor,..Mr. Johnson of Brignal, in his Papers communicated to us, describes this Bird by the name of a Whimbrel thus. It is less by half than the Curlew, hath a crooked Bill, but shorter by an inch and more. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 997 Curlews something less than our English, tho' bigger than a Wimbrel. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 314 The Whimbrel entirely leaves England in the Spring. 1883 Baring-Gould *Iceland* vi. 100 Whimbrel and golden plover pipe and wail in all directions. 1897 *Spectator* 14 Aug. 210/1 On the fringe of a muddy creek .. were some thirty whimbrel..with three or four curlews.

†Whimling. *Obs.* Also 7 -len. [Cf. Whifling and *whinnelling* s.v. Whindle.] A miserable or insignificant creature.

1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* IV. i, Go whimling, and fetch two or three grating loaves out of the Kitching. 1626 B. Jonson *Masques, Love Restored*, Before I could procure my properties, alarum came, that some o' the whimlen's had too much.

Whimmy (hwi·mi), *a.* Also 9 whimy. [f. Whim *sb.*[1] + -y[1].] Of the nature of a whim; full of whims; whimsical, capricious.

1785 *Strother's Jrnl.* (1912) 66 A whimmy thought struck him that Aram was following him for the bone. 1807 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 314 The study of Rabbinical literature either finds a man *whimmy*, or makes him so. 1880 Adel. Sartoris *Past Hours* I. 162 She is very uncertain and whimmy, and has an immense *amour propre* about it. 1889 Mary E. Carter *Mrs. Severn* II. iv, 'Perhaps it is only a whim,' said Anna. 'She's not a whimsy body'.

Whimp (hwimp), *v. local.* In 6 whympe, 9 wimp. [Echoic.] *intr.* To whimper.

1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 77 Sainte Paule sayed. There shall be intractabiles, that wil whympe and whine. 1890 *Gloss. Glocs., Wimp*, to whine; of a dog.

Whimper (hwi·mpəɹ), *sb.* [f. next.] A feeble, broken cry, as of a child about to burst into tears; a fretful cry expressive of complaint or grief.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whimper*, a low, or small Cry. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* III. vii. § 63. (1740) 330 After a few Whimpers and a Wipe, he said..That..he knew.., he was in the Wrong. 1839 Carlyle *Essays, Sinking of Vengeur* (1857) IV. 218 Some vague faint murmur or whimper of admission. 1874 Burnand *My time* xxvii. 256 A whimper in her voice expressive of utter helplessness.

b. A similar cry of dogs, etc.

1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxiv, The loved caresses of the maid The dogs with crouch and whimper paid. 1822 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxviii. 383 The scent improved a little, and..a hound or two indulged in a whimper. 1890 Burton *Centr. Africa* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 82 The hyena's whimper, and the fox's whining bark. 1906 Travers *Highways Dorset* xiii. 197 The voice of the preacher is apt to be interrupted by the whimper of circling seagulls.

c. *transf.* Of inanimate things.

1895 W. Watson *Hymn to Sea* 6 Braying of arrogant brass, whimper of querulous reeds. 1897 'O. Rhoscomyl' *White Ross Arms* xxii, The clank of capstan and the whimper of sheaves.

Whimper (hwi·mpəɹ), *v.* Also 6 whympper, wimper, *Sc.* quhymper. [Echoic. Cf. Whimp.]

1. *intr.* To utter a feeble, whining, broken cry, as a child about to burst into tears; to make a low complaining sound.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xii. 14 The 3ing childring, and frayit matrounis eik, Stude all on raw, with mony peteous screik..quhympsrand woundir sair. 1530 Palsgr. 781/1 The poore boye whympereth a lytell, but he dare nat wepe.

rufull faces; whimper in the nose. 1727 Gay *Begg. O.* xiii, The Boy, thus, when his Sparrow's flown..Whines, whimpers, sobs and cries. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* iii, Get you away now you have said your lesson. You needn't whimper. 1912 Mrs. Allen Harker *Mr. Wycherly's Wards* xiv. 202 Baby began to whimper.

b. *fig.* To complain pulingly; to 'whine': esp. *for*, *after*, †*to* something.

1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 76 Was there

whimper in poore rags as well as thine. *a* 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll.* iii. 43, I..whimper to the Teat, though Strong enough To digest meat. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 190 The great Grecian youth, Who whimper'd for more worlds to conquer. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* viii, Proudfute..began to cry for assistance .. and almost in the same breath to whimper for mercy. 1842 Peel in *Croker Papers* 27 July (1884) II. 383 Farmers..were whimpering over advertisements offering fresh meat [etc.]. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvii, She is still whimpering after that gaby of a husband—dead..these fifteen years. 1894 Jessopp *Rand. Roam.* vi. 196 For ever whimpering for the days that are gone.

c. *trans.* To utter or express in a whimper.

1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 429 But poverty, with most who whimper forth Their long complaints, is self-inflicted woe. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxviii, 'You deal with me better than your word, noble knight,' whimpered forth poor Wamba. 1820 Hogg *Tales, Allan Gordon* (1837) I. 314 The generous animal whined and whimpered her joy. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* lxv, He still kept whimpering, 'Only to think that such an artist as I am must perish!'

2. *intr.* Of an animal, esp. a dog: To utter a feeble querulous cry.

1576 Turberv. *Venaris* xxxix. 108 He [*sc.* a hound] will streyne and lappyse, or whymper, or sometime call on plainely. 1642 W. Cartwright *Siege* I. iv, Whimpering at The Chamber door, like to the little Spaniel. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 335 The dog stopped; whimpered; looked him in the face. 1898 M. Hewlett *Forest Lovers* xxx, The dogs whimpered and tugged at the leash; they doubtless knew that there was blood in her.

3. Of running water or the wind: To make a continuous plaintive murmur. Also *trans.*

1795 H. Macneill *Will & Jean* I. xx, In a howm, wha's bonnie burnie Whimperin row'd its crystal flood. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 358 The little brook that whimpered by his school-house. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* II. 106 The brook mourns drippling o'er its pebbly bed, And whimpers soothingly a calm serene. 1892 Kipling *Engl. Flag* I. Verse 1919 I. 290 Winds of the World, give answer! They are whimpering to and fro—And what should they know of England who only England know?

Hence **Whi·mpered** *ppl. a.* (sense 1 c).

1892 G. Meredith *Teaching of Nude* I. Poet. Wks. (1912) 410 A Satyr..fetching whimpered tunes For words.

Whimperer (hwi·mpərəɹ). [f. prec. + -er[1].] One who whimpers.

1737 Ozell *Rabelais* II. vii. 66 *note*, *Marmiteux*, a Whimperer. *a* 1739 Jarvis *Don Quix.* I. i. (1742) I. 3 No finical gentleman, nor such a whimperer as his brother. 1842 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. I. ii. 75 We are become timorous, desponding whimperers. 1863 Holme Lee *A. Warleigh* III. 241 When her wee whimperer would allow any voice but his own to be heard.

Whimpering (hwi·mpərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. vb. + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whimper.

1522 More *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 89 Yf wo..line in pulling & whimpering & haulnes of hert. 1621 T. Granger *Eccles.* xii. 4. 320 The noise of little birds, the whimpering of mice, every small stirrage waketh them. 1821 Markham *Hungers Prevention* 274 A kinde of whimpering and whining in his [*sc.* the dog's] voice. 1860 H. More *Myst. Godl.* II. xii. 309 He will not..be put off with solemn whimperings, Hypocritical Confessions, rufful f[illegible] 1725 Soul

o'er the Lawn to himp'ring speake 1728 His wife re-

ceived him..with whimperings and replenings. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* viii. 78 There was no sham whimpering.. but the boy's heart seemed touched. 1902 L. Stephen *Stud. Biogr.* IV. v. 288 Many men of business..enjoy in strict privacy a little whimpering over a novel.

Whimpering (hwi·mpərin), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. vb. + -ing[2].] That whimpers, in various senses.

1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 29 Their whimpring Sonnets, pulling Elegies Slaunder the Muses. 1620 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. i, Our whimpring Lady and Mistresse sent mee. 1648 Herrick *Hesp., To Primroses fill'd with Morning Dew* ii, Speak, whimp'ring Younglings, and make known The reason, why Ye droop and weep. 1725 R. Savage *Progr. Divine* Wks. 1777 II. 121 Be yours the blubb'ring lip, and whimp'ring eye! 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxiv, With heads erect, and whimpering cry, The hounds behind their passage ply. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk., Mme. Saqui*, Any one can see why Rousseau should be such a whimpering reformer. 1879 Browning *Ivan Ivanovitch* 203 The whimperingest cub that ever squeesed the teat!

Hence **Whi·mperingly** *adv.*

1878 Stevenson *Inland Voy.* 157 He would suddenly break away and begin whimperingly to commiserate the poor.

Whimple, Whimsey: see Wimple, Whimsy.

†Whimseycado. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Whimsical + *-ado* Sp. suffix = -ate[1].] (?) A whim.

1624 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. v. 201 If *Amadis du Gaul* and *Palmerin* Be lies, what whimsey-cados are we in?

†Whimsic, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as next + -ic.] *Whimsic chair* = Whimsy *sb.* 5.

1684 *Ballads illustr. Gt. Frost* (Percy Soc.) 29 Dutch whirling, whimsic chair, Turning more swift than unrestrained air.

Whimsical (hwi·mzikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 7 whym-. [f. Whims(y + -ical.]

1. Of persons, their actions, thoughts, etc.: Full of, subject to, or characterized by a whim or whims; actuated by or depending upon whim or caprice.

1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restr.* To Rdr. 10 So they fell to words and at last (to end this Whimsical controversie) they resolved to kill one another. *Ibid.* 12 Were not they better be..grave, sober, serious, then whymsical, fickle and fantastical? 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 251 So do the whimsical Enthusiasts .. make long relations of strange dreams. 1703 Earl Orrery *As you find it* III. i. 35 A Man with a fantastical, whimsical Stomach may starve in the midst of Plenty, not for want of Food, but such as he likes. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 101 P 7 One Sir Roger de Coverley, a whimsical Country Knight. 1756 Burke *Subl. & Beaut.* III. xi. (1759) 208 It has given rise to an infinite deal of whimsical theory. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. vii. P 2 One of those old codgers who have been a little whimsical or so in their youth. 1839 Hallam *Lit. Eur.* II. vii. § 20 It would be rather whimsical to deny this to be a principal merit in a comparison. 1873 J. E. T. Rogers *Protests of Lords* I. Pref. p. lvi, Two whimsical dissents from Lords Radnor and Abingdon.

2. Characterized by deviation from the ordinary as if determined by mere caprice; fantastic, fanciful; freakish, odd, comical.

1675 E. Wilson *Speadacr. Dunelm.* Pref. B 5 b, Panacea's, Universal Medicines, Secrets, and such like whimsical Remedies. 1687 T. Brown *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 79 The most whimsical scene of the farce is still behind. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 Nov. 1644, A whimsical chayre, which folded into so many variaties as to turn into a bed, a bolster, a table, or a couch. 1710 Swift *Lett.* (1767) III. 57 Is it not whimsical that the dean has never once written to me? 1769 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 165 Matters here are in a situation whimsical enough. 1773 Wesley *Jrnl.* 29 Nov., Wks. 1830 IV. 5, I went .. to Sheerness; over that whimsical ferry, where footmen and horses pay nothing. 1826 F. Reynolds *Life & Times* I. 193 The Germans are whimsical animals in their appearance. 1836 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 4) 17 Alembics, stills, retorts, receivers, and a variety of whimsical and complex vessels. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* lx. 66 Our senator..looked after his little wife with a whimsical mixture of amusement and vexation. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 85 All these whimsical prescriptions gradually fell out of the Pharmacopœias.

absol. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 212 Who..delighted more in the whimsical than the natural. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxiv, Hesitating between the respect he ought to assume, and his love of the whimsical.

†b. Subject to uncertainty or the 'caprice of fortune'. *Obs.*

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 151 Must the bread of Life be ground only by the winde of every Doctrine? and whimsicall Wind-Mills? 1700 Congreve *Way of World* II. vii, A Fellow that lives in a Windmill has not a more whimsical Dwelling than the Heart of a Man that is lodg'd in a Woman. There is no Point of the Compass to which they cannot turn. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 18 P 3, I shall only take notice of the whimsical circumstances a people must lie under, who can be thus made poor or rich by an edict. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 191 Poor man! he stands a whimsical chance between us.

B. *sb.* (in *pl.*) A cant name for a section of the Tories in the reign of Queen Anne: see quots.

1714 Swift *Pres. St. Aff.* Wks. 1841 I. 492/2 That race of politicians, who in the cant phrase are called the whimsicals. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxvii, Many of the High Church party..affected to separate their principles from those of the Jacobites, and, on that account, obtained the denomination of Whimsicals.

Whimsica·lity. [f. prec. adj. + -ity.] The quality or state of being whimsical; whimsicalness, oddity, fantasticalness. Also with *a* and *pl.*

..laughed affectedly at her own whimsicalities. 1844 Hood (*title*) Whimsicalities, a periodical gathering. 1890 L. Hunt

Autobiogr. vi. (1860) 117 Lewis was a comedian of the rarest order, for he combined whimsicality with elegance, and levity with heart. 1898 R. Hichens *Londoners* II. The precision of curious whimsicality that stole into her face.

Whi·msically, *adv.* [f. prec. adj. + -LY 2.] In a whimsical manner; capriciously; oddly, fantastically.

1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 100 ₱4, I thought it was whimsically said of a Gentleman, That if Varilas had Wit, it would be the best Wit in the World. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. xviii, Her passions..were not so whimsically capricious that one man only could lay them. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* II. iv, Was ever truant daughter so whimsically circumstanced as I am? 1881 Croker in *C. Papers* 2 Aug. (1884) I. 199 Our supper whimsically served; the first dish being green peas alone. *a* 1882 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 103 The inist, white and delicate where we stood, but thick and black above, opened whimsically and delusively. 1888 Burdon *Lives 12 Gd. Men* II. v. 63 How whimsically Wilberforce was capable of blending the pathetic and the playful.

Whi·msicalness. [f. prec. adj. + -NESS.] The quality of being whimsical; whimsicality.

1714 tr. *à Kempis' Chr. Exerc.* IV. xiv. 250 Lest Meditation should decline..into Melancholy and Whimsicalness. 1747 Hoadly *Suspicious Husb.* v. ii, I cannot sufficiently admire at the Whimsicalness of my good Fortune, in being so [illegible]

spirit of whimsicalness.

†Whi·msied, *pa. pple.* or *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Whimsy + -ED.] Filled with whims; made whimsical.

1624 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* II. i, To have a mans brains whimsied with his wealth. 1628 Ford *Lover's Mel.* II. ii, You are but a little staring—there's difference betweene staring and starke mad. You are but whymsied, yet crotchetted, conundroun'd, or so. 1835 Willis *Pencillings* I. xxiii. 180 A whimsied madman.

Whimsily, Whimsiness: see after Whimsy.

Whimstone, variant of Weinstone.

1822 Conybeare & Phillips *Outl. Geol. Eng.* I. 204 Concretions are frequent..and are called whim-stones or potlids.

Whimsy, whimsey (hwi·mzi), *sb.* (*a.*) Forms: 7 whim-, whymsie, whimsee, 7–8 whimsy, 8 whymsey, 7–9 whimsie, whims(e)y. [See Whim-wham.]

I. †1. Dizziness, giddiness, vertigo. *Obs.*

16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, I ha' got the scotomy in my head already, The whimsey: you all turn round. 1696 Blount *Glossogr., Scotomatical*, that is troubled with such a whimsey in the head.

†2. A wench. *Obs. rare.*

1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* II. iv, And shall we ha' smockes Vrsla, and good whimsies, ha? *a* 1625 Fletcher *Bloody Brother* IV. ii, You 'l pick a bottle open, or a whimsey, As soon as the best of us.

3. = Whim *sb.*[1] 3.

1625 B. Jonson *Volpone* III. i, I can feele A whimsey i' my bloud: (I know not how) Successe hath made me wanton. 1628 Venner *Baths of Bathe* (1650) 365 Such as have their pates full of outlandish whimsies. 1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 32 That whimsey of Pythagoras of the transmigration of Soules. 1723 Denham *Phys.-Theol.* I. i. 7 *note*, Our Inability to live in too rare and light an Air may discourage those vain Attempts of Flying, and Whimsies of passing to the Moon. 1803 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) III. 508 Plato, who only used the name of Socrates to cover the whimsies of his own brain. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 164 Both had what seemed extravagant whimsies about dress, diversions, and postures. 1891 Besant *St. Katherine's* I. vi, Why, I was young once, and had my own whimsies like the rest.

b. = Whim *sb.*[1] 3 b. *arch.*

a 1680 Glanvill *Sadducismus* II. (1681) 50 All this is Whimsey and Fiction. 1709 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) II. 337 In One there are the Marks of Wisdom and Determination; in the other, of Whimsy and Conceit. 1775 Wraxall *Tour N. Eur.* 121 It may just as well be called an European structure, where whimsy and caprice form the predominant character. 1881 Blackmore *Christowell* xlviii, They winnow my gatherings on every wind of whimsy.

4. = Whim *sb.*[1] 2 a.

1722 *H. More's Antid. Ath.* III. ix. § 2. Schol. 169 Engrav'd with Characters, and other Magical whimsies of this sort. 1765 J. Collier *Mus. Trav.* (ed. 4) 62 The Italian whimsies and tweedle-dums, that people played upon in these days. 1791 Cowper *Yardley Oak* 118 Thy root..A quarry of stout spurs, and knotted fangs,..crook'd into a thousand whimsies. 1880–2 D. Coleridge in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 164 The proposed Dictionary..must include many a mere whimsey and many a gross corruption. 1906 E. V. Lucas *Wand. in Lond.* I. 14 The lodge in the garden of the Record Office. This little architectural whimsy might be the abode of an urban fairy or gnome.

II. †5. A merry-go-round, roundabout. *Obs.*

1684 *Ballads Illustr. Gl. Frost* (Percy Soc.) 4 There were Dutch whimsies turned swiftly round Faster then horses run on level ground.

6. = Whim *sb.*[1] 4. *local.*

1769 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 430 This may be done ..with a small horse-gin or whimsy, instead of a windlass, for drawing the water and work in sinking. 1876 *Hull & Selby Railw. Act* 44 To make use of any gins, whimsies, tackling, ropes, machines. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 329 In Cornwall, a kibble, in which the ore is raised in the shafts, by machines called whims or whimseys.

b. (See quot.)

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Whimsey*, a small crane for hoisting goods to the upper stories of warehouses.

7. *Glass-making.* (See quot.)

1826 H. Chance in *Trnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 224/2 Still whirling, the table [of crown glass], as it is now called, is carried off, laid flat upon a support called a whimsey, detached by a from the ponty, [etc.]

B. *adj.* Whimsical.

1632 Shirley *Hyde Park* II. ii, Leere on, my whimsy Lady. 1867 Lanier *Strange Fokes* 7 Poems (1891) 217 Once in a whimsey mood he sat. 1913 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Laddie* xiv, Laddie studied the sky, a whimsy smile on his lips.

C. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whimsy-pate, -shaft*; *whimsy-headed* adj.; †whimsey-board, ? a board or table used in some game of chance, or on which different objects were carried about for sale.

a 1704 T. Brown *Lett. Living to Dead* Wks. 1720 II. 19, I am sometimes a small Retainer to a Billiard-Table, and sometimes, when the Master on't is sick, earn a Penny by a *Whimsy-Board. 1708 W. King *Art of Cookery* (1709) 99 Then Pippins did in Wheel-barrows abound, And Oranges in Whimsey-boards went round. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4659/3 He frequents the Cock Pits and Gaming Houses, Whimsy Boards. 1698 E. Ward *Lond. Spy* III. (1706) 63 The first *Whimsie-headed Wretch of this Lunatick Family. 1682 Winyard *Mercurius Menip.* 6 His *Whimsie-Meagrim must be an Ecstasie. 1634 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. iv. 88 What a company..doth this phantastical *whimzy-pate gather. 1821 W. Forster *Section of Strata* (ed. 2) 331 *Whimsey Shafts may be sunk to the depth of ten..fathoms.

Hence **Whi·msily** *adv.*, **Whi·msiness.**

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. iii. 188, I love Toboso, and I know not why, Only I say, I love her (whimsyly). 1909 *Daily Chron.* 14 Sept. 5/3 To..indulge his political whimsiness.

Whimsy-whamsy. [f. Whimsy after next.] = next, 2.

1871 Caddell *Never Forgotten* ii, Maude always was obstinate when she had one of her religious whimsey whamseys in her head. 1900 'Anthony Hope' *Quisanté* v, The real reason..why the Dean hasn't risen higher is because he always has some whimsy-whamsy in his head.

Whim-wham (hwi·m,hwæm). Also 6–7 whym wham, 7 whimwhom, 8–9 whimwam, 9 wimwam, whim-, wim-wom. [A reduplication with vowel-variation, like *flim-flam, jim-jam, trim-tram*, all of which are similarly applied to trivial or frivolous things.

The history of the group of words of which Whim *sb.*[1], Whimsy, and this word are the chief members, is not clear. The existence in ON. of *hvima* to wander with the eyes as with the fugitive look of a frightened or silly person, and *hvimsa* to be taken aback or discomfited, suggests the possibility of an ultimate Scand. origin; but, seeing that *whim-wham* is the earliest recorded of the group(contemporaneously with the similar reduplicated forms mentioned above), an indigenous symbolic origin is more likely; in which case *whimsy* may be related to *whim-wham* as *flimsy* to *flim-flam*.]

1. A fanciful or fantastic object; *fig.* a trifle; in early use chiefly, a trifling ornament of dress, a trinket; later in various local uses (see quots.).

a 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 75 After the Sarasyns gyse, With a whym wham, Knyt with a trym tram, Vpon her brayne pan. 1602 Dekker *Satirom.* F 2, Dost loue that mother Mumble-crust, dost thou? dost long for that whimwham? 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Superbus Flagellum* C 7 b, Whimwhams & whirligigs to please Baboones. 1625 Fletcher & Shirley *Nt. Walker* I. i, They'll pull ye all to pieces, for your whim-whams, Your garters and your gloves. 1642 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Reply as true as Steel* (1877) 6 He caus'd some formes of flowers..'twixt the Beast legges be painted To hide his whim wham. 1659 Torriano, *Tencone*,.. a mans whim-wham. 1692 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academia* 17 The Yat's [=gate's] all hung about with whimwhoms, As Fishes Bones, and other thingums. 1721 Ramsay *Scriblers Lash'd* 197 Dealers in small Ware, Clinks, Whim Whams. 1808 Han. More *Cælebs* (1809) II. 283, I have spent 700 pounds..for her to learn music and whim-whams. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xi, Florentine and flams—bacon, wi' reverence, and a'the sweet confections and whim-whams. *a* 1842 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. ix. 163 So much for the commencement of this long whimwham. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Whim-wom*, a bird-boy's clackers for frightening birds from fruit or corn. 1860 *Slang Dict., Whim-wham*, an alliterative term, synonymous with fiddle-faddle, riff-raff, etc., denoting nonense, rubbish, etc.

2. A fantastic notion, odd fancy; = Whim *sb.*[1] 3.

1580 Fulke *Stapleton Confut.* II. viii. 117 Voluntarie pouertie in Augustine not found in the first planters of this newe trim tram. A matter worthie to be aunswered with a whim wham. 1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 40 Such blind vnreasonable whimwhams. 1621 Fletcher *Wild-Goose Chase* III. i, Your studied Whim-whams; and your fine set faces. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. vii, Who..not only hit upon this dainty amendment, but coaxed many of the old-licensed matrons..to open their faculties afresh, in order to have this whim-wham of his inserted. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 123 He declared he would humour the weather no longer in its whim-whams. 1832 Rowl. Hill in *Life* (1834) 382 The pure and simple gospel of Christ, but not intermixed with the whim-whams of the present day. 1882 C. D. Warner *W. Irving* iv. 50 The follies and 'whim-whams' of the metropolis.

Whimy: see Whimmy.

Whin[1] (hwin). Forms: 5 quyn, qwynne, wyne, 5–7 whyn(ne, 6 whyne, *Sc.* quyin, 6–7 whinne, whine, *Sc.* quhinn(e, 7 win, whimme, (9 *dial.*) whim, *Sc.* (9 *dial.*) quhin, 8 (9 *dial.*) whinn, 8–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* whun, 6– whin. [app. orig. northern, and prob. of Scand. origin (cf. Sw. *hven*, early Da. *hvine, hvinegræs, -strå*, Norw. *hvine, hvin, hvein*, applied to certain grasses); the evidence goes to show that gorse was formerly of economic importance in the areas of special Scand. influence.

This origin is more probable than that which has been proposed from OWelsh *chwyn* weeds (mod. *chwynu*, cognate with Breton *chouanna* to hoe, weed.]

1. The common furze or gorse, *Ulex europæus.*

Often *collect. pl.* and *sing.* for a clump or mass of the shrub, or a quantity of it used for fuel, fencing, etc.

c 1440 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 159 A strete, Ful thik and hard, ..With thornes, breres, and moni a quyn. *c* 1448 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 643/32 *Hec saliunca*, wyne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whynne, *saliunca*. 1538 Turner *Libellus*,

[illegible]

fellyng and ledyng of xj lodes of whynnes .. iij*s.* 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 119 With whimes or with furses thy houell renew. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. ix. 669 The common Whyn, or great Furze. 1606 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Archæol. Soc.* (1903) III. 132 That none..shall cutt any whinne to burne upon paine of vid. 1620 Markham *Masterp.* II. xxiv. 258 Rough hay, full of whims (*ed.* 1636 whimmes, 1675 whins), thistels, or other pricking stuffe. 1696 A. de la Pryme *Diary* (Surtees 1869) 178 When all their fother was done, they took green whins,.. stampt them..to bruise all their pricles, and then gave them to their beasts. 1721 Ramsay *Ode to the Ph—* ii, Driving their Baws frae Whins or Tee, There's no as Gowfer to be seen. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 507 Whins or common furze make a valuable fence. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* v, Down beyond down, a vast sheet of purple heath and golden whin. 1876 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 254 Between the whin and the workhouse they pulled the old fox down. 1882 *Garden* 13 May 324/3 The double flowering Whin (Furze).

2. Applied to other prickly or thorny shrubs, as rest-harrow and buckthorn; also to heather.

1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Whynne, *bruiere.* Whynnes or hethe, *bruiere.* 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 13 Anonis called also Ononis is called..in Cambryge Shyre a whyne. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 133/14 A Whin, *rhamnus.* 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Whin* or Petty Whin, a Shrub, otherwise call'd Knee-holm. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Whin*, the rest-harrow.

3. With distinctive additions, in local names of various prickly shrubs:

Cammock, Lady-, Land-whin = petty whin (*a*); **Cat('s) whin** = petty whin; also dwarf furze, dog-rose, burnet-rose; **Heather-, Moor-, Moss-, Needle-whin** = petty whin (*b*); **Petty whin,** (*a*) Turner's name for the Rest-harrow, *Ononis arvensis*; (*b*) the Needle-furze, *Genista anglica.*

14.. *MS. Laud* 553, lf. 18 Reta bouis is an herbe þ[t] me clepuþ cammok whynne or calketrap. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. Dj, Petye Whyne, or grounde Whyne, or lytle Whyne is called in latyn, & Greke ononis, and anonis..In cambryge shyre thys herbe is called a whyne, but I putt pety to it, to make dyfference betwene thys herbe, and a fur: whyche in manye places of Englande is also called a Whyne. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* 527 Restharrow, Cammok, or Petywhin. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 45 Genistella.. Needle Furze or Petty Whin. 1684 Meriton *Praise Ale* 108 (E. D. S.) Our Land is tewgh, and full of..Cat-whins. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxxv. 377 Such barren sandy heaths where petty-whin, heather, and short furze, plentifully grow. 1788 W. Marshall *E. Yorksh.* II. Gloss. (E. D. S.) Cat-whin, sb. *rosa spinosissima*, burnet rose. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Land-whin*, s., the rest-harrow. 1853 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Bord.* 51 *G[enista] anglica.* Moor-Whin: Heather-Whin: Moss-Whin. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Cat-whin*, the dwarf whin. *Ulex nanus.* 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Lady-whin, *Ononis arvensis*,..Encyclopædia of Agriculture.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whin-bloom, -covert, -cow* (Cow *sb.*[2]), *-fence, -flower, -hack* (Hack *sb.*[1]), *-pod, -prick, -prickle, -root, -seed*; **whin-kid,** a bundle of whin; hence *whin-kid* vb., to fence or thatch with whin; **whin-linnet** (see quots.); **whin-thrush,** a local name for the redwing, = Winnard; **whin-wrack,** a species of grass (see quot.).

1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Whun blooms*, the yellow blooms of the whin. 1865 Allingham *50 Mod. Poems, Among the Heather* ii, Your mountain air is sweet.. When..the whinbloom smells like honey. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 80 Walking through a straggling *whin-covert. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 28 Feb. in *Lockhart*, If you would have a horse kick, make a crupper out of a *whin-cow. 1797 J. Bailey & Culley *Agric. Cumberld.* 185 Large tracts..inclosed by *whin-fences. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* xvii, Making the gold coins round her neck shine like dewy *whin-flowers struck by the sunrise. 1589–6 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 231, iij *whine hackes. 1692 *N. Riding Rec.* V. 90 Six *whyn kidds. 1841 *Instit. Civil Eng. Min. Proc.* I. 141 The author..has lately been.. warping silt, with whin or gorse kids, laid horizontally. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.* s. v., The parcels of land [are].. whin-kydded about. 1837 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* I. 372 *Linaria cannabina.* The Brown Linnet...*Whin Linnet, Greater Redpoll. 1882 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 Whin Linnet, the Common Linnet. 1874 Stevenson *Est. Trav., On Unpleas. Places* 246 The..crackling of the *whin-pods in the afternoon sun. 1684 Powis *Esq. Philos.* I. 23 The little white Field-Spider..imboss'd all over with black Knobs, out of..which grow bristles or prickles like *whin-pricks. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* xxxvi, As if they had been sitting on *whin prickles. 1588 *Depos. Durham* (Surtees) 300 My good man's horse feat at a *whinne roote. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 28 Harrows wi' teeth o' whunroots. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 122 Every time that the land is turned into grass, the *whin-seeds near the surface will vegetate. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2250 The redwing is in G[loucestershire] a '*whin thrush'. 1859 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Bord.* 272 *Holcus mollis*..*Whin-wrack,—so called because it is found to occupy places whence Whins have been removed.

Whin[2] (hwin). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4 quin, 6 *Sc.* quhin, quhyn(e, 6, 9 whun, 8 whyn(n, 8– whin, (9 whinn, *Sc.* whunn, fin). [Origin obscure.] = Whinstone.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7331 He tok fiue stanes rond o quin, And put þam in his scrip wit-in. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vii. 8 Of ane cald hard quhyn, The clekkit that horrible mont, Caucasus hait. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 56 Greit cragis of quhin. 1599 Alex. Hume *Hymnes* iii. 133 The blew paymented whun [*rime* sun]. 1768 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 12 If a Whin (which is the hardest sort of Stone..) lye in the way. 1799 Kendal *Geol. Ess.* 310 Carbonated wood is frequently found under trap, whin, or basalt. 1864 A. Miller *Coatbridge* ii. 8 Where the Ironstone comes into conjunction with whin it is..much impregnated with pyrites.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whin boulder, -dike* (Dike *sb.* 9 b), *-float* (Float *sb.* 20 a), *gravel*; **whin-rock**, whinstone; **whin-sill**, a sill or layer of whinstone; also as a name for whinstone.

1873 Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* xi. 132 Gravel and stones with large "whin" boulders. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 89 Dykes of basaltes, or other hard stone, which are commonly called "whin dykes. 1805 E. Mackenzie *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 81 The Whin-dikes are filled with basalt, which has apparently issued hot from the interior parts of the earth. 1845 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 619/1 A few faults in the magnesian limestone range of Durham and Yorkshire, as along the line of the great whindyke. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-m.*, "*Whin-float*, a kind of greenstone, basalt, or trap, occurring in coal measures. 1799 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVII. 246 Clayey loams, limestone gravel, "whin gravel. 1883 G. Sinclair *Nat. Philos.* 277 An impregnable "Whin-Rock, or Flinty Stone. 1785 Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xviii, I might as weel hae try'd a quarry O' hard whin rock. 1806 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* IV. 38 All the hills are whin-rock. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 748 In Cumberland the metalliferous limestone includes a bed of trap, designated under the name of "whinsill. 1845 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 756/1 The origin of the whin-sill. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* iv. 128 The toadstone in Derbyshire, or the whinsill in Teesdale.

Whin: see Wheen, Whim *sb.*[1] ¶.

Whinberry: see Whimberry.

Whin-bush. Forms: see Whin[1] and Bush *sb.*[1]; also 6 wyn-, 7 wine-. A furze-bush.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 426/1 A Whyn buske..*salivnca, saliuncula, paliurus.* 1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1728/1 He tost a faggot at his face..and set a wynbushe of thornes vnder his feete. 1644 W. Cavendish (Dk. Newc.) *Let.* (1886) 352 Through some fields of furze and whin bushes. 1721 Ramsay *To the Whin-Bush Club* 19 To come beneath your Whin-Bush Shade. 1882 J. Grant *Cameronians* iv, Masses of whin-bush (or gorse as it is called in England). 1889 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* x, The gentle murmur of the breeze amongst the whin-bushes.

Whinch, obs. form of Winch.

Whinchat (hwi·nˌtʃæt). [f. Whin[1] + Chat *sb.*[2]] A small European bird, *Pratincola rubetra*, closely allied to the stonechat.

Also called locally *furze-chat, gorse-chat.*

1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 234 The Whin-chat,..In bigness it scarce exceeds a Wagtail...The *Anthus* or *Florus* of Aristotle..differs from our Whin-chat in the colour of its Bill, and in the place where it lives; sith our Chat abides especially in heaths, and among Furze-bushes. *c* 1775 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* xii. (1789) 107 How the wheat-ear and whin-chat support themselves in winter cannot be so easily ascertained, since they spend their time on wild heaths and warrens. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 324/1 The flight of the Whinchat is undulating. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 300 As in Great Britain, the Whinchat is a summer visitor to most parts of Europe.

Whinder, obs. var. Winder *sb.*, wigeon; var. Winder *v. Obs.* to wither, etc.

Whindle (hwi·nd'l), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 whinil, 7–9 whinnel. [app. f. Whine *v.* + -le.] *intr.* To whine, whimper. Hence **Whi·ndling** *vbl. sb.*; **Whi·ndling** *ppl. a.*, weak, pining, puny; *fig.* trifling, petty. So **Whi·ndle** *sb.*, (*a*) a whining creature; (*b*) a low cry, a whine.

1602 Munday & Chettle *Death Earl of Huntington* I. iii. B 2 b, He keepes a paltry whinling girle, And will not bed, forsooth, before he bride. 1609 B. Jonson *Silent Wom.* IV. v. (1620) L 2, The other a whinilling dastard. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 1 Thess.* v. 16 *Rejoice evermore*] A duty .. little practised by many of Gods whinnels, who are ever puling and putting finger in the eye. 1648 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 397 [He had intended to go with her to coast, but.. his wife's] 'whinnelling'..[stopped him]. *a* 1652 Brome *Damoiselle* II. i, *Val.* Wee'll end the difference. *Bro.* By the Sword; no otherwise; No whinnelling satisfaction. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whindle*, a low or feigned Crying. 1709 *Mem. Signor Roselli* 62 All the Women.. fell a howling and whinneling. 1728 [De Foe] *Street Robb. Consid.* 10, I [*sc.* an abandoned baby] began to Whindle, and Tune my Pipes. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Whindle*, to whine as a child.

Whindle, variant of Windle, the redwing.

Whine (hwəin), *sb.* [f. next.] An act of whining; a low somewhat shrill protracted cry, usually expressive of pain or distress; a suppressed nasal tone, as of feeble, mean, or undignified complaint; a complaint uttered in this tone. Also *transf.* a sound resembling this.

1633 P. Fletcher *Pisc. Ecl.* I. xxii, The whistling windes joyn'd with the seas to plain, And o're his boat in whines lamenting creep. 1691 South *Serm., 1 John iii. 21* (1697) II. 470 By a few demure Looks, and affected Whines, set off with some odd, devotional Postures and Grimaces. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 133 ¶ 2 The whine of condolance, or the growl of anger. 1808 Scott *Marm.* IV. Introd. 90 With dejected look and whine, To leave the hearth his dogs repine. 1821 Hazlitt *Table-t. Ser.* II. I. (1869) 27 A peevish whine in his voice like a beaten schoolboy. 1833 Kaim *Cotswold Lays.* xxix. (1856) 244 The low whine which the lea gives out when we cut it at right angles with a sharp knife. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 603 The child utters a short cry or whine.

Whine (hwəin), *v.* Forms: 1 **hwinan**, 4–7 **whyne**, 5–6 **wyne**, 6 *Sc.* **quhyn**, (7 **wheen**), 8 **wine**, 4– **whine**. [OE. *hwīnan* (only in *Wīdsīð* 128, of the whizzing of an arrow) = ON. *hvína* (Sw. *hvina*, Da. *hvine*) to whiz, whistle in the air; the weak grade of the stem is represented in ON. *hvinr* whiz, late OE. *hwinsian* (of dogs) to whine (see Whinge).]

1. *intr.* To utter a low somewhat shrill protracted sound or cry, usually expressive of pain or distress; to cry in a subdued plaintive tone: also occasionally merely referring to the tone. a. of persons.

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 310 in *O. E. Misc.* 82 For chele hy gunne hwyne. For hunger hi hedde pyne. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 243 Ich rode tha come nou to me, anaunter last ha whyne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 158 Not chauntyng nor brekyng your notes, nor whynynge in yᵉ nose as many women done. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1182/2 Yet canne thys peuyshe gyrl neuer ceace whining and pulyng for fear. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 54 Scho quhyna, Scho schrinks, Scho vreyis, Scho vips for vo. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 102 Whip him..Till like a Boy you see him crindge his face, And whine aloud for mercy. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (Arb.) 92 If a Man should make love in an ordinary Tone, his Mistress would not regard him; and therefore he must whine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, To *Whine*, to cry squeekingly, as at Conventicles. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. xiii, The Boy thus, when his Sparrow's flown,..Whines, whimpers, sobs and cries. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. xiii, The crowd of beggars..whining for alms. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* viii, You can't go, Amy; so don't be a baby and whine about it.

b. of animals, esp. dogs; also formerly, to whinny as a horse, or to cry as an otter.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1336 Þe helmes þai seyen briȝt schine, Þe stedes nyen, and togider whine. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 386 As an hors I koude byte and whyne [*v. r.* whine]. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 481 He..scrapid the dorr welpich, & wynyd with his mowith, Aftir a doggis lyden. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxiv. (Arb.) 97, I saide I was also hongry, thenne wente we..and fond nothyng, tho whyned he and cryed. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 238 An Otter whineth. 1577 Whetstone *Gascoigne* xxix, The horse..will neither winch nor whine. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* IV. i. 2 Thrice the brinded Cat hath mew'd..Thrice, and once the Hedge-Pigge whin'd. 1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 218 Let each Lash Bite to the Quick, 'till howling he return And whining creep amid the trembling Crowd. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. Song 'Good Night' ix, Perchance my dog will whine in vain, Till fed by stranger hands. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 272 Occasionally a scoundrel wolf would scour off..and..sit down and howl and whine.

c. *transf.* of inanimate objects.

1874 J. G. Holland *Mistr. Manse* xviii. 52 Till the old chimney howled and whined. 1885 Tennyson *Balin & Balan* 341 The canker'd boughs .. Whined in the wood. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 555/1 The bullets .. whined through the air.

2. To utter complaints in a low querulous tone; to complain in a feeble, mean, or undignified way.

1530 Tindale *Num.* xi. 18 Ye haue whyned in the eares of the Lorde sayynge: who shall geue vs fleash to eate? 1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* II. iv, See and the knaue be not for his dinner whining. 1624 Whitlock *Zootomia* 29 Since Life is but as a Game at Tables, if the fore-game be not to thy wish; neither whine nor Curse, but rowse thy care to an after-Game. 1736 Johnson in *Boswell*, I know not why any one but a school-boy in his declamation should whine over the Common-wealth of Rome. 1769 *Ibid.*, A man knows it [*sc.* death] must be so, and submits. It will do him no good to whine. 1880 Dixon *Windsor* III. xxiv. 238 He had whined and begged for liberty. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* x, I won't whine when my punishment comes.

3. *trans.* a. To cause to pass *away* by whining; to waste in whining.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. vi. 98 At his Nurses teares He whin'd and roar'd away your Victory. 1656 Osborn *Adv. Son* iii. (ed. 4) 100 That Taylor, reported to have whin'd away himselfe for the love of Queen Elizabeth.

b. To utter in a whining tone.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 282 At the Reading the Epistle and Gospel, they change their Cope, Mantle, and Hood, and Whine them forth. *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* I. cclxxiv, To sigh, and weep, and whine Out long complaints. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 577 Canting and whining out all day the word. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxx, 'If one is to go on living through continual scenes like this,' she whined. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* iii, To-morrow morning he will be whining his

Whine = *why not*: see Why.

Whineard, obs. form of Whinyard.

Whiner (hwəi·nəɹ). [f. Whine *v.* + -er[1].] A person or animal that whines.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xix. (1632) 39 An armie of Physitians and whiners [F. *pleureurs*]. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 304 The Epithets of myce .. whiner, biter. 1684 J. S. *Pryest & Plear. United* 156 In the Composing your Kenell, some whiners and treble crys will not do amiss, to make the opening of the Pack the more Musicall. *a* 1734 North *Life Ld. Kpr. North* (1742) 216 From a Whiner for Favour to Criminals, he proved the veriest Butcher of a Judge. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Homes Abroad* III. 47 Don't have anything to say to the whiners at the gate. 1886 Cobbett *Fall of Asgard* II. 244 A cheery man fares better .. a whiner.

Whiney: see Whiny.

Whing (hwiŋ), *int.* and *sb.* [Imitative.] A expressing a high-pitched ringing sound.

1822 Flora A. Steel *King-Errand* I. ix, The toneless treble of the old voice whining away like the fine whing of a mosquito. 1909 J. J. Bennett *Dover Patrol* xi. 130 'Whing,' 'whing,' sings the shrapnel.

Whing (hwiŋ), *v.* [Onomatopœic; initial wh- (expressing forcible movement, as in *whack, whirl*) combined with the *-ing* of *fling, swing.*] *trans.* and *intr.* To move with great force or impetus.

[1673 *Sackfull of Newes* in *Shaks. Jest-Bks.* (1864) II. 176 Lob, I pray thee what was that the priest went so whinging whanging withal? Why Hob (qd the other)...It is frankincense.] 1822 Flower *Unexpl. Bathurst.* 185 He whings the heavy mallet back over his head at arms' length. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, McAndrews' Hymn* 43 Her time, her own appointed time, the rocking link-head blides, Till—hear that note?—the rod's return whings glimmerin' through the guides.

Whing, obs. form of Wing.

Whinge (hwindʒ), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* [f. next.] A whine.

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxii. 10 He [*sc.* a fox]..schuk his taill, with quhinge and yelp. 1825 Croker *Fairy Leg. Irel.* I. 48 The whinge, and the yelp, and the screech, and the yowl. 1892 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 170 With cur-like whinge to such soft cutting whip.

Whinge (hwindʒ), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6 **quhinge, quhynge**, 9 **winge, wheenge**, 8 **whindge**, 7– **whinge**. [North. form of OE. *hwinsian*, corresp. to OHG. *wins(i)ôn* (MHG. *winsen*; cf. MHG., G. *winseln*) i— OTeut. **χwinisōjan*, f. root of *hwīnan* to Whine. For the suffix cf. OE. *clænsian* to Cleanse, *bletsian* to Bless, *rīcsian* to rule, ON. *hreinsa* to cleanse; for the phonology of the form *whinge* cf. Clinge, *ringe*, north. forms of Cleanse, Rinse.] *intr.* To whine. Hence **Whi·nging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1150 *MS. C. C. C. Camb.* 303 125/7 Mid hwinsunge & ·· dreorigum mode hio [*sc.* the dogs] cerdon ealle ongean to þan hunten. *Ibid.* 126/14 Þa hundes ne ȝeswicon to hwinsianne mid cearlendre stæmne.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XIII. iii. 28 The remanent of that questing sort,..about the master huntelr With quhyngeand mouthis quaikand standis for feir. *Ibid.* 32 That hald thar mowthis still, Thar quhingeing and thar questing at his will Refrenis. 1580 Wingar *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 8 Dum doggis, quha..dar nother quhryne nor quhynge. 1720 C'tess Cowper *Diary* (1864) 152 The second Time she said, whingeing [etc.]. 1728 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Daft Gowk! leave off that silly whindging Way. 1727 P. Walker *Life Semple* etc. (1827) 316 You will die honourably before many Witnesses, ..and I will die whinging upon a Pickle Straw. 1728 Ramsay *Last Sp. Miser* xviii, The mair they whing'd, it gart me hug My swelling Purses.

Whinger (hwi·ŋ(g)əɹ, hwi·ndʒəɹ), *sb.*[1] Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 6 *Sc.* **quhingar, -ger, -gre, quhinȝear, -yeir, whingear**, 6, 8 **whingar**, 9 *dial.* **whinjer**, 6– **whinger**. [Presumably related to the earlier synonymous Whinyard. The pronunciation with (ŋ) or (ŋg) is vouched for by several instances in rime; that with (dʒ) is indicated by the spelling *whinjer* (quot. 1823) and implied by the form of Gael. *cuinnsear* dagger, sword, which is a loan-word from Sc.] = Whinyard.

1540 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 49 The quhingar ..quhairwith the said bluid was drawin. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 313 Incontinent his quhinȝear furth he drew. 1566 *Diurn. Occurr.* (ibid.) 101 My lord gaif him twa straikis with ane quhingar at the paip. 1582 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* 1. (1710) 7 Some had Cross-Bows, some were Slingers; Some had only Knives and Whingers. *Ibid.* 32 And other some get bloudy Fingers, By grasping naked Knives and Whingers. 1715 *Act 1 Geo. I*, c. 54 § 1 Poynard, Whingar, or Durk. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Highland Lassie* v, I can wield my trusty sword, Or frae my side whisk out a whinger [*rime* finger]. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxvii, If there were a man left..who could draw a whinger. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words, Whinjer*, a weapon, especially a large sword.

Hence **Whi·ngerv.** *trans.*, to stab with a whinger.

1892 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 687 He and his brother were 'whingered' upon the spot.

Whinger (hwi·ndʒəɹ), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* or *dial.* [f. Whinge *v.* + -er[1].] A whiner.

1792 Learmont *Poems* 312 I'll nae act the whinger's part, Like bairnies discontentit.

Whiniard, obs. form of Whinyard.

Whinid: see Finnewd.

Whinil, obs. f. Whindle *v.*, to whine.

Whining (hwəi·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whine *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whine; the uttering of a low somewhat shrill cry or sound, or of a complaint in a low querulous tone.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whynynge, *ululatus.* 1508 Dunbar *Test. A. Kennedy* 65 My dangsing, and my fals ·· *Relinquo falsis fratribus.* 1542 Udall *Erasm.* 14 A bodye..maketh a great whynyng, If he haue ·· losse. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. ii. 93 Once whom I will ·· clamor[ou]s whining. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 158 The louder and shriller voice of a Dogge, is called barking, the lower and stiller, is called whining, or fawning. 1618 Fletcher *Loyal Subj.* I. iii, Here will be trim piping anon and whining, Like so many Pigs in a storm.

Whinger (hwi·ŋ(g)əɹ, hwi·ndʒəɹ), *sb.*[1] Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 6 *Sc.* **quhingar, -ger, -gre, quhinȝear, -yeir, whingear**, 6, 8 **whingar**, 9 *dial.* **whinjer**, 6– **whinger**. [Presumably related to the earlier synonymous Whinyard. The pronunciation with (ŋ) or (ŋg) is vouched for by several instances in rime; that with (dʒ) is indicated by the spelling *whinjer* (quot. 1823) and implied by the form of Gael. *cuinnsear* dagger, sword, which is a loan-word from Sc.] = Whinyard.

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Whinger (hwi·ndʒəɹ), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* or *dial.* [f. Whinge *v.* + -er[1].] A whiner.

1792 Learmont *Poems* 312 I'll nae act the whinger's part, Like bairnies discontentit.

1626 Donne *Serm., John xi.* 21 (1640) 800 For the rattling of a Coach, for the whining of a doore. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlii. 107 The..whooning of Whelps. 1765 Goldsm. *Ess., Eng. Clergy*, I am not for whining at the depravity of the times. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlii. (1856) 386 A whining as of young puppies. 1899 Jepson *Brittany* vii. 86 The unmanly whining of disappointed vanity or morbid sentiment. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 908 The voice is enfeebled to whinings and fretful pulings.

b. *attrib. Whining cross* = Weeping *cross*.

1602 Breton *Wonders worth Hearing* Wks. (Grosart) II. 19/1 These yong men..will..leaue vs to make our prayers at whining crosse.

Whi·ning, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That whines; characterized by whining. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

In some technical uses (quots. 1625, 1679) = Weeping *ppl. a.*

1581 Cosowarth in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 406 This did my whyninge life endure awhile. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. x. (1912) 60 The hounds..with a whining Accent craving libertie. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 145 The whining Schoole-boy with his Satchell. 1625 Markham *Inrichm. Weald of Kent* 9 Winter-springs, or teares of water (for, which some call such, A whining or weeping ground). 1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 254 A whining puritanicall tubb preacher. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* II. i, To have us two such whining crop-sick Lovers. 1679 Evelyn *Sylva* xx. (ed. 3) 87 Whyning, or shrivell'd-Gelster. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 149 P 2 A Man of Honour, not a Romantick Hero or a Whining Coxcomb. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* v, The whining end of a modern novel. 1841 Borrow *Zincali* I. II. iv. 278 The whining, canting tones peculiar to the Gypsies. 1888 *Times* 2 Oct. 9/1 The English masses.. cannot be got to take much interest in a whining poltroon. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* v, The whining wheel.

Hence **Whi·ningly** *adv.*

1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 91 [They] talk whiningly. 1689 T. Plunkett *Char. Gd. Comm.* Prol., Making those swearers (whiningly) to yield. 1814 Byron *Let. to Moore* 3 Aug., I have seriously and not whiningly neither hopes, nor prospects. 1888 Gunter *Mr. Potter* xx, The dog becomes so fearfully restless and whiningly uneasy.

† **Whinion**, obscure obs. var. Whintard.

1634 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* I. iii. 12 Be not afraid To gird thy whinion to thy trusty Thigh.

Whinling, Whinnel: see Windle.

Whinner (hwi·nəɹ), *v. local.* [Frequentative of Whine *v.*: see -er 5.] *intr.* To whine (feebly). Hence **Whi·nnering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Whi·nner** *sb.*, a feeble whine.

c 1700 Kennett *MS. Lansd.* 1039. 1840 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 124 Lying on the floor insensible, or occasionally sitting up..executing a sort of whinner. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* xii. (1886) 227, I formerly saw the raccon in the woods,..and..heard their whinnering at night. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 212 Poor whinnering old moneyed women. 1888 *Lippincott's Mag.* Apr. 453 A fitful, whinnering gust.

Whinnock [1] (hwi·nək). *dial.* Also 6 qwenock, whinock. [Celtic (Gael. *cuin(n)seag*, Ir. *cuinneog*, W. *cunnog*).] A pail, *esp.* a milk-pail.

1535 *Inv. R. Robinson, Kendal* (Somerset Ho.), A Qwenock & a skyll. 1594 *Inv. Cowper, Kendal* (Ibid.), a flesh whinocks. 1691 Ray *Coll. Words* (ed. 2) 138 A *Whinnock* or Kit, a Pail to carry Milk in. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*

Whi·nnock [2]. *dial.* Also 9 whinock, winnick. [? f. the root of Whine *v.* + -ock.] The smallest pig in a litter.

1691 Ray *S. & E. C. Words* (ed. 2) 92 A *Cadma*, the least of the Pigs which a Sow hath at one fare;..it is also called the Whinnock. 1864 Webster, *Whinock*..the small pig of a litter. (*local U. S.*) 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Winnick*... a. The smallest pig of a farrow. Wil.

Whinny (hwi·ni), *sb.*[1] [f. Whinny *v.*] An act of whinnying; a (low or gentle) neigh, or similar sound.

1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words, Whinny*, the half neigh, half nigger, of a horse, mare, or colt. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 442 The gray mare Is ill to live with, when her whinny shrills From tile to scullery. 1870 Meredith *Let. to J. Morley* 27 Jan., Out flaps the big girl with a whinny, Fire! Fire! 1871 Whyte-Melville *Sarchedon* II. A troop of wild asses standing at gaze for a moment, to disappear with snort and whinny. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xii, I set my hands to my mouth,..and made the whinny of the heatherbleat [= snipe] palpitate across the moor.

Whi·nny, *sb.*[2] *rare.* [f. Whin [1], ? after *spinney*.] A thicket of whins or furze-bushes.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Nov. 4/1 Portions of the common.. retain the thick covering of gorse whinnies.

Whinny (hwi·ni), *a.*[1] [f. Whin [1] + -y [1].] Covered or abounding with whins or furze-bushes.

1482-3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 648 Circa manuram de le Whynnyclose. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* VII. xxx. 49 Hay which growing in whinnie grounds is ful of sharp prickes and stumpes. 1761 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IV. xxxi, The Oxmoor..was a fine, large, whinny, undrained, unimproved common. 1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xliv, The whinny braes of his native land. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xxxv. 320 I've had a notion..that there's a mine o' copper ore aneath the whinny-knowes.

Whinny (hwi·ni), *a.*[2] [f. Whin [2] + -y [1].] Of the nature of or containing whin or whinstone.

1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* II. 6 The whinny and the argillaceous regularly stratified mountain rock.

Whinny (hwi·ni), *v.* Forms: 6 whyn(n)ye, whiny, wynny, -ie, 7–9 whinney, 9 winny, 6– whinny. [Imitative; cf. the earlier *whine* (14th cent.), *whrinny* (15th cent.), and L. *hinnire*.]

1. *intr.* Of a horse: To neigh, esp. in a low or gentle way; also occasionally of other animals, as calves or certain birds, or of inanimate objects making a similar noise.

1530 Palsgr. 781/1 My horse whynyeth cheerfully this morneyng. *Ibid.* 782/2, I wynny, as a horse dothe. 1592 [? Greene] *Def. Conny Catch.* (1859) 19 After an amorous wake or two, as old Jades wynnie when they cannot wagge the tayle. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* xii. (1686) 273 The Horses when upon the Brink they were, Boggl'd and whinny'd, and refus'd to pass. 1683 Shape *Anat. Horse* II. ix. (1686) 93 Does the horse neigh, or whinney as they call it in some Countrys? 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxiii, Dumple..walked to his own stable-door, and there pawed and whinnied for admission. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* vii, The colts in the horse-park..whinnied as they played together. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii, French horns whinnied. 1884 Mrs. C. Praed *Head Station* xlvi, The calves whinnied in their pen as she approached. 1893 Kipling *Many Inventi., Finest Story* 124 The gas-jet puffed and whinnied. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxxvii, Again the bird [*sc.* snipe] whinnied in the air.

2. *trans.* To utter with a whinnying sound; to express by whinnying.

1815 Scott *Guy M.* II, 'He who shot young Hazlewood—ha, ha, ho!' burst forth the Dominie, with a laugh that sounded like neighing..'Accidental! ho, ho, ha!' again whinnied Sampson. 1899 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxiv, 'I can't move.' Benson made a resolute halt. 'I must be fetched', he whinnied. 1888 Gunter *Mr. Potter* iv. 45 The donkeys..whinny their pleasure as they drink.

Hence **Whi·nnying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* († also quasi-*adv.*).

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 358/2 *Hinnitus*,.. the neying or whinying of an horse or mare. 1595 North *Plutarch, Sylla* 514 A sharpe voyce like the neying of a horse, or whynnying of a goate. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* I. xvi. 63 Where they may neither heare the noyse of their dams, nor their dams heare their whinneing. 1675 Cotton *Burlesque upon B.* 40, I..run whynnying mad, For every woman that I see. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* viii, His low whinnying neigh, his pricked ears [etc.]. 1837 W. Irving *Bonneville* xli, The elk kept up a continual whinnying or squealing. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lxx, Several small, whinnying laughs. 1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* xvi, There was a whinnying call from one horse to another. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxv, The whinnying of swords as they whistled through the air.

† **Whinny-whanny.** *Obs.* [Cf. Whim-wham, Whimsy-whamsy.] ? A trivial thing, trifle.

1673 *S'too him Bayes* 54 You may make an Egregious Play with the rest of your Whinny-whanneys: but where's the Plot?

Whinse, obs. form of Wince.

Whinstone (hwi·nstoun). Also Whinstone. [f. Whin [2] + Stone *sb.*] A name for various very hard dark-coloured rocks or stones, as greenstone, basalt, chert, or quartzose sandstone.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 39 On raggit rolkis of hard harsk quhyne stane. 1763 W. Lewis *Phil. Comm. Techn.* 441 The stone called whynn stone, with which some of the streets of London have been lately paved. 1791 Beddoes in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 65 Whether the basaltes proceeds southward..till it join the Elvin or whinstone, and granite of Devonshire and Cornwall. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 66 The strata are intersected by veins of whinstone, porphyry and granite. 1803 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 289 In Scotland, whole towns are built of whin-stone. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* xxi, Granite red and grey, blue whinstone, yellow ironstone, were all mingled.

b. A boulder or slab of this rock. Often used *fig.* or *allusively*.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 744 Except I wer to force the with quhin stanels. 1803 *Gazetteer Scot.* s.v. *Girvan*, The coast is generally flat and sandy, interspersed with large whinstones, with which most of the houses are built. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* xi, The despair he felt..was..such as would have melted the heart of a whinstane. 1827 — *Jrnl.* 15 Aug. in *Lockhart*, You might have been as well employed in buttering a whin-stone. 1865 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* xlv, He's a blue whunstane that's hard to dress. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* xlvi, An old man .that you'd me was breaking whin-stones on the roadside.

c. *attrib.* Pertaining to or consisting of whinstone; also *fig.* hard, tough.

1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xi. (1857) 167 The castle—a grey whinstone building. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* i. § 3. 25 The scant herbage scarce veils the whinstone rock. 1910 Buchan *Prester John* v, I haven't your whinstone nerve.

Whinta(l)ne, obs. forms of Quintain [1].

Whiny (hwəi·ni), *a.* Also whiney. [f. Whine *sb.* or *v.* + -y.] Characterized by whining; disposed to whine, fretful. Also *whin(e)y pin(e)y*.

1897 Sarah Grand *Beth Bk.* iv. (1898) 29 Beth, you really are a whiny child, you always have a grievance.

Whinyard (hwi·nyăɹd). Now *Hist.* Forms: 5 whyneherd, whyneard, 6 whynarde, whinyeard, winniard, 7 whineyard, -yeard, whineard, whyniard, whinniard, 7–8 whiniard, 6– whinyard. [Of obscure origin; cf. Whinger *sb.*[1]] A short-sword, a hanger.

1478 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 296 *Cum quodam armicudio vulgariter nuncupato Anglice* 'a whyneherd'. 1499 *Will of Love* (Somerset Ho.), A whyneard with a chape of silver. *a* 1529 Skelton *Bouge of Court* 363 And by his syde his whynarde and his pouche. 1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 136 We shall not need to borrow great Alexanders whiniard to cut this Gordian knot. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 480 His Pistol next he cockt anew, And out his nut-brown Whiniard drew. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 320 Who wav'd his Whinyard o'er her Loyn, as if he'd gone to Knight him. 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* I. viii, The hunter.. For the death-wound..Muster'd his breath, his whinyard drew. 1896–9 R. Buchanan *Tvap. Dramas, Wallace* I. viii, I'd liefer Plunge this Scots whinyard in thy false breast, Than in the heart of Turk or Saracen.

† b. ? A subtle 'blade'. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1612 Chapman *May-Day* I. i, *Lor.* It is not Hector but Paris, not the full armefull, but the sweet handfull that Ladies delight in. *Ang.* O notable old whyniard.

Whip (hwip), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 wippe, quippe, 4–7 whippe, 5–6 wyppe, whyppe, whyp, *Sc.* quhippe, (4 quyppe, 5 whhipp, *Sc.* qwype, quhipe, 6 *Sc.* quhyp, quhipp, whupe), 5–7 *Sc.* quhip, 6–7 whipp, (9 *Sc.* whup), 5– whip. [Partly f. Whip *v.*, q.v.; partly a. (M)LG. *wippe*, *wip* quick movement, leap, moment of time, lift for raising a well-bucket or hoisting cargo, lever, = Du. *wip* see-saw, strappado, swipe, skip (*in een wip* in an instant, *met een wip* at one sweep), OHG. *wippa* (MHG. *wipf*, *wif*) quick movement. Fris. *wip*, *wipp*, in some of these senses, also = mousetrap, Sw. *vipp* pump-gear, early Da. *vip*, *vippe*, also *hvip* leap, skip, short distance, moment, swipe, flap, lappet, Da. *vippe* swipe, G. *wippe* see-saw, crane, swipe, windlass, pliable pole, etc. are from LG. (Early Flem. *wippe* whip, in Kilian, is dubious.)]

I. The instrument of flagellation, and connected senses.

1. An instrument for flogging or beating, consisting either of a rigid rod or stick with a lash of cord, leather, etc. attached, or of a flexible switch with or without a lash, used for driving horses, chastising human beings, and other purposes.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 154 Ses chivaus deyt le charetter De sa fowette [*gloss* a quippe] ou de sa ryote gyer [*gloss* haling-wippe]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 886 *Charetor ad sa reorte*, Carter hathe his wippe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 406 For which Almachius dide hym so bete With whippe of leed, til he the lif gan lete. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 315 Bynde hym to a pelere,..Than akorge hym with qwyppys. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xxvi. 3 Vnto the horse belongeth a whyppe, to the Asse a brydle, and a rodde to the fooles backe. 1567 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 142/2 P[d] to Sponer for his attendans at y[e] churche wth y[e] whyppe..x[d]. 1597 in *J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 432 Into thy youthe, rejose to thoill the whupe. 1651 *Maldon, Essex, Burgh Deeds* Bundle 82 No. 2 (MS.), xiid. paid Samuell Sturgeon for punishing of three persons by the whipp. 1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 212 The clust'ring Pack..hear with respect thy Whip Loud-clanging. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* III. 48 The coachman smacked his whip. 1868 F. E. Paget *Lucretia* 173 Flick, flick, flick, went the whip.

b. In fig. or allusive use: cf. Scourge *sb.* 2, 3.

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 427 She may be youre purgatorie She may be goddes meene and goddes whippe. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 118 Seeknesse, y meene, riotoures whippe. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 234 This act established chiefly sixe articles, wherof..of some it was named the whip with sixe strynges. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. i. 176 And I forsooth in loue, I that haue beene loues whip! 1625 Dekker *Rod for Run-awayes* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 278 Iehouah, when he is angry, holds three Whips..the Sword, Pestilence, and famine. 1647 (*title*) A Fresh Whip for all scandalous Lyers. 1700 Rowe *Amb. Step-Mother* III. iii, Revenge shall..with her Iron whips Lash forth this lazy Ague from my Blood. 1817 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* III. 312 Fanatics, who had..smarted under the satirical whips of the Dramatists. 1881 Sheldon *Dairy Farming* 177/3 Artificial manures act as 'whips' or stimulants.

c. *transf.* The occupation or art of driving horses; coachmanship.

1792 Holcroft *Road to Ruin* II. 25 You may challenge the whole fraternity of the whip to match you. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxii, The coachman of the Marquis,..observing the rival charioteer was mending his pace, resolved, like a true brother of the whip,..to vindicate his right of precedence. 1851 Apperley *The Road* 58 The taste for the whip has undoubtedly declined.

d. Phrases. † *To drink* or *lick* (*up*) *on the whip*: to have a 'taste' of the whip, to get a flogging. † *A whip and a bell*: something that detracts from one's comfort or pleasure (in allusion to the ancient Roman custom of attaching a whip and a bell to the chariot of a triumphing general, to drive away evil). *Whip and spur* (advb., usually with *ride*): using both the whip and the spur to urge the horse on; at one's utmost speed, at a furious pace: cf. Spur *sb.*[1] 2 a. *Whip behind!*, a cry to the driver of a horse vehicle calling his attention to the presence of some one riding on the back of the vehicle without his knowledge.

Char. Lond. Diurn. 4 In all this Triumph there is a whip and a Bell. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 19 (1713) I. 127 Care and the compleat Character-Man are riding Whip and Spur who shall have the next Vacancy in Bedlam. 1684 Otway *Atheist* I. i, To get rid of that Whip and a Bell, call'd thy Wife. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 197 Each fierce Logician..Came whip and spur, and dash'd thro' thin and thick. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxvi, I rode whip and spur to fetch the Chevalier. 1833 Carrick etc. *Laird of Logan* (1842) 307 Some wandeldy weans cried 'whip behind! whip behind!'

2. An object resembling a whip: a slender flexible branch of a plant; a twig, sprig, switch; a collection or growth of such branches.

1583 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 246/1 *Flagellum*,..the whip or small toptwig of the vine. 1881 E. Ingersoll

Whips, slender branches used to mark the bounds of oyster-beds. (Connecticut.) 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* xv, What, in the early year, had been merely a whip of brush, now had become a screen.

3. A blow or stroke with, or as with, a whip; a lash, stripe; *pl.* a flogging. Now only *Sc.*

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. ii. 294 Wip a chelk bane of ane as...He let about hym qwype for qwype. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 He wyll gyue hym a whip. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* v. 38 It war weill wairit he gat his quhippis. 1601 Shaks. *Ham.* III. i. 70 For who would beare the Whips and Scornes of time? 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* xxi, He's a coorse cratur, an' maun hae's whups.

b. *fig.* An attack, access (of illness or calamity). *Sc.* (Cf. Whiff *sb.*1 1 c.)

1891 'H. Haliburton' *Ochil Idylls* 89 Ye chose me—at a whip o' dearth—To represent ye. 1894 'Ian Maclaren' *Bonnie Brier Bush, Lachlan Campbell* iii, If a body hae a bit whup o' illness.

c. *pl.* Abundance, 'lots'. *dial.* (Cf. Lashing *vbl. sb.*1 b.)

1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 558/2, I must have lost 'whips' of blood.

4. One who wields a driving-whip; a driver of horses, a coachman. (Usually with descriptive adj. or phr. expressing skill or style.)

1775 Sheridan *Rivals* I. i, None of the London whips of any degree of *ton* wear wigs now. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiii, You're a very good whip, and can do what you like with your horses. 1895 Smedley *H. Coverdale* v, The old boy is nothing of a whip. 1884 Earl Malmesbury *Mem.* I. 16 He...drove four-in-hand better than any whip between Windsor and London.

5. *Hunting.* = Whipper-in 1.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlv, The two whips...possessing marvellous dexterity in casting the points of their long heavy whips at the thinnest part of any dog's skin who dares to straggle. 1860 Ld. W. Lennox *Pict. Sporting Life* I. 197 Gentlemen, I have been with you thirty-two years—one year as second whip, five as first whip, and twenty-six as huntsman.

6. A member of a particular party in Parliament whose duty it is to secure the attendance of members of that party on the occasion of an important division. Originally called *whipper-in* (Whipper-in 2).

There are now four government whips, who receive salaries paid out of public money; the chief of them is Parliamentary Secretary (or Patronage Secretary) to the Treasury, the other three are Junior Lords of the Treasury.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* lviii, The Whip for his party hands it about...to keep men together who want to be off. 1855 Ld. Lonsdale in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. 323 There never was a division where the calculators and whips were more out of their reckoning. 1884 D. Anderson *'Scenes' in Commons* 214 Mr. Sheil, a Parnellite Whip. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. xiv. 198 There is neither Government nor Opposition; neither leaders nor whips.

7. a. The action of 'whipping *up*' the members of a party for a Parliamentary division, or any body of persons for some united action.

1828 Ellenborough *Diary* (1881) I. 42, I hear Planta did not send out the notes for the division to-night till yesterday evening, so that there was a general idea it was not to be made a Government question...On the other side there is a perfect whip. 1832 Ld. Lyttelton in *Corr. Sarah Lady L.* (1912) 271 The latter was *shut out*, consequently there would have been 152. There must have been a great *Whip*. 1862 Stanhope *Pitt* IV. 157 An anxious *whip* was made by *both* parties. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 2/2 As a demonstration of Parnellism...it was mainly drawn from Dublin. The whip-up from the country was even less successful than formerly.

b. A call or appeal to a number of persons for contributions to a sum or fund; now esp. *whip-round* (for some object of charity).

1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, If they would stand a whip of ten shillings a man, they might have a new boat. 1865 *Slang Dict.*, *Whip*, after the usual allowance of wine is drunk at mess, those who wish for more put a shilling each into a glass handed round to procure a further supply. 1874 Jefferies *Toilers of the Field* (1892) 26 Wine 'whips' are formed, and the sherry circulates freely. 1888 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 3/7 A 'whip round'...for the Robin Dinner Fund for poor children in London.

c. The written appeal or circular letter issued by a Parliament 'whip' to summon the members of his party.

1879 T. H. S. Escott *England* II. 149 Having issued the whip, the great thing for the whip himself is to see that members do not slip through his fingers. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 18 Feb. 5/6 The following five-lined whip, headed 'Most important,' has been issued to members of the Opposition.

8. A preparation of whipped cream, eggs, or the like.

1756 *World* No. 202. P 3 If he will not be satisfied with whips and creams, he may carry his voraciousness to more liberal tables. 1823 *Sk. Char.* (ed. 2) I. 86 There's cold meat for the men, soups for the married ladies, and puffs and whips for the girls. 1889 *Amer. Dishes* 137 Chocolate Whips.

9. (associated or identified with 8.) A movement as of a whip or switch; a lashing motion; *spec.* a slight bending movement produced by sudden strain, as in a piece of mechanism or in the barrel of a gun when fired.

1889 Mrs. E. Kennard *Landing a Prize* xv, I gave one backward whip of the ... 1898 *R. U. S. Instit.* Oct. 1140 The whip of the barrel when fired. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 4/2 The...frame [of a motor-car] is deepened in the centre to prevent whip.

II. A and connected:

†10. A sudden, or hasty movement; start; *accus.* a sudden gust. *Obs.* (Cf. Whip *int.*)

† *With a whip Sir John*: 'before you can say Jack Robinson'.

c 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 20 No haste but good, Madge Mumblecrust, for whip and whurre The olde prouerbe doth say, neuer made good furre. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 94 The hare at pinche tarrieth from him at a whip. *a* 1576 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 259 This man...waniachit away as he had bene...ane quhipe of the whirle wind. 1583 H. Howard *Defensatives* E 4 b, The sodaine whippes of the wheele of fortune. 1631 Masse *Celestina* III. 39 With a whip-Sir Iohn, e'r you could scarce say this, shee was beare againe.

b. *Fencing.* A thrust in which the blade slides along the adversary's blade.

1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* 86.

11. The brief time taken by a sudden movement; a moment, instant. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4577 Thre wawes...þe whilk in to rede blode þan War turned with'in a whhipp. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *In a whip*, in a moment. 1836 M. Mackintosh *Cottager's Day.* 65 Syne in a whip she let him in.

III. Something moved briskly.

†12. A 'spring trap' for catching vermin, etc.

1590 M[ascall] *Bk. Fishing*, etc. 63 The whippe or spring trappe. This Engine, is called the whip or spring. *Ibid.* 85 A whippe spring, made...to take Buzardes and Kites.

†13. *Naut.* A handle attached to the tiller, formerly used in small ships: = Whipstaff 2. *Obs.*

1621 Cotgr. s.v. *Barre*, *La barre du timon*, the whip of the Rudder (of a ship). *Ibid.*, *Molinet*, ..the roll wherein the whip of a Rudders tiller goes. *a* 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), The Whippe is that staff which the Steeres-man dooth houlde in his hand, whereby he gouernes the helme.....In greate shipps they are not vsed.

14. Each of the arms or radii carrying the sails in a windmill.

1759 Smeaton in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 149 *note*, The extreme bar is 1-3d of the radius (or whip, as it is called by the workmen), and is divided by the whip in the proportion of 3 to 5. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 599/1 In all the older windmills a shaft...carried four to six arms or whips on which long rectangular narrow sails were spread.

15. A simple kind of tackle or pulley, consisting of a single block with a rope rove through it (*single whip*); used on board ship, and in mining, etc. for hoisting, esp. light objects.

A *double whip*, *whip on whip*, or *whip and runner* consists of a standing block and a running block, the 'fall' or rope of the former being attached to the latter. *Whip and derry* = Whipsy-derry.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine*, *Whip*, a sort of small tackle,..generally used to hoist up light bodies, as empty casks, &c. out of a ship's hold, which is accordingly called whipping them up. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 179 In this winding by the whip, a strict attention should be paid to the filling the kibbals to the brim. 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxviii, He...made a whip, and lowered me on deck. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 367 *Whip-upon-whip*, or a double Whip, is one whip applied to the fall of another. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip and Derry*, an arrangement for raising the kibble, by means of a rope merely passing over a pulley and attached to a horse. 1904 Fitchett *Commander of 'Hirondelle'* xvii. 191 A whip was being rigged from the mainyard to hoist in the wounded.

b. (See quot.)

1808 Jamieson, *Whoops*, the name given to the instrument used for raising, what are called the bridgeheads of a mill.

IV. 16. *Needlework.* A stitch of the kind described s.v. Whip *v.* 18; an overcast stitch; the projecting portion of the stuff between such stitches.

1592 Greene *Greene's Vision* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 226 A Stomacher of Tuft Mockado, and a Partlet cast ouer with a prittie whippe. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Whip*,..a round sort of a Stitch in Sowing. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 519 Take up every Whip, or portion of the roll, between the stitches.

17. *Weaving.* (See quots.)

1823 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 415 In the weaving of ribands and other ornamental works, many extraneous substances, totally unconnected with the warp or weft, are thrown in...These substances are merely held in the fabric by the intersection of..the warp and the weft, and are by the weavers denominated whips. 1863 J. Watson *Weaving* vi. 206 Whip is the name given to that kind of yarn which is used for making the figures in lappet weaving, and it is made by twisting together so many ends of common yarn.

V. †18. A bandage. *Sc. Obs.*

1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 465 For claith to be wippes to Johne Balfouris sair leg. 1507 *Ibid.* IV. 13 For iiij elne Holland cloth quhilk wes wippes to the Kingis arm that wes hurt.

†19. A wreath, garland. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. iii. 19 Thar hedis dycht In wyppis of the haly herb vervane.

Whip, *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **whipped** (hwipt), **whipt**. Forms: 3 wippen, hwippen, 4 wippe, wype, 4–6 wyppe, whippe, 5 whype, 5–6 whyppe, 6 quip, wyp, *Sc.* quhip(pe, quhyppe, 8–9 *Sc.* whup, whoep, 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* wip, 6– whip. [The early history of this verb and its related sb. is uncertain. The senses of both no doubt represent several independent adoptions or formations. With the earliest uses of the vb. cf. (M)LG., Da. *wippen* to move up and down or to and fro, swing, oscillate, leap, dance; = MHG. *wipfen* to dance; from LG. are app. derived early Da. *vippe* to raise with a swipe, clip coin, also † *hoippe* to move quickly, leap, beat with a whip (?), Da. *vippe* to toss, see-saw, Sw. *vippa*, G. *wippen* to rock, tilt, see-saw, strappado, WFris. *wippe*, *wippa* to move quickly. The base *wip-* is also represented by forms cited s.v. Whip *adv.*, and by several compounds, as (M)LG. *wipgalge*, Du. *wipgalg*, early Da. *vippegalge* strappado, Du. *wipbrug*, early Da. *vippebrygge* drawbridge, Du. *wipplank* see-saw, *wipstaart* wagtail, *wipvisite* flying visit, (M)LG. (G.) *wipper* money-clipper, LG. *wipwap* see-saw; and prob. G. *wipfel* tree-top, summit; Goth. *wipja* 'crown' represents a sense-development ('wind or bind round', branch III below) which is more extensively exemplified by the form derived from the variants *weip-*, *waip-* (Goth. *waips* wreath, crown, *weipan* to crown, ON. *veipr* head-dress, OHG. *weif* bandage; cf. Wipe). Cf. the parallel *sw*-formations s.v. Swipe *sb.*1, Swip *v.*, Swope. The spelling with *wh* was presumably adopted as being symbolic.]

I. To move briskly, etc.

1. *intr.* †a. To flap violently with the wings.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1068 (Cotton MS.) Þi song mai bo so longe genge þat þu shalt wippen [*v. r.* hwippen] on a sprenge. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8197 When þey hadde longe to-gyder smyten,..Wyppyng wyþ wenges,..Cracchyng wiþ clawes.

b. *gen.* († occas. *refl.*) To make a sudden brisk movement; to move hastily or nimbly; to slip or shift quickly; almost always with adverbial extension (*about*, *in*, *off*, *out*, etc.).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 363 Sho..saw þe dure was oppyn, & whippid in & lokkid þe dure faste. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 69 b, When he by chaunce sawe a mous rennyng and whippyng about from place to place. 1548 — etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* iii. 13–17 The sicke of the palsey, when he whipt out of his bed, and went home vnto his house. 1592 Greene *Disput.* B 4, Why then quoth shee, steppe into this Closet, hee whipt in hastely. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. iii. 63, I whipt [*Qo.* whipt me] behind the Arras. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 289 The Bishop seeing..the imminent danger, whipt out at a backe doore. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 261, I can land these Ladies in France; whip over before they can get a passage back, [etc.]. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* v. ii, If your own horses be ready, you may whip off with cousin. 1786 Burns *Ordination* vii, Oh rare! to see our elbucks wheep, And a' like lamb-tails flyin. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxix, We'll whip in at the back door. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 19 The hare then whipped downhill. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xiii, He whipped out of sight in a moment. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xvii. 186 The moment he [*sc.* a rhinoceros] got wind of me, he whipped round in his tracks like a cat and came for me.

† c. with *it*, in same sense (see also Whippet *v.*); also *fig.* in phr. *to whip it in with*, ? to ingratiate oneself with. *Obs.*

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. iv. M iv b, Whipping it about for ioye. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. lv. 216 Let's whip it away. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Amusem.* iii. (1709) 40, I found my Neighbour K—...was made a Commission-Officer by the Name of Captain Whip 'em, I...Judg'd he had been Whipping it in with the Gentlewomen before mention'd.

2. *trans.* To move (something) in some way suddenly or briskly; to take, put, pull, push, strike, cut, flourish, etc. with a sudden vigorous movement or action; *fig.* to 'come *out* with', utter suddenly. Almost always with adverbial extension (*away*, *off*, *out*, *up*, etc.).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2149 When þou wypped of my hede at a wap one. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 1617 Wyþ þat strok A wypede of his heued. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 788 in *Macro Plays* 29, I wyppe yt in þi cote; a-non yt wer don. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. vii. 128 With hys brycht brand his rycht hand he of quhyppyt. *c* 1540 *Bk. Fayre Gentyl-*... B j, She [*sc.* Fortune] whyppeth her wheele about. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2173/2, I stirred out of my bed & whipt on my hose. 1600 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* I. iii. 202 He .. leapes behind me, whippes my purse away. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. i. 10 Hearing something stirre, He whips his Rapier out. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Char. Jacobite Clergy* Wks. 1711 IV. 262 If they can but get to be a Lord's Chaplain, they immediately whip on a long Scarf. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. 165, I popt down, and whipt my fingers under the upper Tile. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* II. ad fin., I'll engage to whip her off to France. 1822 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 98, I wheep't out my chive. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* iii, 'Ah! Grant, Grant!' said Lord Vincent, eagerly, who saw another opportunity of whipping in a pun. 1829 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 6 When the Protestants found themselves in danger of being oppressed..they whipt another king upon the throne, and kept him there. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. v, Whipping a dozen into prison or into the pillory. 1889 W. Clark Russell *Marooned* ii. (1891) 6 These considerations..made me whip out, 'Miss Grant, it is settled. We sail together.'

b. *slang.* To drink quickly, 'toss off'. Usually with *off* or *up*. Hence *fig.* (see quot. 1687).

a 1600 Delonet *Gentle Craft* Wks. (1912) 264 When they had whipt off two or three quarts of wine. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. v. 24 Whip me off this glasse neatly [Fr. *Fouette moy ce verre gualentement*]. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. To whip off a Thing, to make short work with it, *expedier promptement*] *quelque Chose*. 1892 L'Estrange *Æsop* 11 The Fellow..Whips up the Drink, and gives Xanthus the Pott again Empty. 1824 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 288 Two honest quarts..down gullet whips he.

c. To make *up* quickly or hastily.

1622 Corbet, *Poore-knights*, 9 Priest that quickly whips euer, or mumbles vp, his Breuiarie. 1697 Vanbrugh *and Pk.*

Aesop 6 Fix upon the place of Treaty,..and whip up the Peace Like an Oyster. 1721 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 133 The Dedication to the Master was whipp'd up. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* 48 [The clever nurse] will not bring in the bad article, but not to disappoint the patient, she will whip up something else in a few minutes.

†8. To pierce with a sword-thrust; to run *through*. *Obs. slang.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipt through the Lungs*, run through the Body with a Sword. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 256 P 1 To make the sun shine through the criminal, or, ..to whip him through the lungs. 1842 C. Whitehead *R. Savage* xx, Why, you're not going there?..This fellow.. would make nothing of whipping you through the body.

4. *Fencing. intr.* To make a thrust in which the blade slides along the opponent's blade. Also *trans.* with the blade as obj.

1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* 90 By disengaging after you whip, you have Quarte-over-the-arm. 1861 G. Chapman *Foil Practice* 13 Some fencers..perform the Parries of Quarte and Tierce by whipping the blade, with a forward action, along that of the adversary's. 1889 W. H. Pollock *Fencing* iv. (Badm. Libr.) 82 The point must be raised towards the left shoulder, the hand drawn back a little towards the fencer's left breast, so that he may whip his blade neatly over the adversary's point.

5. *Naut.*, etc. *trans.* To hoist or lower with a whip (Whip *sb.* 15).

1769 [see Whip *sb.* 15]. 1835 [see Whipping *vbl. sb.* 3 c]. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 336 The chair was 'whipped' up again instantly.

II. To use a whip, strike with a whip.

6. *trans.* To strike or beat with or as with a whip. a. To punish or chastise with a whip or rod; to scourge, flog. Also *loosely*, to beat (esp. a child) with the hand or otherwise, to spank.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 716 Eek Dauid seith: that .. they shul nat been whipped with men. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 416/1 To Whype, *flagellare*. 1583 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 367/1 P4 for a cart th' gromes maide was whipte at vid. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 410 Come thou childe, Ile whip thee with a rod. 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 199 And you lle sirrah, wee'l haue you whipt. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 85 The pictures of Christ whipped, of Christ carrying his crosse, and of Christ praying in the garden. 1624 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. 1. I. (ed. 2) 356 She..whipped him [*sc.* Cupid]..on the bare buttocks with her pantophle. 1684 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 214 If the 'Whelps meddle with Sheepe, they must be tied to any Dead sheepe, and whipped soundly'. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 76 P 1, I must whip my children for going into bad company. 1726–31 Waldron *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 32 Two or three of them seized her, and pulling up her clothes, whipped her heartily:..she ran home..., telling what had befallen her, and showing her buttocks on which were the prints of several small hands. 1758 Chesterf. *Let. to Dayrolles* 28 Oct., If a poor child is to be whipped equally for telling a lie, or for a snotty nose, he must of course think them equally criminal. 1813 E. S. Barrett *Heroine* iii. (1909) 17 Master Bobby..mewed like a cat, when he was whipt. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* lxii, She deserves to be whipped, and sent to bed. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* II. 1243 Ah, being young and pretty, 't were a shame To have her whipped in public.

b. To drive *away*, *out*, etc. with a whip. Also *fig.*

1567 *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* XVII. 169/2 For whipping dogges from ye churche. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V* I. i. 29 Consideration like an Angell came, And whipt th' offending Adam out of him. 1667 Poole *Dial. betw. Prot. & Papist* (1735) 200 Tho' he whipt some out of the Temple, yet he never whipt any into his Church. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 157 P 2 We have so many Hundred unaccountable Creatures every Age whipped up into great Scholars. 1712 — *Ibid.* No. 509 P 2 The..boys..were whipped away by a beadle. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, II. 58 If all turncoats were whipped out of palaces, poor Archy would be disgraced in good company. 1878 Robt. Dick in Smiles *R. D.* viii. 82 The storm fairly whipped six vessels out of Scrabster Roads.

c. To drive or urge on (a horse, etc.) with strokes of a whip. Also (occas.) *absol.*

1587 Mascall *Cattle, Horses* (1596) 128 Let him neuer vse to beat them [*sc.* horses] with the stock of the whip, but to whip them with the lash. 1598 Chapman *Iliad* IV. (VIII.) 70 Saturnia whipt her horse, And heauen gates guarded by the Howres, opte by their proper force. *c* 1611 *Ibid.* XV. 319 All whipt their chariots on. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* vi, The man whipped his mules till they went as fast as possible. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nich.* xix, The coach, and the coachman, and the horses, rattled and jangled and whipped. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. xiii, Your lordship will upset the carriage if you whip so hotly. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xiii, So, whipping up his horse, he drove there. 1889 Gunter *That Frenchman* xiii. 264 The driver..sees a chance to dodge through an opening in the crowded street, and suddenly whips up for the effort.

d. Hunting. *Whip in*: to drive (hounds) with the whip back into the pack so as to prevent them from straying; *absol.* to act as whipper-in. *Whip off*: to drive (the hounds) with the whip away from the chase; *absol.* to give over the chase.

1730 [implied in Whipper-in 1]. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* Feb. 80 The hounds were whipped off, as the evening was closing on us. 1862 *Ibid.* Dec. 436 James Stacey..formerly whipped-in to the late Lord Fitzhardinge's hounds. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 231/1 Morris Hills, who whipped in to the Queen's Stag-hounds under Davis and King.

e. To spin (a top) by striking it with a whip.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 69 Thou disputes like an Infant: goe whip thy Gigge. 1598 — *Merry W.* v. i. 27 Since I..plaide Trewant, and whipt Top. 1697 Dryden [illegible] the Top for sport. 1873 A nice little

7. *Confectionery*, etc. To beat up into a froth (cream, eggs, etc.) with a fork, spoon, or other instrument; to prepare (a fancy dish) in this way; also *fig.* See also quot. 1845.

1673, 1692 [see Whipped *ppl. a.* 3]. 1764 Eliza Moxon *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 223 Whip it with a whisk, take off the froth as it rises. 1845 G. E. Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 177 If the blood be whipt with due care, the fibrin is obtained as a thick..mass, surrounding the twigs of the rod. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xxxvi, When did I whip up syllabub sonnets? 1895 Montalbor *One who looked on* 7, I went to the kitchen to whip a strawberry cream.

8. *Angling.* To cast the line upon the water with a movement like the stroke of a whip; to draw a fly or other bait along the surface by such a movement; *intr.*, or *trans.* with the bait or (usually) the water as obj.

1653 [see Whipping *vbl. sb.* 2 d]. 1838 Lytton *Eugene Aram* I. ix, Now he whipped it [*sc.* the fly] lightly on the wave; now he slid it coquettishly along the surface. 1838 James *Robber* II, He prepared to ascend the stream, whipping it as he went with the light fly. 1883 Black *Shandon Bells* xxix, He worked away, whipping industriously and mechanically. 1904 Bindloss *League of Leopard* ii, [He] whipped several pools unsuccessfully.

9. *trans.* To strike like a whip, lash; to move or drive in this way.

1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. III. 69 The Wind..blew so violently ..that the Boughs of the Trees whipt them..before they got thither. 1796 [see Whipping *vbl. sb.* 2 b]. 1799 W. Nicol *Pract. Planter* IV. § 9. 219 Suffer no plant to overtop or whip another; keep the extremities of all side branches just touching one another. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxii, One gusty, raw day,..the rain whipping the pavement. 1869 Ld. Lytton *Orval* 67 On the wind That whips one through this wither'd waste. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 25/3 The foliage..whipped by the branches of other trees. 1884 Marsden *Cotton Spinning* 90 The primitive method of whipping the cotton with willow wands.

b. *intr.* To lash, swish; also, to bend or spring like a whip or switch.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 44/1 Lest the twigs should whip back into my face. 1893 H. M. Doughty *Our Wherry* 76 We could see the mast .. whip with the weight. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* iii, The chill wind whipping about my shanks.

10. *trans.* To bring, get, render, make, or produce by whipping (*lit.* or *fig.*).

1635 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Old, Old Man* D 3, Those Royall Opinions were whip'd out of him. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) IX. 134 Those .. whose religion lies no deeper than their skin, may whi[illegible] *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 26 [illegible] at School. 1829 Hone [illegible] round and whipping a ring: that is, making a circular space amongst the spectators with a whip. 1884 Haweis *My Musical Life* I. 42 He taught me how to whip instead of scraping the sound out [of the violin]. 1889 *Cornhill Mag.* Apr. 356 The cold has whipped red roses on her cheeks.

11. *fig.* To vex, afflict, torment; to punish, chastise; to administer severe satire or reproof to, 'lash', 'castigate'.

1530 Palsgr. 781/2, I whyppe with a shrode tourne, *je baille belle.* *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 178 b, With what great tormentes & afflictions God hath whypped & scorged this miserable Isle. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 151 Now step I forth to whip hypocrisie. 1651 H. More *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 71 So unmercifully to whip poor Aristotle. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* XXX, More likely..that some little unforeseen accident..should prove our best calculations false, and whip us with our own policy! 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xiv, He pressed the girl more closely to himself because the pain whipped him.

†b. esp. *imper.* as a mild execration: = 'confound', 'hang'. *Obs.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. i. 49 Whip me such honest knaues. 1608 — *Per.* IV. ii. 92 Marie whip the Gosseling. 1759 *Compl. Letter-writer* (ed. 6) 221 And yet, whip it, there is a satisfaction in reflecting [etc.]. 1872 Spilling *Giles's Trip* ix. (1920) 109 Tarnin' round I'll be whipped if the same mischievous brute han't managed to get it throw them wires.

12. To overcome, vanquish, defeat; to surpass, outdo: = Beat *v.*[1] 10. Now *U.S. colloq.*

1572 Campion *Hist. Irel.* II. I. (1633) 64 Reymond..whipped the Rebells, quieted Leinster. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvi. 200 Ze neid na ma bot Gedionis thre hunder To quhip your fais. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 17 You will whip the Spaniards in point of generousness. 1834 *Sk. David Crockett* xiii. 164 I'm that same David Crockett, fresh from the backwoods, ..I can whip my weight in wild cats. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxvi, The British can whip the whole airth, and we can whip the British. 1861 Lever *One of them* xi, We can whip all creation. 1901 R. S. Warren Bell *Tales of Greyhouse* 18 If Eccles uses his weight cleverly, Wardour will be whipped to a cert.

13. To urge, incite, rouse; to restore to energy or vitality, revive.

1573 Hatton *Let.* in Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* xlv. (1857) II. 265 Shame whippeth me forward. 1815 H. M. Williams *Narr. Events France* xi. 234 Their dormant patriotism was now awakened, bribed or whipped up. 1835 C. F. Greville *Mem.* 18 July (1875) III. xxviii. 280 On this occasion I whipped up the old friendship. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets* 89 He cuffed and whipped his brains to no purpose.

14. (orig. *fig.* from 6 d.) To summon to attend, as the members of a party for a division in Parliament, or any body of persons for some united action. Const. *in*, *up*; also simply or *absol.* Cf. Whip *sb.* 6.

1769 (May 8) Burke in Sir H. Cavendish *Debates Ho. Comm.* (1841) I. 406/1 [Here Mr. Burke mentioned the ministry's sending for their friends to the north and to Paris,] whipping them in; [than which, he said, there could not be a better phrase]. 1849 M. Cutler in *Life, etc.* (1888) II. 291 On the question of the Georgia claims..he undertook to whip in his party. 1853 Macaulay *Let.* 28 Oct. in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* (1876) I. v. 356 Lord Essex was there,..whipping up for a dinner-party. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 62 With no room for trickery or cajolery, or whipping-up uninformed voters. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Sept. 9/2 The Liberals will probably support it and whip for it. 1898 J. Hollingshead *Gaiety Chron.* I. 83 A literary friend .. whipped up a small syndicate of companions to support me.

†15. *pa. pple.* Streaked, striped. (After F. *fouetté.*) *Obs.*

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 237 Another sort [of fig]..is pretty black, having only its Skin a little whipt with gray. 1699 L. Meager *Art of Gardening* 139 It hath white Leafs edged and whiped about, and feathered in the middle with a deep brown purple. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 241 [Tulip] of a sad Red-colour about the Edges, whipped with Crimson.

16. Phrases. a. *To whip the cat*: used (chiefly *dial.* or *techn. colloq.*) in various senses, some of which are not satisfactorily explained.

† (*a*) To get drunk; ? = 'to shoot the cat'. (*b*) ? To lay the blame of one's offences on some one else. (*c*) To work as an itinerant tailor, carpenter, etc. at private houses by the day. (*d*) To play a practical joke, for description of which see Cat *sb.*[1] 14. (*e*) To practise extreme parsimony. (*f*) To shirk work on Monday. (*g*) *Cards.* (See quot. 1854.) Cf. *whip-cat* (under Whip- 2).

1628 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Arrant Thiefe* (1635) C 2 b, To be a Drunkard, and the cat to whip, Is call'd the king of all good Fellowship. 1793 *Philadelphia Ledger* 19 June in *Daily Chron.* (1902) 5 July 5/1 'Whipping the Cat!'—'Mirabeau's ashes were dispersed as belonging to a traitor, by the patriot Brissot, who is styled a villain by the patriot Egalité,' [etc.]. *a* 1828 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *To whip the cat*, to practise the most pinching parsimony, grudging even shreds and scraps to the cat. In Suffolk the phrase..is applied to a practice..of the village tailor going from house to house to work. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* iii, Made shoes, a trade he prosecuted in an itinerating manner from house to house—'whipping the cat,' as it was termed. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., When one of the players at the game of whist wins all the tricks in one deal, he is said to whip the cat. 1859 *Slang Dict.*, *Whipping the cat*, when an operative works at a private house by the day,—term amongst tailors and carpenters. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang*, To *whip the cat* is modern working-men's slang for shirking work and enjoying oneself on Monday.

b. *To whip the devil round the post* (U.S. *around the stump*): see Devil *sb.* 22 n.

1786 *Belknap Papers* I. (1877) 427 What the Virginians call 'whipping the devil round a stump'. 1841 *Congr. Globe* 7 July 132/3 Many men in the State Legislatures.. have run their constituents so deeply in debt, that now they want to whip the devil around the stump, and get somebody else to tax them. 1887 *Japan Mail* in J. M. Dixon *Dict. Idiom. Phr.* s. v. *Devil*, It is asserted..that the devil might be whipped round the Tientsin Convention.

III. To bind round or over. (This group of senses is prob. represented earlier in the compound Whipcord, which appears 1318–19.)

17. *trans.* To overlay (a rope, string, or other object) with cord, thread, or the like wound closely and regularly round and round; to bind round or 'serve' (Serve *v.*[1] 54 a) with cord, etc. Also, to bind (cord, etc.) in this way round something.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whyppyn, as sylke womene (*K.*, *P.* whyppyn or closyn threde in sylke), *obvolvo*. 1562 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 102 For whippinge the seconde belle rope..ij d. 1581 Styward *Mart. Discipl.* I. 44 They must haue..their [bow-]stringes whipped & waxed ouer with glew. 1626 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* IV. xvi. 512 Then with a silke thred, of the colour of your line, whip and warpe the hooke round about. 1651 T. Barker *Art of Angling* (1820) 15 Lay..the poynt of the feather towards the shank of the hook, then whip it three or four time[s] about the hook with the..silk. 1676 Cotton *Angler* II. v. 39 Take a strong small silk..and then whip it twice or thrice about the bare hook. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* I. § 2. (1689) 2 Whale-bone made round & taper, & whip'd with Shoomaker's Wax, and Silk. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine*, *To Whip*,..to tie a piece of pack-thread, spun-yarn, &c. about the end of a rope, to prevent it from being untwisted. 1770 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 330 He begin[s] at the opposite..corner of the Plattin, and lashes and whips that. 1836 Ronalds *Fly-Fisher's Entom.* 28 Holding a fine thread well waxed..in one hand, whip a part of it three or four times round the end of the shank of the hook. 1887 Rider Haggard *Allan Quatermain* IV, It was whipped round at intervals..with copper wire.

b. To fasten or 'seize' (Seize *v.* 10 b) by binding in this way.

1760 Sir J. Hawkins *Walton's Angler* 254 *note*, For whipping on a Hook take the following directions. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 10 Cut about six inches off the top of the rod, and in its place whip on a smooth, round and taper piece of whalebone. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 21 June 6/2 The old method of whipping on the wings..is objectionable for wet-fly fishing. 1885 Leno *Boot & Shoemaking* IX. 67 The side linings [of a Wellington] are whipped or hemmed on with either awl or needle.

18. *Needlework.* †a. ? To trim or ornament with embroidery (*obs.*). b. To sew over and over, to overcast. c. To draw into gathers, as a frill, by a combination of overcast and running stitch.

a 1548 [see Whipped *ppl. a.* 2]. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 222 Veluet-breeches, .. drawn ouer with the best Spanish Satine, and .. curiously ouer whipt with gold twist. 1612 Webster *White Devil* K 4, A Lawyer In a gowne whipt with velues, 27.. Drury *Rival Millainers* I. ii, All the Day We're forc'd to whip and stitch the Time away. 1849 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Aunt Fanny* 62 Whipping the Frill. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlvi. (1856) 429 They have been busy..whipping and stitching the seal-skins with reindeer tendon thread.

†19. *trans.* To bind about, wreathe, entwine. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 8 Haill, in my Hert with Lufe wippit Intern! 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* vii, Thair brycht hairis .. In tressis clere, wyppit [*Bann. MS.* wypit] wyth goldyn thredis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 114 To the, Bacchus, scho raisit..Gret lang speris,..Wyth wyne tre branchis wyppit. [1808 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Quhip, Wippe, Wype*, to bind about.]

†**Whip**, *int.* and *adv. Obs.* [The vb. stem used as int. and adv.; cf. Du. *wip* (e. g. in *en wip was hij weg!*), and LG. *wip(p)s.*] Suddenly, forthwith, instantly, in a trice; quick! presto! Also in comb., as *whip-dash*, *-slap*.

c 1460 *Wisdom* 518 in *Macro Plays* 52 'Farewell', quod I; 'be deuyll ys wppe!' *Ibid.* 554 Wyppe wyrre & care a-wey! [Cf. quot. *a* 1553 *s. v.* WHIP *sb.* 11.] 1525 W. SMITH *Wyddow Edyth* (1573) F j, Whip quod Thomas and got him down ward And commeth agayne with the cup full. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 309 Whip to our Tents. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. 19 You should see how I wou'd shew my parts, Whip-slap dash. *Ibid.* 26 With a helter-skelter, whip-dash. 1699 A. ROBERTS *Voy. Levant* 5 If any one happen to say anything amiss, whip 'tis at the Captains ears. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 341 When I came, whip, was the key turned upon their girls. 1806 *Simple Narr.* I. 167 But whip, before I could say Jack Robinson, he sprung into the chaise.

Whip- in combination.

1. Combinations of the sb. a. General attrib., as *whip-crack*, *-leather*, *-mark*, *-thong*. b. Instrumental, objective, similative, etc., as *whip-cracking*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-smacking*; *whip-corrected*, *-like*, *-shaped*, *-wielding* adjs. c. Special combs.: **whip-beam**, the white-beam (cf. *whip-crop* below); **whip-bird**, an Australian bird (*Psodophes crepitans*) with a note resembling the crack of a whip; also called *coach-whip bird*; †**whip-broth** (*obs. humorous nonce-wd.*), a 'taste of the whip', a flogging; †**whip-cart** (see quot.; cf. LG. *? wipkarre*); **whip-club**, a driving-club (also *attrib.*); hence **whip-clubbist**, a member of a whip-club; **whip-craft**, the art of, or skill in, driving; **whip-crane**, a crane with a 'whip' (WHIP *sb.* 15) for hoisting; **whip-crop**, a local name for several shrubs or trees whose stems are used for whip-stocks, as the white-beam (*Pyrus Aria*) and the wayfaring tree (*Viburnum Lantana*); **whip-fish**, a chætodont fish, *Heniochus macrolepidotus*, having a dorsal spine elongated into a filament like a whip-lash; **whip gin** = WHIP *sb.* 15; **whip-grass**, a species of *Scleria* (see quot. 1858); **whip-handle**, the handle of a whip, a whipstock; also *fig.* (see quot. 1653; with quot. 1861 cf. WHIP-HAND 2); **whip-hanger** = *whip-rack*; **whip-hem**, *Needlework*, a hem formed by 'whipping' or overcasting (see WHIP *sb.* 16, *v.* 18 b); **whip-hold**, control (cf. WHIP-HAND 2); **whip-horse**, a horse employed in hoisting by means of a 'whip' (WHIP *sb.* 15); †**whip-lade** [? LADE *sb.*[3]] = *whip-cart*; **whip-land** (*local*): see quot.; **whip line**, (*a*) = WHIPCORD 1; (*b*) the line or rope of a 'whip' (WHIP *sb.* 15); **whip-net**, technical name of a simple kind of network; **whip-rack**, a rack with notches for hanging whips upon; **whip-ray**, a fish of the family *Trygonidæ*, having a long slender flexible tail resembling the lash of a whip, and armed with a serrated spine; a sting-ray; **whip-roll**, *Weaving* (see quot. 1875); **whip-scorpion**, an arachnid of the genus *Thelyphonus* or some allied genus, related to the scorpions, and having a long slender abdomen like a whip-lash; **whip-shaft** = WHIPSTOCK 1; †**whip-sloven**, ? a sloven who deserves whipping; **whip-socket**, a socket fixed to the dash-board of a vehicle to hold the butt-end of the whip; **whip-stick**, (*a*) a whipstock, or a pliant stick used as a whip; (*b*) applied in Australia to a dwarf species of *Eucalyptus*; **whip tail**, a (dog's or horse's) tail resembling a whip (see also WHIPTAIL); **whip-thread**, †**whip-wood** (see quots.); **whip-worm**, a parasitic nematoid worm of the genus *Trichocephalus*, consisting of a stout posterior and slender anterior part, like a whipstock with a lash.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 180 A Sallow Hedge has the Advantage of most..others,..because it may be thickned at Pleasure..; Beech and Hornbean [*sic*] will grow after this manner;..Ash worse, Maple and *Whip-bean [*sic*] not at all. 1845 R. HOWITT *Australia* 177 The *whip-bird, which surprised I hear. 1893 Mrs. C. PRAED *Outlaw* ribbons gay'. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 433 They belonged to a Spanish whip-club. 1869 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* III. 39 If the nobility of France had not degenerated into *whip-clubbists, and opera-house committee-men. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. xxi, As an unruly charger *whip-corrected. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 130 With..a cascade of *whip-cracks, the two light-footed Arab horses are at once *en route*. 1775 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 62 An Englishman at Tours who took a lesson of *whip-cracking every day from a postillion. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* ii, The whip-crackings, and shouts of the whips as they encouraged..the hounds. 1865 *Athenæum* 4 Feb. 171/3 Divers turnings and *whip-craft feats. 1883 *19th Cent.* July 151 Half a dozen *whip-cranes..would..pull up these boxes with great rapidity. *a* 1830 BROMFIELD *Flora Vectensis* (1856) 167 *P[yrus] Aria*, .. White Beam-tree. Vect. *Whipcrop,..The long, straight and very tough shoots are cut for whip-handles by waggoners. *Ibid.* 235 The slender stems [of *Viburnum Lantana*] are used..for whip-handles, ..as might be inferred from the vernacular name of Whipcrop. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Whip Gin*, a simple tackle-block, over which a hoisting-rope runs. 1818 T. NUTTALL *Genera N. Amer. Plants* II. 205 *Scleria*, Gaertner (*Whip-grass). [Cf. 1828 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 808 The long, straight leaves of *S[cleria] flagellum* are armed with fine sharp-cutting teeth, and are made into whips for flogging negro slaves in the West Indies.] 1653 UNQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxvii. 176 These little ends of men and dandiprats, whom in Scotland they call *whiphandles [orig. *manches d'estrilles*]. 1861 in *Century Mag.* (1889) Oct. 932/2 They know that we shall keep the whip-handle. 1911 BEAN *'Dreadnought' of Darling* xxxv, Joe Fagan..had taught him to make whip-handles. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Whip-hanger*, an annular rim or bracket provided with notches, into which the ends of the suspended whips fit. 1866 Mrs. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* I, The bits of ruffling..with their edges in almost invisible *whip-hems. 1895 ANNA M. STODDART *J. S. Blackie* I. 211 He had recourse to..fines sternly imposed, and so kept moderate *whip-hold of the team. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* viii, We..bought a '*whip horse'..which staunch and well-trained animal drew up the precious gravel. 1677 *Whip-lade [see *whip-cart*]. 1811 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 259 **Whip Land*, land..measured out (when ploughed) by the whip's length. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 138 They could not pay for their *whip-leather. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 8/2 A *whip-like moveable proboscis. 1883 SAVILLE-KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 40 The whiplike appendages or flagella of the cells. 1582 in Feuilleter *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 353 For *whip lyne. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Feb. 91/3 The whip line of the apparatus [*sc.* breeches buoy] ..got round the neck of the seaman. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2579/4 Mr. Richard Weller, *Whip-maker. 1849 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxix, The most accomplished whipmaker. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 947/2 The main items of expense in *whip making material are rattan and whalebone. 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* I. xvi, With the cabman's *whip-marks red across his face and hands. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1235 The mail-net..is..a combination of common gauze and the *whip-net in the same fabric. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-rack. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 73 The *Whipray differs from the other two sorts, having a..longer Tail and ending with a Knob, shaped like a Harpoon. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 34 *Trygon centrura*..Sting-ray; whip-ray; stingaree. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* vi. 219 Below the yarn beam, on each side of the loom, the brackets are fixed for the gudgeons of the *whip rolls to run in. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-roll* (Weaving), a roller or bar over which the yarn passes from the yarn-beam to the reed. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiv, The masts trembled, and the spars aloft bent like *whip-shafts. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Whip-shaped*, flagelliform. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 38 Thes twayne *whyp-slouens. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip Borrioland* 259 He..set up an infernal *whip-smacking. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-socket. 1900 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Isle Unrest* xvii, He twisted the reins round the whip-socket. 1782 J. ADAMS *Diary* 26 July, Wks. 1851 III. 297 One of the grooms ran up to us with three *whip-sticks. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xxx. II. 278, I resolved to have some fishing;..and sallied forth with one of the waggon whip-sticks for a rod, and some string for a line. 1874 M. C. *Explorers* 123 (Morris) A patch of whip-stick scrub. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4582/4 When taken away he had a *whip Tail. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1258/2 Black and tan toy terrier dog; whip tail. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 252/2 If your *whip thong gets caught in the harness. 1883 C. P. BROWN *Cotton Manuf.* 168 **Whip-thread*, the crossing thread in gauze. 1898 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* I. xxxvi, An ass, With stout *whip-wielding [*ed.* 1812 whip-cracking] rider on his back. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Opera 1769 II. 393 Xylomastix arbor Americana *Whip-wood. 1875 T. S. COBBOLD *Tapeworms* (ed. 3) 70 My treatment not only expelled an ordinary tapeworm but also a solitary *whipworm.

2. Combinations of the vb. a. with second element in objective relation: †**whip-arse**, a schoolmaster (1611 s. v. ARSE 1 b); **whip-belly (-vengeance)**, *slang*, weak thin beer or other liquor; †**whip-can** [see WHIP *v.* 2 b], a toper, tippler, 'toss-pot'; **whip-cat**, †*adj.* drunken [see WHIP *v.* 16 a (*a*)]; *sb.* (also *whip-the-cat*), a tailor or other workman who 'whips the cat' [see WHIP *v.* 16 a (*c*)]; †**whip-king**, one who drives or controls kings (as one does horses with a whip), a 'king-maker'. b. in attributive relation to second element: (*a*) = *whipping-*: **whip-boy** (*rare*—[1]) = WHIPPING-BOY; **whip-gig** = *whip-top*; **whip-post** = WHIPPING-*post*; **whip-top** = WHIPPING-*top* (also *fig.*); (*b*) = *whipped*: **whip-rod**, a fishing-rod 'whipped' or wound round with twine [WHIP *v.* 17]; **whip-syllabub**, whipped syllabub [WHIPPED *ppl. a.* 3]; also *fig.*

thought of..and..in a greater pussell then the blinde Beare in the midst of all her *whip-broth. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 257 A sort of Cart they call a Whip-lade, or *Whip-cart, whose hinder part is made up with boards after the manner of a Dung-cart, having also a head of boards..; which head being made so as to be taken out or left in, the Cart may be indifferently used to carry..dung, when the head is in, and Corn, etc. when taken out. 1823 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 94 The '*Whip-club-blade' with four in hand 'handles the

1732–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* II. 186 Faith, it is more *Whip-Belly-Vengeance. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whip-belly*, thin weak liquor. 1848 JAMES ROBINSON *Whitehall* III. He had been..'*whip-boy' to the young heir. 1811 COTTON, *Bourrachon*, a tiper, quaffer, tosspot, *whip-canne. 1653 UNQUHART *Rabelais* I. viii. 40 He would prove an especial good fellow, and singular whip-can [orig. *fuyte-pinthe*]. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. Prognost. v. 236 Topers, Quaffers, Whipcans, Tospots. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 82 With *whip cat bowling they kept a myrry carousing. 1611 FLORIO, *Parlare briaccone*, to speake tipple, drunken or whip-cat language. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 366 A tailor who 'whipped the cat',..the 'whip cat's' meals. 1912 R. M. FERGUSSON *Ochil Fairy T.* 34 He plied his trade as a 'whup-the-cat' for fivepence a day and 'his meat'. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 190 The puny tyrant burns to subjugate The free republic of the *whip-gig state. 1682 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 370 Richard Nevil, that *whipking (as some tearmed him). 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 6 Or rather Frenchify our English solidity into froth and *whip-syllabub. 1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 2 His snowy beard foaming on his bosom like whip syllabub. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. iv. § 6. 288 We have hitherto been speaking of the *whip-top [under the name of 'top']; for the peg-top..must be ranked among the modern inventions. 1887 STEVENSON *Misadvent. J. Nicholson* iv, A man who was a mere whiptop for calamity.

Whipcord (hwi·pkɑ̄d), *sb.* [? f. WHIP *v.* III, with later association of WHIP *sb.* I + CORD *sb.*[1]]

1. A thin tough kind of hempen cord, of which whip-lashes or the ends of them are made; in allusive use, the material of whip-lashes.

Perh. orig. Fine cord or twine for 'whipping' or binding closely round something.

1328–19 in G. Oliver *Lives Bps. Exeter* etc. (1861) 381 Wyppe-cord, 3d. 1362–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 563 In xij peciis de Qwypcord empt. pro carectar. iij d. 1468 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 213 Thei..bownde his armes be hynde hym with whippe cord like a theffe. 1487–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 131 For lyne and whippcorde to serve the same clothe, ij d. 1541 in *Essex Rev.* XXI. 145 Payd for whipcorde for the pascall, ij *d.* *c* 1626 FLETCHER *Thierry & Theod.* v. i, Beg, beg, and keep Constables waking, wear out stocks and whipcord. 1675 *Three Inhumane Murthers* 6 The Judge Caus'd his Thumbs to be ty'd fast together with whipcord. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xix, He will neither spare whipcord nor spur-rowel. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxii, He looks as hard as iron, and tough as whipcord.

b. A piece of this material, as a whip-lash or its extremity.

? *a* 1300 *Chester Pl.* (E. E. T. S.) xvi. 430 Takes him here bounden fast, While a whipcord here will last. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 17 As far as the whipcord would stretch. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Apr. 1645, Dashing the knotted and ravelled whipcord over their shoulders. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 63 One may break a whip-cord..with one's hand..by bringing one part of the rope to cut the other. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. vi. 58 Our eight-inch hawser parted like a whip-cord.

c. *attrib.* Tough as whipcord.

1879 BROWNING *Halbert & Hob* 27 One whipcord nerve in the muscly mass from neck to shoulder-blade.

2. *transf.* a. A kind of catgut.

1880 *Spon's Encycl. Manuf.* II. 609 To produce a cord—known as 'whipcord'—from these intestines.

b. A close-woven ribbed worsted material used for dresses, riding breeches, etc. Also *attrib.*

1897 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 6/3 Whipcord coatings, bengalines in silk and wool. 1900 *Ibid.* 16 Apr. 7/3, 60,000 pairs of whip-cord riding trousers. 1915 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen & Worsted* 305 Warp Twills. Fancy Twills.—Included in the former are the standard makes of fabric known as whip cords.

3. Applied (simply or attrib.) to a. species of willow with very flexible shoots, as *Salix purpurea* or *S. vitellina*; b. species of seaweed with long slender fronds, as *Chorda Filum* or *Chordaria flagelliformis*.

1818 J. WALKER *Hebrides* II. 273 Salix vitellina..is called..the whip-cord willow because its shoots are so tough and flexible, that they can be wrapt round the finger like a whip-cord. 1890 Miss PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* ii. 125 The Whipcord Fucus (*Chordaria flagelliformis*).

Hence **Whi·pcord** *v.*, (*nonce-wd.*) *trans.* to furnish with whipcord; **Whi·pcordy** *a.*, resembling whipcord, sinewy.

1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 33 *Whipcorded the boys' plough whips. 1856 S. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1881) II. 336 The Bishop (Exeter) wonderfully hale and *whipcordy.

Whip-grafting. *Hort.* Also †**-grafting.** [f. WHIP *v.* 2.] (See quot. 1878.) Hence **Whip-graft** *v.*, *trans.* to graft in this way.

1687 R. AUSTEN *Fruit-Trees* (ed. 2) 47 *marg.*, Second Way of Grafting, called whip-Grafting. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 63 The one of these wayes is called shoulder-grafting...The other Whip-grafting, because the operator only makes his streight-down right cut and tarryes not to indent it at all. 1875 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (ed. 2) 213 Taking a Graft or Sprig of the Tree you designe to propagate, and a small piece of the Root of another Tree of the same kinde,..Whip-graft them together. 1729 [see *tongue-grafting* s. v. TONGUE *sb.* 16]. 1815, 1842 [see *splice-grafting* s. v. SPLICE *sb.* 3]. 1878 BALTET *Grafting* etc. 152 The old-fashioned system of 'whip-grafting', employed in England in the case of some kinds of trees in preference to budding, on account of the inclemency of the climate. The stock is headed down and cut on one side only to receive the scion, which is cut with a long splice-cut and partially cleft or notched.

Whip-hand (hwi·phæ·nd). [f. WHIP *sb.* 1.]

1. The hand in which the whip is held in driving or riding; the driver's or rider's right hand.

1829 CHRISTIAN *Blackstone's Comm.* I. 74 The law of the road, viz. that horses and carriages should..keep the left side of the road, and consequently,..pass each other on the whip-hand. 1858 *Bentley's Misc.* IV. 601 A thick gold ring on

the little finger of his whip-hand. 1887 R. H. Rossetti *In the Shires* II. 27 Raising his whip-hand, which brings the cavalcade to a halt.

2. fig. phr. *To have the whip-hand of*: to have the advantage or upper hand of, control. Hence in similar phr.

1680 Alsop *Mischief Impos.* II. 8 When once they are got into the Saddle, and have the whip hand of the poor Laity. 1690 Child *Disc. Trade* Pref. C8, Before the Dutch get too much the whip-hand of us. 1694 Echard *Plautus* 204 A silent Woman has always the whip Hand of a Talker. 1849 De Quincey *Engl. Mail-Coach* Wks. 1890 XIII. 307 In the art of conversation,..he admitted that I had the whip-hand of him. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* viii. 200 He has a secret of her own, and this gives him the whip-hand of her. 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xiv, For the sake of my own safety, I dare not abandon the whip hand I have of you.

Whip-her-ginny, -jenny: see Whipper-ginnie.

†**Whip-jack** (hwi·pdʒæk). *Obs.* [app. f. Whip *v.* 6 + Jack *sb.*[1]] A vagabond or beggar who pretends to be a distressed sailor. Also *gen.*

a 1586 Ponet in *Maitland's Ess. Ref.* (1849) 74 One Boner (a bare whippe lacke) for lucre of money toke vpon him to be thy father. 1561 Awdelay *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 4 A Whypjacke is one that by coulor of a counterfaite Lisence doth use to beg lyke a Maryner. 1608 Dekker *Belman of London* Wks. (Grosart) III. 102 Another sort of..knaues.. are called Whipiacks: who talke of nothing but fights at Sea, piracies, drownings and shipwracks. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* VI. xxv. 142 Sir Charles Grandison is none of your gew-gaw whip-jacks. [1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. v, 'And a rum'un he be',..returned the whip-jack, or sham sailor.]

b. Humorously applied to a book in blue binding. *nonce-use.*

1684 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 33 He also sent me a little whipjack in a blew jackett, caled A Gagg for the newe Gospell.

Whip-lash. [f. Whip *sb.* 1 + Lash *sb.*[1] 2.]

1. The lash of a whip. Also *allusively* and *fig.*

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 36 Whiplash wel knotted, and cartrope ynough. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 Silk whip-lashes. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxxii, He let out his whip-lash and touched up a little boy on the calves of his legs. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* iv, 'He wants the whip-lash.' 'Lay it on with science, then.' 1894 *Athenæum* 11 Aug. 195/2 Nothing escapes the whip-lash of the 'college wit'. 1915 M. Baillie Saunders *Captain the Curd* v, Listening to the sharp whip-lash of furious voices in the room below.

2. *transf.* An object resembling the lash of a whip, as the *vibraculum* of certain polyzoans; *spec.* a species of seaweed with long narrow fronds.

1830 Miss Pratt *Comm. Things of Sea-side* ii. 124 The two species of Sea Whiplash,..One kind of this whiplash (*Chorda filum*) grows attached to rocks and stones. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* 146 The long and tough whip-lash in which the point of each leaf terminates. 1865 — *Land & Sea* 225 In the Scuparia ..there are some special organs of defence... One of these is called the vibraculum, or the whiplash.

†**Whipling**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Cf. Whereple *v.*] ? A 'piping' noise.

1522 Skelton *Why not to Court* 347 There is a whyspring and a whipling, He shulde be hyder brought.

Whipman (hwi·pmĕn). Pl. **-men.** Now *rare.* [f. Whip *sb.* 1.] A man who wields a whip; a driver of horses; *dial.* a carter. Hence **Whip-manship**, the character or skill of a 'whipman', the art of driving.

1797 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 50 The school of whipmanship, for the young nobility and gentry. *Ibid.* X. 288 No sooner were the whipmen passed than the void part was filled. *a* 1825 Duff *Poems, Old Horse* 84 (Jam.) Routhless whipmen, scant o' grace. 1834 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 45 The whip-men (carters) bought it.

Whip-master. [f. Whip *sb.* 1.] A master who uses the whip; a flogger.

1708 Bailey *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 203 We to our Back-Sides, he's a greater Whip-Master [L. *flagellator*] than Busby himself. 1893 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* 96 These whipmasters of ours.

Whippable (hwi·păb'l), *a.* [f. Whip *v.* 6 + -able.] Liable to be whipped.

1853 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 643 Two sorrowful, whippable *alumni* stood each beside a 'tree of knowledge'. 1885 Phil Robinson *Under the Punkah* 216 The distinctive feature of this period of life [*sc.* boyhood], is popularly supposed to be that it is a whippable age.

Whippant, *a. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. as prec., after heraldic terms in -ant.] That is frequently whipped. 1892 [see Stockant].

Whipped, whipt (hwipt), *ppl. a.* [f. Whip *v.* + -ed[1].]

1. *Needlework.* (See Whip *v.* 18.)

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 207 b, Frettes of whipped gold of damaske very riche. 1716 Gay *Trivia* II. 339 'n half-whipt Muslin Needles useless lye.

†**2.** (See quot.) *Obs. nonce-use.*

1580 V. Leigh *Survey.* (1588) O iij, I call it..the whipped line, because I haue formed it..like a little whipcorde. 1619 H. Lyte *Art of Tens* 20 In the table on the left hand of the whipped line.

b. Bound with cord closely wound round: see Whip *v.* 17.

1886 J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* 139 Twisting a hackle ..round the shank of a whipped hook.

3. *Confectionery*, etc. Beaten into a froth: see Whip *v.* 7. Hence in figurative expressions denoting something 'frothy', flimsy, or unsubstantial.

1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* IV. iii, The dull French Poetry,..so thin, that it is the very Leaf-gold of Wit, the very Wafers and whip'd Cream of sense. 1691 Shadwell *Scourers* II. i, To make clouted cream, and whipt Sillabubs. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sugar*, The White of a whipt Egg. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* lxxxv. VII. 117 To distinguish the froth and whipt-syllabub in them [*sc.* letters] from the cream. 1782 Cowper *Table-T.* 551 Summoning the Muse to such a theme, The fruit of all her labour is whipped cream. 1828 Scott *Jrnl.* 23 Apr. in *Lockhart*, Who cares for the whipp'd cream of London society? 1846 Soyer *Cookery* 209 Add a gill of whipped cream.

4. Beaten with or as with a whip; scourged, flogged, lashed.

1713 *Guardian* No. 8 P 4 Saying, That it became not the Condition of a whipt Rascal to travel on Horseback. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xiv. 138 The two nationals, who sneaked away like whipped hounds. 1848 *Congr. Globe* 29 Jan. 183/2 A whipped cur was ever the most fawning dog.

b. *Farriery.* Of a horse: see quot.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) Pref. p. xi, You shall hear many a Horse praised for being a thorow-winded one, and a brave whipt-horse. *Ibid.* II. 122 He is a good whip'd Horse, that is, he will answer the Whip well.

5. *Fencing.* (See Whip *v.* 4.)

1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* 90 If I whip along your Tierce-side, parry round with a whipped Quarte.

6. With *up*: Made up artificially, factitious.

1900 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 3/4 The recent agitation was a whipped-up thing. 1902 J. H. Rose *Napoleon I*, I. xii. 274 His keen instinct for reality, which led him to scorn such whipped-up creeds as Robespierre's Supreme Being.

¶ **7.** Used for Whip-.

1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1561/4 Two Mares, one of them.. whipt Tail'd, and Grizled. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. iii. 94/2 Little round holes whipt-stitched about.

Whippence: see Whippin.

Whipper (hwi·pəɹ). [f. Whip *v.* + -er[1].] One who or that which whips, in various senses.

1. One who beats or chastises with (or as with) a whip; a scourger, flogger; *spec.* an official who inflicts whipping as a legal punishment. Also *fig.*

1592 Hulοet, Whypper who whyppeth beggers and vacaboundes, or others, *flagiarius.* 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii, Ambitiously, affecting the title of the vntrussers, or whippers of the age. 1608 Feltham *Resolves* II. [1.] l. 147 It is the basest Office Man can fall into, to make his tongue the Whipper of the Worthy man. 1697 J. Partridge (*title*) Flagitious Mercurius flagellatus; or the Whipper whipp'd. 1813 E. S. Barrett *Heroine* xvi. (1909) 88 At last, marrying some honest gentleman,...she degenerates into a dangler of keys and whipper of children. 1841 Ordeson *Creoleana* ix. 96 The brutal hand of the mercenary whipper. 1886 *8th Rep. Prison Comm. Scot.* 6 The case against the boy was accordingly delayed,..because a whipper could not be found.

b. = Flagellant A. 1.

a 1656 Br. Hall *Serm. 1 Cor. xi. 10* Wks. 1808 V. 487 A brood of mad heretics,..whom they called Flagellantes, 'the whippers'; which went about..lashing themselves to blood. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 213 The whippers..ran about in promiscuous multitudes.

c. = Whipper-in 1, 2. ? *Obs.*

1826 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XVII. 366 John Roberts the ...ill Veale the whipper. 1884 Gladstone in *Western Daily Press* 12 July 8/1 The authority, for every loyal Liberal, of the whipper.

d. A kind of fishing-rod: see quot., and cf. Whip *v.* 8.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. iii. 203/1 A Whipper, or Whipping Rod is a slender top Rod, that is weak in the middle and top heavy, but all slender and fine.

2. A person or thing that surpasses others. (Cf. Whip *v.* 12.) ? *Obs.* exc. *dial.* applied to a big active person.

c 1500 *Bohe of Mayd Emlyn* 356 in Hazlitt *Early Pop. Poetry* IV. 94 Bycause he coude clepe her, She called hym a whypper. 1540 J. Heywood *Four P.P.* C i b, This relyke, her is a whipper..here is a slypper Of one of the seuen slepers.

3. A workman who hoists coal with a 'whip': = Coal-whipper. (Cf. Whip *v.* 5.)

1835–6 Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 87/1 The four whippers now run up a sort of step-ladder. 1836–9, etc. [see Coal-whipper]. 1887 R. Newman in *Charity Org. Rev.* July 275 Coal-whipping..has now all but ceased; but a similar class of men..are probably as numerous as were the whippers of twenty years ago.

4. One who runs the coloured thread along the edge of a blanket. (Cf. Whip *v.* 18.)

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 66 Blanket Manufacture; ..Tucker. Whipper. Binder.

Whipperee (hwipərī·). *U. S.* Corrupt form of *whip-ray* (see Whip- 1 c): cf. Stingaree.

†**Whipperginnie.** *Obs. slang.* Also 6 **whipper-jenny**, 7 **whip her Ginny, whip-her-ginny, 8 whip-her-jenny.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. A term of reprobation or abuse applied to a woman.

1593 *Tell-troths N. Y. Gift* (1876) 23 Shee fals so hot to scoulding with the whipperginne her ostice. *Ibid.* 21 That fornicators (after they had obtained their desires..) should.. seeking other wenches, meet with whipper ginnies. 1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 103 What needst thou to care, whipper-ienny, tripe-cheeks?

2. *The land of whipperginnie*, app. a nickname

1594 Nashe ...tc ...hall, and the] *Trvan.* C 3 b, What newes from heauen,

3. Name of an old game at cards.

1628 J. Taylor (Water P.) *O'Toole* Wks. (1630) II. 29/2 Thou sold'st it Valours ignominy, To spend thy dayes in peacefull whip her Ginny. 1629 — *Wit & Mirth* xlx. Ibid. 281/2 An vnhappy boy..would fall to Cards at the Cambrian game of whip-her-ginny, or English one and thirty. 1737 *Poor Robin* Dec. B 7 b, Maw, Whip-her-Jenny, Poor and Rich, With other fruitless Pastimes.

Whipper-in. [f. the phr. *to whip in*: see Whip *v.* 6 d.]

1. A huntsman's assistant who keeps the hounds from straying by driving them back with the whip into the main body of the pack. Also called shortly a *whip* (Whip *sb.* 5), or formerly occas. a *whipper* (Whipper 1 c).

1739 *Ess. Better Regul. Free-Thinking* 7 Should..the Postillion turn Cook, and the Whipper in resolve to be nothing less than Steward or Butler. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. ii, He was soon transplanted from the Fields into the Dog-kennel, where he was placed under the Huntsman, and made what Sportsmen term a Whipper-in. 1875 W. S. Hayward *Love agst. World* I, The brothers..ordered their whipper-in..to unkennel the hounds.

fig. 1765 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Lyric Odes* iv. Wks. 1812 I. 87 My Muse is whipper-in. 1836 E. Howard *R. Reefer* xxxv, One of the two..brigs that was to accompany us as whippers-in to the convoy.

b. In the game of hare and hounds, a runner whose business it is to keep the hounds in order.

1845 'G. Forrest' *Every Boy's Bk.* 11 The Hare should not be the best runner, but should be daring, and..prudent. ..A Huntsman and Whipper-in are then chosen...The Hare then starts, and has about seven minutes' grace, at the expiration of which time the Huntsman blows a horn..and sets off, the Hounds keeping nearly in Indian file, the Whipper-in bringing up the rear. 1902 R. S. Warren Bell *Tales of Greyhouse* 47 The two impetuous hounds had to be curbed by the whippers-in.

c. *Racing slang.* The horse last in a race or at any given moment of a race.

1892 *Daily News* 8 Sept. 3/5 The field began to break up, and the whippers in became Curio and El Diablo.

2. In parliamentary use, = Whip *sb.* 6. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1772 *Ann. Reg., Misc. Ess.* 196/1 He was first a whipper-in to the Premier, and then became Premier himself. 1792 *J. Pearson's Pol. Dict., Whipper-in*, a fellow that sends for Members to carry a question when the Minister is hard run. 1833 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, He..will tell you how Sir Somebody Something, when he was whipper-in for the Government, brought four men out of their beds to vote in the majority. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 12/1 At the beginning of the Canadian 'Parliamentary Companion' a whole page is headed in large capitals, 'Whippers-in.' Then follow the names of the various party 'Whips,' as we would call them.

Whipper-snapper. [? A jingling extension of *whip-snapper*, a cracker of whips (see Whip *sb.* 1, Snap *v.* 12), on the model of the earlier *snipper-snapper*.] A diminutive or insignificant person, *esp.* a sprightly or impertinent young fellow. Also rarely applied to a thing.

† In quot. 1674 app. A violent or dangerous person, a 'rough': cf. quot. 1589 s.v. Whipster 1 a.

1674 Head *Jackson's Recant.* C 2 b, Have a care of Marlbrough Downs, there are a parcel of whipper Snappers have been very busie there of late. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipper-snapper*, a very small but sprightly Boy. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem.* xi. 136 A Grave Old Gentleman.. thus repremanded our Saucy Whipper-Snapper 1827 Scott *Surg. Dan.* ii, A whipper-snapper of an attorney's apprentice, ..I'll teach him to speak with more reverence of the learned professions. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 15 Not that he feared such fellows as these—little whipper-snappers —our men would eat them. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xxii, A little whipper-snapper of a French watch. 1876 Black *Madcap Violet* xxxviii, It is only the whipper-snapper in criticism who is always crying out for a grand and tremendous motive.

attrib. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* IV. vi, A Parcel of Whipper-snapper Sparks. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xxix, A whipper-snapper school-boy.

Whippet (hwi·pĕt), *sb.* Also 6 **wepit, whippett, 9 whippit, wippet.** [? partly f. Whip *sb.* or *v.* + -et, partly f. Whippet *v.*]

†**1.** ? Some light wine. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Blowbol's Test.* 50 (MS. Rawl. C. 86 lf. 107 b) Good drynke he louyd better than he did wepit. *Ibid.* 337. 112 Malmasyes, Tires, and Rumneys,.. Whippett and Pyngmedo.

2. A lively young woman; a light wench; now *dial.* a nimble, diminutive, or puny person.

1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 1331 All modeste matrons I truste wyll take my parte, As for nice whippets, wordes Shall not come nye my hert. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 158 Those worthlesse Whippets and Iack Strawes hee could get, he would seeme to enable and compare with the highest. 1597 Breton *Wit's Trenchmoure* Wks. (Grosart) II. 25/1 Why, quoth this Whippet, if I should tell you I lone you [etc.].

†**3.** A sudden brisk movement. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 431 As soone as ever [the dog] seeth [the rost] taken from the fire, he giveth a whippet from his wheele.

4. A small breed of dog; now *spec.* a cross between a greyhound and a terrier or spaniel, used for coursing and racing, esp. in the north of England.

With the earliest examples cf. Whappet.

a 1620 Healey *Theophrastus* (1636) 73 If a little dog or whippet of his dye, 6 hee makes him a tombe. *c* 1625 W. Goddard *Mastiff Whelp* G 3, Too loude thou barkest Whelpe, I must haue whippets now, that doe but yelpe,

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Dogge of Warre* Wks. II. 232 The little Curre, Whippet, or House-dogge. 1645 Milton *Colast.* 26 If a man cannot peaceably walk into the world, but must bee infested..with bauling whippets, and shinbarkers. 1665 in *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 10 To seize..all such greyhounds, beagles, or whipperts [*sic*]. 1841 Hartshorne *Salopia Antiqua* 614 *Whippet*, a dog bred betwixt a greyhound and a spaniel. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 18 Oct. 6/2 I found a man training a wiry racing-dog...The 'whippet' strode along with great earnestness.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1260/3 Fawn whippet bitch for sale. 1894 F. Lloyd *Whippet & Race-Dog* viii. 45 The National Whippet-racing Club. *Ibid.* xi. 73 A most important personage on the Whippet-track is the clerk of the scales.

b. *transf. Mil.* The Medium Mark A 'tank', a light kind of 'tank' used in the war of 1914–18. Also called *chaser*.

1918 *Times* 15 Aug. 7/6 The..capture of Morlancourt, where light Tanks or whippets were used.

†5. A little whip. *Obs. rare*—1.

1626 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* I. xxviii. 738 He shall not vse anie thing else to ride him [*sc.* horse] with, saue onely his whippet and trench.

†6. 'A short light petticoat' (Forby). *dial. Obs.*

Hence **Whippeteer**, **Whippeter**, a person who keeps a whippet (sense 4); **Whippeting**, *sb.* the breeding, training, etc. of whippets; *a.* engaged in this.

1894 Sir J. Astley *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 337 The principal whippeteers are colliers in Lancashire. 1894 F. Lloyd *Whippet & Race-Dog* vii. 44 Everything connected with Whippeting. *Ibid.* ix. 58 Some Whippeting people. *Ibid.* xxiv. 174 Common names have been given by Whippeters to the dogs.

†**Whippet**, *v. Obs.* Also 6 -yt. [app. the phr. *whip it* written as one word: see Whip *v.* 1 c.] *intr.* To move briskly, bestir oneself, frisk.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* III. i. N iv, Least he a camell shulde not skyp or whippyt about. *c* 1550 *Pryde & Abuse Wom.* 57 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 234 Wyth whippet a whyle, lyttle pretyone Prancke it, and hagge it well. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 22 Nowe whippet apace for the maystrie. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 270 Whippet, turne to a new lesson, and strike wee vp Iohn for the King.

Whippin (hwi·pin). *dial.* Also 7 **wippin**, 8 **whipping**, 9 **w(h)ippon**, **whippence**. [Origin obscure.] = Whippletree[2]. Also *whippintree*.

1697 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 195 One wagon Ready to Runn..Six yoakes..Five wippins. *a* 1732 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 72 The plough-beam, sprinter, whippings, and traces must often break when they come against a great stone. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 29 July 1775, I..intend that he..shall attend to the spread-bats and whippins. *Ibid.* 26 Dec. 1775, 7 Iron trace whippins, 2 Setts of hempen trace ditto. 1811 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 263 Whippence, viz. the weigh-beam and bodkins, the fore carriage of a plough, as also of the harrow and drag. 1855 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVI. i. 113 They [*sc.* horses drawing a plough] should be worked abreast (the attachment being by means of 'wippons'). 1884 *West Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept., 10 sets of drag and small harrows, whippons and traces. 1919 R. P. Chope *Some Old Farm Implements* 13 The modern harrows are made entirely of iron, and the parts are not hinged together, but to a wooden cross-beam which is connected to the whippintree.

†**Whippincrust**. *Obs. rare*—1. Some kind of wine; ? a perversion of Hippocras.

1616 *Marlowe's Faustus* Wks. (1910) 197 *Rob.* [the ostler] If thou't go but to the Tauerne with me, I'le giue thee.. Sacke, Muskadine, Malmesey and Whippincrust.

Whipping (hwi·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also (sense 2) *Sc.* **wippen**. [f. Whip *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of striking with or as with a whip.

a. The, or an, infliction of corporal punishment by strokes of a whip or rod; scourging, flogging, flagellation; *loosely*, beating with the hand or otherwise, slapping, spanking. Also *fig.* chastisement, disciplinary correction; defeat, 'beating' (*U. S. colloq.*).

1566 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 149/1 P[d] for whyppynge of a man xii[d]. 1602 Shake. *Ham.* II. ii. 556 Vse euerie man after his desart, and who should scape whipping. 1630 Donne *Serm., Matt. iv. 18-20* (1640) 733, I am not bound..to teare my flesh by inhumane whippings, and flagellations. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvi. 110 To such a lad a frown may be a whipping. 1720 Swift *Mod. Educ.* Wks. 1755 II. II. 34 Whipping breaks the spirits of lads well born. 1752 Chesterf. *Let. to Dayrolles* 18 Oct., Pray let my godson never know what a blow or a whipping is, unless for those things for which, were he a man, he would deserve them. 1866 Mrs. H. Wood *Elster's Folly* xxxiii, She put him across her knee, pulled off an old slipper she was wearing, and gave him a sound whipping with its fat sole. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* xii, If a letter had been withheld by her father it was a part of her whipping. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 623 The savage whippings of criminals.

b. *gen.* or in other connexions, e. g. the driving of a horse, or spinning of a top, with a whip.

1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 119 b, It must be sene to, that they [*sc.* horses drawing together] be euen matched, least the stronger spoyle the weaker, while he dreadeth the rating, and whipping. *a* 1628 F. Grevil *Let. Hon. Lady* iv, Our flesh being like a Toppe which only goes vpright with whipping. 1796 Marshall *Planting* I. 150 The plants..will..become liable to lash each other's tops, with every blast of wind. This evil is called whipping of tops. 1927 'John Oxenham' *Leading Lion's Whelps* 21 Faces.. bleached and pudden with the whipping of the wind.

c. *Confectionery*, etc. (See Whip *v.* 7.)

1845 G. E. Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 256 The blood contains a certain amount of fibrin,..which on whipping is separated in..stringy masses. 1894 R. S. Surtees *Hamlay Cr.* iv, The whipping of creams, the stiffening of jellies, [etc.].

d. *Angling.* (See Whip *v.* 8.)

1653 Walton *Angler* xi. 203 There is no better sport then whipping for Bleaks in a boat in a Summers evening. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 60 To initiate a young angler..by his whipping for them in a hot summer's evening. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & Widows* v, What state is the river in? ..Will it do for whipping?

e. (See Whip *v.* 6 d, 14.)

1834 in Dk. Buckingham *Crts. Will. IV. & Vict.* (1861) II. 115, I rather think the Government, as they knew they would be weak, considered it..best..to take no pains in whipping. 1880 Trevelyan *C. J. Fox* v. 196 It was an allusion which Burke made in the course of the evening to the industry of the Treasury officials that first rendered the term 'whipping in' classical. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 June 6/2 The Government is entitled to whatever credit is due to a good piece of whipping. 1901 R. S. Warren Bell *Tales of Greyhouse* 48 Wardour, a trifle weary of the arduous task of whipping-in, had forged ahead. 1903 *Times* 30 Mar. 7/6 Extra zeal..in the whipping-in of audiences.

2. The action of overlaying or binding with cord or the like wound closely round and round; *concr.* the cord, etc. so wound around something (or each turn of it).

1540 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 4 Payd for whyppynge of roopes..viij*d*. 1673 *Wolferborn's Vocab.* 38 (Jam.) *Baculi cauliis*, the club shaft. *Baculi manubrium*, the handle where the wippen is. *Baculi filum*, the wippen. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. P 5 [He] whips the Cord again about the Page.., taking care that the several whippings lye parallel. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 117/1 The whipping of the string, is that part where the arrow is set on. 1770 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 330 The lashings..will yield no longer to his whipping and pulling. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 28 For splicing an eye put on a good whipping. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 112 To whip the end of a rope..The turns of the whipping are always passed up towards the end of the rope. 1887 J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* 90 The whipping of hooks on gimp.

b. *Needlework.* (See Whip *v.* 18.)

1814 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 274 Tell Mrs. Haw..to prepare for plenty of hemming and whipping. 1866 Mrs. Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* ix, All kinds of stitches—embroidery, and plain over-and-over, and whippings, and darns. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 519 *Whipping*, a term..denoting a method of drawing up a piece of frilling..into gathers, by..sewing loosely over a delicately rolled edge of the same.

3. †a. = Whip-grafting. *Obs.*

1629 Parkinson *Parad.* III. vi. 547 For whipping, the time is somewhat later then grafting in the stocke.

b. Hoisting with a 'whip' (Whip *sb.* 15).

1835–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 87/1 There is no occasion in this case, in unloading a vessel of coals, to be confined to..what is called whipping. 1861, 1887 [see Coal-whipping].

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. in sense 1, as *whipping-audit* (Audit *sb.* 3), *-bout*, *-day*, etc.; **whipping-bench**, a bench on which offenders are laid to be whipped; †**whipping-cheer** (*humorous*), flogging, flagellation; **whipping-girl** (cf. Whipping-boy); **whipping-hand** = Whip-hand; **whipping-place**, a place at which offenders are or were publicly whipped; **whipping-pole** = next; **whipping-post**, a post set up, usually in a public place, to which offenders are or were tied to be whipped; **whipping-stock**, (*a*) = prec.; (*b*) a person who is frequently whipped (cf. *laughing-stock*); **whipping-top**, a top spun by whipping; also *fig.*; **whipping-trade** (*sarcastic*), the occupation of a schoolmaster.

a 1638 Cleveland *Char. Country-Comm.-man* Wks. (1687) 77 His Fate..is..a *whipping Audit, when he is wrung in the Withers by a Committee of Examinations. 1906 Crockett *White Plumes* xiv, The *whipping-bench and a good dozen spare rods are what they want. 1778 Nugent *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 160 Her husband had still the marks of a *whipping-bout. 1576 Whetstone *1st Pt. Promos & Cass.* IV. i. 2 She fearde of late, of *whipping cheere to smell. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numbers, Hell*, Hell is the place where whipping-cheer abounds. 1683–4 *Thamasis's Advice to Painter* 40 For his Cheat, the Man will pay full dear, Condemned by my Lord to Whipping Chear. 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Jan., To-morrow.. is his [*sc.* the Lord Treasurer's] day when all the ministers dine with him. He calls it *whipping-day...we do indeed usually rally him about his faults on that day. 1896 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 5/1 There will always be a devotee ready to stand as *whipping-girl between him and the strokes of fate. 1906 Mrs. Croker *Youngest Miss Mowbray* viii, Ella did not speak; she did not even cry out, while she acted as the whipping-girl of her enemy. 1682 Hickeringill *Black Non-Conf.* Postscr. Y, You have got the *whipping hand of him. 1632 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VIII. 457/2 The *whippinge place in the Markett. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Crim. Crts.*, Often have we strayed here, in sessions time, to catch a glimpse of the whipping-place. 1862 H. Marryat *Year in Sweden* I. 360 *note*, In after times the Kaken or *whipping-pole, stood on the Stortorg. 1600 *News Metamorphosis* (Nares) Be brought to th' *whipping post..And as a rogue stande ready to be whipt. 1742 Tailfer etc. *Narr. Georgia* 37 Irons, Whipping-Posts, Gibbets, &c. were provided. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* ii, He never was flogged, but it was a wonder how he escaped the whipping-post. 1854 — *Newcomes* ii, No whipping post ..could have been leaner than Mrs. Newcome. 1703 De Foe *Hymn to Pillory* 230 In vain he struggl'd, he strange'd in vain, To bring in *Whipping Sentences again. Wart *Strappado* (1676) 174, Send them to th' stocks. 1678 Penn in *Life*, Wks. 1782 I. p. lxxii, We have the wool-packs, and common whipping-stock of the k[ingdom]. *Gil Blas* VII. I. (Rtldg.) 203, I am to be the mere *whipping-top of fortune. 1885 Mostyn *Remin. Towns* etc. II. 249 A boy's whipping-top. *a* 1709 *T. Brown's Wks.* (1711) IV. 185 By Nature meant, by Want a Pedant made, Bl——re at first profess'd the *Whipping-trade.

b. in sense 2, as *whipping cotton, silk, twine.*

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* French terms, *Ficelle*, or *Ficelle*, whipping-twine. 1887 J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* 108 A piece of gold tinsel is..secured by one turn of the loose whipping silk. 1893 Rosevear *Text-bk. Needlework* 208 Whipping cotton must be very..strong, and yet fine.

c. in sense 3 c, as *whipping-hoist, -jigger.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Whipping-hoist*, a steam hoisting-device for use in buildings. 1895 *Daily News* 13 July 5/4 A crane lifting eight tons, fitted with 'whipping jigger'.

Whi·pping, *ppl. a.* [f. Whip *v.* + -ing[2].] That whips, in various senses.

1. Moving briskly or nimbly; acting vigorously or violently; characterized by such movement or action. (See senses of Whip *v.* 1.)

[1530: see Whippingly below.] 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 17 A whipping Mistresse H. (whose young goath like the clacke of a Mill). 1656 (*title*) Divine Fireworks..hinting what the Almighty Emanuel is doing in these wipping times. 1700 R. Cromwell in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 120 A whippings sneezing cold. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* xxxiii. III. 323, I have a whipping Stomach, and were there fifty Dishes, I always taste of every one. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* xviii, At a whipping pace.

2. Beating with or as with a whip; flogging; lashing; also *fig.*

1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Andria* I The master of the rogues, a whipping Bedle. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [I.] xxvi. 84 The whipping Satyrist. R. Cullum *Hound from North* ii, The whipping snc—— their faces. 1919 *10th Cent.* Nov. 968 To become the drilling and whipping masters of the despised soldiery.

b. *Whipping Tom*: a man who whips others or flagellates himself (see quots. for various uses).

1681 Hickeringill *Vind. Naked Truth* II. 2 A furious chastizing Pædagogue, another Whipping-Tom, that took pleasure to lash and slash. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 21 A Detachment of the same Croisade, or Holy War, call'd *Flagellantes* or Whipping-Toms. *a* 1728 W. Kennett in *Aubrey's Rem. Gentilisme* (1881) 59 A Whipping Tom in Kent who disciplined the wandring Maids and Women till they were afraid to walk abroad. 1792 Throsby *Leicester* 356 These whip-men, called Whipping-Toms, are preceded by a bell-man [etc.]. 1846 *Local Act* (Leicester) 9 *Vict.* c. 29 § 41. 1923 S. H. Skillington *Let. to Editor*, Early on Shrove Tuesday a crowd assembled in the Newarke, Leicester. At the sound of the 'Pancake Bell' a number of men and youths began a game of hockey or shinney. About 1 o'clock the 'Whipping Toms', three men in blue smocks with very long wagon whips, began to try to drive the shinney players out with their whips. The game was suppressed by Parliament in 1846.

Hence **Whippingly** *adv.*

1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Whyppyngly, hastely, *hastivement*. Whyppingly, gorgeously, *gorgiasement*.

Whi·pping-boy. A boy educated together with a young prince or royal personage, and flogged in his stead when he committed a fault that was considered to deserve flogging. Hence *allusively*.

1647 Trapp *Comm. 1 Tim.* v. 20 Rebuke before all; yet not as if they were whipping boyes. *a* 1725 Burnet *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 59 William Murray of the bed-chamber, that had been whipping boy to King Charles the first. 1820 [illegible] is a difficult matter,..for you have to choose persons for whose faults you are to be punished; to whom you are to be the whipping-boy. 1924 Petrie in *Anc. Egypt* 32 With some writers..Manetho is the whipping-boy, who must always be flogged whenever anything is not understood.

Whi·pping-sna·pping, *a. nonce-wd.* [Fanciful f. Whipper-snapper.] Diminutive, insignificant.

1862 Thackeray *Round. Papers, Ogres*, Though they had seven-leagued boots,..all sorts of little whipping-snapping Tomb [*sic*] Thumbs used to elude and out-run them.

†**Whi·ppletree**[1]. *Obs.* Of uncertain origin and meaning.

Usually glossed 'cornel-tree' and compared with MLG. *wipelbom*, which, with *wiepen-* and *welphenbôm*, glosses L. *cornus*. (In the absence of a French gloss in quot. 1530, the identity of the word intended is doubtful.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Kn't.'s T.* 2063 Mapul, thorn, bech, hasel, Ew, whippeltre [*v.rr.* Whippul-, -il-, whipil-, wypul-.] 1530 Palsgr. 288/2 Whypple tree.

Whippletree[2] (hwi·p'l,tri). [The first element is app. f. Whip; cf. Whippin.] = Swingletree 2.

1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 319 Two Whippletrees of two Foot sixteen Inches each, that the Horses draw by. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 244 A Spring and Index fixed to a Whipple-tree for ascertaining the force exerted in the Draught of Carriages. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 165 These carts are capable of being drawn either by two horses abreast, or by the same number at length; for which purpose there are suitable staples fixed for hanging the whipple-tree upon. 1891 Malden *Tillage* 110 Iron Whippletrees for Two Horses Abreast.

Whi·p-poor-wi·ll. Also 8 **whipper-**, 9 **wipper-**, **-will**, **whippo-**. [Echoic, from the bird's note.] Popular name in U. S. and Canada for a species of [illegible] Virginia, Whip-Poor-Will, from its Cry. 1778 J. Carver *Trans. N. Amer.* xviii. 468 The Whipper-will, or as it is termed by the Indians, the Muckawies..acquires its name by the notes it makes. [illegible] vi. iv. (1861) 198 The melancholy lone tree,

J. Woods *Two Yrs. Resid. Illinois* 197 Whipperwill, or whip-poor-will, or wippervill,—a brown bird..is generally heard of an evening in spring and summer. 1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* I, I heard..a Whippowill and a dog crying about somebody that was going to die.

Whippy (hwi·pi), *a.* [f. Whip *sb.* + -y¹.] Resembling a whip; *esp.* bending like a whip, flexible, springy.

1867 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* ix. 277 The Irish spliced rods are..rather too whippy or flexible. 1898 *Cycling* 25 An unduly whippy machine should be let alone.

Whip-saw (hwi·p,sɔ), *sb.* [f. Whip *sb.* or *v.* + Saw *sb.*] A frame-saw with a narrow blade, used esp. for curved work.

1538 Elyot, *Runcina*, a whypsawe, wherwith tymber is sawen. 1552 in P. H. Hore *Wexford* (1901) 243 In the Storehouse at the Mynes..a whypp sawe. 1556 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 100 In Maid's chamber..11 old wood chests and a whype sawe. 1697 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 107 Three whip-sawes, going all at once in a Frame or Pit. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 99 The Whip-Saw is used.. to Saw such greater peeces of Stuff that the Hand-Saw will not easily reach through;..two men takes each an handle of the Saw. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 701 The long saw, pit saw, or whip saw. *Ibid.* 703 The blade [of the pit frame-saw] is usually five or six feet long, and thinner than that of the whip saw. 1903 Nancy H. Banks *Round Anvil Rock* ii, The rich dark wood of its walls and floor—all rudely smoothed with the broadaxe and the whip-saw.

Hence **Whip-saw** *v.*, *intr.* to work a whip-saw; *trans.* to cut with a whip-saw; *fig.* (*U. S. slang*) to have or get the advantage of thoroughly, to overcome completely, 'cut up'; **Whip-sawyer**, a man who works a whip-saw.

1881 *Lumber World* (U. S.) Mar., Some of the first saw mills built in England..were destroyed..on the ground that it would ruin the occupation of the whip sawyers. 1884 *Hartford* (Conn.) *Post* Sept., Had Braddock been half as prudent as he was brave, he could..have whipsawed the French and Indians in that campaign. 1904 Eliz. Robins *Magnetic North* ii. 26 He would..show us how to whip-saw. 1918 R. Dollar *Mem.* vi. 63 These [trees] are hewn in the woods either on two or four sides, and are then whip-sawn by the natives at the place of consumption.

Whipsey-, -sider(r)y: see Whipsy-derry.

Whipship (hwi·pʃip). *nonce-wd.* [f. Whip *sb.* + -ship.] a. (with poss. pron.) Humorous title for a coachman. b. The post of a parliamentary 'whip'.

1817 Keats *Let. to Fanny Keats* 10 Sept., I disembark'd from his Whipship's Coach. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 1 June 671/2 Lord Ribblesdale has flung up the whipship of his party.

Whip-snake. Name for various serpents of long slender form like a whip-lash, as *Masticophis flagelliformis* of N. America, *Philodryas viridissimus* of Brazil, *Hoplocephalus flagellum* of Australia.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 203 In the tropical climates, the rattle-snake, the whip-snake, and the cobra di capello, are the most formidable. 1813 J. Forbes *Oriental Mem.* I. 199 The Concan abounds with serpents..: one of the most dangerous is a long snake of a beautiful green; in form resembling the lash of a coach-whip, from whence it is called the whip-snake. 1829 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* I. (1903) 9 The whipsnake, of a beautiful changing green,.. may be handled with safety. 1887 R. M. Praed *Longleat Koorabyn* xx, A whip-snake..made a dart at Barrington's arm. 1898 E. D. Cope *Crocodil.*, etc. *N. Amer.* (1900) 789 The species of this genus [*sc.* Zamenis] are elongate in form and active in movement, so that the popular names of 'whip-snake' and 'racer' are appropriate.

Whipstaff (hwi·p,staf). [Staff *sb.*]

1. = Whipstock 1.

1509 Middleton *Micro-cynicon* B 4 b, With nailed shooes, and whipstaffe in his hand.

†2. *Naut.* = Whip *sb.* 13. *Obs.*

1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* ii. 12 The Whip-staffe is that peece of wood like a strong staffe the..Helmesman hath alwales in his hand..made fast to the Tiller with a Ring. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 305 My land Gentlemen..were now forced to learn to steer, and take their turns at the Whipstaff. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* French terms, *Manuelle*, the whip-staff of a helm;..now entirely disused.

Whipstalk (hwi·p,stɔk). *dial.* = Whipstock 1.

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* iii. (1602) G, Bought you a whistle and a whipstalke too. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 329 Horrid belaboring of the poor horses' backs, with the butt-end of a hickory whip-stalk.

†**Whipstart.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [? f. Whip *v.* Cf. Upstart.] app. = next, 1 c.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 437 b, Whiles this whipstart [*sc.* a priest] alone have played all the partes of the Pageaunt.

Whipster (hwi·pstəɹ). [app. f. Whip *v.* + -ster. Cf. prec. and Whipping *ppl. a.* 1.]

1. A vague term of reproach, contempt, or the like, with various shades of meaning. a. A lively, smart, reckless, violent, or mischievous person. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* 3 They had neede be large long Spoons..if I come to feed with such whipsters. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 63 You that intende to be fine companionable gentlemen, amirkinge wittes, and whipsters in the world. 1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 18 Cupid feigned as a boy,..because he is an underwitted whipster [*orig.* nugator], that neither acts nor thinks any thing with discretion. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whipster*, a sharp, or subtil Fellow. 1820 W. Irving *Bracebr. Hall* (1845) 223 The whipsters roam in truant bands about the neighbourhood. 1906 Sutton *Poetry of Badenoch* 432 Like a whipster from school.

b. A wanton, lascivious, or licentious person, a debauchee. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 81, I should quite fray away many of M. Anthonies companions from bestowing their affections on so liberall whipsters. 1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* iv. i, There were Whipsters abroad, I' faith, Padders of Maiden-heads. 1697 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* v. iii, To deliver up her fair Body, to be tumbled and mumbled, by that young Liquorish Whipster. [1898 R. Blakeborough *Wit*, etc. *N. Riding Yorkshire* Gloss., *Whipster*, a doubtful character.]

c. A slight, insignificant, or contemptible person. (The current literary sense, often with the epithet *puny*, after Shaks.)

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 244, I am not valiant neither: But every Punie whipster gets my Sword. 1688 D'Urfey *Inf. Princ.* iv. iv, A plaguy little Whipster this. 1708 Rowe *Royal Convert* Prol., Each puny Whipster here, is Wit enough. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxxiv, When I first saw this whipster. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 42 Every little whipster of a French poet. 1882 Stevenson *Across the Plains* iii. (1892) 141 No tearful whipster.

2. One who wields a whip: a. a driver of horses; b. one addicted to whipping or flogging, a scourger, lasher (also *fig.*). ? *Obs.*

1628 Cleveland *News from Newc.* 29 He'd leave the trotting Whipster, and prefer Our profound Vulcan 'bove that Wagoner. 1670 *Comenius' Janua Ling.* § 504. 132 A Wks. 1903 I. 304 To see one of those refiners in discipline himself at the cart's tail, with just such a convenient spot laid bare to the tender mercies of the whipster.

Whip-stitch (hwi·p,stitʃ), *sb.* (*adv.*) [f. Whip *sb.* 16, *v.* 18 + Stitch *sb.*]

1. *Needlework.* A stitch of the kind described s.v. Whip *v.* 18; an overcast stitch: = Whip *sb.* 16.

1640 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Prose Needle* A 2, The smarting Whip-stitch, Back-stitch, & the Crosse-stitch. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 22 Whip-stitch. This should be formed of a very neat tight roll, the raw edge being completely rolled in. 1885 Leno *Boot & Shoemaking* x. 88 When lasted, the upper is braced round with a single thread with a whip-stitch. 1893 Rosevear *Text-bk. Needlework* 204 The stitch makes the roll on the material look like a whip-cord, and..this is probably the origin of the name of whip-stitch.

2. Phr. (*At*) *every whip-stitch*, at short or frequent intervals. *dial.* and *U. S.*

1890 J. D. Robertson *Gloss. Glouc.* s. v., 'He was in and out every whip-stitch, meaning 'every now and then'. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXIII. 757/2 Feast days occur at every whipstitch.

†3. as *adv.* or *int.* expressing sudden movement or action. *Obs. slang* or *colloq.*

1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* iv. 74 I'll slide down from the window .. and, Whip Stich, your Nose in my Breech, Sir Nicholas. I'll leave my Cloaths behind me. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 80 He shall cast ye a Knot, whip stich, in a Twinkling, as intricate as the Gordion one.

Whip-stitch, *v. Needlework.* [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To sew with a whip-stitch: = Whip *v.* 18.

1592 Greene *Upstart Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 240 Silcke lace, cloth of golde, of siluer, and such costly stuffe, to welte, garde, whippestitch, edge, face, and draw out. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 279/2 If 'inserts' or 'plates' of single sheets are to form part of the book, these are usually pasted or 'whip-stitched' by hand upon or within the folded sheet.

Whipstock (hwi·p,stɔk). [Stock *sb.*1]

1. The stick or staff to which the lash of a whip is attached; the handle of a whip.

1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Whypstocke, *manche dung fouet.* 1608 Shaks. *Per.* II. ii. 51 He appeares To haue practis'd more the Whipstocke, then the Launce. 1655 [G. Hall] *Tri. Rome* vi. 75 The Basilites spared their flesh lesse then her cruellest whip-stocks. 1890 'Sylvanus' *Bye-lanes & Downs* iv. 52 Beating out the brains of one ruffian with a whip-stock he always carried. 1892 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* I. ii, Sitting down and leaning his chin upon his whipstock. 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath from Veldt* 62 Having fishing material with us..I soon had the two whipstocks rigged up.

b. *transf.* A man who drives horses. *contemptuous.*

1623 Tomkis *Albumazar* iv. iv, Out Carter. Hence durtie whipstocke.

†2. A whipping-post (= *whipping-stock* (*a*), Whipping *vbl. sb.* 4 a). *Obs.*

1619 H. Hutton *Follie's Anat.* B 4 b, The beggers whipstock, or the Gallowes hire. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 113 Suspected for a picklock Th' beedle led me to the whip-stock.

†3. A person who is frequently whipped (= *whipping-stock* (*b*), Whipping *vbl. sb.* 4 a); in quot. = Flagellant *sb. Obs.*

1640 Bp. Hall *Chr. Moder.* I. iii. 24 Such were the famous whip-stocks in the time of Gregory the tenth.

†4. *Naut.* = Whipstaff 2, Whip *sb.* 13. *Obs.*

1682 Wheler *Journ. to Greece* III. 286 In this Storm we broke the Whip-stock, and split the Stern.

5. *attrib.*: **whipstock wise** *adv. phr.*, in the manner of a whipstock: in quot. applied to Whip-grafting.

1608 Plat *Garden of Eden* (1653) 117 Grafting whipstock wise, and letting in the clone into the stock by a slit, is good for young trees.

Whipstress (hwi·pstrés). *rare*—¹. [f. Whipster 2 b: see -stress.] A female flogger.

1707 tr. *Whs. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 366 The Whipstresses [*orig. Jouetteuses*]..had so tir'd themselves, that they could no longer stir their Arms.

Whipsy-derry. Also **whipsider(r)y, whipsey-derry.** [app. connected with Whip *sb.* 15 and Derrick *sb.*] A contrivance for hoisting (esp. ore in shallow mines), consisting of a derrick with a 'whip' or simple pulley attached, and worked by a horse or horses. Also simply *whipsy* and *whip and derry* (Whip *sb.* 15).

1865 Trebellas *Tales* 146 (E. D. D.) 'What is a whipsiderry, sir?' said I. 'A whipsiderry,' said he, 'tes a thing for rising trasde, 'tes a sort of whem.' 1866 Thornbury *Greathearts* xxxiv, Two waggons, laden with..whipsidery pulleys, disjointed fragments of steam-engines, and miners' spads and crowbars. 1866 R. P. Whitworth *Bailliere's S. Austral. Gazetteer* 116 There are..2 double whipseys, and several single whipseys. 1875 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 76 With the 'derrick' or 'whipsey-derry' the cost will be a little more than with the horse-whim.

Whiptail (hwi·p,teɪl). [f. Whip *sb.* 1 + Tail *sb.*1] Name used (simply or attrib.) for any one of various animals having a long slender tail like a whip-lash: see quots.

1771 J. R. Forster *Flora Amer. Septentr.* To Rdr. p. vii, Whiptail forked Fistularia tabaccaria [tobacco-pipe fish]. 1887 Tyrwhitt *New Chum Queensland Bush* 145 (Morris) Kangaroos..of..different kinds,..the smaller kind, known as pretty faces or whip tails. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 748/1 The genus *Thalyphonus* (Whip-tail, Nigger Killer, Mule Killer..) [= whip-scorpion]. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng., Tasmanian Whiptail*, ..*Coryphænoides tasmanie*,.. an altogether different fish from *Myliobatis aquila*, the Eagle or Whiptail Ray [= whip-ray].

Whip-tom-kelly. [Imitative, from the bird's note: cf. Whip-poor-will.] Popular name for the Red-eyed Greenlet or 'Flycatcher' (*Vireo olivaceus* or *Vireosylvia olivacea*) of eastern N. America, and the Black-whiskered Greenlet (*Vireo barbatulus* or *Vireosylvia calidris*) of the W. Indies, Bahamas, and Florida.

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 476 Whip-tom-kelly. I believe this to be a bird of passage. 1864-5 Wood *Homes without H.* xii. 247 The Red-Eyed Flycatcher (Muscicapa olivacea) popularly known as 'Whip-Tom-Kelly,' from its peculiar articulate cry. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 120 *Vireo altiloquus* var. *barbatulus*. Black-whiskered Vireo. Whip-tom-kelly.

Whir, *sb.* and *v.*: see Whirr.

Whirche, obs. var. Work *v.*

Whirken, obs. f. Querken *v.*, to suffocate.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 101 Þai war bothe whirkenid þerwith & deyid.

Whirl (hwɜl), *sb.* Forms: 5 qwherel, qwerle, wherwille, *Sc.* quhirl(l, 6 whiruel(l, wherle, whyrle, whirroll, 6–7 whurle, 6–8 whirle, 7 wervell, whurl, 6– whirl. [Partly a. MLG., MDu. *wervel* or ON. *hvirfill* (see Whirl *v.*), partly f. the verb itself. Cf. Whorl.]

I. Denoting a material object.

1. The fly-wheel or pulley of a spindle: = Whorl *sb.* 1.

1422 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, x. qwerles. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 270, vj. soketes, with branches to remeve. iij. wherwilles to the same. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 298/2 A Qwherel of A spyndylle (*A.* A Qworle of A roke), *giraculum, neopellum, vertibrum.* 1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C j b, *Verticillum*, a wherle [1525, a whorle]. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 20 Nourse medle you with your spyndle and your whirle. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 35/1 A whiruell, *verticulum, verticulus, spondilus.* 1585 W. Whitaker *Answ. to Rainolds* 160 Among the other praises of a woorthy..woman that is one, that she putteth hir hande to the wherle. 1598 Florio, *Aspo*, .. a whirroll. 1659 Torriano, *Cócca*, the wervell or button of a spindle. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 389 The revolution of the wheel,..conveyed by a band to the whirl, or pulley on the spindle.

†b. *transf.* A skein of thread sufficient to fill a spindle. *Obs.*

1560 W. Baldwin *Funeralles Edw. VI, Death playnt* iii, Atropos did knap in two the string, Before her sisters sixtene whurles had spun.

c. *Rope-making.* A cylindrical piece of wood furnished with a hook on which the ends of the fibre are hung in spinning.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 58 Whirls are of beech or ash,..cylindrically formed, and fixed on iron spindles in the heads of wheels, with a hook at one end for the spinner to hang his hemp on. They are likewise used to hang the yarn on for hardening and laying ropes. 1797 [see *whirl-hook* under Whirl-]. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 844/1 The point of the prolonged axis of the whirl is bent into a hook.

†2. = Whirl-wo.

1658 Rowland tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 1042 A Whirl or little hairy Worm with many feet. *Ibid.*, I collect that there is a house Whurl like to *Silphius*.

3. *Bot.* and *Zool.* = Whorl *sb.* 2.

1713 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 194 The upper Whirls are guarded with round pointed Leaves. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 189 Whirls of leaves often so thickly set as partly to tile the stems. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 187/2 The numberless animals of the colony are grouped in whirls.

4. *Conch.* = Whorl *sb.* 3.

1682 Grew *Museum* I. vi. i. 123 A Shell..with a Knobed Turban or Whirle. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* 45 The whirls of spiral shells are sometimes separated by the interference of foreign substances. 1862 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 286 In *Triforis*, the whirls turn the wrong way.

b. = Top *sb.*2 2.

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 Trochites, The Whirls, or Top-shell.

5. A convolution, curl, spiral: = Whorl *sb.* 4.

1862 Burton *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 399 The noose, the tails, the feet of the characteristic monster of the sculptured stones, all end in a whirl. 1884 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* June 418 The reduction of friction and of whirls in the wheel.

6. *Angling.* A spinning bait.

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 71 Using two lines with spoon-baits or 'whirl'.

7. *Electr.* (See quots.)

1842 Francis *Dict. Arts, Whirl, Electrical.* (See *Flyer.*) 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5598, Series of apparatus..including Leyden jars..swan, spider, whirl or fly. 1893 Sloane *Electr. Dict.* 577 A conductor carrying an electric current is surrounded by circular lines of force, which are sometimes termed an electric whirl.

II. Denoting a movement (and derived senses).

8. The action, or an act, of whirling; (swift) rotatory or circling movement, rotation, circumvolution, gyration; a (rapid) turn, as of a wheel, around an axis or centre.

spec. in *Fencing*: cf. quot. 1771 s.v. Whirl *v.* 3. In *Kinematics*, a uniform rotation of a fluid about a fixed axis.

c 1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* 370 Wardly men sum tyme ar castin hie Apon the quhele, in grete prosperitee, And wyth a quhirl, vnwarly, or thai witte, Ar thrawin doun to pure & law estate. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. x. H 3, The whirle on toe, The turne aboue ground. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) 1 Sam. xxv. 29 In violence, and whurle of a sling. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* III. vi, What flaws, and whirles of weather. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 562 The good man .. bids earth roll, nor feels her idle whirl. 1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* 87 This [wrenching] differs from whirling; because you limit it not as you do the whirl, to get a good Repost. 1829 C. Rose *Four Yrs. S. Africa* 146 A wild kind of dance, the principal motion of which was a whirl. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xvi. 186 The bowling of the wind and the whirl of the snow-drift. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Kinematic* 214 Whirls. Suppose next that the lines of flow are circles having their centres on a fixed axis, and their planes perpendicular to it, and that there is no spin except at the axis, and no expansion anywhere. 1894 *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXV. I. 281 In an unloaded shaft, the period of whirl coincides with the natural period of lateral vibration. 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* xxvi, A whirl of the wheel to the right, a turn to the left.

b. Something, as a body of water or air, in (rapid) circling motion, or the part at which this takes place; an eddy, a vortex.

a 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II. 531 As wrastling windes out of dispersed whirl [orig. *rupto turbine*] Befight themselues. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 118/1 These whirls and eddies in a River..have..the nature and force of a Screw. 1753 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1840 VI. 155 Still the tube or whirl of air may remain entire. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* VII. x, Upon the whirl, where sank the ship, The boat spun round and round. 1847 Stoddart *Angler's Comp.* 146 Trout..are found..close below banks, among side-runs and small whirls. 1901 *Words of Eye-witness* 101 A whirl of rifle-bullets beat upon the wet ground.

9. In extended use: Swift or violent movement, as of something hurled or flung, or of a wheeled vehicle, etc.; rapid course; rush, hurry. Also *fig.*

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Rich. II.* cix, The Noble Vere springs at a double whirle, Marquesse and Duke. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* x. 52 Snatch'd in the whirl, the hurried navy flew. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, The lively whirl of carriages is exchanged for the deep rumble of carts and waggons. 1882 T. G. Bowles *Flotsam & Jetsam* 97 Such a wretched device for filling their holidays as a whirl from one place to another, and a whirl back.

10. *fig.* Confused and hurried activity of any kind; disturbance, commotion; tumult, bustle.

1552 Huloet, Whyrle or rage of a battayle. 1600 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* I. iii. C 4 b, What whirle's this? 1780 Mrs. Cowley *Belle's Stratagem* II. i, The feelings of Wife, and Mother, are lost in the whirl of dissipation. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., Whit-Sunday* x, A giddy whirl of sin Fills ear and brain. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxix, To-morrow was to be a half-holiday devoted to a whirl of entertainments. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* vi, Those who live in the whirl of London Society.

b. A confused, disturbed, distracted, or dizzy state of mind or feeling.

1707 Addison *Rosamond* III. iii, My soul is..in the whirle of passion lost. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* iv, In a whirl of wonder at the theatre. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* lxv, His head was in a complete whirl. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* III. iii. § 6 He departed in a whirl, to secure a copy of every morning paper.

Whirl (hwɜːl), *v.* Forms: 3 ȝwirle, 4 wyrle, 4–6 whyrle, 4–7 whirle, 5 quirle, 6 whyrl, *Sc.* quherle, quhirl(l)e, whirle, 6–7 whorle, whurl(e, 6– whirl. [prob. a. ON. *hvirfla* to turn about, whirl (Sw. *virfla*, obs. Da. *hvirle*, Da. *hvirvle*), related to ON. *hvirfill* circle, ring, esp. crown of the head, top, summit, pole of the heavens (MSw. *hvirvil* crown of the head, Sw. *virvel*, obs. Da. *hvirrel*, Da. *hvirvel* eddy, etc.) = (M)Du., (M)LG. *wervel* †whirlpool, †spindle, vertebra, swivel, bolt, OHG. *wirbil*, *wirvil* whirlwind (MHG., G. *wirbel* whirlwind, whirlpool, giddiness, vertebra, swivel, sheave, tumult; cf. *wirbeln* to whirl, trill, *wirblig* rotatory, giddy) = OTeut. **xwerbil-*, f. *xwerb-* to rotate: see Weaver *v.*, -el 1, -le 1, 3.

OE. *hwearflian*, *hwarflian* 'errare' (Northumb. *hwarflung* 'error', 'vicissitudo') and **hwarflian*, *hwyrftlian* to rotate, do not appear to have survived; they are app. based on the variant *xwerf-*, which is otherwise widely represented (cf. late Northumb. *hwarf* 'error', OE. **hwirftel*, *wirftel* in place names, OHG. *werbil* 'uterus, plectrum', *werbolōn* 'roteri, vannei', *werbisch* 'versatilis', and forms s.v. Weaver *v.*).

Contamination with *hwirl* is seen in sense 6, as also in the variants Hurlpool, Hurlwind of Whirlpool, Whirlwind. Cf. similarly Thirlpool (association with Thirl, Thrill.).]

1. *intr.* To move in a circle or similar curve, to circle, circulate; more vaguely, to move about in various directions, esp. with rapidity or force; to go (wander, fly, etc.) *about*; to be in commotion.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 211/387 Þe knizt ȝwirlede op in þis blast, ase speldene doth, wel wide. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 1873 As þe blase whirleth of a fire, So to and fro þei fleen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whyrlyn a-bowte, yn ydylnesse..*vagor*. *a* 1475 Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 259 This world is not certeine ne stable, But whirlyng a bowte and mutable. 1568 Googe *Eglogs, Cupido* 648 That vyle deformed Churle Whose foggy Mates..do thycke aboute him whurle. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v. v, Then will I daunce and whirle about the ayre. 1676 Mace *Musick's* [illegible] convey them. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* v. (1856) 36 Rocks, about which the sea-swallow and kittiwake were whirling in endless rounds. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvii. 210 Dense clouds of snow rose, whirling in the air.

b. *fig.*

1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* II. 3 His spirit whurling in my hart, greater than I can declare. 1834 Whittier *Mogg Megone* I. 426 What thoughts of horror and madness whirl Through the burning brain of that fallen girl! 1899 W. Collins *Q. of Hearts* I, A child of the new generation, with all the modern ideas whirling together in her pretty head. 1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XII. IX. (1872) IV. 295 Breslau..is whirling with business.

2. To turn, esp. swiftly, around an axis, like a wheel; to revolve or rotate (rapidly); to spin.

In quot. 1588 *fig.* with allusion to the wheel of Fortune. In *Mech.* used *spec.* of a shaft revolving at excessive speed so as to become bent by the centrifugal force: see quot. 1894 s.v. Whirling *vbl. sb.* 2.

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 916 This hous..was shapen iyke a cage..I the telle That but I bringe the therinne Ne shalt thou neuer kunne gynne To come in to hyt..So faste hit whirleth [*v.rr.* whyrleth, whirlyth] lo aboute. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xvii. (1495) C vij b, For his depnesse he [*sc.* the whirlpool] meuyth rounde aboute, whyrlynge & reboundyng. Therfore swymmers ben oft perisshyd. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5294 Twenti tamed Olifants turned it a-boute, Quirland all on quelea. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. vii. 88 As sum tyme sclentis the round top of tre, Hit with the twynit quhyp, dois quherle. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.* II. *Collingbourne* iv, We knowe .. the course of Fortunes wheele, Howe constantly it whyrleth styll about. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 384 Iustice alwaies whirles in equall measure. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 148 Ȝon is Charybdis that vhirlis ay about. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 14 The eddies whirle into twenty manners. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 99 A fire wheel which is to whirl horizontally in the water. 1833 Tennyson *Palace of Art* 13 While Saturn whirls, his stedfast shade Sleeps on his luminous ring. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xli, Round whirled the wheels, and off they rattled. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* vii, She sat down and could not speak—the room whirled round and round.

b. To turn round or aside quickly: = Wheel *v.* 4.

a 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* xii. (1863) 91 Instantly at the lucky hackle something darted, seized it, and whirled to fly..up the [river]. 1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* xxvii, The king whirls on me and rips out: 'None o' your business!' 1916 S. E. White *Bobby Orde* xii, 'What's this?' asked Mr. Kincaid's quiet voice. The man whirled about.

3. *trans.* To cause to rotate or revolve, esp. swiftly or forcibly; to move (something) around an axis, or in a circle or the like: with various shades of meaning: to turn (a wheel, etc.), †twirl (a light object held in the hand), † roll (the eyes), flourish or swing round (a weapon, sling, etc.); *spec.* in *Fencing* (see quot. 1771).

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3261 A-bowte cho whirlilde a whele with hir whitte hondes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whyrlyn, as spynners wythe the whele. 1579 Rice *Invect. Vices* C iv, Seruantes lacke worke, and stande whirlyng their knife aboute their fingers. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* IX. 404 We cross the Axle of the world, And with the sphere about are whorled. *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* (O) 717 To whirle the eyes too much shewes a Kites [illegible] 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 903 They whirl their Slings around. 1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* Index, *Whirling*, is to whirl your adversary's blade about to the same parade again; that is, when you parry with a Half-circle, to whirl his blade round to a Tierce, and into a Half-circle again; or, you may whirl from one parade to another, as from a Quinte to a Quarte,..&c. 1774 tr. *Helvetius' Child Nat.* lix. II. 308 Richard blushed through stupidity, and, whirling his hat, said he would please me. 1809 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* II. 489 One with whom oft he whirled the bounding flail. 1823 J. Wilson *Marg. Lyndsay* xix. 148 Widow Alison..was..whirling down a yard of twine from the roller, to tie a two-pound parcel of brown-sugar. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Phil.* II. vi. (1851) 149 A stone whirled round in a sling. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, The gentlemen..go down the middle and up again,.. and whirl their partners round.

†b. To twist or twine around something. *Obs.*

1676 Cotton *Angler* II. vii. 64 The dubbing of a Bears dun whirl'd upon yellow silk.

4. *intr.* To move along swiftly on or as if on wheels; to travel fast in a wheeled vehicle; *gen.* to go swiftly or impetuously, rush or sweep about.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 673 He [*sc.* the dove] wyrled[e] out on þe weder on wynges ful scharpe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2220 Whyrlande out of a wro, wythe felle wrappe. *c* 1 *Lanc. Troy Bk.* 13417 To Menelaus Tr *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneis* IV. 563 Whither whil *Douglas's Æneis* XII. xiii. 138 The schirt quhirlis [*v.r.* quhirris] throw the skye. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* x. 177 The Lyons..downe whirling from the rockes.. for to assault the sheepe. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 49 He come and be thy Waggoner, And whirle along with thee about the Globes. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 956 A knotted Lance,..Which rose'd like Thunder as it whirl'd along. *a* 1726 South *Serm.* (1727) VI. 216 But the Report of it shall whirl and rattle over a whole Nation. 1728 E. Ward *Wand. Spy* II. 47 A Hackney Chaise came whirling by. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* XX, Wha suld come whirling there in a post-chaise, but Monkbarns. 1859 Kingsley *Misc.* II. v. 230 Travellers..within an hour's run of the greatest metropolis in the world, whirling through miles of desert. 1877 Black *Green Past.* iii, The beautiful landscapes through which the train whirled. 1879 E. O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* xxiv. (1882) I. 415 Turcoman cavalry whirling down in their usual loose order.

†b. *trans.* To go swiftly about or around (a place). *Obs. rare*—1.

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cccxc, While he lay Full at the Seige, the Dolphin whirles the Coast.

5. *trans.* To drive (a wheeled vehicle), or convey in a wheeled vehicle, swiftly; *gen.* to drive, impel, carry, or urge along impetuously, as a strong wind or stream (often and now only with implication of circular movement, as in 7).

c 1386 Chaucer *Squire's T.* 663 Appollo whirleth vp his Charr so hye. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4362 She [*sc.* Fortune] canne..whirle adown, and ouer turne Who sittith hieghst. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 30 So fast Phaeton wyth the quhip him quhirlys. 1616 S. S. *Honest Lawyer* II. D 4 b, A Coach, And prauncing Coursers, that shall whirle thee through The popular streetes. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* IV. i, Frae his Pouch he whirled forth a Book. 1782 Cowper *Retirem.* 393 He steps into the welcome chaise..behind four handsome bays, That whirl away from business and debate The disincumber'd Atlas of the state. 1838 Lytton *Rienzi* I. iii, In popular commotions, each man is whirled along with the herd. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XX, The.. speed at which the train was whirled along. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xv. 3 The winds begin to rise..; The last red leaf is whirl'd away. 1854 G. W. Curtis *Potiphar Papers* iv. (1866) 126 He whirled her off into the dance. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* II, The gallant little horses that whirled them.. into the open country. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* XXIII. 398 He had been as a leaf whirled upon a winter torrent. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* X. 111 The river.. becoming a raging..torrent, tearing up trees by the roots and whirling them along like straws.

b. *fig.*

1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* II. iv. ii, Such dunghyll churles, Such newes, as is in market tounes, about the country whorles. 1636 Eam. Monk. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxxvi. (1674) 114 The..fetches, by which unhappy mankind..is..with such publick calamity whirld about. 1837 Hallam *Lit. Eur.* II. vi. § 46 Juliet is a child, whose intoxication in loving and being loved whirls away the little reason she may have possessed.

6. To throw or cast with violence, fling, hurl (esp. with rotatory movement, as from a sling). Also *absol.*

Formerly app. sometimes used by confusion for *hurl* (cf. *per contra* Hurlpit, -pool, -wind).

c 1440 *Wyclif's Bible* 1 Sam. xvii. 49 (MS. Bodl. 277) Dauid..took o stoon, and he castide [*v.r.* whirlide] with the slynge. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 79 b, He taught theim ..to whurle with a slyng, and to..cast a darte. *Ibid.* 138 b, A..boye..was whurleyng litle stones emong the thickest of ye people. 1563 P. Whitehorne *Onosandro Platon.* 78 Molested of the weapons whorlde from farre of. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Crassus* (1595) 611 Who gallowping vp and down the plaine, whirled vp the sand hils from the bottome with their horse feete. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 795 The boistrous Winde, that..proudest Turrets to the ground hath whurld. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 204 Twelve slings, to whirle stones withal. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVI. 585 Sarpedon whirl'd his weighty Lance. 1742 Gray *Eton* 72 Whirl the wretch from high.

†b. *Gaming.* To cast (the dice). Also *absol.*

1579 Rice *Invect. Vices* E ij, Ye plaie naughtelye, whorle, take vp, the tricke is mine, shamfully caste. 1778 Foote *Nabob* II. (1778) 26 When you want to throw off six and four,..you must..whirl the dice to the end of the table. *Ibid.* 27, I shall be able to tap, stamp, dribble, and whirl, with any man in the club.

7. *intr.* To be affected with giddiness, to reel: usually (now only) of the head or brain.

1562 Hollyband *Hom. Apoth.* 5 b, Many are whom the heade whyrleth so sore yt he thinketh the earth turneth vpside-doune. *Ibid.* 42 A..feuer..wherewith men do whyrle and be dismade. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* v, The dim brain whirls dizzy with delight. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* vi, You make my head whirl.

b. *trans.* To affect with giddiness; to put in a whirl or tumult. ? *Obs.*

1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* IV. met. v. 90 Hydden causes whyrle ye mynd. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 19, I am giddy; expectation whirles me round. 1685 F. Spence tr. *Varillas' Hs. Medicis* 456 If he had not been whirl'd with a crotchet to buy a house. *a* 1769 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 607 Nor let this total ruin whirl my brain! 1829 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 540 Precipices, the sight of which has whirled all his brains while awake.

Whirl-, the sb. or vb.-stem in Combination: whirl-brain, a giddy-brained person (cf. G. *wirbelgeist* scatter-brain); †whirl-crowned *a.*, giddy-brained; † whirl-fire, a poetic or rhetorical name for lightning (? as associated with violent storms or whirlwinds); †whirl-gate, a turnstile; whirl-hook, in *Rope-making*, each of the hooks of a 'whirl' (see Whirl *sb.* 1 c); †whirl-jack = Whirligig 1 (*c*); †whirl-mint, ? = whorled water-mint; whirl-pillar, -spout, a rotating

columa of water or dust, a waterspout or dust-whirl; whirl-shaped *a.*, whorled; †whirl-snail, †whirl-stone (see quots.); †whirl-whale, some kind of whale (cf. WHIRL-ABOUT 1, WHIRLPOOL[1]); whirl-wheel (tr. Fr. *rouet volant*), a kind of water-wheel (see quot.).

1827 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. x. 179 He is a *whirl-brain that talks whatever comes uppermost. 1648 N. WARD *Petit. Eastern Assoc.* 10 Many *whirl-crown'd, and bragg-braind Opinionists. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 1021 The smoaking storme, the *whirl-fire's crackling clash. *c* 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 104 The whirle fire shall flash. 1550 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 44 The *whirle yate anont the college dore. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 483/2 This second spinner attaches his own hemp to the *whirl hook. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xl. 37 That he [*sc.* Gargantua] might play..after the manner of the other little children..; they made him a faire weather *whirljack [1694 whirle-gig], of the wings of the windmill. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Cat. Rey's Engl. Herbal* Tab. XXXI, Water *Whirl-mint. Cross Whirl-mint. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 83 In some parts of the ocean the water-spout or *whirl-pillar is occasionally met with. 1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 359 Each series is of equal length, and placed in a wheel or *whirl-shaped form like the equisetum or horse-tail plant. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. VI. i. 132 The *Whirle-Snail. *Turbocochlea.* 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 93 We saw..Ten Thousand little *Whirl-spouts of Sand. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. I. i. 262 The Short *Whirle-Stone. *Trochites.* 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 732 Another, swallowed in a *Whirl-Whale's womb, Is laid a-live within a living Toomb. 1853 GLYNN *Treat. Power Water* 37 An elaborate series of experiments and an excellent report on the useful effect of the ordinary horisontal water-wheel at present used in France. Those on which the experiments were made are at Toulouse... These wheels are of two kinds: those situate on the rivers are called bucket-wheels (*à cuve*)..; those which are placed on the canal are called *whirl-wheels (*rouets volants*),..and are turned by the percussion of the water upon curved floats.

Whirl(e, obs. var. HARL *sb.*[1], HERL.

1676 COTTON *Angler* II. vii. 64 A flie call'd the Peacocks-flie; the body made of a whirl of a Peacocks feather.

Whirl-about.

†**1.** A name for some kind of whale: cf. *whirl-whale* (WHIRL- in Comb.), WHIRLPOOL[1]. *rare*—[1].

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 98 The monstrous Whirl-about [*F. Enormes Senedats*], Which in the Sea another Sea doth spout.

2. The action of whirling about; something that whirls about, or is in a whirl; *attrib.* or *adj.* characterized by whirling about.

1786 C. MORRIS *Songs* (1788) 8 While thro' this whirl-about journey [*sc.* life] we reel. 1837 PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 30 There is such a whirlabout amongst the parties in these transactions, always changing sides. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* vii, His little whirl-about of a head.

Whirlary: see WHIRLERY.

†Whirlbat, whorlbat. *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 6–7 whorle-, 7 whoorl-, 7–8 whorlbat. *β.* 7–8 whirl(e)bat. [Alteration of HURLBAT by substitution of WHIRL for the first syllable.]

1. Used in the 16th and 17th c. to render L. *cestus*, which was defined as 'a weapon with plummettes of leade, vsed in games for exercise' (Cooper's *Thesaurus*) and 'a certain game.. among the ancients, wherein they whirled leaden plummets at one another' (Phillips, 1658); also in renderings of Gr. πύξ.

α. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Cestus, Bellare cestu*, to play as it were at the whorle bat. 1574 *Withals' Dict.* 52/2 *Cestus*, an whorle batte, an instrument of leather couered with leade, to buffet one another. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XL. XXXVII. I. 331 All the sort of Rams be armed with crooked hornes,..as if they were gantlets or whorlebats [*cestus*], given them by Nature to thumpe and jurre withall. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 538 Your shoulders must not vndergo the churlish whoorlbats fall [οὐ γὰρ νύξ γε μαχήσεται]. 1624 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. xiii. § 6 He..compelled all

Whorlbat, and the rapid Race, shall be Reserv'd for Cæsar.

β. 1638 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VIII. 285 At wrestling, buffets, whirlbat, speed of race [ὑ πὺξ ζὲ πάλῃ ἡ καὶ ποσίν]. *Ibid.* XI. 406 Pollux, that excell, in whirlbat fight [πὺξ ἀγαθὸν Πολυδεύκεα]. 1647 MINSHEU *Doctor* 371 A Plummet, or whirle-bat, that vaulters, leapers, and dauncers vse. 1650 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl., Foundation* C. § 3 Slain by thee with the whirlbat [*a te cestu cæsum*]. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* I. XXII. (1711) I. 130 Fencers, inur'd to beating, when bang'd almost to Pulp with Clubs and Whirl-bats [tr. Cicero *pugiles cæstibus contusi*]. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *D 2, He rejected them as Dares did the Whirl-bats of Eryx.

2. A club.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* VII. 167 Where him his iron whirl-bat [κορύνη] nought avail'd.

Whirl-blast. [f. WHIRL- + BLAST *sb.*; app. a word of the Cumberland dialect, for which Wordsworth is the earliest literary authority.] A whirlwind, hurricane. Also *fig.*

1798 WORDSW. *Poems of Fancy* iii, A whirl-blast from behind the hill Rushed o'er the wood. 1807 STAGG *Misc. Poems, Return* xvi, Hark, the whirlblast loudly blusters. 1813 COLERIDGE *Nt.-Scene* 77 The whirl-blast comes, the desert-sands rise up. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xlviii, Which rain could never bend, or whirl-blast shake. 1852 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xi, Vast towers of sand, borne up by the whirlblast, rise vertically. 1904 DOWDEN *Browning* 246 There is a fixity of grief which is more appalling than this whirlblast.

Whirl-bone (hwɜ·rlbōn). *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 4–8 whirlebone, 5 whirle-, wherle-, whyrlebon, wherl-, werel-, qwhirl-, qworle-, qvyrlebone, 5–6 whyrl-, whorlebone, 5–7 whyrlebone, 6 whurle bone, (7 whall-bone), 8 hurle bone, *dial.* whirly booan, 9 *Sc.* whorle-bane, 6–whirlbone. (Also with hyphen, or as two words.) [Replacing OE. *hweorf-, hwyrfbān, hwe(o)rbān* knee-cap, by substitution of WHIRL for the first element; cf. MLG. *wervel(bēn)*, G. *wirbelbein* vertebra.]

1. The round head of a bone turning in the socket of another bone; *spec.* that of the thigh-bone at the hip-joint (in later use esp. in the horse).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Þei [*sc.* bones of the arms] beþ ykeuered with ioyntes whirlebones and grustel bones. [Mistranslation; *ed.* 1582 They are covered in joynts and whirlbones with gristles; L. *in iuncturis et vertebris cartillagine vestiuntur.*] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 421/1 Qvyrlylebone, yn a loynt, *ancha. Ibid.* 324/2 Whyrlebone, or hole of a loynt (*S.* whylbone), *anca, vertebrum, vertibulum, condulus.* 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* ix. (1888) 75 Ech of these two bones..hath a great rounde hole, into the whiche is receyued the bone called *Vertebra*, or The whorle bone. *Ibid.* x. 84 *Vertebrum*, or Whurle bone,..and is receyued into the boxe or hole of the hanche bone. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2046/4 A Black brown Gelding ..a Strain in his Whirlebone. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Hurle Bone*, In an Horse, is a Bone near the Middle of the Buttock; very apt to go out of its Sockets with a Slip or Strain. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* xxix. (1754) 240 A lameness in the whirle bone and hip, is discovered by the horse's dragging his leg after him. 1824 J. WHITE *Vet. Med.* (ed. 2) III. 192 Injury of the Hip Joint, commonly called Whirl, or Hurdle Bone, or Round Bone. 1825 JAMIESON, *Whorle-bane*, the hip-bone or joint, Fife.

2. The round bone of the knee; the knee-pan, patella.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 590/29 *Internodium*,..the knepanne, or wherlebon. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whyrlbone of ones kne, *palletis de genouil.* 1587 HARRISON *England* I. v. 11 in *Holinshed*, When the bodie of Aiax was found, the whirlebone of his knee was adiudged so broad as a pretie dish. 1611 COTGR., *La charniere des genoux*, the whall-bone, or whirle-bone, of the knees. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* XV. XXII. (1678) 340 The Patella, or Whirl-bone of the Knee..is oft-times contused. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 52 He geete fro his Whirly booans, and sed..while his Heart beeats an his Blood sarclates there's Hopes. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Whirl-baan*, the cap of the knee.

†**3.** A vertebra of the spine. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 3 Cap. vj. of woundis of þe rigboon & of whirlebones [*a r.* whirele bonys] of þe rigge. *Ibid.* 104 Make smale cauteries..bitwene ech whirlebon of þe necke. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. IV. xlv. 349 Five Vertebræ or Whirle-bones of the Spina.

Whirled (hwɜ̄ıld), *a.*

1. [f. WHIRL *sb.* + -ED[2]. Cf. OE. *hwyrfled* round.] = WHORLED.

1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 307 Shells, whirled and single. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) 823 Leaves expanding, a little bowed back at the ends; somewhat whirled. 1832 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 163 H[elix] spiatylium, Pl. XII. fig. 7. Imperforate, globosely conoid, close-whirled, aperture lamellate within, lip sharp.

2. [f. WHIRL *v.* + -ED[1].] Rotated rapidly, etc.

1875 FARRAR *Silence & Voices* iv. 76 Could we..judge rightly of the..sun..if we only saw it glaring luridly through the whirled sands of the desert? 1895 MEREDITH *Amas. Marr.* xlv, Lord Fleetwood's yet undocked old associates vowed he 'smelt strong' of the fumes of the whirled silver

Whirler (hwɜ̄·rlər). [f. WHIRL *v.* + -ER[1].]

I. A person who whirls.

1. One who turns or spins rapidly round; †one who wanders about (*obs.*); a 'whirling' dervish.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whyrlare a-bowte, or goare a-bowte in ydylnesse..*girovagus.* 1825 *Tweddell's Rem.* 229 *plate*, Dervish of the Order of Whirlers. 1832 LD. JEFFREY *Let. to Mrs. Rutherfurd* 1 Apr., The only chance is for one pair to cling close, like waltzers, and whirl lovingly among the whirlers. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. III. (1850) 391/1 Sect of dancers and whirlers. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 101 He promenaded around the performers, and taking his place in the ring began to spin—for there were during the entire performance one or two whirlers at work.

2. One who whirls something; †one who hurls or flings something, a hurler (*obs.*); one who turns a wheel or other revolving piece of mechanism.

1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onesander's Platon.* 74 The whorlers of darts. 1823 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 466 For washbowls, dishes, or plates, the workman, called the whirler, uses a vertical spindle. 1889 LIPSCOMB in *Land Agent's Rec.* 6 Apr. 316 When flails were whirling for six months..in the tithe barns, while the whirlers and their families ate barley bread.

II. A thing that whirls.

†**3.** ? A whirlwind. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 306 What boystrous lungs the roaring whirlers blown: What burning wings the Lightning rides upon.

4. A revolving piece of mechanism.

spec. a. A potter's whirling-table. b. An apparatus invented by Troughton to serve as an artificial horizon at sea, consisting of a rapidly rotating top with a mirror attached: also called *Troughton's top.* c. A device by which the strands are twisted together in spinning; in *Rope-making*, each of the rotating hooks by which the hemp or other fibre is twisted into yarn.

1860 W. WHITE *Wrahia* XXXI. 377 A revolving pedestal or 'whirler', on which the article to be ornamented is placed. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Whirler, or Troughton's Top. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2884 *Girl's Own Paper* Nov. 4/3 The females busy with a bunch of camel's hair and a 'whirler', making..the coarse..thread with which much of their rough sewing is done. 1898 BINNS *Story of Potter* 198 The wheel..at which he [*sc.* potter] stands is called, when revolved by some other power than himself a 'jigger'; that which he turns with his own hand..is a 'whirler'. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/3 Lithographic plate whirler.

†**Whirlery.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **-ary.** [f. WHIRL *v.* + -ERY.] Whirling, circling flight (or ? roaring noise: cf. WHURL *v.*). In first quot. as part of a jingling refrain.

c 1580 *Doctour Doubble Ale* 436 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 321 Fare well and a dewe; With a whirlary whewe, And a tirlary typpe. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 77 With gagling whirlerye flapping Theyr wings.

Whirley, var. HURLY[2], influenced by WHIRL.

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Whirley*, a hutch, hurley, or tub. 1886 HODDER *Life 7th Earl Shaftesb.* I. x. 413 A little child,..whose duty it was, on hearing the approach of a whirley, or coal-carriage, to pull open the door.

Whirley: see WHIRLY.

Whirlicote. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5 whirlecole, whirlecote, wherlecote, 6 wherli-, whirlicote, 8–9 whirlicot. [Form doubtful; app. orig. *whirlecole*, f. WHIRL *v.* + an unidentified element; recorded by Stow in the form *whirlicote*, whence in later use.] A coach, carriage.

c 1382 *Anonimalle Cron.* (MS. Stowe 1047) lf. 68 b, Le roy mesmes vient al mile ende et ouecque luy sa meir en vn whirlecole. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 386 Þe Lorde Powys meyne brouȝt hym out of Walis to London yn a whirlecole [*sic MSS. Camb. and Reg.*; *MS. B. Mus. Add.* whirlecote; *ed. Caxton* (1480) wherlecote].

1598 STOW *Surv.* 65 Of old time coatches were not knowne in this Island, but chariots, or Whirlicotes..: I reade that Rychard the second being threatened by the rebelles of Kent, rode from the Tower of London to the Myles end, and with him his mother in a Wherlicote. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Curialia Misc.* (1818) 270. 1860 *Our Engl. Home* 75 The wheels of my lady's whirlicot or the franklin's plough were repaired in the kitchen. 1888 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. x. 385, I can't do much walking, but I go about in a whirlicot. Is not that the oldest name for a coach or landau?

Whirligig (hwɜ̄·rligig), *sb.* Forms: 5 whyrlegyge, (whirlegogge), 5–7 whirlegigge, 6 whirlygigge, whyrlegygge, worlegyg(g, 6–7 whirligigg, 6–8 whirlegig, 7 whirlegigg(e, whirligig(g)e, whirlie-gig, 7–8 whirly(-)gig, (8 whirlagig, 9 whirligig), 6– whirligig. [orig. (and still to some extent dial.) two words, f. WHIRL- and WHIRLY- + GIG *sb.*[1]]

1. Name of various toys that are whirled, twirled, or spun round; *spec.* † (*a*) a top or teetotum (cf. GIG *sb.*[1] 1); (*b*) a toy consisting of a small spindle turned by means of a string; (*c*) a toy with four arms like miniature windmill-sails, which whirl round when it is moved through the air.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 325/1 Whyrlegyge, chyldys game, *giraculum.* 1530 PALSGR. 288/2 Whirlygigge to play with, *pyrouette.* 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 191 As a turning Whirli-gig goes round [Fr. *Comme la pirouette animee se tourne*] 1659 MOXON *Tutor Astron.* v. 148 The Gnomon must appear on both sides like the stick in a Whirligig, which children use. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recr.* II. 148 Pulling the Line you may make the Looking-Glass play in and out as Children do a Whirlegig..Keep it turning that the twinkling of the Glass against the Sun may provoke the Larks to come to view it. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 43 The Pummel [of the sword]..is neither Round nor Oval, but is flat above and below like a Whirligigg. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 57 As..whirligigs, twirl'd round by skilful swain, Suck the thread in, then yield it out again. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. iv. § 6. 288 The peg-top..probably originated from the te-totums and whirligigs. 1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 220 They hold each other tight by the middle, and so go round like whirligigs. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 77 A..figure of The Christ-Child playing with a 'Whirligig'.

b. *fig.* 'Plaything', 'sport'.

1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. 1. i. (ed. 2) 336 Thou art Cupids whirlegigge. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1683) II. 12 Turning him into..a whirlegig of fate or chance.

2. Applied to various mechanical contrivances having a whirling or rotatory movement; *spec.* † (*a*) an instrument of punishment formerly used, consisting of a large cage suspended so as to turn on a pivot; (*b*) a roundabout or merry-go-round.

In quot. 1601 ? = GIG *sb.*[1] 2; in quot. 1623 ? allusively applied to a carriage; in quot. 1822 to a clock.

1477–8 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 22 Pro vna pecia maeremii de nouo empto pro le Whirlegigg'. *Ibid.* 23 For a pece of Tymber to the Whirlegogge. 1524 in Sir W. Parker *Hist. Long Melford* (1873) 365 Payde to Newman for mending of Hall Myll Bridge, and makyng of a worlegyg, 8d. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* 230 The silly poore birdes sit prying at, and playing with the whirligig. [Cf. quot. 1686 in 1.] 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* E 2, It is hanged on a turning Gybbet, like a Crane:..It is bigge enough to hold two men, and..if any one or more doe rob gardens..he or they are put into this same whirligigge, or kicksumbob, and the gybbet being turned, the offender hangs in this Cage..some 22 or 24 foot from the water,..and with a tricke..the bottome of the cage drops out, and the theefe falls sodenly into the water. 1629 — *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 238/2 The last Proclamations concerning the retiring of the Gentry out of the City into their

Countries .. how it cleered the Streetes of these way-stopping Whirligigges! 1598 Grosse *Milit. Antiq.* II. 204 One [punishment] formerly very common, for trifling offences, .. was the whirligig; .. a kind of circular wooden cage, which turn'd on a pivot; and .. whirled round with such an amazing velocity, that the delinquent became extremely sick. 1822 Scott *Nigel* v, Yonder hall-clock at Theobald's, and that other whirligig that you made for the Duke of Buckingham. 1839-41 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 71 In the outskirts of the cemeteries, swings and whirligigs are erected. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* II. viii, One of those rotatory entertainments commonly seen in fairs, and known by the name of 'whirligigs' or 'roundabouts'.

3. *gen.* and *fig.*, in various applications: (*a*) Something that is continually whirling, or in constant movement or activity of any kind; † (*b*) a fantastic notion, a crotchet (*obs.*); (*c*) circling course, revolution (of time or events); (*d*) a lively or irregular proceeding, an antic; (*e*) a circling movement, or condition figured as such, a whirl.

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* B iv b, Euery one that had a whirlegig in his braine, wold haue his own conceit to goe currant. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 237 *Quot capita tot sententiæ*, so many heades, so many whirlegigs. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* v. i. 385 And thus the whirlegigge of time brings in his reuenges. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 11 The heathen gods and goddesses, with all their whirligigges. 1635 Shirley *Coronation* III. (1640) E 2, *Phi.* Tis a strange turne. *Lisa.* The whirligigs of women. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. ii. 73 His braines .. being as vertiginous as a whirle-poole, presented ten thousand whirlygigs, Windmils, and Turne-pikes to his errantick soule. 1660 Hexham, *De Key Lotert ham*, he hath a Whirlegigg in his head. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I (1693) 181 The Whirly-Gig of the Dispensation, which run round from Pope to Pope, and never could be said to settle. 1704 Prior *Ladle* 6 Since They [*sc.* the gods] gave Things their Beginning; And set this Whirligig a Spinning. 1781 Johnson in *Boswell* 1 Apr., She is the first woman in the world, could she but restrain that wicked tongue of hers; .. could she but command that little whirligig. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* VII. xiii, You'll put my poor head quite into a whirligig. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. xvi. P 2 This ridiculous baboon .. got back again to his old tricks and whirligigs. 1862 Huxley in *Life* (1900) I. xv. 198, I was .. glad to get your letter at that whirligig of an association meeting. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ix. 186 The whirligig of events restored Francesco Sforza to his duchy. 1897 Mrs. Rayner *Type-writer Girl* xviii, Water-beetles who dart and dance .. in interlacing whirligigs. 1911 Marett *Anthropol.* vii. 186 When the whirligig of social change brings the uneducated temporarily to the fore.

b. A fickle, inconstant, giddy, or flighty person (cf. Gig *sb.*[1] 4); also, one who turns round or moves about actively, as in a dance.

1602 Dekker *Satirom.* L 3, No whirligig, one of his faithfull fighters. 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* I. i. 981 To maintaine a wanton whirly-gig, Worth nothing more then she brings on her back. *a* 1704 T. Brown tr. *Æneas Sylvius Lett.* lxxxii. Wks. 1709 III. ii. 81 Woman is the Whirly-Gig of Nature; she changes so often and swiftly. 1721 Budgell *Spect.* No. 67 P 9 An impudent young Dog .. ran to his Partner [in a dance], .. and whisked her round .. ; just as my Girl was going to be made a Whirligig, I ran in, seised on the Child, and carried her home. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* II. iii, Knowing you to be such a merry little whirligig. 1822 T. Mitchell *Com. Aristoph.* II. 317 Give way, and make room for their play, .. We'll sit here .. and mark how these whirligigs whisk it!

4. A water-beetle of the family *Gyrinidæ*, esp. the common species *Gyrinus natator*, found in large numbers circling rapidly over the surface of the water in ponds and ditches. Also *w. beetle*.

1713 Petiver *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. iv, *Trochus Pyramidalis Indicus* .. Indian Whirligig. 1845 *Poultry Chron.* III. 378 The Gyrinidæ, or whirligig beetles. 1874 Wood *Insects Abr.* 69 The Gyrinidæ, or Whirligig Beetles, of foreign countries .. being scarcely larger than our familiar British species. 1877 F. P. Pascoe *Zool. Classif.* 110 Gyrinus (Whirligig).

5. *advb.* Like a whirligig; with rapid circling movement.

1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 51 His head .. Wherein ten thousand thoughts runne whirligigge. 1808 Scott *Jrnl.* 16 June, To dress my sails to every wind; .. and spin round, whirligig.

6. *attrib.* Resembling a whirligig; characterized by a whirling movement (*lit.* and *fig.*). See also 4.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 120 With whirlygig eyesight Vp to the sky staring. 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* III. xiii. (ed. 2) 307 Continuing their whirlegigg-deuotions with continuall turnings (fitly agreeing to so giddie and brainsicke a Religion). 1688 Holme *Armoury* IV. xiii. (Roxb.) 521/2 The memory of the heathen gods and Godesses, with all their whirligigg fancies. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* No. 13 (1812) II. 74 That intoxicating, inflammatory, and whirligig dance, the waltz. 1828 Scott *Antiq.* xiii, The changes of this trumpery whirligig world. 1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Fancy Ball* xxx, She finished off with a whirligig bout. 1879 *Punch* 31 May 236 The whirligig whims of the moment.

Hence **Whi·rligig** *v.*, *intr.* (also with *it*), to turn like a whirligig, to whirl or spin round (whence **Whirligigging** *ppl. a.*).

1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 35 This mad-cap world, this whirlygigging age. 1887 A. Lovell *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 57 These .. have been constrained to whirligig it. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 188 Half a score of bouncing girls, ballad singing, and whirligigging. 1870 'Alph Cherr' (Veidham) *Laps of Isd* (1876) 6 The dancers .. postured, bobbed, whirligigged, wriggled.

Whi·rligig *v.*[1] see Whirly-.

Whi·rling (hwə·rlin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whirl *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Whirl.

1. A turning (swiftly) round; (rapid) rotation, revolution, or circling movement: *spec.* of air or water, as in a whirlwind or eddy; also of persons in a dance, etc.

spec. in *Mech.* (quot. 1894); see Whirl *v.* 2.

c 1398 Chaucer *Fortune* 11 So mochel hath yit thy whirlynge vp and down I-tawht me. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxv, Sum were slungin. Be quhirlyng of the quhele, vnto the ground. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* h v, Yf that there be a manere whyrlynge of water. 1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* II. 3 This the same vnknowne gift or whurling in my hart, doth bring mee a new desire. 1616 Holyday *Persius, Sat.* v. 138 A base horse-keeper .. whom if's Master whirlings of the sea. 1636 in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877, 7 The countrie Wakes, and whirlings have appeer'd .. like forraine pastimes. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. i. 170 The Sholes probably caused some whirling about of the Tide. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vii. III. 89 The rapid, and as he thought perilous, whirling of the .. vehicle. 1835 Hood *United Family* ix, We none of us that whirling [*sc.* the waltz] love, Which both our parents disapprove. 1858 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 187 Where the whirlings of the stream had left the marks of its eddies in the solid marble. 1894 *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXV. i. 279 The Whirling and Vibration of Shafts.

2. Giddiness, vertigo.

1562 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 42 The same driueth away .. the whirling in the head. 1892 Meredith *Poems Empty Purse* 107 A whirling seized thy head.

3. Hurling, flinging.

1579 Rice *Invect. Vices* B iij, The whorlyng of the Pottes about the house, the Cardes into the fire.

¶ Misused for Hurling *vbl. sb.* 2 a.

a 1721 Prior *Ess. Opin.* Wks. 1907 II. 801 Bodmin or Truro shal break more Bones at a Whirling in Cornwa' than the ablest Surgeon in London shal be able to set.

Whi·rling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing [2].] That whirls, in various senses of the verb; turning (rapidly) round, rotating, revolving, circling (swiftly); eddying; moving impetuously, etc.

1382 Wyclif *2 Peter* ii. 17 Cloudis .. driuun with whirlinge wijndis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 31 Woodnesse of .. whirlynge water caste þ vp .. grete hepes of grauel. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 138 What by þondyr and by layte, .. by whyrlyng-wynde, by mystes. 1545 [see Plat *sb.*[2] 7]. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 90 b, The blinde goddesse Fortune, with her doble visage, and whirlynge whele. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xix. (1888) 80 Children when they had their whirling gigges vnder the deuotion of their scourges. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Farew. Tower-Bottles* A 2 b, The whirling wheele of fickle Fate. 1630 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* § 13 That whirling Globe of earth. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* x. 1264 A whirling Dart he sent. 1782 Cowper *To Miss Macartney* 34 Some Alpine mountain .. Thus braves the whirling blast. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1296 The whirling public so blindly follows fashionable caprice in the choice of a carriage. 1872 Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 273 The whirling and complicated machinery. 1885 T. P. Hughes *Dict. Islam* 118/1 [The Maulawiyah] are called by Europeans .. the 'dancing', or 'whirling'

b. *fig.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. v. 133 (Qo. 1) These are but wild and whirling [1623 hurling] words, my Lord. 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* § 140 Those hurrying and whirling judgements of God. 1684 Creech *Odes Hor.* III. xxx, Nor whirling Time, nor flight of Years. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, I cannot say what was in my whirling thoughts. 1855 Milman in *Mem.* (1900) 189 Quiet, though in the midst of the whirling city.

c. Special collocations: **whirling blue, whirling dun,** names of artificial flies used in angling; **whirling-board** = *whirling-table* (*a*); **whirling chair,** a chair contrived to rotate rapidly, used in the treatment of insane patients; **whirling-machine** = *whirling-table* (*a*); **whirling plant,** the 'telegraph-plant', *Desmodium gyrans* (see Telegraph *sb.* 8); **whirling-table,** (*a*) a machine consisting essentially of a table contrived to revolve rapidly, used for experiments or demonstrations in dynamics or other branches of science; (*b*) a horizontally rotating disk in a potter's lathe, carrying a mould which shapes the inside of a plate, cup, or other circular piece of ware, while the outside is shaped by a templet above it.

1747 Bowlker *Art Angling* 73 The little *Whirling Blue. .. This Fly is only to be Fish'd with .. in warm Weather. 1764 J. Ferguson *Lect.* ii. 19 Which weight .. will draw the ball from the edge of the *whirling-board to its center. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 50 Exciting vertigo by placing the patient in a *whirling chair. 1876 Cotton *Angler* II. vii. 61 About the twelfth of this Month [Apr.] comes in the Flie call'd the *whirling Dun. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 326/1 **Whirling-machine* is an apparatus .. for the purpose of determining the resistance of the air. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1232/1 *Whirling Plant, *Desmodium gyrans.* 1764 J. Ferguson *Lect.* ii. 18 The *whirling-table is a machine contrived for shewing experiments of this nature. 1830 Kater & Lardner *Mech.* viii. 100 An apparatus called a whirling table .. for the purpose of exhibiting illustrations of the laws of centrifugal force. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 473/1 The workman stands at a bench provided with a whirling-table .., which has its motion given by a horizontal pulley or jigger. 1879 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 262 An attachment to the whirling-table for projecting sound-curves upon a screen.

Hence **Whi·rlingly** *adv.*, with whirling movement (also *fig.*).

1812 W. Tennant *Hester P.* II. 82, As they slip it whirlingly. 1900 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* viii, The forces of nature .. so whirlingly contemptuous of puny human effort.

† **Whirling-bone.** *Obs.* = Whirl-bone.

14.. *Voc. Lat.-Angl. in MS. Harl.* 1002 (Var 3/172 *Vertebra*, þe whyrlyngbone of the kne.

† **Whi·rlpit.** *Obs.* [f. Whirl- + Pit *sb.*[1]] = Whirlpool[2] 1.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 94/2 [He] ranne into a whurlepyt, where he was drowned. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iii. (1600) G, The deepest whirlepit of the rau'nous Seas. *a* 1632 T. Taylor *God's Judgem.* I. i. ix. (1642) 22 To escape the hands of his enemies, he ran into a whirlepit and his body was never found. 1724 De Foe *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 92 As if the Water had at once ingulph'd itself in a Chasm of the Earth, or sunk in a Whirlpit.

fig. 1560 Bacon *New Catech.* IV. Wks. 1564 I. 490 b, To throwe vs headlong into the whourlepytte of euerlasting dampnation. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 143 England recovered out of the whirlepit of calamities.

† **Whi·rlpool**[1]. *Obs.* Also 6 **wherpole, w(h)orpoul,** etc. [app. an alteration, by popular etymology, of Thirlepoll, q.v.] ? The large blowing whale.

c 1450 *Brut* II. 603 Ther wer sene in þe Temys at Londen, many whyrlepolys, & anoþer tyme a whale. 1508 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) Bj, *Balena*, a whyrlepole. 1542 in *Lincoln Chapter Acts* II 49 (Linc. Rec. Soc. XII.), Sturgion, seale, porpoise, wherpole, and such like. 1598 Gesner *Hist. Anim.* IV. 853. 1601 Holland *Pliny* IX. iii. I. 235 The Whales and Whirlepooles called Balænæ. 1676 *Yng. Man's Call.* 301 At Quinborough three great dolphins were taken, .. and a while after three other fishes, called whirlpools were taken at Gravesend. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxxiii. 131 A huge monstrous Physetere, a sort of a Whale (which some call a Whirl pool).

Whi·rlpool[2] (hwɔ·rlpōl). Also 6 **whirpole, whoorlpool,** etc. [f. Whirl- + Pool *sb.*[1] Cf. late OE. *hwyrfepōl* and *wirfelmere*.]

1. A place in, or part of, a river or the sea, where the water is in constant (and usually rapid) circular movement, due to the configuration of the channel or bottom, to some obstruction, or to the meeting of adverse currents or wind and tide; a (large and violent) eddy or vortex.

1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Whirpole a depe place in a ryver, where the water tourneth rounde. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 75 Many whorlepooles and shelfes. 1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 66 Drowned in a whirlpoole. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xi. 94 A guilty conscience is like a whirlpool, drawing in all to it self which otherwise would passe by. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scot. in 1772*, 259 Eddies and whirlpools rising .. with furious boilings. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 130 The river of Caubul .. forms numerous rapids and whirlpools. 1880 Geikie *Phys. Geog.* iii. 134 Where the tide is thrown from side to side against sunken rocks, or where two opposing currents meet .., the water forms whirlpools.

transf. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 30 The whirl-pool of the spirits in the blood. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russ. Emp.* I. 65 Which .. buries both men and cattle in whirlpools of snow and sand. 1903 Agnes M. Clerke *Probl. Astrophysics* 446 Those cosmic 'whirlpools', every trait of which testifies to the counterplay of multiple activities.

b. *fig.* in various applications: *esp.* a destructive or absorbing agency by which something is figured as engulfed or swallowed up; a scene of confused and turbulent activity.

1549 S. Fish *Supplic. Beggers* 10 Howe all the substaunce of your Realme .. ryncth hedlong ynto the insaciabill whyrlepole of these gredi goulafres. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 63 Drowned in the whirlepoole of obliuion. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 4 In ye deepest whoorlpools of aduersities, faith may hold va vp. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* the Whirl-pooles of Change. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk round Lond., Coffee-Houses* (1709) 36 The Whirl-pool of Poetry suck'd me in, and I fell a Rhiming. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* xliii, What a whirlpool of contending feelings! 1863 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xxii, You may revolve in a whirlpool of red shirts, shaggy beards [etc.]. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* xcvii. III. 362 Europeans .. have assumed .. that public life will draw .. enough of the highest ability into its whirlpool.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii, They have .. sunke the tossed gallease in depth Of whirlepoole acorne. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* IV. *Oracle* 34 Bitter wave of troubled flesh, And whirl-pool-turnings of the lower spright. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 159 To recoyl by a double whirl-pool-motion. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Mar. 6/2 The whirlpool rapids [of the Niagara].

Hence **Whi·rlpooling** *ppl. a.*, circling or eddying like a whirlpool.

a 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 48 A birch [canoe] .. lies, light as a leaf, on whirlpooling surfaces.

Whi·rl-puff. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (also **whirli-puff**). [f. Whirl- + Puff *sb.* after Whirlwind.] A puff or gust of wind such as raises dust in a whirl or eddy; also † as a whirlwind. Also *fig.*

1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* v. 24 As a whirle puff of wind. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. xlviii. I. 54 A whirlepuffe or ghust called Typhon. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* 41 Whiles some pestiferous whirle-puffe raiseth up still these miseries of common mischiefes in the State. 1637 Whyting *Albino & Bellama* 116 A shuffling whirle-puffe roar'd amongst the trees. 1640 G. Abbot *Job Paraphr.* 183 As the whirlepuffe [*sic*] lifts up the dust. 1894 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Whirl-puff*, a sudden gust of wind driving the dust into an eddy. 1899 Dickinson & Prevost *Cumbld. Gloss., Whirl-puff*, a small whirl-wind such as will form dust spirals on a dusty road in

†Whirlwater. *Obs.* [f. WHIRL- + WATER *sb.*] A waterspout.

1626 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I.* (1848) I. 214, I hear of a whirlwater upon the Thames. *Ibid.*, The breaking..of the whirlwater, or, as some call it, the water-pillar.

Whirlwig (hwɔ̈·lwig). = WHIRLIGIG 4.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvi. (1817) II. 4 The little beetles called whirlwigs (*Gyrinus*, L.),..seem to..form their assemblies..to enjoy together..the mazy dance. 1826 *Ibid.* xxix. III. 80 The whirlwig-beetle (*Gyrinus natator*). 1877 WOOD *Nature's Teach., Nautical* ii. 22 The common Whirlwig-beetle..may be found in nearly every puddle.

Whirlwind (hwɔ̈·lwind), *sb.* [f. WHIRL- + WIND *sb.*, prob. after ON. *hvirfilvindr* (obs. Da. *hverrelwind*, Da. *hvirvelwind*, Sw. *virvelvind*), whence Du. *wervelwind*, G. *wirbelwind*.]

1. A whirling or rotating wind; an atmospheric eddy or vortex; a body of air moving rapidly in a circular or upward spiral course around a vertical or slightly inclined axis which has also a progressive motion over the surface of land or water.

In its larger forms it constitutes a violent and destructive storm, as a cyclone or tornado; over a body of water it sometimes causes a waterspout, over a sandy or dusty region a sand-pillar or dust-whirl.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 511 Cumand as whirlwynd to skatire me. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 159 Sodenly a whirlewynd comynge caste doun the dores. *a* 1400 *Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 6/2 *Turbo*, the qwyrlewynde. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 321 þe fend flow away in liknes of a whorle-wynd. 1589 FORMAN *Argt.* (MS. Ashm. 808, lf. 239 b) Elyas was taken up Within a whorrell-winde. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. i, As when a wheele winde takes the Summer dust And scatters it. 1611 *Bible* Job xxxviii. 1 Then the Lord answered Iob out of the whirlewind. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Giddinesse* iv, As if a whirlwinde blew And crusht the building. 1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* vii, Swift as the Whirlwind drives Arabia's scatter'd Sands. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 207 The loud torrent, and the whirlwind's roar. 1858 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* ii. § 94 All boys are familiar with miniature whirlwinds on shore,..sweeping along the roads .., raising columns of dust, leaves, etc., which..gyrate about the..axis of the storm. 1882 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* viii, Herds of buffaloes..rushed, like a whirlwind themselves,..towards the shelter of the thickets.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Something rushing impetuously like a whirlwind; a violent or destructive agency; a confused and tumultuous process or condition.

To sow the wind and reap the whirlwind (Hos. viii. 7): to indulge in reckless wickedness or folly, and suffer the disastrous consequences.

1382 WYCLIF *Hosea* viii. 7 Thei shuln sowe wynd, and repe whirlwynd. 1590 *Tarlton's Newes Purgatorie* 3 Either a mans soule must in post haste goe presently to God, or else with a whirlewind and a vengeance goe to the diuell. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xv. iv. 35 A tempestuous whirlewind of new calamities. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 77 O'rewhelm'd With Floods and Whirlwinds of tempestuous fire. 1714 (BLANCH) *Beaux Merchant* II. 28 What my Landlady put into her Soup, I can't tell; but..I had a Whirlwind in my Belly. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xviii, It is sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, Mr. Pickwick concluded amidst a whirlwind of applause. 1840 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* lxii. VIII. 353 The foot soldiers in the rear..were instantly enveloped by a whirlwind of horse. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 3 Free from the cares of town business, and the whirlwind of town pleasure. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. xii. 699 To see whether they who had raised the storm could ride the whirlwind. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Mar. 139/1 The verbal whirlwind of his [*sc.* Swinburne's] later utterance.

3. *attrib.* Of or pertaining to a whirlwind; resembling a whirlwind, violent, impetuous.

1614 GORGES *Lucan* v. 299 Rockes..ouerturn'd with whirle-wind shocks. 1730 GRAY *Long Story* 60 Up-taires in a whirlwind rattle. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 120 With a whirlwind impetuosity he rushes forth. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* ix. (1875) 157 A whirlwind visitation—to ravage, ruin, and vanish.

4. *Comb.*, as *whirlwind-footed, -peopled, -rifted* adjs.; *whirlwind-like* adj. and adv.

1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 77 *Whirlwind-footed coursers. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 433 A whirlwind-footed bridegroom. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Handycrafts* 448 The flying ayre he catches, Born *whirlwinde-like. 1670 DRYDEN *Tyrannick Love* v. i, Who..Whirlwind-like, around him drove the Air. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, Democracy announcing,..that she is born, and whirlwind-like, will envelope the whole world. 1840 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 18 Apr. 104/2 He had heard a whirlwind-like noise. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 204 'Mid *wh rlwind-peopled mountains. 1818 — *Rosal. & Helen* 1158 *Whirlwind-rifted clouds.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Whi·rlwind** *v.*, *intr.* to rush impetuously like a whirlwind; **Whi·rlwindish, Whi·rlwindy** *adjs.*, resembling a whirlwind.

1890 BLACK *Wolfenberg* xxii, Thus bereft of her usual whirlwindish activity. 1895 HOLMAN-HUNT in *Daily News* 14 Aug. 6/2 Paris, where young professors go whirlwinding in what they call study for a time. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 473/1 Its whirlwindy approach.

Whirl-worm (hwɔ̈·lwɔ̈m). Also 7 **whurl(e-**. [f. WHIRL- + WORM *sb.*]

†1. An insect larva destructive to plants. *Obs.*

In quot. 1643 tr. L. *convolvulus* a caterpillar that rolls itself up in a leaf; in quot. 1658 tr. mod. L. *verticillus*, Gr. στροβίλη.

1643 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* (1650) xix. § 217 Earth-worms gnaw upon muck-hils.., moths on garments,..whirl-worms [*margin*, The divels gold-ring] on vines. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1049 The Northern English call it Andever; the Southern, Whurlworm, that is, a Whirl or little hairy Worm with many feet:..I..collect..that there are two kindes of Whurlworms; one about houses, another in the fields.

2. A turbellarian worm. *rare*—°. (? An error.)

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Whirly (hwɔ̈·rli), *a. rare.* Also **-ey.** [f. WHIRL *sb.* or *v.* + -Y¹.] Characterized by whirling or rotatory movement.

1806 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* X. 170 Thames, in whirly dimples flowing. 1887 MEREDITH *Poems, Last Contention* vii, A whirly tune These winds will pipe. 1895 — *Amazing Marr.* xxxvii, A skimming sense of a drop upon a sunny, whirly world.

Whirly-, obs. or dial. var. of *whirl-* in comb., as **†whirly-bat, †whirly-pool, whirly-wind** = WHIRLBAT, -POOL, -WIND (cf. *whirligig* and *whirl-gig*); also **whirly-go-round** (*whirligoround*), a merry-go-round; **†whirly-hole** (see quot.); **†whirly-rock**, a spiral or turbinate fossil shell.

1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 42 The fighting with *Whirly-bats. 1865 MEREDITH *Rhoda Fleming* xliii, He was a faithful servant, till one day he got up on a regular *whirly-go-round, and ever since . . . such a little boy! 1871 — *Harry Richmond* xlvi, Like one who has been gazing on the whirligoround, he saw the whole of women running or..waiting..to run the giddy ring to perdition. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 172 At Kinfare Towne, ..there goes another hole into the rock,..call'd *whirleyhole, from the Eddy of water the River makes at the mouth of it. 1727 BAILEY (Vol. II.), *Whirly-pool. 1892 MEREDITH *Ode, To Comic Spirit* 87 These..Would keep our life the whirly pool Of turbid stuff. 1904 KICKERT *Reaper* xix, There's often whirly-pools in the sea. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. i. i. 265 A piece of *Whirly-Rock. *Turbinites Saxum.* 24.. *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XI. iv. (Bodl. MS.), *Whirly winde and a raynye cloude.

Whirne, obs. form of QUERN *sb.*¹

1588 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 328, j paire off pepper whirnes.

Whirr, whir (hwɔ̈r), *sb.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* qwirre, 6 *Sc.* quhir, 6–7 whurre, 7 whirre, 7–8 whur, 8–9 whurr, 9 whirr, whir. [See next.]

†1. Violent or rapid movement, rush, hurry; the force or impetus of such movement. *Obs.*

Sometimes approaching sense 2; but in early use the stress is on the movement rather than the sound.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 560 All flames þe flode as it fire were,..And þan ouer-qwelmys in a qwirre. *Ibid.* 1854 In a qwirre [*v.r.* whirre] as þe quele turnes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. v. 114 The sovir schaft flaw quhisland wyth a quhir. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 20 No haste but good,..for whip and whurre The olde prouerbe doth say, neuer made good furre.

†b. *fig.* Commotion of mind or feeling; a mental or nervous shock. *Obs.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] xl. 121 Knowing himselfe chollericke, and in that whirre of the mind, apt to rush vpon foule transgression. 1708 VANBRUGH *False Friend* v. i, I'm mightily muddled with a Whur—round about in my head. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* II. i, They slupt the Door full in my Feace, and gave me such a whurr here—I thought they had beaten my brains out!

2. A continuous vibratory sound, such as that made by the rapid fluttering of a bird's or insect's wings, by a wheel turning swiftly, or by a body rushing through the air.

1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* II. 168 Whur is the rising and fluttering of Partridge or Pheasant. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 346 The Goat-sucker..makes a loud singular noise, like the whirr of a spinning-wheel. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* II. x, A whirr of unseen wings he heard. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. iii, The wide simultaneous whirr of shouldered muskets. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* I. i. 23 Shuttles..Mingled their sound with the whir of the wheels. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* III. v, Between the whirrs of the wind he heard the tinkle of the signal bell. 1893 TOUT *Edw. I*, xi. (1896) 196 The king's horse took fright at the whirr of the sails of a windmill.

fig. 1874 MEREDITH *Let. to Capt. Maxse* 5 Aug., I do not see my way out of the encircling whirr of work.

Whirr, whir, *v.* (*adv., int.*) Forms: 5 *Sc.* quirr(e, quir, quhir, 5–7 whirre, 6 *Sc.* quhirr(e, quhyrr(e, 7 whurre, 7, 9 whurr, 8 whur, 7– whirr, whir. [The early occurrence of this vb. and the related sb. in northern texts makes a Scandinavian origin probable; cf. Da. *hvirre* :— **hvirve*, Norw. *kvirra*, Sw. dial. *kvirra*, app. assimilated forms of a verb **hvirfa* (cf. ON. *hverfa* WHARVE *v.*), related to *hvirfill, hvirfla* WHIRL. In later use the Eng. verb has been reinforced by onomatopœia.]

1. *trans.* **†a.** To throw or cast with violence and noise; to fling, hurl. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2226 Othire athils of armes Albastis bendis, Quirys [*v.r.* whirres] out quarrels. 1609 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Captaines* 316 The formost Ranks it [*sc.* hailshot] whirr'd Upon the next, the second on the third.

b. To carry or hurry along, to move or stir, with a rushing or vibratory sound. (In mod. use *causal* from 2.)

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. i. 21 A lasting storme, whirring me from my friends. 1909 *Nation* 27 Nov. 363/1 They whirred their wings. 1921 A. F. ROBERTSON *Story of Pam* ix, As he was 'whirred' through the night.

2. *intr.* To move swiftly in some way (rush, fly, dart, flatter, turn, etc.) with a continuous vibratory sound, as various birds, rapidly revolving wheels, bodies flying quickly through the air, etc.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1536 All þe cite..felowis him eftir, Quirris [*v.r.* whirres] furth all in quite. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 96 Furth flaw the schaft..And quhirrand smait him throw the thee. 1609 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Lawe* 779 As the poor Partridge, cover'd with the net, In vain doth strive,..For, the close meshes..Suffer the same no more to whurre aloft. 1626 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. ii. 14 The great wheeles, Turning but softly, make the leane to whirre About their businesse. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 692 With stealthy wing,..Amid a neighbouring bush they silent drop, And whirring thence,..deceive The unfeeling school-boy. 1830 LYTTON *Paul Clifford* xii, The distant wheel of a carriage whirred on the ear. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxviii, Through the grassy flat, where the quail whirred before them. 1864 SKEAT tr. *Uhland's Poems* 356 Hark! arrows are whirring, swords clash in the fray. 1899 WERNER *Captain of Locusts* 25 The locusts whirred up round his horse's hoofs.

3. Without implication of onward movement: To make or emit a vibratory sound.

1804 A. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 359 The squirrel chipped, the tree frog whirred. 1886 STEVENSON [illegible] whirr, the organ speaks.

b. *dial.* To snarl or growl; to purr.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Whur*, to snarl, as a Dog does. 1843 J. BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* 209 At your feet..Whurrs your wee catty. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whurr*, to growl, as a dog.

4. The verb-stem as *int.* or *adv.*, expressing a sudden or rapid movement with vibratory sound.

1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* III. D 4 b, Whirre, I haue strooke him vnder the shorte ribs. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Fair Maid Inn* v. i, You demand if I am guilty, whir says my cloak by a trick of Legerdemain, now I am not guilty. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, Whirr! the exploded cork whizzed through the air. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* v. (1850) I. 87 Whurr went the pheasants—bang went the barrels. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* i, Whirr! whirr! all by wheels!—whiz! whiz! all by steam! 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xxxix, Whirr came the wheels—the carriage stopped at the very door.

Whirra,-oo, Whirret: see WIRRA, WHERRET.

Whirrick, variant of WHERRET.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. iii. 17 Harry..gave master such a whirrick, that his cries instantly sounded the *ne plus ultra* to such kind of diversions.

Whirring (hwɔ̈·rɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHIRR *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHIRR; a continuous vibratory sound, or movement with such a sound.

1582 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 30 This speech..doth greatly ioy the Greekes, They such a noyse and whirring made. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Furies* 115 The first-mov'd heav'n (in't self it self still stirring) Rapts with his course (quicker then windes swift whirring) All th' other Spheare. 1822 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* ix. Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 190 Save by the whirrings of the bats, the stillness..was uninterrupted. 1840 THACKERAY *George Cruikshank* (1869) 305 What a pious whirring of bible leaves one hears all over the church. 1863 HATES *Nat. Amazons* I. i. 9 The whirring of cicadas. 1918 H. BINDLOSS *Agatha's Fortune* ii, An electric fan made an unpleasant whirring.

Whirring, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whirrs; moving with or making a vibratory sound; also said of the sound.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 116 The quhuirand [*v.r.* quhrynand] quhitret with the quhasill went. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVII. 399 The whirring chariot. 1611 COTGR., *Roncé*, hurled; or making a whurring noise, as a stone, &c., cast with violence. 1704 POPE *Windsor Forest* 111 From the brake the whirring pheasant springs. 1783 BURNS *'Now westlin winds'* i, The moorcock springs, on whirring wings, Amang the blooming heather. 1830 TENNYSON *Owl* i, The whirring sail goes round. 1841 JAMES *Corse de Leon* iii, The whirring scream of the night hawk.

Whirrit, Whirroll, obs. ff. WHERRET, WHIRL *sb.*

Whirry, *sb.* ? *Obs.* In 7 wherry, whurrie. [Cf. next.] **a.** A rapid or sudden movement. **b.** Activity.

1611 COTGR., *Bacule*, a square, and heaule dore..let fal (as a Portcullis) in a trice, with a whurrie. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 229 A company of beetle-heads, dull-spirited fellowes, that had no wherry in them. 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 214 At last, with a merry wherry of their musick, they turn round (as the Dervises) a long time.

Whirry (hwi·ri), *v.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 6 whirrye, -ie, 7 whurry, wherry, 7, 9 *Sc.* whirry. [? f. WHIRR + -Y, after *hurry*.]

1. *trans.* To carry or drive swiftly; to hurry along. Also *fig.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 Hoyse me hence.. too sum oother countrye me whirrye. 1621 T. BEDFORD *Sds unto Death* 29 The..sea that is..whirryed and tossed with a tempestuous winde. 1660 BONDE *Sent. Reg.* 51 As the unruly quadrupedes whirried about the Chariot,..untill they had set the whole world on fire. *a* 1756 HALKET in W. Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 205 Ill boding comets blaze o'erhead, O whirry whigs awa', man. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., 'Some of the quality, that were o' his ain unhappy persuasion, had the corpse whirried away up the water.'

fig. 1619 SCLATER *Expos. 1 Thess.* v. 21. 548 Giddie and inconstant people, wherried about with euery blast of vaine Doutrine. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Visitant* 58 Whurried about with intemperate lusts and desires. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* 4 A Christian is sometimes wherried and whirled away by sin before he is a ware.

2. *intr.* To move or go rapidly, hurry.

c 1630 *Robin Goodfellow* in *Roxb. Ball.* (1874) II. 82 Through pooles and ponds, I whirry, laughing, he, ho, ho! 1821 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 203 When once the spoke of the Wheel is uppermost, it soon whurries to the bottom. 1826

Scott *Hrt. Mid.* xviii, Her and the gudeman will be whirrying through the blue lift on a broom-shank.

Whirry, obs. form of QUARRY *sb.*[1]

Whirtle, variant of WORTLE.

Whirvel(l, obs. forms of WHIRL *sb.*

Whish (hwiʃ), *sb.* [Imitative.] A soft sibilant sound, as that of something moving rapidly through the air or over the surface of water. Cf. SWISH *sb.*[1] 1.

1808 JAMIESON, *Whish, whush*, a rushing or whizzing sound. 1830 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* I. viii. 103 The 'whish' of a rocket attracted our attention. 1862 POWER *Arab. Days & Nts.* 25 The noises on deck, and the whish of the water through which we were rapidly..cutting our way. 1890 HALLETT *Thous. Miles* 453 The howls of these poor creatures, together with the whish of the cane, is heard through the city.

Whish, *a.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Cf. WHISHT and WHUSH.] Hushed, silent: = WHISHT *a.*[1], WHIST *a.*[1]

a 1618 HARINGTON *Epigr.* I. xxvii. (1618) B7, You tooke my answer well, and all was whish.

Whish, *a.*[2] (*dial.*): see WISHT.

Whish (hwiʃ), *v.*[1] Also 6 **whysshe.** [Imitative.] Hence **Whishing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1. *intr.* To utter the syllable 'whish' or a sound resembling *it*; *trans.* to drive or chase by crying 'whish!'

1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 133 [He] whysshyd them booth owte of the churche. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* B iij b, With whysperynges and whysshynges. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 243/1 He [*sc.* an ostler] had relieved the process of whish—whishing at the horses, in imparting [etc.]. 1897 J. HOCKING *Birthright* ii, We heard them 'whishing' up the sheep.

2. To make a soft sibilant sound of this kind, as a body rushing through air or water, or the wind among trees, etc.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Aa iv b, What a whishynge of the wynde is yonder. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Bruma spirans* ..whishyng with winde. 1856 S. ROGERS *Table-Talk* 11 You could hear the whishing sound of the ladies' trains. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* vi, The lightning-express-train whishes by a station.

Whish, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* Also 6 **whysh.** [f. WHISH *int.*[1]; cf. WHISHT *v.*, WHIST *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To silence, put to silence, hush.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 287 b, Pompeius cooled & whysshed hym in this wyse. 1684 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 111 Sir Jo. Kay silenced and whisht him.

2. *intr.* To be silent or quiet.

1607 TOMKIS *Lingua* iv. viii, Why do you whish thus? here's none to heare you. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xlix, Whish!—can't 'ee whish, with my name so pat?

Whish, *int.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 9 *Sc.* **wheesh.** [Cf. HUSH *int.*, WHISHT *int.*] An exclamation to command silence: Hush!

1633 QUARLES *Embl.* II. viii. 9 Whish, lullaby, .. What ayles my Babe to cry? 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 194 All the waiters cry'd; Whish, whish, etc. in token of silence. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xix, 'A good dinner now and then is a very good thing.' 'Yes; but I don't like eating it with hogs.' 'Whish-h; softly, softly, Mr. Gresham, or you'll disturb Mr. Apjohn's digestion. 1876 [see prec. *a*].

Whish, *int.*[2] Also 6 *Sc.* **quhisch.** Imitation of a soft sibilant or rushing sound, as of something moving rapidly through the air, etc.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 1090 Gif that 3our mawkine cryis quhisch. 1692 D. LAWSON in G. L. Burr *Narr. Witchcraft Cases* (1914) 153 Makeing as if she would fly, stretching up her arms as high as she could, and crying 'Whish, Whish, whish!' 1839 HOOD *Sonn. to Vauxhall* 9 Whish-ish!—On high The rocket rushes. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* vii, Whish! rush! came the rain in sheets and bucketfuls. 1894 FENN *Real Gold* xxiii, Whish, whirr, came a peculiar sound.

Whishin, obs. form of CUSHION.

Whisht (hwiʃt), *sb.* Also 9 *Sc.* **wheesht, wheisht.** [f. WHISHT *int.*]

1. An utterance of 'whisht!' to enjoin silence: cf. WHISHT *sb.*[2] 1.

1583 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 206 A Whisht is when we bid them holde their peace that haue least cause to speake. 1908 WEYMAN *Wild Geese* viii, What do you mean with your 'whishts' and your nods?

2. Silence; in phr. *to hold one's whisht*, to keep silence. *Sc.*

1789 BURNS *Vision* I. 43, I held my whisht; The infant aith, half-form'd, was crusht. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Wheesht*, Hand your wheesht, be silent. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxv, You ken naught about it. You had better hold your wheesht.

3. A whisper; with negative = 'not a whisper', not the least utterance. *Sc.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Ecl. Poet.* Wks. (1800) 89 Be you as calm's a mouse, Nor let your whisht be heard. 1881 WALFORD *Dick Netherby* v, There is na a wheesht against him.

Whisht (hwiʃt), *a.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 6 **whysht**(e, 9 *Sc.* **wheesht.** [A variant of WHIST *a.*[1]; cf. WHISHT *int.*] Silent, quiet, still, hushed.

1550 T. WILSON *Demosth. Orat., Lift* 117 He desired.. to tell them a merie tale. Where vpon when euery man was whisht and still, he myde them. 1605 BRINSLEY *Rem.* 143 Reprehensions are whisht, withoutten reigneth. 1800 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (1805) 5 As whisht as a mouse. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, Nights..when he was here on sentry, the place a' wheesht.

Hence **Whi'shtly** *adv.*, silently, quietly.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xvi. 23–28, I shall than speake vnto you whishtlye and without woordes.

Whisht, *a.*[2] (*dial.*): see WISHT.

Whisht, *v.* Now *dial.* Also 9 *Sc.* [f. WHISHT *int.* Cf. WHISH *v.*[2], WHIST *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To be silent, keep silence.

1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlviii, Wasp—Waspe, whisht, hinny.. and let's hear what they're doing.—Deil's in ye, will ye whisht? 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 50 'Whisht, woman, whisht,' interposed Trueman .. 'No, I just won't whisht, William Trueman.'

2. *trans.* To put to silence, silence, hush.

1824 R. COUPER *Poetry* II. 11 (Eng. Dial. Dict.) A wee claw'd luif whishts the harangue. 1897 C. M. CAMPBELL *Deilie Jock* iv, Wheesht your gab.

Whisht (hwiʃt), *int.* Now *dial.* Also 5 **whischt**, 7–9 **wheesht.** [A natural utterance, nearly identical with the 16th c. *huisht* (see HUSHT *int.*[1]), and with WHIST *int.*[1]] An exclamation enjoining silence: Hush!

14.. Whisht, whischt [see quot. 1382 s.v. WHIST *int.*[1]]. 1684 [MERITON] *Yorksh. Dial.* 53 Wheesht, wheesht, my Mother's coming up. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. i. Prol., But whisht! it is the Knight in Masquerade, That comes. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, But whisht, I hear the keeper coming. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 'Wheesht!' said he, 'this is my affairs'.

Whisk (hwisk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–6 *Sc.* **wysk**, 5–6 *Sc.* **quhisk**, 5–9 **wisk**, 6 **whysk**, 6–7 **whiske**, 7 **wiske**, 6– **whisk.** [orig. *wisk*, *wysk*, and first in Sc. texts; partly f. WHISK *v.*, partly ad. Scandinavian sb. represented by ON. *visk* wisp, Sw. *viska* besom, wisp, swab, Norw. *visk* wisp, cluster, pull, tug = OHG. *wisc* (MHG., G. *wisch*) wisp of hay, dish-clout, (M)Du. *wisch* wisp, LG. *wisk* quick movement, moment of time: see WHISK *v.*]

I. 1. A brief rapid sweeping movement; a sudden light stroke, rush, dart, etc.; a light stroke of a brush or other sweeping implement. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

In later use regarded as noun of action from the verb (*quasi* an act of whisking); but evidenced in quots. earlier than the verb.

With a whisk becomes phrasal = in an instant, in a flash; similarly *in a whisk*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 641 The king..Vatit the sper..And with a wysk the hed of-strak. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 122 With ane wisk..He claucht his cluik betuix thame. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 199 Fresche Bewtie with ane wysk come vp belyve. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* 18/1 in *Holinshed*, Sodaynly it [*sc.* a salmon] fetcheth such a round Whiske, that at a trice it skippeth to the top of the rocke. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 28 Quhen with a quhisk sho [*sc.* Fortune] quhirlis about hir quheill. 1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* To Rdr., To glue them a whiske with their owne wand. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* v. i, This first sad whisk [of the sword] Takes off thy Dukedom. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 94 [He] brings in Cæsar in the whiske of one of his Epigrams. *a* 1653 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 141 Three Whisks of a Broom Besom. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxi, Come and gae like a glance of the sun, or the whisk of a whirlwind. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IV. xi, The pad [mare]..giving a petulant whisk of her tail. 1863 LOWELL *Two Scenes from Life of Blondel* II. v, If a whisk of Fate's broom snap your cobweb asunder. 1863 *Reader* 7 Nov. 538 His [*sc.* tiger's] tail looks as if it had a wisk in it still. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xxxiv. (1870) 407 These wild, sudden whisks of gaiety. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* xiii, He walked up and down the room .. turning with a whisk upon his heel every now and then. 1900 ZANGWILL *Mantle of Elijah* II. xv, You see it all in a whisk.

II. 2. A neckerchief worn by women in the latter half of the 17th century. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1694 in Jeaffreson *Middx. County Rec.* (1888) III. 293 Six Corle Whiskes worth seventeen shillings, six Corle Gorgetts worth fourteen shillings, [etc.]. *a* 1698 CLEVELAND *Zealous Disc.* Wks. (1687) 382 Pray rectifie my Gorget, smooth my Whisk. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Nov., My wife.. bought her a white whisk and put it on. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. ii. 171/1 A Womans Neck Whisk..is used both Plain and Laced, and is called of most a Gorgett or a falling Whisk. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* (Narcs) With whisks of lawn, by grannums wore.

3. An instrument, now freq. a bundle of wires, for beating up eggs, cream, or the like.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 111 By beating the White of an Egge well with a Whisk, you may reduce it from a somewhat Tenacious into a Fluid Body. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xv. 140 First beat the Whites of the Eggs up well with a Whisk. 1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* III. 38 Egg whisk for confectioners.

4. A bundle or tuft of twigs, hair, feathers, etc. fixed on a handle, used for brushing or dusting; also, a water-sprinkler.

1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* viii. (1745) 75 If you happen to break any China with the Top of the Wisk. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin-Killer* 18 With a whisk, sprinkle the corn.. with it. 1824 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xiii, Father M'Grath seized hold of the pot of holy water, and dipping in the little whisk, began to sprinkle the room. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 176 The reeler then takes a whisk of fine twigs bound together.

b. A slender hair-like or bristle-like part or appendage, as those on the tails of certain insects. (In first quot. app. used for 'sting'.)

1428 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 200 The..piercing as of a Dragon's Whisk, Or deadly Eye-shot of a Beast. 1676 COTTON *Angler* II. viii. 72 This..Stone-Fly.. two or three whisks..at the tag of his tail. 1707 BOWLKER *Art Ang.* 64 The May Fly..with a long forked Tail made with the Hair or Whisks of a Fitchew's Tail. 1829 KIRBY & SPENCE *Glaneuse* (ed. 4) 298 The Ephemeræ.. throwing off the whole of their skins (even..to the skin of the eyes and wings, and the delicate 'whisks' at their tails). 1886 F. M. HALFORD *Floating Flies* 38 If the fly to be imitated has setæ or whisks. 1887 J. H. KEARN *Fishing Tackle* 181 Two whisks from a long fibre hackle, or two rabbit's whiskers.

c. The panicle or other part of certain plants used for making into brushes or brooms; *esp.* the panicle of the common millet or 'broom-corn' (*Sorghum vulgare*); hence, the plant itself.

1727 [see *whisk seed* in 7]. 1893 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl., *Whisk*, a trade name for the flower-spikes of *Sorghum vulgare*. 1893 *Let. to Editor from Director of Kew Gardens*, The fibrous root received for identification is that of *Chrysopogon Gryllus*, Trin. known as the Venetian or French Whisk. 1900 HANNAN *Textile Fibres* 137 Whisk, Mexican (*Epicampes macroura*). *Ibid.* 160 Whisk, Italian (*Sorghum*).

d. A small bunch, tuft, wisp.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. xi, The ceiling was divided by whisks of flowers. 1880 SMILES *Engineers* III. 318 Holding over their work large whisks of straw..to protect the bricks and cement.

e. A swarm of insects whisking or moving briskly about. *rare*[−1].

1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. 200 The Foetid Brown, or mushroom fly..may be seen in small whisks or swarms, skipping up and down over the water.

5. A name for various mechanical appliances having a whisking movement. a. A kind of winnowing-machine. b. A machine for winding yarn. c. A cooper's plane for levelling the chimes of casks.

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 127 Few winnowing-machines, saving a common whisk or fly, are used in this county. 1808 JAMIESON, *Whisks*, a machine for winding yarn on a quill or clue. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* ii. 57 In winding warp from the hank, swifts or whisks are used. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whisk*, a cooper's plane.

III. †6. A whipper-snapper. *Obs. slang.*

1668 FORD *Lover's Mel.* III. i, No quarrels, good'ne Whiske. *a* 1698 BROME *Novella* IV. ii. L 7 b, *Nic.* This is the Gentleman. *Pi.* Tis the proud Braches whiske! *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whisk*, a little inconsiderable, impertinent Fellow.

IV. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (Some of these may be regarded as attrib. uses of the stem of WHISK *v.*) **Whisk broom** = sense 4; †**whisk-comb** (see quot.); †**whisk rod**, a rod consisting of twigs or the like (cf. WHISK *v.* 4); **whisk seed**, millet-seed (see 4 c); **whisk tail**, a tail that is or may be whisked; hence **whisk-tailed** *a.*, having a whisk tail.

1887 *Local Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. cxlii. Sched. (B) *Whisk Brooms, loose, per* 1,000 0 0 9. 1897 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc., Ltd.* No. 4 Dept. Special List 193 Whisk Broom, Leather bound with handle. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 13/1 The *Wiske combe, haue teeth on one side, and are wide and slender. *Ibid.* vii. 312/1 The *Whisk Rod is used to correct Rebellious Youths. 1787 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 494, I enclose you some *whisk seed; it is a kind of corn, good for creatures. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 976/4 One Bay Mare,..with a *whisk Tayl. 1697 *Flying Post* 19–21 Oct. 2/2 A small Spaniel Lap-Dog, ..a short whisk Tail. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5836/4 A well spread Mare,..with a short whisk Tail. 1678 *Ibid.* No. 1321/4 Two Geldings,..both *whisk Tail'd. 1892 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Goblin Market* 107 The whisk-tailed merchant bade her taste.

Whisk, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* or *dial.* [? f. WHISK *v.*] The earlier name of the card-game now called whist (WHIST *sb.*[2]). Also *attrib.* Hence †**Whi'sker** (**whisker**) *nonce-wd.*, a whist-player.

1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Motto* D 4, He flings his money free..At One and thirty, or at Poore and rich, Ruffe, slam, Trump, nody, whisk. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* v. (1680) 61 The elder begins and younger follows in suit as at Whisk. [*Elsewhere in the book* Whist.] 1704 T. BAKER *Act at Oxf.* III. ii. 33 We'll sit down to Ombre, Picquet, Wisk, and Swabbers; or One and Thirty Bone-aco. 1713 LADY BRISTOL in *Lett. bks. J. Hervey, 1st Earl of Bristol* (1894) II. 278 The wiskers have promised me some diversion. *Ibid.* 287, I reign Queen of the whisk party. *Ibid.* 291 He will be misd .. as a whisk player. 1728 [see SWABBER 2]. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 75 Playing at whisk in an obscure village, in the Christmas holidays. 1829 BUCKETT *N. C. Glass.* (ed. 2), *Whisk*, a vulgar pronunciation of whist. 1894 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whisk*, whist, a game at cards. 1880 [see SWAB *sb.*[2]].

Whisk, *v.* (*adv.*, *int.*) Forms: see WHISK *sb.*[1] [In early use Sc.; prob. of Scandinavian origin: cf. Sw. *viska* to whisk (off), sponge, Da. *viske* to wipe, whisk, rub, sponge (a gun), Norw. *viska* to put straw, etc. together in a bundle = OHG. *wischen* (MHG., G. *wischen*) to wipe, †intr. to move lightly or briskly, LG. *wischen* to move quickly, wipe off, etc.: cf. WHISK *sb.*[1] The spelling with *wh* was adopted as being symbolic (cf. *whip*).]

1. *intr.* To move with a light rapid sweeping motion; to make a single sudden movement of this kind, to rush or dart nimbly; to move about or travel swiftly or briskly (occas. with *it*).

a 1480 HUNTYNGTON *Swallow* xliii, Like to the mow before the face of wind Quhisks away. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iv. 66 Suddanlie away thai [*sc.* harpies] whisk lik ane, Furth of our sicht, haisk wp in the sky. *Ibid.* XII. xii. 170 Lyke as befor the hund wyskis the hair. 1549 COVERDALE, etc.

Erasm. Par. James iv. 7–17 You..whiske about by sea and by lande, to get pelfe. 1592 R. D. *Hypermetamachia* 12 b, Their vestures whisking vp and flying abroad. 1603 Jonson *Golden Trade* 33 Beasts..will wiske with their tayles,..to auoyde or be rid of them [*sc.* flies). *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xx. cxlvii, Sweets which each silly Wind that whisketh by, Snatcheth, and scatereth. 1720 Steele *Tatler* No. 144 P 2 We .. watch an Opportunity to whisk cross a Passage, very thankful that we are not run over. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 172 Prickets from Thickets, Come whisk it and frisk it. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* III. 272 In whisking round a sharp angle, they overset the carriage. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 233 The..beavers..chasing each other about the pond, dodging and whisking about on the surface. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* iii, As Meg appeared, Scrabble [the pet rat] whisked into his hole. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xviii. 234 We whisked through Maghull village.

b. The vb.-stem used as *adv.* or *int.*: With a whisk, or sudden light movement.

1730 Gray *Long Story* 79 Out of the window, whisk, they flew. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlvii, He carried in his pocket..a fire-box of mysterious..construction; and as sure as ever Kit's mother closed her eyes, so surely—whisk, rattle, flas—there was the single gentleman consulting his watch by a flame of fire.

2. *trans.* To move (something) *about, away, back*, etc. with a light sweeping motion.

1553 Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol. 163 Quhen I walkynnit, all that welth was wiskyt away. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. C 2 b, He..whiskt his sword about. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* xi. 376 A sudden winde..whiskt away the Twigs. 1712 Budgell *Spect.* No. 67. P 9 [He] ran to his Partner,.. and whisked her round cleverly above ground. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 83 Burning a small stick at the end..and whisking it round to make gold lace, as we called it. 1784 Cowper *Task* vi. 327 The squirrel..there whisks his brush, And perks his ears. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iv, The horses,.. whisked their tails about. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Nov. 6/3 One cannot always guard against a whirlpool catching the rudder..and whisking the boat round. 1916 A. B. Reeve *Pots. Pan* iii, I forgot about it as I was whisked up in the elevator.

b. In reference to rapid travel: cf. *whirl.*

1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 436 They whisk her to Bath, to Bristol. 1802 G. Colman *Poor Gentl.* iv. i. 59 There are four spanking greys..that shall whisk you to town in a minute. 1817 W. T. Moncrieff *Giovanni in Lond.* i. ii, Fly your car, and wisk me over to the other side. 1870 Black *Adv. Phaeton* ii, A solitary omnibus, which daily whisks a few country people..down to Uxbridge.

3. To brush or sweep lightly and rapidly from a surface, esp. with a light instrument, as a feather or small brush.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* x. (1626) 214 Their tufted tailes Whiske vp the dust. *c* 1790 *Imison's Sch. Arts* II. 26 Having drawn the outline..faintly with charcoal, whisking out the faulty part with a feather. 1822 W. Irving *Bracebr. Hall* II. 259 His..horse stood, stamping and whisking off the flies. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxiii, The beadle..finished a piece of toast; whisked the crumbs off his knees [etc.]. 1881 Walford *Dick Netherby* v, 'An' shame on you for thinkin' soo.' Mrs M'Clintock whisked her apron from her eyes.

4. To beat or whip with a rod of twigs or the like. *Obs.* in *gen.* sense: in later use, To stir or beat up (eggs, cream, etc.) with a light rapid movement (= Whip *v.* 7), esp. by means of a whisk (see Whisk *sb.*[1] 3).

1530 R. Whytford *Werke for Housholders* Eij, Yf any chylde be..stubburne,..let it..be whysked with a good rodde. 1703 [implied in Whisking *vbl. sb.*]. 1720 T. Fuller *Pharmacopœia* 325 Whites of Eggs beat up and whisk'd till it stand all in froth. 1826 Mollard *Art of Cookery* 265 A tea spoonful of Gum Dragon whisked to a solid froth. 1846 Soyer *Cookery* 49 Using three whole and three yolks of eggs, but omitting the whisked whites. 1904 *Cassell's New Dict. Cookery* s. v. *Cream, Whipped*, Double cream may be simply whipped by whisking it with a wire whisk until it thickens.

†5. *fig.* app. To hoax. (Cf. Frisk *v.* 4 b.)

1674 J. Howard *Engl. Mounsieur* v, Iv, Hark ye Mr. Frenchlove, I believe you and I are whisk't with a couple of Wives, for Mr. Welbred, and Mr. Comely pretended to be in love with them, and the Devil a bit there's any such thing.

Whisker (hwi·skəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5–7 wisker, 6 whysker, (7 whisquer, 9 whiscar), 7– whisker. [f. Whisk *v.* + -er[1]. Cf. Sw. *viskare* sponge, swab, LG. *wisker* a rubber, duster, G. *wischer* rubber, clout, (fig.) reprimand.]

1. Something that whisks or is used for whisking: applied to various objects, as a fan; a rod or switch; a bunch of feathers used as a brush (cf. Whisk *sb.*[1] 4); etc. *Obs.* or *dial.*

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. iii. in *Anglia* VIII. 155 She sawe oure lady..as wip a wisker waftynge wynde vpon hir. 1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 89 A whyp is a whysker, that wyll wrest out blood. 1611 Cotgr., *Houssine*, a Switch, or Whisker. 1825 Jamieson, *Whisker, whiscar*, a bunch of feathers for sweeping anything.

†2. A person who whisks or moves briskly about; a lively young gallant: cf. Whisking *ppl. a.* 1 c.

1595 Gosson *Pleas. Quippes* vii, When yoong wiskers..In no good sort will spend the day, But be prophane, more then a Turke.

3. *slang* or *colloq.* Something great or excessive, a 'whopper' (cf. Whisking *ppl. a.* 2); esp. a great lie, a 'bang'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 92 Relations belonging to Quantity..Greatness, Magnitude, ample, large, vast, huge, ..whisker,..magnifie, aggravate, exaggerate. 1670 Ray and Willughby *Hobbe's Siasta Nat., Let.*, 35 It may be convenient for you to call this..a flam, a whisker, a caprice. 1694 *Plautus* 9 Suppose I tell her some damn'd Whisker. [1898 Wright *Dict. Obs. & Prov. Engl.* s.v., 'The dam of that was a whisker', a phrase used when a great falsehood was uttered.]

†b. A 'whisking' or blustering wind: see Whisking *ppl. a.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1670 Ray *Prov.* 288 March whisquer was never a good fisher.

4. The hair that grows on an adult man's face; formerly commonly applied to that on the upper lip, now called *moustache*, and sometimes to (or including) that on the chin (*beard*); now restricted to that on the cheeks or sides of the face. a. *pl.*: usually collective; sometimes distributive, as *a pair of whiskers*, denoting the hair on the two sides.

c 1600 *Timon* II. ii. (1849) 27 My wiskers hanging o're the ouerlipp. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 259 Some spruce yonker, with a starcht beard, and his whiskers turn'd vp. 1830 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* Pref., The rank Mustachos into whiskers grown. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 390 His [*sc.* Persian's] Beard is Cut neatly, and the Whiskers..encouraged from one Ear to the other, in fashion of an Half-Moon on the upper Lip, with only a decent Peak on the under. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 152 What grew on my upper Lip..I had trimm'd into a large Pair of Mahometan Whiskers. 1808 W. Wilson *Hist. Diss. Ch.* I. 141 The men members wore whiskers upon their upper lips. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words, Whishers*, the hair on the upper lip, as until lately, I believe, all over England. Now, the hair under the ears, sometimes under the eyes also, bear[s] this term; and the labial comes, are called moustaches. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xii, A tall fellow, with .. very thick bushy whiskers meeting under his chin. 1844 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* iii, He grew whiskers under his chin. 1878 Besant & Rice *Celia's Arb.* ii, His whiskers.. were cut to the old-fashioned regulation 'mutton-chop'. They advanced into the middle of the cheek, and were then squared off in a line which met the large stiff collar below at an angle of forty-five.

b. *sing.*: in earlier use, a moustache; now, the hair on one side of the face; also collectively.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Whisher*, a tuft of Hair on the Upper Lip of a Man. 1768 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* V. i, La Fosseuse..traced the outline of a small whisker..upon one side of her upper lip. 1836 H. Greville *Diary* 24 June (1883) 92 The ball lodged in the lining of the carriage, and some of the wadding in his whisker. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* ii, He was a..shaggy fellow,..with a good deal of hair and whisker. 1852 in Kinglake *Crimea* (1863) I. xiv. 267 A mere lad without whisker or moustache. 1873 H. James *Rod. Hudson* v. 173 A tall..gentleman..with a carefully brushed whisker.

†c. Applied to a lady's curl hanging over the cheek. (Cf. *whiskette* below.) *Obs.*

1786 *Pogonologia* 55 About a century ago [in France] the ladies..curls hung down their cheeks as far as their bosom. These curls went by the name of whiskers.

5. Each of a set of projecting hairs or bristles growing on the upper lip or about the mouth of certain animals; also applied to a similar set of feathers in certain birds, and to mystacial markings.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1342/4 A light gray Gelding,..with an iron mark of a G. on the near Buttock, and two whiskers on the upper lip. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 329 The Raccoon has..Whiskers and Nose like a Pig. 1747 Gray *Cat* iv, A whisker first and then a claw. 1758 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 352 The lesser Butcher-bird..there are about the angles of the beak certain rigid bristles or hairs, which serve as whiskers. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* II. 85 The seaotter is a large animal;..the eyes are small; the whiskers are white, strong, and numerous. 1879 Huxley *Sensation* Sci. & Cult. (1882) 266 The 'whiskers' of cats owe their functional importance to the abundant supply of nerves to the follicles in which their bases are lodged.

6. *Naut.* Each of two wooden or iron spars extending laterally on each side of the bowsprit, for spreading the guys of the jib-boom.

1844 Mrs. Houston *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 13 Our fore-topmast was carried away, as well as the larboard whisker. 1883 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 382 It was found that the whiskers of the jibboom had carried away. 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of the Sea* viii. 208 Between the whiskers and the fore-

b. A lever for exploding a torpedo.

1880 Sleeman *Torpedoes* 135 In addition to the nose piece, horizontal and vertical levers, or whiskers, may also be used.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 4).

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Wisher splitter*, a man of intrigue. 1786 *Pogonologia* 80 It was then [*sc.* in Lewis XIV's reign] no uncommon thing for a..lover to have his whiskers ..combed, and pomatumed by his mistress; and..a man of fashion took care to be..provided with..whisker-wax. 1813 Moore *Post-Bag* viii. 24 When the rich rouge-pot..Tips even thy whisker-tops with red. 1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* I. xi, He told Verdant, that his claret had been repeatedly tapped,..his whisker-bed [*i. e.* face] napped heavily.

Hence **Whi·sker** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to furnish with whiskers; **Whi·skerage**, whiskers collectively, a growth of whiskers; **Whi·skerer** (*nonce-wd.*), a man who wears whiskers; **Whiskero·tto**, a small whisker; a curl at the side of a girl's face (cf. sense 4 c above); **Whi·skerless** *a.*, destitute of whiskers; **Whi·skery** *a.*, having large whiskers.

1818 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 632/2 Deliberating how still further to Germanize and to *whisker out British soldiers. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* I. i. (1872) I. 6 Fellows..with such a breadth of sabre, extent of *whiskerage [etc.]. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxxvi, The trim of their whiskerage. 1727 *Entertainer* No. 2. 4 We are no *Whiskerers of the Order of St. Jacobs. 1880 *Athenæum* 2 Oct. 440 Her hair is trimly curled in *'whiskerettes'. 1896 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 22 Sept., A man wearing whiskers,..his chin shaven and allowing two distinct whiskerettes to be plainly discerned. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxi, Mr. Towlinson is *whiskerless. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxxiv, The old lady is..as tall and *whiskery as a grenadier.

Whisker, *sb.*[2], whist-player: see Whisk *sb.*[2]

Whiskerandos (hwiskəɹæ·ndɒs). *humorous.* [f. Whisker, with ending in imitation of Spanish words.] Name of a character (*Don Ferolo Whiskerandos*) in Sheridan's play 'The Critic' (1779); hence *allusively* (more commonly in the form **Whiskerando**, the *-s* being taken as sign of pl.), a (heavily) whiskered man. Hence **Whiskerandoed** (-dɒd) *a.*, whiskered.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XXIX. 179 The mustachio salute is not only sanctioned now by the dowagers of the whiskerando tribe, but even voted by the young smooth-lipped belles, to be 'funny enough'. 1832 Jewell *Corr.* (1864) 287 To the great dismay of a whiskerandos, second brother of my lord. 1838 Southey *Doctor* civi. V. 227 To..what extravagances would the whiskerandoed macaronies of Bond Street..proceed, if the beard..were..to 'make the man!' 1894 Stevenson *St. Ives* ii, Some of these old whiskerandos, originally peasants, trained since boyhood in victorious armies,..could ill brook their change of circumstance.

Whiskered (hwi·skəɹd), *a.* [f. Whisker *sb.*[1] + -ed[2].]

1. Having whiskers. a. Of men: see Whisker *sb.*[1] 4.

1784 Cowper *Task* iii. 768 Our forefathers—a grave whisker'd race. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* v. vii, To have seen him..in martial array—booted to the middle—sashed to the chin—collared to the ears—whiskered to the teeth. 1840 Thackeray *Shabby-Genteel Story* vii, A tall whiskered man, who..looked like a field-marshal.

b. Of animals: see Whisker *sb.*[1] 5; *spec.* as a descriptive appellation of particular species, as *whiskered auk, fly-catcher, shrike, tern.*

1764 Grainger *Sugar Cane* II. 62 The whisker'd varmin race. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 364 Whiskered Fly[catcher]. 1788 Cowper *Death of Mrs. Throckmorton's Bullfinch* 35 A beast .. Long-back'd, long-tail'd, with whisker'd snout. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 398 Whiskered Shrike. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 309 Whiskered (*Mystacinum*), when the upper lip is furnished with whiskers (*Mystax*), or bearded. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 342 Whiskered Auk..two series..of filamentous white feathers on each side of head. 1897 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* IV. 8 The Whiskered Tern is an accidental visitor to the British Islands.

2. Formed into or constituting whiskers. *rare*[–1].

1737 M. Green *Spleen* 761 Preferring sense, from chin that's bare, To nonsense thron'd in whisker'd hair.

Whisket, var. Wisket *dial.*, a basket.

Whiskey: see Whisky.

Whiskful (hwi·skful). [f. Whisk *sb.*[1] + -ful 2.] As much as a whisk will carry: see Whisk *sb.*[1] 4.

1840 *Diary of a Nun* I. xiv. 200 As the animals are brought up..to be blessed, the priest mutters a few Latin words, and dashes a whiskful of water in their faces.

Whiskied (hwi·skid), *a. rare.* Also **-keyed.** [f. Whisky *sb.*[1] + -ed[2].] Saturated or tainted with whisky.

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvi, In his whiskeyed blood there was not a black drop, nor in his muddled brains a bitter feeling. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 767/2 He breathed whiskied breath at me.

Whiskified (hwi·skifoid), *a.* Also **-k(e)y-**, *Sc.* **whus-**. [f. Whisky *sb.*[1] + *-fied*, pa. ppl. ending corresp. to **-fy.**] Affected by excessive drinking of whisky.

1820 H. Martin *Helen of Glenroes* III. 128 Paddy was only a little whiskified. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* v, Fact and fiction reeled together in his muzzy, whiskified brain. 1864 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* xiii. 226 'I shay—hic—open the door, will ye?'..quoth the whuskifeed voice. 1872 Howells *Wedd. Journ.* viii, That poor, whiskeyfied, Irish tatterdemalion.

Whiskijack, -john, var. Whisky jack, etc.

†**Whi·skin**[1]. *north. dial. Obs.* [Of unascertained origin.] A shallow kind of drinking-vessel.

1635 Heywood *Philocoth.* 45 Noggins, Whiskins, Piggins. 1640 Brathwait *Two Lanc. Lovers* 19 Wee will han a whiskin at every rushbearing. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whiskins*, shallow, brown Bowls to Drink out of. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, A whole whiskin, or black pot of sufficient double ale.

†**Whi·skin**[2]. *slang. Obs.* [Cf. *pimp-whisk(in.)*] A pander.

whiskin,..T

1640 H. Mill *Nights Search* 145 To make him whiskin.

Whisking (hwi·skiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whisk *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whisk, in various senses.

1563 Udall *Royster D.* II. iv. (Arb.) 37 Is all your delite and loy In whiskyng and ramping abroade like a Tom boy? 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. C 2, The crye of beasts, the ratling of the windes, Or whisking of these leaues. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gent.* v. i, With the whisking of my sword about. 1668 Dryden *Essex. Love* I. i, The whisking of a Silk-Gown, and the rash of a Tabby-Petticoat. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), *Whisking*, is also switching; 'there will be whisking for't'. 1797 Mrs. Inchbald *Wives as they were* II. i. 30 The whisking of a woman's gown made me give a sudden start! 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xlix, A rattling of tin mugs, a whisking of brooms. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. i, A herd of deer..trooping from one glade to another, with a tossing of great horns and whisking of tiny tails.

Whi·sking, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That whisks, in various senses: see the verb.

1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 1161. I suppose that he is Of Ieremy the whyskynge rod, The flayle, the scourge almighty God. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 637 With whisking broom they brush and sweep. 1690 C. NI *O. & N. Test.* I. 268 This whisking tail of the dragon..may cast down some doctors of the church.

† b. Of the wind: Blowing briskly, forcibly, or freshly. *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 156 A litle winde in a moystie day, stoppeth a shafte more than a good whiskynge wynde in a clere daye. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 817 As swiftly whirling as the whisking winde. 1635 SWAN *Spec. Mundi* v. § 2. (1643) 172 If the exhalation be little, tenuous or thin, then we have onely a pleasant whisking wind,.. by which the aire is gently moved. 1697 in *Nat. Hist. Irel.* (1726) 113 The air was somewhat troubled with little whisking winds, seeming to meet contrary ways.

c. Of a person: Moving actively, briak, lively, smart. *slang* or *colloq.* ? *Obs.*

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I 1, What are your whisking gallants to our husbands. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 40. (1713) II. 2 If you talk of Rubbers and Whiskers,..he's a whisking Rubber for you;.. he can rub one Man into two. 1824 CARLYLE *Let. to Miss Welsh* 23 June, Captain Smith was .. brisk, .. whisking, smart of speech.

2. Great, excessive, 'bouncing', 'whopping'. *slang* or *colloq.* (now only *dial.*).

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 166 They have whisking water-works for evacuation. 1681 HICKERINGILL *News fr. Colchester* Wks. 1716 I. 394 With what astonishment the People..were struck, when they read..this Whisking Lye. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Rousing Lie*, a whisking great one. 1792 BURNS *Willie's Wife* ii, A whiskin' beard about her mou'.

† **Whi·skish**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. WHISK *sb.*1 or *v.* + -ISH 1.] Lively, frisky.

1599 *Sir Clyom.* xv. in *Peele's Wks.* (1888) II. 172 The whores be so whiskish.

Whisky, whiskey (hwi·ski), *sb.*1 Also 8 -kie, -kee. [Short for WHISKYBAE, etc. (Gael. *uisgebeatha* lit. 'water of life'), though this is not actually evidenced so early (but Ramsay has *usque* for USQUEBAUGH, q.v., in 1728). In modern trade usage, Scotch *whisky* and Irish *whiskey* are thus distinguished in spelling.] A spirituous liquor distilled originally in Ireland and Scotland, and in the British Islands still chiefly, from malted barley (with or without unmalted barley or other cereals), in U.S. chiefly from maize or rye. With *a* and *pl.*, a drink of whisky.

Also in *whisky-and-milk*, *-soda*, *-water* (often so hyphened), denoting mixed or diluted drinks.

1715 in Maidment *Bk. Scot. Pasquils* (1868) 404 Whiskie shall put our brains in rage. 1746 M. HUGHES *Irnl. Late Reb.* 46 A double Portion of Oatmeal and Whisky. *note*, Whisky is a hot Malt Spirit. 1753 *Gray's Inn Irnl.* No. 48 Whiskee—Po l—Give me a Glass of that Rhenish. 1783 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 391/2 In one dram shop only in this town [*sc.* Dublin], there are 120 gallons of that accursed spirit, whiskey, sold. 1827 *Whitehall* II. iii, The Major then mixed himself a glass of whiskey and water in equal portions. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, He..went home..for his whiskey-and-water. 1884 G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* xvi, 'I think I'll have a whisky.' 'Scotch or Irish?' asked the barman. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan Papers* 76 Those of us who were left being assembled to drink a parting whisky-and-milk. 1903 *Times* 31 July 13/6 In less than an hour he sold 88 whiskies.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whisky-brose* (cf. BROSE b), *-can*, *-cocktail*, *-drinker*, *-drinking* sb. and adj., *-gill*, *-peg* (PEG *sb.*1 6), *-punch*, *-shop*, *-still*, *-toddy*; *whisky-sodden* adj.; **whisky insurrection** or **rebellion** *U. S. Hist.*, an outbreak in Pennsylvania in 1794 against an excise duty on spirits imposed by Congress in 1791; **whisky-poker** (see quot.); **whisky ring** *U.S. Hist.*, a combination of distillers and revenue officers formed in 1872 to defraud the government of part of the tax on spirits; **whisky-straight** *U. S. slang*, whisky without water.

1822 A. CUNNINGHAM *Trad. Tales, Allan-a-Maut* (1887) 136 'Whisky-brose shall be my breakfast, and my supper shall be the untaken-down spirit. 1845 ELIZA COOK *Poems, Fisher Boat* 12 Jolly mates, a *whiskey-can, and trusty nets for me! 1862 JERRY THOMAS *How to mix Drinks* Contents, *Whiskey Cobbler, Cocktail. 1772 WESLEY *Irnl.* 28 June (1827) III. 424 The house..was filled with *whisky drinkers. 1905 ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 178 Hobnailed, Gin, or Whiskey-drinker's liver. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* [illegible] *Amer. Gloss.*), Tinctured with the dwelling or *whiskey-insurrection mania. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Sign of Four* xii, There he sat..drinking *whisky-pegs and smoking cheroots. 1876 J. S. CAMPION *On Frontier* (ed. 2) 25 *Whisky-poker, a harmless non-gambling game, in which the winner gets a drink and the losers a smell at the cork of the bottle. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xvii, A glass o' *Whisky-punch. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xliii, His..utterance began to fail him, over his sixth tumbler of whisky-punch. 1889 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* s.v., The *whisky rebellion of Pennsylvania. 1824 *Boston* (Mass.) *Irnl.* 25 Sept., The candidate of the *whisky ring. 1888 A. K. H. BOYD *Less. Middle Age* 29 The sight of a *whisky-shop or a gin-palace is to such an overwhelming temptation. 1892 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 200 You *whisky-sodden old miscreant. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xx, Thae curst horse-leeches o' th' Excise, Wha mak the *Whisky Stells their prize! 1892 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* xv. 306 We will take a *whisky-straight. 1812 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 59, I sat down with some *whisky toddy.

Hence **Whisky** *v.*, *trans.* to supply with whisky, to give a drink of whisky to.

1860 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. 120 The horses were changed, and the passengers whiskied. 1888 [LEES & CLUTTERBUCK] *T'here in Norway* ix. (1888) 63 We 'whisky' every one who turns up at camp.

Whisky, whiskey, *sb.*2 [app. f. WHISK *v.* + -Y 1, from its swift movement.] A kind of light two-wheeled one-horse carriage, used in England and America in the late 18th and early 19th c. Also called **TIMWHISKY.**

1769 *Lloyd's Even. Post* 3–5 July 15 As a Gentleman was returning to Battersea, in his whisky, his horse took fright, and ran away. 1784 ELIZ. CARTER *Let. to Mrs. Vesey* 30 July, Travelling over hill and dale in a whisky. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 58 The gig from the whiskey also differs materially, the whiskey being constructed on the most simple plan, with the body united to the carriage. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xiv, It was a two-wheeled vehicle, which..aspired only to the humble name of that almost forgotten accommodation, a whiskey. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* 245 The old One-horse Chaise, or Whiskey, was as heavy as the modern Cabriolet, without its grace of form. 1844 T. WEBSTER *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* § 6672 A whiskey or chair is a small chair, not hung by braces, but placed on the shafts, having springs of some kind interposed between them and the axles...It is made low, and very light. 1879 LOUISA POTTER *Lanc. Mem.* 139 [She] but rarely went out of her own grounds except to church, in a machine which ninety years ago was called a 'whiskey'.

Whi·sky, *a. rare.* [f. WHISK *v.* + -Y 1; cf. prec.] Light and lively, flighty.

1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iii, Talking in such a whisky frisky manner that nobody can understand him.

b. *Comb.* **whisky-bobby**, angler's name for some kind of artificial bait.

1904 F. WHISHAW *Lovers at Fault* vi, Flies, minnows or whisky-bobbies might be used.

Whiskybae, whisquy-beath, var. USQUEBAUGH. (Cf. 16th cent. *iskiebae.*)

1792 GALLOWAY *Poems* 72, I told him I ne'er drank no Whiskybae. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* III. 585 A refreshment ..consisting generally of whisquy-beath, or some foreign liquor, butter and cheese.

Whisky jack (hwi·ski,dʒæk). Also 8 **whiskijack**, 9 **whiskey jack**; also with hyphen. [Altered form of next by substitution of *jack* for *john* (cf. JACK *sb.*1).] A popular name for the common grey jay of Canada, *Perisoreus canadensis.*

1772 Whiskijack [see next]. 1873 *Forest & Stream* 11 Dec. 373/3 Two whisky jacks are driven into camp, and now sit on the palisades over the fire. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxviii. (1892) 320 Those delightful birds known as the Camp Robbers or Whisky Jacks.

Whisky john (hwi·ski,dʒɒn). In 8 **whiski-.** [Corruption of the American Indian name (Cree *wiskatjan*, Montagnais *wishkutshan*).] = prec.

1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 386 *Lanius...Excubitor*...Great Butcher-bird... Cinereous Shrike... White Whiskijohn at Hudson's Bay... *Corvus...Canadensis*... Cinereous Crow. ..These birds are called Whiskijohn and Whiskijack at the Hudson's Bay. 1898 BALLANTYNE *Fur Traders* xi, Whisky-johns are the most impudent, puffy, conceited, little birds that exist.

Whisle, -ler, -ling, obs. ff. WHISTLE, etc.

Whisp, *sb. rare.* [Echoic: cf. WHISPER.] A slight blast or puff (of wind) or sprinkle (of rain). So **Whisp** *v.*, implied in **Whisping** *vbl. sb.*, used of a slight blast or a low rustling sound: see quots.

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS. 19. No. 1.* f. 5 b, The ers hole by egestion..i. schityng Crackynge & Whispynge by nethe is purgynge propirly of the guttys. 1884 *19th Cent.* Feb. 241 A whisp or two of cold wind. 1901 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 5/7 Nothing broke the stillness but the whisping of the waters. 1903 *Times* 27 Apr. 12/1 A whisp of rain,..too light to be called a shower, touched the crowd here and there.

Whisp, variant of WISP.

Whisper (hwi·spəɹ), *sb.* [f. WHISPER *v.*]

1. An act, or the action, of whispering, or speaking 'under one's breath'; the low non-resonant quality of voice which characterizes this (esp. in phr. *in a whisper*).

In *Phonetics* (equivalently), Speech or vocal sound without the musical or resonant tone produced by vibration of the vocal cords; a 'breath' sound, as distinguished from 'voice' (see BREATH 10, VOICE *sb.* 1 g); in strict use implying also contraction of the glottis: see also 4.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 9 The sea-mans Whistle Is as a whisper in the eares of death, Vnheard. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 274 The Inward Voice or Whisper can never giue a Tone. 1738 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 10 P 9 Secrets which he always communicates in a whisper. 1778 Miss BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) I. xxiii. 124, I heard him say..in an audible whisper,—which is a mode of speech very distressing and disagreeable to by-standers (etc.). 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Crim. Cvrs.*, Conversing in low whispers. 1837 — *Pickw.* xiv, Mr. Weller delivered this..with great vehemence of whisper. 1852 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 35 (1864) 319 In a whisper there is no musical sound. 1877 SWEET *Handbk. Phonetics* 5 Whisper in popular language simply means speech without voice. Phonetically whisper implies not merely absence of voice, but a definite contraction of the glottis. 1880 BESANT *All Sorts* xxii, 'Mind, it's a secret.' He lowered his voice to a whisper.

b. A whispered word, phrase, remark, or speech.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. Chor. 7 From Camp to Camp,.. The Hummes of either Army stilly sounds; That the first Centinels almost receiue The secret Whispers of each others Watch. 1604 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* v. i, She has put The ..es to their whisper. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 303 Full ... the busy whisper, circling round, Convey'd the dismal tidings when he frown'd. 1822 BYRON *Sardanap.* III. i. 424 What, at whispers With my stern brother? 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xi, The sage Persian comforted him by a long whisper, of which the last part only was heard. 1833 HK. MARTINEAU *Demerara* xi, Some relaxation of discipline allowed them to exchange a whisper from time to time.

c. *Pig's whisper*: see PIG *sb.*1 13 c. *Stage whisper*: see STAGE *sb.* 18.

2. A secret or slight utterance, mention, or report; a suggestion, insinuation, hint, light rumour (communicated in a whispering voice, or *fig.* by a soft rustling sound (cf. 3) or mentally); with negative, the slightest mention, the 'least word'.

1598 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 178 Not a word, nor quhisper in thair contrare. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 80 At least the whisper goes so. *Ibid.* IV. v. 82 The people..vnwholsome in their thoughts, and whispers For good Polonius death. 1684 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 291 Some whispers that the Judges would not proceede against any of the Quakers. 1687 W. HUBBARD *Prov. St. New Eng.* 43 The bullet passing through his own hair, by that whisper telling him that death was very near. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 64 P 1 He [*sc.* a Courtier] deals much in Whispers, and you may see he dresses according to the best Intelligence. 1780 BENTHAM *Introd. Mor. & Legisl.* xvii. § 11 (1789) 313 If the thunders of the law prove impotent, the whispers of simple morality can have but little influence. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* vi, A whisper from those recesses of the heart in which lies much that the owner does not know of. 1827 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 17 Apr. (1884) I. 374 No one raises even a whisper of reproach against Peel. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* XXVIII, He rejected the pleadings of pity—the whispers of conscience. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxxii. 292 There were whispers that he was to be put to death without trial.

3. *fig.* A soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting that of a whispering voice.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 136 The milde whispers..Of shades and wanton winds, and gushing brooks. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* III. xiii, With far-heard whisper, o'er the sea, Off shot the spectre-bark. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Daa.* 248 Whispers, like the whispers of the leaves That tremble round a nightingale. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* v, A silence, broken only by the whisper of the wind through the rigging.

4. *attrib.* Uttered in a whisper; in *Phonetics*, uttered without the vocal murmur, 'breath' (see BREATH 10); **whisper-shot** *nonce-wd.* [after *ear-shot*], the distance within which a whisper can be heard.

1826 BRETON *Fantasticks* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/2 The leaues of the trees are in whisper talkes. 1898 E. GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* I. 9 It is .. doubtful if there ever was a language which had its whisper letters perfect. *Ibid.* 10 The whisper sounds of the two liquids *l*, *r*, constitute two distinct letters in Welsh. 1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 4 The sound of *th*, whether whisper or vocal. 1896 LANIER in *Atlantic Monthly* (1899) LXXXIII. 799/1, I .. inserted a whisper chorus..to prepare by its straining plainsimo for the outburst of jubilation. 1890 W. S. GILBERT *Fairy's Fairy* etc. 130 Informing everybody within whisper-shot., that this was my first brief.

Hence **Whi·sperhood** *nonce-wd.*, the condition of being a whisper (in sense 2); **Whi·sperless** *a.*, not uttering a whisper, or in which no whisper is heard; absolutely silent; **Whi·sperous** (whence **Whi·sperously** *adv.*), **Whi·spery** *adjs.*, full of or ...bling a whisper.

...now a Lie that now ... oise, which..I can remember in its *Whisper-hood. 1863 P. S. WORSLEY *Poems & Transl.* 19 Crouching *whisperless. 1921 R. BROOKE *Coll. Poems* (1928) 74 The secret deeps are whisperless. 1884 LD. LYTTON in *19th Cent.* Dec. 898 The *whisperous, awe-struck tone of the voice. 1890 — *King Poppy* VIII. 8 Waves that, hid in whisperous shadows, heaved. 1898 LYTTON *What will he do?* V. VIII, The Duchess..sinks her voice, and gabbles on—*whisperously. 1834 MRS. HEMANS *Zagri Maid* II. Wks. ... sound of smoothly sliding waters.

Whi·sper, *v.* Forms: 1 hwisprian, 5 quqwysper, 5–6 whysper, 6 *Sc.* quhisper, 7 wisper, 6– whisper. [OE. *hwisprian* (only North. umb.) = Early Flem. *wisperen* (Kilian), G. *wispern*; cf. MLG., MDu. *wispelen*, OHG. (*h*)*wispalōn* (MHG. *wispeln*). ON. has *hvískra*, Da. *hviske*, Sw. *viska* to whisper.]

1. *intr.* To speak softly 'under one's breath', i. e. without the resonant tone produced by vibration of the vocal cords; to talk or converse in this way, esp. in the ear of another, for the sake of secrecy. (See also 4 a.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John p. 4 *Murmurantes*, hwisprende. c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke xix. 7 And middy geseon alle hwisprodon [Vulg. *murmurabant*]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 421/1 Quysperen ... *musslo*. *Ibid.* 505/2 Whysperyn, or not thow with thy fellowes of. 1600 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 309 He whisper with the General, and knows his pleasure. 1600 — *Temp.* IV. i. 223 Iuno and Ceres whisper seriously. 1676 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) I. 236 Ld Wharton, and Ld Mohun etc., whisping together. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 P 8 He immediately runs into Secrets, and falls a whispering. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xivii, ... and talked, and many nodded and whispered.

b. *trans.* with *adv.* To bring by whispering.

1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* 318 Her Soul was whisper'd out, with God's still Voice. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxiv, Cary..returned, and whispered Amyas away.

2. *trans.* To say, tell, communicate, utter, or express by whispering. (With simple obj. or obj. clause; often with the actual words uttered as obj.) See also 4 b.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 436 What did you whisper in your Ladies eare? 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. ii. 100 If Cæsar hide himselfe, shall they not whisper Loe Cæsar is affraid? *a* 1678 MARVELL *Last Instr. Painter* 937 His Fathers Ghost too whisper'd him one Note, That who does cut his Purse will cut his Throat. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 324 Rising Fears are whisper'd thro' the Crowd. 1712 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Perplex'd Lovers* I. i, She..whispers out her words, least I shou'd hear her. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* viii, I took the opportunity..to approach Lady Roseville and whisper my adieus. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* iii, 'What is it?' he asked, in a loud whisper. 'Gooseberry', she whispered back —'come and sit here by me.'

b. *intr.* for *passive.* *rare.*

1830 TENNYSON *In Mem.* iii, O Sorrow,..What whispers from thy lying lip?

3. With the person, etc. as obj.: To address in a whisper; (with following clause or inf.) to tell, inform, bid, or ask in a whisper.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. l. D iij b, He hath whyspered the in the eare, or taught the thy lesson in a corner. *a* 1592 H. SMITH *Serm., Satan's Compass.* (1592) 988 He will whisper the poore howe they shall come by riches. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 4 Whisper her eare, and tell her I and Vrsula, Walke in the Orchard. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 827 Ile..whisper him in your behalfes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 946 He did first whisper the Man in the Eare, that such a Man should thinke such a Card. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 117 P 5 He whispered me in the Ear to take notice of a Tabby Cat. 1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) I. 34, I whispered my Companion softly, that as the Night was very dark, we might give him the Slip. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* IV. iii, Re-enter Servant and whispers Joseph Surface. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 35 By whispering the rein-deer in the ear, they know the place of their destination. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* viii, Miss Jane.. whispered her sister to observe how jealous Mr. Chuggs was. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* II. xxi, The Lord Mayor whispered the Judge again.

4. With special connotations. a. *intr.* To speak or converse quietly or secretly about something (usually implying hostility, malice, conspiracy, etc.); also (with negative) to speak ever so slightly, to say 'the least thing' about something.

1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* ii. (1570) B iv/1 That when other talke and speake what they will, Thou dare not whisper. 1530 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xli. 7 All myne enemyes whisper together agaynst me. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 108 His companyons whyspered and muttered ageynste hym. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 28 June, And ne'er a prince in France dare whisper against it. 1824 MRS. HOPLAND *Patience* vii. 111 Mrs. Masterman..whispers every where about your wife's covetousness.

b. *trans.* To say, report, communicate, or utter quietly, secretly, or confidentially; also (with negative) to utter ever so slightly, to say the least word of. (With simple obj. or obj. clause; often in passive.)

1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 209 It is quhisperit and murmurrit that sum suld forgett thair devoyr. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. iv. 11 Leane-look'd Prophets whisper fearefull change. 1628 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1909) III. 201 This newes was first whispered here the 19th November. *a* 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* II. (1710) 38 This Matter whisper'd up and down, Was quickly spread thro' all the Town. 1823 SCOTT *Guy M.* III, It is whispered about..that there is such a plan. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* III, Some vague rumour..which had been whispered abroad. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* IV. xii, Whisper nothings that sound like something. 1887 R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* xiv. 246 It was whispered that a man answering to his description was keeping a very lucrative gambling-house in San Francisco.

c. *trans.* with *adv.* or *advb. phr.* To bring *into* or *out of* something, or to take *away*, by secret (esp. malicious or slanderous) speech.

1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 24 He is to be admonished..not to whisper away the fame and credit of Deputies and governors. 1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's East India Bill* 99 They cannot be whispered out of their duty,..their public conduct cannot be censured without a public discussion. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lviii, Are characters to be whispered away like this? 1892 BUSHNELL *Serm. Living Subj.* xiii. 257 The great majority..are led, drawn, beckoned, whispered into their calling.

5. *intr.* (*fig.* from 1.) To make a soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting a whisper.

1653 WALTON *Angler* ix. 185 There will the River whispering run. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 759 The Winds no longer whisper through the Woods. 1768 GRAY *Kingsgate* 10 No tree is heard to whisper, bird to sing. 1848 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxxiv, The autumn wind whispered low among the branches.

6. *trans.* (*fig.* from 2.) To suggest secretly to the mind; also, to express or communicate by a soft rustling sound (cf. 5).

1640 S. HARDING *Sicily & Naples* m. i. 33 This day (There's something whispers to me) will prove fatall. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 158 Gentle gales,..dispose Native perfumes, and whisper whence they stole Those balmie spoiles. 1751 GRAY *Spring* 8 Whisp'ring pleasure as they fly, Cool zephyrs..Their gather'd fragrance fling. 1823 LAMB *Elia Ser.* II. *Old Margate hoy*, The waves to him whispered more pleasant stories. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* II. i, A strange sympathy which whispers convictions that no evidence can authorise. 1876 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 230 Truth is truth in each degree, Thunderpealed by God to Nature, whispered by my soul to me.

b. with the person, etc. as obj. (*fig.* from 3).

1603 SHAKS. *Meas.* IV. iii. 210 Give sorrow words; the griefe that do's not speake, Whispers the o're-fraught heart, and bids it breake. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II. i, Something whispers me All is not right. 1761 A. MURPHY *All in Wrong* I. 1 What devil whispered thee to marry such a woman? 1772 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 304 Adulation had whispered the king with such an opinion of his own ability. 1832 DISRAELI *Cont. Fleming* v, Nature seemed to whisper me the folly of learning words instead of ideas. 1849 T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, Noon* iv, Western wind.. Whisper deliciously the trembling flowers.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Whi·sperable** *a.*, that can be whispered; **Whispera·tion**, whispering.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 893 All speak—talk—whisper—or smile, of all the speakable, talkable, *whisperable, and smileable..affairs. 1910 C. SHADWELL *Fair Quaker Dead* III. 37 *Caxon.* Ah—when the Captain and Purser whispers, our Guts ought to grumble. *6 Sailor.* Ay, Coxon, those *Whisperations are many an Ounce of Butter and Cheese out of our Way.

Whispered (hwi·spəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Uttered, said, or told in a whisper.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 201 The quhisperit sinnis, callit eir Confessioun. 1746 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 59 The whisper'd tale. 1821 T. W. HILL *Sel. Papers* (1860) 26 Making the whispered *s* serve..for an unwhispered *s*. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xvi, A whispered earnest consultation took place. 1890 SWEET *Primer Spoken Engl.* I In whispered sounds [the vocal chords] are brought closer together, but without vibration.

2. Said or reported quietly or secretly; (with negative) uttered ever so slightly.

1609 SHAKS. *Lear* II. i. 8 You haue heard of the newes abroad, I meane the whisper'd ones. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 35 Like a whispered scandal, it passed through several canals. 1897 *Daily News* 4 June 5/6 There is not even a whispered suggestion of repealing it.

Whisperer (hwi·spərəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] One who whispers.

1. One who speaks in a whisper.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 79 b, The Crane by proper name should be called whisperer, or flackerer. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 148 P 4 Next to these Bawlers, is a troublesome Creature who comes with the Air of..your Intimate, and that is your Whisperer. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) II. 375 As we walk'd up the Church..we had abundance of Gazers and Whisperers. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ix. 225 Where the whisperer is in the focus of one reflecting surface, and the hearer in the focus of another. 1876 J. SAUNDERS *Lion in Path* v, 'Hush', exclaims one of the whisperers to his neighbour.

b. An appellation for certain celebrated horse-breakers, said to have obtained obedience by whispering to the horses.

1810 H. TOWNSEND *Stat. Surv. Co. Cork* 439 He was an awkward, ignorant rustic..., his name James Sullivan, but better known by the appellation of the whisperer,..from a vulgar notion of his being able to communicate to the animal what he wished, by means of a whisper. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xv, One who is an expert whisperer and horse-sorcerer.

2. One who communicates something quietly or secretly; *esp.* a secret slanderer or tale-bearer.

1547–80 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* II. L iij, Caste whysperers and tale bearers, out of thy company. 1611 *Bible* Prov. xvi. 28 A whisperer separateth chiefe friends. 1675 TEMPLE *Let. to King* Wks. 1731 II. 328 The Whisperers of this Story. 1707 NASH in Goldsm. *Life* (1762) 33 Whisperers of lies and scandal. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 180 P 10 The most officious of the whisperers of greatness. 1819 KEATS *Otho* IV. i, Whisperers..Hungry for evidence to ruin me. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* xviii, To be a Great Man's whisperer is a position coveted by many.

Whisperhood: see after WHISPER *sb.*

Whispering (hwi·spəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb WHISPER.

1. The action of speaking in a whisper; speech without vibration of the vocal cords; whispered talk or conversation.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John vii. 12 Hwisprunge micle [Vulg. *murmur multum*] wæs..in ðreote. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2785 Whan sche beryth wispring eny-where. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 159 b, Noyse of whysperyng with the lyppes. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 284 Is whispering nothing? Is leaning Cheeke to Cheeke? 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) II. 375, I was much less concerned..at the Gazings and Whisperings of the Ladies and Gentlemen. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, After a little whispering with the other young ladies. 1863 A. M. BELL *Princ. Speech* 164 This whispering of the Voice Articulations is a remarkable characteristic of Gaelic, Welsh, and Irish speakers.

2. The action of saying or reporting something quietly or secretly; suggestion or insinuation (by whispered speech); faint mention or rumour; *esp.* (*obs.* or *arch.*) malicious insinuation, secret slander or detraction, backbiting.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 868 That place..filde ful of tydynges Other lovde or of wisprynges. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 279 Now hit ys made an hous..of whisperyng and rownyng. 1526 TINDALE *2 Cor.* xii. 20, I feare lest there be founde amonge you..whisperynges, swellynges and debate. 1546 W. THOMAS *Peregryne* Wks. 1774 I. 213 He had herd a whysperyng amonge the souldieres how the sayde Earle.. had gotten promes of ayde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 33 Sekynge after his compaygnie and yet not once herynge any noyse or whysperynge of theim. *a* 1586 [see WHISPERING *vbl.*]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas.* V. i. 70 Feede whisp'rings vnd. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* IV. 207 By false whispering and calumny. 1826–43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 33 Rumours of war, and whisperings of the intrigues and conspiracies.

3. *fig.* a. Soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting whispered speech.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 564 The river..making a ..gentle whispering. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvii, The garden ..was silent, but for the whispering of the leaves,..and the plashing of the fountains. 1849 T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, Night* viii, The..bushed whispering of the vines. 1904 FITCHETT *Commander of 'Hirondelle'* xx. 230 Her voice fell into the key of the mystical whispering of the sea.

b. Mental suggestion or intimation figured as whispered speech.

1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 2 Some secret sense or intimation thereof by dreams, thoughtful whisperings, [etc.]. 1811 SHELLEY *Poems fr. St. Irvyne* I. iii, Conscience in low, noiseless whispering spoke. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xv, The whisperings of her womanly nature..caused her to shrink from any unmaidenly action.

4. *attrib.*: **whispering-closet**, satirically for a private consulting-room; **whispering-gallery**, a gallery or dome, usually of circular or elliptical plan, in which a whisper or other faint sound at some point can be heard by reflexion at a distant point where the direct sound is inaudible; **whispering-hole**, a hole through which one whispers; **whispering-office**, nickname for a confessional; †**whispering-place**, = *whispering-gallery*; †**whispering-room**, a room for private interviews or consultations; †**whispering-trumpet** (*obs.*), **whispering-tube** = SPEAKING-TUBE 1.

1828 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 80 The Judge's *whispering-closet: from which all who have any interest in the discovery of the truth are carefully excluded. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 31 July 1654, The Minster is indeede a noble fabric. The *whispering gallery is rare, being thro' a passage of 25 yards, in a many-angled cloister. 1822 *Examiner* 28 Dec. 827/2 The whispering gallery in St. Paul's. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 518 Speaks..As through a Trunk, or *whisp'ring hole. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 457 P 3 Peter Hush has a whispering Hole in most of the great Coffee-houses about Town. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* iv, The erecting of a *Whispering-Office. 1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 180 This *whispering place..is a vault or gallery. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* iii § 23 (1716) 97 The voice of Prophecies is like that of Whispering-places: They who are near or at a little distance hear nothing, those at the farthest extremity will understand all. 1746 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 219 As for whispering Places, the best I ever saw was that at Gloucester: But in Italy..I saw, in an Inn, a Room with a square Vault, where whispering, you could easily hear it at the opposite Corner. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* I. ii, A Visor and a Masque are *whispering roomes That were neu'r built for goodnesse. *Ibid.* III. ii, His breast was fill'd with all perfection, And yet it seem'd a priuate whispring roome It made so little noyse of 't. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 75/2 In the Base of this square, runing into the next, is a *Whispering Trumpett, a long streight hollow pipe. 1887 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* vi. (ed. 3) 65 The voices..became thin and low, as though they reached me through a *whispering tube.

Whi·spering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That whispers; speaking in a whisper.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 125 With bated breath, and whispring humblenesse. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Toilet* 46 Her Face may boast the Peach's Bloom; But does her nearer whisp'ring Breath perfume? 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 14 The hawthorn bush, with seats beneath the shade, For talking age and whispering lovers made! 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xv, A dozen smiling and whispering girls.

b. Uttered in, or of the nature of, a whisper.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 25, I..could tell A whispering tale in a faire Ladies eare. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 19, I spake to him..in a low whispering voice. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 89 He held with them a long and whispering kind of conversation. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxxiv, In a low, whispering voice, rendered..faltering by their emotions.

2. Reporting something secretly or confidentially; *esp.* secretly slanderous, talebearing, backbiting.

1581 MUNDAY (*title*) An Aduertisement and defence for Truoth against her Backbiters, and specially against the whispring Fauourers..of Campians. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* II. ii. Wks. (1616) 378 Whispring fame Knowledge, and proofe doth to the lealous glue. 1800 COLERIDGE *Christabel* 409 Whispering tongues can poison truth.

3. Making a soft rustling sound like a whisper. Also said of the sound.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 963 Echo whispring wind hath power now to fray..my doutfull mind. 1575 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* vii. 20 Vnder the whispering hollye. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 250 There Illissus rouls His whispering stream. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 121 The watch-dog's voice that bayed the whispering wind. 1784 COWPER *Poplar-Field* 2 The whispering sound of the cool colonnade. 1793–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 1170 The whispering air Sends inspiration from the shadowy heights. 1847 LOWDF. *Ev.* I. iv. 137 She heard the whispering rain fall. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* c, Low murass and whispering reed. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxiii, The sighing, whispering, sad-voiced water-oaks.

Hence **Whi·speringly** *adv.*, with a whispering voice or sound, in a whisper; †**Whi·speringness**, whispering quality or character (in quot. in sense 2).

1580 in *Liturgies Reign Q. Eliz.* (Parker Soc. 1847) 572 Their speaking..is not softly and whisperingly. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. vii. (1590) 385 Bold onely in basie whisperings, and euen in that whisperingnes rather indeed confident in his cunning, that it should not be bewraied. *a* 1629 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 247 A man is bound to discharge all his sinnes..whisperingly or secretly into the eare of a Priest. 1749 RICHARDSON *Clarissa*

(1745) I. 308 Thus she ran on,..but whisperingly, that my aunt might not hear her. 1870 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xii, The pool.. where the.. trees leaned whisperingly. 1874 LESLIE CAIRD *Jud. Cuypuns* I. vi. 174 As the last words fell whisperingly from her lips. 1915 KIPLING *New Army* ii, Squad after squad.. gathered up their target cards, and whisperingly compared them.

Whisperless to **Whispery**: see after WHISPER *sb.* **Whispy**, variant of WISPY.

Whisquy-beath: see WHISKYBAE.

† Whiss, *v. Obs.* Also 5 quysse, 6 whisse, whyss(e, wiss(e, *Sc.* quheiss. [Echoic. Cf. Icel. *hvissa* to whizz.]

1. *intr.* To make a sibilant sound of some kind; to whistle, hiss, whizz, or wheeze; *trans.* to whistle to. Hence † **Whi·ssing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1400 *Pavlt. 3 Ages* 234 He [*sc.* falconer] quysses thaym [*sc.* hawks] and quotes thaym, quyppeys full lowde. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 385 The whyssinge of a burninge forge. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Auster, Sibilus Austri*, the whisynge of the winde. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* T iij b, Like the sea which sodenlye with whissing noyse dooth moue, when with a little blast of winde it is but toucht. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 24 (Qo. 1) Whissing lungs. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, ccliii, Their fled Troops, met whissing in the Bound, Gave their owne Terror, in a Treble Sound. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. iv. 49 Such a Nose is worth a double tost in a pot of Ale, and will make it whisse as well as a hot steele. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whizz*, to whistle.

2. *trans.* ? To strike with something pliant, to flog: cf. quot. *c* 1590 in sb. below.

c 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) 2 Some whysse hym, some whype hym.

Hence † **Whiss** *sb.*, a blow with something pliant, a lash.

c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 235 Tak thair ane quheiss 3it with my skoullon clout.

Whiss, whissche, obs. ff. WISH.

Whissall, -el(l, -il(l, obs. ff. WHISTLE.

Whisse, obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.*

Whissle: see WHISTLE, WISSEL.

Whisson, dinl. f. WHITSUN.

† Whist, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Imitative.] A whistling sound, a whistle.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 268/2 If a sheepeheard .. giue a whist with his mouthe to gather his sheepe together.

Whist (hwist), *sb.*[2] [f. WHIST *int.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

† 1. An utterance of the interjection 'whist!' as a command for silence. *Obs.*

1621 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* I. iii. (Roxb.) 15 With a whist and with a Hush Hast wee both Two to the Bush.

2. Silence: in phr. *to hold one's whist*, to keep silence. *Irish.* (Cf. WHIST *sb.* 2.)

1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* s.v., 'Hold your whist,' *i.e.*, hold your tongue, is an Irishism which has passed into English slang. 1898 MACDONAGH *Irish Life* 237 "I is yer brother that's spakin' to yes, and askin' yes to bould yer whist!

Whist, *sb.*[3] [Altered f. WHISK *sb.*[2] explained as in quot. 1680.] A game of cards played (ordinarily) by four persons, of whom each two sitting opposite each other are partners, with a pack of 52 cards, which are dealt face downwards to the players in rotation, so that each has a *hand* of 13 cards; one of the suits (usually determined by the last card dealt, which is then turned face upwards) is *trumps* (see TRUMP *sb.*[2] 1); the players play in rotation, each four successive cards so played constituting a *trick* (TRICK *sb.* 11), in which each player after the leader must follow suit if he holds a card of the suit led, otherwise may either discard or trump; the winner of a trick becomes the leader of the next trick; points are scored according to the number of tricks won, and in some forms of the game also by the *honours* or highest trumps (HONOUR *sb.* 8 a) held by each pair of partners.

Dummy whist: see DUMMY *sb.* 2. *Duplicate whist*, a form of the game in which the hands played are preserved and played again by the opposing partners. *Long whist*, a form of the game in which the score is ten points with honours counting. *Short whist*, the form now usual in England, in which the score is five points with honours counting.

1663 (spurious ed.) BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 105 But what was this? A Game at Whist, Unto our Plowden-Canonist. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 83 Whist is a Game much differing from [Ruff and Honours], only they put out the Deuces and take in no stock; and is called Whist from the silence that is to be observed in the play; they deal as before, playing four, two on a side, (some play at two handed, or three handed Whist). 1742 WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 225 Whist has spread an universal opium over the whole nation. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ₱ 20 We sat late at whist. 1829 LYTTON *Pelham* III, Elderly ladies, who..liked long whist. 1842 LEVER *Y. Hinton* ix, My little gains at short-whist. 1861 E. DUTTON COOK *Paul Foster's Daus.* viii, I should like ..a good rubber of long whist. 1885 R. A. PROCTOR *Whist* Introd. 1 Whist, properly played, is the finest of all card games. 1892 J. T. MITCHELL (*title*) Duplicate Whist.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whist club, -like* adj., *memory, party, -play, -player, -playing* sb. and adj., *-table*; **whist-drive**, a party of progressive whist (see PROGRESSIVE *a.* 2 b) played for prizes.

1879 E. D. CLARKE in *Life* (1824) 349, I shall..ask him, if he will..belong to our "whist club. 1903 'JAN' *Progr. Whist* 6 A "Whist Drive is a modification of Progressive Whist.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, Two other ladies of an ancient and "whist-like appearance. 1886 CAVENDISH *Whist* 136 With practice, you will acquire what may be termed "whist memory'. 1898 SIR R. PEEL *Prov. Lett.* (1900) 109 A "whist party consisting of the Duke of Wellington, Mrs. Arbuthnot, Lord Westmorland, Lady A. Beckett. 1881 LEVER *One of them* xxvii, His notion is, that life, like a whist-party, requires an accomplice. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 344/2 All rules of "whist-play depend upon..general principles. 1770 in *Alex. Carlyle's Autobiog.* (1910) 560 He makes a very good livelihood..by betting on the "whist-players. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. *Country Cricket-Match*, Feeling what a whist-player feels when he takes up four honors, seven trumps! 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, The whist-players were Mr. Pickwick and the old lady; Mr. Miller and the fat gentleman. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. i. 7 A few "whist-playing brother officers, that met for an evening rubber at Fortune's tavern. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* II, There was less whist-playing than might have been expected. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 36/1 Her absence rendered one "whist-table useless. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I, There were whist tables in the library if any one cared to play.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Whist** *v.* (*a*) *trans.* to play *out* (a card) at whist; (*b*) *intr.* to play whist; **Whi·ster**, a whist-player; **Whi·sthood**, age or state of ability to play whist; **Whi·sty** *a.*, addicted to whist.

1820 *Splendid Follies* III. 6 She generally whisted out kings before aces, and revoked every deal. 1827 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 433 Talking, singing, whisting. 1854 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Dec. 353/2 Young ladies, nearly arrived at whisthood. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 47. 482/2 Your erring mortal, your whister, .. rash with his aces, and a niggard of some beggarly small trump. 1884 JEAN MIDDLEMASS *Pois. Arrows* IX, The whisty old colonel. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxii, Bankers..in great force..; musical bankers, and bankers that danced, bankers that billiarded and whisted.

Whist (hwist), *a.*[1] *arch.* and *dial.* Also 6 **whyst**(e, **whiste**. [f. WHIST *int.*[1] Cf. HUST, WHISHT, WHUSHT *adjs.*] Silent, quiet, still, hushed; making no sound; free from noise or disturbance. (Usually *predicative.*)

Also *advb.* = silently, quietly, without noise.

14.. *Chaucer's Boeth.* II. met. v (MS. B. Mus.) Þo weren þe cruel clarions ful whist [*MS. Camb.* hust] and ful stille. 1513 *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* I. viii. E j b, Than Pelleus whan al was whyste [*MSS.* huscht, hust, hushte] and styll, Began ryght thus. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 65 Kepe thou silence and be whyst..For a lytell season. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* C 2 b, The Noblemen seeing the King in choler, were all whist. 1590 — *Never Too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 228 The blythe and wanton windes are whist & still. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 379 Curtsied when you haue, and kist the wilde waues whist. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 307 In nights whist calme. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* v, The Windes, with wonder whist, Smoothly the waters kist. 1688 FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 70 (1713) II. 179 Some few Relations..stand whist and silent, expecting the minute when she should depart. 1700 J. BROME *Trav. Eng., Scot.* Ii. (1707) 83 All was very whist and still. 1819 J. R. DRAKE *Culprit Fay* ii, The winds are whist, and the owl is still. 1890 BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* IV. XXVIII. v, The huge unclouded sun, Surprising the world whist, Is all uprisen thereon. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 8 Apr. 4/6 The word 'whist' has still its..signification of silence in Kent, though it is pronounced 'wist.' This writer, not long ago, was threatening to come in late..to a country cottage lodging. 'You'll come in wist?' said the lady of the house.

b. Keeping silence in relation to something; saying nothing about the matter.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* 6/1 in *Holinshed*, If he heard them, thinke you that he would haue beene whist, in hearing God so far blasphemed? 1609 J. DAVIES *Holy Rood* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/1 The heau'ns are whist, whiles hell reuiles their Lord. *c* 1650 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 140 Yet they can silent be, though, when they list, On Charles his Martyrdome they are all whist. 1880 MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* vii. 59 The Heybrooks were whist folks about their concerns.

c. *transf.* Attentive. *nonce-use.*

[1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 283 All were whist to heare my iudgement.] 1890 BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* IV. II. iv, My jealous ears grew whist.

Whist, *a.*[2] (*dial.*): see WISHT.

Whist, *v.*[1] Also 6 **whyst**. Pa. t. and pple. **whisted, whist**. [f. WHIST *int.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To become or be silent, cease or refrain from speaking, hold one's peace, keep silence. *arch.* and *dial.*

In the imperative coinciding with WHIST *int.*[1], q. v.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 1 They whisted all with fixed face attent. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 79 Whist sorry pen, and be adulsed how thou presume aboue the highest pitch of thy possibility. 1896 P. KENNEDY *Banks of Boro* xii. (1867) 336 Can't you whist? *a* 1899 L. HUNT *Sheuse faire Seeming* x, They whist, and still'd their joyous crowd.

† b. *trans.* To be silent about, pass over in silence, keep secret. *Obs.*

1570 T. WILSON *Demosthenes* 35 All these matters are now whist and kept in. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 230 What ere he doth none ought dare say, but whist. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 31 b, It seemed better vnto him to let fall his reuenge, and to whist the matter.

† 2. *trans.* To put to silence, to hush. Hence **Whisted** *ppl. a.*, hushed, silent. *Obs.*

a 1542 WYATT *Poems, Compl. upon Love to Reason* 145 Dere Lady: now we waite thyne onely sentence. She ... at the whisted audience: It liketh me (quod she)[ ]. 1598 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 59 So was the Titaness put downe and whist. 1601 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. B 2 b, The breath of darkenesse, fatall vhen 'tis whist In greatnes this same emotion call'd pride.

† **Whist**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Imitative. (Perh. error for WHISTER.)] *intr.* To whisper, murmur.

a 1515 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Cert. Godly Lett.* (1564) 478 No man may be admitted once to whist against them.

Whist (hwist), *int.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 6 **whyst, whuust, quist**, 9 *Sc.* **wheest**. [A natural utterance enjoining silence: cf. HIST, HUST, IST, ST, also HUSHT, WHISHT.] An exclamation to command silence: Hush! (Coinciding with the imperative of WHIST *v.*[1] 1.)

1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xviii. 19 Thei answerden, Whist (*v.rr.* Whisht, Whischt; 1388 Be thou stille), and put fyngre vpon thi mouth. 1578 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* v. 24 Leaue of, whyst, say no more. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 89 If.. your tongue [be] see lasmtiue,..whuist a while. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Adelphoe* III. ii, Quist, quist, what man, art thou well in thy wits? 1621 J. DAVIES *Worthy Persons* Wks. (Grosart) II. 38/2 Whist, and me attend. 1621 COTGR., *Houscha*,..husht, whist, ist, not a word for your life. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. i, Whist!—cried one—st, st,—said a second—hush, quoth a third—poo, poo, replied a fourth—gramercy! cried the Lady Carnavallette. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xiii, Whist—hold your tongue—you've not heard the end of it. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxix, When I came to the door Donovan took me by the arm, and saying 'whist', led me into the sitting-room. 1892 ALEX. GORDON *Folks o' Cargilen* 54 'Whist, whist,' cried Francie. 1894 LYTTLE *Betsy Gray* iii, Wheest, man, or ye'll waaken up the waan!

Whist, *int.*[2] Imitation of the sound of a whistle.

1851 LD. HADDO in *Mem.* xv. (1873) 218 It was puff, puff,—whist, whist!—and we were under weigh. *a* 1896 in *Life & Lett. Millais* (1899) II. 408, I said to a beautiful young person in the bar, 'I want a bedroom with a fire in it.' Off she went to a pipe, and said, 'Whist! No. 238 and a fire.'

Whiste, obs. f. *wist*, pa. t. of WIT *v.*, to know.

Whistel, obs. form of WHISTLE.

Whi·ster, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5–6 **whyster**. [app. identical with OE. *hwæstrian* 'susurrare', 'murmurare', with root-vowel raised (from "*whester*), partly by assimilation to *whisper*.] = WHISPER *v.* Hence **Whi·stering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Whi·sterer** = WHISPERER.

1382 WYCLIF *Eccles.* xii. 19 Grucchendeli whistrende. *Ibid.* xxviii. 15 The whistrende grucchere. 14.. *Chaucer's Troylus* II. 1753 (Harl. MS. 3943) Was Troilus not in a kankerdorte, þat lay & myght the whistryng [*v.r.* whysprynge] of hem here. *c* 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) I. 1087 Reason wyll whyster hym in the ere. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 162, I hate whisterars. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 97 Vnto them this lesson he whisters. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 93 Peter Martyr.. whistered to him in the eare that he should plainly denie that any laying on of handes..was required. 1580 W. WEBBE *Engl. Poetrie* (Arb.) 75 Oft dine whistring noise, shall bring sweete sleepe to thy sences. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 147 She.. whistereth a certain odde prater with a Pater Noster into his eare. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E. D. S.) 624 Cheil tell tha something—Zart! whistery! 1888 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 556 Whistling—a surprising sound in the Arabic countries! where it would be taken for one's whistering to the jan.

Whi·ster-olister. *dial.* or *slang.* A smart blow or cuff on the ear or the side of the head. So (in same sense) **Whi·sterpoop, Whi·stersniff**, † **Whi·sternivet, Whi·ster-twister**.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, "*Whisterolister*, a stroke or blow under the ear. 1866 THORNBURY *Greatheart* II, I thought.. he was going to give me a 'whister-clister' (Devonshire for a blow on the ear). 1869 *Lowlon Prodigal* II. i. 68 Chee would a giuen thee zutch a "whisterpoope vnder the eare. 1778 *Exmoor Scolding* Gloss., *A Whisterpoop*, a Sort of whistling, or rather whispering Pop,—a Blow on the Ear. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid. Lot.* xxxii, Keep hand off her, or I'se lend thee a whister-poop. 1883 *Hampsh. Gloss.*, "*Whistersniff*, a heavy blow. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. v. V ij b, You shall beare me eone "whysterswiuet, or gerte on the bare buttoke. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 99 b, A good whisternefet truely paied on his eare. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, "*Whister-twister*, a smart blow on the side of the head.

Whistle (hwi·s'l), *sb.* Forms: 1–2 **hwistle, wistle**, 4–7 **whistel**(l, etc. (see the vb.), 4– **whistle**; also 4 *Sc.* **quyschile**, 5 **whystyl**, *Sc.* **qwistle, quhisle**, 6 **whisstill, qwissel, whissell**, 7 *Sc.* **whissille, whissall, whisle**, (8 *Sc. dial.* **fusle**), 9 *Sc.* and *north.* **whustle, whussel**. [OE. *hwistle* (also *wuduhwistle*), with a variant *wistle*, related to *hwisttian, wistlian* (see next). Sense 3 is prob. a new formation on the vb.]

1. A tubular wind instrument of wood, metal, or other hard substance, having a more or less shrill tone, which is produced by impact of air upon a sharp edge; a shrill-toned pipe. Formerly also = pipe or flute.

Used in various forms and sizes for many different purposes: esp. (blown by the mouth) by boatswains, policemen, etc., for calling dogs or horses, or the like, or (blown by steam) on railway engines, steam-ships, etc., for giving a signal or alarm; also as a musical toy, usually of tin and pierced with six holes (commonly called *penny whistle, tin whistle*). † *Almain* or *German whistle*, a fife.

c 900 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vii. 32 We gesungun iuh mid hwisthum. *c* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 312/22, *Hæc fistula*, pipe, oððe hwistle..*Fistula*, hwistle. 12.. *Ibid.* 539/24 *Musa*, pipe, *uel* hwistle. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cl. 4 Organe þat is made as a teame of sere whistils. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 60 A mudyne cone..hafand a quyschile in-to hand. 1382–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) I. 55 The bird is begyled with the mery voice of the fowler.

1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1913) 148 The boy..sawe bym [*sc.* the Admiral] take his whistill from aboute his neck, ..and hurlid [*etc*] it in to the see. 1532–3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII* c. 13 § 1 It shalbe lefull for..maisters of the Shippes..and maryners to weare whistells of Silver. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* Epil. 19 The yonger sorte, come pyping..In whistles made of fine enticing wood. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 56 O Mercure,..efter Pan had found the quhisaill, syne Thou did perfyte, that quhilk he bot cspyit. *a* 1600 HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land & Sea* IV. i. (1655) 36 Boatswain with your whistle command the Saylors to the upper deck. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* 190 A Child, with a Whistle; a Trifle that onely pleases with a transient and empty sound. 1670–1 JAS. TURNER *Pallas Armata* III. xi. (1683) 219 The Bag-pipe..is not so good as the Almain Whistle. *c* 1770 BEATTIE *To Alex. Ross* lx, Where .. shepherd lads on sunny knows Blaw the blythe fusle. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* iii, They havena sae mickle as a German whistle, or a drum, to beat a march, an alarm,..or any other point of war. 1836 MAYNE *Siller Gun* I. xxxix, Dangling like a baby's whustle, The Siller Gun..Gleam'd in the sun! 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvii, Everything man-of-war fashion, except that there was no boatswain's whistle. 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* I, The whistle sounded, and the train began slowly to glide out of the

b. Phrases, etc. †(*a*) *Box* or (Sc.) *kist of whistles*, a contemptuous appellation for a church organ. (Cf. *a* 1340 above.) (*b*) In comparisons, e.g. *as clean, clear, dry as a whistle* (often with play on other senses of the adjs.: see quots.). (*c*) *To pay* (*too dear*) *for one's whistle* (and similar phrases), to pay much more for something than it is worth: in allusion to a story of Benjamin Franklin (*Wks.* 1840 II. 182).

(*a*) 1678 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* I. ii. 99 Pope Vitalian..first..taught Mankind the Art of Worshipping God with a Box of Whistles. 1866 [see KIST *sb.*[1] 1].

(*b*) 1786 BURNS *Author's Earnest Cry* vii, Her mutchkin stowp as toom's a whissle. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v., 'As clean as a whistle', a proverbial simile, signifying completely, entirely. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 84 By the time we reach the manse we are as dry as a whistle. 1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* v. (1850) 41 A first rate shot I..head taken off as clean as a whistle. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, You're as clean as a whistle. 1880 A. GRAY *Lett.* (1893) II. 720 My throat was as clear as a whistle.

(*c*) 1821 TICKNOR *Life, Lett. & Jrnls.* (1876) II. xiii. 272 Too much, he thought, for the price of such a whistle. 1834 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* vii, I should not like to pay too dear for my whistle. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxv, If a man likes to do it he must pay for his whistle.

†**c.** *fig.* A person who speaks on behalf of another, an 'instrument', 'mouth-piece'; one who gives a secret signal (cf. WHISTLE *v.* 10). *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 8 Crist criede in desert, bi Baptist þat was his whistle. *Ibid.* 240 Poul whom God haþ made his whistil. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* III. vi. (1655) 32 Your neighbour, Your whistle, agent, parasite..Should be within Call, when you bem.

2. *colloq.* A jocular name for the mouth or throat as used in speaking or singing; chiefly in phr. *to wet* (erron. *whet*) *one's whistle*, to take a drink.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 235 So was hir ioly whistle wel y-wet. 1530 PALSGR. 780, I wete my whystell, as good drinkers do, *je arrouse la gle.* 1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. ii, Let's have no pitty, for if you do, here's that shall cut your whistle. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iii. 75 Lets..drink the other cup to wet our whistles, and so sing away all sad thoughts. 1674 [see WHET *v.* 6]. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 216 He, that laugh'd, until he choak'd his Whistle. 1718 tr. *Pancirollus' Mem. Things* I. i. 2. xi. 28 They did not only moisten their Pates, but their Whistles too. 1787 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode upon Ode* Wks. 1812 I. 447 Nor damn thy precious soul to wet thy whistle. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* II. 8 Let's have another drop to keep my whistle wet. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xiii, Whet your whistle, Jim.

3. An act of whistling; a clear shrill sound produced by forcing the breath through the narrow opening made by contracting the lips; esp. as a call or signal to a person or animal; also as an expression of surprise or astonishment; *rarely*, the action of whistling a tune. Also, the act of sounding, or the sound made by, a whistle or pipe.

1449 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 151 Whan Marcuryis whystyl hym dede streyne To hys deed slepe. 1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* iii. 43 The ploughman & carter, are..compelled to frame their breath into a whistle. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 608 He requireth of a skilfull shepheard a voyce or whissell intelligable to the sheepe, whereby to call them together. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 346 The..sound of pastoral reed..,Or whistle from the Lodge. 1672 TRENCHFIELD *Cap Grey Hairs* (1688) 53 When Dogs or Horses shew their ready motion at our Whistle or Chirrup. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. ii, She took an Opportunity..to interrupt one of his Whistles in the following Manner. 1814 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xviii, Lucky that Klepper knows my whistle, and follows me as truly as a hound. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, There was nothing but a whistle emphatic enough for the conclusion of the sentence. 1896 *Amy Carlton* 13 The engine gave its warning yell, as Amy called the whistle. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Exploits Brig. Gerard* vi, The dry rattle of the drums and the shrill whistle of the fifes.

b. *fig.* or in figurative phrases: Call, summons. Formerly often in phr. *not worth a whistle*: hence as a type of something worthless. Rarely with other implications: † A moment, instant (in phr. *in a whistle*): a 'whisper', slight mention (cf. WHISTLE *v.* 10).

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clouts* 238 They..woteth thei rede, Paternoster, Ave, nor Crede; worth a whystle Nether Gospell nor Pystle. *a* 1533 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iv. (Arb.) 26 Kocks nownes what —— thou man, tut a whistle. *c* 1580 *Bugbears* III. ii, He red me a pistle and told a long round about not worth a whistle. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* II. 67 That hee shoulde be brought to the whistle, or daunce after their pipe. 1603 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. ii. 29, I haue beene worth the whistle. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 232 Ready to run at every mans whistle. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 57 Those drossy spirits that need the lure and whistle of earthly preferment. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 3 It bloweth where it listeth, and will not be at your whistle. 1784 BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 273 He could do it in a whistle. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 337 All his followers..were ready at his whistle to array themselves round him. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* i, Can you forget..old friends at the mere whistle of a name?

c. The clear shrill voice or note of a bird, or of certain other animals.

1784 COWPER *Death of Mrs. Throckmorton's Bullfinch* 10 With a whistle blest, Well-taught, he all the sounds express'd Of flageiet or flute. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxvii, A miserable linnet..began to greet them with his whistle. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 317/1 They (*sc.* Marmots]..when angry or before a storm pierce the ear with their shrill whistle. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xv. 103 To its [*sc.* a chamois'] whistle our guide whistled in reply. 1881 JEFFERIES *Tillers of Field* (1892) 297 The blackbird's whistle is very human, like a human being playing the flute.

d. Any similar sound, as of wind blowing through trees or rigging, of a missile flying through the air, etc.

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Occas. Poems, Ode whether Love shd. continue for ever*, Soft whistles of the wind, And warbling murmurs of a brook. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xx, We..are already nearly out of whistle of a bullet. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* xv. 435 Therewithal must I..writhe beneath the whistle of the whip. 1888 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 2) 30 To a practised ear the peculiar whistle tells when the glass is being cut, and when only scratched.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whistle-call*; **whistle-belly-vengeance** (*slang*), bad liquor, such as causes rumbling in the bowels (cf. *whip-belly-vengeance* under WHIP- 2 a); **whistle-fish** [see quot. 1836], a name for different species of rockling or sea-loach; **whistle-grinder**, a contemptuous appellation for a church organist (cf. 1 b (*a*)); **whistle-insect** (see quot.); **whistle-kist**, *Sc.*: see 1 b (*a*); **whistle-line, -pull**, a line or cord by pulling which the whistle of a steamer is sounded; †**whistle-pipe**, a whistle for decoying birds; **whistle-ring**, a ring constructed to be sounded as a whistle; †**whistle-stalk**, a stalk made into a whistle or pipe, a 'reed'; **whistle-tankard**, a drinking-vessel fitted with a whistle, which sounds when it is emptied; **whistle-wing**, a name for the golden-eyed duck (GOLDEN-EYE 1 a), from the shrill sound made by its wings in flying; **whistle-wood**, a name for various trees whose bark is easily peeled off, used by boys to make whistles, as the alder, bass-wood, mountain-ash, and various species of maple.

1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xii, I thought you wouldn't appreciate the widow's tap..Regular *whistle-belly vengeance, and no mistake. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* x. 393 Mariners conceive they hear the *whistle-call. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 221 Mustela vulgaris Rondeletii..A Sea Loche Cestrie. *Whistle-fish in Cornubia. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 128 The Irish have their song at the taking of the razor shell; and the Cornish theirs, at the taking of the whistle fish. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 188, I believe..that..the term has been changed,..and that for Whistle-fish we ought to read Weasel-fish. Both the Three and Five Bearded Rocklings were called *mustela* from the days of Pliny..to the present time. 1843 BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* 237 Doors were shut against the *'whistle-grinder'. 1760 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* II. 161 The head is made like that of a locust: the..thorax is surrounded with many sharp points;..I have called it the *Whistle-Insect, because it very nearly agrees with another insect found in Africa, of which the natives make whistles to call their cattle together: these whistles consist of the whole outer cover of the insect. 1843 BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* 139 Grinding muckle *whistle-kists, Sic abomination. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* v. 46 The second mate, with his hand on the *whistle-line, blared out his warning note every half-minute. 1570 *Henry's Wallace* VIII. 1493 Ane *quhisell pype. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 14 Vpon what occasion to vse the Whistle-Pipe, and how at another time to call with their voice alone. 1892 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Slave of Lamp* XXVI, Her captain swearing on the bridge, with the *whistle-pull in his hand. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 534 *Whistle-rings, puzzle-rings, squirt-rings, &c. *a* 1633 G. DANIEL *Idyll.* iv. 74 A *whistle-Stalke. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 12 July 4/7 In the possession of the Corporation of Hull..is a *whistle tankard which belonged to Anthony Lambert, Mayor of Hull in 1666. 1870 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 361 *Whistle-wing = Golden-eye. 1845 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Whissel-wood, the alder and plane-tree; used by boys in making whistles.

Whistle (hwi·s'l), *v.* **Forms:** 1 **hwistlian, hwys(t)lian, huistlian, wistlian**, 4 **wystel, whysle**, 4–5 *Sc.* **quhistle**, 4–6 **whistil(l, whissil(l**, 4–7 **whistel(l**, 5 **whistyll(e**, 5–6 **whystel(l, whystle**, *Sc.* **quhissil(l, quhisle**, 5–7 **wistle**, 6 **wyssel**, 6–7 **whissel(l**, *Sc.* **quhissel(l**, 8 *Sc.* **whissle**, 9 *Sc.* **whussle**, 4– **whistle**. [OE. *hwist(*)lian*, also *wistlian*, f. an echoic root + -LE 3. Cf. ON. *hvisla* to whisper, MSw. *hwisla*, Sw. *vissla* to whistle, Da. *hvisle* to hiss.]

I. Literal senses.

1. *intr.* To utter a clear, more or less shrill sound or note by forcing the breath through the narrow opening formed by contracting the lips (the tone being produced merely by the resonance of the mouth-cavity, without vibration of the vocal cords): esp. as a call or signal to a person or animal, also as an expression of derision, contempt, etc., later more usually of surprise or astonishment; also, to utter a melody or tune consisting of a succession of such notes, esp. by way of idle diversion.

The common superstitious practice among sailors to whistle for a wind during a calm, and to refrain from whistling during a gale, is referred to in quots. *c* 1515, etc.

c 1000 *Gloss. Prudentius* in *Germania* (N.S.) XI. 398/176 Hwyslaþ, *exsibilat.* *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 258 Wistlaþ of þam dæle þe þæt sar biδ. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* v. 26 He shall whistle [1388 hisse] to hym fro the coestes of the erthe; and lo! hastid he shal come swiftli. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1436 Clement nere the stede stapte, He whysiede and bys hondys clapte. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3418 Geffrey..was evir wistlyng att euery pase comyng. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* CXXXV, The foulere quhistlith in his throte Diuersely. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 12 Some stored at the helme behynde Some whysteled after the wynde. †1549 CRANMER *Serm.* Wks. (Parker Soc. 1846) 198 If we take it for a Canterbury tale,..why do we not laugh it out of place, and whistle at it? 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvi. 83 They say he can baith quhissill and cloik, And his mouth full of meill. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* X. 186 He whistled to him in his faste. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* V. iii. 7 Whistle then to me, As signall that thou hearest some thing approach. 1623 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 140 That ye showlde quhissell and sing one to another like Jakke and Tom for faulte of bettir musike. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 64 The Plowman..Whistles ore the Furrow'd Land. 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 85 He trudg'd along..And whistled as he went, for want of Thought. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 59 The Schoolboy..Whistling aloud to bear his Courage up. 1801 SCOTT *Eve St. John* vii, He whistled thrice for his little foot-page. 1827 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 955 Our sailors..whistle for a wind. 1844 HOOD *Captain's Cow* vii, The more we whistled for the wind The more it did not blow. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxiii, Another discovery..at sight of which he whistled and then shook his head. 1905 F. YOUNG *Sands of Pleasure* I. iii, Richard, whistling to the dog, led the way.

2. To utter a clear shrill sound, note, or song, as various birds and certain other animals; to pipe; †also formerly, to hiss, as a serpent.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss* I. 4703 (Napier 121/2) *Sibilans*, hwistliende. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5348 (Laud MS.) Dragouns..þat grisely whistleden & blasten, And of her moupe fyre out casten. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. xxxvii. (Bodl. MS.), An aulder..þat whistelaþ and blowith and corrumpith þe aier. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. x, [The serpent] whystled about the hows. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The chekyns began to peu quhen the gled quhissillit. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymnes* iii. 190 The Mavein and the Philomeen, The Stirling whissilles lowd. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 54 Latine was no more difficile, Than to a Black-bird 'tis to whistle. 1766 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Wks.* (1862) 344 They [*sc.* magples] can whistle also! 1820 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* xii. 249 The Suroke, which is seen in all parts of the steppes, sitting erect, near its burrow, on the slightest alarm whistling very loud. 1820 KEATS *Autumn* iii, The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxix. (1856) 359 The white whale ..whistled while submerged. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* July 60/1 It [*sc.* a buck] turned and crashed away into the forest, 'whistling' as it went.

b. Of a broken-winded horse: cf. WHISTLER 2 d, WHISTLING *vbl. sb.* 2 b.

1898 *Encycl. Sport* Mar. 283/1 Whether his most promising two-year-old..did or did not whistle—or worse—as she passed him.

3. To produce a shrill sound of this kind in any way, esp. by rapid movement, as the wind, a missile, the lash of a whip, etc.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 80 The blastis bitterly fra Pole Artick come quhisling loud and schill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. viii. 73 The souchand bir quisland amang the granis. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 25 Making such noise as doth the sea, when..It makes the shoare whistle along, with beating on eche crag. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 404 The winged Weapon, whistling in the Wind. *a* 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 392 When the Winds whistle, and the Tempests roar. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 292 The first shot passed extremely near..whistling just over the heads of the crew. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* viii, The place became dilapidated, the wind whistled through the cracked walls. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* XXII, A whip whistled in the darkness. 1902 W. PETT RIDGE *Lond. entry* I. 26 Mrs. Bell..turned up the gas until it whistled madly.

b. To rustle shrilly, as silk or other stiff fabric. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Quip* lv, Then came brave Glorie puffing by In silks that whistled. 1669 FLAVEL *Husb. Spir.* etc. 240 Under poor garments more true worth may be, Than under silks that whistle. 1838 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* II. vii, Making his nether garments 'whistle', as the noise produced by the friction of corduroy is musically styled by the vulgar.

4. To blow or sound a whistle; to sound, as a whistle.

1530 PALSGR. 782/1, I whystell in a whystell, or in my hande, *je siffle.* 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The maister quhisilt, and baid the marynalis ley the cabill to the cabill-stock. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. i. 62 The Boatswaine whistles,..the Maister calles. 1688 [see 7 a]. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* iv, She whistled on a small silver call..which..was scarce

times used to summon domestics. 1849 THACKERAY *Contrib. Punch, Paris Revisited* p 5 The engine whistled—the train set forth. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 614/2 The engine driver began to whistle about ten seconds before the train passed over the crossing.

5. *trans.* To produce or utter by whistling (in sense 1, 2, or 4), as a tune or melody; to express by whistling.

1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 88 To play platfute, and quhissill fute before. 1575 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* x. 31 If that your pipe would whistle vp my loue, which boyles in brest [L. *Vestra meos olim si fistula dicat amores*]. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 342 (Qo.) Those tunes..that he heard the Car-men whistle. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 89 They [*sc.* God's creatures] have all their several ways of Pleasure and Diversion, some by dancing around in the open Air,..others by singing, or whistling out their chearful Notes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 345 The linnet and bull-finch may be taught..to whistle a long and regular tune. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, The officer whistled a lively air. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xi, Miss Benson had some masculine tricks, and one was whistling a long, low whistle when surprised or displeased.

6. To shoot or drive with a whistling sound.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 116 The Spaniards ..began to whistle now and then a shot among them. 1809 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiii, Sturdy young giants as ever climbed cliff, or carried bolt to whistle at a chamois. 1853 FERRIS *Mormons at Home* xv. (1856) 278 The wind..whistled the dust around us in clouds.

b. With *down*, *off*: To put on, or take off (the brakes of a railway engine).

1869 BRET HARTE *What Engines said* iii. Wks. (1872) 491 Said the Engine from the East:..S'pose you whistle down your brakes. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 172 The engineer whistled the brakes off.

c. To make (one's way) with whistling.

1853 MRS. GORE *Dean's Daus.* xxxvi, The steamer thumped and whistled its way athwart Cowes Roads. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xvi, He..whistled his way to the main front-door.

II. Extended, allusive, and figurative senses.

7. *trans.* a. To call, summon, bring, or get by or as by whistling; †*fig.* to entice, allure.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iv b, Stonde styll and cherke hir, and whistyll hir. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 197 If Argus with his hundred eyes went prying to vndermine Iupiter, yet met he with Mercurie, who whiselled all his eyes out. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 When I lead a horse to the water, if he will not drinke, what can I doo, but whistle him. 1623 SANDERSON *Serm., Job xxix. 14–17* (1674) I. 98 Whether it be through his own cowardise or inconstancy, that he keepeth off; or that a fair word whistleth him off. 1683 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* IV. (1653) H 3, If you can whistle her To come to Fist, make tryall, play the young Falconer. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 4 Whistling their dependants into apparent precipices. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xxvi. 338 *Hyl.* If you fall a-drinking, I may well fall a-whistling on my Flagellet. *Cuph.* What, do you mean to make us all Horses, to whistle us while we are a-drinking? *Ibid.* xxix. 349 No Hags of Thessaly could ever whistle the celestial Dog out of the Sky. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 22 P 2 He.. chanced to miss his dog...We stood still till he had whistled him up. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xvi, Had he been whistled up to London, upon a Tom Fool's errand. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 108 He cast off his friends, as a huntsman his pack, For he knew when he pleased he could whistle them back. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* III. 3 A young man..came..and whistled her out through the palisadings of the area. 1876 *Field* 12 Feb. 156/2 The driver's whistle, as he tried to whistle the opposing signal down, would soon show to the man in the signal-box what was amiss. 1889 MRS. ALEXANDER *Crooked Path* iv, The polite man..whistled up a hansom for the two gentlemen.

b. (With *away*, *off*, etc.) To send or dismiss by whistling (esp. as a term of falconry); also *fig.* to dismiss, cast off, or abandon lightly: so *to whistle down the wind* (the hawk being usually cast off against the wind in pursuit of prey, but with the wind when turned loose).

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 121 The which John Bacon was whistled and clapped out of Rome. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 262 If I do prone her Haggard, Though that her Iesses were my deere heart-strings, I'ld whistle her off, and let her downe the winde To prey at Fortune. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* IV. iii, This is he ..that basely Whistled his honour off to th' wind. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. 317 As a long-winged Hawke when he is first whistled off the fist, mounts aloft. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Jul. C.* I. ii, Those lofty Thoughts ..now are whistled off With every Pageant Pomp, and gawdy Show. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 269 He first acknowledges that right, and then whistles it away. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 83 The Dean of Gloucester has proposed..that we should..release our claims, declare them masters of themselves, and whistle them down the wind. 1792 HOLCROFT *Road to Ruin* I. 14 Poverty is a trifle; we can whistle it off. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xlvi, To the winds have I whistled her long ago! 1866 TROLLOPE *Can. Richmond* xiv, Having accepted my love, you cannot whistle me down the wind as though I were of no account. 1872 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* liii, You're going, are you? ..Then I whistle you off my fingers!

8. *intr.* To issue a call or summons, to call; *whistle for*, to summon. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (exc. as implied in sense 1 or 4).

1560 PILKINGTON *Aggeus* (1562) 238 Drought, hunger, plage, sworde, do tarye..for God's callinge: and as soone as he whystles, they come straights. *a* 1626 BACON *Adv. King Sutton's Est.* Wks. 1826 V. 382 The greatness of the reward doth whistle for the ablest men..to supply the chair.

b. *Whistle off*: to go off, go away (suddenly or lightly). *colloq.* ? *Obs.*

1589 SHADWELL *Bury F.* II. 22 *Wild.* So, Madam, you have my Heart...*Govt.* 'Tis a light one, and always ready to whistle off at any Game. 1798 MRS. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* VII. viii, [He] whistled off to his appointed chamber.

9. *To go whistle*: to go and do what one will, to occupy oneself idly or to no purpose (esp. in phrases expressing unceremonious or contemptuous dismissal or refusal, as *to bid one go whistle*; also without *go*). *To whistle for*: to seek, await, or expect in vain, to fail to get, to go without (cf. note under sense 1). *colloq.*

1513 MORE in Hall *Chron., Edw. V.* (1548) 9 b, There they spende and byd their creditours goo whystle. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* II. iv. 273 The Deuen-shyre man shall whistle for a wife. 1621 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 715 This being done, let the Law goe whistle. 1642 PAYNNE *Pleas. Purge* 157 There is no Altar, Table in the Text. You may goe whistle then. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 271 Men are apt to promise any thing in danger, and to perform nothing when out of it, according to the Proverb of their Countrey:..When the danger's past, the Saint may go whistle. 1741 SHENSTONE *Poet & Dun* 24 Your fame is secure—bid the critics go whistle. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* II. II. xiv, 'Do not you desire to be free?'..'aye! that I do! but I may whistle for that wind long enough, before it will blow.' 1828 COLMAN *Br. Grins, &c., Low Ambit.* ii, You may as well go whistle as go think Of mending the confusion. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, And sae we'll leave Mr. Sharpitlaw to whistle on his thumb. 1888 LADY G. BLOOMFIELD *Remin.* I. i. 14 She..rode off, telling him he might whistle for his money.

10. *intr.* and *trans.* To speak, tell, or utter secretly, to 'whisper'; to give secret information, turn informer. ? *Obs.*

1599 SIR J. HAYWARD *Hen. IV*, I. 87 Some of the secrete counsailers, or corrupters rather, and abusers of the King, whistled him in the eare, that his going to Westminster was neither seemly nor safe. 1621 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 248 Is there not milking-time? When you are going to bed? Or kill-hole? To whistle of these secrets? 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* B 5, They dare speake fellony, whistle treason. 1681 FLAVEL *Right. Man's Ref.* 195 The bird of the air that carries tidings, and whistles deeds of darkness. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiii, I kept ay between him and her, for fear she had whistled. *Ibid.* I, I wadna like..to gang about whistling and raising the rent on my neighbours.

Whistle, change, exchange: see WISSEL.

Whistle-ation: see -ATION.

Whistled (hwi·s'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. WHISTLE *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Uttered by whistling.

1864 J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 195 In obedience to his whistled signal. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 5/3 A shrill whistled chorus of 'Jack's the Boy'.

2. Summoned by whistling.

1912 *World* 7 May 692/2 As they waited for the whistled cab to come.

¶ *Whistled drunk*: see quot.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. ii, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk.

Whistler (hwi·s'lər). Forms: see WHISTLE *v.*; also 6 *Sc.* **quhuslar**, 7 **whisler**. [OE. *hwistlere*, f. *hwistlian*, WHISTLE *v.*: see -ER 1.] A person, animal, or thing that whistles.

1. a. One who sounds, or plays upon, a whistle or pipe; a flute-player, piper, or fifer. Now *rare*.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 23 Þa se hælend com into þæs ealdres healle, & geseah hwistleras. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 475 With wederes and with wondres, he warneth vs with a whistlere. 1538 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 390 In primis to iiij trumpetouris, iiij tabernouris, and ij quhislaris. 1538 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. 291* Deburnat upoun þe Trumpetouris Tabernaris Quhuslaris and vtheris. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 30 The whistler with his iron Pipe encouraging the Marriners. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Poem in Plens.* 5, I desired the art Of the Greek whistler, who..Could lure those insect swarms from orange-trees.

b. One who whistles with the lips.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whystelare, *ostinus, astinator.* 1542 [see BENCH-WHISTLER]. 1662 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XIII. lxxxii, But, hark, 'tis late; the Whislers knock from Plough. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 145 P 4 Whistlers, Singers and common Orators. 1850 JAMES *Old Oak Chest* XXXVIII, He was a great whistler, even when his thoughts were busiest. 1879 *All Year Round* 4 Jan. 184/1 He was a good whistler, and knew it.

c. *slang.* A keeper of a 'whistling-shop'; an unlicensed spirit-seller.

1822 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. v, The whistler, otherwise the spirit-merchant. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiv, 'Are these rooms never searched..?' said Mr. Pickwick. 'Cert'nly they are, sir,' replied Sam; 'but the turnkey knows beforehand, and gives the word to the whistlers, and you may whistle for it wen you go to look.'

2. a. A bird that whistles.

Applied locally to various species, as the golden-eye or whistle-wing (see WHISTLE *sb.* 4) also *whistler-duck*, the widgeon, the ring-ousel, the lapwing. Also *spec.* used of some nocturnal bird having a whistling note believed to be of ill omen: when flying in a flock, called *the seven whistlers*.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 36 The Whistler shrill, that who so heares, doth dy. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* IV. ii, Hearke, now every thing is still, The Schritch-Owle, and the whistler shrill, Call vpon our Dame, aloud, And bid her quickly don her shrowd. 1768 PENNANT *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. II. 443 Whistler O(riole)..Inhabits St. Domingo, where it is called *Siffleur*. 1848 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 29 The note of a whistler-duck. 1894 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wildfowl* xxix, 281 Local names: butter-box, laptail, little whistler. 1889 *Leisure Hour* Dec. 733/2 flocks of birds were flying about uttering a de whistling..they were what were called the 'Seven' and..considered a sig[illegible]

Key N. Amer. Birds (ed. 2) 704 *Clangula glaucium*. Golden-eye. Whistler. Garrot.

b. (tr. Canadian Fr. *siffleur*.) A large species of marmot (*Arctomys pruinosus*) found in mountainous parts of N. America.

1820 HARLAN *Jrnl.* 427 A small animal, found only on the Rocky Mountain, denominated, by the Natives, Quis-qui-an, or whistlers, from the noise which they frequently make, and always when surprised. 1829 J. RICHARDSON etc. *Fauna Boreali-Amer.* I. 150 The Whistler inhabits the Rocky Mountains from latitude 45° to 60°.

c. = *whistle-fish*: see WHISTLE *sb.* 4.

1864 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 103 Three-bearded Rockling. Whistler. Whistle-fish..*Motella vulgaris*.

d. A broken-winded horse that breathes hard with a shrill sound.

1824 PERCIVALL *Vet. Art* XXXIV. II. 243 We hear of pipers, wheezers, whistlers, high-blowers, and grunters: a cant in common use among our horse-dealers and horse-men, of the vulgar meaning of which no professional man should show ignorance. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XXIII. 214 It is very common to hear a person say 'my horse is a bit of a whistler', when he means to imply he is not an absolute roarer. 1845 W. C. SPOONER *Vet. Art* (1851) 46 We have the names, whistlers, wheezers, and high-blowers, given by horse-dealers to horses that roar.

3. Something that makes a whistling sound.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Browns* and *Whistlers*, bad halfpence and farthings; (a term used by coiners). 1822 R. G. WALLACE *Fifteen Yrs. India* 128 The quarter-master will transport with the corps forty thousand rounds of spare ammunition, after completing each pouch with sixty whistlers. 1896 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 5/5 A breezy norther from the frozen steppes—a real Arctic whistler which makes one's face tingle.

Whistling (hwi·s'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see WHISTLE *v.*; also 5 *Sc.* **quhestlyng**, 6 *Sc.* **quhisling**, 7 **whisling**. [OE. (*h*)*wistlung*, f. (*h*)*wistlian*, WHISTLE *v.*: see -ING 1.] The action of the verb WHISTLE, in various senses.

1. a. The action of producing a shrill note or notes by forcing the breath through the lips; the utterance of a tune, etc. in this way; †hissing: see WHISTLE *v.* 1, 5.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 173 Sua sua mid hiere wiðlunga mon hors gestilleð, sua eac mid þære ilcan wistlunga mon mæg hund astyrixean. *c* 1200 *Vox.* in Wr.-Wülcker 568/44 *Sibilatio*, hwistlung. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 456 Foules þat..folwed his whistellynge. 1382 WYCLIF *2 Chron.* xxix. 8 He toke hem in to distourblynge, and into deth, and in to whistlyng [Vulg. *sibilum*]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xiv. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 253 b/2 An oxe beerde..pleseþ ham [*sc.* the oxen] wiþ whistelinge and wiþ songe. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* K iij b, Vnmanned Haukes forsake the lure, all whistlyng brings them not to fiste. 1663 COWLEY *Ess., Agric.* Wks. (1674) 106 Some swell up their sleight Sails with pop'lar fame, Charm'd with the foolish whistlings of a Name. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Superst.* etc. 66 Whistling at sea is supposed to cause an increase of wind, if not a storm. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 45 The same absence of thought which is shewn in England by whistling is displayed in Spain by singing. 1892 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 65 He continued an interrupted whistling of 'I owe ten dollars to O'Grady'.

b. The action of sounding a whistle or pipe; piping.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 25 Wæs ða sunu his eldra on lond & miðlyy ȝecucme & ȝenecleode to huse ȝeherde huislung [L. *simphoniam*] & þæt song. 1576 CURTEYS *Two Serm.* B iv b, The Shepheearde needeth a Whistle, and..a Dog and an hooke, that suche Sheep as wil not come in with whistling may be either baited in with a Dogge, or drawen in with a Hook. 1679 OATES *Myst. Iniq.* 14 The Master of a Galley..with once whistling makes all the Galley Slaves fall to their Oars. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Oct. 5/6 The occasional whistling of an engine.

c. In phrases alluding to the act of whistling by way of a call or summons, as *for the whistling* (= quite easily, without any trouble), *worth the whistling*.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 35 It is..a poore dogge, that is not woorth the whystlyng. 1602 W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. lii. (1632) 334 Magnanimitie, state, absolutenes are qualities worth the whistling. 1610 J. ROBINSON *Justif. Sep.* 152 In England a man may haue a Priest for the whisteling. 1638 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 287 He may be had for whistlinge.

2. The utterance of a clear shrill note or notes, as the natural call of a bird or other animal; †also formerly, the hissing of serpents.

In quots. 1375 app. an error for *questing* = baying (of dogs).

c 950 *Guthlac* (Prose) viii. (1909) 130 Mislice fugela hwistlunge. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5247 (Laud MS.) Grete Addren comen flyngo And scorpions wiþ vile whistlynge. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 87 He herd..A hundis quhistlyng [*ed. Hart* whistilling, *MS. Edinb.* questionyng] apon fer. *Ibid.* 92 A hundis quhestlyng. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14140 Whan I here ther..whystlynges, For verray loy I hoppe and daunce. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 156 Each Cygnet sweet...Whose tuneful whistling makes the waters pass. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* xiii. 461 The leatherbeard with its constantly changing call and whistling. 1855 C. E. NORTON *Let. to Lowell* 6 Apr., There is scarcely a sound but the whistling of the frogs.

b. A form of broken wind in horses: cf. WHISTLER 2 d.

1846 '*Stonehenge*' *Brit. Sports* II. III. § 1. 403 Roaring, whistling, and all defects of the wind, are easily discovered on the first smart gallop.

3. The production of any shrill sound of this kind, as by the wind, a missile, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. ii. 6 Quhair Eolus..the wyndis lowde quhistling..by his power restanis. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen.*

IV, v. l. 5 The Southerne winde..by his hollow whistling in the Leaues, Fortels a Tempest. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 932 Sea's angry noise, loud bellowing of the Winde,..the tackles whistling. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) 2 Kings xix. 22 And after the fire a whistling of a gentle winde. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 9 We regard what he saith no more than we do the Whistling of the Wind. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. i. 58 The arrows made a loud whistling in their flight. 1842 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* iii, At the report of the rifle and the whistling of the bullet. 1844 DUPTON *Deafness* 77 If there is mucus, then various kinds of gurgling and whistling will be evident. 1899 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* 337 Swishing their white tails..with such violence that the whistling caused by this movement can be heard nearly a quarter of a mile away.

4. *attrib.*, as *whistling match*, *pipe*; **whistling-post**, a post beside a railway-line, on passing which the engine-whistle is sounded; **whistling-shop** *slang*, a room in a prison in which spirits were secretly sold without a licence (a signal being given by whistling to escape detection).

1837 D. WALKER *Sports & Games* 344 °Whistling Match. A match of this kind is recorded in a paper of Addison's. 1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* i. 18 The °whistling pipes which were made for the most part, of reedes. 1898 HAMILTON *Gen. Manager's Story* x. 140, I managed to see most of the °whistling-posts,..and..I blew the crossing signal anyway. 1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), °*Whistling shop*, rooms in the King's Bench prison where drams are privately sold. 1821 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. v, Scene V.—Interior of Whistling Shop. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, A whistling-shop, sir, is where they sell spirits.

Whi·stling, *ppl. a.* Forms: see WHISTLE *v.*; also 6 **whislyng**. [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That whistles, in various senses.

1. Of inanimate things: see WHISTLE *v.* 3.

Whistling arrow, a toy arrow formerly in use, with a hollow head so constructed as to make a whistling sound in flying. *Whistling buoy*, a buoy fitted with a whistle which is automatically sounded by the movement of the waves.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 170 Men myghte his brydel heere Gynglen in a whistlynge wynd. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* IV. 586 The whistlyng ayre among the braunches rores. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 86 To dance our ringlets to the whistling Winde. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Lucan* I. 240 Shrill cornets, whistling fifes. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1673) 72 To a guilty Conscience, the whistling leaves are Drums and Trumpets. *a* 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 333 Winged Deaths in whistling Arrows fly. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 800 The whistling ball Sent through the trav'ller's temples! *Ibid.* VI. 941 The..haughty world..sweeps him with her whistling silks. 1842 TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* 59 Blessed forms in whistling storms Fly o'er waste fens. 1880 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* 124/2 The Courtenay automatic whistling buoy. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xviii, The whistling strokes of the scourge. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Courr.* viii, The *We're Here* crawled in on half-flood, and the whistling-buoy moaned and mourned behind her.

b. *transf.* of a time or place: Characterized by or full of whistling.

1623 WODROEPHE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 475/2 A Whistling March, that makes the Plough Man blithe. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 167 Our..journey..through whistling dales; in..which we were..weather-beaten with a raging storme. 1809 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* III. 227 The English Chapel [in Glasgow]..the common people,..on account of its organ, stigmatise it with the contemptuous epithet of the whistling kirk.

2. Of a sound: Of the nature of a whistle; such as is produced by a whistle or shrill pipe.

1662 BOYLE *Exam. Hobbes* iii. 26 The external Air rushing in with a whistling noise at the..Orifice. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 363 The u Gallicum, or whistling u,..cannot be denied to be a distinct simple vowel. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* IV. 119 The Wind, blowing into the Cavities of these Husks, makes a very sonorous whistling Noise. 1821 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* ii, They..beheld the barbarian..brandish high his formidable weapon, the whistling sound of which made the old arch ring. 1851 W. H. WALSHE *Dis. Lungs* 97 Sibilant rhonchus..two varieties, the short and the prolonged, or the clicking and the whistling.

3. Of a person: see WHISTLE *v.* 1, 4.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. i, I must ha'..whistling boyes to bring my haruest home. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 33 A crooning Cow, a crowing Hen, and a whistling Maid boded never luck to a House. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xii. 230 Jackey..was the most thoughtless, whistling, sauntering fellow. 1802 WORDSW. *Poems, To Toussaint l'Ouverture* 2 Whether the whistling Rustic tend his plough Within thy hearing. 1850 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 264/1 A whistling woman and a crowing hen Is neither fit for God nor men.

b. That keeps a 'whistling-shop' (see prec. 4).

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, 'Any more?' said the whistling gentleman.

4. Of a bird or other animal: see WHISTLE *v.* 2.

Chiefly as a descriptive epithet of particular species, as in **whistling dick**, a name for various species of thrush, esp. of the Australian genus *Colluricincla*; **whistling duck**, various species of duck, as the golden-eye and the widgeon (cf. WHISTLER 2a); **whistling eagle** or **hawk**, a small eagle or large hawk (*Haliastur sphenurus*) of Australia and New Caledonia; **whistling field bird** or **w. f. plover**, the grey plover (*Squatarola helvetica*); **whistling fish**, = *whistle-fish* (see WHISTLE *sb.* 4); **whistling marmot** = WHISTLER 2b; **whistling moth** (see quot.); **whistling plover**, SWAN (see PLOVER 2, SWAN *sb.* 1); **whistling thrush**, a local name for the song-thrush.

1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* II. pl. 77 *Colluricincla Selbii*,..°Whistling Dick, of the Colonists of Van Diemen's Land. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 69 °Whistling Ducks are somewhat less than our Common Duck...In flying, their Wings make a pretty sort of loud whistling Noise. 1883 BATES *Nat. Amazons* vii. (1864) 265 Flocks of whistling ducks (*Anas Autumnalis*), parrots, and..macaws..flew over. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. ii. 467 [The Alwargrim Plover] is called in America the Large °Whistling Field Bird, from its note, which is very shrill. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 243 Whistling Field Plover. Bull-head. Ox-eye. 1763 in Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 143 The seals..are seen searching for their prey near shore, where the °whistling fish, wrawe, and polacks resort.

virescens, the green Plover, & °whistling Plover. 1728 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 145 We..found..a great many of the whistling plover, the same with ours. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 542 The °Whistling Swan carries its neck quite erect. 1820 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 319 The hooper, or whistling swan..is an inhabitant of the northern regions. 1896 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* II. 246 The Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) and the Whistling Swan (*C. americanus*). 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 100 *Boscas*, alias *Anas Fistularis*,..the Whewer, or °Whistling Widgeon.

Hence **Whi·stlingly** *adv.*, with a whistle or whistling.

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* II. xlii. 285 Stubb whistlingly gathers up the coil of the warp. 1891 *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* Christmas No., 36/2 A wind got up, suddenly, whistlingly.

Whistly (hwi·s'li), *a. rare.* [f. WHISTLE *sb.* or *v.* + -Y 1.] Resembling a whistle.

1907 'Q' *Merry Garden*, etc. 146 Makes a whistly noise in his speech—do be—like a slit bellows?

Whistly (hwi·st,li), *adv. arch.* [f. WHIST *a.*1 + -LY 2.] Silently, quietly, softly, without noise.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1851 Off þe wheis of forton & þe whene þat whistely chaunges. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* III. iii. 9, I vppon a little rysing hill Stoode whistely watching for the herds approch. 1884 S. DOBELL *Balder* XXVIII. 192 'Whistly, whistly,' said she!..' He must not wake.'

† Whistness. *Obs.* [f. WHIST *a.*1 + -NESS.] Silence, stillness.

1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (1849) 2 Whistnesse had taken possession of the woods. 1624 HEYWOOD *Hist. Women* 116 This universall whistnesse; where none come But Taciturnitie and Silence dombe.

Whit (hwit), *sb.*1 Now *arch.* or *literary.* Also 5–6 **whyt**, 6 **whytt(e, wyt**, *Sc.* **quhit, quheet, quheit, vheet**, 6–7 **whitte**, 6–8 **whitt**, 7–8 **wit.** [Early mod.E. *whyt, wyt, whit(e*, app. an alteration of *wight, wite*, in *any wight, no wight, little wight* (see WIGHT *sb.*).]

1. A very small, or the least, portion or amount; a particle, jot, 'bit'. **a.** without negative: esp. in *every whit* = the whole.

c 1320 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1271 What he sayth and she sayth to lay good ere, And tell to his sufferayne every whyt. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Sam. iii. 18 Samuel tolde him euery whitt, & hidd nothing from him. *c* 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 198 His maist prencelie Spreit,..vill appaise thy hoip in euerie quheit. 1665 BUNYAN *Holy Citie* (1669) 182 Thou must enter in by every whit of Christ, or thou shalt enter in by never a whit of him.

b. with negative expressed or implied: esp. in *never a whit, not a whit*, NO WHIT = none at all.

1480 *Robt. Devyll* (1798) 10 The devyll have the whyt that he was soreye therfore. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 65, I trowe thou arte a synaynge man?..The devil of the whit that I can. 1530, etc. [see NO WHIT]. 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Johan, Tyb, & Syr Jhan* A j, Thynke ye that she wyll amende yet? Nay by our lady the deuyll spede whyt. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. (1878) 90 Some haue to much, some to lytyl, and some neuer a wyt. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 713 It can shew scarce any whit of the ancient state it had. 1632 [MARBE] *Celestina* xviii. 183 The divell a whit shall I be able to tell them. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. 284 Having sacked the Towne, they found not a whit of gold. 1676 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* iv. § 2. 97 We do not ascribe any whit of Adam's Guilt to Men. 1830 TENNYSON *Owl* II. ii, Not a whit of thy tuwhoo, Thee to woo to thy tuwhit. 1870 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. B. 545 It was not their policy to destroy or to change one whit more than was absolutely necessary. 1874 C. E. NORTON *Let. to Ruskin* 10 Jan., No whit of faith in the good as good ..has vanished from my soul.

2. Most commonly in phrases used adverbially: **a.** without negative: *a whit* = to a very small extent, a very little; *any whit, one whit* = to the least amount, in the least degree, at all; *every* († *each*) *whit* = to the full amount, completely, altogether, thoroughly, quite (in later use almost always with *as* in comparisons of equality).

1526 TINDALE *John* vii. 23 Disdayne ye at me: because I made a man every whit whoale on the saboth daye? *Ibid.* xiii. 10 He that is weashed nedeth not but to weashe his fete, but is clene every whit. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 412 Elynour made the pryce For good ale eche whyt. 1535 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. I. 161 Every Child..that can any whit speak. 1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* II. iv, He eate it vp euery whit. 1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* ii. 104 Master Zuinglius (who woulde haue beene lothe one whit to strengthen the Papistes). 1618 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 49 Yf they be suffred but a whit longer, they will make claime to the whole Indies. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* II. ii, I have written..a whole cart-

whit less perilous." 1889 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* 231 The narrative of this campaign..is in every whit as puzzling. 1901 ZANGWILL *Grey Wig*, etc. vi. 110 Mrs. Drabdump felt a whit uneasy.

b. with negative expressed or implied: *never, not* (etc.) *a whit* († *awhit, a-whit*), *any whit, one whit*; also *no whit* = not in the least, not at all.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxiv. 219 b/2 He loued hym nat one whyt the better. 1548 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 7 Leaue the water vpon the fourneaue, without mouing it any whit. 1564 *Brief Exam.* ***iij, You helpe your selues neuer awhyt. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 203 Be na quhit of thame agast. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 6 Nor is the freedom of the wil of God any whit abated.. by meanes of this. 1598 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 408 *Falst.* Art not thou horrible afraid?..*Prin.* Not a whit. 1607 *Puritan* I. i. 33 Shee cryed nere a whitte at all. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 774 Natures full blessings would be well dispenc't.., And she no whit encomber'd with her store. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 871 It never troubles you awhit! 1773 *Cook's Voy.* II. ix. in Hawkesworth III, Not a whit behind them in cheerfulness and vivacity. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* IV. iii, You don't seem one whit the happier at this. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 175 He..is not a whit the better Christian for being a bad patriot. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* v. 135 Grief will profit us no whit. 1899 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* ii, The novelty..did not surprise me one whit.

† **3.** As a term of contempt or abuse. *Obs. rare*—1.

1612 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. vii, Then you are an Otter, and a Shad, a Whit, A very Tim.

Whit, *int.* (*adv.*), *sb.*2, *v.* [Imitative. Cf. TU-WHIT.] A word expressing a shrill abrupt sound, as of a bird's chirp, a bullet striking something hard, etc.; also as *vb.* (Also repeated.)

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* viii, The musket-balls were.. plumping into the timber whit-whit. 1844 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* v, 'Whit' cries the coachman to his horses, off they go. 1859 TENNYSON *Grandmother* x, And whit, whit, whit, in the bush beside me chirrupt the nightingale. 1888 KIPLING *Ball. Bob Da Thone* 134 Where the *whit* of the bullet, the wounded man's scream Are mixed. 1900 *Longman's Mag.* Jan. 230 The whit-whit of the scraping knives. 1902 *Words of Eye-witness* 97 A storm of bullets..whit viciously upon the woodwork.

Whit in *Whit Monday*, etc.: see WHIT SUNDAY.

Whit, obs. f. QUITE, WHITE, WIGHT, WITH.

† **Whitage.** *Obs.* (?)

1543 *Will of R. Elyot* (Somerset Ho.), The whitage of their kyne that was dewe unto me at Ester. 1628 DALTON *Countrey Justice* 282 The Master, or Mariners, transporting corne, Beere, Herring, Whitage, or Wood without license.

Whitawer, whitawyer: see WHITTAWER.

Whitblow(e, obs. forms of WHITLOW.

Whitbre(a)d: see WHITE BREAD.

† **Whitch.** *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 1 **hwicce**, 4 **whichche**, 4–5 **whicche, whucche**, 4–6 **whiche, wyche**, 5 **whyche, wheche, whoche, wucche**, 6 **whytch(e, whitche**, (9 *dial.* **wytch**). [OE. *hwicce* (also in *cornhwycce*), cognate with the synonymous *hwæcce.*] A chest, coffer, ark; = HUTCH *sb.* 1, 1 b; a coffin.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss* XVIII[b], 12 (Napier 186/2) *Ciustella*, hwicce. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 254/1 Whon þis corn to þis knihț was solde He dude hit in a whucche to holde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 362 Alle woned in þe whichche [*sc.* Noah's ark] þe wylde & þe tame. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 89 Panner mouled in a whicche [*v.r.* wyche]. 1415 *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 401 And nether wheche, ne leede to be layde in, bote a grete clothe to hely my toule caryin. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 11 A table..Vnder þat auter In a whucche I-done. 1542 *Will of John Hoper of Keynsham* 29 Jan. (MS.), ij coffers & ij whytchys. 1596 *Upton Inv.* (1841) 2, j olde whitche, and one mustard mill. [1886 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 727 *Wytch*, (Herefords.), same as *hutch* [= body of a waggon].]

Whitch, variant of WITCH, flat fish.

Whitche, Whitchen, obs. ff. WITCH, WITCHEN.

White (hwəit), *sb.* Forms: see WHITE *a.* [Various absolute uses of WHITE *a.* Cf. L. *album*, F. *blanc* BLANK *sb.*]

1. The translucent viscous fluid surrounding the yolk of an egg, which becomes white when coagulated; = ALBUMEN 1. Usually in full, *the white of an egg* (or, as a substance, *white* or *the white of egg*), pl. *whites of eggs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 342 Ȝedo mæs hwit to. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 40 On anum mæ..þæt hwite ne bið ȝemenged to ðam ȝeolcan. *a* 1300 *Fragm. Pop. Sci.* (Wright) 240 As the white goth aboute the ȝolke. 14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 432 in *Anglia* XVIII. 306 With eyes qwytys do cleryn es clene. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 24 Take whyȝte of eyren harde soþun. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 Putte þerto als miche of whites of eiren, wele y-bette and scomed. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* (1540) 20 b, The yolke is temperately hotte; The whyte is colde and clammye. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* vi. 6 What taist hath yᵉ whyte within the yoke an egg? 1604 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 106 (Qo.) Ile fetch some flaxe and whites of egges to apply to his bleeding face. 1894 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 702 Like a squissed egge, whose yolke is mingled with its white. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. i. vi. 462 A mucus, like the white of an egg. 1889 *Hardwicke's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. 9) 31 The white of egg, which is a very pure form of Albumen.

2. The white part (sclerotic coat) of the eyeball, surrounding the coloured iris. Usually in full, *the white of the eye*, pl. *the whites of the eyes.*

Often in *to turn up the whites of one's eyes* and similar phrases (usually, in affected devotion, but also in death, in astonishment, horror, etc.).

c 1400 *Lanfranc's*
þe white of þe yen
634/5 *Hec albugo*, a
✠ *CL.* 1739 Aworyus vpward turnyd the qwyght Off hys eyn!..qwan sche say hym ded Her chekys sche gan tere. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Cadger* 103 (Harl. MS.) The

quhite he turnit vp of his ene tway. 1529 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 55 If he [*sc.* a sheep]..haue reed stryndes in the white of the eye, than he is sounde. 1594 Nashe *Terrors Ni.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 280 Enthronising grane scale and religion on the sleuated whites of their eyes. *a* 1600 *Grim the Collier of Croydon* III, He, poor Heart, no sooner heard my newes, But turns me up his Whites, and falls flat down. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XI. xxxvii. I. 334 The ball or apple in the middest [of the eye] is ordinarily of another colour than the white about it. 1687 Hevlin *Ecclesia Vind.* 349 Lifting up both his hands, and whites to heaven. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Signs of Sickness*, When a Sick Horse turns up the Whites of his Eyes above, you may conclude that he is in Pain. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* 10 June, Mrs. Tabitha ..threw up the whites of her eyes, as if in the act of ejaculation. 1796 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Sat.* Wks. 1812 III. 409 Flimsy logic to surprise And raise the whites of Country Members' eyes. 1858 O.W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi. 208 The Professor showed the whites of his eyes devoutly. 1889 Kipling *Ball. East & West* 28 And when he could spy the white of her [*sc.* the mare's] eye, he made the pistol crack.

Phr. [Cf. Black *a.* 12.] 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Black Eye*, He cannot say black is the white of my eye; he cannot point out a blot in my character. 1881 G. Smeaton *Doings in London* 85 As Mother Cole said.., 'no one could say black was the white of her Eye'.

3. The white or light-coloured part of some substance or structure, as flesh, wood, etc.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 14 Take þe Whyte of the lekya. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 793/11 *Hoc seulsum*, the wyte of botyr. 1552 Huloet s.v. *Oister*, The white vnder the fysh cleaunyge to the shell. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 118 White..like the white of a Custard. *a* 1756 Eliza Haywood *New Present* (1771) 159 Mince..the white of a chicken. 1818 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 95 The wood next the bark of a tree, called the white, or alburnum. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., White*, a name given by butchers to that piece of beef which joins the round; i.e. the flank.

†**4.** A white spot or mark. *Obs.*

1552 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 59 One oxe stirke with a whitte in his forehede. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 38/1 *Exertus*, ..the white growing in the naile. 1623 Cockeram III, *Selenite*, a stone wherein is a white, that decreaseth and encreaseth as the Moone groweth. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2280 A bay Nag..a white in one of his Eyes.

5. *Archery.* **a.** The white target usually placed on the butt. *arch.* or *Hist.*

[1456. *a* 1533: see 6.] 1577 Hellowes *Gueuara's Chron.* 467 They behaued themselues no more nor no lesse with the Germaines, then an archer with a white at a Butt. 1583 Greene *Mamillia* 16 b, When the string is broken, it is hard to hit the white. 1618 Bolton *Florus* III. viii. (1636) 195 A Boy gets no morsell at his Mothers hands, but that of which she makes a white, and which himselfe must hit. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 39 An Archer,..when he hath hit the white or cloven the peg. 1714 E. Ward *Field-Spy* 13, I turn'd my Head to see the doughty Knight Stand ready drawn to hit the distant White. 1832 Scott *Cast. Dang.* viii, A good archer..who..seldom missed a handsbreadth of the white. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. i, No marksman had hit the white.

b. In modern practice, a circular band of white on the target, or each of two such bands (*inner* and *outer white*); hence, a shot that hits this white.

1687 in *Gent. Mag.* (1832) CII. i. 600/2 The third circumference, being usually knowne..by the name of the inner white...The fifth circle, being white, and usually called.. the outer-white. 1865 *Archer's Reg.* 25 Ladies' Prizes... Miss Betham (less 123 for blacks and whites), 558.

6. *fig.* (or in fig. context). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1496 Sir G. Haye *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 149 He that tuichis nerest the quhite and best gais nere the merche. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) D ii, The life of the prince is but a whyte, for al other to shote at. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 407 If the eye of man be the arrow, and beautie the white. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 186 'Twas I wonne the wager, though you hit the white. 1597 Breton *Auspicants Iehoua* Wks. (Grosart) II. 11/2 Bee Thou..the note of my comfort, the white of my loue, and the light of my lyfe. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, and Olympiqus* x, Let Agrigentum be the But, And Theron be the White. 1698 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 166 So the subject of the following Discourse may be the more distinct, and we may have a clearer White for our mark. 1860 B. Taylor *At Home & Abr.* Ser. II. 411 His [*sc.* Browning's] faculty of hitting the target of expression full in the white, by a single arrowy word. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 294 Byron hit the white, which he often shot very wide of.., when he called Rome 'my country'.

7. **a.** *Printing.* The blank space in certain letters or types; a space left blank between words or lines (= White line 2).

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* III. 42 If the whites of certaine letters bee made of one equall bignesse with the o. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. P 4 In Marginal Notes..the White between Words is often..greater than between Line and Line. 1808 Stowe *Printers' Gram.* 163 To a solid page, two leads make the usual white after the head. 1885 Lock *Workshop Rec.* IV. 213/1 (Electro-typing) It will be found that the 'whites' have been almost sufficiently raised.

b. *Drawing*, etc. *pl.* White or blank parts.

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 491 If a plate is over-exposed the image will come up quickly, the whites will be muddy, and the blacks lacking in richness. 1894 *Daily News* 26 June 6/5 The Horses of Rhesus..an ambitious picture of large size painted by Mr. Harington Bird, A.R.C.A.,..the scheme of whites appears to be well managed.

8. White cloth or textile fabric: applied *spec.*, with or without defining word, to various particular kinds; often in *pl.*

..R. Gloucc. (Rolls) 11903 Cope & oþer clobes, hii lete make of wit. ..*ston Lett.* II. 266 For xxiiii. yerdes of brod wythtys for gowns. 1503 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 104 For v yerdes of Strayt white. 1594 No *Spec. Brit., Essex* (Camden) 9 Coggshall, wher are made the best whites in England. 1602 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 45/1 Exceptis mantellijs lie plaidis et lie Galloway quhyte. 1748 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 134 Cloth in Imitation of Gloucester Whites. 1784 Pococke *Trav.* (Camden) II. 135 They..make..cloths called Salisbury whites for the Turkey trade.

9. White clothing, apparel, or array: usually in phr. *in white.*

[*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 198 Hwite oðþe beorhte hine xescrydan wynsumnysse ȝetacnað.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18772 Bi-side þam stode tua men in quite. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 321 Whan Pilatus sente Iesus i-cloþed in white to Herodes. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* in *Macro Plays* 76 þe iiij dowteris schul be clad in mantelys; Merci in wyth, Rythwysnesse in red [etc.]. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 228 On the Assencion day folowyng, the kyng ware whyte for mournyng. 1680 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* 272 Having decked her self with the White of Simplicity. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* IV, It's the worst luck in the world [to be married] in anything but white. 1813 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 49/2 The pall was supported by six young females attired in white. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1152 She herself in white.

b. *pl.* White garments or vestments: chiefly in specific uses, *esp.* (*a*) surplices worn by clergymen, choristers, etc. (now chiefly *Hist.*); (*b*) white trousers or breeches.

1622 S. Ward *Life of Faith in Death* 124 If we throughly beleeued..this to bee the state of our.. dead friends,..could we..mourne for them in blacks, whiles they are in whites? 1633 Chas. I in *Bibliotheca Regia* (1659) 122 That the Dean of our Chapel..come..thither to Prayers upon Sundaies..in his Whites. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 283 The girls..in their striped linens and whites. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiogr.* (1859) 284 His tight whites and tight silk stockings showed his colossal legs.. to great advantage. 1868 Jolly *Sunday Services* (1848) 220 [The newly baptised] appeared at church..in their whites. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Sept., I felt myself suddenly jerked by the waistband of my whites. 1840 J. T. J. Hewlett

their whites is very attractive.

†**c.** A white badge. *Obs.*

...iii, ...in ...Soc.)

307 The enemies word was 'Iesu', and their signal a White about their Arme.

10. †Silver money, 'silver' collectively, as distinguished from *red* or *yellow* = gold (*obs.*); also (with *pl.*) a silver coin (*slang*).

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1384 They shul for-go þe white and eke þe rede. 1390 [see Red *sb.* 3a]. *c* 1676 *Roxb. Ball.* (1869) VI. 15 A sawcy fellow! Come to me without his white and yellow. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* 194 *Whites*, in the language of smashers, 'small whites' are shillings, 'large whites' half-crowns.

b. = Blank *sb.* 1. *Hist.*

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 79 'Twas made Felony ..to pay or receive a certain base Coyn, call'd Blank or Whites. 1877 Stevenson *New Arab. Nts., Lodging for Nt.*, Two of the small coins that went by the name of whites.

11. = White wine.

c 1386 [see Red *sb.* 3 b]. 1620 T. Cocks *Diary* (1901) 95 A quarte of white, to make my skurvye-grasse drincke. *c* 1640 *Capt. Underwit* IV. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 375 The Stillyards Reanish wine and Divells white. 1720 E. Ward *Delights of Bottle* 37 Where ev'ry one that's low in Spirits, May be reliev'd by Whites or Clarets. 1842 [see Red *sb.* 3 b].

12. An animal of a species, breed, or variety distinguished by white colour; a white horse (*obs.*), butterfly, pigeon, pig, dog, cat, etc. (Chiefly as a fanciers' abbreviation.)

1530 Palsgr. 268/2 White, a horse of white colour, *cheual blanc, liart.* 1834 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 52 This fish I consider to be the *S. albus* of Fleming, the Herling.. of the Scotch side of the Solway Frith,..the *White* or *Phinnock* of Pennant. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* xi. 307 We never find the egg of the Peacock Butterfly adhering to the leaf of a cabbage, nor that of the Garden White to the leaf of a nettle. 1879 L. Wright *Pigeon Keeper* 96 Whites are.. usually bred together. 1898 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 8/5 Pigs .., middle whites and large whites. 1907 *R. Leighton's New Bk. Dog* 409 The litter will consist of some whole-coloured blacks, and some whole-coloured whites.

13. A white man; a person of a race distinguished by light complexion: see White *a.* 4.

Poor whites = 'poor white folks' (see White *a.* 4).

1672 Charante *Let. conc. Customs Tafilletta* 10 After him raigned his Brother Muley Elwaly, who was a White, his Mother a Spanish Moor. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* ..: 155 There may be about 20000 Whites (or I should say ...iguese, for they are none of the whitest,) and about treble that Number of Slaves. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xiv, Red-skins and whites. 1879 Sir G. Campbell *White & Black* 163 A large number of very inferior whites, known as 'mean whites', 'white trash', and so on. 1888 Churchward *Blackbirding* 7 Having been longer in Samoa than any live white in the place.

14. †(*a*) A white square on a chessboard. (*b*) with *the*: Either of the white balls in billiards.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi, þe quene, that goth fro blak to blak, or fro white to white. 1562 Rowbothum *Cheasts* A v b, Because of his [*sc.* the knight's] marching forth, whiche is made from three into three places, to witte, from whyte into blacke, and from blacke into whyte. 1624 Saul *Cheese-play* To Rdr., The Bishop blacke in blacke must march..For in the white he may not come. 1750 'Philidor' *Chess Anal.* (1773) 7 *note*, When your Bishop runs upon White, you must strive to put your Pawn always upon Black. 1856 'Crawley' *Billiards* (1858) 29, I attempted a difficult canon off the white. 1873 Bennett & 'Cavendish' *Billiards* 213 The white will travel slowly on to the spot-white.

15. **a.** Applied variously to any white body or substance: see quots.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. fol. L iij b, That..thou ... haue a place worthy for the in our whyte...(Lyke as ... pretours of Rome dyd set those mens names in a ... hyghest, whose causes shulde first be pleaded,..whiche ... was called *Album pretoris* L. the whyte or table of the pretour). 1576 Lyte *Dodoens* III. lxxi. 413 Hauing at their extremities..certayne whites fashioned like gripes, or clawes. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 237 Like as the windes driue whites from top of thistle Cardus. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Rhyme Three Sealers*, They groped through the whirling white [*i. e.* mist].

†(*b*) *To spit white*: to eject frothy-white sputum from a dry mouth. (Cf. *to spit sixpences* s.v. Sixpence 2 d.) *Obs.*

[1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* III. ii, *Rt.*..We dyd but a little parbolle our liuers, they haue sod theyrs in sacke these fortie yeeres. *Hal.* That makes them spit white broth as they doo.]

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 237 If it bee a hot day, if I brandish any thing but my Bottle, would I might neuer spit white againe. 1602 Marsinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* III. iii, Had I bin a Pagan still, I could not haue spit white for want of drinke.

b. As a specific name (chiefly in *pl.*) for various manufactured articles and products of a white colour; e. g. pins, sugar, flour, etc.

? 1690 *Pinmakers' Case in oppos. to Killigrew's Bill* (Broadside, Brit. Mus.), Double long whites *alias* Calkins. 1826 *Haberdasher's Guide* 19 Short Whites, a smaller pin. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 24 The same rule of storing a quantity..is followed in regard to them as with the whites [*sc.* turnips]. 1883 N. D. Davis *Cavaliers & Roundh. in Barbados* 34 Not only were muscovadoes made, but the manufacture of 'whites' was accomplished. 1896 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 11/5 At a meeting of the London Flour Millers' Association, .. the following prices were fixed:—Town households, 28s.; whites, 31s.

16. *pl.* A popular name for leucorrhœa or 'white flux' (White *a.* 11 e).

1572 J. Jones *Bathes Buckstones* 4 b, Such as haue their whites too abundant. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* 147 Barren women, and such as are troubled with the whites. 1683 Digby *Chym. Secr.* II. 264 It cures.. the Whites in Women. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Cc 2, *Leucorhœa*, the Fluor Albus, or Whites in Wo... 1882-9 Good *Study Med.* V. 68 Among novices there is some difficulty in distinguishing the discharge of whites from that of blenorrhœa.

17. White colour or hue; white coloration or appearance; whiteness. Sometimes semi-concr.

c 1000 in *Anglia* I. 285 Hwit asolad, *niter squalescit.* *a* 1225 [see Black *sb.* 7]. *c* 1315 Shoreham VII. 544 Swyþe fayr þyng hys þat wyte, And þer by-ayde blak..; Þe wyte hyt þe unyrer make þ. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 46 In kertles and in Copes riche Thei weren clothed, alle liche, Departed evene of whyt and blew. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10070 All haire colouris..were of cleane white. *a* 1462 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 242 Wyghte is wyghte, wyf yt [ys] leyd to blake. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 238 So depe a Snowe, that all the ground was covered with white. 1590 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 398 Teaching the sheets a whiter hew then white. 1590 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* Sonn. xi. Wks. (Grosart) I. 244 That whitest white on Earth. 1704 Newton *Optics* (1721) 133 Before I told him what the Colours were..I asked him, Which of the two Whites were the best? 1734 *Poor Robin* Feb. A 6, It fills the Ditch with either black or white [= rain or snow]. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* IV. I. 301 Their skin is covered with a fine hairy down of a chalky white. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing*, etc. iii. 175 We must take black and white into our list, as colours with the painter though not with the optician. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 61/1 A broad line of white along the back. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 141 The curl'd white of the coming wave. 1868 W. B. Marriott *Vest. Christ.* Introd. p. xvii, In the ancient world .. white was regarded as the colour..appropriate to things divine.

b. Whiteness or fairness of complexion.

In first quot. perh. confused with White.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Nu cumeð forð a feble mon,..& wule iseon ȝunge ancren, & loken..hu hire hwite like him, þet nauð nout hire leor uorbernd ðe sunne. *Ibid.* 98 'Þi stefne is me swete, & ti hwite schene.'..'vox tua dulcis, & facies tua decora.' 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 626 White of þe face, *albucies*. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 223 The princesse blushing with roseall shame whyche beautified hir naturall white. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 108 Varying her Cheeks by Turns, with white and red. 1816 Byron *Parisina* x, The smoothest white That e'er did softest kiss invite.

c. *fig.* (or in fig. context) as a symbol of purity, goodness, truth, joy, etc.

[*c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 694 Whijt .. bytoknep clennes in soule.] 1627 Rutherford *Lett. to Ld. Craighall* 10 Aug., Some few years will bring us all out in our black's and white's before our Judge. 1659 T. Ford *Lucus Fort.* 46 Our life is chequerd with the whites of pleasure and delight, and the blacks of sorrow and pain. 1680 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* 120 God Chequered his Providences..with the Black of Misery, and with the White of Mercy. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 402, I loved her to the very white of truth.

d. Proverbial phr. *To call white black, to turn white into black* (and vice versa). Cf. White *a.* 1 d.

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. x. (1553) B viij b, More coumfort may he haue in his heart, that where whyte is called blacke..abydeth by the treeth. 1672 W. Walker *Parænn.* 33 They turn black into white, and white into black. *Nigra in candida vertunt*, Juv. 1829 Southey *All for Love* IX. xxix, To prove..That right is wrong, and wrong is right, And white is black, and black is white.

18. A white pigment; often with defining word denoting a particular kind, as *Chinese, flake, Paris, pearl, Spanish, Venice white*, etc.: see these words.

1548 [see Spanish *a.* 7]. 1850 Nonnatus *Miniature* (1919) 92 Whyte lead ground with Nutt vgle maketh a perfect

Whyte. 1731 *Art of Drawing & Paint.* 20 These Colours ..to shade the Whites. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 130 The first white that was discovered..was extracted from the calx of lead. 1859 GULLICK & TIMES *Painting* 293 The terrene whites, from their alkaline nature, are injurious many colours in water.

b. *Her.* Used by some modern writers for a white tincture reckoned among the furs, as distinct from *argent*.

1777 PORNY *Her.* (ed. 3) 95 White, the natural colour of a little beast called Ermine,..is only to be termed so, when it is used for the doubling of Mantles.

19. A designation for a member of any one of certain political parties (from the colour of the badge worn, cf. WHITE *a.* 6 b); *esp.* an Italian Ghibelline, or a Spanish Legitimist.

1680 C. NESBIT *Ch. Hist.* 428 The Guelphs .. and the Gibellines,..the Black and the White (as those Two Factions were called). 1849 J. A. CARLYLE tr. *Dante's Inf.* 64 *note*, Florence was divided by two factions, the *Neri* and *Bianchi*, or Blacks and Whites. 1889 *Daily News* 4 Oct. 5/1 A true white—which is..of an infinitely more intense shade of Conservatism than the truest blue. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 8 Sept. 177/1 The party of the Whites of Spain had been thrown into disorder. 1918 *Times* 9 Apr., Germany promised ..to supply the Whites [of Finland] with arms and food.

20. Short for *white squadron*: see WHITE *a.* 11 c.

[1826.. in Macgeorge *Flags* (1881) 69 The Lord Harvey was Rear Admirall..bearing..a white flag in the maine topp, and was Admirall of ye squadron of white colours.]

1704 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 21) 572 Admirals of the Fleet..White, Sir Cloudesly Shovel, Admiral. James Wishart, Esq. Vice-Admiral. 1752 *Crt. & City Reg.* 168 A List of the Admirals of the Royal Navy of Great-Britain. ..Admirals of the White. *c* 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* iii, He is rear admiral of the white.

21. The player who holds the white pieces at chess or any similar game.

1750 'PHILIDOR' *Chess Analysed* (1773) 59, I have no need to go further in this Game, since it is evident that the White must win. 1808 *Hoyle's Game of Chess* 32 White has the best of the game. 1867 *Bohn's Hand-bk. Games* 460 (*Draughts*) White to move and win.

22. Phrases. *In black and white*: see BLACK *a.* 15 b, c. *In the white*: said of cloth in an undyed state; hence of manufactured articles generally in an unfinished state. (Cf. quot. 1846 in WHITE *a.* 2.) † *White and black*, name of some game.

1552 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. 9 Bowlyng Tenyse Dysyng White & Blacke Making & Marryng, & other unlauefull Games. 1820 *Risdon's Surv. Devon* p. XXV, The articles ..are merely manufactured here, and sent in the white to London, where they are dyed. 1876 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 636 Furniture, made in London, but unfinished,—'in the white' it is called.

23. *Comb.* **white-exceeding** *a.* (*poet.*), exceeding or surpassing white, 'whiter than white'.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Ode to Astrea* Wks. (Grosart) II. 50/2 The white-exceeding skin Of thy neck and dimpled chin.

White (hwəit), *a.* Forms: 1–3 hwit, (1 huit, 3 3wit, 3wi3t), 3–4 wit, wyt, 3–6 (7–9 *dial.*) whit, (4 whijt, whi3t(e, huyt, with, wythe, wyht, quiht, quitte), 4–5 wyte, quyt(e, quite, (wyth), 4–6 qwyt(e, *Sc.* quhit, 4, 5–7 *Sc.* quhite, 4–6, 7 *Sc.* whyt, whyte, 4–8 *Sc.* quhyt, (5 hwyte, whiyt, why3te, why(g)th(e, wyghte, wyth, wytte, qwhyt(t)e, qwhite, qwhyet, qwyght, *Sc.* qwhit), 5–6 whitt(e, (whight, whyght(e, *Sc.* quhytt), 5–7 *Sc.* quhyte, 6 whytt(e, (whith, whyth, whiet, wyet, wy3ht, wight, whait, weit, weyte, *Sc.* vhyt, quhet), 6–7 wheat, 3– white. Comp. **whiter** (hwəi·tər), sup. **whitest** (hwəi·təst); also, with shortened vowel, 3 hwittere, -ore, -ure, 4–5 quitter, 4–6 whitter, (4 queper, 5 qwhittar); 5 whyttest. [OE. *hwīt* = OFris., OS. *hwīt*, OHG. (*h*)*wīz* (MHG. *wīz*, G. *weiss*), ON. *hvítr* (Sw. *vit*, Da. *hvid*), Goth. *hweits* :—OTeut. **xwītas*.

The shortened form *whit* (now dial.) was presumably generalised from the comp. *whitter* or from compounds like *whitbrod*, *whithorn*, where shortening is normal.

The grade *xwīt-* is represented by OFris. *Awitt*, (M)Du., (M)LG. *wit* (*-tt-*)=**xwittas*, prob. t—Indo-eur. **kwidnos*, **kwitnos*, the root of which is found also in Skr. **cvid* (perf. *cicvinda*) to be white, Lith. *szvitìs* bright, Lett. *zwist* to dawn, and Skr. **cvit* to be bright or white, *cvitrá-* whitish, white, Zend *spaeta* white, Lith. *szvintù* to be bright, OSl. *svętŭ* light, *svitati* to dawn.]

1. Of the colour of snow or milk; having that colour produced by reflection, transmission, or emission of all kinds of light in the proportion in which they exist in the complete visible spectrum, without sensible absorption, being thus fully luminous and devoid of any distinctive hue.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xx. 12 Tuoege engles in hultum gegerelum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 36 Þu ne miht aenne locc gedon hwitne oððe blacne. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 57 Sume bereð clene cloð to wætere to blechen him, þæt hit beo wit. *Ibid.* 163 Hire chemise is smal and hwit. *c* 1200 *Gen. & Ex.* 2810 In hise boseum he dede his hond, Quit and al unfer he it fond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2766 Tueye grete dragons..þe on was red þe oþer wyt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+216 Two aungels..Clad in white clothes. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1144 An hold with coued. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 220 Bornyste quyte was hyr uesture. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 719 A swan swiþe whit. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 257 Þe coot sacrid, whijt & round. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xlvi, Hir goldin haire and rich atyre..couchit were with perillis quhite. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 702 Myn eyen [are] dimmed with ouermoche lokyng on the whit paper. 1514 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 20 Oon hole suite of vestymentites, Whight or Blake. 1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 135 A gowne..the one side blake and the other side whit. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lx. 5 With wheat tuskes fo(r)mde like a bore. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* XXV. 1 The tender snow, of granis soft & quhyt [*rime* delyte]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 26 She..was ycladd.. All in a silken Camus lylly whight. *a* 1600 NORDEN *Miniatures* (1919) 32 Instead of abortive parchment, by some called Gilding Vellum, make use of your pure white velim. 1733 BUDDELL *Bee* II. 324 It proving a Maiden Assizes, the Sheriffs, according to Custom, presented the Judges with white Gloves. 1806 SCOTT *Palmer* I, The glen is white with the drifted snow. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 130 The lanes..were white with may. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. I. 227 White light..is made up of an infinite number of coloured rays. 1918 C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Guests of Hercules* xvii, A round white moon that flooded the night with silver.

b. Of the colour of the hair or beard in old age; also *transf.* of the person, white-haired, hoary.

c 1050 *S. Eng. Leg.* 265/245 Hire her was hor and swiþe 3wiȝt, as þei it were wolle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 121 Here berdes weren hore and whyte. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 155 A knyghte, þe wyche hyte Nestor, Wyche for age was whyte and hore. 1448–9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1087 The qwyht herys Off sapyens. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 314 That hee is olde..his white hayres doe witnesse it. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. Introd., Old Honest,..With his white hairs treading the Pilgrim's ground. 1704 RAMSAY *Vision* v, His quhyt heid. 1887 F. M. CRAWFORD *Saracinesca* iii, His white hair and beard bristled about his dark face.

c. In comparisons usually hyperbolical.

esp. *as white as* (or *whiter than*) *snow*, *milk* (cf. SNOW-WHITE, MILK-WHITE); *as white as lily flower*, *glass*, *a swan* (cf. SWAN-WHITE), *whales bone*, *flour*, *a neap*, *wool*, *curds*, and (in sense 5) *a cloth*, *sheet*, *ghost*.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 2 Hys reaf wæron swa hwite swa snaw. *c* 1000 *Vices & Virtues* 83 Þanne wurð ic iclansed of alle mine sennes, and hwittere þane ani snaw. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 85/80 A coluere..so 3wiȝt so milk. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10380 Ten lambes, quitte als milk. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 15 (Camb.), He was whit so þe flur [*Harl.* So whit so eny lylye flour]. *a* 1330 *Syr Degarre* 15 The kynge hnd..A doughter as whight as whales bone. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2082 Scheo hadde a mayden childe: Sabren hit highte, as whit as glas. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 78 Faire of chere and white as swan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 238 Hawbrekis, that war quhit as flour. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Husb.* 165 Quhyte as ane Neip, and round als as ane schell. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 51 A saill, als quhite as blossum vpon spray. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 63 Gif thay be reid as purpur neuertheles yai sal be quhit as wow. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 4 Vpon a lowly Asse more white then snow, Yet she much whiter. *a* 1732 GAY *Songs, New Song of New Similes* xiii, As smooth as glass, as white as curds. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* iv, I am as white as driven snow compared to some blackguards.

d. In allusive or proverbial phr., chiefly in collocation with *black*: cf. WHITE *sb.* 17 d.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 436 And wherby wote men whiche is whyte if alle þinge blake were! *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 1230 White is whitter, if it be set bi blak. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 56 Were not you as good than to say, the crow is whight. 1582, 1604 [see BLACKAMOOR 1]. 1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. v. § 5, I think they have striven if not to make an Ethioplan white, yet an Ægyptian to speak truth concerning his own Country.

2. In looser or wider senses. a. Of a light or pale colour: applied to things of various indefinite hues approaching white, esp. dull or pale shades of yellow. (See also following senses, and WHITE BREAD, WINE, etc.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 35 *Uidete regiones quia albæ sunt..ad messem*, ȝesea8 ða lond forðon huito sint ȝee..to hrippe. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1729 Win hwit and red, ful god plente. *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 702 in *Babees Bk.*, A qwyte cuppe of tre. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Hwyte Hony or Sugre. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 13 Sprot-barley hath a flat eare..and the cornes be very great and white. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 874 Water of the Sea..looketh Blacker when it is moued, and Whiter when it resteth. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xix. 42 Such [osiers] as are for White-work (as they call it). *a* 1700 — *Diary* 22 Oct. 1685, The canal and fish ponds, the one fed with a white, the other with a black running water. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Cordage blanc*, white, or untarred cordage. 1846 DODD *Brit. Manuf.* VI. 196 When a rope is to be used in the open air, but under cover, it is left in the 'white' state; that is, it is not coated with tar or any other substance.

(*b*) *spec.* applied to crops of corn or grain, formerly called *white corn* (cf. CORN *sb.*[1] 3), which turn 'white' or light-coloured in ripening, as distinguished from *black* and *green* crops: see CROP *sb.* 9. Hence *transf.* of land or soil adapted for such crops.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 27 The sheres of all maner of whyte corne. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 240 If it be of that poorest sort they call white-land, nothing is so proper as ray-grass mixt with Non-such, or Meliiot Trefoil. 1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 197 Peas esteemed a refreshment, and enables them to have one or two crops of white corn. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agricl. Perth* 451 By the alternate changes of white and green crops. 1804 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 66 The soils under tillage are commonly arranged into two kinds;..light and clayey. The former is called turnip or green soil; and the latter, white soil, because it is best adapted for growing oats, wheat, and other white grains. *c* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 4 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. No white or corn crop should be repeated in too rapid

b. Of metal, or objects made of metal, of a light grey colour and lustrous appearance. † Frequent in early use as an epithet of silver; hence = made or consisting of silver; also (of iron or steel armour) burnished and shining, without colouring or stain. See also *white metal*, *money* (in 11 c), *rent* (in 11 e), WHITE IRON.

Also technically applied to silver ware chased or roughened with the tool, as distinguished from burnished silver.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* vii. 21 Twahund seusena hwites seolfres. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 152 Read gold & hwit seoluer, *Wars Alex.* 189 Quadrantis corusen all of quyte [illegible] in D. de (1014) I. 's White harnesse, *blanche as mures*. 1342 *Inv. Royal Wardr.* (1815) 70 Quhyt Werk. Item ane greit bassing for feit wesching. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON, etc. *Widow* IV. ii, A white thimble that I found i' moon light. 1667 DRYDEN & DR. NEWC. *Sir M. Mar-all* v, Hang your white pelf. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 230 One of his majesty's best suits of white armour. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, Four white shillings and sixpence. 1856 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Inorg.* XV. § 674 Tin is a white metal with a tinge of yellow.

c. Colourless, uncoloured, as glass or other transparent substance.

c 886 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXII. § 3 Æȝðer ȝe hwite ȝimmas ȝe reade. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. cii. (1495) Mi iv b/a Those [*sc.* Zineth stones] that ben whyttest..ben not so precyous. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 54 Poudre of white glasse. 1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 147 The pots wherein Enamels are made must be glased with white glass and bear the fire. 1728 DERHAM *Catal. Stirp.* 128 Thousands of little white Bubbles filled with Water. 1890 C. H. MOORE *Gothic Archit.* x. 303 White glass is introduced here and there [in a stained-glass window] to heighten the effect.

d. Blank, not written or printed upon; † (of a document) unendorsed (cf. *white backed* in 12 c).

1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 87 Ye seye þat ye have paid þe money: þer for y sende yowe the writte white. *a* 1550 *Laine wald I* 33 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 321 Gif lytil rewarde be in wryting, Bettir war leif my paper quhyte. *a* 1600 *Flodden Field* lviii, Sweet sonne Edward, white bookes thou make, And euer haue pittye on the pore cominaltye. 1680, 1772, 1859 [see *white paper* (*b*) in 11 e]. 1683, 1770 [see WHITE LINE 2].

3. Of or in reference to the skin or complexion: Light in colour, fair. (Often as a poetic term of commendation.) Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 4.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 73 Whitescyne..hwit & hiweborht hæleða nathwylc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 116 Hire sulf biholden hire owune honden hwite. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 566 In þe worlde her pere nas, So 3wit ne of ouich color. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28010 Yee leuedis, wit your quite hals. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1062 Jow Mynerua ȝe white, Yef Jow me wit my lettre to deuyse. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 205 Pyteous and merciabill man tokenyth white colours and cleene. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Thre Deid Pollis* 25 O ladeis quhyt, in claithis corruscant. 15.. DUNBAR *Poems* LXXXVIII. 46 Fair be their wives, right lovesom, white and small. 1598 MARSTON *Pigmal., Reactio* 35 Ye Granta's white Nymphs come. 1689 N. LEE *Princess of Cleve* II. ii, He has..a Skin so white—and soft as Sattin with the Grain.

4. Applied to those races of men (chiefly European or of European extraction) characterized by light complexion, as distinguished from *black* or negro, *red*, *yellow*, etc. Also *transf.* See also *whitefellow*, *white slave*, etc. in 11 e, and WHITE MAN.

Poor white folks or *trash*: a contemptuous name given in America by negroes to white people of no substance (1896, etc. in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*).

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xl. 106 Under the same line .. lies a part of Peru, and of the new kingdome of Granada, which..are very temperate Countries, ..and the inhabitants are white. 1680 C. NESBIT *Ch. Hist.* 87 The White Line, (the Posterity of Seth,)..the black Line the Cursed brood of Cain. 1777 *Summary Acc. Tobago* 29 The white inhabitants..do not exceed seven hundred. The negroes, amounting to about twelve thousand, are kept in awe by an active militia. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XXIII, He had white blood in his veins. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 84, I have been .. told that the poor white people, meaning those, I suppose, who bring nothing to market to exchange for money but their labor,.. are worse off in almost all respects than the slaves. 1865 WHITTIER *Lesson & our Duty* Prose Wks. 1889 III. 252 The negro is to be left powerless in the hands of the 'White trash', who hate him with a bitter hatred. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, Exclusive sugar cultivation had put a premium on unskilled slave-labour, to the disadvantage of skilled white-labour. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xviii, The white power of South Africa. 1902 *Round Table* Mar. 314 The White Australia policy—the determination to keep Australia white, a home for European races.

b. *slang* or *colloq.* (by extension from WHITE MAN 3; orig. *U. S.*) Honourable; square-dealing. Also as *adv.*

1877 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* xviii, A good fellow is Rayner; as white a man as I ever knew. 1890 *Century Mag.* Feb. 503/2 There ain't a whiter man than Laramie Jack from the Wind River Mountains down to Santa Fe. 1913 EDITH WHARTON *Cust. Country* ix, Well—this is white of you. *Ibid.* xviii, I meant to act white by you.

5. † a. In early use app. applied to illness marked by pallor. *Obs.* b. Pale, pallid, esp. from fear or other emotion. (Often in hyperbolical phr. *as white as a sheet*.) Also in allusive phrases expressing cowardice (cf. WHITE-LIVER, -LIVERED), and *transf.* (as in *white rage*, *terror*).

Phr. *To bleed white*: (*a*) *intr.* (hyperbolically) to shed colourless blood (*more*); (*b*) *trans.* to drain completely of resources.

c 1403 CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 41, I am so shaken with the fevers whyte, Of al this May yet slepte I but a lyte,

1422–50 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2369 While he hale þus in his prowes white. *a* 1568 Dunbar *Two Marvit Wemen* 426 Than lay I furtgh my bright buke on breid on my knee.. And drawis my clok forthwart our my face quhit. 1590 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 643 Didst thou not marke my face, was it not white? Sawest thou not signes of feare lurke in mine eye? 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 86 How manie cowards.. weare..The beards of Hercules and frowning Mars, Who inward searcht, haue lyuers white as milke. 1605 — *Mach.* II. ii. 65 I shame To weare a Heart so white. 1626 Bp. Hall *Contempl.* XIII. *David & Gol.*, Now wee see..those, which haue giuen good proofes of magnanimitie, at other times, haue bewrayed white liuers. 1783 Jane Collier *Art Torment.* i. ii. 46 She..looks as white as a cloth. 1799 Southey *Bp. Hatto* 35 He had a countenance white with alarm. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* I. x, He hurried down .. white with rage. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. ii, His skin was so unwholesomely deficient in the natural tinge, that he looked as though, if he were cut, he would bleed white. 1860 Shirley Brooks *Gordian Knot* ii, The most gentlemanly millionaire of them all has since been transported, and another is in white terror of a similar destiny. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii, She is as white as a sheet. 1885 'F. Anstey' *Tinted Venus* vi, He was in a white rage. 1897 Hall Caine *Christian* III. xii, The man..turned white as a ghost.

6. a. Clothed or arrayed in white; *spec.* belonging to an ecclesiastical order distinguished by wearing a white habit (see also *White Canons* s.v. Canon 2 1, and White friar, White monk).

White ball: a ball at which all the ladies are dressed in white.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1576 Ha seh sitten þis meiden mid monie hwite wurðliche men. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 22 I be white [*L. candidatus*] oost of martires. *c* 1400 *Brut* 314 Pere aros anoþer cumpanye of diuers nacions þat was called 'þe white companye,' þe whiche, in þe parties & cuntre of Lumbardye, dede myche sorwe. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxviii, Quod the quite knyȝte 'Quat mon is this?' *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 178 The Se Mawis war monkis, the blak and the quhyte. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIII. ix. 623 He came to a whyte Abbay. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* v. v. 41 Fairies blacke, gray, greene, and white. 1699 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 316 Seventy-two .. were Nuns of the Choir, the rest White Sisters and Lay-sisters. 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 140 A month after Mamie's arrival Lidian gave a 'white ball' in her honour. 1903 Chandlery *Pilgr. Walks Rome* (1908) 128 The Olivetans or white Benedictines.

b. From the 17th century white has been specially associated with royalist and legitimist causes (e.g. the white flag of the Bourbons), and hence in recent times *white* has been applied to certain constitutional or anti-revolutionary parties and the policy for which they stand. (See White *sb.* 19, and cf. Red *a.* 9 b.)

1749 J. Ray *Compl. Hist. Reb.* 331 She got together all her Clan, and marched at their Head (with a white Cockade, &c.) and presented them to the Mock Prince. *Ibid.* 341 The Rebel Army were assembled with their White Flags displayed. *a* 1784 Johnson in *Boswell* an. 1763 *note*, Boswell, in the year 1745,..wore a white cockade, and prayed for King James. 1848 Redhead *Fr. Rev.* II. 302 Suppressing the tricolour, and substituting in its stead the white flag. 1849 W. C. Taylor *House of Orleans* I II. 222 He had been one of the first to raise the White Flag in 1814; he had levied a regiment of Royalists during the hundred days. *a* 1879 J. Macdonell *France since 1st Empire* 117 The French ministers could show clemency at Paris, but they were not so well able to keep down the fury of the Royalists in the provinces. Thus was the Red Terror succeeded by the White. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 20 June 3/2 His position is that known in Italy as 'White', or constitutional, as compared with the clerical 'Blacks' and the republican 'Reds'. 1918 *Times* 9 Apr. 6/4 (Finland) Germany has secured a strong hold of the gratitude of 'White' public opinion. *Ibid.*, The White Army..is overwhelmingly pro-German.

7. *fig.* Morally or spiritually pure or stainless; spotless, unstained, innocent.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 147 Hwylc is of us Drihten þæt hæbbe swa hwite saule swa þeos halige Marie? *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Vor euere so heo [*sc.* the soul] is hwitture, so þe fulðe is schenre. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xv, Whech sernaunttis our Lord God had brout fro þe grete blaknesse of synne on-to þe fair white vertuous lynyng. 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 198 Back wounding calumnie The whitest vertue strikes. 1608 Bp. Hall *Char.* I. 81 Hee hath white hands, and a cleane soule. 1626 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xciii, I doe not know a whiter soule. 1645 G. Daniel *Scattered Fancies* xxxiii, But Danger onlie gvilt attends; I bring White Thoughts. 1737 Pope *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 216 In our own [days]..No whiter page than Addison remains. 1839 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* xxiii, There can be no harm to my white Hilda in one parting kiss. 1860 Trollope *Orley F.* xxxvi, It is I whose duty it is to see that your name be made white again.

b. Free from malignity or evil intent; beneficent, innocent, harmless, esp. as opposed to something characterized as *black* (cf. Black *a.* 8, 9): chiefly in phr. *white lie* (see Lie *sb.*1 1 b), *white magic* (Magic *sb.* 1 b; cf. Black art); see also *white paternoster* s.v. Paternoster 2, and White witch.

1632 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* III. 36 He did not know whether his admoniſher were black or white..an evill or a good spirit. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. v. § 12 He made his Harp .. make musick of it self; which no White Art could perform. 1718 Bp. Hutchinson *Witchcraft* II. 26 A Teacher of the White Magic, that pretends to deal only with Good Angels. 1749–50 Richardson in Mrs. Barbauld *Corr.* (1804) IV. 316 Don't you think..that I have reason to exclaim against white fibs? 1828 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* III. *Admiral on Shore*, Julia..asserted her female privilege of white-lying, and declared [etc.]. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* iv, They be mortal feared of witches, ..and mortal hard on 'em, even on a pure body like me, that doth a bit in the white way. 1924 Sir E. Shackleton in *Scotsman* 29 Oct. 3/8, I send you my last cable as we start for the Antarctic. We are leaving now to carry on our white warfare.

8. (Chiefly of times and seasons) Propitious, favourable; auspicious, fortunate, happy. Now *rare*.

1629 Shirley *Grateful Serv.* II. i, Till this white houre, these walles were neuer proud, T'inclose a guest. 1638–56 Cowley *Davideis* II. 830 Thy Fate's all white. 1660 Dryden *Astræa Redux* 292 And now times whiter Series is begun. 1708 Ramsay *Bonny Christy* iv, He wisely this white Minute took, And flang his Arms about her. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, What is called by Schoolboys Black Monday, was to me the whitest in the whole Year. 1830 Lytton *P. Clifford* xxix, I will not even press you to appoint that day, which to me will be the whitest of my life. 1835 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 2 That was one of the few white days of a life, beneficent indeed..but far from happy.

†9. Highly prized, precious; dear, beloved, favourite, 'pet', 'darling'. Often as a vague term of endearment. (See also *white son* in 11 e, and White boy.) *Obs.*

c 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 33 Take vp Isaac, þi son so whyte. *c* 1537 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 126 Master Pole..entred secretly in to a Monasterye..called Seynt Justyns, whereas he is ther wyte God and they his blacke angells. 1608 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. vi, I shall bee his little rogue, and his white villaine for a whole weeke after. 1634 Heywood *Lanc. Witches* I. i. Wks. 1874 IV. 184 A merry song now mother, and thou shalt be my white girle. 1646 *Extr. Kirk-Session Rec. Dunfermline* (1865) 17 Jonet Wely..had slandered grissell walwood spouse to Jo^n alisone, wright, calling hir white bird. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xiv. 3 If Iohn touch Herods white sin..Iohn must to prison.

†10. Fair-seeming, specious, plausible. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 901, I..feffe hym with a fewe wordes whyte. *Ibid.* 1567 For alle youre wordes whyte. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 4272 Hir wordis white, softe, & blaundyshynge, Wer meynt with feynyng & with flaterie. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 203 Flatteraris with pleasand wordis quhyte. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. xi. 34 The schyning vissage of the god Cupyte, And his dissemelit slekit wordis quhyte. 1612 Sir J. Davies *Why Ireland*, etc. 93 The faire and white promises of Lewes the 11. 1613 Chapman *Rev. Busy d'Ambois* v. i, This bloud I shed, is to saue the bloud Of many thousands. *Guise*. That's your white pretext. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 138 The Scots call Flatteries Whitings, and Flatterers white People. 1825 Jamieson, *White-Wind*, flattery, wheedling; a cant term.

11. Special collocations. a. In names of species or varieties of animals distinguished by their white colour or colouring: as *white ant, bear, fox, heron, herring, pelican, perch, shark, stork, trout, wagtail, whale*, for which see the sbs.; also white-bird, (*a*) a name for the spotted flycatcher; (*b*) see quot. 1875; white game [Game *sb.* 11], grouse = *white partridge*; white grub, the larva of the cockchafer or other scarabæid; white mouse (see e below); white partridge ? *Obs.*, the ptarmigan; white slipper (*limpet*), snail (see quots.); white worm = *white grub*; see also Whitebait, Whitefish, etc. b. In names of plants distinguished by white flowers or other parts, light-coloured bark, wood, root, fruit, seed, etc.; also applied to such flowers, wood, etc.: as *white beech, beet, bind, bine, birch, broom, cedar, clover, currant, dead-nettle, elm, grape, hellebore, honeysuckle, horehound, jasmine, lilac, mustard, oak, oats, peas, pepper, pine, poplar, raspberry, rot, rye, sanders, willow* (see the sbs.); also white ash, (*a*) a species or variety of ash with light-coloured wood; hence (*colloq.*) an oar; also *attrib.* (jocular) *white-ash breese*, the impetus of the oar; (*b*) a S. African ornamental tree with white flowers, *Platylophus trifoliatus*, the white alder (Alder *sb.*1 3); †white-bush = Whitethorn; white corn (see 2 a *b*); white grass, (*a*) *Holcus lanatus*; (*b*) American species of *Leersia*, esp. *L. virginica*; †white plum, (*a*) = Wheat-plum; (*b*) a plum of Barbados having whitish bark; white-tree, a name for different trees having light-coloured wood; esp. *Melaleuca Leucodendron* of Australia and the Malay archipelago; white vine, (*a*) the common bryony, *Bryonia dioica*; (*b*) traveller's-joy, *Clematis Vitalba*; white wheat, wheat with white or light-coloured grain; white wood, (*a*) the alburnum, or lighter-coloured outer wood of a tree; (*b*) any non-resinous wood. c. In names of minerals, and of chemical or other products, of a white colour: as *white amber, antimony, arsenic, copper, dammar, enamel, feldspar, (iron) pyrites, precipitate, salt, scherl, soap, tellurium, tin, tombac, vitriol, wax*, for which see the sbs.; also white ash, refined soda-ash as distinct from the crude *black ash* (Ash *sb.*2 2); white brass, an alloy of copper and zinc, containing a large proportion of the latter; white brick, app. Bath brick; white bronze, any light-coloured bronze; white damp [Damp *sb.*1 1 b], carbonic oxide as occurring in coal-mines; white leather (see Leather *sb.* 1 and Whitleather); white lights *Obs.* exc. *dial.*, candles; white metal, a name for various alloys of a light grey colour (also *attrib.*); white money, silver money, silver coins; white nickel, a name for Chloanthite or other native nickel arsenide; † white powder, a supposed kind of gunpowder exploding without noise; white rock, a name applied to intrusive basaltic rocks, altered to a light colour, occurring in coal-measures; white-row (see quot.); white rubber, (*a*) caoutchouc whitened by admixture of a pigment; (*b*) the light-coloured caoutchouc obtained from the *white-rubber vine* (*Landolphia owariensis*); †white straits (see quots. and Strait *sb.* 9); white trap = *white rock*; † white wire, iron wire coated with tin. d. In names of bodily parts or structures, and of diseases or abnormal bodily conditions, characterized by white colour: as white blood, blood with an excess of white corpuscles, as in leucæmia; †white bone, app. the costal cartilages; white corpuscle, a colourless blood-corpuscle, a leucocyte; white flood, leucorrhœa; white flux (see e below); white gangrene, a form of gangrene in which the affected parts become whitish; white haw, an affection of the eye (see Haw *sb.*3); white jaundice (see Jaundice *sb.* 1 b); white matter, the fibrous matter of the brain and spinal cord, as distinct from the *grey matter*; white softening, a variety of softening of the brain (see quot. 1873); white swelling (see Swelling *vbl. sb.* 2); white (fibrous) tissue, white connective tissue, as distinct from *yellow tissue* (Yellow *a.* C. 1 e).

1699 Dampier *Voy.* 127 Abundance of Ants of several sorts, and Woodlice, called by the English in the East Indies *White Ants. 1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 86 The never-to-be-sufficiently execrated white ants, who, if they had their will, would reduce all created things to impalpable dust. 1801 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* II. 315 The Leucoryx or *White Antelope. 1820 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* II. 856/2 *Fraxinus Americana*, American Ash-tree.—There are several varieties of this, *White Ash, Red Ash, Black Ash, &c. 1831 H. Melville *Whale* lxxxi, This clumsy lubber was striving to free his white ash. 1882 Raymond *Mining Gloss., White-ash* (Penn.). See *Coal.* 1882 *Garden* 23 Sept. 273/1 The white Ash of the United States may be taken as the type of most of the American kinds. 1906 Kipling *Puck of Pook's Hill* 101 We must wake the white-ash breese,..A lon for Stavanger! 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *White Ash Finishers*, men in the chemical industry .. engaged upon the manufacture of soda ash..from salts derived from black ash. 1623 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VIII. iii. 620 There were *white Beares, and stagges farre greater then ours. 1832 Seidel *Organ* 169 The levers by which the tongues are kept upon the beaks are generally made of *white beech. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 744 There is only one species of this plant [*sc.* hop] in cultivation, but which has several varieties, as the red-bind, the green-bind, the *white-bind, etc. 1878 Mellish *St. Helena* 98 *Cygti candida*, Wagl.—*White-bird. One of the most abundant seabirds in the Island. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* vii. 83 Abstracting [by blister] a considerable portion of *white blood from the system. 1863 Aitken *Sci. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 270 White-cell blood, or White blood—*Leucocythæmia*. 1521 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 314 Quendam N. Walles felonice percussit cum uno *le dagger* in

1850 Elliot *Dict., Lancashire*, *White dryer. *a* 1780 Eliza Haywood *New Present* (1771) 252 Rubbing..with scouring paper, rotten-stone, or *white-brick. 1884 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 28/1 This new kind of '*white bronze' is not to be confounded with the alloy used in America under the same name..which consists principally of zinc. 1882 *Garden* 3 June 384/1 The *white Broom and a sulphur-coloured Cytisus. 1676 M. Cook *Forest-Trees* xxxii. 97 If you would make a Fence of one particular sort of Wood, the very best is your *White-bush, or White-thorn. 1781–2 T. Jefferson *Notes Virginia* (1787) 62 *White cedar, *Cupressus Thyoides*. 1847 Leichhardt *Jrnl.* iii. 60 The white cedar (*Melia Azaderach*). 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 122 *White-clay, so called it seems though of a blewish colour, and used for making yellow-colour'd ware. 1875 Knight *Diet. Mech.*, *White Copper*, an alloy forming an imitation of silver. 1866, 1898 *White corpuscles [see Leucocytosis, Leucocyte]. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxi. 107 The fifth..may be.. called..*white Crowfoots, & water Crowfoots. *Ibid.* II. xxviii. 180 [see Water-lily]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *White dammer. 1882 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *White-damp*, a poisonous gas sometimes (more rarely than fire-damp or choke-damp, etc.), encountered in coal mines. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 67 *Ulmus Americana*, the *white elm. 1820 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 67 To make *white enamel, a hundred parts of lead and thirty of tin are generally calcined..and..mixed with a hundred parts of sand and twenty of potash;..the result is a milky white opake glass, called White Enamel. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. vi. 180 Plates of black mica and crystals of *white felspar. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lix. 86 Wilde Tansie..preuayleth..against the *white flouds, or issue of floures. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 333 The fur of the *white fox is held in no great estimation. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 176 The *white Game, erroneously called the white Partridge, *Lagopus saxis*. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 300/2 *'White' Gangrene seems to be simply a moist gangrene, in which there is a serous exudate. 1798 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* II. 936 *White gold. The platina. 1760 Young *Tour Irel.* I. 281 Rye grass (*lolium perenne*) and *white grass (*holcus lanatus*) do well. 1832 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Lowrie*, Three species occur in the United States, and are known as white-grass, especially *L. Virginica*. 1709 Beweick *British Birds* I. 303 *White Grouse. *a* 1813 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc.

(1821) I. 77 The *white-grub has .. extensively injured meadows and pastures. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. I v, The leues also broken in oyle are good for the *whyte hawe, or the perle in the eye. 1837 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) I. § 3. 61 Blue indigo, under the combined action of protoxide of iron and alkalies, becomes converted into *white indigo. 1896 Chester *Dict. Names Min.*, **White iron ore*, an early name for siderite. *Ibid.*, *White iron pyrites*, a popular name for marcasite. 1398 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 162 One torch, one pricket, two sises, one pound of *white lights, ten talshides, eight faggotts. 1620 *Ibid.* 335 Halfe a pounde of white lightes .. per diem. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* 5 A b, The *White Lilac, or Pipe-Tree. 1882 *Garden* 6 May 317/2 A large bunch of white Lilac. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 *Whyte marbulle, *carnium*. 1849 Burke *Landed Gentry* III. 27/2 The splendid mausoleum .. was magnificently sculptured in white marble. 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 695 A convolution [of the brain] consists of a fold of grey matter, enclosing a process of *white or fibrous matter. 1869 Huxley *Elem. Physiol.* (ed. 3) vi. 299 In the medulla oblongata, ..[as] in the spinal cord..the white matter is external, and the grey internal. But, in the cerebellum and cerebral hemispheres, the grey matter is external and the white internal. 1613 in *Papers rel Scots in Poland* (1915) 71 A *white metal cup. 1710 N Blundell *Diary* (1895) 86 We went to see y^m make White-Mettle Mugge. 1879 H. Phillips *Addit. Notes upon Coins* 8 A number of medals in white metal and copper. 1884 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 40/2 The term 'white metal' is applied to all alloys in which zinc, tin, or lead is in sufficient proportion to impart a white colour. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 216 The goldys and *whyte mony..as they were corrant. 1593 Greene *3rd Pt. Art Cony Catching* C 3, There was seuen pound in Golde, beside thirty shillings and odde white money. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Blanc, Monnoye blanche*, white money; coyne of brasse, or copper, alluered ouer. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3162/4 Where all Persons may be Accommodated with any of their sorts for white Money, either Half-Crowns, Shillings, or Sixpences. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 9 Mar. 1664, The fine new mill'd coin both of white money and guineas. 1809 Bawdwen *Domesday Bk.* 405 Rutland pays to the King one hundred and fifty pounds white money. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* May 158 My hand has nae been crossed with white money but ance these seven blessed days. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 70 Chloanthite ;.. *White Nickel. 1896 Chester *Dict. Names Min.* 287 *White nickel.* A syn. of both rammelsbergite and chloanthite. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 65 *Quercus alba*, the *white oak. 1721 Bailey, **White oakham*, a sort of Tow or Flax to drive into the Seams of Ships. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 138 No bird abounds there more then the *white Partridge. 1678 [see *white game*]. 1767 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 72. 1844 *Amer. Stud. Sci.* XLVII. 58 *Labrax mucronatus*, Cuv., *White Perch. 1830 Palsgr. 288/2 *White plome, *prune blanche*. 1696 Plukenet *Almagestum* Opera 1769 II. 306 Prunus Sylvestris cortice albicante,.. White Plumme Barbadensibus dicta. 1613 Beaum. & Fl. *Honest Man's Fort.* II. 1, That you were kil'd with a Pistoll charg'd with *white Powder. 1669 N. Lee *Princess of Cleve* II. ii, A Secret Lover's like a Gun charg'd with White Powder, does Execution but makes no noise. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 743/2 Mercurammonic Chloride, NH_2HgCl. This salt, commonly known as *white precipitate, is officinal in the U.S. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 213 To make *White Raspberry Jam. 1885 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. viii. § 2. 360 Microscopical examination shows that this '*white-rock' or 'white-trap' is merely an altered form of some diabasic or basaltic rock. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 542 A blewish Bat, in which the following Iron-Stone lyes, called the *White-Row. *Ibid.*, A hard blackish Iron Oar, lying in small Nodules, having between them a White Substance; and from thence by the Miners called the White-Row-Grains. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **White-rubber*, caoutchouc mixed with..any white pigment [so] as to give a dead white color to it. 1887 Molonky *Forestry W. Afr.* 90 The white-rubber vine..grows in profusion in this part of the country. 1859 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* (1860) 203 The *White Slipper [limpet] is known..by its shaggy light-green skin. 1393-94 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 54 *White snailes be yll for sheepe in pastures. 1881 E. Ingersoll *Oyster-Industry* 250 *White-snails*, small species of mollusks noxious to the oyster-beds, particularly Urosalpinx and Natica. 1854 *White softening [see Softening *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* 41 White Softening .. is [mostly] a chronic condition, dependent upon disease of the capillaries and small arteries, which interferes with the circulation. .. There is no hyperæmia, and the colour either resembles that of healthy brain-tissue, or is an opaque dirty white. 1792 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* II. 137 *White Stork...primaries black: the rest of the plumage white. 1513 *Act 5 Hen. VIII* c. 2 Where.. Clothes called *White Straytes be..made within the said Countie [of Devon]. 1672 Manley *Cowel's Interpr.*, *White Streits*, a kind of course Cloth made in Devonshire, about a yard and half a quarter broad, raw. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 7 Take *whyte sugre an caste per-to. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 106 Take the water & put white sugar vnto it. 1772 D. Macbride *Meth. Introd. Physic* 194 Watery tumour of a joint, usually termed *White-swelling. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 185 *White tinne, that is molten into mettall. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXVIII. 361 The vitality of the *white tissues is low. 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazons* II. (1864) 38 Other grand forest-trees..were the Moira-tinga (the *White or King tree)—probably the same as, or allied to, the Mora Excelsa..in British Guiana [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, White-tree, *Melaleuca Leucadendron*. *c* 1640 J. Smyth *Hund. Berkeley* (1885) 319 The Salmon, *wheat trout or suen. 1542 Elyot *Dict.*, *Amomum*,..the leaues be lyke to the leaues of Withwynde or *whyte vyne. 1598 [see Bavony 1]. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 188 Burne them with twigs of white vines. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1217/1 Vine, White, *Clematis Vitalba*. 1545 *White wax [see Wax *sb.*^1 2 c]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 176 With bullis of leid, quhyte wax and reid, And vther quhyllis with grene. 1825 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 389 The wax (called *Pe-la*, white wax, because so by nature) begins to appear about the middle of June. 1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 34 *Whyte wheate is lyke polerde wheate ..but it hath ania, and..wyll make white bread; and in Essex they call fiaren wheate whyte wheate. 1825 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 340 Among the numerous varieties of..wheat, the white and the red are the most esteemed in general. 1483-4 *Rolls Parlt.* V. 507/2 Cardes for Wolle, or *Whitewyre. 1587 Mascall *Cattle, Hogges* (1596) 274 Some doe ring them [*sc.* hogs] with red wyar .. Others doe put rings of yron, some with horne nailes or strong white wyar, in the groine of their snoutes. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1302/1 It is Enacted..That no Iron Thread (commonly called White Wyer) nor Cards for Wooll, nor Card-Wyer, nor Iron-Wyer for making of Wooll-Cards, shall be Imported. 1765 *Newton* (Lincs.) *Enclosure Act* 13 Ash or other *white wood rails. 1818 P. Graham *Agric. Surv. Stirling.* 40 The oaks are almost entire; the white wood, as it is called, or the outermost circles of the tree, only are decayed. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 348 The workman breaks these pieces of pots on his anvil, and mixes the pieces with charcoal of white wood. 1883 J. G. Wood in *Longman's Mag.* Dec. 169 The terrible larva of the cockchafer, called, *par excellence, the* Grub, and sometimes known as the *White Worm.

e. Miscellaneous: **white ale**, a Devonshire drink made of ale with flour, milk, and other ingredients (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); **white baker**, †(*a*) a baker of white bread (also as one word); (*b*) a name for the spotted flycatcher; **white bath**, (*a*) an emulsion of oil and alkaline carbonates used in dyeing; (*b*) a name for white-flowered species of *Trillium*; **white bonnet** [Bonnet *sb.* 8], a fictitious bidder at an auction; **white book** [tr. med.L. *liber albus*; cf. Album], a book of official records or reports bound in white; †**white broth**, some kind of broth of a white or light colour (see also Broth *sb.* 3); **white coal** (see quot. 1913); †**white colours** = *white flag* (*a*); **white cooper** (see Cooper *sb.*^1 1); **white death** [after *black death*], a name for tuberculosis (? as specially a disease of white men); **white ensign** (see Ensign *sb.* 5); **whitefellow**, applied by Australian natives to a white man, in contradistinction to *blackfellow*; **white flag**, (*a*) a flag of a white colour displayed in token of peaceful or friendly intention, desire for parley (= *flag of truce*, Flag *sb.*^4 1 b), or surrender; (*b*) the national flag of France before the Revolution (see 6 b); **white flux**, (*a*) leucorrhœa; (*b*) see Flux *sb.* 11, quot. 1826; †**white-folding**, some kind of cloth; **white hass, hawse**, *Sc.* = *white pudding* (*a*); **white hen**, *fig.* in proverbial phr. *a white hen's chick*, etc. applied to a fortunate person or thing (cf. sense 8); **White House**, popular name for the official residence of the President of the United States at Washington; **white joint** (see quot.); †**white joke**, name of some dance; **white leach** (see Leach *sb.*^1 2); **white letter**, *Printing* [Letter *sb.*^1 2 b], an occasional name for the (now) ordinary or 'roman' style of type, as distinct from Black-letter; **white lie**, (*a*) see 7 b and Lie *sb.*^1 1 b; (*b*) see quot.; **white-loose** (see quot.); †**white mark** = White *sb.* 6; **white mass** (see quot.); †**White Moors**, a nickname for the Genoese; **white mouse**, (*a*) an albino variety or fancy breed of the common house mouse; (*b*) a name for the collared lemming, *Cuniculus torquatus*, also called *snow-mouse*; (*c*) *fig.* applied to a person of mean or despicable character; **white night** (tr. F. *nuit blanche*), a sleepless night; **white note**, *Mus.* a note with an open head, as a semibreve or minim (opp. to *black note*); **white paper**, (*a*) paper of a white colour (also *fig.*); (*b*) *techn.* blank paper, not written or printed upon; (*c*) an official document printed on white paper; **white post** (*Paper-making*), see Post *sb.*^6 1; **white pudding**, (*a*) a kind of sausage made of oatmeal and suet (cf. Black pudding and Pudding *sb.* 1); (*b*) 'a pudding made of milk, eggs, flour, and butter' (*Cent. Dict.*); **white rent** (*obs.* exc. *Hist.*), rent payable in silver money (see sense 2 b, and cf. Black mail 3); *spec.* in Devon and Cornwall, a rent or duty of eight pence a year payable by every tinner to the Duke of Cornwall; **white rod** = White staff; **white rose**, the emblem, and hence (with capitals) a designation, of the House of York in the Wars of the Roses (see Rose *sb.* 6); also adopted by the Jacobites in the 18th c.; **White Russian**, (*a*) a member of that branch of the Russian stock inhabiting the western part of Russia; (*b*) the dialect of Russian used by these; **white scourge**, tuberculosis (cf. *white death* above); **white-sewing** = *white-seam* (Seam *sb.*^1 9); **white sheet** (see Sheet *sb.*^1 1 b); **white slave**, a white person (sense 4) who is, or is treated like, a slave (cf. Slave *sb.* 3); **so white slaver, white slavery** (*spec.* in reference to prostitution); †**white son**, a beloved or favourite son; a boy or man who is specially favoured or petted (see 9); **white squadron**, one of the three squadrons into which the Royal Navy was formerly divided; **white squall** (see Squall *sb.*^3 1 c); **white steep**, a process, or liquor, used in bleaching (see Steep *sb.*^1 1, 4, and cf. *grey steep* s.v. Grey *a.* 8); **white stone**, in prov. phr. *to mark with a white stone*, to reckon as specially fortunate or happy (in allusion to the use of a white stone among the ancients as a memorial of a fortunate event); **White Sunday**, an etymologizing modification of Whit Sunday; **white ware**, **white goods** or **stuff**, *esp.* white earthenware; **white window**, a stained-glass window in grisaille (see Grisaille); **white wings** *fig.*, sails; †**white woman**, name for a 'female' ingredient in alchemy.

1743 *London & Country Brewer* III. 195 Devonshire *White-Ale. About 60 years ago this Drink was invented at or near..Plymouth. It is brewed from pale Malt. 1806 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Tristia* Wks. 1812 V. 342 Your birth-place Dodbrook deign'd to bless Famed for white ale. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 390 The brewing of a liquor called white ale, is almost exclusively confined to the neighbourhood of Kingsbridge. 1879 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. XI. 193/2. 1568 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 395 No baker, be he *white baker or brownе baker. 1633 *Stow's Surv.* 624 The Company of White-Bakers.. were a Company of this City in the first yeere of Edward the second. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6379/5 Samuel Fryer,.. Whitebaker. 1826 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 White Baker, the Spotted Flycatcher. 1837 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xi. § 2. 775 In this condition it [*sc.* the skin] is ready for the operation of tawing, or passing through the *white bath. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Trillium*, The white species [are known] as *wake-robin, white bath, birthroot*. 1735 in R. Bell *Treat. Conveyance Land* (1815) 168 This too common practice of employing *white-bonnets at roups was a manifest cheat. 1825 *Ibid.*, What is commonly called a white bonnet, that is, a person employed by the seller to raise the price, without any intention of buying for himself. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) I. 205 Hazlitt.. was at the Fonthill Abbey sale..' hired to attend as a white bonnet there', said he with a laugh. 1437 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 294 The *Whit Boke. 1891 *Times* 4 Feb. 5/3 Another Whitebook on East African affairs has been presented to the Reichstag. 1895 *Law Times* C. 3/1 The judge and Master Macdonell hunted through the White Book, and unearthed a rule sufficiently elastic. 1921 B. Nightingale *Ejected of 1662* II. 1027 The White Book of Preston gives the following. 1606 Dekker *Seven Deadly Sins* D, Heere and there (like a Prune in *White-broth) is stucke a sprnice, but a meere prating vnpractised Lawyers Clarke all in blacke. 1892 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academia* 8 So she. In White-broath, and Canary steeps him. 1923 Weston & Crew *Pitman's Econ. & Banking Terms* 149 **White Coal*, a fanciful name given to a glacier in so far as it is a reservoir of force. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 397 Envying the Italians the clear atmosphere their towns..enjoy through the use of 'white coal' in place of black. 1676 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 84 Sebastian..commanded one of his Souldiers to hold up the *white colours at his Spears-end, in token of his surrendring. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. vii. 317/2 The *White Cooper and Barrel Cooper..are two distinct Trades. 1837 Whittock, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 162 (*Cooper*) The White-cooper makes all the wooden vessels requited in household concerns, dairies, or private breweries. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 643/2 The '*white death', as this most fatal disease is called, does not seem to horrify us as it should. 1879 *Queen's Reg. H.M. Naval Service* 19 All Her Majesty's Ships of War in Commission shall bear a *White Ensign. 1870 J. O. Tucker *Mute* 52 The natives, believing him to be the Spirit of their deceased King, welcomed him with every demonstration of joy; hence the well-known expression 'Go down blackfellow, come up *whitefellow'. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxx. 765 There met him a ship of the Carthaginians, garnished with.. *white flags of peace. 1698 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3101/2 The Enemy hung out a White Flag, and desired a Parley. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 129 A white flag was hung out as a signal that the troops..had surrendered. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 83 If a woman be troubled with the *white fluxe. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 301 White flux is made by deflagrating a mixture of equal parts of nitre and cream of tartar. *c* 1483 in Raine *Ch. Yk. & Abps.* (Rolls) III. 307 Pro xij. virgis de panno vocato *whytefalddyng. 1828 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xii, There is black pudding and *white-hass—try whilk ye like best. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl., White Hawse*, a favourite pudding. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. iii. L j b, May not I..be esteemed the sonne of a *whyte henne ..? maye not men .. thinke, that I was borne in a good howre. 1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* I. iii, All..are not sonnes o' the white Hen. 1716 *Poor Robin* Feb, A 6, Money is a Chick of the white Hen, he that hath it, hath Fortune by the forelock. 1833 T. Hamilton *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 300 The President..having politely intimated that he received company every evening, I ventured..to present myself.. at the '*White House'. 1888 W. J. Christy *Joints* 32 *White Joint.—One formed with ordinary mortar as distinguished from blue mortar. Or it is made by poi ' with white putty. 1744 Fielding *Tumble-Down* Wks. 1766 IV. 250 Tho' all the earth was one continued smoke, 'Twould not prevent my dancing the *White Joke. *c* 1450 *Brut* 447 A leyche called '*whyte leyche'. 1573 1730 [see Leach *sb.*^1 2]. *c* 1720 Pepys in Rollins *Pepysian Garl.* (1922) *Pref.* p. vii, The Form..of the Black Letter with Picture, seems (for cheapness sake) wholly laid aside, for that of the *White Letter without Pictures. 1719 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VI. 95 It is printing..in the white Letter, contrary to Mr. Urry's mind, who was resolved upon the black Letter and would not hear of the white. 1879 Chappell *Rarb. Ball.* II. 450 Two of the copies were issued by Whitwood..one by Norris in white letter. 1899 J. Hutchinson in *Archives Surg.* X. 146 The nail..exhibits white spots in consequence [of injury]—'*white lies'. 1899 J. Scoffern etc. *Useful Metals* 344 Parts which were unsound, occasioned, apparently, by a white powder embedded in the steel: to distinguish this from the effects of imperfect welding, it was called *white-loose. *Ibid.*, The files were without white-loose. 1619 J. Davies *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 9 Thou blessed He, *white Marke for Envie's aime. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 322 His *white mass,—

the first mass of a young priest. 1642 Howell *Fam. Trans.* (Arb.) 41 As it is proverbially said, there are in Genoa, Mountaines without wood, Sea without fish, Women without shame, and Men without conscience, which makes them to be termed the *white Moores. 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* II. xxvi. 267 A set of sly, knavish foxes among the crew... In man-of-war parlance, they [are called] fancy-men and *white-mice. 1900 *Daily News* 10 Mar. 6/5 The miserable, anæmic, shifty, human white-mice. 1872 Browning *Fifine* xxxiii, O the knotty point—*white night's work to revolve. 1908 Miss Broughton *Mamma* vii, The almost entirely white night she had just passed. 1569 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 184/2, ij quares of *whyte paper. 1682 *Debates in Parl.* (1682) 166 These Bills will.. make your Banishing Bill, and Association-Bill too, as ineffectual as White Paper. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 394 Although the first Form be Printed off, yet Press-men..call that Heap White-Paper, till the Reteration be Printed.

spoken of in a trade sense, as 'White papers ... *News* 13 Mar. 5/1 An interesting White Paper has been published..giving reports from our Ambassadors and Consular officers abroad on the telephone services in the countries to which they are attached. 17.. '*Get up and bar the door*' vii. in Herd *Scot. Songs* (1776) II. 159 And first they ate the *white puddings, And then they ate the fite black. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 24, xij*s.* of *white rente. 1630 Doddridge *Duichy of Cornewall* 99 White rent .. is a dutie payable yeerely by euery Tynner in the County of Deuon, ..that is, of euery Tynner 8.d. 1664 Spelman *Gloss., Quietus redditus*..Vulgo Quit rente, qui & alias White rente nuncupatur, quod in denariis & argento penditur. 1717 *Northumbrian Docts.* (Surtees) 61 A white-rent of 13*s.* 6*d.* from two or three freeholds in Woodburne. 17.. *Song* in Farquhar *Beaux-Strat.* III. ii, *White rods are no trifles, I'm sure, Whatever their bearers may be. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U.S.* I. x. 347 A chancery court and a court-leet, sergeants and white rods. 1558 G. Cavendish *Poems*, etc. (1825) II. 99 Adewe, my sonne Edward! sprong of the royall race Of the *wight rose and the red. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 4 The People, who..had beene fully made capable of the clearnesse of the Title of the White-Rose or House of Yorke. 1716 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 237 Divers were destroyed by the Georgian Party, only for having white Roses, a way by which..the Cavaliers distinguished themselves. 1887 F. M. Crawford *Saracinesca* i, Men flocked to the standards of the White Rose of York. 1912 D. M. Wallace *Russia* xxxix. 726 [The first Duma] was composed of many nationalities clustering round the dominant race. The chief ethnographical groups were the Great-Russians (265), the Little-Russians (62), the *White-Russians (12), the Poles (51), the Lithuanians (10), .. and the Bashkirs (4). 1909 Osler in Klebs *Tuberculosis* 7 Throughout the world the most intense interest has been stimulated in the fight against the *white scourge. 1922 Christine Orr *Kate Curlew* ii, She learned *white-sewing from an aunt. 1594 *Zepheria* xxxvi. F a b, Thy face being vayld, this pennance I award, Clad in *white sheet thou stand in Paules Churchyard. 1901 Rhys *Celtic Folklore* I. v. 351 Old people still living remember men and women clad in white sheets doing penance publicly in the churches of Man. *c* 1833 M. T. Sadler in *Mem.* (1842) 405 Their tender hearts were sighing As negro wrongs were told, While the *white slave lay dying Who gained their father's gold! 1840 T. Gordon tr. *W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* IV. 87 Seume..like many thousands of 'white slaves', that is, German subjects, who were then sold by their princes to the Dutch or English, had been shipped for the colonies. 1889 [see Slave *sb.* 3]. 1922 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Apr. 278/2 The villain of the piece..is a *white slaver [= procurer]. 18.. G. Smeaton *Doings in London* 83 Here is, indeed, the British white slavery [*viz.* of dressmakers]: only, with this difference, that their more fortunate sufferers [*sic*] in the West Indies have regular food and appointed hours of work. 1835 *Edin. Rev.* July 463 These representations of the ruinous effects of what has been called white slavery..were..embodied in Mr. Sadler's famous Factory Report. 1857 W. Acton *Prostitution* 94 The natural question, 'Why does not this woman escape from this white slavery?' is best answered by other queries —Whither can she fly? What can she do? 1542 Coverdale *Confut. Standish* (1547) 1 ij b, Maruaill not..though (whan I se you folowe your vnholy mother..) I call you.. her owne *whyte sonne. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. i, Be his nowne white sonne. 1561 Yarington *Two Lament. Trag.* IV. vi. G 4 b, Young Allenso your white honnie sonne. *a* 1613 Overbury *A Wife* etc. (1630) P 8 b, The Deuill cals him his white sonne. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 85/4 To steer after the Enemy, with the *White Squadron in the Van, and the Blew in the Rear. 1840 [see Blue *a.* 5 b]. 1891 [see Red *a.* 16 d]. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* 546 *The *White Steep*. This part of the process is precisely the same with the last [*sc.* grey steep], except that the sheep's dung is omitted in the composition of the steep. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. i. xlii. (1890) 38 You are one..whose Name I have mark'd with the *whitest Stone. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Random* lii, 'God be praised! a white stone!'.. he alluded to the *Dies fasti* of the Romans, *albo lapide notati*. 1885 Hornaday *Two Yrs. in Jungle* xxvii. 318, I have marked that day with a white stone as being the one on which I ate my first durian. 1695 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* II. (*title*) *White Sunday. ...1577 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 26 Theire canvas and *whiteware. 1843 *Ecclesiologist* II. 31 A mean and unecclesiastical composition Font, containing a white-ware hand basin. 1913 Eden *Anc. Glass* 45 A small *white window, made up of quarries (panes) decorated in brown enamel let in a white and coloured border. 1813 Byron *Corsair* I. iii, How gloriously her gallant course she [*sc.* the ship] goes! Her *white wings flying. 1880 Black (*title*) White Wings: a Yachting Romance. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Your red man, and your *white woman, With all your broths, your menstrues, and materialls.

12. Combinations.

a. with other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour (= whitish, pa.), as *white-blue, -brown, -green, -grey*, †*-hoar, -red* (q.v.), *-red, -russet*. Also with other adjs., as White-hot, q.v.; white-sick (see quot.).

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schism* 933 The Eastern winde drives on the roaring train Of *white-blew billows. 1643 Baker *Chron., James* (1653) 615 Course paper, commonly called *white brown paper. 1824 T. Hood *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* v, A small packet of white-brown paper. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. xii. 561 The white garden Succorie..hath..*whitegreene leaues. *c* 1533 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 32 Some faire white, or *white gray palfreies. 1536 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 28 The gray freeres chaungyd their habbetts from London rossette unto whyte gray. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* (1821) 218 The hair of the wild Cat is very long, and of a fine white grey. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb.) 4775 Hys fadur ys olde and *whyte-hore. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 126 The best colours [for a horse]..the rone, the *white lyard, the bay, the sorell. 1607 [see Lyard]. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Woodman's Bear* xiv, Red-white hils, and *white-red plaines. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxii. x. II. 446 A peece of cloth of a white russet colour. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 538/2 The female [oyster] *white-sick (as they term it), having a milky substance in the fin.

b. with vbs. and pples., usually in instrumental sense = 'with white', 'in white (clothing or covering)', or with complemental force = 'so as to be, become, or appear white': as *white-paint* vb.; *white-bordered, -churned, -clad, -clothed, -flecked, -marked, -painted, -salted* (see Herring I b), *-set* (Set *ppl. a.* 6 a), *-spotted, -tinned, white-flowing, -glittering, -looking, -waving* adjs.

1830 *Withering's Brit. Pl.* (ed. 7) IV. 303 *White-bordered Cu[illegible]ing Persica. 1823 *Coll. Poems* (ed. Joanna Baillie) 259 [illegible] *white-churn'd waters. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 249 *White-clad Arabs. 1896 A. Hope *Phroso* ii, Groups of *white-clothed women. 1900 Mary E. Wilkins *Pastor Lord, One Good Time* 196 Her black..gown was..*white-flecked..with..winged seeds of passed flowers. 1827 G. Darley *Sylvia* 3 Beautiful Glen of the *white-flowing torrent! 1709 Savage *Wanderer* I. 75 *White-glittering ice, chang'd like the topaz, gleams, Reflecting saffron lustre from his beams. 1870 P. M. Duncan *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 121 A flabby,..*white-looking grub. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 981 The *white-marked tussock-moth. 1897 *Mag. of Art* Sept. 868 His whitewashed and *white-painted what was coloured. 1808 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 157 Four *white-painted tarpaulings. 1889 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxvii, The pile of bodies.. with their twisted limbs and *white-set faces. 1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem.* 606 *White spotted Willow Lady-cow. 1903 Conrad & Hueffer *Romance* I. iv, A red, white-

shall dance with their *white-waving arms.

c. Parasynthetic Combinations, chiefly adjectives in -ED[2], unlimited in number (many occurring in specific designations of animals or plants), as *white-armed, -barred, -beaked, -bearded, -bellied, -billed, -bosomed, -breasted, -cheeked, -coated, -crested, -faced, -flannelled, -flowered, -frilled, -frocked, -fronted, -gloved, -handed, -hatted, -hoofed (-hooved), -horned, -leaved, -legged, -lipped, -listed* (List *sb.*[3] 5), *-maned, -mantled, -plumed, -railed, -ribbed, -ribboned, -rinded, -robed, -roofed, -rumped, -shafted* (Shaft *sb.*[2] 4 b (*a*)), *-sheeted, -shouldered, -sided, -skinned, -sleeved, -stoled, -strawed, -tailed, -throated, -tipped, -tongued* (cf. 10), *-toothed, -topped, -tufted, -tusked, -veiled, -veined, -waistcoated, -walled, -wanded, -whiskered, -wristed*, etc., etc.; **white-backed, having a white back; † in early use (of a document), blank on the back, unendorsed; white-blooded, having light-coloured or colourless blood, without red corpuscles, as most invertebrate animals; white-crossed, bearing the figure of a white cross; white-eyed, having white eyes; having the iris of the eye white, or having white plumage around the eyes; white-favoured, wearing white favours (Favour *sb.* 7 b); white-hearted, (*a*) faint-hearted, timid, cowardly (cf. sense 5 and White-livered); (*b*) pure-hearted, saintly (cf. sense 7); white-horsed, (*a*) bearing the figure of a white horse; (*b*) having or driving a white horse or horses; white-looked, having a white or pale look or aspect; white-mouthed, (*a*) having the mouth white with foam, foaming; (*b*) having a white mouth or lip, as a shell; † white-rigged (*whyt reged*), white-backed (see Rigged *a.*[1]); see also White-haired, etc.; also white-flesher, a name for the ruffed grouse, from its light-coloured flesh or meat.

1718 Pope *Iliad* xv. 98 The *white-arm'd Goddess. 1486 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 87 Ye must gete lenger day of his parte, and per for y sende yow be writte *white backed. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 82 White-backed Thrush. 1889 Newman *Brit. Moths* 16 The *White-barred Clearwing (*Sesia Sphegiformis*). 1811 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 13 *White-beaked Hornbill. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 309 Falstaffe, that old *white-bearded Sathan. 1611 Cotgr., *Carpion*, a kind of .. *white-bellied Trout. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 271 The *hirundo melba*, or great white-bellied Swift of Gibraltar. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 82 White-bellied Nuthatch. 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. ii. 553 *White-billed Woodpecker. 1820 *White-blooded (see *red-blooded*, Red *a.* 14 a). 1892–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 265/1 The general position of the white-blooded worms is by the side of those with red blood. 1729 Cockburn *Compl. Nepathenes* 8 They blessed the *white-bosom'd Maid. 1776 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 490 The *white-breasted Goatsucker, or Whip-poor-will. *a* 1592 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* II. xviii, *White-

1 Vlisses signe. 1782 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* 331 *White-cheeked Weasel. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xv, A *white-coated, red-eyed dog. 1886 Howells *Venetian Life* xii. 168 The white-coated sentinels. 1896 Rev *Willoughby's Ornith.* 112 *White-crested Parrot. 1848 C. C. Clifford tr. *Frogs of Aristophanes* 34 White-crested morions. 1596 Lever *Martines of Civ' M.* lviii, The windshaken foliage and the white-crested waves. 1832 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 309 *White crows'd. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. ii. 475 *White-eyed Warbler. 1832 Audubon *Ornith. Biogr.* I. 328 The White-eyed Flycatcher,..*Vireo Novaboracensis*. 1833 Tennyson *Palace Art* lx, White-eyed phantasms weeping tears of blood. 1598 Shaks. *John* II. i. 23 That *white-fac'd shore. 1782 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* 62 White-faced Antelope. 1896 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* vi. 235 The white-faced hill .. is the 'Blanche Garde' of the Crusading chroniclers. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* I, The children, white-faced and melancholy. 1830 Tennyson *In Mem.* Concl. 90 The time draws on, And those *white-favour'd horses wait. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 230/1 *White-flannelled cricketers. 1832 Sir J. Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 340 *Tetrao umbellus*. .. Ruffed Grouse. .. *White Flesher. 1894 T. Johnson *Merc. Bot.* 40 *White flowred Rush-grasse. 1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 63 The white-flower'd elder-thicket. 1877 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv, Gilt-edged *white-frilled individuals. 1891 Hardy *Tess* ii, The *white-frocked maids. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 430 *White Fronted Wild Goose. 1711–24 Pope *Rape Lock* v. 13 Why round our coaches croud the *white-glov'd Beaux? 1897 Flandau *Harvard Episodes* 318 The big, white-gloved policeman at the door. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 230 *White handed Mistris, one sweet word with thee. 1634 Milton *Comus* 213 O welcom pure-ey'd Faith, white-handed Hope. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 60 White-handed Lemur.—Inhabits Madagascar. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Last Cab-driver*, A brown-whiskered, *white-hatted, no-coated cabman. *a* 1627 Bayne *On Eph.* i. (1643) 8 Such *white-hearted Christians, who are ashamed of their Master. 1826 Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 407 If the painter were a devout, white-hearted man. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 90 A jet-black goat *white-horn'd, *white-hooved. 1892 J. Beer *St. Herbert's Isle* 5 War .. her *white-horsed banner furls. 1872 Calverley *Fly Leaves, Morning* i, The hour when white-horsed Day Chases Night her mares away. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 465 Chinese *White-leaved Nettle. 1726 Gay *Ep. to Earl Burlington* 16 Brentford,..For dirty streets and *white-legg'd chickens known. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvii, As he rode away upon his white-legged horse. 1842 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) II. 78 *Oncidium leucochilum*, (*white-lipped). 1900 W. J. Locke *House of Baltazar* xxii, She replied, white-lipped: 'I'll never forgive you till I'm dead!' 1899 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 788 The tree that shone *white-listed thro' the gloom. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2506/4 He is a short thin-faced *white-look'd Man. 1642 in J. Wilson *Ann. Horwich* (1830) 53 Ane foir meir, *quhyt mainet and quhyt taillet. 1805 Scott *Betrothed* iv, The *white-mantled Welshmen. 1629 Quarles *Argalus & P.* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 283/1 Whereat the angry Knight..forsooke His *white-mouth'd Steed. 1633 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* xliii. 64 The white-mouth'd Billowes of ye vnsounded Deepe. 1823 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 200 *Voluta Æthiopica*, white-mouth'd Melon. 1627 P. Fletcher *Locusts* II. iv, As when the angry winds with seas conspire, The *white-pium'd hilles marching in set array Invade the earth. 1918 S. Lee *Life Shakesp.* xii. 225 A white-plumed helmet. 1909 H. Bridge *Cage* iv, *White-railed cattle-pens. *c* 1712 Petiver *Gazophyl.* viii. 8

1835) 293 One *whyt reged cowe. 1874 M. Collins *Frances* I. 214 Under a *white-rinded birch. 1629 Milton *Death Fair Infant* 54 That crown'd Matron sage *white-robed Truth. 1826 Wordsw. *Ode, 'Imagination—ne'er before content'* 76 The white-robed choir. 1893 W. Sharp in *Mem.* (1910) 214 A white-robed Bedouin herding goats. 1863 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Vict.* I, The fruitful orchards and *white-roofed cottages. 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. ii. 544 *White-Rumped Black Cuckoo. 1892 Rennie *Buttery. & M.* 230 The *White Shafted Plume [Moth] (*Pterophorus tetradactylus*). 1881 E. F. Poynter *Among the Hills* II. 317 The still, *white-sheeted meadows. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 209 We found the street..blocked up with white-sheeted figures. These were Arab..ladies escorting an intending bride..to the bath. 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. i. 190 *White-Shouldered Shrike. 1870 Bryant *Homer* I. i. 32 Juno the white-shouldered smiled. 1888 *Wills & Inn. Durh.* (Surtees) II. 33 One *white sided why. 1884–5 Wood *Homes without H.* xiii. 234 That [nest] which is made by the White-sided Hill Star. 1593–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 68 A white horse, so that he be not al *white-skynned aboute the mouthe. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Agesilaus* (1595) 636 They scorned their bodies, because they saw them white skinned, soft, and delicate. 1851 Schoolcraft *Amer. Indians* 164 Their white-skinned, auburn-haired, and blue-eyed progeny. 1820 Wordsw. *Valley near Dover* 4 Boys .. In *white-sleeved shirts. 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Rowland for Oliver* etc. 30 To clasp with kisses sweet his *white-stol'd Maid. 1829 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 539 The *white-strawed wheat takes its name .. from the colour of its ear. 1642 *Quhyt taillet [see *white-maned* above]. 1887 I. R. *Lady's Ranche Life* 45 This is the first wild animal I've seen, except antelope and white-tailed deer. 1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. pl. xcviii, *White throated duck. 1899 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xvii, A white-throated stoat .. had run across the path. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 184 The outer feathers *white-tipped. 1697 Rutherford *Lat. to Parishioners* 13 July, A heavie doom is for the liar and *white tongued flatterer. 1629 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* Prosm. 5 The *whitest-toothd Blackamoore in all Asia. 1870 Bryant *Homer* I. xi. 345 As when a hunter cheers His white-toothed dogs against [illegible] R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 699 The..*white topped,..and the Dutch turnip. 1889 Morris *Jason* II. 624 The white-topped billows. 1890 W. How *Pleytel. Brit.* 2 *White Tufted Wrekwood. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 302 White-tufted Cormorant. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xcvi, The wild *White-tusked boars. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* I. 82 The *white-veiled, rose-crowned maidens. *c* 1712 Petiver *Gazophyl.* vii. 61 Common *white-veined

1868 Miss Mitford *Village Sec.* iii. *Lost & Found*, A rich trail of the white-veined ivy, which crept.. over the ground. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* ii, The *white-waistcoated gentleman. 1816 Byron *Pris. Chillon* 339, I saw the *white-wall'd distant town. 1822 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 25 May 327/2 Any *white-wanded Lord at a levee. 1829 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. 56 *White-whiskered Pigeon. 1916 Cullum *Men who wrought* 2, The white-whiskered face of his host. *c* 1621 Chapman *Iliad* xx. 110 *White-wristed Iuno.

d. with sbs., forming adjs. (or phrases used attrib.) in senses (*a*) 'of, pertaining to, or consisting of (a) white ——', as *white-brick, -flower, -linen*; (*b*) 'resembling (a) white ——', as *white-dough, -loaf, -rag, -sand, -satin*; (*c*) 'having or characterised by (a) white ——' (equivalent to parasynthetic adjs. in *-ed*: see c), as *white-berry, -eyelid, -nose, -underwing* (see Underwing 2); **white-bead** *bandstring*, name for a species of coral resembling a string of white beads; **white-blood** *disease* (cf. *white blood* in 11 d) = Leucha-mia; **white hart** *silver* (see quot. 1658); **white-leaf**, applied to a species of frog with white spots. See also White-ear, -line, -skin *adjs.*

1696 Plukenet *Almagestum Bot.* Wha. 1769 II. 118 *Corallina flexuosa Jamaicensis*, .. *Nostratibus* *White Bead Bandstring *dicta*. 1814 Lewis & Clark *Trav. Missouri* xxvi. (1815) III. 194 *Whiteberry honeysuckle. 1866 Aitken *Pract. Med.* II. 69 That the '*white-blood' disease proceeded from a primary affection of the spleen and lymphatic glands. 1909 H. Beebie *Cage* v, A little *white-brick cottage. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 875/2 *Agaricus castus*, *White dough mushroom. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 189 *White-Eyelid Monkey..The upper eyelids of a pure white. 1818 Keats *Endym.* i. 669 Honey cells, Made delicate from all *white-flower bells. 1594 Camden *Britannia* (ed. 4) 150 Ipsa prædia quæ illi tenuerunt ad hanc usque diem quotannis mulctæ nomine peculiam in fiscum regium persoluunt, quæ *White hart Syluer .. appellatur. 1648 Phillips, *Blackbow Forrest*, Called The Forrest of Whitehart from a very beautifull White-hart, which King Henry the third..taking great care to spare, was killed by T. de la Linde, which so incensed the King, that he set a perpetual Fine upon the Land, which at this day is called Whitehart silver. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. 127 *White-leaf Frog. .. Its colour is rufous above, variegated .. with milk-white spots. 1796 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 26 Lye which has been used to white linen, called *white-linen lye. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 261 The land sown..with the tankard and early *white loaf turnip. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 190 *White Nose Monkey. 1880 *White-rag Worm [see Lung]. 1820–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 326 Earthy or *white sand calculi. 1749 E. Wilkes *Eng. Moths* etc. 21 The *white-satin moth. [*Ibid.* 23 The spotted red and *white underwing moth.] 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 4/2 The common *white underwing moths.

e. sbs. in which the second element denotes a distinctive part or attribute of that which is denoted by the whole word: **white-back**, local name for (*a*) the canvas-back duck; (*b*) the white poplar (from the colour of the under side of the leaves); (*c*) collectors' name for a species of moth (see quot. 1832); **white-bark**, local name for various trees with white bark (see quots.); **white-breech**, tr. L. *pygargus*, Pygarg 1; †**white-cloak**, ? = White monk; **white-comb**, a form of favus attacking the combs of fowls; **white-eye**, name for various birds, either having a white iris, as the white-eyed pochard (*Nyroca ferruginea*) and the white-eyed fly-catcher (*Vireo novaboracensis*), or having white plumage around the eyes, as the species of the genus *Zosterops*, also called *silver-eye*; **white-face**, a name for Hereford cattle; **white-front**, the white-fronted goose, *Anser albifrons*; **white-hat**, one who wears a white hat (in quot., as *quasi*-proper name); **white-hood**, a regent member of the senate of the University of Cambridge (*obs.* exc. *Hist.*); **white-leg**, the disease *phlegmasia dolens* (see Phlegmasia); **white-nose** = *white-nose monkey*: see 12 d (*c*); **white point**, collectors' name for a moth (*Leucania albipuncta*) having a white dot on each of the fore wings; **white-root**, the herb Solomon's seal, from its white creeping rootstock; **white-rump**, (*a*) the wheatear, *Saxicola œnanthe*; (*b*) the Hudsonian godwit, *Limosa hæmastica*; **white-sides**, **white-spot**, collectors' names for species of moths (see quots.); **white-spur**, title of a class of esquires who wore silvered spurs; **white-stocking**, one who wears white stockings; in quot. applied to a horse with white legs; **white-straw**, name for a variety of wheat; **white-tip**, an artificial fly; **white-top**, (*a*) a N. American species of bent-grass, *Agrostis alba* (cf. Red-top 2); (*b*) an Australian tree, the Flintwood (*Eucalyptus pilularis*); **white-wig**, one who wears a white wig. See also Whitebeard, -feather, etc.

1814 Alex. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) III. 128 Canvass-back duck..on the Potowmac [they are called] *white-backs. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *White-back*, the white poplar, *Populus alba*. So called from the whiteness of the under side of the leaves. 1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* 199 The White-back (*Y[poneomeuta] evonymella*). 1702 Plukenet *Mantissa* Opera 1769 III. 123 Lappula Altheoides Americana..*White-Barba, Barbadensibus vulgo. 1829 Marsden *Useful Pl. Australia* 412 *Cupania semiglauca*,..White Bark. *Ibid.* 421 *Elæocarpus cyaneus*,..White Bark. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 266 Trypherus..Carves..th' Hare, Boar, the *White-Breech too, The Scythian Pheasant,..And the Getulian Goat. 1661 Lodge *Summary of Du Bartas* 11. 22 The *white Cloakes, the Carmes, The Augustines, the Bernardines, the Iacobins, the Cordeliers. 1834 *Poultry Chron.* II. 40 A list of diseases .. Apoplexy, *white comb, cramp, [etc.]. 1848 Gould *Birds Australia* IV. 82 *Zosterops Dorsalis*, .. Grey-backed Zosterops; *White-eye. 1882 Johns *Brit. Birds* 625 White-eye, the Nyroca Pochard. 1860 W. White *Wrekin* xi. 93, I journeyed down..into the fertile champaign of the *whitefaces. 1912 E. T. Seton *Arctic Prairies* 277 Honkers, *White-fronts and Ducks. 1693 C. Mather in G. L. Burr *Narr. Witchcraft Cases* (1914) 284 That spirit by them [*sc.* the Newfoundlanders] called *White-Hat, who ordinarily appears on the Shore, in a White-hat..a little before some dangerous Tempest. 1784 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 38 [Cambridge] There appeared among the black-hoods..placet, 103..Among the *white hoods the proctors accounts differed. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Phlegmatia Dolens*..the disease *white-leg. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. lx. 157 The seventh [monkey] is the Moustoc, or *White Nose. 1869 Newman *Brit. Moths* 475 The *White-point (*Leucania Albipuncta*). 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxix. 102 *White roote or Salomons seale is of two sortes. 1797 Bewick *Brit. Birds* I. 229 The *White-rump. Wheatear. 1817 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. 568 The White-rump has a very pretty song. 1888 G. Trumbull *Names of Birds* 209 *Limosa hæmastica*..[called] at West Barnstable, White-rump. 1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* 177 The *White Sides (*Pterostea*) *albicostana*). *Ibid.* 56 The *White Spot (*Grapiphora*) *albimacula*). *Ibid.* 144 The White Spot (*Miacaria*) *unipunctata*). *Ibid.* 148 Ennychia .. The White Spot (*E. octomaculata*). 1600 Camden *Britannia* (ed. 5) 140 Rex..armigeros creat collum torque S. S. vel sigmatico argenteo, & candidis, & argentatis calcaribus exornans, vnde hodie in occidentalibus regni partibus vocantur *Whitespurres ad discrimen Equitum auratorum qui auratis calcaribus vti solent. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4219/4 A Plate to be run for,..by Galloways, not exceeding 13 hands and half high, (the Guilford *White-Stockings excepted). 1697 *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 121 *White-straw & Joysting. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 339 The white-strawed wheat..in other counties bears the appellation of the Kentish white-straw. 1867 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* xii. 379 The *White Tip..is a standard Tweed pattern. 1819 Warden *United States* II. 8 The grasses are: White clover, *white top and red top. 1829 Maiden *Useful Pl. Australia* 502 *Eucalyptus pilularis*,..a Mountain Ash of Illawarra..,Willow, or White Top .. (New South Wales). 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* Prol., *White-Wig and Vizard make no longer jar.

f. with sbs., forming vbs. (chiefly *nonce-wds.*): **white-ball**, to clean with a ball of whiting; **white-mail**, to seize or appropriate like *black-mail*, but for a good purpose; **white-tooth**, to show one's white teeth at. See also White-line *v.*

1780 *Mirror* No. 93 P 12 The servants had their liveries new *white-ball'd. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* iii, He spent much of his gains..in..choice drugs, and would have so invested them all, but Margaret *white-mailed a part. 1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* iii. 89 A dusky Ethiopian maiden *white-toothing us in the most coquettish fashion.

g. white-like *a.*, whitish; somewhat pale.

1668 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 379 The Petroleum which is found in Italy is a white-like Spirit of Turpentine. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxii, She looked white-like as she beheld the bursting of the sprays.

White, *v.*[1] (Also 4–6 whitt-, whytt-.) [OE. *hwītian*, f. *hwīt* White *a.* Cf. OHG., MHG. *wīzen*, (G. *weissen*), Goth. *hweitjan*.]

†**1.** *intr.* To become white: = Whiten *v.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxxiv. 113 Hwæs blod readaþ on rosan gelicnysse, and hwæs lichama hwitaþ on lilian fægernysse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 Þe bouh, hwon he adeadeð, he hwiteð wiðuten. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 276 Ful pale y-woxen was þe moone And whiten gan the Orisonte shene Al Estward. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xl. (Bodl. MS.), In wynter..alle þinge whiteþ bi colde and bi froste. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* vi. viii. In Ashmole (1652) 163 Drynes procedyth as Whytyth the matter.

†**2.** *trans.* To make white: = Whiten *v.* 1. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Rhyming Poem* ii. 62 (Grein III. 1. 162) Flan man hwiteð. *c* 1325 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 336 Be the hond I-whited, it shal go god I-nouh. 1340 *Ayenb.* 178 Aso þet line cloþ þet is y-huyted be ofte wessinge. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Colde..blakkeþ dry substaunce & whiteþ moiste substaunce. 1538 Fitzherb. *Yust. Peas* 118 b, Euerie person that vsith the occupacyon of making of tyles, shall make them good and able and throughly whyted. 1562 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* 230 They haue washed and whited their garmentes in the bloud of the Lambe. 1582 Hacket tr. *Thevet's New found World* vii. 20 b, Milke..is but bloud whitted in ye dug. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* iii. v, Your Passion hath sufficiently whited your Face. 1649 *Lanc. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 234 Who can white a Blackmore? 1721 E. Ward *Merry Trav.* I. (1729) 16 No yellow Fowl, or stale one, green, Can ever in his Shop be seen, Because he puts in use a strange Device, to white 'em when they change.

b. *spec.* To cover or coat with white; to whitewash; also *fig.*: = Whiten *v.* 1 b, d. Now *rare.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 Mannes þruh, þe is wiðuten ihwited, and wiðinne stinkende. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. iii. 61, I shal kenne þowre kirke..Wowes do whitten. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* ii. cxxii. (1869) 121 As the snow embelisheth and whiteth a dong hep with outa. 1534–5 *MS. Rawl. D.* 777 lf. 72 b, Pargyttyng and whyttyng the Stayers. 1570 *Ludlow Churchm. Acc.* (Camden) 149 For lyme, to make an end of whittinge the churche. 1589 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 23 A farthing worth of flower to white him ouer and wamble him in. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Bloody Brother* iv. i, Thou.. Whit'st over all his vices. 1632 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 23 As it were Lead whited with silver. 1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* 270 *note*, At Oxford, at this Time, the little Crosses cut in the Stones of Buildings, to denote the Division of the Parishes, are whited with Chalk. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxviii, When he had thus cleared his conscience, or rather whited it over like a sepulchre. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 235 The ceilings, .., as well as the pediment in front of the house, to be lath laid, set, and whited.

Proverb. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 373 That at anes, as vses to be said, the wil quhite tua walls. 1629 H. Burton *Babel no Bethel* Pref. Ep. 29, I doe in this Booke..as the Proverbe is, whiten two walls with one brush.

†**c.** To bleach; to blanch: = Whiten *v.* 1 c.

1530 Palsgr. 457/1, I bleche, I whyte clothe. 1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII* c. 15 § 2 The said lynnen yarne must lye w^toute..for..one half yere to be whyted. 1611 *Bible* Mark ix. 3 His raiment became..exceeding white as snow: so as no Fuller on earth can white them. 1668 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 208 The manner of whiting it [*sc.* lettuce] under earthen pots. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 128 Wax, bleached or whited in Foreign Parts, and imported.

d. *pa. pple.* Of a horse: see quot. 1737.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 5 He is..called well Whited if his Hinder Feet be both White. 1760 Heber *Horse Matches* ix. 147 He is a compleat strong horse, well whited. 1870 *Daily News* 6 June, Mr. Robson's His Majesty, in addition to being badly 'whited', had unpleasing action.

e. *Printing.* To space *out* (matter) with 'white'.

1892 A. Oldfield *Man. Typogr.* i. 15 Reglets for whiting out bills and placards are made of wood.

White, *v.*[2] *Sc.* and *n. dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* quhite, 7 whyt, 9 *dial.* whit. [north. variant of Thwite. Cf. Whang.] *trans.* To cut slices off (a stick, etc.) with a knife or other sharp instrument; to pare; to whittle.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 72 Stock and stane.. Quhilk men may carfe or quhite. 1662 in W. Hunter *Biggar & Ho. Flaming* (1862) 4 Elf boyis, wha whyttis and dyghtis thame [*sc.* arrow-heads] with a sharp thing lyke a paking neidle. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 267 Boys, who white a stick..until it be so worn down that it become useless. 1890 Service *Notandums* ix. 62 Ye can be whittin' a stick.

White: see Quit, Wight, Wit, Wite.

White acre. Also whit(e)aker, witacre.

†**1.** *Law.* An arbitrary name for a particular parcel of ground, distinguished from another called Black acre, q.v. *Obs.*

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* viii. § 561 If a man seised in fee of white acre and black acre devisable, and deviseth white acre unto I. S. [etc.]. 1698 [see Black acre].

2. A local name for white quartz.

1796 Marshall *Rural Econ. W. Eng.* I. 16 A species of crystal, or quartz—provincially 'whittaker'; which, in colour, is mostly white, sometimes tinged with red. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornw.*, etc. xv. 473 *note*, Quartz is commonly known..as whiteacre in eastern Cornwall and part of Devon.

Whitebait (hwī·tbēt). Formerly white bait, white-bait. [f. White *a.* + Bait *sb.*; so called from its former use as bait.] A small silvery-white fish, caught in large numbers in the estuary of the Thames and elsewhere, and esteemed as a delicacy.

Formerly reckoned by some as a distinct species, but now proved to consist of the fry of various fishes, chiefly the herring and sprat.

1758 *Descr. Thames* 227 A young Herring is by some termed a Yaulin, or a White Bait. 1763 in *Prov. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 93 We got back to Greenwich to dine. We had the smallest fish I ever saw, called whitebait; they are only to be eat at Greenwich, and are held in high estimation by the epicures. 1831 Peacock *Crotchet Castle* vii, As delicate as whitebait in July. 1836 Mollard *Cookery* 38 To dress White Bait. This is a fish peculiar to Greenwich and Blackwall. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xxxiv, There are people who dislike salmon, and whitebait, and spring ducklings, and all manner of old-established delicacies.

b. *attrib.*

Whitebait dinner: a dinner at which whitebait was eaten, held annually at Greenwich and attended by cabinet ministers from early in the 19th century till 1894. For the origin of the dinner see *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 11) XII. 554.

1856 Disraeli *Let. to Ld. Glenelg* 12 May, His Majesty's Ministers may then hold Cabinet Councils to arrange a white-bait dinner at Blackwall. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* viii, Whitebait parties at the Ship. [1859 Lever *Dav. Dunn* xxxvi, The Irishman that has scared to the realm of whitebait with a Minister.] 1902 C. J. Cornish *Nature in Thames* 201 White-bait shoals swarmed in the Lower Thames and the Medway.

c. Applied to other small fishes in different parts of the world resembling this and used as food.

e.g. The Chinese and Japanese fishes of the family *Salangidæ*, various N. American species of silversides, and various fishes of Australia and New Zealand (see quots.).

1882 Tenison-Woods *Fish N. S. W.* 83 Count Castelnau states that it [*sc. Engraulis antarcticus*] is very common in the Melbourne market..and goes by the name of 'Whitebait'. 1883 *Royal Comm. on Fisheries of Tasmania* p. lv, Retropinna Richardsonii, whitebait or smelt. Captured in great abundance in the river Tamar, in the prawn nets. 1886 Sherrin *Handbk. Fishes N. Z.* 142 Together with the young of *Retropinna Richardsoni*, they [*sc. Galaxias attenuatus*] are called whitebait.

Whitebeam (hwī·tbīm). Also **white beam, white-beam.** [Of uncertain origin. Perhaps an alteration of Whitten on the analogy of *quitchen* and *quickbeam.*] A small tree, *Pyrus Aria*, having large leaves with white silky hairs on the under side. Also *whitebeam-tree* (incorrectly *white beam-tree*: see Beam-tree).

1795 S. Dale *Pha.* ____ Suppl. Tree, Aria. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* The White-Beam-Of all soils this is the most favourable to beech, ____ [etc.]. 1800 [see Beam-tree]. 1900 C. J. Cornish *Natur. in Thames* 152 The hawfinch is seen..picking up whi[te]

Whitebeard (hwaɪ·tbɪəd).

1. An old man with a white beard.

† Also as *quasi*-proper name: in quot. 1430 probably in allusion to the representation of God the Father as an aged

1430 Sir J. Fastolf in *Paston Lett.* I. 131 They shall be quyt by Blackberd or Whyteberd; that ys to sey, by God or the Devyll. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 112 Whitebeards [*mispr.* White Beares] haue arm'd their thin and hairelesse Scalps Against thy Maiestie. 1819 Scott *Anne of G.* xii, 'If she were worth twenty crowns,'..said the old whitebeard.

2. Name in Australia for the plant *Styphelia ericoides*, from the white hairs on the corolla.

1898 Morris *Austral Engl.*

Whiteblowe, obs. var. Whitlow.

White-bottle. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [See Bottle *sb.*4] † a. The ox-eye daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum.* b. The bladder campion, *Silene inflata* (Treas. Bot.).

a 1400 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 45 *Consolida media*,.. habet ..florem album latum et durum, similem camomille sed maiorem..a°e, whit-bothel uel seynt Mary maythe. 1652 French *Distill.* ii. 56 Take..White-bottles, Scabius, Dandelyon,..of each one handfull.

White boy, whi·teboy. Also 7 white-boy.

† 1. A favourite, pet, or darling boy: a term of endearment for a boy or (usually) man. *Obs.*

Cf. White *a.* 9, and *white son* in 11 e.

1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 69 Whose white boy is that same? *c* 1600 *Timon* I. iii. (1842) 10 *Gelas.*..What speake the virgines of me?..*Pud.* They terme you delight of men, white boye, Noble without comparison. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* I. xiii. 20 The Pope was loth to adventure his darlings into danger; those white-boyes were to stay at home with his Holinesse their tender father. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 377 Joseph..was not only his earthly fathers white-boy, but his heavenly's also. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvi, Were war at the gates, I should be one of her [*sc.* Q. Elizabeth's] white boys.

† 2. A surpliced choir-boy. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1691 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academia* 32 The Organs set up with a ding, The White-men roar, and White-Boys sing.

3. (usually with capital.) A name adopted by or applied to the members of various illegal, rebellious, or riotous associations. a. *Eng. Hist.*

1644 (*title*) The Devills White Boyes: or, A mixture of malicious Malignants. 1684 Dryden tr. *Maimbourg's Hist. League* Postscr. 47 When a Body of white Boys was already appearing in the West. [*Footnote by Sir W. Scott*, White was the dress affected by those who crowded to see Monmouth in his western tour.]

b. *Irish Hist.* A member of a secret agrarian association formed in 1761: for the reason of the name see quot. 1762. Also *attrib.*

1762 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 84 Rioters..called Levellers.. likewise called White Boys, from their wearing shirts over their other cloaths, the better to distinguish each other by night. 1808– [see Right boys]. 1841 Madden *United Irishmen* I. 25 The Whiteboy disturbances..had no more connection with religious controversy than with the disputes between the Scotists and Thomists. Whiteboyism was an association against high rents and tithes. 1844 S. C. Hall *Ireland* II. 79 Ambrose Power Esq., was murdered on his own hearth by a party of Whiteboys. 1881 Dillon in *Standard* 25 Jan., It was..a relic of the Whiteboy days.

c. *transf.*

1768 H. Walpole *Let. to Strafford* 25 June, Those black dogs, the whiteboys or coal-heavers, are dispersed or taken. 1825 J. Neal *Brs. Jonathan* III. 290 Who knows but you are one o' the tories yourself; or one o' the whiteboys—or cow boys—or skinners.

Hence **Whiteboyism,** the principles or practices of the Irish Whiteboys (see 3 b).

1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 313 Till some step is taken in favour of tillage and the poor Whiteboyism will probably remain. 1842 [see 3 b]. 1893 *Times* 2 Oct. 3/6 Five men who had been sentenced at the Kerry Assizes in 1888,—for moonlighting and whiteboyism.

White bread. [Cf. MHG. *witzbrot*, G. *weissbrot*, LG. *witbrôd*, Du. *wittebrood.*] Bread of a light colour, made from fine wheaten flour, as distinguished from Brown bread.

13.. in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 354 Euerych bakere of þe town.. sholde make whitbred. *c* 1430 *Customs of Malton* in *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 62 No bakar yᵗ bakys qwhytte brede schall bake brown brede..nor be yᵗ bakys brown brede schall bake no qwhyte brede. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 34 Polerde wheate..is greatter corne, and wyll make whyte bread. 1598 *Epulario* D j b, Putting vnto it crums of Whitebread. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 836 Thou, that from Heav'n thy daily White-bread hast. 1794 Stedman *Surinam* (1813) II. xxv. 248 The white bread, fruit, and Spanish wines..I received as a present.

Whitecap, white-cap (hwaɪ·tkæp). [Cap *sb.*1]

1. Name for several birds having a white or light-coloured patch on the head (see quots.).

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 78 *Passeres..Montanus*..the White-Cap. 1674 T. Belt *Nat. Nicaragua* 138 The white-cap (*Microchæra parvirostris*, Lawr.), the smallest of thirteen different kinds of humming-birds that I noticed around Santo Domingo. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 13 Redstart..The male is called 'whitecap' in Shropshire, from its white forehead. *Ibid.* as Whitethroat.. (from its grey head)..Whitecap.

2. *pl.* Local name for species of mushroom.

1828 *Withering's Brit. Pl.* (ed. 6) IV. 289 *Ag[aricus] Georgii*...Gathered in abundance for the London— where they are sold as Mushrooms, but by the more discriminating country people called White caps. 1866 *Treas. Bot., White-caps*,..*Agaricus arvensis*..Horse Mushroom.

3. A white-capped or crested wave; a breaker.

1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 458 None, or very few white-caps (or waves whose tops turn over in foam) appeared. 1838 Asa Gray *Lett.* (1893) I. 92 We had a strong head wind..: the surface of the lake was covered with white-caps. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 373/1 Numerous reefs.. marked by white-caps where the ebb tide rushed over them.

4. A person wearing a white cap; *spec.* one of a self-constituted body in the United States who commit outrages upon persons under the pretence of regulating public morals.

1891 *Tablet* 13 June 941 The Lynchers in such cases are usually called white-caps, regulators, &c. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 May 2/3 A White Cap..disguises himself and performs his errands at night.

So **Whi·te-capped** (-kæpt) *a.*, wearing a white cap or caps; capped with foam, covered with white-crested waves.

1880 'Ouida' *Moths* iii, White-capped old women looked on. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 447/2 A white-capped sea. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 75 The whitecapped cavalry were caught unawares by French's brigade.

Whitechapel (hwaɪ·tʧæp'l). [Name of a district of London, inhabited chiefly by persons of low character.]

1. a. In various slang uses, mostly *attrib.* (see quots.).

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *White-chappel-portion*, two torn Smocks, and what Nature gave. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whitechapel bread*, fat, ragged, and saucy. *Whitechapel beau*, who dresses with a needle and thread, and undresses with a knife. 1860 *Slang Dict.*, *Whitechapel*, or Westminster Brougham, a costermonger's donkey-barrow. 1863 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xxv[iii], What is termed in Albion a 'Whitechapel shave' (and which is, in fact, whitening, judiciously applied to the jaws with the palm of the hand). 1865 *Slang Dict.*, *Whitechapel fortune*, a clean gown and a pair of pattens.

b. *attrib.* or *absol.* Applied to certain irregular or unskilful methods of play in whist and billiards: see quots. *colloq.*

1735 *Connoisseur* No. 60 P 5 They know no more of the game [*sc.* whist] than what is called White-Chapel play. 1847 Halliwell, *Whitechapel-play* [= *Bungay-play*, a simple straightforward way of playing the game of whist, by leading all the winning cards in succession, without endeavouring to make the best of the hand.] 1866 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. IX. 372/2 The Saying at Whist, when you play ace and king of a suit—'That is Whitechapel play'. *Ibid.* 440 All billiard players know, that when an adversary 'pockets' your ball, it is called 'Whitechapel play', the act of doing so being considered anything but etiquette. 1899 A. Mainwaring *Cut Cavendish* 12 Avoid the hateful 'Whitechapel', *i. e.* the lead from a single card.

2. *Whitechapel needle*: some particular make of needle; in quot. 1828 allusively. *U. S.*

1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 10 Aug. Suppl. 2/2 Whitechapel and Glovers needles. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 188 He had pricked his fingers with 'Gammer Gurton's needle', in buying a Whitechapel one. *Note*, A cant phrase for a counterfeited copy of this old play.

3. In full *Whitechapel cart*, a kind of light two-wheeled spring cart.

1842 J. Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 129 For a minister with a family, a whitechapel is, upon the whole, the best of the open conveyances...It carries six. 1859 *Carriage Builders' Art Jrnl.* I. 26/2 A light Whitechapel Cart, suitable to the use of a country gentleman. 1875 *Hints to Yng. Tandem Drivers* 6 Whitechapels (from the fact that the passengers

or any other vehicles.

4. as *adj.* Low, vulgar.

1902 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 7/5 The humiliation of the party by the Whitechapel scene of Tuesday.

Whitecoat (hwaɪ·tkoʊt). Also **white-coat,** † **white coat.**

1. A soldier wearing a white or light-coloured coat: cf. Buff-coat 2. (Also *attrib.*) *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* b. In modern times, an Austrian soldier.

1555 In Arb. *Garner* VIII. 60 A certain Band of White Coats..sent unto them from London. 1562 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 221 Yt appeareth a greate differens..betwene the excercised souldior and the rawe white coat. 1571 R. Bannatyne *Mem.* (Bann. Club) 91 Thare began flyting,.. 'Away blewcoate!' 'I defy the whytcoite!' 1605 Heywood *If you know not me* C 2, Enter three white-cote souldiers. 1632 — *Engl. Elis.* 113 For her guard two hundred Northern White Coates were appointed..to watch about her lodging. 1644 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. II. 634 The Marquess of Newcastle's Regiment of White Coats were almost wholly cut off for they scorned to fly. 1662 A. Cooper *Strategicks* VI. 115 In the main battail do our white Coats stand. 1840 Hon. Smith *Oliver Cromwell* II. 130 Newcastle with all his whitecoats.

b. 1867 Meredith *Let. to Mrs. F. Kess* 19 Nov., Verona.. is now less a City than a fortress. You see nothing but white coats—who form the majority of the inhabitants.

2. A young seal, having a coat of white fur; also the fur itself.

1792 G. Cartwright *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whitecoat*, a young seal, before it has cast its first coat, which is white and furry. 1892 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 6/2 The skin of the small harp seal..is of small value, being known as 'Whitecoat'.

Whited (hwaɪ·tɪd), *ppl. a.* Now *rare* or *arch.* I. [f. White *v.*1 + -ed 1.]

1. Covered or coated with white; *spec.* (*a*) plastered over with white, whitewashed, as a wall, building, etc.; now chiefly in the biblical phr. *whited sepulchre* (Matt. xxiii. 27) used allusively; † (*b*) of metal, tinned or silvered; also occas. *gen.*, e. g. of land covered with snow.

1340 *Ayenb.* 208 Huo þet is ybol of bodie and uoul ine herte is ase þe beriales yhuiled. 1388 Wyclif *Acts* xxiii. 3 Thanne Poul seide to hym, Thou whitid wal, God smyte thee. 1552 Huloet, Whyghted or paynted with white leade, *cerussatus.* 1645 Milton *Hor. Ed. 1. xvi.* 40 in *Tetrach.* 20 But his owne house, and the whole neighbourhood ____ is foule inside through his whited skin. 1669 Stubbe *Mariner's Mag.*, *Penalties & Forfeit.* 2 Iron Wyre, or whited Wyre, are forfeited if any such be Imported. 1732 Pope *Donne's Sat.* IV. 151 He tells..What Lady's face is not a whited wall. 1764 Dodsley *Leasowes* in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1777) II. 305 A whited village among trees. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* iv, This old whited sepulchre, society. 1867 Emerson *May-day* 104 The whited desert knew me not, Snow-ridges masked each darling spot.

2. Whitened by deprivation of colour; *spec.* bleached, as cloth; also, peeled so as to expose the white interior.

1529 *Dunmow Churches. MS.* lf. 10 b, xxv. ells of whytyd normvndy at vid the ell. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2814/4 A considerable quantity of Whited Linen. 1794 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XII. 139 About a load and a half whited oolers. 1897 P. Warung *Tales Old Regime* 205 John Donnell,..brown complexion,..whited raised spot on lower part of right eye.

† 3. *Whited brown* (of paper); whitish brown, whity-brown. *Obs.*

1720 *Lett. Lond. Jrnl.* (1721) 11 Having put up my Books [etc.] in a Sheet of whited-brown Paper. 1846 Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. vi. 18.

II. [f. White *sb.* 1 + -ed 2.]

4. Of an egg: Having white or albumen (of a specified kind). *rare*—1.

1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 66 Whited alike, and yellow yolked all.

White-ear, *sb.* and *a.* [Ear *sb.*1] a. *sb.* A gastropod resembling, or having some part resembling, a white ear; e.g. one of the family *Vanicoridæ*, having a white-ribbed shell with a wide opening. b. *adj.* White-eared.

1815 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 204 *Helix Halitoidea*, White-ear Snail; Venus's Ear. 1826 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XIII. ii. 57 White-Ear Owl. 1834 A. Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 133 White-Ears (*Vanicoridæ*).

So **Whi·te-eared** (-ɪəd) *a.*, having white ears; (of a bird) having white feathers around the ears.

1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 84 White-Eared Thr[ush].

White feather, in phr. *to show the white feather*, etc.: see Feather *sb.* 1 b. Hence **White-feather,** one who 'shows the white feather', a coward; **White-feathered** *a.*, *lit.* having white feathers; *fig.* 'showing the white feather', cowardly; **White-featherism** (*nonce-wd.*), cowardice.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *White feather*, he has a white feather, he is a coward, an allusion to a game cock, where having a white feather, is a proof he is not of the true game breed. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXVI. 56 According to the boxing phrase, shewed the white feather. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* ix, 'He has a white feather in his wing',..said Simon,..somewhat scandalised by his ready surrender. 1829– [see Feather *sb.* 1 b]. 1857 Borrow *Rom. Rye* xliii, Jack is a gentleman,..whilst t'other, though bred a lord, is a screw, and a *whitefeather. 1876 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 4 He was one of the *white-feathered sort. 1894 *Poultry Chron.* I. 49 All white-feathered poultry are tender, save Aylesbury ducks. 1843 [James] *Commissioner* iv. 59 That he might show as little *white featherism as possible.

Whitefieldian, Whitfieldian (hwaɪ·t-, hwɪ·tfɪldɪən), *sb.* and *a.* [f. proper name *Whitefield* or *Whitfield* + -ian.] a. *sb.* A follower of George Whitefield; a Calvinistic Methodist. b. *adj.* Of or belonging to George Whitefield or the Whitefieldians. So **Whit(e)fieldianism, Whi·t(e)fieldism,** the system or doctrines of the Whitefieldians; **Whi·t(e)fieldite,** a Whitefieldian.

1744 in G. T. S. Farquhar *Three Bps. Dunheld* (1915) I. xi. 94 He is looked upon by Lyon at Perth..as a Whitefieldian. 1748 *St. James' Even. Post* Oct., Hamburg,..A new set of Methodists (much like our Whitefieldites). 1788 *Told Li/e* 87, I treated him with ridicule and contempt, he being a Whitfieldite. 1879 Gladstone *Gleanings* VII. 224 Whitfieldism on the one hand, and the clericalism of the eighteenth century on the other. 1885 *Scribner's Mag.* XXX. 390/1 Puritanism, quakerism, and what may be comprehensively called Whitefieldism. 1915 G. T. S. Farquhar *Three Bps. Dunheld* I. xi. 94 A..discourse..upon the Christian doctrine of Justification (evidently intended to test his Whitefieldianism).

Whitefish (hwaɪ·tfɪʃ). Also **white-fish, white fish.** [Cf. Du. *witvisch* bleak, LG. *witfisk*, med. L. *albus piscis.*]

1. A general name for fishes of a white or light colour (esp. those having silvery scales without spots or ornamental colours), as cod, haddock, whiting, etc.

1466–9 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v, 301 Samon, beringe, hake, whitfisshe. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxxvii, This firth is richt plentuus of coclis, cotcels [etc.]..with grete plente of quhit fischis.

Drayton *Polyolb.* ix. 132 Those White-fish that in her [*sc.* Lin] doe wondrously abound, Are neuer seene in him [*sc.* Dee]; nor are his Salmons found At any time in her. 1705 [W. Paterson] *Counc. Trade* (1752) 28 The vast numbers of herring and white-fish in all our channels, inletts and lakes. 1767 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 133 Carshalto . . . abc . . ding with trouts and other white fishes. 1855 Kingsley *Heroes.* xxxi, The great pike . . sending the whitefish flying in shoals.

2. The Great Sturgeon (= Beluga 1); the White Whale (= Beluga 2).

1666 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 165 A Fisherman . . took a *Bielugu* or white-fish, which was above eight foot long, and above four broad. 1698 A. Brand *Emb. fr. Muscovy* 31 The Oby . . abounds in . . Sturgeon, Whitefish or Belluja's, and others. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 611 The White-fish are likewise in these Seas, like a Whale, but without Fins on the Back. 1792 G. Cartwright *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whitefish*, a fish of the Porpoise kind.

3. A common name for the fishes of the genus *Coregonus*, of the family *Salmonidæ*, found in the lakes of North America, and valued as food.

1748 [see Tittybag]. 1776 T. Hutchins *Top. Descr. Virginia* 47 Lake Erie has a great variety of fine fish, such as Sturgeon, Eel, White Fish. 1873 T. Gill *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 29 *Pomatomus saltatrix* . . . Blue-fish . . : white-fish and snap-mackerel (young). *Ibid.* 33 *Brevoortia menhaden* . . white-fish (Saybrook to Milford, Connecticut). 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 160a The famous *Coregonus albus*, or White Fish, of Canadian lakes.

Hence **White fisher**, one who catches white fish (sense 1); **White fishery, fishing**, the occupation of catching white fish.

1528 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 121 All the *quhit fischaris . . consentit to gif to thair chaplane . . xii d. in the yeir. 1601 *Ibid.* (1848) II. 217 Willeame Brabner, Patrik Huchoun, and

26 Mar. 3/3 The Committee have devised a *modus vivendi* by which the rights of the salmon fishers have been protected, and at the same time the rights of the white fishers have been established. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 168 Small vessels [employed] in the *White Fisheries. 1840 Blaine *Encycl. Rur. Sports* VIII. ii. 955 The British fisheries, which, besides the herring, embrace the cod, the ling, haddock, skate, halibut, turbot, &c. are collectively termed the white fishery. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 341/1 Cum *ile stelyeir*, halecum et salmonum piscationibus et *lie* *quhite-fischingis. 1703 J. Brand *Descr. Orkney*, etc. 79 Excelling any other place of the King of Brittan's Dominions for Herring, White and Grey Fishing. 1892 *Rpt. Solway White Fish. Comm.*, The white-fishing industry . . on the Scottish shores of the Solway Firth.

Whitefiaw, obs. var. Whitlow.

Whitefoot (hwəi·tfut), *sb.* (*a.*) [Cf. OE. *hwīt-fōt* adj.]

1. *Farriery.* A white marking on a horse's foot (see quot.); also, a horse with such a mark.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp.*, *White-Foot* . . called in French *Balzane*, is a white mark that happens in the feet of a great many horses, both before and behind, from the fetlock to the coffin.

2. Collectors' name for a species of moth.

1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* 161 The Whitefoot (*Stilosoma*) *fenella* . .). Wings . . dusky brown, . . with a large medial hook-shaped white band.

3. *Hist.* A member of a secret society in Ireland who committed murders and outrages about 1832. Pl. **whitefeet** (also irreg. used *attrib.*).

1832 in G. C. Lewis *Local Disturb. Irel.* (1836) 107, I find that the Whiteboy system has for the last sixty years continued under different names; as, Peep-o'-day-boys, . . Ribbon-men, the Lady Clares, the Terry Alts . . . Now we have the Whitefeet and Blackfeet. 1832 *Boston Herald* 6 Mar. 2 An armed party of Whitefeet paid the third visit to the house of the long-threatened Jeremiah Farrell. 1833 *Ibid.* 12 Mar. 3/6 James Jackman, a Whitefoot, for attacking the house of one Roche, and killing him, is to be hanged on Monday. 1886 *Irish Eccles. Gaz.* 4 Sept., The massacre of whitefeet men in the last days of that unfortunate secret society in the Queen's County.

B. *adj.* White-footed. *poet.*

1867 Morris *Jason* II. 359 White-foot Ino smiling, sat alone.

So **Whi·te-footed** *a.*, having white feet; **Whi·te-footism**, the practices of Irish whitefeet.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 602/32 *Petulus*, . . whyt foted *et dicitur de equo.* 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Chausse trop-haut*, A white-footed horse. 1787 in *Eliz. Carter's Lett.* 29 July (1809) II. 251 One of the prettiest little white-footed black cats . . you ever saw. 1792 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* 91 The white-footed Antelope or Nil-ghau. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* x, His white-footed nag. 1832 in G. C. Lewis *Local Disturb. Irel.* (1836) 77 If they continue suffering under hardships, . . Whitefootism will revive again.

White friar. [White *a.* 6 a.]

1. A Carmelite friar (whose habit is distinguished by a white cloak and scapular). Also, loosely, a Premonstratensian or White Canon.

1412 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 Willyam Cokar, than beande prouincial of the Quite Freris of Scotlande. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. ii. (1883) 88, I haue my self ben conuersant in a religious hous of white freris at gaunt which haue all thynge in comyn. *a* 1550 *Lynn Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 198 In this yere one william chysborow and a whyght fryere was hanged drawen and quartered. 1603 Stow *Surv.* 312 The white Fryers church in Fleetstreet. 1762 Br. Forbes *Jrnl.* (1886) 170 An Abbacy of *Premonstratenses*, or White Friars. 1766 [see Carmelite].

2. *pl.* The Carmelite convent in Fleet Street, London; hence, the district or neighbourhood in which it was.

[1] Having been formerly a sanctuary, it long retained the privilege of protecting persons liable to arrest, and thus became the resort of debtors . . and profligates' (Nares). Hence *attrib.*

1562 Awdelay *Fruit. Vocab.* (1869) 52 There came . . a Counterfet Cranke vnder my lodgynge at the whyte Fryares. 1609 B. Jonson *Silent Wom.* Prol., Cates . . fit for Ladies; . . Some for your waiting wench, and city-wives; Some for your men, and daughters of White-Fryars. 1620 Melton *Astrologaster* 36 Some of his White-Fryer Mistresses.

3. *colloq.* or *dial.* A flake or particle of white scum or froth floating on liquid.

1709 Swift *Direct. Serv.* i. (1745) 22 If the Cork be musty, or White Fryers in your Liquor. 1898 P. Kennedy *Banks Boro* xxv. 191 The white-friars came at last on the potatoes in the big pot: they then proceeded to boil.

White-gum[1]. [after Red gum[1], q.v.] An eruption of whitish spots with a red border (*Strophulus albidus*) incident to young children.

1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 81 Another species [of Red-gum] . . often of a pearl colour and opake, which has generally been accounted a kind of red gum, but it has of late been suggested might . . be termed the white-gum.

White-gum[2]. [Gum *sb.*[2] 5.] Any species of *Eucalyptus* with white or light-coloured bark. Also **White gum-tree.**

1827 P. Cunningham *Two Years in N. S. Wales* I. xii. 200 The red and white gums [so named] from their wood. 1827 *Trans. Linnæan Soc.* XV. 278 [The ground-parrot] chiefly breeds in a stump of a small White Gum-tree. 1892 *Argus* (Melbourne) 13 May, On the lower slopes [of the ranges] the bluegum trees become first commingled with trees locally designated whitegum and black butt.

White-haired, *a.* [Cf. ON. *hvíthærr*, *-hærðr*.] Having white or hoary hair, esp. from age. Also, covered with white hairs or down, as a plant.

210 To two white-haired people . . f. 84. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 605 *Bryum canescens* . . leaves . . white haired at the ends. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lxii, The white-haired gentleman's affection for the girl. 1865 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, A sweet gravity about her . . as charming in her white-haired age as in her fair youth!

Whitehead[1] (hwəi·thed), *a.* and *sb.* (In earlier use as a personal name, e.g. *Jon Hwitheaved* (1332 in *Lit. Cantuar.*, Rolls, I. 458).)

A. *adj.* = White-headed. *rare.*

1577 Wolton *Cast. Christians* E viij, Graue and whyteheadde Fathers. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 162 White-head waves.

B. *sb.* †**1.** *app.* A white head-dress. *Obs.*

1587 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 31 Parys heades . . . Whiteheades for gentlewoemen attendaunte uppon the mourners.

2. A name for various species of birds having the head (wholly or partly) white: see quots.

1686 Blome *Gentl. Recreat.* II. 37/1 Partridges; the first, when newly hatched, are called White-heads. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 52/2 Two other small birds from New Zealand, where they are known as the 'Whitehead' and 'Yellow-head', were referred to the genus, under the names of *O[rthonyx] albic[ap]illa* and *O. ochrocephala*.

3. A West Indian feverfew, *Parthenium Hysterophorus.*

1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788.

Whitehead[2]. A kind of torpedo, invented by Robert Whitehead.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Nov. 5/2 A blow with even an ordinary Whitehead, let alone the improved Whitehead of the German navy, would practically rip the bottom out of the strongest ship afloat. 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* v. 54 Fancy a Whitehead smitten on the nose by one little shell. You'd go up.

White-headed (hwəi·theədĕd), *a.*

1. Of an animal: Having the head (wholly or partly) white; having white hair, plumage, etc. on the head.

(Freq. in specific designations of various birds.)

1529 in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 21 On white whiteheded. 1547 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 33 One whitheaded calff. 1765 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* II. 296. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 192 White-headed Woodpecker.

2. Of a person: White-haired, esp. from age; also, having very light or fair hair, flaxen-haired.

1815 Scott *Guy M.* I, A great white-headed, bare-legged, lubberly boy of twelve years old. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxv, A small white-headed boy with a sunburnt face. 1886 Tennyson *Locksley Hall 60 Yrs. after* 38 This old white-headed dreamer.

b. In Irish colloq. use, with *boy*: Favourite, darling: cf. White *a.* 9 and White boy 1.

1820 Maturin *Melmoth* I, He was always her 'white-headed boy', she said,—(*imprimis*, his hair was as black as jet). 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* II. xi, He was always my white-headed boy, and I stuck to him with life.

3. Of a wave: White-capped, white-crested; also of a sea covered with such waves.

1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* viii, An angry, white-headed sea. 1909 E. Phillpotts in *R. P. A. Ann.* (1910) 10 The riotous march of mad, white-headed waves.

White-heart, *sb.* and *a.*

1. *sb.* In full *white-heart cherry* (for *white heart-cherry*; cf. *black-heart* s.v. Black *a.* 19): A light-coloured variety of cultivated cherry.

1722 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 143 The May-duke, White-hart, Black-Orleance and the Morella. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xxvi, The blackbirds eating our white-heart cherries.

2. *adj.* Having a white or light-coloured 'heart'.

1900 *Daily Express* 25 Apr. 6/4 Fine white-heart lettuces.

White heat. [Heat *sb.* 1 c.] That degree of heat or temperature (higher than *red heat*) at which metals and some other bodies radiate white light; the state of being white-hot.

1720 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *White* or *Flame Heat*; is a Degree of Heat given by Smiths to their Iron . . : This is a less Heat than a Welding Heat. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 337 If a bar of iron or steel, at a white heat, be rubbed with a roll of sulphur, the two bodies combine, . . forming sulphuret of iron. *c* 1865 Lethbey in *Circ. Sci.* I. 89/2, 2000° (or an incipient white-heat).

b. *fig.* A state of intense or extreme emotion.

1839 Syd. Smith *Ballot* 8 There are politicians always at a white heat. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 148 Carlyle is one of the natures, rare in these latter centuries, capable of rising to a white heat. 1883 W. H. Bishop *Ho. Merch. Pr.* xix. (1885) 292 There was a vixenish quality in her anger when at white heat.

White horse.

1. The figure of a white horse: see Horse *sb.* 23. Also as the sign, and hence the name, of an inn.

1647 in Nightingale *Ejected & 1662* II. 909 Send one of Yor servants to the White horse wthout Cresple gate.

2. A crested wave: see Horse *sb.* 23 b.

1849 Kingsley *Let.* in *Life* vii. (1879) I. 168 The bay is now curling and writhing in white horses under a smoking south-wester. 1888 Rider Haggard *Mr. Meeson's Will* v, Looking at the 'white horses' chasing each other across the watery plain.

3. Local name for a species of ray (fish).

1710 Sibbald *Hist. Fife* 52 *Raia aspera*, the White Horse.

4. The West Indian shrub *Portlandia grandiflora* (N. O. *Rubiaceæ*), with large white flowers, cultivated in hot-houses.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1232/1.

5. A tough sinewy substance lying between the upper jaw and junk of a sperm-whale.

1874 C. M. Scammon *Marine Mammals* 312.

6. *Mining.* (*local.*) See quot. and Horse *sb.* 11.

1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *White horse*, intruded white trap in a coal seam.

White-hot, *a.* Also white hot (now *rare*). Heated to such a degree as to radiate white light; at white heat.

1820 Shelley *Œd. Tyr.* II. i. 172 Innocent Queens o'er white-hot ploughshares tread Unsinged. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 299 Even bright red hot fuel will cool a white hot crucible. 1872 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 30 To display all these colours at the same time the wire must be white-hot.

b. *transf.* (rhetorically): Very bright and hot.

1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) II. 38 Cool and dim, after the white-hot sunshine.

c. *fig.*: cf. White heat b and Red-hot 2.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 552/1 You occasionally turn white-hot. 1890 Le Gallienne *G. Meredith* 73 Not Carlyle himself had a more white-hot hatred of 'simulacra'.

White iron. [= med.L. *album ferrum*, F. *fer-blanc* tin-plate.] **a.** Tinned iron, tin-plate. **b.** Cast iron of a silvery colour containing a large proportion of carbon in combination.

1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 155, vj mesouris of quhite irne for the hagbutis charge. 1632, 1748, 1882 [see Iron *sb.*[1] 9]. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1232 The only alloy of iron interesting to the arts, is that with tin, in the formation of tin-plate, or white iron.

c. *attrib.* †**white-iron man, smith**, a tinsmith.

1732 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1883) V. 528 Spurriers, gunsmyths, whiteiron smytha. 1765 Watt in Muirhead *Invent. Watt* (1854) I. 13 My old white-iron man [*footn.*, *Anglicé*, tin-man] is dead. 1785 Boswell *Hebrides* 19 Aug., James Hood, White Iron Smith. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxiii, Deacon Clank, the white-iron smith.

White lead, *sb.* [Lead *sb.*[1] Cf. L. *plumbum album* (in class. L. = tin), OF. *blanc plomb*.] A compound of lead carbonate and hydrated oxide of lead, much used as a white pigment; also called Ceruse.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 Whyte led, or blanke plumbe. *c* 1450–1844 [see Lead *sb.*[1] 2]. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* xiii. (1906) 131 Your flesh-colour is commonly compounded of white lead, lake, and vermilion. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 410 White Lead, is the principal ingredient used in house-painting. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xviii. (1842) 487 White lead ground up with oil, when spread upon slips of cloth, is very useful for making joints tight.

b. *attrib.*: **white lead ore**, native carbonate of lead, cerussite.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4216/4 The White Lead-House at Rotherhith. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 203 White Lead ore. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 179 The box . . is put together with white-lead joints, as these are perfectly water-tight.

Hence **White-lead** *v.*, *trans.* to cover or impregnate with white lead.

1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* I. 12 White-leaded and varnished the boat. 1882 Nelson & Kemp *Pract. Boat Bldg.* 1. 55 A piece of Stockholm tarred or white-leaded paper.

†**Whitelewe**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. White *a.* + -lewe.] = Whitely *a.*

1465, etc. [see quot. 1398[2] s.v. Whitely *a.*].

White lime, white-lime, *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [Lime *sb.*[1]] Lime mixed with water as a coating for walls, etc.; whitewash. Also *attrib.*

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* c j b, A playster made of Auripigmentum, Brymstoone, whyte lyme, and Sope, myngled to gether. *a* 1638 Cleveland *Plat. Lover* iv. Wks. (1687) 212 Pictures might court each other and exchange Their white-lime Looks. 1824 Southey *Sir T. More* I. 173 The old cottages..Substantially built of the native stone.. dirtied with no white-lime.

So **Whi·te-lime** *v. Obs.* or *dial.*, *trans.* to coat or cover with white lime; to whitewash; hence **White-limed** (-laimd) *ppl. a.*, **White-liming** *vbl. sb.*; also **White-limer**, one who white-limes, a whitewasher.

13.. *Life of Jesus* (Horstm.) 422 Þe rouse þat booth without *I3witlimede and iplanede faire,..And withlone tulle of caroyne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 111 Ypocrysie..is lykned..to a wal þat were whitlymed and were foule wythinne. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Suche medleynge is..nedeful..to pargette and whitelyme walles. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 54 Alle churches new whytte-lymed, with the commandmenttes wryttyne on the walles. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xxvii. 2 The Iewes are commanded, To gather great stones, & to white-lime them ouer. 1620 *Balliol Coll. Oxf. Acc.* (MS.) Item for lyme, and the laborers woork, to whytlym the Hall, xvi*d*. 1634 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 13 The great church.. most daintily..white-limed. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 98 Ye..shallow harted Boyes, Ye *white-limb'd [*sic*]walls. 1624 Donne *Serm., Matt. iii.* 17 (1640) 426 If we be not onely *Dealbati Christiani*, (as S. Augustine speaks) White-lim'd Christians, Christians on the out-side. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* i. i. § 13 As white-limed houses exceed those which are only rough-cast. 1662 Cotgr., *Pinceau*,..a *Whitelimers Brush. 1620 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 121 Hayre, such as the whitelymers use. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 *Whytlymynge, *calcificacio*. 1547–8 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 275 To Lytchefeelde for whitelymynge of the same. 1611 Cotgr., *Blanche*,..whiting or whitelliming.

White line, white-line, *sb.*

1. *Anat.* a. (tr. L. *linea alba*.) A longitudinal band of tendinous tissue extending from the sternum to the pubis. b. A whitish band in the pelvic fascia extending from the symphysis pubis to the spine of the ischium.

1598 Florio, *Linda abba* [*sic*], the line or hollow tying from the nauell, the white line, the vmbelicall veine. *c* 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Guide* i. ii. (1722) 6 The white Line.. is..a tendinous Substance, form'd by the Endings of such of those Muscles as meet..in it. 1874 Heath *Anat.* (ed. 3) 286 'White line' of pelvic fascia.

2. *Printing.* A line left blank between two lines of type.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 7 That no Letters or Spaces lye in the White-lines of the Form. 1770 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 250 Open matter, with leads and white-lines between.

3. a. = Bobbin *sb.*[1] 2. b. An untarred 'line' or rope (cf. White *a.* 2 a, quots. 1769, 1846).

1824 J. F. Cooper *Pilot* xxvi. III. 35 'Bobbin, or white-line; they are the same thing,' added the young trader. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Line, White-line*, that which has not been tarred.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (with hyphen) = *white-lined* (see below).

1869 Newman *Brit. Moths* 330 The White-line Dart (*Agrotis Tritici*)... There is generally a sinuous line or interrupted series of linear spots parallel with the hind margin.

So **White-lined** *a.*

1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* Index 285/1 White-lined Black. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 478/1 Rolled and white-lined for the game [of tennis].

White-liver. ? *Obs.* [White *a.* 5.] A 'white-livered' person, coward, dastard; 'a flatterer' (Jam. 1825).

1618 Bp. Hall *Contempl.* ix. *Gideon's Prep.* 103 Oh thou white liuer! doth but a foule word, or a frowne scarre thee from Christ? 1673 Hickeringill *Greg. Fr. Greyb.* 207 Milk-sops, dastards and white-livers.

White-livered (-aid), *a.* Having (according to an old notion, still surviving locally) a light-coloured liver, supposed to be due to a deficiency of bile or 'choler', and hence of vigour, spirit, or courage; feeble-spirited, cowardly, dastardly.

1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) F j b, What white lyuered Cities hath not only not withstande them, but also with shame fauoured them. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iii. ii. 34 For Bardolph, hee is white-liuer'd, and red-fac'd: by the means whereof a' faces it out, but fights not. 1640 Harsnet *Gods Summons* 154 Assurance of victory puts courage .. into the most white-livered, and fearful souldier. 1720 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 21 A white liver'd, sneaking, mean-spirited..Fellow. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* li, A double-faced, white-livered, sneaking spy. 1888 Mrs. H. Ward *Robt. Elsmere* xviii, No need to be white-livered, but every need..to take no hasty needless offence.

Whitelow, obs. form of Whitlow.

Whitely (hwəi·tli), *a.* Now only *Sc.* Forms: 4 **whitliche**, 4, 7 **whitly**, 6 **whitlie**, **whytley**, **whytely**, 5– **whitely**; *Sc.* 5 **quhitlie**, 6 **quhitly**, **quhytly**, **quhittlie**. [f. White *a.* + -ly [1].] Whitish; pale; light-complexioned, 'fair'.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iv. ix. (Tollem. MS.), [A phlegmatic man is] whitly in face, ferful of herte. *Ibid.* xi. vi, Ranene bridden while þey ben whitliche [*ed.* 1495 whitlew, 1535 whitelowe, 1582 whitlewe] in feþeris, or þey ben blake. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) iii, A Bucke is a diuerse beste; he hath nought his beer as an hert, for he is more whitely. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 214 Four pickis steidis full different of hew,..The second steid.. Quhittis and pall. 1540 Recorde *Urin. Physick* x. (1652) 82 If..the colour of the garland [of the urine] be white, or whitely, it is a token full of good hope. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 17 He was fair and quhittlie. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iii. i. 198 A whitly wanton, with a velvet brow, With two pitch balls..for eyes. *c* 1646 Howell *Lett.* ii. xxii. (1890) 414 Those whitely Stars.. Which make the Milky-Way. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* ii. 242 You have his whitely Look. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 112 Whitely things are ay tender. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* May 65, I know him by his whitely eyes.

Comb. 1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) e iij, A flematike person is whytly coloured: the colerike is browne and tawny. 1588 *Cert. Advert. out of Irel.* B 3, The Prince of Ascule was a slender made man..whitely faced. 1636 *Mercurius Politicus* No. 330 Flaxen haired, whitely faced.

Whitely (hwəi·tli), *adv.* [f. White *a.* + -ly [2].] So as to be or appear white; with a white colour or aspect.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxvi. (Tollem. MS.), Amonge all starres Venus schineþ most comfortabely and whitly. 1611 Cotgr., *Candidement*, whitely, fairely, in white. 1818 Keats *Endym.* i. 626 See her hovering feet, More bluely vein'd,..more whitely sweet Than those of sea-born Venus. 1844 Browning *Laboratory* i, These faint smokes curling whitely. 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* i, A whitely shining oval of still water.

Whitely, var. Quitely *adv.*

White man. Also †white-man, whiteman.

†1. A man clothed in white: cf. White *a.* 6. In quot. 1691, a surpliced chorister. *Obs. rare.*

1691 [see Whiteboy 2]. 1693 *D'Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Orders* xix. 216 Of the Order of the White Men. In the year 1399,..a certain Priest, came down from the Alpes into Italy,..Cloathed all in White,..great crouds both of Men and Women..followed him, and took White Cloaths likewise on their Backs.

2. A man belonging to a race having naturally light-coloured skin or complexion: chiefly applied to those of European extraction: see White *a.* 4.

1695 Motteux tr. *St.-Olon's Morocco* 12 [The Moors of Tetuan] are White-men, pretty well Civiliz'd. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 96 The centinels..perceiving that I was a whiteman, ventured to hail me. 1825 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 164 We white men have been spoiled by education; we have been taught to think many things necessary that you red men can do well without. 1904 Hazeldine (*title*) The White Man in Nigeria.

b. orig. *U.S. slang.* A man of honourable character such as one associates with a European (as distinguished from a negro): see White *a.* 4 b.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 913/1 You've behaved to me like a white man from the start. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 June 5 Tricoupis the President is a white man—an extremely white man.

White meat, whitemeat. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (Also with hyphen.) [White *a.* 2, Meat *sb.* 2. Cf. MSw. *hvitmater* pl. (Sw. *vitmat*).] a. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* Foods prepared from milk; dairy produce (occas. including eggs).

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 661/12 *Hoc lacticinium*, wyttemet. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 84 Þe most fast from all maner flesch mete and whyt-mete. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 129/1 Without etyng fyssahe ne mylke egges or whyte mete. 1538 Fitzherbert in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 216 Concernyng forbyddyng of whytmeates in Lente. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 148 The olde wryters doo teache the making of a kinde of white meate, not much vnlike to Welcurdes. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cxciii. 150 A thirde kinde of meats, which is neither fishe nor fleshe, commonly called white meates, as egges, milke, butter, cheese. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* iii. 148 The Cowes.. with large vdders, yeelding plenty of whitmeates. 1620 Brent tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* i. 4 Giuing..power to eate egges and whitmeats on fasting dayes. 1796 Bp. G. Hay in *Ushaw Mag.* Dec. (1913) 286 In those countries where people have nothing else to eat with their bread but whitemeats; these are more or less permitted in Lent itself: and in some places Eggs also. 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Gloss.*

b. *pl.* Certain white or light-coloured flesh foods (see quot. 1877).

1752 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) II. 233 Pray leave off..your ..pastry, fat creams, and..dumplings; and then you need not confine yourself to white meats, which I do not take to be one jot wholesomer than beef, mutton, and partridge. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., White meats*, the flesh of lamb, veal, and rabbits,..chickens, pheasants, and partridges.

c. *attrib.*

1721 N. Blundell *Diary* (1895) 175 April 25th. It being a White-Meat day I dined at a Table by myself at the Swan.

d. as *adj.* (*fig.*) Mean, pusillanimous.

? *a* 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Four Plays* (1647) 33/1 Sirha, sirha, this whitmeat-spirit's not yours.

White monk. [White *a.* 6 a: cf. White friar.] A Cistercian monk: so called from the colour of the habit of undyed wool.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 31 He made Baldewyn þe whyte monk archbisshop of Caunterbury. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6695 These chanoures regulers Or white monkes or these blake. 1527 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 7 Seynt Elyn.. lith in a fayer place of religion of whith monks. *c* 1650 Ridpon *Surv. Devon* § 136. (1810) 152 Duke Alfred erected a fair abbey for white monks of the order of Cistercians. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 566.

Whiten (hwəi·t'n), *v.* Also 5 **qwhittyn**, 5, 9 *dial.* **whitten**, 6 **whyten**, **whyghten**. [f. White *a.* + -en [5]. Cf. ON. *hvítna* to become white.]

1. *trans.* To make or render white; to impart a white colour or appearance to.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* [*illegible*] And quier seawes sal I *albe*,..*candefacta*. [*illegible*] with foam a thousand streams.

crown. 1693 Dryden *Blenh. Ho.* xxxiv, Take care, you are young, that you can think in these days, 'I never whitened a hair of her dear head.' 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* i, The sea whitened by the rushing of the wind.

b. To cover, coat, or overspread with something white; *spec.* to whitewash; to coat (metal) with tin, to tin.

Also said (chiefly *pass.* or *refl.*) of a white substance or a number of white objects covering or spread over a surface.

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* ii. ix. 95 Of qwhome sum þer fowines to hyde or þer bawte þa study to increase with payntynge of begillynge avotre þer faces þa color & qwhittyn. 1884 in W. O. Blunt *Ch. Chester-le-Street* (1884) 96 For whitning the church four pound ten shillings. 1887 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* ii. 88 In this Countrey of Persia,..they whiten, or if you will, tinn, brass and copper otherwise than with us. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* i. i. 6 To put it [*sc.* a pin-head] on, is a peculiar business, to whiten the pins is another. 1874 J. Birch *Country Archit.* 44 Lath, plaster, float, set and twice whiten all ceilings throughout. 1892 Hardy *Tess* li, I shall get the house swept out and whitened to-morrow morning.

1703 Pope *Thebais* 391 Where..human bones yet whiten all the ground. 1729 Young *Busiris* i. i, Sails unnumber'd whiten all the stream. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxv, Meadows, whitened with the numerous tents of the Duke of Burgundy's army. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxi. 335 The mountains, whitened with snow, were swept by the bleak winds of winter.

c. To make white by depriving of the natural colour; to blanch; to bleach; to make pale.

1693 Evelyn *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 148 To tie up ..the tops of the Leaves of Long Lettuce..to make them Cabbage, or at least to whiten them. 1726–31 Waldron *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 13 A good air to whiten cloth. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* viii. 90 Fear whiten'd every cheek. 1791 Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. i. iii. 51 Oxygen is capable of whitening..the colouring matter. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 767 (*Leather*) The effects of the paste are to whiten the skins, to soften them, and to protect them from the hardening influence of the atmosphere. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* vi. xii, I've got cloth as has never been whitened.

d. *fig.* To free or clear from evil, guilt, or the like; also, to cause to seem right, good, pure, etc.; to give a specious appearance to.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 123 He went & shrafe hym of all his synys. .. And onone as he come in, þis man .. said; 'A! welcom, frend! com ner, for þou hase wele whittend þe.' [1667 *Observ. Burning Lond.* 10 And which are never true but by a supposition that if they doe not happen in our Countrey, they may happen in another, which is called to Whiten Black.] 1679 Burnet *Hist. Ref.* I. Pref. (c) 2 b, Such remarkable blemishes, that..no man..can go about the whitening them. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* i. 44 The bristl'd Baptist Boar, impure as He, (But whitn'd with the foam of sanctity). 1873 H. Spencer *Study Sociol.* ix. (1877) 200 By selecting the evidence any society may be relatively blackened, and any other society relatively whitened.

2. *intr.* To become or turn white; to assume a white colour or aspect; *vaguely*, to appear white.

a 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* 943 Thornes whiten yet doe nothing. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 451 They [*sc.* Cardons Spanish] whiten in about three Weeks and are fit to eat. 1720 Pope *Iliad* xxi. 382 A Foam whitens on the purple Waves. 1725 — *Odyss.* ix. 160 The sea whitens with the rising gale. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 152 When heated, it hardens and whitens. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* xvi, Let his corpse remain unburied, and his bones whiten in the wind! 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* i. ii, Willows whiten, aspens quiver,..By the island in the river. 1853 Longf. tr. *Dante, Purgat.* xvi. 143 Behold the dawn,.. Already whitening. 1914 'Ian Hay' *Knt. on Wheels* xiv, His hair was whitening.

b. To turn pale, esp. from fear or other emotion. (Cf. Redden *v.* 2 b.)

1763 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 190 All the human species, in general, whitens in the snow, and is tanned in the sun. 1821 Shelley *Ginevra* 66 The cheek that whitens. 1880 Rhoda Broughton *Second Thts.* iii. iv, 'I am very glad to hear it,' he says almost inaudibly, and whitening.

c. *fig.*: cf. 1 d.

1758 H. Walpole *Catal. Roy. Authors* (1759) I. 172 What character that he has censured, has whitened by examination. 1821 S. & Ht. Lee *Cant. T.* V. 90 It..bids us whiten by a comparison with the imperfections of others.

Hence Whitened (hwəi·t'nd), *ppl. a.*

a 1721 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Post. Wks. 1721 I. 4 Patin and Chalice were of whiten'd Clay. 1880 Froude *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 37 The sunlight stared in white and stainless upon the whitened aisles; the churches were new whitelimed. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* ii. (1889) 18 That peculiar whitened appearance left when water has passed over vegetation. 1881 — *Wood Magic* II. iv. 99 In his rage and fear, with whitened face.

Whiten, obs. or dial. f. Whiting *sb.* and *vbl. sb.*

Whitener (hwəi·t'nəɹ). [f. Whiten *v.* + -er [1].]

1. One who whitens, in any sense; *spec.* a person employed in bleaching or other whitening process.

1611 Cotgr., *Blanchisseur*,..a whitener of clothes. 1699 *Crompton's Jurisd.* 179 No tawer or whitener of skins shall remain in the forests. *c* 1700 Kennett *MS. Lansd.* 1033 *Bleacher*, a whitener or whitester of linnen. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VII. lxxxiv, 291 A partial whitener of his own cause, or blackener of another's. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1884) 45 Pin Maker..Whitener. 1894 *Daily News* 13 Nov. 7/1 Walter Wells, a silver-plater, in the employment of Messrs. Elkington,..Frank Maylor, whitener and repairer, employed by Messrs. Elkington.

2. A thing that whitens; *spec.* a substance or agent used for whitening, bleaching, etc.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* i. ii. 6 Wind is a Dryer,..Frost a Co[illegible] Dryer, a Whitener.

-ness (hwəi·t'nės). Also (with shortened root-vowel) 5 **whitt-**, **whytnesse**, 5–6 **whitnesse**.

[OE. *hwitnes*: see WHITE *a.* and *-NESS.*] The quality or condition of being white; white colour or appearance.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7 Seo readnes þære rosan lixeþ on þe, & seo hwitnes þære lilian scineþ on þe. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. lv. 60 The fayre blosme..whos whyteues passyd the snowe. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 47 þe wondes haþ hardnes wiþ whitenes and redenes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 416/2 Whitnesse, *albedo*. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 30 The webbe is layde out in the hote Sunne, .. whereby it is brought to a passing whitenesse. 1598 GREENE *Greene's Vis.* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 209 The whitenesse of their haires bewrayed the number of their dayes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. iii. 623 The brightnesse of the Starres and whitenesse of the snow, not suffering them to be quite forlorne in darkenesse. *a* 1650 NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 98 Temper them with white lead to what whytnes you please. 1786 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 52 Salts of different degrees of purity and whiteness. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. (1842) 648 Heat a little chloride of silver..to whiteness. 1887 F. M. CRAWFORD *Saracinesca* iii. His very dark eyes and complexion made more noticeable by the dazzling whiteness of his hair.

b. Of the human skin or face: †(*a*) Lightness or fairness of complexion, (*b*) Paleness, pallor.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xv. lxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Gallia. haþ þat name..of whitenes of men for Gallia is grewe and is to menynge mylke. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. viii. 119 Their beautie, whitenesse,..and shamefast grace. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 68 The whitenesse in thy Cheeke Is apter then thy Tongue, to tell thy Errand. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 389 The white men.. lose their whiteness and become brown or red. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers*, His cheeks were colourless, even to whiteness. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* vii, It was no blush now, but a dead waxen whiteness, that came over the beautiful face.

c. quasi-*concr.* A white substance or part of something.

1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Tobit II. 10 A whitenes came in mine eies, & I went to the phisicians who helped me not. 1590 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1170 A purple flowre..checkred with white, Resembling well his pale cheekes, and the blood, Which..vpon their whitenesse stood. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* iv. § 10. 360 Those Creatures that live amongst the snowes..turne white with their..conversation with such perpetual whitenesses. 1652 FRENCH *Distill.* I. 34 These Rinds must be fresh, and (the inward whiteness being separated) be bruised. 1885 'F. ANSTEY' *Vice Versâ* v. [To a barber.] Do you not swathe them in the garb of humiliation, and daub their countenances with whiteness? 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* ix. 79 The water-lilies lifted their pure whiteness to the..sunbeams.

d. *fig.* Purity, stainless character or quality.

1535 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 285 Sope, though it be blacke, soileth not the clothe,..so doth the blacke crosse helpe vs to more whitenes. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 181 To vindicat the whitenes and the innocence of this divine Law, from the calumny it findes. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess., Horace* III. i. 3 To Virgin Minds, which yet their Native whiteness hold,..these truths I tell. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lvii, He had kept The whiteness of his soul. 1884 HARROP *Bolingbroke* I. 44 Such ..was the whiteness of his record in this respect.

Whitening (hwəi·t'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHITEN *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action, or a process, of making white; bleaching, whitewashing, tinning, etc.; also *fig.* Also, the fact or process of becoming white.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. xi. II. 403 An artificiall devise to make spunges looke white;..if the softest..be..bathed.. in the fome of salt; after which they ought to be laid abroad in the moon-shine,..that thereby they may take their whitening. 1705 ADDISON *Italy*, etc. 489 They have..great Commodities for Whitening [= bleaching]. 1713 *Guardian* No. 109 P 6 Our Faces debar us from all artificial Whitenings. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 956 Pin manufacture..9. Whitening or tinning. 1854 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* (1882) 34 Whitening of the seams—a disagreeable vestiarian phenomenon produced by the surface..of the cloth being rubbed off. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xi. § 2. 773 After another scraping on the flesh side, or whitening, it [*sc.* the skin] is ready to be stored away. 1877 *Paper hanger* etc. 69 If the ceiling is a new one, prime with water, soft soap, and a little lime before whitening. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* II. 402 That popular agitation, that first whitening of the waves for the storm of the Anti-Napoleonic Revolution. 1891 *Athenæum* 26 Dec. 870/2 It goes too far in its blackening of Macbeth and in its whitening of Lady Macbeth.

2. *concr.* = WHITING *vbl. sb.* 4.

1710 LADY G. BAILLIE *Housek. Bk.* (S.H.S. 1911) 84 For whittining to the wals 12. 3d. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 89 Derbyshire stone, whitening and plaister of Paris. 1906 'G. TRAVERS' *Growth* I. 3 The smell of moisture and bathbrick and whitening.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1797 MRS. D'ARBLAY *Diary, Let. to Mrs. Francis* 16 Nov., The silver of our plated [spoons] having feloniously made off under cover of the whitening-brush. 1820 *Hull Advertiser* 7 June 2/3 The warehouses, whitening-house,..whitening and painting mills. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* XXXIV. 304 Jenny..was..whitewashing the lintels of the lower windows with an old hearth-brush; her whitening-pot was a handless and cripple tureen. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Whitening-machine*, a machine for removing the red skin or cuticle from the grain of rice.

Whitening, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That whitens; making or becoming white.

1642 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 143 The bleaching, whitening,.. cleansing quality of Christs blood. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. lv, Made not by scorching but by whitening light. 1704 POPE *Spring* 19 Two Swains..Pour'd o'er the whitening vale their fleecy care. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* *Watcher by Threshold*, etc. 88 My whitening face must have told them a tale.

Whi·te-pot, whi·tepot. Also 6–7 whitpot. [POT *sb.*1 1 b.] A dish made (chiefly in Devonshire) of milk or cream boiled with various ingredients, as eggs, flour, raisins, sugar, spices, etc.; a kind of custard or milk-pudding. Also *attrib.*

1577 BATMAN *Golden Bk. Leaden Gods* 30 Hee is caried on the Backes of foure Deacons, after the maner of carying Whytepot Queenes, in Westerne Mayganes. 1598 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xiv. 468 The meale of Bockewheate is vsed..to make pappe, whitpottes and..cakes of light digestion. 1599 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) A ij b, Some auncient familiaritie betweene a western fellow, and a whitpot. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* Wks. I. 146 The Norfolk Dumplin, and the Deuonshire White-pot. 1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* v. viii, Ha' you any Whitpots? 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. iv. 19 They served in this whitepotmeat to him in a huge great Bell. 1708 W. KING *Cookery* (1709) 75 Cornwal Squab-Pye, and Devon White-Pot brings, And Lei'ster Beans and Bacon. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 79 A Rice White-Pot. ——) HARDY *Trumpet-Major* xvi, Seventy rings of black-pot, a dozen of white-pot, and twenty-five knots of tender..chitterlings.

Whiteret, var. WHITRET, weasel.

Whi·te-skin, *a.* and *sb.*

A. *adj.* ? Having or resembling a white skin.

1634 QUARLES *Mildriades* xv. The coorsegrain'd Lockrom, and the white-skin Lawne Are both subjected to the selfe-same Fate. 1823 JAS. KENNEDY *Poems* 85 (E.D.D.) Wauking some wife's white skin blankets, Or some flannel for her douf.

B. *sb.* A white-skinned man, a white man. (Cf. *redskin.*)

1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xiv, 'Twould have been..an inhuman act for a white-skin; but 'tis the..natur' of an Indian. 1874 BLEEK in *Folklore* (1919) XXX. 155 The red Bushman looks down upon the black-man quite as much as any orthodox white skin does.

Whitesmith 1 (hwəi·t,smiþ). [Cf. WHITE *a.* 2 b, and BLACKSMITH.] **a.** A worker in 'white iron'; a tinsmith. **b.** One who polishes or finishes metal goods, as distinguished from one who forges them; also, more widely, a worker in metals.

1302 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls* 50 John son of John le Whytesmith. 1628 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1735/4 Joseph Carles of Birmingham in the County of Warwick White-Smith, having ..received several Edge-Tools to be mended. *a* 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* III. (1710) 2 For not a White-Smith nor a Black, Could frame such things as he would lack. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), *Swindon, Staff.*..is one of those places which have blade-mills, where scythes, axes, reaping-hooks, &c. after being prepared for it by the white-smiths, are ground to a fine edge. 1826 SCOTT *Prov. Antiq.* 104 He was a white-smith, and published various lucubrations under the title of the Tinclarian Doctor. 1833 [see below]. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 603 The brass was sometimes served out to the whitesmith to be manufactured. 1886 FENN *Pastimes Wins* xii, I arn't a blacksmith, I'm a whitesmith, and work in steel.

Hence **Whi·tesmithery,** the occupation of a whitesmith.

1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 124 A modern whitesmithery establishment generally comprises the..conveniences requisite for the production of every description of work, from what is called blacksmithing..to..machine-making or engineering...A first-rate whitesmith is not only required to understand generally the qualities of common iron and steel, and the methods of..working them; he must likewise have a competent knowledge of the principles of mechanical science.

Whi·tesmith 2. [f. WHITE *a.* + the surname of Sir William Sidney *Smith* (1764–1840).] A variety of gooseberry with white fruit.

1860 R. HOGG *Fruit Man.* 89 Whitesmith (Woodward's). ..Skin white, and downy. 1900 *Daily Express* 24 July 5/6 The coster..at Covent Garden exchanging his sixpences for 28lb baskets of 'White-smiths' or common reds according to the prevailing taste of his 'walk'.

White staff. Pl. **-staves.** [STAFF *sb.*1 7.]

1. A white rod or wand carried as a symbol of office by certain officials, e.g. the steward of the king's household and the lord high treasurer; hence, the office held by these.

1582 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traict.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 90 Sa thair men be certane constitute vith thair quhyt staffas as sergeantis. 1640 [see STAFF *sb.*1 7]. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 101 Sir Richard Weston had been advanced to the White-staff, into the office of Lord high Treasurer of England. 1678 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* IX. 554/2 The Lords.. have appointed the Lords of the White Staves to attend his Majesty. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Nov. 1666, Sir Hugh Pollard, Comptroller of the Household, died at White-hall, and his Majesty confer'd the white staffe on my brother Commissioner for sick and wounded. 1714 DE FOE (*title*) The Secret History of the White-Staff, being An Account of Affairs under the Conduct of some late Ministers, and of what might probably have happened if Her Majesty had not Died. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 161 He [*sc.* Earl of Southampton] said, he would not..see the ruin of his country begun, and be silent: A white staff should not bribe him. 1827 [see STAFF *sb.*1 7].

2. An official who carries a white staff (see 1).

1602 in *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 282 These two [*sc.* Clerkes Comptrollers] (under the white staves) bee comptrollers of all household affaires. *Ibid.* 293 That so the Lord Steward, the whitestaves, and officers, might have their dietes served orderly. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden 1890) 236 The Seals being signed the white staffe is to be changed. 1675 *Ibid.* (1913) 25 Ye House of Lords..order their black Rod to ——, Sergeant of ye House of Commons, and ——, Maile by word of ye white-staves that another might be appointed.

3. *attrib.* white staff officer = 2.

1671 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 3) 162 The Lord Steward is a White-staff Officer; for he in the Kings Presence, carrieth a White-staff...This White-staff is taken for a Commission; at the death of the King, over the Herse made for the Kings Body, he breaketh this Staff, and thereby dischargeth all the Officers. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Jan. 1687, Much discourse that all the White Staff Officers.. should be dismiss'd for adhering to their Religion. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4488/2 Garter King of Arms proclaimed his Royal Highness's Stile, and the white Staff Officers broke their Staves, and threw them into the Vault.

White stick. [STICK *sb.*1]

†**1.** A piece of white wood used as a tally. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 233 Lordis many tymes..taken pore mennus goodis & palen not þerfore but white stickis. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* IV. xxxviii. (1859) 64 The kyng hath nought wherof to paye for his mete, but of white stickes that no thyng availen.

2. = WHITE STAFF 1, 2.

1777 EARL MARCH in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 236 Lord Onslow [as Comptroller of the Household] has Sir W. Meredith's White Stick. 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes of Condol.* I. vi. Wks. 1812 III. 86 Then would they ponder on the white-stick row Of Uxbridge, Grey de Wilton, Leeds, and Co. 1812 BYRON *Waltz* xiii, New white-sticks, gold-sticks, broom-sticks, all new sticks! 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Ox.* iii, Lords and ladies in waiting, white sticks or black rods.

White-tail (hwəi·t,te̊l). Also 7 whittaile. [TAIL *sb.*1]

1. = WHEATEAR 2 (q.v. for foreign equivalents). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1611 COTGR., *Cul blanc*, the bird called a Whittaile. 1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 178 *Oenanthe*, the Wheat ear, or White tail...*in agro Warwicensi* Fallow Smiters. *a* 1709 RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 76 *Oenanthe*...Alibi ab Uropygii colore White Tail dicitur ut Italis *Culo bianco.*

2. The white-tailed deer (*Cariacus virginianus*), a common N. American species, having the under side of the tail white. Also *white-tail deer.*

1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxix. (1892) 323 Mule-deer and cariboo were numerous here, but the white-tail..was conspicuous by its absence. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 43 The white-tail deer is especially prized as food.

White-tawer: see WHITTAWER.

Whitethorn (hwəi·tþɔ̄ɹn). Also with hyphen, or (now rarely) as two words. [WHITE *a.* and THORN *sb.*, after L. *alba spina* (whence F. *aubépine*); so MHG. *wîzdorn* (G. *weissdorn*).] The common hawthorn, *Crataegus Oxyacantha*: so called from the lighter colour of its bark as compared with that of the BLACKTHORN.

In U. S. applied to *C. coccinea*, a species or variety with scarlet fruit.

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 559/25 *Bedegruge, i. spina alba, i.* witþorn. 1382 WYCLIF *Baruch* vi. 70 A whijt thorn, vpon whiche eche bridde sittith. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxvi. (Bodl. MS.), þese treen.. haue prickes as a white þorne. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 124 Gette thy quyckesettes in the woode-countreye, and let theym be of whyte-thorne and crabtree. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 48 When first the White thorn blows. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 150 To be more sure of a strong Fence, White-thorn may be made every second Plant. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. II. 168 While round about the white-thorn shed Sweet fragrance. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* V, The Bathinias, like tall and ancient white-thorns, which shade the road.

attrib. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 73 Matthiolus holdeth yᵗ our haw tre or whyte thorne tre is Oxyacantha. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xvi. 243 White-Thorns will not prosper set in the Gaps of a White-Thorn Hedge. 1813 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 74 He struck her so violently with a white-thorn stick..that she fell to the ground. 1827 CLARE *Skrph. Cat.* 45 Or short note of the changing thrush Above him in the white-thorn bush. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 203 The caterpillars of the white-thorn butterfly (*Papilio crataegi*).. had..stripped all the hedges. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. xiv. 248 The torch of white-thorn-wood.

Whitethroat (hwəi·tþɹōt), *sb.* (*a.*) (Also with hyphen, and formerly as two words.) Name of several birds characterized by a white throat.

1. Any one of several species of warbler (*Sylvia*), esp. the common whitethroat, *S. cinerea*, and the lesser whitethroat, *S. curruca.*

1676 GREW *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 38 The White-Throat hath no small Gut. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 247/2 The White Throat..hath..the upper surface of the Body red. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Sept., The note of the whitethroat, which is continually repeated, and often attended with odd gesticulations on the wing, is harsh and displeasing...In July and August they..make great havoc among the summer fruits. 1885 W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 320 The sweet and soft voice of the white-throat. 1889 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 345 *Sylvia hortensis.* The Garden Warbler or Pettychaps...Billy Whitethroat. *Ibid.* 357 *Sylvia garrula.* The White-breasted Warbler. ——White-throat. 1845 BROWNING *Home-thoughts from Abr.* ii, And after April, when May follows, And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!

2. The white-throated sparrow of N. America, *Zonotrichia albicollis.*

1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146 White-throated sparrows sing magnificently all winter long...Here..concerted action makes the charm. A single white-throat would prove a trifle monotonous. 1900 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, The notes of the white-throat—the nightingale of the North.

B. *adj.* White-throated. *Whitethroat warbler* = sense 1 above.

1878 *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* VIII. 264 The White-throat Warbler...Common everywhere. 1884 W. C. SMITH

Kilbraston 61 O white-throat swallow flicking The loch with long wing-tips.

Whitewash (hwəi·t,wɒʃ), *sb.* [prob. f. the verb; cf. WASH *sb.* 4 d.]

†1. A cosmetic wash formerly used for imparting a light colour to the skin. *Obs.*

1689 *Several Disc. Vanities Modish Women* 275 Her Bottles of White washes, or Cosmeticks. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 116 P1, I have heard a whole Sermon against a White-wash. 1764 GRAY *Jemmy Twitcher* 2 When sly Jemmy Twitcher had smugg'd up his face, With a lick of court whitewash,..A wooing he went.

2. A liquid composition of lime and water, or of whiting, size, and water, for whitening walls, ceilings, etc.

1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* v. iii, A little Glazing, Painting, Whitewash, and Plaister, will make it [*sc.* the house] last thy time. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 161 P 4 The Plaisterer having..obliterated, by his White-wash, all the smoky Memorials which former Tenants had left upon the Cieling. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 8: A Peck of Roach-lime was slacked into White-wash. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* xv, A wholesome smell of plaster and whitewash pervaded the apartment. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 48 Before the whitewash of Cromwell's time had overlaid their marble pillars.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1881 *Century Mag.* XXIII. 128/2 With whitewash brush in hand. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 26 Art-ignoring, whitewash-loving churchwardens.

3. *fig.* Something that conceals faults or gives a fair appearance: cf. next, 2.

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 91 Such liberal semblance is merely a surface whitewash. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 284 Washed white with the whitewash of diplomacy. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xi. 116 You know your uncle's reputation—the past one, I mean, not the whitewash.

4. An act of 'whitewashing', as of a bankrupt; also (*U. S. colloq.*) a victory at baseball or other game in which the opponents fail to score.

1851 J. HENDERSON *Excurs. N. S. Wales* I. 64 When once in a twelvemonth your agent goes smash, And bolts to New Zealand, or gets a whitewash. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 13 Sept., The Bostons Give the Lawrence Team a Whitewash Bath. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 2/2 The Report is a fairly comprehensive whitewash of everybody concerned.

Whitewash, *v.* [f. WHITE *sb.* 18 + WASH *v.* 9 b.]

1. *trans.* To plaster over (a wall, etc.) with a white composition; to cover or coat with whitewash. Also *absol.*

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Enxalvegar*, to white washe a house. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 329 She that White-washes her House, has a Mind to lett it. 1780 COXE *Russ. Discov.* 216 The houses are..plaistered and white-washed. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, There were workmen .., altering, repairing, scrubbing, painting, and white-washing. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 104 To whitewash a church is, in our eyes, a profanity. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* xxix. I. 485 The other [tomb]..whitewashed, to warn passers by not to defile themselves by too near an approach to the dead.

b. To apply a cosmetic 'whitewash' to.

1912 C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Guests of Hercules* xvii, She whitewashed her face and had strange eyes.

c. *intr.* To become coated with a white efflorescence: see WHITEWASHING *vbl. sb.* 1 b.

1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks, Tiles*, etc. (ed. 2) 90 The bricks made from them [*sc.* clays on the Hudson River] usually 'whitewash' or 'saltpetre' upon exposure to the weather.

2. *fig.* To give a fair appearance to; to free, or attempt to free, from blame or taint; to cover up, conceal, or gloss over the faults or blemishes of.

With various shades of meaning: now usually somewhat contemptuous, and implying a false appearance of good.

1762 COLMAN *Prose Sev. Occas.* (1787) II. 34 Such as are blackened in the *North Briton* are..white-washed in the *Auditor*. 1764 HOR. WALPOLE *Mem. Reign Geo. III* (1845) II. 35 A post and an author will go as far in whitewashing a munificent tyrant. 1809 SIR G. JACKSON *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 36 To be entirely exonerated from all blame, or—in the familiar language of the day—to be whitewashed. 1833 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxxi, A quadroon and white make the *mustee* or one-eighth black, and the mustee and white the mustafina, or one-sixteenth black. After that, they are whitewashed, and considered as Europeans. *c* 1846 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *House-Warm.* x, Snore Hill (which we have since whitewash'd to Snow). 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 87 Mr. Froude..makes no attempt..to white-wash Henry: all that he does is, to remove as far as he can, the modern layers of 'black-wash'. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. vii. 91 She would have given a finger to white-wash Mr. Crawley in the major's estimation. 1904 STUBBS *Lect. Eur. Hist.* II. viii. 229 Charles..had..whitewashed the cruel persecutions of Philip himself.

b. *spec.* To clear (a bankrupt or insolvent) by judicial process from liability for his debts. Also with the debts, etc. as obj., and *intr.* for *pass.* to go through the bankruptcy court.

1702 *Boston Eng. Post* 2 Aug. (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), 1772 FOOTE *Bankrupt* II. (1776) 37 Pass'd a few necessary notes to get him number and value, white-wash'd him, and sent him home. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) IV. 90 Two baronets' sons pleading to be white-washed, but remanded for fraud towards their creditors. 1832 *Ryan's Bk. Sports* 99/2 The unthinking dashing sparks whitewash their long accounts for twist, tape, and buckram. 1837 THACKERAY *Ravenswing* i, If I'm dunned, I whitewash. 1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Stevie* xxvii, I am by no means sure that your father would not prefer to be made a bankrupt i..he would be 'whitewashed', in vulgar parlance.

3. In *Baseball* and other games: To beat (the in) so that they fail to score. *U. S. colloq.*

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 2 Oct. 4 Buffalo Whitewashes Providence, and Philadelphia Detroit.

Whitewashed (hwəi·t,wɒʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Covered, coated, or marked with whitewash.

1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 227 The white-washed wall, the nicely sanded floor. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* I. i, A flaring new whitewashed mansion. 1882 HOWELLS in *Longman's Mag.* I. 56 To..chase the flying tennis-ball on the whitewashed lawn.

2. *fig.* Freed from blame or taint; glossed over with a fair appearance: see prec. 2.

1797 D. SIMPSON *Plea Relig.* (1808) 135 The white washed officer will..declare..that he trusts he is moved by the Holy Ghost. 1828 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vii, A white-washed Jacobite; that is, one who having been long a nonjuror,.. had lately qualified himself to act as a justice, by taking the oaths to government. 1839 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. x. 230 The whitewashed triumphs of despotism.

Whitewasher (hwəi·t,wɒʃəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] One who or that which whitewashes.

1. One who lays on a coat of whitewash.

In quot. 1752 contemptuously for a clumsy artist.

1752 FOOTE *Taste* i, Thou Dauber, thou execrable Whitewasher. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxv, The ladders of whitewashers and painters were sadly in the way of the ladies.

2. *fig.* One who (or something that) frees from blame, conceals faults, or imparts a fair appearance.

1862 M. NAPIER *Vlscl. Dundee* II. 228 *note*, A devoted and skilful white-washer of Scotch fanatics. 1889 MONA CAIRD *Wing of Asrael* xxxi, Death is..the great whitewasher.

3. *slang* or *colloq.* A final glass of white wine taken after dinner.

1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* iii, The General..insisted.. on one more glass of dry sherry, 'just as a white-washer'.

Whitewashing (hwəi·t,wɒʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHITEWASH *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action or process of coating with whitewash.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 80 White-washing and stopping, at three pence a yard. 1732 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 234 They use Glue made very thin..instead of Size, for White-washing. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Boarding-ho.* i, The area and the area steps, and the street-door and the street-door steps ..were all as clean..as indefatigable white-washing, and hearth-stoning, and scrubbing and rubbing, could make them.

b. The production of a white efflorescence (saltpetre rot: see SALTPETRE 2) on a brick wall.

1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks, Tiles*, etc. (ed. 2) 97 In damp positions..brick walls are often covered with a crystalline substance of a white fleecy appearance, suggestive of hoar-frost,..which..absorbs the humidity of the atmosphere,.. and carries off the paint in large patches, and the process is called by the English workmen 'saltpetring', and sometimes in this country it is termed 'whitewashing'.

2. *fig.*: see WHITEWASH *v.* 2, 2 b.

1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 300 To set at defiance the wholesome restrictions imposed upon society, by countenancing Mrs. Smeddy's white-washing [by marriage after an immoral connexion]. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 101, I have been white-washed by the Insolvent Court.., let all my sins go with that white-washing. 1855 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 7, I think the book an altogether foolish..book,.. having but one object, the whitewashing of James.

3. *attrib.* (in *lit.* or *fig.* sense).

1817 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Giovanni in Lond.* I. iv, With your tailor debts contract, In the Bench for three months pack'd, Get out by the white-washing act, And be as clean as ever. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *White-washing-apparatus*..for whitening walls and ceilings. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Feb. 7/2 (Court of Bankruptcy) We allege that no assets have been recovered, and that this is a whitewashing case.

So **Whitewashing** *ppl. a.*

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 829/2 The reaction..against whitewashing churchwardens and..other Goths and Vandals.

White water, *sb.* (Also with hyphen.)

1. Shallow or shoal water; water with breakers or foam, as in shallows or rapids on the sea or a river. Also *attrib.*

1586 HARRISON *England* I. xl. 47 in *Holinshed*, The more that this riuer is put by of his right course, the more the water must of necessitie swell with the white waters which run downe from the land. 1707 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 19 The..advantages which the Meadows near Rivers might receive by being flooded with Freshes and White-water. 1803 *Naval Chron.* IX. 440 The Bahama pilots make a distinction of *white water* and *ocean water*, applying the former term to the shallow banks contiguous to many of the islands. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. iii. 92 The water by its [*sc.* the whale's] progress being somewhat disturbed, is known by the whalers under the name of 'White water'. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* xi, Keep a cool head, for it seems to me that you've white water all round you, whichever way you shape a course. 1900 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xlvii, Men with a reputation as 'white-water birlers'—men afraid of nothing. 1902 — *Rules of Game* I. xiii, 'Why won't he make a good riverman?'..'A good whitewater man has to start younger.'

2. Water mixed with oatmeal or bran, as a medicinal drink for horses.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 200 Let him drink warm Water with Oat-meal, or what we term White-water.

3. A name for dropsy in sheep.

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 372 The disorder..which in some places is called the blood or white water.

Hence **White-water** *v. intr.* (*Naut. colloq.*), of a whale, to splash with the flukes so as to make the water white with foam.

1841 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., There she white-waters!

Whitewood (hwəi·t,wʊd). Name in N. America for the Ox-eye Daisy (*Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*).

1846–90 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 343 *L[eucanthemum] Vulgare*...White-weed. Ox-eye Daisy. 1869 B. TAYLOR in *Life & Lett.* (1884) II. 512 Thick as the white-weeds in my strawberry-patch.

White wine. [WHITE *a.* 2 a. Cf. L. *vinum album*, F. *vin blanc*, G. *weisswein.*] Any light-coloured transparent wine: a general designation for wines of various colours from pale yellow to amber, in contradistinction to *red wine*.

[*a* 1300: see RED *a.* 16.] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B. Prol.* 208 White wyn of Oseye and red wyn of Gascoigne. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 35 Draw vppe porw a strayncure with a lytyl whyte Wyne & Sugre. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portingale* 292 Scise byrlyd whyt wyne and Rede. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* F iij, White wyne enflameth or beteth leest of all wynes. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 133 France..yeelds great plenty of red and white wines. 1749 R. JAMES *Dict. Fevers* (ed. 2) 31 She set forward for London, and upon the Road drank near a Bottle of White-Wine. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlvi, Even white wine and claret were got for nothing, since the Duke's..rights of admiralty gave him a title to all the wine in cask which is drifted ashore. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1860) III. § 1. 160 Red grapes may be made to yield a 'white' wine.

b. *attrib.*, as *white wine cask*; white wine vinegar, vinegar made from white wine; white wine whey, a medicinal drink consisting of white wine and whey (cf. WHEY *sb.* 1 b).

1567–8 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 113 A *whyte wyne caske. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vi. 97 *White wine Vinegar is generally to be preferred. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 87 Add to it a spoonful of white wine vinegar. 1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Let. to Shenstone* 8 Sept., Since blankets and *white-wine-whey have not cured you. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. *Old Bach.*, Andrews,..regular as 'the chimes at midnight', prepared his white-wine whey. 1890 R. C. LEHMANN *Harry Fludyer* 6 Blathers is..giving him some white wine whey cook has just sent up.

Whitewing (hwəi·t,wiŋ). Local name for birds having white (or partly white) wings. a. The chaffinch. b. *U. S.* The white-winged scoter or surf-duck, *Œdemia fusca deglandi*. c. *Whitewing dove*, a dove of the genus *Melopelia*.

1834 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *White-wing*, the chaffinch. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 569 *Melopelia leucoptera*. White-wing Dove. 1901 *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 In Ireland, the chaffinch is commonly called the 'whitewing', owing..to the white patches..conspicuous on the wings of the male bird when in flight.

White-winged (hwəi·t,wiŋd, also *post.* -WINGED), *a.* Having white wings: often in specific names of birds which have the wings wholly or partly white; also *fig.*

1594 *Selimus* K 1, White-wing'd victorie sits on our swordes. 1728 THOMSON *Spring* 645 Around the Head Of Traveller, the white-wing'd Plover wheels Her sounding Flight. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 157 White-winged snow, and cloud, and pearly rain. 1821 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* I. 8 Vulture..White-winged..; some of the larger wing coverts, ..white, with black ends. 1821 CAMPBELL *Lover to Mistr.* 1 If any white-winged power above My joys and griefs survey. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 294 Velvet Scoter. White-winged Surf-duck.

White witch, *sb.* (Also with hyphen.) [WHITE *a.* 7 b.] A witch (or wizard) of a good disposition; one who uses witchcraft for beneficent purposes; one who practises 'white magic'.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. I. I. i. 289 Sorcerers are too common, Cunning men, Wizards, & white-witches, as they call them, in every village. 1689 C. MATHER *Mem. Provid.* (1691) 93 Creatures that they call White Witches, which do only Good-Turns for their Neighbours. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* II. i, The common people call him a wizard, a white-witch. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 440 The Whit Witch. 1826 J. CARR *Stranger in Irel.* 265 The white witch..at Exeter,..who has female agents to whom she has imparted a portion of her magic, in almost every village, who have the property of discovering pilferers and stopping blood. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* i, When he had warts or burns, he went to the white witch at Northam to charm them away.

Hence **White-witch** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to bewitch by 'white magic', or in a beneficent way.

1927 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 585 The cows were white-witched. Milk came in such abundance as no memory records.

Whitewood (hwəi·t,wʊd). (Also with hyphen; formerly sometimes as two words.) Name of various trees with white or light-coloured wood; also, the wood of any of these. (Also *attrib.*)

Among these are the N. American tulip-tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*) and bass-wood (*Tilia americana*); the W. Indian wild cinnamon (*Canella alba*, which furnishes white cinnamon or **whitewood bark**), *Tecoma* or *Tabebuia Leucoxylon* (**whitewood cedar**) and *T. pentaphylla*, loblolly sweetwood (*Oreodaphne* or *Ocotea Leucoxylon*) and white sweetwood (*Nectandra leucantha* or *Antillana*); the Australian cheesewood (*Pittosporum bicolor*), *Logmania Paterson*, and *Panax elegans* (**mowbulan whitewood**). Also locally applied in England to the lime-tree (*Tilia europæa*) and the wayfaring-tree (*Viburnum Lantana*); in quot. 1733, ? the white poplar (*Populus alba*). See also *white wood* s.v. WHITE *a.* 11 b.

1683 POINTS *Tobago* 29 The White-wood is a Tree of that singular vertue, the worm will seldom touch it. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Opera 1769 II. 215 Leucoxylon.. Barbadensibus ostratibus White-wood, Tulip-flower & aliquando Trumpet-flower nuncupatur. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 283 On the level Ground of this Farm..grows several of these White-wood Trees [viz.

etc.]. *Ibid.* 184 The low Country-s ... metimes call it Dutch Arbel, but the common Name among them is White-wood. 1750 G. HUGHES *Nat. Hist. Barbados* v. 124 Where-ever a Manchaneel-tree grows, there is found a White-wood, or a Fig-tree, near it. 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 499 The Hass or White Wood is a tree of a middling size, and the whitest and softest wood that grows. 1847 HALLIWELL, *White-wood*, the lime-tree. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Deacon's Masterpiece* v. The panels of white-wood, that cuts like cheese. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 789 White-wood, *Drendaphne Lancexylon*, *Nectandra lancantha*, *Tecoma Lancexylon* and *pentaphylla*. *Ibid.*, White-wood-bark, *Canella alba*. Whitewood-cedar, *Tecoma Lancexylon*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Lagunaria Patersoni*, Whitewood, of Australia, Cow-itch-tree, or White Oak, of Norfolk Island. 1908 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 233 The lard, the apples, the butter, and the cheese, in beautiful whitewood barrels.

Whitewort. *rare.* ? *Obs.* [f. WHITE *a.* + WORT *sb.*, after Du. *witwortel* (G. *weisswurz*).] A name for several plants with white flowers or roots: a. Feverfew; b. Solomon's seal; c. a species of camomile.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xl. 19 It [*sc.* Parthenium] is called.. in English, Feuerfew, & of some Whitewurte. *Ibid.* I. lxix. 103 Salomons seale is called..in English..White roote, or white wurte. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Whitewort, *Matricaria Chamomilla*.

Whitey: see WHITY.

Whitfieldian, etc.: see WHITEFIELDIAN.

Whitflaw, -flow, obs. var. WHITLOW.

Whith, obs. form of WHITE, WITH.

Whither (hwi·ðəɹ), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. WHITHER *v.*] A violent or impetuous movement, a rush; an attack, onset; a smart blow or stroke; a blast or gust of wind; a quivering movement, a tremble; a rushing or whizzing sound; *fig.* an access or attack of illness.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Pract. Medecyne* 55 þat 3e tak sevin sobbis of ane selche, the quhidder of ane quhaill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. x. 62 Than ran thai sammyn in paris with a quhiddir. *Ibid.* vi. v. 85 Quham..Saland from Troy.. The deidlie stoum ourquhelmit with a quhiddir. 1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 8s (E. D. D.) His dart Hits ane a whuther. 1808 JAMIESON s. v. *Quhidder*, A quhither of the cauld, a slight cold. 1824 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v. *Whidder*, A whither of cold, a shivering cold. 'All in a whither',—all in a tremble. 1887 JESSIE M. E. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda, Running Free* vii, 'Tak' pace till the whidders dill awa' (be patient till the gusts of wind quiet down).

Whither, *sb.*[2]: see WHITHER *adv.* 6.

Whi·ther, *v. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5 quhedir-, -thir, qwedyr, 5–6 quhidder, 6 -ir; 6–7, 9 whidder, 8–9 whedder, whuther, 9 whudder, wuther, 8– whither. [a. ON. **hviðra* (cf. Norw. *hvidra* to go to and fro with short quick movements), related to *hviða* squall of wind (see WHID *sb.*[2]), fit (of coughing), OE. *hwipa*, *hwipu* (*hweopu*) 'aura': see WHY3T.]

1. *intr.* To move with force or impetus, to rush; to make a rushing sound, to whizz; to bluster or rage, as the wind.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 684 The stane..flaw out quhedirand [*MS. Edin.* quhethirand, *ed.* 1616 whiddering]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vi. 65 Diores, quhidderand at his bak fute hate. *Ibid.* XII. xiv. 86 Neuer sa swiftly quhidderand the stane flaw. 18.. *Outlaw Murray* xvi. in Child *Ballads* (1894) IX. 191/2 He heard the.. arrows whidderand near him by. *a* 1736 WHITTELL *Sawney Ogilby's Duel* iv. Poet. Wks. (1813) 170 She whither'd about, and dang down all the gear. 1825 JAMIESON, To *Whither*, to whirl rapidly with a booming sound. *Ibid.*, To *Whudder*, to make a whizzing or rushing sort of noise.

2. To tremble, shake, quiver.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 128 For joy I qwedyr and qwake. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whadder*, to tremble. *Ibid.*, *Whither*, to quake or shake.

3. *trans.* To strike or beat forcibly; to throw violently.

1825 JAMIESON, To *Whither*, to beat, to belabour, Roxb. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Whither*, to throw with violence.

Hence **Whi·therer**, a vigorous person or thing (cf. *thumper*, *whopper*); **Whi·thering** *vbl. sb.*, a rushing, whizzing, blustering; **Whi·thering** *ppl. a.*, rushing, whizzing, etc.; also, very large or vigorous (cf. *thumping*, *whopping*).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. ix. 29 3oung Hippocaon .. A quhiddrand arrow leit spang fra the string. 1585 JAS. I. *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 15 They beare the whiddering Boreas bolde. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Whithering*, a sudden great sound. 1790 *Ibid.* (ed. 2), *Whitherer*, a lusty, strong, or stout person, or thing. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v., He's a girt withering tike. 1847 E. BRONTË *Wuthering Heights* i, Wuthering Heights is the name of Mr. Heathcliff's dwelling. 'Wuthering' being a significant provincial adjective, descriptive of the atmospheric tumult to which its station is exposed, in stormy weather.

Whither (hwi·ðəɹ), *adv.* (*sb.*) Forms: see below. [OE. *hwider*, earlier (Northumb.) *huidir*, later *hwyder*, f. Teut. *χwi-* (cf. WHICH); the synonymous Goth. *hwadrē* is f. Teut. *χwa-* (see WHO). Late and occasional OE. *hwæder* (see A. 7) is prob. due to the analogy of *þider* THITHER.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

a. 1–3 hwider, (1 hw-, huid(d)ir, hwiddder, huid(d)er, 3 *Orm.* whiderr), 3–4 wider, quider, 4–6 whider, whyder, (4 huider, huyder, whidur, whydre, wydur, wyddere, quidder, 4–5 whidere, whidir, wyder, 5 whidyr, whydyr, widir, wydyr, whiddir, whydder, -ur, whidre, widere), 5–6 *Sc.* quhidder, (6 -ir); 4 whithir, quiper, 5 whiper, whythyr, 5–6 whyther, *Sc.* quhither, 6–7 wither, 6– whither.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* CXXXVIII[i]. 7 From ondsne 3inre hwider fleom ic? *a* 900 *Leiden Gloss.* in *O. E. Texts* 115 *Cwatis*, huidirryne. 9.. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXII. (MS. Cott.) Ac þær ðu onzeate hwider ic ðe nu tiohize to lædenne. *c* 1000 *Rituale Dunelm.* (Surtees) 55 Svm hvidder. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XVI. 8 (MS. Laud Misc. 509, lf. 12) Hu færst þu oþþe hwider wylt þu? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2600 To loken quider it sulde ben went. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 64 Wydur [3.. *Gött.* quiþer, *c* 1375 *Fairf.* quidder] to wende ne wat he noght. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (L.) 118 Y ne recche whyder y go. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 586 He no wist whider to go. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 22 Gostly blynd goþ, and not neuere whidre. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 211 Whydyr þat þay ledyn þe wayne. *a* 1483 Whythyr [see WHITHERSOMEVER]. *a* 1500 *Cov. Corp. Christi Pl.* I. 230 Then forto goo wyst I nott whyddur. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iii. 80 Behaldand.. quhat singnis thai schaw, Or quhiddir thai mark. 1523 Whyder [see B. 4]. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 128 No whider elles. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 254 They let their ship saile..whither as fortune did cary them. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Jan. 1645, The towne Averna, wither came 3 or 4 coaches.

β. 1 hwyder, 3 hwuder, whuder(e, wuder.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 Hwyder gewiton..þa idlan blissa? *c* 1205 LAY. 1208 Wise mi..whuder ich mæi liðan. *Ibid.* 12169 Liðen wuder swa þu wult.

γ. 1 hwæder, 4 whader (?).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XXXII. 17 (MS. Laud Misc. 509, lf. 23) Ælf..he eow axie, hwæs ge sin[d] oððe hwæder [*v.r.* hwyder] ge willon. *Ibid.* XXXVII. 30 (ib. lf. 25 b) Nys se cnapa her; hwæder ga ic? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 19 Ic fylige þe, swa hwæder [*v. r.* hwyder] swa þu færst. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1874 (Glasgow MS.), I rought of deth ne of lyf Whader that loue wolde me dryf.

δ. 3 weder, 4–5 wheder, -yr, queder, 5 whedir, -ire, -ur, -yre, whedder, qweder, quedire, -ur, *Sc.* qwhedyr; 4 whethir, queper, -ir, 4–5 whepер, 5 whethyr, whether, *Sc.* quhether, qw(h)epir, 5–6 wether, 5–8 whether, 6 *Sc.* quhethire, 7 wheather.

a 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (O.) 110, I ne recche weder I go. *a* 1300 Queder [see WHITHERSUM]. 13.. *Northern Passion* (Harl.) 750 He spird..Wheder þai war went. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3499 Pas quedire as him plese. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom. P. Lett.* 111. 84 We wut not qweder to fle. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Husb.* 29 The Uolf said, 'quhether dryuis thow this, Pray?' 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 70 Whether euery way leadeth. 1629 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 95, I am newly come out of Scottland, wheather I am instantly returning again. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 514 Whether wou'd you run? 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 208 In Heaven, whether, I hope we may come.

ε. 3 3wodere, 3–5 woder, 4–5 whoder, -ir, -ur, 5 whodere, -yr, wheoder, hoder(e, 6 whother.

c 1275 Woder [see B. 4]. *c* 1290 *St. Christopher* 38 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 272 3wodere þenxt þou gon? *c* 1300 *Beket* 1648 Ynot whoder thu wolt go. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1560 Whether he come & hodere he went, knewe nomone. *c* 1423 Whodyr [see WHITHERSO]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xii. 38 Whens art þou, and whodir art þou boun? *c* 1478 *Partenay* 2764 Of your wif enquere..at no day..To what place she torn ne hoder wyll go. 1535 Whother [see B. 3 a].

B. Signification.

Now, in all senses, only archaic or literary; replaced in ordinary use by *where*, or colloq. *where . . . to*: see WHERE 3, 1 c. (Cf. WHENCE I.)

I. Interrogative uses.

1. To what place? a. in direct questions.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* I. 28 Hwider fare we? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Ac wider 3eden hie? 13.. *Benaventura's Medit.* 995 Whedyr shulde y wende, to frende, ouþer kyn? 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. v. 219 Ther came a man fleynge..whether wolt thou sayd Beaumayns. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 16 Whether trauell you? 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 15 Whither away? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 945 Whence am I forc'd, and whether am I born? 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 143 Whither will you go? and what can you do? 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Gt. Winglebury Duel*, 'Whither are we going?' inquired the lady tragically. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, What was the use of cavalry in a time of profound peace?—and whither the deuce should the hussars ride? 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 208 If souls do not transmigrate, where do they come from at birth, whither do they go at death?

† *Humorous phr.* (as *sb.*). 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 346 How doth your whither goe you? (*your wife*). 1702 E. WARD *Northern Cuckold* 7 Not that our Northern Cuckold's *Whither D'ye go*, is such a Doxy neither. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Whither-D'ye-go*, an insolent prescribing Wife.

b. in dependent questions and similar clauses.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 151 Hie..nystan hwyder hie eodan. *Ibid.* 209 Hie sendon hiot him betweonum hwider hyra gehwylc faran scolde to lærarpe. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 Þe inreste þesternesse is in ðare hierte ðe ne wile forseawin hwider he scal ðanne he henen farð. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 159 Luste8 nu..hwo hire ledde, and wu and hwider. *c* 1290 *St. Matthew* 140 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 81 Nou god it wot and seist Mathes 3wodere is soule wende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2144 Hii auste wuder drawe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 701 It is a selcouþe, me þinkes, whider þat lady is went. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* XXV, The blonke him a-boute bore, Wiste he neuyr quedur! 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXIV. (Percy Soc.) 170 She .. did aske me whether That I so rode, and what I would have? 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 70 Wee duely consider, whether euery way leadeth. 1620 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 216 Intimating that Alison was now gonne hee knew not whither. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 65 If he knew whether to go. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xii, Wandering they knew not whither. 1880 BESANT *All Sorts* xxiii, What he did, whither he went, where he died, might be left to conjecture.

2. *gen.* or *fig.* with various shades of meaning: To what result, condition, action, subject, cause, etc.? † to what extent, how far?

9.. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XL. (MS. Cott.), Hwæðer ðu nu ongite hwider þios spræce wille? *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1209 Hwider is ower wit & ower wisdom iwent? *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 236 Whedir schal þi soule in þin ende, to peyne or ioye? *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 12 Wheder is all this become? 1538 STARKEY *England* II. iii. (1878) 215 Wel, Master Lypset, I persevse wether you go [='what you are driving at']. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* IV. ii. I 3, Whither at length wilt thou abuse our patience? [*Quousque tandem..*]. 1685 BUNDES *Pers. Tithes* 31 Suspecting whether he may be drawne by yeolding that to be a Due. 1852 BP. HALL *Invis. World* I. § 4 If there fall out..any direful prodigies..whither should they be imputed but to these mighty angels? *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 153 If they had known whether to have addressed their complaints. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. vii. 29 Thou tedious varlet, whither tends This putrid stuff? 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 122 Whither has wandered now my partial tongue? 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* x, Oh, Lancelot, Lancelot, whither are you forcing me?

II. Relative uses.

3. a. as compound relative: To the place to (or in) which. Also with correlative *thither*. Also *fig.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xxi. 18 *Ambulabas ubi uolebas*, Ðu waldes ȝeonga huidir ðu waldes. 1382 WYCLIF *John* viii. 21 Whidur I go, ȝe mown not come. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* 683 To goo whyther the goddes wold consente that they shold dwelle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 26 Prouyde suche money yᵗ may bryng hym whether he entendeth. 1535 JOYE *Apol Tindale* (Arb.) 18 And whother the lead went thither must the bodye folow. 1562 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* XXXVII. 237 Away with them and their sophistrie, whither they are worthie. 1688 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 19 Then whether Honour calls thee, bravely follow. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* (1852) 343, I must go whither truth conducts me.

b. as simple relative: To which place; after a noun of place = to which; also with ellipsis = a place to which.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3931, I ne wiste no waye whedire þat I scholde. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lol.* 31 He assignid seuenty and two disciplis, and sent hem.. in to ilk place and cite widir he was to com. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Coll. Sun. after Ascension*, Exalte us unto the same place whither our sauiour Christe is gone before. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Deut. XIX. 3 He which.. is a fugitive, may have..whither to escape. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 42 Wee landed..in Freesland, at the Village Anion, ..whether wee hired a sledge.. and were drawne thither ouer the yce and snow. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 68 The sense and motion of that part whither that Nerve was propagated. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 1 The Plague.. had been very violent..at Amsterdam and Roterdam,.. whether they say, it was brought, some said from Italy, others from the Levant. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 862, I come Thence whither thou must go! 1825 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Nov., Dined at Melville Castle, whither I went through a snow-storm. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* i, At Cowes, whither I had taken my yacht..for the Regatta Week.

4. In generalized or indef. sense: To (or in) any place to which; to whatever place; whithersoever. Esp. with addition of † *as*, † *that*, † *ever*, *so(ever)*: see also WHITHERSO, -SOEVER.

c 1275 LAY. 12169 Ich wolle..wende woder þat þou wolt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20812 Forto help hir in hir nede, Quider þat [*Laud* Whethir so, *Gött.* Quepер-sua, *Trin.* Whoder so] sco rade or yede. 13.. *Ælfred in Engl. Stud.* VII. 324 3if þu folwe þis blessed mayde whider-þat-euer sche goþ. 1340 *Ayenb.* 235 Uor to uolȝy þe lamb of mildenesse huyder hit geþ to huam hi byeþ y-spoused. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 17 Þe Holi Gost ledde Jesus whidir ever he wente, and what dedis ever he dide. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 53 Whider as euer he went, or what thyng som evur he did, he was evur sayand Ave Maria. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Cary him whæper euer þou wolt. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccclxvi. 318 b/2, I haue hyred this shyppe..to sayle whyder as me lyst. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 22 Go with thy soule whether it goes. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. CXXI, Whether as he mounts, his News in every sphere He to th' inquisitive Spirits poureth forth. *a* 1692 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* I. xvii. (1675) 241 We should..follow whither ever he shall lead us. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 170 They were at Liberty to travel whither they pleased. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* III. 192 A spark From Paris, answered by a snap at Caen Or whither reached the telegraphic wire.

III. Indefinite and substantival uses.

5. With preceding qualifying words, forming compounds: see ANYWHITHER, EVERYWHITHER, NOWHITHER, OWHITHER, SOMEWHITHER.

6. as *sb.* (*nonce-use.*) Place or state to which a

Whither, obs. form of WHETHER.

† **Whither-out**, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + OUT *adv.*; cf. WHEREOUT.] a. *interrog.* (*irreg.*) Out of what, from what source, whence. b. *rel.* In the direction in which; nearly = whereabouts.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 12 If any wyte wyte whider-oute it groweth? 1393 *Ibid.* C. VIII. 178 Couthest þow wiseen ous þe way whoder out treuthe wonyeþ? *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1949 [They] setten redy markys there Wydyr-out the coffyns were.

Whi·therso, *adv. arch.* [ME. *hwiderso*, repr. OE. *hwæt hwider swæ*: see SO *adv.* 17 d.] = next.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 19 *Quecumque ieris*, uue huider ðu farres [*Rushw.* hwider swa]. *c* 1205 LAY. 18969 Faren þa scalt bi rade wuder swa ich þe lande. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 Ha gað euuer nest godd, hwiderse he turneð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4163 Hii ne mi3te noȝt a3en hym do no weþer so hii wende. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 6359 (Fairf.) Quidder-sa he walk here or þare þe wandis euer wiþ him he bare. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 40 Al the englyssh-men.. shold ben..frely let goo whodyrso they wold. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 381 That I haue hecht I sall hald,..Quhidder sa it gang to greif or to gawin.

a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 118 Whereso I be or whitherso I turn. 1880 W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* IX. 31 Going whitherso the wild path went.

Whithersoever (hwiðəɹsoʊe·vəɹ), *adv.* Forms: see WHITHER *adv.*, So, and EVER *adv.*; also 4 *contr.* **whidur-sever.** (In early use as two or as three words.) [f. prec. + EVER *adv.* 8 e; cf. SOEVER.] To whatever place. **a.** To (or in) any place to which: = WHEREVER 3.

c 1830 *Hali Meid.* 25 Folhen godd almihtl..hwider se he euuer wendeð. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* (ed. Hall.) 1785 Thei shull be so lyȝht and swyft, That whidur-sever they thenk they may be lyft. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 567/2 Over the See, or whether seo ever it please theym. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Sam.* viii. 6 Ye Lorde helped Dauid whither so euer he wente. 1628 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* § 45. «ii The Marchant having bought the goods, hee might presently transport them whethersoever he would. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 277, I will..attend you whithersoever you please. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Leam. Spa*, He has a right to go whithersoever they lead him. 1883 *Spectator* 30 May 704/2 With Victor Hugo inspiration is.. to be followed blindly whithersoever it may lead.

b. Whether to one place or another; no matter to what place: cf. WHEREVER 4.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* F iv, I remit thy crime howsoeuer or whithersoeuer thou wentest. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. x, Whoever you are, or whithersoever you are going,..I have Obligations to you which I can never return. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, So walks Father Gérard; solid in his thick shoes, whithersoever bound. 1913 *Athenæum* 23 Aug. 183/3 Whatsoever you may be doing, or whithersoever you may turn.

So † **Whi·thersum**, † **Whi·thersome·ver** *advbs.* [see SUM *rel. adv.* 2, SOMEVER], in same senses.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6359 Queder-sum he welk her or þare, Þis wandes euer he wit him bare. *Ibid.* 6666 Til ilk sted Quider-sum he þat folk ledd. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord* (1790) 19 Clerkes and yeomen..to precede the King, whythyr somever the King go. 1485 CAXTON *St. Winefryde* 16 Euery man myght go..peasybly whyder someuer he wold. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* viii. 19 Whythersumever thou goest.

Whitherto (hwiðəɹtū·, hwiˑðəɹtʊ), *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WHITHER *adv.* + TO *prep.*; cf. HITHERTO.] To what place, state, result, etc.? to what? whither? whereto?

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* xii. 1–6 Whitherto came he? By despisyng of this lyfe, he attained immortalitie. 1592 BRETON *C'tess Pembroke's Love* Wks. (Grosart) I. 27/2 All the world may see, From whence we came, and whetherto we must. 1624 BP. HALL *Art Medit., Medit. Death* Wks. (1625) 129 Whitherto haue tended all thy serious meditations? 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 125 Whitherto shall we refer that verb? 1782 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 252 Fearing whitherto it might grow.

Whitherward (hwiˑðəɹwŏɹd), *adv.* (*sb.*) *arch.* [f. WHITHER *adv.* + -WARD.]

1. *interrog.* Towards or to what place? in what direction? whither? † Also with reference to situation (nearly = whereabouts?). Also *fig.* or *gen.* Towards what?

c 1200 ORMIN 17295 Þu ne mahht nohht..sen..Fra whebennwarrd..he comm..ne whiderrwarrd he wendebþ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Ðan þe safarinde men seð þe sa sterre, hie wuten sone wuderward hiȝ sullen weie holden. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 307 Heo wende fram al hire kun,.. & nuste an erþe ȝwderward, bote as þe wind blew. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1246 'Þou most now ga To paradis...' 'Yai, sir, wist i wyderward þat tat vncuth contre ware.' 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5916 ȝeueþ gode tent, Whederward þat Pers ys ..... *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prankl. T.* 782 He.. asked of hire whiderward she wente. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xviii. 2008 For til wit..qweþirwart þe thayne of Fiff þat tyme past. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xiii. 932 Whether ward ar ye way ledyng this knyghte? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. v. Aa iv b, Whytherwarde take I my iourneye? or whyther warde am I goynge? 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. 310 Forth of auenture his way is went, But whitherward he draw, he conceitlesse Was. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* v. xiii, Unknowing whitherward to bend his way. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. xi, Whitherward to turn for a good course of life, was by no means too apparent. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* xiii, As one goes on pleasantly running down the path—whitherward?

2. *rel.* **a.** as compound relative: Towards the place that; usually in generalized or indefinite sense: Towards any place that, whithersoever.

c 1205 LAY. 9994 Whuderward þa ferde heore fissm makeden, þe eorles heom siȝen to. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Uorte.. uoluwen þe hwuderward so þu euer wendest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21298 O sant mathu þe gospel-bok Quider-ward sumeuer he scok..wit him he bar. *c* 1300 *Will. Palerne* 2830 Whiderward as þei went al wast þei it founde. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 23523 (Fairf.) Quidder-wart [*Trin.* Whiderward so] an wil loke þai loke al. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxxix. (1495) nn ij b/1 A way by the whyche a man maye goo whyderwarde that he woll. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* I. 294 Shall he..conduct the King whitherward his Majesty wishes?

b. as simple relative: Towards which.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. iii. (Bodl. MS.), þe wel springe and þe fiualle ende whederward bit {sc. the ... 1580 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 7 ... by longe and great travail he came, going about by Rome..and by Remes. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* xix. (1612) 353 Bombadilla..was called home againe into Spaine; whitherward..as hee imbarked himselfe ..there arose..a horrible..tempest. 1895 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Sept. 374/1 Four guns are sent..to advanced posts up the nullah, whitherward they make their way by forest routes.

3. *sb.* (*nonce-use*). Place towards which one goes.

1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 325 Athens hath no clew To track his whitherward.

So **Whi·therwards** *adv.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 955 (Laud MS.), Who so wolde, he miȝth ryde..Whiderwardes so he wolde. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* (A.) 2037 At þe knigt he askede þo 'Whider-wardes is Mombraunt?' 1509–10 SIR W. BUTLER *Autobiog.* xii. (1912) 186 Signs..indicating the whitherwards of coming events.

Whiting (hwəiˑtiŋ), *sb.* Forms: 5–6 **whytynge**, **whitynge**, (5 **wytenge**, **-yng**), 6 **whyting**, **-yng**, **whityng**, **-inge**, 7 **whytting**, *Sc.* **quhiting**, **quhittine**, 8 **whitting**, *Sc.* **whyten**, 8–9 *Sc.* **whiten**, 6– **whiting**. [ad. (M)Du. *wijting*, also † *wittingh*, MLG. *witink* 'aculeja', 'amia', 'asellus'; app. f. WHITE *a.* + -ING 3. (The formal analogue ON. *hvítingr* = a kind of whale, etc.) Cf. WHITEFISH.]

1. A gadoid fish of the genus *Merlangus*, esp. *M. vulgaris*, a small fish with pearly white flesh, abundant off the coast of Great Britain, and highly esteemed as food.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 705/23 *Hic glaucus*, a whytynge. *c* 1425 *Voc.* ibid. 642/8 *Hic clamitus*, wytyng. 1433 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 49 In xij podryd [= powdered] wytyng, viij d. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 23 b, He robbed certein poore Fisshermen of Whitynges. 1580 VENNER *Via Recta* iv. 76 The Whiting, notwithstanding that it is vnsauourie, and nourisheth very litle, is of some greatly..commended. 1664 in *Mathl. Club Misc.* (1840) II. 505 For a dishe of quhitingis 001 16 00. *Ibid.* 506 For a dishe of dryed quhittines 003 00 00. 1721 in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S. H. S.) I. 39 The seas abound with..Turbet, Scate, Mackrel, Haddocks, whittings. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 91 And there will be partans and buckies And whytens and speldings enew. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 155 Whitings appear in vast shoals on our seas in the spring. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 347/1 Whiting..is easily distinguished from the cod, haddock, and bib by the absence of the barbule on the chin.

b. Locally applied to fishes of other genera.

(*a*) Some fresh-water fish found in Wales; also, a name on the Solway Firth and in the south of Scotland for a small fish of the salmon family, of uncertain identity, perhaps the young of the salmon-trout, *Salmo trutta* (cf. WHITLING). (*b*) In U. S., A fish of the genus *Menticirrhus*; also applied to the silver hake, and to the menhaden. (*c*) In Australia, A fish of the genus *Sillago*: see quot. 1882.

1587 CHURCHYARD *Worthines of Wales* N, A Poole there is, through which this Cloyd doth passe, Where is a Fish, that some a Whiting call. 1774 *Ann. Reg., Misc. Ess.* 163 [Bala] lake produces very fine trout, and a fish called whiting, peculiar to itself. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 410 There is abundance of fish,..in Esk,..such as salmon, grilse, sea trout, and whitens. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 18 *Merluccius bilinearis*..American hake; silver hake (Maine); whiting (Mass.). *Ibid.* 27 *Menticirrus alburnus*..Carolina whiting. *Ibid., Menticirrus nebulosus*..King-fish; whiting. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish N. S. W.* 65 The 'whitings' are not like those of Europe. There are..four Australian species—the common sand whiting (*Sillago maculata*),..the trumpeter whiting (*Sillago bassensis*),..*Sillago punctata*, the whiting of Melbourne..and *Sillago ciliata*. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 81 The Norfolk Hog-fish *Pomodasys fulvomaculatus*..is the..'Pork-fish' and 'Whiting' at Key West.

2. Allusive uses of sense 1. **a.** In proverbial phr. With quot. 1721 cf. WHITE *a.* 10.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 64 There lepte a whityng (quoth she) and lept in strette. 1570 *Marr. Wit & Sci.* IV. i, But he that takes not such time while he maye, Shal leape at a whyting when time is a waye. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 199 To let leap a whiting. i. e. To let slip an opportunity. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 158 He gave me Whitings, but Bones. That is, he gave me fair Words. The Scots call Flatteries Whitings, and Flatterers white People. 1808 JAMIESON s. v. *Quhyte*, A proverbial phrase, still used to denote flattery: 'He kens how to butter a whiting.'

† **b.** As a term of endearment: cf. *whiting-mop* (see 5). Also *whiting's eye*, an amorous look, a leer.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 623 He callyth me his whytyng. 1673 WYCHERLEY *Gent. Dancing-Master* IV. i, I saw her..give him the languishing Eye,..the Whitings Eye, of old called the Sheeps Eye.

† **3.** = *White pudding*: see WHITE *a.* 11 e. *Obs.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 159 As the Darbyshire huswife [sorts out] her puddings when she makes whitings and blackings, and liverings and hackings.

4. (See quot.)

1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whitings*, trees which have been barked, and left standing.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *whiting-ground* [GROUND *sb.* 12], *-monger*, *-season*; † **whiting-mop**, a young whiting; also as a term of endearment for a girl (see MOP *sb.*4). Also in names of fishes resembling the whiting, as **whiting perch**, POLLACK, POUT (*sb.*1), salmon (see quots.).

1892 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 6/5 About two hundred fishing boats were lying at anchor off the edge of the 'whiting grounds about three miles outside Plymouth breakwater. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* 29 Colchester oysterman, or 'whiting-mungers and sprot-catchers. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 548 'Whiting Perch. *Perca Albumus*. 1686 RAY *Willughby's Hist. Pisc.* IV. ii. 167 *Asellus Huttingo-Pollachius*..A 'Whiting Pollack. 1908 *Daily Chronicle* 11 Dec. 5/3 The Whiting-Pollack..has this Name given it here, from its Likeness to a Whiting. 1910 *Chemical Ind.* 11 Nov. 811 Next..in abundance are the whiting pollack ..and the gar-fish or green bone. *a* 1692 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) Tab. L. membr. i. n. 4 *Asellus mollis latus*. 'Whiting Poutes *Londinensibus*. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 220 The Whiting-Pout is remarkably broad, in Proportion to its Length. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 54 'Whiting Salmon, *Salmo Phinx*. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 190 In the 'whiting-season..fleets of twenty or thirty boats are often seen lying at anchor on the banks.

Whiting (hwəiˑtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 **hwiting**, 5 **whytyng(e**, **wytyng**, **whittyng**, 5–6 **whityng**, 6 **whyghtynge**, **whighting**, **whitting(e**, 6–7 **whitinge**, 7 **whiteing**, **whyting**, **whytting**, 8 **whiten**, 6– **whiting**. [f. WHITE *v.*1 + -ING 1.] **I.** The action of the verb.

† **1.** The action or process of making white; whitening. *Obs.* **a.** by covering or coating with white: Whitewashing. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 413 For whytyng that lyme is conuenyent. 1493–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 220 Payd to Symon dawber for whittyng of the chyrch, v days iij s. 1540 *Dunmow Churchw. Acc.* ff. 31 (MS.) For whyghtynge of the porche. 1605 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 169 A plasterer, viij days and halfe whytting of the dyning chamber roffe..iiij s iij d. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 82 Whiting and Stopping of fret seelings.

fig. 1628 A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 186 In this case, the whiting, dawbing, or palliating will not serve.

b. by depriving of colour: Bleaching.

1477 *Act 17 Edw. IV* c. 4 Whityng & anelyng de tewle appellez pleintile. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 38 For the speedier whiting of yarne. 1620 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1906) 190 The whitster..detaynes them in whitinge and starchinge about three mounthes. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1801/4 A convenient piece of Ground..for whiting of Linnen Cloth.

2. *Printing.* The use of 'white' (cf. WHITE *sb.* 7 a and *a.* 2 d).

1884 *Athenæum* 24 May 658 The variety of type and the liberal whiting are quite luxurious.

II. *concr.* **3.** A preparation of finely powdered chalk, used for whitewashing, cleaning plate, and various other purposes.

In OE. only in Comb. *hwitingmelu* 'whiting meal'.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 Whytynge, or mater to make whyghte of..., *albatura*, *candidacium*. 1633–4 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. lxiii, 12 balls of whiteing to scowre the plate. 1690 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S. H. S.) 159 To meg for whyting for teeth, s 18 d. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 143 Take some whiten,..lay your foils upon it, and..polish your foils. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 150/1 Anoint the segments..with thin putty, made with fine whiting and some of the linseed oil. 1880 BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* viii, You cannot clean a deck with whiting, you must take holystone.

III. **4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 1 a) *whiting brush, work*; (in sense 1 b) *whiting ground, time*; (in sense 3) *whiting-manufacturer.*

1611 COTGR., *Escouillis*,..*whiting brush. 1692 *Specif. Patent* No. 256 (Patent Office) Erected a bucking house, fitted and prepared a *whiteing ground. 1813 *Examiner* 22 Mar. 183/2 M. Price,..*whiting-manufacturer. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 140 It is *whiting time, send him by your two men to Datchet-Meade. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 407 Eek *whyting werk is thyng of gret delyte.

Whiting, obs. form of WHITTEN.

Whitish (hwəiˑtiʃ), *a.* [f. WHITE *a.* + -ISH 1.]

1. Somewhat white; of a colour inclining to or approaching white.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cl. (1495) T vj b/1 The leuys [of the trees of Sechym] ben rough and whityssha. 1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Whytyssha, *blanchastre*. 1548 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 122 Yf the wheles seme whytyssha. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 17 Of the lesse Vulture, whiche is the browne or whitish Vulture. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 74 When haires from my beard did ginne to be whitish. 1664 BOYLE *Exper. Perus. Bod.* II. vi. 205 A multitude of little cracks..which destroyed its former transparency, and made it [*sc.* a crystal] look whitish. 1790 *Cook's 1st Voy.* I. 17 A species of the Medusa..which.. emitted a whitish light. 1797 T. MORTON *Cure for Heartache* I. 6 How whitish and deadly bad he do look. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* x, A small swamp, the clay of which was whitish. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 333 The mucous membrane will..appear whitish from the presence of partially shed epithelium.

b. as *sb.* A colour approaching white.

1825 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. I. 49 The shafts spotted with whitish, the feathers alternately banded with black and rufous.

2. a. Qualifying other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour, indicating a pale or light tint of the colour specified.

1683 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 166 A whitish-red colour. 1687 *Phil. Trans.* II. 430 Turquois..of the New [Rock] are of an ill whitish Blew. 1712 STERLE *Spect.* No. 436 P 1 A whitish brown Paper. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* III, Her..whitish-blue eyes. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* XVI, His swarthy face had taken an ugly tint of whitish-green.

b. In parasynthetic combinations.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Cassida*, The whitish-flowered cassida. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. 538 Whitish-tailed Shrew.

Hence **Whi·tishness**, the quality of being whitish; whitish colour or tint.

1544 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) T vij b, Yelownes or whitishnes of the eyen. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* XXXVII. 307 They were wont..by their whitishness, to emulate in some measure the apparition of Light. *a* 1720 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 155 The best sort of barley..is of a pale lively yellow colour, with a bright whitishness in it. 1806 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 463 The north (polar regions of Saturn) retain..some whitishness.

Whitleather (hwi·t,leðəɹ). Forms: 4 witleȝtr', 5 whittlether, 5–7 whit(-)lether, 7–9 whit-leather, 6– whitleather. [WHITE *a.* 2 (with normal shortening in comb.) and LEATHER *sb.* For illustration of **white leather** see 1 *β*.]

1. Leather of a white or light colour and soft pliant consistence, prepared by tawing, i.e. dressing with alum and salt, so as to retain the natural colour. Also *attrib.*

1366–7 *Priory of Pinchale* (Surtees) p. lxxii, Cum ferrura, cingulis, capestris, witleȝtr', scutels [etc.]. 1487–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 417 Pro whitlether pro les bawdriker, vjd. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 Hole bridle and saddle, whit lether and nall. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* i. vi. 58 A large strong thong or strap of whit-leather. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exempl.* 40, I have seen one part of a Skin of a well coloured sound nature, another Part that had somewhat the look of rough Parchment, or hard Whitleather. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Whitleather*, sheep's-skins, prepared for thongs of flails, repairing harness, &c. Formerly used for baldricks of church-bells.

β. c 1440, 1529 [see LEATHER *sb.* 1]. 1560 *Louth Church Acc.* in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (1889) s.v., For j horskyn & di. skyn whitt ledder. 1588 *Churchw. Acc. Minchinhampton* in *Archaeologia* (1853) XXXV. 423 For wyet lether, and makyng off bawryxes, xvjd. 1596 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Bos, Bubuli coriabi*, .. thonges of white leather. 1885 A. WATT *Leather Manuf.* 39 When tawed, or prepared with alum and salt, they [*sc.* sheepskins] form what is termed white leather.

attrib. and *Comb.* ? *a* 1600 *MS. Lansd. 241* (Halliw.) Thy gerdill made of the whittlether whange. 1635 J. GOWER *Pyrgomachia* C 3, Then from thy flesh I'le draw thy hide, And have it throughly tann'd, and dry'd Whit-lether-like. 1854 Miss BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, Whit-leather thongs.

b. In comparisons, or as a type of toughness, elasticity, softness, etc.; hence *fig.* Also *attrib.*

1605 BRETON *I pray you be not angrie* B 4, I am thus handled..with this wicked olde peece of Whit-leather. 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* v. i, Hast thou so much moisture in the Whitleather hide yet, that thou canst cry? 1624 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* iv. ii. I 2, The guts of my conscience beginne to be of whit-leather. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* v. iii, *Nurse.* I'll soon bring his Nose to the Grind-stone. *C[oupler] aside.* Well said, old White-leather! *a* 1723 ELLWOOD *Hist. Life* (1714) 316 My Sides are not of Iron, neither Are my Lungs made of Whit-leather. 1820 JAMES *Darnley* v, Pray God to make all your bones as soft as whit-leather. 1839 Mrs. KIRKLAND *New Home* xxxiv. 295 Her eyes grew preternaturally pale, and her lips wan as whit-leather.

2. The tough ligament in the neck of an ox or other grazing animal, also called *paxwax*.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* vi. iii. 362 That..Ligament—Called the Whitleather, Packwax, Taxwax, and Fixfax.

Whitling (hwi·tlin). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 whiddelynge, 9 whitlin. [f. WHITE *a.* + -LING. Cf. G. *weissling* whiting.

Late OE. *hwitling* 'glaucus' is perh. the whiting.]

A fish of the salmon family, not certainly identified; app. the young of the bull-trout, *Salmo eriox.* Also *whitling-trout.* Cf. WHITING *sb.* 1 b (*a*).

1597–8 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 111 For flookes and eght whiddelynges, xviij*d*. 1769 J. WALLIS *Nat. Hist. Northumbld.* I. 389 The Whitling-Trout..is taken in the Till and Tweed from ten to twenty inches. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VIII. 488 In some parts of the Ern, there are.. great numbers of sea trouts...The fishermen call them whitlings. 1830 in T. Doubleday *Coquet-Dale Fishing Songs* (1852) 84 The Tweed, he may brag o' his sawmon, An' blaw of his whitlins the Till. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* ix. 297 There is a disputed point as regards the bull-trout, whether or no he is the veritable 'whitling'.

attrib. 1769 [see above]. 1834 JARDINE in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 52 They..are taken with whitling flies. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 84 On rivers, like the Tweed or Tay, I recommend the use of a whitling hook.

Whitlow (hwi·tlo). Forms: *α.* 4–7 whitflawe, 5 whitflowe, 5–6 whitflowe, 6 whyte flaw, white flaw, 6–7 whiteflaw(e, 7–8 whit(-) flaw, whit(-)flow, (8 *dial.* whick-, 8–9 quickflaw). *β.* 5 whytlowe, whyte low, 6 whitlowe, 7 whitelow, (whitloaf), 7–9 whitloe, 6– whitlow. *γ.* 6 whytblow, whitblowe, (whetblowe), whiteblowe, 6–7 whitblow. [app. orig. *whitflaw, flow* = WHITE *a.* + FLAW *sb.*[1] (q.v. sense 4); but the similarity of the first syllable to early mod.Du. *vijt, fijt*, LG. *fit* 'whitlow' is remarkable and suggests the possibility of alien origin. The alterations to *whitblow, whitlow* are difficult to account for. The supposition that the original form was *which-flaw*, dial. var. of *quick-flaw* (Skeat), is not supported by the evidence.]

A suppurative inflammatory sore or swelling in a finger or thumb, usually in the terminal joint; = PARONYCHIA 1 (cf. PANARICIUM).

α. a 1400 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 138 *Paniritula uel paranicium, i. apostema inter digitos, a°.* a whitflawe. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 49 þe fistule bredyng in þe extremite of þe fynger decreuep sonner þe pacient pan in oþer places; ffor vnkunnyng seiþ þat it is þe whitflowe, whiche þou shalt knowe þus. 1536 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 77 A whiteflaw, *redlusia*. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 25 b, The ashes [of wild grapes]..are good for medicines for the eyes, and wyth hony it healeth whit flawes, agnayles & goomes bledinge. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Palace* 39 The nails fain off by Whit-flawes. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 340 A gold Ring does not cure a Whitflaw. 1746 *Phil. Trans.* V. 208 Much used ..In Cataplasms for the Felon, or worst Kind of Whitflow. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose*, Whick-flaw.

β. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 Whytlowe (*P.* whytflowe sore), *panaruscium*. 1603 BARTON *Mad World* (1635) B 8 b, Healing but a Whitloe on a Lords thumbe. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 1049 A live Chislep laid to a whitloaf, cures it. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 206 They are not certainly able to perform the cure of..so much..as a paronychia or whitlow. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxi, A novice of the convent..had been troubled with a whitloe in her middle finger. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 337 Where the matter is lodged, as in some cases of whitloe, in the sheaths of the tendons. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 371 A suppurating tumor resembling a whitlow. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 575 Painless whitlow affects the fingers of patients suffering from peripheral nerve disease of the upper extremities.

γ. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* lvi. 17 A white blowe, or a whyte flaw, the whiche doth grow about the rote of the nayle. 1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Ewinor*, a whetblowe. 1598 FLORIO, *Panariccio*, a fellon, a whitblowe, that comes on ones finger tope.

b. *attrib.*: **whitlow-grass**, book-name of two early-flowering plants with white blossoms, formerly reputed to cure whitlows (cf. NAILWORT): *Saxifraga tridactylites*, Rue-leaved Whitlow-grass, and *Draba* (*Erophila*) *verna* (hence in mod. use extended to the whole genus *Draba*); **whitlow-wort**, a plant of the genus *Paronychia*, formerly reputed to cure whitlows.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxxvi. 498 Of Whiteblowe, or Whitlowe grasse. *Ibid.* 499 Rewe leafed Whitlowe grasse. Jagged Whitlowe grasse. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Merc. Bot.* 57 Rue Whitlow-grasse. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 88 *Paronychia altera*, .. Rue Whitlow-grasse. *Paronychia major*, ..Whitlow-wort. .. *Paronychia vulgaris*, .. Chickweed Whitlow-grasse. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* ii. (1794) 31 Those whose seed vessel is a silicle..as whitlow-grass. 1820 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 143 D[raba] Verna. *Common Whitlow Grass.* ...D. Alzoides. *Sea Green, or Alpine Whitlow Grass*...D. Pyrenaica. *Pyrenean Whitlow Grass.*

Whitmeate, obs. form of WHITE MEAT.

Whit Monday: see after WHIT SUNDAY.

Whitner, obs. form of WHITENER.

Whitness, -nesse, obs. ff. WHITENESS, WITNESS.

Whitney, erron. spelling of WITNEY.

Whitneyite (hwi·tnĭəit). *Min.* [f. the name of J. D. *Whitney*, an American geologist: see -ITE[1].] A native arsenide of copper, of a reddish-white colour, found near Lake Superior and elsewhere in America.

1881 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.*

Whitour, obs. form of QUITTER *sb.*[1]

Whitpot, obs. form of WHITE-POT.

Whitret (hwi·trĕt), **whitterick** (hwi·tərik). *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: *α.* 5 whytrate, (-ratche), whitratt, whytrat, *Sc.* quhitrat, 5, 9 whitrat, 6 *Sc.* quhittrat, quhitred, fittret, quhittret, 7–8 whitred, 7, 9 whittret, 8–9 whiteret, 9 whitteret, whittrit, (whutthroat), 8– whitret. *β.* 8–9 whitrick, 9 whitrack, (w(h)utterick, -ock, whuttorook), whittrick, whitterick. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [The earliest known forms suggest a compound of WHITE *a.* and RAT *sb.*; the types *whitret, whitred, whitrick* exemplify Sc. tendency to modify the sounds of final syllables.] A weasel; also, a stoat.

α. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 Whytrate (*K.* whitratt, *P.* whytratche). *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 116 (Harl. MS.) The quhuirand quhitret with the quhaslil went. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hunting* f iiij b, The Graye, the Fox, the Squyrell, the whitrat, the Sot, and the Pulcatte. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxxiii, Martrikis, bevers, quhitredis, and toddis. 1590 BUREL in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 21 The Fumart and the Fittret straue, The deip and bowest hole to haue. *Ibid.* 22 Out come the Quhittret. 1639 SIR R. GORDON *Geneal. Hist. Earld. Sutherld.* (1813) 3 Brocks, skuyrrells, whittrets, weasels, otters. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) p. xi, As harmless as a whitred without teeth. 1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. ii. 21 Mustela vulgaris ea est, quæ Whitred nostratibus dicitur. 1790 ALEX. WILSON *Disconsolate Wren* Poet. Wks. (1846) 96 Ony whitret's direfu' jaws. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii, We maun off like whittrets before the whole clanjamfray be doun upon us. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 275 The whut-throat or weasle, and the hoodie, have often bloody wars with other. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* May 646 When a whitret or a fox came prowling past.

β. c 1800 *R. Jamieson's Pop. Ball.* (1806) I. 294 Her minnie had hain'd the warl, And the whitrack-skin had routh. 1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 455 The weasle (provincially *whitrich*). 1861 QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 145 He yokes him fairly wi' his teeth As Brush wad dune a whitterick.

Whitsour (hwi·tsuəɹ). [? f. WHITE *a.* + SOUR *a.*] A variety of apple.

1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Apple*, The Whitsour. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gardener's Daily Assist.* p. xi, Apples valued principally for Cyder. White sour.

Whitster (hwi·tstəɹ). Now *local.* Forms: 5 whytstar, wytstare, whytstare, qwytstare, qwyster, quister, 6 whitstarre, 6– whitster. [f. WHITE *v.* + -STER. Cf. Du. *witster* 'a Woman that whitens the walls' (Sewel).]

1. A bleacher.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39/1 Bleystare, or wytstare (*K.* bleyster, *H.* bleystare or qwytstare, *P.* bleykester or whytster), *candidarius*. 1552 PALSGR. 288/2 Whitstarre, *blanchisseur de toyelles*. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-h.* II. 58 The whitsters, and ..dressers of linnen cloth. 1702 J. HOUGHTON *Collect. Improv. Husb.* No. 493 P 5 The Whitsters do use these Pot-Ashes, in the whitening of their Yarn and Cloth. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 72 Scourer, Bleacher (..French Cleaner, Whitster.

2. A whitesmith.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Wds.*

Hence † **Whi·tstered** (-ərd) *a.*, bleached.

1767 *Specif. Thos. Long's Patent* No. 869 A 'machine for printing..whitstered linen'.

Whitstone, obs. variant of WHETSTONE.

† **Whitsull**. *Cornish dial.* [f. WHITE *a.* + ? SOWL.] = WHITE MEAT a.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 66 Their meat, Whitsull, as they call it, namely, milke, sowre milke, cheese, curds, butter, and such like as came from the cow and ewe.

Whitsun (hwi·tsən). Forms: 3 witsonen, witesone, 4 witsone, 4–6 Wytson, 5 Wyte-, Wytt-, White-, Whyght-, (*Sc.* Vit-), 5–6 Whyt-, 5–7 Wit-, 5–8 Whitson, 6 Whitsone, Wytsone, -sen, Witteson, (*Sc.* Vytson), 7–8 Whitsund, Whit-sun, 7– Whitsun. *β.* 5 *Sc.* quysson, 5, 9 *dial.* Whisson, 7 Whesen. (See also following words.) [ME. *w(h)itsons(n*, the first two elements of WHIT SUNDAY, WHITSUNDAY, analysed as *Whitsun Day*. Cf. ON. *hvítasunna* Whitsunday, *hvítasunnuvika* Whitsun week, *hvítasunnuaptann* Whitsun eve.]

1. Used *attrib.* to denote something belonging to, connected with, or occurring at the season of Whit Sunday or Whitsuntide: as *Whitsun air, contribution, fair, holiday, market, morn, morris-dance, pastoral*; **Whitsun ale** *Hist.* [ALE 3], a parish festival formerly held at Whitsuntide, marked by feasting, sports, and merry-making; † **Whitsun eve, even** [EVE *sb.*[1] 2, EVEN *sb.* 2], the day before Whit Sunday; † **Whitsun farthing** = PENTECOSTAL *sb.*; **Whitsun gillyflower**, local name for a double-flowered variety of rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*); † **Whitsun lady, lord**, titles of the leading or presiding personages at a *Whitsun ale*; **Whitsun week**, the week beginning with Whit Sunday, Whit-week. Also occas. in names of the days of Whit-week, as **Whitsun Sunday** (*obs.* or *dial.*) = WHIT SUNDAY, **Whitsun Monday**, etc. = Whit Monday, etc. (see after WHIT SUNDAY). See also WHITSUNTIDE.

1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* x. xi, Thy dread Hours, Thou awful Trinity, Are but the *Whitsun airs, new set on high. 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. C 6, This is a Tale Would befit our *Whitson-ale. 1629 *Pasquils Palin.* B 3, Happy the age,..When euery village did a May-pole raise, And Whitson-ales, and May-games did abound. 1633 CHAR. I. *Decl. conc. Sports* 11 That after the end of Diuine Seruice, Our good people be not disturbed, letted, or discouraged from..hauing of May-Games, Whitson Ales, and Morris-dances. 1658 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 301 When they flock about a Ballad-Singer in a Fair, or the Morrice-Dancers at a Whitsund Ale. 1727 SOMERVILLE *Yeoman of Kent* 32 At Whitson-ales king of the May..He tript it on each holyday. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 95 Royal proclamations had failed to revive Whitsunales, and May games, and Morris dancers. People will not be merry by rule. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 597 The Pentecostals or *Whitsun-contributions. 1897 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11855 A *witsonen eue hii come per. ? 1475 *Paston Lett.* (1904) V. 232 Wretyn at Mawteby, on Wytsson eve. 1553–4 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 99 Ryngyng none on Whytson yeve, ij d. 1624 LAUD *Diary* 15 May, Saturday, Whitsun-eve, The Bill passed in Parliament. 1709 *First Publishers of Truth* (1907) 242 The day Called whitsoneve. *c* 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1911) 107 On *Qwysson even everilke man brake his severyll gresse, os hym lykes. 1535 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 265 On Wytson evyne was a gret thonder at London. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 26/1 Die Sabbati ante festum Pentecostes lie Witson-evin et 12 Nov. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 427 Loitering at the *Whitsun-fair. 1696 in Urwick *Non-*

regesimals, Pentecostals or Whitsund Farthings. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 832/1 Whitsun-Farthings, otherwise called Smoke-farthings..a composition for offerings..anciently made in Whitsun-week by every man in England, who occupied a house with a chimney, to the cathedral church of the diocese. 1696 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* xi. 33 May brings Roses, Pinks, *Whitsungillyflowers. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n., Gillyflower, Whitsun.* The double-flowered variety of *Hesperis matronalis*, ..*Sem.* (Whitsun Gilaw(e)rs). 1533 *Songs, Carols, etc.* (E. E. T. S.) 269 Justis at Weste[m]ynster all þe *Wytson halydais. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* III. i, Were you ever so much as look'd upon by a Lord,..but on the Easter, or Whitsonholydayes? 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5336/2 Their Majesties intend to go after the Whitsun-Holidays to Marienwoll. 1696 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 47 A Kitchen-wench,..now so tricked up with scarfs, rings, and cross-garters, that you never saw a *Whitsun-Lady better rigged. 1621 *Meditmata F* 2 b, Ich haue beene twise our *Whitson Lord. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* Prol. 8 Old records Of antique proverbs, drawn from Whitson-lords. 1495 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 108 At the *Witson market. 1901 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 154 From Lyncolne lane,..this *Whitsonemunday. 1620 in *Cyt. & Times Jas. I.* (1848) II. 313 The new Venetian ambassador..had his first audience on Whitsun-Monday. 1687 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist.

MSS. Comm.) II. 113 Whesen Monday. 1776 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), *Linton*,...10 miles from Cambridge..has a market on Thursday, and fairs on Whitsun-Monday, and August 4. 1535 Starkey *Let.* in *England* (1871) p. xxii, Your lettures ..were receyuyd apon *Wytson morn. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 25 Buried with a *Whitson Morris-dance. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 134, I play as I have seene them do In *Whitson-Pastorals. 1856 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 36 On *Wytsonsonday, which was the xxxj. of May, was the coronacion. 1824 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Whitson-Sunday*, Whitsunday. 1612 Hopton *Concord. Yeares* 173 *Whitsun-thursday. 1599 *Min. Archdeaconry of Colchester* lf. 248 (MS.) In the afternoone on Whitson monday and *Whitson tuesedaye all daye. 1666 *Bk. Com. Prayer* N 3, Whitsun

1375 ...

Leg. Saints xl. (*Ninian*) 734 Of witsone owke þe twyssday. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxii. 147 Apon a Saterday in Whitsun woke. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 224 Wretyn at London, the Wednysdaye in Whyghtsonweke. 1551–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI* c. 3 Monday and Tewisdaye in Witteson weike. 1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 95 On Wednesday in Whitson week. 1634 *Bk. Com. Prayer* H 5, Munday in Whitsun weeke. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* v, The great annual town-holiday of Whitsun-week.

2. *sb.* Short for Whitsuntide. *rare.*

1849 Disraeli in Monypenny & Buckle *Life* (1914) III. viii. 204 There will be a hot and perhaps eventful campaign between this and Whitsun. 1896 *Ibid.* (1916) IV. iii. 45 Between Easter and Whitsun.

Whit Sunday, Whitsunday (hwi·t sə·ndi, hwi·tsə·ndɛi). Forms (see also Day and Sunday): 1 (*obl.*) **Hwitan Sunnandæg**, 2 **wit(te)-sunnedæi**, 3 **White(n)sune(n)dæi, hwitesune-, Witeson(ne)-, wit-sune-, wit(e)sone-**, 4 **wit sonday, wijt sundai, Wittesunday, whytsonen-, wit(te)-sone-**, 4–6 **Witsonday(e, 5 Whytesonday, witsonen, -on-, witsun-, wyt-, wyth-so(u)nday, wythsson-, Qwytsonn-, qwyteson(e)-**, 6 **Whit sonday, Whit(t)son-, Whytson-, Witsounday, whitson, Wittson daye**, *Sc.* **Witsounda, Vyt-, Vitso(u)nday**, 6– **Whitsunday**, 7– **Whit Sunday, (Whit-Sunday**, 9 **Whitsun-Day**). *β.* 4 *Sc.* **Qwhyssonday**, 4–5 **qvhissonday**, 5 **w(h)is-sonday, whysunday**, 9 *dial.* **Whussenday.** [late OE. ***Hwlta Sunnandæg*** lit. 'white Sunday' (found once only and in oblique form ***Hwitan S.***); whence app. ON. ***hvítasunnudagr*** in the same sense, also ***hvítasunnudagsaptann, -nátt, -vika*** (ON. ***hvítadagr*** 'white day', ***hvítadrottinsdagr*** 'white Lord's-day', ***hvítadagavika*** Whitsun week, cannot be taken as evidence of an independent Norse origin; they are prob. due to Icelandic attempts to obliterate heathen traces from the name of the festival). The epithet 'white' is generally taken to refer to the ancient custom of the wearing of white baptismal robes by the newly-baptized at the feast of Pentecost (cf. *Dominica in albis*, the name of the First Sunday after Easter, Low Sunday, given for the same reason).

The formal analogues of *Whitsunday* current on the Continent in Low German and neighbouring areas are mostly applied to the First Sunday after Easter (cf. above), or the First Sunday in Lent (prob. from the white churchhangings then used; cf. OFris. *hwita tornsdey*, Du. *Witte Donderdag* Maundy Thursday), e.g. MLG. *witsondach*, MDu. *wittensondagh*, and (from LG.) MDa. *hvidesondag*, MSw. *hvita sunnodaghur*. (No confirmation has been found of Killan's '*witten-son-dagh*, vetus Fland. Dominica Pentecostes,' and Cotgrave's '*Dimenche de blanches*, Palmes-Sunday' and Hexham's '*Witten Sondagh*, Palme-Sunday' are prob. blunders.)

In earlier OE. the name of Whitsunday was *pentecosten* (gen. *-estes*), the Græco-Latin name (see Pentecost and cf. Goth. *paintekusten* acc.), which was adopted in other Teut. languages, e.g. OS. (*to*) *pincostin*, MDu. *pinxteren*, Du. *pinkster*, OHG. (*zi*) **pfinhstin* (*fimfchustim*), MHG. *pfingesten*, G. *Pfingsten*, (M)LG. *pinksten*, Sw. *Pingst*, Da. *Pinse(dag)*: see Pinkster.

As the name of a Scottish term-day, *Whitsunday* (stressed on the final syllable) has been long dissociated from the church festival.

According to different apprehensions of the composition of the word (the origin of which was obscured by the shortening of the first syllable), it has been divided either as *Whitsun day* or as *Whit Sunday*, and the first elements of both of these have been used attributively in the same sense: see Whitsun and *Whit Monday*, etc. below.]

1. The seventh Sunday after Easter, observed as a festival of the Christian Church in commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost: = Pentecost 2.

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1067 (MS. D.) On þisan Eastron com se kyng to Wincestre, & þa wæron Eastra on x kal. April, & sona æfter þam com Mathild seo hlæfdie hider to lande, & Ealdred arcebiscop hiz gehalgode to cwene..on Hwitan Sunnandæg. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Muneȝeing of þam hali gast þe he sende in his apostles on þon dei þe is icleped wit-sunne-dei. *c* 1205 Lay. 17481 Þat al his folc.. come to Ambres-buri .. to White-sunedæie. *c* 1250 *St. Brendan* 231 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 224 Per þe schulle þis ester beo & þis wit-sonedai also. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 445 In a Witsonday þe mayde was I-cristened. 1398 *Mandev. de Melros* (Bann.) 488 At þe fest of qvhitsonday. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1078 Hane hatte of flowres as fresh as may Chapelet of Roose of wiseonday. *c* 1440 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 26 He made a feste, the soth to say, Opon the Witsonesday, At Kardyf, that es in Wales. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 93 On assencyon day and wythsonday he put no lyght to hym, the whiche ye these festis specialy were wonte to brenne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* clxxxi. 732 On a witsonday themperour and thempresse helde estate royall at there palayes for yᵉ solempnyte of that day. 1634 Bazarton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 4 The next morning early, being Whit Sunday, was discovered land. 1827 Keble *Ch. Year* (heading of poem) Whitsunday. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 188 The coronation took place at Westminster on Whitsun-Day.

†**b.** Used for the actual day of Pentecost on which the event took place: see Pentecost 1. *Obs.*

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Þe þeoue of þe holi goste þet þu on hwite sune dai sendest þine deorewurðe deciples. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 657 in *O. E. Misc.* 36 At þon heye vndarne, a wit-suneday..þe holy gost heom com vp-on in fury tunge. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 40 Petir broucht to cristis fay Thre thowsand men on witsonday. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 351 Bytwene þe ascencioun, þat is holy Þorsday, and Witsonday, Mathias was I-chose.

2. (In form *Whitsunday* or *Whitsun Day.*) One of the Scottish quarter-days or term-days (see Term-day b), ordinarily May 15, but in certain cases May 26 (= May 15 Old Style) or May 28.

1480 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 84/1 Full powar..my malis..to raise & resauve, my Witsondais to set and to halde. 1539 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 164 Mertimes and Vytsonday, 1541 *Ibid.* 174 Thre merkis, to be payit be the said malsteris of wark at Vltsounday and Mertimess be equall portionis. 1693 *Sc. Acts Will. & Mary* c. 40 (1822) IX. 304/2 Our Soveraigne Lord and Lady The King and Queens Majesties ..Declare that the Fifteenth day of May was since the date of the forsaid Act, and shall be in all time comeing in place of the former Terme of Whitsunday, to all effects whatsoever. 1905 *Glasgow Herald* 10 June 10.

3. *attrib.* in senses 1 and 2.

1451 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 93 The Wendisdaye of Wytsondaye tyme. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 108 The malis of the samyn landis of the Witsonday terme last bipast. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 544 On wytsondaye evyn. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 297 To the thre wemen that rokkit and kepit the barnes, thair Witsonday fee, iij li. 1503 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 243/2 Apon thurisday in witsonday wolk. *c* 1557 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 153 Debtes..to my lorde of durh'm for whitson daye rent of thold p'ke xlˢ.

So **Whit Monday, Whit Tuesday**, the Monday and Tuesday following Whit Sunday; also †*Whit Wednesday, Thursday*, formerly called *Whitsun Monday*, etc.: see Whitsun 1. (*Whit Saturday* is in occas. recent use for the day before Whit Sunday, formerly called *Whitsun eve.*) So **Whit-week**, the week beginning with Whit Sunday.

1557 Q. Mary in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. II. 31 Untill the viiith daye of this present moneth whiche shall be Whitmondaye. 1663 *Wonders if not Miracles V. Gertrude* 5, I went up thither .. on White-munday. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Eye*, The market is on Saturday, the fair on Whit-Monday. *Ibid.*, *Lingfield*,..with 3 fairs, on May 6, on Whit-Tuesday, and on October 28. *Ibid.*, *Llanbedar*, Cardiganshire..has..fairs on Whit-Wednesday, July 10 [etc.]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 403/1 Whit-Thursday. 1867 tr. *C'tess Hahn-Hahn's Fathers of Desert* 365 In the night between Whitsunday and Whitmonday. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* lxxiv, It was now Whit-Tuesday, and the lilacs all in blossom. 1899 *Daily News* 18 May 7/1 Whit-week would be a very good time to close the schools.

Whitsuntide (hwi·tsə·ntəid). Forms (see also Tide *sb.*): 3 **White-sune tide, wit sonentid**, 3–4 **witeson(e)-**, 3–6 **Wytson-**, 4 **whitson(e)-, Witsun-**, 4–6 **Witson-, Witte-**, 5 **Qhythson-**, 5–6 **Whytson-**, (**Witsenstyde**), 5–8 **Whitson-**,

season of Whit Sunday; Whit Sunday and the days immediately following.

c 1205 Lay. 21324 Hit ilomp an ane time to þan Whitesune tide [*later text* Witsontime] þat þe king hehte of londen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3211 Azen þe feste of witesontyd. *a* 1330 *Roulund & V.* (Abbotsf. Club) 16 At Ester, at Wissentide, And at seyn Iames day.., And in Yole. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 76 On a tyme when þe grete Emperour Henrie.. held his whisson-tyde. 1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 70 Harry Goneld hath browth to me xlˢ.,...and he seyth I xal have more or Qhythson tyd. 1484 Caxton *Chivalry* v. 32 To make and adoube a kny3t it appertayneth the day of some grete feste as Crystemas, Ester, Whitsontyd. 1552 in Sir W. Parker *Hist. Long Melford* (1873) 97 At Witsenstyde. 1600 Marston, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* I. (1601) A 3 b, Tis Whitson-tyde, and we must frolick it. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 178 P 3 We wish..all our Customers a merry Whitsuntide. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 145 Arthur on the Whitsuntide before Held court at old Caerleon upon Usk. 1916 G. E. Buckle *Life of Disraeli* IV. I. 9 After Whitsuntide the general debate was resumed.

†**b.** Used in early versions of N. T. for Pentecost 1. *Obs.* (Cf. Whit Sunday 1 b.)

1382 Wyclif *1 Cor.* xvi. 8 I schal dwelle at Effesy, til to Witsuntide [Tindale, vntill witsontyde; 1552 wytsontyde].

c. *attrib.*

1629 B. Jonson *Silent Wom.* III. i, I would have you get your Whitsuntide-velvet-cap. 1811 Combat *Crudities* 9 A Whitsuntide foole .. wearing a long coate, wherein there were many seuerall peeces of cloth of diuers colours. 1887 in *Yrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1913) Oct. 182 Shee is willinge to sett out .., after whitsuntide weeke soe called is over. *c* 1795 in B. Ward *Hist. St. Edmund's Coll.* (1893) I. 9 The [On all working days in the Xmas and Whitsuntide recess [of Parliament] was approaching

Whitt, obs. dial. f. Quick *a.*; obs. = White.

Whittawer (hwi·təuəɹ). Now only *Hist.* or *dial.* Forms: 4 **whitetawyer, white-tawyer, whit(e)awyer**, 5 **whytetawyer**, 5–7 **white tawyer**, (? **whitecaw'**), 5– **whittawer**, 6–8 **white tawer**, 7–8 **white-tawer**, 9 **whitawer**, *dial.* **w(h)ittor, whittaw**, etc. [f. White *a.* + Tawer[1]. (Cf. the synonymous MDu. *witgaerwer*, MHG. *wiggerwer*, G. *weissgerber.*)] One who taws skins into Whitleather: = Tawer[1]. In mod. dial., a saddler, harness-maker.

1284 *12 Edw. I. Stat. Wallie* c. 4 De Whitauwarlis [*v.rr.* Whitawyarlis, Whytawyarlis], scilicet qui coria bovina & equina furata scienter albificant ut nic non agnoscantur. 13.. *Liber Albus* (Rolls) III. 432 Galfridus le Whitetawier. 1321 *Letter Bk. D. Lond.* lf. 127 Walterus le Whitawyer, Johⁿes le Megucer. 1346 *Ibid. F.* lf. 126 b, Les bones gentz appelles Whittawyers. 1411 *Close Roll 12 Hen. IV*, dorso, Willielmus Pratte, White tawyer. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 401 The sise of a whittawer is that he make nor tawe no maner of lether but Shepis lether, Gettes lethir, deris ledur, horse-lethir, or boundes-lether. 1613 *Manch. Crt. Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 303 Robart Hilton, whitetawr. 1618 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xxv. 250 b, If any white Tawyer doe dwell in the forest, he shall be remoued, and make fine: for they are the common dressers of skins of stolne Deere. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 88 Lime, which the Tanner and White-Tawer take out of their lime-pits. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5882/8 William Weblen,..Whittawer. *a* 1721 Lisle *Husb.* (1752) 45 Few harness-makers, that are white tawers, understand how to dress their hides. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Whittawer*, a collar-maker, or maker of husbandry harness. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* vi, Men are busy there mending the harness, under the superintendence of Mr. Goby the 'whittaw', otherwise saddler.

Hence †**Whittawing** *vbl. sb.*, the practice of whittawers.

1382 Kitchin *Le Crt. Leets* 13 Auxi si aucun per aucun voie corrupt les common ewes per whitawinge per lyme ou per line.

Whitte, obs. form of Whit, White, Wit.

Whitten (hwi·t'n). *dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* **veyton**, 7 **whitting, whiting**, 9 **witten**. [Usually ***whitten-tree***, repr. OE. ***hwitingtréow***, f. ***hwiting*** (of identical formation with Whiting *sb.*) + ***tréow*** Tree.] A name for the water elder or wild guelder-rose (*Viburnum Opulus*), and the wayfaring-tree (*V. Lantana*). Also (by confusion with *whicken*, Quicken *sb.*[1]), the mountain-ash or rowan (*Pyrus aucuparia*), and some allied plants.

Whitten pear-tree, the service-tree (*Pyrus Sorbus*): see quot. 1833 s.v. Whitty.

c 1100 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 139/1 *Uariculus*, hwitingtreow. [Identified by Cockayne as *Pyrus Aria*, White-Beam-tree.] 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67, I sau veyton, the decoctione of it is remeid for ane asir hede. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. lxxx. 761 Of Marris Elder, Opie, or Dwarffe Plane tree...I take this to be a shrub that is called in Englishe, Whittentree, whereof are two kindes. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. lxxii. 1237 The water Elder is called.., in English Marish Elder, and Whitten tree, Opie tree, and Dwarffe Plane tree. 1636 Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* Table Eng. Names, Whicken tree, i. wilde Ash... Whitten tree, i. water Elder, or wilde Ash. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 837 The Whitting or Quicking-tree, (Lat. *Fraxinus Sylvestris*, and by some *Fraxinus Cambro-Britannica*). *a* 1697 Aubrey (Royal Soc. MS. lf. 137) in Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, About Cranbourn chace growes..a tree with a white leafe.. no bigger than a cherry tree; they call it Whiting or Whitewood. 1847 Halliwell, *Whitten*, the wayfaring tree. *Kent.* 1868 *Archæologia* XLII. 125 The Rowan or Quick-bean,.., popularly termed the Mountain Ash.., and, in some counties, the Whiten-tree and the Witty.

Whitter (hwi·təɹ), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* Also 6–7 **qu(h)-, -our.** [imitative.] **a.** A talkative person, a chatterer. **b.** Chatter, 'loquacity, prattle' (Jam.). So **Whitter-whatter** in same senses.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 767 Rank ruittour, scurill quitour [*v.rr.* scurile whittour, scurliquhittor], and Iuittour. 1805 A. Scott *Poems* 47 What need we heed sic whitter-whatter? 1824 Jamieson s.v., A woman who is very garrulous is said to be 'a perfect whitter-whatter'. 1897 E. Hamilton *Outlaws Marches* iii, I would counsel you..to haud your whitter the night.

Whitter, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* [Cf. Whittle *v.*[1]] A draught of liquor, a drink.

1785 Burns *1st Ep. J. L****k* xix, We'll sit down an' tak our whitter, To chear our heart.

Whitter, *v. Sc.* [Later form of Quitter *v.*[2]] **1.** *intr.* To warble, twitter.

1513 [see Quitter *v.*[2]]. *c* 1800 *Elfyr Hill* 24 in R. Jamieson *Pop. Ball.* (1806) I. 206 The sma' fowls in the shaw began To whitter in the dale.

2. To move lightly and briskly; to quiver, flutter, scamper, etc.

1513 [see Quitter *v.*[2]]. 1819 W. Tennant *Pastistry Storm'd* (1827) 7 The dows and daws..Out-whirr'd and whitter't. 1894 Flora A. Steel *Potter's Thumb* xiii, A 'whittering beast..'*Whitter! Whitter!*' under the bed; behind the boxes. That was the worst of a musk-rat; no one could possibly tell where it would '*whitter*'.

Whitter, var. Quittle *sb.*[1] (sense 2).

1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1834) 296 Sandcracks, whitters, inflammations, and other diseases of the horse's foot.

Whitteret, -ick, var. Whiterit.

Whitterish (hwi·təɹiʃ), *a. dial.* [? Variant of Quittersick.] Pale, faded.

1879 *Hist. Potter* 14 A pallid whitterish colour. 1894 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Whitterish*, faded. Applied

...o-clothes which have lost their colour from the effect of the sun, or frequent washing.

Whittle-whattle (hwi·tl,hwɒtl), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 7 whytie whatle, 8 whity-whaty, 9 whittee-whattee. [Reduplicated ? on WHAT *int. pron.*] Vague or undecided talk or statement; indecision, shilly-shallying; a frivolous excuse. So **Whittle-whattle** *v. intr.*, to be undecided, to shilly-shally; also, to speak low or secretly, to mutter, whisper.

c 1680 R. MACWARD *Contend.* (1723) 363 The sense and substance of all this whittle whattle..will be only, 'O be quiet' [etc.]. 1692 'J. CURATE' *Sc. Presbyt. Eloq.* 110 Criticks with their frim frams and whytie whatles, may imagine a hundred reasons. 1808 JAMIESON, *Whittle-whatties*, silly pretences;..frivolous excuses. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* vi, 'What are ye whittle-whattieing about, ye gowk?' said his gentle sister, who suspected the tenor of his murmurs.

Whitting, obs. var. WHITING.

Whittle (hwit'l), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 1–3 **hwitel**, 4 **whitel**, **wytel**, 5 **wytele**, 6 **whittel**, 7– **whittle**. [OE. *hwītel*, corresp. to ON. *hvitill* white bed-cover (Norw. *kvitel* blanket); f. *hwīt* WHITE *a.* + -EL[1], -LE.] †a. A cloak, mantle. †b. A blanket. c. A baby's woollen napkin or flannel petticoat. d. A shawl or wrap.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxxi, Đa eode þes broðor sume dæge þæt he wolde his reon & his hwitles [*sagum*]..in sæ wæscan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ix. 23 Sem and Iafeth dydon anne hwitel [*palliũ*] on hira sculdra. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Boðe schulen beon of wurmes his kurtel (*v.r.* hwitel) & his kuuertur. *a* 1300 *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 4 Wo þat strechet forþerre þan his wytel wyle reche in þe straue his fet he mot streche. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 76 When he streyneþ hym to strecche, þe straw is hus whitel. 1422 *Will of Olney* (Somerset Ho.), j wytele & j chete. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Crepundia*,..the first apparayle of children, as, swathes, whittels, wastecoates, and such lyke. 1668 in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colon. Times* (1894) 257 A whittle that was fringed. 1697 in C. Worthy *Devon. Wills* (1896) 214 To sister, Rachel Tucker, my largest red whittle. 1700 J. BROME *Trav. Eng.* 234 The [Devonshire] Women have a peculiar sort of Garment, which they wear upon their Shoulders, called Whittles, they are like Mantles with fringes about the edges. 1738 *Connoisseur* No. 80. P 7 As great a store of caps, clouts, biggens, belly-bands, whittles, and all kinds of childbed-linnen, as would set up a Lying-in Hospital. 1830 SHERLEY *F. Fairleigh* xiv, I sought out the ..old lady, whose shawl I had so unceremoniously made use of [to extinguish fire]..I believe..she considered Miss Saville's safety dearly purchased at the expense of her favourite whittle. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxiv, In a coarse red shawl—or, as it was called then, 'whittle';.. Emma Geash started.

Whittle (hwi·t'l), *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* Forms: 4 **qwetyll**, 5 **whyttel**, 6 **whittell**, *Sc.* **quhittil**, 7 **whitle**, 6– **whittle**. [Variant of THWITTLE; cf. *whack*, *whang*.] A knife, esp. one of a large size, as a carving-knife, a butcher's knife, or one carried as a weapon; also, a clasp-knife.

1404 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 22, j. whyttel, j d. 14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 446 in *Anglia* XVIII. 306 Schrape of þe ouerest bark with a qwetyll. 1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* III. (1570) B vj/1 The scullians..Came some with whittels, some other with flesshhokes. 1570 [see quot. 1470 s.v. THWITTLE *sb.*]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 434 He thought best.. with a great whittle he had..to cut his throate, which he had used so with Calves, as he had no small dexteritie in it. 1590 GREENE *Greene's Vis.* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 209 A whittell by his belt he beare. 1608 WINGFIELD *Disc. Virg.* in *Archæol. Amer.* IV. 99 No penny whitle was asked of me, but a knife, whereof I had none to spare. 1683 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 136 We shall not need to borrow great Alexanders whinlard to cut this Gordian knot asunder, any sory whittle will serve the turn. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* IV. (1671) 70 Here's the sixpenny whittle you gave me, with the Mutton haft: I can spare it, for knives are of little use in Spain. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 181 A rousty whittle to sheer the kail. 1826 *Gaastlier Scot.* (ed. 2) 204 The knives [of Kilmaurs] were so much famed, that a Kilmaur's [*sic*] whittle became proverbial. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXVII, Beshrew me,..but thou art sharper than a Sheffield whittle! [Cf. quot. *c* 1386 s.v. THWITTLE *sb.*] 1841 T. PARKER *Crit. & Misc. Writ.* V. (1848) 117 He wears a beaver hat, and a coat of English cloth, and has a Birmingham whittle, and a watch in his pocket. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 61 In the fingers of his right [hand] was a crooked whittle, with which..as the basketfuls arrived, he would nick the score upon notch-sticks.

b. *Comb.*: **whittle-gait** (**-gate**), see quot. 1804; **whittle-knife**, a whittle.

1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (1805) 244 In some parts of Cumberland..he not only receives quarter-pence, but is provided with victuals at the homes of his scholars, which he visits in succession. This *whittle-gait (as it is called) subjects him however to the toil of travelling. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., 'An harden sark, a guse grassing, and a whittle gait', were all the salary of a clergyman, not many years ago, in Cumberland. 1735 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 76 The *Whittle-Knife, with the Hor-Handle. *a* 1821 LEYDEN *Malay Annals* (1821) 54 In his hand was a whittle knife without the haft.

Whittle, *sb.*[3] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6–7 whittell, 9 *Sc.* whuttle. Reduced form of WHITTLOW. Also †whittle-flaw = *whitflaw* (see WHITLOW); whittle-grass, melilot (cf. *whitlow-grass*).

1596 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 366 We feill mair a whittell in our fingar nor the helthe of the haill body. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 66 Sea-water..relieves whittle-flaws before they exulcerate. 1774 MACLAURIN *Argts. & Decis.* 94 A distemper incident to the thumb, vulgarly called the whittle. 1825 JAMIESON, *Whuttle-grass.*

†**Whittle**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 whittel, whyttel(l, whityll, 6–7 whitle. [Usually taken to be a fig. use of next (cf. WHET *v.* 6), but evidence is wanting.] *trans.* To ply with drink, to make drunk, intoxicate; in *pa. pple.* excited by drink, drunk, intoxicated. Hence **Whittled** *ppl. a.*, **Whittling** *vbl. sb.*

1530 PALSGR. 500 Whan he is well whyttelled, he wyll crake goodly of his manhode, *quant il a bien beu* [etc.]. *Ibid.* 844 Well whytled, nere dronken. 1543 BECON *Invective agst. Swearing* 84 Whan they are once set vpon the ale benche, and well whytled in theyr braynes thorow the many cuppes that haue bene fylled in. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in Wks. 1843 I. p. lxiii, Skelton did fill all the cuppes..and whitled the frere. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 44 What? gorge vpon gorge, egges vpon egges, & sack vpon sacke?..Such egging and whitling may happen bring you acquainted with the triumphant chariot of rotten egges. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIV. xxii. I. 497 When they..be throughly whitled,..then..the secrets of the heart are opened. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* 126 Drinking healths,..whitling themselves with Septembral juyce. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. Prognost. v. 236 Whittled, Mellow, Cupshotten Swillers.

Whittle, *v.*[2] Also 6–7 whitle. [f. WHITTLE *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To cut thin slices or shavings from the surface of (a stick, etc.); to dress or pare with a knife; to reduce or sharpen by doing this.

1552 HULOET, Whitle a thinge small, or sharpe like a shafte, *inspico*. 1590 FENNE *Frutes* Ded., The Persians.. use commonly to whittle small twigs of birch, to keepe themselves from..idle cogitations. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. iv. (ed. 2) 353 Cambyses..whitling a sticke to passe away the time. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 262 He will whittle an oke to a butcher[s] pricke. 1658 OSBORN *Mem. King James* To Rdr., A huge blame is due to such as mannage their pens no lesse impertinently then clowns do their knives and hatchets, with which..they deface and whittle the sacred graves..of great persons. 1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyor* 13 You must have ten sticks about a foot long apiece, whitled and sharpned at the great end. 1724 E. WARD *Dancing Devils* 32 As Lawyers Clerks,..Instead of minding Bonds or Leases, Sit whitt'ling useful Pens to pieces. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, The captain..seated himself astride of one of these barrels,..and pulling a great clasp-knife out of his pocket, began to 'whittle' it..by paring thin slices off the edges. 1913 JANE E. HARRISON *Anc. Art & Ritual* iv. 94 These wands..are whittled at the top into spiral shavings.

b. *transf.* To wear away or reduce by a process analogous to paring: see quots.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 457/1, I am told they'll..whittle You down twenty or thirty Legs of Mutton into one sorry Dish. 1837 EMERSON *Addr., Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 181 Like those Savoyards who getting their livelihood by carving shepherds [etc.]..went out one day to the mountain to find stock, and discovered that they had whittled up the last of their pine-trees. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., A saddle which pinches a horse's shoulder whittles the skin. 1860 GOUGER *Impris. in Burmah* xix. 213 The operator succeeded in whittling out [of a wen] a something which.. resembled..two or three inches of a large dew-worm. 1860 SALA *Badd. Peer.* I. xviii. 312 An American gentleman.. who, having tried to dissipate the *ennui* of the evening by a succession of juleps, had resorted to whittling the 'Liverpool Albion' up into fine shreds.

c. *absol.* or *intr.*

1624 [see *whittling* vbl. sb., below]. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 144 A..fellow..who was whittling in the corner. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. 1. II. 175 She was the first and only lady in America that I observed to whittle. 1880 MARY FITZGIBBON *Trip to Manitoba* xi. 133 He whittled away at a stick.

2. *fig.* To reduce or make smaller by successive abstractions; to diminish the amount, force, or importance of; to 'cut *down*'; to take *away* by degrees, so as to reduce to nothing.

1746 WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1834) II. 169 We have whittled down our loss extremely. 1780 M. MADAN tr. *Thelyphthora* I. 126 Not..whittling away the strong, noble, manly sense of scripture, into the ridiculous whims and fancies of visionaries. 1862 *Major Jack Downing* (1867) 74 You estemated the receipts from land sales, in July, at $3,000,000. You cut it down in December to $2,300,000; and now Congress, by passing the Homestead bill, will whittle it all off. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 17 Oct. 4/1 If Parliament is whittled down so that nothing remains of it but the House of Commons. 1888 M. BURROWS *Cinque Ports* vii. 171 The Ports were annually reminded of the extent to which their ancient supremacy had been whittled away.

3. To make or shape by whittling; to carve. Also *fig.*

1848 LOWELL *Let. to S. H. Gay* 5 May, I have contrived to whittle out something..for you in time for the mail. 1863 *Lond. Rev.* 30 Dec. 686/1 Robinson Crusoe whittled a diary upon a stick. 1895 ELIZ. S. PHELPS *Chapters from Life* I. 14 She is whittling little wooden feet to stretch the children's stockings on.

Hence **Whittled** (-'ld) *ppl. a.*; **Whittling** *vbl. sb.*, (*a*) the action of the verb (also *attrib.*); (*b*) whittles, or is addicted to whittling as an idle trick.

1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whittled-sticks*, sticks from which beavers have eaten the bark. 1884 GILMORE *Mongrels* 244 The bow..was a bent and whittled branch of some shrub. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. 1. I. 236 In some courts they put sticks before passed *whittlers to save the furniture. 1907 *Elem. School Teacher* Mar. 393 No one thinks of denying him the pocket-knife because of the fear that its use will result in his ...a mere whittler. 1824 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. v. (ed. 2) 364 He spent the time in *whitling with a knife. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. 1. II. 4 Each knife having two pen-blades, one whittling blade. 1854 C. GREATHEED (*title*) Whittlings from the West. 1875 HOWELLS *Foregone Conclus.* iii. 61 Litter of shavings and whittlings strewed the floor. 1885 PROCTOR *Whist* Pref. 10 The Whist Whittlings include Whist stories, maxims, notes. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xx, I am no lasy,..*whittling, tobacco-chewing Texan!

Whittle, *v.*[3] (*slang*), var. WHEEDLE, to 'peach'.

1707 SWIFT *Clever Tom Clinch* 16 Tom..said, I must speak to the People a little, But I'll see you all damn'd before I will whittle. 1874 *Slang Dict., Whittle*, to nose or peach.

Whittret, **-it**, **-ick**, var. WHITRET.

Whit Tuesday: see after WHIT SUNDAY.

Whitty (hwi·ti). *dial.* Also 9 witty. Usually *whitty-tree* = WHITTEN-*tree*.

a 1686 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 56 Whitty-tree, or wayfaring tree, is rare in this country. 1813 E. LEES *Agric. Plants* (1834) 63 The true-service or sorb-tree..This tree.. is called the whitty or witten pear-tree, its fruit being exactly similar to very small pears. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whitty-tree*, the mountain ash. *West. Ibid.*, *Witty* (L), the mountain ash. *Salop.* 1888 Witty [see WHITTEN].

Whitwall, var. WITWALL, woodpecker.

Whitworth (hwi·twɜ̄ɹþ). [f. name of the inventor: see below.] In full, *Whitworth gun* or *rifle*: A form of rifle (either cannon or small arm) invented by Sir Joseph Whitworth of Manchester (1854), having a hexagonal bore with a rapid twist, and firing an elongated shot. Also *attrib.*

Whitworth metal or *steel*, a specially strong make of steel cast under hydraulic pressure, used for ordnance and for other purposes.

1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 380 The Whitworth has also a greater range, but at a cost of 300 per cent. more friction... The production of the Whitworth rifle will always be looked upon as an experiment of very great interest. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 73. 549 The Armstrong gun..is a built gun..; the Whitworth is a casting of what is called 'homogeneous iron'. 1863 in *Harvard Mem. Biogr.* (1866) I. 251 One family had a Whitworth shot through their house yesterday. 1868 *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* Not. & Abstr. 195 No. 1 projectile is Whitworth steel. 1869 *Ibid.* (1870) 439 A projectile of 'Whitworth' metal. 1902 P. MARSHALL *Metal Working Tools* 63 For very small threads up to about ¼ in. diameter, the British Association thread is generally used, while beyond this size the Whitworth Standard is the best.

Whity (hwɑi·ti), *sb.* [f. WHITE *a.* + -Y[6].]

1. A white man; in quot. as a *quasi*-proper name: cf. BLACKY *sb.* 1.

1808 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 9 The instant *blacky* perceives *whity* beating a retreat, he vociferates after him—'Go along, you dam rascal'.

2. = WHITING *sb.* 1 b (*a*).

1912 A. MCCORMICK *Words fr. Wild. Wood* vi. 82, I had thrashed the stream..in the hope of getting a 'whitey'.

Whity, whitey (hwɑi·ti), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 6 whitty. [f. WHITE *a.* + -Y[1 2].] = WHITISH.

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* II. met. iii. 26 Whan Phebus..the light to spred begins, The star dimed..Pales her whitty lookes. 1868 C. P. SMYTH *Three Cities in Russia* II. 139 Lofty rooms of a whity style of decoration. 1897 J. HOCKING *Birthright* xiii, She fixed her whitey, shining eyes upon me.

b. *esp.* (quasi-*adv.*) with other adjs. (or *adj* with sbs.) of colour. See also WHITY-BROWN.

1856 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. 1862 I. 139 The insipid whity-grey bread of towns. 1879 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* (1882) I. 311 The Shah's yacht..is painted of a dirty whity-yellow colour. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 575 A great sedum, with a grand head of whity-pink flower.

Whity-brown, *a.* (*sb.*) [WHITY *a.* b.]

1. Of a brown colour inclining to white; whitish brown; pale brown: most commonly of paper. As *sb.* (properly two words) a whitish brown; *ellipt.* = whity-brown paper.

1777 THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) II. 104 The frequent marriages of these men..with white women, and the succession of black, brown, and whity brown people, produced by these very unnatural..alliances. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 2 Aug., She seized a piece of whity-brown paper. 1815 *Zeluco* II. 83 Detestable Creature, with her whity-brown hair. 1816 COLMAN *Broad Grins, Mr. Champernowne* vii, A paper coarse in grain; For England's monarchs then were fain To handle whitey-brown. 1860 THACKERAY *Philip* xix, Whitey-brown bread. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 17 A little green leather sheath, worn at the edges to whitey-brown.

2. *fig.* Neither one thing nor another, neutral, undecided, half-and-half.

1892 *Spectator* 29 Mar. 391/2 Let us..have no whitey-brown men. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Dec. 8/2 The whitey-brown men, a political tribe of undecided colour,..who side with any party.

Whiver (hwi·vəɹ), obs. or dial. f. QUIVER *v.*[2]

1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 37 It is not a whiver-ing voyce of a vow..that can..quenche..these..flames of naturall corruption. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 10 Stately standerts and punicall pinsels, displayed for whiver-ing in the winde. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, To *Whiver*, to hover.

Whizgig (hwi·zgig). [f. WHIZ(z + GIG *sb.*[1]] An object that whizzes round, as a revolving humming toy: cf. WHIZZER a, FIGGIG 2. Also *attrib.* So **Whiz-jig** [cf. JIG *sb.* 6], in quot. applied (? allusively) to a pumping apparatus.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* XXIV, A bed about the size of one of those whizgig temples in which the Genius appears in a pantomime. 1892 *Cent. Dict.*, *Whizgig*, a mechanical

toy. 1891 *Century Mag.* Dec. 248 A labor-saving whiz-jig was now devised.

Whizz, whiz (hwiz), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An act, or the action, of whizzing; a sibilant sound somewhat less shrill than a hiss, and having a trace of musical tone like a buzz; a swift movement producing such a sound.

1600 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 201° Through skies by night shee flingeth, and Her whizze earth's darknesse teares. 1688 Bunyan *Holy War* 74 Their shot would go by their ears with a Whizz. 1713 *Guardian* No. 92 P 5 He never once Duck'd at the whizz of a Cannon Ball. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* III. xvii, Like the whizz of my cross-bow. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxvi, The..whiz and scream of the arriving trains. *c* 1850 'Dow jr.' in Jerdan *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 78 Shall we lumber along the road, and allow other nations to pass us with a whiz? 1897 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* ix, Amid a whizz of scythe-blades.

2. *U.S. slang.* An agreement, 'bargain'.

The relation to sense 1 is not clear.

1869 'Mark Twain' *Innoc. Abr.* xl, They said, each to his fellow, Let us sleep here..And each..said, It is a whiz. 1876 — *Tom Sawyer* xxxiv, 'If we don't find it, I'll agree to give you my drum and everything I've got.'..'All right—it's a whiz.' 1888 *New York Times* 30 Dec., 'You will have to play that you are a boy, that I am master .. Is it a whizz?' he asked.

Whizz, whiz, *v.* Also 6 whize, 7 whizze, 6, 9 *dial.* whus(s. [Echoic. Cf. Hizz.]

1. *intr.* To make a sound as of a body rushing through the air (see Whizz *sb.*); (of trees) to rustle; (of a burning or hot object) to hiss, sizzle. Now *dial.*

a 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II. 535 As wrastling windes..Befight themselves..The woods do whiz. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 67 Thee flams surmounting tenements doo whize to the skyward. 1589 [see Whizzing *ppl. a.*]. 1627 May *Lucan* VI. 199 The fire whizzes in burning eyes. 1675 Dryden *Aurengz.* v. (1676) 85 'Tis dry—'twill burn—Ha, ha! how my old Husband crackles there!..I know him; he'll but whiz, and strait go out. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Apr., Is Dilly gone to the Bath? His face will whizz in the water. 1763 Colman *Terræ-Filius* No. 1. P 4 Some queer old Gentleman may be alarmed at the Crackers bouncing about his Ears,..or a Squib whizzing in his Periwig. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Whiz*, to hiss like hot iron in water. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* I, The sound of his tea-kettle, hissing, whizzing, sputtering in the agonies of boiling over.

†b. To wheeze. *Obs.*

1607 [see Whizzing *vbl. sb.*]. 1621 Cotgr. s. v. *Pigeonneau, Il a mangé les pigeonneaux x*, said of a man that whizzes, or speakes hoarse. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 134/2 A Baboon Whizeth, hath a Shrill Whizing. 1748 [see Whizzing *ppl. a.* b].

2. To move swiftly with or as with such a sound.

1592 Harington *Orl. Fur.* IX. lxix, The shot, gainst which no armour can suffice,..Doth whiz, and sing. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* II. i. 44 The exhalations, whizzing in the ayre, Giue so much light, that I may reade by them. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XXII. 183 The Hauke comes whizzing on. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 1169 When the Jav'lin whizz'd along the Skies. *a* 1721 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Whx.* (1723) II. 8 Both of us sitting together on the quarter-deck, heard a bullet whizzing over our heads. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VII. 741 How the quoit Whizzed from the Stripling's arm! 1853 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1883) I. 403 The small, black steamers, whizzing industriously along. 1914 'Ian Hay' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 2 Watching for the motors that whizzed..along the straight white road.

b. *fig.* To have a sensation of such a sound.

1797, 1854 [see Whizzing *vbl. sb.*]. 1865 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 34 Reading makes my head whiz. 1898 [see Whizzing *vbl. sb.*].

3. *trans.* To cause to whizz; to hurl, shoot, or convey swiftly with a whizz; *spec.* in technical use, to dry by centrifugal force in a rapidly revolving apparatus (cf. Whizzer b).

1836 W. Irving *Astoria* XIV, He was on the point of whizzing a bullet into the target. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* VII, A Balearic slinger about to whizz the stone. 1882 Crookes *Dyeing & Tissue-Printing* 228 Enter at 212° F., raise to a boil in three turns, wash well, whiz, and dry. 1884 W. S. B. M°Laren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 39 Most of the wool is 'whizzed' after drying.

Whizz, whiz, *int.* and *adv.* An exclamation imitating the sound described under Whizz *sb.* and *v.*; as *adv.* = with a whizz.

1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr., Fire & Ale*, The water..bubbled and simmer'd and started off, whizz! 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* XX, Whiz went the bolt. 1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* XII. 347 When whiz and thump went axe.

b. *Comb.* **whi-z-bang** *colloq.* the shell of a small-calibre high-velocity German gun, so called from the noise it made; also as *int.*

1915 'Ian Hay' *1st Hundt. Thous.* xviii, A whizz-bang is a particularly offensive form of shell which bursts two or three times over, like a Chinese cracker. 1920 Lipscomb *Staff Tales* 59 Whizz-bang! Something grasses parapet.

Whizzer (hwi·zəɹ). [f. Whizz *v.* + -er 1.] Something that whizzes; *spec.* a. a toy that makes a whizzing noise when whirled round; b. a machine for drying various articles by the centrifugal force of rapid revolution; a hydro-extractor.

1882 Tylor in *Academy* 9 Apr. 263 A toy mechanically curious and called in England a 'whizzer' or 'bull-roarer'.

machine for treating i

Whizziness: see after Whizzy *a.*

Whizzing (hwi·zĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whizz *v.* + -ing 1.] The action or sound denoted by Whizz.

1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 11 Of the Cynocephale or Baboun...Their voyce is a shrill whizing. 1632 Anchoran *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 110 For feare the hinges should make some noyse (or whizzing). 1720 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 623 His horse, being frighted by the whizzing of a cannon ball, threw him. 1797 T. Morton *Cure for Heartache* I. ii, Such a whizzing and spinning in my head. 1830 Ht. Martineau *Manch. Strike* VI. 65 The incessant whizzing and whirling of the wheels. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, She complain'd of such a whuzzing in her ears. 1884 W. S. B. M°Laren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 49 The whizzing in the hydro-extractor is sufficient. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 818 Whizzings in the head..are complained of.

b. *attrib.* **Whizzing-stick** = Whizzer a.

1890 *Amer. Anthrop.* III. 258 The 'whizzing-stick' or 'bull-roarer' on the West Coast of Africa.

Whi·zzing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That whizzes: see the verb.

1589 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* vii. 1 Daphnis..sat him downe vnder a whizzing holme. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* (1890) 3 A stopping hinderance to their current and whuzing fall. 1626 Drayton *Poly-olb.* XX. 231 When the whizzing Bels the silent ayre doe cleaue. 1636 W. Lisle *Heliodorus* IX. 152 A whizzing cloud of arrowes dimd the Sun. *a* 1769 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 734 My stun'd ear tingles to the whizzing tide. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr., Tale Drury Lane* 105 Still o'er his head, while Fate he braved, His whizzing water-pipe he waived. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* xix. (1869) 284 A whizzing, screaming steam engine. 1870 Thornbury *Tour rd. Eng.* I. ii. 27 [We] sweep on with whizzing wheels past broad nursery gardens.

b. Of a sound: Of the nature of a whizz.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 183 The heauens shall passe away, with a whizzing tempestuous noyse. 1664 S. Taylor in *Evelyn's Pomona* 50 Which evaporates with a sparkling and whizzing noise. 1748 tr. *Vegetius Renatus' Distempers Horses* 183 He makes a whizzing Noise in his Breast. 1829 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 563 Whizzing voice. The voice accompanied with a whizzing or hissing sound. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 832/2 A peculiar whizzing sound,..perceptible on applying ..a stethoscope to the tumour. 1891 Smiles *Hem. J. Murray* XX. II. 3 A whizzing sound in his ears.

Hence **Whi·zzingly** *adv.* In recent Dicts.

Whi·zzle, *v. dial.* Also 6 whisle, whysle. [f. Whizz *v.* + -le.]

1. *intr.* To whizz or whistle.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. 93 Rush do the winds forward through perst chinck narrolye whizling. 1901 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 5/4 The nagaikas whizzled, and the students were falling to the ground row after row.

2. *trans.* To obtain slily.

1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Whizzle*, to get any thing away slily. 1847 Halliwell, *Whizzle*, to obtain anything slily. 1894 Bridges *Nero* II. i. ii. 319, 'Twould be guessed whence I whizzled it.

Whizzy (hwi·zi), *a. rare.* [f. Whizz *sb.* or *v.* + -y 1.] Characterized by whizzing; *fig.* (*dial.*) dizzy, giddy. Hence **Whi·zziness,** quality or state of whizzing.

1839 Thackeray *Leg. St. Sophia of Kieff* XVIII. 42 The swift arrow's whizziness causing a dizziness. 1866 Thornbury *Greatheart* lviii, I felt all whizzy and sleepy like.

Who (hū, *unemph.* hu), *pron.* (*sb.*) Forms: 1–3 hwa, (1 hua), 2–3 hwo, hwoa, 2–4 wa, (2 wua, 3 whæ, wæ, wea, wah, hwoo, 3wo), 3–5 hoo, 3–6 wo, 3–5, 6–*Sc.* wha, (4 huo), 4–6 ho, whoo, 4, 9 *dial.* whe, 5 woo, (*Sc.* vho, 5–9 *dial.* how, 6 hou, *Sc.* vha), 6–7 whoe, (9 *Sc.* whae), 3–who; 3–5 quo, (3 quuo), 4 qwo, qwa, 4–5, 6 *Sc.* qua, 4–8 *Sc.* quha, 5–6 *Sc.* quhay, 5–7 *Sc.* quho, (6 *Sc.* qwha, quhe). [OE. *hwā* = OFris. *hwā*, OS. *hwa, hwis* (MDu., Du. *wie*), OHG. *hwer, wer* (MHG., G. *wer*), ODa. *hwa* (Da. *hvo*), Goth. *hwas*, fem. *hwo*:—OTeut. **χwas, *χwes*:—Indo-eur. **q"o-, *q"ā-s.* For oblique forms see Whom, Whose. For the vocalism cf. Two.

Indo-eur. *q"o-, q"e-, q"ā-* are represented outside Germanic by Skr. *ka*, fem. *kā*, neut. *kad* (What), Zend *kō, kā, kat*, Lith. *kàs*, OSl. *kŭ-to* (Russ. кто), Gr. πότερος, Ionic κότερος, etc., L. *qui, quæ, quod*, Umbrian *poi* who, Oscan *pod* what, OIr. *cía, cé, cad, ca-ch* any one, *ca-ir, co-to* what it, W. *pwy* who, *pa* what, *paup* any one, Gael. *co* who; the variant *q"i-* is represented by Skr. *kis* (interrog. particle), *cid* (indef. particle), *kim* what, how, why, etc., Zend *kīš*, Gr. τίς, τί (=*τῖδ), L. *quis, quid*, Umbrian *svo-pis* if any one, Oscan *pis, pid*, OSl. *čĭ-to* what (Russ. что), Ir., Gael. *cia, cid.* For the stem-types as represented in derivative formations in English see When, Where, Whether, Which, Whither, Whom, Why, and How *adv.*]

I. Interrogative and allied uses.

1. As the ordinary interrogative pronoun, in the nominative singular or plural, used of a person or persons; corresponding to *what* of things (What A. 1).

Formerly sometimes with partitive *of*, where *which* is ordinarily used (Which 3 b).

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xviii. (Z.) 213 *Quis hoc fecit?* hwa dyde ðis? *c* 1000 Orosius 97 55 Wha tahhte ȝuw To fleon & to forbuȝhenn ðatt irre ðatt to cumenn iss? *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 359 Quo seide ðe Sat ðu wer naked? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1118 Hauelok..Wende wel Sat he were Godrich sone, Ac he nuste hwa Sat was his fader. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 3703 Þe werwolf went þer-to to wite ho were þere. *a* 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (1724) 40 (MS. B.) Among hem..stryf me myȝte se, Wuche mest maistres were, & hoo schulde lord be. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lvii, Maist thou noght se Quho commyth ȝond? *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 47 That ladyes..might se Who that beste were of dede. 1469 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 109 If he happed to dye, how shuld come after hym ye wote never. 1563–7 Buchanan *Reform. St. Andrew* Wks. (S.T.S.) 13 The examinateuris..sal declair to the rectour..quha ar worthy of promotion. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 400 Shall we..lay this Angiers euen with the ground, Then after fight who shall be king of it? 1622 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 612 They throng who should buy first. 1627 S. Collins *Epphata to F. T.* 374 It might put him in minde of who had beene there sometime. 1677 Ravenscroft *Wrangling Lovers* v. i. 67 Did he know who I was? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Highjinks*, a Play at Dice who Drinks. 1800 Lathom *Dark of Day* v. i, Tell the young gentleman..a gentleman wishes to see him immediately; don't say who, but bring him hither directly. 1823 G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 56 Not having a guess of who he was. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxiv. (1898) 167 What her obligations were, and who this lady was, belongs in no way to this history.

4. Phrases. a. *Who is who* (chiefly in dependent clause): who is one and who is the other; who each of a number of persons is, or what position each holds. (Cf. What A. 8 a, Which 4 b.)

†*Who and who are (or what) together*: who is allied

my mother? or who are my brethren? 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 198 Nay, but who is it? 1669 Killigrew *Parson's Wedd.* III. v, *Carol.* How can that be? *Jell.* It is the Scrivener at the Corner. 1674 Milton *P. L.* I. 33 Who first seduc'd them to that foul revolt? Th' infernal Serpent; 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* IV. i. G 2 b, Who of my Servants wait there? *c* 1800 *Jock o' the Side* xvi. in Whitelaw *Bk. Sc. Ballads* (1857) 380/1 Whae's this kens my ——— well..? 1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* XXX, 'Who can it be, dear?'..'at such a time too.' 1865 Kingsley *Hereward*, 'And he is killed?' 'Who? Hereward?' 1904 Weyman *Abbess Vlaye* IV, And who—who does she say dared to commit this outrage?

b. With intensive additions, as *who the devil, who on earth*, etc.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* V. 743 Quha dowlit thaim maid so galy for to ryd? 1529 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* II. ii. A iij, Some therat dide murmure and..sayd: Who the deuyll hath sent for theym? 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XV. v, Why, who the Devil are you? *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) I. 255 Who upon earth could ever paint the bare sea?

c. In pregnant or emphatic sense, referring to a person's origin, character, position, or the like; cf. What A. 2.

In rhetorical questions often approaching or merging with 2.

1382 Wyclif *Rom.* xiv. 4 Who art thou, that demest anothir [*v.r.* anothris] seruaunt? 1526 Tindale *Acts* xix. 15 Iesus I knowe, and Paul I knowe: but who are ye? 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xv. 16 Who saye ye that I am? 1611 *Bible* Exod. v. 2 Who is the Lord that I should obey him? — Isa. lxiii. 1 Who is this that cometh from Edom? 1840 Browning *Sordello* II. 635 Who were The Mantuans, after all, that he should care About their recognition? 1898 *Belgravia* Aug. 462 'Who is he?' 'Mr. Legge—Eustace Legge.' 'Yes. But *who* is he?' 'I don't know.'

d. Substituted for the name of a person in asking for explanation: cf. What A. 4 b.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVI. ii, 'I am come..by the Command of my Lord Fellamar.' 'My Lord who?' 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* XX, 'I heerd 'em laughing, and saying how they'd done old Fireworks.' 'Old who?' said Mr. Pickwick. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* I. ii, 'What's your names?' 'Mr. Tittlebat Titmouse,' answered that gentleman..'Mr. *who?*' exclaimed the old woman.

2. In a rhetorical question, suggesting or implying an emphatic contrary assertion.

e. g. *Who would..?* = No one would..; *Who would not..?* = Any one would..; *Who knows..?* = No one knows..; *Who but..?* = No one but, no one else than..; etc. See also *who not* in 4 b. (Cf. What A. 3, Where 4.)

a 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* XXVIII. 5 Hwa is moncynnes þæt ne wundrie? *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxi. 7 Hwa wolde ȝelyfan, þæt Sarra sceolde lecgan cild to hyre breoste..on ylde? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 454 Qua herd euer a warr auntur? 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 427 Þe croune fro hyr [*sc.* Mary] que mo3t remwe, Bot ho hir passed in sum fauour? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 601 Who koude ryme in englyssh properly His ruartirdom? for sothe it am nat I. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* VIII. 35 Who shall seperate vs from goddes loue? 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Quip* IV, Then came brave Glorie puffing by, In silks that whistled, who but he! 1735 Pope *Ep. Arbuthnot* 213–14 Who but must laugh, if such a man there be? Who would not weep if Atticus were he? 1780 Cowper *Gilpin* 113 Away went Gilpin—who but he? 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, Of course he married, and who should be his wife but Barbara? 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. XII. ii, Where was Maud? in our wood; And I, who else, was with her. 1914 Kipling *For all we have and are* 39 Who stands if freedom fall?

3. In a dependent question, or clause of similar meaning. † In early use also with *that* (That *conj.* 6).

For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative, cf. note s.v. What A. I.**.

Beowulf 52 Men ne cunnon secgan..hwa þæm hlaste onfeng! *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 To underȝeate wa an alle his cynerice him were frend oðer fend. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 159 Luste8 nu wich maiden þat is..and hware he was fet and hwo hire ledde and wu and hwider. *a* 1240 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Ich..nabbe hwoa me froure. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1105 Ic wot hwo sal beo unhonge. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 985 Wan a child were ibore & me in doute were Wo were þe fader. 13.. *Northern Passion* 803 (Camb. Gg. 5. 31), Tell vs now who smate þe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 264 Me him aceþ huo he ya. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2733 Þe werwolf went þer-to to wite ho were þere. *a* 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (1724) 40 (MS. B.) Among hem..stryf me myȝte se, Wuche mest maistres were, & hoo schulde lord be. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lvii, Maist thou noght se Quho commyth ȝond? *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 47 That ladyes..might se Who that beste were of dede. 1469 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 109 If he happed to dye, how shuld come after hym ye wote never. 1563–7 Buchanan *Reform. St. Andrew* Wks. (S.T.S.) 13 The examinateuris..sal declair to the rectour..quha ar worthy of promotion. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 400 Shall we..lay this Angiers euen with the ground, Then after fight who shall be king of it? 1622 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 612 They throng who should buy first. 1627 S. Collins *Epphata to F. T.* 374 It might put him in minde of who had beene there sometime. 1677 Ravenscroft *Wrangling Lovers* v. i. 67 Did he know who I was? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Highjinks*, a Play at Dice who Drinks. 1800 Lathom *Dark of Day* v. i, Tell the young gentleman..a gentleman wishes to see him immediately; don't say who, but bring him hither directly. 1823 G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 56 Not having a guess of who he was. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxiv. (1898) 167 What her obligations were, and who this lady was, belongs in no way to this history.

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†*Who and who are (or what) together*: who is allied

with or engaged to whom. *Who's Who*, the title of a reference manual of contemporary biography, issued first in 1849, and in a new and enlarged form in 1897; also *transf.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 380 She saugh hem bothe two But sikerly she nyste who was who. *a* 1500 (see WHAT A. 8 a). 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Presny's Amusem.* 70 Let's take a Trip into the Land of Marriage, and see Who and Who are together. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 35 P 3 A general Knowledge of who and who's together. 1710–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 4 Jan., I showed the Bishop..at Court, who was who. 1720 MRS. BRADSHAW in *Cases Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 90 Pray let me hear a little how your court goes, who and who are together. 1886 EMILY EDEN *Semi-attached Couple* II, Though she could not distinguish who was who, yet she had a right to say she had seen 'the marquess'. 1900 ELIZ L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 76 With the exception of those persons of art and letters who were celebrated in my own country as well as in England, I knew nothing of 'who was who' in London. 1918 *Nat. Geogr. Mag.* XXXIV. 64 Those whose names would be in history's 'Who's Who'.

b. Phrases used as sbs., etc.

I know not (mod. *I don't know*) *who, Lord knows who*, etc.: some person or persons unknown, or of unknown origin, status, etc. (cf. 1 c); so *and I don't know who all* (colloq. rare: cf. WHAT A. 8 b), = 'and various other persons unspecified'; *who-do-you-think* († *who-dost-think*), substituted for the name of a person to be guessed. *Who not* (cf. 8 above and WHAT-NOT 1); any one whatever, any one and every one, all kinds of people (now rare or obs.). *Who-say* (now *dial.*): a vague report, a rumour; in quot. 1583, a pretended excuse. Also *who's-afraid* adj. phr., defiant, swaggering

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 789 Half way hameward vp the calsay, [He] Said to his servandis for a quha say: 'Alace I the porter is foryett'. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (1595) D 2, Innumerable examples,..as Brutus, Alphonsus.., and Who not. 1618 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 131 Heere stood I musing .Till Iockie wha dost thinke speard vp to me. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 18 He was great with.. Erasmus, Grocyn, Latimer, Tonstall, and who not. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 99 To throw herself away upon the Lord knows who. 1823 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* I. v. 249 *note*, St. Antonio on one side, and St. I know not who on the other. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Whosay*, or *Hearsay*, a wandering report; an observation of no weight. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xli, A vagabondish who's-afraid sort of bearing. 1844 HALIBURTON *Sam Slick in Eng.* xlviii. (1858) 304 And then he'd go over a whole string—Mason, Mickle, Burns, and I don't know who all. 1905 ELIN. GLYN *Vicius. Evang.* 5 Mamma's father was a lord, and her mother I don't know who.

¶ 8. Used ungrammatically for the objective WHOM, in senses corresponding to any of the above.

Common in colloquial use as obj. of a verb, or of a preposition following at the end of the clause; formerly also of a preposition preceding (now only when substituted for a noun or pronoun as in 1 d).

1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 119, I rehersyd no name, but me thowt be hem that thei wost ho I ment. 1540 CRANMER *Remains* (Parker Soc.) 401 Who shall your grace trust hereafter, if you might not trust him? 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1874) 52 At sight of me he asked, who have we there? 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 74 To whom came he?.. What saw he?..Who ouercame he? 1591 — *1 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 62 Who ioyn'st thou with? 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 258 Who have we to thank.. but the Whigs? 1753 FOOTE *Englishm. in Paris* II, *Buck.* Why, have you observ'd nothing? *Mrs. Sub.* About who? 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) III. 68 This leads to a discussion..who the son married, whether the daughter died single [etc.]. 1874 HARDY *Far from Mad. Crowd* XXX, Who are you speaking of? 1881 MALLOCK *Rom. 19th Cent.* II. 154, I know..who it comes from.

II. Relative uses (formerly often with *that*, THAT *conj.* 6, rarely with *as*).

6. As compound relative in the nominative in general or indefinite sense: Any one that: = WHOEVER 1. *arch.* or *literary*. a. with pronominal correlative in following clause.

c 1290 *Hali Meid.* 23/233 Hwa þat sehe benne hu þe engles beoð iseamed..stani were his heorte ȝif ha ne mealte I teares. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 195 Who þat entreþ þer He his sauff euere more. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) lxiii, Who that is in such offys, Ne come he ner so pore, He fareth witin a while As he had selver in horde. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 990 Ho that nolde do bi heore red, Cristen men tak of heore hed. *c* 1378 *Cursor M.* 6781 (Fairf.) Wha dose.. þat wriched pilȝt He salle be done to dede. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xix, But ho his bidding brekes, bare þei bene of blys. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 71 in *Macro Plays* 38 To yowur loue wo dothe repeyer, All felycyte yn þat creatur ys. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. vii. 43 Who that holdeth ageynst it we wille slee hym. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xx. 453 Who that had be there than, he sholde have seen grete faytes of armes. *c* 1540 LYNDESAY *Auld Man & Wife* 199 Wks. 1879 II. 337 Quha wald haif weir, God send thame littill rest. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 47 Who soweth in raine, he shall reape it with teares. 1607 BP. HALL *Ps.* I. 1 Who hath not walkt astray,..Oh, how that man Thrice blessed is! 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ball., East & West* 94 Who rides at the tail of a Border thief, be sits not long at his meat.

b. without correlative.

c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 2370 Ho wol winne his warescon, now wiȝtly him spede Forte saue my sone, or for sorwe I deye. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 211 þat, quha to hym ferme treuthi gafe, He suld euire luf oure þe lafe. 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* I. 245 Who that takeþ fro pore to eke with his, sfor that wrong is worthy wo. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 38 Quha likis till half mar knawlage in that part, Go reid. 1543 tr. *Act 6 Edw. I*, c. 3 Who that is attaynted of wast, shal lese the thing wasted. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 101 *marg.*, Let who as list be blinded with these patches. *Ibid.* 186 To lie open to the spoile of who that first can catch it. 1600 MARSTON etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* I. (1601) B, Let who will climbe ambitious glibbery rowndes. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 80 *Cask.* 'Tis Cæsar that you mean: Is it not, Cassius? *Cassi.* Let it be who it is. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 156 Who steales my purse, steales trash. 1690 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man loc. Guilty* 93 Visible to the Eyes of who shall consider them. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* XXX, When a young man, be he who he will,..promises marriage, he has no business to fly off from his word. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* V, Each shall slay his man, catch who catch can. 1896 — *Poems, Forum*, 9 Be good, sweet maid, and let who can be clever. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 22, I passionately cried to who would hear. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* II. iv, Who holds the sea, perforce doth hold the land, And who lose that must lose the other too.

†c. In a dependent qualifying clause with loose construction (without correlative) and with conditional force: If any one: = WHOEVER 2. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2933 Inolde nost abbe uormake þat lond, wo me adde þrost þerto. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 42 þis fruit bitakens alle oure dedis, Both gode and ille qua rightly redis. *Ibid.* 1969 Qua þat alas or man or wijf, þar gas na ransun bot liue for lijf. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 391 Quha in battaill mycht him se, All othir contenance had he. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 298 Hit is tolde..wo þat trawe lyst,..he highyt vnto helle yntes. 1420–2 LYDG. *Thebes* 2117 And in despit, who that was lief or loth A sterne pas thorgh the halle he goth. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 285, I were not so joyous who that had gyuen me a C thousand besans of gold, as I am to haue fond the. *a* 1536 WYATT *Poems, To cause accord or to aggrie* 16 Twixt lyff and deth say what who sayth There lyveth no lyff that draweth breth. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 69 Christe..sched, also quha vnderstude, Als gret abundance of his blude For the pure sely nakit thyng As he sched for the Potent kyng.

†d. Introducing a clause expressing comparison, with idiomatic superlative. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 170 Thenne was the cost gretly mevyd, & came to the port who best coude. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 347, I euer detesting [heresy] as much as who can detest it most. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. verse 14. vii. § 4 Elijah, who did as great wonders.. by prayer, as who greatest? *Ibid.* 35. xviii. § 2 There was a time..that Paul loved the world as well as who most.

7. As who (freq. followed by *would* or *should*): as or like one who; hence (with loss of relative force), as if one. *arch.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 402 Al þis shal be bouȝt, as who bieþ an oxe or a cow. *Ibid.* III. 123 þei sellen Gods worde, as who schulde selle an oxe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4649 We erd nost in elementis as eulrmare to duell, Bot as qua pas a pilgrymage fra Paryach to rome. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 294 b/2 He..pressyd her..bytwene foure grete stones as who sholde presse olyues. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vii. 60 Sic wys as quha throw cluddy skyis saw. 1606 [see As B. 12 a]. 1649 FULLER *Appeal Inj. Innoc.* I. ii. 2 The Tanner was the Worst of all Masters to his Cattle, as who would not onely load them soundly whilest living, but Tan their Hides when dead. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1687 I. 303 Every man gladly would be neighbour to a quiet person, as who..doth afford all the pleasure of conversation, without any .. trouble. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. vi. 210 Such speech..was probably..a mere freak of the tongue,..as who should go to a masked ball in guise of Mephistopheles. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 608 With his bow..in his hand and the arrow laid on the string, And peering round about him as who would loose at a thing.

b. Most commonly with the vb. *say*: (*a*) †*as who saith* or *say*, as they say, as is commonly said, as the saying is; also = next; (*b*) *as who should say* (arch.), † (*c*) *as who would* (occas. *might*) *say*, as if saying, as if one should say, as one may say, as much as to say.

(*a*) 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 24 Severne & temese; homber is þet pridde; & þanne is, as ȝwo seiþ, þat pur lond amidde. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7046 Alle þat spake of syre Troyle Was skraped awey, as who sey oyle. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxliii. 6 Lorde helde þi heuens and descend.. Aswhassay, we ere in fightynge [etc.]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 127 Pilat answeride, þat Y have writun, I have writun; as who seiþ, þis writing shal stonde. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxvii, Sodaynly, as quho sais at a thoght, It opnyt. 1438 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 438 His tarying here dothe..grete hurte, what for the wages of hym and his retenue, as who say lost. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Sir Thomas of Woodstock* xiv, To bridle the prince of a realme, Is euen (as who sayeth) to striue with the streame. 1612 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 14 Papists hence inferre [that the Scriptures are] not to be permitted to lay-people, in their Mother-tongue; abusing to this purpose the saying of Christ, *Mat.* 7. 6. as who say all Gods people were Doggas.

(*b*) *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8611 (Fairf.) Ho turned hir ouer..As qua suldе sai, I knaw na harme. 1527 TINDALE *Wicked Mammon* (1548) 36 If I preache (sayeth he) I haue nought to reioyce in, for necessyte is put vnto me, as who shulde say, god hathe made me so. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 50 He doth nothing but frowne (as who should say, and you will not haue me, choose). 1662 R. L'ESTRANGE *Interest Mistaken* 127 This is but another Alarm, as who should say; Look to your selves my Masters. 1717 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Bold Stroke for Wife* I. ii, They command Regard, as who should say, We are your Defenders. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xliv, Mr. Dennis coughed and shook his head, as who should say, 'A mystery indeed!' 1905 WELLS *Kipps* II. ix. § 2 Sid beamed at Kippe, as who should say, 'You don't meet a character like *this* every dinner-time'.

(*c*) 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 It was (as who myght saye) the hynder parte of god that they sawe. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v. (*c* 1550) 32 b, They seyed to the Apostles: ye wolde bryng thys mans bloud vpon vs, as who wolde saye, we slue him not. 1664 J. WILSON *A. Commonius* I. i, They all lookt wistly one on t'other, As who would say, 'twas true enough, but yet [etc.]. 1675 BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 19 He shall come..in Divine Majesty, as who would say, that when he Judges..He will show himself like God.

8. As compound relative in the nominative, of persons (less freq. a person): The persons (or person) that. *arch.* (Chiefly a latinism; esp. in 'There are who . . .' = L. *Sunt qui . . .*)

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. (S.T.S.) II. 90 *marg.*, Quha pape was in thir dayes, allowis al at the kings requeist. 1609 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 109 *Mach.* The Thane of Cawdor liues; why doe you dresse me In borrowed Robes? *Ang.* Who was the Thane, liues yet. 1627 J. DONCASTER *Disc. Div. Myst.* (1628) 20 There are who hold no art or science to be extant, which [etc.]. 1644 MILTON *Judgem. Bucer* To Parlt. B 4 b, If thir own works be not thought sufficient to defend them, there liva yet who will be ready..to debate..this matter. 1698 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxiv. 168 Through the ingratitude of who commands [It. *di chi domanda*]. 1713 TICKELL *Poems, To Addison, on Cato* 36 Who think like Romans, could like Romans fight. 1803 WORDSW. *Ode to Duty* II, There are who ask not if thine eye Be on them. 1891 BROWNING *Pr. Hohenstiel-Schwangau* 1007 He should know, sitting on the throne, how tastes Life to who sweeps the doorway. 1903 F. W. MAITLAND in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvi. 569 There were who held that the Queen was Supreme Head *iure divino*.

†b. In the phrase *but who* = 'except (one, those) who', 'who .. not': now replaced by *but what* (WHAT C. 5).

1675 BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 158 Should none arrive at Heaven but who had first arrived to a State of Perfection..; Heaven would be empty. 1787 WARBURTON *Lett. to Hurd* (1809) 249, I don't meet with one but who singly says yes. 1774 KAMES *Sketches* I. 1. i. 31 There is scarce a peasant but who has a chess-board and men.

9. As simple relative (of a person or persons), introducing a clause defining or restricting the antecedent and thus completing the sense: = THAT *rel. pron.* 1.

In modern printing usually distinguished from 10 by the absence of a comma before the relative: cf. WHICH B. 8.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1977 He nadde bote an doȝter wo miȝte is eir be. 13.. *Northern Passion* I. 154/380 Als men may here wha takes entent. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 445 Lordingis quha likis for till her, The romanys now begynnys her. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 68 A man who hath anie honestie in him. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* 1, A verse may finde him, who a sermon flies. 1707 *Sel. Charters Trad. Comp.* (Selden Soc.) 257 All and every other person and persons who shall be a subscriber or subscribers to the fund. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 363 As those move easiest who have learn'd to dance. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* IV, I must disclaim his friendship who ceases to be a friend to himself. 1819 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 21 The first who exported this metal .. were certain Phenician adventurers from Cadiz. 1864 NEWMAN *Apol.* 309 The men who had driven me from Oxford were distinctly the Liberals. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* I, One who..can command and be obeyed in ten cities.

†b. Used as correlative to *such*, where *as* is now idiomatic: cf. WHICH B. 10 b. *Obs.*

1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 174 To.. mak his eares patent to sic wha could alienat his mynd from the guid cause. 1662 [see SUCH B. 12]. 1713 *Guardian* No. 3 P 2 And instruct such who are not as wise as himself.

10. As simple relative introducing an additional statement about the antecedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause; thus sometimes equivalent to 'and he (she, they)': cf. WHICH B. 7, 9 a.

Formerly often placed at a distance from the antecedent (one or more sbs. intervening), with consequent obscurity or ambiguity: see quots. 1534, 1655.

1468–71 in *Manx. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 172 Be the grase of God, ho amend 30wer despoysyon. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poys. Bk.* Wks. 1037/2 As for Tyndal..who before he fel to these frasies, men had went had hadde some wyt. 1534 — *Treat. Passion* ibid. 1292/1 And he sayd vnto theym, what will ye gyue me and I shall delyuer hym to you, whoe whan they heard hym, were well apaid. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 115 That kyng, that sitts all kyngis abone, Quha heiris, and seis all that is wrocht. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 129, I should do Brutus wrong, and Cassius wrong, Who (you all know) are Honourable men. 1611 *Bible* Ps. lxv. 5 O God of our saluation: who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth. — Matt. x. 4 Iudas Iscariot, who also betrayed him. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 40. 180 As for her Son the King of Scots, from whom they expected a settlement of Popery in that land, their hopes were lately turned into despairs, who had his education on contrary principles. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 119 P 4 Honest Will Wimble, who I should have thought had been altogether uninfected with Ceremony. 1750 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 99 P 3 How different..is thy condition, who art doomed to the perpetual torments of unsatisfied desire. 1793 BURNS *Bruce's Addr.* I, Scots, wha hae wi' Wallace bled. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* XXVIII, A chap like my cousin Dick, who's a clever fellow and a devil for fireworks.

11. a. With antecedent denoting or connoting a number of persons collectively: usually with plural concord.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 7 Put we our quarrell to the will of heauen, Who when they see the houres ripe on earth, Will raigne hot vengeance on offenders heads. 1603 — *Ham.* IV. iii. 5 Hee's loued of the distracted multitude, Who like not in their iudgement, but their eyes. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. Alex. II*, 14 Except in Galloway, quha hes their awne speciall and proper Lawes. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 112 P 4 This authority of the knight .. has a very good effect upon the parish, who are not polite enough to see any thing ridiculous in his behaviour. 1772 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 238 The Hanse-towns, who were then at war with both France and England. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Jan. 12/2 The Midland, who first introduced American railway notions in their Pullman cars.

b. Used in reference to an animal or animals: usually with implication of personality, but sometimes merely a substitute for *which*.

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 16, I sawe the Hurchone and the Haire, Quha fed amang the flowers faire. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 21 Against the Capitoll I met

a Lyon Who glas'd vpon me, and went surly by. 1607 — *Cor.* IV. vii. 34 As is the Aspray to the Fish, who takes it By Souerainty of Nature. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xi, Like wily fox who roosted cock doth spy. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 163 He..lost his horse,..who was killed with the thrust of a sword. 1880 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* x, Two honest dogs..who perform in Punch's shows. 1884 PHILLIPS BROOKS *New Starts in Life* xviii. 306 Even the lowest creature who floats on the pool's surface..feels..some ..half-conscious pleasure in the mere act of living.

c. Used instead of *which* in reference to an inanimate thing or things; chiefly with personification (also with suggestion of personality, *e.g.* of a life-like statue); sometimes, as of a ship, approaching sense a.

1588 [see 12]. 1600 G. ABBOT *Expos. Jonah* xix. 402 The snow and raine, who come downe from aboue. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 7 A braue vessell (Who had no doubt some noble creature in her) Dash'd all to peeces. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Provid.* xxiii, The windes, who think they rule the mariner, Are rul'd by him. 1639 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 95, 3 Spanish men of warre..who..came vp with vs and fired at vs. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 263 The sun, who is the great fountain of both [light and heat]. 1818 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 8 Some wandering Ship who hath lost her way. 1917 MISS M. T. JACKSON *Museum* ii. 33 The Venus de Milo, who has stood for so many years..in the Louvre.

¶ 12. In irregular constructions: a. with pleonastic personal pronoun in the latter part of the relative clause, *who* thus becoming a mere link between the clauses (cf WHICH 14); b. preceded by redundant *and* (cf. WHICH 16 b).

1583 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxiv. 43 b/1 Now let vs returne to sir Loyes of Spayne, who whan he was at the porte of Guerand.., he and his company sayled forth. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 37, I tell my sorrowes..to the stones, Who though they cannot answere my distresse, Yet in some sort they are better then the Tribunes. 1619 NAUNTON in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 105 He is well knowen to ,divers others, who if they shold see him about the Court, it would make him uncapable to do the service. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xix, The very same place in which Sir Aymer de Valence held an interview with the old sexton; and who now, drawing into a separate corner some of the straggling parties whom he had collected,..kept on the alert.

¶ 13. Used ungrammatically for the objective WHOM, in senses corresponding to those above.

Still common colloquially in the indefinite sense (= *whomsoever*), otherwise now *rare* or *obs.* as a relative: cf. 5.

13 . *Cursor M.* 4007 (Gött.) Qua þat godd helpis wid-all, Traistli may he wend ouer-all. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5043 Mony [he] dange to the dede with dynt of his bond; Who happit hym to hitte harmyt nomo. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccx. 103 b/1 The kynge of Englande..had great prouision for his oost, by the meanes of John Alenson, who he founde at Flauigny. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. i. 44 The sad Briana..Who comming forth yet full of late affray, Sir Calidore vpcheard. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil War* IV. 42 A great Prince who I forbeare to name. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* II. 17 Our Surgeons, who we all call Doctors at Sea. *a* 1774 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 442 Persons who in his best judgment he sees reason to confide in. 1849 FROUDE *Nem. Faith* 134 He has a right..to choose who he will have for a teacher. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ash Mamma* XXXI, Not being able to ask exactly who he liked.

III. Substantival nonce-uses.

14. †a. *Old who*: the right man. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* F 2, He must haue exquisite courtship in him or else he is not old who.

b. A person, indefinitely or abstractly; a 'some one'.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 149 We have seen the Pittifull who's, and..the slender whats are against modest Learning. 1904 *Strand Mag.* May 516/1 'What ever made you think of it?' 'It wasn't a what; it was a who'.

c. with *the*: The question 'who?'

1771 GOLDSM. *Haunch of Venison* 26, I was puzzled again, With the how, and the who, and the where, and the when.

Who (*wū*), *int.* (*sb.*) Forms: 5 whoo, 5–7, 9 *dial.* who, 7 whoe, 8 whoh, 9 whoo. [Variant of Ho *int.*[2] = stop!] Stop! esp. as a call to a horse: = WHOA 2 (cf. Wo). †Also as *sb.*

c 1450 [see WHOOP *int.* b]. 1487 in S. Bentley *Excerpta Historica* (1831) 211 Then the Kyng perceyvyng the cruell assaile, cast his staff, and with high voice, cried, Whoo! 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 158 Thou art one of them, to whom god bad who, God tooke the for a carte horse, when god bad so. 1599 CHAPMAN *Hum. dayes Myrth* Plays 1873 I. 207 Who loe you bird, how much you are deceiued. *c* 1603 HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land* II. i, Come Ile go teach ye hayte and ree, gee and whoe, and which is to which hand. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 15 The ploughman..with haye Ree, & Who to his horse. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. xiv. 165 He is madd, madd, no whoe with him. 1797 T. MONTON *Cure for Heart-ache* I, Scene 1. A Farm Yard...The Bells of a Team jingling. *Frank* (*without*) Woyh! Whoh! Smiler! 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 146 Come hither, who-o. 1845 *Punch* 17 July 5/2 *Coachman.*—Whoo up!—d—n you! 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xii, There was a great deal of strong language, mingled with soothing 'who-ho's' while the leg was examined.

Who, obs. f. Ho *int.*[1], How *adv.*, WOE.

Whoa (*wō*), *int.* [Variant of WEO *int.*]

†1. *Whoa ho ho*, used to call attention from a distance. *Obs.*

1603 *Shake. Merry W.* v. v. 287 Whoa hoe, hoe, Father Page. 1609 — *Wint. T.* III. iii. 79 He hallow'd but euen now. Whoa-ho-ho.

2. A word of command to a horse or other draught-animal to stop or stand still; also used otherwise in conjunction with other words, as *come hither whoa, gee-whoa, hait-whoa, whoa back.* Hence used jocularly to a person as a command to stop or desist. (Cf. WOA.)

1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* iii. (1850) 32 'Soh! whow!' to his restive horses. 'Whow! I tell you...Whoa! I tell you. 1856 THOREAU *Ess., Walking* (1895) 88 Who but the Evil One has cried 'Whoa!' to mankind? 1865 EMILY DICKINSON *Lett.* (1894) II. 256 Life..will run away, notwithstanding our sweetest whoa. 1887 W. S. S. TYRWHITT *New Chum* ix. 195 Men shouting..! 'Whoa back! Whoa back!' 1898 HAMBLEN *Gen. Manager's Story* ix. 123 We were four minutes late, and as I shouted 'whoa' to Jack [the engine-driver], I could see that he was mad [*i.e.* angry].

Hence **Whoa** *v., intr.* to shout 'whoa!'

1841 S. C. HALL *Ireland* I. i. 73 The Englishman..after 'who-aing' to his horse, looks over the hedge.

Whoar, Whoat, obs. ff. WHORE, HOT, VOTE *v.*

Whoave, var. WHAUVE *v. dial.*

Whobble, var. WOBBLE. **Whobub**, obs. f. HUBBUB. **Whoch, whoche**, obs. ff. WHICH. **Whoche**, var. WHITCH, chest, coffer. **Whochesafe**, obs. f. VOUCHSAFE. **Whod(de**, obs. ff. HOOD. **Whode**, obs. f. HOOD, WOOD. **Whoder, -ir, -ur, -yre**, obs. ff. WHITHER. **Whoe**: see HOW, WHO. **Whoes**, obs. f. WHOSE.

Whoever (*hwɪe·vəɹ*), *pron.*; contr. (*post.*) **whoe'er** (*hwɪe·ɹ*). [Orig. two words, WHO *pron.* and EVER *adv.* 8 c.]

I. 1. As compound relative, or with correlative in principal clause, which usually follows but occas. precedes; in generalized or indefinite sense: Whatever person or persons; any one who, or any who.

†Formerly also followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Hwa efre þenne liokie wel þene sunne dei,..þeo heo dal neominde of heofene riches blisse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 45 Who euere of freris..wilen goon among sarasyns..axe þei leue þerof of here mynystris prouyncyal. 1382 — *Matt.* xii. 32 Who euere shal seie a word aȝeins mannys sone, it shal be forȝouen to hym. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) S iv b, In case a graue Philosopher should come beefore anye of our Princes, or who euer beside, that woulde shewe them plainlye (etc.). 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 235 Heere she stands, touch her who euer dare. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* CXXXIII. 11 Who ere keepes me, let my heart be his garde. 1655 *Theophania* 173 Whoever have opposed their proceedings,..instead of punishment have been rewarded. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* I. § 16 Whoever acts with design, acts for some end. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xxvi, Whoever finds him, shoot him dead! 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* I. 1 Mental disorders which..demand, in whoever would relieve them,..the very purest intentions. 1906 E. V. LUCAS *Wand. in Lond.* I. 14 Whoever lives there believes nobly in heat, for the chimney is immense.

2. Introducing a qualifying clause with conditional or disjunctive force: If any one at all; whether one person or another; no matter who. (Sometimes with verb in subjunctive.)

Often implying opposition: = 'notwithstanding any one who', or 'notwithstanding that any one'; cf. WHATEVER 3.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxix. 24 Fra it [*sc.* my purse] as fra the Feynd thay [*sc.* coins] fle, Quha evir tyne, quha evir win. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. iii. 7 Who ere he be, you may not be let in. 1598 — *John* v. v. 19 Who euer spoke it, it is true. 1605 — *Macb.* IV. i. 47 Open Lockes, who euer knockes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 14 Not to taste that Fruit, Whoever tempted. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 98 P 7, I..must here take occasion to thank A. B. whoever it is that conceals himself under those two Letters. 1782 COWPER *Expost.* 702 If he guard thee..., Whoe'er aswails thee, thy success is sure. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* II. vi. (1817) 126 The books, whoever were the authors of them, were composed [etc.]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxiii, Whoever you may be, sir,..I am deeply grateful to you. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* XXX, Whoever it is, I won't see them to-night.

¶ 3. Used ungrammatically for the objective: Any one whom; whomsoever.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 173 Who ere you find attach. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 47 Who euer the King fauours, The Cardinall instantly will finde imployment. 1780 *Mirror* No. 95 P 3 Whoever you marry..will have no reason to complain of your temper.

II. 4. *interrog.* [EVER *adv.* 8 d.] An emphatic extension of *who*, implying perplexity or surprise. *colloq.*

Properly written as two words.

[1875 DASENT *Vikings* lvi, Who ever would have thought it, a short hour ago?] 1881 R. G. WHITE *Eng. Without & Within* xvi. 385 *Ever* is frequently heard in composition thus: 'Whoever is it?' 'Whatever can it be?' This usage is mostly confined to ladies, and is not regarded as good English.

Whoff, Whoffle, var. WAFF, WAFFLE.

1871 RHODA BROUGHTON *Nancy* xiii, A little shrewish shrill bark, speedily changed into an apologetic..whiffling and whoffling. 1901 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Aug. 492 Whoff! Whoff!

Whofull, obs. form of WOEFUL.

Whois, obs. form of WHOSE.

Whole (*hōl*), *a.*, *sb.*, *adv.*, (*int.*). Forms: α. 1 hal, 3– hale, etc.; see HALE *a.* β. 3–5 hol, (3 hoal, 4 ol, hoel), 4–6 hall, hool(e, 4–8 hole, 5–6 holle, hooll(e, hoyll(e, wholle, (5 oull), 6 (w)hoale, (houll, woll(e), *Sc.* hoill, 6–7 whol, wholl, (7 *Sc.* quholl), 6– whole. [OE. *hāl* (also *gehāl* YEOLE) = (O)Fris., OS. *hāl* (MDu. *heel*, usually *gheheel*, Du. *heel*, *geheel*, MLG., LG. *hēl*), OHG. (MHG., G.) *heil* (MHG. *geheil*), ON. *heill* HALE *a.* (Sw. *hel*, Da. *hel*).—OTeut. **(gu)xailas*:— Indo-Eur. **goilos.* From the same stem are also OSl. *cělŭ*, *cělostĭ* complete, whole, OPruss. *hailāstisku-s* acc. health (f. **hailāstas*), Gr. *κοῖλον· τὸ καλόν* (Hesychius), OS. *hēl* omen, OHG. (MHG., G.) *heil* health, (good or bad) fortune, ON. *heill* neut. omen, fem. good luck, happiness, Goth. *hails* health (also *gahails*). The gradation-variant **goilo-* is represented by OIr. *cēl* omen.

On the spelling *whole* (the *wh* first appears in the 15th cent.) see the article WH. Pronunciations with initial (w) exist in modern dialects over an area extending from Somerset to north-east Yorkshire. For the northern form corresp. to midland and southern *hōl*, *whole*, see HALE *a.* For derivatives with mutated vowel see HAIL *sb.*[2], HEAL *sb.*, HEAL *v.*[1]

The Germanic adj. has the meanings (not all represented in every dialect) of 'uninjured, sound, healthy, entire, complete'; the sense 'healthy' gave rise to its use in several languages in salutations, e. g. Goth. *hails* = χαῖρε, OS. *hēl wes*, OE. *hāl wes þū*, ON. *ver heill*, *sit heill*; see WASSAIL and HAIL *int.*]

A. *adj.* I. In good condition, sound. In senses 1–4 often in collocation with *sound* (OE. *hāl and gesund*, ME. *hol and sound*, also *hol and fer*, *hail and hol*).

1. Of a man or animal, the body, limbs, skin: Uninjured, unwounded, unhurt; (contextually) recovered from injury or a wound; †(of a wound) healed. † *To lich whole*: see LICK *v.*[1] 1 e. *arch.*

Beowulf 1974 þæt ðær on worðiȝ wigendra hleo..cwom heaðolaca hal to hofe gongan. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 177 Hie þa hine on rode ahengan..& he..hine halne & ȝesundne ðy þriddan dæȝe æteowde. *a* 1000 *Daniel* 271 Hyssas hale hwurfon in þam hatan ofne. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Ane wunde on his licome þæt ne mei beon longe hwile hal. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2812 In hise bosum he dede his hond, Quit and al unfer he it fond; And sone he dede it eft agen, Al hol and fer he wiste it sen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 33/132 His heued ȝut and is finguer al-so bobe huy beoth hole and sounde. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxvii. 102 Nou thou art sekest, ant nou holest. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 449 Betyn with scorgys, þat no skyn held hool. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 72 In this world nys dogge..That kan an hurt deer from an hool knowe. 1388 WYCLIF *Job* v. 18 He amytith, and hise hondis schulen make hool. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* XXIX. v. 67 Whon he a-wok, he groped his leg; He feled hit hol and sount. 1452 *Paston Lett.* I 239 Wheche wownde was never hol to the daye of her deth. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccii. 98/2 Sir Eustace Dambreticourt..was as thanne hole of his hurtes. 1530 PALSGR. 836/2 Hole and safe, *sayn et sauf.* *c* 1550–1720 [see LICK *v.*[1] 1 e]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 131 When the wounde is whoale, what needs any playster or further surgery? 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 91 Wee shoulde lycke our selues hoale againe in short space. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 43 As his wound did gather, and grow hole. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 11 He was thrust in the mouth with a Speare, and 'tis not whole yet. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 104 A man is not so soon whole as hurt. 1844 GLEIG *Lt. Dragoon* XVI, One whole man..is enough to take care of a wounded one. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 194 She..Felt it [*sc.* the babe] sound and whole from head to foot. 1855 BROWNING *An Epistle* 86 The evil thing out-breaking all at once Left the man whole and sound of body indeed.

b. Phr. *As whole as a fish* (*a trout*).

[Cf. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4282 Bot ay as freschе & as fere as fisch quen he playa.]

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 21884 (Trin.) A noble bab we shul þe make; Bi þat þou com þerof oute þou shal be hool as any troute [*Cott.* hale sum ani trute]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 265 Anon þe lepur fel from hym and he was hole as a fysche. 1528 [see TROUT *sb.*[1] 1]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. v. 20 They are both as whole as a fish. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 120 In four and twenty Hours he made 'em as whole as Fishes.

c. In allusive phrases *whole skin* (*whole limbs*), esp. *in a whole skin* = uninjured.

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xviii. (1870) 169 The people ..loue no warre, but louyth to rest in a hole skin. 1555, etc. [see SKIN *sb.* 5 c]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 79 Let them keepe their limbs whole, and hack our English. *Ibid.* 111 Your hearts are mighty, your skinnes are whole. 1648 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* xxvii. 42 A third with Lazarus wants bread, and a whole skin. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 260 Honest Hickman may now sleep in a whole skin. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xiii, If he wants to keep his place and his whole skin. 1857 SPURGEON *Metrop. Tab. Pulpit* XXIII. 563 Others think the Gospel is true: Erasmus feels sure that it is, but Erasmus wants to die in a whole skin.

2. Of inanimate objects: Free from damage or defect; uninjured, unimpaired, unbroken, untainted, intact. (Cf. 6, 8.)

[*c* 1000: see YHOLE.] *c* 1250 *Compassio Mariæ* 37 So gleam glidis þurt þe glas, Of þi bodi born he was, And þurt þe hoale þurch he gload. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 2776 Do sai moyses, at munt synay,..Fler brennen on ðe grene leaf, And ðor grene and hol bi-leaf. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 364 Ber wiþ þe forti pund And þine cupe hol and sund. *a* 1300 *K. Alis.* 7389 (Laud MS.), Her armes riche of stounde Weren hit hole & sounde. *c* 1305 *St. Swithin* 66 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 45 Saint swythin..blessede þe eiren to-broke and hi bicome hole anon And sound as hi euere were. *a* 1325 *Gloss.* in *Wright's Voc.* 253 Hit is hol, it is not broken. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 1, I Rauȝt but one hool hatere. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3368 When he wil take vp of þe vrthe, he was as wholle And as freyssche as he was ony tyme þat day bylyue. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 227 Yet hadde he his spere holl.

1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 4, I hane reseayved your wollys as flayer and as hole as any mannys. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 37 Pistoll..hath a killing Tongue, and a quiet Sword; by the meanes whereof, a breakes Words, and keepes whole Weapons. 1611 tr. *Serlio's Archit.* III. 97 b, Traians Columne is the wholest. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xix. 121 His coriolet wholler then his clothes. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inf. & Ab. Physic* 203 This is worse than what Tinkers do, to make a Hole in a whole Vessel. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Sept. 1646 Clad..in blew cloth, very whole and warme. 1718 RAY *Hist. Reb.* 287 Bringing..the whole Boats they found in their Way. 1809 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 185 When the pipe is quite whole and sound. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xiii. 405 Whole ground, as the tin-streamers term the stanniferous gravel and superincumbent beds which have not been previously disturbed by the old men. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 9 She is just as whole as when she left the hands of the sculptor.

† b. Of immaterial things: Intact, unimpaired. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 327 It was ordeyned in þe parlement þat all Cathedrall cherches shold ioy and haue her eleccions hool & þat þe King..sholde not write ayens hem þat were ychosen. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 35 That the citesens..haue alle her fraunchyses and free custumes holl and vnblemyshed as they before this tyme hadden hem. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Prol. (1535) A j, There is nothynge so entier, but it diminisheth, nor nothyng so hole, but that is wery.

8. In good health; free from disease; healthy, 'well'; (contextually) restored to health, recovered from disease, 'well again'. *arch.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Þu eart nu xlt swiðe xesælix, nu þu xlt liofost & eart hal. *a* 1000 *Moral Ode* 114 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 167 Wa se seið þat he bo hal, him self wat best his smirte. *c* 1250 *St. Barnabas* 61 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 28 He bi-cam anon hol and sound. *c* 1305 *Pilate* 142 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 115 Anon þo he þe ymage isei3 he was ol anon. † *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1097 A stoon..so..vertuous, That hole a man it koude make Of palasie, and tothe ake. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 52 To axe . yef this seke shall euer he hoill of this sekenesse. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* v. 34 Thy fayth hath saved the [1611 made thee whole], goo in peace, and be whole off thy plage. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 3 Yf any person.. beyng hole & myghtie in body & able to laboure..be taken in beggyng. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xxix. (1535) 49, I repute it a very perillous things for a hole man to reste and be idell. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XVI. ix. (1886) 485 Endued with a cleare, whole, subtill and sweet bloud. 1809 *Ordinary Witch Trial* in *County Folk Lore* III. (1903) 103 Quha being quholl then deit within thrie dayes be your witchcraft. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 162 We are all whole and sound People here, and we would not have you bring the Plague among us. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* IV. 49 Him who made Tobias whole.

absol. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 12 Nys halum læces nan þearf ac seocum. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (B. M. MS.) 69 Seke and hole sche dide gode. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 20119 (Trin.) To hoole & seke dud she bote. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering of Priests*, As well to the sicke as to the whole. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* VII. 1 We had all things, both for our Whole and Sick, that belonged to Charity and Mercy.

† b. OE. and early ME. *hál* in salutations.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 250 Sy Þu hal, leof, Iudeiscre leode cyning. *c* 1205 LAY. 14936 Hal wrð þu lauerd king. [1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 12 b, Thei cried with a lustie courage, All whole noble mates all whole.]

c. *fig.* in biblical translation or reminiscence of biblical uses.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxi[i]. 8 Dó[ð] eowre heortan..hale and clæne. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* XXXVIII. 2 His lif shal ben hool and lyuynge. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 149 Hole in body, holer in soule, and rycher in goodes. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Sam.* I. 9 My life is yet whole within me. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* VI. ii, O Lord,..save my Soul, And for thy Mercy sake make whole. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* ii, A soul..So healthy, sound, and clear and whole. 1866 WHITTIER *Our Master* xiv, We touch Him in life's throng and press, And we are whole again.

† 4. In reference to the mental faculties: Sound, sane. *Obs.*

In the language of wills *whole* = L. *sanus*, as in *sanus mente, sana mentis*.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark v. 15 Hales modes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 38 Þou3 eche man..myʒtte lyue hool & sond in bodi & wittis. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 30, I, Iohn Chelmswyk squier of Shropshire, hole of mynde & in my gode memorie beyng. 1483–4 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 1 § 1 Eny persone..beyng of..hoole mynde at large and not in duresse. 1526 *Linc. Wills* (1914) I. 32 Of a holle mynde and hoill memory. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 4 If I flatter not my selfe, I haue a whole minde within my crasie bodie.

† 5. As a rendering (direct or indirect) of L. *sānus* in the sense: Sound, wholesome. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Ne nomen heo neuer ȝeme hwat was hol, hwat was unhol te eten ne to drincken. 1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Ase moche ase þe welle yuel þ lesse of þe erþe, suo moche hi is þo holer and þe betere of to drinke. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 228 3if ony man..accordiþ not to þe hoole wordis [1 *Tim. vi.* 3 sanis sermonibus] of oure lord ihū crist. *Ibid.* 408 He ledi þ his sheep wel in hool pasture þat wole not rote. ? *a* 1400 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) I. 13 Ihe schal..3hif trewe and hole counsell..to the Mair. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 83 First biholde aboute, and se thyn aier; If hit be cleer and hool, stond out of fere. *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. iv. Piv b, After the moost hole opynyon [orig. *selon la plus saine opinion*].

II. Complete, total (and allied senses).

6. Having all its parts or elements; having no part or element wanting; having its complete or entire extent or magnitude; full, perfect.

Chiefly of abstract things: when used of material objects, this sense is coincident with 8.

[*c* 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* II. x. (1890) 124/14 Þære kicenan ȝetimbrung stod ȝehal & ȝesund. *Ælfric Gen.* Pref., Se tæzl sceolde beon ȝehal .. on ðam nytene set ðære cnyttunge. *c* 1215 SHOREHAM I. 790 Þer he hys, he hys al yhol.] 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 182 A dæwurþ 3yfte he wulde with þe lete, Hym self al hole vn to þy mete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 111 The clearnesse hool of sapience. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 6 With hol trust and with hol believe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xxvi. [xxii.] (1919) I. 158 The nombre schall euermore ben hool. 1487 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 746 His vertues dygne so hole were and plenere. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 227 b, He permitteth .. the whole supper of the Lorde [i. e. in both kinds]. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 143 b, Seeing these women will not be the whole mothers of their children, they ought at least to be carefull to chuse good Nurseas. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, A fair Turkie horse decked with the whole skinne of a great Lion. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 46 Either place required a whole man. 1701 STANNOPE *Pious Breathings* IV. viii. (1704) 257 Thou art the Bread of Life, every day eaten, yet still whole and never consumed. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 103 At whole Allowance. 1818 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 9 Nov. 716/1 The pit was but moderately filled at whole price. 1818 *Art Bk. Binding* 4 Quarto whole-sheets, consist of eight printed pages. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlix, He..from half thief became whole robber. 1840 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxi. 8 That so my pleasure may be whole. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Nov. 3/2 There were four occasions on which the wind reached force 10, or what is known among sailors as a 'whole' gale.

† b. Of will, intention, affection: Full, complete, perfect. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 1224 With hool herte I gan hir beseche. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2339 He that..Yaff hoole his herte in will and thought. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2195 With hardynes of hond, & with hole might. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 103 Y bileeue in hool mynde, þe holi goost schalle knytte ayen þe soule to þe fleische. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Chron.* XV. 15 They soughte him with a whole wyll. — *Ps.* CXVIII[i]. 34, I shal kepe thy lawe, yee I shal kepe it with my whole herte.

c. Containing all its proper or essential constituents; of milk, unskimmed. See also *whole meal* in D. 1.

1794 WEDGE *Agric. Chester* 37 The common practice of churning the whole milk,' instead of setting up the milk for the cream to rise, and churning it alone. 1894 *Field* 9 June 846/2 It is less trouble to churn whole milk than to churn cream.

d. *Whole or part*: attrib. use of *in whole or in part* (see B. 3 c). *rare.*

1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 292 The evidence for Shakespeare's whole or part authorship.

7. The full or total amount of; all, all of (as distinguished from *part of* or *some of*). The prevailing current sense; only in attributive use, and now always preceding the sb.

Formerly pleonastically with *all, entire*, etc.: also following its sb.

(*a*) *a, the, his*, etc. *whole* with sing. sb.

[*a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 10 Jan. 16 Ond þa sona brohte him se hræfn ȝehalne hlaf. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 413 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 287 Al England yhol. 1340 *Ayenb.* 126 Yef we yzeze þet we mizte more ine one daye profiti þanne hi ne moze ine one yere y-hol.] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 6 Seo wher he stondeþ I..and al his hole Meyne! *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 554 To make yow hool I wol do alle my power hool. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 122 Ye knowen al min hole herte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6852 Menelay the mighty, & the mayn Telamon, So sturnly withstod with þaire strenkyth holl. *Ibid.* 13492 To hit into havyn with his hoole flete. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xvi. (1919) I. 86 Þei fasten an hool moneth. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. 2 The clergie of Goddis hool chirche in erthe. *c* 1449 The hool al werk [see ALL A. 10]. 1492–3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 181 The clarkes wages for an oull yere iiij s iiij d. 1523 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 205 Either for the hoole wynter or at the lest for a season. *a* 1532 *Rem. Love* xliii. Chaucer's Wks. 568 Eche letter an hole worde dothe represent. 1553 (*title*) The true and lyuely historyke pvrtreatvres of the woll bible. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 8 Al hole Germany..euery where cruelly vexed. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. liv. 114 To be the peace of the whole world. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 315 The roares Of a whole heard of Lyons. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 12 All the whole time I was my Chambers Prisoner. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. (1871) 66 The lease..For a whole hundred yeares is good in lawe. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 186 That Parliament from which the hole Kingdome expected a Reformation. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 353 An Oath, That shook Heav'ns whol circumference. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 73 Should workmen hold the Blade of the Paring Chissel in their whole hand. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 78 P 8 Hippocrates, who visited me throughout my whole Illness. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. Two Orphans* I. 169 In all the whole enlightened system. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 225 The stout tall captain,..upon whom they fix Their whole attention. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 2 The whole..manner of looking at things alters with every age. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. (1858) II. 462 The whole Anglican priesthood, the whole Cavalier pantry, were against him. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 632 He related his whole adventure from beginning to end.

(*b*) with numeral, as *the whole three* († *the three whole*), *two whole* († *whole two*).

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 340 3if vchon haue a godbede I graunte, bi him-selue, I seie þat on is also good as þe þreo hole. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4631 Charlys þe Cites þo gan assayle, Two dawes hole. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 80 Lying whole six dayes vnburied. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* x. (1612) 41 A .. pestilence, which lasted whole tenne yeares. 1611 *Bible* Acts XXVIII. 30 Paul dwelt two whole yeares in his owne hired house. 1642 J. JACKSON *Twee Evang. T.* I. 52 The fourth Persecution..wherein the Church had no breathing for whole twenty yeares together. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 311 He..staid whole ten days. 1807 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 208, I brought the whole three to the ground at one shot.

(*c*) with pl. sb. (*the, my*, etc. *whole* . . .): now chiefly *Sc.* (replaced ordinarily by *the whole of the* . . . or *all the* . . .); formerly also without article (now only as in c).

1526 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 215 Thessid decrees..shalbe..obserued..by the hole Burgesses and inhabitauntes of the same Towne. 1542 LD. T. DACRE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 279 Not doubting..but ye shalbe..recompensed of your hool dueties with th'arrerages. 1596 *Rdw. III*, I. i, All the whole dominions of the realm. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man boc. Guilty* 89 There be whole intire Nations which approve of Incest. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1911) XLV. 233 All the whole ministers are content to be ordered by the enemies of Christ. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 203 The French..having reduced almost the whole Netherlands to their obedience. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Dec. 436 My whole friends are against me; all my friends. 1828 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 112 We shall get our whole sea-ports put into that state of defence. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* I. 2 His whole other tissues are included. 1858 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 Apr. 324/1 A third of the whole inhabitants of India.

† (*d*) with sing. sb., without article: All, the whole of. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *1 Esdras* viii. 7 He taught whole Israel all righteousnes & iudgment. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* (1552) 165 b, As though whole religion stonde in these pointes onely. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* 248 The figure..of whole Britannie, by Liuy.., is likened to a long dish or two edged axe. 1647 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* Ep. Ded., Not only whole Europe, but Asia also..had their Eyes..fixed upon this Province. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* x. 455 *note*, All creatures stand astonished, whole Nature is amazed.

† b. In phr. *whole and some* (cf. 'all and some', ALL A. 12 a), rarely *full and whole*, following a plural or collective noun or a plural pronoun: The whole number or amount, 'the whole lot', all; in all, altogether. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 26 For which the people blisfull hole and somme..crydon [etc.]. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 424 And all þeire power hooli & soom. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 49 Alle to-gideres, boþe hool & some, To teer him from þe top to þe toon. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 243 b, He made all the people full and whole to gase on hym. *Ibid.* 281 b. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F j b, Though I be not learned, yet cha mother witte enough whole & some.

c. With rhetorical emphasis, where there is implication of an unusually large quantity or number.

1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Herald* (Arb.) 71 He tels you of whole fields of gold and siluer, Or and Argent. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 147 Sitting..Whole days and nights. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 163 Whole towns..were left in ruins. 1912 G. E. SMITH *Anc. Egyptians* i. 2 Whole shelves of libraries are filled with the records of this quest.

8. Not divided into parts or particles; not ground, broken up, or cut in pieces; undivided, entire. (Of various things, material and immaterial.) Cf. 2.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIV. § 12 Hwæþer þu þonne ongite þæt ælc þara wuhta þe him beon þencð, þæt hit þencð astgemdere bion, ȝehal, untodæled? forðæm ȝif hit todæled bið, þonne ne bið hit no hal. [*c* 1000 [see YHOLE].] *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 251 Iteilede draken grisliche ase deoflen þe forwolheð ham ihal.] 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 78 He saw the brayis hye standand, The vattir holl throu alike rynand. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* I. 12 Swolewe wee hym . hol as the descendende in to the lake. *c* 1430 *Two Cookerybks.* 9 Take þe partryche, an stuffe hym wyth hole pepir. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* V. ix, Pulle the skynne fro the body..& kepe it hoole. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* 279 The goos & swanne may be cut as ye do other fowles yf haue hole fete. 1530 PALSGR. 833 By retayle, as men sell wares that they sell nat hole [*i. e.* wholesale: cf. B. 3 b] or by great. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* let. iii. (1535) 205 b, We ete dyuers thynges by morsels which if we shulde eate hole, wolde choke vs. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lvi. 126 A deede must either not be imputed..or..they which haue it by imputation must haue it such as it is whole. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 24 The walles being all of whole trees as they come out of the wood. 1648 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 198 For the paschal Lamb it must be set on all whole. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 32 Which will neither way be so strong as the Worm cut out of the whole Iron. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mos. Syst.* 32 Moses..makes Fish and Fowl Congenial..From their manner of feeding, being both Swallowers hole. *a* 1796 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 197 One pint of whole oatmeal. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 213 To a pint of strong gravy, put two small onions sliced, a little whole pepper. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 687 In the manner of gooseberries and apples..baked whole in a dish. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 318 Here had fall'n a great part of a tower Whole, like a crag that tumbles from the cliff.

† b. Undivided in allegiance or devotion; loyal, faithful, steadfast. (Cf. *whole-hearted, -souled*, in D. 2 d.) *Obs.*

23.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 594 Þere he fyndes al fayre a freke wyth-inne þat hert honest & hol. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1201, I..shal..Ben to yow trewe and hol with al myn herte. 1481 *Paston Lett.* I. 208 The Sheriff is noght so hole as he was, for now he wille shewe but a part of his frendeshippe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* LXXVIII[i]. 37 Their herte was not whole [1611 right] with him, nether continued they in his enaunt. 1553 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Godly Lett.* (1564) 344 Gods deare chyldren, whose hartes are whole wyth the Lorde.

† c. Not divided in opinion; united, unanimous. 1481 *Paston Lett.* I. 283 The Kyng, by the hole advyse of all the great Counsell of Ingland,..send hider his said

1540-1 Elyot *Image Gov.* iii. 3 b, By the hole consent of the Senate and people. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 185 To whome they, with a whole voyce, aunswered nay, nay.

d. *Math.* Of a number: Denoting a complete and undivided thing, or a set of such things (not a part of a thing); integral, not fractional.

† In first quot., Composed of three prime factors: = Solid *a.* 2 b (*obs.*).

c 1430 *Art of Nombrynge* ix. (1922) 46 Of nombres one is lyneal, anoþer superficialle, anoþer quadrat, anoþer cubike or hoole. 1557 Recorde *Whetst.* A ij, Some are whole nombers. ..Other are broken nombers, and are commonly called fractions. 1608 R. Norton *Stevin's Disme* A 3 b, A Whole number is either a vnitie, or a compounded multitude of vnities. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 899 A product..is generated by the multiplication of two or more numbers...All whole numbers cannot result from such a multiplication.

e. *Coal-mining.* Applied to a portion of a coal seam which has not yet been worked, or is in the earlier stage of working: see quots.

1860 *Engl. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 67 *Whole*, where the coal has not been previously worked. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-m., Whole* or *Whole Aline* (N[orth of England]), that portion of a coal seam being worked by driving *headings* into it only, or the state of the mine before *bringing back* the *pillars*, or what is called *working the broken*, com- ..... *Whole Stalls* (S[outh] W[ales]), two or more stalls having their faces in line or on a thread with one another.

9. Constituting the total amount, without admixture of anything different; full, unmixed, pure. In various connexions: often opposed to *half*.

a. *Whole blood*: see Blood *sb.* 9. So *whole brother* or *sister*, a brother or sister of the whole blood, i. e. a son or daughter of both the same parents (as distinguished from a Half-brother or Half-sister).

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 375 Ac alle þat beth myne hole bretheren in blode & in baptesme. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 711 Twey sones he had .. Edwyge and Edgar, his hole brother. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 104/2 No maner Walsah man of hole blode, ne half blode on the fader side. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 1 Hys next cosyn collaterall of the hole blode. 1697, 1820 [see Blood *sb.* 9]. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* viii, As for me, who am of the whole blood of the whites.

† b. Said of a person who has the whole of some possession, charge, or function, not sharing it with any one else: = Sole *a.* 5 b. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3281 Knoude was made hole kyng'of alle Englonde. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 312/2 Hole heire in the tayle to the said Thomas. 1530 Rastell *Bk. Purgat.* 1. xv, One hys hole ordener of al thynge. 1540 Barnes in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1199/2 His grace is made a whole kyng, and obeyed in his Realme as a kyng. 1608 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 35 My..Nephew Thomas..whom I make my whole and onelie Executor.

c. *Bookbinding.* Forming the whole of the cover: opp. to Half- II. j.

1839 *J. R. Smith's Catal. Second-hand Bks.* Dec. 8/1 Whole calf. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 87 The whole-binding..means that the whole of the cover of the book is covered with the same leather.

d. *Whole holiday*: a day the whole of which is observed as a holiday (opp. to Half-holiday 2 c).

1839 Ld. Houghton *Barren Hill* iii. Poet. Wks. 1876 II. 209 Whole-holidays of joy. 1895 K. Grahame *Golden Age* 8 With us it was a whole holiday; the occasion a birthday.

e. Of a team of horses: All of the same colour, 'whole-coloured'.

1892 *Daily News* 31 May 6/1 Sir John, who used always to have a whole team, has now got one brown horse as wheeler.

B. *sb.* 1. The full, complete, or total amount; the assemblage of all the parts, elements, or individuals (*of*). With def. art. (rarely with possessive); *the whole of* = all.

† In early use occas. (as in A. 7) qualified by *all*.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. i. (Bodl. MS.), A tree ..hab no meuynge of hit silfe, noþer al þe hole noþer parties þereof. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 201 3yf þou 3yue counseyl to takyn..wrongfully oþeres good,..& be þi counseyl þat wrong is don in-dede, þou art bounde to restore þe hole. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. xiii. 33 Leauen, which a woman tooke and hid in three measures of meale, vntil the whole was leauened. *a* 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxv. 9 Quhy sould the hoill, for thair desert, That faine wald haue that fact withstand,..beir the blame? 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1159 They that loose halfe with greater patience beare it, Then they whose whole is swallowed in confusion. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* cxxxiv. 14 He paies the whole, and yet am I not free. 1618 E. S. *Brit. Buss* in Arber *Engl. Garner* III. 636 The very First Year's herrings only, may bring in to the Adventurer or Owner; all his whole both of Stock and Charges of £934 5s. 8d. aforesaid. 1709-29 V. Mandey *Syst. Math., Arith.* 6 A number that measures the whole, and that which is taken away, will also measure the remainder. 1729 Johnson *Rasselas* xxviii[ii], The good of the whole, says Rasselas, is the same with the good of all its parts. 1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 273 In the whole of my ride, I have not seen much finer fields of wheat. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Mar., The whole of the gentlemen of the hunt. 1853 Soyer *Pantroph.* 185 Thicken with flour, and pour the whole on the deer when roasted. 1889 H. W. Pieton *Story of Chem.* 296 We now define a salt as an acid having the whole or part of its hydrogen replaced by a metal.

b. U.S. *The Whole* = the Whole House (see Committee 3).

1890 *Congressional Globe* 3 May 3641/2 The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole.

c. In a charade, *my whole* denotes the complete word of which the syllables, called *my first* and *my second*, are the parts.

c 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) IV. 342/1 My *first* is equally friendly to the thief and the lover...My *second* is light's opposite...My *whole* is tempting to the touch, grateful to the sight, fatal to the taste. *Night-shade.* 1836 - - - - V. 489/1 My first makes use of my second to eat my wi [French *chiendent*]. 1844 G. S. Faber *Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 26 If in the process, the actual Dissyllable itself, in that species of amusement technically called *my whole*, should evaporate into thin air.

2. Something made up of parts in combination or mutual connexion; an assemblage of things united so as to constitute one greater thing; a complex unity or system. Usually with indef. art.; also in

..... tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* 1. xiv. 43 A Whole is that which consists in the Union of any things, or Parts. 1725 Watts *Logic* 1. vi. § 7 All Parts have a Reference to some Whole. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* 1. 267 All are but parts of one stupendous whole. 1792 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 62 All together the view is picturesque. It is what the painter properly calls a whole. There is a fore-ground, a middle-ground and distance—all harmoniously united. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 776 This Whole Of suns, and worlds, and men, and beasts, and flowers,..Is but a vision. 1833 Tennyson *Pal. of Art* 58 Full of great rooms and small..All various, each a perfect whole. 1860 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. (1861) 289 A child begins by seeing bits of everything:..it makes up its wholes out of its own littles. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* i. 1 The complex whole which we call Civilization.

3. Phrases in senses 1 and 2. a. As a whole (sense 2): as a complete thing (not in separate parts); as a unity; in its entirety, all together. So, in reference to a pl. sb., *as wholes*.

1808 Carlyle *Misc., Goethe* (1857) I. 192 The beauty of the Poem as a Whole. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xix, I must sustain his administration as a whole, even if there are, now and then, things that are exceptional. 1865 Lecky *Ration.* (1878) II. vi. 210 How readily nations, considered as wholes, always yield to the spirit of the time. 1922 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 697 A close division in the committee might be reversed on appeal to the cabinet as a whole.

† b. By the whole: = Wholesale 1. *Obs.*

1592 Greene *Upstart Courtier* E iv b, If the Currier bought not Lether by the whole of the Tanner, the shoomaker might haue it at a more reasonable price.

c. In (the) whole. (*a*) To the full amount, in full, entirely, completely, wholly. (Usually, now always, without *the*: opp. to *in part*.)

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 202 þou art bounde to restore þat theftе in þe hole. 1583 Bradford *Serm. Repentance* (1574) C v, They..which..wil prate, our merites or workes to satisfy for our syns in part or in whole. 1801-12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 118 They may have been spurious in the whole, or incorrect in every part. 1826 Southey *Let. to H. Taylor* 31 Aug. in *Life* (1850) V. 266 Collecting my stray letters, and selecting such, in whole or in part, as may not unfitly be published. 1858 Neil *Boyd's Zion's Flowers* Introd. 8 This Work ought to be printed in whole. 1913 *Act 3 & 4 Geo. V*, c. 20 § 123 Any creditors whose claim he has rejected in whole or in part.

(*b*) In total amount, all together, all told, in all. (Almost always with *the*.) Now *rare*.

1551 Sir J. Williams *Accomple* (Abbotsf. Club 1836) 24 White plate, of course broken silluer.., ccc oz. amountinge in thole. 1552-3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 108 Mowldes for the feltmakers to mowlde hattes vpon at xvj[d] the pece in the hole lij[s] viij[d]. 1600 *Southampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1906) II. 336 The expence of powder .. wth charge in the wholle cannott amount vnto lesse then..fyfty pownds yerely. *c* 1700 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 255 They were..twice our number in the whole. 1754 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 48 Making up in whole..the sum of nine thousand merks. 1815 Coleridge *Let. to Lady Beaum't* 3 Apr., Three poems, containing 300 lines in the whole. 1918 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V*, c. 27 § 1 Any..sums not exceeding in the whole the sum of one million pounds.

d. On or upon the whole: on the basis of the affair as a whole; considering the whole of the facts or circumstances; all things considered; taking it all together'. Hence † (*b*) as the upshot, or summing up, of the whole matter; as a final result, ultimately, in conclusion, in fine, in sum; (*c*) in respect of the whole, notwithstanding exceptions in detail; in general, for the most part.

The construction with *of* (quot. 1771) is *rare* and *obs.*

1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* 126 Shakespear's Sr. John has some Advantage in his Character... But the Relapser's business, is to sink the Notion, and Murther the Character, and make the Function, despicable: So that upon the whole, Shakespear is by much the gentler Enemy. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* III. 302 Upon the whole of this treaty, it was considered as inglorious to the English. 1780 Cowper *Adjudged Case* 21 On the whole it appears .. That the spectacles plainly were made for the Nose. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* lx, Still, upon the whole, he is as well in his native mountains. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. v. 179 [I] determined that the Alps were, on the whole, best seen from below.

(*b*) 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 4 P 1 Upon the whole I resolved ..to go on in my ordinary Way. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 328 We came up with them, and in a word, took them all in, being..sixty four Men, Women, and Children... Upon the whole, we found it was a French Merchant Ship. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* Prol., Upon the whole, the author returns his thanks to the public for the favourable reception which 'The Good-Natured Man' has met with. *a* 1774 — *Hist. Greece* II. 246 Upon the whole he was ..... sentenced to die.

(*c*) 1599-1601 Jane Austen ..... She liked him ..upon the whole, much [illegible]. 1849 Macaulay *Hist.* I ..... as, on the whole, a pla..... 34 She made on the whole a very good

Lit. Suppl. 29 Apr. 266/2 We only have [in *King John*] the text of the first folio of 1623, but that upon the whole is admitted to be good.

4. *Coal-mining.* A seam or portion of coal not yet worked, or in the earlier stage of working: see A. 8 e.

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* G 3, If the Wholes be too Soft, that we think it will let the Forks settle when they come to be weighted, we put a Sill under them. 1883 [see A. 8 e].

C. *adv.* Wholly, entirely, fully, perfectly. *Obs.* exc. in nonce-use in explicit or implied opposition to *half* (and, like that word, sometimes hyphened to the word it qualifies).

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 279 Now is Scotland hole at our kynges wille. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 310, I myght als weele kepe Aueryll from Rayne As holde yow trewe and make yowe hoole stedfaste. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 136 Al the world in Orient Was hol at his comandement. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2068 That ye haue me suspriised so And hole myn herte taken me fro. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 5 With her mantle whole couert. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xliii. (1535) G ij b, I am hole ignorant of this yonge mans lyuynge. 1538 Coverdale *Jer.* xlii. 15 Yf ye be whole purposed to go in to Egipte. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 1. viii. 8 b, Mayden slaues..being commonly whole naked. *a* 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxv. 26 Mortounis race To covatice wes hoill Inclynde. 1696 Cowley *Mistr., Innoc. Ill* iii, The ills thou dost are whole thine own. 1784 Cowper *Task* 1. 608 War and the chase engross the savage whole. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xliv, Laying a half-dirty cloth upon a whole-dirty deal table. 1824 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxvii, The half-dressed groom would whole-dress the horse. 1948 F. T. Barton *Sporting Dogs* 204 A black-and-tan sire and dam produce a whole-red puppy.

† b. Pleonastically emphasized by *all*; occas. = In all, altogether. *Obs.*

This may often be construed as adj. 1: cf. A. 7.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 157 Ytaile al hol thei overcome. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2363, I..comaunde thee That in oo place thou sette all hoole Thyn herte withoute halfen doole. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 317, I putte me all hooll in youre ordenaunce. 1482 Caxton *Godfrey* x. 33 Alle the paple hool fledde to fore hym. *Ibid.* lvi. 97 This bataylle endured wel an houre al hoole. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* viii. (Percy Soc.) 31 As after this shall appere more openly, All hole expreat by dame Phylosophy.

† c. Qualifying a following adv., forming advb. phr. (in which *whole* may sometimes be construed as adj.), as *whole out*, throughout; *whole together*, all together (occas., altogether, entirely).

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 23303 (Trin.) Twelue were þei to telle in dole Whenne þei were to gider hole. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 13 Alle the masonus..Wol stonde togedur hol y-fere. 1535 Coverdale *1 Esdras* vi. 28 Also, that they shal buylde the house of the Lorde whole vp. 1551 Turner *Herbal* 1. Kj, Some call it wylde succory: but it is hole together smaller. 1562 *Ibid.* II. 50 b, The bark, pill, or shell of the Citron, is dry and hote in the thyrde degre hole out. 1677-8 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 395 The Commons were yesterday taken up..in hearing the cause..which not having ..heard whole out, they orderd for to-morrow.

D. Special Collocations and Combinations.

1. The adj. qualifying a sb., forming phrases used in special senses: † **whole cannon**, † **whole culverin**, a cannon or culverin of the full size, as distinguished from a Demi-cannon or Demi-culverin (also *fig.* and *attrib.*); **whole hog**, in the slang phr. *to go the whole hog* (see Hog *sb.*[1] 11 b): hence nonce-derivatives, as *whole-hogger*, *-hoggery*, *-hoggism*, *-hoggite*; **whole meal**, meal or flour made from the whole grain of wheat, etc. (sometimes including the bran); also *attrib.*; **whole-moulding** *Ship-building*, name for an old method of forming the principal parts of a vessel, now used only for boats; cf. quot. *c* 1850 s.v. *whole-moulded* in 2 d; **whole note** *Mus.*, † (*a*) a whole tone or major second, as distinguished from a 'half note' or semitone; (*b*) a semibreve, as the longest note in ordinary use (now *U.S.*); **whole plate** *Photogr.*, see Plate *sb.* 5 c; also *attrib.*; **whole shift**, in violin-playing (see Shift *sb.* 15); **whole silk** [tr. med.L. (*h*)*olosericum*, ad. Gr. ὁλοσηρικός, f. ὅλος whole + σηρικός of silk], stuff consisting entirely of silk; **whole-stitch** *Lace-making*, a stitch in which the threads are woven together as in cloth. See also Whole cloth, Wholesale.

1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 65/2 Designing the building of twelve new Ships,..intending they shall carry a hundred Brass Guns a piece, and the lower Tyre *whole Cannon. 1923 E. Stone tr. *Bion's Math. Instrum.* v. iv. (1758) 147 Ordnance..an Eight-Pounder, a Demi-Culverin, a Twelve-Pounder, a Whole-Culverin, a Twenty-four-Pounder, a Demi-Cannon, Bastard-Cannon, and a Whole-Cannon. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. iv. D 3, With *whole culuering raging othes to teare The vault of heauen. 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 83 Ye talke one to another with whole Culvering and Canon. 1723 [see *whole cannon*]. 1892-1976 *Whole hog [see Hog *sb.*[1] 11 b]. 1993 *Daily Chron.* 24 Oct. 4/4 The Chamberlainite party of *'whole hoggers'. 1894 Southey *Doctor* Interch. xvi, The *Whole-hoggery in the House of Commons. 1926 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Jan. 7/2 A Balfourite with leanings towards *'whole-hoggism'. 1840 *Whole-hoggites [see Hog *sb.*[1] 11 b]. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* i. 18 Bread is also wont to bee made of the *whole meale, from which the bran is not separated. 1826 Kaskeelyn *Philip Mythol.* II. 282 A plain half griddle of whole-meal bread. 1929 Ln. W. B. M[axwell] *Penal Servs.*

xv. 217 Neat little brown wholemeal loaves. 1904-5 *Civil Service Supply Price-list* 60 Whole Meal..per 7 lb. bag, 1/4. *Ibid.* 128 Biscuits, Cabin, Navy, and Whole Meal. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 405/1 Of the Method of *(Whole-moulding..used by the ancients, and which still continues in use among those unacquainted with the more proper methods. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 139 By whole-moulding, no more is narrowed at the floor than at the main breadth. 1597 T. Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot. ¶ b, A *whole note is that which the Latines call *integer tonus*, and is that distance which is betwixt any two notes, except *mi & fa*. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 250 The Difference of [a Fourth and Fifth] they agreed to call a Tone; which we now call a Whole note. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 18/2 Printing from *whole-plate negatives. 1876 Rock *Text. Fabr.* 9 The first emperor who wore *whole silk for clothing. 1888 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, **Whole Stitch*, a name sometimes applied to the Cloth Stitch of Pillow Lace.

2. a. Combinations formed of phrases like those in 1 used *attrib.* or as adjs., in sense 'Consisting of, made with, relating to, comprising, or occupying the or a whole . . .', as *whole-arm*, *-cane*, *-day*, *-fruit*, *-grain*, *-width*, *-world*; (in sense 9) *whole-leather*, *-worsted*. (See also whole-colour, etc. in d.)

1420 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 637/2 Lesquelles sount appellez an Hol-worsted bed. 1820 Lamb *Elia* Ser. 1. *Christ's Hospital*, The haunting memory of those whole-day leaves. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* xvi. 246 A grand, whole-arm movement. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 6/3 A whole-leather boot could not be honestly purchased under 7s. 11d. 1904-5 *Civil Service Supply Price-list* Index p. cii, Whole Fruit Jam. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 98/1 (*Angling*), A light whole-cane rod of stiff build. [Cf. *split-cane*, quot. 1890, s.v. Split *ppl. a.* 2.] 1900 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 533 A whole-day tramp across country.

b. Parasynthetic comb., in various senses of the adj., as *whole-backed*, *-bodied*, *-headed*, *-maned*, *-skinned*, *-skirted* adjs. (See also whole-chested, etc. in d.)

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 288 The Istrian Horsses are of good able feete, very straight, *whole backt, and hollow. 1577 Harrison *England* III. xii. 211/1 in *Holinshed*, Flies.. whether they be cut wasted, or *whole bodyed . are voyde of poyson. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 660 If the carts are whole-bodied, the steward proceeds after the back-board is removed, to hawk out the dung; but if they are tilt or *coup*-carts [etc.]. 1611 Cotgr., *Ail masle*, the *Whole-headed Garlicke. 1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem.* 503 *Whole-leaved Water hemp Agrimony. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2069/4 A bright bay Gelding..*whole maned unless cut since. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 36 If thou bye kye or oxen to feede, ..loke well..that he..be *hoole-mouthed, and want no tethe. 1776 Da Costa *Elem. Conchol.* 209 (Jod.) The first genus, which he calls 'wholemouthed'..is my genus of 'turbo' among the..snails. 1624 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* I. i, He is *whole skin'd, has no hurt yet. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1910/4 A new *whole skirted Black Saddle having the Seat of Velvet and the Skirts of Hogs skin.

c. Advb. comb., as whole-bred(see d); see also C.

d. Special Combs.: **whole-bred** *a.* [cf. A. 9 a], of pure breed (opp. to Half-bred 1); †**whole-chase boot** (see quot.); †**whole-chested** *a.*, having a sound chest or breast; *fig.* loyal-hearted; **whole-colour, -coloured** *adjs.* [A. 9], of the same colour throughout, concolor; **whole-eared** (-ɪəd) *a.*, (*a*) having the ears whole, i.e. not cut; (*b*) listening 'with all one's ears', i.e. intently; so **whole-eyed** (-əid) *a.*, gazing intently; **whole-feather** [A. 9], a variety of pigeon having all the feathers of one colour; so **whole-feathered** (-ɛðəd) *a.*; **whole-hearted** *a.*, (of a person) having one's whole heart in something, completely devoted (orig. and chiefly *U. S.*); (of an action, etc.) done with one's whole heart, thoroughly earnest or sincere; hence *whole-heartedly* adv., *whole-heartedness*; **whole-hoofed** (-hūft) *a.* [A. 8], having undivided hoofs, solidungulate; **whole-length** *a.*, (*a*) of a portrait, etc. representing the whole human figure, usually standing; also *ellipt.* as *sb.* a whole-length portrait or statue; (*b*) *gen.* extending through the whole length; exhibited at full length; **whole-minded** *a.*, giving one's whole mind to something, completely interested; hence *whole-mindedness*; **whole-moulded** *a.* *Ship-building*, see quot. *c* 1850, and cf. *whole moulding* in 1; **whole-pull** *Change-ringing*, see quots. (opp. to *half-pull*, Half- II. n); **whole-sail** *a.*, said of a wind in which a ship (esp. a yacht) can carry full sail; **whole-seas** *humorous nonce-wd.*, quite drunk (after *half-seas*, short for Half-seas-over 2); **whole-souled** (-sōuld) *a.* orig. *U.S.* = *whole-hearted*; †**whole-steal** *nonce-wd.*, 'wholesale' theft; †**whole-stone** *a.*, (of lime) unslaked; **whole-time** *a.*, occupying the whole of some particular time, esp. of the working time; (of a person) employed during the whole time; **whole-timer**, = Full-timer; **whole-working** *Coal-mining*, see quot., and cf. A. 8 e, B. 4.

1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 2 xxi, A *whole-bred Southdown fat wether. 1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Whole-chase Boots*, are whole hunting, or large Boots. 1603 J. Davies *Microcosmos* 37 We are / our Breastes doe hold A single Hart, that is as good, as great. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* IV. i, A well timbred youth..he's whole chested too. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 1/2 The collection includes a series of *whole-colour porcelain and soft paste blue and white. 1847 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 42 Scales *whole-coloured or indistinctly two-coloured. 1907 *R. Leighton's New Bk. Dog* 429 The latter will consist of some whole-coloured blacks, and some whole-coloured whites. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1633/4 A large light Brindle Mastiff Dog,..*whole-Ear'd. 1918 W. J. Locke *Rough Road* xv, The village turned out to listen to them in *whole-eyed and whole-eared wonder. 1879 L. Wright *Pigeon Keeper* 218 A Splash..may often be mated to advantage with a *Whole-feather. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1799/4 A large black Mayled, *whole Feathered, and thorough mewed Falcon. 1840 Channing *Let. to Miss Aikin* 18 July, What a *whole-hearted man I as we Yankees say. 1855 Pusey *Doctr. Real Presence* Notes 366 The most perfect and whole-hearted repentance. 1901 *Scotsman* 14 Mar. 6/4 The whole-hearted support of British policy by the Canadians. 1891 in Barrows *World's Parl. Relig.* I. 534 Socially, we unite *whole-heartedly and without reservation with our non-Jewish fellow-citizens. 1884 Faber *Growth in Holiness* iv. 60 The great lesson of the Crucifix is *whole-heartedness with God. 1888 Farrar *Early Chr.* IV. xxii. II. 43 A wavering disposition,..a want of whole-heartedness, a dualism of life and aim. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII. xxi. I. 206 In India, there be found bœufes *whole hoofed, with single hornes. *Ibid.* XI. xlvi. 351 In some parts of Sclavonia, the Swine are not cloven-footed, but whole houfed. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 187 The Quadrupeda, whereof some are *μονώνυχα*, whole-hoof, such as Asses, Mules, Horses. 1835 [see Soliped *a.*]. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 259 Your drawings..are all taken down; as is also your own *whole-length picture. 1752 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 28 Nov., Undoubted originals (whether heads, half-lengths, or whole-lengths, no matter) of Cardinals Richelieu, Mazarin, and Retz. 1817 T. F. Dibdin *Bibliogr. Decam.* II. 434 *note*, A small whole length of Joseph with an angel above. 1818 Hazlitt *Engl. Poets* iv. 139 The faultless whole-length mirror that reflected his own person. 1886 Faris El-Shidiac *Pract. Gram. Arabic* 18 Swelling the grammar unnecessarily with a great number of whole-length conjugations. 1865 C. R. Leslie & T. Taylor *Sir Joshua Reynolds* I. 104 The portrait which tended most to establish his reputation was a whole-length of Captain Keppel..on a sandy beach. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 304/2 Whilst admitting..the great spirit and immense intellectuality of the woman, he cannot but feel.., a lack of sincerity, of *whole-mindedness. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 406/1 Fixing a point for the aftermost timber that is *whole moulded. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 159 *Whole-moulded*, a term applied to the bodies of those ships which are so constructed that one mould made to the midship bend, with the addition of a floor hollow, will mould all the timbers, below the main breadth, in the square body. 1668 [Stedman] *Tintinnalogia* (1671) 54 *Whole-pulls, is to Ring two Rounds in one change, that is, Fore-stroke and Back stroke,..so that every time you pull down the bells at Sally, you make a new change differing from that at the Back-stroke next before; this Whole-pulls was altogether practised in former time. 1872 Ellacombe *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Devon* iii. 228 A 'whole pull' includes swinging the bell round twice, off from the balance, and round up to the balance again... In whole-pull ringing each bell makes a whole pull to every change. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan. 11/2 The heeling occurs only in strong *whole-sail winds. 1821 *Joseph the Book-man* 85 Some, half-seas, like fools do swagger, While other some, *whole-seas, do stagger. 1834 *Kentuckian in New York* I. 190 (Thornton) [The New-Yorkers] are a *whole-souled people. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home, Haunts of Burns* II. 72 A bust of Burns..looking..not so warm and whole-souled as his pictures usually do. 1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 209 A most vigorous and whole-souled resentment. 1649 Lightfoot *Battle with Wasp's Nest* Wks. 1825 I. 423 Whom you have so unworthily used, as to steal his arguments by *whole-steal. 1703 *Churchw. Acc. Buchnall, Lincs.* (MS.), 3 Chalden of *wholestone Lime. 1906 *Athenæum* 13 Oct. 421/3 The Inspector of Colleges..will be a *whole-time officer of the University. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V.* c. 5 Sched. I. § 4 Engaged in whole-time work .. of national importance. 1869 *Daily News* 18 Dec., To see that all the children of a district attend some school either as *whole-timers or half-timers. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, **Whole-working*, Newc., working where the ground is still whole, i. e., has not been penetrated as yet with breasts. Opposed to *pillar-work*, or the extraction of pillars left to support previous work.

†**Whole**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 5 hoole, 5–6 hole. [f. Whole *a.*]

I. 1. *trans.* To make whole, heal, cure.

14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 233 in *Anglia* XVIII. 302 Þe cold festre xal be holyd with hete. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* v. 1952 With whiche oyle of soores alle grevauns Whiche men suffre, it wil be hooled anoon. *c* 1450 — *Life St. Gilbert* xxxiv. 210 Summe wer holed fro certeyn sekenesse be be merites of þis Seynt.

2. *intr.* To become whole; to recover from sickness; to heal, as a wound.

14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 241 in *Anglia* XVIII. 302 Of cler hony and rye-flour late bake a kake...And ley't to þe hole of þe festeryd sor,..And so it schal holyn. 1460–70 *Bk. Quinte Essence* 13 Þe oolde feble man schal vse þis deuyn drynk..and wiþinne a fewe dayes be schal so hool þat he schal fele him silf of þe statt and þe strenkþe of xl 3eer. 1890 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 517 The wounds whole not.

II. 3. *trans.* To make into a whole; to assemble or unite.

1443–9 Pecock *Donet* xvii. (1921) 186 þese spechis hoolid and maad of þe ij seid maneres. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 28 The Captaine wholed a multitude of people gathered..of diuers Nations..and beginneth a Commonwealth after this maner.

†**Whole** = *who will* (cf. Ile).

1606 Marston *Parasit.* v. H 4, Whole kisse thee now? whole court thee now? whole ha thee now?

Whole, obs. form of Hole *sb.*

Whole cloth. A piece of cloth of the full size as manufactured, as distinguished from a piece that may be cut off or out of it for a garment, etc.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 431/2 Hole Clothes, called brode Clothes. 1595 *Wydow Edyth* in Hazl. *Shaks. Jest-bks.* (1864) 58 Might I be so bolde as of your hole cloth To desire you for to deliuer vnto me As much as wyll suffyse..To make a large Gowne and a Kyrtell. 1724 *Act 11 Geo. I* c. 24 § 1 Every Woollen Broad Cloth,..whether..called an End or Half Cloth, or a Long or Whole Cloth.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context, esp. in phr. *cut* (etc.) *out of* (*the*) *whole cloth*, used in various senses; now esp. (*U. S. colloq.* or *slang*) of a statement wholly fabricated or false.

1579 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 77, I shalbe contente..to lende you the choyce of as many gentle wordes and louvelye termes as we..use to deliver ower thankes in. Choose whether you will have them given or yeelded,..kutt owte of the whole cloathe, or otherwise powrid owte. 1594 Nashe *Christ's T.* 46 Two or three thousand pound,...When bee hath it all in his handes, for a month or two he reuels it, and cuts it out in the whole cloth. 1630 Brathwait *Eng. Gent.* 333 They cut it out of the whole cloth, and divide their acies peece-meale into shreds. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* i. (1906) 5 The valiant Souldier .. measureth out of the whole cloath his Honour with his sword. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. vi. 177 This rent (not in the seam but whole cloth) betwixt these Churches. 1677 Hubbard *Pres. St. New-Eng.* II. 1 The List or Border here being known to be more worth then the whole Cloth; That whole Tract of Land, being of little worth, unless it were for the Borders thereof upon the Sea-coast. 1843 C. Mathews *Writ.* 68 (Thornton) Isn't this entire story..made out of whole cloth? 1897 *Fortn. Rev.* July 140 Absolutely untruthful telegrams were manufactured out of 'whole cloth'. 1905 Vachell *Hill* xii, That Eton captain is cut out of whole cloth; no shoddy there.

Whole-footed (-futed), *a.*

†1. Having 'whole' or undivided feet, i. e. with the toes united; web-footed, as a bird; *rarely*, solid-hoofed, as a quadruped. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 538 Þe hole-foted fowle to þe flod hyȝed. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 279 All maner hole foted fowles that haue theyr lyuyng vpon the water. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 32 The Asses of India ..differ from all other whole-footed beasts. 1696 Jn. Edwards *Demonstr. Exist. God* I. 193 [Water-fowl] are generally whole-footed. 1704 Ray *Creation* (ed. 4) 147 Such Creatures as are whole-footed or fin-toed.

2. Treading with the whole foot on the ground, not lightly or on tip-toe.

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Whole-footed*. 1. Treading flat and heavy, as if there were no joints in the feet. 1896 Wherry *Alpine Notes* 119 It has often been noticed in mountaineering that a guide can go face forward and whole-footed up a slope.

3. *fig.* Unreserved, frank, free and easy. *colloq.* or *slang*.

a 1734 North *Life Dr. J. North* (1744) 278 His chief Remissions were when some of his nearest Relations were with him,..and then, as they say, he was wholefooted. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Whole-footed*..2. Very intimate; closely confederate.

†**Wholeful**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* In 5–6 hol(e)full. [f. Whole *a.* + -ful.] Health-giving, wholesome. Hence †**Wholefully** *adv.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxviii. (W. de W.) 81 v b/2 Iuys of Caprifoli Oynions Rewe (etc.)..with vyneygre and hony ben holfully [*Bodl. MS.* heelefulliche] layed to suche bytynges. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 306 Drawe ye ..holefull water of lore of my wellys.

†**Wholehead.** *Obs. rare*[-1]. In 5 holehede. [f. Whole *a.* + -head.] Completeness.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 171 Þe iij. spanne lengthe muste he holehede, þat þi sorwe be hole for alle þi synnes to-gedere.

Wholely, obs. form of Wholly.

Wholeness (hōu-lnés). [f. Whole *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being whole.

1. Soundness, freedom from injury; unimpaired state, integrity. Now *rare* and associated with other senses.

c 1000 in *Archiv für das Stud. d. neu. Spr.* CXXI. 46 Willende & nellende, on gesundfulnysse & on þan halnesse, [1340: see Yholnesse.] *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. 127 (Camb. MS.) Þou weenyst þat it be diuerse fro the hoolnesse of science, þat any man shoide deme a thing to ben oother weys thanne it is it self. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* II. xii. 103 Holnes..of mynde, redynes of wyll,..in holy saules, suffyrs þame not dedly to synne. 1443–9 Pecock *Donet* x. (1921) 154 Þilk hool [3rd] comaundement in his ful hoolnes is reuoked, sie, and forboden. 1480–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 229 Neyther the godhed was mynyshed in the sonne ne the holeneese of the maydenhod in the mother. *c* 1480 *Osney Reg.* 30 To be holde and to be had, ..with all the integrite or hoolenesse in the which William of Saynte John..all þe forseide thynges had and holde.

1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 336 Holiness, that is..*wholeness*. 1885 *American* IX. 229 Rosza has too much regard for the wholeness of his skin to run that kind of a risk.

2. The character of having nothing wanting, or of having all its parts in due connexion; completeness, perfection; unbroken or undivided state; the quality of constituting a complex unity.

(M.E. *all hoolenesse* is f. *all hool* + *nesse*.)

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxvi. (1495) 1021 b/1 All hoolenesse [orig. *totalitas*] and perfightnesse longyth one & vnite. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 276 The thyng seide..be beyde by anticipacion, that the holeneese of þe story may be [illegible]
He dydde both gese vnto vs an

body, and of his bloud, and also did briefly smoll that hard question of his wholnes. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 95 The wholeneese and substaunce of Baptime doth consist in two things,..the Word and the Element. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 108 Those bedightings or affections that belong to it, as having parts; of which the wholeness..was one. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* II. ii. (1765) 64 *note*, As far as Perplexity and Confusion may be avoided, and the Wholeness of the Piece may be preserved clear and intelligible. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 265 A book of tales,..without drift or wholeness of design: all is episode. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* I. iii. 246 The unbroken wholeness of this stone was a symbol of the unbrokenness of the Church. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* I. ii. 114 Peace-lover is our Harold for the sake Of England's wholeness. 1886 — *Locksley Hall 60 Yrs. After* 101 Sweet St. Francis of Assisi..He that in his Catholic wholeness used to call the very flowers Sisters, brothers.

b. The totality or total amount *of* something (*obs.*); something complete or unified (*rare*): = WHOLE *sb.* 1, 2.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr.* CXXXVI. 8 Of þe & in þe..is þe hoolnes of my ioy. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref. A 4, These Three..taken all together, make up the Wholeness and Entireness of..The True Intellectual System of the Universe. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 191 What shapeless and ragged utterances Englishmen are content to put forth, without attempting anything like a wholeness.

Wholer (hōʊ·lər). *local.* [f. WHOLE *a.* or *sb.* + -ER 1.] (See quot.)

1633 *Terrier of Swinton* in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1885) XI. 366/2 The Inhabitants of Swinton as likewise the Lands are partly Wholers and partly Halfers to the Churches or Parsonages of Wath and Mexborough. Wholers are they that paye their Tythes wholy, bothe predial and personal, to one of the foresaide Churches onely, viz. to Wath onely or Mexborough onely.

Wholesale (hōʊ·lsēl), *sb., a., adv.*

I. 1. Orig. two words, WHOLE *a.* and SALE *sb.*[2], in phr. *by whole sale* (also † *by the* or † *in whole sale*), now usually ellipt. as adv., qualifying *sell, buy*, or words of similar meaning: In large quantities, in gross (as opposed to *by retail*).

a 1417 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 283 To sell any girdeles by retaile or holesale. 1579 WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 41 Those men which sell by whole sale haue a quicker dispatch. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 53 If seates of Iustice were to be solde for money, wee haue them amongst vs that would buy them vp by the whole sale. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 95 Great Merchants disdaine to sell, otherwise then by whole sale. 1731–8 *Norwich Merc.* 19–26 Feb. 3/2 William Steele..selleth the following Goods either by Wholesale or Retail. 1824 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1829) I. 235 Purchasing articles for the community in wholesale. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 692/1 These pegged goods [*sc.* shoes] are disposed of wholesale in boxes. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* 9 Feb. 727/1 Inviting the public to come and buy, both wholesale and retail.

2. *fig.* (with construction as in 1). In a large way, in large numbers or amount, in abundance, profusely, extensively, indiscriminately.

1601 W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxix. Q 7, We whose narrow roomes are not able to traffick with vertue by the whole-sale but by retayle. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. vi. 489 Africanus, from whose Store-house Eusebius tooke his Chronicle, ..almost by wholesale. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 330 St. Cyprian who was liberal by wholesale, bestowing all at once, a fair estate on God and the poor. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. v. (1786) 108 They despise a valuable book, and..throw contempt upon it by wholesale. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 112 The wild Bashkirs..slaughtered them by wholesale. 1869 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* iii. 104 Homer never allows distinguished Greeks to fall wholesale by the Trojan sword. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xx. 503 The Norman version makes him overthrow Welsh Kings by wholesale.

† 3. Sale in gross; *fig.* dealing in a large way or in big quantities; indiscriminate or unlimited disposal (opp. to *retail*). *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 166 Take them out of their tracke, put them from their whole-sale, and turne them to retayle...I will not glue a button for the best of them. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* I. § 6 To which his FAVTE WAYTA GOI ἐωσω all this will I give (could he make such a whole-sale) can bear no proportion. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 57 Merchants shops, For halesale or retailin'.

II. *attrib.* or *adj.* 4. a. Selling a commodity by wholesale.

c 1648 in *Archaeologia* LII. 135 A boxyer & whole saleman for narrow wares. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 64 P 3 A wholesale Dealer in Silks and Ribbons. 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 124 It being frequent for the London Wholesale Men to carry back Orders from their Dealers. 1773 *Life N. Froude* 5 Mr. John Neville, a Wholesale Ironmonger. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 22 The farmer at a distance from markets..may be compared ..to a wholesale merchant. 1876 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 637 Drugs from the wholesale houses for country druggists.

b. Pertaining to sale in gross; used for a commodity sold by wholesale.

1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 130 When the great Hurry of Wholesale Business begins to be over. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, Pickles..in great wholesale jars. 1867 J. LAING *Theory of Business* ii. 13 The retail price of '13', we take to mean that shopkeepers received this amount of money for their stocks; and the wholesale price of '12'; shows that they pay to warehousemen '8' less than they received. 1878 L. L. PRICE *Money* vi. 174 Greater friction prevails in the retail than in the wholesale market. 1900 *Builder* 5 Apr. 321 Wanted, Clerk and Traveller required for a Wholesale

limited or indiscriminate in range; doing something, or done, largely, profusely, or in great quantities.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvii. 116 But how long shall I be retailing out rules to this Merchant?..Take our Saviours whole-sale rule, Whatsoever ye would have men do unto you, do you unto them. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 809 Those whole-sale Criticks, that..cry down all Philosophy. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. v, The Moors had treated this unhappy people with a wholesale and relentless barbarity. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xlvii, Slaughtering lions in a wholesale way like rabbits. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, I am by no means a wholesale admirer of our legal solemnities. 1843 SCUDAMORE *Gräfenberg* 27 It is a sort of wholesale theory, and equally serves for all persons, and for every known disorder. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. vii. 73 A wholesale creation of peers for the purpose of obtaining a majority. 1880 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Rebel of Family* xxii, 'Would you go to the colonies with the man you loved?'..'I would go into the desert!' she answered in her passionate wholesale way.

Hence **Who·lesale** *v. trans.*, to sell wholesale (in quot. *intr.* for *pass.*); **Who·lesalely** *adv.*, in a wholesale way, extensively, profusely; **Who·lesaler**, one who sells goods wholesale (to retailers), a wholesale dealer; **Who·lesaleness**, wholesale quality, profuseness, indiscriminateness.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 289/1 English ladies' shoes, *wholesaling at $ 1 50 per pair. 1887 J. D. HOOKER in *Life* (1918) II. 295 The supposed facts..are *wholesalely unreliable. 1892 *Graphic* 24 Dec. 758/2 The very *wholesaleness of the present charges of corruption. 1857 TOOKE & NEWMARCH *Hist. Prices* V. 375 Nor..is it necessary..that the whole quantity..should be in the hands, either of the *wholesalers or the retailers. 1888 E. BELLAMY *Looking Backward* 146 The manufacturer sold to the wholesaler. 1907 *Times* 2 Oct. 3/6 In the bakery trade..between the wholesaler and retailer the expression 'bushel'..was a measure of weight.

† **Wholeship.** *Obs.* In 3 hal-, holso(h)ipe. [f. WHOLE *a.* + -SHIP 1.] = WHOLENESS 1.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 Ilich him in halschipe, vnwemmet as he is. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 O muchele menske to beon moder of swuche sone mid holscipe [*Cott. MS.* (p. 203) iholschipe: see YHOLSCHIPE] of maiden.

Wholesome (hōʊ·lsəm), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: see WHOLE; also 4–6 (with normal shortening) holsum, -som, 6–8 wholsom(e. (For north. dial. and Sc. forms see HALESOME.) [OE. **hālsum*, corresp. to OS. **hēlsam* (implied in adv. *hēlsamo*), MLG. *heilsam*, Du. *heilzaam* salutary (dial. = healthy), OHG. (MHG., G.) *heilsam*, ON. *heilsamr*; see WHOLE *a.* and -SOME *suffix* 1. The northern form (reinforced from ON.) is represented by HALESOME.]

1. Conducive to well-being in general, esp. of mind or character; mentally or morally healthful; tending or calculated to do good; beneficial, salutary.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 111 3if ðu luuest ðine azene wille alre mast, þanne is ðe swiðe holsum ðat ðu þis ofri ðine louerde god. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 þenne riseð ure helend on his heorte, and techeð him holsum lore. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Tim.* vi. 3 The..holsum wordis of oure Lord Jhesu Crist. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. xxiii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 252/2 It is nat holsum with goddis to pleie. 1535 STARKEY *Lett. in England* (1878) p. xvii, Holsome ceremonys of the church. 1566 STAPLETON *Rel. Untr. Jewel* I. 22 It is manifeste..that we..do celebrate the memoriall of that One and holsome Sacrifice. 1600 MARSTON, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* I. (1601) A 4 b, So great a masse of coyne might mount from wholsome thrift. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 66 You'l marre all..Pray you speake to em..In wholsome manner. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 695 A good example of wholsome severity. 1632 BROME *North. Lasse* I. iv, They are wholsomer company. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 10 P 5, I will daily instil into them such sound and wholsome Sentiments, as shall have a good Effect on their Conversation. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. vi, Wholesome Admonition and Reproof. 1824 SOUTHEY *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 24 May, To enjoy better air, keep better hours, and employ herself in quieter and wholesomer pleasures. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xlvii. VI. 117 Thebes was destroyed..that the example of its fate might strike the rest of Greece with a wholesome awe. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* ii. 12 The sober and wholesome manners of life among the early Romans had given them vigorous minds in vigorous bodies. 1892 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 62 It is wholesome and tonic to realise the powerlessness of man in the face of these little accidents.

2. Promoting or conducive to health; favourable to or good for health; health-giving or health-preserving; salubrious.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 940 Pilke ground þat bereth þe wedys wykke, Bereth eke þese holsome herbes. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xi. (Bodl. MS.), Marche water is not full holsom to drinke. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2877 It is holsom to breke our fast be-tyme. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. ii. 58 No holsome, ne lusty fruyte, but bytter and vnsauoury. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 14 To take the holsome lusty eyre. 1538 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 96 O fair Phebus, quhare is thy holsum heit? 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 48 b, Abrecockes..are lesse then the other peches and are holsummer for the stomack. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* V. xvii. 457 The Ayre is not very holesome, by reason of the situation vnder the Line, and the multitude of Lakes and Riuers. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 847 The still Night, not dew..Wholsom and cool, and mild. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Architt.* I. 103/1 Flat ceilings are wholesomer. 1778 ADAM *Amer. Ind.* 230 Wholsome weeds, that their sick fields abound with. 1819 KEATS *Eve of St. Mark* 3 The city streets were clean and fair From wholesome drench of April rains. 1849 CLEATON *Cold Water Cure* 103 By this means the stable was rendered wholesome, and the horses ..continued healthy. 1892 *Leeds Merc.* 2 May 6/3 Old spirits are more wholesome than the new, which are far more irritating to the stomach.

† b. Having the property of restoring health; remedial, curative, medicinal. *Obs.* (or merged in prec. sense).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 29 Remeuynge holsum medicyne of her heuenly lechia. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* V. ix, That fayr skynne which is so holsome, ye shalle make hit to be..bound vpon your bely, and..hit shalle rendre you in as good helthe as euer ye were. 1557 TURNER (*title*) A Booke of the Bath of Baath..with diverse other bathes moste holsom and effectual. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 104. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. XXXII. 195 Wholsome pills for the sick.

3. Sound in (physical or moral) condition or constitution; free from disease or taint; healthy. Now *rare*, or associated with other senses.

a 1513 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* x. (1535) F j b, He hated delicate and gay nurses, and they that were laborous homely and holsome he loued. 1600 SHAKS. *Hamt.* I. v, 70 It doth..curd..The thin and wholesome blood. *Ibid.* III. ii. 271. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. v, *Vrs.* I, I, Gamesters, mocks a plaine plumpe soft wench..because she's iuicy and wholesome. 1633 JER. TAYLOR *Serm.* iii. (L.) It is not to be expected that a diseased father should beget wholesome children. 1820 SHELLEY *Œd. Tyr.* I. 83 He has not half an inch of wholesome fat Upon his carious ribs. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ii, A plump rosy-cheeked wholesome apple-faced young woman. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Seven Gables* ix, The purifying influence scattered..by the presence of one youthful, fresh, and thoroughly wholesome heart. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxiv, Ere the wholesome flesh decay.

Comb. 1908 SLADEN *Playing the Game* I. xi, An unusually wholesome-natured woman.

b. *transf.* of a quality, condition, place, etc. (often approaching sense 1).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 49 In wholsome Wisedome He might not but refuse you. 1605 — *Mach.* IV. iii. 105 O Nation miserable!..When shalt thou see thy wholsome dayes againe? 1641 in Rogers *Protests of Lords* (1875) I. 5 Such as shall disturb wholesome order. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* II. 63 A wholesome busy city like Manchester.

c. *Naut.* Of a ship (see quots.); *transf.* of the sea.

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xi. 32 A Ship that will try, hull, and ride well at Anchor, we call a wholsome Ship. *Ibid.*, This makes her wholsome in the Sea without rowling. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. 17 The Top-mast being aloft the Ship is the holsomest, and maketh better way through the Sea. 1762 *Elsdale's Narr.* (MS.), The long continuance of the Gale had rais'd a most mountainous sea, but it was remarkably long and wholsome.

B. as *sb.* in *pl.* Wholesome things.

In first quot. in a canting use (? suggested by *fulsome*).

1732–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 158 Bring me a Dram after my Goose; 'tis very good for the Wholsoms. 1858 *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVI. 358 To provide..tables of the wholesomes and unwholesomes. 1863 'HOLME LEE' *A. Warleigh* III. iii, Steer clear of novels before Miss Austen and Scott; if you would like me to make you out a list of amusing wholesomes, I will do it.

Wholesomely (hōʊ·lsəmli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a wholesome manner.

1. In a way conducive to well-being in general; with good tendency or effect; beneficially, salutarily.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 107 Þe giue of eche lif..he giueð mid þe holi husel, þanne man it understondeð rihtliche and holsumliche. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* vi. 1–7 This bodye of synne is then in vs effectually and holsomely slaine. 1622 A. COURT *Constancie* II. 109 Afflictions ..happen to vs wholsomely. 1650 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* I. (1654) 47 What was wholsomly advised..that he willingly assented to. 1797 *Burn's Eccl. Law* (ed. 6) I. 250 *note*, He was a good man, and wholesomely governed the church committed to him. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Democr.* 24 That which operates noxiously in the one, may operate wholesomely in the other.

2. So as to promote health; in a way favourable to health; † remedially, medicinally (*obs.*); healthily (*rare*).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Auctours comaundeþ to take such whelpes holsomliche ajens venemous bitinge of boundes. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 9 The meate good and holsome and holsomly drest. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* G ij, That their Linnen be wholsomly and cleanly washed. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* I. 47 b, This Citty..standeth holsomly and sweetly, as it were vpon a hill. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* IX. x. (1678) 222 Those things which do wholsomly and moderately nourish. 1899 *All Year Round* No. 32. 127 Paraguay tea ..adulterates the real souchong wholesomely. 1870 *Echo* 25 Nov., A sufficiency of wholesome, and..wholesomely cooked food.

Wholesomeness (hōʊ·lsəmnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being wholesome, in any sense.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 On þat wise lið ure helende on his heorte, alse on sepulcre, and swikeð of holsumneesse lese

of here bodily mete. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Water þat renneth..vpon cleere stones oþer gravel hab þe secunde holsumnes. 1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 94 b, In meats the wholsomeness is as much to be required, as the pleasantness. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 26 b, The holsomeasse of the ayre in other countries. 1626 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* V. vii. (ed. 3) 588 This yeeldes not to any Indian Region, in goodlinesse and wholesomeneese. 1798 MONRO *Manor. Gaug.* 1. 375 Malt liquor is not so frequently used, as its wholesomeness deserves. 1807 SOUTHEY

Let. to G. C. Bedford 4 Oct., The bitterness of the cup will have passed away, and you will then perceive its wholesomeness. 1847 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 333 Not only to the repair of the roads themselves, but to..the safety, wholesomeness, and comfort of the passage along them. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 517/2 The general wholesomeness of Dr. Gladden's position is..beyond cavil.

Wholewise (hǝʊ·lwəiz), *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. Whole *a.* or *sb.* + -wise.] As a whole, completely, all at once.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 107 If you ask, .. Whether it touches *secundum se totum* or not? Whether wholewise or piecewise? 1880 Lanier *Hymns of Marshes* i. 147 The.. sea-rim sinks..wholewise.

Wholey, wholie, obs. forms of Wholly.

Wholl, whollе, obs. forms of Whole.

Whollop, var. Wallop *sb.* and *v.*

Wholly (hǝʊ·lli, hǝʊ·li), *adv.* Forms: *α.* see Hallely. *β.* 4–5 hollich(e, 4–6 hoolly, holy, holly, 5–6 hooly, 6–8 wholy, (4 hoolliche, holiche, holyke, holilich, holi, hooli, 5 hoolich, holych, holli, holely, hoyly, 6 hol(l)ye, hoolye, holie, whol(l)ye, whol(l)ie, 7 wholelye, whollily), 7–8 wholey, 7–9 wholely, 6– wholly. [ME. *hol(l)iche, hollichе*, repr. OE. type **(ge)hālīce*: see Whole *a.* and -ly 2. For the northern form see Hallely.

The normal development of OE. (**gehālīce* was (*y*)*hǣlliche* (14th–15th c.), giving ultimately *holly* (hǝʊ·li), which survives dialectally. But, by the influence of the adj. *hǣl* Whole, a type with a long root-vowel was differentiated, *hǣllichе*; this type, with *ll* retained or with simplification to *l* (which appears to have taken place as early as the 14th cent.), is represented by the modern pronunciations (hǝʊ·lli) and (hǝʊ·li). The current spelling *wholly* descends from the ME. *hollichе*, and has ultimately prevailed over the once common *wholely* and *wholy*, which would more normally denote the resultant standard pronunciations. (For the simplification of *ll* to *l* cf. early forms of Foully, *full, fouly, fowlye*, and Solely, *sooly, solye*.)

In all senses formerly sometimes pleonastically joined with *all, full*, or *fully*: cf. Whole A. 7.

1. As a whole, in its entirety, in full, throughout, all of it; † formerly also (in ref. to a pl. or collect. sb.), all of them, all together, in a body. Now *rare*.

a 1300 [see Hallely]. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1737 Al holyke [*v. r.* All holy]com þer flote In Dertemuthe. *Ibid.* 14337 Þre 3er holy was he kyng. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 34 Alle þe regne holy was þat tyme in his l. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 25 Abraham..seigh holy [*v. r.* hoolly] þe Trinite, Thre persones in parcelles departable fro other. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 8 To parfourne holelich and trewlich this..testament. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3368 They heldede to hir heste alle holly at ones. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxv. 103 To restore all þinges, not only holy, but also abundantly & ouerhepid. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 18 § 1 As yf all the..purporte of the same Commission ware in this present acte holly and particularly rehersed. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. § 7 That infinite word..could not in part but must needes be wholie incarnate. 1611 *Bible* Lev. vi. 23 Euery meat offering for the Priest shal be wholly burnt: it shall not be eaten. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxxi. 536 *Non omnis moriar*, I shall not wholly die; there is a life I live, which death cannot touch. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 158 ₱ 4, I would have a Spectator wholly writ upon Good-breeding. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. xi, He..took off the brandy wholely at twa draughts. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. vii. § 3 A man who can see truth at all, sees it wholly, and neither desires nor dares to mutilate it.

2. Completely, entirely, to the full extent (so that there is no deficiency); altogether, totally, thoroughly, quite.

[*a* 1300, etc.: see Hale.] *c* 1315, 1340: see Yhollichе.] *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 56 Ant 3if ani his ipuit out of suuche entre, sal he recouеren his seisine of him pleinliche ant holliche ase he þe oþere les? 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 104 Þat my hous may holly by halkes by fylled. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 495 Nis he holly at my best in hard & in nesche. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 4 Sche..dede al holi what he wolde. *c* 1440 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 105 Y desire welfare, helth, strynght and goodnesse, all holely to come to vche man. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 22 Þai shall be..for-done hoyly, hyde and hewe. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 531 Do thy selfe wholly addres To walke in thy vocation. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 270 The Archers of England shot so wholy together, that the Frenche men were faine to geue place. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 355 *Amor & dilectio* (both lose in English) were the words most, & all wholy in request. 1611 Shake. *Cymb.* II. ii. 10 Sleepe hath ceiz'd me wholly. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Arminn.* 104 Mr. Bradford makes wholy for our present Tenet. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1711) I. 8 As he [*sc.* God] is not divided..in Himself, so neither let him be in your Affections; but love Him wholly, and wholly Him. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Tale of Tyne* I. 5 We were wholly at a loss what to do. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 358 The great majority of the houses..have..been wholly, or in great part, rebuilt. 1918 *Cornhill Mag.* June 636 His words.. were wholly admirable and true.

b. Entirely, so as to exclude everything else; hence practically equivalent to 'exclusively, solely, only, without exception'.

c 1485 *Cast. Perseu.* 508 in *Macro Plays* 93 Goddys seruyse þou must forsake, & holy to þe werld þee take. 1552 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxii. 24–30 Neither shall he take the laude and praise vnto himselfe, but referre the same entierly and wholye vnto God. 1619 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1891) 47 Inhabited wholelye by Welshmen. 1648 Hoskins *Leviath.* II. xxx. 180 The Instruction of the people, dependeth wholly, on the right teaching of Youth.

[see 2]. 1710 Peireaux *Orig. Tithes* ii. 67 They shall give up themselves wholy hereto without entangling themselves with the World. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xvii, My ear was wholly intent on analyzing the mingled sounds. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 441 A creature wholly given to brawls and wine.

Wholve, *sb. dial.* Also 5 wolve, whulve, (7 hulve, hull), 8 whoulve. [Variant of Whe(ǝ)ve.] A short arched or covered drain under a path.

1395 (4 June) *View of Frankpledge Gt. Waltham* (MS.), Johannes Hereward de jure reparat quemdam Wholue juxta Stonfeld. 1466 *Birchanger Court Roll*, Vnum wholve non scuratum apud Grouchemede. 1469 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* fol. 18 (MS.) Le whulve atte crosse. 1637 *Maldon, Essex, Docts.* Bundle 161. No. 3 (MS.) We present Abell Hawkes .. for .. not laying of a hull against his gate for the passing of the watter. 1722 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds*, Bundle 114, No. 17 (MS.) We present Mr. Kemp for not laying a whoulve at y^e^ great avingnilk-well mead. 1903 (Essex dial.) I've been opening a wolve.

†**Wholve,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Variant of Whe(ǝ)ve.] = Whelve *v.* I.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 614/42 *Sustinus*, wholuyd [*printed* wholnyd].

Wholy, obs. form of Hoolie.

1622 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.*(1908) II. 76 Eighteen rupp[ees] at once given in pane to certayne banyans at the feast of Wholy.

Wholy, obs. form of Holy, Wholly.

Whom (hūm), *pron.* Forms: *α.* 1 hwæm, 1–3 hwam, 3–5 wam, 3–5, 8–9 *Sc.* wham, 4–5 whame, whaym(e, wom, 4–7 whome, (3 ȝwam, whæm, *Orm.* whamm, 4 huam, whaam, whaime, 5 wome, hom(e, whem, waim, 6 hoom, *Sc.* vhom), 3– whom; *north.* and *Sc.* 3–4 quam, 4–6 quham, 4–6, 8 quhome, 4–7 quhom, (3 quuam, 4 quaym, quem, quhowm, 5 qwhom(e, qwom(e, qhom). *β.* 1 hwone, hwane, hwæne, 2 hwen, 2–3 hwan, 3 whan, wan, ȝwan, wanne, 3–4 whæn. [*Whom* represents formally OE. *hwām*, later variant of *hwǣm* (:— **χwaimz*), dat. of *hwā* Who, *hwæt* What, corresp. (with variation of inflexion) to OFris. *hwām* (WFris. *wam, waam*, NFris. *hām*), OS. *hwām(u)*, OHG. (*h*)*wemu, -o* (MHG., G. *wem*), ON. *hveim* (MSw. *hwem* used as dat. and acc., early Da. also *hwam*), Goth. *hwamma*. In its usage *whom* combines the functions of OE. *hwǣm* and OE. *hwone, hwane, hwæne*, acc. masc. of *hwā*, corresp. to OFris. *hwane, hwene*, OS. *hwena* (MDu., Du. *wien*), OHG. (*h*)*wenan, wen*(*en* (MHG., G. *wen*), ON. (eastern) *hvan*, Goth. *hwana*. The history of OE. *hwone*, ME. (*h*)*wan* is therefore illustrated under this heading in order to exhibit the merging of the original acc. and dat. under the forms of the latter. (The form-history is complicated in the 12th and 13th centuries by the fact that in weak positions (*h*)*wam* often became (*h*)*wan*, and the latter when neuter is indistinguishable from Whon 1.)

The earliest instance here recorded of the use of the dat. form as an acc. or direct object is in the indef. relative *swa hwam swa swa* = whomsoever (Laud Chron. an. 1123): see sense 6. By 1200 this shift had extended to the relative and dependent interrogative uses, but examples of the independent interrogative use are hardly earlier than 1300: see sense 1 b.] The objective case of Who: no longer current in natural colloquial speech.

1. In an independent question. **a.** as indirect object (dative) or as object of a preposition (or after *than*).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vi. 68 Drihten to hwam ga we? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8353 O mi kingrike quat redes þou? Quam sal I giue it for to ledd? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 463 To quam has þou þe tane till, tell me þe sothe. 1535 Coverdale *Eseh.* xxxi. 2 Whom art thou like in thy greatnes? — *Isa.* xl. 18 To whom then will ye licken God? 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. xxviii. 9 Whom then shal such one teach knowlege? 1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* ii. i. 153 *Speed.* To be a Spokes-man from Madam Siluia. *Val.* To whom? 1603 Dekker & Chettle *Gristil* iv. I. (Shaks. Soc.) 52 Seek'st thou a better nurse? A better nurse than whom? 1780 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 369 For whom in the world do you think that I was kept so long kicking my heels? 1848 Ruskin *Lett. to a College Friend* (1894) 129 To whom should I write if not to the only one of my friends whom I cannot see? 1866 I. le Fanu *All in Dark* viii, I played to-day..two rubbers of fives; with whom do you think?

b. as direct object (accusative).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 45 Hwane manaþ God maran gafoles þonne þone biscop? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xviii. 4 Hwone sece 3e?

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxvi[i]. 1 Wham sal I drede? *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 206 Whom mai he to helpe crauen? 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xvi. 15 Whom seien 3e me to be? *Ibid.* xxvii. 21 Whom of the two woien þee to be left? *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 69 Quhom sall I blame? 1513 Douglas *Æneis* i. vi. 38 Bot, O thou virgine, quham sall I call the? 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* vi. 8 Whom shall I sende, and who wilbe oure messaunger? 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. lxxiii. 25 Whom haue I in heauen but the? 1706 Tavernier *Faithf. Bride* iii. 57 Whom wou'dst thou injure with a Villains Name? 1833 Tennyson *Maud* i. vi. 8, Whom but Maud should I meet? 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. 489 Whom think you she has seen?

2. In a dependent question, or clause of similar meaning. **a.** as indirect object or as object of a preposition.

The prep. regularly precedes, but often followed in obs. Sc. use (cf. 10); in mod. use it occas. appears at the end of the clause, but in such cases in colloq. speech *who* is commonly substituted (see Who 5).

a. Beowulf 1696 Swa was..ȝemearcod..hwam þæt sweord geworht..orest were. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxviii[i]. 7 [6] *Thesaurizat et ignorat cui congregat ea*, goldhordað & nat hwæm ȝesomnað ða. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 145 Þe holi gost þe him dide..to understonden þæt ure drihten wolde man bicumen and ware and wanne and of wam ben boren. *c* 1200 Ormin 19612, I sahh cumenn Godess Gast Inn aness cullfress like, & I sahh uppo whamm he comm. *c* 1205 Lay. 11404 Þe king..bæd heom imæden him ræd whæm [*c* 1275 wan] he mihte bi-tæche al his kine-riche. 13.. *Cursor M.* 10718 (Gött.) Thoru þis prophete sai ze se Til quham þe may sal spousid be. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 93 Ne he ne wist to wham þat he mot mak his mone. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. i. 43 Tel me to whom þat Treasour appendeþ? *Ibid.* 47 He asked..whom þe ymage was lyk. 1378 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 111, I wat nocht for quhat enchesoun, Na quham with he maid the cowyne. 1448 Mare. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 69, I fell hym so disposyd that he wold..assett to morgage all that he hath, he had nowth rowth to qhom. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 259 Quha is lord of yone land,.. Or quham of is he haldand, Fayne wald I wit. 1504 C'tess Richmond tr *De Imitatione* iv. v. (1893) 267 Se from whom this mysterye is gyuen vnto the. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. xiii. 133 Thar sall thou knaw onone, Quhamto this wyndy glore, voust, or avantis, The honor, or, with pane, the loving grantis. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxiii. 42 Tak heid Quhomefor thow suffer pane. 1600 Fairfax tr. *Tasso* viii. liii, To spie at whom to aske we gased round. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1088, I .. am come to see of whom such noise Hath walk'd about. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 189 They let me go .. They little thought with whom. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* vi, Not that he cared to whom his daughter turned, or from whom turned away. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* Feb. 77 When he found Gemmy knocked down to him (he knew not whom for). 1905 Elin. Glyn *Vicius. Evang.* 203 Getting a note, she did not tell me whom it was from, or what it was about.

β. c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 332 Ac ðu findst wið hwone ðu meaht flitan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 326 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 179 We scolden..us bi-þenche..hwet we beð, and to wan we sculle and of wan we come. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1509 3ef he biþenc þ bi hwan [*v. r.* hwam] he lai, Al mai þe luue gan a-wai. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiv. 158 Ich hadde wonder at wham [*v. r.* whan] and wher þat þe pye Lernede legge stynkes þat leyen in here neste.

b. as direct object.

α. c 1205 Lay. 27487 Þeo at þan laste nuste nan kempe Whæm [*MS.* whǣ] he sculde slæn on [*c* 1275 wam he solde smite] and wham [*MS.* whā; *c* 1275 wan] he sculde sparien. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6417 Þo bed he þe court..rist vnderstonde Wat vorewarde þer were ymad..Bituene him & king edmund ..& wan [*v. rr.* wam, wham] edmond made is eir. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 4 Haue minde of þi man, þou whote wham I mene. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 348 Crist axide his disciplis whom þei seiden him to be. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xii. 5, I will shewe you whom ye shall feare. — *John* xiii. 18, I knowe whom I have chosen. 1535 Coverdale *Josh.* xxiv. 15 Chose you this daye whom ye wyll serue. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* i. ix. 22 b, He..coulde not tell whom he might trust. Shaks. *Temp.* I. i. 20 Remember whom thou hast aboord. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* v. xv, I suppose you know whom I have got—now. 1737 Pope *Hor., Epist.* i. vi. 102 Hire a Slave..To..Tell at your Levee..To whom to nod, whom take into your Coach. *Mod.* I don't know whom to ask.

β. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 Þe deofel .. geð abutan..sechinde hwen he maze fordon. *c* 1275 [see *c* 1205 in *α*].

¶ **3.** Used ungrammatically for the nominative Who, esp. as predicate in a dependent clause (being erroneously taken as object of the verb in the principal clause; sometimes app. from confusion with the Latin acc. and inf.).

[*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 13 Hwæne secgeað menn þæt sy mannes sunu?] 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xvi. 13 Whom do men saye that I the sonne of man am? *Ibid.* 15 But whom saye ye that I am? [So 1611; *R. V.* 1881 who.] *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* x. (1814) 20, I cannot thinke whome it should be. 1590 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* i. i. 205 (Qo. 1) Tel me in sadnes whome she is you loue. 1644–68 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 574 The Horse seem'd to know whom 'twas he carri'd. 1817 Belos *Sennacherib* II. 227 Whom is it you mean? 1881 Mrs. H. Wood *East Lynne* III. i, Not having the least idea of whom Asy might be.

II. Indefinite (non-relative) use.

†**4.** The indefinite use of OE. *hwā* (*hwǣm*, etc.) 'some one' did not survive, but, on the analogy of Otherwhat, Somewhat, ME. has *sum oþer wham* = some one else. (Cf. Somewho.)

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6594 Þan preyde þe ryche man Abraham, þat he wilde sende Lazare, or sum oþer wham, To hys breþryn.

III. Relative uses.

Also formerly with *that* following (see That *conj.* 6).

5. As compound relative, or with ellipsis of antecedent (= he, him, those, etc. whom), of a person or persons; as direct object, or object of a preposition. *arch.* (Cf. Who 8.) Often approaching the indefinite sense 6.

[*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke x. 22 *Filius et cui voluerit filius revelare*, se sunu & huæm wille se sunu onðeuna.] *c* 1200 Ormin 18888 Ne þarrf ȝuw nohht nu folkheenn me, Her iss whamm ȝuw birrþ folghenn me. 13.. *Eufrosyne* 404 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 179/1 Whom he loueþ, he wel chastise. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 70 Wam þat ȝe þus bynd, schal be bound, and wam þat ȝe bring out of synne, þe peyn schal be forȝeuen hem. 1507 *Regist. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 332 And sbuld present nain thertо bot quhem that pleis the

said Mr. Alexander. 1526 TINDALE *John* xvii. 3 That they myght knowe the that only very God; and whom thou hast sent Iesus Christ. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 347 There were there, to whom Christe sauoured better in their heart, then Manna in their mouth. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. iii. § 1 We are by repentance to appease whom we offend by sinne. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II. v, I've offer'd to..gain you whom you love at any price. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iii, A common bounty may relieve distress, But whom the vulgar succour, they oppress. 1820 BYRON *Juan* IV. xii, 'Whom the gods love die young' was said of yore. 1842 TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* ii, How sweet are looks that ladies bend On whom their favours fall! 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1315 Shall the sea give death whom the land gave birth?

b. with correlative in following clause. Cf. WHO 6 a. *arch.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1768 Dat is min red, Wiδ quam δu is findes, δat he be dead. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 103 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 Hwam ich biteche þat bred..He me schal bitraye. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxi. 44 Vpon whom it shal falle, it shal togidre poune hym. †*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 770 Whayme that he towchede he was tynt for euer! *c* 1400 (see 5 above). 1526 TINDALE *Luke* vii. 47 To whom lesse is forgiuen, the same doeth lesse loue. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Rom. viii. 30 Whom he appoynted before, them also he called [1611 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, the victory is his.

6. In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. WHO 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

† Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also WHOMEVER.

a 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1123 þat hi mosten cesen of clerc-hades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. *c* 1275 LAY. 9081 þe holi gost..hine dealeþ to wam him beoþ lofue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde old ne 3onge.., þat he ne slou wanne [*v. r.* wham] he vond. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 602 God mychty is ..al temporale thinge to gyf & tak to quham he wil. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 343/1 No persone..shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the s-ide Counseill, for saiyng his advys..to any request..that shal be spoken..in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 70/3 Payand thereof yerely..to me or quhom that I assign fourti markis. 1515 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 77 Your most honorable Counsaill or whome it shall please your highnes to .. appoynte. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* v. 19 Whom he wolde, he set vp: & whom he list, he put downe. 1664 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 215 To leaue order with Mr. Williamson, or whom else you please, to minde my Lord Chancellour tomorrow of this letter. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 354 Atheism, be it of Hobbes, Spinosa, Collins, or whom you will. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 6 We cannot know whom we would. 1866 MRS. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* vii, By-and-by she would be making up her own excursions, and asking whom she would.

7. As simple relative introducing a defining or restrictive clause, completing the sense: cf. WHO 9.

† Also formerly as correlative to *such*: cf. WHO 9 b.

a. As object of a preposition (usually preceding, occas. following at end of clause). See also 10.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Al þat we habbeδ of þese feder we habbeδ, of wam we alle ur[?] sielþe habbeδ. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 49 He ðurh hwam kinges rixit. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6995 Jesu Crist wass..þatt illke, off whamm profetess Haffdenn forrlannge cwiddedd sær, þatt [etc.]. 13 . *E. E. Allit. P.* A 131 þe wyȝ, to wham her wylle ho waynez. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 968, I wol been his to whom þat I am knyt. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 87 If þou will be of lange lyfe, it es reson þat þou honoure thaym of whaym þou hase þe lyfe. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 17 Yef it fallis yu ani time, On whim þe for-getilnes es on-long [etc.]. 1428 *Muniim de Melros* (Bann.) 319 Till all & syndry to quham þe knawlage of þir present lettris sall to cum. 1432–3 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 47 The persones quom thei laboryd fore. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xiii. 4 Those xviij. apon whom the toure in siloe fell. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Sam. ix. 17 This is the man, whom I spake to thee of. 1600 SHAKS. *A. V. L.* II. ii. 8 The roynish Clown, at whom so oft, Your Grace was wont to laugh. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Eagle & Robin* 60 By sic with quhome they ar opprest. 1829 [see SUCH B. 12]. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xix, The boy with whom I had fought. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xix, Here was a woman the like of whom he had never imagined.

b. As direct or indirect object.

c 1200 ORMIN 6521 He mazȝ wel bitacnenn himm whamm he stod inn to folȝhenn. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 68 þe disciplis lowsid him liuing, wam dead þe maister had reisid. *c* 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 46 He sall be my helpere, wham in dremer I sawe appere vn-to me. 1507 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 227/2 3e and ilk ane of 3ow quham it efferis. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. ix. 92 b, Those whom he gaue license to enter aboorde his ship. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Soun.* lvii. 2 Vha wald behold him vhom a god so grievis? 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 124 To win her Grace, whom all commend. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1911) XLV. 233 These men quhom blessed King Jesus delighteth to honour. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 178 P 9 Knowledge is praised and desired by multitudes whom her charms could never rouse from the couch of sloth. 1850 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) II. 65 He was one of the most extraordinary men whom this century has produced. 1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Lett.* (1920) 112, I think I shall call it 'Reminiscences of Some Pleasant Characters Whom I Have Met,' (or should the 'whom' be left out?).

8. Introducing an additional statement; thus sometimes = 'and him (her, them)': cf. WHO 10.

† Formerly occas. preceded by *the* (cf. *the which*, WHICH B. 13). a. As direct or indirect object.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10 Kyng arthour..Quam son in hys tim was like. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxii. 2 Tak thin oonli gotun sone, whom thou louest. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 103 Witnesse on Iob whom that we diden wo. *c* 1420 †LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 854 Grace was the guyde of all thys gret meyny. Whom folowyd Konnyng with hys genelogy. †1470 *Sinner Papers* (Camden) I. 123, I trust to alle myty Jhesu to know more to my hertes ese than I do now, hom I beseche to preserve [you]. 1526 TINDALE *1 John* iv. 20 Howe can he that loveth nott his brother whom he hath sene, love god whom he hath not sene? 1536 LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 95 The kyng had..The rewle of hunders and thousandis, Quhome that he sufferit..To tyne and perysche. 1586 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquine in Trance* 108 Peter Luis..whom all men say to be a moste filthy Sodomite. 1648 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (1842) p. xxx, Otheris had gon out befor, quhom we thocht now to be slain. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 438 Astoreth, whom the Phœnicians call'd Astarte. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 580 The Rascal Rabble..Whom Kings no Titles gave, and God no Grace. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 742 Grant me still a friend in my retreat, Whom I may whisper—solitude is sweet. 1793 BURNS *Scots! wha hae* 2 Scots! wham Bruce has aften led. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 84 Warburton (whom I presume to have been the annotator).

b. As object of a preposition (usually preceding, occas. following after the verb); also after *than* (see THAN 2 b). See also 10.

As to details of construction see note s.v. WHICH B. 7 a.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 For eues gulte to wan ure drihten sede. In dolore paries filios. *Ibid.* 181 For adames gulte, to hwam ure drihten seide:..On þine nebbes swote þu shalt þin bred noten. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1976 Allmahhtiȝ Godd, þurrh whamm ȝho wass wiþþ childe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 220 Ascayn bijet silvi, of ȝwan þe brut com. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 736 A messager he send, Wit quam best to spede he wend. *Ibid.* 5342 Eue, o quam we al began. *Ibid.* 9530 Doghtres four..To quam ilkan he gaf aum-thing. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 17 This Symond, of quaym I spak are. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 99 þe Holy Goost, to wham is apropryed love. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 19 To god, of whaim þat al þe gude cumis. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 88 Oon god, ffro whem ilke merueylouse werk descendyz. *c* 1460 METHAM *Whs.* (1916) 96 Yt sygnyfyith that..that persone schuld haue a frend vpon home he schuld trost, the qwyche schuld dysseyve hym qwan he hath most nede. 1537 LATIMER *Let. to Cromwell* in *Facs. Nat. MSS.* (1866) II. xxxi, The byrth of our prynce, hoom we hungurde for so longe. 1548–1876 [see THAN 2 b]. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 539 Your Mistris: from the whom, I see There's no disiunction to be made. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 468 His wary speech Thus to th' Empyreal Minister he [*sc.* Adam] fram'd. Inhabitant with God [etc.]..To whom the winged Hierarch repli'd. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 433 His neighbours, the number of whom is restricted to four or five, according to the extent and form of his domain. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 878 Haughtily she replied. 'I fly no more...' To whom Sir Gareth answer'd courteously. 'Say thou thy say, and I will do my deed.'

9. a. Used in reference to a thing or things: orig. dative of WHAT (sense C. 7), later as a general objective case of WHICH (sense B. 7 or 8). *Obs.* exc. with personification: cf. WHO 11 c.

With the examples in β cf. WHOM[1].

α. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Dis is sunfulla moona leddre þurh hwam ure drihtan teh to him al moncun. *Ibid.* 153 þis beoδ þe fif ȝeten þurh hwam kimδ in deδes wurhte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 696 Ydolatrie δus was boren, For quham mani man is for-loren. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 1086 Algate he hab mis-don, Porw whom he is in my prison. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 3 It is the cuppe whom he serueth, Which alle cares from him kerveth. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 106 My lawe & my fayth, yn whom y am norshyd. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 27, I haue studiede that hit schal be called *Policronicon* of the pluralite of tymes whom it dothe contryne. 1448–9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cleopes* 1263 A ston..The name off home serpentyne ys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 89 The round top of tre,..Quham childer dryis byssy at thair play. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 334 He..left the way in quhome he first began. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. K v, We haue no herbe in Englande that I knowe to whome all thes hole descriptions do agre. 1562 *Ibid.* II. 81 Peplis whome som call wild porcellayn. 1608 DEKKER *Dead Tearme* C 3, What a rare inuention..was pen and Incke, out of whom (as streames from a Fountaine) flow all these wonders. 1612 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* 12/1 Redrith and Frensham..betwixt whom are extended thirty foure miles. 1648 tr. *Senault's Paraphr. Job* 163 Those trees, whom the thunder hath beaten down. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 466 The vowels..are seventeen in number; five of whom are pronounced long.

β. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 127 Tach me godnesse ðurh wan ich god muze bien. *c* 1275 LAY. 7220 He makede þane kalender bi wan geoþ al þe ȝer. *Ibid.* 7633 þat ilke sweord..þorh wan his bane he hadde. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 580 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 235 Fewe goddedes ich haue i-don of ȝwan ich nouþe may telle. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 24/72 An valre welle Of wan alle þe wateres þat beþ anerþe cumeþ.

b. Used in reference to a number of persons collectively: cf. WHO 11 a.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 10 Al is nawt þet ti folc—of hwam I spec pruppe—biheten þe to ifinden. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1315 þe kunde blod of þis lond of wam we boþe come. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. i, The world, With whome there nothing can prevaile but wrong. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXX. 108 The very same Army whom he had there standing in battell arraye. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. iv. 88 A Cittie on whom plentie held full hand. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1100 The unforeskinn'd race, of whom thou bear'st The highest name for valiant Acts.

c. Used in reference to animals: cf. WHO 11 b.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 793 Tri-cerberus þe temful of wham I tolde haue. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 85 His gude hors, in quham he traistis sa mekle. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 184 A prowling Wolfe, Whom hunger drives to seek new haunt for prey, 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 93 A hare whom hounds and horns pursue. 1783 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 478, I have had cats whom I liked better than this. 1849–52 *Todd's Cyclop. Anat.* IV. II. 833/2 In the Horse, in whom the supra-renal corpuscles are yet richer in

†10. With a preposition immediately following, the two being often written as one word, forming compounds like those with *where-* (WHERE 15 b), but used in reference to persons (occas. to things). *Obs.* (chiefly *Sc.*).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 300 þe abbot of þat abbay, Quham-of before þe herd me say. 1468 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 477/1 William Lord Bonvile, and Sir Thomas Kiryell,..whom to he made feith and assurans..to kepe and defend theym. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 83 May, of myrthfull monethis queue,..Quham of the soulis gladdith al bedene. 1526 in M. A. E. Green *Lett. Royal Ladies* (1846) II. 7 His grace's liages..whom at the said earl..has displeasure. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 233 For them, whomewyth they be in wayges, they fyghte hardelye. 1583 *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 560 Samekle thairof to ather of thame quhomunto it appertenis. 1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I V. 252 The saide Sir Rob. Walsh, whome concerning I haue giuen sufficient precautions.

¶ 11. Used ungrammatically for the nominative WHO, as subj. or pred. in the relative clause, esp. (in later use only) when erron. taken as obj. of a verb of which the whole clause is really the obj.: cf. 3.

1467 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) I. 96, I schall se..yow.. with Godes Grase, whome evyr preserve yow and yowrs for his mersy. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Engl. Hist.* (Camden 1846) 271 Certayne of them..(whome mie minde geeveth mee are to bee folowed). 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* IV. xix. (1568) 169 b, I counsel..all wise..men, that they doo not accompany wyth those whom they know are not secret. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* IV. ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 65 Let him be whom he will. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 30 Comparing the..humble epistles of S. Peter, S. James and S. John, whom we know were Fishers, with the glorious language.. of S. Paul, who we know was not. 1792 MRS. LENNOX *Female Quix.* VII. ii, Are they yonder Knights whom you suppose will attack us? 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix, A strange unearthly figure, whom Gabriel felt at once, was no being of this world. 1906 R. H. BENSON *Richard Raynal* 81 He saw the man whom he knew must be the King.

¶ 12. In irregular constructions. a. With pleonastic personal pronoun in the latter part of the relative clause; often also with anacoluthon, *whom* serving as apparent obj. to a verb whose real obj. is a dependent clause of which the pron. is subj. (cf. 11). b. Preceded by redundant *and*: cf. WHO 12 b.

1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 46 The erle of Angwyche ..whome the kynge had kepte hym with his brother and dyvers other here in Ynglond. 1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 92 [He] asked..what hee shoulde doe to a woman, whome hee suspected that she hadde falsified hir fayth. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emp.* in *Hist. Iustine* K k 2, Otho the third..was crowned Emperour by Gregory the fifth, his kinsman,. and whom he had preferred to the papacy. 1608 TOMKELL *Serpents* 23 Cælius Rhod..termeth the great deuill Ophioneus, whom both holy Scripture, and auncient Heathen say, that hee fell out of Heauen.

¶ 13. with genitive inflexion: *Whomes* = WHOSE. [Cf. (M)Du. *wiens*, WFris. *hwiens*.] *Obs. rare.*

c 1489 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 83, I purpase to persew the law against him in ther names, whomes cattell he heretofore helped to stele.

Whom, obs. form of HUM *sb.*[1]

a 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 191 Wyth whom and ha, and with a croked loke.

Whom, whome, obs. forms of HOME *sb.*[1]

Whomble, whomel, var. WHEMMEL.

Whomever (hwʌmɛ·vəɹ), *pron.*; also *post.* **whome'er** (-ɛ̈·ɹ). *literary.* [Orig. two words, WHOM and EVER *adv.* 8 e.] The objective case of WHOEVER; as direct obj., or obj. of prep. (Less frequent than WHOMSOEVER.) a. As compound relative, or with correlative in principal clause (with constructions as in WHOEVER 1): Any (one) whom.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4811 Wom euer þat he hitt, þe heued to þe chinne he slitt. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 19 To bind and louse quhowm-euer þou will. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 825 Quhom euir he hyt to ground brymly thaim bar. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 18: He maist cruellie murtherit quhomeuir he knew weil fauoured. 1730 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 775 Fear of death made him accuse whomever they pleased of treason. 1830 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* II. 270 Whomever these men once brand with this mark of shame, is regarded by the people as a denier of God. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. v. 80 Will ye not to that man some pity give Whomever dark temptations do assail? 1900 MAX BEERBOHM *And Even Now* 189 To impose his will on whomever he sees comfortably settled.

¶ Misused for *whoever* as subject of relative clause preceded by a preposition.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 347 Cursing for sacrilegie in whomever þat reveþ þis rente. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xl. 315 Y dare putte this into iugement of whom euer hath seen the pilgrimage doon.

b. Introducing a qualifying clause (cf. WHOEVER 2): No matter whom.

1762 in Tytler *Mem. H. Home* (1807) II. 7 They freely pursue the truth,..whomever she may oppose, whomever she may countenance. 1848 *Newman's Lives Eng. Saints, Stephen Langton* v. 69 John would have been glad to have been aided by the strong arm, to whomever it might belong.

Whomso (hwʌ·msəʊ), *pron. arch.*, chiefly *post.* (In early use as two words.) [Early ME. *swa hwam, swa swa* (quot. *a* 1154 s.v. WHOM 6): see WHOM and SO *adv.* 17 d.] = next.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 85 Hwam swo ðin wille was to senden ðis loc to ofrien, he was zeherd of his nieden. *c* 1205 LAY. 18384 He mai wham swa he wule wurðcipe bitachen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 184 Ne bet he nenne mon bute hwamso he luuede. 13.. *Cursor M.* 8379 (Gött.) Ghiu it to quham-so ȝe

will. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 4007 (Fairf.) Quam so god helpis. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. xii. 36 Her cursed tongue..Appear'd like Aspis sting, that closely kils, Or cruelly does wound whom so she wils. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 169 His Daughters.. are giuen in marriage to any Bassa, whom so they affect. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. v, They say to whomso they meet, Do; and he must do it. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 61 Whomso thou meetest, say thou this to each.

Whomsoever (hŭmsōe·vəɹ), *pron.*; also *poet.* **whomsoe'er** (-ē·ɹ). *literary.* The objective case of WHOSOEVER. (More freq. than WHOMEVER.)

1. = WHOMEVER a (with or without correlative): cf. WHOSOEVER 1.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 606 þe seyde Roger & hys wyfe & hys heyrys sholde haue power to..gyfe þe seyde lande to whomsoeuyr þey wolden. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxv. 806/1 Whome so euer he hytte full, wente to the erthe. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Gen. xxxi. 32 With whome soeuer thou fyndest thy goddes, let hym dye. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. I, Whomsoe'er along the path you meet Bears in his cap the badge of crimson hue. 1896 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. vi. iii. 170 Whomsoever the electors choose they will have acknowledged rightful emperor. 1867 tr. *Ctess Hahn-Hahn's Fathers of Desert* 62 Whomsoever men serve, by him will they be guided.

2. = WHOMEVER b; cf. WHOSOEVER 2.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxxxviii. (1649) II. 64 Whomsoever he washed first of his Apostles, he washed them all. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1068 O Eve, in evil hour thou didst give care To that false Worm, of whomsoever taught To counterfet Mans voice. 1790 COWPER *Let. to S. Rose* 30 Nov., The zeal and firmness of your friendship to whomsoever professed. 1832 LEWIS *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* x. 117 A national government is when the sovereign power, by whomsoever exercised, extends over the whole country.

3. With loss of relative force: Any one at all (now *rare* or *obs.*); also qualifying the preceding word (now usually replaced by *whatever*): cf. WHOSOEVER 3 a, b.

1584 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 87 To take parte with the Catholike Church against whomsoeuer. 1609 SIR E. HOBY *Let. to T. H.* 6 To answere you, or any Fugitiue Romified Renegado whomsoeuer. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. 33 He counts it lawfull in the bookes of whomsoever to reject that which hee finds otherwise then true. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 114 Overjoyed at seeing anybody whomsoever. 1881 SPEDDING *Ewen. with Rev.* I. 370 A true soldier, prepared to defend his position against whomsoever, friend or enemy.

¶ Used ungrammatically for WHOSOEVER, chiefly by attraction to the case of the unexpressed antecedent (*him*, etc.).

1560 WHITEHORNE tr. *Machiavelli's Art of War* 84 Thei..punished with death, whom so euer obserued not the same order. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribe* 98 In him, whomsoeuer he be, that shall abet, maintaine, or broach them. 1631 HEYLIN *St. George* 170 A man that saw as cleerely, as any whomsoever. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 437 The literal sense ought not to be countenanced,..in whomsoever is susceptible of the other. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxiv. VII. 37 They shall not be impeded by whomsoever it may be.

† **Who·msome**, *pron. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 4 quam-sum. [See -SOME.] The objective case of WHOSOME: = prec. So † **Whomsome·ver**.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8379 Giue it to quam-sum þou will. 1300 ARNOLDE *Chron.* M iv, The childe of whom sumeuer or husumeuer, wherof they knowen not who is fader nor moder.

† **Whon** [1], *interrog.* and *rel. pron. Obs.* Forms: 1–3 hwon, hwan, 3 whan, wan. [OE. *hwon*, used as instrumental case of *hwæt* WHAT.] In dependence on a prep. = What, which; *esp.* in *for whon* = because of what or which, why, wherefore.

c — *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 31 *Quo operiemur*, of huon we bióon wrigen. *c* 1000 *Guthlac* 244 Bi hwon scealt ðu lifgan? *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1104 He wiõ þone cyng geworhte, for hwan hine se cyng ealles benæmde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 Þe ne hauen mid hwan hie hem werien. *c* 1205 LAY. 2679 Maidene castel he wes icleoped, nat ich for wan it was swa idon. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 716 Wostu to hwan man wes ibore? To þare bliss[e] of heue[n]ryche. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 49 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Mychel volk hym vuledе, wyte ye for hwon.

† **Whon** [2], *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 hwon, huon, 3 whon, wan, 4 qu(h)on(e, 4–6 quhoyn(e. [OE. *hwōn*, the instrumental case of which, *hwōne*, is represented by WHEEN. After *c* 1200 the word is exclusively northern.] Few, *a* few.

Construed in OE. (i) as a sb. or an adv. with dependent genitive, (ii) as an adj. (indeclinable), in ME. as an adj. and absol., (iii) as an adv. = a little, a little while (see b, c).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark p. 3/18 *De septem panibus et paucis piscicułis*, of seofa hlafum & hwon lytle fiscas. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 32 Genim pipor..& hwon sealt. *Ibid.*, Do hunizes hwon to. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17985 Þas quon þat heild wit þe þair-witt. *Ibid.* 20495 O quonor þan o thre, Mai na biscop sacrid be. 13.. *Ibid.* 19782 (Gött.) He bad þa men be all vte-done, þat in þat hus left bot a quone [*Cott.* a fon]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 263 Certis, now are fundine quhon þat in þat manere wald haf done. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 40 We sr quhoyne agayne sa fele. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. I. 38 A few wordis on this wys Jupiter said. Bot nocht in quhoyn wordis him answer maid The fresch goldyn Venus.

b. *Na whon* (= OE. *nāhtshwōn*, *nā tō þæs hwōn*), not at all.

c 1205 LAY. 13203 Nusten þa Bruttes na whon what Vortiger hæfde idon.

c. *A litel wan* (= OE. *lȳtshwōn*): a little while.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 Þole me louerd aliteiwan þat ich bimurne mi sor, er ich wite to þe þestere wuniенge.

Whon, obs. form of WHEN, var. WONE.

Whon, whone, obs. forms of ONE.

1482 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 103 He sent whon of hys clarkys. 1530 TINDALE *Lev.* XV. 18 Yf a woman lye with soche a whone.

Whonde, var. WOND *v. Obs.*, to hesitate. **Whone, whon(n)ene**, var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence. **Whonne**, obs. pa. t. and pple. of WIN *v.*

Whoo (hwū), *v.* [Cf. next.]

† **1.** *trans.* and *intr.* To hoot. *Obs.*

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* H 4, He is gone vp and downe, whoing like an Owle for thee. 1614 BRETON *I would & I would not* XX, All the Beggers in the streets would whoo me.

2. *intr.* To utter the sound denoted by *whoo*.

1872 DARWIN *Emotions* IX. 232 A booing or whooing noise. 1892 HARDY *Tess* IX, Pouting up that pretty red mouth to whistling shape, and whooing and whooing..and never being able to produce a note.

Whoo (hwū), *int.* Also **whooh**. [Variant of Hoo *int.*] An exclamation of surprise, grief, or other emotion; *occas.* an imitation of an owl's hoot (cf. TU-WHOO). Also repeated and in WHOO-WHOOP.

1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* III. ii. E 2, *Wife.* Will you but heare a word from mee? *Curtiz.* Whooh. 1683 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* v. i. (ed. 4) 49 *Smi.* I had rather be bound to Fight your Battel, I assure you, Sir. *Bayes.* Whoo! there's it now: fight a Battel? there's the common error. 1770 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Wks.* (1862) 365 On hearing the news of his landlord's death, [Abraham] only cried out, *Whoo-whu, whoo-whu, whoo—.* 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Whoo, whoo*, an interjection, marking great surprize. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. v, 'Pray, can he really read?' 'Whoo!' says I, 'why he does nothing else.' 1908 WEYMAN *Wild Geese* xviii. 282 He heard..the 'Whoo! hoo! hoo!' of owls beginning to mouse beside the lake. 1915 MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *M. O'Halloran* xv, Whoohoo it's so good, Mickey!

So **Whoo** *sb.*, an utterance of this exclamation, or a similar sound, a hoot.

1845 C. WILKES *Narr. U. S. Expl. Exped.* II. 199 At the end of each dance they finished with a loud whoo, or screech. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* I. vii. 217 Down came the gale with a whoo.

Whoo, obs. dial. f. *hoo*, HEO, she.

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* III. i, Whoo kisses daintily; And whoo has a Breath like a Caw.

Whoo: see WHO *pron.*, WHO *int.* and *sb.*, WHOA, WOE. **Whoobub, Whood(e, Whoof**, obs. ff. HUBBUB, HOOD, WOOF.

Whoof (hwŭf, hwuf), *int.* (*sb.*, *v.*). Also 8 whuph. Imitation of a gruff abrupt cry or noise; as *vb.* to utter such a cry. So **Whoogh** (also as exclamation of exultation, etc.).

a 1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Biddulph* IV. 75 Whuph! it is past two o'clock in the morning. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 543 Its [*sc.* a swan's] sound is, *whoogh, whoogh*, very loud and shrill, but not disagreeable. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 58 At ilka thud and sough, They cried 'weel done!—hey!! hilloa!!! whoogh!!!' 1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* 60, I planted a ball in the larger one [*sc.* rhinoceros], and brought him round with a roar and whoosh-whoosh. *Ibid.* 229 A large female [rhinoceros]..came straight down whoof-whoofing upon me. 1921 A. S. M. HUTCHINSON *If Winter Comes* III. ii. § 3 Whoof! He blew a cyclonic blast down the speaking tube.

Whook't, obs. north. pa. t. of QUAKE *v.*[1]

Whool, dial. var. WEEVIL; obs. f. WOOL.

Whoop (hūp), *sb.* Also 6 whoope, whoup. [f. WHOOP *int.*; cf. HOOP *sb.*[2]]

1. An act of whooping; a cry of 'whoop!', or a shout or call resembling this; *spec.* as used in hunting, esp. at the death of the game, or by N. American Indians, etc. as a signal or war-cry (see also WAR-WHOOP); *occas.* the hoot of an owl.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 3 All with one voyce, ..with whoopes, whowes and hoobubs, would thrust them out. 1600 QUARLES *Feast for Worms* § 6 When all thy laughter shall be turn'd to Doole;..Thy whoops of Ioy, to howles of sad lamenting. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* v. i, I'll use My wonted whoops, and hollows, as I were A hunting for 'em. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* v. i, Ere a Full-pot of good Ale you can swallow, He's here with a whoop, and gone with a holla. 1675 in I. Mather *K Philip's War* (1862) 246 They signified their sense of his approach by their whoops or watchwords. *a* 1700 in W. King *Usef. Trans. Philos.* (1709) 44, I must acknowledge my Happiness, who in a Manuscript found the following Verses,..Boys, Boys, come out to play, The Moon doth shine as bright as day; Come with a Whoop, come with a Call, Come with a good will or not at all. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 276, I put up the shrill whoop of friendship. *Ibid.* 277 Instead of sounding the usual whoop of defiance, I went on slowly. 1808 SKURRAY *Bideford Hill* 9 O'er hedge and ditch we fly, 'Till the loud whoop proclaims the ended chase. 1823 SCOTT *Let.* 19 Jan. in *Lockhart*, We are much nearer neighbours, and within a whoop and a holla. 1832 — *Cast. Dang.* xi, Something resembling the whoop of the night-owl. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXV, With a joyous whoop the whole cluster took to their heels.

b. The characteristic sonorous inspiration following a fit of coughing in whooping-cough.

Also applied to similar sounds (see quot. 1899).

1873 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (ed. 4) 240 A long and labored inspiration then takes place, giving rise to a crowing sound evidently due to spasm of the glottis; this is the whoop which enters into the name of the affection. 1877 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 239 When the whoop appears his power of communicating the disease begins to decline. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 452 Occasionally the impediment is aggravated by the occurrence of associated sounds with the stutter, the patient emitting unpleasant little whoops, grunts, sounds during his efforts to speak.

2. A form of the game of hide-and-seek. Also *whoop-hide.* (In first quot. *allusively.*)

1796 in *Windham Papers* (1913) II. 77 He will not now be dodging with the world and playing at whoop with all his friends. 1861 MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secr.* ii, I thought they were to have a great game at whoop-hide. 1869 *Latest News* 26 Sept. 16 He was playing at whoop.., and to avoid being discovered by a companion he got upon some new coping, which gave way.

Whoop (hūp), *v.* Forms: 4–7 whope, 5 whowpe, 5–6 whoupe, 6 whoup, whooppe, whup, 6–7 whoope, 6– whoop. [Parallel with WHOOP *int.*; cf. HOOP *v.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To utter a cry of 'whoop!' or a loud vocal sound resembling this; to shout, hollo (as in incitement, summons, exultation, defiance, intimidation, or mere excitement).

a 1400 *Parlt. 3 Ages* 233 (Text B) And [the falconer] whopis hem [*sc.* the hawks] to whirry... He whaitis & whotes hem & whopes ful lowde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xi. 168 Whan he com nygh the loges he shette a-nother bolte; and whowped to the kynge Arthur. 1530 PALSGR. 781/2, I whoope, I call, *je huppe*. *Ibid.*, Whooppe a lowde, and thou shalte here hym blowe his horne. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* G ij b, With lure I play the Faukner kinde, I hallowe, and I whoupe, I shake my fiste, I whistle shrill, but nought will make hir stoupe. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* R iij b, I so sadlie ayt whuppinge all the day vnder a hill. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 91 They go no round,..but one sentinel whopeth vnto another. 1605 DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Past.* Eglog iv. E 3, With that the shepheard whoop'd for ioy. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* III. i. 96 Others cannot bear..except the speakers whoop and hallow in their Ears. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 160 To whoop..for the warriors to come and join him. 1800 WORDSW. '*The Cock is crowing*' 15 The Ploughboy is whooping. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, The hunters.. whooping and blowing a *mort*, or death-note. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* vii. (1901) I. 57 Then if they killed!—..How they hollooed! How they whooped! 1883 *Good Words* Aug. 544/1 They are careful to whoop out before 'letting go' with their slop-pails or dust-baskets.

b. *trans.* with obj. of cognate meaning (either a sb. or the actual words), or indef. *it*: To utter with a whoop; to express by whooping.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 127 When the haire is kylled, then all the huntesmen..shall blowe a note and whoupe also a deade note. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F 2 b, I thought to haue cald in a Cooper..and bid him hoope it about,.. but then I remembred mee the boyes had whoopt it sufficiently about the streetes. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. viii. 62 The attornies and their clerks..whooping [*ed.* 1712 hooping] and hollowing, Long live John Bull. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 144 Whooping their revengeful noise. 1840 THACKERAY *Bedford-Row Conspir.* ii, Six lawyers' clerks might whoop a tipsy song..but beyond this all was silence. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* iv. (1875) 44 An Indian chief.. ran to meet them, whooping and clamoring welcome.

c. *trans.* with adv. or advb. phr.: To bring, summon, or urge by or with whooping.

a 1400 [see 1]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 63 Iuno ..fuith from the nauye the Greek foas Dooth whoup. 1610 A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 10 A boy..who should haue whoopt him out of his bed. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i, There he stood..with his fox grinning in grim death in one hand..whooping and halloaing..the pack up to him. 1893 CONAN DOYLE *Refugees* XXVIII, The English colonists were whooping on the demons who attacked them.

d. *trans.* To shout at, hoot (a person).

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* II. i, I shou'd be hiss'd And whoop'd in Hell for that Ingratitude. 1900 *Essex Weekly News* 24 Jan. 2/6 When we charged down on the Boers we shouted and whooped them like redskins.

e. *Whoop it up* (U. S. slang): to create a disturbance; to keep up an excitement or revel; to act or work in a stirring or rousing way.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* LXIX. 472 He whoops it up with the plain people. 1887 T. STEVENS *Around World on Bicycle* I. 11 They simply, in the language of the gold fields, 'turned themselves loose', 'made things hum', and 'whooped 'em up' around the bar-room of their village for..three days.

2. *intr.* To hoot, as an owl. Also *trans.* as in 1 b, c, d.

1658 WILLSFORD *Natures Secr.* 234 Owls whooping after Sunset, and in the night, foreshews a fair day to ensue. 1677 TATE *Poems* 98 Madge has whoopt me twice from her Ivy-bound Oak. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. v, The owlet whoops to the wolf below. 1802 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* II. 33 The owl..whoop'd a 'good-night'. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 110 Bats wheel'd, and owls whoop'd. 1862 FANE & LYTTON *Tannhäuser* 52 Let the owl Whoop the high glories of the noon.

3. *intr.* To utter the 'whoop' in whooping-cough: see prec. sb. 1 b. Also *trans.* as in 1 c.

1887 R. N. CAREW *Uncle Max* XVIII. 144 Whooping-cough, —why, he nearly whooped himself to death. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 248 Young infants whoop seldom.

Whoop (hūp), *int.* Also 5 whoppe, 5–6 whope, 6 whoup, whup, 6–7 whop, 7 whoope. [A natural exclamation consisting of a voiceless *w* followed by an *o* or *u* sound, concluded by closure of the lips. The phonetic significance of some early forms is uncertain.] An exclamation, or representation of a shout or cry, expressing excitement, surprise, derision, exultation, incitement, etc.

1528 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* I. I A iij b, Whoop. Nowe a mischief on all mopyng fooles for moe. 1589 *Martpret. Epit.* (1843) 53 Whope papist, say the puritans, is that become scripture with you? 1596 HARINGTON *Apol.* Bb 8 b,

Sir Raph Horsey, nine. Sir Hugh Portman, ten. Whop, why howe nowe Master K. Shirtless man? Here is but ten. 1599 Cotwode *Caltha Poet.* cl.xxi. E 7 The scantlin woe, the winners must cry whup, The goale is got, and now the game is vp. 1603 Dekker & Chettle *Grisil* iv. ii. 1628 Whoope whether is my brother basket-maker gone? 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* ii. i, *Dor.* Whisper but so mine eare, and you shall furnish them. *Hir.* Whisper, nay, Lady, for my part Ile cry whoope. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* iii. (1876) F 3, Whup (Faustulus) all draw ny thee That doe love thee. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* iii. iii. 94 Joceline tells, that St. Patrick did..fast.. a whole Lent together...Whoop! but St. Aidan, (as Capgrave tells us,) fasted full fifty days. 1692 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academia* 22 Whop Sir, thought I, and what ado's here? 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* vi. v, Yet whoop, Jack! kiss Gillian the quicker. 1820 Keats *Cap & Bells* lxxv, She clapped her hands three times and cried out 'Whoop'. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lv, 'Halloa! whoop! Halloa! Hi!' Away, at a gallop. 1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* iv, Whoop for Freedom and Adventure!

b. Coupled with another interjection or with a vocative in an allusive phrase.

c 1450 *Mankind* 600 in *Macro Plays* 22 Whope! who! Mercy hath brokyn hys neke-kycher a-vows. *Ibid.* 713. 26 Hay, doog! hay, whoppe! whoo! go yowur wey lyghtly! 1592 Nashe *Strange Newes* F 2 b, And cry kulleloo, kulleloo, with whup hoo, there goes the Ape of Tully. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 178 The whoop-hoos of good boyes in London streetes. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* X 2 b, So would hee haue writte Harueys whoope diddle, or the nonsuting, or vncasing of the animaduertiser. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Andria* iii. i, Whup, hoida: what, in all hast? 1605 Shake. *Lear* i. iv. 245 Whoop Iugge I loue thee. 1621 B. Jonson *Masque Gypsies* Wks. (1640) 68 The ballet of Whoope Barnibie. 1634 Heywood & Brome *Lanc. Witches* iv. i. G 2, Whoope, whurre, heres a sturre. 1678 Dryden *Limberham* v. i, Whoop Holiday! our trusty and well-beloved Giles, most welcome! 1688 Holme *Armoury* ii. 176/1 *Whoop, Whopoo*, is the Shepherds call or cry, to call the Sheep together.

Whoop(e: see Hoop *sb.*[1], *sb.*[3] Also in comb. **†Whoopcat, Whoophooper** [cf. *hoopoop* s.v. Hoopoe] = Hoop *sb.*[3] 1.

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. ix. 41 O' my word this is a filthy Whoophooper. Tush, speak softly, said Æditua, .. he has a pair of Ears,..What then, return'd Panurge, so hath a Whoopcat.

Whooper (hūˑpəɹ). Also 7 whopper. [f. Whoop *v.* + -er[1].] A person or animal that whoops. a. *gen.* (See also Hooper[2] 1.)

1826 Southey *Let. to N. White* 11 Feb., Two of my whoopers still favour us with a little kennel-music. 1908 *Academy* 27 June 926/2 The whoopers and the screamers and the female stump-orators.

b. *spec.* The wild or whistling swan, *Cygnus musicus* (*ferus*): also *whooper swan*. (See also Hooper[2] 2.)

1660 May *Accompl. Cook* (1665) 217 Turkey, Swan, Goose, Bustard, Crane, Whopper, wilde Geese, Brand-Geese,..and many more. 1880 Baring-Gould *Mehalah* i, Occasionally the whooper swan sounds his loud trumpet. 1889 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 828 The whooper is the largest of our wild swans. 1902 H. W. Tompkins *Highways Hertfordsh.* v. 104 A pair of whooper swans frequented Water End near Great Gaddesden.

Whooping (hūˑpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whoop *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whoop. (Cf. Hooping *vbl. sb.*[2])

?1605 Drayton *Poems Lyr. & Past., Man in Moone* I 2, With guilty conscience..That oft they start at whooping of an owle. 1657 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 139 The clattering of the Oars, the whooping of the Sea-men. 1842 Tennyson *St. Sim. Styl.* 32 The whoopings of the owl. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* ii. i, The whooping of boys, the barking of dogs.

Whoo·ping, *ppl. a.* [f. as, prec. + -ing[2].] a. That whoops; esp. in **whooping crane**, the large white crane of N. America, *Grus americana*; **whooping swan** = Whooper b. b. Of a sound or cry: Of the nature of a whoop. (Cf. Hooping *ppl. a.*[2])

1737 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 78 An hideous whooping noise, like that of a child in a chin-cough. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 293 Suspicion, that he was sent to shoot me..as soon as he heard the whooping death-signal. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 433 The great and beautiful whooping crane. 1839 Longf. *Wreck of Hesperus* xvii, A whooping billow swept the crew Like icicles from her deck. 1852 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* IV. 639 *Cygnus musicus*. The Whooping Swan. 1895 Jas. Prior *Kenie* xix, A band of whistling, whooping lads playing at stalky.

Whooping-cough (hūˑpiŋˌkɒf), the now prevalent spelling of Hooping-cough.

1739 Mrs. E. Montagu *Corr.* (1906) I. 37 One little boy had whooping cough. 1755 Johnson, *Hooping-cough*,..(or whooping cough, from *hoop*, to shout). 1873 Spencer *Study Sociol.* iii. 55 Will it..be carried off by scarlet fever or whooping-cough?

Whoopubi, obs. form of Hubbub.

Whoor(e, Whoorish: see Whore, Whore, Whorish. **Whoorlbat,** var. Whirlbat *Obs.*

Whoos, obs. f. Whose.

Whoosh (hwʊʃ, hwuʃ), *v.* [Imitative; the vowel expressing a duller sound than that of Whish.] *intr.* To utter or emit a dull soft sibilant sound, like that of something rushing through the air. So **Whoosh** *sb.*, a sound of this nature (also reduplicated).

1896 Dickens *Let. to Wilkie Collins* 13 July, The boys.., whooshing and crying (after tigerish cat No. 2): 'French!' 'Here she comes!' 1906 'Q' *Mayor of Troy* vii, With a whoo-sh a rocket leapt into the air. 1915 — *Ship-Mas* ix, Whenever her brush intromitted its harsh whoosh-whoosh. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* July 47/2 Huge projectiles whooshed noisily through the air.

Whoosher, obs. var. *husher*: see after Hush *v.*[1]

Whoosht, obs. var. Husht: see Whosht.

†Whoot. Also 5 whwte, 6 whoughte. Obs. variant of Hoot *sb.* and *v.*

c 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 1939 in *Macro Plays* 135, I here an hydowse whwtynge on hyt [*cf.* howte *l.* 1907]. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 97 He..hearde all the whole cites whoughtyng and shoughtyng..with ioye and solace. *a* 1620–1730 [see Hoot *sb.* and *v.*].

Whoot(e, obs. forms of Hot *a.*

Whoo-whoop, who-whoop (hʊ́hwūˑp), *int.* and *sb.* Also 7 whoo-whup, 8–9 whooup, 9 who-oop, who(o)-hoop. The shout of huntsmen at the death of the game; hence allusively in phr. *to be whoo-whoop with*, to be 'all up with'. Hence **Whoo-whoop** *v.* (in quot. *trans.* to kill with a shout of 'whoo-whoop!').

1621 Cotgr., *Forhu*, a whoo-whup; or, the call..or whooping of huntsmen at the death of their chace. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recr.* i. (ed. 2) 81 If a Buck a double, if a Stag a treble Mort blown by one, and then a whole Recheat in Consort by all that have Horns; and that finished, immediately a general Whoo whoop. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) p. xxxv, Yoan be hong'd or some Mischief on then aw'll be whooup with o' efeath! 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 3 At the very moment of 'Who! Whoop!' a view halloo was given by a third. 1812 *Ibid.* XXXIX. 56 They who-ooped him [*sc.* a fox] without a hound missing. 1829 *Ibid.* (N. S.) XV. 257 It will sooner or later be whoo-hoop with us all. 1886 *Forest's Sporting Notes* III. 155 Aloud, clear 'Who-whoop!' from Jack, who has, as it were, dropped from the skies just in time to take the cub from the hounds.

Whop (hwɒp), *sb. colloq.* or *vulgar.* Also 5 whapp, 9 whap. [f. next. Cf. Wap *sb.*[1]] An act of whopping; a heavy blow or impact; a bump.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 199 For a whapp so he whyned and whesid And 3itt no lassche to be lurdan was lente. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Whop, Whap*, a heavy blow. 1903 H. G. Wells *Kipps* i. iv. § 1 'I was coming downhill,' ..explained the bicyclist...'I came rather a whop.'

Whop (hwɒp), *v.* (*adv.*) Forms: 5 whappe, 6, 9 whap, 8– whop, (9 wap, wop). [Variant of Wap *v.*[1]: see Wh.]

1. *trans.* To cast, pull out, etc. violently; to take or put suddenly. *dial.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4743 The grekes..With alblasteris also amyt full streght, Whappet in wharles, whellit the popull. 14.. *Sir Beues* (N.) 1899 [Beues is swerd anon] out whappid. 1721 Ramsay *Ode to the Ph—* 55 Frae her fair Finger whop a Ring. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* iii. ii, He.. whops out a Book. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whopt, Whupt*, put, placed—embracing the idea of whipped. 'He whopt his foot on't.' 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 5/2 He just whopped up the papers out of my han' an' away wi' him.

†b. *intr.* To beat, throb; = Quap *v. Obs.*

c 1440 *Partonope* 6446 (Univ. Coll. MS.) His hert so sore ganne whappe tho.

2. *trans.* To strike with heavy blows; to beat soundly, flog, thrash, belabour (a person or animal; *rarely*, an inanimate object). *colloq.* or *vulgar.*

1575 *Depos. Durham* (Surtees) 292 The said James contynewed in his raidge, bragging and sweryinge, and said that he wold 'whapp his coott.' *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Whop, Whap*, to beat severely. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxv, 'Ain't nobody to be whopped for takin' this here liberty, sir?' said Mr. Weller. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xviii, Half a dozen strapping fellows carrying..tea-trays which they whopped after the manner of a Chinese gong. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxvii, 'If you'll come across,.. and take your coat off, I'll give you such a wapping as you've never had since the last time I did it'..' Wap one of your own weight,' Mr. Snapper said. 1869 W. S. Gilbert *'Bab' Ball., Prince Agib* xv, I was fastened to the floor, While a mercenary wopped me with a will! 1890 Henty *With Lee in Virg.* xviii, Mother would whop me if I came back without the basket.

b. *fig.* To overcome, vanquish, defeat utterly (with literal blows, or in a contest of any kind); hence, to surpass or excel greatly: = Beat *v.*[1] 10. *colloq.* or *vulgar.*

1838 (Hooton) *Bilberry Thurland* I. 342 He comed to be a reg'lar cock o' th' walk, for he whopped all th' cocks they could bring to him. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* ix, Fourteen men..as'll play the whole vale to cricket, and whap them. 1863 J. Hatton *Bitter Sweets* iii, Nelson, as was a British General and wopped the French.

3. The vb.-stem used as *adv.*: With a 'whop'; with a sudden movement or impact; 'bump', 'flop'. Also as *int.*

1818 W. Tennant *Auster F.* iv. xxix, Whap! there sinks another! 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* xviii, In less time than you can think, wop comes a big black thing down..as big as the stone of a cheese-press. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* i. vi. § 6 He sat on the edge of the bed in profound meditation, and his boots fell 'whop' and 'whop' upon the floor, with a long interval between each 'whop'.

Whop(e, obs. ff. Hoop *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1], Whoop.

Whopper (hwɒˑpəɹ). *colloq.* or *vulgar.* Also w(h)apper, wopper. [f. Whop *v.* + -er[1].]

1. Something uncommonly large of its kind; a very big thing, animal, or person. (Cf. Thumper 3, Whacker 2.)

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whapper*, a large man or 1787 — *Prov. Gloss.*, *Whapper*, any thing large, a thumper. 1894 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxxv, We had to pass some whoppers,..but nothing would suit Nelson but this four-decked ship. 1894 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xv, We killed the fox—my eyes, such a wopper!

b. *spec.* A great lie, a monstrous falsehood.

1791 Nairne *Poems* 93 Some do affirm—ance 'tis a Whopper! Thou'rt silver plated upon copper. 1892 'A. R. Hope' *My Schoolboy Fr.* xiv, He thinks it's..better to get a licking than to tell a whopper.

2. One who whops. (In mod. Dicts.)

Whopper-jawed, erron. spelling of *wapper-jawed* adj. (see Wapper *sb.*).

1880 T. Parker in *Life & Corr.* (1863) II. 408 This sheet is ruled as whopper-jawed as some women cut their bread.

Whopping (hwɒˑpiŋ), *vbl. sb. colloq.* or *vulgar.* [f. Whop *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whop; a severe beating or flogging; hence, an overwhelming defeat. Also *attrib.*

1818 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 139 An athletic Nottinghamshire man, who..gave very unfavourable specimens of wapping talent. 1818 *Ibid.* (N. S.) II. 189 He wanted a good wapping and he had got it. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlii, I should like to..have the whopping of 'em. 1889 Mrs. C. Praed *Head Stat.* xvii, Blue-eyed fair-haired little girls who never fell into tantrums or wanted whopping.

Whoˑpping, *ppl. a. colloq.* or *vulgar.* [f. as prec. + -ing[2].] That whops; almost always *fig.* that is a 'whopper'; abnormally large or great; 'whacking', 'thumping'.

Rarely *spec.* (*a*) monstrously false; (*b*) of surpassing excellence, uncommonly good, first-rate. Also quasi-*adv.* = hugely, immensely.

a 1625 R. G. in *Stanley Papers* I. (Chetham Soc.) 50 Our Chroniclers..stowed their volumes with wapping Tales of my Lord Maiors Horse. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 58 See him in bad Weather, in his Fur-Cap and whapping large Watch-Coat. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxiii, A wapping weaver he was, and wrought my first pair o' hose. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm. Ser.* I. xvii. (1839) 61 What a wappin large place that would make. 1851 *Amer. Mag.* Nov. 113 A couple of 'whopping' pumpkin stories. 1869 *Punch* 31 July 34/1 That's a wopping majority against us. 1881 Freeman in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 204 The Turk comes down with a whopping bit of oppression now and then, but leaves you alone between whiles.

Whopstraw (hwɒˑpˌstrɔ̄). *dial.* [f. Whop *v.* (*dial.* 'to make up straw into bundles' E.D.D.) + Straw *sb.*] A country bumpkin.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* lxvii, The bumptious serjeant struts before his men, And 'clear the road, young whopstraws!' will he say. — H. Hinoyan' *Pract. Horsem.* iii. 42 'Here comes a flyer'..cries some whapstraw.

Whor, obs. form of Whore.

Whorage (hōˑrɪdʒ). *dial.* [f. Whore *sb.* + -age.] A company of whores or low women.

1891 Hardy *Tess* x, If I had known you was of that sort, I wouldn't have so let myself down as to come with such a whorage as this is!

Whorecop: see Whorecop.

Whord, obs. form of Hoard.

Whore (hōə), *sb.* Forms: 1–6 hore, 2–3 heore, 4–6 hoore, houre, 5–6 hour, 6 howr(e, howir, hoare, 6–7 whoor(e, whoar, 6– whore; *Sc.* 4–6 huir, 4–7 (9 *arch.*) hure, (6 hwr, huire); in comb. 2–7 hor-, 5 hoer-, 6 hoor-, whure-, wor-, 6–7 whor-; *Sc.* 5–7 hur-, 6 huyr-, hwyr-. [Late OE. *hōre*, corresp. to (M)LG. *hōre*, MDu. *hoere* (Du. *hoer*), OHG. *huora* (MHG. *huere*, G. *hure*), ON. *hóra* :— OTeut. **χōrōn-*, f. root represented also by ON. *hórr*, Goth. *hōrs* adulterer, OFris. *hōr* (also *overhōr, urhōr*), OHG. *huor*, ON. *hór* adultery, MLG. *horre*, MDu. *huerre*, OHG. *huorra* adulterer (:— **χōrjon-*), and OFris. (*over*)-*hōra* to fornicate, MDu. *hoeren*, OHG. *huorōn* (G. *huren*), ON. *hóra*, Goth. *hōrinōn*; Indo-Eur. *gār-* appears in L. *cārus* dear, OIr. *caru* friend, *caraim* I love, Lettish *kārs* lascivious.

From the late occurrence of OE. *hōre*, it may be inferred that it was a. ON. *hóra*, together with *hór* adultery, *hórcuenn* (ON. *hórkona*) adulteress, *hórdómr* Whoredom, *hóring* whoremonger being in that case an English formation from it with -ing[3].

The pronunciation (hūəɹ), now dialectal, is the normal phonetic representative of OE. *hōre*; it was widespread in the 17th and 18th centuries, and continued into the 19th century; Smart states that it 'is by no means universal or even common, yet it is sanctioned by good authority, and may be adopted, as Walker says, when we wish to soften the coarse effect of a coarse word'. The variation of (hūəɹ) and (hōəɹ) is due to the presence of *r*; cf. *moor* (mūəɹ, mōəɹ) and the modern tendency to substitute (ōə) for (ūə) in *pure, sure*, and the like.

For the spelling with *wh*, which became current in the 16th century, see Wh.

Whore is now confined to coarse and abusive speech, except in occas. echoes of historical expressions, as *the whore of Babylon*. The compounds are for the most part obs. or arch.]

1. A woman who prostitutes herself for hire; a prostitute, harlot.

a 1300 *Aldhelms Glose* 1. 2910 (Napier 79/2) *Prostituta pellax*, l. *meretrix quæ prostat*, l. *scandax*, inna fyrnlicge,

hore. *Ibid.* 3309. 89/1 *Meretricum*, horena. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 He .. mace6 of cristes leoman heoranna leoman. [*Cf.* 1 Cor. vi. 15 *Tollens Christi membra, fuciam membra meretricis?*] *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 Seȝ þu .. best rumhanded to glewmen and to hores. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26835 Hore or okerer, or Iogolour, Bot þai þair maister wille forsak, For fals penantes men sal þam tak. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 310 Whanne tweyne horis stryveden whos was þe child þat lyvede. 1382 — *Luke* xv. 30 This thi sone, which deuouride his substaunce with hooris. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 192/2 An Hure, *vbi* a common woman. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vii. (1867) 71 Hop hoore, pipe theefe. 1595 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 73 Ane ressavear of huiris and harlottis in her hous. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 338 (Qo) The whores cald him mandrake. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 68 Let men take heed of Lais, Corinths whoore. 1708 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. 67 The whore is proud her beauties are the dread Of peevish virtue, and the marriage-bed. 1894 KIPLING *Seven Seas, The 'Mary Gloster'* 76 Your rooms at college was beastly—more like a whore's than a man's.

b. More generally: An unchaste or lewd woman; a fornicatress or adulteress. *To play the whore* (of a woman), to commit fornication or adultery.

In early use often as a coarse term of abuse. Occas. (esp. with possessive) applied opprobriously to a concubine or kept mistress; also with distinguishing epithet to a catamite.

c 1205 LAY. 7028 Nes nan swa god wif i þon londe þe he walde..þet he ne makede hore. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4082 He sluȝ Zabri..Hise hore bi-neðe and him abuuen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5661 A fol womman in spousbruche he huld vnder is wif. Sein dunston him sede wel þat it was a luþer lif..Wroþ was þe king & is hore þat he bor folie wiþsede. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 2, I knowe well þat my wif is an hore. 1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 58 The pope..gave hym licens to kepe an hore. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xvi. 28 Thou hast played the whore also with the Assirians. 1547 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 48 Merioun Ray amerciat for trubling of Agnes Hendersoun, calland hir huir and theiff. 1561 *Child-Marriages* 78 Beynge demaundid why she did,..contrary to the Lawe of wedlocke, play the hoore. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 137 Leaue thy drinke and thy whore. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 20 *Ther*... Thou art thought to be Achilles male Varlot. *Patro.*.. What's that? *Ther.* Why his masculine Whore. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. *Pantagr. Prognost.* 237 Ingles, Fricatrices, He-whores. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. iv, Gamesters and Highwaymen are generally very good to their Whores, but they are very Devils to their Wives. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 7 Feb., Achilles..had so little regard for his country, that he would not act in defence of it, because he had quarrelled with Agamemnon about a w——e. 1827 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1160 Calling a married woman or a single one a whore is not actionable, because fornication and adultery are subjects of spiritual not temporal censures. [Referring to a case, an. 1703, in Raymond's *Rep.* (1743) 1004.]

transf. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. iii, Gyb, our cat, in the milke-pan she spied..'Ah, hore! out, thefe!' she cryed aloud. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 745 Their Epithites.. attributed vnto them [*sc.* wolves] among seuerall Authors are ..demonstrations of their disposition; as sowre, wilde,.. fierce, bold, greedy, whoare, flesh-eater.

2. *fig.*; *spec.* in biblical use, applied to a corrupt or idolatrous community (cf. WHOREDOM 2), and hence in controversial use, esp. in phr. *the whore of Babylon*, to the Church of Rome (in allusion to Rev. xvii. 1, 5, etc.).

1382 WYCLIF *Nahum* iii. 4 The hoore fair and able [1611 wel-fauoured harlot]..whiche solde folkis in her fornycaciouns. — *Rev.* xvii. 1 The dampnacioun of the greet hoore [1611 Whore] R. V. 1881 harlot],..with whiche kynges of erthe diden fornycacioun. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* F v b, The greate baude the hore of babylon [*sc.* the Pope]. *c* 1540 *Pilgr. T.* 342 in *Thynne's Animadv.* (1875) 86 Of antichristes fall I will..sum-thing tell; & of this howr, this leyder to hell. † 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xiii. (1874) 30 That abhomynable whore of Babylon (Rome I meane). 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 139, I may say of Constantinople..; A painted Whoore. *c* 1640 in Maidment *Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 132 So you to Christian Kings shall break the ground, To loath the scarlet whoor. *c* 1646 MILTON *Sonn. Forcers Conse.* 3 Because you have thrown of your Prelate Lord,.. To seise the widdow'd whore Pluralitie. 1684 SOUTHERNE *Disappointm.* II. i, But if her thoughts run foul, her mind's a Whore. 1704 C. LESLIE *Wolf Stript* (ed. 4) 32 They call her Episcopacy a Ragg of the Whore. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 3 Oct., He would have piqued himself on calling the Pope the w——e of Babylon. 1828 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, Image worship, and surplices, and sic like rags o' the muckle hure that sitteth on seven hills.

3. † *Whore's son, son of a whore* = WHORESON. *Whore's bird* (also as one word, and dial. *wosbird*): properly, the child [see BIRD 1 c] of a whore, a bastard; but usually as a mere vulgar term of abuse or reprobation. So *whore's kitling*.

c 1300 *Melusine* 300 He cryed with a hye voys,..'houryes sone & fals geaunt, comme speke with me!' 1673 J. W[ADE] *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 17 Thou was a base whore's bird. 1675 *Char. of Town-Gallant* 5 He admires the Eloquence of, Son of a Whore,..and therefor applyes it to every thing; So that if his Pipe be faulty,..'Tis a Son of a Whore Pipe. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 9 They'd set some sturdy Whores bird to..beat out ha'f a dozen o' my Teeth. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whores-kitling*, a Bastard. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Freeny's Amusem.* 21 Another Son of a Whore yells louder than Homer's Stentor. 1702 SEDLEY *Grumbler* I. i, I will first let you see how I am serv'd by this whoresbird. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* IV. ix, D—mn you all together, for a pack of whores-birds as you are! 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, 'Imp'dent old wosbird!' says he, 'I'll break the baid head on un.' 1892 HARDY *Tess* xxi, Jack Dollop, a 'hor'h-bird of a fellow.

4. *Comb.*, as *whore-call*, *-haunter*; *whore-like* adj.; whore-hunt *v.*, *intr.* to go after whores, practise fornication: so *whore-hunter*, *-hunting* (also *fig.*; in quot. 1714, spying after whores to extort hush-money); † whore-keeper, one who keeps company with whores, a fornicator; † whore-man, a fornicator; † whore-play [PLAY *sb.* 6 c], intercourse with whores, fornication; whore-sty (*nonce-wd.*), a brothel; † whore-toll, a payment made by way of compounding for fornication or concubinage.

a 1692 SHADWELL *Volunteers* v. i, Those Fiddles are Fop-Calls, and *Whore-Calls. 1580 *Orders for Orphanes* A iv, If any manchilde be a Thiefe, or a Fellon, or a common *whore haunter. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Iudgem.* II. xx. (1612) 358 He went apart into Auignion, and there staied of purpose to doe nothing but *whore-hunt. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 164 He .. Whore-hunting amang gruves o' myrtles. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 666/1 *Scortatores*, which signifieth in englishe *whoore hunters. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 81 A notorious drunkard, whorehunter, cousiner, vsurer, &c. 1532 FAITH *Mirror* (1533) A v b, Yf ..the watcheman be a slepe,..or gone..a *whorehuntinge. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. ii. 124 That is spirituall adulterie & whore-hunting, when men doe partly loue and worship God, and yet..giue reuerence to straunge..Gods. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 44 Her husband.. had used to goe on whore-hunting in the night. 1714 RAMSAY *Elegy on J. Cowper* iii, Of Whore-hunting he gat his Fill, And made be't mony a Pint and Gill. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prel.* B iij b, If any synne agenst yᵉ doctrine of Christ..so yᵗ he be a dronckarde & an *horekeper. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 68 There shall not be a whore among the daughters of Israell, nor a whorekeeper among the sonnes of Israel. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1088 Our wiues do passe their whoris in *whorelyke deckynge. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4072 Do seide god to moysen, Đe meistres of dine *hore-men,..Đe bidde ic hangen þat he ben. *Ibid.* 530 Caymes sunes wrogten vn-laȝe, Wiþ breðere wifes *hore-plaȝe. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 196 [Churches] turne[d] to barnes, stables, hogsties, and that which is worse, *whore-sties. 1545 COVERDALE *Def. Chr. Man* E ij b, Romishe prestes..take harlottes..whan they will,..and aske no question for conscience sake, so that they pave the bishops the *whore toll.

Whore, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To have to do with a whore or whores; to commit whoredom, fornicate; (of a woman) to play the whore. Also *fig.* (See also WHORING.)

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 178 Wee drinke, wee eate, wee surfet, wee sweare, wee play, wee daunce, wee whore. 1613 GODDARD *Neaste of Waspes* G iv b, Sheel fight, whore, drinke, vntill shee cannot see. 1642 BRIDGE *Serm. Norwich Volunteers* 5 They thinke him a foole or a child that will not drink and be drunke, and whore. 1682 SHADWELL *Sat. to Muse* 238 Against the Court, and David's-self he Roard, How ill he Govern'd, and how worse he W——d. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 13 To cheat, whore, betray, get drunk, do all these things decently, this is true wisdom, and elegance of taste. 1766 *Midnight Spy* v. 43 The gay courtezan with her pockets lined with gold, may whore with impunity. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Song Engl.* iii, Hold ye the Faith..; Whoring not with visions.

b. *trans.* To spend in whoring; (with adv.) to get or bring by whoring.

1681 COLVIL *Whig's Supplic.* (1710) 53 Their Officers..Had dic'd and drunk, and whor'd their Pay. 1688 MRS. BEHN *City-Heiress* I. i, A man might whore his heart out.

2. *trans.* To make a whore of; to corrupt by illicit intercourse; to debauch (a woman). Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 64 He that hath kil'd my King, and whor'd my Mother. 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 258 The Pander of the Peoples hearts,..Whose blandishments a Loyal Land have whor'd, And broke the Bonds she plighted to her Lord. *a* 1692 SHADWELL *Volunteers* III. i. (1693) 32 Did you mean to whore my Daughter? 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1741) II. 224 She ask'd her,..if I was whor'd yet! There's a Word for a Lady's Mouth!

Whore, obs. form of HOAR, WHERE.

Whor(e)cop, late forms of HORCOP, bastard.

a 1590 *Marr. Wit & Wisd.* (Shaks. Soc.) 51 What, where be these whorecops? 1599 *Sir Clyom.* F 2 b, Whorcop.

Whoredom (hōˑɹdəm). *arch.* Forms: see WHORE *sb.*; also 4 -dame, 4–5 -dam, 4–7 -dome, 6 -doome, *Sc.* -dum. [prob. a. ON. *hórdómr* = OFris. *hôrdôm*, MLG. *hôrdom*: see WHORE *sb.* and -DOM.]

1. The practice of playing the whore, or of intercourse with whores; illicit sexual indulgence in general; fornication, harlotry.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 57 Ne heo þu nawiht monslaht, ne in hordom dei ne naht. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9857 He leuede muche in hordom, & huld vnder þe quene rosemounde. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 654 Nis noȝt ȝore þat i ne com And fond hire wiþ hordom, Me to schame..In hire bedde on mi Tur. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 417 Þis privey horedame makes myche harme. *c* 1440 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 334 þat he be getyn..In hordome. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxxviii. 24 By whordome is she gotten with childe. 1561 WINȜET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) I. 128 The renunceing of the warld and plesouris of the body, nocht only fra vnlesum huirdum, bot fra mariage sumtyme to thame lesum. 1605 M. SUTCLIFFE *Brief Exam.* 102 They..set up bordell houses for maintenance of whoredom & baudry. 1784 COWPER *Tirocc.* 833 Now flush'd with drunk'ness, now with whoredom pale.

b. *pl.* Acts of sexual immorality.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Ȝe nulle% forleten hordomes and ȝifernesse and druncnesse. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Kings ix. 22 Yᵉ whordomes of thy mother Iezabel. 1575–85 SANDYS *Serm.* xiv. 249 Otherwise they are not mariages, but whoredomes. 1611 *Bible* Hosea I. 2 A wife of whoredomes, and children of whoredomes. 1726 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 234 Notwithstanding his Whoredoms. 1860 HOOK *Lives Abps.* II. ii. 114 He will never be converted from his whoredoms and ruinous follies.

2. *fig.*; *esp.* in biblical and religious use, applied to idolatry or other form of unfaithfulness to the true God.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 38 Kynrede of hordom schiþ sicne signes. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* iii. 2 Thorow thy whordome and shamefull blasphemies, is the londe defyled. — *Hosea* i. 2 The londe hath committed greate whordome agaynst the Lorde. 1593 J. NAPIER *Rev.* To Rdr. A 6, Their seuen hilled citie Rome, painted out..by Saint Iohn, as the mother of all spirituall whoredome. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 549 Think you there's but one whoredom? whoredom, all, But when our reason licenses delight. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 13 Whoredom is to have many other objects of sinful love.

Hence † **Whoˑredomer (hurdomare)** *Sc. Obs.*, one who practises whoredom, a fornicator.

1486 SIR G. HAYE *Bk. Knthd.* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 40 Na common leare, na commone viciouse hurdomare.

† **Whore-house.** *Obs.* [Cf. OS. *hôrhûs* (MLG. *hoerhuus*, Du. *hoerhuis*), OHG., MHG. *huorhûs* (G. *hurenhaus*).] A house of whores, a brothel.

13.. tr. *Ælfred* in *Engl. Stud.* VII. 308 A blessed mayden þat turnde an hoore-hows in to an oratorie. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 804/20 *Hoc lupanar, Hec fornix, Hoc prostibulum*, a horehowse. *a* 1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Epigr.* xxxix, Sometimes he comes not to the play, But falls into a whore house by the way. 1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* G 4 b, The plagues that a Whore-house layes vpon a City. 1688 BUNYAN *Last Serm.* Wks. 1862 II. 757 A whore-house, it may be, is more sweet to him.

Whorelle, obs. form of WHORL.

Whoremaster (hōˑɹmāːstəɹ). *Obs.* or *arch.* [f. WHORE *sb.* + MASTER *sb.* (The sense of 'procurer' alleged for this word and *whoremonger* in some Dicts. is not authenticated.)] = next.

a 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 108 My husband wes a hur maister..He has bene waistit apon wemen. And in adultre. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 516 That hee is (sauing your reuerence) a Whore-master, that I vtterly deny. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 188 The stage-plaiers act..Ieve for the veriest whore-maister in the world. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 446 P 7 Our ordinary Poets cannot frame to themselves the Idea of a fine Man who is not a Whore-master. 1747 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 27 Mar., A Man of Pleasure, in the vulgar acceptation of that phrase, means only, a beastly drunkard, an abandoned whore-master, and a profligate swearer. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xviii. 253 A justice may bind over all night-walkers; eaves-droppers;..common drunkards; whore-masters; the putative fathers of bastards;..and other persons, whose misbehaviour may reasonably bring them within the general words of the statute, as persons not of good fame.

attrib. *c* 1570 *Depos. Durham* (Surtees) 264 Cauling this examinate hooremaster preiste. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. ii. 137 An admirable euasion of Whore-master-man, to lay his Goatish disposition to the charge of a Starre. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* v. iv, You whore-master knaue. 1858 *Prodigal Son* vi. in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* II. 219 Shall I.. be merry because my whoremaster brother is come back?

Hence **Whoˑremaːsterly** *a.*, having the character of a whoremaster, lecherous; **Whoˑremaːstery**, the practice of a whoremaster, fornication.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. iv. 7 That Greekish *whore-maisterly villaine. 1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. (ed. 2) 96 The vile and wicked whore-masterly Husband. 1618 N. FIELD *Amends for Ladies* v. i, A great hurt to the art of *whore-mastry.

Whoremonger (hōˑɹmʊˑŋgəɹ). *arch.* [f. WHORE *sb.* + MONGER 2. Now familiar mainly from its occurrence in the English Bible.] One who has dealings with whores; one who practises whoredom; a fornicator, lecher.

1526 TINDALE *Eph.* v. 5 No whormonger, other vnclene person..hath any inheritaunce in the kyngdom of Christ. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 53 Lycknest thou to whoarmongers A colage of clarckes and scolcar? 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 37. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 408 What was Clement the 5. but an open Whore munger? 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 250 If, by their self-indulgence, the glutton, the drunkard, the loafer,..the whoremonger forfeit a future benefit [etc.].

So **Whoremongering** (hōˑɹmʊˑŋgiŋ), the practice of a whoremonger, fornication.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Pet.* II. 13–16 Nether haue they mynde of any thing elles, than vpon whoremonging, and other kyndes of wikednes. 1563 *St. Andrews Kirk-sess. Reg.* (1889) 189 The delacionis gevyn in upon tham..for huyrmongyn inveterat. 1893 *Voice* (N. Y.) 10 Aug., We would dissociate liquor selling from low, corrupt politics, from gambling, from whoremonging and from all other forms of immoral pursuit!

† **Whorer** (hōˑɹəɹ). *Obs.* [f. WHORE *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. OS. *hôrâri*, OHG. *huorari* (MHG. *huorer*, G. *hurer*), etc.] = WHOREMONGER.

c 1640 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 318 It shall bee free for Priests to marrie, or to forbeare: Howsoever many Priests are, and will remain whorers. 1681 COLVIL *Whig's Supplic.* (1710) 97 All of them proved Drinkers, Whorers, By Preachers, Forgers, and Perjurers. 1727 P. WALKER *Cameron* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 289 A great Swearer, a great Whorer, Blasphemer, Drunkard.

Whoreship (hōˑɹʃip). [i. WHORE *sb.* + -SHIP.] The personality of a whore: used with poss. pron. as a humorous title.

1607 R. TURNER *Nosce Te* E 2 b, Bifronted Peter's head, ..Yet a loues her whoreshippe as he loues his life. 1624 DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* III, I have a penance for your pure whoreship. 1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 67 To shew his Worship The curteous Temper of her Whoreship.

Whoreson (hōˑɹsən). *Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: see WHORE *sb.*; also 5 heurseu, horesonne, 6 horisson. [f. WHORE *sb.* + SON *sb.*, after AF. *fis a putain* (see FITZ).] prop. The son of a whore, a bastard son; but commonly used as a coarse term of reprobation, abuse, dislike, or contempt;

sometimes even of jocular familiarity. (Cf. BUGGER 2 b.) Also rarely applied to a thing.

13.. *K. Alis.* 880 (Laud MS.) Fy vyle atsynt hores sone! To mysdon was ay þi wone. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 410 An houre sone for soþ ich wes. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3016 Þow gadelyng horesone, lecher, & stronge þef. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 207 He despisede þe grettest lordes.., and callede Sir Robert Clare Erl of Gloucestre, 'Horesonne'. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11879 (Trin.) 'Hore sones [*Cott.* Fiȝ aputains]' he seide 'what are ȝe'? 'Leches' þei seide 'to leche þe'. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxi. (Arb.) 53, I trusted..so moche the fals horeson the foxe. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 68 Of what estate soever he be,..usyng to swere customably by Goddes body .. unreverently .. that they charge the Butler to geve him no wyne at the meles .. There was a lyke motion to be made for the customable word of hoursen. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxxvii. 739 b/1 Kyng Dampeter was greatly chafed and moche desyred to mete with the bastarde his brother, and sayd, where is yᵗ horeson, that calleth hym selfe kynge of Castell. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 79 b, The mother merelye beynge disposed, wyll saye to her swete Sonne: Ah you little horeson, wyll you serue me so? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 135 Do they not graunt them selues to be whore sonnes all the packe of them? [orig. *nonne meretricum sese filios esse fatentur?*]. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iv. 19 Masse, and well said, a merrie horson, ha! 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. iii. 39 The slye whorsons Haue got a speeding fricke to lay downe Ladies. 1659 GAYTON *Art Longevity* 83 Nuts are dry whorsons. 1679 *Roxb. Ball.* (1883) IV. 614 Beware of those that. tamper with thy foolish whoreson, And by false arguments ensnare The youth to think he is thy heir. 1722 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. v, Nic. Frog was a cunning sly Whoreson. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxviii, They..bestowed ..some round dozen of curses on them, as lazy knaves and blind whoresons. 1826 SOUTHEY *Devil's Walk* liii, Whoever shall say that to Porson These best of all verses belong, He is an untruth-telling whoreson.

b. *attrib.*: commonly as a coarsely abusive epithet, applied to a person or thing: Vile, abominable, execrable, detestable, 'wretched', 'scurvy', 'bloody'; also sometimes expressing humorous familiarity or commendation.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 60 Why, go bette, horosonne boy, when I bidde þe. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 15 Scheyme happine the lowne hursone theiff. 1534 in *Suss. Star Chamber Proc.* (1913) 40 Thow horiason prist yff thow ons move thow shalt dye. 1577–8 BRETON *Toys of an Idle Head* Wks. (GROSART) I. 30/1 Faith, she will say, you whorson Page, Ile purchase you an heritage. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 225 Ah, you whorson little valiant Villaine, you! *Ibid.* III. ii. 193 *Fal.* What disease hast thou? *Bul.* A whorson cold sir, a cough sir. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I. i, Oh! this same whorson Conscience, how it jades us! 1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* x. 8 Ah whoreson-thieves, rob God of his glory! said D. Taylor. 1739 *Joe Miller's Jests* 37 Thou Whoreson Rascal. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xx, Ambition, and pride, and envy, and lechery, and other whoreson passions. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* iv. Wks. 1777 II. 16 The Impromptu, for which I was utterly disqualified by a whoreson slowness of apprehension. 1816 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 47 It was so whoreson a Night that I stopped there all the next day. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, Some of his whoreson poetry (I crave your Grace's pardon for such a phrase) has rung in mine ears.

Whorey, variant of WHORY.

Whoring (hōᵕrĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHORE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of WHORE *v.*; fornication; also *fig.*: *spec.* in biblical use, applied to idolatry, as an act of unfaithfulness to the true God (cf. WHOREDOM 2): chiefly in phr. *to go a whoring.*

1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xxxiv. 15 Whan they goa whoringe after their goddes. — *Ps* cv[i].38 Thus were they stayned with their owne workes, and wente a whoringe with their owne invencions. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 116 This is the fruits of whoring. 1619 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1906) 153 Their private whorings, drunkennesse and such like ryotts. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 582 All the Visions contemporating with Babylon's times must be expounded of such things only as belong to the times of Babylon's whoring. 1668 SOUTH *Serm., Luke xxi. 15* Wks. 1727 V. 416 When with Whoring, and Gaming, and Revelling, they have disabled themselves from paying their Butchers. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 60 ᵖ 2 The common Diversions of Men of Fashion; that is to say, in Whoring, Drinking, and Gaming. 1855 [J. D. BURN] *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* (1859) 73 The whole of this man's conduct tended to..fighting, whoring, and roguery!

So **Whoring** *ppl. a.*

1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. x. 185 That either we must have a Married or a Whoring Clergy.

Whorish (hōᵕrĭʃ), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WHORE *sb.* + -ISH 1.]

1. Having the character of a whore; addicted to whoredom; lewd, unchaste (of a woman; rarely of a man).

1580 *Bible* (Geneva) Prov. vi. 26 Because of the whoorish woman a man is broght to a morsel of bread. — Ezek. xvi. 30 Yᵉ worke of a presumpteous whorish woman. 1611 *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses g 2 b, He knew and felt the whores, yet was not whorish. 1624 DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* I. i, What plague can transcend A whorish wife, and a perfidious friend! 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 382 Whoorish boyes. 1675 SOUTH *Serm., Judges viii. 34, 35* (1697) I. 309 Joseph .. a poor Stranger, languishing in Durance upon the false accusations of a lying, insolent whorish Woman!

b. Belonging to or characteristic of a whore; meretricious; lewd, unchaste (of action, etc.).

1552 HULOET, Hoorysshe.., or perteynynge to a hoore, *meretricius.* 1598 GLOS *Antichrist* 303 Men geuen to their paunche and hotirishe lustes. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. i. 63 You like a letcher, out of whorish loynes, Are pleas'd to breede out your inheritors. 1761 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 198 Barbara Reid for whorish practices expelled the burgh.

2. *fig.*, esp. in religious and controversial use (often = idolatrous): cf. WHORE *sb.* 2.

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* vi. 9 That whorish and vnfaithfull herte of theirs, wherwith they runne awaye fro me. 1548 BALE *Thre Lawes* C ii b, Regarde not the pope, nor yet hys whorysh kyngedom. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIII. vii, They all shall be undone, Who leaving thee to whoorish idolls run. 1680 R. L'ESTRANGE *Citt & Bumpkin* (ed. 3) 16 The Church of England..is not altogether the Whore of Babylon, though a good deal Whorish. 1696 BROOKHOUSE *Temple Opened* 47 The Bride has a Husband..sufficient to maintain her against all Whorish, Beastly or Satanical Usurpations. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 82 ᵖ 3 Jack has a whorish unresisting Good-nature, which makes him incapable of having a Property in any thing.

Hence **Who·rishly** *adv.*; **Who·rishness.**

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Meretricie*, ᵃhoorishely. 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 108 Howe whorishlie Scriptures are alleaged by them, I will discouer..in another new worke. 16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* IV. ii, Are you so whorishly provided? 1755 JOHNSON, *Meretriciously*, whorishly; after the manner of whores. 1846 HALE *Engl. Votaries* I. 28 Marke how abhominable ᵃwhoryshnesse..is auaunced of that whoryshRome churche, to the great blemyshynge of Godly marryage. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 706 The said Anne was..for her whorishness lawfully divorced. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Meretriciousness*, whorishness.

† **Whorism.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WHORE *sb.* or *v.* + -ISM.] Whoredom, fornication.

1598 FLORIO, *Puttaneggio*, whorisme, whoredome. 1611 COTGR., *s'Appaillarder*, to .. giue himselfe wholly to whoorisme; to turne leacher.

Whorl (hwɒ̄l, hwŭl), *sb.* Forms: α. 5 wharwyl, 5–9 wharle, 8–9 wharl. β. 5 whorwhil, (whorlwyl), qworle, 5–9 whorle, 6 whorlle, whorelle, *Sc.* quhorle, 8– whorl. [late ME. *wharwyl, whorwhil*, app. variants of WHIRL (early forms disyllabic, e.g. *wherwille, qwherel*) influenced by WHARVE *sb.*; but with the β-forms cf. early mod.Du. *worvel*, var. of *wervel* (Kilian).]

1. A small fly-wheel fixed on the spindle of a spinning-wheel to maintain or regulate the speed; a small pulley by which the spindle is driven in a spinning-machine. Also locally applied to small wheels or pulleys for other purposes.

α. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 (Winch. MS.) Wharwyl of a spyndyl, *vertebrum.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/1 A Wharle, *giraculum, neopallum, vertibulum.* 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 628/2 Take out thy spindle & bryng me hither the wharle. 1566 in Peacock *Engl. Ch. Furnit.* (1866) 170 One crwet defaced whearof was made wharles for spindels. 1589 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 55 Spindles and wharles ij⁴. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Wharle. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 239 [They] drive this spindle by the friction of a very heavy collar on it against a large leather washer, which rests on the wharl.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Whorlwyl, of a spyndyl (*K.* whorwhil, *P.* whorle), *vertebrum.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 398 A Qworle of A roke. 1610 R. VAUGHAN *Water-Wks.* O 4 b, The Stanke-royall (running on a whorle, his sluce being taken vp) is receiued by a Bastard-sluce. 1773 EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 189 Let EG be a spinning wheel,.. whilst the rim makes 1 revolution, the twill makes 9, and the whorle and feathers 6. 1808 JAMIESON, *Whorle*, a very small wheel, as that in a child's cart. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* v. 133 Spindle whorls of rude earthenware were abundant in some of the Lake-villages even of the Stone age. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *Whorls*, pithead pulleys.

2. *Bot.* A set of members, as leaves, flowers, or parts of the flower, springing from the stem or axis at the same level and encircling it; a verticil. Also in *Zool.* a set of parts or structures, as scales or tentacles, similarly arranged.

[1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. G vj, The stalke is foure square,.. where about doth grow in equal order,..certayne knoppes lyke whorlles. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxv. 232 The floures [of Pennyroyal] growe .. about the stemmes like whorles or garlandes.] 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 98/2 Rosemary, hath Wharles or small slender leaves set at distances about the stalk. *Ibid.* 106/1 Flowers set together in a Whorle or Coronett. 1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 43 Its Spikes of Flowers are thick set in striated hairy whorls. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 215/1 An orange .. consists of one whorl of carpels, which are consolidated into a round fruit. 1860 SALA *Lady Chesterf.* iv. 64 A flattened head,..a forked tongue, a body of scaly whorls. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 358 A flower is said to be complete, when the four whorls,—calyx, corolla, stamens, and pistil are present. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 75 The stem terminates in a single polypite, the mouth of which is surrounded by a single whorl of slender processes or 'tentacles'.

3. *Conch.* and *Anat.* Each of the turns, coils, or convolutions of a spiral shell, or of any spiral structure.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 32 Shell conoid, with the whorls rounded or convex. 1858 TENNYSON *Maud* II. ii. 6 See what a lovely shell, Small and pure as a pearl, .. With delicate spire and whorl. 1880 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Whorl of heart*, vortex of heart. [*Ibid.*, *Vortex of heart*, the close spiral arrangement of fibres which occurs at the apex.]

4. *gen.* A convolution, coil, curl, 'wreath' (esp. of something whirling, or suggesting a whirling movement).

1590 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 92 The head of Storke, with her beake against the open mouth of a Monster,..and certaine Whorelles or Rondes ryning vp betwixt his mouth and her beake. 1821 NICHOL *Architt. Heav.* (ed. 3) 99 Intervals between the whorls of the starry stream.

1862 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* xii. 210 Vast clouds of steam.. roll in heavy whorls before the wind.

5. *Comb.*, as *whorl-flowered*, *-leaved*, *-shaped* adjs.; **whorl-flower**, a plant of the genus *Morina* (N. O. *Dipsacaceæ*), having the flowers in dense whorls; **whorl-grass**, a grass of the genus *Catabrosa.*

1828 *Hortus Angl.* II. 204 M[alva] Verticillata, Whorl-flowered Mallow. *Ibid.* 423 C[oreopsis] Verticillata, Whorl-leaved Coreopsis. 1830 DAUBENY *Atom. Th.* xii. (ed. 2) 423 The parts of the pistils are disposed in a whorl-shaped manner around an..axis. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* (1900) IV. 69 Whorl-grass (*Catabrosa*). Water Whorl Grass (*C. aquatica*). Panicle with half whorls of spreading branches. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.* 220 *Morina longifolia*, Long-leaved Whorl-flower.—*persica*, Persian Whorl-flower.

Hence **Whorl** *v. trans.* (*a*) to draw up by means of a 'whorl' or pulley (*local*); (*b*) to arrange in whorls or convolutions.

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 The cage is said to be whorled when it is drawn up to or over the pulleys. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 6 Aug. 4/3 The stars, braided and whorled in patterns too intricate for our eyes.

Whorle: see WHIRL *v.*, WHURL.

Whorlbat, -bone, etc.: see WHIRLBAT, etc.

Whorle borle, whorlie-bourlie, obs. ff. HURLY-BURLY.

c 1440 J. SHIRLEY in *Scot. Hist. Rev.* (1904) Oct. 98 During the whorlie bourlie in Scotland the olde King Robert died.

Whorled (hwɒ̄ld, hwŭld), *a.* [f. WHORL *sb.* + -ED 2.] Having, or arranged in, a whorl or whorls; (of leaves, flowers, etc.) verticillate; (of a shell, etc.) convoluted, turbinate.

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot* Explan. Terms 390 *Verticill*[*at*]*us*, whorled, many Flowers growing round the Stalk in a Circle. 1828 J. E. SMITH *Engl. Flora* II. 59 *S*[*ium*] *verticillatum*, Whorled Water-parsnep. Leaflets in numerous, linear,.. whorled segments. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 372 The Galiaceæ are..distinguished..by their whorled exstipulate leaves. 1867 MURCHISON *Siluria* viii. (ed. 4) 164 The large Whorled Shell. has proved..to be a true Lower-Silurian Maclurea. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 17 Crystals which arrange themselves in whorled groups.

So † **Who·rling, † Who·rlish** *adjs.*, *rare*, forming or constituting a whorl.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 55 Comen rede fish mynt .. with whorlish circles goyng about the stalck. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxxi. 256 The floures..growing in whorling knoppes rounde aboute the stalkes.

Whorlwyl, obs. form of WHORL.

† **Whorr**, *v. Obs.* Also **whoor(r)e.** [Echoic.] *intr.* To coo, as a dove.

1598 FLORIO, *Gemere* .. To whorr as doues do. *Gemire*.. To whoore or cry as turtle doues.

Whorrowe, var. WHARROW; cf. s.w. dial. *worra.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxxviii. 267 The floures be of a light blewe, compassing the stalke by certaine spaces like to garlandes or whorrowes.

Whorry, obs. form of HURRY *v.*

1613 DEKKER *Strange Horse-Race* B 2 b, A Race .. after the Roman fashion: In their thundring velocity, lightning-like violence, and earth-quaking whorrying. *Ibid.* 24 From his Cause..out he whorries.

† **Whorster.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. WHORE *sb.* + -STER.] = WHORER.

1634 VILVAIN *Enchir. Epigr.* VI. lxxvi, No Murdrer be; Whorster: Theef: fals Testes.

Whort (hwɔ̄st). *dial.* Also 6–7 **whorte**, 7 **whurt**, 9 **wort**. [South-western dial. form of HURT *sb.*2 (cf. *whoam* for *home*, *whole* for earlier *hole*, and WHORTLEBERRY).] = WHORTLEBERRY. Also *attrib.* Hence **Whorting** *vbl. sb.*, gathering whortleberries.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xi. 670 There be two sortes of Whortes, and Whortel berries, wherof the common sort are blacke, and the other are red. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxix. 1231. 1687 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* CXVI, Black Whorts, or Bill-berries. 1862 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 12 For Fruits, they [in Cornwall] have a sort called Whurts. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 91 And why dost thee, than, tell me 'Isterday o' loaing my Rewdan Hat in the Rex-bush, out a whorting? 1773 *Encycl. Brit.* s.v. *Vaccinium*, The *myrtillus* [misprint *-lis*], or black whortleberries or bilberries;.. the *cantabricum*, or Irish whorts; the *vitis idea*, or red whorts. 1820 COLERIDGE *The Picture* 4, I..now climb, and now descend O'er rocks, or bare or mossy, with wild foot Crushing the purple whorts. 1896 G. ROBERTS *Soc. Hist. Eng.* 561 During the Whort-season children used to assemble to partake of Whort-pies..made with a brown crust, and eaten with clouted cream, .. a west country delicacy. 1917 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 582, I do mind the autumn when Mrs. Ann Pugsley did witch John Craw. 'Twur at the whort gathering.

Whorthy, obs. form of WORTHY.

Whortle (hwɔ̄·tl). Also 7 **wortle**: see also HURTLE *sb.*2 [Short for WHORTLEBERRY.] = WHORTLEBERRY.

1597 [see HURTLE *sb.*2]. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 132 The people vse to eat the Wortles in creame and milke. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 219 Fen-berries ..are of like temper and faculty with our whortles, but somewhat more astringent. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 372 Great Bilberry Bush or Whortle. 1821 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* VI. i, I see her swift foot dash the dew from the whortle. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 190 The.. bog-whortle.., whose white flowers, pink-tipped, stuff the ptarmigan's crop.

Comb. 1859 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 208 *S*[*alix*] *myrsinites* (Green Whortle-leaved Willow).

Whortleberry (hwɔ̄·rtlberi). Also (8 whirtle-), 8–9 **wortleberry**. [South-western dial. form of HURTLEBERRY: cf. WHORT. Used by Lyte,

a Somerset man, in his translation of Dodoens' Herbal, whence app. by later writers on plants, so as to have become at length the usual 'book-name'.] The blue-black fruit of the dwarf shrub *Vaccinium Myrtillus*, or the plant itself; otherwise called **Bilberry** or **Blaeberry**. Also extended to the genus *Vaccinium* as a whole (excepting the species called **Cranberry**, *V. Oxycoccos* and *V. macrocarpon*).

Bear's Whortleberry, a name for the Bearberry, *Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi*. **Bog Whortleberry**, *Vaccinium uliginosum*. **Red Whortleberry**, *V. Vitis-Idæa*. **Victorian Whortleberry**, *Wittsteinia vacciniacea*, a shrub allied to *Vaccinium* found in Victoria.

1578 [see Whort]. 1672 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 438. 1708 C. Mather *Magnalia* VI. ii. 11 Sometimes we liv'd on Wortle berries, sometimes on a kind of Wild Cherry. 1764 *Ann. Reg., Char.* 9 The hair..is dyed with the juice of the red wortleberry. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 504 The Whirtle Berry. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* xiii, A territory, which, since the days of Adam, had borne nothing but ling and whortle-berries. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* v, [They] laid him softly on a bank of whortle-berries.

attrib. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 66 A species of whortleberry shrub. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 340 A..whortle-berry pudding. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 178 Hot mutton flavored with whortleberry jam. 1884 Miller *Plant-n.*, Whortle-berry-bush, Victorian, *Wittsteinia vacciniacea*.

Whorwhil, obs. form of Whorl.

Whory (hō·ri), *a. rare.* Also **-ey.** [f. Whore *sb.* + -y 1.] = Whorish. (In 2nd quot. with play upon *hoary*.)

1682 Hickeringill *Hist. Whiggism* 22 The Papists, and the whory, roary, swory, scory, Tories. 1682 'T. Rationalis' *New News from Bedlam* 88 And should it light upon Your whorey Head, The Whigs would say, You're sweetly brought to Bed.

Whos, obs. form of Whose, Whoso.

Whose (hūz), *pron.* Forms: 1 hwæs, 2–3 hwas, 3 hwos, (wuas), 3was, hwes, 3–4 whes, 3–5 whas, was, wos, 4 huas, wais, hoes, woise, 4–5 whoos, hos, 4–6 whos, whois, 5 whayse, whoys, hoys, (hosse), wose, 5–9 *Sc.* and *north.* whase, 6 whoes, woos, wois, hose, *Sc.* vhais, vhois, 7–8 who's, 5– whose; 3–5 quase, 4 quos, quose, 4–5 quas, *Sc.* 4–8 quhais, (5 qwhos, qwose), 5–7 quhois, 6 quhas, (qwhois), 6–7 quhose, 6–8 quhase, 7 quhaes, quhoise. [ME. *hwās*, later *hwǭs*, *whǭs*, altered form of *hwas*, *hwes*, OE, *hwæs* (:—**χwasa*) genitive of *hwā* and *hwæt*, through the influence of *hwā*, *hwǭ* Who, *hwām*, *hwǭm* Whom. (Later ME. *whas* prob. represents an unstressed variant.) Cf. OS. *hwes*, MLG., MDu., OHG., G. *wes*, ON. *hues(s*, MSw. *hwes*, *hwas* (Da. *hvis*), Goth. *hwis* :— **χwesa*, Indo-Eur. **q*ᵘ*eso*, represented also by Gr. (Homeric) *νέο* for **ϝέσο*, OSl. *česo*.]

The genitive case of Who (and in OE. of the neuter What: cf. 3 below). Used, in all senses, either before a sb. as a possessive adj. (like *his*, *her*, *my*, etc.), or absolutely (like *his*, *hers*, *mine*, etc.): in the latter case chiefly in the interrogative sense as predicate.

I. Interrogative uses (direct and dependent).

1. Of whom; belonging to whom; what person's.

c897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlvii. 357 Dæt hie gefencen hwæs folgeras hie sindon. a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 Hunta ic eom. hwæs? c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 42 Hwæt þincð eow be criste, hwæs sunu ys he? c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 99 Þif hie [*sc.* ðohtes] cumeð fram mannen, hie (*sc.* ȝepnesse] cann hwatliche underfinden, an hwos half he is icumen. c 1205 Lay. 17111 Næs nan witie þat auere wuste here whes sune he weore. a 1240 *Urrisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 Maiden moder, maiden: and hwas moder? his hwas dohter þu art. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 447 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Hi casten heore lot hwes he scolde beo. 13.. *Cursor M.* 12824 (Gött.) Quat wamb him bar.., And wid was pappis was he fedd? 1340 *Ayenb.* 38 Þo þet ofhyealdeþ þe þinges þet hi vindeþ and wyteþ wel huas þet bi byeþ. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 6826 Telle þou me, þis feir castel wis it be. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1726 Was men buth ȝe? c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's T.* 920 Whos is that faire child that stondeth yonder? c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 He fand a dead mans head, and he had greta marvayll whose it was. 1566 Lauder *Tractate* Contents, And, last of all, vnto quhose actionis..suld Kyngis geue rathest actendence. 1590 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 1077 Whose tongue is musick now? 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* I. ii A 4 b, Arrest me? at whose suite? 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. iv. 43 Whose fault is this? 1792 Cowper *Judgm. Poets* 4 A warm dispute..Whose temper was the best. 1823 D. C. Murray *Hearts* vii, 'I'm sure of the voice...' 'Whose is it?' 1896 Hourman *Shropsh. Lad* xxvii, I cheer a dead man's sweetheart, Never ask me whose.

1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* vi. 58 Your offensive abuse of his poor father, and forgetfulness of Whose minister he was.

II. Relative uses. *As simple relative.

2. In reference to a person or persons (or to an animal or animals): Of whom. **a.** Introducing a defining or restrictive clause completing the sense: cf. Who 9.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Þe deuel..on eck of hiss deden is isfned to þe deore wuss geres he forðcoð. a 1240 [see 1]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2155 Of him o quas sede Was he born þat beit our nede. a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 53 b, Alþaȝ he wille of him hos þe werkes beȝ [= beð]. c 1400 tr. *Secr., Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 81 It ys meruaill of a man bow he may be syke or dye, whos mete ys breed of good whete. 1526 Tindale *Luke* I. 27 A virgin spoused to a man, whose name was Ioseph. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xxxii. 1 *blessed* is he, whose vnryghteousnesse is forgeuen. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 37 Of heires of quhais age their is ane doubt. 1611 *Bible* Gen. xxxviii. 25 The man whose these are. *Ibid.* xliv. 17 The man in whose hand the cup is found. 1690 tr. *J. Le Clerc's Five Lett. Inspir.* 56 The Apostles did not pass in their own time for Persons, whose every word was an Oracle. 1723 Ramsay *Fair Assembly* viii, A wife..Whase charms can silence dumps. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 70 Persons who..sanctified their ambition by advancing the dignity of the people whose peace they troubled. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xli, To feast upon the horses whose blood they had so vaingloriously drunk. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* ii, Men whose laugh was a horrid growl.

b. Introducing an additional statement: thus sometimes equivalent to 'and his (their, etc.)'; cf. Who 10.

In early use occas. preceded by *the*: cf. Which B. 13, Whom 8.

Formerly also separated from the antecedent, sometimes with resulting ambiguity (cf. Who 10): occas. preceded by superfluous *and* (cf. Who 12 b).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 151 Þe lauerd N[athaniel] hwas dei nit is to dei. c 1200 *Bestiary* 764 Þis der, Wos kinde we hauen told ȝu her. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4195 Eleyne þat noble mayde..was norice ich was. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1490 Noe, In quas time þe flod gan be. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 210 In-to þe name of criste Ihesu, Fore quhais cause I am led now. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 103 Morpheus, the whos nature Is forto take the figure Of what persone that him liketh. a 1400 *Pauline Ep.* (1916) 42 Cryste in woise deþ we ar baptysyd. 1467 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 95 To performe my Nonkilles wyll, hoys sowle God pardon. c 1469 *Ibid.* 104 ȝowr modyr, hoose sowle Gode haue mersy. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. viii, A wulf..deuoured a sheep of whos bones he had one in his throte. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* ix. 5 My brethren..the israhelites,.. whose also are the fathers. — *1 Pet.* ii. 24 Christ also suffered for oure sakes..By whose strypes ye were healed. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. I. i. 533 The young man..at last married her, to whose wedding amongst other guests came Apollonius. 1750 T. Cooke *Plautus* I. p. xxv, This Comedy is called *Bacchides* from two Sisters, Courtesans, who are the chief Characters in the Play; both whose Names are *Bacchis*. a 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* (1775) II. 170 A hamlet, inhabited by fishermen, who's humanity he had occasion to remember. 1791 Burke *App. Whigs* 88 It does not arise out of the inherent rights of the people, as the national assembly does in France, and whose name designates its original. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 279 The Gods, whose dreadful images Here represent their shadowy presences. 1864 J. Hunt tr. *Vogt's Lect. Man* ii. 26 Vegetable feeders, such as ruminants, whose lower jaw acts like a millstone.

3. In reference to a thing or things (inanimate or abstract). Originally the genitive of the neuter What (sense 7); in later use serving as the genitive of Which (senses 7 and 8), and usually replaced by *of which*, except where the latter would produce an intolerably clumsy form.

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* viii. 9 The loond of oyle and of hony; ..whos stones ben yren, and of the hillis of it ben doluen metallys of brasse. 1442 Beckington *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 213 He hath..taken the townes and castles and forteresses whoos names be specified. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* lv. (Arb.) 107 A ful glorious walle of crystal hoys heythe no man might see. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 130 Loke yer thou lepe, whose literall sence is, doo nothinge sodenly or without avisemente. 1577 Harrison *England* II. ii. [v.] (1877) I. 46 Bath, whose see was sometime at Welles. 1608 Shaks. *Ham.* I. v. 15, I could a Tale vnfold, whose lightest word Would harrow vp thy soule. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 73 Mountains on whose barren breast The labouring clouds do often rest. 1661 Feltham *Lusoria, Lett.* 65 A Disposition..whose affability may sweeten life. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 74 A maxim of whose impropriety not St. Anthony himself could persuade him. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) II. 10 The clock, whose huge bell..may be heard five leagues over the plain. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* I. 100 The nerve man had prescribed..a medicine..whose effect on the nerves was nil. 1896 Pollock *1st Bk. of Jurispr.* vii. 179 Processes extending over two or three centuries, and whose fundamental analogies are..disguised in almost every possible way.

4. As objective genitive, in reference to a person (or animal) or a thing. Now *rare*: commonly replaced by *of whom* or *of which*. (Cf. note s.v. His *poss. pron.* 2.)

1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xxii. 5 He..that shal touche..eny vnclene, whos touchynge is hoory [1388 foul]. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. ii. 493 Deedis whos forberingis schulden make hem the more sureli kepen hem fro breking of Goddis lawe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. viii. 4 Our the fludis bank ful swiftlie sprent, Quhais passage is vnreturnable went. 1591 Crowley *Pleas. & Pain* Ded., The pore of thys realme, whoes oppression doeth alredy crye vnto the Lorde for vengeance. 1601 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* III. lxxxvii. 391 The Hart or Stag, in whose chase great Lords take much pleasure. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. i. 105, I will put that Businesse in your Bosomes, Whose execution takes your Enemie off. 1730 *Chambertayne's Relig. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. xvii. § 1 Things, whose particular Discussion would..exceed the Design of this Book. 1784 Cambridge in *World* No. 108 P 2 Any thing whose loss they can so easily supply. 1821 Southey *Lett. to John May* 7 Apr., This deplorable old man, whose sight.. excited in me a mingled feeling of horror and disgust.

** **5.** As compound relative, or with ellipsis of antecedent = he (him, etc.) whose. Often in generalized sense = whosesoever. Now *rare* or *arch.*: cf. Who 6, 8, Whom 5, 6.

Sometimes with the generalized sense indicated by *so(ever)* or *so ever* following the sb. (Cf. Whosesoever.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1648 & quoo deth so he desyre he dreped ab fayte. a 1300 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 352 Ȝif ohere chalouns beþ y-founde þat ne habbeþ þelkes a-eyse, in wan hond hij beþ y-founde, be forfeted. c 1400 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1299 Blere whoo ey ye woll..with your myst. 1432–50 [see Whenny]. 1460 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 384/1 In whos handes so evere they bee. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 7 Quhais Sinnis ȝe forgeue, ar forgeuin vnto thame. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* 1092 Speede to my wish, whose wil so ere sayes no. a 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* 196 Whose house is of glasse, must not throw stones at another. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 647 Heavenly Guest,..Sent from whose sovran goodness I adore.

† **Whose,** for *who's* = who is: see Who.

1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 50 (Qo.) Whose within there?

Whose, obs. form of Who so.

† **Whoself,** *pron. Obs. rare*—1. [Cf. Self A. 2.] Who himself.

1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 174 The said Burgartus canne testifie of her proportion, countenaunce and beautie, Whoself hath seen her.

Whose'n (hūz'n), *pron. dial.* [f. Whose: cf. His.N.] = Whose.

a 1701 Sedley *Virg. Past.* v. Wks. 1722 I. 289 Tell Dametas! whose'n Sheep these are?

Whosere, obs. contr. f. Whosoever.

Whosesoever (hūzsoe·vəɹ), *pron. arch.* The genitive of Whosoever: Whatever person's; of whomsoever.

1611 *Bible* John xx. 23 Whose soeuer sinnes yee remit, they are remitted vnto them, and whose soeuer sinnes yee retaine, they are retained. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxii, Whosesoever be the speech, it is the thought of ninety-nine out of an hundred. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 27 June 798/1 Whosesoever the fault there has been no effective cooperation.

Whosever (hūz|e·vəɹ), *pron. rare.* [f. Whose + Ever *adv.* 8 e; for the spelling cf. Wherever.] The genitive of Whosoever = prec.

1739 'R. Bull' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 133 Whos'ever Knife upon the Table lies. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. 19 Whosever the footprint may be, the story is gospel among Mahometans.

Whosh, obs. var. Hush *v.*1

Whosht (whoosht), obs. var. Hush *int.*1, *a.*, *v.*

1598 Florio, *Quetare*, to quiet,..to whosht. *Ibid.*, *Zita*, an adueibe to commaund. silence, as we say isse, whosht or st. 1611 *Ibid.*, *Quattare*..to whosht and lie close, to lurke. *Ibid.*, *Quatto quatto*, very squat, very whosht.

Whosshe, obs. form of Wash *v.*

Whoso (hūˑsoʊ), *pron. arch.* Forms: see Who and So: also 2–3 hwa se, hwase, (2 wa se), 3 hw(a)o se, *Orm.* whas(e, 3–5 wo se, 4 *Sc.* quha se, (woys), 4–5 whos, 4–6 whose, hose, 5 *Sc.* quhais, (9 *dial.* whos'). [ME. *wha swa*, *hwa se*, reduced form of OE. *swā hwā swā*, generalized form of *hwā* Who: see So *adv.* 17 d.]

1. = Whoever 1: Any (one) who.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135 Wua sua hare his byrthen gold & sylure, durste nan man sei to him naht bute god. c 1200 Ormin 677 Whas itt is þatt wass-pnedd iss wiþþ fulle trowwþe o Criste. c 1205 Lay. 3657 Wha swa wulle libba, alde þas sibba [c 1275 Wo so wole libbe holde þus sibbe]. *Ibid.* 22307 Wha swa [c 1275 wose] come gladliche he sculden wurðe riche. ?12.. in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* V. 236 Ho so hit beo fæt ðis my dede in oðere wise hit buturne oðer ȝewanye. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 46 Et uhtsonge schal siggen hwo se con Domine labia mea. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6253 Ofte wo so coueiteþ al, al leseþ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5829 (Gött.) Qua sua wil noght trou þe fast, To trow þe toder him es best. c 1330 *King of Tars* 894 And hose nil not cristned be Hong hem heighe up pon a tre. c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) iii 10 Wha so wedden ofter þan anes, þaire childer er bastardes. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5551 Wo so staris on þis story, or stodis þerin, Take hede on þe harmys & the hard lures! 1498 in J. Bulloch *Pynnours* (1887) 57 And quhais doys in the contrar.. salbe punist. 1522 More *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 73/2 Now whoso seeth not, that his laughter is more madde than the laughter of the mad man, I hold him madder than they both. 1539 *Bible* (Great) John vi. 54 Whoso eateth my flesshe & dryncketh my bloude, hath eternall lyfe. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* v. i. 212 Who so please To stop Affliction, let him take his haste. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 724 This Tree, That whoso eats thereof, forthwith attains Wisdom. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 118 Whoso loseth his place ..hath forfeited his share in publick praise. a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., Whos' wull may do that. 1859 Whittier *On a Prayer-Book* 12 Let whoso can before such praying-books Kneel on his velvet cushion. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Antigone* 35 Whoso does this deed, A public death by stoning is his doom. 1892 Conan Doyle *White Company* xxxvii, The last stern welcome to whoso should join with them.

2. = Whoever 2: No matter who; † in early use often with mere unemphatic conditional force: If any one, if one.

c 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 35 Woldestou,.. ho so it wolde bede the, Tholie deth for thi Louerdes love? 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 5 For quo-so suffer cowle syt, sele wolde folȝe. c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 675 With Donouris to the duris dicht, quha so wald denie. 1876 Morris *Æneids* VIII. 122 'Come forth', he said, 'whose ye be'.

Whosoever (hūsoʊe·vəɹ), *pron.* Forms: see prec.; also *poet.* **whosoe'er** (-ē·ə) (5 horsere, who-sere, 7 whosoere). In early use often as three words, occas. as two. [f. Whoso + Ever *adv.* 8 e: cf. Soever.]

Formerly occas. with gen. *whosoever's* = Whosesoever.

1. = Whoever 1.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 286 Hwo so euer on him sulf nimeð oðer of þeos two, he robbeð God. a 1240 *Urrisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 187 Hwa so euer wule habbe lot wiþ þe of þi blisse, he mot deale wiþ þe of þine pine on eorþe. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 503 Þat quha-so-euire vald almus crafe For luf of sancte Iohne suld hafe. c 1400 Maundev. xix,

[xv.] (1979) 113 Hem semeth þat whosoeuere be make & pacyent he is holy & profitable. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4685 For pore and ryche & also for hosere wolde come þedur. *c* 1450 *Merk's Festial* 111 Whosoeuer ye of God, heryth Godys worde. 1526 TINDALE *John* xx. 23 Whosoeuers synnes ye remyt, they are remitted vnto them. — *Rev.* xxii, 17 Let whosoeuer wyll, take of the water of lyfe fre. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 74 And whosoe're gainsayes King Edwards right, By this I challenge him to single fight. 1611 *Bible* Rev. xxii. 17 Whosoeuer will, let him take the water of life freely. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 72 Whosoere shall happen to come there, Will not reprove what I've deliver'd here. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iii, Christie regarded me as..a..predestinated child of perdition, who was sure to..drag downwards whosoever might attempt to afford me support. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* ii, We shall present our Case to Parliament, or the Queen, or the House of Lords, or the Court of Chancery, or whosoever is the right person.

2. = WHOSOEVER 2; also formerly = 'if any one' (cf. prec. 2).

13.. *Cursor M.* 4275 (Gött.) For qua-sua euer es glad or blith, Priue loue at end wil kith. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xiv. 71 This like Boyst might haue bene sould For three hundreth penyes tould, And dealt to poor men, who-sere would, And who-sere had bene wyse. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 5 Quha saeuir thow be,..3if thow be diligent in the estait that God has callid the vnto,..than art thow sarelie blist. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxiii. 16 Ye saye; whosoeuer sweare by the temple, yt ys nothinge: but whosoeuer sweare by the golde of the temple, he is detter. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. iii. 52 Margaret my name, and daughter to a King,..who so ere thou art. 1640 BP. H. KING *Serm.* 31 Whosoevers Midnight is interrupted by the newes, Ours can complaine of no disturbance. 1751 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* I. v. 39 Let me admonish thee, my gentle Friend, whosoever thou art,.. not to be too forward in making Applications.

3. With loss of relative force by ellipsis: Any one at all. Cf. WHATEVER 4 b. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1583 BABINGTON *Expos. Commandm.* (1590) 336 Liueries of Prince or subiectes, Noblemen, Gentlemen, or whosoeuer. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 88 Having as clear a Reputation for my Courage as whosoever of my time.

b. qualifying a preceding sb. or *any*: now usually replaced by WHATEVER 4 a (*b*).

1586 *Marlowe's Tamburl.* To Rdr., Gentlemen, and curteous Readers whosoeuer. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 203 By the vniuersall consent of all Writers whosoever, except..perchance two. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., Being capable, as much as any whosoever, of defending your Country.

¶ Used for the objective WHOMSOEVER.

Also qualifying the prec. word, in which case the construction may be regarded as elliptical = 'whosoever he (they, etc.) be': see 3 b, quot. 1621.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccliii. 230/2 Whosoeuer they hyt he dyed of the stroke. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* XIV. 44 Whosoever I do kusse, he it is.

† Whosome, *pron. Obs.* [WHO and SUM *rel. adv.*] = WHOEVER 1, 2, WHOSO 1, 2.

c 1200 ORMIN 3564 An rihht god reowwsunnge þatt Godess þeoww, whasumm itt iss, Her bereþþ inn his heorrte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1953 Qua-sum o flees wil grait þair fode, Lok þai cast a way þe blod. *Ibid.* 16265 Tru it qui-sum wil it tru. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 665 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 403, I come, wha som takes hede, Als witnes and warand. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 20 Wha sam heris yu, þan heris me.

Whosomever (*hūsŏmˌe·vəɹ*), *pron. Obs.* or *? dial.* (In early use often as three words, occas. as two.) [f. prec. + EVER *adv.* 8 e.] = WHOEVER, WHOSOEVER.

c 1400 *Cato's Morals* in *Cursor M.* App. IV. 91 Qua-sim-euer þou be þat wille þi-self safe se. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3362 Qua-sum-euire in þat ilk his ymage behaldis, þe face is to þe fold-ward, þe fete to þe firment. 1489 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 10 Tyll the for said lorde of Drumlanryge, or tyll hys assygneis or speciale deputis qwa sumewer. *c* 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 119 Ho-sum-euer yt be that owyth this fygure, he be hys dysposycion ys a leccherus man. 1508 Husumeuer [see WHONSOMEVER]. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xiii. 12 Whosumever hath to him shall hit be geven. *a* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* 133 Nere to vnfold the secrets of my heart To any man or woman, who some ere Dwels vnderneath the circle of the skie. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 70 Who some euer you take him to be, he is Aiax.

Whossh, obs. f. WASH *v.* **Whost,** var. WHUST *v. Obs.* **Whot(e, whott(e,** obs. ff. HOT.

Whot(e: see WIT *v.*

Whou, whough(e, whouh, whow(e, variants of HOW, HOWE *int.*

[*c* 1425 Quhow: see WHEW *int.*] 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 314 Whough, saieth he, half my brothers bodye is more then the whole. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* III. iii, How much money need you? speake. But thirtie poundes. Thirtie! Whow. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 129 Whou Billie whou, what faire has thou bin at? 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* II. iv. 33 He answered me nothing but whough, pugh. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xiv, 'Eh whow! Eh whow!' ejaculated the honest farmer, as he looked round upon his friend's miserable apartment.

So **† Whowb(e** (in quots. as *sb.*; cf. *howbub*, HUBBUB).

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* VII. x. (1602) 217 They hissed him out with whoubs & hoo-bubs. *Ibid.* IX. viii. 327 [see HOW, HOWE *int.*].

Whou(3, whough, whow(e, obs. ff. HOW *adv.*

Whoule, whowl(e, obs. ff. HOWL.

Whourlibürly, obs. f. HURLY-BURLY.

Who-whoop: see WHOO-WHOOP.

† Whowball. *Obs.* [f. *Who*(*w*), variant of Ho *int.*[2] + BALL *sb.*[2] 2, a typical proper name of a horse (see *Plowman's T.* 402 my hors Ball, and quot. *a* 1697 below), of a sheep (*Promp. Parv.* 22/1), of a dog (*Privy Purse Exp. Henry VIII* 48), and of a cow (see quot. 1785).

a 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Fleetwood* (1898) I. 253 [Highwaymen] brought him under the gallowes, fastned the rope about his neck and on the tree,..and then left him to the mercy of his horse, which he called *Ball*. So he cryed 'Ho, Ball! Ho, Ball!' and it pleased God that his horse stood still.]

(See quots.) *John Whoball*: app. a typical name for a yokel.

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* 17 *Se deludi facile haud patitur*. You cannot easily make him a foole. He is none of Iohn whoballs children. *a* 1790 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whow-ball*, a Milk-maid. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Whow-ball*, a milkmaid, from their frequent use of the word whow, to make the cow stand still in milking: Ball is the supposed name of the cow.

† Whowse, *v. Obs.* [Echoic. Cf. WHUSH *v.*] *intr.* To make a rushing noise.

1600 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 66 The sea roareth, the winds whowse.

Whoys, obs. form of WHOSE.

Whr-: see words in WH-.

† Whrine, *v. Sc. Obs.* In 6 quhryn(e, whryne. [a. OScand. **hwrīna* (ON. *hrīna*, Norw. *rina*; ENorw. and Swed. dial. *vrina*; with normal disappearance of *w* in West and *h* in East Scand.).] *intr.* To whine; to squeak.

1508 DUNBAR *Testament* 87 War I a dog and he a swyne, ..I suld ger that lurdane quhryne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. Prol. 32 Thairon aucht na man irk, complene, nor quhryne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The suyne began to quhryne. 16.. *Montgomerie's Flyting* 440 (Harl. MS.) As they could they maid it whryne.

Hence **† Whrine** *sb.*, whining, querulous cry.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. i. 36 The birsit baris and beris in thair styis Roring all wod with quhrynis and wyld cryis.

† Whrinny, *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative. But cf. prec.] *intr.* = WHINNY *v.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 179 Whose horse made noyce firste, or did whrynny, he scholde be electe in to theire kynge.

Whucche, var. WHITCH, chest, coffer.

Whuch(e, obs. ff. WHICH.

Whudder, var. WHITHER *sb.*[1] and *v. dial.*

Whuff (*hwʊf*), *v.* [Imitative; cf. *whuff*, dial. var. WHIFF (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).] *intr.* To make a sound as of a forcible blast of breath or wind; *trans.* to utter with such a sound. Also as *int.* imitating such a sound. Hence **Whuffing** *vbl. sb.* So **Whuffle** (*hwʊˑfˑl*) *v.*, *intr.* in same sense; *trans.* to drive by blowing forcibly.

1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* xix. He whuffed a contemptuous laugh. 1906 'JOHN OXENHAM' *Giant Circumstance* ii, One of the horses..woke up enough to whuffle the flies out of its nose. 1907 — *Carette* xxxiii, The water began whuffling against the rock walls. 1919 J. J. BENNETT *Dover Patrol* 172 'Whing! Whuff!' and another muffled burst comes a minute or so later.

Whuist, obs. f. WHIST *int.*[1] **Whulo, whulch,** obs. ff. WHICH. **Whule,** obs. f. WEEVIL, WHEWL, WHILE. **Whum(m)el, whummle,** var. WHEMMEL. **Whun,-stane:** see WHIN 1, 2, WHINSTONE.

Whunt, obs. dial. f. QUAINT *a.*

c 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 23 She is both whunt and slee.

Whup, Whuph, Whur: see WHIP, WHOOP, WHOOF, WHIRR.

† Whurl, *v. Obs.* Also 5–6 whorle, 6 whyrle, 7 wherl. [Imitative.] *intr.* To make a roaring or rumbling noise; to purr, as a cat; to snarl or growl, as a dog. (Cf. WHARL *v.*, WHIRR *v.* 3, 3 b.) Hence **† Whurling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **† Whurl** *sb.* = WHARL *sb.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XI. ii. (W. de W.), In ye eares wynde makith whystlyng and whorlinge [*Bodl. MS.* trongelinge] and ryngynge. 1530 PALSGR. 782/2 This wynde whorleth so I can nat here. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* V. 81 b, Ye vse of the eares could not serue for one to receiue counsel..at an other, the wynd whyrlid so amonges the leaues. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 112 The sea raged and rored..with a horrible whurlinge. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* IV. ii. G 3, He whurles and rotles in the threats. 1608 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 105 How [the cat] whurleth with her voyce. 1611 COTGR., *Gronder*, to whurle, whirre, yarre, like a dog that is angrie. 1625 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 51 The flying shoot..macking such a wherling noyse in the ayere. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 112/1 The commonalty are..distinguished by a kind of shibboleth or whurle, being a particular way of pronouncing the letter R, as if they hawked it up from the wind-pipe, like the cawing of rooks.

Whurl(e, Whurr, Whurra, Whurry: see WHIRL, WHIRR, HURRAH. **Whiert,**

Whurt, obs. form of WHORT.

Whush, *v.* Now *dial.* [Imitative: cf. WHISH *v.*[1]] *intr.* To make a soft rushing sound, as wind, flowing water, waves, etc.; to move with such a sound. (Cf. HUSH *v.*[2]) Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 83 When as the westerne winde doth meete a field of graine,..& cause the eares to whush. *Ibid.* IV. 72 As the waues within the sea..yeelde whushing noise. 1898 DARLING *Ant Ordeal* vi. in *Hewish, Wilts* 20 Apr. A 'whushing' music, as of distant waves. 1861 [HOLME LEE] *Adv. Tufcombs* i. 3 The whushing and whispering amongst the trees.

Whush, Sc. var. HUSH *sb.*[3]

Whush, obs. or n. dial. var. HUSH *a.* and *v.*[1]

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xxi. 22–23 The disciples sate downe, but all whusht and spake no wordes.

Whusht, obs. var. HUSHT *int.*[1] and *a.* (cf. WHIST); pa. t. and pple. of *whush*, obs. var. HUSH *v.*[1] (see under WHUSH).

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 202 The audience ceased..and euery thing was whusht. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* V. 201 All for dread are whusht. 1598 FLORIO, *Citto*, a word to bid children holde their peace, as we say whusht, husht.

Whussle, whustle, Sc. and dial. ff. WHISTLE.

† Whust, *sb., a., v.* (Also 7 whost.) Variant of WHIST *sb.*[2], *a.*[1], *v.*[1]

1553 PHAER *Æneid* II. (1558) C iij b, They whusted all, and fyxt with eyes ententiue did behold. 1596 *Ibid.* IV. (1558) L j, Than was it night..Whan whust is euery felde. 1573 TWYNE *Æneid* XI. (1584) R ij, When whust was once proclaimed, & men wee bid not silence breake. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 29 Thee murther he whusted. *Ibid.* II. 51 Thee Greeks..al softlye he whusted. 1583 M. *Philotimus* E e iij b, It were good for me to bee whust in these matters. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 81 All should be related, and nothing whusted. 1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marf.* 26 Seeing Martins matters begin to be whust. 1611 FLORIO, *Quetare*, to quiet, to whost. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* V. 193 The whusted guards.

† Whute, *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative.] To whistle. Hence **† Whuting** *ppl. a.* So **† Whute** *sb.*

c 1600 in *W. Fowler's Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 340 The Robin, Wraine, & whutinge quaill. *a* 1663 *Robin Hood & Curtal Friar* xxix. in Child *Ballads* (1888) V. 125 Give me leave to set my fist to my mouth And to whute whutes three. *Ibid.* XXX, XXXI.

Whuther, var. WHITHER *sb.*[1] and *v. dial.*

Whutter (*hwʊˑtəɹ*), *sb.* [Imitative; cf. *flutter*.] The sound of the flapping of the wings of a large bird or a flight of birds. So **Whutter** *v.*, whence **Whuttering** *ppl. a.*

1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 4 A sound like the whutter of wild-fowl on the feed along a mud-bank. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Aug. 10 The startling of the wary cock, whose whuttering pinions will summon out of reach pack after pack of birds.

Whutterick, whutthroat, whuttorock, var. WHITRET. **Whus,** obs. or dial. var. WHIZE *v.*

† Whusah. *Obs. rare*—[1]. ? = HUSH *sb.*[2] 2.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* I. vi. (1602) 15 [The Jesuits] lull babies a sleepe with a blacke Sanctus in a whusah of whispering foolish noyse.

Whwte, variant of WHOOT.

Why (*hwəi*), *adv.* (*sb., int.*) Forms: 1–3 hwy, (1 hwiz, hwie), 1–4 hwi, (3 hwui, wee, ȝwi), 3–4 wi, 3–6 whi, wy, (4 *Kent.* hue, 4–6 whye, 5 whyghe, 6–7 whie), 4– why; 3–5 qui, 4–5 quy, qwy, quhi, 5 qwi, *Sc.* qwhy, 5–6 (8 *arch.*) *Sc.* quhy. [OE. *hwí*, *hwý* instr. case of *hwæt* WHAT, governed by *to* or *for* (see FORWHY) or used simply as adv., corresp. to OS. *hwī* used with preps. (*bi hwī*, *te hwī*) and simply = why, wherefore, ON. *hvī* used as dat. of *hvat*, and as adv. = why (MSw., Da. *hvi*):— OTeut. **xwī*:— Indo-Eur. **q*[*w*]*ei*, locative f. **q*[*w*]*o-* WHO; cf. Gr. (Doric) *πεῖ* where.]

I. 1. In a direct question: For what reason? from what cause or motive? for what purpose? wherefore?

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 19 Hwi ne mihte we hyne ut-adrifan? *c* 1000 *Apollonius* (1834) 2 Hwiz eart þu..swa gedrefedes modes? *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Hwi wolde god ..him forwerne? *c* 1200 ORMIN 2407 Whi ȝaff þho awille anndswere onnȝæn, þa Godess ennglell seȝȝde þatt þho wiþþ childe shollde ben? *c* 1230 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 Wee bie ye idel? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6737 Sire king wi lete ȝe mi moder & me bluore þe lede? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1128 Sir cayn, Wy has þou þi brolher slain? *Ibid.* 16893 Qui smites þou me? 1340 *Ayenb.* 47 And hue is hit uoul dede zeþþe hit is kendelich? 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 66 Whi wolde God..suffre such a worm..þe wommon to bigyle? *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 361 Quhi, Scot, dar thow nocht preiff? 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 25 He wyll saye vnto vs: why dyd ye not then beleve hym? 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 72 Patroclus is a foole positiue. *Patr.* Why am I a foole? 1683 PRIOR *Pastoral to Dr. Turner* 3 Why dost thou sigh, why strike thy panting breast? 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 60/2 When you came from Patna, why did you bring this paper with you? 1837 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* III. iii. 37 Why was Saul thus marked for vengeance from the beginning? 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* ix, Why don't you learn Italian?

b. Implying or suggesting a negative assertion (= 'there is no reason why . .'); hence often expressing a protest or objection (esp. with *should*).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvi. 230 Xif he ðam gehiersuman mannum mæfde ȝetiohhad his ebel to sellanne, hwy [*v. r.* hwie] wolde he his mid anȝum unȝetæsan læran? *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 282 Hwy sceal ic after his hyldo Deowian?..Ic mæg wesan god swa he! *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 23 Ic..amide: Hwi me scolde cumen swilche unȝelimpes? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 203 Wi list þu turnd on þe eorðe? aris þat is to seien hwi luuest þu þine fule sunnes? forlet hem. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1390 Hwi ne hlise we for to been lhulhet? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1234 Þat eni man bee falle in odwite, Wi schal he me his sor atwite? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 461 Qui suld I him seruis yeild? *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 284 Whi spille þe Innocens blode? *c* 1420 *Anturs. Arth.* xxxiii, Qwi schuld I layne? *c* 1450 HENRY *Wallace* II. 108 Eternalle God, quhy suld I thus vnpis de? 1562 WINZET

Cert. Tractates III. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 68 Quhi abolisis he not the Sonday, as he dois 3ule? 1568 *Vorkis. Trag.* III. 3 Whie should our faults at home be spred abroad? 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* III, The poor live pleasantly without our help, why then should not we learn to live without theirs? 1839 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Feb., I said nothing about it, as why should I? *Ibid.* Aug., Why, why was I born to undergo such unmerited misfortunes?

c. With ellipsis of the remainder of the sentence, or of all except the principal word or words (esp. when emphatic); also with simple inf. (='why should one . . ?'). See also 4 b.

a 1380 *St. Aug.* 7 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 61/1 Saint Austin was nempned þat name For þreu causus of gret fame: . . Whi? furst for excellence of dignite. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxxvi. 406 (Add. MS.) The kyng . . askid hym whethere he was shreuyn or not? he saide, 'nay.' 'why so?' saide the kyng. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 113 *Wat.* Surely we shulde be proclaymed For outragious heretykis. *Jef.* Why more we then the Cardinall? 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* II. Wks. 182/2, I haue euer herde it sayd, that we should not pray to any dead man but with this condicion, if thou be a saint, than pray *for* me. Whi so quod I? 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 231 *Cam.* [He] Stayes here longer. *Leo.* I, but why? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, But why a Peel-crow here? 1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* v. i, Why so Cold, and why so Coy? 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. ii. 65 Blest with a competence, why wish for more? 1841 BROWNING *Pippa passes* Introd. 196 Say not 'a small event!' Why 'small'? 1843 WORDSW. *Grace Darling* 73 But why prolong the tale? 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xl, 'Berry's very fond of you, ain't she?' Paul once asked Mrs. Pipchin. . . 'Yes,' said Mrs. Pipchin. 'Why?' asked Paul. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 Sept. 293/1 Why books, why chapters, why titles, why any arrangement at all, they queried.

¶ *And why?* is used in some early biblical versions, and hence in the Prayer-book Psalter, to render Heb. לָמָּה *lāmmāh* because, since, for: app. in imitation of *forwhy* after this was apprehended as interrogative (cf. FORWHY B. 2, A. 1 b).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xx[ix]. 7 For thou shalt . . make him glad wt the ioye of yi countenaunce. And why? because [*so* 1539 (Great); 1560 (Geneva), 1568 (Bishops')] Because; 1611 For] the kinge putteth his trust in the Lorde. *Ibid.* xxxiv. [xxxv.] 20 O let them not triumphe ouer me. . . And why? [*so* 1539; 1560 *and later vv.* For] theur comonynge is not for peace.

2. In an indirect question or a dependent clause of similar meaning, with sense and const. as in 1.

Formerly sometimes followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvi. § 2 Ic nat hwi ge fultruwiað ðæm hreosendan welan. *c* 1035 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 308 Uton . . witan hwæt he [*sc.* the moon] sy . . oððe hwy he sy swa zehaten. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 111 Ȝiff mann wile witenn whi Icc hafe don þiss dede. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 474 Þv ayuesst me . . Hwi ich a wynter singe & grede. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9265 Yn hys redyng, none wyst why, he logh a grete laghter an hy. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 245 Ac whi þe worlde was a-drent holy writ telleþ. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14241 Durste no man aske whi he were wroth. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1323 (Trin.) Seth bigon to þenke whye þat þis tre bicoom so drye. *a* 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 136 Wherof to me-werd he makith gret straungenesse: y merveille why. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. (1878) 74, I can not se wy we schold lay any grete faute in the lake of pepul. 1581 *Cal. Scott. Pap.* VIII. 19, I dare give him no counsell, and I will tell you why. 1611 *Bible* Esther iv. 5 To know what it was, and why it was. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xvi, Say how, and quhair ye met, and quhy. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate*, Buoyed up with some vague . . hope of reprieve, he knew not why. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 7 It is easy to explain why the Roman Catholic was treated with less indulgence.

3. With intensive additions (in direct or dependent questions): see DEVIL *sb.* 20, DICKENS a, EARTH *sb.*[1] 9 c, NAME *sb.* 11 b, etc.

c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 95 Quhy Deuill makis thow na dule for this euill day? 1762 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Lett.* 4 Nov., Wks. (1862) 326 There's scarce a boy, . . that commits a fault, but can find one excuse or another. Then why the dickens must Tim be without one? 1866 W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* II. 20 Why in the name of all patience should you work so hard as this? 1887 DARWIN *Life & Lett.* I. 488 Give [the English names] by all means, but why on earth not make them subordinate to the Latin. 1895 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 115 Why, in the name of Reason, . . should we vex ourselves?

4. With a negative particle immediately following. †a. *Why ne* (usually as one word *whine*, *whyne*, also contr. *whyn*): why not: used in expressions of desire or longing (e.g. *hwi nam ich* . . . ='why am I not . . ?'='O that I were . . !'), in OE. of emphatic protest (cf. 1 b). *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 67 Hwy nelt þu zeman þæt min sweostor me læt ane þæznian? *a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xi[i]. 4 Hwi ne synt we muðreo? *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 87 Hwi ne mai ich none wunenge habben mid ðe? *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 183 Hwi ne bi-hold ich hu þu strahtest þe for me on rode? *Ibid.*, A ilæsu . . hwi nam ich in þin earmes? 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1207 'O þou world', he sayn, 'unclene, Whyn mught þou swa unclen be, þat auld never mare neghe me' [L. *utinam esses ita immundus, ut me non tangeres*]. †*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 703 Whyne myghte I, dere lufe, dye in your armes! *Ibid.* 4157 Qwytbene [app. = why then ne] hade Dryghttyne destaynede at his dere wille, þat he hade demyd me to-daye to dy for 30w alle.

b. *Why not* is used elliptically as in 1 c. (Hence as *sb.*: see WHY-NOT.)

a 1380 *St. Aug.* 900 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 77 And eny tyme 3if hit schal beo, Whi not nou? *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4883 Why naght, my gode lorde? what shuld yow eyle? But men do naght so; where-of I merueyle. 1552 HULOET, Whye not? *guid nil.* 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. i. 44 Yet why not cure the gout's decrepit pain?

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXXVI, Yet wherefore, if guilty, should she have perilled herself by coming hither? Why not rather have fled to her father's or elsewhere? 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* XXX, You can't marry me? Why not? When I offer a fortune? *Ibid.* XXXVII, They say, 'Here is the Fourth ——mandment. All the rest you continue to observe. Why not this?' *Mod.* I can't tell you why not.

II. 5. As relative: On account of which, because of which, for which. Usually, now almost always, after *reason* (formerly also *cause*, etc.). Also *ellipt.* (See also CAUSE *sb.* 3 c.)

Formerly also with *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Monie oðre reisuns beoð hwui mon mei beon bitterliche sori uor his sunnen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 161 þis aungel . . neuend peter by name, a skill I tel yow qwy. *a* 1380 *St. Aug.* 137 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 64/1 Heo . . asked hire þe cause whi þat heo was so sori. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 148 Sche sih hire fader sorwe and sike, And wiste noght the cause why. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 133 Quhill the said William . . schew uther lauchfull cause quhy scho suld nocht have the said thrid. 1581 *Acts Parit. Scot.* (1875) XII. 39/1 We se nane appearance quhy 3oure grace suld belieff [etc.]. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiii. 23–25 What hath this man committed or offended why he should dye? 1581 PARSONS (*title*) Reasons why Catholiques refuse to go to Church. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 34 If I demand . . what Impediment there is, Why that the naked, poore, and mangled Peace . . Should not . . put vp her louely Visage? 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 89 *Eros.* My sword is drawne. *Ant.* Then let it do at once The thing why thou hast drawne it. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Female Phaeton* VI, I'll have my Earl, as well as She, Or know the Reason why. 1846 GRENFELL *Sci. Gunnery* 96 We can perceive the reason why a small proportion of carbonic oxide is always formed during the decomposition of nitre by charcoal. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* XXVIII. 372 It would be useless to deny that your life is in grave danger. . . But that is no reason why you should surrender it without a struggle.

†b. For which reason, wherefore. *Obs. rare*[−1].

a 1300 in *Arnoldе's Chron.* (1811) 22 Also we haue grauntyd for vs and for our eyers to our citezens yt they . . be quyt for euer of pauage pontage and murage . . Why we wyll and stedfastly byd for vs and for our eyers, yt yᵉ same citezens . . haue all her fraunches . . and fre custumes aforesayd.

†c. *To do* (one) *why*: to recompense (= *to do wherefore*: see WHEREFORE 3). *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* XXXVIII. (1908) 195 So that they wolde mede hym and done hym why.

d. Introducing a subject or predicate clause: ='the reason why'.

Closely allied to the indirect interrogative use (sense 2): e. g. 'Why this should be so is not clear' = 'It is not clear why this should be so.' (Cf. WHERE 6.)

1603 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 33 Why I do trifle thus with his dispaire, Is done to cure it. 1820 KEATS *La Belle Dame Sans Merci* xii, And this is why I sojourn here. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xv, At first I thought it must be a joke. That was why I went away. *Mod.* Why I mentioned that was because [etc.].

III. 6. as *sb.* (pl. *whys*). a. Reason, cause.

(Formerly as a general synonym for these words; now only in reference to something mentioned, and with conscious allusion to the interrogative use.)

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3758 Ȝyf þou art wunt . . For to curse for lytyl why. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 217 So I sey by þe þat sekest after þe whyes [*MS. C.* whaies; *MS. B.* wyes] And aresonedest reroun. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XIX. 147 [He] wepte water with hus eyen, the whi witen fewe. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxxvii, Vnkyndenes without a quhy. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 123 Well he knowith of al my vo the quhy. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 35 As may perchance be done for sum gude quhy. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* ch. vii. 10. 33 Where heav'n declares a Will, no wise mans eye Should search a Cause, or lips enquire a why. 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* Pref. p. iii, But the Why? the final Causes, the moral Consequences, and the particular Detail, is only here conjectured about. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 521 Never to act upon mere impulse, but to have a why for all their proceedings. 1808 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) II. 415 The reader who may not be . . acquainted with the when, and the how, and the why of the surrender. 1907 ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trin.* xii. 230 The region not of life's how, but of life's why.

b. A question beginning with (or consisting of) the word 'why?'; a question as to the reason of something; hence, a problem, an enigma.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 427/1 But I aske of Tyndall no such farre fet whyes, but a why of hys owne dede. . I aske hym thys why: Why dydde he translate the same by thys englyshe woorde elder? *a* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* I, Make you a why of that? 1637 WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 6 The testy Father with a furrow'd brow Comes to Bellama with demanding why? 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 31 Each Day brings forth its why. *a* 1754 FIELDING *Fathers* II. i, Why should you think he has my affections? *Valence.* Again at your why's! 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Eng.* II. i. (1781) 48 Till this Why is well answered, all is Darkness. 1866 A. STEINMETZ *Weatherecasts* 20 She could supply the ready 'because' to many of the old philosopher's 'whys'.

c. Conjoined with *wherefore* similarly used.

1590, 1624 (see WHEREFORE 6). 1634 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) I. iv. 65 Requiring a why for every wherefore. 1799 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1803) III. 329 By this they shall form assignations, with the *when* and the *where*—they shall break them off, with the *why* and the *wherefore*, and express a disappointment without a tear or a sigh. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc., Signs of Times* (1857) II. 123 For every Why we must have a Wherefore. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* viii. 103 If I were to tell you all the whys and wherefores on that question. 1911 MARETT *Anthropol.* viii. 227 The savage is no authority on the why and wherefore of his customs.

IV. 7. Used interjectionally, before a sentence or clause. a. As an expression of surprise (sometimes only momentary or slight; sometimes involving protest), either in reply to a remark or question, or on perceiving something unexpected.

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* B vij, Than I perceyue ye wyll make gode chere. *Hu.* Why, what shulde I els do? 1583 *Confer. with Campion* (1583) C iij, Why, is not Saint Iames Epistle called the Catholike Epistle of Saint Iames. How do you then denie it to be Canonicall? 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. ii. 44 Why this is flat periurie, to call a Princes brother villaine. *Ibid.* v. iv. 73 *Bene.* Doo not you loue me? *Beat.* Why no, no more then reason. 1611 *Bible* Matt. XXVII. 23 They all sayde vnto him, Let him be crucified. And the Gouernour said, Why, what euil hath he done? 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 533 P 1 What do I think? why, I think she cannot be above six foot two inches high. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 274 What was I to do in this more than Egyptian darkness? Why, go to bed. Very true. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXIX, 'Goodness gracious!' said Mary, . . 'Why, it's that very house.' 1847 DE QUINCEY *Secret Soc.* Wks. 1890 VII. 217 Were there no such people as the Essenes? Why, no; not as Josephus described them. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* III, And, as he spoke, he turned quite pale, and then quite white. 'Why, you're ill!' said Tom. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* I, Mary looked up suddenly . . and said, . . 'Why, I believe I've been asleep!'

b. Emphasizing or calling more or less abrupt attention to the statement following (as in the apodosis of a sentence), in opposition to a possible or vaguely apprehended doubt or objection.

1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 90 When she feleth greate ache in the inner parte of the eyes . . ,[e] reste of the body taken as it were with a werynesse without any outwarde apparent cause: why these thynges portende . . aborcement to be at hande. 1590 LODGE *Rosalind* (1592) N 2 b, And to conceale it, why it doubled her griefe. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 33 If hap'ly won, perhaps a haplesse gaine, If lost, why then a grieuous labour won. 1594 *1st Pt Contention* II. i, Why let me see, I thinke thou canst not see yet. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. i. 122 Take an honest woman from her husband! why, it is intolleruble. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 121 *Ham.* I shall in all my best Obey you Madam. *King.* Why 'tis a louing, and a faire Reply. *Ibid.* III. ii. 282 Why let the strucken Deere go weepe, The Hart vngalled play. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Request* iii, If her chill heart I cannot move, Why, I'le enjoy the very Love. 1724 SWIFT *Quiet Life* 27 Why, Dick, thy wife has devilish whims. 1769 GOLDSM. *Rom. Hist.* (1786) I. 439 If you will have Caesar for your master, why have him. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* I, 'A long way, wasn't it, Kit?' . . 'Why then, it was a goodish stretch, master,' returned Kit. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* III, If she chooses to come, why she may; and if not, why I go without her. 1869 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Songs & Verses* 93 So he made for the gate, . . And the chain being round it, why—over he flew! 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* XXIII, 'Not a doubt', added the Professor. 'Why, it stands to reason.'

†c. As an emphasized call or summons, expressing some degree of impatience. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 2, 3 Mistris, what Mistris? Iuliet? . . Why Lambe, why Lady, fie you sluggabed, Why Loue I say? . . why Bride? 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. v. 6 What Iessica? . . Why Iessica I say. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 8 What Dauy, I say. . . Why Dauie.

†d. *Why, so!* an expression of content, acquiescence, or relief. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 87 *Ser.* My Lord, your sonne was gone before I came. *Yor.* He was: why so: go all which way it will. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 198 *Pet.* . . It shall be what a clock I say it is. *Hor.* Why so this gallant will command the sunne. 1605 — *Macb.* III. iv. 107 Hence, horrible shadow. . . [*Ghost vanishes.*] Why, so, being gone, I am a man againe. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii, If you will have the things rendered even now—why so; and if not, hold me blameless.

V. 8. For why: a. *interrog.* For what reason, why (= 1, 2). b. *rel.* For which reason, wherefore; for which (= 5, 5 b). c. *conj.* For the reason that, because, for. *Obs., arch.*, or *dial.* (See FORWHY and cf. WHY-FOR.)

In later use commonly apprehended as the adverb *why* with a redundant *for* prefixed (cf. *from whence*).

c 1000–1502 [see FORWHY]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 169 [She] Trembled and shooke: for why, he stamp'd and swore. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 259 The Rites for why I loue him, are bereft me. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 212 Away went Gilpin's hat and wig! He lost them sooner than at first—For why? —they were too big! 1819 *Metropolis* II. 207 We do not like him, I do not precisely know for why. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, 'Why, Dame,' said the hostler, . . 'as for what he was like I cannot tell, . . for why I never saw un.' 1896 E. F. BENSON *The Babe B.A.* i, For why? I am dining with the Babe to-night.

Why(e, northern ff. QUEY, heifer.

Whybeler, ? obs. form of QUIBBLER.

c 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 148 Iangleres & bosters, . . and stronge lyers, foderes, whybelers.

Whych(e, Whyck, Whydah, Whyder, -yr, Whydyrewyn, Whyell, Whyer: see WHICH, WHITCH, QUICK, WHIDAH, WHETHER, WITHERWIN, WHILE, CHOIR.

Whyever (hwaiːeˈvəɹ), *adv.* [f. WHY + EVER *adv.* 8 d, e.] a. *rel.* For whatever reason. b. *interrog.* An emphatic extension of *why*, implying perplexity or surprise (*colloq.*; more properly as two words).

1892 *Voice* (N. Y.) 20 Aug., Whatever it is and whyever it is. *Mod.* Whyever [*or* Why ever] did you do that?

Why-for, why for, *advb.* and *conj. phr.*

†1. *rel. adv.*: = FORWHY A. 3, WHEREFORE 4, WHY 5. *Obs.*

In quot. with peculiar construction, thus = 'of which'.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 67 An aungelle shewed hym

the payne..that she was made to suffre.., the cause why for he sawe perfitly, how a deuelle belde her bi..the here of her hede.

†2. *conj.* = FOR B. 2, FORWHY B. 2. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 234 Many of 30w be dome; why? for ȝe wole not redresse, Be mowthe your dedys mortal. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 345 Ye have lerned a fowle craîte, that ya, that ye can speke shrewdly wythoute a cause lawfull. Why for I have herde that ye have called me & my broder the sones of a traytour.

3. as *dependent interrog. adv.* : = FORWHY A. 2, WHEREFORE 2, WHY 2. *dial.*

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Why-vore*, or *For why-vore*, wherefore. 1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 238 Some folks callu't Crazy Castle, but I never could larn whyfore.

Whyg, Whyghe, Whyght(e, whygth(e, whyht, Whyghtson, obs. ff. WHIG *sb.*[1], WHY, WHITE, WIGHT, WHITSUN.

†**Whyȝt.** *Obs. rare.* [for **whith*, OE. *hwiþa* = ON. *hviða*] A wind, breeze.

c 1300 *K. Horn* 784 (Laud). Þe whyȝt [*MS. L.* wynd] him gan stonde And drof tyl hirelonde.

Whyk, Whykyn, obs. dial. ff. QUICK *a.*, *v.*[1]

Whyl, whylghe, obs. ff. WHILE. **Whyle, Whyles, -is, Whylest,** obs. ff. WHEEL, WHILE, WILE, WHILES, WHILST. **Whylk(e, Whyll(e, Whyllys,** obs. ff. WHICH, WEEL[2], WHEEL, WHILE, WHILES. **Whylom(e, -on, -um, Whyls(e, Whylst, whylyst,** obs. ff. WHILOM, WHILES, WHILST. **Whylte,** obs. f. *wilt*: see WILL *v.* **Whyly,** obs. f. WILY.

Whym, Whympel, Whympernell, obs. ff. WHIM, WIMPLE, WHIMBREL.

Whyn, Whynde, obs. ff. WHIN, WIN, WIND.

Whyn(e = why not: see WHY 4 a.

†**Whyne,** *adv. Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 quein, quheyne, qwyne, quhene, 4 5 wheyn, 4–6 quhyne, 5 whyne, 6 quhyn. [Contraction of WHETHEN; cf. SYNE.] = WHENCE.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7706 Quein cums þou? 23.. *Sewyn Sages* (W.) 3271 The erl said,..' Wheym [*read* Wheyn] es this faire lady?' The knight said, 'Sir,..Sho es cumen from myne awyn cuntre'. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 240 Scho askit hym..quhat he wes, And quhyne he com, and quhar he gais. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3303 'Fro qwyne come þou', ..quod þe kynge thane, 'That knawes kynge Arthure, and his knyghttes also?' *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 196 He askid hym whyne he was, & who was his fadur & his moder. *c* 1500 NISBET *John* vii. 27 Quhen Crist sal cum, na man wate of quhyn he is.

Whyne, obs. form of WHIN, WHINE, WINE.

Whyng(e, obs. forms of WING.

Why-not (hwəi·nɒt). [The phrase *why not?* (WHY 4 b) used as a sb.] a. An argument of the form 'Why not?', which attempts to leave the opponent without a reply. b. In *Backgammon*: see quot. 1680; hence allusively, esp. in phr. *to take* (*have*, etc.) *at a why-not*, i.e. at an advantage or in a dilemma.

1612 W. SCLATER *Key* 123 That is answere sufficient to all such plausible why-nots. *a* 1612 HARINGTON in *Nugæ Antiq.* (1804) II. 144 This game..by certaine bootie play betweene a Protector and a Bishop, (I suppose it was at Tick-take), was like to have been lost with a *why not*? 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 530 O'er-reach'd your Rabbins of the Synod And snap'd their Cannons with a Why-not. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* 113 This is the plain Game of Tick-Tack, which is called so from *Touch*, and *take*, for if you touch a man you must play him though to your loss; and if you hit your Adversary and neglect the advantage, you are taken with a Why-not, which is the loss of one. *c* 1680 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 335 You catch me with a why-not still: Indeed my memory growes bad.., and things go out as fast as they come into my head now. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 285 He took me at a why not I naked, without Cloaths and Weapons. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) VI. 142 Now, Dame Selby, I have you at a why-not.

Whyou, variant of WHEW *int.*

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, He knew the old gentleman's character well; and a more unscrupulous old—whyou—he did not conclude the sentence.

Whyp, whype, whyppe: see WHIP, WIPE.

†**Whyr,** *int. Obs. rare*[−1]. A call used in driving sheep. *c* 1460 [see TYR].

Whyre, whyr(r)ie, etc., obs. ff. WHERRY *sb.*[1]

Whyrl(e, obs. f. WHEEL; var. WHURL *v. Obs.*

Whysh, Whyshly, Whysht(e, Whys(s)ontyd(e, Whysshe, Whyssshyne, -sseyne, obs. ff. WHISH *v.*[2], WISTLY, WHISHT *a.*[1], WHITSUNTIDE, WHISH *v.*[1], WISH, CUSHION.

Whyst(e, Whystare, Whystel(l, -tle, -tyl(le, Whystelare, -er: see WHIST, WHITSTER, WHISTLE, WISSEL, WHISTLER, WISSLER.

Whyt, obs. f. QUICK *a.*, WHIT, WHITE, WIGHT, WITH. **Whytch(e,** var. WHITCH. **Whyte,** obs. f. QUIT, WHITE, WIT. **Whyten,** obs. f. WHITEN *v.*, WHITING *sb.* **Whyth(e, Whythene, Whythay:** see WHITE, WITH, WHETHEN, WITHY. **Whytowre, Whytrat, -ratche, -rate, Whyt rent, Whyteafe,** obs. ff. QUITTER, WHITRET, QUIT-RENT, VOUCHSAFE. **Whytt(e, Whytting,** obs. ff. QUIT *v.*, WHITE, WIT, WHITING.

Whyver, whywer, obs. ff. QUIVER *sb.*[1]

†**Wi,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 wiz, 3 wiȝ, wyȝ, wi. [OE. *wiȝ* str. n. = OFris. *wich*, OS. *wîg* (MLG. *wîch*), OHG., MHG. *wîc*, ON. *vîg*: —OTeut. **wigom*, f. pre-Teut. *weig-* (: *weiǥ-* : *wiǥ-*) to fight: —Indo-Eur. *wīk-* to be strong.

The form *wiȝ-* is represented by OE. *wiȝan* to fight, OS., OFris. *wîgand*, OHG. *wîgant* pr. pple. used as sb. warrior, ON. *vîgr* brave in war, neut. *vígt* WIGHT *a.*; *weiǥ-* by OE. *wiȝan*, OHG. *wîgen* (: **waiǥjan*) to afflict, ON. *veig* strength, strong drink, drinking glass (cf. OS. *wâgi*, OE. *wæȝ* cup): *wiǥ-* by OE. *wiȝa* warrior, WY, Goth. *wigana* dat. sing., *weihô* battle. The Indo-Eur. *wīk-* is represented by L. *vincere*, perf. t. *vīci* to conquer, OIr. *fichim* to fight.]

Battle, conflict; *transf.* a military force or troop. Also *attrib.* as in *wi-ax*, a battle-axe.

Beowulf 1080 Wiz ealle fornam Finnes þegnas nemne feaum anum. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 3 Hu him ða speow ærȝðer ȝe mid wiȝe ȝe mid wisdome. *c* 1205 LAY. 1567 Þe bearn..igrap..ana wiȝx swiðe stronge. *Ibid.* 25365 Þer com mid mochle wiȝe [*c* 1275 wyȝe] Irtac king of Turckie. *c* 1290 *Lon. & Ex.* 1854 Emor his fader,..And his burȝe-folc fellen in wi.

†**Wi,** *int. Obs.* [Cf. WE *int.*] An exclamation used to introduce an anxious question or a statement of something regrettable.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 90 He þurþ-sicheþ uches monnes þonc: wi hwat scal us to rede? *Ibid.* 106 Wi hwi weren ho bijeten to hwon weren ho iborene þet aculen bon to deþe idemet? *c* 1200 *Ibid.* 104 (Trin. Coll. MS.). Wi awo fele beð icleped, awo fewe beð icorene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3752 'Consail me, fader, how to liue.' 'Wi, quatkin consail mai i þe giue?' *Ibid.* 5013 'Him sal deliuer your yongeist child.' 'Wi how sal beniamin come þare?' *Ibid.* 23845 Wi qui þan mak we us sa kene?

Wi, obs. form of WHY.

Wi' (wi), Sc. and dial. abbrev. f. WITH *prep.*

Wiage, Wiar, obs. ff. VOYAGE, WIRE.

Wibble-wobble (wi·b'lwɒ·b'l), *colloq.*, reduplication of WOBBLE (with vowel-variation symbolizing alternation of movement: cf. *zigzag*); hence **Wibble** as a simple word (conjoined with *wobble*). So **Wi·bbly-wo·bbly** (also simply **Wibbly**), **Wibblety-wobblety** *adjs.*, characterized by 'wibbling and wobbling', unsteady.

1847 HALLIWELL, *Wibble-wobble*, unsteadily. 1871 L. W. M. LOCKHART *Fair to see* ii, The ample round red face, which wibbled and wobbled in its billowy fatness. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Wibblety-wobblety*, shaky; tottering; insecure. *Wibble-wobble*, to vibrate; to quiver; to oscillate. 1902 *Birm Daily Post* 16 Dec. (E.D.D.) His wibblely-wobblely speeches. 1905 *Motor-Car Jrnl.* 23 Sept. 630/1 The gait [of a motor-car] was ungainly by reason of the wibbly-wobbly nature of a rear wheel. 1914 *Daily News* 5 June 6, I.. hauled myself up again, and with wibbly knees crossed to the bushes south of the track.

Wibel, -ill, obs. forms of WEEVIL.

Wic, obs. f. WICK *sb.*[2] and *a.*

Wicar, -age, obs. Sc. ff. VICAR, -AGE.

Wiccamical: see WYKEHAMICAL.

Wicche, obs. form of WITCH.

Wicclifize: see WYCLIFIZE.

Wice, obs. Sc. f. VICE *sb.*[1] and [4]; obs. f. WISE *sb.*

Wich, wych (witʃ, *locally* wəitʃ). *local.* Also 7 wietch. [app. a differentiated variant of WICK *sb.*[2]; cf. *ditch* and *dike* (OE. *dīc*), *lich* and *lyke* (OE. *līc*). The orig. meaning may have been the group of buildings connected with a salt-pit. The chief names of salt-making towns in which the word occurs are *Droitwich* (formerly *Wich*) in Worcestershire, *Middlewich*, *Nantwich*, and *Northwich* in Cheshire.] A salt-works, salt-pit, or brine-spring, in the salt-manufacturing district of Cheshire and neighbouring parts; *pl.* the salt-making towns of these parts.

716–17 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 203 Aliquam agelli partem in qua sal conflici solet ad meridianam plagam fluminis quod dicunt Saluuerpe, in loco qui dicitur Lootwic et Coolbeorg.

1086 *Domesday Bk., Cheshire* 268 In eodem Mildestvic Hvndredo erat tercium Wich quod uocatur Norvvich,.. Ipsæ leges & consuetudines erant ibi quæ erant in alijs Wiches...Cætera omnia in his Wichis sunt similia. 11.. (spurious charter) in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 203 Wich...Unam portionem mansionis in Wico emptorio salis quem nos Saltwich vocamus. *c* 1250 MATTH. PARIS *Chron. Majora* an. 1245 (Rolls) IV. 486 Rex insuper puteos fecerat salinarum de Wits obturari et everti.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. vii. II. 415 In Chaonia there be certaine springs of saltish water, which the people of that country doe boile, and when it is cooled againe, it turneth into salt. *margin*, This is the order of salt with us in our Wiches here in England. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 607 These are verie famous Salt-wiches [Camden *salinæ*].. where brine or salt water is drawne out of pittes. *Ibid.* 608 The Britans call it *Hellath wen*, that is, The white Wich or Salt pitte. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* iii. 265 But that which vext her most, was, that..th' Wyches for their Salts such state on them should take. 1613 A. STANDISH *New Direct.* 15 In Cheshire neere vnto the Wietches (where Salt is made..). 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fish.* 2 At Nampetwich they have one Pit within the Town, and two without,..the Bryne being..of a weaker kind than those of the other Wyches. 1810 LYSONS *Magna Brit.* II. 699. 1880 W. WHITE *All round Yorkshire* 88 There lies the region of salt-mines, and of the wyches or brine springs which began to flow long before Henry III stopped the works at Nantwich.

b. *Comb.*: **wich-(wyche-)house,** a building in which brine is evaporated for making salt; **wich-man,** a man employed in salt-making; **wich-waller,** a salt-boiler; †**wich-work** = *wich-house.*

1534 (12 May) *Ancient Deeds* C. 7583 (P. R. O.) Rauff Maynwaryng of Mydlewiche sendeth gretyng.. that where Richard Leftwiche the younger and Margret his wyff have giffen.. all their messe *wiche houses landes.., to Richard Maynwaryng [etc.]. 1589 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 125 My hole estate of halffe a wyche house in the Northewyche w'in the countye of Chester. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 608 Troughes..by which it [sc. brine] is carried into the wich houses. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 35 The houses in which the salt works are carried on are called also wich-houses. 1818 J. W. PLATT *Hist. Nantwich* 78 Earl Edwin had a wych-house upon his estate at Aughton. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 161/2 A Salter, or Salt-Man, or *Wich-Man. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 208 To scold like a *wych-waller. 1898 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1866) I. xix. 456 [The saltern in which the brine was evaporated is called a] *wychwerke.

Wich, wiche, obs. ff. WHICH, WITCH.

Wichauf, wich(e)safe, -saif, -sauf, obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE.

Wicht, obs. Sc. form of WIGHT.

Wick (wik), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 weocc, 3 wucke, 4–6 weke, weyke, wyke, 5–7 wike, weeke, (-9 *dial.*) week, 6 weyk, (weack), 6–7 weik, wieke, (6, 8 weak), 7 wiek, wieck. β. 4–7 wicke, 5 wyk, 6 wycke, 7– wick. [OE *wēoce* wk. fem., also *wēoc* str. fem. (in *sandetwēoc*), corresp. to MDu. *wieke* (Du. *wiek*), MLG. *wēke*, *weike* (LG. *wake*) lint (whence Sw. *veke*, Da. *vage*, Norw. dial. *veik*), OHG. *wioh* str. m. or n. 'lucubrum' (MHG., G. *wieche* wick-yarn), MG. *wieke*, *wike*, *wicke* (G. *wieke* lint, dial. *wicke*). For the phonology cf. SICK *a.*

No certain cognates are known. It has been suggested that the base is an Indo-Eur. *weǥ-*, represented by OIr. *figim* to weave, spin, L. *vēlum* VEIL, Skr. *vāgurā*. There is no evidence for the alleged OE. *wicca*.]

The bundle of fibre, now usually loosely twisted or woven cotton (formerly rushes, tow, flax, etc.) in a lamp, candle, or taper (formerly also in a torch), immersed or inclosed except at one end in the oil or grease, which it absorbs and draws up on being kindled at the free end, so as to maintain the flame.

α. *c* 1000 in *Techmer's Internat. Zeitschrift* (1885) II. 126 Wæt mid þinum scytefingre on midden, swylce þu weocan settan wylle. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 On ure helendes lichame wiðuten sene, þe holie saule wiðinne unsene, and te michele wisdom on eiðer: Alse wex on þe candele sene, þe wueke wiðinnen unsene, and þe fur on boðe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 204 As wex and a weke were twyned togideres. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XX. 178 Of a torche þe blase beo blowen out ȝut brenneþ þe weke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Weyke, of a candel, *lichinius*. *c* 1480 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* LXXXII. (1484) M ij b, The waxe bytokeneth his manhede, The weke [*MS. Ashm.* 39 wyke] his sowle, the fyre his godhede. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* I. 490 In youe tapir therbe thing iij°, wax, week and light. 1513 *State Papers Hen. VIII* No. 4102 (P.R.O.) Item in torche weke and taper weke iiij^{xx} vli. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 206/45 Y° Weak of a candle, *lichnus*. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 30 Whan the oyle is spent, The light goes out, and weeke is throwne away. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 99 In candles of tallow or waxe, if the wike be great, it melts the tallow or the waxe. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 370 Triall was..made of seuerall Wiekes; As of Ordinary Cotton; Sowing Thred. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 247 The Smoak that issues out of the Weik of a Candle newly blown out. 1707 N. BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 54 Mr. Plumb tryed his Lamp with two Weaks. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. I. 76 A small Piece of [English talc]..serves very well for a Wiek to a Lamp. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss., Wesh.* the wick of a candle or lamp.

β. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 203 As þe wicke and þe warme fuyr wol make a fayr flamme. *c* 1440 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 99 *Licinum*,..mecche uel wyk. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 230 The wycke or twyste of hempe. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 50 As for the wickes within them [sc. the candles], they are of hurds, rope ends, and such other good stuffe. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 164 The little wick of life's poor shallow lamp. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 316 The candle or lamp used with the blowpipe should have a thick wick, which should be snuffed clean. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* iii, The candles were burning dim, with great long wicks. 1903 THURSTON *Circle* I. XV, She..raised the wick of the lamp.

b. Collectively, without article, as the name of a substance: = WICKING.

1391 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 67 Clerico speciarie.. pro wyke per ipsum empto..p^{ro} torches faciendis .. xxxj^{s} a. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 395, vj libri de weke pro torgis. 1589 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 6 That thai mak thair candill..of gud and sufficient stuff baith weyk and tallone. 1571 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) 76 The Channdel^{rs}..doo mak their candels wth grat torch weack and yll tallowe. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 116 (Qo. 2) I have liues within the very flame of loue A kind of weake or smufe that will abate it. 1883 *Century Mag.* Feb. 585/2 He carried too much wick for his canula.

c. Used as a tent or dressing in surgery. (Cf. G. *wieke*, etc.)

1698 A. FOX *Wirts' Surg.* I. iii. 9 Some..take grosse strong weeks, and thrust them to the bottom of the wounde. *Ibid.* vii. 97 Of the abuses which are committed with wicks, tents, linta, mullipuffs, &c. 1906 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 13 Jan. 72 A..glass drainage tube was placed in the pelvis, another in the right loin..and gauze wicks were placed in the tubes.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wick-holder*, *-screw*, *-spout*, *-trimmer*, *-yarn*.

1498 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiarie St. Swithun's Winch.* (1892) 388 In xij lb. Wekeyerne,..iij *s.* 1756 *W. Owen's Bk. Prices* (1788) 54 Bridgenorth.. horned cattle, horses, sheep, hops, cheese, wick-yarn. 1840 *Civil Eng.* &

Arch. Jrnl. III. 175/2 A sudden blaze as if the wick-screw had been raised a turn. *c* 1865 J. Wylde in *Circ. Sci.* I. 304/1 A cap..fits over the wick-holder. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wick-trimmer*, a shears for trimming wicks. 1911 J. Ward *Roman Era in Brit.* xii. 210 The typical Roman lamp..has ..a covered wick-spout or *nozzle* (*nasus, rostrum*).

Wick (wik), *sb.*[2] Now only *local.* Forms: 1–3 wic, 3–4, 7 wike, 4 wik, 4–5 wyk, 4–5, 8–9 wyke, 6–7 wicke, 7 week, 7– wick. [OE. *wic* m., f. = OFris. *wik* f., OS. *wīc* m. dwelling-place, house, MLG. *wīk* f., n. town, place, MDu. *wijc* m. district, (Du. *wijk* f. quarter, district, ward, WFris. *wyk*), OHG. *wīch* str. m. dwelling-place, town, MHG. *wīch* in *wīchbilde* civic rights, *wichbilde* (G. *weichbild*) precinct and jurisdiction of a town, *wichgrave* recorder; app. ad. L. *vīcus* row of houses, quarter of a city, street, village (cognate with Gr. *οἶκος* house, etc., Goth. *weihs* village)]

†**1.** An abode, dwelling, dwelling-place (in general). *Obs.*

Beowulf 1193 Jewiton him ða wīxend wica neosian. *c*900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* iv. iii, Þa gelomp sume dæge, þæt he wæs in þæm foresprecenan wicum mid ane hreðer wuniende, þæs noma wæs Owine. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1812 Dær ræsbora þrage niððan wicum wunode & wilna breac. *c* 1200 Ormin 8512 Josæp..þærenn ure Laferrd Crist..Fra land to land, fra tun to tun, Fra wic to wic i tune. *c* 1205 Lay. 7786 In to France he wende & sette his wike. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 604 Ich can loki monne wike & mine wike beoþ wel gode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2090 Asie to sem, to cham affrik, To Iaphet europ, þat wil-ful wike. *c* 1300 *Harrowing Hell* 177 Louerd god, 3ef vs leue,..To faren of þis loþe wyke To þe blisse of heueneryke.

2. A town, village, or hamlet. *Obs.* or *dial.* (Survives as an element of place-names in both forms, *-wich* and *-wick*, the local distribution of which presents difficulties.)

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 77 He cwæþ: 'Gaþ on þa wic þe beforan inc stondeð.' *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark viii. 23 & þa æthran he þæm blindan hand & lædde hine butan þa wic. *c* 1205 Lay. 31960 His biweddede wif weore on þere ilke wike. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7917 Þar was wonand wit-in a wike, Tua men a power and a rike. *c* 1350 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 93 The toun Off Cauntyrbery, that noble wyke.

1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiv. xxii. 866 The rest abandoned the warre, and slipt .. into their owne wickes and villages. [1888 E. Law *Hampton Crt. Pal.* 12 *note*, 'As a popular equivalent for the word village, the expressions 'going to the Wick' [*i.e.* Hampton Wick], and 'living at the Wick', being constantly heard among the older inhabitants.]

3. A farm; *spec.* a dairy farm. Now *local.*

1086 *Domesday Bk., Berks.* 58 b, Wica de .x. pensis caseorum ualentes .xxxii. sol. & .iiii. den. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 585/1 A dayery, otherwise called a Wyk, called Dangebrigge. 1594 [see Dairy *sb.* 3]. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 171 In diuers countries, Dayrie houses or cottages, wherein they make butter and cheese, are vsually called Wickes. 1607 Camden *Brit.* 318 Caseos ouillos conficere in casearijs illis tuguriolis quæ ibi [i. e. in Essex] *Wiches* [sic] vocant, vidimus. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 5 A fearme in the North parts is called a Tacke, in Lancashire a Fermeholt, in Essex a Wike. 1641 *Surv. Pleshey-bury Manor, Essex* fol. a[v] (MS.) Berwick *quasi* Berry wick, for it is supposed that auntiently it was a dairy wick or ferme to High Ester Bury. 1701 Kennett *Cowel's Interpr., Wica*, a Country House or Farm, of which many a one is now call'd the Wike, and the Wick. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wick*... A few instances may be produced in which it means a farm. There is one at a short distance from the town of Watton, commonly called Watton-wick, but by the inhabitants, simply the *Wick.* 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 126 Wick Farm—almost every village has its outlying wick—stands alone in the fields.

†**4.** An enclosed piece of ground, a close. *local.*

1301 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 259/2 Apud Lex[eden] in Wyka que vocatur Arnodynes Wyk. ?*a* 1461 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 55 3e have yn Byaschopyston the iij part of a close callyd Bondmannys Wyke, and yn on othere callyd Hanketes Wyke. 1632 *Terrier of Masworth Rectory* (MS.) A close of pasture ground called y[e] Parsonidge Wick. 1635 *Survey of Masworth Parish* (MS.) The close called Three Wicks. 1680 *Terrier of Masworth Vicarage* (MS.) One other close or wick..called Blockwicks..a wick called Pound Wick. 1811 *Masworth Parish Enclosure Award* (MS.) An old enclosure called Meadow Wick.

†**5.** *Comb.*: **wick-master**, ? a mayor or burgomaster; **wic-reeve**, modernization of OE. *wic-gerefa*, a town-reeve.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1337/2 Behind them went the bodie of the citie, that is to wit, the *wickemasters, the wardens, the ancient magistrate, the masters of the wardes, the boroughmasters [etc.]. 1853 J. Stevenson *Ch. Hist. Eng.* I. 233 Beornulf, *wic-reeve of Winchester.

Wick, wike, *sb.*[3] Now only *dial.* Forms: 4–5, 7 wyke, 6, 8–9 wike, 7 weeke, 8– week, 9 wick, *Sc.* weik. [a. ON. *vik*, as in *mannvik* (Da. *mandvig*) corner of the mouth; f. *vīk-* to bend (cf. Week *sb.*, Wick *sb.*[4], Woke).]

1. A corner of the mouth or eye.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1572 Þe frobe femed at his mouth vnfayre bi þe wykes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1690 Faxe fyltered, & felt flosed hym vmbe, þat schad fro his schulderes to his schyre wykes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/2 A Wyke of ye eghe.., *hirqunus.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 122/24 Ve Wike of the eye, *hirqunus.* 1607 Markham *Cavel.* I. 82 To make some expert Horse farrier, to slit vp the weekes of your Horses mouth, equallie on both sides..with a sharpe rayzor. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 14 A greate parte of theire meat, whiles that they are chewinge of it, worken forth of the wykes of their mouthe. 1709 M. Bruce *Soul-Conflicts.* 18 (Jam.) We will let them ken that we will hing by the wicks of the mouth for the least point of truth. 1721 W. Gibson *Dieting Horses* viii. (1726) 128 If the Bit be too long or too short, it will injure the Horse's Mouth, and cut his Weeke. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Fables* xviii. 14 To weed out ilka sable hair ..Frae crown of head to weeks of mouth. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Wikes* or *Wikers* (of the mouth), corners of the mouth. *a* 1825 Hogg *Tales, Hunt of Eildon* (1837) III. 14 [He] now and then cast a sly look-out at the wick of his eye.

2. In full *wick-tooth*: see quot. 1726.

1726 A. Monro *Anat. Bones* 171 The Two inferior [*Canini*] are named angular or Wike-teeth, because they support the Angles of the Mouth. 1739 H. Walpole *Let. to Earl of Strafford* 13 Sept., This noble summer is not yet over with us—it seems to have cut a colt's weak [cf. Colt *sb.* 8 b].

Hence **Wicking** (**wyking**), corner of the mouth.

1604 *Mem. in N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. III. 445/2 Her eyes stod in the wykinges of her mouth. 1886 *S.-W. Linc. Gloss., Weekin*, s., the corner of the mouth.

Wick, *sb.*[4] *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 7 weeke, 8 wike, 9 wick, wik, wyck, wyke. [a. ON. *vīk* fem. (occurring in place-names, but not usually distinguishable in form from Wick *sb.*[2]), whence app. also MLG. *wīk* (LG. *wiek, wicke*), MDu. *wijck*, Fris. *wik* bay; f. OTeut. *wīk-* to bend, as if = a bend.] A creek, inlet, or small bay.

[1610 Camden *Brit.* I. 396 From hence the Tamis goeth to Green-wich, that is, the Green Creeke, for the creeke of a river in the old English tongue was called *Wic*, a place in times past famous for the Danish Fleet that lay there often at Rode.] 1684–5 *Patent Roll 16 Chas. II*, Pt. 8 (MS.) (Charter of the Royal Fishing Company) The greate Plentie of Fish wherewith the Seas Estuaries or Inletts Creekes Armes of the Sea Publick Rivers Weekes and Lakes of Our Dominions..doe abound. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 417/1 We have as many [herrings] come into our wike as would fill 300 barrels. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xix, By beach and by cave,—..By air and by wick. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3), *Wik, Wyck*, or *Wyke*, a crook or corner, as in a river or the sea shore. 1878 R. Dick *Geol. & Bot.* viii. 85 Between this and Rough Head is a wick or bay.

Wick, *sb.*[5] *Sc. Curling* and *Bowls.* [f. Wick *v.*[2]]

1. An act of wicking: see Wick *v.*[2], and cf. In-wick *sb.*

1823 Jas. Kennedy *Poems* 29 (E.D.D.). 1842 *Chambers's Inform. People* No. 84. 339 A player stepping aside to take a brittle (or wick), or other shot, shall forfeit his stone for that end.

2. = Port *sb.*[3] 3 b.

1824 [see Inwick *v.*].

Wick, *sb.*[6] ? *dial.* [Related to Wicker.] Wicker; a wicker basket or creel.

1802 C. James *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Calote*, Calotes are usually made of iron, wick, or dressed leather. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* II. 102 A captive fish still fills the anxious eyes, And willow-wicks lie ready for the prize.

Wick, *a.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: [2 wicci], 3–5 wicke, wikke, wik, 4 wic, wyc, 4–5 wycke, wykke, wyk, 5 wyke, (wekke), 4–5, 8–9 *dial.* wick. [orig. *wicke, wikke*, app. adj. use of OE. *wicca* wizard (of which the fem. is *wicce* Witch); but perhaps an alteration of early ME. *wicci* (? :— **wiccig*, f. *wicca*), of which the following is the only known instance :—

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140 Þe king him sithen nam in Hamtun þurhc wicci red.]

1. = Wicked *a.*[1] 1 a, b.

c 1200 Ormin 6185 3if þatt iss þatt þho ise all wittiless, & wac, & wicke. *c* 1250 *Bestiary* 593 He speken godcunhede, and wikke is here dede. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 203/119 Þe feondes lubere and wicke. *c* 1305 *Metr. Hom.* 28 Thair wike dedes. *Ibid.* 51 Sin and wik dedis. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2777 (Gött.) Þe foule feluns wid wic entent. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P355 (Egerton 2726), The fende seith I woll chace and pursue man by wyk suggestion. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 262 Was ther neuer man so wyk bot he wyght amende. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) I j, A..sowle synful and wycke Is also blacke as eny pycke. 1901 Sutcliffe *Mistr. Barbara Cunliffe* i, She's just her maister ower again—same wick' look o' th' devil about her.

2. a. = Wicked *a.*[1] 2 a, b, c.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 104 (MS. T.) Of swatí hattre oðer of wikke air. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27877 O glotori and o drunkenhede Fele wick branches se we sprede. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 537 Tricerberus þe belle-hound..Boþe wakrong & wikke. *a* 1350 *S. Stephen* 421 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 33 Þai raysed þe wynd with weders wik. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 946 For þilke ground þat bereth þe wedys wykke Hereth eke þese holsome herbes. *c* 1374 — *Boeth.* III. met. i. (1868) 64 Hony is þe more swete yif mouþes han firste tastid sauoures þat ben wikke. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4721 In helle habbe he pynes wycke. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1242 *Dido* (Gg. 4. 27) The wikke fame a-roos..How Enias hath with the queen I-gon. *c* 1386 — *Kn.'s T.* 909 Som wikke aspect or disposicioun Of Saturne. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15306 That he be sclayn..That he no wyse passe quyk, For that were then to vs ful wik. *Ibid.* 15733 The fyght was sterne and wyk. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 973 Al the lond that thou hast goon aboute Fro cloudis wicke is maf. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3365 Arthur of batayle neuyr blanne To dele woundys wykke and wyde. 1796 in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. XI. 390/2 For the warding off of all things whatsoever from the dead—be they imps, wraithspells, wick things & the like ket.

†b. = Wicked *a.*[1] 2 d; in quot. 1297, feeble, lacking in force. Also as the equivalent of a negative prefix = *un-, dis-* (e. g. *wikloos* = dispraise). *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 16515 Jesu Crist wel unnderrstod all þerre wicke trowwþe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 338 Nis he a kang [*MS. T* wicke] knit þat seche8 reste iðe uihte? *c* 1250 *Hymn in Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 259 Wicke is here ure fare & ure wunninge. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4028 Þe scolle [was so] hard & þikke, þeruore, þei it ne come nost þoru, þe dunt nas nost wikke. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2437 With poure mete, and feble drink, And with swiþe wikke clobes. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxvii. 33 And swa it bifalles þat þai eat close þaim fra þaire wiklose þat ere proued in sylusre [L. *ut exterminent eos, qui probati sunt argento*]. *c* 1398 Chaucer *Fortune* 55 Wikke appetyt comth ay before sykenesse. *c* 1400 *Lay Folks' Reed* (1871) 153 My wonynge is wel wykke. *a* 1420 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) Q ij b, As foly among wysmen is wyke Wysdome among folys is lyke.

† c. = Wicked *a.*[1] 2 f. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 775 Morgan is wick to slew. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 938 Þanne wol he [*sc.* mas]..wexe wilde of his wil & wikke to staunche.

†**3.** *absol.* or as *sb.* a. = Wicked *a.*[1] 4 a, b.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4650 So þat here nas nost bileued bote heþene & wikke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2732 It semes not to be þi will For þe wik þe dughti spill. *Ibid.* 8631 'Þou wik,' seo said, 'ai be þe was, Qui has þou me bi-suiken sua?' *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Paulus*) 177 Ger do þis wik away, And had hym but mare delay. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 325 O werste of alle wicke..Io, what thou hast do!

† b. In abstract sense: Evil, ill; wickedness.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2432 Fro wycke vntil wors y nam. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1074 Now is wykke I-turned vn-to worse. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xii. 272 No wyght Wot ho is worthi for wele oþer for wicke. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 85 Lyk smal infauntys wych kun no wykke.

†**4.** as *adv.* = Wicked *a.*[1] 5. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10004 For..ageyns þer lord do so wyk. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 882 Þan laid he on þe Sarsyns wykke. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 177 At my lykynge chese, To do wel oþer wikke.

Hence † **Wickdom, Wickhede, Wickness,** wickedness, iniquity; † **Wickly** *adv.*, wickedly.

c 1440 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 2300 Princes oueral..Speke him vuel & hated him vor is wuikedom [*MS. B* *wyckedome]. *Ibid.* 4822, 7276. *c* 1305 *11,000 Virg.* 34 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 66 To cheose þe ten maidenes wiþoute enie *wikhede. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 124 Tresore *wikly wonnen. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* v. 7 [6] Þou hated al þat wirkes *wikednes. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* v. 22 His wickednesses taken the vnpitouse.

† **Wick, wike,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 wician, wikian, 3 wikie(n, 3–4 wick, 4 wike, wyk. [OE. *wīcian*, f. *wīc* Wick *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To take up one's abode; to encamp; to lodge, dwell.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xli. 304 Đu cans eal ðis westen, & wast hwær we wician [L. *castra ponere*] maxon. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 99 Kallum us leofre ys wikian [L. *hospitari*] mid þe yrþlincge þonne mid þe. *c* 1205 Lay. 18102 Wikien 3e scullen here. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25232 Þat in þis wreche werld we wike.

b. *trans.* To pitch (a tent).

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12512 His paulons, his penceles, þykke Nought fer fro þenne had þey don wyk.

Hence † **Wicking** *vbl. sb.*[1], lodging, dwelling.

c 1205 Lay. 30453 He underfeng Cadwadlan :..and 3af him wickinge [*c* 1275 wikeninge] 3eond Irlonde. *Ibid.* 31861 He ..nom þe wickinge mid Alaine þan kinge.

Wick, *v.*[2] *Curling.* [Origin unknown.] a. *intr.* = Inwick *v.* b. *trans.* in phr. *to wick a bore*, 'to drive a stone dexterously through an opening between two guards' (Jam.). Cf. Wick *sb.*[5] Hence **Wicking** *vbl. sb.*[2]

1786 [see Guard *v.* 9]. 1811 *Acc. Game Curling* 9 It then becomes necessary..to strike another stone lying at the side, in an oblique direction. This is called wicking. *Ibid.* 10 Whether they have to draw, strike, wick, or enter a port, they will seldom deviate an inch from their aim. 1831 [see Inringing]. 1898 [see Inwick *v.*].

Wick, Sc. and north. f. Quick *a.*, *sb.*[2], *v.*[3]; obs. and dial. f. Week.

-wick, *suffix*, shortened form of Wike (OE. *wīce*) office, function of an official, as in Bailiff-wick, Bailiwick, Sheriffwick. A secondary sense of 'jurisdiction of the official', passing into 'district over which the official's jurisdiction extends', is found with some words containing this suffix, the development of the latter sense being no doubt furthered by the sense 'district' of Wick *sb.*[2] An example of a compound in occasional or local use is † *warden-wick* :—

1499 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 67 Yn hys yer of ye wardeyn wyke.

In Herdwick (first in *Domesday Book*), *-wick* appears to be Wick *sb.*[3]

Wickaby, var. Widopy.

Wickar, obs. Sc. form of Vicar.

Wicked (wi·kĕd), *a.*[1] (*sb.*, *adv.*) Forms: 3–wicked; also 4–6 wyck-, wikk-, wykk-, (chiefly *Sc.* wick-, wikk-); 3–5 -ed(e, (4 -ud), 4–5 -id(e, -yd(e, 4–6 *Sc.* -it, -yt; (4 wikeud, wekked, wikket, 5 weckid, 5–6, 9 *Sc.* wicket, 6 *Sc.* weokit); 4 wikid(e, (-ud, wikede, *Sc.* vikit, -yt), 4–5 wiked, *Sc.* wikyt, wykit, 4–6 *Sc.* wikit, 5 wyked, -yd; 4 *Sc.* wekit, (vekyt), 4–5 wekyd, 4–6 weked, 5 -ede, -id, 6 *Sc.* weikit. [ME. (13th cent.) *wicked*; *wikked*, app. f. Wick *a.*, as *wretched* from *wrecche* Wretch. The later *wiked* appears to be merely a graphic variant; forms with the lowered stem-vowel are of both types, *wekked*, *weked*.]

I. 1. Bad in moral character, disposition, or conduct; inclined or addicted to wilful wrong-doing; practising or disposed to practise evil; morally depraved. (A term of wide application, but always of strong reprobation, implying a high degree of evil quality.) a. of a person (or a community of persons).

The Wicked One, the Devil, Satan.

c 1378 Lay. 14983 Herene on 3eo tock an, þes wickede *[earlier text* swicfulle] wimmen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Ich bidde þe hit by my saeld auereye þe wycked wend. 13.. *Cursor M.* 270 (Gött.) Iesu wan he longe hade fast Was tamped wid þe wicked [*v. r.* wikket] gast. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 73 Mare reuerens Is gewnne..To wekyt men fore dred..þane to gadmen for lof. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 76 Of siche vikede men seiþ god bi his prophete [etc.]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2187 In al heþenis ys no Sarsyn wikkeder þan is he. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2405 3e at wickid ere within ay wickidly 3e thinke. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 222 All wekyd spyrytys schall for ferd fle away from þe. 1456 Sir G. Hayr *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 32 Wikkit tyrane Emperouris. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritt Wemen* 214 My weckit kyn, that me away cast. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S. T. S.) 60 Thow vikkit seruand I forgaiff ye al thy det. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xiii. 13 Ye men of Sodome were wicked, and synned exceadingly agaynst the Lorde. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractatis* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 5 Wes not the sacramentis ..prophanit be ignorantis and wikit persones? 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 109 O wickit wemen, vennomus of nature! 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. xiii. 19 There cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sowen in his hart. — 1 John ii. 13 You haue ouercome the wicked one. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* v. i. 130 You (most wicked Sir) whom to call brother Would euen infect my mouth. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 V. 130 Looking on the poor Christian with .. Contempt; but fawning on the wickedest rich men. 1696 Whiston *The. Earth* III. iv. 207 This Deluge..was a signal Instance of the Divine Vengeance on a Wicked World. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* i. ii. 58 'Tis very strange Men should be so fond of being thought wickeder than they are. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* v. § 7 Vice increases, and men grow daily more and more wicked. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xv, 'Then you are the wicked cause of my sister's ruin?' said Jeanie, with a natural touch of indignation. 1820 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 399 Bunyan was never, in our received sense of the word, wicked. He was chaste, sober, honest; but he was a bitter blackguard..and was fond of a row. 1873 Lrland *Egypt. Sketch-bk.* 155 However wicked a man may be, he is sure to find a wickeder.

b. of action, speech, thought, or other personal attribute; also *transf.* of a thing connected in some way with such action, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1227 Þal him warryd wit wickud dedis. *Ibid.* 12991 Na langer Mai i nu þi wicked wordes ber. 13.. *Northern Passion* (A) 506 [Satan] wyl the dryfe in wekyd boughte. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 217 Penne was he a-schoined,..And gon..gret deol to make For his wikkede lyf þat he I-liued hedde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 474 Throw his wekit sorcery. *Ibid.* viii. (*Philippus*) 66 Wikit heresy. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 37 Wickid lawis & wrong executions of hem. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7424 They to Wicked Tonge comen That at his gate was syttyng. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* viii. 9 What wicked abhominacions that they do. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Chron. vii. 14 Yf they .. do humble them selues .. and turne from their wycked wayes. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 176 Doggis could bir wickit bainis gnaw. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iii. 59 Offences gilded hand may shoue by iustice, And oft 'tis seene, the wicked prize it selfe Buyes out the Law. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 890 Yet not for thy aduise or threats I fly These wicked Tents deuoted. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* i. ii. 48 All the wicked things, which have .. given a black Character to the very Name of a Magician; for under the shelter of Religion, the worst and most Diabolical things were practis'd. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* viii, 'Yes, hang it' (said Sir Pitt, only, he used, dear, a much wickeder word). 1878 H. Stevens *Bibles Caxton Exhib.* 114 In 1855 Mr. Henry Stevens exhibited..a..copy of this long-lost..Bible [of 1631], and..nick-named it 'The Wicked Bible,' from the fact that the negative had been left out of the Seventh Commandment by a typographical error. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* iii. 23 The mysterious old professor .. who wrote wicked books.

2. Bad, in various senses (not always clearly distinguishable). Frequent in ME. use; later chiefly *dial.*, or in colloq. use as a conscious metaphor (now often jocular) from sense 1, and implying 'very or excessively bad', 'horrid', 'beastly'.

a. In reference to character or action: Cruel, severe, fierce. Of animals: Savage, vicious.

13.. *Cursor M.* 5571 (Gött.) Quat he was wicked and wode Again þat folk sua mild of mode! 1375 *Creation* 980 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 136 Who so were .. vennymped wiþ eny wikked beste. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3732 Wolues, and whilde swynne, and wykkyde bestes. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. x. 23 Quhat wise thi brothir Eneas..Is blawin and warpit euery coist abowt, Of wickit Juno throw the cruell invy [L. *edita Iunonis acerbæ*]. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 308 As they [*sc.* horses] are wilde and fierce, so are they wicked and harmefull. 1724 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, If canker'd Madge, our aunt, Come up the burn, she'll gie 's a wicked rant. 1829 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 7 Sae wud and wicket was their wraith [= wrath] Gainst Papish trash and idol-graith. 1829 Hogg *Sheph. Cal.* i. 8 It 's hard to gar a wicked cout leave off flinging. 1895 Millais *Breath from Veldt* (1897) 228 The Cape buffalo..has ample power to carry out his evil intentions when he means to be wicked.

b. Actually or potentially harmful, destructive, disastrous, or pernicious; baleful; when applied to air, odour, taste, etc. passing into: Offensive, foul.

1340 *Ayenb.* 224 Aye þe wykkede hetes..aye þe wyckede cheles..aye þe wyckede raynes. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 12 To vyn the heling of thar hevede, That vikkit vyntir had thame revede. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS. 19* No. I. i. iii. lf. 6 b, Wicked ayr or grevaunce, or cold takyng. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 626 Thurgh his body wikked wormes crepte. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 4. A fortunat ascendent clepeu they whan þat no wykkid planete, as saturne or Mars,.. is in þe bowe of the ascendent. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IV. xl. (1495) f v b/2 Flyes shunne & voyde the wycked & horryble sauour therof. *c* 1400 Maundev. xv. [xi]. (1919) 83 The perilous watres & wykkede mareys. *c* 1400 *Sowdone of Babylone* 857 The wekid wedur lastid full long. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6521 If that wikkid deth hym haue I wole go with hym to his graue. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5638 A wicked strok he him hit. *c* 1440 *A phabet of Tales* 59 When þe wykkid fyre was in howsis nere-hand hur. *c* 1460 *Play Sacrament.* 267 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 65 Alle wykkyd metys yt wylle degest. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 412 Fell is thy Fortoun, wickit is thy weird. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. lxxxix. 270 Fenell..is good agaynst..the bitings of..wicked & venimous beastes. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xi. 24 Faire Amoret must dwell in wicked chaines. 1600 Barton *Vaugut's Foole's Cappe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 26/2 Who loues to feede vpon a Sallet dish, Among his Herbes some wicked weede may haue. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 321 As wicked dewe, as ere my mother brush'd With Rauens feather from vnwholesome Fen, Drop on you both. *a* 1627 Middleton, etc. *Widow* IV. i, What's good, Sir, for a wicked tooth? 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 41 It is too well known what a wicked number of followers he hath had. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 103 Lest wicked Weeds the Corn shou'd over-run. 1725 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (ed. 4) I. 268 There comes a wicked Cold through that Door,..pray shut it. 1894 G. A. Smith *Hist. Geog. Holy Land* 69 'Tents may be carried away by wicked gusts. 1894 *Times* 27 Oct. 7/2 The 'Milo' was not a particularly 'wicked' engine with regard to giving off sparks. 1895 Millais *Breath from Veldt* (1899) 133 It was a wicked country for fever. 1903 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Apr. 967 A proprietary.. form of chloride of ethyl and inferior to it on account of its wicked smell.

† **c.** Of wounds, disease: Severe; malignant.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 221 Þo he was in dispeir of hir lijf, I was sent after & foond hir in wickide staat. *Ibid.* 338 To make a wickid enpostym maturatif. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 245 A wycked wound hath me walled. 1576 Baker *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 102 b, A water agaynst long continuing ulcers, yea how perylous or wycked so euer they bee.

d. Of bad quality; poor, vile, 'sorry'; *occas.* perverted, abnormal; † in early use sometimes merely negative = *un-*, *dis-*.

13.. *Spec. S. Edm.* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 225 Pare-of commes tresones,..wykked i-este [L. *inquietudo*], Malice and hardnes of herte. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 75 Ane of thame sall be vorth thre Of thame that vikkid chiftane has. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 530 Ye shal haue..wikkyd loos and wors name. [Cf. quot. *a* 1340 s.v. Wick *a.* 2 b.] *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 68 A Rial þing expert, þat..amendeþ þe errour als wele of þe first digestion as of þe seconde, and doþ away wicked colour & vnnatural. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 78 Of good sede he repyth wycked corn. 1663 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden) I. 145 It will be hard to billet me for this wicked inke, for this place affords no better for fine paper. [*Cf. ante* p. 136 If you write not upon better paper and with better pens, wee will haue yow billetted again.] *a* 1704 T. Brown *Dial. Dead, Reas. Oaths* Wks. 1711 IV. 76 Retailer of wicked Bottle Ale and Brandy. 1764 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 16 July, They talk wicked French.

† **e.** Difficult or dangerous; *esp.* of roads, passing into: In bad condition, out of repair (cf. d).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3507 Ouer mires & muntaynes & oþer wicked weiȝes. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 27 Þey shulde.. amende *mesondieux* þere-myde and myseyse folke helpe, And wikked wayes wiȝtlich hem amende. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xci. (1869) 50 Bi ful wikkede pases þou shalt go, and wikkede herberwes þou shalt fynde. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V. iv. 86 Ontill a wickit place his schip did steir. *Ibid.* XII. xi. 160 Lyke till a wykkit hill of huge wecht [L. *mons improbus*]. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* IV. xviii. (S. T. S.) II 115 Þe battell was fochtin in ane wikkit place [L. *loco iniquo*]. *Ibid.* V. xxii. 222 Quhare ony strait or wikkit passage was. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 375 It is most wicked way,..because they are inaccessible mountaines.

† **f.** Difficult *to* do something with. *Obs.*

a 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 8 Þat woning was wikked for to win. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 55 Þat lande was strong and wikkede to wynne. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 155 This lond is ful wikked to be wrought, To hard in hete and ouer softe in wete.

3. In weakened or lighter sense (from 1), usually more or less jocular: Malicious; mischievous, sly.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 216 That same wicked Bastard could she but restrain that wicked tongue of hers. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* X. x. (Rtldg.) 369 Rubicund in the jowl, efflorescent on the nose, with a wicked eye at a bumper or a girl. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* IV. v, You are the wickedest witty person I know. 1837 B. Taylor *Northern Trav.* XXX. (1858) 312 He had..wicked black eyes, and a mouth which laughed even when his face was at rest. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* v, 'You are not afraid of anything, you know,' returned the boy, looking wicked.

II. *absol.* or as *sb.*

4. In sense 1 a: chiefly in biblical and religious use; often opp. to Righteous 1 b. **a.** *absol.* in *pl.* sense: Wicked persons. (Usually, now always, with *the*.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 20999 (Edinb.) Þe wikid þat dred noht his aw, Her dom þai sal be demed law. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 430 Ther þat dom to þe deob dampneþalle wyckede. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 271 in *26 Pol. Poems* 129 Wycked and worse, good and bette, I wote well thow considerest alle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 28279 (Trin.) Mony wickede & mis dedy Hatton lost. 1535 Coverdale *Job* III. 17 There must the wicked ceasse from their tyranny. — 2 *Macc.* I. 17 God be praysed, which hath delyuered the wicked in to oure handes. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Gen. XVIII. 23 Wylt thou also destroy the rightwes wyth the wicked? 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 317 If Sacke and Sugar be a fault, Heauen helpe the Wicked. 1782 Cowper *Charity* 280 Princes expect the wicked, and were built To bind the lawless.

b. *absol.* or as *sb.* in *sing.* sense 1. A wicked person. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*; also in *nonce-use* with *pl.* in *-s*.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* III. xii, Ne none wycked may hurte another wycked. 1526 Tindale *Eph.* vi. 16 The sheilde of Fayth, wherwith ye maye quenche all the fyrie dartes of the wicked [so 1611; *R. V.* of the evil one]. — 2 *Thess.* ii. 8 That wicked..whom the lorde shall consume with the sprete off hys mouth. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Isa. lv. 7 Let the wicked forsake his waies, and the vnrighteous his owne imaginations. 1853 in *Friendsh. Miss Mitford* (1882) II. 115 Falling upon the tender mercies of two such wickeds as papa and she.

† **c.** genitive in *-s* (sing. or pl.). *Obs.*

1587 T. Hughes *Misfort. Arthur* v. i. (1900) 57 The wickeds death is safety to the iust. 1597 Breton *Arbor Amorous Deuices* Wks. (Grosart) I. 10/2 What is the world but wickeds way to hel? 1607 Bp. Hall *Ps.* vii, Let mee see the wicked's malice see Brought to an end.

III. **5.** as *adv.* Wickedly; fiercely, savagely, furiously; 'cruelly', 'terribly'.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 13840 (Trin.) Whil þei þus him handeled wicked as þei mouȝt. 1863 T. Porter *Witty Combat* IV. i, Yesterday was..a wicked hot day. 1889 Hogg *Sheph. Cal.* I. 8 A hungry louse bites wicked sair. 1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* V. (1850) 45 He came towards me with his hatchet in his hand. I saw that he was determined to act wicked. 1906 'Violet Jacob' *Sheep-Stealers* ix, They was fightin' very wicked an' nasty.

IV. **6.** *Comb.*, as *wicked-like* [Like *adv.* 7, -like *suffix* 2 a], *-looking*, *-tongued* adjs.; †**wicked-doer**, **-doing** = Evil-doer, -doing; †**wicked-walking**, that 'walks wickedly' (cf. *Ps.* XXVI. 1); **wicked-worded** *nonce-wd.* as *pa. pple.*, euphem. for 'damned'.

a 1380 *St. Aug.* 945 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 77 Wikked-tonged men Wolde speke vuel of hem. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 1 Forto deme all wikydoers ynto þe pyt of hell. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* XXXVII. 23 With their .. Idols and all their wicked-doinges. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 297 So wickit like, and als so venemous. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 236 The traytor Manahem's wicked-walking Son. 1823 Byron *Island* II. xxi, She seem'd a wicked-looking craft. 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* XXXII, He..wished he might be wicked-worded if he didn't. *a* 1871 De Morgan *Budget Parad.* (1872) 100 It made a book look wicked-like to have a feigned place of printing.

Hence † **Wickedfully** *adv.*, wickedly; **Wickedish** *a.* [-ish [1] 3], somewhat wicked; † **Wickedlak** [-lak], † **Wickedrede** [-red], wickedness.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 104 Wikit women, þou .. has consawit giltfully, And consulite þe fend *wikitfully. 1823 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* I, His master replied with..a quiet, but *wickedish look. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 478 3if we haue wille to *wikkedlek. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1227 (Fairf.) Þai wrabet him wiþ *wikked rede.

Wicked (wi·kĕd), *a.*[2] [f. Wick *sb.*[1] + -ed [1].] Furnished with or having a wick or wicks; usually in comb., as *broad-wicked*, *two-wicked*.

1507 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 437 That ale candil makaris has candile reddy to sele.., small weikit and dry. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 518/1 The broad-wicked lamp seems to have the advantage. 1899 H. G. Graham *Soc. Life Scot. 18th C.* IV. I. 143 Their fathers had .. sold dried herring or 'wicked candles'.

† **Wickedhed** (e. *Obs.* [f. Wicked *a.*[1] + -head.] Wickedness, iniquity; *pl.* wicked acts or doings.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 841 Strang wickedhed Broght adam to sulk a ded. *Ibid.* 23142 Sa duked in þair wicked hedis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 114 He þet..heþ ine his herte hate, wrabe, oþer wyckedhede. 1370–80 *Vis. St. Paul* 46 in *O. E. Misc.* 124 Sore hit is to drede þe places of helle for wikked-hede.

Wickedly (wi·kĕdli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly [2].] In a wicked manner, in various senses of the adj.

1. In the way of wilful wrong-doing; iniquitously, immorally.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4376 Leuer es me be pour and lele Þan wikudli at win catell. 1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1903 Wykkedlyche al þat gode he dyspendyþ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 414 Þu dois nocht anerly Wrang til wa, bot als wykitly Callis oure godis al dewlis. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1918 *Ariadne*. But wikkedely he quitte hire kyndenesse. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 667 He wikkedly.. Hath mordred bothe his children. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2425 3e at wickid ere withia ay wickidly 3e thinke. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xix. 7 O brethren, do not so wickedly. — *Prov.* x. 2 Treasures that are wickedly gotten, profit nothinge. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 338 b, Scipio Africane the seconde..was wekedly slaine in his bedde. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractatus* § 66. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 216 An haeretik denyand wickitlie the Father, the Sone, and the Haly Gaist. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 365 Into the chamber wickedlie he stalkes. 1612 B. Jonson *Catiline* IV. K 2, No man Could be so wickedly, or fondly stupide. 1734 Pope *Ess. Man* IV. 231 Who wickedly is wise, or madly brave, Is but the more a fool, the more a knave. 1808 Mrs. M. T. Kemble *Day after Wedding* 32 Somebody has deceived you, wickedly deceived you.

2. Harmfully, injuriously; fiercely, savagely, severely, cruelly; terribly, disastrously; in later use (chiefly jocular), very badly, abominably, execrably, vilely, 'horridly'.

13.. *Cursor M.* 13840 (Gött.) Quilis þai him war þus handland wikidli als þai moght. *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 1218 Þey wiþ fyn force for-barred his strokes, & woundede him wikkedly. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13149 Him and euery another prince That haue died here thus wickedly. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 86 Þis puluis bigileþ neuer þe paciente ne þe cirurgene, for it doþ not wickedly. *c* 1440 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 53 Some thay vndide and battyn vickydly. 1556 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 243 A great number..did run to see him go so wickedly to his death. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 32 A lewes letter scrible scrable euer the Copurtenaunce of a manes countenaunce will dash a body wickedly. 1882 J. Davis tr. *Oliveira's*

Voy. Ambass. 54 Ladies..most wickedly be-painted. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xv, Do you know whether my fiddle's in tune or no?..'Tis wickedly strung. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 4 The night was now setting in, wickedly black and dreary.

3. Mischievously, maliciously, roguishly.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, A glowering visage, with its thin lips parted wickedly. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* v, His cat looked so wickedly at me, as if I were a blood-relation of the birds upstairs. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* iii, 'I thought you would be tremendously obliged to me', whispered Netta wickedly.

ickedness (wi·kédnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being wicked; wicked character or disposition; depravity, iniquity, immorality.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxx. 23 Luf kells and wickidnes brennys. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ix. 33 Pai er..full of all maner of wickedness and malice. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. ii. 123 *Clau.* Disloyall? *Bast.* The word is too good to paint out her wickednesse. 1625 BACON *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 501 The Wickednesse of Falshood, and Breach of Faith. 1703 DE FOE *More Reform.* 12 What tho' the Baudy runs thro' all he Writ, The more the Wickedness, the more the Wit. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) I. ix. 211 As all this arose from Infirmity, not Wickedness, they met with an easy Pardon. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, The unfortunate little victim..receiving sundry thumps..for having the wickedness to tell a story. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* II. I, So I reasoned in the wickedness of my heart.

2. Wicked action or conduct; iniquity as committed or perpetrated; *occas.* wicked speech or statement.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1090 Mistrauing þan had he son, þat he sum wikcudnes hade don. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 179 þat I sic vikitnes Wald with hyr do and foulnes. *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Mariage* 7, I dar not writen of hyt noo wikkednesse. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 344 Causer of wer, wyrkar of wykitnes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 83 Conteinyng bothe the Heresies already condemned, and also newe errours, and great wickednes. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 72 I hat we suld leif our wickitnes, And fle valne warldlie appetyte. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 98 (Qo. 1) He neuer care what wickednes I doe, If this man come to good. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. vi. 27 For Calamity arriving [*sic*] from great wickedness, the best men have the least Pitty. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 65 The scene of an action..infamous to the French for the enormous wickedness with which they abused their victory. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 367 Persons who think that there is no excess of wickedness for which courage and ability do not atone. 1901 BESANT *London in 18th Cent.* 237 The greatest wickedness that any man could commit, in his eyes, was not to pay his debts.

b. (with *a* and *pl.*) A piece of wickedness; a wicked act or proceeding.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxxviii[i]. 32 Y shal visite in chastening her wickednesses. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems, De Prof.* 99 Ther wikkednesis yif thow do Observe, Tabyde thy doom yt were to hard a schour. 1535 COVERDALE *Amos* i. 13 For thre and foure wickednesses of Edom I wil not spare him. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 26 He fed his eyes by being a spectator of those wickednesses, which Nero only commanded to be done. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 47 So premeditated and elaborate a wickedness. 1817 SOUTHEY *Let. to Editor of Courier* 17 Mar., That it might be published surreptitiously at any future time, was a wickedness of which I never dreamt. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xli, I'd sooner do a wickedness as I could suffer for by myself, than ha' brought her to do wickedness.

†3. Poorness of spirit: cf. WICKED *a.*[1] 2 d. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 280 Gif 3he let cowardis And wikkidnes 3our hertis suppris.

†4. In physical sense: Malignancy, corruption: cf. WICKED *a.*[1] 2 c. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 18 Whanne þe bodi is purgid fro wickide humouris, þe wickidnes of þe mater renneþ fro þe wounde.

Wicken, variant of QUICKEN *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2]

Wicker (wi·kəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 **wyker**, 4-6 **wekir**, 6-7 **wycker**, (5 **wikre**, **wikir**, **wykyr**, **qwykyr**, **wekker**, 6 **wyore**, **wykir**, **-ur**, **wiker**, **wikker**, **wykkyr**, **wiokar**, **-ir**, 7 **wykker**), 5- **wicker**. [East Scandinavian (MSw. and Sw. dial. *vikar*, early Da. *viger*, Da. dial. *vigger* willow, osier, branch of willow); f. root of Sw. *vika* to bend (cf. OE. *wīcan* to give way, collapse, and WEAK *a.*, WOKE).]

1. A pliant twig or small rod, usually of willow, esp. as used for making baskets and various other objects; an osier; a withe. Chiefly in *pl.* (= 2).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVIII. (1495), Suche vessels were fyrste made of tree and of wykers: as panyers, baskettes. 1446 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23385 Whan the smale wikres brak, The hopes wenten al to wrak. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 727/25 *Hec vimen, -inis*, qwykyr. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vi. 45 My hert that neuer wes stickit,.. Thought I wald bynd it with a wickir. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 31 The sayles were made of greate russhes, or of wyckers, and in some places of lether. 1586 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 861/2 Great images of wickers.. made like great men of diuerse strange nations. 1627 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 58 In our Country, the Hives principally in use, are either made of wickers, or of straw. 1807 CRABBE *Sir Eustace Grey* 247 And stones erect their shadows shed On humble graves, with wickers bound. 1822 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 33 The wickers of the [lobster] pots. 1899 KROPOTKIN *Mem. Rev.* IV. IX. II. 70 To ply the wickers and to shape them into an elegant basket.

b. Such a twig or small branch, as part of the living plant. ? *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Lament for Makaris* 14 As with the wynd wavis the wickir. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Esparto*, wicker, a kinde of tree whereof they make frailes. 1796 BURNS *Poem on Life* iii, Flickering, feeble, and unsicker.., Aye wavering like the willow-wicker.

c. A twig or small branch used as a mark. *local.*

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wike, Wicker*, a mark used in setting out tithes; generally a small branch of a tree.

2. (without *pl.*) Wickers collectively, or as plaited together; wickerwork.

1336 *Cal. Docum. Scot.* (1887) III. 356 Et stramen, 'wekirr' et 'tempil' pro coopertura domorum. *Ibid.*, In empcione.. de 'wekir' et 'tempil' per vices xij d. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 227/1 His vessell wherin he weted his wekker & roddes for to make withall panyers maundes & baskettes. 1552-3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 112, iiij[or] hampers of wicker to put in thapparrell. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II* c. 4 Sched. s.v. *Bottles*, Bottles of Glass covered with Wicker. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 709 Youths and maidens blithe In frails of wicker bore the luscious fruit. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXI. IV. 203 Shields of wood or wicker, whitened over, were substituted by some for metal armour.

3. A basket, cradle, chair, etc. of wicker.

1646 CODRINGTON *Earl of Essex* 2 To omit the presages.. of the promising Madams who rocked his Cradle, I will not say, that in that moving wicker (like another Hercules) hee strangled in each hand the two invading Dragons of transcending Prerogative and Superstition. 1699 MEAGRE *New Art Garden.* 40 The Orange-trees..are so tender, that they must be planted in Pots, Wickers, or Wooden Troughs. 1740 SOMERVILE *Hobbinol.* II. 329 By that illustrious Wicker, where they sate In comely Pride. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 137 Each having a white wicker over brimm'd With April's tender younglings. 1862 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 137 Huge wickers of eggs.

4. *a. attrib.* Made or consisting of wicker, as a basket, chair, etc.; also, covered with or encased in wicker, as a bottle. See also WICKERWORK.

1522 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 84 Two wycre bottelles. 1523-4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 322, ij yerdys of wykur matt. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 358 The..valliaunt warriour, was once wrapped in swathling clowtes, and lay crying in a wicker cradle. 1587 A. FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1313/2 Pendents made of wicker rods. 1596 SPENSER *Prothal.* ii, A Flocke of Nymphes.. And each one had a little wicker basket, Made of fine twigs. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 515/2 Ilk hundreth wykker spurris..a penneis. 1811 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* K 2, A wicker cage tames a nightingale. 1819 *Depos. Bk. Archdeac. Essex & Colch.* lf. 98 (MS.) We found the said Testatrix sitting in a wicker chayer by the fyer side. 1676 SAMMES *Brit. Antiq. Illustr.* I. 105 In sacrificing of Men to their Idols, in a Wicker Image. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 203 Wicker-hives made of Privet, Willow, or Harl. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 74 Twigs that would bend to make Wicker Ware. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) V. 338 A wicker basket of palm twigs. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix, Gabriel Grub..drew forth his wicker bottle. 1892 HARDY *Tess* iii, The wicker-cradle they had all been rocked in.

b. *Wicker wings*, attributed to various sinister creatures.

The source of the allusion is unascertained: connexion with the passage translated in quot. 1837 in c below is improbable.

1627 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* I. v, Harke, harke, harke the foule Bird [*viz.* the screech-owl]..how shee flutters with her wicker wings! 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 478 The Fury ..on her wicker Wings, sublime through Night, She to the Latian Palace took her Flight. *a* 1729 CONGREVE *Impost. Thing* 84 The Goblin plys his wicker wings.

c. *Comb.*, as *wicker-bottomed*, *-cased*, *-covered*, *-weaving*, *-winged*, *-woven* adjs.; *wicker-wise* adv.

1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xiv, In the large *wicker-bottomed arm-chair..sat old Martin Poyser. 1870 DICKENS *Edwin Drood* xii, A goodly *wicker-cased bottle. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxx, A *wicker-covered flask. 1900 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 28 Feb. 205/1 A *wicker-weaving loom. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristoph., Birds* I. 248 *Wicker-wing'd Diitrephes [Διιτρέφης γε πτυτταία μόνον ἔχων πτερά]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. xiv. I. 367 A quilt or mat made of Date-tree twigs, plaited and wound one within another *wicker-wise. 1859 BOYD *Recreat. Country Parson* v. 168 The *wicker-woven box.

Wi·cker, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To furnish, fit, cover, or inclose with wicker. (Chiefly in pa. pple.: see also WICKERED.)

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. ii, A mustie bottle, new wickerd. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. 49 Thir Ships of light timber wickerd with Oysier betweene, and coverd over with Leather. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 275/2 Upon this [*sc.* a surface of dry moss], hurdles.. wickered with heath, were laid. 1882 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* xii, High frames made by planting four bamboos in a square and wickering the top.

Wicker, variant of WHICKER *v.*, to whinny.

Wickered (wi·kəɹd), *a.* [f. WICKER *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Encased in wicker; inclosed or surrounded by wickerwork.

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* 6 French Wine in Wicker'd Bottles. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 73 P 4 A painted board.. stuck up at the end of his wicker'd turf. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 53. 60 Near which you always find some sherbet-seller, resting his wickered bottles.

2. Made of wicker: = WICKER *sb.* 4 a.

1752 DERRING *Nottingham* 73 An old wickered Chair. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 275/2 The hurdles, or wickered foundation. 1929 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 25 Oct. 743/2 Wickered furniture predominated.

Wickerwork (wi·kəɹwɔ̄k). [f. WICKER *sb.* + WORK *sb.*] Work consisting of wickers; a structure of flexible twigs, osiers, or the like plaited together; basket-work.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 252 We fell to work to make more Wicker Work. 1780 COWPER *A Fable* 3 A raven..on her wicker-work high mounted Her chickens prematurely counted. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xiv. II. 274 The houses of Sardis were chiefly of wicker-work. 1840 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, Every plank and timber creaked, as if the ship were made of wicker-work. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 622 Those rude coracles of wickerwork covered with the skins of horses, in which the Celtic peasantry fished for trout and salmon.

attrib. 1846 SHARPE *Hist. Egypt* xi. 376 Ceylon..had often been reached from Africa..in wickerwork boats made of papyrus. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) xiii. 305 A house with open wickerwork sides.

Hence **Wi·ckerworked** (-wɔ̄ɹkt) *a.*, made of or inclosed in wickerwork; **Wi·ckerworker**, one who makes wickerwork.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 80 Basket maker... Wicker Worker. 1900 'H. LAWSON' *Over Sunbrails* 66 A big old wicker-worked demijohn.

Wicket (wi·kėt). Forms: [3 **wicat**], 3-5 **wykett(e**, 3-6 **wyket**, **wiket**, 4-5 **wikett**, **weket**, 4-6 **wykket(t**, **wycket**, **wickett**, 5 **wickette**, **wekyt**, (**wigate**), 5-6 **weket**, 6 **weiket**, 5- **wicket**. [a. AF. = ONF. *wiket* (Norman *viquet*, Walloon *wichet*) = OF. (mod. F.) *guichet*; usually referred to the Teut. root appearing in ON. *vikja* to move, turn (Sw. *vika*, Da. *vige*); but the forms OF. *guischet*, *wisket*, Pr. *guisquet* indicate the possibility of another source.]

1. A small door or gate made in, or placed beside, a large one, for ingress and egress when the large one is closed; also, any small gate for foot-passengers, as at the entrance of a field or other enclosure.

[12.. in E. M. Thompson *Cust. St. Aug. Cant.* (1904) II. 256 Servientes sacristæ tenentur esse intro ad 'Covrefou'.. tunc deferentur claves ad sacristam, tam 'wicat' quam magnæ portæ cimiterii.] *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1074 (Camb. MS.) Horn gan to þe 3ate turne & þat wiket vnspurne. *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 528, I fonde a wiket small, So shett that I ne myght In gon. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5545 In at a wicket he went. *a* 1483 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 300, ij keyys for þe wekett. 1485 in *Comp. Rolls Obed. St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 384 Super magnam portam et *le Wigate* ejusdem portæ. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 462 Mawgys cam nere to the wycket of the gate. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxlvi. 546 He came to the abbey gate & callyd ye porter,..he openyd the weket & beheld Huon,..& sayd 'pylgryme, enter when you plese'. Then Huon enterid in at the weket. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 295 Hē tooke his leaue of hir, and went out at a little wicket into a narrowe by lane. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 484 Now Saint Peter at Heav'ns Wicket seems To wait them with his Keys. 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* xi, The wicket, opening with a latch, Received the harmless pair. 1818 HAZLITT *Engl. Poets* ii. 70 You see a little..old man by a wood-side opening a wicket. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* x, He who would thrive at Court must know the private wickets and concealed staircases. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xv, A. boy came out of a sort of office, and looked at us over a spiked wicket. 1899 GOSSE *Donne* I. 92 The gates of the house were shut upon the dignified envoys, but, after some stay, ..they were let in by the wicket.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

a 1400 *Prymer* (1895) 12 Thou art wiket of þe hi3 king, & þe greet 3ate of li3t þat schyneþ bri3t. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxii. 4 Þou..wan in at þe wyket of synne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 117 b, Stryue to entre by the strayte wycket. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 169 With hir that will clicket make daunger to cope, Least quickly hir wicket [*i.e.* mouth] seeme easie to ope. 1663 G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoici* xii. (1665) 96 Seeing nothing is roomed in our judgement and apprehension, but what first entred by the wicket of sense. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. ii. 22 Thou art the Wicket to thy Mistresses Gate, to be opened for all Comers. *a* 1870 ROSSETTI *Poems, Love's Nocturn* v, At death's wicket.

†2. A small opening, esp. one through which to look out or communicate with the outside; a loop-hole, grill, or the like. *Obs.*

1296 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/20 m. 4 *dorso* (P.R.O.) In .xxv. anulis ad Hecch', tribus paribus gemell ad Wykett' Bargie, xij Keuillis ferri ad Castrum .vij. d. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4360 Ayenst the toure A postern ther is,..There is right A privey wiket; Draw we thidre..That our frendes may se vs within. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Wykett, or lytylle wyndowe, *fenestra*. ? 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 83 They have made wykets on every quarter of the hwse to schote owte atte. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxii. 136 Eche of them shal haue a litel wiket open for to shote a gonne. 1626 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 341 With ane litill wicket..to luik in to the palasis. 1676 COLES *Dict., Wicket*, a casement. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1281/4 Having seized the Wicket or Sally-port, they got on the Ramparts. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Wicket*, a casement, also, a little door. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 853/2 *Wicket*, a small door in the gate of a fortified place, &c. or a hole in a door through which to view what passes without.

3. *Cricket.* A set of three sticks called *stumps*, fixed upright in the ground, and surmounted by two small pieces of wood called *bails* (BAIL *sb.*[4] 2), forming the structure (27 × 8 in.) at which the bowler aims the ball, and at which (in front and a little to one side of it) the batsman stands to defend it with the bat. (The wicket formerly consisted of two stumps and one long bail, forming a structure one foot high by two feet wide.)

Single wicket, a form of the game in which there is only one wicket, and therefore only one batsman 'in' at a time. (Also *attrib.*) *Double wicket*, the ordinary form, in which there are two wickets placed 22 yards apart, between which the two batsmen run. *To keep wicket*, to act as WICKET-

1733 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 6 The wickets are to be pitched by twelve o'clock. *c* 1750 in 'Bat' *Crick. Mag.* (1850) 30 [Cricket] is performed by a person who, with a clumsy wooden bat, defends a wicket raised of two slender sticks, with one across. 1803 *Laws of Cricket* 6 The Bowler..shall bowl four balls before he changes wickets. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, Played a match once—single wicket. 1849 *Laws of Cricket* in 'Bat' *Crick. Mag.* (1850) 60 The bowler is subject to the same laws as at double wicket. 1850 'BAT' *Crick. Mag.* 98 A single wicket player. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 13. 306 Serjeant-Major McJug, ..one of our best bats, went to the wicket first with Winterburn. 1884 *Lillywhite's Crick. Ann.* 10 Tylecote kept wicket well. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 May 11/1 When the wickets were drawn Gloucestershire had made 361.

b. In various expressions referring to a batsman's tenure of the wicket, or that part of an innings during which some particular batsman is (or might be) 'in', i.e. at the wicket:

e. g. *to take four wickets* (said of a bowler), to put four batsmen 'out'; *three wickets* (or *third wicket*) *down*, three men having been put out; *the sixth wicket fall for 75* = the sixth batsman was put out after 75 runs had been made in the innings; *to win by eight wickets*, i. e. by exceeding the opponents' full score of runs, with eight wickets yet to 'fall' (= with two men 'not out' and seven not having been 'in' in the innings).

1738 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 21 Battle .. left Eastbourne 43 to get, which they did with ease, leaving four wickets to be put up when Battle was beat. 1749 *Ibid.* 42 They..had two wickets to go down. 1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* lv, [They] had beaten the dalesmen by ten wickets. 1881 *Standard* 28 June 3/1 Another wicket now fell,..—six for 76. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 15 May 2/7 Full score, six wickets for 72 runs. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 16 Dec 8/1 The first-wicket partnership of MacLaren and Hayward. 1902 *Ibid.* 4 June 6/7 Jackson took four wickets with five consecutive balls.

c. *transf.* The ground between and about the wickets, esp. in respect of its condition; the pitch. 1862 *Sporting Life* 14 June, Nottinghamshire .. sent C. Daft and Brampton to two as fine wickets as the Surrey 'or any other ground' in England could furnish. 1881 *Standard* 14 June 3/8 The condition of the wicket, on which the fast bowling bumped and the slows popped about. 1881 *Daily News* 9 July 2 The wicket did not seem to play particularly well. 1884 *Lillywhite's Crick. Ann.* 3 The English eleven commenced batting on a perfect wicket. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 17 Apr. 6/1 The wickets were all matting,..there being not a single turf wicket in the [Cape] colony.

4. *U. S. Croquet.* A hoop. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xii, Jo was through the last wicket, and had missed the stroke...Fred..gave a stroke, his ball hit the wicket, and stopped an inch on the wrong side. 1890 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Croquet*, Each person in turn strikes his own ball once; if his ball passes through a wicket..he is allowed another stroke.

5. In various technical senses.

a. A small gate or valve for emptying the chamber of a canal-lock, or in the chute of a water-wheel for regulating the passage of water. b. *Coal-mining.* A very wide heading or stall, usually with two road-ways, in a variety of pillar-and-stall work (called *wicket-work*) in use in North Wales. c. One of a set of gratings in the form of which the lead is made up in the manufacture of white lead.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Wicket*, a gate formed like a butterfly-valve, in the chute of a water-wheel, to graduate the amount of water passing to the wheel. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* 1893 *Times* 16 Dec. 9/5 The dangers to health begin with the second process, the conversion of the 'wickets' by the corrosion of an acid into white lead.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wicket-door* (= sense 1), *-grate*, *-window*. See also WICKET-GATE, -KEEPER.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xix, An arch'd portal door, In whose broad folding leaves..Was framed a wicket window-grate,..The gallant Knight took earnest view The grated wicket-window through. 1814 — *Wav.* ix, A little oaken wicket-door. 1842 BORROW *Bibles in Spain* xxxix, A dusky passage, at the end of which was a wicket door.

Wicket, obs. form of WICKED.

Wi·cket-gate. [GATE *sb.*1] = WICKET 1.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 92 To wynne vp þe wiket-3at þat þe wey schutte. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 10 That side of the Slough, that was..next to the Wicket-gate. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 316 A wicket gate, separating the yard from the passage. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxiv, A garden, whence a wicket-gate opened into a small paddock. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. i, She opened the little wicket-gate which led to the vicarage garden, and passed in. *fig.* 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, So Nero deliberately chose the evil and refused the good, and the narrow wicket-gate of repentance was closed behind him.

Wicket-keep, colloq. abbrev. of next. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 July 3/1 One of these days [he] will be as good a batsman as he is a wicket-keep. 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 15 June 739/1 Reid was a first-rate wicket-keep.

Wi·cket-kee·per. *Cricket.* A player stationed behind the wicket to stop the ball if it passes it, and if possible to put the batsman 'out' by 'stumping' or 'catching' (see STUMP *v.*1 8, CATCH *v.* 24 c).

17.. *Laws of Cricket* in Grace *Cricket* (1891) 15 The Wicket Keeper shall stand at a reasonable distance behind ye Wicket, and shall not move till ye Ball is out of ye Bowler's Hands. 1878 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* III. I. i. § 4. 671 The office of Wicket-keeper is second only to that of the bowler. 1910 *Times* 5 Feb. 6/3 David Hunter..is retiring after having been 21 years wicketkeeper for Yorkshire.

So **Wi·cket-kee·ping**, the occupation of a wicket-keeper (also *attrib.*).

1836 IZAAK *Angler's Rambles* 207 One or two prided themselves on their wicket-keeping. 1851 LILLYWHITE *Guide Cricketers* 62 Box has..improved very much upon the wicket-keeping glove. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxvii, It demanded..a constant attention, and a quickness of eye and hand, very like that exacted by wicket-keeping.

Wickeyberry, Wickey-up: see WICKY, WICKYUP.

†Wickhals. *Obs.* [app. f. WICK *a.* + HALSE *sb.*1, neck.] app. A gallows-bird, rogue.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 267 To white þise cardinals traunild for þe pes, Here of a wikhals how he bigan a res. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 10086 Let him neuere dye of no wyk-hals!

Wickham (wi·kăm). *Angling.* Colloq. shortening of *Wickham's Fancy*, an artificial trout-fly.

1876 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. (ed. 4) 241 The Wickham's Fancy..enjoys a wide reputation. 1911 *Corner of Harley Street* I. 9 Snatching his joy as one of your own parr will take a Wickham on a clear pool.

Wickhamick: see WYKEHAMIC.

Wickid, obs. form of WICKED.

Wicking (wi·kiŋ), *sb.* [f. WICK *sb.*1 + -ING 1 g.] Material for making wicks; cord or tape of cotton or other fibre, to be cut into lengths for wicks.

1873 J. RICHARDS *Operator's Handbk.* 95 The wicks should be of wire wound round with textile material, ordinary wicking for instance. 1908 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xi, Torches, which were often merely catsup jugs with wicking in the necks.

Wicking, *vbl. sb.*1, 2: see WICK *v.*1, 2.

Wicking, var. VIKING; see also s.v. WICK *sb.*8

Wickir, obs. form of WICKER.

Wickit, obs. Sc. form of WICKED.

Wicklif- (**-lef-, -lev-, -liv-**): see WYCLIF-.

Wickner. *Obs.* exc. *local.* Forms: 1–2 **wicnere**, 3 **wikenere**, **-are**, 5–6 **wig(e)ner**, 6– **wickner.** [OE. *wicnere*, f. *wicnian*, f. *wicu* WIKE *sb.*] An official; in spec. use (see quots. 1574).

c 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* (1853) IX. 453 *Dispensator*,..wicnere. 1155 *Charter* in *Anglia* (1884) VII. 220 Swa ful & swa ford awa mine ażene Wicneres hit sechan scolden. *c* 1205 LAY. 6704 He sende word bi his beste wikeneren. *Ibid.* 18175 Imong þat he king wæs: & his wikenares chæs. 1391–2 *Duchy of Lancaster Ministers' Acc.* 288/4734 (P.R.O.) In alloc[acione] J p[re]pos[iti] J. messor[is] J. collector[is] et iiij Wik[enariorum] videl[icet] de Gymynham Southreppes Trunch et Monekle. 1485 in C. M. Hoare *Hist. E. Angl. Sohs* (1918) 180 Wegenarius. 15.. *Ibid.* 132 Y^e wigners of Gymi[n]ghm, Trunche, Southreppa, Monisley, & Trymi[n]ghm. 1574 in *Orig. Papers Norf. & Norwich Archæol. Soc.* (1923) XXI. III. 386 Agnes Swan widdow..payeth to ye Wickn^r of Sydestrond 2^s 9^d for & in consideracon of rent of Assize, common helpe, mouseable rents & other Customes and services. *Ibid.* 387 There is a wickn^r Chosen eu'ry yeare in eu'ry towne through ye Soken & during his yeare his duty is to warne ye Courte & Leete for ye towne where he is chosen wickn^r & to warne ye Tennants upon warneing given to him by ye Hayward to doe their workes. *Ibid.* 388 And further the said wickn^rs office is to distreyne within the towne where he is wickn^r. [*Ibid.*, The duties of the modern wickners of the several parishes within the Soke of Gimingham are limited to the periodical collection and payment of certain small rents and fines due to the lord of the manor.] 1614 in C. M. Hoare *E. Angl. Sohs* 132 To goe Wykner for this yere to come. 1633 *Ibid.* 343, I doe also put the sayd Thos Playford in authoryty to serve as wickner for my howse Southwood in Northrepes. 1719 *Ibid.* 132 We chuse Mary Calk widdow to serve y^e office of wickner for y^e yeare ensuing.

Wickopick, -opy, -up, var. WICOPY.

Wickud, -yd, obs. forms of WICKED.

Wicky (wi·ki). *local.* [? dial. alteration of QUICKEN.] a. The mountain-ash or rowan-tree: = QUICKEN *sb.*1 1 a. Also **wickeyberry tree.** b. *U. S.* The sheep-laurel, *Kalmia angustifolia*, and an allied species, *K. hirsuta.*

1681 T. LANGFORD *Instr. Fruit-trees* 118 Graff the Service on the Wickeyberry-tree, or the White-thorn. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wicky*, same as *Wichen-tree.*

Wickyup (wi·kiˌʊp). *U. S.* Also **wickeyup, wickie-up, wi(o)kiup; wakiup, wackie-up.** [American Indian (Menominee *wikiop*, Saki *wakeab*; cf. Cree *mekewap*, Montagnais *mitshinap*); perh. a variant of *wikiwam*, WIGWAM.] A rude hut consisting of a frame covered with brushwood or the like, used by nomadic tribes in the west and south-west. Hence extended to any small hut or shanty.

1857 *Jrnl. Discourses* (1858) V. 80 After feeding to our guide some bread and water..we asked which was the way to Jacob's 'Wickyup'. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xiii. 273 An Indian ranchero where several willow wickyups were built upon the bank of a cold brook. 1874 T. B. ALDRICH *Prud. Palfrey* vii, A city of tents, pine-huts, and rude brush wakiups. 1905 *Pearson's Mag.* XIX. 359 The American Indian uses his 'wackie-up' as a mere stopping place for a night or two while trekking across country.

Wiclif- (**-lef-, -lev-, -liv-**): see WYCLIF-.

Wicopy (wi·kˌpi). Also 8 **wiokopick**, 9 **wicko-py, wickaby, wickup, wikop, wicup.** [American Indian (Cree *wikupêy*, etc.).] a. The leatherwood or moosewood of N. America, *Dirca palustris*; also, the basswood or American linden, *Tilia americana.* b. An American name for species of willow-herb (*Epilobium*): distinctively *Indian* or *herb w.*

1778 J. CARVER *Trans. N. Amer.* xix. 409 The Wickopick or Suckwick appears to be a species of the white wood,.. distinguished..by a peculiar quality in the bark, which when pounded and moistened..becomes..of the consistence ..of size. 1857 P. H. GOSSE in *Life* (1890) 108 The tall wickup plants with which the ground was..covered. [*note*, Or 'wickaby', the leather-plant (*Dirca palustris*), a shrub common in the Canadian woods.] 1888 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 373 He will be attracted by the whaboo and the wicopy.

Wictaill, -ale, -ayle, -ayll, obs. ff. VICTUAL.

Wicth, Wictor(e, -orag, -ori(e, -ory, -our(e: see WIGHT *a.*, VICTOR *sb.*1 and 2, VICTORAGE, VICTORY.

Wid: see WADE *v.*, WED *v.*, WIDE, WIGHT, WITH, WOOD *sb.* and *a.*

Widbin, dial. var. WOODBINE.

Widda(h, vulgar pronunciation of WIDOW.

†Wi·ddendream, wi·ddrim. *Sc. Obs.* Also **wudden dream, widdrum, -dreme, windrem, woo-, wuddrum.** [OE. *wēddendræm* 'furor animi' and *wēddræm* 'demonium' (also phr. *on wēddum dręame* in delirium, lit. in mad joy: see WOOD *a.*, DREAM *sb.*1). For its survival in Sc. cf. WEDEN-ONFA'. For the phonology of the first syllable cf. Sc. *widcok* woodcock, *widbin* woodbine, and for the survival of the medial syllable, southern Sc. *Munenday* (OE. *mōnandæg*) Monday.] A state of mental disturbance or confusion; a wild fit. Chiefly in phr. *in a widdendream* or *widdrim*, usu. = in a 'furious' hurry, all of a sudden.

[*c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. vi. 108 On swelcum wodan dreame, þæt hie woldon sęlcne mon,..mid atre acwellan, & hit on niete oþþe on drynce to ȝeþicgenne geseallan. *a* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 145/10 *Furor enim animi cito finitur, sed grauius est quam ira*, reþnes, wodendream. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 110 Seo dohtor, þe on wodum dreame læg dwellende.]

1785 R. FORBES *Ajax's Sh.* etc. 31 At last we, like fierdy fellows, flew to't flaught-bred, thinkin to raise it in a widden-dream. 1805 JAMIESON *Water Kelpie* xix, The trout, the par, now here, now there, As in a widdrim bang. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 45 Sae fiercelins had his wid-dreme stirr'd him. 1872 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxxix, [He] should, in a sort of reckless 'wudden dream', determine that [etc.].

Widder, obs. f. WETHER, WITHER; dial. or vulgar f. WIDOW. **Widderschins, -shins, -sins,** etc., Sc. var. WITHERSHINS.

Widdiful (wi·diful), *sb.* (*a.*) *Sc.* Forms: 6 **widdi-, -e-, -iefow, widdy fow, viddefu(l,** 8 **widdy-fou',** 8–9 **widdiefu',** 9 **wuddiefu', (widi-, woodiefu), widdiful (-fu').** [f. WIDDY + -FUL 2: = one who would fill a 'widdy' or halter.] One who deserves hanging, a gallows-bird; a scamp, rascal. (Cf. HEMPY.) Also *attrib.* or *adj.* Fit for a halter, deserving to be hanged; scampish, rascally.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 201 Wan wisaged widdefow, out of thy wit gane wyld. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3676 My Lords, for Gods saik let not hang me, Howbeit that widdiefows wald wrang me. *Ibid.* 3986 The widdifow wairdanis tuke my geir. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 Viddefullis al, viddefuls al grit and smal. 1737 RAMBAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 123 Ye're a widdy-fou' against hanging time. 1793 BURNS *Meg o' the Mill* ii, The Laird was a widdiefu', bleerit knurl. 1808 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Widdifow*.., a cantankerous, spiteful person, of small stature. 1916 C. ABEL *Wylins fae my Wallet* 15 The baillie loon, that widdiefu' Files sets me at the kye.

Widdle (wi·d'l), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **widdil, wuddle.** [app. f. next.] Commotion, bustle; disturbance, trouble; strife, contention.

1786 BURNS *Ep. to Major Logan* iii, To cheer you through the weary widdle O' this wild warl'. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., They had a widdil thegither. 1847 J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 326 This wearifu' world's a wuddle o' care.

†Widdle, *v.*1 *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 **wid(d)ill, widle,** 7 **widdle.** [Origin obscure.]

1. *trans.* To invoke or inflict a curse upon: = CURSE *v.* 2, 5.

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 63 Quha brekis the secund command?..thai that..warila, bannis and widdillis thair saule..for ony vaine mater. *Ibid.*, Thai that will nocht chasteis..thair barnis fra lesingis, sweiring, banning and widling. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 385/29 The hennis of Hadingtoun sensyne wald nocht lay, For this wyld wilroun wich thame widlit sa and wareit. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 250 Like Dido, Cupido I widlill and war'e.

2. To beguile, to lead astray.

1697 CLELAND *Poems* 80 It's Antichrist his Pipes and Fidles, And other Tools, wherewith he Widdles Poor Caitiffs into dark delusions.

Widdle, *v.*2 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 9 **wuddle.** [Parallel to WADDLE.] *intr.* To move slowly and irregularly; to waddle; to wriggle; *fig.* to work slowly and laboriously; to get *through* something in spite of difficulties or hindrances. Also **Widdle-waddle** *v.*, and †*adv.*, with a waddling or unsteady movement.

1660 in W. W. Wilkins *Pol. Ball.* (1860) I. 160 But Neil, a rank rider, gets first in the saddle,..She quickly perceiv'd that he rode widdle-waddle. 1808 in JAMIESON. 1844 *Whitelaw's Bk. Sc. Song* 268/2 We hope to wuddle through Life's linked and ravelled clew. 1864 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xiii, Her mind was..engrossed wi' thochts o' her bit laddie, an' hoo he wad widdle through the warl'. 1886 CUMBERL. *Gloss. Rochdale, Widdle-waddle*, to walk from side to side, as a duck. 1890 SWAINE *Notandums* xix. 124, I aye like to be waunerin' aboot and widdlin' amang the beasts.

Widdle, variant of WHEEDLE, to peach.

Widdow, -ed, -er: see WIDOW, WIDOWED, WIDOWHEAD, WIDOWER.

Widdrawte, var. WITHDRAUGHT *Obs.*

Widdrim: see WIDDENDREAM.

Widdy (wi·di). Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 5 widde, wedde, *pl.* weddeis, -ys, wyddis, 6 wedy, viddy, -ie, woddie, *pl.* widdeis, weddeis, veddeis, 6–9 widdie, 7 wyddie, 8–9 woodie, woody, 9 widdey, wuddy -ie, 5– widdy. [Sc. and north. dial. variant of WITHY.]

1. A band or rope, properly one made of intertwined osiers or the like.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 275 Thai band thaim fast with wedeis [*ed.* 1570 widdeis] and sad sar. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xii, Out throw the wod come rydand catiues twane, Ane on ane asse, a widdie about his mone. 1513 *Rec. Burgh Prestwick* (Maitland Club) 45 For..cuttyn of the vyddys of þe dur. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 90 Withe widdeis [*s.v.* windassis] and towis. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) I. 87 Instead of Ropes for Halters and Harness, they generally make use of Sticks of Birch twisted and knotted together; these are called *Woodies*. 1789 BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* vi, I hae a wife and twa wee laddies, They maun hae brose and brats o' duddies!..But I'll sned besoms—thraw saugh woodies Before they want. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss., Widdy*, twigs of willows or hasles dried partially in the fire, and then twisted into wreaths for many agricultural purposes.

2. A rope for hanging, a halter; used (like *halter* and *gallows*) in various allusive expressions referring to hanging.

In later use sometimes app. understood as = gallows (in forms *waddy*, *woodie* perh. by association with *wood*).

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 803 Callit him thryss thevismek, to thrawe in a widdy. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIII. 48 He had purgatioun to mak a theif To dee withowt a widdy. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 367 Thou has a wedy teuch .. about thy crag to rax. *c* 1536 LYNDESAY *Compl. Bagsche* 151 This Prouerb, it is of verite, . . Hiest in Court, nixt the weddie. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 699/40 All tymes in thair legasie, Fyre, sword, watter and woddie, Or ane of thir infirmeteis. 1727 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 221 In short, I think what the wooddie leaves the water gets. 1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 213 God sin the Liars girn i' the Widdy. 1785 BURNS *Twa Herds* xvi, Then Orthodoxy yet may prance, And Learning in a woody dance. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXIV, There is as much between the craig and the woodie as there is between the cup and the lip. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* iii, There 's the shadow of the wuddy..that lies braid across your path.

†3. A certain quantity of iron: perh. orig. a bundle bound with a 'widdy'. *Obs.*

1482 in *Charters, etc. Edin.* (1871) 168 The hundreth widde of Oismond irne..cumand to Leith. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 124, iijxx xv wedeis of irne, price of the wedde iij s. 1484 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 230, xx wethyis ferri..xx wyddis ferri. 1527 in Sir W. Fraser *Sutherland Bk.* (1892) III. 79 Fowrtein xx of veddeis of Irna. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 516/1 Ilk hundreth wyddie of Oismond irya of unfreemen cuniand to Leith.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 2): †**widdy-neck**, one deserving or destined to be hanged. (See also WIDDIFUL.)

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* 653 In dreid and schame our dayis we indure; Syne widdienek and crakraip callit ala, And till oure hire hangit vp be the hals. *a* 1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 765 Spew black, widdie neck!

Widdy, dial. or vulgar var. WIDOW.

Wide (weid), *sb.* [absol. use of WIDE *a.* (OE. *wīde* did not survive). Cf. ON. *víddi* width, widening, *víðir* the wide sea, the main, f. *víðr* WIDE *a.*]

†1. Width, breadth. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1646 Couetys, hordan, envie, and pride Has spred þis world on lenth and wide. *Ibid.* 1676 A schippe..Seuen score elles lang and ten, Thrys aght on wyde, on heght fiueten.

†b. *On wide*: abroad, all around. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1423 He wayted onwyde, his wenches he byholdes.

2. †a. The open sea. b. A wide, extensive, or open space. Now only *poet.*

(Cf. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xciii[i]. 4 Fram wæterstefnum widra manigra; Vulg. *a vocibus aquarum multarum.*)

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1013 Þai seyiden in to þe wide. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* xl, The waste wide Of that abyss.

3. *Cricket.* [Short for *wide ball*, WIDE *a.* 10 a.] A ball bowled wide of the wicket, counting one against the bowler's side.

1850 'BAT' *Crick. Man.* 46 Rule the [scoring] sheet..with three additional [lines] for wides, byes, and no-balls.

Wide (wəid), *a.* Forms: 1–4 wid, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) wyd, 4–6 wyde (4 *Sc.* vyde, 5 wyyd, wijd, 7 weede), 3– wide. Comp. **wider** (wəi·dəɹ), also, with shortened vowel, 1 widdra, 4 wydder, 4–6 widder (5 -ir, -ur); sup. **widest** (wəi·dést). [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *wīd* = OFris., OS. *wīd* (MLG. *wīd*, MDu. *wijt*, Du. *wijd*, etc.), OHG., MHG. *wīt* (G. *weit*), ON. *víðr* (Sw., Da. *vid*) :— OTeut. **wīdas*; further relations obscure.]

I. 1. Having great extent (esp. horizontally); vast, spacious, ample, extensive, roomy. *Obs.* exc. as generalized use of sense 5.

Beowulf 1859 Þanden ic wealde widan rices. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 9 Wæs his rice brad, wid & weorðlic. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 28 The chambres and the stables weren wyde. *Ibid.* 491 Wyd was his parisshe and houses fer a sonder. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 13 Cristendom was nyh wydder þan þe empere of Rome. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9481 He woundit þat worthy in his wide prote. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xxi. 9 It is better to dwell in a corner vnder ye house toppe, then with a braulinge woman in a wyde house. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 137 This wide and vniuersall Theater Presents more wofull Pageants then the Sceane Wherein we play in. 1600 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* v. viii, The wide horizon. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 265 The wide open Places under the Chief Cupuloes of their Bazars. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xvii, A wyde and splendid hall. 1847 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* viii. 84 At Iona, or Icolm-kill, in the midst of wide waters. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Wks. Fancy & Imag., Longing* iii, O all wide places, far from feverous towns!..Room! give me room!

b. as a conventional epithet of words denoting an extensive area, esp. the earth and the sea (*poet.* and *rhet.*); as an epithet of *world*, in later use sometimes implying contrast to the privacy or security of one's own home or country.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 104 Ac þes wida grund stod deop & dim. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 542 Sume bi wæron..on widdre sæ besencte. *c* 1000 ORMIN 12117 Off all þiss wide middell-ærd Þe kinedomess alle. *c* 1205 LAY. 112 Eneas þe duc mid his driht folcke Widen iwalken ȝend þi wide water. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 60 Dat was þe firme morȝen tid, Dat euere sþrong in werld[e] wid. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13702 Þair ligh wald man suld hir stan, In to midward þis temple wide. 13.. *K. Horn* 643 (Harl.) Þe kyng rod on hontynge to þe wode wyde. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* II. 934 Alle þe world so wyde and brade, Our Lord speciali for man made. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 179 Al the wide worldes fame Spak worschipe of hire goode name. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 2 Within thay fellis wyde. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii[i]. 25 Yee the earth is full of thy riches. So is this greate and wyde see also. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 235 As we bee sonnes of the world so wide. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Hecyra* IV. iv, Shall we rather..leaue him to the wide world? 1628 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* IV. 35 Turne them out into the wide world with a little money in their purses. 1658 NEDHAM *Selden's Mare Cl.* 27 The wide Ocean. 1698 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 69 The world being wyde she would not venture her conscience upon a disputable point. 1868 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* I. i. § 3 These were so fully known to him..that he needed not to go to School to the wide world 1721 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 141, I shall be turn'd a drift to the wide World. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, The coarse and bloated faces..have counterparts..all the wide world over. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xv, A shout that tore the wide air into tatters. 1847 BUCKSTONE *Flowers of Forest* III. vii, No, no—not for the wide wide world. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Babies* iii, Tom thought nothing about what the river was like. All his fancy was, to get down to the wide wide sea.

c. Of a garment or piece of dress: Capacious; large and loose. *Obs.* as a specific sense, exc. *dial.* in *wide coat*, a great-coat, overcoat.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Nu cumeð forð a feble mon, & halt him þauh helhliche, ȝif he haueð enne widne hod & one ilokene cope. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 61 Why werestow so wyd a Cope? 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 271 Thenne hadde ich wonder of hus wordes and of hus wide clopes. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 196 His clopes were lompurt, and scho wold haue amende hom, but scho myght not, for þay wern so wyde. 1521 *Acc. Ld. High. Treas. Scot.* IV. 197 To be the King ane wyd doublete fra Maistir Johne of Murray. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 256 And there the snake throwes her enammel'd skinne, Weed wide enough to rap a Fairy in. 1609 J. DAVIES *Humour's Heaven* I. iv, Poliphagus a sute of Satten ware, Made wide and side. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wide-coat*, an upper or great coat.

2. *transf.* Extending over or affecting a large space or region; far-reaching, extensive. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 189 Þæs ðe ic ȝeþohte adrifan drihten of selde,..sceal [ic] nu wreclastas settan sorhȝcearig siðas wide. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24991 He es tald alsua o sight sa wide, Þat fra his sight mai naman hide. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 23 They [*sc.* the winds]..tosse the deepes, and teare the firmament, And all the world confound with wide vprore. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 660 He [*sc.* a snake] rages in the Fields, and wide Destruction threats. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 307 O woodland Queen,.. Where dost thou listen to the wide hallooa Of thy disparted nymphs? 1842 JAMES *Corse de Leon* i, A turn where they could obtain a wider view. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xxxiii, After wide wanderings through the valley [etc.].

b. *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1883, and cf. WIDE *adv.* 1 c.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wide Work.* A South Yorkshire system (now nearly obsolete) of working coal. Sets of short *stalls* or *banks*, 7 or 8 yards in width, forming a line of *faces* about 60 yards, were carried to the *rise*, about 3 or 4 feet of coal being left between each *bank*, the main road pillars being subsequently extracted. 1904 *Times* 23 May 7/6 Men engaged on 'wide' work were paid yardage to which they were not entitled.

†3. Great (in various non-physical senses). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2200 Þis nembrot wit his mikel pride Wend to wyrk wondres wide. *Ibid.* 20030 For ai þe mar I soght to sai, þe widder suld I find þe wai. *Ibid.* 23104 Wreches stad in wa ful wide. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl* C. XXI. 403 Now by-gynneþ..my grace to growe ay wydder and wydder. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1970 For wella wide ware þe wele,..Bathe þi glorie & þi grace, þi gladnes in erthe, Miȝt þou be marches of Messedoyne mayntene þi-selfe. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* XXXVI. 62 Lowse thow my lippis, that tyme and tyd I may gif to the lovingis wyd.

4. *fig.* Having a large range; comprising, affecting, applying or relating to a great number or variety of persons, cases, subjects, points, etc.; extensive, largely inclusive; (of a word or term) having a large extent of meaning: = BROAD *a.* 10.

Common since 1800.

1534 WHITTINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. D 4, Therfore ryseth the large and wyde prayse by rhetoricions of Marathon [orig. *Hinc rhetorum campus de Marathone*]. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xliii. 35 So wyd thy word does waxe That the Immortall maks. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. 77 These perpetual exploits abroad won him wide fame. 1761 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* III. iv, I fear the misfortunes of Mr. Belfield have spread a ruin wider than his own. 1797 MALONE *Sir J. Reynolds' Wks.* I. p. XXXV, In the historical department [of pictures], he took a wider range. 1823 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 106 There is yet a wide field for useful experiment. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. I. ii, I want a definition of art wide enough to include all its varieties of aim. 1856 MISS MULOCK *John Halifax* XXXVI, The boy—to whose destination we had no clue but the wide word, America. 1858 MRS. PAUL *Uncle Ralph* XXII, 'Never is a wide word, Miriam,' said Ailie. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* I. 13 *note*, His wide knowledge of ethnography. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* I. 54 How to use each his own and his mistresses' attributes for the widest good. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 2 The ideas of the wider public. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 15/1 [His] wide experience as a teacher ..and an inspector of schools.

b. Of views or opinions, or *transf.* of the person holding them: = BROAD *a.* 11.

1824 MACAULAY *Athen. Orators* P 22 States have always been best governed by men who have taken a wide view of public affairs. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* xlii, When, wide in soul and bold of tongue, Among the tents I paused and sung. 2884 *Spectator* 19 Apr. 513/2 Both the High Churchman and the Wide Churchman. *Ibid.*, The Wide Church or High-Church circles.

†c. Vague. *Obs. rare.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 288 Though his Verses are most Elegant,..yet the description is very wide.

II. 5. Having great extent from side to side; large across, or in transverse measurement. (Opp. to *narrow*.)

Now distinguished from *broad* in so far as it tends to be restricted to applications in which actual measuration from point to point is possible or contemplated, and in which there is no implication of superficial extent; hence in certain technical uses (see quots.).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 13 Þæt geat is swyþe wid, & se weg is swiþe rum, þe to forspillednesse gelæt. 21.. in Birch *Cartul.* (1887) II. 807 Donon to widan ȝeate; donon to eadnisses mære. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1682 Þis sal..Mak a dor wit mesur wide. *Ibid.* 8081 Þair muthes wide, þair eien brade, Vn-freli was þair face made. 1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 83 Till sum gaiff thai woundis wid. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 302 On a bryge, as þai can ryd Our a wattyr, depe and wyd. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II 289 Euery sercle causynge othir Wydder than hym self was. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wyyd, large yn brede. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 22 Christis woundis wyde. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 76 Shallow Brooks, and Rivers wide. 1642 TASMAN *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 135 Those Men when they walked made very wide paces. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 467 Wide was the wound, But suddenly with flesh fill'd up & heal'd. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 103 A purple carpet spread the pavement wide. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 256/2 One of the great recommendations of a wide gauge. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 416 Making experiments in the cultivation of wheat in wide drilling and thin seeding. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Wide Spacle* (Whaling), used to cut the blubber in the rough, before mincing. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc., Wide measures*, long and wide measures of type, distinct from narrow or short ones.

b. *transf.* of the lateral boundaries: Having a wide space between, far apart. (Cf. 7 and 8.)

1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* i, It runs between green banks which grow wider and wider until at last it joins the broad vast sea.

6. Having a specified or particular transverse measurement indicated by a numerical quantity or by a comparison; (so much) across.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Hwene widdre þonne bydenfæt. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1307 Fier gewyrc fiftiges wid, þrittiges heah, þreohund lang elngemeta. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 565 Dat arche was...l. elne wid, and .xxx. ti heȝ. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7503 Graunte me..Namore lond, wyd ne syd, Þan y may sprede a boles hyd. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) IV. XXXVI. 84 A traylyng gowne of twelue yerdes wyde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1324 Þurge þaim he rynnes, And makis a wai wyde enoȝe waynes to mete. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 347 That these schoon be notabli widdir than the meetenes of hem wolde axe. *Ibid.*, These schoon to be no wijdir than euen meete to hise soues feet. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 210 Had his weasand bene a little widder, He would haue deuoured both hidder and shidder. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 100 'Tis not so deepe as a well, nor so wide as a Church doore. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 21 A Bed-chamber..Thirty foot wide. *Ibid.* 19 Windowes..must be higher then wide. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 637 Take half-inch and two-inch wide rods or laths. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Mar. 150/1 The island is small..and at its widest part about a mile and a half in width.

7. Opened widely, expanded; of the arms, stretched widely apart. Now superseded in general use by *wide open* (see WIDE *adv.* 3).

1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 335 Sit tuk I neuir the wosp clene out of my wyde throte. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 449 b, That a wyder entrie be not set open to ye Turkes to inuade us. 1607 *Puritan* I. iv. 96 Speake lowe, George; Prison Rattes haue wider eares then those in Malt-lofts. 1612 *Bible* Isa. lvii. 4 Against whom make ye a wide mouth, and draw out the tongue? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 762 All access was throng'd, the Gates And Portches wide. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 432 The Mares..with wide Nostrils snuff the Western Air. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* I. 1 She from his wide, deceiv'd, desiring Arms Flew tastless. 1820 KEATS *St. Agnes* iv, Many a door was wide, To woo its sprightly guest with wild arms, like a witch in a whirlwind. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XV. 839 The three..gazed at him with wide eyes wondering.

(*b*) *sup.* as quasi-*sb.* in phr. *at widest.*

1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 63 Though every drop of water sweare against it, And gape at widst to glut him.

b. *Phonetics.* Of a vowel-sound: Pronounced with the tongue relaxed, or with a wider opening

between it and some other part of the mouth than the corresponding *narrow* vowel.

1867 A. M. Bell *Visible Speech* 72 The vowels—whether 'Primary', 'Wide', or 'Rounded'—are divided into three classes of palato-lingual formations. 1890 (see Narrow *a.* 2 d).

III. 8. Extending far between limits; existing between two things which are far apart, literally or figuratively, as a distance or interval, a distinction or difference.

To give a wide berth to: see Berth *sb.* 2.

1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* II. ix. (Arb.) 96 Because your concordes containe the chief part of Musicke in your meetre, their distaunces may not be too wide or farre a sunder. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 194 The wide difference Twixt Amorous, and Villanous. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist.* II. ii. 293 The wide Distinction..Between an open, hospitable Man, And Prodigal; the Frugalist secure, And Miser, pinch'd with Penury. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) I. § 2. 49 The wider is the interval between the respective places in the series. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 75 There is a wide difference between elementary knowledge and superficial knowledge. 1912 *Daily Tel.* 19 Dec. 2/3 Among foreign railways,..after some wide fluctuations San Paulo finished at a substantial improvement.

†**9.** Situated a great way off, distant, far; in quot. 1590, held at a distance, not close. Also, situated at a specified distance (const. *of* = from). *Obs.*

Only predicative, or following the sb.; thus nearly approaching Wide *adv.* 4.

? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 552 [He] strenghthed hym on eche syde Wyth Men of contreys ferre & wyde. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* ciii[i]. 12 Look how wyde the east is from the west, so farre hath he set oure synnes from vs. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. viii. 36 His poinant speare he thrust..At proud Cymochles, whiles his shield was wyde. 1597 J. Dee *Diary* (Camden) 59 Calcot in Cheeshyre, abowt six myles wide of Chester. 1628 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1883) IV. 76 A place..4 miles wide of St. Albans. 1729 Swift *Hist. and Solomon* Wks. 1841 II. 320 He was to set out..to another part of the kingdom, thirty miles wide of the place appointed. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxxvi, Shortstubble put him on a line as wide of his own wheat as he could.

b. *fig.* Far, far apart (in nature, character, views, statements, etc.); not in accordance, disagreeing, different; foreign, alien; far *from* (doing something). Const. *from*, *of*. (Often approaching or coinciding with 10 b.) Now *rare*.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. ** v b, Valerius Maximus and Plinius, in the reportyng of a certain alter[c]acion yᵗ was betwene Cn. Domitius & Lucius Crassus.., how wyde boen thei the one from the other. ? 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* 11 What a cruell lawe is this! how farre wyde from the Gospel, yea from the lawe of nature also. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) G iij b, It seemeth a matter very wide from reason. 1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquine in Traunce* 9 b, The which things..were al farre wide..from that true & most pure virgin the Lords mother. 1600 Marston, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* I. (1601) C 3 b, Those that are farre more yong and wittie, Are wide from singing such a Dittie. 1630 Hakewill *Apol.* (ed. 2) Advts. Zz 2 b, How farre wide the foure most noted doctours of the Westerne Church..were in the exposition of many passages of holy Scripture. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Nov. 1691, The relation he gave..was very wide from what we fancied. 1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. *Chas. I* iii. 199 That rustic contempt of the fair sex, which James affected..was very wide of the disposition of this monarch. 1807 Bentham *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 423 My own notions..were too wide of the notions prevalent among lawyers. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* viii. 136 Hence befals That Esau is so wide of Jacob. 1871 Earle *Philol. Engl. Tongue* 244 Languages whose development has been wide of ours, as the Hebrew.

c. Situated far apart in a series: *spec.* in *Cards* (see quot.).

1897 R. F. Foster *Complete Hoyle* 414 Cards which are likely to form parts of sequences are called close cards, and those which are too widely separated to do so are called wide cards.

10. Deviating from the aim, or from the direct or proper course; missing the mark or the way; going astray. Also const. *of* (†*from*). (Most commonly predicative, approaching or coinciding with Wide *adv.* 5.) a. *lit.*; *spec.* in *Cricket*, of a ball bowled too far aside from the wicket for the batsman to strike it (now usually *ellipt.*: see Wide *sb.* 3).

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 135 Wide a' th bow hand, yfaith your hand is out. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 70 If the Shot be both wide and too low. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wide*, when the Bias of the Bowl holds not enough. 1851 Lillywhite *Guide Crick.* 13 The Umpire must take especial care to call..'Wide Ball' as soon as it shall pass the Striker. 1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* I. xi, The first ball was 'wide'. 1854 Lever *Sir Jasper Carew* xi, His guards were all wide, and his eyes unsteady.

b. *fig.* (*a*) without prep. (now *rare*): in early use often = Astray in opinion or belief, mistaken (now expressed by the full phr. *wide of the mark*). In quot. 1605, perh. Wandering in mind, delirious.

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) E v b, Whoso heareth him, may..thinke yᵗ he also with very little a do, might attaine to yᵗ perfection, but when he commeth to yᵗ proofe, shall finde himselfe farre wide. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 140/2 Let vs see if this be well practised, alas, the matter is farre wide [orig. *Helas il s'en faut beaucoup*]. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* III. xi, 'Tis neither as you thinke, nor as you thinke; you'r wide sill. 1604 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vii. 50 *Lear*. You are a spirit I know, when did you dye? *Cor*. Still, still, farre wide. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 109 To them that are wide, and strangers to the true light. 1632 Massinger *Maid Hon.* II. ii, You are wide, the whole field wide. I in my understanding Pitty your ignorance. *a* 1652 Brome *City Wit* v. i, *Pr.* I know your purpose..; you come after the Marriage to forbid the banes..*Lin.* Good Mrs. Sneakup, you are wide. I come to wish joy to the match. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 83 He was a little wide there.

(*b*) Const. *from* (now rare or obs.), *of*: esp. in phr. *wide of the mark*.

Sometimes scarcely distinguishable from 9 b.

1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquine in Traunce* 34 b, They are so farre wyde from the institution of Christ, & from the truth. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Stafford* i, Of wit and of reason reckelesse and wide, That tooke so vppon vs to rule all the land. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 215 Though I should talke of halfe as manie more, I should not be farre wide of the truth. 1648 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 28 How wide he is from truth. 1672 W. Walker *Parum.* 29 You are quite out of the way; wide of the mark; clearly mistaken;.. *Tota erras via.* 1682 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1321 He is wide of the cushion; *erras longè.* 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 112 A lasting happiness, of which they are wide..thro' want of religion. 1735 Berkeley *Def. Free-thinking* § 46 Your Comment must be wide of the Author's meaning. 1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* II. 25 Sentiments..you think so wide from the duty I should..pay. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II. iv. *Comm.* p. xv, In his solar images he is not quite so wide from the fact. 1836 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Election* II. vi. (1842) 339 Most wide, then, from the mark..is the modern Calvinist. 1846 Dickens *Cricket on Hearth* iii, You had best not interrupt me..till you understand me; and you're wide of doing so. 1848 — *Dombey* xi, These questions..are all wide of the purpose. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Oct. 442/2 This belief of the French critic is not so very wide of the mark.

†c. Amiss. *Obs. rare.*

1614 Br. Hall *Contempt., Aaron & Miriam*, It were wide for vs, if our suites should be euer heard. *Ibid., Rahab*, It would bee wide with the best of vs, if the eye of God should looke backward to our former estate.

11. a. Going beyond bounds of restraint, propriety, or virtue; †unrestrained, violent (*obs.*); lax, loose, immoral (now *colloq.* or *slang*). (Cf. Broad *a.* 6, 8.)

1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 395 The Courteour, with wordis wyde, Said 'I hear nathing bot prouyde, And get now that, and get now this.' 1656 G. Collier *Answ. 15 Quest.* Pref., Any man that hath not a weak head and a wide conscience. 1902 Wister *Virginian* xiii, Wide females in pink. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. 3/4 Madrid was full of 'wide' characters.

b. Going beyond bounds of moderation; excessive, immoderate. (Cf. slang *tall*, *steep*.)

1858 Greener *Gunnery* Advts. 2 Producing..guns equal, if not superior, to anything yet produced by any maker whatever. This may be considered a wide assertion, but to prove he does not make it rashly he is prepared to test the fact by a competition with any maker. 1895 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 7/5 Prices asked are very wide, and are beyond the values that merchants are disposed to give.

c. *slang.* Wide-awake, cute.

1887 Horsley *Jottings from Jail* 9, I got in company with some of the widest (cleverest) people in London. 1891 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 2/1 Well, she was tipsy; but she was very 'wide'.

IV. 12. *Comb.* a. Parasynthetic, forming adjs. in -ed[2] (unlimited in number), as *wide-arched*, *-armed*, *-banked*, *-branched*, *-brimmed*, *-chapped* († *-chopt*), *-handed*, *-hearted*, *-jointed*, *-lipped*, *-minded*, *-naked*, *-realmed*, *-skirted*, *-sleeved*, *-spaced*, *-spanned*, *-streeted*, *-throated*, *-wayed*, etc. b. Rarely with simple sbs., forming adjs. in sense 'having, involving, pertaining or relating to a (or the) wide ——', as *wide-head*, *-row*, *-world*. c. Special Combs.: **wide-angle** *a.*, applied to a lens of short focus, the field of which extends through a wide angle, used for photographing at short range; **wide-eared** *a.*, having wide ears; also in sense 7, having the ears wide open, listening intently; **wide-eyed** *a.*, having wide eyes; usually in sense 7, having the eyes wide open, gazing intently; also *fig.*; **wide-gab**, local Sc. name for the fishing-frog or frog-fish; **wide-leafed, -leaved** *a.*, having a wide leaf or leaves; *transf.* of a hat, broad-brimmed; † **wide-side** *a.* [Side *a.*[1]], wide and long, capacious; **wide-winged** *a.*, having wide wings; flying through a wide space or region known as a '*wide angle' doublet, in which the separation between the lenses is very small, and their foci considerably shorter...Some of these combinations are made so as to cover a circle whose diameter subtends an angle of 90° from the optical centre. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 121 The glowing banquet-room shone with *wide-arched grace. 1898 G. Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 27 With view of *wide-armed heaven. 1903 Kipling *5 Nations* 73 Beside *wide-banked Ouse. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* I, Short-stemmed, *wide-branched oaks. 1918 J. W. Gerard *Face to face with Kaiserism* xv. 180 An actress who wore a *wide-brimmed hat. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* I. i. 60 This *wide-chopt-rascall. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1976/4 A black Coach Mare.., a little *wide Eared. 1825 Kingsley *Heroes*, Argive v, The boys listened, wide-eyed and wide-eared. 1788 Cowper *Gratitude* 22 This wheel-footed studying chair,..*Wide-elbow'd, and wadded with hair. 1853 Tennyson in *Ld. T. Mem.* (1897) I. 369 The *wide-eyed wonder of a babe has a grandeur in it. 1825 Kingsley *Heroes, Argive* v, So [illegible] wide-eyed. 1894 *Forum* (N.Y.) Feb. 727 Madison's..wide-eyed prudence in counsel. 1828 Neill in *Mem. Worcestersh. Nat. Hist. Soc.* (1911) I. 348 *L[ophius] piscatorius*,..Frog-fish...In the North Isles of Scotland, it is..termed the *Wide-gab, the mouth being hideously large. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 269 The Fishing Frog, Angler, Sea Devil. Wide Gab. Scotland. 1620 Breton *Pasquil's Fools-cappe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 20/9 In the aime of Wisdomes eye, *Wide handed Wits will ofter shoote awry. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv, 371 The *wide-head oaks. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* viii, The old Anglo-Norman teachableness and *wide-heartedness. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 677/1 Ladies.., narrow in their interests,..but wide-hearted. 1874 J. H. Parker *Introd. Gothic Archit.* I. i. (ed. 4) 11 *Wide-jointed masonry is a usual characteristic of the eleventh century in England and Normandy. 1892 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1527/4 Open *wide-kneed Breeches. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* vi. vii. (1866) 894 He wore a *wide-leaved..hat of dark felt. 1894 Weyman *Man in Black* ix, A dark, sallow man, ..with a wide-leafed hat. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxviii, Those *wide-lipped crystal vessels..in which chemists.. measure out their liquid drugs. 1893 *A. Barrett's Phys., Metemp.* Pref. p. xx, In politics his sympathies were liberal and *wide-minded. 1914 Tollinton *Clement of Alex.* II. xx. 273 Wide-minded teachers, who have the power to discern affinities and to greet the ally in disguise. 1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Papermaker* 69 A *wide-necked glass-stoppered bottle. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* xiii. 506 At his side a wretched scrip was hung, *Wide-patch'd, and knotted to a twisted thong. 1838 Mrs. Browning *Island* ix, *Wide-petalled plants. 1821 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* 9 Nov. (1885) I. 28 The advantages of the *wide-row culture. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 266 Glory..Her *wide-side Robes..All Story-wrought with bloudy Victories. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 66 Champaine rich'd With plenteous Riuers, and *wide-skirted Meades. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxvii, The coat was wide-skirted. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* xi. 129 A *wide sleeued gowne. 1665 Brathwait *Comm. Two Tales* (1901) 62 She was gap-tooth'd, or *wide-spaced. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 30 Aug. 3/2 Wide-spaced houses, beautiful gardens. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 65 *Wide-spanned arches. 1888 M. Collins *Sweet Anne Page* III. 187 *Wide-streeted Troy. 1892 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Papudo*, *wide throated. *a* 1627 Middleton *Mayor of Quinb.* I. i, Will that wide-throated Beast, the multitude, Never leave bellowing? 1792 Cowper *Iliad* X. 8 Wide-throated war calamitous. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 23 The *wide-wayed city of the Trojans. 1818 Shelley *Hom. Hymn* 3 Muses..Sing the *wide-winged Moon! 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 250 The wide-winged wind. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 423 The wide-wing'd sunset of the misty marsh. 1884 J. G. Wood in *Sunday Mag.* May 307/2 Wide-winged as they are, the Locusts are very feeble in the air. 1851 Ruskin *Stones of Venice* I. App. xv. 385 He [sc. Rubens] has neither cloister breeding nor boudoir breeding,..but he has an open sky and *wide-world breeding in him.

Wide, *adv.* Forms: 1– **wide**, (3 **weide**), 3–4 **wid**, 4–6 **wyde**, (4 *Sc.* **vyde**), 5 (6 *Sc.*) **wyd**. [OE. *wīde* = OS. *wīdo* (MLG., MDu. *wīde*, Du. *wijd*), OHG. *wīto* (MHG. *wīte*, *wīt*, G. *weit*), ON. *víða* (Sw., Norw. *vida*); advb. f. OE. *wīd*, etc. Wide *a.*] = Widely, in various senses.

In modern texts freq. illogically hyphened to a pple.

1. Over or through a large space or region; so as to reach or affect many or various places or persons; far abroad. Chiefly *poet.* (superseded in prose by *far and wide*: see b).

Beowulf 1403 Lastas wæron æfter waldswaþum wide gesyne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 7 Mann-cwealmas beoð & hungras wide geond land. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 He wandrede wide, weruende longe, sechende him oðer stede. *c* 1205 Lay. 25662 Þat lond he weste wide. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 92 We beþ men wide idrive aboute Fram contreie to contreie. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7118 (Laud MS.), His Marshal Tholomeu þat many Prince wyde kneu. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 98, I wiste neuere..Man þat with hym spake, as wyde as I haue passed! 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 399 He..sprad þe endes of his kyngdom wydder þan dede his fader. *c* 1420 *Pavo Michi* 183 in *26 Pol. Poems* 148 In salt see I sayled well wyde. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 43/16 Quhair ance it fixis the rute it spredis the selfe sa braid and wyde, that [etc.]. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* VI. 247 Thence boreing thir Foot, diffus'd far wider thir outragious incursions. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 801 There..Wide reams the Russian exile. 1740 Akenside *Ode, On Winter-Solstice* v, Each bov'ring tempest..Which now wide-threat'ning loads the sky. 1832 Wordsw. *Yarrow Revisited* 9 Grave thoughts ruled wide on that sweet day. 1889 Swinburne *Poems & Ball. Ser.* III. *Jacobite's Exile* xiv, On Kelider-side the wind blaws wide.

b. In phr. *far and wide* (rarely *wide and far*); † *wide and side* (see Side *adv.*[1] 1).

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 10 June 94 He..ferde..feorr and wide geond middangeard. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. x, Wæron þas wundor feorr & wide gesmærod. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1637 Þa gesamnodon..werras..wide & side. *c* 1200– [see Side *adv.*[1] 1]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 720 (Jesus MS.) Þu axest me..[1]f ich con eny oþer dede Bute syngen in sume tyde & bringe blisse veor & wyde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1256 Fro se riche flod eufrate, Wid and fer to be rede se. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 161 (Cotton MS.) Hys Fader send bothe fer and wyde Messengers on every syde. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 196 b, They distroye the countrie with fyre farre & wyde. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 91 That word, broad,..added to the Goose, proues thee farre and wide, a broad Goose. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 533 Thir Legions.. Scout far and wide into the Realm of night. 1761 Gray *Fatal Sisters* 60 Far and wide the notes prolong. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* V. x, Their vassals wander wide and far [: war]. 1828 Southey *Ess.* (1832) II. 494 Multitudes..assemble, coming from far and wide. 1880 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xix, Though they scoured the country far and wide.

c. *Coal-mining.* (See Wide *a.* 2 b.)

1904 *Times* 23 May 7/6 Payment was by tonnage raised when working 'wide'—*i. e.*, on the face of the seam.

2. With a large space or spaces between; at a wide interval or intervals; far apart or asunder; in quot. 1481, with 'wide' or long steps. (Cf. 4.)

a 1200 *Wife's Compl.* 13 Þæt by todmælden unc Þæt wit ȝewidost in woruldrice lifdon. *a* 1220 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1012 Þa to ferde se here wide swa he ær ȝegnderod wæs. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwi ne worpe ich me bi-tweonen Þeo ilke ermes so swiÞe wide to-spredde and i-opened? 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxix. (Arb.) 105 The wulf stode wyder than reynard dyde and ofte ouertoke hym. 1684 Burnet tr. *Mort's Utopia* II. 68 Where the Towns lie wider, they have much more Ground. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xii. 136 The Churches being built wide from one another. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 178 A sacred tripod..Whose slender feet wide-awerv'd upon the soft.. carpets. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* i, But when Elias whispered 'Sit wider!' says she, 'Ay! the table will soon be too big for the children.' 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 22 June 5/3 Their fields of activity are so wide apart.

b. Of a horse: With the legs apart: opp. to Near *adv.*[2] II.

1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1557/4 A Bright Bay Gelding.. Walks and Gallops wide behind. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 40 A Horse that goes wide before, and near behind. *Ibid.* 63 He should stand pretty wide behind, and near before.

c. Loosely asunder; so as not to remain close or in contact.

1764 Cowper *Task* I. 567 The sportive wind blows wide Their flutt'ring rags, and shows a tawny skin. 1819 Shelley *Cyclops* 66 Shaking wide thy yellow hair. 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* III. v, Out flew the web and floated wide.

3. With a wide or broad opening; esp. with *open* vb. or adj. = fully; to the full extent; with *fling, fly, set,* etc. (in ref. to a door, gate, or the like) = *wide open* (coinciding with the predicative use of Wide *a.* 7).

With *wide open* cf. Du. *wijd open,* G. *weit offen,* ON. *vítopnir* name of the hall of Hel.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii[i].131 Mud ic ontynde minne wide. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 506 Þanne him hungreð he gapeð wide. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2142 Werpis þam vp..& wyde open settis. *c* 1400 *Siege Jerus.* (E. E. T. S.) 22/389 A dragoun..Wyde gapande,..gomes to aweiwe. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 18125 (Laud MS.) Opyn your yates ye prynces wyde. 1538 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxx[i]. 10 Open thy mouth wyde, & I shal fyll it. 1610 Shake. *Temp.* II. i. 214 This is a strange repose, to be asleepe With eyes wide open. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xv. 813 The Scepe wide-opening to the Blaze of Light. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1145 Wide-rent, the clouds Pour a whole flood. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* I. ii, The Bridegroom's doors are opened wide. 1824 Byron *Juan* xvi. cxvii, The door flew wide. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 28 The windows, all wide open thrown. 1895 Rider Haggard *Heart of World* xvi, The doors were flung wide. 1909 Stacpoole *Pools of Silence* xix, [Elephants] with trunks swung up, ears spread wide.

†**b.** *Wide open* (of a person): Stretched at full length, esp. on the back. *Obs.*

13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 187/1604 A token ihesu.. And leiden him wid opene on þe rod. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 335 He laf slawe..Forty score..Wyd opene one here bake. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 607/43 *Resupinus,* wyde ope. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 He thus lyenge wyde open, & they goynge ouer hym & bestrydynge hym. 1551 T. Wilson *Logic* D vj b, Whan a mans body is in any wyse placed, as to lie a nyde, to stande vpright, to sitte, to leane, to lye grouelyng, to lye wyde open.

4. At (to, from) a (great, or specified) distance; far, far away, far off; (so far) away or off. Now only *dial.*

Beowulf 1588 Hra wide sprong. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 288 Ich wende from heom wide. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 5 White rokkes aboute þe clyues of þe see þat were I-sele wide [L. *a longe apparentibus*]. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 176 Wandering wyde fra this countrie Amang all vther Nationis. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 34 A little wyde There was an holy Chappell edifyde. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov.* B 1, A Towne call'd Goreing, stood neare two miles wide. 1690 Temple *Misc.* II. ii. 57 The Chineses: a People, whose way of thinking, seems to lie as wide of ours in Europe as their Country does. 1693 Ploт in *Miscell. Curr. Subj.* (1714) 44 His Ships..lying above a Mile and half wide off the Town of Sandwich. 1756 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 391 Fort Cumberland lying..wide of all other forts. 1887 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 297 Not only in this district, but wide away. 1859 Meredith *Juggling Jerry* iv, I was a lad not wide from here.

5. At a distance to one side; aside from the aim, or from the direct or proper course; so as to miss the mark or the way; astray. Also const. *of* (†*from*). Cf. Wide *a.* 10. **a.** in physical sense. *spec.* in *Cricket,* out of reach of the batsman.

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 101 To shoote wyde and far of the marke. *Ibid.* 102 Than..those be wiser men, which couete to shoote wyde than those whiche couete to hit the prycke. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xi. 5 Then bad the knight his Lady..to an hill her selfe with draw aside,..She him obayd, and turnd a little wyde. 1602 Shake. *Ham.* II. ii. 494 Pyrrhus at Priam driues, in Rage strikes wide. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* I. xvii. 27 In bowling they must needs throw wide, which know not the green or alley whereon they play. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 97 A little wide of the way to the Right Hand, I saw the Church. 1709 E. Du Bois *Piece Fam. Biog.* II. 3 The doctor..had escaped by going a little wide of the ass. 1833 Nyren *Yng. Crick. Tutor* 24 A..ball..pitched a little wide of the off stump. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. viii, Johnson the young bowler is getting wild, and bowls a ball almost wide to the off. 1859 Lever *Dav. Dunn* xlix, He shot with the pistol, he fenced, he whipped the trout stream. ..He only hit the bull's-eye once in three shots—he fenced wide—a pike carried off his tackle. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 27 Well Park,..raced past Skedaddle for first turn, and went wide. 1899 Rider Haggard *Swallow* xviii, [He] fired at him, but the ball went wide.

b. *fig.* (or in fig. context); †in early use often = so as to err, mistakenly (cf. Wide *a.* 10 b).

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. 1151/2 Nay Cosyn,..there walke you somewhat wide, for ther you defende your owne righte for your temporal auayle. 1535 Coverdale *Bible* Prol., Many wryters..seldome made mencyon of yᵉ scripture of the Byble: & though they some tyme aleged it, yet was it done..so wyde from yᵉ purpose, that a man mays well percesue, how that they neuer sawe the oryginall. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 269 Cæsar auouched hym to had dooen ferre wyde. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxvii. ii, Thou their guide Go'st never wide From truth and righteousnes. 1586 Day *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 80 You reckon too wide;..you are too much deceived. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* IV. i. 63 Is my Lord well, that he doth speake so wide? 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 486 If I should fetch it from *Gron* a Saxon word that signifieth a fenny place, I might perhaps goe wide. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Captain* II. ii, You hurt not me, Your anger flies so wide. 1677 Otway *Titus & Berenice* I. ii, Thou answerst wide of my desire. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 242 This carries me wide from my Subject. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 234 ₱ 4 To compare our Practice with their Precepts, and find where it was that we came short, or went wide. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 810 Vice parries wide Th' undreaded volley [of rusted arrows] with a sword of straw.

6. *Comb.* with pres. or pa. ppples., less commonly with adja., forming adja. (unlimited in number), as *wide-branching, -circling, -climbing, -consuming, -echoing, -expanding, -extending, -gaping, -ranging, -reaching, -resounding, -rolling, -straddling, -stretching, -wasting, -winding, -yawning; wide-expanded, -extended, -flung, -opened, -stretched; wide-distant, -imperial, -open.* See also Wide-awake, -spread, -spreading *adjs.*; Wide-where *adv.*

1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 481 Her *wide-branching Arms. 1873 Howells *Chance Acquaintance* ii. (1883) 45 An audacious, wide-branching moustache. *a* 1700 Congreve *Poems, To the King* iii. Wks. 1730 III. 213 Thro' Seas, Earth, Air, and the *wide circling Sky. 1878 Blackie *Lays Highl.* 164 There's room in God's wide-circling arm For

trumpet. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 321 A *wide-expanding knowledge of the enlargement of mankind. 1695 Congreve *Mourn. Muse* 178 Lord of these Woods, and *wide extended Plains. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 588 His wide-extended Wings. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 375 With numerous, wide-extended branches. 1831 James *Philip Aug.* xxxviii, Gazing over the wide-extended view. 1889 F. Cowper *Captain of Wight* 34 The *wide-extending view, over broad pasture and swelling down. 1860 Longf. *Wayside Inn* I. *K. Olaf* v. ii. The *wide-flung door. *a* 1721 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 72 The *wide-gaping gulph. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 56 Such themes as these the rural Maro sung To *wide-imperial Rome. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* ix. 258 The common notion ..has strong and *wide-lying evidence in its favour. 1852 Tennyson in Ld. T. *Mem.* (1897) I. 357 Looking at me with such apparently earnest, *wide-open eyes. 1877 Black *Green Past.* I. 9 They..drew up in front of the wide-open door. 1864 Skeat tr. *Uhland's Songs,* etc. 269 From Heav'n's *wide-opened portals. 1876 'Ouida' *Winter City* xii, She could only look at him with wide-opened eyes. 1826 *Edin. Rev.* Sept. 182 This *wide-ranging Intellect was illuminated by the brightest Fancy. 1836 Grote *Greece* II. xciv. XII. 346 The .. powerful, and *wide-reaching impression. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 996 The *wide-resounding plain. 1809 Montgomery *Ocean* I, Thou *wide-rolling Ocean, all hail! 1609 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 945 As. the Grass..Fals at the Foot of the *wide-straddling Mower. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V,* II. iv. 82 All *wide-stretched Honors, that pertaine..Vnto the Crowne of France. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VII. 747 The wide stretcht realm of intellectual woe. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 952 *Wide-stretching from these shores...A huge neglected empire. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lxix, Wide-stretching purposes. 1674 Milton *P. L.* (ed. 2) XI. 487 *Wide wasting Pestilence. 1814 Wordsw. *Ode, 'When the soft hand of sleep'* 145 Wide-wasting Time. 1816 Shelley *There is no rest* 28 The *wide-winding caves. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Pen Sketches* (1879) II. 231 O'er earth's wide-winding ways. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 241 His yet *wide-yawning lips. 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. IV. 591 Wide-yawning Gulfs.

†**Wide,** *v. Obs.* [f. Wide *a.*; cf. ON. *víða*; OE. *widian* app. did not survive.] *trans.* To make wide or wider: = Widen *v.* 2; in 2nd quot. to set widely apart.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8032 Þan dide þe king tilward þat side Þat orchiard al for to wide. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 923 And wide hem so that, though the winde him shake, No drope of oon vntil another take. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wydyn, or make wyde, *dilato.*

Wide, Sc. f. Wade *v.*; var. Wede *v. Obs.*; obs. f. Weed.

Wide awa'ke, *adj. phr.,* **wi'de-awake,** *a.* and *sb.* [Wide *adv.* + Awake *pred. a.*; predicatively, (usually) as two words; attributively, as one, with hyphen, or occas. without, esp. in senses A. 3, B. 1, 2.]

A. *adj.* (or *adj. phr.*) **1.** Awake with the eyes wide open; fully awake. (Usually *pred.*)

1818 Shelley *Julian* 392, I..Will lie and watch ye from my winding-sheet—Thus.. wide awake tho' dead [etc.]. 1820 [see Awake *pred. a.* 1]. 1840 Dickens *Old Curr. Shop* xxxix, The baby, who was dreadfully wide awake. 1868 Burdon *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. iii. 355 He always knew what the Sermon had been about,—better than many who boasted that they had kept wide awake.

2. *fig.* Thoroughly vigilant or on the alert; fully aware of what is going on, or of what it is best to do; intellectually keen, sharp-witted, knowing. *colloq.* (orig. *slang*).

Rarely const. *to* (cf. Awake *pred. a.* 2 b).

1833 *Q. Rev.* July 413 In the language of the turf, his grace was 'wide awake'. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* ii, Our governor's wide awake, he is..He knows what's o'clock. 1857 Trollope *Barchester T.* xxxviii, Mr. Slope.. was wide awake to what he hoped was his coming opportunity. 1906 *Spectator* 18 Aug. 222/2 Foreign capitalists will not advance it..still less would the very wideawake Chinese merchant.

3. Applied jocularly to a soft felt hat with broad brim and low crown: said to have been punningly so named as not having a 'nap'. Now usually *absol.* as *sb.* (B. 1).

1841 [W. J. Neale] *Paul Periwinkle* I. viii, Jonathan replied, that his hat was like himself—wide awake. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Feb. 168/2 Mr. Hubbard.. wears a 'wide awake' hat, which is a novelty in the House. 1891 F. W. Maude *Merciful Divorce* iii. 83 Half a dozen young men in long covert coats, loose breeches and gaiters, and wideawake hats.

B. *sb.* **1.** A 'wide-awake' hat: see A. 3.

1837 Howitt *Rur. Life* II. iii. (1862) 117 Such is the farm-servant, whether you see him in..his straw-hat, or his wide-awake. 1849 J. Forbes *Phys. Hol.* I. (1850) 9 No covering for the head can compete with the thin small-crowned broad-brimmed beavers now known by the name of *wide-awakes.* 1894 Conan Doyle *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 35 He..carried a brown wide-awake in his hand.

2. A sailors' name for the Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuliginosa* and allied species), from its cry. Also *attrib.* in *wide-awake fair,* a name for the assemblage of these birds on the island of Ascension at the breeding season.

1881 *Standard* 12 Aug. 5/2 It [*sc.* Ascension] nurtures nothing save turtle and wideawakes. 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 1039 These crowd at certain seasons in innumerable multitude to certain suitable islands, where they breed, and the wonderful assemblage at present known as 'Wide-awake fair' on the island of Ascension has been..described from very ancient times.

3. A 'wide-awake' person (see A. 2). *nonce-use.*

1890 C. Martyn *W. Phillips, Agitator* 122 A circle of wide-awakes meeting at irregular intervals under the name of 'The Friends'.

Hence **Wide-awa'keness,** the state, or character, of being wide awake (usually in sense A. 2). Also (bad formations, due to association with other words) **Wide-awakeativeness, -awakedness, -awakefulness,** in same sense.

1859 S. Brooks *Gordian Knot* xvii, Work that requires ..great *wideawakeativeness, and great industry. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* viii, He felt inclined..to slap himself on the back for *wide-awakedness of the rarest kind. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 140 An expression of unutterable self-conceit and conscious *wide-awakefulness. 1887 Miss Betham-Edwards *Next of Kin Wanted* v, They sharpen each other's wits, and worry each other into a proper state of wideawakefulness. 1865 Lowell *Ess., Scotch the Snake* Wks. 1890 V. 245 *Wide-awakeness of temperament. 1886 Stubbs *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* vi. 123 There was something. besides the literary wideawakeness of Henry..that made England..a centre of literary activity.

Widely (wəi·dli), *adv.* [f. Wide *a.* + -ly [2]] Commonly hyphened to a following ppl. or other adj. when preceding its sb.: cf. Deeply *adv.* 7, Highly *adv.* 6.

1. Over or through a wide space or region; in or to various places; extensively.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* I. 559 Her..dishevel'd Hair,..widely spread Ambrosial Scents around. 1697 — *Virg. Georgic* IV. 768 Where he leap'd, the Waves in Circles widely spread. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. xxxi, All the widely-silent places round. 1802 R. Warner *Tour Northern Counties* II. 289 Ornamenting the widely-extended carpet of green with occasional spots of the most brilliant white. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat* 83 The coal measures..are widely distributed in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland; in Belgium, France, and Spain; in many parts of Western Germany [etc.]. 1883 Keane in *Nature* I Mar. 410/2 This widely-ramifying family.

2. Over a wide range; among a large number or variety of persons; in relation to many or various things, subjects, cases, etc.; extensively.

1695 Ld. Preston *Boeth.* II. 85 For though his Fame doth widely fly,..At last the mighty thing must die. *a* 1728 Prior *Ode to Queen* ii, When bright Eliza rul'd Britannia's State, Widely distributing Her high Commands. 1834 Lyte *Hymn,* 'Praise, my soul, the King of heaven' iii, Praise Him, praise Him, Widely as His mercy flows. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, First of May,* The widely-spread taste for register-stoves. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 33 Viscount Mordaunt, widely renowned, many years later, as Earl of Peterborough. *Ibid* 122 One tract..was widely circulated in manuscript. 1868 Burton *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 12 The drunken laird and the widely tolerant wife. 1915 W. C. Allen *Gosp. St. Mark* 67 The Semitic word..is used very widely of seas, lakes, and even rivers.

3. With (at, by) a wide interval or intervals (of space or time); far, far apart; to a great or considerable width.

1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxiii. (1687) 240 Two Hills.. which were..very widely distant the one from the other. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 927 We..widely shun the Lilybæan Strand, Unsafe, for secret Rocks, and moving Sand. 1779 *Mirror* No. 139 ₱ 7 The poetical productions of widely-distant periods of society. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlviii, Those widely staring eyes..appeared in the midst of the darkness. 1860 Wraxall *Life in Sea* I. 84 Widely-extended jaws. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* ix. 157 Widely-sundered castes and classes. 1879 Sweet in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 465 In loud declamation..the mouth is naturally opened widelier. 1890

'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xviii, Through the widely-opened gateways.

4. *fig.* To a large extent, greatly, very much, extremely, 'far'; *esp.* †(*a*) so as to be 'wide of the mark', with large deviation from accuracy, as in *widely mistaken*; (*b*) so as to be far apart in nature, character, amount, etc., as in *widely different, to differ widely*.

1688 Bunyan *Heavenly Footman* (1886) 154 Alas, thou art widely mistaken! 1705 Berkeley *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 459 Malbranch..differs widely from me. 1801 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester* viii, Negligence and inhumanity are widely different. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* viii, She must indeed be widely changed from what she once was. 1880 Geikie *Phys. Geog.* iv. 248 The proportion of mineral matter..differs widely in different springs.

†**5.** With 'latitude' of conduct, beyond the bounds of propriety, uncivilly: cf. Wide *a.* 11 a. *Obs. rare*—1.

1666 Pepys *Diary* 6 Aug., My Lord..did treat her..very widely and ungentely.

Wide-mouth (wəi·d,mauþ), *a. rare.* = next.

1596 Sir J. Davies *Epigr.* xl, The wide-mouth slave Will eate as fast as he will utter lies. 1801 *Auction Catal. Fonthill Abbey* 74 A fine wide-mouth Jar.

Wide-mouthed (wəi·d,mauðd, -mauþt), *a.*

1. a. Of a person or animal: Having a wide mouth.

1611 Cotgr., *Diable de mer*,..the ouglie wide-mouthed fish, called, the sea Frog. *Ibid.*, s. v. *Fendu, Bien fendu de gueule*, wide-mouthed, sparrow-mouthed. 1843 Tennyson *Godiva* 56 The little wide-mouth'd heads upon the spout. 1854 A. Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 86 Wide-mouthed Fishes (Plagiostomi).

b. Of a vessel or receptacle: Having a wide mouth or opening.

1611 Cotgr., *Mortier*, the short, and wide-mouthed peece of Ordnance called a Morter. *a* 1711 Ken *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 92 Two wide-mouth'd Quivers fill'd with Store, Of deadly Darts. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 363 Put your gooseberries into wide-mouthed bottles. 1847 Longf. *Ev.* I. II. 52 The wide-mouthed fireplace. 1886 Winchell *Geol. Talks* 61 Another of these sea-bottom fishes hangs like an open wide-mouthed meal-bag.

2. Having the mouth wide open, or opening the mouth wide: **a.** for utterance, etc.; also *transf.* of the utterance; also *fig.* speaking, or spoken, loudly or without restraint.

1593 Chute in *G. Harvey's Pierces Super.* Gg 2 b, Thy wydemouth'd..phrase..Aptly hath knowne thine Armory to blase In termes peculiar vnto none but thee. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* L 4 b, Murder is wide-mouthd, and will not let God rest till he grant reuenge. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xiii. xcv, His wide-mouth'd Blasphemies. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 384 His Sonnets charm'd th' attentive Crowd, By wide-mouth'd Mortal troul'd aloud. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 603 Those wide-mouthed Languages, which do remarkably expose to the Eye the Motions of the Tongue, Lips, Throat, &c. 1745 Cibber in Ayre *Mem. Pope* II. 85 This..is a Scent, that those wide-mouth'd Hounds the Daily-Paper Criticks could never hit off! 1903 *M. A. P.* XI. 137/1 His face wide-eyed and wide-mouthed in a voiceless panic.

b. for swallowing: Voracious, devouring, destructive.

1596 R. L[inche] *Diella* etc. F 2 b, That wide-mouth'd time..shall shut his iawes, & ne're deuoure thy name. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* iv. lv, Here wide-mouth'd Luxury Might gormandize her fill. 1887 Meredith *Phaethon* in *Ballads & P.* 156 The rage of the havoc wide-mouthed.

Widen (wəi·d'n), *v.* [f. Wide *a.* + -en 5.]

†**1.** *trans.* To open wide, set wide open. (Cf. Wide *a.* 7.) *Obs. rare.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. iv. 44 So, now the gates are ope:..'Tis for the followers Fortune widens them, Not for the fliers. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* cxi, The gates thus widen'd.. Their ample entrance to the English gaue.

2. To make wide or wider: = Broaden 2. **a.** *lit.* To increase the width or spatial extent of.

1669 Stayner *Fortif.* 8 You may..widen the Necks of the Gorges. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 127 A piece of Board, whereon the Dyers widen or stretch their Stockins. 1785 J. Phillips *Treat. Inland Nav.* 45, I would cleanse, widen, and deepen the river Stort. 1818 [S. Weston] *La Scava* 3 Under the pavement..we found foundations of a house that had been probably thrown down to widen the road. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xiv. 148 These split-off lines of ice were evidently in motion..widening their fissures. 1919 *Engl. Rev.* July 26 An outsweep of the left flanking hedge, widening the path for a few feet.

b. *fig.* To increase the magnitude or range of; to extend.

1671 Stillingfl. *Serm. Matt. xxi. 43* Wks. 1710 I. 119, I speak not these things to widen our differences, or increase our animosities. 1675 *Essex Papers* (Camden 1913) 22 Parliament is like to sitt longer..for ye differences between ye houses are so widened. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 45 Ought I to widen my error by obstinacy and resentment? 1812 Landor *Cl. Julian* I. i, To..Widen the solitude of lonely sighs. 1842 Tennyson *Lockesley Hall* 138 The thoughts of men are widen'd with the process of the suns. 1870 Rock *Text. Fabr.* iv. (1876) 33 The word diaper became widened in its meaning. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 23 July 5/5 The society is widening its scheme of operations.

3. *intr.* To become wide or wider: = Broaden *v.* I. **a.** *lit.*

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 218 P 10 An Extinguisher, with a little Knob at the upper End, and widening downward. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Th.* 404 Of a very uniform breadth except that at each end it widens considerably. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xii. (1856) 89 The aperture, at first a mere crack, widened to a couple of feet. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* xi. 174 The current widens, and its speed is slackened. 1880 *Sat. Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 9/1 The streamlet widens into a pond.

b. *fig.*

1650 E. Williams *Virgo Triumphans* B 2 b, A reall quarrell widening 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 11 That..difference [between brutes and men]..which at last widens to so vast a distance. 1760–8 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xcii, His wishes now rise one step above his station;..his prospects widen as he ascends. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xliii, Florence..observed the estrangement between her father and Edith, and saw it widen more and more. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 169 These questions deepen and widen under our hand.

Hence **Widened** (-d'nd) *ppl. a.*, **Widening** *vbl. sb.* (also *concr.*) and *ppl. a.*; also **Widener**, one who or that which widens; an apparatus for widening something, *spec.* a drill constructed to bore a hole of greater diameter than its own.

1759 R. Smith *Harmonics* (ed. 2) 181 If any slider be drawn back again, which the *widened holes will permit. 1892 *Daily News* 6 Apr. 7/3 Good dividends and a widened market for the shares. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 5/1 When we have our widened line system completed, it will be possible..to run express electric trains to and from Brighton. 1683 Snape *Anat. Horse* IV. xiv. (1686) 172 The *Wideners or Dilaters of the Chest [*sc.* muscles]. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 21 Oct. 7/5 Then..it [*sc.* the glove] is ready for the dresser, who puts it into shape by means of sticks and wideners. 1569 in *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (1909) 22 To the *wydnynge of the Mouth of the brydge there one foote and a halfe. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 281 If your body politic be mishapen at the making, the widening or straightening of it will not help it. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 149 The widening of their capacities. 1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 22 Respiration being chiefly performed..by the widening of the chest. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Sept. 5/3 The deepening, widening, and straightening of the rivers Mersey and Irwell. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 562 We..pass by a widening in the path. 1792 Mackintosh *Vind. Gallicæ* Wks. 1846 III. 93 *Widening prospects of happiness. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* x. 169 Making a series of widening rings on the surface [of the water]. 1884 Church *Bacon* ix. 212 New ideas and widening thoughts. 1913 W. M. Ramsay *Teaching of Paul* xxiii. 533 The widening gap that intervenes.

† **Widen,** *adv. Obs.* Also 3 **widene, 4 wydene.** [OE. *widan*, f. *wid* Wide *a.* Cf. OHG. *witeno*, MHG. *witen(e*, also *witenan*.] In OE., from far; in ME., widely, far and wide.

932, *c* 1205 [see Siden]. *c* 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* (1845) III. 315 He his witan widan gesomnod hæfde. *c* 1205 Lay. 112 Eneas þe duc mid his driht folcke widen iwalken þend þ' wide water. *Ibid.* 161 þ' word..þ' was widene cuð. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 4 In Habite of an Hermite..Wende I wydene in þis world wondres to here.

Wideness (wəi·dnes). Forms: see Wide *a.*; also (with normal shortening of the stem-vowel) 6–7 **widnesse,** 7 (9 *dial.*) **widness.** [OE. *widnes*, f. Wide *a.* + -ness.] The quality or state of being wide, in various senses: and derived uses. Now generally replaced by Width.

1. Large extension, vastness, spaciousness.

In late use only as transf. from 3.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 17 Þe widnesse of þe world. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Halliw.) 1764 Of hevyn he may i-se þe wydnes, The feyreshepe & þe heynes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. lv. (1495) F iij, By cause of wydnesse therof it [*sc.* a cave] is an able place to abyde in. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* 93 Though otherwise the widenes of the mountaine pasturage doe recompence the badnes of the soyle. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 243 The immoderate wideness of their house. 1862 [see 5]. 1883 *American* VII. 55 He will probably..muse on the wideness of this world.

†**2.** Extent from side to side, transverse measurement (of any amount); diameter, breadth; *occas.* extent of opening, distance apart. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (replaced by Width 1).

c 1000 in *Anglia* XI. 9/27 Þæs temples længe wæs syxtiġ fæðma, & seo widnes wæs twentiġ fæðma, & his heahnys wæs þrityġ fæðma. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 578 þæt tempel wæs..on widnysse twentiġ fæðma. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7576 Þat clerkes calles cristallyne, Þat next oboven þe sterned heven es, And es maire þan þat of wydenes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 62 Þei maken þer abitis myche bo;e in widnesse and sidnesse. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 39 The seid dore to be maad as large of wydnesse as may be. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xl. 11 He measured the wydenesse of the dore: which was x cubites, & the heyth of the dore xiij cubites. 1552 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. v, Open your compasse to the wydenes of those ij. new prickes. 1618 M. Baret *Hippon.* 20 His legges must carry such an equi-distance in widenesse that they may describe two parallel lines in their motions. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 604 To every Vowel belongs a peculiar dimension of Wideness in the Mouth. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 89 The difference..is the just wideness of the Chamber. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. vii. 309/1 They are of severall widnesses. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. i, A small creek about three times the wideness of my canoe. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 379 By the great wideness of his ports he could traverse almost all his guns upon the enemy. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 132 A long-bodied narrow cart, that just holds two to sit in the wideness. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 195 The furrow that the plough makes, will be, below, equal in wideness to B C, and, above, to N D.

†**b.** Size or amount generally (of spatial measurement, or of time). *Obs. rare.*

1657 W. Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* 134 The Romans..ordained that their Congius (or Gallon) should be in widnesse half a Cubick foot. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 212 It still leaves his Age undetermined, within the wideness of xxxx years.

3. Great extent from side to side; large transverse measurement: opp. to *narrowness*.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 48 b, Therfore was erected an Archie of widnes at the tournelles beyde the strete. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 46 Quhais Wydnes of his banes and gretnes teiches that he was xiiii. fute lang. 1628 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 82 Wideness and shallowness of the..Streams. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 10 July 1656, The stair-case of extraordinary wideness. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxxv. 436 The wideness or narrowness of the pump. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Widness*, width. 1841 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 195/1 The wideness of their mouths gives them a firm seat in the gallery.

4. In *quasi*-concrete uses. **a.** (from 1.) A wide space or region; (large) extent, (vast) expanse: = Width 3.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* viii. 8 He shal fyl also the wydenesse of thy londe with his brode wynges. 1585 Fetherstone tr. *Calvin on Acts* xvi. 6 In that confused wideneese God beckened vnto him. how far he would haue him goe, or whither. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xcvi. vi, Sea and all thy wideneese yieldeth. 1681 *Whole Duty of Nations* 14 A Nation..is a part of Mankind canton'd from the whole world, and the wideness of that. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvii, To stand thus alone in the wideness of Asia. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* XI. cxxxii, Lost in the wideness of the weltering Sea. 1918 A. Menzies *Study of Calvin* 88 To get a view far out over the 'wideness of the sea'.

†**b.** (from 2 or 3.) Opening, aperture. *Obs.*

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 213/2 *Hypothyrum*,.. the wide opening or open wideneas of the doore. *Ibid.* 443/1 *Vulneris os*,..the mouth, opening, or wideneese of a wound. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 215 To close the wideneese of a wound.

5. *fig.* Largeness of range, extensiveness; relation to a great number of persons, things, cases, etc.; wide reach or applicability. In quot. 1551, Extent of meaning, 'extension'.

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* E iij b, The diuision..ought to be made with twoo contrary differences, fully containyng in them self the whole cumpasse or wideneas of the generall worde. 1649 E. Reynolds *Hosea* ii. 89 The puritie, spiritualnesse, and wideneese of that Law which they have sworne unto. *c* 1801 J. Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 225 A wideness of compass without solidity and exactness. 1866 Faber *Hymn*, '*Souls of men! why will ye scatter*' iv, There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea. 1865 Kingsley *Hereto.* xii, The merest varnish of Roman culture had given..a wideness of range to their thoughts.

Wider, comp. of Wide *a.* and *adv.*; obs. f. Whither, Wither.

Wide-spread (wəi·d,spre·d: stress var.), *a.* (Also as one word, without hyphen.) [f. Wide *adv.* + *spread*, ps. pple. of Spread *v.*] Spread widely (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1. Extended over or occupying a wide space; broad in spatial extent.

1735 Somerville *Chase* I. 250 Strait Hams, and wide-spread Thighs. 1816 Wordsw. *Ode*, '*Who rises on the banks of Seine*' 4 How sweet to rest her wide-spread wings beneath! 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* 124 On the western parts of the Weald,..there are some very wide-spread heaths. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* I. iii, A wide-spread woman whose stays creaked like shoes whenever she stooped or turned.

2. Distributed over a wide region; occurring in many places or among many persons; extensively or generally diffused.

1705 Berkeley *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 434 The vast, wide-spread, universal cause of our mistakes. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, The cardinal symptom of the whole wide-spread malady. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 11 The Danish and Saxon tongues, both dialects of one widespread language, were blended together. 1880 Wallace *Isl. Life* 89 The relics of once widespread types. 1913 R. Lucas *Ld. North* II. 112 The demand for economical reform was.. widespread.

So (irreg.) **Wide-spr** | *a. rare.*

1821 Keats *Lamia* I. 354 The wide-spreaded night above her towers.

Wide-spreading (wəi·d,spre·diŋ: stress var.), *a.* [f. Wide *adv.* + Spreading *ppl. a.*] Spreading widely (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1. Extending over or occupying a wide space; nearly = prec. 1.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 822 Wide-spreading Plains, open and spacious Fields. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xvii. 5 The vales, wide-spreading round The sloping hills. 1809–11 Combe *Syntax* xvii. 184 Beneath an oak's wide-spreading shade. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 57/2 A number of cattle..came to drink at the pit. Some of these carried enormous wide-spreading horns. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* II. xvi. § 131 (1875) 367 Wide-spreading marine currents. 1909 E. H. Burton *Up. Challoner* II. 278 One old wide-spreading cedar.

2. Extending to, reaching, or affecting many places or persons; extensive in effect; far-reaching; nearly = prec. 2.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Thistle* 7 K 4/2 To prevent the wide-spreading mischiefs occasioned by the seeding of this pernicious weed. 1833 Newman *Arians* III. I. (1876) 241 That wide-spreading Association, of which the faith of the Gospel was the uniting and animating principle. 1894 in *Westm. Gaz.* (1903) 1 July 2/3 The wide-spreading distress of the working-classes. 1902 *Words of Eyewitness* 336 Kindliness, not little but vast, wide-spreading.

Wide-watered (wəi·d,wɔ·təɹd: stress var.), *a.* [Parasynthetic f. *wide water* (Wide *a.* + Water *sb.*) + -ed[3], or f. Wide *adv.* + Watered *ppl. a.*]

Having a wide expanse of water; watered over a wide extent; bordered or traversed by wide waters.

1692 MILTON *Pensenses* 73, I hear the far-off Curfeu sound, Over som wide-water'd shoar. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XV. 761 Amidst the Plain of some wide-water'd Fen. 1749 G. WEST tr. *Pindar, Pythian Odes* I. xvii, On fair Himera's wide-water'd shores. Thy sons, Dinomenes, my lyre demand. 1904 RICKERT *Reaper* ix, Low-lying, wide-watered Halta.

Widewe, Widewer, obs. ff. WIDOW, WIDOWER.

† **Wide-where,** *adv.* (also as two words). *Obs.* or *rare arch.* Also 4 **wyden where.** [f. WIDE (WIDEN) *adv.* + WHERE *adv.* Cf. ON. *víðast hvar* in most places, mostly.] In or to various places, over a wide region, widely, far and wide; in or to a distant place, far away.

1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Þæræfter comen fealc tacne widehwear on Englaland. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8943 Witt hafenn sohht te widewhar icc & ti faderr babe. 13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 1242 *b* As pilate stod be him thore His þouht was ful wide whore. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl* A. IX. 53 Þus I wente wyden where [*v.rr.* wyde where, wide whare] Dowel to seche. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* viii. (*Philippus*) 5 Quhene he had..goddis worde prechit wyd-quhare *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Lawe's T.* 38 In Surrye whilom dwelte a compaignye Of chapmen..That wyde where senten hir spicerye. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 98 The feith of oure lord crist spredde wydewhere day be day. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. ii. 340 My name is sir kay the seneschal that wyde where is knowen. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iii. 5 The fame thair of walkis full couth Our all the citeis of Italy wydequhair. 16.. *Sir Lambewell* 6 in *Percy Folio MS.* (1867) I. 144 With him he had many an heire As he had else many a whide where; Of his round table they were Knights all. 1906 C. M. DOUGHTY in *Academy* 5 May 425/2 Fair champaign Which flower of broom gilds widewhere.

† **Widge.** *dial. Obs.* Also 3 irreg. **wig.** [OE. *wicg* = OS. *wigg*, ON. *vigg* :— OTeut. **wegjom*, f. *weg-* to carry (see WAY *sb.*, WEIGH, etc.).] In OE. (poetical) a steed; later, a beast of burden; in quot. 1553, a mare.

For the specialization of meaning, cf. F. *jument* mare, from L. *jumentum* beast of burden.

Beowulf 234 Ðewat him þa to waroðe wicge ridan þegn Hroðgares. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 [He] bed hem bringen a wig one to riden, noðer stede, ne palefrei, ne fair mule..he sende after þe alre unwurþeste wig one to riden, and þat is asse. 1553 *Respublica* IV. iii. 1063 That tyme chad a widge, and hir vole.

Widgeon, wigeon (wi·dʒən), *sb.* Forms: 6 **wegyon, -ion, wygeon, wigion,** 6–7 **wigen, widgen, -in,** 7 **-ine, widg(e)ing, widgion,** 6– **wigeon,** 7– **widgeon.** [Of difficult etymology.

The form suggests a French origin (cf. *pigeon*), but no appropriate Fr. forms are evidenced as early as the English word or with the required meaning; cf. *vigeon* a West Indian duck (1667 Du Tertre, *Hist. Gén. des Antilles* II. 277), of which there is a nasalized form *vingeon* (1) widgeon in Eastern dial., (2) a duck of Madagascar (1771 *Dict. de Trévoux*); beside which there are *gingeon* 'sorte de canard qu'on trouve dans les grandes Antilles' (1832 Raymond *Dict. Gén.*), and Angevin dial. *digeon* widgeon.

F. *vigeon* and It. *bibbio* wild duck have been referred to L. *vitio* kind of crane, but this derivation is very dubious. The various extant forms suggest the possibility of a series of formations with suffix *-io(nem)* on parallel onomatopoeic bases, *pin-, bin-, vin-, din-, gin-* (cf. WHEW, WHEWER).]

1. A wild duck of the genus *Mareca*, esp. *M. penelope* of Europe and northern Asia; other species are *M. americana* of N. America and *M. sibilatrix* of southern S. America. (Collective pl. in later use usually *widgeon*: cf. *teal.*)

1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 279 In the second course ..chekyns, pygyons, teeles, wegyons, mallardes. 1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* C 5, Quum multæ sint aues aquaticæ anati similes, sed minores, ut sunt, teles uocatæ ab Anglis Vuigene & pochardæ. 1592 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Pref., At my Lord Maiors dinner they say he would put vp a widgen for his supper. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvi. 170 Great numbers of wilde-duckes and wigens. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xii. 107 Teals and Widgins..commonly..are very fat and sweet of taste. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. 75 Wigeon and Teal also are said to be in great plenty here. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 139 The Lincolnshire decoys..principally contribute to supply the markets of London with wild-fowl. The number of ducks, wigeon, and teal, that are sent thither is amazing. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 662/1 The American wigeon..is rather bigger than our wigeon. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xi, In this bountiful and beneficent land, flowing over with broiled Bluefish, Carolina widgeon, [etc.]. 1886 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Bk. Duck Decoys* 17 A Decoy.. by means of which wildfowl, such as Wigeon, Mallard, and Teal, are caught alive. 1901 *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 On Lough Neagh, the wigeon is known as the 'grass-wigeon' or the 'grass-duck'. This may be due to its habit of feeding on the grassy sward along the shores.

b. Locally applied to various wild ducks of other genera: see quots.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 99 *Anas Fusca*..the Red-headed Wigeon. 1676 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* III. 288 The Pochard or great red-headed Wigeon. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 135 In Shropshire every species of wild duck, with the exception of *Anas boscas*, is called wigeon. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl., Widgeon*, the common English name for a Duck of the genus *Mareca*, extended generally by sportsmen to any wild duck. 1901 *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 The pochard is distinguished by the name of the 'red-headed wigeon' or 'stone wigeon'.

† 2. Applied to a person, in allusion to the supposed stupidity of the bird: A fool, simpleton, ninny. (Cf. *goose, gull*, etc.) *Obs.*

1622 CHAPMAN *Widow's T.* II. i. E 3 *b*, Come y'are a. widgine. 1639 [J. TAYLOR (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 122, I [said the Poulterer's wife] call him Goose, and Widging, and Dotrell, and Woodcock. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* CXXVIII. 584 The Native will prove a very Asse or Widgion. 1693 *Humours Town* 93 'Till the Widgeon is Caught, and his Pocket empty. 1741 LAVAL *Hist. Ref.* IV. VIII. 985 Those poor silly Widgeons, which they could convert.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *widgeon-lord* (see 2); **widgeon-grass, -weed,** local names for the grass-wrack, *Zostera marina.*

1681 BRATHWAIT *Time's Curtain drawn* G 3 *b*, Here lies a Widgin-lord, a foot-cloth Asse. 1878 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Widgeon-grass. *Zostera marina*, L. 1902 'GUY THORNE' *Gt. Acceptance* x, The 'mud' was covered with the marsh zostera, or widgeon-weed.

Hence † **Widgeon** *v. trans.* to make a 'widgeon' of, befool, cheat.

a 1596 *Sir T. More* I. ii. (Malone Soc.) 256 Let them gull me, widgen me, rooke me, foppe me.

Widifu: see WIDDIFUL.

Widir, obs. f. WHITHER.

Widish (wəi·dɪʃ), *a.* [f. WIDE *a.* + -ISH 1.] Somewhat wide (*lit.* and *fig.*).

In first two quots. used *advb.*

c 1780 DUCH. DEVONSHIRE in *Daily News* 27 Oct. 6/5 His hair..flattish at top—frizzed out widish on each side. 1828 *Trial of W. & J. Dyon* 20 The man walked widish and turned his toes out. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 931 A widish interpretation of the laws of non-intervention. 1849 R. CURZON, JR. *Vis. Monast.* 298 The..rock..is separated from the end of a projecting line of mountains by a widish chasm. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. x. (1872) VI. 254 Kind of Manuscript Newspaper..which..to have had a widish circulation.

Widle: see WIDDLE *v.*1

Widness, obs. or dial. f. WIDENESS; Sc. var. WOODNESS *Obs.*

Widou, -ed: see WIDOW, WIDOWHEAD.

Widow (wi·dəʊ), *sb.*1 Forms: α. 1 **widuwe,** 1–5 **widewe, wydewe,** 1, 4 **widwe,** 3 (*Orm.*) **widdwe,** 3–6 **widue,** 4 **widu** (*pl.* **widuen, -uus, -us**), **wydw,** *pl.* **widos,** 4–5 **wydue, wydwe,** 4–6 **wydow(e,** *Sc.* **widou,** 4–7 **widowe,** 5 **wydew, wyddo, widw,** 5–6 **wydo,** 5 (6 *Sc.*) **vidue,** 6 **wyddow(e,** (vidoy), *Sc.* **vidow, -ou(e,** 6–7 **widdowe,** 7–8 **widdow,** 9 *dial.* or *vulgar* **widda, widder, widdy,** 4– **widow.** β. 1 **weodewe,** 4 *Sc.* **wedoue, vedo,** 4–5 **wedewe, wedu,** 4–6 **wedew, wedow, wedou,** 5 **wedw(e, wedue,** *Sc.* **wedeu, wedaw,** 5 (6 *Sc.*) **wedo,** 5–6 **wedowe, weddow(e,** (6 **wedoo,** *Sc.* **vedou, weido,** *gen.* **wedvis**). γ. 1 **wudewe, -uwe,** 4 **wodow,** 4–5 **wodewe** (4 *pl.* **-en, -on**). [OE. *widewe, widuwe, wuduwe* wk. fem. = OFris. *widwe* (Fris. *weduwe, widewin, wudu*), OS. *widowa* (MLG., LG. *wedewe, -uwe*, MDu. *weduwe, -ewe*, Du. *weduw(e, weeuw*), OHG. *wituwa, -awa*, (MHG. *witewe*, G. *wittwe*), Goth. *widuwô*: orig. an Indo-European adj. formation **widhewo-, -wā* on the base *widh-* to be empty, be separated (Skr. *vidh* to be destitute, lack, cf. L. *dī-videre* to divide); cf. Skr. *vidhavā* widow, Pers. *bēva*, Gr. *ἴθεος* unmarried man, L. *viduus* bereft, void, widowed (fem. *vidua* widow, whence F. *veuve*, It. *vedova*, Sp. *viuda*, Pg. *viuva*), OPruss. *widdewu*, OSl. *vdova* (Russ. *vdova*), W. *gweddw*, OIr. *fedb*, Cornish *guedeu.*]

1. A woman whose husband is dead (and who has not married again); a wife bereaved of her husband.

Hempen widow: see HEMPEN *a.* 1 b.

a. c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cviii[i]. 9 Sien bearn his asteapte & wif his widwe. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 975 [Hi] wydewan bestryþtan oft & gelome. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 He scal biwerian widewan and steopbern. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7998 An weppmann & an widdwe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 To helpen widewen & federlease children. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 329/322 Ane holie wydewe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6787 Widues (*Gött.* Wydw; *Fairf.* widow; *Trin.* widewe] ne barns faderles Do yee na wrang. *Ibid.* 6793 Widus sall i mak your wifes. 1383 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) I, 1, Rose Wrytell, wydue, sumtyme the wyf of William flayrstede, Clerk. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5521 Many a wydewe þar was mad, And many child faderles. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 313 Al be she mayde or wydwe or elles wyf. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 61, I haue beyn a wyddo this threscore yere. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 32 A wydow þat het Drusyan, lay ded on bere. 1519–29 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 82, I Jane scheffelde of Croxby vidoy. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XXIII. 14 Ye devoure widdowes houses. — *Mark* XII. 43 This povre widowe hath cast moare in, then all they which have caste into the treasury. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 68 Christ resit wp ane vidous sone. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 127 If she kepe her widue..or if she forton to marie. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 200 Nathir soulde a Vidue be compelled a thousand pace ouer her awne dores to answer to the Lawes. *Ibid.* II. 240 Marie..vidow to the duik of Longouaille. 1600 SHAKS. *Hamw.* III. ii. 233 Both heere, and hence, pursue me lasting strife, If once a Widdow, euer I be Wife. 1607 — *Cor.* II. i. 196 The Widowes..And Mothers that lacke Sonnes. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 168 The Cake that the Widdow gave to the Prophet. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 79 Constantia..remained the widow of the vanquished Licinius. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XX, Take example by your father, my boy, and be very careful o' widders. 1877 GILBERT *Sorcerer* II, No saucy minx and giddy..But a clean and tidy widdy. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 466 In Calabar..all the widows of a dead man are subjected to ordeal.

β. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxlv[i]. 8 [9] Þa elþeodigan eaðe Drihten lustum healdeð, and lif geofeð weodewum wescalum, he hiom wel onfehð. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 226 Þat vedo can hym mene. *Ibid.* xxi. (*Clement*) 112 Þis wedou. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 433 Wedewis & nedy men. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3481 Wymes made wedowys, & wayling for euer. *a* 1440 *Knt. de la Tour* lxx, Maydenes and wedues. 1476 *Extch. Rolls Scot.* VIII. 344 *note*, Till oure pare wedeu and beidwoman Marioun of Corry. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXV. 34 Jonet the weido. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lx. 210 He dystroyeth..wedous & orphelyns. 1562 WINET *Cert. Tractates* § 57 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 112 Young wedowis quha had wowit continence. 1563 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 281 The sillie wedew.

γ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 37 Heo was wudewe oð seofoer & hundeahtatig geara. *Ibid.* iv. 25 Manega wudewan wæron on helias dagum. 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Þe þridde [kind of adultery] is of man sengle mid wodewe oþer ayward. *Ibid.* 225 Wodewehod..is a stat þet zayntе paul prayseþ moche þet zayþ to wodewon [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xliv. 178 (Harl. MS.), iij. wodewis wer I-left bihinde.

b. Law. *King's widow*: see quot. 1607.

1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII* c. 46. § 25 The said maister.. shalhaue auctoritie by this acte to survey all the Kinges widowes..that have maried them selfis without the Kinges licence..for their resonable fynes to be made to the Kinges use. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v., The widow of the King, or the Kings widow..is that widow, which after her husbands death being the Kings tenent *in capite*, is driuen to recouer her Dower by a writ *De dote assignanda*...It appeareth that other common Lords haue the same power ouer their widowes, touching their consent, in their mariage, that the King hath.

c. Prefixed as a title to the name. Now chiefly *dial.* or *vulgar.*

1576 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 3) 1581/1 Widowe Swayne. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 76 Not since widdow Dido's time. 1636 in *Parish Bks. St. Julian's, Shrewsbury* I. 20 (MS.) Receiued for a Rentall of Widdow Crosse 6/8. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The Laird..was ashamed to tax too highly the miserable means of support which remained to the widow Butler. 1835 J. POOLE *Sk. & Recoll.* I. 82 The cold and hot baths kept by Widow Sniggerston, No. 14, Market Square. 1882 MRS. RIDDELL *Pr. Wales's Gard.-Party* ii, Once, when overtaken by a thunder-storm, she sought refuge in widow Harting's cottage.

d. In extended sense: A wife separated from or deserted by her husband; esp. in colloq. or dial. phr. *a widow bewitched.* Also in other allusive uses: see quot. 1908, *college widow* s.v. COLLEGE *sb.* 9 b, GRASS WIDOW.

1462 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 74, I pray you socour my wif, for she is wedow yet for me. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 259 Divorc'd from your Husband; a Widow, nay, to live, a Widow bewitcht, worse than a Widow. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* XXXIX, Who'd ha' thought of yo'r husband, him as was so slow and sure,..making a moonlight flitting, and leaving yo' to be a widow bewitched! 1901 'ZACK' *Dunstable Weir* 283 Martha Barnaby..was a widow bewitched, and had been for years.

e. *Eccl.* One of a class or order of devout or consecrated widows in the Early Church (see *Acts* ix. 39, 41).

Cf. *Nonna*, arwurþe wydwe (*MS. Rodl.* 730 lf. 146 *b*, *c* 1200).

1572 T. CARTWRIGHT *Repl. Whitgift* 153 Although there is not so great vse of these widowes with vs, as there was in those places where the churches were first founded,..yet..I conclude that (if such may be gotten) we ought also to kepe that order of widowes in the church still. 1587 see WIDOWER 1 2]. 1708 BINGHAM *Orig. Eccles.* II. xxii. 315 The Council of Laodicea in the Eastern Church had forbidden them [*sc.* deaconesses] under the Name of ancient Widows or Governesses. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergy-Man's Vade M.* II. 241 A Widow or Deaconess, must, according to St. Paul, be Sixty. 1862 BP. WORDSWORTH *Hymn*, '*Hark the sound of holy voices*' ii, Saintly Maiden, godly Matron, Widows who have watch'd to prayer. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* 611/2 The Church recognised..several classes of pious women, such as widows, deaconesses, hospitallers, Canonesses.

f. *transf.* A female animal, esp. a hen bird, that has lost its mate.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 706 If hire make were ded, and ȝe widue wore. 1821–2 (see *widow bird* in 4 a). 1878 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 3/1 'Widows', alias old hens, are to be bought at a shilling each.

g. *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 187 Þe Chirche, þat is wydowe for þis tyme. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 455 For than gois bakwart to the syn agayn Oure appetite,.. And makis reson wedow for to be. 1894 SYLVESTER *Elegies, Monodia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 330/1 Soon as ever the bright season-stinter Hath left her widow of his wonted raies. 1887 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. iii. 98 Bruno wittily called Oxford the widow of sound learning—'la vedova di buone lettere'.

2. a. A bird of the subfamily *Viduinæ*: = WIDOW-BIRD. *Mourning widow*, a bird of the genus *Coliopasser* belonging to this subfamily. b. Collectors' name for a geometrid moth, *Cidaria luctuata*; also *mourning widow.* c. *Mournful* or *mourning widow*, popular names of certain plants with dusky flowers: see MOURNFUL 5, MOURNING *ppl. a.* 3.

1747 EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 86 The Red-Breasted Long-Tailed Finch..from Angola in Africa...A Gentleman, who lately arrived from Lisbon, tells me the Portuguese call this Bird the Widow, from its Colour, and long Train. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 287 In the feathery race, the widow, the cardinal, &c...exhibit a more brilliant colouring, when the Sun approaches the Line. 1869–72 T. E. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 179 The Mourning Widows (*Col*

end to play golf may improve his health, but conceivably the wife..may feel it rather dull and lonely.

8. Miscellaneous colloq. or slang uses. a. (See quot. 1710, and cf. *widow's fire* in 5.) b. An extra hand dealt to the table in certain card-games. c. *The widow*: champagne. [From 'Veuve Cliquot', the name of a firm of wine merchants.]

1720 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 91. 3/1 Fire expiring's call'd a Widow. 1891 *Hoffmann's Cycl. Card Games* 204 Whiskey Poker... Five cards are..dealt to each player, with an extra hand, known as 'the widow'. The elder hand may either play his own hand, pass, or take the widow. 1899 Guy Boothby *Red Rat's Dan.* xvii, A good luncheon and a pint of the Widow to wash it down.

4. Combinations. a. appositive (= that is a widow), as *widow child, duchess, lady, mother, queen, woman* (the last now usually arch. or dial.); (in sense 1 f) *widow bird, turtle*. b. attrib. Of or pertaining to a widow or widowhood, as *widow bed, comfort, dolour, life, night, state*; consisting of widows, as *widow-club*. c. objective, instrumental, etc., as *widow-burning* (= Suttee 2), *-hunter, -hunting, -maker, -making*; *widow-cursed* adj.; *widow-like* adj. and adv. d. Special Combs.: **widow church**, a church without a bishop or pastor; **widow-duck**, a species of tree-duck, *Dendrocygna viduata*; **widow-finch** = Widow-bird; **widow flower** = Mourning widow (*b*) (Mourning *ppl. a.* 3); cf. 2 c; **widow moth** = 2 b; **widow right**, that part of a deceased husband's estate to which a widow has a right. See also Widow-bird, -wail.

1630 Howell *Giraffe's Rev. Naples* 1. 119 He commanded ..the House of a *widow-Baker to be burnt. 1660 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. iv, O thou cold *widdowe bed, sometime thrice blest, By the warme pressure of my sleeping lord. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, v. 4 A *widow bird sat mourning Upon a wintry bough. 1856 Max Müller *Chips* (1868) II. 34 The custom of *widow-burning. 1856 Ayroun *Bothwell* I. x, To claim the hand of Scotland's Queen, The *widow-child of France. *a* 1759 A. Butler *Lives of Saints* (1836) I. 379 He .. recommends himself and his *widow-church of Antioch to their prayers. 1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 561 P 1 A certain Female Cabal..who call themselves the *Widow-Club. 1595 Shaks. *John* III. iv 105 My faire sonne,..My *widow-comfort, and my sorrowes cure. 1614 Sylvester *Parl. Vertues Royall* 767 Hundred Laurels never *widow-curst. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 65 Our fatherlesse distresse was left vnmoan'd, Your *widdow-dolour, likewise be vnwept. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Nov., The *widow Duchess will not stand to the will. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) IV. 542 The vida-finches, often called *widow-finches. 1888a *Garden* 11 Mar. 155/3 The purple Scabious.. is known in some places by the name of the *Widow Flower. 1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 561 P 1 These unhappy gentlemen, who are commonly distinguished by the name of *widow-hunters. 1843 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* I. (1893) 8 With this popular sport he combined the diversion of *widow-hunting. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 548 How may we content This *widow Lady? 1863 D. G. Mitchell *Sev. Stor., My Farm of Edgewood* 17 Another letter, from a widow lady. 1625 in Halliw. *Lett. Kings Eng.* (1846) II. 236, I had rather live banished..with you, than live a sorrowful *widow-life without you. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xii. 22 She had layd her mournefull stole aside, And *widow-like sad wimple throwne away. 1706 Gardiner tr. *Rapin's Gardens* I. 351 Or Widowlike beneath a sable Veil, Her purest Lawn may artfully conceal. 1747 Richardson *Clarissa* IV. 120 She wrote such a widow-like refusal. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 439 This bosom..is burning for thee, though thy love be dead, Widow-like, on her lord's death-bier. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. ii. 17 It grieues my soule, That I must draw this mettle from my side To be a *widdow-maker. 1906 Kipling *Puck of Pook's Hill* 67 What is a woman that you forsake her,..To go with the old grey Widow-maker [*i.e.* the sea]? 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 267 Mezereon is as much as vidnifical, or *widow-making Plant. 1839 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 363 *Widow moth. *a* 1721 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 99 The Son for whom his *Widow-Mother groan'd. 1821 R. Pollok in D. Pollok *Life* iv. (1843) 87 A small house, inhabited by a widow-mother and an only daughter. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. v. (1912) 379 O *widow-nights, beare witnes with me of the difference. 1690 Locke *Govt.* § 123 Who has the paternal power whilst the *widow-queen is with child? 1569 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1912) II. 55 After the *widowright of my wief. 1617–28 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 49 One third of my goodes, which is her widdow right. 1733 Johnson, *To Widow*, *v. a.* ...2. To endow with a widow-right. 1591–5 C'tess Pembroke *Astrophel* II. 27 All the fields do waile their *widow state. 1615 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* IV. 318 So, on the wither'd Spray The *Widow-Turtle sighes her mournfull Lay. 1649 Lovelace *Lucasta* etc. 99 Peason, Chickens, sawces high, Pig and the *Widdow-Venson-pye. 1382 Wyclif *2 Sam.* xiv. 5 A womman widowe I am [1611 a widow woman; Vulg. *mulier vidua*]. — *1 Kings* vii. 14 Yram, the sone of the *widowe womman [1611 a widowes sonne; Vulg. *mulieris viduae*]. *Ibid.* xvii. 9 A womman widowe [*Douay* 1609 a wydow woman]. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 201 P 7 He lived as a Lodger at the House of a Widow-Woman. 1891 Hardy *Tess* xxix, 'Not he, sir. Never meant to,' replied the dairyman. 'As I say, 'tis a widow-woman, and she had money, it seems—fifty poun' a year or so.' 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* iii. (1891) 42 Gay little widow woman that she was.

5. Special collocations with the genitive: **widow's bench** = Free bench; **widow's chamber**, the furniture of the bed-chamber, to which the widow of a freeman of the city of London was formerly entitled; **widow's cress**, a name for a purple-flowered N. American species of stonecrop, *Sedum pulchellum*; **widow's fire** (see quot., and cf. 3 a); **widow's look**, a lock or tuft of hair growing apart from the rest, supposed to presage early widowhood; **widow's man**, (*a*) a man such as to attract widows; (*b*) *Naut.* one of a number of fictitious seamen whose names were formerly entered in the books of a ship's company, their pay being set apart for pensions; **widow's mite**, a small money contribution (in allusion to Mark xii. 43; see Mite[2] 1 c); **widow's peak** (see Peak *sb.*[2] 1 f, and cf. *widow's lock*); **widow's terce** (see Terce 2); **widow's weeds**, the mourning apparel of a widow (see Weed *sb.*[2] 6 b).

1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 468 *Widdows-bench [misp. *-bench*)..Sa. [= Sussex] a share of their Husbands Estate, *widow's chamber. 2919 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1049 *'Wido fire'—a fire on one side of the grate only. *a* 1540 J. London in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 132 Suche as .. hadde any slottiche *wydowes lockes, viz. here growen to gether in a tufte. 1896 Northall *Warw. Word-bk., Widow's-lock*, a small lock or fringe growing apart from the hair above the forehead. Credulous persons believe that a girl so distinguished will become a widow soon after marriage. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. vi, As to Square, who was .. what is called a jolly Fellow, or a *Widow's Man, he easily reconciled his Choice to the eternal Fitness of Things. 1790 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 2 Oct., Fictitious Seamen called Widow's Men. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Widows' men*, imaginary sailors, formerly borne on the books as A. B.'s for wages in every ship in commission; they ceased with the consolidated pay at the close of the war. 1595 Goodwine *Blanchardine* Ded., Craving your acceptance of this pore *widowes mite. 1849 *Widow's peak* [see Peak *sb.*[2] 1 f]. 1838 Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 985 Where a husband has disponed property in which he stands infeft, but dies before the disponee has taken infeftment, the *widow's terce will form a burden on the property so disponed. 1715, 1896 *Widow's weeds [see Weed *sb.*[2] 6 b].

Hence †**Wi·dowess** (*Obs. rare*—[1]), a widow (sense 1); **Wi·dowish** *a.* = *widowly* adj.; †**Wi·dowist** [-ist used irreg.] = sense 1 c; †**Wi·dowity** *Obs.* [hybrid alteration of Viduity], widowhood; **Wi·dowly** *a.* [-ly[1]], pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a widow (in quot. 1884, widowed, or having the character of a widow); **Wi·dowly** *adv.* [-ly[2]], in a way befitting a widow, like a widow; **Wi·dow-wise** *adv.* (*nonce-wd.*), in the manner of a widow, like a widow; **Wi·dowy** (†-ie) *a.* = *widowly* adj.

1596 Clapham *Briefe Bible* II. 126 [She] had bene 84 yeares *Widowesse. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* 60 b, My *widowish couch. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 280 Turning and tossing..in hir widowishe bed. 1593 Bancroft *Surv.* 221 There is a second sorte of Disciplinary *Widdowistes, that are very farre growen past Cartwright's *Ifs*. [Cf. sense 1 e, quot. 1572.] 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 1. 39 Suppose his mother in her *widowetie committed huredome. 1664 in Jervise *Mem. Angus* (1885) II. 15 Earl George ..left her 'the use of all his moveables in all his houses duering her widowity'. 1750–2 Macfarlane *Geneal. Coll.* (S. H. S. 1900) II. 465 She calls her Self when in her widowity Relicta Normani de Lesely. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 53 The poor disconsolate lady, who now weeps over her own widowity. 1532 More *Conf. Tindale* Wks. 494/1 Virginitie, & *widoly chastitie. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 158 The Princesse..had now converted her widdowly meane into fresh teares of conjugall affection. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVIII. 541 This charming young person, ..the daughter of a widowly exile of France. 1909 Rickert *Beggar Heart* 285 She conducted herself most *widowly. 1904 Marson *Folk Songs fr. Som.* Introd. p. xvi, Song is not won *widow-wise, 'by brisk assault and putting on ... but rather must be wooed by slow approaches, like a maid. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. (1674) 4 The very Muses..did..assist at the Obsequies in *widowie apparel.

Widow, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [OE. *widewa*, masc. corresp. to *widuwe* Widow *sb.*[1]] = Widower[1] 1. †Also of common gender.

c 1000 *Instit. Polity* xxii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 332 Þæt he þanan-forð wydewa þurhwunige. 1340 *Ayenb.* 193 And alneway me sæel ham bleþeliche yeue, and nameliche to þe poure ssamuneste, and to þe uaderlease, an to wyfmen wodewen, and to oþre nieduolle. *Ibid.* 225 Þe stat of wodewehod..bet zaynte paul prayzeþ moche, þet zayþ to wodewon, 'hou þet guod is, he him hyealde ine þet stat'. *c* 1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* 507 A wofull widow [*v.r.* wedaw] hamewart is he went. 1528 H. Watson *Hist. Oliver of Castile* (Roxb.) B 4, Seynge that bothe partyes were wydowes,..it were moost conuenyent that he came theder for to wedde her. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 257/2 He abstened from marriage: whether hee neuer had a wife, or was a widowe, and kepte himself without one. 1633 Rutherford *Lett.* (1765) II. xv. 341 Our Bridegroom cannot want a wife: can he live a widow? 1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1814) IV. 93 He still lived a widow, on his estate in Jamaica. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxii, I had been a widow three years when I began to gang about Parton House to see her.

attrib. *c* 1380 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 35 Wedow man þat wantis To steill a pair of swyvis. *c* 1700 *Directions for Distrib. Estate T. Rawlins of Barrow-on-Soar* (MS.), Those poor Widdow men and Widdow women that have a charge of children to keep. 1841 S. C. Hall *Ireland* I. 90 Her father came here soon after she was born, a widow-man with only her.

Wi·dow, *v.* [f. Widow *sb.*[1] or [2].]

1. *trans.* To make a widow (or, *rarely*, widower) of; to reduce to widowhood; to bereave of one's husband (or wife). Most commonly in *pa. ppple.*: see also Widowed *ppl. a.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 24197 (Edinb.) Ik am nu widuit of mi spus. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. vi. 153 In this City hee Hath widowed and vnchilded many a one. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* IV. 84 The Royal butchers, who .. widow ten thousand at a brush, and make twice as many fatherless. 1814 Southey *Roderick* III. 290 One hour hath orphaned me and widowed me. 1884 Annie S. Swan *Dorothea's Kirkby* x, Be careful of yourself—for Dorothea's sake. I would not like to see her early widowed. 1887 Hatton *Gay World* xv, When he widowed her, as he must do, being so much her senior.

b. *fig.* To deprive *of* a valuable or highly prized possession (person, thing, or quality); to bereave. Usually in *pa. ppple.* Deprived, bereft.

1595 Markham *Trag. Sir R. Grinvile* cxv, Seeing .. widow'd of her comly shape. 1649 C. Wase *Sophocles, Electra* 53 The House Widow'd of Friends, and seiz'd upon by Fiends! 1677 Baker in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 18 The second equation is widowed of its geometrical construction. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1264 Wit, widow'd of good-sense, is worse than nought. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* v. 763 He.. Lay'd Troy in dust, and widow'd all her streets. 1847 Le Fanu *T. O'Brien* 303 Odd niches and nooks—widowed of the clocks and presses. 1874 Motley *John of Barneveld* I. Pref. 8 France, widowed of Henry and waiting for Richelieu.

† 2. To survive as a widow, become the widow of. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 26 Let mee be married to three Kings in a forenoone, and Widdow them all.

† 3. To endow with a widow's right. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 429 For his Possessions,.. We doe en-state, and widow you with all, To buy you a better husband.

Hence **Wi·dowing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (in first quot. app. vaguely used for 'funereal').

? 1608 Drayton *Poems Lyr. & Pastoral* Eglog vi. 105 Nor mournefull Cipresse nor sad widowing yew. 1908 *Athenæum* 17 Nov. 614/3 The widowing of the hero is a valueless shadow upon a vigorously improbable..story. 1921 *Public Opin.* 18 Feb. 157/2 She had earned her widowing by eight years' happiness.

Wi·dow-bird. [Representing L. generic name *Vidua*, F. *veuve* (Brisson *Ornithol.* 1760) widow. (Altered to Whidah-*bird*.)] A bird of the genus *Vidua* or subfamily *Viduinæ* of the family *Ploceidæ* (Weaver-birds), found in various parts of Africa: so called from the prevailingly black plumage of the males, which are also distinguished by an immensely elongated train of tail-feathers.

[1747: see Widow *sb.*[2] 2 a.] 1772 Barrington in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 282 *note*, These long feathers would be very inconvenient to the hen during incubation; and they are likewise confined to the cock widow-bird. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. 1. 179 Whidah B[unting]..This is pretty common at Angola, and other parts of Africa; and is called la Veuve, or Widow Bird, from the colour. 1807 [Mrs. Dorset] *Peacock 'at Home'* (1838) 20 The Widow-Bird came, though she still wore her weeds. 1869–73 T. R. Jones *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 179 The Long-tailed Widow Bird (*Chera cafra*) the largest of all the South African species. *Ibid.* 180 The Cock-tailed Widow Birds (*Steganura*) are found throughout the whole of Central Africa. *Ibid.*, The Paradise Widow Bird (*Vidua paradisea*)..found principally in the thinly-wooded forests of Africa. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* II. viii. 269 The male widow-bird, remarkable for his caudal plumes. 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 1030 The females of all the Widow-birds differ greatly in appearance from the males, and are generally clothed in a plumage of mottled brown.

Widowed (wi·dōed), *ppl. a.* [f. Widow *sb.*[1] or [2] or *v.* + -ed.]

1. Made or become a widow (or widower); bereaved of one's husband (or wife). Also of an animal, esp. a bird: Bereaved of its mate.

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxvi. 355 A pitious Storie of King Eugens widowed wife. *a* 1728 Phios *Solomon* III. 193 A widow'd Daughter. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 974 Some widowed songster pours his plaint. 1813 Scott *Triermain*, I. i, Constant and true as the widow'd dove. 1822 — *Quentin D.* Introd., He was a widowed husband and childless father. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 5 He was a child at his widowed mother's knee. 1885 *Mistletoe Bough* 98/1 An acquaintance of mine—a twice widowed wife. 1893 Tout *Edw. I* xi. (1896) 182 There was..talk of a marriage between the widowed Edward and the French king's sister.

b. *transf.*

c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xcvii. 8 The teeming Autumne big with ritch increase..Like widowed wombes after their Lords decease. 1627 May *Lucan* v. 928 Sleepelesse she spent in her now widow'd bed..the night that followed. 1634 Heywood *Maidenh. well lost* I. i, What is't to me? If being a Bride, you haue a widdowed fortune. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 455 Your widow'd hours,..with female toil And various labours of the loom, beguile. 1768 C. Shaw *Monody* xiv. (1769) 12 How shall I find repose on a sad widow'd bed? 1780 Cowper *Dowes* 36 Denied th' endearments of thine eye, This widow'd heart would break. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Pass. & Prine.* iii, For..six and twenty years had the veteran lover..solaced himself in widowed singleness. 1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 279 She tripped out of doors to solace her widowed heart with the joys of a second husband. 1894 Dyan *Man's Keeping* xviii, He could only hold the poor widowed hand tenderly in his while he told her the tiny details of those last few days.

2. *fig.* Deprived of a partner, friend, companion, or mate; bereaved; hence, deserted, desolate, solitary.

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* II. lv, Straight from the ashes..A new-born Phœnix flies, & widow'd place resumes. 1667 Norris *Coll. Misc.* 27 No Second Friendship can be found To match my mourning Widow'd Love. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Elegies* viii. 33 From Twinam's widow'd bow'r. 1798 What if we seiz'd, plaine. 1820 Shelley By moonlight spells

ancestral epitaphs. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxv. 113 My heart, tho' widow'd, may not rest Quite on the love of what is gone. 1908 E. V. LUCAS *Over Bemerton's* x, He sees far more with his widowed orb than the ordinary observer does with two.

b. Of an elm: Not 'mated' with a vine; conversely of the vine; also of a branch. (After L. *ulmus* and *vitis vidua, ramus viduus.*)

1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Odes* IV. v. 44 The blind Weds to the widow'd elm his vine. 1796 MASON *Ode to Indep.* vii, When pining Care,.. sees thee, like the weak, and widow'd Vine, Winding thy blasted tendrills o'er the plain. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 357 No shoots should be suffered to grow out of the firm wood, unless they are wanted in order to marry them to a widowed branch.

Widower[1] (wi·dəuəɹ). Forms: 4 wid(e)wer, wydewer, 4–5 wedewer, 5 wyduare, 5–6 wydower, (wydward), 6 wedower, wydoer, 7 widdower, 9 *dial.* widver, 7– widower. [A new formation with -ER[1] on WIDOW *sb.*[1], appearing in late ME. and substituted as an unequivocal form for WIDOW *sb.*[2] Cf. MHG. *witewære*, G. *wittwer*, MDu. *wedewâre*]

1. A man whose wife is dead (and who has not married again); a husband bereaved of his wife.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 194 Widewers and widewes [1377 B. ix. 174 Widwes and widwers]. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xi. 282 Wydewers and wydewes weddeth aythier othere. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 178 Sir T. Greye.. is a wydower now late. *c* 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 75 His wyfe dide afore him..after hoys dethe he leuyd continent and chaste, in a wydwardys lyfe. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 187 That pucelle reffused hym bycause he had be wedded tofore, & of late he was wydower. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 70 Heere wee'l stay To see our widdowers second marriage day. 1635 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old, Old Man* B 3 b, She dead, he ten yeares did a Widdower stay. 1694 *Act 6 & 7 Will. & Mary* c. 6. § 46 The several duties .. upon Batchelors and Widdowers by this Act granted. 1778 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1904) II. 184 He was not content as a widower; for he married again. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xi. 119 The mourners came together to weep and howl, while the widower recited his sorrows and her praise. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 14 Apr. 4/6 Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, widower of the late Jenny Lind.

b. *Widower bewitched*: a husband separated from or deserted by his wife. *colloq.* (Cf. WIDOW *sb.*[1] 1 d.)

1705 DUNTON *Life & Err.* (1818) I. 405 If my marrying a fortune has made me a scoundrel, .. it is but while I continue a Widower bewitched.

†**2.** One of an ecclesiastical class or order of men corresponding to the order of 'widows'. *Obs.*

1587 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* 141 As they had their Leuiticall dispensors, or orderers of the holy Treasurie,..So we haue as members of the Church, as set of God as helpers, the Deacons, Church-seruaunties, Widowers and widowes. 1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* § 19 Let there be Widdowers (which you call relievers) appointed euery where to the Church-seruice. Let certaine discreete and able men which are not Ministers be appointed to preach the Gospell.

Hence **Wi·dowered** (-əd) *a. rare* [after WIDOWED], made or become a widower, bereaved of one's wife; **Wi·dowerhood** [after WIDOWHOOD], the condition of a widower, or the time during which a man is a widower; so **Wi·dowership, Wi·dowery** (*rare*) in same sense; in quot. 1886 *transf.* the condition of being absent from one's wife.

1852 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* III. i. viii. 31 The splendid signet of gold..which a weeping husband had drawn from off his *widowered finger. 1888 M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Forestalled* II. xviii, Norland..felt more than ever widowered, orphaned, compromises he is often obliged to make. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 809 She makes an attempt..on the widowerhood of the Centenarian. 1883 MRS LYNN LINTON *Ione* xv, Pledged to eternal widowerhood and constancy. 1889 — *Thro' Long Night* III. xv, This first year of his widowerhood. 1841 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* I. 89 As if Fortune had conspired to make all the Princes of the bloud, accompany the King in his *widowership. 1886 STEVENSON *Lat.* 13 Feb., My wife is at Bath with my father and mother and the interval of *widowery explains my writing.

Wi·dower[2]. *rare.* [f. WIDOW *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which widows, or bereaves (a woman) of her husband.

1828 MILMAN *Samor* XI. 360 Hengist begirt with that fam'd falchion call'd The 'Widower of Women'.

†**Wi·dowhead.** *Obs.* Forms: see WIDOW *sb.*[1]: 4–5 -hede, 4–6 -hed, 6 -heade, *Sc.* -heid(e, 6–7 -head; also 4 viduid, widoued, 5 weddewede, wydewede, wedowed, wedoet, 6 wydowed, widuede, 7 widdowed. [f. WIDOW *sb.*[1] or [2] + -HEAD.]

a. = next, 1 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11346 Anna,.. þat liued had foursith tuenti yeier In viduid [*Gött.* widowhede, *Trin.* wodewehode]. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 295 Alle kepid they here maydynhed Or ellis wedlek or here wedewehed. 1447 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1451* 106/1 Cristiane has set and to ferm latyn in her pur wedowhed to the said Alex..hir landis of Stratoune. 1563 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1892) II. 89 That mistres Margarete Handcoke..shalbe free of all.. taxis,..during her widuede and living sole. 1591 SPENSER *Teares Muses* 240 During the time of that her widowehead. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 98 As true widdowed..is of rare dignitie and power, .. so false widdowed, .. which liueth so more freelie to take her pleasure..is likewise more dishonorable. 1666 RICKERMOILL *Apol. Distressed Innoc.* Wks. 1716 I. 298 Tamar after she had plaid her wicked prank, resumed the garment of her Widowhead.

attrib. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. iii. (1912) 160 The comfort of her widowhead life.

b. *gen.* = next, 1 b.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 41 Symeone, þat in wedoue-hed þat lang tyme þat his lyf can led. *c* 1460 *Emare* 77 Aftur, when hys wyf was dede, And ledde hys lyf yn weddewede. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* III. xiii. Wks. (1573) 313/2 Virginitie, wedlocke and widowed are none better then other to be saued by. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 10 Of the chastitie of mariage wydohed & virginitie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. xxxiv. I. 290 They [*sc.* doves] abandon not their owne nests, unlesse they be in state of single life or widdowhead by the death of their fellow. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* I. 6 Where the Apostle affirmeth it to be good to abide single, either in virginitie or widowhead.. shall no time afford lawfulnes for some sort of men to marie?

c. *fig.* = next, 1 c.

1624 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 10 Upon you, who are a member of the spouse of Christ the Church, there can fall no widowhead. 1697 G. KEITH *and Narr. Proc. Turner's Hall* 31 The words of G. W. and W. Penn about the Souls of the Deceased Saints being in a state of Purgatory or Widowhead, if they look for the Resurrection of their bodies.

Widowhood (wi·dəuhud). Forms: see WIDOW *sb.*[1] and -HOOD; also 5 wydewood; 3 (*Orm.*) widdwesshad. [OE. *widewanhádd*, f. gen. of WIDOW *sb.*[1] or [2] + *-hádd* -HOOD]

1. The state or condition of a widow or widower, or (contextually) the time during which one is a widow or widower; the condition of a wife bereaved of her husband, or of a husband bereaved of his wife. a. of a woman.

c 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) 114 Iudith..þurhwunode on hire wudewanhade. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Meiden þet hire meiden-hat wit and haldeþ..and widewe of hire widewe-had. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 320 Anneys, þat was þe wyfe of henry sclatter of Eynysham, in her pur weduhod & lauful power beynge, graunted, & confirmyd [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* cxix. 163 Them that worshipfully and perfitly kepe thaire wedwhode. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2139 The queene for her husbande..Remayned in wydohode and mournynge vesture. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* x. 3 She.. put of the garmentes of hir wyddowhode. 1653 VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 184 He exhorts Widows to continue in their widow-hood. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 54/1 In the 96th year of her age, and 71st of her widowhood. 1827 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* II. 283 An annuity during widowhood is good. 1841 JAMES *Corse de Leon* iv, I little dreamed that my mother, in her widowhood, would willingly wed a stranger. 1846 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. xviii, Lucretia..was in the deep weeds of widowhood. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I, Mrs. Tregonell had never been to London since her widowhood.

b. of either sex, or of a man (= WIDOWERHOOD). Also *transf.* of an animal, esp. a bird.

c 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) 20 Wudewanhad is, þæt man wunige on clænnysse for godes lufon..æfter his ġemacan.. oþþer ze weras ze wif. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Þre hodes of bilefulle men, on is meidhod, þat oðer spushod, þe þridde widewehod. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4624 Forr maȝȝdennhad & widdwesshad & weddlac birrþ ben clene. 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Of man oþer of wyfman þet ne habbeþ nenne lond ne of wodewehod ne of spoushod. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 842 Chastitee in mariage and chastitee of widwehode. 1528 *Test. Ebor* (Surtees) V. 250 In my wedowhode, afore I maried this gentilwoman. 1539 *Act 31 Hen. VIII* c. 14 § 1 Vowes of Chastitye or Wydowhood, by Man or Woman made to God advisedly ought to be observed. *a* 1652 BROME *Queenes Exch.* I. ii, What have I done at home, since my Wife died? No Turtle ever kept a widowhood, More strict then I have done. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* iii. 222 Signor Clemente, being in a state of widowhood. 1866 MRS. H WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* vii, During Mr. St. John's widowhood.

c. *fig.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 207, & ðæs blismeres ðines wuduwanhades [Isa. liv. 4 *viduitatis*] ðu ne ġemansað, forðæm ðæt is ðin Waldend ðe ðe ġeworhte.

1818 BYRON *Ch. Harold* IV. xi, The spouseless Adriatic mourns her lord;..The Bucentaur lies rotting unrestored, Neglected garment of her widowhood! 1821 — *Sardanap.* IV. i. 227 Which I have worn in widowhood of heart. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* II. ii. § 2 Mother and daughter, you behold them both in their widowhood,—Torcello, and Venice.

1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 565 *note*, The canons of Durham are met to choose a Bishop after the three years' widowhood of the see.

†**2.** An estate settled on a widow, a widow's right. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 125 And for that dowrie, Ile assure her of Her widdow-hood.

Widowie: see *widowry*, after WIDOW *sb.*[1]

Widowish to **Widowship**: see after WIDOW *sb.*[1]

Widow-wail. [See quot. 1597.] a. A name for the shrub Mezereon (*Daphne Mezereum*) or other species of *Daphne*. b. A shrub of the genus *Cneorum* (N. O. *Simarubaceæ*), esp. *C. tricoccum*, a dwarf shrub with evergreen leaves and pink sweet-scented flowers, found in Spain and the south of France.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lviii. 1015 *Chamelæa Arabum Tricoccos*. Widow Wayle.. It is also named of diuers *Oliuella*, as *Matthæus Sylvaticus* saith: it is called in English Widow Wayle. *quia facit viduas*. *Ibid.* lx. 1017 *Thymelæa*. Spurge Flaxe, or mountaine Widow Wayle. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIV. xv. II. 108 Chamelæa [*marg.*] otherwise called Mezereon, Widow-walle. 1687 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 306 Tricoccos Shrubs called Widdow-Wayles. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Widow Wail, *Cneorum*. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virgil* Flora 380 Spurge-flax or Mountain Widow-wail.

Widraught, Widre: see WITHDRAUGHT, WITHER.

Width (widþ). [A literary formation of the 17th century, taking the place of *widness* WIDENESS (which is the usual word in modern dialects), the short vowel of *breadth* (6–7 *bredth*) providing an analogy. Johnson 1755 calls it 'a low word'.]

1. Extent across, or from side to side; transverse dimension: = BREADTH 1; *occas.* extent of opening, distance apart (of the two parts of something, as a pair of compasses).

† In first quot. quasi-*concr.* Opening: = WIDENESS 4 b.

1607 DRAYTON *Agincourt* cxlii, Whence from the wydth of many a gaping wound, There's many a soule into the Ayre must flye. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 82 For the width of the Mortess Gage this side,..then for the Tennant, Gage on that end of the Quarter you intend the Tennant shall be made. 1731 W. HALFPENNY *Perspective* 22 The Perspective Widths of the Squares, parallel to EF. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Astley's*, A child..with very large round eyes, opened to their utmost width. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xliv, The river was here a rapid stream four hundred yards in width. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 204 The two remain'd Apart by all the chamber's width. 1871 A. MEADOWS *Man. Midwifery* (ed. 2) 186 The power of the forceps increases with the length of its blades,..the compressing power..is dependent first upon the character of the lock..and secondly upon the width or divergence of the blades. 1908 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, Thin, flexible cedar strips of certain arbitrary lengths and widths.

2. Large extent across, or in general: = WIDENESS 1, 2. Also *fig.* (cf. BREADTH 1, WIDENESS 5).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 388 Let thy Vines in Intervals be set,..Indulge their Width, and add a roomy Space, That their extreamest Lines may scarce embrace. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 349 The general width of his manner, if I may so call it. 1841 — *Seer* (1864) 54 Milton..was never weak in his creed..; he forced it into width enough to embrace all place and time.

3. quasi-*concr.* A wide region or expanse: cf. BREADTH 2 b.

1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 89 'Mid funeral earth-mounds, skirting widths of plain.

4. *concr.* = BREADTH 2.

1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* iii, In the back widths of her skirt. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Width*, a term employed in dressmaking, synonymously with that of Breadth; meaning the several lengths of material employed in making a skirt, which—according to the fashion o' the day—is composed of a certain number, gored or otherwise. The term Breadth is more generally in use. 1892 E. RHEVES *Homeward Bound* 242 She mounted the steps, and I watched her go on her knees right up to the altar.. I am sure she would need a new width in the front of her dress.

Hence **Wi·dthless** *a.*, having no (great) width, narrow; **Wi·dthways, -wise** *adv.*, in the direction of the width, transversely.

1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 98 The *widthless road. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 316 When applied to uses which require plaiting *widthways. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 63 If they are to be curved lengthways or widthways. 1882 BLADES *Caxton* 105 The mould..was capable of a sliding adjustment, *widthwise to the width of the various letters. 1900 O. ONIONS *Compl. Bach.* xv, [She] looked me up, down, widthwise, and through, and found no speech.

Widu(e, Widual, Widuede: see WIDOW, VIDUAL, WIDOWHEAD.

Wid-uten (-yn), var. WITHOUTEN *Obs.*

Widw(e, Widwer, obs. ff. WIDOW, WIDOWER.

Wie, obs. f. WEIGH; var. WY *Obs.*, man.

Wiech, Wiek, wiek(e, Wief(f, obs. ff. WITCH *sb.*[2], WICK, WEED *sb.*[1], WIFE.

†**Wiel** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wiz(e)l-, wizul-, wil-, 3 wizel, wihel, wiel. [OE. *wig(e)l* str. n. (also in *steorwigl* astrology), whence *wiglian* vb. (cf. ME. *biwizelien*), *wiglere* agent-n., *wiglung* n. of action, corresp. to MLG., (M)Du. *wichelen*, †*wigelen*, MDu. *wijchelâre, wich-*, MLG. *wicheler*; of obscure origin.] Sorcery, magic; a piece of magic; a deceit, delusion.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* vii. 165 (Napier 159/2), *Divinationis*, wizles. — in *Anglia* XIII. 33/160 *Ceremonias*, wiglum. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 He [*sc.* a devil] maked þe unbilefulle man to leuen swliche wiȝeles, swo ich ar embe spac. *c* 1205 LAY. 29150 Ygærne wes mid childe:..al þurh Merlines wiȝel. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Þurh þet sihðe ȝe schulen iseon alle þes deofles wieles. *Ibid.* 300 His [*sc.* the devil's] wiȝeles & his wrenches. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 13/9 Wið sume of mine wiheles ich wrenchte ham adun hwen ha lest wenden.

So †**Wielare**, a sorcerer, magician; a deceiver; †**Wiele (wyle)** [OE. type **wigela*], a sorcerer, wizard; †**Wielful** *a.*, magical; deceitful; †**Wieling**, sorcery, magic.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 330 Drymen..and..wiccan and oðre *wixeleras, beoð to helle bescofene. 11.. *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.* (1838) 2 *Augur*, wielare. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 106 Þe wielare, of sum derne þing..maked a swotes smel cumen. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 38 Nes y never wycche ne *wyle. *c* 1205 LAY. 2880 Mid *wiȝeful his fluhte. *Ibid.* 21140 His sweorð..wes iworht..mið wiȝele-fulle crafteu. *Ibid.* 31650 Heo weoren wiȝel-fulle. *a* 1000 *Kent. Glass.* in Wr.-Wülcker 71/3 *Divinatio*, *wilung. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 102 Nu ȝe cepeð dæxas and monðas mid ydelum wiȝlungum. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 He scal wiorhe creft aleggan and wiȝelunge ne þeman. *c* 1205 LAY. 15792 Monies godes monnes child heo bicharreð þurh wiȝeling.

Wiel, var. WEEL[1]; obs. f. WELL *adv.*

†**Wield**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: a. 1–3 weald, 1 -wild, -wyld, *North.* wald, 3–4 weld, 4 wallde,

4–6 **welde, weild, 5 weelde, wielde, wylde,** β. 2–5 (6 *Sc.*) **wald, 3–5 walde,** § *Sc.* **wauld.** γ. 3–5 **wold, 3–6 wolde.** [(1) OE. *weald* (rare), usually *geweald*, Anglian *gewald* = OS. *giwald*, OHG. *gewalt* (MHG., G. *gewalt*); (2) OE. *(*ge*)-*wield*, *-wild*, *-wyld*, *-*weld*: see Y- and WIELD *v.*]

1. Command, control; possession, keeping; *occas.* hold, grasp: chiefly in phr. *at, in, on* (one's) *w.*; *to have in w.*, to have command or control of, to possess, have; *to w.*, in or into one's possession. (See also 4 a.)

α. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. iv. § 10 Hie.. þæt win drincende wæron oð hi heora selfra lytel geweald hæfdon. *Ibid.* III. ix. § 10 Æfter þæm þe Alexander hæfde calle Indie him to gewildon gedon. *Ibid.* IV. xi. § 4 Þa bæd he Scipian friþes, & him his sunu ham onsende, se wæs on his gewealde [*Cott. MS.* wealde]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 462 Qui suld I him seruis yeild? Al sal be at myn auen weild. *Ibid.* 788 Sone quen sco þis frutte biheild, Sco desirred it to haue in weild. *Ibid.* 25445 Þou þat has þis werld to weld. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 160 Vitaile inouh at weld. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 395 The tyme, that hath al in welde To elden folk, had maad hir elde. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3716 Þat y mote þe seo, On crysten mannes welde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2994 An ymage..Of Sexeres þat sum-quyle þat cite had to welde. *c* 1400 *Roland & Otuel* 828 Þaire saules went alle to lucyfere, þat hade þam alle to welde. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 67 All welth in my weelde es. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) G ij b, Whan the colers haue al in welde A great keelth in man they yelde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 166 All this warld to weild thow had.

β. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Hi habbaþ manega saula on heora ȝewaldum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 Ne mei na Mon me folȝen, bute he forlete al þet he iwald ach. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 304 To lessenn mannkinn þurrh his dæþ Ut off þe deflesse walde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9482 (Cott.) Nu has him sathanas in wald. 13.. *Ibid.* 21917 (Edin.) Alle sal we die bath ginge and alde Ea [= as] nau havis of him selvin walde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 10 Wedyr & wynd he has in wald. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 579 God, that has the warld in wauld.

γ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1958 Ȝet wast bettre he ðus was sold, Ðan he ðor storue in here wold. *Ibid.* 3116 'Wold', quod god, 'wile ðor-of crauen'. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6716 (Laud MS.) Þou shalt habbe..my londe al to wolde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3215 Þou hast namo brebere in wold þy fader yx ded, þy moder ys old. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXII. 273 We wille it noght welde with-in oure wolde. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3833 Goo thow, syr lucan de boteler, That wyse wordys haste in wolde. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vii. 32 God that has alle in wold. *Ibid.* xxviii. 137 When I gaf myself to wold to you in fourme of bred. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) *I* ij b, The payne that he had fyrst in wold Shal than be encreased thre fold.

b. In gen. case in advb. phr. *Willes and waldes*: intentionally and purposely.

c 980–1020 *Laws of Æthelred* VI. lii, Ȝif hit ȝeweorþeð þæt man unwilles oþþe ungewealdes æniȝ þing misdeð, na bið þæt na ȝelic þam þe willes & ȝewealdes sylfwilles misdeð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Heo..suneȝeð deadliche iðe bruche, ȝif heo hit brekeð willes & woldes. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 37 Þat forschuppes te self willes & waldes into hare cunde.

2. Power, might, force, strength.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2000 To don swilc dede adde he no wold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 Til vnwelth windes al his wald. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2689 Poffe my schouldire be schrede, and my schelde thyrllede, And the wielde of myne arme werkkes a littille. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 220 All thing ȝe haue wrocht With help of Wisdome, and his willis wald.

3. Meaning, significance (cf. 4 c).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2122 If he can rechen ðis dremes wold.

4. In phr. *agen* (*owen*) *awold*, also *agen* or *haven wold* (*wald*, *weld*), representing OE. *on* (*ge-*)*wealde habban*, and *geweald dgan* or *habban* with genitive (cf. A *prep.*[1], O *prep.*[1], OWE *v.* B. 1): To have in control or possession, possess.

[*Beowulf* 1797 He ah ealra ȝeweald. *c* 1000 *Dream of the Rood* 107 On domdæge dryhten..ah domes ȝeweald.] *c* 1000 in *Anglia* I. 31 Hine..þæt alle þing haueð on wealde. *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 Swo holie mihte is þoleburdneasse þat he þe hit kiȝ, þer þurh haueð his soule weald. *Ibid.*, He.. þermide ouercumeð þe unfele and his soule loked, and haueð swo wald. *Ibid.* 205 Bute he forsake alle þe woreld winne þat he weld ahȝ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3412 Al bi ðhusens ðis folc was told, Ilc ðhusent adde a meister wold. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 281 in *O. E. Misc.* 113 Ȝif þu hauest welþe a wold. *a* 1300 *Harrow. Hall* 232 (Digby MS.) Ich am molses..Ich dude þe lawen þat þou astolde Wor to ben owin [*MS.* ofin] on wolde.

b. To be the cause of, be responsible for: = WIELD *v.* B. 3 a.

c 1200 ORMIN 11815, I sne sellf all ah itt wald þatt deofell maȝȝ me scrennkenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2054 He berde hem murnen..Harde dremes ogen awold ðat.

c. To mean, signify, denote, imply.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 394 Quat oget nu ðat for-bode o-wold, Ðat a tre þu forboden is..? *Ibid.* 1671 Luue wel michil it aȝte a wold, Swilc seruise and so longe told. *Ibid.* 1944 Quat-so his dremes owen a-wold. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1932 Hetere is..I se Wat þis baret haueth on wold [*MS.* þat þis baret on hwat is wold].

† **Wield,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wielde, wylde,** 2–3 **welde,** 3 **wilde.** [OE. *wielde*, also *gewielde*, f. root of WIELD *sb.*] Strong, powerful, mighty.

c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* IV. xxxvii. 320 Ac þæt is bedeohlod us..hwelper þa wyldre were in Stephane & þone nigor ahte. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. I. 136 Hit was þeaw on þæm tidum þæt mon senig wæl oft þa healfe rinde þe þonne wieldre wæs. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XVI. 336 Þæt se mann beo getyldig,..and læte mare his ȝewitt ȝewyldre þonne his yrre. [*a* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Weldre þene his wreðða.] *a* 1225 *Leas Ken* 94 in *O. E. Misc.* 96 He is..freo of heorte, of wisdom wilde. *c* 1275 LAY. 3197 Þo we(n)de þe welde-king þat hit were for gyle.

Wield (wīld), *v.* Forms: see below. [Two OE. verbs are here represented: (1) a Com. Teut. reduplicating strong verb, OE. (WS.) *wealdan*, (Anglian) *waldan*, pa. t. *wēold*, pa. pple. *ge-wealden* (see WALDIN) = OFris. *walda*, OS. *gi-waldan*, pa. t. *giwēld*, OHG. *waltan*, pa. t. *wielt* (MHG. *walten*, pa. t. *wielt*, G. *walten* wk.), ON. *valda*, pres. *væld*, pa. t. (wk.) *olla*, pa. pple. neut. *valdet* (Sw. *vålla*, Da. *volde* to cause, occasion), Goth. *waldan*; (2) a weak verb, OE. (WS.) **ge-wieldan*, *wildan*, *wyldan*, (Anglian) *weldan*, containing a mutated form of the same stem *wald-* (see also WIELD *sb.* and *a.*), = Balto-Slavic *wald-* (: *weld-*) in OSl. *vlado* to rule, *vlastĭ* power, Lith. *veldu* to rule, possess, iterative *valdaũ*, OPrussian *weldīsnan* acc., inheritance, *wāldnikans* acc. pl., kings; another grade is in Goth. *wulþus* glory.

The above forms are generally held to contain an extended form of the root of L. *valere* to be strong, *validus* strong, Celtic *walo-* in many proper names, and in **walatros* (whence MWelsh *gwaladr* chief), ON. pa. t. *olla* (: —**wul-þō*).

The current form *wield* descends from ME. *wēlde(n* (see A. 1 c) as representing OE. (non-WS.) **weldan*, variant of WS. *wieldan*, not as representing WS. *wealdan*, the Anglian form of which gave ME. *wālde*, *wōlde* (A. 1 β, γ). The pa. t. and pa. pple. in *-ed* are new formations dating from the 14th century. (The OE. and early ME. contracted forms of the 2nd and 3rd pres. indic. sing. of OE. *wealdan* and *wieldan* (A. 1 η) are identical.)]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Infin. and Present Stem.* α. 1 **wealdan, 2–3 wealden.**

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIX. § 8 Sume..secgaȝ þ sio wyrd wealde ægþer ge ȝesælða ge unge-sælða. *c* 1000 *Beowulf* 3038 Þenden hie ðam wæpnum wealdan moston. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 On ȝiwer þoleburdnesse ȝe shulen wealden ȝiwer saule. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 377 Wið him þu schalt wealden,..heouenliche wunnen.

β. 1 **waldan, weldan, 3–4 walde(n (3 welden), 4** *Sc.* **valde, 4–5** *Sc.* **wauld(e, 4–5 (9** *Sc.*) **wald.**

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxxviii[i]. 10 [9] Ðu waldes maehte sæs. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 42 Wutas gie forðon ðas ðaðe ȝesene sint þæt hia aldordom [*sic*] hæbnum ȝe-wældes ðæm. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxiv. 35 Se ðe walded..ealra oðra eorðan cyninga. *c* 1205 LAY. 1250, & scal þin mære kun wælden þus londes. *Ibid.* 2966 Hu mochel worȝ leste þu me to walden kineriche? 12.. *Moral Ode* 2 (Egerton MS.), Ic wælde more þanne ic dude. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9958 Þan was þar neuer sulik a hald, Ne nan welier in werld to wald. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 2178 To wauld youre lyimmys at your wil. *c* 1425 waulde [see B. 5]. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* I. 351 Quham god of mycht bade wald and virke. 1825 JAMIESON, *Wald, walde*, to wield, to manage, to govern, to possess. 1915 wald [see B. 1 b].

γ. 3–5 **wolde, 4 wold.**

c 1200 *K. Horn* 308 (Camb. MS.) Me to spuse holde, & ich þe lord to wolde. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 22874 (Trin.) Mi3ty god þat al woldeþ. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXVI. 1 Peasse, I warne you, woldys in wytt!

δ. 1 **wildan, wyldan, 4–5 wilde, wylde, 6–7 wild.**

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (1885) 11 He sceal mid twyfealdre lare þa wyldan and tyn, þe him underþeodde synt. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6741 (Göttt.) And na keping did him in wilde, Ox for ox þan sal he ȝelde. 1387 wilde [see B. 3 a]. *c* 1480 wilde [see B. 2]. *c* 1485 wyldyng [see WIELDING *ppl.a.*]. 1562, 1603 wild [see B. 3].

ε. 2–4 **welden (5 -on), 3–4 weld(e, 4** *Sc.* **velde; 4–8 weild, 5–6 weilde, 6 weyld,** *Sc.* **veild; 4–6 weelde, 5–7 weeld; 6–7 weald; 6 wielde, wyelde, 6– wield.**

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Þa awariede gastes þet welded þosternesse [*rectores tenebrarum*]. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 2 (Lamb. MS.) Ich welde mare þene ich dede. *c* 1205 LAY. 1240 Þe wrse hit hafde to welden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22813 Al mai he do he þat al weldes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 369 þes goodis þat þei welden now. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1882 For to wirke with my wille, & weld as myn owne.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 586 Adam was mad of mans eild, Als he moght walle him self weild. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) II. 1625 Gevin..To king Teuteus, to kepe and weild. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXI. 61 O! quha sall weild the wrang possessioun. 1570 weyld [see B. 2 b]. 1582 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 77 Hauinge much land in their hand, and not being able to weilde all. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), To *weild*, to manage, to govern: Thus we say to weild a Scepter. 1742 weild [see B. 4].

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 22 þei ben endurid in her vnskilful errour til eendeles deeþ weelde hem. *c* 1425 weeld [see B. 5]. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. I. 276 Ze scholen not weelde eny thing in the lond of hem. 1603 DRAYTON *Odes* I. 49 That sturdy Glebes, And massie Oakes could weeld. 1633 weeld [see B. 4].

1593 CHURCHYARD *Challenge* 22 Why doe wee wish, to weald a world at will? 1629 weald [see B. 5].

1599 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* ix. They were more then we might easely wyelde. 1596 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. 1, What stature wields he, and what personage? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 18 Vnder him a gray steede did he wield.

ζ. (with short vowel) 6–7 **weld(e, (7 weeld).**

1590 welde [see B. 4]. *c* 1590 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 100 Havinge moche landes in their handes, and not being able to weilde all. 1592 *Henrique Estados & Titles* 14 A broken rod she held, Which towards heauen shee seemd on high to weild. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* XXXVIII, You see the sore, whence springs my griefe, You weld the sterne of my reliefe. *a* 1628 F. GREVILL *Mustapha* I. i, Strength knowes what strength can weld. 1647 weild [see B 4 b].

η. *2nd and 3rd sing. pres. contr.* 1 **weltst, wylst, wylt, wilt, 1–3 wealt, 1–4 welt, 3–5 walt.**

c 888 weltst, welt [see B. 2, 4]. *c* 897 wilt [see B. 3 a]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) ii. 9 þu heora wylst. *c* 1000 wealt [see B. 3 a]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 We one awiendð alle þe hundlimen, and welt þe sowle. *c* 1205 LAY. 30049 Ure drihten þe walt alle deden. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1708 He..wisseð & wealt—þe heouene & te eorðe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 54 Hall froure welt oc ðat miȝt. *c* 1275 *Moral Ode* 83 in *O. E. Misc.* 61 He wit and wald [*rare* waldeð, walt, wealdeð] alle þing. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3892 Lord þat woneþ an heye, þat al þing walt fer & neye. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 83 þe more he wynneth and welt welthes & riccheasse,..þe lasse good he deleth. *c* 1440 *Cursor M.* 23105 (Trin.) þe lord of myst þat al walt.

2. *Pa. t.* α. 1 **weold, wieold, 3 wield, 3–5 weld(e.**

Beowulf 465 weold (see B. 1). *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* I. 391 Manigra folca ȝestreones he wieoldon. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1036, Þæt ne ȝebafodon þa þe micel weoldon on þisan lande. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 On alle þe winne þe he erur wield. *c* 1205 LAY. 183 He wes king & heo quen & kinelond heo welden. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 7 Riches þat þey welde [*Caxton* welded] while þey were alyue.

β. 1 **wylde, 2 (3e)wellde, -welt, 3–4 welt(e, welde.**

α. 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 293/1 *Domuit, i. wielt, mittgauit*, wylde. *c* 1175 *E. E.* (*Vesp.*) *Hom.* 106 Ic ȝewellde & ȝewann feola þeodan. *Ibid.* 107 Ne mid his scelde heo ne ȝewelt. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 532 Wimmen welten weres meister. *c* 1350 welt [see B. 2].

γ. 3 **wald(e, wælde, 4–5 walt; 3–5 wolde, 4 wolt.**

c 1205 LAY. 8976 Androgeus walde [*later text* welde] al þat he wolde. *Ibid.* 24134 Na lengere þat lond he ne walde [*later text* wolde]. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 389 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Þeyh o mon wolde al þe worlde. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 231 He stemned & con studie, Quo walt þer most renoun. *Ibid.* 485 Wyth wele walt þay þat day. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3887 Was neuer man vpon mold þat swiche miȝt walt. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10181 (Trin.) þe secounde party þat he walt Was among þe prestes dalt.

δ. 4–7 **welded (4 -id), 5–6** *Sc.* **weildit, 6 weelded, 7 wielded, 7– wielded.**

1338 weldid [see B. 5]. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxiii. 18 As noȝt þei welded[e]n þin hoeli puple. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 578 The wy that weildit the wane. 1601 weelded [see B. 5 d]. 1828 JAMES *Louis XIV*, III. iii. 89 Boileau too wielded his satirical pen.

3. *Pa. pple.* 1 **ȝewealden, 3 iwealde, iwald, wold, 5 welde(n, weld;** 1 **wyld(d;** 4 **weldid, 7 (9** *dial.*) **welded, 7– wielded.**

Beowulf 1732 [He] ȝeðeð him..ȝewealdene worolde dælas. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) xviii. 24 [xix. 23] Ȝif min hine beoþ wyldde. *c* 1200 [see B. 3]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 189 Al þe world is iwald þurh his wisunge. *c* 1250 wold [see B. 1 c]. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xv. 7 Thurgh þe whilke þe heritage of heuen may be sene and weldid. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 13821 (Trin.) Eiȝte & þritty ȝeer in bonde Haue I not welden foot ny honde. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCIX. iii, The which the duke of Bargoyn wold haue weld. *Ibid.* CCXXXII. iii, So was the lande w[t] Frenchmen wonne & welde. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. vii. 321/2 The Hand Hammer..may be welded ..with one hand. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 82 P 10 A Scymitar once wielded by a Soldier. 1891 welded [see B. 4].

B. Signification.

† **1.** *trans.* To rule or reign over, govern, rule, command. *Obs.* exc. as merged in 5.

Beowulf 465 Ic..weold folce Denira. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIII. § 5 Dryhten..þu ðe ealle..ȝeceaftа..ȝesceope &.. heora weltst. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 To fihten..to-ȝeines þa awariede gastes þet welded þosternesse [*rectores tenebrarum*]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 840 Ðe kinges welten burȝes ðoa. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6891 God almyȝty, þat al þyng welde. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 690, I make the kepare, sir kuyghte, of kyngrykes manye,..to wielde al my landes. *c* 1420 *Pross Life Alex.* 37 So sall ȝe wele & peysably welde your empire. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* I. CXCIX. (1811) 206 Weldynge ye countre at his wyll. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 115 Though she finde the skil A kingdome for to weelde. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Neh. v. 14, I, and my familie have not taken that allowance which was appointed for the governour, so as, though I welded the place, yet I forbore to take the maintenance allotted unto it.

b. *intr.* To rule, have the command; *fig.* to prevail. *Obs.* exc. *Sc. dial.*

a 1450 *Ratis Raving* 2270 Vilfulnes and mynknawleg Ay wodly weildand. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shakr. Soc.) VI. 118 As was from the beginninge, And never shall have endinge, From worlde to worlde aye weildinge, Amen! God of mighte moste. 1915 G. SINCLAIR *Poems* 63 May..love an' friendship freely wald Around her ingle.

† c. *trans.* To overcome, subdue. *Obs.*

a 1000 [see A. 2 δ]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 421 Abel an hundred ȝer was hold, Ðan he was of is bro[ð]er wold. *Ibid.* 526 Ðor is writen quat aȝte a wold, Ðat ðis werld was [of ?] water wold.

† **2.** To have at command or disposal, have as one's own or in one's keeping, hold, own, possess; to have the advantage of, enjoy; sometimes (contextually), to get possession of, gain, win, obtain.

Beowulf 2051 Hi weoldon wælstowe. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 239 Oft we ofersexon..þeoda þeawas, þonce modigra, þara þe in ȝelimpe life weoldon. 12.. in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 200 Andelic cyðe sow ðæt Ordric abbud and eal ðæt hired on Abbendunes mynstre be minre unne and ȝife frigelice habban and wealdan Hornemeres hunred on hyre ȝæenre and wealde. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 276 If ðe hauest is broken, Al ðu forbro[k]es, forwurðes and forgelues, Eche lif to wolden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 [Christ] wrot mid his owune

blodé salue to his leofmon, of luue gretunge..*forte* welden hire luue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10328 Oñ seth laies he be lett Man wit wenman child to gett, Bituix and þair forþer eild, And þan þam seruies child to weild. *Ibid.* 24288 Moght i þe ans weld in arm, Hale me think of all mi harm. 13.. [see A. 27]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 835 3e ar welcum to welde as yow lykes þat here is; al is yowre awen, to haue at yowre wylle. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 76 Þat seide þe child schuld weld al here godis. *Ibid.* 144 He wex to a werwolf..as his witt welt he after as wel as to-fore. *Ibid.* 2946, I not where he schal 3ou to wiue welde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 20 Adam..welte all Paradys sauynge o tree. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. vii. 172 Ye be worthy to welde all your honour and worship. *c* 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 542 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 321, Y haue no childe, Myn heritage for to wilde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vi. 127 Lat nevir his feris weild Ane fut braid of Italiane ground nor feyld. 1586 [see A. 1 c]. 1593 CHURCHYARD *Challenge* 116 What cunning heads and hands can catch in hold, That covetous mindes, doth seek to weld alone. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 310 They..would never be able with wisdom and moderation to weld any great prosperitie [τὰς εὐημερίας..φέρειν].

†b. To have in oneself, experience, feel; to have as one's lot or fate, suffer, undergo; to suffer patiently, endure, tolerate. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3990 So gret wonder walt þe quen of þe worþ beiten. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* viii. (1871) 143 Weopyng and wo I walt. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* xi. (1914) 88 Wele or wa, ane of þase twa, To welde with-owtten ende. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 594/2 God ..maketh with the temptacion a way out also, that ye may well weild it. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* N ij, At the first the Oxe weyldeth not the yoke, nor the Colt the snaffle,..yet time causeth the one to bend his neck [etc.].

†3. a. To decide, determine, ordain; to be the author or cause of; to bring about; to carry out, execute, perform. *Obs.*

In OE. chiefly const. gen. In later use prob. transf. from 4.

Beowulf 2574 Ðær he þy fyrste forman dogore wealdan moste. *c* 897 ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* 377 Ȝif hwelc folc biõ mid hungre ȝeswenced, & hwa his hwæte ȝehyt & oðhielt, hu ne wilt he..hiera deaðes? *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 760 Þæs ðu..wealdest. *c* 1000 *Instit. Pol.* XXV. in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* II. 340/14 Syndon..cyrcan..wace ȝegriõode..wa þam þe hes wealt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Þurh mannes gemeleste..and naht bi his ahene wille ..deaõ him wes iwealde. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 101 Bidde we alle þen heye kyng þat welde schal þe laste dom. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 811 For synne he set hymself in vayn, That neuer hade non hymself to wolde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 419 He may no werk soche wilde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 22 All is wele done, God wait, weild he his will.

†b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To occupy oneself, be doing; to act, do, fare (well, etc.); to 'manage'.

This use does not seem to be continuous with the intr. sense of OE. *wealdan* 'to contrive or manage to do something expressed or implied'.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1803 Howe shuld o sely lombe, a-mong wolvis weld, And scapen vn-I-harmyd? *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 339 Now lycht, now sadd; now blisful, now in baill;..Nowe weildand weyle; now calde weddyr, now hett. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* I. 351 Quham god of mycht bade wald and virke & leffe In wytnes of adame and of eue. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 407 Rather giuen whollie to weld wt the sworde, Then worke that wisdome have firmelie affied. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* V. 93 Altbough he weelded wel in fight. 1613 P. FORBES *Comm. Rev.* Ep. Ded., The inexpert student, in search of letters weilding amidst infinite variety, is cast in such doubt of choise.

†4. *trans.* To direct the movement or action of, to control; to use, have the use of, as a bodily member or a faculty; to lead, guide, direct; *occas.* to hold in check; *gen.* to deal with, have to do with; to deal with successfully, manage. *Obs.* or *dial.* exc. as in 5.

Here are included various shades of meaning, *lit.* and *fig.*: see also below. In quot. 1530, to inflect grammatically. In OE. const. gen.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIX. § 8 Sio eax wel calles þæs wæstes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3093 Hii ne scolleþ alþe þe leste ston þe wule ich may weld [*v. r.* wolde] min hond. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Somps. T.* 239 In our Chapitre praye we.. To crist þat he thee sende heele and myght Thy body for to weelden. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 196 Then callyd þe norys to þe modyr, and bade hur..helpe hur forto folde þe chyldys clobis; for scho was to woke, and myght not welde hom. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 450 Quhill I may my wit wald, I think my fredome to hald. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maryit Wemen* 77 Than suld I waill ane..That suld my womanheid weild. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII xii. 129 The wond tarreis Ænee sum deyll..To weild hys kne maid sum impedyment. 1530 PALSGR. Ded. A ij b, How to welde hym [*sc.* a frenche worde], in his cases, gendre, nombres, modes, tenses, and persons. 1555 PHAER *Æneid* II. 589 So sayd she, and gan to welde Hym aged man, and in the sacred seat hym set and helde. 1582 T. HOWELL *Deuises* G iii b, Let wisedome welde your wit. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 130 Loue will not be drawne, but must be ledde, And Bregog did so well her fancie weld, That her good will he got her first to wedde. 1596 — *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 663/2 According to the quantitye of such land, as euerye man..shalbe founde able to weelde. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* X. iii. I. 272 The very Ægles, not able to weld the prey that they have seazed upon, are together with it drawne under the water. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* II. 131 Her new-beginning banke her water scarcely weilds. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xli, Her daughters..Much pain'd themselves her stumbling feet to weeld. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. v. 326 It is no shame for one to admit a partner in that weighty work, which he cannot weild by himself. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 449 Whose mind was..strong to weild all science. 1891 *Sheffield Gloss.*, Suppl., A farmer living at Ashover, in Derbyshire, said to me, 'There's no farm I could ha' liked better if I could only ha' welded it'.

†b. *refl.* in various senses (see above); *occas.* to conduct oneself, behave. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* (1888) 51 He lai alswa ðat child ðe nan god ne cann, ne spaken ne mai, ne iuien, ne him seluen weldenn. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 368 Whan þow ert of swich elde, þat þow miȝt þe self wilde, And ert of age. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 24358 (Fairf.) Þorou mi hert I felde hit stange My-self I muȝt noȝt welde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8655 His sheld on his shulders shot was lehynd, And his brest left bare,..To weld hym more winly þat worthy to lede. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 20587 Somme be lame, and feble..And somme strong, and gon vpryht, And many welde hem sylf ryht wel. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 46 So wysely thee welde That þy frendys haue ioy of thee. 1548 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* II. ii. (1552) 60 b, Nether can it welde, or helpe it selfe to come forthe. 1647 HARVEY *Sch. of Heart* VI. iii, The limbs unable are themselves to weild [*rimes* swell'd].

†c. To carry (something heavy or requiring effort). *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 1131 Þa Troinisce men..duden of þan wilden al heora iwilla, to þan scipen walden [*Later text* to þe sipes ladden so moche so iwolden]. *Ibid.* 21874 Heo..heore usex fuire walden to volde [*later text* hire her faire al hii toterel]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 272 She wolde kille Leons leopardes and Beres..And in hir Armes weelde hem at hir wille. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 838 þan Alexander..Wynnes him vp a wardrere he walt in his handis. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. iv, I tooke him up, and wound him in mine armes; And welding him unto my priuate tent, There laid him downe.

†d. To express, utter. *Obs. rare.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* V. 77 To the Gods..he wold not weeld his thought. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 121 The best are mute, And may not weld the greatnes of her praise. 1603 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 56 Sir, I loue you more then word can weild ye matter. *a* 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1672) 95 Outwent the Townsmen all in Starch, .. into the Field, Where one a Speech could hardly wield.

5. To use or handle with skill and effect; to manage, actuate, ply (a weapon, tool, or instrument, now always one held or carried in the hand). (The current sense.)

In OE. const. gen., dat., or instrumental.

Beowulf 2038 Þenden hie ðam wæpnum wealdan moston. *a* 1000 *Battle of Maldon* 83 Þa hwile þe hi wæpna wealdan moston. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1436 Nou ich am up to þat helde Cumen, that ich may wepne welde. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 23 Sex 3ere was he kyng, with werre weldid þe scheld. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 97 He left nane mycht vapnys welde. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2000 *Ariadne*, He..hath Rovme .. To welde an axe or swerde or staffe or knyffe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 651 Wele & wigtly in were to welden a spere. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. vii. 1304 A childe..þat wnpynnys mycht noucht wichtly waulde. *c* 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 22/82 Workloms for to work and weeld. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. ii. 340 Is there ony of you here that wille take vpon hym to welde this shelde? 1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 74 Muche lesse the slingers can wild their slinges..; being hindered of the Souldiers. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 24 O base hungarian wight; wilt yᵗ the spigot wield? 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 275 Monstrouse cudgells..as bigge as the partie is well able to wild. 1609 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 251 We can tell better how to weald our owne weapons. 1736 GRAY *Statius* I. 1 Whoe'er the quoit can wield, And furthest send its weight. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 636 Strength may wield the pond'rous spade. 1798 WORDSW. *Peter Bell* Prol. XXX, A potent wand doth Sorrow wield. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 159 Never wielding my hatchet until my balance was secured.

b. *To wield a* or *the sceptre* (and similar phrases): to exercise supreme authority, to reign or rule (also *fig.*). Cf. SWAY *v.* 8.

1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 73 His Head by nature fram'd to weare a Crowne, His Hand to wield a Scepter. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. XXIX, Edward the third being dead, had left this child..The crowne and Scepter of this Realme to wield. 1638 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old, Old Man* C 4, How he and 's son th' eighth Henry, here did wield The Scepter. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* I. 64 Providence ..gives to many a man a soul far better than his birth, compelling him to dig with a spade, who had better have wielded a sceptre. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* VII, The late prime favourite of England, who wielded her general's staff and controlled her parliaments. 1898 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) III. i. 28 The intellectual sceptre of Germany was wielded by a new nobility.

c. To exercise (power, authority, influence).

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* II. 9 He forbiddeth them not to exercise rule..ouer their seruants, but only teacheth them after what manner to weld their authoritie. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* III. xxii. (R.) To wield power innocently,.. for the maintenance of right,..for the suppression of injury, ..is a matter of no small skill. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 97 Physical power wielded by an omnipotent Being..must overcome every possible obstacle. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* II. vi. 422 Over the inferior order of minds, they still wield great influence. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 100 Wielding..an authority which he had no just right to wield. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* I. § 6. 53 Dunstan..wielded for sixteen years..the secular and ecclesiastical powers of the realm.

d. To use after the fashion of a tool or weapon for the performance of something.

1601 W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xlix. Na 3 b, I am the veriest bungler..that euer welded tongue. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 354 Wielding the strength and representing the dignity of the city of London. 1857 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. vii. § 23. 343 Wielding the learning of the old times with incomparable facility. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 725 The dorsal ribs [of serpents] wielded..by ..powerful muscles..perform the office of internal legs. 1881 PRODY *Engl. Yournalism* XXIII. 283 A trained soldier wielding a graphic and powerful pen. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 388 [The] increasing importance of the middle classes, as they wielded more efficiently capital and machinery. 1918 A. MENZIES *Calvin* 396 Who could wield such scathing invective?

Hence **Wie·lded** *ppl. a.*; also (*nonce-wds.*) **Wie·ldable** *a.*, capable of being wielded; †**Wie·ldance**, the action of wielding.

1820 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* I. 323 As easy and as †wieldable as blank verse. *c* 1625 BP. HALL *St. Paul's Combat* II. Wks. 1634 II. 451 This spirituall edge shall either turne againe, or (through our weake †weildance) not enter the stubburne and thick hide of obdured hearts. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* lxvi, May never saw dismember thee, Nor †wielded axe disjoint.

Wielder (wī·ldəɹ). Forms: see WIELD *v.*; 4 **-ere**, 5 **-are**, **-ire** 5–6 **-ar**, 5– **-er**. [f. WIELD *v.* + **-ER** 1.] One who wields, in various senses.

†1. A ruler, governor, master; sometimes applied to God; *locally*, a manager (?). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 129 Þe welder of wyt, þat wot alle þynges. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* I. 3 The oxe knoȝ his weldere, and the asse the cracche of his lord. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1608 Þe lege Emperoure, Þe wildire (*v. r.* welder) of all þe werde. 1402 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 78 As þat we were welders and lordes of alle. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* I. met. v. 44 O weldar, apease the Roring floudes. 1600 BURTON *Melancholike Humours* Wks. (Groswrt) I. 9/1 They, like the wielders of the world, command, and haue their will. 1723 SWIFT *Argts. Power Bps.* Wks. 1841 II. 279/1 Such..tenants, generally speaking, have others under them, and so a third and fourth in subordination, till it comes to the welder (as they call him), who sits at a rack-rent. 1823–49 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* (1855) I. ii. 52/1 The title..of Bretwalda, the wielder or sovereign of Britain.

†2. The author or cause *of* something. *Obs. rare.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XVII. 53 The veildars of yis greif.

3. One who uses or actuates skilfully: const. *of* (a weapon, instrument, etc.); also *fig.*

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 57 He is the free welder of all the powers of a free..people. 1855 BRIMLEY *Ess., Westw. Ho!* (1858) 303 These are the high aims of fiction in the hands of its master wielders. 1860 R. W. PROCTER *Our Turf, Stage & Ring* 81 The rough-hewn wielders of the spade. 1866 WHITTIER *Snow-bound* 438 Brisk wielder of the birch and rule, The master of the district school. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* VIII. 166 The Zanzibari's Sword is..dangerous to the wielder. 1908 *Spectator* 11 Apr. 564/2 Some able wielder of autocratic power.

Wielding (wī·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WIELD *v.* + **-ING** 1.] The action of the verb WIELD, in various senses.

†1. Government, power, command; possession, keeping: see WIELD *v.* B. 1, 2. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 19011 Þa hædden heo..Vðer þene king wiõ inne heore walding [*c* 1275 weldyng]. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 1 Al es loken in thi welding, Thou eit Lauerd..That al opbaldes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 644 Ye haue hem in youre myght and in youre weeldynge. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 39 And haue al welth in 3oure weledyng. *c* 1460 *Play Sacrum.* 35 In þe dukedom of Oryon moche have I in weldyng. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 59 Thys castell..is at my wylddyng.

2. Control, (power of) using, management, etc.: see WIELD *v.* B. 4, 5.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 13781 (Trin.) His lymmes had he so forgone þat of hem weldyng had he none. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. iv. (1895) 140 Their garmentes..[are] no let to the mouynge and weldynge of the bodie. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* VII. 125 Areithous that bare the great and massie club, And..got such praise by force and weelding good. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *South-sea House*, He was..equal to the wielding of any of the most intricate accounts. 1836 KEBLE in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 223 Behold your armoury I—sword and lightning shaft, ..And in your wielding left! 1880 TENNYSON *Brunanburh* xi, The wielding of weapons.

Wie·lding, *ppl. a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + **-ING** 2.] That wields; †ruling, governing; as *sb.* a ruler, governor (see WALDEND); in quot. 1622, ?faring, ?doing' (well). (See also ALL-WIELDING.)

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1011 Mihtiȝ god,..waldende god. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 328 Se Waldenda Drihten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5206 Of egypti..Es he huand and maister weldand. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1832, I be-leve in þe father, þat is of all wyldyng. 1622 WITHER *Faire-Virtue* B 2, A faire weilding-tree.

†**Wie·ldless**, *a. Obs.* [f. WIELD *v.* + **-LESS**] That cannot be wielded; unmanageable, uncontrollable, unwieldy.

1560 PHAER *Æneid.* IX. 740 Down sinks the weldlesse weight. 1593 G. FLETCHER *Licia* (1876) 36 The warlike Mars, can weildles weapons guide. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iii. 19 With the weight of his owne weeldlesse might, He falleth nigh to ground.

†**Wieldly**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 **weldely**. [f. WIELD *v.* + **-LY** 1. Cf. *unwieldly*.] = WIELDY 2 (quot. *c* 1440).

†**Wie·ldness**. *Obs.* In 4 **weld-**, **weildnes**. [f. WIELD *a.* + **-NESS**. Cf. OE. *waldnis* 'dominatio'.] Command, control, possession.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13781 Sua herd him was his limes þan þat he o þaim had weldnes nan. *Ibid.* 23641 [Þe gode] þis sal haf weldnes of all wale, [Þe wicked] þai sal vnweldid be wit bale.

†**Wie·ldsome**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WIELD *v.* + **-SOME**.] = WIELDY 3.

1565 GOLDING *Cæsar* 99 b, The Galleyes wherof the facion was more straunge to the sauage Britons, and the mouing more ready and wieldsome [*ad motus ad usum expeditior*].

Wieldy (wī·ldi), *a.* Forms: 4–6 **weldy** (6 **-ie**), 5 **weeldy**, 6 **wyldy**, 7 **wieldie**, **weildy**, 7– **wieldy**. [f. WIELD *v.* + **-Y**1. Cf. M.LG. *weldich* etc., and UNWIELDY.]

1. Capable of easily 'wielding' one's body or limbs, or a weapon, etc.; vigorous, active, agile, nimble. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 636 So fresh so yong so weldy semed he. 1488 YONGE *Secr. Secr.* xxiii. 134 Where ben the Weldy Werriours? *c* 1490 LOVELICH *Grail* xii. 57 Eche man ,. That weren weldy Armes to bere. 1528 MORE *Dyalogs* I. Wks. 153 The hole body is the more wyldy and lusty by some kynde of exercise. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 75 Armd like youthfull Troylus And fresh as he..., As stirring, weldie, and as chevalrous As Chaucer makes him. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 79 By reason of our burden we are less wieldy and more unapt to make any resistance.

†**2.** ? Requiring strength to wield, heavy or bulky; wielded with force, powerful. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Partenope* 3876 (Univ. Coll. MS.) A-boute hys nekk heng a sheelde .. And hit was full weeldy [*v.r.* weldely]. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 57 [He] did stand To his defence, when slaine was euerie mate With weldie axe.

3. Easily wielded, controlled, or handled: manageable; handy. [In later use a back-formation from *unwieldy*.]

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* H iv, When you breake a colte, you firste beate him for his wildnes, and afterward being weldy do cheriah your hobby. 1636 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 183 The boat..wieldie and fit for speed. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* III. v. 28 In the Choice of a Sword, we take care that it be weildy. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* X. 286 Their Javelins lessen'd to a wieldy length. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* v. § 2. 192 One mighty league, in one body wieldy, tractable, governable. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 19 June 189/1 For its bulk it is admirably wieldy and light in hand.

¶ Erroneously used for *unwieldy*.

1687 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 227 [He] being fat and weildy, could not ride or walk as the others could.

Wiele, Wier, Wierangel, -gle, Wierd, Wiery, Wiese, Wiesshe, Wiet, Wietch, Wieth, obs. ff. WILE, WEIR, WIRE, WARIANGLE, WEIRD, WIRY, WISE, WISH *v.*, WIT *v.*, WICH, WITHE.

Wife (waif), *sb.* Pl. **wives** (waivz). Forms: *Sing.* α. 1–5 (6 *Sc.*) wif, 3–5 wijf, 3–6 wyf, 4–6 wyff(e, wyfe, (chiefly *Sc.*) vif, vyf(e, 5–6 wiff(e, 6 *Sc.* vyff, (1, 4 wiif, 4 vijfe, whife, wieffe, wyefe, weyffe, 4–5 weife, wiue, wyue, 5 wyif, wyyfe, wy3ffe, whyf(f)e, 5–7 wiefe, 6 wieff, 6–7 wief), 4– wife. *Gen.* 1–7 wifes, 3–7 wiues, (4 wiuis, wyuys), 4–5 wijfes, wyues, 4–6 wyfes, 5–6 *Sc.* wyf(f)is, 7 wives, 8 wive's, 8– wife's; *uninflected* 4 wijf, 4–5 wife. *Pl.* 1–3 wif; 2–7 wifes, 3–7 wiues, 4–5 *Sc.* wyffis, 4–6 wyfes, wyues, wifis, *Sc.* wiffis, 5–6 *Sc.* wyfis, (4 wijf(e)s, vijfes, wiuis, wiuus, wiwes, vyues, *Sc.* vifis, 5 wifs, wifys, wyuys, 5–6 -is, 6 *Sc.* vyffis, vyfues, vyuis, 7 wiefs), 7– wives. *Gen.* 1 wi(i)fa, 3 wife, wiue; 3 wiuene; 4–7 wives, 8– wives'. [OE. *wif* str. n. = OFris., OS. *wif*, (LG. *wief*, Du. *wijf*), OHG., MHG. *wîp* (G. *weib*), ON. *vif* (Sw. *vif*, Da. *viv*); not in Gothic (which uses *qinô* 'muller' QUEAN and *qêns* 'uxor' QUEEN *sb.*); of obscure origin.]

1. A woman: formerly in general sense; in later use restricted to a woman of humble rank or 'of low employment' (J.), esp. one engaged in the sale of some commodity. Now *dial.*, exc. with prefixed descriptive word, esp. in compounds such as ALE-WIFE [1], APPLE-*wife*, FISHWIFE, OLD WIFE, OYSTER-*wife*, etc.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 646 *Anus*, ælduulf. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxiii, Seo ærest wlifa [L. *feminarum*]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 7 Cuom uif of ðær byrig to ladanne uæter. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 5 For þære synne þæs æresten wifes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Wisdom birisæð weran and clenesse birisæð wifan. *c* 1205 LAY. 1507 Þa scipen todrajen & þa wif drenchen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Seint Johan baptiste, bi hwam ure Louerd seiõ, þat among wiuene sunes ne aros neuer betere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12904 Amang all wiue [13.. *Gött.* wiues] sune,..A heier barn was neuer nan. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1713 Hw god helpen kan O mani wise wif and man. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1067, I coniure þe, þat it, þat þu has hard of me,..þat þu tel nothyre to man na vyf. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 155 The wyues of the parisshe. — *Doctor's T.* 71 Whan she woxen is a wyf. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xviii. 2235 Þat man is noucht born of wiff Off powar to reff me my lif. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 94 Edmund..gert sla ..Off man and wiff, vij thousand and fyfty. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 91 The wyfis of Dunbar. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xvii. 6, I sawe the wyfe dronke with the blond of saynctes. *c* 1563 *Jack Juggler* C iij, Then came I by a wife that did costerds sell. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 118 [illegible]

ones. 1833 in *Daily Chron.* (1908) 11 Mar. 6/7 Oyster wives, herb wives, tripe wives. 1838 KEATS *Dunstich Fair* 3 Where ginger-bread wives have a scanty sale. 1844 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wife*, a woman, whether married or not. 'An apple wife',—'a fish wife',—' A tripe wife'. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinev.* 55 She..shuddered, as the village wife who cries 'I shudder, some one steps across my grave.'

b. Qualified by *old*, esp. in the phr. *old wives' fable, story, tale*: see OLD WIFE 1.

c 725 [see above]. 1340, etc. [see OLD WIFE 1]. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 220 An old wives request. 1696 MOTTEUX & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2) 2 An old wifes-Tale.

2. A woman joined to a man by marriage; a married woman. Correlative of HUSBAND *sb.* 2. (The ordinary current sense.)

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Hu ne liofaõ þin wif eac, þæs liican Sinaches dohtor? *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. i. 24 *Accepit coniugem suam*, feng wiue his. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 25 Hyne het hys hlaford gesyllan, & hys wif & hys cild. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Sem cham iafet and hare þreo wif. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Riche men..þe habbeõ..feire wifes and feire children. *Ibid.* 129 He forseh his scuppend þurh his wifes red. *c* 1205 LAY. 25 Noe & Sem Japhet & Cham & heore four wiues [*c* 1275 wifes]. *Ibid.* 14142 Ich wulle.. senden after mine wiue. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1219 God him bad is wiues tale Listen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 30/26 To take is broþer wijf. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 918 Þou, man,..has vndertaken þi wijf red [*Gött.* þi wiues rede]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 785 Þe lambes vyues in blysse we bene. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 242 My menskful moder is his make wiue. — YORKS tr. *Secr. Secr.* XXXVI. 192 The loue that a vif shold haue to hir spous. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 124 Thair wyfes and childeren. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/1 A Wife modir, *socrus*. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ii. 24 Thou sal spouse ane vyfe, bot ane vthir sal tak hyr fra the. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 A good wife makth a good husbande, (they saie). 1580 in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 58 Ane of Jacobs vyfues. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 16 Slaves unto their wives goods. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* I. 112 A man may not grant nor giue his tenements to his Wife during the couerture, for that his Wife and hee bee but one person in the Law. 1628 in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 273 Their wifes and bairnes. *c* 1633 SIR W. POLE *Descr. Devon* III. (1791) 166 St. Thomas Beamont..maried a wiefs. 1637 *Sc. Prayer Bk., Vis. Sick*, Visit him, O Lord, as thou didst Peters wives mother. 1722 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 382 His Wive's first Husband. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. vii, She passed for that Gentleman's Wife,..and yet..there were some Doubts concerning the Reality of their Marriage. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Boarding ho.* i, He had never been married; but he was still on the look-out for a wife with money.

b. Phrases. (*a*) *To wife* (To *prep.* II b), for a wife, to be one's wife: in such phrases as *to take to wife*, to marry (somewhat *arch.*); †*to give (grant) to wife*, to bestow in marriage; †*to have (hold) to wife*, to have as one's wife, be the husband of; †*to will to wife*, to desire to marry. †(*b*) *Wife's light*, a light (in a church) maintained by married women (cf. *maiden's light*, MAIDEN *sb.* 10). (*c*) *All the world and his wife* (humorous colloq.), all men and women, everybody: usually hyperbolically for a large and miscellaneous body or company of people of both sexes.

Also in various other phrases, as *bachelor's wife* (BACHELOR 4 b), *wife of one's bosom* (BOSOM *sb.* 1 c), *wife of the left hand* (LEFT HAND 2), *man and wife* (MAN *sb.*[1] 8).

(*a*) *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 4 Nys þe alyfed hi to wife to habbenne. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2147 Iosep to wiue his dowter nam. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8926 Þe emperour of alimayne willede to wiue [*v.r.* to his wyfe, to his wyff] Mold þe kinges doȝter. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7482, I suld.. giue mi doghter him to wijf. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 206 3if he wilne þe to wyf, wolt þou him haue? *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1304 *Dido*, Haue ȝe nat sworn to wyue me to take? 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 217 This Steward..A lusti ladi hath to wyve. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3575 He has weddyde Waynore, and hyr to wyefe holdes. 1415 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1430, 39/1 Huchon Fraser..God grantand, sal lede into wyf Jonet of Fentoun the systir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. 61 Bot he the grant to wyf his child Lavine. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xii. 23 In the resurrecion then..whose wyfe shall she be of them? For seven had her to wyfe. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 234 This Pandosto had to Wife a Ladie called Bellaria. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 P 3 She..was taken to Wife by a Gentleman. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXI. 73 If I the prize, if me you seek to wife. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 231 James had.. taken to wife the princess Mary of Modena. 1907 C. HILL-TOUT *Brit. N. Amer., Far West* X. 282 Early marriages were..the custom, the girls being often barely pubescent when taken to wife.

(*b*) 1547–8 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 275, x li. of wex for the wyfes Light.

(*c*) 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* III. 192 *Miss.* Pray, Madam, who were the Company? *Lady Smart.* Why, there was all the World, and his Wife. 1822 BYRON *Let. to Sir W. Scott*, 'All the world and his wife', as the proverb goes, were trying to trample upon me. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xvii, All the world and his wife and daughter leave cards. 1912 *World* 7 May 701/2 So much has been heard of Hardelot lately, that its name must be familiar to all the world and his wife.

c. *euphem.* A kept mistress, concubine.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. x. 880 Bot scho was blamyt in hir live, The bischop of Dunkeldynnis wif.

†**d.** Applied as a term of affection to a female friend. *Obs.*

1592 *Wills & Inv. Durh.* (Surtees 1860) 305 To Mrs. Clopton one old ryall, to hir daughter, my wiffe, Alice, one angell. 1601 in *Blackw. Mag.* (1898) Nov. 634/2, I came lately thence..about a match for my wife, which is since dispatcht with younge Gifford.

e. *transf.* The female of a pair of the lower animals; the mate of a male animal.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Priest's T.* 63 As Chauntecleer among hise wyues alle Sat on his perche. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 669 Fesauntis..first in Marche vppon they go Theyr wyuys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 159 Phebus red fowle..Pykland his meyt..Hys wifis, Toppa and Pertelok, hym by. 1697 G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* 125 The he-goats..every [illegible] own wives. 1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 194 The storks..were in a rage...The old father hunted his wife and children up the tree. 1870 P. M. DUNCAN *Bloxham's Transf. Insects* 436 Wives appear to be at a premium amongst these spiders. 1887 G. W. CABLE in *Century Mag.* Mar. 677/1 The song-birds..

making the..wood merry with their carollings to the wives and younglings in the nests.

f. *fig.* of a thing: see quots. See also *Dutch wife* s.v. DUTCH A. 4.

1851 in Brighton *Adm. Wallis* (1892) 45 [His] wooden wife [as he sometimes called his ship]. 1883 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Wife*, a letter fixed to one leg. 1889 *Habits Gd. Society* vii. (new ed.) 254 The pipe is the bachelor's wife.

3. The mistress of a household; the hostess or landlady of an inn. In quot. *c* 1430 = housewife, economist. *Obs.* exc. as surviving in GOODWIFE 1, HOUSEWIFE 1.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Cant. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 462 A preest..Which was so plesaunt and so seruyseable Vn-to the wyf where as he was at table That she wolde suffre hym no thyng for to paye. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 268 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 191 Be thou wise wif of thin owen. 1485 in *Yorks. Archæol. Soc., Record Ser.* XLI. 5 The wiff of this hous is your doughter..and it is most metlye for you to tarye here. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Kings* xvii. 17 The sonne of the wife of ye house was sicke. 1560 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 238 The wyff of the Bell in Gracyous-strett, 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 48 b, The olde husbandes ..vsed..to iudge, that where they founde the garden out of order, the wyfe of the house..was no good huswyfe. 1620 *Friar Rush* 14 He called the wife of the house and said: Mistresse, I pray you fill a pottle of wine.

4. Collectors' name for a moth, *Catocala nupta*, also called Willow Red Underwing.

1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 99 The Wife..appears among willows the beginning of August.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** *attrib.* (*a*) of or pertaining to a wife or wives, as WIFEKIN, WIFTHING; (*b*) appositive = 'that is a wife', as *wife-slave*, *-whore* (†*-houre*). **b.** *obj.* (*a*) with agent-n., as *wife-beater*, *-broker*, *-hunter*, *-seeker*; (*b*) with n. of action, as *wife-beating* sb., *-murder*, *-purchase*, *-slaughter*; (*c*) with pr. pple., as *wife-beating*, *-hunting* adjs. **c.** *instr.* = 'with or by a wife', as *wife-awed*, *-worn* adjs. **d.** Special Combs.: **wife-bound** *a.*, bound or united to a wife, married; **wife-carl** *Sc.*, a man who occupies himself with a woman's or housewife's work, a 'cotquean'; **wife-old** *a.*, *Sc.*, old enough to be a wife, of marriageable age; **wife-ridden** *a.*, tyrannized over by one's wife, 'hen-pecked'; **wife-widow** (*nonce-wd.*), a wife living apart from her husband.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XI. 370 She brought her *wife-awd husband, Naleus. 1832 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 Nov. 4/1 If the whipping-post has a mission, it is for the punishment of *wife-beaters. 1888 L. OLIPHANT *Land of Khemi* IV. 199, I asked whether there was much *wife-beating among the natives of Egypt. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* IV. *Waltz, Sharp*, An assurance of tenderness and protection such as no *wife-beating tyrant...ever could inspire. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* IV. 343 A *wifebound man. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* vii. (1709) 63 These Marriage-Hucksters, or *Wife-brokers. 1908 DUNBAR *Two Married Women* 351, I maid that *wif carll to werk all womenis werkis. 1826 SCOTT *Antig.* xiv, An ye will be a wife-carle, and buy fish at your ain hands. 1886 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 171 Young *wife-hunters, in search of rich and ugly old women. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 218 *Wife-hunting, as the rumour ran, was he. 1907 E. V. LUCAS *Swans & Friends* 90 Having loved in vain a lady whom he met at Shaftesbury while on a wife-hunting expedition. 1871 C. KINGSLEY *At Last* x, *Wife-murder is but too common among these Hindoos. 1902 EDEN PHILLPOTTS *Striking Hours* 31, I was *wife-auld, an' a peart gal very interested in men-folk. 1891 WESTERMARCK *Hist. Hum. Marr.* (ed. 2) 382 *Wife-purchase and husband-purchase still persist..; though in disguised forms. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* V. xiii, By Heav'n I'll not be *Wife-ridden. 1839 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 231 The profession of the *wife-seeker was greatly in his favor. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Num. v. *comm.*, God ordained this law..to avoid *wiveslaughter. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Aug. 1/3 He retires from work..and purchases *wife-slaves to maintain him in idleness. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 310 Alle *wif houren..þe deuel of helle ich hil be-take. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* III. i, If this Philip..Left Mary a *wife-widow here alone. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 27 Our considerate, I dare not say *wife-worne Commons.

Hence **Wifekin, Wifelet, Wifeling, Wifelkin** (*dial.*), as terms of endearment = little wife; **Wifeship**, the position or relation of a wife; **Wifeward** *adv.*, towards or to one's wife. (All *nonce-wds.*)

1889 CARLYLE in *Love Lett. T. C.* (1909) II. App. 355 *Wifekin waits and coffee simmers. 1890 *Daily News* 14 Oct. 5/6 With *wifelet and chubby children. 1866 FARRAR *Seekers* II. iv. 226 If..some *wifeling or childling be granted you. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* V, Leave him to me, *wifekin. 1891 T. K. CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* VII. 315 The figures of sonship and *wifeship were no longer adequate to express Israel's relation to its Lord. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 48 [He] travelled *wifeward.

†**Wife,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To take a wife, to marry: = WIVE *v.* 1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 263 Þey..hepeþ hesilliche here children, and suffreth hem nouȝt to wyfe wiþ ynne foure and twenty ȝere. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 97 It is sayde full ryfe, 'a man may not wyfe And also thryfe, And all in a yere.' 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 348 *Eu.* An't you weary of wifeing? *Po.*...If this Eighth should die to Day I would marry the Ninth to-Morrow.

2. *Wife it*: to play the wife, act as a wife.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* C 3, I should Wife it as fine as any woman could.

Wifedom (wai·fdĕm). [f. WIFE *sb.* + -DOM.]

1. The position or condition of a wife, married

state (of a woman); the character or qualities of a wife: = WIFEHOOD 1, 2.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 114 Joy and merriness are not for me,..nor wedded wifedom. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 114 This essential for good wifedom is also an essential for good womanhood. 1898 *Daily Tel.* 15 Aug. 7/6 Unfettered by the cares of wifedom and motherhood.

2. Wives collectively, married women as a class.

1891 EDSWORTH *Roxb. Ball.* VII. 489 The new race of Wifedom is sadly degenerating. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. ii, A circle of official wifedom.

† **Wifehead.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WIFE *sb.* + -HEAD.] = next.

14.. *Chaucer's L. G. W.* Prol. 253 (Selden MS.), Pennolope and Marcia Catoun, Make of your wyfhede no comparison. *Ibid.* 545, 691, 1687.

Wifehood (wai·fhud). Forms: see WIFE *sb.* and -HOOD; also 6 wiue-, 7 wivehood. [f. WIFE *sb.* + -HOOD. (OE. had *wífhád* womanhood.)]

1. The position or condition of a wife; married state (of a woman).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 51 Fro ferst that sche wifhode tok. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wyyfhood, *uxoratus*. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 305 To restore her to her Virgin State by my confession, after her Wifehood had been reported to her Uncle. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 356, I ask for love..For wifehood. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* 30 Apr. 4/5 Her daughter has now grown to womanhood, and to-day enters upon the sacred duties of wifehood.

2. The character of, or befitting, a wife; 'behaviour becoming to a wife' (J.); wifeliness.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 253 Penolope & Marcia catoun Mak of ȝoure wyfhod no comparisoun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 74 Wifhode is lore in me, which whilom was honeste. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 3 The vertue of chast loue, And wifehood true. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. vi, Thou, onely art to heare, not speake a word,..on your wiue-hood, wife. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* IV. iv, She hath neither manners, honesty, behaviour, Wife-hood, nor womanhood. 1830 TENNYSON *Isabel* 12 The stately flower..Of perfect wifehood. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iv. 107 Plutarch's Life of Cleomenes contains two historical pictures of heroic wifehood.

Wifekin: see after WIFE *sb.*

Wifeless (wai·fˌlĕs), *a.* Forms: see WIFE *sb.*; also 5–6 wyue-, 5–7 wiue-, wiveles, -leas(e. [OE. *wífléas*, f. *wíf* WIFE *sb.* + *-léas* -LESS.] Having no wife; unmarried, celibate; *rarely*, deprived or bereaved of, or not accompanied by, one's wife. a. of a man.

a 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 190 Wunige he a sybbran wifleas. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26281 He þat alas his ann wijf, He agh be wijfeles al his lijf. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 364 Þei ben dowid and wyflees ayens Goddis autorite. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 4 Sixty yeer a wyfeles man was hee. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1090 Agea was enterid, And ffawnus lyvid wyfles. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 25 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 219 Wyueles longe .. haue I taryed, And lyued sole, without any mate. 1574 T. NEWTON *Health Mag.* V iij b, Wiueless Bachelers and husbandlesse maydens. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. vii. 410 They liue on almes,..They are wiueless. *a* 1623 H. SWINBURNE *Spousals* (1686) 169 He was then Wifeless. 1842 C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* xviii, Many of the married fellows do not appear to be a whit happier than your wifeless men. *a* 1849 J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 459 Wifeless, friendless, flaggonless,..Not quite hookless, though. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1362 A lonely man Wifeless and heirless.

b. of life, state, etc.

1546 BALE *Engl. Votaries* Pref. 4 Their vowed wyuelesse and husbandelesse chastyte. 1548 CROWLEY *Confut. Shaxton* H vj b, The gyft of wyueles lyfe. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Matrimonie* Ttt ij, They in theyr wiueleese state run into open abhominations. 1840 HOOD *Our Lady's Chapel* 13 Whose mouldy, wifeless husbandry but yields Beans, peas, potatoes, mangel-wurzel, rye.

¶ Catachrestically used of a woman: That is not a wife; unmarried.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxxii, A wifeless mother.

Hence **Wi·felessness**, wifeless condition.

1886 'M. GRAY' *Silence of Dean Maitland* III. ii, His six years' wifelessness had weighed sorely upon him.

Wifelet, Wifeling: see after WIFE *sb.*

Wifelike (wai·fˌlaik), *a.* and *adv.* [f. WIFE *sb.* + -LIKE.]

A. *adj.* Resembling, or having the character of, a wife; characteristic of or befitting a wife.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 138 Thy rare qualities,.. Thy meeknesse Saint-like, Wife-like Gouernment. 1796 *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) II. 190 With a kind of bitter raillery he treated her wife-like fears. 1826 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlii. V. 37 Her heart swelling with wifelike pride.

B. *adv.* In the manner of a wife.

1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. [VIII.] 138 Nor canst thou skale our turrets tops nor leade the wiues to Fleete Of valiant men; that wifelike fear'st my aduerse charge to meete. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. ii. 8 She..vndergoes More Goddesse-like, then Wife-like; such Assaults As would take in some Vertue. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 808 When she laid, Wifelike, her hand in one of his.

Wifely (wai·fˌli), *a.* Forms: see WIFE *sb.*; also 6 wyue-, 6–7 wiue-, 7–8 wively. [OE. *wíflic*: see WIFE *sb.* and -LY[1]. Cf. OHG. *wíblich* (MHG. *wíplich*, G. *weiblich*), Du. *wijfelijk*.]

† 1. Of or pertaining to a woman or women; womanly, feminine. *Obs. rare* (exc. OE.).

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. ii. § 2 Ac hio mid wiflice niðe wæs feohtende on þæt underiende folc Æthiopiam. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xx. § 2 Þæt he ne furþum wiflice hæfde.. arede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 7 All inflambit in ire and wyfly thochtis [L. *muliebres curasque iracundi*]. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xxii. (S.T.S.) I. 123 The victorie..of þis wyfelie contencioun [L. *muliebris certaminis*] was gevin to lucres.

2. Pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a wife.

c 1000 *Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 503 *Matronalis*, wiflicre. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1737 *Lucrece*, Hire wifly chastite. *Ibid.* 1843 Hir hert was so wyfely and so trewe. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* vii. 12–16 Howe knowest thou..whether thou shalt..by wyuely loue, cause thy husbande to amende? 1592 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XXI. xiii, Against all wiuely care..she lets her raging loue to raunge. 1739 G. UGLE *Gualth. & Gris.* 1313 Wively Patience. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Duchess May* lxv, Wifely prayer meets deathly need! 1863 MISS YONGE *Chr. Names* II. iv. 142 A picture of wifely patience. 1878 JEAFFRESON *Brides & Bridals* I. ii. 21 The duty of wifely submissiveness to marital authority was impressively inculcated.

3. Having the character befitting a wife; such as a wife should be.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl* x. xl, Where she a maiden wife might live, and wifely maid. 1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* xvii, A wifely wife, a motherly mother, and above all, a lady. 1872 H. B. FORMAN *Living Poets* 231 Lest our wives and daughters should lose delicacy or refinement, become less wifely and daughterly.

Hence † **Wifelihead** (wive-), **Wifeliness**, wifely character or quality.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 204 Whose perfect vertues..So did adorne that humble *wiuelyhed. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* V. 604 With a wife I look to find all *wifeliness. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* xxii, Mossy beamed with gentle wifeliness..'You needn't tell me how to appreciate my husband, Mr. Royds.'

† **Wi·fely**, *adv. Obs. rare.* In 5 wyuly. [f. WIFE *sb.* + -LY[2]. (OE. had *wíflice* 'muliebriter'.)] As a wife.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3359 Thou shalt haue..me..wyuly to wedd; & I the wed shall.

Wifeship, Wifeward: see after WIFE *sb.*

Wiff(e, obs. forms of WIFE.

Wiffin, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

Wifie (wai·fi). Also **wifey, wify.** [f. WIFE *sb.* + -IE, -Y[6].] Little wife: used as a term of endearment for a wife.

1825 JAMIESON, *Wifie*, a diminutive from *wife*; generally expressive of smallness of size, but sometimes merely a fondling term, S. *wifie*. [The accompanying quot. for *wifie* is dubious.] 1841 TUPPER *Twins* vi, Turn bachelor again, leave wifey at home. 1862 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* I. i 13 Whaur's the auld wife? 1888 MRS. H. WARD *Robt. Elsmere* xix, I know you have worries of your own, wifie.

Wifish (wai·fiʃ), *a.* Forms: 6 wyuyah, -ish, 7 wiuish, wivish, 8– wifish, (9 *erron.* wifeish). [f. WIFE *sb.* + -ISH[1]. Earlier *wivish*; cf. *thievish* from *thief*.]

† 1. Belonging to or characteristic of a woman; womanly; in depreciatory sense, womanish. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *2 Macc.* vii. 21 She exorted..them..boldly and stedfastly,..wakynge vp hir wyuyah thought with a manly stomacke. ? 1560 — *Treat. Death* III. v. 264 To wayte stil till henuinesse forget itselfe, is a wyuish thinge: ..to brydle it by times, becometh the..sobernesse of a man.

2. Belonging to or characteristic of, or having the character of, a wife. (Usually in more or less depreciatory sense: see -ISH[1] 2.) † In quot. 1616, Too devoted or submissive to one's wife.

1616 T. SCOTT *Christs Pol.* 17 The Prophet would not haue any wise man to be so wiuish, and so wedded to the loue of his wife. 1664 N. B. *St. Athanasius* 213 [She] by her wivish and womanish solicitations..hampered Valentinian. 1773 in *Early Diary Fr. Burney* (1889) I. 192 We used to wonder at Hetty's being so wifish. 1797 in C. K. Paul *W. Godwin* (1876) I. 245 With a true wifish submission to your judgment. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* XXVII, The mother's wifeish lines would, perhaps, have been tested in a furnace.

† **Wifkin.** *Obs.* [OE. *wífcyn(n*: see WIFE *sb.* and KIN *sb.*[1]] Womankind, women collectively.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i, Þæt hi..of þam wifcynne him cyning curan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 143 Þu eart gebletsod betuh ealle wifcyn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 636 Wið-uten wifkin and childre amale. *Ibid.* 1177 Noȝt wif-kinnes non birðe ne nam.

† **Wifle.** *Obs.* Also 4 wefle, 4–5 wyfle, 5 wyfele. [OE. *wífel*, f. OTeut. stem *wíb-* (cf. ON. *vífr* sword) :— Indo-eur. *wīp-* to wave, swing, shake (cf. Skr. *vīp* switch, rod, shaft of an arrow): see WAIVE *v.*[2]

Parallels to the formation with the suffix *-l-* are found in MDu., MLG. *weifelen* to sway, wobble, waver, early mod.G. *weibeln*, OHG. *weibil* (MHG. *weibel*) apparitor, summoner, ON. *vífl* cudgel, bat.]

A dart, javelin, spear; a battle-axe.

c 1000 *Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 432 *Spiculo*, gare uel wifele. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4383 Wyþ wyfles strike, wyþ axes hewe. *c* 1385 in Hudson & Tingey *Rec. Norwich* (1906) I. 396 Roger servant of William de ... sword, coutel, wefle. *c* 1400 *Sowdone* 2630 With Wifles, Fauchons, Gavylokes and Dartes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wyfle, wepene..*bipennis*. 1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 24 That she shuld make here men to lene here wyfeles and here jackes. *c* 1460 *Inwent. Sir J. Fastolfe* in *Archæologia* XXI. 272 Item, j Borespere. Item, vj Wifles.

Wifman(n, -mon, obs. ff. WOMAN.

Wift, *sb.*, variant of WHIFT *sb.*

1644 *True Narr. Seiges Plymouth* 5 Having..given a signe ..by hanging out a Wift, that he was in distresse. 1901 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ship's Adv.* vii, There's the barque that fouled us last night, sir. She's got a wift at her t—— peak. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 2/1 A wift of white foam.

Wift, *v. Obs.* or *dial.* Also 6 wyft. [Onomatopœic.] *intr.* † a. To turn aside or go astray (*obs.*). b. To move lightly to and fro, or along; to waver; to drift.

1554–8 in *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 4 To walke the wurthy wayes, and frame them not to wyft. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XVI. v. 63 Dragons, wrought with

Howden Dale.

† **Wifthing.** *Obs.* [OE. *wífþing*, f. WIFE *sb.* + THING *sb.*] An affair connected with a woman or wife. a. Sexual intercourse. b. A wedding, nuptial ceremony.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 340 Þæt þis sy to wiſ þingum on bysmer [*irritamentum ad coitum*]. *c* 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 180 Iſ þam men þe gelomlice wif-þing begæð [*de homine qui crebras nuptias conciliat*]. *c* 1205 LAY. 4444 Belin lhærde..of his broðer wifðinge. *Ibid.* 31128 Þe wes wifðing riche.

Wig (wig), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 4–6 wygge, 5–8 wigg, 6–7 wigge, (8 whigg, 8–9 whig), 7– wig. [a. M.LG., MDu. *wigge* (Westphalian *wigge*, Du. *wig*) wedge, wedge-shaped cake, by-form of M.LG. etc. *wegge* (see WEDGE *sb.*).] A kind of bun or small cake made of fine flour.

1376 *Munim. Gildh. Lond.* (Rolls) III. 404 Cum uno pane de obolo, vocato 'wygge'. 1413 *Maldon, Essex, Ct.-rolls* Bundle 8 No. 1 (MS.) Ponderatores panis presentant quod.. panis wastell pistoris de Writle in defectu *xs*; item, le wigg ejusdem in defectu, *xs*. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wygge, bredе (*P.* or bunne brede). 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* II. xi. (1529) 63 b/2 Some wax dronk in lent of wygges & craknels. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* V. xx. 710 The workers in pastrie do vse the rising of beere to make their wigs withall. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* C j b, His round halfe-penny loaues are transformd into sq[u]are wigge, (which wigges like drunkards are drownd in their Ale). 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Apr., Home to the only Lenten supper I have had of wigge and ale. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. vi. 293/2 A.. Wigg is White Bread moulded long ways, and thick in the middle. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 285 Toast a light wig. 1820 A. BOSWELL *Edin* 163 Rich Whigs and Cookies smoke upon the board. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *Robt. Elsmere* II, An exasperating belief in the sufficiency of buttered 'whigs' and home-made marmalade for all requirements.

Wig, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *north.* Also 7 wigge, 9 wyg. [a. ON. *veggr* wall (cf. RIG *sb.*[2] = ON. *hryggr*). Cf. WIG-LOOSE.] Only in phr. *from wig to wall*, backwards and forwards, from pillar to post.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 239 Tossed from poste to piller, from wigge to wall, by a restles course of miseries. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 99 Mind what this lass has suffer'd now for you,..How she is catcht for you frae wigg to wa. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., A thing is said to gang frae wyg to waw, when it is moved backwards and forwards from the one wall of a house to the other.

Wig, *sb.*[3] Also 8 wigg. [Shortened form of PERIWIG, as *winkle* of *periwinkle*.]

1. An artificial covering of hair for the head, worn to conceal baldness or to cover the inadequacy of the natural hair, as a part of professional, ceremonial, or formerly of fashionable, costume (as still by judges and barristers, formerly also by bishops and other clergymen), or as a disguise (as by actors on the stage): = PERIWIG 1, PERUKE 2. (See also BAG-WIG, *bob-wig* (BOB *sb.*[1] 4 b), FULL-BOTTOMED *wig*, TIE-WIG.)

1675 *Char. Town-Gallant* 4 He..looks down with Contempt on every body, whose Wig is not right Flaxen. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Bar-wig*, between a bob and a

with Safety worn. 1782 COWPER *John Gilpin* 98 Away went Gilpin, neck or nought, Away went hat and wig! 1835 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* (1903) I. 127 The disappearance of the bishops' wigs, which he said had done more harm to the church than anything else! 1848 J. T. SMITH *Bk. for Rainy Day* 93 He was a spare man, and wore a powdered club-wig, similar to that worn by Tom Davies, the bookseller and biographer of Garrick. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* I, There is the registrar below the Judge, in wig and gown. 1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 44 Serjeant Postlethwayte—Dashing the wig oblique as he mopped his oily pate.

b. Phrases. *Dash my wig(s* (colloq.), a mild imprecation (see DASH *v.*[1] 11). *My wig(s!* (colloq.) a meaningless expression of surprise, etc. *Wigs on the green*, a colloquial expression (orig. Irish) for coming to blows or sharp altercation (wigs being liable to fall or be pulled off in a fray).

1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* IV. 75 Dash my wig, if Ainsforth is not as well-looking as your finical Welsh baronet. 1812 Dash my wigs [see DASH *v.*[1] 11]. 1856

Wig, s. my wigs! 1892 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 237, I am writing a short narrative poem. My wig! but it is garrulous. 1903 M. G. GERARD *Leaves fr. Diaries* I. 22 Whenever they saw them advancing, they felt there would be wigs on the green.

c. Jocularly applied to a (natural) head of hair, esp. of a child; hence *curly-wig*, a jocular appellation for a child with curly hair.

d. *transf.*

1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 226 Those white, curled clouds, that we call Judges' Wigs. 1843 *Tait's Edin. Mag.* X. 444 Plunging his nose amidst such an enormous wig of yeast as o'ertopped his cannikin.

2. *transf.* A person who wears a wig (professionally); a dignitary. *colloq.* (Cf. Bigwig.)

1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXI. 383 The horrid systematic opposition to hunting, which has justly raised so great odium against the Wigs. 1828 Scott *Jrnl.* 18 Apr. (1891) 576 Dined with the Dean of Chester .. There were the amiable Bishop of London,..Bishop of Llandaff, the Dean of St. Paul's, and other dignitaries...It was a very pleasant day—the wigs against the wits for a guinea in point of conversation. 1838 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IX. iv. II. 436 So the heirship fell to us, as the biggest wig in the most benighted Chancery would have to grant.

3. Technical name for the coarse hair on the shoulders of a full-grown male fur-seal, and hence for the seal itself when bearing this.

1830 N. Dana *Mariner's Sk.* 145 (Thornton) These old wigs are more than twice as large as the female seal. 1832 C. M. Goodridge *Voy. S. Seas* 29 The dog seals are named by South Seamen Wigs. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 449 At five years..what is called the 'wig'—a mass of coarse hair on the shoulders—appears,..so that it does not pay to kill an animal of this age. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 358/2 The largest skins, known in the trade as 'wigs', which range up to 8 ft. in length, are uneven and weak in the fur.

4. [Cf. Wig *v.*2 2.] A severe rebuke or scolding, ? orig. from a 'bigwig'; an act of Wigging. *slang* or *colloq.*

1804 Sir J. Malcolm in *Life* (1856) I. 267 If you got a private wig about Gwalior, I shall get a dozen. 1813 Moore *Twopenny Post Bag* ii. 52 Else, though the be long in rigging, 'Twould take, at least, a fortnight's wigging—Two wigs to every paragraph—Before he well get through half. 1828 Doveton *Burmese War* iii. 76 At the risk of a wig in G. O., or even a court-martial. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 3/3 As often as not a 'wig' ended by the offer of a cheroot.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wig-box*, *-dresser*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-puffer*, *-tie*, *-wearer*, *-wearing*, *-weaver*, *-weaving*; *wig-like* adj.; **wig-block**, a rounded block for placing a wig upon when being made or not in use; **wig-tail**, (*a*) a name for a tropic-bird, from its long tail-feathers; (*b*) the tail of a wig; **wig-sumach**, **-tree**, a name for the Venetian sumach (*Rhus Cotinus*), from its hairy inflorescence.

a 1745 Swift *Country Life* 123 Nim lost his *wig-block, Dan his jordan. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *Country Barber*, He..lived alone .. with no other companions than his wig-blocks and a tame starling. 1713 Addison *Guardian* No. 145 P 4, I take the Liberty of enclosing it to you in my *Wig-Box. 1752 *Affecting Narr. H.M.S. Wager* 118 These odd Creatures [*sc.* armadillos] are cased with a covering in Shape somewhat..resembling that of a travelling Wig Box. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* liii, Scarce anything told of the lawyer but the wig-box beside the Venus upon the middle shelf of the bookcase. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *Country Barber*, Appointed his shaver, *wig-dresser, and wig-maker. 1853 Humphreys *Coincoll. Man* I. xii. 141 Rows of stiff *wiglike curls. 1785 Johnson, *Perubamber*,..a *wigmaker. 1828 [see *wig-dresser*]. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* (1785) IV. 247 [He] should keep no Company, but that of Tailors, *Wig-pufflers, and Milleners. 1867 *Chambers' Encycl.* IX. 903/2 Venetian S[umach].. known also as *Wig S[umach] or *Wig Tree. 1888 *Amer. Natur.* Oct. 862 The *wig-tail, a white bird about the size of a pigeon, having two long, flexible, streamer-like tail feathers. 1905 A. T. Sheppard *Red Cravat* III. ii. 242 The powdered wig-tail poked out truculently above the red collar. 1878 Browning *Poets of Croisic* cxxxviii, Flounce Of *wig-ties and of coat-tails. 1892 S. R. Maitland *Eight Ess.* 236 The cap was only such an one as *wig-wearers were wont to use. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 543 Her head..Indebted to some smart *wig-weaver's hand For more than half the tresses it sustains. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *Country Barber*, His dexterity in *wig-weaving.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **Wi'gdom**, judges or lawyers as a body; **Wi'gful**, as much as fills a wig; **Wi'ggish** *a.*, having the character of a wig (whence **Wi'ggishness**); **Wi'ggism**, the practice of wearing wigs; **Wi'gless** *a.*, destitute of a wig, not wearing a wig; **Wi'glet**, a little wig; **Wig-lomera'tion** [after *conglomeration*], humorously for 'ceremonious fuss' (in legal proceedings).

1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 Nov. 568/3 '*Wigdom', preparing for its most dignified exhibition on the Bench of the High Court of Justice. 1836 E. Howard *R. Reefer* vii, I was told to..get a *wigful of potatoes.., the..pedagogue coolly taking off his wig. 1866 Trollope *Claverings* iii, An effort..to hide the *wiggishness of his wigs. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* I. 373 The history of *wiggism in this country ..from its origin down to its decline and fall. 1825 *Ibid.* XIV. 256. 1799 E. Du Bois *Piece Fam. Biog.* I. 224 Thrusting his *wigless head out of the window. 1813 Colman *Br. Grins, Vagaries Vind.* xlix, Wigless, with his cassock torn. 1906 Calthrop *Engl. Costume* III. 133 In the days when to be wigless was to be undressed. 1821 *Examiner* 660/1 Disarray'd and bare Of cassock, shovel-hat, and *wiglet fair. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii. He is a ward in Chancery..The whole thing will be vastly ceremonious, wordy, unsatisfactory, and expensive, and I call it, in general, *Wiglomeration.

Wig (wig), *v.*1 *dial.* Also 6 **wygge**. [See Wiggle *v.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To move lightly from side to side; to wag, waggle.

a 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 139 It wyggys and it waggys, Lyke tawny saffron baggys. 1865 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wig*, move off, go away. 1880 *Jamieson's Scott. Dict.*, *Wig*, *wigg*, *v.* 1. To move, shake, wag. Shetl.

Wig, *v.*2

1. [f. Wig *sb.*2 1, or back-formation on Wigged.] *trans.* To supply with a wig; to put a wig upon; *spec.* to provide with wigs in preparation for a theatrical performance (with the actors or the performance as obj.).

1826 *Examiner* 119/2 Cooper performed the husband, and had to wig himself into age for the purpose. 1872 E. Yates *Castaway* I. i, It was Mr. Samuel's boast that he had 'wigged and painted' more 'stars' than any other man out of London. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 July 4/2, I..have the pleasure of congratulating Mr. Clarkson on having 'wigged' three operas in one evening.

2. [f. Wig *sb.*2 4, or back-formation on Wigging.] To rebuke or censure severely, scold, rate. Also rarely *intr.* with *at*. *slang* or *colloq.*

1829 *Examiner* 595/1 The *Chronicle* discovers too much disposition to what is vulgarly but expressively called, wigging us. 1832 Capt. B. Hall *Voy. & Trav.* I. iii. 73, I had ..from the first day I went afloat—a great horror at being reproached, or 'wigged', as we called it. 1908 W. de Morgan *Somehow Good* xxv, What are you wigging at her for? 1911 *Times* 13 Apr. 9/4 A subordinate..who presumably has been severely 'wigged' by his chief.

Wig, var. Whig *sb.*1; obs. f. Whig *sb.*2; var. Widge *dial.*, beast of burden.

Wigan (wi·găn). A stout make of calico, originally manufactured at Wigan in Lancashire.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1888 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*.

Wigen, wigeon: see Widgeon.

Wigg, obs. f. Whig, Wig.

Wigged (wigd), *a.* [f. Wig *sb.*2 + -ed 2.] Furnished with or wearing a wig.

1777 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) II. 192 Dr. Wall was so differently wigged, that I really did not know him. 1828 Syd. Smith *Prisons* Wks. 1859 I. 362/2 The judge, wigged and robed as he is, is often very inferior in acuteness to either of the persons who are pleading under him. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii. (1885) 235 Wigged heads went together in the well of the court, and papers were rustled to and fro on the table.

Wiggen, -in, dial. var. Quicken *sb.*1

Wigger, obs. dial. form of Wicker.

Wiggery (wi·gəri). [f. Wig *sb.*2 + -ery] 1. Wigs or false hair collectively; the practice of wearing a wig.

1775 Sturges in *Lett. to Granger* (1805) 168 Dr Loveday shewed me your waggery upon wiggery. 1800 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IV. 59 When I contemplate the Female wiggery, whether it be Roman or Athenian. 1866 Trollope *Claverings* iii, He had lost the hair from the crown of his head, and had preferred wiggery to baldness.

2. Used by Carlyle for: Empty formality (in legal proceedings), 'red tape'.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, There is yet in venerable wigged Justice some wisdom amid such mountains of wiggeries and folly. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ix. II. 132 Long lawsuit,..lengthy law-pleadings, and much parchment and wiggery.

Wigging (wi·gĭŋ), *vbl. sb. slang* or *colloq.* [f. Wig *sb.*3 4 + -ing 1.] A severe rebuke, reproof, or reprimand; a scolding.

1823 [see Wig *sb.*3 4]. 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* I. iv, It was her idea, that I should have a confounded wigging and be sent on board. 1895 *Times Law Rep.* XI. 204 The clerk of the board gave these religious people a fine wigging, pointing out that in spite of their religious professions they were deliberate liars.

Wiggish, Wiggism: see after Wig *sb.*3

Wiggle (wi·g'l), *v.* Now *colloq.* or *dial.* Forms: 3–4 **wigel(en**, 4 **wygle**, **-el**, 7 **wigle**, 9 **wiggle**, (*Sc.* **weegle**). [Cognate with or a. (M)LG. *wiggelen*, MDu. *wighelen* (Du. *wiggelen*), frequentative f. *wig-* (cf. LG. *wiggen*, Norw. dial. *vigge*, Wig *v.*1). Cf. the parallel Wag *v.*, Waggle *v.*

Some compare OE. *wicclienda* (Haupt's *Zeitschrift* IX. 459/6) glo-sing *mutabundum*, but this is prob. an error for *cwicclienda* (Napier *O. E. Glosses* I. 2234).]

1. *intr.* To move to and fro or from side to side irregularly and lightly, to waggle; to walk with such a movement, to stagger, reel, also to waddle (now *dial.*); to go or move sinuously, to wriggle. Also *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Þe 3iure glutun..wigeleð [*Corpus MS.* wigleð] ase uordrunken mon. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. ix. (Add. MS. 27944) Centris is a serpente þat bendiþ noughte nouþer wigeleb but holdeþ alway forþ right. 1622 [see *wiggling* ppl. adj. below]. 1839 in F. W. Maitland *Leslie Stephen* (1906) 85 He wished I would not read that kind of book that went wiggling from one subject to another. 1839 Longf. *Hyperion* IV. ii, To pass the morning, to use his own quaint language, 'in making dodging calls, and wiggling round among the ladies!' 1864 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* xiv. 133, I warsselled an' weegled, an' kickit, an' flang. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 340/1 He wiggled over the grass towards the concealed marksman. 1913 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Laddie* vii. (1917) 128 Father..pulled his lower lip until his ears almost wiggled.

2. *trans.* To move (something) in this way; *refl.* = 1. Also *fig.*

1585 in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 343 A bare shift or pretence to wigle myself out of danger. c 1890 'Dow Jr.' in Jordan *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 86 Wiggle yourselves..among the three, and make headway the best way you can. 1897 Violet Hunt *Unhist. Unfruit* I. xii, He unhooked a Malay kris..and wiggled it about in the crack of the door.

Hence **Wi·ggling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Wi·ggle**, *sb.* an act of 'wiggling', a light wagging or wriggling movement (*to get a wiggle on*, U.S. slang, to hurry, bustle); *adj.* 'wiggling', wagging swiftly and lightly; **Wi·ggler**, something that 'wiggles'; **Wi·ggletail**, name for the larva of a gnat or mosquito.

1894 *Educator* (Philad.) Feb. 279 Every fleeting expression of their faces or *wiggle of their bodies. 1903 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* iv, Hasn't the boss got a wiggle on himself to-day! 1904 E. Robins *Magnetic North* xvii. 298 You can bank early and get a four a.m. wiggle on. 1888 Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 324 Butting under the mothers' teats, with their *wiggle tails. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 375/2 We..took..a box of worms,..for without one squirming *wiggler the Madame would not have secured her bass. 1884 J. C. Harris *Nts. Uncle Remus* 172 Water too full of *wiggletails. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. ix. (Bodl. MS.), Serpentes swymmeþ in water bi *wiglinge and foldinge of þe bodie [orig. *per corporis inflexionem*]. 1894 *Educator* (Philad.) Mar., The ceaseless motion—the wiggling of the child. 1611 Cotgr., *Serpentant* .., wrigling, *wiggling, crooking, winding. 1849 Als. Smith *Pettifer Legacy* (repr.) 51 One of those little wiggling dogs. 1898 *Century Mag.* Aug. 542/2 A small, wiggling fish.

Wiggle-waggle (wi·g'l,wæ·g'l), *v. colloq.* Reduplicated form combining Wiggle *v.* and Waggle *v.* (cf. LG. *wigel-wagele* vb.), emphasizing the alternation of movement: used *intr.* or *trans.* So **Wiggle-waggle** *sb.*, the act of 'wiggle-waggling'; also, a children's game in which the players waggle their thumbs at a word of command; **Wiggle-waggle** *a.*, that 'wiggle-waggles'; *fig.* vacillating.

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, **Wiggle-waggle*, a tremulous undulating motion. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 42/2 Brisk holding up of fingers and turning down of thumbs, like the children's game of 'wiggle-waggle'. 1778 Johnson in *Anne. D'Arblay's Diary* Sept., Poll is a stupid slut;..she was *wiggle-waggle, and I could never persuade her to be categorical. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wiggle-waggle*, quivering, vibrating. 1887 *Good Words* 673 Wiggle-waggle dress-improvers. 18.. *Scotch Haggis* 95 (E.D.D.) *Wiggle-waggling his walking-stick ower his left elbow. 1847 Halliwell, *Wiggle-waggle*, to wriggle. *East.* 1848 *Punch* XV. 14 The parachute..would have wiggle-waggled itself into annihilation. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 224/1 It [*sc.* a fish] is gently removed from the hook, and suffered to go wiggle-waggling back to its green retreats.

Wiggly (wi·gli), *a. colloq.* [f. Wiggle *v.* or *sb.* + -y 1: cf. Waggly.] Characterized by or suggestive of 'wiggling'; (in reference to form) having small irregular undulations. Also in reduplicated forms **Wiggly-waggly** (cf. prec.), **-woggly**.

1903 G. H. Lorimer *Lett. Self-made Merch.* vii. 84 A mule ..with..droopy, wiggly-woggly ears that swung in a circle as easy as if they ran on ball-bearings. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Oct. 2/3 His [*sc.* a dog's] legs are wiggly. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 459/1 Black 'Arcot' tie with a white wiggly bacterial pattern. 1913 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 8 The wiggly-waggly movement of the seal's body. 1919 Christine Orr *Glorious Thing* iv, That wiggly seam down the front.

Wiggy (wi·gi), *a.* [f. Wig *sb.*3 + -y 1.] Wearing, or distinguished by, a wig, bewigged; sometimes implying 'extremely grave, formal, or ceremonious'.

1817 Maria Edgworth *Harrington* vi, And there's our old apothecary..has taken such a fancy to her! But he's too old and wiggy. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 198 Those of the wisest and wig-iest members of the fraternity. 1840 Mrs. Gore in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 52 Powdered footmen and wiggy body-coachmen. 1884 *Athenæum* 22 Oct. 473/3 Mr. Kendal, though his get-up is a little 'wiggy', remains excellent as Philippe Derblay.

Wigel, var. Wiel *Obs.*, sorcery, etc.

Wighee, wigh-hie, wighie, -y, var. Wehee.

Wigher, var. *wicker*, Whicker *v.*, to neigh.

1660 *Faithf. Friends* III. ii, I cut it [*sc.* a tail] from a dead horse that can now Neither wigher nor wag tail.

Wight (wəit), *sb. arch.* Forms: 1–5 **wiht**, 1, 3–5 **wyht**, (1 **wuht**), 3 (*Orm.*) **wihht**, (**wipt**, **wid**), 3–4 **whit**, **wi3t(e**, 4 **wy3t**, **wyghte**, **whi3t**, **why3te**, **whyt**, (**wi3th**, **wi3t**, **wieth**, **wihot**, **with**, **weiht**, **weith**), 4–6 **wyght**, **wighte**, **wite**, *Sc.* **wycht**, (8 *arch.*) **wicht**, 5 **why3t**, **whiht**, **whyht**, **wyt**, (**whith**, **wyth(e**, **wythte**), 5–6 **wyte**, (5–7 **weight**, 6 **white**, *Sc.* **weycht**), 4– **wight**. [OE. *wiht* m., f., n. = OS. *wiht* m. thing, pl. demons (MLG. *wicht* m., n. thing, being, creature, demon, LG. *wicht* n. girl, MDu., Du. *wicht* little child), OHG., MHG. *wiht* m., n. creature, being, thing, esp. of elves and dwarfs, (G. *wicht* m. creature, being, infant), ON. *vættr*, *vættr*, *vitr* f. living creature, thing (also in idiomatic uses and phr. *ekki vætta*, *vætthi*, *vættr* not a whit, naught, not, *vettugi* nothing, *hvatvetna* anything whatever), Goth. *waiht* n. (only in *ni*.. *waiht* nothing), *waihts* f. *οὖσα*, *πρᾶγμα* (*ni*... *waihtais* or *waihts* nothing); ulterior connexions uncertain. For compounds in English see Aught *sb.*2, Naught, Nought, Unwight.]

†**1.** A living being in general; a creature. *Obs.*

Beowulf 120 Wiht unhælo, grim and grædig. c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Nanre wuhte lichoma ne beoð þonne tederra þonne þæs monnes. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 224 Swa lange swa ðu by mid þe byrst, nan wiht ysfeles þe ongeman ewæð. c 1160 Ormin Ded. 273 Þatt nan wihht, nan engell. nan mann,..Ne mihhte þurrh himm sellfenn þa

…… godnesse shewenn O mannkinn. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 78 (Trin. Coll. MS.) He wot hwat þenchеð and hwat doð alle quike wihte. *c* 1205 LAY. 25869 Whæt eart þu fære wiht? eært þu angel? eært cnih? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 87 Snailes mus & fule wiȝte [*v.r.* wihte]. 13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 151 A neddir rampande, a lothely wyghte. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 43/80 God saue þis place fro alle oþer wykked wytes Hoþe be dayes & be nytes! *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2416 Bestes of þe se and oþir wyght. 1599 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 148 Vnto man, beast & euerye liuinge wite. 1788 B. YOUNG *Guasso's Civ. Conv.* IV. 177 Man is the onelie white wherent infinit ..infortunes doe ayme at. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. 15 We reduce..All men vnder the terme of Wight; all wights vnder the terme of liuing things.

b. orig. and chiefly with (good or bad) epithet, applied to supernatural, preternatural, or unearthly beings. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

In the 17th c. *esp.* of the four beasts of the Apocalypse.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 49 *Phantasma*, yfel wiht. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Þæt manfulle wuht wolde þæt he hine weorþode. *c* 1000 *Prayer* iv. 57 (Gr.) Ȝeluȝon hy him set þam geleafan forþon hy longe sculon Werȝe wihta wræce þrowian. *c* 1200 *Glass.* in Wr.-Wülcker 108/23 *Satiri, sel faunі,..uel faunі Acarii*, unfæle men, wudewnsan, unfæle wihtu. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 285 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Þat beð ateliche fiend and Eiselliche wihten þo sulle þe wreche sowle lsien þe sinesæden þurh sihte. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2750 Þer beþ in þe eyr an hey,..As a maner gostes, wiȝtes as it be. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 293, I crouche thee from Elues and fro wightes. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. iii. 4 The angel vpon my right syde and the fowle wyght vppon the other syde. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 13 The gods above And heauenly wights. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 92 The Wights, the Elders, and every creature in Heaven. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 196 Those 4 living wights and 24 elders. 1846 W. IRVING *Babylon* II. vi. 124 Those four wights upon the white, red, black, and pale horses. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* v. 147 That these were the good wights (fairies) dwelling in the court of Elfland. 1894 MORRIS *Wood beyond World* xxx. 230 Our protection against uncouth wights.

c. A local name for the shrew-mouse.

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 317 A small species of mice, commonly called here [*sc.* Orkney] wights.

2. A human being, man or woman, person. Now *arch.* or *dial.* (often implying some contempt or commiseration).

c 1200 ORMIN 1761 Unnsezzenndlike mare Inoh þann anȝ wihht mazȝ þennkenn. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 633 Wel worþe þe wid, þad þe first taite. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 397 (Laud) Of þat fayre wiliete Al þe halle gan liete. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1792 'Þat is a worde', quod þat wyȝt, 'þat worst is of alle'. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 39 Neuere werrede we wiþ wiȝth up-on erþe. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 4 ȝif any wiȝt wiste, where do-wel was at Inne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 72 He neuere yet no vileynye ne sayde In al his lyf vn to no manner wight. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 978 in *Macro Plays* 106 In wo & in wrake, wyckyd wytis schal wepe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 395 Gret syn it war yon saikless wicht to sla. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* LXXV. 17, I nevir wowit weycht bot sow. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 614 Thou learned man, do not disdayne, To learne at me, a symple wyght. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 34 Away shee went a wofull wretched Wight. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 47 Of fayre Elisa be your siluer song, that blessed wight. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 130 She was a wight, (if euer such wightes were)..To suckle Fooles, and chronicle small Beere. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 361 The heauenly gift of God granted vnto blessed and happie weights. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 613 And of it self the water flies All taste of liuing wight, as once it fled The lip of Tantalus. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* ii, Boreas branglit..like a drunken wicht. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 165 The Wight who reads not, and but scans and spells. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. i, No liuing wight, saue the Ladye alone, Had dared to cross the threshold stone. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Dreams that came true* xxiv, She is a broken-down, poor, friendless wight. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 308 The unlucky wight..is doomed to speedy death.

b. Applied to a thing personified. *rare. arch.*

c 1399 CHAUCER *Purse* 1 To yow, my purse, and to noon other wight Complayn I, for ye be my lady dere. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 77 Canst thou then be so vnwise to swallowe the bayte which will breede thy bane?..To desire the wight that will worke thy death? 1802 WORDSW. *To the Daisy* I. ii, Autumn, melancholy Wight! 1859 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (ed. 4) 72 His [*sc.* the worm's] place has been occupied by one Sipunculus Bernhardi; a wight of low degree.

†**3.** In advb. phrases, qualified by *no, any* (OE. *ænig wiht, nán wiht*), *a little*, or the like: (A certain) amount; for (any, a little, etc.) time or distance. (See WHIT *sb.*[1] 1, 2.) *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXVII. § 3 Þær hi ænixe wuht aznes oððe ȝecyndelices godes an heora anwealdе hæfdon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 235 Andreas, ne ȝafyrenodest þu nan wuht. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 657 [The el phant] Fikeð and fondeð al his miȝt, ne mai he it forðen no wiȝt. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Hwon þe nede moten speken a lutewiht. *a* 1300 *St. Gregory* 703 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 66 A litel wiȝt after þe none. *Ibid.* 1152 Ich wene on lyue nys he no wiȝt. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 503 (Camb.) He smot him a litel wiȝt & bed him beon a god kniȝt. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 638 Þat monnes kuynde hedde al ariht, Þat hi neore to luite ne to muche wiht. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 354 Þat we no wante no wite of worldliche fode. 13.. *Sawyn Sages* (W.) 293 Yif thou me lovest ani wight, Let me of him han a sight! *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. i. (1868) 63 Whan they ben reaseyuyd with-inne a whyht than ben they swete. *c* 1386 — *Reeve's T.* 363 She was falle aslepe a lite wight. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4702 Þo he leyde burre doune here to slepe a litulle whyȝt. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 472 Ector ne liked that no wight. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 154 Thai wyst no wyt quhar thai suld him get.

†**b.** *A little wight* (adj. phr.): a small *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 21991 Þer þis water wendeð, is an lutel wiht

Wight (weit), *a.* (*adv.*) *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 3–4 wiht, 3–5 wiȝt, (4 wioth, with, wiȝth, wit, *Sc.* vicht, vycht), 4–5 wyht(e, wiȝte, wyȝt(e, (vight), 4–6 wyght(e, wighte, *Sc.* wycht, 5 wiȝght, whyght, wyt(e, whyt, white, (wygth, wyth, wythȝ, wyptȝ, weight), 5–6 *Sc.* wichte, 4– wight, *Sc.* wicht. [a. ON. *vígr* used in phrase = in self-defence; neut. of *vígr* of fighting age, skilled in arms; f. OTeut. *wig-* (*waig-, wig-*), for other derivatives of which see WI *sb.* Other adoptions of ON. adjs. in the neuter form are *quert, scant, thwart, want.*]

1. Strong and courageous, esp. in warfare; having or showing prowess; valiant, doughty, brave, bold, 'stout'. **a.** of a person, esp. a warrior.

c 1205 LAY. 777 Wihte wal-kempen on heora wiðer-winnan. *Ibid.* 20575 Seoue þusen monnen, ohte men and wihte. *Ibid.* 21359 Fif and twenti þusend whitere monnen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 456 Mid six þousend wiȝtemen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6409 'Cheues þe', he said, 'wit man an freck And ga fight a-pon amalec'. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3293 He wist him wiȝt of dede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 610 In Ingland þat tym ves a knycht, In ded of armys þat ves vycht. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. II. 269 Thre thousande wicht men of Iuda. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 1057 Schyr Jhon the Grayme, with Wallace that was wycht. *c* 1510 *Lytell Geste Robyn Hode* III. 17 Say me now wyght yonge man What is now thy name? 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 131 Of ane inuincible mynd, and a wichte weiriour. 1601 MUNDAY & CHETTLE *Death Robt. Earl of Huntington* I. i, Where is Robin Hood, And yᵉ wight Scarlet? 1775 *Ballads* (1857) I. 3/1 Had he been as wight as Wallace was. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. XX, O for one hour of Wallace wight. 1858 MORRIS *Def. Guenev.* etc. 108 They ought to sing of him who was as wight As Launcelot or Wade.

b. of actions or personal attributes.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10516 Knyght þat loued was of dedes wyght. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* III. (*Andreas*) 542 For warldis wa opir is licht, And may be tholit with hart wycht. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1098 The worde of your werkes & your wight dedis..passes o fer! 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* VIII. 12 That many ane fo in feild hes put to flycht, In weiris wicht. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 248 Quhen Eugenie had won sa wicht a victorie.

2. Strong, vigorous, robust, stalwart, mighty; exercising strength, energetic (passing into 3).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9003 Sampson þat wightest was in liif. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 344 He was fayr man, and wicth. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 91 Sire worche-wel-wyth-þine-hande, a wiȝte man of strengthe. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 57 In þe fermory of this religyon are moo seke þan hole, mo febyll þan wighte. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 219 Are was I wayke, nowe am I wight. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C j b, It is goode to make her to mewe, but specialli it shall make her wight after hir soore sage. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 33 William wichttar wes of corss Nor Sym, and bettir knittin. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* vii. (1664) 62 And of thy hands hardy and wight. 1726 *Fleming's Fulfilling Script.* (ed. 3) Table Scots Phr., *Wight*, strong or clever.

†**b.** Powerful, forcible, violent; powerful in effect, strong. (Also *absol.*) *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1591 In þe wyȝt-est of þe water, þe worre hade þat oþer. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 659 The Scottis all as swyne lyis droukyn thar, Off our wycht wyne. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 36 In wickit wedderis and wicht. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 786 Wachting the wyne, for it was wicht.

†**c.** Strong to resist force; strongly built or constructed; stout. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 1029 Swiche meting was neuer non made Wiþ worþli wepen wiȝt. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* CIXXIII. 5404 The wardane has þat castell tane, And saw it wycht of lyme and stane. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3634, I must haue A shippe bothe good and wight, And that it be right swift vnder a saile. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 318 Though the braunches be stronge and wyght. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XXXII. 96 He toke fro me yᵉ toure and a wyght harnes. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 930 Sayand, he wald ride furth a whyle, To seay a bow that was sumthing wicht. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* XII. 42 The freiklis on feildis That wight wapins weildis.

3. Moving briskly or rapidly; active, agile, nimble, quick; swift, fleet.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 120 Thar na horss is in this land Sa wycht, na ȝeit sa weill at hand. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 166, I is ful wight god waat as is a roo. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 298 Hem that ben delivere and wyhte. *c* 1430 *How Good Wyfe taught Dau.* 190 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 42 Manye handis & wight Make an heuy worke light. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/1 Wyte, or delyvyr, or swyfte. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXII. 121 Sche was so wyght of fote, that no man myght Rynne with hire by a grete space. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 233 The wolf was wicht, and wan away. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* C vij, If Carres horse had not ben exceding good & wight his lordship had surely run him throgh. 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 109 Since fame is wighte of winge. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Wight*, swift. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. xxii, Mount thee on the wightest steed.

B. *adv.* **1.** Actively, nimbly, energetically; quickly, rapidly, swiftly. *Obs.* or *dial.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 3836 (Gött.) Iacob lifted vp þat ston ful wight. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 103 Cables þay fasten, Wiȝt at þe wyndas weȝen her ankres. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1762 Wiȝt wallande loye warmed his hert. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 264 Sithen we fled away full wight. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 341 The rest of airchouis schott far and wight. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 65 Down the brae I gaed fu' wight.

†**2.** Quickly, without delay, directly, immediately. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 617, I schal wynne yow wyȝt of water a lyttel. *c* 1450 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 49 Euerlastynge patin, openeþ wight! *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 227 My lord, it xall be don ful wyght. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 726 Their winged words th' effect ensues as wight.

C. *Comb.* †**wight-rider**, a stout and active horseman; a mounted raider; so †**wight-riding** *a.* (see also quot. 1894); **wight-wapping** *a.* [WAP *v.*[1]], moving rapidly, or characterized by such movement.

1569 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. lv. 556 'About the Queen', say good-fellows, *Wight-riders and Robbers in the Borders of the two Realms. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn rodeur ou courreur*, a roder or wigh(t)rider. 1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 22 Too the number of a sixteen *wight riuing men. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss., Wight-riding*, of the upper class. (Obs.) 1830 SCOTT *Ayrshire Trag.* I. 1, The weaver shall find room At the *wight-wapping loom.

Hence †**Wightlayke** *a.* [?-LIKE influenced by -LAIK], quick, immediate (cf. B. 2 above); †**Wightling** [-LING[1] 1], a valiant man, a brave warrior; †**Wightship**, valour, bravery.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacionis* (1888) 144 *Wightlayke delyvrenesse with out ony tarditee. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8093 Galathin com swiþe flinge Wiþ þre þousand *wiȝtling. *Ibid.* 7653 Of *wiȝtschippe & chevalrie.

Wight, obs. f. WEIGHT, WHITE, WITH; var. WITE *Obs.*, blame; pa. t. of WEECHE *Obs.*

Wightly (wai·tli), *adv. arch.* and *dial.* Forms: see WIGHT *a.* [f. WIGHT *a.* + -LY[2].]

1. Bravely, boldly, valiantly, 'stoutly'; strongly, vigorously, forcibly, powerfully, energetically.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7642 Wit þat vnled son dauid mete, And wightli wan o þam his dete. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* VI. 10 Thai ga noght whidere thai thoght: and shame thaim ful wightly. *a* 1400–50 *Il are Alex.* 1405 Þai within on þe wall wightly withstondyn. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2822 Wightly hys sword A-bowte he wavyd. *a* 1450 *Ratis Raving* etc. 2 How wychtly þai sustenyt al tormentis..done to thaim. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. Prol. 64 To stand wichtly, and fecht in the forfront. *a* 1823 in W. S. Crockett *Minstrelsy* (1893) 101 Wightly can he wield a rung. 1819 GALT *Poems* 49 You..wightly wag the skelping whang.

2. Actively, briskly, nimbly, with agility or alacrity; swiftly, rapidly; quickly, without delay.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10131 Lyghtly to go, wightly to fle, þey lefte al, & fledde to þe se. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 688 He made non abode, Bot wyȝtly went hys way. *c* 1425 (*cf. Persev.* 3226 in *Macro Plays* 173 Now go we hens wyth vs þe Trinite. *c* 1500 *Smith & Dame* (Copland) A iij b, Croked I was truely Now may I walke wyghtly! 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 5 Day, that was, is wightly past. 1583 tr. *Matson Newes's Gerileon* I. 8 The good king Floridamant..wightly forsaking the Saddle, set foote on ground. *a* 1652 *Sir Cawline* x. in Child *Ballads* III. 58 But rise vp wightilye, man, for shame! Neuer lye here soe cowardlye. 1757 W. THOMPSON *Poems, Nativity* 1, Wightly his Senses all were rapt into a Dream. 1884 D. GRANT *Lays* 75 Wichtly Dobbin reached the Kirkton.

Wightness. *Obs.* or *arch.* [f. WIGHT *a.* + -NESS] The quality of being 'wight'; valour, courage, bravery; strength, might, force, vigour, energy; activity, agility, alacrity.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5495 (Laud MS.), Wiþ suerd & shelde in batayle To proue his wightnesse. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 240 He wissed hem wynne it ȝeyne þoru wightnesse of handes. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XII 284 That noþer wit ne wyghtnesse wan neuere þe maistrie With-oute þe grete gyfte of god. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* X. 58 Now..fra me is all wightnes wente. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/2 Wightnesse, *alacritas*,.. *celeritas factorum, velocitas pedum est & corporum.* 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 103 Gretlie thay take plesure in the wichtnes of thair bodie. *Ibid.* 334 His strang defence of the Clergie of Scotland, and his wichtnes contrare the aduersar. 1742 R. FORBES *Ajax's Sp.* (1755) 8 Gin my wightness doubted war, I wat my gentle bleed.. Right sickerly does plead.

Wighty (wəi·ti), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. WIGHT *a.* + -Y[1] 2.] = WIGHT *a.*

14.. LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVI. 172 (MS. E) Al þe wytt of þis worlde ne wyȝty mennes strengþe Can noȝt performe a pes of þe pope. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4704 Gaffray tombled there. Anon releuing in wighty manere. 16.. *Adam O Gordon* 124 in Pinkerton *Scot. Trag. Ball.* (1781) 48 Put on, put on, my wichty men, Sae fast as ye can drie. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wighty*, strong and active.

Hence †**Wightily** *adv.* = WIGHTLY.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* XXIII, Full wichtilie [*v. r.* wichtlie] thay throw wod and watteris went.

Wighy, VAR. WEBBE. **Wigion, Wigle,** obs. ff. WIDGEON, WIGGLE. **Wigless, Wiglet, Wiglomeration:** see after WIG *sb.*[3]

†**Wiglouse.** *Obs.* Pl. **wiglice.** [a. ON. *veggjalús*, f. *veggr* WIG *sb.*[2] + *lús* LOUSE *sb.*] The bed-bug: = *wall-louse* (*a*) (WALL *sb.*[2] 22 b).

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1046 They are enemies to Wiglice, that are most stinking creatures. 1660 R. READ *Wecker's Secr. Art & Nat.* 109 For Wiglice, Make a smoke with Ox dung and it will drive away Wallice.

Wigsby (wi·gzbi). *slang or colloq.* ? *Obs.* [f. WIG *sb.*[3]: see -BY 2.] A jocular appellation for a person wearing a wig. So **Wi·gster** in same sense.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Mr. Wigsby*, a man wearing a wig. 1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* III. 237 Tip old wigsby a twitch of the beast, in return for his golden padlock. 1822 *Sporting Mag.* (M.S.) VII 267 He was answered by the aforesaid wigsters, that it was '*Impossible separer les deux*'. 1830 H. INGLIS *Ramin.* II. 129, I left

these two wigabys, puffed up with pride and self-confidence. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xxi, The ..forms.. were borrowed from the chapel; the old wigsby, who had the care of them.. doubted the propriety.

Wig-wag (wi·gˌwæg), *v. colloq.* or *techn.* [Reduplicated formation combining Wig *v.*[1] and Wag *v.*, the vowel-change symbolizing the alternation of movement: cf. *wiggle-waggle*, *sig-zag*.] To move lightly to and fro, to wag; *esp.* to wave a flag or other object to and fro in signalling; to signal in this way (*intr.*, or *trans.* with the flag, etc. or the signal as obj.). Also as *adv.* = with a to-and-fro movement. So **Wi·g-wag** *sb.*, (*a*) an act of 'wig-wagging'; also *attrib.* (in quot. 1582 expressing a tortuous or writhing movement); (*b*) in *Watch-making*, a polishing instrument to which a reciprocating motion is imparted by a crank attached to a wheel of the lathe. Hence **Wi·g-wagger**, one who 'wig-wags'; **Wi·g-waggy** *a.*, characterized by 'wig-wagging', or by a form suggestive of this; tortuous, winding.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 50 His midil embracing with wig wag circuled hooping. 1846 *Congress. Globe* 16 Jan. 208/2 Wig-wag went her tail. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wigwag* (Watch-making), a rubbing-instrument.. driven by the lathe. 1884 Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 203 Where pinions are made in large quantities the polisher is actuated by a 'Wig Wag'. 1886 *Sci. Amer* 9 Jan. 16/2 In the army wig-wag system, a flag moved to right and left [etc.]. 1892 *Lippincott's Mag.* Dec. 764, I requested Lieutenant Marix to 'wigwag a signal' to Captain Whiting. 1893 C. King *Foes in Ambush* 10 It's ten minutes since I got the last wig-wag of the signal-flag. 1899 R. H. Davis *Cuban & Porto Rican Campaigns* 3 Wig-wagging beat the air from the bridges. 1903 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* xx. 313 Some one in the lead wig-wagged his lantern 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* July 96/2 The path is beastly wig-waggy.

Wigwam (wi·gwɒm, -wæm), *sb.* Also 7 **wigg-wamme**, 8 **wigwang**, **wigg-wham**, **whigwham**, **wigwaum**, 9 **weekwam**. [a. Ojibwa *wigwaum*, *wigiwam*, var. of Algonkin *weekuwom*, *wikiwam* (Delaware *wiquoam*) lit. their house (cf. *neek* my house, *keek* thy house, *week* his house).] A lodge, cabin, tent, or hut of the North American Indian tribes of the region of the Great Lakes and eastward, formed of bark, matting, or hides stretched over a frame of poles converging at the top: corresponding to the Tepee of other tribes.

1628 C. Levett *Voy. N. Eng.* i. in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. VIII. 166 We built us our wigwam, or house, in one hour's space. 1659 Gorges *America Painted to the Life* 38 This Sachem passing from one Wigwam to another, was shot through the arm with an arrow. 1728 Beverley *Hist. Virginia* (ed. 2) 148 When they would erect a Wigwang,..they stick Saplins into the Ground. 1821 Dwight *Trav.* I. 117 They called a house *weekwam*, pronounced by their successors *wigwam*. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* Introd. 5 The curling smoke of wigwams. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* xii. 421 The huts or wigwams are ..of two kinds, one for summer, and the other for winter. 1893 Conan Doyle *Refugees* xxix, The great plains where the wooden wigwam gave place to the hide tee pee.

b. Extended to similar structures among native tribes in other parts of the world.

1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 37 They hawl'd their Canoes up, and built four Wigg-whams. 1793 W. Hodges *Trav. India* 60 The wigwams of the torpid, wretched, unsettled Pecherais on the frozen coast of Terra del Fuego. 1814 Scott *Wav.* viii, A miserable wigwam, compiled of earth, loose stones, and turf. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* viii. 228 The wigwam of the recent Mandan consisted of an outer layer of earth supported on a wooden framework.

c. Humorously applied to a house or dwelling in general; in *U.S. slang* to a large building (formerly often a temporary structure) used for political gatherings.

1828 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiv, They..bore me..towards Mrs. MacAlpine's. On arrival before her hospitable wigwam I found [etc.]. 1884 Halliwell-Phillipps *Handlist Drawings Shaks.* title-p., Preserved at Hollingbury Copse, near Brighton. That quaint wigwam on the Sussex Downs.

Hence **Wi·gwam** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), *intr.* to erect wigwams or huts.

1906 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 770 Having seen..that the fur traders were really wigwamming on the bay.

Wihe, Wihee, **-ie**, **-y**, **Wihel**, **Wiht**: see Wye, Wehee, Wiel, Wight, With.

Wiif, Wiis, obs. ff. Wife, Wise.

Wijf, Wijnd, Wijs, Wijt, Wijte: see Wife, Wind, Vice *sb.*[3], Wis *v.*, Wise, Wit, Wite.

Wik, obs. form of Wick.

†Wike, *Obs.* Also 4 **wyke**. [OE. *wice* wk. fem. :— OTeut. **wikōn-*, f. *wik-*: *waik-* to soften, to bend, turn, change, represented also in ON. *vik* Wick *sb.*[4], OE. *wicu* Week *sb.*, OE. *wdc*, ON. *veikr* Woke, Weak; cf. L. *vicis* change, turn, office, duty, Gr. *εἴκειν* to yield, f. Indo-Eur. *weiq-*. (See also **-wick** *suffix.*)] An office, duty, function.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 592 Hu dear senig leowede man him to setcom þurh riocostere Cristes wican? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Oðer don scal wiken and cherren. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Bethge .. bitocnes holie chirche þat mon notes fone here mubes wike þanne hie seien here sinnes. *c* 1205 Lay. 29732 Austin .. hauede his cantel-cape on of Gregorie þan pape, and mid wurðscipe mucle haldeð his wike. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 24 He me walde warpen ut of mine wike ant demen me to deaðe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 605 Mine wike boþ wel gode. *Ibid.* 1279 Wat, quaþ he, hartu ihoded?..For prestes wike ich wat þu deast. *c* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 316 in *O. E. Misc.* 121 Wlanc on werge, and unwurþ on wike [*Jesus MS.* wlonk bi þe glede, and vuel at þare neode]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4590 (Laud MS.), Perfore ne shulde no gentil knizth..beggers blood brynge in helpe wyke. *c* 1325 Shoreham I. 660 Ase þe rystre bodyes lemes Habbeþ dyuerse wyke, So habbeþ rystes membrys eke Of þe body ine mystyke.

b. *Comb.* **wike-tun**, ? a place for divine service. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 730 Clerekes Muneken & canunes, þar beoþ þos gode wike tunes, Arisen vp to middelnyhte.

Wike, Wiked, obs. ff. Week, Wick, Wicked.

†Wiken. *Obs.* [Peculiar to Ormin. ? Back-formation f. Wickner or OE. *wicnian*.] = Wike.

c 1200 Ormin 7217 Forrþi þatt tezzre wikenn wass To writenn lazhebokess. *Ibid.* 10168.

Wikenare, obs. form of Wickner.

Wiker, -ir, Wiket(t, Wikid, -it, Wiking, obs. ff. Wicker, Wicket, Wicked, Viking.

Wikke, Wikked, -et, -it, -yd, -yt, Wikker, obs. ff. Wick *a.*, Wicked, Wicker.

Wikop, variant of Wicopy.

Wikre, Wikut, -yt, obs. ff. Wicker, Wicked.

†Wil. *Obs. rare.* [? a. ON. *vil.*] Misery, ill.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 28 Þat name be costiue, ne nane oþir wil, þurȝ surfait o mete. *Ibid.*, Þat we alle wile o bodi & saul mai fle.

Wil-, attrib. use of Will *sb.*[1] (as in OE. *wil-cuma*, Welcome); only in OE. and early ME. compounds = (*a*) pleasant, welcome, (*b*) voluntary: **wil-daȝe**, a welcome day; **wil-ȝeoue** [Give *sb.*[1]], a voluntary or free gift; **wil-gomen** [Game *sb.*], pleasant sport; **wil-shrift**, voluntary confession; **wil-spell, wil-tidende** [Tiding], welcome news.

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 459 Hy þæs lareowes on þam *wildæȝe word ne ȝehyrdon hyra sincȝiefan. *c* 1205 Lay. 1798 Þat heo heora wil-daȝes wælden weoren. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 'Me Sire,' þu onswerest me, 'sulleð God his grace? Nis grace *wil-ȝeoue?' *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 16 Hwet so ich am þurh godes grace ich hit do ant am wil3eoue unoseruet. *c* 1205 Lay. 20944 Castles biwinnen & *wilgomen wurchen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 340 Wel seiðhe, 'is iflured': vorte bitochen *wilschrift. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 993 Wæs him frofra mæst ȝeworden in worlde æt ðam *willspelle. *c* 1205 Lay. 1350 A steores-man ham talde wil-spel. *Ibid.* 17090 Komen to þan kinge *wil-tidende.

Wil, obs. f. Vile, While, Wile, Will.

Wilani(e, obs. ff. Villainy. **Wilayet,** variant of Vilayet. **Wilbe, -bie**: see Will *v.*[1] **Wilo, wilch,** obs. ff. Which. **Wilcat,** Sc. f. Wild cat.

Wild (wāild), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1–7 **wilde**, (3 **wuilde**), 3–6 **wylde**, 4–7 **wyld**, (4 **wiylde, wijlde, whilde, wyled**, 4–6 **wield(e**, 4–7 *Sc.* **vylde**, 5 **wilde, wyelde, wyyld(e**, *Sc.* **wulde**, 6 **wylld**, *Sc.* **vild, vyld, vyild, wyild**, 7 **weild**), 3– **wild**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wilde* = OFris. *wilde*, MDu. *wilde, wilt*, (LG., Du. *wild*), OHG. *wildi* (MHG. *wilde, wild*, G. *wild*), ON. *villr* bewildered, astray, whence Will *a.* (Norw. *vill* wild, Sw. *vill* confused, giddy, Sw., Da. *vild* wild), Goth. *wilþeis* :— OTeut. **wilþijas*. The sb., OE. **wild*, **wildor* (cf. *wildorlic* adj.), pl. *wildru* (later *wilddor, wilddēor* Wild deer), OHG. *wild*, pl. *wildir* wild beast, is app. a derivative (**wilþas-, -is-*) with *s*-stem from the same root (cf. *lamb*).

The problem of the ulterior relations of this word is complicated by uncertainty as to its primary meaning. The possible analogy of sense-development in L. *silvestris, silvaticus* (whence F. *sauvage* wild, etc.), f. *silva* wood, has suggested connexion with OTeut. **wealþus* forest (OE. *weald, wald* Wold). But it is more probable that OTeut. **wilþijas* represents a pre-Teut. **ghweltijos*, the root of which is found in Welsh *gwyllt*, Ir. *gelt* wild, and may have a parallel form in *ghwēr-*, the base of L. *ferus*, Gr. θήρ, Lith. *žvėris*, OSl. *zvěrь* wild beast (for a similar phonological development of *ghw-* cf. Warm *a.*).]

A. adj.

I. 1. Of an animal: Living in a state of nature; not tame, not domesticated: opp. to Tame *a.* I.

Freq. in names of particular species or varieties, for which see the sbs.; see also Special Collocations (16), and Wild cat, fowl, goose in the main series.

In later use often hyphened to the following sb., esp. in names of particular species, or in verse to indicate rhythmic stress on the adj.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) I 427 *Indomitus*, wilde. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cili[i]. 11 Drencað ða alle wilddeor wuda; bidað wilde aman in ðurs[t] hiera. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 17 Da becð swyðe dyre mid Finnum, for ðæm hy foð þa wildan hranas mid. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 180 On .xv. nihte monan hys god to fixianne & huntum heortas to secanne & wilde swin. *c* 1050 (see Wild goose 2). *c* 1205 Lay. 1781 Wind stod on willen, ploȝede þe wilde fiæc. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 267 To wode she went And many a wilde bestes blood she shedde With arwes brode. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3232 Wolues, and whilde swynne, and wykkyde bestes. 1529 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 9 Ony maner of wyld foule or tayme. 1538 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 378 He kyllyd iij. wyld doukes with a crosbow. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 189 Eight Wilde-Boares rosted whole. 1696 Grew *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 33 The Wild-Duck and Teal also, I ..se all of this kind, and most other Birds, are without a ..p. 1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 447 The goose, ..e its y ..state always retains the same marks. 1793 Coleridge *S ..f Pixies* iv, The murmuring throng Of wild-bees hum their drowsy song. 1808 Scott *Marm.* II. Introd., And mark the wild swans [*later edd.* wild-swans] mount the gale. 1827 P. Cunningham *A. S. Wales* xvii. I. 321 Our wild turkeys..consist of two varieties, the dusky and the blue-feathered. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV 414 The leader wildswan. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 317 Wild animals of large size were then far more numerous than at present.

fig. c 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. v. xxvii, Twas a tough task believe it, thus to tame A wilde and wealthy language.

absol. c 1205 Lay. 11112 Heo wenden vt i wide see, þa wilde wurðen itemede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egidiane*) 1037 To þis day anw I mane,. Of vylde, na tame, na kind beste. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lion & Mouse* 192 He..slew baith tayme and wyld.

2. Of a plant (or flower): Growing in a state of nature; not cultivated.

Freq. in names (unlimited in number) of particular species or varieties, for which see the sbs. *To sow one's wild oats* (fig.); see Oat *sb.* 4.

Often hyphened as in 1 (and regularly in phrases used attrib.) or (chiefly in early use) combined with the following sb. as one word.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 396 *Agrē(s)tis*, wilde. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 90 *Olcastrum* ..ast is wilde elebeam. 1382 Wyclif *Rom.* xi. 24 The kyndely wylde [*later vers.* wielde] olyue tre. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 569/2 *Bryonia*, wyldenepe. *c* 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 528/1 Wyylde malowe, or holy-bokke. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xviii. 401 Suche wylde herbes as grewe in the wode. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 20 All the grond..is ouergane with gyrse and vild arroggis. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 249, I know a banke where the wilde time blowes. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* I. 63 The Husbandman uses onely to prune the Trees of his Garden, not those that grow wild in his Woods. 1782 Cowper *Retirem.* 420 Her hedge-row shrubs .. With woodbine and wild roses mantled o'er. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. viii, Cold dews and wild flowers [*later edd.* wild-flowers] on his head. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 444 Plants in a wild state. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* II. i. 3 Plucking the harmless wild-flower on the hill.

1797 Scott *To a Lady* ii, Wild-flower wreaths for Beauty's hair. 1810 — *Lady of L.* IV. ii, The wild-rose spray. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xxii, A young lady with a wild-rose complexion.

3. Produced or yielded by wild animals or plants; produced naturally without cultivation; sometimes, having the characteristic (usually inferior) quality of such productions (cf. b).

With 'wild meat' cf. OS. *wildfletsc*, etc.; with 'wild leather' cf. MSw. *wildskin*.

c 1200 Ormin 3213 Hiss drinnch wass watterr..Hiss mete wilde rotenn. *c* 1200 [see Honey *sb.* 2 b]. 1319 *Register. Aberdon.* (Maitland) II. 177 The kiching with. ij pair of raxis. Item ij spyttis ane grit ane less and ane for wild met. 1588 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 3 All maner of persouns that takis wylde meitt. 1588 Payneli. *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) R iv b, There be also prunes called wylde prunes, ye whiche grewe in the woddes. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Isa. v. 2 He loked yt it shulde bring forthe grapes: but it broght forthe wilde grapes. 1588 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 75 These ships..are sowed together with ropes made of Cairo, & pitched ouer with wild incanse. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 340 Their flesh is hot and vnsauorie, and hath a wilde taste. 1622 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Ballyburton's Ledger* (1867) 338 Leather called wyld lether the daker, xxs. 1624 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 43 Lett not my leadie our mother trubll harself in bying much vylde meitt to your sons baptisme. 1777 Anburey *Trav.* (1789) I. 214 A dinner entirely of wild-meats. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xviii. 418 It is very rare in the present day that honey is found wild. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 40/2 The wild or Tussah silk.

b. *Mining.* Applied to impure or inferior minerals or ores. (Cf. G. *wilders.*)

1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 93 A Black-jack or Mock-lead Lode...This Wild-lead is commonly found with Stones of Copper and Lead intermixed with it. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal m.*, Wild Ground, Wild Measures, Wild Stuff. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms*, *Wild-coal*, a thin seam of inferior coal.

4. Of a place or region: Uncultivated or uninhabited; hence, waste, desert, desolate. (Often with special reference to the character or aspect of such places.)

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 18 Licgað wilde moras..emnlange þeem þynum lande. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1010 On þa wiklan fennas. *c* 1200 Ormin 17408 A wilde wesste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2751 Me may hem ofte an er) e in wilde studes yse. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 430 Quhare now þe corne is beste, þat tyme wes wilde foreste. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2163 *Ariadne*, In an yle amyd the wilde se. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K vj b, The erthe that is vntylled, and waxen wyld. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 4 These high wilde hilles, and rough vneeuen waies. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 36 Fenny and woody wild grounds. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 85 A wild Roade, is a Roade where there is little Land on any side, but lies all open to the sea. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* II. i, Some fair field..That..left unheeded, like a barren Moor, Lies fenceless, wild, uncultivate, and waste. 1827 Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 297 They are well aware that, by undertaking to bring wild land into a state of cultivation, they must undergo some hardships. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xxv, The scenery was wild without being grand. 1852 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* I. (1856) 7 The Wild West. — *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 72/1 The wild beauty of ..an Fen is in striking contrast with the cultivated land lying around it. 1885 W. H. White *M. Rutherford's Deliv.* III, The garden was large and half-wild.

b. *transf.* Belonging to or characteristic of a wild region; of or in a wilderness.

1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 298 Neither God nor good men take any pleasure in a..wild retiredness. 1817 Moore *Lalla Rookh* 131 The glories of Nature and her wild, fragrant airs, playing freshly over the current of youthful spirits.

8. Of persons (or their attributes): Uncivilized, savage; uncultured, rude; also, not accepting, or resisting, the constituted government; rebellious. (Sometimes with implication of sense 8.) See also *wild Irish* in 16.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14747 For þof mi [*MS.* in] wijt war neuer sa wild..þat giues me lust of hir to rede. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 60 Þare was crakked many a crowne Of wild Scottes and alle of tame. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 616 The rouch Wodwyss wyld. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 59 She was euyl clothid and half wilde and sauage. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* l. 25 Was never vyld Roleine vnder bewch...So bauld a bairne as he. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 23 The prince..had tamed..the furious rage of the wild and sauage Welshemen. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. M iij b, A man at armes in fourm of a wield shepeheearde. 1586 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. *Hist. Scot.* 358/2 After the example of one..Robert Hood a wild or vplandish man. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* I. (1672) 7 When wild in woods the noble Savage ran. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* xxxvii, Nations yet wild by Precept to reclaim, And teach 'em Arms, and Arts. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) 303 A Party of the Goths and wild Russes. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* v, It's ill taking the breeks aff a wild Highlandman. 1830 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvi. 15 Those wild eyes that watch the wave In roarings round the coral reef. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 Nov. 6/1 These men..are up to all the 'slim' ways of the wild Boer.

II. 6. Not under, or not submitting to, control or restraint; taking, or disposed to take, one's own way; uncontrolled. Primarily of animals (cf. 1), and hence of persons (see also 7) and things, with various shades of meaning. a. Acting or moving freely without restraint; going at one's own will; unconfined, unrestricted.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1465 Da was culufre eft of cofan sended..wilde seo wide fleah. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 100 Hors wilde yrnan. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 48 Thar er wes wilde ase the ro, Nou y swyke. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 72 A wilde and wanton heard..of youthful and vnhandled colts. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* xii. 8 Youth is wild, and Age is tame. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 974 In his wild aerie flight. 1761 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* III, That the wild little Thing shou'd take Wing, and fly away the Lord knows whither! 1817 BYRON *Manfred* III. iv, I have found our thoughts take wildest flight Even at the moment when they should array Themselves in pensive order. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 136 The dark linked ivy tangling wild. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Medit. Monmouth-St.*, The children wild in the streets, the mother a destitute widow. 1865 P'CESS ALICE *Mem.* (1884) 101 Victoria is very wild, and speaks more German than English.

b. Resisting control or restraint, unruly, restive; flighty, thoughtless; reckless, careless; *fig.* not according to rule, irregular; erratic; unsteady. (Cf. 15.)

c 1330 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 188 A child þat is witles and wilde. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 130 But if the day of the oyer and termyner stonde, it wole be full harde, by cause the peple is so wylde. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 1 3 b, Like the trauaile wherein smithes put wilde horses when they shoo them. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 81 Your fift, sixt, and seuenth notes be wilde and vnformall. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* II. ii, You are too wild and aery to be constant to that affection. 1748 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1845) II. 256, I meant nothing in the world by wild, but the thoughtlessness of a boy of nineteen. 1821 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xviii, Depriving Cupid's wing of some wild feathers. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, Johnson the young bowler is getting wild, and bowls a ball almost wide to the off. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Wild*, a ship's motion when she steers badly, or is badly steered. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* ii. 23 The new lashes sometimes take a wrong direction, and turn their points against the eyeball. They are then popularly called wild hairs.

c. Shy; *esp.* of game, afraid of or avoiding the pursuer (opp. to TAME *a.* 3); *transf.* having a timid expression like a wild animal.

1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* xlvii, Though coy at first she seeme and wielde. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 35 She is too disdainfull, I know her spirits are as coy and wilde, As Haggerds of the rocke. 1813 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 76 The birds were so extremely wild that it was almost impossible to get near them. 1877 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 362 They did not bring back a great deal—the birds were so wild. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* xi, The woman had a sweet face, wild and shy.

d. Phr. *to run wild*: (*a*) of an animal or plant (combining senses 1 or 2 and 6), to live in, or revert to, a state of nature, not under domestication or cultivation; (*b*) of a person (or thing personified), with various shades of meaning (see above), sometimes passing into other senses (e. g. 7, 11, 12).

1549–62 [see RUN *v.* 2 b]. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 347 Of all countries..where the horse runs wild, Arabia produces the most beautiful breed. 1799 WORDSW. *Matthew* 3 That every hour they heart runs wild, Yet never once doth go astray. 1838 [see RUN *v.* 2 b]. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iv, He had a bold spirit, and he ran a little wild, and went for a soldier. 1892 *Longman's Mag.* XIX. 614 The boy had run wild since his young mother's death.

7. *spec.* Not submitting to moral control; taking one's own way in defiance of moral obligation or authority; unruly, insubordinate; wayward, self-willed.

Often scarcely distinguishable from 6 a or b, but implying blame or reproach.

c 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 377 He xeong færeð, hafað wilde mod. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne beo þu þerefore prud ne wilde ne sterc. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6191 3iff þatt 3ho iss geteles, & egsiless & wilde. *c* 1205 LAY. 785 þat nan ne beo so wilde nan swa unwitti, þat word talle..ær he ihere minne hore. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9307 Quarfor er yee o will as wild? *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 431 Somme men ben beterid bi bynding to þise chargis, þat ellis wolden be wylde. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Festial* 67 Mannys flesche ys so wyld and lusty to synne. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Macc.* xi. 4 Not consideringe the power of God, but was wylde in his mynde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 151 Man was sa wylde and nyce, And rageing in all vyce. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* R iv b, The wildest child is as soone corrected with a word as with a weapon. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* 66 Valour grown wild by Pride, and Pow'r by Rage. 1797–1818 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, 'He is now gone into the army', she added, 'but I am afraid he has turned out very wild.' 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* xxvii, When a curate, he had had an only son, very wild, who would go to sea in spite of his remonstrances. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xii. 178 It was about that time..that I took seriously to my work. Before, I had been a little wild.

b. Giving way to sexual passion; also, more widely, licentious, dissolute, loose.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2013 His wif wurð wilde, and nam in hoȝt vn-riȝt-wis luue. 13.. *St. Paula* 87 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 5 Whon þe ȝonge in hote blood Bigonne to waxe wylde of mod. 13.. *St. Theodora* 221 ibid. 38 His monk was waxen to wyld þat hedde igeten him such a child. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2367 Bot þat was for no wylyde werke, ne wowyng nauþer. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xix. 167 Ther was neuer man neghyd hyr nere, In word ne wark she was neuer wylde. 1522 *World & Child* A ij, Dalyaunce,..It is a name that is ryght wylde. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 1505 If thou be hir wanton and wilde. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 74 Hee kept companie with the wilde Prince, and Poins. 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-Deceiv.* 328 Wild and wanton widowes. 1776 (13 May) JOHNSON in *Boswell*, If a young man is wild, and must run after women and bad company. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 50 The wildest of libertines.

8. Fierce, savage, ferocious; furious, violent, destructive, cruel. (In later use passing into other senses: cf. 5, 9, 11. See also *wild beast, wild horse*, in 16.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 13222 þe prinse..þat in time of worre as a lomb is bobe mek & milde & in time of pes as leon bobe cruel & wilde. 13.. *K. Horn* 1045 (Harl. MS.), Y come..from brudale wylde of maide remenylde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13796 Was neuere..wilde wolf ne dragoun, þat was so wod, beste to byte, As Wawayn was Romayns to smyte. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 805 *Thisbe*, Allas there comyth a wilde lyones. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1463 A man witty & wise, wight, wildist in Armes, *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xiii. 4384 Wolwis wulde þan weryit men. *c* 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford 1905) 52 He wole be as wilde a Tyraunte to holy Cherche as euer was eny. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 38 b, Brynge to me yᵉ wyldest bull that is. 1530 PALSGR. 329/2 Wylde or sharpe prickyng as a nettyll is, *griasche*. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 48 This is the bloodiest shame, The wildest Sauagery.

9. Of the sea, a stream, the weather, etc.: Violently agitated, rough, stormy, tempestuous, 'raging'; hence *fig.* or *gen.* Full of disturbance or confusion, tumultuous, turbulent, disorderly.

c 1205 LAY. 6226 We habbeð ihaued..moni walc moni wind bi wilde þisse watere. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 946 Wraþþe meynþ þe heorte blod þat hit floweþ so wilde flod. 1381 in *Knighton's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 139 Synne fareth as wilde flode. *c* 1440 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xii, Thay were drounet on the see, With wild waturs alone. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 21 Man..Lord of the wide world, and wilde watry seas. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 9 The Times are wilde: Contention..madly hath broke loose. 1605 — *Lear* II. iv. 311 'Tis a wild night..come out oth' storme. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 566 Wilde Brookes meeting together make a broad poole. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* i, It was the Winter wilde, While the Heav'n-born-childe, All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 112 Your state of conscience leads to a wilder anarchy. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 386 The..Bear..In Woods and Fields a wild destruction makes. — *Æneid* IX. 59 Let the wild Surges vainly beat the Shore. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. ii, His passions and his virtues..mixt together in so wild a tumult, That [etc.]. 1769 GRAY *Installat. Ode* 89 Thro' the wild waves as they roar. 1818 BYRON *Mazeppa* xiv, The wild horse swims the wilder stream! 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, On a bad winter's night in the wild Atlantic. 1864 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 110 He is still in wild water. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I, 'I think we shall have wild weather', said the Princess.

† b. In imprecations or intensive expressions.

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 30 In þe wilde wanland was þaire hertes light. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 545 Now in þe wilde vengeaunce ye walke with þat wight. *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Wether* 430 (Brandl) A myschyefe vpon them and a wylde thunder. *c* 1580 *Bugbears* IV. iv. 11 Now a wild wannion on it.

c. Of vocal sounds: Loud and unrestrained.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The herrons gaif ane vylld skrech. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 710 Confusion heard his voice, and wilde uproar Stood rul'd. 1748 GRAY *Adversity* 19 Wild Laughter, Noise, and thoughtless Joy. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* iii, Filling the air with his long wild neighings. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxxix, Those who should be left dead..indifferent for ever to those wild shouts.

10. Of feelings or their expression: Highly excited or agitated; passionately vehement or impetuous.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 229 But that still use of greefe, makes wilde greefe tame, My tongue should to thy eares not name my Boyes, Till that my Nayles were anchor'd in thine eyes. 1718 POPE *Iliad* III. 512 Too deep my anguish, and too wild my woe. 1730 — *Ode St. Cecilia* Addit. Stanza, Amphion thus bade wild dissension cease. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. x, The child Renew'd again his moaning wild. 1828 CARLYLE *Ess., Burns* (1840) I. 370 Wild Desires and wild Repentance alternately oppress him. 1889 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* x, She clung to him and burst into a fit of wild weeping. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* iii. i, 'The sweep!' 'the thief!' 'the wastrel!' 'the gomerstang!' they called him, with wilder [illegible]

11. Of persons: Violently excited. a. Extremely irritated or vexed; angry, 'furious'.

1623 HOLCROFT *Procopius* III. *Goth. Wars* 103 Artabanes was wild at this misfortune [*orig.* Quam rem cum calamitatis loco Artabanes duceret, & ægerrime ferret]. *a* 1839 PEARD *County Ball* xviii, He makes a College Fellow wild By asking for his wife and child. 1873 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 79 Dent, my precious maid, wild about her boxes, and giving warnin' on the spot. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* xi, It made me awfully wild, especially as George burst out laughing.

b. Passionately or excitedly desirous *to do* something.

1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xxvi, Mrs. Palmer..was wild to buy all, could determine on none. 1797–1818 — *Pride & Prej.* xlvi, She was wild to be at home. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* I. 149 All wild to found an University For maidens. 1894 FENN *Resc. Gold* ii, He is wild to go.

c. Elated, enthusiastic, 'raving'.

1868 WHYTE-MELVILLE *White Rose* xxviii, He was wild about..the town, and the castle, and the Black Forest. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xi, She was quite wild about it, when I went to tell her the news. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 180 She had accepted me, and I was wild with joy.

12. Not having control of one's mental faculties; demented, out of one's wits; distracted; hence in weakened sense, Extremely foolish or unreasonable; holding absurd or fantastic views (cf. 13).

a 1300 *K. Horn* 252 (Camb.) Heo louede so horn child þat neȝ heo gan wexe wild. *Ibid.* 296 Anon upon Apulf child Rymenhild gan wexe wild. 13.. in Horstm. *Alt. Leg.* (1881) 14 Furth scho went als woman wilde, To se þe lordes, and left hir childe. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1630 For wa he wex al wilde and wode. 1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 7, I am the Wilde-man, and I will be wilde: is this an age to be in a mans right wits? 1769 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* 25 Is this writer wild enough to imagine [etc.]? 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* II. 291, I am really almost wild with affliction! 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* v, Her misery had actually drove her wild. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Man of Business* (1852) 82 Else he may be driven wild by any great pressure of business. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 6 When the fictions of Oates had driven the nation wild.

advb. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. iv. 76 If I chance to talke a little wilde, forgiue me: I had it from my Father. *An. Bul.* Was he mad Sir?

b. Of the eyes or look: Having an expression of distraction.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 28 Your lookes are pale and wild, and do import Some misaduenture. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Ruins of St. Paul's* 28 Now its Face appears like whisher'd Care, Or wilder than the Looks of Fevers are. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 148 His face being flushed, eyes wild, and head aching. 1878 J. P. HOPPS *Jesus* iv. 17 Poor mad people..recovered their senses when he looked into their wild eyes.

† c. Bewildered, perplexed; = WILL *a.* 2 b, 3 b.

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 35 Whan the emperys was dedd, The emperowre was wylde of redd. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 33 All the warld is in a wylde thocht, unstedefast.

13. Of undertakings, actions, notions, statements, etc.: Going beyond prudent or reasonable limits; rashly or inconsiderately venturesome; going to extremes of extravagance or absurdity; fantastically unreasonable.

1515 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 158 Gif it sall happin the toun to hald the commoun mylnis and proffeittis thairof and the wild aventouris into thair awin handis. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. iv. 7 This vnheedfull, desperate, wilde aduenture. 1602 — *Ham.* I. v. 133 (Qo. 1) These are but wild and whirling words, my Lord. 1604 — *Oth.* II. i. 62 He hath atchieu'd a Maid That paragons description, and wilde Fame. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 309 A wild Reformation; to reforme Hierarchy by Anarchy, a Remedy worse then the Disease. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 112 Mimic Fansie ..misjoyning shapes, Wilde work produces oft. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 427 The wild Question that the Examiner puts to me. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. i. 84 'Twas not a very wild Name, Ludus, to be given, to a Dye, or Talus lusorius; considering how humourous a Writer Paracelsus was. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* IV. § 16 How came you to entertain so wild a Notion? 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xi, I should make wild work were I to attempt a description of such an animal. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 442 We cannot..wonder that wild stories..were believed by the common people. *Ibid.* viii. II. 308 To cherish a wild hope. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* 247 Serious arguments are mixed up with the wildest buffoonery. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. ii, Two long weeks he spent in this wild quest.

† b. Used as a nickname for the extreme Evangelical party in the Church of Scotland, as opp. to *moderate*: see MODERATE B. b. *Obs.*

1778 D. LOCH *Tour Scotl.* 49 The people here are very wild with regard to religious principles, there being no less than three large seceding meeting-houses, and but one small kirk of the established religion. 1820 ALEX. STEWART in *Mem.* 352 [I] am settled minister of what is called the First Charge of Canongate Parish (where seldom has wild man been placed before). *a* 1830 H. COCKBURN *Mem.* (1856) 234 Except Sir Harry Moncrieff, the Wild (as the Evangelical party is called) have never had an established head.

14. Artless, free, unconventional, fanciful, or romantic in style; having a somewhat barbaric character (usually in good sense, as a pleasing quality).

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 134 If..sweetest Shakespear fancies childe, Warble his native Wood-notes wilde. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1644, We then saw a large and very rare grotto of shell-worke, in the shape of satyrs and other wild fancys. 1820 LEYDEN *Mermaid* xxv, Say, heard'st thou not these wild notes swell? 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. ii, While

dance the Almas to wild minstrelsy. 1829 Jennoun *Brittany* xvii. 284 A wild ballad, still sung in Cornouaille, to an equally wild tune. *a* 1864 Bryant *Sella* 4 When man to man gave willing faith, and loved A tale the better that 'twas wild and strange. 1891 Rider Haggard *Nada* Pref., The setting out of a wild tale of savage life.

b. Of strange aspect; fantastic in appearance.

1603 Shaks. *Mach.* I. iii. 40 These,..so wilde in their attyre, That looke not like th' Inhabitants o' th' Earth. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 118 There, embossed and fretted wild, The growing wonder takes a thousand shapes Capricious. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lay of Brown Rosary* I. iv, To dilate and assume a wild shape in the mist.

15. (*fig.* from 6.) Aimed wide of the mark, or at random; random: usually *advb.* at random, astray.

a 1810 Shelley *M. Nicholson Fragm.* 14 Wild flew the meteors o'er the maddened main. 1832 James *Phil. Aug.* xxvii, The soldier who fronted him, struck wild, reeled, staggered. 1890 W. Camp in *St. Nicholas* Aug. 831/1 The catcher ..must begin by a resolution..to consider no ball beyond his reach, no matter how wild. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* July 149 The Chinese shells found in the abandoned forts 'went wild' when the Japanese gunners tried to fire them.

III. 16. Special Collocations (sometimes hyphened as in 1 and 2, esp. in verse to indicate stress, and regularly in attrib. use): **wild beast**, orig. in sense 1, now always with mixture of sense 8 (see Beast *sb.* 2 c); also *fig.* (cf. Beast *sb.* 1 c, 5); **wild berry**, the berry of a wild plant; app. applied locally to particular kinds; **wild boar** (in early use also as one word): see Boar *sb.* 1 c; **wild dog**, any wild species of dog, or of the dog tribe, as the Hyena-dog of S. Africa (Hunting-dog 2 a), the Dhole of India (Hunting-dog 2 b), the Dingo of Australia, etc.; **wild goat**, any wild species of goat, as the ibex, or (*loosely*) a goat-like antelope, as the chamois; **wild horse**, a horse not domesticated or broken in; esp. in phrases referring to a mode of punishment or torture (cf. quots. s.v. Draw *v.* 5), and hence humorously with negative (see quots.); in quot. 1834 (with hyphen) rendering Du. *wildepaard* as a name for the zebra; **Wild Huntsman**, a phantom huntsman of Teutonic legend, fabled to ride at night through the fields and woods with shouts and baying of hounds; **wild Irish** (see Irish B. 1 a); **wild Irishman** (see Irishman b); also a name for a spiny rhamnaceous shrub of New Zealand and Australia, of the genus *Discaria*; **wild mare**: see Mare[1] 2 b; also *attrib.* in *wild mare hunch* (*hinch*, *hitch*), a name for string-halt; **wild wind**, a violent wind, whirlwind, hurricane (*obs.* or *dial.*); † **wild worm**, a fantastic notion, whim. See also Wild cat, Wild-fire, etc.

1297–1833 *Wild beast [see Beast *sb.* 2 c]. *fig.* 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 256, I..,when first I heard War music, felt the blind wildbeast of force..Stir in me. 1886 Gillmore *Hunter's Arcadia* p. vii, Some bastard descendants of Europeans..this weapon is better than argument with such wild beasts. *attrib.* 1802 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 198 Raree-shows, and wild-beast exhibitions. 1834 Lytton *Pompeii* I. iii, When is our next wild-beast fight? 1879 Browning *Halbert & Hob* 10 The genuine wild-beast breed. 1855 Leifchild *Cornwall* 67 For fruits you have only furze and *wild-berries. 1918 H. Bindloss *Agatha's Fortune* xxi, She liked the acid wild-berries he brought on a bark tray. *attrib.* *a* 1840 Mrs. Browning *Confessions* ix, Then, at least, have the Human shared with thee their wild berry-wine? 1918 H. Bindloss *Agatha's Fortune* xxvii, He.. fell among a clump of wild-berry canes. *c* 1205–1863 *Wild boar [see Boar *sb.* 1 c]. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. xvi, A wyldbore..with his teeth rent..a grete pyece of his body. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* iv. xii, How the grim wild-boar fought and fell. *attrib.* 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* III. 89 Dextrous in the wild-boar chace. 1818 Keats *Teignmouth* ii, No wild-boar tushes and no Mermaid's toes. 1842 *Dumfries Herald* Oct., That fine flavour..in the wild-boar ham. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Wild-boar's tree*, a San Domingo name for *Hedwigia balsamifera*. 1786 tr. *Sparrman's Voy.* I. 157 These *wild dogs are some of the most pernicious beasts of prey. 1816 Byron *Siege of Corinth* xvi, The scalps were in the wild dog's maw. 1844 E. Warburton *Crescent & Cross* v, A beggar devouring his crust, but religiously leaving a portion of it in some clean spot for the wild dogs. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 324/2 The wild dog of the Falkland Islands (*Canis antarcticus*). 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxii. (1495) bb iiij, The *wylde gote hyghte Caprea. 1530 Palsgr. 280/1 Wylde goote, *chaueraul*. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II 162/1 The Aspian wild Goat.. some term .a Shamois. 1744 Mason *Museus* 253 Nor did the wild goat browse the shrubby rocks. 1823 Scott *Rokeby* II. xiv, Now, like the wild goat, must he dare An unsupported leap in air. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xli. 313 Swa swa *wilde hors, bonne we hie æresð ʒefangnu habbað, we hie ðæciað & straciað. *c* 995 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* VI. 133 Hio becwið Cynelufe hyre dæl ðera wildera horsa ðe mid Eadmere synt. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1062 þu naddest non oþer dom ne lage, Bute mid wilde horse were todrage. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 318 Wyld horn & tayme. *a* 1400–50 [see Horse *sb.* 1 c]. *c* 1400 *Alexayne* 37 He sall be hangede or oþer morne And with wylde horne be drawen. 1424 in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 72, iiij Wildehorses, ad tunc nuper tractos vel in stabulo. *c* 1546 in *Surt. Star Chamber Proc.* (1913) 36 Or elis they wolde draw hym fourth with wylde horses. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* 14 The buffalo bendeth to my yoke, The wild-horse to my rein. 1885 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xii, After that wild horses would not have drawn him to an enculpation of himself. 1890 (see Horse *sb.* 1 e). 1796 Scott (*title of poem*) The *Wild Huntsman. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxii, Sailed to the mountains of the Brockenberg, where witches hold their sabbath, or gone on a hunting-party with the Wild Huntsman. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 10 Whyle he werrid he west on þe *wilde yrisshe. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* iii. (1870) 132 Irland..is deuyded in iii. partes, one is the Englysh pale, & the other, the wyld Irysh. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 138 The Wild-Irish fled into the Woods and Bogges. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. Introd., Highlanders, and Wild-Irish can agree My Pilgrim should familiar with them be. 1827 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Liv.* iv, The low-browed rooms where the wild Irish sat howling and wrangling over their liquor. 1401 *Close Roll a Hen. IV*, II. m. 6 (P.R.O.) Si Nicholaus Hogonona capellanus per suggestionem quod ipse fuit *Wildehirisheman Hibernicus et inimicus noster in prisona..detentus existat. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 357 þese rebellis of Ireland bith callid 'wilde Irisch men'. 1608 Dekker *Lanth & Candle-light* iii. D, No wild-Irishman could out-runne him. 1862 J. Von Haast *Geol. Westland* 25 (Morris) *Discaria toumatoo*, the Wild Irishman of the settlers. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 268 Hee playes at Quoits well,..and rides the *wilde-Mare with the Boyes. 1622 Wither *Faire-Virtue*, etc O 4 b, The Boyes are come to catch the Owles, The Wild-mare in is bringing. 1661 M. Stevenson *Twelve Months* 4 And the ventrous youth show their agility in shooing the Wild-Mare. *attrib.* 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3906/4 Stolen or strayed.., two Mares, one a white-grey,..has the *Wild Mare Hunch with the far hind Leg. 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Wild-mare-hinch* or *hitch*, string-halt. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Essex* (1662) I. 319 In the year of our Lord 1639 in November here happened an Hirecano or *wild wind. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* (1823) I. 79 The frighted wild-wind trembles to a breeze. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 42 The *wilde worme of vengaunce wauerynge in his hed. *Ibid.*, *Hen. V* 44 Some priuate Scorpion in your heartes, or some wild worme in your heades.

17. Combinations. a. with ppples., in adverbial relation (= 'wildly'), as *wild-billowing*, *-booming*, *-flying*, *-fought*, *-made*, *-staring*, *-warring*, *-woven* adjs.; or in complemental relation, as *wild-born*, *-bred*, *-grown*, *-looking* adjs. b. parasynthetic, as *wild-blooded*, *-brained*, *-eyed*, *-haired*, *-headed*, *-spirited*, *-winged*, *-witted* adjs. c. with sbs., forming descriptive appellations corresponding to the adjs. in b, as *wild-blood* (a wild-blooded person), *wild-brain*, *wild-head* (a wild-brained or wild-headed person, a harebrain).

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. VII. viii, One red sea of Fire, *wild-billowing, enwraps the World. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xix, Even in the Castle of Avenel thou wert a *wild-blood enough. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. v. ii, So..whirls and spins this immeasurable *tormentum* of a Revolution! *wild-booming. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xv, A *wild born falcon with clipt wing. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Testu*, a headstrong fellow, a *wildebrayne. 1608 Middleton *Mad World* I. i, I must..turne wilde-braine, lay my wits vpo' th' Tenters. 1885 Rider Haggard *K. Sol. Mines* vi, We knew what a wonderful instinct these *wild-bred men possess. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Sept. 3/1 Wild-bred pheasants appear to have done fairly well. 1827 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IV. xx, The *wild-eyed women. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xx, The fierce and wild-eyed bullocks. 1617 Fletcher *Valentinian* I. ii, His *wild flying courses. 1902 S. Phillips *Ulysses* I. ii, The wild-flying cloud. 1795 Fawcett *Art of War* 18 Their *wild-fought field. 1885 W. K. Parker *Mammal. Desc.* vi. 153 The perichondrial .. bone .. takes on a very remarkable form; it becomes *wild-grown so to speak. 1896 Howells *Impr. & Exper.* 24 The *wildest-haired Comcouter. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 147 All the *wilde-heds of the Parish, conuenting togither. *c* 1590 *Trag. Rich. II* (1870) 13 A wild-head, yett a kingly gentleman. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 12 Sum ..þat ere *wild-hedid. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 1 If they that neuer were taught Gods trueth bee wildeheaded. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 259 A wild-headed Turke tooke my hat from my head. 1708 Calamy *Abridgm. Baxter's Life* vi. 108 Wild-headed Sectaries. 1814 Scott *Diary* 16 Aug. in *Lockhart*, The hogs are..queer *wild looking creatures. 15.. *Sir Andrew Barton* xvii. in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 69 Before He leave off my serving God, My *wild maide oeth may brooken be. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xxvii, His warm-hearted, *wild-spirited son. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. III *Schisme* 863 *Wilde-staring Hag. 1727 Somerville *Occas. Poems, Offic. Messenger* 261 Wild-staring, thunder-struck, and dumb. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. xli, *Wild-warbling nature. 1777 Potter *Æschylus* 64 With vollied thunders and *wild warring winds. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xv. 637 Floods that nourish *wild-wing'd fowles. 1614 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* D 1 b, *Wilde witted sister, - haue preuented you. 1839 Darley *Beaum. & Fl. Wks.* I. Introd. p. xlix, A wild-witted, mercurial comedy. 1800 Campbell *Exile of Erin* ii, The *wilu-woven flowers.

B. *sb.*

† 1. A wild animal, or wild animals collectively; *spec.* a beast, or beasts, of the chase; a hunted animal or animals; game. *Obs.*

OE. **wild* (see etym. above) is recorded only in gen. sing. *wildres*, nom. pl. *wildru*, gen. *wildra*, dat. *wildrum*.

c 1205 Lay. 1209 þa Troinisce men tuhten to hon deoren & duden of þan wilden al heora iwilla. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1150 At þe fyrst quethe of he quest quaked be wylde. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlix. [L] 11 All þe wilde of wodis. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 657 That nane werreye my wylde, bette Waynour hir seluene. *c* 1485 *Chevy Chase* vi, Then the wyld thorowe the woodes went, on euery syde shear. *c* 1486 Henryson *Lion & Mouse* xxviii, The loun.. slew baith tayme and wyld. 1509 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymn* ii. 281 All venneson, and vther wilde they serue him at his neid.

† 2. Phr. *at wild*, *on wild*: ? bewildered, distracted. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 802 Some were wery and on wylde. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 189 Trust hym never the more for the bylle that I sent yow by hym, but as a man at wylde, for every thyng that he told me is not trewe.

3. A wild or waste place; a region or tract of uncultivated and uninhabited land; a waste, a wilderness. Now mostly *rhet.* or *poet.*

1653 Heylin *Answ. Burton* 192 As if we lived in the wild of Africke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 407 The wild Of Southmost Abarim. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 395 Nor Wild, nor Deep our common Way divide. 1722 Tickell *Kens. Garden* I A snow of blossoms, and a wilde of flowers. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 7 A wild, where weeds and flow'rs promiscuous shoot. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 230 You young savage of the Northern wild! 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 313 Turned from a wild into a garden. 1905 D. Wallace *Labrador Wild* iv. 55 The pines into the wild.

(*b*) *pl.* (Chiefly in *the wilds of* a specified region.)

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 41 The Hircanian deserts, and the vaste wildes Of wide Arabia. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* v. 312 The sandie Wyldes of spicefull Barbarie. 1634 Milton *Comus* 424 Huge Forests.. and sandy perilous wildes. 1726–32 Waldron *Descr. Isle of Man* (1744) 53 They call them the good People, and say they live in Wilds and Forests. 1827 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* I, The..resolute forester who first penetrated the wilds. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* viii, Among the wilds and forests of the west. 1868 Nettleship *Ess. Browning* ii. 63 A northern principality ..which kept its rough simple traditions in its own wilds.

b. *transf.* of air, water, etc.

1712 Pope *Rape Lock* I. 107 The crystal wilds of air. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Fragment Flea* Wks. 1812 III. 308 As soon might lift old Ocean from his bed And dash his wild of waters to the skies. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 57 A lighthouse o'er the wild of dreary waves.

c. *fig.*

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 184 Where euery something being blent together, Turnes to a wilde of nothing, saue of ioy Exprest, and not exprest. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuff* 66 To this wild of sorrowes and excruciament she was confined. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 73 [To] confine themselves to a mediocrity in opinioning, and not ouer the whole wild of Fancy. *a* 1704 T. Brown *1st Sat. Persius imit.* Wks. 1730 I. 52 His tagg'd nonsense, t'other's wilds of wit. *a* 1832 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xviii. § 27 *note* Striving to cut a new road through the wilds of jurisprudence. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. xvi. i, To save My yet young life in the wilds of Time.

Wild (waild), *v. rare.* [f. Wild *a.* Cf. Awilden (OE. *āwildian*), MHG. *wilden.*]

1. *intr.* Of an animal or plant: To be or become wild; to run wild, grow wild.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 136 Vet kelf & to wilde is þet fleschs þet awiligeð [*MS. T.* wildes] so sone hit euer uetteð. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 45 Heerdes gonne to wilde. 1880 Earle *Engl. Plant Names* 80 This is held by botanists to be an old garden-plant escaped and wilded.

2. *trans.* To make wild, in various senses; † *esp.* to affect with frenzy, to madden (*obs.*).

1421 Hoccleve *Compl.* 235 This grevous venyme that had enfectyd and wildyd my brayne. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [I.] xxii. 72 The Mad worme hath wilded all Humanities. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *Misery* 82 Thus wilded by a peevish heart..I storm at thee.

Wild(e, obs. ff. Weald, Wield *v.*; obs. pa. t. of Will *v.*

Wildbore. *local.* [?] A stout and closely woven unglazed tammy.

1784 *Salem Gaz.* in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colonial Times* (1894) 257 Marone Ribb'd Wildbores. 1788 *Massachusetts Spy* 23 Oct. 3/4 Wildbore Cambrets. 1798 *Times* 28 June 4/4 Durants, Callimancoes, Wildbores, &c. 1852 in A. Holroyd *Collect. Bruif.* (1873) 279 About 1813, Messrs. James Akroyd and Son, of Halifax,..produced the articles known by the names of wildbores and plainbacks, from which sprung the single-twilled merinos. 1857 J. James *Worsted Manuf.* 374 A dobby piece was..nothing more than a figured wildbore. *Ibid.* 627 About the year 1783, their use [*sc.* Leeds camblets]..began to decline, and the stuff makers at Leeds commenced making wildbores. 1876 Cudworth *Round about Bradford* 330 The worsted business,..the principal make being shalloons and wildbores.

† **Wild bred.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. ON. *villibrāð*, corresp. to MLG. *viltbrēde*, *-brēt*, also *-brāt* (LG. *wil(d)brat*, *-prāt*), MHG. *wildbrate*, *-brāt* (G. *wildbret*), etc.: see Wild *a.* and Brede *sb.*[1]] Game, venison.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13373 (Fairfax) Þat folk..was fed Wib soiben & roste & wilde bred [*Cott.* O bred and flexs bath soben and bredd].

Wild cat. (Also with hyphen, or, esp. in early use, as one word.) Forms: see Wild *a.* and Cat *sb.*[1]; also *β.* (*Sc.*) 6 wilkatt, 8 wilcat, wil'-oat, 9 wull-oat. [Cf. MLG. *wildkatte*, MHG. *wilde katze* (G. *wildkatze*), Sw. *vildkatt*, Da. *-kat.*]

1. The European wild species of cat, *Felis catus* (see Cat *sb.*[1] 1 c); also applied to other wild animals of the cat tribe, esp. in U. S. to species of lynx. † Also *pl.*, the skins of these used as fur.

1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 37 A gowne of gray russet furred wit Ionetis and wylde Cats. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 591/26 *Lucro*, *-ronis*, *est quoddam animal pilosum ut cuniculus secundum alios*, a wylde cat. *c* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Wether* viii. Nouther wolf, wyld-cat, nor git tod. 1566 *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 15 § 2 For the Heade of everie Fitchewe Polcatte or Wilde Catte, one peny. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. v. 48 He sleepes by day More then the wilde-cat. 1688 T. A. *Carolina* 20 The Tyger, Wolf, and wild Cat. 1805 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. ii. 51 We have a curious breed of wild-cats who have eaten all Charlotte's chickens. 1843 Macaulay *Horatius* xiv, Then, like a wild cat mad with wounds, Sprang right at Astur's face. 1884 *Marcus Clarke Mem. Vol.* 127 How many nights..have I listened to the skirr of the wild cats. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 31 Mar. 7/3 A terrible struggle between a man and a monstrous wildcat.

β. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 7 To hunte the hair and the fox,.. the Wolfe, or the Wilkatt. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Fables* xix. 44 The tyger, bair, and ev'ry

powerfu' fur. Down to the wilcat and the snarling cur. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mull.* x, I never ask what brings the Laird of Dumbiedikes glowering here like a wull-cat day after day. 1887 P. M'Neill *Blawearie* 133 Still haudin' on till its tail wi' the determination of a wull-cat.

2. *fig.* Applied to a savage, ill-tempered, or spiteful person, esp. a woman: cf. Cat *sb.*[1] 2.

† *To run wild-cat* (quot *a* 1632): to 'run mad', become demented: cf. Wild *a.* 12, and the *attrib.* use in 4 b below.

1573-80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 168 Where window is open, cat maketh a fray, Yet wilde cat with two legs is worse by my fay. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 197 But will you woo this Wilde-cat? 1612 N. Field *A woman is a Weathercock* I. ii, Like a Wilde-Cat of Pickt-hatch. *a* 1632 Brome *Damoiselle* I. i, The care of Children 's such a startle-braine, That had I more then one, I should run Wild-cat. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* 17 Apr. (1815) 14 That wild-cat my sister Tabby. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xiii, 'Come back to your post, ye wull cat,' I shouted.

3. *fig.* **a.** One who forms a rash project, or engages in a risky or unsafe enterprise. **b.** An unsound business undertaking, as a 'wild-cat bank' (see 4 b); also, a note, or notes collectively, of a 'wild-cat bank'. (Orig. and chiefly *U. S. colloq.*)

1812 *Columbian Centinel* 6 June 2/3 Some of the Wild-cats of Congress. 1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* xxxi. 204 The celebrated term 'Wild Cat,' justified fully by the course of these cunning and stealthy bloodsuckers. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* x, Complacent holders of preferred, and scatter-brained speculators in wild-cat. 1896 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Dec. 417/2 Whether this feature of our banking system can be amended without giving the field to wildcats. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Aug. 9/1 The market has been crowded with 'wild cats'.

4. *attrib.* (usually with hyphen). **a.** *lit.* in sense 1: Of a wild cat.

1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* I. 17 Some..wilde Catte skinnes. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 421 Jackal and wild-cat skins.

b. *fig.* Applied to banks in the western United States which, before the passing of the National Bank Act of 1863, fraudulently issued notes with little or no capital, or to their notes or transactions; hence extended to unsound or risky business enterprises generally; also to illicit businesses or their products (e.g. *wild-cat whisky*); and more widely to reckless, rash, or extravagant undertakings, statements, etc. (cf. Wild *a.* 13). *colloq.*

This application is said to have arisen from the fact that the notes of a bank in Michigan bore the device of a panther, locally known by the name 'wild cat'.

1838 *The Jeffersonian* (Albany) 14 Apr. 72/3 About 400 Irishmen working on the canal, took offence at being paid in 'Wild Cat' money, instead of Illinois. 1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* xxxi. 205 Once in the grasp of a 'wild cat bank,' his struggles were unavailing. *a* 1854 W. North *Slave o' Lamp* 38 (Bartlett) Much bogus coin and wild-cat, red dog bills are in circulation. 1881 Hughes *Rugby, Tennessee* II. v, Wild-cat whisky—or 'moonshine' as the favourite illicit beverage of the mountains is called. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 331/2 When he begins to put down a wild-cat well, he usually leases all the land in the vicinity. 1890 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 6/2 In no way did I undertake to uphold Major Bartlelot in any wild-cat expedition.

Hence **Wild-catter, Wild-catting,** one who engages, the action of engaging, in a 'wild-cat' business or enterprise: see 4 b above. *U. S. colloq.*

1883 *Century Mag.* July 327/2 The 'wild-catters,' as the prospectors are called who take the risks of sinking wells in unknown territory. *Ibid.* 331/1 'Wild-catting' is the name applied to the venturesome business of drilling [oil] wells on territory not known to contain oil. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 2 Feb. 76/3 The kind of wild-catting and red-dogging that was rife before the war.

Wild deer. [In sense 1, OE. *wil(d)déor, wilde-déor*, alteration (after *wilde* adj. Wild and *déor* Deer) of **wildor*, pl. *wildru*: see Wild *a.* etym. (Cf. ON. *villidýr*, OSw. *vil,l(i)djur*, Da. *vilddyr.*) In sense 2, f. Wild *a.* + Deer.]

† **1** A wild animal. Chiefly *collect. Obs.*

c 825 [see Wild *a.* 1]. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 1 Swa swa wilde deor willnað oðer to acwellenne. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 95 Ac bið þonne reþra & þearlwisra þonne æniʒ wilde deor. *c* 1175, *c* 1200 [see Deer 1 β]. *c* 1205 Lay. 1125 Ah swa monie þar waren wilde deor. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 169 Þa sexte dais liʒt, So made god Al erue, and wrim, and wilde der. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 110 Þe kyng no man suld deme in courte for wilde dere.

2. Deer in a wild state.

1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. xvii, The wild-deer bouncing thro' the glade. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* x. iv, The roaring Of fire, whose floods the wild deer circumvent In the scorched pastures of the South. 1896 Visct. Errington in *Red Deer* 245 Wild deer in their extremity do get into as curious places as carted ones.

Wilde: see Wield, Wild, Will *v.*

‖ **Wildebeest** (wi·ldəbēst). [S. African Du., f. *wild* Wild *a.* + *beest* Beast *sb.*] The gnu.

1838 W. C. Harris *Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 380 *Catoblepas Gnoo.* The Gnoo. Wilde Beest of the Cape Colonists. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* IV. 84 Having inspected the wildebeest bull, which was a noble specimen. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* iii, Here to the right might be a herd of vilderbeeste that could not number less than two thousand. 1895 Millais *Breath from Veldt* x. 278 The white-tailed gnu or black wildebeest.

Wilder (wi·ldəɹ), *v. arch.* (now chiefly *poet.*) [Of uncertain origin: prob. (by an unusual process) extracted from Wilderness on the analogy of the form of *Wander*; but cf. MDu. *verwilderen*, frequent. of *verwilden* (f. *ver-* For- *prefix*[1] + *wilde, wilt* Wild *a.*), and G. *wildern.* It has been frequently apprehended as an aphetic f. Bewilder (which is later in appearance), and occas. spelt '*wilder*']

1. *trans.* To cause to lose one's way, as in a wild or unknown place; to lead or drive astray; *refl.* to lose one's way, go astray.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VIII. ix. 653 Unknowne Lands, where we have wildered our selves. *a* 1620 J. Dyke *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 138 They had been in danger of being wilderd, of losing their way. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* II. 682 This she desir'd her to accept and stay, For fear she might be wilder'd in her way. 1717 Addison tr. *Ovid's Met.* III. 236 Young Actæon, wilder'd in the wood. 1796 Southey *Hymn to the Penates* 96 O ye whom Youth has wilder'd on your way. 1819 Shelley *New Nat. Anthem* iv, 'Wilder her enemies In their own dark disguise.

b. *fig.*; *esp.* to render at a loss how to act, or what to think; to perplex, bewilder.

1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 55 Having himselfe sent for him to his house, when he was wildred. 1648-9 *Eikon Bas.* xv. 131 Extravagances wherewith some men have now even wildred..both Church and State. 1654 E. Johnson *Wonder-wkg. Provid.* ii. 4 You shall be left wildred with strange Revelations. 1701 Collier *M. Aurel.* 259 His Understanding, being misty and misled, he was wilddred in the Qualities of Things, and mistook the Nature of Good and Evil. 1811 Shelley *St. Irvyne* Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 218 Wolfstein,..wildered by the suscitated energies of his soul almost to madness. 1816 — *Alastor* 139 To her cold home Wildered, and wan, and panting, she returned. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* IV. 69 Over the city she wanders, the sad Queen, wildered of thought.

2. *intr.* To lose one's way, go astray, stray, wander; to be bewildered; to move or extend in a confused way.

1658 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* II. 39 A heavy curse, did we rightly judge of it, to wander and wilder in a maze of errour. *a* 1734 North *Life Dudley North* (1744) 200 He used the Room above to wilder in his Accounts. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. Introd. iv, And scenes long past of joy and pain, Came wildering o'er his aged brain. 1838 S. Bellamy *Betrayal* V. 166 A fornix vast, that rangeless from the eye Ran wildering. 1854 Lowell *Cambr. 30 Yrs. Ago* Writ. 1890 I. 96 The fierce snow-storm wildering without.

b. *trans.* with adv. To spend or waste in 'wildering'.

1668 Owen *Expos. 130th Ps.* 131 So he wilders away all his dayes in uncertainties.

† **3.** *trans.* and *intr.* To render, or become, wild or uncivilized. *Obs. rare.*

1798 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VI. 550 The yoke of the Egyptians had degraded the Hebrews into the rudest and worst of nations, wildered by three hundred years of neglect. 1804 — in *Crit. Rev.* I. 20 Her dole-lands..will again be suffered to wilder into sheep walks. 1806 — in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 111 European families transported to Canada must wilder in a generation or two.

Wildered (wi·ldəɹd), *ppl. a.* Also 7 wildred. [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

1. That has lost one's way; straying, 'lost'.

1656 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 112 Like poor wilder'd Travellers, perceiving that We have lost our way. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1703 Ye, who guide the wilder'd in the waves. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 219 The wilder'd stranger. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 46 A sound as of a wildered wind, Half moan, half sigh.

b. *fig.* At a loss, perplexed, bewildered.

1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 149 See Naaman here, in what a wildred case he is! 1689 J. O. tr. *Cowley's Plants* I. *Scurvy Grass* 31 Nor does it to your wilder'd Sense appear, Where their Pain is, 'cause it is every where. 1789 W. Blake *Songs Innoc., Dream* 5 Troubl'd, wilder'd, and forlorn. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* IV. xxix, In secret, doubtless, to pursue The schemes his wilder'd fancy drew. 1881 Kipling *Departm. Ditties, Simla Dancers* iv, And murmurs of past merriment pursue Your 'wildered clerks that they indite in vain.

2. Of a place or region: In which one may lose one's way; pathless, wild.

a 1810 Shelley *M. Nicholson Fragm.* 26 Our ghosts, whilst raves the maddened storm, Will sweep at midnight o'er the wildered wave. 1881 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 203 Brushing through the wilder'd dell. 1860 Patmore *Faithf. for Ever* I. i, A long, green slip of wilder'd land.

b. Confused, disordered; mingled confusedly.

1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xlii, Certain .. feelings .. when reviewed must strike us as things wildered and whirling. 1909 Stopf. Brooke in *Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 613 The sun set among the trees in a wildered glory of gold and crimson.

Wildering (wi·ldəriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That 'wilders', in various senses.

1. Leading or driving one astray; *esp.* of a place, In which one loses or may lose one's way.

1749 Shenstone *Irreg. Ode* 83 And some had bent the wild'ring maze. 1793 Coleridge *Lines Autumnal Even.* 77 Toss'd by storms along Life's wild'ring way. 1804 W. L. Bowles *Spir. Discov.* IV. 64 Safe in the wildering storm. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* VI. (1870) 126 Their wildering mazes of exquisite flowers.

b. *fig.* Producing mental confusion or aberration; perplexing, bewildering.

1742 Collins *Ecl.* IV. 8 Where wild'ring fear and desperate sorrow led. 1822 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* I. 223 In waking thoughts she still retains The memory of these wildering pains. *a* 1890 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 74 These wildering phantasies Then carried me to see my Lady dead. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 370 The clash Of rain-beat boughs and wildering lightning-flash.

2. Going astray, straying, wandering.

1807 Keble *Chr. Y..Septuagesima Sunday* ii, Ruin below and wrath above Are all that now the wildering fancy traces.

Ibid., 5th Sunday in Lent iv, Ye too, who tend Christ's wildering flock. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1873) II. I. iii, Lamps are gleaming, Through the festal's wildering train.

Wilderment (wi·ldəɹmĕnt). *poet. rare.* [f. as prec. + -MENT.] Bewilderment.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 144 Music's gush, With all its moving wilderment. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lost Bower* lvii, So, in wilderment of gazing, I looked up and I looked down.

† **Wildern,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 wilddeoren, 3-5 wilderne, (3 wulderne), 4 wildern, 5 wylderne; 3-4 wildren, 4 wildrin, wyldren. [OE. *wilddéoren*, f. *wilddéor* Wild Deer + -EN[4].]

A. *adj.* Wild, savage, desert.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* XXV. (1889) 99 *Cum feralibus dentibus*, mid wilddeorenum tobum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3082 [Ysmael] wond als a wildren man. *Ibid.* 4080 His breþer in þe wildrin land. *Ibid.* 5734, 10293. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 897 Ande euer walteres þis whal bi wyldren depe.

B. *sb.* = Wilderness.

The genitive of this word is indistinguishable in form from neal.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 137 Þo þe he faste foweрti daiʒes on ða wilderne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 He makede his wunienge in þe wilderne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 He.. wende into oniche stude iðe wildernesse [*MS. C.* wilderne]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5852 (Gött.) To worschip god in wildrenes land. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 5734 (Fairf.) His flok he fedde a-pon a tide Bi a wildernes side. *a* 1400 *Sir Orfeo* 212 (MS. Ashm, 61, lf. 153) To wylderne I wyll gone.. And lyve þer in holtys hore.

Wilderness (wi·ldəɹnĕs). Forms: 3-6 wylder-nesse, 3-7 wildernesse, 4-6 wil-, wyl-, -der-, -dir-, -dre-, (-dur-), -dyr-, -nes, -ness(e, (-nys), (4 *Sc.* wildirnes, 5 wyyldernesse). 4- wilderness. [OE. **wild(d)éornes* (Swett's A.-S. Dict.) = MLG., MDu. *wildernisse* (Du. *wildernis*, G. *wildernis*); f. *wilder, wil(d)déor* (see Wild *a.*, Wild Deer) or, perh. more probably, *wildéoren* Wildern *a.* + *-nes* -ness (for the concrete sense cf. *héahnes* summit, *smépnes* 'plainties').

The other types of derivatives of *wild* meaning 'wilderness' in the Teutonic languages are represented by (1) MHG., G. *wilde* fem. (cf. Wild *sb.*), (2) MLG., MHG. *wilt(e)nisse*, G. *wildnis* (cf. Wildness 2), (3) G. (now dial.) *wilden(e, wildin*, (4) ME. Wildern.]

1. **a.** (without article) Wild or uncultivated land.

Distinguished from *desert*, in that the latter denotes an uninhabitable and uncultivable region, and implies entire lack of vegetation.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Weste is cleped þat londe, þat is longe tilðe atleien, and wildernesse, ʒef þare manie rotes onne wacseð. *c* 1205 Lay. 30335 He scal habben papes weste and wildernesse inoʒe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2617 In wildernes al bi a well. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3867 Þe geaunt..In a castel hire hadde to ward, In wildernesse al be selue. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. 52 Als he trewyt na man was In abay, na in wildirnes, þat mocht do mare þane he had done. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxi. 98 A grete party of þis cuntree es waste and wilderness and noʒt inhabitid. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xiv. 20 Holy heremites whech dwelled in wildyrnesse 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 2 He traueild through wide wastfull ground, That nought but desert wildernesse shew'd all around. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. (S.T.S.) I. 164 Twyse he compelled him to take his refuge in wod and wildirnes. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* V. v. 404 The Countrey of Gouren, where we found but few villages, and almost all wildernesse. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 143 Passing through tracts of wilderness which they have never before traversed. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* I. 110 By tilth and grange,..and blowing bonks of wilderness.

b. (with article or other defining word) A wild or uncultivated region or tract of land, uninhabited, or inhabited only by wild animals; 'a tract of solitude and savageness' (J.).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 He..feste þer as he was one iðe wildernesse [*v. r.* wilderne]. *Ibid.* 196 I?e wildernesse [*v. r.* wildene] heo aspieden us to slean. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11110 (Cott.) He..liued wit rotes and wit gress, Wik honi o þe wilder-nes. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 172 Hyt was onys a munke, and had a celle In a wyldernes for to dwelle. 13.. wyldernes to be their house, & the vntilled londe to be their dwellinge place. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 137 O my poore Kingdome..thou wilt be a Wildernesse againe, Peopled with Wolues (thy old Inhabitants). 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 10 By forcing that upon us as the remedy of solitude, which wraps us in a misery worse then any wilderness. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 1 Oh for a lodge in some vast wilderness. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* XV, Finding only boundless wildernesses, and varied combinations of tangled woodland scenery. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 368 Temple had made a retreat for himself at a place called Moor Park. .. The country round his dwelling was almost a wilderness.

c. A piece of ground in a large garden or park, planted with trees, and laid out in an ornamental or fantastic style, often in the form of a maze or labyrinth.

a 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* ch. II. 6, I cut me Aquiducts, whose current flees And waters all my wildernesse of trees. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* V, Disperse your selves, some into the Wilderness, some into the Allies, and some into the Parterre. 1770 H. Chamberlain *Hist. & Surv. London* 641/2 In one part of it [*sc.* the park] is a pretty wilderness laid out in walks, and planted with a variety of ever-green trees. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 352. 1839 E. Jesse *Summer's Day Hampton Crt.* 77 On the opposite side of the palace there is a large space of ground called the Wilderness, planted and laid out by William III. 1885 Miss Braddon *Wyllard's Weird* I, Manifold as were the cares of the hot-houses and farneries and wildernesses.

2. *transf.* or *gen.* A waste or desolate region of any kind, e. g. of open sea, of air.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 94, I stand as one vpon a Rocke, Inuiron'd with a wilderneſse of Sea. 1629 *Drayner Conf.* (1647) B 2, The difference between a Wildernesse of water and a goodly green Meadow. 1665 WALLER *Instr. Painter* 78 But who can always on the Billows ly? The watry Wilderness yields no supply. 1821 BYRON *Cain* II. i, This blue wilderness of interminable Air. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* iii. (1875) 30 They..saw the long, low line where the wilderness of waves met the wilderness of woods.

3. *fig.* Something figured as a region of a wild or desolate character, or in which one wanders or loses one's way; in religious use applied to the present world or life as contrasted with heaven or the future life (cf. 6 b).

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlvii. 4 He forsakis vs noght in þis wildirenes, *c* 1390 CHAUCER *Truth* 17 Here is non home, here nys but wylderneſse. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 317 The Meir is Men of gude conditioun, As Pilgrymes walkand in this wildernes. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* I. iii, But sure his mind Is in a wildernesse: For there he sayes Are Geese that have two heads a peece. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 52 Thus discursive Argumentation and Rational probabilities mislead men in the Wilderness of Enquiry. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 1 As I walk'd through the wilderness of this world. *a* 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* II. (1710) 46 All they can do's to bid you pore On Bibles till your Eyes are sore, And in that Wilderness of Letter Hunt for your Faiths. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 939 The vacant bonom's wilderness. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* iv, The cosy chairs, the globes, and best of all, the wilderness of books, in which she could wander where she liked.

b. Rhetorically applied to a place (e.g. a building or town) which one finds 'desolate', or in which one is lonely or 'lost'.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, Passing this wilderness of an hotel with stores about its base. 1848 — *Dombey* xxiii, So Florence lived in her wilderness of a home. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* 118 Meantime Maisie was alone in London...And the packed wilderness was very full of danger.

4. A mingled, confused, or vast assemblage or collection *of* persons or things. (Usually coloured by other senses; in reference to a growth of plants, nearly coinciding with 1 b; in reference to buildings, etc., often approaching 3 b.)

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 54 Dost thou not perceiue That Rome is but a wildernes of Tigers? 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. i. 128, I would not haue giuen it for a wildernesse of Monkies. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII. xii. 598 It was called Madera, of the wildernesses of Trees there growing. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* v. i, The Land thou hast left a wilderness of wretches. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 294 Through Groves of Myrrhe, And flouring Odours, Cassia, Nard, and Balme; A Wilderness of sweets. 1678 E. HOWARD *Man of Newmarket* I. i. 1 This Metropolitan Wilderness of Houses, call'd London. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. ii, A wilderness of faults and follies. 1814 BYRON *Juan* XVI. iii, This epic will contain A wilderness of the most rare conceits. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. ix, The wilderness of masts on the river, and the wilderness of steeples on the shore.

†5. Wildness, uncultivated condition. *Obs.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xiv. 370 The tenementis..which the clergie..holden..is better..kept fro falling into nouȝt and into wildirnes, than if tho same tenementis..weren in the hondis of grete lordis. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 245 These paths and Bowers doubt not but our joynt hands Will keep from Wilderness with ease.

†b. *fig.* Wildness of character, licentiousness. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 142 For such a warped slip of wildernesse Nere issu'd from his blood.

6. *attrib.* a. *lit.* (in quot. 1670 in sense 1 c).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xvii. (1912) 112 Being one of that little wilderneſse-company. 1670 MEAGER *English Gardener* Title-p., The ordering of the Garden of Pleasure, with variety of Knots, and Wilderness-work. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 297, 14 acres of wilderness land converted into grass. *c* 1875 E. THRING in Skrine *Mem.* (1889) 218 The poor beggars had tightish work with all that wilderness life before them.

b. *fig.*; *esp.* in former religious use, Belonging to the present world or life (cf. 3).

1651 BAXTER *Saints' Rest* II. ix. § 1 (ed. 2) 290 If they had not felt their Wildernes-necessities, God should not have exercised his Wilderness-providences and mercies. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 473 A wilderness-condition is..a condition of straits, wants, deep distresses, and most Wilderness-World, towards a better..Life. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 16 Her soul On eddies of wild water cast, In wilderness division.

Wild-fire, wildfire (wəi·ldfəiə). [Cf. G. *wildfeuer* lightning, will o' the wisp, erysipelas, etc.]

†1. Furious or destructive fire; a conflagration (in early quots. app. one caused by lightning: cf. 2 d). *Obs.* (as a specific use).

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.)an. 1092 On þissum geare ætywde þæt wildefyr, þe nan mann ær nan awyric ne cemunde. *c* 1366 *Chronicon Brevius* an. 1047 in *Eulogium Hist.* (Rolls) III. 204 Mortalitas in Anglia et ignis asereus, quæ dicitur wildfire, blada combusit in pago Derebim. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 797 He hade weryede the worme by wyghtnesse of strenghte, Ne ware is fore the wylde fyre that he hyme wyth defendes. *c* 1440 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2870 How wild fyre was sloken sall þe sene. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* III., B iv, Wylde fyre and brymstone shall lyght vpon them all. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* II. I. C 4 b, You to quench a wild fire, Cast oyle upon it.

2. In various specific uses (*wild* often implying 'natural, not artificially produced', or 'out of doors, not domestic': cf. WILD *a.* 1–4). †a. The flames of spirituous liquor burning on some dishes, as plum-pudding, when served up. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 371 Swiche manere bake metes and disah metes brennynge of wilde fir.

†b. A fire kindled out of doors for warmth. *Obs. rare*—1.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 855 Than wist Percyvelle by thatt, It servede hym of somwhatt The wylde fyre that he gatt.

c. Will-o'-the-wisp, *ignis fatuus*; also *fig.* Also dialectally applied to other phosphorescent appearances: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1663 G. WHARTON *Cal. Carol.* A 3 b, [They] wonder by what Wild fires they were led To feed on Thistles 'stead of wholsome Bread. 1683 [see 2 e]. 1727 P. WALKER *Life R. Cameron* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 243 Some Willies with the Wisps, or Spunkies of Wild-fire, seen mostly in boguish myrish Ground. 1814 SCOTT *L. of Isles* VI. xxii, As springs the wild-fire from the moss. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 431 Tho' yourself Be dazzled by the wildfire Love to sloughs That swallow common sense. 1873 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (1876) 405 He taught..that intellectual culture without moral practice is a wildfire, and that conscience is the voice of God. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* vii, Led by wildfire of this sort to the brink of disappointment.

d. Lightning; *esp.* sheet lightning without audible thunder, 'summer lightning'.

1795 BURNS *Verses Destr. Woods Drumlanrig* v, Or was't the wil'fire scorch'd their boughs? 1888 TAIT in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 330 1 What is called 'summer lightning' or 'wild-fire' is sometimes a rather puzzling phenomenon.

e. † Volcanic fire (*obs.*); fire-damp in coal-mines.

1683 G. SINCLAIR *Nat. Philos., Misc. Observ.* 293 In some Coals...there is a certain Fire,..and I judge, that from its resemblance to *Ignis fatuus*, which the Vulgar termeth Wild-fire, it hath the same name. 1692 RAY *Disc.* I. iii. (1693) 12 If such Hills..may be, and have been elevated by subterraneous Wild-fire, Flatus or Earthquakes. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wild-fire*, an old term used by colliers for *fire-damp*.

3. A composition of highly inflammable substances, readily ignited and very difficult to extinguish, used in warfare, etc.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8485 Hii asailede þe toun mid þis tour wel uaste, & wilde fur wiþ pich & greca. 13.. *Coer de L.* 5229 With trepeiettes they slungen alsoo,..And blewe wylde-fyr in trumpes of gynne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 373 Thou liknest wommenes loue..to wilde fyr The moore it brenneth the moore it hath desir. 1472 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 278 At Londone brige anoȝyr sawte thay made agayne, Wyth gunpowdir and wildefire and straw eke. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith, 1778) 279 Destruxit per obcidionem civitatem per passeres cum wyldfyre ad eorum caudas ligata, volando ad civitatem. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 56 Some set skalyng ladders to the wal, and other cast in wylde fyre. 1629 MALTHUS *Fireworks* in Hodgkin *Rariora* (1902) III. iii. 16 Hand-granades, fiery Wheeles, a Shippe of wilde Fire, and a Petard. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 344/2 Pikes of Wild-fire to stick burning into a Ship's side. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 479 Then out of Mortar-pieces they shoot Wild-fire into the Air. 1742 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 26 Jan., The exceeding thick smoke, which was occasion'd by the wild fire and things of that kind, continually thrown into the room. 1763 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* (new ed.) I. 61 Chymistry was know'n; and wildfire had been invented. 1871 *Fireworks & How to make them* 58 Port or Wildfires. Saltpetre 4 parts, mealpowder 6 parts, and sulphur 3 parts.

4. A name for erysipelas and various inflammatory eruptive diseases, esp. those in which the eruption spreads from one part to another.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 114 *Erysipila*, wilde fyr. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 40 It quenchiþ wele herisipilam, þat is wilde fire or few sawage. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 33 Lentilles..are good for..the wylde-fire and for the kybes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. Proeme II. 146 Shingles, ringworms, and such like wild-fires. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb., Sheep* ix. 72 This disease which is called the wildfire is a very infectious sicknesse, and will indanger the whole flocke. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 331 Herpes; Ringworm; Shingles; Wildefire. 1841 DICK *Man. Vet. Sci.* (1862) 175 Erysipelas in sheep appears in various slight modifications... Wildfire..generally shews itself at the beginning of winter. ..The skin inflames and rises into blisters. 1907 'Q' *Merry-Garden* etc., *Black John* i, Wounds showing signs of inflammation and threatening to set up wildfire.

5. *fig.* or in fig. allusions (usually from sense 3, sometimes 4), in reference to a destructive agency, or to excited, violent, or fervid feeling or utterance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4314 Thoru þine ei þe sal be sent A flan, wit wild fire al brent, First to brin þin hert wit-in. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 2126 in *Macro Plays* 140 Belsabub..Bad me brenne þee with wyld fere. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 271 b, What thunderbolttes and wildefire he [*sc.* the Pope] threw out of his bloudy turrettes agaynst Luther's life. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., Neuer more let him looke to quench wilde fire with milke. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muse's Sacrifice* Wks. (Grosart) II. 28/1 The wilde-fire of my Passions burnèd me. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* 34 Admit no wildfire in Poetick rage. *a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll.* IV. 106 Caesar..Is but a Wild-fire to want Senate Rages, And silence Cato. 1736 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* III. 539 It was impossible to stop the impetuous wildfire of the army. 1765 *Ann. Reg., Char.* 2 The wild-fire of applause or reproach is let off at the authors, in an undistinguishing blaze. 1805 SCOTT *Betrothed* III, That which will but warm your Flemish hearts, will put wildfire into Norman brains. 1888 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* II. 248 There is a wild-fire in my heart which cannot be appeased till I be avenged.

†b. In imprecations (in sense 3 or 4). *Obs.*

c 1390 *Will. Palerne* 2188 Ho-so falleþ for feynyȝe wiþ fur wilde for hire for-brenne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 432 A wilde fyr vp on thair bodyes falle. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3820 That she wolde, in her entent, In wilde fire that he were brent. 1590 *Colin Clout & Melib.* (1336) B j, That a wyld fyre brou the, Celestena. *c* 1600 ROWLEY, etc. *Birth of Merlin* III. vi, Wilde-fire and Brimstone eat thee! *c* 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 641 So may some wildfire on your bodies fall.

c. Phr. *Like wildfire*: with immense rapidity and effect; very swiftly and forcibly: usually with *run*, *spread*, etc.; hence occas. *gen.* forcibly, vigorously. (The commonest current use.)

[1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1523 Whose words like wild fire burnt the shining glorie Of rich-built Ilion.] 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 58 We set fire to it [*sc.* sedgy grass], which runs like Wild-fire. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xxx, Though I was at that time rich in fame—for my book ran like wild-fire—yet I was very short in money. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. xvi, The report..spread like wild fire through the town. 1857 READE *Course of True Love, Clouds & Sun.* i, She would..go..and flirt like wild-fire for a fortnight. 1886 *19th Cent.* Dec. 883 With such thoughts running like wild-fire through her mind.

6. *attrib.*: in sense 3, as *wildfire arrow, ball, plot*; *fig.* (cf. 5), as *wildfire blood, zeal*; **wildfire rash**, a disease of infants, a form of strophulus with a wandering eruption (cf. 4).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Wild-Fire Arrows*, such as are trimmed with Wild-Fire. 1614 GOLDEN *Lucan* VI. 229 Shoures of *wildefire balls. 1824 SCOTT *Red Gauntlet* ch. xviii, The *wildfire blood of Redgauntlet. 1641 (*title*) A *Wild-fire Plot found out in Ireland, shewing how the Rebels would have consumed the City of Dublin with Wildfire 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) V. 566 Children..liable to the *strophulus volaticus*, or *wild-fire rash. 1601 BP. W BARLOW *Defence* Ep. Ded., A *wilde-fire zeale.

Wild-fowl. (Also as one word, or as two.) Forms: see WILD *a.* and FOWL; also 6 **wyelfoyle**. [Cf. MLG., G. *wildvogel*. ON. *villifygli* (Sw. *vildfågel*, early Da. *vildfugl*).] A wild bird, or (usually) wild birds collectively; chiefly applied to those caught for food, game birds (now esp. of the duck and goose kinds).

a 1000 *Bi Manna Wyrdum* 85 (Gr.) Sum sceal wildne fuzel wlonene stemian, heafoc on honda. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 363 Delyte in wyn and wylde foule. *a* 1417 *York Mem. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 223 Pultre wyldefoule and other vytayll. 1439 *Maldon, Essex, Court-roll* Bundle 25. No. 1, Johannes Yutte est communis foristallator volucrum vocat. Wyldefoule. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxix. 19 Vennesoun, wyld fowill, wyne and spyce. 1532–3 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 215 Itt de magistro de Fayrne 6 dd. wyelfoyle et 4 puffyngs. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. ii. 35 What is the opinion of Pythagoras concerning Wildefowle? 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 612 Whoso seeks an audit here Propitious, pays his tribute, game or fish, Wild-fowl or venison. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* v. xvi, As the scared wild-fowl scream and fly.

b. Humorously misapplied in the first quot. to a wild beast; hence *allusively*; also *fig.* of persons.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 33 There is not a more fearefull wilde foule then your Lyon liuing. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. iii, What's your med'cine, To draw so many seuerall sorts of wild-fowle? 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Feb. 38/1 One has to drag in fundamental principles of art and other fearful wildfowl.

c. *attrib.*

1825 HOOD *To Mrs. Fry* 2, To tame the wild-fowl-ways of Jenny Diver! 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* ii. 8 Very few wild-fowl shooters frequent this part of the river. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xli. (ed. 3) 360 Wild fowl guns.

Hence **Wild-fow'ler**, a sportsman who shoots or catches wild-fowl; **Wild-fow'ling**, the pursuit or capture of wild-fowl.

1859 FOLKARD (*title*) The Wild-Fowler: a Treatise on Ancient and Modern Wild-Fowling. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* xv. 293 In no other branch of wild-fowling is a breech-loader of more advantage than in teal-shooting.

Wild goose. (Also with hyphen.) Forms: see WILD *a.* and GOOSE; also 7 **wilgoose**. [Cf. (M)HG. *wildgans*, Sw. *vildgås*, Da. *vildgaas*.]

1. Any wild bird of the goose kind; an undomesticated goose; in Britain usually the greylag (*Anser ferus* or *cinereus*), in N. America the Canada goose (*Bernicla canadensis*).

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 364/1 *Cente*, wilde gos. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 163 Jo voy la une owe rosade [*gloss* a wilde-gos]. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 171 Whan wilde gees hithe in the ayer vp fleen. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2619 A great multytude somtyme of wylde gees, Comonely called Gauntes. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 79 They flocke together in consent, like so many Wilde-Geese. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 86 If he be free, Why then my taxing like a wild-goose flies Vnclaim'd of any man. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 422 We have the wild geese flying over our heads, in the fens of Lincolnshire, in vast flocks. 1845 WHITTIER *Lumbermen* ii, O'er us, to the southland heading, Screams the gray wild-goose.

2. *fig.* a. Used of or in reference to a flighty or foolish person: cf. GOOSE *sb.* 1 f. b. *Eng. Hist.* (*pl.*) A nickname for the Irish Jacobites who went over to the Continent on the abdication of James II and later.

1598 [see WILD GOOSE CHASE 2]. 1843 M. J. BARRY in *Spirit the Nation* (Dublin 1845) 230 The wild geese—the wild geese,—'tis long since they flew, O'er the billowy ocean's bright bosom of blue. 1845 *Ibid.* 231 *note*, The recruits for the Irish Brigade..were entered on the ship's books as 'wild geese'. 1845 M. O'CONOR *Mil. Hist. Irish Nation* 367 *note*, Clare, it may be added, was a great recruiting county for the Brigade. On its stern coast the French used to land smuggled claret, brandy, &c., and take away wool, and, what was more precious, 'Wild Geese,' for such was the name usually given to the recruits for 'The bold Brigade.' 1870 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 36 Thou art but a wild-goose to question it. 1881 FROUDE *Eng. in Ire.* II. II. I. 405 In 1715..Tens of thousands of young Irishmen were in the

French service, and thousands more were continually recruited under the name of Wild Geese. 1902 in Emily Lawless *With the Wild Geese* Prof. p. viii, The 'Wild Geese' was the name given..to the exiles who, like the wild birds.. migrated to the Continent before and after the Battle of Aughrim, and the Surrender of Limerick in 1691.

3. *attrib.* a. [after WILD GOOSE CHASE 2, as apprehended in later use.] Wild, fantastic, very foolish or risky.

1770 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* II. xi, To fit him out upon some wild-goose expedition to the coast of Africa. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphthora* 53 She tutor'd some in Dædalus's art, And promis'd they would act his wildgoose part. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* III. vi, 'All mad, wild-goose nonsense,' said MacGopus. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* IV, He'll..have gone away upon some wild-goose errand, seeking his fortune.

b. **Wild-goose plum, rye,** names for N. American varieties of those plants raised from seeds found in the crops of wild geese; **wild-goose race** = next.

1909 *Month* Dec. 599 A well-known American plum is called the '"wild-goose' plum, because a plum-stone from which the whole race has been raised was found in the stomach of such a bird. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 83 As weary of this "wild-goose race That led askance, I know not where. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 145 As one running the wild goose race, he windeth backe to a passage in the former argument. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 15 Aug., The introduction of "wild goose rye into Dakota.

Wild goose chase.

†1. A kind of horse-race or sport in which the second or any succeeding horse had to follow accurately the course of the leader (at a definite interval), like a flight of wild geese. *Obs.*

[1592: see 2.] 1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* Wks. (Grosart) I. 6/2 Esteeme a horse, according to his pace, But loose no wagers on a wilde goose chase. 1604 H. SPURWAY in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 60 The King hath beene latelye at Royston, at a wilgoose chase. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. 342 Horse-races, wilde-goose chases, which are the disports of greater men. 1686 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat., Hunting-horse* vii. (1697) 65.

2. *fig.* An erratic course taken or *led* by one person (or thing) and followed (or that may be followed) by another (or taken by a person in following his own inclinations or impulses); in later use (the origin being forgotten) apprehended as 'a pursuit of something as unlikely to be caught as the wild goose' (J.); a foolish, fruitless, or hopeless quest.

1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 75 Nay, if our wits run the Wild-Goose chase, I am done: For thou hast more of the Wild-Goose in one of thy wits, then I am sure I haue in my whole five. 1603-4 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* I. v, I have had a fine fegary, The rarest wildgoose chase! 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems, An Addresse* 48 We pursue A Wild-goose-Chase, to what none ever knew. 1656 R. FLETCHER tr. *Martial* 202 No hints of truth on foot? no sparks of grace? No late sprung light? to dance the wild-goose chase? 1662 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Apr. 257 If you cannot reason him to what may bee for his good..let him goe the wild goosechase. 1673 *Ess. Educ. Gentlewom.* 37 If we should dance that wild-Goose-chase usually led, it would require longer time. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* 20 Nov., Don't let me think, that if you return, you will set out upon every wild-goose chase, sticking to nothing. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* xii, His journey to London on such slender encouragement is a wild-goose chase! 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii, 'I see you have found nothing,' exclaimed Lady Gethin... 'It was a wild goose chase,' he replied with a weary look.

†**Wildgrave.** *Obs.* [ad. G. *wildgraf* (MHG. *wiltgrâve*): see WILD *a.* and GRAVE *sb.*[4]] In Germany, formerly the chief magistrate of an uncultivated or forest region; *spec.* the title of a hereditary race of rulers in parts of the Rhineland (cf. RHINEGRAVE, WALDGRAVE). So **Wildgravess** (tr. G. *wildgrâfin*).

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 504 Juliana...Wildgravess and Rhinegravess of Grumbach. 1796 SCOTT *Wild Huntsman* i, The Wildgrave winds his bugle horn. 1798 tr. *Bürger's Wild Huntsm.* 2 Shrill sounds the haughty Wildgrave's horn.

†**Wildhede.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WILD *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Wildness of character or conduct.

1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxi. 52 That for myne honore shewlde I by no weye Any thinge mynge or towche of my wildhede.

Wilding (wəi·ldiŋ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 6 **wyldyng, -ynge, -ing(e, wildinge,** 7 **wilden,** 6– **wilding.** [f. WILD *a.* + -ING[3].] **A.** *sb.*

The meaning in the following quot. has not been ascertained:—

1296 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/20 m. 1 (P.R.O.) In i[j]. petris de Burre emptis..et quatuor petris de Wyldyng emptis de vxore Andree Skaket.

1. A wild apple or apple-tree; a crab-apple or crab-tree.

1525 *Grete Herbal* ccl.xxxiii. (1529) Q ij, De macianis pomis. Wood crabbes, or wyldynges. 1530 PALSGR. 280/1 Wyldyng a sower apple, *pommes de boys.* 1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 13. 349 The wilding maketh a fairer shew then many a good apple, but by the taste. 1652 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 16, I never saw..any Apples or Pears thrive in an Hedge, unless Crab, or a Wilden, or some Sweeting of little worth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 107 Ten ruddy Wildings in the Wood I found. 1776 BOLTON in A. Young *Tour Irel.* (1780) II. 202 Do not press wildings till Candlemas. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arr.* in *Gard. Assist.* p. xl, Apples valued principally for Cyder. Royal wilding. 1840 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 535 Wildings or seedling apple stocks.

2. *gen.* A wild plant, flower, or fruit.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 73 b, The Filbert will onely be graffed in the Wilding. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. xx. (1612) 95 Wildings, or the Season-fruit he did in scrip bestow. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 17 Oft from the forrest wildings he did bring. *a* 1700 SEDLEY *4th Bk. Virg. Georg.* Wks. 1778 I. 33 Among the wildings..they [*sc.* bees] feed. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 37 The wildings of the forest. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. ix, Nor wilding green, nor woodland flower, Arose within its baleful bower. 1826 CAMPBELL *Field Flowers* i, Ye field flowers I..wildings of Nature, I doat upon you. 1840 *Cottager's Man.* 14 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The principle is to form the hedge of a double row of wildings. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah, Mihrab Shah* 74 The wilding,..Ruffled out-side at pleasure of the blast. 1892 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Paradise* xxvii. 178 Well blossoms the will in men, but the continual rain converts the true plums into wildings.

3. A wild animal. *rare.*

1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Sept. 409/3 Not a specimen of these wildings [*sc.* deer, turkey, and otter] can be seen now.

4. *fig.* (applied to a person or thing).

1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* vii. 7. 165 These are Sathans wildings, whom he hath blinded, and so rideth them at his pleasure. 1866 LAWRENCE *Sans Merci* xiv, He made professional acquaintance with two or three wildings of gentle birth. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 6 The air of the fireside withers out all the fine wildings of the husband's heart. 1906 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 829/1 He was swayed by the wildings of his imagination and his affections. 1908 EDITH WHARTON *Hermit* I. iii. 17 You are not a heathen wilding, but a child of Christ.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.*

1. Applied to a crab-apple or crab-tree: cf. A. 1.

1538 ELYOT, *Arbutus*, a wyldyng tree. 1552 HULOET, Wildinge aple, or crabbe, *arbutum.* 1575 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* III. 9, From a wylding tree, Ten Apples rype I sent. 1632 BROME *Crt. Beggar* II. i, He lookes so like a wilding crab, good neither for drink nor sauce. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 73 Crab-tree, or Wilden-tree. 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 469.

2. a. Of a plant (or its flower or fruit): Growing wild: = WILD *a.* 2. Chiefly *poet.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 269 Wilding Blooms. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. i, O wilding rose. 1824 LOUDON *Green-house Comp.* I. 227 Grafted on the crab and wilding pear. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 84 Wilding fruit that shines upon the trees. 1895 CROCKETT *Bog-Myrtle & Peat* v. iv, Lo the wilding treasure Glows..in my sweetheart's gardens.

b. Of an animal: = WILD *a.* 1. *poet. rare.*

1826 BRYANT *Gladness of Nature* ii, The wilding bee hums merrily by.

3. *fig.* Developed without culture or training, like a wild plant; natural, native.

1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* vii. (1900) 199 It was too late now for critics..to resist that growth of wilding art.

Wildish (wəi·ldiʃ), *a.* [f. WILD *a.* + -ISH[1].] Somewhat wild; inclining to wildness.

1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5218/3 A Young Man about 22 Years of Age,..a wildish Look. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. i. 18 He was once thought to be wildish; but he is now the best of gentlemen, I think. 1796 *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) III. 102 A wildish heath, which was skirted by a thick wood. 1803 WORDSW. *Stepping Westward* 2 'Twould be a *wildish* destiny If we, who thus together roam In a strange Land, and far from home, Were in this place the guests of Chance. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. v. (1879) III. 39 Prince answers as wildish young fellows will, quizzing my grave self. 1880 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* vii, She could frighten a wildish cow.

Wildling (wəi·ldliŋ). [f. WILD *a.* + -LING[1] 1. Cf. Du. *wildeling*, G. *wildling.*]

1. A wild plant or flower: = WILDING A. 2.

1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 345 The turmeric, *hena*,..considered too valuable..to remain a wildling. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 153 His dried garden of wildlings. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 10 July 3/3 Notes as to the growing of woodland and hedgerow 'wildlings' in a garden.

2. A wild creature or animal: = WILDING A. 3.

1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 4 Apr. 6/1, I am one of her [*sc.* nature's] 'wildlings'. [Cf. WILDING A. 2, quot. 1826.] 1907 J. H. CRAWFORD *From Fox's Earth* i. 13 The wildling of the breezy heights is quite as interesting as the wildling of the cool water.

Wildly (wəi·ldli), *adv.* [f. WILD *a.* + -LY[2].] In a wild manner, in various senses.

†1. Without order, irregularly; in disorder or confusion; at random, 'anyhow'; aimlessly, heedlessly. *Obs.* exc. as implied in other senses.

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 873 Were she neuer so glad, Hyr lokynge was nat foly sprad Ne wildely, thogh that she pleyde. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 159 How the cuntre of N. and S. [= Norfolk and Suffolk] stonde right wildely, withowt a mene may be that justice be hadde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 46 The kynge lyke a louynge broother wouldе not sende hys syster wyldely withoute a dowar assured. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii, 128 How wildely then walkes my Estate in France? 1621 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 550 As th'vnthought-on accident is guiltie To what we wildely do, so we professe Our selues to be the slaues of chance. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Country Parson* xxii. (1652) 92 The Questions must be propounded loosely and wildely, and then the Answerer will discover what hee is. 1658 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 193 There is more copiousness in things wildely scattered, than in things well and orderly digested. [1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 80 The wildly-devious morning-walk. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. Introd. 29 Wildly-loose their red locks fly. 1880 CAROLINE A. SOUTHEY *Ellen Pitzarthur* 80 Fancy's wildly-roving eye. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* VI. A hundred thousand shapes and substances of incompleteness, wildly mingled out of their places.]

2. Without restraint (in various shades of meaning). a. Beyond limits of reason; extravagantly, fantastically; distractedly, as it out of one's wits.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiii. 72 A greet licence han writers and spekers..forto write and speke more wijdeli than thei schulden be suffrid forto write and speke. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1150 As the poore frighted Deare that stands at gaze, Wildly determining which way to flie. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. iii. 94 Sweating, and blowing, and looking wildely. 1678 M. CLIFFORD *Hum. Reason* 68 This opinion is so wildly uncharitable, that it strikes out ten thousand Millions out of the book of Life, for each single Name that it leaves in it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 22 Damon .. wildly staring upwards, thus inveigh'd Against the conscious Gods. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, Some of them, upon hearing me talk so wildly, thought I was mad. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* xii, Enthusiasm frequently..injures those whom it wildly attempts to serve. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. vii, Yet must I think less wildly:—I *have* thought Too long and darkly, till my brain became..A whirling gulf of phantasy and flame. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 663 How many times should we have rushed wildly from extreme to extreme! 1913 *Daily Graphic* 26 Mar. 9/1 'The Great Adventure'..is wildly extravagant and yet it is very simple and human.

b. Without moral restraint; dissolutely, licentiously; in freedom from control, at one's own will.

1562 tr. *Calvin's Four Serm.* iii. I vij, Thei might haue liued in other places wildly & wantonly. 1612 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 199 That I should..speake of something wildly By vs perform'd before. 1653 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trav. Uncert. Journey* 8 Some few do travell in the wayes Divine, Some wander wildly with the Muses nine. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* li, That M. Valancourt had comported himself wildly at Paris, and had spent a great deal of money.

c. With unrestrained or violent movement, feeling, or utterance; vehemently; excitedly; 'frantically', 'like mad'.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 874 Some [bushes] twin'd about her thigh to make her stay, She wildly breaketh from their strict imbrace. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 187 Those septentrionall inundations,. haue..wildly deluviated over all the South. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Nemæan Ode Pindar* vii, Some wildly fled About the room, some into corners crept. 1754 GRAY *Pleasures* 29 Their raptures now that wildly flow. 1782 COWPER *Hope* 517 The wretch, who once sang wildly, danc'd and laugh'd,..Is sober, meek, benevolent. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXVII, A shout..terminating in a cadence so wildly prolonged, that..the deer started from their glens. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 173 The villagers danced wildly to the music. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 212 The flakes sped wildly in their oblique course. 1909 STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* xix, The whole..herd [of elephants] wheeled, trumpeted wildly.

3. a. Without cultivation, naturally, like a wild plant. *rare.*

1612 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 180 Valour That wildely growes in them, but yeelds a crop As if it had beene sow'd. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vii. § 5 That which grows wildly of it self is worth nothing.

b. Without the refinement or orderliness of culture or training; rudely, roughly, savagely. Also (now *esp.*) in good sense: In a free, natural, or unconventional style; with the romantic aspect of uncultivated country.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 88 When he demean'd himselfe, rough, rude, and wildly. 1599 — *Hen. V*, v. ii. 43 Her Hedges.., Like Prisoners wildly ouer-growne with hayre, Put forth disorder'd Twigs. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1225 The toil-strung youth, By the quick sense of music taught alone, Leaps wildly graceful in the lively dance. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne, Invitation* 3 The mountain ground, Wildly majestic. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 483 The wildly wooded banks of the Ardoch. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii. 44 Here the view became wildly interesting.

Wild man. (Also formerly with hyphen, or as one word.) [Cf. Du. *wilde mann* cannibal, G. *wildemann, wildmann, wilder mann*, ON. *villumaðr.*]

1. A man who is wild, in various senses of the adj. a. A man of savage, fierce, uncultured, or unruly nature or character (cf. WILD *a.* 6, 7).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 47/17 Wylde Men ne louede he nouȝt, þat rechelese weren of þouȝte. 13.. *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) App. H. 136 A wuilde men [*read* man] fol bolde þe king sende in to þe court to þe heiȝe men of þe londe. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 402 Þare-for he ȝe of stedfast wil, þocht wyld men wil ȝov do il. 1513 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* No. 4101. lf. 5 (P.R.O.) A Seier and a tester of Redsay and therein a wilde man Ryding on a horse. 1630 [see WILD *a.* 12]. *a* 1639 WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xvi. (1640) 161 A wild man lives as he lists himselfe.

b. (WILD *a.* 5.) A man of an uncivilized race or tribe; a savage, or one reverted to a savage state.

13.. *Cursor M.* 3082 (Götz.) [Ishmael] wonld þar as a wild man, In þat desert þat hight pharan. 1530 in *Ancestor* (1904) Oct. 181 Wolton beryth to his crest a woodwous a wylld man in his kynde vert. 1582 HACKET tr. *Thevet's Newfound World* xxiv. 31 b, We were well received of the Indians or wilde men of the Countrey. 1585 in Brydges *Brit. Bibliogr.* (1810) I. 542 To make wyve in the streetes, there are certayne men appayrelled lyke devells, and wylde men, with skybbs and certayne bendells. 1622 W. ADAMS *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Voyon* (Hakl. Soc.) 37 Eight of our men.. ranne from vs with the pinnesse, and (as we suppose) were eaten of the wild men. 1767 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 47/2 Peter the wild man, who was taken in the Harts Forest in Hanover. 1823 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 2 The wild man of North America is exceedingly unlike the wild man of every other country.

c. *pl.* The extremists of a political party, a profession, etc.

1923 *Weekly Dispatch* 13 May 2 The wild men pin their faith to the Capital Levy as a vote-catcher. 1923 *Daily Mail* 23 July 14 All the 'wild men' of European music,

such as Schönberg, Bartok, Prokoviev, Stravinsky, Alois Haba..., Milhaud, and Poulenc.

2. (WILD *a.* 1.) A name for the orang-outang: also *wild man of the woods* (see WOOD *sb.*).

[1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 132 These animals [sc. Orang-Outang], in all the different languages of the natives, are called by names signifying a Wild Man.] 1791 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* VIII. 97 As there is a greater similarity between this animal and man than between those creatures which resemble him most, as the Barbary ape [etc.], the Indians are to be excused for associating him with the human species, under the denomination of *orang-outang*, or *wild man*. 1881 J. HATTON *New Ceylon* iii. 72 The Bornean 'wild man' is quite harmless.

Wildness (wai·ldnés). Forms: see WILD *a.* [f. WILD *a.* + -NESS. Cf. MHG. *wiltnisse*, G. *wildnis*.] The quality or condition of being wild, in various senses.

1. a. Undomesticated state (of an animal); the untamed disposition characteristic of such state; fierceness, savageness, ferocity; also, shyness.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528 Wyldnesse, *indomitas, ferocitas*. 1509 HAWES *Past. Plens.* XI. (Percy Soc.) 40 Mylyzyus..Dyd fyrst attame and breke the wyldenes Of the rial stedes. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 980 And let milde women to him loose their mildnesse, Wilder to him then Tygers in their wildnesse. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 31 Lyke wylde hartes,..throuch a certane wyldnes of nature, flie the..syght of man. 1611 [see BEAUTY 8]. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 125 His necessities, and the privation of light, make him lose all idea of liberty, and bring down his natural wildness. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vii. 212 The greater wildness of all our large birds than of our small birds.

b. Uncultivated state (of a plant).

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 55 Our Vineyards, Fallowes, Meades, and Hedges, Defectiue in their natures, grow to wildnesse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 73 These [trees]..change their salvage Mind: Their Wildness lose. 1892 KATH. TYNAN in *Speaker* 3 Sept. 290/1 The roses .. will deteriorate year after year, returning gradually to wildness.

2. Uncultivated state (of a place or region); the character or aspect of such a place or its scenery. Also *concr.* a wild place, a wilderness (now *rare* or *obs.*).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 34 Thyse tyrauntz put hem gladly nat in pres No places wyldnesse ne no bushes for to wynne. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* clxxxv. (1516) o iv b/2 Nat ferre from warwyke in a wyldenesse [*later edd.* wylderne(sse]. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 3 The wildnesse of the earth and weeds..is killed by frosts and drought. 1625 BACON *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 562 The Heath..I wish..to be framed, as much as may be, to a Naturall wildnesse. 1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 420 The Wildness of the Wood. 1801 COXE *Tour in Monmouthshire* I. 67 The scenery..is a pleasing intermixture of wildness and cultivation. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvii, All the wildness of Salvator here, and there the fairy scenes of Claude. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* I. xi. 78 The gloomy fastnesses and wildnesses of nature.

3. Uncivilized or uncultured state or character (of persons); savagery, barbarity; †rudeness, roughness of manners (*obs.*).

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* 1. 62 The wildnesse of the one, prevailes more then the faire perswasion of the other. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* I. iv, I'd rather..grow wrinckled and deform'd As wildness and most rude neglect could make me. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 174 The wildness of the tribes by which it was inhabited. 1871 BURN *Ad Fidem* iv. 63 There is a native wildness in every man.

4. Unrestrained condition or quality; want of, resistance to, or freedom from restraint or control (with various shades of meaning). **a.** Disposition to take one's own way; unruliness, insubordination; disorderly or riotous conduct; dissolute character, looseness of morals, licentiousness, wantonness; excessive liveliness or frolicsomeness.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4894 The tyme of yougth forto pace Withoute ony deth or distresse, It is so full of wyldenesse. *Ibid.* 4939 Folkes forto lede Into disporte and wyldenesse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528 Wyldnesse, or wantonhede, *intolencia, dissolucio*. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxciii. fff v/2 Somtyme ryot dothe good. We haue well aduaunsed forthe our payment with a lytell wyldi..... *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 33 Turnyng insolencie and wildnes into graultie and sobernes. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 189 He is giuen To sports, to wildenesse, and much company. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* III. iii, Impute his wildnesse, syr, vnto his youth. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Evremont's Ess.* 28 The Roman people had something of wildness in them; afterwards this Humour turned into Austerity, and became a rigid Vertue. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 51 Ye are running into strange Wildnesses and Excesses. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. ii. 23 To be sure Mr. Lovelace was a wild gentleman, but wildness was a distemper which would cure itself. 1801 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Contrast* I, She hoped his wildness was only the effect of good spirits, and that he would soon settle to some business. 1827 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 23 July, Genius may co-exist with wildness, idleness, folly, even with crime. 1879 D. J. HILL *Life Irving* 152 Moore, full of troubles from want of means and the wildness of his son.

b. Frenzy, distraction; distracted air or aspect; extreme folly or unreasonableness, irrational or fantastic character, extravagance; violence, vehemence, passionateness (of a feeling, etc.); excitedness, extreme eagerness.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9197 What wildnes, or worship, waknet my hert, For to hap her in bert? 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 40, I do wish That your good Beauties be the happy cause Of Hamlets wildenesse. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* V. v, Though he be rash, and suddain (which is all his wildness) Take heed ye wrong him not. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 3 A Delirium is but a short Wildness of the Imagination. 1785 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* II. vi, I enquired for Lord Dorchester with an eager wildness. 1818 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. v, Joy unwonted, and surprise, Gave their strange wildness to his eyes. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xix, Alarmed by his aspect and the wildness of his words. 1884 PENNINGTON *Wiclif* viii. 269 There is no fanaticism, no wildness in his statements.

5. In reference to style or aspect, with various implications: cf. prec. senses and WILD *a.* 14, 14 b.

1762 WARTON *Observ. Spenser's F. Q.* (ed. 2) I. v. 197 His [sc. Chaucer's] romantic arguments, his wildness of painting, his simplicity and antiquity of expression. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xiii, The simplicity of their appearance, approached to wildness, was tempered by an hospitable spirit. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 184 There was a wildness in the sky like that of anger. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* ix, Your wildness was your charm...You were a beautiful, ignorant creature, knowing nothing of the world.

Wildred, Wildren, -in, Wildrenes(se: see WILDERED, WILDERN, WILDERNESS.

†Wildship. *Obs. rare.* In 3 **wildscipe** (**-sipe**). [f. WILD *a.* + -SHIP 1.] Wildness.

c 1205 LAY. 20845 [The fox] for wildscipe [*c* 1275 wildsipe] climbiδ, and cluδen iseche∂.

Wildsome: see WILSOME *a.*1

Wilduoke, Wildurnes, obs. ff. *wild duck* (see WILD *a.* 1), WILDERNESS.

†Wildware. *Obs.* [a. MLG. *wildware* (whence early Da. *vild(t)vare*), f. *wild* WILD *a.* + *ware* WARE *sb.*3] Fur of wild animals.

1393 *Close Roll 17 Rich. II* m. 3 (P. R. O.) De uno vate de wyldeware videlicet de Cristygrey fyngrey pople B⁾s Ermyn et letuse. *Ibid.* 24 Sex kipp de wildware. *c* 1400 *Brut* CCXXV. 293 Ne non wyldware in Furreure of beȝonde see. 1402 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20 Appretiatores de wyldware, videlicet, v. pellium de ermyn, ijs. 1433 *Will of Fitz-John* (Somerset Ho.), Togam penulatam cum Wyeldeware.

Wildwood (wai·ld,wud). [Orig. two words, WILD *a.* 4 and WOOD *sb.*] A forest of natural growth, or allowed to grow naturally; an uncultivated or unfrequented wood. (In later use chiefly *poet.*)

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud. MS.) an. 963 Syδδon com ... biscop Aδelwold to þære mynstre þe wæs gehaten Medeshamstede..ne fand þær nan þing buton ealde weallas & wilde wuda. *c* 1205 LAY. 25905 Þer þe eotend unc ifeng forδ mid him seoluen fiftene mile into þisse wilde wude. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* x. 18 The glorie of his wilde wode. — *Zech.* xi. 2 3oule, ȝe ookis of Basan, for the stronge wijlde wod is kitt doun. 1814 SCOTT *Mass. of Glencoe* ii, Those for whom I pour the lay, Not wild-wood deep, nor mountain grey.. Could screen from treach'rous cruelty. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 102 Whether in garden or wild-wood. 1884 RUSKIN in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Dec. 11/2 Such a piece of mountain wildwood.

attrib. a 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 291/73 Ane heklit hud maid of the wyld wode sege. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 390 When With wild wood-leaues & weeds, I ha' strew'd his graue. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 40 The turf his bed, the wild-wood boughs his shade. 1794 S. T. COLERIDGE in J. D. Campbell *Life* ii. (1894) 34, I had been wandering among the wildwood scenery and terrible graces of the Welsh mountains. 1814 WORDSW. *Yarrow Visited* 66 How sweet, on this autumnal day, The wild-wood fruits to gather. 1856 WHITTIER *Mayflowers* ii, The wild-wood flowers.

Wile (wəil), *sb.* Forms: 2-5 **wil**, 4-8 **wyle**, (4 **wylle**, *Sc.* **quhile**, 5 **whyle, wyhylle, wele**, *Sc.* **wyill**), 5-6 **wyll**, (**while, vyle**, 6 **wyell**, 7 **wiele**), 4- **wile**. [Origin and early history obscure. The earliest examples are from regions subjected to strong Scandinavian influence. Early ME. *wil* may therefore perhaps represent prehistoric Scand. **wihl-*, whence ON. *vél* craft, artifice, contrivance, engine (cf. the several compounds of this, and *véla* to defraud).

The current derivation of *wile* from an AF. var. of OF. *guile* GUILE *sb.* with initial *w* is open to the objection that no such variant is known. Through similarity of sense *wile* prob. became associated with WIEL, q.v.; cf. the parallelism of *byrygle* (which occurs beside *bygyle* in Shoreham's poems) and *biwiȝelien* (Layamon), *biwihelin* (St. Juliana). The relation of *wile* to the synonymous *wilt* is obscure.]

1. A crafty, cunning, or deceitful trick; a sly, insidious, or underhand artifice; a stratagem, ruse. Formerly sometimes in somewhat wider sense: A piece of deception, a deceit, a delusion. Chiefly *pl.* (in *sing.* now *arch.* or *poet.*).

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1128 He hit dide forδi þæt he wolde þurh his micele wiles ðær beon wær it tweolf monδ oδδe mare. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6635 All þatt badd he þurrh awikedom & all þurrh ille wiless. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 385 A wilde der is δat is ful of fele wiles, fox is hire to name. *Ibid.* 541 Dis deuel is mikel wiδ wil and maȝt. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 361 Manyon trowyn on here wyiys, And many tymes þe pye hem gyiys. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 539 Hereþ now of a quynte wyle, How eche of þo þoughte oþer gyle. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1360 Þe world..ledes a man with wrenkes and wyles. *c* 1350 *Ipomadon* 6674 Imayne hathe an while fonde And thought hym to haue begyld. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 129 With suche wiles as thei caste. *Ibid.* 130 Thei schope among hem such a wyle, The king was dad withinne a whyle. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4093 She knewe eche wrenche and every gise Of love and every wile. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 189 To conquest landis and heritagis fra Cristin folk, with wyiis and falsheide. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 377 With wrath or wyhyllys we mȝt ȝyrre wyatte. 1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1885) II. 13 Whilest I was working witty whiles in Fraunce, I was at home supplanted. 1573 *Satyr. Poems Reform.* xl. 30 Bot sum, perchance, that winks mair wyielie, Will say thay wait ane wyle that I na wist. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 20 Sure these are but imaginarie wiles, And lapland Sorcerers inhabite here. 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* I. xlii. 62 By force, or wiles, to master the persons of all men he can. GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 36 He by a wile drew me to one Afternoon on the Week Lecture day there. 1781 ... PER *Hope* 649 This .. Rejects all treaty; penetrates all wiles. 1805 SCOTT *Talism.* xix, That Richard would burst through the flimsy wiles you spread for him. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 216 By the fraud of a two-fold wile. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* lxx. II. 349 The wiles by which its members are lured or driven to their goal.

b. Without implication of deceit: A subtle contrivance; a skilful device or scheme; an artifice, 'dodge'. *Obs.* or merged in prec. sense.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4153 Bot sin he algat sal be ded Do it þan wit sulik a wile þat yee your handes ne þer-wit file. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXB.) xxxiii. 149 Þai vse anoþer wyle for to get þis gold with. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1148 For wele wist þai þam nane to wyn to þe cite. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1176 Wattir fra thaim forsuth can nocht be set; Sum wthyr wyill wa worthis for to get. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 224, I coud eschew hir presence be no wyle. *a* 1568 PRESTON *New Cust.* (1634) 21 We think God not able to doe it, except we help him with wyles and tricks..of our own. 1830 A. CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Painters* (ed. 2) I. 235 He became acquainted with all the wiles and stratagems of position and light and shade.

c. In lighter sense: An amorous or playful trick; a piece of sportive cunning or artfulness.

c 1600 J. LANE in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 32 Venus straight courted him with many a wile. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 27 Haste thee nymph, and bring with thee.. Quips and Cranks, and wanton Wiles, Nods, and Becks, and Wreathed Smiles. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Songs* xiii, Victoria shews me all her wiles, Which yet I dare not shun. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 183 E'en children followed with endearing wile. *a* 1839 PRAED *Charades* ix, And telling of Love's wiles To ears that listen. 1849 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shaksp.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 362 He read the hearts of men and women,.. and their second thought, and wiles; the wiles of innocence. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, Lady Tippins's winning wiles are contagious. 1880 MORRIS *Ode of Life* 27, I treasure up each baby wile.

d. *spec.* A cunning turn or other trick of the hare to escape the hunters.

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 128 The wiles and ruses, which these timid Creatures make use of to save themselves. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 202 The puzzling Pack unravel Wile by Wile, Maze within Maze. 1781 W. BLANE *Ess. Hunting* (1788) 210 The wiles of the Hare have been all along the study of my leisure hours.

2. Deceit or deceitfulness; craft, cunning, subtlety, guile. Now *rare*.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 719 Pow wost I do it for no wyle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 8 Gret foly, quhile, & vantones. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2239 Falshode, wrong & while. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1815 Sleythe, falshed, or any whyle. 15.. DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 41 That ȝe haue nether witt nor wyll To win ȝour saiff ane bettir name! 1634 MILTON *Comus* 906 Through the force, and through the wile Of unblest inchanter vile. 1814 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XX. 114 Michael Scot, Practised in every slight of magic wile. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* V. iii, This Godwin is a man of treachery and wile. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 7 May 576/1 The humour but not the wile of the publisher stopped at this point.

3. a. Applied to particular mechanical contrivances: see quots. **b.** (*nonce-use.*) An ingenious or fanciful figure or device.

1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* I. (1677) 18 Engines that we take Deer withal, are called Wiles. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 446 Throok the wyle, the thawcrook, the twister. 1825 JAMIESON, *Wile, wylie*, an instrument for twisting straw ropes. Dumfr. 1849 NEALE *Seaton. Poems, Edom* XXVI, Ivory, carved in thousand curious wiles.

Wile, *v.* [f. WILE *sb.*, or aphetic f. BIWILE.]

†1. *trans.* To deceive by a wile; to beguile, delude. *Obs. rare* (exc. as implied in other senses).

c 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodora*) 312 Quhat, wenys þu I wald þe wile, Gud douchtir?

2. To bring, draw, or get by a wile (a person or animal to or from a place, course of action, etc., or a thing from a person); to lead, induce, or obtain by craft or cunning.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 213 Wylyliche heo wyled hir wenches a-way. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2691 3it som ageyn hym wyled A grete part of his pepill. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 233 Whence is yond warlow with his wand that thus wold wyle oure folk away? *c* 1475 *Rauf Collyear* 709 Allace, that I was bidder wylit. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* ii. 840 From vs no man wyll hym wyle. *c* 1560 A. ... þairout ... *Poems* ... the pure volatill he wylis to the net. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 34 When Iuno wil'd the truli. 1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (ROXB.) xxiii, Wyelling fond louers sometime from their wits. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xl. 23 My wofull hairt away with thee thou wyld. Fra me to be exyld. 1789 BURNS *Blue-Eyed Lassie* 9 She talk'd, she smil'd, my heart she wil'd. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, He could wile the very flounders out o' the Firth. 1893 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xviii, He's such winning ways he wiles one over to anything. 1879 STEVENSON *Lay Morals, etc.* (1911) 207 She could neither be driven nor wiled into the parish kirk. *fig.* 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 48 To wile the length from languorous hours, and draw The sting from pain.

†b. *refl.* To get *away* by stealth, steal *away*.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3908 Whills he myghte wile hyme awaye, and wyne to hir speche.

3. (as a substitute for WHILE *v.* 3) To divert attention pleasantly from (something painful or

tedious); to charm *away*; *esp.* to cause (time) to pass *away* pleasantly or insensibly: = BEGUILE *v.* 5.

Cf. L. *decipere tempus*, F. *tromper le temps*.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. x, He persuaded his sisters, therefore, to walk out with him, to wile away at once expectation and retrospection. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. x, Her smile..Wiled the old harper's mood away. 1827 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiv. II. 379 Happy industry, that wiles the toils of labour with a song. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xlvi, I was reading a book to-night, to wile the time away. 1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sports For. Lands* II. v. 179 We..used to wile away the day with all manner of fun. 1880 'VERNON LEE' *Italy* II. iii. 59 Foreigners who came to study art or to wile away a lazy existence.

Hence **Wiling** *vbl. sb.*

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 972 The vther .. Concludit schortlie for to alea him, For vyling of his syluer fra him.

Wile, obs. f. VILE *a.*, WALE *sb.*[2] and *v.*[1], WEEL[2], WHILE, WILL.

Wileare, pseudo-archaic f. WHILERE.

1616 J. LANE *Contin. Sqr.'s T.* v. 585 Whence they whoe woold Algarsife killd wileare.

Wilecoit, obs. form of WYLIECOAT *Sc.*

Wilele, obs. form of WILILY.

† **Wilely,** *a. Obs.* [f. WILE *sb.* + -LY[1].] = WILY. (Also in comb.)

1586 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xxiv. 10 The faughter herin, so wilely witted, To saue his lyfe, apealth to be repride. 1872 in D. Digges *Complete Ambass.* (1655) 219 Your Mr. Worseley, whom I found wilely and wilful. 1675 H. MORE in R. Ward *Life* (1710) 276 'Twill find a Million of Tergiversations and wilely Reasonings to excuse a Man from his Duty. 1709 SACHEVERELL *Serm. 5 Nov.* 21 The Crafty Insidiousness of such wilely Volpones. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 79 (1794) III. 248 Son of Henry Waldron,..under the wilely alias of George Barrington.

Wilen, obs. form of WHILOM.

Wilesome, var. WILSOME *a.*[1]

Wiley, obs. form of WILY.

Wilful (wi·lfŭl), *a.*[1] (*adv.*, *sb.*) Compared **wilfuller, wilfullest** (both *rare*). Also 3–4 **wil(le)uol, wyl(le)fol,** 3–7 **wilfull,** 3–5, 7–8 (9 *U.S.*) **willful,** 4 **wyluolle, (weleful),** 4–5 **willef(f)ul,** 4–6 *Sc.* **wilful**(l, also various forms with *y, ll, ff*, with or without final *e*. [f. WILL *sb.*[1] + -FUL: not recorded in OE. (but see WILFULLY): cf. WILLFUL.]

1. Asserting or disposed to assert one's own will against persuasion, instruction, or command; governed by will without regard to reason; determined to take one's own way; obstinately self-willed or perverse. (Of persons or personal attributes, or *transf.* of actions: see also 5.)

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 *Pertinaces in male eliminat ecclesia* holie chirche deleð fro cristendom, þo þe wilfulle ben here sinnes to luuen. *c* 1250 in *O. E. Misc.* 184 Hwan þu sixst on leode King þat is wilful. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 933 For verray sloupe and opere wilful tacches. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 280 Men or wemen of wilful mode, þat order of religion takes. 1589 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 34 The seid Henry is sklanderus and a wylfull person and wyll not be ordered but after his owne wyll. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 256 Some blinde and wilfull worshipper. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* 43 He that to day is not willyng, will to morrow bee more wilful. 1603 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 303 To wilfull men, The iniuries that they themselues procure, Must be their Schoole-Masters. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. vi. 24 The smallest disappointment..will put wilful young people out of temper. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xi, One..In her wilful grief would break Her bow and winged reeds. 1867 SWINBURNE *Blake* (1868) 190 These opinions, and stranger than these, he put forth in the cloudiest style, the wilfullest humour, and the stormiest excitement.

Comb. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 34 What wilfull-hearted man can be so apt to believe, that our blessed Lady had such estimation of morter and stones?

† b. In good sense: Strong-willed, strongly persistent. *Obs. rare.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5663 A myghtful [*v. r.* wilfull] man was Maryus, Of fair speche merueillous. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 92 Being now become wilfull in our indeauours.

† 2. Having the will *to do* something; purposing, intending; wishful, desirous. Also said of the purpose or desire: Eager, earnest. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 162 Nou yzif ane yongne boryels and ane newene knizt. Mochel habbeþ þos of uele þoştes newe diuerses and wyluolle. Þe borgeys wylneþ to chapfari..þe knyzt..wilneþ corteyseyes to done an largeliche yeue. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 345 Arayit rycht awisely, Willful to do chewalry. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 361 Whan that he..hadde his wilful pourpos wonne Of al this Erthe under the Sonne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 725 [She] Wan þe thy worship & wilfull desire. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 2919 Wysman ar wylfull to do grace, & mercyable in petwous cas. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 270 On fut I aprent into my bayr sark, Wilfull for till compleyt my langaum wark. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 77 Be wilfull to kill and vnskilfull to store, And looke for no foison.

† 3. Willing; consenting; ready to comply with a request, desire, or requirement. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 266 The worthy kyng, quhen he has seyn His host..wilfull to fulfill His liking, with gud hert and will. 1498 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 207 Gif thai lordis..defendis maliciously the ref, and is nocht wilfull to mak reformacioun and redress. *c* 1460 *Ozney Rgr.* 39 With þe wilfull consent of þe Kyng and of the Aduocates of the same church. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2641 With þe gifte þat Raph blost made to þe church. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515/9 He must..suffre trybulacyon mekely, and do almes dedes wylfully. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. iii. 89 Wilfully I obey thair command.

† b. With good will, heartily; 'with a will'.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 386 And with that word sa wilfully He dang on. *Ibid.* VIII. 462 Thai..prikit furth sa wilfully To vyn the ladis at thai saw pass. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 7 First understond, and willfully procede.

† 2. Of one's own free will, of one's own accord, voluntarily. Rarely in reference to an inanimate thing: Spontaneously, 'of itself'. *Obs.*

c 1000 in Haupt's *Zeitschr. f. deutschen Alt.* IX. 435/2 *Sponte*, wilfu[l]lice. 1387 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 2163 How moche more be þei cursyd of god; þat bynde hem-self wilfully. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 48 Syth he þat wrouzte al þe worlde was wilfullich nedy. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xvi. (1839) 176 Hem that sleen hem self wilfully, for love of here Ydole. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 87 If þe puluis putte in go willfully out with þe dede flesch þi nede is wele sped. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 277 (Add. MS.) Do of thi clothes wilfully, or thou shalt agayn thi wille. *a* 1536 TINDALE *Exam. W. Thorpe* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 155/1 The night before yᵗ Christ Jesu wold suffer wilfullye passion for mankinde. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 15 She wilfully her sorrow did augment. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xi. 403 Martyrs are to die willingly but not wilfully. 1705 CLARKE *Disc. Nat. Relig.* (1706) 103 A Man is obliged not to depart wilfully out of this Life, which is the general Station that God has appointed him.

† b. According to one's own will; at will, freely. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 604 But ȝe, folliche folk ȝour fals godus alle Wil-fully worschipen wiþ wordliche godus. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1782 To me tended þei nouȝt bot tok forþ here wey wilfulli to sum wildernesse. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 327 Ouer all thys hors so went wylfully here and there ouer all where at hys lust wold. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxx 8 But since your worth (wide as the Ocean is) The humble as the proudest saile doth beare, My sawsie barke (inferior farre to his) On your broad maine doth wilfully appeare.

† 3. With desire, longingly. *Obs. rare.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3300 þat quen & hire douȝter & meliors þe schene wayteden out at a windowe wilfulli in-fere. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VIII. 497 And all did wilfully expect, the siluer-throned morne.

4. Purposely, on purpose, by design, intentionally, deliberately. Chiefly, now always, in bad sense (cf. WILFUL *a.*[1] 5); often with admixture of, or passing into, sense 5; occas. implying 'maliciously'.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 284 Yf þat he wole take of it no cure, Whan þan it cometh, but wylfully it weyuen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 285 How myȝte he axe mercy, or any mercy 'hym helpe, þat wykkedliche & willefullich wolde mercy anynte? *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. li. (1859) 54 He that wylfully deceyued hym self, who may hym releue of myschyef? 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 184/2 Money so molten, beten or wilfully broken. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martilogy* 67 b, The feest also of saynt Dace byshop of mylen, yᵗ in his journey toward constantynople was wylfully lodged in a hous yᵗ was occupyed wᵗ wycked spiryte. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* C 3, For those that set houses on fire wilfully, they are smoked to death. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* (1757) 242 Deaf to all I could say, and so wilfully insensible of the impendant destruction. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliv, His administration was wilfully careless, now too indulgent, and now allied to despotism. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 545 Instead of the money came excuses..which ought to have opened the eyes of all who were not wilfully blind. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* VIII. 107 A mill containing 500 of his looms was wilfully burnt down. 1911 *Ac. 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 6 § 1 If any person lawfully sworn as a witness .. wilfully makes a statement .. which he knows to be false.

5. In a self-willed manner, perversely, obstinately, stubbornly.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. v. (1912) 33 The mother..beyng determinately (least I shoulde say of a great Lady, wilfully) bent to marrie her to Demagoras. *Ibid.* II. xiii. 232 Now so evill could she conceale her fire, and so wilfully persevered she in it, that [etc.]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 148, I .. demand Why thou against the Church, our holy Mother, So wilfully dost spurne. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 654/1 Surely of such desperat persons as will wilfully followe the course of theyr owne follye, there is noe compassion to be had. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm., Luke xii. 47, 48* Wks. 1717 I. 425 He that first acknowledgeth him for his Prince, and then affronts him, deserves to be prosecuted with the utmost severity, because he did it wilfully, and in meer contempt. 1726– [see 4].

Wilfulness (wi·lfŭlnės). [f. WILFUL *a.*[1] + -NESS.]

1. The quality or character of being wilful; disposition to assert one's own will against reason, persuasion, etc.; determination to take one's own way; self-will, perversity, obstinacy, stubbornness.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 Willfulnesse letteð þe mannes shrift, þat þincheð uuel þat man him wile neden his sinnes to forleten and fro þe deuel to gode turnen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 176 On this wise war thai nobill men Throu wilfulness all losit then. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2199 The contrarie of al this is wilfulnesse. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3661 Sith ache wrouȝt only of wilfulnes, With-oute conseil or avyseines. 1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI* c. 3 § 11 Yf thele refuse of willfulnes and stubbernes to worke. 1583 WHITGIFT in Strype *Life* (1718) App. 67 Your Lordship further semith to burthen me with Wyllfulness. .. There ys a Difference betwixt Wilfullness and Constancie. 1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* (1693) 238 A Child-like state, accompanied with, (1) Weakness. (2) Instability. And, (3) Wilfulness. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 76 That obstinacy and wilfulness, which renders men so insensible to the motives of religion. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. vi, She could..contradict, with a pretty wilfulness, his most favourite dogmas. 1850

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 211 When Wals are so wilfull, to heare without warning. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. ii. 44 I will..divulge Page..for a secure and wilfull Acteon.

† 4. Proceeding from the will; done, undertaken, assumed, or undergone of one's own free will or choice; not compulsory or enforced: = VOLUNTARY A. 1 b, 3. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. xi. (1868) 98, I ne trete nat heere now of welaful moeuynges of the sowle. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 14 Men þat haue..taken cristis mekenes and gret pouert bi wilful profession. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 142 The secunde is, þat þe behouis liue in wilfull powerte. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 218 The gret debait in Wallace wit can waid, Betwix kyndnes and wyllfull wow he maid. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* XXVI. (Bann.), Do wilfull pennance here, and ȝe sall wend..to ioy withouttin end. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* (1538) 37 b, By wylfull kepynge of the commaundement we be sure that we loue God. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. ix. 131 He there died..through his wilfull want of bread and water. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 1042 No more be mention'd then of violence Against our selves, and wilful barrenness, That cuts us off from hope. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 715 The silent stranger stood amazed to see Contempt of wealth, and wilful poverty.

† b. Involving unfettered exercise of will; arbitrary; *wilful empire*, absolute sovereignty, autocracy. *Obs.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xviii. (S.T.S.) II. 84 Thus sall It be clerely schewin..quhidder wilfull empire or public liberte be erast establist be þir lawis.

5. Done on purpose or wittingly; purposed, deliberate, intentional; not accidental or casual. Chiefly, now always, in bad sense, of an action either evil in itself or blameworthy in the particular case; often (with colour of sense 1) implying 'perverse, obstinate'. Also *transf.* of the agent, as *wilful murderer*, one who commits wilful murder.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9633 It was his aun..wilful sin þat did vs all fra him to tuin. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) Mortall synnes, & carnall consentes to the same, and wylfull delectacyons in synne. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 9 b, Wylfull murtherers, whom God commaundeth to be taken from the aulter. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 13 Although it be wilfull and purposed murther. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 142 How will their grudging stomackes be prouok'd To wilfull Disobedience, and Rebell? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* v. ii, Can there be wilfuller destruction? 1736 BAILEY (fol.) s.v. *Waste*, Wilful Waste makes woful Want. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 20 Charge not..Your wilful suicide on God's decree. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* lxvi. VIII. 387 Though his character has..been misrepresented through hostile prejudices and wilful calumny. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxviii, On a charge of wilful and corrupt perjury.

B. as *adv.* † 1. = WILFULLY 4, 5. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16429 To þaa wilful wod he taght þe lauerd es al-weldand. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 429 Dishobeyssaunt or wilful necligent. ? 1541 COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* (1547) d vij, Forgetfull what ye sayd afore, or els wilfull blind. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. iii, Could she [Fortune] heare, yet is she wilfull mad. 1595 SHAKS. *John* V. ii. 124 The Dolphin is too wilfull opposite And will not temporize with my intreaties. 1596 [see BLAME *v.* 6]. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* li. 13 Since from thee going, he went wilfull slow. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 235 If euer I were wilfull-negligent.

† 2. Voluntarily, of free will: = WILFULLY 2. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 87 So þat whanne þei schulden ben most wilful pore & preche þe gospel of cristis pouert & his apostlis. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 161 The sete of dome where the wylfull powre shall sytte and deme wyth cryste.

C. as *sb.* A wilful person; *rarely*, a wilful act.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXI, Nay, then, if wilful will to water, wilful must drench. 1829 — *Anne of G.* XVI, That is as much as to say, wilful will to it. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* III. v, One of those wicked wilfuls that men make, Nor shame to call it nature. 1884 *Academy* 14 Nov. 322/1 The unfortunates or the wilfuls who are under restraint.

Hence † **Wilfulhead** (whence irreg. † **Wilfulheadness** in same sense), † **Wilfulship,** wilfulness; † **Wilfulling** *nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. *wilful* + -ING[1]], a wilful act.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 355 Lyk tyrauntis of lumbardye That vsyn *wilfulhed & tyrannye. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xii. 63 Only that thyng euery wyght may which he may by ryght and nought of wilful-hede. 1485 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 583 Yf any personne of obstinacie or *wilful-hednesse will withstand..the said..Rules. 1609 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 610 No more bay wit thy *wilfullings His wrath's dread Torrent. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 203 Þat ofer is *wilfulshipe and lichamliche lustes. *c* 1280 *MS. Douce* 139 lf. 157 Þe idel mon..þat þurstes of wilfulscipe and drinket sorwenesse.

† **Wilful,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. *wil*, WILE *sb.* + -FUL.] Crafty, wily.

c 1425 *Cursor M.* 21807 (Trin.) Heronde..þat wilful [*Cott.* wili] wolf bat ferde so fals Aeynes fremde & frendes ala.

Wilfully (wi·lfŭli), *adv.* Forms: see WILFUL *a.*[1] [Late OE. *wilfullice*, f. **wilfull* WILFUL *a.*[1] (cf. OE. *carfull* careful, *carfullice* carefully): see -LY[2].]

† 1. Willingly, readily, without reluctance; patiently, submissively (with *suffer*, etc.); gladly, 'fain' (with *will* vb. expressing desire: cf. 3). *Obs.*

a 1100 *Gloss. Ælfric's Colleq.* 146 (Napier 99/1) *Voluenter*, wilfu[l]lice. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 279 Alle þat cleuli for þi luue measlae and pouerte wilfulliche bolien. 1387 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1100 Men schuld wilfully fede [illegible] *Bruce* II. 272 [illegible] Rewardyt [illegible] 7 Whanne we comen to Jerusalem, bretheren receyueden vs wilfulli, *c* 1460 *Godstow Reg.* 132 Mansel..willid & accepcid wilfulli

Lowell *Study Wind., Carlyle* (1871) 98 To confound it [*sc.* Will] with its irritable and purposeless counterfeit Wilfulness.

b. (with *pl.*) An instance of this, a wilful act.

1823 Coleridge *Table-t.* 23 Oct., Whole volumes of Wordsworth's poems were formerly neglected..solely because of some few wilfulnesses, if I may so call them, of that great man. 1883 Spurgeon *Illustr. & Medit.* 221 The rebellions and wilfulnesses of mankind.

2. † **a.** Purpose, determination, resolution. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 416 Thou shalt considere if thy myght and thy power may consenten and suffise to thy wilfulnesse and to thy conseillours. 1566 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Ivstine* XII. 53 He.. had slaine himselfe, had he not beene preuented by his friendes. .. He continued certaine daies after in this wilfulnesse to die. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 28 In this wilfulnesse we continued till the 21.

b. Intentional character (of an act); the fact of being done on purpose.

1876 Mozley & Whiteley *Law Dict.* s.v. *Murder*, The deliberateness and wilfulness, or, as we prefer to call it, the intention, which constitutes the crime of murder.

† **3.** Readiness of will, willingness, inclination.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxxix. (1495) cc v b/2 The wylfulnesse [of a horse] is know yf he is bolde of herte. 1408–9 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 185/1 Newe knyȝtes ben chosen not onlich by strengþe & myȝt of body bote also by lusti wilfulnesse to werre.

† **4.** Liberty to do what one will; free will or choice; voluntary action. *Obs.*

c 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 628 Falshode is so full of cursydnesse, That highe worschip may never haue enterprise Where hit rayneth, and hath the wylfulnyt.. 1501 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 68 [The lands should be redeemable] be dissent or wilfulnes of the said Ihonne or William his fader. 1530 Palsgr. 289/1 Wylfulnesse, *voluntairete.* 1553 Bradford *Serm. Repentance* (1574) C ij b, Such workes as they neede not to do, but of their own voluntarines & wylfulnes (wylfulnes in deede).

Wilga (wi·lgä). [Native name in New South Wales.] An Australian tree of the genus *Geijera* (N. O. *Rutaceæ*), esp. *G. parviflora*. Also *attrib.*

1889 Maiden *Usef. Plants Australia* 130 *Geijera parviflora*, Wilga, Sheep-bush, Dogwood and Willow. 1891 'R. Boldrewood' *Sydney-side Sax.* vii, We rode..through a wilga scrub.

Wilger (wi·lgəɹ). *local.* Also 6, 9 **willger**, 7 **welger**, 9 **-er**, **wolgar**. [Obscurely f. *wilghe*, Willow *sb.*]

1. = Willow *sb.* 1.

1688–3 in *Hartland Gloss.* (E.D.S.) s.v., Pd. for welgers 1*s.* 6*d* 1867 Rock *Yim an' Nell* XXXIV, Nor welgars, no, nor withy-bans 'll vix ther herts ner bin' ther hans.

attrib. 1853 in *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XXVII. 60 Let Berry the wolgar plot, 1*s.* a bundle next year. 1888 *Ibid.* XIV. 150 Down by the wilger plot.

2. = Willow *sb.* 3, Willy *sb.*[1] 2.

1542 *Admir. Crt. Warrant Bk. I*, 19 Aug. (MS.), Septem duodenas excipularum anglice vij dosen of shrympe leapes vulgariter voc' willgers.

3 = Willow *sb.* 4, Willy *sb.*[1] 3.

1871 *Daily News* 26 Aug. (Leicester), A recommendation that more care should be exercised in the use of 'willgers' or 'devils'.

† **Wilgern**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Will *sb.*[1] + north. ME. *gern*, a. ON. *gjarn* Yern *a.*

This word or a corresp. **wilgern* survived in 17th c. north. dial. *willern* (Ray).]

Wilful, perverse.

c 1385 *Metr. Hom.* 62 Godd..gart them lef thair wilgern werk.

Wilghe, obs. form of Willow.

Wilgosse, obs. form of Wild goose.

† **Wilhede.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 wyl-. [f. Will *sb.*[1] + -head.] Will.

1340 *Ayenb.* 164 Magnanimité is heynesse gratnesse and noblesse of wylhede [orig. *corage*].

Wili, wilie, obs. forms of Wily.

Wilik, obs. form of Vilely.

Wililly (wəi·lili), *adv.* Forms: see Wily; also 5 **wilele**, 6 **wylely**, **-ie**, **wilely**. [f. Wily *a.* + -ly [2].] In a wily manner; craftily, cunningly, by stratagem.

a 1400 *Pistill of Swan* 213 Wylyliche heo wyled hir wenches away. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 575 (Douce MS.) Wilele þes wighte mens þaire wepenes þey welde. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 15 If peraventure þe pacient

Scot. (S.T.S.) I. 268 Wittillie and wylelie tuecheng the king. 1611 *Bible* Josh. ix. 4 They did worke wilily, and went and made as if they had beene embassadours. 1688 Bunyan *Holy War* 243 'Tis you Mr. Carnal Security that have wilily stripped Mansoul, and driven her glory from her. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 85 And wylily they shot the lock. 1847 Gosse *Birds Jamaica* 412 A flock of swimming Pelicans, wilily endeavouring to approach some unwary one. 1889 W. Ross *Aberdour & Inchcolme* I. 23 He wilily succeeded to his title and estates.

Williness (wəi·linés). Forms: see Wily. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or character of being wily; craftiness, cunning, guile.

Wks. (1916) 133 A mowght þe qwyche ys smal off qwantyte with thynne lyppys sygayffyth onmyghtynes, forffulnes, and wylynes. 1566 Olde *Antichrist* 16a b, So (with certain foxlike wylynesse) they clooke the bloody mannyer. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 2 Neither let any man suppose that from willnes without force, nor force without iudgement, can preceed any proiect of worthy consideration. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 181 To defend them from all Assaults and Williness of the Devil. 1818 Mrs. Shelley *Frankenstein* xix. (1823) II. 126, I will watch with the wiliness of a snake, that I may sting with its venom. 1878 Bayne *Purit. Rev.* iii. 82 He had the wariness and wiliness of the cat.

Wiling, *vbl. sb.*: see Wile *v.*

Wilis, obs. form of Whiles.

Wilk, wilke, obs. forms of Welk, Which.

Wilkatt, obs. form of Wild cat.

† **Wilkin.** *Obs.* Also 5 **wylkyn**, **wilken**, 6 **wellkyn**, 7 **welkyn**, **wilking**. [? orig. a proper name, perh. of Du. or LG. origin.] A ram; a pile-driving engine.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 156 Rammes of Yron called Wylkyns..j. 1497 *Ibid.* 91 Wilken Rammers of Iren ..ij. *Ibid.* 94 Wilken ramme of iren..j. 1580 in P. Thompson *Hist. Boston* (1856) 310 Lord Clynton to borrow the wellkyn of brasse of this Corporation for his necessarie, according to his desire. 1657 *Ibid.*, A great brasse welkyn belonging to the borough, being now no longer useful to this borough, to be sold. 1694 *Ibid.*, 10*l.* paid to John Sherlock to buy a wilking with at Nottingham. [1804 *Ibid. note*, applied to a pile-driving apparatus.]

Wilkume, obs. form of Welcome.

Will (wil), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–2 **willa**, (1 -o), 1–7 **wil**, 2–4 **wile**, 2–7 **wille**, 3–6 **wylle**, 4–6 **wyll**, **wyl** (2 **welle**, 4 **wele**, *Sc.* **vil**, 5 **wel**, **well**, **wulle**, **wyle**, 6 *Sc.* **vill**, 9 *Sc. dial.* **wull**), 1– **will**. [OE. *willa* wk. masc. = OFris. *willa* (EFris. *wel*, WFris. *wille*), OS. *willio*, MDu. *wille*, Du. *wil*, OHG. *willo*, *willjo* (MHG., G. *wille*, *willen*), ON. *vili*, *vilja-* (Sw. *vilja*, Da. *vilje*), Goth. *wilja* :— OTeut. **wiljon-* :— pre-Teut. **weljon-*; also OE. *wil(l* str. n. (chiefly in gen.: see sense 10), = ON. *vil*, and OE. *gewil*, *-wile* str. n. I-will; see Will *v.*[1]]

I. 1. Desire, wish, longing; liking, inclination, disposition (*to do* something). In mod. use coloured by or merged in sense 5.

Beowulf 635 Þæt ic anunga eowra leoda willan geworhte. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 50 Ic beo ȝearo sona..willan þines. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 13 Da ne synt acennede..of flæsces willan, ne of weres willan; ac hig synt of gode acennede. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Wilnen, & habe wille uorte beon iwilned. 12.. *Moral Ode* 172 (Egerton MS.) Þe brode stret is vre iwil ȝe is us lod for to lete. Þe ȝe al folewed his wil, fared bi þusse strete. *c* 1300 *Beket* 121 So gret wille him com to To wende eft to the holi lond, that he nuste what do. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 421 Ac nou þat wil þat is to gode His al iset bi-hinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 9 Wyþoute greate wille an willinge uor to harmi oþren. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XV. 79, I trow that he Sall haf no gret will for to ficht. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 14 Fastinge..refrainithe the flesshe of euelle willes. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1858) 69 He had grete wylle to goo to Ihерusalem. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* I. 91 As he and his Souldiours had no will to marie the daughters of the Frenchmen. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 63 My will is something sorted with his wish. 1601 — *Jul. C.* III. iii. 3, I haue no will to wander foorth of doores, Yet something leads me foorth.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xvii, Don't stop him, Maria,..if he has the will to strike me, let him. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* vii, There was a will, and a longing, more imperious than mere curiosity. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xxxiii, This long and sure-set liking, This boundless will to please.

b. An inclination *to do* something, as contrasted with power or opportunity.

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. iii, Shee hath not onely power and will T'abuse the vulgar wanting skill. 1647 W. Browne *Polexander* III. iv. 113 The Queene..is perswaded I have serv'd her because I had a will to it. 1667 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 308 They desired the power, and want not the will, to do us an ill turn. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 879 Not forc'd to Goodness, but by Will inclin'd. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 178 P 14 Great Numbers who quarrel with their Condition have wanted not the Power but the Will to obtain a better State. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxv, Your lordship'.. will experience that the faculty of the present proprietor to entertain his friends is greatly abridged,..the

1879 Froude *Cæsar* x. 111 No one questioned that it could be done if there was a will to do it.

† **2.** *spec.* Carnal desire or appetite: = Desire *sb.* 2.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 19 Þa flæsclican willan & þa ungereclican uncysta. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 358 Weres wylla to ȝefremmanne nime bares ȝeallan. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 37 All fleschly wyll for to for-sak. 1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 247 Thus..holds he disputation, Tweene frozen conscience and hot burning will. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 164.

3. *transf.* (chiefly as obj. of *have*): That which one desires, (one's) 'desire'. Now *arch.* or *poet.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John v. 30 Ne soecco ic ullo min ah ullo his seðe mec sendde. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1097 Se cyng ȝesæah þæt he nan þinge his willes þær ȝeforðian ne mihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26880 Þe warlas sal noght in þis man Hesse sa mikel of his will, Als if he dessell did ill, *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 37 Have ȝe or wyl ȝe waxeth unwraste. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 73 He .. With blinde tales so hire ladde, That all his wille of hire he hadde. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1309 Bettyr were a chylde to be ynbore, Then let hyt haue the wyll & for euer be lore.

thou hast thy will. 1599 — *Lucr.* 728 The sundrie dangers of his wils obtaining. 1617 W. Adams *Lect.* in Randall *Mem. Fagans* (Hakl. Soc.) 23 God..would not suffer them to haue their willes of vs. 1629 Lodge *Edmo.* § 35 He had the Will of his Maid before he could Speak or Go. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* I. iv, The Wedding-Guest..listens like a three-years' child: The Mariner hath his will. 1865 Swinburne *Atalanta* 929 Have all thy will of words; talk out thine heart. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xxv, A lad that lives and has his will Is worth a dozen dead.

b. A desire or wish as expressed in a request; hence (contextually) the expression of a wish, a request, petition (sometimes passing into the sense 'a command': see 7). *arch.* or *dial.*

What's your will? (now *arch.* or *dial.*, esp. *Sc.*): What do you want? What do you wish me to do?

1340 *Ayenb.* 138 Panne zayþ he..þet he y-herþ þe benes and þe wylles of þe poure. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1918 When Castor hade clanly consayuit his wille, He onswared hym honestly with ornyng a litill. *a* 1520 Douglas *K. Hart* II. 21 May thow nocht heir? Langar bow I culd schout! What war your will? I will cum in but dout. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 92 *Sil.* What's your will? *Pro.* That I may compasse yours. *Sil.* You haue your wish: my will is euen this, That presently you hie you home to bed. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 7 *Alex.* Soothsayer. *Sooth.* Your will? *Char.* Is this the Man? Is't you sir that know things? 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* v. iii, Tell me now, Mr. Acres, in case of an accident, is there any little will or commission I could execute for you? 1808 Jamieson s. v., *What's your will?* a common Scotticism for, 'What did you say?' It is also given as a reply to one who calls. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* I. 5 When..one of the lasses looks from behind it, and says, 'What's your will and pleasure?'

c. *To take one's will*: to do as one pleases (in respect *of*). Chiefly *Sc.*

1825 Jamieson s. v., *To tak one's will o'.* 1. To treat or use as one pleases. 2. To take as much of any thing as one pleases. 1882 G. Macdonald *Castle Warlock* VI. He.. jist loot the maister tak his wull o' 'im! 1890 *Good Words* Aug. 565/2 Carr let his own horse take his will.

† **4.** Pleasure, delight, joy. *Obs.*

Beowulf 824 Denum eallum wearð eafter þam wælræse willa ȝelumpen. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 356 Forgife þe dryhten domweorðunga willan in woruldе & in wuldre blæd. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* 46 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 293 Mid engleне wille. *Ibid.* 62 Inouh luues wil and eche pleie. [*a* 1250: see 12 a.] *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 23 I his wilde wille went a-wal, with mone and mournyng muchel un-mete.

b. *To have no will of* (Sc.), † *in*: to take no pleasure in, have no liking for.

1609 *Bible* (Douay) Mal. I. 10, I have no wil in you. *a* 1626 in W. K. Tweedie *Sel. Biogr.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 353, I have na will of strangers. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xxii, Na, man; I hinna will o't.

II. 5. The action of willing or choosing to do something; the movement or attitude of the mind which is directed with conscious intention to (and, normally, issues immediately in) some action, physical or mental; volition.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 We..agyltaþ þurh seower þing, þurh ȝeþoht, & þurh word, & þurh weorc, & þurh willan. *c* 1230 ——— MS.) 123 Ga ut þrof wið wil of þin beorte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13750 He said noght allan, 'namar þou sin,' Bot 'lok þi will bi noght þar-in.' *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr's Prol.* 5, I wol seye as I kan With hertly wyl. *c* 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 160 Yff..he will geve hys dowttyr hys part of Snowys well..I wold with the glader wyll dele with hym. *a* 1619 Fletcher, etc. *Q. Corinth* III. ii, You know well Even actual sins committed without will, Are neither sins nor shame. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 615 But since the naked will obtains thy smile, Beneath this monument of praise unpaid. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* XXVIII, He strove to speak, but no voice answered his will. 1861 Mill *Utilitar.* IV. 59 Will, the active phenomenon, is a different thing from desire, the state of passive sensibility.

b. Intention, intent, purpose, determination. ? *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23355a If it sett þam in to will To mak anoiper erth or heuen. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXIII. (*George*) 1 Sete of sancte george is my will,..To translat þe haly story. 1390 Gower *Conf.* VIII. 3037* With al the will that I mai yive. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4228 Þai wetyn full wele þe wyllys of vs here, That we purpos a power to put in hor lond. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 267 Hou we

(2877) 2, I rested in that wyll & purpose. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 418/2 Of an [= one] Wille, *unanimis.* 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxxix. 92/2 Whan the flemynges..sawe the fierse wylles of them within. 1629 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* B 2, Your wills are good, and whilst I keepe your bills Instead of paiment I accept good wills. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* IV. iii, My Will at present is to have Dinner.

c. *Will to* with sb. or inf. (after G. *Wille zu*).

Cf. *Der Wille zum Leben* in the title of Schopenhauer's *Welt als Wille und Vorstellung* IV., 2819.

1823 J. C. Robertson *Percy Anecdotes* XI. *Imagination* 87 (*heading*) The Will to be Well. 1896 Tille tr. *Nietzsche's Thus Spake Zarathustra* 163 Wherever I found living matter I found will unto power. 1903 Chesterton *R. Browning* vi. 139 That really bolsterous will to live which may be found in *Martin Chuzzlewit*. 1907 Zimmern tr. *Nietzsche's Beyond Good & Evil* 90 Life itself is Will to Power. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* XXVIII. 370 The triumph of the will to live over the threatening assaults of death.

6. The power or capacity of willing; that faculty or function which is directed to conscious and intentional action; power of choice in regard to action. (See also Free will.)

c 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* XIV. § 2 Andgit & ȝemynd, & se ȝescead wisllica wille þæt hine þara twega lyste. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 288 Of sam willan cumað ȝeðohtas, and word, and weorc. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 219 Se fader and his wisdom..have beire wille þat is se hali ȝast. *c* 1200 Orm 11309 Wille tes hire þridde mahht Þurrh whatt mann himmes þeornienn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 664 He þam ȝaf þer will alfre; Þe ȝode to do, to leue þe ill. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 322 Thi will is thi principal, And hath the lordschipe of thi wit

c 1460 *Wisdom* 213 in *Macro Plays* 42 And I of þe soull am þe wyll. 1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 29 Euer the wyl cheuyth the yl, and lesyth the gud. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 115 The will of man is by his reason sway'd. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. vii. § 3 Appetite is the wills sollicitor, and the will is appetites controller; what we couet according to the one, by the other we often reiect. 1597 *Ibid.* v. xlviii. § 9 Will, whether it be in God or man, belongeth to the essence and nature of both. 1601 Shake. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 71 The cause is in my Will, I will not come. 1635 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* 63 Whose Wils and Vnderstandings have a combat before they can bee brought to a consent. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 106 All is not lost; the unconquerable Will,..And courage never to submit or yield. 1738 Pope *Universal Prayer* iii. Who..binding Nature fast in Fate, Left free the Human Will. 1848 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* iv. (1851) 80 In our Lord, first of all descendants of Adam, was will exhibited in that complete freedom, which was its normal condition and perfect state. 1880 Goldw. Smith in *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 203 The spring of all existence, and so of evil, is will, which Schopenhauer erects into a universal substance, apart from intelligence and consciousness.

b. With qualification, in reference to individual character; idiomatically in *a will of one's own*, implying a strong or self-assertive will, and hence used as a euphemism for 'wilfulness'.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 100 Schir Kay was haisty and hate, and of ane his will. 1752 Mrs. Lennox *Female Quix.* I. xi, Since I am not allowed any will of my own,..it matters not whether I am pleased or displeased. 1760 Foote *Minor* I. i, Was Charlotte to set up a will of her own,..she must expect to share the fate of her sister. 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Cant. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 342 If once she could be brought to assert a will of her own. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 422 A girl of high spirit and strong will.

7. Intention or determination that something shall be done by another or others, or shall happen or take place; (contextually) an expression or embodiment of such intention or determination, an order, command, injunction (cf. 3 b). Also *fig.*

Formerly freq. in the ejaculations (*By*) *God's will*, occas. *'ods my will* (Shaks. *A. Y. L.* iv. iii. 17): see God *sb.* 14 a.

Beowulf 1739 Him eal worold wendeð on willan. 835 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 575 Ic Abba gerefa Cyne & writan hate hu ealn willa is þæt mon ymb min ærfe gedoe æfter minum dæge. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 10 Gewurþe ðin willa on eorðan, swa swa on heofonum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 We sunegiað on-þain drihtenes welle ofter þenne we scolde. *c* 1200 Ormin 3381 All þho leȝȝde þatt o Godd & onn hiss læȝe wille. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 399 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Bute if we wurcheþ wyllen cristes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12322 Sco..dured noght, þat godds wil ne suld be wroght. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks* II. 55 Al þing þat shal come moot nedis come bi Goddis wille. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 48 Mi will is ferst that thou be schrive. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 874, I wait þour will, and quhat way þe wald that I wrocht. 1464–5 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1874) XII 31/1 Thai..sall.. entire þe kingis ward and there abide Enduring þe kingis will. 1543–4 *Act 35 Hen. VIII*, c. 1. § 1 It is the onlye pleasure and will of Almightie God howe longe his Highnes..shall lyve. 1558 in J. M. Stone *Hist. Mary I* (1901) App. 318 My mynd and will ys, that the said Codicell shall be accepted. 1601 Shake. *All's Well* II. iv. 56 In euery thing I waite vpon his will. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 7 Is it your will Claudio shall die to morrow? 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1025 Such was the will of Heav'n. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 96. P 2 It was the Will of Providence that Master Harry was taken very ill of a Fever. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* II. 144 They are all..dependent on the will of the magistrate. 1833 Tennyson *Dream Fair Wom.* lix, It comforts me in this one thought to dwell, That I subdued me to my father's will. 1841 Myrke *Cath. Th.* iii. § 2 The Books commonly called The Bible contain special Revelations of the Will of God. 1842 Tennyson *Dora* 43 My will is law. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* xcvii. III. 360 This method of consulting the popular will.

†**b.** Consent, acquiescence, permission, favour, good will. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 199 Wit criat will þan sal I telle How he sipen hared helle. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxviii. 154 In so moche þat he wanne ther by the wille & the love of Eueri man. *c* 1480 *Godstow Reg.* 362 With the wille and graunte of Raaf his sone and heire. 1535 Coverdale *Ier.* xliv. 19 Did we..poure vnto her drinkofferinges, to do her seruyce, without oure husbondes wylles?

c. Intent, purport (of a document; cf. 23); also, in *Sc. Law*, a clause in a summons expressing a royal command (see quot. 1684).

1439 in *Ancester* (1904) July 18 After that the will of my testament be fulfilled and my dettes paid. 1684 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst. Law Scot.* iv. 1. (1694) 236 The King in his Summons says, Our will is, &c. that ye cite such and such Persons, &c. which is called the Will of the Summons, and which Will of the Summons does comprehend a Command to the Messengers to cite the Defenders. 1743 Kames *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 67 It was necessary for the suspender to follow out the will of the letters.

8. Qualified by possessive, esp. in such phr. as †*if his will be*, *if it be his will* (= if it be his good pleasure) and as obj. of *do*, *work*, or the like: That which one wills should be done; (one's) 'pleasure'.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxix. 9 [xl. 8] Dæt ic doe willan ðinne, god. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 205 To secenne hwæt þæs willa sie. *a* 1000 *Menologium* 201 Sancta symbel þara þe sið oððe ær worhtan in worulde willan drihtnes. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1085 Rebete hit God almihtiza þonne his willa sy. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Gif hit his willa nere, ne mahte him nan deð ne nan pine derian. *c* 1205 Lay. 2793 & euer ælc wilde mon hefde al his wil to don. *c* 1250 *Bestiary* 42 Do ure drigten ded was, And doluen, also his wille was. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 407 Þe sex dais he wroght þat was his will. *Ibid.* 1229 To wrik þare wik[ke] wil þai thoght. 13.. *K. Horn* 202 (Harl. MS.) Ah gef hit is þi wille Help vs þat we ne spille. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 20 Ye sal lene yure alsen propir will, and do o þir mens. *c* 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, Bothe my dethe and my lyfe, Is inne the wille of thi wife. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 197 One þing wold I wite, if þi wil ware. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxvi[ii]. 12 Delyuer me not in to the wylles of myne aduersaries. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 295 The stronger must bee obeyed & hane his wille. 1590 Lodge *Rosalynde* (1592) O s b, Shall I then haue .. no comfort, but bee posted off to the will of time? 1607 Shake. *Cor.* iv. iv. 7 Direct me, if it be your will, where great Auffidius lies: Is he in Antium? 1765 Gray *Shakespeare* 13 If then he wreak on me his wicked will. 1828 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xii, If it's your will, I'll just tak a step as far as Dunse. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 90 Leaving misrule and violence to work their will among men.

†**9.** Undue assertion of one's own will; wilfulness, self-will. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Gif hwa is swa sunful..þet nulle.. for his sule heorte wil his scrift ihalden. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 169 Þat þurw here pride and here wil þeih fallen ofte in gret peril. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 77 Alle þe welles beþ of wit to holde wil þeroute. 1401 *26 Pol. Poems* iii. 38 By witles wille þey gedre pres. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 1562 With wyll and 3outhed duellis hee. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 28 Wyll wyll haue wyll, though will wo wyn. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 48 Lyinge, pickinge, sloothe, will, stubburnnesse. 1615 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Urania* xli. B 8, When hare-braind Will, o're Wit doth rule & raigne.

†**b.** A piece of wilfulness, a whim. *Obs. rare.*

1619 Purchas *Microcosmus* lxii. 623 Shall Christians lose ..the Hopes of Heauen..for a Will, for a Humour, for malicious Spight?

III. Special uses and phrases.

* †**10.** gen. sing. **willes**, etc., as adv. (or in advb. phr.) or predicative adj. *Obs.* **a.** simply (also in phr. *willes and woldes*: see Wield *sb.* 1 b), or with poss. pron.: Of one's own will; voluntarily; intentionally, purposely. (Cf. Selfwilles.)

c 960 Æthelwold *St. Benet* 28 Xeneadod to anre mile gange, gang willes twa. *c* 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 180 Se þam men ðe willes man ofslihð. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 221 Wilt þe silf willes lete þe alen þy purpos ne preyse y nozt. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 272 (Harl. MS.) Thing þat no man wol, his willes, holde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 174, I am a fende of helle and wold not knele on noþyr kne my wylles, but I am made to do so azen my wylle.

b. with poss. pron.: According to one's choice or desire, as one will: used pred. with impers. vb. *to be*, in such phrases as *if your willes is* = if you will, if you please, if you wish.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1406 Inogh now liued haue I., þou tak mi saul out of þe flexs And do it ware þi wils [*Gött.* willes] es. *Ibid.* 20094 He moght do quat his wils [*Gött.* willis] was. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 618 Giff that þour willis wer, Ic ask þow respyt for to se This lettir. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 312 Se sall heir in schort space Quhat worthy lordis thar was, Gif þour willis war. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 502, I wait not quhat his willis be.

c. as predicative adj.: Voluntary.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 302 Schrift schal beon..dredful, & hopeful, wis, soð & willes.

** with qualifying adjs.

11. a. *Good will*, *ill will* (with various shades of meaning: cf. 1, 5–7): see Goodwill, Ill will. So, with the comparative, †*better will* = 'more goodwill'; †*evil will* = Ill will.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 237 To Leulyn forgaf he alle his euelle wille. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 565 To gif yhou better will for to kun tham. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 48 Because of such tales, your tenaunts owe hym the bettir will. *c* 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 132, I wrote not so unto yow for no spyte nedor for no hewell well that I have to yow. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 35 b, He dyd so, of no euill wyll or contempte. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 388 All such as haue an euil will to Sion.

b. *With the best will* (*in the world*).

1857 B. Taylor *Northern Trav.* xxxii. (1858) 333 With the best will we found it impossible to eat anything. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 344 All that the old woman, with the best will in the world, was able to furnish, was milk, butter, [etc.].

c. See Free will.

*** with prepositions.

†**12. A will** [A *prep.*[1] or 2]. **a.** To (one's) pleasure or satisfaction. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1722 Heo [*sc.* the wren] hadde gode þrote & schille & fale monne song a wille [*v. r.* awille].

†**b.** At command or disposal. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 79 Bothe howndes & men haue hadde þe a wylle.

†**13. After** (*one's*) **will** [After *prep.* 13, 15]: according to one's choice or intention, as one will; according to one's wish or liking, as one desires.

c 1205 Lay. 31650 And longe hit walden after heore willen. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 109 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 223 Þe see drof here schip after wil. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15793 O þe forel a suerd he drogh, þe ere he smat of an; For had it ben efter his wil, he wald him fain ha slan.

14. Against (†**again**) *one's* **will** [Against 10, Again B. 7]: in opposition to (one's own) inclination or liking, unwillingly (*rarely*, against one's purpose, unintentionally); in opposition to (another's) choice, intention, or desire.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 85 He schall nogt be brynt with hir agayne his will. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) iv. xx. 68 Thou hast byrnned me Agayne my wyll, no thyng with myn assent. *c* 1450 [see 10 a]. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*. c. 20 *Preamble*, The said John .. fortuned to be slayn..ayenst the will and mynde of your said Besechers. 1550 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* xxii, King and queene were fore against their willes. 1604 Shake. *Lear* I. iv. 216 This fellow ha's banish'd two on's Daughters, and did the third a blessing against his will. 1620 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 29 He is willing sore against his will. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. iii. 547 He that complies against his Will, Is of his own Opinion still. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 520 His steed Declined the death, and wheeling swiftly round,..Baffled his rider, saved against his will. 1845 McCulloch *Taxation* I. (1852) 38 The Grand Seignior cannot do a more absolute act than to order a man to be dragged away from his family, and, against his will, run his head against the mouth of a cannon.

15. At (*one's*) **will. a.** According to one's volition or choice; as (when, where) one will. †occas., Of one's own free will, voluntarily.

(*a*) with possessive: *at his, your, God's* (etc.) *will*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6136 Ma sacrifice your lauerd vntill, Quar yee wil at your aun will. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 19 Al at his wille he wole þe lede. 1389 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 30 Qwo-so schal ben escused for any oyer schyl, it schal ben at ye aldermannes wyl. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 257 At Goddys wylle muste hyt bene. 1570 T. Norton tr. *Nowell's Catech.* 67 b, God alone is able at his owne will to geue what soeuer he hath appointed. 1601 Shake. *Jul. C.* II. i. 17 We put a Sting in him, That at his will he may doe danger with. *a* 1721 Prior *Songs* xiii. 4 Enjoying sweetest liberty, And roving at my will. 1802, 1873 [see Sweet *a.* 8 d].

(*b*) simply: *at will*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 29324 (Gött.) Na strinth did þai þaim till, For þai come wid þaim all at will. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* x. 4 For pride hem þenkeþ goddis pere, þat welde þis worldis wele at wylle. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 253 Al thai that ar wrocht vndir the his hevin Micht nocht warne thame at wil to ische nor entre. 1579 Spenser *Shph. Cal.* Sept. 144 They wander at wil, and stray at pleasure. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* I. vi. 39 Holding Corioles in the name of Rome, Euen like a fawning Grey-hound in the Leash, To let him slip at will. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 42 [He] geveth out that he is not the Companies servant, but at will. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 905 Nature here Wantond as in her prime, and plaid at will Her Virgin Fancies. 1671 — *P. R.* iv. 269 The famous Orators..whose resistless eloquence Wielded at will that fierce Democratie. 1825 Wordsw. *To a Skylark* 5 Thy nest which thou canst drop into at will. 1875 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* I. 47 The only test we have of the truth of scientific hypothesis is the degree of aid it gives us in representing to ourselves at will the facts of the universe. 1888 F. H. Bradley in *Mind* Jan. 27 And if we think of various sensations in parts of our bodies we can produce them at will.

b. In readiness to be dealt with as one will; at one's command or disposal.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 836 Al is yowre awen, to haue at yowre wylle & welde. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. viii. (Skeat) I. 5 Sithen her restinge-place is now so nygh at my wil. *c* 1400 *Parce Michi* 165 in *26 Pol. Poems* 147 Whyle I had my streyngth at wyll, fful many a man I dyd vnreste. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 33 Whenne he lyste ahe was all atte his wille. 1577 Goode *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 7 With wealth yenough and pastures wyde at wyll. 1604 Shake. *Oth.* II. i. 150 She that was euer faire, and neuer proud, Had Tongue at will, and yet was neuer loud. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. iii. 13 Sir, my life is yours, I humbly set it at your will. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 377 These mid-hours, till Eevning rise I have at will. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 502 What is his creation less Than a capacious reservoir of means Formed for his use, and ready at his will? 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of Sea* ix. 218 At sunset the wind failed and left me at the will of the tides.

†**c.** According to one's desire, as one wishes or likes; *esp.* (*pred.* or *compl.*) of wind or weather, Favourable. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2043 Quen þai at wil had festend grund þe wark þai raised in a stund. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 2 Whan þis weith at his wil weduring hadde. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 492 All þat nedes 3ou vntill Sal 3e haue at 3our awne wyll. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. viii. 710 Þai tuk wp sayl and past in hy Withe wynde at wil to Brigancy. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E vj b, Thus haue ye had the goddes at wyl. 1579 T. Stevens in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 161 Our Pilot..thinking himselfe to haue wind at will. 1825 Jamieson s. v., *At a' will*, to the utmost extent of one's inclination or desire.

d. In reference to an estate held during the owner's or lessor's pleasure, from which the tenant may be ousted at any time: chiefly in phr. *estate*, *tenant*, etc. *at will*.

1452 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 217/2 Grauntes of .. annuitees, made by you of estate of enheritaunce, for terme of lif, or terme of yeris, or at wille. 1589 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Antiq. Soc.* (N.S.) XX. 222 Which castell..John glaisters balyfe there occupyethe at will and ought to pay yerely the said renta. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 191 They were not tenantes at will at the Comon lawe. 1683 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 1028 For we are their true Landlords still, And they our Tenants but at will. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. ix. 145 An estate at will is where lands and tenements are let by one man to another, to have and to hold at the will of the lessor. 1794 Vancouver *Agric. Cumbr.* 52 The largest farm is held at will. 1868 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* xiii. (1876) 278 The customary occupation was reduced to a tenancy at will.

†**16. By** *one's* **will**: with one's consent, or of one's own free will, willingly; according to one's desire, if one had one's wish. (Cf. Goodwill 3 b.)

c 1393 Chaucer *Marriage* 12, I dar seyn, were he oute of his peyne, As by his wille, he wolde be bounde nevere. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5728 For by her wille withoute lees Euericha man shulde be seke. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* III. iii. 67 *Ver.* You haue bin alwales cal'd a merciful man partner. *Dog.* Truely I would not hang a dog by my will. 1602 — *Twel. N.* III. iii. 2.

17. In will. †**a.** With the will or intention, intending, purposing (*to do* something); *to be* (also *have*) *in will*, to intend, purpose. (Also *in a will.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4125 All he sagh þam in a wil þair broþer sacles for to spil. *Ibid.* 12525 Þai had in wil þat ilk night To torn be herode. 1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6983 Y was ya wyl for þe feste þat euery hadde a penp.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 8 Of his myndde halond hert sare, In wil to myndo nomare. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 273 Gamelyn was in wille to wende þerto. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. xii. 27 His broderis slauchtyr to revenge in wyll.

† b. *To put* oneself *in*, or *to come in* (a person's) *will*, also *to come in will to* (a person): to submit oneself to his will, surrender at discretion. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1009 He wylle put hym yn yowre wylle. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 984 Quhill tha, for hungyr sor, Cum in his will. 1560 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 46 The said Thom Stuert is cumin in the townis wyll, and dome gyffin thairapon. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 218 Al the rest with Sinklar cam in wil to thame of Orknay. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 3 The honest men..was forced to come in the earle's will, whilk was not for their weill. 1690 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 237 All quhich [offences] Nathaneell acknowledged and came in will. 1756 *Pennecuik's Coll. Sc. Poems* 108 Come in his will; Lay down the talents, or be debtor By band or bill.

18. Of (*one's*) **will.** a. Of one's own accord, spontaneously, voluntarily. Now only with poss. and *own*, e. g. 'He did it of his own (free) will'.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. iv. (1868) 74 Yif þat dignites wexen foule of hir wille by þe filþe of ahrewes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 685 And to þa tormentoris of will He gafe þame. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7441 He knewe nat that she was constrayned,..But wende she come of wyl al free. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 541 For that I becht of my will, And na man threit me thair till, That I am haldin to fulfill. 1824 Jamieson s.v., *O' will*, spontaneously.

† b. *Of will*: with the intention, on purpose (*to do* something). *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 479 Nocht of reasone, bot of wil A wyfis 3arnyng til fulfil.

† **19.** On will: = *at will* (15 c). *Obs. rare.*

c 1205 Lay. 1102 Heo wunden up selles, wind ston [= at an willen. *Ibid.* 7845 Weder heom stod on wille.

† **20.** To (*one's*) will: as one will, as one chooses; at one's disposal; to one's liking: = *at will*, 15 a, b, c. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3647 It sal him sauur al to will. *Ibid.* 23432 O welthes mar mai na man tell, þan haf to will o welth þe wall. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 301 And wild 3our self to will, nyll he so will he. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 7 May þai ler at serue him to will. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 181 Thenne hadde I þis londe hollye to myne wylle.

21. With (*one's*) **will.** † a. Intentionally; willingly; voluntarily: = 16, 18. *Obs.*

c 1230 [see 5]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6673 Qua alas animan wit will. *c* 1385 *Poem Times Edw. II* 431 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 343 So the fend hem prokede uch man to mourdren other wid wille. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1971 When we þam resaue with wil Crist resaue we vs vntil. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 6 They ansuerd to them ye shal now come to hym other wyth your wylle or by force. 1513 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 156, I see veray few..that with their wills wold go agayne to the trade.

b. *With a will*: with determination, resolutely, vigorously, energetically.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* I, He turned to (as he himself said) with a will. 1866 Ruskin *Crown of Wild Olive* I. 44 Work is only done well when it is done with a will. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* vii, I picked a stone and aimed it And threw it with a will.

**** **22.** In allusive or proverbial phrases, e.g. in contrast with *deed*, esp. in *to take the will for the deed*; † *Will is no skill* (Skill *sb.*1 3); *Where there's a will there's a way* (Way *sb.*1 13).

13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 251–2 Wil is wo .. Wil is Red. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 221 in *Macro Plays* 43 Wyll for dede oft ys take. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 148 But haue ye not herde say that Wyll is no Skyll? 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lx. § 6 Where we cannot doe what is inioyned vs [God] accepteth our will to doe instead of the deede itself. 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* To Rdr. b 2, The reasonable will accept the will for the deed. 1801 Lamb *Let. to Godwin* 9 Sept., In this little scrawl you must take the will for the deed. 1842 Car. Ward *Nat. Prov.* 152 Where there's a will there's a way. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* I. iii, Oh, sir, it is not the deed—it is the will. *a* 1885 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xiv. (1867) 147 We will take the will for the deed, as the common people express it. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* vi, 'Two wishes make a will,' you say.

IV. 23. A person's formal declaration of his intention as to the disposal of his property or other matters to be performed after his death, most usually made in writing (but see Nuncupative 1, Parol *a.* 1, quot. 1706); commonly *transf.* the document in which such intention is expressed.

Formerly properly used only in reference to the disposal of real property, thus distinguished from a *testament* relating to personal property; whence the phrase (now tautological, but still in formal use) *last will and testament*: see Testament *sb.* 1.

(*a*) qualified by *last* († *latter* obs. rare).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 11 þanne Alisaundre loste his speche, and wroot his laste wille. 1424, 1464, 1590, 1627 [see Testament *sb.* 1, 1 c]. 1467 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) I. 94 The last wulle of the seyd Thomas Sakevyle. 1575–6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 497 In his testament and latter will. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Fragment, Paris*, He disposed every thing to make the gentleman's last will and testament.

(*b*) simply.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 48 þis testament is rigtful wille of dede feaunsis. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 118 If ther be eny clause or matier in his olde will. 1463 [see Testament *sb.* 2]. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visit. Sick* rubric, If he haue not afore disposed his goods, let him then make his will. 1595 Shaks. *John* I. i. 209 Vpon his death-bed he by will bequeath'd His lands to me. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 85 P 9 She threw her will into the fire. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxxii. 496 Every person hath full power and liberty to make a will, that is not under some special prohibition by law or custom. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 61 Where a will is written on several sheets of paper, it is the usual practice for the testator to sign each of them. 1827 Jarman *Powell's Devises* (ed. 3) II. 11 A will of real estate, wherever it be made, or in whatever language it be written. 1858 Bright *Sp., Reform* 27 Oct. (1868) II. 20 If it [*sc.* landed property] were left to him by will,..it paid no legacy duty.

fig. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (Globe) 180 A most monstrous.. He-goat,..making his Will, as we say, and gasping for Life, and dying indeed of meer old Age.

b. = Testament *sb.* 5 a. ? *nonce-use.*

[*c* 1570 *Latimer's Protest.* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxiv. 91 If God wolde have had a newe kynde of sacrificynge preste..then he, or some of his Apostles, wolde have made some mention therof in their master Christ's will.] *a* 1893 J. Paul in Ford *Harp Perthsh.* 364 A tawny tattered leaf atween the Auld Will an' the New.

V. 24. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *will-force*, *-power*, *-spirit*. b. Objective, instrumental, and locative, as *will-commanding* adj., (in sense 23) *-maker*, *-making*; *will-fraught*, *-strong* adjs. c. Special Combs.: **will-fire** (see quot.); † **will government**, arbitrary or autocratic government; **will-office**, an office in which wills of deceased persons are kept; † **will-wisdom**, wisdom depending on one's will or fancy without divine influence; † **will-work**, a work performed by the human will, without divine grace (cf. Will-worship).

a 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* solil. vi. 62 This *will-commanding Saint. 1886 *Monthly Rev.* 24 June 399/2 The fuel was ignited by *will-fire, that is, fire obtained by friction. 1886 W. Wallace in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 451/1 The *will-force operating in all is the same. 1649 Howell *Pre-em. Parlt.* 5 Tyrannical Rule, and unbounded *Wil government. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* vi, Events..which alike consigned the will and the *will-maker to oblivion. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* xxvii, A thing of state and solemnity—long faces—early rising—and *will-making. 1672 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 243 This journey was taken to London by A. W. purposely to peruse the *Will-Office then in or neare Exeter-house. 1874 Hoppe *Relig. Moral.* xiv. 44 The drunkard..whose *will-power and whose moral force have been conquered by degraded appetite. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 315 Insanity of doubt, due to loss of will-power. *a* 1761 Law *Comf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 11 Whilst your *will-spirit is good..the changes of creaturely fervour lessen not your union with God. 1634 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 73 His *Will-strong Objector. 1866 Whipple *Char.* 328 No opinionated, will-strong, untamable passion. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rev.* xiii. 18 Humane inventions and *will-wisdome. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* VII. E iv, In hys onlye deathe was mannys lyfe alwayes restynge, And not in *wyll workes. 1580 Vautroullier *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 85 They take from him ye power both to iustifie and saue, and geue ye same to their owne wilworks.

† **Will**, *sb.*2 *Obs. rare.* Forms: 3 wil, 4 wille. [f. Will *a.*] Bewilderment, distraction.

c 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 1079 Wil siðen cam on euerilc on. [*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3836 And for wondsome and wille alle his wit failede. (See For *prep.* 12.)]

Will, *sb.*3 Abbreviated pet-form of the Christian name *William* (cf. *Piers Plowman* B. xiv. 148, Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxxvi, etc.). b. *dial.* = Will-o'-the-wisp.

a 1718 Parnell *Fairy Tale* 157 Will, who bears the wispy fire To trail the swains among the mire. 1750 Collins *Ode Superstit. Highlands* 91 Let not dank Will mislead you to the heath. 1888 Fenn *Dick o' the Fens* viii, You may go right into the bog and be smothered, and that's what the wills like.

Will, *sb.*4 [f. Will *v.*1] a. An utterance of the auxiliary verb 'will'; a determination expressed by this. b. The auxiliary verb 'will' as used in contradistinction to 'shall'.

1677, 1837–8 [see Shall *sb.* 1, 2].

Will, *a.* (*adv.*) Now only *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 3–5 wil, wille, (4 *Sc.* vill), 4–5 wyl(le, 5–6 wyll, 4–6, 8–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* will, (9 *Sc.* wull). [a. ON. *villr* bewildered, erring, astray: see Wild *a.*]

1. Going or gone astray; that has lost his way, or has nowhere to go for rest or shelter; straying, wandering, 'lost'.

c 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 975 Do flez agar fro sarray,..In se diserd, wil and weri. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23091 (Edin.) Quen I was wil and out of rest, Godli tok ye me to rest. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2369 All wery I wex and wyll of my gate. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. xvi. 1614 He trawalit al day, qwhil þe nycht Hym partit fra his company. þan was he wil of herbery. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 450 When I was will and weriest ye harberd me full eesly. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 35 In thay Montanis, I-wis, he wox all will. 1866 [see Waif *sb.*1 B. 2]. 1825 G. Beattie *John O'Arnha'* (1826) 62 His will and weary ghost. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xxvii, Gyaun awa' to Aiberdeen like a wull chucken.

2. *fig.* † a. Going astray in thought, belief, or conduct; going wrong, erring; wayward, 'wild'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7310 Noght yow allan, bot your ospring, Sal rest ful sare your will 3erning. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* [illegible] *Ibid.* [illegible] *Sc. Leg.* [illegible] & will.

b. Not knowing what to do or how to proceed; at a loss, at one's wit's end, uncertain, perplexed.

c 1300 *Havelok* 863 Hwan he kam her, he was ful wil, Ne hauede he no frend to gangen til. *Ibid.* 1042 Of puttinge he was ful wil, For neuere yete ne saw he or Putten the stone, or þanne her. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12208 Arthur was al wyl On whilk hil þe geaunt was. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 208 Allas! Joseph for woo Was neuer wight in worde [= world] so wil! 1496 Sir G. Haye *Laws Armes* (S.T.S.) 53 [They] had sik drede that thai war will quhat to do. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 138 Sik was I meikle wilfar than. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 375 You are so will of your wooing, you wat not where to wed. *Note*, You have such Choice of Mistresses.

3. Phrases. † a. *Will of wane* (*wone*) [Wane *sb.*2, Wone *sb.*2: *lit.* wandering without a dwelling-place, homeless] = 1; also *fig.* = 2 b. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 980 Adam went out ful will o wan. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 471 And he wes als sa will off wane, That he trowit in nane sekyrly. *Ibid.* VII. 2 The kyng toward the vod is gane, Wery for-awat and vill of vayn. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 217 Was neuere so wofull a wyfe, Ne haiffe so wille of wone! *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 343 Wrappit in wo, ane wretch full will of wane. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 343 So will of wane [*printed* wand], and weipand for greit wo.

† b. *Will of rede* [Rede *sb.*1 2: *lit.* at a loss for a plan or scheme] = 2 b. Also *will of good rede.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 494 He wes alsua will off red, That he durst rest in-to na place. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 379 That weder made me so will of rede, I hopid sone to have my dede. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. xvi. 1632 His lamman was wil of gud rede. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xi. 6 The top of litle Ascanius held, Amang the dulefull armes, will of reid Of his parentis.

c. *Will gate* (Sc.), † *gate will* [Gate *sb.*2]: going astray.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 90 þan sho went in & tolde hym þe cauce of hur gate will. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Wylgate, or wronge gate, *deviacio*. 1825 Jamieson, *Will-gate*, *wull-gate sb.* 1. An erroneous course, literally used. S. 2. In a moral sense, any course that is improper.

4. *compl.* or as *adv.* (chiefly with *go*): Astray, out of the way (*lit.* and *fig.*); *to go will*, to go astray, lose one's way, wander, err.

c 1250 *Bestiary* 52 Silden he us wille, If we heren to his word Dat we ne gon nowor wille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4100 Bot ar he till his breþer wan, Will he yode, and mett a man. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*vii Sleperis*) 255 Wenand þat he had gane wil, Ane vthyre 3et þane 3ed he til. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. xxi. 1587 Welth and riches wont was ay In wantones mare wil to draw þan hawynge fayr and mesoure haw. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 453 He gaff vnto ane honeste womman in wyldrenes, goand wyll, iij c penys. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 73 Walkand will of his way. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxvi. 74 It is so lang in cuming me till, I dreid that it be quyt gane will. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 92 Thocht I wauer, or ga wyll, Or am in danger for to die. 1724 Ramsay *Vision* iii, I deimt dame Nature was gane will To rare with rackless reil. 1895 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 489/2 Each time she attempted to cross this place she was irresistibly, and against her will, prevented by some invisible power; or, as she said, was 'Will led'.

† **5.** Of a place: Out-of-the-way, unfrequented, desolate. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2084 Wela wylle was he way, ber þay bi wod schulden. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* ii. 129 Hit was wille londe and woddy. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vi. 61 To nane wncouth landis,..Nother to fremmyt place, nor steddis will. *Ibid.* XI. x. 64 Him self ascendis the hie band of the hyll By wentis strait and passage scharp and wyll.

Hence † **Willness** (**whylenes**), wildness, madness.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9327 What whylenes or wanspede wryxles our mynd?

Will (wil), *v.*1 *Pa. t.* would (wud). Forms: see below. [OE. **willan*, pres. t. *wille*, *willaþ*, pa. t. *wolde*, Anglian *walde*, = OFris. *willa*, *wille*, *wilde*, *wolde*, OS. *willian*, *williu*, *williad*, *wolda*, (M)LG. *willen*, (M)Du. *willen*, *wilde*, ON. *vilja*, *vil*, *vilda*, *viljat* (Sw. *vilja*, *ville*, Da. *ville*, *vilde*), Goth. *wiljan*, *wiljau*, *wilda*:— OTeut. **wel(l)jan*, parallel with OTeut. **wal(l)jan*, whence OFris. *wella*, *welde*, OS. *wellian*, *welda*, MLG. *wellen*, OHG. *wellen*, *well*, *wellemes*, etc., *wella*, *wolta* (MHG. *wellen*, *wollen*, *wöllen*, *welte*, *wolte*, *gewellt*, G. *wollen*, *will*, *wollen*, *wollte*, *gewollt*), ON. *velja*, *vel*, *valði*, *valiðr* (Sw. *välja*, Da. *vælge*) to choose, (see Wele *v.*), Goth. *waljan* to choose; for other Teut. derivatives see Will *sb.*1, Will *v.*2, Wale *sb.*2 choice, Well *adv.*: f. Indo-Eur. *wel-*: *wol-*: *wl-*, represented by L. *velle*, *volo* (*velim*, *volui*), Lith. *véłyju*, *véłyti* to wish, *pa-velmi* to allow, *viltis* hope, OSl. *vełěti* to command, *voliti* to will, choose, *volja* will, W. *gwell* better, Skr. *vṛṇā* chooses, wishes, prefers, *vṛṇa-* wish, choice, *vṛṇam* better, *vṛṇati* wishes, prefers.

The most remarkable feature of this vb., besides its many idiomatic and phrasal uses, is its employment as a regular auxiliary of the future tense, which goes back to the OE. period, and may be paralleled in other Germanic languages, e.g. MHG.

In some uses it is not always possible to distinguish this vb. from Will *v.*2]

A. Inflexional Forms.

1. *Infinitive.* 1 wyllan, 3–5 willen, (3 *Orm.* willenn), 5 wylen, 5–7 wille, (7 wil), 4– will.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xxxii. (Z.) 200 *Velle*, wyllan. *c* 1200 Ormin 3297, & te birrþ wilenn swelltenn. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2482 Thou shalt not willen to passen away. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 49 To wylen to mak God felow of þis violence. 14.. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 331 Strangers,..the whiche they knowen you to wille for to admitte and receyue. 1621

Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. I. 2. xi. 44 *Velle*, and *Nolle*, will and nill. 1684 Vilvain *Theorem. Theol.* ii. 50 Man, at Creation, had to wil or nil naturaly.

2. *Present Tense.* 1*st* and 3*rd pers. sing.* α. 1–4 wile, wyle, 1–6 wille, wylle (1 *North.* willo, nillo), 4–6 wyl, wyll, 1 *North.*, 4–7 wil, (1 uil, 6 *Sc.* vil), 1 *North.*, 4– will. β. 2–3 wulle, 3–5 wule, 5–6 wul, (7–9 *dial.*) wull, 9 *dial.* ull. γ. 3–5 wole, 3–6 wolle, 4–6 wol(l (3 uole, 5 vol); 5–7 wooll (5 -lle, whowl), *dial.* 8–9 wool, woul, 9 ool. δ. 1 *Anglian*, 3 welle, 3–5 wele, well, 4 wel, 8–9 *dial.* el.

α. *c* 888 (MS. *c* 1160) Ælfred *Boeth.* liI. § 4 Ic nu wille geornlice to Gode cleoplan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 24 Gif hua wil [*Rushw.* wille, *Ags. Gosp.* wylle, *Hatton* wile] æfter meh gecyme. — Luke xiii. 31 Herodes will [*Ags. Gosp.* wyle] bec ofslaa. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 15 Oþþe ne mot ic don þæt ic wylle? *c* 1030 *Rule St. Benet* xlviii. 8 Se ðe wyle him sylfan rædan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656, Ic þe wile finden þær to gold & siluer, land & ahte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 57 Gif man beð forwunded, he wile anon sechen after leches. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9018 To will als sott sco will him lede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 57 Huo þet wyle conne and weye þe zennes of þe tonge. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 7 Of Gynes ful gladly now will I bigin. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 922 A lyte wyl of þe herte þat he wyl not zeve to hys god. 13.. *Guy War.* (A.) 535 3if ich it hir schewe, sche wil telle Hir fader. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1049, I wyll Ane vthyre questiones send hym till. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 128, I wylle soone aske hym. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 Yf man wyll put to his good wyll to bringe hym safe to the ende of his said iourney. 1548 Hutten *Sum of Div.* K viij, God wylle all men to be saued. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep. 3 Ther is na prudent man that vil iuge [etc.]. 1611 *Bible* Zech. xiv. 2, I wil gather all nations against Ierusalem to battell.

β. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Þu helle ic wulle beon þin bite. *c* 1205 Lay. 3638 Wha swa wulle libbs [*c* 1275 wole libbe]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Hwo se wule wel don. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. liii. (1869) 96 Wule he other noon. 1448–9 Metham *Amoryus & Cl.* 163 As myn autor dothe wryte, ryght so wul I. 1616 B. Jonson *Forest, To World* 31 What bird, or beast, is knowne so dull, That fled his cage,.. wull Render his head in there againe? 1636 [Hooton] *Bilberry Thurland* I. xviii. 307 To be sure, sartinly, that I wull. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* xxiv. 342 'Oh, never mind Mrs. McCreesh.' 'Oh, but a wull mind.'

γ. *a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 668 in *O. E. Misc.* 137 He wole brinhin on and tuentí to nout. *c* 1290 *Beket* 121 in *Sc. Eng. Leg.* 110 þat þing þat god helpe wole. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 669 Ich wolle telle þat cas. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 7 The werre wol no pes purchace. *a* 1436 *Domesday Ipswich* v. in *Black Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) II. 32 3if that he wooll done his lawe. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 89 Wole y or wole y not. 1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 261 And so wolle the kynge my lorde do. 1557 Lds. Wharton & Eure in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 267 We know yor Lordship's noble wysdome woll consyder thes. 1652 *Hermeticall Banquet* 82 Then drink't I wooll. 1718 J. Fox *Wanderer* 118 Write me down,.. what wool please you. 1788 Vallancey *Voc. Bargie* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Woul*, to wish. *a* 1801 Bloomfield *Richard & Kate* vii. in *Rural Tales* (1806) 3 Ay, Kate, I wool. 1875 'S. Brauchamp' *N. Hamilton* II. 17 'A thinks a ool,' says she.

δ. [*c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* v. 5 [4] Forðon ne wellende god unrehtwisnisse ðu eart.] *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 39 Seðe wille losiæ sawel his. *a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 140 in *O. E. Misc.* 111 God may giuen wanne he wele goed after yuil. *Ibid.* 631. 136 þanne welle he sawin sone one his worde. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11324 (Gött.) Ful wele he wele þaim quite þar mede. *Ibid.* 18462 And ȝe sal be, sua wel iesu, All dumb of speche. 1474 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 307 If he well nott be war by iij warnynges. 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* ii. 30, Th reek ol blaw ea yer feace.

3. *2nd pers. sing.* α. α. 1– wilt; also 1, 4, 6 wylt, 3 *Orm.* willt, 5 wilte, 6 wylte. β. 2–6 wult, 3 wlt. γ. 3, 5, 7 wolt, 5–6 -e. δ. 7 woo't, w'oot, wot, wut, 7, (9 *dial.*) woot.

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 39 Nallas sua ic wille ah sua ðu wilt. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 21 þa cwæð he hwæt wylt-tu? *c* 1200 Ormin 2039, & 3iff þatt tu willt taalenn me. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3730 3yf þou yn yre a man hate, And þat wrabþe wylt nat late. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 34 Yeve us counselle how thow wilte we shall scy. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xiii, If thou wylte eschewe bytter aduenture. 1583 Whitehorne *Onosandro Platon.* 123 If thou wylt that speadelye some woorke be..doone. 1849 M. Arnold *Sick King in Bokhara* 231 Wilt thou they straightway bring him in?

β. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Þu wult bi-haten god almihtin.. þat þu wult forleten þine misdede. *c* 1205 Lay. 694 3if þu wlt [*c* 1275 wolt] þu miht wel. *c* 1450 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* II. liii. (1869) 96 If thou wult,..thou shalt make him chek and mast. 1557 Phaer *Æneid.* vi. (1558) S j, Wult see the Tarquin kings?

γ. *c* 1205 Lay. 2577 Goffar mid þire ferde, wi wolt þu fleam makian? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 118 If thou wolt live In vertu, thou most vice eschuie. *c* 1400 Love *Bonaventura's Mirr.* take vs in to the nomber of thy clientes? 1601 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* I. C 2, Wolt doe me a favour?

δ. 1601 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 297 Woo't weepe? Woo't fight? Woo't teare thy selfe? 1602 Middleton *Blurt* II. ii. C 4 b, Wut open doore? 1607 — *Fam. Love* I. ii, Wo't thou forsake me then? 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* iv. i. L 1 b, Wut thou be iust to me? 1639 Shirley *Ball* iv. I, Thou wot stop a breach in a mudde wall.

b. 4 wille, wile, wel, 4–5 will, wolle, 4, 6 wil, woll, 5 wole, 6 wyll.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5632 Wil þou I ga..To fot a womman o þat lede? *Ibid.* 20657 It sal be al als tu it wille. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 253 Wolle þow, ne wolle þow, we wolleþ habbe cure wil. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 2 Yef þe will lasse þat ioy. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. iv. 15 Quhare; dismale, wil thow now? gan Cyras cry. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 b, Wyll thou or nyll thou, thou mayst lese thy goodes. 1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* I. A 2, Thou shalt lerne as longe as thou woll.

4. *Plural.* α. 1 willaþ, wyllaþ, 3–4 willeþ, 4 wylleþ, 5 -yth; 1 (*Subj.*) willen, -on, -an, 3 wilen, 4 willen, 4–5 wylen, -yn, wiln, 5 wyllen, willyn; 5 wyn; (1), 2–6 wille, 3–4 wile, 4–5 wil, 4–6 wyll, 5 wylle, *Sc.* vyll, 4– will. β. 2 wuleþ, 2–4 wulleþ, (3 -et, wlleð, -et); 5 wull(e, 5–6 wul. γ. 3–4 wolleþ, 5 wolsth; 4–5 wol(l)en; 4–5 wol(l)e, 4–6 wol(l. δ. 1 *North.* welle, 4 welen, -yn; 4 wel, 4–5 wele, well(e. ε. 1 *North.* wallað, -as, 5 wal.

α. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiv. [xxxv.] 27 Gefað & blissiað ða willað rehtwisnisse mine. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xxxii. (Z.) 199 *Volumus*, we wyllað. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Þenne wille ȝe hit bireusian. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 Yef we uilleth don his seruise. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 191 Leunes and beres him wile to-draȝen. *Ibid.* 2304 If ȝe wilen ȝu wið treweiðe leden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14951 Þai wil me neuer luue. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 16 Fyrst we wylyn [*v. r.* welyn] of hem be shreuyn. 1340 *Ayenb.* 16 Huanne hi wylleþ by aboue oþren. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4118 (Götт.) Nou þai wil him noght spar. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 249 Ydel schaueldouris willen loke to be festid of siche curatis. 1382 — *Isa.* xliii. 17 That siluer sechen not, ne gold wiln. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 11 Yef ȝe wile cume to þe ioy of heuin. 1411 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 21 Os ȝe wylle answere a-fore god. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xx, Sethyn charité is chefe to those that wyn be chast. *c* 1425 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 42, I beseche ȝow þat ȝe willyn speke to John Martyn. 14.. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 331 They wyllen to do that ye wylle to do. 1466 in *Bull. Inst. Hist. Research* I. 72 *note*, Rather then we wyll suffre hytt ther shall xx personys dye in j day. 1492 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 277/2 Sic richtis as þai vyll vse in þe said mater. ? 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 70 It is euydent thei wil no wyues. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractatis* I. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 7 Quhat wyll ye geve me?

β. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Nu we wulleð seggen mare wet þis godspel itacnet. *Ibid.* 41 ȝef ȝe lusten wuleð. *c* 1205 Lay. 3056 Men þe wllet luuien. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 We wulleð foluwen þe; we wulleð don al so. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11419 We wull treate of a trew. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 66 They wulle haue be to me as enemyes. 1490 wul [see B. 6]. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 3 Although conceale they wul A crosse receivde of simple wight.

γ. *c* 1205 Lay. 479 Þat heo moten wonien wer swa heo wolleð. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3261 Hii wolleþ yswyke by daye. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1026 Þanne we wollen of þe watur wilfully drinke. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 44 3if ȝe wolleþ I-wite wher þat he dwelleþ. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Somp. T.* 129 What wol ye dyne? *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 123 We wol wassche us. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xiii. (Gibbs MS.) If. 30 3yse we woleth hier take good entent. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4403 They wolle shende oure purpose euery dele. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. vi. 172 Perauenture summen wolen in other wise seie. *a* 1450 Myrc 150 A-nother tyme gyf hem folgthe As the fader & þe moder wolþe. 1534 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 46 We wol not be so bolde. 1534 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 43 We..desire you that..ye woll groundely examyne the said witnesses.

δ. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 12 *Quaecumque vultis*, sua huæt gie welle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20327, I wat and seis þai wel noght fine. 13.. welyn [see *a.* 1303]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 83 Þes coueitous symonyentis welen þe firste to lette hem. 14.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (S.) 100 We welle lay our lyfe to wedde. *c* 1450 wele [see B. 48].

ε. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 32 *Quid vultis*, huæt wallað xie? 1436 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* (1907) IV. 199 Prayngne yow..that ye wal tenderly consider.. the thynges afore rehersed. 1452 *Ibid.* 201 Suche men as wal have ther service accordyng to the statutes thereof made.

5. Reduced forms: α. 1st sing. pres. combined with pron. *ich*, I: 3 icholle, (ich chulle), ychulle, 3–4 ichulle, 5 y chull, 6 chil, chyll, 6–7 chill, 7 'chill, 8 chell.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Forȝif, & ichulle forȝiue þe. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 213 Forto þe one ich chulle trusten. 13.. *K. Horn* 3 (Harl.) A song ychulle ou singe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 908 Sone, he sayde, y chulle ȝow telle. [For other evidence see Ch, 'ch, I *pron.* β^2, δ^2.]

b. Contracted 'll (since the 17th cent.), esp. after prons.: I'll (ɔil), 6–7 *Ile*, 7 *I'le*, 8 *I'il*; he'll (hil), 8 *hee'l*; she'll (ʃil), 6–7 *sheele*, 7 *shele*; it'll (it'l); we'll (wil), 6–7 *weele*, (6 *wyll*), 7 *wee'le*, *wee'll*; you'll (yul), 6–7 *youle*, 7 *you'le*; ye'll (yil), 8 *yeil*; they'll (ðeil), 7 *thaile*, 7–8 *they'l*; who'll (hul), 7 *whola*.

? 15.. *King Estmere* xii. in Child *Ballads* II. 52, I doubt sheele do you the same. 1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* II. iii. ii, And for this faulte, wyll passe it ore in leaste. *c* 1590 *Sir T. More* II. iv. 166 Yf youle stand our freind. 1592 Lyly *Endym.* I. iii, Next time weele haue some prettie Gentle-women with vs to walke. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. vi. 29 And Valentine Ile hold an Enemie. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* iv. ii, They'l wriggle in and in. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vii. 60 Wee'l to our Ship. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* v. i, Theile scrape themselues into your company. 1608 Shaks. *Lear* v. I. 34 (Qo. 1) Sister you'l [*Qo.* 2 youle] *Folio* you'le]. goe with vs? 1612 Heywood *Gold. Age* I. I, I'le not kill my part. 1623 *Shaks. Two Gent.* II. ii. 6 Wee'll make exchange. 1678 Hobbes *Iliad* To Rdr. (1686) A 3 b, How is it possible (you'll say) to please them all? *Ibid.*, I'll name as many as shall come into my mind. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Wyf of Auchtermuchty* iii, Yeil ken what drinkers drie. 17.. *Johnie Armstrang* in *Ever-Green* (1761) II. 192 I'll gie thee all these Milk whyt Steids. 1785 Burns *Holy Fair* v, Gin ye'll go there, you runkl'd pair. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* II. xii, She'll find my garden-tools upon the granary floor. 1842 Browning *Caval. Tunes, Glee a Rouse* I, Who'll do him right now? 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xiv, It'll be known all over the country. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* I. § 21 To see if they'll bear shaking. 1904 Weyman *Abbé Vlaye* ix, You'll laugh on the other side of your faces. *Mod.* (*colloq.*) There, that'll do! That dog'll bite you. These chimneys'll fall down soon.

c. 2nd sing. pres. ind.: thou'lt, († thou't).

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* IV. i. 117 Come, come, thou'lt do thy message, wilt thou not? 1607 — *Timon* I. I. 195 That's a deed thou't dye for. *a* 1849 Beddoes *Wolfram's Dirge*, And there alone..thou'lt meet her.

6. α. With prons. affixed: 1*st pers. sing.* 1 *North.* willic, 3–4 willy, 4 wyly, wol(l)y, 5 whilli; 2*nd pers. sing.* 1, 8 *Sc.* wiltu, 3 wultu, 3–5 woltou, 4 weltu, wilte, 4–5 wil(l)tou, -ow, 5 woltowe, wyltowe, whylte.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 32 *Miserror turbae*, willic milsa ðreatas. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 28 Wiltu we gæn & gesomnige hiæ? *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2064 Hwerto wultu wreastlin wið þe worldes wealdent? 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6375 Hou woltou it ȝelde me. *a* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (O.) 75 Wip reisoun willy tellen þe. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 528 Wilte don mi wille al [etc.]. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4595 3it wyly make assay. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) ii. 21 Whider wiltou fare? *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xii. (Gibbs MS.) If. 30 Sone wyltowe not gone home azayne wyt vs. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 65 Howe longe woltowe make vs in suspens? 14.. *Northern Passion* II. 274/401 For þe 1*ymon* hame-wiltu, wiltu do't again! *a* 1776 in Herd *Scot. Songs* II. 98 O sleepy body, And drowsy body, O wiltuna waken and turn thee?

b. With negative *not* (*na*) affixed: α. 5 wynnot, 6–9 wonnot, 7 woonnot, 7–8 wo'not, 7–9 wonot, (9 winnot, wunnet); 7– won't (7–8 wont); 8 we'n't, 9 willn't, willot. (*Won't* alone survives in gen. colloq. use; the rest are obs. or dial.) β. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 8– winna (9 wunna).

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 45 3if þay ben harde and wynnot alye. 1584 R. Wilson *Three Ladies Lond.* D, Sirra Ile tell thee, I wonnot tell thee, and yet Ile tell thee, nowe I member me too. 1631 Shirley *Sch. Compl.* IV. i. 56, I..can worke, and woonnot. 1633 Rowley *Match at Midn.* IV. i. H 3 b, You wonnot pull off your bootes too will you? 1666 *Char. Province of Mary-Land* (1869) 44 In relieving at a distance the proud poverty of those that wont be seen they want. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 10 June, People that have been used to be deceived by us as to money, won't believe us. 1670 Dryden *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. ii. (1672) 49 But what I cannot grant, I will not hear. *Almana.* You wonnot hear! 1686 tr. *Agiatis or Civ. Wars Lacedæmonians* 101 Wo' not you pardon me? 1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 213 Nanse has a good steady heart that wont soon break. 1721 Ramsay *Richy & Sandy* 5 Na, na, It winna do! 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) II. 53 That we'n't bring thee a great Income. 1801 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* 32, I fear His word he wunnet keep! 1820 Scott *Abbot* xvii, To leave the place while the lad is in jeopardy, that I wonot. 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, Willot, Winnot. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. x, He wunna budge. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xviii, That willn't wash, Miss. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 240 They don't, and I fancy won't.

c. Written continuously with the inf. *be.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 6516 And so to leve in rest and it wilbe. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 30 A noble .. cheveteyn, whiche wolbe a leder of a felowship in werre. 1573 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 18 It wilbe verray hard to me.

7. *Imper.* 1 *pl.* willaþ, *North.* wallað, -as, wallað, 4 wile, 5 wylleth, wyl.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xvi. 6 *Nolite expauescere*, ne wællas gefrohtiza. 1382, *c* 1400 [see B. 12 b].

8. *Past Tense.* 1*st and* 3*rd sing.* (*and pl.*) α. 1–6 wolde, 4–7 wold (1, 3 wuolde, 3 weolde, (*Orm.*) wollde; 4 wolld, woled, 5 volde, wholde, 6 woold(e, wolt, 7 vold); 3–5 wulde, 5 wuld, wude, 7 wud, wu'd; (5 whowl(l)de, whowllyd; 6–would (6 woulde, owld); 5 whowde, 6 wood, 7 woo'd, wo'd, *pl.* (*dial.*) wouden, 7–8 wou'd; 5–9 (now *dial.*) wod.

c 888 (MS. *c* 960) Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Hu wunderlic wolde eow ðæt þincan; hwelce cehhettunge ge woldan þæs habban, & mid hwelce hleahtre ge woldon beon astered. *c* 1200 Ormin 150 Forr þatt he wollde himm frofrenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 4052 Þat heo wuolden al þis lond dælen heom bi-twenen. *Ibid.* 8453 An of þon he weolden him don. 13.. *Cursor M.* 13702 (Götт.) Þair lau wold men suld hir stane. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 247 Be so that thei him helpe wolde. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 87 Somme dede rith so, and wolld go no ffor3er. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 11 Alle tho that wolde holde with hym. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 34 The woll..whos not so good as I wholde hyt had bene. ? 15.. *Love Songs* in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1792) 115 Chryst wolt the ffuger of hur swete face Were pyctored wher euer I be. 1530 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 330, I woolde haue sene your grace long er this. 1551 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI.* (1914) 89 We wolde you sholde send vs convenient apparell. 1587 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 273 Whom if the parfect vertues wolden daine To be set forth with foile of worldly grace. 1593 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 390 And yt he wold promote it as much as he can.

c 1205 Lay. 7964 Þat Cesar wulde þe ȝet wunnien þar. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1072 Oc he ne wulden his dostres nost. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 374 Of his labour wuld he neuer sese. 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* II. ii. F 2 b, Wud I were i' the Countrey againe. 1638 Heath *Clarastella* 29 What mortal wu'd Believe?

c 1425 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 204, I woll hertely pray yow..that ȝe wod do make astate wnto me. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 55 (MS.), I whowlde a wyse yow brynge

honer anlle yowr trottynge hors. 1481 *Ibid.* 76, I whowlyd fayn heyr some good tydyngys of yowr matter. 1487 *Ibid.* 138, I whowde awyese my syster & yow to com agayne into Essex. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 216 As it would seme. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1539) Hh viij, What is that realme that sleeth theim that wold their wealth, and are angry with them that woulde helpe their yll. 1587 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. III. 23 Yf I had bid ought I owld have bid by yt. *c* 1600 Goffe *Careless Shepherdess* III. i, You had better have been hang'd at first, as I wo'd had you. 1698 J. Jones *Ovid's Ibis* 86 Or like Admetus father-law that would, Return to youthful years when he was old. 1665 Flecknoe *Erminia* III. iii. 49, I wod not force what I might obtain by gentleness. *Er.* You wod not? you cannot Sir. 1688 Shadwell *Sqr. Alsatia* I. i. 4 Yeow wouden ha leen a Bed aw th' morn. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 189 Wou'd I your Justice or your Force express. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* II. 227 Wou'd you then appeal..? Most certainly I shou'd appeal, said I. 1787 Inchbald *Such things are* I. i, Why, you wou'd not inform against me sure! 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* 5, I wod fain hev hed him tae hed a Docter. 1888 Carr *Craven Gloss., Wod, Wold*, would.

β. Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* 1–6 walde (1, 3 wælde, ualde), 3–8 wald, (4 walld, 4, 6 vald, 5 wallde, wauld); 8– wad (6 waude, wawd).

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxix. 9 *Volui*, ic walde. *c* 897 Ælfred *Greg'ry's Past. C.* lviii. 443 He walde ..? ðæt hi wæren ʒedrefde. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vii. 44 Sumo.. of ðæm ualdon ʒegrioppa hine. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Walden heo naldden heo. *c* 1205 Lay. 1416 Wheþer heo walden hælden grið. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) iv. 56 þat king Edward in feld walld dwell. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 126 To se quha frend or fa vald be. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xv. 70 What it was fayne witte walde I. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 1400 Quhill thai till him had done all at thai wauld. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 69 The pope hollynes..wallde a sente me home agayn. 1581 J. Hamilton in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T.S.) 76 All thame, quha vald not be reformit. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 8 Gif quha walde knawe the name of Britannie monie referris it vnto Brutus. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 10 Heer I wald commend to our men quhae confoundes these the imitation of the south. 1674 G. Fox in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) July 100 Be cas I wald not be a capting against the king. 1724 Ramsay *Vision* ix, The hardy wald, with hairy wills, Upon dyre vengeance fall. 1825 Jamieson, *Wald..* 2. Would..2. Should, or ought to be.

1564–78 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (E.E.T.S.) 5 God.. sende you comfort of all thynges that you waude haue gud of. 1581 N. Woodes *Conf. Consc.* III. iv. in *Five Old Plays* (Roxb.) 32 It wawd theaim all deceue. 1720 Ramsay *Edinb. Salut. to Ld. Carnarvon* ii, My nuld grey-head I yet wad rear. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxviii, I wad kill him a chicken in an instant. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words* s.v. *Wad*, He wad, at wad he.

γ. 4–5 wyld, 4–5, 7 wild (4 weld, wijld, 4, 6 wylde, wilde, 5 whelde), 6 willed.

Orig. northern, from ON. *vilda*; late examples may belong to Will *v.*[2]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8446 His fader biding wel he heild, And did al þat nis moder weld. *Ibid.* 21773 Sco delt it wiseli als sco wild. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6933 And he myȝt helpe, ȝyf he wylde. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 14 My cosyn..askyde me whenne ye wyld cum hyddyr. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 74 Sche [*sc.* a bitch] whelde newyr hett mette and so sche ys Deyd. 1546 Bale *Engl. Votaries* I. 31 b, Least wanton youthe wolde brynge them togyther wylde they nylde they. 1583 tr. *Maison Neuve's Gerileon* I. 52 b, Willed or nilled his Maister. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 270 Constantine..they forced wild he, nild he, to usurpe the empire.

9. *2nd pers. sing.* α. 1–5 woldest, (1 waldes, 1, 3 ualdes, 3 wældest, waldest, wuldes), 3–4 wost, 4 wldest, 4–5 woldist (4 -es, 5 -es, -ust, -yst, 6 -ys), 6– wouldest, wouldst (6 woldst, 7 wudst, 9 would'st).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xl. 12 *Voluisti*, ðu waldes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 85 þu woldest symle þone besmitan þe þu nan wiht yfles on nystest. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Hwi woldest þu swikian on þine azene þinge. *c* 1205 Lay. 7376 þu waldest beon min hærrn. *Ibid.* 18815 þat þu wældest. *c* 1250 *Bestiary* 501 Þat tu wuldes seien ʒet ʒef [etc.]. *c* 1275 Lay. 26035 ʒef þou were so wis man..þanne þou wost axi of þine mochele care. 1303 wldest [see Wyn *v.*[1] 9 b]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 2128 þat lelly me layne, I leue wel þou woldes! *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2076 þat þou wost hir se Wip si3t. 1382 Wyclif *Matth.* xxiii. 37 And thou woldist nat. 1486 Audelay *Poems* 11 And do as thou woldust me dud by the. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xx. 123 Loke how thou woldist in this case answere to me. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 13 What woldest thou that I ahold do. 1518 *Sel. Pleas Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 134 Thow woldys nott delyuer one of my bullockes. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 308 Lest, when thou wouldst, it be to late. 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* III. i. I 1, What wudst thou doe? 1810 Crabbe *Borough* ii. 53 And would'st thou, artist, with thy tints and brush, Form shades like these? 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 97 Thou wouldest nothing but my destruction.

β. (orig. *Subj.*). 1, 5 walde, 3 wld, 4 wild, 4–6 wald, 5 wold, 7 wold, would.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* l. 18 *Si voluisses*, xif ðu walde. *a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 682 in *O. E. Misc.* 138 ʒif [*MS.* þif] þu wld don after mi red. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6833 Qui wald þou ledd vs o þat land? *Ibid.* 9641 þat sua þou wald his sorus slak. 13.. *Ibid.* 901 (Göll.) Þou þu wild euer haue hat stede, In cald sal euer be þi bede. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 690 þat I couet to ken, if þou me kythe wald. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* iii, The wurschip of Wales to weld, and thou wold. 1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 37 Wald thow be servit, and thy cuntre sure. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 209 What would thou kneele with me? 1620 Colville *Parnassus* 263 Vold thou then know the incertenty of thy speculatyus knouleg. 1670 J. Stuart in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) Oct. 154 If thou would Order me soe to doe.

10. Reduced forms: α. with pron. *ich* (cf. 5 a): 4–5 yeholde. b. Contracted 'ld (formerly *-ld*), 'd (*'ud*), as *I'd* (+ *I'ld*), *he'd* (+ *held, he'ld*), *we'd, you'd, they'd, who'd.* c. *2nd pers.* 7 thoud'st, 8 thou'dst.

a 1327 [see I *pron.* A. β 2]. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1203 Wt as gode wylle y cholde hym seruy. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 3 Ther's some great matter she'ld employ me in. 1607 — *Timon* I. i. 208 *Apem.*..I eate not Lords. *Tim.* And thou should'st, thoud'st anger Ladies. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 198 Sometime I'ld diuide And burne in many places. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* II. 261 To Sea they'ld go. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 326 P 5 My Request to you is, that .. you'd speedily afford us your Assistance. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 30 He swore fra thence he'd ne'er remove. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mistaken Milliner*, They all agreed that it "'ud serve 'em quite right'. 1882 Calverley *Verses & Transl., Voices of the Night* v, Albert..Whom almost any lady 'd Have given her eyes to get. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 457/2 Anybody 'd say you were a Bull of Bashan.

11. a. With pron. affixed: *1st pers. sing.* 5 woldy; *2nd pers. sing.* 3 wostou, 3–5 woldestou, 4 -ustow, -estow, 9 *dial.* wodto.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1339 Wat wostou more of him bote þat he truage þe beie? *c* 1300 *Beket* 35 Woldestou..Tholle deth for thi Louerdes love? 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 50 Woldustow Glase þe Gable and graue þerinne þi nome. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 17622 (Trin.) Woldestou þe seme To com wiþ vs to speke & mele. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 253 Ne woldy ȝeue a pese iwis.

b. With negative affixed: 9 wouldn't (*north.* wad-n't, waddent); *Sc.*, etc. 8 wadna, 9 wudna, wunna, wanna, oodna.

1785 Burns *Hallowe'en* viii, Wha 'twas, she wadna tell. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Wad-n't*, would not. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Gt Winglebury Duel*, You wouldn't have me.. run away with an old one, I presume? 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 92 An he waddent let yen doon belaw tyest a bit. 1872 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* iii, I wudna advise you to dee that. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word Bk.* s.v. *Sick*, I oodna let 'im.

12. *Pres. ppla.*: see Willing *ppl. a.*

13. *Pa. ppla.* 4–6 wold(e, 5 i-wollyd, 6–7 would.

In form *i-wollyd*, formed as a regular pa. pple. from the form *woll* of the pres.

c 1380–1633 [see B. 49].

B. Signification and uses.

I. The present tense will.

* Transitive uses, with simple obj. or obj. clause; occas. intr.

†1. *trans.* with simple obj.: Desire, wish for, have a mind to, 'want' (something); sometimes implying also 'intend, purpose'. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxvii[i]. 31 [30] Tostenc ðiode ða gefeht willað. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke v. 39 Ne drincð nan man eald win, & wylle sona þæt niwe. *c* 1205 Lay. 3570 Wenne þu wult more suluer, sæche hit at me suluen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Wultu kastles and kinedomes? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20637 [see A. 3 b]. 1382 [see A. 4 a]. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cvi, This will my son Cupide, and so will I. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 962 Þou dost syngen ylle, þy neghbores wyf for to wylle. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. iii. 102 Wylt thow ony thynge with hym? 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* viii. a vij, Ye ar moche beholden to serue god, whan he wylle youre saluacion. 1545 Taverner *Erasm. Prov.* 48 Whan that thynge can not be done that thou woldest, woll that thou cannest. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Judges I. 24 And Caleb said vnto her, What wilt thou? 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* I iij b, Who wil the curnell of the nut must breake the shell. 1602 Shaks. (*title*) Twelfe Night, Or what you will. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 44 Will what befalleth, and befall what will. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* V. 31 He that can do what ever he will is in great danger of willing what he ought not.

† b. *intr.* with *well* or *ill*, or *trans.* with sbs. of similar meaning (e.g. *good, health*), usually with dat. of person: Wish (or intend) *well* or *ill* (to some one), feel or cherish good-will or ill-will. *Obs.* (cf. Will *v.*[2] 1 b). See also Well-willing *a.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xvi. 254 þæt is seo soðe lufu, þæt man his sceppend lufige..and ða menn þe wel willað. *c* 1000, etc. [see Well-willing *a.*]. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 46 Myn enemyes that wole me ille. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 88 Gregory,..willyng helth and his blissyng to his welbeloued children. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 313 In that he ys father, he muste nedes wylle all good to hys chyldren. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Direction 99, I will weill otheris can say mair curyusly. Bot I haue said eftir my fantasy. *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, IV. ii, Frolic huntsmen of the game Will you well and give you greeting.

† c. *trans.* with negative (*will no . . ., will none of*, etc.) = have no desire for, do not wish for, 'don't want': often implying 'refuse, decline'.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 148 Yef he wil noht of glotounye. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 244, I wolle noon oþer medecyne ne lore. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. II. 8 Þei willen no betere. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 207, I wil not þe dede of sinful man, Bot þat he turn hym & lif þan. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 128 The oxe eateth heigh, the lyon will none of it. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 82 He no Swaggerers..shut the doore, there comes no Swaggerers heere. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 47 Hector, wher's Hector? I will none but Hector.

† d. *To will well that*: to be willing that (cf. 17 d).

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 166/1, I wyl wel that thou say, and yf thou say ony good, thou shalt be pesybly herde.

† 2. *trans.* with obj. clause (with vb. in pres. subj., or in periphrastic form with *should*), or acc. and inf.: Desire, wish; sometimes implying also 'intend, purpose' (that something be done or happen). *Obs.* or *arch.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 61 Deme ge us tva sva ge willen þæt eow sy eft gedemed. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Uwille mon scal beoden oðre alawa be wille þet me him beode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Ichulle þet ze speken selde. *a* 1300 [see A. 3 b]. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 281 Þat y am þat ilk weigh I wel wel wite. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 1 Owre swete lord..wil man wil perisshe, but wil þat we commen all to the k of hym. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xxi. 246, I that ye wete he is a ful noble knyȝt. 1548 Hutten *Sum of Diuinitie* K viij, God wylle all men to be saued. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) E vij, Will you (quoth he) custome abouilde be more apprised in the vulgar tong, than in the Latin? 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 34 Thus have we made a briefe enumeration of these learned men, not willing any to decline their Workes,..but to apply themselves with caution thereunto. *a* 1661 Law *Comf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 54 This is not willing Christ to be thy Saviour. 1849 [see A. 3 a].

† 3. Denoting expression (usually authoritative) of a wish or intention: Determine, decree, ordain, enjoin, give order (*that* something be done). *Obs.*

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 32 b, Ant te King wole þat in his oune demeine wodes..te weies ben I largist. *a* 1431 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 47, Y..wole and hertely prey you..that ye seale the deedes. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 145, I will na vittale be sauld your seruseour vntill. 1528 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 320 His grace then wille that thellection of a new Dean shalbe emonges them of the colledge. 1560 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 112 We woll and commaunde that Imediatly vppon the sight hereof ye delyuer..vnto Sir Thomas Benger [etc.]. 1628 [see 23].

b. *spec.* in a direction or instruction in one's will or testament; hence, to direct by will (*that* something be done). Cf. Will *v.*[2] 3 a.

871–89 *Charter* in *O.E. Texts* 452 Ic ælfred willio & wille þæt hio sion soðfestlice forðweard ʒetrymed me & minum erfeweardum. 1430–31 [see 23]. 1504 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 99, I wyll that Rose Plandon shall haue x marc. 1547 in *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 58 My bodye I wyll be buryed in the Paryshe Churche of Manchester. 1620 *Gifford's Compl. Engl. Lawyer* 672, I..do hereby will and direct that my executrix..do excuse and release the said sum of 100*l.* to him.

† c. *fig.* of an abstract thing (e.g. reason, law): Demands, requires. *Obs.* (See also 17 c.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11663 'Ioseph,' sco said, 'fain wald I rest..'Gladli,' said he, 'þat wil resun.' 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 302 That is my conseille,..þat vche man fortynne other, and þat wyl þe paternoster. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* N 4, The perputall feithe geuen amonge hus will [orig. *vault*] that whan I shall be in my liberte that I followe thy. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 157 Our Battaile is more full of Names then yours..Then Reason will, our hearts should be as good.

† 4. *transf.* (from 2). Intends to express, means; affirms, maintains. (Cf. 10 c.) *Obs.*

1534 Tindale *James* Prol., When he sayth that a man is iustified by dedes & not of fayth onlye, he will no more then that fayth dothe not so iustifie euery where, that nothinge iustifieth saue fayth. 1602 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 662 Hee will that this authority should be for a principle of demonstration.

** With dependent infinitive (normally without *to*).

5. Desire to, wish to, have a mind to (do something); often also implying intention (cf. 7, 11, 13). *Obs.* or *arch.*, or merged in other senses.

Beowulf 2864 Se ðe wylle soð specan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 233 ʒif þu þonne wille mildheortnesse us don, sæcze us þæt hrædlice. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 5 ʒif we halig bebodu healdan willað. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 ʒif þu wult habben bone to drihten, þu most beon on ward þine sunnen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Wultu welden al þene world? 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 40 Þe Englich of þis latyn is, who-so wil it knowe, Who-so spareth þe sprynge, spilleth his children. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 56 Wolt þou be hool? seide Crist to him. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4432 'Yet woll I wete,' quod he,..'From whense she came, and what she is'. 1587 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* IV. 471 Meanes thowe to strive with me? woll thowe wynne any thing at my handes? 1598 Winget *Cert. Tractatis* lii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 24 Sen now al men wilbe theologis. 1697 *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 149, I will not write to you often, because I will always have a stock of News to tell you, which..is pretty long in picking up. *a* 1704 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. iv. § 8 The great Encomiasts of the Chineses, do all to a man agree and will convince us that the Sect of the *Literati* .. are .. Atheists. 1860 Thackeray *Philip* lii, He .. examines the dinner-card..; points..to the dishes which he will have served.

6. In relation to another's desire or requirement, or to an obligation of some kind: Am (is, are) disposed or willing to, consent to; † in early use sometimes = deign or condescend to.

With the (rare and obs.) imper. use, as in quot. 1490, cf. b and the corresponding negative use in 12 b.

832 *Charter* in *O.E. Texts* 447 Se man se ðis healdan wille & læstan ðet ic beboden hebbe..se mæn sealid & ʒehealden sia hiabenlice bledaung. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Genesis* 359 ʒif þu þeah minum wilt, wif, willende wordum hyran. *c* 1200 Ormin 5897 & te birþ willenn ʒwelltenn Forr Cristess þeowwile to stonde. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 106 ʒif he wilne þe to wyf, wolt þou him haue? 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. xxxix. 402 Fayre lordes said he wille ye preue ony aduenture in the forest of Morris..? Syr said sir kay I wille preue hit. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xix. 72 O goddes celestial,..gyue socours to me,..and wul permute rigoure to equyte. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 470 Thair is na schip that wil the now ressaue. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 207 If.. You will returne and sojourne with my Sister, .. come then to me. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XIII. 490, I will confess, That thou art more than mortal, if thou yield To ancient Priam all thy promis'd aid. 1800 Wordsw. *Hart-Leap Well* 134 There's neither dog nor heifer, horse nor sheep, Will wet his lips within that cup of stone. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii.

298 Will you never..fence them in their shuddering from the fierce wind? 1921 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Feb. 88/3 Literature thrives where people will read what they do not agree with, *if* it is good.

b. In 2nd person, interrog., or in a dependent clause after *beg* or the like, expressing a request (usually courteous; with emphasis, impatient).

a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 186 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 64 Thou hanest hen ofte min l-fere, Woltou nou ml grift l-here? *a* 1400 *Pistill of Swsan* 135 Wolt þou, ladi, for loue, on vre lay lerne? 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. vi. 42 Sir said Ector vnto Arthur woll ye be my good and gracious lord when ye are kyng? 1598 Greene *Philomela* To Rdr., I .. craue that you will beare with this fault. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. i. 47 Will you shoogge off? 1609 [see Reg *v.* 2 d]. 1721 Ramsay *Yng. Laird & Edin. Katy* 9 O Katy, wiltu gang wi' me, And leave the dinsome Town a while? 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxx, I desire you will found nothing on an expression hastily used. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* v. iii, O, O, O,..O, will you have done!

7. Expressing voluntary action, or conscious intention directed to the doing of what is expressed by the principal verb (without temporal reference as in 11, and without emphasis as in 10): = choose to (Choose *v.* B. 3 a).

The proper word for this idea, which cannot be so precisely expressed by any other.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Nu eft scealan [we] oþerne eþel secan, swa wite, swa wuldor, swe we nu ȝeearnian willaþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5987 Gas þan, sin yee wil þider ga. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib. Prol.* 8 Why so? quod I, why wiltow lette me Moore of my tale than another man? 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* I. i. (1495) A lij b/a [God] may do euery thyng that he woll doo, but he wyll not do euery thyng that he may doo. *c* 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, Bothe my dethe and my lyfe, Is inne the wille of thi wife, Quethur ho wulle stynte me of my strife, Or putte me to payne! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 124, I bott rahers as my autour will say. 1508 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 19 Mulso..sayeth..that your sayed beseehar shall..pay hym moche a Fyne..as he woll demaund at hys pleasure. 1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* IV. vii, Dalia, arte thou gone? what wolt serue me soe? 1683 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. ix. 25 When God will tell us we shall know. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Ep.* I. i. 42 You cannot hope for Lynceus' piercing eyes: But will you then a strengthening salve despise?

8. Expressing natural disposition to do something, and hence habitual action: Has the habit, or 'a way', of ——ing; is addicted or accustomed to ——ing; habitually does; sometimes connoting 'may be expected to' (cf. 15).

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* v. vii. 230 Elpendes hyd wile drincan wætan ȝelice & spynge deþ. 13.. *Eufrosyne* 424 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 179 Whom he louep, he wol chastise. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1683 Brode Roses and open also Ben passed in a day or two, But knoppes will fresh be Two dayes atte leest or thre. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii. 100 þai er rowgh and will clymbe in to treesse als lightly as þai ware apes. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxiv. 34 Women that wol goo to see lustinge..and also wol go on pilgrimage more for sporte than for deuocion. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 174, I have bounde this horse thus by cause he wyll fyghte. *c* 1520 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 32 Humors superflue, that often wyll crepe Into the brayne. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ecclus. xxi. 24 A foole will pepe in at the window into the house, but he that is wel nourtured, wyll stande without. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 206 The man doth fear God, howsoeuer it seemes not in him, by some large ieasts hee will make. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 142 Crabs move sideling, Lobsters will swim swiftly backward. 1780 *Mirror* No. 93 Of those trifles, the nature will commonly mark the man. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* II. § 91 Men, by their nature, are prone to fight; they will fight for any cause, or for none. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 Sept. 13/3 Should they make a good haul on Monday, they will lounge away the rest of the week.

9. Expressing potentiality, capacity, or sufficiency: Can, may, is able to, is capable of ——ing; is (large) enough or sufficient to.

† *It will not be*: it cannot be done or brought to pass; it is all in vain. So, † *Will it not be?*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. ii. (1868) 153 In spiritz Iugement is more clere and wil nat be corumped. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 31 Ley þe quarterys v. or vj. in a dyshe, as it wole come a-bowte. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 6516 That ye speke with hir that she may haue hir pece, And so to leve in rest and it wilbe. *c* 1537 Du Bennes *Measuryage Lands* Cont., To knowe howe many foote of borde or stone wyll borde or paue it. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Trochum*, a certayne stoole or chaire, whiche wyll be tourned aboute. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 607 But all in vaine, good Queene, it will not bee. 1599 — *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 11, I must needs wake her: Madam, Madam, Madam...Will it not be? 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. i. § 1 Parrots..will be taught to make articulate Sounds. 1720 S. Palmer *Proverbs* 47 The Hazard of being Ridiculous won't Ballance the Inclination to be talk'd on. 1728 E. S[mith] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 98 When the Oven is ready, pour in your Stuff...Half an hour will bake it. 1730–1848 [see Do *v.* 20]. 1790 Cowper *Let.* 21 Mar., My periwig is arrived, ..my head will only go into the first half of it. 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) I. 507 The heart will beat after removal from the body. 1866 R. Simpson *Life Campion* ix. (1907) 279 [His] words, though they will bear, yet do not warrant, such a translation.

10. As a strengthening of sense 7, expressing determination, persistence, and the like (without temporal reference as in 11). †a. Purposes to, is determined to. *Obs.*

c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xli. 133 Men sayen comynly, that he whome god wyll haue kept, may not be peryshed. 1490 — *Eneydos* xv. 55 Iuno the goddesse, wyllynge accomplysshe the maryge of Eneas to dydo. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. lxvi. 6, I heare ye voyce of the Lorde, that wyll rewarde, & recompence his enemyes.

b. *emphatically*. Is fully determined to; insists on or persists in ——ing: sometimes with mixture of sense 8. (In 1st pers. with implication of futurity, as a strengthening of sense 11 a.) Also *fig.* = must inevitably, is sure to.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* VI. 498 Fate's such a shrewish thing, She will be mistris. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* v. iii, *Vas.* Dare come? *Gio.* So I said, and tell him more, I *will* come. 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* I. i. 5, I know not that; but obey I will and must. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxi, If he will lock the door,..and take away the key, how am I to get out? 1820 Wordsw. *To the small Celandine* 51 Buttercups, that will be seen, Whether we will see or no. 1817 T. L. Peacock *Nightmare Abbey* xiii, There is a girl concealed in this tower, and find her I will. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 9 An impulse which will vent itself in some form or other. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* viii. 239, I have spent 6,000 francs to come here..and I *will* see it!

c. In phr. of ironical or critical force referring to another's assertion or opinion. Now *arch.* except in *will have it* (see Have *v.* B. 13 b).

1592 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 58 This is a Riddling Merchant for the nonce, He will be here, and yet he is not here. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* ii. 25 Some, not contented to haue them [*sc.* the Saxons] a people of German race, wil needs bring them from elswhere. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 632 The Rosie-cross Philosophers, Whom you will have to be but Sorcerers. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Honey*, Some naturalists will have honey to be of a different quality, according to the difference of the flowers..the bees suck it from.

11. As auxiliary of the future tense with implication of intention or volition (thus distinguished from Shall *v.* B. 8, where see note).

a. In 1st person: sometimes in slightly stronger sense = intend to, mean to.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 191 Hwyder wilt þu gangan? Min Drihten, ic wille gangan to Rome. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Genesis* 1896 Ic wille mid flode folc ascwellan. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ic sou wille ȝeuan wela..inoȝe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 485 Ichulle fordon þe wisdom of þeos wise worldmen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 140 Mi rede is taken þer tille, þat fare y wille wiþ þe. ? 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 159, I wyll and shall at all seasons be redy. 1539 *Bible* (Great) John xii. 28, I haue both glorified it, and will glorify it agayne. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* v. iii. 2 To morrow will we be married. 1607 — *Cor.* v. iii. 127 Ile run away Till I am bigger, but then Ile fight. 1777 Clara Reeve *Champion of Virtue* 55 Never fear it..I will speak to Joseph about it. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xxvi, Good bye! I'll soon be back. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 43 Yet I thy hest will all perform at full.

b. In 2nd and 3rd pers., in questions or indirect statements.

971 [see a]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5671 Wil þou ala me als þou has alain þis endir dai þe egypcian? 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* xi. 11 That eche mane se..that he dredith god, and that he wolle governe him aftir goddis plesaunce. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* IV. i. 100 Her wraspish headed sonne..Swears he will shoote no more. 1635 Shirley *Lady Pleas.* v. (1637) I 4 b, I know you..wonot ruine What you have built to honour you. 1795 Burns *Heron Election Ball.* I. i, Whom will ye send to London town, To Parliament and a' that? 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 85, I will cure thee without giving thee to drink any potion...When King Yoonán heard his words, he..said..., How wilt thou do this?

12. With negative, expressing the contrary of senses 6, 7, 10, 11: thus commonly = refuse or decline to; *emph.* insist on or persist in not ——ing. Also *fig.* of a thing. (See also 9, 13.)

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2388 Ne wile Sarran soð ȝelyfan wordum minum. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3728 Ȝif þou for wrabþe wylt nat abyde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 347, I wol nat wirche as muche as a gnat. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 900 Partanope wole no lenger byde. 1526 Tindale *John* v. 40 And yett will ye nott come to me that ye myght have lyfe. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 234 Heere is a rurall Fellow, That will not be deny'de your Highnesse presence. 1670 Dryden *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. i, I wonnot lift an arm in his defence. 1720 S. Palmer *Proverbs* 351 Love and Tenderness won't permit a Good Man always to make a strict Computation. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* II. 290, I cannot, I wo'not sit down at Table with her. 1887 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. § 90 All copies are bad; because no painter who is worth a straw ever *will* copy. 1885 Stevenson in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 557 Those blindest of the blind who will not see. 1891 *19th Cent.* Dec. 859 The Court cannot and will not stand..journalistic personalities about its members.

† b. Rendering L. *noli, nolite* as auxiliaries of the negative imper. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 266 Ne willaþ eow andrædan deade feðan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cii[i]. 2 Ne wylt þu ofergeottul æfre weorðan ealra goda. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* vii. 1 Wile thou not don eueles. *c* 1400 *tr. Pol. Poems* xxiv. 37, Y shal saye to god..Wyl nost dampne me fro blisse. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 151 Wylleth not geue place to the fende.

13. In 1st pers., expressing immediate intention: *I will* = 'I am now going to', 'I proceed at once to'. With negative, used idiomatically with *say* or the like: *I will not* = 'I do not venture so far as to'.

12.. *Moral Ode* 155 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 169 Iwule nu comen eft to þe dome þat ich er ow of sede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 277 'Min flizt,' he sede, 'ic wile up-taken.' *c* 1320 *Havelok* 3 Herknet to me..Of a tale þat ich you wile telle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 42 And at a knyght than wol I first bigynne. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. v. 167 That this conclusioun is

say wickid homicid). 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* III. 55 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. vi. § 38 I'le onely adde Story and then proceed. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. 134, I will not call them Cheaters. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 121 In the Morning I had these very good, I will not say handsome, Pipkins. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxix, 'I will go in and pay my respects to your wife', said he. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 78 My host (whom I will call Mr. Newman) observed [etc.]. 1883 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* iii, Very well; I will wish you good-evening.

b. In 1st pers. pl., expressing a proposal: *we will* († *wule we*) = 'let us'.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Here cumeð ure king; wule we fare togenes him. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3021 Sore þey wepton & sayden,' wollen go henne, For we se welle þat hit is goddes owen wylle'. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 9 Peace: we'll heare him. 1620 — *Temp.* I. ii. 308 Come on, We'll visit Caliban. 1798 Coleridge *Nightingale* 4 Come, we will rest on this old mossy bridge! 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xii, We will forget Mistress Dods for the present, if you please.

† c. *fig.* (in 3rd pers.) of a thing: Is ready to, is on the point of ——ing. *Obs. rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 254 A treou þet wule uallen, me underset hit mid on oðer treou.

14. In 2nd and 3rd pers., as auxiliary expressing mere futurity, forming (with pres. inf.) the future, and (with pf. inf.) the future pf. tense: corresponding to *shall* in the 1st pers. (see note s.v. Shall *v.* B. 8).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxiii. 20 [lxxiv. 21] He wyle naman þinne neode herian. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xli. (Z.) 247 *Loquuturus*, se ðe wyle oððe sceal sprecan. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 12919 (Fairf.) Bot or he wille him sfully shaw, Bot ȝet a quile he wille a-bide. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxx. 80 No doute he wol be redy anon to the deth to kepe the countre and defende it fro his enemyes. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12436 (Trin.), I drede men wol [*other texts* sal] þis childe forfare. 1459 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 438, I hope he wyl be well demenyd to plese yow herafterward. 1529 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 4, I..have showed unto hym my full myende therin, the which I doubte not he wull declare unto your grace. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. i. 145 Mosbie will be there, whose very looks Will add unwonted courage to my thought. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. ii. 86 If we shall stand still, In feare our motion will be mock'd, or carp'd at. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 448 Time is lost, which never will renew. 1788 Cowper *Let. to J. Newton* 9 Dec., They will probably return this day fortnight. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 12 Rest, rest, on mother's breast, Father will come to thee soon. 1858 Lytton (*title*) What will he do with it? 1872 Morley *Voltaire* I. 12 His pigmy hope that life will one day become somewhat better. 1878 Hardy *Under Greenw. Tree* II. iii, The sooner begun, the sooner over; for come it will.

b. As auxiliary of future substituted for the imper. in mild injunctions or requests.

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xii, You will permit me to say [etc.]. 1831 — *Ct. Rob.* vii, In your intercourse with their chiefs,..you will take care to give no offence to their natural presumption. 1876 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* I. § 7 That they should use their own balances, weights, and measures; (not by any means false ones, you will please to observe).

15. As auxiliary of future expressing a contingent event, or a result to be expected, in a supposed case or under particular conditions (with the condition expressed by a conditional, temporal, or imper. clause, or otherwise implied).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 3 Ȝif þu æfre cymst..to þære stowe,..þonne wilt þu cweþan [etc.]. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 71 Ȝif hiere ne bið sona ȝestiered, hio wile weahsan mid ungemete. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 215 Vnwrih him þene wel þet is þi wilnunge, and he wule hit forðen. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 297 For, bow he fra þe bataill,..þen will he wed anoþire wife, & wayfe me for euer. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 112 Yef hem this drynke, anoon they wole be asounde. 1563 W. Fulke *Meteors* (1640) 30 b, If a darke cloud be at the sunne rising, in which the Sunne soone after is hidde,..rayne will followe. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 109 Let Iuie be killed, else tree will be spilled. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. v. 3 *Qu.* I will not speake with her. *Hor.* She is importunate, indeed distract, her moode will needs be pittied. 1605 — *Lear* III. vi. 85, I do not like the fashion of your garments. You will say they are Persian; but let them bee chang'd. 1664 *Marvell's Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 98, I think it wilbee very vnseemely for you or them to endeavour the destruction of the others charter. 1665 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* To Rdr. b 2, The reasonable will accept the will for the deed. 1725 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 10 Won't God be angry with me if I should love him? 1738 Bolingbroke *Patriot King* Introd., He who abandons or betrays his country, will abandon or betray his friend. 1780 Miss Burney *Cecilia* x. iv, If I am never happy till then,..sad, indeed, will be my life! 1842 Browning *Cristina* viii, And then, come next life quickly! This world's use will have been ended. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 The lover of the Elizabethan drama will readily recal many such allusions. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxx, You'll be surprised when you find how easy it is, and yet how you can't do it.

b. With pers. subject (usually 1st pers. sing.), expressing a voluntary act or choice in a supposed case, or a conditional promise or undertaking: esp. in asseverations (e. g. *I will die sooner than ..., I'll be hanged if . . .*, etc.).

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 266 And ȝut ich, book, wol beo brent, bote he arise to lyue. 1598 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 75 He hath neither Latine, French, nor Italian, and you will come into the Court & sweare that I haue a poore pennieworth in the English. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 235 [That] is the opinion that fire cannot melt out of me. I will die in it at the stake. 1620 — *Temp.* I. i. 49 Ile warrant him for drowning. 1769 Johnson 26 Oct. in *Boswell* (1904) I. 399 I'll take you five children from London, who shall cuff five Highland children. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. vi, I will rather die than let you see this wardrobe. 1868 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xiii. 138 But I will be hanged if I see what it all:

c. Expressing a determinate or necessary consequence (without the notion of futurity).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 235 Þe comoun cubite.. conteyneþ but a foot and an half. But a cubite of gemetrie conteyneþ sixe comoun cubites, þat wil be nyne foot long. *c* 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 25 Doubull a. þat wel be 4..þan doubul 5. þat wel be 10...þen draw downe 2 to 4 & þat woll be 5. 1592 Hues *Treat. Globes* IV. x, That Starre will set Hellacaly. 1709 J. Ward *Yng. Math. Guide* III. ii. (1734) 293 Then joyn the Points *A* and *f* with a Right-line, and it will form the Angle requir'd. 1838 De Morgan *Ess. Probab.* 140 That the mean risk of error will, in the long run, be ½ of that error which is as often exceeded as not. 1887 Fowler *Deductive Logic* (ed. 9) 47 From what has been said it will be seen that I do not agree with Mr. Mill. *Mod.* If, in a syllogism, the middle term be not distributed in either premiss, there will be no conclusion.

d. With the notion of futurity obscured or lost: = will prove or turn out to, will be found on inquiry to; may be supposed to, presumably does. Hence (chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) in estimates of amount, or in uncertain or approximate statements, the future becoming equivalent to a present with qualification: e.g. *it will be...* = 'I think it is...' or 'it is about...'; *what will that be?* = 'what do you think that is?'

c 1450 *Cov. Myst., Assumption* 349, I am aferd there wylle be sumthyng amys. 1584 *Hornby Priory* in *Craven Gloss.* (1828), Where on 40 Acres there will be xiij.s. iv.d. per acre yerely for rent. 1641 in Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scot.* (1876) I. Introd. 31 The kings haill tale vpoun the bullioun will not be 3000 li by yeir. *a* 1791 Grose *Olio* (1792) 106, I believe he will be an Irishman. *Ibid.* 107 *C.* How far is it to Dumfries? *W.* It will be twenty miles. 1812 Brackenridge *Views Louisiana* (1814) 156 The agriculture of this territory will be very similar to that of Kentucky. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, I think..ye will be the same lad that was for in to see her yestreen? 1852 M. Arnold *Tristram & Iseult* I. 5 What lights will those out to the northward be? 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* v. (new ed.) 219 An untravelled man is always at some disadvantage in *good* English society, where almost every one but himself will have crossed the channel. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s. v. *Biddels*, This word we have only once heard, and that will be twenty years ago.

¶ 16. Used where *shall* is now the normal auxiliary, chiefly in expressing mere futurity: since 17th c. almost exclusively in Scottish, Irish, provincial, or extra-British use (see Shall *v.* B. 7, 8, 10).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* x, Hwæt wille we cweðan be þinum twam sunum? 14.. in *Anglia* XXVII. 287 Blyþ will I be For to worschip þat wight. 1464 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 67 Nothyng..attemptyng to the contrarie therof, as they woll answere at theyr parell. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* (1577) Author's Ep. B iv, If the booke shall generally please, I wyll count him good. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 39 Perchance I will be there as soone as you. *a* 1600 in Ramsay *Ever-Green* (1761) II. 224 Allace! that Day I'll neir forget. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. ii. 184, I will win for him if I can: if not, Ile gaine nothing but my shame, and the odde hits.

1733 W. Crawford *Infidelity* xiv. (1748) 107 Then we will be pleased with the Exertments of his Authority. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. ii. 27 If I draw a catgut or any other cord to a great length between my fingers, I will make it smaller than it was before. 1793 Burns *Thou hast left me ever, Jamie* i, I maun see thee never, Jamie, I'll see thee never! 1822 Scott *Let.* 12 May (in Davey's *Catal.* (1893) 30), I will be happy to contribute anything in my power. 1825 — in Lockhart *Ballantyne-humbug* (1839) 99, I expect we will have some good singing. 1875 E. H. Dering *Sherborne* xxxix, 'Will I start, sir?' asked the Irish groom. 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* ii, Perhaps you are right,..However, I will know all about it myself in a few weeks. 1903 S. Kaye-Smith *House of Alard* I. § 21 But I'll be all right..if I go away.

*** Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses.

17. In absol. use, or with ellipsis of obj. clause as in 2: in meaning corresponding to senses 5–7.

If you will is sometimes used parenthetically to qualify a word or phrase: = 'if you wish it to be so called', 'if you choose or prefer to call it so'.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 39 Nallas sua ic wille, ah sua ðu wilt. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Al hit mei us rede and to lase 3if we wulleð. 1340 *Ayenb.* 101 Ich wile þe segge yef þou wylt. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* IX. 44 Euer is þi soule saaf Bote 3if þi-self wolle. *c* 1400 Maundev. vii. [x]. (1919) I. 52 Whan god alle myghty wole, right als the londes weren lost,..so schulle þei ben wonnen. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. lii. 38 Ye must porvey yow for the nourisshyng of your child. As thou wolt said the kyng be it. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 It neuer..leueth vs except we wyll. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 47 Let us consider if you will in generall. 1595 Spenser *Epithal.* 252 Poure not by cups, but by the belly full, Poure out to all that wull. 1696 Whiston *Th. Earth* IV. i. § 2. 218 Gravity..depends

to-morrow, if you will. 1876 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* vii. § 78 Very savage! monstrous! if you will.

b. In parenthetic phr. *if God will* (†also *will God*, rarely *God will*), *God willing*: if it be the will of God, 'D. V.'

In OE. *Gode willipende* (Will *v.*8) = L. *Deo volente.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18462 And yee sal be, sua wil Iesu, Als dumb o speche wit ilk man. 13.. *Ibid.* 109 (Coll. of Arms MS.) 3if god wole þenne shal I telle How he..harrewede helle, 1438 in Fraser *Lennox* (1874) II. 67 Jhone Stewart,..God wylland, sall haff to wyff..Margaret off Monguerry. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 179 For that, God will, is our purpos to be. 1520 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 234 At my comynge thedyr God willynge I shale cawse the sayd Hanggyns to be made. 1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 306 We sall tak ... diligence. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 5, I sall do bettir will god ane vthir day. 1605 Exondelle *Fr. Gard.* H 3 b, I shall see (God willing) how you will profit. 1716 Stayte in *Thoresby's Lett.* (1832) II. 368 Next week, God willing, I take my journey to my Rectory in Sussex.

† c. *fig.* Demands, requires (*absol.* or *ellipt.* use of 3 c). *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6979 Ich mot nede be milde, As kunde of moder wole & blod, a;en my childe. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 128 Folk þat ben I-weddet, And libbeþ as heore lawe wole. 1417 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 184 To redresse it..als ryght wyll for the profit of the kinges poeple. *c* 1440 tr. *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 73 Pleasaunce and fruyt the tilman forto bringe As seeson wol. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* (1868) 714 Oþer þan þe lawe of þe lond woll. 1511 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 345/1 That na seculare personis have intromettting with thaim uther wais than law will.

† d. Phr. *I will well*: I assent, 'I should think so indeed'. *Obs.* (Cf. F. *je veux bien.*)

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xvi. 59, I truste in god myn eure is not suche but some of them may sore repente thys, I wol wel said Arthur, for I see your dedes full actual. *Ibid.* IV. xxi. 146 Yonder is a knyht.., lete vs put it bothe vpon hym, and as he demeth so shall it be. I wylle wel said the knyght.

18. With ellipsis of a vb. of motion. *arch.*

Beowulf 318 Ic to sæ wille. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) c. 1 [ci. 2] Hwænne þu me wylle to [*quando venies ad me*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 (MS. T.) Hund wile in at open dure, þer man him ne wernes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 2132 Bot I wyl to þe chapel. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20356 (B. M. Add. MS.) Furst my lord was brouȝt to dede, .. And now my ladi wil me fol[ȝ]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 89 Wher rydestow..? Seyde this yeman wiltow fer to day? *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 163 If a canael þat brenneþ..be putt al in oile..þe fier þerof wole out. *c* 1430 *How Good li'f taught Dau.* 165 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 191 Borowed thinge wole home. 1532 Tindale *Expos. Matt.* v. (*c* 1550) 16 Who so euer will to heauen. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* X vj b, Geue ther of to the woundyd partye asmuche therof..as wil into an egges shell. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. iii. 245 Ile in, Ile in. 1610 — *Temp.* III. I. 94 Ile to my booke. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 2 Cor.* xii. 20 They will on in sinne to their utter ruine. 1728 *Entertainer* No. 25. 167 Nothing will down with these Zealots but a preaching Ministry. 1822 Byron *Werner* I. i. (1823) 36 Sir, you will with me? 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xxx, 'Thither will I then,' said the Constable. 1883–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Aug. xviii, I will to thee o'er the stream afloat.

19. With ellipsis of active inf. to be supplied from the context.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 3 Cunna swa þu wille. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 [We] habbeð ou þeiȝ twa uers and wule nuþe þet þridde. *c* 1205 Lay. 3320 Lete we sum þis mochele folc fare wher ha wulleð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4095 'Fader', he said, 'i will ful fayn, þi bod i aght noght to stand agaynn.' *c* 1400 Maundev. xx. [xxiv.] (1919) I. 145 Whoso þat wole, may leve me ȝif he wille. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xxiii. 70 Who is greued with my custome, lete hym amende hit that wol. I wil amende it said Arthur. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, Wilt thou haue thys woman to thy wedded wyfe..? I will. 1599 T. Cutwode *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xlii, That which will, will bee. *a* 1633 Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* Wks. (1857) 306 Marry your son when you will; your daughter when you can. 1692 Dryden *Cleomenes* III. iii, *Crat.*..Think not on us. *Cleom.* I wonnot. 1818 Keats *Isabella* v, I may not speak. And yet I will, and tell my love all plain. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, 'Will you go on deck?' 'No, I will not.' This was said with a most determined air. 1843 — *Bleak Ho.* iii, I can't believe it. It's not that I don't or I won't. I can't! 1866 Ruskin *Let.* 10 May, I hope it may do you some good, as it won't me. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1890) 241/2 And so mid varied talk the day went by, As such days will, not quite unhappily. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* vi, 'Do you know that all the people in the house will think it very shocking of me to walk with you?'..'The deuce they will!'

b. With generalized ellipsis, esp. in proverbial saying (now usually as in quot. 1562, with *will* for *would*).

14.. *Lat. & Eng. Prov.* (MS. Douce 52, lf. 31), Who so wylle not when he may he shall not when he wylle. 1560 Becon *New Catech.* VI. Wks. 1564 I. 495 Therfore ought suche as be godly learned to trauaile with heretikes & to conuince them, not with fire & fagot, with swerde & halter, or with lawe will I, 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 130 He that will not when he may, When he would he shall haue nay. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 237 He that may and will not, when he would he shall not. 1736 A. Hill *Zara* Epil., A Woman Will, or Won't—depend on't.

c. With *so* or *that* substituted for the omitted inf. phr.: now usually placed at the beginning of the sentence.

c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 260 'A, boy,' quod she, 'wylt þou so, þou shalt sone myskarye.' 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism, Question.* Doest thou not thinke that thou art bound to beleue, and to doe as they haue promised for thee? *Aunswere.* Yes verely. And by Gods helpe so I will. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 215 *Hor.* I promist we would..beare his charge of wooing...*Gremio.* And so we wil. 1607 [see So B. 2 b]. 1900 (see That *dem. pron.* 2 b).

d. Idiomatically used in a qualifying phr. with relative, equivalent to a phr. with indef. relative in *-ever*; often with a thing as subj., becoming a mere synonym of *may*: e.g. *shout as loud as you will* = 'however loud you (choose to) shout'; *come what will* = 'whatever may come'; *be that as it will* = 'however that may be'.

1439 *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden) 205 Complaine as yo wole y' dede thi maner. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 38 'Tis since the Nuptiall of Lucentio, Come

Mondo (1636) 186 Let his condition here civilly bee what it will, it will not content him. 1732 Pope *Mor. Ess.* III. 153 The ruling Passion, be it what it will, The ruling Passion conquers Reason still. 1827 Scott *Two Drovers* I, The drovers usually sleep along with their cattle, let the weather be what it will. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* IV. § 82 Think what you will of it,..the value of the thing itself is neither greater nor less.

† 20. With ellipsis of pass. inf. *Obs. rare.*

a 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 145 The air's force is compounded of its swiftness and density, and as these are encreased, so will the force of the wind.

21. In const. where the ellipsis may be either of an obj. clause (as in 17) or of an inf. (as in 19). a. In a disjunctive qualifying clause or phr. (usually parenthetic), as *whether he will or no, will he or not*, † (with pron. omitted) *will or no*, (with *or* omitted) *will he will he not, will he nill he* (see VI. below and Willy-nilly), etc.

In quot. 1592 *vaguely* = 'one way or another', 'In any case'.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 101 He schal slepe alsone, wille he wil he not. 1568 Hacket tr. *Thevet's New found World* xiv. 21 b, They floote aboue water, will they or not, and by this meanes they are taken. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 12 They Briseis fetche away, whether she wil or no Out of my Tent. 1592 Breton *Ctess Pembroke's Love* Wks. (Grosart) I. 21/1 Fortune? shee skornde: friendes? who durst be a foe? Seruants? a worlde would serue her will or no.

II. The past tense would with temporal function.

* With simple obj. or obj. clause: corresponding to the pres. tense in I.*

† 22. (with simple obj.) Desired, wished for; sometimes implying or passing into the sense 'intended'; with negative, often implying 'refused': cf. 1, 1 b, 1 c. *Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. viii, [Heo] cwæð..þæt heo þa by frugne, hwæt heo sohten oððe hwæt heo þider wolden. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xx. 13 Se ealdor-man ȝewat þa ða hit wolde god. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3620 Dis folc..Offreden him siluer and golde, And oðer metal swilc he wolde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16 Wit surasins wald þai na saght. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) p. cxxvi, Crist forsoke worldly glorie...Crist wold not worldly lordschip. 1450 *Merlin* xiii. 198 Thei seide thei wolde the londe..for her oncle. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xv. 138 He..asked yf ahe wold any thing vnto kynge Arthur. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. viii. 3/2 He wolde nothyng to her but all loue and good faith. 1609 Gaule *Pract. Theories Christ* 158 God and the Iewes, both would the Passion and Death of Christ. 1643 [Angier] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 18 When we would no Pardon they laboured to punish us. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. People* xii. 238 To perform, not what he himself would, but what the People..requir'd of him.

23. (with obj. cl., or acc. and inf.: cf. 2, 3.) Desired, wished; often implying 'intended'; determined, ordained; *fig.* demanded, required (that something should be done). *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* iv, Hwy þu la Drihten mære woldest þæt seo wyrd swa hwyrfan sceolde? *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xvi. 101 Hu he wolde ðæt mon him miltsode. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132 þa uuolde he ðat his nefe sculde ben abbot. *c* 1200 Ormin 7708, & tatt te Laferrd Jesu Crist þa wollde þatt hiss moderr Swa sholilde to þe kirrke gan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1590 Wald he noght it war sua fordon. *Ibid.* 11812 Maria barn ber in chastite, Sin godd wald þat it sua suld be. *Ibid.* 13701 Þair lagh wald man suld hir stan. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 107 Crist axide him, what he wolde þat Crist did to him. *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 370/2 He wolde and bequath be t... said Testament, þat [etc.]. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 302 Ye shall see that Rowlande wold he had not gon there. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. vi. 26 He..wald also this regioun suery stedd War callit Latium. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc.* iv. 27 Because Israel had not gotten soch mysfortune as he wolde they shulde. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 327 He would his richesse to bee a cloke of goodnesse. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 161 Heauen would that shee these gifts should haue. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 263 He would that Captain Credence should join himself with them. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 68 Because I would not one of thine own doves, Not ev'n a rose, were offer'd to thee.

† 24. *transf.* (cf. 4.) Maintained, 'wanted to make out'. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.*, etc. 25/82 He walde þat A watter, or a well, hayd wecht it away. 1548 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 132 Fayninge and counterfeyting a miracle that he wolde had done whilest he was at masse. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 5, I vnderstuid thair sentence quhat thay wald.

** With dependent infinitive (as in I.**).

25. (Cf. 5.) Wished to; often with implication 'intended to'. *Obs.* or *arch.* except in dependence on a principal vb. in past time.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Wast þu hu ic ȝewand ymb Croesus..þa þa hine Cirus..ȝefangen hæfde, & hine forbærnan wolde? 900–50 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 755, Ymb .xxxi. wintra þæs þe he rice hæfde, he wolde adræfan anne æþeling se was Cynehearde haten. *Ibid.* 877 Swa feola swa he habban wolde. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 29 Da cwæþ he to þam hælende, & wolde hine sylfne gerihtwisian. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132, He uuolde underþeoden ðat mynstre to Clunie. *a* 1300 *Hawelok* 354 Deth him tok þan he best wolde Liuen. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 80 (Petw.) Feynyng a cause for he wold haue a bribe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. ii. 77 He..sawe this adaventure..and wolde assaye it as other knyghtes dyd. 1526 Tindale *John* xvi. 19 Jesus perceaved that they wolde axe hym. 1578.. *Christ's Kirk* 26 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 983 Scho of lufe was sillie;..Scho wald haif bot swete Willie. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. 7 Be Certaine, which would be counted pillars of the State. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 300 To assist us in getting as many dry Coco-nuts as we

would have. 1724 De Foe *True Relation* in *Early Wks.* (1889) 443 Mrs. Bargrave asked her whether she would drink some tea. 1808 Scott *Marm.* IV. i, Till one, who would seem wisest, cried, 'What else but evil could betide..?' 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xiv. 108 He now would build—and lofty seat he built. 1871 G. Macdonald *Sonn. conc. Jesus* xvi. 11 Thou of the truth not less than all wouldst make. 1876 Marchioness Dufferin *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 291 They asked us if we would have tea, and as we 'would', they took us into an adjoining room.

† b. in direct statement: Was about to. *rare.*

a 950 *Guthlac* v. (Prose) 135/270 Da hit þa on mergen dagian wolde [*imminente aurora*]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 463 As the queene hem saugh she wiste well she was be-traied, and wolde crye as she that was sore affraied, and thei seide [etc.].

26. (Cf. 6, 7.) Was (were) willing to, consented to; †deigned to; chose to; †also in weakened sense (nearly = did). Now only in dependence on a principal vb. in past time.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* iii. § 4 Sint þis nu þa god..þe þu.. gehete þam monnum þe þe heorsumian woldan? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6433 Qui wald [*Gött.* wild, *Trin.* woldes] ledd vs o þat land? 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 25 Of a mayden he wulde be bore. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 In þat land he wald lede his lyf and suffer hard passion. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 2 For to saue man he wolde come down in to erthe to be born of a woman. 1574 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 99 Thair wes tyme and place grantit, to all that wald appone thame thairto. 1611 Bp. Hall *Impress of God* i. Wks. (1625) 444 In the Creation hee could haue made all at once, but hee would take dayes for it. *a* 1629 Hinde *J. Bruen* xlvii. (1641) 149 He shewed himselfe to be of that extraordinary strength, that if he would fold his hands together, no man could pull them asunder. 1680 Otway *Orphan* III. iv, Why would you delay so long to give it? 1753 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 183 St. Francis would have his Religious for Humility called Friars Minors. 1884 Walford *Baby's Grandm.* xii, I said you would be all right in a few days if you would only hold on.

b. (Cf. 6 b.) In a dependent clause after an expression of request, command, or the like, where the principal vb. is in past time. Now *rare.*

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 54 b, [They] habbez bi soust us that we hit [*sc.* the maletolt] wolden relesen. 1526 Tindale *Acts* ix. 38 They sent vnto hym, desyrynge him that he wolde not be greued to come vnto them. 1535 Coverdale *1 Esdras* ix. 40 They spake vnto Esdras..y⁶ he wolde brynge y⁶ lawe of Moses. 1748 A. Butler *Lives Saints, St. Jane Frances de Chantal*, It was her..prayer.. that he would conduct her to a truly holy spiritual guide. 1813 Southey *Nelson* I. ii. 84 He requested the admiralty that they would not leave him to rust in indolence. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 538 She..faltered out her commands that he would sit down.

27. (Cf. 8.) Was (were) accustomed to; used to.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Wildu dior ðær woldon to hraun & stondan swilce hi tamu wæren. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 114 He wolde æfter uhtsange oftost hine gebiddan. *c* 1290 *Beket* 26 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 107 Ofte-siþe heo wolde speke with him. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 33 Sche wolde selden come at cherche. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. xxxvii. 399 Euery day syr Palomydes wold repreue sir Tristram of old hate betwixe them. 1573 L. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 40 The Athenians at any victory, would crown the Conqueror with a Garland made of Oken leaves. 1587 Underdowne tr. *Heliodorus* VII. (1895) 284 So lay shee all that night..sometime would she rise vp..sometime would shee cast her cloathes almoste all from her. 1620 Bacon *Hen. VII* 210 They would also ruffle with Iurors. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 103 There at the foot of yonder nodding beech..His listless length at noontide would he stretch. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* III. xvii, He never counted him a man, Would strike below the knee. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxi, The girls would ask her.. for a little music, and she would sing her three songs. 1913 Win. Holt *Beacon for Blind* xxx. 307 He would often return home exhausted from his work, and when Mrs. Fawcett read to him he would frequently fall fast asleep.

28. (Cf. 9.) Was capable of ——ing; could. Usually in a relative clause.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 631 Ther nas..Ne oynement that wolde clense and byte That hym myghte helpen. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 491 Ther was no knyfe that wolde hym byte, So harde of hyde was hee. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xiv. 138 Thenne he loked for the scaubard, but it wold not be founde. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxv. x. II. 542 As often, he had wiped out that which was done, and all to see if he could hit upon it: but it would not be, for yet it was not to his fansie. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 351 With Basket-hilt, that wou'd hold broth, And serve for Fight, and Dinner both.

29. (Cf. 10 b.) Was determined to; insisted on or persisted in ——ing.

1706 Farquhar *Recruiting Officer* Ep. Ded., Be it known ..that it was my Act and Deed, or rather Mr. Durfey's; for he *wou'd* play his Third Night against the First of mine.

he *would* bring in..to show the old lady. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/2 The fussiness of Thiers, who would have a finger in every pie that was being made.

30. (Cf. 11, 13.) In indirect reports, usually in 3rd pers., of past utterances, etc. in the 1st pers. (now) implying intention.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 183 Ic wæs heafde becorfen, & nu on þysum þriddan dæge aras, swa ic ær beforan þe sæyde & gehet þæt ic don wolde. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1066 Hi..sworon aðas, þat hi æfre woldon fryð & freondscype into þisan lande healdan. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 45 He sikurede hem alle, þat he wolde fare wiþ hiis folk in a faire wise. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2060 He..made a vowe to Mahounde of myght, He wolde that Cite wynne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxxxviii. 278 He commaundyd them to assemble as myche people as they coude, by cause he sayde that he wolde goo to his vncle themperour of Almayne. 1699 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 69 They all answered me that they wold keepe the castell. 1729 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 497 He would go, he said. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* I. Was it some vain..man—he would not say haberdasher—who [etc.]. 1871 M. Collins *Mary & Nerck.* xxxiii, . *Cuthbert* xxvi. 339 Anthony suggested to her that she ..id his sister should slip away unobserved. He himself would remain half-an-hour longer, and would then follow their example.

31. (Cf. 12.) With negative, commonly denoting refusal.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 969 And sarral wuldet noȝt ðolen Dat agar wore ðus to-bolen. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 6193, I thrested, and of drynk had nade, And yhe wald na drynk me bede. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 941 Vertu wold nat tary, but hyghyd hym thydyr blyue. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xviii. 13 The publican stode afarre of, and wolde not lifte vp his eyes to heven. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 267 This damn'd Witch Sycorax..was banish'd: for one thing she did They wold not take her life. *c* 1720 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 269 He would not stir. 1820 Wordsw. *Alice Fell* 52 She wept, nor would be pacified. 1880 Tennyson *Def. Lucknow* vi. 12 Cholera, scurvy, and fever, the wound that *would* not be heal'd. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Mar., Editors and publishers..would have none of it.

32. (Cf. 14, 15.) Forming (with pres. inf.) the auxiliary of the 'anterior future' or 'future in the past', and (with pf. inf.) of the 'anterior future perfect', in the 2nd and 3rd pers.: cf. Shall *v.* B. 14 b, c. **a.** in dependent clause (or virtual reported speech or thought).

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. ix. 128 Þa Darius gesæah þæt he oferwunnen beon wolde, þa wolde he hiene selfne on (sem gefeohte forspillan. *c* 1200 Ormin 689 Þatt se-ȝde he.. forrþi þatt ta wass cumenn time Þatt Drihhtin wolde lesenn ut hiss folk off deofless walde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7087 Þis child wax so wel & þeu as iseie fremde & sibbe þat he wolde be a noble mon. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xx. vii. 809, I..told my bretheren..afore hand what wold falle in the ende. 1496 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 10 Chargeing thame to do justice to baith the saidis partiis as thai wald ansuer to God. 1582 Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 3 This he protested to be true, as he would answer before God. 1586 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Jan. 113 The lorde chauncellor aunswered that diverse of the lordes had byn and woulde be..suitors unto her maiestie. 1663 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 183 Saying..that the time would come he should be found as good a subiect as myselfe. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, The planet..was not yet risen; but..she kept her eyes fixed on that part of the hemisphere where it would rise. 1841 Macaulay *Ess., L. Hunt* (1853) III. 38 He promised..to furnish them with a play every year, if his health would permit. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* I. 2 It disclosed to them a gracious..being, who would one day redress all wrongs. 1918 *Cornh. Mag.* June 569 The Elizabethan's chief concern was that the present would soon merge in the past and be gone.

b. (Cf. 15 d.) without notion of futurity: Probably or presumably did.

1857 Mrs. Gaskell *C. Brontë* I. iv. 79 'Of the two younger ones..I have very slight recollections, save that one..was quite the pet nursling of the school.' This last would be Emily. 1906 R. H. Benson *Richard Raynal* v. 92 It would be about half an hour before the King's dinner-time..that Master Richard came again to the hall. 1909 E. H. Burton *Life Bp. Challoner* I. ii. 12 The last of the Douay martyrs.. had suffered but one year previously. Some of the priests living at Douay would have known this martyr personally.

¶ **33.** (Cf. 16.) Used where *should* is now the normal auxiliary.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 90 The captain fearing that I would die of grief. 1870 Dasent *Annals* xiv, Of course my Aunt did not expect that I would be plucked in any examination. 1902 *Empire Rev.* I. 380, I..rejoiced in the fact that to get there I would have to travel to New York.

34. *** Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses as in I.***, 17–21. Now *rare* or *Obs.* except with ellipsis of active inf. to be supplied from the context, or in disjunctive qualifying clauses (e. g. *whether he would or no*).

† In *poet.* *c* 1400 (*Beryn*) *wold nat* = was of no avail.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* iii. 35 & ða he hiene from wolde, ða gefeng he hine. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 79 [Hi] þæt land gesetton swa hie sylfe woldon. *c* 1205 Lay. 28815 Wi naldest þu me suggen þurh nanes cunnes þinge þat þu wældest to þan kinge? *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 272/79 Swane any man wolde ouer þat watur. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 127 Al was as þow wolde [*v. r.* woldest] lorde, yworshiped be þow. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 952 *Dido*, He..saylyth forth al his cumpaynye Toward ytayle as wolde his desten. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1082 Ffawnus saw it wold nat. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. lx. (1859) 57, I was nought but abyl for to suffre, whether I wold or no. 1432 *Mumim. de Melros* (Bann.) 322 Þe qwilk brefe of Inqueste as law wald I gert procede. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 204 Thei..wente to the courte euen and morowe whan thei wolden. 1530 Tindale *Pract. Prelates* Hij, After that the Emperoure wolde in to Spayne. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 28 Anselme might not..correct his clergie but as the king would. 1593 Drayton *Ecl.* viii, Would she ought or would she nought, This lad would neuer from her thought. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 174 Would he, would he not, they made choice for him themselues. 16 in Percy *Reliq., Baffled Knight* xiv, He that wold not when he might, He shall not when he wold-a. 1624 *Capt. J. Smith's Virginia* III. vi. (Arb.) II. 432 They cryed to vs to doe no more, all should be as we would. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 497 The Captain told me, he would go and help his Men, let what would come. *Ibid.* 555 He told me he would do just as I would. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxv, Look where you would, some exquisite form glided gracefully through the throng. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 100 It was determined that the elector should have a chapel in the city whether he would or not.

1867 Morris *Jason* v. 47 When on the morn they would away. 1882 'Leslie Keith' *Alastair's Lady* xxvii, I wanted Mr. Meyers to come with us, but he wouldn't. 1920 *Discovery* Nov. 331/1 The bulbs were then sealed up again and set aside to ferment if they would.

III. The past tense would with modal function.

* With simple obj. (or equivalent), or obj. clause.

†**35.** *trans.* with simple obj. (also *intr.* with *well* or *ill* and dat. of person), as a qualification, becoming a virtual equivalent, of the present tense *will* in I, 1 b: Could or might desire; 'should like'; desire, wish for, 'want' (sometimes implying 'intend'). Cf. 40. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xix. 65 What wold ye with the best? *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 356, I am in certayne yᵗ he would you mere honour than ony persone lyuynge. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 408/1 Wherin euery mannes eares that wolde hym well, glowe for very shame. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 174 What would these strangers? 1596 — *Merch. V.* I. iii. 66 Is he yet possest How much ye would? *Shy.* I, I, three thousand ducats. 1599 A. Hume *Hymnes* ii. 70 What sa the fantasie wald. 1611 *Bible* Josh. xv. 18 Caleb said vnto her, What wouldest thou? 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* II. i, *Doge.* Come hither, child, I would a word with you. 1822 — *Werner* I. i. (1823) 35 But, in a word, what would you with me?

36. Similarly with const. as in 2: viz. with obj. clause, with vb. in past subj. (*arch.* except in *would rather* or *sooner* = 'should prefer'), †rarely in pres. subj., or with acc. and inf. Hence (*arch.*) with ellipsis of 1st pers. pron. as an expression of longing = 'I wish', 'O that'; also, by confusion with 37, in the form (*I*) *would to God* (or *heaven*).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Sum is so wel ilered,..þet heo wolde þet he wuste hit. *c* 1325 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 133 But in heore hertes .i. wolde þei hade.. Hou some þat god hem may degrade. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 8 Do til na man bot als tu walde man did to þe. *c* 1400 *Desir. Troy* 472, I wold yonder worthy weddit me hadde. 1440 [see Rather *adv.* 9]. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xiv. 73 Wherfore it myȝte seme that God wolde not him to be oure reule in deedis of oure seruice to God. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 522 So wold to god ȝe wold my loue fele. *a* 1529 Skelton *Bowge of Courte* 481 And so I wolde it were, so God me spede. *c* 1530 Redforde *Wyt & Sci.* (1848) 6 My hed akth sore, I wold wee returne. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Exod. xvi. 3 Wolde to God [1535 Coverdale, Wolde God] we had dyed by the hand of the Lorde in the lande of Egypt. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* v. i. 253, I am wearie of this Moone; would he would change. 1595 — *John* III. iv. 48, I am not mad, I would to heauen I were. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 33 Wch I would you ever to remember. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* To Rdr. A 4 b, I would thou hadst some Sugar Candyed, to sweeten thy Mouth. 1675 [see Rather *adv.* 9 e]. 1777 Miss M. Townshend in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 260 This news I picked up at Bet's door. Would to God that we had peace! 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. i, At a sad hour the sailor hath return'd; Would he were yet at sea! 1832 Scott *Ct. Rob.* xix, I would to God I had more. 1865 Whittier *Kallundborg Church* 48 Would I might die now in thy stead! 1882 Tennyson *Charge of the Heavy Brigade* Epil. 10–12, I would that wars should cease, I would the globe from end to end Might sow and reap in peace.

37. Used optatively in the phr. *would God* (also †*God would*, †*Christ would*) = 'O that God would', 'O that it were God's will', as an expression of earnest desire or longing. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

? *c* 1375 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 125/1 Wolde god ded y wore! *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1706 *Lucretia*, God wolde the wal were falle adoun! *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xxix, Wold God ȝe were swech as I fynde hem. ? 15.. *Love Songe* in Ritson *Ancient Songs* (1792) 115 Chryst wolt the fluger of hur swete face Were pyctored wher euer I be. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme* A iv, Wold good it were so vayd at this day. 1535 Wolde God [see 36, quot. 1539]. *c* 1600 *Hymn*, 'Hierusalem my happie home' xi, Ah my sweete home Hierusaleme Would god I were in thee.

†**38.** *fig.* as a qualification or equivalent of 3 c.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 9 And sesse your cry till I haue told What that my worship wold. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 272 Yet reson wolde it were in remembraunce.

†**39.** *transf.* as a qualification or equivalent of 4.

1550 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. xi. 34 The fantasticall opynion, that wolde every man should be saved by his own faithe.

** With dependent infinitive (as in I.** and II.**).

As with *should*, the notion of past time is usually expressed by the pf. inf.: see note a. v. Shall *v.* B. II.***

40. The past subj. used with potential or conditional force as a softening of the pres. ind. in sense 5, and hence virtually equivalent to it: Could or should wish to; should like to; wish, desire, or 'want' to (sometimes implying 'intend'). *arch.* or *dial.* exc. in *would have* (with obj. and inf. or compl.) = 'should like, wish (a person or thing) to be or to do something': see Have *v.* 18 b.

The notion of desire (in later use often passing into that of consent or willingness) is often emphasized by *fain, gladly,*

..ælfred *Boeth.* xl., Hwæt þu micclum mid woldest þu þe habban; eboht? *Ibid.* xl. § 7 Ic wolde æcsian hwæðer we smiȝne freodom habben..hwæt we don. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 580 & þou wost now vorsake Mi douȝter þat scolde be þi wif. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4287, I wald sinc in-til helle depe Wit mi sun þar for to wepe. *Ibid.* 24560 Þai wald ha berid him ful fain, Bot i him held wit al mi main. 13.. *E. E.* wolde wedde vnto hys vyfe? 13.. *Gest. Nicodemus* (A.) 290 Be what skille walde þai haue hym dede? *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1851 Þe werwolf..went to him euene, Wiþ a rude rering, as he him rende wold. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 97

3at vald I, & I mycht, Na var eld & falt of sycht, Of þe twelf appostolis spek now. *Ibid.* iii. (*Paulus*) 164 þe folk of rowme .. wald have brokyn his palace done. *c* 1420 *Brut* lxxx. 82 þe Britons wolde haue slayne þe messagers, but Arthure wolde nou3t soffre hit. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1953 For feere I lookyd as blak as a coole, I wold haue cropyn in a mouse hoole. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. cvii. 30 And so he bryngeth them vnto the hauen where they wolde be [1611 their desired hauen]. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 765 Thus haue I tolde the, as I woulde Be tolde, if I were in thy place. 1579–80 Harvey *Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 76, I would gladly be acquainted with M. Drants Prosodye. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 80 What would your Grace haue me to do in this? 1599 — *Much Ado* ii. iii. 6, I know that, but I would haue thee hence, and heere againe. 1668 Dryden *Medal* Ep. Whigs, If you were the Patriots you would seem, you would not at this rate incense the Multitude to assume it. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 120 Be sure they are qualities, which your patron would be thought to have. 1742 in *Johnson's Debates* (1787) II. 162 What is to be understood by this last sentence, I would willingly be informed. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 77 *note*, eme

[illegible] which some of us would gladly give all the novels ever written. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* lvi, Far I hear the bugle blow To call me where I would not go. 1905 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 172/3 Second-rate 'romantism', as Mr. Marion Crawford would have us call it.

P with omission of *have* in pf. inf.

1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 146 First of all, .. Come dame Beautee, rycht as scho wald me schent. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 93 3e say he wald deforcit 3our Dame. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 38 Sir R. Owen would gladlie had me seated in Shropshire.

b. In lighter shades of meaning: Am (is, are) disposed or inclined to; often (in 1st pers. sing.) in hesitating or deferential statement = 'wish to . . . if I may'. (Cf. 13.) *Would say* = 'I intend to say, mean'. *Would have* = 'is inclined to believe or assert (something *to be* so-and-so)': cf. 10 c.

c 1386 Chaucer *Somp. T.* 206 Of your grete goodnesse, by your leve, I wolde prey yow that ye nat yow greve. 1467 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 96, I wold pray yow..that ye woll se my pore howse for yowr logyng. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneis* ii. 654 Percase you would ask what was Priam's fate? 1564 Harding *Answ. Jewel* 215 What you would saye M. Iuell, I wote not, what you saye, well I wote. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Love-unknown* 52 When I thought to sleep out all these faults..I found that some had stuff'd the bed with thoughts, I would say thorns. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 19 Dr. H. M. would have Light to be the Platonick *Anima Mundi*. 1779 *Mirror* No. 3 P 7, I would, nevertheless, humbly propose to the ladies, to be good-humoured. 1800 Wordsw. *Hart-Leap Well* i. 96 But there is matter for a second rhyme, And I to this would add another tale. 1919 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* July 440 Working-men's colleges and institutes..are, the author would hope, built on a surer basis.

† c. *fig.* of a thing: Needs or requires to, ought to, should. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Paston Lett.* I. 39 The goune nedyth for to be had; and of colour it wolde be a godely blew, or erlys a bryghte sangueyn. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 129 There is a bee called a drone, .. and they wyll eate the honny, and gather nothynge: and therfore they wolde be kylde. 1598 *Ephemerio* G j, All fish would be very wel sodden, and with leisure. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvi. xxxix. I. 488 To have

tion of Fruit would be also tried in Vessells, filled with fine Sand. 1682 Evelyn *Let. to Pepys* 19 Sept., Besides all this, the nature of Prescription would be enquir'd into as well when it makes against us, as for us.

41. In the apodosis of a conditional sentence (expressed or implied), with pers. subject, forming the auxiliary of the periphrastic past subj. or so-called 'conditional mood' with implication of intention or volition: = 'should choose or be willing to': cf. 6, 7, 11.

a 1340 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 253 Ich walde 3ef hit mahte beon þolien a þusent deaðes to a rudden him ut þrof. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 3 War mi sorow slaked sune wald I sing. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* viii. ii. 276 She wold haue slayne the with that poyson and she myghte haue hadde her wille. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxiii. 37 Howe often wolde I haue gaddered thy children to gedder, as the henne gaddreth her chickens vnder her wynges? but ye wolde not. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* ii. i. 189 If hee should intend this voyage toward my wife, I would turne her loose to him. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 230 If I did thinke, Sir, I were well awake, I'ld striue to tell you. 1662 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. ii. (1911) 151 Let me by no meanes be continued sheriff..I would rather endure a Fine than be kept on another yeare. 1738 Johnson *London* 9 Who would leave, unbrib'd, Hibernia's Land? 1832 Wordsw. in *Mem.* (1851) II. 257 If..I should be asked how I would myself vote, if it had been my fortune to have a seat in the House of Lords. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlii, I wouldn't do such a thing here, sir, ..upon my word and honour, I wouldn't, sir. 1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 29 Apr. 264/4 The main object of writers on Bolshevism, whether they would admit it or not, has been to justify or condemn Lenin's great experiment.

b. *I would* (sc. 'if I were you') is often used colloq. as = 'I advise or recommend you to' (= *I should*, Shall *v.* B. 19 f). So *I wouldn't* = 'I advise you not to'.

1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 210, I would resort to her by night. 1895 Arnold *Lett.* 18 May in Stanley *Life* (1898) I. vii. 360 If possible, I would take a Strabo with me, and an Herodotus. *Mod.* I wouldn't go skating to-day; the ice isn't safe.

c. Interrog. in 2nd pers.: † *wouldst thou* . . . ? = 'art thou willing to . . . ?'; hence as a softened form of request: *would you* . . . ? = 'will you, please . . . ?': cf. 6 b.

c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xl, Quod the quite knyste, 'Wold thou luffe him ware alle thing?' 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* i. i, *Bell*...Was this her ring? *Green.* Her ring Sir. *Mey.* A pretty idle toy, would you take mony for 't? 1876 Mrs. Ewing *Six to Sixteen* ii, Would you say the Lord's Prayer for me, old fellow?

42. In the apodosis of a conditional sentence (expressed or implied), in the 2nd or 3rd pers., forming the auxiliary of the simple 'conditional mood', expressing merely a possibility or contingency in the supposed case: cf. 14.

For the distinction between *should* and *would* see note s. v. Shall v. B. 19 b.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Gif we nu gesawan hwelce mus þæt wære hiaford ofer oðre mys, & sette him domas, hu wunderlic wolde eow þæt þincan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 3ef he þat hielde synne, he wolde þe dede wiðtien. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5321 3if ichadde him bisuike, þe wors þou wost leue me. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 502 Pere was som Epistel hem by-twene, That wolde as seyth myn Auctor wel contene Neigh half þis bok. 1484 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 147/1 Pay to him samekle malis..& vþeris dewiteis as he may preif þe said landis walde have gevin him. 1538 Starkey *England* iii. (1878) 73 Yf hyt were dylygently laburyd, hyt wold bryng forth fruite. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 93 If thou haddest learned the first point of hauking, thou wouldst haue learned to haue held fast. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. ii. 44 (Qo. 1) That which we call a Rose, By any other name would smell as sweet. 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App v. 82, I am suere you would bee with us if wishes could bring you. 1754 Huxham in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 849 Perhaps some other salino-sulphureous medium would do as well. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 44 There is a butterfly in my study, which would be dead some time past, but that I watched it. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 19 They would have refused their co-operation if they dared. 1899 Ruskin *Two Paths* iii. § 96 Your stuffs need not be such as would catch the eye of a duchess. 1902 Violet Jacob *Sheep-Stealers* xiv, Had it been possible to teach him the rudiments of good manners, [he] would have been a really valuable member of the household. 1920 *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V* c. 50 § 22 (1) Any documents..such as would be subject to production in a court of law.

P with omission of *have* in pf. inf.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxi. 105/1 If..his cosyn had nat counsayled hym to haue peace, he wolde nat agreed therynto. 1813 Picken *Poems* II. 135 That wad been milkin' his cow in a sieve.

b. With the hypothetical notion obscured or weakened, the 'conditional mood' becoming a qualification of the pres. ind. expressing some degree of hesitation or uncertainty: in such phr. as *it would seem* (= 'it almost or somewhat seems'), *one would think* (= 'one is inclined to think'). So † *would be* = 'probably is'. Cf. 15 d, and similar use of *should* s.v. Shall *v.* B. 19 d.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iii. viii. 322 The first premisse of this argument mu3te needis be grauntid, as it wolde seeme. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 247 Every bosse of brydel and peitrel ..was worth, as I would wene, A thousand pound. 1533 More *Apol.* 255 Men wolde haue went soneste to haue founde them. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Job xli. 32 He (*sc.* the Leviathan) maketh a path to shine after him; one wolde thinke the depth as an hore head. 1600 *Essex Reb. Exams.* in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 35 The play wold be of harry the iiij^th. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 81 An' when they meet wi' sair disasters,..Ye maist wad think, a wee touch langer, An' they maun starve o' cauld and hunger. 1853 Miss Pratt *Wild Flowers* II. 75 This plant is not, as one would suppose from its name, a native of woods and meadows. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* iv, If it was only to see her own vats, you'd think she'd get off of her luxurious pillows for once. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 4/3 The standard suits ..are steadily rising in price, and it would seem that by the time they are on the market they will come under the proposed luxury tax.

¶ c. Used in the 1st pers. instead of the normal auxiliary *should*.

Still freq. with such vbs. as *like, wish* (cf. Shall *v.* B. 19 c), prob. by association with 401 otherwise now restricted in usage like the similar use of *will*: see 16 and 33.

1448 [see 48]. *c* 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 89 Y wolde be ago and 3e werre y-comme, fore we may nat go yn-tylle 3e comme. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* i. (1577) E j, He that shoulde wryte, I wolde thinke he committed an errour in not vsing them. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* ii. iii. 119, I would haue thought her spirit had beene inuincible against all assaults of affection. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* iv. ii. 28, I would bee glad to receiue some instruction. 1662 *Extr. State Papers rel. Friends* Ser. ii. (1911) 150 Wee would be glad that all our Subjects could be brought to agree in an uniforme Worship of God. 1733 W. Crawford *Infidelity* (1836) 189 The more we view them, the more would we be satisfied of their reality. 1780 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 24 Aug., I would be glad to know when we are to meet. 1794 Hutton *Philos. Light* 25 The more..that we should reason upon such a mistaken principle, the more we would proceed in error. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 223 He makes everything turn out exactly as we would wish it. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 43, I would be disposed to question the accuracy of this information. 1921 *Oxford Mag.* 4 Feb. 280/2 We feel that we would recognise them if we met them.

43. In a question or indirect statement in the 2nd or 3rd pers., where *should* would be used in the corresponding direct statement in the 1st.

In categorical questions and reported utterances varying with *should*, as *will* with *shall*: cf. note s. v. Shall v. B. 1. But in rhetorical questions

(e.g. 'Would you believe it?' 'Who would have thought it?') *should* is never substituted.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* iii. v. (Skeat) I. 129 What woldest thou demen if a man wold yeve three quarrons of nobles of golde? 1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* iii. 291 Who would not haue beene confounded, & haue gotten him awaie at theese thy words? 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* ii. i. 20 You lose sacke, and so do I: would you desire better sympathie? 1684 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1888) 209 What think you, have I not done fair for once, would you wish a longer letter? 1778 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 2 June, Tell me what you would be most willing to spare. 1779 *Mirror* No. 12 P 8 Would you believe it, Sir, my daughter Elizabeth..said it was fanatical to find fault with card-playing on Sunday. 1785 [see Shall v. B. 19 c). 1861 T. L. Peacock *Gryll Grange* xxix, Do you think..you would find many examples of love that is one and once for all? 1863 [see Mind v. 81. 1868 Thirlwall *Lett.* (1881) I. 299 If you would like to see it I could send it you. 1886 Stoay *Fiammetta* vii, Would you like to see it?

44. In a conditional (or equivalent) clause with pers. subject, with implication of intention or volition: = 'chose to', 'were willing to': cf. 41.

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 2107 Ælcesoð him to bealwe þæt him betst bicwom, þær hy hit to gode ongietan woldan. *c* 1205 Lay. 6230 3if hit weoren þin iwille and þu hit don woldest To 3ifuen us an ende i þine kinne-londe, We wulle8 þine men beon. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 4 Wald he salue vs sone, mi sorow sald slake. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 640 'Woldestou leeue vppon him,' he seis 'I wolde' [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 321, I be-seke þe,..if þou me say wald, Quatkyn fygour on fold or fourme at he beris. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 70 With thy thow wald be payit of sic as thow fand, Forsuith thow suld be wel-cum to pas hame with me. 1594 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 293 He converted 5 or 6 felons in the short tyme he was in Newgate, whereof 2 or 3 might have beene repriuved from the gallows, if they would have denied what they had professed there. 1649 *Br. Hall Cases Consc.* To Rdr., In the handling of all which, would I have affected that course .. I could easily [etc.]. 1714 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 30 Several Expressing their love to me—telling me would I stay I need not fear a congregation. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 90 She knows, in her heart, if she would only look for its knowledge, that [etc.]. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* iv. 387 Would Providence .. make me certain of the same, That I survive you..certainly I would accept Your bounty.

b. With inversion of subj., expressing desire or longing. (But cf. 37.)

1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, ii. i. 75 Now my Soules Palace is become a Prison: Ah, would she breake from hence. 1786 Burns *To a Louse* 43 O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us To see oursels as others see us!

† c. *fig.* of a thing: Could, might: cf. 9. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 214 And furthe he rideth .. With his knyghtes to mete and it wold be. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 81 Sacred Cipriane, 3if hit wold be gete, With Cosme and damiane wold I dyne.

† 45. In a hypothetical clause merely expressing a condition or supposition: = 'should', 'were to'.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii. 1147 To dethe mote I smete be with þonder If..Wold I a lettre vn-to yow brynge or take, To harm of yow. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 500 in *26 Pol. Poems* 137 That bed shall I neuer lese, Though I wolde for angor rawe. *c* 1480 Henryson *Sheep & Dog* 163 Sels thow not, Lord, this warld ouerturnit is, As quha wald change gude gold in leid or tyn. 1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* b iij b, Than make fyre vnder it that it may droppe tretably as yf y^e wolde tell y^e clocke i. ii. y^t than there fall a drop. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* ii. 5 Wald Venus court retreit, cast or conuert, Or in sum part thairin mak resistence.

† b. After *as if* (or *as* in same sense): = 'were about to' (= *should*, Shall *v.* B. 20 a, b). *Obs.*

a 1550 *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 308/18 Sum drowpis down as he wold die. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 210 At this I..made as if I would vomit at the thoughts of it.

46. In a noun-clause expressing the object of desire, advice, or request.

Usually with a person as subj., implying voluntary action as the desired end; thus distinguished from *should*, which may be used when the person's will is not in view. Also (almost always after *wish*) with a thing as subject, in which *should* can never be substituted because it would suggest the idea of command or compulsion instead of mere desire. Cf. Shall *v.* B. 22 a.

1535 Pole in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1913) July 530, I wold my syster wold staryed a littell longer. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* i. i. 195 O that your frownes would teach my smiles such skill. 1611 — *Cymb.* ii. iv. 6 Quake in the present winters state, and wish That warmer dayes would come. 1685 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Jan. 116 His Lordship desires you would present his most humble duty to my Lord Duke. 1736 Sheridan *Let. to Swift* 15 Sept., Indeed if you pleased,..I would rather that you would, I mean should, charge only five per cent. 1775 — *Rivals* iv. ii, I wish the lady would favour us with something more than a side-front. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen, New Year's Eve* iv, I wish the snow would melt. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 465 The general wish of Europe was that James would govern in conformity with law and with public opinion. 1912 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 754 It is much to be wished that some one would clear up the tangled web of these peace negotiations.

¶ b. Used irreg. for *should* (Shall *v.* B. 22): with restriction of usage as in 16. ? *Obs.*

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 7, I should be sorry..that the wretch would die in his present state of reprobacy. 1766 Mrs. S. Pennington *Lett.* II. 297, I choose rather you would carry it yourself. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* III. 312 It was intended that this would encrease the severity of his punishment.

*** 47. Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses, as in I.^***, 18–21.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 44 Hwa-se lib i leiðen deope bi-senchen, .. be ne schal nawt up aconarin hwen he walde. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 213 And Pandare wep as he

to watre wolde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 84 Though I wolde, I myhte nought Obeie unto my ladi heste. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. VIII. 285 Wiet ich þe soþe, Ich wolde so forþer a fot for no freres prechinge. 14.. Hoccleve *Mis. Poems* xvi. 10 Tho mẽn .. Fayn wolden þat they and I euene were: And so wolde I. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxvii, It stant noght with the as thou wald, perchance? 1484 Caxton *Fables of Aulan* ii, Who so mounteth hyher than he shold he falleth lower than he wold. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* x. 25–28 Yet could thei not kyll me vnlesse I would my selfe. 1556 Olde *Antichrist* 220 b, Is it the propretie of a shephearde, to renne madde vpon his flocke, worse than a wolfe wolde? 1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 22, I would to Valentine To Mantua, where I heare, he makes aboad. 1605 — *Mach.* I. vii. 44 Letring I dare not, wait vpon I would. 1612 — *Temp.* II. i. 185 You would lift the Moone out of her spheare, if she would continue in it fiue weekes without changing. *Sob.* We would so, and then go a Batfowling. *Ibid.* III. i. 61 *Fer.* I am, in my condition A Prince (Miranda) I do thinke a King (I would not so). 1777 [see So B. 2 b]. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlii, I wouldn't do such a thing here, Sir, .. upon my word and honour, I wouldn't, Sir, I wish I may die if I would, Sir. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 21 Never think Milton uses those three words to fill up his verse, as a loose writer would.

IV. 48. Followed by *to* with inf., esp. after an intervening word or words (cf. To *prep.* B. 19); now the regular const. only with pres. pple. *willing*.

(Not always distinguishable from Will *v.*[1])

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 303 Tristrem herd it say, On his playing he wold Tuentischilling to lay. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xiv. 5 And he willynge to slea hym, drede the peple. 1448 Shillingford *Lett. & Papers* (Camden) 55 Elles we wolde truely to have had tyme. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 54 Thei haue assembled a grete power, and wele to conquere this londe be force. 1450–60 *Bp. Grosseteste's Housek. Stat.* in *Babees Bk.* 331 And they wyllen to do that ye wylle to do. 1453 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 251 It semyth .. that she wold never so fayn to have be delyveryd of her as she woll now. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 288, I wollnot for an hundder pownd to stond in fere my lord to tene. 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 213 Not willyng if he might, to displease any of both the parties. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 764 He could not get away, and to keepe himselfe close he would not. 1610 Shake. *Temp.* III. i. 61, I .. would no more endure This wodden slauerie, then to suffer The flesh-flie blow my mouth. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 101 The which I willing to see. 1633 [see Rather *adv.* 9 c]. 1648 Kem *Let. to Ld. Denbigh* 19 Nov. (MS.), Nor is it thoght he will to stay onely to get y^e saylers aboard.

V. †49. Pa. pple. would, *wold(e* (mostly with ellipsis): chiefly in sense 7, = chosen. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 293 He myst, 3if he hadde wolde, have take greet veniaunce of hem. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1209 *Dido*, The fomy brydil .. Gouernyth he, ryght as hym self hath wold. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2075 Crist himself, .. To loue and teche and prechen it hath wold. *c* 1450 *Oseney Reg.* 164 Where I haue i-wollyd me to be i-beried. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xiii. 238 Many tymes he myghte haue had her and he had wold. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* clxxxiv. 1145 Not that hee was vnable to let them, or withstande them, if hee had would. 1633 J. Done *Hist. Septuagint* 216 If hee had would, hee might easily .. occupied the Monarchy.

VI. Conjoined with Nill *v.*, etc.

In later use also with 3rd pers. sing. *willeth* or *wills*, pa. t. *willed*, and thus blending with Will *v.*[3]

50. *absol.* or *intr.* **a.** In disjunctive qualifying phr. such as *whether he* (etc.) *will or nill*, also *who(ever will or nill* (in senses 2, 5–7): whether (one) will or not; willingly or unwillingly; voluntarily or compulsorily. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*[1] replaced by the inverted form in b.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 12 We scealon beon nede gehafan, sam we willan sam we nyllan, þæt he sie se hehsta hrof eallra goda. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. ix, Saga him, swa he wille swa he nelle, he sceall to Columban mynstre cuman. 1421 *Sc Pol. Poems* x. 8 Hym þat is loþ, good to lere, He shal, whe|per he wole or nylle. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. iii. 428 And 3it, who euere wole or nyle, Holi Scripture wole that pressthode and dekenhode be had and vsid. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIII. xx. 641 Thow shalte knowe hym whether thow wilt or nylt. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* IV. 345 Now sall he sit .. Quha will, quha Nill, Intill ane deip dungeoun. 1565 Harding *Confut.* 275 Truth is truth, and God is God, whether any Councell will or nill. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxx. 239 They do what they list, let the Plebeian Presbyter will or nill. 1873 T. Cooper *Paneg. Martyrs* (1877) 353 Each thing .., whether it will or nill. The eternal purpose .. Doth .. fulfil.

pa. t. c 1470 Harding *Chron.* clxiii. ii, [He] theim compelled .. To become his men .. whether they wold or nolde. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVII. xi. 705 Els had there ben mortal werre vpon the morne not withstandyng she wold none other whether they wold or nold.

b. esp. with inversion of subj. (usually a pron.), as *will I* (*or*) *nill I* (*he, they*, etc.), or †abbreviated, as *will* (*or*) *nill*, *willing* (*or*) *nilling* (see Willing *ppl. a.*); occas. vaguely = 'one way or another, in any case, anyhow'. Now chiefly in the reduced form Willy-nilly, q.v.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xvi. 121 Forðan þe we synd synfulle and sceolan beon eadmode, wille we, nelle we. *c* 1230 *Halt Meid.* (1922) 41 Wullen ha nullen ha. *a* 1300 *XV Signs* 173 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 12 For wolny nulni hi sul fle. †*a* 1300 *Salomon & Sat.* (1848) 671 Mote hit al habben is wille, Wolton, nultou, hit wol spille. 1340 *Ayenb.* 264 Þet is al þet he may lyeue, wylle him nolle him. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 144 Wol þou so nulle þou. 1377 *Ibid.* B. VI. 158 Wiltow or neltow. *Ibid.* XX. 89 Wolhe, nolhe. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17560 Wil thow, nele thow—the pees schal be! 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* V. 24–26 Ye hyll .. that beareth it [*sc.* the city], willeth it, nilleth it, maketh it sene of al men. 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* II. xvi. A v b, Will she nyll shee, needes must shee abyde his ..sentence. *a* 1555 Latimer in *Foxe A. & M.* (1563) 2324/2 If my Lorde wyll needes .. inuade my inwarde manne, wyll I nyll I. 1565 Harding *Confut.* 217 Well, how so euer it be, will ye nill ye .. ye be dryuen to confesse the same to be no newe thing. *a* 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) G iv, Wyl I or nil I, it must be done. 1567 Jewel *Def. Apol.* 715 God is able (.. wil the Councelles, nil the Councelles) to maintaine .. his owne Kingedome. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 43 And will or nill, Beares her away. 1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 273 Will you, nill you, I will marry you. 1599 Sylvester *Sonn. Miracl. Peace* xii, A sacred rage .. Will-nill-I, raps mee boldly to rehearse Great Henrie's Tropheis. 1600 Holland *Livy* III. xxx, The Nobles were so neere driven and to such streights, that will they, nill they, yeeld they must thereto. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* V. 287 For will, or nill, powre them constraines. 1647 J. Booker in Lilly *Chr. Astrol.*, Be you for or against, or will ye, nill ye: I'm for the Art, and th' Author William Lilly. 1790 Gray *Long Story* xxii, Will he, nill he, to the Great-house He went, as if the Devil drove him. 1818 Keats *Let.* Wks. 1889 III. 124 In hopes of cheering you .. I was determined, will he nill he, to send you some lines. 1822 Byron *Juan* VI. cxviii, But go they must at once, and will I—nill I. 1832 Jerdan *Autobiogr.* I. xvi. 116, I was obliged, will-i-nill-i, to take a sailor's advice. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks., New Eng. a Cent. ago* 230 Land for all who would till it, and reading and writing, will ye nill ye, instead. 1899 Sir G. Douglas *James Hogg* iii. 68 The galloping movement of the metre hurries us, will-we nill-we, on.

(*b*) in pa. t. (*would* ... *nould* ..., also *willed* ... *nilled* ...). *Obs.* or *rare arch.*, the pres. form being ordinarily used even when the principal vb. is in pa. t. (see quots. 1600, 1750, 1852 above).

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 388 Se hrym .. hine bær, wolde he, nolde he. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Summe hit sungen þurh þone halie gast, walden heo nalden heo. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10463 Wolde he so nolde. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10772 Wold he, nold he, forþ he mote. *Ibid.* 13753 Þe Romains, wold ho, ne wolde, Flede. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 79 He knelede to þe grounde, wolde he nolde he. 1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 28 For would they, nyl they, theyr kinge shold be of his chosynge. 1596 Danett in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 127 So that, would I, nould I, to the presse the booke must go. 1889 Wratislaw tr. *Sixty Folk-Tales* 65 The good prince—would he, nould he—was obliged to put some of the leaden dumplings into his pocket.

1548 Patten *Exped. Scot.* L vij b, Which whither he did for the doubt he had that we would haue released him wild he nild he [etc.]. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 233/1 Shee ruled them (willed they nilled they). 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 549 That will'd hee nill'd hee, at length he yeelded up unto him this Castle.

51. (Always inflected *willeth* (*wills*), *willed*; thus properly belonging to Will *v.*[2]). **a.** *trans.* To desire, have a mind to (= 1), choose (as opp. to *nill* = 'refuse'); to exercise the will with intent to effect (something), to determine by the will (as opp. to *nill* = 'negative, prevent').

1585 Fetherstone tr. *Calvin on Acts* iv. 32. 101 All of them do both will and nill one thing. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vii. 16 But whether willed or nilled friend or foe, I me resolu'd the vtmost end to proue. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* iii. 3. 613 A facultie of willing, or nilling that which is first understood and iudged of in the minde. 1626 B. Jonson *Cataline* I. v. C 1 b, To will, or nill, to thinke things good, or bad. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 12 From the different dispositions, and free-will of him that nilleth or willeth. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1682) 190 How had he the power of willing and nilling without a Being? Nothing cannot will or nill.

52. So **Wilto shalto** *dial.* [= *wilt thou, shalt thou*], whether voluntarily or by compulsion (cf. Shall *v.* B. 3, 6 a); willy-nilly.

1824 Carr *Craven Gloss.* 1857 Waugh *Lanc. Life* 203 There is at'll believe naught at o', iv it isn't fair druvven into um, wilto, shalto.

VII. 53. *Comb.* (nonce-wds.): **will-be**, *sb.* a person or thing that will be but is not yet; one whose career or efficiency belongs to the future (cf. Has-been, *have-been* s.v. Have *v.* 27); *adj.* that will be; that aims at being, or is ready to be (cf. Would-be); †**will-do-all**, money (cf. Eccl. x. 19).

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) I. 232, I have looked backward to the *have-been's*, and forward to the *will-be's*. 1801 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* V. 377 Our will-be Squires. 1900 T. R. Williams *Greenfield Pulpit* No. 72 (title of sermon) Jesus and will-be disciples; Luke ix. 57–62. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 23 It commeth to passe by reason of (*will doe all) otherwise called money.

Will (wil), *v.*[2] Pres. t. 2 sing. **willest**, 3 sing. **willeth** (*arch.*), **wills**; pa. t. and pple. **willed** (wild). Forms: 1 **willian**, 3–4 **will**, 3–6 **wyll**, 5–6 **wille**, 5–7 **wil**, 5– **will**. *Pa. t.* 1 **willode**, **-ede**, 3 **will-**, **wyllede**, 3–6 **wylled**, 4 **willyd**, 5 **-ied**, *Sc.* **-it**, 5–6 **-id**, 3– **willed**; 4 **wild**, 4–6 **wilde**, 6 **wild**. *Pa. pple.* 5 **willid**, **-yd**, 5–6 **wylled**, 6 **willet**, 6– **willed**; 6 **willd(e**,

wild. [OE. *willian* wk. vb. = OHG. *willôn* (MHG., G. *willen*, pa. pple. *gewillt*): f. Will *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To wish, desire; sometimes with implication of intention: = Will *v.*[1] 1, 2, 5. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiii[i]. 13 [12] Hwelc is mon se wile lif & wille3 gesian dæga goda? *c* 1100 *Ælfred's Boeth.* xl. § 3 Dy ne sceolde nan wis man willian [*Cott. MS.* wilnian] eaftes life. *c* 1205 Lay. 879 3if þe hit willed [= wille8; *c* 1275 wolleþ], ich hine wile spillen. 1297 R. Glouc. (1724) 12 Þat he wilneda (*v.rr.* wyllede, willed] most of alle þing to him eliance. 1340 *Ayenb.* 142 Herte þet þis heþ a-sayd nayt ne willieþ more þanne uor to by .. ucryete to þe wordle. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 221 [Pu þat] willest of briddes and of bestes and of hire bredyng to knowe. 14.. *Lat. & Eng.* seus. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* V. 21–24 Who so euer hath gotten to hymselfe the charitie of the gospell, whyche wylleth wel to them that wylleth yll. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* V. 87 By Minerues helpe, who willes you all the lil she may. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm. Luke xxii.* 42 Wks. 1686 III. 45 Two things he willeth, that we should be good, and that we should be happy. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* I. iv, A great party in the state Wills me to wed her.

†**b.** ? To assert, affirm: = Will *v.*[1] B. 4. *rare.*

1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 134 None of this excludes Vnction before, but only wils him the first annointed by the Pope.

c. Conjoined with Nill: see Will *v.*[1] B. VI.

2. a. To direct by one's will or testament (*that* something be done, or something *to be* done).

871–89 [see Will *v.*[1] B. 3 b]. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 34 At Wynchestre he lies, so himself willed. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* [illegible] agaide, I he dyde, made ripe for death by eld, And after wild, it should to her remaine. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* XV. (1906) 199 Willing his body to be buried in the Cathedrall Church of Rochester. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* viii. § 547. 237 If a man willeth that his lands shall be sold for payment of his debts. 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* vii, It was a simple walking funeral, as he had wished and willed it should be.

b. To dispose of by will; to bequeath or devise.

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 7 Willyng and grauntyng my lorde Robert Doylly, all my londe. 1521 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 6 First I will my saull to God Almyghtie. 1524 *Lincoln Wills* (Lincoln Rec. Soc.) V. 132 The resydue of all my goodes not willet nor bequethed. 1546 *Yks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 462, iij^s. iiijd. .. willed and bestowed of one obit. 1691 E. Taylor *Behmen's Theos. Phil.* 74 The Will of every of them willeth its Property. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xiii, Was it not enough that I should have been willed away, like a horse? 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct., The statute of Henry VIII did something to restore the power of willing land. 1908 Mrs. H. Ward *Diana Mallory* iii, The vast bulk of Henry Marsham's fortune, had been willed to Lady Lucy.

3. To determine by the will; to attempt to cause, aim at effecting by exercise of will; to set the mind with conscious intention to the performance or occurrence of something; to choose or decide to do something, or that something shall be done or happen.

Const. with simple obj., acc. and inf., simple inf. (now always with *to*), or obj. clause; also *absol.* or *intr.* (with *as* or *so*).

Nearly coinciding in meaning with Will *v.*[1] 7, but with more explicit reference to the mental process of volition.

a 950 *Guthlac* xx. (Prose) 162 Æfter þon fiftyne gear þe he gode willigende leedde his life. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vii. 17 He willyd noght flee synn. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 263 Lady, þow hase willid me .. to suffre suche a turmentrie, at þou sufferd þe instorument of þine offes for to be þus cut off 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) A vij, When .. I have willed experiment it, I have founde it trewe and certaine. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* V. 95 Fate had not willd that Ulysses Sarpedons death should be. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. vii. § 2 To choose is to will one thing before another. 1618 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 9 He willed to take it all, for that he had need to use money heare. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Arminn.* 219 He had onely a power, not to fall into siane vnlesse he willed it. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 549 So absolute she seems .. that what she wills to do or say, Seems wisest. 1710 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 22 If I *will* to move my Arm, it is presently moved. 1728 Berkeley *Pass. Obed.* § 22 He that willeth the end, doth will the necessary means conducive to that end. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. v, All shall be as God wills. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* vi, So great, .. heroical, giant-like, that what he wills must be. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* liv, Who .. were ready, if God so willed, to die for their faith. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xxx, Others, I am not the first, Have willed more mischief than they durst.

b. *intr.* To exercise the will; to perform the mental act of volition.

1382 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Phil. ii. 13 It is God which worketh in you, both to will and to accomplish. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. vii. § 2 To will, is to bend our soules to the hauing or doing of that which they see to be good. 1625 Quarles *Embl.* IV. viii, See how my Sin-bemangled body lies, Not having pow'r, to will; nor will, to rise! 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 30 He, that shall turn his thoughts inwards upon what passes in his mind when he wills. 1830 Mackintosh *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 85 But what could induce such a being to will or to act? 1867 A. P. Forbes *Explan. 39 Art.* I. 12 Is this infinitely powerful and intelligent Being free? wills He? loves He?

c. *trans.* To bring or get (*into*, *out of*, etc.) by exercise of will.

1850 L. Hunt *Table-t.* (1888) 284 Victims of opium have been known to be unable to will themselves out of the chair in which they were sitting. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* iii. § 2. 136 The great powers of nature .. were willed into being by the word of Jehovah.

d. To control (another person), or induce (another) *to do* something, by the mere exercise of one's will, as in hypnotism.

1882 *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* I. 57 *note*, The one to be 'willed' would go to the other end of the house, if desired, whilst we agreed upon the thing to be done. 1886 *19th Cent.* Dec. 883 They are what is called 'willed' to do certain things desired by the ladies or gentlemen who have hold of them. 1897 A. LANG *Dreams & Ghosts* iii. 59 A young lady, who believed that she could play the 'willing game' successfully without touching the person 'willed'.

4. To express or communicate one's will or wish with regard to something: with various shades of meaning. (Cf. WILL *v.*[1] 3.)

a. To enjoin, order; to decree, ordain. *Obs.* or *arch.*

(*a*) with personal obj., usually with inf. or clause.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11293 Þe lai of moyses..wiþid Womman þat had a knaue child, At hir formast birth suld sco It offer þe hali temple to. 1481 *Cov. Lect. Bk.* 496 We desire and also will you that vnto oure seid seruaunt..ye yeue your aid. 1547 EDW. VI in Rymer *Foedera* (1719) XV. 192 We Wyll and Commaunde yowe to Procede in the seid Matters. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 659 Their sute was smally regarded, and shortly after they were willed to silence. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. 272 If a man do lie in awaite to rob me, and (drawing his sword upon me) he willeth me to deliver my money. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. iii. 10 We doe no otherwise then wee are will'd. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* P 4, Vp he was had and..willed to deliuer vp his weapon. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1673) I. 31 The King in the Gospel, that made a Feast, and..willed his servants to go out to the high-ways side. 1799 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 397 Willing and requiring all Officers and men to obey you.

(*b*) with thing as obj., either sb. (alone or with inf. pass.) or obj. clause; also *absol.* in clause with *as*. (See also 2 a.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13261 At þat orribill I asket angardly myche, Of dethe, & of deire, as destynie willes. 1418 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 20 We..wil for the mare sekernes this oure confirmacioune be..selit with oure grete sele. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 224 b, Where scripture wylleth the contrary. 1568 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Classicum*, By sounde of trumpet to will scilence. 1585 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) Jan. 115 Th'act..was ones red..and was willed to be ingrossed to the third reading. 1612 BACON *Ess., Of Empire* (Arb.) 300 It is common with Princes (saith Tacitus) to will contradictories. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* I. 112 'Tis yours, O Queen! to will The Work, which Duty binds me to fulfil. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i, Get thou into thy cloister as the king Will'd it.

† b. To pray, request, entreat; = DESIRE *v.* 6.

1434 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 54 As for the questyon that ye wylled me to make my lord, I fond hym yet at no good leyser. 1564 HAWARD tr. *Eutropius* III. 26 b, The Romaines sent ambassadoures to him, to wyll him to cease from battayle. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 19 His errand done, as he was willde, he toke his flight from thence. 1632 [MABBE] *Celestina* xiii. 150 Did I not will you I should not be wakened? 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* I. i, He has sent me to will and require you to make a swinging long Night for him.

† c. *fig.* of a thing: To require, demand (cf. WILL *v.*[1] B. 3 c); also, to induce, persuade (a person to do something). *Obs.*

1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 267 Constaunce willeth also That thou doo nought with weyke corage. 1563 GOOGE *Eclogs* Ded. (Arb.) 24 These..mischiefes vtterly diswaded me from the folowynge of my frendes perswasions, and wylled me rather to condem them. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 88 Wisedome willeth me to pawse. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 125 What Custome wills in all things, should we doo't? The Dust on antique Time would lye vnswept. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 633 Mean while, as Nature wills, Night bids us rest.

Will, *v.*[3] Now only *Shetland dial.* Pa. t. and pple. **willed, wilt** (also 4 **wylt, 5 welt**). [a. ON. *villask*, refl. of *villa* to lead astray, f. *villr* WILL *a.*] *intr.* To go astray, lose one's way; to stray; *pa. pple.* gone astray, 'lost' (= WILL *a.* 1).

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 277 So fer forþ þis foul him tilled þat atte last in wode he willed. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1711 He.. Steles out ful stilly..Went haf wylt of þe wode with wyles fro þe houndes. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3230 Me thoughte I was in a wode willed myne one. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 17 Qwat way is he willid In þis worlde wyde?

1827 JESSIE M. E. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda, Helyers* v, 'To will', in Shetlandic parlance, means to lose your way. 1899 J. SPENCE *Shetl. Folk-Lore* 227 'They're wilt that wales' has reference to the difficulty often experienced in choosing among many things.

Will, obs. f. VILE, WELL *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], *adv.*

Willable (wi·lăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. WILL *v.*[1] or [2] + -ABLE.] † a. That is to be willed or desired. *Obs.*

14.. *Clouds of Unknowing* MS. Univ. Coll. 14. a 3 b, þe hyȝest wyllabyll þing [L. *vellibile*], þe whych is god.

b. Capable of being willed.

1880 CAIRD *Introd. Philos. Relig.* ix. 298 All truth is knowable as *my* knowledge, all good willable as *my* will.

Willage, -aige, Willane, Willans, Willany, obs. Sc. ff. VILLAGE, VILLAIN, VILLAINS, VILLAINY.

Will-a-wisp: see WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

† **Wille, will**, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [Partly developed from predicative use of ME. *wille*, WILL *sb.*[1] (cf. UNWILLE); partly aphetic f. IWIL *a.* (OE. **gewill* in *ungewill*); cf. WIL-.]

A. *adj.* Pleasing, pleasant, acceptable, agreeable.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Unriht hee doð oc tozenes his sacrimenne, þenne he hine laðeð to drinken more, noht þe him hee wille offer quemð, ac þenne him ned were. *c* 1205 LAY. 20816 3if hit þe were wille an heorte þat we mosten cnet sen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 371 3ef ow is wilre for to wunien wiþ me. *c* 1378 *Cursor M.* 3647 (Fairf.) Hit salle him sauour wonder wil [*Cott.* It sal him al to will, *Gött.*.. to his wille, *Trin.*..al at wille].

B. *adv.* Voluntarily, willingly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22387 All þat will [*Fairf.* wille] him sal witstand Sal coround be to liif lastand. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 9643 (Laud) To eche man she yevyþ wille Right to haue good and ille.

Wille, obs. Sc. f. VILE; obs. f. WELL, WILL.

Willed (wild), *a.* [f. WILL *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].]

1. Having a will of a specified kind: chiefly in comb., as EVIL-*willed*, ILL-WILLED, SELF-WILLED.

14.. in *Harrow. Hell* p. xxv, Witted [as] a wodkok; Wylled as a wedercoke.

2. Having the will directed to some (specified) action; minded, disposed, inclined (*to do* something). Cf. WELL-WILLED (comp. † *better-willed*).

1398, etc. [see WELL-WILLED]. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 202 That shall cause hym to be the beter wyllyd. 1563 GOOGE *Eclogs* (Arb.) 125 A Souldier stoute of Reasons bande, is wylled there to ryde. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 468, I, taking my leaue departed, being willed to visite the Ladie Flauia. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxxvii, The peers of France could hardly have refused to assist at the trial.. even had they been so willed.

Willed (wild), *ppl. a.* [f. WILL *v.*[2] + -ED [1].]

1. Disposed of by will or testament.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ix, I am the willed-away girl.

2. Determined or effected by the will; voluntary.

1871 G. MACDONALD *Rest* iii. 11 A mighty, conscious, willed repose. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 514 The prolonged natural discharges of neurons underlying willed and natural movements. 1905 RICKABY *God & His Creatures* L. lxxii. 56 Understood good, as such, must be willed good.

b. Controlled by another's will, as in hypnotism.

1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 24 The 'willed' performer after various..indications of a tendency to move in..[a] wrong direction at last hits on the right one.

Willeful, obs. form of WILFUL.

Willeliche, variant of WILLY *adv.*

† **Willemin**. *Obs. rare.* = GUILLEMIN.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 24 Wyllemyns and frere menours.

Willemite (wi·lĕmăit). *Min.* [ad. Du. *Willemiet* (A. Levy, 1829), f. *Willem* William I of the Netherlands.] Native silicate of zinc, abundant in New Jersey, found in masses or crystals of various colours from light greenish-yellow to flesh-red.

1850 AMSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 472. 1907 *Times* 25 Mar. 13/3 To detect them [*sc.* certain rays] he used the luminiscence produced by them as they fell on willemite, which was the most sensitive substance he [*sc.* Professor Thomson] had discovered for the purpose.

Willer (wi·lɔɹ). [f. WILL *v.*[2] + -ER [1].] One who wills, in various senses.

1. One who desires; a wisher. Chiefly, now only, in obj. or advb. comb., as EVIL-WILLER, GOOD-WILLER, ILL-WILLER, WELL-WILLER, q.v. So † *cursed willer*, after *evil-willer*.

c 1395 *Plowman's T.* 228 Such willers of worship must evil fele. *Ibid.* 780 Such willers wit is nat worth a neld. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXIX. viii, Not closly vndermin'd by cursed willer, Nor overthrown by foe in open fight.

2. One who exercises his will; one who sets himself with conscious intention to do something; a voluntary agent.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. x. 96 Qwho-euer wyll to it myght cum, & ȝit it is not of ylk ryunar ne willar, bot of cristе lufand, lyfand & takand [*cf. Rom.* ix. 16]. 1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 1 Willers and wurkars of the same. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* iv. 1-6 There is nothynge harde to the louing willer. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm. Luke xxii. 42* Wks. 1686 III. 45 Who the willer is to whom we must submit. 1678 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 289 Every Dependence of an irregular Act upon the Will, is not such as derives Guilt upon the Willer. 1880 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xvi, Nature was spoken of as the willer and producer of all the marvels which he describes. 1872 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 368 The Fathers..fixing their eyes upon the oneness of the thing willed and the oneness of the willer.

b. *spec.* One who influences another by mere exercise of will, as in hypnotism.

1882 *19th Cent.* June 892 A much larger percentage of successful results..occurred when a near relative of the guesser was the 'willer'.

† **Willerdom**. *Obs. rare.* Also 4 (?erron.) **willardis dom.** [? f. prec. + -DOM.] Wilfulness, self-will.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 295 Worldly coveitouse prestis tradicions, maad of here owene willardis dom for here pride and coveitise. *a* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 247 Than willerdome with old envy Can none other way but wronge.

Willern: see WILGERN.

Willes, *adv.*: see WILL *sb.*[1] 10.

† **Willesful**, *a. Obs.* [f. *willes*, gen. of WILL *sb.*[1] + -FUL.]

1. Strong-willed; obstinate: = WILFUL *a.*[1] 1.

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 237 Þe willesfule husewif halt hire al stille. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1291 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 243 Þe Erchebischop is willesful [*v.r.* wilful] and ȝwane he is alles i-brouȝt In ani wille þat is luytel wuyrth he nele bi-leue it nouȝt. *Ibid.* I. 319 Sone old and nouȝt willesful. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7402 He ne let nost ciuple al is folc so willesful he was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 263 Huych mayne to moche slac and wylles uol sseȝ by, bote yef þe ilke naderes stafbede hise strayny and ordayny.

2. Desirous: = WILFUL *a.*[1] 2.

1225 *Ancr. R.* 36 3if sed is onwil [*MS. T.* ful willes ful] to leoue ou. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 435 Þis Maldenes willing of Evil is always with a mixture of nilling. 1865 NEALE *Hymns on Paradise* 10 One in willing, one in nilling, Unity their spirits show.

2. The action or an act of exercising the will,

Hence † **Willefully** *adv.*, wilfully; eagerly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 268 Þay..contrecned agayn kynde contrare werkez, & vsed hem..wylfully, vpon a wrange wyse. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 590 Þat worthlych too þis wight wilfully saide: 'Fro what kith bee yee comme?'

Willet (wi·lĕt). [So called from its cry, *pill-will-willet*.] A North American bird of the snipe family, *Symphemia semipalmata*.

1861 COUES & PRENTISS in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1861, 416. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 94/1 Curlew, willet, plover and other beach birds swarm upon the flats in the spring, summer and fall months.

Willeuol, obs. form of WILFUL *a.*[1]

Will-ĕ-Wispt: see WILL-O'-THE-WISP *b.*

Willey: see WILLY *sb.*[1]

Will-gill, -jill (wi·l,dʒi·l). *dial.* [f. WILL *sb.*[3] + GILL *sb.*[4]] A hermaphrodite; an effeminate

Also in comb.

1678 LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.* II, *Androgynus*,..an Hermaphrodite or Scrat; a Will-jill. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. vi, One or two ragged will-gill-looking men.

Will-he, nill-he: see WILL *v.*[1] 50 b.

William (wi·lyăm). A common masculine personal name, used in the names of certain species of pinks and other flowers: now only in SWEET-WILLIAM. † *Wild Williams*, the Ragged Robin (*Lychnis Flos-cuculi*).

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxv. 481 The Crow flower is called..wilde Williams, marsh Gilloflowers, and Cockowe Gilloflowers. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 10 *Armerius sylvestris*...Crowflower and Wild Williams. *Armeria flore simplici*, William with single flower in a Wood beyond Redding. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xix. (1794) 276 Ragged-Robin, Meadow-Pinks, Wild-Williams.

¶ *William pear*: see WILLIAMS.

Williamite (wi·lyămăit). [f. the name *William* + -ITE [1]. In sense 1 = mod.L. *Guil-, Wilhelmita*, F. *Guillemite*, etc.]

† 1. A member of an order of Augustinian hermits: = GUILLEMIN. *Obs.*

[1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* N j b, Those Augustines, these Guilhelmites, those Iacobites.] 1668 J. WILSON tr. *Erasmus' Praise of Folly* 109 These Williamites, and those Jacobines. 1693 tr. *d'Emiliane's Mon. Orders* VII. 49 Heremitical Congregations, which were spread. under different names, and especially of the Williamites, and Zambonites.

2. A supporter of William of Orange (King William III): opp. to JACOBITE *sb.*[4] Also *attrib.*

1689 [see JACOBITE *sb.*[4]]. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O H.S.) I. 193 Upon ye Revolution he grew a mighty Williamite. 1824 J. C. O'CALLAGHAN *Hist. Irish Brigades* I. 209 To oppose the Williamite invasion under the Marshal Duke of Schonberg. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 697 The infamous triumvirs who had been, in the short space of a year, violent Williamites and violent Jacobites, became Williamites again. 1901 *Athenæum* 16 Nov. 654/3 [Fitzgerald Molloy] is as much a Jacobite in his sympathies as Macaulay was a Williamite.

Williams (wi·lyămz). In full, *Williams'*, *Williams's* (erron. *William*) *Bon Chrétien*: A very juicy variety of the Bon Chrétien pear (see BON *a.*), ripening in September, so called from the name of its first distributor in England.

Called also *Bartlett* from the name of its importer into U.S.

1814 AITON *Epit. Hortus Kewensis* 151 Bishop's-thumb Pear. Bonchrétien winter...Williams's. 1832 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 690 Useful and profitable orchard Pears...Williams's Bon Chretien. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 220 Williams' Bon Chrétien (Bartlett; De Lavault; Williams'). 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 11/1 The..juicy flavour of the famous William Bon Chrétien. 1895 C. W. DALMON *Song Favours* 34 Luscious Harvest plums and William pears.

Williamsite (wi·lyămsăit). [f. the surname *Williams* + -ITE [1].]

1. A follower of Roger Williams, an American colonist of the 17th century.

1833 WHITTIER *Pr. Wks.* (1889) I. 269 I'm afraid you have become a Williamsite.

2. *Min.* An impure variety of serpentine, named after L. W. Williams, an American mineralogist.

1848 SHEPARD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. VI. 249.

Williche: see WILLY *adv.*

Willick, variant of WILLOCK.

Willie: see WILLY *sb.*[2]

Willily, -ness: see after WILLY *a.*

Willing (wi·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *willung*, f. *willian* WILL *v.*[2]: see -ING [1].]

1. Wishing, desire, inclination. *Obs.*, or *arch.* in conjunction with *nilling* (with mixture of sense 2). † *Good willing*, the action of wishing well to some one, favourable disposition, GOODWILL.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. v. (1890) 278 Þætte nænig biscopa hine oðrum forbære þurh unrehte willunge [orig. *per ambitionem*]. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. iii. (1868) 132 In hem also is libertee of will...

T. 263 My willynge is as ye wole ne ayeyns youre likynge. *c* 1400 *Rem. Rose* 5052 Whanne she assentith to my willyng. 1428–00 J. PAGE *Siege of Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 83 He sayde, 'What ye youre wyllynge?' 1596 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Nvj, All the wyssete desires their

1710– willing of Evil is always with a mixture of nilling. 1865 NEALE *Hymns on Paradise* 10 One in willing, one in nilling, Unity their spirits show.

2. The action or an act of exercising the will,

volition; voluntary choice or determination, intention.

1340 *Ayenb.* 9 Wyboute greate wille an willinge uor to harmi obren. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 319 Thou soffrest many a wrong doinge, And yit it is noght thi willinge. *c* 1425 *Lucidarie* (Schmitt 1909) 4 Aungels & men, her bewis, willynges, selynges. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* II. 88 What haue we then to thinke of him, whose willinge are powers, and whose thoughts are deedes? 1663–70 SOUTH *Serm., Col. ii. 3* (1715) IV. 296 One and the same Mind is both

and willings, and wishes of their lives. 1892 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 6/6 The two first are of human willing; the last is purely..necessary, inevitable.

b. The action of influencing another by mere exercise of will, as in hypnotism. Also *attrib.*

1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Aug. 263 The well-known drawing-room game of 'Willing' (where one finds out a hidden object by means of more or less subtle muscular indications from another). 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 82 The first division corresponds to the 'willing-game' described by Dr. Carpenter.

†3. Command; injunction. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5879 My modir .. Nis not all at my willyng Ne doth not all my desiryng. *c* 1450–60 *Bp. Grosseteste's Househ. Stat.* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 328 The wyllyng of god to be performed and fulfyllydde.

4. The action of bequeathing by will.

1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xl. III. 183 Throughout most rude states of society the power of willing is unknown.

Willing, *ppl. a.* Comp. **willinger**, sup. **willingest** (now *rare*). [OE. *willende* (WILL *v.*[1], -ING[2]) appears in *selfwillende* SELF-WILLING, *unwillande* UNWILLING, *welwillende* WELL-WILLING *a.*, *yfel-willende* EVIL-WILLING, and *willendlice* WILLINGLY. But there is no evidence in the simplex or the compounds of continuity of use from OE.]

†1. Wishing, wishful, desirous; inclined, disposed. *Obs.*

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 69 Yt were not spedefull to hym..to study in bokes of heuynes & of drede though he felte hymselfe wyllyng therto. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 111 He was not receiued of his woman, .. when he was moste willyng to se her. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 435/2, I haue .. beene the willinger to set downe the same .. for that I would not suffer so worthie a man..to be buried in obliuion. 1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 191 The Pope and the King became more willing one of the others friendship. 1622 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) II. 230 The willinger to increase his haste. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 168 They alledge that the Heat is so excessive, that they are willing to hinder the Sun from coming in, as much as they can. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 403 Some little 'peep-o'-day boy', willing to take the 'top of the morning' before the rest of his compeers.

2. Having a ready will; disposed to consent or comply; ready to do (what is specified or implied) without reluctance, having no objection, 'not disposed to refuse' (J.); *spec.* disposed to do what is required, ready to be of use or service.

a. In attrib. use, preceding the sb.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18359 Lauerd .. þi willing merci [þou] beris wit-in, And sua þou slockens al vr sin. 1309 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 1. (Percy Soc.) 7 To a willyng harte is nought impossible. 1526 TINDALE *2 Cor.* viii. 12 If there be fyrst a willynge mynde, it is accepted accordynge to thatt a man hath. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. iii. 73 We haue willing Dames enough. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 73 Satan .. ready now To stoop with wearied wings, and willing feet On the bare outside of this World. 1671 — *P. R.* I. 220 By winning words to conquer willing hearts. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VIII. 541 Eager of her Charms, He snatch'd the willing Goddess to his Arms. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Colin's Mistakes* iii, The willing

stood to be the..cunningest and the willingest our Earth ever had. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 133 Work is done rapidly by willing hands, in the midst of a willing people. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* xiv. 270 Our men were a good-tempered, willing lot, and gave us no trouble. *absol.* 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 365 For the willing there is ever a way. 1868 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 195 Aid the willing.

b. In predicative use, or following the sb.: const. *to* and inf., with clause, or absol.; †also formerly *to* with sb.

In quot. 1647 with *with* = agreeing with, consenting to.

a 1540 BARNES *Supplic. Hen. VIII* c iv b, Bycause the king and his lordes shulde bee the wyllynger to take this battaile on them, he sent a commaundement to the byshops, to rayse .. a taxe, for to paye the souldyours with. 1559 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* Pref. 2 The Souldiors allured with the commodities of the Countries, were made the willinger to the things. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 86 He may stale him, marrie not without the prince be willing. 1602 — *Twel. N.* IV. iii. 29 He shall conceale it Whiles [= until] you are willing it shall come to note. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 21, I am perswaded the Devill himselfe was never willing with their proceedings. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. x. 11 Enquire who is a godly person, willingest to entertain the Gospel. *c* 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 257 The king was willinger to comply with anything than this. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 144 Mr. Trueman..[fancied] that Mr. Sharply would be very willing to this Union between his Son and his Ward. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 8 They..grew willing to be burnt or hanged out of a world which was no other to them than a scene of persecution and anguish. 1890 DICKENS *Dan. Conf.* v, Barkis is willin'. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 3. 480 The nation was willing to take his obstinacy for firmness.

c. *Willing horse* (in proverbial phrases), applied to one who is willing to work or to take trouble.

c 1580 J. COOKE *Narr.* in *World Encomp. by Sir F. Drake* (Hakluyt Soc.) App. iv. 207 There nedyd no spure to a willing horsse. 1626 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 93 All lay load on a willing horse. 1881 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 5/2 It was probably on the well-known principle of working a willing horse that he was left to labour as an ordinary Judge for fifteen years.

d. *transf.* Given, rendered, offered, performed, assumed, borne, or undergone willingly.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 757 The people..in a willyng and louyng obedience among themselues. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. v. 63 We send, To know what willing Ransome he will giue. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* vi. 6 That vse is not forbidden vsery, Which happies those that pay the willing lone. 1668 MILTON *Vac. Ex.* 52 Held with his melodious harmonie In willing chains and sweet captivitie. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 965 Haste, my dear Father,..And load my Shoulders with a willing Fraight. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. v. (1841) I. 104 Here, Madam, is the willingest sacrifice I ever made in my life. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. iii, With eye, though calm, determined not to spare, Did Lara too his willing weapon bare. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 230 The affection and willing obedience of his subjects.

e. *fig.* of things: Compliant, yielding; (of the wind) favourable.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lv. 22 Sum, thocht tham selffis stark,..Ar now maid waak lyk willing wandis. 1688 PRIOR *Ode Exod. iii. 14* v, Why does He wake the correspondent Moon, And fill her willing Lamp with liquid Light? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 253 And leaving few behind, We spread our sails before the willing Wind. 1749 SHENSTONE *Irreg. Ode* 85 And some entwin'd the willing sprays, To shield th' illustrious dame's repose. 1792 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 54 Down the steep slopes He led with modest skill The willing pathway, and the truant rill. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* i. 9 The willing fume [of the tchibouque] came up, and answered my slightest sigh.

f. *advb.* Willingly, consentingly, without reluctance. (Now *rare* or *Obs.*) *Willing* (*or*) *nilling* (arch.), with or against one's will, willy-nilly.

1585 SIDNEY *Lett.* Misc. Wks. (1829) 323 Which I the willinger do becawse I think him a good honest gentleman. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. vi. 32. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 382 With thy permission then, and thus forewarnd,.. The willinger I goe. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 894 Willing we sought your Shores.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 148 [These] conquered in such sorte the hearts of euery one vnto hym, as willing, nilling, it behoued enuy to hang the heade. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 488 Arcadius willing, nilling, was constrayned..to signe the petition. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* IV. 197 And willing or nilling thou'lt come. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* iii. 100 Every idiom, ancient or modern, has to be brought willing, nilling, under some 'family'.

†3. That is so, or is done or borne, of one's own will; voluntary, intentional, deliberate, wilful.

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 33 To the willinge wicked no prophete shall be sente. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxi. (1912) 286 But so by Lelius willing-missing was the odds of the Iberian side. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 242 Willing misery Out-liues incertaine pompe. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 49 The willing'st sinne I euer yet committed.

4. Exercising or capable of exercising the will, volitional; conveying impulses of the will.

1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* I. i. 8 We know nothing of the *post-mortem* existence of the thinking willing energy of man. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* XXIV, Ere the wholesome flesh decay, And the willing nerve be numb.

5. *Comb.*, as *willing-hearted*, *-minded* adjs.

1539 *Bible* (Great) Exod. XXXV. 22 And they came..(euen as manye as were willynge harted) & brought bracelettes, & earynges, rynges & cheynes. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Willemoedigh*, willing-minded. 1830 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. H. Green* (1895) 751 Our Harriet, whose love and willing-mindedness to me-ward [etc.].

Willinghood (wi·linhud). *rare.* [f. prec. + -HOOD.] Willingness, readiness of mind (esp. as a personal quality or disposition).

1880 W. M. TAYLOR *Gosp. Miracl.* 225 Everything is made to depend on the willinghood of the individual to be blessed. 1890 SPENCER *Plea for Liberty* Introd. 7 Suppose now that this industrial *régime* of willinghood .. is replaced by a *régime* of industrial obedience. 1892 *Independent* 29 Apr. 285/2 Surely the spread of Christ's kingdom is not to be hindered simply for want of willinghood on the part of those who profess His name.

Willingly (wi·linli), *adv.* (Also 5 **welyngly**, 7 **wollinglie**.) [OE. *willendlice*: see WILLING *ppl. a.* and -LY[2].] In a willing manner (in various senses of the adj.).

†1. a. Intentionally, deliberately, wilfully. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 306 Heere I swere that neuere willyngly In werk ne thoght I nyl yow disobeye. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* lvi, Sauf willyngly the feende deceyued Eve. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* ii. (1538) 17 b, God is lyghte, and therfore..no man which wyllinglye walketh in the vnfrutefull workes of darknesse, hath ony fellowshyp wyth that lyght. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 322 Wittinglye and willinglye..ye haue..disobeied youre kinge. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 346 Still thou mistak'st, Or else committ'st thy knaueries willingly [*Qo's* wilfully]. 1622 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 230 That pyght, wee carryinge the lighte, the Dutch (as wee suppose)

Hist. MSS. Comm. App. I. 302, I will not willingly stand in any body's way.

†b. Of one's own will, voluntarily. *Obs.*

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 43 That ar content to do it willingly without ony compulsione. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, V. iii. 62. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 205, I had no remedie but to pay those Crownes for him,..if I had not rather chosen willingly to doe it. 1658 LD. PRESTON *Beath.* I. 12 *note*, For this he was banished his Country, or rather willingly left it.

2. With a ready will, consentingly, without reluctance: with various shades of meaning from 'with acquiescence, submissively' to 'with pleasure, cheerfully, gladly' or 'wishfully, eagerly'.

Often with *would*: *would willingly* = should like to; *would not willingly* = would rather not, should be loth to.

a 1000 in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 222/20 *Diligenter*, willendlice.

1532 ELYOT, *Libenter*, wyllyngely, gladly. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* K j b, And so be contented to byde the ende willingly, which set on the beginning wilfully. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* M 2, Thou maist the rather, the willinglier, and gladlier do it. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 159 They would not willingly serue hym, whiche woulde not willingly serue and obey their God and kinge. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xx. (1912) 279 To bring us (as willingly-caught fishes) to bite at her baite. 1592–3 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 109, I may neither dispose of my owne.. as others usuallie doe, and I willingliest would. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 95, I like this place, and willingly could Waste my time in it. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* V. i. 481, I craue death more willingly then mercy. 1649 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1850) V. 380, I sall werey wolinglie concwre withe them. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 115, I would willingly fish on the Lee-shore. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 234 ¶ 8 I would willingly give you a little good Advice. 1835 in Cornwallis *New World* (1859) I. 364 Their cheerful and willingly-offered services. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 1056 'Friend, let her eat; the damsel is so faint.' 'Yea, willingly,' replied the youth. 1882 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. vi Often have I observed one of the sisters willingly go without her dinner..in order that her portion might be reserved for Mr. Stallabras.

†b. *fig.* Readily, easily. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. lxv. 581 The vttermost pilling of common walnuts, whether it shale willingly or no. 1613 CROOKE *Body of Man* VII. x. 456 If the braine had been one entire massie substance, it would not so willingly and gladly as we say, haue risen and falne in the *Systole* and *Diastole*.

Willingness (wi·linnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being willing; readiness of will; freedom from reluctance; disposition to consent or comply; *spec.* disposition to do what is required, readiness to be of service.

1561 tr. *Calvin's 4 Godly Serm.* ii. D vij b, [This] maye bring vs..to that willingnes, that we shall not refuce to suffer death for Goddes name. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* III. 41 What dissembled willingnesse of departure hee vsed. 1630 PRESTON *Breastpl. Faith* 93 God requires no more but a willingnesse to come. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 96 Though she discovered her willingnesse to my Succession, to make me King of England. 1711 in T. W. Marsh *Early Friends* (1886) 9 To signifie..our willingnesse yt a Preparitive Meeting should be setled. 1873 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* viii. (1876) 168 The willingness of the Sacrifice. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. ii. 23 The pope..professed a willingness and an anxiety to be of corresponding service to Henry.

Will i(n) the wisp: see WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

Will-i-nill-i: see WILL *v.*[1] 50 b.

Williwa(e: see WELLAWAY.

Williwaw (wi·liwɔ̃). Also **willy-**, **-ie-**, **wuli(e)-**, **wully-wa.** [?] A sailor's (whaler's, etc.) name for a sudden violent squall, orig. in the Straits of Magellan.

1842 J. D. HOOKER in *Life* (1918) I. vi. 237 A squall or Williewaw, as they are called (round Cape Horn). 1863 FITZROY *Weather Bk.* 125 *note*, Those whirlwind squalls, formerly called by the sealers in Tierra del Fuego, 'willi-waws'. 1901 KIPLING *Kim* xiii, Where storm and wandering wullie-wa got up to dance.

Will-jill: see WILL-GILL.

Will-less (wi·l,lés), *a.* Also 8 **wil-less**, 9 **wil-less**. [f. WILL *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Not having 'a will of one's own'; not exercising, or not involving exercise of, the will.

1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xv. 99 Your blind duty and wil-less resignation. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* II. 282, I walked in a willess manner. 1892 MRS. H. WARD *David Grieve* III. x, The last year's leaves..whirled helpless and will-less in the dust-storm of the road!

2. Having no will; destitute of the faculty of volition.

1804 ANNA SEWARD *Mem. Darwin* 89 Reasonless, will-less instinct, limited but undeviating. 1871 MACMILLAN *True Vine* vi. 240 A mindless, will-less, impersonal solitude.

Hence **Wi·ll-lessly** *adv.*, **Wi·ll-lessness**.

1871 MACMILLAN *True Vine* vi. 243 He is to do consciously and willingly—what the plant does unconsciously and willlessly. 1901 *Academy* 8 Nov. 509 Among the many signs of that hysteria, what is called *abulia* or 'willessness' is one of the most common.

Willo, obs. form of WILLOW.

Willock (wi·lək). *local.* Also **-lok**. [f. WILL *sb.*[3] + -OCK. Cf. etym. of *guillem*, *guillemot*.] The GUILLEMOT; also, the puffin and the razor-bill.

1632 PELHAM *Gods Power* 32 We found abundance of Willocks egges; (which is a Fowle about the bignesse of a Ducke). 1635 *Voy. Foxe & James to N. W.* (Hakluyt Soc.) I. 168 Going to kill willicks. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* s.v. *Puffin*, At Dover, this, as well as the Razorbill, is indiscriminately called Willock. 1835 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 9 Your boys..endanger your personal safety, by blazing away at innocent gulls and willocks. 1839 [see GUILLEMOT].

†**Willok**. *Obs.* [? an error.] *pl.* ? Garments.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1295 Thus toke he suche willokis as he fond ther.

Will-o'-the-wisp (wi·lŏwi·sp), *sb.* Forms: see below. Pl. will-o'-the-wisps, also wills-o'-the-wisp. [orig. *Will with the wisp*: see WILL *sb.*[8] and WISP *sb.* Cf. JACK-O'-LANTERN, and, for the second element, G. *irrwisch.*]

1. = IGNIS FATUUS; *fig.* a thing (rarely a person) that deludes or misleads by means of fugitive appearances.

α. 7–9 Will with the or a wisp (whisp); 7 -with-wispe, with th' wisp, 9 wit or wi' t' wisp; also 7 Will the Wispe.

1608 DAY *Law Triches* v. H 2 b, I haue playd Will with the wispe with my brother, and haue led him vp and downe the maze of good fellowship. 1623 'JACK DAWE' *Vox Graculi* 45 When you are mis-led with lust (that Will-with wispe). 18.. in *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) p. xviii, Some call him Robin Goodfellow, .. some againe doe tearme him oft by name of Will the Wispe. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 159 *Ignes fatui*, Fooles fires, wills with a wisp. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 211 Thus far, what I could learn concerning the Will with a Whisp, as it hath been observed in the Plains. 1832 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 291 *Ignis Fatuus* or Will-with-the-wisp. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* IV. ii, His imagination is continually lantern-led by some will-with-a-whisp in the shape of a lady's stomacher.

β. 7–9 will of the wisp, o' the wisp (8 o' th', 9 o-the-); also with hyphens and one or two capitals.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Ignis Fatuus*, foolish fire, or (as the Country people call it) Will of the Wisp. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 115 Knowledge by theory only is a vague uncertain light: a Will o' the Wisp. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxi, All the polemical writings in divinity are not as clear and demonstrative as those upon a Will o' the Wisp, or any other sound part of philosophy. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XVII. i, Those Wills-o-the-wisp, the Reviewers. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xi, Through what extraordinary labyrinths this Love, this Will-of-the-Wisp, guides his votaries. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* I, I'll be a Will o' the Wisp, now here, now there. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 190 No light except that of .. the wicked .. wills-o'-the-wisp, as they gambol among the marshes. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 208 Proof positive, that we have been on the wrong scent, and running after a 'Will o' the Wisp.' 1879 HUXLEY *Sensation* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 247 The metaphysical Will-o'-the-wisps generated in the marshes of literature and theology. 1918 INGE *Philos. Plotinus* I. 188 The utterly unscientific notion of an automatic 'law of progress', that strange Will-o'-the-wisp of nineteenth-century thought.

γ. 7 will-a-wisp, 8 will o' whisp, 9 will-o-wisp (or o'); also with one or two capitals.

1679 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* III. 331 White Sheets for Ghosts, and Will-a-wisps have past For Souls in Purgatory unreleast. 1738 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 89 Will o' Whisp never led the bewildered traveller over hedge and ditch as a moon does us country folk. 1809 A. CUNNINGHAM *Magic Bridle* 363 in *Anniversary* 149 Dank will-o'-wisp sank midst the mire. 1863 MEREDITH *Lett.* (1912) I. 114 Young Cupid was he called of old: That Will o' Wisp incorporate.

δ. 7–8 Will in the Wisp (8 i'the whisp).

1689 *Irish Hudibras* To Rdr. 2 b, [They] made him skip the Bogs like a Will in the Wisp. 1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* I. (1734) 16 What a Shame they should be allow'd to play Will in the Wisp with Men of Honour. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. i, A Will in the Wisp, to confound, perplex, and bewilder you. 1768 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* II. i. 132 We should see them dance about like so many Will i'the whisps.

ε. 7–9 Willy-wisp (7 Wispe), 8 Willy wi' (Willie with) or and the wisp, Willy's wisp.

1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 21 Wenches, that doe smile and lispe Use to call me Willy Wispe. 1679 JAS. GORDON *Reformed Bp.* 250, I do firmly believe, That .. He would have chosen rather to have sent down some English Doctors to have govern'd us .. than have permitted any of those Willy-wisps to jump into these empty Chairs. 1727 Willies with the Wisps (see SPUNKIE 1). 1736 *Collect. Sc. Poems by Pennecuik* etc. 23 Travelling of late in fogs and thro' thick mist, Without a guide, save Willy wi' the wisp. *a* 1762 [S. HALIBURTON & HEPBURN] *Mem. Magopico* xiii. (ed. 2) 39 Plumbino is Willie-with-the-wisp; Magopico a flash of wild-fire. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 38 Willy's wisp wi' whirlin' cant Their blazes ca', That's nought but vapours frae a stank. 1808 *Craven Gloss., Willy-wit-wisp*, called also a Willy-wisp; an ignis fatuus, or Jack with a lantern.

b. *attrib.*

1850 W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* II. 44 A fluttering, shadowy, will-o-the-wisp style. 1873 *All Year Round* 5 July 26/2 Strange will-o'-the-wisp lights begin to flutter about the cordage. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxi, Kitty's will-o'-the-wisp flashes of petulance.

2. An alga, *Nostoc commune*, so called from the inexplicable suddenness of its appearance.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Hence †**Will-o'-the-wisp** *v. trans.*, to lead astray like a will-o'-the-wisp; **Will-o'-the-wisp-ish, -wispy** *adjs.*, of the nature of a will-o'-the-wisp.

1860 R. WILD *Iter Boreale* ix, Dark-Lanthorn Language, and his peep-boe play, *Will-E-Wispt Lambert's New-Lights out o' th' way. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 378 But to return to our Men of Learning, from whence we have been Will-ith-whisped. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 277 His Mrs. Taylor too, a very *will-o'-wispish 'iridescence' of a creature. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Nem. Chillingley* II. ii, The boy..became impish and Will-o'-the Wisp-ish. 1886 Miss BROUGHTON *Dr. Cupid* xxxi, The *Will-o'-the-wispy laughter of his eyes.

Willow (wi·lo), *sb.* Forms: α. 1 welig, 5 weleygh; β *Sc. pl.* wllois, 4–5 wilghe, wylghe, 6 wylly(e, -ie, 6, 9 *dial.* willie, willy, 8 willi- (9 -ey, wullie, -y); 7 wilfe, 8– *dial.* wilf. β. 4 welew, 5 welogh, 5–6 welowe; 4 wilowe, 4–5 wilw(e, wylw(e, wyl(o)ugh, (whilwh), wil(l)ou, wylo, wyllo, wilowe, 5–6 wylow(e, (whylowe), 6 willo, wyllow(e, -ough, 7 willough, 5– willow. [OE. *welig* f., corresp. to Fris. *wylch, wil(l)ig*, OLG. *wilgia* (LG. *wilge*), MDu. *wilge* (Du. *wilg*), MHG. *wilge*; f. Teut. *walg-, welg-*, whence also OE. *wilige* WILLY *sb.*[1]

The form-history is obscure, partly from the fact that examples of the word are not forthcoming for the period between late OE. and the 14th century, when the immediate precursor of the present form, viz. *wilwe*, is already established, instead of the normal representative of OE. *welig*, which would be **welly*. The change in the root-syllable may be due to WILLY *sb.*[1] (OE. *wilige*), or an OE. **wilig* may have existed; for the terminal syllable cf. *bellows* beside *belly* (OE. *belig*), *fellow* beside *felly* (OE. *felig*). The type *willy* survives dial.]

I. 1. Any plant of the genus *Salix*, which consists of trees and shrubs of various sizes, widely distributed in temperate and cold regions, growing for the most part by the side of watercourses, characterized by very pliant branches and long narrow drooping leaves, and valued economically as furnishing osiers, a light smooth and soft wood, or a medicinal astringent bark, or grown ornamentally by the side of water.

α. *a* 730 *Blickl. Glosses* in *O.E. Texts* 123 *In salicibus*, on welgum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 136 Weliges leaf wylle on wætere. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXXXVI[II]. 2 In þe wylghes in þe myddis of hit. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 81 Þat he haue weleyghes and myrt. 14.. *Liber pauperum* in *MS. Lincoln A. i. 17*, lf. 295 (Hall.) Tak the bark of wilghe that is bitwene the tre and the utter barke. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 178 Plantation of willeis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 418/1 A Wylght [sic], *salix*. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xxiii. 40 Wyllies of the broke. — *Isa.* xliv. 4 The Willies by the waters side. [1642 wilfe: see WILLOW-TREE.]

β. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 163 Saus (*glossed* wytie); *Camb. MS.* wilwe; *All Souls MS.* withe or wilghe]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 659 *Sauce*..Welew. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2064 Wylugh [*v.r.* Wylow, Wylw, Willow]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 365 At Glyndalkan..wilewys bereþ apples as it were appel treen. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 716/19 *Hec salix*, a welogh. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15178 Som whilwh ful off levys grene. *c* 1450 *Cokwolds Daunce* x. in Hartshorne *Anc. Metr. T.* (1829) 212 Garland of wylos sculd be fette, And sett vpon his hed. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (1871) 78 A christalline ryuer garnished with wyllouse. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 891 By the rushy-fringed bank, Where grows the Willow and the Osier dank. 1797–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1275 Plaintive breeze, that play'd Among the bending willows. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 268 The willows dip Their pendent boughs, stooping as if to drink. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 43 While the willow trails Its delicate amber. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* II, The old willows by the river.

b. The wood or osiers of any tree of this genus.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 317 He..toke the balke..as lightly as it had be som pece of welowe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 491 Willowes..Whereof..there be Baskets made. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 13 The pressure of the external air will then force the mercury through the pores of the hazel or willow.

c. in allusive use with reference to pliability.

1838 MACAULAY *Ess., Burleigh* P 4 Burleigh, like the old Marquess of Winchester, who preceded him in the custody of the White Staff, was of the willow, and not of the oak. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Musketaquid* 70, I am a willow of the wilderness, Loving the wind that bent me. 1910 J. D. MOFFAT *Paul & Paulinism* 24 Barnabas was of the willow rather than of the oak order.

d. Taken as a symbol of grief for unrequited love or the loss of a mate; esp. in phr. *to wear (the) willow, the willow garland* (see 6 d), or *the green willow*: to grieve for the loss of a loved one.

1584 LYLY *Sappho* II. iv, Peace miserable wretch, enioy thy care in couert, weare willow in thy hatte, and bales in thy hart. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 10 In such a night Stood Dido with a Willow in her hand Vpon the wilde

1597 BRETON *Wit's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 20 Some dolefull Ballad, to the tune of all a greene willow. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Gritsil* v. ii, Bring me a crown of gold to crown my loue; A wreath of willow for dispised Griseill. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. iii. 51 Sing all a greene Willough must be my Garland. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* I. i, We see you'r willow and are sorry for't. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* v. i, You may cry willow, willow for your brother. 1668 DRYDEN *Secret Love* v. i, If you had not forsaken me, I had you: so the Willows may flourish for any branches I shall rob 'em of. 1676 D'URFEY *Fool turn'd Critick* II. ii. 19 *Lady A.*..so that for his sake I quitted all the rest, *Pen.* And left them Willowes. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Thurs. 134 Nor shall she crown'd with willow die a maid. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1080 'She is in her willows'..Implies the mourning of a female for her lost mate. 1885 KATH. S. MACQUOID *At Red Glove* VI. i, There's..Marie..wearing the willow because..Engemann is away courting Madam Carouge.

2. With qualification denoting a particular species or variety of the genus *Salix*: see quots. and *almond w.* (ALMOND 10), CRACK-WILLOW, *goat w.* (GOAT *sb.* 4 b), *ground w.* (GROUND *sb.* 18 c), *rose w.* (ROSE *sb.* 23 b), *sage w.* (SAGE *sb.*[1] 5 b), *sallow w.* (SALLOW *sb.* 4), †*stake w.* (STAKE *sb.*[1] 7), *swamp w.* (SWAMP *sb.* 3 c), *sweet w.* (SWEET C. 1 b), WEEPING WILLOW, *whipcord w.* (WHIPCORD *sb.* 3). Cf. OSIER and SALLOW *sb.*

1866 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 202 Weeping and drooping trees. ..*Babylonian willow (*Salix* 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* etc. (1860) viminalis .. Osier. *Basket Willow. 1731 M[illar] *Dict.* s.v. *Salix*, The *Bay-leav'd Sweet Willow. *Penny Cycl.* XX. 360/2 *Salix Russelliana*, Russell or -wood-ford willow. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 262 *Salix discolor* (*bog willow). 1850 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 207 *Salix angustifolia pumila*; *In uliginosis.* *Dwarf-Willow. 1867 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 212 This species is sometimes called the *Golden Willow (*Salix chrysantha*), on account of the beautiful golden catkins which in May and June ornament its boughs. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 202 *Kilmarnock willow (*Salix caprea*, var. *pendula*). 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 360/2 *Salix purpurea*, *purple willow. 1842 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 12. 7 The *tree willow (*Salix caprea*). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. ii. 1203 *Salix aquatica*. The Osier, or *water Willow. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1430 *Salix arborea angustifolia alba vulgaris*..Our ordinary *white Willow groweth quickely to be a great and tall tree. 1882 *Garden* 9 Sept. 227/3 The wood of the white Willow..is always in request. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 48 *Salix myrsinites* ..*Whortle leaved Willow. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 360/2 *Salix vitellina*, the *yellow willow.

b. Extended, with qualification, to plants of other genera having some resemblance to the willow: see quots.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 41 Hallmus..may be called in englishe sea wyllowe or prickwylowe because it hath the leaues of a wylowe and prickes lyke a thorne. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxviii. 1228 Gaule, sweete Willow, or Dutch Myrtle tree. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Willow, Spiked, of Theophrastus, *Spirea*. 1866 BROOMEN *Prov. Wds. Lincs., Roman Willow*, a garden plant, *Syringa caerulea flore*. 1886 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow...Golden. A Madeira name for *Genista scoparia*...—, Primrose. A West Indian name for *Œnothera*. 1875 *Ibid.* Suppl., Willow, Australian. *Geijera parviflora*. —, Water, of the United States. *Dianthera americana*. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Plants Australia* 306 *Acacia calamifolia*, Willow, or Broom Wattle.

c. With qualification *bay, flowering, French, Persian*: the WILLOW-HERB, *Epilobium angustifolium.*

1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* II. CXXIX. 479 *Chamænerium* is called of Gesner, *Epilobion*: in English, Bay Willow. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 386 French Willow. 1857 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 280 *E[pilobium] angustifolium* (Rose Bay, or Flowering Willow). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow...Persian, *Epilobium angustifolium.*

II. †3. = WILLY *sb.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

1385–6 *City of London Rec., Pleas & Mem. Rolls* Roll 27 A m. 28 (MS.) Grant destruccion de pesson par engyns appeles Wilwes. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. l. (W. de W.) Y iij, For flesshe rostyd crabbes come in to wylowes [*Add. MS.* wyles] & pytches. *a* 1535 PHILPOT tr. *Curio's Def. Christ's Ch.* Wks. (Parker Soc. 1842) 385 Many unclean and damnable persons is contained in this church, which we behold as it were fishes of all sorts in a fisher's trunk or wille.

4. = WILLY *sb.*[1] 3.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 264 Blowing and lapping machines..are universally employed for cleaning and opening cotton after it has passed through the willow. 1877–80 *Gt. Industr. Gt. Brit.* I. 229 The conical self-acting willow, invented by Mr. Lillie, of Manchester. 1891 MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 85 The spikes on the cylinder and casing of the willow.

5. A cricket-bat (made of willow-wood). Similarly, the bat at baseball.

1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* XXXIV, He handles the willow pretty well. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 639, I had my turn at the 'willow'. 1876 in Box *Engl. Game Cricket* (1877) 414 Willow the King is a monarch grand, Three in a row his courtiers stand.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *willow band, bark, bed, bottom, bush, dust, gall* (GALL *sb.*[3]), *garth, ground, grove, head, hedge, holt, hoop, island, rind, row, shadow, swamp, top, tribe, twig, walk, wand, withe, wood*; made of willow-wood, as *willow-cylinder, polisher.* b. Instrumental, parasynthetic, objective, and similative, as *willow-bordered, -coloured, -fringed, -grown, -leaved, -like, -shaded, -tufted, -veiled* adjs.; *willow-peeler.* c. Special Combs.: **willow bay**, *Salix pentandra*; **willow-branch**, a branch of a willow-tree; also allusively as in 1 d; **willow curtain** (see quot.); **willow-earth**, compost made of rotten willow-branches; †**willow-flower** = WILLOW-HERB 2; **willow-green**, a variety of green resembling the colour of willow-leaves; **willow-grouse**, the common ptarmigan of North America, *Lagopus albus*; **willow-lark**, the sedge-warbler; **willow-leaf**, a leaf of the willow-tree, or a figure resembling this; *pl.* the luminous filaments of the sun's surface; **willow myrtle**, a myrtaceous willow-leaved tree (*Agonis flexuosa*) of Western Australia; **willow-nightingale** *local*, the reed-sparrow; **willow oak**, a North American oak, *Quercus Phellos*, having narrow entire leaves like those of the willow; **willow partridge**, = *willow-grouse*; **willow pattern**, a pattern of domestic crockery in blue, orig. designed by Thomas Turner in the late 18th century, having willow-trees as a prominent feature; hence **willow-patterned** *a.*; **willow ptarmigan** = *willow-grouse*; **willow-**

sparrow = *willow-warbler*; willow sheets, squares, pieces of plaited willow for hat-making; willow-thorn, sea-buckthorn, *Hippophaë rhamnoides*; willow-warbler, a small bird, *Sylvia trochilus*; willow ware, crockery-ware of a willow pattern; willow weapon, a cricket-bat; willow weed = WILLOW-HERB 2, 3; also, various species of *Polygonum*, knotweed; willow-wielder, a batsman at cricket; willow-wort, = WILLOW-HERB 1, 3; also pl., Lindley's name for the willow family; willow-wren, = *willow-warbler*. Also in several names of insects or their larvæ which infest willows, as willow-beauty (*Boarmia rhomboidaria*), -bee (*Megachile willughbeia*); -beetle (spec. *Phyllodecta vitellinæ*), -butterfly, -caterpillar, -cimbex, †-cricket, -fly (any insect of the family *Perlidæ*), -moth (*Caradrina quadripunctata*), -sawfly, -slug (larva of the sawfly), -worm.

1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 203 My young lambs coupled two by two With *willow bands. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 193 *Willow-bark having been frequently employed against intermittent fevers. 1640 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 108 *Salix folio laureo,..*Willow-bay. 1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 111 The *Willow Beauty.. appears the beginning of July, in woody places and gardens. 1391 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Bimbrara*, a *willow bed. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* VII. i, A winding, *willow-bordered river. 1807 P. GASK *Jrnl* 51 Passed a *willow bottom on the south side, and a creek on the north. 1811 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* II. i. *Song*, Maidens, *Willow branches bear; say I died true. 1830 TENNYSON *Dying Swan* 37 The willow-branches hoar and dank. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* XXX, I have been overwhelmed with presents of willow branches. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XVII, It was bordered by a line of *willow-bushes. 1773 B. WILKES *Engl. Moths* 58 The *Willow-Butterfly. *c* 1633 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 68 The *willow colored satten suite. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 300 *Willow-cricket, or small peacock fly. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Willow Curtain*,..a device to curb the rapidity of streams and induce deposit of sediment. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Layers*, Mould, mix'd with a little rotten *Willow-dust. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 69 *Willow-earth or rotten willow-sticks at the bottom of the pot, helps to retain the moisture. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 143 A little willow-earth is very proper to mix with the above compost. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* II. CXXIX. 477 *Chamænerion alterum angustifolium*. Narrow leaued *Willow-floure. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 119 The *Willow-Fly comes on about the beginning of September. 1749 WARTON *Tri. Isis* 6 O'er Isis' *willow-fringed banks I stray'd. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* XIII, Certain alder and willow-fringed reaches of the Thames. 1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 231 Trotting on to the small *willow garth near Clifford [Yorkshire). 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 93 Osier-holts or Willow-garths, as such grounds are called in Yorkshire. 1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Physitian* 28 A more blewish green colour, much like the colour called a *Willow-green. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3906/4 A Piece Ditto, striped with Willow-green and small Orange or Philamot. 1832 T. BROWN *Bk. Butterfl. & M.* (1834) I. 172 Of a pale willow-green above. 1608 *Merry Devil Edmonton* III. ii, Heere in the walke neere to the *willow ground. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 311 The *willow grouse on the rock crows his challenge aloud. 1532 HULOET, *Willow grouse, *salicetum*. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 17 Meddowe, Wood Lande, and Wyllowe Grouse. 1835 SINGLETON *Virgil, Georgics* II. 575 The wild willow-grove. 1871 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 265 A sandy plain somewhat *willow-grown. 1798 *Act 38 Geo. III* c. v. § 2 Any *Willow Heads, Loppings of Pollard or Doddard Trees. 1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate XXXI, A protection of *willow-hedge, raised by setting the stakes. 1832 *Boston, Linc.* etc. *Herald* 13 Nov. 4/3 Secreted in a *willow holt..In Holland Fen. 1697 J. PUCKLE *New Dial.* 18 Nor do We in England (as you [the Dutch]) want *Willow Hoops from Hamburgh. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* 204 Having passed a small *willow island. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 29 May, A new salicaria, which at first I suspected might have proved your *willow-lark. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 43 b, Of Lysimachia..The leues..are thinne and in fasshon lyke *wylowe leues. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* Dec. vii. Tab. 63 This has plain Willow Leaves. 1829 SHELLEY *Summer* 9 The willow leaves that glanced in the light breeze. 1860 NASMYTH in *Monthly Not. Royal Astron. Soc.* (1864) XXIV. 67 What I claim to be the first to discover .. in reference to the structure of his entire luminous surface, as well as the precise form of the structural details, which, from their general similitude in respect to form, I at once compared with willow-leaves. *Ibid.*, These luminous filaments or willow-leaf-shaped objects. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Adhatoda*, The *Willow-leav'd Malabar Nut. 1864 LOCKYER in *Reader* 16 Jan. 79/2 Mr. Nasmyth's discovery of the willow-leaved things .. covering like so many scales the whole surface of the sun. 1722 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 422 Its Leaves below are long *Willow-like. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 186 A long-branched willow-like shrub. 1848 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 101 The caterpillar of the *willow-moth. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl.*, *Willow Myrtle*, .. with willow-like leaves and pendent

veriana III. 208 *Willow Oak. From the Likeness of its Leaf. 1772 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 390 *Willow-partridges. 1829 S. SHAW *Staffordsh. Potteries* Ix. 814 The Pattern Mr. Turner used was the *willow, designed by him from two oriental Plates, still preserved. 1848 NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* I. x. 68, I myself found half a willow-pattern saucer in the crater of Vesuvius. 1878 LONGF. *Kéramos* 306 The willow pattern, that we knew In childhood, with its bridge of blue Leading to unknown thoroughfares. 1857 MISS YONGE *Dynevor Terr.* II, The homely black tea-

Clockm. 214 Plates for carriage and other small clocks..are polished with a *willow polisher. 1892 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 235 *Lagopus albus*. *Willow Ptarmigan. *c* 1300 *World & Child* (1522) A iij, I can wyssell you a fytte Syres In a *whylowe ryne. 1806 GRAHAME *Birds Scot.* 5 He sits And warps the skep with willow rind. 1586 W. WEBBE *Engl. Poetrie* (Arb.) 75 Greene *willow rowes which Hibla bees doo reioice in. 1845 *Florist Jrnl.* 193 Over the margin of the *willow-shaded pond. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 56 To wash-pools, where the *willow shadows lean. 1829 *P. O. Lond. Direct.* 364 Patentee..of Beaver, Silk and Willow Hats, and *Willow-squares. 1834 *1st Rep. Poor Law Comm.* (1885) 199, I formerly carried on the business of a willow-square maker. 1901 SEEBOHM *Birds of Siberia* xiv. 125 This never-ending, almost impenetrable *willow-swamp. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 49 Sea Buckthorn, Sallow-thorn, or *Willow-thorn. 1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 285 No bitter *Willow-tops have been its Food. 1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 119 The farmer may have recourse to plants of the *willow tribe for the forming of his hedges. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 294 The *willow-tufted bank. 1653 WALTON *Angler* II. 62 Oh it is a great logger-headed Chub: Come, hang him upon that *Willow twig. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXI, It shore asunder, as it had been a willow twig, the tough and plaited handle of the mace. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* I. iii, By the margin, *willow-veil'd. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXVIII, When you want me for breakfast, I will be found in the *willow-walk by the river. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 82 With a *willie wand thy skin was well scourged. *c* 1650 *Robin Hood & Q. Kath.* xxii. in Child *Ballads* V. 201 I'le cleave the willow wand. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. v, Clever houghs like willi-wands. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. XXIII, As lithe they grow as any willow wand. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. ix, The rushes and the willow-wand Are bristling into axe and brand. 1846 JENYNS *Nat. Hist.* 133 We found to-day the nest of a *willow-warbler. 1888 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 429 The willow-warbler (*Sylvia trochilus*). *c* 1885 R. COLLYER in J. H. Holmes *Life & Lett.* (1917) I. ii. 24 A great rack for the pewter dishes and *willow ware. 1850 'BAT' *Crich. Man.* 45 The way to use the *willow weapon. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 379 *Willow Weed or French Willow. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 46 And many a fairy foreland set With willow-weed and mallow. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow-weed, *Lythrum Salicaria*; also *Polygonum lapathifolium*. 1903 *Times* 13 July 11/6 Wily *willow-wielders. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 292 The goodman..from a corner nigh Took up some *willow-withes. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 4 The charcoal of *willow-wood is preferred, by many, for the manufacture of gunpowder. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 61 Wheels..made of..willow-wood. 1896 LODEMAN *Spray. Plants* 373 *Willow-worm; Antiopa Butterfly (*Vanessa Antiopa*). 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 753 As Betonie breakes friendship's ancient bands, So *Willo-wort makes wonted hate shake hands. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 307 In an Hollow made by the falling of the Water in the Rains, grows Willow-wort. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Salicaria*, Willow-wort or spiked Lose-strife. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 254 *Salicaceæ*. Willow-worts. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* II. xi, And changed the *willow-wreaths to stone. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 266 The *willow-wren frequents large moist woods. 1888 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 556 Aug. 16th, Willow-wrens had deserted the furze bushes and hedges.

d. In uses containing an allusion to the willow as a symbol of mourning or of being lovelorn.

1585 in Chappell *Old Engl. Pop. Mus.* (1893) 110, I wylbe the turtle most stedfast [still] to the: & paciently were this grene wyllow garland. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 228 Tell him, in hope hee'l proue a widower shortly, I weare the Willow Garland for his sake. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 112 Still for to weare the Willow wreath. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. iii, A knot of Willow Ribbands. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *To Willow-tree* 7 When once the Lovers Rose is dead, .. Then Willow-garlands, 'bout the head, Bedew'd with teares, are worne. 1829 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Suthorl.* 36 This willow-wearing fair one. 1833 — *Parson's Dau.* I. xii, The ..willow-wearers at Ullsford.

e. quasi-*adj.* = WILLOWY *a.* 2. See also quot. *a* 1700.

1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* IV. i. F i b, I yeelded With willow-bendings to commanding breaths. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Canf. Crew*, *Willow*, Poor, and of no Reputation. 1875 MISS BRADDON *Strange World* II, Tall, slim, and willow-waisted.

Willow, *v.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4.] *trans.* To put (cotton, etc.) through a willow.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 330 It must be willowed..in an appropriate manner, by machines differing in structure and adjustment for different qualities of goods.

Willowed (wi·lōd), *a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -ED 2.] Bordered or grown with willows.

1745 WARTON *Ode to Morning* 14 The willow'd marge of murmuring brook. 1747 COLLINS *Ode to Liberty* 56 Willow'd Meads. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. i, No longer steel-clad warriors ride Along thy wild and willow'd shore. 1891 E. R. PENNELL *Stream Pleas.* 44 All the elm-lined ronds and willowed backwaters lead to pretty villages.

Willowed (wi·lōd), *ppl. a.* [f. WILLOW *v.* + -ED 1.] Separated by means of a willow.

1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 26 Fine stuff, such as willowed rope.

Willower (wi·lōəɹ). [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4 or *v.* + -ER 1.] One who tends a willow.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 65 Woollen Cloth Manufacture...Willower, Willyer, or Woolleyer. *Ibid.* 82 Paper Making...Willower (Paper Mill).

Willow-herb. [So named from the resemblance of the leaves to the willow's. Cf. the earlier *herb willow* (HERB *sb.* 7 b).

All the plants so named were formerly included under the name *Lysimachia*.]

1. Yellow Loosestrife, *Lysimachia vulgaris*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. II. 74 The first [Lysimachion] which we may call Golden or yellow Lysimachus, Willow herbe, and Louse strife. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXXII. 386 *Lysimachia lutea*. Yellow Willow herbe. 1755 B. STILL-

LINGFL. *Cal. Flora* 2 Sept. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 236 (Great Yellow Loosestrife)..is sometimes called Yellow Willow-herb.

2. Any plant of the extensive genus *Epilobium*, esp. *E. angustifolium* and *hirsutum*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. II. 73 *Lysimachium purpureum primum*. The first purple red, willow herbe. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXXII. 386 *Lysimachia siliquosa*. Codded Willow herbe. .. *Chamænerion*. Rose bay Willow herbe. 1697 LHWYD in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 50 The Common French Willow-Herb. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* XIX. (1794) 237 Our European Willow Herbs. 1820 COLERIDGE *Picture* 89 Lychnis, and willow-herb, and fox-glove bells. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 214 The willow-herb, or *Epilobium* genus. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* XXXVII, A little ten-yard square island all overgrown with red purple willow herb.

3. *Spiked* or *Purple-spiked Willow-herb*: Purple Loosestrife, *Lythrum Salicaria*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. II. 75 Poynted willow Herbe with the purple floure. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXXII. 386 *Lysimachia purpurea spicata*. Spiked Willow herbe. 1755 B. STILLINGFL. *Cal. Flora* 1 July.

4. In full *Hooded Willow-herb*: *Scutellaria galericulata* or *S. minor*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXXII. 387 *Lysimachia galericulata*, or hoodded Willowe herbe. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scotica* I. 320 *Scutellaria minor*...Little red Scull cap, or Willow-herb. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* IV. (1794) 46 Some plants only having little or no smell as..hooded willow herb. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Willowing (wi·lōiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4 or *v.* + -ING 1.] = WILLYING (after WILLY *sb.*1).

1851 L. D. B. GORDON in *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. ivɛ*/1 A scutching machine, so arranged that the preliminary process of willowing is performed within it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Willowing-machine*...s. (Cotton.)..

entangles the locks of wool. 1891 R. MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 82.

Willowish (wi·lōiʃ), *a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -ISH 1.]

1. Somewhat resembling that of a willow, esp. in reference to the colour of willow-leaves.

1653 WALTON *Angler* v. 105 First for a May-fly: you may make his body with greenish-coloured crewel, or willowish colour. 1656 BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 19 A fady willowish broad leaf. 1676 J. SMITH *Art of Painting* ii. 21 It's Willowish colour must be corrected with Yellows.

2. Like a willow; *fig.* of a pliant character. *rare.*

1929 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Fr. Novel* II. 12 *note*, It is intended to bring before the reader's mind the utterly *willowish* character of Oswald, Lord Nelvil.

Willow-tree. = WILLOW *sb.* 1; cf. also 1 d, 6 d.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 646/33 *Hec silax*, wyllotre. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXIIII. (W. de W.) T iiij/2 A wylowe tree..hath noo fruyte but oonly sede or floure. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* CXXXVI[i]. 2 As for oure harpes, we hanged them vp vpon the trees [fo. dlxxxij Vpon the trees, *vtde*, Vpon the wyllye trees]. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 70 *Particalis salix* is the greate Wylowe tree whyche hath longe roddes .. growynge in it. 1563 GOOGE *Eglogs* vi. (Arb.) 51 This mournynge looke, this Vesture sad, this wrethe of Wyllow tree. 1590 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 225. 16.. R. BARNSLEY in *Wilt Restor'd* (1658) 35 That I may goe free From the sad branches of the willowe tree. 1610 R. JONES *Muses Gard.* xii. (1901) 18 For once thou wert where thou wouldst be Though now thou wear'st the willow-tree. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 41 A wilfe tree that groweth in the hedge of the Bramble hill bottomes. 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 3 Willow-trees are allowed to grow here and there.

Willowy (wi·lōwi), *a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Bordered, shaded, or clad with willows.

1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* 121 Where the languid old Cam rolls his willowy flood. 1769 GRAY *Install. Ode* 29 Where willowy Camus lingers with delight. 1816 SHELLEY *Lett.* Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 339 The willowy plain of the Rhone. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* IV. iii, The willowy hills and fields among. 1840 LOUISA S. CORTELLO *Summer amgst. Bocages* II. 97 We had been sitting on a willowy ait, such as our own beautiful Thames presents.

2. Resembling a willow in its flexible or drooping gracefulness.

1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* IV. ii. Wks. 1816 II. 288 Unceasing bends the willowy neck to ground. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Shepherd-Post of the Alps* 165 A fragile form, With a willowy droop. 1864 G. A. LAWRENCE *Maurice Dering* II. 32 He, who always raved about willowy waists. 1883 HOWELLS *Register* II, Slender, willowy party, with a lot of blonde hair.

3. Suggesting the sound of willows agitated by the wind.

1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* IX, The willowy swish of silken dresses.

4. *Comb.*

1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Miner's Right* XLIV, Certain delicate-featured willowy-figured Sydney demoiselles.

Will-pit: see WELL 1.

Will-worship. [f. WILL *sb.*1 + WORSHIP *sb.*, rendering Gr. ἐθελοθρησκεία (Col. ii. 23).] Worship according to one's own will or fancy, or imposed by human will, without divine authority.

1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1642) 59 Seeing..true worship taught, and will-worship refused. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Martiall* To Rdr. 6 b, A wilworship, a naughty seruice, haning no ground of the worde of God. 1611 *Bible* Col. II. 23 Which things haue in deed a shew of wisedome in will-worship [Vulg. *superstitione*; TINDALE chosen holynes, COVERDALE chosen spiritualtie, *Geneva* volontarie worshipping]. *a* 1629 HUME *Y. Brown* XXX. (1642) 93 That such

service unto Saints, is but witt-worship, will-worship, and Idol-service. 1641 Sanderson *Serm., Matt. xv.* 9 (1681) II. 4 Those Pharisees..intending by those superstitious Will-worships to honour God. 1730 Berkeley *Serm.* Wks. 1871 IV. 641 Not lip-worship, nor will-worship, but inward and evangelical. 1827 G. S. Faber *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) II. 106 A declension from evangelical soundness to unwarrantable superstition and will-worship. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* Introd. (1862) 5 The will-worship of Jeroboam.

So **Will-worshipper**, one who practises will-worship; †**Will-worshipping**, will-worship.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lx. 12. 98 The wil worshippinges which superstitious persones have forged too themselves of theyr owne heades. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Ductor Dubit.* II. iii. rule 13. § 9 He that sayes God is rightly worshipped by an act or ceremony concerning which himself hath no way express'd his pleasure, is superstitious, or a will-worshipper.

Willy, willey (wi·li), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 wilize, wylize, -ie, 7, 9 **weely**, 8–9 **willey**, 9 **willy**. [OE. *wilize*: see Willow *sb.* Cf. *wyle, wile*, Weel ².]

1. A basket: see quots. *dial.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 55 *Corbis*, wylize oððe windel. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark vi. 43 Hi namon þara hlafa & fixa lafe twelf willan fulle. a 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 336/7 *Corbis uel cofinus*, wylize oððe meoxbearwe. [1856, etc.: see Weel ².] 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxvi. (Add. MS. 27944), Of rusahes beþ ymade panyers: Wiles, cupes and casis.] 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Willy*, a term applied to baskets of various sizes, but generally to those holding about a bushel ..: sometimes called also *willy-basket*. 1886 *W. Som. Word-bk.*, *Willy*, a large basket—of a shape deep rather than flat. .. A willy has two small handles at the upper edge, one opposite the other.

2. A fish-trap. *local.*

[1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. i. (Add. MS. 27944), For fleiash yrosted crabbes comeþ in to wyles and pyches.] 1602 Carew *Cornwall* I. 28 The Trowte..are mostly taken with a hooke-net, made like the Easterne Weelyes, which is placed in the stickelleat part of the stream..and kept abroad with certaine hoopes. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 320 Below the lower flood-hatch, a trap (or *willey*, as in this neighbourhood it is called) is made for the catching of smaller fish. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.*, *Weelys*, wicker pots or traps for catching crabs.

3. A revolving machine of a conical or cylindrical shape armed internally with spikes for opening and cleaning wool, cotton, flax. Called also *twilly*.

[1780: see Willy *v.* quot. 1864]. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 160 The wool-mill or willy (called willow, in the cotton manufacture..) is the first machine to which clothing-wool is subjected. 1870 *Engl. Mech.* 31 Dec. 610/1 The machine.. is called a willow, or willey, vulgarly a devil; it is used principally for opening raw cotton. 1894 C. Vickerman *Woollen Spinning* 122 A 'Fearnought' or tenter-hook willey.

Hence **Wi·ll(e)y** *v.*, to treat with the willy or willowing-machine; **Wi·ll(e)yer**, one who tends a willy; **Wi·ll(e)ying** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 304 Wool-sorters, pickers, willyers (winnowers). 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* iii. 98 Some kinds of wool require willying more than once. 1884 A. Jeffrey *Hist. Roxb.* IV. 115 In 1780, when a small hand 'willy', for oiling and teazing the wool, was put up in the garret of John Roberts. It was a joint stock adventure, and willied for the whole town. 1871 *Daily News* 18 Aug., Cloth finishers, dressers, fettlers, and willeyers. *Ibid.*, The cotton willeying-room. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 185 The wool must be freed from all dirt, etc., by willeying and thorough washing, it must then be oiled and again willeyed to spread the oil over all the fibres. 1907 Clapham *Woollen & Worsted Ind.* 188 The willeying machine must also have an efficient exhaust draft.

Willy, Willie (wi·li), *sb.*[2] [Pet-form of the name William.] Applied locally to various animals; e. g. the guillemot, = Willock; also *attrib.*, as in **willy-goat**, a he-goat (= Billy-goat); **willy-wagtail**, (*a*) the water wagtail; (*b*) in Australia, = Wagtail *sb.* 2 b. (See also Will-o'-the-wisp 1 c.)

1849 *Zoologist* VII. 2393 The common guillemot is a 'willy'. 1883 *Sunday Mag.* Aug. 528/1 Some birds flying ..over the vessel..called willies.

1852 W. Wickenden *Hunchback's Chest* 82 You might have broken the leg of the *willy-goat. 1844 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Wullie-Wagtail. 1885 Mrs. C. Praed *Head Station* (new ed.) 156 A brisk little willy-wagtail hopping about on the gravel.

†**Wi·lly**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **willi**, **wylly**, (5 **wille**, **wyle**, **wyly**, 6 **wylle**), 4– **willy**. [f. Will *sb.*[1] + -y[1], prob. after ON. *viljugr* (MSw. *viliugher*, Sw., Da. *villig*), corresp. to OS., (M)Du. *willig*, OHG. *willig* (MHG. *willec*, G. *willig*). But an OE. **willic* may have existed; cf. next.]

1. Willing, eager.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23073 Þai..willi war to do, and gladd, Þat men of hall kirc þam badd. *Ibid.* 26331 Propre, stedfast, Ernexst, willi, buxum-sothfast. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (G.) 161 Þe men þat wight and willy ware said: 'to þi steuin we stand'. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1775 Wisest of wordes and wille berto. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. lii. 496 Forto make hem the redier and the willier forto counceyle with learned men. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. vi. A vij b, A prynce ought not be byleued that therin shold be ouer wylly & courageous.

2. Well-disposed, benevolent.

With first quot. cf. Chaucer's 'welwilli planet' (*Troylus* III. 1208).

c 1403 Lydg. *Temple of Glas* 1348 Willi planet, O Esperus so brist, Þat wofful hertes can appese. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 88, I fonde her euer so wylly to noon as sche is to hym. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 428/2 Willy, *benevolus*.

3. ? Of the will.

c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 96 And þanne fallys to hym a reale willy [orig. *voluntaria*] vertu.

b. *in parasynthetic compounds*, Evil-willy, Goodwilly, Ill-willy, Well-willy.

Hence †**Wi·llily** *adv.*, voluntarily, willingly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26942 Willili lok þat þou be scriuen, Noght wit strength þar-to be driuen. c 1400 *Abbey Holy Ghost* in *Hampole's Wks.* (Horstman) I. 334 Make þame arely to ryse and go þe wyllylyere to þaire seruysse.

†**Willy**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 willice, 2–3 willeliche, 4 williche. [Late OE. *willice* = OHG. *willico* (MHG. *williche*): see Will *sb.*[1], -ly [2]. With the quadrisyllabic forms cf. ON. *viljanliga*.] Willingly, voluntarily.

c 1000 in *Anglia* XIII. 375/138 Oþre zehwylce ða wyllice we onfengon. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Ȝef ze lusten wuleð, and ze willeliche hit understonden. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 338 Schrift ouh to beon willes, þet is willeliche iureined and nout idrawen of þe. *Ibid.* 396 Auh ure Louerd willeliche totweamde his soule urom his bodie vorto ueien ure bone togederes. a 1300 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 8 Þo dronk Marie al hire fulle Swiþe williche of þat welle.

Willy, dial. f. Willow; obs. form of Wily.

Willyart, *a. Sc.* and *n. dial.* Also 6 **wilzart**, 8 **wylart**, 9 **willyard**, **williard**, **willward**. [Obscurely f. Will *a.*[2]; associated later with Will *sb.*[1]]

1. Wild; shy.

1590 Burel in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 19 Quhiles wandring, quhiles dandring, Like royd and wilzart rais. 1786 Burns *On Dining with Lord Daer* iv, But O for Hogarth's magic pow'r To show Sir Bardy's willyart glowr! 2. Self-willed, obstinate.

1792 Learmont *Poems* 26 Had ye Byng'd some wylart bairns, It wad hae gien the laive mair harns. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, Uh! uh! it's a hard-set willyard beast this o' mine. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Willeward*, self-willed. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Williard*, obstinate; self-willed.

Willy-coat, var. Wyliecoat *Sc.*

Willy-nilly (wi·li ni·li), *adv.* and *a.* Also 7 **wille nille**, 8 **willi nilhi**. [= *will I, nill I* (*he, ye*) 'be I (he, ye) willing, be I (he, ye) unwilling': see Will *v.*[1] VI, Nill *v.*]

A. *adv.* Whether it be with or against the will of the person or persons concerned; whether one likes it or not; willingly or unwillingly, *nolens volens*.

1608 Middleton *Trich to catch Old One* I. ii, Thou shalt trust me spite of thy teeth, furnish me with some money wille nille. 1797 Mrs. Berkeley *Poems of G. M. Berkeley* Pref. p. ccxxix, But her Ladyship would, *willi nilhi*, constantly join the one who drank the waters every morning, and converse with her. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* ix. (1824) 145 He was sure, willy nilly, to be drenched with a deluge of decoctions. 1818 J. Brown *Psyche* 121 From whence it follows, will y' nill y', The thought of your's is mighty silly. 1884 A. Griffiths *Chron. Newgate* II. vii. 306 He..conceived an idea of carrying her off and marrying her willy nilly at Gretna Green. 1898 L. Stephen *Stud. Biogr.* II. vii. 272 You are engaged in the game willy-nilly, and cannot be a mere looker-on.

B. *adj.* 1. That is such, or that takes place, whether one will or no.

1877 Tennyson *Harold* v. i, And someone saw thy willy-nilly nun Vying a tress against our golden fern. 1880 *Cornhill Mag.* Feb. 182 All willy-nilly spinsters went to the canine race to be consoled. 1888 Tennyson *Promise of May* II. 119 If man be only A willy-nilly current of sensations.

¶ 2. *erron.* Undecided, shilly-shally.

1883 Galton *Hum. Faculty* 57 The willy-nilly disposition of the female in matters of love is as apparent in the butterfly as in the man. 1898 Besant *Orange Girl* II. vi, Let us have no more shilly shally, willy nilly talk.

Willy-willy (wi·liwi·li). Also willi-willi. [Native name.] In north-west Australia, a cyclonic storm or tornado. Also *attrib.*

1894 *Age* (Melbourne) 20 Jan. 13/4 A.. report of a 'Willy Willy' in the north-west portion of West Australia. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* May 646/2 The pools formed by the willy-willy shower had evaporated.

†**Wilne**, *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. next.] Desire.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13768 All the pure Troiens ..Were delluert yche lede, & lause at hor wilne.

†**Wilne**, *v. Obs.* Also 3 welne, 4–6 wylne, 5 willne, wol(l)ne. [OE. *wilnian*, f. *wil-*, stem of Will *sb.*[1], Will *v.*[1] + *-n-* formative + *-ian* -y [2]. Cf. ON. *vilna* to favour, refl. to hope (cf. *örvilnask* to despair).] To desire. a. *trans.* with simple obj. (in OE. gen. or acc.).

188 Drihten secean, and to fæder fæþmum freoðo wilnian. c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 4 Ȝif ðu æniġne mon ġesihst wilnian ðæs ðe he næfð. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ne wilne þu oðres monnes wif. c 1205 Lay. 1073 Ȝef us þat we wilniað. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6301 Ichabbe quaþ knout ywilned þi kinedom ar þis, & nou wel more þan þi lond þi sulue ich wilni ywis. a 1300 *Leg. Rood* ii. (1871) 20 Ich wilny muche my deþ. c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 443 Thy neighebore artow holden for to loue and wilne hym alle goodnesse. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3906 Of wemen werkes wilnet ho none. ? 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 171 To..wilne yow goode wylle and trewe hert.

(*b*) with clause or acc. and inf.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xix. 141 Se biþ..Godes ġewinna se se ðe wilnaþ ðæt he hæbbe ða weorður God habban sceolde. c 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. He wilnode þæt his lic ræst sceolde beon æt C.. æt his biscoep stole. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 221, I not nat what þe wilne þat I seye. c 1384 — *H. Fame* III. 4 Nat that I wilne, for maistrye, Here Art poetical be shewed. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. iv. 256 Wherfri is vnciuildi and wilned of Crist to be.. that euy man schuldis worschipe God bi eny outward thyng. c 1450 *Partenay* 3178 Wilnyng you to come hes.. Pilgrymes T. 206 in *T'ymm's* (1875) 80 What reke them, the sayng of paull, Which wylnith 'to men we shall not cull'?

(*c*) with inf. (with or without *to*).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxiv. § 2 Ælc mod wilnaþ eaðes ġodes to begitanne. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 8 He wilnode hine ġeseon. c 1205 Lay. 1892 Heora ælþer wilnada oðer [c 1275 ælþer wilnede oþer] to wælden. a 1300 *Leg. Rood* li. (1871) 20 Of is lif he was anuyd, he wilnede be of dawe. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 4 Tyl I wex wery of þe worlde, and wylned eft to slepe. c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 99 In good prairs þou muste wake, And neuere wilne to do a-mys. 1447 *Bokynton Corr.* (Rolls) II. 341, I..suppose that..ye wold..wilne exhorte..al tho to whom [etc.]. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 285 Ȝif ȝe wollnoth to haue mercy of God.

b. *instr.*; simply or const. *after*, *for*, *to*; also with ellipsis of inf.

a 1000 *Andreas* 283 (Gr.) Þu wilnast nu ofer widne mere. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 319 (Trin. Coll. MS.), We wilniað after werkes wele. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Hire beoð wo þat hie sal þer-inne wunien, and þere-fore wilneð ut. c 1205 Lay. 2626 Heo wilneden [c 1275 welneð] after worre. c 1250 *Hali Meid.* (Titus) 125 Ne þarf þe bute wilnen, & lete godd wurchen. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3563 As redili araiȝed as any rink þort wilne. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. iv. 387 Þei wilnen and wolde as best were for hem-selue. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2224 I watte be thi wauerynge thow willnes aftyre sorowe. *Ibid.* 3479 Whedire wilnes thowe, wye, walkand thyne onne? c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. iv. 295 That Crist schulde wilne and bidde in lijk maner to eny other man.

†**Wilnesful**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. gen. of Wilne *sb.* + -ful. Cf. *willesful*.] Phr. *for wilnesful* (see For *pref.*[1] 10): because of obstinacy or perversity.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 231 Ne neuer wolde, for wylnesful, his worþy god knawe.

†**Wi·lning**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 4 **willenyng**. [OE. *wilnung*, f. *wilnian*: see above and -ing [1] 1.] Desire.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Twa þara ġecynda habbaþ netenu swa same swa men; oðer þara is wilnung, oðer is irsung. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 278 Prude is wilnunge of wurðschipe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1546, I wolde yowre wylnyng worche at my myȝt. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3983 To willne swiche willenyng þat wol nouȝt a-sente. 1387 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 306 A wrangwise wilnyng Or yernyng to hafe any kyns gode þat us augh noght. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. ix. 533 With the lasse good kunnyng, the lasse gode wilnyngis, and purposis.

So †**Wilning** *ppl. a.*, voluntary; also quasi-advb.; whence †**Wilningly** *adv.*, willingly.

The survival of the vb. *wilne* in *wilningly*, if genuine, is remarkable.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Vorte beon martirs efning, þuruh a wilninde wo. 1382 Wyclif *Num.* xxxv. 15 To hem, the which not wilnynge [1388 wilfull; Vulg. *nolens*] shedith blood. — *Ecclus.* xlv. 7 Vnwitendely, and not wilnende [1388 not wilfull; Vulg. *ignorantes et non volens*] he doth. 1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. 618 (MS. Rawl. D. 398, lf. 211 b) We haue yelded to her conqueringe hande And wilninglie goe captiues in her bande.

Wilowe, rare obs. var. Wallow *v.*[2], to fade.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxii. 27 When þair flour walkes [*v. r.* wilowes] & wytes awaye.

†**Wilrone**. *Sc. Obs.* Also wolroun, -ronn. [? f. ON. *vilr* Will *a.* + *runi* boar.] A wild boar. Used chiefly as a term of abuse.

1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritl Wemen* 90 A waistit wolroun. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 432 Wnhonest wayis all, wolronn, that thou wirkis. c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 106 The bich the curtyk fannis; The wolf the wilrone vsis. a 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 385 This wyld wilroun wich thame widlit sa and wareit.

Wilsfully: see after Willesful.

Wilsome (wi·lsŏm), *a.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 4–5 **wilsom**, **wylsom(e**, **-sum**, 4–7 **wilsome**, **-sum**, 5 **wyld-**, **wel(d)som(e**, **whylsum**, 6 **weilsum**, **wildsome**, **wolsome**, **volsum**, (6–7 **wilesome**), 9 **wullsome**, **wullsum**. [a. ON. *villusamr* erroneous, false (Sw. *villsam* perplexing, embarrassing, in MSw. also, gone astray, Da. *vildsom* perplexed, intricate), f. *villr* wild, Will *a.* + *-samr* -some. Sometimes assimilated in spelling to *wild*.]

1. Chiefly of a way or path: Leading astray as through wild and desolate regions; hence, desert, lonely and wild; dreary. (A conventional epithet of ME. poetry.)

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 1604 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 421 Þai wend no wilsom way. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 689 Mony wylsum way he rode. c 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5565 A wilsom wast & a wild. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xxii. 247 Lynet the damoysel that had ryden with hym many wylsome wayes. c 1480 Henryson *Two Mice* 143 Till hir hart straike mony wilsome stound. c 1480 — *Orpheus* 128 To seke his wyf..our mony wilsum wane Wyth outyn gyde. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. xi. 26 He..socht onto the wilsum holtis hair. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractatis* I. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 9 In the wyldsum way of this daingerous lyfe. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 129 Nor wildsome wood or deserts. 1584–7 Greene *Cards of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 139 The wildsome woods were his wished walkes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 294 We imbraced our wilsome and fastidious Way. 1806 R. Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 244 He blew, till a' the wullsome waste Rebellowin' echoed round.

2. Erring, wandering, straying; bewildered, perplexed; doubtful, uncertain (*of*).

Phr. *wilsome of wane* = Will *a.* 3 a.

c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 5304 Þus was þe kowherd out of kare kindeliholpen, He & his wilsum wif wel to liuen for euer. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 93 Hym self in þe mene tyme ful wilsom [orig. *nauiter oberrans*] at þe Ile of Wight halowede Cristemasse. a 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 867 They namyd the chylde 297 Degrabelle, That wilsome was of wone (*read* wane). c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 90 So wilsom wightis as

we, Was neuere in worlde walkand in wede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsome, or dowtefulle, *dubius, fluctuans.* *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 43 Wa is me, wretche in this wasld, wilsome of wane! *c* 1460 *Townsley Myst.* XXVII. 204 Wilsom of hart, ye ar vnabyll, And outt of the right way. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 29 To hungre melt, nor drynk to thristy gaif, .. Harbreit the wolsome, nor naikit cled att all. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iii. 103 Wncertanlie we went Thre dais wilsum throu the mysty streme. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 44 Werie forwrocht, and richt wellsum of wane. *c.* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 526 Wilsum of ane gude reid. 1584 KNOX *Let.* in *Answ. Jesuit Tyrie* F iv b, God shall guyde the footesteppes of him that is wilsome. *c* 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 35 Vandring as ane volsum vagabound. 1614 LITHGOW *Trav.* L a, If it had not been for a Christian Amaronite, who accidently encountred with vs, in our wil-sum [1632, 190 wilesome] wandring, wee had beene miserably lost. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wilsum*, In a wandering state, implying the ideas of dreariness, and of ignorance of one's course, S. pron. *wullsum*.

Hence **Wi'lsomely** *adv.*[1], erringly, perversely; wanderingly, at random; **Wi'lsomeness**[1], error, perverseness; doubt, uncertainty.

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 1365 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 417 Fro wayes of wilsoinnes .. he has þam taken. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) XXXV, To somun alle tho, That wilsumly ar wente me fro. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsomenesse, or dowtefulnesse. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 17 As y wandered weldsomly in-to þe lawnd þat was so grene.

Wilsome, willsome, *a.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Orig. a use of WILSOME *a.*[1], later associated with WILL *sb.*[1] There appears to be no connexion with OE. *wilsum, wilsumlic* 'desiderabilis', 'voluntarius', 'devotus', *wilsumlice* 'sponte', 'voluntarie'.] Wilful, obstinate, stubborn.

13 .. *Cursor M.* 9633 (Göt.) It was his aun wilsum [*Cott.* wilful] sinne, þat did vs all fra him to tuynne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsome, or folwynge only hys owne wylle, *effrenus.* 1590 *Cobler Canterb.* 3 He was wide and wild-some in the brest. 1818 TODD, *Wilsome*, obstinate; stubborn. A forgotten old word, but as proper as *humoursome*, and the like. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* I. 26 Within stone walls he is ever willsome and upon the fret. *a* 1835 HOGG *Poems, Spirit of the Glen* XXVII, Marjorie smiled a willsome smile.

Hence **Wi'lsomely** *adv.*[2], wilfully; **Wi'lsomeness**[2], wilfulness, frowardness.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XXXI. 40 The wilsumnesse [Vulg. *animositas*] of drunkenhed. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsomenesse, or froward wylle, *effrenitas, vel propria voluntatis sequela.* *a* 1835 HOGG *Poems, Connel of Dee* XVI, His sins were like crimson—all bant and uneven, The path he hed willesomely trod.

† **Wilt,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [Origin obscure.] = WILE *sb.* Hence † **Wiltful** *a.*, wily.

a 1230 *St. Kath.* 891 Þe wrenchfule feont, þurh onden, wiþ his willes [*MS. Royal* wiltes] weorp him ut. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* MS. C.C.C.C. 402, lf. 61 Hu se schulen witen ow wiþ þes deofles wiheles nawt ane his strengðes & his stronge turnes ah ðeð his wiltfule [*so also MS. Cotus* 234, *cf.* 156 *b*; *MS. Cott. Nero* wihtful, *Titus* wilfule] crokes & his wrenchfule wicche-creftes.

Wilt (wilt), *sb.*[2] [f. next.] The action or an act of wilting; *spec.* (also *wilt disease*) any fungous disease of plants which is characterized by wilting.

1858 AINSLIE *Land of Burns* (1892) 315 To stiffen the wilt that this wilderness Has brought on this bosom and brain. 1916 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 357 Rusts, smuts, wilts, and insect-attacks were calamities to be patiently endured.

Wilt (wilt), *v.* [Of dial. origin (in early 19th c. largely U. S.), having a widespread variant *welt* (WELT *v.*[3]); perh. alteration of *wilk*, WELK *v.*]

1. *intr.* Of plants or their parts: To become limp or flaccid, through heat or drought.

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 80 To *Wilt*, for wither, spoken of green Herbs or Flowers, is a general word. 1779 *Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* 108/1 Let it remain exposed to the sun throughout the day, or until the leaves are entirely wilted, as it is termed in America. *Ibid.* 108/2 If the sun does not appear for several days, .. they [*sc.* leaves of the tobacco-plant] must remain to wilt. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v., These flowers are all wilted. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xvii. (1824) 315 A Cabbage leaf wilting before a hot fire. 1825 [see b]. *a* 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 36 [They] wilted down like leaves when the forest is on fire. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 506 The tissues of the flower begin to soften and wilt very soon after separation from the plant. 1897 T. H. WARREN *By Severn Sea* 27 Magic bowers never wilting.

b. *transf.* and *gen.* To become limp; to lose energy or vigour; to become dispirited or nerveless.

1787 ABIGAIL ADAMS *Lett.* (1848) 333 Mrs. Cranch .. is wilted just enough to last to perpetuity. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* xvii. II. 209 Look o' the major! .. pale as death; and wiltin' away, like a cabbage leaf, in the hot sun. 1857 in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. (1883) 165 My .. ruffles wilted to the consistency .. of an after-dinner napkin. 1858 LOWELL *Biglow P.* II. iii. 200 Poems 1890 II. 291 They .. wilt right down ez debtors will thet stumble on a dun. 1892 HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* xv, The man is as hard as a rock... He wilted a little when you were telling your story, but [etc.] 1900 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 22 Jan. 1/2 The old aristocracy seemed as if it was going to wilt before this new commonwealth of wits.

2. *trans.* To cause to become limp; to deprive of stiffness, energy, vigour, or spirit.

1809 T. DWIGHT *Theol.* (1819) IV. 165 Despots .. have wilted the human race into sloth and imbecility. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xix. 349 They had secured for his cause no monarchical friends, but had wilted the enthusiasm of the people. 1888 DELAND *John Ward* 233 The full blaze of sunshine .. was wilting the dish of violets.

Hence **Wi'lted** *ppl. a.*; **Wi'lting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. vii. (1812) I. 185 Fanciful festoons of wilted peaches and dried apples. 1830 *Examiner* 35/1 A wilted, sinew-shrunk old hunks. 1867 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 378 Some flowers will not bear to be handled without wilting. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 3 Aug. 65/1 It is a tall-wilted-looking thing, this broomrape. 1884 *Century Mag.* Jan. 356/2 Wilting flowers are hardly appropriate to a steamship.

Wilt: see WILL *v.* **Wilt,** obs. f. QUILT *sb.*

Wilter (wi·ltəɹ), *v. dial.* [f. WILT *v.* + -ER 5.] = WILT *v.*

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), To *wilt*, or *wilter*, to wither. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* XXXIII, 'He just wiltered' .. What is wiltering? How did he do it? 1916 CULLUM *Men who Wrought* ix, The tide of the Prince's anger was too swift for the youthful Prussian's armour of official effrontery. He came near to wiltering before it.

Wiltful: see WILT *sb.*[1]

Wilton (wi·ltən). Name of a town in the south of Wiltshire, noted since the reign of Queen Elizabeth for the manufacture of carpets: applied to † (*a*) a kind of cloth, (*b*) a carpet of which the manufacture resembles that of Brussels carpet but differing in having the rib cut so as to produce a velvet pile.

1773 *Pennsylv. Gas.* 21 Apr. 1/1 Fine broadcloths, cassimers, saggathies, and Wiltons. 1774 *Ibid.* 10 Aug. Suppl. 2/2 Wilton and Scotch carpets. 1776 *Pennsylv. Even. Post* 21 May 256/2 A brick coloured Wilton coattee. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxiii, As soft and velvety as a Wilton carpet. 1904 BRADBURY *Carpet Manuf.* I. 43 The difference in shade was greatest in Wilton and Velvet pile structures. *Ibid.* iv. 127 The wire used for Wilton is usually deeper and therefore produces a loftier pile than Brussels.

Wiltshire (wi·ltʃəɹ). Name of an English county, applied to (*a*) a breed of sheep, (*b*) a kind of 'smoked' bacon, (*c*) a kind of cheese (also *Wilts*).

1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 22 The Wiltshire Horned Sheep. *Ibid.*, A flock of Wiltshire ewes. *Ibid.* 29 The old Wiltshire bacon. 1805 LUCCOCK *Wool* 279 The sheep most commonly met with [in Buckinghamshire] are derived from the blood of the Dorset, the Wiltshire, and from a mongrel kind. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 17 A smoky taste .. such as that we find in Wiltshire bacon. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* 245 These Wiltshires have now passed quite away. 1882 SHELDON *Dairy Farming* 246 Different-sized cheeses, from flat Wilts to 'truckles' and Cheddars. 1894 OLIVER *Milk, Cheese*, etc. 255 The small cylindrical cheeses known as 'Wiltshire loaves'. 1918 *Times* 19 Dec. 10/4 Bacon... Canadian was steadier, with Wiltshires 1s. dearer.

Wiluol, obs. form of WILFUL.

Wily (wəi·li), *a.* (*sb., adv.*) Forms: 4 wili, wyli, 4–5 wyle, 4–6 wyly, (4, 6 wely), 5 wilye, (whily, 5–6 wylly, 5, 7 willy), 5–7 (8 *Sc.*) wylie, 6 wylye, (whyly, *Sc.* vylie), 6–7 wilie, 8 wiley, 4– wily. [f. WILE *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Full of or characterized by wiles; crafty, cunning, sly, artful. a. Of a person or animal (or *fig.* of a thing personified).

Rarely in a good sense: Astute, clever.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12807 þis herods, þat wild [*Fairf.* wely] wolf. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9849 He was bope wyly & sley. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1728 So reniarde was wyle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 58 No poure cloystrer ne no Novys Bot a gouernour wily and wys. — *Pars. T.* P 852 The serpent that was moost wily of alle othere beestes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xxvi. 155 And there he was in grete peryl, for the gyant was a wyly fyghter. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. vii. B j b, Be he .. wyly to defende hym fro theym, & wysely to assaille them. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 60 Lyke as yᵉ sparowe the wyly byrde escheweth all panters & snares. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 23 To finde the wilie Vlysses straight downe she tooke hir walke. 1639 J. CLARKE *Param.* 285 As willy as a foxe. 1668 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 177 The wily spirits of the Armoniack. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* I. 95 Mark! wiley Fowlers meditate their Doom. 1807 CRABBE *Library* 243 Here wily Jesuits simple Quakers meet. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* ii. 49 The brilliant wily Welshman found himself sharply repelled. 1905 TREVES *Other Side of Lantern* III. viii. (1906) 225 In the .. night the wily tide will glide a shoal across the fairway.

b. Of personal attributes, actions, etc.

c 1400 *Beryn* 444 Tapsters, & oþer such, þat hath wyly wittis To pik mennys pursis. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3738 Hercules .. by his whily sleyght Bar away the ryche fruyt. 1509 HAWES *Past. Plens.* XXIX. (Percy Soc.) 139 She had him caught in suche a wyly snare. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* C iv b, The wily vsyng of wordes that in sence haue double meanyng. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. iii. 298 Ventidius .. by a wily Stratageme, counterfeiting flight and feare. 1642 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. E 4, The wily suttleties and refluxes of mans thoughts. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 33 Artfu' Nets, and Fishers' wylie Skill. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* XXXVII, Judas's averted and wily face. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 22 Feb. 45/3 An imaginary line .. offered no real obstacle to a determined and wily advance.

† 2. *elipt.* as *sb.* A wily person or animal; in quot. *c* 1460 as proper name (cf. 4). *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1905 þay fel on hym alle, & woried me þis wyly wyth a wroth noyse. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 607 in *Macro Plays* 55 Yt ys clepyde wysdom: 'ware þat!' quod Wyly.

† 3. as *adv.* Craftily, cunningly: = WILILY. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1452 A þef vessel, þat wyth so curious a crafte corven was wyly. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* A ij, All these .. rabblement of rakehelles, that .. do .. gayne great almes in all places where they wyly wander. 1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 59 Thocht for thair tyme sum wylie winkit. 1623 COCKERAM, *Wily*, craftily.

4. Special Collocations and Combinations. † a. **Wily-man, wily-pie** [Pie *sb.*[1]], **wily-wat** [WAT[1]], appellations for a crafty or cunning fellow (the first as a proper name). *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 27 Then waryn wysman and wyly-man his felawe Fayn were to folwen hem. *c* 1450 *Chance of Dice* 147 in *Engl. Studien* LIX. 9 Lorde verrely ye ben a wyly pye. 1542–79 [see PIE *sb.*[1] 2]. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 73 Ye are a wyly watte in the kyngdome of craffe and generacion of falshede. *c* 1550 — *K. Johan* (Camden) 3 Ye are a wylly wat, & wonder hare full warelye. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 244 b, Osorius is a wylypye, and will not be destitute of a starting hoale. [1587 HARRISON *England* II. iii. 149/2 Oh madam (saith he) the wiliest pie of all, these are no pies but soules in purgatorie that craue releefe.]

† b. **Wily beguile,** also freq. in jingling form **wily beguily** (and similar expressions): orig. in phr. *to play wily beguile oneself* (also later in various corrupt forms), to act wilily in such a way as to be oneself beguiled, to be entrapped by one's own craftiness; hence *wily beguily* (rarely *wily beguile, gilie, guile*) as sb. phr. (*a*) a person who acts thus, or (simply) who acts wilily or craftily; (*b*) an act of this kind, or (simply) a wily act or action, a crafty trick, cunning trickery; rarely as adj., an emphatic extension of *wily*. *Obs.*

1555 LATIMER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. XXXVI. 103 Let men beware that they play not *wylye begile themselves*, as I feare me they do that go to masse. *Ibid.*, Thus they play *wyly, begwylyng them selves*. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 103 To whiche smart mocke, and wyly beg)lyng, He .. saide [etc.]. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 593/2 While they thinke to deceaue the simple, these wylye begely most of all deceaue them selues. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 303 b Sufficiently instructed in those your wyly beguilye and .. to well acquainted with your ambitious hawtynes. 1589 [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrot* 17 b, The wicked .. being so full of their wilie gilies. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 684 Smiles, Wylie-Guiles, queint witty-pretty Toyes. 1618 BRETON *Courtier & Countryman* C 4 b, What is the end of all wily beguily? seeking to deceiue other, deceiu'd himselfe most of all. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 137 It shall go hard, but our wily-beguily Wits, will one way or other finde an euasion. 1625 J. ROBINSON *Observ.* XV. 102 Such wily-beguilies may for a time .. get the opinion of prudent, and politick persons. 1639 J. CLARKE *Param.* 101 Wilie beguille deceives himself.

c. *Comb.* (of the adj. or adv.), as *wily-headed, wily-witty* adjs.

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 619/1 They are .. soe cautelous and wylye-headed. 1624 GEE *Foot out of Snare* App. 108, I shall begin to recant my opinion of his wily-witty worth.

Wim, *v. s.w. dial.* Forms: 5 (?)–6 wym, 7 wimme, 7, 9 wimb, 7– wim (9 whim). [Of obscure origin; cf. WIMBLE *v.*[2]] To winnow.

Form and meaning in first quot. are doubtful.

1455 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 98 For j man to helpe to wymmynge the malte to the mylle .. ijd. 1681 *Oates Well Thresht* 2 They are thresh't, and wimb'd. 1691 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* (ed. 2), To *Wimme*; *Suss.* Dial. i. e. Winnow. 1886 *W. Som. Word-bk.* s.v., Our volks be all busy wimin o' barley.

b. *Comb.*: † **wimsheet,** a winnowing-sheet. Also **Wi'mming** *vbl. sb.* in Comb. *wimming-dust, -sheet.*

1532 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 122 One whit wymshete. 1535 *Ibid.* 116 To Pascowe Lethall, a wymeshit and bushell of rye. 1681 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 62 Some have strain'd a Wimsheet athwart a Barns Floor about the middle thereof, and with a Scoop or Shovel cast their Wheat against the upper part of the Sheet. 1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng., Wim-sheet, Wimmin-sheet*, a sheet upon which corn is winnowed. *Wimmin-dust*, chaff.

Wim, var. WHIM *sb.*[1] in sense 4.

1802 MAWE *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss., *Wim*, an engine or machine to draw ore, worked by horses.

Wiman, obs. form of WOMAN.

Wimbeame, var. WIND-BEAM[1] *Obs.*

Wimble (wi·mb'l), *sb.* Now *dial.* or *techn.* Forms: 3–7 wymble, 4–5 wymbul, -il (5 -el, -ulle), 5–6 -yl(l, -lle, wymel(l (5 -ulle, 6 wyemblye), 5–7 womell (5 -yll), womble, (5 wommil, 6 -ill, womyl, -lle, wombill, wembel, whymble), 8 wimple, 8–9 whimble, 4– wimble (9 *Sc.* and *north.* wum(m)il, wummle, wimmel, etc.). [a. AF. **wimble* (var. of **guimble*, represented by rare 13th c. *gymble*, and the dim. GIMLET), ad. MLG. *wiemel*, (also Flem.) *wemel* (whence OSw. *wimla*, Da. *vimmel*), MDu. *wimpel*.]

1. A gimlet.

1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/8 m. 4 (P.R.O.) Et fil'j. d. ob. in Wymbles emptis. [1296 *Ibid.* 5/20 m. 5 In tribus Gymblis ferri emptis .. vj. d.] *c* 1398 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Parv.* 528/2 Wymbyl, or persowre, *terebellum*. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 154 So eaten with woormes, as though they had bya bored through with wimbles. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 107 b, The haftes and handles of Wymbles and Augurs. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* XXIX. 377 As the wimble bores a hole for the auger. 1668 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. XXVI. § 2. 222 The little Wimble once entred, the Workman can then drive a great Nail. *c* 1782 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* (1789) 275 The second [field-mouse] nibbles a hole with his teeth, so regular as if drilled with a wimble.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* 955 Gifts enter

every where without a wimble. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 81 Joan 's a Piece for a Man to bore, With his Wimble. 1782 Barbut *Gen. Insect.* 187 The Gad-fly...From the hinder part of their body, issues a whimble of wonderful structure. 1802 Princ. Wakefield *Dom. Recreat.* iv. 62 The whimble is of an admirable structure, and consists of three pieces t.. It is the most easily seen in the long whimbled fly.

2. An auger; also, a brace.

?1362 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 363 Willo Couper ad reparacionem duorum Wymbles, quia fracta in opere Prioris, xij *d.* 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. xxxix. Lij, Men..with grete wymellis and awgours shal perce the ship undreneth. 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 165 Perce ye tree thorugh wyth a percer crosse wyse or wyth a wymble. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* xvii. (1878) 36 Cart ladder and wimble, with percer and pod. 1583 Jewel *Serm. Paul's Cresse* D j b, That part of the Carpenters wimble, which turneth about, goeth rounde, and by litle and litle draweth in the iron, or steele bit. 1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 248 P'd for layinge 3 wimbles, vj^d. 1625 Markham *Farew. Husb.* II. vi. (1638) 32 A great Augure or wimble of Iron made to receive many bits one longer than another. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 53 The other end of the Shank must be fitted into the square Socket of the Wimble. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 38 Hinges, Wimble, and Jack for Ship-Builders. 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss., Wummle*, an auger, a wimble.

3. An instrument for boring in soft ground, or for extracting rubbish from a bore-hole in mining.

1692 Ray *Disc.* (1693) 41 They bore this Earth or Soil with a long Wimble. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 18 [He] puts or screws on the Wimble, or Scoop which takes up the cut stuff. 1789 Brand *Hist. Newc.* II. 678 The chisel is screwed off [the boring rod], and the wimple or scoop put on. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Wimble*, a shell-auger used for boring in soft ground.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wimble-bit, -bore, -hole, -like* adj., *-stock*; †**wimble-cock**, a wimble-bit.

1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 9 For towe broste *wyemblye bittes and a nale percell bitte, ij^d. 1628 *Tabe* (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) lf. 118 For 5 wimble bitts, [13.. *Childh. Jesus* 411 in *Archiv neu. Spr.* LXXIV. 332 With his fyngere he plukede hym owte Att a full littille *wymbilles bore.] 1808 Jamieson, *Wimblebore*, a hole in the throat, which prevents one from speaking distinctly, S. in allusion to a hole bored by a wimble. 1607 B. Barnes *Divils Charter* III. v. F 3, If I lye, call me thy *Wimble-cock. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 215/1 *Foramen rotundum*,..a *wimble hole. 1613 Markham *Eng. Husbandman* I. iv. 14 Take a board..which shalbe bored full of large wimble holes. 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 88 Bore them [*sc.* wooden cases] full of auger or wimble-holes. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. viii. (1871) 288 Margaret pressed herself into the porch; *wimble-like, she pierced the stacks of men and women that filled the hall. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XVI. xliii. I. 493 [Wood] excellent good for awgre-handles and *wimble-stocks. 1648–9 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 219 A wymble stock and Nayles 12. 4d.

Wimble (wi·mb'l), *a. dial.* (and *obs. arch.*) Also 6 **wymble**. [app. a northern word taken up by Spenser; recorded in mod. dial. use from Yorkshire and Lancashire. The immediate source is unknown. (Scand. words of appropriate form, e. g. Norw. *vimmel* giddy, confused, have not the required sense.)] Active, nimble.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 91 He was so wimble, and so wight [*gloss* Quicke and deliuer]. 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) B j, I spyde a pretie wymble lad. 1600 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 40 Buckle thy spirits up, put all thy wits In wimble action. 1614 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sheph. Pipe, Ecl.* G 5, Then nought can be atchieu'd with witty shewes, Sith griefe of Elde accloyen wimble wit. 1748–88 Mendez *Sqr. Dames* I. I. xxvii, Man throws the wimble bait, and greedy woman bites.

Hence †**Wi·mbly** *adv.*, nimbly.

1594 W. Percy *Corlia* (1877) 9 Upon my foot, her tender foot alighted, With that she pluckt it off full wimbely.

Wi·mble, *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Wimble *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To pierce with or as with a wimble; to make (a hole) with a wimble.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wymbelyn, or wymmelyn, *terebro*. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. ix. 279 To use force first before people are fairly taught the truth, is to knock a nail into a board, without wimbling a hole for it. 1669 Sir T. Herbert *Mem. Chas. I* (1702) 142 A Foot-Soldier..wimbled a hole into the Coffin that was largest. 1713 C'tess Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 197 A Nutshell, wimbl'd by a Worm. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* XXIII. 232, I wimbled, next, The frame throughout.

b. *transf.* (Cf. Wimble *sb.* 1 b, quot. 1719.)

1636 R. Fletcher tr. *Martial* VII. lxxiv, Wouldst thou be wimbled *gratis* when thou art A wrinkled wretch deformed in every part? *c* 1670 *Roxb. Ball.* (1892) VII. 486 And well he could dissemble, when wenches he would wimble.

2. *intr.* To bore *into*; chiefly *fig.* (*intr.* and *refl.*), to penetrate or insinuate oneself *into*.

1602 W. Leigh *Christians Watch* (1605) 17 How this spirit hath entred and wimbled into your soules..I know not. *a* 1641 Spelman *Dial. Coin* Reliq. S. (1698) 210 In this latter age we have wimbl'd even into the bowels of Plutus's Treasury. 1671 Cosin in *Northumbrian Doctr.* (Surtees) 240 Hee would fain wimble himselfe into some employment under mee. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* III. ii. 189 Charley..felt something like a man's finger wimbling in under his neck. 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 62 Wimbling deeper and deeper still, till he has shattered the remains of your nerves to atoms.

Hence **Wi·mbling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1623 Cockeram, *Terebration*, a wimbling. 1637 Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 39 We men..In our silent beds of earth will court The slender-waisted wormes, and with them sport, ..and vow their wimbling bussa is full as sweet as womens was to us. 1648 Herrick *Hesp., Kisses Loathsome*, Those lips please me which are plac't Close, but not too strictly lac't: Yielding I wo'd have them; yet Not a wimbling Tongue admit.

†**Wimble**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. Wim *v.* Cf. Wind *v.*[3], Windle *v.*[2]] To winnow.

1598 Withals *Dict.* (1608) 20/2 A trey or shawide to wynowe or wymble corne with.

Wi·mbled, *ppl. a.* [f. Wimble *v.*[1] or *sb.* + -ed.]

1. Pierced, bored.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 58 Warding long wymbeled entryes.

2. Furnished with a 'wimble'.

1805 [see Wimble *sb.* 2 b].

†**Wimblet.** *Obs.* Also 7 **wimlet**. [f. Wimble *sb.* after Gimlet.] A gimlet or auger.

1670 *Short Relat. Suff. Quakers* 62 They got a Wimlet, and bored a hole in the Mault-Floor. *a* 1711 Ken *Anodynes* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 440 Saw, Bodkin, Fish-hook, Wimblet, Dart, To stab, tear, jag, or gore each part.

†**Wimbrekin.** [Alteration of OF. *vibrequin, vil(e)-, virebrequin*, after Wimble *sb.*] A wimble.

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xiv. C iij, Sawis, axes, nayles, wymbrekyns [orig. *tarrieres*] and..al other ferrementis.

Wim(m)ick, *v. dial.* [Imitative.] (See quots.)

1850 Dickens *David Copp.* ii, 'Wen Mrs. Gummidge takes to wimicking',—our old county word for crying,—'she's liable to be considered to be..peevish-like.' 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* xxi, Three times had that child wimmicked at its aunt as she knelt there.

Wimman, -en, -on, obs. ff. Woman.

†**Wimount.** *Obs.* [perh. the personal name *Wimound*, OE. *Wigmund*.] A name of the hare.

c 1280 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The wimount, the babbart.

Wimple (wi·mp'l), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3–6 **wimpel**, 3–5 **wympel**, 4–6 **wymple** (1, 3 **winpel**, 3 **wempel**, 4 **whympel**, 5 **wim-, wym-, win-, wyn-, -pil, -pill, -pul, -pulle, -pyl, -pylle**, *Sc.* **wompyll**, 6 **wympyll**, *Sc.* **womple**, 7 **wimpell**, 9 **whimple**), 4– **wimple**. [Late OE. *wimpel* = (M)LG., (M)Du. *wimpel*, OHG. *wimpal* veil, banner (MHG., G. *wimpel* streamer, pennon), ON. *vimpill* (Sw., Da. *vimpel* from LG.), whence OF. *guimple* (mod. F. *guimpe*), of which the variant *wimple* coincided with the native form. Ultimate origin uncertain.

It is doubtful whether the senses provisionally placed together here and under the vb. belong all to the same word. In branch II there may be an onomatopœic element; for formation and meaning cf. *dimple, rimple, rumple, wrimple*.]

I. 1. A garment of linen or silk formerly worn by women, so folded as to envelop the head, chin, sides of the face, and neck: now retained in the dress of nuns. Also *gen.* a veil.

Used loosely in early glossaries as a rendering of L. *anabola, cyclas, peplum, vicinum*.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 4206 (Napier 112) *Cyclade, J. weste*, wimple. *a* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 107/37 *Ricinum*, winpel *uel* orl. *Ibid.* 225/8 *Anabola*, winpel. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire winpel wit oðer maked seleu mid saffran. *c* 1240 *Ancr. R.* 420 (MS. C) Sum scliȝ þæt hit limpeð to ene wummon cundeliche forte were wimpel. *c* 1250 *Meid. Maregrete* xlvii, Doru þe mitte of ihū christ, wid her wempel ho hin bond. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6941 Hire bodi wiþ a mantel, a wimpel [*v.r.* whympel] aboute hire heued. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 110 Do a-woy ȝoure wimpil & schew ȝoure face bare. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 152 Ful semyly hir wympul pynched was. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 602/43 *Peplum*, a wympul. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IX. xxv. 2992 Hyre hayre in wompyll arayande. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 317 The emperesse hydde hire face with a wympill, for she wolde not ben y-knowe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. vii. 113 To ask supple, with thaim ane womple bair thai, With handis betand ther breistis by the way. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 1102 And eke the nonnes, with vaile and wimple pligbt. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Isa. iii. 22 The costelie apparel and the vailes, and the wimpels, and the crisping pinnes. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* v. xvii, White was her whimple, and her veil. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* xlii, Her flowing wimple of black cypress. 1879 Walford *Londoniana* II. 247 Three nuns with veils and whimples.

transf. 1625 Crooke *Body of Man* 123 A certaine smooth and slippery veyle or wimple is substrated. 1861 A. Austin in *Temple Bar* III. 472 Graves are the sheltering wimples Against Life's rain.

¶ **2.** A flag, streamer. [An alien sense.]

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Wimple*..a Streamer or Flag.

II. 3. A fold or wrinkle; a turn, winding, or twist; a ripple or rippling in a stream.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. iv. 30 Bot thai about him lowpit in wympillis [orig. *spiris*] threw. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 74 b, Be not more curious of a wimple or spot in thy vesture, then thou art of spotting and thorow-stayning thy deare bought Spyrit.

1828 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xii. I. 223 A shepherd.. hates the wimples, as he calls them, of a turnpike. *Ibid.* xiv. II. 22 He had as mony links an' wimples in his tail as between the stepping-stones with a pretty wimple.

4. A crafty turn or twist; a wile. *Sc.*

1638 Sir A. Johnston *Diary* (S.H.S.) 320 Notwithstanding al wyles, wimples, offers, motions, and uther letts. 1728 R. Forbes *Ajax's Sp.* 24 The gouden helmet will see glance, An blink wi' skyrin brinns, That a' his wimples they'll find out Fan I' the mark he sheens. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxiv, There is aye a wimple in a lawyer's clew.

Hence **Wimple-less** *a.*, not wearing a wimple.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 420 Ȝe mahen beon wimpel-lese, bi wumme keppen.

Wi·mple, *v.* Forms: see prec.; also *Sc.* 6 **wumpil**, 7 **wo(o)mple**. [f. Wimple *sb.*; cf. LG. *wimpeln*.]

I. 1. *trans.* To envelop in a wimple; loosely, to veil (†occas. *pass.* to take the veil).

c 1240 *Ancr. R.* 420 (MS. C) Writen, he self, naut wimplin. *Ibid.*, Al beo þu i-wimplet. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. i. (1868) 32 She þat ȝit coueraþ hir and wympleþ [orig. *velat*] hir to oþer folk haþ shewed hir suerydal to þe. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 470 Ywympled wel, and on hir heed an hat. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 2857 Wympled but in symple guyses. 1430–40 — *Bochas* II. xxviii. (1554) 64 Rhea.. Entered into religion, For to be wympled in that holy house, Sacred to Vesta. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9936 Wympled she was both cheke and chin. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. lxviii. 531 Al wayes she was wympeld that no man myȝt see her vysage. 1592 Lyly *Midas* I. i, Iustice her selfe, that sitteth wimpled about the eyes. 1615 W. Hull *Mirr. Majestie* 82 They wimpled those eyes. 1616 J. Lane *Contin. Spr.'s T.* VII. 91 *note*, Ne Titan on woold putt his golden filse, But wimpled fast his melancholie eies. 1822 Scott *Nigel* Introd. Ep., His figure was so closely veiled and wimpled, either with a mantle, morning-gown or some such loose garb. 1870 Rock *Text. Fabr.* I. 30 A female, crowned and wimpled.

†**b.** *intr.* for *pass.* To be veiled. *Obs. rare.*

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Rebeçar*, to wimple, to go with the face hidden, *caput inuoluere*.

2. *fig.* To veil, cover.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xiv. (Skeat) I. 85 With fayre honyed wordes heretykes and mis-meninge people skleran and wimplen their errours. *Ibid.* III. ix. I. 76 In this boke be many privy thinges wimpled and folde. 1620 *Hist. Reynard the Fox* xviii, He that cannot wimple falshood in truths kerchiffe, hath neither Art nor cunning. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 503/2 He will gaze tenderly into the white faces of his cauliflowers, as with pinned leaves he wimples them from the sun.

†**3.** *transf.* and *fig.* To enfold, enwrap, wrap *up*.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. iv. 93 Wymplit and buskit [orig. *innexa*] in a bludy bend. *Ibid.* VII. xii. 62 His body wymplit [orig. *impexum*] in A felloun bustuus and gret lyoun skyn. *Ibid.* X. xiii. 134 The fatale sisteris tho in deyd Had wymplyt vp [orig. *legunt*] this Lawsus lattyr threid. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 62 Ane body of ane ȝoung chyld..wumpillit wpoun sandell. 1594 R. Carew *Tasso* (1881) 80 Her sparing looke a coy regard doth beare, And loues treasures, and hers vp wympelled. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* V. 2 No wonder thoght I waill and weip, That womplit am in woes. 1607 B. Barnes *Divils Charter* IV. iii. H 1, I perceiue a little riueling Aboue my for-head but I wimple it Either with iewels or a lock of haire. 1626 *Rolloch's Lect. Passion* Ep. Ded. P 2 b, He will thirst to be woompled in the wounds of Iesus. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 208 Whilk charge so wrytten was wompled about ane arrow head, syne shott up over the castle walls, wher Ruthven might find the same.

4. *pass.* and *intr.* To fall in folds.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 4 A vele, that wimpled was full low. 1752 R. Lloyd *Progr. Envy* viii. Poems (1762) 210 Her mantle wimpled low. 1859–60 Jas. Hamilton *Moses* xviii. (1871) 283 Curtains of delicate texture, all wimpling with the golden wings of cherubim.

5. *pass.* To be stretched like a wimple or veil.

1868 E. R. Sill *Poems, Evening* 1, The Sun is gone: those glorious chariot-wheels Have..left Thin rosy films wimpled across the West.

II. 6. *intr.* Of a stream: To meander, twist and turn; also, to ripple. Chiefly *Sc.*

1782 Ramsay *Poet's Wish* 1, Tay and Tweed's smooth Streams..quietly..wimple to the Seas. 1785 Burns *Halloween* ii, Amang the bonie, winding banks, Where Doon rins, wimplin, clear. 1848 Eliza Cook *Bonnie green bough* iv, Streamlets, ye are pleasant things, Whimpling as ye glide. 1849 Aytoun *Poems, Refusal of Charon* iii, Or near some sparkling fountain, Where the waters wimple down! 1879 Stevenson *Trav. Cevennes* 19 You may hear it wimpling over the stones, an amiable stripling of a river.

transf. 1896 Crockett *Grey Man* 1, A dark train of horsemen..Their line wimpled like a serpent.

7. To move shiftily or unsteadily.

1829 J. R. Drake *Culprit Fay* xix, They struck her keel with jerk and blow,..She wimpled about, in the pale moon-beam, like a feather. 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 73 When comes the licht That wimples on his face?

Wimple, occas. var. Wimble.

Wimpled (wi·mp'ld), *ppl. a.* Also 9 *Sc.* **whumplet**. [f. Wimple *v.* or *sb.* + -ed.]

1. Enveloped in or wearing a wimple; hence, veiled, *occas.* blindfolded.

1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) G ij, Which all doth spring from wimpled B: and old deceitfull Bawde. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* III. i. 181 This wimpled, whyning, purblinde waiward Boy. 1839 Longf. *Hyperion* III. iii, Neither wimpled nun nor cowled monk. 1874 L. Morris *Gilbert Beckett* xix, The wimpled maid, demurely shy.

2. Arranged or falling in folds like a wimple; hence, wrinkled; rippled.

1599 T. Stoker *Life & D. Wolsey* E 1, A wimpled scarfe bedew'd with heavens teares. 1812 Cary *Dante, Purg.* VIII. 74 Since she has changed the white and wimpled folds. 1909 'Q' *True Tilda* XV, She..could read nothing of his faith in the wimpled surface [of the stream].

3. *fig.* Involved, intricate. *Sc.*

a 1722 Fountainhall in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) III. 329 This was thought an odd and wimpled interlocutor. 1728 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, The wimpled Meaning of your unco Tale. 1768 Ross *Helenore* Introd., Sick wimpl'd wark would crack a pow like thine. 1823 Galt *R. Gilhaize* lxvii, There was no difficulty in reading the whumpled meaning of this couthiness anent the reeking o' the chamber.

Wi·mpler[1]. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. Wimple *sb.* + -er[1].] A maker of wimples.

1480 *Husting Roll City of London* 9 (169) (MS.) Isabella uxor Thome le Wimpler. 1484 *Ibid.* 15 (34) Alicia la Wymplere relicta quondam Henrici le Wymplere. 1342 *Ibid.* 69 (106-7) Avicia filia Henrici le Wimpler. 1887 GILLIAT *Forest Outlaws* 295 The booths of the vintners, the fletchers, the plumiers, and wymplers.

So † **Wi·mplester**, a female wimpler.

1379 in Bardsley *Surnames*, Crystiane, Wympylster.

Wi·mpler [2]. *rare.* [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ER [1].] 'A waving lock of hair' (Jam.).

1724 RAMSAY *Vision* v, Doun his braid back, frae his quhyt head, The silver wympler's grew.

Wi·mpling, *vbl. sb.* In 3 **wimlunge**. [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ING [1].]

†1. The wearing of a wimple. *Obs.*

c 1240 *Ancr. R.* 400 (MS. C) Ancren, sume sungiõ in hare wimlunge na lesse þene lefdi.

2. The winding or meandering of a stream; also, rippling.

like the wimpling of a well. 1893 Jos. THOMSON in *Blogr.* (1896) 288 The wimpling of the burns over stony beds.

Wi·mpling, *ppl. a.* [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ING [2].]

1. Veiling, concealing.

1797 RIDLEY *Psyche* xi, That wimpling Slough shall fall like Filth away. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* II. ii, Where wimpling tissue from the gaze The form half hides.

2. Winding, meandering (esp. of streams); also, rippling.

1721 RAMSAY *Ricky & Sandy* 28 Wimpling Waters which in Latium flow. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* ii, Guid auld Scotch Drink! Whether thro' wimplin' worms thou jink, Or, richly brown, ream owre the brink. 1827 W. G. S. *Excurs. Village Curate* 50 The old brook with its whimpling current. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* II. ii. 18 Along the wimpling waves of their margin,..flocks of pelicans waded. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. VIII. i. 294 The solitude..is only broken by the wimpling sound of the burns. 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* i, The wimpling lane.

Win (win), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1-3 winn, (3 *pl.* wunnen), 4-5 wiune, wynne, wyn(e, 3- win. [OE. *winn*(*a*) labour, strife, conflict (cf. MG. *win*), more frequently *gewinn*: see I-WIN *sb.* The modern senses are from WIN *v.*[1]]

I. †1. Strife, contention, conflict; tumult, disturbance, agitation. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 259 He..ongan him winn up ahebban wiõ þone hehstan heofnes wealdend. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hwile lat te deuel hem..& wecche5 among hem flite & win. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 670 He mot gon to al mid gynne Hwan þe horte beo þ on winne. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 598 Do õe tende mone5 cam in, So wur5 draȝen õe watres win. *c* 1275 LAY. 9044 þat heold fiht and win [*earlier text* iwin].

†2. Gain, acquisition, profit; also, advantage, benefit. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 6118 þe birrþ þin rihhte swinnkess winn Upponn ȝuw alle nittenn. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 805 (Camb. MS.) Ac floriz nolde for no winne; Leuere him were wiþ his kinne. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 5 Ek newer, gretter wynne is to the gresse. 1495 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 409/1 þe said tend penny of all wynnis pertenyn to our souerane lord. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* I. 180 Eftyr þi wynne with worschipe, clethyng wer. *a* 1500 *Thrie Priests Peblis* 619 Quhan thay ar full of sic wrang win. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xvii. 16 Thir merchantis takis vnlesum win. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3507 In pryde, invy, in ire, and lecherie, In covetice, or ony extreme win.

†b. Possessions, riches, wealth. *Obs.*

For the phr. *worldes win*(*ne* see WIN *sb.*[2] a.

c 1205 LAY. 3099 Ic hem ȝeue al þa winne þe ich æm waldinge ouer. *Ibid.* 28668 Wif & mine weden and alle mine wunnen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7879 Bot oft þe weliest o win Riue-liest þai fal in sin. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* I. 285 To walk here in this worthely wone, In all this welthly wyn.

II. 3. A victory in a game or contest. *colloq.*

1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 May 492/3 The opposition.. gathered strength after this slovenly win. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov., Pineapple..won the first race, it being his eighth win since he was sold. 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 78, I was real pleased with the win, for lots of my pals had backed Actea.

4. A gain; *pl.* gains, winnings. *colloq.*

1892 NAT GOULD *Double Event* ii, His gambling wins would have been enough for that. 1893 *Kennel Gaz.* Aug., Although the Shows might not be affected, their wins would be. 1897 T. R. WILLIAMS *Serm. on 'Just as I am'* 3 Every mental win on your part is a draw upon universal truth.

† **Win**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1 wynn, (1 wunn, wenn), 3 wnne, wonne, (also 7) wun, 3-4 winne, (also 7) wunne, 3-5, 7 win, 4-5 wyn, wenne, 4-6 wynne, 5 wyne. [OE. *wyn*(*n*, corresp. to OS. *wunnia*, OHG. *wunnja*, *wunna* str. f., *wunni* f. and *wunno* wk. masc. (MHG. *wünne*, *wunne*, G. *wonne*); f. Teut. *wun-*, found also in OE. *gewun*, *wunian* (see WONT), *wýscan* (:— **wunskjan*) to WISH, and related to *wen-* (see WEEN *sb.* and *v.*) and WINE *sb.*[2], friend. Cf. WINSOME.]

1. Joy, pleasure, delight, bliss; a source of joy, a delight.

Beowulf 2262 Hearpan wyn, gomen gleobeames. *c* 1205 LAY. 9071 Jesu Crist..alre worulde wunne. *Ibid.* 22732 Ne mihte nauere mon cunne nan swa muchel wunne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 Alle þeo ilke uondunges..þunche5 wosh, & nout wunne, auh heo wende5 efterward to weole and to eche blisse. *a* 1240 *Urthsun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 183 Ihesu mi weole, mi wunne. *c* 1275 LAY. 23569 Louerd drihtene crist.. middilerþes win. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 47 Away is al my wunne. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14908 Fair folk ys þere-inne! þer faces to se, hit ys gret wynne! *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 54 Wyn, wo, or chaungynge of complexion. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 204 in *Macro Plays* 83 *Belyal.* In woo is al my wenne. *c* 1700 KENNETT *Lansd. MS.* 1033 lf. 430 b, *Wunsome*, pleasant..a *wunne* gaudium, whence a *wun to see*, a pleasure or satisfaction to see.

b. In vague commendatory sense, and often in phr. *with* (or *mid*) *win*, which, orig. intensive, freq. becomes a mere tag.

c 1300 *Havelok* 660 Slep sone, with michel winne. *Ibid.* 2963 Hauelok bi-lefte wit iole and gamen In engelond, and was þer-inne Sixti winter king with winne. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 15 On mony bonkkes ful brode Bretayn he settez, wyth wynne. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9617 þer com þey to þe toun wyþ wyn. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 863 Wyth welth and wynne to were the crowne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13346 Penolope,.. þat had keppit hir full close as a cleane lady, With myche worship & wyn. 14.. *Poem to Virgin* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 213 Swete lady, full of wynne, Full of grace and gode within. *c* 1440 *Syr Gowghter* 51 in Utterson *E. P. P.* I. 263 The worthi duk and ducheese They levid togeder with wenne. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 153 For I may swere with mekill wyn I am the most shrew in all myn kyn. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 925 Wed ane worthie to wyfe, and weild her with win.

c. In benedictory phrases.

c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1113 Sho said smertly, Do lat me her, Cumes he sone, als have thou wyn. *Ibid.* 2219 So have I wyn, Mi lyoun and i sal noght twyn. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1373 So God almyghty gyf me wyne, Thou ne schalt to come hyre-ine. *a* 1500 *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 2453 There was a wel, so haue I wynne, And Beuys stumbled ryght therin. 1553 BRADFORD *Serm. Repentance* F viij b, Though a great whyle he laye a slepe (as many do now a dayes, god geue them wynne waking) [*ed.* 1574 G ij *by a misunderstanding reads* good waking]. 1640 M. PARKER *King & poore North. Man* lxxx, Man, with thy money God give thee win.

2. *Worldes winne* (earlier *woreld winne*, OE. *worolde wynn*), also *worldly winne*: worldly delight or pleasure; later, by association with WIN *sb.*[1], worldly wealth or possessions.

Beowulf 1080 þær heo ær mæste heold worolde wynne. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 On twa wise Mon mei forlete world winne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 195 Erest he strepte of him his shep, þe waren his woreld winne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Worldes weole, & wunne, & wurschipe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Titus) 90 For worldliche wunne þat tu wendes to biȝeten. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 15 For rifli gers werldes win Thir fair wimmen fal in sin. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalana*) 56 þat mychty ware & of gret kyne, & mykil had of warldis wyne. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 337/341 Alle worldes winne He sendeþ, whon he wile. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3535 Covetice of warldlie win.

Win, *sb.*[3] *slang.* Also 6-7 wyn, 9 whinn, winn, wing. [Origin obscure; quot. 1812 suggests that it may be short for *Winchester*.] A penny.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 85 A flagge, a wyn, and a make. 1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* I. C 2 b, If we..nip a boung that has but a win. 1628 [see MAKE *sb.*[2]]. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xli. 341 They had not a Win in their Fab. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Win* or *Winchester*, a penny. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Scuddick*,.. 'not a scuddick'—not any brads, not a whinn, empty clies. 1859 *Slang Dict., Winn*, a penny. 1900 FLYNT *Tramping* 241 Just go and get a shave now, Jim. I'll give you a wing (penny), if you will, for the doin' o' 't.

† **Win**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 wn-, 4 wunne, wynne, 5 wyn. [Only in ME. alliterative verse; adj. use of WIN *sb.*[2], derived from OE. poetical compounds such as *wynbéam* tree of joy, *wynland* pleasant land.] Delightful, pleasant; goodly, fine; good.

c 1205 LAY. 1385 þer he mihte þurh-wunian mid his wnfolke [*later text* gode folke]. *a* 1310 *Lenten ys come* 35 This wunne weole y wole forgon, Ant wyht in wode be fleme. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1032 þere he dra3ez hym on-dryze, & derely hym þonkkez, Of þe wynne worschip þat [*MS.* &] he hym wayued hade. *Ibid.* 2430 þat wyl I welde wyth good wylle, not for þe wynne golde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 154 Euer me þo3t I schulde not wonde For wo, þer wele3 so wynne wore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4065 A faire temple..With wallis vp wroght, wyn to beholde.

Win (win), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pple. won (wɒn). Forms: *Inf.* α. 1-2 winnan, (1 wynnan), 3 winnen, (*Orm.*) -enn, 3-6 wynne, (3-5 -en), 3-7 winne, 3-8 winn, (4 whyn, *Sc.* vyn(e), 4-6 wine, wyne, wynn, wyn, (5 wenne), 4- win. β. (chiefly *Sc.*) 5, 7-8 wone, 6-9 won, 7 wonne, 9 wun. *Pa. t.* α. 1, 4 wann, 1-7 (8-9 *dial.* and *arch.*) wan, (4-5 whan(ne), 4-6 wane, (*Sc.* van), 4-7 wanne, (6 *Sc.* vane). β. 1. *2nd pers. sing.* wunne; *pl.* 1 wunnon, 1, 5 wunnun, 3 (*Orm.*) -enn, 3-5 wonne(n, 4-5 -yn, 5 wonen, -yn; 4-6 wunne, 6-7 wun. γ. 1 wonn, 4-7 wonne, (5 whonne), 6-7 woon, 1- won. δ. 6 winned, 7 wined. *Pa. pple.* α. 3-4 wunnen, (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4-5 wunne, 4 (6 *Sc.*) wun, (5 *north.* vun, 6 *Sc.* wvne); 4 (5 *Sc.*) woun, 5 *Sc.* wown, (woung). β[1]. 4 wonnun, (*Sc.* wonone, vonnyn, vonyng), 4-5 wonnin, -ene, -yn(e, wonen(e, -yn(e, 4-6 wonnen, 5 wonun, (*Sc.* wonnyng). β[2]. 3-4 iwonne, 3-5 ywonne, 4 ywon, 5 ywone, ywonnen, e-wonne. β[3]. 4-7 wonne, (8 *Sc.*) wone, 5-7 wonn, 4- won; 6-7 woon(e, (6 woonne). γ. 4-7 wan, 6 wanne. δ. *Sc.* 5 winin, (wyn(n)ynge); 6 winn, wyn, wyne, 6-8 win, 7 winne, wynn. (Cf. WIN *ppl. a.*) ε. 7 wind.

[Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE. *winnan*, (*wann*, *wunnen*), also *gewinnan* I-WIN *v.* = OFris. *winna* to obtain, OS. *winnan* to suffer, win, *giwinnan* to obtain, (MLG., MDu. *winnen* to till the ground, obtain, acquire), OHG. *winnan* (MHG. *winnen*) to be excited, rage, contend, exert oneself, also *gewinnan* to gain as by labour or exertion (MHG., G. *gewinnen*), ON. *vinna* to labour, bring about, gain (Sw. *vinna*, Da. *vinde*), Goth. (*ga*)*winnan* to suffer: ulterior relations are uncertain; forms of cognate meaning are Goth. *winnus*, *winna*, *wunns* suffering, OHG. *winna* conflict, MHG. *winne* pain, ON. *vinna* labour; see also WITHERWIN (OE. *wiþerwinna*, OHG. *widarwinno*).

The senses run parallel to a considerable extent with those of GAIN *v.*[2] and GET *v.*]

†1. *intr.* To work, labour (OE.); to strive, contend, fight. *Obs.*

Beowulf 306 Eart þu se Beowulf, se þe wiõ Brecan wunne? *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXV. § 4 Nis nan ȝeceaft þe tiohhie þæt hio scyle winnan wiõ hire scippendes willan. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. iii. (1890) 264 He þy ma mid his hondum wonn & worhte þa þing, þe nydþearfleco wæron. *a* 1000 in Wr.-Wülcker 202/41 *Pugnani*, ic wan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 685 Her ongan Ceadwala winnan after rice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3488 Forr þatt menn shulldenn..winnenn awa to cumenn upp till heofennrichess blisse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Ierusalem and babilonie beõ two burȝes, and fliteõ eure, and winneõ bitwinen hem. *Ibid.* 187 Iob..wan wiõ þe þurse. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 521 Til it cumeõ de time Dat storm stireõ al õe se, Danne sumer and winter winnen.

†2. *trans.* To conquer, subdue, overcome, defeat, vanquish, 'beat'. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 336 Alle þes kinges were þo, ac bote on nov þer nis; Vor þe king of westsex alle þe opere wan iwis. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14832 He has vs wonnen [*c* 1375 *Fairf. MS.* wonnin] wit maistri. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 889 Wel mani knistes Gij wan þat day. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 47 He thoucht that he suld weill lichtly Vyn hym, and haf hym at his will. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 752 Quhene þat tytus Ierusalem had wonone. *c* 1400 *Ragman Roll* 168 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 76 Or that ye be conqueryd and e-wonne. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxii, Thus hase he wonun Kay on werre. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 2108 Wourschipful Wavane had wonnin him on weir. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxiii. 250 He wanne me in playne batаille hande for hand. 1513 *Life Hen. V.* (1911) 108 He deliberated by proces of time to wynn them by hunger and thirst. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 84 How that Reuthar..faucht with Cecelus..and wan him. 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 38 b, Here sensuall pleasure doeth assault to winne me by her might. 1620 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* V. i, Creet thou hast wonne My thirty thousand Souldiers, and my Sonne.

fig. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 1 But whiles it [*sc.* the adamant] is inuincible or can not be woonne that way [*sc.* by fire]: yet..with the..freshe bloud of the Goate, it breaketh..in sunder. 1575 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* vii. 22 Phillis loues the Hazils well,..The Myrtle shall them neuer wynne, nor Phoebus Bay trees tall.

3. To be victorious in (a contest of any kind, as a battle, game, race, action at law, etc.). Also *to win the day, the field.* (Cf. *to win the victory*, 6 b.)

Formerly used with a wider range of obj. (e.g. *conquest*, *exploit*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7793 Dauid had gin him batail kene; Wit godds grace þe feild he wan. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 24 Tuo & tuenty batailes he wanne þe first ȝere. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1747 The meyne [viz. chessmen] were I-set vp; they gon to pleye fast: Beryn wan the first, þe second, & þe þird. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iii. (1883) 38 The tonges of aduocates..must be had yf thou wylt wynne thy cause. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* XI. *title*, The battale of Bannokburne, strykyne & vonyng be gud kyng Robert the Bruce. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* liii. 177 How kynge Iuoryn caused his doughter play at the cheese with Huon,..and how Huon wan the game. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* 1089 Wks. (1910) 180 Howe they had wonne by prowesse such exploits. 1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. vi. 27 'Tis Ioane, not we, by whom the day is wonne. 1594 R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 15 Conquests he winned. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I. ii. 3 The Aborigines and Trojanes wan indeed the field, but lost their Captaine Latinus. *a* 1650 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 263 'Prove that, and wonne the plea!' said Lathington. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Pers. Wars* I. 22 He wanne this battell. 1708 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 333 His courage wan the day. 1782 [see RACE *sb.*[1] 10]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, Won the toss—first innings—seven o'clock a.m. 1878 H. GIBBS *Ombre* (ed. 2) 26 If either of the adversaries win the game. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 380 About that time, Waterloo was won.

4. *absol.* or *intr.* To overcome one's adversary, opponent, or competitor; to be victorious, gain the victory (now chiefly in sports or games of skill); *fig.* to prevail.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4688 Hii worrede norþward & wonne ver & ner. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20004 (Edin.) Weraude on þe wrang þai wan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 373 In punyeis is oft hapnyne Quhill for to vyne, and quhill to tyne. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxiv. 288 Haue mercie on me, let mercie wyn! 14.. AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) Introd. p. ix, Oure fadere in Frawns had woo beforne. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* CXVIII. 83 How..ij men played at þe dyce, and when þe tane of þaim began to lose, he began to..flite with God for þat he wan nott. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 10 He laughth that wynth. 1551 EDW. VI *Jrnl.* in *Lit. Rem.* (Roxb.) II. 328, I lost..at roundes, and wane at rovers. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 132 The summe of all, Is, that the King hath wonne. 1667 MARKHAM *Cavel.* VI. iv. 13 Nor haue I seene anye horse winne, but I haue seene many Horses loose, which haue beene kept with such dyett. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 129 Obstinately bent to win or dye. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxl, He is gone, Ere ceased the

inhuman shou.. which hail'd the wretch who won. DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, That [advice] which bystanders ... variably give to the smallest boy in a street fight, namely, 'Go in and win'. 1842 TENNYSON *Godiva* 35 The passions of her mind..Made war upon each other for an hour, Till pity won. 1872 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* iii. 100 Yet, unaided by any, opposed by all, Christianity won. 1880 W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* xviii. 169 If an owner runs two horses in a race, he has a right to declare with which of the two he will win. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 4/7 The M.C.C. winning by an innings and four runs.

5. *trans.* To subdue and take possession of; to seize, capture, take (a place). *arch.* (now associated with 6).

ME. phr. *to win to* or *into one's hand* or *will*.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1070 (Laud MS.), Hi wendon þæt hi æceoldon winnon eall þæt land. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Þe king..bilæi þe burh forte þat hit [= he it] wan. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1033 Engelond aþ ibe mid strengþe iwonne. *Ibid.* 3859 King howel wiþ is poer wan sone peyto Al to king arthures wille. *Ibid.* 7878 Ar is fader wonne engelond. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* ii. 219 He ouercom is fon And..al is lond won. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9202 In his time was þe luen land Wonnen [*Fairf.* wonnyn] into þe sarzins hand. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1305 Nov he þe kyng has conquest & þe kyth wunnen. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1348 The toun of Acres he has wunne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 9 Whanne Alisaundre hadde i-wonne alle þe est londes. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* xx. 36 Sic assawtis þare he maid That neire þe tovne he wonyn [*v. r.* wonnynge] hade. *Ibid.* clxx. 4816 Quhen þe wardane..of þat land Had wonnyn gret part till his hand. *c* 1485 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* lvii. 136 He come ynto Irland, & whan the lond. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. 2134 Whan the saide cite was first wonne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lvii. 240 (Harl. MS.) Þey entrid into þe citee, & whonne hit. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 1007 Ramsay and Graym the turat 3et has wown. *Ibid.* X. 959 Schynnoun thai tuk, at Wallace fyrst had woun [*ed.* 1570 winin]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. vii. 44 Arthur wan alle the north scotland. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 39 b, He that will Fraunce wynne must with Scotlande firste begyn. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 81 Thys yere the towne dech was new cast...And the towne of Barwyke wanne. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 145 As men say, the Towne wonne, the Castell yeeldeth. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 47 A greate parte thereof was woon from them by the Englishmen. 1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 34 There land, which they had wonne with there swordes. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 493 On either Hand, These fight to keep, and those to win the Land. 1792 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 495 Should the Greeks.. win imperial Troy, The glory shall be his. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXV. III. 387 He advised that they should..endeavour first to win Messana. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 155 In the eyes of William it was a means by which Exeter might be won.

b. To seize, capture, take as spoil; to catch (fish, a bird); to capture, take captive (a person). *Obs.* exc. in euphemistic slang, to steal.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1144 (Harl.) Ȝef eny fysch is þer inne Þer of þou shalt wynne. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 88 Schir Thomas Randale than..the kyngis baner wan. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4803 The souerain..deuidet Tho godes to his gomes..þat hom wan with woundes before And put hom in perell. 1482 CAXTON *Reynard* iii. (Arb.) 6 That pudyng was myne ffor I hadde wonne it by nyghte in a mylle. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxlii. 527 A ryche shyp, the whiche was wonne vpon the sowdans men. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 1 Thay war sa repleit of all riches Win into weiris be martiall besynes. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 112 Lyke to ane bird taine in ane net,..Sa is our lyfe weill win away. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 48 Nocht sa mekle fishe thay with nettis, as with skepis, or long kreilis, win with wickeris in the forme of a hose sa round wouen. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1] lxxi. 205 The Spoyles he wanne from Cowards. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, To Win*, to Steal. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* 1929 *Athenæum* 8 Aug. 727/2 Everyone will have heard of 'strafing' and also 'souvenir', the latter usually meaning anything stolen, or 'won'.

†c. *fig.* To reclaim (land) as for cultivation.

1531–2 *Act 23 Hen. VIII* c. 5 § 1 Marshe grounde..wonne and made profitable for the greate common welthe of this Realme. 1542 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 554/1 To win and rise out the saidis landis with the Eisly hillis of the samin. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 114 The fen and the quamire, so marrish be kind, And are to be drained, now wine [*later edd.* win] to thy mind.

†d. Of the sea: To gain on (the land): cf. 10 a.

1639 G. PLATTES *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* xi. 52 The sea.. perpetually winning land in one place, and losing in another.

e. *Cards.* (*a*) (*fig.* from 2) To be of higher value than, to 'beat' (another card, hand, or suit); also *intr.* with *of* (cf. 10 a); (*b*) to gain possession of, take (a trick).

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* vii. 72 He that can win five Tricks of the nine hath a sure Game. *Ibid.* x. 83 A Ten wins a Nine if not Trumpa. 1778 *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 63 A..wins two Tricks..The first Hand wins of the second. 1892 'CAVENDISH' *Bésigue* 4 The highest card of the suit led wins the trick...Trumps win other suits. 1910 DALTON 'Saturday' *Bridge* 41 This is an undoubted No Trump call for the dealer, although in itself it will not win many tricks.

6. To get, obtain, acquire; *esp.* to get as something profitable or desired; to gain, procure. a. with concrete (material) obj. *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. in specific uses: see 7.

c 1200 ORMIN 6211, & tuss þu mihht te weorelldþing Wiþþ Godess lefe winnenn. *Ibid.* 7890, & 3iff 3ho wass aumm wasdle wiþ þatt lamb ne mihhte winnenn. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 411 Þe rauen is swiðe redi, Wenes þat 3e rotie8, And oðre fules hire fallen bi For to winnen fode. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1439 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 147 His men he broȝte In seruise beore mete to wynne þere. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4376 (Gött.) And leuere me es he power and lele, Þan falsli to winne catele. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 237 Al þat I wikkedliche won seþþe I wit hade. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 283 (Corpus MS.) Thus wan Gamely þe Ram and þe Ryng. 1430 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 38/2 The tunehalf of the sayd to be woonyn fra the sayd Andro be the law. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xix. 409 If y be riche and haue wunne more good than is necessarie to me. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* ix. 25 For what shall itt avaantage a man, to wyn the whole worlde yff he loose hym silfe? 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xx. 172 The inglis men van nouyr na thing at 3our handis. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 247 b, Euery winning lefully woonnen in merchaundise. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Matrimony* P 13 He tylleth it [*sc.* the ground], and so wynneth fruite thereof. 1626 T. SCOT *Philomythie* I 3 b, Till th'one his topsaile fairely doth aduance To win the winde. 1870 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 549, I will win the horse, or lose the saddle. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. xii, Right English all, they rush'd to blows, With nought to win, and all to lose. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 356 A certain man Who from being poor great riches wan.

b. with abstract (immaterial) obj., or *gen.*

Still in regular current use in reference to something gained by merit or the like, as *confidence, esteem, fame, favour, honour, love, praise, respect*, etc.; also with *consent, obedience*, etc.; *to win the* (or *a*) *victory*, to be victorious (cf. 3); *to win one's way*, to make or find one's way, 'get along', succeed in getting somewhere (also *fig.*). In other connexions ordinarily replaced by *gain* or *obtain*.

c 1000 *Passio S. Marg.* in Cockayne *Narrationcule* (1861) 49 Eadix eart þu..for þon þe þu wunne reste a oþ ende mid halgum fæmnum. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 313 To winnenn..Att Crist soþ sawle berrhlesa. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17497 If we ne soth said, quat suld we win? For-soth nanoþer thing bot sin. *Ibid.* 20056 Þair beniscun þan bes not wan. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1884 The galyes came unto the citie, And had nigh won entrie. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 8769 Na mede in heven to wyn. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 560 þat þu mycht..of þi cristis lawis blyne, þat þu mycht oure frendschepe vyne. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 92 How they whanne ..wyrchippis many. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2316 In armes also if thou konne, Pursue to thou a name hast wonne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lix. 513 Whanne they wend best to haue wonne worship they loste hit. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* XII. 92 But ever he wynnes the victory. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 203 b, To destroy the Realme, and wynne the hatred & malice of all the nacion. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B* [illegible]

of thee, lett me still mercy wynne. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 166 In defending this fort [they] woon great reputation by their valour. *c* 1800 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 18 He snapped me on this hand and he on that, that the doctour had mikle a doe to win me room for a syllogisme. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 39 In gliding state she wins her easy way. *a* 1796 BURNS *As I stood by yon roofless tower*, Like fortune's favours, tint as win. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiii, I am glad to have won your confidence. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, Winning small triumphs in bargains and personal economies. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* lxxiii. II. 596 They failed to win obedience. 1910 A. LANG in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 135/1 Fairies naturally won their way into the poetry of the middle ages.

†c. *absol.* or *intr.*: in early use *esp.* to get gain, make profit; *spec.* in Sc. legal use, in such phrases as *able to tine or win*, i. e. having means sufficient to aim at profit or risk loss. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19574 To win wit-all he wend it bij. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1457 Now we wyn, now we tyn. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 153 þau3 3e ben trewe of tonge and treweliche winne, And eke as chast as a child. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 133 A moral tale yet I yow telle kan Which I am wont to preche for to wynne. 1414 *20 Pol. Poems* xiii. 155 Wiþ fi3t 3e wynne, wiþ trete 3e lese. 1421 *Ibid.* xviii. 138 By3e no thyng to selle and wynne. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 159 To wyn or to lese. 1476 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 47/1 To defend þe said cause of Errour..with ful powere to tyne and wynne. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 53 Be his procuratour constitute be him, in his place, to tine or to wone in the cause. 1699 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 282 Ane person that..can tin and win in all ther affairs.

†f. In various specific uses. †a. To beget: = GET *v.* 26. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 112 Hit weren not alle on wyues sunes, wonen with on fader. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 587 Þe twa þat I wan on myne oþire wyfe þat I wedd first.

†b. To get for immediate use, procure; hence, contextually, to fetch, bring (cf. 14 c). *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2852 Þe werwolf went wiȝtly & whan hem mete & drink. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 617, I schal wynne yow, wyȝt, of water a lyttel. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 865 The Scottis wan hors, becaus thair awne couth fall.

g. To obtain (a woman) as a wife or 'lady' by action or effort of some kind: usually with implication of gaining her affection and consent (cf. 9).

To win and wear: see WEAR *v.*[1] 8 b.

c 1390 *Sir Tristr.* 1913 Wiþ þine harp þou wonne hir þat tide. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 100 Ful mychell besynesse had he or þat he myght his lady wynne. MALORY *Arthur* VIII. XXVI. 312 Sythen I am ladyles I wyn thy lady. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 91 After al his strife hee [*sc.* Menelaus] wan but a strumpet. 1629 J. CLARKE *Parœmn.* 40 Faint heart never won faire lady. 1668 SEDLEY *Mulberry Gard.* IV. i. 49 There had been More hope of winning a Widow at her Husbands Funeral, then of any favour for her now. 1789 BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* viii, And let us mind, faint heart ne'er wan A lady fair. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 220 Take Lilia, then, for heroine..and be you The Prince to win her! 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* v, Valerie, will you let me try to win you?

d. To gain by effort or competition, as a prize or reward, or in gaming or betting, as a wager, etc. Also *absol.*

To win one's † *shoes, spurs*: see SHOE *sb.* 2 i, SPUR *sb.*[1] 3 a.

c 1390 *Sir Tristr.* 940 Tristrem was þat day Of him an hundred pounde. *c* 1420 R. BAUMES *Chron. Mass* (Rolls) 449 Isaac..Whan þe Ram wyþ gilden fleez. *a* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 172 And wo þis wothur shuld wyn bude wirke as I say. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 818 Þis reuke & his rounsy, þai reche vp a croune, As gome at haa þe garland..Wenn. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 169 For to assaye our horses for to wynne the pryce that the kyng hath set vpon, *a* 1533 [see WAGER *sb.*[2] 2]. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 64 Ixion van the goldin fleice. 1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, He would haue..a familiar To ride with, at horses, and winne cups. 1822 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* viii. 7. 166 Our first Parents for an apple lost Paradise, and woon hell. 1845 VANE *Last Shaghe* 35 Hanseing woone the prise in the Pychian games. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xii. 484 A man would be ridiculous that should go to prove by mere reason, that such a one won the plate at a horse-race. 1838 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* i, Frank took dummy; and I won sixpence. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, The Rev. Mr. Muff,..of whom she won large sums at *écarté*. 1885 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 145/2 The defendant..having won on those bets received the winnings from the persons with whom he had betted.

e. To get by labour, to earn (now *dial.*); † to get as profit, to gain (*obs.*). Also *absol.*

c 1200 ORMIN 10175 Þeȝȝ [*sc.* publicans]..wunnenn mikell to þe king, & mare till hemm sellfenn. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 450 Wiþ us schinep euery schalk in schippus for to saile, For to winne on þe watur wordliche fode. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 715 He moste preche and wel affile his tonge To wynne siluer. 1429 *Rolls of Parit.* IV. 360/2 Yai wil.. receive for paiement..nobles,..ye which..yai leede..into oyer straunge Cuntrees, where hit is chaunged to yair encrece, and forged into oyer coygnes, so yat yai wynne in ye alay of ech noble xx d. *a* 1500 *Rattis Raving* 320 The gudis þat he has with his trew labore wynynge. 1530 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* II. 103 Honest and laborius personis abill to wyne thar liffing. 1831 *Dial. on Laws of Eng.* II. xxxix. 79 If a preest haue wonne moche by sayenge of masse. *c* 1860 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 54 Win little and win oft..Makes merchands rich. 1892 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* A 5, I am a Fisherman Who many yeares my liuing thus haue wan. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 87 Wi' cauk and keel I'll win your bread. 1819 SCOTT *Noble Moringer* xxii, Of him I held the little mill which wins me living free. 1893 — *Quentin D.* xiv, Every one wins his bread in this country. 1893 SNOWDEN *Tales Yorksh. Wolds* 188 Then Aw can win summat, cannot Aw?

f. To get, gather (crops or other produce); to gather in, harvest. Now *dial.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 189 Syndri cornys that thai bair Woxe rype to wyn to mannys fude. *Ibid.* 193 Thai of the peill had vonnyn hay. *Ibid.* 219 To vyn thair harvist. 1491 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 205/2 The cornes..sall be led and wonnyne..and stakkit. 15.. *Battle of Otterburn* i, Yt fell abowght the Lamasse tyde, Whan husbondes wynnes ther haye. 1549 D. MONRO *Descr. W. Isles* (1773) 46 The place quhar he winnes his peitts this zier, ther he sawis his corne the next zeire. 1568 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 402 The cornis..ar nocht sa weill win as neid wer. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 30 [They] micht nocht saw nor wine thair cornis. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 137 Peas..When ripe, you may easily win some for seed. *a* 1792 GROSE *Olio* (1792) 110 *W.* He is gone to the field to his workmen. *C.* Hey. *W.* Just so; to try to win his hay. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* vi. (1848) 20 If they had fine weather for winning their hay or shearing their corn, they thanked God for it. 1892 A. LANG *Angling Sk.* 101 On a hillside..the countryfolk were winning their hay.

g. To get or extract (coal, stone, or other mineral) from the mine, pit, or quarry; also, to sink a shaft or make an excavation so as to reach (a seam of coal or vein of ore) and prepare it for working, as by drainage, etc. (cf. 11). See also WINNING *vbl. sb.* 5, 5 b.

1447 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1451 106/1 With leis..for to wyn colis and stanis within the saide landis. 1456–70 in [illegible]

could wyn sclait. 1509 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 284/1 Fredome to wyn and fyne lede ure within the illa. 1614 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 163 The minerallis..to be wroght and wynn at the saidis mynes. 1630 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 374 To won alsmony lymstanes in the lyme craig at the Channown mos as he can. 1648 *Ibid.* II. 132 Alsmanie stones to be..win as may serve the building of the midwall. *Ibid.* 151 To the end alse manie staines may be wind furthe therof as [etc.]. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 10 You tell me you have hopes to win a Colliery in my grounds. 1725 *Reg. MSS. Dk. Portland* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1901) 106 When they have sunk it [*sc.* the pit] till they come at the bed of coals, they are then said to have won the colliery. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 168 Coals are so far wasted near water carriage in the neighbourhood of Newcastle, that they are become already very difficult and expensive to win. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 968 Of fitting or winning a coal-field. 1889 *Law Rep., Ch. App.* V. 111, I conceive that coal is won when it is put in a state in which continuous working can go forward in the ordinary way. 1883 *Law Times* LXXIX. 153/2 The trustees..had power to win the minerals lying under their land. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 A seam is said to be won when a pit is sunk, or a mine driven to it, and the pit or mine is said to win all to the rise of the level.

†h. To gain (ground) *upon* (*of*); to gain (time).

c 1400 *Beryn* 2384 Beryn..gan to turn a-side, on-to þe see stronde, And the cripill aftir, & wan oppon hym londe. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 636 Thus erthe on hym he wane. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 230 We munste nedes wynne vpon Amphitrion on this way a nyght and a day. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 131/2 They dayly wanne grounde vpon the Brytons. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. iv. 9 Your way is shorter,..you'le win two dayes vpon me. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iv. 172. 1715 POPE *Iliad* X. 409 Yet let him pass, and win a little Space.

†8. To regain, recover (something lost); hence, to make up for (loss, waste); to rescue, deliver; in religious use, to redeem: often with *again*. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Bestiary* 768 Ful wel he tauȝte his ȝeme to man Wan he ȝurȝ holi spel him wan. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 25 He bad wastors go worche what þei best couþe, And wynne þat þei wasteden [1377 B. v. 25 wynnen his wastyng]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 111 Throw hym I trow my land to wyn, Magre the Clyffurd and his kyn. *c* 1380 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 264 By God, that al this world wan. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1306 How a hird-man A febil schepe warest & wane. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xl. 403 Now ar we wonne fra wa, and saued oute of þe se. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 253 Saye we endeleese thankes to god that hathe wonne vs ageyne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) F vij, The losse of the father by euyll children, is wonne by vertuouse sonnes in lawe. 1568 *Child-Marriages* 14 To wyne all the tenement together againe. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 18 Giue thow thy self thy saull culd win, In vaine I deit for thy sin. *Ibid.* 39 He was loste, and now is win. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* v. lxi, Thus Orpheus wanne his lost Eurydice.

9. To overcome the unwillingness or indifference of; with various shades of meaning: to attract, allure, entice; to prevail upon, persuade, induce; to gain the affection or allegiance of; to bring over to one's side, party, or cause, to convert. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (see also Winning *ppl. a.* 3).

Some of the applications are now more usual with the constructions illustrated in b.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vii. 2 Þe deuel þat sekis how he myght wynn mennys saule. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28000 (Cott. Galba) If þou..wowid hir with wordes sleghe,..And þarthurgh so has won hir will. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 51 They wynne wyth yeftes the hertes of the goddes and of men. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xi. 30 A wyse man also wynneth mens soules. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 141 Meanyng hereby too woonne the myndes of the other kynges. 1567 Jewel *Def. Apol.* 417 The Embassadoure of so Noble a Common Wealthe, was soone, and easily, and willingly woonne. 1576 T. Fortescue *Forest of Hist.* (ed. 2) 141 He wun the harts of the Citisens. *a* 1589 in Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 217 His wealth wan many friends. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* III. i. 89 Win her with gifts, if she respect not words. 1609 Sir W. Mure *True Cruc.* 502 Hee..With this soft speech..Doth wound, not wonne, the traytor's heart of stone. 1653 Austen *Fruit Trees* I. (1657) 31 The worst temper of minds are wonne. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 269 How far..a Graceful Mein, and Innocent Discourse, wins among more refined Christians. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 694 Slighted as it is,..the country wins me still. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 703 For courtesy wins woman all as well As valour may. 1874 Longf. *Hanging of Crane* III, The ways that win, the arts that please. 1914 Tollinton *Clem. Alex.* I. vii. 236 The missionary goes to win and to save souls.

b. with adv. or prep. (*away*, *over*; *from*, *to*, etc.).

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6606 Syȝ þou to drunkenes wildest hym wynne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 128 Paule to þe treuthe wonnyn was. *c* 1386 wynne al to God. 1542 Udall in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 5 Thei have thereby woonne to goodnes innumerable persons. 1894 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 67 That the said ladie may be winn to God. 1603 Daniel *Def. Ryme* Pref. A 8, To hold him from being wonne from vs. 1632 Sanderson *Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. 407 If our Inclinations cannot be wonne over to that course. 1637 Gillespie *Engl. Pop. Ceremn.* III. viii. 187 He is already winne to repentance. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 12 The Priests of Elder time..winning their credulities unto the literall and downe-right adorement of Cats, Lizards, and Beetles. 1668 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 151 All the Acts of a most gracious Prince.. can not winne them..from theese..rebellious Courses. 1761 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* II. 336 She has won me to her party. 1796–7 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xi, She could not win him, however, to any conversation. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxiv, She can sing and play o' the lute, would win the fish out o' the stream. 1828 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 205 To win her over to an ultramontane policy.

c. with *to* and inf. *arch.*

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. ii, I lv b, How moch Philautus ..hath wonne me bolely..to be his. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* III. i. 67. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 303 Thay conspyre, and winnis him with money quyetlie to putt doune the king. 1640 T. Carew *Poems, Disdain returned* iii, No teares, Celia, now shall win, My resolv'd heart, to returne. 1664 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 210 So much fre kindnes as wold winn any creture to admier it. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XII. 53 Unblest the man, whom music wins to stay Nigh the curst shore. 1822 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* II. 27 Gleam'st thou, as if delighted with the strain, And won by it the pious bark to keep In joy for ever?

10. *intr.* with *upon*, *on*, †*of*. †a. To gain an advantage over, get the better of; to gain or encroach upon; *rarely*, to overcome, subdue. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 4 As Luna gynneth wexe & wynne Vppon the nyght. 1590 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 284 Where the sea dailie wynnethe of the land againste this Towne. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* lxiv. 7 When I haue seene the hungry Ocean gaine Aduantage on the Kingdome of the shoare, And the firme soile win of the watry maine. 1607 — *Cor.* I. i. 223 The rabble..will in time Win vpon power. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. i. 121 So in our trifles I still winne of you. 1623 J. Hayward *Lives 3 Normans* 21 Henry..did many other times..inuade his Countrey: sometimes with purpose to winne vpon him, and sometimes to keepe him from winning vpon others. 1685 Dryden *Thren. Aug.* iv, Thus, at half Ebb, a rowling Sea Returns, and wins upon the shoar. 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) II. 33 This young Gentleman used every Art..to win on the Resentment which the Baronet had entertained against him. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* (1820) I. 121 So much did passion win upon her judgement, by time and indulgence.

b. To gain influence over, to prevail with (often implying 'to gain increasing influence over, to prevail more and more with'); to gain the favour the affections of (esp. gradually or insly). Also with *affection*, *esteem*, *regard*, or the like as obj.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* To Rdr. 87, I at last..Thought, I would try, if shame could winne vpon 'hem. *a* 1626 Beaum. & Fletcher *Cust. Country* II. i, The courage they expreat .. And their contempt of death wan more upon me Than all they did. *a* 1665 Digby *Priv. Mem.* (1827) 205 Her excessive beauty and gracefulness did so win upon his senses. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XIV. viii, By the Force of the true Catholic Faith, St. Anthony won upon the Fishes. 1755 J. Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) I. 438 The pleasing countenance of Lydia won on this woman's opinion. 1796 Coleridge *Let. to T. Poole* 24 Sept., Charles Lloyd wins upon me hourly. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xviii, I never was so won upon, as by this class. 1884 Church *Bacon* vi. 124 He had won greatly on the confidence of the King.

†c. To prevail upon (*to do* something). *Obs.*

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 183 As some of the uppermost seat of Philosophers..have themselves thought, and wonne upon others to think so too. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 217, I was easily won upon to embark on the Scipio African. 1802 H. Martin *Helen of Glenroes* II. 217 Who shall I win upon to aid me in my future views?

11. *trans.* To reach, attain, arrive at: = Gain *v.*[2] 7; *occas.* to get at, get hold of (an object); to overtake (a person); to be in time for, 'catch'. *arch.*

1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 211 Yf he had not wonne a roche vpon whiche he gate vp with grete payne. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 237 Bot all for nocht, he wan his hoill that day. 1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 61 The wynde enforcyd So myche.., that our governor Saw it was not possible for to wyne the porte. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. i. 23 But Calidore did follow him so fast, That euen in the Porch he him did win. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VIII. 56 Then scarce the bending Branches I cou'd win [orig. *Iam fragilis poteram ab terra contingere ramos*]. 1768 Ross *Helenore* I. 58 Yet wi' what pith she had, she takes the gate, An' wan the burn. 1808 Scott *Marm.* III. i, The stony path ..By which the naked peak they wan. 1821 Hodgson in Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 339 Having got your letter late in the day, I am compelled to be brief to win the post. 1842 Macaulay *Lays, Horatius* XXVI, And if they once may win the bridge, What hope to save the town? 1848 Rossetti *Poems, Last Confess.* 253 As when a bird flies low Between the water and the willow-leaves, And the shade quivers till he wins the light. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* XXV, The Halakazi were worsted in the field, but many lived to win the great cave.

†b. To get across, to cross; to get through, accomplish. *Obs. rare.*

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 903 To chyldre that be yonge of age, And ofter han thys ryver wonne Than folk that ben on age ronne. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 124 Thry fallowing won, Get compassing don. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 645 Fra we get our voyage wun.

12. *intr.* To make or find one's way; also in weakened sense, to arrive at or come to some place, etc.; in early use often a mere synonym of 'come' or 'go'; = Get *v.* 31. With various preps. and advs., sometimes in specialized senses: cf. corresponding uses of *get* s.v. Get *v.* VI, VII. Formerly chiefly *Sc.* and *n. dial.*

This use depends on that of ON. *vinna*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 996 A firin wall þar es a-bute, Mai nan win in þat es wit-oute. *Ibid.* 2499 Þe flue gaue bak to wine a-way. *Ibid.* 20592 Quils þai locked þam biside, Sco was won to þe heist stride. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8457 Vnebes to Gloucestre y wan. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1777 Þay..Lyfte laddres..& vpon lofte wonen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 461 Neuermore þen þay wyste fram quepen he was wonnen. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XV. 221 [Thai] slow all that thai mycht to vyn. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3438 Sen I wan in-to þe werld, *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 649 Bes wakond and warly; wyn to my chamber. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 And cover hit þat no hete oute wynne. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Purification* 43 To Jherusalem flast now wynne. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 625 Say thow art not worthy to Wymond to win. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 433 Thou may not pas Mount Barnard for wild bestis, Nor wyn throw Mount Scarpre for the snawe. 1542 Wyatt *Declar.* Wks. 1816 II. 281 This, me-thought, was so gladsome unto me to win to the King..that all my policy..was clean forgotten with me. 1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 743 He at last wan to his said houa. 1643 in Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 412 That none win to the Sessions loft till the Sessioners be placed. 1652 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 10 Full of channels and rivers, and very hard to be woon into. 1717 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 262, I hope to win off beginning of next week. 1724 E. Erskine *Serm.* Wks. (1791) 190 Christ is in heaven, how shall I win at him? 1813 Byron *Bride Abydos* II. XXV, Had Selim won..To where the strand and billows met. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* XV, And how am I to win hame? 1816 — *Old Mort.* XI, Whiles the tear wan into my e'e. *c* 1830 Hood *Tales & Sk.* (1837) III. 205, I canna won see weel through the snaw. 1865 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* XII, Whan I was na bigger than you, Annie, I could win oot at a less hole than that. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads, East & West* 83 The Colonel's son to the Fort has won. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* XV, When we won in by the pier. 1902 Edith Thompson *Hist. Eng.* XLVI. 437 The Germans never won through to the Channel ports.

(*b*) *To win up*: to get up; to get up on one's feet, to rise; to get on horseback, mount. So *to win upon*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13760 Þai fell þaim doun vn-to þe grund,.. all vp þai sipen wan. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* X. 435 His menne all War wonnyn vp apon the wall. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2165 Iason..and ioly knightes moo,..Wonen vp wynly vppon wale horses. *Ibid.* 13938 Whan he wackonst of wo, he wan vpo foze. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXIII. 214 And wyn apon youre palfray sone. *c* 1800 *Yellow Gramme* in Child *Ballads* II. 303/2 'Win up, my bonny boy,' he says, 'As quick as e'er you may.' 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 42 And now we set ourselves in haste to win Up to that mountain's top. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* XXIX, Just let me win upon my horse!

b. *absol.* without prep. or adv.: To get to the place implied (*Sc.* and *dial.*); to come, go.

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 226 Bettyr hyt ys..Owt of yowre londe schę be flemyd..And faste ȝe schalle hur comawnde to wynne. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bann. Club) I. 99 The marquess wrote back his excuse, saying, he could not win. 1894 P. H. Hunter *James Inwick* v. 70 There was a by-ordinar congregation that day; a'body that could win was there.

†c. In static sense: To 'come', reach. *Obs.*

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 258 Reid ȝallow hair..quhilk wan doune to his schoulderis.

d. In reference to a desired end, a condition, experience, proceeding, etc.: with various preps. and advs., often in specialized senses: = Get *v.* 31 b and various uses in VI and VII (see also below). Formerly chiefly *Sc.* and *n. dial.*

Win by... (By *prep.* 26 b), to escape, avoid. †*Win of eld*, to 'come of age'. *Win out* or *through*, to come out successfully, succeed in attaining one's end. *Win to*, to begin eating, 'set to', 'fall to' (= Get *v.* 69).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25363 Oft þe men þat er rightwis Thorn fasanding win þai to þair pris. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 174 Til þat she mowe winan of helde. 13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 253/330 He hopid forto win fra wogh. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9212 He his wit cast, For to wyn to his will. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3986 Quen he wan to wax.., Thre cubettis fra þe croune doun his cors had a lenghte. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Marion M'Knaught* III. xxiv. (1675) 190, I look not to win away to my home, without wounds and blood. 1644 Baillie *Lett.* (1841) II. 211 There is so much matter yet before us, as we cannot winn through for a long time after our common pace. 1709 M. Bruce *Soul Confirm.* 15 Soul-confirmation..is not easilie wone at,..you that keeps only your old Job-troot,..you will not wone at Soul-confirmation. 1721 Ramsay *Horace to Virgil* 21 The Man wha cou'd sic Rubs win o'er. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xiv, We got some water-broo and bannocks; and mony a weary grace they said, .. or they wad let me win to. *Ibid.* xxxv, The job is how we are to win by hanging. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 94 The anguish..that we must bow Beneath, until we win out of this life. 1919 Max Beerbohm *Seven Men* 103, I wish he could have won out, as I did, into a great and lasting felicity.

e. with adj. as compl.: = Get *v.* 33.

1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 82 *note*, He labours to win free from every form and observance. 1902 *London Mag.* June 452/2 Smiling to see him struggle when he thought he could win clear.

13. *intr.* with *to* and inf.: To succeed in doing (what is denoted by the vb.); to contrive, manage *to do* something. Now only *Sc.* and *dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26816 For mai naman wit quem to winn To serue at ans lauerds tuin. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 1112 (Laud) Mygte he nowt wynne For to come þer inne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3145 O nowise may we wyn þat woman to gete. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 121 b/2 That ye mayst..wynne to spare the tormentes that ben yet to come. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* XXVII. 32 Thee to imbrace once, God I if I micht win! *c* 1655 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 209 The Repulsive Maid, Who Once took a young-man, but now cannot win To open the door, and let him come in. 1730 T. Boston in Morrison *Mem.* (1899) 137, I am habitually cast down, and cannot win to get my heart lifted up in the ways of the Lord. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* XV, As sune as I can win to stand on my twa feet we'll be aff this craig o' Sawtan.

14. *trans.* with prep. or adv. of place: a. To succeed in bringing, putting, etc.: = Get *v.* 27 a. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8219 Sua depe þair rote þai samen kest, Þat moght þam naman þeþen win. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 94 Þere walked he a-boute þe walles to winne in siȝt. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 20 And do that I my shippe to haven wynne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* XI. 4772 Þai..Robbit the Riches ..And wonnyn it wightly the wallis withoute. *c* 1400 *Yewaine & Gaw.* 1803 Bot yit his clathes on he wan. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 939 Whan the vermyn wold have owt crepon At the holys that thei made opon Thei myght not wyn owt hor taylys. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. x. 132 They gave over the enterprise to win the red sea into Nile. *a* 1636 Marmion *Antiquary* III. i, That I should owe my life to her! which way, I wonder? something depends on this, I must win out. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* ix, Her kind attendant..aided me to win the spear from her [in sweet and

†b. To put, set, take (expressing merely the act, without implication, as in a, of overcoming difficulty or hindrance). *Win out*, to take or draw out, extract. *Win up*, (*a*) to open (a door or gate); (*b*) to take up, pick up, lift. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 4364 In haste þe dore he gan vp winne. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 92 To wynne vp þe wiket-þat þat þe wey schutte. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 837 Þan Alexander at his knyȝt angirs vnfaire, Wynnes him vp a wardrere. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 463 Rowlande owte his swerde wanne. 1815 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 94 To ane masone of the land of Sefeildis quhilk wan the allorisg to the said place of Inchegarvy, xxli.

†c. To bring, take, move (a person somewhere).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 832 Alle hasped in his heȝ wede to halle þay hym wonnen. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* XXXVIII, Ȝe wynnus him noste owte of his way.

†d. *refl.* To betake oneself: = 12. (Cf. Get *v.* 27 b.) *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 402, I schal ware alle my wyt to wynne me þeder. *c* 1420 *Destr. Troy* 1238 [We] Wyn vs to the wallis, waoshe þere vndur.

15. *Comb.* in sense 'one who or that which wins . . .', as *win-all, win-penny.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Gaigne-denier*, a porter, a winne-penny. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xlvi. 107 One the winne-all, another the lose-all.

† **Win**, *v.*[2] *Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 vyn, wine, 5–6 wynn(e, 6 wyn(e, winne, 6–9 win. [Variant of *won, wonn(e* : see WON *v.*] *intr.* To dwell, reside.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 600 Þat I ma ga To iheru criste, . . With hym to wine in-to his blise. *Ibid.* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 816 Fra þe place, Quhare þe magdelane vynnand was. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* XXVII. 789 Þe Yrischery, That wynnis in Irland to þis day. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 4 The eldest dwelt in ane Borrous toun, The vther wynnit Uponland [*v.rr.* vp on land, apon land]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xii. 138 Thai that in Flavynia feyldis duell, Or that wynnis besyd the laik or well Of Cymynus. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 52 Into ane Realme thair wynnit ane vailȝeant knicht. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 81 Alake we winn o'er far frae King and Court! *a* 1824 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* etc. (1826) 88 An ancient town.. where, tradition says, A housekeeper winned in other days. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3).

Win, *v.*[3] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 wyn, 7 wind, 8 winn, (9 won). Pa. pple. 8 winned, *Sc.* win(n), 6, 9 won, 8 wun. [? WIN *v.*[1] with specialized development from sense 7 f, but associated also with WIND *v.*[2] 2.] *trans.* To dry (hay, seed, turf, wood, etc.) by exposure to the air, or to the heat of the sun or a fire. Also *intr.* for *pass.*

1557 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 271/2 Tertiam partem 24 dietarum feni lie won hay. 1588 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XXI. 472 For making of 36 dawarkis of hay..and for wynning and putting of the samyn in tramp ruckis. 1641 *Peebles Burgh Charters* (1872) 107 To cast and wind peites, turres, fewall [etc.]. 1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 154 So much of his Lint as he intends for his best Seed, he builds up in a Stack like Corn, after it is thoroughly win. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. cvi. 455 Scots seed, when well winned and kept. 1794 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 268 Cutting, winning, and carrying home their peats, however, consumes a great deal of time. 1818 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 396 The sun and air gradually win it [*sc.* hay]. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 259 Feathers may be hung up in bags against the wall behind the fire, and there they will soon win. *Ibid.* III. 909 [The skin for rennet] is then hung stretched over a stick near the fire to dry and won. *Ibid.* 978 By the afternoon the hay is so dry and won as to be fit to be stacked. 1884 *Whitby Gaz.* 9 Aug. 1/2 A Stack of well won Hay.

† **Win**, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* Also 5 wyn, wynnynge. [Sc. pa. pple. of WIN *v.*[1], q.v. (Forms, pa. pple. *b.*)] = WON *ppl. a.*; *evil win*, ill-gotten. Of stone, etc.: Worked, quarried.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. xviii. 1712 Eftyr . . syndry wynnynge victoryis. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 922 That is full euill wyn land To haue quhill thow ar leuand, Sine at thine end hell. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 372 Ane carling of the Quene of Pharcis, That ewill win geir to elphyne careis. 1609 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 307 That the tirrit quarrell and craig thairof and the win werk lyand in the same can nocht be wrocht.

Win, obs. f. WERN *v.*, WHIN[1], WINE.

Winable, obs. form of WINNABLE.

† **Winage**. *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *vinage* (f. *vin* wine + *-age*; cf. med.L. *vinagium*), assimilated to WINE *sb.*[1]] A seignorial due derived from vineyards.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxix. 18 He leuyed the rentes, wynages [orig. *vinages*], and rightes, that pertayned to therle through out all Flanders.

Winam, Winare, Winberi, Winberry: see VENOM, WINER, WINEBERRY, WHIMBERRY.

† **Winbrow**. *Obs.* Also 5 wyn-. [ad. MLG. *winbrā*, corresp. to OHG. *wintbrāwa* (MHG. *wintbrāwe, -brā*, G. *wimper* eyelash), f. *wint* WIND *sb.*[1] + BROW *sb.*] An eyebrow.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 542 Neptolonyus was grete, black heer and grete eyen, . . his wynbrowes loyned. 1485 — *Chas. Gt.* 26 He had the eyen like a lyon . . his wynbrowes grete. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* x. xi, His hairy win-browes meet. [Cf. quot. 1471.]

Wince (wins), *sb.*[1] [f. WINCE *v.*[1]] An act of wincing.

1. A kick. Now *dial.*

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. II. i. (1620) 66 [The Mule] within two or three winces, ouerthrew him to the ground. 1638 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Bull, Beare & Horse* E 2 b, And as I fell, his hoofe bestow'd a wince, Upon my pate. 1840 THACKERAY *Cox's Diary* Jan., Our respective patients gave a wince out.

2. An involuntary shrinking movement (see WINCE *v.*[1] 2).

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xii, She looked up with a wince. 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* ix, The villein took the cruel blow without wince or cry.

Wince (wins), *sb.*[2] [Variant of WINCH *sb.*[1] But cf. LG. *win(se)* small capstan, Du. *wins* winch.]

1. = WINCH *sb.*[1] 1, 3.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. v. 272/1 When the Spinner hath drawn out his Rope Yarn . . , then it is taken from the Wheele Spindle, and Wound upon the Wince. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 52 The human frame is, hence, a barrel-organ . . and life is the music. . . So long as either the vital or the mechanical instrument is duly wound up by a regular supply of food or of the wince, so long the music will continue. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *Northern Angler* 66 The wince of the reel.

2. *Dyeing.* A reel or roller placed over the division between two vats so that a fabric spread upon it may be let down into one or the other. Also *attrib.*

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 897 After 48 hours suspension [the calico] is to be washed in water at 170° containing some chalk, by the wince apparatus. 1852 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Bleaching*, etc. (1859) 374 The fabric may be caused to pass several times round these winces before it leaves the cistern. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2777/1 The tanks are wince-pots.

Wince (wins), *v.*[1] Forms: 3 wynci, 4–5 wynse, (5 wynce, wyncy, 6 wins, 6–7 winse), 6–7 winse, 5– wince. [a. AF. **wencir* or **wencier*, = OF. *guencir* or *-ier*, dial. variants of *guenchir* or *-ier* WINCH *v.*[1]]

I. *intr.* To kick restlessly from impatience or pain. Now *dial.*

[*c* 1290 : see b.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 231 A horce inrubbed, þat haves a sore back, wynses when he is oght touched or rubbed on his rugge. 1382 — *2 Sam.* vi. 6 Ona straugte out the hoond to the arke of God, and heelde it, for the oxen wynseden, and boweden it. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 77 Wynsynge she was as is a ioly colt. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) X. v. 376/2 Whan he begynneth to waxe proude & wynaynge & kykyng ayenst his mayster. ? *a* 1530 *Schole-house Wom.* 1014 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 145 Rub a scald horse vpon the gall, And he wil bite, wins and went. 1598 FLORIO, *Recalcitrare*, to kicke or strike or winze with ones heeles againe. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 340 They bray out a loude, kicking and wincing with their heeles. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 847 The angry Beast . . Begun to kick, and fling, and wince. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 275 Before the child can crawl, He learns to kick, and wince, and sprawl. *c* 1750 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1793) I. 236 *note*, A fly, Sir, may sting a stately horse and make him wince. 1782 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes* iv. Wks. 1812 I. 22 As for poor St. Leger and Prince, Had I their places I should wince, Thus to be gibbeted for on high. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Wincing*, used of a horse kicking out behind.

b. In fig. and allusive phr., e. g. *to wince against the prick* (cf. KICK *v.*[1] 1 c and PRICK *sb.* 13); hence *gen.* to be recalcitrant or impatient.

c 1290 *St. Paul* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 290 To wynci ayein þe pricke awipe strong it is þe. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* Prol., Poul . . , whom the Lord hadde chosun, that long tyme wynside aȝen the pricke. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 22 Is it þe wone of wil to wynse and to kyke. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14196 Off verray surquedy and pryde, I smyte and wynse on euery syde. *Ibid.* 14531 For to wynse and dysobeye, And to tourne A-nother weye. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xvii. 254 Thou3 ȝe wolde wyncy and repugne aȝens the clergie. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. 1564 I. 508 Not to winse, kick & urn against their sayinges. 1603 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 255 (Qo. 2) Let the galld iade wince [*other edd.* winch]. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. ix. 82, I should suspect his preaching had no salt in it, if no gald horse did winse. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 III. 65 What boots it to winse and kick against fortune? *a* 1764 LLOYD *Poet* 22 The fancies of our rambling wits, Who wince and kick at all oppression. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XVII. 124 Let them wince, who have their withers wrung.

† **c.** *transf.* To dart *from place to place.* (*rare.*)

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6115 Fro stide to stide aboute he wynces, He slees kynges, dukes, & princes.

2. To start or make an involuntary shrinking movement in consequence of or in order to avoid pain, or when alarmed or suddenly affected.

a 1748 WATTS *Improv. Mind* II. v, Perhaps the gamester shrugs and winces, turns and twists the argument every way, but he cannot fairly answer it. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 325 Some fretful tempers wince at ev'ry touch. 1831 LYTTON *Godolphin* XIX, Why, man, you wince at the word 'marry!' 1842 TENNYSON *Walking to Mail* 63 You should have seen him wince As from a venomous thing. 1890 BESANT *Demoniac* VI, In your strong frame already beats the heart of a coward. . . When I told you this once before, you winced: now you laugh.

Wince, *v.*[2] *Dyeing.* [f. WINCE *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To immerse in or pass through a vat by means of a wince. Also *absol.* Hence **Winding** *vbl. sb.*; *attrib.* in *wincing-machine* = WINCE *sb.*[2] 2.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 824 They are winced for a few minutes in a weak solution of chloride of lime. *Ibid.* 1300 *Wincing-machine*, is the English name of the dyer's reel, which he suspends horizontally, . . over the edge of his vat. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 7) I. 660 Wince again five times. *Ibid.*, 2 pieces of 30 yards of velvet are put in and winced backwards and forwards five times.

Wince, obs. form of QUINCE.

Wincer[1] (wi·nsəɹ). Now *rare.* [f. WINCE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] A kicker. In quot. 1642 *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wynsare, *calcitrator, calcis(r)atrix.* 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Regimbeur*, a winser. 1611 COTGR., *Rueur*, a kicker, striker, winser. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 19 Is it blasphemy . . for me to answer a slovenly wincer of a confutation, that [etc.]?

Wincer[2]. *Dyeing.* [f. WINCE *sb.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who tends a wince.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 69 Cotton, Calico, Printer. . . Hooker. Wincer. Steamer.

Wincey (wi·nsi). Also **winsey**, **-ie**. Pl. **-eys**, occas. **-ies**. [orig. Sc.; app. alteration of *woolsey* in LINSEY-WOOLSEY, through the medium of the assimilated form **linsey-winsey*.] A very durable cloth having a linen warp and a woollen weft. (*occas.* A garment made of this.) Also *attrib.*

1808 JAMIESON, *Winsey*, adj. Of or belonging to wool. . . *Cotton-winsey* denotes what is made of cotton and wool; *Linen-winsey*, of linen and wool, linsey-woolsey. 1820 JAS. DUFF *Poems* (1826) 2 [For winsies war made by sweet Modesty's rule. 1838 E. B. RAMSAY *Reminisc.* (1859) 261 A striped wincey apron. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. [ ] wincey and a number of pieces of cotton. 1886 *Colon. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4032, Linen winceys. 1893 MRS. C. PRAED *Outlaw & Lawmaker* xi, All varieties, from the honest brown and grey wincey to the Park turn-out. 1907 MRS. C. KENNARD *Pound* iv. 29 She . . wore a brown winsey dress.

Winch (winʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 wince, 4–7 (9) wynch, (3–5 wenche, 4–6 wynche, 6 winche, 7 wintch, 9 winsh), 7– winch. [Late OE. *wince* :– O'Teut. **winkjo-* :– **wenkjo-*, f. Indo-Eur. root *weng-*, repr. also by WINK *v.*[1] (Cf. WINK *sb.*[2])]

1. A reel, roller, or pulley.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 410/6 *Girgillus* [= *girgillus*], wince. 1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/7 (P.R.O.) In vno veramine empto .vj. li. iiij. d. In Wenches emptis ad idem. iiij s. vj. d. 1384 *Rec. Acc.* 20 C *dorse* (P.R.O.), j wynche ferri pro vna petra vertibili. *Ibid.*, j gross[a] wynche ferri pro factura cordarum. 1512–13 *Act 3 Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 That the byer of Wollen clothes . . shall not . . cause to be drawen in lenght . . the same clothes . . by teynto' or wynche or by eny other meane. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* VII. (1565) 93b With slinges that went wyth wynches [orig. *fundis libi tilibus*]. . & wyth pellets, they put the Galles in feare. 1611 COTGR., *Tournoir*, . . the vice, or winch of a Presse.

b. *Spec.* An angler's reel.

1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* Iv. 44 You may buy your Trowle ready made, . . onely let it have a winch to wind it up withall. 1760 SIR J. HAWKINS *Walton's Angler* 139 *note*, The winch must be screwed on to the butt of your rod. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* I. 23 Your winch should hold forty or fifty yards of fine line.

c. *Naut.* A small machine used for making ropes and spun-yarn; † the quantity of yarn so made.

1640 in Birch *Charters of London* (1887) 220 For a winch of cable yarn . . *ca. 4d.* 1772–84, etc. [see SPUN-YARN *sb.*] 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 90 *Winch*, to make or twist spun-yarn with is made of 8 spokes, 4 at each end, and 4 wooden pins 15 inches long driven through the end of them.

† **2.** A well-wheel (turned by a crank); hence, a well. *Obs.* (Cf. dial. *winch-well* a deep well, and WINK *sb.*[2], quot. 1886.)

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 426 In stede of welle or wenche [orig. *fons . . aut puteus*] haue a sisterne. *Ibid.* III. 894 The water cleer Of cisterne or of wynche. *Ibid.* IX. 120 The wynchis when we delue [orig. *in foditendis puteis*]. 1598 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 47 b 1 The wynch or wheele of the well. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, La triande*, . . the beame or rounde wood whereabout the cord of a well is winded, some do call it a winch. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 293 An old well or deepe wintch . . boild all the night long.

3. The cranked handle by means of which the axis of a revolving machine is turned.

1660 R. D'ACRES *Water-drawing* 11 Winches or Cranks of Wood or Iron are . . fitted to mens hands, thereby to make a round motion. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 16 On the Square Pin is fitted a Winch somewhat in form like a Jack-winch. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 390 After about ninety or an hundred turns of the winch. 1787 IMISON *Treat. Mech. Powers* 46 The wheel is turned by means of a winch fix'd on the axle of a trundle. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. v. 209 One of them turned the winch of an organ which he carried at his back. 1834 FEARNSIDE *Tomlinson's Thames* 31 By Pinkle Lock and Weir, . . it is necessary for the aquatic tourist to be provided with a winch to open the gates. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 436/1 Winch and axle is a machine constituting a small windlass. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xx, I'll turn the winch of the grindstone.

4. A hoisting or hauling apparatus consisting essentially of a horizontal drum round which a rope passes and a crank by which it is turned.

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 12 b, The smaller sort [of husbandry necessaries]. . Hammers, Chippe Axes, Winches, Pulleys, Wheales [etc.]. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Winch*, a pulling or shrewing Engin. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Rœb.) 139/2 A Hand screw, or screw engine: or Ghynne or Wynch. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Winches*, a kind of Engine to draw Barges, &c. up a River against the Stream. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776), *Winch*, a cylindrical piece of timber, furnished with an axis. . turned about by means of an handle resembling that of a draw-well. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 233 An apparatus called a 'winch', . . for heaving the lines into the boat after the fish is . . killed. 1838 *J. M. Wilson's Tales Borders* IV. 253/2 By the assistance of the wynch, the jib again rose to its former place. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Aug. 268/1 The value of steam applied to winches and capstans.

b. In the navigation of the river Thames, a revolving apparatus at the river-side, round which a rope was wound to haul craft through difficult places; a toll levied for the use of this (abolished by the Thames Conservancy Act of 1866).

1623 *Act 21 Jas. I*, c. 32 § 5 For that the sayd passage from Bircot aforesayd, to the sayd Citie of Oxford, is against the streame, the Barges . . must . . bee haled vp by strength of men, horses, winches [etc.]. 1694 *Act 6 & 7 Will. & Mary* c. 16 *Preamble*, For the . . conveniencе of the Navigation [of the Thames and Isis] there . . are diverse Lockes Weares, Buckes Winches . . and other Engines. 1784 *Extr. Navig. Rolls Thames* (1772) 19 The Owner of every Winch, belonging to every Lock below Reading. 1795 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* L. 285/2 Tolls . . payable at the Old Locks, Weirs, and Winches. 1864 *Thames Navig., Tables of Tolls* July 2 Tables of Tolls (including Old Lock Dues and Winches), which will be taken on and from July 1, 1864.

5. *Dyeing.* = WINCE *sb.*[2] 2.

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. ii. 259 For the pieces of stuff, a winch or reel is used. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 385 Stir it well about, and . . put in your stuffs: . . turn it on a winch, till you see the colour is to your mind. 1822 *Imison's Sci. & Art* II. 285 The stuffs . . are drawn through them [*sc.* the baths] by a winch, or reel. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 688/1 Mounted on a strong frame-work over the trough [of the dye vat] is the winch . . , which

by its revolutions..keeps the cloth moving down and up continuously into and out of the trough.

6. *attrib.*

1887 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Winch-bitts*, the supports

arranged on top of the capstan. 1881 E. MATHESON *Aid Bk.* II. 362 The lifting power in a crane is generally obtained by ordinary *winch-gear. 1885 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 209 So that the power must act in like manner as if it were applied at a *winch-handle. 1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr.* 171 It is mounted upon an iron spindle..at one end of which is a winch-handle. 1847 T. T. STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 44 The triple gut casting-line..is intended..to be appended immediately to the *winch-line, by the trout-fisher. 1888 *Standard* 26 Aug. 3/7 A man should have watched the case and given orders to the gangwayman, who, in turn, ought to have given orders to the *winchman. 1894 *Times* 5 Feb. 3/3 The winchman and the bullrope man..in assisting to unload the vessel. 1883 W. C. RUSSELL *Sea Queen* II. ii. 30 The tiny clink of *winch-pawls. 1901 *How to make useful things* 10/1 A few inches from the lower end of the butt a recess is made sufficiently large to take the *winch-plate. 1831–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 528/2 When one or more pieces of goods are to be dyed the *winch-reel is employed.

†Winch, *sb.*2 *Obs. rare.* [f. WINCH *v.*1]

1. A 'turn' or 'twist' in argument.

1549 GARDINER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 804/1, I thinke there was neuer man had more playne euident matter to alledge, then I haue, without winches or arguments or deuises of wit.

2. = WINCH *sb.*1 2.

c 1738 J. SKINNER *Christmas Ba'ing* xix, Poor Petrie gas a weary winch.

Winch (winʃ), *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 3 **wenche**, 4–6 **wynche**, 6 **winche**, (7 **whinch**, 9 *dial.* **winsh**), 6– **winch**. [a. AF. **wenchier*, **wenchir* = OF. *guenchier*, *-ir* intr. to turn aside, trans. to avoid, a. Teut. **wenkjan* (OHG., MHG. *wenken*, OS. *wenkean*) :— **wankjan*, f. *wank-* (whence OHG. *wank* side movement, return, OHG., G. *wanken*, ON. *vakka*, OE. *wancol* WANKLE *a.*) + *weyk-* (whence WINCH *sb.*1, WINK).]

1. *intr.* To start back or away, recoil, flinch; to wince.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Auh for alle onsweres, wendeð ou ant wencheð frommard him. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2104 Qwarelles qwayntly swappes thorowe knyghtes With iryne so wekyrly, that wynche they neuer. ?*a* 1500 *Pebbles to the Play* xiii, He stert till ane broggit stauf, Wincheand as he war woode. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. B iv, Thou begynnest to wyncke or to startle on this facion. 1553 *Respublica* I. iii. 284 He that ones wincheth shall fele the waite of my fiste. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 81, I will not stirre, nor winch, nor speake a word. 1628 *Robin Goodfellow* (1841) 42 Sluts and slovens I doe pinch, And make them in their beds to winch. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. viii, Beate them, whip them, pinch them, punch them, if they resolve not to whinch for it, they will not. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 133 Yet seem'd she not to winch, though shrewdly pain'd. 1728 CIBBER *Non-juror* v, You must not winch nor stir too soon, at any Freedom you observe me take with him. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Winsh*, wince.

†**b.** *fig.* To recoil in fear or disgust (*at*). *Obs.*

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* III. i, He must nere winch, that would or thriue, or saue, To be cald Nigard, cuckold, Cut-throat, Knaue. 1637 HEYLIN *Antid. Lincoln.* Pref. A 6 b, A long studied discourse in maintenance of sitting at the holy Sacrament, which good Master Burton never winched at. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 23 They shall..severely rule them, so that they shall not be able to whinch but at their own peril. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 76 P 8 A general Representation of an Action, either ridiculous or enormous, may make those winch who find too much Similitude in the Character with themselves to plead Not Guilty.

†**2.** Of a horse: To kick restlessly or impatiently; = WINCH *v.*1 1. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 To Wynche, *calcitrare*. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v, *Recalcitro*, to wyncke agayne, or kyke. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 182 Let se who that dare Sho the mockyshe mare; They make her wyncke and keke. 1573 GASCOIGNE *Weedes, Green Knt.* 87 He winched still alwayes, and whisked with his talle. 1592 GREENE *Farew. Folly* B 3 b, Sylenus asse neuer sawe a wine bottle but he would winch. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Wince* or *Winch*,..properly to throw out the hinder Feet, as a Horse does.

b. In allusive and proverbial phr., esp. with reference to the 'wincing' of a 'galled' horse.

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 173 b, As a galled horse whiche is touched on the sore he wyncheth & wryeth. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2023 Remembre the tourne of Fortunes whele, That wantonly can wynke, and wynche with her hele. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Ep. Ded. ¶ 2, Who so wyncheth and kicketh at the ghospell. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B iv b, I know the galde horse will soonest winche. 1586 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* v. D 2 b, Synce you agaynst these churchly rites so longe and sore dyd wynche. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 109 Yet do not winch (good lads) when thou art gall'd. 1626 W. FENNER *Hid. Manna* Ep. Ded., The will of it self, the more reason it hath to be turned, the more it is wilful, it hinches and winches, and snuffes against it. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* V. xiii, *Aram.* Bless me! What have you done to him? *Belin.* Only touch'd a gall'd beast till he winch'd. 1728 CIBBER *Non-juror* II. i, Sir, you cannot conceive the wonderful use of Clamour, 'tis so teizing to a Ministry, it makes them winch and fret.

†**c.** *trans.* To kick (a person) *out of. rare.*

1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* II. i, A galled Jennet that will winch him out o' the Saddle.

Hence **Wi·nching** *vbl. sb.*1 and *ppl. a.*1

1525 *Stanbridge's Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v b, *Sternax*,

wasps in Kamme-ally, or such a winching lade in Smithfield. 1632 [MABBE] *Celestina* III. 40 [Women] are all of them ticklish, and skittish; the whole generation of them is given to winching and flinging. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 101 That they might, without any ones whinching, decree..what-ever would tend to the encrease of their own honour and wealth.

Winch, *v.*2 [f. WINCH *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To hoist or draw *up*, etc. with or as with a winch.

1529 *Dunmow Churchw. Acc.* lf. 10 (MS.) To fett a gabull to wynche up the tymber. 1530 PALSGR. 408 b/2, I wynche or wynde vp with a wyndlasse or a crane...You shall neuer get this stryng in to the nocke but you wynche it vp. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 128 He..was winched vp in that chaire, and fastened vnto the maineyard of a galley. 1633 J. FISHER *Fulmus Troes* II. ii, I'le winch vp thy estate. 1909 *E. Suffolk Gaz.* 22 Jan. 3/7 All slack line must be winched in. 1913 CONRAD *Within the Tides*, etc. (1915) 219 It was she who winched up that infernal machine, and it was she too who lowered it that night.

2. *Dyeing.* = WINCH *v.*2.

1831–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 514 The silk should be winched through a copper of water at the heat of 160°. 1855 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Bleaching*, etc. (1859) 565, I..keep the liquor to the boiling point for about one hour and twenty minutes, during which time the cloth should be winched as before. 1883 R. HALDANE *H'orkshop Rec.* II. 40/1 For ungumming, the piece is simply winched backwards and forwards.

Hence **Wi·nching** *vbl. sb.*2 and *ppl. a.*2

1875 H. R. ROBERTSON *Life Upper Thames* 19 The tightening of the bolts before tying them is called winching ..: two stout pieces of wood are used which are called the levers, and are connected by a strong cord passed round the bolt. 1902 *Daily Record & Mail* 6 Aug. 3 The winching-away men and sweepers and screwers.

Winchester (wi·nˌtʃéstəɹ). [Proper name.]

I. The name of a city in Hampshire, the capital of Wessex and later of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom: used *attrib.* in specific designations.

1. (*a*) *Winchester measure*: dry and liquid measures the standards of which were orig. deposited at Winchester. Also *fig.* So (*b*) *Winchester bushel, gallon, quart*, for which (*c*) *Winchester* is used for short (in druggists' use = Winchester quart).

(*a*) *c* 1530 *Skelton's Ghost* 23 in *S.'s Whs.* (1843) II. 134 Full Winchester gage We had in that age. 1670 *Act 22 Chas. II*, c. 8 § 1 The Standard marked in his Majestyes Exchequer commonly called the Winchester Measure containing Eight Gallons to the Bushell. 1680 ALSOP *Misch. Impos.* xiii. 94 The Advice to those in Communion with the Church, was short and sweet, but the Dissenters shall now have it by Winchester measure. 1688 WARBURTON *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 114 The Guernsey bushel, great measure, contains about 6 gallons, Winchester measure. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 337/2 An Halfe Peck, of old it contained 5 Quarts, but by Winchester Measure to which by the Statute of the Land all others now conforme, is but 4 Quarts and a Pint. 1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 215 An acre has been known to yield 300 bushels (Winchester measure) of early potatoes for the first crop. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 70. 479 A runlet (two gallons, Winchester measure).

(*b*) [1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* vii. (1891) 55 Theire bushell beinge more than doble winchester.] 1702 *Act 1 Anne* Stat. 2. c. 3 § 6 A Bushel according to the Standards remaining in the Custody of the Chamberlains of Her Majesties Exchequer commonly called..by the Name of the Winchester Bushel. 1737 *Act 10 Geo. II*, c. 30 § 2 All Oysters which shall..be imported from France.., shall..be rated at seven Pence per Bushel strike Measure, according to the Winchester Corn Bushel. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 92 The lords of the manor of Tetbury..were convicted..for not using in the public market a brass Winchester bushel. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 102/2, 268·8 cubic inches to the Winchester gallon. 1835 *Act 5 & 6 Will. IV*, c. 63 § 6 Be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act the Measure called the Winchester Bushel, and the Lineal Measure called the Scotch Ell,..shall be abolished. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 65 Fill a 'Winchester quart' bottle with this test acid.

(*c*) 1700 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* II. (1707) 68 Seal'd Winchesters of Three-penny Guzzle. 1722 E. WARD *Wand. Spy* II. 67 [They] Call'd for full Winchester's of Stout. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 87 Bay-salt..is sold to the husbandman from four-pence to six-pence a winchester. *Ibid.* 88 Each bushel three winchesters, or twenty-four gallons. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 66 The 'Winchester' is duly labelled. 1909 WASTELL & BAYLEY *Hand Camera* 145 *note*, A 'Winchester', or 'Winchester Quart', is a bottle holding eighty ounces.

†**2.** *Winchester goose*: see GOOSE *sb.* 3.

II. **3.** The name of Oliver F. *Winchester* (1810–1880), an American manufacturer, used as the designation of a breech-loading rifle having a tubular magazine under the barrel and a horizontal bolt operated by a lever on the underside of the stock.

1871 *Standard* 1 Feb., The arms..being the Remington and the Chassepot, with some few Winchesters. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 163 He rushed over to his house and brought out a 17-shot Winchester. 1897 HINDE *Congo Arabs* xi. 185 About fifteen Winchester expresses, and the same number of ordinary Winchesters.

Hence † **Winche·strian** *a.* (see sense 2).

a 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Encer. Vulcan* 142 And this a Sparkle of that fire let loose That was lock'd up in the Winchestrian Goose.

Winding (wi·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. WINCH *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action of WINCH *v.*1; kicking; flinching or recoiling as from pain.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12006 So that no mater off wynsyng Ys fiounde in hym in flessh nor bon,..Gruchchyng, nor rebellioun, Nor no contradiccioun. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 129 Thei schulden be aschamed..of her wyncing in witt, and of her hopping bisidis witt. 1530 PALSGR. 753/2 Wynsyng of an horse, *regibement*. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. x, The Asse must be kindly whipped for winsing. 1842 LIVINGSTONE in Blaikie *Life* iii. (1881) 51 They are excellent patients too besides. There is no wincing; everything prescribed is done *instanter*. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii. (1859) 32 There is not a clerk who could raise the money to hire a saddle with an old hack under it that can sit down on his office-stool the next day without wincing. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxviii. 382 He bade goodbye to both of them without wincing.

Winding, *vbl. sb.*2: see WINCH *v.*2

Wi·ncing, *ppl. a.* [f. WINCH *v.*1 + -ING 2.] That winces; †restive (*lit.* and *fig.*); recoiling, flinching.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 12 Winsing asse, Kicking colt, and such like nick-names. 1699 TORRIANO, *Cavallinadonna*, a skittish, or winsing woman. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Colinese Collect.* (Maitland Club) 234 The Franciscans..were a set of poor whinsing-like bodies. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, The scruples of such wincing

wincing flank of the sweating..mare.

Hence **Wi·ncingly** *adv.*

1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* I. x, Belinda..shrinks wincingly away. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. viii. 131 She remembered it..wincingly, insurgently.

Winck(e, obs. forms of WINK.

Wincopipe, obs. form of WINK-A-PEEP.

Wind (wind, *poet. also* weind), *sb.*1 Forms: 1– **wind**, 3–6 **wynd**, (4 **wint**, **wynt**, **whynde**, **wend**, *Sc.* **vend**), 4–6 **wynde**, *Sc.* **vynd**, 4–7 **winde**, (5 **wende**, **wyind**, **wijnd**, **wyynd**; *Sc.* 6–7 **wound**, 6–8 **win**, 9 **win'**, **wun**). [OE. *wind* = OFris., OS., (M)LG., (M)Du. *wind*, OHG., MHG. *wint*, *wind-* (G. *wind*), ON. *vindr* (Sw., Da. *vind*), Goth. *winds* :— OTeut. **windas* :— pre-Teut. **wentos*, cognate with L. *ventus*, W. *gwynt*, Breton *guent*; orig. a pres. ppl. formation (**wēnto-*) f. root *wē-* of OE. *wāwan* (see WOWE), OHG. *wājan* (G. *wehen*), Goth. *waian* to blow, waft, Lith. *vėjas* wind, OSl. *vějati* blows, *větrŭ* wind, OIr. *feth* air, Gr. *ἄηται* (:— **ἄϝηται*) blows, *ἀήτης* wind, Skr. *vāti* blows, *vāta* wind.

The normal pronunciation would be (weind), as in *behind*, *bind*, *find*, *grind*, *kind*, *mind*, *rind*, etc., and this pronunciation remains dialectally and in ordinary poetical usage. The pronunciation (wind) became current in polite speech during the 18th c.; it has been used occas. by poets, but the paucity of appropriate rhyming words (such as *sinned*, *thinned*, *dinned*) and the 'thinness' of the sound are against its general use in verse. The short vowel of (wind) is presumably due to the influence of the derivatives *windmill*, *windy*, in which (i) is normal.

1747 JOHNSON *Plan of Engl. Dict.* 12 To fix the pronunciation of monosyllables, by placing with them words of correspondent sound..so that the words *wound* and *wind*, as they are now frequently pronounced, will not rhyme to *sound*, and *mind*.

The following quots. contain examples of the pronunciation (wind) in modern poets:—

1895 LYNCH *Rivulet* LXXXI. (*Jerusalem*) iii, She hath sinned; Like ashes now her scattered sons Fly on the wind. 1866 SWINBURNE *Poems, A Litany* 17 As the tresses and wings of the wind Are scattered and shaken, I will scatter all them that have sinned. 1885 TENNYSON *Wreck* vii, When her orphan wail came borne in the shriek of a growing wind, And a voice rang out in the thunders of Ocean and Heaven 'Thou hast sinn'd'. 1913 BRIDGES *La Gloire de Voltaire* 94 When sickening France adulterously sinned With Virtue, and went mad conceiving wind.)

I. The literal sense, in various applications.

1. Air in motion; a state of movement in the air; a current of air, of any degree of force perceptible to the senses, occurring naturally in the atmosphere, usually parallel to the surface of the ground.

a. In general or collective sense.

In the collective sense now always with the definite article.

(*a*) *sing. Beowulf* 1132 Holm storme weol, won wið winde. *c* 897 ALFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* XXXIX. 283 Se ðe him ealneg wind ondræt, he sæwð to seldon. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 1272 Winde gelloccost, þonne he..hlud astigeð. 972 *Bilehl. Hom.* 63 Ne bið þær hungor, ne þurst, ne wind, ne gewean. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 47 Se ðe gaderes mihtes wiðuten esdmodnesse, .. he is ilich ðe manne ðe berð dust amideward ðe winde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23667 Hat and cald and rain and wind. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 372 Þe wawes were so wode Wiþ winde. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 92 Whan þe wind on þe watur þe wawis areregh. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 72 A reede wawinge wiþ þe wynde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) I. 10 The eyr so cleer þat men may fynde no wynd here. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Sommer) 38 On a night whan hit was paisible of wynd & of storme. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xviii(ii). 42, I will beate them as small as the dust before the wynde. — *Amos* iv. 13 He maketh the mountaynes, he ordeneth the wynde. 1594 *Selimus* C 2, Let our winged courriers tread the winde. 1609 DEKKER

——— *Alm.* G, He ——— chary ouer her, that it grieued him the winde should blowe on her. 1624 Quarles *Job Militt.* ix. 4 A storme of wind. 1667 Milton *P. L.* i. 232 As when the force Of subterranean wind transports a Hill Torn from Pelorus. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* i. 438 Bare were her Knees, and knots her Garments bind; Loose was her Hair, and wanton'd in the Wind. 1794 Vancouver *Agric. Cambridge* 177 Water engines that go by wind. 1849 James *Woodman* viii, Not a breath of wind crossed the heavens. 1887 *Field* 10 Dec. 897 [He] kicked off..against both wind and sun. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 104/2 A gust of wind blew the plaintiff's mackintosh coat against the fence.

(*b*) *pl.* c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xviii[i]. 11 [10] *Volavit super pinnas ventorum*, flex ofer fiðru winda. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 51 Þas windas & þas regnas syndon ealle his. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22630 Windes on ilk side sal rise. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 34 Right now the hyhe wyndes blowe. *c* 1460 Metham *Wks.* (1916) 157 [I]ff Crystemes day falle vp-on Moneday, yt schuld be a gret wyntyr, and fulle off wyndys. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* ii. xi, Hither the winds blow, here the spring-tide roar. *a* 1614 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 261 The Lord of Armies, wha ryddes upon the winges of the woundes. 1638–56 Cowley *Davideis* i. Notes, Wks. 1710 I. 357 The Matter of Winds is an Exhalation arising out of the Concavities of the Earth. 1748 Gray *Alliance* 43 Command the Winds, and tame th' unwilling Deep. 1830 Tennyson *Ode to Mem.* 14 The dew-impearled winds of dawn. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. viii. 263 The lighter débris is scattered by the winds far and wide over the glacier.

b. In particularized use (see also 2).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 56 Bærn eal to somne on ða healfe ðe se wind sy. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3087 Dis wind hem brogte ða skipperes. 13.. *Cursor M.* 18919 (Gött.) Þar come a sune vte of þe air..Wid a wend at come wid-all And..fild all þat hall. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 52 An hote wende. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xiv. 39 A small rayne abatyth a grete wynd. 1682 Dryden *Medal* 252 The Climate, vex't with various Winds. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* v. v, And soon I heard a roaring wind. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxviii, There was just such a wind and just such a fall of snow, a good many years back. 1880 Sutherland *Tales of Goldfields* I Hot winds and floods destroyed the crops. 1895 Stopf. Brooke in Jacks *Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 580 A low wind wandered about like a fairy.

c. A symbolical representation of the wind. (Cf. F. *têtes de vents.*)

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxi, A cherub on a monument, with cheeks like a young Wind.

d. *fig.* (sometimes = 'rage'): cf. Whirlwind 2.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* I. 45 Sle them all either for ffoo or ffrende: thus he commaundid in his furious wynde. 1787 Beckford *Italy* (1834) II 248 The wind is up in the archbishop's brain just at this moment, and by the least contradiction more would become a hurricane. 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xi, Lady Petherwin crashed out of the room in a wind of indignation.

2. With specific reference to the direction from which it blows; usually qualified by the name of a point of the compass, or in *pl.* by a numeral, esp. *four* (hence sometimes *transf.* = points of the compass, directions).

c 725– [see South *a.* 3]. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vi. § 1 Se suðerna wind hwilum mid miclum storme ʒedrefeð þa sæ. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xii. 14 Ðif hine lytle ær stormas ʒestondaþ & se stearca wind, norðan & eastan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Ðas feower heafodwindas habbaþ betweox him on ymbhwyrfte oðre eahta windas. *c* 1340– [see North *a.* 3]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 14 Þis souþ-Westerne wynt. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* i. met. iii. (1868) 9 Þe wynde þat hyȝt borias. 1377– [see South-west C. 1]. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS. 19.* No. I. lib. 1. c. 4 lf. 12 b, The four wyndes, & thayre 8 wyndes. 1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxxvii. 9 Fro four wyndys cum, thou spirit. *c* 1425 *MS. Digby* 233 lf. 224 b/2 Est wynde .. hath tweyne syde wyndes oþer quarter wyndes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 61 The marynalis..hes..discriuit thretty tua sortis of vyndis. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 397 When the Winde is Southerly. 1620 — *Temp.* I. ii. 254 To run vpon the sharpe winde of the North. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. vi. (1635) 151 One Rhumbe answers to two coasts or windes. 1651 T. Barker *Art of Angling* (1820) 2 The Winde in the South, than that blows the Flie in the Trouts mouth. 1659 Twysden *S. Foster's Miscell.* xiv. v. 87 Project these Azimuths or winds into the horizontal line. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 516 Toward the four winds four speedy Cherubim Put to thir mouths the sounding Alchymie. 1819 Shelley *Ode to West Wind* I. 2 O, wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xviii, The wind was a nor'-wester. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxviii, The cousins disperse to the four winds of heaven.

3. In reference to navigation, as the means of propulsion of a sailing vessel.

Beowulf 217 Ȝewat þa ofer wæȝholm winde ȝefysed flota famiheals. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. i, To þon ðætte.. ȝesyndȝe windas..usic æt lande ȝebrohte. *c* 1205 Lay. 236 He þonene iuatte forð æȝein mid þan winde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6827 Þe wind hom paide wel & to þe se hii come. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXI. 112/83 Þe wynt wox þo contrarious. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 44 Þan vent þai to þe se .. & .. gud vend þai had. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* xxxiii. 80 As thay wer wynd abydynge. 1543–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 249 The saidis beistis witht artalȝe, quhilkis war seperat ——— ——— d. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 Afoir the vynd. 1627 Mouxon *Tim.* I. 209 We sayled commonly with a fore wind, the winds being more constant in that sea. *a* 1629 Manwaryng *Seamen's Dict.* (1644) s. v. *Ride*, To *Ride betwixt wind and tide*, is when the wind and tyde have equall power. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Provid.* xxiii, The windes, who think they rule the mariner, Are rul'd by him, and taught to serve his trade. 1691 *Sir J. Ashby's Acc. Engagem.* 35 If the Wind had stood, we should have had more fighting. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. i. I set up my sail, the wind being fair. 1792 Mrs. P. L. Powys *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 268 [We] set off in our vessel for Ryde, with wind and tide both against us. 1879 [see Fair *a.* 13].

b. *Naut.* in various expressions referring to the direction or position of the wind in relation to the ship: hence also allusively.

e. g. *To gain, get*, or *take the wind of*, to get to windward of (another ship) so as to intercept the wind, to get the weather gage of; so to *give, have the wind of. To keep one's* (*the, a good*) *wind*, to keep close to the wind without falling away to leeward. *To take the wind out of the sails of* (fig.), to deprive of one's means of progress, put a check upon the action of, put at a disadvantage. *To turn* (*the*) *wind*, to turn so as to get on the other side of the wind. (For other phrases, as *to haul one's wind, to hold a good wind*, etc. see the verbs.)

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 13 By turnyng wynde at an est south of the moone. 1583 Gresham in Burgon *Life* (1839) II. 41 They did all they colde to tacke the wynde of us. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 198 All the three Biskainers made toward our ship, which was not carelesse to get the winde of them all. 1600 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 97 We havinge the wynde of the Spanishe ships. 1689 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* ii. 7 We..made all haste possible to gaine the winde of him. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 74/2 The Zealand Admiral kept his wind, the Admiral of the Blew, with eight or ten more standing after him. *a* 1687 Petty *Treat. Naval Philos.* i. iii, What makes her [*sc.* a ship] Leeward or keep a good Wind. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xxvi. 350 They are oblig'd to take the Wind of us. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/1 The Wind shifted..to the Westward, which gave the Enemy the Wind of us. 1805 Nelson 6 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 82 To keep the wind under three topsails and foresail for the night. 1822 Scott *Nigel* ix, He would take the wind out of the sail of every gallant. *a* 1828 *Young Allan* vi. in Child *Ballads* viii. 379 My master has a coal-carrier Will take the wind frae thee. She will gae out under the leaf, Come in under the lee, And nine times in a winter night She'll turn the wind wi thee. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXV. 333, I felt the ship bring her wind a-quarter. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 339/2 A young upstart of a rival, Llanelly..which has taken a great deal of the wind out of the sails of its older neighbor.

4. As conveying scent, esp. the scent of a person or animal in hunting, etc.: in various phr., *lit.* and *fig.*

To take, have, get, gain the wind of, to scent or detect by or as by the wind; hence occas. to keep under observation. Conversely, *to give* (an animal) *one's wind. To keep the wind*, to keep the game on the windward side so as to scent it, or so that it does not scent one. †*On one's wind*, on one's trail or track. † *To the wind*, to windward. *Within wind of*, near enough to be detected by.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7956 Þis seiȝen þe sexten þousinde & comen swiþe on our winde. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vii. 469 The stynk scalyt off ded bodyis.., The Scottis abhord ner hand for to byd; Ȝeid to the wynd. 1530 Palsgr. 751/1, I take the wynde, as a dere dothe of a person...Let hym take good hede that they take nat the wynde of him. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 133 My sonne and I will haue the winde of you. 1593 — *3 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 14 Hee knowes the Game, how true hee keepes the winde? 1601 — *All's Well* v. ii. 10 *Clo.* Truely, Fortunes displeasure is but sluttish if it smell so strongly as thou speak'st of..Prethee alow the winde. *Par.* Nay you neede not to stop your nose sir: I spake but by a Metaphor. 1608 — *Ham.* III. ii. 362 Why do you go about to recouer the winde of mee, as if you would driue me into a toyle? 1606 Marston *Parasit.* II. D 1, Peace the woolfes eare takes the winde of vs. *Ibid.* III. F 1 b, We can take the winde, And smell you out. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 391 We could smell them out in the thick Woods if we had but the wind of them. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xviii, I gave the large herd my wind, upon which they instantly tossed their trunks aloft. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xviii. ii. V. 36 For here are the Prussians within wind of us! 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* x, We had run up the trades to get the wind of the island we were after. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 251/3 A small troop of four rhebok, which had..got our wind shortly before. 1890 S. W. Baker *Wild Beasts* II. 92, I have myself been hunted out of the jungle by two rhinoceroses which thus gained our wind.

5. In alliterative conjunction with *weather*: most freq., now always, *wind and weather*; formerly also *weather and wind*, also with *the*, or with one or both sbs. in pl.

†(*a*) orig. connoting stormy inclement weather (cf Weather *sb.* 1 g, h); (*b*) later, in neutral sense, atmospheric conditions as favourable or unfavourable for travelling; (*c*) now chiefly with reference to exposure to weathering influences.

a 1225 *Juliana* 72 Buldeð ower boldes uppon treowe staðele þat ne dreden na wind ne na weder nowðer. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 444 Where þe wynde & þe weder warpen hit wolde, Hit sa3tled. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalen*) 220 Bo[t] tholyt al þat haly rowte In wynd & wedyre ly bare-owt Of bare tempil. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. viii. 42 Like to þe grete wawes, þat as wyndes and wederes walweth aboute. *a* 1400 *Octovian* 1237 Good wynd and wedyr þay hadde at wylle. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 335/1 At the next Wynde and Wedder that wille serve theym. 1513 Sir E. Howard in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 150 If wynde and wedour will serve. 1587 *Maitland Club Misc.* (1840) II. 356 That he sould keip his hour wind and weddar servand. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. v. 255 Tis in graine sir, 'twill endure winde and weather. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 330 (1810) 341 Wind and weather were ever against him, a proverb applied to the unfortunate. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* iv. (1661) 56 With what art..the Papacy..was tacked into the Church contrary to wind and weather. 1667 Wellshurst in Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 293 If it should be my fortune to meet with prizes, I shall bring them here, if wind and weather will permit me. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 27 June, If it did not come in due time, can I help wind and weather? 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lix, It is a great house still, proof against wind and weather.

6. As a thing devoid of sense or perception, or that is unaffected by what one does to it: in phrases usually expressing futile action or effort, as *to beat the wind* (see Beat *v.*[1] 12 *b*), *to speak to the wind.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7050, xii hundred ogain fourti þou-

sinde Ferd, so smoke ogain þe winde. 1396 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 b, In so doynge, it may not be sayd that we bete the wynde. 1569 Blagge *Sch. Conceytes* 261 He maketh to the winde. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* G iij, I see I swimme againste the streame, I kicke against a gode, I caste a stone against the winde. 1599 Peele *David & Bethsabe* B iij b, He..makes their weapons wound the senceless winds. 1614 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* G 3, To strike Ayres, or buffet with the Winde, That playes vpon vs. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Shilling* C 4, Like throwing feathers 'gainst the winde. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 393 Entellus wasts his Forces on the Wind. 1713 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Apr., This I tell her, but talk to the winds. 1860 Miss Yonge *Hopes & Fears* I. 201 'Have you spoken to her?' 'As well speak to the wind.'

7. In comparisons, as a type of violence or fury († phr. *wroth as* (*the*) *wind*), swiftness, freedom or unrestrainable character, mutability or fickleness, lightness or emptiness (cf. 14).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 410 He wex as wroth as þe wynde towarde oure lorde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 330, 'I may no lenger lette', quod he, .. And went away as wynde. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 770 Schir Golograse for greif his gray ene brynt, Wod wraith as the wynd. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxvi. 27 Purpois dois change as wynd or rane. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 b, All dependeth of a thynge that is more lyght than is the wynde. *c* 1585 [R. Browne] *Answ. Cartwright* 83 A man of the winde, and false fellowe. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 94 About the wood, goe swifter then the winde. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 100 Vaine phantasie..more inconstant then the wind. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 253 Speake frankely as the winde. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 499 Thou shalt be as free As mountaine windes. 1785 C. Wilkins tr. *Bhagvat-Geeta* vi. 66, I esteem it as difficult strain as the wind. 1885 Longf. *My last Youth* i, A ... of a Lapland song..'A boy's will is the wind's will'.

II. Transferred senses. (See also 1 c, 2.)

†8. Air in general, as a substance or 'element'. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

To take wind: to become tainted or corrupted by exposure to or access of air; also *fig.*

c 1250 *Hymn* in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 Þu scenpe eld & wind & water, þe molde is þet feorþe. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 56 Witt and water, wynd and fuyr. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 101/19 In heuene, wiþ angels, aboue þe wynde. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 34 Do hit in a barel þenne ... Stop wele þo hede for wynde. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 183 It hath taine to much wynde in the poudryng tubbe. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lv. ii, Then say I, O might I but cutt the wind Borne on the wings the fearfull dove doth beare. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* I. iii. 82 Whither are they vanish'd? *Macb.* Into the Ayre: and what seem'd corporall, Melted, as breath into the Winde. *a* 1620 Healey *Theophrastus* To Rdr. (1636) 1 2, By powring it out of the Latin into the vulgar..it cannot but (by my vnskilfulnesse) it hath taken some wind. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 998 The Sword it selfe must be Wrapped vp Close, as farre as the Ointment goeth, that it taketh no Wind. 1685 J. Chamberlayne *Coffee, Tea*, etc. 44 If it [*sc.* tea] takes wind, 'tis spoiled, and has no more strength then dead leven. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 180 Settle the Ground about the Plants, lest the Roots take Wind.

b. *Wind and water.* (*a*) in phr. *between* (or *betwixt*) *wind and water* (Naut.), referring to that part of a ship's side which is sometimes above water and sometimes submerged, in which part a shot is peculiarly dangerous; hence in fig. phr. expressing serious injury or attack. (*b*) attrib. and comb., as *wind and water line*, the part of a ship's side between wind and water; also *transf.* (see quot. 1876 [1]); †*wind and water tight* adj., proof against wind and rain or flood.

a 1552 *Hye Way to Spittel Hous* 625 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 52 Landlordes that do no reparacyons, But laue..Theyr

——— ———ght ———haue sonke. 1614 T. Herode in W. Foster *Lett. E. Ind. Co.* (1897) II. 94 His ship had been long out and very much eaten between wind and water. *a* 1652 A. Wilson *Inconstant Ladie* III. iv, Now they haue crackt mee betwixt wind and water A'most past cure. Stay, let me feele my selfe. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* X. ii. § 20 The good old man was shot between Wind and Water, and his consent was assaulted in a dangerous joincture of time to give any deniall. 1691 *Satyr agst. French* 27 These Female Frigats did more Mischiefs scatter, By their low tire of Guns 'twixt wind and water. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 260 They ..had receiv'd a Shot between Wind and Water, and the Ship leak'd very much. 1876 Preece *Telegraphy* 161 The ground line, or, as it is more frequently termed, the wind and water line. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* V. ix. 426 The 'Congress'..was hulled twelve times, and hit seven times between wind and water.

9. Compressed or confined air; air that inflates or is contained within some body. Now *rare* (and superseded by *air*) exc. as in 10, 12 (*b*). (With quot. 1689 cf. Windage 1.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 A bleddre ibollen ful of winde. *Ibid.*, A neilde prikiunge worpeð al ut þene wind. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. v. 17 As a blather full of wynde. 1580 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* I. (1562) A vij, A blather full implete wyth wynde. 1615 Markham *Country Contentm.* I. viii. 109 A great ball of double leather fild with winde. 1689 Binning *Light to Art of Gunnery* xiii. 42 How to Extract the Wind from the Bore of a Peece Geometrically, and thereby to know a fit Ball for the same.

10. 'Air' or gas in the stomach or intestines (or, according to early notions, in other parts of the body); flatus. † Also *pl.*

To break wind, to discharge flatus from the stomach or bowels (see Break *v.* 47); † of a remedy, to cure or dispel

a 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 224 Xif sio wamb bib windes full, þonne cymð þæt of wiacre wætan. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvii. (Hodl. MS.) Grete ventosite and winde þat stoppiþ þe weye of þe brea þ. *a* 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 151 For wynd in þe hed. *c* 1400 *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 70 It sterye hete to þe body, and destroyes wyndes. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xxix. (1870) 292 Make no restryctyon of wynde and water, nor seege that nature wolde expelle. 1552–[see Break *v.* 47]. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxi § 76 An ouer-much quantity of a confection to breake winde from off his stomacke. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* v. 89 The vse of milke is very hurtfull vnto them that are subiect to winde. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 126 The hungry Sheep..swoln with wind. 1661 Pepys *Diary* 24 Aug., His pain (which was wind got into the muscles of his right side). 1708 J. Purcell *Cholick* (1714) 65 When the Pain spreads itself all over the Belly, 'tis occasion'd for the most part by Winds. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 378 That the Liver produces a Wind in the Heart that is, the Rarifaction of Humours. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 206/1, I can dispel wind in two minutes. 1855 Leech *Pict. Life & Char.* I, *Domestic Bliss.* [speaking of a baby] That is not taking notice; it's only the wind. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 911 Even respectable people take the ether.., pretending that it is useful for 'the wind in the stomach'.

b. *To get the wind up* (slang): to get into a state of alarm or 'funk'. So *to put the wind up* (a person).

1916 P. Gibbs *Battles of Somme* xxii. 172 It was obvious that the blinking Boche had got the wind up. 1922 C. Alington *Strained Relations* viii. 118, I tell you you've absolutely put the wind up Uncle Bob and Peter! They're scared to death of your finding them out.

11. Air inhaled and exhaled by the lungs: = Breath *sb.* 3. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by d below.

a 1000 *Riddles* xv. 14 Ic [*sc.* a horn] winde sceal sincfag swelxan of sumra bosme. 13 . *K. Alis.* 6415 (Laud MS.) A litel hole in her chyn Where her wynde goob out & in. 13.. *Cursor M.* 531 (Gött.) Þis wind [*Cott.* aand] þat men draus oft Bitakins wind þat blauis on loft. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii. 99 Þe preste..castes a cloth on his mouth and stoppes his wynde. 1535 *Goodly Primer* O ij b, I begynne to waxe faynte, and scarcely able to drawe my wynde. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xiv. xxii. I. 497 His wind he never tooke while the cup was at his mouth, but justly observed the rule of drinking with one breath. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 33 She does so blush, & fetches her winde so short, as if she were fraid with a sprite. 1611 *Bible* Ecclus. xxxi. 19 And he fetcheth not his wind short vpon his bed [*marg.* Or, and lieth not puffing and blowing]. 1885 *Field* 4 Mar. 251/2 Which seemed to knock all the wind out of him. 1918 H. Lauder *Minstrel in France* xv. 174, I had precious little wind left to breathe with.

b. Breath as used in speaking; hence *transf.* speech, talk (esp. in such phr. as *to waste one's wind*). *Obs.* or *arch.* (exc. as implied in Long-winded 2).

a 1330 *Otuel* 216 Þat wind þou hauest i-lore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9788 All þaire wordis þai wast, & þaire wynd also. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 97 Do way, mercy, þou spillist myche winde. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 795 Ye noye me sore, in wastyng all þis wynde. *c* 1520 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 565, Let vs wast no wynde For ydle iangelers haue but lytill braine. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 53 Stop in your winde sir, tell me this I pray. 1600 — *Ham.* IV. vii. 67 For his death no winde of blame shall breath. 1626 Withals *Dict.* 573 *Os opprime*, keepe your wind to coole your pottage. 1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 216 The Earl Buchan, tender but, and Young He did obtain for the wind of his Tongue.

c. Breathing as a vital process; hence *transf.* life: = Breath *sb.* 5. *Obs.* exc. in low slang.

c 1430 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 226 My wynde is stoppyd, gon is my brethe. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 92 Now deth is vnkynd; For he seyth: 'Man! stop thy wynde'. 1638 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* i. 8 The Scythians.. swore by winde and sword, that is, by life and death. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Wind*, a man transported for his natural life, is said to be *lag'd for his wind*. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) 247 *To slip one's wind*, coarse expression meaning to die.

d. Easy or regular breathing; power or capacity of breathing; condition with regard to respiration: = Breath *sb.* 7. Now only in sporting phrases.

Second wind, a condition of regular breathing regained after breathlessness during long-continued exertion. *Wind and limb, limb and wind*: see Limb *sb.*[1] 2 d.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8456 What for sorwe & eke for paine, Sche les winde & ek alaine. *Ibid.* 9226 Þer whiles Merlin ..Dede his out wende, to take þe winde. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 204 Þis bargayne will noght bee, For certis me wantis wynde. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* II. 1465 She was lyfted vp and comforted newe a-gayn. And at the laste, whan she had caute wynde, 'Allas,' she seyde. ? 1529–30 Wolsey in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 87 My breathe and wynde by sything was so short that [etc.]. 1579 E. K. *Gloss* in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Apr 50 He was almost out of wind [*other edd.* winde]. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. ii. 24 If I trauell but foure foot by the squire further a foote, I shall breake my winde. 1606 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* II. i. 27, I never was more sound of winde and limbe. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* III. 8 By the many stops and stayes which are made therein, the horse recouers his winde. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. i. 9 Blow till thou burst thy winde. 1630 R. *Discolliminium* 39 Reformation of Religion has come..in such post-haste, that it hath broke its owne winde. 1686 Jevon *Devil of a Wife* I. 6 Ay and be holds out the Note of one Verse till the Clark begins to sing the next, he has a pure Wind. 1735 Somerville *Chace* I. 252 His round Cat Foot, strait Hams, and wide-spread Thighs, And his low-dropping Chest, confess his Speed, His Strength, his Wind. 1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 18 After sparring for wind in which the Black was deficient. 1830 Hood *Epping Hunt* Advt. to end ed., I am much gratified to learn from you, that the Epping Hunt has had *such a run*, that it is *quite exhausted*, and that you intend therefore to give the work what may be called '*second wind*', by a new impression. 1838 Dickens *Nick. Nick.* xxii, You had better get your wind now, and change your clothes. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* I. 19 Schoolboys are generally in prime wind. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. v, Three-quarters of an hour are gone; first winds are failing, and weight and numbers are beginning to tell. *Ibid.* II. v, Tom..hits two heavy body blows, and gets away again before the Slogger can catch his wind. 1893 Lydekker *Horns & Hoofs* 247 A bull..if allowed to get its 'second wind'..will go on almost for ever.

(*b*) in reference to diseased or disordered breathing in horses: see Broken wind.

[1523–: implied in Broken-winded]. 1615 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Urania* xlix. C 2, When hee's [i.e. the horse is] broken in his winde. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. i. 14 Loose from the rapid Car your aged Horse, Lest in the Race..He drag his jaded Limbs, and burst his Wind. 1777 Thicknesse *Journ. France* (1789) I. 18 A very handsome English coach-horse (a little touched in the wind). 1918 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V* c. 23 § 3 On the ground only of the stallion being affected in its wind.

e. *transf.* (*Pugilistic slang*). That part of the body in front of the stomach a blow upon which takes away the breath by checking the action of the diaphragm.

1823 in H. D. Miles *Pugilistica* (1906) II. 206 Ward made play—whack on the head at both sides, then at the wind. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxvi, Judy .. pokes him .. particularly in that part which the science of self-defence would call his wind. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 7/3 Sharkey came back with his right, delivering several smashes on Corbett's wind.

12. Air as used for 'blowing' or sounding a musical instrument (*wind-instrument*) such as a horn, trumpet, flute, etc., or an organ-pipe: either (*a*) the blast or stream of air thus used, furnished by the breath of the player or by bellows; (*b*) the supply of air from which this is obtained, usually under compression (cf. 9), as in the *wind-chest* of an organ; or (*c*) the body of air within the instrument, whose vibration produces the sound.

spec. in *Hunting*, A blast or series of blasts on a horn blown at one breath.

causith it for to rage. 1596 Grendall *Hawking* etc. G iij b, When you goe into the field, blow with one wind one short, one long, and a longer. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 708 As in an Organ from one blast of wind To many a row of Pipes the sound-board breaths. 1700 Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 357 Their Instruments were various in their kind, Some for the Bow, and some for breathing Wind. 1788 Crowe *Lewesdon Hill* 27 Instruments of wind and string. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* I. iii. 21 The wind in the pipes of an organ. 1913 G. B. Shaw *Androcles* Prol. *stage dir.*, Heaving a long sigh, like wind in a trombone, he goes to sleep.

b. *transf.* The wind-instruments of an orchestra (or their players) collectively, as distinguished from the 'strings' and 'percussion'.

1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms, Wood wind, or Wood wind-band*, the flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, and instruments of their nature, in an orchestra. 1880 Rockstro in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 561/2 An Orchestra consisting of thirty Stringed Instruments, with a full complement of Wind. 1904 *Daily News* 25 Feb. 8/5 The wind and percussion are prominent members of London orchestras.

13. A blast of air artificially produced, *e.g.* by bellows (see also 12); the rush of air caused by a rapidly moving body. Const. *of*.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 48 The wynde of the belowes. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. i, He..whiskt his sword about, And with the wind thereof the King fell downe. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 495 With the whiffe and winde of his fell Sword, Th' vnnerued Father fals. 1626 Peeke *Threes to One* B 2 b, The last Shotte flying so close by Captaine Portar, that with the winde of the Bullet his very Hands had almost lost the Sence of feeling. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 247 He was knocked down by the wind of the shell. 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* III. v. 75 The bullet went so close that the wind of it half turned him round.

III. Figurative and allusive uses. (See also 1 d, 3 b, 4, 8, 8 b, 10 b, and phrases in IV.)

14. Applied to something empty, vain, trifling, or unsubstantial. a. Empty talk, vain or ineffectual speech, mere 'breath' (cf. 11 b); †*occas.* empty fame (*obs.*).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 289 Word nis azein hire bote wind. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 240 It [*sc.* what you say] is but wynde, no þinge for to leue. 1423 *Pol. Poems* 52/50 For word of wynd lityl treapase; Non harm nys don, þouȝ word be spoken. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Jewel* 159 (Makculloch MS.) Of þis mater to speik it wair bot wynd. 1564 Becon *Whs.* I. Pref. ✠ C iv, When such as are yet weake in knowledge of Christ..see nothyng in the Preachers but wynde & words. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 282 Nor think thou with wind Of airie threats to awe whom yet with deeds Thou canst not. 1798 Coleridge *Three Graves* 194 A curse is wind. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xix, Hard words, or kind ones,..are but wind.

b. Vain imagination or conceit (with which one is 'puffed up': cf. 9); also *wind in the head* (with allusion to 10).

1484 Caxton *Chivalry* 86 A knyght that .. byleueth in deuynaylles..hath gretter fayth and hope in the wynde of his bede..and the deuynours than in god. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 103 Pryde .. bloweth & fylleth a man or woman full of wynde & vayne glory. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. xxxix. 198 When Mutianus had filled with these windes of hope and desire his empty vainglorious minde. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 311 Many..puffe up their owne conceits with nothing els but winde. 1634 Sir R. *Noble Soldier* III. I 2, Fellowes which swell bigge with the wind of praise. 1779 J. Brown in R. Mackenzie *Life* (1918) 146, I hope the Lord has let some of the wind out of you, that I thought was in you when first I knew you. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 765/2 He has probably got wind in the head through living in that gorgeous Gothic

c. *gen.*

1382 Wyclif *Job* vii. 7 Haue mynde, for wind is my lif [Coverdale, my life is but a wynde]. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. xxvi. 18 Wee haue bene w[t] chylde, .. as though we had brought forth winde. 1580 — (Genev.) Hosea xii. 1 Ephraim is fed with the winde. 1687 P. Ayres *Lyric Poems* (1906) 306 Plough water, sow on rocks, and reap the wind. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 575 Then all his Frauds will vanish into Wind. 1831 James *Philip Aug.* xxi, But, in the mean time, we are disputing about wind. 1850 Carlyle *Latter-Day Pamph.* v. 25 Is Society become wholly a bag of wind, then, ballasted by guineas?

15. In various proverbial and other expressions, figuring or denoting a force, agency, or influence that drives or carries one (or something) along, or that strikes upon one (or something), or to which one (or something) is exposed.

adj. in phrases (with variations; see quots.) *What wind blows you here?*; †*All this wind shakes no corn* (obs.); *It's an ill wind that blows nobody good* (orig. †*to good*: cf. 3). *To raise the wind*: see Raise *v.* 7. *To sow the wind and reap the whirlwind*: see Whirlwind 2.

(*a*) in neutral or favourable sense.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1104 What maner wyndes eydeth yow now here? 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 20 What wynde bloweth ye hyther? *Ibid.* 30 To take wynde and tyde with me, and spede thether. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 996 (*Antonius*) To tell him what wind brought him thither. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. iii. 30. 1639 Mayne *City Match* I. iii, All this is possible, And in the starres and windes. 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxvii. (1687) 309 When we have the Wind and Tyde of these pleasures to help us forward. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxii, A good wind of laughter had relieved him of much of the blight of self-deception, and oddness, and extravagance. 1877 Dowden *Shaks. Prim.* v. 54 Shakspere is not yet caught up in the passionate wind of his own imagination.

(*b*) in unfavourable sense.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlii. 306 Ne læte ge eow ælcre lare wind aweggan. [*Eph.* iv. 14.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26095 Quat es mans lijf bot..a rek þat..skailles wit a windes blast? 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* XIX. 32 The worlde is a wykkede wynde to hem þat wolde treuthe. *c* 1450 *Cast. Persev.* 2542 It is good, whon-so þe wynde blowe, A man to haue sum-what of his owe. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 211 This wikkit wind of adulatioun. 1526 Tindale *Eph.* iv. 14 Waverynge and caryed with every wynde of doctryne. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 30 All this winde shakis no corne. *Ibid.* 77 An yll wynde that blowth no man to good, men say. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 29 It is an ill winde turnes none to good. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 1 All this wind shakes none of my Corne. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Affliction* (1st), Thus thinne and lean without a fence or friend, I was blown through with ev'ry storm and winde. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 19 They..may let loose the winds of passion to bring in a flood of sorrow. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* II. i, 'Tis an ill Wind that blows no body good. 1768 [see Temper *v.* 2]. 1776 Hume *Hist. Eng., Life* (1778) I. p. xiii, This variety of winds and seasons to which my writings had been exposed. 1815 Wordsw. *Sonn.*, '*Weak is the will of Man*', Wreaths that endure affliction's heaviest shower, And do not shrink from sorrow's keenest wind. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* 1152 Such a wind of pride Impelled thee of yore full sail upon these rocks.

b. In expressions referring to a tendency, turn, or condition of affairs:

a. g. *to know which way the wind blows*; *the wind has changed*; †*is the wind in that corner* or *door?* (see Corner *sb.*[1] 8, Door 6 c); *to sail with every (shift of) wind*, to turn every change of circumstance to one's advantage; †*to have the wind at will*, to have circumstances or conditions favourable for one's purpose.

c 1400 *Gamelyn* 703 To telle him tydynges how the wind was went. 1470–1668 [see Door 6 c]. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 75, I..knew, which waie the winde blewe. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 334 b, The Byshoppes of Germany hauynge the wynde at wyll, restore the same. 1562 Bullingham in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1541/1 Wel Palmer (sayd I) is the wind in that corner with you? I warrant you it wyl blow you to litle ease at thend. 1615 Swetnam *Arraignm. Wom.* To Rdr. A 3, You may perceiue the winde is changed into another dore. 1672 W. Walker *Param.* 9 To have the wind with one. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* IV. xiii, The Wind's chang'd? 1720 R. G. *Sacheverell's Def.* 7 We see the Dissenters can Sail with every Wind. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxv, 'Have I heard!!!' said Caleb (who now found how the wind set). 1859 Farrar *J. Home* iv, Miss Sprong .. seeing how the wind lay, had tried to drop little malicious hints against the favourite nephew.

16. a. *To get* or *take wind*: to be revealed or divulged, become known, transpire. Now *rare*.

1667 Dryden & Dr. Newc. *Sir M. Mar-all* IV. i, Keep this Wooing secret; if it takes the least wind, old Moody will be sure to hinder it. 1688 *News fr. France* 13 So the thing got wind, and was lookt on as a great impiety. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Dec., Masham's being a lord begins to take wind: nothing at Court can be kept a secret. 1808 Scott *Let. to Ellis* 23 Dec. in *Lockhart*, Do you know the Review begins to get wind here? 1835 Prescott *Philip II*, I. II. vi. 402 Long before that time, the project had taken wind, and created a general sensation through the country.

b. *To get wind of*: to receive information or a hint of, to come to know (cf. 4). Also with clause. Hence, in recent use, *wind* = a hint or slight intimation (*of*). (Cf. F. *avoir le vent de*, Cotgr.)

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. vii. P 3 The corregidor .. got wind of our correspondence. 1866 Pcere Alice *Mem.* (1884) 133 They retreated again, when they got wind that troops were assembling. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* IV. iv, Some wind of the disaster seemed to find its way..even to the chamber where the ringers were leaping on their ropes.

1917 T. R. Glover *From Pericles to Philip* xii. 376 It may be that the Spartan government had some wind of this.

IV. Phrases with prepositions.

Before the wind: see Before B. 1 b.

17. By the (†a) wind (*Naut.*): as near as possible to the direction from which the wind is blowing (see By *prep.* 9).

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 19 Hauing stroke our sayles, we did nothing but lie by the winde. *a* 1618 J. Melville *Celeusma Naut.* (MS.), With chearfull schowt and mirrie plesant sounde Scho saild fast be ye winde. 1627 J. Smith *Sea Gram.* ix. 42 All your Sheats, Brases, and Tackes are trimmed by a Winde. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1 The best Sailer I ever met with by a Wind. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 247*. 1806 Moore *Steersman's Song* ii, When by the wind close-hauled we go.

18. Down (the) wind. a. In the direction in which the wind is blowing; along the course of the wind. Also *down-wind* (attrib.), situated in this direction, 'lee'.

1604 Shake. *Oth.* III. iii. 262 I'ld whistle her off, and let her downe the winde, To prey at Fortune. 1674 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* I. (1677) 93 The Hare..will..run upon a side or down the Wind. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 333 Down the wind she swims, and sails away. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* I. 235, I have had a hundred trimmers floating down the wind. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho.* xxxii, The Spaniard fell off again, and went away dead down wind. 1885 Ld. Walsingham *Shooting* 141 (Badm. Libr.) It is best to 'give the dogs the wind' at the beginning of the day—that is, to start down wind and gradually to work the ground in the direction from which it blows. 1895 C. J. Cornish *Wild England* 184 We..found that..the birds had all run to the edge. Here we made the mistake of working the down-wind side first.

†b. *fig.* Towards decay or ruin; into or (commonly) in a depressed or unfortunate condition, in evil plight; *to go down the wind*, to 'go down', decline. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiv. xxiii, When they saw him downe the wind and fortune to frowne upon him. 1675 tr. *Machiavelli's Marr. Belphegor* 141 Though [he] was of one of the noblest Families.., yet he was look'd upon as down the winde [orig. *poverissimo*]. 1673 Cave *Prim. Chr.* II. vi. 147 In the time of Constantine when Paganism began to go down the wind. 1683 — *Ecclesiastici* Introd. p. lxvi, The Gentile-Temples, with all their Pomp and Retinue, went down the wind apace. 1827 Scott *Jrnl.* 25 Apr., The old Tory party is down the wind.

†**19.** In wind (*fig.* from 11 d): ready or fit for action of some kind. *Obs.*

1768 Earl Carlisle in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 356 The shops are all as fine as if they expected you, and the people belonging to them all in wind to answer your questions. 1777 Burke *Let. to Sheriffs of Bristol* Wks. 1842 I. 217 In order to keep power in wind, it was necessary..to exert it in those very points in which it was most likely to be resisted.

20. In the wind. a. In (or into) the direction from which the wind is blowing; to windward: (*a*) in reference to something which can be scented or perceived by means of the wind blowing from where it is (cf. 4, and see also b below); (*b*) in nautical use; also *all in the wind* (see quot. 1769).

c 1410 [see 26]. 1580 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 474 Wee had a ledge of rockes in the winde of vs. 1588 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxiv. 130 He cut and made his course into the Sea, to bring himselfe in the winde of those Sayles. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* III. v, Oh! how she holds her nose up, like a jennet In the wind of a grass-mare! 1678 Dryden *All for Love* Pref., The tyrants were suspicious, as they had reason, that their subjects had 'em in the wind. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3262/3 It blowing fresh, and they bringing their Ship in the Wind, carried away their Foretop-mast. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 3 Like a heated Stallion that had a Mare in the Wind. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *All in the Wind*, the state of a ship's sails when they are parallel to the direction of the wind, so as to shake and shiver. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xvi, We threw up in the wind, and raked them.

b. *fig.* So as to be 'scented' or perceived (or so as to 'scent' or perceive something); *to have in the wind*, to 'scent', to detect or discover the presence of; sometimes, to be on the scent or trail of, be in search of.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. iii. L j, Where we can get any meate in the wynde, thyther wylle we resorte. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 230 Of him and none but him who in valuation is woorth 18 huge Argosees .. haue I took sent or come in the wind of. 1601 Shake. *All's Well* III. vi. 122, I sent to her By this same Cocombe that we haue I'th winde Tokens and Letters, which she did resend. 1624 Sanderson *Serm., 1 Tim. iv. 4* (1674) I. 248 The Courtiers and Officers lie in the wind for them. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* II. 10 June Let. i, The first was noted for having a seaman's eye, when a bailiff was in the wind. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xiii, The Mohicans hear an enemy!..They scent danger in the wind! 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuzz.* xxv, Mrs. Gamp..scenting no more rum in the wind (for the bottle was locked up again) rose to take her departure.

c. predicatively: Happening or ready to happen; astir, afoot, 'up'; (of a person or thing) as the subject of what is going on, 'in the business': usually with implication of being suspected or indistinctly apprehended (cf. b).

c 1535 Sir F. Bryan *Treat. Impropriations* D j, A thynge there is in the wynde..which I trust in God wyl one day come to lyght. *a* 1586 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B iij b, There is sumwhat in the winde: His lookes bewrayes his inwarde troubled wynde. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* III. i. 32 Where are you, Gentlewoman? there's something in the wind I'm sure. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* II. xliv. 304 She thought something was in the wind, when my Brother came into my dining here so readily. 1846 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* v. xiv, There must be something in the wind, perhaps a war. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* iv, There's a woman in the wind. I'll lay my life on it. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* vi, He'd have told us if there was a horse in the wind. It's a girl.

d. *To hang in the wind*: to remain in suspense or indecision.

c 1536 Starkey *Let. to Cromwell* in *England* (1878) p. xxxix, You schal fynd me..to be no sterter, wauerar, nor hengar in the wynd. 1555 J. Proctor *Hist. Wyat's Rebell.* 42 b, Such of those partes as honge in the wind, as neuters. 1640 J. D. *Knave in Grain* II. i. D 2 b, Hang not ith' winde, (delay does torture). 1881 [see Hang *v.* 17].

†e. *To cast in the wind*: to 'fling to the winds'.

1652 H. Bell *Luther's Colloq.* iii. 66 Otherwise, wee had cast in the winde, and scorned to..consider of that which now wee have plainly expressed in the Scriptures. *Ibid.* xl. 178 It regarded them not, but casteth them in the winde.

f. *Horsemanship.* (See quot.)

1805 C. James *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., A horse that carries in the wind, is one that tosses his nose as high as his ears, and does not carry handsomely.

g. *Naut. slang* (predicatively). Intoxicated; the worse for liquor: usually with qualification, esp. *three sheets in the wind.* (Cf. *all in the wind* in a (*b*) above.)

1821–1883 [see Sheet *sb.*[2] 2]. 1833 *Court Mag.* VI. 297/2 The anger of those who were what is termed 'a little in the wind', was now roused. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xlvii, I'm not in the wind, at all events, for you see I'm perfectly sober.

21. Into the wind: into or towards the direction from which the wind is blowing; so as to face the wind.

1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 294/2 You [in an aeroplane] are tempted to turn into the wind and land.

22. Near the wind: nearly in the direction from which the wind is blowing; hence *fig.* nearly up to the possible or permissible limit; about as far as is safe, justifiable, or decent.

1560 W. Honyng in Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 44, I went so near the winde with the keper, that I told hym your Lordshippe knewe I wolde in reason respecte the game as fully as he. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *He'll go as near [illegible] one.* 1837 Wellington in *Davey's Calal.* (1895) 35 It is impossible for me to attempt to go too near the Wind. 1883 [see Sail *v.*[1] 2 c].

23. Off the (†a) wind (*Naut.*): away from the wind; the opposite of *on* or *near the wind.*

1813 *Examiner* 4 Jan. 6/1 The enemy keeping two points off the wind. 1836 Marryat *Pirate* xiv, The Enterprise [illegible] quarterly sea will test your powers to the utmost.

24. On a (less commonly the) **wind** (*Naut.*): towards or close to the direction from which the wind is blowing; (of the ship) sailing or heading in this direction.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1, I crouded Sail to Leeward to him, trimming my Sails on a Wind tho' I went before it, that he should not discover my square Yards. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 342 The prows..sailing most excellently on a wind. 1798 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. cliv, The Swiftsure and Alexander standing towards us with all sail on a wind. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* iv, Clippers are fastest on the wind. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 377 We, being 'on the wind, close hauled, were bound by the 'rule of the road at sea' to keep our course when meeting a ship running free.

25. To the wind. a. *Naut.* Towards the direction from which the wind is blowing; so as to be *on the wind* (see 24). *Close to the wind*, very nearly in this direction: also *fig.* (see Sail *v.*[1] 1 c, and cf. 22).

1795 Nelson 14 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 25 Signal for the Fleet to come to the wind on the larboard tack. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xviii, Gascoigne went to the helm, [and] brought the boat up to the wind.

b. *To fling, give, throw*, etc. *to the winds* (fig.): to cast away, reject utterly. So *to go to the winds*: to be cast away or aside, to vanish utterly.

1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 989 And fear of Death deliver to the Winds. 1739 J. Wesley *Hymn*, *'Commit thou all thy Griefs'* (tr. P. Gerhardt 'Befiehl' du deine Wege') ix, Give to the Winds thy Fears. 1821 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 319 The specious cant of subtilty and self-interest she always..'gave to the winds'. 1884 'Edna Lyall' *We Two* III, Science went to the winds. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* ii, You must throw your fears to the winds.

26. Under the wind: on the side away from the wind; on one's lee, to leeward; *spec.* in a position of shelter from the wind; under the lee of something. Chiefly *Naut.* and *dial.*

c 1420 *Master of Game* xxvi. (1904) 83 If þei may se hym and þei be in þe wynde þei ought to wiþdrawe hym in þe softest maner..and þan go preuyli to þei be vndir þe wynde. 1598 Florio, *Settouento*, vnder the lee or winde. 1603 Lodge *Treat. Plague* iv. (Hunter. Cl.) 23 The healthfull ought to keepe themselues vnder, not ouer the winde. 1608 Fenton *Voy.* 42 They kept their word, so that the Portugueses conveyed the vessel under the wind into a creek. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 131 Always pitch your boat under the wind. 1826 Sabbatilli *Dorset. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 46 The most successful places for nothing are the skirts of woods under the wind. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 92 As he had come up under the wind, the dogs had not scented him.

27. Up (the) wind: in the direction contrary to that in which the wind is blowing; against the wind: the opposite of *down (the) wind*, 18 a.

1611–[see Up *prep.*[1] 4]. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 52. 2/2 Rabits when they go a grazing in the Night go up the Wind. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 269 The Fox has broke Covert,..she runs up the Wind. 1838 [see Up-wind *adv.*].

some birds up wind.

28. Upon a wind (*Naut.*) = 24.

a 1687 Petty *Treat. Naval Philos.* I. ii, The line unto which she stoops upon a Wind of either side. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 They clapp'd again upon a Wind and left us. 1810 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. vii. 276, I would ..endeavour to go, as the sailors express it, *upon* a wind, and make use of it to carry me my own way. 1846 Raikes *Mem. Brenton* 328 Every ship..made all the sail she could carry upon a wind.

29. With the wind: in the direction in which the wind is blowing.

1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 42 b, In reapyng, you must regarde to goe with the wynde. 1607 Topsell. *Four-f. Beasts* 136 He betaketh himselfe to his heeles againe, running still with the wind. 1626 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 48 A gallant Stag..Came running with the winde. 1728 Dr Fox *Col. Jack* (1840) 298 We went spooning away large with the wind for one of the islands.

V. 30. Obvious combinations. a. attrib. Of, pertaining to, consisting of, produced or effected by (the) wind, as *wind-action, -blast, -current, -erosion, -gust, -movement, -power* (Power *sb.*[1] 13), *-pressure, -puff, -storm, -supply* (sense 12); serving for the passage of wind, as *wind-passage*; for defence against the wind, as *wind-guard, -shield.*

1883 *Science* II. 142/2 This in combination with the *wind-action..has added nearly one hundred square miles of lowland. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 19 A great hurly burlye the *wyndblasts. 1902 F. Thompson *Cecil Rhodes* 82 Like to a smouldering fire by wind-blasts swirled. 1866 A. Steinmetz *Weathercasts* 53 Two constant principal *wind-currents—North-east and South-west. 1901 *Athenæum* 7 Dec. 778/2 The study of *wind-erosion of snow. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 12 The following designs in terra cotta chimney tops have proved themselves the most efficient *wind guards introduced. 1820 Clare *Poems, Crazy Nell* x, A *wind-gust blew high. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxv. (1856) 319 The apparent *wind-movements of our exhibitions [of aurora] in Lancaster Sound. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Apr. 155 The average monthly wind movement at Denver is two thousand miles less than at New York. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 303 In the *wind-passage of the fanners. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 14 Jan. 5/2 *Wind-power, water-power, and solar-power are running to waste. 1892 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 677/2 The British Association Committee on *Wind-pressure have reported cases of 80 and 90 lb. to the square foot. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 121 Foorth with her heat fading, her liefe too *windpuf auoyded. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXVII. 327/1 A motor..driven at a rate which the cyclist can follow with the protection of a *wind-shield. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Þe vine..wiþstondeþ þi helpe þerof *winde stormes. 1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* xxxiv. (1884) 263 In a country as open as the sea, wind-storms are frequent and heavy. 1879 *Organ Voicing* 6 If the holes in the upper-board..pinch the *wind-supply.

b. objective, as *wind-gatherer, -seller; wind-making, -spilling* (Spill *v.* 13 b); *wind-obeying, -outspeeding, -raising* (Raise *v.* 7) adjs.; indirect objective = to (the) wind, as *wind-exposed, -like* adj. and adv.; = from or against (the) wind, as *wind-proof* adj.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* III. 323 *Winde-exposed Ilion. 1621 T. Granger *Ecclus.* vi. 26. 130 The *wind-gatherer feeleth the winde, but graspeth naught. 1638 Cowley *Love's Riddle* iv. 1, I am not satisfied with *wind-like promises Which only touch the lips. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. ii. 45 Behold the Nereids under the green sea, Their wavering limbs borne on the wind-like stream. 1590 Shake. *Com. Err.* I. i. 64 Tha alwaies *winde-obeying deepe. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xciv, Their *wind-out-speeding wings. 1616 Chapman *Odyss.* VI. 341 A shore, *wind-proofe, and full of shade. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxvii. 355, I have some eight sledge-loads more to collect before our little home can be called wind-proof. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* V, The *wind-raising conspiracies in which he engages with heroes as unfortunate as himself. 1600 S. Nicholson *Acolastus* (1876) 28 Idle words,..*wind-wasting arbitrators.

c. instrumental, locative, etc. By, in, or with (the) wind, as *wind-beaten, -built, -chapped, -clipped, -dispersed, -fanned, -fertilised,* †*-grown, -parted, -puffed, -rent, -scattered, -struck, -stuffed, -swept, -swung, -tossed, -waved, -whipped, -worn* adjs.; *wind-flowing, -wandering*, etc. adjs.; *wind-wasting* sb. and adj.; *wind-winnow* vb.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 80 A *windbeaten hard shrimp. 1620 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 188 The Casuall and Wind-beaten Discouerie..of a Spanish Pilot. 1800 Campbell *Exile of Erin* 4 To wander alone by the wind-beaten hill. 1646 Quarles *Sheph. Oracles* v. 52 *Wind-blasting Tapours hurry to and fro. 1820 Shelley *Cloud* 35 When I widen the rent in my *wind-built tent. 1629 Quarles *Argalus & P.* III. 3 Aprilis gentle show'rs are alidden downe To close the *wind-chapt earth. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxviii, The row of *wind-clipt trees. 1863 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xiii, The water of the kennels, *wind-dispersed, flew about in drops like rain. 1632 *Two Noble K.* v. 1 146 Pure As *windefand Snow. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* I. 9 *Wind-fertilised flowers produce much more pollen than those which are fertilised by insects. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 222 The *wind-dowing

folds Of its white robe. 1860 T. Gentleman *Rest Way* 11 In distresse of *wind-grown Sea. 1827 Hood *Hero & Leander* x, Like trees, *wind-parted, that embrace anon. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* 40 Those *wind puft bladders. 1592–6 Greene *Groatsw. Wit* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 145 Wind-puft wrath. 1788 Coleridge *Sonn. to Autumnal Moon* 7 The *wind-rent cloud. 1833 Tennyson *Dream Fair Women* viii, White surf *wind-scatter'd over sails and masts. 1880 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Christmas Antiphones* III. 64 Though man's vain desire Hang faith's *wind-struck lyre Out in tuneless air. 1627 May *Lucan* III. 1 Now had the *wind-stuffde sailes brought out the Fleet. 1812 Tennant *Anster Fair* II. lxix, From Cellardyke to *wind-swept Pittenweem. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxxiv, The wind-swept waters. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* I. xiv, The groan of the *wind-swung oak. 1860 Miss Yonge *Hopes & Fears* I. 240 Lucilla..before the glass, arranging her *wind-tossed hair. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* VI. 335 Over the wind-tossed waters. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* I. 6 Some *wind-wandering Fragment of inky thunder-stroke. 1809 R. Kerr *Agric. Surv. Berwick* 233 In years of peculiarly windy weather, the stem, where it enters the earth, is often blown about, in a whirling manner...This is provincially called *wind-waved. 1799 W. Nicol *Pract. Planter* I. 13 *Wind-waving .. by loosening the old, and..breaking the new fibres, contributes to stint the whole tree in growth. *c* 1300 *Metr. Hom.* (Small) 36 To se a *wind waiuande rede. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 406 The wind-waving fig-tree. 1873 B. Harte *Fiddletown* 28 There was a fierce unrest in the *wind-whipped streets. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 116 A Cart Nave I suppose is to stand up upon when they *Wind-winnow. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxxii, The ruin'd wall Stands when its *wind-worn battlements are gone.

d. similative and parasynthetic, in epithets (chiefly poetic) expressing swiftness, as *wind-foot, -footed, -swift, -winged* adjs.

1598 Chapman *Iliad* VII. (XI.) 178 The *wind-foote swift Thaumantia obayde. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 272 *Wind-footed, swift Iris. *c* 1280 *Names of Hors in Rel. Ant.* I. 133 Pe *wint swift. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* II. v. 8 Therefore hath the wind-swift Cupid wings. 1883 Bridges *Prometh.* 330 Meteors..ever on their windswift course. *c* 1598 J. Dickenson *Sheph. Compl.* (1878) 11 The *wind-wing'd Naiads. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IX. xxii, O Spring, of ..love, and youth, and gladness Wind-winged emblem.

81. Special combinations: †**wind-balk**, (*a*) = Wind-beam[1] (see Balk *sb.*[1] 11); (*b*) = Windrow *sb.* (cf. Balk *sb.* II); **wind-bar**, the back of the wind-chest of an organ; †**wind-barge**, a slab placed along the edge of a roof as a protection from the wind (cf. Water-barge); †**wind-bed**, an air-bed; **wind-belt**, a belt of trees planted for protection from the wind; **wind-bill** *Sc.* (cf. 14), an accommodation-bill; †**wind-bladder**, (*a*) an inflated bladder; (*b*) the air-bladder of a fish; **wind-blown** *a.*, blown up or inflated; blown along or about; blown upon by (the) wind; **wind-bore**, the suction-pipe of a pump, or the lower end of this; **wind-box** = *wind-chest*; **wind-brace**, a diagonal brace (Brace *sb.*[2] 17) connecting the rafters of a roof; **wind-bracing**, a similar structure in a cantilever; †**wind-breaker** (cf. 10), a drug that expels flatulence, a carminative; so †**wind-breaking** *a.*, carminative; †**wind-broach** [cf. Broach *sb.* 12], a name for a hurdy-gurdy; †**wind-cane** = Wind-gun; †**wind-catch**, a squall of wind; **wind-changing** *a.*, changing like the wind, inconstant; **wind-chest**, an air-tight chest or box in an organ or similar instrument, which is filled with wind from the bellows, and from which the wind is admitted to the pipes or reeds; **wind-cistern** = prec.; **wind-cock**, †(*a*) = *wind-mew*; (*b*) a weathercock; **wind-colic**, colic caused by flatulence; **wind-contusion**, an internal injury without any external mark of violence, formerly supposed to be caused by the 'wind' (see 13) of a cannon-ball, shell, or other projectile; **wind-dial**, a dial showing the direction of the wind by means of a pointer connected with a wind-vane; also *fig.* (cf. 15 b); †**wind-discusser** = *wind-breaker*; **wind-dog** [Dog *sb.* 10 a], name for a fragment of rainbow, supposed to presage wind; †**wind-dropsy** = Tympanites, Tympany 1; **wind-engine**, a machine driven by the wind, as a windmill; †**wind-fan**, a winnowing-fan; **wind-fanner** (-vanner) *local*, the kestrel; **wind-fast** *a.* = Wind-tight 1; †**wind-fill** *v., trans.* to fill up gaps or cavities in (a wall, etc.) so as to keep the wind out (cf. Filling *vbl. sb.* 2); †**wind-flaught** *a.* or *adv. Sc.* [Flaught *adv.*], sprawling, as if overthrown by the wind; **wind-furnace**, a furnace in which the draught is obtained by means of a (high or narrow) chimney without the aid of bellows or other mechanical blower as in a *blast-furnace*; **wind-gap** (see Gap *sb.*[1] 5 b); †**wind-glass** (see quot.); **wind-god**, a deity presiding over the winds; †**wind-gout**, gout supposed to be caused by 'wind' (see 10); **wind-grass**, a name for *Agrostis Spica-venti*; †**wind-hand**, the side towards the wind; **wind-harp**, an Æolian harp (also *allusively*); **wind-hole**, †(*a*) the opening at the top of the windpipe, the glottis; (*b*) an opening in brickwork for the passage of air; (*c*) the hole in the lower board of a pair of bellows; (*d*) a ventilating shaft in a mine; (*e*) each of the openings in the sound-board of an organ, through which wind is admitted to the pipes; **wind-jammer** *U. S. slang*, (*a*) a loquacious person; (*b*) a sailing vessel; **wind-knot**, a knot tied on a rope, supposed magically to ensure a favourable wind; †**wind-lap**, the tongue or reed of a wind-instrument; **wind-lipper** *Naut.* [Lipper *sb.*[1]], a rippling or ruffling of the surface of the water caused the first rising of a breeze; **wind-list** [List *sb.*[4]], **-logged** *a.* [cf. Water-logged] (see quots.); †**wind-loft** *Naut.*, ? = *wind-taut* sb.; **wind-machine**, a machine driven by the wind, or one for producing a 'wind' or blast of air; **wind-motor** [Motor 3], a machine deriving its motive power from the force of the wind; esp. of the form of a windmill; **wind-mow** *dial.* [Mow *sb.*[1]], one of a number of small ricks in which hay or corn is temporarily stacked in showery weather to be dried by exposure to the wind; †**wind-music**, music played on wind-instruments; also such instruments themselves, or a company of players on them (cf. Music *sb.* 5, 6); †**wind-musket** = Wind-gun; **wind-pinning** [cf. Pin *v.*[1] 3 c, Pinning 1 a, 2 a], the filling up of interstices in masonry to keep out the wind; **wind-pole** [Pole *sb.*[2]], each of two opposite points of the compass taken as the standard ones in relation to the direction of the wind; **wind-porch**, a chamber constructed on the inner side of a doorway to keep the wind out; **wind-pox**, chicken-pox (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890); **wind-pump**, †(*a*) an air-pump; (*b*) a pump driven by a wind-wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); †**wind-rese** [Rese *sb.*], a storm of wind; †**wind-rake**, ? the raking up of windfalls, or the right to do this; **wind-road**, (*a*) a track or course habitually taken by the wind (*nonce-use*); (*b*) a passage for ventilation in a mine (Gresley *Gloss.* 1883); **wind-rode**, also †**-road** (see Ride *v.* A. 3 γ), *a., Naut.*, swung by the wind, as a ship riding at anchor (opp. to *tide-rode*: see Tide *sb.* 16 b); also as *sb.*, the position of a ship so riding; **wind-screen**, a screen for protection from the wind, now esp. in front of the driver's seat on a motor-car; **wind-shaft**, the shaft that carries the sails in a windmill; **wind-stroke**, a stroke or injury caused or supposed to be caused by the wind (see quots.); **wind-swell**, a form of swell in an organ operated by a valve in the wind-trunk; **wind-taut** *a., Naut.* [from phr. *to hold wind taut*]: see quots.; also as sb. = condition of being wind-taut; **wind-throstle, -thrush**, the redwing; **wind-tie** = *wind-brace*; **wind-trunk**, a large tube (usually of wood) in an organ or similar instrument, through which the wind passes from the bellows to the wind-chest; **wind-vane**, (*a*) the sail of a windmill (= Vane 3 a); (*b*) a weathercock (= Vane 1); **wind-vanner**: see *wind-fanner* above; †**wind-vent** = Suspiral 2; **windway**, (*a*) a ventilating passage in a mine, an air-way; (*b*) the narrow slit in an organ-pipe through which the wind strikes upon the lip so as to make the pipe speak; (*c*) access of the wind to a sailing vessel so as to give her freedom of passage (cf. Way *sb.*[1] 6); **wind-wheel**, a wheel turned by the wind to drive some mechanism, as in a windmill or wind-pump; †**wind-work** (cf. 11), the process or function of respiration.

1532–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 173 Pro sarracione 1½ rod in *wyndbalks, stoyes, pouynchys, 4*s.* 8*d.* 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Roué, Mettre le foin en rouë*, viz. in wind-baulkes, or wind-rowes. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Wind-balk*, a wind-beam or collar-beam; a beam stretching across the upper part of two roof principals. (Obs.) 1881 W. E. Dickson *Organ-Build.* v. 60 The back of the chest, called the '*wind-bar',..should be of strong and sound stuff. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 79 Arches, Coinestones, waterberges, and *wynd berges or any other hewen worke. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 194 Some vse to carrie a *Windbed which is made of leather strongly sowed on all foure sides, and hauing a pype at one of the corners to blow it,..and when it is [illegible] ppe it vp and lie vpon it on [illegible] grounde. 1903 C. Bald *Indian Tea* x. (1917) 128 This characteristic [*sc.* evergreen foliage] makes the several varieties of *Dalbergia* very suitable for planting as *windbelts. 1823 Headrick *Agric. Surv. Forfarshire* 589 If they [*sc.* bank notes] be not convertible into specie at the option of the holder, there is a strong temptation to issue them on what are called *wind bills, where there is no corresponding value of commodities in existence. 1821 Scott *Pirate* IV, He would have got a bank-credit, manœuvred with wind-bills. 1594 Nashe *Terrors Nt.* To Rdr., If they chance but on a moate or a *wind bladder, they neuer haue done with it, till they haue cleane..tost it out of sight. 1658 Ray *Creation* I. (ed. 2) 141 As for Fishes..The Wind-bladder, wherewith most of them are furnished, serves to poise their Bodies. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 72 What is beauty more then a *wind-blowne bladder? 1600 Rowlands *Letting of Humours Blood* Sat. vii. 83 More light and toyish than the wind-blown chaffe. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 17 A wind-blowne house. 1876 M. Collins in F. Collins *Lett. & Friends.* (1877) II. 158 Wind-blown daffodils. 1888 F. Cowper *Cadwallo* I. 6 A low island, covered with bushes and a few wind-blown trees. 1797 Cure *Coal Viewer* 58 The *Wind Bores..May be cast 8 feet long with a plain or egg bottom. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 289/1. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 38 A square box, called the *wind-box. 1889 *Cath. Household* 30 Nov. 4 Traceried *windbraces. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 51 The *wind-bracing was fitted in its long diamonds of lattice. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 600/1 The sugared oily Carminative, or *Wind-breaker. 1609 Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 17 Good holsome *windebreaking pippins. 1683 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. xxx. 198 A..player on that instrument which is called a *windbroach. 1708 T. Brown *Lett. fr. Dead* Wks. 1730 II. 234 To fumble out a fine sonata upon a wind-broach. 1723 R. Stone tr. *Bion's Math. Instrum.* III. ii. (1758) 95 The Construction of the *Wind-Cane. 1810 Folkingham *Feudigraphia* 10 Sweeping or floating Waters, which flit and fleete to and fro with *wind-catches. 1665 W. Dodson *Designe Draining Gt. Level Fens* 13 Those Banks I did not make for Sea Banks, ..but laid them near to avoid a Winde-catch. 1593 Shake. *3 Hen. VI*, v. i. 57 *Wind-changing Warwicke now can change no more. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 487/2 (*Organ*) IKKK is the *wind-chest, which is a square box fitted close to the under side of the lower board. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 52 The length of the wind-chest depends on the compass of the key-board. 1880 E. J. Hopkins in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 605/1 The *wind-cisterne or wind-chests. 1610 R. Vaughan *Water-Workes* M 4 b, You mow one day, you ted an other, you spend one in gathering it into *winde-cockes. 1900 Masefield *Right Royal* 5 Spires of churches Gleaming with swinging wind-cocks on their perches. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 45 b, Euery part of thee [shall] be wrunge as with the *wind-chollick. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 57, I came home, arrested with a sharp fit of the Wind-Colick. 1731 Fielding *Tom Thumb* I iii. I feel a sudden Pain within my Breast, Nor know I whether it arise from Love, Or only the Wind-Cholick. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 239 The oppressive distention of wind-colic. 1857 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Wind of a ball*, a term applied to the compression of air, supposed to be produced by the passage of a ball near a part of the body, so as to occasion what has been called a '*wind contusion*'. 1877 Longmore *Gunshot Injuries* 95 The true explanation of the phenomena observed in cases of so-called 'wind contusions' is to be found in the peculiar direction, the degree of obliquity, with which the missile has happened to impinge against the elastic skin. 1706 in Ashton *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* (1882) II. 56 The 'Wind Dial, lately set up at Grigsby's Coffee..House,..being of Constant use to those that are in any wise Concerned in Navigation. 1761 Ld. Hardwicke in *Life* (1847) III. xiv, 257 A great change was made in the political wind-dial before you left us. 1676 J. Cooke *Mellif. Chirurg.* Alph. Table, *Wind-discussers. 1860 Fitz-Roy in *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 344 '*Wind dogs', and the rainbow, are more or less significant of increasing wind. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 386 The Timpany, which..may be called in English the *wind dropsie. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 452 Making an artificial opening into the cavity of the abdomen in the case of wind-dropsy, as well as in that of water-dropsy. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 21 *note*, *Wind-Engines for the raising of Water. *c* 1675 *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke III. 17 His..*wind fone in honda his. 1761 *Descr. S. Carolina* 7 Afterwards it is..winnowed, which was formerly a very tedious Operation, but it is now performed..by a very simple Machine, a Wind-Fan. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 64 *Accipiter Tinnunculus*,..the *Wind-vanner. *a* 1836 Johnes in Mrs. Bray *Tamar & Tavy* (1879) I. 301 The kestrel, called here the 'wind-fanner' and 'windhover', from its motion when hovering over the same spot in search of its quarry. 1648 in J. Davidson *Inverarie* (1878) 302 To keep the kirk *wind-fast and water-tight. 1601 *Stamford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* (1888) May 213 To John Rayner for *windfillinge the Church wall 1s. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V. vi. 86 He..Maid hym lycht *windfiaucht [orig. *revolutur*] on the ground vnclene. 1651 French *Distill.* VI. 190 Put those cakes ..into a *Winde Furnace. 1683 *K. Digby's Chym. Secr.* 132 Put them in a Wind-Furnace to Calcine. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Furnace*, A Wind Furnace, or Furnace for Fusions, which is so called, because the Wind comes forcibly to blow the Coals, in order to Melt or Fuse the Matter in the Crucible or Coppel. 1763 W. Lewis *Comm. Philos.-Techn.* II A Wind-Furnace, for the fusion of metals. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 240 The oldest method of manufacturing wrought iron was to reduce it at once from the ore by heating in a wind-furnace with charcoal or coal. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wind-furnace*, a furnace in which a strong heat is obtained..by means of a powerful draft, depending on a narrow flue or chimney of considerable elevation. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 948/2 *Wind Furnace* (*Metallurgy*), one depending upon the draft of a chimney, as distinguished from a blast furnace. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 268/1 *Cucurbitula*,..a *wind glasse, cupping glasse, or boxing glasse. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I. i, The *Wind-god warring now with Fate. 1893 H. K. White *Rem., To Herb Rosemary* iii, The wind-god, as he flies, Moans hollow in the Forest trees. 1662 R. Mather *Unl. Alch.* 144 A man near fourteen years, afflicted..with the *Wind-Gout in his hands. 1847 Leichhardt *Jrnl.* xi. 399 The dry *wind-grass of the plains north of the Staaten. 1884 Miller *Plant-n., Aperæ* (*Agrostis*) *Spica-venti*, Corn-grass, Wind-grass. 1670 Nye *Gunnery* II. 12 When you come to your Peece, set your Boudge barrel on the *wind-hand thereof. 1823 Hogg *Queen's Wake* (1814) 109 When..*wind-harp at thy window swells. 1842–4 Emerson *Ess., Nature* Wks. (Bohn) I. 298 The musical steaming odorous south wind, which converts all trees to wind-harps. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1336 Pay .. gray*paly departed *þe* wenaunt fro *be* *wynt-hole. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xviii. 72 Lay the ends of each Brick about three Inches off each other, to serve for Wind-holes. 1888 Holme *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 7/1 The wind hole, a square hole in the middle of the under board [of a pair of bellows]. 1820 Mawe *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss., *Wind-holes*, shafts or stamps sunk to convey wind or air. 1881 W. E. Dickson *Organ-Build.* ix. 122 Let us be sure that the flow of wind to that pipe is not interrupted..by a chip in the wind-hole. 1899 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 7 Aug., The few workers present

are effectually playing the part of *windjammers and many rumors are afloat. 1899 *Harmsworth's Mag.* Mar. 102 A large three-masted wind-jammer was caught by the gale and disabled. 1909 *Athenæum* 31 July 122/3 It deals with the homeward passage of a big steel 'windjammer' from Calcutta—a typical chapter from the life of merchant-service Jack. 1868–9 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 367 The witches of Lapland sold 1 *wind-knots' tied on a rope to their seafaring customers. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 27/29 Ye *Wyndlappe, *lingula*. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* II. 210 We can do nothing with the guns when there is any swell, or *wind lipper. 1815 W. SCORESBY in *Mem. Wernerian Soc.* II. 324 *note*, The first effects of a breeze of wind on smooth water is by seamen called wind-lipper. 1898 MISS YONGE *J. Keble's Parishes* 173 **Windlist*, white streak of faint cloud across a blue sky, showing the direction of the wind. *a* 1687 PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* I. ii, The next enquiry must be, what extent of Sail our Vessel must carry, . . and from thence the *Wind-loft. 1829 R. STUART *Anecd. Steam Eng.* I. 249 Air remained in the cylinder, and prevented . . the fall of the piston. . : from this cause alone, (and which was afterwards known by the term of *wind-logged) this engine must have soon ceased its motion. 1745 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 122 A self-regulating *Wind Machine. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 7 Sept. 4/2 These wind machines, . species of gigantic bellows. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 341 The annual expence of repairs, . will not much exceed that of a wind machine. 1881 SIR W. THOMSON in *Nature* 8 Sept. 434/2 It is most probable that windmills or *wind-motors in some form will again be in the ascendant. 1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 265 **Wind Mews*, cocks of a waggon-load or more, into which hay is sometimes put previous to ricking in catching weather. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* (1653) 274 *Wind-Musique doth not deform the Visage. 1661 [see MUSIC *sb.* 6]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Dec. 1662, Instead of the . . solemn wind musiq accompanying the organ, was introduced a concert of 24 violins. 1700 J. BROME *Trav.* 127 The Statues of two Men playing on Wind-Musick. 1795 *Life John Metcalf* 109 There being at that time no music in the army except Colonel Howard's, (the Old Buffs) and which being wind music were unaccustomed to country dances. 1661 [T. POWELL] *Hum. Industry* 34 *Wind-muskets that some have devised to shoot bullets withal. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 234 To do all the *wind-pinnings (filling in the angle between the wall-plate and the roof). 1863 FITZROY *Weather Bk.* 173 Taking, with Dove, north-east and south-west (*true*) as the '*wind-poles'. 1899 *Committee's Appeal for Hexham Abbey* 6 The old internal *wind porch, now used as a press in the vestry. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* Proem 6 The *Wind-Pump . . is so contriv'd, that to evacuate the Vessel there is requir'd the . . labor of two . . men. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iv. 37 *Wind-ræs . . michelo windes. *c* 1205 LAY. 9244 Mid þan wind-rm-en al heo gunnen to-reosen. 1622 *N. Riding Rec.* (N. S.) II. 4 Every Towen or lorshipp that of reighte haith any *winderake for there gooden in the forrest. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* xii. § 551 There are two '*wind-roads', crossing this sea. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 10 Sept. 5/7 Being in the wind road we got a little air. *c* 1685 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 136 To

wind-road. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 302 The ship becomes windroad. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 89 To get under Way wind-rode, with a Weather Tide; that is, a tide setting to windward. 1903 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 574 Peering over the canvas *wind-screen of the bridge [of a yacht]. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Nov. 9/1 With its hood and wind-screen, [the car] is well fitted for the use of the general practitioner. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 130 Wind screens may be . . made of turf walls or tall, wattled hurdles, placed to windward of the lines. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 123 The other method of bringing the *wind-shaft and sails into a position proper for receiving the impression of the wind. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 40 Sub went to þe walle on þe *wynde syde, & alle abrod on þe burwe blewen þe powder. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. XXVIII. I. 547 Some content themselves to perfume Vines onely with the smoke of this composition, so as it bee done on the wind-side, that it may carie the fume directly to them. 1727 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Blight*, To provide large Heaps of Weeds, Chaff, and other combustible Matter on the Wind-side of their Orchards. 1656 BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 47 The clay-land binds the tree faster from *wind-strokes, the sandy-land hasteneth the growth more. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Wind-stroke*, acute spinal paralysis in the horse. 1913 D. BRAY *Life-Hist. Brahui* v. 109 Men will stricken in years often suffer from wind-stroke, . . a woman sometimes quits her bed after childbirth lamed by the wind in one leg. 1852 SKIDEL *Organ* 27 The *Wind swell. Here the trunk is provided with a valve of velvet. *a* 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) s.v., Any thing that holds wind aloft, which may prejudice the ship saileing or riding, is said to be *wind-taught (as too much rigging high roapes, and the like:) Also when we ride in any great stresse, we bring our yards alongst ships, strike downe our top-masts and the like: because they hold wind taught, that is, they hold wind stiffely. 1674 PETTY *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 31 Where the Masts, Yards, Sails, and Rigging are great, the Wind-taught of the Ship will correspond, and will require proportionable Cables. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., Too much Rigging, . . or any thing catching or holding Wind aloft, is said to hold a Ship Wind-taught. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* (U.S.) XVII. 199 The *wind-throstle or whindle. travels out of the North with the fel-fare. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 83 *Turdus Iliac* . . the *Wind-Thrush. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Thrush, Wind-Thrush*, a Bird so call'd because it comes in high Winds into England, in the beginning of Winter. 1873 T. CARGILL *Strains Bridge Girders* 186 Roofs, if they be thoroughly well secured by *wind-ties. 1898 J. BARON *Scudamore Organs* 61 The essential parts of an organ are a set of keys, . . a bellows, a *windtrunk, a windchest with its soundboard, and the pipes. 1728 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Wind-mill*, That it may, swivel-like, turn any way, as you turn your *wind Vanes. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xx. 298 The imbecile Arran could no part but that of the wind-vane marking the changes air-currents. *c* 1450 in *Archæologia* (1902) LVIII. — lippe *wynde went closid in ston. 1580 [see SUBTRAL *sb.*]. 1674 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Wind-away* (*Mining*), a . . for air. 1676 HILES *Catech. Organs* iv (1876) 24

Between the language and the lips [of an organ-pipe] is a narrow slit or wind-way for the current of air to pass from the foot to the body of the pipe. 1887 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 3/1 Leaving the water very choppy for the Thistle and stopping her wind-way. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* III. 76 A horizontal *wind-wheel for raising water. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. III. iii, A fire is lit Near to the Thonberg wind-wheel. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* x. (1888) 56 The exercise of the voice . . aideth . . and comforteth the lunges in his *windworke.

Wind (waind), *sb.*[2] [Partly a. MDu., MLG. *winde* windlass, convolvulus, etc. = OHG. *winta* (MHG., G. *winde*), ON. *vinda* hank of yarn (Sw. *vinda* bindweed, Da. *vinde* pulley, windlass, from LG.); cf. OE. *gewind* spiral, tendril, winding path, *-winde* in *gearnwinde* reel, *wipowinde* bindweed, ON. *vindr* winding: f. *windan* WIND *v.*[1] Partly a direct formation on the vb.]

1. An apparatus for winding (see WIND *v.*[1] 19), a winch or windlass. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1399 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 473/11 m. 2 *dorso* (P.R.O.) Reddit compotum de vna Machina vocata Wynde [etc.]. 1538–9 in *Archæologia* (1871) XLIII. 211, j olde wynde for stone. 1568 in *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* App. II. 101 Payd for a cord for the wynde ijs. viijd. 1652 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 9 Within two foot of the bottome of the Rod there was a hole made, for to put in a winde, to turne with a barrell, to gather up his Line, and loose at his pleasure. 1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Rural Econ. Midl. Co.* (1796) II. Gloss. (E.D.S.) *Wind . . ,* a winch, or wince. 1851 STERNBERG *Dinl. Northampt., Wynd*, a winch. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wind.* 1. A hand-windlass or jack-roll . . . 4. A steam-engine used purposely for lowering and raising men in an engine pit or pumping-shaft.

†2. A twining plant, e.g. convolvulus. *Obs.*

1538 TURNER *Libellus, Convolvulus, dioscoridæ clematis, altera, est aliquibus liliastrum, anglis autem*, The comon bynde, *aut* The lytell wynde. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 141 Of the smooth Smilax or great arbor wynde. *Ibid.*, I neuer sawe anye kinde of wynde, or wyth winde, or arbor winde, haue anye suche cod. 1576 LOBEL *Plant. Hist.* 340.

3. An act or instance of winding; curved or twisted form; *techn.* bend or twist (cf. WIND *v.*[1] 5 b), esp. in phr. *out of wind*, not twisted.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 586 If the two edges and his eye be not in one plane, the upper parts are planed down until the piece is said to be out of wind. 1829 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* 137 The vermeil-beaded bryony, In many a graceful wind. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Twist.*, the wind of the bed-joint of each course of voussoirs in a skew arch. 1883 *Hampshire Gloss.* s.v. *Wynd*, *On the wynd* = warped or twisted. Applied to boards or planks. 1896 *Archæol. Jrnl.* LIII. 52 There is never any trace of wind on them [*sc.* Danish knife-blades], although occasionally they may not lie quite flat.

Wind (waind), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pple. wound (waund). Forms: 1 windan, 3 winden, 3–7 winde, 4–7 wynde, 4–9 wynd, (4 vynd(e, 5 wy(y)ndyn, 6 *Sc.* veynd(e), 4– wind; 3*rd sing. contr.* 1–3 wint, (1 wient), 4 wynt. *Pa. t.* 1–5 wond, 1–6 (–9 *dial.*) wand, 4–6 wonde, wounde, (5 woonde, 7 woon'd), 6– wound; *pl.* 1 wundon, -an, 3 wunden; also *wk.* 6 *Sc.* windit, 6–9 winded, 8 *Sc.* win't. *Pa. pple.* 1–3 wunden, (3 *Orm.* wundenn), 4 wondin, -yn, -ene, (wnden), 4–5 wonden, woundyn, 4–6 wounden, (5 wonddyn, 6 windin); 4–6 wounde, 5–7 wonde, woond, (5 won, 7 wown), 6– wound; 2 iwunde(n, 4 ywonde(n, ywounde(n, 1-wounde; also *wk.* 5 *Sc.* woundit, 6 wynded, *Sc.* -it, 6–9 winded. [OE. *windan* str. vb. = OFris. *winda*, OS. *windan*, OHG. *wintan*, *windan*, (M)LG., (M)Du., (M)HG. *winden*, ON. *vinda*, (Sw. *vinda*, Da. *vinde*), Goth. **windan* in *biwindan*, *dugawindan*, *uswindan*:—OTeut. **wendan*, related to *wand-* in WANDER *v.*, WEND *v.*, WONDE *v.*

In many senses coupled with *turn* vb.

In ME. often graphically confused with WEND *v.*, q.v. etym. γ-forms.]

I. †1. *intr.* Used to express various kinds of rapid or forcible motion, as of water flowing, missiles flying through the air, sparks flying upwards, and the like; hence *gen.* to pass. Also with *about, adown, away.* *Obs.*

Beowulf 212 Streamas wundon, sund wið sande. *Ibid.* 2119 Wand to wolcnum weallýra mæst. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 167 Sio secs wient of ðæm hielfe. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 322 Oft he gar forlet wælspere windan on þa wicingas. *a* 1000 *Judith* 110 Sloh ða sorgeste lâðes ellenrof oþre siðe þone hæðenan hund, þæt him þæt heafod wand forð on ða flore. *c* 1205 LAY. 27461 Stanes heo letten seoðden sturnliche winden. *Ibid.* 28049 [Ich] smæt of Modred is hafd þat hit wond a þene neld. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 296 þe sparke þet wint up ne bringeð nout anonriht þet hus al o fure, auh lið & kecheð more fur. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) *Knt.* 530, & þus þrnes þe þere in þisterdayes mony, & wynter wyndes aþaya, as þe worlde askes. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8068 (Fairf.) Prophecy . . ho tolde . . of domys-day How al þis worlde sal winde a-way.

†2. Of living things: To go on one's way, take oneself; to proceed, go. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

a 1000 *Beowulf. Metr.* xxiv. 20 Mînhuse eðer roderum gæreliet feðerum lacan, fæst up eðe[ð] polenit wîðinne. *c* 1205 LAY. 20818 Þat we moten eaðer on wilderen [*later text* weoden] mid sælle. *Ibid.* 25541 Anlæues heo up drogen . . Wenden into widen sæ. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 4136 His bodi was biried wið angeles hond, Þer non man siðen it ne fond, In to lef reste his sowle wond. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9252 Hors wel gode chepe þai founde & anon in þe sadel wounde. *a* 1400–50 *Ware Alex.* 3325 (Ashm. MS.) Vp to þe souerayne sege with Septour he wyndis. *c* 1440 *Rom. Rose* 2036 For thee so sore I wole now bynde, That thou away ne shalt not wynde. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* I. 168 Now to Bedlem must I wynde. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* B iij b, With huffa galand synge tyrll on the bery, And let the wyde worlde wynde. 1585 BRADFORD in Foxe *A. & M.* . . . on with the world. 1589 HARE *Names out of Fowles* (1872) A vij, And boughing Curs that barck and winde away. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 123 Phœbe being by this Time wounde into the highest Skies. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 104 But winde away, bee gone I say. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 266 Least she [*sc.* the spider] should wind downe in vaine.

†b. *refl.* in same sense; also *fig.* *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13843 He . . So queyntely aboute hym wond, þe kynges court at york he fond. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3615 Into the tent he him wond. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2340 Wynde you from Wanhope and aquaynte you with me. *c* 1580 *Bugbears* IV. iv. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* (1897) XCIX. 39 Then best I stand not thus . . and tel a tale to the wynd, but wynd me streight about it.

†c. *intr.* Of a way: To 'go' somewhere. *Obs.*

1555 BRADFORD in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 2216/2 The multitude goeth the wideway which windeth to woe.

3. *trans.* a. To wield (a weapon, an implement). *Obs.* or *dial.*

993 *Battle of Maldon* 43 Byrhtnoð . . bord hafenode, wand wacne mæc. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Sweill & other Birds* xv, Sum the pleuch can wynd. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* XX. 138 The Handle . . on the which the Plough-man holding his hand by winding and wilding the same, turneth the Soole. 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* III. i. 38 How to winde it [*sc.* a rapier] about when I salute. 1632 G. HUGHES *Saints Losse* 46 Thou canst not hand before the enemy, nor wind a weapon for thy defence. 1845 J. KEEGAN *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 230 Raising aloft the heavy iron spade, I wound it with all my strength.

†b. To haul, hoist, lift. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sege Jerus.* (1891) 281 Fresch water & wyn wounden þu faste & stof of alle maner store. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socr.* I. xvi. 241 By the deuine prouidence of God the pillours is winded vp in the ayer, ouer the foundacion. 1633 C. FARRWELL *E.-India Celation* 45 [The Elephant] taking his meat with the end thereof, and winding it vp, (or vnder rather) to his mouth, so eates it. 1681 GREW *Museum* Pref., The Proboscis of an Elephant, whereby he . . winds the Grass in great quantities . . into his Mouth.

4. *intr.* To turn this way and that; to writhe, wriggle. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

In OE. app. only contextual use of 1.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 414 He wand þa swa swa wurm. *c* 1205 LAY. 5715 Doð [heoun] up and [= on] waritreo, þer on heo scullen winden. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 246 Thou art so loothly and so eold also . . That litel wonder is thogh I walwe and wynde. 1421 HOCCLEVE *Lerne to Dye* 309 In peynes sharpe y walwe & wynde. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Abound.* § 165 Thus did I wind and twine and shrink under the burthen. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s.v., I had a terrible poor night surely, I did turn and wind so.

†5. *trans.* To put into a curved or twisted form or state; to bend; to twist; to wring. *Obs.*

For earlier quots. see WOUNDEN *ppl. a.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xviii. (1495) d v b/2 A gristylbone set in y^e eere [*i.e.* the cochlea] . . wounde [orig. *tortuosum*] & wrapped as a wyspe. *Ibid.* v. xxv. (Bodl. MS.) Beestes þ^t folde þ and winde þ ham silfe rounde as a ryng haue none necke distingused frame þe body. 1440 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* XXVII. 161 Whyle an hooke [= oak] is a yonge Spyre, hit may be wonde into a wyth. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.* s.v. *Toplarium*, Lyke trees or thornes that be flexible, or wyll be wounden. 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* 330 Growing vpon small stalkes that are winded or turned two or three tymes. 1582 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 126 They would winde her neck behinde her, like a chicken [orig. *le torcerebbono il collo*]. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* VI. v. 269 An ancient ornament of the head, [called] a Torce . . : *Nempe quia torquatur*, because it is wound [*ed.* 1632 woond] or twisted. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* II. 111 The figure of a sturdie woman, washing and winding of linnen clothes.

b. *intr.* To take or have a bent form; now only *dial.* or *techn.* of a board, door, etc., to be twisted.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 257 The yerde is bet þat bowen wole and wynde þan þat þat brest. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Vimen*, roddes, which wyll wynde lyghtly, wherof basketes are made. 1721 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 165 *Winding*, when the Plank or Timber's Side or Edge is not upon a direct Plan, but seemingly twists. 1736 FRESE *Nonticisms* (E.D.S.) s.v. *Wind*, A board shrunk or swell'd, so as to be uneven, is said to wind; and when it is brought straight again, it is said to be out of winding. 1875 SIR T. SEATON *Fret Cutting* 82 A board is said to wind or wynd, when the two opposite corners . . are lower than the other two.

6. a. *refl.* = 7 a, b. *arch.*

a 1300, etc. [see TURN *v.* 64 a]. *a* 1400–50 *Ware Alex.* 3632 (Ashm. MS.) Þai [*sc.* elephants] wond þai ware wees & wyndis þaim agayn. 1589 BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 26 When the Ele [= eel] had led the Dolphin into shallow places she wound hir selfe into the mudde. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. x. II. 541 A little infant winding it selfe and making prettie means to creepe unto the mothers pap. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 206 It posted away with such speed, and turn'd and winded it self so quick, that I should presently lose sight of it. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 42 The serpent is a slippery creature, soon winding himself in and out. 1700 J. BROME *Trav.* 104 Abington, to which the River Isis, after it hath winded it self a long way about in a crooked Channel, makes its near approaches. 1725 WATERLAND *Scr. Vind. Christ's Div.* Pref. 14 He endeavors to wind and turn Himself every way to evade its Force. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 120 Glad I wind me down the lane.

b. *trans.* To turn; to cause to move in a curve. Also *absol. arch.*

13.. *Somer Soneday* v. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 8 With a wonderful whel that worthil wyth wond. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wyndyn', or turnyn' a-bowte, *giro, verto.* 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* a viij b, The tortuse [and] the crane..which.. wynde their hede here and there as a vane. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 109 As if an Angell dropt downe from the Clouds, To turne and winde a fierie Pegasus. 1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Self-Deceiv.* (1630) 187 Let the Serpent but wind in his head. 1638 W. Lisle *Heliodorus* x. 177 As Camell.. Doth eu'rie way his small head nimbly winde. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 199 Having so small..a body..upon such long legga, it is quickly able so to wind, and turn it, as to see any thing distinct. 1737 Dyer *Fleece* II. 462 Or where the Lane or Coker wind their streams. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 92 The young nobles..turning and winding their fiery horses.

7. a. *intr.* To move in a curve; to turn, esp. in a specified direction. *Obs.* exc. as implied in b, c.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 818 *Thisbe*, Whan that this lyonesse hath dronke hire fille, A-boute the welle gan sche for to wynde. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. v. (1495) b iij b/1 As a whele wyndeth abowte [orig. *in se volvitur et revolvitur*] and mouyth alwaye abowte in compaas, Soo angels..moue abowte yᵉ thynge that longyth to god. 1602 Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. i. 32 It is a Creature that I teach to fight, To winde, to stop, to run directly on. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 274 To..gallop and amble, to run a race, to wind in compasse, and so foorth. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 326 Winding about [orig. *torcendo*] on the left hand towards the gates Cantimper and Selle, he came before them. 1725 De Foe *Voy round World* (1840) 260 We went winding now from the south-east to the left, till our course looked east by north.

b. To move along in a sinuous course; to go or travel *along, up, down*, etc. a path or road which turns this way and that.

a 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* x. (1683) 165 How the Jordan passed or winded,..is a point too old for Geography to determine. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VII. 15 Here wanton Mincius windes along the Meads, And shades his happy Banks with bending Reeds. 1725 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 108 The External Air..will go winding thro' the Cavities. 1750 Gray *Elegy* i, The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea. 1789 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 13 Sept., It made me.., tired to wind up the flight of stairs. 1890 Green *Oxford Studies* (O.H.S.) 24 Long processions of pilgrims wound past the Jewry to the shrine of Saint Frideswide. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* xxx, Making a sudden turn, [he] dived into a street, then into a passage, and so winded and doubled till he got to a small public-house. 1903 Sir F. Treves *Other Side of Lantern* II. ii. (1906) 36 A train of donkeys winding along among the hansoms.

c. *transf.* Of a line, road, or the like: To have a curved (esp. a sinuous) course; to lie or extend in a curve or succession of curves. † Formerly also of an object: To have a curved or sinuous form.

1555 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 184 Garded with a gard of oken leaves gold and greene sylke wyndinge lyke a wrathe embrodred vpon redd silke. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 345/2 *Lituus*,..a writhen or crooked trumpet winding in and out. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. xi. (ed. 2) 38 The passage to mount vp was very wide and great, winding about on the outside. 1635 Jackson *Creed* VIII. xxviii. § 4 The crooked paths which winde to cursednesse and malediction. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 545 A Rock Of Alabaster, pil'd up to the Clouds,..winding with one ascent Accessible from Earth. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. v, Where this valley winded out, below, The murmuring main was heard..to flow. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* XXVI, Still onward winds the dreary way. 1896 Baring-Gould *Broom-Squire* xvii, The path winded in and out among the gravestones.

d. with advb. acc., or *trans.* with obj. (*one's* or *its*) *way*, etc.

1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 563 He..windes..his oblique way Amongst innumerable Starrs. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* I, A rivulet that..wound its silent way beneath the shades it reflected. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* XXXII, The mole ..winds not his dark subterraneous path beneath our feet the less certainly. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* v. 101 The slow pace at which we wound our way through the colony. 1887 L. Oliphant *Episodes* 281 A funeral procession, winding its solemn way to the cemetery. 1902 Housman *Last Poems* xii, Content..to wind the measures [= dances].

e. *trans.* To traverse in a curved or sinuous course; also *transf.* of a path, as in c. *arch.*

1648 Gage *West Ind.* 90 We had not winded the mountain upwards much above a mile. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 533 He winds the Wood. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xxxiii. 22 Though fiercer she than waves that roar, Winding the rough Calabrian shore. 1822 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 208 Sweet it is to wind the rill, Sweet with thee to climb the hill. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 20 Aug. 4/4 Wherever a river winds a valley.

8. *Naut.* a. *intr.* Of a ship: To turn in some direction; *e. g.* to swing round when at anchor; to lie with her head towards a particular point of the compass (esp. in phr. *How wind you? How does the ship wind?*). b. *trans.* To turn (a vessel) about (About A. 6 b) or in some particular direction. See also 19 b (*b*), 22 g.

App. a substitution for Wend, q.v. (1 d, 6 c).

1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 44 She came to an anckor so neare ahead of vs as we could scarse wynd cleare one of the other. 1623 (Sept. 20) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 44 (MS.) She was not quicke of steeridge nor easye to be turned or winded. *a* 1625 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 115 When they are under saile, they use to aske, how winds the ship, that is, vpon what point of the Compasse doth she lie with her head. 1627 J. Smith *Sea Gram.* vi. 19 Winde the Boat is to bring her head the other way. *a* 1668 Davenant *Song, Winter Storms* ii. Wks. (1673) 252 Alas, or we sink! Does no man know to wind her! 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 How Wind you? N.N.E. thus were no more; no near, keep her full. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776) *French Sea-Terms* s.v. *Cap, On est le Cap?* how is the head? how does the ship wind? 1778 P. Revere in *Collect. Massachusetts Hist. Soc.* (1816) V. 207 It was then young flood, the ship was winding, and the moon was rising. 1830 Marryat *King's Own* xxxi, One of the cutters has winded..; she's stretching out for the shore. 1836 — *Midsh. Easy* xiii, Mr. Sawbridge..winded the boats with their heads the same way. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 607 We backed out, winded round head up.

9. *trans.* and *intr.* In the management of horses in the yoke: To turn to the left, or towards the driver: opp. to Hap *v.*⁴, Hup *v. Sc.*

a 1745. 1794 [see Hap *v.*⁴]. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxiii, A feckless loon..had catched twa dragoon naigs and he could neither gar them hup nor wind. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. I. 125 To plough three 12-yard ridges by winding, or turning to the left hand. *Ibid.*, By laying two ridges (24 yards) together at each of these, marking and winding out the intermediate spaces, there will only be one open furrow every 60 yards.

† 10. To draw or pull *out* with a twisting movement. Also *intr. Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1810 But euere the heed was left bihynde For ought I couthe pulle or wynde. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* ccix. (1542) 257 By cruell deathe, as windynge theyr guttes out of theyr bodyes. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XI. lxviii, He strove in haste the weapon out to winde, And broke the reed, but left the head behinde.

11. In immaterial sense: To turn or deflect in a certain direction; *esp.* to turn or lead (a person) according to one's will; also *to turn and wind* (see Turn *v.* 64 b). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

† *To wind up and down*: to revolve in the mind. † *To wind off*: to turn aside. *To wind about*: to use circumlocution with (cf. 12).

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 601 Crisseyde..euery word gan vp and down to wynde That he hadde seyd as it come here to mynde. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* Prol. 85 She is the clerenesse and the verray lyght That in this derke worlde me wynt and ledyth. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretaries* I. (1625) 136 That by your timely looking to those matters, you may winde him from that. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iii. § 7 To be speculatiue into another man, to the end to know how to worke him, or winde him, or gouerne him. 1606, 1673 [see *turn and wind*, Turn *v.* 64 b]. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 208 Socrates windes off his Audience from the curiose prying into the Nature. 1708 Mrs. Centlivre *Busie Body* II. i, These flattering fops imagine they can wind, Turn and decoy to love all woman-kind. 1713 Tickell *Prol. Univ. Oxford* 34 To wind the Passions, and command the Heart. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* I. xxxvi. 258 He winds one about, and about, yet seems not to have more curiosity than one would wish him to have. 1777 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 29 Sept., There was not time for many questions, and no opportunity of winding and winding them, as Mr. Richardson has it, so as to get truth without questions. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vii, He can wind the proud Earl to his will. 1837 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* I. 235 Love, which had once for all taken root in her heart, now dexterously winded and turned the matter.

† b. To draw, bring, or involve (a person) *in*, attract *into*, by alluring or enticing methods. *Obs.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.* Addit., *Lacio*.., to brynge into a snare, or to wynde one in to deceyue him. 1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xxxvi. 4 Hee doth not simply lynd fault with the vngodly for winding in other folkes with their wyles and fetches. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 1847/1 A subtile practise (as was thought) intended to wynde him wythin daunger. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xxvi. (1912) 504 Which winded her againe into the former maze of perplexitie. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 48 A certaine man.., being trecherously wound in and intrapped, by the craftie wilines of a certaine woman. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* II. Epigr. iv. 79 If ev'r it winds thee Into a loosenesse once, take heed. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* I. iv. § 2 You will be wound into the most notorious absurdities. 1655 R. Younge *Agst. Drunkards* 7 It is admirable how they will winde men in, and draw men on by drinking first a health to such a man.

† c. To bring (a thing) *in* by insinuating methods. *Obs.*

1570 Drant *Serm.* C vij, This is the fine force of Sanders most fine witte, in finding out fetches, and winding in stuffe to strengthen and fortifye Antichristianisme. *c* 1650 Bradford *Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 301 He with his former dealings had wound in what money he had in yᵉ partnership into his owne hands. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* ix. 160 'Tis pleasant to see what little Arts and dexterities they have to wind in such things into discourse.

† d. With *out*: To draw out, extricate, disentangle. *Obs.*

c 1535 W. Roper *Life Sir T. More* vi. (1729) 40 To wynde suche quarrells out of the Cardinall's head. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 309 Iacob and Ioseph being wrapped in sundrie tribulations, were by their merciful God woond out and rid from all [orig. *explicantur*]. 1577 *S. Aug. Manuall* T v b, Wynde me out [orig. *evolve*], & unloade me, that the pit shut not his mouth upon me. 1602 F. Godwin *Bps. of Eng.* 121 By and by he ouertopped the Archbishop, and quickly wound him out of all authority. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* III. i. (1608) E 3, Weele haue some trick and wile, To winde our yonger brother out of prison.

† e. To circulate, put in circulation (money or merchandise): usually in phr. *turn and wind. Obs.*

1598, 1686 [see Turn *v.* 64 c]. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* IV. 157 Tobacco..passes there as current Siluer, and by the oft turning and winding it, some grow rich, but many poore. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. xli, There is no state that winds the penny more nimbly and makes quicker returns. 1676 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1430 Whence turning of Religion's made The means to turn and wind a Trade.

12. *intr.* (also † *refl.*, and with *it*.) To pursue a devious, circuitous, or intricate course in argument, statement, or conduct; († esp. with *about* adv. or prep.) to use circumlocution or subtle terms of argument (*arch.*).

c 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 427 For in hise termes, so he wolde hym wynde And speke hise wordes in so sly a kynde, Whanne he commune shal with any wight, That he wol make hym doten anon right. 1528 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 173/1 Truly quod he ye wynde it well about. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 154 You know me well, and herein spend but time To winde about my loue with circumstance. 1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman Hater* II. i, You must not talk to him as you doe to an ordinary man, honest plain sence, but you must wind about him. 1680 Aubrey in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 612 He turned, and winded, and compounded in philosophy, politiques etc. as if he had been at mathematicall work. 1686 Jevon *Devil of a Wife* I. 14 He has a mind to wind about, but this shan't serve his turn. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* I. xxxvi. 258, I have winded and winded about him, as he has done about me; but all to no purpose. 1800 Maria Edgeworth *The Will* II, I winded and winded,..till, at the last, out comes the truth. 1838 Lytton *Leila* IV. v, Why dost thou wind and turn, good Ximen?..thou knowest well what my words drive at. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. vii. 93 He did not adroitly wind through the dangerous forms of evil. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. Introd. p. xii, In winding through the long notes..we have sometimes a difficulty in separating his own view from that of others whom he is confuting.

† 13. *intr.* and *refl.* a. With *out*: To extricate or disentangle oneself from a state of confinement or embarrassment. *Obs.*

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2207 Love in his lawes often schulde erre, And wynden out of honestees cheyne. *a* 1569 Kingesmyll *Man's Est.* vi. (1580) 34 As the birde taken in the nette, we lie fast fettered, our owne eyes not servyng us to espie any waie to winde out. 1599 Hayward *1st Pt. Hen. IV*, 83 To wind out of these intricate troubles. 1608 P. Golding *Sleidane's Epit. Frossard* 168 Not able.. to winde out of the linnen which entangled him. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 659 Long strugling underneath, ere they could wind Out of such prison.

1530 Palsgr. 782/1, I am tangled in busynesse, and can nat tell howe I may wynde me out. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Addit., *Euoluere se turba*, to wynde hym selfe oute of trouble. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* Z ij b, He.. struggled the more to winde himself out of their handes. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxviii. § 8 They make it..more easie for such kinde of persons to winde themselues out of the law. 1635 Jackson *Creed* VIII. vii. § 2 Hee could not wound himselfe out of those bonds of servitude wherein his lusts had insnared him. 1647 tr. *Wishart's Hist. Kings Affairs Scotl. under Montrose* iii. 25 Assoon as he had wound himself out of that present danger. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* I. i. *heading*, To wind themselves from under the Awe of Superstition. [1865 Carlyle *Fredh. Gt.* XIX. ii. (1872) VIII. 121 Soltikof..winded himself out of Posen one day, veiled by Cossacks. (Cf. G. *sich auswinden.*)]

b. With *in*, *into*: To insinuate oneself.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* I. 2 That being so knowen by the wonderfulnes of his moste fayre workemanship, he mighte wind himself into our inwarde mocions. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. iii. 64 To winde Yourselfe into a power tyrannicall. 1640 Rutherford *Let. to Lady Fingask* 27 Mar., If ye can wynd-in in his love..what a second heaven's paradise..is it, to be..burned with fevers of love sickness for him. 1646 Saltmarshe *Some Drops* ii. 57 This is the old way to winde in under the wing of Authority. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 15 The old serpent easily winded himself into his heart. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXIX, Of your having basked at my brother's fireside, like a serpent, and wound yourself, through me, almost into his confidence. 1886 C. Bigg *Chr. Platonists Alex.* iv. 130 Origen does not wind himself into the heart. He has not the blithe geniality of Clement.

14. *trans.* To turn or pass (something) around something else so as to encircle or enclose it and be in contact with it; to twine, twist, fold, or wrap (something) *about*, *round*, or *upon* something else. Also occas. to put around something so as to encircle it without contact.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8035 Aboute þe body a rope þey wonde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 359 He, which hadde of nothing doute, Hire wympel wond aboute his cheke. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 126 Hur lady, his modyr, wonde hyr kerchef about hym. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 391 When it is well won knyt a knot fast. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, v. i. 54 This Hand, fast wound about thy coale-black hayre. 1618 Gainsford *Glory Eng.* I. xvii. 151 They weare linnen rowles about their heads, in Vlster carelesly wonde about. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* v. 6 Instead of a Night Cap he had winded the Linings of his Breeches about his head. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 815 Whether to wind The Woodbine round this Arbour, or direct The clasping Ivie where to climb. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* x. 189 Upon the thin end of the Pole is wound a considerable Bundle of String. 1819 Shelley *Faust* II. 320 When she winds them [*sc.* her locks] round a young man's neck. 1842 Browning *Count Gismond* x, Wind the penance-sheet About her! 1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 95 As hunters round the wild beasts in their lair Marked for the javelin, wind a belt of fire. 1870 Rock *Text. Fabr.* Introd. I. p. xxii, [A] bandage to be winded and kept about the patient's arm. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* v, Suppose I wound my arm right round. 1916 J. J. Bell *Little Grey Ships, Patrol* 18 [He] began to wind about his neck a dark blue muffler.

b. *fig.*: esp. in phr. *to wind* (a person, etc.) *round one's little finger* (cf. Finger *sb.* 3, and sense 11 above).

1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* 279 To play People out of their Senses,..and wind their Passions about their Fingers as they list. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxi, I am told the mother can wind them both round her little finger. 1844 Milman *Lat. Christ.* IV. viii. (1864) II. 396 Irene wound her toils with consummate skill around her ill fated victim. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* III. i. 96 My life being wound about you as it is.

15. To put (thread, tape, or the like) in coils or convolutions around something, as a reel, or upon itself (either by passing the thread, etc. round and round, or by turning the reel or other object round and round), so as to form it into a compact mass (hank, skein, ball, etc.). (Also in *fig.* phrases: cf. PIRN *sb.*[2] 1 b.) Also with *from* or *off*, to undo the coils of (thread, etc.) by rotating the object on which they are wound; to unwind. (See also *wind up*, 22 c.)

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 257 E vostre filoe la wudes [*gloss* wynde thi yarn]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 525 He bare a burdoun ybounde with a brode liste, In a withewyndes wise ywounden aboute. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 359 Þe luge axkid ather of þaim whar-of þe bothom at þe clew was won on was. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/1 To wynde, PAI

hyr silke. BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* III. xviii. (1639) 231 It seemeth wounden together like a string. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 188 If it be so, you haue wound a goodly clewe. 1767 BICKERSTAFFE *Love in the City* I. i. stage-dir., One seated and holding a skain of silk, while the other winds it off on a ball. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Mar., Miss Planta left the room while I was winding some silk. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 91 The long threads which.. she winded daily from her spindle. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) 247 I'll wind your cotton, i. e. I will give you some trouble. 1889 F. C. BEACH in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 292/2 To operate the instrument it is only necessary to snap the shutter and wind off the paper.

absol. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 555, I wente an I wynde and do what treuthe hoteth. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* VI. 119 Do passe the time to winde and reele, & with your maids to spinne. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xii, An' kye she win't, an' ay she swat. 1818 *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 154 Just according to how many looms they wind for. 1870 *Inquiry Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* 28 She .. winds for journeymen weavers.

†**b.** To roll or fold up. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 52 Let the wol be well folden or wounden with a woll-wynder. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* I. 10–14 As a vesture shalt thou winde them aboute.

16. To encircle *with* or enclose in something passed round and in contact; †to wrap up; †to embrace, enfold in the arms; now, in ordinary prose use, only of binding a thing *round* with tape, wire, or the like.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 He wes iwunde mid wine and smirede mid oli. *Ibid.* 127 He wes imacad to monne ilicnesse and iwunden mid flesce al swa mon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3390 & tær þho barr Allmahhtiȝ Godd .. & wand himm sone I winndeclut. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2597 In an fetles,..Dis child wunden ȝhe wulde don. *c* 1290 *Mary Magdalene* 383 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 473 Huy nomen þe Quiene and hire child and wounden in a mantel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1672 First bind it wele wit balk and band, And wind it siþen well wit wand. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 546 Hwan grim him hauede faste bounden, And siþen in an eld cloth wnden. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 215 Þe stele of a stif staf.. Þat was wounden wyth ynn. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1232 Gan eche of hem in armes oþer wynde. 1471 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 140 Sche byd that yt schuld be woond in a canivasse for brochyng of the caryars. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 289 b/a A yong child that lay wounden in smale clowtes in hys moders lappe. ? *c* 1500 *Clariodus* v. 1917 Glaider war never Sir Troylus..,When he had Cressed in his arms windin. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXVIII. 20 The couerings to small, that a man maye not wynde him self therin. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 85, Their scaberdes wounde about with satyne. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 197 This hielandman.. tuik the samyn [crown] and wand it in his playd. 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 51 And so to wynde hime in his cowle and habett. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 73 Sometime am I All wound with Adders, who with clouen tongues Doe hisse me into madnesse. 1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* II, Let me wind thes in these arms, Till I have banisht sickness. 1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 106 If they..winde their hurdles on two sides with broome. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 294 Drench the beast, and then wind him up warm in hay. 1851 MEREDITH *Love in Valley* xiv, Jasmine winds the porch with stars two and three. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxi, Such is Judy. And her twin-brother couldn't wind up a top for his life. 1899 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xxi, There, are tops wound, and marbles gambled for. 1889 TENNYSON *Ancient Sage* 97 And wind the front of youth with flowers. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 491/1 The corner-posts were padded and wound with many layers of red and blue bunting.

b. *spec.* To wrap (a corpse) in a shroud or *winding-sheet*; to shroud. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2448 First .lx. niȝt [men] Se liches beȝen, And smeren, and winden, and bi-queden. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17288+218 (Cott.) Þe clother þat Iesus was wonden in. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 503 Ypolyt tuk þe cors away, & wand It in clathis fyne. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xcv. 4093 (MS. W.) To se þe quyk þe dede dispulȝe Quhen he is woundit in his schete. 1526 TINDALE *John* xix. 39 Then toke they the body of Jesu and wonde it in lynnen clothes. 1605 *London Prodigal* I. i. 170 Yes, truly, syr, your father is dead, these hands of mine holpe to winde him. 1660 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Mrs. Craig* 4 Aug., The mother..possibly, cannot get leave to wind the son, nor to weep over his grave. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 335 Vowing he'll not conform, before The Old-Wives wind their dead in Wollen. 1880 W. COLLINS *Wom. in White* II. Narr. I. II. 349 That she had winded a many of them in her time.

†(*b*) *nonce-use.* To carry *out* in a winding-sheet.

1604 *Meeting of Gallants* B 1 b, Tenne wound out of one house, must the shame carry fiue payre of sheetes with them.

c. Chiefly in pa. pple. and *fig.*: To involve, entangle; †occas. to wrap up (in fair words).

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 913 Ne wynd þou nast þy senne ine selke Ac telle out al þat rouȝe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2811 My warke, þat I am in wonden. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perev.* 703 in *Macro Plays* 98 Worthy World, in welthys wonde. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 23, I am wonddyn in welth from all woo. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* Post. Wks. (1904) 260/2 In the great net of Até, whence none cometh out, Ye are wound and undone! 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* I. 27 Then they wound him in their devil's web. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the babe was wound.

17. *intr.* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 226 What tree soever it [*sc.* ivy] ryse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 38 It wyndeth about, and killes his neighbours as the Iuie dooth. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* II. 35 If your spindle is to have three or four Worms winding about it. 1686 JEVON *Devil of a Wife* I. 2 Go home and Spin, or else my Strap will wind about thy Ribs. 1739 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 55 The single thread winded off the pod in the same manner as that of the common silk-worm. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 213 The leather shuttle winds upon it as it descends, or unwinds from it as it ascends.

†**18.** *trans.* **a.** To form or construct by twining or plaiting; to plait, wreathe, weave. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Hie..wundan beaȝ of þornum & him setton on heafod for cynehelme. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1670 Quen þi timber es festend wele þou wind þe sides ilk dele. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 795 A seynt..Off silk and gold wounden in pal. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clii. (W. de W.) T vj b/2 Wrethes wouen & wounden of thornes & roddes. 1526 TINDALE *John* XIX. 2 The soudiers wonde a croune off thornes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 82 That same net so cunningly was wound, That neither guile nor force might it distraine. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xxii. I. 129 The boates..were made and wound of papyr reeds.

†(*δ*) *spec.* To make or repair (a wall) with 'windings' (see WINDING *vbl. sb.*[1] 10). *Obs.*

c900 ÆLFRED *Solil.* Pref., Þæt he..ȝefeȝrize hys wænas mid feȝrum ȝerdum, þat he maȝe windan maniȝne smicerne wah. 1474–8 (see WINDING *vbl. sb.*[1] 10). 1550 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 70 Paid for 3 burthen of roodes to wynde the wals of the store howse. 1574 *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (L.C.C. 1909) 194 To wind with roddes & to fill vp the walle against his Mille banck. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* 147 Their houses wonde with rods and couered with turffs. 1649 *Order Bk. Hertlebury Gram. School* (1904) 72 To a man to studd and winde walls.

†**b.** To twine or plait *together*, to intertwine; *fig.* to associate. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 345 Þey..wonede vnder bowes and twigges i-wounde to gidres. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 169 As wexe and weke if þei were wounde to-gederes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 Wrappe and wynde theym together. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxxvii. 440 Stringes, interlaced, woven, and winded one in another. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* I. xvii. 144 And so intricately winde them, or lay them, that they shall be a strong barricado. 1646 A. HENDERSON in *Charles I's Wks.* (1662) 278, I wind together Diotrephes and the Mystery of Iniquity.

19. To haul or hoist by turning a winch, windlass, or the like, around which a rope or chain is passed. **a.** *gen.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wyndyn' 'wythe a wyndlas. 1900 *Law Rep., App. Cas.* 407 The head-line of the net is then wound in by means of the windlass.

b. *Naut.* †(*a*) To hoist (sail); (*b*) to move or warp (the ship), by hauling, as on a capstan or windlass. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (Cf. 8.) See also 22 g. Cf. ON. *vinda segl* to hoist sail.

c 1205 [see 22 a]. 1379 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 100 In pota dato diversis auxiliantibus pro li[s]dem exaltand. et wyndand. 3*d*. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 872 He..Bad wynd the saill in all the haist thai may. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 12 Some wounde at yᵉ capstayne. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 607 The Danis ..Wand saill to top. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* VI. 40 The maister .. bald the marynalis lay the cabil to the cabilstok, to veynde and veye. Than the marynalis began to veynd the cabil. 1570–1 (Feb. 17) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 18 (MS.) Layde an ancre right astern..to winde her out of the dock. 1598 FLORIO *Dict.* To Rdr., I was but one to turne and winde the sailes, to vse the oare [etc.]. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 490 We cut our cables, wound off our ships, and presently fought with them. *Ibid.*, Cutting our cables in the halse, and winding off by our sternefast. 1633 (July 28) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 50 (MS.) The Delight was thwart the river and wynding down. 1729 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lydel'* 27 Oct., Unmoared the Ship, and got all things in a readiness for Winding her head down. 1853 KANE *Arctic Expl.* (1856) I. vii. 72 We dropped our heaviest anchor with the desperate hope of winding the brig.

c. *Mining.* To hoist (coal, etc.) to the surface by means of a *winding-engine.*

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wind.* 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blaweearie* 186 To get their coals winded to the pithead.

20. *trans.* †**a.** To tighten the strings of a musical instrument by turning the pins or pegs around which they are passed. (With the pins or the strings as obj.) See also 22 e (*b*). *Obs.*

1607–12 BACON *Ess., Empire* (Arb.) 298 In gouernement sometymes he vsed to wynd the pynnes to highe, and sometymes to let them downe to lowe. *a* 1700 PRIOR *To C'tess of Exeter* 32 Your Lute may wind it's Strings but little higher, To tune their Notes to that immortal Quire.

b. To set (a watch, clock, or other mechanism) in order for going by turning an axis with a key or similar device so as to coil the spring tighter or draw up the weights.

Usually *wind up* (see 22 a); occas. *wind down*, to cause to stop.

1602, etc. [see 22 a]. *a* 1648 *Ess. on Death* in *Beaum's Remaines* (1648) 10 Wooing the remorselesse Sisters to wind down the watch of their life, and to break them off before the hour. 1760 WINTHROP in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 24 He was winding his watch at that time. 1880 HARDY *Trumpet-Major* lii, When he wound his clock on Sunday nights the whirr of that monitor reminded the widow to wind hers.

c. *fig.* To exalt or 'screw up' *to* a certain pitch. Now with *up* (see 22 f).

a 1635 SIBBES *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 5 Like Jonah, ..when he rejoyces, his joy is wound to the highest pitch. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., He at length wound himself to such a pitch of resolution, as to invite me to dine. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Morning* xiii, We need not..strive to wind ourselves too high For sinful man beneath the sky.

II. In combination with advs. (See also prec. senses and the advs.)

21. Wind off. **a.** See simple senses and OFF. †**b.** *intr.* and *trans.* To close, conclude, terminate: = *wind up*, 22 d (*b*), (*d*). *Obs. rare.*

1630 FULLER *Pisgah* II. i. 60 O that all differences between brethren might winde off, in so welcome a conclusion. 1675 TEMPLE *Lett.* (1701) III. 160 The Prince continues to say he talks to him no further than is necessary to wind off such Businesses as were left in his hands.

22. Wind up. **a.** *trans.* To draw up or hoist with a winch or the like: cf. 19.

c 1205 LAY. 30607 Heo wunden up selles to coppe. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3955 The Sarezynes..Her brygges wounden up in haste. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14364 Crosses, belles, men haue founden, In welles, in watres, vp haue wounden. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* viii. (1906) 11 Folke come to feche and wynde up water at that well. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 67 b, He..went to the see and made to winde up the sayle. 1530 PALSGR. 782/2 Wynde up the crane faster. 1580 H. SMITH in *Hadleyt's Voy.* (1589) 470 We brought a cable vnder her sterne, and with our capstaine did winde vp her sterne. 1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. ii, Let me see thy hand, this was ne'er made to wash, or wind up water. 1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate of Culross* 55 The adoption of..Steam Engines to wind up the Coals from the pits. 1823 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 124 A rope wrapped about it to wind up the sacks of corn.

absol. 1846 *Bentley's Misc.* Dec. 555 Walk down stream with him and wind up as fast as you can. He's a fine fish, and shows excellent sport.

b. †To bind or wrap up (*obs.*); see also 16 (quot. 1853).

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 948 To wynde up, *houzer*. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Ezek. XXX. 21 Behold it is not wound up, that health might be restored to it. 1611 *Bible Acts* v. 6. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 67 The Sea-Nimphes..Learning of Fisher-men to knit a net, Wherein to wynde vp their disheuel'd hayres. 1627 J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xiii. 61 Winde vp the slaine, with each a..bullet at their heads and feet to make them sinke. 1697 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 72 The spider doth winde up, and truss up the Fly, being come into its cobweb.

†(*b*) *fig.* To involve, implicate. Cf. 16 c. *Obs.* In quot. 1651 app. = 'to have included in one's nature'; so in quot. 1674[2] *intr.* for *pass.* = 'to be included'.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 296 Winding vp Dayes with toyle, and Nights with sleepe. 1681 CLEVELAND *Poems, Rupertismus* 73 Whatever man winds up, that Rupert hath. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 127 Well may one motion, of one sort, after sinking into its spring, or being wown up in it, be.. brought on again to a kind of quickness. *Ibid.* 187 So little of boundedness to winde up in. 1784 *New Spectator* No. 13 My happiness is wound up in thine. 1819 KEATS *Otho* I. ii, I am wound up in deep astonishment! 1819 W. S. ROSE *Lett. N. Italy* II. 96 [They] imagined that her life was wound up in his. 1841 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* lxix. IX. 138 His political existence was thenceforth wound up with the success of Russia in the German war.

c. †(*a*) To coil, roll, or fold up; to furl: cf. 15 b. *Obs.* exc. as in (*b*).

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 11 His huge long tayle wound vp in hundred foldes. 1595 SHAKS. *John* V. v. 7 After such bloody toile, we..woon'd our tott'ring colours clearly vp. 1659 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) IV. III. 269 He..wound up his Hair with his Hands, and put on a White Cap. 1789 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 35 See that the wool be well wound up.

(*b*) To coil (thread, etc.) into a compact mass (cf. 15): chiefly in phr. † *to wind up a bottom* or *one's bottoms* (BOTTOM *sb.* 15), usually *fig.* to sum up, conclude (cf. d).

1631 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 99 Off a reele clewes or bottomes of threads are winded vp and web is made. 1639 J. CLARKE *Param.* 46 Wind up your bottome. 1652 PRYNNE *Catastr. Ho. Stuarts* (1732) 64, I have ravelled out the Pieces to wind up this Bottom. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* II. (1754) Pref. p. xxxii, But, to wind up my Bottoms [etc.]. *a* 1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Biddulph* IV. 27 That would be tipping the spire and winding up her bottoms with a witness. 1770 DIBDIN *Deserter* I. i, I'll give you while I wind up this bottom and another, and you sha'n't find it out.

d. *fig.* †(*a*) To gather up the points of (a discourse) in a compact statement by way of conclusion; to sum up. *Obs.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* X iij b, To winde vp all in a short conclusion, [etc.]. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 137 To winde vp all in briefe. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. [illegible]

up what I have to say. 1792 BURKE *Th. French Aff.* Wks. 1842 I, 580, I wind up all in a full conviction within my own breast,..that [etc.].

(*b*) †To make up as the conclusion or final scene (*obs.*); to bring to a close or conclusion; to form the conclusion of, be the final event in.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 27, I shall be better directed in what manner to wind up the Catastrophe of the pretty Novel. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xii, To wind up the last scene of thy tragedy, Cruelty and Cowardice..shall strike together at all thy infirmities and mistakes. 1861 SCOTT *Dryden's Whs.* VIII. 454 The moral, by which the whole Masque is winded up, was sadly true. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, Her ladyship was winding up the day with her accustomed bottle of soda-water. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliv, Sobs and tears wound up the sentence in a storm. 1912 *World* 7 May 685/1 An evening party on Saturday wound up the season's entertaining.

(*c*) To put in order and settle (an affair) with the view of bringing it to an end; to bring to a final settlement; *spec.* to arrange and adjust the affairs of (a company or business concern) on its dissolution; also *absol.*

1780 *Mirror* No. 97 P 7 Some company concerns to be wound up, or some bottomry-accompt to be adjusted. 1794 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 458, I have some affairs in London which I wish to wind up. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, It was understood that the affairs of the House were to be wound up as they best could be. 1875 *Economist* 30 Jan. 131/2 The Master of the Rolls has made an order to wind-up, and has appointed Mr. John Smith.. official liquidator. 1893 SARAH O. JEWETT *Deephaven* 213 He was trading up to Parsonsfield, and business run down, so he wound up there, and thought he'd make a new start. 1924 MACKAIL in *Proc. Class. Assoc.* 13 The Association was never formally wound up and still technically existed.

(*d*) *absol.* or *intr.* To bring the proceeding to a close; to come to a close; to conclude *with* something.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* x. III. 185 And a dish of maccaroni to wind up with. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Astley's*, One of the little boys wound up by expressing his opinion, that 'George began to think himself quite a man now'. 1855 — *Lett.* (1880) I. 306, I want to wind up with that popular farce. 1888 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. 329 An extreme amount of fever, winding up with delirium on the fifth day.

6. In reference to a watch, etc.: see 20 b.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 66, I frowne the while, and perchance winde vp my watch. 1639 *Crabtree Lect.* 41 Gladly he would have interrupted her,..but the Jacke was woond up, and downe it must. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. xiii. (1707) 80 These Mathematical Engines cannot be so easily and speedily wound up, and so certainly levelled as the other may. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 125 A Watch or a Jack, by being only wown up [etc.]. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 277 P 17 Another Puppet, which by the Help of several little Springs to be wound up within it, could move all its Limbs. 1762 CHURCHILL *Poems, Night* 83 Wound up at twelve at noon, his clock goes right, Mine better goes, wound up at twelve at night. 1883 RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* II. 148 Climbing a ladder to wind up an old clock.

†(*b*) In reference to the strings of a musical instrument (see 20 a); *fig.* to put in tune.

1603 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 16 Th'vntun'd and iarring sense O winde vp, Of this childe-changed Father. 1645 WALLI *Chloris & Hilas* I. Poems 157 Winde up the slack'ned strings of thy Lute.

7. *fig.* To set in readiness for action; to raise (feeling) to a high degree; now usually, to put into a state of tension or intensity of feeling, etc.; to excite; to brace up; in *Racing slang*, to put (a race-horse) into fit condition for running.

1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Straine all your wits, winde up invention Vnto his highest bent. 1603 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 37 Peace, the Charme's wound vp. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* v. i, His knights reformadoes are wound up as high and insolent as ever they were. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 269 Having wound him up with good chear. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* ii. (ed. 2) 136 These blind ..Powers must be..perpetually woond up by an Hand of Power and Counsel. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 20 My passions are so wound up, that I am obliged either to laugh or cry. 1759 GOLDSM. *Voltaire* Wks. (1889) 489/2 Voltaire seemed wound up to no other pursuit than that of poetry. *Ibid.* 500/1 Our poet was at last wound up to the height of expectation. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* II. vii. 176 He had wound himself up to the last pitch of expectation. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiii. 294 Ladies of fashion use it constantly to wind themselves up, when reduced to a little below par. 1864 NEWMAN *Apol.* iv. (1904) 126/2 It is not at all easy (humanly speaking) to wind up an Englishman to a dogmatic level. 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 197 There's one that's what we call wound up: going to run next week in a big handicap. 1880 A. H. HUTH *Buckle* II. 257 Mr. Buckle's interjections come in very usefully to help Mr. Glennie along, and wind him up again, as it were, when he has run down.

†**8.** *Naut. intr.* and *trans.* See quots., and cf. 8, 19 b (*b*). *Obs.*

a 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 115 The ship winds-up, that is, when she comes to ride by her Anchor. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 10 This Anker had neuer bin able to winde vp the Ship. 1639 [see WINDING *vbl. sb.*[1] 1 b]. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lv, Ships..have Water enough to wind up with the Tide of flood. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4).

Wind (wind, woind), *v.*[2] Pa.t. and pple. **winded.** Forms: 5 wynde, 6–8 winde, 6– wind. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* 6– winded; 8–9 wound (see sense 3). [f. WIND *sb.*[1] In ordinary prose use the pronunciation is (wind) except in sense 3, where it is (woind).]

I. From WIND *sb.*[1] I.

1. *trans.* To get the wind of (WIND *sb.*[1] 4); to perceive (an animal, a person, or thing) by the scent conveyed by the wind.

†Occas. with obj. clause and absol. In quot. 1607, to perceive (a sound) conveyed by the wind, to hear.

c 1412 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, Þe wolfe is so malicious, when he seeth hir comme withoute fedynge, þat he goth wynde at hir musel. And if he wynde þere she hath brought any thynge, he..biteth her. *Ibid.*, Somme men seith þat she biteth..hir beede, because þat the wolfe shulde wynde nothyng of hir fedynge whan she cometh agayne. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 394 You might..haue tourned the Hare you winded, and caught the game you courned. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxiii. 6. 807/1 As a swyne when he hath once winded his meat, runnes on to swash himself in it. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. xxii. I. 375 A man may wind the sent of it presently a great way off. 1606 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. ii, Any sensible snout may winde M. Amoretto and his Pomander. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 584 The greedy beast winding the voice of the Dogge. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxvii. § 7. 248 He could att a great distance wind by his nose, where wholesome fruites or rootes did grow. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 385 His scent how true, To winde the vapour in the tainted dew. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xxii. II. 126 Soon after fourteen buffaloes came; but .. they got an alarm .. They had winded two lions. 1880 CAMBRIDGE *Pract. Trap.* 32 A good terrier, one which will wind, and, if necessary, fight a fox. 1892 *Field* 7 May 695/1 Deuce dropped to birds that got up as we entered, and Dulcimer ran into a pair that she just winded before they rose.

b. *intr.* Of an animal: To sniff in order to scent or on scenting something.

c 1410 [see above]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 125 When a hart pricketh vp his eares he windeth sharpe. 1842 J. W. CARLETON *Sporting Sk. Bk.* 29 Palatine..suddenly raised his head, winded high in the air, sprung over the bushes, winded again, then leaped again.

c. *fig.* (*trans.*) To perceive by some subtle indication; to get wind of, to smell or nose *out.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Q iij, Philotimus winding Aurelia to haue munched on this carrion..trotted to her lodging once or twise, where she would not be sene. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 25 Talus, that could like a limehound winde her. 1621 L. BARRY *Ram Alley* II. i, No nose to smell, and winde out all your tricks. 1640 C. HARVEY *Synagogue, Search* ii, My senses are too weake to wind him. *a* 1641 FINETT *Observ.* (1656) 13, I winding the cause to be some new bus, gotten into his Braine. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 51 A cat, hunted for his musk, is, according to Pope's account, but the emblem of a wit winded by booksellers. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Ser. II. I. *Chaucer, Boccaccio, & Petrarca* 226, I never knew a priest at a fault, whatever he winded.

II. From WIND *sb.*[1] II.

2. *trans.* To expose to the wind or air; to dry by such exposure, to air.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wyyndyd, *ventilatus, vel vento et aure expositus.* 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 385/2 *Offringitur ager*,..the land is winded, fallowed, or twise laboured ouer. 1672 SMYTH *Mining Stat.* 64 As Mr. Spear says, 'he leaves the air to wind the ground the other 16 hours'.

b. *intr.* To 'take wind', become tainted by exposure to air; *trans.* to taint by such exposure. *dial.*

1848 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 222 A handful of salt shaken on the top of it, which keeps it from turning mouldy or winding. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 905 If the least cell of air be left in its mass...it will wind the butter.

3. *trans.* To sound by forcing the breath through, to blow (a wind-instrument, esp. a horn).

In this sense often with pa. t. and pple. *wound*, by confusion with WIND *v.*[1], perh. due to vague suggestion from the curved form of a horn or bugle.

1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* I. 17 Minerua was delighted with her pipe, and vsed euen in the assemblie of the gods very much to winde it. 1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. iii, Boy, winde thy cornet. 1706 SWIFT *To Earl of Peterborough* 16 The Post-boy winds his Horn. 1746 COLLINS *Ode Evening* 21 Where the Beetle winds His small but sullen Horn. 1789 G. KEATE *Pelew Isl.* 33 The boatswain called all hands out to work by winding his pipe. 1790 PENNANT *London* 243 Hunters who wound their horns. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xvii. But scarce again his horn he wound. 1814 — *Ld. of Isles* IV. xviii, That blast was winded by the King! 1859 TENNYSON *Pelleas & Ettarre* 371 Gawain..raised a bugle hanging from his neck, And winded it. 1859 — *Elaine* 169 Thither he made and wound the gateway horn.

b. To blow (a blast, call, or note) on a horn, etc.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 243 But that I will haue a recheate winded in my forehead. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 892 With Cheeks full-blown they wind Her solemn Dirge. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776), *Winding a Call*, the act of blowing or piping upon a boatswain's whistle. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* V. vi, He raised a little tucket to his mouth and wound a rousing call.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* To blow a blast on a wind-instrument.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. lxiv. 86 Quintius..caused certaine corneliers..to wind and sound before the trench.

d. *trans.* To supply (an organ-pipe) with wind at a particular pressure.

1879 *Organ Voicing* 28 They must be winded to match those below in strength.

†**4.** *trans.* To blow (a fire, etc.). *Obs. rare.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. vii, The fire..the which he had spread abroad, and winded or bellowned in vaine. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 69 The freshe lime shaken and winded, filled the place with its smoke.

†**5.** To deprive of 'wind' or breath, put out of breath, 'blow', 'puff'.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 18 Parkes was very faint, and apparently quite winded. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* III, 'Two to one on Dick—he's closing.' 'Done! Andy will wind him yet.' 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* II. 9 A country..where there was no hill steep enough to wind a horse in good condition. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* XX, He can't hardly keep from barking till he's hoarse, and rushing through and over everything till he's winded and done up.

Wind, *v.*[3] *dial.* Also 5–6 wynd, 8 *Sc.* winn. [Perh. a use of WIND *v.*[2]; cf. OHG. *windôn* (MHG., G. *winden*), Goth. *diswinþjan* to scatter like chaff (cf. *winþiskaurô* and OHG. *winta* winnowing-fan). Late Northumb. *windung*, rare var. of *winnung*, *wynnung*, appears to be unconnected, and *windas* in *Ancr. R.* (ed. Morton) 270 is prob. an error for *windwen*.]

To winnow. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*).

a 1500 *Prompt. Parv.* 529/1 Wynewynge, wythe wynnd (*K.*, *P.* wyndynge), *ventilacio.* 1538 *Aberd. Reg.* XVI. (Jam. 1815), And see the same bair wyndit & dycht. 1548, etc. [see WINDING-CLOTH 2]. 1578 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 783/1 The beir granell, malt barne and windinhous. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 74/1 Winnowing, Winding or Haveing. 1733 BUDGELL *Bee* No. 7. I. 293 Their Mother coming home presently after from winding of Corn, affrighted at this tragical Scene, threw the winding Cloth which she had in her Hand into the Cradle where the youngest Child was asleep, and smother'd it unawares. 1785 BURNS *Hallowe'en* xxi, Meg fain wad to the barn gaen To winn three wechts o' naething. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wind*..To winnow corn. *Devon.* 1869 PEACOCK *Lonsdale Gloss.* 1891 *Hartland Gloss.* s.v. *Wind*, Although winnin' or windin' by hand is nearly obsolete, some farms have still a Windin'-place, a spot of high ground where it was performed. 1929 CHOPE *Some Old Farms Impl.* 24 [Devonshire] the 'machine fan', or winding-van.

Wind, obs. var. WEND; obs. pa. pple. of WIN *v.*[1]; var. WIN *v.*[2]; obs. Sc. f. WOUND *sb.*; var. WYND.

Wind-[1], the stem of WIND *v.*[1] in combination, in a few obsolete compounds: †wind-clout (in Ormin *winndeclut*), a swaddling-band; †wind-hatch [HATCH *sb.*[1] 5 b], an opening to a mine, at which a winding apparatus is fixed; †wind-lift, a windlass (in quot. *fig.*); †wind-rope, a rope for winding or hoisting, used with a windlass.

c 1200 ORMIN 3320 & tær þho barr Allmahhtiȝ Godd..& wand himm sone i *winndeclut. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2104 A Winder with two Keebles (great buckets made like a barrel with iron hoops, placed just over the then termed *Wind Hatch). *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. § 64 (1740) 354 The Author intends no Good in all this, but brings it in as a *Wind-lift to heave up a gross Scandal. 1359 in *Pipe Roll 33 Edw. III* m. 47 (P. R. O.) In diuersis Cabulis, *Wyndropes, Caggyngcables. 1402 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 43/6 m. 7 In ij hausers emptis pro j Wyndrope et j boltrope lix s. vj. d.

Wind-[2], the stem of WIND *v.*[3] in combination = winnowing-, as in *wind-cloth, -screen, -sheet.*

1500 *Ortus Vocab.* (W. de W.) Pp vj, *Ventilabrum*,..a wynde clothe. 1565 *Inv. in Trans. Cumb. & West. Arch. Soc.* X. 32 Husbandre gere...vii steckes, one wyndcloythe. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 125 After passing twice through the wind screen, that objection was entirely removed. 1891 *Hartland Gloss.*, *Win-sheet*, a winnowing-sheet.

Windabout (wai·ndəbaut), *sb.* and *a. nonce-wd.* [f. WIND *v.*[1] + ABOUT *adv.*] †a. *sb.* Suggested name for a circumflex accent. b. *adj.* That winds about, meandering.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* II. vi. (Arb.) 92 We might very properly call him the (windabout) for so is the Greek word [περισπώμενον]. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harbbach* 321 The erratic, windabout stream.

Windage (wi·ndédʒ). [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + -AGE.]

1. An allowance of space (for expansion of gas in firing) between the inner wall of a fire-arm and the shot or shell with which it is charged: measured by the difference of the diameters of the bore and the shot.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. 1778 HUTTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 84 It would also be an improvement to diminish the windage; for by so doing, one third or more of the quantity of powder might be saved. 1860 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 127. 238 The windage of a loose ball in the barrel of the piece.

2. Allowance made (esp. in shooting) for deflection from the direct course by the wind; such deflection itself.

1867 *Morning Star* 30 July 6 At half-past nine the firing commenced..but with a breeze almost too strong for accurate aiming, and considerable 'windage' was required. 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* iv, 'Seven yards windage, Hal,' said one. 1897 PEMBERTON *Complete Cyclist* 78 This will..save a good deal of windage. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 May 4/1 [Yachts in which] an innovation is made.. giving a maximum of head room with a minimum of windage.

3. = WIND *sb.*[1] 13; also, the friction of the air upon a moving part of a machine.

1889 *Buck's Handlib. Mod. Sci.* VIII. 22/1 To support the idea of injuries from the 'windage' of balls. 1903 *Nature* 29 Oct. 635/1 The power wasted by the windage of fly-wheel and dynamo a ——.

Windar, var. WINDER *sb.*[4], widgeon.

†Windas. *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 wyndas (5–6 -ase, 4 -as, 4–6 -ace, 5 -asse, 5–6 -es, 6 -esse, -ys, -ais), 4–7 windas, (6 -is, -ose, -eous, *Sc.* -ois, 6–7 -es, 7 -us, -owes); 5 weyndas, 6 wendess. [a. AF. *windas* = OF. *guindas* (latinized *wind-, guindasium, -agium*), a. ON. *vindáss* (whence MLG., MDu., Du. *windas*), f. *vinda* WIND *v.*[1] + *áss* (= Goth. *ans*) pole.]

1. = WINDLASS *sb.*[1] 1.

[*c* 1180 in *Materials Hist. Thos. Becket* (Rolls) I. 320

Ligno quod nautæ windasium vocant c ut rudentis circumvolvitur.] 1293 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/8 m. 2 (P.R.O.), Maseremium..pro Wyndase et Wyndase Stockes. 1295 *Ibid.* 5/8 m. 13, xix. d. in quodam Wyndas empto..ad galeam. *c* 1330 R. Baunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12087 Somme aforced þe wyndas, Somme þe loof, somme þe bytas. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 103 Wist at þe wyndas wejen her ankres. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 184 Ther may no man out of the place it dryve For noon engyn of wyndas ne polyue. *c* 1440 *Partenope* 4604 Goo hye yow fast to the wyndase [*v. r.* wyndace] And pull the Ankre vp in haste. 1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 17 Making of crane and wyndals for fourtene pecis of artaljery. 1578 *Harl. MS. 847*, lf. 53 b, Windoses for the defence of ordinaunce. 1609 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 149 Helping to mak and sett the windes over the somp and drawing the watter out of it. 1609 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 155 For bringinge the windowes and roopes from the Colledge. 1627 *Capt. J. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* iii. 8 A windas is a square peece of timber, like a Role before the fore Castle in small ships, and forced about with handspikes for the same vse as is the Capstaine.

b. A winch-like contrivance used for bending a cross-bow.

1443 *Bekynton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 935 Ibi datus erat 1 arcus de Wyndas. ? 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 82, I..prey 3w to gete som crosse bowis, and wyndacs to bynd them with. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 204 For..grathing of the Kingis corsbow and windes. 1511–12 *Ibid.* IV. 327, vij pair wyndasis cordis. [1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* i. iv, Richard had unslung his cross-bow, and held ready in one hand the windac, or grappling-iron that he used to bend it.]

2. *attrib.*, as *windas cord* [= OF. *corde a guindas*], *man*, *rule*; **windas-stook**, a windlass-bitt.

1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 466, iij pair *wyndes cordis for corsbowis. 1508 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 149 To cover the *windes men fra the injurie of the wedder. 1541 *Sc. Acts Chas. I.* (1817) V. 509 Wattermen and windusmen. 15.. *Debate Carp. Tools* 163 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 85 What, ser, seyd the *wyndas rewle, Me thinke thou arte bot a fole. 1593 *Wyndase Stockes [see 1]. 1604 *Customs Acc.* 180/1 (P.R.O.) 2 weyndas et weyndestok.

Wind-bag, windbag (wi·ndbæg). [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Bag *sb.*]

1. A bag containing 'wind' or air. **a.** The bellows of an organ (*obs.*) or bag of a bagpipe.

1470–3 *Rec. Andover* 15 For amendyng of the wyndbagge of the organys vi*d*. 1606 [implied in *wind-bagged*: see below]. 1838 G. F. Graham *Mus. Comp.* App. 50 Possibly the anatomical structure of the sonorous organs of these *Cicadæ* did not exactly resemble the wind-bag, and reed, and pipe of our biped bagpipers.

b. The lungs (also *pl.*); the chest or body considered as a receptacle of breath. Now only *jocular*.

1552 Huloet, Wynde bagge of a man out of the which the winde passeth, and commeth forthe. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* II. s.v. *Anaxarchus*, He doubled these woordes worthy of remembraunce: Beate on, beate on Anaxarchus wynde bag: for Anaxarchus thou beatest not: accomptinge his body but a bagge full of wynde. 1860 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* I. i. 10 The dubious condition of his wind-bags occasioned him considerable..distress.

c. An inflated bag used as a charm to ensure a favourable wind.

1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III iv. 202 From witch-wives have I bought ere now Wind-bags indeed, but yet did trow Nothing therein.

2. *fig.* (*contemptuous*). An empty pretender, or something pretentious but unsubstantial; *esp.* a voluble and senseless talker. (Cf. Wind *sb.*[1] 11 b, 14.)

1827 Carlyle *Misc.*, *Richter* (1869) 10 Consigned..to the Limbo appointed for all such windbags and deceptions. 1894 Sala *London up to date* II. xxii. 343 He is at best a noisy wind-bag and braggart.

Hence **Wi·nd-bagged** *a.*, furnished with a windbag (sense 1 a); **Wi·ndbaggery**, inflated talk.

1606 J. Reynolds *Dolarnys Primeross* (1880) 118 There might be heard, the hoHowes *wind bag'd droan's, with direfull roaring. 1859 Sala *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 31, 6 Irremediably pin-perforated *windbaggery. 1900 *Sat. Westm. Gaz.* 21 May 4/2 The stunt press, which greatly prides itself on its inexhaustible windbaggery on this subject.

Wind-ball (wi·ndbɔl). [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Ball *sb.*[1]] An inflated ball; a game played with such a ball by striking it with the fist.

1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 264 Diuers sortes of pastimes, as the Windball, the barre, fencing [Cf. *Iver* (1509) 156 b, comme de Pallemaille, de barre, d'escrime]. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 296/1 *Follis*,..a wind ball beaten with the fists to and fro in play. 1602 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* v. iv. (Roxb.) 70 Els will wee make this thy Hed a wind Ball, to our fistes, straite.

† Wind-band[1]. *Obs.* [f. Wind *v.*[1] + Band *sb.*[1]] A band which is 'wound' or put around something, as the nave-band or tire of a wheel.

1313–14 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 512 In Hurtures, Windbandes, et Doules empt., lj*s.* 1332–1 *Ibid.* 551 Cum Windbandis factis de proprio ferro pro rotis molend. de Wynstone. 1436 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 287 For iiij*li* nalis to the wyndbandis. 1545 *Ibid.* VIII. 391 Ane wynd band of irne to ane of the quhelis. 1626 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 72 Thre gudgions and thre vrtees and a windband. 1825 Jamieson, *Wind-band*.

Wind-band[2]. [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Band *sb.*[3]] A band of wind-instruments, as a military band; the wind of an orchestra.

1876 [see Wind *sb.*[1] 12 b]. 1894 Kappey *Milit. Mus.* 87 The introduction of the clarinet into wind-bands. *Ibid.* 88 The event which had the greatest influence upon the progress of wind-bands was the French Revolution.

† Wind-beam[1]. *Obs.* Forms: see Wind *sb.*[1] and Beam *sb.*[1]; also 5 wynbeme, 7 wimbeame. [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Beam *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *windlatte*, *sturmlatte*, *sturmband*.] A cross-beam tying the rafters of a roof; = Collar-beam 1.

1374 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 238 Wyndbeems suchlates Astheleres Corbels. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyynbeme, of a roof, *lacunar*, *vel laquear*. 1448 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 9 All the wynbemes shull conteyne in brede squar vj inches. 1579 *Ibid.* I. 310 Fyve windbeames to the principals ache windbeame xvij foote long ix vnche sqware. 1627 *Ibid.* 205 Principall sparrs, dooble purlinges and wimbeames. 1633 Chapman *Odyss.* xxii. 292 The wind-beame, that along did ren The smoaky roofe. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 286.

† Wind-beam[2]. *Obs.* [f. Wind *v.*[1] + Beam *sb.*[1]] A capstan; a windlass.

Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 300/1 *Ergata*,..a capstan, or windbeame, or drawbeame. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Ergate*. 1689 Hoole tr. *Comenius' Vis. World* (1672) 135 A Wind-Beam is a post which is turned by going about it.

Wind-berry, obs. f. *winberry*, Whimberry.

Wind-bound, *a.* [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Bound *ppl.a.*[2]] Detained by contrary or stormy winds.

1588 Hundson in *Archæologia* XXX. 169 Having been.. soe wind-bound, as he could by no meanes gett out of the haven. *c* 1648 Howell *Lett.* II. lx. (1890) 473 Being now wind-bound for Africk. *a* 1718 Prior *Mercury & Cupid* 46 No Matter tho' Thais Fleet be lost; Or That lie wind-bound on the Coast. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* i. 9 Next morning the wind-bound vessels were crowding the harbour of refuge as before. 1873 *Zoologist* Ser. II. X. 4712 As to swallows or martins being wind-bound..I cannot entertain the idea. 1899 Bridges *New P., Summer-ho. Mound* 35 Brigs and barques that windbound ride At their taut cables heading to the tide.

† b. Stopped or rendered inaccessible by contrary winds. *Obs. rare.*

1614 Gorges *Lucan* v. 187 He findes the hauens mouth winde-bound [orig. *clausas ventis brumalibus undas*].

c. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1646 Fuller *Wounded Consc.* ix. 62 Though thou beest water-bound, be not wind-bound also. 1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 30 They, being now in possession, may be admitted, *de bene esse*; else you are wind-bound. You cannot do aught without them. 1675 Cocker *Morals* 66 Wind-bound in the port of Sorrow. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 211 P 9 When I sit still without doing any thing, his Affairs forsooth are Wind-bound 1779 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 408 That the papers..he wants, lye wind-bound at Sir James Harris's. 1901 C. M. Masterman *Folia Dispersa* 17 My Soul, windbound, in her dull haven lies!

Wind-break, *sb.* [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Break *sb.*[1]]

1. Something, esp. a row of trees, used to break the force of the wind, or serving as a protection against it. Chiefly *U.S.*

1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 196 Among evergreen plants the Norway spruce (*Abies excelsa*) is the most valuable where a high, strong wind-break is necessary. 1883 W. H. Bishop in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 502/1 A young orchard.., sheltered by a wind-break of three rows of ash-trees. 1894 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 7 July 425 The margin of virgin hummock left standing to act as a wind-break.

2. A rippling change of colour produced by the wind passing over foliage. *nonce-use.*

1892 Stevenson *Across the Plains* 205 The silver wind-breaks run among the olives.

Wi·nd-break, *v. rare.* [f. Wind *sb.*[1] 11 d + Break *v.* 12 b.] *trans.* To break the wind of, render broken-winded.

1638 Ford *Fancies* II. ii, 'Twould wind-breake a moyle, or a ring'd mare, to vie burthens with her.

So **Wi·nd-broken**, *a.* = Broken-winded.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xvii. 373 A restie and wind-broken Jade. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 545 A wind-broken Dog or Horse. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4453/4 Stoln.., one large black Mare,..Wind broken. 1805 C. James *Millit. Dict.* (ed. 2) 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xxiii, She [*sc.* the mare] was badly wind-broken.

Wind-cutter (wi·ndkʌtəɹ). [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Cutter *sb.*[1]] One who or that which cuts the wind, in various senses. † **a.** (See quot. 1611.) **b.** *slang.* A broad-brimmed hat. **c.** The lip of an organ-pipe, against which the wind strikes so as to make it sound (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1611 Cotgr., *Taille-vent*, a wind-cutter; an idle, or fond swaggerer. *c* 1823 Surtees in *Mem.* (Surtees Soc.) 250 The ghost of a prebendary would be nothing without a wind-cutter and rose. 1886 Dowden *Shelley* I. I. 21 His face.. surmounted by the venerable 'wind-cutter', or cocked-hat.

Wind-door, † wind-doro. Pseudo-etymologizing of Window *sb.* Cf. Windore.

1606 J. Davies (Heref.) *Bien Venu* ii, Ope those windores. 1650 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 317 When so many wind-dores are open, the cold air..is ready to enter. [1671 Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, *Window*, Fenestra, melius efferunt Linc. agri incolæ *Windore*, q. d. Venti Janua, v. Wind & Dore.] 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Winder*, a window. Our Craven corruption approaches much nearer the presumed etymology, *wind-door*. 1836 Smart *Dict.*, *Window*, a *wind door* or aperture to admit air into the building.

Wi·nd-drift. *rare.* [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Drift *sb.*] A drift or current of wind.

1887 Morris *Odyssey* xi. 400 With the wind-drift stirred against thee, and the whirl-blast laden with woe. 1901 *Discovery* Apr. 89/2 The drifts of vessels in the ice..show.. a wind-drift which can be paralleled in all the other oceans.

Wi·nd-driven, *ppl. a.* Also 4 **-dryve**, **-dryve**. [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Driven.] Driven, carried, impelled, or propelled by the wind.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 237 Seyllynge in þe see he was wynd dryven into Affrica. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 48 Wynddrive he was al soudeinly Upon the coste of Cilly. *c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. I.* [illegible] *W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 16 Huge mountaines of windedriven sandes. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 174 Certaine tall ships of theirs were wind-driven thither. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Trib.* 345 St. Iames compares the faithlesse man to the winde-driuen waue. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem., Reft. Milford-Haven* (1759) I. 412 That Enemy, that would invade it, and were wind-driven on the British Coast. 1787 Burns *Extempore in Cvt. Sess.* ii, Like wind-driv'n hail, it did assail. 1892 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xliv, The harbour was a sheet of wind-driven foam. 1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* i, To brush away a cobweb, wind-driven against her cheek. 1906 Cornford *Defenceless Islands* 75 Snipe, coal-driven instead of wind-driven.

Winded (wi·nded), *a.* [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + -ed[2].] Having wind, i. e. (usually) breath, of a specified kind or in a specified condition: chiefly in parasynthetic combinations, as **Broken-winded**, **Long-winded**, **Short-winded**; also † **calm-winded** = in which the wind, i. e. the air, is calm.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 49 The longis hool and wynded with the best. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. lviii. 512 The cleneст myȝted man and the best wynded of his age that was on lyue. *Ibid.* lxii. 521 At the last sir Palomydes waxed bygge and better wynded. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* N j b, Making as heauenly a noyse as doth an arbor of Nightingales in a calme winded night. 1736 Bracken *Farriery* (1757) II. 15 A Sign of a good winded Horse.

Winded, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Wind *v.*[4] + -ed[1].]

1. (wi·nded) Exposed to wind or air; *spec.* spoilt or tainted by exposure to air.

1595 [see Windedness]. 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Winded*, dry. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 68/2 The same changes are sometimes produced by other causes, when the coal is said to be winded. 1847 Halliwell, *Winded*, said of meat hung up when it becomes puffed and rancid. 1889 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl.

2. (wəi·nded) Sounded with the breath, blown, as a wind-instrument.

1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxvi. 320 His fellowes winded Horne not one of them but knew. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* IV. xii, Little care we for thy winded horn. 1820 — *Abbot* iii, A winded bugle.

3. (wi·nded) Put out of breath, breathless, 'blown', 'puffed'.

1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIX. 596/1 My pursuers..imparted a prodigious lashing to their winded mustangs. 1919 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Aug. 520/2 A ten-foot leap, easy enough on the flat, but with a difficult 'take off' for a winded man.

Hence **Wi·ndedness**, tainted condition (see 1).

1595 Duncan *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.) 73/1 *Rancor*, vitium carnis, windednes.

Winded (wəi·ndéd), *ppl. a.*[2] *rare.* [wk. pa. pple. of Wind *v.*[1]] Wound *up*.

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. II. lv, My fairly winded up conclusion.

Wind-egg (wi·ndˌeg). [f. Wind *sb.*[1] + Egg *sb.* Cf. G., LG., Du. *windei*.] An imperfect or unproductive egg, esp. one with a soft shell, such as may be laid by hens and other domestic birds.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxxix. (Add. MS. 27944), Wynde eyren beþ litel and vnsauory... And suche eyren beþ yfounde in hennes & gees. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 169 The Hennes wyl treade one the others, but theyr Egges neuer come to good, but are wind Egges. 1611 Cotgr., *Hurde*,..an egge laied with a soft skin, or filme (about it) in stead of a shell; a soft-sheld egge; a wind egge. 1741 J. Martyn *Virg. Georg.* III. 273 *note*, Varro affirms it as a certain truth, that about Lisbon some mares conceive by the wind, at a certain season, as hens conceive what is called a wind egg. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 721 Hens will lay what are called wind eggs, that is, eggs without a hardened shell. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 198 Want of calcareous food may explain the soft-shelled or 'wind' eggs.

b. *fig.*

a 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Wit without M.* I. i, Other men with all their delicates, and healthfull diets, can get but winde egges. 1645 Milton *Colast.* 3 From such a wind-egg of definition as this, they who expect any of his other arguments to bee well hatcht [etc.]. 1661 Stillingfl. *Irenicum* II. vi. § 2. 237 The pretended division of Provinces so early among the Apostles, is only the wind-egge of a working fancy, that wants shell of reason to cover it. 1826 Beddoes *Let. to T. F. Kelsall* 5 Oct., Here is a Dr. Raupach who lays a tragedy or two in the year—mostly windeggs.

Windell, obs. form of Windle.

Winder (wəi·ndəɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. Wind *v.*[1] + -er[1], (14th c. AF. had *gyndour*, *gwynder* in senses 1 and 2. Later Fr. had *guindre* 'a reele, or wheel to wind silke on', Cotgr.)] A person or thing that winds, in various senses.

I. Senses denoting persons.

1. One who turns or manages a winch or windlass, esp. at a mine; a windlass-man.

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* K iij b, Upon the Stoblade which the Winder stands to draw at, there is a Hole bored through, just below the Spindle. 1809 *Ann. Reg.* (1811) 867 The miners in the work, and the winders at the mouth of the pit. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 124 Coalowners cannot work their mines without hewers and winders.

2. An operative employed in winding wool, etc.

1552 Huloet, Wynder of thread or yarne. 1599 T. M[offet] *Silkewormes* 69 What needs I count how many winders flue, How many twisters eke, and weauers thriue Vppon this trade? 1660 *Act 14 Chas. II*, c. 15 § 5 Whereas there is a necessity lying upon the Silke throwers to deliver to theire Winders or Doublers considerable quantities of silke. 1752 Derrico *Nottingham* 72 Almost every Seamer, Sizer, and Winder, will have her Tea. 1828 *Mim. Evid.*

Committee Ribbon Weavers 7 What can a common winder earn?—Three shillings. What a quill winder?—Four shillings. 1868 T. ALLEN *Verb* II. 312 If they take away their work from carders and spinners, they return it them back ten-fold as winders, warpers, weavers. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* VIII. 128/2 The winders, who put the silk, cotton, or thread on the bobbins.

3. One who winds a clock or other mechanism.

1823 Mrs. SMYTH in J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipm.* I viii. (1837) 128 William aspired so time ago to the honour of winding up the chronometers, when Mr. Graves, the regular winder, happened to be absent. 1881 *Instr. Causes Clerks* (1885) 46 Jobber and Winder (Clock).

II. Senses denoting things.

†4. a. A tendril of a climbing plant. **b.** A twining plant. *Obs.*

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 33 b, The one sort (of Pease)..runneth vp vppon stickes, to whiche with little wynders he bindeth hym selfe. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 536 Winders, and Creepers: As Iuy, Briony, Hops, Woodbine. 1673-4 GREW *Anat. Pl.* (1682) 136 The Wood of all Convolvula's [*sic*] or Winders.

5. An apparatus (of various kinds) for winding something, or upon which something is wound or coiled; *e.g.* a winch or windlass, or the crank or handle of one; a reel or spool, or a stick or strip of something serving as a substitute.

1583 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 300/2 *Succula*,..a winder or rather the ouerthwart barrel turned with leauers. 1657 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1659) 25 You must have your winder within two foot of the bottom to goe on your [salmon-]rod made in this manner, with a spring. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* III. 37 The Winch, or Winder, or Handle, the Iron part is the Winder, the Wood the Handle. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Winder*, a winch or handle to wind about. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 369 The reel or winder being now withdrawn, the coil of paper is cut on both sides. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 213/2 Attached to the heads of these posts are a number of winders for stretching the wires.

6. A key for winding a jack, clock, or other mechanism. Also *attrib.* in **winder-hole**, the hole through which the key is passed in winding.

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. ii. 25 Even as in that quaint engine you have seene A little man in shrods stand at the winder. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 387 The coard *i*, that is wound round the wheel *b*, by a key or winder applyed to the Axis *l*. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* (1745) 41 Always leave the Winder sticking on the Jack. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* I. *Look at the Clock*, The two little winder-holes turned into eyes. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 293 Clock keys are often spoken of as winders.

7. A winding step in a staircase: usually in *pl.*, opp. to *flyers* (see FLYER 4 b).

1667 [see FLYER 4 b]. 1808 P. NICHOLSON *Carpenter's New Guide* (ed. 2) Pl. 53 A dogleg Stair Case with Winders. 1823 — *Pract. Builder* 185 When the treads of the steps diminish in breadth toward the well-hole, the steps are called winders. 1838 LOUDON *Suburban Gard.* 45 The best staircases are those without winders.

III. 8. *Winder-up*: **†(*a*)** something that concludes an argument; **(*b*)** one who winds up a business.

1795 PAINE *Age of Reason* II. 78 The lying imposition of Isaiah to Ahaz..has been perverted, and made to serve as a winder-up. 1821 W. DE MORGAN *Old Man's Youth* xviii, I heard the expression 'men of straw' used more than once by winders-up, or victims.

Wi·nder, *sb.*[2] [f. WIND *v.*[2] + -ER [1.]]

1. (wəi·ndəɹ) One who blows a wind-instrument.

1611 FLORIO, *Cornettáro*, a Cornet-maker or winder. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 281 Winder of the horn, When mouted wild-boars routing tender corn Anger our huntsmen.

2. (wi·ndəɹ) Something that takes one's breath away; a blow that 'knocks the wind' out of one; a run, climb, or other exertion that puts one out of breath. *colloq.*

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Engl. Spy* (1907) I. 158, I did give her [*sc.* a mare] a winder,..to be sure, only one day's hunting, though, a good hard run over Somerset range. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 212 Do you put it [*sc.* your hand] across your breast in case of an unexpected winder from your apparently peaceable acquaintance? 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* V, It was a run indeed now, and what Joe called, in the only two words he spoke all the time, 'a Winder'. 1886 C. BROOKE *to Yrs. Sardinah* I. 246 We had to ascend a hill of 500 feet high...This was a winder.

Wi·nder, *sb.*[3] *rare.* [f. WIND *v.*[3] + -ER [1.]] A winnower.

1570 DRANT *Serm.* D vij b, Mowers, threshers, winders and grinders.

Winder (wi·ndəɹ), *sb.*[4] *dial.* Also 7 **whinder**, 9 **windar**. [a. early Flem. *winder*, *wender* 'anas mas' (Kilian).] A widgeon.

1542 in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 293 Item, Winders, the dos. 2s. 4d. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 100 *Boscas*..the whinder. 1672 *Brasenose Coll. Oxf. Bills* 23. 130 (MS.), Pullitz, 3 whinder 2s. 9d. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 322 But George he cut the Dragon up, as 't had bin Duck or Winder. 1823-4 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 358 Windar (i. e. wigeon diver or dunbird). 1887 *Kentish Glossy.*

Winder (wi·ndəɹ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **whinder**. [Origin unknown. Cf. WINDLE *v.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To wither; to pine or waste *away*.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. xxiii. 58 Until at length his bodie also began to winder away in a consumption. 1601 — *Pliny* VII. ii. 1. 135.

†2. *trans.* To crush into fragments. *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 134 By the fall of a towre [he] was crushed and whindred to death [orig. *compressus & comminutus*].

Winder, Winderous: see WINDOW, WONDER, WONDROUS.

†Wi·ndermost, *a. Obs.* [f. WIND *sb.*[1], after *hindermost*, *innermost*, etc.] Furthest to windward.

1620 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 202 For that the windermost shippe, by opening her sayle, may be upon the other before shee be looked for. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3838/1 The Fire of the Cannon began at the Windermost Fort at Nevis. 1707 *Treas. Papers* CIII. 212 b (P.R.O.) This being the windermost, best, and Richest Island, tis most likely they will attack this first.

Windes, Windewe: see WINDAS, WINDOW.

Windfall (wi·ndfɔ̄l). Forms: see WIND *sb.*[1] and FALL *sb.*[1]; also 5 **wynfall**, 6 **wyndefale**, **wind faulle**. [perh. of foreign origin; cf. MHG. *wintval* (G. *windfall*): see WIND *sb.*[1], FALL *sb.*[1]]

1. Something blown down by the wind, or the fall of something so blown down: **a.** a tree or branch, or a number of trees or branches; *spec.* (chiefly *U.S.*) a heap or tract of fallen trees blown down by a tornado. Also in fig. context.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 540/2 Trees Boghes and Woode called Wyndfalles. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 91 How or when thes Trees cam douse other be Cutting or Wind Faulle no Manne ther can telle. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 53 Downe tears yt wyndfalx, and thick woods sturdelye tumbleth. 1602 in G. P. Scrope *Castle Combe* (1852) 334 Les mortuos arbores, Anglicè the starveling trees and wyndfalls. 1605 BACON *Adv., Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 479 The Spartans..when they did spread, and their Boughs were becommen too great, for their Stem, they became a Windfall vpon the suddaine. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxxii. 107 That no unnecessary Imbezelment be made by pretences of Repair of Paling, Lodges, Browse for Deer, &c., Windfalls, Root-falls. 1772 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 376 They do not burrow under ground, but live..under windfalls and roots of trees. 1784 BELKNAP in *Belknap Papers* (1877) II. 177 We kept one man before, with an ax, to cut away windfalls. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. v, Through the windfalls and the openings of the settlement, the rising sun was beginning to silver the leaves. 1866 R. D. CRAIG *Trees & Woods* 123 If the windfall be of trees which are not timber in their nature. 1872 *Builder* 7 Dec. 964/2 The village constable..charged her with picking up a few rotten windfalls from the trees.

b. fruit from a tree or bush (*rarely* flowers).

a 1592 GREENE *Orpharion* (1599) 49 If Roses be not gathered in the bud, they either wither or proue windfalls. 1604 N. F. *Fruiterers Secr.* 12 They which fall before the time of gathering, as wind-falles. 1661 M. STEVENSON *Twelve Moneths* 42 The wind begins to bluster among the Apples,..and the wind-falls are gathered to fill the Pies for the houshold. 1705 F. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* II. 17 The grisly Boar is hunting round; To see what Windfals may be found. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 42 They will reject the fruit that has lain but a few hours on the ground, and continue on the watch..for a fresh wind-fall. 1802 W. FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* vii. 99 When the men numbered the Pears, there was near a barrowful of wind-falls at the bottom of the old tree. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* x. 197 Heaps of the windfalls collected there to wait for the cider-mill.

2. *fig.* A casual or unexpected acquisition or advantage.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 321 b, After beeyng come to a good wyndefall of inheritaunce. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1237 This man .. who otherwise before-time was but poore and needy, by these windfalles and unexpected cheats became very wealthy. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xvi. 50 Where ever neighbouring Princes of their own Nation watched for the windfals of Crowns. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wind-fall*, ..some Estate or Profit unexpectedly come to one. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* xix, Where he..kept little windfalls, that came to him by the negligence of customers—.. loose silver, odd gloves, &c. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. iv. 70 These and many more wind-falls of character he gave us in thought, word, and action. 1897 MRS. OLIPHANT *Blackw. & Sons* xix. II. 256 Mr. Langford..was a most unusual windfall to drop thus casually into the new concern.

3. *attrib.* (from 1): That is a windfall; blown down by the wind: = next. Also *fig.* (from 2): Casual, 'chance'.

1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 176 Ther is wynfall wod at the maner that is of noo gret valewe. 1589 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 93 For barke of a wyndfolle tiie at Smytheles vj*d*. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I, You shall haue leaues and windfall bowes enow. 1760 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 132 The Wood called Brownings, Windfall Wood, and Dead Wood. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. i, All wind-fall comers here seem to be without names. 1880 *All Year Round* No. 74. 560 The windfall fruit in his uncle's garden. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* xii, Early August apples, and windfall pears.

Wi·nd-fallen, *a.* [f. as prec. + FALLEN *ppl.a.*] Blown down by the wind.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 182 To gather wind-falne sticks. *a* 1678 in *Evelyn's Pomona* 406 That the Fruit be carefully gather'd, not windfall'n nor bruis'd. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 155 They take advantage of wind-fallen trees. 1836 MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 202 Some of the stumps of these wind-fallen trees.

fig. 1563 WINSET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* Ded., Wha. II. 10 Ane of our windfallin breithir, laitlie snapperit in the cummerance of Caluin. 1660 TATHAM *Rump* II. i. 18 *Lady Bertlam.* 'Twill get her nothing, She beats against the Wind. *Prizilla.* She's Wind fall'n.

Wi·nd-flower. [Turner's rendering of L. *anemônê*, Gr. *ἀνεμώνη*; see ANEMONE. Cf. MHG., G. *windblume*.] The wood-anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*), or any plant or flower of the genus *Anemone*.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. C v b, Anemone hath the name in Greke of wynde, because the floure neuer openeth it selfe, but when the wynde bloweth..: it may be called wynde floure. 1640 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 8 The wood Anemone or Windflowre. 1714 tr. *Joutel's Jrnl. Voy. Mexico* (1719) 66 A Sort of purple wind Flowers. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* I. 27 The pied wind-flowers and the tulip tall. 1832 WHITTIER *April* 5 Where wind-flower and violet..On south-sloping brooksides should smile in the light. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 69 The Apennine windflower.

b. A name for species of gentian. (Cf. *lungflower*, LUNG 7.)

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

†Windfucker. *Obs.* [Cf. '*Fuckwind*, a species of hawk. *North.*' (Halliwell).]

1. A name for the kestrel: cf. WINDHOVER.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 49 The kistrilles or windfuckers that filling themselues with winde, fly against the winde euermore.

2. *fig.* as a term of opprobrium.

1602 *Narcissus* MS. Rawl. Poet. 212, If 8o, I tell you, my little windfuckers, had not a certaine melancholye ingendred with a nippinge dolour overshadowed the sunne shine of my mirthe, I had beene I pre, sequor, one of your consorte. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* I. iv. (1620) C 3 b, Did you euer heare such a Wind-fucker, as this? *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* Pref. A 4, There is a certaine enuious Windfucker, that houers vp and downe, laboriously ingrossing al the air with his luxurious ambition. *a* 1626 BRAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* IV. i, Husbands for Whores and Bawdes, away you wind-suckers [*sic ed.* 1639].

Windgall[1] (wi·ngɔ̄l). Forms: see WIND *sb.*[1] and GALL *sb.*[2]; also 7 **-gaul**. A soft tumour on either side of a horse's leg just above the fetlock, caused by distension of the synovial bursa.

1583-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 99 Wyndgalles is a lyghte sorance, and commeth of great labour. 1598 SHAKS. *Ham. Shr.* III. ii. 53 Full of Windegalls, sped with Spauins. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* VII. 78 Windgalls are little blebs raisd vp by extreame trauel on each side the horses Fetlockes. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I i, Feel his Legs, Master, neither Splint, Spavin, nor Wind gall. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5195/4 Windgalls on both Heels of her hinder Feet. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* XIV, A third perceived he had a windgall, and would bid no money. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 448 Wind-galls of the knee-joint.

Hence **Wi·ndgalled** (-gɔ̄ld) *a.*, affected with a windgall or windgalls.

1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* 36 The Love of his dear Alyson..quickens his wind-gall'd feet. 1674 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 926/4 Her off Leg before Wind-gaulled. 1705 *Ibid.* 4159/4 A black Gelding,..Wind-gall'd in all his Legs. 1805 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Wind-gall*, Long-jointed horses are apt to be wind-galled.

Wi·nd-gall[2]. [Cf. G. *windgalle*, *-galle*, and WATER-GALL, WEATHER-GALL.] A fragment of a rainbow or of a prismatically-coloured halo, supposed to presage windy weather: = WEATHER-GALL.

1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 3 We noticed the phenomenon named by nautical men a 'wind-gall'.. or 'sun-dog'. 1860 FITZ-ROY in *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 344.

Wi·nd-gauge, -gage. [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + GAUGE.]

I. †1. = Weather-gage: see WEATHER *sb.* 8 and GAUGE *sb.* 5 a. *Obs. rare.*

1632 *French Occurrences* 29 Nov.–6 Dec. 214 They were got up neer the Ness-point, ours keeping still the wind-gage.

II. 2. = ANEMOMETER 1.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 426 To which may be added, the rain-gage, wind-gage, &c. 1825 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 38 The Anemometer, or Wind-Gauge. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m., Wind-gauge*, an anemometer for testing the velocity of the wind in mines.

3. A graduated attachment to the sights of a gun, to enable allowance to be made for the effect of the wind on the projectile. Also *attrib.*

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xl. 7 Small bore, .451 rifle with wind gauge sight and movable shade. 1900 STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* iv, His telescopic sights and wind-gauges are second to none in the world.

4. = ANEMOMETER 2.

1876 [see ANEMOMETER 2]. 1881 W. E. DICKSON *Organ-Build.* IX. 121.

†Wi·nd-gun. *Obs.* [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + GUN *sb.*] A gun for shooting a missile by the force of compressed air: = AIR-GUN.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xii. § 6. 104 The experience of windgunnes assureth vs that ayre duly applyed is able to giue greater motion vnto heauy bodies then vnto light ones. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 181 As, forc'd from wind-guns, lead itself can fly. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 399 That air compressed to one tenth in a wind gun possesses a power not much short of gunpowder. 1800 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 273 It will not be out of place here to add some remarks on wind-guns. *fig.* 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* Prol., They [*sc.* critics] shoot, alas, with Wind guns, charg'd with Air. 1680 *Collect. Poems* 190, I am one of those that have been shot at by Wind-Guns, which have prejudiced my Reputation. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 274 His whisper'd theme, dilated aud at large, Proves after all a wind-gun's airy charge.

Windhover (wi·ndhɒvəɹ, -hʌvəɹ). Also 7 **windover**. [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + HOVER *v.*] A name for the kestrel, from its habit of hovering or hanging in the air with its head to the wind. Also *attrib.*

1674 RAY *Collect., Engl. Birds* 80 The Kestrell or Stannel, in some places the Windover. 1738 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 5 The Windhover Cock. 1758 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 7 Aug., The kestrel, or windhover, has a peculiar mode of hanging in the air in one place, his wings all the while being briskly agitated. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 321 For about as long As the wind-hover hangs in

balance. 1884 *19th Cent.* Aug. 331 The windhover hawk poising at mid-distance above his quarry.

† Windi, *a. Obs.* Also wundi. [perh. related to the stem of WEND *v.*; cf. OHG. *wendig* (MHG. *wendic, -ec*) devoid (of), exempt (from).] Devoid *of*; quit *of*.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 376 Ha beoð al witlese, & windi [*v.r.* wundi] of wisdom. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 10 3ef þu wult leasuen þe lahen þat tu liat in..ichulle wel neomen þe; 3ef þu nult no, þu art wundi [*v.r.* windi] of me.

Windio, var. WENDIO.

Windill, obs. form of WINDLE *v.*[1]

Windily (wi·ndili), *adv.* [f. WINDY *a.* + -LY [2].] In a windy manner; as if driven or agitated by the wind; also *fig.*

1866 R. BUCHANAN *Poems, In London* ii, For the world rolls on with air and ocean Wetly and windily round and round. 1880 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Sailor's Sweeth.* iv, The stars were glittering windily even before this crimson melted out of the east. 1890 — *Marriage at Sea* iii, The Cape Gris Nez lantern windily flashing on high from its shoulder of land. 1901 *Athenæum* 21 Sept. 379/3 The young lady who writes stories and windily reviles the world that will not accept them.

Windiness (wi·ndinės). [f. WINDY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being windy.

1. Windy condition of the atmosphere; prevalence of windy weather.

a 1687 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 51 The windiness of the same Month was at Dublin 20 and at London but 17. *Mod.* The windiness of March and the showeriness of April are proverbial.

† 2. Air as an 'element': = WIND *sb.*[1] 8. *rare.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xv. 266 Neither is there any moysture, any wyndinesse [orig. *flabile*], or any firy matter in them.

3. Flatulence; *concr.* = WIND *sb.*[1] 10. Now *rare.*

c 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 1932 Wyn moost Reed..Take out of mesure..reyseth wyndynesse. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* II. vii. (1552) 100 b, To discusse & vanquyshe ventosyte and wyndynesse. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* I. i. (1596) 2 Sometime it [*sc.* headache] commeth..through windinesse ingendred in some part of the head, being weake. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Honey* P 3, Raw Honey, by Reason of its Acrimony, loosens the Body, and causes Windiness. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 500 A temporary windiness.

b. Quality of causing or tendency to cause 'wind': = FLATULENCE 2 b. Now *rare.*

1576 [T. TWYNE] *Schoolemaster* III. xii. Nij, Beanes are naturally more windy then barly,..for that beanes are of a ..more..grosse substance then barly, which is light and houer, and is sooner discharged of the windines. 1664 TAYLOR in Evelyn *Pomona* 50 People labour to correct that windiness which they fancy to be in it [*sc.* cider]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 504 Ginger renders it [*sc.* cider] brisk, and corrects its Windiness.

4. Resemblance to, or admixture of, the sound of the wind.

1879 *Organ Voicing* 17 *Windiness.* If the conveyances and wind chest holes are sound, blame attaches solely to the pipe.

5. *fig.* 'Airiness', emptiness, want of substance; inflated or verbose style.

1614 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* Pref. ¶ b, His modest, and humble charity (vertues which rarely cohabite with the swelling windenesse of much knowledge). 1649 E. REYNOLDS *Hosea* v. 35 Full of vanity, windinesse, vexation, disappointment. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 19 May 584/1 The feebleness and windiness of bad poets.

Winding (wai·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. WIND *v.*[1] + -ING [1].

OE. had *windung* only in concr. sense, 'plecta' = Du. *winding* coil, convolution, OHG., early MHG. *winting, winding* 'fascia', 'fasciola', stocking, ON. *vindingr* hose.]

I. The action of WIND *v.*[1], or the resulting condition. (See also 10.)

1. Motion in a curve; turning this way and that in one's course; sinuous progress or movement; † formerly also, revolution, rotation; undulating motion.

In first quot. of doubtful meaning; ? = TROPIC *sb.* 1 a.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 39 To travayle and see the wyndinge of the erth

1530 PALSGR. 289/1 Wyndyng, *volubilité.* 1552 LATIMER *Serm., Luke xxi.* (1562) 133 How he stretcheth out all his membres, what a winding is there, so that all his body commeth out of frame! 1573 BARET *Alv.* W 233 The windinges of serpentes. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 70 Birds, and Fowles, with their Motions, Chatterings, Croakings, Winding. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* C 2 b, For there hath he..vsed such a deale of intricate Setting, Grafting, Planting..turning, winding, and returning circular [etc.]. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 151 These [stairs], because they sometimes wind, and sometimes fly off from that winding, take therefore the more room up in the Stair-Case. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mos. Syst.* 101 These [Plants]..in their Windings, always follow the Motion of the Sun. 1780–92 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 27 That graceful winding of person. 1792 W. GILPIN *Wye* (1782) 32 The winding of the river. 1834 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. xviii. 274 They wish to arrive at the heights of Mount Zion without winding round its base. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xii, With very little of devious winding, it [*sc.* Jordan] carries the shining waters of Galilee..into the solitudes of the Dead Sea. 1869 FITZWYGRAM *Horses & Stables* § 932 Winding of the fore-foot is also very objectionable.

b. *Naut.* (see WIND *v.*[1] 8, 19 b, 22 g).

c 1625 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685), Winding of a Ship. 1639 (Oct. 18) *Admir. Crt. Exam.* 55 (P.R.O.) It being upon wyndeinge upp of the tide. [Cf. quot. 1691 s.v. WIND *v.*[1] 22 g.]

2. *fig.* Turning this way and that in thought or conduct; nearly always *pl.* devious or intricate motions, tortuous or crooked ways or dealings.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. III. 404 Hearts ease, I cannot compasse with all my carefull windings, & cunning in & out. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* v. (1642) 395 The boughts and windings of a deceitfull heart. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 19 All this winding to me, in plainness, seems an aiming at no House. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm. Eph. v.* 4 Wks. 1687 I. 295 The numberless rovings of fancy and windings of language. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xx, The subtle lawyer, accustomed .. to trace human nature through all her windings. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 114 To trace all the windings of the negotiation would be tedious. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* I, We are friends and can speak without windings.

† b. *Mus.* A melodic alternation or variation.

1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 85 These little windings and bindings with Discords and Imperfect Concords after them, do very much delight the Ear. 1667 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 41 Those long windings and turnings of the Voyce are ill used. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iv. 75 Which he performs with various turnings and windings of the Voice.

3. *Carpentry*, etc. Condition of being twisted; chiefly in phr. *out of winding = out of wind* (WIND *sb.*[2] 3); *in winding*, twisted.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 46 To make the side Lines and middle Lines of the Decks out of winding one with another. 1721 J. PERRY *Daggenham Breach* 60 Such Piles..could be brought by a straight Line..to meet in the middle of the Breach, and be out of winding,..in the same continued Line as first drove down. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 1911 A stone is taken out of winding principally with points. 1880 J. LOMAS *Alkali Trade* 328 The tiles themselves must be of good quality—Dutch preferred—and of faultless 'winding'.

4. The action of twining a flexible object round another or itself, *esp.* the coiling or twining of thread, silk, etc.; wrapping in a shroud (now *dial.*).

With quot. *c* 1386 cf. sense 8.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 343 The cost of. barrynge, owndynge,..wyndynge or bendynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530 (Winch. MS.) Wyn[d]ynge, or twynynge of threde, *torsura*,..*vel torsura.* 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 503/2 Grete disceit, in wyndyng, foldyng, and makyng of Fleces of Wolle. 1552 HULOET, Wyndynge of sylke, or thread. 1579 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 328/2 To myles harrisons wiffe and Ales gillion for wyndinge of mother Hue ..vid. 1619 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1906) I. 116 Bengala silke .. in cleare windinge. *c* 1796 BURNS *The Carlin' o't* 6 The cardin o't, the spinnin' o't; The warpin' o't, the winnin' o't. 1831–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 716/2 The winding requires the unwearied attention of children to mend the threads that break. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, A vast deal of screwing, and tightening, and winding, and tuning, during which Mrs Briggs expatiated to those near her on the immense difficulty of playing a guitar. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* i. 37 The process of 'winding' is that by which the weft is transferred from the bobbins to the shuttle. 1910 S. P. THOMPSON *Life Ld. Kelvin* II. 754 The zigzag winding for alternators.

b. With advs. *on, out, up*; also *attrib.*

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 421 Each spinner..fixes the end of the piece that is spun to a winding-up reel. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 301 Till the stretch and winding-on were once more completed. 1839 — *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1110 A winding-on bobbin. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 63 The 'winding-on room' where the cloth is wound uniformly round a thick beam or roller preparatory to the printing. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 201/2 The spools for winding up and winding out should be of the same weight. 1883 *Yorksh. Textile Direct.* 58 Patent Crabbing or Winding-on Machine. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxiii. 517 A system of managing guinea worm cases which bids fair to..obviate the serious risks of the old winding out system.

5. Hoisting or hauling by means of a winch, windlass, or the like. Also with *up.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529 (Winch. MS.) Wyndynge with wyndas, *obvolucio. Ibid.* 530 Wyndynge vp of thyngis þat bene heuy, *evolucio. c* 1575 *Ship Lawis* in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 620 Gif ane tun or pype be tint in the winding or heising, in fault of the cordis. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Winding*, hoisting with a rope and drum. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Winding*, the operation of raising by means of a steam-engine, with ropes and cages, the produce of the mine.

6. Usually with *up*, of a clock or other mechanism: see WIND *v.*[1] 20 b, 22 e. Also *fig.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks. I. 234/1 The new found Instrument that goes by winding vp like a Iacke. 1708 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. 282 Is there a tongue, like Delia's o'er her cup, That runs for ages without winding-up? 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 68/1 So that no Time is lost in winding. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* v. (ed. 3) 38 The half minute which we daily devote to the winding-up of our watches. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 26 Mar. 6/1 The unfortunate thing about spirit-drinking is..that the drinker requires more and more 'winding-up' as he goes on.

7. *Winding up*: conclusion, finish (see WIND *v.*[1] 22 d); now usually, the bringing to an end the activities of a business concern; also *attrib.*

1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 64 b, How vnfortunate.. hath bene the successe and wyndyng vp of commotioners [orig. *seditionum exitus*]. 1590–6 LAMBARDE *Perambl. Kent* (1596) 482 Crafty counsellors..be hard in the handeling, and woefull in the winding vp [orig. *eventus tristior*]. 1596 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 2 In the wynding vp of your Letter written and directed to Doctour Turner. *Ibid.* 44 The winding vp of this worke, called the Supplement, &c. 1698 CROMARTIE *Inhill. Syst.* 879 If they would but expect the winding up of things, and stay till the last Close. 1705 R. CROMWELL *Let.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 123 The winding up of your bottom will be more pleasing. 1782 in *Mem. D'Arblay's Diary* (1904) II. 97 My warm approbation of the whole work ['Cecilia'] together:..the winding up beyond all compare, more happy, [etc.]. 1819 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. vi. 215 She..detailed the progress of the plot to the winding up of the catastrophe. 1824 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 271 The Hague season is nearly over, and a ball on Thursday is almost the winding up. 1834 DE QUINCEY *Autob. Sk.* ix. Wks. 1853 I. 240 The year 1760 brought that war to its winding up. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, Winding-up Act. 1875 *Economist* 30 Jan. 131/2 The shareholders are asked to oppose the projected winding-up. 1895 *Times* 29 Jan. 13/6 A winding-up order having recently been made against this company.

II. That which winds or is wound.

8. An object that winds or is wound round; a coil or coiled object; † a curved, circular, or twining pattern, ornament, piece of material, etc.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 505/24 *Plecta*, windonge. [Cf. 471/1 *Plectas*, 3gewind.] 1356 in *Pipe Roll 30 Edw. III*, m. 93/2 (P.R.O.), ij. Exeroueges, xxiiij. Wyndynges, ij. naues, ij. lynces. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* vii. 29 Betwix the litil crownes and wyndyngis, liouns, and oxen. 1486 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 244, iij. wyndynges of iren aboute a ladder. 1555 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 183 Wroughte with white partye payned barwyse wyndinge which was taken owte of the borders of hangynges. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 7 (1619) 151 Those who are alreadie clasped in the windings of this sinne. *c* 1633 MILTON *Arcades* 47 To nurse the Saplings tall, and curl the grove With Ringlets quaint, and wanton windings wove. 1699 T. BAKER *Refl. Learn.* ix. 108 A Man must see the folds and windings of a knot before he can unty it. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* iii. 43 The winch.. must turn the cylinder once round before the weight or resistance..can be moved from one spiral winding to another. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., In Suffolk the flannel, which is wound round a corpse, is called a winding.

9. A curved, sinuous, or meandering line, path, passage, or the like; esp. *pl.* meanderings, twists and turns.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 9 Þis matir, as laborintus, Dedalus hous, hap many..wyndynges and wrynkelynges. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. vii. (1495) C v b/1 Tygris.. passith in to ye redde see after many turnynges & wyndynges. 1552 HULOET, Wyndynges and turnynges, *ambitus.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* V. v. I. 94 Berenice standeth upon the utmost winding and nouke of Syrtis. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IV. 1084 The wards, or windings of the key. 1632 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 50 A little skin in the lowest winding, or turning of the eare. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 June 1654, The Mount, to which we ascended by windings for neere halfe a mile. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 192 Fetching several compasses and windings. 1788 COWPER *Dog & Water-Lily* 28, I..follow'd long The windings of the stream. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* V. XXV, A loud shriek, That shook along the windings of the cave. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 134/2 That action by which the aliments are carried through the windings of the intestinal canal. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 277 The number of windings of the wire between any two small circles.

10. A flexible rod or withy (*obs.* or *dial.*); † *esp.* (*collect. sing.* or *pl.*) the rods or withies used in making or repairing walls; hence, the process involving their use.

1405–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 222 Cariantibus stramen ad tecturam, 2*s.* It. pro adquisicione de wyndyng, 15*d.* 1474–5 *Ibid.* 289 In le dalbyng et le wyndyng inter-close wallez, sydewallez, gawellez. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 126 With the wyndynge of the edderynges thou doost leuse thy stakes. 1550 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 44 Item, to John James for wyndynge and dawbynge ther..viij d. 1599 *Order Bk. Hartlebury Gram. School* (1904) 24 It'm.. for windinge and dawbinge of the church howse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII. iv. I. 387 To make windings to bind vines. *Ibid.* XXXV. xlv. II. 555 The manner of making walls, by dawbing windings and hurdles with mud and clay. 1649 *Order Bk. Hartlebury Gram. School* (1904) 72 For poules for studds ease poules and windings and carriadge of them 0 6 0. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words, Writh*, Eththerings or windings of hedges. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 19/2 Thatchers Termes... Windings, twigs that will bend. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. II. 281 Farmers find posts and rails cheaper..than the old system of 'stake and rice'. *Note.* Called 'cock-guard' in some parts; in others 'winding'. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss., Weindins*, the boughs which are interwoven with the stakes used to shore up the bank of

III. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 4) *winding* † *blade* (BLADE *sb.* 10 c), *-loft, -machine, machinery, master, room*, † *stool* (STOOL *sb.* 6); (sense 5, esp. in nautical and mining use) *winding accident*, † *baby* (app. = BAIL *sb.*[5], bucket), *engine* (*-engineman*), *-gear*, † *hawser, hour*, † *iron, pit*, † *-pulley, -rope, shaft, tackle, time, wheel*; (sense 6) *winding button, hole, pinion, square, wheel*; † **winding band** [BAND *sb.*[2] 5], a bandage; **winding sticks, stripe**, two equal pieces of wood with straight parallel edges used to determine whether a surface is true (cf. 3).

1895 *Cath. News* 14 Sept. 3 Two terrible *winding accidents occurred in mines in Rhondda Valley. 1732 *Act. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 5 (P.R.O.) In ij. *Wyndi[n]gbailes emptis ad eandem [galeam]..Et in ij petris corde de canabe emptis pro Wyndyngrop. 1580 *N. T.* (Rheim.) John xi. 44 Bound feete and handes with *winding bandes. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 260/2 *Fascia*,..a swathing cloth or winding band to..tye vp wounds. 1530 PALSGR. 284 *Vice tournatoire*, a payre of *wyndynge blades to wynde yarne upon. 1881 BARTTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 72 A concave wheel squared on to the stem of the *winding batton. 1898 SIM-[illegible] *Dict. Trade*, *Wi[illegible] an engine for drawing clegts, etc. from a well or [illegible] 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Windl[illegible]* 1881 *Gresley Gloss. Coal-mining*, Winding Engine. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 23 Apr. 6/4 A terrible calamity was averted at the Navigation Colliery .. by the heroism .. of the *winding

1873 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Winding-gear*, an English term for the winding-machine for mines. 1427 in *For. Acc. 8 Hen. V* D/2 (P.R.O.), j **Wyndyng haunoer*. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 36 Smalle Warpe,..Hawsers,.. Wyndyng hausers. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III xx. (Roxb.) 240/1 On[e] thick gut string, which is played upon with a long Bow or Base Viol stick at the head of it a little below the **winding hole*. 1893 *Daily News* 4 May 2/1 In South Wales the **winding hours* were 9½ to 10 hours on four days in the week. 1420 in *For. Acc. 3 Hen. VI* F/2 *dorso* (P.R.O.), **Wyndyng* [i]rons. 1846 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. VI. 197 The tarred haul then passes into the '**winding-loft*', where it is wound..u[p] n bobbins. 1893 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 422 The two **winding*-machines may also be driven by the endless rope. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 648 Disarrangement of the **winding* machinery. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 68 Cotton Mill: .Winding Room...**Winding* Master. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 337/1 Examine the **winding*-pinion depth, to see that it is neither too deep nor shallow. 1417 in *For. Acc. 8 Hen. V* D/1 *dorso* (P.R.O.), j Ketille j Fane et **Wyndyngpoley*. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 165 The **winding room*, where the women sit some twenty deep in rank after rank by the side of the benches. 1913 *Times* 7 Aug. 4/4 [He] denied that he ever smoked in the '**winding*' or operating rooms. 1336 **Wyndyngrop* [see *winding-baly*]. 1424 *For. Acc.* 59 m. 22 *dorso* (P.R.O.), j hausere pro wyndyngrope. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Winding Ropes*, the ropes by which a cage, chair,...&c., are raised and lowered in a pit-shaft. *Ibid.*, **Winding Shaft or Pit*, the pit-shaft used chiefly for winding purposes. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 35 During the going of the clock the shutter..stood in front of the **winding* square. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 235 **Winding* Sticks are always used in pairs. 1530 PALSGR. 289/1 **Wyndyng* stole, *tournette*. *a* 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-man's Dict.* s.v., The **winding* tackle is thus fitted: a great double block with three shivers in it, which is fast seized to the end of a small cable, which is brought about the head of the mast and so serves for a pendant [etc.]. *c* 1635 Capt. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 116 *Winding Tackle blocks.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Winding-tackle pendant*, a strong rope made fast to the lower mast-head, and forming the support of the winding-tackle. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 10 Dec. 5/7 Both **winding* times are to be excluded from the calculation of eight hours. 1675 in Jeaffreson *Middx. County Rec.* (1892) IV. 61 Unam rotam Harpedon anglice vocatam a **winding* wheele. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 240 The operation of throwing the winding wheels out of action.

Winding (wai·ndiŋ, wəi·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. WIND *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of blowing or making a blast, chiefly *of* horns.

c 1500 in Grose *Antiq. Repf.* (1809) IV. 407 To myche wyndinge of the pipis is not the best. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. vii. 238 That renuing is to be attributed to the fire—the outward ventilation or winding comming between as the instrument. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 58 At the winding of a horne. 1670 *Caveat to Conventiclers* 2 This dreadful appearance..was ushered in by the winding of Hornes. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* V. § 1 A confused Noise of the opening of Hounds, the winding of Horns [etc.]. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* x. The winding of horns and the galloping of horse.

Winding, *vbl. sb.*[3]: see WIND *v.*[3]

Winding (wai·ndiŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. WIND *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That winds, in various senses.

1. That follows a sinuous course, takes or has a curvilinear form, or is full of bends and turns.

a. Of a staircase: Spiral. Chiefly in *winding stairs* (sometimes hyphened).

1530 PALSGR. 258 *Vne vis*, a wyndingstayre. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong* s.v. *Neyan*, A paire of winding staires. 1633 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* XXXV. 141 A round Tribunal, whereunto one ascended by fifteen winding stairs. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 253 These Winding steps are made about a solid Newel. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 22 You may go up to the top by a winding staircase that is within it. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 July 1654, A paire of artificial winding-stayres of stone. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 191 Having finished the first flight of steps, fix the top of the first bearer for the winding-tread. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* liii, She left the chapel,..and coming to a low door, which plainly led into the tower, opened it, and climbed the winding stair.

b. Of plants or their parts, lines or figures, etc.

1538 ELYOT, *Viminosus*, wyckers, wyndynge rodde, or osyars. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 164 A payre of windynge prickes. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 137 Wynding plate abowte hedd peces. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 34 The stalke is sclender, wyndyng, with claspes about such plantes as are next hym. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 78 If his necke be winding and weake (as if it were broken). 1620 BACON *Hen. VII*, 193 It was ordained, that this Winding-Iuie of a Plantagenet, should kill the true Tree it selfe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 284 The winding Trail Of Bears-foot. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 9 Of involved winding Lines it is not necessary to speak. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 26 Thus you may mark a winding figure with a thread on a rocket. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 163 The chambers separated by winding septa. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 230/2 Many of the sheep have upright winding horns.

c. Of the course or outline of natural features, roads, passages, etc.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 303 b, Saylynge alonge by the coaste of a wyndynge and bendynge shore. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 31 And so by many winding nookes he strales. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 618 Wy with a crooked and winding streame rolleth downe by Whitney. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 691 A winding Vally. — *Æneis* III. 905 Megara's winding Bay. 1791 COWPER *Four Ages* 8 Taking my lonely winding walk, I mus'd. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXXI, The winding mountains at length shut Udolpho from her view. 1878 J. BULLER *40 Yrs. N. Z.* I. ii. 27 The river is winding in its course. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* XIII, He could rattle five horses and a loaded coach in and out of the creeks and winding bush tracks.

d. Of animals or their movements.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. v. 20 He windes himselfe into this winding Beast, disposing the Serpents tongue to speake to the woman. 1671 QUARLES *Samson* iv. 20 The sneek-egge Weasell, and the Winding Swallow. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 288 Twice round his waste their [*sc.* the serpents'] winding Volumes rowl'd. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. xii. 79 Thou..dost not know the joys of a chase, and in pursuing a winding game. 1800 CLARE *Poems Rural Life* 218 Swallows check their winding flight.

†e. Pliant, bending. *Obs. rare.*

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 198 Feathers and delicat winding beds [orig. *pluma & flexiles lectuli*].

2. *fig.* †a. Tortuous, crooked, wily. *Obs.*

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 204 A man doubtlesse winding and craftie. 1609 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 241 For all his winding wit and wrangling about this place. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. 76 Old, winding, bragging, testy, crafty fox. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* I. 245 Jupiter..was represented Horned, because of his Winding

b. Of a narrative: Circuitous, rambling.

[*a* 1596 *Sir T. More* IV. v. 37 The winding laborinth of thy straunge discourse Will nere haue end.] 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* I. 342 The grief is a winding story and long. 1923 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 4 Jan. 9/2 The long and winding narrative.

Hence **Wi·ndingly** *adv.*, in a winding manner, circuitously, with twists and turns; **Wi·ndingness**, circuitous or meandering form.

1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 215 b, The pype..doth ascende right up, and not as in the others, *windingly. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 47 A riuer, that windingly creepeth with many wauy turnings. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xiii, Where the green alleys windingly allure. 1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* xiv, The long descent into the depth of winter is..taken..gently, and softly, and windingly, with a great many glimpses back at the summer. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Tortuousness*, *Windingness or the Turning in and out. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 134/1 There should be good in the stream's windingness.

Winding (wi·ndiŋ, *in sense* 1 wəi·ndiŋ), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. WIND *v.*[2] + -ING[2].]

1. Of a horn: That is winded.

1735 SOMERVILE *Chase* III. 402 The winding Horn, and Huntsman's Voice, Let loose the gen'ral Chorus.

2. That 'winds' one; taking one's breath away.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ix, The drunken man at least gave some tokens of returning consciousness by making several winding blows at his benefactors.

†**Winding-cloth**[1]. *Obs.* [f. WINDING *vbl. sb.*[1] + CLOTH *sb.*] = WINDING-SHEET 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14354 In windingclath als he was wonden, Bath fete and hand þar was he bunden. 1439 in *Ancestor* (1904) July 18, I gife my modir the best pece of lynnyn cloth that I have over that that beleveth over my wyndyng cloth. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 43 þis fiurst frend is werldly possessions, whilk þat when we dye giffis vs bod a wyndyng clothe to lap vs in.

†**Winding-cloth**[2]. *Obs.* [f. WINDING *vbl. sb.*[3] = WINNOW-, WINNOWING-CLOTH.

1548 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 136 Ane bathsket with windinclaith syf ryddill sek and peyk. 1588 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1893) 150 Sacks windinge clothes pocks. 1733 [see WIND *v.*[3]].

Winding-sheet (wəi·ndiŋʃīt). [f. WINDING *vbl. sb.*[1] + SHEET *sb.*[1]]

1. A sheet in which a corpse is wrapped for burial; a shroud.

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 420 As he had bene a goste came in wyndyng shete. 1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 21 One wyndyng shite of Incarnacion Lawnd strypide with crossis Crymson satten. 15.. *Down by ane Rever* 54 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 306 Thy windene scheit is nocht in weir. 1603 DEKKER *Wond. Year* C 3 b, A thousand Coarses, some standing bolt vpright in their knotted winding sheetes. 1624 Capt. J. SMITH *Virginia* II. 35 They..rowle them in mats for their winding sheets. 1783–4 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) II. 357 A cossine..and a winning sheet. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1767) I. 72 Your Nobility arrayed in a Winding-sheet; your Grandeur mouldering in an Urn. 1867 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 92 The spectre had sworn by his winding-sheet..that he would do him no harm. *Comb.* 1603 DEKKER *Wond. Year* D 2 b, These winding-sheete-weauers.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, II. v. 214 These armes of mine shall be thy winding sheet: My heart (sweet Boy) shall be thy Sepulcher. 1623 BACON *Ess., Vicissit. Things* (Arb.) 569 The great Winding-sheets, that burie all Things in Oblivion, are two; Deluges, and Earth-quakes. 1669 J. OWEN *Serm. 2 Sam. xxiii. 5* Wks. 1851 IX. 414 Let us..be content to see all our comforts in their winding-sheet every day. 1737 GRAY *Bard* 50 Weave the warp, and weave the woof, The winding-sheet of Edward's race. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. xxii, Disturbing not the leaves which are her winding-sheet. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 147 Dead cedars, in winding-sheets of long gray moss. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* ii. 53 He raised you from death, and loosed you from your winding-sheet of habitual sin.

2. A mass of solidified drippings of grease clinging to the side of a candle, resembling a sheet folded in creases, and regarded in popular superstition as an omen of death or calamity.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 27. 2/1 Letters, Winding Sheets, &c. in a Candle. 1819 KEATS *Party of Lovers* 16 There's a large cauliflower in each candle. A winding sheet. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. *Aunt Martha*, She..sees.. gifts in her finger-nails, letters and winding-sheets in the candle. 1882 *Century Mag.* Nov. 113/1 The candles.. burned dim, with long winding-sheets clinging to them.

Wi·nd-instrument. (Often as two words.)

1. A musical instrument played by means of 'wind' (WIND *sb.*[1] 12), supplied either by the breath of the player or by bellows; most commonly applied to portable instruments of this kind, such as those used in an orchestra.

Strictly, one whose sounds are produced by vibration of air in a pipe or tube (as the flute, trumpet, etc.) or in a number of pipes (as the organ); but usually also including those sounding by vibration of reeds (as the clarinet, harmonium, and concertina).

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. LXXVI. 155 He had also with him certeine wind instruments. 1668 FORD *Lover's Met.* I. ii, *Cucul.* Was thy father a Piper, saist thou? *Grill.* A sounder of some such wind-instrument forsooth. 1777 THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) II. 200 During the supper, a good band of music played; but it was all wind instruments. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* ii, Two or three violins and a wind instrument from the Opera band. 1880 F. TAYLOR in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 583 The Harmonium..although played by wind, is not strictly a wind-instrument.

Comb. 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* V. IV. vii. 364 The younger Stanesby, the wind-instrument-maker.

b. *fig.* or *allusively.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 10. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* IV. i. F 3, *Bal.* What Instrument playd she upon? *Cor.* A wind instrument, she did nothing but sigh.

†2. A machine or contrivance driven by the wind, as a windmill. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. XXXVII. I. 175 Ctesibius also was much accounted of for devising wind-instruments: and by the meanes of certaine engines to draw and send water to any place.

Hence **Wi·nd-instrume·ntal** *a.*; **Wi·nd-instrume·ntalist.**

1869 J. ELLA *Mus. Sk.* I. 344, I know of no other example of wind-instrumentalists acquiring an independance by orchestral employment in London. 1894 J. A. KAPPEY (*title*) Military Music. A history of wind-instrumental bands.

Windish, var. WENDISH.

Windister, var. WINNOWSTER *Obs.*

Windlass (wi·ndlăs), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5 **wynlas(s)e, wyndelas**, 5–6 **wyndlas**, 6 **-lasse, wynlas**, 6–7 **windlesse, -lasse, wyndles(se**, (also 9) **windlace**, 6–8 **windlas, windles**, 7 **wyndeles**, 7–8 **windless, winlace**, 8 **winlass**, 7– **windlass.** [prob. alteration of WINDAS, of obscure origin.

The alleged Icel. *vindilás* is not authentic.]

1. A mechanical contrivance working on the principle of the wheel and axle, on a horizontal axis (thus distinguished from a *capstan*); consisting of a roller or beam, resting on supports, round which a rope or chain is wound; used for various purposes, esp. on board ship for weighing the anchor or hauling upon a purchase, at the head of a mine-shaft for hoisting coal or other mineral, or for raising a bucket from a well.

Chinese or *Differential windlass*: see CHINESE *a.* 2, and cf. DIFFERENTIAL *a.* 4 b. *Spanish windlass*: see SPANISH *a.* 7.

c 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 12652 The schippes were sone on a blase, Thei brende bothe mast & wynlase. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529 Wyndynge, wythe wyndelas[*Winch. MS.* wyndas], *obvolucio*. 1526 *Dunmow Churchw. Acc.* lf. 5 b (MS.), Item to John Harvy and Wylyem barcar for a brayde to helpe to make the wynlas, iiii. *d.* 1538 ELYOT, *Tractorium*, a windlas to draw vp heuy thinges. 1552 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 137 A wyndles for the pix. 1585 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 25 A grete roppe for the wyndlas in the slayhter house. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 89 With a wyndeles turned by fowre men they drawe vpp the coales. 1608 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* B a b, She had twooe stronge Cables..strayned by wyndlesses. 1616 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) II. 342 Ane wyndles for heising vp of stanes. 1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 143 Carrying out an Anchor a sterne..with the Winlace. 1743 WOODROOFE in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxiii. 101 A great sea obliged us to cut the cable at the windlass. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 218 Anchor-stocks.., supplying the place of the upper gudgeon; and in a merchant-ship the clamps of her windlas. 1800 WEEMS *Washington* x. (1877) 129 Some seizing the ready handspikes, vault high upon the windlasses. 1822 *Imison's Sci. & Art* I. 56 If two men work at the end of a roller, or windlass, as in drawing up coals or ore from a mine, or water from a well. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXVI. III. 427 A great vessel of burthen ..to cover the operations of a number of parties in boats, which..forced up the piles by means of cranes or windlaces.

† The form *windles* taken as pl. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXVI. XV. II. 586 To force the water ..with devise of engines and windles up to the top of the hill. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1526/4 The Adventure Pink,.. two Decks, with a Fall where the Windles stand.

†2. Applied to various smaller contrivances of a similar kind: a winch used in discharging a cross-bow (= WINDAS 1 b) or a pistol ('dag'); a reel on an angler's rod, or for winding yarn (= WINDLE *sb.*[3]). *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 273, ix. crossbowes, wyndlas. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1099/2 With the windlace of his dag hanging thereon. 1588 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 12 My crosbowe with the windlesse. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 258 A very long Line wound up at the handle of your Rod on a small Winch or Windlace. 1737 OZELL *Rabelais* III. 236 *note*, A Reel or Yarn-Windles. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXVIII, Two arblasts ..with windlaces and quarrells.

3. *attrib.*, as *windlass axle, -end, -head, -pawl, rope*; **windlass-bar**, any of a set of bars inserted in holes in a ship's windlass, by which it is turned; **windlass-bitt, -chock**, each of the supports of a ship's windlass; **windlass-jack, windlass-lining** (see quots.); **windla ss-man**, a man employed to turn a windlass.

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 137 Two *windlass axles are supported on four props. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., The cables [of the windlass] have three turns round this main-piece..: holes are cut for the *windlass-bars in each eighth of the squared sides. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 369 Iron spindles working in collars or bushes inserted in the *Windlass-bitts. *Ibid.*, **Windlass-checks*, fore-and-aft pieces of oak fitted on the deck and bolted to the beams immediately before the windlass. *Ibid.*, **Windlass-ends*.. are two horizontal pieces forming a continuation of the windlass outside these bitts. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Windlass*.. is composed of the carrick-heads or *windlass-heads. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Windlass-jack*, a form of lifting-jack having a winch-handle for turning the pinion which gears into the crown-wheel. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 369 Pieces of hard wood, called the *Windlass-lining, fitted and bolted round it to preserve it from being chafed. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. iii, Both shouted vehemently to the coadjutor at the windlass, both sprang at the basket; the *windlass man could not move it with them both. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., Amidships it is supported by chocks, where it is also furnished with a course of *windlass-pawls. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 By a *Windless Rope, and weight to sink it, he may first let down the weight.

† Windlass, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 6 wynd(e)-, winlesse, windlas(se, (-laies?), wyndlas(s)e, -lace, 6-7 windlace, -lesse, 7 -lass, wynde-lase, (8 windlatch). [Alteration of WANLACE, by association with WIND *v.*[1] and perh. with prec. sb.]

1. A circuit made to intercept the game in hunting (= WANLACE 1); *gen.* a circuit, circuitous movement: esp. in phr. *to fetch a windlass*, to make a circuit, go round about, 'fetch a compass'.

1530 PALSGR. 831 Hewar that fetteth the wyndelesse in huntyng. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* VII. (1565) 206 Bidding them fetche a windlasse a great waye about, and to make al toward one place. 1567 — *Ovid's Met.* VII. 93 b, He runnes not forth directly out, Nor makes a windlasse ouer all the champion fieldes about. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 270, I now fetching a windlesse, that I myght better haue a shoote, was preuented with ready game. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIV. xxxiv, The beauies faire of Shepheards daughters bold, With wanton winde laies ronne, turne, play and pas. 1602 R. CAREW *Cornwall* 75 Sometimes a foote-man..will carry the same quite backwards, and so, at last, get to the goale by a windlace.

2. *fig.* A circuitous course of action; a round-about proceeding; a crafty device (= WANLACE 3).

a 1569 KINGESMYLL *Man's Est., Godly Adv.* (1574) I vij, With suche winlesses some are dryuen into the net. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 55 And heer iz my windlesse, lyke yoor coorse as plenz ye. 1575 *Mirr. Mag., Humfrey Dk. Glouc.* xlvi, Which by slye driftes, and wyndlaces aloofe, They brought about. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 65. 1627 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. viii. 317 These were the trances, and the windlaces of the first Iesuites. 1631 [MABBE] *Celestina* IV. 54 What a wind-lace hast thou fetcht, with what words hast thou come upon me? *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 143. (1740) 307 The former are brought forth, by a Windlatch of a Trial, to charge the latter with the foulest of Crimes.

† Windlass, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. WINDLASS *sb.*[2]] **a.** *trans.* (*fig.*) To decoy or ensnare. **b.** *intr.* To 'fetch a windlass', make a circuit; *fig.* to act circuitously or craftily. Hence **Windlassing** *vbl. sb.*[1]

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xxi, My young mind.., whom Loue doth windlas so; That mine owne writings..show My wits quicke in vaine thoughts, in vertue lame. *a* 1660 HAMMOND *Serm., Exek. xvi. 30* (1664) 12 She is not at so much leasure as to windlace, or use craft to satisfie them; she goes downright a woing. *Ibid., Luke xviii. 11* 131 A skilful wood-man, that by wind-lassing presently gets a shoot.

Wi·ndlass, *v.*[2] [f. WINDLASS *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To hoist or haul with a windlass. Hence **Wi·ndlassing** *vbl. sb.*[2]

1834 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Helen* xiv, None of our windlassing will ever bring her [*sc.* the truth] up. 1870 *Daily News* 20 Jan., Ho was hauled into the barn and windlassed clear of the floor. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Courr.* ix. 203 As though the words were being windlassed out of him.

Windle (wi·nd'l), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* or *local.* Forms: 1-3 windel, (1-il), 3-6 wyndel, 6 wyndle, -dille, -dell, 8-9 *dial.* winnel, 6- windle. [OE. *windel* str. m., 'cartellus', 'fiscella', 'canistrum', 'corbis', f. *windan* to plait, WIND *v.*[1]: see -LE 1. Parallel in formation are OHG. *wintilla* (MHG., G. *windel*) swaddling-clothes, ON. *vindill* wisp.]

1. A basket. Now only *dial.* (see quot. 1879): app. associated or confused with WINDLE *sb.*[2]

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 20 *Cartellos*, windil. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xl. 16 Ic geseah swefn, þæt is, ðæt ic hæfde þry windlas mid melewe ofer min heafod. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17073 Thei did brynge the kiddis drye. And colis also In bollis & wyndel. 1879 *Norfolk Archæol.* VIII. 174 *Windle*, a basket used in winnowing corn.

2. A measure of corn and other commodities, varying in different localities; of wheat, usually about 3 bushels. *local* (*north.*).

[1268, 1282 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xviii. 428 [Nuts] are purchased in Cumberland by the windle.] 1282-*e Inq. post mortem Edw. I* 31/3 (P.R.O.), Et sciendum quod quelibet esketppa continet sexdecim Windellos, et illi sexdecim Windelli faciunt quarterium Londinense et dimidium. 1309 *Crt. Rolls Wakefield* (1906) II. 194 One wynd[el?] of barley and a quarter of oats. 1321 *Pleadings Duchy Lancaster* (1896) 106 [Dealing of corn by] mettes and windelles. 1325 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 216 To everichon of the same Orders a wyndle of wheate, or the price therof. 1366 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 86 One wyndle containing 36 quarts of wine measure up heaped shall..be the right and just standard. 1636 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc. 1856) 13, 6 windles of wheat Lanc' measure. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 62 Spent the day wholly at home in winnowing my barley, and I measured a windle and an awkendale for going to the malt-kilns. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Windle*, or *Winnel*, a bushel. 1849 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* X. i. 28 The cost [of limestone] at the kiln is 11*d* a windle, and two windles are equal to 3 cwt. 1881 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 3/4 Preston, Jan. 15...Wheat 29*s.* to 32*s.* per windle.

3. A bundle or band (of straw or hay). *Sc.*

1825 JAMIESON, *Winnle*, the same with *Windlen*, a bottle of straw. 1899 MACKINTOSH *Around the Orkney Peat Fires* (1905) 207 [He] had the kegs tied up in windles of straw.

† Wi·ndle, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 3 (*Orm.*) winndell, 4 wyndel, 5 -dylle, -dle, 6 windle. [f. stem of OE. *windwian* WINNOW *v.* + -LE 1. Cf. WIND *v.*[3]] A winnowing-fan.

c 1200 ORMIN 10483 Himm shollde brinngenn inn hiss hannd Hiss winndell forr to winndwenn. *a* 1400 *N. T.* (Paues) Matt. iii. 12 Whos wyndel is in his honde, & he schal clense fully his korne. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 664/7 *Hoc ventilabrum*, wyndylle. 1530 COVERDALE *Stir. Perle* vii. 65 When the corne is threshed, the kernel lyeth mixed among the chaf, and afterwarde are they disseuered a sonder wyth the fanne or wyndle.

Windle (wi·nd'l), *sb.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 8-9 *Sc.* winnel, win(n)le, 7- windle. [The second element of GARNWINDLE, YARNWINDLE, q.v. for earlier examples.] An appliance for winding yarn or thread.

1687 MILOR *Gl. Fr. Dict.* II, Windles, or Blades to wind Yarn on, *un Devidoir*. 17.. *Loving Lass* in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1762) 172 My hanks of yarn, my rock and reel, My winnels and my spinning-wheel. 1791 ALEX. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 45 Jennock turn't the winles' blade An' waft in lapfu's left her. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. (1872) 5 From a windle the thread is conducted to the quills.

Wi·ndle, *sb.*[4] *local.* Also **whindle**. [? f. WIND *sb.*[1]] The redwing (*Turdus iliacus*), also called *wind-thrush*, *-throstle*.

1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* III. (1677) 63 The Wind-throstle (or Whindle). *a* 1698 C. MORTON *Enquiry* in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) II. 558/2 The..Wind-Thrush (or the Redwing, Wheenerd, Whindle; for so many Names it has in divers Countries). 1772 RUTTY *Nat. Hist. Dublin* I. 342. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 5 Redwing.., Winnard (Cornwall). Windle (Devon).

Windle, *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 4 *Sc. pr. ppls.* wynland, vyndland, 6 windill, 6- windle, (9 *dial.* winnle). [f. WIND *v.*[1] + -LE 3. With sense 2 cf. MDu., MHG., G. *windeln* to swathe, swaddle.]

1. *intr.* To move circularly or sinuously; to turn over and over, or round and round; to whirl; to meander: = WIND *v.*[1] 7 b. Hence **Wi·ndling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*[1]

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 721 Sum dede, sum doesyt, come doun vyndland. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. p. xxvi ii, The one hoodwinked with his implicite faith, as with a bumble on his hend, thinkes he goes forthright, when he windles in a mill. 1808 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* IV. (1826) 140 Beside some windling brook. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 730 *Windling*, snow-drifting. 1905 *Engl. Dial. Dict.* s.v. (Lincolnsh.), The snow windles under the tiles.

2. *trans.* To wind (thread, etc.); also *absol.*: = WIND *v.*[1] 15. Also *Sc.* (see quot. 1808, and cf. WINDLE *sb.*[1] 3, WINDLING *sb.*).

1587 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 117/132 Than did I spye Chrysippus.. with a large and brodest roll his threid & webbs to windill. 1599 T. M[OUFFET] *Silkwormes* 1 These flocks as white as milke, That make, and spinne, and die, and windle silke. 1808 JAMIESON, *Windle*, to make up (straw or hay) into bottles. 1859 A. WHITEHEAD *Leg. Westmld.* 14 (E.D.D.) The servant lasses they'd begun To winnle, wind, and spin.

† Wi·ndle, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. as WINDLE *sb.*[2] + -LE 3. Cf. WIMBLE *v.*[2]] *trans.* To winnow.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 696/23 *Hoc ventilabrum*, a wyndyllynge. [The English gloss appears to be incomplete.] 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* vii. 65 When they are fanned or wyndled, and when the wynde of trouble and affliccion begynneth once a litle to blowe. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl., *Winnel-claith*, v. *Windin-claith*.

Windle, *v.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 winele, 6 windell. [? Back-formation from WINDLESTRAW; but cf. WINDER *v.*] *intr.* To lose strength or vigour; to wither, waste away, dwindle. Hence **Windling** *ppl. a.*[2]

for want of moysture begynneth to windell. 1620 GATAKER *David's Instruct.* 6 Tender plants are in danger else to windle and wither away. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Windle*, v. to dwindle...*Windling*, adj., feeble, delicate.

Windles, obs. form of WINDLASS *sb.*[1]

Windless (wi·nd,lès), *a.* [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Breathless, out of breath. Now *rare.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1971 Sa walke & so windles & wery for-fosten. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2136/1 His accuser.. came..in such post speede, that in a maner he was windlesse entryng into the Bishops chamber. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 214 With all the speed I could make I returned all windlesse for haste. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlix. 27 Panting and windlesse as a tired Woolf. 1894 J. A. STEUART *In Day of Battle* i, He was stupefied and windless before the smile of disdain had time to leave his face.

2. Free from wind; not exposed to or stirred by the wind, in or upon which no wind blows.

In first quot. applied to wind supposed to be pent underground and to cause earthquakes: = not causing any movement in the atmosphere.

1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 480 When steeples stagger, and huge mountains tremble With wind-less wind [orig. *Le vent sans faire vent*]. 1800 MAWE *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss. (E.D.S.) s.v., A place in a mine where the air is bad or short..is then said to be windless. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 1106 The windless sky. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. iii. iv. § 35. 231 Colder and more quiet than a windless sea under the moon of midnight. 1858 M. ARNOLD *New Sirens* 146 In some windless valley.

† 3. Not causing flatulence. *Obs. rare.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 83 b, Phaselotus..of Dioscorides is wyndy.., & yᵉ other ar *Faluum esportes* yᵗ is windlesse.

Hence **Wi·ndlessly** *adv.*; **Wi·ndlessness**.

1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 387 The dawn broke windlessly over the dark mountain pass. 1916 E. F. BENSON *David Blaize* x, The sea slept in the windlessness of this August weather.

Windlesse, obs. form of WINDLASS.

Windlestraw (wi·nd'l,strɔ). *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 windelstreaw, -streow, 6 *Sc.* wynd-, windilstray, 7 windle-strawe, 8-9 *Sc.* winlestrae, 9 *dial.* windle-, winnelstrae, -stray, etc., 7- windlestraw. [OE. *windelstrēaw*, ? f. *windel* WINDLE *sb.*[1] + *strēaw* STRAW *sb.*]

1. A dry thin withered stalk of grass, such as is left standing after the flower or seed is shed.

In north. dial. shortened to *windle*.

a 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 273/23 *Calmum*, windelstreow. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 134 With hyrstis harsk of waggand wyndilstrays. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 303, I stakkerit at the windilstrayis. *a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (1641) 328 He that is redd for windlestrawes, should not sleep in lees. 1642 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 76 If the weather bee harde and sharpe, and the hey shorte and good, they [*sc.* sheep] will not leave soe much as a pile of grasse or a windle-strawe. *a* 1722 in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) IV. 793 To restrict him to the fifth part of the rent, was to send him to lift the rest o his stipend from windlestraws and sandy laverocks. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Fables* xix. 67 They'll start at winlestraes. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 528 Tall spires of windlestrae Threw their thin shadows down the rugged slope. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* iv, The air is close,..and the day so calm, that not a windle-straw moves on the heath. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. ii. VI. 350 Think what a fine figure of rye and barley, instead of mere windlestraws, beggary and desolation, was realised by that act alone. 1879 BROWNING *Fifine* ix, Thistle fluffs and bearded windlestraws.

2. A name for various long-stalked species of grass, as *Cynosurus cristatus* (dog's-tail grass), *Lolium perenne* (rye-grass), and *Agrostis Spica-venti*. Also *windlestraw-grass*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 44 Wiþ earwicgan, genim þæt micle greate windel streaw twyecge. 1636 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* I. iii. 6 Reed-grasse.. in Latine.. *Spica venti agrorum*...Some.., much agreeable to the Laine name, call these, Windle-strawes. 1778 J. ANDERSON *Ess. Agric.* 418 The crested dogs-tail-grass, *Cynosurus cryztatus*, commonly known in Scotland by the name of Windlestraw-grass. 1801 LEYDEN *Elfin-King* xiii, The windlestrae, so limber and grey [*note*, Rye-grass]. 1868 MRS. NORTON *Lady of La Garaye* Prol. 112 The pale tufts of the windlestrae grass Hang like locks of dry dead hair.

3. *fig.* **a.** Applied to something (material or immaterial) light, trifling, or flimsy; occas. contemptuously to a spear or lance.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* 6 Jan. (1671) 414 No windle-straws, no bits of clay, no temptations..will then be able to withstand you. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xi, Not one has the courage to throw his windlestraw while he perceives that of another pointed against himself. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-*

have none of the life and sweetness of her windlestraw."

b. Applied to a thin lanky person, or one of feeble health or character.

1818 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* xxxiv, A wheen puir feckless windlestraes. 1836 J. M. WILSON *Tales* II. 214/2 D'ye ken that this winnle-straw o' a lassie..has won the kirn? [1845 CARLYLE *Schiller* I. 30 An honest man you may form of windle-straws; but, to make a rascal, you must have grist.] 1897 'Q' *Poison Isl.* xxxi, A thin, windlestraw of a man.

Windling (wi·ndliŋ), *sb.* Forms: 3-4 wynelynge, 5 wenelyng(e; 7 winling, 8 windlen, wonlyne, 9 winlin, windlin, windling. [? f. WIND *v.*[1] + -LING[1] 2. But perhaps two distinct words.

The word in sense 1 seems to be synonymous with *wynd(e)wes*, *wyndwys* in 1304 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 12/6 m. 3, 1336 *Ibid.* 29/32 m. 5, 1420 *For. Acc. 3 Hen. VI* G/2.]

† 1. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* ? Small ropes or cords. *Obs.*

Exch. K. R. 5/7 m. 1 (P.R.O.) In Wynelynges nauem ix. s. v. d. 1336 in *Pipe Roll 32 Edw. III* (P.R.O.) In CCC. lb. de towe, vj[xx]. fasulbus stramini, x[xx] Millibus de Wynelynge emptis. 1420 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 43/6 m. 4 In iiij[xx] petris de Wenelyng..in factura dicte balengere expenditis. 1407 *Ibid.* 44/21 (2) m. 2 In iij. libris de Wenelynge emptis..iij. d.

2. A bundle of straw or hay. *Sc.*

1645 in J. Davidson *Inverurie* (1878) 206 Twa winlingis of stray. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 41 He stumbles at a straw and lowps o'er a wonlyne. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 125 The cattle-man resumes his labours by bunching up windlings of straw, which are small bundles having a twisted form, of 10 lb. weight, or more each. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XV. *Caithness* 146 The tenants of each penny-land..had..to furnish a certain number of winlins to thatch the mains' stacks. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 88 He starts at straws, and lets windlins gae.

Windling, *ppl. a.*[1] : see WINDER *v.*[1] and *v.*[3]

Windmill (wi·ndmil, wi·nmil), *sb.* (Formerly also as two words.) [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + MILL *sb.*[1]; cf. MHG. *wintmül*, G. *windmühle*, LG., Du. *windmolen*, and F. *moulin à vent* (from 13th c.).]

1. A mill the machinery of which is driven by the wind acting upon sails, used (chiefly in flat districts) for grinding corn, pumping water, etc. The older and most characteristic European form consists of a conical mill-house with a dome or 'cap' carrying (usually) four sails; the modern American type consists of a disk of sails mounted on a framework of girders, and is used chiefly for pumping or sawing.

The *sails* (SAIL *sb.*[1] 9) are turned by the force of the wind around an axis or *wind-shaft*, usually nearly horizontal and having some contrivance (now often automatic) for turning it in any direction to enable the sails to catch the wind.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11383 Þe king of alemaine was in a windmulle inome. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 190, Y saugh him carien a wyndmelle Vnder a walsh note shale. *a* 1400 *Glass* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 7 *Ventayle*, a wyndmyne. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 63 His winde-mille þat stondit vppon hoge wlp-oute þe towne of doninton. 15.. *Ladye Bessie* (Percy Soc.) 77 He went up unto a wynde mylne, And stoode upon a hyll soe hye. 1546 *Yks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees 1894) 11 The rente of a wynde mylle there, XXS. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 160, I had rather liue With Cheese and Garlick in a Windmill. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 644 At no time there bloweth so much wind as will move a windmill. 1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 159 Windmills, such as the different species for raising water for drainage, &c. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 91 If we look upon the sails of a windmill moving, at a distance, they appear to go very slow. 1841 T. A. TROLLOPE *Western France* I. xii. 212 Behind the town is a high bluff..entirely covered with windmills. 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 App. Cas. 412 Some spars and canvas were sacrificed in order to erect a windmill to assist in working the pumps. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 509/2 American windmills generally have the sails arranged in an annulus or disk.

2. A figure of a windmill; a sign or character resembling this, as a cross or asterisk. Also *attrib.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 57, I know not an a from the wynd-mylne. 1581 CAMPION in *Confer.* 11. (1583) I ij, A note is a marke that may be remoued, that teacheth to turne..by this crosse, or by that windmill or marke. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl.*, *Windmill J.P.*, expression formerly used in New South Wales for any J. P. who was ill-educated and supposed to sign his name with a cross x.

3. a. A model of a windmill. **b.** A toy consisting of a cross-shaped piece of card or other light substance fixed at the end of a stick so as to revolve like the sails of a windmill when moved through the air.

1557 *Will of E. Pottinger* (Somerset Ho.), I giue..to my vncle..my wyndemylle whych hangeth in my hall. 1598 FLORIO, *Ventarilla*,..a piece of a card or paper cut like a crosse, and with a pin put in at the end of a sticke, which running against the wind doth twirle about, our English children call it a wind-mill. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Virolet*. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. v. 113 Last week,..I sold windmills and lambs for children. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiv, I so conciliated Peepy's affections by buying him a windmill and two flour-sacks, that [etc.].

4. *fig.* and *allusively.* † **a.** A fanciful notion, a crotchet; a visionary scheme or project. *Obs.*

1618 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. ii. 12 Others that raise up their confederate spirits, 'Bout wind-mils. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. ii, Thy head is full of Windemills. 1630 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 158 He hath wind-milnes in's head. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iii. 39 You have a windmill upon your pate. 1728 EARL OF ALLESBURY *Mem.* (1890) 576 Frize, who had a windmill in her head like her husband. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 18 The wind-mill is indeed in all their heads.

b. In allusions to the story of Don Quixote (see QUIXOTE) tilting at windmills under the delusion that they were giants.

1644 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurnall* 3 The Quixotes of this Age fight with the Wind-mills of their owne Heads. 1648 LLURLYN *Men-Miracles* etc. 84 No doubty Don Quixote, like those that fight, With Warlike Wind mill, and then rise up Knight. *a* 1656 R. COX *Actæon & Diana* 30 The Barber..vows to make you the windmill, whilest he plays Don Quixot against you furiously. *a* 1658 [see QUIXOTE]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iii, Our giants may indeed be only windmills. 1869 LE FANU *Wyvern Myst.* III. 205 What have I to do wi' other folk's windmills? 1894 FARRAR *Christ* 84 *note*, Dr. Edersheim is again—so far as I am concerned—fighting a windmill.

c. *To fling* (*throw*) *one's cap over the windmill* [= F. *jeter son bonnet par-dessus les moulins*]: to act recklessly and defiantly, fly in the face of convention.

1825 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Chr. Kirkland* xiii, A wild outward kind of young fellow, who had enjoyed his youth too freely and flung his cap too far over the windmill. 1900 LOCKE *House of Baltazar* xxii, You're going to make a bolt with Godfrey and throw your cap over the windmills. 1903 F. H. KITCHIN *Divers. Dawson* 305 Throwing their caps over the windmill under the stimulus of war patriotism.

† **5.** *fig.* (from WIND *sb.*[1] 10). A cause of 'wind'.

1626 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 80 A full stomacke is a windemill.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (See also 2.) **a.** attrib., as *windmill country*, *hill*, *sail*; moving like windmill-sails, as *w. arms*; having a radiating form like windmill-sails, as † *w. battle* (see quot.). **b.** Comb., as *windmill-like*, *-studded* adjs.; **windmill-cap**, the upper story of a windmill when made movable so as to turn the sails to the wind (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **windmill-grass**, an Australian grass, *Chloris truncata*, with long spreading flower-spikes; **windmill plant** = TELEGRAPH-*plant*; **windmill-pump**, a pump worked by a windmill, a wind-pump; † **windmillward**, = MILLWARD.

1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 88 The *windmill arms and the angry eyes fall. 1639 MARKHAM *Soldier's Gram.* II. 65 This..forme of Battaile following, which is called by the name of the *Wind-Mill Battaile,..standeth every way ready prepared to entertaine fight. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 83 Approaching Mayfield, we entered upon the heart of a *windmill country. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 80 *Chloris truncata*, *Windmill Grass. 1440 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I 305 In quodam ludo de ly Halibludeludendo apud ly *Wyndmylhill. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 275 A little windemill hill heard by. 1577 LEIGH *Surv.* I ij b, The most notable knowen markes,..as..Markepittes,..Brokes,..Windmill hilles, etc. 1587 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees 1890) 91 The oulde walles of the toune from the castell-bridge alongeste the *wyndmylle hole. 1848 tr. *Heffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. vii. 277 Their *wind-mill-like wings. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 149 A kind of patent *windmill-pump. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 71 Sometimes they [*sc.* ruffs] are suffered to hang ouer their shoulders, like *windmil sayles fluttering in the winde. 1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 138 In trying experiments on windmill-sails, the wind itself is too uncertain to answer the purpose. 1864 KINGSLEY *Let. from Biarritz* in *Life* xxi. (1879) II. 169 The vulture [in the courtyard] has been..expanding concave wings as big as windmill sails. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 585/2 Corrales under its *windmill-studded hill. 1314-15 *Cal. Rotul. Chartarum* (1803) 241 Will'us *Wyndmilward.

† **c.** quasi-*adj.* (*fig.*): Variable, flighty. *Obs.*

a 1644 QUARLES *New Distemper* Wks. (Grosart) I. 151/1 Your windmill fancies. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 134 Your vertible and wind-mill uncertainty.

Hence † **Windmill** *v.*, *intr.* to turn or change direction like a windmill (*obs. nonce-wd.*); **Wi·ndmiller** [cf. G. *windmüller*], the keeper of a windmill; **Wi·ndmilly** *a.*, abounding in windmills.

1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 230/2 Not many days had passed ere this extraordinary Passion *Wind-mill'd about to the contrary point of the Compass. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Wether* (Brandl) 509, I am a *wynd myller as many mo be. 1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* iii. 113 Like Wind-millers, they make every wind serv their turns. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4170/4 John Childs,..a Wind-Miller by Trade. 1865 W. WHITE *East. Eng.* II. iii. 40 It 'blew hard enough to winner taters', as a windmiller in Warwickshire once said to a friend of mine. 1863 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* XXVII, A *windmilly country this.

Windo(e, -dok, obs. ff. WINDOW, WINNOCK.

† **Wi·ndolet.** *Obs.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -LET.] A small window. Also *fig.*

1592 R. D. *Ilypnerotomachia* 9 The same loopes or windolets in diverse places..dispersed and set. 1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 31 When leaden-harted sleepe had shut mine eyes, and close o'redrawn their windolets of light. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Sol.* vii. 10 The heart-strong health is the soules brightest eye, The heart-sick body heal'd by beauties wealth, Two sunnie windolets of eithers skie.

† **Windolf.** *Obs.* (*E. Anglia.*) In 5 **wyndolf(e.** [Obscure. The second syllable is prob. related to DELF[1], DELVE *v.*; cf. E. Anglian *delf*, a drain, ditch.] ? A refuse pit.

14.. *Bk. Brome* (1886) 162 Ze shall enquiere 3ef ony mane make ony wyndolsse [*sic*], and ley oney dong in the comyne wey. 1440 *Crt.-roll Gt. Waltham* (Essex) *Manor* 19 May (MS.), Andreas Longe de Plecy fodit regiam viam..et inde fecit unum wyndolff ad nocumentum.

Windore. *Obs.* or *dial.* Also 6 **wyndoor(e**, 7–9 **windoor**, **windor**, 8 **windeoor**, **vindore.** [Altered form of WINDOW *sb.* by association with DOOR *sb.*: cf. WIND-DOOR.] A window.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 245 b, The other without any more bones cast me the byrde..out at the wyndoore. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 75 At thee wyndoors, where moonshyne brimlye dyd enter. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. v, Neuer do's come abroad, neuer takes ayre, But at a windore. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. II. 214 Knowing they were of doubtful gender, And that they came in at a Windore. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 14 Stone-wall Houses, with Chimneys, Doors, Windores, Gardens and Orchards. 1722 in *Rutland Glass.* (1891), The North Weste windeoor. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* III. 28 July, One Isanbel, a painted harlot, that was thrown out of a vindore. 1805 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Windor*, a window.

Windostar, VAR. WINNOWSTER *Obs.*

Window (wi·ndou), *sb.* Forms: 3 **windoze**, **-ohe**, **-ewe** (?), **wyndouwe**, 3–4 **windou**, 4 **wyndew**, **wondowe**, **wyntdouwe**, *pl.* **windous**, *Sc.* **wyndow**, 4–6 **wyndow(e**, **-ou**, **wyndo**, 5–6 **wyndoe**, 6 **-oo**, **wendo**, **windoe**, *pl.* **wyndose**, **wyendos**, **vynndovs**, **wendoyes**, *Sc.* **vindo**, **woudow**, 6–7 **windo**, **-owe**, 4– **window.** [ME. *windoze*, a. ON. *vindauga*, f. *vindr* WIND *sb.*[1] + *auga* EYE *sb.*[1] (See also WIND-DOOR, WINDORE, WINDOWN, WINNOCK.) The Scand. word replaced and finally superseded OE. *dæg þyrel* EYETHURL, *dagduru*, but the French-derived FENESTER was in concurrent use down to the beginning of the modern period.]

1. An opening in a wall or side of a building, ship, or carriage, to admit light or air, or both, and to afford a view of what is outside or inside.

In ancient buildings it was either left entirely open, furnished with shutters or curtains, or (sometimes) glazed; in modern buildings or vehicles for human occupation, it is usually fitted with sheets of glass, horn, mica, etc., a frame containing a pane or panes of glass, or glazed sashes, the whole framework being known as the window.

It has been suggested that *widewes* in LAY. 30822 is a misw riting for *widewen* = *windewen* 'windows'.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 50 Þe leste þunt 3e euer muwen luuieð our þurles, al beon heo lutle, þe parluris lest & narewest [*Titus MS.* windohes, al beon ho lutle, þe parlure windoiie beo least & narewest]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 602 Foweri dais after þis, Arches windoze undon it is. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 241/35 To a derne wyndouwe softeliche seint Nicholas gan gon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15035 O walles and windos als þair beſdes ouer þai hang. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6164 (Land MS.), Wyndewes closed by on gynne. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 50 Þer nis noubur Wyndou ne Auter, þat I ne schulde maken oþur mende and my nome write. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 725 His vyndow opnyt he in hy. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1362 Atte wondowe ssche lyneede out. *c* 1450 *Merlin* x. 140 Merlin..opened the two wyndowes towarde the gardyn, for he wolde that thei hadde lyght ther-ynne. 1530 PALSGR. 289/1 Wyndowes that be in a house toppe, *lucarne*. 1542 BOORDE *Regyment* viii. E j b, In the nyght let the wyndowes of your howse, specyallye of your chambre bee closed. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 148 In 3our glasyn vindois. 1566 in Peacock *Engl. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 98 The roode lofte—taken downe and sold..to harrie walwyn..wch he doth mynd to make windoes of. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 177 The earle Bothwell..come out at ane wondow [*v.r.* windok] be ane tow. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 2 But soft, what light through yonder window breaks? 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 159 Storied Windows richly dight. 1667 — *P. L.* IV. 191 As a Thief..In at the window climbes. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 498 Trees are to be seen From ev'ry window. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* li, The windows were looked out of often enough to justify the imposition of an additional duty upon them. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xx, Mr. Guppy has been lolling out of window all the morning. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 507 A window..of perforated zinc. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiii. 168 Against some of the windows..the snow was also piled, obscuring more than half their light. 1864 LEWINS *H. M Mails* 201 [At the last stroke of] six, when all the windows fall like so many swords of Damocles.

b. With qualification denoting (*a*) the building, room, vehicle, etc. to which the window belongs, as *carriage*, *church*, *door-*, *lobby*, *office*, *parlour*, *steeple*, *stove window*, SHOP-WINDOW, or (*b*) the form or material, as *double-*, *drop-*, *French*, *wheel-window*, BAY-, BOW-, GLASS-, ROSE-WINDOW.

a 1225 [see above]. 1428 [see BAY-WINDOW]. 1447–8 [see GABLE *sb.*[1] 4]. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 182/2 A Gavill Wyndowe over a Cloyster. 1485 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 29 All the glass wyndowes in the saide place. ? *c* 1495 *Ibid.* 108 Church wyndowis, the vestry wyndowis. 1560, 1680 [see STOVE *sb.*[1] 6]. 1581 BURNE in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 110 At the tolbuith vindo. 1583 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* XXI. 556 At the chekker hous windo. 1616 [see DOOR *sb.* 8]. 1854 *Directory Bath*, *Wells*, etc. p. ix, When the Letter-box is closed for the despatch of any Mail,. an extra box is opened in the Lobby Window. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Double-window*, one having two sets of sash, inclosing a body of air as a non-conductor of heat and to deaden noise.

2. *transf.* A window space or opening; *esp.* in phr. *in the window*, now chiefly with reference to the exhibition of notices, advertisements, etc., or the display of goods (as in a shop-window).

To dress a window: cf. *window-dresser*, *-dressing* in 5 d.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxi. 91 In a wyndou ther we stod, we custe us fyfty sythe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlv. (*Cristine*) 19 Incense I.id in a wyndo by. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xx. 9 Sum 3ong man, Euticus bi name, sittinge on the wyndow [*Vulg.* super fenestram; ἐπὶ τῆς θυρίδος]. 1526 TINDALE in a wyndowe]. 1543 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 410 No man..shall have no kynd of merchandis in ther houssis shopis or wyndous to be sold to stranngers. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 36 Searching the Window for a Flint, I found This Paper. 1648 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* xix. 29 Whiles I have but a spider in my window, or a bee in my garden, or a worm under my feet. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 46 At Fotheringhay-Castle I have read written by Her in a window, with a pointed Diamond [etc.]. 1757 *Hist. Two Mod. Adventurers* II. 195 The Sashes were thrown up, and they were all sitting in the Windows. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xix, An old *romaunt*..which lay beside him in the window. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bos*, *Pawnbroker's Shop*, The articles of stock which are displayed in some profusion in the window. 1861 *Brit. Postal Guide* 1 Jan. 26 A list of the addresses is fixed in the window of the Post Office to which they may have been sent. 1905 WELLS *Kipps* I. ii. § 2 Carshot, the window-dresser..nagged persistently..until the window was done.

b. *Goldsmith's window* (Gold-mining colloq.): a rich working in which the gold shows abundantly.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Rt.* xiv, This..was after we had worked out our 'goldsmith's window', as the adjacent diggers christened it.

3. Applied to openings resembling or likened to a window in shape or function.

e. g. † An opening in the side of a vessel, as a salt-cellar, a censer, and the like; † an opening or gap; † a blank space left in a writing; a shutter, valve, door, or similar opening; *pl.* a pattern of squares made with sugar on bread and butter; soap-bubbles blown between the finger and thumb.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 38 Þat tabernacle has na wyndowes. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 912 The vesare, the aventaile, enarmede so faire, Voyde with-outtyne vice, with wyndowes of sylver. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 470, j saltsaler..with many wyndowes. 1527 in *Archæologia* LXI. 84 A tabernacle of golde with vij wyndowes of birell for the sacrament. *c* 1550 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* (1781) II. 311 Oone Sensour parcell gilte withe Windowes gilte and thoppar Bootle. 1833 CRANMER *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 249 That your said collation have a window expedient to see what name I will therein. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* N j, How many wyndowes [orig. *nodos*] they muste make to theyr shooes. 1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 162 An apt hole,..which may one whyles shutte, and another whyles open,..through the helpe

of a certayne plate or wyndowe of yron. 1582 Lettwoow *Trav.* VII. 317 Euery House openeth their Cisterne window, and receiueth as much water, as is able to suffice them till the next Inundation. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 30 Sept. 1644. In the piers of the arches are windowes as it were, to receive the water when it is high and full. 1708 W. King *Cookery* (1709) 81 The Fav'rite Child..makes great clutter, Till he has Windows on his Bread and Butter. 1832 L. Hunt *Lines written in May* 15 The merry sap has run up in the bowers, And burst the windows of the buds in flowers. 1850 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxii, Putting the fore-finger and thumb of each hand together, as if he was making 'windows' with soap-suds. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 476 A large, well-made lamp, having side windows. 1894 Bottone *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 52 The..finished fixed sheet, with its 'windows', central aperture, and side strips.

b. *Windows of heaven*: openings in the firmament through which rain was thought to pour.

A literalism from Heb. ארבת השמים, which is rendered in the LXX by καταρράκται τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, in the Vulgate by *cataractæ cæli* = 'the floodgates of heaven' (Douay version); in the early Wycliffite version 'the goteris of heuene'; cf. Cataract 1.

1388 Wyclif *Gen.* vii. 11 The wyndowis of heuene weren opened, and reyn was maad on erthe. *c* 1420 *Prymer* 67 [Ps. xlii. 7] Depbe clepib depbe, in be voi∂ of bi wyndowis. 1611 Cotgr., *Ventailles du ciel*, the windowes, or floud-gates, of heauen. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 819 The deep, who now had stopt His Sluces, as the Heav'n his windows shut. 1866 Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxx, The rain was worse than ever,..the wind was not cold, but the windows of heaven were opened. 1869 Goulburn *Pers. Holiness* i. 2 [Elijah] shut up the windows of the sky by his prayers, and by his prayers re-opened them.

c *Anat.* = Fenestra 1.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 603 Betwixt these two windows aboue the lower hole is there a little knub or protuberation. 1683 Snape *Anat. Horse* III. xiv. (1686) 139 The third is called the Stirrop,..and is fixed..round that passage that is called the oval window. 1728 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* I. xiii. § 7. 249 There are yet two Openings in..the Drum [of the ear]: the first of 'em are called the Oval Window...The other is called the Round Window. 1879 Calderwood *Mind & Br.* 71.

4. *fig.* Applied to the senses or organs of sense, esp. the eyes, regarded as inlets or outlets to or from the mind or soul (also *transf.* in Shaks., applied to the eyelids).

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* CXVIII. 37 We syn wib oure eghen when we counyte the pynge þat we see, and swa ded cummys in at þe wyndous of oure wittes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 456 Thou hast suffred hem entre in to thyn herte wilfully by the wyndowes of thy body. 1432 Caxton *Reynard* xl. (Arb.) 109 Whan ye here after sleþe ye nede not to shette but one wyndowe where another muste shette two. 1544 Phiaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) B viij, The eyes..are the windowes of the minde, for bothe ioye and anger..are seen ..through them. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii 848 Behold the window of my heart, mine eie. 1592 — *Ven. & Ad.* 482 Her two blew windowes faintly she vpheaueth. 1594 — *Rich. III*, v. iii. 216 Ere I let fall the windowes of mine eyes. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* III. xxx, Those Lights, the radiant Windows of her Minde. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), *Windows*, the eyes, or 'peepers'. 1889 Rider Haggard *Cleopatra* (II. iii.) in *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Feb. 236/3 She..opened the windows of her eyes.

b. *fig.* and in allusive or proverbial expressions.

To open a window to: to give an opportunity or occasion for (after Terence *Heaut.* III. i. 72 [481] quantam fenestram ad nequitiem patefeceris). *To throw the house out at (the) window* [= F. *jeter la maison par la fenêtre*]: to make a great commotion, turn everything topsy-turvy. *To come in by the window* [= F. *entrer par la fenêtre*], to come in stealthily.

c 1420 *Prymer* 12 Þou art maad wyndowe of heuene, þat soreuful men entre as sterris. 24.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 187 Loke owt at the wyndows of kyndnesse. 1563 [Covernale] *Old God* (1534) G, Whan Pipine .. sawe so great a wyndowe opened, and so great an occasyon gyuen to hym self, for to inuade the realme. 1552 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 350 And youe were gladde to take them in, Bycause you knewe that they dyd knowe That youe came in by the wyndowe. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* CXXXIX. i, Yea closest closett of my thought Hath open windowes to thine eyes. 1589 Nashe *Countercuffe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 128 To open such a windowe to the deuill, as they were presently giuen ouer as a pray to the lawes of hell. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 129 For such a fault as this, which of us here would not haue cried out that the walles should haue burst withall, and beene readie to haue throwen the house out of window? 1621, 1844 [see House *sb.*1 18]. 1661 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Virdilliard* 73 Sometimes shee is all for belly cheare and banquettings, and as we say, throwes the house out at the windowes. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 28 Love creeps in at window, but goes out at doore. 1687 Boyle *Martyrd. Theodora* VI. 110 The wounds that we quietly suffer to pierce our Breasts, would open you Windows into our hearts. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. xi. P 6 The enraged marquis..pounding Laura's fair face to a jelly with his fist, and turning her whole house out at window. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 90 His Second Epistle to the Corinthians opens a window into the very emotions of his heart.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *window-arch*, †*-band* (Band *sb.*1 3), *-blind* (Blind *sb.* 2), †*carpet* (Carpet *sb.* 1), *-casement*, *-clasp*, *-curtain*, *-cushion*, *-flower*, *-frame* (Frame *sb.* 11), *-glass* (Glass *sb.*1 1, 7), *-grate*, *-hanging(s*, *-head*, *-hole*, *-jamb*, *-leaves* (pl.; Leaf *sb.* 12 b), †*-nail*, *-opening*, *-recess*, *-sash* (Sash *sb.*2 1), *-shade*, *-shelf*, †*slab*, *strap*, †*stuff*, *-ticket*, *-tracery*, *-void* (Void *sb.*1 3 a). b. Objective, as *window-breaking* (in quots. attrib.), *-smashing*, *-veiling*; *window-mender*, *-smasher*, *-surveyor*. c. Adverbial, as *window-broken* adj.; †*window-gunner*.

1635 R. Willis *Archit. Mid. Ages* vi. 57 The..*window-arch side. 1419 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 145 In iiij par. de dorbandes, j *wyndoband. 1551 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 34, xl pair of wyndo bandis. 1730 Fielding *Tom Thumb* II. ii, Ha! the *Window-Blinds are gone, A Country Dance of Joys is in your Face. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, The yellow window-blind of Pubsey and Co. was drawn down upon the day's work. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 228 His wild excursions, *window-breaking feats. 1861 Agnes Strickland *Old Friends* Ser. II. 71 The notorious young outlaw.. of window-breaking fame. 1839 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. I. 11 *Window-broken, rat-deserted..houses. 1575 in *Archæologia* XXX. 10, v *windowe carpetts of Brasiage. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* x. P 10 The Fore-end of the Tympan is made of Iron...This Iron is somewhat thinner and narrower than an ordinary *Window-Casement. *a* 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xxxiv. (1867) 339 The *window-clasp was unused and stiff. 1600 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 225 Three *window curtaines. 1713 Berkeley *Guardian* No. 49 P 8 My Couches, Beds, and Window-Curtains are of Irish Stuff. 1870 Dickens *Edwin Drood* i, Through the ragged window-curtain, the light of early day steals in from a miserable court. 1617 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 227 Fowre *window cushens. 1828 Keats *Endymion* II. 28 Juliet leaning Amid her *window-flowers. 1703 *Window-frame [see Window-sill]. 1804 W. L. Bowles *Spir. Discov.* v. 51 When winds of winter shake the window-frame. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xi, A tear trembled on his sentimental eyelid like a rain-drop on a window-frame. 1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 304 Her sonnes gluttonous, her daughters *windowgazers. 1634-5 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 89 The glass-works, where is made *window-glass. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4538/4, 60 Cases of White Normandy Window-Glass. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xii, [He] let down the window-glass. 1847 Mary Howitt *Ballads* 6 The ivy creeps o'er the window-glass. 1892 'H. S. Merriman' *Slave of Lamp* xvi, That super-innocent old man with the white hair who wears window-glass spectacles...They struck me as window-glass—quite flat. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xix, A wicket *window-grate. 1890 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* lii, The tattered *window-hangings. 1730 T. Boston *Mem.* viii. (1899) 169, I espied above the *window-head two little old books. 1835 R. Willis *Archit. Mid. Ages* vi. 65 A row of small sunk pannels upon the space between the dripstone and the window head. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 558 There are a mass of black heads sticking through the *window hole. 1727 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 138 Door-Jaumes and *Window-Jaumes. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* IV. li. 302 The slit-deal lining of the window-jambs. 1466 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 104 For angyng of *wyndow-levys in the treser-howse vjd. 1547 *Inv. of Guarderobes* (MS. Harl. 1419, lf. 58), Twoo wyndowe leves. 1758 Borlase *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 57 In the Smith's shop the window-leaves shook, and the slating of the house cracked. 1350 In Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 262, 2,600 de *wyndounail,..23,000 de rofnail. 1502-3 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 355 For xij° windo nailes quhilk þeid to the wrichtis in Cambusnethane. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 136 The walls..are replaced by *window-openings decorated with stained glass. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* XXXVI, Oliver walked into the *window-recess. 1806 J. Berresford *Miseries Hum. Life* x. § 61 The machinery of the *window-sash abruptly striking work. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* XXXVI, Throwing up the window-sash. 1820 *Hull Improv. Act* 55 Any .. *window-shades, blinds, or other projections. 1884 Black *Jud. Shakespeare* iii, Did I leave it on the *window-shelf? 1769-91 P. Whalley *Northamptonshire* II. 185/1 Chimney pieces and *window slabs of this stone. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 15 Dec. 7/7 The police state that the *window smashers were not local men. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 9/4 Much *window-smashing took place. 1888 Barrie *When a Man's single* v, As he drew near his destination his hands fidgetted with the *window strap [of a carriage]. 1892 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 369 Hewinge and woorckinge of IX foots of playne *windoe stuffe for the stayres. 1750 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 23 The *Window Surveyor came. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 20 *Window Ticket-Maker. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 270 The development and progressive changes in *window-tracery. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *My Godmothers*, She seemed to consider this *window-veiling as a point of propriety. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 813 The sink..should be of polished free-stone, made to fit the *window-void.

d. Special combs.: **window-bar**, (*a*) any of a set of bars fitted in a window to prevent ingress and egress or accidental fall (in quot. 1607 *fig.* in reference to open work in a dress); (*b*) a bar to secure window-shutters when closed; (*c*) a mullion; **window-board**, (*a*) a shutter; (*b*) a wooden window-ledge; **window-box**, a box placed outside a window, in which ornamental plants are cultivated; **window-case** [Case *sb.*2 5], a window-frame; **window-cleaner** (see quot. 1858); **window-clerk**, = *window-man* (a); †**window-clothes**, window-curtains; **window-dresser**, one whose business it is to arrange and display goods to the best advantage in a shop-window; also *fig.* (see next, *c*); **window-dressing**, † (*a*) the fittings and ornaments of a window; (*b*) the dressing (Dress *v.* 8) of a window with goods attractively displayed; (*c*) *fig.* a display made in such a manner as to give a falsely favourable impression of the facts; *esp.* the arrangement of a balance-sheet so as to suggest that the business concerned is more prosperous than it is; †**window-dropper**, one who drops (stealthily) from a window; **window-envelope**, an envelope with an opening or transparent 'panel' in the front through which the address is visible; †**window fine**, ? a fine exacted from non-burgesses for exposing goods for sale in their windows; **window gardening**, the cultivation of plants in window spaces or on window-sills; **window-jack**, 'a scaffold for carpenters, painters, or cleaners, enabling them to reach the outside of the window' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **window-ledge**, = Window-sill; †**window lid** [Lid *sb.* 1 b], a window-shutter; **window-lights** *pl.* [Light *sb.* 10], window-panes, esp. as the subject of tax; the tax itself; †**window-look**, a look or glance through a window; **window-man**, (*a*) a man formerly employed at a post-office to attend at the window to receive packets and answer inquiries; (*b*) a salesman who sells from the window (not from the counter); **window-martin**, = *window swallow*; **window-mirror**, a mirror fixed outside a window and adjustable so as to reflect the image of objects in the street (Knight 1875); †**window-money**, = *window-tax*; **window-mount** *v.*, to fix in a mount in the manner of panes of glass in a window; **window-oyster**, an oyster of the family *Placunsidæ*, so called from its translucent shell; **window-pane**, (*a*) see Pane *sb.*1 6; (*b*) *U. S.*, see quot. 1873; **window-peeper**, a surveyor whose duty it was to inspect the assessment of window-tax; †**window-post**, any of the vertical parts of a window architrave; **window-screen**, an ornamental device of any kind for filling a window-opening, e.g. lattice-work or stained glass; **window-seat**, a seat fixed under a window or windows, in a room usually in a recess or bay, often upholstered; †**window-set** *pa. pple.*, set or furnished with windows; **window-shell**, = *window-oyster*; †**window-shut** = window-shutter, a shutter used to darken or secure a window-opening; †**window-song**, a serenade; **window-stone**, a stone window-sill; **window-stool** [Stool *sb.* 9] = Window-sill; **window swallow**, the house martin; **window-tax**, a duty levied upon windows, imposed in 1695 and abolished in 1851; †**window work**, lattice-work used to screen window-openings (in quot. *fig.* of open lace-work); the structure of a window (in quot. *fig.* of that of the eye); †**window yeld** [Yield *sb.*1], see quot.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 116 Those Milke pappes That through the *window Barne [*sic*] bore at mens eyes. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* i. 14 Only fit for sleight uses, as Window-Bars, Brewers-Bars, Fire-Bars, &c. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* III. x. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iii, The massive iron window-bars and iron-bound door. 1848 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 372 The *window brodis hie and low to be knyit over. 1683 G. M[eriton] *Yorks. Dial.* 8 Nan steeke'th winder-board, and mack it darke. 17.. *Dainty Davie* ii. in *Herd's Scott. Songs* (1776) II. 215 It was in and through the window-broads, And a' the tirlie wirlies o'd. 1829 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 92 Eight window-boards, and shelves and work to pantries. 1823 *Joanna Baillie's Coll. Poems* 295 The seam'd window-board betrays Interior light. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 1/3 You are worthy of a sort of *window-box cultivation. 1883 Gerrish *Counsel* 44 Well proportioned *window-cases. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 185 With window-cases, handsomely ornamented. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* No. 5 (1821) I. 107 And can it be this book so base Is laid on every window-case? 1884 [see Facing *vbl. sb.* 6 b]. 1898 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Window-cleaner, a frame for placing outside of a window, to sit or stand on when cleaning the window-panes; a person who contracts for cleaning windows. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 52 Painter. Glazier. .. Window Cleaner. 1864 Lewins *H. & M. Matls* 939 In larger towns where one clerk is specially retained for these duties, he is known as the '*window clerk', as it devolves upon him to answer all..inquiries. 1584-5 Sir R. Sadler *St. Papers* (1809) III. 247 Some dornix to make.. *window clothes for her chambre. 1868 *General Advertiser* (Dublin) 9 Dec., Wanted for the Drapery, a first-class, pushing Sales-woman; must be a good *window dresser. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 July 8/1 The London and Westminster Bank is not one of the window-dressers. 1790 *Act 30 Geo. III*, c. 53 § 58 Copings, Cornices, Facies, Door, and *Window Dressings. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 13 These shutters may be fixed at small cost, and without interfering with the existent window dressings. 1895 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 5/4 Prizes are to be given to tradesmen for the best display of what is called window dressing. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 6/1 [The finances of Chili] are..in a chaotic state despite all the elegant window-dressing. 1909 *Ibid.* 9 Mar. 2/1 The promise of high duties against other countries deceives nobody: it is only political window-dressing. 1753-4 Richardson *Grandison* VI. 65 The hedge and ditch-leapers, the river-forders, the *window droppers. 1923 *Glasgow Herald* 7 Apr. 14 The use of '*window' envelopes for the transmission of medical records. 1829 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 180, xiiij d. pro le *wyndow fyne. 1824 Loudon *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 256 Those who wish further details as to plants in rooms, or what the French and Germans call *window gardening. 1836-7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Hospital Patient*, The miserable shadow of a man..which crouches beneath a *window-ledge, to sleep where there is some shelter from the rain. *a* 1697 Aubrey in Thoms *Anecd.* (1839) 96 Whereas his former physitian shutt up his windows, ..he did open his *window lids, and let in the light. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4876/3 *Window Lights stopped up after Michaelmas last..are subject to the Duty on Window Lights. 1774 Foote *Coomers* I. (1778) 20 The collector of the window-lights in Falkland's Island. 1801 T. Peck *Norwich Directory* 4 Surveyor of the Window-Lights, &c. for Yarmouth District. *a* 1586 Sidney *Refugees* I. Wks. 1912 II. 217 Those shepheards two .. Whose mettall stiff he [*sc.* Cupid] knew he could not bende With bear-eay. pictures or a *window looke. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.*

ft. m. (ed. 20) 724 Officers of the Inland-Office .. *Window-Man, *Gal.* 1718 *Ibid.* (ed. 25) 165 A List of the Officers of the General-Post-Office in Lombard-Street... Window-Man for the By-Days. 1820 *Q. Rev.* June 213 The Postmaster-General, by printed 'Notices'..remonstrated with the public; his recommendations, however, were not only unheeded, but the window-men, who .. repeated them, were .. insulted. 1887 *Daily News* 6 July 8/7 Cheesemongers.—Wanted, by Advertiser, Situation as Manager, Windowman, or Scalesman. 1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* vi. 100 The swallow and the *window-martin thread the lanes. 1700 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 208 Naylor Hopkin came for *window-mony, 5 sh. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xxiii, If the fixture of Momus's glass in the human breast..had taken place,.. This foolish consequence would certainly have followed,—That the very wisest..of us all..must have paid window-money every day of our lives. 1900 *19th Century* Apr. 619 Many years later we had them [*sc.* drawings] *window-mounted with great care. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 159 *Window-Oysters (Placunidæ). 1819 KEATS *Eve of St. Mark* 49 With forehead 'gainst the *window-pane. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 17 *Lophopsetta maculata*... Spotted turbot; window-pane (New Jersey); sand flounder (New York). 1876 BRIDGES *Growth of Love* xlv, And hope behind the dusty window-pane Watches the days go by. *c* 1735 in J. D. Leader *Rec. Sheffield* (1897) 362 Paid Mr. John Smith for the presents of knives, &c., made to the *window peeper, 10*s. 6*d. 1888 *Craven Gloss.* 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 450/1 *Window Posts, Prick Posts, the sides of the Window. 1745 WESLEY *Whs.* (1872) VIII. 211 They..broke the window-posts, and threw them into the house. 1850 INKERSLEY *Ing. Styles Archit. France* 338 Below the *window-screen extends a suite of projecting canopies. 1890 C. H. MOORE *Gothic Archit.* ix. 304 Chartres [cathedral] ..singularly fortunate in retaining its magnificent jewel-like window-screens. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. xxxi. 194 Looking on the *window-seat, she presently found the books. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iii, We were sitting in the window-seat. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 443 This palatiat cloyster is quadrangled foure stories high, the vppermost whereof, is *window-set in the blew tecture. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 272 Family Placunidæ. (*Window-Shells.) 1649 J. ELLISTONE tr. *Behmen's Epist.* xxxv. 213 My Wife need not cause any *Window-shuts to be made. 1694 *Morton Reg.* II. 610 Quod Ly window-Shuts de opere tabulato in istis sociorum cameris, ubi deerunt, fabricentur. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* viii. (1745) 78 When you bar the Window-shuts of your Lady's Bed-chamber. 1796 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 237 Placing a piece of paper round the hole in the window-shut. 1796–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 171 A masterly piéce of the sufferings of Christ .. on two *window-shutters, done by Holbein. 1871 tr. *Schellen's Spectrum Anal.* § 18. 60 If a ray of sun-shine be allowed to pass through a small hole in a window-shutter of a darkened room. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dulnesse* v, Where are my lines then? my approaches? views? Where are my *window-songs? 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall* I. *Stud. Salamanca* 259 Flowers standing on the *window-stone. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Oct. 1664, Laying it on the *window-stool, he with his own hands design'd to me the plot for the future building of White-hall. 1867 LE FANU *Tenants of Malory* lxii, Cleve went on knocking and ringing, and the head of the Rev. Isaac Dixie appeared high in the air over the window-stool. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 255 The Martin. Martlet, Martinet, or *Window-swallow. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT *Misc. Whs.* (1751) II. 160 Considering..that they are excused the Charges of House-Rent, House-keeping, and the *Window-Tax. 1850 MISS MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* iv. xi. II. 147 The window-tax is a duty upon fresh air, sunshine, and health. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 487 When [women] make great *window-works before their duga. 1629 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* viii. 89 Nor will I speake of..the Chrystalline, Glassie, and Waterie Humors; the Optike and Mouing Nerues;.. with other these curious Window-workes. 1348 *Cal. Inquis Post Mortem Edw. III* IX. 44 [A custom called] 'Buchellyeld' [and] '*Wyndoweyeld'.

†Window, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with windows (see WINDOWED 1) or window-like openings.

a 1639 WOTTON *Panegyr. K. Charles* in *Relig.* (1651) 133 If Nature her self (the first Architectress) had (to use an expression of Vitruvius) windowed your breast. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 43 She form'd this image of well-body'd air; With pert flat eyes she window'd well its head.

2. To place in a window.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 72 Would'st thou be window'd in great Rome, and see Thy Master thus..?

Window, obs. or dial. var. WINNOW.

Windowed (wi·ndoud), *ppl. a.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -ED 2, partly after OF. *fenestré.*]

1. Furnished with or having windows. Also with prefixed word in comb.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 6 The hous well ordeyned Ought to be well wyndowed Of diverse wyndowes. 1611 COTGR., *Fenestré*, windowed, hauing windowes. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* 76 The whole Roome was windowed round about. 1636 PEACHAM *Coach & Sedan* A 1v b, Windowed before and behind with Iseen-glasse. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 276 P 3 A strange windowed House,..which is so built that no one can look out of any of the Apartments. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 869/1 Some of the principal buildings we may reasonably suppose to have been windowed in a superior manner. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xxiii, Within a window'd niche of that high hall. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* XVII. 231 She built a room all window'd to the west. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* iii, Tall-windowed brick houses. 1881 *World* 28 Dec., The disproportioned, ill-windowed, and pretentious palace at Kensington. 1883 *Standard* 3 Aug. 5/7 The windowed side of the new building.

2. Having decorative openings (see WINDOW *sb.* 3).

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 366/1 A crowne of gold wyndowed. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* II. 246 They had, like Chaucer's layman parish-clerk, black windowed shoes, which let the scarlet stockings be seen from beneath. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 69 Palace-panes Pinholed athwart their windowed filagree By twinklings sobered from the sun outside.

3. Full of holes. (In later use echoing Shaks.)

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 31 Your lop'd, and window'd raggedness. 1786 HAY *Epigr. Martial* III. xxxviii, In window'd hose, and garments twice convey'd. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Oct. 2/1 When we sat with sadly windowed clothes on the not very extensive summit of the Crystallino.

†Windowful (wi·ndoful). [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -FUL.] As much as fills or will fill a window or the space which a window gives a view of.

1878 MRS. OLIPHANT *Primrose Path* iv, That windowfull of sky had darkened, it was almost night. 1886 ROSA MULHOLLAND *Marcella Grace* xxi, In poorer homes on the outskirts of the city,..one sees windowfuls of flowers.

†Windowing. *Obs.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -ING 1.] The fittings or furniture of a window.

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 85 To make windowing of the pure mettle of Venice-glasse. *Ibid.* 95 Windowing and Monyons for windowes, which may be made and cast of white clay. 1659 TORRIANO, *Balconata*, any windowing.

Windowless (wi·ndoulés), *a.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -LESS.] Not having or furnished with windows.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 125 Naked walls and windowless rooms. 1836 STERLING in Carlyle *Life* II. iv, One would think he had spent his whole life in the Younger Pliny's windowless study. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xiv. 249 The windowless vans which are used for the transport of felons. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* xvi, The moon..threw great..patches of light through the high windowless openings in the walls.

Hence **Windowlessness.**

1917 A. K. COOK *About Winchester Coll.* 228 The comparative windowlessness, and the positive ugliness, of the back of School.

†Windown. *Obs.* Also 4–5 **wyndown**, 9 *dial.* **windon.** Obscure var. WINDOW *sb.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Whs.* (1880) 8 3if þei drawen þe peple..by coryousite of gaye wyndownes. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xxiii. 32 As his moder and he stood lenyng out at a wyndown. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 211 The bordes bad ben good for wyndownes and dores. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Windon*, a window. 1838 W. HOLLOWAY *Provinc.* 190 *Windon*, a window. *Norf.*

Window-sill. = SILL *sb.*1 2.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 241 Window-sells, (sometimes call'd Window soils,) which are the bottom pieces in a Window-frame. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. iii, 'Till on the mossy window-sill Their track effaced the green. 1829 CRABBE *T. of Hall* VII. 495 The curtains fell Half down, and rested on the window-sill. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 325 (*Mason*), He also constructs and lays the window cells of all buildings. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* viii, The little flower-pots which always stood on the window-sill outside. 1850 INKERSLEY *Ing. Styles Archit. France* 321 The string-course below the window-cill. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* ii, I heard the blunderbuss rattle on the window-sill.

Wi·ndow-sole. *dial.* [SOLE *sb.*1 4 a.] = prec.

1570–80 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 118 For lyme for the masons to sett the wyndowe sole with, 16*d.* 1591 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 370, 211 midell peeces of windo sole. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* Ded., May never a window-sole..be without them. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxii. 326 Sharp frosty nights that left all the window-soles white-washed over with frost-rind in the mornings. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* vi. 100 In fashioning the soft red sandstone into door-pieces, and window-soles.

†Wi·ndowy, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -Y 1.] Full of 'windows' or openings.

a 1632 DONNE *Bait* 20 Or treacherously poore fish beset, With strangling snare, or windowie net.

Windpipe (wi·ndpəip, wəi·ndpəip). [f. WIND *sb.*1 + PIPE *sb.*1 Cf. Du. †*windpijpe* (Killan).]

1. The tube which leads from the throat and (dividing into the two bronchi) conveys air to and from the lungs in breathing: = TRACHEA 1 a. †Formerly also *pl.* = the trachea and bronchi collectively.

1530 PALSGR. 289/1 Wyndpype, *sifflet de gosier.* 1538 BALE *God's Promises* III. C ij, Stoppe not my wynde pypes, but geue them lyberte, To sounde to thy name. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Arteria, Aspera arteria*, the wine pipe [*sic*]. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xv. (1888) 70 The cowgh which commeth of some cold distemperature in the windepipes. 1666 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 12 Their heads, with the livers and lungs hanging by the winepipes [*sic*]. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 19 Sept. an. 1777, When one considers what variety of sounds can be uttered by the windpipe, in the compass of a very small aperture. 1866 BALLANTYNE *Shifting Winds* ii, There was only just sufficient opening in the wind-pipe to permit of her breath passing..through her..mouth. 1874 COUES *Birds N.-W.* 532 The Whooping Crane has a windpipe between four and five feet long—quite as long as the bird itself.

2. An artificial pipe or tube for conducting a blast of air. *rare.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. v. 259/1 A Pair of Bellows..; the Wind Pipe erected. 1689 BURNET *Tracts* I. 94 A hole [let into a hill] which all the Summer long blows a fresh Air into the Cellar..but this Wind-pipe did not blow when I was there.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **windpipe-stretcher**, *jocular*, a hangman; **windpipe sweetbread**, the thyroid gland (of a calf) used as food.

1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weshes Observ.* B 4 b, Our Wapping windpipe-stretcher. *a* 1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 29 The fore-quarter [of veal] contains the shoulder, neck, and breast, the throat sweet-bread, and the windpipe sweetbread.

Hence (*nonce-uses.*) **Wi·ndpipe** *v.*, *trans.* to utter through the windpipe, to 'pipe'; **Wi·ndpiped** (-pəipt) *a.*, supplied with pipes figured as windpipes. 1860 HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* x, A city, water-veined and gas windpiped. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* xlv, The three guardian ladies..headed over the..town..windpiping these and similar Solan notes.

†Wi·ndress. *Obs. rare.* Also **-eresse.** [f. WINDER + -ESS.] A woman who winds (silk, etc.).

1398 FLORIO, *Diuidatrice*, a silke winderesse. *Ibid.*, *Naspatrice*, a reeler, or windresse of thrid, silke or yarne.

†Wi·ndring, *ppl. a.* ?misprr. for WINDING *ppl. a.*

1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 128 You Nimphs cald Nayades of y° windring brooks.

Wind-rose (wi·ndˌrōz). [f. WIND *sb.*1 + ROSE *sb.*; in sense 2 after G. *windrose* (cf. ROSE *sb.* 14 c).]

1. Name for several papaveraceous plants, or their flowers: a. the 'bastard wild poppy', *Argemone mexicana*, or the common wild poppy, *Papaver Rhœas*; b. the violet horned poppy, *Rœmeria hybrida.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxx. 301 The bastard wilde Poppie is called..in English winde Rose, and bastarde wilde Poppie. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl., Rose, Wind, *Romeria hybrida.*

2. *Meteorol.* A diagram indicating the relative frequency, force, etc. of (or the temperature, etc. accompanying) the winds from the various points of the compass at some given place.

1846 SABINE tr *Humboldt's Cosmos* I. 310 Tables of atmospheric pressure accompanying different winds, which have received the name of barometric windroses. 1883 R. H. SCOTT *Elem. Meteorol.* ix. 166 The best mode of publishing the records for different stations is the construction of 'wind-roses', *Ibid* xiv. 278 Dr. Hann .. has calculated the prevalent winds and the thermal windroses for a great number of stations.

Windrow (wi·ndˌrou), *sb.* Forms and etym.: see WIND *sb.*1 and ROW *sb.*1 (also 8–9 **winrow**). A row in which mown grass or hay is laid before being made up into heaps or cocks, in which sods, peats, or sheaves of corn are set up to be dried by exposure to the wind, or in which dead branches, etc. are gathered to be burnt.

Also *collect.* or *abstr.* in phr. *into* or *out of windrow.*

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 25 On the nexte daye, tourne it agayne before none, and towarde nyght make it in wyndrowes, and than in smal hey cockes. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 54 Others,..when barley is loggery, and full of greenes, will sette it windrowe stooke. 1692 RAY *S. & E.C. Words, A Wind-row*, the Greens or Borders of a Field dug up, in order to the carrying the Earth on to the Land to mend it. It is called Windrow because it is laid in rows, and exposed to the Wind. 1726 [see UPGANGER]. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. lxv. 297 A machine for raking hay-grass into wind-row, drawn by a horse. 1808 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Winrow*, hay or peats put together in long thin heaps for the purpose of being more easily dried. 1830 HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 176 They are also leading much of their hay out of windrow. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 967 After the second raking have been thus cleared, the third ridge being in the middle, contains the grass of 5 ridges, which is called a windrow. 1888 HOWELLS *Modern Instance* xxxix, The farmers were..heaping into vast winrows for burning the winter-worn stalks of the last year's crop.

b. *transf.* of similar rows of various things, *e.g.* of trees blown down (cf. WINDFALL 1) or of dust heaped up by the wind.

1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 176 Logs of all sizes lie in winrows. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug 529/2 The river [Hudson] is divided into long lanes and fields of smooth ice by windrows cressing in every direction 1902 'LUCAS MALET' *Sir Richard Calmady* I. x, The blue of the upper sky was crossed by curved winrows of flaky, opalescent cloud.

Wi·ndrow, *v.* Also **winrow.** [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To lay or set in windrows.

1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 28 This afternoon, soe Thomas went and winrowed our turf o' th' Black Moss. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, To *windrow*, to rake the mown grass into rows, called windrows. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 968 The grass which had been tedded in the forenoon is windrowed and put into grass-cocks. 1889 DOUGHTY *Friesland Meres* viii. 273 Women were winrowing hay, with rakes different to ours.

Hence **Wi·ndrowed** *ppl. a.* (in transf. sense).

1893 W. H. HUDSON *Idle Days in Patag.* viii. 215 The desolate shiftings of the windrowed snows of prairies.

Winds, var. WINZE.

Windsail (wi·ndsēil). [f. WIND *sb.*1 + SAIL *sb.*1]

1. *Naut.* A long wide tube or funnel of sail-cloth used for ventilating a ship.

1741 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 65 The Wind-Sails..are usually between 25 and 30 Foot long, according to the Size of the Ship. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* iii, I trimmed my ear like a windsail in the tropics. 1842 DICKENS in Forster *Life* (1872) I. 321 From the roof, a couple of windsails dangled and drooped, limp and useless.

2. A sail of a windmill.

1725 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 251 Here are some wonderful Engines for throwing up Water,..one..goes by Wind-Sails, 32 Wings or Sails to a Mill. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 450/2. 1883 MEREDITH *Poems, Sense & Spirit* 8 We go distraught, At best but circle-windsails of a mill.

Wind-shake (wi·ndʃēik), *sb.* Also 9 *dial.* **-shack.** [f. WIND *sb.*1 + SHAKE *sb.*1 9 a.] A flaw or crack in timber, supposed to be due to a strain caused by the force of the wind.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 114 Not marred with knot, gaule, wyndeshake, wem. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss., Windtanche*, cracks in wood, occasioned, it is supposed by the wind. 1866 *Trans. Bot., Wind-shake.* See *Anemoria.*

†Wi·ndshake, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + SHAKE *v.*] *trans.* To shake as with a violent wind; to inflict a severe shock upon.

1614 BUDDEN tr. *Æredius' Disc. Parents Hon.* 136 To windshake all that commerce and societie, which is between man & man, euen from the very ground plot, and foundation.

†Wi·nd-shaked, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + *shaked*, wk. pa. pple. of SHAKE *v.*] = next, 1.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 13 The winde-shak'd Surge. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militt.* medit. lv. 41, I quake, Like wind-shakt Reeds.

Wind-shaken (wi·ndʃēi·k'n), *ppl. a.* [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + *shaken*, str. pa. pple. of SHAKE *v.*]

1. Shaken or agitated by the wind.

c 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xi. 7 A windschaken reed. 1553 All the trees were wind-shaken, and those that were not fast rooted, fell. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* lviii, The wind-shaken foliage. 1876 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* Ser. II. *Forsaken Garden* iii, The weeds wind-shaken.

2. Of timber: Affected with wind-shake. Also *fig.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Rima*, To be wyndeshaken as tymber is. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlv. 5 God doo oftentymes tumble them downe from their wyndshaken and rotten seeges. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* H, Some poore winde-shaken gallant. 1668 CLARENDON *Vind.* Tracts (1727) 33 The middle of every piece was wind-shaken and rotten. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 387 The discharging Trees of unthrifty broken wind-shaken Boughs. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Anemosis*, the condition known in timber by the name of wind shaken.

Wind-shock (wi·ndʃɒk). [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SHOCK *sb* 8]

†1. = WIND-SHAKE *sb.* Also *attrib.* = prec. 2.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxx. 94, I have seen Wind-shock-timber so exquisitely closed, as not to be discerned where the defects were. 1679 *Ibid.* xxvii. (ed. 3) 143 The Wind-shock is a bruise, and shiver throughout the Tree. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 868/2. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 37 One of them [*sc.* canoes] sunk, in which was the ammunition and my baggage; this was occasioned by what is called a wind-shock.

2. A shock or disturbance of equilibrium caused by a violent gust of wind.

1913 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 1 England must have got a bad windshock, and the machine [an aeroplane] fell like a stone.

Wi·nd-shook, *ppl. a. rare*⁻¹. [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + *shook*, pa. pple. of SHAKE *v.*] = WIND-SHAKEN 2; in quot. *transf.* having internal cavities like wind-shaken timber.

1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exempl.* 51 The cause of jointing or wind-shook Cheese, is from a small quantity of Slip-Curd being much broke, so as not sufficient, to form Eyes in the Cheese.

Windsor (wi·nzəɹ). Name of a town in Berkshire, on the right bank of the Thames, at which is Windsor Castle, a royal residence.

1. *attrib.* in names of various things now or originally obtained, made, cultivated, etc. at or near Windsor, or of persons connected with Windsor Castle. **Windsor bean**, the common broad bean; **Windsor brick**, a kind of red fire-resisting brick formerly made at Hedgerley, near Windsor; **Windsor chair**, †(*a*) a kind of low-wheeled carriage (*obs.*); (*b*) a kind of wooden chair with the back formed of upright rod-like pieces surmounted by a cross-piece, and often with arms; **Windsor herald**, an officer whose duties are now performed by Garter King of Arms; **Windsor knight**, one of a body of military pensioners residing within the precincts of Windsor Castle; **Windsor loam**, the earth from which *Windsor bricks* were made; **Windsor soap**, a kind of scented (usually brown) soap; **Windsor tick** (TICK *sb.*¹ 2), app. a small variety of Windsor bean; **Windsor tub** (see quot.); **Windsor uniform**, a uniform introduced by King George III, consisting of a blue coat with red collar and cuffs, and a blue or white waistcoat, worn on certain occasions at Windsor Castle by members of the royal household, and by royal or other distinguished guests by permission of the sovereign.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 133 Fruit in Pods, of the Size of our *Windsor Beans. 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 300 [The Buck-bean's] leaves closely resemble those of the Windsor Bean. 1708 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 26 The Furnace being made of Sturbridge or *Windsor-Brick. 1805 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 535 Red bricks..which will stand the greatest heat..called Windsor bricks. 1784 in Amherst *Gardening* (1895) 234 My wife was carry'd in a *Windsor chair like those at Versailles. 1740 C'TESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) II. 4 A tolerably large circle, with Windsor chairs round it. 1766 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 29 Nov., The Bodleian Library has most confessedly been very much improved by the Introduction of Windsor-Chairs, so admirably calculated for Ornament and Repose. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* iv, There was one arm-chair in the room,—a Windsor-chair, as such used to be called. 1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 53 For *Wyndisoris heraldis expensis quhen he come again for the renewyne of his conduct. 1912–18 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 310 Wyndesore Harald at Armes. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* To Rdr., Augustine Vincent, Esquire, Windsor Herald, & keeper of the Records in the Tower. 1747 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 498 Hedgerley, the Place where there is dug an Earth commonly call'd *Windsor Loam. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xviii. (1842) 484 Windsor loam: obtained at Hampstead, &c...is frequently used for the lining of furnaces. 1846 *MS. Accounts* (D. Dewar, St. Andrew's), To *Windsor Soap, 3ˡ. 1837 MORIER *Abdl Allmutt* xxvii, A lamb..which she..kept..washed with the best brown Windsor soap. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 58 The little common horse-bean, ticks, and *Windsor ticks, are the sorts generally cultivated. 1800 ALVES *Banks of Esk* 106 Old Port pipes or casks, laid open at one side with conical tops, and seats placed at the ordinary height from the bottom,—which turn round upon perpendicular axis, denominated *Windsor Tubs, from their having been first introduced there. 1805 *Ann. Reg.* (Rivington's ed.), *Chron.* 12* The gentlemen [at a fête at Windsor Castle] were dressed in the full *Windsor uniform, except those who wore the military habit of their respective regiments. 1845 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* I, The hotel..was a..red brick building, edging the blue wave of the ocean, as the collar of the Windsor uniform garnishes the coat.

2. Short for *Windsor bean, brick, soap.*

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* Feb. 32 A full crop of long-pods, Windsor's,..or other broad kinds. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Sept., My dearest girl now turned from red to be as pale as white Windsor. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 142/1 The red sandy bricks called Windsors. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* ii. (new ed.) 124 The old brown Windsor being still..far the best for the skin. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* xii, As thorough an ablution as was possible in the absence of my cake of old brown windsor.

Windster (wəi·ndstəɹ). ? *Obs.* Also 5 **wynstere.** [f. WIND *v.*¹ + -STER.] A person (orig. a woman) engaged in winding silk, etc.

14.. LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 129 (MS. T) My wyf was a wynstere [*B. & C. texts* webbe] & Wollene cloþ made. *c* 1700 *Douce prints S.* 9 fol. a b, Comber. Dyer. Throwster. Windster. Spinster. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6187/4 Eleanor Brown, ..Silk-Windster. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* 185 Husks and Nubs are the refuse, which is thrown aside by the windster, during the process of winding the Silk from the cocoons. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 259 Your warpers, your windsters, your weavers.

Wind-suck (wi·ndsʊk), *v.* [Back-formation from next (sense 2).] *intr.* Of a horse: To have the vice of noisily drawing in and swallowing air (often associated with crib-biting). Also **Wi·nd-sucking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 298 Wind-sucking consists in swallowing air, without fixing the mouth. *Ibid.* 299 He continued to crib-bite or wind-suck. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Crib-strap*, a neck-throttler for crib-biting and wind-sucking horses. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 82 Indigestion and colic..result from windsucking and crib-biting.

Wind-sucker (wi·ndsʊkəɹ). [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SUCKER.]

†1. The valve of a pair of bellows. *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (ROXB.) 7/2 The wind sucker, a flap of strong Leather set ouer the wind hole within the belly.

2. A horse addicted to wind-sucking.

1825 JAMIESON. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* x, Whose horse had a cough, whose was a wind-sucker, whose was lame after hunting. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 127 Wind-suckers and crib-biters should..be fed apart from the rest.

Wind-sucker : see WINDFUCKER 2.

1880 SWINBURNE *Study Shaks.* 54 The veriest wind-sucker among commentators.

Wind-tight (wi·ndtəit), *a.* [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + TIGHT *a.*]

1. Solidly constructed so as to keep out wind: chiefly of a building; also of a vessel = AIR-TIGHT.

1507 [see TIGHT *a.* 2 a]. 1514, etc. [see WATERTIGHT 1]. 1623 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 383 The grammar schole ..is nather watterthicht nor wyndthicht to the great hinderance of the studentis within the same. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 33 For England, however, the upper Stories are shroadly shattred; yet the foundations and frame being good or mendable by the Architectors now at worke, there is good hope, when peace is setled, people shall dwell more wind-tight and water-tight than formerly. 1718 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* II. xvii. § 20, I..took a Tin Tube..but found..that it was not compleatly Wind-tight. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Wind-tight*, a cask or vessel to contain water is said to be wind-tight and water-tight.

†2. *Naut.* = Wind-taut (see WIND *sb.*¹ 31). *Obs.*

1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* II. (1704) 301/1 They ..cut down..Things over-head, which makes them wind Tite and Burthensome.

Wind-up (wəi·ndˌʊ·p), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the phr. *to wind up*, WIND *v.*¹ 22.]

A. *sb.* The action of 'winding up', or something that 'winds up' or concludes a course of action, story, etc.; close, conclusion, finish, *dénouement*; final settlement; closing act or proceeding. † Also formerly **wind-up-all.**

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 47 Whitch was the Epiphonema and as it were the windupal of that meting. shall be the wind-up of the world. 1683 — *Grisms. Soul* (1692) 56 So the wind-up of the whole will be this, They shall have like for like. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxii, That was the wind-up of the history. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xxiv. (1886) 75 Getting through a few.. quadrilles,..and Sir Roger de Coverley as a wind-up. 1849 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, To take myself well to task, and have a regular wind-up of this business now. 1889 OUSELEY *Counterp. Canon & Fugue* xxiii. 181 The dominant pedal always announces the termination, or 'wind-up', of a fugue.

B. *adj.* 1. Constructed to be wound up.

1784 *Morn. Chron.* 22 Apr. 4/3 Advt., A wind up range.

2. Forming the 'wind-up' or conclusion of thing; concluding, closing.

1843 MOZLEY *Ess.* (1878) I. 25 Strafford determined not to be wasting to himself at the wind-up scene. 1900 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 253 We had a wind-up champagne supper.

Windward (wi·ndˌwɒ̈ɹd), quasi-*sb.* in *phr.*, *a.*, and *adv.* Also 6 *Sc.* **wyndwart, vynduart, 7 winward, 9 win'ard.** [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + -WARD. (In all senses the opposite of LEEWARD.)]

A. Phr. *to* (*the*) *windward* (also formerly with other preps.): to the windward side or direction.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 The saild gallasse in schort tyme cam on vynduart of the tothir schip. 1562 WINZET *Cert. Tractatis* i, Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 4 To lat down ane grete dele thair hie saillis, and hald to wyndwart. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seaman* 18 A sayle, how stands she, to windward or leyward. 1666 MONK *Let.* (in *Quaritch's Rough List, No. 102* (1900) Oct.) Sir William Berkeley kept his course, at which a gun was fired at winward of him. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 281 About Noon he was got to the Windward. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 329 The Sound coming from the Windward. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* iv. 53 The heavens were grey, and there was a very dark line to windward. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I. 27 Before Joshua could reach him, the first of those giant masses of water struck on the rock to windward of him.

b. In *fig.* phrases, such as *to get to windward of*, to gain an advantage over (cf. WIND *sb.*¹ 3 b); *to keep to windward of*, to keep out of the reach of (cf. WINDY 2 d); *to cast an anchor to windward*, to adopt measures for security.

1763 COWPER *Let. to J. Newton* 7 Mar., That my vanity may not get too much to windward. 1882 DR WINDT *Equator* 22 His intention of 'getting to windward of those "Maylays"'. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Mr. Meeson's Will* vi, If I happen to have got to windward of the young woman, why, so much the better for me. 1890 [see LEEWARDLY]. 1919 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1158 This policy was based on a desire to keep an anchor to the windward, to secure the United States for a friend.

B. *adj.*

1. Having a direction towards, *i. e.* opposite to that of, the wind; moving against the wind.

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* x. 47 You say..a windward Tide when the Tide runnes against the wind. 1739 (*title*) A Description of the Windward Passage and Gulf of Florida. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* 56 Windward Great Circle Sailing.

b. Of or in reference to a sailing vessel, expressing ability to sail close to the wind: = WEATHERLY 2.

1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 382/1 She is so slender and graceful that one is prone to wonder that such prettiness is consistent with windward power. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 Sept. 5/7 A better windward boat than the Columbia.

2. Situated towards the direction from which the wind blows; facing the wind.

a 1687 [see LEEWARD A. 2]. 1725 DE FOE *Engl. Tradesman* III. (1732) I. 21 His windward leg being hurt by a bruise. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Blight*, On the Wind-ward Side of the Trees. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 5 Those that lie nearest the East, have been called the Windward Islands; the others the Leeward, on account of the wind's blowing generally from the eastern point in those quarters. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xxii. 424 The vessel laying slightly over, the windward tier slipped across the deck.

C. *adv.* Towards the wind, to windward.

1690 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. iv. 243 The fleet that came from Plymouth..were plying windward of that place. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 833 Tacking about, and so getting Windward of them, they..gain'd a great Advantage.

Hence **Wi·ndwardly** *a.* = B. 1 b, 2; **Wi·ndwardmost** *a.*, furthest to windward; **Wi·ndwardness**, 'windward' or weatherly quality.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 23 The most *windwardly Island of all the Caribbies. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 92 The characters of the several vessels,..some windwardly, some not stay well, some slugs. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 402 The island is the most windwardly of the whole Caribbean Archipelago. *a* 1628 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) s.v. *Weather Bow*, Any thing that is to the *wind-ward-most-side, we say, it is the weather-part, or a-weather. 1777 *Summary Acc. Tobago* 78 A mile from the windwardmost point of Minster-Bay. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Invention of Shipping* (1650) 29 By reason of their ready staying and turning, by reason of their *windwardnesse.

Windwards (wi·ndˌwɒ̈ɹdz). Also 7 **winwards.** [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + -WARDS.] = WINDWARD A.

1589 HAKLUYT *Voy.* 525 [He] appointed 24. of the lustiest rowers in the great boate, to rowe to windwards. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xxvi. 57 We saw a Shippe turning to Windwards. 1625 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1909) III. 100 Four Portugall gallions..though to winwards of them, came noe neerer then to descrye their cullours. 1632 PELLHAM *Gods Power* 8 Wee found the winde..so fiercely blowing, that we could not possibly row to Wind-wards.

†Wi·ndweed. *Obs. rare.* [f. WIND *v.*¹ + WEED *sb.*¹] = BINDWEED.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lv. 396 The leaues and fruite of sharpe Windeweede. *Ibid.* v. vii. 535 Amongst those kinds of plantes called Windweeds, or bindweedes.

Windwen, obs. form of WINNOW *v.*

Windy (wi·ndi), *a.* Forms: 1 **windiġ**, 1, 4 **windi**, 4–5 **wyndi**, 4–6 **wyndy**, 6 **-die, -dye, windye**, *Sc.* **wyndie, wondie**, 6–7 **windie**, 5– **windy.** [OE. *windiġ*: see WIND *sb.*¹ and -Y¹. Cf. MHG. *windic*, G. *windig*.]

I. Literal and directly connected:

1. Consisting of wind; of or pertaining to (the) wind; having the command of the winds, as a heathen deity; indicating or suggesting wind.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 23 Da com windi yst. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 323 The wyndy Storm began to skarse. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 48 As when a windy tempest bloweth hye. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. xvi, If stern Neptune's windy power prevail. 1600 W. BARNE *Three Past. Elegies* iii. (1893) 49 March, departed with his windy rage. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* Ep. Ded., All the watery, windy, earthly, and drinking Deities. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 432 While morning kindles with a windy red. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* vi. 89 The sea that lay beyond... was of a windy green.

b. Produced, or actuated, by 'wind' or compressed air: said of music played on wind-instruments, or of a wind-instrument.

1841 THACKERAY *Mem. Gormandising* Wks. 1900 XIII. 576 Music, whether windy or wiry. 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. *Cobbler of Hagenau* 45 Two angels carved in wood, That by the windy organ stood.

2. a. Of places, etc.: Full of, exposed to, blown upon or through by the wind.

Beowulf 1358 Windige nessas. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 322 Heora wyrtruma bið awa-swa windige yða. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/1 Wyndy, *ventosus, ventuosus.* 1552 HULOET, Wyndy houses, or places. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 279 A coulde and wyndy clime. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 330 Then was he worsland our ane wondie swyre. *a* 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, Iuno..Made Hebe to direct her ayrie wheeles Into the windie countrie of the clowdes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 440 On this windie Sea of Land, the Fiend Walk'd up and down. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen, New Year's Eve* v, The building rook 'ill caw from the windy tall elm-tree. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 191 As he paces the windy deck. 1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, Monk of Casal-Maggiore* 84 My wretched lodging in a windy shed.

b. Of times, conditions, etc.: Characterized by wind, in which wind is frequent or prevalent; accompanied by (much) wind.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 162 Windix lengten & renig sumer. 1431 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 2 Toward the ende of wyndy Februarie. 1579 J. DEE *Diary* (Camden) 5 A moyst Marche and not wyndy. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farme* v. viii. 671 Windie drouthes. 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 382 The wettest & the windiest day that I have seene. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. iii, It is a good Night, only a little rainy and windy. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 69 A windy day soon dries a wet pavement. 1904 W. E. HODGSON *Trout Fishing* 210 Meanwhile the rain goes on: no longer a slight windy spray.

c. Stirred by or wavering in the wind; moving so as to produce a wind or current of air.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. vii. 47 Truste not ner leene not upon a windy rede. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xii. 8 He...in his hand a windy fan did beare. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* vi. i, Hans quivered like a windy reed.

d. Situated towards the wind, windward: in phr. *on the windy side of* (fig.), so as not to be 'scented' and attacked by (cf. WIND *sb.*[1] 4), out of the reach of; away from, clear of.

In modern use echoing Shaks.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 327 *Pedro.* Infaith Lady you haue a merry heart. *Beatr.* Yea my Lord I thanke it, poore foole it keepes on the windy side of Care. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 281 Still you keepe o'th windie side of the Law: good. 1824 SCOTT *Waw.* xii, He had just so much solidity as kept on the windy side of insanity. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shakes. Char.* vii. 190 You cut off his resources; while you yourself keep on the windy side of assassination and murder.

3. Resembling the wind in storminess, quality of sound, swiftness, † changefulness, etc.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 388 Þeah þeos worold wede, and windige ehtnysse astyrige onxean Cristes geleafsunge. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. viii. (1868) 6 The amyable fortune mayst how sen alwey wyndy [MS. wyndynge; *ventosam*] and flowynge and euere myn knowynge of hir self. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 51 Then with her windie sighes, and golden heares, To fan, and blow them drie againe she seekes. 1595 — *John* II. i. 477 Zeale now melted by the windie breath Of soft petitions. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. v. (ed. 2) 756 The windy inconstancy of some of the companie. 1670 DRYDEN *Tyr. Love* II. i, A fire which every windy passion blows. 1697 — *Æneis* XII. 1107 Indu'd with windy Wings to flie in Air. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xviii. (1870) 185 Polly gave a sudden windy dart from the room. 1883 R. RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* I. 5 The sweet windy drone of the organ. 1915 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 20 Mar. 245/1 Singing the lines in a high, windy voice.

4. a. Characterized by, arising from, or affected with 'wind' (WIND *sb.*[1] 10) in the stomach or bowels († or other parts): = FLATULENT 4.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 214 Wiþ þa þing þe windigne mon on maw wyrcan. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 30 In all cold and wyndye infirmities of the brayne. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal., Sat.* iv. 152 The windie-chollicke striu'd to haue some vent. 1600 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 185 Waterish and impure stomacks, by reason of windie crudities, wherewith they abound. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 36 A costive and windy state of the bowels. 1878 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 348 After some windy eructations. 1889 in J. Hutchinson *Archives Surg.* (1898) IX. 121 When well I am generally very windy.

b. Of food or drink: Causing or liable to cause 'wind': = FLATULENT 3.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxvi. (Add. MS. 27944) Newe mustes is ful wyndy & smoky. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 28 Nauewes do not nourysshe so moche as rapes, but they be euen as wyndye. 1627 MOUNTAIN *Hiin.* 318 They .. feede on bread very black, heauy and windy. 1698 FLOYER *Asthma* II. (1727) 25 When the Meat is crude, slimy, windy, acerb. 1809 *Aikin's Syst. Med.* III. 494 If the food be poor and windy.

II. Figurative senses. (See also 2 d, 3.)

5. Having 'nothing in it', 'airy', intangible, empty, unsubstantial, flimsy, vain, frivolous, trifling, worthless. (Often passing into other senses; see below.) Similarly of persons (*rare*).

1593 G. HARVEY *New Let.* B 2, A wan, or windy Hope, is a notable breake-necke vnto itselfe. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. v. 165 There is nothing more vniust then to make men to liue by windy words & ayre. 1602 [see 6 a]. 1650 MILTON *Tenure of Kings* (ed. 2) 47 Neither is Cæsar to make Warr as head of Christ'ndom, Protector of the Church, Defender of the Faith: these Titles being fals and Windie. 1693 DRYDEN tr. *Juvenal* x. 219 Exchanging solid Quiet, to obtain The Windy satisfaction of the Brain. *a* 1700 H. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Windy-fellow,* without Sense or Reason. 1830 CARLYLE *Ess., Richter* (1840) II. 340 What a hollow, windy vacuity of internal character this indicates. 1854 DE QUINCEY *War* Wks. 1862 IV. 271 The windiest of levities. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iv. (1862) 193 The Prince of Wales had some windy projects of encouraging literature, science, and the arts. 1877 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* II. 216 *note,* Sending windy gossip to the newspapers.

6. a. Of speech or discourse, with various shades of meaning: Verbose, long-winded; violent, vehement; empty and high-sounding, inflated, bombastic; exaggerated, extravagant.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xvi. 3 Whether windi woordis [Vulg. *verba ventosa*] shul not han ende? 1590 J. DAVIDSON in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 517 Notwithstanding all the windye volumes written by them. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii. (1602) M 3 b, *Tibullus.* O, terrible, windy words! *Gallus.* A signe of a windy Braine. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not long since brought to Athens out of Asia. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* xii. 19 By such windy particulars [he] did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated. 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 379 To what purpose then this windy declamation about John Calvin? 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 245 A vague and windy rhetoric has supplanted solid acquisition. 1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 21 Aug. 194/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings.

b. Of a speaker or writer: Full of talk or verbiage, talkative, loquacious, long-winded; violent or extravagant in utterance, 'blustering'; bragging, boastful (cf. 7 b).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. viii. 33 Quhidder, gif thi marcial deidis, as thai war ay, Into thy wyndy clattryng toung sal be. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Catk. Tract.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 85 Ane vyndie sophist. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* IV. iv. 127 Windy Attturnies to their Clients woes. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 366 There will not need more words to this Windy Railer, convicted..of all those Crimes which he..charges upon others. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. x, He is a windy body when he gets on his..stories. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Windy,* noisy, verbose, marvellous in narration. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* vi. ii. 111. 450 The windy demagogue, who had filled half Flanders with his sound and fury.

7. a. That 'puffs one up'; inducing pride or vain-glory. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

1590 NASHE *Pasquils Apol.* D 4 b, Let witte, which is windie obtaine the lease, that Charitie which edifieth may gaine the more. [Cf. *1 Cor.* viii. 1.] 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 43 Puffed vp wth wyndijie knowledge. [1693 PENN *Fruits Sol.* II. ch. Wks. 1782 V. 281 We may be too easily swelled beyond our just proportion, by the windy compliments of men. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 269 Inflated and astrut with self-conceit, He gulps the windy diet.]

b. 'Puffed up'; inflated with, or showing, pride or vain conceit; vain-glorious, proud. Now *Sc. colloq.* (const. *of*).

1603 [see *windy-headed* in 9]. 1625 T. ADAMS *Five Serm., Job xlii.* 6 (1626) 20 After these blustring insolencies, and windie ostentations. 1695 DRYDEN tr. *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* 63 He who has a windy Head, and flatters himself with the empty hope of deserving the praise of the common people. 1888 BARRIE *Auld Licht Idylls* ix, I'm thinking he was windier of the cock.

8. Apt to 'get the wind up'; 'funky'. *slang.*

1916 HANKEY *Student in Arms* vii. (1917) 130 The anticipation of danger makes many men 'windy'.

9. *adv.* and *Comb.*, as *windy-blowing, clear, -footed* (cf. 3), *-headed* (cf. 6, 7 b), *-looking* adjs.

a 1629 GOFFE *Orrstes* II. iii, With a North gale of *windy blowing sighs. 1899 T. S. MOORE *Vinedresser, Duet* iii, Cloudless eyes, blue eyes so *windy clear. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xv. 163 The *windie-footed Dame. 1693 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 81 The great..applause of the *windie headed people. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 26 The sun had gone down into a *windy-looking mist.

Wine (wain), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–4 win, (2–3 uin), 3–6 wyn, 4–6 (7 *Sc.*) wyne (4 wyin, vyn, 4–5 wijn(e, 4, 6 *Sc.* vyne, 5 wynne, wyen(e, wyyn(e, wiyn, whyne, whyene, 6 *Sc.* wynn, vine), 4– wine. [OE. *wín* = OFris., OS., MLG., MDu. *wîn* (Du. *wijn*), OHG., MHG. *wîn* (G. *wein*), ON. *vín* (Sw., Da. *vin*), Goth. *wein* :— OTeut. **wînom*, n. L. *vīnum*, the source also of the Balto-Slavic (OSl. *vino*, Lith. *vynas*) and Celtic words (Ir. *fín*, W. *gwin*).

L. *vīnum* is primitively related to Gr. *fοῖνος*, *οἶνος* wine, *οἰνη* vine, wine, Alb. *vine*, Arm. *gini*, which according to some scholars are all derived from a common Mediterranean source, while according to others prim. Arm. **wainiye* (Arm. *gini*) is the immediate origin of the Gr., Lat., and Alb. words; the nature of the connexion of the Indo-Eur. words with the Semitic (Arab., Ethiopic *wain*, Hebrew *yayin*, Assyrian *inu*) is disputed.]

1. The fermented juice of the grape used as a beverage.

It is essentially a dilute solution of alcohol, on the proportion of which in its composition depend its stimulating and intoxicating properties. Wines are classed as red or white, dry or sweet, still or sparkling.

Beowulf 1162 Byrelas sealdon win of wunderfatum. 893–31 in *Sweet O. E. Texts* 444 Selle mon .. mittan fulne hunigses oööe tuegen uuines. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 165 Ne drincþ he win ne ealu. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1012 Wæron hi eac swyðe druncene, forþam þær was gebroht win suðan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 He awende water to uine. *c* 1205 LAY. 24299 Ane guldene bolle i-oulled mid wine. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 180 How þat haly drightin Turned watur in to vyn. *Ibid.* 12679 He dranc neuer cisse ne wine, Ne wered neuer cloth o line. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 211 Other ich am of wine dronke, Other the firmament is i-sonke. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3250 þan asked þei þe win & went to bedde after. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 13 Dilicious ale and spiaid and heiȝe wynes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 334 Wel loued he by the morwe a sope in wyn. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi. 339 But man contrarious answereth, The wyne is over myghty, it is not good. *c* 1450 *Myrr* II. 422 The cite faste did encrese of bredde and wyn, fisshe and flesshe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii[i]. 15 Wyne to make glad ye herte of man. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 148 Old Cheese wyl become new in taste, yf you lay them in Time, Vineger, or in Wine. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 502 The Sons Of Belial, flown with insolence and wine. *a* 1718 PENN *Epitaph* 29 Their Beer was strong; Their Wine was Port. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 263 When wine has giv'n indecent language birth. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* viii, 'It wasn't the wine,' murmured Mr. Snodgrass,..'It was the salmon'. (Somehow or other, it never *is* the wine, in these cases.)

b. As one of the elements in the Eucharist.

c 1205 in Wright *Biogr. Brit. Lit., A.-S. Period* (1842) 498 Se Drihten...cwæþ ÿ se hlaf wære his agen lichama, & ÿ win wære witodlice his blod. *c* 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 528/22 *Infertum vinum,* messewin. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 51 Notieð ðat ȝe isiæð bread and win wiðuten, and on ȝeure þanke iliueð ðat ȝe naht ne ȝe-seð. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxiii. 37 So dede crist..By holy ordynaunce taught vs to lere, Halwe bred and wyn. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 251 In þe chalys ys but wyn & water. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 23 He to fynde the brede and wyne. 1552, 1886 [see BREAD *sb.* 2 d]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 17 His blude to drink, in forme of wyne. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxxix. 92 They consecrate wt leuened bread and with wine made of raisons. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 377 The Saviour's feast, his own blest bread and wine.

c. With qualifying word denoting colour, place of origin, etc., as ALICANT *wine,* CLARET *wine,* PORT-WINE, *red wine* (RED *a.* 16), SHERRY *wine,* WHITE WINE, *wine sack* (SACK *sb.*[3]).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4678 Wines, quite and red. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 35 Take Datys, an do a-way þe stonys, & sethe in swete Wyne. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* 53 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II 160 Wyne bastarde. 1623 MARKHAM *Engl. Housew.* I. 148 The Wines of the nie countries, and which is called Hie-country wine, are made some thirtie or fortie miles beyond Burdeaux. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 78 Rest Malvasy, Muscadine and Leaticke wines. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. viii. 22 The lees of Coan wine.

d. Regarded as the usual accompaniment of dessert; see also quot. 1843.

1824, 1833 [see WALNUT 1 b]. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. vi, Madge appeared with the final refreshment called 'the Wines', consisting of spiced hippocras and confections. 1859 M. THOMSON *Story of Casanova* IX. 151 In their wine-and-walnut arguments.

e. *fig.* or in fig. context.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21294 Þe stile o matheu, water it was, And win þe letter o lucas. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 154 Allegyng .. the dignytees of theyr oyle & wyne of contemplacyon. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXIX. L. ii, I like a smoked bottle am become, And yet the wine of thy commandments hold. 1609 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. iii. 100 The Wine of Life is drawne, and the meere Lees Is left this Vault, to brag of. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. Introd. 181 The wine of life is on the lees. 1823 BYRON *Island* I. iii, Unless he drain the wine of passion—rage. 1825 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) I. xvi. 271 Literature is the *wine* of life. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* I. Prel. 19 Cheered by the keen wine of that dry and bracing frost. 1873 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1899) I. 94 The look of his face was a wine to me.

f. Phrases.

† *To drink wine ape* (cf. F. *avoir vin de singe*), to be merry in one's cups. † *Wine of height*: 'a former perquisite of seamen on getting safely through a particular navigation' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). *Wine of honour* (= F. *vin d'honneur*): wine presented by municipal officers to great personages on their entry into a town. *In wine* (see In *prep.* 10 b; cf. F. *dans le vin*): in a state of intoxication with wine; in one's cups. † *To give wine*: to draw blood (cf. CLARET *sb.*[2] 2). *To take wine*: to drink wine *with* another person in a ceremonial manner, esp. as a token of friendship or regard.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's Prol.* 44 Me thynketh ye been wel ystaxe. I trowe that ye dronken han wyn Ape. 1518 *Sel. Pl. Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 134 He seyd vyolently on to hym I shall gyve the a quart of Wyne. 1594 in *Capt. J. Smith's Virginia* (Arb.) 633 The Pilots..demanded of the Captaine their Wine of hight as out of all danger. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 73, I am falser then vowes made in wine. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4276/3 The Magistrates waited on his Grace..and presented him with what they call the Wine of Honour. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 190, I am not sure..whether I should not have Reason to wish you were brought home in Wine, rather than to come home so sober..as you do. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'Glass of wine, sir?' 'With pleasure,' said Mr. Pickwick; and the stranger took wine, first with him,..and then with the whole party together. 1846 EMERSON *Engl. Traits, Relig.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 102 If a Bishop meets an intelligent gentleman, and sends fatal interrogations in his eyes, he has no resource but to take wine with him. 1904 SIR A. GEIKIE *Scott. Reminis.* xi. 318 One still meets with old-fashioned gentlemen, especially at public dinners, who 'take wine with you'.

(*b*) Proverbs and proverbial phrases.

New wine in old bottles (see Matt. ix. 17). *To look on the wine when it is red* (see Prov. xxiii. 31). *Good wine needs*

so (*hyphen*) (see also Bush *sb.*[1] 5 c, Ivy-bush). *When wine is in, wit* (or *truth*) *is out. Wine and women* (Ecclus. xix. heading, A. V.).

1420–22 Lydg. *Thebes* 1732 Wyn and wymmen ben ek set a-syde. *a* 1532 *Rem. Love* xxxvii. Chaucer's Wks. 367/1 Wyne and women in to apostasy Cause wyse men to fal. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xxiii. 31 Loke not thou vpon the wyne, how reed it is. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 23 Ye praise the wyne, before ye tast of the grape. 1616 T. Windham *Commend. Poem* in J. Lane *Contin. Sqr.'s T.* 7 The ivie needes not, wheare theare is good wine. 1626 Deaxe *Bibl. Scholast.* 235 When the wine is in, the wit is out. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* i. ii. iii. xiii. 160 Those two maine plagues and common dotages of humane kind, Wine & Women. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* ii. i, Women and Wine should Life employ. 1735 B. Franklin *Poor Richard* (1890) 241 When the Wine enters, out goes the Truth. 1819 Byron *Juan* ii. clxxviii, Let us have wine and women, mirth and laughter, Sermons and soda-water the day after. 1852 Thackeray *Philip* vii, As Doctor Luther sang, Who loves not wine, woman, and song, He is a fool his whole life long.

g. In collocation with other words, as *wine and water* (hence *wine-and-watery* adj.), *wine(s) and spirit(s)* (also attrib.), *cake and wine*; see also d.

1819 Byron *Juan* ii. lvii, The same cause..Left him so drunk, he jump'd into the wave,..And so he found a wine-and-watery grave. 1828 *Wine & Spirit Adulterators Unmasked* 12 The spurious Brandy, which generally comprises the stock of the Advertising Wine and Spirit Merchant. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 467/1 Wine and Spirit Trade. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 111 Able to produce the cake and wine of hospitality.

2. In wider use, usually with qualifying word: A fermented liquor made from the juice of other fruits, or from grain, flowers, the sap of various trees (e.g. birch and palm), etc.: sometimes called *made wine* (Made *ppl. a.* 3).

The wine of the country (= F. *le vin de pays*): properly, the wine made in a particular locality for local consumption; usually *transf.* the alcoholic beverage most drunk in a particular country, or regarded as peculiar to it.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxxvii. (Add. MS. 27944), Wyne ymade is ymade by crafte of good spicery & herbes. And it fareþ of þe wyn þat hatte Salinacum & of þe wyn[e] respyse, ... 7. 1694 Worlidge *Two Treatises* 102 Peaches also and Apricocks, by some are made to yield pleasant Wines. 1710 in *Swift's Lett.* (1767) III. 29, I spent the evening with Wortley Mountague and Mr. Addison, over a bottle of Irish wine. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 328 That detestable Catalogue of counterfeit Wines, which derive their Names from the Fruits, Herbs or Trees of whose Juices they are chiefly compounded. 1746 Warton *Progr. Discontent* 84 And tho' she boasts no charms divine, Yet she can carve and make birch wine. 1750 (*title*) Οἶνος Κριθινος, a Dissertation concerning the Origin and Antiquity of Barley Wine. 1803 J. Burney *Discov. S. Sea* i. iii. 88 The wine of rice. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 561 The gooseberry...Wines and brandies are made from the green fruit. 1888 Churchward *Blackbirding* 102 What they called the wine of the country—square gin.

3. *Pharmacy.* A solution of a medicinal substance (denoted by a qualifying word) in wine; a medicated wine.

1652, 1900 [see Steel *sb.*[1] 12]. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* II. s.v. *Wine, Chalybeate, or Steel Wine*, is prepared of steel filings. 1821 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1825) 655 The solutions thus formed have been denominated Medicated Wines. *Ibid.* 656 Wine of Ipecacuanha. 1866 Aitken *Pract. Med.* II. 51 The wine of the root of colchicum.

4. A wine-party, esp. of undergraduates.

1860 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* I. viii. 130 When I go out to a wine I always bring my own straws. 1862 Kingsley *Alton Locke* xiii. (new ed.) 123 The interval being taken up ..in 'wines', and an hour of billiards. 1885 M. Pattison *Mem.* 144 Oh the icy coldness, the dreary Egyptian blankness of that 'wine'.

5. *Spirit(s) of wine*, alcohol, rectified spirit; *oil of wine*, œnanthic ester; also, a heavy oily liquid (*heavy oil of wine*) consisting of etherin, etherol, and ethyl sulphate, called also *ethereal oil*. See also Low-wines.

[Cf. quot. 1626 s.v. Roscid *a.*] 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iii. xxi. 161 An evaporation of spirits of wine and Camphir. *a* 1648 Digby *Chym. Secr.* (1682) 172 An excellent Spirit of Wine, fit to draw Tinctures. 1741 *Compleat Fam.-Piece* i. iv. 246 Pour on it a Pint of the ordinary Spirit of Wine, that of twelve-pence a Quart. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 411 A peculiar kind of oil known ... 507 *Heavy oil of wine*,..according to Liebig, an ethyl-sulphate of etherol.

6. *pl.* Short for: Wine-glasses.

1848 Thackeray *Little Dinner at Timmins's* iii, It was calculated that..a dozen or so tumblers, four or five dozen wines, eight water-bottles..were requisite.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib. (*a*) Of, made of or with, wine, as *wine alcohol, -draff, -drast, -dregs, -harvest* (also attrib.), *-marc, -mother, -must, -offering, -posset, -sauce*, †*-shench* (also attrib.), *-sillabub, -stain*.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) ciii. 14 [civ. 15] Heortan manna must and windrinc myclum blissað. *c* 1205 Lay. 3589 Heo iward reode on hire bencche, swiche hit were of wine scenche. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 186 Þanne schulen be dissolued wijndrastis brent. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iii. 160 Wyndraf is good also commyxt with donge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wyne dreggys, or lye. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Grappage*, grape-gathering, wyne haruest. *Ibid.*, *Vendangeur*, a Wine-haruest man. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 21 b/1 The wine mother or dregge. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiii. i. II. 147 As many as have been among wine-Mare. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xii. 21 With large Wine-offerings pour'd. 1702 S. Sewall *Diary* 2 June (1879) II. 56 Treated them with bread, Beer, wine Sillibub. 1794–6 E. Darwin *Zoon.* (1801) IV. 404 He gradually takes more custard every day,..and takes wine syllabub. 1800–12 Maria Edgeworth *Absentee* vi, The wine-sauce for the hare was spilt by their collision. 1828 Dr. Sussex in Lady Morgan *Autobiogr.* (1859) 19 You did not expect me to have stayed for the wine-posset? 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlviii, Wine-stains, fruit-stains, beer-stains. 1843 Ure *Dict. Arts* I. 155 The fermentation of wine-must. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) i. § 2. 29 Wood spirit and fousel oil.. are termed homologues of wine alcohol.

(*b*) Of, for, or connected with the production, sale, storing, or use of wine, as *wine-barrel, -bin, -bottle, -bowl, -butt, -can, -cask, -country, -cup* (also fig.), *-decanter, -flask, -horn* (OE.), *-jar, -land, -merchant, -office, -pipe, -shop, -store, -tavern* (hence †*-taverner*), *-trade, -trough, -tun, -vessel*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 33 Monn..sette setteðe sone wingeard..& dalf in ðær win-trog. *c* 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* vi, Ʒif hwa on þam winlandum..win wylle fyrgan. *c* 1000 in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 354 Ne he ne drince æt wintunnum. *c* 1205 Lay. 30677 He hafde on his uore wintunnen inoȝe. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2673 Sextene fot a was a linge; His bodi ase a wintonne. 1382 Wyclif *Josh.* ix. 4 Rent wyn botels. — *Job* xxxii. 19 Must..that breketh newe litle win veselys. 1401 *Close Roll 2 Hen. IV*, ii. m. 10 *dorso* (P. R. O.) Thomas Nightgale wyntaverner. *c* 1449 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 223 The Water-Bowge and the Wyne-Botelle. 1530 Palsgr. 178, I Broche a wyne vessell. 1535 Coverdale *Hos.* iii. 1 They..loue the wyne kannes. 1538 Elyot, *Oenopolium*, a wyne tauerne. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Vn verdun*, a wine troughe. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 41 b/1 Ashes which are burned of the inveterate sydes of a wyne pipe. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Shilling* B 6, From thence vnto the Wine-Marchant I went. 1635 Heywood *Philocoth.* 46 Flagons, Tankards, Beere-cups, Wine-bowles. 1636 Bulkeley *Gospel Covt.* iv. 306 The heart..having beene as a Wine-vessell, which hath had no vent. 1684 *Invent.* in *Archaeol. Cambr., Orig. Doc.* (1877) 9 In the Sellar..two wine casks. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1723) I. 81 That multitude of Wine-Merchants, Vintners, Coopers. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 340/1 Portugal, and other Wine-Countries. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 351 The freemen..have the privilege of retailing wine without a licence from the Wine-office. 1780 T. Davies *Mem. Garrick* ii. (1781) 16 He engaged for some time in the wine trade. *a* 1800 *Fair Annie* xxvii. in Child *Ballads* (1885) iii. 70/2 Has your wine barrels cast the girds? 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxiv, Thou..hast partaken of the wine-cup of fury. 1821 — *Kenilw.* xviii, He..took another long pull at the wine flask. 1825 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 345 The 'Squire had many wine-decanters. 1833 Moore *Mem.* (1853) I. 2 My father kept a small wine store in Johnson's Court. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* i. v. v, Fat are your larders; over-generous your wine-bins. *Ibid.* ii. vi. viii, Wine-bottles were broken, wine-butts were staved in and drunk. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lv, A troubled vision..of wine-shops, water-carriers, great crowds of people. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* v, Pickle bottles, wine bottles, ink bottles. 1855 Kingsley *Heroes, Argon.* vi. 189 Heracles opened the fatal wine-jar. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. v. 319 Wine-barrels would burst if the bung were not sometimes opened to give them air. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1142 Hérault is the most important wine country in the south of France.

(*c*) With reference to the colour of wine, as *wine colour* sb., and predicatively as adj., *tint*; *wine-black, -bright, -coloured, -red* adjs., *-yellow* (after G. *weingelb*) adj., also as sb.; *wine-tint* vb.

1805 T. Weaver *Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 57 Wine-yellow is a pale reddish-yellow colour. 1831 Brewster *Optics* xliii. 369 All achromatic telescopes..exhibit the secondary colours, viz. the wine-coloured and the green fringes. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 402 The wine-red substance which remains in solution in the carbonate of ammonia. 1842 Johnston in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 10. 36 The foot of the snail is a wine-yellow. 1855 Milman *Lat. Christ.* xiv. x. VI. 606 In the East, the Christ is..of delicate complexion, dark beard (it is sometimes called wine-coloured beard). 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) vii. 621 A wine-red amorphous precipitate. 1863 T. W. Higginson *Army Life* (1870) 57 He is jet-black, or rather, I should say, wine-black. 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 114 His wine-bright waves. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 644/2 *Cairngorm*,..a wine-yellow or brown variety of rock-crystal. 1893 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 2/3 Wine tints. 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* iii, A glaring fire wine-tinted the waters of the river. 1902 R. W. Chambers *Maids Parad.* xxii. 381 The twigs on the peach-trees had turned wine-colour.

b. Objective, as *wine-bottler, conner*, †*-crier, -lover, -maker, -seller, -spiller*, †*-sucker*, †*-supper*, †*-tapper*, †*-tunner, -vendor, -worshipper*; *wine-drinking, -producing, -selling, -swilling, -yielding*, vbl. sbs. and ppl. adjs.; also *wine-like* adj.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 19 Her ys ettul mann & windrincende. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 2652 (Napier 72/1) *Cauponibus*, i. *negotiatoribus*, wintæpperum. 1382 Wyclif *2 Kings* xxv. 12 Wyne makers, and erthtiliers. 1398 Wyne drinkinge [see Untemperately *adv.*]. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 697/20 *Hic vinitor*, a wynmaker. *c* 1489 Caxton *Dialogues* 35/23 Frederik the wyn criar. 1535 Coverdale *Joel* i. 5 Mourne all ye wyne suppers, because of youre swete wyne. 1550 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 76 Wyne selling, or ony vther merchandice. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Vendimiador*, a wine maker. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 192 The successors of those Vintners and wine Drawers..were all incorporated by the name of wine tunners, in the 15. of Henry the sixt. 1601 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* III. 329 A wine-like iuyce. 1602 *Meeting of Gallants at Ordinarie* C 2 b, That strange Wine-sucker. 1607 G. Wilkins *Miseries Enforced Marr.* iii. D 4, Scape-trencher,..Wine-spiller. 1611 [see ... 1]. 1620 *Janua ... Stigmatica* 313 These wine-t... ppers will be at it on their knees. 1678 Worlidge *Vinetum Brit.* 42 Wine-yielding-fruits. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* I. 267 My..aunt Hervey had..given us to apprehend much disagreeable evil..from a wine-lover. 1819 Scott *Talism.* xxi, Ye beef-devouring, wine-swilling English mastiffs. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* x. vii, An honest wine-vender. 1855 Pusey *Doctr. Real Presence* Note S. 473 Some consecrated virgins pleaded for their wine-drinking that it was the element used in the Sacrament. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1136 The great wine-producing district of Burgundy. 1895 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 506 As early as 1141 we hear of the wine criers..being an organised body in France. 1900 J. Hutchinson *Archives Surg.* XI. 206 A robust-looking man, by occupation a wine-bottler.

c. Instrumental, as *wine-crowned, -drabbled, -driven*, †*-heat, -heated, -inspired, -shaken, -stuffed*; also *wine-hardy, -red, -wise* adjs.

a 1000 *Judith* 71 Wearð winsade. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Idele lehtres and winrede bruwes [at drinche]. *c* 1563 *Jack Juggler* (facs.) C 4, Wine shakin pilorye peepours. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii. ii. i. *Ark* 337 His wine-stuft stomack wrung with wind he feels. 1611 J. Davies *Commend. Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 15/1 Their wine-driv'n brains, involv'd in follie's cloud. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* i. i, The Gentleman is Wine-wise. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* iii. 200 Their wine-heat blood. *Ibid.* xviii. 481 For feare can get no state in your wine-hardy stomacke. 1677 Mrs. Behn *Rover* ii. i, The Wine Inspir'd Bullies of the Town. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, The playful exuberance of their wine-inspired fancies. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* i. Introd., Such a wine-drabbled divinity. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 1200 Wine-heated from the feast. 1867 Morris *Jason* v. 217 A wine-crowned golden cup.

8. Special combs.: **wine apple** [cf. G. *wein-apfel*, Du. *wijnappel*], a large red apple with a winy flavour; †**wine ball** = *wine-stone*; †**wine-belly** *a.*, with a belly full of wine; **wine-biscuit**, a small light biscuit served with wine; †**wine-brewer** (see quot.); †**wine-bush** = Bush *sb.*[1] 5; **wine-cake**, a cake of which wine was an ingredient; **wine-card** [= G. *weinkarte*], a list of the wines that may be obtained at a restaurant; **wine-cart**, a cart in which wine is conveyed, esp. for sale; **wine-cave**, a cave in which wine is kept to mature; **wine-cooler**, a vessel in which bottles of wine can be immersed in ice or iced liquid; also *fig.*; **wine-cooper** = Cooper *sb.*[1] 2; **wine-crust** (see Crust *sb.* 5 b); **wine-dark** *a.*, of the colour of deep-red wine; used esp. to render Gr. οἰνοψ as an epithet of the sea; †**wine-drawer**, (*a*) a carrier or seller of wine; (*b*) one who draws wine from the cask for customers; **wine-farmer**, a vine-grower; **wine-fly**, any fly (as of the genus *Piophila*), the larva of which lives in wine or other fermented liquor; **wine-gallon**, the standard gallon by which wine is measured (see quot. 1706); †**wine garland**, a tavern sign in the form of a garland or bush of ivy; †**wine-gnat**, app. = *wine-fly*; **wine-god**, a or the god of wine, esp. Bacchus, Dionysus; **wine-grower**, one who cultivates vines for the production of wine; so **wine-growing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; †**wine-knight**, one who drinks valiantly; **wine label**, a label hung round the neck of a decanter to indicate what wine it holds; †**wine law** [Law *sb.*[2]; cf. Lawing *sb.*], payment for one's share of wine; **wine-measure**, the standard of liquid measure used for wine; **wine-palm**, any palm from which palm-wine is obtained; **wine-party**, a party, esp. of undergraduates, the chief object of which is to drink wine; **wine-piercer** (see quot.); **wine-pint, -quart** (cf. *wine-gallon*); **wine-porter**, one whose business it is to carry wine, esp. to deposit it in cellars; **wine-roping**, the development of ropiness in wine; †**wine-sack**, a sack used for straining wine; **wine-sap**, a large red American winter apple; **wine-shades** (see Shade *sb.* 10); **wine-shed**, the 'shedding' or pouring out of wine (a facetious formation after *bloodshed*); **wine-skin**, a wine-vessel made of an animal's skin; *fig.* one who 'fills his skin' with wine, a tippler; **wine-sop**, † (*a*) a sop in wine; † (*b*) and (*c*) = Sops-in-wine 1, 2; (*d*) *winesop black*, a salmon fly; **winesour**, a small acid variety of plum; **wine-spirit**, spirit of wine; †**wine-sprung** *a.*, intoxicated; **wine-stone**, the deposit of crude tartar or argol found in wine-casks (cf. G. *weinstein*); **wine-taster**, (*a*) one who judges the quality of wine by tasting; (*b*) an instrument for drawing a small sample of wine from a cask; **wine-vault(s**, (*a*) a vault in which wine is stored (Vault *sb.* 2 b); (*b*) a pretentious name for a public-house; **wine-vinegar** (cf. G. *weinessig*), vinegar made from wine, as opposed to *malt vinegar*; **wine-wagon**, (*a*) = *wine-cart*; (*b*) a carriage on which bottles of wine are brought into a room; **wine-warrant**, a warrant authorizing the delivery of wine from bond; †**wine-washing** *a.*, 'washing' or swilling as wine; **wine-whey**, whey made by curdling milk with wine (see Whey *sb.* 1 b).

1802 G. V. Sampson *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 238

*Wine-apple from its dark red colour. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/2 *Wyyne ballys.., *pilatorie, vel pile tartarice.* 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grisill* 1960 Dost thou not see our *wine-bellie drunkards reele? 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* II. 100 A tray of *wine-biscuits and a fragrant Ohio cheese. 1709 *Tatler* No. 131 P1 A..fraternity of chymical operators, who..can..draw Champagne from an Apple... These adepts are known among one another by the name of *Wine-Brewers. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* D d viij, The Posts *wine-bush, which they use to prate on. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 95 Why loose thy feast and *wine-cakes [orig. *mustacea*], when thy friends Half-cloy'd depart? 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristophanes* I. 58 The *wine-cake [οἰνόπιτα], honey, figs, whate'er 'tis right For Mercury to eat. 1881 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* II, Whenever I took up a *wine-card or a pencil, these articles were snatched out of my fingers. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* I. 25 A *wine cart, or rather waggon. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 20 Mar. 4/6 Wine-carts used to go round the streets of Edinburgh dispensing the 'lairds' drink' to jug-customers. 1845 DODD *Brit. Manuf.* 82 The *wine-caves of Epernay. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xiii, Dominie, take the key of the *wine-cooler,..the gentleman will surely take something. 1828 LYTTON *Disowned* xl, Borodaille's looks are the best wine coolers in the world. 1635 *Canterbury Marr. Licences* Ser. II. (1894) 1079/1 Edward Oricocke of the city of London, *wine-cooper. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 328 Brewing poisonous liquors in a wine-cooper's vaults. 1837 [see COOPER *sb.*1 3]. 1872 SYMONDS *Dante* 213 Mildew is now where the *wine-crust used to be. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vi, The *wine-dark depths of the crystal. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Sir Jasper's T.* XXVI, The.. Marquise, in her wine-dark violet dress. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 7 Sailing over the wine-dark sea. 1415 *York Myst.* Introd. p. XXVI, *Wyndrawers. 1468 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 322 Of Reynold the wynedrawer vij. pipz. 1536 *Rem. Sedition* 18 b, If a tapster or a wyne drawer recken a peny or two more than his duetie. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 1690/2 He desired the wine drawer that he might haue a pinte of malmesy & a loafe. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* lx. 220 The Commonalty, such as Wine-Drawers, Fishermen, and such like. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 233 The greatest *wine-farmer in all Champagne. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 5/1 The very wine-farmers appear to have agreed to drop..their agitation for the repeal of the Excise. 1583 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 73/1 *Ephemera,.. a day flie, living not aboue a dayes space, or *wineflies. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theatr. Ins.* 949 The Fly *Bibio ..called..in the English, Wine Fly. 1783 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Wine, Wine-Fly*, .. a small black fly, found in empty Wine-casks, and about Wine-lees. 1697 PARTRIDGE *Double Scale Prop.* (1671) 68 So many *Wine-gallons are in that vessel. 1706 *Act 6 Anne* c. 27 § 22 Any round Vessel ..having an even Bottom and being Seven Inches Diameter throughout and Six Inches deep from the Top of the Inside to the Bottom or any Vessel containing Two hundred thirty one cubical Inches and no more shall be deemed..to be a lawful Wine Gallon. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poys. Sh.* Wks. 1118/1 Likening them to *wine garlandes and ale poles. ---] CHARLETON *Onomast.* 43 *Vinacei (quia ex vini faecibus gigni creduntur)* *Wine-gnats. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 31 Agray, a City first built by *Wine-god Bacchus. 1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Fest.* III. 759 The Wine-God laughs. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* iv. (1892) 67 You shall not take the Winegod on board to entertain him as a simple passenger. 1849 *Habits of Gd. Society* xi. 311 A famous *wine-grower at Epernay. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virg., Georg.* II. 89 The different kinds now cultivated in *wine-growing countries. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. XX. I. 105 Our *wine-knights [Fr. *yurongnes*] when they purpose to sit square at the taverne and carouse lustily, if they drinke Saffron, never feare surfeit. 1848 H. R. FOSTER *Stowe Catal.* 113 Seven *wine-labels. *c* 1488 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 173 For your *wyene lawgh at tabull iiij^{s} iiij^{d}. 1728–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Measure*, That eight pounds troy of wheat, gathered from the middle of the ear, and well dried, should weigh a gallon of *wine measure. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* (1773) I. 313/2, 80 English quarts, wine measure. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. I. i. 184 The Country-People tap the *Wine-Palm about two feet above the ground. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, Leaves (as in the wine-palm) like Venus's hair fern. 1829 *Gownsman* 10 Dec. 37 *Wine party*, a meeting of individuals of an unlimited number, for the purpose of conversation, in which the topics are invariably the same, *viz.* the ladies, wine, proctors, and examinations. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, An Oxford undergraduate's room, set out for a wine-party. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Glos., *Wine-Pierser*, an instrument to tap, or bore, holes in wine-casks. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 220 One drop of tincture of galls gave a rosy purple colour to a *wine-pint of this water. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Avallage*, *wine porters wages when they do lay wine into the seller. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling* B 4 b, When in the Celler it is laid, The Carmen, and Wine-Porters must be paid. 1669 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* 261 [In the Royal Household] Wine-Porters, 8. 1832 *Lincoln Herald* 1 July 1/6 Mr. Hunt presented a petition from the wine-porters of Dublin, praying for the repeal of the union. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 9, 30 *Wine Quarts, each of them containing near two pound..of water. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) VII. 684/1 A Paris pint is 48 cubical Paris inches, and is nearly equal to an English wine-quart. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726), *Wine-Roping*; To alter this take a coarse Linen-Cloth [etc.]. 1624 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* I. vii. 38 The *Winesacke, through which wine is so drained from the dregges. 1826 *Lond. Hort. Soc. Catal. Fruits* 131 [Apples] *Wine-Sap, American. 1892 AMÉLIE RIVES *Barbara Daring* XXV, Great crackling bites from a crisp, wine-sap apple. 1879 T. H. S. ESCOTT *England* I. 161 *Wine-shades, bodegas, and saloons. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* II. 8 Aug., She is become a toast .., and has already been the occasion of much *wine shed. 1812 BYRON *Harold* II. xii. *note*, We had such inkshed, and wine-shed, which almost ended in bloodshed! 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxix, This fellow can appear before him drunk as a *wineskin, and yet meet no rebuke. 1823 — *Talism.* xi, You have been dining with the Teutonic wineskin. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xlviii, That persons who have been converting their 'solid flesh' into wine skins, cannot stick so close to one another as when they are sober. 1882 *N. T.* (R.V.) Mark ii. 22 No man putteth new wine into old wine-skins. 24.. *Mem.* in Wr.-Wülcker 740/3 *Hec vitta*, a *wynesope. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91 With chuffe chaffe wynesopes lyke a gourd bourrachoe replenished. 1586 W. WARNER *English Poetrie* I iv, Let vs haue the Wynesope, With the Carnation. 1826 *Lond. Hort. Soc. Catal. Fruits* 131 [Apples] Wine-Sop, Winter. 1880 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* xii. (ed. 5) 450 The Winesop Black.—Mr. Ramsbottom says this is 'a real old Ribble favourite'. 1836 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 423 Several sorts of plums found wild,..such as the bullace, damson, muscle, and *winesour. 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* I. 320 Compôtes of wine-sours. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Wine*, The phrase *Wine-spirit* is used to express a very clean and fine spirit, of the ordinary proof strength, and made in England from Wines of foreign growth. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 25 Mar. 3/3 Pure wine spirit brandies. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* vii, Shall I, to please another's *wine-sprung minde, Lose all mine own? 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. x. § 2. 113 Who when he is wine-sprung thinks (as they say he can skip over the Moone). 1526 *Great Herbal* (1529) Table, *Tartarus*, wyne lyes or *wyne stone. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1305. 1632 SHERWOOD, A *Winetaster, or Wine-broker (for Marchants). 1679 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 12) 238 Mr. Henry Potkins, Wine-Taster. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* P 19 Johnson..was as ill qualified to judge between two Latin styles as a habitual drunkard to set up for a wine-taster. 1838 LARDNER *Handbk. Nat. Phil.* 193 Wine taster.—When it is desired to draw a small sample of wine from a cask, a little instrument.. is used [etc.]. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Making a Night of it*, They went into a *wine-vaults, to get materials for assisting them in making a night. 1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 148 A wine-vault in the City. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 300 Toasts sowred in *wine vineger. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Vinegar*, Infuse this powder in the strongest wine-Vinegar. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 3 Genuine wine or raisin vinegar. 1837 *Wine waggon [see *wine-cart*]. 1848 H. R. FOSTER *Stowe Catal.* 112 A pair of double wine-wagons. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 660/2 We rattle past a wine-waggon. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xix, With *wine-warrants and orders for dozens of dressing-cases. 1592–6 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 136 These honest men..whose wisedome..gaue light to the Iury what power *wine-washing poysop had. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertue's Commw.* (1878) 141 This wine-washing licour giueth such..libertie to the tongue, as it rowleth vp and downe.

¶ In OE. there are several compounds of *win* in which the word is equivalent to 'vine' or 'grapes', as *winbēam* vine-pole, *winclyster* bunch of grapes, *winlēaf* vine-leaf, *wingeard* vineyard, WINYARD. From the 14th century onwards instances of *wine* = 'vine' occur in various texts in which *w* is not normally written for *v* (as in Scottish texts: see VINE *sb.* 1 b *β*).

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 847 3e telle vs þat 3e tende nauht to tulye þe arbe,..no plaunte winus. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3667 Gilden wynes with grapis of gracious stanes. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 114 Knychtis ar nouthir ordanyt to labour cornis, na grouve the wynis. *Ibid.*, A knycht aw nocht to by..wynis, croftis, na heretagis. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 308 In suche wise as the yonge wyne .. groweth in heighte. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 14 Round about Rome, there are neither Cornes, nor Wines, nor Villages.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (*a*) *wine-man*, a vine-dresser; (*b*) in reproduction of Ger. compounds, in Coverdale's version of the Bible, rendering Luther's language, as *wine-gardan, -gardener, gathering, harvest, kernel, stock*, after G. *weingarten, -gärtner, -ernte, -kern, -stock*; (*c*) in mod. use, *wineberg, wine-hill*, after G. *weinberg, -hügel* vineyard.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 239 Labouraris of the erde, as plewmen, harow men, wyne men. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 46/37 *Ysaac is vigneron*, Ysaac the wyneman. 1535 COVERDALE *Num.* vi. 4 From the wyne cornels vnto the hulle. — *2 Chron.* xxvi. 10 He had..wynegarderers on the mountaynes. — *Isa.* xxiv. 13 Like as when a man.. seketh after grapes, when the wyne gatheringe is out. — *Ezek.* xv. 2 What commeth of the vyne amonge all other trees? and of the wyne stocke, amonge all other tymbre of the groue? 1870 *Daily News* 7 Dec., The Tirailleurs.. scrambled up through the wineberys. 1885 tr. *Hehn's Wand. Plants & Anim.* 70 The Calydonian legend of the wine-man [orig. *Weinmann*] as given by Homer. 1906 *Academy* 6 Jan. 14/1 Matins, sung High in these wine-hills, wakened me.

†**Wine**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [OE. *wine* = OFris. *winne*, MLG. *wine*, OS., OHG. *wini* (MHG. *wine*, *win*), ON. *vinr*.] A friend. Also *attrib.* wine mai [OE. *winumǽg*], a kinsman.

Beowulf 30 Þenden wordum weold wine Scyldinga. *Ibid.* 65 Þa wæs Hroðgare heresped gyfen,..þæt him his winemagas georne hyrdon. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 975, Eadgar..West-Seaxena wine. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 223 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Werse he doð his gode wines þan his fiendes. *c* 1205 LAY. 17601 Her wit scullen wel wreken unker wine-mælen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 374 Eurilc luuen oðer, Also he were his broder, Wurðen stedefast his wine. [1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxix. (Arb.) 74 He hath nether kyn ne wyn ne frende that wylle enterprise to helpe hym.]

Wine (wəin), *v.* [f. WINE *sb.*1]

†1. *trans.* (*nonce-uses.*) a. with *out*, to spend in drinking wine.

c 1624 [see WENCH *v.*].

b. To furnish (a cellar) with wine.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. liv. (1890) 456 Tho' it be interdicted to wine the King's Cellar with it, in respect of the corrosiveness it carries with it.

2. *intr.* To take wine, esp. at an undergraduates' wine-party. *colloq.*

1829 C. WORDSWORTH *Ann.* (1891) 70 Dined with Twiston at Trin.; wined with Payne at Bal. 1873 *My First 'Wine'* 3 'Mr. Tomkins's compliments, and will you wine with him to-night?' Such were the words addressed to me by a scout in Hall. 1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xxviii, He had dined and wined, once or twice, in a not ignoble college.

3. *trans.* To entertain to wine: usually in the jingling phr. *dine and wine. colloq.*

1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 July 18/2 An esteemed friend ..who had just been admitted to the Bar..and..'wined' his friends on the night of his call. 1867 *Standard* 29 Apr., He has dined and wined everybody who has had anything to do with his success. 1908 *Times* 13 Oct. 4/3 He was motored and wined and dined t[he] the watchful cha[irman].

Wineberry (wai·nberi). Forms: 1 **winber(i)ge**, 3 **winberi**, *errон.* **wind-**, 6 **wynberry**. *β.* 6 **wyneber(r)y**, 7– **wineberry**. [OE. *winberige* = OS. *winberi*, OHG. *winberi* (MHG. *-ber(e*, G. *weinbeere*), ON. *vinber* (cf. Goth. *weinabasi*): see WINE *sb.*1, BERRY *sb.*1 MF. *winberi* normally represents the OE. word; *wineberry* is a new formation.]

†1. A grape. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 16 Cwyst þu, gaderað man winberian of þornum? *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 451/9 *Medus*, winberge te hunige awylled. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Of te druie sprintles berað winberien? *Ibid.* 296 Þet beoð þe erest prokunges þet sturieð þe wingeardes, he seið, ure Louerd, þet beoð ure soulen, þet mot muche tilunge to uorte beren windberien. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4468 Me-thoght i sagh a wintre,..O þis tre apon lik bogh Me-thoght hang winberis inogh. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 142 b, Smouth lyke a grape or wynberry.

β. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Esdras* ix. 21 A wynebery of the grapes. [1783 LEMON *Engl. Etymol.* Pref. p. vi. note, Our Saxon ancestors had Grapes; but, having no name for them, they were obliged to call them Wine-berries.]

attrib. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558/20 *Omficium*, i. winberi stones.

2. Applied formerly or now locally to various berries.

e. g. †The bilberry or whortleberry; *dial.* the currant, the gooseberry; *Austral.* (*a*) = TOOT *sb.*1, TUTU, (*b*) *Polyosma cunninghamii*; a raspberry of China and Japan, *Rubus phœnicolasius*.

14.. *True Thomas* in R. Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* (1806) II. 20 The darte, and also the damsyn tre. The fygge, and also the wynne bery. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Wyneberries is *Vaccinia*. 1618 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetha Soc.) 201 Wineberies ij^{s}. 1628 in Button *Hist. Scot.* lxvi. (1870) VI. 67 Gooseberries, Strawberries, ..and a kind of red wineberry. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), *Wineberries*,..not grapes, but gooseberries. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Wineberry...*Ribes rubrum*. —, New Zealand, a name given by the colonists to *Cortaria sarmentosa*. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 390 *Polyosma Cunninghamii*, Wineberry, and Feather-wood in Southern New South Wales. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Aug. 8/2, I have grown the Japanese wineberry for some years.

Wine-bibber (wəi·nbibəɹ). Also 6 **wyne bebber**. [f. WINE *sb.*1 + BIBBER *sb.* Invented by Coverdale to render Luther's *säufer, weinsäufer*.]

1. A tippler, a drunkard. Now *literary* and *arch.*

1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xxiii. 20 Kepe no company with wyne bebbers and ryotous eaters of flesh. — *Matt.* xi. 19. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* Proem. B 2 b, An honest red-nosed wine bibber. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Char. Jacobite Clergy* Wks. 1711 IV. 266 Look into their Conversation and you'll find them Wine-bibbers to the highest Excess. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 8 He commences wine-bibber at Fair and at Market. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xvi. (1824) 300 When the guzzlers, the gormandizers, and the wine-bibbers meet together. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. 1. 13 Wine-bibber, with the forehead of a dog And a deer's heart.

†2. A name for the African genet (*Genetta pardina*). *Obs.*

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* xiv. 232 The Negroes call it Berbe, and the Europeans Wine-bibber, because 'tis very greedy of Palm-Wine. 1771 PENNANT *Syn. Quadr.* 237.

So **Wine-bibbing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*; also **Wine-bibbery**, wine-bibbing.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Pet.* iv. 1–7 Nowe in stedde of outragious luste, chastitie is pleasaunte:..for wynnebybbyng, sobrietie. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* III. i, Wine-bibbing banquets. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertue's Commw.* (1878) 140 O what lamentable Tragedies is by this Vice acted among wine-bibbing companions. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* v, To..close your evening with wine-bibbing in public-houses and market-towns. 1832 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambros.* in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 398 The secret antiquities and private history of royal wine-bibbery. 1873 H. MORLEY *1st Sk. Engl. Lit.* II. 25 Wine-bibbing monks.

Wine-cellar. Also 6 *errон* **windseller**. [f. WINE *sb.*1 + CELLAR *sb.* Cf. MLG. *winkelder*, MHG. *winkaller*, ON. *vínkjallari*.] A cellar used for storing wine. Also *fig.*

1372 *Close Roll 45 Edw. III* m. 4 *dorso* (P.R.O.) Vnam magnam Cameram vocatam la Whit Chambre cum vno celario sub dicta camera vocata le Wyn celer. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 309 All the vittale, outakin salt,..In the vynesellar gert he bryng. 14.. *Pallad. on Husb.* (Bodl. MS.) lf. 1, Cisterne celar for oyles, wyne celar, and columbary. 1538 ELYOT, *Canabus*, a wyne sellar. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 11 b, I wyll shewe you..Pipes, Tonnels,.. when you come to the Brewhouse, and Windseller. 1647 T. CALVERT *Heart Salve* To Rdr., The soule..is led into the Winecellar of Goda promises. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* IV. 189 The council's wine-cellar is so spacious, that a coach and six may turn about in it. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1303 Wine-cellars ought to be dry at bottom.

Wined (wəind), *ppl. a.* [f. WINE *sb.*1 or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Mingled with wine; coloured or flavoured with wine.

1604 F. HERING *Mod. Defence* 24 Hee did [call] a cuppe of drinke mixed by his friend..wined water, and not watred wine. 1884 K. V. FRENCH *sp Cent. Drink* 288 Gin—spiced and wined.

2. That has taken wine, esp. in abundance.

1540 J. D. *Knave in Gr.* i. l. C 3 b, We'le pledge, we'le pledge: Victual'd and Win'd already. 1598 J. M[c]CABE *Lift Mod. Monastery* vi. 153 He invariably returned..well wined and nourished.

†Wine-drunk(en, *a. Obs.* [OE. *windruncen* = Du. *wijndronken* (Kilian), G. *weindrunken*, ON. *vindrukkinn.*] Drunk (with wine). Hence **†Winedrunkenness.**

a 1000 *Daniel* 753 Windruncen gewit. *c* 1205 LAY. 8126 Þa drihtliche gumen weoren win drunken. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 270 in *O. E. Misc.* 128 Ne wurþ þu neuer so wod ne so wyn-drunke þat euere segge þine wife alle þine wille. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 357 [Polemius] was wyndronke. *Ibid.* VI. 39 He hated wyn dronkenes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 19 That man mai wel noght longe stonde Which is wyndrunke of comun us. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/2 Wynne drunkon. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Thess.* v. 7 Those that are wynedrunken, are drunken in the night.

Wine-fat: see WINE-VAT.

Wine-glass. [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + GLASS *sb.*[1] Cf. (M)LG., MHG. *winglas*, (Du. *wijnglas*, G. *weinglas*), etc.] A small drinking-glass for wine. Also = *wineglassful.*

Wine-glasses, which are characterized by having a stem and a foot, vary in shape (and, in some cases, in colour) according to the wine for which they are intended, and are distinguished as *champagne glass, claret glass, port glass*, etc.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4595/4 Wine and Water Tumblers, Beer and Wine Glasses with Covers. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. ii. 37, I am dealing these out to them by the wine-glass. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluch.* 331 We began with minute wine-glasses of raki, red wine, purple wine.

b. *attrib.* Resembling a wine-glass in shape. c. *Comb.*, as *wineglass-cooler, -shaped* adj.

1851 REDDING *Wines* (ed. 3) 370 Wine-glass coolers..should be laid on the table and the glasses reversed in them. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* i, A smooth piece of interval, with half a dozen good-sized wine-glass elms in it. 1907 M. C. F. MORRIS *Nunburnholme* 78 The..smaller bell, which was long and wineglass-shaped. 1908 *Essex Rev.* XVII. 6 An old-fashioned wine-glass pulpit, with reading-desk below.

Hence **Wi·neglassful,** the contents of a full wine-glass; the amount that a wine-glass will hold, usually reckoned as 2 fluid ounces.

1844 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* vii, My venerated instructor..took a wine-glassful of old rum..every day after his dinner. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 352 A wineglassful of spirits of turpentine.

Wine-grape. [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + GRAPE *sb.*[1]]

†1. A cluster or bunch of grapes. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3710 Des .xii. ðider hem hauen broȝt, ..An win-grape on an cuuel-staf.

2. A grape from which wine is made. *U. S.*

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 356/2 The fruit of several other species of vitis, natives of America, possess some merit as wine-grapes. 1843–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 149 He has traced the northern limit of the wine-grape, where the mean annual temperature is about 50°. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 212 What varieties are in highest repute as wine grapes?

Wi·ne-house. [OE. *winhûs* = MLG., MDu., MHG. *winhûs* (Du. *wijnhuis*, G. *weinhaus*), ON. *vinhús.*]

1. A public house where wine is drunk. Now chiefly *Hist.* or with particular local reference.

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* II. i, From him come I, to intreate you..to meet him this afternoon at the Rhenish-wine-house ith Stillyard. 1621 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 355 Our warehowse roome, dyninge roome, and wyne howse. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint., Agreement* 19 Thou [*sc.* the Bible] art the oyl and the wine-house. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Nov., Creed and Shepley and I to the Rhenish winehouse, and there I did give them two quarts of Wormwood wine, and so we broke up. 1809 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Wine-houses*, certain places of resort in the garrison of Gibraltar, from which the governor has been accustomed to derive a pecuniary profit. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 50 [In Spain] It is disgraceful to be seen entering a wine-house. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 5/3 The wine-house known as the White Hart in the Euston-road.

2. A house that deals in wine; a firm of wine-merchants.

1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, A clerk in a wine-house. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1140 No natural Sherry comes to this country; no wine house will send it.

Wi·ne-lees. [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + pl. of LEE *sb.*[2]] The sediment deposited in a vessel containing wine. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 60 Aischis of wiyn lies. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/2 Wyne lees.., *tartarum, vinacium.* 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 95/2 *Fex vini vsta*,..wine leese. 1642–4 VICARS *God in Mount* 40 The wine-lees of poysoning Popish fopperies. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 103 Their faces smeared over with wine-lees. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxi, The under-gardener dressed the muleteer's hat in hot wine-lees. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, One tall joker..scrawled upon a wall with his finger dipped in muddy wine lees—Blood.

attrib. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xviii. 202 A matter of a wine lees colour.

Wineless (wai·nlés), *a.* [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Lacking or destitute of wine.

1436 *Libel Engl. Pol.* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 183 What sedeth a garlande, whyche is made of ivye, Shew a tavern wynelesse, also cheyre I. 1892 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 5/6 Invitations to wineless dinners. 1910 *Expositor* Mar. 284 Altars at which only wineless offerings were made.

†2. Lacking the characteristic qualities of wine. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 684 A wineleese weake wine as one may say [*entre eleve*].

Wi·ne-pot. [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + POT *sb.*[1] Cf. ON. *vínpottr.*] A 'pot' or flagon for holding wine.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 619/29 *Vinifrum*, a wynpot. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 108 Why þer stondyth a wyne-potte and a lyly bytwyx our lady and Gabyrell at hur salutacyon. 1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 81 By the olde order it is vnlawfull to bryng winepots to the borde. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 835/1 *Epichysis*,..a wine pot or wine vessel. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* v, When the wine-pot.. hath brought thee on occasion into something of a scrape. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* I. 39 Rome..is..Merely a marvellous mass of broken and castaway wine-pots.

b. *attrib.*: **†wine-pot herb,** the foxglove.

1552 HULOET, Wyne pot herb, other do call it eare ladies gloues, *asdrabacca.*

Wi·ne-press. [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + PRESS *sb.*[1] II. Cf. MLG. *winperse*, MHG. *winpresse* (G. *weinpresse*).] A press in which the juice is extracted from the grapes in the manufacture of wine. Also *fig.*, esp. with ref. to Isa. lxiii. 3, Rev. xiv. 19, 20, xix. 15.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 33 [He] set a vyneyarde, and hedged it rounde about, and made a wynpresse in it. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob.* (Wodrow Soc.) 177 They haiff cast down the dyk, cutted the hedge, demolished the towre brokin the wyne-pres. 1621 DONNE *Ess. Div.* (1651) 24 To put him [*sc.* Moses] in a wine-presse, and squeeze out Philosophy and particular Christianitie, is a degree of that injustice, which all laws forbid. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 16 As a swarm of flies..About the wine-press where sweet moust is powr'd. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 425 P 3 The succeeding Month [*sc.* October] was all soiled with the Juice of Grapes, as if he had just come from the Wine-Press. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VII. 218 Drunk from the winepress of the Almighty's wrath. 1849 FROUDE *Nem. Faith* 107 He must tread the wine-press alone, calling no God-fearing man his friend. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1140 In the United States the wine-press is constructed much on the same principle as the ordinary screw cider-press. 1910 E. BARKER in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 524/2 [The Crusader] might butcher all day,..and then at nightfall kneel..at the altar of the Sepulchre—for was he not red from the winepress of the Lord?

Hence **†Wi·ne-presser.**

1632 SHERWOOD, A Wine-presser, *pressureur.*

Winer (wai·nəɹ). [f. WINE *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ER [1.]]

1. A vintner. ? *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 395/2 God thanke you maister winer for your good wyne. 1548 *Aberd. Reg.* XX. (Jam.) The winaris of the same gat. 1886 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 1 Dec. 1/9 You gather a few tons of grapes and cast them to a winer and are told that it is a bad year for selling grapes.

2. One who drinks wine. *colloq.*

1906 FURNIVALL in *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* (1906) I. 309 *marg.*, A winer is an unreasonable beast. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 2 Oct. 4/4 The diners and the winers of those spacious days of conviviality.

Winery (wai·nəɹi). orig. *U. S.* [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + -ERY.] An establishment for making wine.

1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 55/1 The road to the large substantial buildings of the winery was bordered by a deep orchard of oranges. 1885 *Advance* (Chicago) 8 Jan. 885 Wine grapes and wineries are on the rapid increase. 1912 *Times* 22 Apr. 24/4 As the result of this legislation the British wine-makers have not shut up their wineries.

Wi·ne-tree. *Obs.* or *dial.* [OE. *winstréow* = ON. *vínvið*, Goth. *weinatriu*: see WINE *sb.*[1] and TREE *sb.*] A vine.

Also a local name for blackthorn and mountain ash.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John XV. 5 Ic am þæt wintreo, gie ða tuiggo aint. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2059 Me drempte, ic stod at a win-tre, Þat adde waxen buȝes ðre. 13.. *Cursor M.* 7159 (Göttl.) Þair olyues wid þair wyn tres [*Cott.* vintres]. 1627 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to Lady Kilconquhair* 13 Sept. (1671) 151 A land of olives and wine-trees. 1857 WRIGHT *Dict. Prov. Eng., Wine-tree*, a vine. *Nerf.*

Wi·ne-vat, *arch.* **-fat.** [f. WINE *sb.*[1] + VAT, FAT *sb.*[1] Cf. (M)LG. *winfat*, MHG. *winvaz* (G. *weinfass*), ON. *vínfat*, etc.] A vat in which the grapes are pressed in wine-making; a wine-press.

1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xix. 15 He trode the wynefatt of fearnes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 39 The must, Which he was treading in the wine-fats see. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* V. i, You should ha' some would swell, now, like a wine-fat, With such an Autumne. 1611 *Bible* Mark xii. 1 A certaine man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the wine fat. *a* 1748 HOLDSWORTH *Rem. Virgil* (1768) 22 In this dance, he flung himself into different postures, as if he was gathering the bunches of grapes, ..flinging them into the wine-vat;..and drinking the must. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 214/2 The grapes are.. emptied into a tub with holes at the bottom...This tub is placed over another much larger, named the wine-vat. 1881 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Poems, Prodigal Son* iii, The purple wine-fat froths with foam.

Winey: see WINY.

Winezarde, obs. Sc. f. VINEYARD.

†Winful, *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. WIN *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Laborious.

1443–9 PECOCK *Donet* II. vi. (1921) 128 Al scrulle werk, þat is to sele, al worldly wynful werk.

†Winful, *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. WIN *sb.*[2] + -FUL.] Pleasant.

1438 *Bk. Alexander Gt.* (Bann.) 107 And burgeons of thare branchcis bredis, And woddis wlanis thare winfull wedis.

Wing (wiŋ), *sb.* Forms: *Plural.* α. 2 **wenge;** β. 3 **wengen, winguene, wynguene, whingen, hwingen,** 4 **wingen, wyngen, -yn, -on;** γ. 3–5 **wenges,** (3 *Orm.* **-ess**), 4 **weenges,** 4–5 **wengis,** 4, 6 **weyngis,** 5 **wengys, -es, weingis, wengges;** 4 **wyenges, wingges, whinges,** 4–6 **wyngis, -es,** 5 **-ys, whyngis, -ys,** 5–6 **whynges,** 5, 6–7 *Sc.* **wingis,** 6–7 **-es,** 6– **wings.** *Sing.* 4–5 **wenge,** 5 **weng, whenge, weynge,** 5–6 *Sc.* **weyng,** 6 *Sc.* **weing;** 4–6 **wynge,** 4–7 **winge,** 5–6 **wyng, whyng(e,** 6 **whing, wynke,** 6– **wing.** [ME., first

of *fe̊þer*, and *fe̊þere* (see FEATHER *sb.* 3).]

I. 1. Each of the organs of flight of any flying animal, as a bird, bat, or insect.

In birds the wings are specially modified fore-limbs; in bats (and the extinct pterodactyls, etc.), extensions of the skin attached to modified parts of the fore-limbs (see BAT *sb.*[1] 1); in insects, membranous expansions attached to the thorax in addition to the limbs. In a few birds the wings are rudimentary, and either functionless (as in the *Apterygx*) or used only to assist in swimming or walking (as in Penguins).

Occas. loosely applied to the enlarged fins of flying-fishes and to the appendages of flying squirrels, etc. which serve for movements resembling flight.

Bastard or *false wing* (Ornith.) = WINGLET 2 b.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 A vuhel com flon from houene into orðe; her he uette feþer-home and wenge. *c* 1205 LAY. 29063 Þat alle heore [*sc.* sparrows'] whingen noht awemmed neoren. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 Ase brid hwon hit wule vleon stureð his hwingen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 64/356 He ȝifhit eov..wynguene for-to fleo, And feþerene to beren eov up-on heiz. *Ibid.* 230/388 Þe drem of is winguene murie was. 13.. *K. Alis.* 485 Him thoughte a goshauk with gret flyght..ȝenith and sprad abrod his wyngyn. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 173 The Scharnebudes kinde, Of whos nature this I finde, That in the hoteste of the dai,..He sprat his wynge and up he fleth. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* 221 Þe Egle is frikest fowle in flye, Ouer all fowles to wawe hys wenge. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2196 The byrde ..bylle undyr wynge layede. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18521 Wonder hygh ther sate a krowe, His whynges splayynge to and fro. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wenge, of a fowle or bryde. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 7 On fute and weynge ascendand to the hycht. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 278 That all maner of fowls that hath hole fete sholde be reysed vnder the wynge, and not aboue. 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. LXXXI. 762 The fruite [of the maple tree] is long, flat, and thinne, almost lyke to a feather of a small birde, or lyke the whing of a grashopper. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 12 There are Fishes that have Wings. 1728, 1807 (see BAT *sb.*[1] 1). 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, The beautiful little blue butterfly with golden spots on his wings. 1867 W. S. DALLAS tr. *Nitzsch's Pterylogr.* 27 The false wing (*ala notha*) described by Möhring. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 304 The genus *Prionotus*..resembles *Dactylopterus* in general form, but the wings are much smaller. 1912 S. E. WHITE *Land of Footprints* xiv. 193 Spreading wide their wings at the last moment to check their speed.

b. The wing of a bird, used as food. Also, the shoulder of a hare or rabbit.

c 1470 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 64 Cony rost. A cony tak and drawe hym,..rost hym and lard hym then raise his legge and hys winges. *a* 1530 *Frere & Boye* (Ritson) 154 His fader toke a capons wynge,..And badde hym ete apace. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. iv. 29 A pestle of a Larke, or Plouers wing. 1656 OSBORN *Adv. Son* iv. (ed. 4) 124 A Carver at Court,..who being laughed at..for saying *The wing of a Rabbet*, maintained it as congruous, as the fore-legge of a Capon, a phrase used in Scotland. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. iv. 56 Wise palates choose the wings of pregnant hare. 1820 BYRON *Blues* II. 42 Miss Lilac, permit me to help you;—a wing? 1840 DICKENS *Old Curi. Shop* xlvi, Something light for supper—the wing of a roasted fowl. 1841 'NIMROD' in *Sporting Oracle* 48 The most vulnerable part of the rabbit is about its neck and wings, as the shoulders of this animal are called.

c. The wing of a bird (usually of a hen, goose, or turkey) used as a brush: cf. next, 7.

1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 35 Husbandlie furniture.. Wing, cartnaue and bushel. 1642 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 67 Then are the two women to have each of them a cleane bowle to wringe the honey into, and the man is to stande ready with a winge in his hande. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 243/2 Broom, Wing, Winnow sheet, and Sack with a Band. 1720 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 116 A Straw-fork and Rake to turn the Straw off from the thresh'd Corn, a Fan and Wing to clean it.

d. A figure or imitation of a wing (e.g. on an image of a bird, etc., or on an angler's artificial fly).

1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 94 Cupide a small boye..with a payre of winges of gold. 1584 *Kenilw. Inv.* in Scott *Kenilw.* Note K, 6 rowlers and ij wings for the spreade eagle. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Easter Wings* [title of a poem in the form of two pairs of wings]. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac-Fl.* 207 Chuse for thy Command Some peaceful Province in Acrostick Land; There thou may'st Wings display, and Altars raise, And torture one poor Word ten thousand Ways. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 58 P 4, 6. 1853 J. JACKSON *Pract. Fly-Fisher* (1880) 10 To make a winged Fly...Wings; a piece of feather, stripped from a Snipe's quill.

†e. With qualification (*goose-wing, fly's wing*) used as a type of something of no value. *Obs.*

1377, 1549 [see GOOSE-WING 1]. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 783 in *Macro Plays* 29 Tysche! a flyes weynge!

2. a. Attributed to supernatural beings, as angels, demons, etc., and to fabulous creatures, as dragons, griffins, etc.

c 1200 ORMIN 8004 Þatt all þatt hallȝhe genge, þatt borrȝhenn inn þurrh marrtirdom, Flesh upp wiþþ tweȝȝenn wengeas. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2675 When hit schon þe brizte sonne, His wingges schon so þe glas. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* vi. 2. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 236 And aungellych hys ..is gan he aprede. *c* 1386 — *Kn.'s T.* 1206 Biforn hire ..hir sone Cupido, Vp on his shuldres wynges hadde he two. 14.. *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 2527 Beuys..hyt the dragon

4 wyenges, wingges, whinges, 4–6 wyngis, -es, 5 -ys, whyngis, -ys, 5–6 whynges, 5, 6–7 *Sc.* wingis, 6–7 -es, 6– wings. *Sing.* 4–5 wenge, 5 weng, whenge, weynge, 5–6 *Sc.* weyng, 6 *Sc.* weing; 4–6 wynge, 4–7 winge, 5–6 wyng, whyng(e, 6 whing, wynke, 6– wing. [ME., first

vnder the wynge. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. iv. 34 The Harpyes on wa fall, With huge faird of weingis and mony bell. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iv. 582 A fiery Globe Of Angels on full saile of wing flew nigh. 1815 Byron *Destr. Sennacherib* iii, The Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast. 1821 Wordsw. *Eccles. Sonn.* III. v. 4 The feather, whence the pen Was shaped that traced the lives of these good men, Dropped from an Angel's wing. 1885 Hardy *Changed Man, More Interlude* (1913) 269 Since my poor husband left me to wear his wings.

b. Attributed to inanimate or abstract things represented as flying, or as carrying one swiftly along (esp. in phr. *on the wings of*).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. i. (Add. MS. 27944) In olde tyme poetes peyntide þe winde wiþ wynges. *c* 1510 More *Picus* E j b, Whynges of the loue of God. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* ciii[ii]. 3 Thou makest the cloudes thy charet, and goest vpon the wynges of the wynde. — *Ps.* cxxxviii[i]. 9 Yf I take the wynges of the mornynge. — *Prov.* xxiii. 5 Riches make them selues wynges. 1594 Shake. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 106 When I should mount with wings of Victory. 1598 — *Merry W.* II. ii. 209, I haue pursu'd her, as Loue hath pursued mee, which hath beene on the wing of all occasions. 1608 [Tofte] *Ariosto's Sat.* i. (1611) 11 With inke To ginne his fame large wings. 1611 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* iv. 8 Deceau'd by loues alluiring wingis. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* I. i. 7 When a pious Soul is once got upon the wing of Contemplation. 1704 Prior *Celia to Damon* 40 Upon the Wings of Time born swift away. 1709 Watts *Hymns*, Give me the Wings of Faith, to rise Within the Veil. 1809 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd. and half, A cold north-east wind, with frost on its wing. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. xix. 35 Where the foe..seems to come and go on the wings of the wind. 1873 Burton *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxxii. 307 [The Scots in 1640] seemed to be, indeed, carried forward on the wings of destiny.

8. *transf.* and *fig.* a. Power or means of flight, or of action figured as flight; action or manner of flying, flight. (*a*) in reference to literal flying.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 263 þe larke, þat is..wel awey of wenge [*v.rr.* wynge, whenge] swifter þan þe pecok. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 328 A Swalwe swift of winge. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 316 The self same place where hee First lighted from his Wing. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* v, Upward the Noble Bird directs his Wing. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* x. 60 As soon as the young Brood gets wing. 1877 Conder *Basis of Faith* v. 225 The skirt of strongest wing may be driven out to sea by the tempest.

(*b*) *fig.* in various connexions. (See also III.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 132 Auh þe treowe ancren þet we efneð to briddes..Hec spredeð hore hwingen, ant makieð a creols of ham suluen. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxxviii. 7 Take twa wenges of charite. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 473 He ordeynede godis of vertu wyngis to men to fle to heuene. 1418 *26 Pol. Poems* xiv. 47 To flize to hym, treste not þy wyng. 1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apologie* C 4, Other excellent points I could..pinch him with to the like purpose, were I not contented to strike the winge, and come downe to his capacitie. 1593 Shake. *2 Hen. VI*, iv. vii. 79 Knowledge the Wing wherewith we flye to heauen. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, iii. ii. 30 Thy affections which doe hold a wing Quite from the flight of all thy ancestors. 1648 G. Daniel *Eclog.* i. 120 You have a wing of Strength, might toure into The purest Region fancie breathes. 1670 Dryden *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* v. ii, Give wing to your desires, and let 'em fly. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* x. x. (1816) 307/2 Every thing they said to me seemed to lend me wings to run away. 1820 Scott *Monast.* Introd., When the peculiar kind of folly keeps the wing no longer. 1849 J. Hare *Serm.* II. iv. 80 In old times,..many stories got wing.

b. In biblical and derived expressions referring to a mother bird's use of her wings for the protection of her young (cf. esp. Matt. xxiii. 37); thus virtually = protecting care. (See also 15 a.)

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvi[i]. 8 Hile me under schadon of þi wenges twa. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxiii. 7 Vnder the shadowe of thy wynges wil I reioyse. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 107 His [*sc.* God's] wingis ar thy weirlie weid, His pennis ar thy strang defence. 1719 Young *Revenge* iv. i, Why did I leave my tender father's wing, And venture into love? 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxxiii, Azubah, once more under the shelter of her aunt's wing.

4. *transf.* a. In phr. *of* (such-and-such) *wing*, used, like *feather* = kind or description of bird (usually *fig.*). *Obs.* exc. in echoes of Ezek. xvii. 23.

1398 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Phormio* I. v, All alike: all feathered of one wing [orig. *omnes congruunt*]: knowe one, and know all. 1601 Shake. *Phœnix* iii, From this Session interdict Euery foule of tyrant wing, Saue the Eagle feath'red King. 1608 Dekker *Belman of London* (ed. 2) D 2, Of all the mad Rascalls (that are of this wing) the Abraham-man is the most fantastick. 1608 D. T[uvill] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 90 b, A prying eye, a listning eare, and a prating tongue, are all birds of one wing. 1611 *Bible* Ezek. xvii. 23 All foule of euery wing. 1630 *Pathomachia* iv. iii. 35 Here is another Bird of the same Wing I beleeue.

b. Qualified by a restrictive word, or in technical phr., = bird or birds.

1601 Shake. *Phœnix* i, Let the bird of lowdest lay .. Herauld sad and trumpet be; To whose sound chaste wings obay. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* II. 188 The Prince of Augurs..drew A sure presage from ev'ry wing that flew. 1840 Bremner *Excurs. Denmark*, etc. I. 293 We did not wonder to see scarcely a single wing of game in a whole day's journey. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* p. xii, He does not lose one [point] for each fault, providing it is simply not dropping to wing or shot.

c. A flock (of plover).

1829 A. Mackintosh *Driffield Angler* 294 Wing of plover.

II. 5. An appliance or appendage resembling or analogous to a wing in form or function.

a. An artificial apparatus attached to the human arms or shoulders, (*a*) according to early accounts, for flying through the air, (*b*) for assistance in swimming. b. One of the floats of a water-wheel or sails of a windmill. c. Poetically or rhetorically applied to the sails of a ship. (See also *white wings* s.v. White *a.* 11 c.) d. Various: see quots. ; *spec.* one of the planes of an aeroplane; also *transf.* (*pl.*) in the Royal Air Force, a certificate of ability to pilot an aeroplane, indicated by the addition to the uniform of a badge representing a pair of wings.

a. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 671 Vor þat men molde is enchantement se, He let him makie wengen [*v.rr.* wyngon, wingen, wynges, whyngys] an bel vor to fle. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 362 [Symon Magus] passit vpe, and his weyngis dycht,..And flaw, as he a foule had bene. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 37 This Dedalus..Hath mad to fle diverse wynges For him and for his Sone also. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* iv. 452 The head that turns at super-lunar things, Pois'd with a tail, may steer on Wilkins' wings. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 5/6 Being unable to swim he had made use of a pair of swimming wings.

b. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. x, For the swyftnesse of the water he must nedes passe vnder the whele of the mylle, And god wote yf the wynges of the mylle bete hym wel or not. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. x. 44 b, Windmilles, hauing euery one of them 10. wings. 1609 W. Biddulph in *Lavender's Trav.* 15 There are very many wind milles there, hauing ten wings a piece. 1681 Owen *Jug. conc. Evang. Ch.* ii. 16 To render the Gospel-Church-State a Machin..to be turned unto any Interest like the Wings of a Mill unto the Wind. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sails,*..Windmill-wings. 1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Wing*,..as the hands in a water wheel; a part of a sail, &c. *a* 1866 C. W. Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* Ser. I. 203 The wings of some of these [windmills] describe a circuit of 100 feet diameter.

c. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* I. i. 14 Your Argosies with portly saile..As they flye by them with their wouen wings. 1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 222 All their Canvass Wings. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xiii, While flew the vessel on her snowy wing. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* 543 The seaman's chariots, wandering on the brine With linen wings. 1878 Joaquin Miller *Songs of Italy* 29 The yellow wide wings of a bark.

d. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 3), *Pair of Wings*, cars. *Cant.* 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 17 There are rockets made without sticks. Fix to the small ones..four wings, in the nature of arrow-feathers. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 159 The use of wings, rudders, oars,..to direct the course of a balloon. 1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Wings*, arms. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wing*..s. A vane of a rotating fan...10. (*Milling.*) A strip, commonly of leather, attached to the skirt of the runner to sweep the meal into the spout. 1910 R. Ferris *How it Flies* 17 Aeroplanes are those forms of flying machines which depend for their support in the air upon the spread of surfaces which are variously called wings, sails, or planes. 1918 J. T. B. McCudden *5 Yrs. R. F. C.* 2 Having qualified for his R. F. C. wings in July of 1912.

6. A lateral part or appendage: in various connexions. (See also senses 7–11.)

a. A lateral or outlying portion of a space or region. b. Something forming a lateral boundary, as the side wall of a dock, sluice, chimney, etc.; also, a lateral component, extension, or complement of a structure, etc., e.g. either of the retaining walls at the ends of a bridge. c. A side piece (usually projecting), a lateral projection or member (in various tools, pieces of mechanism, or other structures: see quots.); *spec.* the part of a ploughshare which extends sideways and cuts the bottom of the furrow. d. A projecting part of a fishing-net on one side of the main or central part. e. In a carriage, each of a pair of curved pieces extending over the wheels to provide protection from the splashing of mud; the mudguard of a motor vehicle. f. Each of two side pieces at the top of an arm-chair against which the head may be rested.

a. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1051 An-other wynge of þe werld. 1794 Morse *Amer. Geog.* 491 On the north end it subsides gradually into extensive pasture grounds; while on the south it slopes more steeply in a shorter distance... On either wing is a thick grove of..forest trees. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XI. ii. (1873) IV. 36 Königsberg, Preussen, the easternmost outlying wing of his long straggling Dominions. 1874 Blackie *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 228 The Hill of Howth, forming the north wing of the bay of Dublin. 1920 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 10/1 His fore-hand return across court off the service into the right-hand wing of his opponent's base line.

b. *c* 1482 J. Kay tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* P 10 (1870), A place..by the weste banke of Rhodes: which maked with her walles and wynges a pleasaunt hauen..and ys called the tour of Seynt Nycholas. 1532 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, V. 280 Settyng the wynkes of the said slewse new made. 1663 Charleton *Chorea Gigantum* 24 The outward Circle or wing of stones [of Stonehenge]. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 107 An apt falling-back of the Back, and convenient gathering of the Wings, and Brest of the Chimney. 1725 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 228 You may on each side [of the chimney] raise a Wing of Plaister. 1721 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* I. 67 The Wings (that is, the spaces between the Wall and the Columns, which is not comprehended in the breadth of the Atrium). 1726 — *Alberti's Archit.* I. 14 All this Wing of Wall..is exposed as a Butt to the..Blasts of the North-East. 1821 Rich *Journ. Persepolis* 27 Aug., The mountains..form a wing of stupendous perpendicular cliffs. 1830 Parker *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 206 *Fillet*,..a small flat face or band used principally between mouldings, to separate them from each other in classical architecture...When this appendage is..attached to the sides [of the moulding, it is called] its wings. 1851 *B'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* Apr. 98 Many fine trees which have..become unsightly..by losing whole wings at a time. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wing*..A lateral extension of an abutment...A leaf of a gate or double door...A side dam on a river shore to contract the channel. 1895 *Daily News* 14 Mar. 3/5 Tribune, the winner of the Beaudesert Steeplechase, was objected to for jumping the wing of one of the fences.

c. 1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 81 They haue a litle wyng on the ryght syde of the Coulter, whiche wyng is to be removed to whiche syde you list. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 15 b/1 The winges of the Trepane, which delicately is and easily cut. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 286/2 The Feathers or Fly, or Wing [of a spinning-wheel] is that which the crooked Wyres are set in. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 40 Some place on the right side of the Coulter a small Wing or Fin. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* etc. 346 The wings or vanes revolve from 120 to 150 times in the minute. 1842 J. Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 166 This second spade is provided with an iron wing upon its shaft, by which the digger forces it with his foot into the ground. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Sinker*..(Knitting-machine). A wheel with thin plates or projections, called *wings*,..used to depress (sink) the yarn between the needles. 1901 P. Marshall *Metal Working Tools* 13 The legs [of wing compasses]..when opened to the required width are secured by means of the thumb-screw which binds on to the projecting wing.

d. 1678 *Act 30 Chas. II* c. 9 § 1 Above Fifty yards in length and Six yards in breadth or depth in the wing of the Nett. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 295 A Tench Weel without wings..An Eel Weel, with loose pits and wings. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. s.v. *Stake-net*, The salmon, swimming up the current, come in contact with the bar-net, and turning to pass around it, find themselves opposed by the wing.

e. 1763 *Morn. Chron.* 14 Mar. 4/2 Advt., A new roomy Gig, with head to take off, wings, and new harness. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) I. 204 Wings are fixed to the sides or elbows of the chaise bodies..; their use is to form a rest for the arm, and shelter the passenger from the dirt which splashes from the wheels. 1881 J. W. Burgess *Coach-bldg.* v. 30 The wings..sometimes still are of wood, in which case they are hooped to the perch by iron hoops.

f. 1907 G. O. Wheeler *Old Engl. Furniture* 190 The wings formed by the arm enclosures were padded. 1911 F. M. Crawford *Uncanny Tales, Deadly Smile* ii, A great old leathern arm-chair with wings.

7. Either of the two divisions (*right wing*, *left wing*) on each side of the main body or *centre* of an army or fleet in battle array; also, each of the two divisions of a regiment or an air force.

c 1400 *Brut* cclxxiii. 283 þe Scottis comen ferseliche in iiij wengus. *Ibid.* 285 þo hade euery Englisshe bataile ij wenges of pris Archiers. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xvi. 2520 A nobir weynge þai saw cum sone Off Inglis men. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 230 Anthony..ordeyned archers & crosbowes to be vnder the wynges of hys batayll. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxx. 64/2 Therle of Northampton & therle of Arundell with the second batell were on a wyng in good order. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc.* ix. 16 When they which were of the lefte wynge, sawe that the right side was discomfited. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 333 Wee did presently battell-wise cast our selues into a Wing, as if we had been the Turkish Gallies. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 617 Their doubl'd Ranks they bend From Wing to Wing. *c* 1720 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* II. 294 The Armies coming close up, the Wings engaged first. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v., Wings are also the skirts or extremities of a fleet when it is ranged into a line a-breast. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 149 The European divisions were directed severally against the left and right wings. 1868 *Queen's Reg. & Ord. Army* P 300 When the Service Companies of a Regiment happen to be divided into Wings, the Head Quarter wing will assign a due proportion of the Mess necessaries for the use of the other wing. 1915 C. G. Grey *Tales of Flying Services* 72 One of the chief duties of this 'wing'..was to look out for Zeppelins.

b. In football and similar games: The position of the forwards on either side of the centre; a player or players occupying this position.

1889 *Field* 5 Jan. 29/3 [Hockey] The left wings played to each other well, and the backs..were seen at their best. 1898 J. Goodall *Assoc. Football* 38 Suddenly there will be a swift clear side-kick to the other wing.

c. A section of a political or other party, holding views deviating in one direction or the other from those generally held (often distinguished as *left* or *right*).

[Cf. quot. 1670 s.v. Right *a.* 28.]

1879 Froude *Cæsar* xiii 286 There is always a disreputable wing to the radical party. 1884 *Christian Commonw.* 21 Feb. 449/1 The democratic wing of the Tory party, of which Lord Randolph Churchill aspires to be the leader. 1898 [see Left *a.* 3 b].

8. One of a pair of lateral projecting pieces of a garment on or near the shoulder, as of a doublet; also, a side-flap of a cap, etc.; in military uniform, a kind of epaulette (now worn by bandsmen) which stands out from the seam at the top of the shoulder.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 67 þer wer..Vauntbras with wynges, & rerebras þer-to. 1587 in Dugdale *Orig. Jurid.* lxx. (1666) 310 That none of the Companions except Knights or Benchers..wear..Wings in their Gowns. 1604 Dekker *Meeting of Gallants* B 2, There is as much perill betweene the wings and the skirts of one of their Doublets, as in all the liberties of London. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 94/2 The Wings, are Welts or peeces set over the place on the top of the Shoulders, where the Body and Sleeves are set together. 1703 *Rules of Civility* 56 If short Sleeves be worn, she [who pushes fashion to an extreme] will have nothing but Wings. 1820 *Army Gen. Ordnr* 19 Feb., Field Officers..are to wear Wings in addition to their Epaulettes. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. Saint* 139 A linen cap with large wings which concealed the face. 1844 *Queen's Regul. & Ord. Army* 152 The whole of the remaining Clothing (with the exception of the wings and fringe). 1869 Blackie *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 182 A sort of spencer open in the middle, with two wings, one on each breast.

†b. *pl.* The armpits. *nonce-use.* (Cf. L. *ala.*)

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 470 He tooke his with both his armes by the wings [orig. *les aisselles*].

9. a. A subordinate part of a building on one side of the main or central part.

spec. in *Fortification*: see quot. 1704.

1523 Wolsey in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 209 Who with his armye was..loged in the countrey in thre wardes and sundry winges. 1623–30 I. Jones in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 46 This Edifice..has..two Wings. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 20 Oct. 1683, The Court at entrie, and wings for officers seame too neere the streete. 1724 J.

Lex. Techn. I, *Wings*, in Fortification, are the large Sides of Horn-works, Crown-works, Tenailles, and the like Outworks. 1769 G. WHITEHEAD *Let.* (1768) 12 Allowing another thousand for repairing the house, and building the two intended wings. 1880 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 62 (*Christmas Eve*) It was an irregular building of some magnitude, ..One wing was evidently very ancient, with heavy stone-shafted bow windows.

b. *Naut.* (*a*) That part of the hold or space between decks which is next the ship's side. (*b*) In a steamer (see quot. 1846). (*c*) In a canal-boat or barge (see quot. 1900).

1730 WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 25 Sept., Levelled the Hold from the Fore-hatchway clear aft, .. and picked out the large Stones to lay in the Wings. 1805 in *Naval Chron.* XV. 34 He..was carried down into one of the wings. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 370 The term wing is also applied to the projecting part of a steam-vessel's deck before and abaft each of the paddle-boxes; this is bounded by a thick plank called the spunning-rim or wing-wale which extends from the extremity of the paddle-beam to the ship's side. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 10/5 If the tunnel is too wide, boards projecting over the boat's side, termed 'wings', are brought into use for them [*sc.* 'leggers'] to lie on.

c. *Theatr.* Each of the side-scenes on the stage; also *pl.* (occas. *sing*) the space at each side of the stage where these stand.

1790 MALONE *Shakс. Wks.* I. II. Acc. Stage 83 The technical modern term, *wings*, or side scenes. 1807 *Director* II. 330 The turning of one single wheel effects at once..the simultaneous retreat of the entire assemblage of wings and drops and flat. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Private Theatres*, The little space there is between the wings and the wall, and one wing and another. 1847 BRODERIP *Zool. Recr.* 320 The frantic stage-manager in the wing. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* I, She had known her maintain that cold sternness to the very wings, and then bound on to the stage.

10. *Anat.* A lateral part or projection (usually, one of a pair) of some organ or structure; *e.g.* each of the lateral cartilages of the nose, a lateral process of a bone (esp. of the sphenoid): = ALA 1.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* vii. (1653) 118 That beauty which so manifestly appears in the wings of the Nose. 1663 BAYFIELD *Treat. De Morb. Capitis* 100 The Haw, nail, or little wing (as they term it) of the eye. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pinna Auris*, the upper and broader part of the Ear, called the Wing. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 31 The Wing of the right Nostril. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 289 The great wing of the sphenoid bone. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 570 When one wing [of the diaphragm] is much raised, as by a collection of gas.

11. *Bot.*

†a. The axil of a leaf: = ALA 2a. *Obs.* †b. Each of the lateral divisions or leaflets of a pinnate leaf. (Cf. WINGED *a.* 3a.) *Obs.* c. Each of the two lateral petals of a papilionaceous flower: = ALA 2b. d. A thin membranous appendage of a seed or fruit, serving for its dispersal by the wind; a thin lateral projection extending along a stem; any thin appendage, as on some part of a flower. (Cf. WINGED *a.* 3b.)

a. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 402 The flowers ..are produced..from the wings of the leaves.

b. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* 651 Fern. *Fillix mas*... Leaves doubly winged; wings blunt.

c. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Gloss., *Ala*, a Wing, the Side Petals of a papilionaceous Blossom, or a Membrane added to a Seed, Stalk, &c. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 307 Wings are 2 equal petals. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 85 Genista..Wings oblong.

d. 1776 [see c]. 1787 *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* 283 Fruit egg'd, encompass'd with a wing striated on both sides. 1912 W. S. FURNEAUX *Field & Woodl. Plants* iii. 37 In the Narrow-leaved Everlasting Pea..the 'wings' of the stem and petioles.

III. Phrases. * with prepositions.

12. In (the) wing. †a. *In wing of*: in course or process of, engaged in. *Obs., rare.*

c 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* P 7 Whenne thay were in wyng of these werkys [*Dum hæc..agerentur*].

†b. *In the wing of*: ? in the overshadowing presence of. *Obs. rare.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 39 b, Our owne Newtralisme and Lukwarmenes shall in the wyng of Gods sonne vtterly condemne vs.

13. On or upon the wing or †one's wing, †on wing; also A-WING. a. *lit.* Flying, in flight.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d j b, When she is on wyng and comyth low bi the grounde. 1626 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* I. i, The roiall Eagle When she hath tri'd her young ones gainst the Sun,..next teacheth 'em to prey, How to command on wing. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 332 They heard, and were abasht, and up they sprung Upon the wing. *Ibid.* 345 So numberless were those bad Angels seen Hovering on wing under the Cope of Hell. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 25 The insect youth are on the wing. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornith Biog.* I. 137 It is seldom that one of these birds is on wing..without uttering its cry. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, The old birds were too strong on the wing for our young marksmen. 1859 E. FITZGERALD *Omar* vii, The Bird of Time has but a little way To fly—and Lo! the Bird is on the Wing. 1880 BLACKIE *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 209, I have been as happy as a bird on the wing.

b. *fig.* (*a*) Moving or travelling swiftly or briskly; astir, active, on the move.

1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 50 Throw Scotland, Ingland, France, and Lumbardy, Fleys on weyng thi fame, and thi renowne. 1600 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 130 When I had scene this hat lose on the wing. 1626 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* I. i, 'Tis time his fortune be a wing [*orig.* o' wing, o' th' wing], high time sir. 1632 D. ROGERS *Nassmen* To Rdr. b 3 b, So long as we can keep sound Doctrine on wing, we shall hope to kill..all those (evils). 1633 LD. NEWWICK in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 227 With what impatience his good subiects..expect to heare y^t his Ma^ty were uppon his wing. 1739 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xiii, The prince, whose thoughts were always on the wing. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* I. iii, Nobody is on the wing; hardly a single traveller. 1872 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxxix, Captain.. was on the wing early.

(*b*) 'Taking flight', going off or away, starting, departing; ready to start or depart.

1622 MABBE tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* II. To Rdr. ◦◦ Hauing become too prodigall in communicating my papers,.. they caught me when I was vpon my wings. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* I. i, Look you, they are on the wing already. 1673 — *Assignat.* IV. (1676) 53 He's wild, and soon on wing, if watchful eyes come near. 1721–2 POPE *Let. to Atterbury* 8 Feb., When I went last to town, and was on wing for the Deanry. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. xx, She fell on her knees..in prayer for the departing spirit, on its wing. 1898 *Punch* 20 Aug. 82/2 The Courts are up, and the members of the four Inns are supposed to be on the wing.

14. On wings: (going) with light steps as one in a joyously exalted mood.

1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* II, Now the young gentleman was off and out every night, and seemed to be on wings. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* vi, They sealed the promise with a long loving kiss, and Gerard went home on wings.

On the wings of . . .: see 2 b.

15. Under (..) wing. a. *Under the wing of, under ——'s wing* (†*wings*): under the protection, care, or patronage of. (Cf. 3 b.)

c 1230 *Halt Meid.* (1922) 66 Ȝef þu wel wrist te under godes wengen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17638, I bliace þe, lauerd, þou me has gett And sauf vnder þi wenges sett. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1769 Turne þe, trechoure,..And drawe a-gayn to þi den vndire þi dam wingis [*v. r.* wenges]. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 281/2 Such as abide and kepe theim self undre the wynge of your Mageste Roiall. 1503 HAWES *Example Virtue* VII. 87 And vnder the wynge of my protecyon All rebels brought be to subieccyon. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H iij b, I haue euer be brought vp at home i. vnder my mothers wynge. 1669 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, If I had not taken this opportunity..of doing that right to the Truth I here professe as to put it under the wings of so fit and able a Patron. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* III. 47 There liv'd Miss Cicely..under the wing of an old maiden aunt. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxi. 353 They fled for their lives to find safety under Pompey's wing in Capua.

†b. *To keep one's bill under wing*: to remain quiet or inactive (like a sleeping bird). *Obs. rare.*

[Cf. quot. *c* 1425 in 2.] *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 174 After this..the duke of Yorke..thought it mete neither longer to dissimule, nor farther to kepe his bill vnder wyng.

c. *Hit under the wing* (slang): intoxicated.

1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* iv, He being..'hit under the wing'.

** with verbs. (For other phrases, as *clip the wings*, see the vbs.)

†16. *To hang the wing* (cf. HANG *v.* 4 c): to hesitate, show timidity. *Obs.*

a 1601 NORTH *Plutarch, Epaminon.* (1612) 112 Afraid onely of the name and reputation of Epaminondas, and hanging the wing, as they say. *a* 1684 BP. SMYTH *Serm.* (1632) 40 If Saint Peter .. had hanged the wing, as they speake, or let fall his Crest.

17. *To make wing* (cf. 3 a and MAKE *v.*[1] 59): to make one's way by flying, to fly. ? *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. ii. 51 Light thickens, And the Crow makes Wing to th' Rookie Wood. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiii. 281 Hence he made wing, taking a long and strong flight to Mizpah. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* LXXXVII, The dastard Crow that to the Wood made wing. 1896 BRYANT *Winds* 17 The weary fowls of heaven make wing in vain, To escape your wrath.

18. a. *To take to wing* (TAKE *v.* 74 b): = b. ? *Obs.*

1693 J. DRYDEN, jun. *Juvenal* XIV. 99 Soon as e'er to Wing they take. 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* vii. 84 It was within ten yards of me when it took to wing.

b. *To take* (†*its*, etc.) *wing* (TAKE *v.* 24 c); (*a*) Of a bird, etc.: To take flight, begin flying.

1807 WORDSW. *Song at Feast of Brougham Castle* 130 He knew the rocks which Angels haunt..He hath kenned them taking wing. 1822 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 62 They will instantly take wing and give you a beautiful shot. 1890 C. DIXON *Stray Feathers* I. 6 The Ring Doves, startled at this, took wing.

(*b*) *fig.* To 'take flight', take one's departure, make off, flee.

1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4056/3 Success, like Fame, has taken Wing. 1713 BENTLEY *Serm. Popery* 24 The weary Soul.. ready to leave the Carcase, and yet not suffer'd to take it's Wing. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) iv. Introd., I lately changed my lodgings..I took wing at a moment's warning. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings Ser.* II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 32 As he touched the lock, they took wing like a covey of partridges. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXXVI, I found a fellow who..knew this Mrs Glasher before she took wing.

*** 19. Wing-and-wing (*Naut.*): (of a ship) sailing directly before the wind, with the foresail hauled over on one side and the mainsail on the other.

1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 135. 1893 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Coastwise Lights* 13 We greet the clippers, wing-and-wing, that race the Southern wool.

IV. Attributive uses and Combinations.

20. a. Simple attrib.: (*a*) in sense 1 (in reference to parts, structure, or function), as *wing area, feather, flight, membrane, nervation, patch, pattern, ..., power, quill, ray, shoulder, vein*; (*b*) in 5 d; (*c*) in sense 6 or 9 (= side, lateral), as *wing boiler, cabin, room, walk*; (*d*) in sense 7, as *wing adjutant, commander, officer*; in sense 7 b, as *wing forward, half, man, player*; (*e*) = having wings or side appendages (6, 8), as *wing bonnet, cap, chair, gudgeon, rail*.

(*a*) 1382 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 101 Furth she quickly'ye galops, with wingflight swalloȝike hastning. 1695 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 114 Put under the wing-Pinions on each side the long slices of flesh which you did cut from the Breast-bone. 1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* iii. 23 Its Belly, Wing-shoulders, Collar, and about the Eyes white. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 343 The exterior wing-feathers are black. 1815 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. 1. 3 Interior wing-quills externally margined. 1826 SAMOUELLE *Direct. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 37 The Pterigostia or wing-bones, hairy. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 25/1 It [*sc.* a bat] hybernates..snugly wrapped up in the wing-membranes. 1856 *Zoologist* Ser. 1. XIV. 5157 The wing-veins of insects. *Ibid.* 5193 The Wing-rays of Insects. 1870 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 10 Wing-patch resolved into two bars. *Ibid.* 174 When very young, the wing-markings more fulvous. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 269 Those..which can soar are mostly large birds, with a relatively large wing-area. 1900 *Spectator* 26 July 112 The wing-power of the dragon-flies. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 432/1 Orthopteroid wing-neuration. 1911 *Ibid.* XVI. 469/1 The darkening of wing-patterns in many species of Lepidoptera.

(*b*) 1897 LANCHESTER *Aerodonetics* (1908) 353 The reaction of the air on the upper and under wing surfaces. 1912 R. FERRIS *How it Flies* 474 *Wing Plan*, the outline of the wing or main plane surface as viewed from above.

(*c*) *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Bacon* (1898) I. 70 In the middle-most three coaches may passe abreast: in the wing-walkes two may. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 284/2 The furnaces in the wing boilers. 1877 L. JEWITT *Half-Hours Engl. Antiq.* 112 The sleeved surcoat; the sillettes or wing-pieces, behind the shoulders. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 292 *Wing-bore*..a side or flank bore-hole. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Aug. 2/1 The wing cabin at the foot of the companion. 1893 T. N. PAGE *Ole Virginia* 194 The great chamber was given up to the baby, the Colonel going to the wing room. 1903 J. C. ROGERS *Engl. Furnit.* 64 The back..fitted with forward wing-pieces.

(*d*) 1734 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 198, I sent a pinnace and brought the Velt Marshall's Wing Adjutant to me. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 470/2 *Wing Officer*, an officer of the Indian army attached to a wing of a native infantry regiment. 1888 *Cassell's Bk. Sports* 40 Wing players should be good dribblers. 1898 J. GODDALL *Assoc. Football* 30 The wing game—that is to say, the two pairs playing together, leaving the centre-forward waiting for something to turn up. *Ibid.* 78 Wing-halves should keep their eyes on the wing-forwards. 1918 W. T. BLAKE *R. F. C. in War* vii. 42 The Wing Headquarters.

(*e*) 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 28 Feb., She had on a large dirty wing cap, made of muslin. 1827 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Harrington* xiii, There at the top of the mount of hair and horsehair..there was sometimes a fly-cap, or a wing-cap, or a *pouf*. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* July 259 The wing bonnet like the tilt of a waggon. 1892 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 121 Put a ¼ inch bolt with a wing thumb nut, through. 1907 G. O. WHEELER *Old Engl. Furniture* 190 The ordinary English 'wing' or 'grandfather' chair.

b. Instrumental, adverbial, parasynthetic, etc., as *wing-broken, -clipped, -hoofed, -like, -limed, -shaped, -wide* adjs.

a 1793 G. WHITE *Naturalist's Cal.* etc. (1795) 96 As a person was lately pursuing a pheasant that was *wing-broken. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* iii. 71 Rather a cruel method, perhaps, but one attended with ... success in wild-goose shooting, is, on securing a wing-broken one, to fasten it to a stake a short distance from the blind. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Mar. 2/1 Some of the birds can fly, ..but the *wing-clipped ones..are..shot down. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXIII. 377 Who th'extended night With-held in long date; nor would let the light Her *wing-heou'd horse loyne. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Alaria esox*, the *wing-like processes of the sphenoid bone. 1626 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 428 Why the wilde Fen-Goose..as *wing-lim'd, cannot fly. 1859 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 598 Leaves ..*wing-shaped. 1818 KEATS *Walking to Scot.* 19 Eagles may seem to sleep *wing-wide upon the air.

21. Special Combs.: wing-band = next, (*b*); wing-bar, (*a*) a lateral bar in a scuffling-plough; (*b*) a bar or band of colour on the feathers of a bird's wing, *spec.* one formed by distinctive coloration of the greater or median coverts or both; (*c*) in an aeroplane: see quot. 1910; wing-bay, a marking on a bird's wing formed by distinctive coloration of the secondaries, in certain game-cocks characteristically of a bay colour; wing-bow, a marking on the shoulder or bend of the wing formed by distinctive coloration of the lesser coverts; wing-case, each of the structures (modified fore-wings) which cover the functional wings in certain insects, as the *elytra* of beetles and the *tegmina* of *Orthoptera*; wing-chick, a young chicken still under the protection of its mother's wing; †wing-cleft *a.*, *Bot.* = PINNATIFID (cf. 11 b); wing-compass, a compass having one leg fitted with an arc-shaped 'wing' or projecting piece which passes through the other leg and may be clamped in any required position (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); wing-cover = *wing-case*; wing-covert [COVERT *sb.* 5], any one of the small feathers overlying the flight-feathers of a bird's wing; wing-dam *sb.*, a dam or barrier built into a stream to deflect the current; hence wing-dam *v.*, *trans.* to furnish with a wing-dam; wing-deck = sense 9 b (*b*); wing-elm = *winged elm* (see WINGED *a.* 3 c); †wing-fashion *a.* or *adv.*, in the form of wings;

wing-fish. (*a*) = PTERICHTHYS; (*b*) a flying-fish, esp. of the genus *Prionotus*; **wing-footed** *a.*, having winged feet, swiftly-moving; **wing-game**, game-birds collectively, as distinguished from *ground-game* (GROUND *sb.* 18); †**wing-laid** *a.*, ? = *wing-and-wing* (see 19); †**wing-leaved** *a.*, *Bot.* having pinnate leaves (cf. 11 b); **wing-net**, (*a*) a 'wing' in a fishing-net (= 6 d), or a fishing-net with wings; (*b*) a net at the side of a tennis-court; **wing-passage**, a passage along the side of a ship's hold: see 9 b (*a*); also *attrib.*; †**wing-post**, *nonce-wd.* [POST *sb.*[2] 2], a carrier pigeon; **wing-rail** = GUARD-RAIL 2 (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wing rib**, the end rib of a loin of beef; **wing-sail**, ? a sail abaft the main course; **wing-sheath** = *wing-case*; **wing-shell**, †(*a*) the wing-sheath of an insect; (*b*) any of several kinds of molluscs having the shell or some part of it resembling a wing, as the genus *Pinna* (= SEA-WING 2); also, a wing-snail; **wing-shooting**, the practice of shooting birds 'on the wing', i.e. when flying; **wing-shot** *sb.*, (*a*) a shot aimed at a flying bird; (*b*) a person skilled in wing-shooting; *adj.* shot while flying, or in the wing; **wing-snail** = PTEROPOD; **wing-stopper** [STOPPER *sb.* 9], a cable-stopper formerly used in the wings of a ship; **wing-tip**, (*a*) the tip of the wing of a bird, bat, or insect; (*b*) the outer end of the 'wing' of an aeroplane; **wing-tipped** (-tipt) *ppl. a.*, (of a bird) having the tips of the wings clipped so as to prevent it from flying; **wing-transom**, the uppermost and longest of the transoms in the stern-frame of a ship; **wing-wader**, an Australian wading bird having a spur or claw on each wing; **wing-wale** (see quot. 1846 in 9 b); **wing-wall**, a lateral wall forming a support to an abutment and to the adjacent earth.

1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 101 *Wing-bands generally fused into one large patch. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 959 The ends of the *wing-bars having a mortise formed to receive the quadrant, are moved upon this to any required width. 1895 *Poultry Chron.* III. 348/2 They are light blue on the coloured parts and have no wing bars. 1910 R. FERRIS *Mew it Flies* 474 *Wing Bar*, the larger construction members of a wing, running from the body outward to the tips. The ribs are attached to the wing bars, usually at right angles. 1867 TEGETMEIER *Poultry Bk.* 338 *Wing Bow.—Rich dark red. 1881 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min., Insecta* c 8 b, Some [Insects] have *wing-cases, as beetles, and cantharides. 1813 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 64 Two wings, and two wing-cases, ornamented with yellow bands. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* xxviii, A young poet..is not the same kind of *wing-chick as a young actress. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 294 Leaves winged; leaflets *wing-cleft. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 120 More properly twice wing-cleft than twice pinnate. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 350 In the next order (*Orthoptera*), the *Tegmina*, or *wing-covers..assist them in flying. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 500 The fore wings may be converted into wing covers for the hind wings. 1815 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 3 Greater *wing-coverts tipped with crimson. 1882 *Rep. Prec. Metals U. S.* 102 By sinking a shaft and drifting preparatory to building a *wing-dam. 1837 J. D. BORTHWICK *Three Yrs. California* xvii. 265 A company of fifteen or twenty white men would have *wing-dammed this claim. 1889 *Century Mag.* July 374/1 (Steamboat Decoration) More gold each end. 1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 14, vij peyre of Sleu *wyng flasshion. 1895 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 80 The Pterichthys (*wing-fish). 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 304 [Fishes of the genus *Prionotus*] are eaten..only in the vicinity of Hartford, Conn., where they are known as 'Wing-fish'. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of Time* 666 *Wing footed Mercurie. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 322 Wing-footed Time. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 923 Hail the daughters of the wing-footed steed. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* vii, The neighbouring squire takes the pick of the *wing-game. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 502 The *wing-layd Galley, with her factious oares. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 119 *Wing-leaved Fig Wort, or Dog's Rue. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. s.v. *Stake-net*, At from 30′ to 40′ down stream another row of stakes is set, each opposite a stake in the bar-net, and between these stakes a *wing-net is stretched. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 96 A gentleman,...in a fit of passion at some *coup manqué*, flung his racket high in air, and it lodged on the ledge above the tambour, behind the wing-net. 1869 E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* vi. 101 The *wing passages of wooden ships of war. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 364/1 The 'wing-passage-bulkhead' as a protection against under-water attacks such as ramming or torpedoes. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northamptonshire* (1662) II. 279 Such practices, by these *Wing-posts, would spoil many a Foot-post. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* Iv. 48 A seven or eight pound piece of *wing rib or sirloin of beef. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 135 **Wingsail for Ketches.* This sail is quadrilateral, and similar to the mizen-course of a ship. It..bends abaft the mainmast to hoops which encircle the mast. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 411 The elytra or *wing-sheaths are long. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § vii. ii. 164 The *Wing-shells almost square-knobed on each side before. *Ibid.*, The Long-Shell'd Goat-Chafer..is above an inch long, and the Wing-shells of themselves an inch. 1833 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 252 The wing-shell belonging to the unimuscular section. 1854 WOODWARD *Molluscs* II. 260 The wing-shells, or pearl-oysters. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 58 These guns..were probably intended for *wing-shooting. 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 493/2 , I shot with the best *wing-shot I ever hunted with. 1890 GREENER *Breech Loader* 253 The contest for the American Field Champion Wing-Shot Cup. 1895 G. J. MANSON *Sporting Dict., Wing-shot*,.. hit on the wing. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 176 Dog-stoppers are used as additional securities. to ease the deck-stoppers. *Wing-stoppers are used for the same purpose. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 175 The *wing tip projects only about ½ an inch beyond the secondaries. 1890 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xi. (ed. 2) 322 The female of *Anthocharis cardamines* does not possess the beautiful orange wing-tips of the male. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 2 Feb. 5/6 He..hesitated a second to see that the man at the wing tip was ready. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 236 Being *wing-tipped and unable to fly, he caught it and brought it home alive. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 70 The *Wing Transom to have a long arm'd Knee. 1813 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine* s.v. *Transoms*, The arms of the transoms, being gradually closer in proportion to their distance from the wing transom downwards. 1867 PITT-RIVERS *Evol. Culture, Prim. Warfare* I. (1906) 71 The *wing-wader of Australia. 1791 *Rep. Navig. Thames & Isis* Estimate 5 Taking down the Side-Walls of Godstow Lock, re-building them, strengthening the *Wing-Walls, and finishing, £450. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 95/1 Retaining walls were generally introduced at the ends of bridges, to connect the abutments of the bridge with the natural ground; but in these cases they were called 'wing walls'.

Wing, *v.* Forms: see prec.; also *pa. pple.* 5 **wyngged, y-whyngged.** [f. prec. sb.]

I. Senses derived from senses 1–5 of the sb.

†1. *trans.* To carve (a quail or partridge). *Obs.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij b, A Quayle wyngged. *c* 1500 [see ELE *v.*[2]]. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 265. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. ii. 44 Him list not spend his idle meales In quinsing Plouers, or in winging [*printed* winning] Quailes. 1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 415 (*bis*). *a* 1736 MRS. HEYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 269. 1804 FARLEY *London Art of Cookery* (ed. 10) 292 Partridges and quails. To wing either of these birds, nothing more is to be done than to raise the legs and wings.

2. *intr.* († occas. *refl.*) To use one's wings, take flight, fly; occas. *transf.* to sail; *fig.* to 'fly', pass swiftly, speed. *poet.* or *rhetorical.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 133, I (an old Turtle) Will wing me to some wither'd bough. 1623 'JACK DAWE' *Vox Graculi* 31 It will be better going by Land..then to wing against winde and tide without a tilt-Cloath. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] xxxii. 102 Iuvenal does tell vs, how Life wings away! 1688 CROWNE *Darius* v. 62 He wings along the Air in Clouds of Dust, And does not march, but fly. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 268, I had nothing else to do but to Wing to the Place where the Joy of my Life did once reside. 1821 W. HUTTON *Life* (1816) 238 The year winged away in feasting upon a pleasure to come. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vii, Many of these wild tribes..were now winging towards their nests. 1844 HOOD *Haunted Ho.* III. v, In the upper gloom The bat—or something in its shape—was winging. 1879 'E. GARRETT' *House by Works* xv, He was dead before the telegram, winging over sea and land, announced his danger to his son.

b. In pa. pple. = flying, on the wing. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 21 Thou antique Death,.. Two Talbots winged through the lither Skie, In thy despight shall scape Mortalitie. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 348, I saw Ioues Bird, the Roman Eagle, wing'd From the spungy South to this part of the West. 1737 H. BROOKE tr. *Tasso* III. (1738) 10 Far wing'd before his Squadron Tancred came. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vi, Brave thoughts winged on Grecian words gained their natural mastery over Terror.

3. *trans.* a. To fly through, upon, or across; to traverse by flying.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 13 The Crowes and Choughes, that wing the midway ayre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 936, I alone first undertook To wing the desolate Abyss. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 120 All that roam the wood, Or wing the sky, or roll along the flood. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 26 Thoughts that wing infinity, apprehensions that reach through eternity. 1820 SHELLEY *Skylark* ii, The blue deep thou wingest, And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Oedipus Colonus* 1081 Oh that I were a dove, that I might wing the wind With pinion swift and strong.

b. with cognate obj. (*flight*, *way*).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 14 New ways I must attempt, my groveling Name To raise aloft, and wing my flight to Fame. 1698 CONGREVE *Semele* II. i. 2 From Samos have I wing'd my Way. 1790 ALEX. WILSON *To David Brodie* Poet. Wks. (1846) 7 The parting year prepares to wing its way. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxx, The week fled faster. It had nearly winged its flight away. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* xvii. 320 If we were able to wing our way from this Earth into the depths of space.

4. To put wings upon, furnish or fit with wings for flying; to fenther (an arrow); also *poet.* in ref. to the sails of a ship.

a 1616 B. JONSON *Barriers* 41 Marriage Loves object is;.. For her, he wings his shoulders. 1662 BOYLE *Style Script.* 90 The Feathers that wing our Arrows. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 785 With sails we wing the mazie. 1737 DYER *Fleece* II. 296 Nimbly they wing'd the bark. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* xiii. 399 The nicest operation of all,..that of winging the fly.

b. *fig.* (or in fig. context): To 'give wings to'; to enable to 'fly' or 'soar'; to give speed or swift motion to; to speed, hasten.

1599 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* C j b, Cast as was Eua from that glorious soile (Where al delights sat bating wingd with thoughts, Ready to nestle in her naked breasts). 16.. *Lust's Domin.* I. iii. (1657) B 8, Ambition wings his spirit, keep him down. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* III. i, *Gis.* Tyrant, twill haste thy owne death. *Rod.* Let it wing it. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Cor.* vii. 5 (1656) 673 Fasting-days are soul-fatting days: prayer is edged and winged thereby. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 175 The Thunder, Wing'd with red Lightning and impetuous rage. 1781 COWPER *Catharina* 50 With her book, and her voice, and her lyre, To wing all her moments at home. 1844 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XX. 100 Lively hope, that wing'd The prayers [of St. Gregory] sent up to God for his release. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xiv, The hours glided on,..whether winged with joy or laden with affliction. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* VI. v, The Convent was at some distance, but..fear would wing her steps. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sonn. to G. Cruikshank*, Artist, whose hand, with horror wing'd, hath torn From the rank life of towns this leaf.

5. To convey by or as by means of wings; 'to transport by flight' (J.); to carry through the air as if flying, to waft (also *fig.*).

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] xlvii. 139 It is these two only [*sc.* water and earth], that seeme to make the body, while the two purer, Fire and Ayre, are wing'd away 1688 OTWAY *Venice Preserv'd* III. ii. 37 First, let's embrace, Heav'n knows who next shall thus Wing ye together. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 126 When future gales shall wing them o'er the tide. 1820 CLARE *Poems Rural Life* 174 Sad was the day when my Willy did leave me, Sad were the moments that wing'd him away. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xiii, There was enough breeze..to wing the shadow of a cloud across the soft grey downs.

6. To send flying, let fly (as a missile); to send off swiftly, to dart.

1728 POPE *Iliad* XIII. 832 With his full Strength he bent his angry Bow, And wing'd the feather'd Vengeance at the Foe. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* iii, Whether any of his train could draw a good bow, and wing a shaft well home. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* viii, The desire to wing a telegram to her he thought it wise to repress. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 396 And therewith I bespake him and winged a word for his ears [ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδων].

7. To brush with a bird's wing: cf. prec. 1 c.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xxxiv. 49 With Blew Smalts strew very thick the Border while it is wet; and when it is dry, wing that which is loose off. 1866 [see WINGED *ppl. a.* 2].

8. To shoot (a bird) in the wing, so as to disable it from flying without killing it; *transf.* to wound (a person) with a shot in the arm or shoulder, or some other not vital part; to injure or disable (something) by a shot. Also, to pluck off the wings of (an insect).

1800 G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* v. iii. 77 We are on the ground first..What are the odds now, that he doesn't wing me? 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 365 Snatched at, like flies by children, to be winged and let go. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 82 Though I regularly fired,..I never even winged a tomtit. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, He steady, and wing him. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* v, Tompion was..bid do his best to 'wing' the Frenchman [*sc.* a ship]. 1914 *Times* 28 Oct. 9/6 One aeroplane was winged by the Russian soldiery.

II. Senses derived from senses 6–9 of the sb.

9. †a. *Mil.* To furnish (a force) *with* additional troops on the wings; also of such troops, to form the wings of. (occas. *absol.*) *Obs.*

1592 *Garrard's Art Warre* 202 This squadron is..flanked with Musket. and winged with horsemen. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 300 In the maine Battell, whose puissance on either side Shall be well-winged with our cheefest Horse. 1628 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* III. i. 82 They [*sc.* cavalry armed with petronels] wing the Launces or Pistolleirs. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 248 Having winged his Foot with his Horse and Dragoons. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Prov. St. New-Eng.* 125 We asked him what they intended who promised to wing us. 1699 *Relat. Sir T. Morgan's Progr. France* 6 We were forced to march up in four Lines (for we had not room enough to Wing).

b. To furnish with side parts or projections, as a building, etc.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 31 Aug. 1654, Two courts,..wing'd with cloisters. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 56 A new pair of flood-gates, winged with stone-walls. *a* 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* XIV. 349/1 If the pillars are to be winged afterwards, they must be left of an extra strength. 1882 C. A. YOUNG *Sun* vi. 198 The hydrogen is in such a state that the lines of its spectrum are widened and 'winged'.

10. *Naut.* To carry *up* (ballast) in the wings of a ship.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 286 The iron ballast..is winged up 3 or more pigs above the floor-heads. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 735 To *Wing up ballast*, to carry the dead weight from the bottom as high as consistent with the stability of a ship.

11. *Theatrical slang.* To study (a part) in or about the wings, having undertaken it at short notice.

1886 *Stage Gossip* 70 In the event of an artiste being suddenly called upon to play a part of which he knows nothing..he frequently has to 'wing' the part.

†12. *intr.* To incline to a particular wing, side, or party. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1817 R. FENTON *Treat. Ch. Rome* 52 This made the people wing on that side.

Wing, var. WIN *sb.*[3] (*slang*), a penny.

Winged (wi·nĕd, *less freq.* wind), *a.* Forms: see WING *sb.*; also 5 **venged**(e, 6 *Sc.* **vengit.** [f. WING *sb.* + -ED[2].]

1. Having wings, as a bird, bat, insect, supernatural or mythical being, etc.; represented or figured with wings.

Her. Having the wings of a specified tincture.

Also in numerous parasynthetic compounds, as *long-winged*, *strong-winged*, *swift-winged*, *white-winged*, etc., q. v. in their alphabetical places.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 307 The wynged god Mercurie. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22816 Toward the heuene schee took hir flyght; For..Sche was whysged, *ffor* to flie. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. x. 23 The vengit god of luif. 1572 ROSSWELL *Armorie* II. 121 b, An Harpie, Vert, Wynged de Or.

Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 235 Love looks not with the eyes, but with the minde, And therefore is wing'd Cupid painted blinde. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. Chorus 7 With winged heeles, as English Mercuries. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 55 One shap'd and wing'd like one of those from Heav'n By us oft seen. 1708 Prior *Turtle & Sparrow* 172 Our winged Friends thro' all the Grove. 1819 Keats *Hyperion* I. 297 His winged minions in close clusters stood. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 66 This insect becomes winged in the month of August. 1854 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 275 Tits, wrens, and all wing'd nothings peck him dead! 1873 E. Balfour *Cycl. India* (ed. 2) V, Winged Sea-horses. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xv, The stop which regulated the play of the water was formed into the winged figure of a child moulded in silver.

b. *poet.* Applied to a ship with sails set.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cvii. viii, How many mounting winged tree For traffique leave retiring land. 1614 W. Browne *Inner Temple Masque* i. *Syrens' Song* 1 Steere hither, steere, your winged pines, All beaten mariners. 1634 Rainbow *Labour* (1635) 34 Why..doe those winged vessels cut the water? 1725 Pope *Odyss.* viii. 550 From the shores the winged navy flies. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xxviii, Sailors..Coop'd in their winged sea-girt citadel.

† c. Full of wings; crowded with flying birds. *poet. Obs.*

1634 Milton *Comus* 730 Th' earth cumber'd, and the wing'd air dark't with plumes.

2. Furnished with or having a wing or wings, i.e. lateral part(s), appendage(s), or projection(s).

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 13/1 Ther forme, which we cal *Terrebellum alatum*, the winged trepane. 1613 T. Godwin *Rom. Antiq.* IV. ii. 178 Sometimes they would make a winged army, so that the maine body thereof should be in the middle, & on each side a lesser company. 1620–58 I. Jones *Stone-Heng* 76 *Dipteros Hypæthros*, which is double winged about uncovered. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* II. 298 Mr. Wyse ploughed lightly with a winged plough. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 500 Winged grass-seed harrows. 1859 Reeve *Brittany* 176 A well-to-do peasant father and son with the embroidered gaiter, winged leather boot, many-buttoned waistcoat. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5728, A winged wardrobe, with circular ends. 1881 J. Evans *Anc. Bronze Implem.* 72 The winged celts may be generally described as those in which the flanges are short and have a great amount of lateral extension. 1923 J. C. Rogers *Engl. Furnit.* fig. 33 A fine example of a winged armchair upholstered in damask.

3. In special scientific applications.

† a. *Bot.* = Pinnate 1 a. Also *winged clefts*, the divisions of a pinnatifid leaf (cf. *wing-cleft*, Wing *sb.* 21). *Obs.* (An inexact rendering of L. *pinnatus*, in this case intended to mean 'feathered' or 'feather-shaped'.) b. *Bot.*, etc. Having wings, i. e. lateral processes or appendages, as a stem, seed, fruit, shell, etc. c. *Bot.* in names of plants distinguished by having pinnate leaves (*obs.*), or winged stems or other parts. **Winged elm**, a small N. American species of elm (*Ulmus alata*) with corky winged branches. **Winged pea**, a plant of the S. European genus *Tetragonolobus* (now included in *Lotus*), having four-winged pods (see Pea 1 3).

a. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 84 Winged leaves: like those of Tansy. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 214 Many winged Leaves like those of the Ash. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* Gloss., *Winged-Leaves*, when an undivided leaf-stalk hath many little leaves growing from each side; as in Ash and Pea. *Ibid.*, Winged-Clefts. 1796 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) III. 772 Leaf triply-winged.

b. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* Gloss., *Winged-Leaf-stalk*: one that is not cylindrical, but flattish, with a thin leafy border at each edge. 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 383 The seeds pedicel'd pendulous three-side-winged. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 203 Trigonal, with angular, winged, membranaceous processes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1135/1 *Tetragonolobus*, a genus of leguminous plants allied to *Lotus*, from which they are well distinguished by their quadrangular winged pods.

c. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 31 Corallina pennata longior. Inter Scopulos. Winged Coralline. 1665 Lovell *Herball* (ed. 2) 470 Winged wind weed. 1739 Miller *Gard. Dict.* II, *Ochrus*, Winged Pea. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man* 168 The Winged Yam. 1858 A. Gray *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 396 *Ulmus alata*..(Winged Elm).

4. *fig.* (or in fig. context): Capable of or performing some movement or action figured as flight, 'flying'; flying or passing swiftly, swift, rapid.

Fame.
haire; ——— ———
to catch my winged soule. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 2 Beare this sealed Briefe With winged haste to the Lord Marshall. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* IV. i. 142 *Ros.*..A Womans thought runs before her actions. *Ord.* So do all thoughts, they are wing'd. 1611 *Lust's Domin.* I. ii. (1657) B 5 b, Old time I'le..be a foot-boy to thy winged hours. 1638 P. Vincent *True Relat* in *Mass. Hist. Coll.* (1837) Ser. III. VI. 39 Divers loopholes, through which they let fly their winged messengers [*i. e.* arrows]. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. vii. (1640) 180 Which race [*sc.* the Spanish gennet], for their winged speed, the Poets feigned to be begot of the wind. 1652 — etc. *Abel Rediv., Ramus* 327 He was belov'd of all that lov'd the fame of learning; for he had a winged name. [Cf. Cicero, *nomen nostrum volitare et vagari.*] 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 508 The winged Thunder takes his way From the cold North. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 333 And winged Deaths in whistling Arrows fly. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* II. 377 What though my winged hours of bliss have been, Like angel-visits, few and far between. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 175 With double speed the wing'd hour gallops by. 1824 Mrs. Grant *Mem. & Corr.* (1844) III. 65 The dear old friends with whom I passed that winged week. 1866 Lowell *At Comm. Dinner*, A kind of winged prose that could fly if it would. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* viii, Oswald leaves her with winged heels to make his arrangements. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* III. ii, Wing'd souls flying Beyond all change and in the eternal distance To settle on the Truth.

b. *esp.* of words or speech (rendering or imitating the Homeric phrase ἔπεα πτερόεντα).

1616 Chapman *Odyss.* x. 488 Circe..Bowing her neare me, these wing'd words did vse. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IV. 388 Then thus, with winged Words, the God began. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XXII. 92 His mother..Then in wing'd accents, weeping, him bespake. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* I. viii, Through her ears Those winged words like arrows sped. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* XXXVI, When our own winged words seem to be hovering around us.

5. *Comb.*, as (in sense 4) ***winged-footed***, ***-heeled***, † (in sense 3 a) ***-leaved*** adjs.

1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* I. § 26 There..is born the shepherd of the clouds, *winged-footed, and deceiving. 1590 *Winged heeld [see Wingy *a.* 4, quot. 1596]. 1808 Corbett *Weekly Reg.* 25 June 1002 If..such a winged-heeled gentleman.. should be to be found in their country. 1824 Loudon *Green-house Comp.* I. 88 *Lotus jacobæus*,..A..pea-flower, on a delicate *winged-leaved plant.

Hence **Wingedly** (wi·ŋėdli) *adv.*; **Wingedness** (wi·ŋėdnės).

1651 Davenant *Gondibert* I. II. lxvii, (So *wingedly he wheeles) No one could catch, what all with trouble finde. 1710 R. Ward *Life H. More* 146 So lightly and wingedly did he pass through it. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 813 Nor with aught else can our souls interknit So wingedly. 1787 Beckford *Italy* (1834) II. 325 Such a palpable manifestation of archangelic beauty and *winsredness.

Winged (wiŋd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wing *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Shot or wounded in the wing.

[illegible]

2. Brushed with a bird's wing (Wing *v.* 7).

1866 Whittier *Snow-bound* 156 We sat the clean-winged hearth about.

Winger (wi·ŋəɹ). [f. Wing *sb.* + -er 1.]

1. *Naut.* A small cask or tank stowed in the wing of a ship's hold (Wing *sb.* 9 b (*a*)).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 286 The sides are filled-in with wingers of [? or] small casks. 1815 Burney *Falconer's Dict. Marine.*

2. *Football.* A player in the (right or left) wing; in the Rugby game, a forward whose place is on the 'wing' in the back row of the scrum.

1896 *Bootle Times* 28 Jan. 3/2 Dow making pretty headway and then passing to the left winger. 1903 P. Trevor *R. U. Football* 44 The danger..is that a race of 'shovers' will succeed a race of 'wingers'.

Hence **Wi·nging** *vbl. sb.* (*Rugby Football*).

1922 J. M. B. Scott *Rugby Football* 72 'Winging'..is the most scientific game a forward can play.

Wingless (wi·ŋlės), *a.* [f. Wing *sb.* + -less.] Having no wings; destitute of wings.

Also applied by extension to birds having rudimentary wings not used for flight.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 808 Mamuques..Foodless they live!..Wing-less they fly. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 50 *Anthrenus*,..the wingless Hornet. 1704 Petiver *Gazophyl.* ii. 13, This wingless Wasp I have had from Virginia. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 235 They differ from Bignoniaceæ in their wingless seeds. 1835 Wordsw. *Athens & Attica* xiv, The statue of Victory in this temple, was sculptured wingless. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 125 The apteryx..a New Zealand wingless bird. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 233/1 Many wingless insects—such as lice, fleas and certain earwigs and cockroaches.

fig. 1598 Bastard *Caretted.* IV. vi. 80 As if my thoughtes.. Wingelesse & footelesse, now like snailes did creepe. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 543 Our freedom chain'd; quite wingless our desire. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 48 The wingless, crawling hours. 1827 Hood *Retrospective Rev.* v, My joys are wingless all and dead. 1873 C. E. Norton *Lett.* (1913) I. 460, I have had to read of late some wingless verse, and it was a delightful refreshment to find in your sonnet poetry that soared.

Hence **Wi·nglessness.**

1890 *Universal Rev.* Apr. 536 The winglessness of the Madeira beetles.

Winglet (wi·ŋlėt). [f. Wing *sb.* + -let.]

1. A little wing; also *transf.* something resembling a little wing, as a petal.

1611 [see 3]. 1800 Moore *Anacreon* IV. 19 And flights of loves, in wanton ringlets, Flit around on golden winglets. 1831 Meredith *Poetry of Shelley* I See'st thou a Skylark whose glistening winglets ascending Quiver like pulses beneath the melodious dawn? 1895 Allingham *Day & Nt. Songs* Ser. II. *The Choice* iii, Pea-bloom winglets.

2. a. *Entom.* A small appendage at the base of each wing or wing-sheath, as in certain flies and beetles, or on each side of the rostrum in certain weevils. b. *Ornith.* A process on the terminal joint of a bird's wing, clothed with small and somewhat stiff feathers: also called *bastard* or *false wing.*

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1828) II. 348 The winglets are small concavo-convex scales, of a stiff membranaceous substance. 1828 C. A. Johns *Brit. Birds* 263 The Jay..winglet and greater coverts barred with black, white, and bright blue.

3. A small wing-like appendage on some part of dress.

1611 Florio, *Talari*,..certaine shooes with winglets as Mercury is fained to weare on his feet. 1870 C. C. Black tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 43 The small winglets that were attached to the shoulder-pieces of the earlier coats of leather and..were sorts of escutcheons.

4. A small projecting part in a piece of mechanism: see quot.

1835 Ure *Phil. Manuf.* 227 L is the winglet, which in turning along with the spindle, has the power of making it traverse and distribute the thread evenly over the surface of the bobbin.

Wingmanship (wi·ŋmănʃip). [f. Wing *sb.* after such words as *seamanship*, *penmanship* (see -ship 2 b), the meaning of the element *-man-* being lost sight of.] Skill in the use of the wings; flying regarded as an art or accomplishment.

1867 Dk. Argyll *Reign of Law* 46 To stand still in the air is not..impossible to a flying bird,..but it is one of the most difficult feats of wingmanship. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Aug. 264/4 In sheer wingmanship, the peregrine has no peer among British birds.

† **Wing-thrush.** *Obs.* [? Arising from a misunderstanding of LG. **wingaardsvogel*, *weingaardtrossel*, f. *wingaard* vineyard, Winyard + *vogel* bird, *drossel* thrush. Perhaps never current; cf. Winnard.] The redwing, *Turdus iliacus.*

1544 Turner *Avium Præcip.* 1 7, Tertium genus [Turdorum] ab Anglis a wyngthrushe, et à Germanis eyn weingaersdsuoegel nuncupatur. Hic turdus..maculas habet latiusculas rubras. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Literne*, a birde of the bignesse of a blacke bird called a wing thrushe. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Literne.*

† **Wingwise**, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Wing *sb.* + -wise.] In the manner of wings: used in quots. in reference to opposite (as distinguished from alternate) leaves.

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. K ij b, They [*sc.* leaves of Cicer] stand not wyngewyse, that is one ryght against another. 1568 *Ibid.* III. 53 Gratiola..The leaues growe wingwise by copies one against an other.

Wingy (wi·ŋi), *a.* [f. Wing *sb.* + -y 1.]

† 1. Of, pertaining to, or resembling a wing or wings; wing-like. *Obs.*

1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iv. 66 The lower leaf [of leguminous plants] closely involving the rudimental Cod, and the alary or wingy divisions embracing or hanging over it. 1694 Addison *Ovid's Met.* II. *Phaeton* 183 With wingy speed [they] outstrip the eastern wind.

2. Having wings, winged (*poet.*); having large or conspicuous wings (cf. *leggy*).

1596 [see 4]. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* v. 1029 If some rushing Storm the Journey cross, The wingy Leaders all are at a loss. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* I. 588 With tar Prevent the wingy swarm and scorching heat. 1892 'Michael Field' *Sight & Song* 1 The Indifferent. Watteau. The Louvre..He dances on; the world is his, The sunshine and his wingy hat. 1918 [A. G. Gardiner] *Leaves in Wind* 2 Those wingy, nippy, intrepid insects that we call, vaguely, mosquitoes.

3. *fig.* Capable of 'flight', soaring, aspiring; soaring out of reach, eluding grasp or comprehension.

1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 9 Those wingy mysteries in Divinity, and airy subtleties in Religion. *Ibid.* § 32 The noble Soule. Whose wingy nature ever doth aspire, To reach a place whence first it tooke its fire. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 792 That this [etherial vehicle], being made Light, and Alate or Wingy, might no way hinder the Souls Ascent upward. 1760 Beattie *Ode to Hope* II. i, Youth's gallant trophies..invite His wingy nerves to climb. 1855 Singleton *Æn.* II. 1121 The phantom-form, a match For wanton winds, and likest wingy [orig. *volucri*] sleep.

4. *Comb.*, as *wingy-footed*, *-heeled* adjs. (cf. *wing-footed*, Wing *sb.* 21).

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* (ed. 2) III. xii. 12 [Fear] fast away did fly, As ashes pale of hew, and wingyheeld [1590 winged heeld]. 1716 Rowe *Ode for 1716* iii. 16 Wingy-footed was he Born. 1740 Somerville *Hobbinol.* I. 304 Thus on the slacken'd Rope The wingy-footed Artist..Stands tott'ring.

† **Wining**, *sb. Obs.* In *white-wining* [app. f. White wine + -ing 3], a variety of apple.

1676 Worlidge *Vinetum Brit.* etc. 161 The White-Wining, is a small white Apple;..the fruit juicy and pleasant, but soon perishing.

Wining (wəi·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also **wineing.** [f. Wine *v.* + -ing 1.] The drinking of wine in company. Also *attrib.*

1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles* xiii. I. 287 Hampden's rooms [at Cambridge], where one of our so-called wining parties was prepared. 1891 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 5/2 At the wining, he finished his reply to the toast of the evening with a happy conceit. 1917 *Morning Post* 16 Feb. 4/2 Lunching, dining, and wineing with English members..made them the dupes of the Liberal party.

So **Wi·ning** *ppl. a.*, wine-drinking.

? 1755 [E. Thompson] *Meretriciad* (1765) 13 When sep'rate you enjoy'd the wining man, What could resist a well-laid bedded plan?

Wining (e, obs. forms of Winning *vbl. sb.*

Winish (wəi·niʃ), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 6 **wynyshe**, **-is(h)e.** [f. Wine *sb.*1 + -ish 1.] Having the quality or nature of wine; resembling wine.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* III. iv. Q iij, I neuer that wot of, haue I dronk wyne more wynyshe, or purer from any water put vnto it. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. C v b, A wynishe luyce. 1665 Havers *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 70 *Ananas*..the whole Fruit is..held to be hot and good to promote digestion, having in my opinion, somewhat of a winish taste and strength. 1741 *Ca*
Use no Wine, or winish Possets.

Wink (wiŋk), *sb.*1 Forms: see Wink *v.*1; also 7 **whinke.** [f. Wink *v.*1]

1. A closing of the eyes for sleep; a (short) spell of sleep, a nap. *rare* exc. as in b, c.

In Shaks. in phr. referring to death.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 3 Penne Wakede I of my wink. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1204 Till þai þe seruice all hade mad, þat to sic deide men sold parteyne, Or ony wink come in þar eyne. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 343 Here I Aske To go to taake A wynke. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 285 Whiles you doing thus, To the perpetuall winke for aye might put This ancient morsell. 1611 —

Wint. T. v. ii. 317 Thou..might'st be-spice a Cup, To give mine Enemy a lasting Winke. 1869 Mrs. A. Whitney *We Girls* vi, 'What is it, dear?' asked Mrs. Hobart, rousing from a little arm-chair wink.

b. Phr. (*not*) *to sleep a* or *one wink*, (*not*) *a wink of sleep*, etc.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9146 Þey..Ne mete ete, ne drank drynke, Ne slepte onely a-lepy wynke. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 79 That might he nouther ete ne drink, Ne have night rest, ne slepe no wynk. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vi. 14 This night I myght nocht sleip a wink. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. x. 15 For neuir mair may scho sleip a wynk. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 316 *marg.*, Reuilus a vigilaunte consul, for he neuer slept wynke in his consulship. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. iv. 103 Since I receiu'd command to do this businesse, I haue not slept one winke. 1688 N. O. *Bolleau's Lutrin* II. 22 My aking head can get no wink of Sleep! 1740 Richardson *Pamela* II. 267, I will go to-bed; but not one Wink, I fear, shall I get this Night. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* v, Whether Mr. Quilp took any sleep by snatches of a few winks at a time. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. ix, He has slept no wink all night. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xiii, I can't sleep a wink with you at the window.

c. *Forty winks*: a very brief sleep, a short nap. *colloq.*

1828 Egan *Finish to Tom & Jerry* iii. (1871) 87 The uncommonly big gentleman, told out, taking forty winks. 1851 *Westm. Rev.* July 326 His quiet 'forty winks' after dinner. 1890 J. Hatton *By order of Czar* II. iv, 'Well, I declare, Dolly, you are going to sleep!' 'I am very tired; only forty winks. Is there time?'

2. A glance or significant movement of the eye (often accompanied by a nod) expressing command, assent, invitation, or the like. *Obs.* exc. in the proverb *A nod's as good as a wink to a blind horse* (see also Nod *sb.*[1] 1), and phr. *to tip, give*, or *get the wink* (now apprehended as sense 5).

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxiv. 35 Ilk wemen sould..Thair vertewis all mak of na availlie, Be subtill winkis, and thair dessaitfull talis. 1540 Elyot *Image Gov.* xxxviii. (1541) 94 Of a mayster sturdy and fierce, a lyttell wynke to his seruant is a fearefull commaundement. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* S j b, I am not so blind, that thou canst make me beleue with a whike, it is midnight at noone day. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 24 Thou eternall Father, at whose wink The wrathfull Ocean's swelling pride doth sink.

1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* I. i, I only tip him the wink, he knows an Ale-house from a Hovel. 1710 S. Palmer *Proverbs* 100 A nod and a wink are very often treacherous and false. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 323 At last..he gave him the wink. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 139 Harry, upon a wink, stepped out. *a* 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 262 The surgeon, who had previously got the wink, confined him to his bed. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. v. 211 Don Felix thinks a wink as good as a nod. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, A wink's as gude as a nod to a blind horse. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Each & All* v. 69 On this, the wink went round, and the neighbours dropped off. 1872 C. Gibbon *For the King* xvii, He gave me the wink that the lady was a friend of his.

b. A glance or glimpse. (Cf. Blink *sb.*[2] 2.) [1598–1868: see Eye-wink a.] 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xii, A trifle of orthography, a glance at ancient history, a wink or two at modern ditto.

3. *transf.* a. A moment of time, as being that occupied by a glance of the eyes; phr. *in a wink* (†*with* or *at a wink*), in a trice. (Cf. Eye-wink b.)

1585 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xiii. 4 Bright Apollo..Quhais glorious glance 3it stoutly skaillis the skyis, Quhen with a wink we wonder vhair they war. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 206 How..radio to do the king pleisour, at a wink quhen he wald charge. 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 31 Man is only a winke of life. 1658 J. Robinson *Endoxa* 33 The rest..were coexisting with their first Being; or, upon the least Wink of Opportunity, prest to be drawn forth. 1693 Southerne *Maid's Last Prayer* III. ii, The company will be here in a wink, as a body may say. 1790 D. Morison *Poems* 7 Then aff a' wallop in a wink. 1826 Hood *I Remember* 3 He [sc. the sun] never came a wink too soon. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 701 For in a wink the false love turns to hate. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxx. 362 The next wink of time their blades clashed together.

b. (*Not*) *a wink*: (not) the slightest amount; esp. in *not to see a wink*.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* S 3, Hath he..expreat in his countenaunce the least wincke of dislike of them? 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 248 Ambition cannot pierce a winke beyond. 1621 Molle *Cameran. Lib. Libr.* II. xliii. 117 He was shut into a hole where he saw not a whinke. 1726 Estcourt *Fair Example* v. i, *Whims.* Look up, I say... *Sym.*..In Sincerity, Sir, I can't see a Wink. 1841 Thackeray *Ct. Heggarty Diamond* v, At least in my bed-room..I could not see a wink.

4. A nictitation of the eyelid; a blink.

1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 119 Euery winke of an Eye, some new Grace will be borne. 1805 Scott *Talism.* xvii, Mark me the smallest twitch of the features, or wink of the eyelid. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xi, Sir Giles Wapshot had a particularly noisy manner of imbibing his soup, and her ladyship a wink of the left eye.

5. An act of winking (see Wink *v.*[1] 8).

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ix, Jingle..then..added, with a knowing wink, and a jerk of the thumb towards the interior of the chaise [etc.]. *Ibid.* lvi, He had been much struck with unfatherly winks upon her, already. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiv, 'That is, if you're not on duty to that pretty Miss Sedley,' Crawley said, with a knowing wink. 1851 H. Jerrold *St. Giles* vii. 60 [He] gave a saucy wink to the servant, and bounded..up stairs. 1892 Earl Rosebery *Pitt* xiii. 227 Facts of this kind can of course be always dismissed by a knowing wink or a sarcastic smile.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

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was driving off as fast as he could. 1902 Monkhouse & Gamble *Kipling* 191 One of Mr. Kipling's jaunty,..wink-tipping sketches. 1903 Hardy *Dynasts* I. vi. I, Should issues stand at pause But for a wink-while.

Wink, *sb.*[2] *s.w. dial.* Var. Winch *sb.*[1]

1847 Halliwell, *Wink*..(2) A winch, or crank. *West.* 1873 Williams & Jones *Gloss. Som.*, *Wink*, an excavated or sunken well. 1878 D. Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 380 *Wink*, a west country term for a kind of winch used in the bow of a boat by fishermen to raise the anchor. 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-bk.*, *Wink*, a well from which the water is drawn by a winch, chain, and bucket. 1929 Chope *Some Old Farm Implem.* 23 The apparatus for spinning rope was known as a wink (winch) or spinner.

Wink, *sb.*[3] *slang.* Short for Winkle *sb.*

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 76/1 The 'wink' men, as these periwinkle sellers are called. *Ibid.* 479/2 Salt (or fresh) herrings, winks, or shrimps.

Wink (wiŋk), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 *wincian*, 3 *winken*, 4–6 **wynk**(*e*, 4–7 **winke**, **winck**, 6–7 **wincke**, (4 *Sc.* **vynk**, 5 **wynkyn**, *pa. t.* **wanke**, **wonk**, 6 **wynok**(*e*, 9 *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* **wunk**), 4– **wink**. [OE. *wincian* wk. vb. = OS. *wincon* to nod, MLG., MDu. *winken*, related to OHG. *winchan* str. vb. (MHG., G. *winken*) to move sideways, stagger, nod; cf. OHG. *winch* (MHG. *winc*, G. *wink*) m. nod, OE. *wince* Winch *sb.*[1]; f. Teut. *wiŋk-*, older *weŋk-* :— Indo-Eur. *weŋg-*.

Other formations on the base *wiŋk-* (*weŋk-*) : *wiŋk-l*:— *weŋg-* : *twoŋg-*, to move sideways or from side to side, are OHG. *wanc*, *wanch*, MHG. *wanc* turning, return, instability, OS., OHG. *wankôn* (MLG., MDu., MHG. *wanken*); OHG. *wenkan*, OS. *wenkean* to waver, vacillate (MLG., MDu., Du. *wenken* to nod), whence OF. *guenchir* Winch *v.*[1]; Lith. *vingis* to do unwillingly, avoid, *vangùs* inactive, *vingis* sb. bend, curve, Albanian *vank* (*vang-*) falloe. See also Wankle *a.*, Wenchel.

Examples of a strong conjugation in English (pa. t. *wunk*, *wonk*) are very rare. The modern pa. t. and pa. pple. *wunk* are jocular.]

†1. *intr.* To close one's eyes. (Also in fig. context: cf. 5, 6.) *Obs.*

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxix. 287 Se stæpð forð mid ðam fotum & wincaþ mid ðæm eagum [orig. *oculos claudit*]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xxvi. (Z.) 156 Ic wincize, *connuseo*. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 288 Hwon þe heorte draweð lust into hire, ase þing þet were amased, & foð on ase to winken & forte leten þene ueond iwurðen. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1537 Al for nought he may wel lygge and wynke But slep ne may þere in his herte synke. *c* 1386 — *Nun's Pr. T.* 486 He wolde so peyne hym, that with bothe hise eyen He moste wynke, so loude he wolde cryen. *Ibid.* 611 For he that wynketh whan he sholde see, Al wilfully god lat him neuere thee. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 54 For ofte, who that hiede toke, Betre is to winke than to loke. *c* 1480 Henryson *Two Mice* 333 Quhylis wald he lat hir rin vnder the stra; Quylis wald he wink, and play with hir buk heid. *c* 1500 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 289 Sore me for-thinked, that I so moche wynked, For had I never more nede than nowe for to loke. *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 57 For ar self do wink, Ye iudge all other blinde. 1562 [see Winking *ppl. a.* 1]. 1584 Lyly *Campaspe* v. iv. 4 Though I winke, I sleepe not. 1621 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. iv. 194 There are none want eyes, to direct them the way I am going, but such as winke, and will not vse them. 1621 in Kempe *Lonely MSS.* (1836) 454 When you see y^m [*sc.* the nuns] they must winke and not speake to you. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm., John x. 10* (1640) 70 That man that is blinde, or that will winke, shall see no more sunne upon S. Barnabies day, then upon S. Lucies. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Collar* 26 Good cable, to enforce and draw, And be thy law, While thou didst wink and wouldst not see. 1664 Tillotson *Wisdom of being religious* 44 Men are not blind, but they wink, and shut their eyes; they can understand, and will not. 1700 S. L. tr. *Freke's Voy. E. Ind.* 236, I open'd my Eyes..and [they] said, it was high time for me to open 'em; for if I had wink'd but a little longer, over I had gone. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 255 To follow foolish precedents, and wink With both our eyes, is easier than to think. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* v, I thought I saw him still, though I winked as close as ever I could.

Winking *pr. pple.*: with the eyes shut (or blindfolded).

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 23462 (Fairf.) Als wele þen saltow se Wincande als wip opin eye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 289 Thoas ..Whan Anthenor this Juel tok, Wynkende caste a wel his lok. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Addit., *Andabata*, certayne men that faughte with swordes wynkynge. 1590 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 332 *Burg.* They are then excus'd, my Lord, when they see not what they doe. *King.* Then good my Lord, teach your Cousin to consent winking.

†b. Said of the eyes, occas. *transf.* of other things: To close. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

In quots. 1598, 1858, said of the closing of the day.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4970 In als short whyle als hert may thynk, Or mans eghe may open or wynk. 1596 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 683 That one eye winks, as though it were but blynd. 1597 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* I ij, Yet coulde he not perswade himselfe whether he dreamed.. (although he knew of a certentie his eyes winked not). 1598 *Mucedorus* IV. i. 38 The christall eye of Heauen shall not thrise wincke,.. Till we salute the Aragonian King. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. II. i, While the Evening keen With sharper air doth make his pores to wink. 1649 Davenant *Love & Hon.* III. iv. 44 Where shadows vanish when the world's eye winckes Behind a cloud. 1858 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 69 The sister Hours..Are gone on slow with the day that winked, With the night that spanned at golden gates.

†c. Ins ation with drinking off at a draught.

1542 Elyot *Dict.*, *Amyctis*, a..dryake, which the Thra- cians vsed to drynke vp at one draughte, wynkyng. 15..*Wyf of Auchtermuchty* 76 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 344 Ay scho winkit and scho drank. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* ii. 37 And yet these same cautious and quick-sighted Gentlemen can wink and swallow down this sottish Opinion about Percipient Atoms.

2. To open and shut one's eyes momentarily and involuntarily; to blink, nictitate.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 341 All his comament was don, Suiftliker þen hee may wink. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wynkyn, idem quod twynkelyn. *a* 1480 *Knt. de la Tour* xii, She loked smal and wynked ofte,..euer beting her eyelyddes togedre. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1058 When that he felt the watter that vas cold, He wonk, and gan about hyme to behold. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 108 At my teares abowring dyd he sigh? dyd he winck with his eyelyd? 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 122 It is impossible to prevent them..any more than we can refuse to winke with our eye when a sudden blow is offered at it. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3892/4 Robert Stephens,..Stammering Speech, winks on the left Eye. 1819 Shelley *Cyclops* 631 Dare not to breathe, Or spit, or e'en wink, lest ye wake the monster. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii, The white wooden houses (so white that it makes one wink to look at them). 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xxi, He..adjusts his skull-cap with such a rub, that the old man winks with both eyes for a minute afterwards. 1916 *Q. Rev.* July 227 When there is a loud report close at hand we instinctively wink.

b. Said of the eyes or eyelids: To blink. Also occas. of other things: To open and shut quickly. Now *rare*.

1662 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 3, Amongst Birds..The eyes, are as those of other creatures,..but they winke, a membrane passing from the angle. 1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* II. vii. 111 The trebble-pointed valves do not only wink, but they are close shut by the blood distending the Heart. 1710 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* I. xxxv, When we look upon a lighted Candle at a little Distance with our Eyes winking. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* VI. xv, The eye-lid scarce had time to wink. 1905 A. T. Sheppard *Red Cravat* I. ii. 24 The eyes winked-to again and closed for ever.

c. Of a light, a burning or glowing object, etc.: To emit quick intermittent flashes; to twinkle. (Now associated with sense 8.)

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 665 Like as a coal, that winkt [orig *qui dort*] On a stick's end (and seemed quite extinct). *a* 1633 Austin *Medit.* (1635) 81 [The Light of Nature] is no Starre indeed, but a Candle: and..it winkes in the Socket too. 1707 E. Smith *Phædra & Hipp.* I. i. 5 Feed with new Oil the wasting Lamp of Life, That winks and trembles, now, just now expiring. 1820 Wordsw. *Sonn., 'Fair star of evening'*, Thou..shouldst wink, Bright Star! with laughter on her banners. 1820 Keats *To a Nightingale* ii, A beaker..With beaded bubbles winking at the brim. 1848 Thackeray *Lett.* Nov., The candles are just winking out. 1851 Meredith *Love in Valley* xvii, A rill where on sand the minnows wink. 1876 Miss Braddon *J. Haggard's Daus.* x, The polished grate winking and twinkling in the red light from a neat little fire. 1883 Hardy *Wessex Tales* (1888) I. 16 Beyond all this winked a few bleared lamplights through the beating drops.

†3. To have the eyes closed in sleep; to sleep; sometimes, to doze, slumber. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 182 The kyng than wynkit a litill we. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2384 Ofte he waketh whan he sholde winke. *c* 1430 *How Wise Man Taust his Sonne* 72 in *Babees Bk.* 50 And go to bedde bi tymes, & wynke. *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 22 For warldly wyn sik walkis, quhen wysar wynkis. 1535 *Goodly Primer* L ij b (*Ps.* cxxi. 4), Loo, neyther wyll he slepe, nor yet ons wynke, that kepeth Israell. 1553 *Respublica* 1135 Repose yourselfe, Madame, a while & winke. 1600 Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 19 Yes, our law in this case hath not either slumbred or winked. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 216 Thou let'st thy fortune sleepe: die rather: wink'st Whiles thou art waking. 1626 T. Scot *Philomythie* B 6 b, When others soundly sleep, he must but winke. 1649 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 8 Wearinesse..began to inforce sleep upon me, so that..I began to winke.

†4. To close one eye, as in aiming at a target; hence, to aim: usually *to wink with the one* or *the other eye*. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 180 *Homme doile clune*, M[an] with ee wynkyth. *c* 1460 *Frere & Boye* (Ritson) 89 Yf

1530 Palsgr. 782/2 He that wynketh with one eye and loketh with the tother, I wyll nat trust hym and he were my brother. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Collimare*, to wynke with one eye. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc., Navig.* xxii. (1597) 309 Moone the Transame..vntil you may see with the one eye (winking with ye other) the one end of the transame to meete iust with the centre,..of the Sun. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 20 The *Arimaspi* (who from wincking when they shoot are said to be *Mono.culi*). *a* 1680 Butler *Rem., Satyr Imperfect. Hum. Learn.* I. 55 As Men, that wink with one Eye, see more true, And take their Aim much better, than with two.

5. To 'shut one's eyes' to something faulty, wrong, or improper; to be complaisant. (Now *rare* exc. as in 6.)

c 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 571, I was vnwyse that winkit at thy will. 1562 Cooper *Answ. Def. Truth* 61 b, Some learned and holy men for the time did winke and beare with suche thinges. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Miseris* xi, And yet as though he knew it not, His knowledge winks and lets his humours reigne. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 256 Too just to wink, or speak the guilty close. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 630 Is he man at all, who knows and winks? 1862 Reade *Cloister & H.* xlvi, Many is the time I have winked and wouldn't see too much.

b. Phr. *To wink hard.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1620 Quarles *Feast for Wormes* iii. Med. iii. 38 Hard must he winke, that shuts his eyes from heau'n. 1790 Burns

Prol. Sathld. 40 And aiblins when they winna stand the test, Wink hard and say, the folks hae done their best!
1821 SCOTT *Cl. Robt.* II, The Emperor, who will rather wink at than see disagreements. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* ii, Jermyn must be his [election-]agent; Harold must wink hard till he found himself safely returned.

6. a. *To wink at.* (*a*) To 'shut one's eyes to' (an offence, fault, defect, impropriety, or irregularity); to connive at.

1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 108 Persons that..by..wynkyng at his preparacions..encoraged hym to be the bolder. 1540 ELYOT *Image Gov.* xxxiii. (1541) 76 b, Ye secretely winkynge at the sayd faultes. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* xlvii. 24 When as all kind of uncleanstly is tolerated, fornications and adulteries winkt at. *a* 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* I. (1710) 112 If I this saucyness in you, Shou'd seem to wink-at or allow. 1778 SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. iii, Suppose you were to wink at her corresponding with him for a little time. 1823 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiv, You had the price of half a cargo for winking at our job. 1861 TROLLOPE *La Beata* I. ix. 250 A very evident tendency..to wink at the shortcomings of their friends.

(*b*) To disregard, overlook, pass unnoticed (a fact or occurrence). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 32 He stretched forth his penne agenst me as farre as he dirst,..at the whiche chaleng I winked. 1568 *Bible* (Bishops') Acts xvii. 30 And the tyme of this ignoraunce God wyncked at. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 372 We do willingly wink at the rest of the differences of like nature. 1692 *Weesils* Postscr. 13 Some, who,..either wink at, or absolutely forget her admirable, tho plain Principles. 1848 SCHOMBURGK *Raleigh's Discov. Guiana* (Hakl. Soc.) 172 It is..evident that they winked at consequences which they must have foreseen.

†(*c*) To be complaisant with (an offending or contumacious person); to connive at the doings of.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 516 Seing the saidis rebellis ourlukit and winkit at be sic as duellis maist ewest to thame. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iv. 52 Let not Light see my black and deepe desires: The Eye winke at the Hand. 1674 *Jackson's Recantation* C 2, My other two Comerades [in thieving] lay in an Inn where they..were winkt at by the Master of the House. 1703 DE FOE *More Reform.* 37 Thou art blam'd for Winking at a L - - d Whose Rapes and Vices stand upon Record.

†b. (*a*) *To wink on, upon*: = a (*a*), above. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 19 She can wynke on the yew, and wery the lam. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 98 Vpon a homely obiect, Loue can winke. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 402 You may as well..bid me hope Danger will wink on Opportunity. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. *Cromwell & Noble* 59, I acknowledge his weaknesses, and cannot wink upon his crimes. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. v, Justice must never wink upon great offenders.

†(*b*) *To wink against*: = a (*b*), above. *Obs.*

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xv. § 4 He that denies this seems to me wilfully to wink against the light of Nature. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. i. (1786) 22 Having asserted his former opinions in a most confident manner, he is tempted now to wink a little against the truth.

†c. *trans.* = a (*a*), above. *Obs. rare.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xviii. 58 Trow ye..that God omnipotent Will wynk vnsene sic wickitnes and wrang? 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 301 This cheat was winkt in the times of ignorance.

†7. *intr.* To give a significant glance, as of command, direction, or invitation: usually const. *on, upon*, later *to, at. Obs.*

c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 118/15 *Annicte uel annuto*, ic wincie. 13.. *Minor Poems of Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 680 Whon þei comen togedere, eiþer on oþer wynkeþ. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. iv. 152, I seiȝe mede in the moot-halle on men of lawe wynke, And þei lawghyng lope to hire. *Ibid.* xiii. 85 Pacience perceyued what I thouȝt, and wynked on me to be stille. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 340 The Norice of digestioun the sleepe Gan on hem wynke. *c* 1400 *Gawaylyn* 453 Whan I wynke on the loke for to gone. 24.. *K. Edw. & Shepherd* in Hartshorne *Metr. T.* (1829) 79 Oure kyng on the schepherde wanke, Priualy with his eye. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2093 Syr, remembre the tourne of Fortunes whele, That wantonly can wynke, and wynche with her hele. 1530 PALSGR. 782/2 He hath wynked upon me thrise, what so ever he meaneth. 1552 HULOET, Wyncke at one, *adnicto*. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 333, I will winke on her to consent, my Lord. 1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* III. i, Then cast she up Her pretty eye and wink'd. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. xxxiii. 124 She winked to him, whereupon he approaching with a great deal of respect unto the Queen [etc.]. 1672 CARYL *Sir Salomon* II. 30 Why could not you tell me on't? *Single.* I wincked, and wincked upon you, and did all that I could. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ₱ 7, I winked upon my Friend to take his Leave. 1768 MRS. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 4 Nov., Mrs. Thrale winked at him to give up the place. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) IV. 236 Davis winked to his friends that it was all right. 1821 MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* II. iii. 43 Winking at me not to take any notice. 1838 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Astley's*, Ma having first nodded and winked to the governess to pull the girls' frocks a little more off their shoulders.

†b. ? To 'give the tip'. *Obs. rare.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 244 Haue good aylle of hely: bewar now, I wynk, For and thou drynk direly, in thy polle wyle it synk.

†c. *transf.* To make a sign. *Obs. rare.*

1738 [G. SMITH] *Curious Relat.* II. 337 The Image of *Sicharus* which stands on the Altar, winks with its Hand.

†d. *trans.* To bring into a specified state by a glance or nod. *Obs.*

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Home* vii, What is this womankinde, which I can winke into a blacknesse and distaste?
1708 SWIFT *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* 293 They..Convey a Libel in a Frown, Or wink a Reputation down.

†8. phr. *Wink all hid* [see HIDE *v.*[1] 1 e, and cf. OF. *clignemussette*]: hide-and-seek. *Obs.*

1629 J. DAVIES *Humour's Heaven* n. iv, So that he did Drive them from dancing vnto Winck-all-hid.

8. *intr.* To close one eye momentarily, in a flippant or frivolous manner, esp. to convey intimate information or to express good-humoured interest.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiii, Mr. Weller..winked so indefatigably..that Sam began to think he must have got the *tic douloureux* in his right eye-lid. 1838 — *Nich. Nick.* xvi, He winked towards Nicholas with a degree of familiarity which he, no doubt, intended for a rather flattering compliment. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 73 An' Jock he sniggered, an' Jock he smiled, An' ower the cardbrim wunk. 1912 G. B. SHAW *Pygmalion* II. 142 He winks at Higgins.

9. *trans.* To close (an eye, the eyes) for a moment, either voluntarily (sense 8) or involuntarily (sense 3).

Colloq. phr. *To wink the other eye*, to treat what has been said with flippant disregard.

1838 BUCKSTONE *Shocking Events* 11 Hollo! hollo! he's winking his eye at my maid. 1846 JAMES *Step-mother* liv. III. 8, I shouldn't have winked an eye all night if you hadn't been here. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxv[i], Lady Clavering, giving the young gentleman a delighted tap with her fan, winked her black eyes at him. 1872 EARL PEMBROKE & G. H. KINGSLEY *S. Sea Bubbles* viii. 228 There was my princess winking winks that ought never to have been wunk. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv, Lording's eyes tingled with tears. He winked both eyes together and blew his nose with violence. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Rodn's Corner* xxxii, The lighthouse winked a glaring eye that seemed to stare over their heads far out to sea.

b. *To wink away*: to remove (tears) by blinking one's eyes.

1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* II. i, Joan, trying to smile, and to wink away the two large tears that have rushed to her eyes. 1892 MRS. S. BATSON *Dark* I. v. 105 She winked away a few hot tears of shame that rose to her eyes.

c. To move swiftly, cause to flicker like an eyelid.

1883 BRIDGES *Prometheus* 1464 Like butterflies, that..upon a wall Winking their idle fans at pleasure sit. 1897 S. CRANE *Third Violet* xxviii. 190 He told me you swore like a drill-sergeant if the model winked a finger.

d. To give (a signal), express (a message), etc. by means of flashlights.

1918 *Glasgow Herald* 22 Nov. 5 Their flagship's great..eye of flame winking out a message. 1919 *Ibid.* 21 Apr. 7 H.M.S. Glory..winked us welcome from the mast-head.

†**Wink**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [var. WINCH *v.*[1] Cf. WINK *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To shrink, wince.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 145 That boistrous Adam's body did not shrink For Northren Windes, nor for the Southren wink. 1677 [see WINKING *vbl. sb.*[2]].

Wink, obs. form of WINNOCK *Sc.*, window.

Wink-a-peep (wiŋkăpīp). Also 7 wink-apipe, wincopipe. [f. WINK *v.*[1] + PEEP *sb.*]

†1. *pl.* The eyes. *Obs.*

Cf. Devon dial. *wink a-peeps* 'drowsiness'.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 4 Those wink-apipes of thine, those ferret eies. *Ibid.* 116 Awake for shame, open thy wink-a-peeps!

2. *dial.* The pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 827 There is a Small Red Flower in the Stubble-Fields, which Country People call the Wincopipe. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) Mar. 593/1 The wincopipes are opening, sefior.

Winked (wiŋkt), *ppl. a.* [f. WINK *v.*[1] + -ED 1.] *Winked-at, -on*, connived at, tolerated.

1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* v. viii, [He] has been a loose Liver,..at..most of the winkt at houses about the Town. 1820 CRABBE *Borough* iv. 352 Plays, Put out by heathens in the wink'd-on days.

‖ **Winkel** (vi·ŋk'l). Also **winkle**. [Du.] A store or general shop in South Africa. Hence **Wi·nkler**, a store-keeper.

1839 W. C. HARRIS *Wild Sports S. Afr.* xxxvii. 332 We lost not a moment in opening a *winkel*, or shop. 1853 W. R. KING *Campaign. Kaffirland* vi. 139 'Winkel waggons' had come out to the camp, and the 'winklers', or private traders, sold everything they had. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 169/1 Richmond Road is not a township..It boasts of one winkel adjoining the railway buildings.

Winker (wi·ŋkəɹ). [f. WINK *v.*[1] + -ER 1.]

1. One who winks (in various senses). *rare.*

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 94 He was no gyfte taker, he was no wynker, he was no bywalker. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. xiii. f vij, That franticke papist Iohn Eckius, and our wynchester the wynker of wyles. *c* 1590 in *Collect. B. L. Ballads* (1867) 254 Cat will after kind, All winkers are not blind. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. iv. 164 True Cowards who are of the worse Sect of winkers are wont to shut their Eyes. 1715 POPE *Let. to Cragge* 15 July, A sett of nodders, winkers, and whisperers. 1820 J. CHAMBERS *Illustr. Worc.* 539 'Are you a gentleman and wink at whist?' This was too much for the winker. 1902 *Sat. Rev.* 19 July 77/1 Self-conscious winkers and gigglers over their own misconduct.

2. Chiefly *pl.* applied to the eyes or the eyelashes. Now *dial.* or *slang.*

1734 in Mrs. Delany *Autobiogr.* (1861) I. 519 As soon as my winkers are opened I am always blessed with one of your epistles. 1808 JAMIESON, *Winkers*, the eye-lashes. S. 1893 *Boy's Own Paper* Jan. 157/3 Here, youngster, clap your winker to this glass. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxvi, 206 Curling upward like the winkers of an old man's eye.

b. The nictitating membrane of a bird's eye.

1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 180.

3. *pl.* (rarely *sing.*) = BLINKER 2 b; also *attrib.* Also *fig.* or allusively.

1583 FULKE *Def. Conf. Paphist* 32 He is the common packhorse of the Papistes,..he weareth a paire of winkers ouer his eyes like a milliorse. 1746–7 MRS. DELANY in heads. 1788 J. SHERIDAN *Lydia* (1796) II. 89 Her cap standing beyond her eyes like a coach-horse's winkers. 1794 FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 136. 1829 *Carriage Builders' Art Jrnl.* I. 43/1 The winker-cheek is cut eight inches from buckle to buckle. 1882 J. PHILIPSON *Harness* 18 Hogskin is utilised for the pads, winkers, &c. of brown harness.

Comb. 1845 BROWNING in *Lett. R. B. & Ellis. B. Barrett* (1899) I. 79, I am set going with a hand, winker-wise, on each side of my head.

b. *transf.* Spectacles. *rare.*

1826 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* I. 31 A patent pair of goggle winkers, Conceal'd from public view his blinkers.

Winkey, variant of WINKY.

Winking (wi·ŋkiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. WINK *v.*[1] + -ING 1.] The action of WINK *v.*[1]

†1. Closing the eyes in sleep; dozing, slumbering; also, a doze, a nap. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Þer scal beon..lokinge wiþ-uten winkunge, song wiþ-uten lisse. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 3 Þanne waked I of my wynkynge and wo was with-alle, Þat I ne hadde sleped sadder. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xii. 167 In a wynkynge ich worth and wonderliche ich mette.
attrib. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt.-Walker* IV. i, So, so, he's fast; Fast as a fish ith' net, he has winking powder Shall worke upon him to our wish.

b. The taking of 'forty winks'.

1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. xii. 239 Stephenson..would occasionally refresh himself..by a short doze, which..he would never admit had exceeded the limits of 'winking', to use his own term.

2. The shutting of the eyes, as in blinking, as a gesture of aversion or connivance, and now esp. as a flippant indication of intimate knowledge or amused interest. †Also, a significant glance or movement of the eyes; with *at*, connivance.

c 1440 *Pr. Parv.* 530/1 Wynkkynge, of the eye (*S.* with the eye), *nictitacio*, .. *nictus*, .. *conniuencia*, .. *connivencia*. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 282 Glowtynge ne twynkelynge with your yȝe..Watery wynkynge ne droppynge but of sight clere. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Nictus*, a wynkynge, as whan one doth sygnifie his mynde to an other by lokinge. 1564–78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 80 What meaneth hee by winkyng like a Goose in the raine? 1572 *Instructions Earl Worc.* in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 318 To suffer no permission or winking at of any other Religion then that which .. our Realm hath always held. 1598 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 211 On the winking of Authoritie To vnderstand a Law. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 137 If I had..giuen my heart a winking, mute and dumbe. 1642 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 132 Breaches of charity..by the wincking and scorning of our eyes. 1664 TILLOTSON *Wisdom of being religious* 33 If there be a God, a man cannot by an obstinate dis-belief of him make him cease to be, any more then a man can put out the Sun by winking. 1684 HOWE *Redeemer's Tears* Wks. 1724 II. 15 Men may indeed, by resolved, stiff, winking, create to themselves a darkness amidst the clearest Light. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 138 If..any one..should.. make them think there is any difference between being in the dark and winking, you must get it out of their Minds. 1783 O'KEEFFE *Birth-Day* 28 Sly winking and blinking, As leering and jeering. 1824 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *Annalius* I. 206 What .is all this winking and smirking about? 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xiv, It is the misfortune of the weaker on such occasions..to be obliged to take the petty part of winking hard, as if not able to see what they cannot avenge. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, The fat boy swallowed a glass of liquor without so much as winking.

3. The rapid alternating motion of an object; the intermittent flashing of light.

1829 J. BROWN *Rab & F.* 16 The mobility..of that bud [of a tail]..its expressive twinklings and winkings..were of the oddest and swiftest. [1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 28 The flagship keeps breaking out into rapid winkings of lofty electric eyes.] 1908 C. W. WALLACE *Children Chapel Blackfriars* 12 The modern signal bell of the German theatre, when an act is ready to begin,—a signal reduced in American theatres to the winking of the lights.

4. *Like winking*: in a flash, in a twinkling, very rapidly or suddenly; also, with vigour or persistency, 'like one o'clock', 'like anything'. So, *as easy as winking.*

1827 HOOD *Sailor's Apol.* 72 Both my legs began to bend like winkin. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* xxii, He's a regular scholar, and can sum up like winkin. 1872 'ALIPH CHEEM' (Yeldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 85 But [we] cry 'pray grow your opium!' Because it pays like winking. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* xxxv, She'll..make a hundred and fifty a week as easy as winking.

†**Wi·nking**, *vbl. sb.*[2] [See WINK *v.*[2]] Wincing.

1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. i. 7 What a Desperate Cause is this!..Is not this meer winking to avoid a blow?

Winking (wi·ŋkiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WINK *v.*[1] + -ING 2.] That winks.

1. That shuts the eyes or one eye intermittently or for an instant; blinking; †slumbering, sleepy; in OE. as *sb.* = the blind.

Used to render the specific name *conniveus* of certain birds.

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 77 Lamena he is laca, leoht winciendra [*v.r.* winciendra]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 4 Þe wepte I for wo and wraththe of her speche, And in a wynkyng wraththe wex I aslepe. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 162 Smalle holes keepe small mise, from wily winkyng cats. 1612 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iv. 89 Her Andirons..were two winking Cupids Of Siluer. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* xxi. 53 Wee are wont to salute it [*sc.* the light] at the first comming in, with winking, or closed eyes. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. 900 The Keeper's winking Eyes began to fail. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 773 Blame we most the nurslings or the ——? The children,..deform'd, Through want of care; or her, whose winking eye And slumb'ring casitancy mars the brood? 1821 LATHAM *Synopsis, Suppl.* II. 53 Winking Falcon [*Falco conniveus*]. It has a wonderful faculty of con-

tracting and dilating the iris. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* x. 243 And prosing topers rub their winking eyes. 1845 *Poultry Chron.* III. 381 The nictitating (winking) muscles. 1860 Patmore *Faithful for Ever* II. ii. 109 And I, contented,.. Idly stroke The winking cat, or watch the fire. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* liv, Starveling saints and winking madonnas.

† b. Characterized by shutting of the eyes or averted looks; conniving. *Obs.*

1577–82 Breton *Floorish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 37/1 Some finely vse a winking kinde of wile, Some looke aloofte, and some doo still looke downe. 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) F viij b, See, see, what wyly winking shiftes, by cliffe browde beasts are made. 1605–6 Earl Northampton in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 55 The winking course which I am forced to take daily in the ports..hath..tired me with struggling between both parts.

2. *transf.* That opens and shuts; often, by extension, applied to intermittent light, the flashing of lamps, the twinkling of a reflexion, or the like.

1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 215 All preparation for a bloody siedge, And mercilesse proceeding...Confronts your Citties eies, your winking gates. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iii. 25 (Song) And winking Mary-buds begin to ope their Golden eyes. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* III. ii, A dim winking Lamp. 1789 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Painters* Wks. 1812 II. 149 A winking Light of paltry Rush. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxviii, These [houses] had very little winking windows, and low-arched doors. 1904 Hichens *Garden Allah* xx, The first glass of blithely winking champagne.

3. *Comb.*, as † **winking-eyed** *a.*, blind (*fig.*).

1621 *Eng. Prot. Plea for Eng. Priests & Papists* 60 The councell could not be so winking eyed, but they would haue found foorth some one or other culpable.

Hence **Wi'nkingly** *adv.*, with winking eyes; † with a casual look; with a wink or winks.

1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 1 3 b, Whose pleasing face he had scarce winkingly glanst on [etc.]. 1612 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* III. (1634) 138 If any one beholdeth .some very white object, he vieweth it winkingly. 1858 *N. Brit. Rev.* Dec. 429 The left eye of Raff .asks winkingly, 'What do you bring to-day?' 1897 Blackmore *Dariel* xlix. 437 Looking out winkingly in all directions,..I beheld a company of little rocks.

Winkle (wi·ŋk'l), *sb.* Also 6 **wincle**, 7 **winckle**. Shortened f. **Periwinkle** [2] (cf. *wig* from *periwig*).

1585 Higins *Junius Nomencl.* 65/2 *Cochlea*,..a Wincle: a periwincle or cockle. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII. xxxix. I. 218 Lisards, (deadly enemies to the Snailes or Winkles above named). 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 727 Stones like unto sea winkles or cockles and other sea fish. 1625 Crooke *Body of Man* 601 It is called *Concha*..because it is like a Winkle or Periwinkle. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxi, The very winkle of your country in his shelly lair. 1899 Whiting *No 5 John St.* vii. 60 A typical family..lives before the public on a nutriment of winkles and gin.

attrib. 1845 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 256 The winklemen were on the mud all day. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 39 Winkle Gatherer. 1903 *Times* 13 Aug. 13/2 A shilling used to be charged for a winkle license, which lasted during the winkle season.

Hence **Wi'nkler**, one who gathers winkles; **Wi'nkling** *gerund.*

1889 A. T. Park *Eyes Thames* 58 Eel-trawlers and 'winklers'. 1898 *Punch* 20 Aug. 77/2 D'year as 'ow old Bob Osborne 'ave give up Shrimpin' an' took ter Winklin'?

Winkle (wi·ŋk'l), *v. dial.* [f. Wink *v.*[1] + -le 3.] *intr.* To emit light intermittently; to twinkle.

1791 Learmont *Poems* 37 In vain the starry winkling gleam. 1807 Hogg *Mountain Bard* 63 What though she has twa little winkling een? They're better than nane. 1905 Mrs. Barnes-Grundy *Vacil. Hazel* 198 The stars and planets twinkled and winkled, and sparkled and glittered.

Winkless (wi·ŋklĕs), *a.* [f. Wink *sb.*[1] + -less.] Without a wink, unwinking.

1861 Wynter *Soc. Bees* 93 The upturned gaze of winkless scores [of artificial eyes]. 1867 F. H. Ludlow *Brace of Boys* 255 Sat bolt upright in the pew, winkless as a deacon.

† **Winklot.** *Sc. Obs.* [Obscure; for the ending cf. *giglot*, Giglet.] A wench.

15.. *Peblis to Play* 73 in *Maitland Fol. MS.* (S.T.S.) 178 Ane winklot fell and hir taill vp. *Ibid.* 233, 18a Quhen the winklottis and the wawaris twynnit.

Winky (wi·ŋki). Also **-ey**. [f. Wink *v.*[1] + -y 6.] Only in slang phr. *Like winky*, 'like winking'.

1830 Lytton *P. Clifford* xxxi[ii], The parson forks him out ten shiners, preaching all the while like winkey. 1838 Mrs. Smythies *Fitzherbert* ix, We'll be back like winky. 1900 Beeble *Sir J. Sparrow* iii. 33 She kicks like winky.

Winle, Sc. form of Windle *sb.*[3]

† **Winly**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wynlic**, **wenlic**, 3 **wunlic**, **wun-**, **wund-**, **wune-**, **wonliche**, 4 **wynly**, **-lich(e**, **-wynnelyoh**, 5 **wynlyche**, **winli**. [OE. *wynlic*, f. *wyn(n* joy, Win *sb.*[2] + *-lic*, -ly 1.] Pleasant, agreeable; goodly, splendid, beautiful. (Often merely a vague epithet of commendation.)

a 1000 *Phœnix* 34 Sunbeoro lixeð, wuduholt wynlic. *c* 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) ix. 205 Heo wæs swiðe wlitig and wenlices hiwes. *c* 1205 Lay. 8090 Wæs at foren þan wæfde imaked an wunlic fur. *Ibid.* 10000 Stod þe wundliche [*c* 1275 wonliche] wude amidden ane wælde. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxiii[i]. 3 Wha sal stegh in hille of lauerd winli? 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1411 Some of þo wynly wones Were peynted with precyus stones. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 99 With wardons winlich and walshe notes newe. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 181 Ther-to wylde to wale, and wynlyche bryddes.

† **Winly**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wynlice**, 3 **wunliche**, 4 **wynli**, **-lyche**, **wynn-**, **wynely**, 4–5 **wynly**, 5 **winly**. [OE. *wynlice*, f. *wynlic*; see prec. and -ly 2.] Pleasantly, agreeably; finely, splendidly. (Often vague in alliterative verse.)

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cvii[i]. 2 Þæt ic wynlice on psalterie þe singan mote. *c* 1205 Lay. 3605 Sone wæs þe alde king wunliche imæled. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 749 A gardin eusene, ..wynli wiþ hwite wal was closed al a-boute. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) I. 225 The stretis ware straucht & wynly maide. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3545 In at a wicket he went & wynly it sperla. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlv. 103 What ayles yow women, for wo þus wynly to wepe? *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 660 The Pape and the patriarkis .. Wel-cummit thaim wynly.

Winn, obs. form of Win.

Winna, *Sc.* = 'will not': see Will *v.*[1] A. 6 b β.

Winnable (wi·năb'l), *a.* Also 6 **wyn(n)able**, 7 **winneable**, 8–9 (*erron.*) **winable**. [f. Win *v.*[1] + -able.] Capable of being won, in various senses.

1544 Bethan *Precepts War* I. v. Biv b, All cyties .. be more wynnable on the one syde, then on the other. 1611 Cotgr., *Gaignable*, gettable, winnable, gaineable. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* L 3 b, When Work is Soft, Kind, and Winable enough without any Hardship. 1807 Anna M. Porter *Hungarian Bro.* xi. (1832) 131 The best proof I can have of her heart's being winable only by a brave and upright man. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 Feb. 8/1 All the rest are winnable exactly as Southwark was won.

Winnackew, **-acoe**, obs. var. Guanaco.

1729 J. Wood *Voy.* 86 Here is Plenty of Winnackews, or Spanish sheep.

Winnaill, obs. Sc. form of Vennel.

Winnard (wi·năid). Also 7 **wheenerd**. [app. a. I.G. *weingartdrossel*, *-vogel* (see Wing-thrush), with the second element dropped.] A local name of the redwing, *Turdus iliacus*.

a 1698 [see Windle *sb.*[2]] 1758 Borlase *Nat. Hist. Corn.* xxi. 245. 1880 *E. Cornwall Gloss.*

Winne, obs. form of Win.

Winnel, dial. form of Windle.

Winner (wi·nəɹ). [f. Win *v.*[1] + -er [1].] One who or that which wins, in various senses.

1. One who gains something, esp. by effort or merit; *spec.* one who gets (a living) by labour, an earner (*obs.* or *dial.* exc. in Bread-winner); † one who makes profit, as by trading; † one who 'wins' (corn), a harvester, reaper (*fig.*).

1352 [see Waster *sb.*[1] 2]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 860 Of goddis corne wynnare to be. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. i. 222 Webbesters and walkers and wynners with handen. *c* 1456 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 235 Robberys now rewle ryȝtwysenesse, And wynnerys with her sothe sawe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 A Wynner, *lucrificus*. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 36 He that byeth grosse sale, and retayleth, muste nedes be a wynner. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxxiii. 21 No flie therby winner, the worth of a straw. 1593 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 85 Knawin.. to be wynneris of thair leving be sum honest moyen. 1632 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. 173 Whereas Religion is the greatest winner of mens affections. 1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trump.* I. 257 The winner of a title generally deserves it. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvii, The Major was disengaged too, and swore he would be the winner of her. 1876 Sir C. Dilke in *Life* (1917) I. xiii. 197 Holker.. a great winner of verdicts from juries, was one of the dullest men. 1911 'G. A. Birmingham' *Lighter Side Irish Life* i. 6 A woman, a careless winner of the hearts of men.

2. One who is victorious in a contest; a victor; *esp.* one who wins a game, a race, a prize, etc.; *spec.* a horse, dog, etc. that wins a race; in games of skill, the 'piece' that is nearest to a certain point, a winning shot, etc.; in recent slang, a thing that scores a success.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 74 [If he] has tynt the battaill, tharfore he had the wrang, and the wynnar the rycht. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 24 Be they wynners or loosers, Folke saie alwaie, beggers should be no choosers. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 156 The verie Romanis selfes, victorious winneris. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 187 'Twas I wonne the wager, though you hit the white, And being a winner, God giue you good night. 1598 — *Hen. V*, III. vi. 120 When Lenitis and Cruelties play for a Kingdome, The gentler Gamester is the soonest winner. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. v. 15 Sir, the Euent Is yet to name the winner. 1667 *Lenthermore: Advice conc. Gaming* (1668) 10 It is not deny'd but most Gamesters have at one time or other a considerable run of winning, but..I could never hear of the Man that gave over a winner, (I mean to give over, as never to play again). 1710 *Act 9 Anne* c. 19 § 2 It shall..be lawful..for any Person..to ..recover the same [money],..with Costs..against such Winner. 1789 D. Davidson *Seasons* 167 A leal shot ettled at the cock, Which shov'd the winner by. 1811 *Acc. Game Curling* 9 The stone nearest the tee .. is called the winner. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxx, At length the play came to an end, and Mr. Isaac List rose the only winner. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 371 Winners of the First Prizes. 1899 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xix, I'd ridden seven great winners before I was eighteen. 1874 J. D. Heath *Croquet-Player* 83 It is..unfair to the winner, to tell him that he won only because you 'had a bad mallet'. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 19 In a scrambling course, run partly out of sight, the early points of Moonshine doubtless landed her the winner. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 131 p. iv/2 The Alhambra has also found a winner in its curiously named ['revue'] '8d. a mile'.

Winning (wi·niŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Forms: see Win *v.*[1] [f. Win *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] The action of Win *v.*[1]; *concr.* something won.

1. Conquest, capture, taking (of a place); also, in early use, conquered territory (= Conquest *sb.* 4). *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 908 Rohand he left king Ouer al his wining þare. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 296 Britti reames men tolde, þat kyng Arthur wan. He parted his wynnyng tille his men largely. 1419 in *Documents Français* (1847) I. 227 Thei have wonne the forsaid toun by assaulte..thereaght the whiche wynnings my forsaid lord hath passage to Paris. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 577 Thow was gret cans off wynnyng off Scotland. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 34/2 Caius Iulius Cæsar..determined to assay ye winning of Britain. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* xv. (1906) 184 Knighted at the winning of Edenburgh in Scotland. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 280 This noble warrior was soe eagar for the winings of that place. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 80 While the land which sent forth such goodly stores was in winning.

2. The action of gaining, getting, or obtaining; acquisition; † gain (in general, as opp. to *loss*); victory in a game or contest.

With various shades of meaning, in later use restricted as in the vb.

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 3006 In wining and in tin Trewe to ben ay. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 94 Of his lecsinge I laubwe.. Ac for his wynnynge I wepe. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 199 Swych labour as folk han yn wynnynge Of loue. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xviii. 403 Bi biyng or bi wynnyng in walouring or bi sum other fre maner of geting. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 19 It is nowthir wynning nor rewaird, Bot tinsale [etc.]. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* i. 1–12 To counte loose of goodes, for the richeste wynnynge. 1612 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 451 Least too light winning Make the prize light. 1622 — *Cymb.* II. iii. 8 Winning will put any man into courage. 1626 *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 183 Your Honour may guess that winning of time is their chiefest aim. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* Wks. I. 145/2 The vnexpected winning of the wager. 1667 [see Winner 2]. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* III. xxx, Allen-a-Dale has no fleece for the spinning, Yet Allen-a-Dale has red gold for the winning. 1860 Löwenthal *Morphy's Games Chess* 140 Ensuring the advance of the Queen's Pawn, which is almost equivalent to the winning of the game. 1883–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Dec. ix, And in one winning all her woes redeem.

† b. Getting of money or wealth; gain, profit; money-making. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25803 Man þou has ben to couetus Abote werldis wining fuus. *c* 1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 252 Mony for wynnyng wold bitraye Father and moder. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* (1868) 92/705 Vsureres that by cause of wynnyng lene her catall to her eine cristen. *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 22 (Bannatyne MS.) For warldly wonyng sic walkis, quhen wysar winkis. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) N vij, Of the vnlawful winnyng of the fathers, there folowethe the iuste loss to theyr children. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxiv, To thair gret profftet and winning. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Maltman* iii, He may crack of his winning, When he clears scores with me.

c. Getting by labour, earning. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1058 If ony woman can ought do þat ony wining falles vnto. 1545 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1546, 737/2 Concerning the wynning of thair leving.

† d. Profit (in general), advantage. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1151 Quhat wynnyng had 3e, þo 3e had mycht to sla me? 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 6 b, Yf ye do so all your lyf, it shalbe to you a grete prouffitable wynnyng. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 37 Regairding our awin prevat wining mair nor the weillfair of the realme.

3. *concr.* That which is won; a thing or amount obtained or gained; gain, profit (as acquired); † in early use *occas.* spoil, booty; emolument, earnings. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 4.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 968 O þi winning giue me þe tend. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8393 Whar 3e schul win wining, 3e nold it 3eue for no þing! *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 275 Hise þat of all his wynnyng..he sal nocht halde bot iij.d. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 224 Ther was founde grete wynnynge; and the kynge made it to be .. presented to the sowdioure. 1488 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1869) I. 55 And thai to dele thairvpoun vyning and tynsell. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 83 Eche of them askyth Lucre and wynnynge. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 34, I might put my winnyng in mine eye. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 321/2 *Brauium*,..the price or winning giuen to one that ouercommeth in plaies and games. 1800 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 281 'Keep the winning, keep the sinning.'..We cannot keep the gain, and escape the loss.

4. *pl.*: usually *concr.*, as pl. of 3 (mostly in collective sense), Things or sums gained, gains, profits; earnings (*obs.* or *dial.*); in mod. use chiefly applied to money won by gaming or betting; more rarely in abstract sense, as pl. of 2, Acts of gaining, gains as opp. to losses.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 11 Defaute in al þis comiþ of ypocrisye of prelatis, þat shulden teche pleynly Goddis lawe and not þer erþly wynnynges. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xvii. 391 Tithis going out fro her wynnyngis. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* xiii, But chopping and chaungeing, may make such a breck, That gone is thy winnings, for sauing thy neck. 1626 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 78 Hee may put his winnings into his eye, and see neuer the worse. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* Ded. ¶ 8 b, One loss may be of more consequence to him, than all his former winnings. 1726 Addison *Freeholder* No. 40 P 3 A Buttering-Gameater, that stakes all his Winnings upon every Cast. 1795 J. Glanvill *Poems* 63 When hapless France shall meet with no Repair From Losings here, by healing Winnings there. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxix, Mr. Toby Crackit swept up his winnings [at cribbage], and crammed them into his waistcoat pocket. 1883 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 145/2 The defendant..having won on those bets received the winnings from the persons with whom he had betted.

5. *spec.* Getting, gathering, taking (of produce, fish, coal, stone, etc.); also, in *Mining*, the process of excavation and other preparation for working a bed of coal or other mineral: see Win *v.*[1] 7 f, g.

1472 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 192 To mak ma

tenandis for wenyng and laboryng of the ground. 1501 *Reg. Priuy Seal Scot.* I. 100/2 To sustene ony skaith in the wynnyng of the saidis fischingis. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 87 To Andro Matheson, to the colheuch wynnyng in Faukland v li. 1553–4 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 286 To Danne Morisoun for wynnyng of thre lintellis to the saids yettis. 1630 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 374 For the wyning and leiding of certane stonis for mending of the commoun loche. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) V. 99/1 Where a level can be drove..to drain a sufficient tract of coal, it is then the most eligible method of winning. 1825 E. MACKENZIE *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 87 The winning of a colliery is the draining of a field of coal, so as to render the several seams accessible. 1881 *Nature* 27 Jan. 308 Deep winning of coal in South Wales. 1891 *Times* 10 Oct., The winning of oats in the northern parts of England.

b. *concr.* (*Mining.*) A shaft or pit together with the associated apparatus for 'winning' the coal or other mineral; a portion of a coal-field or mine laid out for working.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 42 How much to allow for a Winning. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 62 The vast quantity of water expected in this new winning. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Sept. 7/2 The construction of new winnings, the colliery population, and the production of coal have considerably augmented.

6. Gaining of a person's affection or allegiance; gaining of an adherent or convert; also with *over*.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 864 For of a martyre þe pynynge Of a thousand wes wynnynge. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 93 Þei loue more here owen worldly wynnynge ..þan wynnynge of soulis to blisse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 40 The winning of the mind from wickednesse to vertue. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 2 The great labour that then was with the people..for the winning and perswading of them. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* viii. Wks. 1851 IV. 47 The uncertain winning of an obdur'd heretick. 1899 HEDDLE *Margot at Manse* 91, I had forgotten all about Andrew and his proposed winning-over. 1928 *Nation* (N.Y.) 7 Feb. 134/1 All the sordid details that counted in the winning over of Italy.

†7. Deliverance, redemption: cf. WIN *v.*[1] 8. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 281 In helle is no wynnyng, Ne non ascapbyynge to pes.

8. The action of making one's way or getting somewhere. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1651 SIR A. JOHNSTON *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 89 [It] might prevent his wining to my wyfe. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, Ye'll find it's easier wunnin in than wunnin out here.

9. *attrib.* Pertaining to or connected with winning, or at which something is won (sometimes practically coincident with WINNING *ppl. a.* 2, q.v.): **winning-chair**, the umpire's seat at the goal of a race-course (cf. *winning-post*); **winning-gallery** (*Tennis*), the last gallery on the hazard-side of a tennis-court; **winning headway** (*Coal-mining*), see quots., and cf. sense 5 and WIN *v.*[1] 7 g; so *winning mine, pit*; **winning opening** (*Tennis*), see quots.; **winning-post**, a post set up at the goal of a race-course, the racer who first passes it being the winner.

1826 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. I. x. § 4. 358/1 They will not leave their horses when called upon, in order to pass the *winning-chair first. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* iv, His horse..came down heavily into the ditch of the *winning field. 1878 *Winning-gallery [see GALLERY *sb.* 9]. 1891 [see HAZARD *sb.* 6]. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) V. 101/1 The first working or excavation made from the coal-pit, commonly called the winning mine or winning headway. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3), *Winning head-ways*, two parallel excavations...The principal exploring drifts of a colliery, for opening out the seams for the daily supply. 1878 J. MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 160 *Winning-openings*, the dedans, winning-gallery, and grille. *Ibid.* 163 (LAWS § 20) Either player wins a chase if he serve or return the ball so that it enter a winning opening. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 12 Nov. 6/7 A *winning pit of the Blackwell Colliery Company. 1820 COMBE *Syntax* xx. 164 In learned labours some proceed, But I prefer the racing steed:.. Others some pow'rful station boast; But let me gain the *winning-post. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* x, The best horse ever started may slip a shoulder before he get to the winning-post. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 170 The starting-point at Putney Bridge,..the winning-post at Mortlake.

†**Wi·nning**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [f. WIN *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] Dwelling, habitation. Also *attrib.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1101 Ilkane a sere gat held away, Til þai come til þare wynny[n]g-place. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* XXVI. 665 His wynnyng þare he thocht to ma. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 207 Quhair is thy maist wynning? 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. iv. 103 Als swiftlie as the dow affrait doith fle Furth of hir hole, and rycht darn wynning wane. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 541 His awin proper house, quhair he has his winning, rising, and lying day and nicht.

Wi·nning, *vbl. sb.*[3] *Sc.* and *dial.* [f. WIN *v.*[3] + -ING[1].] The action of WIN *v.*[3]

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 242 Better it do that than become again damp after only a partial winning, when the meat loses much of its flavour.

Wi·nning, *ppl. a.* [f. WIN *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That wins, in various senses.

†1. Gaining, or by which one gains, money or wealth; profitable, lucrative. *Obs.*

1435 *Misyn Fire of Love* I. xl. 84 Full hard treuly it is a wynnynge craft or office to haue & not to be cousetus. 1530 PALSGR. 309/2 Wynnyng, gaynyng, *questuous*.

2. Gaining, or resulting in, victory or superiority in a contest or competition; victorious. *Winning hazard*: see HAZARD *sb.* 7 b. *Winning stroke*, a stroke that gains a point in a game, or one by which the game is won.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 12 Learne me how to loose a winning match. 1629 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 290 Contemning that Emperour who everie where in civile warre went away on the winning hand. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* Introd. Epist., I am not displeased to find the game a winning one. 1845 *Poultry Chron.* II. 486 Neither should I have given the first place to the winning Dorking cock. 1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 56 The winning move. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 114 In playing against a fine player, it is imperative to go for a winning-stroke whenever there is a fair opening.

3. Persuasive (now *rare* or *obs.*); alluring, attractive, 'taking'. †Also *advb.*, winningly.

1596 *Edward III*, I. ii. 140 What needs a tongue to such a speaking eie, That more perswads then winning Oratorie? *c* 1600 FLETCHER *False One* III. ii, Eyes that are the winningst Orators. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 479 Less faire, Less winning soft, less amiable milde. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* Wks. 1730 III. 54 The Winning Air, the Bewitching Glance, the Amorous Smirk. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, While winning Mildness and attractive Smiles Dwell in her Looks. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xii. P 6 You have very winning ways with you; you make me do just whatever you please. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xviii, There is a friendly something about the German character which is very winning.

lience (in sense 3) **Wi·nningly** *adv.*, **Wi·nning-**

1663 COWLEY *Cutter Colm* St. IV. i, I know thou canst speak *winningly. 1803 JANE AUSTEN *Susan* VI. (1879) 213 Her voice and manner winningly mild. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Insinuatingness*..insinuating Nature,..*Winningness. 1796 MRS. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. ii, I think Camilla's [face] so much prettier; I mean in point of winningness. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* viii. 341 Error has no intrinsic winningness for man.

†**Winninghead**. *Obs. rare.* In 4 **wynnynghede**. [f. WINNING *ppl. a.* + -HEAD.] Disposition to get gain; covetousness.

c 1315 SHOREHAM III. 286 Al hys þefte þat man tegt Myd wyl of wynnynghede.

‖ **Winninish**, also **winin(n)ish**, **-anishe**, **winnonish**, **-iohe**, **wen-**, **wan(n)anishe**, **-onioke**, etc., anglicized forms of the native name of the Labrador fresh-water salmon: see OUANANICHE.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 160 A Winnoniche. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 445 In the Saguenay the Winninish has easy..access to the sea.

Winnle, Sc. and dial. form of WINDLE.

Winnock (wi·nək). *Sc.* Forms: 5 **wyndok**, 6 **vynd-**, **windok**, **vind-**, **wyndak**, **vindook**, **wink** (7 **windiok**, 9 **windook**), 6– **winnock**. [Sc. development of *windoȝe*, WINDOW *sb.*; cf. *elbock* for **elboȝe*, ELBOW *sb.*, and WARLOCK. Cf. Gael. *uinneag*, Ir. *fuinneog*.] A window.

1492 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 200 Gevin..for Eatland burdis to durris and wyndokis..v li. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 477 To ane windok of the presoun scho zeid. 1582 in Campbell *Church of Kirkaldy* vii. (1904) 63 Yat William Crosby mak ye kirk and glaissen winkes clean ilk Setterday. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 436 A gret cannoun Bullat..cam in at the Kirk winnock. 1682 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 210 That furthwith ther be ports provydit for four ports..with windicks. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *To Æolus* 6 To fuff at winnocks and cry 'Wow!' 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXV, Mony a time I has helped Jenny Dennison out o' the winnock. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 132 The windocks scarce wi' beams did lauff, Whan bangit up Sir Tullidaff.

b. *attrib.*, as *winnock-bunker* [BUNKER 1], *-nail*, *-pane*, *-sole* (= WINDOW-SOLE); **winnock-bred**, **-brod** [BRED *sb.*, BROD *sb.*[2]], a window-shutter.

1513 *Rentale Dunbeldense* (S. H. S. 1915) 281, 60 lie windok naile. 1546 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 453 For glew to the wyndak breddis. 1790 A. WILSON *and kp. to Jas. Kennedy* Poet. Wks. (1846) 118 And Natures' winnock-brods are closin' Across the lift. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 119 A winnock-bunker in the east. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* I. 20 Put the Bible for a keepsake in your winnock sole.

Winnow (wi·nō), *sb.* Also 6 **-owe**. [f. next.]

1. A contrivance for winnowing grain, etc.; a winnowing-fan or the like.

1580 H. F. *Pelegrom. Syn. Sylva* 126 A Fan or a Winnowe. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Threshing*, The casting-shovel is much more expeditious than..the common winnow with sails. 1818 R. P. KNIGHT *Symb. Lang.* 132 Osiris has the winnow in one hand, and the hook of attraction in the other. 1899 *Sci. Amer.* 14 June 374/2 [Leaves of Palmyra palm] largely employed for making pans, bags, winnows [etc.].

2. An act of winnowing or a motion resembling it, as the swing of a pendent mass, the sweep of wings.

1820 COLERIDGE *Picture* 148 How solemnly the pendent Ivy-mass Swings in its winnow. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 454 Some degree of humidity..which should be swept away by the winnow of a stirring breeze. *a* 1831 MOIR *Birth of Flowers* V, From every winnow of her wings.

Winnow (wi·nō), *v.* Forms: α. 1 **windwian**, 2 **windwin**, 3 **-en**, *Orm.* **winndwenn**, 4 **wyn-windewe**, **wyndwe**, 4–5 **wyndowe**, 4–7 **windowe**, 5 **wyndou**, **-oe**, 5–6 **wyndo**, (6 **wyendo**, **wyondo**, *Sc.* **vyndou**, **wando**), 5– (now *north. dial.*) **window** (9 **winder**). β. 4–5 **wynnewe**, 4–6 **wynewe**, 5 **wynou**, **wenowe**, 5–6 **wynowe**, 6 **wynew**, **wynnow(e**, **winowe**, *Sc.* **wonnow**, 6–7 **winnowe**, (8 *dial.* **winner**), 6– **winnow**. [OE. *windwian*, *f. wind* WIND *sb.*[1]; cf. OE. *windwiȝ-enf* chaff, *windscieppe* winnowing-sieve. Other verbal formations of the same meaning are Goth. *diswinþjan* to scatter like chaff, ON. *vinsa* (:—**winiskjan*), and L. *ventilare* (*f. ventus* wind). See also WIND *v.*[3]]

1. *trans.* To expose (grain or other substances) to the wind or to a current of air so that the lighter particles (as chaff or other refuse matter) are separated or blown away; to clear of refuse material by this method.

α. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 7 Mar. 36 He..corn þærse & þæt windwode. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Þa þe dede of liuriesun hwenne god almihtin wule windwin þet er wes þor[·]cheu. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1530 Þa winndweest tu þin þroshenn corn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Ane wummon..þet windwede hweate. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xiii. (1919) I. 71 He..let wyndwe the aakes in the wynd. *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 7 Þen wyndo hit wele, nede þou mot. 1469 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 91 Also that you gar the malt be windowd. 1549 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 96 Quhatsumever þersonn was apprehendit wandoand corne in the hie gett. 1579 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 190 No mann shall wyndo aney corne in the strettes. 1614 *Manchester Crt. Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 296 Inconvenience by ye often vsinge to Windowe..Corne in the Streets. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 45 Windowed my wheat the chaff out of it.

β. 1382 WYCLIF *Ruth* iii. 2 In this nyȝt he wynnewith the flore of his barli. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wynwyn' (*P.* wynowin), *ventilo*. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 185 Thou made he to take vp þe bonys..and bren hom, and afterwynou ham yn þe wynde. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 35 In some countreys..they do fan theyr corne,..if it be well wynowed or fande, it wyll be solde the derer. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 125 More often ye turne, more pease ye out apurne, Yet winnow them in, or carrege begin. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 400 And in the Sun your golden Grain display, And thrash it out, and winnow it by Day. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 216 It [*sc.* the coffee-berry] is then winnowed, and goes into the hands of the pickers. 1855 E. FORBES *Lit. Papers* ix. 231 The tea is afterwards winnowed and sifted, so as to free it from Impurities. 1893 BRIDGES *Winnowers* v, A steady muffled din, By which we knew that threshed corn Was winnowing.

b. *fig.* To subject to a process likened to the winnowing of grain, in order to separate the various parts or elements, esp. the good from the bad; hence, to clear of worthless or inferior elements.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* li. 2 Y shal sende in to Babilon wyneweres [1388 wyndeweris] and thei shul wynewe [1388 wyndewe] it. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 15–18 He shall..there winnowe euery creature, tryyng them with the wynde of the crosse and of afflictions. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 194. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, V. i. 111. 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* Ded. A 3 b, His [*sc.* Satan's] desire is to winnow you; if he can ruin you he knows he ruins the Kingdom. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 118 That Plot, ..Not weigh'd or winnow'd by the Multitude, But swallow'd in the Mass. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 407, I cannot abuse my Reader's Patience in winnowing and sifting it, since the whole is nothing but Chaff. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 335, I wish it had been deemed advisable to have winnowed the Kalendar. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 456 After winnowing the list and excluding those who were considered not entitled to vote. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxix. 563 The storm had no doubt the effect of winnowing the multitude of professing disciples.

c. *absol.* or *intr.*

c 1000 ORMIN 10483 Þat ure Laferrd Iesu Criat..Himm shollde bringgenn inn hiss hannd hiss winndell forr te winndwenn. 1388 WYCLIF *Eccles.* V. 11 Wyndewe thee not in to ech wynd. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 56 Some vseth to winnow, some vseth to fan. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbiæ Flagellum* C 2 b, Plant, graft, hedg, ditch, thresh, winnow, buy & sel. 1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worse Times* 92 He would Fan, as he doth winnow. 1824 *Yorks. Garland* etc. 16 Ah can milk, kern, fother, beeak, brew, sheear, winder. 1892 MRS. E. M. PITMAN *Mission Life in Greece* (1881) 145 To help them so to winnow that they cast not away the wheat with the chaff.

2. *trans.* (with that which is separated as obj.)

a. To separate or drive off (lighter or refuse particles) by the process described in 1; *fig.* to separate (the worthless part *from* the valuable); to get rid of, clear away, eliminate (something undesirable).

In the earliest quots. a literalism from L. *ventilare*.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xliii. 6 [xliv. 5] In ðe fiond ure we windwiaþ. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxxiii. 17 In hem be shal wyndowe gentilys, vnto the teermes of the erthe. 1382 — *Jer.* xlix. 36 Y shal wynewe [1388 wyndewe] them in to alle these windus. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 341 Þey.. wyneweda þe aakes awey with þe wynde. *c* 1390 *Form of Cury* in Warner *Antiq. Culin.* (1791) 4 Hule hem wele, and windewe out the hulkes. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 28 Distinction with a loud and powrefull fan, Puffing at all, winnowes the light away. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* xii. 53 Do but winnow their chaffe from their wheat, ye shall see their great heape shrink. 1782 COWPER *Hope* 417 Your office is to winnow false from true. 1869 LOWELL *Under the Willows* 229 And lets the kind breeze, with its delicate fan, Winnow the heat from out his dank grey hair. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* I. i. 84 And all my doubts I fling from me like dust, Winnow and scatter all scruples to the wind. 1893 LIDDON, etc. *Pusey* I. xvi. 359 The appointment .. winnowed out the merely sentimental element from among adherents of the young Movement.

b. To separate (the valuable part *from* the worthless); (now esp. with *out*) to extract, select, or obtain (something desirable) by such separation.

1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 234 Glue answer to this Boy, and do it freely, Or..bitter torture shall Winnow the truth from falshood. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parlt.* I. vii. 73 These inventions were but sives, made of purpose to winnow the best men. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. iii. 12 He will winnow and throughly separate the wheat from the Chaff, the Faithful from the Rebellious. *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *Geo. II* (1847) II. vii. 244, I live too near the times..to be able..to winnow the truth from such a variety of interested..relations. 1827

Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd., In winnowing out the few grains of truth which are contained in this mass of empty fiction. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. viii, To winnow out the man that is to govern them. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 905 Such persons are probably many, but there is no means of winnowing them out.

c To waft, diffuse. *poet.*

1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 122 While sea-born gales their gelid wings expand To winnow fragrance round the smiling land. 1881 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 22 The woolly clouds..Keep winnowing down their drifting sleet and snows. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* I. i. 23 With wings that winnow blessing From Heaven through Earth I see them pressing.

3. In various transf. uses (cf. L. *ventilare* and Fan *v.* 2–5): a. † To brandish or flourish (*obs.*); to beat (the air) with or as with wings; to flap (the wings), to wave (the fins); also *intr.* or with cognate obj., to follow a course with flapping wings, or the like.

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* Apol. (Arb.) 75 Players haue chosen such a Champion, as when I giue the Allarm, winnowes his weapon. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 270 He..Sailes between worlds & worlds, with steddie wing Now on the polar windes, then with quick Fann Winnows the buxom Air. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 745 Their self-taught wings Winnow the waving element. 1793 [see Winnowing *ppl. a.*]. 1795 Burns '*New spring has clad the groves in green*' iv, The waken'd lav'rock..Winnowing blythe her dewy wings In morning's rosy eye. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 27 Her sea-green plumes Winnowing the crimson dawn. 1844, 1856 [see Winnowing *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1852 Mrs. C. Meredith *My Home in Tasmania* II. xviii. 252 Their (*sc.* owls') ghostly shapes winnowing silently around in the twilight. 1865 [see Winnowing *ppl. a.*]. 1873 Geikie *Geol. Sketches* iv. (1882) 78 In winnowing the air with his arms, he had struck against a waggon standing on the roadway. 1887 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 200/1 After .. reaching a height at which it appears a mere speck, where it winnows a random zigzag course, it..shoots downwards.

b. Of the air, etc.: *trans.* To fan with a breeze. *intr.* To blow fitfully or in gusts.

1796 Campbell *Caradise* II. ix, Where, winnowed by the gentle air, Her silken tresses darkly flow. 1820 [see Winnowing *ppl. a.*]. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 7 Falling snows that winnow by. 1892 Amélie Rives *Barbara Dering* xxvii, Here upon this great crest a purer air came winnowing in.

Winnow-cloth. Forms: see Winnow *v.* and Cloth. A winnowing-sheet.

a. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 398, 1 wyndowcloth. 1547 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 20/2 *note*, Ane windo cloth contenand xe ellis. 1599 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 One window cloth. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Winda-cloith*, winnowing cloth; now called a barn-sheet.

β. 1552 Huloet, Wynew cloth, *ventilabrum*. 1588–9 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 289 Item, ane wonnow clayth, ane seif, ane sek, ane riddill, price xl*s*. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 262 Vnder her head a hard Oken-logge, with the Winnow-cloth, and the one end of an old Hop-bagge, cast ouer in steed of a Couerlet. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Winnar-cloth*, a large cloth on which corn is dighted or winnowed.

Winnowed (wi·nōd), *ppl. a.* [f. Winnow *v.* + -ed 1.] In various senses of the verb.

The interpretation of quot. 1608 has been much disputed; the passage is perh. corrupt.

1608 Shaks. *Ham.* v. ii. 201 The most fond and winnowed opinions. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 174 Such a winnowed puritie in loue. 1611 Florio, *Agio*,..the chaffe comming from winnowed or bolted corne. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 217 When..winnow'd Chaff, by western winds is blown. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* V. 229 Their steeds..eating winnowed grain. 1900 Morley *Cromwell* II. v. 183 Faith that the God of Battles was on their side nerved its chosen and winnowed ranks with stern confidence.

Winnower (wi·nōəɹ). [f. Winnow *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who winnows; a person engaged in winnowing; also *fig.* (cf. next 1 b).

1382 [see Winnow *v.* 1 b]. 1538 Elyot, *Ventilator*, a vanner or wynnower of corne. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. B ij b, As a wynnower pourgeth the chaffe from the corne. *c* 1621 Chapman *Iliad* V. 497 As in sacred fluores of barnes, vpon corne-winnowers flies The chaffe. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 209 The seed carried into an heap near the winnowers is shook up a little by a caver. 1849 Whittier *Leg. St. Mark* xiv, Scattered..Like chaff before the winnower's fan. 1872 R. B Vaughan *S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 646 He did not take for granted, like the Sophist...He was a winnower and a sifter. 1915 F. S. Oliver *Ordeal by Battle* II. vii. 176 [War] is a great winnower of true men from shams.

2. An apparatus for winnowing; a winnowing-machine.

1603–6 in *Archdeaconry of Stow Wills 1603–6* If. 110 (MS.) To my sonne Thomas Collinsonne my wyndyers wth the best of my tooles. 1861 J. Wilson *Farming* 164 The winnowers used in such cases do not differ in construction from those worked by hand. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Aug. 528/1 The beans [of coffee are] then put through a winnower. 1892 *Engineer* 12 Dec. 472/1 Threshing machines are popular here, because the grain does not have to run through a winnower.

Winnowing (wi·nōiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Winnow *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The process described s.v. Winnow *v.* 1.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Recabes sunen..ifunden þe wummon astunt of hire windwunge & iuollen aslepe. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* I. ix. 28 In þe wyndouynge þe caff is oute cast. 1538 Elyot, *Ventilatio*, a fannynge or wynnowynge. 1586 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 95 Wyndoinge of barlie. 1698 *Rector's Bk. Claymorth* (1910) 113 We look'd in to ye wheat..& upon winnowing in order to sale, found it in good condition. 1758 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 128 [A machine] for the Dressing, Winnowing, and Cleansing of Flax. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xv. 261 The winnowing was done by women.

b. *fig.*: see Winnow *v.* 1 b.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 437 Whon þe wynewyng schal be-ginne To parte euel from good. 1656 T. Goodwin *Child of Light* 44 In these commotions & winnowings of spirit. 1679 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1919) XVI. 146 This being a time of Trying & winnowing doth onely blow away the chaffe. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* v. 303 Instead of undergoing a thorough sifting and winnowing, the free corps fell every day into a more deplorable state of disorder. 1913 *Athenæum* 7 June 609/1 He has..subjected the correspondence..to a rigorous winnowing.

2. Of wings, etc.: see Winnow *v.* 3. Chiefly *poet.*

1844 Mrs. Browning *Rhyme of Duchess May* Concl. iv, Angel-wings, with their holy winnowings. 1856 Kingsley *Glaucus* (ed. 3) 120 Small cuttle-fish..put into a jar, will hover and dart in the water..by rapid winnowings of their glassy side-fins. 1867 F. Thompson *New Poems* 52 The wings Hear I not in prævenient winnowings Of coming songs, that lift my hair and stir it?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *winnowing operation, place*; esp. in names of appliances for winnowing, as *winnowing-basket, -cloth, -fan* (see Fan *sb.*1 1), *-machine, -mill, -sheet, -shovel.*

1375 *Doc. Downe Manor, Wandsworth* (Westm. Chapter Munim.), 1 wyndwyng-schete debilis. 1378 *Ibid.*, 1 Wyniyn-schete de Canabis. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* iii. 12 Whos wynewing cloth [is] in his hond. 1382 — *Luke* iii. 17 Whos wynewyng tool in his hond. 1388 — *Jer.* xv. 7 A wyndewynge instrument. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 15–18 He shall make clene the floore of his winnowyng place. 1720 O. Sansom *Acc. Life* 35 They took away my Winnowing-Fan, which was worth 8*s*. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gas.* 3 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 A winnowing-mill. 1780 Edmondson *Her.* II. Gloss. s.v. *Basket*, A Winnowing-Basket. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 32 Winnowing-Machines. Machines of this sort are in pretty general use, where thrashing mills..are not erected. 1866 Ramsay *Remin.* vi. (ed. 8) 243 The..man surceased his winnowing operations. 1879 B. Taylor *Germ. Lit.* viii. 253 The winnowing-mill of Time makes sad havoc with works considered immortal in their day. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., A windering sheet.

Winnowing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That winnows, in various senses of the verb.

1851 J. Reading *Guide to Holy City* 347 Tentation only burneth out the drosse: it is as a winnowing winde. 1651 Rutherford *Lett. to Lady Kenmure* 28 Sept., We are fallen in winnowing & trying times. 1793 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode to Insec.* Wks. 1812 III. 223 The winnowing Butterfly with painted wing. 1820 Keats *Autumn* ii, Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind. 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Faustine* 210 After change of soaring feather And winnowing fin.

Hence **Wi·nnowingly** *adv.*

1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* (1859) 265 The wing of the slow-sailing owl flitted winnowingly across.

†Winnow-sheet. *Obs.* [f. Winnow *v.*] A winnowing-sheet.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 435 His wijf walked him wiþ..In a cutted cote..Wrapped in a wynwe schete to weren hire fro weders. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 618/38 *Ventilabrum*.., a wynue [*printed* wynne] shete. 1577 in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1886) App. I. 154, 10 sacks & two window sheets. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. iii. 74/1 To make Wind with a Winnow sheet. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXI. 113 Covered with a winnow-sheet.

†Winnowster. Chiefly *St. Obs.* Also 4 **wynewestere**; *Sc.* 6 **vyndoustar, windostar,** 7 **windister**; 9 **winnister.** [f. Winnow *v.* + -ster.] = Winnower (orig. applied to a woman).

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 148 Par ventresse [*gloss* a wynewestere] en ventre Payn de furment entre. 1505 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* XII. 673 Item to the vyndoustaris iiij bollis altis. 1508 *Rentale Dunkeldense* (S.H.S. 1915) 251 For the windostaris, x b[olls]. 1618 in A. L. Ritchie *Churches St. Baldred* (1880) 170 That some women ..being ye Ladies windisteris, did spred muck ye last Sabbothe at efternoone. 1825 Jamieson, *Winnowster, winnister, sb.*, a machine for winnowing corn. *Aberd.*

Winny, obs. or dial. var. Whinny.

Winraw, winrow: see Windrow.

Winsome (wi·nsŏm), *a.* Forms: 1, 5 **wynsum,** 2–3 **wunsum,** 2, 4 **winsum,** 3 **wonsom,** 4 **winsom, wonsum**; 7–9 *n. dial.* **wunsome,** 8– (in 8 only *Sc.*) **winsome.** [OE. *wynsum* = OS. *wunsam*, OHG. *wunnisam* (MHG. *wun(ne)sam*), f. *wyn*(*n* Win *sb.*2 + *-sum* -some. Sense 3 came into the literary language from northern dialects.]

I. OE. and ME. senses.

†1. Pleasant, delightful, agreeable. *Obs.*

Beowulf 612 Dær was hæleþa hleahtor, hlyn swynsode, word wæron wynsume. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 3 May, þær com upp of þære eorðan wynsumes stences rec. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 13 Þæt is wynsum wong, wealdas grene. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Hit wæð me þunchen þet softeste beð, and þet wunsemeste þet ic efre þad. *c* 1205 Lay. 1187 He makede bi þon weofede a swiðe wunsum [*c* 1275 wonsom] fur. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 70 Hit colede anan ant warð hire as wunsum as euer eni wlech water. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5792 A wonsun [*sic*] thede, A land rinnand bath honi and milk.

†2. Kindly, gracious; merciful. *Obs. rare.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xxii. (1890) 472 He was se sweteста lareow & se wynsumesta [L. *suavissimus*]. *c* 1205 Lay. 153 Feier was þe wimmon & wunsum hire monnen. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ci[i]. 3 Þat winsom es to alle þine wickenesses.

II. Modern senses.

3. Pleasing or attractive in appearance, handsome, comely; of attractive nature or disposition, of winning character or manners.

1827 W. Nicholson in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1830) Ser. II. IX. 322 *Winsome*, neat, pleasant. 1725 W. Hamilton *Braes of Yarrow* i, Busk ye, busk ye, my bony bony bride; Busk ye, busk ye, my winsome marrow. 1790 Burns *My Wife's a ... thing* i, She is a winsome wee thing, She is a handsome wee thing, She is a bonnie wee thing. 1828 Scott *Betr. Lammm.* xiv, If the young folk liked ane anither, they wad make a winsome couple. 1833 H. Colburn *Poems, Sonn.* viii, The rugged root that bare the winsome flower Is weak and wither'd. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* IV. viii, I know thou art fair and winsome. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* v. vi. I. 276 Henry broke into his winsome laugh. 1889 Buchanan *Heir of Linne* xiii, She looked very winsome in her plain black dress.

4. Cheerful, joyous, gay. *dial.*

1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wunsome*, smart, trimly dressed, lively, joyous. N. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Winsome, wunsome*, lively, cheerful, gay.

Hence **Wi·nsomely** *adv.*, **Wi·nsomeness** in senses 3 and 4 of the adj. (OE. *wynsumlice, wynsumnes* did not survive.)

17.. *Jock o the Side* xxv. in Child *Ballads* VI. 480 O Jock, sae winsomely 's ye ride, Wi baith your feet upo ae side! 1805 Jamieson, *Winsomelie*, in a cheerful and engaging way. *Winsomeness*, cheerfulness and engaging sweetness. 1875 Mrs. Randolph *Wild Hyacinth* i, She could not have been called beautiful, but there was a winsomeness in Hyacinth Ettrick's face that rendered criticism a hard and ungracious task. 1883 Mrs. Bishop in *Leisure Hour* 83/2 Who came forward and most winsomely shook hands with us.

Wint, obs. f. Wind *sb.*1; obs. 3 sing. of Wield *v.*1

Winter (wi·ntəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: *Sing.* 1– **winter**; 3 *Orm.* **winnterr,** 3–7 **wynter,** (4 **weinter,** *Sc.* **vyntir**), 4–5 **wintur, wintre, wyntre, wyntir, -ur, -yr**(e, (4–6 **vynter,** *Sc.* **vintir**), 5 **wintir,** (**wintare, winttur, whynter, vyntyr,** 6 **vintter**). *Plural.* 1 **wintru** (*gen.* **wintra**), 2–5 **wintre,** 4–5 **wyntre**; *dat.* 1 **wintrum,** 2 **wintron,** 2–3 **-en**; 1–6 **winter,** (3 *Orm.* **winnterr,** 4 **vynter,** etc. as in sing.), 4–6 **wynter**; 1 **wintras,** 3–5 **wintres,** 4–5 **wyntres,** (4 **winteris, -es,** etc.), 4– **winters**; 4–5 **wyntren.** [OE. *winter* str. m. = OFris. *winter*, OS. *wintar* (MLG., MDu., LG., Du. *winter*), OHG. *wintar* (MHG., G. *winter*), ON. *vetr*, earlier *vettr, vittr* (Sw., Da. *vinter*, from LG.), Goth. *wintrus*:– **wentrus*, prob. f. nasalized form of the Indo-Eur. base *wed-, wod-, ud-* to be wet, found in Wet *a.*, Water *sb.*, Otter.

Originally a *u*-stem, OE. *winter* had regularly gen. (rare) and dat. sing. in *-es*; but the ordinary gen. sing. in *-es*, dat. sing. in *-e*, and nom. pl. in *-as*, in *-u*, and without inflection, show general assimilation to other declensions.]

1. The fourth and coldest season of the year, coming between autumn and spring; reckoned astronomically from the winter solstice to the vernal equinox, i. e. in the northern hemisphere from the 22nd of December to the 20th of March; in popular use comprising the months of December, January, and February (or, according to some, November, December, and January); also often in contradistinction to *summer*, the colder half of the year (cf. Midwinter). In the southern hemisphere corresponding in time to the northern summer.

(*a*) In general use. (Also personified.)

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxi. § 1 On sumera hit biþ wearm & on wintra ceald. *a* 1000, *c* 1200, *a* 1205 [see Summer *sb.*1 1 (*a*)]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 458 Ne recche ich nouht of wintres teone. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 226 As men may se in wyntre Ysekeles in euesse þorw hete of þe sonne, Melteth in a myntut while. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xviii. 6 Alle the bestes of erthe vp on hym shul dwelle al wynter. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* (1910) 70 He wered no mo clothis in Wyntir þann in Somyr. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 766 Wyntur with his lokkys grey febille & old. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 133 Wynter etythe, that s getith. 1532–3 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 192 In agestamento unius equi in vynter,..16*d*. 1552 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 32 Haruest..continueth till the twelft day of December, and then doth the Son entre into Capricorn, & Winter beginneth. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 142 You and you, are sure together, As the Winter to foule Weather. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Bathing in River* 28 When rig'orous Winter binds you up with Frost. 1729 [see Summer *sb.*1 1 (*a*)]. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 192 Tho' winter's cauld, or simmer's heat. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* III. 86 Winter came: the wind was his whip: One choppy finger was on his lip. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gardening* (ed. 2) 893 The season called winter by the natives of South America, lasting from May to November. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lii, Store of fire-wood for the winter.

(*b*) In particularized use, esp. with qualification, or as denoting this season in a certain year.

Beowulf 1128 Hengest ða gyt wealfagne winter wunode mid Finn. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 213 Wæs se winter eac þy geare toþæs grim þæt manig man his feorh..gesealde. *c* 1205 Lay. 6034 Auere alche wintre þanne Wales heo wuneden. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 338 In Rauchryne..[he] Lay till the vyntir neir was gane. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiii. 198 After an hard wynter. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IV. iv. (Add. MS. 27944) If þe wintir tofore honde was as springinge tyme hote and moyst. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 100, I warrant, her ragges and the Tallow in them, will burne a Poland Winter. 1634 Laud *Diary* Oct.–Dec., God bless us in the spring, after this green winter. 1740 C'tess Pomfret in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) II. 261 Mr. Walpole and Mr. Dashwood stay the winter. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xxii. 232 A winter pass'd since Peter saw the town, And summer-lodgers were again come down.

(*c*) Phr. *winter and summer*: see Summer *sb.*1 1 (*c*).

b. With reference to the chilling or injurious effect of winter, esp. on plants; *transf.* a period resembling winter, wintry or cold weather.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Se wind [zephirus] towyrpð &

Swuð mlene winter. 1399 Dallan in *Early Voy. Leonest* (Hakl. Soc.) 84 This day we had bothe wynter and somer. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* III. vi. 33 The Swallow followes not Summer more willing, then we your Lordship. *Tim.* Nor more willingly leaues Winter, such Summer Birds are men. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 913 When..bellowing Clouds..with an armed Winter strew the Ground. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxii. II. 241 The second sort, which.. bears the winter better, is a more tall and vigorous plant. 1821 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 467 They stood the Winter well.

c. In fig. and allusive use, esp. in reference to old age, or to a time or state of affliction or distress.

1590 Greene *Never too Late* (1600) D 1, I am driuen in the winter of my yeares to abide the brunt of all stormes. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. i. 1 Now is the Winter of our Discontent, Made glorious Summer by this Son of Yorke. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 24. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandman's Calling* iii. (1672) 35 Prosperity..nourisheth so many weeds, that the winter of affliction hath much ado to master them. 1746 Shenstone *Song, Winter* 16 When will relenting Delia chase The winter of my soul? 1809 I. Taylor *Enthus.* x. 296 What has been done is not lost; the seed sown may spring up, even after a century of winter. 1849 Froude *Nem. Faith* vii. (ed. 2) 48 It is night and day..with all of us, if we want to keep in health. To be sure, now and then there will come a North Pole winter. 1869 Tennyson *Passing of Arthur* 4 When the man was..In the white winter of his age.

2. Put for 'year': nearly always *pl.* with a numeral; often in expressions referring to a person's age.

In early use as a mere synonym of 'year'; later *poet.* or *rhet.*, chiefly in reference to advanced age or to a protracted period of hard-ship or misfortune (cf. 1 c, and Summer *sb.*[1] 2). See also Thrinter, Twinter.

Beowulf 2209 Syððan Beowulfe brunde rice on hand zehwearf; he zeheold tela fiftiz wintra. *a* 900 *Saxon Genesis.* in *O.E. Texts* 179 Đa was agan his eldo xxiii wintra. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John ii. 20 Þis tempel was zetimbrod on six & feowertizon wintron [*Hatton* wintren]. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, & Set lastede þa xix wintre wile Stephne was king. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 4 in *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Þah ich bo a wintre ald to zunge ich em on rede. *c* 1205 Lay. 6028 Tou and twenti wintre þis lond he iwalde. *Ibid.* 9695 Ah al oðer hit iwarð inne þan twam wintren. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 132 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 Vele wintre hit is ago þe prophete hit seyde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 3, I haue folwed þe in feithe þis fyue and fourty wyntre. *c* 1893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. xiv, þa Lacedemonia beuntan þa burg Mess(ianþe x winter. *a* 1000 *Be mouna wyrdum* 9 God ana wat hwæt him weaxendum winter bringað. *c* 1200 Ormin 15594 Fowwerrtiȝ winnterr ȝedeann forþ & ȝet tær tekenn sekeþ. *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 919 Loth was fifti winter hold. 13.. *Northern Passion* 935 (Camb. Gg. 5. 31) Þis three vynter. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 67 Fully twenty wynter yeer by yeere He hadde of Israel the gouernance. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lxx. 46 Til þai be o fiftene winter elde. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 128/175 The elder broþer hade a Sonne to clerke, Well of fyftene wynter of age. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) I. 42 An hundreth wynter [*ed.* 1570 winters]. 1522 *World & Child* (facs.) A iij b, Now I am .xix. wynter olde.

c 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 1211 Wintres forð-wexen on ysaac. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20832 (Edin.) Þis leuadi..liuid bot winteris .vij. and .ix. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 502 Holy Kirke hab ben in erroure mony hundred wyntere. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Cotton) 261 A gayne xvij wyntersende. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xxxiii. 467 Thus Anglydes endured yeres and wynters tyl Alysander was bygge and stronge. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 260 What is sixe Winters, they are quickely gone? 1612 *Two Noble K.* V. i. 114, I knew a man Of eightie winters. 1784 Cowper *Tirocinium*, 210 Ere sixteen winters old. 1833 Tennyson *Palace of Art* 139 A hundred winters snowed upon his breast.

c 1400 *St. Jer. 15 Tokens* 22 In þilk age he schal arise þat god was inne ded, Of litel more þan xxx[ti] wyntren.

sing. c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 5217 The ryot þat hab ben with-in þis lande..many a wyntres space. *c* 1460 Metham *Wks.* (1916) 84 Jon Metham..tranlatyd yt in-to Englysch the xxv[ti] wyntyr off hys age.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* a.[1] = Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of winter; adapted or appropriate to, used or occupied in, winter; existing, appearing, active, flourishing, or performed in winter.

(*a*) of natural phenomena, animals, plants, etc.

a 1000 *Phanix* 18 Ne wearm weder ne winterscur. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 35 The stormy wynter shoures. *c* 1400 *Land Tray Bk.* 3576 Wyntir-wedur. 1376–7 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 318, v whyes, of iiij yeres olde, vj winter whies, *ibid.* 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 55/2 *Alcede, alcyon*,..a winter birde commonly called the kings fisher. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 110 Thou Flea, thou Nit, thou winter cricket thou. 1600 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 223, I geve to Anne..one old winter stocke of bees. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 174 Blow, blow, thou winter winde. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to R. Stuart* 17 June, The winter-well will goe dry again in summer. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 263 Winter thunder, is old mens wonder. 1653 Walton *Angler* To Rdr. A 7, Winter-flies, all Anglers know,..are as useful as an Almanack out of date. 1727 Pope *Iliad* x. 507 His Coursers..white as Winter-Snow. 1727 Pope *Alma* II. 534 Cast your Eye *By* Night upon a Winter-Sky. 1751 Young *Nt. Th.* VII. 34 Repelling Winter Blasts with Mud and Straw. 1779 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 9 Nov., The..stock-dove..seldom appearing till towards the end of November; is usually the latest winter-bird of passage. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* III. xxviii, The rose..shall bloom in winter snow, Ere we two meet again. 1850 *Bert's Florist* 115 A pleasing and interesting winter-tree is the Glastonbury Thorn. 1852 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xx. 244 The most solid winter-ice is open here and there. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 136 A..bridge..across the bed of a winter torrent. 1869 Tennyson *Passing of Arthur* 201 The winter moon, Brightening the skirts of a long cloud.

(*b*) of clothing, provisions, etc., accommodation (also Winter-house, Winter quarters); of localities in their winter state and things serviceable in winter.

a 893 Ælfred *Oros.* IV. viii, þæt he bæton sorȝe mehte on þæm wintersetle gewunian. *a* 1000 *Phænix* 250 Feest & [illegible] þæm beoreð wis[illegible]ndum. *c* 1000 *Rectitudines* ix. (Liebermann 450), VIII pund cornes to mete, I sceap o'ðe III þ.' to wintersuſle. 1398 *Cartular. Abb. de Whitby* (Surtees 1881) II. 568 De wynterfare..xxvis. De lestyfare ..xl*d.* xx. li*d.* De halfare..xviii*s.* ?*c* 1400 Lydg. *Æsop's Fab.* iii. 98 The lawe dide hym compelle .. his wynter flees to selle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 331 The wintir wonyng. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 188 Pasture .. reseruyt to the abbay, safe the wynter pasture. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 430/2 A Wyntir haule, *hibernium, hibernaculum.* 1538 Elyot *Dict., Tablinum*, was a wynter parlour, wherein were painted tables and bokes of stories. 1568 Knollys in *Cal. Scott. Papers.* (1900) II. 513 Unprouided of sufficient wynter garments. 1575 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 406 Another Close for Winter ground. 1598 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1218 As winter meads when sun doth melt their snow. 1608 May *Virg. Georg.* I. 15 Some sit up late at winter-fires. 1653 Walton *Angler* xii. 222 A winter bait for a Roch. 1675 Hannan Woolley *Gentlew. Comp.* 215 Provide your Winter-Butter and Cheese in the Summer. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxiv. 102 Have some winter Boots made of it, they'le never take in a drop of Water. 1713 Cthas Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 36 Birds have dropt their Winter-plumes. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* III. vi. 46 Black Velvet Scarfs..are a handsome Winter-wear. 1729 Fenton in *Waller's Wks.* Observ. p. xxxiv, When the Sun retir'd.. to the six Winter-Signs of the Zodiac; short'ning the days. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 97 So Ships in Winter-Seas.. dely the Storm. 1760, 1791 Winter-lodge [see Hibernaculum 3, Hibernacle]. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, Sic as folk tell ower at a winter-ingle. 1819 Keats *Eve of St. Mark* 77 The warm angled winter-screen. 1842 W. F. Ainsworth *Trav. Asia Minor* II. 394 The winter road..takes the longer portion of valley. 1848 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 677 [Celery] is .. cultivated as a winter salad. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 484 To harrow it before cross-ploughing the winter-furrow. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 35/2 After being kept on winter-fodder, they are turned out to graze in the spring. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxx, The winds..We heard them sweep the winter land. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 38 A glacier..is the outlet of..vast reservoirs of snow, being a prolongation of the winter-world above. 1894 Armatage *Horse* V. 73 A horse with his natural winter coat. 1904 Britons *Demeter* I. 282, I think he watch'd a summer-butterfly Creep out all crumpled from his winter-case. 1912 J. Ward *Roman Era Brit.* IV. 77 There was a 'winter-room' on the south side.

(*c*) of times and seasons. (See also Winter-day, -tide, -time.)

a 1000 *Genesis* 370, & moste [ic] ane tid ute weorþan, wesan ane winterstunde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 82 The blake wynter nyht. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 194 He wolde nouȝt abide in Scotland in wynter seson. 1508 Dunbar *Two Married Women* 77 The lang winter nicht. 1559 W. Cuninghan *Cosmogr. Glasse* 34 The winter tropike or circle of retorning from the South. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter morninges. *Ibid.* 41 The Male [Hemp].. is made vp in bundels to be knocked and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1707 Freind *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 223 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1825 Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rosy May, though fashionably a winter month, led on the smiling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1869 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*d*) of actions or conditions.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wo. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* V. xviii. 555 In October you shall giue it the fourth ardor or eating, which Some of the stoutest of the Narhagansets that had escaped the Winter-brunt. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 14 Nov. 1666, I went my winter circle thro' my district. 1721 Swift *Cond. Allies* 52 Eight Thousand Men, for whose Winter Campaign the Queen was willing to give forty Thousand Pounds. 1725 Winter pruning [see Summer *sb.*[1] 4 a (*e*)]. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 573 Thus in some deep retirement would I pass The winter-glooms with friends of pliant soul. 1809 *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 317 That very common..disease of our climate, the winter cough. 1836–9 M. Hall in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 768/2 The winter-sleep and the summer-sleep of hibernating animals. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xv, [The emigrants] had had a long winter-passage out.

(*e*) with agent-nouns or other descriptive designations.

1634 G. Goddard in *T. Burton's Diary* (1828) I. Introd. p. lxxviii, Some part of the sea-forces were already struck off, and the winter-guard reduced. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Monsieh Syst.* 89 Those [creatures] that are Winter-Sleepers, when the Summer warmth abates,..draw to..Winter-Quarters. 1783 Crabbe *Village* I. 201 When he tends the sheep, His winter-charge. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 363 The Cochins ..proved themselves the best possible 'winter-layers'.

b. The possessive *winter's* is similarly used, chiefly with *day, night, morning, evening. Winter's tale*: see *winter-tale* in 5.

835 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 449 Þif hi wintres dæg sie. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 327 Sche..halt hir clos the wyntres day. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 212 The coold wynterys nyght. 1577 Harrison *England* I. xiii. 37 b/s in *Holinshed*, Blewe claye..(which hardlye drinketh vppe the winters water in long season). *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* III. iii, Who would not vndergoe all kind of toyle, To be well stor'd with such a winter's tale? 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, V. v. 25 Let Æsop table in a Winters Night. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. i. 7 The..churlish chiding of the winters winde. 1603 — *Meas.* III. iv. 65 O, these flawes and starts..would well become A womans story, at a Winters fire. 1634 Whitlock *Zootomia* 300 A pretty upshot of all ambitious Designes..to be made at length a Winters Tale, and Chimney-corner Discourse. 1758 Cowper *Retiring Time Anticipated* 9 It chanced then on a winter's day, But warm, and bright, and calm as May. 1796 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., He is like a winter's day, short and dirty.

c. Applied to autumn-sown crops that stand through the winter; also to fruits that ripen late, or keep well until or during winter; also, in names of late-ripening apples, pears, etc. (See also 5 b.)

1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxv. (Add. MS. 27944) Barliche hatte Ordeum..þis corn we clepith wynter barlie. 1598 Winter seede [see Summer *sb.*[1] 4 c]. 1530 Palsgr. 280/2 Wynter fruite, *fruit de yuer.* 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 40 Winter fruit gather when Mihel is past. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 28 Winter Barley..is to be sowed in September. 1609 Dekker *Ravens Almanack* B 3 b, When winter plomes are ripe and ready to be gathered. 1676 Worlidge *Cyder* 170 Binga-pear, Winter-Poppering, Thore-

1707 Mo.. Apples..Winter Queening..Winter Pearmain..Pears, Winter Musk,..Winter Norwich,..Winter Burgamot, Winter Bon-Chrestien. 1762 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 466 The gray and other large winter peas. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 514 The state of the winter-wheat depends entirely on the sort of weather it had to encounter in winter and early spring. 1850 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 63 In Egypt, wheat is a winter crop.

d. In figurative applications (cf. 1 c); † in quots. 1593, 1682 = old, aged.

1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, V. iii. 2 Salisbury,..That Winter Lyon, who in rage forgets Aged contusions. 1652 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. i. 6 'Tis the worst of his fate was, to live to his Winter age. 1682 Otway *Venice Preserved* III. ii. 34 That mortify'd old wither'd Winter Rogue. 1709 Pope *Jan. & May* 104 The tasteless, dry embrace (If a stale virgin with a winter face. 1745 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 410 The Crown of Manhood is a Winter-Joy: An Evergreen, that ..blossoms in the Rigour of our Fate.

4. *Comb.*: objective, as *winter-boding, -loving* adjs.; indirect objective, as *winter-like, -proof, -verging* adjs.; instrumental, as *winter-beaten, -blasted, -bound, -chilled, -shaken, -starved, -swollen, -thin, -wasted, -withered, -worn* pa. pples. and adjs.; similative, as *winter-chill, -seeming, -visaged* adjs.; 'in or during winter', as *winter-blooming, -fattened, -felled, -flowering, -made, -pruned, -sown, -standing* pples. and adjs.; *winter-cut* vb.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Jun., Argt., He compareth his carefull case to the sadde season of the yeare, and to his owne *winterbeaten flocke. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 23 Crab, hip and *winter-bitten sloe. 1597 Drayton *Heroic. Ep., Rosamond* 40 The cold badge of *winter-blasted haires. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 72 A roofe to my Winter-blasted lodging. *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *Song of Dying Old Man* vi, The spring-flower clinging round the *winter-blighted tree. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* III. 303 Cyclamen (especially the *winter-blooming kind) may be sheltered. 1822 W. Watson *Poems, Autumn* 36 And spectral seem thy *winter-boding trees. 1792 Burns *Lovely Davies* ii, As the wretch looks o'er Siberia's shore, When *winter-bound the wave is. 1904 Phillips Oppenheim *Betrayal* xxi. 179 A country silent and winterbound. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 482 My flesh (too-*Winter-chill) My spirit's small sparkles doth extinguish still. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* vi. 72 In the Spring yielding a reviving Cordial to your *Winter-chilled spirit. 1784 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* ix, A very large fall of timber, consisting of about one thousand oaks, has been cut..These trees..were *winter-cut, viz. in February and March. 1840 Buel *Farmer's Comp.* 164 English beef and mutton..is mostly *winter-fattened..upon roots and straw. 1804 *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 89 This superiority in *winter-felled wood. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 101/2 *Winter-flowering plants. 1621 Sparo *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xli. 79 *Winter-like dispositions of weather. 1540 T. Smith *Jrnl.* (1849) 268, I believe no man ever knew so winter-like a spell so early in the year. 1800 Hurdis *Fav. Village* 134 The *winter-loving moss. 1832 *Cumbld. Farm Rep.* 58 in *Libr. Useful Knowl., Husb.* III, The manure made in summer ..is always of better quality than *winter-made dung. 1830 Doyle in W. J. Fitz-Patrick *Life* (1880) II. 221, I..hope I am now *winter-proof. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 439 Canes *winter-pruned, or cut back. *a* 1632 Donne *Lower Alchymie* 12 A *winter-seeming summers night. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. I. *Vocation* 483 Peasants *Winter-shaken. 1605 R. R. *Commend. Poem* in *Sylvester's Wks.*, Winter-shaken Leaues. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 316 *Winter sown Seed. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* II. vi. (1622) 40 The souldiers were brought backe to their *winter-standing camps. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 68 Figures and flowers, extreamelie *winter-starued. 1597 Drayton *Heroic. Ep., Henry to Rosamond* 101 The hungry winter-starued earth. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 92 A number of poore winterstarued people. 1849 Rock *Ch. Fathers* II. 465 Did the good man..wade through the *winter-swollen brook? 1820 Keats *Fancy* 57 The snake all *winter-thin Cast on sunny bank its skin. 1824 Fenby

345 As we fare .. forth .. From out our .. Northern Isle. 1926 Hardy *Dynasts* II. I. vi, *Winter-whitened house. 1592 Daniel *Delia* xxx[viii], Her glas.. then presents her *winter-withered hew. 1892 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xxxvii, The common jealousy of a *winter-worn husband. *a* 1560 Phaer *Æneid* VIII. (1562) B b ij, Three *winter-wrested showres.

5. Special Combs.: **winter bud** *Zool.*, a statoblast (formed at the approach of, or quiescent during, winter); **winter-clad** *a.*, clothed warmly for the winter; † **winter-close** *v.*, *trans.* to shut close against the cold of winter; **winter count**, a pictorial record or chronicle of the events of a year, kept by a N. American Indian tribe; **winter eggs** = *winter ova*; **winter garden**, (*a*) a garden of plants that flourish in winter, as evergreens; (*b*) a greenhouse or conservatory in which plants are kept flourishing in winter; **winter-haimed** *a.* [Haim *v.*[1]], of pasture, preserved from grazing during the winter; so **winter-haiming** *vbl. sb.*; **winter-killed** *pa. pple.* and *a.* (*U. S.*), killed or

blasted by the cold of winter: said esp. of grain or other crops; so **winter-killing**; **winter-long** *a.*, as (tediously) long as winter; *adv.*, through a whole winter; **winter-love**, cold or conventional love; **winter-old** *a.*, that has lasted since the beginning of winter; **winter ova**, eggs produced by certain invertebrates at the approach of winter (cf. *summer ova* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6); **winter-piece** [PIECE *sb.* 17 b, d], a picture or description of a winter scene; **winter-pride**, the condition of being winter-proud; **winter-proud** *a.*, (of wheat or other crops) too luxuriant in winter; **winter-rig** *v.* (now *dial.*), *trans.* to plough (land) in ridges and lay it fallow for the winter (cf. WINTER-FALLOW); **winter-rot** [ROT *sb.*[1] 2], a disease incident to sheep in the winter; † **winter-stall**, a hive in which bees are kept during the winter; † **winter story, tale**, an idle tale (also *winter's tale*: see 3 b).

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 709 The *Phylactolaemata* [among *Polyzoa*] also reproduce by statoblasts or *winter buds. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 105 The man; Tattoo'd or woaded, *winter-clad in skins. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 507 *Winter close hit al To holde out colde. 1895 HOFFMAN *Beginnings of Writing* 35 These chronological records are designated '*winter counts', as each event covers that period of time between the end of one summer and the beginning of the next. 1872 H. C. BASTIAN *Begin. Life* II. 514 The so-called '*winter-eggs' of the beautiful..Rotifer..*Hydatina senta*. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 477 P 1 A *Winter Garden, which would consist of such Trees only as never cast their Leaves. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xxiv. (1774) 448 In a cold country, the capital object should be a winter-garden, open to the sun, sheltered from wind, dry under foot, and having the appearance of summer by variety of evergreens. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* xvi. 197 The great conservatory, or winter garden, as it is called in that country, and without which no grand Russian house is complete. 1896 *Ward & Lock's Illustr. Guide Bournemouth* etc. 22 Not far from the pier entrance is the Winter Garden and Pavilion. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 86 To have in reserve a *winter-hained old pasture, which the ewes and lambs can fall back on. 1667–8 *Act 19–20 Chas. II*, c. 8 § 10 The time of the *Winter heyning (that is to say) from the Eleventh day of November to the Three and twentieth day of Aprill. 1743 R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Agric. Scot.* 37 The Dung of these [sheep] in Summer, with Winter-halning, will keep the Ground in good Heart. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 405 The White Mediterranean and Sandomirka wheats were badly *winter-killed. *Ibid.* 17 The early reports..were generally favorable, and noted by the absence of *winter-killing. *c* 1325 *Lai le Freine* 243 Al the *winter-long night. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* IV. 193 How winter-long between them there the sweets of sloth they nursed. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov., Jactura vitæ*, What a deale of cold businesse doth a man mis-spend the better part of life in! in scattering complements, tendring visits, .. making a little *winter-love in a darke corner. 1897 tr. *Nansen's Farthest North* II. v. 194 Ice which can hardly be *winter old, or at any rate has been formed since last summer. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3406 He pointed out the difference between the ordinary ova and those called '*winter ova', which last he proposed to call ephippial ova. 1877 [see *summer ova* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6]. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 634 The ova [of Rotifers] are of three kinds, small male ova, thin-shelled summer ova, and thick-shelled winter or, better, resting ova. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 17 July, To agree with..(the Dutch paynter..) for a *winter piece of snow. 1697 ADDISON *Ess. Virgil's Georgics* P 12 The Scythian Winter-piece appears so very cold and bleak to the Eye, that a Man can scarce look on it without shivering. 1797 HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. xlii. 70 The third [painting] is a winter piece. *a* 1720 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 93 Sow old wheat at the first and earliest sowing, if you fear *winter-pride. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII li. I. 501 When either corne is *winter-prowd, or other plants put forth and bud too earely, by reason of the mild and warme aire. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 146 When the wheat is winter-proud, which commonly happens after a mild season.., that luxuriance.. ought to be checked by eating it down with sheep. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 397 There is danger of the crop running to straw, or becoming what is called winter-proud. 1661 M. STEVENSON *Twelve Months* 39 At the end of this moneth [August] begin to *winter-rig all fruitful soyls. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 140 Against the *winter rotte, or hunger rotte, you must prouide to feede them [*sc.* sheep] at home in Cratches. *c* 1275 *xi Pains of Hell* 40 in *O. E. Misc.* 148 Pickure hi hongeh..Pan don been in *wynterstal. 1587–8 *Wills & Inv. Durh.* (Surtees) II. 312, iij wynter stales of bees. 1824 [see STALL *sb.*[4]]. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 239 A mere *winter-story without any ground or reason. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 7 According to olde wives fables and *winter tales. 1637 C. DOW *Answ. to H. Burton* 120 b, Such winter tales as it were too great a misperice of time and words to refute them.

b. In names of animals and plants that are active or flourish in winter or in the winter half of the year (often rendering L. *hiemalis* as a specific name), or of late-ripening fruits (cf. 3 c): **winter-bloom**, (*a*) a late-flowering species of *Azalea*; (*b*) the American witch-hazel, *Hamamelis virginica*, which blossoms late in autumn and ripens its fruit the following year; **winter bunting**, the snow bunting (see BUNTING *sb.*[1] 1); **winter clover**, the partridge-berry, *Mitchella repens*; **winter daffodil**, a late-blooming yellow-flowered amaryllid, *Sternbergia lutea*, cultivated in gardens; **winter duck**, (*a*) the pintail duck (see PINTAIL 2); (*b*) in *U. S.*, the long-tailed duck, *Harelda glacialis*; **winter falcon**, the young of the red-shouldered buzzard, *Buteo lineatus*; **winter finch**, a N. American species of finch (see quot.); **winter flounder** (see quot.); **winter-flower**, (*a*) *gen.* a flower blooming in winter; (*b*) *spec.* the early-blooming Japan allspice, *Chimonanthus fragrans* [a rendering of the generic name]; † **winter gilly-flower**, the wallflower (see quot. 1597); **winter grape**, an American species of grape-vine, *Vitis* [illegible] gull; **winter hawk**, the red-shouldered buzzard (cf. *winter falcon*); **winter heath** (see quot.); **winter-mew** = *winter-gull*; **winter midge** (see quot.); **winter-moth**, any of various geometer moths which come forth in winter, esp. *Cheimatobia brumata*; **winter-pick** [? PICK *v.*[1] 5], a local name for the sloe when mellowed by frost, used for making a rustic wine; **winter queening**, a late-ripening variety of apple, which keeps well through the winter; **winter redbird** *local*, the cardinal grosbeak, *Cardinalis virginianus*, which winters in some parts of N. America (cf. *summer redbird* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b); **winter rocket**, the common winter-cress, *Barbarea vulgaris* (see ROCKET *sb.*[2] 3); **winter rose**, (*a*) a rose blooming in winter; (*b*) ? the Christmas rose, *Helleborus niger*; **winter-shad**, the mud-shad, *Dorosoma cepedianum*; **winter snipe**, the purple sandpiper or rock-snipe, *Tringa striata* or *maritima* (cf. *summer snipe* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b); **winter squash**, a species of pumpkin, *Cucurbita maxima* (cf. *summer squash* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b); **winter strawberry**, the strawberry-tree = ARBUTUS; **winter-sweet** = *Winter Sweet Marjoram* (see MARJORAM); **winter teal**, the green-winged teal (see TEAL 2); cf. *summer teal* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b; **winter-thorn**, a late-ripening variety of pear; **winter-weed**, any one of various small weeds which survive and flourish in winter; *esp.* the ivy-leaved and field speedwells, *Veronica hederæfolia* and *V. agrestis*. See also *winter* ACONITE, HELIOTROPE, HELLEBORE, HEMP, MARJORAM, RAPE (*sb.*[5]), SAVORY, WAGTAIL, WREN.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 338 *Winter Bloom. *Azalea.* 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Hamamelis virginica*, American Witch-Hazel...Winter-bloom. 1813 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. 367 *Winter Bunting (*Emberiza hyemalis*). 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Mitchella repens*, Chequer-berry, Partridge-berry,..*Winter Clover. *Ibid.*, *Sternbergia lutea*, *Winter Daffodil. 1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 360 Pintail Duck. Sea Pheasant, Cracker, or *Winter Duck. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 209 *Winter Falcon...With a black bill; yellow cere;..appears at approach of winter, and retires in the spring. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* III. 274 *Winter Finch...Found at New York, in the winter. 1809 EDMONDSTON *Zetland Isl.* I. 240 Ling..are known by the name of *winter fish. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 16 *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*...Common flounder; *winter-flounder; mud dab. 1733 POPE *Let. to Richardson* 10 June, I hope to see you..before this *Winter-flower is faded. I will defer her Interment till Tomorrow Night. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxiii. 371 The people in Cheshire do call them *Winter Gilloflowers. 1618 W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* vi. (1623) 12 Wall-flowers, commonly called Bee-flowers, or winter Gilly-flowers. 1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* I. 169 *Vitis cordifolia*..commonly called *Winter-grape or Chicken-grape. 1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 221 *Winter Gull. Winter Mew, or Coddy Moddy. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornithol. Biog.* I. 364 The *Winter Hawk. *Falco hyemalis*, Gmel. 1888 *Garden* 14 Jan. 27/1 The *Winter Heath (*Erica carnea*) as a low-growing.. shrub is one of the best of all winter blooming plants. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 330 The *Winter-Mew, called in Cambridge-shire the Coddy-Moddy. 1854 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. 288 The appearance of gnats, The first that appear are called *winter midges (*Trichocera hyemalis*). 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 359 *Smerinthus brumaria*. The *Winter Moth. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 106 The Winter Moth (*Chimatobia brumata*). 1862 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* 118 '*Winterpick-wine' takes the place of port in the rustic 'cellar'. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Jan. (1669) 21 Apples..Holland-pepin, John-apple, *Winter-Queening. 1714 J. LAWSON *Carolina* 108 Winter Queening is a durable Apple, and makes good Cider. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146/1 Our lively cardinal grosbeak.. is known as the '*winter red bird', because..more of a songster in December than in June. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 240 The *winter Rose must blow, the Sun put on A brighter Beam in Leo. 1891 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* IV. 88 Shad'. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxx. 109 The vine of a species of pompion called by the colonists *winter squash. *a* 1746 HOLDSWORTH *Remarks on Virgil* (1768) 29 The Arbutus cannot here mean the *Winter-Strawberry. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Winter sweet, *Origanum hiracleoticum*. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Pear* 5 Y 4/2 The *winter-thorn.

Winter, *sb.*[2] [Origin uncertain.

Perhaps originating as a jocular antithesis to the *summer* or upper rail or cross-bar of the hand-printing press (SUMMER *sb.*[2] 3 e). Connexion with north. dial. *winter* = trivet is uncertain.]

In a hand-printing press, a block of wood about nine inches broad by nine deep, supporting the carriage and having a tenon at each end to fit into corresponding mortices in the cheeks.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* x. P 4 The Length of the Winter besides the Tenonnets, is one Foot nine Inches. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 298. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.* 156.

Winter, *v.* [f. WINTER *sb.*[1] after L. *hiemare* (in senses 1, 2), *hibernare* (in sense 1); cf. MHG., MLG., Du. *winteren* (G. *wintern*), ON. *vetra*.]

1. *intr.* To pass or spend the winter; to stay or reside (at a specified place) during the winter; (of animals) to find, or be provided with, food and shelter in the winter.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvii. 12 If on ony maner thei myȝten come to Fenyce, for to wynterne in the hauene of Crete. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxvii. 12 The haven was nott commodius to wynter in. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xviii. 6 The beastes of the earth wyntered there. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* II. i, Birds that breed in one Countrie, and goe to winter in another. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, Discovering a Leak we unshipped our Goods and winter'd there. 1801 A. MACKENZIE *Voy. Montreal* Fur Trade p. xxvii, About a third of these [middlemen] went to winter, and had more than double the above wages. 1806 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Pop. Fallacies* xv, What savage unsocial nights must our ancestors have spent, wintering in caves and unilluminèd fastnesses! 1808 DARVILL *Engl. Race Horse* Introd. p. ix, Mr. Crooke had a farm at Redland, in Gloucestershire, at which place his horses usually wintered. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. ii. 46 The heathen men wintered for the first time in the Isle of Sheppey. *fig.* 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, The Miss Williams.. seemed to have no separate existence, but to have made up their minds just to winter through life together.

2. *trans.* To keep or maintain during winter; *esp.* to provide (animals) with food and shelter in winter. (Also said of the food, or of the land.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyntryn', or kepe a thynge al the wyntyr, *yemo*. 1550–1 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 306 To wynter theme [*sc.* two ox twinters] unto such tyme as thei be able to drawe. 1570–1 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 594 For vppyng ye Swannes and wynteryng them..xxiij^s. 1580 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 239 To..my wief a cowe and asmoche haie as will wynter hir. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 605 They summered them [*sc.* sheep] in Apulia, they wintered them in Samnius. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Oct. (1744) 135 If I keep more Sheep than I can Winter. 1824 LOUDON *Green-house Comp.* I. 15 The sickly condition of plants wintered in such of these houses as still exist. 1888 *Garden* 28 Mar. 187/3, I have given up wintering Cauliflower plants. 1883 *Standard* 3 Apr. 3/5 It should be the aim of the grass-land farmer to summer as many and winter as few animals as possible.

† b. *fig.* To maintain (an opinion) through a period of trial. (Cf. *to summer and winter* s.v. SUMMER *v.*[1] 3 b.) *Obs. rare.*

1608 BP. HALL *Charac.* II. 108 The Vnconstant. what he will be next, as yet he knoweth not; but ere hee haue Wintred his opinion, it will be manifest. 1618 T. ADAMS *Serm. Heb. xiii. 8* Wks. (1629) 853 To winter an opinion is too tedious: hee hath beene many things; what hee will bee, you shall scarce know, till hee is nothing.

† 3. *intr.* To be or become wintry. *Obs. rare.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 To Wyntyr, *brumare, brumescere*.

† 4. *pa. pple.* Detained by winter weather, winter-bound. *Obs. rare.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 251 They sayled to the .49. degree and a halfe vnder the pole Antartyke; where beinge wyntered, they were inforced to remayne.

5. *trans.* To affect like winter, subject to wintry conditions; to make wintry; to chill, freeze. Chiefly *fig.* (cf. WINTER *sb.*[1] 1 c).

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir G. Nonsence* Wks. (1630) II. 3/2 Time that now summers him, wil one day winter him. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* IV. iii, I am so .. wintred with the tempests of affliction. 1797 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 355 Experience has wintered the aspect of the future. 1857 MEREDITH *Farina* (1894) 304 They uttered noises that wintered the blood.

Winterage (wi·ntərédʒ). *local.* Also **-idge.** [f. WINTER *v.* + -AGE.] The action of wintering cattle; food or pasture for cattle in winter.

1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Winteridge* .. the same as average. 1888 *Times* 8 Nov. 5/6 [In Galway] 'Winterage' is land hired to place cattle on in the winter months.

† **Winteran.** *Obs.* In **Winteran bark** [tr. mod.L. *cortex Winteranus*], erron. *bark of Winteran* = WINTER'S BARK.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* ii. 58 Of the bark of Winteran half a pound. 1694 PECHEY *Compl. Herbal* 348 Winteranbark.

Winterberry (wi·ntəɹbĕrɪ). Any of several N. American species of holly (*Ilex*, formerly *Prinos*) with berries, usually scarlet, which persist through the winter; esp. *Ilex verticillata* (also called Black Alder) and *I. lævigata* (Smooth Winterberry). Also, the fruit of any of these.

1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7), *Prinos*. Winterberry. 1770 J. R. FORSTER in *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 67 *Prinos verticillatus*, the winterberry tree in swamps. 1832 J. BEES *St. Herbert's Isle* 147 Brambled paths, where winter-berries hang. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 171 A vigorous growth of winter-berry, laden with its crimson fruit.

Winterbourne (wi·ntəɹbōəɹn). [OE. *winterburna*, f. WINTER *sb.*[1] + *burna*, BOURN(E *sb.*[1], BURN *sb.*[1] As a place-name *Winterbourne* is distributed over Wiltshire and Dorset together with s.w Berks and s.w. Gloucestershire; there is also a *Winterburn* in Yorkshire. The mod. use of the word as a common name has not been satisfactorily accounted for.] An intermittent stream, such as those found in chalk and limestone districts, which flows only in winter or at long intervals.

990 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 348 [Gloucestershire] In winterburnan..swa on oferne winterburnan. *c* 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xviii. 1 Ofer þæt burna *vel* uinterburna [L. *trans torrentem*].

[1774 J. Hutchins *Hist. Dorset* I. Introd. p. lxxv, Winterborn N. rises at Winterborn Howton...This rivulet seldom runs farther than Clenston in the summer, and thus answers to its Saxon name Wintreburn.]

1851 Kingsley *Yeast* i, One of those noble springs known as winter-bournes in the chalk ranges. 1884 Jukes-Browne *Phys. Geol.* 86 The nailbournes [see Eylesbourn] and winter-bournes of the south of England are caused by a gradual rise in the line of saturation under the chalk-hills till the water reaches a level at which there is free egress into some valley or depression. 1895 Saintsbury *Ess. Engl. Lit.* Ser. II. 79 The flashing of the winterbournes as they spring from the turf where they have lain hid.

Winter cherry.

1. Name for several plants of the nightshade tribe (N. O. *Solanaceæ*) with cherry-like fruit which is ripe in winter; also, the fruit itself. a. The common English name of Alkekengi, a European herb bearing a round scarlet fruit inclosed in a red bladder-like envelope formed of the enlarged calyx; also of other species of *Physalis*, as the Cape Gooseberry, *P. edulis*.

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 75 *Solanum vesicarium*..in englishe Alcakeng or wynter cheries. 1575 J. Banister *Chyrurg.* 96 b, *Alcakengi*, Winter cherie, a kynde of nightshade. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 462 *Halicacabum sive Alkekengi*. Winter Cherries. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 178 Winter Cherries are increased from the Roots by Sprouts or Runners. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Alkekengi*, The common medicinal Winter-Cherry. 1840 F. D. Bennett *Whaling Voy.* II. 308 *Physalis edulis*—Cape Gooseberry or Winter Cherry.

b. Applied to species of *Solanum* with cherry-like fruit, as *S. Pseudo-capsicum*, also called Jerusalem Cherry.

1629 Parkinson *Parad.* 431 *Amomum Plinij seu Pseudo-capsicum*. Tree Night shade or the Winter Cherry tree. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Solanum*. 1850 G. Glenny *Handbk. Flower-Garden* 129 *Solanum pseudo-capsicum* is the Winter Cherry, a greenhouse bush, grown for its red cherry-like berries in winter.

2. Applied to species of *Cardiospermum* or Heart-seed (N. O. *Sapindaceæ*), having fruit inclosed in an inflated calyx like that of *Physalis* (see 1); esp. *C. Halicacabum*, also called Balloon Vine.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. liii. § 2. 870 The blacke winter Cherrie hath weake and slender stalkes somewhat crested, and like vnto the tendrels of the Vine. 1866 [see *heart-pea*, Heart *sb.* 56 b].

Winter corn. [Cf. Du. *winterkoren*, G. *winterkorn*.] Corn sown in winter, or in autumn and remaining in the ground through the winter.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 351 On halfe acre of wyntur corne. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 8 If thou sowe it with winter-corne, as whete or ry. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 25 b, The Winter Corne when it is sowed before Winter, appeareth aboue the ground somtimes within a seuennight after. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 113 Our wheate and rie, which wee call winter corne. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 60 These Lands are very subject to worms which destroys both the Corn and the Grass very much, especially the Winter-corn. 1764 *Museum Rust.* IV. 7 If it is to be winter corn, one ploughing more, which is the third only, makes it in fine order for the seed.

attrib. and *Comb.* *a* 1450 *Mankind* 54 in *Macro Plays* 3 A wyntur corn-thresecher. 1622 in G. A. Carthew *Hund. Launditch* III. (1879) 26 In the tyme of wyntercorne harvest.

Winter-cress. [After Du. *winterkers*.] Any of the cruciferous herbs of the genus *Barbarea*, the leaves of which were formerly used as a winter salad; esp. *B. vulgaris* (Winter Rocket, Yellow R.).

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 44 Irio..in englishe wynter cresse. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. lxi. 626. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. viii. 189 The seede of winter Cresse..helpeth the strangurie. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 14 Barbarea, Pseudobunias,..Winter Cresses. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxiii. (1794) 323 Winter Cress with lyrate leaves .. and spikes of yellow flowers, growing by ditch-sides. 1858 Hooc *Veg. Kingd.* 63.

Winter day. [OE. *winterdæg* = MLG., MDu. *winterdach, -dagh* (Du. *winterdag*, G. *wintertag*), ON. *vetrardagr*.] A day in winter. (More commonly *winter's day*: see Winter *sb.*1 3 b.)

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* iv. § 1 Þu þe ðam winterdagum selest scorte tida. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 345 Eftyre sowa þe blud fel Als clere of hyre as of a wel As dois watir one wyntir day. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 116 To expose them to the Sun in such Winter-days as prove clear. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 692 Behold, the joyous winter-days Frosty succeed. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, The darkest winter-day that ever glimmered. *a* 1876 Aird *Poet. Wks.* (1878) 145 On gurly winter days.

Winterden, corrupt form of Witherden.

Wintered (wi·ntəɹd), *a.* Forms: (1 ġewintred), 3 wintred, (*Orm.*) winntredd, 6–9 wintred, 6– wintered. [OE. *gewintred*, f. *ge-* Y- + *winter* Winter *sb.*1 + *-ed*, -ed.]

†1. Having lived through or experienced many winters or years (cf. Winter *sb.*1 2); aged; veteran. In OE. also = 'of age', grown up. *Obs.*

The meaning in the last quot. is doubtful.

888–95 *Lawes of Ine* xxxviii. (Liebermann), Healden þa mægas þone frumstol, Oð ðæt hit [*sc.* the child] ġewintred sie. *a* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* VI. xxxi. § 1 Hi hiene nieddon to leornunga, þeah he ġewintred wære. *c* 1200 Ormin 746 Sannt Johan wass streonedd ta þurrh faderr & þurrh moderr, þatt dime þatt tezz wæreenn he Wimmredde mann & alde. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* IV. i, Backt With wintered soldiers va'd to conquering [Garnier *une armee, De fleurs legions à vaincre accoustumee*]. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 66 The action is entred, the complaint of her [*sc.* a turbot's] wintered browes presented.

2. Exposed to the influence of winter; subjected to wintry conditions; chilled or blasted by winter.

c 1205 Lay. 101 Þa scipen foren wide ȝeon hare wintrede sæ. 1596 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* I. 4 In field so florishing That wintered withered stalks stand in court. 1596 Lodge *Marg. Amer.* 21 First shall the sunne be seene without his flame, The wintred mountaines without frost or ice. 1804 Anna Seward *Mem. Darwin* 293 The late and wintered period of Autumn. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* III. xv. 241 Something like a flash of cold moonlight on wintred water gleamed over..his poor focusless eyes. 1889 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Thro' Long Night* II. xx, He would welcome her as the wintered earth welcomes the fresh young spring.

†3. Adapted for or used in winter. *Obs. rare*—1.

1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 111 Wintred garments must be linde.

Winterer (wi·ntərəɹ). [f. Winter *v.* (or *sb.*1) + -er 1.] One who winters, in various senses.

1. One who spends the winter in a specified place; a winter visitor or resident; *spec.* a servant of the Hudson's Bay Company who was employed in the far interior of N. America. Also applied to birds (*spec.* the jerfalcon: see quot. 1831).

1801 A. Mackenzie *Voy. Montreal* Fur Trade p. xxviii, Those are called North Men or Winterers. 1831 Swainson & Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 27 The Jerfalcon is a constant resident in the Hudson's Bay territories, where it is known by the name of the 'Speckled Partridge Hawk', or by that of the 'Winterer'. 1876 *Forth. Rev.* Mar. 363 Davos, with its five hundred winterers. 1882 *Standard* 14 Apr. 6 Doubtless, the winterers in Smith's Sound..will have a curious tale to tell. 1923 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 Mar. 176/3 The whinchat hardly deserves to be ranked as a regular winterer, even in Cornwall.

b. *spec.* An animal, as a horse, ox, or sheep, 'kept to feed in a particular place during winter' (Jam.). *Sc.*

1795 G. Robertson *Agric. Surv. Mid-Lothian* 41 In farms where no winterers are kept, the dunghill is placed behind the stables, out of view. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 251 Winterers, or straw-yard cattle, intended for next summer's grass. 1827 Scott *Two Drovers* ii, If you let me have six stots for winterers.

2. One who tends animals during winter.

1832 *Boston Her.* 8 May 3/5 Graziers and winterers of stock.

Wi·nter-fa·llow, *sb.* [Cf. MLG. *wintervalligen*, G. *winterfalgen*.] A lying fallow, or land that lies fallow, during the winter. So **Wi·nter-fa·llow** *v.*, *trans.* to lay (land) fallow during the winter; hence **Wi·nter-fa·llowing** *vbl. sb.*

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 45 The rougher it lies for a Winter fallow the better. *Ibid.* 47 In Staffordshire they often give their Lands a Winter fallowing, besides the three summer fallowings. *a* 1728 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 54 Spring-corn, for which last three they winter-fallow only. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 33 Let the land be then Winter-fallowed. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 166 The wheat-stubbles are.. winter-fallowed.

Wi·nter-feed, *v. trans.* To feed or maintain (animals, etc.) during winter. Hence **Wi·nter-feeding** *vbl. sb.*; also **Wi·nter-feed** *sb.*, food supplied to animals during winter.

1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 947 The wide-straddling Mower; That..Cuts-cross the swathes to winter-feed his Farm. *a* 1728 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 276, I was saying that I had winter-feed..for more beasts than I had. 1762 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 373 In Leicestershire, where they absurdly winter-feed their wheat by consent. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 400 Deduct for the ewes winter-feed..3 8 0. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* II. 221 Stall or winter-feeding of cattle or sheep. 1887 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* V. 180 In 1595–6, peas and beans .. were generally purchased for winter feed in the stable.

Wintergreen (wi·ntəɹgrīn). [After Du. *wintergroen*, G. *wintergrün*.]

1. Name for various plants of low growth or creeping habit whose leaves remain green in winter. a. Any plant of the genus *Pyrola*, esp. *P. minor*, a woodland plant with roundish drooping white flowers. Also applied to plants of the allied genus *Chimaphila*, as *C.* (*P.*) *maculata* (Spotted W.), and *C.* (*P.*) *umbellata* (Pipsissewa or Prince's Pine).

Also in *pl.* as a collective name for the order *Pyrolaceæ* = the suborder *Pyroleæ* of *Ericaceæ*.

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 48 *Limonium* named of the Herbaries Pyrola, is named in duch wintergrowen...It maye be called in englishe wyntergrene. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 308 *Pyrola nostra vulgaris*. Our ordinary Winter greene...*Pyrola tenerior*. Slender Winter greene. 1771 J. R. Forster *Flora Amer. Septentr.* 20 Pyrola rotundifolia. Winter-green, round-leaved. Virginia. 1814 Pursh *Flora Amer. Septentr.* I. 300 *Chimaphila maculata*. ...*C. corymbosa* .. Both species are handsome evergreens, and known by the name of Winter-green. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 222 The *Pyrolas*, or winter-greens. 1872 Macmillan *Tyne Vine* vii, 085 The winter-green and the palmy shield-fern creep into the solitude of the pine-wood.

b. The N. American plant *Gaultheria procumbens* (Aromatic, Creeping, or Spring W.), bearing drooping white flowers and edible scarlet berries; also called Checkerberry, Partridge-berry, Tea-berry, etc.

Oil of wintergreen, wintergreen oil, a heavy volatile oil obtained from the leaves of this plant, used medicinally as an aromatic stimulant, and for flavouring confectionery, etc.

1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 309 Winter Green.., is an ever-green .. found on dry heaths;..in the winter it is full of red berries about the size of a sloe. *a* 1841 Bryant *Strange Lady* 31 Where cornels arch their cool dark boughs o'er beds of winter green. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 121 Among these oils are those of the orange,..peppermint, and wintergreen. 1866 Odling *Anim. Chem.* 87 Wood-spirit is a constituent residue of the essential oil of winter-green. 1909 *Chem. & Druggist* 22 Feb. 315/1 The methyl salicylate in the wintergreen oil.

c. **Chickweed Wintergreen,** either species of *Trientalis* (*T. europæa* or *americana*), woodland plants of high latitudes or altitudes.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Winter Green, with Chickweed Flowers. 1789 Aiton *Hortus Kew.* I. 493 Common Trientalis, or Chickweed Winter-green. 1840 Brenner *Excurs. Denmark* etc. I. 370 The Wintergreen (Trientalis Europæa), the loveliest of all the flowers of the northern flora.

d. **Flowering Wintergreen,** the Fringed Milkwort of N. America, *Polygala paucifolia*.

1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 88.

2. Usually *pl.* (with hyphen, or as two words). An evergreen. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1681 Cotton *Wond. Peak* 83 For Winter-Greens the Yew, Holly, and Box. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 383 The best time for the removing of all Trees, except Winter Greens..is either in October or February. 1789 Savage *Wanderer* I. 196 Thick on this Top o'ergrown for Walks are seen Grey, leafless Wood, and winter Greens between! 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet Let.* Introd. (1883) 33 This Inspector..was ..one of the most wonderful specimens of winter-green that you would be likely to discover in a life-time's search.

3. (As two words or hyphened.) Greens for winter use.

1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 149 Winter greens comprise those varieties of the Brassica tribe, which authors are in the habit of describing as Coleworts, Borecole, Savoys, Scotch Kale, Sprouts, &c. 1886 Hardy *Woodlanders* IV, Rabbits that had been eating the winter-greens in the gardens.

Winter-ground, *v.*

Assumed by G. Steevens (ed. of Shakspere, 1773, IX. 257) in *Cymb.* IV. ii. 229, where the 1st Folio has 'the Raddocke would..bring these all this, Yea, and furr'd Mosse besides. When Flowres are none To winter-ground thy Coarse —— *Gui.* Prythee haue done', and explained by him as meaning: 'To protect (a plant) from the inclemency of the winter-season, by straw, dung, &c. laid over it.' (Hence in Dicts. from Worcester, 1860, onwards.)

Wi·nter-hou·se. [OE. *winterhūs*. Cf. G. *winterhaus*.] A house for winter occupation. (Cf. Summer-house 1.)

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxxvi. 98 Winterhus and sumorhus and wynsume buras. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyntyr howse, or halle..*hibernaculum*. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Eccluc. xxii. 17–18 A fayre plaistred wall in a wynter house. 1611 *Bible* Jer. xxxvi. 22 The king sate in the winter house, ..& there was a fire on the hearth burning before him. 1688 Boyle *Final Causes* iv. 173 Beavers..lay these together so as to build themselves strong winter-houses. 1771 Burney *Pres. St. Mus. France & Italy* 256 He has a winter-house in Florence. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 392 These circles were at first supposed to be the remains of winter-houses.

So †**Winter-housing.** *rare.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 18 Bildynge of wyntir housynge.

Winteridge: see Wintrage.

Wintering (wi·ntəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Winter *v.* or *sb.*1 + -ing 1.]

I. The action of Winter *v.* in various senses.

1. The keeping or tending of cattle, etc. during winter; provision of food and shelter for animals in winter.

1477 [see Summering *vbl. sb.*1 1]. 1504 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 320 For wynttering of the commond bull' iij s. viij d. 1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 15 The wynteryng and sommeryng of a stytke. 1617 *Ibid.* 253 Winteringe of a mare at Copthurst, x^s. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 171 Young, lean Cattel..may by their growth pay for their Wintering. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 415 The successful wintering of bees. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 123 The wintering of hill sheep.

†b. *transf.* or *gen.* Provision of food, clothing, or shelter for persons in winter. *Obs.*

1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* 158 If thou hast a shrewd wyfe, giue her as shrewde a wintring, and turne her off to hard meat. *c* 1590 *Trag. Rich. II.* (1870) 43 We haue all need of some kynd winterings. We are bestt..with many stormes.

†2. Winter weather (of a certain kind). *nonce-use.*

1548 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 89 When so euer the wynter is hote & moyst,..when that such wintering chauseth, the hote & moyste whether heateth and moystath the womans body.

3. The action of passing the winter in a particular place; a stay or residence during winter.

a 1593 Marlowe tr. *Lucan* I. 303 Our wintering Vnder the Alpes. 1621 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 240 The Red Sea intended for our shipps wintering. *a* 1674 Milton *Hist. Moscovia* v, Wks. 1851 VIII. 505 This two years wintring in Lapland. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1804) I. xxiii. 276 Whose heart is set upon the hope of her wintering with us in town. 1861 J. H. Bennet *Shorea Meditorr.* I. vi. (1875) 155, I had not seen the good results from wintering abroad that I have since experienced. 1887 *Spectator* 8 Oct. 1340 In the Arctic seas, the art of wintering on the ice is so well understood.

II. Concrete senses.

4. = Winterling. (See Winter *sb.*1 2, and cf. Summering *vbl. sb.*1 3 c.) *Sc.*

Cf. ON. *vetrungr*.

1779 *Forfeited Estates Papers* (S. H. S. 1909) Introd. p. xxix, Winterings, 30 at 2s. 9½d. per Wintering. 1845 JAMIESON, *Winterin, Winterling*.

5. An animal that is wintered in a particular place.

1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 9/2 To add to the anxieties of sheep-owners, the winterings are on the way from the low countries.

III. 6. *attrib.*, as (in sense 3) *wintering-ground*, †*-harbour* (HARBOUR *sb.*[1] 2), *-house*, *-place*, *-region*, *-station*; (in sense 1) †*wintering-meat* (MEAT *sb.* 1).

c 1580 BARCLAY *Jugurth* XXXVIII. 52 b, Worthy men of his army..to be called togyder..from their wyntring places. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* V. ii. 180 The Romane captaines..began to build wintring harbours. 1666–7 *Act 4 Jas. I* c. 11 § 1 The Oxen and Kyne .. must be sold awaye for wante of winteringe Meate. 1822 in *Voy. L. Foxe & James* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 630 The certaine tyme of the Ship's comming owte of the wintring port, he remembreth not. 1689 LE GOUX tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 291 As in perpetuall wintering stations. 1780 COXE *Russ. Discov.* 254 This wintering place was observed to lie in 53° 29′ North latitude. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 51, I set out..at sunrise, for the wintering house. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. lii. 149 The wintering post of Colonel Kearney.

Wi·ntering, *ppl. a.* [f. WINTER *v.* + -ING[2].] That winters, in various senses.

1. Passing the winter in a particular place: *spec.* of cattle, etc. that are being tended in the winter.

1808 J. C. CURWEN *Feeding Stock* 55 Feeding the wintering Highland cattle with them [*sc.* turnips]. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* vii, The wintering-swallows had never been so flattered. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Feb. 5/2 Competent scientific men .. would be taken on board and left with the wintering party.

2. *poet.* used vaguely for 'wintry'.

1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 268 As a windy and wintering moon Seen through blown cloud. 1876 — *Erechtheus* 732 Thicker set with fence of thorn-edged spears Than sands are whirled about the wintering beach.

Wi·nterish (wi·ntəriʃ), *a.* [f. WINTER *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1]] †**a.** Belonging to winter. **b.** Having a quality of winter; (somewhat) winterly or wintry.

1530 PALSGR. 329/2 Wynteryssh, *...yvernal*. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 290 In winter it may..be called, a winterish region so wet..it is. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 199/1 Gray and winterish as it [*sc.* a barberry bush] had been on her approach, when she looked at it from the other side it seemed to be glowing with rubies.

Wi·nterless, *a.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Having no winter; free from or not experiencing winter.

1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 193 Such dew as gemmed the everduring blooms Of Eden winterless. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 88 Glossy surfaces [of leaves], green with pure strength, and winterless delight. 1883 *Century Mag.* June 200/2 The sunny, delicious, winterless Californian sky.

Wi·nterling. [f. as prec. + -LING.] An ox, sheep, or other animal of a year old; a yearling.

1825 [see WINTERING *vbl. sb.* 4]. 1881 SIR G. W. COX *Compar. Mythol.* 156 A Chimaira is thus, strictly, a winterling, that is, a yearling.

Wi·nterly (wi·ntəli), *a.* [OE. *winterlic* = OHG. *wintarlîh* (G. *winterlich*), ON. *vetrligr*, etc., f. WINTER *sb.*[1] + -LY[1]; but in modern use a new formation (cf. *summerly*).]

1. Of, belonging to, or occurring in winter. (Not always distinguishable from sense 2.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xi. 144 On þam timan wæs swiþe hefigtime wynter..and se winterlica wind wan mid þam forste.

1599 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 34 Into whiche [*sc.* tropic of winter] whan he [*sc.* the sun] doth enter, he maketh his wynterly retorne backwarde. 1622 WITHER *Faire-Virtue*, etc. 67 b, Those tresses of Haire, which thy youth doe adorne, Will looke like the Meads in a Winterly morne. 1668 VENNER *Baths* Advt. 13 For them..that are subiect to..cold winterly diseases. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* III. 307 The Winterly Waters, and frequent shoures. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 215 The winterly frosts of Capricorn. 1879 MRS. OLIPHANT *Poor Gentleman* I. xii. 282 Even the winterly birds in the trees..were silent to-day.

2. Having the character of, or characteristic of, winter; resembling winter or that of winter; cold and cheerless; wintry.

a 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) 17 The Earth [of Somerset] in winter is as winterly, deep and dirty, as any in England. 1673 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* (ed. 3) 500 The Air growing more winterly in the Month of Aprill. 1703 S. SEWALL *Diary* 16 Mar., All things look horribly winterly by reason of a great storm of Snow. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xviii. (1818) II. 112 Though the summer has been so wet, and one may almost say winterly. 1858 MRS. OLIPHANT *Laird of Norlaw* II. 223 The winterly brown aspect of the trees. 1876 J. GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 191 The fields wear a winterly face.

b. *fig.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 13 If 't be Summer Newes Smile too't before: if Winterly, thou need'st But keepe that count'nance still. 1680 ALSOP *Mischief Impos.* vi. 40 Incendiaries who..will suffer none to be cool that are in themselves of a more winterly temper. 1798 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Poetk. Wks.* IV. 76 Your note..produced a kind of winterly smile. 1864 W. J. LINTON *Claribel* 1 iii, Let thy sweet spring smile Shine on me through this winterly contempt.

Hence **Wi·nterliness.**

1892 W. SHARP in *Mem.* (1910) 274 With all the sunlit but yet sombre winterliness around.

Wi·nter quarters. (Also with hyphen.) [See QUARTER *sb.* 15.]

1. The place of stay, or lodgings, occupied by troops, or by the members of an expedition, during the winter (between two campaigns or periods of activity or travel).

[1642 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Sept., Soedra..., ...ere was at that time Coll. Goring's winter-quarters.] 1690 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* VIII. 8 The like..was done..by the Nervians, when they besieged the winter-quarters of Quintus Cicero. 1769 *Lond. Chron.* 9–11 Nov. 456/2 According to advices from the Russian Army..it will soon go into winter quarters in the centre of the kingdom. 1777 R. WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 423 His troops were no sooner distributed into winter-quarters, than Leicester returned with his army towards Zutphen. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Winter-quarters*, ..in Arctic parlance, the spot where ships are to remain housed during the winter months—from the 1st October to the 1st July or August. 1878 A. H. MARKHAM *Gt. Frozen Sea* xiii. 154 Altogether the neighbourhood of our winter quarters had the appearance of a young thriving settlement.

†**b.** *transf.* The interval of time during which troops are in winter quarters. *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS s. v. *Quarters, Winter-Quarters*, .. the Space of Time between two Campaigns. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* III. 402 Which he divides into campaigns and winter-quarters. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 752.

2. The place in which certain animals find shelter during the winter. (Rarely of plants.)

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 357 Lazy Drones, .. In Winter Quarters free, devour the Gain. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Musaick Syst.* 89, I saw infinite Numbers of Frogs coming out of their Winter-Quarters, which was a vast heap of loose Stones. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 165 Remove dahlia-roots from their winter quarters. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 34 A frost of several days' duration..sent most of these snails into winter-quarters.

Hence **Winter-quarter** *v.*, *intr.* to go into or reside in winter quarters. *rare.*

1706 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 90, 25 000 of the allies are to winter quarter in Brabant.

Winter's bark. [= mod.L. *cortex Winteranus* (see WINTERAN), named from its discoverer Captain William *Winter*, who accompanied Francis Drake to the Magellan Straits in 1578 (Clusius).] **a.** The pungent aromatic bark of *Drimys Winteri*, a magnoliaceous tree of the mountainous parts of western America from Mexico southwards; used as a stimulant tonic and antiscorbutic; also called **Winter's cinnamon**, from its flavour. **b.** Extended to other medicinal barks, as that of the W. Indian whitewood or wild cinnamon, *Canella alba* (False Winter's bark). **c.** Any of the trees themselves.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* XXXVI. 88 A learned Country-man of ours, Doctor Turner, hath written of it, by the name of Winters barke. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1662 Captaine Winters Cinamon. 1679 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* 38 Our Winter Bark or West Indian Cinnamon Tree. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* IV. I. 74 White Cinamon, to which some give the Name..Winter's Bark, or Winter's Cinamon. 1776 *Med. Observ. & Inq.* V. 46 The Winter's Bark-tree, *Winterana Aromatica*. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 121 The false Winter's Bark, a good tonic and stimulant, not much known.

Wi·nter solstice. The time at which the sun reaches the winter tropic, i. e. in the northern hemisphere the tropic of Capricorn, in the southern the tropic of Cancer; the middle of the winter half of the year, midway between the autumnal and vernal equinoxes.

a 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 42 This night [*sc.* Christmas] was shortly after the Winter Solstice; when Night growes shorter, and Day longer. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 48 Even the Autumnal buds, which await the return of the Sun, do after the winter solstice multiply their calicular leaves. 1729 FENTON in *Waller's Wks.* Observ. p. xvi, At the time of their breeding (which is about the winter-solstice,) the sea is calm. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 471/2 Winter begins at the winter solstice.

Wi·nter-tide. Now somewhat *arch.* [OE. *wintertîd* (WINTER *sb.*[1], TIDE *sb.*): cf. OHG. *wintarzît* (G. *winterzeit*), MLG., MDu. *winterîd* (Du. *wintertijd*), ON. *vetrartîð*, etc.; in modern use a new formation (cf. *summer-tide*).] = next.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* II. xiii. (1890) 134 Swylc swa ðu set swæfendum sitte mid ðinum ealdormannum ond þegnum on wintertide, and sie fyr onæled. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iv. 35 Hit is wintertid nu, and ic wundrie þearle hwanon þes wyrtbræð þus wynsumlice steme. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 240 In Wales it is fulle strong to werre in Winter tide. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 1 Quhen wyntir tyde Vith his blastis..Wes ourdriffin. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 634 The trees that ware In wynter-tyde naked & bare. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 227 The daies growes short, then hasts the winter tide.

1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 29 Earliest shoots Of orient green,..Which in wintertide shall star The black earth with brilliance rare. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS *50 Yrs. Public Service* xii. 167, I shall never forget those church parades in the dull grey light of wintertide.

Wi·nter-time. [Cf. ON. *vetrartími.*] The season of winter.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 189 With forste[s] With wyndes ne with wederes as in wynter-tyme. *c* 1400 *Brut* CCXXIV. 291 He wente ayen into Scotland in þe wynter tyme. 1583–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 16 Yf the lande be falowed in wynter tyme, it is farre the worse. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 631 All Winter time almost it is continually cloudy and misty weather. 1726 [? ARBUTHNOT] *Petit. Colliers* Swift's Misc. 1732 III. 73 Warming of Cellars and Dressing of Suppers in the Winter-time. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* v, If it's winter time, they just give you fire enough to make you think you'd like more. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xiii, A pair of skates..which..came in useful when he got up to Kandahar in the winter-time.

Wi·nterward(s, *adv.* [f. WINTER *sb.*[1]: see -WARD(S).] Towards winter.

1891 *Advance* (Chicago) 9 Apr., Winterward [see SUMMERWARD]. 1906 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* xii, Till to-day all had been grey and brown, all still pointed backwards, winter-wards.

Wi·ntery: see WINTRY.

Wi·ntle (wi·n'l), *v. Sc.* Also 9 **wuntle.** [a. early Flem. *windtelen*, *wend(t)elen* 'voluere, volutare' (Kilian), f. *windon* WIND *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To roll or swing from side to side.

1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* vii, Tho' now ye dow but hoyte and hobble, An' wintle like a saumont-coble. 1790 — *Verses to J. Rankine* 8 From him that wears the star and garter, To him that wintles in a halter. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 173 And wi' his prickin' gude pyk-staff Made them rebound and wintle aff.

2. To tumble, capsize, be upset.

1867 J. K. HUNTER *Retrosp. Artist's Life* XXX. (1912) 315, I..wintled over beyond him in the bed. 1890 SERVICE *Thir Notandums* v. 28 At the whilk observe of mine, I thocht that his Lordship would have wuntled aff his cheyre.

Hence **Wi·ntle** *sb.*, a rolling or staggering movement.

1785 BURNS *Hallowe'en* xix, He by his shouther gae a keek, An' tumbl'd wi' a wintle. 1888 JAS. WALKER *Sc. Poems* 127 With rocking wintle near the shipping quay The Granton steamboat at our service lay.

†**Wi·ntrous**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WINTER *sb.*[1] + -OUS] = next.

1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 283 The more wintrous the Season of the life hath beene, look to the fairer Summer of pleasures for evermore.

Wi·ntry (wi·ntri), *a.* Also 7 **winterie**, 9 **-y.** [OE. *wintrig*, = OHG. *wintarig*, etc., f. WINTER *sb.*[1] + -Y[1]; but in modern use a new formation.]

1. Of or pertaining to winter; occurring, existing, or found in winter; adapted or suitable for winter. Now *rare* or merged in 2, being replaced by 'winter' *attrib.* (WINTER *sb.*[1] 3).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 2 Swa deð eac se ðe wintrezum wederum wile blostman secan. *c* 893 — *Oros.* I. i. 12 On þæm wintrezum tidum.

1612 COTGR., *Hyvernal*, winterie, winterlie. *c* 1630 MILTON *Passion* 6 In Wintry solstice like the shortn'd light Soon swallow'd up in dark and long out-living night. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 271 The wise Ant her wintry Store provides. 1697 — *Æneis* VI. 298 The wintry Misletо. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 133 To pick her wintry faggot from the thorn. 1795 COWPER *Needless Alarm* 20 Her berries red, With which the fieldfare, wint'ry guest, is fed. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 40 Where the wintry edifices had fallen.

2. Having the quality of winter; of such a kind as occurs in winter; characteristic of winter.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 21 When wintry storme his wrathfull wreck does threat. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* II. 24 The Wintry Sky Descends in Storms. *c* 1782 BURNS *Winter* i, The wintry west extends his blast. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* ii, A barbed horse and his rider will fear to stem the wintry flood. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 120 At this period, the climate of equinoctial lands might resemble that of the present temperate zone, or perhaps be far more wintery. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxvii. 355 This mossing..is a frightfully wintry operation. 1876 C. F. HALL *Polar Exped.* 415 Great ice-crystals..gave the vessel a wintery appearance.

3. Exposed or subject to the effect or influence of winter; chilled or blasted by winter.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 205 When he leaves the frost Of wintry Xanthus. 1803 HEBER *Palestine* 56 The wintry top of giant Lebanon. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. XXVIII, The wintry loneliness Of those dead leaves. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xii, Endless avenues and cross-avenues of wintry trees. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 464/2 You saw nothing but a field or two of bleached wintry grass.

4. *fig.* with various shades of meaning; *esp.* (*a*) Aged, infirm or withered from age; (of hair) white with age, 'snowy'; (*b*) devoid of fervour or affection, 'cold', 'chilling'; (*c*) destitute of warmth or brightness, dismal, dreary, cheerless.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* VII. i, Cold, wintry, wither'd Tithon. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* lvi. (1768) III. 281 Nodding at each other in opposite chimney-corners in a winter-evening, and over a wintry Love. 1822 SHELLEY *Scenes fr. Faust* II. 15 Nothing of such an influence do I feel. My body is all wintry. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xliii, A faint wintry kind of hope. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 310 So she, and turn'd askance a wintry eye. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* VI, Her cold face shone..with the wintry light of a forced smile. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Oct. 3/3 His latest work met with a somewhat wintry welcome. 1900 W. ADAMSON *Life Jos. Father* XV. 192 The..wintry locks of wisdom.

5. Used *advb.* qualifying another adj. *poet.*

1892 W. WATSON *Poems* 9 Thine..Is wintry chill.

Hence **Wi·ntrify** (-fai) *v.*, *trans.* to make wintry (*rare*); **Wi·ntrily** *adv.*, in a wintry manner (*lit.* and *fig.*); **Wi·ntriness**, wintry quality or condition (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1855 LYNCH *Lett. to Scattered* vi. 88 Wise divine Love.. re-imparting to a world which hate had *wintrified* the summer warmth of life. *c* 1880 BEDDOES *Poems, Pygmalion* 139 Thou..dost shiver 'Wintrily sad. 1867–8 J. THOMSON *In the Room* ii, Flies..now slept wintrily abashed. 1884 (1856) 277 To the east and west there is no such interception to our winteryness. 1918 *Spectator* 28 Mar. 383/1 On some morning when the harvest's done, And autumn its first wintriness reveals.

†**Wi·nx**, *v. Obs.* [Cf. dial. *whink* to bark, yelp, *whinnock* to whine, neigh, whinny.] *intr.* To bray as an ass.

14.. *Hortus Vocab.* (MS. Harl. 2257), *Mugle*, to lowe as a oxe. *Mugile*, to wynx as a asse.

Winy, winey (wəi·ni), *a.* Also 4, 6–7 **wyny**, 6 **wynie**, 6–7 **winie**. [f. WINE *sb.*1 + -Y 1.]

1. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of wine; having the nature or properties (taste, colour, etc.) of wine; *occas.* producing wine; vinous.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 371 The wyny grape. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 108/43 Wynie, *vinosus*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. IV. 660 Ful of a redde wynie sappe or iuyce. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* LXXV. iv, A troubled cupp..Where wine and wyny lees compounded stand. 1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* 159 This waye melancholie carrying a winie and aromaticall spirit,..may procure an harty laughter. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 486 Take Cucumbers .. and set them .. amongst Muske-Melons, and see whether the Melons will not be more Winy, and better tasted. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXXVIII. § 2. 328 It is said that sufficient tartar putt at the roote of a tree, will make the fruite haue a winy tast. 1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* I. VI. 92 There are Two Substances..in Wine; the one is Winey, in which the Spirit of the Wine is..; the other is Phlegmatick. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharmacopœia* (1719) 1 Middling Ale..that..is of Age just to leave its Malty Taste (and) grow Winey. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 143 A winy vapour melting in a tear. 1817 L. HUNT *On Avon* Poems (1860) 257 The rich orchards in their sunniest robes Are pouting thick with all their winy globes. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Cardigan* IX, I knew the risk.., but the hazard had a winy flavour withal. 1918 BART KENNEDY in *Chamb. Jrnl.* Sept. 593/1 His winey face took on a still deeper and more winey tinge.

2. a. Accompanied by the drinking of wine. *rare.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. XXVII. (1912) 322 There was no matter their eares had ever heard of that grew not to be a subject of their winie conference.

b. Affected by or due to (excessive) consumption of wine.

1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* To Rdr., If their winy wits must needs be working. 1840 LADY C. BURY *Hist. Flirt* XXI, A man who is perhaps a little winey. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* XIVI, Ere he thought he had got rid of as much of his winy headache as fitful sleep would carry off. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 61 When the old gentlemen were comfortably fed and amiably winey.

†**Winyard.** *Obs.* Forms: 1–2 **winzeard**, 2 **winiærd**, 3 **winzeard**, **-yard**, **-yherde**, **wynyarde**, 4 **wine-y(h)erd**, **wineierd**, **-yerd**, **wynzard**, **-3ord**. [OE. *winzeard* = OS. *wingardo* (Du. *wijngaard*), OHG. *wingart*, ON. *vingarðr*, Goth. *weinagards*: see WINE *sb.*1 and YARD *sb.*1] = VINEYARD (*lit.* and *fig.*).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXII. § 3 Ealle men witon þæt hit þær ne weaxð þe ma ðe gimmas weaxað on winzeardum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 51 Ure hwæte, & ure winzeardas, & ealle ure eorþan wæstmas. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 He makede manie munekes & plantede winiærd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 294 þet beoð þe erest prokunges þet sturieð þe winzeardes,..þet beoð ure soulen. *c* 1250 *Kent Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 34 Se winyard be-tockneþ þe scruise of ure lorde. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xii. 41 Tho he the wynzord whrohte. 1332 *MS. Chapter Acts Lincoln* lf. 23 b, Quamdam placeam clausam quæ vocatur le Wineierd. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 456/186 Mi deore wynzard.

Winze1 (winz). *Mining.* Also 8 **winds**. [The earliest recorded spelling suggests derivation from WIND *sb.*2] A shaft or an inclined passage sunk from one level to another, but not rising to the surface.

1757 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 503 The stage-boards of the little winds or shafts 20 fathoms deep were perceived to move. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 164 The under-ground Shaft or Winds, is worked by hand, with a windlass only. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 244/2 The common windlass .. is much used..in sinking winzes. 1871 *Daily News* 22 Sept., The footway winze leading from the 70 to the 80 has been completed. 1889 C. G. W. LOCK *Gold-Mining* 283 A winze or an incline, the winze being preferable, is made through the bed-rock to the gravel.

Winze2 (winz). *Sc.* [a. early Flem. *wensch* 'imprecatio' (Kilian): see WISH *v.*] An imprecation, a curse.

1785 BURNS *Hallowe'en* XXIII, He..loot a winze, an' drew a stroke. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 186 Wi' bitter winze and ban.

Winze3. *Cornwall.* Also **wins**. Altered f. WINCH *sb.*1 Also *attrib.*

1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. XV. 529 The miners were .taken up in a stirrup by two men, who wound the rope, probably over a winze. 1858 LIDDICHILD *Cornwall* 36 Upon this platform was fixed a winz for four men. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 7/4 The small kibbles used with the tackle are called 'winze-kibbles'.

Wip, obs. pa. t. of WEEP *v.*; Sc. and dial. form of WHIP *v.*; obs. f. WIPE *v*

†**Wipard.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. WIPE *v.* + -ARD.] An article for wiping.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. XV. 107 A good wiper, who in washing continually, wipeth with his wipard [orig. *mouchet*].

Wipe (wəip), *sb.*1 Also 6–7 **wype**. [f. WIPE *v.*]

1. An act of wiping (in senses 1–3 of WIPE *v.*).

In first quot. in fig. phr.: see WIPE *v.* 9a.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. VII. 388 That which hath sharpned the pens of many against him, is his giving no many cleanly wipes to the foul noses of the Pope and Italian Prelacy. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* X, Here the worthy man took off his large spectacles, gave them a wipe, and put them on again. 1859 *Household. Encycl.* II. 402/2 If the spit is carefully wiped after roasting,..it will require nothing more than a wipe before using. 1885 J. R. GOODE *Platform Reform* 69 He had been in the mine, and had evidently given himself a splash and a wipe. 1888 J. W. CLARKE *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 168 Some men can take longer 'wipes' than others, but the wipes should always be done as quickly as possible.

b. With advs., in various *lit.* and *fig.* senses.

1822 [? EGAN] *Real Life Lond.* I. 320 A brush to give the gamman a wipe down. 1884 D. KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* (ed. 4) 265 Do not wait until her bowsprit is over your quarter before you luff, but take a wipe out across her when she is fifty yards off or so. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 138 Those more particular gave them [*sc.* the tin plattera] a rough wipe-out with a piece of paper. 1912 D. CRAWFORD *Thinking Black* XVIII. 371 This vile fly means sleeping sickness, and sleeping sickness means a wipe-out.

2. A slashing blow, a sweeping cut, a swipe; also *fig.* (in early use esp. in phraseological expressions, e. g. *a wipe over the shins*; also, a 'blow of Fortune', a stroke of misfortune).

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. 66 b, He [*sc.* the Beast] had a greuouse wype with the sworde (which is the lyuynge worde of the lorde) whan he lost his monks [etc.] 1568 T. HOWELL *Newe Sonets* (1879) 117 When cruell fate them cleane cut of, at one most soden wipe. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 235 The beginners of quarels do sometime catch a wipe. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* B, He hath giuen the cause sicken a wipe in his bricke,..that the cause will be the warmer .. for it. 1590 *Pasquil's Apol.* 1. C1j, The second venue the Welch-man hath bestowed vpon vs, is a wipe ouer the shinnes of the Non Residents. 1638 BROME *Sparagus Garden* IV. x, So much for single Rapier: now for your secret wipe at Back-sword. 1644 BP. HALL *Serm., Eph. iv. 30* Rem. Wks. (1660) 107 The least wipe of the eye troubles us more then a hard stroak upon the back. 1788 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s. v., That story gave him a fine wipe. 1788 THICKNESSE *Sh. Life Gainsborough* 43 When a certain Duchess sent to know the reason why her picture was not sent home? he gave it a wipe in the face with his back-ground-brush. 1808 SIR J. MOORE in Jas. C. Moore *Narr. Campaign* (1809) 297 It will be very agreeable to give a wipe to such a corps. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 39/1 The cove used to fetch me a wipe over the knuckles with his stick. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* VI. 100 There's the scar of the wipe he got when he was cut over.

†b. *transf.* A mark as of a blow or lash; a scar or brand. *poet. Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 537 The blemish..Worse then a slauish wipe or birth howrs blot.

†c. *colloq.* An act of drinking: cf. SWIPE *sb.*2 3.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Sat. VI. E 6 b, We gaue the Brewers Diet-drinke a wipe.

3. *fig.* A cutting remark; a sarcastic reproof or rebuff; a jeer, jibe.

In quots. 1596 in colourless sense, = 'remark'.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 39 This as a wype be the way [orig. *ut hoc obiter dicam*]. *Ibid.* 263. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 286 For his labour [he] receives a wipe at the hands of Bellarmine. 1653 A. WILSON *James I*, 96 The Lord Treasurer gave him a wipe, for suffering his Coachman to ride bare before him in the streets. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 333 It was an ill wipe to Mr. Grove who brought in the Declaration. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* V. ii, So, that's a wipe for me now, because I did not give her a New-Years-Gift last time. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* 95 To statesmen would you give a wipe, You print it in Italic type. 1822 GALT *Provost* XXXI, I did not much like this bantering of Mr. M'Queerie..I said, 'Come, come, neighbour, none of your wipes.' 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Oct. 2/2, The extraordinary 'wipe (there is no other word for it) which the staid old *Quarterly* administers ..to the Poet Laureate.

4. *slang.* A handkerchief. (Superseding the earlier WIPER 2.) Also in *comb.*

1789 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* (ed. 2) 136, I only napt a couple of birds eye wipes. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 26 Three boys brought in for prigging of wipes. 1820 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IV. 254 The wipe-nabbers made a tolerable gleaning. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* VIII, 'Is Fagin upstairs?' 'Yes, he's a sortin' the wipes.' 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 125 The 'case of wipes', as an irreverent bystander called the *procès* of the pickpocket.

5. = WIPER 5. Also *attrib.*

[1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 375 A piece of mechanism (commonly called a Commutator, or *wippe*).] 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* XVI. 308 The cam..is a revolving wheel with twelve or fourteen projecting teeth or wipes. 1903 *Motor Year-bk.* 221 The wipe commutator is placed inside the bonnet projecting upwards.

Wipe (wəip), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **wiped** (wəipt). Forms: 1 **wipian**, 3–6 **wype**, (4 **whype**, 5 **whipe**, **wyp**, 6 **wip**), 2– **wipe**. *β.* 4–5 **wepe**, 5 **weype**, 7 **weipe**, **weepe**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wipode**, 3–4 **wipede**, **wypede**, 4–7 **wyped** (etc.), 3– **wiped**. *β.* 4 **wipped**, **wyppit**, 4–5 **wipte**, 5–6 **wypt**, 5–7 **wipt**. *γ.* 4 **weped**, 5 **weput**. *Pa. pple.* 2–4 **i-wipet**, 3–4 **i-wyped**; 5–7 **wyped** (5 **weyped**), 6– **wiped**. *β.* 4 **wipped**, **wypped**, 5–6 **wypt**, 6–7 **wipt(e, wip't**. [OE. *wipian* = OHG. *wifan* (MHG. *wifen*) to wind round, Goth. *weipan* to crown; further related to OHG. *waif* bandage, ON. *veipr* head-covering, Goth. *waips* wreath, and the forms enumerated s.v. WHIP: f. the base *wib-*, as in L. *vibrāre* to brandish, shake.]

1. *trans.* To rub (something) gently with a soft cloth or the like, or *on* something, so as to clear its surface of dust, dirt, moisture, etc.; to clean or dry in this way. Also with compl.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 1885) XXXV. 59 Wuterclaðas..þe hy heora handa and fet mid wipedan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 426 Ic gesceo Godes engel standende ætforan ðe mid hand-claðe, and wipaþ ðine swatigan limu. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 125 Wassce and wipe wel clane þa sahme. *c* 1205 LAY. 20869 Heo wipeden hore loðie mid hirenene claðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15300 And wit his tuell afterward þair fete he weped clene. *Ibid.* 17683 Quen he wipped had mi face. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 602 (Laud MS.) Horn gan hys sweord gripe And on his arm hyt wipe. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* V. 295 I-wipet with a wesp of Firsen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 647 Quhen the king saw that war ded,..he wyppit his brand. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. XXVII. [XXIII.] (1919) 165 Whan þei han eten, þei wypen hire hondes vpon hire skirtes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C viij, She bekyth when she sewith: that is to say she wypith hir bekε. *c* 1500 *Young Children's Bk.* 103 In *Babees Bk.* 23 Wype thi mouthe when þou wyll drinke. 1508 STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B iij, Wype thy nose. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXIX. (Percy Soc.) 136 Whan she lacketh cloutes, without any layle She wyped her dishes with her dogges tayle. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 122 We haue.. eat at good mens feasts, and wip'd our shes Of drops, that sacred pity hath engendred. 1610 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 191 To a boie that wyped bootes, iij*d*. 1782 COWPER *Expost.* 385 Though a bishop toil to cleanse the stain, He wipes and scours the silver cup in vain. 1806 J. CARR *Stranger in Ireland* 269 A large Newfoundland dog..walks round the table for the guests to wipe their fingers upon. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* XIII, Wiping his lips after having finished his draught. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* LIII, Stopping on the mat to wipe his shoes all round. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXII, The Major had swum out and was standing on the rock wiping himself.

absol. 1614 EARL STIRLING *Domesday* II. XCIX, Thus waters wash, winds wipe, and both conspire, That th' earth (so purg'd) may be prepar'd for fire.

†b. To rub, stroke. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. V. 212 Penne he wakede of his wynk and wypede his eiȝen. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 30 Thenne he toke me by the hande fromε the grounde and wyped my face with a lose and kyssed me. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 265 Then toke lude þe lettyr þat Cryst send to þe kyng befor, and weput þe kyngys forhede þerwyth.

2. To remove or clear away (moisture, dust, etc.) from something by the action described in 1. Often with *away*, *off*, *up*.

Also formerly in extended sense, *e.g.* of a cleansing substance.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 4 Lexe on hunix ðreo niht, nim þonne & wipa þæt hunig of. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 261 þat haueð alle teares iwipet of hare ehnen. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1203 (Camb.) He wipede þat blake of his swere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3380 Whipe vp þi teris. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 188 He had a cloth.., forto wepen away þe terys. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXV. 8 The Lorde God shal wipe awaye the teares from all faces. 1583 HOLLYBAND *Campo di Fior* 375 Hauing first wipt of the dust well. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. I. 38 The Goddesse..With her soft garment wipes away the gore. 1646 CRASHAW *Sospetto d'Herode* XLIX, With her soft wing wipt from the browes of men Day's sweat. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. II, They should have wiped it up, said my uncle Toby, and said no more about it. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXXVIII, Now he took courage to wipe off the perspiration which had been trickling over his nose. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* XX, She groaned and wiped away a tear.

†b. (with *away*, *out*) To obliterate, efface, erase. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* LXVIII[I]. 28 Let them be wyped out of ye boke of the liuynge. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 232 b, Augustus had writen a tragedie entitleed Aiax, and ye same tragedie..(because it myslyked hym) he wyped out with a spounge. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XIII. 217 If ye meane fortune as she is peynted by the Poets,. it is as easie to wype her away as to paynt her. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 112 They are allowed a Board plastered over, which with Cotton they wipe out, when full, as we do from Slates. 1826 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Emp. Alex. & Capo D'Istria* I. 447 Your Majesty has wiped away with the soft part of the pen, what the British Minister thought he had written so deeply.

†c. *transf.* and *gen.* To remove, clear *away* or *off* (something deleterious or offensive). *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. i. (1495) L ij b/1 Water ..wypeth of fylthe and washyth awaye synnes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. V. 30 Whiles creeping slomber made him to forget His former paine, and wypt away his toylsom sweat. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. XXXIV. 843 That turneps..wipe away the spots of the face. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XI. xl, Till coldest aire..And heav'ns cleare forehead now wipes off her former lowres. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 246 Wipe your fat corpulencies out of our light. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 39 To weepe off this manchinge staine.

3. To apply or spread a soft or liquid substance over the surface of a body by rubbing it on with a cloth, pad, or the like (with the substance or the body as obj.); *spec.* in *Plumbing*, to apply solder by this method so as to unite and finish off a joint.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 98 With this liquid wipe over your gilding. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 287 (*Gun-maker*) Nitrous acid, which contains gas, and is slightly wiped on in stripes. 1888 J. W. CLARKE *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 100 If the cloths are of a good thickness the joints can be wiped much truer.

4. *fig.* (from 1.) To clear, cleanse (*from* or *of* something); in the biblical passage, to empty completely, lay waste.

c 1400 *Pety Job* 211 in *26 Pol. Poems* 127 Thus with wepyng haue I wypt My soule..from deilly synne. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Kings* XXI. 13, I..wyll wype out Ierusalem, euen as one wypeth a platter [1560 (Geneva), I wil wipe Ierusalem, as a man wipeth a dish]. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 94 The happy..faculty of wiping their minds clear of harassing thought.

†5. To deprive, rob, cheat, defraud, do out of some possession or advantage. Const. *beside* (BESIDE B. 4 c), *of*; rarely *for* (FOR *prep.* 23 d), *from*.

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. James* I. 1–12 He shall ..bee wyped besydes al his goodes. 1577–80 BARTON *Floorish vpon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 30/1 My Ladies Maides will wipe the Page, Alwayes of such an heritage. 1904 [? GREENE] *Selimus* F 2, To wipe me cleane for euer being king. *Ibid.*

Fab, Hath he not wip't me from the Turkish crowne? 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 612/2 The English, which they thinke lye still in wayte to wipe them out of theyr landes. 1628 Fletcher *Span. Cur.* iv. v, You fool us of our moneys.., in every Quiddit wipe us. 1676 *Donna Olimpia* 84 Seeing her self clearly wiped of that Interest. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* i. x. 56 The wily Harlot, and the Slave, who join To wipe the Miser of his darling Coin.

6. (from 2.) To clear away, remove: most commonly with adv. (*away, off, out*). a. To take away, put away (something figured as a stain or defilement); to remove the guilt, blame, or dishonour of; to clear a person, or oneself, of (a charge or imputation).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 131 Whanne þe meschief of his takynge was I-wyped of. *c* 1410 Hoccleve *Mother of God* 31 O blessid lady,..þat by prayere wypest cleene away The filthes of our synful wikkidnesse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 42 The good lyfe..wypeth awaye the synnes. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iv. 117 This blot that they obiect against your House, Shall be wiped [*Fol.* whipt] out in the next Parliament. 1605 G. W[oodcock] *Hist. Justine* xxxvi. 114 To the entent to wipe that spot of cowardice wherewith hee had blemished his reputation. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xv. 140 To wipe off jealousies and scandals, the best way had bin by clear Actions. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 61 By his fidelity to wipe out all that was past. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* II. 149 One of those chiefs, indignant at the imputation, determined..to wipe it off at any risk. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 431 There died Godwine,.. wiping out, by a valiant death, the errors of an earlier stage of his life.

† b. To take away completely, as by theft or fraud; to make off with. (*Cf.* 5.) *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 286/296 Al þat ich habbe I-wonne a-day.., I-wyped it is al clene a-wey ase it neuere nere. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iv. fil. S iv b, That he maye wype awaye all the money of this man. 1558 Olde *Antichrist* 74 They deceatfully & fraudulently wyped their money from them. 1599 Sir J. Hayward *1st Pt. Hen. IV* 55 Hee wiped away from the people auch heapes of money as [etc.]. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 151 The Priest..wipes away to his chamber all that which the poor..Indians had offered.

c. To destroy the trace of, obliterate, efface; to destroy the effect or value of, bring to nought.

1564 *Brief Exam.* ♣iij b, I must nedes wype a great many out of their brotherhood. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 211, I knew of this before. But..This present greefe had wip'd it from my minde. 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. ii. 11 As thou lou'st me (Camillo) wipe not out the rest of thy services, by leauing me now. 1704 C. Leslie *Wolf Stript* 50 But all they have done before, is wip'd clean off! 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* vii. 123 Every period of linguistic life..wipes out a part of the intermediates which connect a derived element with its original. 1898 'H. S Merriman' *Roden's Corner* v. 47 The anxiety wiped away from his face as if by magic. 1902 *Scotsman* 1 Mar. 7/4 Last week the questions reached a total which had never before been known. This afternoon that record was wiped out, and another established.

d. To do away with, put an end to, abolish, annihilate. Now always with *out*.

1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 194 The tyrannycal..Instytutyonys..left here among vs, whych al schold be wypt away by the receyuyng of thys wych we cal the veray cyuyle law. 1567 Jewel *Def. Apol.* 468 If yee had not vtterly wypte al shame from your faces. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 108 My harvest wast, my hope away dyd wipe. 1842 Browning *Pippa Passes* II. 212 And wipe with the first lunge My foe's whole life out, like a sponge. *a* 1842 Arnold in Stanley *Life* (1845) I. iv. 237 So completely wiping a man out of existence. 1903 *Athenæum* 17 Jan. 71/3 The competition of railways, which has wiped out the steamers of the Mississippi.

e. *spec.* To put all to death, destroy completely, exterminate (a body of persons). Usually with *out*.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 105/2 The Chananites were wiped away bycause of their incest.

1861 *Jrnl. Discourses* (1862) IX. 212 Many of the officers went away saying, 'We will come by-and-by and wipe you out.' 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Hymn to Proserpine* 14 O Gods dethroned and deceased, cast forth, wiped out in a day. 1889 Kipling *Willie Winkie, Drums of Fore & Aft* 103 But for want of fresh troops, the Afghans would have been wiped off the earth. 1898 *Century Mag.* Apr. 925/2 A tragedy which wiped out an entire crew.

f. (with *off*, rarely † *out*) To cancel (an account or score); to discharge, pay off (a debt).

1667 Dryden & Dr. Newc. *Sir M. Mar-all* II. ii, All this is since the last reckoning was wip'd out. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* III. i, For this time I wipe off your score, till you are caught tripping in some new amour. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* II. xvi. 133 Lovelace..like an absolved confessionaire, wipes off, as he goes along, one score, to begin another. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* xliii, Many an old score of rebellion not yet wiped off between himself and the king. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 187 A sum which has to go to wipe off a few of your most pressing mortgages.

† g. (with *off*) To get quit or clear of (an unpleasant task). *Obs. rare.*

1635 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 13, I am glad..that you have wipt off that dirty & wett journey so fairely without prejudice to yor health.

7. To strike, beat, or attack (with blows, or with mockery, sarcasm, rebuke, or the like). Now *dial.* or *slang.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxxvi. h ij b/1 They wolde come to the walles, and wype them in derysion, sayeng [etc.]. *c* 1550 *Thersytes* (fa. 2.) D j b, Thom tombler of tewxbury turninge at a tryce Wyll wype wylliam waterman if he be not wyse. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 You see my quarter staffe..A washing blow of this..can wipe a fellow ouer the thumbs. 1620 T C *Two Merry Milk-maids* iv. i, *Cal.* Something crost my Nose. *Ran.* A Dore, a Dore; the fields are full of them...There was another wip't me in the same place. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* i. i, *Tra.* You have wip'd him now. *Soph.* So will he never the wench, I hope. 1643 Milton *Divorce* II. x. Wks. 1851 IV. 88 That such a hainous fault..should be onely wipt with an implicit and oblique touch. 1663 Lamont *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 264 [He] found them out in bed togither, wher he abused his brother for such a lewd prancke, and did weipe hir with his rodde. 1846 *Bentley's Misc.* Oct. 366 If you don't shell out on the minute I'll wipe your throat with my bowy-knife. 1880 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Wipe*, to strike, to whip. Clydes.

† b. (with *away, off*) To strike off, cut off at a blow. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. xi. 27 Her Lions clawes he from her feete away did wipe. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 130 Nor that a Nonconformists head must be wip'd off as oft as your nose drivles.

8. *intr.* for *pass.* (*lit.* or *fig.*: see 2, 6).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8052 If þat ani vertu be Of halines wit-in þat tie, Wit sinful mens fett..On ganging it sal wipe a-wai. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 21 Al the worchyp of this word hit wyl wype sone away, Hit fallus and fadys forth. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* VIII. 238 He had on his hands The blood of souls, that would not wipe away. *Mod. colleg.* The spots will easily wipe off.

9. Phrases (with various nouns as obj.). a. *To wipe a person's nose*: † (*a*) see Nose *sb.* 10, 10 b (cf. sense 5 above); occas., to treat with contempt or indignity; (*b*) in mod. use = d (*a*). † b. *To wipe the mouth of*: to exonerate, prove or assert the innocence of: cf. Prov. xxx. 20. c. *To wipe one's hands of* = *to wash one's hands of* (Wash *v.* 3 e). Similarly *to wipe one's lips of*. d. *To wipe a person's eye* (slang or colloq): (*a*) Sporting, etc. (see quot. 1823); hence, to get the better of, 'score off'; (*b*) to 'give a black eye to'. e. *To wipe one's boots on*: to inflict the utmost indignity upon. *To wipe the floor with*: to 'bring to the ground' utterly, inflict a crushing defeat upon.

a. 1437– [see Nose *sb.* 10]. 1568 tr. *Gonsalvius' Inquis.* 10 The party must..seeke to wipe their noses by shaping them a sharte answere. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 303/2 Hee deuised a shifte howe to wype the Byshoppes nose of some of his Golde. 1598–1721 [see Nose *sb.* 10 b]. 1599–1600 *Minutes Archdeaconry of Colchester* Jan. lf. 247 (MS.) Her husband..dyd saye that 'I will wype the noses of you all'. 1842 *Asiatic Jrnl.* XXXVII. 1. 235 He once or twice, to borrow a not very delicate sporting phrase, 'wiped my nose' in a very off-hand manner. 1850 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lvii, 'I could have wiped your nose', exclaimed Mr. Sponge, covering the hare with a hedge stake placed to his shoulder like a gun.

b. 1687 *Good Advice* 8, I know she flatters herself..she is a Bulwark against Popery; and with that,..wipes her Mouth of all old scores. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 95 This is alledged by the Romanists to wipe the mouth of the pope from being called the Antichrist.

c. 1785 Trusler *Mod. Times* III. 98, I was determined to wipe my hands of it. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xvi, With a late and hesitating virtue, they wiped their lips of the murderer's malt, and consented to believe him very bad indeed. 1855 Trollope *Warden* x, That he could..wipe his hands altogether of so sorrow-stirring a concern.

d. 1823 Moor *Suffolk Words* s.v., In shooting, if one miss the bird, and a companion, firing after, kill it, the lucky, or more skilful gunner, is said to wipe the eye of his disappointed friend. 1860 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* II. 207 If there is anything,..you shoot first, old boy, as it's your find: I'll stand by and wipe your eye. 1869 *Athenæum* 24 Aug. 214/1 The personal question between the Society and its agents, of what is due from the latter to the former when its eye is to be wiped in the fashion above told. 1874 R. H. Belcher *Cranleigh Coll.* I. 89 Hullo! Cheeky! it's Sunday, or else I'd wipe your eye for you. 1899 *Spectator* 18 Mar. 385 Never so well-pleased as when he is wiping the eye of the professional burglar.

e. 1899 Mackail *Morris* II. 346 Though he often wiped his boots on a man, he never showed him the more stinging insolence of condescension. 1903 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* ix, His only grief was that he was not allowed to 'wipe the floor with that there Hamlyn'. 1918 'G. A. Birmingham' *Island Myst.* xxiv. 231 He was so infernally certain that the Emperor would wipe the floor with us.

Hence **Wiped** (waipt) *ppl. a.* (see sense 3).

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Wiped Joint* (*Plumbing*), one made by placing the parts in the required juxtaposition and covering the joint with a mass of solder.

Wipe, obs. f. Weep *v.*; var. Wype, lapwing.

Wiper (wəi·pəɹ). Also 6 (9 in sense 5) **wyper**. [f. Wipe *v.* + -er 1.]

1. A person who wipes; *spec.* in various industries, a workman employed in wiping something clean or dry. Also with adv., as *away, out*.

1552 Huloet, Wyper a waye of fylth from a mans body. 1842 Browning *Pied Piper* xv, Let me and you be wipers Of scores out with all men. 1875 Dora Greenwell *Liber Humanitatis* 141 A wiper away of the tears that none other but he and God behold. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 89 Glass Manufacture..Wiper-out. 1888 J. W. Clarke *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 90 So that when wiping the joint the solder will not burn the little finger of the wiper's hand. 1889 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 220/2 (Locomotive) For wipers and watchman.

2. A cloth or other appliance used for wiping; in *slang* use, a handkerchief (later replaced by Wipe *sb.* 4).

1587 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 59 For v ells canvas for butter clothes and wipers, iiij s. 1626 B. Jonson *Masque of Owls* 127 The wipers for their noses. 1683 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1158 The fifth he calls the Wiper, supposing that by it they wipe off the honie from the flowers. *a* 1700 E. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wiper*, a Handkerchief. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xli. II. 63, I rolled it up with my wiper. 1850 *Daily News* 23 Sept., The women in Holland clean their steps with an applia[illegible]ining the brush and wiper. 1890 *Sci. Amer.* 8 Nov. 297/1 Another movement [of a soldering machine] carries the can body the wiper, which removes the superfluous solder.

b. = *Wiping-rod*: see Wiping *vbl. sb.* 3.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

3. One who or that which strikes or assails; in quots. applied to weapons. *slang.*

1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* v. iv, I could bulk your Grace, and hang you up cross-leg'd, Like a Hare at a Poulters, and do this with this wiper. 1890 Conan Doyle *Sign of Four* vii. 85, I have a wiper in this bag, an' I'll drop it on your 'ead if you don't hook it!..Stand clear, for when I say 'three': down goes the wiper.

4. 'A severe blow; also, a sharp rejoinder or taunt' (Jam. 1882): = Wipe *sb.* 2, 3. *slang* or *colloq.*

1846 James *Step-mother* lxv. III. 144, I say, Jack, that was a wiper you gave me between the eyes.

5. In machinery, a projecting piece fixed on a rotating or oscillating part, as an axle or wheel, and periodically communicating movement by a rubbing action to some other part; a cam, eccentric, or tappet; *esp.* one serving to lift a hammer, stamper, valve-rod, etc. which in the intervals falls by its own weight.

1796 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 31 The treadles are worked by 'wipers' fastened on the main shaft. 1806 O. Gregory *Treat. Mechanics* II. 11 A great forge, where the engineer..formed the wipers into spirals, which communicated motion to the hammer almost without any jolt whatever. 1859 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* 969 Over these treadles is a shaft carrying four double wypers containing two segments each.

attrib. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 152 The upper roller is furnished with wiper-wings. 1839 — *Dict. Arts* 367 The wooden wiper-rollers covered with flannel. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 314 The steam is admitted both above and below the piston, by moving the slide with the handle of the wiper-shaft.

Wiping (wəi·pin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wipe *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb Wipe, q.v. (*lit.* or *fig.*) Also with advs.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxxx. (1495) L viij/1 Wyth wypynge & clensynge this vnclennes of leed may be taken away. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wypynge, of handys.., *tersura*. 1448–9 Metham *Amoryus & Cl.* 1632 This lyoun..in hys welteryng Made alle blody Cleopes ker[illegible]hyff in hys wypyng. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 4 b, The Confutacion, is a dissoluyng or wipyng awaie, of all suche reasons as make against vs. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 207 When they require wiping, a warm piece of silk..is the most suitable material to use. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 499 This Gemót was meant to be a wiping out of old scores. 1890 Jacobi *Printing* 232 *Packing the rollers.*—This is sometimes necessary to avoid the 'wiping' of the roller on the extreme edges of the type, which causes an excess of ink.

2. *concr.* (*pl.*): see quot. 1888.

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc.* 156 *Wipings*, cotton refuse used for wiping up and cleansing machinery. 1905 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 6 There is sometimes spontaneous combustion..in the ink and wipings at a printer's.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* Used for wiping, as *wiping-handkerchief, -towel*; **wiping-bar** (*Glass making*), see quot.; **wiping-cloth** (*spec.* in *Plumbing*: see Wipe *v.* 3); **wiping-rod, -stick**, a rod fitted with a piece of cloth or tow for cleaning out the bore of a gun.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 590 (*Glass-making*) The *wiping bar .wrapped in linen, to remove dust. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Almayzar*, a *wiping cloth of haire. 1888 J. W. Clarke *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 58 The wiping-cloth following the iron so as to pull or push the solder upwards as it runs downwards on being heated. 1647 Trapp *Comm. James* v. 1 (1656) 913 Better weep here, where there are *wiping-handkerchiefs in the hand of Christ, then to have your eyes whipt out in hell. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Rod*, The..*wiping-rod,..used by gun-smiths. 1817 J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 167 They often take from them the furs they have collected, and beat them severely with their *wiping sticks. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* July 18/1 Pete was in the act of forcing down the ball with his long hickory wiping-stick. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 40 Thee waiting seruaunts..doe carrye..*wyping towels. 1912 Kate D. Wiggin *Mother Carey* xiii, She..gave the wiping towels to Julia.

Wi·ping, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That wipes, in various senses: see the verb.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 Wypynge, *tergosus*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. lxxv. 214 A certaine wiping, cleansing, and attracting facultie. 1599 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. xi, The quick change, with wiping mandritta. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 758/1 A wiping-out electromagnet, which removes all traces of the record.

Wipiti: see Wapiti.

Wippe, obs. pa. t. of Weep *v.*; obs. f. Whip.

Wipped, wipt (e, obs. pa. t. and pple. of Wipe *v.*

Wips, obs. form of Wisp.

Wirble (wə·ɹ'b'l), *v.* (Individual.) Also **wirbel**. [ad. G. *wirbeln.*] *intr.* To turn round and round; to whirl; to eddy. So **Wi·rble** *sb.*, whirl.

1848 Lytton *Harold* IV. ii, I was girt round with dead men's bones; and the bones moved round me, undulating, as the dry leaves that wirble round in the winds of the winter. *Ibid.* IX. vii, The gibe and the wirble of the dead men's bones. 1849 — *K. Arthur* XII. cxv, And here and there, and wirbelling to and fro,..pale thousands spread the plain. 1860 Ld. Lytton *Lucile* I. iv. § 6. 9 The waters went wirbling above and around.

Wiroh, -er, etc., obs. ff. Work, Worker, etc.

Wirshep, -ip, obs. ff. Worship.

Wird: see WEIRD, WEREB, WORD, WORTH.

Wire (wəiəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1–4 wir, 4–5, 7 *Sc.* wyr, 4–7 wyre, 5–7 wyer, (5 were, whir, 6 wyere, wheire, wiar; *Sc.* 6 wyir, 7 vyr, weyer), 6–7 wier, wyar, 5– wire (*Sc.* 8 weyr, 9 weir). [OE. *wír*, corresp. to MLG. *wire* (LG. *wir*), ON. **virr* in *víravirki* filigree work, related further to OHG. *wiara* (MHG. *wiere*) finest gold, ornament of this: referred to the base *wi-* of L. *vītre* to plait, weave, etc. (cf. WITHE *sb.*).]

I. Denoting the substance.

1. Metal wrought into the form of a slender rod or thread, formerly by hammering, now by the operation of wire-drawing. a. of precious metal, esp. gold, used chiefly in ornamentation.

From the 13th to the 16th century golden hair was freq. poetically likened to gold wire.

a 1000 *Riddles* xxvii. 14 Wrætlic weorc smiþa wire bifongen. *c* 1205 gold wir [see GOLD 1 8a]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 11 Fetislich hir fyngres were fretted with golde wyre, And þere on red rubyes. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2967 Many maidens thar he sese, Wirkand silk and gold wir. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 373 Dame Venus..Whoos long here shone as wyre of goold bryght.* 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* i. In Aquary, Cinthia the clere, Rynaid hir tresais like the goldin wyre. 1618 in *Archæologia* XLI. 254 All his silver made up in wyer. 1727 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 1 Apr., [The] cushions..are generally brocade, or embroidery of gold wire upon satin. 1879 S. C. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* iv. 73 Silver wire is thirty-three hundred years old, and gold wire six hundred years older.

b. of any metal, esp. iron, brass, or copper, drawn out into a rod or thread.

1348 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 470/18 m. 6 (P.R.O.) In Wir empt[o] pro fistula conducti mundanda iiij. d. 1387–8 [see WIRE-DRAWER 1]. 1435 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 182 And yif the cardwire-drawer were ones or twies disseyued withe ontrewe wire he wolde be warre. 1482 *York Myst.* Introd. 40 [Pynners and Wyredrawers] makes pynnes or draweth wyre. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 100 Wire for prymers. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 213 Item..for wyir to the pottar of Strivelin to bind the gun muld v s. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 159, ij lb of drawen wyer—iij*s.* i ij *d.* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxvi, They..bound her tender armes in twisted wire. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* I. 14 Iron used for making of Wyer, which of all other sorts is the softest and toughest. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 78 The parts are then to be joined properly together, and kept in that state, by means of wire. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 955 A pin is a small bit of wire, commonly brass, with a point at one end, and a spherical head at the other. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 615/1 The metals suitable for wire, possessing almost equal ductility, are platinum, silver, iron, copper, and gold.

c. with qualification denoting (*a*) the metal, as *brass, copper, iron, magnesium, platinum wire*, (*b*) the form or colour, as *black, small, white wire*, (*c*) its use, as *binding, electric, fuse, joint, pinion wire*; also *lapland wire* (see quot. 1755).

14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 582/48 *Ferrifilum*, wyre of yre. 1425 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 183 Ne Cardwyre ne mystermannes wyre. 1463 *Act 3 Edw. IV*, c. 4. § 4 Blanc file de ferre vulgarement nomme whitewyre. 1530 PALSGR. 288/2 Wyar of brasse, *fil darcal, fil de laton.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 25 [He] Shakt his long lockes, colourd like copper-wire. 1663 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeitures* 2 Iron Wyre, or whited Wyre, are forfeite! if any such be Imported. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Wire, Wire of Lapland*..called..lapland-wire. It is made of the sinews of the reindeer..spun into a sort of thread .covered with tin. 1837 HENKEY *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 906 Rolled or 'black wire,' (as it is sometimes called, to distinguish it from the bright, or drawn-wire). 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 429 The drawn tube called joint-wire,..used by the silversmiths, for hinges and joints. *Ibid.* 433 In hard-soldering, it is..necessary to bind the works together in their respective positions; this is done with soft iron binding-wire.

† d. as the material of a lash or scourge. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 65 Thou shalt be whipt with Wyer. 1622 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* I. ii. *Alib.* Peace, peace, or the wyer comes. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xiii. 70 Disciplines of wyar, rods of iron, haire-cloths.

e. used for fencing; esp. *barbed* (earlier *barb*) *wire*, later often simply *wire*: a fencing wire composed of two or more strands twisted together, with barbs or short spikes fastened a few inches apart in the strands; also, the fencing or defence so constructed; also *attrib.*

1876 *Field* 16 Dec. 714/2, I was in hopes that a country like the Bicester (where every farmer seems to enjoy the chase) would be free of such an enemy as wire. 1883 J. SCOTT *Farm Roads*, etc. 88 Barb wire fencing should consist of at least two barbs, used in connection with two wires twisted together. *Ibid.* 89 With cattle the great advantage of barbed wire is that it keeps them in; with sheep, it keeps their enemies out. 1900 KINNEAR *Modder River* xi. 93 The mere automatic discharging of their guns at the hustling crowd of human deer impaled upon Cronje's wicked barbed wire. 1915 *Daily News* 6 Jan. 4 Four German snipers were shot on our wire. 1927 H. GIBSON *Diplom. Diary* 168 Tremendous barbed wire entanglements form a broad barrier.

II. Denoting an individual object.

* 2. A piece, length, or line of wire used for various purposes (see quots.; some early uses are obsolete).

Beowulf 2413 Se [cor*nsele] wæs innan full wrætta and wira. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1696 For worldly ioye hait not fest by a wir; That presseth wel it brest alday so ofte; For-þi nede is to worke wiþ it softe. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 2005 *Dido*, Vp on a courser, sterteloynge as the fyr, Men myghte turne hym with a litil wyr, Sit Eneas. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 38. 46 In centre of the compas stike an eneue pyn or a whir vp-right. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 63 First payd for the sepulcre for diuers nayils & wyres & gle ix d. 1469 *Rolls of Parit.* VI. 232 A Image of lede..broken in the myddes, and made fast with a Wyre. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 52, I haue distroyed Rychards Hun... I put a wyre in his nose. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 159 Greate wyers that went crosse the hall. 1582 W. BOROUGH *Disc. Var. Compas* ii. B ij, The Flye of the Compas of Variation, is so turned by vertue of the Magneticall wiers, that the North poinct thereof doeth shew the Pole of the Magnes. 1583 [see SUPPORTASSE]. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 7/2 *Graphium*,..a writing wyer, or a steele where-with to write. 1616 A. RATHBORNE *Surveyor* 126 On the head or top of which shorter sight, must be placed a wyer or brasse pin. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 2. 179 Through this Button should be fastned an Iron Wyer. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 244 Round Wires of Gold put into the Ears. 1783 MRS. DELANY *Let.* 17 Feb. in *Autobiogr.* (1862) III. 206 Mr. Maddox, who does surprising feats of activity on a wire. 1811 *Bk. Trades* III. (ed. 4) 67 The mould, which the paper-maker has in his hand, is composed of many wires set in a frame close together. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xvi. (1842) 485 The open limb is afterwards to be wiped clean..with a wire and tow. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* xv. 193 One of these cylindrical cards, which, as it revolves, carries away the wool spread upon the points of its wires. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) iv. § 1. 270 [The soap] is cut up with wires into bars. 1880 R. WARD *Sportsman's Handbk.* 62 [In setting up birds] the leg wires should be half as stout again as the body wire. 1897 *Times* 18 Sept. 8/3 The [wireless] messages being transmitted from a vertical wire carried up a pole.

b. *spec.* One of the fine platinum cross-wires fixed horizontally and vertically at the focus of a telescope: see COLLIMATOR 1.

1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marine Surv.* I. (1819) 52 If, while the vertical wire runs along the pole, the horizontal wire runs exactly along..the cross-piece (on the pole)..., the quadrant and telescope are right. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* xxxvi. 294 Securing a sharp image of the sun together with that of the cross-wires or ruled gratings.

c. connecting a bell with the bell-pull or -push.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxvi, 'There ain't a bell, is there, ma'am?'..'It's only a handle', said Mrs. Dowler; 'the wire's broken.' 1863 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* III. ix, The door-bell may ring itself off its wire.

3. A line of wire used as a conductor of electric current.

Line wire, a wire charged with electricity; *fig.* (*colloq.*) an energetic or vigorously active person.

1747 [see ELECTRIZE *v.*]. 1796 *Imison's Sch. Arts* (ed. 4) 91 When the shocks are to be given with this apparatus.. two slender and pliable wires .. are to be fastened [etc.]. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 380 So two cold limbs, touch'd by Galvani's wire, Move with new life. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* vi. 11 Conveying, as the electric wire, We know not how, the absorbing fire. 1886 A. A. C. SWINTON *Elem. Princ. Electr. Ligh.ing* 26 The conducting wires for electric lighting are almost invariably made of copper...They are usually covered with an insulating coat of india-rubber and tape. 1890 live electric wire [see LIVE *a.* 4].

fig. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* xlviii, Political and social movements touched him only through the wire of his rental.

b. *spec.* The line of wire connecting the transmitting and receiving instruments of a telegraph or telephone.

1854 telegraphic wires [see TELEGRAPHIC *a.* 2 b]. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* Pref. p. vi, The wires..are creeping over the Rocky Mountains, and erelong we shall have momentary advices from the Pacific States.

c. *transf.* The telegraphic system. *By wire* (formerly *by the wires*): by means of a telegraphic message. Hence (colloq.) a telegraphic message, a telegram.

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xlix, He then telegraphed to his man of business,..to ascertain..the latest accounts of Lord Lackington's health, and answer 'by wire'. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* xviii, You had better come up yourself; but say the word 'Yes', or 'No', by the wires. 1876 'E. PINTO' *Ye outside Fools!* 76 Gusher, of the *Bellowgraphic*, may have a wire from his sub-editor. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 255/1 The forte of the *Enquirer* is its voluminous correspondence, both by wire and mail. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Sign of Four* viii, We pulled up at the Great Peter Street post-office, and Holmes dispatched his wire.

** Senses used mainly in pl. or collect. sing.

4. Metallic strings (of a musical instrument).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 355 Irische men beeþ connyng..in harpe and tymbre þat is i-armed wiþ wire and wiþ strenges of bras. 1599 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* B j, When his consecrated fingers strooke The golden wiers of his rauishing harpe. *Ibid.* E ij, His haire is lyke the wyer of Dauids Harpe. 1668 MILTON *Vac. Exerc.* 38 Apollo sings To th' touch of golden wires. *a* 1728 PRIOR *Power* 656 They breath the Flute, or strike the vocal Wire. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 126 When he has pray'd and preach'd the sabbath down, With wire and catgut he concludes the day. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxxviii, His country's creaking lyre, That whetstone of the teeth—monotony in wire! 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 1164 From the twinkling wires among, My languid fingers drew and flung Circles of life-dissolving sound. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 122/2 In the violin and in the pianoforte, the lower notes are obtained from wires formed of denser material.

5. Metallic bars (of a cage).

1696 BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 8 A constant aviary of sweet singers, which are here retained without the charge or violence of the Italian Wiers. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. lxxv. 348 It [*sc.* a captive bird] beats and bruises itself against its wires. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, A new cage with gilded wires.

6. *Croquet.* The iron hoops or arches through which the balls are driven. Now *rare.*

1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 483/2 The implements used in croquet are mallets, balls, posts (or sticks), and hoops (which are called indifferently hoops, wires, or arches). 1904 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* i, Martin..struck wildly in the hopes of an impossible cannon off the wire.

7. Knitting needles. *Sc.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Hallowfair* Poems (1845) 14, I wyt they are as pretty hose As come frae weyr or leem. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 803/1 The method of knitting stockings by wires or needles. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* v, Knitting her stocking systematically, as if she meant every twist of her thread, and inclination of the wires, to bear burden to the cadence of my voice. *a* 1878 in D. H. Edwards *Mod. Scott. Poets* (1880) I. 39 She's handy an' quick wi' her weirs an' her needles.

8. The metallic lines by which puppets are worked. Chiefly *fig.* in the phrase *to pull* (or *move*) *the wires* (see WIRE-PULLER).

1607 BRAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* III. i, Like dead motions moving upon wyers. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1681) 33 [Miracles] were so easy to be done..by Wiers and Juggling. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1720 III. 285 A Guide that..can do no more for them, than the Wire in the Finger of the Poppet-Player. 1826 *Mass. Spy* 12 Apr. 2/6 Mr. McDuffie said..that he was perfectly aware..who was the skulking manager who moved the wires. 1834 S. ROGERS *Let. to Ld. Holland* 28 Oct. in *Pearson's 70th Catal.* (1894) 52 Lord Durham appears to be pulling at 3 wires at the same time—not that the 3 papers—the Times, Examiner and Spectator are his puppets, but they speak his opinions. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* July 28 To charge him, in the technical language of his party, with 'pulling wires', and 'laying pipes' for the Presidency. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* V. xciv. III. 321 A demagogue of greater talent ..may practically pull the wires of a President whom he has put into the chair.

b. *To be* (*all*) *on wires* (fig.), to be in a state of nervous excitement or 'jumpiness'.

1869 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Oct. 639/1 Here's another for T. P.; a man this time, all on wires.

III. Network or framework of wire.

9. Wirework; now usually, wire netting.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 12 Two hattes.. the Turffes of wyer couerid with clothe of golde. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 111 Also there is a delicate cage of birds, wrought about with thick wyer. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Apr. 1646, In the middle of this garden was a cupola made of wyre, supported by slender pillars of brick. 1726 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 260 It is pity the Windows of Fairford are not secured with Wire. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 853 The dairy, the pantry, and the store room to have fly wire (wirecloth to exclude flies) inside of the windows. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 303 Birds..in new and commodious pens, with galvanised wire fronts.

† b. A frame of wire (*a*) to support the hair; (*b*) to support the ruff, = SUPPORTER 3 b, SUPPORTASSE. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* 67 Least it [*sc.* the hair] should fall down it is vnder propped with forks, wyers, and I can not tel what. 1595 GOSSON *Pleas. Quips* (Percy Soc.) 3 These flaming heads with staring haire, these wyers turnde like hornes of ram. 1603 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 31 For ane corddit wyr to ver on my lined, x s. *Ibid.* For ane vyr to ver with ane French rouf v s.; Item, for thrl vyrs to uer vith Inglich rouis iiij s. 1607, 1612 [see RABATO c]. 1619 FLETCHER *Knt. Malta* I. i, Unfledge 'em of their tyres, Their wires,..pins, and Periwigs, And they appear like bald cootes, in the nest. 1690 D'URFEY *Collin's Walk Lond.* III. 115 Like buxom Lasa, that trips Curanto With Wires, Comodes, and Topknots flaring. 1690 M. EVELYN *Fop-Dict., Pallisade*, a Wire sustaining the Hair next to the Duchess, or first Knot. [1893 GEORGIANA HILL *Hist. Engl. Dress* I. iii. 297 In addition to the starch, wires were used to stiffen the ruff. The wires were covered with silk or gold and silver thread, and came round the neck under the ruff.]

c. *Paper-making.* Woven brass wire-cloth.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Aug. 1678, On this [frame] they take up the papp, the superfluous water draining thro' the wyre...The mark we find on the sheets is formed in the wyre. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Industr. Arts* IV. 2497 The 'wire' is an endless cloth made of very fine wire...The mesh varies from 60 to 70 and even more threads to the inch.

d. A snare for hares or rabbits.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. xii, He himself had passed through that Field, in order to lay Wires for Hares. 1823 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 109 Hares are caught..in purse-nets or wires. 1829 *Ibid.* (N. S.) IV. 210 Fix here and there a large bush..and close to each bush two 'wires'.

IV. Transferred and miscellaneous uses.

10. Something resembling wire or a wire; e.g. a long thin plant-stem, as a strawberry runner; † a branch-like appendage of a star-stone; a cylindrical piece of native silver.

1601, 1879 strawberry wire [see STRAWBERRY 8]. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 294 Capillaries..creeping on..the Ground, with Wires after the manner of Strawberries. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 36 Cinquefoil..produces [its Leaves ..on a Stem, or Wire. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. II. 82 Several (Asteriæ), with some of those Branches that are wont to arise from them, call'd, by some, Wires. 1793 J. LODGE *Introd. Topogr. Hist. Heref.* 37 That when the wires or vines [of hops] spring up, they may not be too far separated to run up the poles. 1825 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 603 It is only in such as possess a..good carbonic earthy matter, that they [*sc.* potatoes] are enabled to propagate their subterraneous wires or root-buds. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 128 There may they be seen knee-deep in the wires or clambering over the

Kampong 69 The bristling wires of whisker, the long cruel teeth [of a tiger].

11. *pl.* Applied to hairs, or rays, as resembling shining wires (cf. 1 a). *poet.* and *rhet.* Now *rare.*

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 79 Apollo..Cut off his lockes, and left them on her head, And said; I plant these wires in Natures scorne. 1590 — *Never too late* 49 (*bit*) The golden wyers that checkers in the day, Inferiour to the tresses of her haire. [*c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxx, If haires be wiers, black wiers grow on her head.] 1896 Hardy *Ethelberta* xv, The sun was peeping out just previous to departure, and sent gold wires of light across the glades.

†12. *City wire*: a 'city wife' who wears wires (sense 9 b) in her hair or ruff: used opprobriously. 1609 B. Jonson *Silent Wom.* Prol. 23 Some [cates] for lords, knights, squires, Some for your waiting wench, and citie-wires. 1632 Marmion *Holland's Leaguer* ii. iii, All the City wires, And Summer birds in Towne, that once a yeare Come up to moulter.

13. *slang*. A pickpocket.

So called from the practice of extracting handkerchiefs from pockets with a pair of wire.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. Introd. 25 'Wires', or those who pick ladies' pockets. 1860 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 614 The boy has now become a single-handed street wire. 1921 *Chamb. Jrnl.* June 410/1 When the 'wire' (that is, the man who actually picks the pocket) has helped himself he passes the 'swag' to his confederate.

14. Short for: a. Wire rope or cable.

1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 96 Steel wire is made of six strands, with a hemp heart in the centre. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Wire* (W.), a hauling rope.

b. Wire-haired fox terrier.

1892 *Brit. Fancier* 19 Feb. 79/2 Mr. F. H. Field judged the Wires.

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.* 15. a. Simple attrib.: made of wire or wirework, as *wire blind, bolter, cable, cage, cloth, fence, fencing, gauze, grate, guard, lattice, mattress, net, netting, network, riddle, rigging, rope, shirt, sieve, spring, staple, trap, web, whip*; concerned with wire-drawing, as *wire-gauge, -manufactory, manufacture, -manufacturer, -mill*; supported or running on wire, as *wire railway, tramway*. b. Parasynthetic and instrumental, as *wire-caged, -guarded, -hung, -mended, -netted, -safed, -sewn* adjs. c. Objective, with agent-nouns (applied to persons or to appliances) and vbl. sbs., as *wire-cutter, -cutting, -monger, -tapper* (see Tap *v.*[1] 2 c), *-weaver*; also *wire-like* adj.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 560 With *wire blinds, the heat and great part of the light might be excluded. 1851 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 226 The flour mill..had received a most valuable addition of a *wire boulter. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 113 The Atlantic telegraph cable..is a single *wire cable. 1772 T. Simpson *Vermin-Killer* 5 Let the wire-maker make a *wire cage 1858 Greener *Gunnery* Advt. 14 [In the wire cartridge] the shot is packed within a wire cage. 1872 G. Macdonald *Roadside Poems, A Manchester Poem* xiv. 17 The dark bird..which hangs *wire-caged. 1798 *Wire Cloth [see Cloth *sb.* 9 b]. 1823 (see 9]. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 221/2 This [mould] consists of a framework of fine wirecloth with a 'deckle' or movable frame of wood all round it. 1832 W. S. Gilpin *Landscape Gard.* vi. 209, I have lately seen..a *wire fence, which appears to me likely to reconcile the contending objects of beauty and expense. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 540 Patent *Wire Fencing, strong enough to keep out Sheep, &c., and close enough for Dogs, Rabbits, Poultry, &c. 1833 Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. xiv. 327 Stub's *wire gauges. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin., Wire Gauge*, a notched plate having a series of gauged slots, numbered according to the sizes of wire and sheet metal manufactured. 1816 Sir H. Davy in *Phil. Trans.* CVI. 23 A lighted lamp or candle screwed into a ring soldered to a cylinder of *wire gauze. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 430 The ore-bed, formed of wire-gauze tubes, which are set in a frame a short distance apart, thus allowing the ore to descend between them. 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Wire-Grates,..contrivances formed of fine wire-work, and used for keeping various kinds of large insects out of vineries,..and such places. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* v. xii, Just looking into the parlour..to convince herself that..the *wire-guard was on the fire. 1907 H. Wyndham *Flare of Footlights* vi, *Wire-guarded gas brackets. 1836 H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* ii. 38 That springy *wire-hung action, which..distinguishes the stock of the great 'Rawcliffe Horse'. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, He..observed my Windows, and *wire Lattices that defended them. 1787 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 857 Branches reddish, and *wire-like at the base. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 349 The *wire manufactory..situated at L'Aigle,.. is one of the most considerable in France. 1818 *Mathews's Bristol Directory* 67 *Wire manufacturer. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-mattress*, one having a web of wire-cloth or chain stretched in a frame for supporting a bed. 1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 328/1 A padlock with a *wire-mended chain. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 346 Three of these machines..are, in general, employed in a *wire-mill. 1479 in H. Stewart *Co. Gold & Silver Wyre-drawers* (1891) 16 The petition of the Wyre-drawers, and Chapemakers that they may be made into one Company, and called *Wyre-mongers. 1872 *Mun. Field Fortif.* § 177 Gallons of galvanized iron *wire net. 1910 *Daily Chron.* 11 Mar. 6/4 Then why could not the coverts be *wire-netted from March to October? 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 468 Ordinary *Wire Netting, from 2½d. per yard, 4 feet wide. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 478/2 *Wire net-work formerly employed for screens. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 12 We see a *wire railway to the left, or rather—for the wires are invisible—the trucks go floating through the air like rectangular balloons. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 281 A barley *wire-riddle answers for beans. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 111 In turning a dead-eye, in *wire rigging, what seizings do you use? 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 156/2 Iron is the material usually employed for *wire ropes. 1859 R. Hunt *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 273 A flat Wire Rope Pulley. *c* 1824 L. Hunt *World of Bks., My Bks.* (1909) 80 With books all in Museum order, especially *wire-safed. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.*, *Wire sewn*, books sewn with wire instead of thread. 1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* IX. 1207 For the warm arms, were wont enfold thy flesh, Let *wire-shirt plough, and whip-cord discipline. 1668–76 J. Rea *Flora* 126 The earth being first sifted through a *wyer seive. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 665 *Wire Springs for stuffing are nothing more than spiral coils of wire. 1884 'Edna Lyall' *We Two* v, Tom.. says I am made on wire springs like a twelfth-cake butterfly. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 440 A long *Wire-staple. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 171 Which Strings we call False, being bigger in one Place than in another; And therefore *Wire-strings are neuer False. *a* 1720 Evelyn *Diary* 20 Nov. 1679, The *viol d'amore* of 5 wyre-strings plaid on with a bow. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 19 Feb. 121/1 The slider..having 24 wire strings. 1894 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 5 Jan., An attempt to tap the wires and 'work' the bookmakers..has been foiled.. The *wire tappers escaped. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 105 One that was seduced into a *wire-trap, by placing its brood in it. 1818 *Mathews's Bristol Directory* 52 Coulsting John, *Wire-weaver and Worker. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/1 The *wire-web moves forward with a motion so regulated, as..to determine the thickness of the paper. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Feb. 4/2 The Humber detachable wire wheel ..is said to be 50 per cent. stronger than wood. *a* 1627 H. Shirley *Mart. Souldier* III. ii. (1638) E 3, *Wyer-whips shall drive you.

16. Special comb.: **wire bar**, a bar of copper cast into a suitable form for drawing into wire; †**wire-bell**, a metal bar or rod used for producing a bell-like sound when struck; **wire-bird**, a Ringed Plover, *Ægialitis sanctæ-helenæ*, found only on the wire-grass plains of St. Helena; **wire bridge**, (*a*) a suspension bridge supported by wires; (*b*) a kind of electric bridge furnished with a wire and a graduated scale; †**wire candle**, = *wired candle* (see Wired *ppl. a.* 1, quot 1413); **wire-cartridge** (see quot. 1858); **wire-cut (brick)**, a machine-made brick cut by means of a steam power wire-cutter; **wire-cutter**, (*a*) nippers or pliers for cutting wire; also, a man employed to cut a wire or wires, e. g. in war operations; (*b*) an appliance for cutting bricks with wire in brick-making; so **wire-cutting** (also *attrib.*); †**wire-dancer**, one who dances or performs acrobatic feats on a wire rope; so †**wire-dancing**; **wire edge**, the turned-over strip of metal produced on the edge of a cutting tool by faulty grinding or honing; also *fig.*; **wire-edged** *a.*, having a wire edge; also applied to a class of picotees having a line of deeper colour round the edge of the petals; **wire entanglement** *Mil.*, an abatis of (barbed) wire stretched over the ground in order to impede the advance of an enemy; **wire-feed, -feeding**, used attrib. in the names of machines with apparatus for maintaining a 'feed' or continuous supply of wire; **wire-finder**, an instrument for testing the insulation of electric wires; **wire-glass**, sheet glass in which wire netting is embedded; **wire ground** (see quot.); **wire grub** = Wireworm; **wire gun**, a wire-wound gun; **wire-hair**, short for 'wire-haired terrier'; **wire-haired** *a.*, having a rough coat of a hard and wiry texture, esp. designating a kind of fox-terrier as distinguished from the smooth-haired variety; **wire heel**, contracted quarters of the heel, a defect incident to the feet of horses and cattle; **wire instrument**, †(*a*) a musical instrument with wire strings; (*b*) see quot. 1884; **wire iron**, rod iron for the manufacture of wire; **wire line** = *wire-mark* (*a*); **wire-mark** *Paper-making*, (*a*) *pl.*, the faint lines made by the impression of the wires of the mould in the substance of laid paper; (*b*) = Water-mark 5; **wire micrometer**, one with horizontal and vertical wires across the field; **wire money** *Numism.* (see quot.); **wire nail**, a nail circular in section, not tapering but pointed, and having a thin circular swaged head; **wire-nailing** (see quot.); **wire pliers**, pliers for shaping wire into curves and loops (see quot.); **wire puzzle**, a toy consisting of two or more wire patterns joined together in such a way as to puzzle one's ingenuity in disentangling them; **wire saw**, a kind of saw of which the cutting part is made of wire; **wire silver**, native silver found in wire-shaped pieces; **wire-tailed** *a.*, having wire-shafted tail-quills; **wire-twist**, a composition of iron and steel welded together and rolled into rods, used for gun-barrels; **wire-walker**, an acrobat who performs feats on a wire rope; so **wire-walking**; **wire-wound** *a.*, wound or encircled with wire.

1868 Johnson *Metals* 99 The copper, when at the proper state of refining, is cast into 'ingots', 'tiles', or *wire bars'. 1668 [Siedman] *Tintinnalogia* (1671) 3 Let him learn on some Instrument, or *Wyer-Bells, to know a Third, Fifth, and Eighth, which are the principal Concords. 1873 J. E. Harting in *Ibis* July 260 The St.-Helena bird, popularly known in the island as the *'Wire-bird'. 1818 *Port. folio* (Philad.) June 521 The *wire bridge near Philadelphia ..is supported by six wires each 3-8ths of an inch in diameter. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 334/1 Another wire bridge..was built in 1817, across the Tweed. 1892 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Wire, Wire bridge*, in *elect.*, a kind of Wheatstone bridge in which two adjacent resistances are formed by a wire. 1419 *Churchwardens' Acc. St. Michael's Church, Oxford* (MS.), *Wyrecandel ante crucem ad Lux Fulgebit. 1898 *Greener's Gunnery* Advt. 14 The advantages to be derived from the use of the *Wire Cartridge, in the pursuit of ..game...The shot is packed within a wire cage, which is constructed so as to allow them to escape from it gradually while the charge is in motion. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Wire-cut Brick. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 329/1 In all cases bricks thus made are known as 'wire-cuts'. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-cutter*, a nippers for cutting off wire. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* I. vi. § 4 Pearce, the dog't had a wire-cutter in his pocket-knife. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 919/1 Detachments of wire-cutters, and pioneers, about 50 strong. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-Cutting Pliers*. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Jan. 3/2 The Tramway Strike at Brooklyn..The militia are now using searchlights to detect wire-cutting. 1728 Baker *Biogr. Dram.* (1782) I. 88 Mr. Maddox, the celebrated *wire-dancer. 1768 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 362 The application of the pick-pocket, the wire-dancer, and the balance-master, to become expert in their several arts. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. v. § 22. 175 *Wire-dancing..consists rather of various feats of balancing..upon the wire. [1698 *Phil Trans.* XX. 418 The Edge being whet away to a *Wire, as they term it.] 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 496 Lastly, the flat face of the [plane-] iron is laid quite flat on the oilstone, to remove the wire edge. 1847 Brownson *Two Brothers* Wks. VI. 246 Time had hardly worn off the wire-edge of his grief. 1861 Campin *Pract. Hand-turning* ii 41 The tool..should be so held that the grindstone is driven from the edge towards the handle..otherwise it will discover a great liability to become *wire-edged. 1898 *Gardener's Mag.* 3 Sept. 571/2 Time was when there was a distinct section of wire-edged yellow-ground picotees. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 470/2 *Wire Entanglement. 1879 Hensman *Afghan War* (1881) 215 Wire entanglements, made with telegraph wire and tent-pegs. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-feed Screw-machine*, a machine for making screws from a continuous length of wire. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 950/1 A screw machine...It has an adjustable chuck and *wire-feeding apparatus. 1877 *Jrnl. Soc. Telegr. Engineers* VI. 522 A new *wire-finder. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 761/1 Mr. Murphy proposes..to have a section of the roof made of *wire-glass. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, *Wire ground*..is sometimes used in Brussels Lace; it is made of silk, with its net-patterned meshes partly raised and arched, and is worked separately from the design. *a* 1846 Loudon (Worc.) *Wire grub. 1895 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 3/1 The Majestic will probably be the first ship to be fitted with the new 12-inch *wire guns. 1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 5 Sept. 227/2 Heather, another *wire-hair, came second. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 85 The rough *wire-haired hound. 1818 *Ibid.* (N. S.) I. 157 Scotch terriers, rough, wire-haired, with long backs and short legs. 1881 V. Shaw *Bk. Dog* 909 Some excellent wire-haired Fox-terriers. 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Wire-Heels. 1654 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 190 John Trap of Trinity, [who played] on the citerne; and Georg Mason..on another *wyer instrument. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Wire Instruments*..for manipulating wire in surgical practice. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Wire-iron*, black rod iron made in South Staffordshire, and used for drawing out into wire. 1858 *Sotheby's Principia Typogr.* III. 105 Owing to the leaves having been backed, the *wire-lines could not be traced. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 697 The kind of paper most proper..is..yellow wove, as the *wire-marks which are in the other sort, are an impediment to the point of the pencil. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/2 Various wire-marks, or water-marks, as they are called. 1813 D. Brewster *New Philos. Instrum.* 5 The *wire micrometer. 1853 H. N. Humphreys *Coin-coll. Man.* II. 492 A small issue of shillings, sixpences, and Maundy money, took place in 1797 and 1798...They are known among collectors as the *wire money, from the very slender numerals on the Maundy pieces. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-nail. *Ibid.*, *Wire-nailing Machine*, a machine for closing shoes with wire. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.*, *Wire Pliers*, pliers in which a pair of smooth jaws, circular in section and tapered lengthways, are substituted for the ordinary flat and roughened jaws. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* vii. 69 It happened to be a *wire-puzzle winter, and Cornish had the best collection of rings on impossible wire mazes. 1688 Holme *Armoury* 501 *Wyer Saw. 1901 *Nature* 28 Nov. 84/2 The helicoidal wire saw has been employed for quarrying marble in Belgium and in Italy for some years. 1888 *Rep. Prec. Metals U.S.* 277 Well-defined veins, carrying ruby silver, black sulphurets,.. and *wire silver. 1823 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 309 *Wire-tailed Swallow...Inhabits India. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 Feb. 4/2 Miss Virginia Aragon is the most finished wire-walker that we can remember. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Jan. 4/3 These *wire-wound guns have been approved of, and are supposed to be nearly 40 per cent. stronger than the present type of heavy ordnance. 1910 H. M. Hobart *Dict. Electr. Engin.* I. 32/1 Wire-wound Armature, the armature of an electric generator or motor which is wound with wire, in contradistinction to one of which the winding consists of bars.

b. In the names of various plants with slender wiry stems (see quots. and Wire-grass).

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 126 The small Wire-rush. The larger Wire-rush. Both these little plants are very frequent in the swamps of Jamaica. 1797 J. Bailey & Culley *Agric. Northumbld.* 127 *Nardus stricta*. Wirebent. 1829 in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 167 We were several hours struggling through thick scrub and wirewood. *a* 1850 Bromfield *Flora Vect.* (1856) 434 *Polygonum aviculare*.. Wire-weed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Wire-bent.

¶ From the 15th to the 17th century examples of *wire* occur app. with the sense 'iron', ? by confusion with the old form *ire*. (Cf. Wire ¶.)

1406 *York Wills* (Surtees) I. 343 Lego Roberto Brid j wyrehatt cum j Carlele ax. 1456 in *Archæologia* XVI. 126 A Wyre hatt garnyshed ye bordour Serkyll. 1467 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VII. 142/2 Makynge whare gudgyons. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 42 A wether cock, made likewise of wire

[orig. *all brownes*]. 1630 *Maldon* (*Essex*) *Docts.* Pundle 21y. No. 22 (MS.), iiii. Wyer candlesticks, 8d. 1682 in H. More *Contn. Remark. Stories* 63 That a Wier-Candlestick..might be turned into Brass.

Wire (waiəɹ), *v.* [f. WIRE *sb.*]

†**1. a.** To adorn with (gold) wire. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 208 (MS. Laud) Her 3elewe her was faire atired, Mid riche strenges of golde wyred.

†**b.** To entwine. *Obs. rare.*

c 1648 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xiv. (1650) I. 23 As the Vine her lovely Elm doth wire.

†**c.** *intr.* To wind or twist about. *Obs. rare.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* IV. xxi, In small streams (through all the Island wiring).

2. *trans.* To furnish with a wire or wires. **a.** To fasten, join, or fit with wire or wires; *spec.* to secure (the cork of a bottle, the bottle itself) with wire.

1435 *Churchw. Acc. St. Michael's, Oxford* (MS.) f 11b. of talow candell y-wyrede to the rode soler. 1551-2 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 73 For vj mouldes for serpentes for the same hedpeces—ij^{s}. and for wyeryng of xj of those serpentes at viij^{d} the pece—vij^{s}. iiij^{d}. 1683 LORRAIN tr. *Muret's Rites Funeral* To Rdr. A 4 b, A Skeleton how neatly soever hung and wir'd together, is not an Object so entertaining as a Venus. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Aug. 1678, They..then put it [*sc.* palp] into a vessell of water, in which they dip a frame closely wyred with wyre as small as a haire. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 226 One of the Sceleton's in ye Anatomy Schoole was wired by one Wells a Smith. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Wire*,..to apply wire to, as in bottling liquors. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 295 The bottles should be wired down, and laid on their sides. 1837 MISS MITFORD *Country Stories* (1850) 124 He had written the label and wired the root. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 377 Jaw retained in position by wiring the fragments together.

b. To furnish with a wire support; to stiffen with wire.

1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 274 The ruff was..starched and wired as usual. 1838 J. ASHTON *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* I. xiii. 151 In 1711 the coats used to be wired to make them stick out. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Apr. 7/1 Even ribbon loops are wired for hat and bonnet trimming.

c. To fence with wire: chiefly *to wire in*, to enclose with a wire fence.

1691 J. GIBSON in *Archæologia* XII. 184 The enclosure wired-in for white pheasants and partridges. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* I. viii. § 17. 93 They will look as if they were meant to keep the central shaft together by wiring or caging it in; like iron rods set round a supple cylinder. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 60 A range of tables, the under part of which was wired in to form pens for the geese.

d. To strengthen or protect with (barbed) wire.

1881 MRS. P. O'DONOGHUE *Ladies on Horseback* 181 Wire the fences if necessary; but at the commencement of the hunting season, cut away, say twenty yards of the wiring. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* May 737/2 Every night parties sallied forth, some to wire, others to repair the parapet.

e. To furnish with electric wires.

1892 A. FAHIE *House Lighting by Electr.* 77 The..cost of wiring houses of different sizes. 1898 *Daily News* 27 Aug. 6/4 Nearly every street of importance had been wired.

3. To catch or trap in a wire snare. Also *fig.*

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. x, He said that George had wired Hares. 1771 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 207 *Court.* A sturdy beggar! We must find out some means of wiring that fellow! 1798 SOUTHEY *Engl. Ect., Sailor's Mother* 110 But he was caught In wiring hares at last. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xx, Why, if he aint snared, Sam; he is properly wired, I declare. 1851 NEWLAND *Erne* v. 136, I recollect wiring a great lumping chubb once. I caught him asleep.

4. *pass.* and *intr.* (also with *in*) Of a horse's foot: To be contracted in the heel; to be affected with 'wire heel'; also *trans.*, to cause to be 'wired'.

1614, etc. [see WIRED *ppl. a.* 4]. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* (1754) 309 This turns them narrow above, wires their heels, and dries..the frog. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 293 Many persons reject a horse..if the quarters are wiring in.

5. *Croquet.* To place one's own or an opponent's ball so that a hoop intervenes between it and its object: with ball or player as obj. Chiefly *pass.*

1866 *Croquet: Implements & Laws* 10 A ball is Wired when it cannot effect the stroke desired on account of the leg of a hoop (wire) intervening. 1868 W. J. WHITMORE *Croquet Tactics* 21 *To be wired* is to have your ball in such a position that you cannot hit some other ball, or get likely to shoot, is left unwired or 'open'

has wired the player for all the balls. 1904 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* I, Helen was standing close by her brother in the proud calm consciousness of having wired him with complete success.

6. To send (a message) 'over the wires', to telegraph; also *absol.* or *intr.*; *transf.* to send a telegraph message to; = TELEGRAPH *v.* 1. *colloq.*

1859 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 378 Another party, who are striving to debase the language by introducing the verb 'to wire', instead of the word hitherto used, 'to telegraph'. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 247 No intelligence could be 'wired', according to the American phrase. 1876 'E. PINTO' *Ye outside Fools!* 17, I am going to wire my broker fellow to buy a couple of thousand Bs and Cs. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xii, I want you to wire to Tom and demand the truth about the matter. 1889 *Leisure Hour* 1818/2 The relief train came up, news of the difficulty having been wired on. 1892 'ARTHUR THOMAS' *That Affair* x, He was wired for to go and look at a pony.

7. intr. *To wire in* (rarely *away*), to get to work with a will, to apply oneself energetically to something; *to wire into* (a meal, etc.), to set about it with avidity. *colloq.* or *slang.*

Origin uncertain; cf. quot. 1850 and *Slang Dict.*, 1874, where it is said that the orig. phr. is 'wire in and get your name up', an invitation to enter the ring for a contest.

1865 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wire-in*, a London street phrase in general use at the present time. 1870 *Daily News*

1892 'R. BOLDEREWOOD' *Sydney-side Saxon* vi, I asked for work at the first station I came to, and though I was strange to it, I wired in with a will. 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 252 After wiring into a leg of mutton and rice-pudding, [I] turned into a..welcome bed.

Wire, var. VIER *sb.*[2] *Obs.*, vitus.

Wired (waiəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. WIRE *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Supported, strengthened, or stiffened with wire.

1433 *Churchw. Acc. St. Michael's, Oxford* (MS.) Pro xiiii libris de wyred candel iis. xi.d. 1480 in *Berks. Bucks & Oxon Archæol. Jrnl.* (1913) Oct. 85 Paied ye same John for wyred candell at Cristmas v^{d}. 1654 WEBSTER *Appius & Virg.* v. ii, He that would tame a Lion, doth not use the goad or wierd whip, but a sweet voice. 1844 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 2) 88 The box contains a reel round which the wired string is wound. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* iv, A lovely bouquet came for me—not a nasty wired affair, but just a lot of loose flowers. 1908 ROSENHAIN *Glass Manuf.* 27 In wired plate glass..an entire layer of wire netting is interposed between two layers of glass.

2. Furnished with or consisting of a wire fence or netting for confinement or protection.

The lower shelves only are protected by doors and wired frames. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xvi, As bats at the wired window of a dairy, They beat their vans. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 508 A moveable house and wired-in run which.. is tenanted by a pair of Bantams. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 43 Traps..placed round a wired pheasant inclosure ought to be effective. 1903 T. F. DALE *Fox-hunting in Shires* 21 A hunting crowd melts away..when the country is open. A wired district, however, will soon bring them together again. 1918 *Daily Mail* 12 Aug. 2/6 The troops ..held up by deep gullies and wired woods. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* June 831/1 The wired-over, sandy road.

3. Fastened or secured with wire.

Wired on, designating a kind of tyre which is secured to the wheel-rim by means of wire.

In first quot., Contained in a bottle having a wired cork.

1798 LADY HUNTER in *Sir M. Hunter's Jrnl.* 19 Sept. (1894) 119 Had Majors Wemyss and Gordon to eat cold tongue and drink wired porter..at twelve. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White*

of which had to be restrained by wired corks. 1897 PEMBERTON *Complete Cyclist* 82 The most suitable rim for any kind of wired-on tyre.

4. Of a horse's foot (see WIRE *v.* 4).

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. i 3 Chuse him [i. e. a horse] that is..strong ioynted, and hollow houes, of which the long is best, if they be not wierd. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3211/4 A Chesnut Mare Colt, two years old,..the hind feet and one before white, wired behind. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Horse Managem.* 463 Where the heels have become 'wired in'.

5. *Croquet.* (See WIRE *v.* 5.)

1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 485/2 A Wired Ball is one which cannot be croqued, by reason of the leg of the hoop intervening.

Wired, obs. form of WEIRD *sb.*

Wire-draw (wəiəɹdrɔ̄), *v.* Now *rare.* [Back-formation from WIRE-DRAWER.]

1. *trans.* To draw out (metal) into wire: see WIRE-DRAWING *vbl. sb.* 1. *rare.*

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 96 Though out of a wedge of Gold one cannot immediately make a Ring, yet by..Wyre-drawing that Wedge by degrees,..That thing may easily be effected. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Wire-draw*, to draw out Gold or Silver-Thread. 1755 JOHNSON, To *Wiredraw*. 2. To spin into wire. 1828-32 WEBSTER.

2. *transf.* To draw out (a material thing) to an elongated form; to stretch, elongate.

1598 FLORIO, *Stringare*..to wyre-draw a thing. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 23 To tug and wire-draw as Shoe-makers ordinarily do their leather between their hands and their teeth. 1656 FLECKNOE *Diarium* 86 Such an art as his, Who wire-draw'd Simon to Simonides. *Ibid.* 92 But loath I am to stretch mine eares so far, As if they wire-drawn, or tenter'd were. 1696 F. HAWKINS *Youths Behav.* (1661) 32 Perforations, through which Nature is wont to wyer draw spare humors into a fine spun excrescency [*sc.* hair]. *a* 1698 CLEVELAND *London Lady* 49 He wire-draws up his Jaws, and snuffs and grins. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 42 He never desisted from pulling his Beard, till he had wiredrawn it down to his Feet. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Y'd.* (1855) 263 The bird..has been actually wire-drawn. It has grown all the hours you have neglected it, without anything to grow from.

b. To cause (steam or water) to pass through a small aperture, thereby diminishing its pressure.

1744 DESAGULIERS *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 522 It must not be taken for a general Rule, that Wire-drawing the Water, as it is call'd, is always a Fault. 1787 M. BOULTON *Let. to Jas. Watt* 1 Oct., Briggan always expanded the steam, great Poldice wiredrawn it, as the valve opens very little indeed. 1820 *Specif. Trevithick's Patent* No. 2399. 2 This passage has a throttle valve..to wiredraw the steam.

3. *fig.* **a.** To draw or prolong to an inordinate length; to protract excessively, spin out.

1598 FLORIO, *Pountare*,..to wyre-draw any matter. 1612 COTGR., *Tordoir*, to linger, foreslow, dandle, delay, wire-draw it. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. I. IV. I. 250 As an hungry [illegible] prolong & wiredraw his [illegible] long as there is any hope of pay. 1642 J. JACKSON *True*

Recog. T. I. 40 His torments were so lengthened, and wire-drawne, to the end Christians might feele themselves dye. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xl. 332, I prorogate,..wyre-draw, and shift off the Time. 1780 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. iii, They may contrive to fill up the middle and end of the evening by wire-drawing the comments afforded by the beginning. 1785 in Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*

b. To draw out to an extreme tenuity; to reduce to a subtle fineness; to attenuate.

1680 GAUDEN *God's Gt. Demonstr.* 18 The superfluity of mans wit and eloquence glories to find out many inventions, definitions and distinctions, even in plain things; wire-drawing religion into fine threads. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* 313 Having wiredrawn the Article concerning the Son of God into infinite Controversies and Disputes. 1796 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 13 June, Sonnets and all, they won't make a thousand lines as I propose completing 'em, and the substance must be wire-drawn. 1864 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Introd., Poems 1890 II. 161 The school of Pope is verse ended by wire-drawing its phrase to such thinness that it could bear no weight of meaning whatever.

c. To strain, force, or wrest by subtle argument or the like.

1610 CARLETON *Jurisd.* 288 Such as would proue this Iurisdiction from certaine texts of Scripture, as:..*erunt pro to Petro, &c.* And such like which are wire-drawen to countenance this Papall Iurisdiction 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 530 He needes not wiredraw his conscience, till it fits every State passage. 1663 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) V. 59 Nor am I for forcing, or wiredrawing the Sense of the Text. 1687 *Good Advice* 59 For while a man is out of Office, he is Test-free, but the hour he is chosen to any station..he must wyredraw his Conscience to hold it. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. ᵃA 2, Where I have been wrongfully accus'd, and my Sense wire-drawn into Blasphemy or Bawdry. 1768 WESLEY *Let.* 14 May, Do not wrest, and wiredraw, and colour my words. 1822-29 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 155 If our old divines..wire-draw their text, in the anxiety to evolve out of the words the fulness of the meaning. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* iii. 115 Questions..which only tend to wiredraw the judgment.

absol. 1831 EMERSON *Jrnl.* 25 Dec. (1909) II. 440 The rough and tumble old fellows, Bacons, Miltons, and Burkes don't wire draw.

†**d.** To draw, bring, get, induce, extract, introduce, etc. by some subtle device. *Obs.*

1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* III. i, Although her husband be penurious,..Yet she can make him malleable, and worke him, And turne, and hammer him, and wire-draw him. 1650 STAPYLTON tr. *Strada's Low C. Wars* II. 46 The Prince of Orange,..to wyer-draw the whole business out of the King, takes upon him to have been privy to the plot. *a* 1660 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 482 It was no hard matter for the Houses of Parliament to wire-draw him by degrees to such Condescensions. 1709 in Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* (1870) I. 173 Among M^{r}. Comm^{rs}'s Arguments..is wire-drawn in a Sly ill look't insinuation. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. iii. § 26. (1740) 238, I grant that Matter very fit to be taken Notice of in the History of that Time; but then.. truly, as it was, and not only, as here is done, to wire-draw a Reflection from it. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. xliii. 303 If..I..suspected, that she sought only to gain time, in order to wire-draw me into a consent.

†**e.** To draw or spin out *into* (also with colouring from c). *Obs.*

1648 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* I. 134 In conclusion, after a tedious debate, the desires of the Citizens were referred to a Committee of the House to be wyer-drawne into an Ordinance. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 118 P 8 [He] wire-drawed the books of Moses into a complete system of Natural Philosophy.

†**f.** *intr.* To be penurious or stingy; *trans.* to be overreaching or extortionate with. *Obs.*

1620 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* v. i, Thou hadst land and thousands, thou spendst, and flungst away, and yet it flows in double: I purchased, wrung, and wierdraw'd, for my wealth, lost, and was cosen'd. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 162 Seeing us wire-draw and castabout every way, rather then we will part with anything. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Wire-draw*, to screw, over-reach, or deal hard with.

Wire-drawer (wəiəɹdrɔ̄əɹ). [f. WIRE *sb.* + DRAWER.]

1. One who draws metal into wire; one who practises or is skilled in wire-drawing.

1265 in C. W. Bardsley *Dict. Surnames*, Robert le Wyrdrere. 1320 in *Cal. Letter-bk. E. London* (1903) 136 [Emma, daughter of William] le Wirdrawere. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. vii. (Skeat) I. 103 The even draught of the wyr-drawer maketh the wyr to ben even and supple-werchinge. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 121 Rauff Vnderwood wyre-drawer for iij lb. and a quarteron of wyre of Iren. 1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* 27 O, what a braue state of the Church it would be for all Ecclesiasticall causes to ..before Weauers and Wierdrawers. 1646 T. VIOLET *Proposals* 52 Not to suffer either Refiner, Goldsmith or Wyer-drawer to melt the Coyn or Plate of the Nation, to make Gold or Silver Wyer. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3810/8 The Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Company of Gold and Silver Wire-Drawers. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 499 Like a wire-drawer, who takes a little bar of silver,..and by driving it successively through smaller and smaller holes, brings it to a fineness fit for winding round a thread of silk. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 346 It has all requisite qualities given to it in the workshop of the wire-drawer. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 44 Wire Drawers' Plate Maker.

†**2.** In allusive phr. (*to go to the wire-drawer's*, etc.) or directly *fig.*, applied to one who spins out a matter to extreme length or draws it fine. *Obs.*

1566 Q. ELIZ. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 206 *note*, Are my wordes like lawiers bokes which nowe a dayes go to the wiar drawers to make subtall doings more plain? 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 Shee..will either shut me out for a Wrangler, or cast mee off for a Wiredrawer. 1584 — *Alex. & Camp.* v. iii, I meane to inioy the world, and to draw out my life at the wiredrawers, not to curtail it off at the Cuttlers. 1609 [Bp. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 309 For

Tortus, according to his name, plaies the wire-drawer, and will needs stretch the resemblance, into an identity. 1...3 Webster *Duchess Malfi* I. ii, You play the wire-drawer with her commendations. 1805 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* III. 649/1 The arts of amplification and illustration they cultivate in various manners; but they are still wire-drawers.

†3. One who plays on a stringed instrument. *jocular nonce-use.*

16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* IV. i, *Clowne.* Is there no Musick in the house? *Drawer.* Yes sir, heere are sweet wire drawers.

4. *dial.* (See quot. and cf. Wire-draw 3 f.)

1808 *Craven Gloss., Wire-drawer*, a covetous person, a penurious wretch.

5. *Comb.*, as *wire-drawer-like* adv. (cf. 2).

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Petit, Petit à petit*, faire and softly, now one and then one, wiredrawer-like.

Wire-drawing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Wire-drawer: see -ing 1.]

1. The action or operation of making wire by drawing a piece of ductile metal through a series of holes; successively decreasing in diameter, in a steel plate called a draw-plate. Also *attrib.*

1718 Arbuthnot *John Bull* III. viii. 33 Such Fellows are like your Wire-drawing Mills; if they get hold of a Man's Finger, they will pull in his whole Body at last. 1797 W. Johnston tr. *Bechmann's Invent.* II. 932 The invention of the drawing-iron or proper wire-drawing. 1840 Lardner *Geom.* xv. 177 The process of wire-drawing...in which a cylindrical form...is required to be imparted to the metal of which the wire is made. 1876 Rock *Text. Fabr.* 22 The first use of a wire-drawing machine seems to have been about the year 1360, at Nuremberg.

2. *transf.* (See quots. and Wire-draw *v.* 2 b.)

1660 D'Acres *Water-Drawing* 35 The forceing & crowding of the water contrary to its own natural porousnesse, and as I may properly term it (as it were) a wyer-drawing of the water. 1875 R. F. Martin *Heavers' Winding Mach.* 90 Wire-drawing of the steam from passing through a contracted orifice. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 487/1 Wire-drawing of steam is...a case of imperfectly-resisted expansion.

3. *fig.* (see Wire-draw *v.* 3).

1640 Digby in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 139, I am sorry to see thinges gotten by wyre drauing, which one may be sure before hand must be granted. 1648 C. Walker *Hist. Independ.* I. 54 At length after much wyer-drawing of the businesse, one Warrant was shewn to Master Baynton. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VII. § 12 What Footsteps are there in the Holy Scripture to make us think, that the wiredrawing of abstract Ideas was a Task injoined either Jews or Christians? 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. x, We have often blamed him for a habit of wire drawing and over-refining. 1877 Conder *Basis Faith* ii 68 To refine this discussion into the wire-drawing of verbal controversy.

So **Wire-drawing** *ppl. a.* in fig. senses.

1741 Richardson *Pamela* IV. vi. 37, I know the pretty wire-drawing ways of your Sex. 1756 Burke *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. 1906 I. 12 The history...does not afford matter enough to fill ten pages, though it should be spun out by the wire-drawing amplification of a Guicciardini himself. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. vi, An idle wire-drawing spirit...is too clearly discernible.

Wire-drawn (wəi·ədrɔn), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Wire-draw *v.*]

1. Drawn out to a great length or with subtle ingenuity; fine-spun; elaborately subtle, ingenious, or refined.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxvii. 96 A subject, common, bare-worne, and wyer-drawne [orig. *tracassé*] in a thousand bookes. 1620 B. Jonson *Alch.* III. ii, To...shorten so your eares, against the hearing Of the next wire-drawne grace. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 138 The...more subtill and wire-drawne selfe hath beene in deceiving the soule, the more the soule may abhorre her. 1662 Herbert *Syntagma Theol.* I. 196 There is no more certain signe of a bad cause than extended testimonies and wire-drawn arguments. 1715 Felton *On the Classics* (1718) 137 What they call Improvement, is generally...spinning out their Author's Sense, till 'tis wire-drawn, that is, weak and slender. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* v. § 24 The...wire-drawn distinctions...of the Schoolmen. 1817 Dibdin *Bibliogr. Decam.* I. 380 A very long note might grow out of this observation, but there is no necessity to be outrageously wire-drawn upon it. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* III v, Courtly delicate manners, verging towards the wiredrawn and elaborate. 1873 Helps *Anim. & Mast.* iv. 110 What a relief it is to come from the wiredrawn nonsense of Seneca, Thomas Aquinas, and Descartes, to the broad common sense of this thoughtful Scotchman [*sc.* Hume].

2. Of steam, water: see Wire-draw *v.* 2 b.

1744 Desaguliers *Course Exper. Philos* II. 522 Unless this wire-drawn water goes faster than at the Rate of four Feet in a Second, the Motion is not too swift. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wire-drawn...*, the condition of steam when the pipes or ports leading to the cylinder have not sufficient carrying capacity. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 101/2 When the suction- or delivery-pipe is too small, the water is then called 'wire-drawn'.

3. Of a metal: Drawn into wire. *rare.*

1826 Adamson *Rail-Roads* 7 The under part will approach nearer to the condition of wire-drawn iron.

4. *nonce-uses.* Attenuated; 'weak'; 'thin'.

1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 12 A difficulty in town gardens is to keep things from being wire-drawn. 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xiii, 'I—am glad to see you!' Christopher stammered, with a wire-drawn, radically different smile from the one he had intended. 1897 Crockett *Lad's Love* iii, The keen, thin, wire-drawn voice of Peter Chrystie.

Wire-grass. [f. Wire *sb.* + Grass *sb.*] A name for various grasses or grass-like plants having wiry stems.

1. *U. S.* The British flat-stemmed meadow-grass *Poa compressa*, or the annual grass *Eleusine indica*, naturalized in North America.

1793 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 294 Wire-grass, which is Poa compressa. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 341 The wire-grass, which grew among the trees the previous year, is frequently set on fire...in the spring. 1856 Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 554 *Eleusine Indica.* Dog's-tail or Wire Grass. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 710/2 The wire-grass had been roughly plaited into a little mat.

2. One of several other plants, as the West Indian *Paspalum filiforme*, the Australian *Tetrarrhena* (or *Ehrharta*) *juncea*, the North American *Sporobolus junceus* and species of *Aristida.*

1824 Burchell *Trav.* II. 5 The Wire-grass of the island of St. Helena. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Wire-grass, *Paspalum filiforme.* 1883 E. M. Cure *Recoll. Squatting Victoria* viii. 82 The wire-grass, however, largely predominating over the kangaroo grass.

Wireless (wəi·əlĕs), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Wire *sb.* + -less.] Without a wire or wires; spec. *Electr.* dispensing with the use of a conducting wire.

Wireless telegraphy, a system of telegraphy (as that patented by Guglielmo Marconi in 1897) in which no conducting wire is used between the transmitting and receiving stations, the signals or messages being transmitted through space by means of electric waves. So *wireless telegraph, telephone, telephony.*

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 8/1 Not only may man be able some day to communicate by wireless telephone with the planets, but [etc.]. 1897 *Times* 28 Sept. 8 2 An electric bell was rung at the lighthouse by means of the wireless current. 1898 *Electrical Rev.* 20 May 688/2 The first installation of Marconi's wireless telegraph system in Ireland for business purposes was made...last week. *Ibid.* 22 July 129/2 The wireless messages were sent from a steam tug, which followed the races. 1904 *Act 4 Edw. VII* c. 24 (*title*) An Act to provide for the regulation of Wireless Telegraphy.

b. as *sb.* Short for *wireless telegraphy, message, apparatus.* Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1904 *Times* 15 June 4/1 The country is full of wireless. 1905 *Daily News* 28 Aug. 7 M. Witte admitted that my 'wireless' was correct. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 21 Aug. 4/3 The captain was absorbed in the 'wireless' room. ... As he himself said, he was 'so occupied with the wireless operations'. 1910 D. H. Bernard *Signalling* 33 He...requested the wireless operator to ascertain the reason of the strange procedure. 1910 *Conquest* May 328/1 Regular messages...from wireless-equipped vessels out in the Atlantic.

Hence **Wi·reless** *v. intr.* to send a message by wireless; *trans.* to send (a message) or inform (a person) by wireless; **Wi·relessly** *adv.*, by wireless.

1898 *Electrical Rev.* 17 June 834/2 The first news of the resolution ...was conveyed wirelessly to St. Thomas's Hospital. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Apr. 8/1 Touters may soon be able to wireless ... from pole to pole. 1915 *Morning Post* 10 Apr. 9/5 A French man of war, which had left on Sunday, was wireless to come back. 1916 *Times* 14 Feb. 4/5 The watching British cruiser saw the manœuvre, but before it could wireless the news...the following order flashed out.

Wireman (wəi·əmĕn). [f. Wire *sb.* + Man *sb.*1]

†1. One who makes or works in wire. *Obs.*

1547–8 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 31 To Iohn west wyerman for ix^{lb} of wyer. 1616 B. Jonson *Masques, Love restored*, Fortie other deuices I had, of Wyre-men. 1668 *Churchw. Acc. St. Margaret's, Westminster* (Nichols 1797) 70 To Christopher Davison, wyreman, for covering the vestry windows with wyre.

2. A workman who fixes and attends to the conducting wires of an electric service.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 47 Telegraph Fitter, Wireman. 1902 F. C. Raphael *'The Electrician' Wireman's Pocket Bk.* Ed. Note, Such...Memoranda as would be useful to the Electric Light Wireman in his work.

†**Wiren**, *a. Obs.* In 6 *Sc.* wyrin. [f. Wire *sb.* + -en 4.] *Gold wirren*, of gold wire.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. iv. 19 Hir brycht tressis envolupit war and wound Intill a knafe of fyne gold wyrin threid.

Wire-pull, *v.* [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To actuate or promote by wire-pulling. Hence **Wi·re-pulled** *ppl. a.*

1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Dec. 3/1 The whole company of wire-pulling and wire-pulled Radicals. 1888 *Engl. Illust. Rev.* Oct. 730 The King was but the crank by which Wildman wire-pulled the English royalists. 1896 Sir W. Harcourt in *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 7/1 They knew that the agitation was conducted, wire-pulled, and financed from the office of the Chartered Company in Capetown.

Wire-puller (wəi·əpu·ləɹ). [orig. U. S.; see Wire *sb.*8 and Pull *v.*7.] One who 'pulls the wires'; one who works secretly to further the interests of a person or party; *esp.* a politician or political agent who privately influences and directs others.

1848 *N. Y. Mirror* 5 June (Bartlett) Already that city [Philadelphia] is filled with wire-pullers,...and the whole brood of political make-shifts. 1859 Green *Oxf. Stud.* iv. (O. H. S.) 263 This youth breaks out ... in a passionate loyalty to academical wire-pullers. 1898 G. W. E. Russell *Coll. & Recoll.* iii. 35 The type of politician who is the despair of the official wire-puller.

So **Wi·re-pulling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1847 *Congressional Globe* 26 Jan. 262/3 Neither by demonstrations here, nor by figuring and wire-pulling at home, am I engaged to the support of this bill. 1876 'E. Pinto' *To's outside Fools!* 36 Let your clients try their best against the wire-pulling usurers. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 9 Wretched, wire-pulling demagogues. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 14 May 705/2 Literary wire-pulling and bargaining with publishers.

Wirer (wəi·rəɹ). [f. Wire *v.* or *sb.* + -er 1.] One who wires (in various senses of the vb.); also (*slang*), one who picks pockets with a wire.

1857 Ducange Anglicus *Vulgar T.* 24 *Wirer*, pick-pocket. 1884 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 490 The nightly wirer of their innocent hare. 1885 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 74 Straw Hat and Bonnet Making:.. Presser, Liner, Wirer. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 10 Sept. 9/1 Mineral Water Trade.—Wanted ..wirers, and bottlers. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 164/1 I was the wirers..began..to panic terribly, in code.

Wirework (wəi·əwɜ̄k).

1. The making of wire; work done in or with wire; fabrics or objects made of wire.

1587 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 380 Edmond Burchall wierdrauer for wierworke. 1674 Ray *Coll. Words* 132 The manner of the Wire-work at Tintern in Monmouthshire. 1690 M. Evelyn *Fop-Dict.* 18 *Fil-grain'd*, dressing-Boxes, Baskets, or whatever else is made of Silver Wire-work. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 322 Observe to clean the rails and wireworks, in the water-courses, of the weeds and grass. 1849 *Kelly's Builder's Price Bk.* 157 Brass trellis wire-work, for bookcases. 1894 *Poultry Chron.* I. 348 Wire work..to enclose poultry. 1908 *Act 8 Edw. VII* c. 28 Sched. 1 Erection of wireworks in hop gardens.

attrib. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* xxviii. 611 Flower-stands..with wire-work legs.

2. *pl.* An establishment where wire is made or where wire goods are manufactured.

1598 *Acts Privy Counc.* (N.S.) XXVIII. 594 That the said Hanbery..should..deliver..at the said wyerwourkes the nomber of 150 tonnes of..mallyable iron.

Wire-worker (wəi·əwɜ̄kəɹ).

1. An artisan who works in wire.

1670 [Charter of Wire-workers of London]. 1792 *New Bath Directory* 24 Painter, Glazier, & Wire-worker. 1814 W. Johnston *Bechmann's Invent.* (ed. 2) IV. 309 Wire-workers, and other artists who use wire. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 748 The paper manufacture creates a considerable demand for the labour of..wire-workers.

2. One who pulls the wires of a puppet-show. In quot. *fig.*

a 1843 Southey *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* (1851) IV 260 Milton has *not* used machinery—for the supernatural powers are the characters of his poems, the agents themselves, not the wire-workers.

b. *U. S.* An earlier synonym of Wire-puller.

1835 *Col. Crockett's Tour* (Phila.) 172 He is the wire-worker, the very mover and organ of all those high-handed and lawless measures. 1842 *Congressional Globe* App. 319/1 Should this be a party move,..I tell the 'wire-workers' of that party that they are raising a storm of indignation.

So **Wi·re-working** *vbl. sb.* (*a*) the making of wire; (*b*) wire-pulling.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 62 Rope-making and wire-working. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 2/2 Reducing to a minimum the..wire-working that would follow, if details as to the schedules were permitted to leak out piecemeal.

Wireworm (wəi·əwɜ̄m).

1. The slender hard-skinned larva of any of the click-beetles (family *Elateridæ*), which is destructive to the roots of plants; also applied to similar larvæ, *esp.* the leather-jacket grub of the crane-fly.

1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 302 The person who shall discover to the Society an effectual method ... of destroying the insect called the Wire-Worm. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* I. vi. 181 The wire-worm..destroying indiscriminately wheat, rye, oats, and grass. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 189/3, I...found the crop quite eaten up with wireworm.

2. A myriapod, esp. one belonging to the genus *Julus*; a millepede.

1875 Melliss *St. Helena* 202 *Julus pulchellus*, Leach — The Wire Worm, well known as one of the most destructive insects in the Island to all root-crops.

Wire-wove, *ppl. a.* (occas. -woven.) [f. Wire *sb.* + Wove, pa. pple. of Weave *v.*]

1. Denoting a very fine kind of paper used chiefly for letter-paper. (See Wove.)

1799 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* III. 65 The splendours of gold leaf, wire-wove paper, and Morocco leather. 1808 [W. Gifford] *Heroic Epist. Winsor* Advt. to Rdr, I intend to print the Text upon a fine wire-woven hot-pressed paper. 1877 S. Redgrave *Descr. Catal. Water-Col. Paintings* 17 The papers...were chiefly of the description termed wire-wove.

2. Made of woven wire.

1888 *Builder* 3 Nov. 326/2 The roof of the Aquarium was being covered..with..'Patent Wire Wove Roofing'. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 169 A horse-hair mattress..supported on a chain or wire-wove under-mattress.

Wirey, obs. form of Wiry *a.*

Wirgine, -yne, obs. Sc. ff. Virgin.

Wirle, obs. form of Worry.

Wirily (wəi·rili), *adv.* [f. Wiry *a.* + -ly 2.] In a wiry manner, like wire.

1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Q. Eliz. & Dk. Anjou* Wks. II. 175/2 My grandfather, albeit spare, was wirily elastic. 1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xxii, A composite feeling..wound itself wirily round my heart.

Wiriness (wəi·rinĕs). [f. Wiry *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being wiry.

1821 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 210 Notwithstanding the rapidity of the circulation, and the apparent wiriness of the pulse. 1824–9 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 46 Hardness and softness of the pulse, together with that vibratory thrill which has been called wiriness. 1831 *Examiner* 240/1 There is no marked change in her voice, except the absence of the wiriness and tremulousness which characterised it last year. a 1890 Stubbs *Lect. Eur. Hist.* I. xi. 135 There was..more wiriness than tenderness about his conscience. 1883 Miss M. Betham-Edwards *Disarmed* vi, You look wiriness itself.

Wiring (wəi·rin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wire *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb Wire in various senses.

1809 Syd. Smith *Charms. Fox* Wks. 1859 I. 153/2 All the decretals of our ancestors respecting the wiring of hares. 1831 Youatt *Horse* 294 Lameness..does not always exist when the *wiring in* is slow or of long standing. 1870 *Punch* 29 June 269/2 Unless he telegraphs, which, when once you've started him at what he calls 'wiring', he generally does three or four times a day. 1874 J. D. Heath

Croquet-player 71 Red, instead of playing thus,..completes the wiring, remaining near the hoop as before. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Sept., 3/1 It discouraged scamped contract work in the [electric light] wiring of houses.

2. *concr.* Wires collectively; wirework.

1809 Scott *Poacher* 70 Cordage for tolls, and wiring for the snare. 1881 [see Wire *v.* 2 d]. 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* xxv. 171 The cashier of the *Gamin* office looked under his respectable brass wiring and said [etc.]. 1915 *Sci. Amer.* 30 Jan. 95/2 A complicated 8-cylinder machine with its multiplication of wiring.

b. (See quot.)

1878 D. Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 580 *Wiring*, a stringer or ledge running fore and aft in a boat to support the thwarts.

3. *attrib.*, as *wiring machine, system*; *Mil.* concerned with barbed-wire operations, as *wiring party*.

1873 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wiring-machine*,..a machine turning the edge of a tin-pan over a stiffening-wire. 1887 *Manch. Exhib. Catal.* 126 Complete Plants for the Manufacture of Aerated Waters,..Wiring Machine, [etc.]. 1908 W. C. Clinton *Electric Wiring* lii. 52 Wiring Systems. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* May 705/2 Four nights previously Angus had been sent out in charge of a wiring-party.

Wirk(e, obs. forms of Work.

Wirken, dial. f. Querken *v.*; obs. f. Work *v.*

Wirling (wɔ̈·rlin). Now *Sc.* or *dial.* Forms: 4–6 **wyrling**, 5–6 **wirling**, (5 **wirlyng**, **wyrlyng(e**, **worling**, 6 **worlin**, 9 *Sc.* **wurlyon**). See also Urling 2. [Origin unknown.] A term of abuse = 'wretch'; in mod. dial. use, a dwarfish or puny creature.

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 270 Crist, his sone, God wolde not spare To beo fondet.. And siþen slen him as wyrling. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1706 A wirling, a wayryngle, a wawil-eyid shrewe. *Ibid.* 1733 A selly nounbre Of wrichis & wirlingis. 1436 *Libel Engl. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 187 God forbede that a wylde Yrishe wyrlynge Shulde be chosene for to be there kynge. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 193 Forworthin wirling. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 446 Sauing, nixt, how the nunnes that worlin sould name. 1587 Harrison *Descr. Brit.* III. xiv. in *Holinshed*, The fridaie being commonlie called among the vulgar sort either king or worling, bicause it is either the fairest or foulest of the seauen [days]. [1691–: see Urling 1.] 1819 [Rennie] *St. Patrick* II. xvi. 313 Haud abye! ye scruntst like wurlyon o' the pit.

Wirlyk, Wirm, Wiroans, obs. forms of Warlike, Worm, Werowance.

Wirra (wi·rə), *int. Irish.* Also **wurrah**, **whirra**. [Preceded by *oh*, = Ir. *a muire.*] An exclamation of sorrow or lament. So **Wirrasthru** (wirəsþrū·) [Ir. *a muire is truaigt*].

1839 Carleton *Fardorougha* xii, Oh, wurrah, wurrah, this night! 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xxii, And what was it at all? an upset, was it? oh, wirra! and wasn't it lucky he wasn't killed? 1892 T. E. Brown *Lett.* (1900) I. 158 He.. rushed forth to catch the train,..with some wild wirrasthru of farewell. 1908 Weyman *Wild Geese* xxiii. 366 'Oh, whirra, whirra, what'll I do?' the Irishman exclaimed, helplessly wringing his hands.

Wirrangle, Wirricow, Wirrie: see Wrangle, Worricow, Worry.

Wirrock (wi·rək). *Sc.* Also 6 **wyrok**, **virrok**, 9 **weerock**. [a. early Flem. *weerooghe* 'chalaza, chalazion' (Kilian), f. *weer* callosity (see Warre) + *ooghe* Eye *sb.*[1]] A corn on the foot. Also *attrib.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxviii. 18 A flyrok, That hes vpoun his feit a wyrok. *Ibid.* lx. 54 With his wawill-feitt and virrok taiss. 1801 Leyden *Compl. Scot.* Gloss. 380 *Virrok* [in Dunbar]..signifies a corn, or bony excrescence on the feet. It is in common use, and pronounced *wirrok*. 1839 W. M'Dowall *Poems* 144 (E.D.D.) Mary Hay, Wha had a weerock on each toe As big's a plum.

‖ **Wirrwarr** (vi·rvär). [G. *wirrwarr.*] A welter.

1865 J. Grote *Moral Ideals* (1876) 392 The *wirrwarr* of the Newtonian or true view of the material universe. 1911 *Expositor* May 439 The strange and arid prejudice that history is only a wirr-warr of beings, happenings, relations.

Wirs(s)at, -ot, Wirschop, Wirsale, wirstill, Wirst, Wirsum: see Worsted, Worship, Wrestle, Wrist, Worsum (*Obs.*, pus).

Wirt, obs. var. Wherret.

1612 *North's Plutarch, Brutus* 994 Cassius..gaue him two good wirts on the eare.

Wirt, Wirtin, Wirth, -y, Wirwe, obs. forms of Writ, Written, Worth, Worthy, Worry.

Wiry (wəi·ri), *a.* Also 6–7 **wy(e)rie**, **wiery**, 8–9 **wirey**. [f. Wire *sb.* + -y[1].]

1. Made or consisting of wire; in the form of wire.

1588 T. D[elony] *Ballet Whipt Spaniards* in *Roxb. Ballads* (1889) VI. 387 One sorte of whips they had for men,..The strings whereof with wyerie knots like rowels they did frame. 1591 Spenser *Ruines of Time* 10 Her yeolow locks, like wyrie golde, About her shoulders carelesse downe trailing. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 350 Jayes, that in their wyerie gall Can ask for victuals, and unvictual'd rail. *a* 1631 Donne *Elegy* xix. 15 Off with that wyerie Coronet and shew The haiery Diademe which on you doth grow. 1720 Gay *Ep. to P. Methuen* 95 My song confines me to the wiry cage. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xv, The barr'd up bird will beat His breast and beak against his wiry dome. 1824 Landor *Exam. Shaks. Wks.* 1846 II. 272/1 To slit an ear or two, or inflict a wiry scourging. [See Wire *sb.* 1 d.]

2. Resembling wire in form and consistence; tough and flexible: said esp. of hair (hence of a dog's coat), grass, stems of plants.

1598 Shaks. *John* III. iv. 64 O what loue I note In the faire multitude of those her haires; Where but by chance a siluer drop hath falne, Euen to that drop ten thousand wiery Ientlemen Reserue and haunt, and haue their fate and home. 1601 Chapman *Birth of Flattery* 308 The wiry moss, that whitens all the hill. 1812 — *Tales* x. 120 Here on its wiry stem, in rigid bloom, Grows the salt lavender that lacks perfume. 1834 W. H. Ainsworth *Rookwood* I. i, A strange superannuated terrier, with a wiry back. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. i. 114 Clods of couch and wiry turf. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xxv, While he was rubbing his wiry head with irritation.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1770 Armstrong *Misc.* I. 199 Your solid wirey nerves are asleep it would seem to the lute. 1829 W. Blake *Descr. Catal.* 63 The more distinct, sharp, and wirey the bounding line, the more perfect the work of art. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 773 In the common method of etching...those so tinted..always present a wiry hard effect. 1830 Lytton *Paul Clifford* iv, 'Knock him down'. There is something peculiarly harsh and stunning in those three, hard—wirey—sturdy—stubborn monosyllables.

c. *Med.* of the pulse: Small and tense.

1801 [implied in Wiriness]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 621 The pulse becomes small, sharp, wiry or thready.

3. Of sound: Produced by or as by the plucking or vibration of a wire; sometimes, of music, played on string instruments; of a voice, thin and metallic.

1819 [H. Busk] *Vestriad* IV. 767 Stridulous guitar with wiry twang. 1830 *Examiner* 388/1 He has..softened his voice, the tones of which were sharp and wiry. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 140/1 The tone of this piano-forte was thin and *wiry*. 1841 [see Windy *a.* 1 b]. 1883 in *Royal Acad. Catal.* 222 With thy sweet fingers when thou gently sway'st The wiry concord.

4. Of a person or animal: Lean, tough, and sinewy. Hence *fig.* of personal attributes.

1808 Scott *Marm.* v. Introd. 11 Wiry terrier, rough and grim. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xi, Mrs. Blimber..was a lady of great suavity, and a wiry figure. *a* 1870 Stubbs *Lect. Eur. Hist.* I. xi. 238 A wiry pertinacity was the distinctive feature of Charles's character. 1878 Black *Green Past.* xiii, The wiry little pony he rode.

5. *Comb.* (chiefly in sense 2), as *wiry-coated, -haired, -leaved, -looking* adjs.

1832 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) I. 30 A slightish, wiry-looking old man. 1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 155 A brindled, wiry-haired dog. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* i, A wiry-looking bay mare. 1880 J. Buchanan *Indig. Grasses N. Z.* Pl. xxxi, *Danthonia Australis*, .. Wiry-leaved Oat Grass.

¶ Used for: Made of iron: cf. Wire *sb.* ¶ (at end).

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie-Crafts* 367 Wiery Cymbals [orig. *Des Cimbales le fer*].

Wiry, Wirykow: see Worry, Worricow.

†**Wis**, *sb. Obs.* Also 4 **wys**. [Usually in inflected form *wisse*, *wysse*: absol. use of OE. *wis(e* adj. certain, in advb. phr. (see below). Cf. Iwis C.] Phr. *to wis(se)*, OE. *tó wissum* (for **tó (ge)wissum þinge*), *mid wisse*, occas. *in wis*: of a certainty, for certain. (Cf. Wis *adv.*)

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xvii. 174 Ac wite ge to wissan þæt se wælhreowa deofol ne mæg mannum derian. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 420 (Napier 23/1) *Præsertim, i. maxime, vel* to wissan. *Ibid.* 1031 (29/1) *Profecto, i. omnino*, to wissum. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 236 Nute hi hwæþer hom deþ wurs mid [*v.r.* to] neure nane wisse. *c* 1200 Ormin 8460 Godess enngell comm himm to & segȝde himm þa to wisse Whillc ende off Israæles land He shollde þanne sekenn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 25 Ac sunderlepes he is here fader mid wisse. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1515 Oc god him sente reed in wis Þat he bilef in gerasis. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 120 Y knowe him wel to wisse. *Ibid.* 3763 Ther is non of ȝow þat wot to wys Wather he ys quyke or ded.

†**Wis**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 wissian, 2–3 wisien, (2 -ine), 3 wissi(n, wyssye, 3–5 wisse(n, 4 wise, 4–5 wyssen, wis, 4–6 wys(se, 5 wyss. β. 5 wisshe, wysshe, wysh, wish (wyoh), 5–6 wyshe, 6 *Sc.* wische. [OE. *wissian*, f. *wis* certain (cf. Wis *sb.*) + *-ian*, -y[2]; a late formation on the model of the synonymous *wîsian* Wise *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To make known, give information of, indicate; *esp.* to show, point out (the way).

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxiii. 15 Ic bidde ðe þæt ðu nyme þe ladmenn of minum geferum ðæt þe weȝas wision. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 29 in *O. E. Misc.* 104 He ou wolde wyssye wisliche þinges. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25447 Lauerd..wise me waies þare þare santes has þair sell sete. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 24 Const þou wiseen vs þe wey wher þat he dwelleþ? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 619, I sal wis ȝou þe rycht way. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 689 Is ost þi werld to þe wissid [*v.r.* wist]? *Ibid.* 4997 And quat þou will of balm to wete wis in þi saghe. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* v. 1909 þat she may vs wisse A stedefast lore for to amende oure mysse. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 518 If my feodaryes..may ought wisse therin, late them se it.

β. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3290 Met I nevir creature þat me coude wissh or say Reedyues of my ffadir, dede othir a-lyve. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xv. 156 He that this warld began, wysh vs the way! 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 1909 Wische me the richt way till Sanct-Androis.

b. Const. dependent interrog. clause.

a 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* v. 253 Se craft sceolde wissian ȝewislice be steorrum hwæt ȝehwilcum monn ȝelumpe on his lifes endebyrdnysse. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 He is lest bi-twihan god almihtin and þa for þe wisinne he þa sealt et god seolf habben þine sunne forȝeuenesse. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 119 What it is I wole þe wisse. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* XII. 40 She wolde me wisse wher þe toun were. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1245 Wiseth me how to gete a golden salue. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2633 Jesu may me wysse How lang þe kyngdome shall be hyne.

2. To show the way to (a person); to direct, guide; to lead, conduct (*lit.* or *fig.*). Also *absol.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 304 Alcon manneȝ weorc eyðaȝ hwile gæst hine wisaȝ. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xix. (1883) 208 þa ða him betæhte simdon ter gode to wisiannne. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 89 Godes life us wisaeð [Ælfric *Hom.* I. 312 ȝewisaeð] to his willen. *c* 1250 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 390/41 God ..us leue..ore lif so wisse þat we..comen to heouene blisse. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 9304 God..þat þam gun wysse Til makenes. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 806 Amon þe grete God ..Schall þee wisse fro wo. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 739 þe knyȝt..To Mary made his mone, þat ho..wysse hym to some wone. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Ireland* 93 He wissed the hors eydlynge ayeynes the watyr asquynt. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2366 Thy seven Clerkys, That wyssyȝe werkys. *c* 1430 *Pistill of Susan* 213 (Cott. MS.) Wyllyȝ hyr wenchis she wyssed a-way. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 137 To all I sall wirke be þe wyssyng. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 51, & vertuously me wysse to godward! *c* 1550 Wever *Lusty Juventus* (facs. Awdely) A ij b, I pray you wyshe me thether, For I am going to seeke them.

b. To manage, rule, govern, control.

c 1000 Ælfric in Morris *O. E. Hom.* I. 300 Rex we cwæþaþ cyning, þæt is ȝecweden wissigend, forþam þe he sceal wissigan mid wisdome his folce. *c* 1205 Lay. 3280 Þe sculden witen þat lond & wissien þa leoden. *c* 1250 *Beket* 1059 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 136 Vnneþe he miȝte with is hondene þeos þre þingus do; blessi þat folk and bere þe crois and is bridel wisse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3202 Þe lauerd-hed of al his land To wiss and ledd. *a* 1470 Harding *Chron.* CXX. xxii. (1812) 232 He made duke Harold protectoure Of his cousyne, to gouerne and to wysse Edgar Athelyng.

8. with person as obj. (orig. dat.) and (freq.) inf. with *to*: To give directions or instructions to; to direct, order; to instruct, show how (*to do* something); also *gen.* to teach, instruct.

c 1000 Ælfric *Num.* xxiii. 8 He witeȝode þa, swa him wissode ȝod. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 He..wisseþ us to leden ure lif on cleennesse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17901 If þou wil werc als i þe wise. *Ibid.* 20536 Thritti winter and sumdel mare, I lenged man to wiss in lare. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* Langl. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 31 For to written him a ꝥ to wissen him better. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 9 And wysse me to werpe owte some worde. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e iv, And ye speke of the Bucke the fyrst yere he is A fawne sowkyng on his dam may, as I yow wis.

Wis (wis), *v.*[2] *pseudo-arch.* Also 7 (3 *pers. sing.*) **wisses**, 9 **wiss**. Orig. in *I wis* = Iwis *adv.* (q.v.) erron. taken as = 'I know'; hence occas. as a synonym of 'know' in other parts of the verb, being apprehended as the present of *wist*, pa. t. of Wit *v.*[1] [The following show various stages of corruption of *iwis*:—

1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritit Women* 37 Ane was ane wedow, I wist. *Ibid.* 414 Now am I a wedow, I wis *1 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 180 And if I wish he did.

1614 W. Browne *Sheph. Pipe* C 6, Better ci Descant on it he that list. 1618 Brathwait *Strappado* 115 Strange the Prolect was I wish Of this Metamorphosis. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* III. ii, It moved and moved, and took at last A certain shape, I wist. 1818 Byron *To Mr. Murray* v. Tours, Travels, Essays, too, I wist, And Sermons to thy mill bring grist. 1893 F. Thompson *Poems* 25 Wings, I wist, Whose amethyst Trepidations have forgone me.]

1606 *Lyly's Euphues* (1623) Y 1 b, You gall mee more with these tearmes then you wisse [*ed.* 1580 wist, 1597 wish]. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* 13 Where my morning haunts are he wisses not. [Cf. 1642 [? J. Hall.] *Modest Confut.* To Rdr. A iij b, Where his morning haunts are I wist not.] 1666 A. Cooper *Stratologia* II. 47 Morgan more valorous than hee wis'd or wil'd. 1803 W. S. Rose *Amadis* 31 Full well I wiss To serve your princely will were perfect bliss. *c* 1830 Coleridge *Alice Du Clos* 77 And, bonny boy, you wis, Lord Julian is a hasty man. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Romaunt of Page* xxiii, In the dark chambère, if the bride was fair, Ye wis, I could not see.

†**Wis**, *adv. Obs.* Also 3–4 **wiss**, 4–5 **wys**, 6 **wusse**. [Aphetic form of Iwis, q.v. (cf. Wis *sb.*).] Certainly, assuredly.

c 1200 Ormin 2866 Wiss to soþe. *Ibid.* 7410 Þeȝȝ sindenn wise hundess & swin þurrh þeȝre lahe sinnesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 38 Alse wis ase iben like flesche þet be nom of þe nes neuer sunne [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1863 Þat mighti king, ful sen and wise, Did turn þair baret in-to blis. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1292 The steward swore the people among, As wis as he seyd no wrong, God help him at his nede! *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 742 God helpe me so as wys This is to muche. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 276 Als so wise mot I be schrive. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6433 God so wys be my socour [orig. *al m'aist Dieu*]. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, *Kno.* Why, I hope you will not a hawking now, will you? *Ste.* No wusse.

Wis, obs. f. Wise; obs. Sc. f. Wish. **Wisage**, obs. Sc. f. Visage. **Wisall**, obs. var. of Wiels *dial.* **Wisard**, obs. f. Wizard. **Wisch(e**, obs. Sc. pa. t. of Wash *v.*; var. Wis *v.*[1]; obs. f. Wish *sb.* and *v.* **Wischcraft, Wischeaf, Wischeall**, obs. Sc. ff. Witchcraft, Vouchsafe, Vessel.

Wisdom (wi·zdəm). Forms: 1– **wisdom**; 3 (*Orm.*) **wisdom**, (**wistom**), 3–5 **wysdom**, **wisdam**, 3–7 **wisedom**, **wisdome**, 4 **wisdame**, (**wijsdam**), 4–6 **wysdome**, (*Sc.* **visdome**), 4–7 **wisedome**, 5 **wisedam**, **wysdam(e**, **wysedom**, (**wijsdom**, **wysedomme**, **wiesdom**, **vysdome**, **whysdom**), 5–6 **wysedome**, (6 **wisdoume**, **-dum(e**, **wise-**, **wysdome**, 7 *Sc.* **woesdome**). [OE. *wisdóm* = OFris., OS. *wisdôm*, MDu. *wijsdom*, OHG., MHG. *wistuom* (G. *weistum* legal sentence, precedent), ON. *visdómr* (Sw., Da. *visdom*): see Wise *a.* and -dom.] The quality or character of being wise, or something in which this is exhibited.

1. Capacity of judging rightly in matters relating

to life and conduct; soundness of judgement in the choice of means and ends; sometimes, less strictly, sound sense, esp. in practical affairs: opp. to *folly*.

Beowulf 1959 Offa wæs...wide geweorðod, wisdome healdende. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* cxi. 10 Dæra cynincga wisdom folc wyrð gemanigfealdiað, & gemyrgeð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Þæt wit and þene wisdom þe ure drihten us sende. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 8974 Hire sune wes & þrafi wisdom & inn elde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 He mai þe vttre riwie chaungen, efter wisdom. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 485 Ichulle fordon þe wisdom of þeos wise worldmen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8857 Godd ne had him all wisdom giuen, als he gaf salamon. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 102 Þif god sente euery gome..Wordliche wisdam & wittus illiche. *a* 1375 *Cato* 409 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 587 For þure þi wille wiþ wisdam. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* x. 21 At þe tre of wysdom, foly þou soust. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 283 The mooste wyse wysdome of god. 1513 More *Edw. V* in Hall *Chron., Edw. V* (1548) 2 b, Yf grace turne hym to wisedome. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* ix. 10 The feare of the Lorde is the begynnynge of wysdome. 1563 *Homilies, Regation Wk.* III. Kytt], Thys wisdome can not be atteyned, but by the direction of the spirite of God, and therefore it is called spirituall wisdome. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 26 Your Discipline in Warre, Wisdome in Peace. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvi. § 5 That which moueth God to worke is goodnes, and that which ordereth his worke is wisedom. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Providence* xvi, Each creature hath a wisdome for his good. 1640 Wilkins *Disc. New Planet* ix. 204 Wee allow every Watch-maker so much wisdome as not to put any motion in his Instrument, which is superfluous. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 28 By wisdom, I mean that attribute in God, whereby He orders and manages whatsoever He takes in hand, by the best means, in the best manner and to the best end. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 88 Knowledge and Wisdom, far from being one, Have oftimes no connexion. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* xiv. 385 Illumination of the intellect, together with charity inflaming the heart, constitute the gift of wisdom.

b. personified (almost always as feminine).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* iii. § 1 Þa com þær gan in to me heofoncund Wisdom. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 19 Wisdom ys gerihtwisud fram heora bearnum. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* IV. 87 He haþ waget me a-mendes as wisdam him tauhte. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* viii. 1 Doth not wysdome crie? doth not vnderstondinge put forth hir voyce? 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. viii. § 1 To prescribe the order of doing..is a peculiar prerogative which Wisedome hath, as Queene or soueraigne commandresse ouer other vertues. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. ¶ 4 Loose the Scriptures, and wisedome will loue thee. 1742 Gray *Adversity* 25 Wisdom in sable garb array'd Immers'd in rapt'rous thought profound. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 97 Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much, Wisdom is humble that he knows no more. 1820 Wordsw. *'I grieved for Buonaparte'* 9 Wisdom doth live with children round her knees. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cxiv. 22 For she [*sc.* Knowledge] is earthly of the mind, But Wisdom heavenly of the soul.

c. as one of the manifestations of the divine nature in Jesus Christ (cf. 1 Cor. i. 24, 30, etc.); hence used as a title of the second person of the Trinity (*the Wisdom of the Father*); also occas. applied to God or the Trinity.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xli. § 4 So wisdom mæg us eallunga engitan swylce swylce we sint..forðæm se wisdom is God. *a* 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 219 Þurh his wisdom (se sune) heo worhte alle þing. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 25 De sune of þe fader akennedˊ, al swa his wisedem. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 26 Almihti God, Feder, & Sune, & soðfest Holi Gost, also þe þreo beoð o God, & o mihte, o wisdom, & o luue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9730 Þe 4ete *Yache Upland* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 36 Christ, that is the wisedome of God the Father. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. (1592) 53 We call him also the wisedome of the Father, yea, and euen meerely and simply wisedome. 1833 Newman *Arians* II. iii. (1876) 169 It would appear that our Lord is called the Word or Wisdom in two respects; first, to denote His essential presence in the Father ..; secondly, His mediatorship. 1855 Lynch *Lett. to Scattered* ii. (1870) 32 Wisdom is alive: it is not a thing or quality. It is God. It is God and Man, for it is Christ.

d. Contextually, usually predicative with following inf.: = a wise thing to do; also with *a* and *pl.*, a piece of wisdom; a wise action or proceeding. (Opp. to Folly *sb.*1 1 c.) *arch.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 202 Here nou .. and holde hit for wisdam. *c* 1420 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xxiv. 215 Is it wysdam as þat it seemeth yow, Were it on your fyngir continuelly? 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 87 Hyt wylbe whysdom to be sewyr of mo. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 60 Till then, 'tis wisdome to conceale our meaning. *a* 1628 F. Grevil *Sidney* (1652) 9 Had I grounded my ends upon active Wisedomes of the present. 1764 Priestley *Lect. Hist., Est. Educ.* (1788) p. xv, It is certainly our wisdom to contrive that the studies of youth should tend to fit them for the business of manhood. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* xviii, It is wisdom to choose a better protector. 1884 Helen Jackson *Ramona* I, If she had ever said anything about herself, which she never did—one of her many wisdoms.

e. *pl.* as attribute of a number of persons; hence, with possessive, as a title of dignity or respect, esp. for the members of a deliberative assembly; also jocularly or ironically. Similarly, without possessive, as in *the best wisdoms* = the wisest men.

1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 403/2 To the right wyse and discrete Commens of this present Parlement..Please hit unto youre worthy and noble wisdoms and discretions [etc.]. 1447–8 *Shillingford's Lett.* (Camden) 108 As hit appereth of recorde the whiche they remytte to your wysdomys. 1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 2 As by your wisedomes ye shall thinke may best serue for the kinges highnes purpose. 1587 D. Fenner *Def. Ministers* 60 It may please their wisedomes, who are to be Iudges, to consider. 1629 J. Denison *Hosp. Banquet* etc. 327, I will leave that to their wisedomes who haue place of gouernment. 1632 Markham *Country Contentm.* I. xix. (ed. 4) 103 Many of the best wisedomes of our Nation. 1794 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode to Tyrants* Wks. 1812 III. 253 Even Folly..freely on your Wisdoms cracks her jokes.

(*b*) Less commonly in *sing.* of a single p

1447–8 *Shillingford's Lett.* (Camden) 42 Not likely by that meane to be ended lightly, as your wysedom knowyth well. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* Ep. Ded. P 3 The chiefe motiues which induced his princely wisedome hereunto. 1612 J. Cotta *Disc. Dang. Pract. Phys.* I. ix. 72 The parents..sent for a wisewoman, & her wisedome came vnto them. *a* 1652 A. Wilson in Peck *Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. xii. 24 The Maior's Wisdom said, bee knew not my Lord's Hand. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* viii, Can your wisdom possibly entertain a wish to converse with me?

2. Knowledge (esp. of a high or abstruse kind); enlightenment, learning, erudition; in early use often = philosophy, science. †Also, practical knowledge or understanding, expertness in an art. Now only *Hist.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 52 *Tulistis clauem scientiæ*, þie nomon cæge wisdomes. 1382 Wyclif *1 Cor.* ii. 13 Not in tauȝt wordis of mannis wysdom, but in doctryne of the spirit. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 575 The wisdom of an heepe of lerned men Of maistres hadde he mo than thries ten. 1460–70 *Bk. Quinte Essence* 1 Þe wijsdom and þe science of þis book schulde..be..preserued. 1526 Tindale *Acts* vii. 22 Moses was learned in all manner off wisdom of the Egipcians. 1587 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 276 The Quene's Matie, knowing the wysdome and skyll of John Brende, Esquier, in the leading and ordering of footemen. 1662 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 163 This..was Zoosophie or the wisdom of keeping living Creatures together. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 230/1 What was then called wisdom, which consisted in a knowledge of the arts of government, and the practical part of political prudence. 1875 Lightfoot *Comm. Coloss.* 99 'Wisdom' in Gnostic teaching was the exclusive possession of the few.

b. *pl.* Kinds of learning, branches of knowledge. *rare.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Mine þeowas sindon wisdomas & cræftas & soðe welan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8482 Of all wisdoms [Solomon] had I-nogh. 1823 F. W. Faber *All for Jesus* (1854) 230 The Corinthians could not come near us in the variety of our wisdoms and our gifts.

c. In renderings of med.L. names of substances prepared or used by the alchemists, as *lute of wisdom* (see Lute *sb.*2 1), *salt of wisdom* = Alembroth. (Cf. Philosopher 4, 5 b, Philosophical 4.)

1460–70 [see Lute *sb.*2 1]. 1576 Baker *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 37 The Lute of Wysedome, which resisteth the fire marveylously. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 23 Alembroth, Salt of the Art, Salt of Wisdom.

3. Wise discourse or teaching; with *a* and *pl.*, a wise saying or precept. Now *rare* or *arch.*

c 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 125 Imong þan muchela wisdoma þe ure drihten lerde his apostles. *c* 1205 Lay. 25628 Ælc bi his witte wisdom smiden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 462 On two tables of tiȝel and bras Wrot he ðat wistom. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1179 Anoþer wysdom a clerk vs telleþ. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Chorle & Bird* 274 Min. Poems (Percy Soc.) 189 To here a wisdom thyn eres been half deef. 1493 [H. Parker] *Dives & Pauper* (1496) IX. lv. 350/2, I shall teche the thre wysedomes whiche yf thou kepe them well they shall do the moche prouyte. 1532 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxv, In his fables the foxe, the hare, and the wolfe, though they neuer spoke, do teache many good wysedomes. 1880 Sala *Budd. Peer.* I. vii. 227 Listen then, to the wisdom of Pollybank.

b. In the titles of two books of the Apocrypha, viz. *The Wisdom of Solomon* (often abbrev. *Wisdom* or *The Book of Wisdom*), and *The Wisdom of Jesus the son of Sirach* (commonly called *Ecclesiasticus*). Cf. also *Wisdom literature*, etc. in 5.

1430–40 *Wyclifite Bible* Wisd. (*heading*) Heer ȝynneth the prolog in the booc of Wisdam. 1611 *Bible* (*title*) The Wisedome of Solomon. *Ibid.* (*title*) The Wisdome of Iesus the sonne of Sirach, or Ecclesiasticus. 1873 Plumptre in *Expositor* I. 336 Those [words] which are found in Philo and in the Epistle, but not in Wisdom. 1912 E. C. Selwyn *Oracles N. T.* lii. 78 The fact that Wisdom also contains an anticipation of one of the three Temptations of Christ.

†**4.** Sanity, 'reason'. (Cf. Wise *a.* 4.) *Obs. rare.*

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. iv. 5 Pray heauen his wisedome bee not tainted.

5. *Comb.* **a.** attrib., as *wisdom-book*, *-lecture*, etc.; *Wisdom literature*, a collective term for the biblical books of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom of Solomon, and Ecclesiasticus, and the Epistle of James; so *Wisdom books*, *poetry*, *versification*. (See also Wisdom tooth.) **b.** instrumental, objective, etc., as *wisdom-bred*, *-giving*, *-seasoned*, *-seeming*, *-working* adjs.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 187 Of þe strengðe þe ure drihten us to munegeð specð *wisdom boc and saið, *Fortitudo simplicis via domini*. 1887 Cheyne *Job & Solomon* 180 The Wisdom-books of the Old Testament proper. 1892 Tennyson *Œnone* 121 Power..! *wisdom-bred And throned of wisdom. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 679 O Sacred, Wise, and *Wisdom-giving Plant, Mother of Science. *a* 1844 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* ch. xii. 9 Because his true repentant soul was wise, He read this *wisdome-lecture. *Solomon* 180 The book now beſo comprehensive in the *Wisdom ... sider *Friend* (1818) III. 122 The title of sophist,..a *wisdom-monger, in the same sense as we say, an iron-monger. 1895 R. G. Moulton *Proverbs* 169 The metres of *Wisdom poetry. *a* 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* Sol. xi. 2 Thy *wisdome-seasoned breast. 1826 E. Irving *Babylon* I. II. 74 A *wisdom-seeming ignorance. 1822 Shelley *Sunset* 36 To make hard hearts Dissolve away in *wisdom-working grief.

Hence **Wi·sdomful** *a.*, full of wisdom; † **Wi·sdomhood**, wisdom; **Wi·sdomless** *a.*, destitute of wisdom; † **Wi·sdomness**, (*a*) contained wisdom, wise signification or implication; (*b*) affected or spurious wisdom; **Wi·sdomship**, (with possessive) as a title of (ironical) respect (cf. 1 e).

1845 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 156/2 Its wondrous *wisdomful speech. 1382 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 99 As Seynt Poul seyþ, In him beþ alle tresoures of kunnyng and of *wysdomhud. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* IV. i, I am mad,..all wit-stung, *wisdomlesse. 1589 *Martprel. Epit.* (1843) 21 It is a hard matter..to conceiue all the *wisdomnes of this syllogisme. 1668 E. Kemp *Reas. Use Ch. Prayers in Publick* 14 So impertinent a piece of gravity, so unseasonable a piece of wisdomness. 1690 *Vindication* Pref. A 2, Their cool *Wisdomships can be as Hot as their Neighbours in their own Concerns.

Wisdom tooth. [Usually pl.; orig. *teeth of wisdom*, rendering mod.L. *dentes sapientiæ*, = Arab. *aḍrāsu 'l-ḥikmi* (f. *ḍirs* tooth, *ḥikm* wisdom), after Gr. *σωφρονιστῆρες* (Hippocrates): so called as not appearing till the attainment of years of discretion.] The hindmost molar tooth on each side of both upper and lower jaws in man, usually 'cut' about the age of twenty. Often in phr. *to cut one's wisdom teeth*, to attain to wisdom or discretion.

[1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* Man. IV. xiii. 349 The two last are termed *Dentes Sapientiæ*, the Teeth of Wisedom. 1771 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (ed. 4) Dict. Cc 8 b, *Sophronesteres*, the..Teeth of Wisdom. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* X. x. P 3 The gamester, finding that I had cut my teeth of wisdom sooner than suited his purpose.]

1848 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 5) II. 971 The last molar in each range, owing to its late appearance through the gums, is called the wisdom-tooth. 1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's L.* xxi, He's noane cut his wisdom-teeth yet. 1868 White-Melville *White Rose* III. 203 It seems..they're all born with their wisdom-teeth cut and their whiskers growed. 1870 L. P. Meredith *Teeth* (1878) 49 The wisdom teeth occasionally erupt as late as the fortieth or fiftieth year.

Wise (wəiz), *sb.*1 *arch.* Forms: 1– wise, 1, 3–4 (5–6 *Sc.*) wis, 1, 3–6 wyse, (3–4 wisse, 4 wice, *Sc.* viss, vijs, vyijs, vyise), 4–5 wys, (*Sc.* wiss, vyse, vice, 4–6 *Sc.* wyis (6 -iss), 5 wyesse, whyse, 5–6 *Sc.* wyss(e, vise, 6 wise, weysse). [OE. *wise* wk. fem. (rarely *wis* str. fem.) manner, mode, condition, thing, affair, cause, reason, (occas.) song = OFris. *wīs*, OS. *wīsa* wk. and str. (MLG. *wise*, *wīs*, MDu. *wise*, *wijs*, Du. *wijze*), OHG. *wīsa*, and *wīs* manner, custom, tune (MHG. *wīse*, G. *weise*), ON. *vísa* wk. fem. stanza, **vís* manner in *hörvvís* otherwise (Sw. *visa*, Da. *vise* song; also Sw., Da. *vis* way, manner):— OTeut. **wīsōn-*, **wīsō*: f. *wīt-* Wit *v.*1 (for the sense cf. the cognate Gr. *εἶδος* form, shape, kind, state of things, course of action).]

I. †**1.** Manner, mode, fashion, style; *spec.* habitual manner of action, habit, custom (cf. Way *sb.* 22). *Obs.* (in later use *Sc.*): see also II.

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 55 Manigea mannes wise bið þæt he wile symle to his nehstan sprecan þa word þe he wenþ þæt him leofoste syn to gehyrenne. *c* 1205 Lay. 25426 An hundred þusende iwepnede þeines ohte on heore londes wise. *c* 1250 *Bestiary* 468 Þe spinnere..werpeð ðus hire web, and weueð on hire wise. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1069 For heom ne may halter ne bridel Bringe from here wode wyse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1213 Þat folc verst in is wise, To hor godes as hii wolde, dude hor sacrefice. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 263 Þis is þe worste wise þat eny wight myghte Synegen agens þe *seynt spirit*. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xi. 49, & 3it þei ben in moornynge in the wise þat þei maden here lamentacioun for him the firste tyme. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 25 Our all ye toune rewlyng on thair awne wis. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiv. 3 Quho list to mark the Scottisch gyse..Sall weill persave thair craftie wyse.

†**b.** phr. *To do, make one's wise*: to do what one can. *In wise of*: after the fashion of; in respect of. *In wise that*: in such a manner that, so that.

c 1250 *Beket* 1279 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 143 Þo he hadde al is tale itold and imaked is grete wise [*v. r.* al his wisel], He sat adoun. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* V. 64 This Troylus, yn wyse of curtasie,..rod and dide here compaynye. 1464 *Paston Lett.* I. 297 Ladam wulde a do hys wyse to a mad a complent to Pryothe in the scher-howse of yow. *c* 1470 [illegible] still ruled, in wise that albeit hir life wanteth, yet hir authoritie liueth.

†**2.** Song, melody. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Menologium* 70 Wrecan wordum forð, wise [*MS.* wisse] ȝesingan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 319 So some so þu sittest a brode þu forlosest al þine wise.

II. OE. *wise* manner, fashion, like the cognate forms in other Germanic languages (see the respective sections below), was used in various kinds of advb. expressions meaning 'in such-and-such a manner, way, or respect', in which it was qualified by an adj. or a sb. with or without a governing preposition. Several of these expressions, with others formed on their pattern in later periods, have survived as simple words, e.g. *anywise*, *crosswise*, *leastwise*, *likewise*, *nowise*, *otherwise*, *slantwise*, in which *-wise* has the appearance of a suffix, and, in so far as it could or can still be freely combined with an adj. or a sb. (as in 1 b, 3 b), it has actually performed the function of a suffix. The free use of the various forms, i. e. apart from the established simple words, is now only archaic.

1. a. With demonstrative, interrogative, or indefinite adj. in an oblique case. († rarely *pl.*)

In OE. *ðære wisan* varies with *on ðære wisan* (see OTHERWISE), but most later expressions of this form, e. g. LIKEWISE, THEWISE, WHAT-WISE, resulted from ellipsis of the prep. in expressions of the type in 2 a. THEWISE is an analogical combination with an adv.

Cf. OFris. *hâldine wis*, OS. *hâ wîs(e*, OHG. *andar wîs, einic wîs*, MHG. *nehein wîs, der selben wîs, manegîn wîs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 177 Þe læs þe oðre wisan seniȝ man leoge. *c* 1205 LAY. 30018 Wulchere wise he mihte wiþ Aðelstane fihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17473 All fals sal far þat ilk wise. *a* 1300 [see WHAT-WISE]. 13.. *Benaventure's Medit.* 134 Þat he to hys treytur dyd þe same wyse. 13..–1530 this wise [see THISWISE]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 78 His menȝe .. That vs dispytis mony vis. *c* 1375, 1558 suche wise [see SUCHWISE]. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 198 Syth that hit woll none other wyse be. *c* 1430 *Cursor M.* 9696 (Laud) This castelle..is feyror many wyse [*Cott.* on mani wise] Then tong can telle. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xix. 1 How sowld I rewill me, or quhat wyis. *Ibid.* LXXVIII. 15 It will nocht walkin me no wise. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. x. 93 And as thai flokkit about Enee, als tyte Sic vise ontil thaim carpis Sibilla. 1513 quhat wyse [see WHAT-WISE]. 1524 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xiii. 30 The delaying..of this matier may do moche harme, and prejudice sundry wises. 1530 *Ibid.* III. App. x. 20, I haue prayed no other wyse then the trewth. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 16 Thys law..must..be referryd, non other wyse then the conclusyonys of artys mathematical are euer referryd to theyr pryncypullys. 1560 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1896) II. 84 All reicht..quhilk he had or ony wyis mycht half. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 12 Whilst things stand this wise with me. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compt. Gard.* I. 36 The Houses, that can no wise afford ..bove one Garden. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childb.* (ed. 4) II. 242 A bougie..would be every wise as proper. 1826 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 810 No wise beautiful Was Marian Erle. 1883 L. OLIPHANT *Altiora Peto* xviii, He did it this wise.

b. With general adjs., often forming an equivalent of *-LY*[2], as + *humble wise* = humbly, *despiteful-wise* = despitefully: in later use hyphened or as one word.

Cf. MHG. *glîcher wîse* (G. *gleicherweise*), G. *gleichlicherweise, irrthümlicherweise, strichterweise, zufälligerweise*, etc.; *normaler weise*, etc.

Beowulf 1865 Ic þa leode wat..fæste geworhte, manhwæs untæle ealde wisan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21217 Þe queles er draun diuerse wise. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 480 The nyghtes longe Encressen double wise the peynes stronge. 1473 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 129/1 Service, the which the seid Gallard..had doon dyvers wise to your goode grace. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 929 Thus may thow, and thow will, wirk the best wise. 1592 CONSTABLE *Diana* 1. i. 2 Humble wise To thee my sighes in verse I sacrifise. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 157 It was formed hooked-wise. 1866 *Church & State Rev.* 11 May 298/2 It is no dull good-boy book, to be taken teetotalwise. 1876 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* vi. 220 'The Princess' and 'The Idylls of the King', are written Dorian-wise. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations, S. Africa* vi, She..Treated them despiteful-wise.

2. a. With prep. (orig. *on*, arch. since 16th cent.; OE. also *of*; from 14th cent. *in*) and demonstrative, interrogative, or indefinite adj., as *on nǽnes wisan* in no way, NOWISE, *of þisse wîsan* in this way, THISWISE. (Cf. 1 a.) Sometimes illogically written as one word or with hyphen.

Cf. OS. *an nagana wîsa*, MLG. *in wat wîs(e*, OHG. *in thesa, alla, managa, zuei wîs, se dero, andrero, welero wîs*, etc., G. *auf andere, solche, welche weise*, etc.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 On nane wisan. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (1890) 72 Ne meahte þu on oðre wisan biscop halgian buton oðrum biscopum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 10 *Ita*, on ða wisa. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Þas cybnesse Drihten nam of þisse wisan. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 341/26 *Aliter*, on ænige oðre wisan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 On monle wisan mon mei wurchen elmessan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 203 Alle he lafde ech a sume wise to endelese blisse. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2534 Herrsumm onn alle wise. *c* 1330 in what wise [see WHAT-WISE]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8440 Andromaca..prayet the prinse..On nowise in thys world the walles to passe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5940 Ben thanne siche marchaunts wise, No, but fooles in euery wise. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 102, I am come here, in lyke wyse as ye see. 1572, 1583 in any wise [see ANYWISE]. 1586 TINDALE *Rom.* iii. 9 Are we better then they? No in no wyse. 1588 BURNE *Disput.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 112 Thay..vil in nauyse suffer onie man to..preache aganis the same. 1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* Advt. (1702) 2 One who was in no wise averse to that common Learning. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. IX. 269 Provided, however, it were in no-wise an obstacle. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 318 The abdominal ring is in nowise concerned in the disease. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. vii, In this wise, affairs had gone on for a month. 1848, 1865 in somewise [see SOMEWISE]. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Milton* 238 Whoever comes to the Essay on Milton..will feel that the essay in nowise helps him. 1903 in what-wise [see WHAT-WISE].

(*b*) with *a* or a numeral, or *pl.*

a 1000 *Colleg. Ælfric* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) I. 7 On feala wisan ic beswice fuglelas. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXXVIII. (Z.) 237 *Bifariam*, on twa wisan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Þe fader is ine þe sune on þre wise. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Tejenes ure emcristene we sulle laden ure ilf edmodeliche on two wise. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Alle ne muwe nout .. holden on one wise ðe vitture riwle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23506 O thrija wijs Mai cursing be tald on right wijs. 1340 *Ayenb.* 62 Þe dyeuel..him chongeþ in vele wyses þet uolk uor to zyty. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1805 Þus vpon þrynne wyses I haf yow þre schewed, þat vaclaunes to clenses in corage. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 99, & In a vice to-gyddyr lede & in ane aray in bak & bede. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. ii. (1554) 197/1 Dissimable in many sondry wyses. *c* 1500 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xii. 548 Bi manye wijs. 1520 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 437/2 In other divers manere of wyses.

b. With general adjs.: cf. 1 b. (occas. illogically as one word or with hyphen.)

Cf. *in likewîs* (LIKEWISE 1), and OFris. *to liâre wis (sonf).*

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 189 Þa cwæþ Nero, On þa betstan wisan þu demest. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 1052 (Napier 34) *Mirum in modum*, on wunderlicum gemeos [*in another hand* wise]. *c* 1205 LAY. 27834 Wes þe kaisere of-almæn a seolcuðe wisen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10948 Als lagh was þan on ald wise. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1095 So sodanly on a wonder wyse, I was war of a prosessyoun. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 20 In euery skylful wyse. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28008 (Cotton Galba) 3e oft sithes on wonderwise Biswikes þam. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xcvii, That coude his office doon In connyng wise. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 153 Thareto I answere in double wis. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. vii. 580, I will..that ye be wel bisene in the rychest wyse. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 29 In as lovynge whyse as harte cone thynke. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXV. 3 We ..To 3ow that ar in purgatory Commendis we on our hairtly wyis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I shall prayse for you in lyke wyse. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 87 You take a discord for the first part, & not in binding wise. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 360 Some in scoffing manner; others in malicious wise. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 98 These letters in scattering wise, CARRATIC. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. Introd., By all means in all Loving-wise, them greet. 1782 TRUMBULL *McFingal* IV. (1795) 94 In mournful wise. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. i. (1894) 13 You praise her in too lover-like a wise. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 46 A while in gentle wise they went.

3. With prep. (see 2) and sb. in (non-syntactical) combination with *wise*, e. g. OE. *on scipwîsan* in the manner of a ship, like a ship.

Cf. OS. *an hwingrostad(s* like a king, MHG. *in kriuzewîs*, MSw. *i hærwis* crosswise.

c 890 WERFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 343 Twegen oflamthlafas on beagwisan abacenne. *a* 950 *Guthlac* II. (Prose) 107 Mid þam þe seo yld com þæt hit sprecan mihte æfter cnihtwisan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* VI. 247 On munucwisan gescryd. *c* 1070 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 430 Mycel Englisc boc..on leoðwisan geworht. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 138 Kulleden hym on-crosse-wyse. 1393 *Ibid.* C. VIII. 163 In a weythwynde wyse ywrybe al aboute. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 175 Ayre vp the erthe on ardagh wise. *Ibid.* 4762 The grekes..At wyndous on yche syde-wise a wondurfull nombur. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5045 In karol wise I saugh hem goon. 1498 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 407/2 In Indenture wise. 1572 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* XXXV. 20 By the clifts of the earth wee may in metaphorwyse vnderstande miserable men..broken and maymed. 1589 in ballade wise [see *ballad-wise* s.v. BALLAD *sb.* 6]. 1596 *Edw. III*, V. 237 Heere twise as many pikes in quadrant wise. 1606 W. CRASHAW *Rom. Forgeries* To Rdr. D 4 b, The reuerend Master Iohn Ferus..did in Sermon-wise explane the bookes of Iob vnto the Citizens. 1620 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 333 The points of the Hornes meeting..in a kinde of circle-wise. 1800 COLERIDGE *Christabel* II. 573 Geraldine, in maiden wise,..turned her from Sir Leoline. 1916 H. E. G. ROPE *Relig. Ancilla* 54 We trod the pilgrim road in pilgrim wise.

b. without prep. (variously written).

Cf. MLG. *crûcewîs*, Du. *kruiswijs*, MHG. *kriuzewîse*, G. *kreuzweise, pfandweise*, etc.

1398 [see CROSSWISE 1]. 1489 *Paston Lett.* I. 475 A goune..with side slevis, sirples wise. 1474 [see CORNERWISE]. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1354 Within a temple shapen hauthorn wise. 1530 [see LOZENGEWISE]. 1545–1616 compass-wise [see COMPASS *sb.*[1] D]. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 37 To order it garden wyse, castyng it into beddes. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. lv. 32 No man presumed to make any solemne oration assembly-wise [L. *in modum concionis*]. 1625 Antheme-wise [see ANTHEM *sb.* 4]. 1632 in Courridge *Ye Olde Streate of Pavement* (*c* 1890) 177/1 Let them tie upon a stick, posie wise, a little piece of sponge. 1637 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 200 Then the Priest Collect-wise makes a Prayer. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. iii. 61 Let us try once more to argue Cardinalwise. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cutting*, They do at other Times cut sloaping, and Hind-foot-wise. 1743 SHENSTONE *Let. to Graves* 23 Dec., The sides [of an alcove] ornamented with sheepsbones, jaws, sculls, &c. festoon-wise. 1876 [O. H. B.] *White's Cross* xlvii, 'Oh, only in a brotherly way.'..' Timothy or Titus-wise, you know.'

c. with prep. and sb. in the genitive.

Cf. OFris. *thiaves wîse* like a thief, MLG. (*in*) *dêves wîse, in pelegrimes wîse, gastes wîse* as a guest, OHG. *in eseles wîs* like an ass, MHG. *in hriuses wîs* crosswise, *se gesellen wîs* like comrades.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2961 It was on fendes wise wrogt. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 360 On a squieres wise. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 148 On Palfreis wyse. *Ibid.* VI. 9 In A wepebondes wyse I-wriþen aboute [cf. quot. 1393 in 3]. *Ibid.* VII. 53 In pilgrimes wyse. 1483 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* CXVII, In thaire flouris wise. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. iii. (1894) 46 On peacocke men's wise.

†d. with formations in *-kin(s, manner. Obs.*

c 1000 *Vices & Virtues* 25 On alles kennes wisen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7984 On quatkin wise. *Ibid.* 9486 He ne mai be fre on nakins wis [*v.r.* nan-kin wis]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4380 In no maner wice. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* IX. (*Bartholomeus*) 129 One foure-kine wise. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 91 On mani maner wis. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 647 In lyke maner of wyse. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccvcviii. 987 b/2 In some maner awyse. 1535 *Goodly Primer* Pa. cxix, In no maner wyse. 1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 32 In no maner of wyse.

4. The synonymy of *-wise* and *-ways* in such advs. as *likeways, likewise, nowys, nowise*, led to their interchange and consequently the illogical use of *-wise* for *-ways*: see -WAYS 3.

Wise, *sb.*[2] *Obs. exc. dial.* Also wyse. [OE. *wîse*; cf. ON. *vísir*: ultimate relations doubtful.] The stalk or stem of a plant; esp. a trailing stem or runner, as of the strawberry.

1000 *Riddles* 42 vl. 4 Hlywit hlec readfah,..min heafod leþ, bitod mec on tuer lic, briceð mine wisan. *c* 1000 SAX. *Leechd.* II. 56 Strawbergean wise. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 415/34 *Geacc*, eall hwite wynan. *c* 1425 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 310 Tak an handful of Bugyl, an eber of strawebery wyse. *c* 1440 *MS. Lincoln A. 1. 17* lf. 280 (Halliw.), Take the wyse of tormentille, and bray it. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 Wyse, of strawbery (*P.* or pesyn), *fragus*. *c* 1450 [see *strawberry wise*, STRAWBERRY 3].

Wise (wəiz), *a.* (*sb.*[3], *adv.*) Forms: 1–5 (6 *Sc.*) wis, 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) wys, 4–7 wyse, 4– wise; also 3–5 wiis, 4 wiys, wyys, wyese, -esse, weyse, *Sc.* vias, vyis, 4–5 wijs, wyes, wiss, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) wyss, wice, 4–6 *Sc.* vyise, 4, 7 wiese, 5 wijse, wies, weise, wiesse, wisse, wyese, vise, vice, viese, *Sc.* vyis, 5 (6 *Sc.*) wyis, wyce, vyse, 6 *Sc.* vias, wyise, -ice, -ise, vyiss, vyce. [OE. *wîs* = OFris., OS., OHG. (MLG., MDu., MHG.) *wîs*, (Du. *wijs*, G. *weis* in phr. *einen weis machen*), ON. *vîss* (Sw., Da. *vis*), Goth. *weis* (in compounds): — OTeut. **wîsaz*: — pre-Teut. **wittos*, f. Indo-Eur. *weid-* (see WIT *v.*[1]) + ppl. suffix *-to-*.

OHG. *wîsi* (MHG. *wîse*, G. *weise*) is from a parallel formation with *j*-suffix.

The standard pronunciation with voiced *s* (z) is presumably derived from the oblique cases. The normal representative of OE. *wîs* with (s), as in *ice* (OE. *îs*), survives in some northern dialects; the regular Sc. pronunciation is (wəis).]

1. Having or exercising sound judgement or discernment; capable of judging truly concerning

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ized by good sense and prudence. Opp. to *foolish*. (See also WISE MAN 1.)

In ME. often in collocation with WARE *a.*

Beowulf 1845 Margenes strang and on mode frod, wis wordcwida. *c* 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* liv, Preostas sceolon gemunan þæt hig ne synt .. wisran þonne Salomon. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 636 Theodorus, swiðe god man & wis. *c* 1205 LAY. 6303 Heo wes swiðe wis of wordliche dome. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 90 Salomon þe wise. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 192 He is wis and war of worde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5388 King alfred was wisest king þat longe was biuore. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 327 The vise king, that ves vicht and bald. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 68 Though þat he were worthy he was wys. *Ibid.* 309 A Sergeant of the Lawe war and wys. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1463 A man witty & wise, wight, wildist in armes. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* IV. 113 In meet & drynke be þow scars & wisse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wyce, in werkynge and ware.., *discretus, providus*. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIX. 39 And quha can reive vthir menis rowmis..Is now ane active man and wyise. 1508 — *Twa marlit wemen* 294 As wis woman ay I wrought & not as wod fule. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 131 We sholde also be wele ware or wyse, as is yᵉ serpent. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XXV. 2 Fyve of them were folyashe, and fyve were wyse. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 267 *Claudio.* And she is exceeding wise. *Prince.* In every thing, but in louing Benedicke. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Trad.* 42 To tempt and draw the wisest men to folly. *a* 1728 GAY *Fables* II. v. 1 That man must daily wiser grow, Whose search is bent himself to know. 1798 SOUTHEY *Well of St. Keyne* 52 She had been wiser than me, For she took a bottle to Church. 1828 COLERIDGE *Friend* II. i. 23 The first duty of a wise advocate is to convince his opponents, that he understands their arguments and sympathises with their just feelings. 1872 TENNYSON *In Childer. Hosp.* vi, 'If I,' said the wise little Annie, 'was you, I should cry to the dear Lord Jesus to help me.' 1878 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* xiv. 383 The wisest of all the sons of men before the Incarnation of the Son of God was Solomon, king of Israel.

(*b*) of God.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 260 Ihesus, god and man so wis. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 92 God ys wys and conynge. 1526 TINDALE *Jude* 25 To God oure sauveour, whyche only ys wyse [1611 to the onely wise God our Saulour], be glory, maiestie, dominion, and power. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. i. 6 We ignorant of our selues, Beggs often our owne harmes, which the wise Powres Deny vs for our good. 1719 WATTS *Ps.* LXIII. (L. M.) ii, Thou Great and Good, thou Just and Wise, Thou art my Father and my God!

(*c*) of animals.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* XVIII. 3 Slo wilde deo, þeah wis sie [etc.]. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Prov. XXX. 24 These be foure smal things.., yet thei are wise and ful of wisdome. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 271 The wise Ant her wintry Store provides. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii, The wise dog took them over the moor.

(*d*) of superhuman beings and personifications.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4621 Reason Discrete and wijs and full pleasaunt. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 367 He..hath vpon him still that naturall stampe: It was wise Natures end .. To be his guidance now. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* CV, Wise preventing Destinie. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 382 Wise Nature, in giving so much force to early habits, intended that our happiness should depend on those who are most concerned to promote it. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* XXIV, No one can be more wise than destiny.

(*e*) const. *to* (with sb. or inf.), *unto. arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8544 Was neuer nan wiser hagh to lede. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. I. 420 Hem þat made hem silf seme wijse forto condempne mennis lawe. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* XVI. 19, I wolde have you wyse vnto that which is good. And to be innocent as concernynge evyll. — 2 *Tim.* III. 15 Which is able to make the wyse vnto health. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Jer. IV. 22 Thei are wise to do euill, but to do wel thei haue no knowledge. 1589 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* K iv b, It makes my harte bleede to see these so wise to wickednes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 193 Wise to frustrate all our plots and wiles. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 87 Wise to promote whatever end he means, God opens fruitful nature's various s—

(*f*) in proverbs and proverbial sayings. (See also 6 c.)

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3824 Wyys ys þat wy

ys. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xvi. 8 The children of this worlde, are in their kynde [1612 generation] wyser then the children off light. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 18 He is in vayne ... y^t is not wyse for hym selfe. [See *Prov.* ix. 12.] 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 132 Who wedth ere he be wise, shall die ere he thrive. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 83 It is a wise Father that knowes his owne childe. 1617 B. RICH *Irish Hubbub* 16 We were wont to say, it was a wise childe that did know the owne Father. 1717 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 319 The proverb of being wise behind the time. 1745 B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 157 Fools make feasts and wise men eat them. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. xix. 204 Men who are wise are wise in time. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* i. 10 Sir Gilbert Pickering..was wiser in his generation.

b. Of action, speech, personal attributes, etc.: Proceeding from, indicating, or suggesting sound judgement or good sense; 'becoming a wise man' (J.); sage.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 902 Þam þe hafaþ wisne geþoht. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 198 So þat non wisure read ne mei bringen hire ut of hire riote. *Ibid.* 338 Of þe axunge mei uallen uuel bute þif þe axunge beo þe wisre. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 71 Vche wiȝt in þis world þat haþ wys vnderstondinge. 2 Yo Anothyr yewyth a vyse consaill. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables* Prol. 17 (Makculloch MS.), A doctryne wise anewch, and ful of fruyt. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 84 It is certaine, that either wise bearing, or ignorant Carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 156 Full of wise sawes, and moderne instances. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 666 One.. eminent In wise deport, spake much of Right and Wrong. *a* 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* I. vi. (1675) 84 It must be a Wise Being that is the Cause of those Wise Effects. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxiii. 166 My father also thought fit (perhaps for wise reasons) to acquaint us, that he designed for us but small fortunes. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, Teach your affection to see with a wiser eye. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 89 By a wise dispensation of Providence. 1886 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 72 He thought it wise not to attempt the ascent farther.

ironically. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 28 S. Paule (by this wyse reason) playd bo peep wythe hys pistle to the hebrews. 1821 SHELLEY *Scenes fr. Faust* ii. 227 'Twere a wise feat indeed to wander out Into the Brocken upon May-day night.

† **2.** Having practical understanding and ability; skilful, clever; skilled, expert (const. *of*). *Obs.*

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 592 Wordcræftes wis. *c* 1200 *Havelok* 282 Of alle þewes was she wis, þat gode weren. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 1270 In warld was non so wis Of craft þat men knewes. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2745, I rede ȝe wyrke aftyre witte, as wyesse men of armes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1530 Wise wrightis to wale, werkys to caste. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua maritis wemen* 462 Ȝit am I wise in sic werk. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 32 b, He secretly sent wise espialles.. to searche & prye oute of what progeny thys..Rycharde was dissended.

b. *spec.* Skilled in magic or hidden arts. Now only *dial.*, as in *wise wife*, WISE MAN 3, WISE WOMAN 1.

a 1630 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1655) 383 Agnes Samson (commonly called the wise wife of Keith) was..a woman not of the base and ignorant sort of Witches. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. vi. § 6 (1712) 102 While he wish'd to himself that some wise body would help him to his.. money again there appeared unto him a Spirit.

3. Having knowledge, well-informed; instructed, learned (*in*, earlier *of*, *upon*). *Obs.* exc. as in b. (See also WISE MAN 2 a, WISE WOMAN 1.)

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 146 Læcas lærdon, þa þe wiscste wæron, þæt nan man on þam monþe ne drenc ne drunce. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 331 Sone ȝe it ðor of hauen eten,..ȝe ..sulen..ben so wise alle suene So ðo ðe wunen a-buuen in heuone. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1605 Wys vpon wod-crafte. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Engenide*) 61 In al science at dewyce, þar mycht na woman wysare be. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lxiv. 42 She aȝht at be wise in goddis law. *c* 1500 (*title*) Here begynneth thystorye of y^e .vii. Wyse Maysters of rome. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iv. 18 But in these nice sharpe Quillets of the Law, Good faith I am no wiser then a Daw. 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* II. xxx. 179 Wiser and better learned in cases of Law,.. than themselves. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 100 Where ignorance is bliss, 'Tis folly to be wise.

b. Informed or aware *of* something specified or implied. Now only in such phrases as *none the wiser*, *as wise as before* = knowing no more than before (i.e., usually, nothing) about the matter.

c 1200 ORMIN 2279 Forrþi wollde ȝho ben wis off þatt þurrh Godess enngell. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 799 In water ȝe is wis of heukes come. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 404 þat god wyss þame wald make Peteris banis quhilk war of þai, And quhilk war paulis banis alsa. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 372 Þis is a longe lessoun,..and litel am I þe wyser. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 580 Thai maid him wys off all that suttell cace. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V* IV. i. 206. 1826 *Withals' Dict.* 374 *Obscurum per obscurius*, I am as wise as I was before. 1625 D. DICKSON *Hebr.* viii. 8, 156 The Church was made wyse of the imperfection of the Olde Covenant. 1712-13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Mar., I went into the city to see Pat Rolt, who lodges with a city cousin, a daughter of cousin Cleve (you are much the wiser). 1714 — *Let. to Miss Vanomrigh* 8 June, The pretender, or duke of Cambridge, may both be landed, and I never the wiser. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxi, Messrs. Blathers and Duff came back again as wise as they went. 1889 *Century Mag.* July 342/1 Not one whit the wiser of the world than when he left home.

(*b*) U. S. colloq. *To be* (or *get*) *wise to*, to be (or become) aware of; *to put* (one) *wise* (*to*), to inform one (of), enlighten one (concerning).

1901 H. M^cHUGH *John Henry* 69 When I hear a pool-room comedian speaking lines about getting seasick on the B. & O., I'm wise to the fact that he dips in the Farmers' Almanac for his comedy stuff. 1918 BINDLOSS *Agatha's Fortune* xvii. 158, I suppose it was because the drummer put you wise that you went to Miss Strange? 1923 F. H. KITCHIN *Divers. Dawson* 103 There would be the very devil to pay if Crutchley..got wise to their existence.

4. In one's right mind, sane. Now *Sc.* and *dial.* So Du. *wijs*. Cf. WISDOM 4.

Cf. *Beowulf* 3004 wis and ȝewittiȝ (= fully conscious).

c 1250 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 412 Here men mihten iseo Hou he pleiȝes with þis ȝongue brid; he ne mihte nouȝt wyn beo. *a* 1400, 1482 (implied in UNWISE 3). *a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 8 Anes wood, never wise. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 245 *Oth.* Fire, and brimestone. *Des.* My Lord. *Oth.* Are you wise?..*Des.* My Lord? *Oth.* I am glad to see you mad. 1881 'SARAH TYTLER' *Three Frights* (1882) 9 They were each, according to a significant old Scotch phrase, 'wise (pronounced *wice*, and meaning rather rational than sagacious) and warld-like'.

5. † **a.** *To make it wise* (see MAKE *v.*[1] 68 b): to deliberate, hesitate. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 785 Vs thoughte it was noght worth to make it wys And graunted hym wit outen moore auys.

b. *To make wise* (see MAKE *v.*[1] 69): to behave as if one were 'wise' about a matter; to pretend, 'make *as if*...' *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1447 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 14 Hengston seide but litell therto, but made wyse as thogh hit were yes. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) M vj, The two .. wente to bed darkelong, laughing and making wise to beleeue that hee wente about to mocke them. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 265 He makes wise, as if he had not bene a man learned in some of the mathematickes. 1604 HIERON *Preachers Plea* Wks. 1614 I. 511 Hee..made wise, as if he could haue tolde great tydings. 1834 MRS. BRAY *Warleigh* x, Whether she really felt desirous to take this opportunity of gaining repose, or whether, to use a Devonshire phrase, she only 'made wise' to do so.

6. *absol.* or as *sb.* † **a.** *sing.* usually with def. article or demonstrative: A or the wise man; *spec.* a sage. *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiii 220 Se dysega.. all his inȝeþonc he ȝeypt, ac se wisa hit ealdcaþ. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 176 Wel fyht þat wel flyhþ, seyþ þe wise. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 79 Þis forknowyng wyse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 268 Upon the fol, upon the wise Sikneſſe and hele entrecomune. 1401 *26 Pol. Poems* iii. 72 Do euene lawe to fooll and wyse. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 484 þe wise sayd vnto hym: 'þis way is bothe fayr & gude'.

b. *pl.* Wise men or persons: now always with *the*; † formerly also with demonstrative, possessive, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 25 Þu þe behyddyst þas þing fram wisan & gleawun. *c* 1205 LAY. 26817 He bi-heold.. wulc of wilsen ærest spæken wolden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20794 Disput, he asis, es na mister, Bituix te wis in awilk a wer. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 973 Dindimus þe dere king, the docktour of wise. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 1 Som matiere, Ensampled of these olde wyse. *Ibid.* 26 The wiseste of Caldee Ne cowthen wite what it mente. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* I. 167 Fle fro fooles, and folwe wise. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxix. 14, I wil destroye the wisdome of their wise. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* II. (1672) 21 The bold are but the Instruments o' th' wise. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 562 The learn'd and wise Sarcastic would exclaim. 1833 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 105 O silent faces of the Great and Wise.

c. *A word to the wise* (*is enough*): = VERBUM SAP. Also † *Few words to the wise suffice*, etc.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xv. 24 Few wordis may serve the wyis. 1562 MOUNTGOMERY in *Archæologia* XLVII. 241 Feawe woordes to the wise doeth suffice. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 51 Few words to the wise suffice. *Verbum sapienti sat est.* A word to the wise. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xix. 127 Nay, if she can withstand him—But a word to the wise, Mr. Reeves! Hem!

d. The comp. *wiser* as sb. (with pl. *wisers*): One who is wiser; usually with possessive, (one's) superior in wisdom. Now *rare*.

(Cf. BETTER A. 7, ELDER *sb.*[3] 2, GREATER C b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26180 Ga til a wijser to sceu þi wond. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2634 *Hypermnestra*, And werke aftyr thyn wisere euere mo. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* v. 892 And of þi wysers lern bettyr gouernaunce. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Want of Wise Men* 22 For warldly wyn sik walkis, quhen wysar wynkis. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, Since it is well known these Delilahs seduce my wisers and my betters. 1838 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. (1847) 261 All writers who feel an itching..to be carping at their wisers and betters. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. xiii, If thou really art my Senior, Seigneur, my Elder,..if thou art in very deed my Wiser.

7. Used as *adv.* = WISELY. In later use only in comparative. *rare.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 52 Thou vroucht has vil, That thou discouerit first till me. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 58 Thou speak'st wiser then thou art ware of. 1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* IV. 153, I cannot act wiser than to take the little Welsh girl off the hands of her dragon.

8. *Comb.* **a.** advb. with adj. or pple., as *wise-bold*, *-hardy* (opp. to FOOLHARDY), *-valiant*; *wise-framed*, *-judging*, *-reflecting*, *-said*. **b.** attrib. with sb., as *wisebones* sb. (humorous appellation for a wiseacre), *wise-heart* adj. (= wise-hearted). **c.** parasynthetic, as *wise-hearted*, *-lipped*, *-worded* (ME. *wis iworded*).

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* liv, With a *wise-bold heed. 1894 ALMA-TADEMA *Wings of Icarus* v. 26 There you go, old *wisebones! Here's a storm in a tea-cup! 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. II. xii, *Wise framed questions. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 44 Valiant, & *wisehardy. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 983/2 Of courage inuincible,..wise-hardie alwaies. 1889 MORRIS *Odyssey* VIII. 327 The cunning of *wise-heart Hephaestus' snare. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* XXIV. 26 Soch women as were *wyse herted. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 862 Men there are Wise-hearted. 1644 MILTON *Divorce* II. xvii. (ed. 2) 66 Why men so disesteem this *wise judging Law of God. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, Many wise-judging men. 1818 MILMAN *Samor* I. 384 *Wise-lipp'd chief. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* VI. 210 By no means could she persuade just-minded, *wise-reflecting Bellerophon. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* I. 213 Youre *wise-said sayes Keepe mee from devious..wayes! *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* lxxv, He could young wise, *wise valliant frame His Syres revenge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Sum is so wel ilered, oðer se *wis iworded [etc.].

Wise (wəiz), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 **wisian**, 3 **wisie**, 4-6 (8-9 *Sc.* and *dial.*) **wyse**, (5 **vyse**, 6 *pa. pple.* **wisde**), 7 (9 *dial.*) **wise**, 3-7 (9 *dial.*) **wise**, 9 *Sc.* **weise**, **weise**. [OE. *wisian* to show the way = OFris. *wisa*, OS. *wîsian*, MLG., MDu. *wîsen* (Du. *wijzen*), OHG. *wîsan* (MHG. *wîsen*, G. *weisen*, now conjugated as a str. vb.), ON. *vísa* (Sw. *visa*, Da. *vise*), Goth. *fulla-weisjan weihwa*: f. OTeut. **wîsaz* WISE *a.* (Cf. WISE *v.*[1])]

1. *trans.* To show the way to (a person); to guide, direct; † hence, to direct or manage the affairs of, govern, rule (*obs.*); also in mod. dial., to induce, entice *away*, *from* . . .; to instruct, inform.

Beowulf 320 Street wæs stanfah, stiȝ wisode gumum ætgædere. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XXXV. 5 Iacob ferde þa mid ealre his hiwrædene, swa him god wisode. *c* 1205 LAY. 1200 Wise mi & witere..whuder ich mæi liðan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 973 Þu..seist þu wisest [*v. r.* wisest] mankunne þat hi biwepen hore sunne. *c* 1250 *Prayer to Our Lady* 2 in *O. E. Misc.* 102 Þu wisie me nuþe for ich eom eirede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10755 Sire steuene of segraue was imad þo hei iustine In alra hubertes stude de bors þut lond wel to wise. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17931 (Götz.) Quen I þe gan wis To þe ȝatis of paradis. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 297 Wiþ-oute whom he ne mai His kindom wiþ pees wysen. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2988 Alexander..trottis him to þe trod-gate, as him þe torche wyssis [*Dubl.* vysys]. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 303 Now wise vs crist!' quod Roulond. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 122 Mahowne he wyse the on thi way. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 130 Alwayes wysing and making your hawke to leane in vpon you. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* II. xli, To be wizde what cause her thither drew. 1604 H. BROUGHTON *Advt. Corrupt. Relig.* E 3 b, Tremellius might haue wised M. Liuely. 1606 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* D 2, She [*sc.* the Moon] wizeth Surgeons when to ope a veine. 1610 H. BROUGHTON *Job* XXXV. 11 Who doth teach us more than the beasts of the earth: and wiseth us above the foules of the heaven. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ezra* viii 16 Being themselves wise, and willing to wise others. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Song, Dear Highland Laddie* ii, The Laird's wys'd awa' my braw Highland laddie, O. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* XXXVIII. 310 She..took me by the hand, and wised me to go back. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wise*, to shew or direct. 'Wise him in.' 'Wise him out.'

2. To direct the course or movement of; to move in some direction or into some position; to convey, conduct; to turn (in various connexions: see quots.); also *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21272 A..wain men wit four quelis wisen. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13698 His hors on hym [*sc.* Bokkus] his bridel wysed. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 78 The forgh is best, ille humour out to wise. 1606 N. BAXTER *Sidney's Ourania* C 3, Planets .. Knowne to each Figure-flinger..That wize from thence many an vncouth-tale. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vii, Now, weize yourself a wee easel-ward—a wee mair yet to that ither stane. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., Wise off that rope there. *a* 1827 in Scott *Jrnl.* 2 Aug., Stuff with moss, and clog with clay, And that will weize the water away. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* iv. x. (1849) 179 Mr. Bell quietly wised the conversation upon juvenile indiscretions. 1866 SMILES *Engineers* III. 113 Wise on the Hydrogen, Nichol! 1866 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 58 Every miller wad weise the water to his ain mill. 1867 J. K. HUNTER *Retrospect Artist's Life* xiv. (1912) 135 The little fish rushed to the shore before him, as he quietly wysed them shoreward.

b. To direct, aim, 'send', shoot (a missile) (*Sc.*); † *fig.* to utter.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24103 Quen I wend word to wise. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to Ph—* ii, Fowk wysing a Jee The Byass Bouls on Tamson's Green. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lviii, Mony o' them wadna mind a bawbee the weising a ball through the Prince himsell.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To direct one's course, make one's way, betake oneself, go.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10936 Vnto þer contres he bad þem wyse. 1721 RAMSAY *Richy & Sandy* 69 But see the Sheep are wysing to the Cleugh.

3. *trans.* To show, point out (the way). † Also, to cause to be seen, show, reveal (*obs.*).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 1235 A wounde ful wyde..con wyse An-ende hys hert þurȝ hyde to-rente. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 138 Wysand vs þe way to heuen. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 206 The printe of a paley wisith the thy way. 1828 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiii, I'll haa somebody waiting to weise ye the gate to the place.

Wise (wəiz), *v.*[2] [f. WISE *a.* 3 b (*b*).] *To wise up* (U. S. slang) : to 'get wise'; to 'put wise'.

1919 J. BUCHAN *Mr. Standfast* iii. 70 You've got to wise up about Gresson with the whole forces of the British State arrayed officially against you. 1922 P. G. WODEHOUSE *Girl on Boat* i. 23 You won't wise him up that I threw a spanner into the machinery?

Wise: see VARIA.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 53 The last Sect or Cast of Gentiles are the Wises.

Wise, obs. f. VICE *sb.*[1] and [2], VISE *v.*

-wise: see WISE *sb.*[1] II.

Wiseacre (wəi·zeikəi). Forms: 6-7 **wise-**, 7 **wiseakar**, **wiseacre**, 7-8 **wise acre**,

7– wise-acre, wiseacre. [ad. (with unexplained assimilation to *acre*) MDu. *wijsseggher* (wai·szeɣər) soothsayer, app. ad. OHG. *wîzagâ*, MHG. *wîzage* (= OE. *witga* WITH *sb.*), with assimilation to *wîs* WISE *a.* and *seggher* SAYER.]

1. One who thinks himself, or wishes to be thought, wise; a pretender to wisdom; a foolish person with an air or affectation of wisdom.

1595 *Eng. Trip-wife* (1881) 146 Shall he run vp and downe the town,..accompanied with some such wise-akers as himselfe. 1609 DEKKER *Gulls Horn-bk.* Proemium 5 Thou Lady of Clownes and Carters, Schoolemistres of fooles and wiseacres. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 47 Syrupe of Poppy, (that edged Tool in the hands of such Doctor Wise-akers). 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 138 P 6 This Wiseacre was reckoned by the Pariah, who did not understand him, a most excellent Preacher. 1812 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 31 Dec. (1894) I. vi. 208 This wise-acre thinks he should have a finger in every man's pie. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiii, I have heard politicians and coffee-house wise-acres talking over the newspaper. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 215 The architect..is lectured on his own art by wiseacres, whose whole stock of knowledge is got up from 'Parker's Glossary'.

† b. Used in pl. form of a single person; sometimes as a *quasi*-proper name. *Obs.*

?1613 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Laugh & be fat* Wks. (1630) II. 72/1 A learned wiseakers. 1625 TOFTE *Varchi's Blason Jealousie* 24 *note*, Wiseakers her Husband, neuer so much as once doubting or dreaming of any such matter. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 9 When he has done (like a wise-acres) he makes nothing of it.

¶ c. With allusion to *acres* as = 'lands'; in first quot. app. applied to a landed estate.

1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* I. iii, Is the rubbish sold, those wise-akers your lands? *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. § 128 (1740) 394 If wise by their Acres, or, in a word Wiseacres, it was expected the Guineys should come out, for the Uses of Mobbing.

2. A wise or learned person, a sage. (Usually contemptuous.)

1783 in *Gentl. Mag.* XXIII. 417 (spuriously archaic) Pythagoras lerned muche—becomming a mychtye wyse-acre. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 272 The concourse of wiseacres .. was truly astonishing. 1842 THACKERAY *Fitz-Boodle's Conf.* Pref., It requires no great wiseacre to know that. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Nov. 677/2 The stoic paradox that the cobbler who has got wisdom is the universal wiseacre.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Wi·seacred** (-əd) *a.*, having the character of a wiseacre (in quot. with allusion to *acre*: cf. 1 c above), (whence *wi·seacredness*; **Wi·seacredom**, the realm of wiseacres, wiseacres collectively; **Wi·seacredish** (-əriʃ) *a.*, like or characteristic of a wiseacre (whence *wiseacreishness*); **Wi·seacredism** (-əriz'm), **Wi·seacrery** (-əri), something characteristic of a wiseacre; pretension to or affectation of wisdom, or a remark exhibiting this.

1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* B 3, Each *wise-acred Landlord. 1848 Earl NORTHBROOK in Mallet *Mem.* (1908) 39 The conceited phraseology and would-be *wiseacredness of its professors. 1885 A. DOBSON *Don Quix.* in *Sign of Lyre* 93 To make *Wiseacredom, both high and low, Rub purblind eyes. 1834 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVI. 415 He..then perpends, in a *wiseacreish pause, to consider if they are all to be found. 1898 SAINTSBURY *Corrected Impr.* ii. 12 *Ex post facto* *wiseacre-ishness. 1861 T. L. PEACOCK *Gryll Grange* xxiii, Whist is more consentaneous to modern solemnity: there is more *wiseacre-ism about it. 1917 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Fr. Novel* I. 371 Interrupting his vizier and the other tale-tellers with *wiseacreries.

Wisedam, -dom(e, obs. ff. WISDOM.

Wisehead (wai·zhed). [f. WISE *a.* + HEAD *sb.*] One who has a wise head; always in ironical sense, One who fancies himself wise, a wiseacre.

[1376 *Pell Tax Yorks* 158 in Bardsley *Surnames*, Johannes Wysehede.] 1796 *Monitor* No. 64. II. 123 The wise-heads.. have been a good deal troubled to invent proper subjects for this purpose. 1862 Miss BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxvi, The ——s of the servants' hall. 1873 H. JAMES *Rod. Hudson* III. 94 There were naturally a great many wiseheads who smiled at his precipitancy.

† **Wi·sehede.** *Obs. rare.* In 4–5 wys-. [f. WISE *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD. Cf. OFris. *wîshêd*, Du. *wijsheid*, G. *weisheit*.] Wisdom.

1340 *Ayenb.* 68 Zuyche uolke þet wylleþ him benyme his lhordssip and his wyshede. 1482 CAXTON *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 68 The ouerest wysehede.

Wise-like (wəi·zlaik, *dial.* wəi·s-, wei·zləik), *a.* (*adv.*) *Sc.* and *dial.* [f. WISE *a.* + -LIKE 2.]

1. Reasonable, rational.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiv, It wad hae been lang or my Laddy Margaret..wad has fund out sic a wise-like doctrine in the Bible! 1818 SUSAN FERRIER *Marriage* I. xii, It wad set her better to be carrying a wise-like wean in her arms, than trailing about wi' thae confoonded dougs an' puirits. 1893–4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., That's a wise-like dog o' yors.

2. Becoming, seemly, respectable, proper: esp. in appearance.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 148 Talking..o thrushing ripe rigs wi' the west wind.. may look very wiselike in rhyme. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 123 Make it something

Academy pretty. 1894 *Blackw. Mag.* June 754/1 He was considered by..many ladies of the parish to be a very personable man, comely.., and altogether a wyse-like man.

B. *as adv.* Fittingly, becomingly, respectably.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 325 They ought to hire a chaise, and gang in till Edinburgh wiselike. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* Jan. 109/2 Dinna gang ramstam in, saying, 'Janet, here's meal; and Janet, here's butter';..slip cannily and wiselike in.

Wiseling (wəi·zliŋ). Now *rare.* [f. WISE *a.* + -LING 1 2.] A pretender to wisdom; a wiseacre.

1633 J. DOWN *Hist. Septuagint* 214 These wiselings, that shew themselues fooles in so speaking, and discoursing without Discourse. 1649 J. ELLISTONE tr. *Behmen's Epist.* (1886) 3 Those Luciferian wiselings that thought none could teach them anything. 1765 LAW *Behmen's Myst. Magnum* xxxix. 222 Let Master Sophister or Wiseling of Babel look us right in the Face. 1914 NELLEN & CRAIG tr. *Ossanam's Franciscs. Poets Italy* v. 245 He praises the wisdom which shrinks from the wiselings.

Wisell, var. WISEL, stalk, etc.

† **Wi·sely,** *a. Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 wislic, 3 wislich, 4 *comp.* wislier, 5 wysely, 6 wyseley, 7 wisely. [OE. *wîslîc*: see WISE *a.* and -LY 1.] = WISE *a.* 1.

c900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* II. xiii. (1890) 134 Me þynceð wislic, gif þu geseo þa þing beteran,..þæt we þam onfon. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* I. (1883) 4 Donne is eac wislic ræd, þæt manna zehwyle zeornlice smeage. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28116 Wit wisller þat I was amang Haue i striued oft-althes wrang. 1436 *Libel Engl. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 183 Yf men were wysely, the Frenshmen and Flemmynge Shulde bere no state in see by werrynge. 1596 *J. de Flores' Aurelio & Isab.* E 8, Vnto howre wyseley wordes.

Wisely (wəi·zli), *adv.* Forms: see WISE *a.* and -LY 2; also 5 wisily, vi-, vysilie, 5–6 wys(e)ly, wysilie, 6 wysilye, wislie. [OE. *wîslîce* = OS. *wîslîco*, MLG., MDu. *wîslîk* (Du. *wijselijk*), OHG. *wîsllcho* (MHG. *wîslîche*), ON. *vîslîga* (in the sense of *vissuliga* certainly): f. WISE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a wise manner.

1. With wisdom, sound judgement, or sagacity. Also more widely, with good sense or discretion.

c888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xviii. § 1 Se þe wile wislice & zeornlice after þam hlisan spyrian. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xviii. 131 Dæt he meahte ðæt folc ðy wislicor & ðy redlicor læran. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Þet mon wisliche spene þa þing þe him god lene on þisse liue to brukene. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2199 Þho toc wisliȝ to frahnenn himm whatt itt bitacnenn mihhte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1091 Loth hem warnede, wislike and wel, Oc he ne troweden him neuere a del. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18852 Clerli spak he þat he wald, And al his skil wisell he tald. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 956 He hasteþ wel þat wysly kan a-byde. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 70 Alle þese þingis I haue told, þat he þat redi þem mai þe visiloker [*v. r.* wyslocor] in semblable causis worchen. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1158 Thou ne woste not Ryght wiseliche What harme hathe falle. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxv. 539 See that ye revenge yourself wysly. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 123 Thys I suppose is the chiefe cause whie theyr common wealthes be wyselyere gouerned. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 78 Young men, who thinke, then they speake wiselyest, when they cannot understand themselves. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 344 One that lou'd not wisely, but too well. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 82 *Gon.*..You haue spoken truer then you purpos'd. *Seb.* You haue taken it wiselier then I meant you should. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1023 Doubt not but God Hath wiselier arm'd his vengeful ire then so To be forestall'd. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 63 This method of conveying the vegetable food from the earth to the air, and from the air to the earth, is wisely established, for making a just distribution of it upon all parts of the earth. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* I. 280 Men judge wiselyest, when they judge most charitably. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. v. 85 From a genial, wisely-developed man, good things radiate. 1908 E. PHILLPOTTS *Voice from Dark* xvi. 199 He would have done wiselier to be home before it came.

b. With an air or assumption of wisdom; sagely, knowingly.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, [I asked him .. what religion he kept, wherupon wisely he gaue me to vnderstand that [etc.]. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 22 He..looking on it, with lacke-lustre eye, Sayes, very wisely, it is ten a clocke. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* iv, 'Ah! but there's very few Captain Ferrers about,' said Lassie wisely.

† 2. Attentively, carefully, heedfully. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Inst. Polity* x. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 318 Beþencan hecra dæda wislice & warlice. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 104 þe heorte is wel ilokad ȝif muð & eien & earen wisliche beoð ilokene. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 82 Ha heold hire aldrene hird wisliche & warliche. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 343 I wayted wisloker. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1613 That they be weisely wachede and in warde holdene. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV.

[p. *Lyf Ma*

[l. 98 If

ascende in the forme of a clowd.

† 3. Skilfully, cleverly, ingeniously; cunningly.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 456 Oð ðæt he Adam on eorðrice, þodes handgesceaft ȝearone funde, wislice ȝeworht, & his wif somed. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xx. 13 Þu þe unstilla ȝesceafta to ðinum willan wislice astyrest. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3630 God it taȝte al ear moyseu Wislike hu it wrost sulde ben. 1340 GOWER *Conf.* I. 255 With his wordes slyhe and quainte, The whiche he cowthe wysly peinte. *a* 1450

hives of wisely painfull Bees. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 33 Here comes my Lady: make your excuse wisely, you were best.

Wise man. (Formerly often as one word, or with hyphen; cf. the surname *Wiseman*.)

1. *gen.* A man who is wise; a man of good judgement or discernment; a discreet or prudent man. (Often opposed to *fool*.)

Worldly wiseman: see WORLDLY.

a 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xl. § 3 Forðy ne scyle nan wis mon forhicgan ne to swiðe ymb þæt gnornian, to hwæm his wisa weorðe. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xiii. 116 Ne sceal se wisa mann beon butan godum weorcum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Wel understond uuerich wis mon þis. *c* 1320 *Havelok* 180 Wis man of red, wis man of dede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 46 It myhte make a wisman madd. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 25 Þe wyse man musters hym wid fa wordis & welle stande. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* xxv, 57 There ben more fooles than wysemen. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 207 This marriage seemed very straunge to wise men. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 26, I hope that vyise men vil reput my ignorance for ane meritfeit prudens. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. xiv. § 3. (1622) 130 Wisemen indeed haue euer reputed them, for no better then mad-men. 1702 H. DODWELL *Apol.* § 13 in S. Parker *Cicero's De Finibus*, He took Cato for a perfect Stoick, and for a Wiseman, in the Sense of the Philosophers. 1770 BRIDGES *Burlesque Transl. Homer* II. 96 Old Nestor, .. Who always counted was a Wise-man. 1833 LYNCH *Self-Improvem.* I. 2 He is a wise man who has an instructed mind and a regulated choice. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xix, A fool 'ull hit on't sometimes when a wise man misses.

b. Ironically applied to a fool or simpleton, as in *the wise men of Gotham* (see GOTHAM 1).

[1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 32 Yonge Wyseman othyrwy[s]e callyd Foole.] 1526, *c* 1580 [see GOTHAM 3]. 1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 5 Who like Wise men in the absence of their Captaine followed the Indians. 1721 *Country-Mans Lett. to Curate* 32 It were..too Churlish to grudge those talkers the Character of the only Wisemen of G——.

2. *spec.* a. A man deeply versed in some subject of study, or in studies generally; a learned man, scholar, philosopher, sage. Now *rare* or *arch.*

The seven wise men = the seven sages: see SAGE *sb.*2 1.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 377 Wise men wordum secgað, þæt from Noe nigoða were fæder Abrahames on folctale. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 114 Wis man in þe lawe. 1379 *Gloue. Cath. MS. 19* I. 1. iv. lf. 7 Iff þe will wysman be in demyng of vryn. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 63 Tales Milliesus..þe firste of þe seuene wise men. 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* lii. 6 His philosofris and grete wisemen of clergie. 1588 KYD *Housek. Philos.* Index, Thales one of the seauen wise men of Greece. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* Pref. (1687) a Hermippus in his Treatise of the seven wise Men saith, they were in all seventeen, of which seven were variously named. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Solon*, one of the seven wisemen of Greece. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* ix. § 5 (ed. 3) 240 Periander, who is sometimes ranked among the Seven Wise Men of Greece. 1850 LD. KELVIN in S. P. Thompson *Life* (1910) I. v. 223 The steamer appeared about 4 P.M.—contrary to the expectation of the nautical wise men about the harbour.

b. A man who utters wise sayings or maxims; *esp.* as a title for any of the writers of the Jewish 'Wisdom Literature'.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Þe wise mon [*sc.* Solomon] sakeð in his boc hweðer [etc.]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 221 And wys man sayis he is happy, That be othir will him chasty. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1080 Þus þe wisman sais þerbi. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* ix. (1870) 251 The wyse man sayth, that surfetes do kyll many men. 1587 T. NEWTON *Herbal for Bible* I. 274 So doth the Wiseman [*margt.* Eccle. I. 24] vse it, whereby he promiseth felicitie..to him that..embraceth Wisedom. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. P 3 There is no new thing vnder the Sunne, saith the wiseman. 1649 WILKINS *Beauty Provid.* 90 Like snow in Harvest (as the Wiseman speaks). 1658 *Gentl. Calling* v. § 13 The wise-man hath assured us this, Prov. 22. 4. Riches profit not in the day of wrath. *c* 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 153 Yet you pursue sage Solomon's advice,..But, with the wiseman's leave, I must protest. *c* 1730 *New Whole Duty of Man* viii, The threatening of the Wise-man, who..declares, that the eye that mocketh his father,..the ravens of the valley shall pick it out.

† c. One of a body of men chosen for their sagacity as advisers in matters of state; a councillor. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

By 16th–18th century historians used in pl. to render WITAN.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2649 Þe king wið-stod & an wisman, He seida, 'Se child doð als he can'. 1488 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 169 That euerychs of thes contreys doo send..serten wysemen w^t full auctoryte..for to coomen..w^t the Gauntenarse. 1500 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) p. xx, This yere wer chosen be wise men of the cite, XXXIV men, .. sworne to mayntene the Assisis. 1592 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 256 All the Acts are said to passe from the King, and his Wise-men both of the Clergie and Laitie. 1648 PRYNNE *Plea for Lords* 3 Lordes and Peeres; anciently stiled Aldermen, Heretockes, Senators, Wisemen,..by our Historians. 1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Pref. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 18 King Alfred..with the Thought, i. e. Advice of his Wisemen, or Parliament.

3. A man versed or skilled in hidden arts, as magic, witchcraft, and the like; a magician, wizard; *spec.* applied in biblical versions and allusions to the three Oriental astrologers or Magi (see MAGUS 2) who came to worship the infant Jesus. In general sense now *dial.* or *vulgar* (cf. WISE WOMAN 1).

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* ii. 1 When Jhesus was born in Bethlem ..loo! kyngis, or wijs men [1388 astronomyens; Vulg. *Magi*], camen fro the eest. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincs.* v. (1562) 100 b, Whan we be in trouble, or sickues, or lese any thing: we runne hither and thither to wyzzardes, or sorcerers, whome we call wyse men. 1561 T. WYTHERS tr. *Calvin's Treat. Relics* G iv b, Y^e wysemen which came to worshipe our lord Iesus after his natiuitie. 1573 TWYNE *Æneid., Lyfe Virgil* A 3, That he was at the first conenaunt seruaunt w^t a trauellinge wyseman. 1595 PEELE *Old Wives T.* (facs.) C 1 b, I pray you tell where the wise man the Cousiuer dwells? 1612 COTTA *Discov. Dang. Pract. Phys.* I. ix. 31 A sort of practitioners, whom our customs..doth call wisemen and wisewomen, reputed a kind of good .. harmles witches or

wisards, who by good words..promise to allay..diseases, practises of other witches, and the forces of many diseases. 1731 *Flying Post* 29 Apr. 2/1 George Rannaforth, ..a reputed Conjurer, or (as the Country People call him) a Wise Man. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 39 The wise man lives nit far frae this,..He telt Nan Dobson whee she'd wed. 1839 [see MAGUS 2].

Wisen, obs. form of WIZEN *v.*

Wiseness (wəi·znės). *rare.* [f. WISE *a.* + -NESS. Cf. OE. *unwīsnes.*] The quality of being wise; wisdom; occas. *ironical.*

c 1300 *Cast. Love* 892 To vchone sunderlyng He 3af a dole of..his wysenesse. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. vi. (Skeat) I. 119 For his goodnesse and wysenesse wolt thou nat do him worship? 1579 E. K. *Ded. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* ¶ 2 His morall ——— 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 286 Yet haue I something in me dangerous, Which let thy wiseneese feare. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. ii. Your wives wonderful wiseness. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* VII. viii, Which is a wiseness that does honour to her education. 1820 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 629 This chilly, doubting, qualifying *wiseness.* 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 8 June 702/2 This report..is full of touches that illustrate his wiseness.

¶ *Right wiseness*, erron. division of *rightwiseness*, RIGHTEOUSNESS.

1447 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 134 Of your grete right wiseneese and speciall grace. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 49 Come to this byleve by doynge of werkes of ryght wyseneo. 15.., *New Nothbrowne Mayd* 172 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 8 By ryght wysenes. 1638 *Dial. on Lawes of Eng.* I. xv. 86 b, Truth in his word, & right wisenes in his deed.

Wisent (wi·zĕnt). *Antiq.* [a. G. *wisent* (OHG. *wisunt*): see BISON.] The aurochs.

1866 J. E. LEE tr. *F. Keller's Lake Dwellings* 356 The urus..as well as the bison (or wisent)..are found to have been the most abundant animals in the forests of the stone age. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* iii. 152. 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 32 The true, or European, bison..also known as the wisent or zubr.

Wise woman. (For the general sense 'a woman who is wise' see WISE *a.* 1.)

1. A woman skilled in magic or hidden arts; a female magician, soothsayer, etc.; a witch, sorceress; *esp.* a harmless or beneficent one, who deals in charms against disease, misfortune, or malignant witchcraft. Now *dial.* or *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* xiv. 2 Joab..sente to Thekuam, and took thens a wise womman. 1552 HULOET, Wise woman that telleth fortune. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. v. 97 Was't not the Wise-woman of Brainford? 1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* v. vi. (Roxb.) 74, I haue haunted a wise woman of our Parish in Maldon, hath taught mee the spell of eury each of them. 1612 [see WISEMAN 3]. 1633 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. vii. § 8 (1712) 107 The help and skill of the Witch or Wise-woman. 1888 HONE *Table Bk.* II. 777 An old woman..who was..accounted a wise woman, and a practiser of the 'art that none may name'. 1875 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Folk-lore* (1883) 146, I asked him if Mrs. P—— was a witch? He answered, she was a wise woman, and only used her knowledge to stop others doing wrong. 1885 A. H. BULLEN in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* I. 112/2 In his extremity he sought the assistance of a wisewoman, Alison Pearson, who treated him so successfully that he completely recovered. His enemies ascribed his cure to witchcraft.

2. A midwife (= F. *sage-femme*): cf. SAGE *a.* 2 b.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiv, O, what, you have got the wise woman, then?' said Varney.

Wish (wiʃ), *sb.*[1] [f. WISH *v.*, q.v. for forms.]

1. An instance of wishing; a feeling in the mind directed towards something which one believes would give satisfaction if attained, possessed, or realized. (With const. as in WISH *v.* 1 (*b*), (*c*), (*d*).)

1 Most commonly denoting a desire for something not attainable by one's own effort, felt in the mind but not impelling to action; a passive or inactive desire.

The ordinary word for this affection of the mind; less emphatic than *craving, longing*, or *yearning*, but including these as particular cases.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 254 Bot if mi wisshes myhte availe, I wolde it were a groundles pet. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Wusche, or wuschynge, *exoptacio.* *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Prais of Age* 6 My wys Of al þis warld to mak me lord & kyng. 1830 PALSGR. 289/2 Wysshe desyre, *souhait.* 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 62 As one relying on your Lordships will, And not depending on his friendly wish. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 93 Thy wish was Father (Harry) to that thought. 1600 DEKKER *Old Fortunatus* D 2 b, This Hat..clapt vpon my head, I (onely with a wish) am through the ayre, Transported in a moment ouer Seas. 1648 FAIRFAWE *Il Pastor Fido* II. iv. 64 Fortune beyond my wish hath favoured me. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm., Prov. xiv.* 6 (1726) I. 191 He comes with strong Wishes that he may find it all a Mistake. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 74 Their sober wishes never learn'd to stray. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 178 P 12 The whole world is put in motion by the wish for riches, and the dread of poverty. 1814 SCOTT *Betrothed* v, Form but a wish for her advantage, and it shall be fulfilled. 1830 TENNYSON *In Mem.* LV. 2 The wish, that of the living whole No life may fall beyond the grave. *Ibid.* XC. 24, I find not yet one lonely thought That cries against my wish for thee. 1892 G. C. LEWIS *Lett.* (1870) 223 He..has no wish to be a Church dignitary. 1876 MOBLEY *Univ. Serm.* xi. 213 The power of prayer..is..the power of strong wishes.

Proverbs. 1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 50 If (as the Proverb is) wishes were Thrushes, we might all eat Birds. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 157 If wishes would bide, beggers would ride. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 178 If Wishes were Horses, Beggars would ride. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 89 He had a saying: Two wishes make a will.

†b. in generalized use: Desire. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 62 Pride..ȝeuep but woo & wysche to wage. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm., Matt. xxvii.* 46 (1717) VI. 416 Prayer..was never designed to supply the room of Watchfulness, or to make Wish instead of Endeavour.

c. In phrases with prepositions. † *With* or *upon one's wish* or *wishes*, † *at wish*, according to one's wish, just as one wishes; in readiness for one as one wishes, at one's disposal (= *at will*, WILL *sb.*[1] 15 b, c). † *At high wish*, at the height of the fulfilment of one's wishes. *To* (*one's*) *wish* (rarely *wishes*), as one wishes; *esp.* to the full extent of one's desire, as much as one wishes. (Now *rare* or *Obs.*) *To a wish* (Sc.), † *till a wish*, just as one would wish, perfectly, exactly.

13 . *Cursor M.* 23412 All þat wit-standand þe es Thoru sal þou thril it wit þi wiss [*Gött.* Thoru sal þou thril wid þi suiftnes]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 330, I have ben ofte moeved so, That with my wisshes if I myhte,..I hadde storven in a day. *Ibid.* II. 39 He ne wol no travail take To ryde for his ladi sake, Bot liveth al upon his wisshes. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 847 All thus thir hathillis in hall heirly remanit, With all welthis at wiss. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* ix. 37 Well syttyng on horsbacke, and tyl a wysshe wel shapen of alle membres. *a* 1542 WYATT *Poems*, 'Unstable Dream' 13 Where it was at wysshe it could not remain. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 40 Though a child haue all the giftes of nature at wishe. 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 144 [He] to his wishe, of pilottes made his choise. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 271 He comes vpon a wish. 1607 — *Timon* IV. iii. 245 The one is filling still, neuer compleat; The other, at high wish. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 423 When to his wish, Beyond his hope, Eve separate he spies. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 153 Though the relief of Banbury succeeded to wish, yet the King paid dear for it soon after. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 56 The people, who assisted us so opportunely, were rewarded to their wish. 1787 [J. BEATTIE] *Scoticisms* 106 Every thing succeeds to a wish. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XV. lxviii, A dish Of which perhaps the cookery rather varies, So every one may dress it to his wish.

2. A desire expressed in words, or the expression of such; sometimes nearly = 'request': = DESIRE *sb.* 4. (Cf. WISH *v.* 3–5.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Ix. 31 The wyssis and avowis.. By wemen and the matronys doublit were. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiv. 264 He sayd 'I wyssbe them here on this table'. He had no sooner made his wysshe but they were set on the table. 1598 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 443 My opinioun and wis was, ther sould be na generall meittings. 1714 POPE *Let. to Jervas* 27 Aug., I admire your whig principles of resistance exceedingly, in the spirit of the Barcelonians; I join in your wish for them. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 27 One supplication, one desire, one hope, That he would grant a wish for his two sons. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* XXVI. 339 At Anthony's wish she wore the Cuthbert diamonds.

b. *spec.* An expression of desire for another's welfare: often as a farewell greeting. Usually, now always, in *pl.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 94 Take from my mouth, the wish of happy yeares. 1602 — *All's Well* I. i. 68 Maddam I desire your holie wishes. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* Ep. Ded., With my best wishes for the perpetuity of your..felicity. 1735 POPE *Let.* Sept., Wks. 1741 II. 248 Pray tell him my best wishes for his health and long life. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXV. 177 We quitted Chamouni, bearing with us the good wishes of a portion of its inhabitants. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* V, I know nothing about it, Tom,..but you have my best wishes.

c. An imprecation, a malediction. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 91 Blister'd be thy tongue For such a wish, he was not borne to shame. 1594 — *Rich. III*, IV. i. 72 This was my Wish: Be thou (quoth I) accurst. 1820 *Blarmaiden of Clyde* x. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 423, I flang the renyie on his neck With a wiss that sould nae been. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., 'He took a many wishes', was an expression used by a witness in the Sessions Court at Northampton.

3. *transf.* An object of desire; what one wishes or wishes for: = DESIRE *sb.* 5.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20406 Þai þat stad er in þair blis, Wit-vten want has alle þair wis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xvii. [xiii.] (1919) 97 Þat faire lady schal ȝeuen him..the first wyasche þat he wil wysche of erthely thinges. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 93 *Sil.* What's your will? *Pro.* That I may compasse yours. *Sil.* You haue your wish. 1612 — *Cymb.* III. v. 20 Your valiant Britaines haue their wishes in it. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 451 Thy fit help, thy other self, Thy wish, exactly to thy hearts desire. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* IV. iii. So My joy | my best belov'd | my only wish! [1762 FOOTE *Lyar* I. ii. (1786) 15 Surely, the wish of every decent woman is to be unnotic'd in public. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 566 The wish of the government was that he should be executed in England.]

4. *Comb.*: **wish-bone** = MERRYTHOUGHT (q.v. for reason of the name); **wish-wife** [after ON. *óskmær* (see WISHMAY)], a light woman.

1880 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Wish-Bone. 1884 ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* VI, If I bring you a canvas-back [duck], Amy, will you put the wish-bone over the door? 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* I. 227 Her wouldst thou profane as though she were some *wish-wife.

Wish (wiʃ), *sb.*[2] *local* (now *Sussex*). [OE. *wisc*, corresp. to OLG. *wisc* (in place-names), (M)LG. *wisch(e, wisk(e*, repr. OTeut. **wiskō-*, f. *wais-*: *wīs-*, whence OE. *wæs* OOZE, G. *wiese* meadow.] A piece of meadow, now of marshy meadow; a piece of flat ground lying in the bend of a river and thus liable to be flooded.

898 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* II. 219 Concedo..terram..in loco qui dicitur Fearnleax & in mician wisce vi mooras mpde. *c* 1150 in Kemble *Cod. Dip.* III. 175 To stucan wisc æt ðmoe þer Bk. *Battle Abbey* in *Trans.* [unwyssh..Hodis- *a* 1600 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* (1850) IV. 306 ne note how ye Drinker doeth faule to every yard wishe in the parishe of Kingston nigh Lewis, at ye time of trading of ye wishe. 1652 *Ibid.* (1870) XXIV. 282 Lands settled vpon her by the name of Marshland, called Castle Wish als Colbrands lying within the parish of Westham. 1696–7 *Ibid.* (1849) II. 121 Y^e two acres croppe in ye Northwish. 1850 *Ibid.* IV. 305 In both these parishes [*sc.* Lewes and Southease] were particular brooks [*i.e.* marshes] called Wishes, and in each also there was a small piece of brookland called the Drinker. 1857 *Ibid.* IX. 156 'The Wish' in East Bourn, close to the sea.

Wish, *a.* (*dial.*): see WISHT.

Wish (wiʃ), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wished** (wiʃt). Forms: *a.* 1 **wyscan**, **wiscan**, 3–5 **wusshe**, 4–5 **wysche**, (7 *Sc.*) **wische**, 4–6 **wisshe**, 5–6 **wys(s)he**, (3 **wusse**, **wisse**, 4 **wussche**, **whusshe**, **wiohe**, **wesche**, **wesse**, 5 **wusche**, **wissshe**, **wosshe**, **weesshe**, 6 **wys(s)h**, **wishe**, **whysshe**, **wyssshe**), 6– **wish**. *β. Sc.* (and *north.*) 4–6 **wisse**, **wis**, 4–9 **wiss**, 6 **wys(s**, **whiss**, 6–7 **viss**, 7 **woesse**, 9 **wuss**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wysote**, **wiscte**, 5 **wyst**, **weste**, 6 (9) **wisht**; 3 **wissede**, etc., 4–6 **wished**, 5–6 *Sc.* **wissit**, etc., 6– **wished**. *Pa. pple.* 3 **iwist**, 6 **wyaht**, 6–8 **wisht**; 4–6 **wisshed**, etc., 6– **wished**. [OE. *wýscan* = OHG. *wunsken* (MHG., G. *wünschen*), ON. *æskja* (MSw. *ysk(i)a*, Sw. *önska*, Da. *ønske*): — OTeut. **wunskjan*, f. **wunska-*, *-skē-* (represented by OE. *wúsc*, OHG. *wunsc*, MHG., G. *wunsch*, ON. *ósk*); cf. Skr. *vāñchā* f. — **wānshā-*: f. base *wen-* to hold dear, love, desire, whence also WINE *sb.*[2], WIN *sb.*[2], WEEN *sb.* and *v.*, WONE.

Another form of the stem appears in (M)Du. *wensch*: see WINEE[1].]

1. *trans.* To have or feel a wish for; to desire.

The ordinary word for this; now always less emphatic than the synonyms *covet, crave, long (for), yearn (for)*; in earlier use occas. in the sense of these. Sometimes softened by *could* or *should* (*would*): cf. CAN *v.*[1] 7, SHALL *v.* 19 c, WILL *v.*[2] 40 b; or strengthened before a dependent clause (*b, c*) by such phrases as *to God, to goodness, to heaven.*

(*a*) with simple obj. (in OE. usually in the genitive). Now *dial.*; superseded in standard English by *wish for* (see 2), or colloq. in certain contexts by *want* (WANT *v.* 5).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* I. 29 Ne cunnȣ he ðæt forðyðe he ænegum men ðæs wyscte oððe wilnode. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 103 [Hie] his tocymes wyscton. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 594 Ic sceal his rode sigor swiþor wiscan ðonne ondrædan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 Þe sune wusshe ðe fader deaþ, ar his dai cume. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 14 Oft⁊ haf I wayted wyschande þat wele. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1413 Sum wald haiff had Boyd at the suerdis lenth; Sum wyst [*ed.* 1570 wissit] Lundy. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiii. 496 Now have I that I desired and wysshed soo longe. *a* 1520 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 3 [He] wantis nocht in warld, that he wald wis. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 9 Thy nychtbouris wyfe..Thow couet not to the, nor wis His hors, his oxe, [etc.] 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 116 Causing you thinke the night long and wish the daylight. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 54, I would not wish Any Companion in the world but you. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 159 Not as wishing liberty of private revenges. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. lxxxiii. 305, I charge you,..as you wish my peace, not to say any-thing of a letter you have from me. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, 'Wussing your health, sire,' said the shepherd. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. ii. 40 You know My zeal for all you wish, sweet Beatrice. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. i, Would you wish a little more hot water, ma'am? 1902 W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xxix. 144 [The maid] flew into a rage, and wanted to know if I wished a month's notice.

(*b*) with obj. clause with *may* or (formerly) pres. subj., occas. indic.: expressing a desire that the event may happen or that the fact may prove to be so, and often implying some want of confidence or fear of the opposite (now commonly expressed by *hope*: see HOPE *v.* 3 b). Also expressing a request (see 5).

a 1000 *Deor* 23 Secg monig..wyscte ȝeneahhe þæt þæs cynerices ofercumen wære. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xvii. 18 Ic wisce þæt Ismahel lybbeætforan ðe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* —— (1912) [illegible] token of misfortune. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 41, I wish all good befortune you. 1649 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1852) V. 381, I heartellie wounse that anie that lowes religione .. keepe themselwes free of anie accessione .. to swche whhape men. 1661 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 86, I wish I suffer no prejudice by it. 1692 SHADWELL *Scowrers* IV, I wish the house is not robb'd. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* II. i, He say's he's a Conjurer, but he looks very suspicious; I wish he ben't a Jesuit. 1736 *Monitor* No. 33. I. 325 He is certainly bewitched: I wish the old hag upon the green has done him no mischief. 1808 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) II. 6 She hears that Miss Bigg is to be married in a fortnight. I wish it may be so. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* XXI, I wish we have not got King Stork, instead of King Log. 1860 EMILY EDEN *Semi-attached Couple* XII, Mrs. Tomkinson wished to goodness there might soon be..'a little staying company' in the house. 1872 GEO. ELIOT in J. W. Cross *Life* (1885) III. 157, I wish that you may happen to know her.

(*c*) with obj. clause with past subj. (or indic., e.g. *was* for *were*): expressing an unrealised or unrealizable desire (see also WILL *v.*[1] 46), or in mod. use sometimes a mild request (cf. 5).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Hie..wyscaþ þæt hie næfre næron acennede from fæder ne from meder. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* XXIII. 29 Ic wiscte ðæt hi wiston & understoden..hyra ende [Vulg. *utinam saperent*]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Hi wissaþ þet hi hedden nykken of crane and wombe of ebu. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* V. 92 Penne I wysshe hit were myn. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 753 *Thisbe*, Thys wall they woldyn

thrste And wynne to god hyt were doun ybete. 1456 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 22 Wherfore I wyst fulle herely dyuerse tymes þat ȝe hadde ben here. *a* 1582 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1825) II. 40 Therfor my frayltie I may both curse an. Whisnyng to God I had never known man. 1879 ——— 31, I wish my wish were as effectually sealed as it is heartely looked for. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. v. 26 That which rather thou do'st feare to doe, Then wishest should be vndone. 1624 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 413. I could wish that Mr. Lisle would take some paine in translating the Saxon Annals into our English Tongue. 1681 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 133, I haiue gotten a teach vpon me that I wisch from my hart it was well of my handes to your satisfaction. 1711 I could wish [see CAN *v.* 7]. 1817 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 25 Mar., Heigh ho! I wish I was drunk—but I have nothing but this damned barley-water before me. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen, New Year's Eve* iv, I wish the snow would melt...I long to see a flower so. 1885 'F. ANSTEY' *Vice Versâ* II. 84, 'I wish to heaven I did,' cried the manager. 1890 [see GODDESS 3].

(*d*) with inf. as obj. (usually, now always, with *to*).

Occas. with admixture of the idea of intention or request for permission (cf. 5), as 'I wish to say a few words'.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1060 He wisten him bergen fro ße dead. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 149 Sche wissheth forto ben unbore. *c* 1450 *Merlin* VII. 113 So that the moste hardy of hem.. abolde wiessbe to be at home in his owne contree. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 33, I wissitt to be The grytast erle, or duik, in France. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 17 Wyn now to fle vp to the starnis on hycht. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Jonah iv. 8 Ionah fainted, and wished in his heart to dye. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 123, I neuer wish'd to see you sorry, now I trust I shall. 1630 MILTON *On Shakespear* 16 Kings for such a Tomb would wish to die. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 83/2 Any body that wishes to see him may. 1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* XXV, I wish to talk to you. 1876 MORLEY *Univ. Serm.* xi. 213 If men really wish to be good, they will become good. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 305/2 If she wished to be sure of her income she should of all things avoid dabbling in the shares of new companies.

(*e*) with acc. and inf., or in pass. with inf. (usually, now always, with *to*).

Sometimes expressing a request: see 5 b.

1338 STARKEY *England* II. i. (1878) 176 Aftur a maner..the wych I wold wysch to be put in vse wyth vs. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XV. 39 Away I went,..Wissing all luvaris leill to haif sic chance. †1567 [M. PARKER] *Whole Psalter* CX. vii, Pursued to death, and wysht to sinke. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* X, I rather wish thee climbe the Muses hill. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 138 If you can pace your wisdome, In that good path that I would wish it go. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 406, I love the Presbyterians so well as not to wish them renounce their reason. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xix. 130 [He said that] every man who saw me must wish me to be his. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* XV, Nero..wished Junia Silana and Calvia Crispinilla to be of the party.

(*f*) with obj. and compl. (sb., adj., pple., advb. phrase): now chiefly in imprecations or the like.

14.. *How Plowman learned Paternoster* 152 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 215 He wysshed them at the devyll therfore. 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 22, I thank you hertely þat hyt pleasyd you to wyshe me with you. *c* 1550 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2306, I se well there is no better rede, But sygh, and sorowe, and wyshe my selfe dede. 1552 TINDALE *Exp. Matt. v–vii* vii. (T 1550) 88 b, Who is so wel beloued..but that ther be ynow..that woulde, for hys good, wishe him to hel? *a* 1553 [see WISH *sb.*[1] 2]. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 70, I wyshed my selfe heere. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 14 Wish me partaker in thy happinesse, When thou do'st meet good hap. 1605 — *Mach.* V. viii. 49 Had I as many Sonnes, as I haue haires, I would not wish them to a fairer death. 1621 [see FURTHER *adv.* 4 b]. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 27 P 2 We every day wish ourselves disengaged from its allurements. 1784 RAMSAY *Vision* ix, Mallpayers wiss it to the devil. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* XXXVII, We all wish her extremely happy. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* VII. 364 Perch that were wish'd to salmon for her sake. 1823 LAMB *Let. to Southey* 21 Nov., I wished both magazine and review at the bottom of the sea. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXII, Let us remember James by name, and wish him happy. 1901 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* XI, She could only move uneasily on her seat, and wish him miles away.

(*g*) after *as* or *than*: often *ellipt.* (so also with rel.) for various constructions, esp. (*c*), (*d*), (*e*).

1503 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxiv. 83/1 The aduentures of amours and of war, are more fortunate and marueilous, than any man canne thynke or wyshe. 1530 PALSGR. 783/2, I am as well nowe, I thanke God, as I coulde wysshe. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Ps. LXXIII. 7 They haue more then heart can wish. 1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 227 He..goes off as like a Town Spark as you would wish. 1730 GRAY *Elegy* Ep. 8 He gain'd from Heav'n ('twas all he wish'd) a friend. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* I, Nothing had come just as she had wished. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* XIII, You should do just what your grandfather wishes.

(*h*) in passive: esp. in predicative phr. *to be wished* = desirable.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. ix, It is to be wished, that they, whiche..haue any autoritie, maye be like to the lawes, whiche in correctynge be ladde only by equitie. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Ded., More to be wished and much more durable. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 64 'Tis a consummation Deuoutly to be wish'd. 1697 DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 232 'Twere to be wish'd our Gentry were so much Lovers of Learning, that Birth might always be join'd with Capacity. 1788 CLARA REEVE *Exiles* II. 124 At length the day so long wished and expected came. 1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 2 June 568/1 The returns from the Cheltenham district were not so complete as might be wished. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/1 The first venture..was not, perhaps, as successful as could have been wished.

†b. *fig.* of a thing: To 'require'. = DESIRE *v.* 3.

1600 ABBOT *Jonah* 499, I do not find that expositors speake so fully to the matter of this wind, as me seemeth this text doth wish.

2. *intr.* To have or feel a wish; in early use often, to long, yearn. a. with *after* (obs.), *for*: = 1 (*a*); also *indir. pass.* = 1 (*b*).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men..wisten ȝerne after ure lauerd ihesu cristes tocume. *Ibid.* 135 Þu hauest longe iwist after strenes, and god hauest herd þine bede. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23348 (Edinb.) Ilk man sal haf til his, Al þat he wil efter wis. 1482 CAXTON *Myrr.* 107 The deth wold they haue and wesshe after it incessantly. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* XXVII. 29 They cast iiij. ancres out of the sterne: and wysshed for the daye. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 69 By so much the more you are welcome, by how much the more you were wished for. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 163, I can only wish for more worthiness. 1757 ELIZ. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 84, I wished for you..in vain all night, the life-long night. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-hs.* ii, Having nothing to do and nothing to wish for, she naturally imagined she must be very ill. 1867 SPEDDING *Publ. & Authors* 75 Buy the volumes as they come out, if you wish for them.

b. *absol.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 50 Better to haue then wishe. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XII. 185 Than war I fane, bot all in vane, To wis and will nocht be. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 228 Quha can wise aboue thir thrie? 1621 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 218 If your selfe,.. Did euer, in so true a flame of liking, Wish chastly, and loue dearely. 1890 MISS MULOCK *Olive* XXI, It had been one of her childish superstitions always 'to wish at the new moon'. 1904 W. W. JACOBS *Dialstone Lane* iii. 37, 'I could see it at any time I wished,' she said sharply. 'Well, wish now', entreated Mr. Tredgold.

c. *trans.* with cognate obj.

c 1400 [see WISH *sb.*[1] 3]. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i, 179 Thy own wish wish I thee, in euery place. 1849 MRS. GASKELL *Lizzie Leigh*, etc. (1913) 426 Wishing all manner of idle wishes. 1924 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xi, If you wish a wish and then feel in my pocket, old lady, you may find something.

3. *trans.* To express a wish for; to say that one wishes ... (with various const. as in 1); *spec.* to imprecate, invoke (an evil or curse).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 308 Alexander ße wiscte: 'Eala ȝif ðu were hund l' 1476 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 149, I wysshed to hym that he and I hadde been at Norwyche. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 Than he cryeth out and wyssheth that he neuer had had eyes to se. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Job XXXI. 30 Nether haue I suffred my mouth to sinne, by wishing a curse vnto his soule. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 218 If Heauen haue any grieuous plague in store, Exceeding those that I can wish vpon thee. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. i. 221 He was consumed by such a disease as he had wished upon himself. 1725 ATTERBURY *Serm., Matt. xxvii. 25* (1734) I. 134 The profane Folly..of wishing that Damnation to ourselves, which we otherways but too well deserve. 1784 RAMSAY *Vision* XXVII, He.. wischt I happyness micht bruke. 1788 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 72 She was sencseable to the last..often wished she might be like her..D[ea]r Grandmother.

4. *spec.* (with *to* or simple object) To desire (something, usually good) for or on behalf of a person, etc.: esp. in formulæ of greeting or expressions of goodwill; hence as in 3, to express such a wish for, esp. as a formal greeting:

e.g. *to wish* (*one*) *good morning, good-bye* (= BID *v.*[1] 9), *a merry Christmas, a happy New Year, many happy returns of the day* (see RETURN *sb.* 8 b), etc.; also intr. in *to wish* (*one*) *well* (see WELL *adv.* 2 d), and intr. or trans. (usually with neg.) in *to wish* (*one*) *ill* (where *ill* may be taken as adv. or sb.). *To wish* (*one*) *joy of*: see JOY *sb.* 9 d.

c 900 *Læws Ælfred* Introd. xlix. § 3 Da apostolas & þa eldran bröðor hælo eow wyscað. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 406, I bidde wisshe yow no more sorwe. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 308 Per ne is syk ne sory..þat he ne may.. bope wusshen and wylnen Alle manere of men mercy and for-zeuenesse. 1516 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 30 Not to thintent he schulde have hys parte off thys intolerable troble.., for I wolde not wysche itt to a dogge. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* CXXIX. 8 We wish you good lucke in the name of the Lorde. — *Job* XXXI. 30, I neuer suffred my mouth to do soch a sinne, as to wysh him euell. 1552 HULOET, Wyshe ille to any thinge, *faxino*. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 97, I would neither wish thee a greater plague, nor him a deadlyer poyson. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 72, I will not wish vnto you..to be rimed to death. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* X. (S.T.S.) II. 359 To salute thame baith, wisse thame gude morne. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* V. i. 215 Let griefe and sorrow still embrace his heart, That doth not wish you ioy. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL *Shakes. Wks.* To Rdrs., And such Readers we wish him. *c* 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* I. 39 They wished the Swedes Success. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* X, I wish Jane Fairfax very well; but she tires me to death. 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw.* VII, I have been prayed for, and wished well to, in your congregations. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 343/2 [He] wished the officials good night, and left the room.

b. To desire, or express a desire for, the welfare or misfortune of (a person); only in *evil wished*, ILL-WISH *v.*, WELL-WISHED.

1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 325 All three were so euill wished in the Common wealth, that the least euilll which they would them..was but death. 1604 BODLEY in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 48, I leave you both as well wished, as if you were to enjoy the best wishes bestowed this new year's day in England.

5. In expressions of desire for something to be done by another, thus conveying a request; hence, to request, entreat; formerly sometimes, to bid, command: a. a thing or action (with various const. as in 1): cf. DESIRE *v.* 5.

c 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* LXXXIII. 259 He came to Huon & wyshyd ye lettres fro all there fare [orig. *souhaitte lesqz lettres de leurs amitiez*]. 1583 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 98 To wishe of God to purge ours harted from all filthines and vngodlie dealinge. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. (S.T.S.) II. 256, I wisse rather .. that in hope of harnes he take Margaret rather than Magdalen for his bedfallow. 1596 BACON *Max. Com. Law* IX. (1636) 36 The Statute of 27. H. 8. of uses, that wisheth that the *cestui que use* shall have the possession in quality and degree as hee had the use. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1414 Brethren farewel, your company along I will not wish. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 278 To confer with lord Digby, who..should find the best way to make the earl of Antrim to communicate the affair to him, and to wish his assistance. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* XIV, Whatever we wished done was done with great civility and readiness. 1878 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 429, I wish that you would tell me about his death.

b. a person *to do* something: cf. DESIRE *v.* 6.

1583 STOCKES *Cit. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 55 [The] Captaine ..wished them quietly departe, without that liked to be saluted with Cannon shotte. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* V. i. 79 *Duk.* You were not bid to speake. *Luc.* No,..Nor wish'd to hold my peace. 1604 DEKKER & MIDDLETON *Honest Wh.* I. C 2 b, Hie to the Constable, And in all caime order wish him to attach them. 1716 SWIFT *Poems, Phyllis* 35 The Groom was wish'd to saddle Crop. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. i, Would you wish the gentleman to be shewn in, ma'am? 1869 RUSKIN *Two Paths* I. § 35 There is another thing I wish you to notice specially in these statues.

†c. To invite, 'bid' (a person to a place). *Obs. rare.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* LXXXIII. 259 He..causyd them to syt downe at his owne table that he had wyshyd thether [orig. *fut fait venir*].

6. To recommend (a person) *to* another, or *to* a place, etc. *Obs.* or *dial.*

orig. prob. belonging to WIS *v.*[1] 2, to direct.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 113 If I can by any meanes light on a fit man to teach her that wherein she delights, I will wish him to her father. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, I was wish'd to your worship, by a gentleman,..That say's you know mens planets. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Mid-n.* IV. i, He sayes he was wisht to [a] very wealthy Widdow, but of you he has heard much Histories, that he will marry you. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* I. xvi. 196 Now I have been wished to several fine women, but my fancy gives the preference to you. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid. Lot.* XXIII, She passed that interval of time in the lodging of a woman, an acquaintance of that person who had wished her to that place. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3) s. v., Can you wish me to a customer?

7. To influence in a magical or occult way by wishing; to bewitch by a desire or imprecation. *dial.*

1828 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* VII, We mun get him away from his mother. He cannot die while she's wishing him. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* VI. 134 When he hears that he has been 'wished,' he..takes to his bed at once.

¶ *I wish*, corrupt form of *iwis*: see WIS *v.*[2]

Wish, var. WIS *v.*[1] *Obs.*

Wishable (wi·ʃăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. WISH *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be wished for; desirable.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* IV. 20–24 The glad & wishable tidynges of saluacion. 1612 COTGR., *Souhaitable*, ..wishable, desirable. 1903 W. A. ELLIS *R. Wagner to M. Wesendonck* 165 Wisdom is so excellent and wishable.

Wishe, obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.*; obs. f. WISH.

Wished (wi·ʃt, *post. also* wi·ʃĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. WISH *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. That is the object of a wish; desired, longed-for. Now *rare* exc. as in b.

13.. *Fichle Estate of Our Vncertayn Lyfe* (MS. Rawl. poet. 112, lf. 10 b), What if a day or A moneth or a yeare Crowne thy delightes with a thowsand wisht contentinges? 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphred.* etc. P iv b, So friendly Venus is, so friendly Cupid was, That fancie brought hir soone, vnto my wished passe. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* C ciij, My wished friend, and welcoonde guest. 1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, We touch the shore Of wisht revenge. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 208 While Night Invests the Sea, and wished Morn delayes. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. lxii. 221 At length..every thing is in the wished train. 1812 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 17 Oh! why so late thy wish'd return? 1818 CARY *Dante, Par.* XXIII. 4 The bird..With her sweet brood; impatient to descry Their wished looks. 1906 CHARL. MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* XXVII, Psyche..held out her hand in token of a wished farewell.

b. with *for*: cf. WISH *v.* 2 a.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 1 The wished-for newes of peace. 1795 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv, When wished-for pleasures rise like morning light. 1822 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xiv, Yet is she free—the spoiler's wish'd-for prey! 1888 BURTON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. i. 32 [They] declared their inability to render America the wished for assistance.

2. Entertained as a wish: cf. WISH *v.* 2 c. *rare.*

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 467 Hauing thus made ech other priuie to our wished desires.

Wishedly (wi·ʃĕdli), *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WISHED *ppl. a.* + -LY[2].] As is or was wished; according to desire.

1573 TWYNE *Æneid.* X. E e 3, Like as wishedly when winds in sommer season blowe. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 620 What could have happened vnto him more wishedly? 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* V. 174 Sir George Somers..most wishedly and happily descried land. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* IV. G 4 b, Of all my friends to me Most wishedly, you are welcome.

Wisher (wi·ʃəɹ). Now *rare.* [f. WISH *v.* + -ER[1].] One who wishes.

† *Wishers and woulders*: see WOULDER.

13.. *Parl. Byrdes* 91 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 171 Wyshers want wyll. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 23 Many times he wished himself the back of an Asse,..(an vnfortunate wisher, for if he had as well wished the head, it had bene graunted him). 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xv. 37 Wishers were euer Fooles. 1670 RACHARD *Const. Clergy* To Rdr., I am..only an honest and hearty wisher, that the best of our clergy might forever continue as they are. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. i, The safest way..to take off the

force of the wish, is..to..wish the wisher something in return. 1846 Denham *Prov.* (Percy Soc.) 32 A March wisher is never a good fisher. 1905 Flor. Maybrick *My Fifteen Lost Yrs.* 133 If a prisoner has any complaint to make or wishes to seek advice, she asks to have her name put down to see the governor. She is then termed a 'wisher' and is 'seen' by him in his office in the presence of the chief

b. qualified by *evil*, *ill*, *well* (see Ill-wisher, Well-wisher).

1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxxxviii. (1674) 241 To take an evil wishers life away. 1746 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 2 Aug., When the Peers were going to vote Lord Foley withdrew as too well a wisher.

Wishful (wi·ʃfūl), *a.* [f. Wish *sb.*[1] + -ful.]

†1. Such as is, or is to be, wished; desirable; desired, longed-for. (Cf. Desirous 3.) *Obs.*

1583 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 32 This so glorious, so profyttable and so wyshefull an enterpryse. 1585 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 110 We haue receiued your excellencies wishefull letters. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. xi. 50 The ioyous light, Whereof she long had lackt the wishfull sight. *c* 1626 Chapman *Homer's Hymns Hermes* 185 Many a field Pleasant and wishful. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. vi. 4 Having so wishful an Opportunity..I could not but send you this Friendly Salute.

2. a. Of the eye or look, tone, feeling, etc.: Full of desire; longing, yearning, wistful. (Cf. Desirous 2.) *Obs.* or *dial.*

1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, III. i. 14 To greet mine owne Land with my wishfull sight. 1711 *Spectator* No. 250 P 6 You can't behold a covetous Spirit walk by a Goldsmith's Shop without casting a wishful Eye at the Heaps upon the Counter. 1739 C. Wesley *Hymn*, Hail the Day that sees Him rise, Ravish'd from our wishful Eyes. 1810 E. D. Clarke *Trav. Russia* (1839) 5/1 It has probably happened to others, as to myself, to cast an eye of wishful curiosity towards the eastern boundaries of Europe. 1827 C. Bridges *Exp. Ps. cxix.* verse 67. 173 The forlorn wandering child casting a wishful, penitent look towards his Father's house.

b. Of a person: Possessed by a wish for something specified or implied; wishing, desirous. Now *rare* in literary prose.

1733 Whitehead *St. Dunces* Poems (1777) 18 Lo! o'er yon flood H—a casts his low'ring eyes, And wishful sees the rev'rend turrets rise. 1828 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* III. ii. 236 Wishful to see how he worked, I allowed him to take possession. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xlii, I was wishful to say a word to you, sir. 1867 Morris *Jason* I. 314, I am but Jason, who dwell here alone..Wishful for happy days. 1873 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* 1703 Wishful from my soul That truth should triumph. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. 165 A second chamber well qualified for the duty of revision, and wishful to discharge it.

Wishfully (wi·ʃfūlĭ), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

1. In a wishful manner; with desire; longingly. Most commonly qualifying *look* or equivalent; sometimes app. associated with *wistfully*.

1598 Chapman *Iliad* IV. [VIII.] 497 All did wishfullie expect the siluer-throned morne. 1728 Dr Foe *Col. Jack* II. Well, young gentleman,..you look wishfully. 1773 Boswell *Tour Hebr.* (1785) 98, I was weary of this day, and began to think wishfully of being again in motion. 1791 Burns *Bonie Wee Thing* 5 Wishfully I look and languish In that bonie face o' thine. 1831 Southey in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 272, I am looking daily and wishfully for your little book. 1876 Mrs. Stowe *Pegnane P.* I, Dolly still hung about wishfully.

†2. According to wish or desire. *Obs.*

1602 Middleton, etc. *Phœnix* III. i. G 2 b, I doubt now We shall not gaine accesse vnto your loue or she to vs. *Fid.* Most wishfully here she comes.

So **Wi·shfulness.**

1801 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 371, I expect with some wishfulness your remarks on the second volume. 1863 Trollope *Rachel Ray* I. 170 The longing loving wishfulness which used to make so many of her questions sweet to her mother's ears. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Oct. 422/1 A sweet wishfulness to please.

Wish-hounds, *sb. pl.* Also **whished, whisht, wished.** [Wisht *a.* 2.] Local name for a ghostly pack of hounds popularly believed to hunt over Dartmoor (Devon) by night. So **Wi·sh-hunt, Wi·sh-hunter.**

1847 *Athenæum* 27 Mar. 334/2 The Abbot's Way..is the especial haunt of the Wish, or Wisked [*sic*] Hounds. 1865 R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. 1. Introd. p. xix, Wistman's Wood..is the very home of the *Wish hounds*, which hunt so fiercely over the Moor. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 208 On Dartmoor..the [Wild Huntsman's] chase continues; it is called the Wisht hunt. 1865 — *Were-wolves* viii, On Heathfield, near Tavistock, the wild huntsman rides by full moon with his 'wush hounds'. 1897 — *Guavas* xiv, 'Tis no Wish Hunter's gold.

Wishill, obs. form of Wissel.

Wishing (wi·ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wish *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Wish; desire; sometimes *spec.* †(*a*) evil desire, concupiscence; (*b*) imprecation.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Ne wrec þu þe mid wussinge ne mid warienge. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 334 Golsipe and iiscing, giuernesse and wissing. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 329 He set the berte in ieupartie With wihssinge and with fantasie. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 177 Our desyre and wyshyng is brought to effect. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. lxxvii. [lxxiv.] 90 b/1 Theyr horses serued them at theyr wyshyng. 1590 Stockwood *Rules Constr.* 3 Some aduerbe of wishing, as *vtinam*. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* IV. i. 309, I cannot be a man with wishing, therfore I will die a woman with grieuing. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 71 Wishing, of all employments, is the worst. 1842 Newman *Par. Serm.* VI. xii. 254 Wishing will not serve instead of coming. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 264 The power of obtaining anything by wishing.

b. An instance of this, a wish; formerly sometimes passing into the sense 'a request, petition': cf. Wish *sb.*[1] 2, *v.* 5.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 90 In wedes and in wishynges and with ydel thoughtes. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6231 My desyr & my wyshynges Resten fully in thyn thynges. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par.* Prof. to Edw. VI, a ij, Our daily wyshinges and praiers. 1562 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) F v b, A wishing for that hee thought he had not. 1648 Fanshawe *Il Pastor Fido* II. iv. 64 They .. Who not with wishings onely seek her favour. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 191 Such were these earnest Wishings. 1877 Meredith *Gen. Ople* viii, Our young barbarians .. interest us in their wishings, their weepings, and..their kissings.

†c. *Wishing(s and woulding(s*: see Woulding.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in many designations of objects supposed to be capable of magically conferring the fulfilment of one's wishes, as *wishing-bone* (= wish-bone, Wish *sb.*[1] 4), *-cap*, *-gate*, *-hat*, *-purse*, *-rod*, *-stone*, *-tree*, *-well*.

1860 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Wishing-Bone. 1600 Dekker *Old Fortunatus* E 4 b, Hauing this mint [*sc.* the purse] about me, I shall want no *wishing Cap. *a* 1674 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 436 The fools wishing cap and the philosophers stone are but trifles. 1825 Scott *Jrnl.* 27 Dec., I have worn a wishing-cap, the power of which has been to divert present griefs. 1828 Wordsw. *Wishing-gate* 28 The rustic *Wishing-gate. 1600 Dekker *Old Fortunatus* H 1, Ile steale his *wishing Hat. 1825 Motley *Dutch Rep.* VI. I. III. 396 The *wishing purse in his hand. 1850 Lett-som *Fall Nibelungers* MCIX. 197 The *wishing-rod of gold. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 20 Oct. 1/3 A *wishing-stone. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1908) 22 That she might have the first possession of the *wishing tree. 1792 J. Moore *Monast. Rem.* 2 The *wishing wells still remain. 1892 Atkinson *Moorland Par.* 235 One of these now unsuspected..wishing-wells or hâlikelds.

Wi·shing, *ppl. a.* [f. Wish *v.* + -ing 2.] That wishes, longing, desirous; expressing a wish.

†*Wishing and woulding* (quot. 1620): cf. prec. c.

1530 Palsgr. 309/2 Wyshynge, *optatif.* 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Solon & Publicola* (1595) 121 In wishing manner, he would his end should be lamented to his praise. 1620 J. King *Serm. 24 Mar.* 3 It is not a wishing and woulding mercy, but a prevailing, speeding, releeuing mercy. 1662 Howell *New Engl. Gram.* 62 The Optatif or wishing Mood. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* I. i, The wishing Warmth of Youth. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv, Return'd to cheer his wishing tenant's sight. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* V. vi, Now Peter..Would..balk Some wishing guest of knife or fork.

Hence **Wi·shingly** *adv.*, desirously, longingly; in quot. 1571, optatively.

1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxxii. 2 69 b, Some reade it wishingly; Othersome reteine the future tence, so as it should bee a prophesie. 1731 Bailey (ed. 5), *Desirously*, wishingly.

Wishless (wi·ʃlĕs), *a. rare.* [f. Wish *sb.*[1] + -less.] Having no wishes; void of or free from desire.

1820 Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 629 What a heartless, hopeless, almost wishless barrenness of spirit! *a* 1893 Chr. G. Rossetti *New Jerus.* Poet. Wks. (1904) 208/1 Where we shall be..Wishless in the sanctuary of Christ's embrace.

†**Wi·shly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [? f. next.] ? Steadfast.

1578 T. Procter *Gorg. Gallery Invent.* H ij, Vlisses wife shall mate the sore, whose wishly troth doth shine.

Wishly (wi·ʃlĭ), *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **wysh(e)-, wishe-,** 7 **wishtly.** [? Alteration of Wistly *adv.* influenced by *wish*.] Steadfastly, fixedly, intently; occas. longingly. (Almost always qualifying *look* or some equivalent: cf. *wistfully*.)

1530 Palsgr. fol. 283, I cast my syght vpon a thyng to beholde it wyshely. *Ibid.*, And sodaynly he caste his syght wyshely vpon me. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* v. ii. Wks. 1134/2 Causing hym to putte on his spectacles, and pore better and more wishely with his olde eyen vpon saynt Iohns ghospell. *c* 1612 Chapman *Iliad* XI. 522 Æacides, that wishly did intend..how deepe the skirmish drew Amongst the Greeks. 1622 J. Abernethy *Chr. Treat. Physick Soule* v. 73 Thou must bee wishly exstimulate in thy conscience. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* vi. 4. 186 He looketh wishtly, fixedly, steddily. 1660 S. Ford *Loyal Subj. Exult.* 21 Those thousands of loyall Subjects, who..had looked wishtly towards the royall Palace. 1680 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colleg.* xiii. 186 Looking wishly up into the Air [orig. *intentis in cælum oculis*]. 1683 Cave *Ecclesiastici* App. 27 Woman, said he, tell me why dost thee so wishly behold me? *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wishly*, earnestly; wishfully; with longing..'The children eyed the plum-pudding wishly.' 1902 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 40, I seed him yesterday a-cranen' over th' wall and eyen' on her wishly.

Wishmay (wi·ʃmē). [transl. ON. *óskmey*, f. *ósk* wish (see Wish *v.*) + *mær* maiden, May *sb.*[1]] A Valkyrie.

1863 W. K. Kelly *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 216 The Wishmays or Valkyries. 1889 R. B. Anderson tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 156 A giantess who had been adopted in Asgard as Odin's 'wish-may'.

Wisht (wĭst), *a.* Chiefly *s.w. dial.* Also **whisht, whished, w(h)ish, whist, wist, weist, weest.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. Dreary, dismal; melancholy, wretched.

1829 T. Moore *Hist. Devon* I. 310 *Wish*, inapt, bad, unfit, as 'wish weather'. 1849 Kemble *Saxons in Eng.* I. 346 In Devonshire..a bad or unfortunate day is a *wisht* day. 1893 'Q' *Delect. Duchy* 306 Ah, the poor body! his was a wisht case.

2. Uncanny, eerie, weird. (Cf. Wish-hounds.)

c 1800 [implied in Wishtness]. 1892 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Joshua Davidson* III. 33 A wild whisht country that does not invite much night walking. 1892 Atkinson *Last of Giant-killers* 165 Their steps and hushed voices sounding very hollow and whisht all the time.

3. Sickly, wan.

1868 'Holme Lee' *B. Godfrey* lxvii, She is very whist and white. 1884 Fenn *Sweet Mace* III. xiii. 217 'I don't quite like the old woman to be burnt. How wist she looks!'

Hence **Wi·shtness,** melancholy; something uncanny or supernatural.

c 1800 Polwhele *Wishful Swain of Devon* in R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. 1. (1865) 130 He sought the dark-green lane,..Sighing..'Wishness! oh, wishness, walketh here'. 1839 *Mrs. Palmer's Devon. Dial.* Gloss., *Wishness*, melancholy. 1849 Kemble *Saxons in Eng.* I. 346 In Devonshire to this day all magical or supernatural dealings go under the common name of *Wishtness*.

Wishtly, obs. form of Wishly *adv.*

Wishtonwish (wi·ʃtənwiʃ). Also **wiston-.** [Imitative, from the cry of the animal.] Native name for the Prairie-dog of N. America.

Used by Fenimore Cooper for *whip-poor-will*.

1806 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1811) 107 Some prairie squirrels, or wish-ton-wishes. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans*

Wish-wash (wi·ʃwɒʃ), *sb.* [Reduplicated formation from Wash *sb.* (cf. sense 11 a.v.).]

1. A contemptuous name for weak, insipid, or unsubstantial drink (or liquid food). Also *attrib.* or *adj.* = Wishy-washy 1.

1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* II. 36 The fish was ill-dressed, the soup mere wishwash. 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* IV. 50, I an't been used to her wish-washes, and her Cocoa. 18.. in Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* (1867) 736 His drink a wish-wash of six-water grog. 1896 Baring-Gould *Broom-Squire* XVI. 220 He must have ale, not wish-wash tea.

2. *fig.* Wishy-washy talk or writing.

1842 Howitt *Rur. & Dom. Life Germany* 479 You also find the trashiest wish-wash of Lady Blessington..just as much in vogue. 1885 Stopf. Brooke in Jacks *Life* (1917) II. 378, I talked sense, and was grimly resolved to give the exact opposite of ——'s wish-wash.

†**Wi·sh-wa·shy,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wish-wash *sb.* + -y 1.] = Wishy-washy *a.*

a 1814 *Sixteen & Sixty* I. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II 385 First he tuold I that losing a leg or a wing Were considered but wish-washy matters. 1816 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. i. 27 There are two tales, the first is wish-washy enough. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 60 None ever throve on the wish-washy draughts of the Muses.

Wishy-washy (wi·ʃiˌwɒʃi), *a.* (*int.*, *sb.*) [Reduplicated formation on Washy *a.* (sense 2); cf. the earlier Swish-swash (wishy-washy drink).]

1. Of drink (or liquid food): Weak and insipid; sloppy. Also *dial.* as *sb.* (see quot. 1824).

1791 *Massachusetts Spy* 12 May a/1 He..looked at the broth —and d——d it for wishy washy stuff. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 481 *Wishie-washie*, small drink; ale without foam; whisky without bells. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxvii, None of your flagon-of ale and round-of-beef breakfasts nowadays—slip-slop, wishy-washy, milk-and-water, effeminate stuff. 1898 A. Balfour *To Arms* vii, Their wishy-washy, watery wine.

2. *fig.* a. Feeble or poor in constitution, condition, or aspect; weakly, sickly, 'washed-out'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1703 Steele *Tender Husb.* I. (1705) 12 Pray, Brother, observe his Make, none of your Lath-back'd wishy washy Breed. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xxiv, A good seaman he is..; none of your guinea pigs,—nor your fresh-water, wishy-washy, fair-weather fowls. 1838 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) II. 261, I am quite well now, only rather wishy-washy. 1856 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 163 A wishy-washy woman's face.

b. Feeble or poor in quality or character; trifling, unsubstantial, trashy, 'milk-and-watery'. †Also rarely as *int.* = pish! tush!

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvi. 298 *Pan.* Wishy, washy; Trolly, trolly [orig. *Tarabin, tarabas!*]. 1797 G. Colman *Heir at Law* II. ii, A lord without money be but a foolish, wishy washy kind of a thing a'ter all. 1802 T. Dibdin *Il Bondocani* III. ii, None of your wishy washy sparks that mince their steps. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. vii. 55 A weak, wishy-washy man, who had hardly any mind of his own to speak of. 1885 Miss Braddon *Doctor's Wife* iii, Isabel painted wishy-washy looking flowers on Bristol-board from Nature. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 9 Feb. 106/3 A silly, wishy-washy, inconclusive..style of writing.

Hence **Wi·shy-wa·shiness.**

1892 Lounsbury *Studies Chaucer* III. vii. 293 He had.., every..personal inducement to go on diluting his original to the utmost limit of wishi-washiness.

Wisie, obs. form of Visy *v.* *Sc.*

†**Wisify** (wai·zifai), *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Wise *a.* + -(i)fy.] *trans.* To make wise.

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. Author's Prol. A 3 b, The World therefore, wisifying it self [orig. *en sagissant*], shall no longer dread the..Blossoms of Beans every coming Spring.

Wisigoth, -ic, var. Visigoth, -ic.

1906 W. H. Hutton *Ch. & Barbarians* vi. 73 The Wisigoths identified their heresy with their nationality. *Ibid.* 75 The Wisigothic possessions.

Wisioun, Wisit, obs. ff. Vision, Visit.

Wisk, obs. form of Whisk.

Wiskajon, var. Whiskey John.

1910 E. T. Seton *Arctic Prairies* 301 Each morning.. gray Wiskajon and his mate..came wailing through the woods.

Wisker, obs. form of WHISKER.

Wisket, whisket (wi·skĕt, hw-). *dial.* Also 6 **wyuket(e, -oet, wiskyt, wiscat**, 7–8 **wiskett**, 9 **w(h)iskit, whiskett.** [orig. and mainly north. dial.; ? derived (with -ET) from the stem represented by the Scand. forms quoted s.v. WHISK *sb.*1] Local name for a basket, of various kinds and uses.

1542 in *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1857) 81, iiij stone and a half in ij grete wyscettis of wole; in another wisket xxx pond..; in another wisket xx^{li} pound. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 87/23 A Wyxket, *sportula*. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 33 A *Whisket*, a Basket. a skuttle, or shallow Ped. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 173/2 A Wisket, or Straw-basket, in which Provender is given Cows or Oxen. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* E 2, Poor people..that go daily to the Mines, carry a small Wiskett and a Hammer along with them. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Whisket*, a small clothes basket. 1838 R. OWEN in *Life* (1894) I. iv. 139 A wisket of lovely grapes. 1897 'O. RHODCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 243 They'll tumble up from below like whelps from a wisket.

Comb. 1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 248 To the wiskett maker,..iij^s.

Wisling, -yng: see WISSEL *v.*

† **Wi·sly**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wislic**, 3 (*Orm.*) **wisslik**. [OE. *wislic*, f. *wis*(*s* adj. (see WIS *sb.*) + *-lic*, -LY 1.] Certain.

Phr. *wislikess ängess* (gen. sing.), of a certainty, certainly. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxii[i]. 3 [4] Ne hsora wites bið wislic trymnes [orig. *nec est firmamentum in plaga eorum*]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3186 Wisslikess þingess Godess hannd was wiþþ batt child.

† **Wi·sly**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wis(s)lice**, 2–4 **wislichе**, 4–5 **wisly, wissely**, (3 **wysslyoh**, *Orm.* **wisslič**, -**like**, 4 **wislike**, -**lich**, -**li**, **wissly, wysly**, 5 **wisselich, wysslie, wischli**). [OE. *wislice*, f. *wis*(*s* adj. (see WIS *sb.*) + *-lice*, -LY 2.] Certainly, surely; assuredly; verily.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lviii[i]. 13 Hi wislice witon. *Ibid.* xciv. 2 [c. 3] Witað wislice, þæt [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 Þe luste nulleð þæsne red, wisliche he scal wurðen ded. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 Þe holi man..on oðer stede wisluker þerof speco. *c* 1200 ORMIN 928 He falleþþ wisslič forr þatt gillt i Godess wrahhe & wræche. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 844 Many wondurful wonus wisli we knowen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 74 Men wenden wisly that he sholde dye. — *Franhl. T.* 61 She to hym ful wisly gan to swere That neuere shold ther be defaute in here. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3567 Vnto þat worthy he went wisly anon.

b. *esp.* with *as* (*alse, also*) or *so* in asseverations. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Vre lafdi Seinte Marie, alse wisliche alse hie þis dai was houen in to heuene, bere ure arende to ure louerd ihesu crist. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9673 As wysly as he become a chylde. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 632 Now also wisly god me blesse. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 79/104 For as wischli as euer y cum too blisse, My will is goode. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 63 Als wisly God me sawe.

Wisment, Sc. var. VISEMENT *Obs.*, consideration. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. v. 988 He askyt thre dayis to wisment.

† **Wi·smuth.** *Obs.* Also [6 **wisemute**], 7 **wismut, wismodt.** = BISMUTH.

[1587 HARRISON *England* III. xi. 238/2 in *Holinshed*, A mettall..the verie same which Encelius calleth *Plumbum cinereum*, the Germans wisemute, mithan, & counterfeile.] 1692 J. F[RENCH] *Chym. Dict.*, *Wismodt* is [*printed* in] Tin that is foule and immalleable, and cannot be wrought upon. 1852 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 168 Common copper makes a sea-green; Wismut common blew. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 83 Wismuth forms a slight precipitate in the nitrous solution of arsenic.

Wisnand, -nyt: see WIZENED.

Wi·somе. *dial.* Also 8 **wissum**, 9 **wysan.** [f. WISE *sb.*2, after RISOM.] = WIZLE.

1688 [see WIZLE]. *c* 1720 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 136 The greenes they [*sc.* the country people] Call Wissums and on these wissums the Deer Brouse in y^e winter. 1888 H. WEDGWOOD in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VI. 314 In North Staffordshire..the labouring man would speak of cranberry-wysans, bilberry-wysans. The runners of strawberries would be strawberry-wysans, and potato-halms were potato-wysans.

Wisp (wisp), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–5, 8–9 *dial.* **wips, weps** (5 **wyps**), 8–9 *dial.* **whips**; 4–5 (6, 8 *Sc.*) **wysp**, 4–6 **wyspe**, 4–7 **wisp**, (6 **wysppe**), 5–6 *Sc.* **wosp, wasp**, 6–9 **whisp**, 4– **wisp.** [Of uncertain origin; perh. an unrecorded OE. **wips*, **wisp* :– **wipisa*-, f. base *wip*- in the sense 'wind or bind round', for derivatives of which see WHIP *v.* Cf. WFris. *wisp* wisp, twig, handful of straw. For the forms current in other Germ. langs. see WHISK *sb.*1]

1. A handful, bunch, or small bundle (of hay, straw, grass, etc.).

13.. in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 92 Þer inne oure ledi him wond and bond him wiþ alitse, And leide him on awisp of hei (*v. r.* a wips of heye). *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 438 Yey, gif don, thyne hors, a wisp of hay. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 379 These champions..bringing foorth a speare made of a wraþt vp wisp of hay. 1629 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 213 All's alike at th'latter day, a bag of gold and wispe of hay. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 42 But why do we stop?..Only to give the horses a pail of water, replies the postillion...Nay, prithee boy, says my friend, add a whisp of hay to it. 1838 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. viii. (1873) II. 332 As if we were a starved coach-horse, to be quickened along by a wisp of hay put upon the coach-pole close ahead of us always! 1879 J. BERRROM *Patagonia* iv. 33 Made soft for the young chicks by a few wisps of grass.

b. used to wipe something dry or clean; now chiefly to rub down a horse.

In quot. 1589 with allusion to hanging.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 195 Alle þat herde þe horn beolden heore neose after, And weschte þat hit weore I-wipet with a wesp [*v.rr.* wips, wysp[e] of Firsen [*C.* VII. 402 Wips [*v. r.* wepe] of breres]. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xx, Penne kembe euery hounde after oþer and wype hem with a gret wyspe of strawe. 14.. in WR.-WÜLCKER 598/35 *Mappirium* [= *auttergtuel*], a wyps. 1508 DUNBAR *Fl.* 64 For wit and wisdome ane wisp fra the may rub.

[? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Lyly's Wks. III. 404 If — driuell so at the mouth and nose, weele haue him wipes [= wiped] with a hempen wispe. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Sj, A maulkin or wisps to wype her shooes with. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VII. xxii. 840 For lice..wash them [*sc.* dogs] and rub them with a wispe. 1621 COTGR., *Torche-cul*, a wispe for the tayle. 1660 BONDE *Scut. Reg.* 214 There you shall burn like wisps, which have done scouring the better vessels. 1748 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Embrocation*, Take the Soldiers Ointment,..and anoint the Part affected therewith, being first well rubbed with soft Whisps of Hay. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Horse Managem.* 378 The curry-comb is abolished; but the generality of grooms also require to be cautioned concerning the use of the whisp and the brush. 1901 FITZWYRAM *Horses & Stables* vi.

c. in various special uses, e. g. as an ale-house sign; hung outside a house as a sign of the plague; as a plug, strainer, or wad; (of herbs) as a perfume or deodorant.

1508 DUNBAR *Twa Maritit Wemen* 335 3it tuk I neuir the wosp clene out of my wyde throte, Quhill I ouoht wantit of my will. 1508 — *Test. Andro Kennedy* 110, I will..na bellis for me ring,..But a bag pipe to play a spryng. Et unum ail wosp ante me. 1518 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 18 The inhabitants of thos howses that be.. infectyd shall kepe in, pott owt wyspes and ber whyt roddys. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* N 3, His Muse, from the first peeping foorth, hath stood at Liuery at an Ale-house wispe. *a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 34 Good wine needs not a wispe. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 934 The same Man vsed to haue continually, a great Wispe of Herbes, that he smelled on. 1630 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Wars* IX. 41 [He] put forth..a wisp of straw, upon the end of a white Rod, as if he would, according to the custome of the Countrey, give notice..that the house was visited with the plague. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* v. ix. 176 Strain the vinegar through a wisp. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (ROXB.) 141/2 A wisp or wad, is either hay or straw to put in after the powder. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 25 If the potatoes are moist,..it will be well to leave a wisp of straw sticking out at the top [of the ridge]. 1901 RHYS *Celtic Folklore* I. iv. 209 He gave them herbs..and..sold them wisps to place under their pillows.

† d. in proverbial phr. *as wise as a wisp. Obs.*

1550 BALE *Engl. Votaries* II. 84 Than as wyse as ij wyspes, and as godly as ij goselynges, they examined her what her beleue was in the sacrament. 1655 H. MORE *Second Lash* 218 When we say that one is as wise as a wisp, does that imply the wisp is wise? 1688 — *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 35 They would have rose out of their sleep no more wise than a Wisp.

2. A twisted band, esp. of hay or straw; a ring or wreath of twisted material, used as a pad.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xviii. (1495) D v b/1 [The] gristylbone..in ye eere..is wound & wrapped as a wyspe, leest the spyrite of heringe were..hurt by sodayn.. smytynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wyspe, *torques*,.. *torquillus*. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 239/2 [They] mocked hym..and bond behynd hym wyspes of strawe. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* IV. ix. 48 As you rid him with the tramels, so you shall ride him with these wispes [*sc.* thick 'thumb-ropes' of hay round his pasterns]. 1621 COTGR., *Torche*,..the wreathed clowt, wispe, or wad of straw, layed by wenches betweene their heads, and the things which they carrie on them. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* X. 194 An ell in length the pliant wisp I weaved, And the huge body on my shoulders heaved. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* I. 10 His mother tied him firmly to the table leg with a thick wisp of thrums. 1908 *J. Gunn's Orkney Book* 394 'Wisps' (the local name for great rolls of heather 'simmons', or ropes, used in thatching houses).

† b. A twist or figure of straw for a scold to rail at. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* XV. 82 He writhed a litell wispe of strawe, and sette it afore her, and saide, ladi, yef that ye will chide more, chide with that straw. 1566 DRANT *Horace*, [illegible] had won [illegible] J. PARROT [illegible] her [*sc.* a scold] more..then but the very naming of a wispe. 1598 [R. FERGUSSON] *View Eccl.* 27 As a Wisp..is a Theame copious enough to engage an Harangue for an hour long to a well studied Scold.

3. A bunch or twisted bundle of hay or straw, used for burning as a torch, etc.

1418–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 4984 Pei faren as a wisp a-fire: Whanne it brenneþ briʒtest in his blase, Sodeinly it wasteþ. 15.. *Wyf of Auchtirmuchty* 29 (Bannatyne MS.) Yeis lay ane soft wisp to the kill. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) 49 Ye shall..with a wisp on a Poles ende, set fire on all. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2388/4 Some rascally Boys ..who made some wisps of Straw, and burnt them in the dark night. 1826 [J. BLACK] *Falls of Clyde* 269 Fir light a wisp, and look below the bed! 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 268 It should be put into the oven, moderately heated with a few wisps of straw.

b. A marsh-fire, WILL-O'-THE-WISP; also the light supposed to be carried by the sprite. In more recent use *poet.*

[1628–: see WILL-O'-THE-WISP.] 1628 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* I. *Sages and Star*, Philosophy without the star, is but the wisps of error. 1630 in H. Cary *Mem. Gt. Civ. War* (1842) II. 226 It is the saints' misfortune quoddam naturale; a Nol with the wisp. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* viii. 'Jack-a-lantern' with his wisp alight. 1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgem.* cv, Light as an ill 'Or wisp that flits o'er a [illegible] 1827 TENNYSON *Prioress* xv. 39 We did not know the real light, but chased The wisp that flicks where no foot can tread.

4. A bundle or parcel containing a quantity (of certain commodities: see quots.). *Sc.* and *north.* (Presumably so named from being orig. tied in a bundle with a wisp or wisps of straw or hay: cf. WIDDY 3, and the analogous SHEAF *sb.* 2 a, b, c.) a. of steel and glass.

1470 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 73 Pro j hes wysp vitri rubii, 16d. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 292 Item..for vij wosp of steil to pykkis and mattokkis xiiij^s. 1511–12 *Ibid.* IV. 273 Ane wisp of Lambart steille, price iij^l x^s.. *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), Ane wosp of glas. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 330 Wisp steill the wisp, x^s. 1621 in *Reg. Privy Council Scotl.* (1[illegible] Thay fand that the..caissis of the said glasse contenis fyfteene wispis and that in everie wisp thair is three tablis. 1627 [see *wisp-steel* in 6].

b. of other things, e. g. fish.

1521 *Aberdeen Reg.* XI. (Jam.), Four wospe of malt. 1537 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 8 This is the pricis [of fish]: for the gret wasp iij^s., the small wasp xxx d. 1912 *Aberd. Trnl. Notes & Q.* III. 150/2 *Wesp*, a quantity of fish; 'I hae naething bit a weesp o' eels' as the result of my fishing—Moray.

c. *transf.* A flock (of birds, esp. snipe).

1806 P. NEILL *Tour Orkney* etc. 59 The sportsman..will not pass a marsh without starting several wisps of snipe. *c* 1810 A. MACKINTOSH *Driffield Angler* 204 Wisp, or whisp, of snipes. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Tract* 139 A barrel-ful of shot emptied into a wisp of larks.

5. In various transferred and allusive senses.

a. A twist of paper. b. A heap or bundle (of clothes). c. (See quot.) d. A thin, narrow, filmy, or slight piece, fragment, or portion (*of* something); a mere shred or 'slip' *of*. e. A small broom; a whisk.

a. 1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* v. i. 1434 What, you saucye groomie, are you bringinge mee such paper wispe? 1800 in *Spirit Publ. Trnls.* IV. 264 And soar like a wisp to the tail of his kite. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 24 If you have a fire-place, would you cram it up..with a great wisp of brown paper? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiii, The bare-armed Bob, leading the way with a flaming wisp of paper.

b. 1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms* (E. D. S.) s.v. *Wipe*, 'The cloaths lie in a whipe', i. e. tumbl'd in disorder. 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1786) 106 At last, he was drawn forth, almost smothered, from the wisp of linen. 1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 245 [The clothes] are folded up into whisps, or bundles.

c. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Norfolk* (1795) II. 391 *Wisp*, a rowel, or seton.

d. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Vauxhall-Gardens*, A rusty black neckerchief with a red border, tied in a narrow wisp round his neck. 1836 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxvi. (ed. 3) 398 Some [nebulæ] cling to stars like wisps of cloud. 1848 THACKERAY *Our Street* 14 She had a large casque with a red horse-hair plume (I thought it had been a wisp of her brother's beard at first). 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 719/1 Tufted with ferns and brambles and wisps of delicate long grass. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 82 That great mountain..weaving vapours, wisp after wisp growing, trembling, fleeting, and fading in the blue. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xii, As we approached this lonely gibbet, we saw that a dried-up wisp of a thing..was dangling from the centre of it. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxviii, The sun had gone down, a little wisp of a new moon was following it. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 244/1 Dawson pointed to a thin wisp of smoke on the horizon.

e. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wisp*, a besom, a small broom. 1908 RIDER HAGGARD *Ghost Kings* xv. 209 A fly wisp made of the tip of an elephant's tail shrunk on to a handle of rhinoceros horn.

6. *Comb.*, as *wisp-like* adj.; **wisp bacillus** (see quot. 1916); **wisp-light**, a will-o'-the-wisp; † **wisp-steel**, steel sold in wisps.

1913 *Lancet* 18 Sept. 630/1 The non-sporing bacteria of fæcal origin—e. g., strepto-cocci, B. proteus, '*wisp' bacilli, &c. 1916 *Ibid.* 6 Jan. 75/1 The so-called 'wisp bacillus'.. is the B. ramosus or a member of its group. *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *To the Spirit of Song* iv, When *wisp-lights dance on the moor and fen. 1888 SAVILLE-KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 36 A twisted *wisp-like bundle of long silicious spicules. 1612 *wisp steill [see sense 4 a]. 1627 *Rates of Marchandises* L 2, Steele vocat. Long-steele, Wisp-steele [etc.]. 1657 *Acts Interregn.* (1911) II. 1220 Steel called Steel Wisp or Long.

Wisp (wisp), *sb.*2 *dial.* Also 6 **wyspe**, 8–9 **whisp.** [Of doubtful origin; perh. a use of prec.]

a. A disease in cattle, causing lameness or soreness near the hoof. (Cf. ANGLEBERRY, FOUL *sb.* 2.)

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 130 This disease, as I take it, the countrey people call the Fowle, or the Wyspe. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 24. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* 209 To Cure a Bullock, that hath the Wisp, (that is) Lame between the Clees. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whisp..Wisp.*

b. = STY *sb.*4 (Cf. earlier and dial. WEST *sb.*2 and dial. *wish.*)

1769 A. C. BOWER *Diaries & Corr.* (1903) 57, I am blind in one Eye nearly from a Whisp on the Eye lid. 1888 *Berksh. Gloss., Stye*, a 'wisp' on the eye.

Wisp (wisp), *sb.*3 [f. WISP *v.*] An act of wisping. *A wisp down*, a rub down with a wisp.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 180 They should give the horses a slight wisp down.

Wisp (wisp), *v.* Also 7, 9 **whisp.** [f. WISP *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To rub (an animal, esp. a horse) *down* or *over* with a wisp.

a 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 6 A fair bryde is soon buskt, and a short horse soone wispt. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 436 Wisp her and curry her, feed her and train her!..and what is she after all but a *mule*? 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 217 The whole body should then be wisped down with straw. *Ibid.*, Of wisping and brushing. wisping is the more beneficial to the legs, where the hair is short. 1844 *Gunn's Regul. & Ord. Army* 392 They are to remain saddled..., time being allowed for wisping them over. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. x. xi. § 2. 361/2

Beginning with the head, which should be first brushed over, then well whisped with a handful of hay.

†2. To put a twisted band of hay upon (the legs of a horse). Also with *up*. *Obs.*

1607 Markham *Cavel.* IV. ix. 48 Hauing thus wispt al his foure legs,..you shall then mount vpon him [etc.] 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* 32 Whisp him up round with small whisps.

3. To twist into or as a wisp; *dial.* to rumple.

1733 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* v. 28 The very same head of hair, wisp'd, and matted together, would make the most disagreeable figure. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* 487 *Wisp* is used with us, in the farther sense of rudely handling any delicate thing—'Dont wisp it'. 1870 'Ouida' *Puck* vi, 'Ye'r wispin' tha ribbon, ma dear,' said Dick. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 2 Mar. 5/2 A cloth, degenerating into a rag, is wisped round his head.

4. *intr.* To pass *away*, as a wisp of vapour.

1883 Meredith *Poems Joy of Earth* 12 Whish! the phantom wisps away. 1898 G. W. Steevens *With Kitchener to Khartum* 278 Magically the rifles hushed, the stinging powder smoke wisped away.

†**Wi·spen**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Wisp *sb.*[1] + -en [4].] Made of a wisp or wisps.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* 145 She hath already put on her wispen garland ouer her powting Cros-cloth.

Wisper, obs. form of Whisper.

Wispish (wi·spiʃ), *a.* [f. Wisp *sb.*[1] + -ish [1].] Of the nature of or resembling a wisp.

1896 Sara J. Duncan *His Honor & a Lady* xi, Involuntarily she put a wispish curl in its place. 1903 E. Braham *Eyes of Max Carrados* iii. 113 With ungainly movements of her long, wispish arms. 1905 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Jan. 53/1 A small man..with a wispish tawny beard.

Wispy (wi·spi), *a.* [f. Wisp *sb.*[1] + -y [1].] Consisting of wisps; resembling a wisp.

1855 Tennyson *Maud* II. iv, Bloodred in the wintry sunset Waves the wispy fire To trail the swains among the mire. 1890 Aird *Domeniac* iii. 31 Miriam saw white wispy fires dance. 1890 — *Captive of Fez* III. ii. 6 The skirring moon..from her horn-tips tossed the wispy rack. 1893 J. Wilson in J. Hamilton *Mem.* vi. (1859) 208 These [cribs of the Cameleopards] are..filled with a dry wispy-looking plant, neither hay nor clover. 1888 F. Cowper *Caedmullan* 141 A few locks of wispy hair hung down over the forehead. 1894 *Athenæum* 24 Nov. 719 Nebulous matter, which..attaches itself to the..stars and is of a wispy and streaky nature.

Wiss, var. Wis *v.*[1] and [2]; obs. f. Wise; obs. or Sc. f. Wish. **Wissard**, obs. f. Wizard. **Wissch**(e, obs. ff. pa. t. of Wash. **Wisse**, obs. f. Vice *sb.*[1]; var. Wis *v.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. f. Wish *sb.*[1] and *a.*, Wish *v.*

Wissel (wi·s'l), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: see next. [a. MLG. *wissele*, *wessele* (M)Du. *wissel*, corresp. to OFris. *wix(e)le*, OHG. *wehsal* (MHG. *wehsel*, G. *wechsel*), ON. *vixl*: see next.]

†1. = Exchange *sb.* 10. *Obs.*

1482 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 104 The Kyng..wylle hawe iij whystylles whon at Bregys another at Calles the thyrd at London. 1498 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 173 Said tham [*sc.* xv lycht crounis] in the Wissil off Brugis for 3 li. 6s. 5.

2. Change for an amount of money; esp. in phr. *to get the wissel of one's groat*, fig. to be 'paid out'.

1721 Ramsay *Prosp. Plenty* 134 Nor can we wyt them, since they had our Vote; But now they'se get the Wistle of Groat. 1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 36 Wallace quickly brought the Culseon back, And there gave him the Whissle of his Plack. 1786 Burns *Ep. John Rankine* ix, I..gat the whissle o' my groat, An' pay't the fee. 1808 Jamieson s. v. *Quhissel*, 'Gie me my wissel'.

Wissel (wi·s'l), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4 wesle, wisle, 4–5 wissill, 5 w(h)ystyll, wys(s)yll, whystel, 5–6 wyssil(l, wissle, wishill, quhissel, 5–7 wissil, 7 -ell, wyschell, wirsle, 6–7, 9 wissel, 8 w(h)istle, 8–9 whissle, 9 wissle. [a. MLG. (MDu.) *wisselen*, *wesselen*, *weslen*, corresp. to OFris. *wixlia*, OS. *wehslôn*, OHG. *wehslôn* (MHG. *wehseln*, *wihseln*, G. *wechseln*), ON. *vixla* = OTeut. **wixslôjan*, f. *wik-* (cf. Week *sb.*, Wike) + suffix *-sla-*.]

†1. *trans.* To exchange for something else. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 580 Mony men of gret valour With speris, macys, and with knyvis, And othir vapnys vissill [*v. r.* wysyllyt] thair lyvis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. iv. 92 Heyr is..A forcy spreit..Quhilk reputtis fayr to wyssill, apon sik wys Wyth this honour thou thus pretendis to wyn, This mortale stalt and lifs that we bene in. *a* 1583 Montgomerie *Flyting* 378 Appardon mee, poets, to alter my style, And wissle my verse, for fyling the aire.

b. To exchange (words) *with* a person.

1571 A. Stewart *Let.* in *Bannatyne's Memorials* (Bann. Club) 152 Thow seames in the begyning to schaw thy vnwillingnes to wissil [*ed.* 1806 wishill] wordis in our querall. ? *a* 1603 Moysie *Mem.* (Bannatyne Club) 131 Some wordis wer wisselit at the first betuix the erle of Mar and lord Lyndsay. 1819 [Alex. Balfour] *Campbell* I. xviii. 332 He..sware a gryte aith, that he wad never wissle words wi' him till he changed his mind.

2. To change (money).

1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Cons.* II. Introd. 130 The some of vij[l] Henre nobles quhilk..Issabell allegit..was wisslit and changit be the said Johne and nocht laid wed. 1666 *Despauterii Grammn. Institt.* v. (1677) G vij b, *Cambio*, to wissel or change money. *c* 1790 Kennett *MS. Lansd.* 1033 lf. 432 b, *Wirsle*, to exchange, or change, Northumb. *In Wirsle me this half-crowne.* 1821 Ramsay *Poems* Gloss., *Wirsle*, to exchange (Money).

†**Wi·sseler**. *Obs.* Also 5 whysteler, westelur, wislare, 6 wisler, quhysselar, etc. [f. prec. + -er [1], ad. or after MLG., MDu. *wisselere*, *wesselere*, *weslere*.] A money-changer; also, a retailer.

In the prose *Merlin c* 1450 (E.E.T.S.) 268 [A] regrater and a wysseler [so M.S.], ? read *wysseler*.

1482 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 74 God..pwt hyt in yowr mynd to have the c xxx li bowt of the whysselers handys.. at Bregys. 1487 *Sc. Acts Jas. III.* (1814) II. 182/2 That his hienes deput..ane vthir to be wislare & changeour. 1573 Harr *Alv.* H 654 An Huckster, a regrater: a seller by retaile: a wisler [*read* wisler], *propola*.

So †**Wi·sseling** *vbl. sb. Sc. Obs.* [= MDu. *wisselinghe*], exchange

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexii*) 164 Al þe gold..He gaf to pure, & his clething He gaf fore ware in wesliyng. 1463 *Extr. Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 405, vs. vi d. the quhilk he tuke fra him in wisling of a farthing of an Inglis nobill. 1540 *Sc. Acts Jas. V*, II. 373/2 Sindry personis havand quhite siluir will not change for gold bot takkis þairfor xij d or mair for wisslling of þe samine. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 80 That nane..ressave anis of the saidis dollours in payment of debts nor in exchange or wisslling.

Wissened, obs. Sc. f. Wizened.

Wissentide, obs. f. Whitsuntide.

†**Wi·sser**. *Obs.* In 5 -are. [f. Wis *v.*[1] + -er [1].] A leader, director, guide.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyssare, or ledare.

Wissh(e, obs. pa. t. of Wash *v.*; var. Wis *v.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. f. Wish.

†**Wi·ssing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Wis *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] The action of Wis *v.*[1], in various senses.

1. Guidance, direction, instruction.

c 1000 Ælfric *Pastoral Epist.* xx. in *Ags. Laws* (Thorpe) II. 370 Hi ealle þa lare þe we leornia6 on bocum awriten and gesettan be Godes agenre wissunge. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 95 þe man þe..shewe6 preste his sinnes..nime6 þerof god wissinge. *Ibid.* 99 Bi shriftes wissenge. *c* 1200 Ormin 12830 Uss birrþ sone þannkenn himm Hiss wissinng & hiss lare. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 38 By wissynge of þis wenche I wrouȝte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8151 This wot I full well, thurgh wisshyng of hom. 1493 [H. Parker] *Dives & Pauper* I. xviii. B viij[v]/2 To gouerne them selfe..by the lyght and wyssynge of tyme. 1670 Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 79, I called them *The Islands of Direction*; they are good wishing to fall with the Mouth of the Streight.

b. Leading astray, enticement. (Cf. Wise *v.*[1] 1.)

1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 542 Idelnesse is..witter wissyng and wal till alkyns vices.

c. Conduction, conveyance. Also *concr.* a conduit.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11942 þe water wissing gan he ditt, þat water to þe lak broght. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1606 The water by wisshyng went vnder houses.

2. Command, ordinance; rule, government.

c 1000 Ælfric in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) 39 Þa munecas, þe..gode þeowla6 under abbodes wissunge after þam reȝole. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Hit wes iloked bi godes wissunge ine halie chirche. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 190 As al þe world is iwald þurh his wissunge. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3256 þe wynnyng of þe wale god þat wist all before.

Wissit, obs. Sc. pa. t. of Visit *v.*

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. x. 1887 Þis lady wowit gret pilgramage,..And wissit hir goddis, ane and ane.

Wissonday, obs. f. Whit Sunday.

Wist (wist), *sb. local.* [In Anglo-Latin *wista*, *wysta*; ? a use of OE. *wist* provision, sustenance, applied orig. to an area which provided sustenance for a community of a certain size.] A Sussex land measure of area, the extent of which has been variously computed (see quots. and J. Tout in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* XVIII. 705 ff.).

c 1180 *Chron. Monast. de Bello* (1846) 11 Octo itaque virgatæ unam hidam faciunt. Wista vero quatuor virgatis constat. *Ibid.* 17 Dividitur igitur leuga per wistas, quæ aliis in locis virgatæ vocantur. *Ibid.* 19 In Petlee est una wista in dominio...Ista enim quadraginta viii. acris constat. *c* 1300 in *Custumals Battle Abbey* (Camden) 26 Radulphus Bedellus tenet j wistam. Idem tenet j magnam wistam. *c* 1312 *Ibid.* 100 Virgata seu wysta est sextadecima pars unius feodi militis. Quatuor virgatæ seu wystæ faciunt unam hydam. *c* 1690 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* (1853) VI. 236, I doo allowe tithe free, to my Parishioners, for euery Wist of land that they till, one oxe pasture upon the lease. 1799 *Book of Surveys of D. of Dorset's lands in Sussex* (MS), under 'Lullington', Upon this Tenant Down the D. of Dorset has a right to stock for two Wists & a half of land sixty sheep for each Wist. 1853 *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 236 A 'wist' in Berwick, according to..the Rev. John Hawes, was ordinarily 16 acres; but he afterwards found that in some of the farms it was 18 acres. In Saxon times the wist was 4 virgates or 60 acres. 1892 Vinogradoff *Villainage in Eng.* 235.

†**Wist**, *a. Obs. rare.* [app. back-formation from Wistly *adv.*] Attentive, intent.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 550 *Motus Tendens*, wee in our Language cal it a Set or wist-looke.

Wist, *v. pseudo-arch.* [Partly from *I wist*, corrupt form of *iwis* (see Wis *v.*[2]); partly erron. use of pa. t. *wist* of Wit *v.*[1]] To know; in quot. 1594 in *pa. pple.* = caused to know, informed.

[1508, 1624, 1798, 1893: see Wis *v.*[2]] 1580 Lyly *Euphues* 98 b, You gall mee more with these tearmes, then you wist (*ed.* 1597 wish, 1606 wisse). 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 255 Samuel now wisted [orig. *como yo estuuo aduertido*], that a great stature was no sure token, caused him to be sent for. 1898 Bucke *Infl. Women Progr. Knowl.* Misc. Wks. 1885 I. 68 Though he [*sc.* Hamlet] wists not of this, he is moved..; and he, like Göthe, takes up a skull, and his speculative faculties begin to work.

Wist, var. Wisht *a.*; pa. t. and ppls. of Wit *v.*[1]; erron. f. *wift*, var. of Wyth.

Wistaria (wistē·riă). Also **wisteria**; *erron.* **wysteria**, **westeria**. [mod.L., f. name of Caspar *Wistar* (or *Wister*) 1761–1818, American anatomist; named by T. Nuttall in 1818: see -ia [1].] Any plant of the genus *Wistaria* (N. O. *Leguminosæ*), native to N. America, Japan, and China, the species of which are hardy, climbing, deciduous shrubs bearing racemes of blue-lilac papilionaceous flowers, the best known being *W. sinensis* (or *chinensis*), formerly *Glycine chinensis*.

1840 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 376 Vines, roses, Wistarias, or other luxuriant climbers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 486/1 *Wisteria frutescens*, Shrubby Wistaria...*W. Chinensis*, Chinese Wistaria. 1876 Black *Madcap Violet* vii. 89 The pale purple blossoms of the wysteria hanging in front of the sunlit walls. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 173 The great Westeria's purple blooms.

blossoms trail and fall Above the length of barrier wall.

Wistful (wi·stfŭl), *a.* [app. f. Wistly *adv.* (where cf. quot. 1613–16) + -ful, with reminiscence of *wishful*. In early use mainly poetical.]

†1. Closely attentive, intent. *Obs.*

1613–26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 544 A Christall Riuer..chid The artlesse Songsters, that their Musicke still Should charme the sweet Dale, and the wistfull Hill. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 113 P 3 [She] bore the Whispers of all around the Court with such a pretty Uneasiness,..and then recovered her self from one Eye to another, till she was perfectly confused by meeting something so wistful in all she encountered.

2. Expectantly or yearningly eager, watchful, or intent; mournfully expectant or longing. (Chiefly in reference to the look.)

1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* V. 1 Why, Grubbinol, dost thou so wistful seem? There's Sorrow in thy Look, if right I deem. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* X. 484 My sad companions on the beach I found, Their wistful eyes in floods of sorrow drown'd. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, I..lifting up one of my Sashes, cast many a wistful melancholy Look towards the Sea. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* I. 88 His faithful dog..Points to his master's eyes (where'er they roam) His wistful face, and whines a welcome home. 1878 Black *Green Past.* xxi, For a moment she hesitated, eager, disappointed and wistful. *Comb.* 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* iii, This fair-haired, wistful-eyed girl. 1889 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxiii, The wistful-eyed red Somerset kine.

advb. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* I. 258 His eyes gazed wistful round. 1848 Lytton *Harold* I. i, The terror that seized the girl as she gazed long and wistful upon the knight.

Wistfully (wi·stfŭli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly [2]]

†1. With close attention, intently; with an inquiring look. *Obs.*

1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 464 With that he fell again to pry Through Perspective more wistfully. 1713 Addison *Guardian* No. 139 P 8 ['The lion'] after having regarded him [*sc.* Androcles] a little wistfully, fell to the ground, and crept towards his feet. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. xii, Brother Shandy, answered my uncle Toby, looking wistfully in his face,—you are much mistaken. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Manch. Strike* x. 113 Martha looked wistfully from one to the other, not understanding the grounds of the dispute.

2. With expectant or yearning eagerness; with mournful expectancy or longing.

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 191 Eccho..His doleful wailings did resound, More wistfully by many times, Than in small Poets splay-foot Rhimes. 1788 Goldsm. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) I. 256 Two of the Grenadiers passing by..and looking wistfully at the House; said one to the other, Comrade, let us halt, and take a little drop of Dram. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 90 Sore and shackled as I was, I got..on deck, and looked wistfully out at sea. 1823 Byron *Island* III. vi, He..strode to where young Torquil stood,.. Seized his hand wistfully, but did not press. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 53 The Catholic league gazed wistfully from Flanders at their intended prey. 1883 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xc. 165 The girl wandered about wistfully a year or two longer, then died.

So **Wi·stfulness**.

1775 Ash. 1847 Flor. Nightingale in Sir E. Cook *Life* (1913) I. i. v. 72 There is an uncertainty, a wistfulness in her eyes. 1887 Hall Caine *Son of Hagar* I. ii, The lucent eyes were full of a dewy wistfulness.

Wistiti (wi·stiti). Also **ouistiti**(a. [ad. F. *ouistiti* (imitative); named by Buffon (*Hist. Nat.* 1767 XV. 96) from the cry of the animal.] A S. American monkey of the family *Hapalidæ*; a marmoset, esp. the Common Marmoset, *Hapale jacchus*.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 297 Of the sagoins with feeble tail, there are six kinds..The third is the Wistiti; remarkable for the large tufts of hair upon its face, and its annulated tail. 1834 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 49 *Simia jacchus*, Linnæus; the Common Ouistitia...This species is found in Paraguay, and nearly every part of South America. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 812/1 This general resemblance to the human skull is still greater in the Ouistitis.

†**Wi·stless**, *a. poet. Obs.* [irreg. f. Wistly *adv.* or Wistful + -less.] Inattentive, unobservant.

1747 [G. Ridley] *Psyche* xix. in *Museum* III. 86 So ere well-temper'd blade. *Ibid.* IV. 62 Wistless that every eye dwelt on her form, With stately step she paced. 1814 Cary *Dante, Purg.* XI. 70 One, mailing, lay Tangled in net of sensual delight; And one to wistless Indolence resigned.

†**Wi·stly**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 6 wystly, wistlie, wistlie, 6–9 wistly. [Origin doubtful;

perh. a variant of WHISTLY, WHISTFULLY *advs.* silently, hushedly.] With close attention; intently.

Occas. with implication of WISTFULLY 2.

a 1300 *Gest of Robyn Hode* cccix, Robyn beheld our comly kynge Wystly in the face. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* O j, With that Castibula looking wistly vpon him, in furious rage flange hastilye from him. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. Now lies it on an vpshot; therefore strike, And ... ote. 1600 HOLLAND ... they stood on both ... he about and charge should begin from the adverse part. 1603–26 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v. 435 What time the new-cloath'd trees by gusts of winde Vnmou'd, stand wistly listning to those layes. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 83 If you look wistly upon Calvines words, you shall find him not repugnant to what I have here delivered. 1675 N. LEE *Nero* III. i. 23 Do you know me, Sir? Look wistly on me. 1724 S. KNIGHT *Life J. Colet* 54 He look'd wistly upon me, to observe whether I spoke in jest, or earnest. 1730 T. BOSTON *View World* (1799) 281 In your..wrestling with temptations, have ye not sometimes looked wistly for death's relief?

Wistonwish, var. WISHTONWISH.

Wisy, obs. f. VISY *v. Sc.*

Wit (wit), *sb.* Forms: 1– wit, 3–6 wyt, 3 (*Orm.*), 4–8 witt, 4–6 wytt, wyte, 4–7 witte, wytte, (4 wiit, wijt, whit, 4, 6 wite, *Sc.* vit, vyt, 5 whytt, wette, 6 *Sc.* wott, 7 weet). [OE. *wit* neut., more commonly *gewit*(*t* I-WIT *sb.*, corresp. to OFris. *wit*, OS., (M)LG. *wit*, OHG. *wizzi* (MHG. *witze*, G. *witz*), ON. *vit* (Sw. *vet*, Da. *vid*), Goth. *sun-witi* ἀφορισμός, ἀγγοία: f. *wit-* (see WIT *v.*[1]).]

I. Denoting a faculty (or the person possessing it).

†1. The seat of consciousness or thought, the mind: sometimes connoting one of its functions, as memory or attention. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* viii. 45 Deos gitsunc hafaŏ gumena gehwelces mod amerred,..ac hit on witte wealleŏe byrnŏ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 71 Ȝif us enl ufel bitit þonke we gode in ure wit. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 324 First in his witte he all purueid His werc. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 338 [He] in his hart wele held it, Ay retentywe he had a wyt. *a* 1400 *N. T.* (Paues) Eph. iv. 17 Myabyleſed men, þat walkeþ in vanyte of hure wyt. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. iv. 295 His ouer greet trust which in his witt he bisettid upon hem. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. i. 67 And sammyn prent thir sawis in thy wyt. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering of Priests*, O holy ghoste into oure wittes, sende downe thyne heauenly lyght. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 35 A I stay a while I see a short wit: by my trooth I had almost forgot. 1612 BACON *Ess., Studies* (Arb.) 13 If a mans wit be wandring, let him study the Mathematiks. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 110 Our Catholicke General did now examen the secret retirements of his witte, to be enformed what best to doe in this extreamitie.

2. The faculty of thinking and reasoning in general; mental capacity, understanding, intellect, reason. *arch.* (now esp. in phr. *the wit of man* = human understanding).

For the corresponding pregnant uses see 5 and 6.

Beowulf 389 Þæs þu in helle scealt werhðo dreogan, þeah þin wit duge. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 21 Hwil þi wit stæmd & chastieð þi wil..ne harmeð hit te nawiht. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9389 Is brayn & wit is so feble, þat þer nis of him no drede. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 220 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 53 A dombe best wiþoute witte. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 343 My lyue, my lymmes þou has me lent, My right witt þou has me sent. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 266 Kynde witte me telleth, It is wikked to wage ȝow. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 184 in *E. E. Poems* 127 To gouerne me thow yaue me wyt, *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 481 To mychty God,..sen I had wit off man, Befor my werk, to paild me I began. 1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* xiv. 20 Brethren be not children in witte. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 193 He was verie pregnant and had an excellent wyt. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 211, I had a dreame, past the wit of man, to say, what dreame it was. 1665 GLANVILL *Sceptis Sci.* 99 A good will, help'd by a good wit, can find Truth any where. 1673 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. VIII. 167 God were not God, if mans shallow wit could comprehend him. 1732 POPE *Epitaph Gay*, Of Manners gentle, of Affections mild; In Wit, a Man; Simplicity, a Child. 1842 R. S. WILBERFORCE *Rutilius & Lucius* 139 We profess not to discover the truth by our own wit. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xx. II. 98 The wit of man could suggest nothing satisfactory. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VIII. 232 Shun drugs and drinks which work the wit abuse.

b. In plural, in reference to a number of persons.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23759 Crist[es] help sal be us ner, His helpes and vr wittes ake. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 27 To fynde remydyes and weyes as by there wittes may be fownde moost sewr. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxiv. 45 Then opened he their wyttes, that they myght vnderstond the scriptures. 1592 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* 242 That militare wittes are not refined to that sharpenesse and subtelty, that is practised in..courtes of Iustice. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. b a, Herein we can see what the illustrious wits of the Atomical and Corpuscularian Philosophers durst but imagine. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 7 Some Men can never be brought to write correctly in this Age, till they have formed their Wits upon the Ancients.

c. Often denoting indifferently the faculty or the person possessing it, and hence sometimes used definitely for the person in respect of this faculty. Almost always in plural, of a number of persons, and commonly with qualifying adj. *arch.*

For the co... 1536 *Act* ... of Oxford: ... 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. ¶¶v b, ... not common for euerie witte to picke out. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* Prof. (Arb.) 19 Many yong wittes be driuen to hate learninge, before they know what learninge is. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 274 Gods-Hill, in which Iohn Worsley erected a schole for the training up of young wits. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 24 P 7 The great Praise of Socrates is, that he drew the Wits of Greece..from the vain Pursuit of natural Philosophy to moral Inquiries. 1824 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 58 The rock, on which great wits are often wrecked for want of a little kindly culture of unselfishness.

d. Phr. *At one's wit's end* (occas. *ends*): utterly perplexed; at a loss what to think or what to do. So *to bring* (*drive*, or *put*) *to one's wit's end*: to perplex utterly.

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†f. *Wit and reason*: name of an old card-game.

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†8. Any one of certain particular faculties of perception, classified as *outer* (*outward*) or *bodily*, and *inner* (*inward*) or *ghostly*, and commonly reckoned as five of each kind (see b): = SENSE *sb.* 1, 7 (see also INWIT 2 b). Also *common wit* = COMMON SENSE 1. (In early use occas. loosely extended to include other bodily faculties, as speech and locomotion.) *Obs.* exc. as in b and c.

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b. *Five wits*: usually, the five (bodily) senses; often vaguely, the perceptions or mental faculties generally, = *wits* (in sense 3 c or 4 b). Also (jocularly) *fifteen wits*. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

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2. 163 Great Wits are sure to Madness near allied. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 306 That my wits may not be sent a wool-gathering. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. I. P 28 Have all your wits about you,..you are nursing a viper in your bosom. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 14. I. 111 That letter touched her kind wits. 1840 DICKENS *Old Curs. Shop* lxxii, Living by his wits—which means by the abuse of every faculty that worthily employed raises man above the beasts. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 146 This impression..at last penetrated his obdurate wits.

†d. *sing.* and *pl.* Consciousness; sensation: cf. SENSE *sb.* 3, 6. *Obs. rare.*

c 1250 *St. Brendan* 10 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 200 Seint brendan.. ordde on him al for-to is wit him cam. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 2735 He knowed his wyttes, Swenges out of þe sweuenes. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1815 *Lucrece*, Sche loste at onys bothe wit & brath, And in a swo she lay. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6047 Withouten witt he was ligyng.

4. The understanding or mental faculties in respect of their condition; chiefly = 'right mind', 'reason', 'senses', sanity. †a. *sing.*: esp. in phrases *in* (*one's right*) *wit*, sane, of sound mind; chiefly *out of* (*by, from, of*) *wit* or *one's wit*, insane, mad, out of one's mind; also *out of wit* advb., madly, furiously. *Obs.* (or *dial.*).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xv. 7 Wode he gehælde and on witte gebrohte. *c* 1205 LAY. 1661 Swa swiðe wa him was þat al his wit he for-las. *c* 1290 *St. Dunstan* 600 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 19 Heo iwerth a-non out of hire witte, and feol a-doun riȝt þer. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10872 He made him as bi wit. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27168 Man in wiit Or man mai falle was vte of itt. *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 1283 Neiȝh wod of witte. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 200 Arcyte..swore he wold dey..Or from his witte be wold twynne. 1423 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 66 Wiþ witte and good mende. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xi. 30 They were wrothe out of wyt. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlvi. 178 Arte thou now dronke, or folyshe, or from thy witte? 1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 207 As no man in his right wit will graunt. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Athesm.* I. xiv. § 3 (1622) 151 It is a thing so euident, that there is a God; that whosoeuer denieth it, is (surely) out of his wit. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 86 The wife was wood, and out o' her wit.

b. *pl.* = SENSE *sb.* 10: esp. in phr. *in* or *out of one's wits*.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 785 His wyttes faylles, and he ſte dotes. 1431 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 67 Beyng yn goode heale and yn my full wittes. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xxiii. 32 For a tyme it had a-wey hir wittis. 1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* xiv. 23 Will they not saye that ye are out off youre wittes? 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 207 Such a one as lacketh his right wittes. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. ii. 95, I am as well in my wits (foole) as thou art. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. xiii. (1635) I 4, How fell he from his wits? 1620 BACON *Hen. VII*, 226 Ioan..was vnable..to beare the Griefe of his Decease, and fell distracted of her Wittes. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, York* III. (1662) 228 Seeing his wits is nearer and dearer to any man then his wealth. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Diss. i. 306 Nor is it possible for a Person in his wits, to alter his Conduct,..from a Suspicion, that [etc.]. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1880) 318 The governor..was frightened out of his wits.

SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 243 Heere's a fellow frights English out of his wits. 1696 R. SAULT *Drinking Water* 62 Our small beer, or water skared out of its wits.

II. Denoting a quality (or the possessor of it).

*5. Good or great mental capacity; intellectual ability; genius, talent, cleverness; mental quickness or sharpness, acumen. *arch.*

The earliest quots. may belong to other senses, e. g. 6 or 12.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10812 Þo .. he vnderstod of is wit, & of is wisdom, Him þoȝte it was a gret lore to al is kinedom. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8543 Salamon..was a borli bachelere,..O wiit o wisdom Was neuer nan wiser. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 1080 Of whom and hou comeþ hit, Such reson and such wit, þat þou..darst nymen þe Forte dispute a-zeynes me? *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vii. 78 Nyghe that Awtier is a place ..where the Holy Croys was founden, be the Wytt of Seynte Elyne. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Festival* 27 Þay began to dyspute wyth hym; but..þay haden no wytte ne no powste forte ȝeyne-stonde hym. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xiii. 18 Let hym that hath wytt count the nombre off the beast. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 282 Are there not men in your Ward sufficient to serue it? *Elb.* Faith sir, few of any wit in such matters. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 23 The weake constitutions of the Southerne Nations are supplied by the extraordinarie gifts of the minde: terme them what you please, either wit, or subtiltie. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 17 Authors are partial to their wit, 'tis true, But are not Critics to their judgment too? 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xi, Where was the wit of the sharp-sighted men of sound mind? Where the dexterity of the lawyers? 1874 MAURICE *Friendsh. Bks.* vi. 163 The blessing of wit and foresight.

†b. Practical talent or cleverness; constructive or mechanical ability; ingenuity, skill. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 220 God..ȝeueþ wit in alle crafte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1632 A palas gert make..Full worthely wroght & by wit caste. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 3 It was a goodly heape for to behould, And speake the praise of the workmans wit. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* (1702) XI. XXV, Those Engins which so strangely spit Death's multiply'd and deadlyer made by Wit. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 4 The best Telescopes that could possibly be invented or polished by the Wit and Hand of an Angel. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* Pref. 4 The Enemy was oftener overcome ..by the Architect's Wit, without the Captain's Arms, than by the Captain's Arms without the Architect's Wit.

†c. Of animals: Intelligence, sagacity. *Obs.*

c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* II. 61 Þere [*i. e.* the drones'] wit is ware To stroize the hony. 1577 GEORGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 145 The witte of this beast Nutianus reporteth, he once had experience of. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 638 The admirable witte of this beast appeareth in her swimming or

passing ouer the Waters. 1620 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xiii. 122 The Fox is full of wit.

6. Wisdom, good judgement, discretion, prudence: = Sense *sb.* 11. *Obs.* exc. in phr. like *to have the wit to*, which combines the notions of intelligence and good sense.

The phr. in quot. 1620 has become proverbial, though commonly taken in sense 8.

c 1200 Orrm 3040 Godess Sune..las..Godess word, & Godess witt. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9392 Vor wat he a þ Manliche bigonne he it a þ bileued Wommanliche as vor defaute of wit in his heued. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 285 Þat he ordaind wit his witte He multiplis and gouerns itte. *Ibid.* 3079 Quen [ysmael] was of age and witte A wijf he spused of egipte. *Ibid.* 29004 Þe gift o wijt of vnder-standing, O consail, strenght, o gode dreding, O conand-scips, and o pite. *c* 1450 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 5 Hell walle of witt and of merci! 1552 T. Wilson *Logic* (ed. 2) 22 As vertue is contrarie vnto vice, witte vnto folie, manhode vnto Cowardise. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 153 When ale is in, wyt is out. When ale is out, wyt is in. 1600 Shake. *Hamn.* II. ii. 90 Since Brouitie is the Soule of Wit, And tediousnesse, the limbes and outward flourishes, I will be breefe. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 386 For Lavish Grants suppose a Monarch tares And more his Goodness than his Wit proclaim. 1701 Swift *Contests Athens & Rome* II. Misc. (1711) 26 But, however, they had the Wit to recal him [*sc.* Aristides]. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 326 But they were taught more wit, to their cost, in two or three days. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. xi. 376 One piece of good fortune, of which I had the wit to take advantage. 1926 S. Baldwin in *Morn. Post* 8 Oct. 13/3 Men .. who .. had formed his Majesty's Government..and who had the wit to understand what the challenge meant.

† b. Contextually in predicative use: A piece of wisdom or prudence, a wise thing to do; also, something demanding or showing wisdom, a matter of practical wisdom. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 344 To fenyhe foly quhile is wyt. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1609 Þarfor es wit, to fast & mast, Wine or ale softly to tast. 1421–2 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xx. 115 Whane that a man is in prosperite, To drede a fall comynge it is a wit. 1582 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 289 Gettinge ys a chaunce and keapinge a witte.

†c. A prudent measure or proceeding; an ingenious plan or device. *Obs.*

The uses exemplified by the quots. are prob. of various or mixed origin.

1340 *Ayenb.* 257 Þe ilke eddre ous takþ a wel grat wyt þat we ne byere nazt þane charmere. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1400 *Hypsipyle & Medea*, To synadyn hym into sum fer cuntre Here as this Iason may distroyed be. This was his wit. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* vi. 16, I shall shew þe a goode wit in þis cas; and if þou wolt do after my counsile, þou shalt not repente. 1567 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* v. i, Was't not a pritty wit of mine..to haue had him rod into Puckridge, with a horne before him?

7. Quickness of intellect or liveliness of fancy, with capacity of apt expression; talent for saying brilliant or sparkling things, esp. in an amusing way. *arch.* (Cf. sense 8.)

Formerly sometimes opp. to *wisdom* or *judgement*; often distinguished from *humour* (see quots., and note s.v. Humour *sb.* 7).

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 61 As the Bee is oftentimes hurt with hir owne Honny, so is witte not seldome plagued with his owne conceipt. 1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 12 Men of all sorts take a pride to gird at mee I., I am not onely witty in my selfe, but the cause that wit is in other men. 1630 Davenant *Gondibert* Pref. (1651) 27 Wit is not only the luck and labour, but also the dexterity of thought. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* I. iii. iii. 37 That nimble and acceptable Faculty of the Mind, whereby some Men have a readiness, and subtilty, in conceiving things, and a quickness, and neatness, in expressing them, all which the custom of speaking comprehends under the name of Wit. 1704 Yalden *Sir W. Aston* 187 His flowing wit, with solid judgment join'd, Talents united rarely in a mind, Had all the graces and engaging art, That charm the ear and captivate the heart. 1763 Chesterf. *Lett. to Godson* (1890) 180 If you have real wit it will flow spontaneously and you need not aim at it... Wit is so shining a quality, that everybody admires it, most people aim at it, all people fear it, and few love it unless in themselves. 1777 M. Morgann *Ess. Dram. Char. Falstaff* 163 It being very possible, I suppose, to be a man of humour without wit; but I think not a man of wit without humour. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 169 Now Gilpin had a pleasant wit And lov'd a timely joke.

8. That quality of speech or writing which consists in the apt association of thought and expression, calculated to surprise and delight by its unexpectedness (for particular applications in 17th and 18th century criticism see esp. quots. 1650, 1677, 1685, 1690, 1704, 1709); later always with reference to the utterance of brilliant or sparkling things in an amusing way.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. ✽✽vij b, Neither dooe I esteme it a thyng worthie blame..with laughter to refreshe the mynde.., so that the matter to laugh at bee pure witte and honeste [orig. *modo ritus sit argutus ac liberalis*]. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* I. i. 64 They neuer meet, but there's a skirmish of wit between them. 1606 Chapman *Monsieur D'Olive* I. i, Critickes, Essayists, Linguists, Poets, and other professors of that facultie of wit. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch.-Porch* xxxix, Laugh not too much: the wittie man laughs least: For wit is newes onely to ignorance. 1650 Davenant *Gondibert* Pref. (1651) 26 Wit is the laborious, and the lucky resultances of thought having towards its excellence..as well a happinesse, as care. 1664 Flecknoe *Short Disc. Engl. Stage* G 6, Comparing him [Jonson] with Shakespear, you shall see the difference betwixt Nature and Art; and with Fletcher, the difference betwixt Wit and Judgement. 1677 Dryden *State Innoc., Apol. Her. Poetry* e 2 b, The definition of Wit..is only this: That it is a propriety of Thoughts and Words; or in other terms, Thought and Words, elegantly adapted to the Subject. 1684 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 16 Apr., Lord Chief Justice asked him 'if it were Oxford Wit', that also 'he should say that if *Magna Charta* would not do it *Longa Sparta* should do the busines'. 1685 Dryden *Sylvæ* Pref. A 6, I drew my definition of Poetical Wit from my particular consideration of him [Virgil]. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 2 Wit lying most in the assemblage of Ideas, and putting those together with quickness and variety. 1693 Dennis *Misc.* Pref. a 2 b, A true description of Wit; which is a just mixture of Reason and Extravagance. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Ded. (a) 3 b, *Les Petits Esprits*:..who like nothing but the Husk and Rhind of Wit; preferr a Quibble, a Conceit, an Epigram, before solid Sense and Elegant Expression. 1704 Pope *Lett. to Wycherley* 26 Dec., True Wit, I believe, may be defined a justness of thought, and a facility of expression. 1709 — *Ess. Crit.* 297 True Wit is Nature to advantage dress'd, What oft was thought, but ne'er so well express'd. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 62 P 2 Mr. Lock's Account of Wit, with this short Explanation, comprehends most of the Species of Wit, as Metaphors, Similitudes, Allegories, Ænigmas, Mottos, Parables, Fables, Dreams, Visions, dramatick Writings, Burlesque, and all the Methods of Allusion. 1744 Corbyn Thomas (*title*) An Essay Towards Fixing the True Standards of Wit, Humour, Raillery, Satire, and Ridicule. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iii. 19 We get beautiful effects from wit,—all the prismatic colours,—but never the object as it is in fair daylight. *a* 1859 Leigh Hunt in *Jrnl. Educ.* (1834) 1 Feb. 79 Wit consists in the arbitrary juxtaposition of dissimilar ideas for some lively purpose of assimilation or contrast, generally of both. 1900 Hammerton *J. M. Barrie & his Bks.* 78 There is more 'heart' in humour, and more 'head' in wit.

b. With qualification (see quots. and *sheer wit* s.v. Sheer *a.* 8 b).

1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch.-Porch* xl, When thou dost tell another jest, therein Omit the oathes, which true wit cannot need. 1653 Fleckno *Misc., Disc. Lang.* 100 Jests, Clenches, Quibbles, Bulls, &c.,...which although properly they be not Wit (excepting Jests onely, which is a kind of sportive and wanton wit). 1688 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 12 True Wit is everlasting, like the Sun. 1693 Dennis *Misc.* Pref. a 4 b, Scarron's Burlesque has nothing of a Gentleman in it, little of good Sense, and consequently little of true Wit. 1721 Gay *Prov. St. Wit* in Arb. *Garner* VI. 511 The *Spectator*, whom we regard as our Shelter from that flood of false wit and impertinence. 1727 Addison *Ovid's Met.* III. v. *note*, Wks. 1761 I. 243 As True wit is nothing else but a similitude in Ideas, so is False wit the similitude in Words. *Ibid.* 244 Ovid, who is the greatest admirer of this mixed wit of all the Ancients, as our Cowley is among the Moderns. 1763 Chesterf. *Lett. to Godson* (1890) 182 There is a species of minor wit, which is much used,..I mean Raillery. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Cowley* (1868) 80 These conceits Addison calls mixed wit; that is, wit which consists of thoughts true in one sense of the expression, and false in the other. 1792 D. Stewart *Elem. Philos. Hum. Mind* v. I. 305 *note*, I speak here of pure and unmixed wit, and not of wit, blended, as is most commonly, with some degree of humour.

†c. A witty saying or story; a *jeu d'esprit*: in the collocation *Wits, fits, and fancies*. *Obs.*

1595 A. C[opley] (*title*) Wits, Fittes and Fancies. Fronted and entermedled with Presidentes of Honour and Wisdome. 1626 W. Vaughan *Golden Fleece* I. 12 Except you season your *Auisoes* with some light passages wi.h wits, fits, & fancies. 1632 Brome *Northern Lasse* I. ii. B 2 b, Hee... breakes as many good iests as all the Wits, Fits, and Fancies about the Towne.

✽✽ 9. (*transf.* from 5.) A person of great mental ability; a learned, clever, or intellectual person; a man of talent or intellect; a genius. *arch.* or *Hist.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 2137 Wourschipfull Wawane, the wit of our were. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 285 Quhair is the wittis wont to reule Scotland? 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 60 You divine wits of elder Dayes, from whom The deep Invention of rare Works hath com. *c* 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* lix. 13 The wits of former daies, To subiects worse haue giuen admiring praise. 1638 Brathwait *Spir. Spicerie* 433 There goes an Author! One of the Wits! 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. xi. (1712) 124 Cartesius, that stupendious Mechanical Wit. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 181 There are a sort of sublimated Wits that will own neither God nor Devil. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Milton* Wks. II. 132 Milton, the scholar and the wit. 1806 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Tristia* 20 The world..Makes wits of fools, and sanctifies a sinner! 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* I. vi, One evening, at Paris,..there was a reunion of some of the most eminent wits of the time. 1867 'Ouida' *Cecil Castlemaine's Gage* 2 A circle of wits gathered 'within the steam of the coffee-pot' at Will's.

10. (*transf.* from 7.) A person of lively fancy, who has the faculty of saying smart or brilliant things, now always so as to amuse; a witty person.

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccclxxi. 343 Intemperate Wits will spare neither Friend nor Foe. 1727 Gay *Fables* I. x, Wits are game-cocks to one another. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 180 There is no character that succeeds so well among wits as that of a good listener. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Lond. Recreations*, Uncle Bill..is evidently the wit of the party. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xviii, Go on joking, Ann. You're the wit of the family.

III. Senses, chiefly obsolete, corresponding to those of L. *scientia* and *sententia*.

11. †a. Knowledge; learning; *pl.* departments of knowledge, sciences. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4838 Þe bissopes him answerede..Al wiþ grete reysons & wit of her boc. 13.. *Cursor M.* 18940 (Arundel MS.) Þe holy goost 3af hem..Of alle wittis to touche and tast. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) 43 Poore clerkes, for witte of scholc, I sette in churches, and made suche persones to preche. 1565 *Creation of Eve* in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 25 The tre is pleasante to gett wysedome & wytt.

†b. The fact of knowing, knowledge, awareness.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 799 Na,..hi seine wite, Y no herd þer-of neuer 3ete. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. x. 2936 God has reserwit til hym all þe wit of þat þat is to fal. 1483 in *Acts Parll. Scot.* (1875) XII. 32/1 Re counsaile command wit or consent of his hienes. [1648 Hexham, *Mijns weetens niet*, not with My weet, or knowledge.]

c. Knowledge communicated, 'intelligence', information, esp. in phr. *to get wit of*. *Sc.* and *north.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIX. 443 The lord Dowglas..Gat wit of thair enbuschement. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 325 In the toun no wit of this had thai. *Ibid.* XI. 1032 Quhill witt tharoff is in till Ingland gane. 1594–5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 474 The men that cessit and sought and gat wit of the silver disch that wes stollin. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 188 Bot on nowayis could they gett wott of him. 1633 M. P. *King & Poor Northern Man* 123 Belike the King of ine has gotten weet. *a* 1700 *Laidley Worm of Spindleston Heughs* xiv. in Child *Ballads* I. 312 The Child of Wynd got wit of it. 1824 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., 'He got wit'—he obtained intelligence.

†12. Meaning, signification: = Sense *sb.* 19–21.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* li. 5 And is þis þe wit. 1340 *Ayenb.* 96 Þe boȝes of þo trauе ine one wytte byeþ alle þe ychosene þet euere were. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1630, I sayn wolde Wyt þe wytte of þe wryt. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 277 Þe secounde witt is allegoryke.

†13. Way of thinking, opinion, judgement: = Mind *sb.*[1] 8, 9, Sense *sb.* 18. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1405 And verraylich hym semed þat he hadde The same wit. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2649 Þan were þay alle in wit;es tweyne. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 195 As many heddes, as manye wittes ther been. *c* 1386 — *Franhl. T.* 147 It dooth no good to my wit, but anoyeth. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8135 What is 3oure wit? how thenke 3ow? 1555 Phaer *Æneid* II. (1558) C iv, The comons into sondry wittes diuided wer and stood. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 282 The old Proverbe..: so many heades, so many wittes.

IV. 14. Combinations. a. attrib., as *wit-battle, -combat, -contest, -pride, -sally, -shaft, -sponge, -trap, -work*. b. objective, as *wit-carrier, -gathering, -stealer; wit-writing; wit-assailing, -cherishing, -gracing, -infusing, -oppressing* adjs. c. instrumental, as *wit-abused, -beaten, -drawn, -fraught(ed, -pointed* adjs. d. adverbial (= in, or with respect to, the wit or wits), as *wit-foundered, -starved, -stung, -wondrous, -worn* adjs. e. Special Combs.: wit-crack, the 'cracking' of a joke (cf. Crack *v.* 5), a brisk witticism; so wit-cracker, one who makes witty or sarcastic remarks; wit-craft, †(*a*) the art of using one's 'wit' or intellect in reasoning, logic; (*b*) exercise of one's wits; wit-jar, an imaginary vessel humorously feigned to contain the wits or senses (in allusion to Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso* XXXIX. lvii); †wit-lost *a.*, having lost wit, senseless, foolish; wit-monger, a 'dealer' in wit, an utterer of witty sayings (*contemptuous*); †wit-rack *nonce-wd.*, a faculty of eliciting speech by wit (as a rack elicits a confession); †wit-snapper = *wit-cracker*; †wit-stand, in phr. *at a wit-stand* (cf. Stand *sb.*[1] 6), = at one's wit's end (see 2 d); †wit-state, state of being in one's wits, condition of sanity; †wit-tooth = Wisdom Tooth; †wit-wanton *a.*, making a wanton use of the 'wit' or understanding; also as *sb.*; †wit-wanton *v. intr.* (with *it*), to exercise the understanding wantonly; also, to indulge in wanton wit; †wit-worm, one who has developed into a wit (like a 'worm' or caterpillar emerging from the egg); †wit-worship, worship devised by human 'wit' or intellect without divine authority or sanction (cf. Will-worship); †wit-would, †wit-would-be, a pretender to wit, a would-be wit; †wit-wright, a maker of wit, an author of witty sayings.

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* 40 The will *witt-abus'd. 1601 Chester *Love's Mart.* (1878) 106 The *wit-assailing Frensie. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) p. lxxii, The *Wit-battel of the two Buffoons. 1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingdon* (Percy Soc.) 50 Sheele persecute the poore *wit beaten man. 1708 *Engl. Theophrastus* 7 *Wit-carriers, whose business is, to export the fine Things they hear. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* D 4, That kinde *wit-cherishing climate. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Warwickshire* III. (1662) 126 Many were the *wit-combates betwixt him [*sc.* Shakspere] and Ben Johnson. 1892 Child *Ballads* VIII. 430/1 *Wit-contests in verse. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* III. xxx. § 2. 256 Satan budges not for a thousand such Squibs and *Wit-cracks. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* v. iv. 102 A Colledge of *witte-crackers cannot flout mee out of my humour, dost thou think I care for a Satyre or an Epigram? 1573 R. Lever (*title*) The Arte of Reason, rightly termed, *Witcraft. 1603 Camden *Rem., Rebus* 146 He was no body that coulde not hammer out of his name an invention by this wit-craft. 1593 Hardy *Dynasts* I. i. iii, A witcraft marked by nothing more of weight Than ignorant irregularity! 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 386 *Witdrawn, wire-drawn curiosities. 1613 Bovs *Expos. Last Ps.* (1615) 7 The *wit-foundred drunkard. 1603 L. Diggs in *Shake. 1st Folio*, Thy *wit-fraught Bookes. 1603 Dekker *Commend. Poems* in J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Oe 2 b, His *witt-fraughted workes. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* III, I sat up in bed, uncertain in the effort of *wit-gathering if night had not given me a dream rather than an experience. 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 34 Your *Wit-gracing Skill. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* 65 *Wit-infusing Mercury. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VII. lxxxvii. 326 Dr. Hale..was my good Astolfo (you read Ariosto, Jack) and has brought me back my *wit-jar. 1599

Poems *Angry Wom. Abingdon* (Percy Soc.) 13 Ill report doth like a bailiffe stand, To pound the straying and the *wit-lost tongue. 1620 Shelton *2nd Pt. Don Quix.* xxxi. 203 The Prater and *Wit-monger. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 620 [He] was..cried up as the main witmonger surviving to the fanatical party. 1701 Chester *Love's Mart.* (1878) 102 *Wit-oppressing Drunkenness. 1869 *Routledge's Eng. Boy's Ann.* 546 The butt of their *wit-pointed pencils. 1891 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1131 All the golden *Wit-pride of Humanity, Wherewith men burnish their erroneous vanity. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. vi. 269 He had a pretty *wit-rack in himself,..to draw speech out of the most sullen and silent guest. 1649 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* T iij, A certain passion muche lyke to madnesse or *witrauyng. 1907 Raleigh *Shakespeare* 174 The *wit-sallies of Beatrice and Rosalind. 1881 Swinburne *Mary Stuart* I. iii. 64 Our keeper's *wit-shaft is too keen for ours To match with pointless iron. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. v. 54 What a *witte-snapper are you. 1632 Brome *Crt. Beggar* II. i. (1653) O 6 b, This humorous wity Lady is a *wit-sponge, that suckes up wit from some, and holds as her own. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 188 They were at a *wit-stand. 1828–32 Webster, *Wit-starved*, barren of wit; destitute of genius. *Examiner.* *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7937 Sho lost hir *witt state. 1886 Corbett *Fall of Asgard* xxxv, Surely is ale a _____ *wit-stealer. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* IV. i, Fie I am mad, Sham'd and disgrac't, all *wit-stung, wisdomlesse. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XI. xxxvii. I. 338 The farthest *cheek-teeth in a mans head, which be called *Gemini*, (*i.* the *Wit-teeth). 1730 Fielding *Author's Farce* I. vi, Nor was it cram'd with a pack of *Wit-traps, like Congreve and Wycherly, where every one knows when the joke was coming. 1612 Sylvester *Lachr. Lachr.* 99 Epicures, *Wit-wantons, Atheists. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* X. iv. § 4. 62 How dangerous it is for wit-wanton Men, to dance with their nice Distinctions, on such Mystical Precipices. 1642 — *Holy & Prof. St.* III. ii. 155 More dangerous it is to *wit wanton it with the Majestie of God. 1793 Southey *Joan of Arc* IX. 268 Wretched Maid I.. England's inhuman Chiefs Shall..black thy spotless fame, Wit-wanton it with lewd barbarity. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 584 *Wit-wondrous Salomon. 1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* I. i, You'are sure to have leuse-*wit-worke, gentle brother. 1612 — *Catiline* II. i, What hast thou done With thy poore innocent selfe?..Thus to come forth, so sodainly, a *wit-worme? 1647 C. Harvey *Schola Cordis* (1778) 153 That which worldly wit-worms call nonsense. 1617 *Greene's Groat's W. Wit* Pref. A 2, So many *Witworn Ideots. *a* 1689 Hinde *J. Bruen* XXX. (1641) 93 That such service unto Saints, is but *witt-worship, will-worship, and Idol-service. 1641 Sanderson *Serm., Ad Clerum* (1681) II. 4 God will not approve of, nor accept any Wit-worship, or Will-worship, forged or devised by man. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* Ded., This Play had been Acted two or three Days, before some of these hasty Judges cou'd find the leisure to distinguish betwixt the Character of a *Wit-*wou*d and a *True*wit. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess. Men & Manners* LXXXVI. Wks. 1765 II. 225 A wit-would cannot afford to discard a frivolous conceit. 1771 Sheridan in *Rival Beauties* 16 Then grinning Witwould—tho' no Teague—Who more successful in intrigue? 1681 H. More *Let.* 15 in Glanvill *Sadducismus*, Our professed *Wit-would-be's of this present Age. 1633 Strode *Floating Isl.* Ded. A 2 b, If..*wit-wrights Poets be. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* Pref., Ess. (1900) I. 14 Wit in the poet, or *Wit writing, (if you will give me leave to use a school-distinction).

† **Wit**, *pron. Obs.* Also 1 wyt, 3 wet, (*Orm.*) witt. [OE. *wit* = OFris. **wit* (NFris. *wat*, *wet*), OS. *wit*, ON. (MSw.) *vit*, Goth. *wit*: f. unstressed form of We *pron.* with obscure dental element.] We two.

Beowulf 535 Wit þæt ȝecwædon cnihtwesende. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 22 Mage ȝyt drincan þone calic ðe ic to drincenne hæbbe? Þa cwædon hiȝ: Wyt magon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 ȝif..wit beon anes lauerdes men. *c* 1200 Ormin 901 Witt sinndenn off awille elde nu þatt witt ne muȝhenn tæmenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 23633 Wit tweie. *Ibid.* 23663 Fahten wet acullen unc seoluen. *Ibid.* 26263 Fare wit [*c* 1275 we two] to ulhte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1775 Frend sule wit ben. And trewðe plit3t nu unc bi-twen.

Wit, *v.*[1] *arch.* exc. in legal use: see 10 c (*b*). Pres. t. wot (*Sc.* and *north. dial.* wat); pa. t. and pple. wist. Forms: see below. [A Com. Teut. preterite-present verb: OE. *witan*, 1st and 3rd sing. pres. ind. *wāt*, 2nd pers. *wāst*, pl. *witon*, pa. t. *wisse*, *wiste*, pa. pple. *gewiten*, OFris. *wita*, *wēt*, **wast*, **witon*, *witen* and *witath*, *wiste* (mod. Fris. dialects have various analogical forms, e. g. pa. pple. *wist*, *wust*), OS. *witan*, *wēt*, *wēst*, *witun*, *wissa* (MLG., MDu. *wēten*, *weet*, *weets*, *weten*, *wiste*, *gheweten*, LG., Du. *weten*), OHG. *wizzan*, *wiȝan*, *weiz*, *wiz(g)umês*, *wiz(g)un*, *wissa*, *wista*, (*gi*)*wiȝan* (MHG. *wizzen*, *weiz*, *wizzen*, *wisse*, *wiste*, *wesse*, *weste*, *wuste*, *gewizzen*, *gewist*, G. *wissen*, *weiss*, *weisst*, *wissen*, *wusste*, *gewusst*), ON. *vita*, *veit*, *veist*, *vitum*, *vissa*, *vitaðr*, (Sw. *veta*, *vet*, *visste*, *vetat*, Da. *vide*, *ved*, *vidste*, *vidst*), Goth. *witan*, *wait*, *waist*, *witum*, *wissa*: f. OTeut. *wait-*, *wit-* :— Indo-Eur. *weid-*, *weid-*, *wid-* to see (? orig. to find), also found in OE. adj. *wis* (see Wis *sb.*), Wise *sb.*[1], Wise *a.*, Wit.

The OE. preterite-pres. *wāt*, *wāst*, *witon*, and their equivalents in the other Germanic langs. (= prop-erly, I have seen, hence, I know), correspond to Skr. *vēda*, *vēttha*, *vidmá*, Gr. *οἶδα*, *οἶσθα*, *ἴδμεν* (*ἰδμεν*), OSl. *vědě*, *věsi*, etc., OPruss. 2nd sing. *waisei*, 1st pl. *waidimai*, and are based on Indo-Eur. *weid-*, *wid-*. OE. 2nd pers. sing. *wāst* (see A. 2 b below) is an altered form of **wēs* by analogy with *mēaht* (2nd sing. pres. of May *v.*[1]). Similarly OE. *wisse* is an altered form of earlier *wisse* after regular weak forms in *-te*.

Indo-Eur. *weid-*, *weid-*, *wid-* is represented also by Skr. *vēda* knowledge (see Veda), *vittás* known, *vittás* found, Gr. *εἶδος* appearance, shape, *ἰδέα* form, *εἶδον* (= **ϝίϝιδον*) I saw, *ἀείδελος* invisible, *εἰδέναι* to know, *ἰδεῖν* to see, *ἄιστος* unseen, unknown, L. *vidēre* to see, Olr. *fiad* 'coram', *fiadu* witness, *adfiadat* they relate, *rofitar* I know, *fis* knowledge, W. *gwydd* presence, *gwyddom* we know, OSl. *viděti* to see, *vědĕti* to know, Lith. *veidas* face, Arm. *gitem* I know, *egit* he found; and (with nasal infix) Skr. *vindáti* finds, Gr. *ἰσόϊλλεσθαι* to appear, Olr. *finnaim* I find out.

The original conjugation, typically represented by *to wit* or *wete*, pres. *I* and *he wot*, *thou wost*, *we*, *ye*, and *they wite*, pa. t. *wist*, pa. pple. *witen*, presented many apparent anomalies, and various attempts at normalization were made by means of analogical formations and irregular extension of the use of certain forms, with the result that new infinitive and present-stem forms came into existence which it is necessary to treat separately: see Wis *v.*[1], Wist *v.*, Wot *v.*, and the archaistic Wert *v.*[1] (For forms combined with prefixed negative *ne* see Nete, Nist, Niten, Nost, Not *v.*[2], Nute.)]

A. Inflexional Forms.

1. Infinitive. *a* [1]. 1 witan (witenne, -an(n)e, -on(n)e), 2–5 witen, 3–5 wyten, wite, 4–5 wytene, (whyte, wiet), 4–6 wyt(e, wytte, witte, *Sc.* vit, (1 wiotan, wietan, *Northumb.* wuta, 3 witene, *Orm.* witenn, 4 witin, witten, wijt, wyete, *Sc.* vyt, -e, 5 wiete, whitte), 4–7 witt, 5–6 wytt, 4– wit. *a* [2]. 4–6 wet, wette, (4 *Sc.* vet), 5 wetten. *β.* 4–5 wetyn, 4–6 weit(e, 4–7 wete, 5 weten(e, 5–7 weete, (8–9 *arch.*) weet, (6 *arch.* westen). (See also Wert *v.*[1], Wot.)

. *a*[1]. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 1 Siþ þu þonne heora þeawas witan wilt. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* Pref. 7 Ða ðe niedbeðearfosta ælen eallum monnum to wiotonne. *Ibid.* xv. 92 Mare to wietenne ðonne eow ðearf sie. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1050 (MS. D) Hit is earfoð to witanne þara biscopa þe þærtocomon. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 ȝef..me hit mihte witen. *c* 1205 Lay. 26607 Heo wolden wite þat seoðe of Walwain. *c* 1290 *St. Clement* 128 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 326 He wilnede muche to wyten of god. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8301 Þou sal wijt on quatkin wise [etc.]. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3763 Na man .. may wytte Whether [etc.]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Þet is to wytene. 13.. *Cursor M.* 12204 (Göttt.) Hu sal he witt quat tav mai be? *Ibid.* 19779 (Edin.) Þat petir mo3te witte quat sco were. *Ibid.* 23633 If þai oht mai witin [*v. r.* witten] þar. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 231 Vch wy3e may wel wit. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 27 Þat þou niht wyte..whuche þei ben. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Cristofore*) 401 Gyf þu vit wil myn cunctre. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1367 To whyte what hure wille were. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 490 I.ate hyme wiet..I salle..take lete. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4492 To wyten whether..Myn hamer hem touchyd. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 82 She wolde gladly witen what a-mendes the kynge wolde do. ? 1473 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 156, I lett you whitte I am gretts with the Kyng. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 168 There be none..but wold be glad to wite me do wele. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxiii. 8 One ys youre master, that is to wytt Christ. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 53 Desir notht to vit. 1577 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* 393 You must witte. 1580 wytte [see *β.* 1531]. 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 31 To witt. 1795 wit [see B. 3 c].

a[2]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22556 (Edin.) Quen nan sal wet quar þam to nest. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 404 God has send me..þi lyfe, þe stat, al hal to vet. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 948 To wette of the warlawe, whare that he lenges. *c* 1460 *Play Sacrum.* 188 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 63 Off yower welfare fayn wet wold we. 1520 Sir R. Grenham in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 234 Yt may pleasse your Grace to wette I have [etc.].

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2875 (Cott.) How sal we o þis waters weit [*Fairf.* wete] Quedir þai be fulli fallen yeit? 13.. *Northern Passion* (MS. I) 648 *a* Wele maye we alle wetyn and se þat it myghte neuyr so be. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 237 (Douce MS.) Yit wetene I wolde What wrathede god ——— *c* 1400 *Melayne* 120 He dose þe wele to weite. *c* 1425 *Noah's Ark* 131 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 23 How Thou shalt weet all his will. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 Wytyn', or wetyn', or knowyn'. 1475 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 130 It pleasyd yow to weete of myn heele. 1532 Elyot *Gov.* I. lx, Lattinge you weete [*ed.* 1580 wytte] that we haue a sonne borne. 1596 weeten [see B. 10 c (*b*)]. 1600 weete [see B. 9 b]. 1620 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 122 You shall..do the Maior..to weete thereof. 1742, 1829 weet [see B. 10 c (*a*)].

2. Indicative Present. *a. 1st and 3rd pers. sing.* *a.* 1–6 (8–9 *Sc.*) wat, I, 4–6 watt, (1 uat, I, 3 wet, 3 what, waht, 4 *north.* waite, wayte, quat, -e, *Sc.* vat), 4–5 watte, 4–7 (8 *Sc.*) wate, 5–9 *Sc.* and *n. dial.* wait (6 vait). *β.* 3–9 wot, (3 wod, 4 woth), 4–5 woot, (whot, 5 whotte, wout), 4–6, 8 wote, 5–6 woote, wotte, 5–7 wott. Also in 1st pers. combined with prefixed pronoun (ichot, chote): see I *pron.* A. *β* [2] and Ch *pron.*

a. *c* 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John viii. 55 Ic..ooss *wat* wat [*c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* watt] hine. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 He hit wat ðe wat alle þing. *c* 1205 Lay. 7062 Wel ich hit wat what Bruttis wæs. *Ibid.* 28088 Ich what..agan is al mi blisse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3060 Mi fader..fars well, I watte. 13.. *Ibid.* 12279 (Göttt.) Fire I quat him mai noght brin. 13.. *Northern Passion* (Camb. Gg. 2. 32) 336. I hafe done I ne wete what. *Ibid.* 2654 Onone pilate a lettyr he wrate, So says seynt Iohne þat wele wayte. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* cxviii. 2987 (MS. W.) Quhylyr it so were .. I wait nocht. 1585 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews* 172, I wait now what the prophet menis. 1615 Braithwait *Strappado* (1878) 129 Wele I wate. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 25 And that's an unco faut I wate. 1785 _____ I wat she made nae laukin. 1824 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Wait*, wot.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Þeo _____ _____ ich wet. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1190 Ich.. _____ þat to kunnen is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8298 Wil i wote al þi yerning. 13.. *Ibid.* 2378 (Göttt.) His catel wele i woth [*Trin.* I woot]. 13.. *Gest Warw.* (A.) 590 Ichot for sobe he wil me ale. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 77 No preiat whot where he schal be dampnyd. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1359 *Dido*, Wel I woot hit is al in vayne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12359, I wotte hit full wele. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 13 He whot never heu none God wyl here his bone. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xvi. 4, I wootе what to do. 1600 Holland *Livy* I. i, Neither wote I well, nor if I wist, dare I advouch. 1775 J. Tait *Land of Liberty* I. xiv. 93 Here oft, I wote, dame Ignorance was seen. 1862 H. A. Kennedy *Waifs & Strays* 137, I well wot.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* *a.* 1–4 wast, (1 wæst, uast, 3 *Orm.* wasst), 3–5 wost, 4–5 woost, woste. Also combined with foll. pron.: 1 waatu, 3 wostu, 4–5 wostow(e. *β.* See Wot *v.* *γ.* 4 *Sc.* wittis.

a. a 900 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 73 Wæst þe bæles cwealm hatne in helle? *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John iii. 8 Ne wastu hwonа cymeð & hwider gað. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xiii. 7 Þu nast nu þæt ic do, ac þu wast syððan. *c* 1205 Lay. 15836 Nu þu hit wost. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 716 Wostu to wan man was ibore? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25477 Vnworthi am i, wel þou wast. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 79 Þou woost wel þat Farisens..ben scleaundrid. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6075, I bidde thee teche hem, wostowe howe. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 124/2 Thou woste not what thou sayest.

γ. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* III. (*Andreas*) 908 Bot-gyf þu will hertly trow, þu vittis nocht þu speris now [*nunquam tu ad imaginem hujus veritatis attinges*].

c. *Plural.* *a*[1]. 1 witon, weotan, wutu(n, -on, wut(t)on, 2 witan, 2–5 witen (3 *Orm.* -enn, wuten), 3–5 wyten (3 wuyten, 4 whiten, 5 wittin); 3–5 wite, 4 witte, 5 wyte, wytte; 4 weten, -in, 5 wet, weet, wete. *a*[2]. 1 wutaþ, witaþ, witteð, wutas, 3 wutes, 3–4 wuteþ, 3–5 witeþ (4 -yþ, wyteþ, wteþ, wites, 5 whiteþ, wittis; 5 weteþ, -iþ, -yþ). *β.* See Wot *v.*

a[1]. *c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* II. v, We weotan þæt we þas þearfe nabbað. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 22 Ne uutuze huæt ȝe ziwas. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xvi. 30 Nu we witon þæt þu wast ealle ðing. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) Introd. 3 We witan oþer eghand. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Nusten heo nawiht swa muchel of him awa we witen. *c* 1200 Ormin 7932 Þatt witenn menn inoȝhe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 101 Hie wuten..wuderward hie sullen wele holden. 390 Adam and eue it wite ful sare. *c* 1275 *Passion our L.* 261 in *O. E. Misc.* 44 Hwat ich to beom seyde, wel wyten heo. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1025 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 136 Ȝe wuyten wel. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 77 Siþ prelatis witte not where here preiere be acceptable. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. viii. (Skeat) I. 80 Ye weten wel..that ..I defouled never my conscience. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* iii. 201 Lordis wet neuere what comouns greues. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* 483 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 204 Ȝe wittin wal þat he is king. 1440 *Jack Upland* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 17 These wretches weet never where to been. 1468 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5328 Ye wyte wel.

a[2]. *c* 900 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ii. 20 þætte..wutaþ [*Rushw.* witaþ] gie ðætte he mæht hæfeð sunu monnes. *Ibid.* x. 42 *Scitis*, wutaziе [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* wite ȝe]. — Luke xxi. 30 Witteð [*Rushw.* wutaþ] gie þætte neh is ðe summer. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John iv. 22 We worðigaþ þætte we wutun. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 To wel we hit wuteð. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1005 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 135 Wel we wutes. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* 18 As ȝe witeþ wel. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iv. 4 Ȝe seke vanytes; and wites þat it is vayne that ȝe luf. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 89 Men witeþ neuere what it menеþ. *a* 1400–40 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 122 Ȝe wyteþ [*v. rr.* weteþ, wetyth, whiteþ]. 1409 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IV. Pref. 209 Glf ony of the forseaide lordis wittis..ony r of grefe..appersand til other.

3. *Subjunctive Present.* 1–5 wite (*pl.* witen), (1 wiete, *Northumb.* witto, -e, -u, 3 wute, 4 wijt, witte, vit), 4–5 wyt, 4–6 wit, wyte, wete, 5 weete.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 191 Sua sua hie selfe wieten..ðæt hi hit for Gode don. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke I. 18 *Unde hoc sciam*, huona ðis witto? *c* 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (1888) 16 He wite þæt he..larcie hine to gescead azeldenne. *c* 1200 Ormin 3710 Þatt tu ne wite nan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 God hit wute & he hit wot. 13.. in Sir W. Pole *Old Evid.* (? 1840) 1 Vit alle men þat þis skrite heris and see. 1340 *Ayenb.* 5 Þis boc is ywrite nor engliase men, þet hi wyte hou hi zsolle nam-zelue seriue. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 372 Wete lordis well þat [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Gawayn* 644 It is good that we witen what men they be. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 14348 (Trin.), I wol þat alle witen. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 33, I wil ye wete Two precyous relykys I her have wyth me. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VI. viii. 195, I wyl that thou wete and knowe that I am Launcelot du lake. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 145 Awaye or a man wite. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. (S.T.S.) II. 104 To defend him selfe, that..tha steil him nocht doune or he wit.

4. *Past tense* (*indic.* and *subj.*). *a.* 1 wisse, 1–6 wiste, (1, 3 *Orm.* wisste), 3–6 wyste, 4–6 wyst, (4 wijst, *Sc.* viste, 4–6 *Sc.* vist, vyst, 5 wyste), 4– wist. Also in 3rd pers. pl. combined with foll. pron. 4 wistey, wystey. *β.* 1 *pl.* westan, 4–6 west (4–5 weste), 6 *Sc.* weist. *γ.* 1 wyste, 3–5 wuste, (3 weste), 4–6 wust. *δ.* 4–5 woste. *ε.* 4 *Sc.* wyttyt.

a. Beowulf 281 Nу wiston hie drihten god. *Ibid.* 246 Nу ge leas|mæword. guðfremmendra ȝearwe ne wisson. *Ibid.* 2319 Ȝif ic wiste. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 18 He wiss forðon þæt ðurh æfist saldon hine. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Hee wisten..þet he wes hall. *c* 1200 Ormin 302 Ilc an..Wisste full wel. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 166 in *O. E. Misc.* 42 He wyste þat þe Gywes hyne þouhte spille.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* [illegible] his maister word. *Ibid.* 16034 [illegible] was leif to lei. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3068 Betters wistey nought what for to do. *Ibid.* 8021 wystey. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 52 Men..þat wist both of wele and wo. 73.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 152 He ne wyst on worde what he warp schulde. 83.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 462 Never more þen þay wyste fram queþen he was wonnen. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 771 Quhethir scho..Went, or vist it vitterly. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egidiana*) 1307 He..vyst it was scho. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13839 All wiston tho wise.. He shuld duly be ded. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 25 When these..men wisten that Vortiger sholde be kynge. 1537 Q. Margaret in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 120 And..thys Raulme vyst that ze vold be dysplesyd. 1596 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) B v. She shewed..all that she wiste. 1596 R. Peterson *G. della Casa's Galateo* 12 The Count .. neuer wyst of his fault. 1884 Swinburne *Chastelard* 1. ii. 200 And that, God wot, I wist not.

β. a 1000 *Judith* 207 Westan beȝen þæt [etc.]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 Þet hi westen be hare wylle. 1539 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 170 He west not, whether [etc.]. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 178, I..weist not what it meind.

γ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cvi. 29 Swa he hira willan wyste fyrmest. *c* 1205 Lay. 525 He..wuste, þat þe king..forð sculde Iwenden. *Ibid.* 1167 His sæ-monnen, þe..þa lawen wusten. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 20 Eiþer seide of oþeres custe þat alere worste þat hi wuste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2025 Þo he wste wat he was. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 52 Wust I þat,..þer nis noujur Wyndou ne Auter, þat I ne schulde maken oþur mende. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 326 He wuste he schelde heþen wende. 1555 Phaer *Æneid.* II. (1558) D iii b, Nor what to do I wust.

δ. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 55 Me wost not where me myste mete ham. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 6 Whanne her fader wost she was with childe. 1492 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 274/2 Robert..maid faith he wost nocht quhare It was.

ε. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 156 He wyttyt [*v.r.* askit] at thaim of thair far.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* I, 4, 6 wistest (I wistes, *subj.* wisse, wiste), 4 wystest, (vistes), wiste, 4–5 wyste, wist, 6 wyst.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 3 Ic wolde þæt þu me sædest hwæþer ðu wisse hwæt þu self wære. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John I. 48 Huonæ..mec wistes ðu? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. XXV. 26 Þu wistest þæt ic rype þær ic ne sawe. 13.. *K. Hor.* (Harl.) Tech him alle þe listes þat þou euer wystest [*Laud MS.* vistes]. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. viii. (Skeat) I. 31 In as fer as thou hem wistest false. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xlv, Wist thou thy payne to cum..wele myght thou wepe. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 186 If þou here dome wyste. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 24 Yf thou wyst and knew the grette merueylles. 1587 Goldinc *De Mornay* iii. (1592) 81 If thou wistest how to vse them.

δ. *Imperative.* Stem as in 1; endings: *sing.* 1–6 -ø; occas. combined with foll. pron. 4 witow; *pl.* 1 -aþ, 1–5 -ø (in *wite* 3ø), 1, 4–5 -eþ, 4–5 -eth, 5 -iþ, -yþ; *north.* 1 -as, 4 -s, 5 -is, -ys; also sing. and (4–) pl. without ending.

a 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 943 Wite ðu þe gearwor þæt ðu.. anforlete..lufan dryhtnes. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. viii, Witaþ ge þæt hit swa nis. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 183 Wit þa þonne þæt ic eom dry. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lv. 4 [3] Wite ge [*scitote*] þæt God gemycclade his done gehalgodan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Wite ge hwet wes sinagoge on þam alde laje. *c* 1200 Ormin 803 Witt tu þatt icc amm Gabriel. *c* 1205 wite þu þes B. 51. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4727 Wijt [*Gött.* wit] yee wel. *Ibid.* 20275 Has na dred, bot wijts it wele. 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 234 Wetep þat he me hated ar 3ow. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 312 Wete þu wel. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 68 A gladere wommon..no miȝt go on erþe..witow for sope. *c* 1400 Maundev. vi. [v.] (1919) I. 23 And wyte 3ee wel þat [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2775 Wetys hit all wele ..þat þe dayens you derit. 1441 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1450, 69/2 Wittis me to hafe gevin [etc.]. 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* Prol. 3 Witith welle that Aristotilis made..many wondres. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 396 Syr, wyte that charlemagne is come wyth his oost. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 177 Wit ye thay did thair baner bye display.

6. *Present Participle.* α. 1, 4 witende, (1 wittende, weotende), 4 *n. dial.* witand, wetand (*Sc.* wittand), 4–6 *Sc.* wittand; 4–6 witing, wyt-, etc., 5–6 weting, -ynge(, 6– witting.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (ed. Schipper) 95/1 No priuytes.' *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 86 Wittand na wa. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2714 Noon..wetyng what sche ment. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. N. T.* Pref. 8 Wall wetyng that [etc.]. 1867 Bailey *Universal Hymn* 8 Witting nought.

7. *Past Participle.* α. 1–5 witen, (2 wy-, 4 -in), 4–5 witten, 5 wytene, wetyn, -un, -en(e, *Sc.* 5 witting, 5–6 -in, witne, 6 *Sc.* wyttin, 8 (?) wit. β. 3, 5 west, 4 weste, 4–6 wyst, 5 wyste, wiste, 4– wist.

α. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke XII. 2 Nis nan þing..behydd þæt ne sy witen [*Hatton Gosp.* gewyten]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6996 In his time war þe fabus witten, þat yelt er thorn þe bokes witten [*Gött.* witin, *Trin.* witen]. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 869 Hade I wytene of this. *c* 1400 *Pwaine & Gaw.* 2810 Sho lete als sho him noght had sene, Ne wetyn that he thar had bene. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* CXXXVIII. 435 Gif þai had witting, herd, or sene. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* LXXVI. v, To be written..euer to be knowen and weten. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 604 And I had wittin. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 32, I wald þat it wer wittin. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* X. (S.T.S.) II. 444 Gif the peple had witne. 17.. *Jamie Douglas* iii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 98 An I had wit what I wit now.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28130 Als he had wist it noght. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 33 (Digby MS.) Suþþen haul þoled and west [*Harl. MS.* wyst] Bope chele, hounger and þurste. *a* 1320 *K. Horn* 1484 (Harl.) Knyhtes of þe beste þat he euer hede of weste. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* 2 still. 67 Y have wiste suche men. ? 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 131 And y had west that 3e would a taked so sor. 1526 wyst [see Had-I-wist]. 1792 [see B. 7]. 1844 wist [see B. 1 d].

B. Signification.

I. Simple senses.

1. *trans.* To have cognizance or knowledge of; to be aware of; to know (as a fact or an existing thing). a. with simple obj.: = Know *v.* 8, 11 f.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Frunan maran þinges þonne ænges mannes gemet wære her on eorðan, þæt hit witan mihte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John IV. 10 Gif þu wistest godes gyfe, & hwæt se is þe cwið to þe, syle me drincan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Nis nan sunne þet he [*sc.* the priest] ne con; oðer he heo wat ðurh, þet he heo dude him seolf. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 112 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 167 Þe ðe leat wat biseȝȝ ofte mest, þe hit al wat is stille. *c* 1200 Ormin 11259 Þins wast tu wel to sope. *c* 1250 *Hymn to God* 12 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 Þu þe wost al ure þoucht, louerd drauȝ us neor þe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 129 Þe welder of wyt, þat wot alle þynges. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 638 A bettere knist wot y non. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 389 For aught I woot, he was of Dertemouthe. *Ibid.* 595 Wel wiste he by the droghte, and by the reyn, The yeldynge of his seed, and of his greyn. *c* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxix, The trauthe fulle littille thay wote. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 679 The best Counsayle that I now wott. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 225 None wist his nome. 1530 Tindale *Lev.* v. 17 Though he wist it not, he hath yet offended. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 105 If ye had wist the cause of our comming. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 23 The perill of this place I better wot then you. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. liii, You are Heavens Privy-Counsellour, I understond, Which I wist not before. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* III. xxxi. 347 Wot ye not the indelicacy of an early present, which you are not obliged to make? 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxix, I wot that but too well.

b. with dependent statement (sometimes anticipated by a pronoun (*it, this*) as obj., which in the pass. const. becomes the subj.): = Know *v.* 11 a.

Beowulf 821 Grendel..wiste þe geornor þæt his aldres wæs ende gegongen. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 121 His wiston þæt heora eþel..sceolde..gesæted weorþan mid halgum sawlum. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* XV. 8 Hu mæg ic witan þæt ic hyt agan sceal? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. XXV. 24 Ic wat þæt ðu eart heard mann. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He wiste silker þat hit wurðen solde. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 61 Ich wot þat þu art vnMilde Wiþ heom þat ne Muwe from þe schilde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3034 Nu ic wot we haue mis-don. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1345, I wot, he wllen þe nouth werne. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5131 Hit haþ ofte be wyst & sen, þat wraþe bytwyxte kynde haþ ben. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 509, I will blythly apon me ta The state, for I wate that I have rycht. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 87 Þou woost not to-day þat þou schalt lyue to-morowe. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8776, I wot my syȝff yt ys nat so. 1436 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) as Efter Leoun, was chosin a woman pape nocht wittand that scho was a woman. *a* 1516 More *Rich. III* Wks. 37/1 Whose death kyng Edwarde..when he wist it was done, pitiously bewailed. 1530 Tindale *Gen.* XX. 6, I wot it well that thou dydest it in purenesse of thi herte. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. v. 16 As witting I no other comfort haue. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8, I wat on him she did na gloom. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* v, Well wot I thou hast not heard the call of a true preacher. 1899 *Century Mag.* Dec. 300/2 They ..witting little that the tide has long since turned.

c. with dependent question (also *ellipt.*): = Know *v.* 11 b.

See also What *pron.* 8 b (quots. *a* 1000, *c* 1560, 1568, 1570, 1603) and Watna-what.

Beowulf 2519 Nolde ic sweord beran,..ȝif ic wiste hu wið ðam ælwihtan elles meahte gylpe wiðgripan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John VIII. 14 Ic uat huona ic cuom & huidder ic geonge. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Wel ic wat hwer ic sceal milcien. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 Ne schalt tu neuer more eft witen hu me stont. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1202 Ich wot ȝef treon schule blowe; Ich wat þef corneȝ schule growe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 64 Wydur to wende ne wat he noght. 1340 *Ayenb.* 9 To yelde þet he heþ of oþre manne kueadliche, yef he wot to huam. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 22 Þat I was in A Wildernesse, wuste I neuer where. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 452 It is reservyd to God, to wete wiche [sin] is dedly and which is venyal. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6646 At Rypoun hostelere he was, I ne wate how many 3ere. 1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, X. 138 Forbicause..that two of his servauntes wer sick, he wist not wherof [etc.]. Scott *Rob Roy* XXVI, Whether they speak Gaelic or no I wotna. 1842 Macaulay *Battle of Lake Regillus* XIX, And none wist where he lay.

d. with obj. and compl., or acc. and inf.: = Know *v.* 11 c.

Beowulf 1309 Syðþan he aldorþegn unlyfigendne, þone deorestan deadne wisse. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* XXVII. § 1 Forðæm he hine wiste awiðe ungesceadwisne. *a* 1000 *Colleg.* [illegible] 5 wenden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1905 Maxencius þo he wste him come he adde of him gret doute. 13.. *K. Horn* 1372 (Harl.) Of þole hue ne miste, O lyue 3ef hue þe [illegible] *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 689, I wot me vnworthy þis wirdis to stall. *c* 1460 *Paston Lett.* II. 87 In faith, my Lorde dyd quyte hym als curageously as ever I wist man do. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 2698, I haue wyttin gud wemen passe fra hame. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXII. 10 It dois 3ow ay delyt To wit me in distress. 1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* VI. (1633) 15 Hee never wist the matter to bee haynous. 1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* VI. 276 Judith..Whom now the Murdresse of his Lord hee wist. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lay of Brown Rosary* I. iv, The grey border-stone that is wist To dilate and assume a wild shape in the mist.

e. *absol.*, or in parenthetic phrases (see also 11): = Know *v.* 11 c. (See also Had-I-wist.)

I wot (occas. *I wold*), dial. *wosat* (*wouyts*), is often equivalent virtually to *I wis* (see Wis *v.*²).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) LXXXI[I]. 5 Ne ongeatan hi, ne gearo witan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13607 'Hu es it sua þat he sais nu?' 'We ne wat, bot ask him-seluen hu.' *a* 1300, 1325 [see A. 2 a]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2708 Þou wost ful wel, yif þu wilt wite, Þat apelwold þe dide sitte On knes. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 867 Þou lext, ich vnder stand And wot I *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 180 Elye, wel ye witen In mount Oreb..He fasted longe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 309 What dogg is þat?..west þou ere? *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 409, I wryt as I wait. *c* 1478 *Rauf Coilyear* 260 Als far as I wait, the nicht is furth gane. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 44 Them to renew, I wote, breeds no delight. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxiii. 273 But, well I wot, Louse is a Lordly Feast. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. lxxiv, He led, I wot, the softest way to death. *a* 1774 I wyt [see Wise *sb.* 7]. 1775 [see A. 2 β]. 1830 Tennyson *Second Song Owl*, Thy tuwhits are lull'd, I wot.

† (*δ*) in subjunctive in phr. *God* or *Crist wite.*

Cf. MHG. *wizze Crist*, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Eft, wite crist, heo is ful biter to betene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 God hit wute & he hit wot [etc.]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 317 God it wite, he shal ben ded.

2. *instr.* with *of*: To be aware of (as existing, or as happening or having happened); to know of (Know *v.* 18 b). With negative, (*a*) to have no idea of, not to suspect; (*b*) to be unaware or unconscious of.

In later use chiefly in the phr. *that I, you* (etc.) *wot of.*

c 1205 Lay. 17274 Ich what a wærc mid wundere bi-stondе. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 3are hit is þet ich wuste herof. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 7 Non..may of it non othere weyis wytyn But as he hath herd seyd or founde it wrytyn. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 40 He þat presumiþ and wenip to wete verily of a þing. *c* 1460 *Emare* 579 He..wyste of no treson. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. x. 49, I wold I had wyst of hem, they shold not haue escaped so. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* X. (S.T.S.) II. 286 Our folk..met with thame.. be chance the ane not witting of the vther. 1607 T. Rogers *39 Art.* Pref. (1625) ¶¶ 1 We not weeting, nor..dreaming of any such matter. 1821 Wordsw. *Prioress' T.* XXVI, Those bad Jews..That of this murder wist. 1866 Alger *Solit. Nat.* II. 58 Inspired by a splendid hope,..he wist not of hunger or of sneers. 1876 Whitney *Sights & Insights* II. iii. 363 We wit well of many things that we would never

† b. To have experience *of*: cf. Know *v.* 18 a.

13.. *Cursor M.* 20308 (Gött.), I sal fare þat i sal neuer witt of care. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2270 Gode lete hem never wete of woo! 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xliv, A..prisoner ..That..wote of noght bot wo. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 2 His soul never schal ponyschyd be, ne never wyt of wo.

† **3.** Passing into the sense: To become aware of, gain knowledge of, get or come to know; to find out, ascertain, discover; to be informed of, learn, 'hear' (*at* or *of* a person), esp. in answer to inquiry; hence sometimes virtually equivalent to 'inquire, ask'. Cf. Know *v.* 8, 18 b (obs. uses). *Obs.*

Often not distinguishable from the simple sense 'know' (1 or 2), esp. with *will* or *would* (= wish, would like), or with *ere, or* (= before).

a. *trans.* with simple obj., or in passive.

c 1000 [see A. 7 a]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 562 3ef ha þe 3et wule, þen ha wat hire woh, wiðstonden a3ein us. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 288 (Camb.) To speke wiþ Rymenhild..& witen hure wille. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 4 To oridrace..alixandre wendus, þere wilde contre was wist & wondurful peple. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 615 Harmes myghte folwen..If it were wyst. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 427 Nero.. wolde wite..þe nombre of Iewes þat were at Ierusalem. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13486 Þai..Made hym wise of þe werke, þat þai wiste hade. 1430 *Paston Lett.* I. 111 They..sent in to me to weten if thei myt3 speken with me. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 197 b/1 Anone as she wyste the comyng of the holy virgyne she wente to hir. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 891 Of my name wald 3e wit the veritie, Forsuith, they call me Sensualitie. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 19 Lat non knaw 3or intentis; Be verry war or that thay wit 3or myndis.

b. with dependent statement or question or obj. and compl. (as in 1 b, c).

1132 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Þa wiste þe king ðat he ðoerde mid sulodom. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 3if hwa wule witen hwa erest bi-won reste þam wrecche saule..ic sow segge. *c* 1205 Lay. 271 Witen he wolde þurh þa wiþer-craftes wat þing hit were. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2185 Þe pikes smite hom þoru out ar hii wuste wat hit were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13088 Iohn bigan at þam to wijt Quer iesus crist ..yeitt Bigan wit werckes him to klþe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 143 Whanne þis witty werwolf wiste him so schaped. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Simon & Judas*) 366, & bad þe duk þat þai suld vyte quhat he was þat [þat] had done. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 213 Now wolde I witen of þe what were þe best. *c* 1450 *Chev. Assigne* 35 Whenne he wyste her with chylde. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 136 He began to caste his eyen vpon his peple..for to wete how they were of nombre. 1530 Tindale *Gen.* IX. 24 As soone as Noe was awaked..and wyst what his yongest sonne had 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. xvi. 38, I wolde wytte whether the partie shal be also discharged in the common lawe. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* II. 4 His sister stode a farre of, to wete what wolde come of him. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* V. 2094 Diligent enquirie made, they wist At length what was become of him. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 524 He stood to wit what would be done.

c. *absol.* or *instr.* with *of.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 689 Alle þre he broȝte þe doȝtren bi vore him to witen of hor þoȝte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20194 Quat es ti name..? Gladli þar-of wijt wald I. 1375 [see A. 4 c]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 909 Þis egg, or þe kyng wyst, to þe erth fallis. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* I. 49 And 3e wole wyte, thus mowe 3e lere. *a* 1450 *How Merch. dyd Wyfe betray* 103 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 201 Yf he wylle algatys wytt, Say in my chaumbyr y lye sore sykes. *c* 1500 Skelton *Magnyf.* 22 Where woonys Welthe, and a man wolde wyt? *Ibid.* 1654, I speke the softlyer, because he sholde not wete. 1550 *Satire Poems Reform.* X. 279 He come hame agane or eurr they wist. 1649 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 52 On a sudden (ere any wist) there rusht among the people the Emperors

1798 Burns *'O Lassie'* 2 O Lassie, are ye sleepin yet, Or are ye waukin, I wad wit?

†4. *trans.* To have practical knowledge of; to be conversant with or versed in: = Know *v.* 9. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 445 He..wiste..sprecan fela. *c* 1290 *Owl & Night.* 295 He wot inoȝt in eche songe Wo singet wel, wo singet wronge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18938 For wel þai all langage wist. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7766 Tak & lef as þou eest skyle,..Bettres þan y þou wost þe dede. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 326 Swiche maner iorus, þat þou miht..þe beste lawe kenne. Whan þou hit wisliche wost. wilne hit in herte.

b. with *to* and inf.: To know how, be able: = Know *v.* 12.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 99 Sin we wetin hur wil to worchen ..We mowe be soþliche þaid hur seruauntus. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 53 He wyste not them to fynde. 1576 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 3) I. 14/2 He either wist not, or lyste not to shew his cunnyng therin. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* v. (1596) 58 No Philosopher as yet wist to giue to euery difference of wit determinatly that which was his. 1893 F. Thompson *Hound of Heaven* 24 Fear wist not to evade, as Love wist to pursue.

†5. In imperative = 'be assured', 'you may be certain', and later in monitory formulæ and polite phrases (e. g. *ye shall wit, please it you to wit*) = 'you must know', 'let me tell you', 'allow me to inform you'. *Obs.*

a 900–1000 (see A. 5). *c* 1205 Lay. 25090 Wite þu..þat dead is Vortimer. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 356 in *O. E. Misc.* 47 Yf Mi kyneriche were ine worlde þisse, Mine men wolde wyþstonde, wite þu myd iwisse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20183 Was neuer nan for-soth wijt yee Men of sua mikel ..ite. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. ii. 60 Hit witen and witnessen þat woneþ vppon eorþe, þat I, Fauuel [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4782 Wite thou this, If thou fle it, it shal flee thee. *c* 1440 Maundev. vi. [v.] (1919) I. 26 Wyteth wel þat the rewme of Arabye is a full gret contree. 1417 Hen. V in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. iii. I. 62 We grete yow wel, and wol ye wite that thambassiatours..have been here. 1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 21 Preyeng yow to wite that I have receyved yowr goodly lettres. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 23 Wite well that god shall helpe yow. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 15 Ȝe sall witt that the sevyn angelis signifyis the sevin partis of the tyme. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 98 Thow sall rew in thi ruse, wit thow but wene. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 8 Ples it you to wete, this same day I depart to Calez wardes. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 196 Please it your excelente Maiestie to witte that [etc.]. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 57 First thow sall wit, he was sone natural To James the Fyft. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. iv. 31 Please you wit: The Epitaph is for Marina writ.

†6. with *to* and inf.: To be certain or confident, feel sure, expect confidently. (Cf. Know *v.* 10.) *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8037 He was glad, nor he wuste wel to winne al is wille. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 224 He was an esy man to yeue penaunce Ther as he wiste to haue a good pitaunce. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* vii. 41 Ȝif he wiste to heuene to go. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 177 My conscyens telde me, þat ȝif I had wyst to haue lyued, I wolde not haue sorwyd for my synnes.

†7. To experience: = Know *v.* 5 c. *Obs. rare.*

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 8 Oure aldris..That mykell wiste of wo and wele. *a* 1510 Douglas *K. Hart* I. 86 This cumlie court..No wandreth wait, ay wenis welth endure. 1792 A. Wilson *Watty & Meg* 138 Meg..Sicschange had never wist.

8. To recognize; to distinguish, discern, detect: = Know *v.* 1, 1 b, 4. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 781 O witnyng bath god and ill Ȝee sulde be lauerds at your will. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1006 Men han wit for to wite þe wikke & þe gode. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) iv. 44 In þat morning fell a myst, And when oure Inglis men it wist, It changed all þaire chere. 1553 Phaer *Æneid.* I. (1558) B ij, Whan he his mother wist, He folowed fast and cald (alas) what mean you, thus to list In fayned shapps .. to appeare? 1842 Mrs. Browning *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 98 If by chance an Attic voice be wist.

II. Phrases.

9. †a. Do to wit, also without *to* (Do *v.* 22 c): to cause (a person) to know, make known to, inform. Also (rarely) *give to wit* (Give *v.* 29 c). Const. as in 1 and 2. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 3163 Ich do þe wel to witene,..þat mi drihtliche lond atwa ich habbe ideled. *Ibid.* 27150 Arður hafde his hauwares..and sone duden him to witen whuder he wolde wenden. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 1300 He sazt be stede De god him witen in herte dede. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14782 Saint Bede dob vs to wyten Whilk were gode, whilks were elles. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. viii. 13, I.. preyed hem..If þai knewe any contre..Where þat dowel dwelleth, doth me to wytene. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) iii. 8, I do ȝow to wit þat Constantinople es riȝt a faire cites. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* vii. xxvi. 253 Ye myght haue done me to wete of his comynge. 1584 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. 77 Wee giue you to weet, that we haue receiued your letters. 1526 Tindale *1 Cor.* xv. 2, I do you to witt [1611 I declare vnto you] after what maner I preached vnto you. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxix. xxiv, He did them to weete and understand, that hee intended..to conduct his armada to Lilybæum. *a* 1624 Hammer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 193 We doe you wit, that such a Law and Custome is in England. 1674 (see Do *v.* 22 c).

b. Let wit, rarely † *let to wit* (Let *v.*[1] 12, 13): to let (a person) know (a thing): (*a*) to inform (one), or to make (something) known (= a); (*b*) to allow (one) to know, or (something) to be known, to disclose, reveal; † (*c*) occas. to show, exhibit. Const. as in a. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1205 (see Let *v.*[1] 13). 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9788 þe point of is swerd..at canterbury þe monekes lateþ wite, Vor —— of þe hali man. *c* 1300 Hampole *Prose Tract.* 4 He lett me wyte, þat he ne is fundene in þe lande of softly lyfande. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3243 Thou art wel worthy to ——— To late hym of the Rasor wite. *Generydes* 4153 If ye knowe wher that I may hym ! Now late me wete, I pree yow. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C, I lette the to witte, that the Rodyan people are curteis. *a* 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 229, I let the wote thou shalt not play with me. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* iv. iv, Solyman saluteth thee, And lets thee wit by me his highnes will. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* v. lxxxvi, From Egypt they all, this lets thee weete (*sinne* fleete). 1784 [see Let *v.*[1] 13]. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., 'I'll ne'er let wit', I'll not inform, or I'll keep it secret. 1890 Hall Caine *Bondman* II. i, [He] never let wit of his intention.

10. To wit. †a. *It is to wit* (also *to witting*): it is to be observed, noted, or ascertained; so *it were to wit*, it needs investigation, one ought to know. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Cast. Love* 783 Of þe middel heuȝ is to wite þe swetnesse and þe fairschipe. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 432 Hit were to witen Whi þe bataille of Troye was smiten. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 114 It were to wite þe moral sense of þese wordis. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 328 It were to wite..whejer priue confession made to prestis be nedeful. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iii. ii. (Tollem. MS.), Firste it is to wetynge what þinge the soule is. *Ibid.* xvii. ii. (Add. MS. 27944), It is to wytynge [*ed.* 1495 wyte] þat a graffe..chaungeþ þe..qualite of þe stok in to his owne..qualite. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. xiii. 203 For the more cleering of this present answere, it is to wite that a thing is holi in three maneris. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 246 Bot quhethir his awin legis ar behaldyn to kepe his assurauns, in that poynt it is to wit. 1521 *Guysfordes Pilgr.* (Camden) 47 It is to wyt that the Holy Londe..in parte..was called yᵉ kyngdome of Jude. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 16 And it is to wit, that this word (*inheritance*) is not only intended where a man hath Lands or Tenements by discent of inheritage. [Comm.] *Et est ascauoire.* This kinde of speech is vsed..oftentimes by our Authour..and euer teacheth vs some rule of Law, or generall or sure leading point.

†b. *That is to wit* (also *to witting*) = AF. *cestasavoir* literally 'that is to know': that is to say, that is, namely: = L. *scilicet*, *videlicet* (*viz.*); occas. = *id est* (*i. e.*). *Obs.* replaced by the simple *to wit*, c (*b*).

1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Tuaye lettres of þe abece, þet is to wytene A. and b. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 403 Twa substance, þat is to wyt, Of devel and man, to-gyddir knete. *a* 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 349 Þese ben þe olde vsages of þe Cite of Wynchestre..þat is to wetynge, þat [etc.]. 1440 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 360/2 Ȝeldynge there of by the ȝere to the forseyde Johan, that ys to wetynge, the furste ȝere [6*s.* 8*d.*] and every ȝere after [13*s.* 4*d.*]. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* v, The whiche parte was iumelle that is to wete double. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* b j, Your harnaye. That is to wyte your rodde: your lynes. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxiii. 8 For one ys youre master, that is to wyt Christ. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 75 Where of we haue hearde a grete wonder, that is to wete, that that same kynde dieth & lyueth agayn. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 8 Vpon conditions agreed betweene them: that is to wit, that the Athenians should furnish them with a shippe.

c. *To wit*: (*a*) 'To be sure', as one may know, truly, indeed. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c 1400 *Song of Roland* 830 Ther fell..A straung wedur. A gret derk myst in the myd-day-tym,..the erthe dynnyd doillfully to wet. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 222 Þay..bade hym come owte with þam to fyghte, To witt with owrten wene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 14002 The worthiest to wete, þat in wer deghit. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* ix. 166 No fault so great to wit, Which at the prayer of faultie folkes the Gods do not remit. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. xxv, He was, to weet, a little roguish Page. 1819 Keats *On Charles Armitage Brown* i, He is to weet a melancholy carle.

(*b*) That is, namely, *scilicet.*

In former law practice used to indicate (and placed after the name of) the venue of a trial.

1577 Wolton *Cast. Christians* B viij b, That common saying..; that the beginning of vertue is of Nature, to wyt of Perfect Nature. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* B j, The same testimonye that ye alledge, to weete, that they had Moses and the Prophets. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. x. 2 Some Clarkes doe doubt..Whether this heauenly thing, whereof I treat, To weeten Mercie, be of Iustice part. 1628 J. King *Serm. 24 Mar.* 12 He..reigned long, to weete, fourty years. 1641 T. Granger *Eccles.* vi. 3. 137 An abortiue child, to wit, one that is borne before his time, and dyeth in his birth. 1687 Style *Reg. Pract.* 331 Incertain words in the Count or Declaration, may be made good..by a plea in Bar. *Hill 22 Car. B. r.* To wit, by the Defendants taking notice of the meaning of them in his plea. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 43 P 9 Accounting for what we frequently see, to wit, that dull Fellows prove very good Men of Business. 1736 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 39 In certain degrees of heat, to wit, in thirty three of Fahrenheit's thermometer, and upwards, water is always fluid. 1764 G. Wilson *Raymond's Entries* III. 168 Allen against Harris..Kent, (to wit). 1824 *Broadsheet* (Bodl. G. A. Oxon. b. 212, lf. 80), Oxfordshire to Wit. Sentences of the Prisoners, Who were tried at the Summer Assizes at Oxford. 1832 Bingham *Rep. Comm. Pleas* VIII. 235 At Martinmas 1830, to wit, on the 23d of November 1830. 1832 *Oxford Chron.* 3 July 1/3 advt., Oxfordshire Election. Proclamation for a Special County Court. Oxfordshire to wit. 1875 Maine *Hist. Institu.* iv. 124 Thrice nine ridges..., to wit, nine of bog, nine of smooth and nine of wood.

11. God wot (also † *God it wot*; † *Godwot, God ots*, Goddot): God knows. a. Used to emphasize the truth of a statement. *arch.* So † *Wot Christ.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 34 God hit wot,..more wunder flomp. *Ibid.* 330 Wat Crist hit is god yhit þet us echeonne binoreo monne. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2527 For he it made, god it woth ! *a* 1300–1350 (see Goo *sb.* 10 a). *c* 1320 *Assumpt. Virgin.* 547 (Ireland MS.) 'Gramille', quod Gesus, 'gois in, God ots !' A. 4 a). 1883 Miss Baroness Burdett-Coutts III. 83 ,od reasons enough, God wot.' 1899 T. E. Brown e etc. 277 A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot !

† b. With dependent interrogative or *absol.*, implying that the thing spoken of is utterly unknown. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 3 What schal befalle hereafterward God wot. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1201, I am I-woddit ! ȝe, God woot beste, in what maner & howe ! *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xii. 53, I wate nozt; God wate. *a* 1500 *Pebbis to the Play* 7 God wait þai wald þai do þat stound. 1530 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 134 God wait gif ȝe be Jaipe to hald in stein. 1548 [see Goo *sb.* 10 b].

†12. *To wit* (a person) *to say*: to inform or instruct him. *Obs.*

?A misuse due to confusion with *witere*, Witten *v.* (cf. the reading of later text in quot. *c* 1205 s. v.).

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 241 þat semely qwene Al of Egipt erd enquirid if he were,..acho weis if he wald wete hire to say. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11467 He shuld..spir at hom specially of hor spede ter; If þai hade wille to þe werke, wete hom to say,..glose hit not langur. *Ibid.* 13580 He frayned at þe freke.., Wat whe þat he was, wete hym to say.

†**Wit**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 wyte, 5–6 wyt(e, 6 witt(e; 5 *pa. t.* wyte; 6 *pa. pple.* witte. [app. inferred from Witword testament, bequest. Cf. *bewit(t* (1436 and 1587), by-forms of Bequeathe by contamination with this.] *trans.* To bequeath. Hence † **Witting** *vbl. sb.*, bequest.

1393 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 284, I wyte and I commend my saule to all myghty God & to our lady synte Mary. 1406 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 12, I wyt to the parson of my paryssh vj *s.* viij *d.* *c* 1420 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 86 He wytte his saul to his fadyr. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 71 All..þat..in testment wytes any gode in mayntenyng of þis kirk. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 421/1 To Wytt gude, *legare.* 1504 *Will* in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 295 The residue of my gude nott witte. 1547 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 237, I give and wit my soule unto Almighty God.

Wit, *v.*[3] [f. Wit *sb.*] a. *intr.* with *it*: To play the wit; to make witty remarks. b. *trans.* as a meaningless repetition of the word just used, by way of a vague threat. c. *trans.* To call (a person) a wit, attribute wit to. (All nonce-uses.)

1634 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. v. 90 They beginne to be wanton, and to wit it one upon another. *a* 1666 Heylin *Laud* (1668) 260 Others..Impute the Republishing of this Declaration to the new Archbishop,..after he took possession of his *Graceship*, as Burton doth pretend to wit it in his Pulpit Libell. 1679 Shadwell *True Widow* II. 30 *Sel.*..I think they are all out of their wits...*Prig.* Prithee Stanmore be my Second, I'll wit him with a Pox to him. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 26 Sept., *Dr. Johnson.* 'Why, did Dr. Jebb forbid her wine ?' *F. B.* 'Yes, sir.' *Dr. Johnson.* 'Well, he was in the right; he knows how apt wits are to transgress that way...' In this sort of ridiculous manner he *wits* me eternally.

Wit: see White, Wight, Wife, With.

Witald, **Witaldrie**: see Wittol, Wittoldry.

Witale, obs. Sc. form of Victual.

Witan (wi·tăn). *Hist.* [OE., pl. of *wita* With *sb.*[1]] The members of the national council in Anglo-Saxon times; the council itself, the Witenagemot. Also *transf.*

1807 S. Turner *Hist. Anglo-Saxons* x. iv. II. 226 The treaty..is said to have been made by the king and his witan. 1839 Knightley *Hist. Eng.* I. 36 Edward, the Elder,..was chosen by the Witan to succeed his father, Alfred. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* i. § 2. 4 Their homesteads clustered round a moot-hill..Here, too, the 'witan', the Wise Men of the village, met to settle questions of peace and war. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II. ii, *William.* Good, good, and thou wilt help me to the crown. *Harold.* Ay.. if the Witan will consent to this.

Witan, variant of Whitten.

Witand, **-ly**: see Witting *ppl. a.*, Witteingly.

Witch (wiʧ), *sb.*[1] Now only *dial.* Forms: 1 wicca, wycca, 3–6 wiche, etc. (as next). [OE. *wicca* wk. masc. (see next).] A man who practises witchcraft or magic; a magician, sorcerer, wizard. See also White Witch.

scinlæcan, & wiccan. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in ..Wülcker 183/32 *Augur* uel *ariolus*, wicca. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 41 Ich hit am þat spec þurh simunes mu8 þe wicche. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3008 De wicches hidden hem for-8an, Bi-foren pharaun nolden he ben. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clemens*) 532 Sayand he was ane enchantore, A wech and a trigetouyre. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 46 'Crucifige', quod a cacchepolle 'I warante hym a wicche !' *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 84 þe paynyms..cleped hes iij kyngis *Magos*, þat is to seye wicchis. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. viii. 45 Som of hem lough hym [*sc.* Merlin] to scorne,..and mo other called hym a wytche. *c* 1533 Moun *Assem. Poys. Bk.* Wks. 1563/2 The turning of Aarons rod.. into suche a serpent as deuoured vp all yᵉ serpentes of yᵉ Egipciane witches. 1563 Winȝet *Vincent. Lirin.* xxx. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 63/7 Simon the weche, quha wes struklin be the Apostolis cursing. 1697 R. Bernard *Guide Grand-Jury Men* 240 The examination of that grand Witch, Lewis Gaufredy, before noble Commissioners. 1668 Rolle *Abridgement* I. 44 Home dit que I. S. Is a Witch, and I will prove him so. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 June, Am I a Laplander ? am I witch ?..can I make easterly winds ? 1868 Carr *Craven Gloss., Witch*, this word..is frequently used for wizard, or fortune teller. 1913 in *Expositor* (1914) Jan. 80 [Near Criccieth] there lives a long-haired, haggard old man whom the people about speak of as a 'witch'.

b. *fig.*

1830 Carlyle *Misc., Boswell's Johnson* (1857) III. 51 The Editor is clearly no witch at a riddle. 1840 Haliburton *Clockm. Ser.* iii. viii, And she keeps a-sayin'—Well, he's a witch ! Well, how strange !

Witch (wiʃ), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1–2 wisce, wycce, 2–6 wische, 3 wichche, 3–4 wychche, 3–5 whe, 3–6 wiche, 4–5 wyche, wech, 4–6

wich, wytche, wych, 4–7 witche, 5–6 weche, (4 weech, *Sc.* weech-, wiech-, 4, 6 which(e, 5 whitche, wheche, 6 wyteh, *Sc.* vytche, vyche, weyche), 6– witch. [OE. *wicce* fem., corresponding to *wicca* WITCH *sb.*[1], both of which are app. derivatives of *wiccian* WITCH *v.*]

1. A female magician, sorceress; in later use *esp.* a woman supposed to have dealings with the devil or evil spirits and to be able by their co-operation to perform supernatural acts. See also WHITE WITCH.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* vii. 209 Anima8..þa reðan wiccan, Seo þe ðus aweut þurh wiccecraft manna mod. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 1926 (Napier 52/1) *Pythonissam*, *i. diuinatricem*, helhrunan, wiccan. *c* 1250 *St. Kath.* 279 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 100 Faste þe schulle þe wychche binde,..And smittes of hire heued a-non. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 499 Lo here a tale of a wycche, þat leued no better þan a bycche. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 1088 [He] gert þis katrine till hyme felte, & sad hir: 'þu wikide wiche, Quhat wenis þu ws lang to preche?' *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11118 The worthy, þat wicche hase wastid to dethe. 1440 WYNCHESTER in *Wars Eng. in Fr.* (Rolls) II. II. 763 Alia mulier magica, vocata vulgariter Wyche of Eye,.. capta est.., et apud Smythfeld cremata. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 243 Iuno the false wycche and sorceresse. 1568 GUNNAR *Poems* XXXV. 35 Jonet the weido on ane bussome rydand, Off wichtis with ane windir garesoun. 1592 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 34 See how the vgly Witch doth bend her browes, As if with Circe, she would change my shape. 1636 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* 67 Leaves of Elder..which to disappoint the Charmes of Witches, they had affixed to their Doores and Windowes. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 117 P 10 When an old Woman begins to doat, and grow chargeable to a Parish, she is generally turned into a Witch. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 200 The witches follow, Wi' mony an eldritch skriech and hollo. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 15 She..Dreaming some rival, sought and found a witch Who brew'd the philtre. 1902 RHYS *Celtic Folklore* Iv. 594, I have heard of one old witch changing herself into a pigeon.

b. With masculine prefix.

1621 *Strange Rep. Stan Notorious Witches* B ij, Men-Witches. 1623 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 108 No pure Astrologer, but a meer Magitian in plain English, an Hewitch.

c. *A witch of Endor* (in allusion to 1 Sam. xxviii. 7): a fanciful term for (*a*) a bewitching person; (*b*) a medium.

1819 C'TESS SPENCER *Let.* 15 Nov. in *Sarah, Lady Lyttleton's Corr.* (1912) viii. 217 That witch of Endor, the Duchess of Devon, has been doing mischief of another kind. 1919 R. R. MARETT in *Q. Rev.* Apr. 458 In the West End a *séance* with a Witch of Endor is doubtless to be obtained for a suitable fee.

d. Phrases. *The witch is in it*: it is bewitched. *As nervous as a witch*: a New England phrase, applied to a very restless person.

a 1834 SELDEN *Table-talk* (Arb.) 82 When a Country-wench cannot get her Butter to come, she says, The Witch is in her Churn. 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* xvii. 325 She rose from her struggle with the problem, and said aloud to herself, 'Well, the witch is in it'. 1921 F. M. CRAWFORD *Uncanny Tales, Man Overboard* (1917) 132 She's been as nervous as a witch all day. 1928 ELEANOR H. PORTER *Oh, Money! Money!* xvii, He's nervous as a witch. He can't keep still a minute.

†2. *transf.* The nightmare. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wytche, clepyd nyghte mare.., *ephialtes*,..a kinde of disease called the night mare or witch. [Cf. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Riding of the Witch*, a popular phrase for the nightmare, still in use.]

3. *fig.* a. *gen.*

1639 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* 240 Save me from vain Reign of..James the First, grew Rich by..Gaming, and was commonly observ'd to have the Card..in his Hand. 1820 SHELLEY *Gisborne* 132 The quaint witch Memory sees, In vacant chairs, your absent images.

b. (*a*) A young woman or girl of bewitching aspect or manners.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiv. 37 Mrs. Jervis, said he, take the little witch from me. 1800 T. D. WHITAKER *Whalley* I. 184 *note*, In..1634 was acted..a play entitled *The Witches of Lancaster*..The term has since been transferred to a gentler species of fascination, which my fair countrywomen still continue to exert in full force. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. ii, For my part I find every woman a witch. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whitsbey* ix. 69, I own I have abused Miss Ellen, and good right I had—a young witch, driving the world through heaven's windows. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootles' Childr.* vii, She who had been the blithest little witch he had ever known.

(*b*) *Old witch*: a contemptuous appellation for a malevolent or repulsive-looking old woman.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 168 A lusti galaunt that weddithe an olde wiche. *a* 1536 *Collato & Melib.* 825 Thow old which thou bryngyst me in grete dole. 1831 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 7 July, There are only three classes into which all the women past seventy that ever I knew were to be divided:—1. That dear old soul: 2. That old woman: 3. That old witch. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Roman Singer* I, Mariuccia is an old witch.

4. Applied to various animals and objects.

a. The stormy petrel. b. A West Indian name for *Crotophaga ani*, a black bird of the cuckoo family. c. A kind of snail. d. In a loom: = DOBBY 3. e. *Witch of Agnesi* (Math.): a plane curve named after M. G. Agnesi (1718–99) of the university of Bologna.

a. 1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* (1792) II. 255 Stormy Petrel. ..hated by the sailors, who call them Witches, imagining they forebode a storm. 1883 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 211 Storm-Petrel..Witch, or Water-witch. b. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 472 Black Witch. Savanna Blackbird. c. 1821 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 204 *Helix Scarabæus*, Witch or Cockchafer. d. 1883 *Almondbury & Huddersfield Gloss.*, *Witch*, a machine which stands on the top of a loom, and was used previously to the jacquard machine for the purpose of figuring the cloth. 1909 *Century Dict. Suppl.*, *Witch*, .. a dobby or index-machine. e. 1878 B. WILLIAMSON *Integral Calculus* vii. 173 Find the area between the witch of Agnesi $xy^2 = 4a^2(2a-x)$ and its asymptote. 1901 A. B. BASSET *Elem. Cubic & Quartic Curves* 96 Then the locus of P is a cubic called the witch of Agnesi.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. General combs.: simple attrib., as *witch-act* (ACT *sb.* 5), *gang*, *-legion*, *-love*, *-plot*, *-pupil*, *-trial*; with the meaning 'used in witchcraft or by witches in their enchantments', as *witch-broth*, *-charming*, *-ointment*, *-sabbath* (SABBATH 3), *-salve*, *thing*; appositive, as *witch-bird* (BIRD *sb.* 4), *-bride*, *carline*, *cummer*, *-hag*, *-hare*, *-huntress*, *-maid*, *-maiden*, *-people*, *-wife*, *-wolf*, *-woman*; objective, etc., as *witch-advocate*, *-burner*, *-pricker* (PRICKER 1), *-searcher*, *-seeker*, *-trier*; also *witch-like* adj. and adv.; instrumental, as *witch-held*, *-ridden*, *-stricken* adjs.; similative, as *witch-wise* adj. b. Special combs.: witch-balls (see quot.); witch-bell(s, *Sc.*, a name for the harebell, *Campanula rotundifolia*; witch broom, butter = *witches' broom, butter* (see c below); witch cake, a preparation used to test a supposed witch, or made by a witch for purposes of incantation; witch-chap *dial.* = *plough-witch* (see PLOUGH *sb.*[1] 8); witch-fire = CORPOSANT; witch gowan (see GOWAN 2); witch-grass *U. S.*, (*a*) *Panicum capillare*, a weed-grass found throughout the U. S., also called *old-witch grass*; (*b*) couch-grass, *Triticum* (*Agropyrum*) *repens*; witch-hat, a hat with a conical crown and flat brim, represented as worn by witches; witch-hunter = WITCH-FINDER; so *witch-hunting*; witch-lock = WITCH-KNOT 1; also *transf.*; witch-loom (see 4 d above); witch-man, (*a*) a wizard; (*b*) *dial.* = *witch-chap*; witch-mania, a mania or craze for witches and witchcraft; witch-mark, a mark on the body, supposed by witch-finders to denote that its possessor was a witch; witch-meal = LYCOPODIUM 2; witch-meeting = *witches' meeting* (see c below); witch-pap (see quots.); witch-riding, the nightmare; witch stitch (see quot.); witch-stone, a flat stone with a natural perforation, used as a charm against witchcraft; †witch-water, contemptuous name for holy water; witch-weed *S. Afr.*, a parasitic plant, *Striga lutea*; witchwork, witchcraft.

1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* App. 319 The *Witch-Act..was not repealed till the Year 1736. *a* 1688 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1681) 9, I have..almost spoiled all Mr. Webster's ..and the other *Witch-Advocate Books. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, Witch-advocates, atheists, and mis-believers of all kinds. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Witch-balls*, interwoven roller-masses of the stems of herbaceous plants, often met with in the steppes of Tartary. 1808 JAMIESON, **Witch-bell*, round-leaved Bell-flower, *Campanula rotundifolia*. 1826 HOGG *Love's Jubilee* 122 The witch-bell blue. 1698 *Prestwich Kirk Sess. Rec.* (MS.), Margaret Hood accused of calling Agnes Cuthbertson a '*witch-bird'. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* VI. vi, There of the *witch-brides lay each skeleton. 1849 H. MAYO *Pop. Superst.* 125 The witches..by *witch-heavy stupor. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 26 Apr., Do we ever hear of Episcopalians as *witch burners? 1849 H. MAYO *Pop. Superst.* 126 The so-called *witch-butter found in the fields. 1693 I. MATHER *Cases Consc.* 52 Many..Magical experiments have been used to try witches by. Of this sort is that of..making a *witch-cake with that urine. 1810 R. H. CROMEK *Nithsdale & Galloway Song* 282 The baking of the 'Witch Cake', with its pernicious virtues, is a curious process. 1533 *Witche Carling [see CARLINE 1 b]. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 156 'Keep secrets, Sim', she said, 'I need them now, The *witch-chaps come'. ? 16.. in P. H. Waddell *Old Kirk Chron.* (1893) 70 Such treatment was condemned by the Session under the head of '*witch-charming'. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxiv, Her ain *witch cummers would soon whirl her out of her abroud. 1893 KIPLING *Seven Seas*, *Merchantmen* 55 The *witch-fire climbed our channels, And flared on vane and truck. 1693 C. MATHER *Wond. Invis. World* 43 Some of the *Witch Gang have been fairly Executed. 1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 232 The quack, switch, or *witch grass, a variety of the fiorin, is highly nutritious, roots and all. 1835 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 269 That witch-grass which is the pest of all child-gardens. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 131 During the reign of the *witch-hag all the herbs around the cave were blighted. 1884 *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* II. 258 A dog cannot catch a *witch hare. 1898 R. BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char. N. Riding* 160 One of the houses was suspected of being *witch-held, and every thing about the place witch-stricken. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh.* II. 209 *Witch-legions thicken around and around. 1723 BLACKMORE *Alfred* XII. 102 Rebellion's *Witch-like Charms the Senses bind. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii, She was..the same witch-like figure as when we first introduced her. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 412 Nor was it possible to have told which was mother, which daughter; both alike seemed witch-like old. 1688 H. MORE *Cont. Remark. Stories* 42 This Magical matting of the Daughter's hair into a *Witch-lock. 1914 'AMÉLIE RIVES' *World's-End* xvii, Wild witch-locks of ravelled cloud. 1898 POSSELT *Rec. Impr. Textile Mach.* I. 44 Box-motion for *Witch Looms. 1892 ATKINSON *Moorland Parish* (ed. 2) 87 The copious *witch-lore of the district. 1845 KINGSLEY *Heroes*, *Argos.* iv, This is your doing, false *witch-maid! *Ibid.*, Medeia the *witch-maiden. 1891 T. STERNBERG *Dial. & Folk-Lore Northampt.*, **Witch-men*, guisers who go about on Plough-Monday. 1888 in *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* (1883) I. 92 A farmer, having a horse taken ill, sent for a well-known witchman. 1845 SHEPLEY *Occult Sci.* 169 Scotland was sunk into barbarism and ignorance... Never did the *witch-mania enter a nation better suited for its reception. 1677 J. WEBSTER *Displ. Witchcraft* v. 82 Now if all these [*sc.* warts, etc.] were *Witch-marks, then few would go free. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Pers.* I. 264 Patches of anæsthesia found upon hysterical subjects—the 'witch-marks' of our ancestors. 1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 66 *Semen lycopodii*, commonly called *witch-meal. 1693 C. MATHER *Wond. Invis. World* 82 She confessed, that the Devil carry'd them on a pole, to a *Witch-meeting. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xi, The iron gate, on which the poisoned air deposits its *witch-ointment slimy to the touch! 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xviii. 379 The mediæval witch-ointments which brought visionary beings into the presence of the patient. 1664 in Hale *Coll. Med. Relat.* I. (1693) 38, I have, I confess, a *Witch-pap, which is Sucked by the Unclean Spirit. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Witch-pap*, a mole which hangs or projects from the skin. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 163 Spirits, goblins, and *witch-people. 1693 C. MATHER *Invis. World*, *Enchantments Encountered* 7 Which may perhaps prove no small part of the *Witch-Plot in the issue. 1899 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* vii. 50 Mallse MacKim, a *witch pricker!..Will he go.. peering into ladies' eyes for sorceries? 1621 *witch-ridden [see INCUBUS 2]. 1795 W. HUTTON *Hist. Derby* 226 That weak and witch-ridden monarch, James the First. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. 1. *Witches & other night-fears*, I durst not .. enter the chamber .. without my face turned .. aversely from the bed where my witch-ridden pillow was. 1704 *Athenian Oracle* (ed. 2) I. 292 Q. Whether there's any such thing as a Hag, which the Common People fancy to be *Witch-riding, when they are in their Bed in the Night time? 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy* III. 253 In the South, the *witchsabbaths are believed to be held around the Sacred Walnut-tree of Benevento. 1880 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* II. 256 They fare like Lucius..to whom Fotis has given the wrong *witch-salve. 1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 5–6 This suspition, though it bee but late,..yet is it enough to send for the *Witch-searchers, or *witch-seekers. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Witch stitch*, the name given to Herringbone when used in Fancy Embroidery. 1870 'OUIDA' *Puck* vi, The old soul have a bit of belief like in *witch-stones, and allus sets one aside her spinnin' jenny. *nuts*, This symbolical mode of taking the..produce of land, &c., is frequently alluded to in *Witch-Trials. 1649 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* 13 Dec. (1853) III. 128 That the *witch-trier taking a pin, and thrusting it into the skin in many parts of their bodies, they were insensible of it. 1699 BAXTER *Key Cath.* xxix. 186 The Priest exorcised him..washing him with Holy water, *Witch water. 1904 *Times* 25 July 12/3 Complaints..were constantly being received..of damage done ..to the mealie..crop by..rooi-bloom or *witch weed. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 79 The *witch weyfe begg'd in our backseyde. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* V. 139 As poisonous herbs..Are pounded by some witch-wife on the shore Of Pontus. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 139 The Nabob..had as constitutional an aversion to cold iron, as *witch-wise Solomon. 1609 HEALEY *Discov. New World* III. Iv. 155 Here shall you haue your *Witch-wolues in abundance. *a* 1765 '*Northumbld. betrayd by Douglas*' XXVI. in Child *Ballads* (1889) III. 412/2 My mother, shee was a *witch woman. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 394 Lapland witch-women. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xlii, I suppose you keep him [*sc.* a black tom-cat] for some of your *witchwork.

c. Combs. with *witch's*, *witches'*: witch's bells, the foxglove (cf. *witch-bell* in b above); witches' besom, broom, a bushy tuft developed on the branches of trees by a fungus (see quots.); witches' bridle, an iron collar and gag formerly used as an instrument of torture in Scottish witch-trials; witches' butter, a popular name for certain gelatinous algæ and fungi, esp. *Tremella Nostoc*; witches' coral, witch's cradle (see quots.); witch's elm = WYCH ELM; witch's horse, witches' horses (see quots.); witches' knot = WITCH-KNOT 2; witch's mark = *witch-mark* (see b); witches' meat = *witches' butter*; witches' meeting = *witches' Sabbath*; witches' night (see quot.); witches' prayer (see quot. 1711); witches' Sabbath = SABBATH 3; witches' thimble, a local name for various plants with tubular flowers.

1884 R. FOLKARD *Plant Lore* 345 The witches are popularly supposed to have..decorated their fingers with its [*sc.* the foxglove's] largest bells, thence called '*Witches' Bells'. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Witches' besoms*, this name is given to the tufted bunches of branches..developed on the Silver Fir in consequence of the attack of *Peridermium elatinum*. 1897 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 190 *Exoascus deformans*.. Sadebeck says that this species produces the 'witches' besoms' on [species of] *Prunus*. 1829 PITCAIRN *Crim. Trials* (1833) I. II. 30 Iron collars, or '*Witches bridles', are still preserved in various parts of Scotland. 1882 ELEANOR A. ORMEROD *Man. Inf. Insects* 279 'Witch Knots' or '*Witches' Brooms' are caused by this Gall-mite. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 332 The formation of 'witches-brooms' in Firs by the growth of *Æcidium elatinum*. 1836 BERKELEY *Fungi* 218 *Exidia glandulosa*. (*Witches' Butter.) 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 288 The wrinkled, quaking, gelatinous mass of the *witches' butter. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, Where poisonous fungus..sprouts like *witches' coral, from the crevices in the cabin wall and floor. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, **Witch's cradle*, a Lias fossil, *Gryphæa incurva*. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* [x. I have sewn a sprig of *witch's elm in the neck of un's doublet. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xx, The silence was broken by a long wild cry from the forest..It was the howl of a wolf. 'Hark to the *witch's horse!' 1894 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 456 [The walking stick insect] which the country people near Salem,

Massachusetts .. call '*witches' horses'. 1825 Jamieson, *Witches knots*, a sort of matted bunches, resembling the nests of birds, frequently seen on stunted thorns or birches. 1827 R. Bernard *Guide Grand-Jury Men* 218 The Witch thus in league..with the Deuill, is convicted..1. By a *Witches marke. .. This is insensible, and being pricked will not bleede. 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 532/2 *Tremella* ..Several species are found in Britain. In some places, they receive such popular names as 'Witches' Meat and Witches' Butter. *a* 1676 Hale *Coll. Mod. Relat.* (1693) 1. 29 This Love of hers had..carried her at Nights to the *Witches Meetings in great Castles. 1767 Hutchinson *Hist.*

Hist. I. iii. 344 He that gets her by heart must say her The back-way, like a *Witches Prayer. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 61 P 5 To which I must..add a little Epigram called the Witches Prayer, that fell into Verse when it was read either backward or forward, excepting only that it Cursed one way and Blessed the other. 1884 G. A. Lawrence *Maurice Dering* II. 218 My good wishes of late have been fearfully like witches' prayers. *a* 1676 Hale *Coll. Mod. Relat.* (1693) 1. 29 The *Witches Sabbaths or Assemblies, which were held in the Night. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii, Such..as was never dreamed of in the wildest visions of a Witch's Sabbath. 1880 *Edin. Mag.* Apr. 344/1 The mother..pulled some *witches thimbles, or foxglove. 1883 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Borders* 40 *S[ilene]* *maritima*,.. Witches'-Thimbles. 1856 Sowerby *Eng. Bot.* VI. 23 *Campanula rotundifolia*... Hare-bell...A common rustic name for them is 'witches' thimbles'. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Witches' Thimble..4 *Centaurea Cyanus.*

d *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Magic, magical.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 93 þei þat..tenden to wiche falsnes [L. *magicis falsitatibus*] in hailes or tempestis. 1535 Coverdale *Judges* ix. 37 One bonde of men commeth by the waye to y* wiche Oke. 1801 Scott *Glenfinlas* lvi, And, bending o'er his harp, he flung His wildest witch-notes on the wind.

Witch, wych (witʃ), *sb.*[3] Forms: 1 wice, wic, wyc, 5–7 wyche, 6–8 wich, (6 wi(t)che, wiech, weeh(e, weech, 7 weech), 6– wych, witch. [OE. *wice* and *wic*; app. f. Teut. *wik-* to bend (see Wike, Week *sb.*, Weak *a.*).] Applied generally or vaguely to various trees having pliant branches: *esp.* † a. the Wych elm, *Ulmus montana* (of which bows were made); b. (now *dial.*) the mountain ash, *Pyrus aucuparia*. Also *attrib.*; witch alder, a witch hazel with alder-like leaves, *Fothergilla alnifolia*, native to Virginia and North Carolina. (See also Witch hazel.)

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 106 *Cariscus*, cuicbeam, nuice. *a* 1000 *Agr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 200/20 *Cariscus*,.. wic, *uel* cwicbeam. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 86 Ȝenim cwicbeam rinde..wir, wice, ac, [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wyche, tre, *ulmus*. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 308 Muiso .. wrongfully fellid xxvij trees of asche and wyche. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 483 That 3 or 4000 wyche bowes .. be brought hyther. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (1881) 81 Vimus is called..in englishe an Elme tree, or a Wich tree. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 23/2 A witche tree, *opulus*. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 20 Nor holybush, nor breare, nor winding witche. 1623 [Standish] *New Direct. Planting* 12 As of Elme, so of Wyche, being a wood as apt to grow speedily as any other wood. 1626 T. Scot *Philomythie* II. B 4 b, The cursed Eldar and the fatall Yewe, With Witch, and Nightshade in their shadowes grew. 1845–90 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 103 *Fothergilla alnifolia* (witch-alder). 1861 D. H. Haigh *Conq. Brit.* 78 The mountain-ash, rown, or witch. 1868 Atkinson *Cleveland Gloss., Witch-wood*, the mountain ash or rowan-tree. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Witch-wand*, a twig of the mountain ash, once used to find minerals.

Witch (witʃ), *sb.*[4] *local.* Also whitch. [prob. a use of Witch *sb.*[2], the name being given on account of the uncanny appearance of the fish; cf. uses of L. *sâga*, F. *sorcière*, It. *strega*.] The flat-fish *Pleuronectes cynoglossus*, resembling the lemon sole; applied also to similar fishes.

1879 Satchell *Provis. Index Fish Names* 9 *Pleuronectes microcephalus*..Lemon-Dab, Lemon-Sole,..Witch. *Hippoglossoides limandoides*,..Long-Fleuk,..Witch. 1880 *Academy* 14 Oct. 280 Whitches.—These fish, well known in Grimsby and Manchester,..The term is used..to denote.. the craig-fluke (*Pleuronectes cynoglossus*, Lin.), a kind of dab, which is taken in considerable numbers in the North Sea.. These fish are sometimes called white soles. 1903 *Times* 21 Feb. 17/3 Plaice, witches, smalts, and herrings.

Witch (witʃ), *v.* Forms: 1 wiccian, 4 wicc(h)e, (4 witche, *Sc.* weche, 4–5 wiche, wyche, 5 wyc(o)hyn, wyssahyn), 5–6 wytche, 6– witch. [OE. *wiccian*, corresp. to MG., LG. *wikken*, *wicken*, of obscure origin. In the senses arising in ME. and later prob. aphetic from *bewitch*.]

† 1. *intr.* To practise witchcraft; to use sorcery or enchantment. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Pœnit. Egberti* xviii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 208 Gif hwa wicciæ ymbe senixes mannes lufe. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lvii[i]. 5 A neddre def..þat noght sal here þe stemen of wicchand. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 2539 Were þei boþe here, þei schuld wicche wel gif þei a-weȝ went. 1629 T. Scott *Projector* 30 Hath not Isemball painted, and whored, and plotted, and witched, and waded through blood?

2. *trans.* To affect (a person) with witchcraft or sorcery; to put a spell upon; = Bewitch 1.

a 23.. *Bevoug. Nicod.* 216 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 305 Wyched þi wyf has he. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 4407 þat ... or man vpon molde miȝt it Le, the ring] him on hande, ne schuld he with wicchecraft be wiched neuer-more. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Andrew*) 64 þane þat yong manis kyne in hy hand, he wes-wichyt, sekyrly! *c* 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 1251 Foolly there thou wichede was. 1529 Lp. Berners *Froiss.* II. cclxx. [ccxvi.] 280 b/1 They..sayd, that the duchesse Valentyne of Oriyaunce, doughter to the duke of Myllayn, hadde witched the kynge. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 87 His wyff was witchit be his narrest nychtbour. 1629 *London Prodigal* v. ii. 63, I thinke I am sure crossed, or witcht with an owle. 1647 J. March *Actions for Slaunder* 15 Thou art a Witch..and diddest procure Mother Bale to witch the Cattell of J. S. 1883 *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* I. 354 A servant..told me when her mother was confined a man in the village 'witched her', so that she could not move in bed. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* III. ii, Our woodland Circe that hath witch'd the King. 1884 Mark Twain *Huck. Finn* xxxiv, He said the witches was pestering him..and he didn't believe he was ever witched so long, before, in his life.

b. (with prep. or adv.) To bring, draw, put, or change by witchcraft.

1597 Jas. VI *Daemonol.* II. i. 28 If Witches had such power of Witching of folken to death (as they say they haue). 1608 Chapman *Byron's Trag.* IV. i. O 2, O that in mine eyes Were all the Sorcerous poyson of my woes, That I might witch ye headlong from your height. 1693 I. Mather *Cases Consc.* 26 See if you can Witch them into a Fit,..and.. Witch them well again. 1855 Meredith *Shaw. Shagpat* (1909) 223 He's witched there for an ill purpose. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. iv. 103 Hindus settled in Chota-Nagpur .. believe that the Mundas..can witch away the lives of man and beast. 1892 Northall *Eng. Folk-Rhymes* 59 People say that the remarkable stones at Rollwright..are a regiment of soldiers witched into stones.

3. *fig.* To influence as by witchcraft; to enchant, charm; = Bewitch 2. Also with prep. or adv.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 10 Thy..pleasing charmes, With which weake men thou witchest, to attend. 1592 Greene *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 20 [Loue] Witching chast eares with trothlesse tonga of men. 1596 Shake. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 110 As if an Angell dropt downe from the Clouds, To..witch the World with Noble Horsemanship. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *King & No K.* III, With her eyes She witches people. 1812 Cary *Dante, Purg.* XIV. 112 The ladies and the knights, the toils and ease, That witch'd us into love and courtesy. 1824 Campbell *Theodric* 30 Her fingers witch'd the chords they passed along. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* I. iv, Her witching the world with her grace on horseback.

b. *intr.* To use enchanting wiles; to practise fascination.

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 407 Applied to those that witch with the eyes, not to those that wooe with their eyes. 1824 Byron *Juan* XVI. xcv, Adeline was..watching, witching, condescending.

Witchaff, obs. Sc. f. Vouchsafe.

1596 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 367 The doctrine quhilk God..sall witchaff to grant.

Witchcraft (witʃkraft). Forms: see Witch *sb.*[2]. [OE. *wiccecræft*, f. *wicca*, *wicce* Witch *sb.*[1] and [2] + *cræft* Craft *sb.*]

1. The practices of a witch or witches; the exercise of supernatural power supposed to be possessed by persons in league with the devil or evil spirits.

c 1000 [see Witch *sb.*[2] 1]. *a* 1200 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 4055 (Napier 107/9) *Necromantia*, .i. *demonum inuocatio*, galdre, wiccecræfte. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1301 Þu yelpest of selliche wisdome; Þu nustest hwenne hit þe come Bute hit of wicchecrafte were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28310, I..foluld wiche-crafte and frete, And charmyng. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4044 His wif with wichecraft to a wolf him schaped. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 705 He..wend [þat] he begabbit had bene Be wesch-crafte. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. xv. 563 Whiche sacramentis and her vsis summe of the lay peple holden to be poyntis of wicche craft and blindingis. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S. T. S.) 12 Thay sine aganis this [first] command quhilk wsis wich craft. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. ii. 7 As for Witches, I think not that their witchcraft is any reall power. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* I. xxv. 51 The Sickness is more than natural, and Witchcraft is to be feared. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 117 P 2, I cannot forbear thinking that there is such an Intercourse and Commerce with Evil Spirits, as that which we express by the Name of Witchcraft. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. iv. 60 To deny the possibility, nay, actual existence, of witchcraft and sorcery, is..to contradict the revealed word of God. *a* 1862 Buckle *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 495 There are few superstitions which have been so universal as a belief in witchcraft.

b. *pl.* Acts or instances of this; magic arts; also † occas. with *a*, a kind of magic.

c 935 *Laws of Athelstan* I. vi, We cwædon be þam wicce-craftum & be-liblacum [etc.]. *c* 1200 Ormin 7077 Drihmenn, weppmenn & wifmenn ec, þatt follghenn wicche crafftess. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Hit bringeð to nout alle þes deofles wisles,..his wrenchfule wicchecreftes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lx. (Bodl. MS.), Wioches also vse þe herte and þee lyuoure of þis beeste in many wicchecraftes. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 93 Wit þer wichecraftis and enchauntingis. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) D iv b, Us thou hast now forsakyn And to a wychcrafte the takyn. 1589 in *30th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 43 Scho will confess no wytchcreftis nor gilt. 1627 Mortson *Itin.* III. 45 All these witchcrafts ceased after the comming of Christ. 1670 R. T. *Opinion of Witchcraft Vind.* 43 Killing of Men or Beasts by Witchcrafts. 1767 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* II. I. 49 Commissioners..were appointed for the trial of witchcrafts.

2. *fig.* Power or influence like that of a magician; bewitching or fascinating attraction or charm.

1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, V. ii. 301 You haue Witch-craft in your Lippes, Kate. 1623 — *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 18 He hath a Witchcraft Ouer the King in's Tongues. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Vain Love* 1 What new-found Witchcraft was in thee, With thine own Cold to kindle Me? *a* 1694 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* x. § 126 Whether the raising this spirit [of the Levellers] was a piece of Cromwell's ordinary witchcraft, in order to some of his designs, or whether [etc.]. 1747 Richardson *Clarissa* I. viii. 47, I tell you, I see thro' your *entitlements*—that was her strange word. 1828 Shelley *Epipsych. & Helen* 632 The subtle witchcraft of his tongue Un-... hearts of those who ... 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* iii. By some unfailing witchcraft she [sc. the sun] entices the breezes to follow her.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1694 Whitlock *Zootomia* 261 His Blindnesse and Infidelity betrayeth him to this Stupidity, and Witchcraft-addiction to the Creature. 1796 G. M. Woodward *Eccentric Excurs.* 133 Among the most approved witchcraft remedies, we find nailing horse shoes at the thresholds of doors. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 877/1 The latest witchcraft frenzy was in New England, about 1692. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 452 Human sacrifice is very rare in Congo Français, the killing of people being nine times in ten a witchcraft palaver.

Hence † **Witchcraftical** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*).

1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 84 Away with witchcraftical Doctors, away with the doctrine of Devils.

Witch-doctor. One who professes to cure disease and to counteract witchcraft by magic arts.

1728 F. Hutchinson *Witchcraft* viii. 120 The said Dorothy Durent, having been with a Witch-Doctor, acknowledges.. that [etc.]. 1901 *Lancet* 19 Oct. 1085/2 He was considered to be a 'witch doctor' and..farmers and females went to him to have the 'evil eye' removed.

b. A magician among African tribes, esp. Kaffirs, whose business it is to detect witches, and to counteract the effects of magic. (Cf. *medicine-man.*)

1836 R. M. Martin *Hist. S. Africa* I. iv. 168 So infatuated [are the Kaffirs] in a belief of the infallibility of the wizard or witch doctor. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 445 One witch doctor may have..particular influence over one class of spirit and another over another class.

So **Witch-doctress.**

1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* vii, The most famous witch-doctress..a woman whose scent was as keen as a dog's.

† **Witchdom.** *Obs. rare.* [OE. *wiccedōm*: see Witch *sb.*[1] and [2] and -dom.] Witchcraft.

a 1050 in Assmann *Agr. Hom.* 143 Ne on wiglunge ne on wiccedome. *c* 1225 *Seven Sages* (MS. Cantab. Ff. ii. 38. lf. 146 b) So they lad hym wyth trecherye Wyth wychdoms & wyth sorcerye.

Witched (witʃt, *poet.* wi·tʃéd), *ppl. a.* [f. Witch *v.* + -ed[1].] Influenced by witchcraft; that is under a magic spell; also, possessed of magic power; full of witchery.

1592 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 66 False dreamer, perish with thy witched newes. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Semiles* xviii. Wks. (Groart) II. 254 Wee (wretched, witched Elves), That never such a human brest the weird,

Hence † **Witchedly** *adv.*, with witchcraft.

1630 A. B. *Mutatus Polemo* 34 We have not a people so witchedly besotted.

Witch elm: see Wych elm.

Witchen (wi·tʃĕn). Now *dial.* Also 7 whitchen. [f. Witch *sb.*[3] + -en [4].]

1. In full *witchen elm*: = Wych elm. Also *attrib.*

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* II. 53 Another tree, that somewhat resembleth our Witchen Elmes. 1625 Markham *Country Contentm.* I. viii. 108 The best bowe is either Spanish or English yewe, and the worst of Witchen or Elme. 1662 — *Hungers Prevention* 39 A very good stiffe young growne Plant of Hazell, Elme, or Witchen. 1880 Clare *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 53 And the witchen-branches nigh, O'er my snug box towering high. 1821 — *Vill. Minstrel* II. 121 The rooks, where yonder witchens spread, Quawk clamorous to the spring's approach.

2. The mountain ash, *Pyrus aucuparia.* Cf. Quicken *sb.*[1] (*whicken*), Whitten.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* xiv. 31 The Quick-beam [Ornus] or (as others term it) the Whitchen [1676 Witchen]. 1676 M. Cook *Forest-Trees* xxii. 75 The Quickbeam, Whitchen, or Wild-ash,..is pretty plentifull in some parts of the North. 1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* II. 262 *Pyrus aucuparia* (Mountain Ash).. This tree has also the old names of Quicken-tree..and Witchen-tree.

Witchering. *nonce-wd.* [Formed on next with -ing[1].] A deed of witchcraft.

1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xl, Hast no done mischief enow already, wi' thy murders and thy witcherings?

Witchery (wi·tʃəri). [f. Witch *sb.*[2] or *v.* + -ery.]

1. The use or practice of witchcraft.

1546 Bale *Engl. Votaries* I. 55 b, Besydes the art Magyck, Sortilege .. Geomancye, and witcherye, that was taught there also. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches.* III. x. 57 She sawe not anie one carrieng a faggot to the fier, but she would saie it was to make a fier to burne hir for witcherie. 1637 B. Jonson *Sad Shepherd* II. vi, *Cla.* What devil's pater noster mumbles she? *Alk.* Stay, you will heare more of her witcherie. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 32 There is a manifest difference between magic, which is wisdom and supernatural knowledge, and the witchery and conjuring by which we now understand the word. 1820 Southey *Kehama* IV. iii, While young and old assembled round, Listened, as if by witchery bound. 1864 Milman *Lat. Christ.* II. 328 No one answering the citation to accuse the Empress of adultery or witchery.

attrib. 1607 R. Bernard *Guide Grand-Jury Men* 29 The parents..sent for a wise woman, who played her witchery trickes. 1650 A. B. *Mutatus Polemo* 22 Like the blacke Prince of the ayre in his witchery Apparitions. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 28 Aug. 6/2 Prisoner burnt some candles over the fire,..and used some witchery words.

b. *pl.* Deeds of witchcraft.

1592 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Hechizos*, witcheries, witch-craft. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VII. vii. 575 The Heathens in those parts are given to Augueries and Witcheries. 1634 Milton *Comus* 523 Great Comus, Deep skill'd in all his mothers Witcheries. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 494 As dark as witch'ries of the night. 1829 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvii, Rebecca, daughter of Isaac of York—a woman infamous for sortileges and for witcheries. 1874 H. H. Cole *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* App. 306 Spells, enchantments and witcheries are supposed to be incessantly at work.

2. *fig.* Charming or fascinating power or influence.

1588 G. HARVEY *Marginalia* (1913) 191 Yᵉ sweet bayte, & lure of curtesy: The cunninglist and most intellectual witchery of all other. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm. Pr. exhr.* 60 Wks. 1686 III. 194 If we can disengage our selves from the witcheries of present allurement. 1798 WORDSW. *P. Bell* I. 265 He never felt The witchery of the soft blue sky! 1834 A. CUNNINGHAM *Burns' Wks.* I. Life 353 The witchery of his conversation, and the magic of his songs, were too powerful for the resolution of some. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* v, A beautiful Greek woman.. soothing him with the witchery of her guitar.

b. *jocular.* A body of bewitching women.

1777 T. TWINING in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 54 Remember me to Mrs. B. and the whole witchery.

Witchet (wi·tʃĕt). *local.* [? repr. a variant **wichet* of AF. *wibet* WICKET.] A wide 'head' or working-place in a coal mine; = WICKET 5 b.

1677 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 895 A Witchet or Cave was driven out in the middle of it upon a level for gaining of room to work. 1683 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wichet* (N[orth] W[ales]), a working place in the shape of a wide heading or board, sometimes 60 or 70 feet in width.

Witchetty (wi·tʃĕti). *Austral.* [Native name.] The larva of some species of longicorn beetles, eaten as a food by Australian natives. Also *attrib.*

1891 STIRLING in *Trans. Roy. Soc. South Australia* XIV. 158. 1894 R. LYDEKKER *Marsupialia* 291 The Marsupial Mole..was fed on the 'witchetty'.

Witch-finder. One formerly employed to search for and obtain evidence against witches.

1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 6 To save the trouble and Charges of the witch-finder, they will undertake to try the Witch of themselves. 1647 M. HOPKINS (*title*) The Discovery of Witches..now published by Matthew Hopkins, Witchfinder. For the Benefit of the whole Kingdome. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 876/1 Want of tears was, by the witch-finders, ..considered as a very substantial proof of guilt. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sciences* 169 Dr. Harsnett..exposed the pretensions of the celebrated exorcist and witch-finder, Darrel.

b. An African witch-doctor.

1850 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* II, I saw that the witch-finders and the medicine-men were feared in the land.

So **Wi·tch-finding.**

1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 63 Oft times he marries them.. by the Book of Common Prayer (as a pretender to witch-finding lately told me).

Witch hazel, wych hazel. [WITCH *sb.*3]

1. = WITCH *sb.*3 a. Also, the hornbeam.

1541–2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII* c. 9 § 3 That everie bowyer..for every bowe that he maketh of Ewe, make fower other bowes ..of Elme, wyche hasill, sahe, or other Wood. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Obier*...a Wych hasell, as some thinke. 1588 HARRIOT *Brief Rep. Virginia* D 4 b, Maple, and also Wich-hasle, wherof the inhabitants vse to make their bowes. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clx. 1096 Called.. Hornbeame, Hardbeame, Yoke Elme, and in some places Witch hasell. 1633 T. JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* III. cxvi. 1481 *Vlmus folio latissimo scabro.* Witch Hasell, or the broadest leaued Elme...This hath little affinitie with *Carpinus*, which in Essex is called Witch Hasell. *c* 1767 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* ii, In the court of Norton farmhouse..stood within these twenty years a broad-leaved elm, or wych hasel. 1838 STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 66 The Wych Elm, or Wych Hasel, as it is sometimes called. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 85 Wych-hazel, for divining treasures used.

attrib. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 137 Some men.. even resorted to the witch-hasel fork in quest of knowledge on which capital might venture investment.

2. A North American shrub, *Hamamelis virginica*; also, an extract of the leaves and bark of this shrub, used as an astringent remedy.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Witch Hasel, *Hamamelis.* 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 508 The Witch Hazle...It has been said, that it is possessed of the power of attracting gold or silver, and that twigs of it are made use of to discover where the veins of these metals lie hid. 1824 LONGF. *Autumn* 26 The purple finch..pecks by the witch-hasel. 1908 R. W. CHAMBERS *Firing Line* viii, 'Sentiment? Yes,' she said; 'but oh! it's the kind that offers witch-hasel and hot-water bottles to the best beloved!'

Witching (wi·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *wiccung*, vbl. n. of *wiccian* WITCH *v.*: see -ING 1.]

1. The use or practice of witchcraft.

c 1000 *Confess. Ecgberti* xxix. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 154 Gif hwylc wif wiccunga bega. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Wicching & swikedom stale & leoð & lesing & reflоc, & alle þe luðere lastes þe man hafeð þurch deules lore. *c* 1250 *St. Lucy* 126 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 104 Þou art strong wichche,.. Mine clerkes and mine enchauntours, bi-mine schullen þi wichchingue. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* viii. 11 Moche tyme he hadde maad hem mad,..with his wichingis [1388 witche craftis]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxi. 121 All the enchantments or witchings of Circe. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches*, I. iii. 8 Bodin himselfe confesseth, that not aboue two in a hundred of their witchings or wishings take effect. 1609 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 137 Geoffry Chaucer,..spying that all these brainelesse imaginations, of witchings, possessings, house-banting, and the rest, were the forgeries..of craftie priests. 1898 GRATIANA CRANTER *Witch of Withyfoot* viii, 86 Why be the folks always telling of witches and wiching? 1914 J. MACKAY *Ch. in Highl.* IV. 152 Witching and charming were severely punished [in 17th c.].

2. *fig.* Enchantment, fascination.

1827–44 N. P. WILLIS *Contempl.* 26 Life had been like the witching of a dream. 1828 'F. ANSTEY' *Vice Versa* iii, He felt far from hungry, and was conscious that his palate would require the adroitest witching.

Witching (wi·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That casts a spell; enchanting, bewitching.

In quot. 1587 *wyccheu* is of uncertain origin.

1587 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 187 In Affrica beoþ moyneys þat haueþ wyccheu [*v. r.* wicching] tonges [*linguas fascinantes*]. †*c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* II. 1 In Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 185 Ner her wytchinge eie..Can challendge any share in my disgrace. 1632 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Eol.* v. 5 Her witching eyn the boy, and boat hath charm'd. 1747 W. DUNKIN in Francis tr. *Hor., Ep.* II. ii. 317 Witching Imps of Hell.

2. *transf.* Of or belonging to witchcraft; 'concerned with the practice of witchcraft or sorcery.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches*, v. vii. 104 But they haue lesse reason that build vpon..the supernaturall frame of transubstantiation; as almost all our witching writers doo. *Ibid.* XII. vii. 208 They burst the snakes with witching words. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* IV. i, Those damnable Contrivers, Who shall with Potions, Charms, and witching Drugs, Practise against our Person and our Life.

b. *spec.* Of time: Belonging or appropriate to the deeds of witches and witchcraft, and hence to supposed supernatural occurrences.

In later use echoing Shake.

1600 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 406 'Tis now the very witching time of night, When Churchyards yawne, and Hell it selfe breathes out Contagion to this world. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 55 Such Tales their Chear, at Wake or Gossiping, When it draws near to Witching Time of Night. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. xii, It was now the witching hour consecrated to ghost and spirit. 1849 — *K. Arthur* VI. lxvii, Just as the witching night begins to fall.

3. *fig.* 'Bewitching', fascinating.

BURNS '*A Prayer, in Prospect of Death*' 22 List'ning to their witching voice Has often led me wrong. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lvii, Yet are Spain's maids..form'd for all the witching arts of love. 1890 *Spectator* 7 June 799/2 The spell of the witching land and its people grows on us.

b. *advb.* Bewitchingly.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 244 She only answer'd with a look, But it was 'witching sweet.

Hence **Wi·tchingly** *adv.*, bewitchingly.

1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. vi, The soft delights, that witchingly Instil a wanton sweetness through the breast. *a* 1868 LOWELL *Nomades* viii, So witchingly her finger-tips To Wisdom..She kisses. 1878 *Tinsley's Mag.* XXIII. 518 She was about twenty-four, with a witchingly sweet face.

Witch knot.

1. A tangled knot of hair supposed to be made by witches: = ELF-LOCK.

1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep., El. Cobham* 112 O that I were a Witch..I I would..knit whole ropes of witchknots in her hayre. 17.. *Willie's Lady* xxxiv. in Child *Ballads* I. 87 Oh wha has loosed the nine witch knots That was amo that ladie's locks?

2. A bushy tuft of twigs on a tree: = *witches' besom* (see WITCH *sb.*3 5 c).

1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds Scot.* 51 The simple boy..Mistakes the witch-knots for the cushat's nest. 1880 F. P. PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 96 The 'witch-knot' found on the birch, and resembling a great mass of twigs like a bird's nest, is an abnormal growth ..caused by *Phytopti.*

Witchmonger (wi·tʃmɒŋgəɹ). [f. WITCH *sb.*2 + MONGER 1.] One who has dealings with witches, or who believes in witchcraft.

1584 R. SCOT (*title*) The discoverie of witchcraft, Wherein the lawde dealing of witches and witchmongers is notablie

Rosicrucians, witchmongers,..and Swedenborg.

Witchy (wi·tʃi), *a. rare.* [f. WITCH *sb.*2 + -Y 1.] Having the nature of or resembling a witch.

1666 *Third Advice to a Painter* 18 When he with Earthy Hounds, and Horn of Air, Pursues in Fountebleau the witchy Hare. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 332 Thiers..looked not a man, but a witchy old woman in man's clothes.

†**Wite**, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 wita, wiota, weota, wuta, 3 weote, wite, 4 wete; 8 *pl.* (*Hist.*) wites. [OE. *wita* wk. masc. (also *gewita* witness) = OFris. *wita*, OS. *gi-wito* (MLG. *wete*) witness, OHG. *wizo* (*giwizo* witness), Goth. *-wita* (in *fullawita*, *unwita*) :— OTeut. **witon-*: see WIT *v.*1]

1. A wise man, sage; a councillor; *spec.* one of the WITAN, q.v.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xix. (1890) 454 To freondscipe.. Bonefatius archidiacones, se wæs eac gewyloe wita & gesceahtere þæs apostolican papan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vii. 30 *Legis periti*, me wuta. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xiii. 132 Ne bliðe se na wita þe unwislicne leofað. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8672 All bilammp þatt widdwe þa awa summ þe wite seggde. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM I. 651 Wet hys mystyke ne mey non wete Be no lynge a-founde.

1701 *Cowel's Interpr., Witas, Witen*, the Title among our Saxon Ancestors for their chief Lords or Thanes, their wise and their noble Men. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng., Fol. C. to Hen. VII*, I. App. I. 124 Besides the prelates and aldermen, there is also mention of the wites or wise men.

2. A witness.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* Pref., Nalas mid anes mannes gesæhte ac mid gesægene unrim geleaffulra witena. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 60 Lyece witness *vel* wuta. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 Beon waiste [*a. r.* weote] & witnesse þerof.

Wite, wyte (weit), *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* and *dial.* Forms: 1– wite; also 3, 5 wijt, 4–6 witte, 4, 6–7 wyt, 3–4, 6, 8 wit (4 wytte, witt, wijtte, 5 wijte, wytte, 5–6 wyght, 6 wyit, wyoht, wight, quhyt, 7 weit, wayt, waite, 7–8 white), 4– wyte. [OE. *wite* = OFris. *wite*, OS. *witi* (MLG. *wite*, Du. *wijte*), OHG. *wizi* (MHG. *wëze*), ON. *víti*: see WITE *v.*1]

†1. a. Punishment; penalty; pain inflicted in punishment or torture, *esp.* the torments of hell. (Cf. OE. *helle-wite*, etc.) *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxviii. 11 Awend from me witen þin. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvii. § 3 Ne þearf nænne wisne mon tweogan þæt ða yflan nebben eac ecu edlean hlora yfles; þæt hit ece wite. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2542 Þa ic seadan gefremede..swaertne lix werum to wite, wealleude fyr. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 219 Þa wile þearcode se almihti sceappende him and his iferen helle wite. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3903 Swa þatt he þam þe Kaserriking ne felle nohht i wite. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 202 Þe Vox of þiscunge hauð þeos hweolpes: Tricherie & Gile, þeoffðe, Reflac, Wite, & Herrure streccðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6714 Þis beists lasserd þan sal bi quit Of alkin oncall, and eþer wijt. *Ibid.* 15800 He þat smitand es wit suerd, O suerd sal ha þe wite.

b. In Anglo-Saxon law, a fine imposed for certain offences or privileges; often as second element in compounds, as BLOODWITE, *ferdwite* (see FERD *sb.*1 4), *fyhtwite* (see FIGHT *sb.* 7), LAIRWITE. Now *Hist.*

c 890 *Laws Ælfred* lx, Sie þæt wite LX scill. *c* 1205 LAY. That they schol nost pay no ale wytye to me.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 262. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 127. 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* II. vi. 64 The lesser wite or ordinary fine of the Hundred-Court. 1897 MAITLAND *Domesday Bk. & Beyond* 108 In any case their lord is to have their wites.

2. Blame, reproach; blameworthiness, fault. Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

Phr. *to have the wite, to put the wite in, to put* (a person) *in wite, to give* (one) *the wite* (*of*), *to lay the wite on.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Cleane schir inwit, wiðute wite of sunne. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2035 Þe wite is hise, þe right is hire. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3667 He said til him þat bare þe wite, 'How dare þou sua þi broþer smite!' *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Cam. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 400 And but I do, lat me han the wite. — *Wife's Prol.* 806 That I haue doon it is thy self to wyte. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 555 Þe wyte is all in the. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 166 Some also þat putten ful grete wite On double louers. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 869 What cause haue ye to putte me in this witte? *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xvi. 386 Sithen hise successouris ben not 3it founde in wijte or defaute. *Ibid.* 515 This gouernaunce deserueth not bi hir wijt to be kut away. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 68, I se be my schadowe my schape has the wyte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. x. 88 Kynge Pellinore bare the wytte of the deth of kynge Lott. 1528 MORE *Dyalogs Heresyes* IV. xii. (1529) 116 b, Our mother Eue layd the wyght of her synne to the serpent. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 104 The witte salbe imputt to him as accordis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 157 They gif 30w the haill quhyt..that they ar persewit be the quene. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 1063 George Gipsones Iakie bas Had all the wyte he womit saa. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iii. 26 Sith his own thought he knew most cleare from wite. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VIII. xxxiv. 906 The posteritie hereafter should lay the waite and blame..in the Tribunes. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 409 The Bishop,..crying to the people, That he had no wyt of the matter. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 53 You lean all the white off your sell. 1721 RAMSAY *Twa Cut-purses* 34 Ye canna lay the Wyte on me. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v. *White*, You lean all the white off yourself. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, This is a' your wyte, Miss Jeanie Deans. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xii, About seven months after he left the town wa misfortunate creatures gave him the wyte of their bairns. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xix, But now it's done, Alan; and who's to bear the wyte of it?

†b. The source or origin of blame; the person or thing that is to blame. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. Prol. 366 Quhilk in sum part is the caus and the wite, Quby that of Virgillis vers the ornate bewtie Intill our toung may nocht obseruit be. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 75, I am the wite now of hir deid doutles. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1902) 94 Þour twa fair ene is wycht of all my wo. 1728 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. i, She abusing first, was a' the wyte Of what has happen'd.

†3. *transf.* Offence, trespass; WRONG. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ne do he þe neure swa mucheine steone ne wite on þisse liue ne þe nefre ene wrað þer fore. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4586 Þou sal god office haue fal tite, And all forgiuen þe þi wijtte. *Ibid.* 10303 Issu crist was tan, And don on rode for our wite. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 304 He wald anon mine heued of smite,..for that wite. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 89 Of tomoche or of tolyte Ther is algate founde a wyte. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince.* 2720 Þat hab I-do þe tres-pase, or the wyte.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1 b) *wite-exacting*, *-free* adjs.

1897 MAITLAND *Domesday Bk. & Beyond* 87 A tract over which a lord has..a *wite-exacting power. 1229 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 133/2 Wrecfri et *witefri et lestagefri. 1278 (see LOVECOP.). 1288 [see LASTAGE *sb.* 7]. 1672 *Cowel's Interpr., Wites.*, Hence *Wite or Witfree*, one of the terms of Priviledge granted to our Portmen.

Wite, wyte (weit), *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 witan, 2–4 witen, 2–7 wite, 3–5 (6 *arch.*) wyten, 4–7, 8–9 *Sc.* wyte (3 hwite?, 4 wytte, *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* wijt, wit(t, 4–6 wit, 4–7 white, 4–8 chiefly *Sc.* wyt, 5 wytt, wiyte, wijte, wyet, wyth, 6 wiht, *Sc.* wyit, veit, vyit, 7 *Sc. pa. t.* wate). [OE. *witan*, pa. t. **wát*, *witon* (superseded by weak inflexions in ME.), also *atwitan* (*-wát*, *-witon*, pa. pple. *-witen*, ME. pa. t. *atwiste*, pa. pple. *atwist*) ATWITE *v.*1, *edwitan* (pa. pl. *-witon*, and wk. *-witte*, Vesp. Ps.) EDWIT *v.*: = OS. *witan*, MLG., MD. *witen* (Du. *wijten*), OHG. *wîzan* (MHG. *wîzen*, G. *verweisen* to reproach), Goth. *-weitan* in *fraweitan* to avenge; f. Teut. *wit-*: see WIT *v.*1 The sense-development

is paralleled in L. *animadvertere* to observe, consider, censure, blame, punish.]

1. *trans.* To impute the guilt or lay the blame of (something) to or upon a person (his action, conduct, or character) or a thing, condition, or event (orig. dat., later also with *to*, *on*, *upon*).

Beowulf 2741 For ðam me witan ne þearf waldend fira morðorbealo maza. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. iv, Romane witan Claudiuse þone hunger. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 Ȝif þu witast eni þing þine sunne bute þi sulnen, þu ne schrinest þe nout. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1249 Schal he his mishap wite me? 13.. *K. Alis.* 1725 Thou konst no gode; Y wyt hit all thy yonge blode. *c* 1390 *Sir Tristr.* 969 Her sorwen and her care þai witt þat fraly fode. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 456 Allas Fortune..Thy false wheel my wo al may I wyte. — *Miller's Prol.* 32 If that I mysspeke or seye Wyte it the Ale of Southwerk. *a* 1400 *Lay. Reed* (2871) 134 His wo I wyte hit sinne. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2016, I may wit it þe, þat I have lost my sizte. 24.. *Sir Bevis* (M.) 2893 Thou sholdiste on me be awreke And not wite on hym the gilte. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 35 Y wiyte my silf myne owne woo! *c* 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 148 White thi owne falsnes alle thi mynchance. 1482 CAXTON *Godfrey* XX. 51 This falonnye that this fewe dyde was wyted alle the hoost. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 308 It shal not be wytted me to haue a brother of myn a monke. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xl. 9 After the miseries which he abydeth are wrapped vppon his owne fault. 1587 — *De Mornay* xlii. (1592) 281 They..reteine the faultines of that first fault, and cannot wit it vpon any other than the first Man. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* XXX. 268 He wyted it a' on the liberty and equality speerit o' the times.

†b. To impute as guilt; also in neutral sense: To impute. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Judges* iv. 9 In this while victory shal not be witid to thee [Vulg. *non reputabitur tibi*] 1382 — *Rom.* v. 13 Synne was not wyitid, *[gloss]* or rettid, whanne lawe was not. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* x. 332 Wyte thou no wyrkyng of Werkys wast, She hase consauyd the holy gast. 1532 tr. *Erasm. Playne Expos. Com. Crede* 31 b, Vnto it is to be wihted or imputed what so euer thynge..hathe ben done.. vertuously.

2. To impute the guilt or fault to, blame (a person).

a 1000 *Ælfred's Boeth.* Proem, þæt he..him ne wite ȝif he hit rihtlicor engite þonne he mihte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 He [*sc.* Christ] setteð þe synfulle on his lifthalf, and witeð hem þat hi bi here lif dazes ne wolden him quemen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17445 If ani man yow witte, We sal yow saue and mak yow quite. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 619 Þe porter gan him wite And seyd to—' Cherl! go oway'. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 933 And though þat I be Ialous, wyte me noght. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xvii. 119 And þou be lost, whom wiltow wyte? *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. 5 The errouris..bi which holding thei vnlaufly..wijten and blamen the clergie. 1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 348 And they myght pulle downe the howse on our hedys, I wyet hem not. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 310 He..blamed & wytted hym self. 1530 PALSGR. 783/1 Why wyte you me, and I am nat to blame? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 26 Scoffing at him, that did her lustly wite. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 133 Nor can we wyt them, since they had our Vote. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 357 Wite your self if your Wife be with Bairn. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXVI, It wasna my faut; he canna wyte me. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xviii. 161 She had got an injury and wyted me.

absol. 1340 *Ayenb.* 69 Zuo hit is huanne god his..chasteþ, and maugre hy wyteþ. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 136 Moche mone was therfore but no man wyte moste.

†b. Const. obj. and inf. (see To *prop.* B. 8): To blame a person for doing so-and-so. *Obs.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iv. 235 Wijting..vsers of ymagis to be gilti of vntrewe feith. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv, So Quha sould thame wyte To serue thair beistlie lust? *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xl. 51 To lufe your ladeis quho can wyt zow? *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 789 Quhat tyme he wytit Will To be maist cause of his mischeif.

c. Const. *of*, later *for*, *with*, that in respect of which blame is incurred.

c 1290 *Beket* 2087 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 166 Non oþur gulti nis of þat ȝe witez me. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17778 He o mani plight was wijt [*Gött.* witt], 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 502 not me for þe werk þat I hit wolde help. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 110 Ther nas no lacke with wiche he myght her wite. 1482 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 17 None shal wyte me therof. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 90 Lat vss noth vyit the deuil..of ony aduersite quhilk cumis to vss. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Ix. 19–26 Nothyng had Pharao to wyte God withal. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 197 Thay may it is fals destenie And wyttis Fortoun of thair misgouernance. 17.. *Gil Morrice* XXV. in Child *Ballads* II. 273 Neir wyte a man for violence That neir wate ye wi nane. 1826 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ix, A' the wrang he can wyte me wi.

3. To lay the fault or blame upon (a thing). † Also with const. as in 2 c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17769 He wites werd [*MS.* wend] and waris his time. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2304 Alasse, my wyckydnesse, that may I wyte! 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* Prol. 88 I'e wite Gods worde and the true preachers of all the mischeve which their lying doctrine is the very cause of. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 64 Allace i vyit ȝour tua fayr ene. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. xi. 37 Albe he earst did wyte His wauering mind. *a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 12 All thing wytes that well not fairss. 1609 *Philotus* clxx, Wyte ignorance that I did not invent.

4. *To wite* was freq. used predicatively in senses 2 and 3 = to blame, blameworthy, in fault, culpable.

a 1300 *Floris & Bl.* (Camb. MS.) 703 Of al þis gilt ibe am to wite. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 76 Mere to wyte is her wrange, þan any wylle gentyl. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 116 Ha fol, how thou art forto wyte. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 8716 (Trin.) þat þou best þus don þis sin þi selcon is to wite [*Cott.* þiself þou wite þi sin]. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 254 O fals Cupide, is nane to wyte bot thow.

Hence **Witer**, **Witing** *vbl. sb.*[1]

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ii. 143 Alle such ouerhastie lieres and wijters God amende. *Ibid.* II. iv. 235 Thilk doom and thilk wijting..is vntrewe. 1825 JAMIESON, *Witer*, one who blames another. Clydesd.

† **Wite**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1 witan, 2–4 wite (3 witte, *imper.* wit), 3–4 wyte (4 white); *pres. 3rd sing.* 2–3 wit; 3 wat, wot; *pa. t.* 2–4 wiste, 3–4 wuste (4 wist, wust, wste); *pa. pple.* 3–4 iwust, 4 iwist. [OE. *witan*, usually in compound *bewitan* (pres. *-wát*, pa. t. *-wiste*) BIWIT *v.*; cf. OFris. *wita*, OHG. *wizzên* in *giwizzên*, *irwizzên* to be observant, watch, Goth. *witan* (pa. t. *witaida*): *f.* Teut. *wit-*: see WIT *v.*[1] In ME. dialects where the inf. ending *-ie(n* is not preserved, this verb is indistinguishable from WITE *v.*[3] Some ME. forms point to OE. *witan*.]

1. *trans.* To keep, keep safe, guard, preserve, defend. Also *refl.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 154 þæt hiȝ god swefen, wite þu þæt georne on þinre heortan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 [He] brohte him to an hors huse, and bitahte hine þe hors horde to witene. *Ibid.* 85 Meiden þet hire meiden-hat wit. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 84 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 165 He wit and waldeð alle [*c.* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Witte wel hwat þu hauest. 31 Herdes..wittende here oref. *Ibid.* 137 To witen of alle fleschliche lustes. *c* 1205 LAY. 21300 Nu him is al swa þere gat þer he þene hul wat [*c* 1275 wot]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 26 ȝef ha wit hire wiðute bruche. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 18 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 Yf we vs wyteþ from heuedsunne. *a* 1300 *X Commandm.* 34 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 26 Wit þe fram licheri. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* (Camb. MS.) 756 His engin whan þu hit wite, þe betere wil ofere þu miȝt þe wite. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 168 Two lawen Adam scholde i-wis Witen and holden in paradis. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 67 Bote þei witen hem from wantounesse, whil þat þei ben ȝonge. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 235 Ley þou þi fet to my pappe, And wite þe from þe colde. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 33 Voydyng slaundre, wyte the of gelousye. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 546 This wol from the wessel wite hem well.

Illustration of pa. t. and pa. pple.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 An meiden..þet wel wiste hire licome in alle cleanesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 1693 Brutus..hine wel wuste. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 48 Wite wel þine heorte, nor soule lif is in hire, ȝif heo is wel iwust. 13.. *St. Alexius* (Trin. MS.) 108 Hy þoȝte on crist day and nyȝt And wiste [*Laud MS.* kepte] here fro senne. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 32 That euerliche contreie..ben so i wuste þat [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 170 ȝhe wist it as wel or bet as ȝif it were hire owne.

2. Const. clause: To take care, see (*that*).

a 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 234 Wite þæt þin geþance ne losiȝe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Wite ȝe þet ȝe ȝemen þenne halle sunnedei. *Ibid.* 53 Witeð eow þet ȝe ne beo noht þe foȝe neddra.

3. To see, observe. Also *intr.* to look *on*.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1256 Hose wi þe sweord smite, Two kuynden he miȝte sen and wite [*rime* smite]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15860 þat non ne scholde hem se ne wite [*rime* lite]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2030 þe wyȝe wynnes hym to, & wytes on his lyre.

Hence † **Witing** *vbl. sb.*[2], keeping, custody.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 428 Of swuche witunge is i-kumen muchel vuel.

† **Wite**, *v.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: 1 witan, 2–5 wite, 4 wit(t, 4–5 wyte, 5 witte. *Pa. t.* 3 wot, 4–5 wat; 4 wited, 5 wyted, wit. *Pa. pple.* 3 *Orm.* witenn, 4 wite. [OE. *witan* (rare), usually *gewitan* I-WITE *v.*[2], q.v.] *intr.* To go, go *away*, depart; to perish, vanish *away*.

a 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* xxiv. 52 Nylle ic mfre hlonan ut witan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 239 Witeð into ece fer. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8222 Affterr þatt Herode king ..... witenn ut off life. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 109 Abacuc, þe wunede on þis weorlde and eft þerof wot. *Ibid.* 123 Hider he cumeð on wowe and heðen wit on wowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8968 Hu all þis werld sal wite awai. *Ibid.* 10551 Quen þis angel a-wai was wite. *Ibid.* 11962 þir angels wited þam awai. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Prol., All gladnes & delite of erth ..wytes til noght. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justina*) 229 As a reke away he wat. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 708, I may noghte wit of this woo. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 191 þe knyttes waten on & on To her owen cuntre. *c* 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 90 Bi þe son settynge þay wyted a-way in-to þe erthe agayne. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* cxii. 1187 Quhen þis wes said he wit away. *c* 1425 *Thomas Erceld.* 327 Whene a tree rote es dede The lenes fadis þane & wytis a-waye. *c* 1480 HENRYSON in *Poems Gray MS.* vi. 65 (S.T.S.) 56 Full oft is sene thir emotis in ane hillok ay Rinnand oute befor þin ene; with litill weit þai wit away.

Wite, obs. f. WIGHT, WIT *v.*[1] **Witeȝe**, var. WITIE. **Witel**, obs. f. WHITTLE *sb.*[1]

† **Witeless**, *a. Sc.* (and *north.*) ? *Obs.* [f. WITE *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Blameless.

1580 ROLLAND *Seven Sagis* (Bann. Club) 18 Scho was wyteless, howbeit storme thame oppreist. *c* 1575 *Dturn. Occurr.* (Bann. Club) 240 Wyteles of the haiding thairof. 1599 SEMPILL *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 136 Ne can Willye wite the witeless herdgroome. 1617 in A. I. Ritchie *Chanrelaw St. Baldred* (1880) 161 Alexander Daviesone did draw his quhinger also, and so suild not be altogidder wyteles. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 200 If all be well, I'a be wyteless. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 102 They wyte you and you no wyteless.

† **Wi·ten**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 witten. [f. WITE *v.*[1] + -EN 5.] *trans.* a. To impute. b. To blame.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3262 But hafil wilfulnes werkne þei wittened it alle. 1589 PEELE *Eglt. Cruel.* B j, Least worthily, I mought witned bee.

Witenagemot (wi·tĕnăgēmŏt, *popularly* witĕnæ·gēm(ŏ)t). *Hist.* Also 3 witene mot; 6 wytena gemote, 7 weidenagamoot, 7–9 witena-gemot(e, (9 witana-). [OE. *witena gemót* assembly of wise men: see WITAN, WITE *sb.*[1], and GEMOT(E, MOOT *sb.*[1]] The assembly of the WITAN, the national council of Anglo-Saxon times; *transf.* of modern parliaments or other deliberative assemblies.

[*c* 900 tr. *Bede's Hist.* III. v, On gemote hiora witena.] *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* viii. (Z.) 30 *Hæc synodus*, þis witena gemot. 1052 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C), Þa hafde Eadward cing witena gamot on Lunden to midlencten. *c* 1205 LAY. 21548 þæt hustinge was god, hit wes witene-imot.

1592 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 252 The word Witena.. doth include the Nobilitie and Commons, because they be Counsellors of the Realme,..in respect whereof the assembling of them, was of some called Wytena Gemote. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 226 Their Wittenagemots or Mikel Synods. 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* 35 *marg.*, Weidenagamoots. 1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 181 The Wittenagemote and great Council of our wisdom, in the preamble to the Statute of 43 Eliz. c. 12. acknowledgeth it to have been the policy of this Realm. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxxiii. 405 The witena-gemote, or *commune concilium* of the antient Germans. 1785 COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 22 Jan., Shall I derive no other advantage from the great Witena-Gemot of the nation, than merely to read their debates? 1833 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 348 Having occasion to write to Sir T. Acland while he is attending the Witenagemot at Cambridge, I sent him a fact for the geologists. 1835 BROWNING *Old Pict. in Florence* xxxiii, A kind of sober Witana-gemot [*rime* hag 'em hot]. 1899 SIR M. FOSTER *Presid. Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 22 The first select Witenagemots of the science of the world.

Witenonfa, var. WEDENONFA'. *Obs.*

Witer: see after WITE *v.*[1]; var. WITHER.

Witereden. *Hist.* Also *corruptly* winter-, wynter-, wit(t)erden(e, witeredden. [OE. *witeréden* (used in *Bæda's Hist.* III. viii. in the gen. sense of punishment), *f. wite* WITE *sb.*[2] + *réden* -RED.] A fine (erron. explained by antiquaries as a royal imposition or aid).

688–95 *Laws Ine* § 50 Nah he þær nane witeredenne. 895 (MS. 12th cent.) *Grant of Æthelwulf* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 84 Ut sit tuta..ab omnibus secularibus servitutibus, necnon regalibus tributis majoribus et minoribus, sive taxationibus quod nos dicimus Witereden [*s. vv.* Winterden, Witeredden].

1690 ELDERFIELD *Civil Right of Tythes* 72 [transl. quot. 855] No secular service, nor tribute..nor Winterdene (or Witterdene, a kind of imposition). 1672 *Cowel's Interpr., Witerden*..a kind of Taxation among the West-Saxons. 1720 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iv. 177 *note*, Written variously Witerden, Wynterden and Witeredden. It was a Tax or Royal ayd. 1826 MIALL *Title Deeds Ch. Eng.* 29 *note*, [comment on prec.].

Witesafe, obs. form of VOUCHSAFE.

Witeson(e, etc., obs. forms of WHITSUN.

Wit-ess. *nonce-wd.* [f. WIT *sb.* + -ESS.] A female wit.

1781 HAN. MORE in *Mem.* (1835) I. 206 All the pride of London,—every wit, and every wit-ess.

Witeword, var. WITWORD.

Witful (wi·tfŭl), *a.* [In ME. aphetic for **switful*, OE. **gewitfull*, inferred from *ungewitfull* (*f. ungewitt* madness, folly); in mod.E. a new formation on WIT *sb.* and -FUL.]

†1. Wise, sagacious. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 911 Membricius..wes..wys & witful. *Ibid.* 3093 Þurh his wit-fulne crafte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 150 He makeþ man wytuol and wys. 1544 BETHAM tr. *Partillia's Precepts War* I. CCXX. Giv b, A wytfull capitayne wyll sende some of hys souldyours that be subtyle & wyttye, to..tempt the mynde of his enemies. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* v. (1592) 58 That is the marke of the witfull action, (that is to say, of the euerlasting word or conceit whereby God made them). 1624 CHAPMAN *Masque Inns of Court* C 2, 'Tis passing miraculous, that your dul and blind worship should so sodainly turne both sightfull, and witfull.

2. Full of wit (in modern senses). *rare.*

1764 J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl., Summer Day* 174 The poems of lofty Milton, witful Cowley, elegant Pope. 1872 *Daily News* 31 July, M. Thiers' utterances snap with witful shrewdness.

With (wiþ), *sb.* Also 8 wyth, width, wieth, 8– withe. [? Corruption of WIDTH.] A partition between flues in a chimney stack: locally termed *mid-feather*.

1708 *Act 7 Anne* c. 17 § 20 All Withs the Inside of such Chimnies shall be Four Inches and an Half in Breadth. 1727 V. MAUNDY *Mallificium Mensionis* (1727) 382 The Breasts and Wings, and Wieths [of the chimneys]. 1734 *Builder's Dict.* s.v. *Chimney*, If they [*sc.* the Chimney-Shafts] be wrought nine Inches thick,..then you must account your Thickness one Brick and half, in consideration of Wyths and Pargetting, and Trouble in Scaffolding. 1736 R. NEVE *Builder's Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Chimney*, In Consideration of the Withs, Pargeting, and Scaffolding. 1742 B. LANGLEY *Lond. Prices* 327 The Widths of Chimneys. 1844 *Act 7 & 8 Vict.* c. 84 Sched. (F) The Breast of every Chimney, and the Front, Back, Withe, or Partition of every Flue, must be at the least Four Inches in Thickness of sound Bricks. 1905 *Pract. Brickwork* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) xii. 100 It will be necessary to tie in the withs on the stretching course.

With (wiþ; *chiefly north.* wip), *prep.*, (*adv.*, *conj.*). Forms: 1–3 wiþ, 1–5 wip, 3–5 wyþ, wit, wid, 4–5 wyt, 4–6 wyth(t, withe, (5 wyd, wis, wih, *Orm.* wipp, 3–5 wiht, 4 witt, wiȝt(h, wyht, wyȝt, whip, *Sc.* vith, 4–5 whit, 5 wyt(t)he,

whyt(h, whith, wit3, wep, *Sc.* **wygh(e, wyghte, wyght, 6 wight, withe, *Sc.* with, quhit, wutht, 7–9 *n. dial.* wud, 8–9 *Sc.* and *n. dial.* wi', 9 *dial.* wiv, way), 2– with; *abbreviated* 4–7 w^t, 5–7 w^th (6 wth).** [OE. *wiþ* = OFris. *with*, OS. *wiþ*, ON. *við* (Sw. *vid*, Da. *ved*): app. a shortening (peculiar to the Anglo-Frisian and Scandinavian areas) of the Com. Teut. **wider-* (see s.v. WITHER *a.* and *adv.* and WITHER-[1]), perh. taking place orig. in compounds (cf. WITH- and the parallelism of OE. *wiþcleosan* and *wiþerclosan* to reject, *wiþstandan* and *wiþerstandan* to withstand, etc.).

As an adv., *with* occurs as the second element in composition with other advs. denoting direction, motion, or extension: FORWITH (FOROUTH, FORROW), FORTHWITH, INWITH, OUTWITH (UTOUTH), DOWNWITH, UPWITH.]

The prevailing senses of this prep. in the earliest periods are those of opposition ('against') and of motion or rest in proximity ('towards', 'alongside'), which are now current only in certain traditional collocations or specific applications. These notions readily pass into fig. uses denoting various kinds of relations, among which those implying reciprocity are at first prominent. The most remarkable development in the signification of *with* consists in its having taken over in the ME. period the chief senses belonging properly to OE. *mid* MID *prep.*[1] (cognate with Gr. *μετά* with). These senses are mainly those denoting association, combination or union, instrumentality or means, and attendant circumstance. These are all important senses of ON. *við*, to which fact their currency and ultimate predominance in the English word are partly due. The last important stage was the extension of *with* from the instrument to the agent, in which use it was current for different periods along with *of* and *through*, and later with *by*, which finally superseded the other three. The range of meanings in general has no doubt been enlarged by association with L. *cum*. The interaction of senses and sense-groups has been such that the position of a particular sense in the order of development is often difficult to determine.

In common with other preps. *with* can be postponed to the end of an interrogative or relative clause introduced by its regimen; but in ME. it was freq. placed immediately after the verb in relative clauses, *e.g.* þes rentis þat þe fend haþ dowed *wiþ* clerkis = these revenues with which the Devil has endowed clerics. In postposition it was for a long period extensively replaced by WITHAL (q.v. B).

I. Denoting opposition and derived notions (separation; motion towards).

†**1.** In a position opposite to; over against: = AGAINST 1. Chiefly in advb. phrases with repeated sb., as *face with face*, where *to* is now used.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 31 Be norðan is se sæ, þe mæþer is 3e nearo 3e hreoh, wiþ Italia þam lande. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 41 Sætt se healend wiþ..ðæs dores. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 Cristes wille þo us bitwon neb wiþ neb for him to son. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 His wine wordes þe he wiþ hem spec muð wiþ muðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 1874 Breoste wiþ breoste banes þær crakeden. *a* 1300 [see FACE *sb.* 2 d].

b. In exchange, return, or payment for: = AGAINST 14, FOR 6. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

The related senses 'in compensation for', 'in comparison with' are only OE.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. xiii. § 1 Hit Scipia nolde him alicfan wiþ nanum oþrum þinge butan hie him ealle hiera wæpeno agefen. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 35 We willaþ wiþ þam golde griþ fæstnian. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxi. 24 Eaze wiþ eagan, toþ wiþ tan. 1442 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1441 64/1 The landis of..Pettendreich, the quhilkis war changeit with the landis of Dunottir. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 27 If the childe misse, either in forgetting a worde, or in chaunging a good with a worse. 1570 in *Shropsh. Par. Doc.* (1903) 63 Rec. at the chaunge of the cupp wth the challeis vil^s, il^d. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to M. Mowat* 7 Sept. (1671) 165 We might barter or niffer our lazie ease with a profitable cross.

2. Of conflict, antagonism, dispute, injury, reproof, competition, rivalry, and the like: In opposition to, adversely to: = AGAINST 12, 12 b, 12 d.

Still the normal prep. with such words as *battle, chide, compete, conflict, contend, dispute, fight, quarrel, strive, struggle, vie, war*, and phrases like *go to law, at odds*, but now associated with or merged in 8, 13 b, or 20.

Beowulf 152 Grendel wan hwile wiþ Hroþgar. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 836 Hie wiþ Godes bearne niþ ahofun. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 853 (Parker MS.), Ealhere mid Cantwarum, & Huda mid Subrigium gefuhton on Tenet wiþ hæþnum herige. *a* 1000 *Gnomic Verses* II. 187 Werig sceaþ wiþ winde rowaþ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Þæt he ne misdude wiþ oderne. *Ibid.* 129 Of þan icompe þe ure drihten hefde wiþ þene feond. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16981 Siff þa milhteenn witenn itt þatt hafdenn niþ wiþþ Criste. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 57 He praied him for his nauy to help him with summ. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 124 þis knight askid hym if he kend oght with hym selfe. 1590 [see CONFLICT *sb.* 1]. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. ii, Poore shipskin, how it braules with him that beateth it! 1612 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 355 One, Who in Rebellion with himselfe, will have All that are his, so too. 1668 WALTON *Angler* iv. (ed. 4) 66 He [*sc.* the trout] may justly contend with all fresh-water-Fish, as the Mullet may with all Sea-Fish. 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 357 Let us go and have t'other Brush with them. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 334/1 Let the Boys be set a running, as it were, with one another, in getting without Book. 1825 NEWMAN *Pres. Par. Cath.* vi. § 7 Invention cannot run with prejudice. Prejudice wins. 1909 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 128 Amazons at handgrips with a long-suffering police.

†**3.** Of resistance, defence, protection, warning, caution: = AGAINST 13, 13 b. *Obs.*

Beowulf 540 Wit unc wiþ hronfixas werian þohton. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 Þa woldan hie on ecnesse hnæ & trume wiþ deoflа niþum & helle witum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 130 Wiþ bryne genim finules nipewearden. *c* 1040 *Bidding Prayer* in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 62 Þæt hy us gehealdan & gescyldan wiþ ealra feonda costnunga. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þe feder and þe sune and þe halie gast iscilde us..wiþ alle sunnen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 224 Hu se schulen witen ou wiþ þes deofles wiles. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 826 Þe seue berbicans abouten,..witeþ þis Castel so wel Wiþ arwe and wiþ qwarel. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 203 For þat þu suld mar vnwar be Vith þi fais.

†**4.** Of separation or deliverance: = FROM 6, 6 b. *Obs.* (See also 19 c.)

Beowulf 2493 Sundur zedælan lif wiþ lice. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 127 Þa zesundrode sigora waldend..leoht wiþ þeostrum, sceade wiþ sciman. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 610 Me is lof to cristes huse To clansi hit wiþ fule muse.

5. †**a.** Towards, in the direction of: = AGAINST 5. (Only OE.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 513 Streamas wundon sund wiþ sande. *Ibid.* 1880 Ac him on hreþre hyzebendum fæst æfter deorum men dyrne langað beorn wiþ blode. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894 (Parker MS.), Þa wende he hine west wiþ Exanceastres. *a* 1000 *Riddles* lv. 42 Þonne scearp cymeð sceo wiþ oþrum, ecg wiþ ecge. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 804 Sum wegfarende man ferde wiþ þone feld.

b. Near or close to, against, alongside. Now only *Naut.* with words denoting proximity and consequently belonging more properly to 18.

Beowulf 326 Setton..rondas regnhearde wiþ þæs recedes weal. *Ibid.* 2566 Stiðmod zestod wiþ steapne rond winia bealdor. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 878 (Parker MS.), Æt Alre, & þæt is wiþ Æþelingza eize. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 5 Þa he þæt seow sum feoll wiþ þone weg. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 447/25 *Murotenus*, wiþ ðone weall. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 113 Bischop Bawdewyn abof bi-ginez þe table, & Ywan, Vryn son, ette wit hymseluen. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 12 Than go your cours with the horse shoo south southwest. *Ibid.* 13 Fro Seint Margret steyers and ye will go with Dengenes, your best way is south south west. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 10 By force of weather driven with the coast of Sicile. 1591 RALEIGH *Last Fight Rev.* (Arb.) 24 A fourth ranne her selfe with the shore to saue her men. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1133 An houre after Sunne rising, we were with a very long and faire point. 1708– [see IN *adv.* 9 b]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vii. 212 One of our prizes was ordered to stand close in with it [*sc.* the land]. 1788 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N.S. Wales* (1790) 108 As we run in with the land,..we were surprised to see..some small patches of snow. 1849 O'BYRNE *Naval Biogr. Dict.* 661/2 At the cutting out, close in with the enemy's batteries of *La Guêpe* privateer. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, A man .. saw .. some dark troubled object close in with the land.

c. Into the presence or immediate proximity of (and in derived fig. uses): following such verbs as *encounter, fall in, meet*, etc., q.v. (Now associated with 19.)

†**6.** Governing a demonstrative pronoun, forming conjunctive phrases: *with than* (*the, that*), *with that, with this* (*that*), *wiþi, wyþy*, rarely *with this* (*that*) [see THAN *dem. pron.*, THAT *conj.* I c, THY *adv.*]: **a.** On condition that, provided that, if.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xii. 118 Nolde he syllan ealle his ehta þeah þe he welig wære, wiþ þan þe he libban moste. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 152 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Eure he walde her inne wawe and ine wene wunien Wiþ þat he mihte helle pine bi-flien. *c* 1205 LAY. 8253 Al þine wille he wule don, wiþ þon þe þu him 3eue griþ. *a* 1300 *Siris* 192 Ich wile 3eve the riche mede With that hit be so. *a* 1300 *St. Thomas* 184 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 82 Grete bewtes to him he bed..Wiþi he wold dwell with him still. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 532, I shal maken þe fre,..With-þan þu wilt þis childe take. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 493 With-thi 3e giff me all the land, That 3e haiff now in-till 3our hand. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3972 Tomorow I woll be redy his best to fulfill, With this I have save condit. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 100, I wolde he had it for vij. yeer, with thys that my moodre be agreable to the same. 1497 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1), I will that Isabell my doughter, shal haue all suche stuffe [etc.] whit that she marie by thaduyce of my executours. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 960, I grant yow leif, withthy Your name to me that 3e wil specify. *c* 1500 *Crow & Pie* v. in Child *Ballads* II. 478 Haue ye thys, my dere swetyng, With that ye wylbe lemman myn.

†**b.** With the intention that, in order that, to the end that. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 2 He..forlæt manigne weoruldlust wiþ þæm þe he þone welan bezete & gehealde. *Ibid.* xl. § 5 Me wære leofre þæt ic onette wiþ þæs þæt ic þe moste zeiswian þæt ic þe mæ zebet. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 3 Þe lifiade of a meiden þat is of latin iturnd to englische leode, wiþ þon þat teos hali leafdi in heouene lutule us þe mare.

II. Denoting personal relation, agreement, association, connexion, union, addition.

* Senses denoting primarily activity towards or influence upon a person or thing.

7. After words denoting speech or other verbal communication between persons (with the person as obj.); properly of mutual communication, but formerly sometimes merely = *to*, as in quot. 1480.

Beowulf 365 Hy benan synt þæt hie..wiþ þe moten wordum wrixlan. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xl. 22 Ne hafaþ hio fot ne folm,.. ne muð hafaþ ne wiþ monnum spræc. *c* 1205 LAY. 14069 He wolde wiþ þan kinge holden runinge. *c* 1300 *Havelok*. *Hell* 193 Y shal spake þe wyht Ant do þe to holde gryht. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 735, I prey yow lat me speke with youre Aduersaries in priuee place. *c* 1420 *Pricke Lyfe Alex.* 14 He went..for to conseille wit a godd þat þay called Amon. 1470–72 [see QUESTION *v.* 2]. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Bludy Serk* 106 Scho said nay, With men þat wald hir wed. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xliii. 15 Sum with his fallow rownis. 1588– [see CONFERENCE 4]. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 830 White handed Mistris, one sweet word with thee. 1670 in *19th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 16 Give me leave to be ingennuous with your Honour, that manufacture grows worse daylie. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Feb. 1665, I had much discourse with his Lordship. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. viii. 109 That, unseasonably, as the event shewed, Father Marescotti, being talked with, was earnest to be allowed to visit her. 1884 CONWAY *Bound Together* I. 28: For many years Mrs. Blatchford had held little communication with her family.

b. Followed by refl. pron., in reference to soliloquy, consideration, determination, etc. *arch.*

1530 PALSGR. 514/2 Whan I determyne with my selfe to do a thyng. 1583 [see WEIGH *v.*[1] 12 c]. 1584 HARDING *Answ. Jewel* 180 Saye this with thy selfe. 1586 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 443 Bicause you are braue, disdaine not those that are base, thinke with your selues that russet coates haue their Christendome. *a* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* iv. iii, Remember with your selues. 1907 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 201, I imagin'd with my self..that..we might multiply..the very same curious Plants. 1742 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. i. § 2 (1786) 5 Think seriously with yourselves how many follies and sorrows you had escaped.

†**c.** After *communicate, impart* (information), orig. = 'share' (cf. 20). *Obs.* (now replaced by *to*).

1559, 1704 [see COMMUNICATE *v.* 2]. 1577 [see IMPART *v.* 2]. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 4 More readie..to impart your experiments with me. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 65 He.. communicated his dream with him.

8. a. After words expressing transaction or dealing between persons (with the person as obj.).

Beowulf 155 Grendel..sibbe ne wolde wiþ manna hwone mægenes Denizа. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. v, Æfter þæm þe Perse friþ zenaman wiþ Romanum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5848 (Götz.) Wid þe eldest folk of israel, Wid pharao þai went to dele. †*c* 1360 *Alexius* 123 (MS. Ashmol. 42) In Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 177 He..chaungid..his riche wede Wiþ a beggar. *a* 1400–50– [see COVENANT *sb.* 1 7]. *c* 1430– [see TREATY *sb.* 2, 3]. 1481 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 72 Ye schall receyve..a lytyll fardell of felles that ye alowyd for iij felles with the costomer. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 3 What's your will with me? 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to A. Colvill* 19 Feb. (1671) 194, I will neither borrow nor lend with it [*sc.* this world]. 1659 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1900) Apr. 254, I will keepe my dayes with you as long as I am able. 1662 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 139 Such of his Maiesties freindes as euer had occasion with me. 1780 *Mirror* No. 110 P 2 To do justice to those with whom they have had dealings. 1838 THIRLWALL *Hist. Greece* xl. V. 115 To give audience to all who had business to transact with him. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 41 During Edward's wars our commerce with France was wholly broken off.

b. After words expressing conduct or feeling towards (a person, etc.).

In some cases now replaced by other prepositions, e.g. envious *of*. In expressions of hostile action or feeling, this coincides with a.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Hwi murnast ðu wiþ min? *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xli. 18 Hwi dydest ðu swa wiþ me? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Sit þu ert ðwiðe for-gult wiþ þine eorðliche lauerd. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 216 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 273 Ac helle king is are-les with þa þe he mei binden. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 62 Ich wot þat þu art unmilde Wiþ hom þat ne muze from þe schilde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2705 Godrich, wat is þe þat þou fare þus with me? *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 18 Cornell his eldest douzter..was so annoyed wiþ him and wiþ his peple. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxvii. 457 Thenne was kyng Arthur wroth with kynge Marke. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xviii. 29 Have pacience with me, and I will paye the all. 1577– in love with [see LOVE *sb.* 7 d]. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. vi, I am come to haue you play the Alchymist with me. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 162 Be opposite with a kinsman, surly with seruants. 1602 — *Jul. C.* III. i. 255 O pardon me..That I am meeke and gentle with these Butchers. 1636 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism*, To ..be in charity with all men. 1677 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 108 Ye soldier being very rough with ye Corporall, and refusing to pay. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 108 P 3 Out of Humour with [see HUMOUR *sb.* 8 a]. 1736– vexed with [see VEX *v.* 4 b]. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 172, I..lost my temper with him.

9. Expressing a general relation to a person or thing, usually as affected in some way by the action, etc. spoken of: In the matter of, in regard to, towards, to, at, upon, about, concerning; in regard to the condition or fortune of.

Sometimes approaching the instrumental use, 37; or (with personal obj.) 8 b.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxix. 200 Ehem Seowan is to cyðanne ðæt he wiste ðæt he nis freoh wiþ his hlaford. *c* 1205 LAY. 19057 Þe king hire wende to..& hæfde him to done wið leofuest wimmanne. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 901 Þan men haueden holpen him doun With þe birþene of his croun. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Creed* 742 Y mist tymen þo troiflardes to tollen wiþ þe erþe. *c* 1400 *tr. Pol. Psalms* liv. 8 How it is wiþ hym, y kan not say. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 2566 (MS. A.) How þat schuld be with don as Godus wyll wold. 1600 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 264 There was a servant of yours..was myscheviously made away with. 1598 SHAKS. *John* V. vii. 112 Let vs pay the time but needfull woe, Since it hath beene

before hand with our greefes. 1595– [see BEFOREHAND 1 c]. 1596– [see BEHIND *adv.* 5 b]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. 3 Heauen doth with vs, as we, with Torches doe. 1612 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, You shall deale much with mineralls. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* I. 16 We spoke more God then we knew what to doe with. 1660 SOUTH *Serm., Matt. xiii. 52* (1727) IV. 27 When the Rooters and Through-Reformers made clean Work with the Church. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 537 He told me, it was not decent to be merry with such a matter. 1728– [see MATTER *sb.*[1] 25 b]. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xv. 116 Things,..that we have no business with. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 100 P 5 All these indignities I very patiently put up with. 1799 G. S. CAREY *Balnea* (ed. 2) 139 The walks.. have been taken a great deal of pains with. 1800 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Prussian Vase* (1816) I. 211 What do you want with me? 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VII. 194 The ..Master's hand Was busier with his task. 1816 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 102 His manner is brusque and short, and I got on but little with him. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* XXXVIII, He knows how to manage with her. 1823 SOUTHEY *Jrnl.* 991 This anxiety with myself. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* I. 108 God's in his heaven—All's right with the world! 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* viii, He surpassed Ptolemy with the astrolabe. 1873 H. E. ROSCOE in *Owens Coll. Ess. & Addr.* (1874) 56 Experiments on the properties of vanadium..made with much larger quantities than it fell to the lot of the Swedish chemist to work with. 1887 LEWIS

as quickly as possible.

(*b*) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. vi. P 4 Get along with you, and go to bed. 1897 go along with you [see Go *v.* 72 a].

b. After an adv. or phr. with ellipsis of or equivalent to a verb, usually imperative: e. g. *away with it* = 'take it away', *down with it* = 'put or throw it down', etc.

c 1377 in *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* 718/99, I ou Rede.. þat vch a Mon vp wiþ þe hede, And Mayntene him boþe heige and lowe. *c* 1388 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 472 His proude clerkis schal downe wiþ þer pride. 1477 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 199 My charges be gretter than I maye a weye with. 1598 *Impeachm. Wolsey* in Furniv. *Ballads from MSS.* I. 360 Down with thy tayle, and of with thy goldyn shone. 1535– [see DOWN *adv.* 25 b]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 239 Come, to the Forge with it. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* v. i. 121 To prison with her. *Ibid.* 313 To th' racke with him. 1708 [see IN *adv.* 1 c]. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 75 To the foul fiend with Roaley Castle!

† c. In case of, in the event of. *Obs. rare.*

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1140 A good Hauen with all weathers. 1752 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 209, I don't know what we should do with fires; we see the dread of them sufficiently.

d. In phr. *with reference, regard, respect to*: see REFERENCE *sb.* 3 b, REGARD *sb.* 13, RESPECT *sb.* 7. So † *with* (now *in*) *comparison to.*

1669 *Hist. Pope's Nephews* (1673) I. 38 When once he had put on the habit of a Priest, he could hardly..know himself with comparison to what he was before.

10. In the opinion, view, or estimation of; 'in the sight of'.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 307 Nu þu..hæfst þe wið drihten dyrne geworhtne. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXVII. 171 Scyldiȝ wið god. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9521 He had an anlepe son, þat wit his fader was as wele þat [he] wist his wisdom ilk dele. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 92 He was so gret wyth þe Emperour. 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 149 Remembryng how grettely in consette ye stonde..with a gentylwoman. 1572 *Treat. of Treasons agst. Q. Eliz.* 62 b, To discredite those Noble persons with the people. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 56 To slay men, to inuade the dominions of other people, and to rifle their goods..are with them no offences at all. 1608– go down with [see GO *v.* 78 g]. 1611 *Bible* 1 Pet. ii. 20 This is acceptable with God. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* Table Gg 3/2 Cycala-Bassa..is out of credit with the Grand Signior. *c* 1646 MILTON *New Forcers Conc.* 10 Men whose Life, Learning, Faith and pure intent Would have been held in high esteem with Paul. 1682 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 558 Every man with him was God or Devil. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 338 Most by Numbers judge a Poet's song; And smooth or rough, with them is right or wrong. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xxiv, Juan stood well both with Ins and Outs. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* ad fin., All service is the same with God.

11. In the practice or experience of, in the life or conduct of, in (one's) case; sometimes *spec.* in the language or statement of, according to. (With pl. obj. = AMONG A. 6.)

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 25 He is coral y-cud with cayser ant knyht. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 69 Pan with þem was none oþer gle. † 1478 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 35 Schepe was neuer so der with vs. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xix. 26 With men this is vnpossyble, but with God all thinges are possyble. 1603 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. i. 32 It is an accustom'd action with her, to seeme thus washing her hands. 1615 T. MANFIELD in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) III. 51 Julie the 16, wth ye 26. 1676 DRYDEN *Aureng.* III. i, 'Tis not with me as with a private Man. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 32. 516 This notion was so familiar with these Pagans. 1796–7 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, 'And this is always the way with him', she added. 1842 FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 77 These fits of exaltation are not very common with me. 1864 MRS. H. WOOD *Trevlyn Hold* xii, 'Were the ricks insured?' 'No. There's the smart with Chattaway.' 1882 RUSSELL *Hafez* xiv. 426 With the rough-riding men on both sides of the frontier to meet was to fight. 1909 BYWATER *Aristotle on Art Poetry* 172 Homer] is with him the practical wisdom of the statesman. 1910 HOLLAND *Eyre of Kent* (Selden Soc.) I. Introd. 95 These omissions would be impossible with a copyist who read over what he had copied.

b. After words expressing influence or the like; sometimes replaceable by *over* or *upon*.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 696 With whom when she could no influence with..a... use. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* I. § 4 Most honest men..ledge its leading power with them as a motive.

*** Senses relating to agreement (or disagreement) in some respect.

Senses 16 and 18 are closely allied to those under ***, involving the idea of proximity or accompaniment in space or

12. Following words expressing comparison, likeness, equality, or identity.

In some cases varying with or now replaced by *to*, e. g. after *compare, comparison, equal, resemblance*; after *same*, *as* is more usual; but *with* is still regular after some derived sbs., as *equality, sameness*, and also after *even* adj., *identical, identity, level* adj., *one* adj., *push* vb., etc. See the various

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Hu micle mare is Sonne þes monnes lichoma to metenne wiþ þæt mod þonne seo mus wiþ Sone mon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3090 Þatt wass inoh all an wiþþ þatt þatt Godess enngell seȝȝde. *Ibid.* 7932 Þeȝȝre sang iss lic wiþþ wop. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 239 Of þe same age wiþ þe kyngdom of Assiries. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XX. 317 Thei ben so fewe that thei may not compare with hem. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 47/1 Waye [= weigh] the good that they dooe, with the hurte that commeth of them. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* ii. 6 Which beynge in the shape off god, and thought it not robbery to be equall with god. 1677– [see IDENTICAL 2]. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* 24 Feb. (O.H.S.) II. 348 A sniveling Gentleman of not half the sense with the late poor spirited Dick Cromwell. 1836 MACAULAY *Life & Lett.* (1883) I. 456 His style affects me in something the same way with that of Gibbon. 1879 WHITNEY *Sanskrit Gram.* 337 Some of the apparent roots,..with sibilant final are akin with the desideratives. 1883 *Act 46 & 47 Vict.* c. 58 § 1 This Act shall be read as one with the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1878.

13. Following words expressing agreement, conformity, sympathy, and the like.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. viii, For þon his on symbel wiþ Romanum sibbe heoldon. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 382 Þæt friþ wiþ hy gefreoþad wære. 1123 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1120 Se arceb[iscop] Turstein..wearð þurh þone papan wiþ þone cyng acordad. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 205 Hiz ben þenne sahtnede wiþ þe heuenliche fader. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 6 At his commandement, With whom myn herte is of accord. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xliv. (1495) L ij/2 Yren hath agrement with the stone Adamas. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 23 God wiþ man is maade at oone. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 11 Henrichus Bullyngerus.. consenteth with me in the significacion of this worde. 1603 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. iv, There was but one sole man.. With whom I ere could sympathise. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iii. 31 Hap'ly this life is best..Well corresponding With your stiffe Age. 1640– fall in with [see FALL *v.* 90 b–e]. 1660– [see SYMPATHY 3 b]. 1762 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney*

III

537 The tiger leagues not with the stag at bay Against the hunter. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 107 He declared his determination to govern in harmony with the Commons. 1913 W. M. RAMSAY *Teaching of Paul* 138 His heart became ..more..sympathetic with their trials.

b. By extension, after words expressing disagreement.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 30 It containeth impossibilities and things inconsistent with truth. 1735–8 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* 81 They [*sc.* the Tories] had only differ'd with the Whigs about the Degree of Oppression. 1792–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 208 Every edition varies with the preceding ones. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* I. (1870) 16 Testimony..in no case discordant with that of the Iliad.

14. On the side or party of; in favour of; on behalf of; 'for': opp. to AGAINST 12. (See also 22 c.)

c 1200 ORMIN 4675 Swa forrwerrpeast tu þin Godd, & haldeast wiþþ þatt abhte. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2308 He swore, þat he sholde with him halde Bope ageynes stille and bolde. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xii. 30 He that is nat with me, is ageinus me. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1038 Vertu was full heuy, when he sy Frewyll Take part with Vyce. 1478 *Acts Audit.* (1839) 66/2 Ilk baroun and freehaldare þat..geve voce with þe said dome. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 238 Neverthelesse he came, and helde syde wyth his broder. 1509 FISHER *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 277 What sentence he shal gyue wheder with me or ayenst me. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 317 They were at issue and by a substancyall Jury..Founde with the seid mulaho. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Acts xiv. 4 Certaine of them..were with the Iewes, but certaine with the Apostles. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIX. vi. 713 The citie of Locri..had sided also with the Carthaginians. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 171 When a man comes to be judged; his life..shal give the evidence with, or against him. 1633 CROMWELL *Sp.* 4 July in *Carlyle*, He hath appeared with them. 1697 DRYDEN

this blade than with him. 1845 BROWNING *Lost Leader* 24 Shakespeare was of us, Milton was for us, Burns, Shelley, were with us. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Jan. 5/5 M. Granet, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, has usually voted with

b. In reference to wind, tide, etc.: Favourable to, in a favourable direction for.

1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 218 As a Boat that (having wind and tide with it) runneth glib and merrily down the stream. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 378 They had.. the Flood-Tide with them.

16. In the same way as; as — does or did, is or was, etc.; like. (Cf. 17.)

c 1340 *Medit.* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 94 So þat þere þi merci and grace we moun repente of oure..myn dedis with seint Petir. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 72 He is Fals with þe Fend. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 11 Of makenes speklis sain benet..& sais with hall scripture: 'Omnis qui se exaltat &c.' 1423 LYDG. *S. Edmund & Fremund* 1034–6 In Hornen. *Allengl. Lay.* (1881) 393 He..Hadde with Nestor manly suyrynesse..With Tideus he hadde eek hardynesse.

1600 — *Summer's Last Will* Prol. 73 Every man cannot, with Archimedes, make a heauen of brasse. 1634 RAINOW *Labour* (1635) 35 With stomackefull children we bawle for Rattles. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 227 P 5, I must cry out with Dido..'Ah! cruel Heaven, that made no Cure for Love!' 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* 102 Better to err with Pope, than shine with Pye. 1881 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) 7 *agst. Thebes* 720 *note*, Hermann gives ἀλλὰν with one of the most recent MSS. 1908 CHESTERTON *Heretics* 37 Whether we should love everybody with Tolstoy, or spare nobody with Nietzsche.

b. Followed by *the* and a superlative used *absol.*: As well or thoroughly as; (as) one of, 'among', 'of': forming adverbial (or † predicative) phrases denoting 'to the full or fullest extent', '(nearly) as — as any or as possible', 'very —', 'highly —': e. g. *with the best* = among the best, as well as any, very well; *with the first*, as one of the first, very early, chiefly, especially (see FIRST 6 c); *with the least* = at the lowest estimate; † *with the most inclined* = highly inclined. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1119 (Harl.) Þou shes[t]n vs wiþ þe vurste. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1636 The king..the best. 1449 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 281 Why is not he redde with the worthiest? 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxviii. 531 Soo that nyghte they were lodged with the best. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 183, I wold have hym [*sc.* a horse] sumwhat large, not with the largest. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clxii. 634 Thyne armure is good and thy sworde is with the best. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* I. (1556) 42 b, If ther be anie somewhat with the moste enclined to pleasures. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 51 Who pescods delighteth to haue with the furst, If now he do sowe them, I thinke it not wurst. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 48 Not to mowe your Grasse with the latest, but before the seede be ripe. *a* 1590 GREENE *Jas. IV*, I. ii, A young stripling..that can sleep with the soundest, eate with the hungriest. 1620 GAULE *Pract. Theories* 376 Of all the difficulties of Truth and Faith, the Article of Christs Resurrection is with the formost. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colleq.* 494 There was no year, wherein he did not gain a thousand Duckats, to speak with the least. 1826 *Priestley's Rudim.* 55 The preposition *with* is..sometimes used in conversation, to express a degree ..something less than the greatest; as 'They are with the widest.' 1859 TENNYSON *Grandm.* 80 At your age, Annie, I could have wept with the best.

16. Expressing simultaneous occurrence and association (cf. 25), often also implying causal connexion (cf. 39). a. At the same time as; at the time or instant of; on the occurrence of (often with implication 'and because of'); at, on, upon.

(*a*) Followed by a sb. (often qualified).

Before *occasion, opportunity*, now replaced by *on* or (less usually) *at*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10462 (Gött.) Vnyne wid þis word gan tene. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S.T.S.) 245 The payment cessis with the impossibilitee of the service. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 900. 1628 *Theophania* 89 With a resolution to hire a ship,..and with the first occasion to follow her into Sicily. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 873 Nor ends their Work, but with declining Day. 1719 PHILIPPS tr. *Thirty-four Conferences* 538 He hath promised to send you a Copy with the first Opportunity. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. x, Sometimes with early morn, he mounted gay The hunter-steed. 1822 T. L. PEACOCK *Maid Marian* x, John..was determining to take possession with the first light of morning. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 157 Browning .. draws nearer to the all-for-point fashion of the *concettisti*, with every poem he writes. 1906 *Times* 13 Mar., With his death, his younger brother..becomes heir to the barony.

(*b*) Followed by a demonstrative pron.: *with that* († *than*), when (and, often, because) that occurred, thereupon; † at that instant, just then (*obs.*); saying or having just said that; *with this*, hereupon. Cf. HEREWITH 2, THEREWITH 2 c, WHEREWITH 4 b.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1409 Laban and his moder wiþ-stan Fasneden wel dis sondere man. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1003 Wit þis [*Trin.* Here afftir] was born an hali child, Seth þat meke was and mild. *Ibid.* 3368 And þof sco scamful was, i-wiss, Sco tint na contenance wit þis. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 168 Syne..[The] myddis of the toune he tais, With that neir cummand war his fais. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. v. 203 A child..said, he saw a dare. Wiþ þat þe takill wp he drew. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI. xvi. 687 With that Bors lyfte vp his hand & wold haue smyten his broder. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 23. 1603 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) II. 218 And with this I byd you most hartely fare-well. 1682 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 717 'Take then my tears' (with that he wiped his Eyes). 1779 *Mirror* No. 35 P 11 'Who shall decide when doctors disagree?' And, with that, he made one of the finest bows in the world. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 290 'Our mother, is she well?' With that she kiss'd His forehead.

b. Followed by a sb. or pron., forming a phrase equivalent to a clause with *when*, in which the sb. or pron. is the subj. (or obj.), and the vb. is identical with that in the principal clause; e. g. *our hopes died with him*, i. e. when (and because) he died; *to rise with the lark*, i. e. when the lark rises (= early in the morning): see LARK *sb.*[1] 1 b.

† Formerly also with vbs. of durative meaning: = contemporaneously with.

1430–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 497 But many abusions

comme from Boemia into Englonde with this quéne. 1590 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1019 He being dead, with him is beautie slaine. 1624 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. v. § 8. 97 Where the Persians, so many of them as lost not their wits with their courage [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 673 His Griefs with Day begun. 1740 MIDDLETON *Cicero* (ed. 3) II. vi. 31 Lentulus and Metellus, whose consulship expired with the year. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 20 Apr. an. 1775, What was said by Johnson, or other eminent persons who lived with him. 1822 CRABBE *Tales* xi. 376 With virtue, prudence fled. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xliii, I hear rumours that another large vessel..foundered at sea. I expect that some of the accusers of Paulus perished with her.

c. In the course or duration of, in process of, 'in' (time, etc.); often with admixture of the instrumental sense: By, or in consequence of, the passage or lapse of (cf. 37, 39).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 329 With a few yerls þal war passand riche men. 1580 WHITTHORNE tr. *Macchiavelli's Arte of Warre* 87 All other thyng..maie with tyme be overcome, this onely with tyme ouercometh thee. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 164 Come with a thought. 1611 FENTON *Usurie* 11. xiii. 95 Mans labours and skill wil faile with yeeres. 1617 W. D. tr. *Andigulier's Lisander* 15 To render you more signal offices, which, with time, I hope to performe. 1764 in B. Ward *Dawn Cath. Revival* (1909) I. iv. 81 [Prejudices] will die away with time. 1895 TENNYSON *Will* ii, Bettering not with time. 1873 M. ARNOLD *God & Bible* p. xxviii, Christianity's admixture of popular legend and illusion was sure to be cleared away with time. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 74 Unripe fruit..mellows with the months.

d. After words denoting change or variation: At the same rate as; at a rate, or in a manner, corresponding to that of; in proportion to, according to.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 322 His stout Stomach with his Food will grow. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* iii, Their Insolence and Power encreased with their Number. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. v, His Spirits rose and fell with the Weather-glass. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 140 The probability of an error diminishes with its magnitude. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 316/2 The diameter of the capillaries of muscle varies..with the size of the blood-particles of the animal. 1887 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. ii. 58 The rate of wages fluctuates with the population. 1910 H. A. DALLAS *More Famous Vitæ* I 17 Her conviction as to the importance of the script naturally increased with the evidence for its veridical character.

17. Expressing agreement or accordance, esp. in opinion or statement. *To be with*, to be of the same opinion as, to agree with. (See also 15.)

1496 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princis* (S.T.S.) 99 Thai speke quhilum with the and othir quhilis aganis the. 1565 ALLEN *Def. Purg.* xi. 104, I am not afrade to vse the word Satisfaction, with Cyprian, Origen, Ambrose, Augustin. 1612 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* IV. iv. 14 b, *Enter the Watch. Belfo.* The Watch? Met with my wish. 1629–RUN with [see RUN v. 71 b]. 1648 HEXHAM, *Ick ben Met u*, I am With you, or, I am of your opinion. 1796 in B. Edwards *Hist. Hayti* (1801) 44 This Day Madame Selnave was with me to thank me for her Affair being ended. 1798 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 21 Went..to Yealand Scool..to learn Wrighting and Arithmatick with Michael Jenkinson. 1803 T. JEFFERSON *Let.* Writ. 1854 IV. 470 He will be with you in Philadelphia in two or three weeks. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* V. vi, Have you heard that Eustacia is not with me now?

e. *fig.* in reference to an abstract thing: *to be with*, to accompany, 'attend'. Also in reference to God, combining the ideas of presence or companionship and favour, assistance, or the like (cf. 14).

Cf. *God be with you*, GOOD-BYE.

13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (G.) 1060 Goddes blissing be all his puple with. 1382 WYCLIF *Judges* vi. 12 The Lord with thee, moost stroong of men. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) iii. 20 Godd be with þe, for Godd es with vs. 1526 TINDALE *Eph.* vi. 24 Grace be with all them which love oure lorde Jesus Christ. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 7 This calme and immoderate heate continued with vs seuen dayes. 1788 BURNS '*Of a' the Airts*', Day and night my fancy's flight Is ever wi' my Jean. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v. *Wud*, 'God be wud her'—God rest her soul. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxxvii, Luck, my lads, be with you still. 1897 KIPLING *Recess.* I, Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet.

d. The phrase *to be with*, used in menace, etc. = to be avenged on, chastise, be even with (cf. 12), perh. belongs here (cf. VISIT v. 3), but has affinities with other senses.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 403, I will be with thee straight. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 78 Was I with you there for the Goose? 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 170 What, do you grumble? I'le be with you straight. 1825 JAMIESON s.v. *With*, 'I'll be wi' him for that yet', Roxb.

23. Having in one's hold, keeping, or charge; having within its compass, limits, area, etc.; leading, bringing, conveying, carrying, wearing, containing, etc.

With bag and baggage: see BAG *sb.* 12. (*Found* or *taken*) *with the mainour* (*manner*): see MAINOUR 1.

c 1300 *Havelok* 32 þanne micthe chapmen fare þurath englond wit here ware. *a* 1400 *Pist. Susan* 5 His Innes and his orchardus were with a dep dich. *c* 1400 *Vespasian & Gesta* 759 A pot with riche wine. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5564 Palomydon..presit into hauyn,..With xxx^ti shippes full abene, shot full of pepull. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 83 A pore womman.. Withe two chylderen her by-fore. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 80 A polk of canwes with demyis contenand aucht bundreth ane les. 1543 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxvi. 123 b/1 The erle..toke hym a flagon with wyne, wherof he had dronke. 1559 *Bible* (Great) 2 Sam. xvii. 27 He is a good man, and commeth with good tydinges. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. (*stage-direction*) Enter old Gobbo with a Basket. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5954/2 A tall..Man,..with Ruffles and a light bag Wig. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 609 He ordered Grey to lead the way with the cavalry.

18. In the same direction as; along the course of: opp. to AGAINST 9: esp. in such phrases as *with the grain*, *with the hair*, *with the stream*, *with the tide*, *with the wind*.

c 1489– [see STREAM *sb.* 2 f]. 1577– [see WIND *sb.*¹ 29]. 1597 BACON *Coulers Good & Euill* Ess. (Arb.) 154 If it be with the streame or with the hill. 1631 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 37 With thankfulnesse and reverence he doth receive whatever Divine Providence brings upon him, be it sweet or sour, with the hair, or against it. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* Iv. 66 As well upon the Traverse ..as with the Grain of the wood. 1688 [see METAL *sb.* 7]. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 75 The Gardens runns down a great way, you descend with them by severall ——— with the tide [see SWIM v. 1 c]. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 386 A field of corn, viewed with the wind, is of a different shade from the same field viewed against the wind. 1766, 1816 [see STROKE v.¹ 1 d]. 1820 CRABBE *Borough* xviii. 283 The black footway winding with the wall. 1840 with the tide [see DROP v. 8]. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *With the sun*, ropes coiled from the left hand towards the right; but where the sun passes the meridian north of the observer, it is of course the reverse. 1891 with the tide [see GO v. 85 f].

*** Senses expressing accompaniment or addition.

19. Following words expressing such meanings as are indicated above, as *accompany* (see note s.v.), *ally*, *alternate*, *associate*, *blend*, *combine*, *confront*, *connect*, *couple*, *entangle*, *incorporate*, *join*, *link*, *marry*, *mix*, *partake*, *share*, *unite*, *wed* (etc.) vbs. (and derived sbs., as *association*, *connexion*, etc.); *communion*, *company*, *contact*, *intercourse* (etc.) sbs.; *together* adv.: see the various words. See also ALONG *adv.* 3.

Beowulf 1088 þæt hie bealfre geweald wið Eotena bearn agan moston. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 8 Se yfla wilia manfð nænne geferscipe wið þa gesælðe. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 307 Swa ge modblinde mengan ongunnon lixe wið soðe. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwoa so euer wule habben lot wið þe of þine blisse, he mot delen wið þe of þine pine on eorðe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 28019 (Göt.) Aisel haue i blend wid gall. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 201 Þei ben maad fast wiþ þe botme of þe stomac. 1887 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bann. Club) 400 To pay..Twelf caponis to giddir wutht hariage carriage and due serwice. 1889 WALTON *Hooker* Introd., About forty years past..I began a happy affinity with William Cranmer. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 412 Fierce rain with lightning mixt, water with fire In ruine reconcil'd. 1799 GOLDSM. *Ber* No. 4 § 6, I was once determined to throw off all connexions with taste. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* II. xiv. 224 A kind of feeling, or immediate perception of things present, and in contact with the perciplent. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xvi. (1858) II. 343 The Lacedæmonians, whose force, together with the Tegeans and forty thousand light troops, amounted to upwards of fifty thousand men. 1889 SWINBURNE *Study B. Jonson* 87 The collocation of such names..as those of Æglamour and Earine with such others as March and Maudlin.

b. Following words expressing acquaintance or familiarity. (After *accustomed*, *known*, now replaced by *to*.)

c 1200 *Bestiary* 223 His muð is þet wel unkuð wið pater noster and crede. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 24 Ne ich neuer þat ich wite nes wið him icnawen. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 295 Þan went þis Ottobone þorghout þe cuntre, & quaynted him with likone. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe of Blaunche* 532, I..gan me aqueynt With hym. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 216 Famililer was he With frankeleyns ouer al in his contree. —— COVERDALE *Eccius.* xxiii. 9 Let not thy mouth be acci with swearinge. 1611 *Bible* Isa. liii. 3 He is..a sorrowe, and acquainted with griefe. 1719 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 197 They could not..undergoe the fatigue that the natives were accustomed with. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iii. 61 Pope was not disinclined to pride himself upon his familiarity with the great.

c. By extension, following words expressing separation: e.g. *to break with* = to break off connexion with (BREAK v. 34); *to part with* = to cease to be with or to have with one (PART v. 6 c). (After *take leave* now replaced by *of*.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17022 Kynd na saul suffers ar to part wit man o-liue. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1883) III. 202 O ye good fathyr of grete degre, thus to departe with your ryches. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E iij b, In iij. degrees he hem berith or he with hem twyn. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. vi. 48 It cannot be The Volces dare breake with vs. *a* 1649 HINDE *J. Bruen* lxvii. (1641) 294 My wife..and my selfe, came to take leave with him. 1808 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 210 For more than a year, Scott has cut with the Edinburgh Review. 1889 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Mar. 5/3 The imminence of a rupture with Russia.

20. Expressing association or participation in some act, proceeding, or experience; *spec.* = acting on the same side as (another lawyer) in an action at law.

c 1290– [see SIN v. 1 c]. *a* 1300– [see PLAY v. 20]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 202 3if þou be partenere in dede of theefte,.. of ony oþer wrongeȝ, þat is for to seyne, in folowynge wyth suche doera. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xii. 15 Be merry with them that are mery, wepe with them that wepe. 1533 [see ADULTERY 1]. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 36, I will buy with you, sell with you, talke with you, walke with you, and so following: but I will not eate with you, drinke with you, nor pray with you. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 53 P 7, I will..for the future be merry with the Vulgar. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, My lot is cast with Evandale, and with him I am resolved to bear it. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, 'I am for the plaintiff, my Lord,' said Mr. Serjeant Buzfuz. 'Who is with you, brother Buzfuz?' said the judge. 1848 — *Dombey* xxxviii, Rob..ran sniggering off to get change, and tossed it away with a pieman. 1883 *Manchester Exam.* 7 Nov. 5/2 A new weekly mail service with Australia.

21. a. (with such vbs. as *bring*, *take*, *come*, *go*) Followed by a sb. or (most commonly) pron. denoting the person (vessel, etc.) that leads, conveys, or carries a person or thing, thus having it in charge (cf. 23, of which this use is the converse).

Also *fig.* after *take*; see TAKE v. 59 b, c.

c 1290 *St. Matthew* 9 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 77 He bi-lefde þo is weork, and wis ore louerd eode. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1213 *ibid.* 142 Wlth him a-morewe he nam his este. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5297 To mi lauerd yee com wit me, I sal yow do a-quentid be. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 233 [Nilus] makethe the londe plentuous thro alyccche that hit drawethe with hit. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 6 Thay past vnto Paris..With mony Prelatis and Princis. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 74 Come, goe with vs, we'll bring thee to our Crewes. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. ii. 28 Ten poundes..To carie in your purse about with ye. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 534 The Shepherd last appears, And with him all his Patrimony bears. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 68/1 My uncle used frequently to go to Maha Rajah's; when I was little I used to go with hi.. 1822 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 The truth is that we brought with us the rights of men. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xi. 61 They took with them no force capable of controlling..the country.

b. In the possession, keeping, care, or charge of (a person); in the hands of. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4403 His mantel es bi-left wit me. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 32 Whan no wordliche wele is wiþ us founde. 1528 in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* (1870) I. 82 Leaving with the master of the Rolls such things as might..instruct him. 1649 LD. HALL *Cases Conse.* III. ix. 341 That..commissionary authority, which is by Christ entrusted with them. *c* 1710 W. HAMILTON *Descr. Lanark & Renfrew* (Maitl. Club 1831) 64 Douglass parish..continued with the Earles of Douglass untill their fatall forfeiture. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 68/1 You have for a long time had my money; it shall remain no longer with you. 1803 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 6 The committee..left it in charge with their chairman to forward them by express. 1808 WHATELY *Rhet.* (1850) I. iii. § 2 The 'burden of proof' lies with the accusers. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Expl. Gerard* iii. 121 The deal lay with him. 1921 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 46 § 27 The ownership of an author's manuscript after his death..shall be prima facie proof of the copyright being with the owner of the manuscript.

c. In the nature or character of; as a quality or attribute of. Now chiefly after *way*: see WAY *sb.*¹ 22 d. (The converse of 31.)

14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 32 With hym was no charyte. 1553 *Douglas' Æneis* IX. Prol. *marg.*, Vertue..has euer this rewill with hyr: do as thou wald be done to. 1640 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* XXV. 30 This hunter hath no he with him. 1678 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* I. i, She has a notable Smack with her! 1721 R. MARTIN in E. H. Barton *Life Bp. Challoner* (1909) I. iii. 33 He had such an honest way with him. 1848 NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* II. xx. (1904) 254 What a way those fellows have with them!

22. In the company, society, or presence of.

Face to face with: see FACE *sb.* 9 d. *With God*, in heaven: see GOD 5 c. *With oneself* (dial.): by oneself.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 363 (Camb.) He schal wiþ me bileue Til hit beo nir eue. *a* 1325 *Cursor M.* 5706 þat fot moyses ful sket, And wit þe preist raguel he ete. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (S.) 1579 Withe me þis ilk day be þou stil, With me in hesenryke. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 234 Ones I was herberwed..with an hep of chapmen. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2623 þan Wer þair common whit hym kynges. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 67 Then sate scho done all othyr wyth. 1526 TINDALE *John* xii. 8 The poore all wayes shall ye have with you, butt me shall ye nott all wayes have. 1533 *Dioc. R. Glasgow* (1875) I. 209 The said contrak..subscrivit Schir Jhone Alaine, notair publik. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 26 P 11 This Gentleman who has arrived with you is a fool of his own making. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* June 1763 (1904) I. 267, I begged I might be allowed to pass ——— with him there soon. *a* 1824 *Sailors' Rest.* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 313 This whipper-snapper of mine.. sets off with himself, and no one knows where. 1820 KEATS *St. Agnes* xvi, Alone with her good angels, far apart From wicked men like thee. 1857 M. ARNOLD *Rugby Chapel* 25, I..think Of bygone autumns with thee. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lviii, He found Nero sitting with Poppæa and Tigellinus. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xvii, I don't go very often...Perhaps it is because I have no one to go with.

b. *spec.* At the house of, or in the same house or meeting-place as; in the household, retinue, or service of, attending upon; on a visit to, being the guest of (hence *be with* sometimes = 'visit', 'call upon').

c 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 466 Sella wuneð oc lamech wið. *c* 1275 LAY. 6 He wonede at Ernleis wid þan gode cnihte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 65 This ilke worthy knyght hadde been also Somtyme with the lord of Palatye Agayn another hethen in Turkye. *a* 1400 in Halliwell *Early Hist. Freemasonry* (1840) 20 He most love..his mayster also, that he ys wyth. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 171 When sho had ligen þus many day sho dyed, & no body with hur. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 286 Þei..weryn harberwyd wyth a ryȝt good man. *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 71 Squier for þe body with Kynge H. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 121, I thank yow of the grette cher that ye dydde me at my laste beyng wytthe yow. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. viii. (1895) 253 For them, whomewyth they be in wayges, they fyghte hardelye. 1583 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 38 Somtyme Apprentice with oon Mr Bannester of Preston. 1651 CROMWELL *Let.* 22 Apr. in *Carlyle*, If Dick Cromwell and his Wife be with you, my dear love to them. 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Jan., He was glad to find I was not with James Broad. 1715 C'TESS COWPER *Diary* (1864) 44 This Day Madame Selnave was with me to thank me for her Affair being ended. *a* 1732 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 21 Went..to Yealand Scool..to learn Wrighting and Arithmatick with Michael Jenkinson. 1803 T. JEFFERSON *Let.* Writ. 1854 IV. 470 He will be with you in Philadelphia in two or three weeks. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* V. vi, Have you heard that Eustacia is not with me now?

c. *fig.* in reference to an abstract thing: *to be with*, to accompany, 'attend'. Also in reference to God, combining the ideas of presence or companionship and favour, assistance, or the like (cf. 14).

Cf. *God be with you*, GOOD-BYE.

13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (G.) 1060 Goddes blissing be all his puple with. 1382 WYCLIF *Judges* vi. 12 The Lord with thee, moost stroong of men. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) iii. 20 Godd be with þe, for Godd es with vs. 1526 TINDALE *Eph.* vi. 24 Grace be with all them which love oure lorde Jesus Christ. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 7 This calme and immoderate heate continued with vs seuen dayes. 1788 BURNS '*Of a' the Airts*', Day and night my fancy's flight Is ever wi' my Jean. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v. *Wud*, 'God be wud her'—God rest her soul. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxxvii, Luck, my lads, be with you still. 1897 KIPLING *Recess.* I, Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet.

d. The phrase *to be with*, used in menace, etc. = to be avenged on, chastise, be even with (cf. 12), perh. belongs here (cf. VISIT v. 3), but has affinities with other senses.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 403, I will be with thee straight. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 78 Was I with you there for the Goose? 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 170 What, do you grumble? I'le be with you straight. 1825 JAMIESON s.v. *With*, 'I'll be wi' him for that yet', Roxb.

23. Having in one's hold, keeping, or charge; having within its compass, limits, area, etc.; leading, bringing, conveying, carrying, wearing, containing, etc.

With bag and baggage: see BAG *sb.* 12. (*Found* or *taken*) *with the mainour* (*manner*): see MAINOUR 1.

c 1300 *Havelok* 32 þanne micthe chapmen fare þurath englond wit here ware. *a* 1400 *Pist. Susan* 5 His Innes and his orchardus were with a dep dich. *c* 1400 *Vespasian & Gesta* 759 A pot with riche wine. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5564 Palomydon..presit into hauyn,..With xxx^ti shippes full abene, shot full of pepull. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 83 A pore womman.. Withe two chylderen her by-fore. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 80 A polk of canwes with demyis contenand aucht bundreth ane les. 1543 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxvi. 123 b/1 The erle..toke hym a flagon with wyne, wherof he had dronke. 1559 *Bible* (Great) 2 Sam. xvii. 27 He is a good man, and commeth with good tydinges. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. (*stage-direction*) Enter old Gobbo with a Basket. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5954/2 A tall..Man,..with Ruffles and a light bag Wig. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 609 He ordered Grey to lead the way with the cavalry.

1888 Barrie *Auld Licht Idylls* iv. 104 The crowd..was back in a moment with a handful of small change.

b. In phr. *with child, with young*, etc., said of a pregnant woman or animal (also in fig. phr. from these).

See Child *sb.* 17, Egg *sb.* 4, Foal *sb.* 2 b, Whelp *sb.* 1 b, Young B. 2 c; also Big *a.* 4, 5, Great *a.* 3, Pregnant *a.*[1] 1, 2 b, 4, 5 (where the sense approaches 39); Bigot v. 2 c, Conceive v. 3, Get v. 27 c, Go v. 7.

c 1200 Ormin 2455 Þu best wiþþ childe off Halȝ Gast. ——— *Cursor M.* 20370 Anna wit child was of a mal. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 39/1 þe childe mett a [illegible] with calfe. 1492 *Acta Audit.* (1839) [illegible] with lamb. 1504 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 21 [illegible] be wyth a sonne. ? 1536 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 132, 12 whies calved and w[t] calve. 1573 Tusser. *Fauleconrie* 269 When hawkes fall to laying egges, and to be with egge in the mewe. 1585 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 149 The childe my wief is now conceyvid with. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch. Porch* vi, He that is drunken, may his mother kill Bigge with his sister. *c* 1736 Eliza Haywood *New Present* (1771) 23 If they are with egg, their vents will be open. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 388, I have also to inform you, that I am with child, and if Heaven so much favours me as to give me a son [etc.].

† c. In ownership of, as owner of, having in possession. *Sc. Obs.*

1406 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1407* 17/2 Quhyl we remane wyth the said landis. 1489 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 114 The said Thomas sall remain with the said land and tenement.

d. In phr. *with costs, with damages* (in a law-suit): in early use said in ref. to the winning party = 'in possession of', 'having as awarded'; later, in ref. to the verdict = 'accompanied by an order to the losing party to pay' (cf. 32).

1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 76 Richard..prayeth þat he may be dismissed out of this Courte with his costes and damages. 1775 G. Wilson *Cases Comm. Pleas* III. 319 A verdict was given for the plaintiff, with one pound eleven shillings and sixpence damages. 1830 Barnewall & Cresswell *Rep. K. B.* IX. 528 They..recovered 25*l.* penalty, together with taxed costs. 1866 *Scott. Law Reporter* III. 81 The defender [was] assoilzied with expenses.

24. Accompanied by; having as an addition; having in one's company. Often connecting the two sbs. or prons.: = 'and in addition', 'and besides', or simply 'and'. Occas. in compound place-names: = Cum. † *With the mare* (Sc. obs.): = and more, and something over: see More B. 4 d.

c 1200 Ormin 14792 Faraon wiþþ all his ferd comm afftterwarrd. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cliii. 27 [civ. 25] Bestes smaller wiþ þe mare. 1370–80 *Visions St. Paul* 247 in *O. E. Misc.* 230 Þer as was wepyng wiþ muche vnseeþe. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 205 þe Sixte, wiþ Clementyns, done myche harm to Goddis lawe, and enfeblen bileve. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 367 The water was so habundante that hit perescheede þe woman with here childe. 1494 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 205/2 Alexander..tuk fra him out of his maling vjxx of ȝowis with the may. 1502 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 112/2 Half a ȝare, with the mare, befor the date hereof. 1567 T. Wilson *Logic* 54 Beauuis with Alexander are comprehended vnder manne, as their kinde and speciall. *c* 1706 [illegible] him, as did also twelve other Gentlemen, with their Servants. 1839 'Geo. Eliot' *Adam Bede* xviii, These grey pews, with the buff-washed walls, gave a very pleasing tone to this shabby interior. 1912 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 6 § 1 Imprisonment with or without hard labour.

in *attrib. phr.* 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 May 8/2 To inaugurate some with-profit scheme.

b. Comprising in the whole number or total; including.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 86 Til þesus crist fro helle nam His quemed wid eue and adam. 1536 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, 'What's the terms?'..'Five guineas a week, ma'am, with attendance.' *Med.* 'How many were there in the party?' 'I should say about twenty, with the children.'

c. Accompanied by (favourable wind, weather, etc.); having the advantage of.

1536 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 58 Goyng from the porte of London at a full see with a full wynde. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xv. xliv, This evening (if you make good speed) To that hils foote with day-light might you passe. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 75 We put again to Sea with fair Weather.

25. Expressing association, conjunction, or connexion in thought, action, or condition.

One (day, etc.) *with another*: see One 17 b.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 91 And so is Cornewayle accounted wiþ þe opere schires. 1472 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 124 For the certente what my cosen shall have with her, yf God provide for them that they shall go throwe in mariage. 1678 Phidraux *Lett.* (Camden) 64 Livy may be read with him [sc. Dionysius of Halicarnassus]. 1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* II. 7 One week with another she earned about half-a-crown. ? 1807–8 Wordsw. *Somnambulist* 162 And thou, in lovers' hearts forgiven, Shalt take thy place with Yarrow! 1820 Shelley *To a Skylark* xvi, With thy clear keen joyance Languor cannot be. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, He was to his wife what the o is to go—he was of some importance with her—he was nothing without her. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 4 § 6 This Act..may be cited with the Trustee Savings Banks Acts 1863 to 1904.

26. Expressing collocation in space.

1480 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 54 Aull ill sortes lyes togydyr whon w[t] anothyr. [illegible]s *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 47/2 þe castle of petis in a [illegible]e merchand with þe landis of Dalrusland. 1664 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 28 We thought it enough to put it [sc. a paper] in with that of the Swedish Ambassadors. 1664 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 203 The most conspicuous [entrance]..into the Work it self lyeth North-East, whereby it fronteth rightly with the publick or high Road. 1815 Wellington in *Gurw. Desp.* (1838) XII. 484, I send with this dispatch three eagles, taken by the troops in this action. 1832 Scott *Cast. Dang.* i, The bonnet usually worn with this showy dress. 1849 Ruskin *Samuel Prout* (1870) 8 The angle formed by St. Mark's Church with the Doge's palace. 1904 F. Gribble *Francis Joseph* xxxi. 331 The aristocracy dare not ask the professors to dinner for fear lest..they should wear green ties with their dress clothes.

b. Expressing mixture or combination of material substances.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 299 3eue him tiriacu maior wiþ a litil musco. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 13 Take gode Mylke of Almaundys, an drawe it wyth Wyne. *c* 1460 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 809 Take peres right mature, And with hool salt hem trede. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 194 Potherbs..Which..bruis'd with Vervain, were his frugal Fare. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Lime* P 3 They work up the chalk rubbish into a sort of stiff paste with water. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 354/2 When hydrate of salicyle is heated with potash, an acid is formed.

(*b*) *ellipt.* in slang use, in ref. to liquor = mixed with sugar, having sugar added; usually in phr. *hot* (*warm*) or *cold with*.

1833 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Miss Evans & Eagle*, Two glasses of rum-and-water 'warm with—'. 1834 Surtees *Handley Cr.* xiv, Fetch me up a glass of cold sherry *with*. *Ibid.* xxiv, 'Take a glass of brandy,' said she..'Ot with? or cold without?'

† **27.** In addition to, besides; with neg., except.

c 1305 *St. Edward* 8 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 106 He nadd neȝ him noþing For to ȝyue þis pore man wiþ a goldene ring. *c* 1424 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. x. 2252 Thre ȝhere and monethis twa, And ful ellewyn dayis withe þai. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8703 A myghty kyng,..And wyth al thys, a famous knyht. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* ix. 43 With that thai war a mpany Off waillit men. 1530 Tindale *Exod.* xx. 23 not make therfore with me goddes of syluer nor goddes of golde. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Agis & Cleom.* (1595) 484 Very wise,..and with his wisdome..very valiant. 1599 Thynne *Animadv.* 12 All whiche make xxx persons with Chaucer.

28. After a sb., in a qualifying phrase indicating a characteristic or distinctive part or adjunct: Having, possessing; having in or upon it, containing, bearing (cf. 23).

In this and sense 31 the phr. is sometimes equivalent to a descriptive adj.: e. g. *with corners* = 'angular'; *with four wheels* = 'four-wheeled'.

c 1300 *Havelok* 702 Shep wit wolle, neth wit horn,..and gate wit berd. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 26 Hire robe.. With ribanes of red golde. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxlv. (1495) T v/1 Harde stalkes wyth corners. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 626 His Innes & his orchardus were with a dep dich. *c* 1400 Maundev. xxvi. [xxii.] (1919) I. 159 A charett with .iiij. wheles. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. App. 497 Schoone with longe pykes. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* liv. 3 My ladye with the mekle lippis. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 23 With a good legge,..and money enough.., such a man would winne any woman in the world. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 28 Stone with Sandy veines. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 86 P 2 A Man with a sour rivell'd Face. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 429/2 The consonants are conveniently classed into those with and those without voice. 1848 Thackeray *Lett.* 28 July (1887) 9 A paper-knife with a mother of pearl blade. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 289/2 The high road, with its shrieking steam-tram.

29. Indicating a quality or attribute of the action spoken of: forming phrases equivalent to adverbs, e. g. *with one accord* or *consent* = unanimously, *with ears* = carefully, *with ease* = easily, *with impunity* = L. *impune*, *with severity* = severely, etc. (Sometimes closely approaching the instrumental use 37, esp. in such phrases as *with a curious eye, with all one's heart*, etc.) Similarly after an adj., in phr. expressing a particular kind or degree of the quality denoted by the adj.

c 1200 Ormin 1395 Enngless hafdenn heoffness nerd forrloremn all wiþþ rihhte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1508 Fro bernabe he ferde wiȝ sped. *Ibid.* 1668 Aske it wiȝ skil and ðu salt hauen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4430 Now es loseph in prisun strang Don..wiȝt wrang. 13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) L 5/16 Þe lewys..sayd he ferid all wyth foly. 13.. *K. Horn* 2353 (Harl.) He louede horn wiþ mihte & he him wiþ ryhte. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 163 Alle wiȝth on hol hert. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 45 Whit mekenes sal sho muster to þabbes hir sekenes. 1526 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 174 To get hys money with crafte and suttulty. 1535 Coverdale *Deut.* vi. 5 Thou shalt loue the Lorde thy God with all thy hart, with all thy soule, & with all thy mightes. 1589 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 300, I look'd vpon her with a souldiers eie. 1600 R. Cokr *Power & Subj.* 45 This unlimited power of doing anything with impunity. 1672 Milton *P. R.* I. 319 Who first with curious eye Perus'd him. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 208 P 8 He replied with a very angry Tone. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 116 A little stage was erected..that the spectators might see with the better advantage. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* III. 351 He always travelled with hurry. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 562 They slide to the goal with awkward pace. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxviii, Polly, who, with a woman's tact, understood this at once. 1856 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 269 To-day I walked with effort one little mile. 1877 Jevons *Money* (1878) 23 We use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision.

30. Indicating a feeling, purpose, or other mental state accompanying the action spoken of: e. g. *with approval, awe, horror, indifference, pleasure, regret*, (*due*) *respect*, etc.; *with* (*a, the*, etc.) *determination, hope, intent*(*ion*), *view*, etc.: see also the sbs.

The phrase thus formed is often equivalent to an adv., as in 29, from which this use is not always distinguishable.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 128 God..blisnede it wid milde mode. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 93 To den pesannce Wid serwe at þin herte rote. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 1029 Sir Gilfroun..Was bore hom on his scheld Wiþ care and rufull soun. 1382 Wyclif *Phil.* ii. 12 Werche ȝe with drede and tremblinge ȝoure heelthe. 1526 Tindale *Heb.* xii. 28 Grene, wherby we maye serve god..with reverence and godly feare. 1582 Rich *Farew.* D ij b, With this resolution he began to relate [etc.]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. cv. I. 47 Shee approched neere to the altars with purpose to sacrifice. 1724 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 28 We left New England with peace of mind. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiv, 285 They still remember, with the utmost horror, the sacking of their cities. 1766 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 52 Vathek applied his ear with the hope of catching the sound of some latent runnel. 1798 Southey *Pious Painter* I. i, Still on his Madonnas the curious may gaze With applause and with pleasure. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 200 If, as now it seems, your vision rests With any pleasure on me. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 283 A land of exile, visited with reluctance and quitted with delight. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 482 It is wholly immaterial with what object the lie is told.

b. In expressions of devotion, affection, or gratitude accompanying what is said or written, esp. by way of greeting, as in a message or the conclusion of a letter.

1444 *Paston Lett.* I. 373 Right wurshipfull and myn especiall good maister, I recomaund me to you with all service and prayer to my power. 1521 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 40/1 ȝoure humile oratouris and servandis with all lauchfull service. 1679 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1912) IX. 191 G. F[ox] ordered me to signifie thus to thee with his deare Love. 1685 Pett in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1910) Jan. 114 Two Dorsetshire regiments..were dismissed..with thanks for their good service. 1744 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 283 Laying the aff[r] before my L[d] Harrington with my best compliment desiring the fav[r] of him just to sound the Count upon it. 1789 (see Remembrance *sb.* 4 d). 1793 (see Love *sb.* 1 e). 1838 (see Regard *sb.* 10 c). 1892 G. B. Shaw *Mrs. Warren's Prof.* II, Here: take George his hat and stick with my compliments.

31. Indicating an attribute, quality, or condition of the person or thing spoken of: Having, possessing, characterized by. (Often scarcely distinguishable from 28 or 29.)

c 1440 Holland *Howlat* 18 The land lowne was and le, with lyking and luf. 1587 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 246/2 The Englishman (with the number of 1500, vnder the conduct..of Talbot). 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, I. i. 205 What meanes this passionate discourse? This peroration with such circumstance. 1610 — *Temp.* II. ii. 52 She had a tongue with a tang. 1671 Milton *Samson* 271 Bondage with ease. 1702 Dr For *Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 28 Why shou'd the Papist with his Seven Sacraments be worse than the Quaker with no Sacraments at all? 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 438 P 4 A very learned Man with an erect Solemn Air. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 32/2 He was then in a cool sweat, with a low pulse. 1822 Crabbe *Tales* xi. 385 Retiring late, at early hour to rise, With shrunken features, and with bloodshot eyes. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 387. 1883 *Times* 22 Sept. 356/1 A colony with a constitution like that of the Cape Colony. 1893 *Atalanta* Jan. 269 Many another man with less heart and less imagination.

b. With special implications: (*a*) Still having; without loss of or detriment to; so as to keep or retain; consistently with.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 93 He vnnethis gatt away with his life. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 224 He could not long continue in the seruice of princes with the sauetie of his lyfe. 1600 in J. Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) Ser. I. iv. 193 Another gentleman..was beaten down from his horse and hardly escaped with life. 1612 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 163 The King's letter was, that he ..could not with his greatness answer the proposition. 1694 in J. Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) Ser. I. vi. 307 He said she could not pass the next winter with life, if she took not this remedy. 1885 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 31 A nation..cannot with impunity,..cannot with existence..go on..concentrating its soul on Pence.

(*b*) Though having; notwithstanding, in spite of. (Usually followed by *all* qualifying the sb.; cf. For *prep.* 23 a, b.)

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1205 ȝet wiþ þan Ichaunde þe leser to me lemman,..þan al þe gold þat Crist haþ maked. 1557 North *Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 409 All these things notwithstanding they are dishonest are sometimes tollerable ..,so y[t] with these faults they would be diligent to dispatch men. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K j b, He hath suche straunge conceites..,that with all y[e] painting he hath he can not paint them. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal Sat.* Ded. (1697) p. lxxxv, Ancient Words..which, with all their Rusticity, had somewhat of Venerable in them. 1779 *Mirror* No. 34 P 9 Umphraville, with all his dignity, his abilities, and his knowledge, felt himself uneasy and ridiculous. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 206 England, with all thy faults, I love thee still. 1788 Stevenson *Virg. Pueriques* Ded., But, with the best will, no man can be twenty-five for ever. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* vi. 50 With all her apparent roughness of disposition..she was by no means a heartless woman.

32. Indicating an accompanying or attendant circumstance, or a result following from the action expressed by the verb.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1851 þe werwolf..went to him euene, Wiþ a rude roring. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* viii. 2 Thou may complain with sighis lamentable The death of Bernard Stewart. 1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 621/2 To passe it ouer with sylence. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 490, I looked vpon him, and with teares told him, his censure was harder, then the Prince his. 1677 Mohun *Mod. Essays.* i. 20 Afterwards smooth it with a Blood red Heat. 1723 Rowe *Fair Penit.* I. i, She, with Looks averse, and Eyes that frose me, Sadly reply'd. 1732 Berkeley *Edgestone L.* § 265 Our men went out with a declaration that they would [illegible] till they

had found the moorings. 1806–7 J. Berkenhout *Historic Hum. Life* (1826) vii. 23 The frosty silence...with which it is received by the different auditors. 1829 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. xvii. P 22, I do not in the least doubt it, interrupted Fabricio with a horse-laugh. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 1 With as far-spreading and invincible an effect. 1922 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 672 The value of a papal dispensation is considered, with the conclusion that it is valid in some cases but not in all.

b. (after *find*, *take*, etc.) In the actual commission of (a crime or misdemeanour). *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 185 Y trowed in hur no false-hedd, Tylle y fonde them with the dede. 1510 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 314/2 Taken in redehand with any crime. 1530–1621 [see Maimour 2]. 1572 R. H. tr. *Lavaterus' Ghostes* (1596) 40 Albeit they were... almost taken tardy with the deede doing. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 227 His sonne being taken with the fact,...Zaleucus would never suffer the punishment to be...lessened.

33. Indicating something granted, received, or assumed: often with conditional implication, as in *with your leave* (or *permission*) = 'if you will allow me'.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 971 Wyth leue laȝt of þe lorde he went hem ayaynes. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 70 Weþ þe lefe or conferming of þe kirk, awilk mariage is rate. 1436 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 199 To easte this land oute of alle reputacion...yf so falle, as with oure Lord mercy it never shal falle. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Chron. xviii. 12 The wordes of the prophetes speake good to the kyng with one assent. — *Ps.* xviii. 29 Wt the helpe of my God I shall leape ouer the wall. 1620 B. Jonson *Alch.* IV. i, Madame, with your pardon, I kisse your vesture. 1648–9 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1917) Oct. 570 Hee...had alsoe the Keyes of the Castle (but not with Thompson's good will). 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II* c. 19 Bee it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords and Commons...That [etc.]. 1779 *Mirror* No. 33 P 4 We were accordingly married with the universal approbation of my friends. 1794 J. H. Moore *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 10) 87 With the course and distance find the difference of latitude and departure. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xv, Another gentleman comes and collars that glass of punch, without a 'with your leave', or 'by your leave'. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 77 So the law of England remained...with the deliberate approval of both the great parties. 1879 E. Waterton *Pietas Mariana Brit.* 226 With these general data, I now proceed to examine some of the details.

34. Followed by a sb. denoting some alteration or modification, or something imposed in the way of a demand or requirement: e. g. *change*, *condition*, *exception*, *loss*, *proviso*, *qualification*, etc. (Before *condition* now replaced by *on*.)

c 1440 *Merlin* xiv. 203 We be come to serue yow, with this condicion, that ye desire not to knowe oure names. 1489 in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 93 With the same condicions and provisoes. 1626 W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 210 With exception of the crosse. 1629 Hobbes *Thucyd.* I. 59 The Athenians...made peace, with condition to haue their Prisoners released. 1779 *Mirror* No. 7 P 2 With these qualifications, Sir, I am held in considerable estimation by the wits of both sexes. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 165 Such a body...is composed, with scarcely an exception, of sincere persons. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 44 With the exception of a dwelling-house..., the remainder of the area was covered with warehouses.

35. a. Followed by a sb. denoting misfortune or evil, in imprecations and intensive phrases: also *with a* Wanion, *with a witness* (see Witness *sb.* 14). Now chiefly in *with a vengeance* (in intensive sense: see Vengeance *sb.* 4).

a 1300 *K. Horn* 326 (Camb.) Went [= go] vt of my bur Wiþ muchel mesauentur. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's Prol.* 12 Is that a Cook of London, with meschance? *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 346 As thou, wyth shamfull deth I 1538– [see Mischief *sb.* 9 a]. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, *Ly.* I will send it through you with a powder. *Sim.* Let come, with a Pox! 1663 Dryden *Wild Gallant* I. ii, I'll put you out of your Pater Nosters, with a sorrow to you.

b. Introducing a refrain (often meaningless) in a poem or ballad.

[13.. *Coer de L.* 2522 They rowede hard, and sungge ther too, With heuelow and rumbeloo.] *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 96 in *26 Pol. Poems* 124 Nowe yeue me mercy, and say nat nay, Wyth *Parce michi, domine.* 15..– [see Hey-ho]. 1519 [see Hey *int.* 2]. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 289 Wyth Hey and wyth howe. 1623, 1672 [see Fading *sb.*]. 1668 *a* 1800 [see Fa-la 2]. 1780 *British Grenadiers*, With a tow, row, row, row, row.

36. In various preceding senses, followed by object and complement (phr. with prep., pple., adj., adv., or inf. with *to*).

c 1290 *Beket* 2169 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 140 With one haltre ope þe mere forth rod þis holi man. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VIII. 48 Thai saw in battale cum arayit The vaward with baner displayit. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 212 With fadres pitous stikynge thurgh his herte. 1443–50 in W. P. Baildon *Sel. Cases Chanc.* (1896) 234 His purse with xxv. s. of money therin. *c* 1482 *Paston Lett.* III. 295 Fayne she wold be redde of it with hyr onowr savyd. 1527 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 13 The lesse leede with the hole in the bothom. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xix. (1553) R vij, The...priests...that had...vsed to say *Dominus* with the seconde sillable long. 1611 Shake. *Cymb.* II. i. 26 You crow Cock, with your combe on. 1630 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 133 Standing...with their armes foulded. 1745 Pococke *Descr. East* II. II. 231 There are six youths in each room, with a master over them. 1760–6 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxxi, He sat with rapture in his eye. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xiv, The shield represented an owl with its wings spread. 1842 Tennyson *Lady Clare* xv, She went by dale, and she went by down, With a single rose in her hair. 1848 Browning *Through the Metidja to Abd-el-Kadr* i, As I ride, as I ride, With a full heart for my guide. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* v, An iron-grey autumnal day, with a shrewd east wind blowing. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xviii, They...stood with their hats off. 1866 Ruskin *Let.* 10 May, Joan has written another long letter to you with something about me in it. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. 455 Life seemed not so cursed With this to think of.

III. Denoting instrumentality, causation, or agency.

37. Indicating the means or instrument (material or immaterial) of any kind of action: By means of, by the use of.

c 1200 Ormin 3524 Þe bodiȝ forr to pinenn wiþþ swinne. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 9 He..Dra3eð dust wiþ his stert. *Ibid.* 627 He ne hauen no liȝ Ðat he muȝen risen wiþ. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 90 in *O. E. Misc.* 108 For to werie þat lond wiþ hunger and wiþ herivnge. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 44 Al was ðat firme ðrosing in niȝt, Til he wit hise word made ... wurþ him wel iȝolde. *Ibid.* 514 Þin armes he haþ & sch... To fiȝte wiþ vpon þe feld. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14427 Þat he suld flexs take o þair kin, For to ransceun wit adam sin. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1438 He with keyes vncloses kystes ful mony. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* xiv. 58, I schal vndo this temple maad with hondis. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 1 Whan that Aprille with hise shoures soote The droghte of March hath perced to the roote. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xxvii. 265 A lytille whippe in hire hondes for to chacen with hire hors. 1423 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 92 The residue of my gode, y bequethe tho Amys my wyf, an my son, to kepe hem boþ wyt. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 18, vc or vj c baras canvase for to packe woll wyt. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 247/2 Oonly as moche as suffyseth to bye with his brede cotydyan. 1583 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxxvi. 223/1 He lost euer after yᵉ syght with that eye. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xx. 22 Are ye able...to be baptised with the baptism that y shalbe baptised with? — *Mark* ix. 49 Every sacryfyce shalbe seasoned with saltt. 1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 432 All slaine with darts. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 145 They build with vnburnt clay. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1621 The people with a shout Rifted the Air. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. i. 9 The ships were disappointed of provisions for want of a cargo to truck with. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* iii, We lightened the fatigues of the road with philosophical disputes. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 44 Some acts which in the citizen are punished with fine or imprisonment must in the soldier be punished with death. 1877 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* I. § 18 There is nothing like a little work with the fingers for teaching the eyes. 1890 *Law Times' Rep.* LXIII. 691/2 A publican runs a greater risk of being cheated with false money than other tradesmen.

† (*b*) Through the medium of (a person). *rare.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxviii. 20 Iudas sende an ticcen wiþ hys Odolamitiscean hyrde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1274 He wald send me word wit þe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 135 Tyne nocht my sawle with fellone mene. 1590 Shake. *Com. Err.* v. i. 230 He did arrest me with an Officer.

b. Formerly used in many cases where *by* (By *prep.* 30, 32) is now the usual or only construction; e. g. with obj. a person, or an action (esp. when expressed by a gerund or vbl. sb. in *-ing*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 882 Sco has me fild wit hir ... 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 129 He wald do nimen him anon, & wiþ strengþe him nim wolde. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 521 Wes nocht all Troy with tresoune tane..? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 217 To dyen with a swerd or with a knyf. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. xii. 57 It shal not lye in þy power to be seld ner delyuered wiþ no remedy ner no solace. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 112 Þou wer led in-to þis place wit þe handis of many men. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 2461 And it to confyrme...With charters and dedes. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccliii. 183 b/1 The towne was taken with assaute, and robbed. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Kings vi. 8 Men went vp with windyng steares into the myddle chambre. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* IV. vi. X j, If by the second rule ye diuide 100 with 24, the quotient is 4⅙. 1667 Dryden tr. *Life S. Francis Xavier* VI. 667 Many sick persons...were cur'd with only seeing it. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 409 With all this the King was convinced. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 43 P 10 Distant countries are united with canals. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iii, Will you oblige us with proceeding with what you were going to relate? 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xvi, I don't believe there's anything you can't prevail on people to do with kindness.

c. Used where other prepositions are now usual, as *at* (a charge or cost), *in* (a receptacle or something figured as such), *of* (a material or constituent, after *make*), *on* or *upon* (food, etc.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11109 Ion..liued wit rotes and wit gress, Wit honi o þe wildernes. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 530 The forsaid Adam shold susteyn the said mese...with his owne costis. 1564 Harding *Aunsw. Jewel* 40 S. Augustine vttereth the same thinge almost with the same wordes. *a* 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. xciv, When farre spent night perswades each mortal eie...To laye his then marke wanting shaftes of sight, Cloe'd with their quilvers in Sleepe armorie. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* I. i. 303 You shall fast a Weeke with Brannes and water. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* I. xv. (1622) 29 Germanicus...furnished the rest with his owne charges. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 83 They dine with dried pork. 1633 J. Clarke *Two-fold Praxis*, I lived...with sevenpence a day. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xl. 410 That she would wrap up all such matters with oblivion. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 239 Burning instruments of this kind are usually made with glass. 1783 Cumberland *Nat. Son* I. i, When he shall see what frippery a woman is made up with. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. vi. 221 Diminutive imitations of muskets made with wood. 1840 Pereira *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 1269 A sinapism made with flour.

† **d.** In reference to procreation, with obj. either the male or the female parent: = By *prep.* 32 c.

c 1450 *Merlin* 20 Thow wast with childe with hym. 1588 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 56 The barne gottin be him with the said Margaret Steyne. 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 143 Shee speakes, and 'tis such sence That my Sence breeds with it. *a* 1709 J. Lister *Autobiog.* (1842) 32, I had but two children with my wife.

e. After *begin* or *end* and words of like sense, in various shades of meaning: indicating (*a*) that which constitutes the beginning or end, i. e. the initial or final part, element, stage, proceeding, etc. (after a personal subj. and before a gerund now *by*, as in b above); (*b*) a person or thing acted upon or treated first or last (coinciding with 9); (*c*) (after *begin*, *originate*, etc.) the agent or source from which something takes its rise (allied to 11).

Phr. (with ellipsis of obj.) *to begin with*: to take what is mentioned or indicated as one's starting-point.

1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2414 For my behest with deth I schal conclude. *c* 1550 Bale *K. Johan* (Camden) 47 Fyrst to begyne with, we shall interdyte the lond. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 404/2 First begynnyng with that godly man...the autor of the boke. *a* 1629 in S. Atkinson *Gold Mynes Scot.* (Bann. Club) 2 It is true that 'say well and doe well ends both with one letter'. 1677 in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 110 The Commoners...take distaste that anything which relates to mony, should...begin with the Lords. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 642 Drawing towards a Conclusion of this Treatise, I shall put a period thereto with some unvulgar Considerations of the Nature of Sounds and Melody. 1723 Berkeley *Guardian* No. 69 P 2 He has ended his Discourse with a Prayer. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* II. 51 (*La Patisser*) He finish'd the scene with winning my esteem. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Brooke Farm* I. 6, I must begin my lecture with you. 1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVIII. 657 The evening generally closed with music. 1861 T. L. Peacock *Gryll Grange* xxix, I will be bound every one of this company could...find a quotation in point. —Miss Gryll, to begin with. 1879 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* Iv. § 56 We may close her national history with the seventeenth century. 1887 'L. Carroll' *Game of Logic* I. § 2. 22 'Middle' begins with 'm'. 1918 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 442 Newcastle's responses...did not stop with sending Warren for the defence of the Northern Colonies.

38. After words of furnishing, filling, covering, adorning, and the like. (Allied to II. ***, involving the notion of addition.)

After *full* now replaced by *of*.

c 1200 Ormin 994 Bulltedd bredd...smeredd wel wiþ elesæww. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 384/236 For-to...crouni him with golde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 852 God...fild þis werld al wit his grace. *Ibid.* 1046 Wit gress and leues his he clad. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiv. 96 To presente hyre sone With myrre, gold, ant encenz. † *a* 1366 Chaucer *R. Rose* 1076 It [*sc.* a robe] ful well With Orfrays leyd was euerydeell. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 116 Clop to coueren wiþ our bones. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 130 Encombret whyth syn. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 277 Histirlonde he plantith with vyne. 1506 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 285 The third chamber...was hanged with a very rich arras. *c* 1512 *1st Engl. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 Ledder to kyuer theyr members with. 1526– [see Endow *v.* 3 b.]. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* II. i. 231 Her wombe then rich with my yong squire. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 4 That doest ennoble with immortall name The warlike Worthies. 1610 Shake. *Temp.* I. ii. 154 Infused with a fortitude from heauen. *Ibid.* 383 Then was this Island...not honour'd with A humane shape. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 229 As full of spite and ill nature as a Spider with poyson. 1633 J. Clarke *Two-fold Praxis* 63 It is very expedient for us scholars to be instructed with good manners. *c* 1646 Milton *New Forcers Conse.* 7 To force our Consciences...And ride us with a classic Hierarchy. 1713– [see Litter *v.* 5, 6 a]. 1734 Sale *Koran* Prelim. Disc. § 1. 3 A stony and barren valley, surrounded on all sides with mountains. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. vi. (1866) 99 Christianity...permeates all evil with good. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* VI. i, Wreathing it [*sc.* a pole] with wild-flowers. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 86 A...breeze...Tipping the waves with foam.

39. Indicating the cause or reason: In consequence of, as a result of, by the action of; because of, by reason of, on account of; from, through, by.

In some cases now replaced by *of* (e. g. after Come *v.* 11 c); in others *of* and *with* are used with distinction of meaning (see e. g. Die *v.* 2 b, 7 c, Weary *a.* 2 c, 2).

13.. *Cursor M.* 1058 (Gött.) For-þi was he witt þat for lorn. 13.. *K. Alis.* 930 Mony a baner...rotled with the wynde. † *a* 1400 *Arthur* 466 And deyde wyþ strokis þat þey hente. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 161, I ame somewhatt crased, what with the see and what wythe thys dyet heer. 1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* I. i. 69 Hart sick with thought. 1593 — *2 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 111, I feele remorse in my selfe ..... his words. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 243 Went they not quickly, I should die with laughing. 1620 G. Abbot *Exp. Jonah* 54 These did perish in their owne sinne, although they perished with his fault. 1601 Shake. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 366 This comes with seeking you. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 200 The Lord Iames Audley...dyed with the fall of a horse. 1672 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 23 She was so ill with wearing a paire of perfumed bodyes that she was forced to goe to bed. 1682 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 22 July, Sir Jonas Moore...died with a fall from his horse. 1784 Cowper *Tirocin.* 833 Flush'd with drunk'ness. 1818 Byron *Pris. Chillon* 1 My hair is grey, but not with years. 1837 Hawthorne *Twice-told T., Gt. Carbuncle*, The...branches...mossy with age. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* 4 Zymosis I had evidently been suffering with from boyhood. *Med. colleg.* Harry Wood is in the Cottage Hospital with his knee.

b. After a trans. vb. (usually in pass.), or a pa. pple. or ppl. adj., indicating the immediate cause or ground of the action or state spoken of: often approaching or coinciding with 37 or 40 b.

After certain pples., as *pleased*, *surprised*, etc., varying with or now replaced by *at*. After *trouble* vb. sometimes approaching 9.

c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 3690 Dor wurð she ſanne wiþ lepre smiten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4076 Þai soght him al to grene wit wrang. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 249 Þe pepil was i-plesed wiþ his faire speche. *c* 1440 *Rom. Rose* 5028 Contente with his poueste. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2221 With the wordes the kyng liked full ill. 14.. in *Guillim's*

Heraldry IV. vii. (1632) 296 Worne wud Age. 1833 Coverdale *Prov.* vi. 29 Lest thou be taken with hir fayre lokes. 1883 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 115 b, Because I haue halfe wearied the reader.., I will harten him agayne wyth a merye tale. 1609–[see Speht 3 b]. 1632 Wadsworth tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 342 Hugging himself with that small victorie. 1655–1768 [see Surprise v. 3]. *a* 1745 Swift *Lex. Faculties Mind* Ded., Wks. 1841 II. 284/2 To suppose you would be very much obliged with anything that was new. 1792 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) III. 494. I am rejoiced with the account he gives me. 1807 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* III. 363. I am..not surprised with the opiniativeness of Lord Grenville. 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* II. VI. 243 His men and horses were now nearly spent with toil. 1891 Conan Doyle *White Company* xx, A face which was distorted with rage.

c. After an intr. (rarely a trans.) vb. or an adj., combining the sense 'by reason of' with 28 ('having in or upon it') or 38 ('filled, covered, etc. with'). Also more vaguely, indicating a substance (esp. a liquid) which is the logical subject of the vb.: e. g. *it is pouring with rain* = rain is pouring; *(flowers) dripping with dew* = having dew dripping from them.

1388 Wyclif *Exod.* iii. 8 A lond that flowith with milk and hony. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 98 Hire chekes ben with teres wet. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1397 The castel and cete rang With mynstralsi and nobil sang. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 5 With alkyn herbes..The feldis flurist. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 28 Doun throu the ryce a ryuir ran wyth stremys. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. viii. 93 Hir figoure sa grisly gret aboundis, Wyth glowand ene birnand of flawmis blak. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Manantia vlcera*, sores runnyng with matter. 1606 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 45 Our Italy, Shines o're with ciuill Swords. 1620– [see Heavy *a.* 4]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 605 Now glow'd the Firmament With living Saphirs. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 235 Th' Alburnian Groves, with Holly green. *Ibid.* 359 The Garment, stiff with Ice, at Hearths is thaw'd. 1748 Smollett *Reproof* 28 Hallowed be the mouth That teems with moral zeal and dauntless truth! 1798 Coleridge *Kubla Khan* 8 Gardens bright with sinuous rills. 1799 Wordsw. *Fountain* viii, My eyes are dim with childish tears. 1849 [see Pour v. 6 b]. 1899 T. S. Moore *Vinedresser* 6 Banks more soft with moss than any bed.

d. Following words of blame or the like (after *charge* orig. fig. from 38); also after *credit* vb.: indicating the ground of the charge, etc.

After *accuse*, *suspect*, now replaced by *of*.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 318 Þis preste..tolde hur counсell, & vpbrayed hur þerwith. 1539 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* l. 7 To charge me with offence. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Demetrius* (1595) 946 Hee..was most detected with this vice of lechery. 1591 *Troub. Reigne K. John* I. 147 A Man, Whom he accuseth with adulterie. 1665 Dryden *Ind. Emperor* III. ii, None shall tax me with base Perjury. 1670 Stubbe *Reply H. More* (1671) 75 The World will condemn you with Blasphemy for that comparison. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* (1841) II. I. i. 10 The blot with which I reproach myself. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 298 There seems no just cause for accusing the King with the premature fate of this nobleman. 1877 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. iii. 27 To credit him with a desire to reform the Church.

40. After a passive verb or participle, indicating the principal agent: = By *prep.* 33. a. (a person or animal). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2489 He was wit þe prestes shriue. 13.. *Cursor M.* 15908 (Götz.) Sare he dred þat syden fell Wid þaim he suld be slaine. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1219 Your honour..is hendely prayed With lordes, wyth ladyes, with alle þat lyf bere. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVIII. 128 And be the armys led wes he With twa men. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vi. 19 Þis same sowdan..was slayne with his awen seruands. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 38 The first quhete that ever was sawin with man. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 52 They all were eten wyth bores and of lions. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 56 So awful rumour..Wes neuir hard with no man in this erd. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 110 There was a Towne in Spayne vndermined with Connyes, in Thessalia with Mowles, with Frogges in Fraunce. 1611 Shake. *Wint. T.* V. ii. 68 He was torne to pieces with a Beare. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 86 It was miserably sacked, and burned with Turkes. 1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* III. i, As I were stung with some tarantula. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 165 If the Ass, you design to breed on, be suckled with a Mare. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 250 He rode thro' London, accompanied with the most popular men of his Court. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 19 This island is inhabited..with monkies and myself. 1738 J. Hughes tr. *Fontenelle's Dial.* I. viii. (ed. 3) 32, I went attended with a numerous train. *Mod. dial.* You never hear of horses being bit with snakes.

†b. (a thing, material or immaterial). *Obs.*

c 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 63 With wawis castine to þe land. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 295 Awaked wiþ crienge of gandres. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3866 In to eland war þai kest with' a flowyng flode. 1572 Digges *Pantom.* I. xxxi. K j, Intercepted with the perpendicular lyne. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 94 Hyrcania..is limited on the North with the Caspian Sea. 1789 *Trans. Corporation C.* xix. 354 Her other entrails were much hurt & crush'd together with her stays. 1860 R. Brown *Farmer* II. 2 Overflowed with rivers or land-floods.

adv.

†1. With it (me, them, etc.); in collocation, company, or association; together; occas., at the same time, simultaneously. *Obs.*

c 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xvi. § 3 Hit nis nauht gecynde..þæt smiġ wiðerward þing bion gemenged wiþ oðrum wiðerweardum, oððe smiġe ġeferredenne wiþ hahhen. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 54 Meng þonne hwitcwudu wiþ. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 722 Loy nettelys vndir with. *Ibid.* VI. 20 Al doubil seed, as benes.., And other pulś, a xl dayes figure, And gruteth with [orig. *simulque grandescunt*]. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lxiv. 150 Delande and hope þe soule of þy..seruannt..and, þy grace goyng wiþ [orig. *comitante gratia*], dyrecte hym by þe way of pes.

†b. *With also*: nouce-substitute for Withal (= 'also'). *Obs. rare.*

1586 G. Whetstone *Engl. Mirr.* I. xv. 95 Frauncis the second..beeing both very young, and with also married to the Queene of Scots.

†2. *With and with*: a. Immediately, forthwith (= By and by 3); b. From time to time, again and again, every now and then. *Obs.*

c 1200 Orrm 3628 Icc wile wiþþ & wiþþ þe seoffne seollþess shæwenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 20747 We sendeð wiþ and wiþ and þeornen Arðures griþ. *Ibid.* 30177 Adwine .. saide auere wiþ and wiþ: ich walle makien un-friþ. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 175 Delue hit ofte, and..Ay with and with lycour on hit to trete.

†3. With that, or with which; therewith, wherewith: = Withal *adv.* 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 936 God mad þam kyrtels þan of hide, And cled þar flesc wit for to hide. *a* 1425 *Ibid.* 8397 (Trin.) Her modris..had no cradles ne wiþ to by. 1366 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 48 The said earl,..had a couple of partridges, and to drink with of his lordships cost.

†C. *conj.* a. To the time that, until. (Only OE.) b. During or at the time that; while; when. (Cf. sense 16 of the prep.) *Obs. rare.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 11 Der wunas wiþ ge ðone ġeonga. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVII. 455 It wes nocht eyth till ta The toune, with [*v. rr.* quhill; *ed.* 1570 while] sic defens was maid. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2685 With þir thinges were done.

D. *Comb.*, as with-worker (*nonce-wd.* after G. *mitwerher*), a fellow-worker, co-worker.

1884 R. F. Burton *Camoens, Lyricks* I. 4, I have been aided by a host of 'with-workers'.

With: see Withe.

With, obs. form of White, Wight.

With-, representing OE. *wiþ-* (see With *prep.*) used as a prefix to verbs (and derived sbs.) with the meanings: (1) away, back, as in OE. *wiþbídwan* to blow away, *wiþfaran* to escape, *wiþgán* to disappear, *wiþtéon* to withdraw; so Withdraw, Withhold; a few modern words come under this heading, which are formed by substituting *with-* for *re-*, as *withcall*; (2) away from one, as in several OE. verbs meaning 'reject', 'refuse', *wiþcéosan*, *wiþcwepan*, *wiþhogian*, *wiþlicgan*, *wiþsacan* Withsaken *v.*, *wiþwcorpan*; (3) against, in opposition, as in OE. *wiþfeohtend* adversary, *wiþhabban* to resist, *wiþlicgan* to oppose, *wiþsprecan* to contradict, *wiþstandan* Withstand *v.*; (4) together, in *wiþjoin*.

The following is a list of the less important verbal formations (transitive verbs except where otherwise marked); mostly obs. (see quots.).

†**Withbere** [Bear *v.*1], to carry away; see also b; †**withbo3t** *pa. ppls.* [Buy *v.*] redeemed; †**withbrast** *pa. t.* [Burst *v.*] *intr.* burst asunder; †**withbreide** [OE. *wiþbregdan*, Braid *v.*1], to withdraw; †**withbuwe** [Bow *v.*1], to avoid; **withcall**, to recall; †**witholepe**, to recall, revoke, repeal; †**withdrive**, to drive away, repel; †**withhuhe** [OE. *wiþhogian*], to despise; †**withjoin**, to join together, conjoin (*intr.* and *trans.*); †**withleft** *pa. ppls.* left behind; †**withlosen** *pa. ppls.* [Lesse], lost; †**withnay** [Nay *v.*; cf. Renay], to deny, refuse; †**withnim** [= L. *reprehendere*; see Nim *v.*], to reprove, rebuke; †**withpass**, to escape the lips of; †**withquethe**, to deny, contradict, refuse; †**withscape**, to escape; †**withschadowid** *pa. ppls.*, darkened; †**withschild** [Shield *v.*], in *God w.*, God forbid; †**withscore**, to cut away, detach; †**withshonte** [Shunt *v.*], *intr.* to shrink back; †**withslip**, to escape; †**withso3t** *pa. t.* [Seek *v.*], pursued, persecuted; †**withsperre** *v.* [Spar *v.*1], to bar (the way); †**withstad, -sted** *pa. ppls.* [Stead *v.*], beset; †**withstarte** [Start *v.* 6], *intr.* to escape; **withstay** [Stay *v.*1 III], to hold back, oppose, withstand; †**withstew** [Stew *v.*1], to check; **withstrain**, †(*a*) to constrict; (*b*) to restrain; †**withtese** [Tese *v.*1], to withdraw; *refl.* and *intr.* to abstain; †**withtelle**, to gainsay; †**withturn**, to avert.

c 1300 *Melusine* 196 Other thing ye shal not haue ne *withbere fro me. 1340 *Ayenb.* 186 Alle we þreþ *wiþboȝt of one selue pris. 1448–9 Metham *Amoryus & Cl.* 1320 The dragon ..*with brast in þe myddys. *c* 890 Werferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 203 Þara oðre se cniht *wiðbræd..& þa oðre brohte to ðam Godes men. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 88 Ðæt hi heora handa fram ðam blodes gyte ne wiðbruden. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 11 In wunne stude þu hauest her ofte halle; & bute þu wið-breide þe, bredes te þat oðer. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 126 Uerte *wiðbuwen sunne. *c* 1290 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 32 Hwase þenchеð on ni þis,..& nule wiðbuhe þet þing þet hit al oȝwalsneð. 1901 J. Paton *Forest Folk* x. 103 Do yo *withcall them saving tears shed years and years ago, Sister Morris? 1924 *H. S. Merriman' Flotsam* xiv, 152 The troops were withcalled. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1301 Y withsaye þat I withsaye. 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 Uor alle þise wyþiclepeð. *Ibid.* 1 to him. 1387 Trevisa VI. 267 He..wiþsleped al þat was i-doo by predecessours. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wythe clepyn', or reuekye. 1627 Holtoun *Rider's Dict.*, To Withclepe, *revoco*. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxiii[i]. 23 (24) Nimðe *wiðdrifeð* Drihten ure his agen folc. 1587 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* II. ii. A ij/2 The same [Sorell] water withdryueth impetigines. *a* 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 2864 Nalles nergendes hæse *wiðhogode. *c* 1290 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 51 Nule wiðhuhe þat þing þat hit al of awakeneð. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 282 Holde we vs to-geder cloos and make semblaunte as we wolde *with Ioyne. 1890 J. Hayward *Extw. Vt.* 10 It had bin agreed..they should withjoyne forces. *c* 1378 *Cursor M.* 4403 (Fairf.) Hys mantel ys *wiþleft [*Cott.* bileft] wiþ me. *a* 1300 *Ibid.* 10855 (Cott.) Ne sal þe nawight be *wit-loosen þe maidenhad þat þou hast chosen. *Ibid.* 14109 Þe better lott has mari chosen, þat hir mai nagat be witlosin. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 915 As þou art gloryous with-outen galle, *With-nay þou neuer my ruful bone. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1151 If thal withnay Her fruit. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 480 Then she withneyed and withseyd all the poyntes þat were put. *c* 1313 Shoreham *Poems* VII. 308 By ryȝte he myȝte be *wyþ-nome Ryȝt ase a qued. 13.. *S. E. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXII. 374/207 Ic am a-knowe þat ic whyl-er þe wit-nom amys. 1340 *Ayenb.* 17 Þe more þet me him wy[þ]nimþ and blameþ..þe more he him wreþeþ. *Ibid.* 66 Efter þan comeþ þe wyþnaymynge,..huanne me atwyt ane man oþer his sennes. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 290 Woman threttih and withnemyth. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxviii. 2 þat nane reprouabil word *withpassid me. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* x. § 1 Ne mæg ic na *wiðcweðan ne andsaciġan þæt þe þu me ær sædest. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 He wiþ-quaþ and sede *Non cum eo christus*. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20726 *Witschap schе vs, we sal ha blam. *a* 1400 *Sir Degrev.* (Linc. MS.) 1280 (Laing) Withschapid nane hym fra. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xl. (Tollem. MS.), [Light] puttiþ nouȝt it selfe deep into a body þat is *withschadowid [orig. *umbrosi*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2893 Godd *wit schild þe do þat sin. 13.. *Ibid.* 5011 (Götz.). 1340 *Ayenb.* 254 *Wybecore [*MS. Bodl.* 283 fol. 178 kit a we; o] and wyþdraȝ þine willes and sete ane bridel to þine couaytises. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 231 (Cott. MS.) Sche *withe-shonte for no shame. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19900 Moght it nangat þe *witslip þat he-self said o þi wiracip. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 16106 (Fairf.) Herode..asked him..Quy þai him squa *wiþsoȝt [*Cott.* bisoght]. *c* 1380 R. Brunne *Chron. W*— (Rolls) 15660 Toward þe southe he wolde haue fled, But Edwyn his weye *wyþ-sperd. *Ibid.* 13503 þat weye þey haue vs *wyþ-sted þat y scholde þow haue inne y-led. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 1628 (MS. A.) In grett poverte was he *wiþstadde. *c* 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 204, I knowe wele I may nat *with-starte. I have so doone, I ought to dreede. 1854 S. Dobell *Balder* iii, Death, careful of my learning, hath *withstayed His final presence. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* May v, It fill'd the passage of the rising glade, And there withstay'd the sun in dazzling sheen. *Ibid.* July xix, There was no repentance coud atone For her dishonour, nor her fate withstay. *c* 1278 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Heore uuel þe heo doð þu ajest to betiene and *wiþ-stewen. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 65 þat poudre *wiþstreyneþ [orig. *constringit*] þe blood. 1904 Ryle *Holy Script. & Crit.* 122 With difficulty is the multitude withstrained from doing sacrifice. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvi. 254 Balaham..wolde feran ðær hiene mon bæd, ac his eaſulnesse *wiðstæah se esol þe he onuppan sæt. *c* 1278 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þa þe heom wiþ-teoð of fleslíche lustes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 Þe lichames festing is wiðtiȝing of estmetes. *Ibid.* 79 þat he us wissie to wiþ-tien of alle fleslíche lustes. *c* 1275 Lay. 13242 Nas þar neuere man so bold þat þis wolde *wiþ-telle. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Hastings* lxxxvii, God of Justyce had *withturnd that fate.

b. In the earlier version of the Wycliffite Bible it is used in nonce-formations modelled upon L. compounds of *con-*, *co-*: see quots.

Withhasting [His *v.*, to hasten] is an erron. rendering of L. *cum festinationis* with haste. *Withholden* covered over [Hill *v.*1] represents a L. compound of *ob-*.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lxii. 9 Thei..that *with bern [*com-*

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stonding of prudence wisdam shal *with departen [*com-Ps.* xxxi[i]. 4; I am turned in my myselse, whil the thorn. *Gen.* xxiv. 59 The

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of Moraschym, The watris of the flood..*with hilden [*obtinuerunt*] the erthe. *Gen.* xxi. 6 Who so euer shal here shal *with lawe to me [*corridebit mihi*]. *Ecclus.* li. 25, I shal preisen thi name bysyly, and I shal *withpreisen [*collaudabo*] it in confessioun. *Gen.* xxii. 3 Abraham on the nyȝt *with rysynge [*consurgens*], dizte his asse.

Withal (wiðɔ̄·l), *adv.* and *prep. arch.* [Properly two words, orig. *with al(le* (see With *prep.* and All A. 9 e); in the earliest instances predominantly northern; ultimately superseding the older *mid alle* (see Mid *prep.*1 7 a). The spelling *withall* continued till nearly 1800.]

A. *adv.* 1. Along with the rest; in addition; besides; moreover; likewise; as well. Often in the collocations *and withal* (so-and-so), *and* (so-and-so) *withal*. See also Forthwithal.

c 1200 Orrm 2370 Ne man ne beoþ..þatt muȝhe..tredenn dun þe deofless mahht, swa summ þo tradd wiþþ alle. *Ibid.* 2097 þatt Godess Gast iss sopfæst Godd & Allmahhtiȝ wiþþ alle. *Ibid.* 4303 He beoþ all unnbeshorenn þa swa þwerrt ut wel wiþþ alle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7022 Seint edward held at windelsore a uair feste wiþ alle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3491 He þat was rugh was rede wit-al. 13.. *K. Horn* 404 (Harl.) Ich am yboren þral, þy fader fundlyng wiþ al. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 2984 Romiremont com forþ snelle A Sarrasin a strong wiþ alle. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* XI. 143 The Constable of þat castel.. Is a wyȝ knyght with-alle. *c* 1470 Harry *Wallace* IV. 549 A bow he bair..And arrous ek, baith lang and scharpe with aw. 1596 Moan *Dyalogs* III. Wks. 224/2 Thereupon they burne up the bookes and [*sic*] time the good manne withall. 1942 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 25 Meryly spoken & nippyngly withall. 1611 *Bible* Acts

xxv. 97 It seemeth to me unreasonable, to send a prisoner, and not withall to signifie the crimes laid against him. 1642 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* II. § a. 139 He that shall consider how many thousand severall words have beene .. composed out of 24. Letters; withall how many hundred lines there are to be drawn in the fabrick of one man; shall (etc). 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 198, I shall, thou may'st, expel A brutish monster: what if I withal Expel a Devil who first made him such? 1772 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 11 When he played and sung withal, it was extremely agreeable to hear. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. XXVIII, Nor lord nor knight was there more tall Or had a statelier step withal. 1827 Southey *Let. to Wynn* 24 May, Withal I have not often read a book that interested me so much. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* VIII, She..was so sweet and kind, and withal seemed ..so dependent on him. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 266 Of such peculiar suppleness that you could wind it round anything,..and as strong withal as a hawser.

b. Contextually: 'At the same time'; in spite of all: notwithstanding, nevertheless.

1596 Danett tr. *Comines* VIII. v. 326 Yet is it verie troublesome for horsemen, bicause it is full of ditches like to Flaunders,..but withall it is much pleasanter. 1654 Bp. Bramhall *Just Vind.* VI. (1661) 124 St. Gregory..disliked the Law, but withall according to his duty published it. 1794 Southey *Let. to C. C. Bedford* 22 May, They have shown me that happiness is attainable; but, withal, taught me by repeated disappointments never to build on so sandy a foundation. 1800 Wordsw. *To the Small Celandine* 17 Modest, yet withal an Elf Bold, and lavish of thyself. 1859 Lang *Wand. India* 161 He confessed that his master was rather severe, but withal a very good man. 1880 *Academy* 23 Oct. 299/2 This..impressive, though withal faulty, work.

2. = Therewith 2, 3.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12318 Iesus..bar it bam als in a ball, And present þan his moder wit-all. 1389 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 201 Ye Den schal gedren ye forseyde halpenys, and by wyht-al bread. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 83 Lok thou dele noght withal. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 29/33 Yef any es tan wid-al. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* iv. 44 He toke aduysement, what he might do withall. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 301 A Philosopher..taking a lanterne and a candle lighted at midday.. was demanded what he ment to do withall. 1605 A. Wotton *Answ. to late Popish Articles* 78 We are not ashamed of our small number: though the Papists twight vs with all, in comparison of their huge multitudes. 1657 Sanderson *Serm.* Pref. § 4 The Papists,..escaping in the mean while Scot-free, seldome or never meddled withall in any of their Sermons. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* 90 Having spoiled the gods Of honours, crown withal thy mortal men Who live a whole day out.

To begin withal: see With *prep.* 37 a.

1531 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* v. (1538) 83 And to begynne wythall, they sayde *Confiteor*. 1553 Bradford *Serm. Repentance* (1574) B vij b, I wyll (to begyn withal) shew you what repentance is. 1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. i, Then have at him, to begin withal.

†b. *I cannot do withal*: I cannot help it.

1470–1611 [see Do *v.* 54].

B. *prep.* Substituted for With *prep.* in post-position, esp. at the end of a relative clause or its equivalent or of a direct or indirect question, governing a relative (expressed or implied) or an interrogative; † occas. = Wherewithal 2 b.

The relative may be either expressed (e.g. *that..withal* = with whom or which; *as* after *such*, etc.) or not expressed (freq. in the inf. construction, e. g. *a rod to be beaten withal* = a rod with which to be beaten).

The advs. *herewithal, therewithal, wherewithal*, were modelled upon the earlier *herewith, therewith, wherewith*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6374 Bot tel yew of his suinc i sall, He drou þat fraward folk wit-all. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxvi. 122 Þai giffe a grete soume of monee for to bye oute þaire penaunce withall. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 7 Leste ye resemble hy all. 1527 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 35 A skeyn to kefer wt alle the same bookes. 1543 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 71 b/2 And we be so sore strayned that we haue nat to lyue withall. 1596 Tindale *Matt.* xvi. 26 What shall a man geve to redeme hys soule agayne with all? 1631 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 25 Suche tithes as I was behind withall. 1555 R. Powhall *Musculus' Temporiser* i. B vj b, Yonder commeth he that I haue dyuers tymes desyred to talke withall. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 328 *Ros.* He tel you who Time ambles withall, who Time trots withal,..and who he stands stil withall. *Orl.* I prethee, who doth he trot withal? *a* 1628 Preston *Breastpl. Faith* (1630) 30 Whatsoever you part withall, you shall have a hundred fold in this life. 1665 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 236 P. J...tooke one Rebecah who he liues withall as his wife. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 238 Which sort of Bricks, is commonly used.. to pave Yards or Stables withal. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 365 Though we took the best telescope to observe him withal. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* IV, But for hurting a man I have drunk my morning's draught withal, 'tis clean against my conscience. 1884 Lowell *Democr.* (1887) 6 Such eyes and ears as Nature had been pleased to endow me withal.

†b. in other cases, esp. with indirect passive.

1556 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 213 Notwithstanding ther layt beags and doings, wherin they have ben somwhat met wᵗʰall. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 45 Will in children, wisselie wrought withall, maie easelie be won. 1642 Tasman *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 242 From that time they were better to be spoken withal. 1680 Allen *Peace & Unity* Pref. p. xv, If such were indulgently dealt withal and tolerated. *c* 1685 *Rosh. Ball.* (1821) VII. 477 Full six legs she travels withal. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Freeny's Amusem.* 28 The Devil's Broker may be spoken withal every Sunday.

Witham (wi·təm). Also 6 wyttam, wittam, wittome, 7 wittham. The name of certain villages in Lincolnshire and Essex. *Little (or small) Witham* was used proverbially (with pun on Wit *sb.*) for a place of which the inhabitants were remarkable for stupidity. Hence (app.), without qualification, used for: A witless person, a fool.

1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* B ij, Small wyttam be your spede. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 182 Whens come great breeches? from little wittam. 1580 Nashe *Anat. Absurditie* C 3 b, Who so snatcheth vp follies too greedilie ..may happen proue a wittome whiles he fisheth for finer witte. 1589 *Martins Months Minde* G 2 b, I appoynt.. to each of them an Aduouson: To the former of small Wittam: and to the other of little Brainford. 1589 *Almond for Parrat* D 4, G. W. of Wig. house, in the land of little Wittam, chosen to the place and function of a pastor. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Lincs.* (1662) 153 Lincolneshire.. Proverbs. He was born at Little Wittham...It is applyed to such people as are not overstock'd with acutenesse.

Withamite (wi·təmoit). *Min.* [f. the name of its discoverer, H. *Witham*: see -ite 1.] A red or reddish-yellow variety of epidote, found at Glencoe in Scotland.

1822 D. Brewster in *Edin. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 218.

+**Withbind.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 weopobend, 4 wepebond, withbinde. [OE. **wiþobend, weopobend* (cf. OLG. *widebinde* 'ligustrum'), f. *wiþ-* in With- + *bend* Bend *sb.*[1] (Cf. Bindwith, Bendwith.)] A name for certain plants having pliant stems.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 312 Nim þas wyrte, safenan & mersc mealwan..& weopobend. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 9 He bar a bordun I-bounde wiþ a brod lyste, In A wepebondes [*v. r.* wodebyndes] wyse I-wriþen aboute. [1551: see Weedbind.] 1648–58 Hexham, *Mendt-hout*,..Privet, Prime-print, or White-withbinde.

†**With-child,** *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [With *prep.* 23 b.] *trans.* To 'get with child', make pregnant.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 390 The lusty Heav'n with Earth doth company: And with a fruitfull seed..With-childes..his own lawfull wife. 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. IV. 355.

Withdraught. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: see With *prep.* and Draught *sb.*; also 5 wedraught, 6 wyddra(u)ght, -drought, weydraught, widdrawte, 6–7 (8–9 *arch.*) wydraught, 7 widraught. [f. With- + Draught *sb.*, after *withdraw*.]

1. Withdrawal.

1340 *Ayenb.* 240 Þe castel of þe wombe..ne may him hyealde aye þane gost þanne he is asterued be uestinges and be wyþdra3bes. 1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 508/2 The.. hurtes..doone..to you..in withdraught of your due Custumes. 1448 *Ibid.* V. 64/2 Withoute fraude, embeselyng or withdraught therof in eny wise. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5927 Thys knight saw hir coma, with-draught wold not gette. 1623 T. Adams *Peace-offering* (1624) 42 May not a withdraught of all Gods fauours..be..foreseen?

b. *spec.* Withdrawal from an action in court (= Retraxit); a fine or fee imposed for this.

Cf. Withdraw *sb.*, quot. 1444.

[1402, 1425: see *Essex Rec.* (1907) XVI. 228, 233.] 1600 *Maldon (Essex) Docts.* Bundle 16a lf. 3 (MS.) Withdraughts. Item, they are charged with xxxliii s. by them receyved for lycenses of concord in accions personalls. 1633 *Maldon (Essex) Borough Deeds* Bundle 80 No. 2 (MS.) Allowance to the said seriants for collectinge of withdrafts behind.

†2. A place of retirement or retreat; a retreat; a private chamber, retiring-room; a closet or recess.

1480 Caxton *Myrr.* III. xxi. 175 He that hath none other wythdraughte ne other dwellyng place. 1482 Botoner *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) b vj, (He) fled by the withdraught into the toure of the same castelle. 1509 *Will Earl of Oxford* (Prerog. Crt. Cant.), ij peces of Rede Worstade vsed to be in the Wydraught of my Chamber. 1530 Palsgr. 288/2 Wydraught, *basse chambre*; *ortraict*; *retraict*.

3. A privy; a sewer: = Draught *sb.* 45, 46.

Survives locally in leases.

1493–4 *Leicester Borough Rec.* (1901) II. 344 For borde & tymbre for the wedraught. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cciv. (1811) 215 Whan the Kynge was at the withdraught to purge nature. *c* 1516 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 245 A Howe for the comyn wyddrowght of the said College. 1529 *Boke Presidentes* 26 The sayde messuage.. with thappurtenances with the pauementes, and wydraughtes of the same. 1671 in Birch *Hist. Charters* (1884) 247 That no man shall make or continue any widraughts, seat or for houses of easement. 1706 J. K. *New Eng. Dict.*

[illegible] its, gutters, pipes, drains, wydraughts.

Withdraw, *sb. rare.* [f. Withdraw *v.*] Withdrawal, removal; *spec.* = Withdraught 1 b.

1444 *Maldon (Essex) Docts.* liber 'A' lf. 32b (MS.) For a defaute, or a withdrawe of courte, a freman shall be amerced at iii d. 1693 C. Mather *Wonders Invis. World* 64 One of these Witnesses was over-perswaded by some Persons, to be out of the way upon G. B.'s Tryal; but he came afterwards with Sorrow for his withdraw. 1720 S. Sewall *Diary* 11 Nov. (1882) III. 276 Went not to Mr. Winthrop's. This is the 2ᵈ Withdraw. 1727 C. Mather (*title*) Christian Loyalty, Or, some Suitable Sentiments On the Withdraw of King George the First,..and the Access of King George the Second.

Withdraw (wiðdrɔ̄', wiþ-), *v.* Pa. t. **withdrew** (wiðdrū'); pa. pple. **withdrawn** (wiðdrɔ̄'n). Forms: see With *prep.* and Draw *v.*; also 4 widdraw; *pa. t.* 4 wid-drogh, widrouh; *pa. pple.* 5 othedraw, 6 withdrawed. [f. With- (1) + Draw *v.* (Cf. L. *retrahĕre* to Retrace, Retrai, F. *retirer* to Retire.)]

I. *trans.* 1. To take back or away (something that has been given, granted, allowed, possessed, enjoyed, or experienced).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 Ure Louerd..wiðdrawð his grace, & his cumfort. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* VII. 490 Ich mey the greene tree, If that men toke his rote awele, Riht so myn herte scholde dele, If that ml love be withdrawe. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 42 The sonne with drow3 his liȝt. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xx. 65 Now the from me withdraweth bytter deth. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Chron.* xvii(i). 13, I wyl not withdrawe my mercy from him. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. § 3 Impossible it is that God should withdrawe his presence from any thing. 1600 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 23 My mistresse..withdrewe her gratious aspect even now. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. ¶ 2 Those noursing fathers and mothers..that withdraw from them who hang vpon their breasts..liuelyhood and support. 1823 Shelley *Alastor* 16 Withdraw No portion of your wonted favour. 1833 Tennyson *Two Voices* 143 When Life her light withdraws. 1894 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxxvi. (1901) I. 288 They..said they'd withdraw their subscriptions from the hounds. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* II. § 8. 205 The office of sheriff was withdrawn from the great nobles of the shire. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xiv, Then you are not disposed to withdraw your name from the concern?

†b. To subtract (arithmetically). *Obs.*

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 45 Vnder that nombere [1400] I wrote a 1307; þan withdrowe I the laste nombere owte of þat, and þan fond I þe residue was 3 zere. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. xiv. (1859) 81 Where that it nedeth oughte to adden, or withdrawen. *c* 1430 *Art of Nombryng* (E. E. T. S.) 6 The figures that thow hast withdraw, adde them ayene to the omyst figures.

†c. To cause to decline, decrease, or disappear.

c 1450 Capgrave *St. Augustine* XXXV. 45 Þat ȝe schuld.. not be lettyd with no cold whech schuld withdrawe ȝour deuocion. 1546 *Gassar's Pregnost.* b vij, The heat of Summer shalbegynne to be wythdrawne by rayne. 1563 Shute *Archit.* B ij b, It hath ben withdrawen and hidden (as almost al other knowlages..hath bene) through ignorance.

2. To draw back, take away, remove (a thing) *from* its place or position.

c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 3803 Aaron..ðis fier blessede and wiðdroȝ. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 870 Withdraweth the fir, lest it to faste brenne. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) I. 289 Whan the see ebbeth and withdraweth the gravel. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 70 Reubard ..withdrawyȝ þe fleume fro þe mouth of þe stomake. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vi. 82 Syrus..withdrew þe water and destruyd þe citee. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 241 Whan a man sittyth atte mette he shalde withdrawe his honde afor that he be y-fillit. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 352/12 Whan charlemagne sawe that reynawde had wythdrawe his baner, he was glad of it. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 276, I withdrew my foot a little. 1671 Milton *Samson* 192 In prosperous days They swarm, but in adverse withdraw their head. 1834 Hook *Gilbert Gurney* iii, This speech.. induced me suddenly to withdraw my head. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 463 So as to admit of withdrawing, and reintroducing the vines without injuring them. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lviii, Harriet was withdrawing her hand to open the book, when Alice detained it for a moment. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 168 The most appropriate spot for withdrawing the gases from this furnace. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xxv, As he spoke he had withdrawn from his pocket a folded paper.

b. To take (one's eyes, etc.) off something.

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 5 He is happy that withdraweth his ere & his eye from alle vyle thinges. 1542 Elyot, *Oculorum remissio*, a withdrawyng of the loke. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, As her eye caught that of Mr. Cymon Tuggs, she withdrew it from his features in bashful confusion. 1838 — *O. Twist* xxxviii, Till even she, who was not easily cowed, was fain to withdraw her eyes, and turn them towards the ground.

c. To remove (money) *from* capital, or *from* a bank or other place of deposit.

1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* II. iii. I. 403 That part is, from that moment, withdrawn from his capital. 1828 *Act 9 Geo. IV* c. 92 § 38 After having withdrawn any Sum or Sums of Money from or out of any Savings Banks. 1861 *Act 24 Vict.* c. 14 § 4 The Officers of the Postmaster General ..shall not disclose the Name of any Depositor nor the Amount deposited or withdrawn.

d. To draw (a veil, curtain, etc.) back or aside; to draw back (a bolt). Now *rare*.

1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xi, The veil was at length withdrawn. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. Letts* 170 The sound of opening doors, withdrawing bolts, and hoarse voices hallooing from tower to tower. 1842 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* ix, Withdrawing the little window curtain, she gazed out. 1876 Browning *La Saisiaz* 206 Here's the veil withdrawn from landscape.

3. *fig.* †a. To retract, revoke, rescind. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 2829 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 159 3if þov wenest wel for-to do, with-drau3 þine dede sone. *c* 1290 *St. Nicholas* 265 ibid. 248 Wiþ-drau3 þi red, ich þe rede. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3439 The king withdrogh his jugement. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 327 Withdraw thy sentence, and be gracious.

b. To remove *from* the scope of an inquiry, *from* a particular category, or the like.

1725 Brooke *Notes Pope's Odyss.* VI. 332 Nausicaa..is withdrawn, and a whole nation introduced for a more general praise of Ulysses. 1839 Hallam *Lit. Eur.* II. v. § 97 One [poem] by Hercules Rollock..is..equal, a few names withdrawn, to any of the contemporaneous poetry of France. 1848 H. R. Forster *Stones Catal.* 236 The next two lots were withdrawn. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 259 The marvellous element..withdraws the narrative.. from the course of ordinary occurrences. 1893 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 637/2 It was not a case which should have been withdrawn from the jury.

c. To take back, retract (one's words, an expression). Often *absol.* in imper., in parliamentary

procedure, to demand the withdrawal by a member of an expression or a statement.

1793 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 37 Burke got up twice, but the House was so satisfied, that it would be nothin[illegible] heard but *Withdraw, withdraw.* 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* i, The Chairman was quite sure the hon. Pickwickian would withdraw the expression he had just made use of. 1880 *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 20 Aug. 1756, I call upon the hon. Member to withdraw the word 'offensive'...(Cries of 'Withdraw!')

d. To refrain from proceeding with or prosecuting (a course of action, a proposal, etc.); to cease to support or present (a candidate, etc.).

1781 Blackstone *Rep.* II. 1018 The Court allowed the Plaintiff to withdraw his Demurrer. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, Mr. Alexander Briggs moved as an amendment, that [etc.]...; but after some debate consented to withdraw his opposition. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 535 The latter proposition was withdrawn. 1880 *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 20 Aug. 1739 Amendment, by leave, withdrawn. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxiii, Nero...neither repeated nor withdrew his command. 1913 *Act 3 & 4 Geo. V*, c. 6 § 2 If the candidate is withdrawn or deemed to be withdrawn.

4. †**a.** To keep back or hold (one's hand); also, to withhold (a blow). *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 859 (Camb.) His dent he gan wiþ-draje, For hi were ne3 aslaje. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 369 Achilles tho withdrowh his hond. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 52 Whanne kynges...withdrawes her hondys frome þe...poccessiouns of her subgitz.

†**b.** To keep back, withhold (something due, customary, or necessary); hence *gen.* to withhold.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21906 þai serue him all apon þair wise, And man wit-draus his seruise. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 617, I koude noght withdrawe My chambre of Venus from a good felawe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 231 They haue preuyd þat þey with-drowe no dewete þat was wonyd & vsyd. 1510 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 70 The said priour...withdraweth suche dueties as they of Right owght to take. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 b, Whan god withdraweth his rayne,...than shall there be neyther oxe ne cowe. 1580 [see Withdrawer].

†**c.** To keep back, restrain (a person, his desires, etc.). *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 254 Þe guode man and þe wyse wyþdrazeþ hare wyl and hare lostes...be temperance. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 393 Withdrawh thi lust and hold the stille. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 96 Forto withdraw all men of such oþes and wordys Seynt Poule...forbedyth yche cristen man not to speke all maner ydull speche. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 1. xix. 51 Yf yt happe...that any...be dystracte from sayngе ...eny...verse...and may not say yt, but yf he withdrawe his voyce from syngynge. 1530 Palsgr. 781/2 Let him go whan he wyll, he shall nat be withdrawen for me.

5. To draw away, deflect, divert (a person, his mind, etc.) *from* an object, pursuit, line of conduct, etc.; †also, to draw, attract; to distract. Now *rare*.

†Occas. const. inf.: To divert from doing something.

1340 *Ayenb.* 58 Þet hi myȝten his...uram þe guode þet hi habeþ y-conceyued wyþdraȝe. *Ibid.*, Yef þou be þine tonge wyþdrayst ane man oþer a child wel to done. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 215 þat man leve no worldly goodis þat wiþdrawiþ his wille fro God. ?*c* 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 34 Paraventure more chargeful besynes hathe othedraw yower mynde. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* 1. xxix. F iv, Withdrawe towardys the, the hertes of straungers by yeftes. 1542 Elyot, *Aucamentum*,...recreation, that withdraweth the mynde from beuynes or melancholy. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* iii. (1565) 76 Those sorte of rascals whom hope of spolle...had wythdrawen from husbandrye and daylye labor. *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, II. ii, With how contrarious thoughts am I withdrawne! Why linger I twixt hope and doubtfull feare? 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. iv. 23 Aduantagious care Withdrew me from the oddes of multitude. 1606 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* (1885) VII. 281 To alienat and withdraw thaim from thair due obedience to his Majestie. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* 1. viii. 33 Whatsoeyer is new, or great,...withdraws a man...from the intended way of his discourse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 612 They thought Thee to diminish, and from thee withdraw The number of thy worshippers. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* I. 593 It would have been happy if he had never been withdrawn from those pursuits. 1859 W. Collins *Q. of Hearts* I, The circumstances which have withdrawn us from the world for the rest of our days.

6. To remove (a person) *from* a position; to cause to retire or recede; †occas. to take aside; *spec.* to cause (a force, troops) to retire *from* a position; to draw off *from* an engagement.

a 1492 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 107 Mani that hase be withdrawe oute of abbeyes, for thaire londes. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 149 Saturne wythdrowe his peple on that oon syde. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 206 His onely sauegarde and comforte, were to withdrawe hym and his compaignie into Fraunce. *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, III. iii, A shining blade Withdrawes a coward theefe that would inuade. 1613 in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 160, I presently did withdraw him...until I had discovered that which I desired. 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 87 The prisoner withdrawen. 1803 C. James *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2), To *withdraw*, to call back; to make to retire. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xiii, Where'er that Power may move Which has withdrawn his being to its own. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* ix, A sounder...had...withdrawn in pursuit of him all the dogs...and the greater part of the huntsmen. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xxi. III. 175 She would be compelled to withdraw her forces from Lesbos. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lx, Walter Scape was withdrawn from Eton, and put into a merchant's house. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xx, She has withdrawn her spies.

b. *Law.* To remove (a juror) from the panel in order to put an end to the proceedings.

a 1676 Hale *De Jure Maris* 1. vi. (1787) 36 The court and the king's attorney-general...were so well satisfied with the defendant's title, that they moved the defendant to consent to withdraw a juror. 1789 *New Lond. Mag.* [illegible]/2 And Mrs. Phillips agreed on her part that a Juror should be withdrawn. 1866 Foster & Finlason *Nisi Prius Cases* IV. 942 The plaintiff's counsel proposed to withdraw a juror, which was assented to. 1881 Odgers *Libel & Slander* 550 Actions of defamation are often compromised before the judge comes to sum up the evidence. A juror is often withdrawn, sometimes at the suggestion of the judge.

†**7.** = *withdraw from* in various senses. *Obs. rare.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 895 Sin þe maugray 3our mihi mote hit wiþ-drawe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1257 Yff þow wolt drawe the to wit, & rebawdry withdrawe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 304 He with-drow the forsaid court, by the mean of a frendly accorde.

II. *refl.* **8.** To remove oneself *from* a place or position; = 12. Now *rare* or *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19175 þai badd þat þai þam suld wit-draw Quils þai samen spak a thraw. 13... *Ibid.* 21654 (Edinb.) Adam quen he wrost hauid wo3 Vndir þis tre he him wiþ-dro3. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 73 He him withdrowh So privaly that sche ne wiste Wher he becom. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* xxvi. (1904) 83 þei ought to wipdrawe hym in þe softest maner...and þan go preuyli to þei be vndir þe wynde. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 39/19 He wepte, and with-drow him. 1485 *Rolls of Parll.* VI. 314/1 The said William had withdrawn him out of thys Lande. 1530 Palsgr. 783/1 He hath withdrawen him selfe in some corner. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. iii. 28 Withdraw your selues, and leaue vs here alone. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 1. 607 Vortigern had withdrawen himselfe into these parts. 1718 Atterbury *Serm., Acts* I. 3 (1734) I. 177 It was requisite that he should not withdraw himself from their Sight, at once. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 103 The King disguised himself, and...withdrew himself from the midst of his troops.

†**b.** Of combatants, troops, etc.: = 12 b. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3233 Þe brutons hom wiþdrowe, & þe saxons hom reste. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 886 (Laud MS.) Hys feren gonnen hem wyt drawe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 169 Cirus...feyned hym to flee and wiþdrow3 hym.

†**c.** Of water: = 12 c. *Obs.*

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxiv. 111 Þe see, þat before bette apon þe mount, withdrewe it. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 196 The See meveth and hym wyth-drawyth aftyr the mewynge...of the mone.

9. To remove oneself *from* a condition, sphere, society, etc.; = 13. Now *rare* or *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28136 Oft als haue I me wit-draun Til vncuth pryst, and fra myn aun. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* G j b, Voyces of deuyls...withdrawing them from the right waye. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 102 b, It is also to be feared lest suche as would haue ioyned them selues vnto this league, wyll be affrayde nowe of this, and withdrawe them selues. 1822 Sir J. Digby *Let.* 20 Oct. in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 609 Some of the beste of them haue withdrawen themselves from their trade. 1838 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 24 Let our Imagination therefore among multitudes of people...withdraw it selfe to some secrecie. 1663 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VII. 455/2 All...persons who shall...wilfully withdraw and absent themselffs from the ordinary meitings of divine worship. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxix, He cannot withdraw himself from the Complaints... of his Subjects. 1798 Malthus *Popul.* (1878) 448 Every man may...have the redress of withdrawing himself from the club. 1822 Belsham *Mem. Lindsey* 348 Withdrawing himself from an office the duties of which he was so fully competent to discharge. 1865 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 233, I am withdrawing myself from engagements of all kinds.

†**10.** To cease, refrain; = 14. *Obs.*

c 1290 *St. Iames* 159 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 38 Of is lubere þoust þat he þou3te for drede he him with drov3. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10221 Þe king of alimayne sende...To king Ion, þat he wiþdrowe him of is wou. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10872 Of þat man hyt ys grete drede, þat wyþdragh þ hym fro gode dede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Huanne hi wyþ-draȝeþ to do wel. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 243 He that is custumet to ette two tymes in the day, yf he wythdrawe hym sodaynly, anone he may grevaunce take.

†**11.** To contract. *Obs. rare.*

1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 497 His synewis shronke and withdrewe them.

III. *intr.* **12.** To go away, depart, or retire *from* a place or position, *from* some one's presence, to another room or a private place, etc.; †to draw back or turn aside.

c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 3983 If ðin asse ne were wiþ-drajen, Her sulden ðu nu wurðen slajen. [*Vulg.* nisi asina declinasset de via...te occidissem, Num. xxii. 33.] 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxii. [xi.] (Tollem. MS.), Nou3t withdrawings towarde þe lyfte side, oþer towarde þe ry3t side. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 170 He made his marcouners to sayile and rowe with alle diligence for to withdrawe fro the porte. *Ibid.* 239 Whan she was a lytill withdrawen fro the temple. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 302/2 The people with their goodes and Catteil being fled and withdrawen into the Wooddes and Mountaynes. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. iv. 100 Madam, withdraw, the Prince...and all the gallants of the towne are come to fetch you to Church. 1620 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* v. x. 43, I will withdraw into some other roome. 1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 712 Who was there, but withdrawn under a hedge with the Prince and Duke. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* viii. 19 Scarce from our upper World the Shades withdrew. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 108 P 6 Upon withdrawing into my Room after Dinner. 1712 *Ibid.* 536 P 2 She delivered the remaining part of her Message, and withdrew. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVIII. xiii, Sophia now took the first Opportunity of withdrawing with the Ladies. 1782 Cowper *Retirem.* 447 A man...Who comes when call'd, and at a word withdraws. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxxvii, The Minstrel...from the sheen withdrew. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* III. iii, I bowed slightly, and she withdrew to the countess. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvii. 209 The men...withdrew from me, and approached the eastern boundary of the glacier. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 3. 127 By the treaty of Lambeth, Lewis promised to withdraw from England.

b. Of combatants, troops, etc.: To retire *from* the field of battle or any contest, or *from* an advanced position.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3681 Prest ayen him he was & slou of hom to grounde, so þat hii goune wiþ drawe. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12746 Longer to iuste nyght þey nought stande, But þem defended al wyþdrawande. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2015 I...will at þou knaw þat for þa drede I with-draw. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 401 Whan the two costes were withdrawen. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lix. 203 Cause your men to withdraw fro the barayle, 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. iv. 8 Withdraw my Lord, Ile helpe you to a Horse. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 539, I beg your Greatness...beaten, to withdraw. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 83 P 10 The Confederates are preparing to withdraw into Winter Quarters. 1880 Hensman *Afghan War* (1881) 449 The Amir's troops...only withdrew at daylight.

†**c.** Of water: To subside, ebb. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 396 In armenie ðat arche stod, Do was wiþ-drajen ðat ilc flod. *Ibid.* 599 Dunes waxen, ðe flod wiþ-dro3. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1399 (Camb.) Whanne þe se wiþ drope. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2008 The wodenes of waghes wightly with droghe. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 280 Whan the see was withdrawen & ferre ebbed. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. liii. [lii]. 76/2 They founde ye ryuers withdrawen. 1628 Bolton *Florus* III. x. (1636) 199 The Tide withdrawing upon course.

13. To draw away *from* a person; to remove oneself or retire *from* a society or community, *from* publicity, etc.; to retire from participation in or pursuit of something; †to resign.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 257 [331] Thow...makyst wise folk fro me withdrawe. 1540 *Bible* (Cranmer) Prov. xix. 7 Hys awne frendes withdrawe from him. 1667 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 227 A large petition from the Earle of Clarindon, intimating that he was withdrawn. 1677 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. III. (1912) V. 220 Withdrawing from the publik ordinances in their owne paroch kirkes. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 757 [He] wisely from th' infectious World withdrew. 1725 Pope *Iliad* II. 448 Now great Achilles from our aid withdraws. 1746 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 108 Wisely they withdrew from that in[illegible] multiplicity of learning. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* iii. 63 An ideal world, into which we can withdraw at pleasure. 1849 A. Scratchley *Build. Societies* 100 Desirous of withdrawing from the society. 1863 Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 174 Classes and ranks withdraw from each other more and more. 1870 J. E. T. Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 23 Wiklif withdrew from his political and social projects. 1892 Gladstone in *Daily News* 4 Nov. 5/4, I have...withdrawn from all attendance at public banquets. 1911 Marett *Anthropology* ix. 237 No one has a chance of withdrawing into his own soul.

†**b.** Of an immaterial thing, a condition, etc.: To depart, disappear.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6583 [He] bihold toward þe water, & is grete herte wiþdrou. *Ibid.* 9189 Þe verste tuo þer god cas & hap inou...cou to king ateusne, ac subbe it wiþ drou. 13... *Cursor M.* 4698 (Gött.) Bot alkines welth bigan wid-drau. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 25 Dredles deuocioun hit is with draw. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 151 Then grace withdrawyth and the fende enteryth.

†**14.** Const. *of* or inf. To cease or refrain from, or from doing, something. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10893 Seint edmond...ofte him bisouȝte þat he wiþdrowe of is dede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Ich wille þet þou loki and wyþdraze. *c* 1375 *Cato Major* 523 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 398 Þou most with-drawe of diuers mates, And vse no glotenie. 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* v. 8 Whan he withdrawith forto take the goodis and possessiones of his sugetis.

Withdrawable (wiðdrǫ·ˈäb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -able.] Capable of being withdrawn.

1830 Herschel *Ess.* (1857) 392 Its deposits being withdrawable only at a market value. 1876 Gladstone in *Contemp. Rev.* June 6 All other rights...are called rights only by way of accommodation, for they are withdrawable at will. 1903 in *Q. Rev.* (1903) Jan. 67 Half...had to be invested in stock and the other half was withdrawable.

Withdrawal (wiðdrǫ·ˈäl). [f. as prec. + -al. (Superseding Withdrawment, which took the place of the earlier Withdraught and Withdraw *sb.*)]

1. The act of taking back or away what has been held, occupied, or enjoyed.

1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 80 Thou deservest...the withdrawal of protection from thee. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxv. 289 The cold, resulting from the withdrawal of the sunbeams.

b. The removal of money or securities from a bank or other place of deposit.

1861 *Regulations P. O. Savings Banks* § 15 If any person shall fraudulently represent himself to be a Depositor, and by forwarding the proper notice of withdrawal...shall obtain any sum of money. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 28 May 5/3 The bank was in difficulties through large withdrawals.

2. The act of withdrawing a person or thing *from* a place or position, *esp.* the removal of troops by way of retreat.

1838 Merson & Welby *Cases Exch.* II. 36 It was no part of the agreement between the parties that the withdrawal of a juror should put an end to the suit at all events. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 480 He urged the withdrawal of the British officers, as their presence was no longer necessary. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 37 The artificial withdrawal of water to feed the canal. 1892 Hardy *Well-beloved* I. v, Their application for admission led to the withdrawal of a bolt.

3. The retractation of a statement, proposal, etc.

1835 T. Hook *G. Gurney* xiv, I thought perhaps the news ...might have induced you to retract; and that you might have considered it a perfect justification of your withdrawal. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 384/2 In consequence of his resignation, and notwithstanding his withdrawal of it.

4. The act of retiring or retreating *from* a place or position.

1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 230 Perhaps, indeed, Joel's rapid improvement might be one cause of William's withdrawal. 1896 *Act 6 & 7 Will. IV*, c. 32 § 2 The With-

drawal of such Member [from a society]. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvi, It was a sight to see her lord..hold the door open for the withdrawal of the ladies. 1884 Bryce in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 13 Mar. 1716 A vote which..would accelerate..the withdrawal of England from Egypt. 1891 *Law Times Rep.* LXV. 603/1 Desertion implies an active withdrawal from a cohabitation that exists.

Withdrawer (wiðdrǭ·ǝɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] One who withdraws, in various senses of the vb.; *spec.* in *Sc. Church Hist.*, one who did not conform to the established church in the 17th century.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 46 Sethe that none suche were never sene withdrawers or fleers fro me batailes. 1580 Outred tr. *M. Cope's Expos. Prov.* 192 b, Joseph..was not a withdrawer of the corne, but a seller. 1606 in J. Forbes *Cert. Rec. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 519 Contempners of his Majesties lawes, withdrawers and corrupters of his Majestie's subjects hearts from his obedience. *c* 1639 Baillie in Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1853) Introd. 43 They are..withdrawers of their hands. 1677 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. III. (1912) V. 121 Constant withdrawers and keepers of conventicles. 1823 J. Brown *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (new ed.) II. 312 Parliament ..enacted [in 1663] That..all with-drawers from the conform incumbents of their own parish, be punished.

Withdrawing (wiðdrǭ·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Withdraw *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Withdraw in various senses.

c 1315 Shoreham iv. 344 Por3 cheste and mysadoynge And wyþ-drawynge of god. *c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* 12 All manere of withdrawynge of oper men thynges wrangwysely agaynes þaire wyll. 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 Be wyþdrasinges of mete and of drinke. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 Þei maken londis bareyne for wiþdrawyng of werkmen. *c* 1430 *Art Nombryng* (E.E.T.S.) 4 In withdrawyng .a. nombres ben necessary. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 262 At the departyng hercules passeth lightly the withdrawyng & departyng of alle hem that were there. 1561 T. Norton tr. *Calvin's Inst.* II. iii. 22 Euen they that are well minded, are subiects to so many withdrawynges of minde, that they easily..fal awaye. *a* 1652 C. Love *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1654) 6 A double withdrawing of Gods Spirit. 1689 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1871) XII. 65/1 The fyneing husbands for the wifes withdrawing from the church is contrair to Law. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 250 The withdrawing of the guard from the harbour's mouth. 1817 Coleridge in *Athenæum* (1894) 8 Dec. 791/2 The quiet withdrawing from any further connection with him. 1862 Trench *Mirac.* v. (ed. 7) 177 A withdrawing of the meaner thing, to make receptive of the better.

b. *attrib.* (also Withdrawing-chamber, -room).

1570 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 378 A certaine withdrawing house, called Otforde. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii. 31 Withdrawing Corners and Refuges to Robbers. 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* IV. 263 Miss Winteram..soon made her withdrawing curtsy. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vi, They went to the withdrawing apartment. 1898 *Century Mag.* Jan. 456/1 This withdrawing-ground..was within the garden inclosure.

Withdrawing, *ppl. a.* [f. Withdraw *v.* + -ing 2.] That withdraws (usually in intr. senses); drawing back, retiring, receding.

1611 *Bible* Neh. ix. 29 They..withdrew the shoulder [*marg.* gave a withdrawing shoulder]. *a* 1748 Thomson *Hymn Solitude* 93 Amid the long withdrawing vale. *a* 1846 Haydon *Autob.* (1853) I. 179 'That I can't tell you,' said he, with a cold, withdrawing air. 1847 H. Miller *First Impr. Eng.* ii. 27 By some long withdrawing arm of the sea. 1859 Ruskin *Præterita* III. iv. 152 Sands which the sunset gilded with its withdrawing glow.

Hence **Withdrawingness**, retiring disposition.

1795 *Jemima* I. 207 To shake off all this shyness and withdrawingness from your friends.

†Withdrawing-chamber. *Obs.* [f. prec. vbl. sb.] = next.

1392–3 *Rolls Parlt.* III. 300/2 Triours des Petitions..tendront lour place en la Chapelle de la Withdrawyng Chambre. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 108 Item lego eidem j. burded-bedd in le withdrawynchambre. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 73 Samela..flung away to her withdrawing chamber in a dissembled rage. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 219 The Bishop being in a withdrawing Chamber, read over the Order so often, that..he got it by heart *verbatim*.

fig. 1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 7 In the *Lavatijs*, and withdrawing chambers of your *History of Tithes*.

Withdrawing-room. *arch.* or *Hist.* [f. as prec.] A room to withdraw to; = Drawing-room 1 1.

1592 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 204 He was..had into a with-drawinge roem, where many of the lords wear. 1612 L. Barry *Ram Alley* v. i, Ile waite in the with-drawing roome, Vntill you call. 1662 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 37 Whilst we were in the withdrawing room, making preparations to go into the house of lords. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* III. xxxvi. 185 The apartments she has to let are.., a withdrawing-room, two or three handsome bed-chambers. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Fr. Darcy* xxxii, He sat by her in the large withdrawing room, where she was at work. 1885 Payn *Talk of Town* I. 110 It was William Henry's habit to quietly withdraw and seek Margaret in the withdrawing-room.

Withdrawment (wiðdrǭ·mĕnt). Now *rare.* [f. Withdraw *v.* + -ment.] = Withdrawal in various senses; formerly *spec.* the withdrawal of divine illumination.

1640 O. Sedgwick *Christs Counsell* 79 All the wrath of God, and the withdrawments of his love. 1666 G. Alsop *Char. Prov. Mary-Land* (1869) 64, I am certainly confident, that England would as soon feel her feebleness by withdrawment of so great an upholder. 1677 Gilpin *Dæmonol.* III. xxiii. 195 An apparent withdrawment from Obedience. *a* 1709 J. Lister *Autobiog.* (1842) 52 He would sometimes say to me in the times of God's withdrawments, 'O! son, I am not able to bear under God's absence'. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. iii. 41 The Withdrawment or Absence of the Sun. 1817 Chalmers in *Edin. Rev.* Mar. 4 A great withdrawment of wealth from its former channels of distribution. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Sept. 5/2 The immediate withdrawment from an..expensive colonial policy.

Withdrawn (wiðdrǭ·n), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Withdraw *v.*] In various senses of the vb.; sometimes in a purely static sense, secluded; also of mental state, detached.

1625 Chapman *Odyss.* VI. 477 Where abide My Mother, with her withdrawne housewiferies. *Ibid.* XXIII. 8 Wake, Leaue this withdrawne roome. *a* 1652 Sir J. Skeffington *Heroe of Lorenzo* (1652) 13 She shut her self up in..the most withdrawn chamber of the Palace. 1713 C'tess Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 94 The withdrawn, the absent Mind. 1723 Pope *Let. to Swift* 12 Jan., Your withdrawn and separate state. 1849 A. Scratchley *Build. Societies* 100 Withdrawn shares (not wholly subscribed for). 1858 Thoreau *Maine Woods* ii. (1918) 157 The stream was so withdrawn..that my companions..concluded to go farther up it. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 7/1 The withdrawn lot [of horses] includes Stowmarket and Indian Queen.

Withe, with (wiþ, wiθ, wəiθ), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3 **wiðe, wiþþe**, 4–9 **wyth**, 5–6 **wythe**, (4 **withthe, wyppe**, 5–8 **wythth(e**, 5 **witthe, whythe**, 6 **wethe**, 7 **wieth**, *Anglo-Ir.* **whitt**; *dial.* 5 **wythe**, 6 **wifte, wyft**, 7, 9 **wift**, 9 **wiff, weef, wef**), 6–**with, withe**. [OE. *wiþþe*, corresp. to OFris. *withthe, witte*, MDu. *wisse* (WFlem. *wisse*, Du. *wis, wisch*), MLG., LG. *wedde*, OHG. *with, widh, wit* (MHG. *wit*), OHG. *withî, widî*, (MHG. *wide*), also in OHG. *khunawithî* (cf. OE. *cynewiþþe*), ON. *viðr* (gen. *viðjar*), *viðja* (Sw. *vidja*, Da. *vidje*):— OTeut. ***wiþjôn-**, ***wiþi-**. Other Teut. variants are represented by MLG. *wide*, OHG. *wida* (MHG. *wida*, G. *weide*) willow, Goth. *wida* in *hunawida* chain, ON. *viðir* willow, OE. *wiþig* Withy, q.v. (The variant forms with *f* are mainly Kentish.)

Outside Germanic cognate words of similar meaning from Indo-Eur. ***weit-, *wit-** are:—Zend *vaêti-* willow, Gk. *ἰτέα* willow (:—***Fεἰτεϝᾶ**), *ἴτυς* felloe, L. *vītis* vine, Lith. *výtis* wand, OPruss. *witwan* willow, OSlav. *větvь* branch, OIr. *fiith* 'fibra' (:—***wītī**). According to a widely accepted view ***weit-** is a derivative of ***wi-**, which is represented also by L. *vītre* to plait, Wire *sb.*, and perh. Wough, wall.]

1. A band, tie, or shackle consisting of a tough flexible twig or branch, or of several twisted together; such a twig or branch, as of willow or osier, used for binding or tying, and sometimes for plaiting.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 304 Egeas..bebead ðam cwellerum ðæt hi hine mid viððum handum and fotum on þære rode gebundon. *c* 1200 in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 105/9 *Circus, uel circulus*, wiðþe. *Funiculus, uel funis*, rap. *Ibid.* 283/16 *Loramentum, uel tormentum*, wiððe. *c* 1200 Ormin 13813 Þe Laferrd wrohhte an swepe þær all alls itt wære off wiþþess, To tacnenn þatt hemm þarrkedd wass stranng pine i defless wiþþess. *c* 1205 Lay. 25973 Þat weore twælf swine iteied to-somne Mid wiðen swiðe grete y-wriðen al togadere. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 423 Brydille hase he righte nane; .. Bot a wythe hase he tane, And keuylles his stede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 Wythe bonde..*vincia*. 1520 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Paed for wyft & Roddis for the [thacker] v d. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 15 The fote-teame shall be fastened..with a shakyll, or a withe to drawe by. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* Cij, Vnbrideled hauinge neither withe nor collar aboute theyr neckes. 1555 — *Decades* 271 Theyr shyppes..are tide togyther..with cordes and wyththes. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2165 They found..a casket locked with a padlocke, and so cutting the wifte [*printed* wiste] thereof, opened it. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* 16 Two Calues..that were coupled together by the neckes with an Oken With. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 198 The manner of their hanging vp of their fish and flesh with withes to dry. 1611 *Bible* Judges xvi. 7 If they binde me with seuen greene withs [*Great Bible* withes], that were neuer dried, then shall I be weake. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 182 Those Rogues..girding their swords to them by a with. 16[2]0 *Tobe* (Kent) *Estate Accts.* (MS.) For 300 of wifts. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* 271 They haue taken a withe and put it through the hole of the said stone. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 241 Tyinge rope and whitts to either end thereof. 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 166 We tie up first with Osier withs, and afterwards..we..wrap up with long Litter..some Spanish Cardous. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 270 For making of these Bridges, they twist Withes together, like Ropes. 1809 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 674 Proper wyths for tying them together. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 281 In fir rims, the wooden withes of the bottom are passed through splits. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* v. 180 A round cage of green withes. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.*, *Withes*, twisted rods for securing the web of a gabion. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 383 A.. massive gold mourning-ring formed of two knotted withes twisted together. 1882 *Leics. Gloss.*, *Wiff*, var. pron. of 'withe', 'willow-wiffs'. 1885 M. Ross & Stonehewer-Cooper *Highl. Cantabria* 335 Rounded stones..with grooves around them, where the withe would have been twisted, to form a handle for its manipulation. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s. v. *Wiff*, The large kind of fagot, which went by the name of kiln-bush, was bound with two wiffs.

b. *gen.* A pliant twig or bough.

1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. vi. I. 245 As he rises from sleep, a Brahmen must rub his teeth with a proper withe. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xii, The fork of the tree, from which the withe depended. 1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* vii, A trailing withe of orange begonia.

†**c.** A willow wand or garland carried into the sovereign's or a nobleman's house at Easter; hence, the ceremony or festivity itself. *Obs.*

1465 *Mann. & Household Exp.* (Roxb.) 309 Item, on Ester day my master gaff to John Kooke to the wythe, xxd. 1467 *Ibid.* 393 Item, on Estyr day, my mastyr gaffe to the wythe in the Kenges howse, vj. s. viij. d. 1537 *Priby Purses Exp. Prince. Mary* (1832) 24 Geuen to the Kinges Cookes to theyr wythe at Easte'..21*s.* 1539 *MS. Acc. Bk. Butchers Co. London*, Payd for xii men for ye brynging in of j wythe. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 72 In the v[illage] yee great shewes made for the fetching in of a twisted Tree, or With,..out of the woodes into the kinges house.

d. With allusion to the story of Samson in *Judges* xvi. 7 (see sense 1, quot. 1611).

1835 Faber *Lett.* (1869) 39 My soul arose..and cracked in scorn the chains of darkness, like the green withs of the strong man. 1886 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daus.* xiv, I know that if I choose to exert myself, I can break through the withes of green flax with which they try to bind me. 1896 Blackie *Songs Relig.* 29 Strong by thee, like feeble withes he snapt The bonds of custom.

†**2.** A halter, properly one made with withes. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 22833 Doð wiðe an his sweore & draȝen hine to ane more. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11551 Aboute þy nekke hangged a wyþpe, þat hab þe departed fro Goddys gryþpe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 135 Þe þef..yproued and y-nome and mid mo þanne an hondred misdedes þet heþ miȝ þe wyþpe ine þe nykke. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xviii. 21–22. 681/2 Who walked about the streetes as it were with a with about his necke. 1612 Braum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* III. i, A wyth take him. 1628 Bacon *Ess., Custom & Educ.* (Arb.) 371 That he might be hanged in a With, and not in a Halter, because it had beene so vsed, with former Rebels. 1678 T. Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 441 [He] was condemned to the fire with others, only he should have the favour of going to the stake without a wyth. 1694 S. Johnson *Notes Past. Let. Bp. Burnet* I. 2 If the Highest Censures will not do it, we must do as is done in like Cases, we must Take a Wyth.

3. A willow. Now *dial.*

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 672 Wyth, brome, and quincetre. 1569 *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (L. C. C. 1900) 32 To Cut vppe the Wythes by the Banck syde. 1572 *Ibid.* 130 To cut vp his wethes & shave his bankes throw his grounde. 1696–1864 [see Water-withe]. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 330 A Rod..made of Red Sallow, Withe or Hasle. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* IV. I. 328 The root of the *curura*, a species of withe.

b. The creeping plant *Heliotropium fruticosum*, of Jamaica, the stems of which are used for making baskets.

1697 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 87 Worse then all weeds, Withe, which are of a stronger grouth then the Canes. 1740 *New Hist. Jamaica* (ed. 2) 316. 1847 Gosse *Birds Jamaica* 373 The gradual predominance of marsh plants, sagittaria,.. bulrush, and black-withe.

4. *technical.* (See quots.)

1668 Holme *Armoury* III. 360/2 A Glovers With..is a square Iron, writhen (as it were) like a Wreath..: Upon this they do use to rub and fret their Leather Skins to make them soft, and plump; which kind of work from the name of the Instrument, they term Withing. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 736 *With*, an iron instrument fitted to the end of a boom or mast, with a ring to it, through which another boom or mast is rigged out and secured. Also, in mechanics, the elastic withe handles of cold chisels, set-tools, &c., which prevent a jar to the assistant's wrist. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 437/2 A blacksmith's chisel held in a hazel withe, and used for hot iron. 1894 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Withes*, iron hoops or bands used for binding bales of cotton or rags.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1839 T. T. Stoddart *Songs & P.* 21 The withe-woven pannier. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 199 Axes made ..by grinding the edge of a suitable pebble, and fixing it in a withe handle. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1235/2 Withe-rod, *Viburnum nudum*. 1902 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 85, I once turned out a dozen water-hens, a brown owl, a woodcock, and a water-rail, from one little withe patch.

Withe, *v.* Now *dial.* and *U. S.* Also 4 **wype**, 5 **wepe**, 8 **wythe**, 9 **with.** [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To twist like a withe. Also *fig.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxliv. (MS. Add. 27944) Þey breketh nouȝt but þey beeþ ymade strengere with wypynge [*Bodl. MS.* weþing] and wyndynge as preede is with twynynge. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 25 The horses.. must haue..holmes withed about theyr neckes. 1809 J. Barlow *Columb.* IX. 602 Bacon..Withes Proteus Matter in his arms of might.

2. To bind with a withe or withes; *U. S.* to take (deer) with a noose made of withes.

c 1630 Br. Hall *Def. Cruelty* Wks. 1634 II. 484 Stay but a while, and yee shall see him with'd, and halter'd, and stak't, and baited to death. 1732 Kills *Pract. Farmer* 133 Others.. will drive in one Stake, and wythe it about the Tree. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xvi, If their fences.. ain't [good], they ought to stake 'em up, and with them well. 1839 Hoffman *Wild Scenes* I. xix, What, Linus, you are not a-going to withe the deer? 1841 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* vi, Isn't it enough that I'm withed like a saw-log, that ye must choke too?

3. *technical.* (See prec. 4, quot. 1668.)

Withe, var. With *sb.*

Withele, var. Wedhele *Obs.*

Withen (wi·ðĕn, wəi·ðĕn). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (*w. midl.*) Also 4 **wythone, withiene**, 5, 9 **wythen**, 6 **withyn**, 7–8 **within**, 9 **wythin, withing.** [prob. orig. adj., f. Withe *sb.* or Withy *sb.* + -en 4, after *aspen, beechen*, etc. The west-midland place-name *Withington* is app. f. this word.] A withy or willow. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

For other uses see Eng. Dial. Dict.

c 1250 *Ancr. R.* MS. C.C.C.C. lf. 22 b, He is as þe wiðin þe sprutes ut þe betere þat me hine cropped ofte. [Cf. quot. *a* 1225 s.v. Withy *sb.* 2.] *a* 1380 in *Todd Ref. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 246 Gayneth me no garland of greene Bot hit ben of wythones [*printed* wythouses] wrought. 1382 Wyclif *Job* xl. 17 Withiene tines [Vulg. *salices*] of the streem. *c* 1440 *Mirk's Festial* 174/13 He come by a wythen-tre, and made þerof a goode yarde. 1569 *Brasenose Coll. Muniments* (MS.),

A diche quickesetted with thornes and Withyns. 1620 in *Lancs. Q. Sess. Rec.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 143 [John Sarcocide entered a close..and cut and took thence] withius. 1638 Baxerton *Trans.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 172, I observed most part of the ground..planted with withens. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 295/2 The Hoop Twigs are Withen Twigs Cloven. 1708 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 162 That I should attempt making of Paper from the Bark of Withins. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 96 The bark or peal of within twigs. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Withen* or *Withy*, a willow.

†**Wither**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *wiþre* (once), *f. wiþer* Wither *a.*] Opposition, hostility; adversity. *On wiðere*, adversely.

Beowulf 2933 [He] wiðres ne truwode, þæt he ænmannum onsacan mihte. *c* 1205 Lay. 1418 Þe heo wolden mid wiðere þan kinge wiþ-stonden. *Ibid.* 2884 Þe wind him com on wiðere. *Ibid.* 4678 Þat ich wes i wide se wiðer com tosenes.

Wither (wi·ðəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 8 wether. [*f.* Wither *v.*[2]]

†1. A disease of cows. *Obs.*

1682 W. Poole *Country Farrier* 48 A Cow that hath the Wither. *a* 1722 Lisle *Observ. Husb.* (1757) 294 The wether

2. *Tea-manuf.* The process of withering (see Wither *v.*[2] 4 c).

1897 D. Crole *Tea* vii. 114 Should..the weather not be propitious for a natural wither, none of this leaf would be ready for rolling. 1903 C. Bald *Indian Tea* xv. (1917) 225 Leaf is ready for rolling when it has become absolutely soft and flaccid, without being in any sense dried up [*marg.* Good wither].

Wither, *sb.*[3], occas. sing. of Withers.

Wi·ther, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* or *dial.* Also 1, 3 wiþer, wiðer, 3 *Orm.* wiþerr, 4–5 wyþer, 5 wethire, whiþer, wythyr. [OE. *wiþer* adv. or adj. (rare), related to *wiþer* prep. = OFris. *wither*, OS. *withar* (MLG. *wëder*, *wedder*, MDu., Du. *weder*, *weer*), OHG. *widar* (MHG. *wider*, G. *wider* prep. and *wieder* adv.), ON. *viðr*, Goth. *wiþra*; OE. has also *wiþ(e)rs* prep. = ONFris. *withers* (MDu. *wëdere*), OHG. *widari* (MHG. *widers*): f. Indo-Eur. *wi-* denoting separation or division + comp. suffix *-tero-* (cf. Skr. *vitarám* further). See also Wither-[1].]

A. *adj.* 1. Hostile, adverse; fierce.

[*c* 1000 *Gloss* in *Germania* (N. S.) XI. 394/366 *Infensus*, wiþer.] *c* 1000 Ormin 11389 Ga, wiþerr gast, o bacch fra me. *c* 1205 Lay. 9287 Þat he læsh Wiðe[r] king þe wiðer wes an compe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 275 Sicambri were afterward i-cleped Franci, as it were feranci, þat is wither and sterne. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 60 O lusty wither Tyke. [Cf. 1847 Halliwell, *Wither*..a strong fellow. *Yorksh.*.. *Withering*, (1) strong; lusty. *Chesh.*]

2. Contrary, opposite; wrong (side).

c 1205 Lay. 11972 Þa aras heom a wind a þere wiðer side. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 230 On wyþer half water com doun þe schore. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3335 Þat he wirke noȝt on þe wethire halfe.

†**B.** *adv.* Hostilely; perversely; fiercely. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Men bien swo wiðerfulle, þat swo he ȝeornluker clepeð hem to him, swo hie wiðere turneð froward him. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3386 Amalech folc fast hard and wiðer.

Hence **Wi·therly** *a.*, contrary, perverse; *adv.*, fiercely, violently. *Obs.* or *dial.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 198 Neuer ȝet in no boke breued I herde þat euer he wrek so wyþerly on werk þat he made. *Ibid.* C. 74 Al he wrathed in his wyt & wyþerly he þo3t. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Witherly*, wilful, contrary. 1847 Halliwell, *Witherly*, hastily; violently. *Devon.*

†**Wither**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *wiþerian* = MDu. *wedderen*, OHG. *widarôn* (MHG. *wider(ə)n*): f. *wiþer* (see prec.).] *intr.* To be hostile; to offer resistance, fight, struggle.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 552 For ði synd ða gesibsuman Godes bearn, forðan ðe nan þing on him ne wiðerað ongean God. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 ȝif we wiðerið on dede and on speche toȝenes ure chirche. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 475 Til ðat ðer flezes faren and fallen ðer-inne, wiðeren in ðat web, and wilen ut wenden. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 14 Wrestlin ha moten ant wiðerin wiþ ham seoluen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 48 Penne is me lyȝtloker hit lyke..þenne wyþer wyth & be wroth.

Wither (wi·ðəɹ), *v.*[2] Forms: α. 4–6 wydder, widder, (5 widre, 6 wyddre, weder). β. 6 wythes, (6–7 whither, 7 weather), 6– wither. See also Withered. [app. var. of Weather *v.* ultimately differentiated for certain senses.]

1. *intr.* Of a plant: To become dry and shrivel up. Often in fig. context or in comparisons. Also with advs.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 468, & wyddered was þe wodbynde

7 Pentl. Pa. cii. Wks. (1876) 146 Saynt Iames compareth the vanyte of this lyfe to the vapoure and sayth it shall perysshe and weder awaye as a floure in the hey season. 1581 — *Serm. agst. Luther* Ibid. 303 Trees whan they be wydred and theyr leues shaken from them. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxi. 19 The fygge tree wyddered awaye. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Bb vij b, The greenesse of youthe shall waste and wydder in age.

β. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 54 Such short liu'd wits do wither as they grow. 1592 — *Rich. II*, v. i. 8 Son, or rather dew not woe, My faire Rose wither. 1634 Milton *Comus* 744 Like a neglected rose it withers on the stalk with

languish't head. 1668 J. Owen *Indwelling-Sin* xiii. 214 He melts down the lusts of men, causeth them to wither at the root. 1763 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 32 Before their necks are withered off, the bulbs should be taken up. 1768 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 331 The harvest and the vintage withered on the ground. 1829 Craabb *Pan. Reg.* III. 948 Like flowers we wither, and like leaves we fall. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxxii, The tree will wither long before it fall. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 190 Now for me the woods may wither, now for me the roof-tree fall. 1886 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* cxiv. III. 643 After a year or two of bloom, a town wilts and withers.

2. Of other animate things: To become dried up or shrivelled; to lose vigour from lack of animal moisture; to pine or fade *away* with age, disease, decay, etc.

α. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5302 Þe fre kyng Teutra Wex walke of his wound & widrit to dethe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 63 Now I wax old,..As muk apon mold I widder away.

β. 1382 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Mark ix. 18 He fometh, and gnasheth with the teeth, and withereth. 1548 R. James *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 137 When the eruptions begin to subside and wither. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* VI. xlix, All lips which I have kissed must surely wither, But Death's. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xv, Do a kindness to the sweet dear that is withering away. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 632 Those more unfortunate men who were withering under the tropical sun. 1898 J. Hutchinson in *Archives Surg.* IX. 309 Many of the nodules are distinctly withering.

3. *fig.* Of persons, or of inanimate and immaterial things: To lose vigour or freshness, to languish, decline, pine *away*, fade, fall into decay.

α. 1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Pa.* cii. Wks. (1876) 147 Vnderstandynge wyll and reason..be so vtterly wedred and dryed vp, that no maner of moysture of deuocyon is in them. 1523 [Coverdale] *Old God & New* (1534) B, Yͤ .. doest not widder & dry vp wͤ ydelnes. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Edw. IV*, v, As vanity to nought all is wyddred away.

β. 1535 Coverdale *Eccles.* x. 27 He hath caused them to wyther awaye, he hath brought them to naught. 1624 Sanderson *Serm., Ad Magistr.* iii. (1632) 248 Men that.. are now arrived at the haven of their businesse, to wither [*later edd.* weather] for their pasports. *a* 1647 Habington *Surv. Worcestershire* (1895) I. 70 An honest gentellman witherings in powerty. *a* 1686 Hales *Gold. Rem.* (1673) 123 An hope of excellent things..which..for want of cherishing fades and withers away. 1688 *Addr. fr. Winchester* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2350/1 This Ancient City, which is now again weathering by their Absence, which began to Flourish ..from being blessed with their Presence. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 246 With'ring at heart to see the weeping Fair. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 324 States thrive or wither, as moons wax and wane. 1822 Crabbe *Tales* xvi. 268 A hue like this the western sky displays, That glows awhile, and withers as we gaze. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* III. ii. (1849) 87 My heart withered as I contemplated the scene. 1850 Maurice *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) 135 When that sense [of national union] is weakened it withers. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. i. 8 Christianity..withered under Frank patronage. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Nov. 9/4 It would be absurd to expect Consols ..to stand..at a high level, when all other securities are withering in price.

†4. a. *intr.* and *pass.* Of a crop: To be dried, to dry. *Obs.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 25 Hey,..whan it is wel wyddred on the ouerseyde and drye, than turne it. *Ibid.* § 31 Pees and beanes..wrythen togyder, and wyde benethe, that they maye the better wyddre. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 131 Corne being had downe..should wither as needeth, for burning in mow.

†b. *trans.* To air: = Weather *v.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1544 Phaer *Pestilence* (1553) L vij, Nor weare any of their apparell, excepte they be well sunned. or wythered in the clean ayre. *a* 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 180 He withers his clothes on a stage as a Sale-man inforc't to dose his suites in Birchin-lane.

c. *Tea-manuf.* To dry (tea leaf) before roasting. Also *absol.* Also *intr.* of the leaf.

1733 F. Fitoou *Of Tea* in A. Dalrymple *Oriental Repertory* (1797) II. 288 [Bohea-tea] is gathered, then put in Sieves, or Baskets,..and those put in the air, till the leaves wither, or give. *Ibid.*, Youngshaw..says, that the leaves of Souchon ..are beat with flat sticks,..after they have been withered, by the Sun, or Air. 1870 E. Money *Tea* xxiv. (1878) 108 Why wither at all? I made Tea..of 1st, totally unwithered leaves; and, of leaves but little withered. 1892 J. M. Walsh *Tea* (Philad.) 104 Two leaves only being picked at a time and 'withered' in the open air.

†d. *intr.* = Weather *v.* 2 b. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. G. *verwittern.*

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 224 [Wacken] withers by exposure to the atmosphere, and then becomes more grey. [1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. Seine* 97 The deserted pile withered away stone by stone beneath the breath of heaven.]

5. *trans.* To cause (a plant, flower, etc.) to dry up and shrivel. Also in fig. context.

1588 Eden *Decades* 191, I..sawe the braunches of fruteful trees wythered by the coulde. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. i. 390 The Sunne, that withers heye, doth nourish grasse. 1668 J. Owen *Indwelling-Sin* xv. 235 He makes their lives ..unfruitful to others, in weakening their root, and withering their fruit through his poisoning temptations. 1765 Goldsm. *Double Transform.* 76 That dire disease, whose ruthless power Withers the beauty's transient flower. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* xxiv, On whose rosy cheek the touch of care had withered not a flower. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlvi, Where a factory planted among fields withered the space about it, like a burning mountain. 1884 Cloud *Mycks & Dr.* I. iii. 41 The fierce heat that withered the approaching harvest.

6. To cause (the body or the physical powers) to or decayed; to cause to shrink, become wrinkled, or lose freshness.

1592 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 23 [They] have not withred vp their handes in signing and subscribing to their requests.

1626 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 240 Age cannot wither her. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. 2. 149 They..attenuate our bodies, dry them, wither them. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 830 Every eye..shot forth pernicious fire Among th' accurst, that withered all thir strength. 1740 Dyer *Ruins Rome* 477 Enfeebling vice Withers each nerve. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* V, May the tongue that tells me of his death..be withered in thy mouth.

7. *fig.* To destroy the vitality or vigour of; to cause to decline, decay, or waste; now somewhat *rare* exc. in hyperbolical use, to blight or paralyse with a look of scorn or the like. Also with †*out*.

1592 Nashe *Midas. N.* I. i. 7 Like to a Step-dame, or a Dowager, Long withering out a yong mans reuennew. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* iii. 11 Himselfe withered with debts. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 303 Wild Amazement flung From out thy Chariot, withers ev'n the Strong. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 180 Like Mars terrific,..When clad in wrath he withers hosts of foes. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. iii, Repent! before the red-eyed Wrath Wither you to ghosts. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iii, Dr. Slammer..said nothing, but contented himself by withering the company with a look. 1844 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxx. 462 The historian.. would have been withered by the frowns which would have darkened upon him from the saloons of Versailles [etc.]. 1887 A. Jessopp *Arcady* 172 The world is getting quite too much for us—withering us, in fact.

Wither, var. Witter *sb.*[2]

Wither-[1], *prefix*, repr. OE. *wiþer-*, OFris. *wither-*, OS. *withar-*, OHG. *widar-* (MHG., G. *wider-*), = the adv. *wiþer* (see Wither *a.*) used with sbs., adjs., and verbs (cf. With- 3), chiefly in the sense (1) against, in opposition or hostility, as in OE. *wiþercrist* antichrist, *wiþerwinde* contradiction, resistance, *wiþeracu* Witherake, *wiþerwinna* Witherwin; less commonly in the senses (2) in return or compensation, counter-, as in OE. *wiþerlæan* recompense, *wiþertihtle* countercharge; and (3) in the opposite direction, back.

†1. In sense (1), used (esp. by Layamon) in compounds denoting hostile acts or contests, as **wiper-blench**, **-ded** [Dred *sb.*], **-gome** [Game *sb.*], **-hap**, **-ueht** [Fight *sb.*], **wiperstrenoþ** resistance; also in the derived sense 'adverse, evil', as **wipercraft**, **-laze** [Law *sb.*[1]], and (in personal designations) **wiperlaze** [cf. OFris. *witherlage* opponent] persecutor, **wiperþeod** [Theode] enemy people; occas. with verbs, as **wiperhalde** [Hold *v.*] to hold out against, oppose. (Often indistinguishable from Wither *a.*) *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 6903 Ȝiff he lete waxenn þær awihht off wiþerrstrennche Onnȝæn hiss aȝhenn oferrking. *Ibid.* 10257 To fihhtenn forr þe leode, To werenn hemm wiþþ wiþerr-þeod. *c* 1205 Lay. 272 Witen he wolde þurh þa wiper-crafter [*later text* wise crafter] wat þing hit were. *Ibid.* 405 Þar aros wale & win & wiðer-heppes feola. *Ibid.* 9173 Ȝif þe king wolde wiþ heom wiðer-healden. *Ibid.* 10968 Þe hæfde þurh his wiðer-læzen muchel of þine cunne of-slazen. *Ibid.* 16318 Cuð hit is wide of ure wiðer-deden. *Ibid.* 24700 Summe heo wrmstleden and wiðer-gome makeden. *Ibid.* 28669 Þa weoren wide to-ſlopen: ut of þan wiðer-uehte. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 3 Þe awaride wiðerlahen leiden swa luðerliche on hire leoflithe lich, þet hit bruc eueral. *c* 1250 *Long Life* 12 in *O. E. Misc.* 156 Nis non so strong..þat mai ago deapes wiþer-blench.

2. In sense (2), †**witherwæze** *v. trans.*, to weigh again; **witherweight** *St.* (also *wedderwaght*), a counterbalancing weight. Cf. Withernam.

1340 *Ayenb.* 137 To..wiþnyme his dedes..and telle, and weȝe, and *wyþerweȝe. 1642 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xx, A *wedderwaght to our bell to mak it ring the better. 1808 Jamieson, *Witherweight*,..(*witherwecht*), the weight thrown into one scale, to counterbalance the paper, or vessel, in the opposite scale, which contains the goods bought. 1820 Hogg *Wint. Even. T.* I. 270 She's nae wother-weight nouther.

3. In sense (3), †**witherhoked** *a.*, barbed [cf. MHG. *widerhâke* barb, G. *-haken*, EFris. *wërhake*]; †**witherwise** *adv. Sc.* [Wise *sb.*[1] II], = Withershins.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5666 Þis dragoun hadde a long taile þat was *wiþþerhoked. 1643 in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scot.* x. (1834) 639 Shoe turnit hirselff thrie severall tymes round *witherwys, about the fyre.

Wither-[2] (*rare*), = Wither *v.*[2] used in comb. in sense 'withered', as *wither-boned*, *-faced* adjs.

1892 Nashe *Strange Newes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 227 The wither-fac'd weather-beaten Mariner. 1821 Milman *Fazio* 9 Like some dry wither-boned anatomy.

Withered (wi·ðəd), *ppl. a.* Forms: 5–6 wyddred (*Sc.* 5 wydderit, 5–6 widderit), 6 wydred, widdered, wydderad, wyddurde, (wedred, *Sc.* widthrid), wyth(e)red, withred (wethered), 6–7 withard, 6– wither'd, withered. [*f.* Wither *v.*[2] + -ed[1].]

1. Of a plant, fruit, etc.: Shrivelled or shrunken through lack of moisture, and so deprived of its natural colour, freshness, or bloom; hence, of fields, or stretches of country, and *gen.*: Dried up, arid.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 2037 Thar awld bulwerk I se off wyddert ayk. *c* 1480 Henryson *Two Mice* 222 Thir widderit pels and nuttis,..Will brek my teith. — *Fox, Wolf, & Husb.* xiii, It will not win yow worth ane widderit neip. 1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Pa.* cii. Wks. (1876) 148 Wedred grasse or hey. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 70 The widthrid harran fellefis. *a* 1580 Bacon *Jewel of Joy* Prol., Wks. 1564 II. 2 A piece of grosse smoakye bacon or saulte withered

byefe. 1583 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxi. 210 Manye desartes, sandye, wythered, vnfruitefull. Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 463 Wither'd roots. 1637 Rutherford *Lett., to M. Mowat* 7 Sept. (1671) 166 Our Lord..shall water with his dew the withered hill of mount Zion in Scotland. 1682 Dryden & Lee *Db. Guise* I. i, To the bare Commons of the wither'd Field. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4777/4 A tall thin Man, with withered Hair. 1782 Cowper *Conversat.* 51 Wither'd stumps disgrace the sylvan scene. 1813 Scott *Triermn.* I. v, The wither'd leaves, That drop when no winds blow. 1861 Mrs. Browning *Nature's Remonstrance* x, Withered Immortelles, long ago cut. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 676 But narrow breadth..Of wither'd holt or tilth.

2. Of men and animals: Physically shrunken, shrivelled, wasted, or decayed; deprived of animal vitality or vigour.

a 1300–*a* 1400 *Cov. Corpus Christi Pl.* I. 890 Sey ye, wyddurde wyvis, whydder are ye a-wey? 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxix. (Percy Soc.) 143 An olde wydred wiche. 1526 Tindale *John* v. 3 A greate multitude off sicke folke, off blynde, halt, and wyddered. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 240 A withered Hermite, five-score winters worne. 1642 Milton *Animadv.* xiii. Wks. 1851 III. 233 They may as well sue for Nunneries, that they may have some convenient stowage for their wither'd daughters. 1720 Rowe *Amb. Step-Mother* III. i, Marks which Years set on the wither'd Sage. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 402 A poor withered skeleton of humanity.

b. Of the body, or parts of it: Shrivelled or shrunken, esp. by the wasting of disease or age. Formerly, and now *colloq.* or *dial.*, often applied to a paralysed limb.

1513 [see Wearish *a.* 3]. 1526 Tindale *Mark* iii. 1 There was a man which had a widdred honde. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 644 Take the last Gift my wither'd Arms can yield. 1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* II. 890 Twice did I spring to grasp his withered throat. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* Introd. 3 His wither'd cheek, and tresses gray. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 539 The part affected became at first insensible and cold, and, in the progress of the disorder, dry, hard, and withered. 1877 Dowden *Shaks. Primer* vi. 79 So..fierce a human energy as that of Richard concentrated within one withered and distorted body. 1900 H. G. Wells *Outl. Hist.* 532/2 The figure of the new monarch [William II of Germany]..with a withered left arm ingeniously minimised.

3. *fig.* in immaterial sense: Deprived of or having lost vigour, freshness, or 'bloom'; shrunken and decayed; † formerly sometimes, reduced to poverty.

1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. Y iij, In my withered reasoninges. 1596 Raleigh *Discov. Guiana* A 3 b, I am returned a begger, and withered. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Parishioners* 13 July, The Lord will..make this withered Kirk, to bud again like a rose. 1782 J. Brown in R. Mackenzie *Life* (1918) 237 Our sacrament is on the 5th Sabbath of June. Pray for our withered corner. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* IV. xiii, Lay on him the curse of the wither'd heart. 1819 Keats *Fall of Hyperion* I. 288 The pale Omega of a wither'd race. 1860 Smiles *Self Help* xi. 285 The *blasé* youth turns from his withered pleasures. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, A grey dusty withered evening in London.

† **4. a.** Worn out, ragged. *Obs. rare.*

c 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 165 His widderit weid fra him the wind out woir.

† **b.** = Weathered 1. *Obs. rare.*

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 348 Withered gneiss has sometimes the appearance of a grey slaty mortar.

c. *Tea-manuf.* (see Wither *v.*[2] 4 c).

1897 D. Crole *Tea* vii. 117 Trolly loads of withered leaf.

5. *Comb.*, as *withered-looking* adj.

1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 170 His beard..stunted, tawny, and withered-looking.

Hence **Wi·theredly** *adv.*, in a withered manner; **Wi·theredness**, the condition of being withered; rarely *concr.* a withered part.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* iii. 24 And for their bewty wythrednesse and sonneburnynge. 1681 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 24 Old age..the unweldinesse or witherednesse of the body. 1698 A. Fox *Wurtz' Surg.* III. xxiii. 293 That witheredness caused by a fall..I have annointed twice a day. 1699 Torriano, Witheredly, *seccamente.* 1722 J. Wilson *Five Sacr. Serm.* Wks. (1832) 313/2 There usually follows, on God's withdrawing, great witheredness and barrenness on the souls of his people. 1883 G. Macdonald *Princess & Curdie* iii, Every trace of the decrepitude and witheredness she showed..had vanished.

Witherer (wi·ðərəɹ). *rare.* [f. Wither *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who or that which withers.

1828 Landor *Imag. Conv., Engl. & Flor. Vis.* III. 427 Gifford is the Harriet Wilson of our literary world; the witherer of young names. *a* 1851 Moir *Miner of Peru*, Blancher of the hair, And witherer of the strength.

† **Wi·therful**, *a. Obs.* [f. Wither *sb.*[1] + -ful.] **a.** Hostile; wicked, evil. **b.** Bold, valiant. Hence † **Wi·therfulness**, wickedness.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Hise wiðerfulle hine, þo ben deules on helle. *Ibid.* 63 *Dissoluere colligacionem impietatis*..þat unbindeð þe bendes of wiðerfulnesse. *c* 1205 Lay. 21320 To þan scipen wenden wiðer-fulle cheorles. *Ibid.* 25064 Arður his writ nom an honden mid wiðer-fulle worden.

Withering (wi·ðəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wither *v.*[2] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of Wither *v.*[2], q.v.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 23 The yonger and the grener that the grasse is, the softer and the tweter it wyll be whan it is hey, but it wyll haue the more wyddrynge. *a* 1624 Donne *Biathanatos* (1644) 131 These enormous witherings of our bodies are allowable. 1698 A. Fox *Wurtz' Surg.* III. xxiii. 289 A Withering, is a Symptom which is incident to joints wounded. 1796 in J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* (1799) 317 What fell off from the whins, broom, firs, &c. in the course of their withering. 1848 S. Ball *Tea* viii. 127 The peculiar red appearance of this tea is produced..by tossing the leaves on trays..to promote the withering. 1853 Maurice *Proph. & Kings* vii. 115 The withering of a hand which was cured again. 1862 Helps *Organisation in Daily Life* 5 The waste of time, and the withering-up of enjoyment. 1866 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 25 The remaining withering-away of the N in Scandinavia is in the infinitive. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 845 Spontaneous withering or retrogression of certain of the tumours. 1903 C. Bald *Indian Tea* xv. (1917) 218 Withering in the sun is fatal to fine quality.

b. *attrib.*

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 267 After the Malt has lain on the withering Floors about twelve or fourteen days. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xix, The learned gentleman who does the withering business, and who blights all opponents with his gloomy sarcasm. 1897 D. Crole *Tea* vii. 114 A withering-house 100 yards long..will..accommodate about 140 maunds of leaf.

2. *concr.* Withered branches or brushwood, used in making fences, etc.

1892 C. W. Hoskyns *Talpa* 46 A man-made barrier of stakes and 'witherings'. 1894 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xiv. (1901) I. 104 The rotten stakes and witherings of a low ill-made-up gap.

Wi·thering, *ppl. a.* [f. Wither *v.*[2] + -ing[2].] That withers, in various senses.

1. Fading, decaying. *lit.* and *fig.*

1599 Alex. Hume *Hymns* VII. 206 Widdring wolds. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 2 This withering and transitory life. 1668 J. Owen *Indwelling-Sin* xiv. 235 There may be a withering member in the body. 1680 Otway *Orphan* IV. viii, Desire shall languish like a withering flower. 1783 Crabbe *Village* I. 185 The bare arms broken from the withering tree. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 938 There he fights, And there obtains fresh triumphs o'er himself, And never with'ring wreaths. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xxxii, On the withering flower The killing sun smiles brightly.

2. Causing to fade or decay (*lit.* and *fig.*); *esp.* causing decay of vigour or paralysis of effort; blasting, blighting; often applied to the 'paralysing' effect of scornful looks, criticism, and the like, and to destructive gun-fire.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Feb. *Arg.*, A dry and withering cold. 1599 Daniel *Musophilus* 167 Whereas he came planted in the Spring..We, set in th' Autumne, in the withering And sullen season of a cold defect, Must [etc.]. 16.. ? Breton *C'tess Pembroke's Pass.* xlviii. (Grosart) 6/1 Withering Winter gives her chillinge cheare. 1747 Collins *Ode Passions* 42 With a with'ring Look. 1798 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* II. 210 A withering scowl she wore. 1810 Southey *Kehama* XI. iv, Oh! hide him from that Witch's withering sight! 1813 Byron *Corsair* II. x, The withering sense of evil unreveal'd. 1849 Aytoun *Lays Scott. Cav.* 124 Vainly sped the withering volley 'Mongst the foremost of our band. 1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* xv, Elsley..cast on him a look which he intended to have been withering. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 135 A blighting and withering dominion. 1884 Colborne *With Hicks Pasha in Soudan* 174 Our withering fire knocked the poor fellows over and over.

Hence **Wi·theringly** *adv.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1815 Byron *Hebr. Mel., Wild Gazelle* iv, We must wander witheringly, In other lands to die. 1819 Wiffen *Aonian Hours* (1820) 64 The gathered flower droops witheringly away. 1835 M. Scott in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 452 My uncle..looked so witheringly at him. 1903 R. Bagot *Passport* xiii. 116 'Then, may I ask, what is the use of sending me on a fool's errand?' the professor retorted, witheringly.

Witherite (wi·ðərəɪt). *Min.* [Named by Werner after W. *Withering*, who first described and analysed it in 1784: see -ite[1] 2 b.] Native barium carbonate.

1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 428, I could not discover any regular crystallized shape, like the witherite.

† **Wi·therling**[1]. *Obs.* [OE. *wiþerling*, f. *wiþer* Wither *a.* and *adv.* + -ling[1].] An adversary.

c 1000 *Cant. Ps.* Exod. xv. 7 Þu forbriccest wiþerlingas. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 256 (Laud) Þat heþene king Ihesu cristes wiþerling.

† **Wi·therling**[2]. *Obs.* [f. Wither *v.*[2] + -ling[1].] A withered branch; a shrivelled or stunted person.

1528 More *Dyalogue* II. Wks. 186/1 All these braunches of heritikes..seme thei neuer so freshe & grene, bee yet in dede but witherlinges ye wyther, & shal drye vp. *a* 1624 Chapman *Crown of Homer's Wks.* 30 No forspoke Dwarfe, nor downeward witherling.

Withernam (wi·ðəɹnăm). *Law.* Now *Hist.* Also 4–6 wyther-, (4 -ir-), 5–6 wether-, wider-, 4–7 -name. [Law-French (in Britton *wythernam*), presumably a. ON. *viðrnám* recorded only in the sense 'resistance' (but cf. early Da. *vedernam* pledge), f. *viðr-* Wither-[1] + *nám* Naam. The etymological meaning is 'reprisal'.] In an action of replevin, the reprisal of other goods in lieu of those taken by a first distress and eloigned; also, the writ (called *capias in withernam*) commanding the sheriff to take the reprisal.

1292 Britton I. xxviii. § 3 Si les bestes soint..chaces hors del counté, ou si le baillif autre desturbaunce troeffe, tauntost face prendre des bestes del deforceour a la double value cum wythernam. 1334 *Returns Brevium* 418 De returno in replegiare lou le pleintyfe amera vne withernam. 1542–3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 29 The Shirief shall have..for the making of Replegia..elvepence, and withernam vpon the same twelve pence. 1543 tr. *Act 19 Edw. I*, c. 2 [A] courte, hauynge power to holde pleas of wythernam. 1579 *Lupton Turnus Law* 72 b, The party vpon y[e] returne of the sheriffe shall haue a writte of Withernam, directed to the Sheriff, that he take as many of hys beastes..tyll y[e] hee hath made deliuerance of y[e] first distres. 1599 *Life of Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 202 Whether chattell taken [in] withername may be replevied. 1628 J. Wilkinson *Treat. Off. Coroners* II. 139 b, Then the plaintife may have a Withernam, which must be made in this maner. *a* 1629 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 334 In a replevin in the Counties Court,..if the goods be conueyed away, so as at the Tenants suite they cannot be restored,..processe of withernam lyeth. 1658 tr. *Ney's Rep.* 50 A Withernam was awarded, and executed, and now comes the Plaintiff and prays to declare, and prays a deliverance of the Withernam. 1767 Blackstone *Comm.* III. ix. 149 Goods taken in withernam cannot be replevied, till the original distress is forthcoming.

b. A process of distress (or arrest) for debt, formerly current in the Cinque Ports (and other towns).

1314–15 *Cal. Letter-bks. Lond.* E. (1903) 42 [The sum of 40*s.* which had been taken by way of] Withernam [from] Thomas de Grantham de Dyvelyn. 1352 *Borough Customs* (Selden Soc.) I. 122 Al sute du dit playntif, ci dedit le bailif par assignement des jurés prendre une Wythirname sur qicomque vienge de la dite vile ou cité. 1462–83 *Ibid.* I. 125 Bayle and jurates may take a wythername agaynst all his tenaunts. 1589 *Ibid.* I. 125 Yf eny man have take toll or custum of eny freman of Cawnterbery, he that ys grevid may have a widername at Cawnterbury therfore. 1574 *Acts Privy Council* (N. S.) VIII. 313 A letter to the Mayour of Dover..touching complaintes made against him by Flemynges for the arrest made by widernams. 1576 *Ibid.* IX. 215 Whereas Andrew Muller..of Hamborough was arrested at Dover by a writt of withernam.

c. Reprisals taken at sea by letters of marque.

1724 Fortescue-Aland *Prof. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 50 This Word Withernam also signifies Reprisals taken at Sea, by Letters of Mart-ships.

Withers (wi·ðəz), *sb. pl.*, occas. *sing.* **wither.** Also 7 weather-. [app. a reduced form of *widersome* or *-sone* (see quots. 1541–2, 1547), f. *wider-* = Wither-[1] + an obscure element; cf. G. *widerrist* withers, f. *wider-* Wither-[1] + *rist* Wrist.] In a horse, The highest part of the back, lying between the shoulder-blades. Also, the corresponding part in some other animals, as the ox or the sheep. Often in fig. context, esp. after Shaks. (quot. 1602), with allusion to the 'wringing' of a horse's withers.

1541–2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 5 § 1 Every horse..to be..In heyght xiiij handfulles..measured from the nether parte of the here of the houghe unto the upper part of the Widersomes, That is to saye, the upper parte of the Shulders. 1547 Salesbury *Dict. Engl. Welsh, Ystwydd gwdun*, the wyder sone.

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 249 Wring not a horse on the withers, with a false saddle. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* IV. xix. (1597) 221 b, In his [*sc.* the Bull's] necke toward the Withers are 7 starres. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* P 4, That wrung him on the withers worse than all the rest. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 252 Let the gall'd lade winch; our withers are vnrung. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* v. i. H 2 b, Never were three innocent Citizens. so abhominably wrung vnder the withers. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cccxlvii, Though the chaine of Tyrranye ..gall'd the withers of their will. 1729 Swift *Dir. t. Serv.* v, Contrive that the Saddle may pinch the Beast in his Withers. 1838 Lytton *Alice* v. iii, 'Tell me now', said Caroline pressing on the wrung withers, [etc.]. 1839 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* ii. 25 The Vampire bat is often the cause of much trouble, by biting the horses on their withers. 1867 S. Baker *Nile Trib.* xviii. 475 The shoulders [of the sable antelope]..are extremely high at the withers. 1886 Symonds *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xi. 179 There is not a city of Italy which Tassoni did not wring in the withers of its self-conceit.

attrib. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 597 The wither of the beast, I meane the top of his shoulder next to his necke. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3036/4 A black Gelding,.. the Hair clipt on his Wither. 1770 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* Mar., I measured it [*sc.* the moose-deer], as they do an horse, and found that, from the ground to the wither, it was just five feet four inches. 1890 'H. Hieover' *Pract. Horsemanship* 118 The saddle, pressing on the off side of the wither, would pinch the horse. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 160 A wide wither is nearly as troublesome as a high one.

b. *transf.* The part of a saddle which comes over the withers.

1764 T. Wallis *Farrier's Dict.* s.v. *Bows of a Saddle*, The withers is the arch that rises two or three fingers over the horse's withers.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wither-gall*, *-strap*; **witherband**, **-look** (see quots.); **witherwrung** *a.*, injured in the withers.

1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxi. 54 A three-wheel'd Charret..drawn by lean weather-wrung Jades. 1764 T. Wallis *Farrier's Dict.* s.v. *Bands of a Saddle*, Besides these two great bands, the fore-bow has a small one called the wither-band, and a crescent to keep up the wither arch. *Ibid.*, *Witherband*,.. a band or piece of iron, laid underneath a saddle, about four fingers above the withers of the horse, to keep tight the two pieces of wood that form the bow. 1767 S. Patterson *Another Trav.* II. v. 57 A..broken-winded..wither-wrung..horse. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) II. Gloss., *Wither Strap*, a part of the harness, which goes round the withers of the horse to hold up the collar. 1824 Jamieson, *Witherlock*, that lock of hair in the mane, of which one takes hold when mounting on horse-back. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 299 Many of them had open kidney-sores and wither-galls.

† **Wi·thersake**. *Obs.* [OE. *wiþersæc* = OFris. *withirsaka*, OS. *widarsahho*, OHG. *widarsahho* (MHG. *widersuoche*, MHG., G. *widersacher*); f. *wiþer-* Wither-[1] + *-sæca*, agent-n. f. stem *sak-* of Sake *sb.*] An adversary, enemy.

In OE., simply and in phr. *Godes wiþersæca*, often = apostate.

c 960 Ælfhelwold *Rule St. Benet* (Schreier 1885) lxii. 122

We beo he na sworð geteald se Godes wiðersaca. *c* ___ *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 14 ludas se wiþersaca. *c* 1205 Lay. 2608 Geomagoȝ..þat was þe heiheste Godes wiðer-saka. *Ibid.* 12600 þat is goddes wiðer-saka.

Withershins, widdershins (wi·ðər-, wi·dəɪʃinz), *adv. dial.* (chiefly *Sc.*). Forms: 6– widder-, 7– wither-, (6 widdir-, weddir-, wod-(d)er-, 6, 9 wooder-); 6–9 -sins, 6– -shins, (6 -syns, -shynes, -shynnis, -son(n)is, 6, 9 -sinnis, -sonses, 7 -shines, 9 -schynnes). [a. MLG. *weddersin(ne)s* (cf. *wedersinnes*, f. *wider-* Wither-[1] + gen. of *sin* (esp. MG.) = *sind*, *sint* way, direction (see Sithe *sb.*[1]): cf. MHG. *widersinnen* to return. In sense 2 associated with *son*, Sun *sb.*]

†1. In a direction opposite to the usual; the wrong way; *to stand* or *start withershins*, (of the hair) to 'stand on end'. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xii. 26 Abaisit I wolx, and widderayns start my hair. *Ibid.* Directioun of Bulk 29 And on the bak half writis widdirsinnis Plentie of leayngis. 1570 R. Bannatyne *Mem.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 11 That will gar thair hartis trumbill, and thair hair stand widdirshynes. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 704 Ane porter..To the bischop his blissing gave, Betuixt the schoulders a royall route, Turning him wodderschins about. *a* 1583 Montgomerie *Flyting* 580 Hairis blavin widderains abauk. *a* 1600 — *Sonn.* xxxiii. 6 Sho..straikit bakuard wodersbins my hair. 1685 G. Sinclair *Satans Invis. World* 211 His hair standing Widdershins in his head. 1721 Ramsay *I'll never leave* v, The Starns shall gang withershins e'er I deceive thee.

the said Margarat Baffour vas ane huyr and ane wyche and that sche ȝeid widersonnis about mennis hous sark alane. *a* 1583 Montgomerie *Flyting* 418 Thir venerabill virginis quhome ȝe wald call wiches..nyne tymes, wirdersones, about the thorne raid. 1596 *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 96, I find it willbe ane deir yeir; the bled of the corne growis withersones; and quhan it growis sonegatis about, it willbe ane gude chaip yeir. 1597 *Ibid.* 190 He is indyttit..to haue taine ane birne of the corne on his bak, and careit it thrie tymmis woodersonis abowe the kill. 1685 G. Sinclair *Satans Invis. World* 25 [In a witch-dance] the men turned nine times Widder-shines about, and the Women six times. 1728 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* II. ii, Mausy..Rins withershins about the Hemlock Low. 1805 Scott *Talism.* xxviii, While the challenger rode around the lists in the course of the sun ..the defender made the same circuit *widdersins*. 1840 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* (1845) XV. 141 The fishermen, when about to proceed to the fishing, think they would have bad luck, if they were to row the boat 'withershins' about. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 10 So, widdershins circling the bridebed of death, Each fleereth her neighbour.

†**Wi·therward**, *a. Obs.* Also 5 witerward. [OE *wiþerweard* (cf. OHG. *widarwart*, *-wert*, Goth. *wiþrawairþs*), f. *wiþer-*, Wither-[1] + *-weard*, -ward.] Hostile, inimical.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xi. § 1 Þeah hit nu hefig sie & wiðerweard. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 223 Him þa hæðnan men wiþerwearde wæron. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 25 Ælc ceaster oððe hus, þe byð wiþerweard ongen hyt sylf, hyt ne stent. *c* 1200 Ormin 9667 Wiþerwarrd onnzzneess Godd. *c* 1205 Lay. 6875 Wiȝ al folc he wes wiðerward. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2935 Dis king him his wel wiðer-ward Agen dis folc. 13.. *A. Davy Dreams* 80 No strook ne þaf he ageinward To þilk þat hym weren wiþerward.

b. *absol.* (Cf. OE. *wiþerweard* adversary.)

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4997 Þou wirkis bot on þa witerward, & worthis þaim ouire.

Hence †**Wi·therwardness**, hostility, enmity.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* iii. 36 He wearð oft swæ ungemetlice grædig ðæs godan theawes, þutan micre scylde & micre wiðerweardnesse wið hine. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Hatrede and widerwardnesse.

†**Wi·therwards**, *adv. Sc. Obs. rare.* [f. Wither-[1] + -wards.] = Withershins.

1624 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc.* I. 144 To..gang thryse woderwardis about the kow, and straik hir in the left syd. 1643 in Dalyell *Superst. of Scot.* (1834) 459 [He] ȝeid about his hous twys or thrys witherwardis.

†**Wi·therwin.** *Obs.* Forms: 1–3 wiþer-, wiðer-, 3–4 wither-, wyper-, (4 weper-, wipir-, withere-, -yre-, wipper-, quiper-, wider-, wyder-, widdir-, whydyre-), 4–5 wedir-, wethir-, 5 witer-; 1–2 -winna, 2–4 -wine, 3–4 -win, 3–5 -wynne, 5 -wyn, (-un), 4–5 -wyne. [OE. *wiþerwinna* = OHG. *widarwinno* (MHG. *-winne*), f. *wiþer-* Wither-[1] + agent-n. of *winnan* Win *v.*[1]] An enemy, adversary; *spec.* the Adversary, the Devil.

___'s *Past. C.* xix. 146 Dyllne be sie ___; he sie wiðerwinna..ðæs þe he bið gesewn ___ ðeow on his ðeznunge. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Assmann) I. 120 Ure wiðerwinna is witodlice se deofol. *c* 1205 Lay. 27306 Haðene hundes, goddes wiðer-iwinnen [*c* 1275 wiþer-wynnes]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Vre wiðerwines beoð þreo: þe weond, þe world, & ure owune vlesh. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6648 Þo þis quene was of londe ydriue þoru hire wiþerwine. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6084 His folk he has al sauued sund, þair wiþerwine or broght to grund. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 246 How þe ded he tholyt syne, ___ my Barnesse, Goddis awssan wedirwyne. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlvii. 42 Thilke day Convertyd was..A thowsend & Fyfty Sarrasines that to fore tyme weren wethir-wynne.

Withery (wi·ðəri), *a. rare.* [f. Wither *v.* + -y[1].] Inclined to wither; wilting.

1 1621 R. Banister *Treat. 113 Dis. Eye* ___ (1622) (b 3 b), Eyes darke, withery, and cloudy, presage death. 1882 Green *Lett.* (1901) II. 82 All else are waxing pale and withery under the Tartarian heat.

Withey, variant of Withy.

†**Withfall.** *Obs. rare.* [f. With *adv.* + Fall *sb.*, after late L. *symptoma*, Gr. *σύμπτωμα* Symptom.] A chance, casuality, accident; a symptom.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 46 b, The vnrype apples eaten with theyr seade bryng dedely withfalles. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes Ayde* III. 22 Accident is that, which the Greekes call *Symptoma*, and wee properly in English, to fall and with fall.

†**Wi·thgang**, *sb.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON *viðgangr* increase.] Success; advantage, profit. So **Wi·thgate**[1] *Sc.* [Gate *sb.*[2]]

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 171 Wikkit men has oft tymes in this warld welth, and withgang. *c* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Wether* xxii, Thay haif withgang, welth, and cherising. 1512 in *Rec. Earldom Orkney* (S.H.S. 1914) 86 Vitht al profettis and vtgang [?; *printed* vgang] sene Schir Dauit deit. 1824 Jamieson s.v. *With-gate*, *To get the with-gate*, to gain the advantage.

†**Wi·thgang**, *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON. *viðganga* access, admission.] Free course; unlimited permission, licence, toleration. Also †**Wi·thgang** *v.*, *trans.* to give licence to, tolerate.

a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 420, I gaif my hart euer withgange of al plesans. *Ibid.* 3747 Gyf men thaim withgang wantonly, Than wyll thai cowet the maistry. 1808 Jamieson, *Withgang*, toleration, permission to pass with impunity. *Shens.* So †**Wi·thgate**[2]. *Sc.* [Gate *sb.*[2]]

1599 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 187/1 The withgait and libertie quhilk sindry avaricious..persones hes tane to exact ..aik exorbitant..profite. 1606 *Ibid.* 284/1 Ane terror to the ewill disposit to give withgait to thair Inclinatioun. *Ibid.* 616/2 The withgait and libertie grantit vnto Suche shamefull scafferis and extorsioun.

†**Withgo·**, *v. Obs.* [f. With- + Go *v.*; in sense 1 OE. *wiþgán.*]

1. *trans.* To go against, act in opposition to, oppose; in *pa. pple.* opposed (to).

1423–5 in Thorpe *Chartova* (1865) 89 Ond nænfre ic ne mine lastweardas..geðristlæcen þæt heo hit [*sc.* a grant] onwenden oððe þon wiðgæn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27986 It [*sc.* lechery] es sua greif and god witgan þat [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* iii. 251 Þe sin of vs twa allane Was so grete and god withgane.

2. *intr.* To pass away; *pa. pple.* ? passed on their way.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3085 Mi wret es me now al witgan [*Gött.* ouer-gan]. 14.. in *Twndale's Vis.* (1843) 158, I fared me furthe yn that frythe; I mett three comely kyngis with gone.

3. *pass.* To be possessed *with*.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8913 (Fairf.) Ho is wode & wiþ þe deuel withgane.

4. *intr.* To go with something else.

1608 Sylvester *Mem. Mortalitie* II. xxxvii, Th' hand bindeth not except the heart with-go.

5. *trans.* To forgo.

a 1677 Barrow *Semn. Ps. xv. 12* Wks. 1686 III. 174 Who for one..mess of Pottage..did withgo his birthright.

Withheld (wiðhe·ld), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Withhold *v.*] Kept or held back.

1712–4 Richardson *Grandison* III. xxviii. 177 My withheld breath raised my complexion, and swelled my features. 1914 Amélie Rives *World's-End* xi, His face had a curious, withheld look as he stooped to kiss her.

Withhold (wiðhō·ld), *v.* Forms and etym.: see With- and Hold *v.*; 3–7 occas. as two words, 6–8 freq. with hyphen; also 3 wiðealden, 4 withald, 5–6 -alde, 5–8 withold; *pa. t.* 3 wiðeld, 5 without, 6 *pseudo-arch.* with hault; *pa. pple.* 4–5 witholde, 5–8 witholden (*withholden* was still freq. in the 19th century).

1. *trans.* To keep *from* doing something; to keep in check or under restraint; to hold back, restrain. Formerly also const. inf. = from doing a thing.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 107 Alle unwilles ðe cumeð of ðe manne, ðies hes atempreð, & wiðhalt te miadon. *Ibid.* 143 Godd..wiðeld alle reines þrie hier & six monepes. *c* 1250 *Beket* 1254 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 142 The teres fullen out of is eiȝene, he ne mihte with-holden heom nouȝt. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 740, I schal..wyth-halde my honde for hertyng on hede. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS. 20. No. I.* 1. iv. lf. 11 b, It ..letteth & withholdeth the colre froo his kind decoccion. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 240 Jason .. Ne mihte noght with-holde his lok, Bot so good hiede on hire he tok, That [etc.]. *Ibid.* 284 To be withholde ayein largesse. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr.* xvii. 4 Th___ stondinge. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 70 Forasmuche as our saied father is witholden with diuerse sickues, in such maner as he maie not intende in his owne persone. 1594 Shaks. *John* v. vi. 37 With hold thine indignation, mighty heauen. 1621 — *Jul. C.* III. ii. 208 What cause withholds you then to mourne for him? 1696 Tate & Brady *Ps.* xl. 9 Nor did [I]..my Lips with-hold. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 237 So I withheld my Passion, though I was indeed enrag'd to the highest Degree. 1742 Johnson *Sydenham* Wks. 1787 IV. 493 He was with-held from the university by the commencement of the war. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. v, Had not some awe of the company.. withheld his rage. 1749 — *Tom Jones* V. ii, From serenading his Patient every Hunting Morning with the Horn..; it was impossible to withhold him. 1788 Jemmor *Let. to Mrs. Temple* 8 May, Such is the call for your presence; what is there to withhold you? 1822 Lyttn. *Rienzi* II. xvii, While darkness yet withheld the dawn. 1873 J. G. Holland *A. Bonnic.* II, I longed to go ___ it, but the prohibition withheld me. 1902 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 53 Walpole.. withheld Great Britain from giving support..to..Frederick William.

absol. 1382 Wyclif *2 Thess.* ii. 6 Now what withholdith, ȝe witen, that he be schewid in his tyme. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) 2 Thess. ii. 7 He which now withholdeth, shal let til he be taken out of the waye.

b. *refl.* To restrain oneself.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 135 Þe mann þe him wiðhalt..of ates & of drenches. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 348 Ich halsie ou .. þat ȝe wiðholden ou from vleallche lustes. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 12603 ȝow ȝe withholde Fro þe synnes þat byfore are tolde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii. 99 If it be swa þat any man..withhald him fra þis feste. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 73 With-holde þe from latynge of blood. *Ibid.* 116 He þat with-oldys him to sterre his bondes. *a* 1629 Fotherby *Athcom.* II. viii. § 2 (1622) 283 He prayeth to God, to withhold him; because hee could not withhold himselfe. 1897 Warung *Tales Old Régime* 246 Blake,.. though tempted, yet withheld himself from yielding.

†c. *intr.* To refrain *from*; occas. const. inf., or *trans.* with gerund. *Obs.*

1620 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 103 You could not with-hold from telling us that you are but a young man. *c* 1630 Bradford *Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 104 They withheld and did no more hurte. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 123 P 5 He could no longer withhold making himself known to him. 1807 [? W. H. Ireland] *Mod. Shêk of Fools* 118 *note*, No man should withhold from extending his hand to support the falling. *Ibid.* 275 *note*, The fools will carefully withhold from the mention of their own fooleries. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* V. iv. II. 453 He was incapable of giving, or capable of withholding to give..an opinion.

†d. *trans.* To keep away or off, ward off. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 5302 Glitoun..pulte forth a stelene scheld, Nyguares dunt withhuld. 1560 *1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* (1621) 66 Every Kirk must have..thack able to with-hold raine.

†e. To hinder, prevent. (With dir. obj., clause, or acc. and inf.) *Obs.*

c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 93 Vnderstandynge.. ys luge wirkand, and withhaldand þat þat vndoynge bycomes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vj b, It is anoyus sekenes.. and with holdeth hir strengthe. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 39 Nothing with-holds, but that from an infinite tale of finites there may at length arise an infinite. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* II. lii. 22 Nothing with-holds my wishes to be released, but my desire of seeing the darling..happy.

†f. To keep away or separated *from*. *rare.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vi. 150 Quham of the realm of Itail I defraud, And fra the ground to him promist withhad. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 140 Like a ship frost-bound and far Withheld in ice from the ocean's roar.

†g. To defer, postpone. *Obs. rare.*

1725 Pope *Odyss.* xxii. 258 She .. willing longer to survey The sire and son's great acts, with-held the day.

2. To keep back; to keep in one's possession (what belongs to, is due to, or is desired by another); to refrain from giving, granting, or allowing. †Formerly with dat. of person. (The current sense.)

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 139 Ða þinges ðe ne sculen þea hiuen, þa bieð to wiðcalden mid michele skele. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 914 Wid-held he ðor-of neuere on del, Oc al ðat euere fel him to, Sac-les he let hin welden it so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28427 Gains godd i haue bene vn-hende, þat i wit-halden ha my tende. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 42 He with-halt non byne his huire. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3600 ȝeld me þe relyqes vp agayn, þat þou with-halst of myne. ? 1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 82 The Pryore and Convent of Norwyche have wythhalden certeyn rent for landes that they halden of me. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. xli. 480 A knyghte that hyght Generyes that withheelde her alle her landes. 1493 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 105 That ye without your duty belonging to the sayd Mr. Lee. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 232 Your old rightes & possessions, which wer from you..wrongfully with holden. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xi. 9 Soone as Titan gan his head exault, And soone againe as he his light with hault. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 186 Blessings..not with-held from Pagan people. 1908 Pope *Dunc.* III. 276 These Fate reserv'd to grace thy reign divine, Foreseen by me, but ah! withheld from mine. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 480 From such an inference, I must..withheld my assent. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvi, Perch the messenger..could not withhold the tribute of his admiration from this zealous conduct. 1861 Brougham *Brit. Const.* xiii. 178 [Parliament's] acknowledged power to give or to withhold supplies. 1874 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* I. 382 The other branches of the Church Catholic, with which..communion was..withholden from us. 1883 Tylor in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 199/1 Such divine beings as can..give or withhold the rain. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V.* c. 46 § 4 That by reason of such refusal [to republish] the work is withheld from the public.

absol. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 331 He will give freely, or he will withhold. 1859 Whittier *My Psalm* 42 All as God wills, who wisely heeds To give or to withhold.

†3. To detain; to keep in bondage, in custody, or under control. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3019 He [*sc.* Pharaoh] wiðheld hem, and, al-so he [*sc.* Moses] it bead, Al ðe erf of egipt wurð dead. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 597 It is no shame vn-to yow,.. Hire to with-holden þat ye loueth most. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 308 If thou art on of alle, That with this vice hast ben withholde. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 262 Verite in this dayes is wyth-holde, bonde, and prisoner. *c* 1520 Skelton *Garl. Laurell*, etc., Wks. 1843 I. 427 The twayne last [*sc.* Right and Reason] Be withholde so fast With money, as men sayne, They can not come agayne. 1592 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 26 She (perforce) with holds the loued boy. 1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, Your favour had by his duty beene presented, If we had not with-held him in the way. 1714 *Orig. Cuntr Spenser* xxxvi, The strugling Fly he firmly doth with-hold. [Cf. quot. 1854 in 1 f.]

†4. To keep in use or possession; rarely, to keep in place; to retain; *esp.* to retain in the memory; occas. to reserve *to oneself*. *Obs.*

10 *Vices & Virtues* 97 Hit is al ȝedwoll, and of haße ȝiet wiðhealden. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 139 He wolde for-leten peraventure to continue innocence, by þe whiche he ne may nat wiþholden fortune. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* 967 [The Pater noster] is short,..for to withholden it the moore esily in herte. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. viii. (Skeat) I. 221 Al-though it be a whyle swete, it may not be with-holde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. iii. (Tollem. MS.), þe hood is sumdel comynge narow and hyȝe, and þat to with holde þe bagge of þe brayne. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 78 Study,..to kepe and withholde kyndly hete. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xv. (1869) 20 He hath with holde to him alle vengeaunces. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* li. e ij, I wold ye couthe and wel withheld the example of a knyght that had thre wyues.

†b. To keep attached to one's person or engaged in one's service; to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thusand knihtes ful wel o bon With-held þe king, with him to lede. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 150 Crist wiþholde no men of lawe ne pleders at þe barr for robes and fees. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) XXVI. 157 All the mynstrelles þat comen before hym..ben withholden with him as of his houshold. *c* 1421 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1250 With-holde hir on þi side. 1423 *Acts Privy Council* III. 90 He has bene withholde and of retenue for a yere wyt the..noble Kyng Henry. 1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 17 [He] never was servaunt to the..Duc ..ne wythhaldyn in hese service. *c* 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 29 My lorde withholde him for his seruaunt.

†5. To keep, maintain, preserve. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Dat tu hes kunne wel ȝecnawen & mid godes fultume wiðhealden. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* ... pr. vi. (1868) 142 God..hastiþ to wiþhalden þe þinges þat he haþ maked in to hys semblaunce. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 511 To seken hym a chauntrie for soules, Or with a bretherhed to been withholde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 Knyþhode.. Wherof the wyde worldes fame Write in Cronique is yit withholde. *c* 1418 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 244 Hem nedethe nether spere ne shulde, Ne in no castel to be withholde.

†6. a. To hold. b. To hold up, sustain. *Obs. rare.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. xi. 44 In thair hand wythhaldand, euery knycht, Twa javilling speris. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 159 [He] cut the hair that withheld me in twain; so down I thought I fell.

†7. *intr.* To hold or adhere to. *Obs. rare.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* Prol. 4 Forto flee euelle and withholde the good. *Ibid.* 34 Alle these men that kepithe hem self clene..haue free hert to withholde good ensaumples of lyff.

Hence **Withho·ldable** *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld.

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 248 The habitual, but ever withholdable bribes, with which they are fed.

Withholden (wiðhǝ·ldən), *ppl. a. arch.* [pa. pple. of WITHHOLD *v.*] = WITHHELD *ppl. a.*

c 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 213/349 With-holden hire ayen þe riȝt Of þi seruanntis vpon þee crye. 1820–22 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 97 The fallaciously offered and really withholden remedy. 1884 TENNYSON *Cup* I. 48 The long-withholden tribute.

Withholder (wiðhǝ·ldəɹ). [f. WITHHOLD *v.* + -ER [1].] One who withholds.

1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 107 That scho haue hir accioun agane the withaldaris of thame. 1516 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 418/1 To compell the withhaldaris and intromettouris thairwith to deliuer the samyn to thaim. 1548 *Act 2 & 3 Edw. VI*, c. 13 § 13 Yt shall not be laufull..to..aue suche witholder of tithes..before any other Judge then ecclesiasticall. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 117 If either Prince haue an intention to recouer any other Rights, against other with-holders. *a* 1674 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 555 He hath more Withholders to keep him from Sin. 1866 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Exod.* XXII. 28 Whether he [*sc.* God] be regarded as the withholder of prosperity or the restrainer of crime. 1917 OUTHWAITE *Land or Revol.* III. 21 To compel the urban land withholders to use or part with the land.

Withholding (wiðhǝ·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING [1].] The action of the verb WITHHOLD: retention, restraint, keeping back, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 967 How I shal gouerne me in the chesynge and in the withholdynge of my conseillours. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 116 Broodnesse of brest, and greetnesse of sholdres..by-tokyns..hardynesse, with witholdynge of wyt, and vndyrstondynge. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lii. (1869) 96 So is to me an hevy blok the bodi, and a gret withholdinge. 1440–1 *Privy Counc. Proc.* (P.R.O.), Thendentures of his withholdyng bitwix the Kyng and him. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 351 That they shulde receyue the tythys..with-out ony with-holdynge. 1484 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 254/1 That a notable some of monneys bee to me delivered..for the witholding and contenting of such Souldeours. 1526 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 518/2 Thair tressonable assegeing, taking and withhalding of the Kingis castell. *a* 1651 C. LOVE *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1654) 42 The withholdings of the Spirit. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 350 His very Withholdings and Delays are kindly meant. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. i. 18 The withholding of the avowal. *a* 1861 CLOUGH *Poems, Uranus* 3 The..blank profound, Which..holds All knowledge, ever by withholding holds. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* (N.S.) LI. 242/2 If a party..obtains the sanction of the court by withholding information which is material..such withholding amounts to fraud.

So **Withho·lding** *ppl. a.*, that withholds.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xiii. (1869) 183 Withholdinge, and ful of cley, and..glewy is þilke. 1898 *Forts. Rev.* Aug. 305 The eternal duel between the desiring flesh and the withholding spirit.

Withho·ldment. *rare.* [f. WITHHOLD *v.* + -MENT.] = WITHHOLDING *vbl. sb.*

1640 O. SEDGWICK *Christ's Counsell* 183 An avocation or withholdment from errours. 1851 W. ANDERSON *Exposure of Popery* (1878) 73 There..is an important withholdment made in the communication.

Withi, var. *with this*: see WITH *prep.* 6.

Within (wiði·n), *adv., prep., (adj.).* Forms (2–5 written as one or as two words): *a.* 1 wiþinnan, wiðinnan, 2–4 wiðinne(n, 3–5 wiþinne, etc. (see WITH and INNE *adv.*); also 3 wiþ ine(n, *Orm.* wippinnenn, 3–4 widine, 4–5 withine. *β.* 3 wiðin, 4–5 wiþin, etc. (see WITH and IN *adv.*; *abbreviated* 4–6 wthin, 7 wthin), 4– within. [Late OE. *wipinnan*, f. *wiþ* WITH *prep.* + *innan* INNE, the second element being assimilated to IN *adv.* in ME. OE. *wiþinnan, wiþæftan* behind, *wiþforan* before, *wiþgeondan* beyond, *wiþhindan* behind, *wiþufan* above, and *wiþûtan* WITHOUT, form a group of words peculiar to English, corresp. to and perh. partly modelled on the synonymous group *bæftan, bæftan* BAFT *adv., beforan* BEFORE, *begeondan* BEYOND, *behindan* BEHIND, *beinnan, binnan* BIN *adv., *beufan, bufan* BOVE *adv., beûtan, bûtan* BOUT *adv.*, of which nearly all have cognates in West Germanic. Cf. the blended forms BYTHINNE, BYTHOUT.]

A. *adv.* (In most senses opp. to WITHOUT *adv.*)

1. In the inner part or interior, or on the inner side (of a receptacle or other material thing); inside, internally.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* VI. 14 Ðu wyrcst wununga binnan & utan arce & clæmst wiðinnan & wiðutan mid tyrwan. *c* 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 640 Þe rede wid-innen toknet on Wreche ðat sal þet wurðen sent. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 523 His heued with in has eien tuin, þe lift has son and mon wit-in. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. iv. (1495) 94 vij, By heete werkynge alwaye wythin and wythoute bodyes ben consumyd and wanated. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Bake on an ovyn, & coloure withynne & wyth-oute. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 105 Set a deepe glasse of Reinish-wine on the contrary Casket, for if the diuell be within, and that temptation without, I know he will choose it. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xviii. 51 Small annulated black spots, which are white within. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. 127 The gate that was ironed within and without. 1823 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. I. 42 At the bend of the wing, just within, is a horn-coloured spine. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ix. 248 The instrument may be removed, and the fluid within transferred to any convenient vessel. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* XXXIII, The tradesmen..locked their doors and barricaded their windows within.

b. In the interior of the body or some part of it.

c 1200 *Bestiary* 328 Wiðinnen he haueð brenning. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 59 Betynge of veynes is bettre I-knowe in þe vttre parties of bodies þan ynward and in þe myddel wiþynne. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 246 How al hys glorious body muste be tormented..wythin and wythoute. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 83 Why should a man whose bloud is warme within, Sit like his Grandsire, cut in Alablaster? *a* 1639 CAREW *Poems, My Mistress commanding me to return her Letters* 68 Though the skin Be clos'd without, the wound festers within. [1843 MACAULAY *Horatius* lxii, But his limbs were borne up bravely By the brave heart within.] 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lay of Brown Rosary* III. xvi, The maidens' lips trembled from smiles shut within.

c. In this writing or document; herein. *Obs.* exc. in technical use.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 35 As hit is I-saide wiþ ynne. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 368 As is I-write with-yn. 1498–1844 [see D. 2]. 1519 *Indenture betw. Pynson and Horman* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1867) 365 The parties wythin namede. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 550 We A. B. and C. D. Coroners..do certifie the Justices within written..that we have searched the Rolles.

†d. (with verb of motion) So as to go in or be inside: = IN *prep.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7951 Hii wiþinne turnde ayen & hom allenome. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 Poure hit withinne.

2. a. In the limits of, or in the inner part of, a space or region, esp. a city or country; in the place or realm.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1048 [Hi] ofsloȝon mæðer ge wiðinnan ge wiðutan ma þanne .xx. manna. *c* 1205 LAY. 18300 Vtheres cnihtes..wereden þene tun wið innen. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 382 If a kyng wol justifie His lond and hem that beth withynne. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 52 Scylla that was Duc of the Romayns wyth oute had many fayr victoyres agaynst the Romayns wyth Inne. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 1034 But whom they fear'd without, they found within. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xliv. V. 359 Traitors within, as well as exiles without. 1914 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 751 Support for the royal power against the barons within and the papacy without.

b. In (or into) the house or dwelling, indoors: = IN *adv.* 5; also, in the inner part of the house, in an inner chamber; *Theatr.* (esp. in stage-directions), behind the scenes.

c 1275 LAY. 642 He..brettede þan castle and þat folk wid ine. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2175 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 240 Al with-Inne seten is men as þel he lowest were. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 532 To mete as they were sett in halle, Syr Marrok was there ferre withynne y-wys. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 32 She was within, but he was yet abrode. 1599 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 143 *stage dir., Shout within, they all start vp.* 1603 — *John* IV. i. 85 Go stand within: let me alone with him. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. xiv. 159 The mother keepeth within, six weeks. 1771 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 26 May (1827) III. 419 The rain obliged me to preach within. 1813 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* XXXII, Not being within when he called the other day. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 131 'Within, there! ho!' shouted the traveller. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXIV, Apartments furnished for a single gentleman. Inquire within. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 539 A messenger went with the summons to the house of the Duke of Leeds, and was there informed that the Swiss was not within.

c. *transf.* In the number or membership of a class or community. (Cf. B. 1 c.) *rare.*

1526 [see WITHOUT *adv.* 2 b].

3. *fig.* In the inward being; in the mind, soul, or heart (sometimes implying 'in one's true character as opposed to outward appearance'); inwardly.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* VI. 6 Ȝahrepod mid heortan sarnysse wiðinnan. *c* 1000 — *Hom.* I. 604 We bæȝ fram Gode ... ge wiðutan ge wiðinnan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* ... halis gast ne learð þes monnes heorte and his mod wið-innan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5752 Ȝiff þiss hallȝhe gripþ iss wel wiþþinnenn i þin herrte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Vorto riwlen þe heorte wiðinnen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 10 Þe sixte heste uorbyet þe dede wyþ-oute, ac þis uorbyet þe grantinge wyþinne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 87 Be we neuer so vicious with-Inne We wol been holden wise. 1421 *26 Pol. Poems* XVIII. 118 Be suche wiþ-ynne, as ȝe outward seme. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., 22 Hen. VIII*, 287 b, His graces sight was so quike..that he saw him, ye and saw through him, both within, and without. 1627 FLETCHER *Valentinian* IV. iv, Think not the worse .., I shed not teares, Great griefes lament within. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* IV. i, I .. Stood firm collected in my Strength within. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 159 Look within, for within is the Fountain of Good. 1880 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XXXIII, Thou, that countest reason ripe In holding by the law within.

4. Preceded by *from* (†*out of*), in various senses.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XV. 357 Ye shall not goe oute of wythin, wythout my leve. 1645 GATAKER *God's Eye on Israel* 52 Nor any helper..; as no power from within, so no ayd from without. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 64 Other Powers..Fell not, but stand unshak'n, from within Or from without. 1820 WORDSW. *Sonn.* 'O'erweening *Statesmen*', From *within* proceeds a Nation's health. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 273 When the impression from without, or the stimulus from within,..excites the organs. 1896 J. DAVIDSON *Fleet St. Eclogues* Ser. II. 38 Be your own star, for strength is from within.

†5. Below the number or amount mentioned; less. (Cf. B. 7.) *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVI. (*Baptista*) 997 Al barnis..Of twa ȝers elde & withine. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11567 (Trin.) Of two ȝeer or wiþynne þus [*Cott.* Tua yeir or less]. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 135 To bye it at the some of C. mark or wythynne. 1509 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 286/2 To the nowmer of xii personis or within.

†6. In possession or occupation. *Obs. rare.*

1573 in Hone *Man. & Manor. Rec.* (1906) 191 Aforesaid Agnes survived him, and kept herself within, and was, and still is, seised thereof for term of her life.

B. *prep.*

1. In the inner part or interior of, inside of, in (a space, region, receptacle, etc.). (*a*) as a mere synonym of IN *prep.* 1. *arch.*

The use with gen. in 'þæt wiðinnan ys calicys' (*Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 26) is a literalism of translation (Vulg. *quod intus est calicis* = τὸ ἔνδοθεν τοῦ ποτηρίου).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 89 Þa weren þer igedered wiðinne þere buruh of ierusalem trowfeste men. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* 49 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 193 Wið-inne paradise. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 348 Vn-welde woren..Here owen limes hem wið-in. *Ibid.* 555 Þo wex a flod ðis werlde wid-hin. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2678 Þou and þi childer..And þat wons þi house wiþin. 1388 in *Archæologia* LII. 213 Wthin the said westre. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 136 Sei me..whi þou walkest þes wayes, þe wodes with-in? *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* VIII. *heading*, To passe ouer the ryuere wythin a bote. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 116 Wythin my bed I waikynnit quhair I lay. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 94 Schoolemasters will I keepe within my house. 1611 *Bible* Ps. ci. 2, I will walke within my house with a perfect heart. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 810 The Viper dead, within her Hole is found. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Moulines*, Her head leaning on one side within her hand. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* XXXVIII, It shall comfort me within the tomb. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 86 The bath within the pool of some green rill.

(*b*) with emphasis on the restriction or confinement by limits or boundaries: In the limits of, not outside or beyond. Opp. to WITHOUT *prep.* 1. (The current use.)

1131 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud), Ealle þa þing þa weron wiðinne mynstre & wiðuten, *c* 1200 ORMIN 1084 He..ȝede upp to þatt allterr þatt wass wiþþinnenn waȝherifft. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 256 (Laud), Wit hinne þe curt and wit oute. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 307 Every thing which was honeste Within-innen house and ek withoute. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) I. 5 The water of the see is fresech & holdeth his swetness .xx. myle within the see. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 665 In weyes and pathes..with-in burgh and with-out burgh. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Kings VI. 23 Within the Oracle he made two Cherubims of Oliue tree. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 110 Tyll all the good and fruitfull grounde Were hedged in whythin your mownde. 1584 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xiv. 15 Many small houses very aunciently builded within the grounde [=underground]. 1721 STRELE *Spect.* No. 91 P 2 Within the Liberties of the City of Westminster. 1794 *Act 34 Geo. III*, c. 93 § 63 The Mines and Minerals lying and being within or under the said Lands. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 437 Privileged districts, within which the Papal government had no more power than within the Louvre or the Escurial.

b. In (an inclosure or inclosing boundary); so as to be included, contained, surrounded, or confined by. Also in *fig.* context (cf. 9).

Within board (Naut.), in the inside of a ship: see BOARD *sb.* 19. *Within the lists*: see LIST *sb.*[2] 9.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 54 These broughten me within-borde of this shippe of Traveyle. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 29 Wiþ Inne the sercle of sees Of Erberi and Aless. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 811 With-in þe merris of Messedoyn. 1599 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 17 A Circle is a plaine and flat figure comprehended within one line, which is called a circumference. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 9 Scotlande..is hall wtin the sey, excepte that parve quhair it lyes to Ingland.

1598 Stow *Surv.* 242 First to speake of that part within the gate. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 5 To gain beleefe, one must keepe himselfe within the bounds of likelihood. 1748 Watts *Logic* I. vi. § 5 To leave Obscurities in the Sentence, by confining it within too narrow Limits. 1779 *Mirror* No. 20 P11 A man who has confined his turn for enjoyment within the bounds pointed out by nature. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iii, The proud Grandees .. repases within damask Curtains. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 221 Whether the Declaration of Indulgence lay within or without the limit was the question. *Ibid.* v. 614 Five hundred prisoners had been crowded into the parish church of Weston Zoyland ..five expired within the consecrated walls. 1872 R. H. Hutton *Theol. Ess.* (1888) i. 7 Those within the circle of its influence.

(*b*) Appended to names of places lying within a certain boundary or area, as *Bishopsgate Within* (i. e. within the walls of London), *Hensington Within* (i. e. within the borough of Woodstock).

1598 Stow *Surv.* 85 Aldersgate ward within and without. *Ibid.* 248 Farringdon Warde, Infra, or within. 1657 Howell *Londinop.* 87 We will .. take a Survey of Bridge Ward within, so called of London-Bridge. 1748 *Kmb's Lond. Directory* 93 Ware Nathaniel, Grocer, Bishopsgate within. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xlv, The united parishes of Saint Simon Without, and Saint Walker Within. 1899 *Kelly's Direct. Oxon* 323 s Hensington Within is a civil parish, formed..from the portion of the old parish in Woodstock municipal borough.

† c. *Within land*: in the interior of the country, at a distance from the coast or other boundary: = Inland C. *Obs.*

1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* ix. lv. (ed. 2) 840 The Ports dwell an hundred miles within Land. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 141 Coventry..at this day is the fairest City within-land. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 206 Though there is plenty of the same kind of stone to be found in Strata within land; yet the lime-burners can procure..sufficient quantity from the shelving sea-shore. 1813 Scott *Guy M.* xxxiv, It was too far within land, and I might have been scented.

d. On the inner (esp. landward) side of; further in than. (Cf. Without B. 1 c.) ? *Obs.*

1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 120 The Cutter, being on the Beam, and four Miles within us. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* iv, Three other apartments, one for my wife and me, another for our two daughters, within our own. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 336 At 116 yards within high-water mark. *c* 1804 Jane Austen *The Watsons* in *Mem.* (1871) 321 The tea-room was a small room within the card-room.

e. *transf.* In the membership of (a class, society, etc.); (in predicate) included in, forming a part of. (Cf. In *prep.* 7.)

1697 Jos. Woodward *Relig. Soc.* vi. (1701) 124 It is objected..That this is a Society within a Society, and a Refining upon a Reformed Church. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 471 Compositions which may be arranged within this class. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* (N.S.) LII. 319/2 Criminal informations are within the mischief intended to be guarded against.

2. To the interior of; into. Also with the boundary as obj., as in 1 b. (Cf. In *prep.* 30.) *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1205 Lay. 5812 Belin & Brennes buȝen heom fram þan fuhte wiþ innen are muchele dic. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3775 Alle he sunken ðe erðe wiðin. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2303 (Gött.) Feindes crepe þas ymagis wid-in. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 80 This Hors .Was broght withinne the Cite. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* lxxvii, I was anon In broght Within a chamber. *c* 1460 Henryson *Wolf & Wether* 51 Was nouther Uolf, Uildcat, nor ȝit Tod Durst cum within thay boundis all about. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 68 Full lustily thir ladyes ..Enterit within this park. 1582 N. Litchefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. v. 13 b, Going upon the friday within a certein harbour. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 21, I would Haue suncke the Sea within the Earth. 1854 Lingard *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 291 Admission within the fold.

† 3. In or into the midst of, among, with; *spec.* in the house of; hence, in the hands or possession of.

a 1240 *Ureisun* 26 In *O. E. Hom.* I. 191 Bluoren ðine leoue sune wiþ-innen seraphine. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 52 Whan thay myght nat wyth streynth spede, thay bethoght ham that wyth falshed & wyth treyson they wold come wyth-yn ham. 1448 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 2 To serche what osmundes he had with in hym at yat tyme. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* xx. 92 So wer þese chanones fer sette fro þe nunnes þat þei schuld not come with-inne þe nunnes .. but only for ministracion of þe sacramentis. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 399 Yf he kepe any Bawdery withinne hym his fyne is at euery tyme vj s. viij d. 1482 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1910) 122 He shalle bynde and repayre alle bookes needefulle wythine vs. 1490 *Will J. Baker* (Somerset Ho.), Elisabeth..dwelling within me. 1493 *Mirk's Festywall* 151/2 Some..men yt had copyes of this bokis within hem at home. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2124/2 A woman that dwelleth within vs. 1609 Tourneur *Funeral Poem Sir F. Vere*, When occasion did present His observation with some accident Within the enemie, that did invite The side he served in to attempt a fight.

4. Various *transf.* uses, chiefly with reflexive pronoun. † a. In the limits of (not beyond or outside) the body, community, or collection of. *Within themselves* (*ourselves*, etc.): among themselves (etc.), independently of others. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2914 Wit-in þeir auen kind to brede, 1484 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 522 Hit shal be determyned & orderyd by all the Mairys withyn them self. 1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 526/2 They, within theymselfe, shall make Collection of such Somes of Money as shall be assessed..to be levyed. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 140 If they perceyue dissention in our lookes, And that within our selues we disagree. 1684 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 189 They differed within themselves in their votes. 1737 [S. Bearcroft] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 213 Living entirely within themselves, free from all Mixture and Commerce with other People.

b. *Within oneself* (*itself*, etc.): (*a*) so as to be self-contained or independent, without external connexion (now *dial.*); † (*b*) in self-command or self-control, not 'beside oneself'; (*c*) in the limits of one's own belongings or resources, without external supply or aid (now *dial.*); (*d*) not beyond one's normal capacity of exertion; without strain, or waste of energy or effort.

(*a*) 1528 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 136 He seid..that my lord of Peturburgh was lord and Kyng wythin hym self vnder the Kyng. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 772 A world within itself, disdaining all assault. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxvi, Some efforts..towards building houses *within themselves*, as they are emphatically termed.

(*b*) 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 75 Good Madam, keepe your selfe within your selfe.

(*c*) 1738 Earl Oxford in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 172 The several officers have all within themselves for their use, cook, butler, housekeeper, wash house, laundry, brew house. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxi. II. 239 They drive a great many cattle from North Carolina..into Virginia, to be slaughtered there; and they kill and salt some beef, and..pork, for the West Indies, within themselves. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 309 They, for the most part, live entirely upon the produce of the farm, and think they do well when they can, (in their own words) 'live within themselves'; that is to say,..without buying any thing. 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss., Within-ourselis*, in our possession, without purchase.

(*d*) 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 148 The Sweat will not..appear so plentiful, provided he [*sc.* the horse] is quite run within himself. 1860 Whyte-Melville *Mkt. Harb.* x. 76 [The horse] going well on his haunches, and quite within himself. 1878 *Month* Aug. 463 They are rowing quite within themselves, in very good time, and have the race in hand.

5. *fig.* In the (inner) being, soul, or mind of. *Within oneself*, spec. (after *say*, *think*, etc.) = in thought, mentally, without outward expression.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) cii[ii]. 1 Ealle ða ðe wiðinnan me synd [Vulg. *intra me sunt*]. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 221 Þ þæsiun acwenche þe þæslun of sunnen þet wunieð wið inne me. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 807 þe find .. said wit hin his sari thoght, Ic haue him don to suinc for noght. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 326 þe holy goste ys þe withynne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 153 Huanne þise tuo ziden of þe herte byeb acorded..þet is þe scele and þet wyl þanne is þe man ordine wyþ-inne him-zelue. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 338 To ouyr-comen enemis þat arn þe wiþ-inne. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* ix. 21 She saide with ynne hir self, 3if I touche oonly the clothis of hym, I shal be saaf. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxix. 22 Hald Hoip and Treuthe within the fast. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xxiv. 32 Did not oure hertes burne wyth in vs, whyll he talked with vs? 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 24 The spirit of my Father, which I thinke is within mee, begins to mutinie against this seruitude. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. (1698) 118 Laughing within himself. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 217 They will be moved on the slightest occasions, whether those offer from within or without them. 1836 Lytton *Duchess de La Vallière* III. iii, How sinks my heart within me! 1853 Rock *Ch. Fathers* II. xii. (1903) IV. 179 The priest prayed—by name, but within himself—for the then pope [etc.]. 1860 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* vii. (1865) 55 It irks my brain and heart to think of her, all shut up within herself. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xxx, And fire and ice within me fight Beneath the suffocating night.

6. In the limits of (a period of time); most usually, before the end of, after not more than; also, since the beginning of, not more than . . . ago; or *gen.* between the beginning and end of, in the course of, during. So † *within a word* = as soon as a word was uttered, at a word.

c 1175 *E. E.* (*Vesp.*) *Hom.* 89 Wiðinnen feower wucan comen [hi] to him. *c* 1205 Lay. 4955 Wið innen a lut ȝeren Brennes hine bi-fohte. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1500 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 149 Euerech Abbod of greie Monekes to pulke chapitle cam With-Inne þre ȝer. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7047 Sone afterward, with-yn a lytyl. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 149 He hath wedded a wyf with-Inne þis syx monethes. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 103, I fel a-slepe with-Inne an our or two. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 119 He schall hafe worde within a day and a nyght. 1535 Coverdale *Acts* I. 5 Ye shalbe bapty-ed with ye holy goost, & that within this few dayes. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scot.* Pref. b v b, How many meanes and weys hath my lord Protectours grace, within his tyme of gouernaunce..attempted..to shonne these warres. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. To King § 15 Things..which may be done in succession of ages, though not within the houre-glasse of one mans life. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 79 If the Owner do not come within a year and a day. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 217, I am, within these three Days, recovering Spirits and Appetite. 1822 *Act 3 Geo. IV* c. 39 § 1 Within Twenty one Days after the Execution of such Warrant of Attorney. 1869 'Mark Twain' *New Pilgr. Progr.* xl. (1870) 85 The cry went abroad of 'Ten minutes to dress for breakfast!'..I was dressed within the ten minutes. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xix. IV. 361 One of which was standing within the present generation. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 2 (*title*), The Hours within which Marriages may be lawfully solemnized.

† b. *Within night*: after nightfall. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy bk.* 7694 The day was gon, thei hadde no lyght, For it was wel with-Inne nyght. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. ccccl. 533 About two houres within night they armed them. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 148 The last howre of Prayer, is alwayes two or three howres within night. 1638 W. Hennes *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 208 We.. arrived..a little within night.

† c. (without reference to limits) At some time during; = In *prep.* 18. *Obs.*

1472 *Acts Audit.* (1839) 26/1 þe last court quhen.., he dome was gewin was within feryale tyme enne gude Wednisday in passioun wouk. 1551–2 in Feuilleret *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 74 Boughte of him within y^e^ moneth of december. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 60 King Pharamond..died within the yeare of our Redemption, Foure hundred twentie six. 1681 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 79 He to whom the property is, may take him within the year. [1830 Tennyson *In Mem.* xcii, Tho' it spake and bared to view A fact within the coming year.]

7. Not beyond or above (a specified or implied amount or degree); at, in, or of less than or not more than; so as not to exceed or surpass; *esp.* (*b*) in expressions of a small difference or margin of error from a larger amount: = with a difference of not more than (so much) above or, usually, below.

1388 Wyclif *1 Chron.* xxvii. 23 Dauid nolde noumbre hem with ynne twenti ȝeer [1382 fro twenty yeer and benethen]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxx. 137 Faire damyselle within þe elde of xv. ȝere. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 290 Wether þei ben coynnes wythinne degre of mariage or no. 1489 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 131/2 þe seriffis quhilkis prisit his gudis laid prisit þaim gretly within þe availe of þaim. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 20 *Preamble*, Beyng of kyn..unto the said John..within the second and third degree. 1727 Swift *Let. to very young Lady* Misc. II. 337, I think you ought to be well informed how much your Husband's Revenue amounts to, and be so good a Computer as to keep within it. 1783 Ld. Percy in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 58 Being.. determined to live within my income. 1891, 1897 [see Mark *sb.*[1] 12 c]. 1889 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 453 The actions were commenced within a few days of each other.

(*b*) 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxxvi. 28 Thousands..are gone..Till all: within fortie, weare flowne quight awale. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xiii. xv. I. 393 The..diametre..was foure foot within three quarters of an inch. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 126 He is very yong, and yet will he within three pound lift as much as his brother Hector. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 91 P 1 She has a tall Daughter within a Fortnight of Fifteen. 1886 E. C. Robins *Temple Sol.* (1887) 15 The extreme length of Solomon's Temple..is made (in his restoration of it) to agree with that of the Temple of Pæstum within a inches. 1920 *Conquest* Apr. 168 The unit of electrical current..was obtained..to within one point in 20,000.

† b. *Within age* = of less than full age, under age. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxxviii. (1859) 64 They.. gouerne hym, ryght as he were to yonge within age. 1490–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 317 Chyldren..that dye wythin age vncrystened. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) II. cl. [xcvii.] 295 When kynge Rycharde was crowned..he was within age, and a kynge ought nat to gouerne a royalme tyll he be xxi. yeres of age. 1596 Bacon *Use Com. Law* iii. (1630) 35 Leauing their heire within age, a Male within 21. and a female within 14. yeares.

c. Not beyond or outside (a specified distance); at or to a distance of less, or not more, than; nearer or not farther away than.

Often in fig. phrases, as *within an ace, a hair's breadth of.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 3044 As sone as Ermones..Sawe that he was withynne his wepons length, Anon he smote Att hym. 1537 Layton in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 137 Other doctor Lee or I have familier acqwayntance within x. or xij. myles of hit. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 25 [We] came within foure degrees of the Æquinoctiall. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 23 The least false Step brings them within an Ace of Death. 1726, 1839 [see Inch *sb.*[1] 2]. 1758, 1767 [see Hair's-breadth, Hairbreadth]. 1794 *Act 34 Geo. III* c. 93 § 64 Within the Distance of Ten Yards. 1812 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 Almost within striking distance of each other. 1863 Whyte-Melville *Gladiators* xxxvii, The German would not permit Esca to approach within spear's-length of his post. 1865 A. Trollope *Belton Estate* xiii, Keeping within a few yards of his sister's chair.

8. In expressions referring to the physical range of some action or perception: Not beyond, not farther than the extent of: as *within call*, near enough to hear a call; *within reach*, near enough to reach, or to be reached; *within sight*, or *hearing*, near enough to see or hear, to be seen or heard; etc. Often const. *of* (the agent or perciplent, or the object of the action or perception). Cf. In *prep.* 9 d.

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lv. 188 He slewe..all that came within his stroke. *a* 1533– (see Sight *sb.*[1] 4 e). 1580– [see Cannon-shot 3]. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 83 Shoote not at every bird, but onely at those that are within reach to be hit. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 127 Come not within the measure of my wrath. 1607– [see Earshot]. 1623 Massinger *Db. Milan* IV. iii, Be within call. 1687 Prior *Hind & P. Transv.* 5 Stand off and come not within my Swords point. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 311 P 4 A Man..talking loud within her Hearing. 1766, 1860 [see Hearing *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xv, There is also a powerful force within a few hours' march of us. 1856 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 280, I will never be 'within wind' of Scotsbrig without going to see Jamie.

b. Inside the guard, defence, or point of; near enough to come to grips with; *Fencing*, on the inside of (one's sword, arm, etc.). Also *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1596 *Robin Hood, Play* (ed. W. Copland) H ij b, Well I wote the horeson lepte within me And fro me he toke my

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Err. v. i. 34 Some get within him, take his sword away. *a* 1697 South *Serm., Rom. i. 32* II. 256 When by such Insinuations they have once got within him, and are able to drill him on from one Lewdness to another. 1707 Sir W. Hope *New Method Fencing* 99 The Single Feint within and above the Sword, called in the Schools *Volte Coupé*. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 109 P 3 He came within the Target of the Gentleman who rode against him. 1829 Roland *Fencing* 34 When, upon joining blades with your adversary, you find your sword in a line between his sword-arm and the left side of his body..it is termed being within the arm.

1676 R. F. Burrow *New Syst. Sword Exerc.* 92 When the point is passed well under and within the sword-arm.

9. *fig.* In the extent of (something abstract figured as a region, or as having extension); *esp.* in, or not beyond, the scope or sphere of action of (authority, power, knowledge, a law, etc.). Cf. In *prep.* 8, 9 d.

1493 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 272/2 He wes within our soverane lordis warde. 1532 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 8 § 1 Suche as ben within holy orders only excepte. 1586 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 38 Wythin hys Jurisdiction. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 289 But this lyes all within the wil of God. 1620 B. Jonson *Alch.* I. i, You will bring him in within the statute? 1643 [see Sphere *sb.* 6 b]. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 357 That none should have the benefit of this recourse to the Ordinary, but those who were within holy Orders. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-t.* (Arb.) 88 Eat within your Stomack, act within your Commission. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 201 P 1 As they live within Rules, and as they transgress them. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxviii. 365 Within the benefit of clergy. 1800 *Broderip & Bingham's Rep.* I. 436 Whether the party was a trader within the bankrupt laws. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* viii, Who .. will assert that..their place of retirement is within my knowledge? 1880 Spencer *First Princ.* I. ii. § 14. 43 Even.. Atheism comes within the definition. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xiii. III. 288 Did they deem the enterprise within his power? 1892 *Law Times' Rep.* LXIII. 776/1 The contract and the label together constituted a written warranty within the meaning of the above section.

C. *adj.* That is within; † (of a letter or document) enclosed. *rare.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 258 This is a favour you'll see by the within Letter. *a* 1766 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 233 Give him the within letter. 1794 *Bloomfield's Rep.* 12 Agreeably to the command of the within Writ. 1806 Gen. Wilkinson in Coues *Exped. Z. M. Pike* (1895) II. 574 You will not fail, in addition to the within talk, to enhance our paternal regard for this nation.

D. *Comb.* **a.** of the adv.; in quots. in sense 1 c, as † *within-bounden, within-named* adjs. **b.** of the prep.: **within-bound** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), confined or experienced within bounds (in a school).

1498 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 593 The condicion of þis obligacion is such that whereas certayn trauers is dependyng betwixt þe withinbounden Maire & Cominalte on the on partie and þe priour & Couent..on þe oþer partie [etc.]. 1570 in G. F. Townsend *Leominster* (n. d.) 300 The within-named John Ingle. 1706 De Foe *True Relat.* Pref., Wks. (1889) 436 The house in which the within-named Mrs. Bargrave lived. 1708 *Rec. Stitchill* (S. H. S. 1905) 159 The within-designed George Hamilton. 1834 Chitty *Forms* 165 As well the within-named plaintiff as the within-named defendant. 1839 W. Howitt *Boy's Country-Bk.* xvi. 227 What are all their within-bound enjoyments..to their monthly rural walks? 1844 A. B. Corner *Forms of Writs*, etc. 43 To be indorsed 'By Rule of Court,' (if so). At the instance of the within-named Appellants (or Respondents).

† **Withi·n-door**, *adv. phr.* (*a.*) *Obs.* [See Door *sb.* 5.] = next.

Speak within door: 'do not clamour so as to be heard beyond the house' (J.).

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 31 Him..that hath a Conduite within doore, and fetcheth water without. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. ii. 144 Speake within doore. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Greatn. Kingd.* (Arb.) 481 Sedentary, and Within-doore [*ed.* 1612 within-doores] Arts. 1649 C. Wase *Sophocles, Electra* 4 Methinks within door,..I seemd to heare One of the maidens keep a groaning. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers*, I suspect he had his within-door reasons for the preference.

Withi·n(-)doors, *adv. phr.* (*adj., sb.*) *arch.* In (or into) the house: = Indoors.

1582 Mulcaster *Positions* viii. (1888) 53 One to be vsed within dores, and the other abroade. *a* 1690 in Somers *Tracts* (1748) I. 264 It seems..odd..that [he] should..make his final Appeal to the People, before he had tried the Force of one of his Reasons within-doors. 1789 S. Shaw *Tour W. Eng.* 459 Rain confined us within doors several hours. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii, All within-doors is very plain and simple. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1871) II. 266 An English coal-fire, if we could see its honest face within doors, would compensate for all the unamiableness of the outside atmosphere. 1884 Black *Jud. Shakespeare* vi, Judith's father would have no serving-men..come within-doors. 1893 Hardy *Jude the Obscure* I. ii, An animated conversation in progress within-doors.

b. (with hyphen) † *attrib.* or as *adj.* = Indoor 1; also as *sb.* that which is, or those who are, indoors.

1612 [see prec., quot. 1625]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 29 That there be more addicted to arts manly, than unto sedentary and within-doores occupations. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 286 All the within-doors of the village empties itself there.

† **Withi·nforth**, *adv. Obs.* Also with hyphen, or as two words (variously divided), or as three. [f. Within *adv.* + Forth *adv.* Cf. *withoutforth.*] Properly, Everywhere within, internally throughout (see Forth *adv.* 2 b); but in use a mere synonym of *within*: = Within *adv.* 1, 2, 3.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. v. (1868) 168 Þe passioun of þe body..moueþ..þe formes þat resten wiþ in forþe. 1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* ii. 9 A boke..writen withinforth and withoutforth. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. i. in *Anglia* VIII. 251/3 Wiþ how mykel dyuerste of vertues she was arayed.. wiþ-inforþe. 1467 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 373 That no citezen sewe another in a foreyn courte vnto the tyme he take his accyon wtynforth. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xx. xxii. 836 They withinforth kepte theyr walles, & deffended them whan nede was. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 78 b, Wene you..that it is with me withinforth, as it appeareth outwardly? 1543 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 135 It is so harde to cause a chylde to take any thyng within forth. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xi. 43 Ye outwardely beare a shewe of holynesse, yet..withinfoorth swell in ambicion. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxi. xiv. II. 95 The..lid..ought to.. have libertie to play up and downe behind, that it may bee let downe farre within-forth. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* 108 The Romanes..when they were about to found..cities.. yoked on the right hand a Bull, and within forth a Cow.

Withi·nside, *adv., prep.*, (*sb.*). Now *arch.* or *dial.* (Also with hyphen, or rarely as two words.) [f. Within + Side *sb.*[1], after *inside.*]

A. *adv.*

1. On the inner side: = Inside *adv.* 1, Within *adv.* 1 (in part). Also const. *of.*

a 1593 Southwell *Hundred Meditt.* (1873) 70 The windows ..were wider..withinside than without. 1652 French *Distill.* i. 38 The salt..which adheres to the neck of the Retort withinside. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Greenhouse*, Within-side of the Windows..you should have good strong Shutters. 1778 Graves *Spir. Quix.* iv. xii, A small oval picture,..fixed in a pannel, within-side of the door. 1800 T. Green *Diary Lover Lit.* (1810) 204 He employs.. the illustration of a man withinside, and another withoutside, of a sphere, disputing on its convexity or concavity. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 154 *String*, one or two planks withinside, next under the gunwale, answering to the sheer-strakes withoutside.

2. In (or to) the inner part or interior (*of*): = Inside *adv.* 2, Within *adv.* 1 (in part), 1 b, 1 d. Also, indoors: = Within *a.*[1] *adv.* 2 b.

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* v. i. 126 Cauallero, or a mount withinside distant from the curtine. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 533 P 8 What passes..within-side of those Vehicles. *a* 1723 Sir C. Wren in Lucy Phillimore *Mem.* (1881) 347 A Basis of squar'd stone fifty foot high..so contrived within-side as to form a very intricate Labyrinth. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp Philos.* (1776) I. 389 The diver..sate upon a small seat within-side. 1774 — *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. vi. xi. 464 The porcupine's quill is within-side spongy. 1801 Maria Edgworth *Irish Bulls* vii, The imprudence of firing at the door of a house without having previously examined whether any one was withinside. 1806 R. Cumberland *Mem.* (1807) II. 153 An edifice, that requires a day to examine it within side and without. *Ibid.* 397 A gaudy equipage will attract notice, though it shall carry a dull company withinside of it. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* xxxvii. (1808) II. 78 We meant..to have forsaken the roof and taken our seats within-side. 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* x. 260 My gentleman sat withinside tailor-wise and busily stitching.

3. *fig.* Within the limits *of.*

1898 J. Grote in *Cambr. Ess.* 104 The classical range is restricted withinside of Greek and Latin literature.

B. *prep.* = Inside *prep.*

1. On the inner side of: = Within *prep.* 1 b, d.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 99 The stake ..they run up withinside the spinal bone. *a* 1766 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Nourjahad* (1767) 25 It was within-side the walls of the temple. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* xcix. (1893) 398 Various evolutions withinside the pale. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. ix, Holiday music from within-side a prison wall.

2. In the inner part of: = Within *prep.* 1.

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 198 Why may not these imperfect Metalls..grow..withoutside the stalks of Gorse, as well as the perfect both without and withinside other plants? 1782 Eliz. Blower *Geo. Bateman* II. 200 Permit her to stay within-side the house. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* I. x, Harriet..had never..been within side the Vicarage. 1849 De Quincey *Engl. Mail Coach* Wks. 1863 IV. 348 *note*, Graves within-side the cathedrals.

† **C.** *sb.* The inner side: = Inside *sb.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

a 1814 *Bandit* II, in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 409 She fastens the within-side.

So **Withi·nsides** *adv. arch.* or *dial.*

1892 Stevenson *Island Nts.' Entert., Bottle Imp* (1893) 154 Withinsides something obscurely moved. *a* 1894 — *Fables* xviii. *Touchstone*, His soul withinsides was as little as a pea. 1910 Kipling *Rewards & Fairies* 74 That thought shrivelled me withinsides.

Withi·nward, -wards, *advs. nonce-wds.* [f. Within + -ward, -wards.] Towards the interior.

1611 Florio, *Adintro*, from within, withinward [Torriano (1659) from within-ward]. 1865 J. Grote *Explor. Philos.* I. 8 The communication being only withinwards from without, and not..withoutwards from within.

Withlich, obs. form of Wightly *adv.*

Withnay: see With-.

Withness (wi·ðnés). *nonce-wd.* [f. With *prep.* + -ness.] The fact of being with some one or something; collocation, association.

1907 W. James *Pragmatism* iv. 256 The lowest grade of universe would be a world of mere *withness.* 1912 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 99 This Withness, Together-withness, association, ..brings us into the interior of the plan of the creation.

Withnim: see With-

Without (wiðou·t), *adv., prep., conj.* Forms (2–5 written as one or as two words): α. wiþ-, wiþutan, 2–4 wip-, withuten, 3–5 wipouten, etc. (see With and Outen *adv.*), 4–6, 7–9 *arch.* withouten; also 3 -utene, -utin, 4–5 -owtten(e, 5 -oughten, -owghten, -outene, -yn(e, etc.; *abbreviated* 5 w'outon, w'owtyn. β. 2–4 wipute, 3–4 witute, 3–6 withoute, (3 widh wute, wip houte, 4 wit out(t)e, 5 witheoute), etc. (cf. Oute *adv.*); *abbreviated* 4, 6 w' oute, 5 w'owte, w'ouzte. γ. 3 wip vt, 4–5 wipout, etc. (see With and Out *adv.*), 4– **without**; *abbreviated* 5–6 w'out, 5 w'ouzt, w'wt, 6, 8 wout, 7 w'thout. [Late OE. *wiþútan*, f. *wiþ* With *prep.* + *útan* Outen *adv.*: see Within.]

A. *adv.*

I. Outside, in various senses: opp. to Within *adv.* Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.*

For instances of the ellipsis of the object of the prep., in which *without* has the appearance of an adv., and may be so construed, see B. 4 and 14.

1. On the outside or outer surface (of a material thing); externally.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 86 His lichama barn wiðutan mid langsumere hætan. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3828 On a wond Wið-uten ðo wrot he wið hond Þe twelfte names of ðat kin. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 8047 A vesselle dypped..In water .. Has water bath with-in and with-out. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. vii. (1495) N vj/2 A Rede..is..smothe wythout & holow within. 1419 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 247 They were endosid wiþoutyn to suche persones as us liste assigne. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 17347 (Trin.) Þei.. shutte þe dores at þe last Wiþinne & wiþoute loken so. 14.. *Why I can't be a Nun* 280 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 14 Schyned wythe-owte so fayre and clere. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 52 Be the lackes faire within, the Gils faire without? 1622 Corvat *Crudities* 85 The Dukes Palace seemeth to be faire, but I was not in it, onely I saw it without. 1622 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 82 The Images called Silenes, which a farre off, and without appeared to bee grossely carued. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 505 It is an ordinary Curiosity, to Forme Trees and Shrubs..into Sundry Shapes; which is done by Moulding them within, and Cutting them without. 1797 [see Within A. 1].

2. Outside (or out of) the place mentioned or implied; *esp.* outside the house or room; out of doors.

a 1200 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* xvi. 206 Þæt ðær ȝelamp, þæt hig ealle in on þa burh foron, þæt ðær nan þing þæs folces wyðutan belyfen næs. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 992 Man scolde fandian ȝif man wiðs mitte betræppan þane here ahwar wiþutan. *c* 1205 Lay. 18562 Bruttes weoren wið innen..& Melga wið vten, & Mal nan win in þat es wit-oute. *Ibid.* 13082 'Welcum be þou lauerd', said þai, 'Duell þou noght wit-vte.' *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2240 Naymes þanne with-oute ȝede & hadde þe kyng wiþ-inne. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) v. 17 Fra þis citee til a hill withoute bare Sampson..þe ȝates of þe citee. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xii. 47 Behold thy moder and thy brethren stond without. 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* x. 24 Whan they came in to offer sacrifyces..Iehu appoynted him foure score men without. 1664 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 300 They wer al sett in the feilds, but M. J. L. absolutely refused to preach without. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 175 All this time poor Mercy did stand without, trembling and crying for fear that she was rejected. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. iii, There is a Footman without with the Horses. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* v, *Jar*...I'll go harten things without. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 562 Meanwhile the throng without was..becoming more numerous and more savage. 1890 Bridges *Spring* II. viii, When winds without make moan, I love my own fireside. 1892 Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* I. xv, Pinchas..betook himself unceremoniously without.

b. *transf.* Outside of a class, body, or community; not in the number or membership; in an alien or foreign community. *Those* (*that are*) *without* = 'outsiders'. Now only in echoes of 1 *Cor.* v. 12.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3024 Þe king..let rere up chirchen & to al þat lond aboute, & bissopes dude in hor poer, þat er were al wiþoute. ? *a* 1300 in *O. E. Misc.* 146/34, xxxij. achiren syndan on engelonde. And Norþhumbie is wiþ-vtan And loðen and westmaraland and Cumberlond And Cornwale. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) II. lxxiv. [lxx.] 224 The pryse was gyuen of them without, to syr Johne Holande. 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* v. 12 What have I to do to iudge them that are with out? Do ye not iudge them that are with in? 1535 Coverdale *Deut.* xxv. 5 Then shall not ye wife of the deed take a straunge man without, but hir kynsman shal.. take her to wyfe. 1676 W. Allen *Addr. Nonconf.* 67 The breaking the Churches Peace..and the bad effects of it, both among themselves and in reference to them without. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Fr. Darcy* xxxix, The secrets of my trade.. are not to be lightly communicated to those who are without. 1864 Pusey *Daniel* (1876) 300 To win those without to live according to the law.

3. *fig.* and *gen.* Outside of the inward being, soul, or mind; with regard to external actions or circumstances; in relation to others or to something other than the self; sometimes, in outward appearance as opposed to inward reality; outwardly.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 404 Swa sind ȝe eac smeowode wiðutan rihtwise on manna ȝesihðum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Þe oðer riwle is al wiðuten, & riwleð þe hiome & licomliche deden. 1340 *Ayenb.* 25 Ypocrisye..is a zenne þet makeþ to snewy þe guod wyþoute þet ne is nøt wyþinne. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 54 How þay sall bere þam with-owtten and with-in; howe to God, how to man. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxvi. 123 Ne þare schuld na man luffe a creature for þe bewtee withouten. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) I. iii, Some thynges they make in operacyon wythout all onely, the whiche thynges are not in the soule materyally. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) 2 Cor. vii. 5 We were troubled on euerie side, fightings without, & terrours within. 1607 Grimestone tr. *Goulart's Admir. Hist.* 392 Rage..may..haue inward beginnings, without any accidentall contagion without. 1653 Bogan *Medit. Mirth Chr. Life* 209 When (for ought a man can see) by his countenance without, a godly man may be sad, and melancholick, and perplexed. 1692 E. Walker tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* xxvi, An injury To something else without, 'tis none to thee. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Hill & Valley* v. 84 Then you will be at ease without and at peace within. 1855 G. Macdonald (*title*) Within and Without: a dramatic poem.

4. Preceded by *from*, in above senses.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1032 'Ze Calodoyna',..he callis fra with-oute. 1645– [see Within *adv.* 4]. 1788 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* ix. 190 The hints I received from without. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-nat. Man* v, He who seeks only for applause from without, has all his happiness in another's keeping. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvi, Doors opened smartly from without. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 548 An independent state, jealous of all interference from without. 1898 Illingworth *Div. Immen.* vi. 137 The man loses his power of self-determination,..and is..determined from without.

B. *prep.*

1. Outside of, beyond (in various senses): opp. to Within *prep.* Now only *literary* or *arch.*

1. Outside of, on or at the outside of, in the space external to (a space, region, place, receptacle, inclosing boundary, etc.).

Without board (Naut.): see BOARD *sb.* 12. See also WITHOUT doors below.

c 893 *K. ALFRED Oros.* II. iv. § 7 Wiðutan þæm dice is geworht twezea elna heah weall. *a* 1121 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1079 Se cyng Willelm gefeaht togeanes his sunu Rotbearde wiðutan Normandize. *c* 1205 [see BOARD *sb.* 12]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1367 At a welle wið-uten de tun. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8196 (Fairf.) Ilkan to sette þaire pauylion..wiþout [*Cott.* wiwit] þe toun. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 31 Obied wid-vten þe kirke dore to þe vre be sungen. 1410 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 16 The Cherch of seynt Clementis wythowtyn Templebarr. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10989 (Trin.) þe folke þat were þe chirche wiþoute Wondride what he was aboute. 1426 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 112 As well withoute house as within. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 276 To pyche the said shipp without borde. 1497 *Ibid.* 250 Abourde the Regent withoute Portesmouth haven. 1572 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* 711 No Bishop maie geeue orders without his owne Diocese. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 205 Thare fell a schour of rane,..so vehement, that no man mycht abyd without a house. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 94 A little Chappell a mile without the Village. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I I. (1677) 20 We cannot know..whether there be any Worlds without the compass of this. 1727 BERKELEY *Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 530 The church of St. Agnes without the City. 1745 *Kent's Lond. Directory* 83 Snow Thomas & Comp. Bankers, without Temple-bar. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xviii. II. 727 The Irish language was universally spoken without the pale. 1869 TYNDALL *Notes Lect. Light* § 202 The rays of greatest heat..lie entirely without the visible spectrum. 1885 *Act 48 Vict.* c. 15. Sched. II. 2 A parish.. situate partly within and partly without the boundary.

b. (with verb of motion) So as to be outside of, to the outside of, out of. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 39 Da namon hig & ofsloxon hyne & awurpon wið-utan þone win-geard. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2226 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 170 With-oute þe 3ates ne cam he nouȝt. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 91 Nabugodonosor..slowȝ alle the strong men,..and þrewe hem wiþ outen þe walles vnburied. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 45 She yede without her place crieng on God. 1464-5 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1874) XII. 30/2 Sendand woll..fra quhatsumeuir port..within þe Realme of Scotland wtwt þe samyn Realme. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* xii. 317 He led me without the camp.

c. On the outer side of; further out than; (in or to the space) beyond. (Cf. WITHIN B. 1 d.)

1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 18 All the middest of his battell.. was extended without the left Wing of Cyrus his Troopes. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 5 When I came without the Spitend, I saluted the Hastings. 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* xliii, The rest of the court form in a second circle without the ambassadors. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 122 Off the rock of Sipsapa, are three spots of breakers,.. one without another. 1857 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 736 *Without*, outside, as, studding-sail without studding-sail.

†d. At more than, beyond (a specified distance).

1784 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6290/3 To begin to Work without 70 Yards Distance from the Shoar.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Outside of, not in the limits of, external(ly) to.

1028-60 *Laws Northumb. Priests* § 61 Þæt nan man ne wiht,se on neahnibban men þonne wiðutan þam IIII. cneowe. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 105 Withouten halikirke nis na saule hele. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 13166 (Fairf.) Nauþer I aske þe hous ne lande Ne nane oþer þing wiþ-oute resoun [*Cott.* wit vnresun]. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 17 Ilke sunday wid-uten lentin sal þe cantikils be said. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* vii, Whan he was vexed with ony materis, eythir with-oute þe religion or with-Inne. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 45 It was forbidden vnto them to marie without their owne tribe. 1618 WITHER *Motto, Nec Curo* Juvenilia (1633) 544 He that beares an honest heart about him, Needs never feare what changes be without him. 1694 STANHOPE *Epictetus' Morals* i. 12 The Object that moves our Affection, is without us. 1705 — *Paraphr.* II. 138 Some [reasons] are without the compass of my present design. 1877 SPARROW *Serm.* xiv. 190 One whose sources of happiness are without him.

†b. So as to exceed; beyond. *Obs.*

The phr. *without measure* (= F. *sans* or *outre mesure*), 'immoderate(ly)', 'excessive(ly)', belongs here or under 10 a.

c 1400 [see MEASURE *sb.* 12 b]. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1895 Somtyme without Measure he trusted in golde; And now without Measure he shal haue hunger and colde. *c* 1620 *Women Saints* (1886) 63 Beating and bouncing her without all measure.

†**3.** Beyond the extent of, outside the range of (some action or perception); beyond the scope or sphere of action of. *Obs.*

For *without comparison*, etc. see 10 d.

a 1548 [see REACH *sb.*[1] 5 b]. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Prol. A ij b, He beynge without the danger of gonne shot. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 151 b, Though it be without my commission to meddle with them. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii § 3 Two thynges are without our commaund: Poyntes of Nature, and pointes of Fortune. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. (1677) 91 Conjectures of things without our knowledge. 1778 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* iii. (1876) 332 Beauties in our art that seem..to lie without the reach of precept. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. vii. 70 The happy consequences..are without description. 1809 *Lovity & Sorrow* II. 221 To witness the elements jarring from above, and without their reach.

†b. Beyond the capacity or comprehension of (= BEYOND B. 5 b); outside the province of. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv, Oh, now I apprehend you; your phrase was without me before. 1609 — *Sejanus* II. i, The ages that succeede..shall admire And reckon it an act, without your Sense.

4. Used *absol.* by ellipsis of obj., in opposition to *within* (or *in*) prep., where it has the appearance of an adv.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5033 Bath in huses and wit-vte. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 256 (Laud) Wit hinne þe curt and wit oute. 1480 in *Cov. Lect Bk.* 446 Places within the shire of Couentre & withoute. 1587 A. FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1399/1 Alliances either in Italie or without. 1830 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Richter again* (1872) III. 21 Is not God's Universe within our head, whether there be a torn skull-cap or a king's diadem without?

II. Senses intermediate between I. and III.

†**5.** In addition to, or with the addition of; besides. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 366 We habbeð seoue þusund of gode cnihten, wið outen wimen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4107 An hondred þousend hors..Wiþ oute votmen þat were so vale þat þer nas of non ende. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 54 Without-outen alle þis a hundreth knyghtes he toke. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 461 Housbondes..she hadde fyue Withouten oother compaignye in youthe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VI. 93 Wiþ oute þe ful service he wolde every day seie þe sawier. 1436 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Collect. IV. 207 There 38 redy..iiij^c shippes of forstage wythoute other smal shipes. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xlv. 14 God (with out whom there is none other God).

†**6.** Exclusive of, not including, except. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 378 Nim..þa wyrtas warmia, alla wiðutan saulna. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 537 A flod..ouer-flowȝed men & deres kin, Wið-vten noe and hise dre sunen. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 425 Godard was..þe moste swike, þat eure in erþe shaped was, With-uten on, þe wike Iudas. *c* 1320 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 119 He wes the fayrest mon, With-outen Absolon, That seththe wes ant tho.

III. Expressing absence, privation, or negation: With or involving the absence or want of; in a state of not having, or so as not to have; so, or such, that there is no . . . Opp. to WITH *prep.* II***. (The ordinary current use.)

7. a. (with obj. a thing, material or immaterial) With absence of; not with the presence or addition of; not having with it or with one; not accompanied by; not combined or associated with; not having in one's charge; not carrying or wearing.

c 1200 ORMIN 997 Bræd all þeorrf wiþþutenn berrme. 12.. *Prov. Alfred* 129 Wyþvte wysdome is weole wel vnwurþ. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 138 Blaschoppes..þat songen all without stole. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xxii. 35 Whanne I sente 3ou with oute sachel and scrip, and schoon. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XXI. 10 Barfot on an asse back, bootles ..With-oute spores oþer spere. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 15 Wele withoutyn woo. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 57 There is no fyre without some smoke. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* III. (1593) 68 A spring withouten mud as silver cleere. 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* 16, I..vse to go without money, without garters, without girdle. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 196 Phosphorus burns equally, with and without air. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xvi. (1873) 276 A barbarism which had inherited all the vices of civilisation without any of its virtues.

†(*b*) Less, minus (a certain amount). *Obs.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 435 In brede xiiij. elnys with out ynche.

b. (with obj. a person) In the absence of; in a state of absence from; not with the companionship or attendance of.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 969 *Dido*, Forth they gon..His mess salbe songit Withoutin xij personis and ye prest. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., 14 Hen. VII*, 49 He..began secretly to commen without any witnesses or arbitrers nere hond with the bishop alone. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos., Plato* 33 He counsel'd Dionysius to give over the Tyranny, and live without a Guard. 1688 LADY R. RUSSELL *Lett.* (1853) I. 169 Doubtless he is at rest, though I find none without him. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 6 P 21 Those to whom he has formerly been known will very patiently support his absence when they have tried a little to live without him. 1877 MRS. ARGLES *Phyllis* XXVII. (1890) 337 If you can live without me, ..I would rather ten thousand times be dead, than exist without you.

8. In a state of not possessing; not having (as a possession of any kind, a part, an advantage, etc.); in want of, destitute of, lacking.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 991 Wanne man wiþoute eir of him sulue to deþe were ibrost His moder kun was is eir. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2860 þe erl of cestre,..þat was yung knith wituten wif. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 343 With oute bake mete was neuere his hous. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 476, j. hood of russet felwet withougt a typpet. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* ix. 9 And he was iij. dayes wyth out sight. *Ibid.* xiv. 17 He lefte not hym silfe with outen witnes. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 22-23 The grief and pensifnesse of beeng without issue. 1652 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xxii. (1653) 496 The shin-bone exposed to all encounters without any defence at all. 1667 DRYDEN & DR. NEWC. *Sir M. Mar-all* III. (1668) 32, I hate him worse than foul weather without a Coach. 1734 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 48 Deceased..w'out issue of his body. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxi, Without cross or coin to bless yourself with! 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* XXXV. II. 212, I do believe you are better without the money. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 407/1 Preventing..a litigant without a case from wantonly harassing his opponent.

b. Not with (something that might be given, granted, or obtained); not getting or receiving, or having got or received.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 Þat we sculen bilðelliche þiuen..., wið-uten ȝrðlliche mede, alle þe niede habbeð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 Lo hu heo [*sc.* the devils] ne muhten nouȝt wiðuten leaue swenchen fule swin. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 377 Y was left with outen helpe. *c* 1400 *Prose Life Alex.* 42 He commaunded þat he schelde wende hame to his owen wit-written any harme. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iv. 69 Thus departed the messagers with-outen other answere. 1548-1563 [see LICENCE *sb.* 1]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 728 The Victim Ox..Sunk of himself, without the Gods Command: Preventing the slow Sacrificer's Hand. 1707 WATTS *Hymns* 'How beauteous are their feet' iv, Prophets and Kings desir'd it long, But dy'd without the sight. 1723 DR. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 3. I. 19 They are all Guilty of Felony, without Benefit of the Clergy. 1842 TENNYSON *Ld. Burleigh* 10 He to lipe, that fondly falter, Preuses his without reproof. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 603 He would as soon die without their absolution as with it.

c. In the construction of certain verbs: see DO *v.* 41, GO *v.* 68. Also *colloq.* with ellipsis.

1458- [see GO *v.* 68]. 1713- [see DO *v.* 41]. 1899 R. WHITHING *S. John St.* 75 His one principle of conduct is to do without.

9. a. With no use, employment, or action of (an instrument, means, etc.); not using, or not being acted upon by.

Without book: see BOOK *sb.* 14; hence (with hyphen) attrib. or as adj., recited without book or from memory.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 He lændde Yrlande mid his werscipe gewunnon & wiðutan sclcon wæpnon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11380 Wiþþutenn mete & drinnch heold Crist hiȝe fæste þære fowwerrtiȝ dahess. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* VI. iv. in Ashm. (1652) 162 So that hyt lyke wax wyll melt..Wythouten blast. 1597 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 7 (Qo.) Weele haue..no withoutbooke Prologue faintly spoke After the Prompter, for our entrance. *c* 1615 BACON *Advice to Sir G. Villiers* Wks. 1879 I. 319/1 The excess of diet..would be avoided; wise men will do it without a law. 1673 E. BROWNE *Trav.* 130 Two sorts of Virgin Mercury; the one running out and discovering it self without labour, the other requiring some way of extraction and separation. 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 82 To pass the Evening without Cards. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. 177 The moon shines dim .. But they without its light can see The chamber carved so curiously. 1798 — *Ane. Mar.* 369 Withouten wind, withouten tide, She steddies with upright keel. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 150 The new parliament, which, having been called without the royal writ, is more accurately described as a convention. 1887 [see GET *v.* 63 b]. 1865 SWINBURNE *Masque of Queen Bersabe* 92 [The rushes] Grew wet withouten foot of man.

b. With no action or agency of (a person); *esp.* with no co operation of, or support from.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* Prol. 44 Alle thyng thurgh his myght made he, For with-outen hym myght nathing be. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xv. 5 For with outen me 3e mown no thing do. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 36 A childe born withouten fader. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 19, I..saide..That ..I coulde not answere that mateer without yow. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Kings* xviii. 25 Thinkest thou that I came vp hither without ye Lorde to destroye these cities? 1598 in J. Morris *Troubles Cath. Forefathers* (1877) 28 Imprisoned for burying a Catholic without a minister. 1598 in *Harington's Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 176 To make peace withouten his allyes and friends. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 70 Without thee nothing lofty can I sing. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Dec., We shall have a peace very soon; the Dutch are almost entirely agreed, and if they stop we shall make it without them. 1875 [see GET *v.* 63 b]. *Mod.* Come and help me with this job; I can't do it without you.

10. (with obj. an abstract thing, as a quality, attribute, action, condition, etc.): a. (depending on or referring to a verb) With absence or lack of, or freedom from; so that there is no . . .; often forming phrases equivalent to negative adverbs, e.g. *without end* = endlessly, *without fail* = unfailingly, *without fear* = fearlessly, *without success* = unsuccessfully, etc.

Frequent in ME. in intensive or expletive phrases, as *without(en dread, lease* (*sb.*[1]), *leasing, let, letting, lie* (*sb.*[1]), *miss* (*sb.*[1]), *strife*, etc. See also the various *sbs.*

c 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Iwarpen ine eche pine, wiþuten ... 1297- [see FAIL *sb.*[2] 1]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10407 Þai þat stad er in þair blis, Wit-vten want.., Wit-vten seke, wit-vten sare. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3409 Swa parfitely may nane lyf here, With-outen venial syns sere. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIV. 237 He is neuere murie, Withoute mornynge amonge, and mischief to bote. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 281 Sche saith me may withouten oth. *a* 1450 MYRC *Pev. Pr.* 24 Say þy serues wyþowten hast. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 129 Without-outen cause ye be not come hider. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 5 Quhen he purchessis pace ande concord, vythe out diminutione of his rycht. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. vii. (Arb.) 74, I will take the lawe on hir withouten grace. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 219 Then Pompey's men withouten stop, Do mount vpon the trenches top. 1633 EARL MANCH. *At Mondo* (1636) 162 It is just..that they who live without repentance, should dye without comfort. 1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* x, Nane gathers gear withouttten care. 1779 *Mirror* No. 97 P 6, I hope I may say it without vanity. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xxxi, Far as the eye discerns, withouten end. 1820 MADDOCK *Rep. V.-C. Crt. V.* 35 Stating..'that the estates were to be sold without reserve.' 1834 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. 201 Men can without trouble be brought to confess that they sin. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 540 Great doubt has been thrown on his integrity, but without sufficient reason. 1862 *Law Jrnl. Rep.* 32 Ch. 676 *Prima facie*, a party writing a letter, and using the expression 'without prejudice', means that he is not to be prejudiced. 1882 Miss BRADDON *Asphodel* III. 263 He..then let her go without a word. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Last Rhymes True Thomas* 130, I do well To love my love withouten fear.

b. (depending on or referring to a *sb.*) Characterised by absence of, lacking or free from, not having; often forming phrases equivalent to negative adjs., e.g. *without end* = endless, *without fear* = fearless, *without number* (+ *tale*) = innumerable, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 He deð þa beoð blisfulle and wið-uten ufelnesse. *c* 1290 *Hali Meid.* 13 He is leoflukest þing & wiðuten emer euch broche. *a* 1292 *Owl & Night.* 863 For nys no man wiþvten sunne. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls)

1903 þi leoerd sæl abbe an name..vair wiþoute blame. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 102 Mild and melk, witouten gall. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4112 Neuere ne was he with-oute strif, Bot ay wykkeliche lyuede ys lyf. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 45 To grounde I was withoute breth. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 32 He was a man withoute pyte. 1809 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 309 Be not sad..as men without hope. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 499 It is observed by some, that there is a vertuous Bezoar, and another without vertue. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I iv. § 1 There was a time, when the Mind was without those Principles. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 422 All sorts of Tools and Iron-work, they had without Tale. 1758 Hume *Ess., Eloquence* 66 'Tis vehement reasoning, without any appearance of art. 1859 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1871) II. 284 It resembled an unspeakably bad dough nut, without any sweetening. 1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* § 77 They are white, without purity; ..massive, without strength; and slender, without grace.

c. With no possibility of; so, or such, as not to admit of; so, or such, that there can be no . . .

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25821 For þair wanhopping þai fell wit-vten vp-couering. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 113 Our men was slayne with outyn redemptioune. *Ibid.* 226 With out reskew he stekyt him to dede. 1530 Palsgr. 329/2 Without remedy, *irremediable.* 1670 [see Clergy 6]. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 174 P 14 These wounds..are without cure. 1762 Hume *Hist. Eng., Jul. C. to Hen. VII*, I. App. I. 151 The great lords and abbots among the Anglo-Saxons..could punish without appeal any thieves..they caught. 1766 [see Remedy *sb.* 3].

d. In such phrases as *without comparison, controversy, doubt,* †*nay*, etc. the meaning app. varies between 'beyond' (sense 2 or 3) and 'involving the absence of', 'not admitting of', 'so that there is or can be no . . .'.

a 1300– [see Doubt *sb.*1 4 d]. 1340–1578 [see Comparison *sb.* 2 b]. 1547–1777 [see Controversy *sb.* 1 c]. 1857 *N. T.* (Geneva) Heb. vii. 7 Without all nay, he which is lesse, receaueth blessyng of hym which is greater. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xix. § 3 These things are without Contradiction, and could not otherwise be. 1621–1709 [see Compare *sb.*1 2].

†e. *Without day* = Sine die. *Obs.*

1607 Cowel *Interpr.* s.v. *Day*, To be dismissed with out day, is to be finally discharged the court. 1713 *Mod. Cases* VI. 260 He doubted of the Effect of a Nolle Pros'..if it discharged the Indictment, or only put the Defendant without Day.

11. Followed by a gerund or vbl. sb. in *-ing*: equivalent to 'so as not to' or 'and not' with the corresponding vb., or 'not' with the pres. pple.; e. g. *to pass by without seeing* = 'to pass by so as not to see', 'to pass by and not see', 'to pass by, not seeing'.

c 1380 *Sir Tristr.* 2620 Tristrem is went oway Wiþ outen coming ogain. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 144 He..wilned me were graunted Grace, wyth-outen any bede-byddynge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2092 Tite, withoutyn tariyng, atirit were all. 1515 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 407/1 To pas and repas als oft as thai ples..without ony..arestting. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., 14 Edw. IV*, 235 The Frenche kyng..callyng for water, washed and rose without any answere makyng. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* To Rdr. a vij, Drones which do but humme about flowers, without gathering any honey from them. 1734 Berkeley *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 217, I can hardly stir abroad without catching cold. 1779 *Mirror* No. 2 P 1 No child ever heard from its nurse the story of Jack the Giant Killer's cap of darkness, without envying the pleasures of invisibility. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Shops & Tenants*, We never passed at night without seeing the eldest girl at work. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 169 He was a slave without being a dupe. 1877 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* iv. § 51 A solemn piece of old Venetian wall..which you might pass under twenty times without seeing. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 119/2 No person was.. to blast coal without the charge having been inspected by the underlooker.

†b. Governing an infinitive with *to*. [After Fr., etc.]

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 470 That we maye retourne agen hole and sounde..wythoute to be dyshonoured. 1556 *J. de Flores' Aurelio & Isab.* F 6, Without to see it whiche is written.

c. By ellipsis of the gerund: Not counting, leaving out of account. *colloq.*

1871 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xxxv. II. 212 My father has enough to do to keep the rest, without me.

†12. *Without me* or *more*: in various senses (see Mo B. 3 c, More *a.* B. 4 c). Often used as a tag.

c 1290, etc. [see Mo, More, as above]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2573 þe werwolf.. went wiȝtly a-wei wit-oute any more. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* iii. 148 By þat ilk way went we two, þi moder and I with-outen ma. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb. MS.) 719 Wythowytyn more forthe they rode. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 61 Till Noram kirk he come with outyn mar. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiv. 89 The Deuill said then, withouttin mair, 'Renunce ȝour God, and cum to me.'

13. In senses 7–11 often with conditional implication (mostly with negative, expressed or implied): If one have (or had) not, if there be (or were) not, unless one have or there be, in the absence of, in default of, 'supposing the negation or omission of' (J.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 126 Na were may stand Wit-outen grundwall to be lastand. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 161 Noþer man ne womman schulde be punished wiþ oute gilt. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 99 þat swech þingis myte not be do wiȝ-outen vertuous lyuyng. 1526 Tindale *Heb.* xi. 6 With out faith it is vnpossible to please him. 1662 Godolphin *View Adm. Jurisd.* Introd. a 6, The Mariner.. may not sail without one Cat or more in his Vessel. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. i, Withouten that would come an heavyer bale. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xv, What is genius or courage without an heart? 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxxvii, Without a sense of your fault, how can repentance and amendment be expected? 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. x. 617 The people believed that without the nobles there was no safety; the nobles believed that without the crown there was no honour.

14. With ellipsis of the obj. (cf. 4). Now *colloq.* (except in contrast with *with*).

In negative contexts, as in quots. 1733, 1898, virtually = otherwise; this use is further extended in unstudied speech, e. g.: 'You can go, if you can find somebody to go with,—not without'.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 16 þe nihend-ferþe salme wid þe antefen oubir wid-vten. 1597 Shake. *Lover's Compl.* 98 Smal shew of man was yet vpon his chinne..Yet..nice affections wauering stood in doubt If best were as it was, or best without. 1654 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1888) 233 Here is a ring..'tis indifferent whether there be any word in't or not; only 'tis as well without. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I. viii. 70 We threw out our Tent, and by Sarcoticks cured this wound without. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 27 (1713) I. 178 Come, it is a great while since we had a Pindarick; have you never a one in your Budget? *Earn.* I am seldom without. 1720 Lady B. Germaine in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 73 Though you should take the four [thousand pounds], still I shall have enough without. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* vii. 86 All the former Roots being broken off at the Ends in taking up (for 'tis impossible to do it without). 1741 Richardson *Pamela* III. 27 Pray don't! You'll have enough on your hands without. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* IV. 57 Well, promise nothing, Mr. Chowles; but do it without. 1834 Newman *Lett.* (1891) II. 48 [He] was afraid to tell me, and left Oxford without. 1876 E. A. Freeman *Let.* in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 161, I don't get any worship here; but I am better without. 1898 W. W. Jacobs *Sea Urchins, Grey Parrot* (1906) 208 You must have given him some encouragement... A man wouldn't offer to lend a lady his opera-glasses without.

b. *slang.* in reference to liquor: Not mixed with sugar: cf. With *prep.* 26 b (*b*).

[see With *prep.* 26 b (*b*)].

15. Qualified by a negative: *not without* = not lacking, with or having some (implying or suggesting a somewhat slight or not very great amount).

Cf. *not* with negative adj. or adv. (Not *adv.* 10 c).

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 42 Sa sure a havin.. that nocht wtout cause the historiographours named it, the Porte of saifgaird and saiftie. 1605 Shake. *Macb.* I. v. 20 Thou would'st be great; Art not without Ambition. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* iv, Nor were we without guests. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* xxxvii. (1808) II. 72, I looked back upon Birmingham not without satisfaction at thinking I should never enter it again. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 113 Many..were not without hopes that mild and liberal counsels might prevail. 1879 McCarthy *Donna Q.* I. 62 She remembered not without a pang that [etc.].

C. *conj.* (or in *conj. phr.*)

1. The prep. governing a clause introduced by *that*, so that *without that* becomes a conjunctional phr.: †a. (*a*) Except that. (*b*) In addition to the fact that. *Obs. rare.*

c 1200 Ormin 1022 þatt washerifft wass hennedd tær, forr þatt itt hidenn sholide All þatt tatt tær wiþinnenn wass ..Wiþþutenn þatt te biscopp sellf..tær sholide cumenn o þe ȝer ann siþe, & all himm ane. 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 145 Laide downe in redy siluer for rybbanis to the King,..withowte at the Master of the Wardrop hes boycht v dussane of rybbanis..summa iij^{li}.

b. (in sense B. 10) Without its being the case that: now expressed by the construction with gerund (B. 11), with or without poss., e. g. *without that you shall need* = 'without your needing'; *without that he led me* = 'without leading me'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1450 in W. T. Barbour *Hist. Contract* (1914) 201 Withoute þat ever eny accord..were made or had bitwene þe said John Mercer and John Halsnoth. 1472 Fortescue *Wks.* (1869) 525 Sainte Edwarde reyned..peseably..with oute eny clayme made vppon him, by hyr, or by her husbande, and with outen that eny of ther heirs have claymed this londe. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 560 The speres flew in peces wythout that ony of theym felle to the grounde. 1594 R. Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiii. (1596) 203 Himselfe will deliuer them into your hands, without that you shall need to conquer them. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 86, The captaine at the castell gate..offred me a cup of wine, without that he led mee into the castell as he was accustomed. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 162 This seemed to be done, without that the King was fully informed thereof. *Ibid.* 230 Your Actions (without that I or any else speak of them) make you a lyar. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xii, It was next to impossible that a casket could be thrown into her garden..without..that she should have caught intimation [etc.].

†c. (with conditional implication as in B. 13) If it be or were not the case that, unless: = 2. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 475 Withoute that she myght have his loue ageyn, She were on don for euere in certayne. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* ii. 4 This myth not be do without-outen þat þei had substauns of possession. 1523 Q. Marg. in M. A. E. Green *Lett. Royal Ladies* (1846) I. 266 (MS.) The lordes wilbe..ferd to leve the governours wayes, without that they may fynd some suyrtie to take ther partt.

†d. *Without that* (or *this*) *that*: legal phr. introducing an exception, *spec.* in pleading [tr. law-L. *absque hoc quod*, law-Fr. *sans ceo que*], a form, obsolete since 1852, whereby a defendant asserted special matter of exception or justification against the plaintiff's claim while reserving his denial of the whole cause of action.

1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 150 That all the said messuages and londes shuld be in the rule..of the Chamberleyne..Without that that the said messuages and londes extend to the yerely value of cxl li. 1592 *B. N. C.* (Oxf.) *Docts.* B 2 37 (MS.) Without that, that H. P. was never properly enfeoffed. 1601 Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 72 b, The plaintife replyed, that..the defendant..assaulted him and beate him..and the defendant reioined that..by their common accorde they played together, without that that he beate him in other maner. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 422 Conspiracy, he is alive, with out that, that he is dead. *Ibid.* 423 Where one pleads out of his Fee, the other saith within, without that, that it was out in manner and forme. 1884 H. J. Stephen *Treat. Princ. Pleading* ii. 211 The defendants delivered their petition to the common council, complaining of an undue election; *without this that* the jurisdiction..belonged to the court of the mayor and aldermen.

2. Hence, by omission of *that*, simply as a conjunction: If..not, except, unless.

Formerly common in literary use, most frequently with verb in subjunctive; later *colloq.* ('not in use, except in conversation' J. 1755) or *arch.*, and now chiefly *illiterate.* Often replaceable by the const. with gerund (B. 11), e. g. *without he be compelled* = 'without being compelled'; esp. with clause referring to an attendant circumstance or result rather than a condition, as in quot. 1467.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. v. 176 Quath conscience to þe kynge with-oute þe comune help, Hit is ful hard.., þer-to hit to brynge. 1467 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 308 If I wer ther withought I had the mor..wurchepfull persones abought me..it shuld be to me but a vyl ney. 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 28 She is displeaside and I know nat wherefore, with owte hir olde sekenes be fallen on hir agayn. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. xii. 12 All the moost parte of the realme were right joyouse, withoute it were a fewe parsones..fauourable to syr Hewe Spencer. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. xii. (1553) C iij b, God worketh no good worke with out god woorke with him. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 410 [He] will nocht deliver..the said horss without he be compellit. 1592 Shake. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 92 Such a one, as a man may not speake of, without he say sir reuerence. *a* 1643 J. Shute *Judgem. & Mercy* (1645) 129 He may barke, but he cannot bite without a man come within his reach. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* IV. i, If he can't be cur'd without I suck the Poyson from his Wounds. 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) I. 143 Do not think of marrying this young Lady, without you are convinced you can love her. 1787 Beattie *Scoticisms* 101, I will not go without I am paid for it. Scottish and obsolete and vulgar English. 1808 Mrs. E. Parsons *Myst. Visit* III. 51, I shall never intrude without you invite me. *a* 1814 *Fam. Politics* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 207 I'm but a working woman, and cannot live without I gets my due. 1834 T. Arnold *Let.* 14 Apr. in Stanley *Life* (1898) I. vii. 328 Not allowing God's seal, without it be countersigned by one of their own forging. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1411 Not without She wills it. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Elsie V.* xv (1891) 211, I know these people..,so as all the science in the world can't know them, without it takes time about it. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 437 No canons were to become law without they were assented to..by the crown. 1887 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 2/7 Without a great change takes place the meeting is sure to commence to-morrow.

D. *sb.* That which is external; the outside. *nonce-use.*

1899 C. F. D'Arcy *Ideal. & Theol.* Introd. 22 Necessity is determination from without, determination by the not-self. It belongs therefore to whatever has a 'without.'

Without, obs. pa. t. of Withhold *v.*

†**Without door,** *adv. phr.* (*adj.*) *Obs.* = next.

c 1205 Lay. 2382 þat neuer ne ferde heo wiþ uten dore. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 229/8 Wythout dore, *extrà, foris.* 1621 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 260 A storme of..rayne ..that wett these bales which weare without doare in the street. 1649 C. Ware *Sophocles, Electra* 30 Enter in, and let her without door Her own distresses, and her friends deplore. 1739 Johnson *Boerhaave* in *Gentl. Mag.* IX. 274/1 His..Friend..found him sitting without Door.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (with hyphen). = Out-door *a.*; in quot. *transf.* or *fig.* relating to the outer world, outward, external.

1621 Shake. *Wint. T.* II. i. 69 Prayse her but for this her without-dore-Forme.

Without doors, *adv. phr.* (*adj.*) *Obs.* or *rare arch.* (Also with hyphen.) [See Without *prep.* 1. and Door 5.]

1. Out of doors, outside the house, in the open air.

1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 63 Our meat we bought our selues, ..and we fetched our beere without doores. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 27 At the latter end of the year..no brick-work without doores ought to be laid. 1695 A. Telfair *New Consut. Sadd.* (1696) 4 The Family being all without-doors. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 83 P 1 When the Weather hinders me from taking my Diversions without Doors. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 621 Without doors they use a kind of wooden patten. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xxvii, The preparations without doors had not been neglected.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Outside the community (family, nation, etc.); †*spec.* outside Parliament (= Out-of-door, -doors A. 2 a).

1697 C. Davenant *Ess. E. India Trade* Wks. 1771 I. 96 Some persons (without doors)..profess themselves open enemies to the traffic in general. 1709 Swift *Adv. Relig.* Misc. (1711) 224 Senatus are like to have little Regard for any Proposals that come from without Doors. 1723 Dr. Wharton *True Briton* No. 3. I. 43 Those who are Without-Doors should do their Duty by supporting such Patriots. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvii. (1812) I. 281 It will not be necessary.. to take the trouble of answering..the quotation from a speech without doors. 1790 Burke *Sp.* 11 May (1816) IV. 52 The House was untainted..by those false principles which had been so amply circulated without doors. 1822 Scott *Quentin D.* xiv, He who beat all enemies without doors, found a fair foe who could belabour him within.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = prec. b.

1654 Fuller *Comm. Ruth* 139 The Daughters of Sarah, whom the meekneese of their Sex hath priviledged from following without doors affairs.

†Without-forth, *adv. Obs.* (or *rare arch.*) Also with hyphen, or as two words, or as three. [f. Without *adv.* + Forth *adv.*] Properly, Everywhere without or outside (see Forth *adv.* 2 b); but in use a mere synonym of *without*. (Opp. to Withinforth.) a. = Without *adv.* 1.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 384 Woo worþe þou,..ypocritis, þat clensen without-forþ of þe cuppe and of þe dishe. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 46 þei weren apeied wiþ o cote or kirtil with-ynne forþe & with-oute forþ. *c* 1440 *Mirk's Festial* 72 When þay wern alle in, God closud þe dore after hom wythout-forth. 1474 in *Litt. Cantuar.* (Rolls) III. 272 Youre powche and key-band with the keverynge; on the which are..set ij. pomes with owteforth. 1521 *Guysford's Pylgr.* (Camden) 23 Withoute forthe byfore the entre into this Temple. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxv. vi. II. 528 The peeces of this earth, if a man doe breake, shew the own naturall colour which is not mixt: without-forth they be spotted. 1894 F. S. Ellis *Reynard the Fox* 247 Withoutforth of the ring ..A stone..of colours three.

b. = Without *adv.* 2, 2 b.

1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xii. 46 His modir and his bretheren stoden with outeforth [1388 withouteforth]. 1388 — *Acts* v. 34 Gamaliel..comaundide the men to be put without forth. 1467 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 373 That euery citezein .. wtoutforth paye alle maner charges as citezens do that dwelle wtynforth. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xx. xxii. 836 They ..kepte the syege wyth lytel warre withoutforth. 1530 Tindale *Deut.* xxxii. 25 Without forth, the swerde shall robbe them off theire childern. 1600 Holland *Livy* vii. xxi, All was quiet withoutforth. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* 138 The space..between the wall and the heape of earth cast up withoutforth.

c. = Without *adv.* 3.

1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 758 Thou schalt not do leccherye noþer in consent in hert ne spekynge ne in countenaunce withowte-forþ. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. (1868) 264 þe wit comprehendiþ fro wiþ outen forþe þe figure of þe body of þe man. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1907) 123 The schame that sche hadde of hir synne was so grete withynneforth that sche forȝat al schame and reproue withouteforth. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 4 b/2 Faynynge wythoute fourthe by theyr couuert maners and syinple habyllemens to be Innocentes. 1530 Palsgr. Introd. 34 The verbes actyves betokynge some acte to passe from the doer without forth.

d. quasi-*sb.* (preceded by *of*): That which is without; external region or action.

1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 114 Hyt befelle that a marchant of withoute forth herd the..fame of this man. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 277 b/2 That the werkes of withoutforth be fyrst withinforth ruled after the Iugement of right & reason.

e. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Outside, external.

c 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 9 The wythoutforth landys and tenementis.

Without-side, *adv.* and *prep.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* (Also with hyphen, or as two words.) [f. Without + Side *sb.*, after *outside*.] Opp. to Withinside or Within. A. *adv.*

1. On the outer side or surface: = Outside *adv.* 1 (in part), Without *adv.* 1.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. v. 11 The roote is..blacke without-side. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. v. (1713) 97 Nor do we our selves grow by being liquored without side, but within. 1693 Congreve *Love for L.* IV. i, Why does that Lawyer wear black?—Does he carry his Conscience without side? 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Mould*, The Moulds..are of wax, supported within-side by what they call a core, and covered without-side with a cap or case. 1794 C. Smith *Wand. Warwick* 19 Barricading the cabin door withoutside. 1849 Chr. G. Rossetti *Testimony* 20 Poet. Wks. (1904) 119 We build our houses on the sand Comely withoutside and within. *c* 1890 [see Withinside A. 1].

2. In (or to) the place or space without: = Outside *adv.* 1 (in part), 2, Without *adv.* 2.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 21 Sept. 1644 The Cathedrall,..full of sepulchres without-side. 1706 E. Ward *Hud. Rediv.* (1707) II. vi. 4 Without side warm, within side merry. 1710 Mrs Centlivre *Marplot* II. Wks. 1760 II. 147 When I came without-side, I saw nobody there. 1800 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 414 Within this temple is an altar, and without-side, near the entrance, another. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* I. xx. 148 A wild shout from without-side.

3. Withoutside of, *prep. phr.* = *outside of*, Outside *adv.* 3 a.

1638 in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. VI. 23 Placing the Indians..without side of our soldiers in a ring battalia. 1721 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 269 A very narrow bridge,..without-side of the gate. 1751 R. Paltock *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. xi. 108 Without-side of these mountains, it was scarce darker than at my arbor. 1769 J. Bush *Hibernia Curiosa* 163 Wearing their shirts withoutside of their cloaths. 1883 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I. 345 All the world withoutside of Nejed.

B. *prep.* = A. 3, Outside *prep.* 1, 2, Without *prep.* 1, 1 b.

1526 [see Withinside B. 2]. 1760 *Impostors Detected* I. iv. I. 31 The monk's sandals which he had left without side the door. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 176 Succeeding each other, one without side the other, like circles in disturbed water. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 133 A fire was made without side the cabin, in the open air. 1832 T. Hope *Esv. Origin Man* I. 6 Modifications existing withoutside my person.

†Withoun-take, *prep. Obs. rare.* [f. Without *adv.* after Out-take *pple., prep.*] Except.

1402 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 185 With al the Princes and men of value of the lande, wythout-take the Pepill of Vilystere.

Without-wards, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. Without + -wards.] Towards the exterior.

1865 [see Withinwards].

Withpraise, etc.: see With- b.

Withsafe, -saif, obs. ff. Vouchsafe.

†Withsake, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 wiþsacan, 3 -saken; *pa. t.* 3 -soc(k, *pa. pple.* 4 -saken. [OE. *wiþsacan*, f. With- + *sacan* to contend, dispute, deny; cf. MHG. *widersachen*.] = Withsay *v.* 1, 2, 3.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 Wiþsacaþ nu þam leasum welum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. x. 33 Se þe me wiðsæc̄ beforan mannum, & ic wiþsacce hyne beforan minum fæder. *c* 1205 Lay. 10898 Þa wiðsaken wolde cristindom he dude his marken him on. *Ibid.* 13000 Imong þan eorlen he stod & fastliche hit wiþ-soc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Ich hit ne mei nout wiðsaken. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 178 His grete folk þat him wiþ-saken hedde.

†Withsave, obs. f. Vouchsafe, used by Wyatt in the sense: To preserve.

a 1542 Wyatt '*Syns love yt sucke*' so Henceforthe my fredome to withsave [*rime* have]. — '*Now must I lerne*' 22 Now must I seke som other ways My self for to withsave.

†Withsaw. *Obs.* [f. With- + Saw *sb.*[2], after Withsay *v.*] = Withsaying.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 288 Hwon þe delit iðe luste is igon so oueruorð þet ter nis non wiðsigginge [*v.r.* wiðsahe]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5877 Now wald þai mak þam a witsau Fra þair warkes for to draw. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520, lf. 28 Manie lordes of wastes..habbes i ben desturbed þoru with sawe of hoere neȝeburs [orig. *per contradiccionem vicinorum*].

†Withsay[1], *sb. Obs.* [f. next.] = prec.

c 1325 Shoreham VII. 369 Þer nere stryf ne contekynge, Ne no wyþ-sey.

†Withsay[2], *v. Obs.* [OE. (rare Northumb.) *wiðsæcga*: see With- and Say *v.*[1] Cf. OFris. *withsedaa*.]

1. *trans.* To renounce. *rare.*

c 960 *Rituale Dunelm.* (Surtees) 34 *Torrena desideria respuentes*, eardlico lyste wiðsæcgende. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 447 Euery cristen wight shal han penaunce But if that he his cristendom withseye. *Ibid.* 457 We that knowen thilke name [of Christian] so For vertuous, we may it nat withseye.

2. a. To affirm the contrary of, contradict, deny (a fact or statement); also, to deny the existence of.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 Ȝif a mon..deð so much mis þat hit beo so open sunne þat he hit ne mei nonesweis allelunge wiðsiggen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8209 To londone he gan him bringe, & sede he was purost eyr to be icrouned to kinge. Nomon ne mizte it wel wiþ segge. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9800 Syker ys, þat yn rolle ys leyde, For þan may hyt neuer be

teigned in the seid bille of complainte. 1493 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 57 To which the Recordour..seid that he withseith not þe ffraunchis of Couentre, nor the allowance þerof had at Bristoll. 1530 Palsgr. 783/2 Sythe I have sayd it, I wyll never withsay it. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* 136 That Dian witnesde thou canst not withsaye.

b. To contradict, deny the statement of (a person).

withsaye thilke men that of thee speken otherwyse than the sothe. 1486 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5504, I ne may Suffre.. But that I muste yow with-seyn. 1530 Rastell *Bk. Purgat.* I. vii, As beyng and not beyngе be two contraryauntys [etc.] the one alway doth denye and with saye the other.

c. *intr.* To make denial or contradiction; to speak in opposition *to*; also *trans.* to utter by way of contradiction.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 11 In witnes þai ros with him,..For þe Iews suld not with-say þat gart to ded him bring. 1382 Wyclif *Job* xvi. 9 The false sciere is rered vp aȝen my face, witheseiende to me. — *Judith* i. 12 To alle these Nabugodonosor..sente messageres; the whiche alle with o wil witheseiden. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 341 Whan Nestor hath his tale seid, Ayein him was no word witheseid. *a* 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 355 Þat euerych bakere habbe hys seal y knowe vpon hys loff, þat be ne mowe wiþ-segge ȝif he is of take oþer þan weel. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxiii. (1869) 48, I may not to that of no thing wel withseye. 1463 *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden) 213 b, Forasmoch as they withseye not by dedes and actes of their factours.

3. *trans.* To speak or act against, oppose, resist; = Gainsay *v.* 3; occas. to say (a thing) in opposition. Also, to disallow, forbid. Also *absol.*

c 1200 Ormin 17826 Fele þede modilli wiþþstodenn, & wiþþseȝdenn..heffness libbt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 Bi þo dayes luueden herodes..his broðer wif, and binam hire him, and Seint Iohan hit wiþ seide. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 Hwonne þe schil & te beorte ne wiðsigged nout. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 422 in *O. E. Misc.* 49 Eueruych mon þat makeþ hym king..He wyþ-seyþ cesare. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 160 þat no man dar wiþ-seie hem in here wrong. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 805 Who so wole my luggement withseye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 312 Ther mai noman his happ

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 88 That ther be not oon man that is so hardy to withsaye ony thynge contrarye to my will. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* xxix. c vj, He was..patron of the paryshe and the parson durst not withsaye hym. *Ibid.* cxxxiii. xvij b, I defende and withsaye to them the kyssyng. 1503 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccixxxiv. 274/1, I may nat nor dare nat withsaye yo' noble pleasure. *a* 1529 Skelton *Sk. Parrot* 395 Moloc, that mawmett, there dare no man withsay.

4. a. To refuse to do or perform. Also *absol.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 238 Þeo..wiðsæge þe ȝeongest þerof wiðe unwille heorte. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 26 þe wule burhen þe seoluen, ant ȝef þe mare ssegȝ R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7689 To hem þat wolde is wille do debonere he was & milde & to hem þat wiþsede strong tirant & wilde. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 367 Or hym was bodyn make thilke tweye Of sam persone & durste it not with-seye. 1483 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 49 Gladly he wold haue doo the bataylle yf he had not wythsayed it..whan he was requyred.

b. To decline to give, grant, or allow; to refuse. Also with dat. of person (sometimes without dir. obj.).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4920 + 6 þe bysshop yt nolde graunte ac outlych yt wyþ seyde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2905 (Laud MS.) Homage nolde hym non wiþseye. 1402 Hoccleve *Let. Cupid* 108 She..So lyberal yt, she wol no wyght with-sey. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 32 She..Halsethe and kissethe and wol hym not with-seyne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 204, I will in no wise with-sey that ye requere. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 86 No man shall ther-of you werne ne withsay. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. vi. 10 b, I wyll nat withsay thy desyre. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 165 Thanke your selfe, whiche woulde haue me rather faulte..than..withsay your request. 16.. *Eger & Grine* 390 in Furnivall & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 372 Soe he desired that sword soe bright That shee was loth to with-say that Knight. 1662–83 in *Housch. Ord.* (1790) 372 This is in noe wise to bee withsaid, for it is the King's honour.

Hence **†Withsay·er,** a gainsayer, opponent.

c 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* Pref. Ep. lii. 63 The withseieris to withstonde [orig. *contradicentes resistere*]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 267 All withseyers and attemptours to breke this writyng.

†Withsay·ing, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Withsay *v.* + -ing[1].] Contradiction, gainsaying, opposition.

a 1225 [see Withsaw]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 233 þou sselt louye god..mid ale þine wylle wyþ-oute wyþsiggynge. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 71 Fame of Paradys hab I-dured wiþoute wiþseienge sexe þowsand þere and more. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 194 To distreyne aftir their owne wil, without ony withseiyng of them or ther successours. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 482, I shal do With all my hole hert, without withsaing, Al that which ye wyll be me commaunding.

†Withset, *v. Obs.* [OE. *wiþsettan*: see With- and Set *v.*]

1. *trans.* To resist, oppose, withstand. Also occas. const. inf.: To prevent from doing something.

c 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xvi[i]. 9 Þescyld me fram ansyne arleasra þa þe me ȝeswencton ond wiðsettun. *c* 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* vii. 186 Donne sende he heom fultum ðurh sumne deman, ðe wiðsette heoras feondum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 *Deus superbis resistit*..Drihten widset þan prudan. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 834 No hadde ben þe bacinet, þat þe strok wiþ sett. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9921 Hauen to aryue þey hym wyþsette. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* I. 174 Myȝte we with eny wyt hus wil with-sette, We myȝte be lordes aloft. *a* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 213/394 Holi writt, þat cleerli schewiþ þee goostli liȝt, How þou schuldist deedli synne with-sett. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4518 Generides and his feres to lete, And here entre to withsett. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wythe settyn', *obsto, obsisto.* *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 212 If thou with-sett the deuyl in his deede.

2. To beset (a way, etc.) so as to prevent a person from passing. (In early use with dat. of person.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23727 Ded has vs wit-sett vr strete, Nil we, wil we, we sal mete. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 337 Als þei fro kirke cam, þer way he þam withsette. 1378 Barbour *Bruce* XIV. 207 Twa of thame..With-set ane place in-till his way..With twa thousand of men. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1921 Sir Ywayne sone with-set the yate, That the eril myght noght in tharate. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10527 Thys..lii. confederat, Causen..a perilous mortal stryff To pylgrymes..Ther weyes, when they ha wyth-set.

3. To seize in compensation for a debt, etc.

1443 *Paston Lett.* I. 58 He hathe suffrid the corne to ben with sette for viij*s.* of rentte..wich yowre fadre palde nevere. 1477 *Ibid.* III. 211 Mastras Clere hath sen down hyr men, and with set alle the stuff and wrakke.

Hence **†Withse·tting** *vbl. sb.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 39 þe ualse yulemede þet..sechep wyþsettiȝinges and respit uor to bynime oþren hare oȝen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wythe settynge, *obsistencia.*

†Withsi·t, *v. Obs.* [f. With- + Sit *v.*]

1. *trans.* To oppose, resist, withstand. Also, to prevent; to ward off

c 1300 *Havelok* 1683 Hauelok ne durste..Nouth withsitten þat ubbe bad. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8138 Ȝyf ȝe ne conne nought do hym wyte What þe fallyng may wyþ-syt. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9055 King Rion wiþsat þat dent. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. viii. (Skeat) I. 87 This rightfulnesse..helpeth the spirit to withsitte the leude lustes of fleshly lykinge. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* XIX. 251 Ich with-sat nat hus heste. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 3003 To with-sitte þe force of sorcerye. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 518 None durste wyth-sytte hys heste, Nouthir the lest no the moste. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. liii. (1869) 96 He shulde not mown with sitte thee ne ayens stonde thee.

2. *intr.* To fail. *rare.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8457 Hir chen turned, hir voice wiþsat.

Hence **†Withsi·tting** *vbl. sb.*, opposition.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. vii. (Skeat) I. 142 The fleshly body of a man, over whiche have oftentyme flyes,..moste might in grevaunce..withouten any withsittinges.

Withstand (wiðstæ·nd), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. withstood. (Also 5 *pa. t.* wiþstonded.) [OE. *wiþstandan*, = OFris. *withstonda*, ON. *viðstanda*: see With- and Stand *v.* Cf. OS. *widarstandan* (MLG. *wedderstân*), OHG. *widarstân*. For the separable form *stand with* see Stand *v.* 79 a.]

1. *trans.* To stand or maintain one's or its position against; to offer resistance to, resist, oppose: often with implication that the resistance is successful or effectual.

(*a*) a person, his will, desire, power, etc.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vi. § 2 Swa deð sa ðe þeostre þinre

gedrefednesse wiðstandan minum leoðum larum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Hi cyningum & ȳfelum ricum ealdormannum wiþstandan mihtan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 434 Nis nan ðing þe his mihte wiðstande. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) Introd. 3 Ȝif hwa sow wiðstænt, we sow fultumiað. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16143 & tatt all forr to cwemenn Godd & defell to wiþstannidenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 264 þet we muhten wiðstonden þes deofles ferde, þet is so strong uppon us. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 156 Myȝte we wiþ any witte his wille withstonde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 32, I dar hire [*sc.* my wife] nat withstonde For she is bigg In Armes. 1434 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 111 To withstand your enemyes in tyme of nede. *c* 1450 *Brut* 432 She withstode the Duke of Burgoyne and alle his malice. 1530 PALSGR. 783/2 All the worlde can nat withstande the wyll of God. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 212 Seeing that not their willes, but Gods predestination withstandeth them so, that they cannot be able to come. 1598 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. v. 4 They haue wonne the Bridge, Killing all those that withstand them. 1648 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Mad Fashions* 3 Thou Lord of Hosts,..Thy foes (Thine Anti-christian foes) withstand. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 106 Grim Pluto will not be withstood By Force or Craft. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. vi. 296 His might nothing was able to withstand. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* v, You have not the will to withstand your aunt.

(*b*) a blow, force, attack, impulse; a destructive, oppressive, or hostile agency or influence.

a 1000 *Wanderer* 15 Ne mæg werig mod wyrde wiðstondan, *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 236 ælese ealle eac wiþstandeþ tosnidenre hreaþemuse blod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19105 Yur sin wittstand, þat yee mai rise Wit þat parti þat es rightwise. 13.. *Ibid.* 10523 (Gött.) Ioseph..þat styward was,..wele widstode þe hunger þat egipt ouer-þode. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 68 He was noght of such myht The strengthe of love to withstonde. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. vii. (1558) 4 b, The stroke of fortune withstant no creatures. 1558 PHAER *Æneid.* V. N ijb, And sturdy strokes he did withstand. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 173 Rage must be withstood. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 509 It valiantly withstood the siege. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 253 Such destruction to withstand He hasted. 1741 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 264 The love of liberty..carries us to withstand tyranny. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, Having withstood such strong attacks upon my fortitude. 1852 MALPAS *Builder's Pocket-bk.* 56 The pressure is ..withstood by the abutments. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 76 Ground to mud by an agency which the hardest rocks cannot withstand. 1912 *Sphere* 28 Dec. 326/2 Armour to withstand the terrific hitting power of the latest naval gun.

(*c*) a material thing.

a 1400 *Octouian* 1120 He ne fond neuer boon ne lyre Hys ax withstent. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 22 Yet they our Machins haue withstoode. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 209 An oxe doth withstand the yoke, and a horse doth withstand the bridle. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VIII. 396 Nor thy resistless Arm the Bull withstood. 1721 PRIOR *Predestination* 332 A Casual Fabric built upon the sand Which can nor winds nor falling rains withstand. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. IV. 130 Their limbs Are not of stone or iron to withstand The trenchant steel ye wield.

† b. To oppose in statement; to controvert, contradict, deny. *Obs.*

1513 THOMAS LD. HOWARD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 260 Trustyng that ye woll ..withstonde all ill reports undeserved made of me. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 66 b, To withstande and stoppe the tonges of them that..sclaundreth them. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 170 b, This withstandeth our disputation of Necessitie nothyng at all.

c. To resist the attraction, influence, or cogency of; occas. to abstain from (doing something).

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 292 A curiosity that I could scarce withstand. 1782 COWPER *Charity* 31 The wretch that slighted or withstood The tender argument of kindred blood. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* ii. 25 Religious disputes were subjects of ridicule too tempting to be withstood. 1852 DISRAELI *Bentinck* 18 He could scarcely have withstood contemplating what might perhaps have been his own position. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. App. 753 It seems impossible to withstand this evidence.

† 2. a. To refuse to allow (a person) the possession of (something). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24772 (Edin.) [William] sloh þe king þat Harald hiht þat born was of þe danis blod For qui þe land he him wit stod.

† b. Const. inf. or clause: To prevent. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6973 Þai fand strang folk..Þat wit stode þam þe land to win. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3807 He myght not his tunge withstonde Worse to reporte than he fonde. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 278 *marg.*, What..Caesar saied vnto Metellus withstandyng that he should not take any money out of the treasourie [*Metello obsistenti ne pecunias ab aerario tolleret*]. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 177 b, Nothyng withstandeth truely, but that both may bee true.

† c. To keep off or away, withhold, withdraw.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), He haþ bondes and obstacles to withstonde & lette þe poudre. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 284 Lord, with-stond þis duresse! 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 82 He may noo more withdrawe from them the bemes of his grace.. than the sonne may withstande his bemes out of wyndowes whan they be open.

d. To stand in the way of; to oppose or hinder the performance, operation, or progress of. *Obs.* or merged in 1.

c 1383 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2183 *Dido*, Hyre ayster Anne as she that coude hire good Seyde as hire thoughte & sumdel it with stod. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 51 When þer growed..any superflue fleuch..., I withstode it or mette it with poudre of creoseroboron. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V*, 2 b, He spared no mannes deathe, whose life withstode his purpose. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cix. (1636) 110 Raysons..concoct raw humors, and withstand putrifaction. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* v. (1626) 90 His sword withstood Their re-ascent. *c* 1680 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 358 Then prethee Love make no delay, let's not o'r precious time withstand. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 255 The Wintry Seas, and Southern Winds, Withstood their passage home. 1737 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 228 Leonidas awake! Shall these withstand The public safety? Lo! thy country calls. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. iv, I hope you will not withstand your own preferment. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. iv, His frantic mood Was scarcely by the nuns withstood, That Murray shared his sister's flight. 1823 — *Talism.* xvii, The entrance of Queen Berengaria..was withstood..by the chamberlains.

3. *intr.* To offer resistance or opposition.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 53 Ongunnun ða aldu.. hefiȝlice wiðstonda. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Þa utlæȝa..woldon into þam mynstre, & þa munecas wiðstoden þæt hi na militon in cumen. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Ne mihte þer [in hell] nan wiðstonden, ne prophete ne patriarche. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 39 Strengþe to wiðstanden azeanes dieules fondinges. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2649 De king wið-stod. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2062 (Laud MS.), Þise shulden wiþstonde hard And sauen al þe forme ward. 1340 *Ayenb.* 92 Huanne þe man wyþstant to alle ham þet guod him wolde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 456 Quhar God helpys, quhat may withstand? ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1747 3if we in the stour withstondene the better. 1530 PALSGR. 781/2 Agaynst the wyll of God no man may withstande. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 183 The City was encouraged to withstand upon the news of Lucullus his approach. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 610 They..wish..to reach The..stream,..But fate withstands. 1676 S. SEWALL *Diary* (1876) I. 31 He was here with Mr. Broughton earnestly urging [etc.]...Mr. Broughton withstood. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 2. 102 Langton prepared to withstand and rescue his country from the tyranny of John.

† 4. To come to a stand, halt, stop. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3646 Dre dazes and nihtes faren it gan And wið-stod in ðe deserd pharan. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12780 Þey come & passed to þe wodes side, & þere wyþstode for to abyde. *c* 1430 *Pistill of Susan* 285 (Cott. MS.) Alle were a-stonyed and with-stood.

Withsta·nder. [f. WITHSTAND *v.* + -ER 1.] One who withstands; a resister, opponent.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 25 b, Þe schirreue..sal..chastise þe withstonderes þoru þe prison. 1382 WYCLIF *Num.* [illegible]

authoritie. 1588 *Marpr. Epist.* (Arb.) 6 Proud prelates, intolerable withstanders of reformation. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Judic. & Sel. Ess.* II. (1650) 1 War..may be defined the exercise of violence under Soveraigne Command, against withstanders force. 1745 DODSLEY *Rev. at Pontifex* Misc. I. 155 Silence every bold withstander That shall dare to disobey. 1880 *Examiner* No. 645. 530/1 It has seen him withstand the withstanders of those despotisms. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 199 Obstinate withstanders of all novelty.

Withsta·nding, *vbl. sb.* [f. WITHSTAND *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb WITHSTAND; opposition, resistance.

13.. *K. Alis.* 2168 (Laud MS.), Stif wiþstondyng & wiȝth fleiȝeyng. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12049 Þy wyþstondyng haþ hym rafte Of hys temptyng alle þe crafte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 29 Wy[þ]stondinge, þet is hardnesse of herte. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* III. xiii. (1496) 148/2 They shall haue sotylte of bodye without ony withstandynge, for ther shal no thynge withstande them. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. vi. 6 b/1 The first went with ladders in to the dykes. They founde no withstandyng. 1550 TRAIP *Comm. Deut.* xii. 3 Notwithstanding the withstandings of the rude rabble. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* ii. 28 To make several withstandings against the Shock of Fortune. 1842 NEWMAN *Corr.* (1917) 174 No one can tell how much there is in sympathy, over and above the influence one may have in withstanding.

So **Withsta·nding** *ppl. a.*, that withstands.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. Misc. i. ii. 15 The tumid Bladder..bursts the withstanding Casements.

† **Withsta·nding,** *prep.* (*conj.*) *Obs.* (Only in Caxton.) [pr. pple. of WITHSTAND used as a prep. (conj.) in imitation of OF. *obstant* (*que*). Cf. NOTWITHSTANDING (= F. *non obstant*).] Having regard to, on account of; seeing *that*.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 506 Why dyde ye calle my fader of treyson, wythstandyng that men know well that he is one of the trueste knyghtes of the worlde? 1490 — *Eneydos* xvi. 65 Thynkyng in hymselfe to be in daunger of his persone..wythstandyng the inuectyue mony cyons doon to hym. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 286 b/2 The marchaunt..wolde not by it withstandynge this that he knewe not how moche it myght well be worth.

Withstart to **Withstrain**: see WITH-.

† **Withta·ke,** *v. Obs.* [f. WITH- + TAKE *v.* Cf. ON. *viðtaka* resistance.]

1. *trans.* To 'take up', reprove, rebuke.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xlix. 9 Noght in þi sacrifice I sall wiþtake þe [Vulg. *arguam te*]. *c* 1340 — *Prose Treat.* 8 Þay ere in trauayle..with takand ydil mene. *c* 1400 *Titus & Vesp.* (Roxb.) 1403 For he withtoke hem in her lawe Þei wiatthede hem sore with his sawe.

2. ? To rescue.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11036 Phylmen þe freke, þat fuerally withtakon,..Lut to þe lady.

3. To keep back, retain, or withhold unlawfully.

14.. *Siege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 48 His tribute..þat þey withtake wolde. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* (1902) 1185 Hast þow werkemen oght wyth-tan Of any þynge þat þey schulde han?

Hence † **Withta·ker,** a rebuker, reprover.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 24 Þat thynge has man delite to doe in þe whilk þai hafe sum lomere & nan with takere.

† **Withward,** *prep. Obs.* [f. WITH *adv.* + -WARD, after *toward*.] ? Along with.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1983 Þis pinfule gin wes o swuch wise iginet, þæt te twa turnden alðer wiðward oðer.

Withweed. *Obs.* or *dial.* [A blending of WITHWIND and BINDWEED.] = next.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 34 Bindweede, of some Withweede. 1756 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Bindweed* P 2/1, I had a very good crop of wheat; but a with-weed came up to every plant. [Reproducing Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 303. which, however, has *withwind*.]

Withwind (wi·þwəind). Now *dial.* Forms: 1 wiþo-, wiþewinde, 2 wiþwinde, 4 weþewinde, withe-, wythe-, weythwynde, 6 with-, wythwynde, 6–7 withwinde, 6– withwind. [OE. *wiþowinde, wiþe-*, later *wiþwinde*, f. *wiþe-, wiþe-* (related to WITHE) + *winde* WIND *sb.*[2]; corresp. to OS. *withewind* 'caprifolium', MLG., MDu. *wedewinde* 'caprifolium', 'periclymena', 'hedera', 'ligustrum'; for the first element cf. OE. *weoþobend* WITHBIND, for the second, OE. *widuwinde* ivy, convolvulus; see also WITHYWIND.] Bindweed, *Convolvulus arvensis* or *C. sepium*; also *C. Soldanella* (Sea Withwind: see SEA *sb.* 23 f). Applied also, like BINDWEED, to other climbing plants, e. g. dodder, smilax, traveller's joy.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 34 Wiþ eaxece genim wiþowindan twixtu. *Ibid.* 122 Wiþewindan twix foreweard. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 428/36 *Inuoluce*, wiþewinde. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* ibid. 238/28 *Utricella*, wiþwinde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 285 In a withewyndes wise ywounden aboute. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxix. (Bodl. MS.), A tree þat is biclipped wt yuye oþer wiþ weþewinde. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 11 b, Thynges good for the Lyuer: Wormewode: Wyth wynde. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 30 Conuolulus..called of the herbaries Volubilis, in english wythwynde or byndeweede. 1552 HULOET, Withwinde herbe, *cassutha, cascuta..cissampelos, convolvulus.* 1580 T. NEWTON *Approved Medicines* 20 b, *Smilax hortensis*, Gardein withwinde. *a* 1728 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 382 Giving their lands a second tillage, perhaps to destroy the withwind. 1899 R. BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* XIV, Thro' the hedgerow peer Withwind and Snapdragon.

attrib. 1891 HARDY *Noble Dames* ii. 90 One of those sweet-pea or with-wind natures which require a twig of stouter fibre than its own to hang upon and bloom.

Withy (wi·ði), *sb.* Forms: 1 wiðiȝ, 3 wiði, 4 wipie, wipge, (w(h)itheye, wytie, wepie), 4, 6–7 (9 *Sc.*) withie, 5–6 wythy, 5–7 withye, wythie, 6 wythye, 6–7 withee (5 withi, wethei, -ie, *pl.* wetheis, wethiss, 5–6 wethy, whythy, 6 wethye, *pl.* wythiese), 7, 9 withey, 6– withy. [OE. *wiþig* (= L. *vītex, vītic-* Agnus Castus), for the connexions of which see WITHE. Cf. WIDDY.]

1. A willow of any species: sometimes *spec.* the osier willow, *Salix viminalis*.

961 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 289 On þone haran wiðiȝ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 He is ase þe wiði þet sprutteð ut þe betere þet me hine ofte cropped. 1325 in Kennett *Parochial Antiq.* (1695) 395 Tres acræ apud le Whitheyes. *Ibid.* 400 A'quo quidem prato dimidia roda jacet atte Witheyes juxta pratum Prioris. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 163 Sauz [*glossed* wyue (wilwe)]. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxiii. 40 Ze shulen take to 30w..withies of the rennynge water. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xi. (Bodl. MS.), In som partie of his bryinme he haþ plente of wiþges and of segge as it is þeide. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 24 The rakes..be moste comynly made of hasel and withe [*ed.* 1534 withee]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxii. 403 [Polypody] growing vppon olde wythiese. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 123 To be a bendinge withy, not a stubborne Oke. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* 180 Withees, whilst they are sound grow Unregarded Trees; but when they once are Rotten, Shine in the Night. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 64 The withy, or *salix fragilis*, is the most inconsiderable of it's tribe. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* I, The witheys were gloved with silver and gold. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxix, The moaning of the breeze among the withies.

b. With qualification, applied to various species of willow; also to other plants, as the laserwort, *Laserpitium Siler*: see quots.

Hoop withy: see HOOP *sb.*[1] 13 b. † **Rose withy** = WILLOW-HERB 2.

14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 629/9 Wythy, *ciler.* 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 130 Whyte wethy..wyll not grow in marshe ground. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 153/1 *Siler*,..sperd withie, osier withie, or small withie. 1612 R. CH. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 49 The Withie, of which are said to be 4 kinds, that is, the white withy, blacke Withie, and red Withie, osier Withie. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 27 Chamænerion sive Epilobium..Rosebay willow-herb, Rose withy, or Willow-flower. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 191 This Withy often arrives to a large Stature, especially the red Sort. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 35 The yellow withy which lived on the moisture in the hollow. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1235/2 Withy, *Laserpitium Siler*:..—, Hoop, *Rivina octandra*.

2. A flexible branch of a willow, esp. as used for tying or binding, as a halter (cf. WIDDY 2), etc.; any similar flexible branch or twig; a leash, hoop, or the like made of a withy.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 444 Therto his mere he bande With the withy. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. ix. 2874 Withe raþis and wetheis about þar hals. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 186 With grene wythies ybounden. 1564 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1573) 6, I had better be hangad in a withie or in a cowtaile, then be a rowfooted Scot. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1348/2 Which tempest.. rent up manie great trees,..or wooud them like withies. 1698 *N. Riding Rec.* VI. 34 He is a rogue and deserves a withy. 1707 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Indies* II. xlv. 149 A Rattan Withy to lift them by. 1787 W. HUTTON *Courts of Requests* 324 The ties of honour..are as easily broken through as Sampson's withies. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Withy*, a round hoop of osier. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. v, Canes and withies formed the walls and roof. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* vii, In order to save himself from the withie. 1825 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 219 Palm-huts unroofed, despite of their strong lacings and withies. 1893 CONAN DOYLE *Refugees* XXXIV, They were lashed to low posts with willow withies.

b. *coll. sing.* Withies as a material.
1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* viii. 93 The harness was made of withy. 1915 *Q. Rev.* July 4 Pots of withy or of stout netting..are used for crabs.

†3. = WIDDY 3. *Obs.*
1438 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* V. 58 Pro fabrica septem wethyis emt. 1456 *Ibid.* VI. 278. 1484 *Ibid.* IX. 230.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *withy band, basket, bed, blossom, bough, cutting, holt, labyrinth, leaf, pollard, pot, prison, rope, shoot, tree, twig, wood*, etc.; *withy-bound* adj.; †**withy-cole**, ?charcoal made of willow wood; †**withy-cragged** [CRAGGED *a.*[2]], see quots.; **withy-fly**, an artificial fly used in angling; †**withy-herb**, purple loosestrife: = WILLOW-HERB 1.

a 1688 STRADLING *Serm.* (1692) 176 Those Shackles..which could no more hold him, than the *withy bands could Sampson. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* lxix, He..bound Stiff withy bands the infant's wrists around. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xlix, She ..packed up as many of her belongings as would go into a *withy basket. 936 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 96 On ðæt *—— vix bed. 1420 *Chertsey Cartulary* 41 b (P.R.O.), Duas acras terre et dimidiam super le Whythybed. 1583 in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 237 The withie Bedd or twigg bedd. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xxxix, And now, sir, do you push on to that corner of this withy-bed. 1898 J. A. GIBBS *Cotswold Village* 106 When November frosts begin to attract snipes to the withybeds. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 203 As soon as the Willow or *Withy Blossoms appear. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 412 An arm gret *withi bough. 1862 W. BARNES *Hwomely Rhymes* II. 85 Grey-leav'd withy-boughs. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 8 The *withy-bound flask of ruby wine. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 234 Fumigations of Storax,..Nempar, Diagagant, *Withy-cole. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* III. ii. 14 His necke straight..and..of one peece with his bodie, and not (as my countrey-men say) *withie craggd, which is loose and plyant. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Stable* 7 B 1/1 The continual lifting up of the head to feed out of the rack..makes him, as they express it, withy-cragged. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 137 Two rows of *withy or sallow cuttings. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 298 Alder-fly, *withy-fly, or bastard-caddis. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. ii. 75 Red *Lysimachus*, or *wythie herbe. 1856 MRS. TENNYSON in *Mem. Ld. Tennyson* (1897) I. 412 Went to our *withy holt. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. lv, When a fisher-swain..hath spi'd A big-grown Pike..He sets a *withy Labyrinth beside. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 905 *Wethy leves, grene otes boyled in fere fulle soft. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. ii. 72 The leaues be..like willow, or wythie leaues. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iii, The great *withy pollard which hangs over the backwater. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Feb. 1665, *Withy-potts or nests for the wild fowle to lay their eggs in. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. ii, Thirsil from *withy prison..Lets out his flock. 1815 SIMOND

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XVII. cxliv. (Bodl. MS.), Þerfor it [is] nouȝt seker to slepe vnder þe *wepie tree. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxix. 82, A..Withy-tree ..which is increased to a most stupendious bulk. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xiii, He..bound them in a lump with *withy twigs. 1593 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 24 Than maye he..tothe the rakes with drye *wethy wode.

Wi·thy, *a. rare.* Also **-ey**. [f. WITHE *sb.* + -Y[1].] Resembling a withe or withy in flexibility.
1598 FLORIO, *Vencido*, tractable, yeeldings,..plyable, withie. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 244 A strong withey shrub. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracesb. Hall* xxxvii. (1845) 289 The long withy ends of the branches.

Withywind (wi·ðiwəind). Now *dial.* [Alteration of WITHWIND, after WITHY *sb.*] = WITHWIND.
1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lii. 391 Of smothe Bindweede, or Withiwinde. The great white Bindeweede or soft withiwinde. *Ibid.* liii. 393 Of blacke Withiwinde, or Bindeweede. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Campanilla yerua*, withie winde, *Smilax*. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. iii. 610 Whiter Galat then the white withy-wind. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* III. xix. 105 The seed of withy-winde being planted neer to Basil, [etc.]. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Withy-wine*, the plant bindweed. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 114 The clematis, the 'withy-wind' of our peasantry. 1878 HARDY *Ret Native* I. x, You could twist him to your will like withywind, if you only had the mind.

†**Wi·tie**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 wit(e)ża, -iża, (2 witże, -eża), 2–3 witiże, -eże, witie, (3 witeie, witti(e, -y). [OE. *wit(e)ga*, *-iga* = OHG. *wiz(e)ago*, altered (by association with *wís* WISE *a.* and *sagen* SAY *v.*[1]) to *wissago* (MHG. *wissage*, *-ag*), ON. *vitke*: f. *wít-*: see WIT *v.*[1]] A prophet. Also *adj.*, prophetic.
c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxii. 213 Ne eow..ne ondrædaþ for nanes monnes wordum, ne for nanes witżan giestc. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark I. 2 Sum awritten is in essia done witżo. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Of þas pinan spekeð dauid þe halie witeże. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Salemon and alle wise witeże. *Ibid.* 127 Þis childes witiże gost. *c* 1205 LAY. 25877 To þan kinge was ibroht Joram þe witie [*c* 1275 witty]. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 39 Þen muchele witti witeze ysaie.

†**Wi·tie**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* In 1 **wit(e)zian**, 2–3 **witezen**. [OE. *wit(e)gian* = OFris. *witgia* (MLG. *wittigen*), OHG. *wizagôn* (MHG. *wissagen*, G. *weissagen*); f. *witega* WITHE *sb.*] To prophesy.
c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 68 Witża us, crist, hua is se ðe þec of-slog. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* xi. 27 Ða hi witezodon on wicstowe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þis he witezode bi drihtens þurh þene halie gast. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Hie witezade..of ure louerd Ihesu cristes to cume.

†**Wi·tie**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 3 **witezen**, **-ize**, **-ien**, **-ye**, **wete** (?), 3–4 **witi(e**, **wytie**, 4 **-ye**, **weiye**; *pa. t.* & *pple.* **wited**. [OE. **witian*, as in *bewitian* BEWITH.] *trans.* To keep, guard, protect: = WITE *v.*[3]
c 1205 LAY. 2713 Heo bigeten men þe heom cuðen witen [*c* 1275 witie]. *Ibid.* 23738 Þat he..mid his rihte honde witeze me wið sconde. *Ibid.* Peteres hus. *a* 1250 (1881) 213 Wendeþ.. day. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 209 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 227 Þat euerech frere of þat him leuest witiez to is soper. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9875 Saladin..let witie þe sepulcre þat no cristine ne com þer. 1340 *Ayenb.* 122 Þe bayliffe þat gouerneþ and wytyeþ þe kingriche. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 176 Þis litel barn..coupe..kepe alle here bestes,..& wited ham so wisly. *a* 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 357 And þat seluer..be y-take to seke godemen..for þe Commune assent, and trewelecie weiye, and trewliche spende.

Hence †**Wi·tier**, protector, guardian; †**Wi·tiing** *vbl. sb.*, guarding.
1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 678 [Bacus] wis witiere of win þat alle won bryngus. 13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 268 Of vr vife wittes a wel witiynge.

Witie, obs. form of WITTY.

†**Wi·tieng.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **witegung**, **witgiung**, **witzeong**, 2 **witezung**, 3 **witieng**, *Orm.* **witezhunnge**. [OE. *witegung* (= OHG. *wizagunga*, MHG. *wissagunge*), f. *witegian* WITIE *v.*[1] + *-ung*, -ING[1].] Prophecy. Also *attrib.*
c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 14 Witzlung essaies. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxiv. 115 Hit is awriten be me on witexung bocum [etc.]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Þis childes witiże gost lihte þe moder gost of witienge. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15174 All þatt witezhunnge wass þurrh himm onn erþe cwiddedd. *Ibid.* 15188 All þatt witezhunngeboc þatt witenn haffdenn cwiddedd.

Witin, obs. pa. pple. of WIT *v.*[1]

Witing, **-liche**, obs. ff. WITTING, -LY.

Witless (wi·tlés), *a.* Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.* [OE. *witléas*, also *gewitléas*: see WIT *sb.*, IWIT, and -LESS.]

1. Lacking wisdom or sense; not guided by reason; unreasonable, foolish, heedless.
[*a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xix. 46 Wenað þonne swa ȝewitlease ðæt hi þa soðan ȝesælða hæbben.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 6197 Ȝiff þin macche iss wis & god, & tu wittlæa & wicke. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 248/263 Þov witlese wrechche. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* iii. 90 Witteles wordes in ydel spoken. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccxiii. 249 Longe herde hertles, peyntede Hode witles, Gay cote graceles, makeþ Englisheman priftles. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* xiii, I was witlesse, wanton, fond, and yong. 1581 BURNE in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 170 Ane..confused rabil of vitles Bishopis. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 73 b, O wilfull witlesse acte, Which no man well aduiside would do. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 356 To keep in and regulate the extravagant and witless Spirit of Man. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 149 Why did I, young witless maid Believe the flatt'ring tale? 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 42 Intended (witless and miserable precaution!) for the safeguards of the poor. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* xxxvi, This witless coxcomb. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* v. (1868) I. 153 It was witless to believe that Parma contemplated any such measure. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 25 Telemachus, even hereafter thou shalt not be craven or witless. 1910 *Times* 13 July 12/3 Mr. Rolls..had..to drop suddenly to the ground..owing to some witless spectators running into his way.

2. Mentally deficient or deranged; out of one's wits, crazy, lunatic. † Also, stupefied, dazed.
c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 146 On þam siftan monþe he [*sc.* the fœtus] biþ cwica and weaxeð and seo modur lið witleas. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1906 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 161 He eode op and doun ase witles. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4414 He verde as a witles mon, hit was deol to be him ney. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 440 Sa lang witlas stil he stud, Til þat nere he dronyt in þat flud. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 1, I awaked here-with, witles nerehande. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 573 Wraithly wroht, as thei war witless and wode. 1571 GOLDING (*a. vin on Ps.* xxxiv. 1 The woord (witlesse) ..will well agree, bycause Dauid feyned himself too bee out of his wittes. 16.. *Young Musgrave* xix. in Child *Ballads* II. 249/2 She'll gae witless wud. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* iii. (1903) 26 It would never do to leave this witless body to the night-rain and the cold.

†3. Devoid of understanding; having no intellectual faculty; irrational. *Obs.*
1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xv. 18 Thei most wrecchid herien bestes; witles forsothe, comparisouned to these. *c* 1395 *Plowman's* T.. 1577 T.. and wi.. which go on still like witlesse Beastes.

4. Deficient in understanding; having undeveloped or imperfect intellectual power; unintelligent, undiscerning; stupid, dull-witted.
1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 2470 Euen from the hory head vnto the witles childe She wan the hartes of all. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* (1639) 6, I hold none so witlesse which cannot make use thereof, when they once see but the instrument. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. vi. I. 777 The Inhabitants ..are most base and witlesse people. 1820 PEARD *Lillian* I. 140 The witless Child grew up alone. 1845 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* I. 98 Of ignorant witless mind Thou barest me, and unforeseeing soul.

b. Not understanding (something specified or implied); inapprehensive.
1614 R. WILKINSON *Fairie Serm.* 2 Witlesse to discerne what he is himselfe. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., To Jas. Lindsay* 7 Sept. (1671) 138 A witless and lazie observer of the Lord's way and working. 1855 BROWNING *An Epistle* 143 The man is witless of..The value in proportion of all things. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* 2nd ed. iv. (1860) I. 85 The blue aether..as which to look up with smiles of witless wonder.

5. Not knowing; unaware, unconscious *of*.
In quot. 1807, incapable *of*.
1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 601 Ignorant and wytles of their ryotte and insolent behaviour. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* 2 ii. (1612) 232 Guiltlesse and witlesse of the crime. 1829 HOOD *Midd. Fabrics* lxxxi, His pretty pouting mouth, witless of speech. 1830 P. CROOK *War of Hats* 34 Witless of the storm his words excite. 1870 BLACKIE *Laye Highl.* 82 He lay all witless of his doom.

6. Devoid of wit (WIT *sb.* 8). *rare.*
1783 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxvi. 200 Repartee and smartness; the current wit of that witless place. 1829 *Habits of Gd. Society* 93 He can no longer claim exemption from solemn dinners,..and witless tea-parties.

Hence **Wi·tlessly** *adv.*, foolishly, stupidly; **Wi·tlessness**, senselessness, folly, stupidity.
a 1200 in Napier *OE. Glosses* (1900) 213 *Socordia, torpor, dementia*, witleasnes. 1598 FLORIO To Rdr. 7 Had not H.B.. so witlessly prouoked me. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 178 Divine blessing, which accompanieth good causes, where wickednesse or wilfull witlessenesse doth not barre against it. 1608 T. MORTON *Preamb. Encounter* 72 Rather..accounted lyingly witty, than witlesly rash. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Y'ng. Women* (1767) I. vii. 302 The admiration raised by 'a set of features..', is often by the witlessness of the possessor thrown down in an instant. 1835 ANNE MANNING *Old Chelsea Bun-ho.* xix. 317 Everybody conceived themselves safe, as witlessly as they had previously held themselves to be in Danger. 1880 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 239 Wisdom was turned into witlessness. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 282 He kicked Odysseus on the hip in his witlessness. 1910 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Mar. 82/3 An artist..choosing to portray..the havoc and witlessness of mankind.

Witling (wi·tliŋ). [f. WIT *sb.* + -LING[1] 2.] A petty wit (see WIT *sb.* 9, 10); one who fancies himself a wit; a pretender to wit (see WIT *sb.* 5, 7); one who utters light or feeble witticisms.
1693 DRYDEN *Persius* Sat. I. Prol. 17 Let Gain, that gilded Bait, be hung on high, The hungry Witlings have it in their Eye. 1702 *Engl. Theophrastus* 6 There are many impertinent Witlings at Will's. 1712–14 POPE *Rape of Lock* v. 59 A Beau and Witling perish'd in the throng, One died in metaphor, and one in song. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 2 P 5 Does any witling want to distress the company with a miserable pun? 1876 MEREDITH *Beauchamp's Car* 'What's in hand?'..Luckily some witling said, 'F hand!' and so drily that it passed for humour.
Paris Revisit. (ed. 4) 228 The miserable witling captiousness of an opposition. 1845 MIALL in *Nonconf.* V. 45 A witling poet.

‖ **Witloof** (wi·tlōf). [Du., lit. 'white leaf'.] = CHICORY 1, SUCCORY 1. Also *attrib.*
1885 *Bazaar* 2 Jan. 7/2 Chicory, or witloof, as some choose to call it, is a useful winter salad plant. 1898 W. WATSON *Gard. Assist.* I. 79 Witloof Chicory..Large Brussels (Witloof)..has large leaves with wide midribs and stalks.

†**Wi·tne**, *v. Obs.* Also 4 **witt(e)ne**, (**wytheme**). [a. ON. *vitna*, related to *vitni* witness, f. *wit-* WIT *v.*[1] (Cf. etym. note s.v. WITNESS *v.*)]
1. *trans.* To bear witness to; to attest, testify. Also *absol.* or *intr.* to bear witness.
a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Þet ich þurh hore bonen mote habben þe tweolf bowes þet bloweð of cherite, ase seinte Powel witneð. *Ibid.* 384 Seint Powel witneð þet alle uttre herdschipes..al is ase nout azean luue. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5355 Als þe buke wythenes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2000 With alike a reryd þan it rynnes, þe romance it witnes, þat, qua so tuke it in þat tyme, tint ware for euire. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 753 For þe wisman witnes & seis [etc.].
2. To invoke, entreat.
c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 171 Iob witnede ure drihten, þat of þis deað him redde, on þe carefuldai.
3. To impute, ascribe.
c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3462 Holli williams werkes þei wittened it alle, nade his douȝtti dedes be þei hade be dede alle.

Witne, obs. pa. pple. of WIT *v.*[1]

Witness (wi·tnés), *sb.* Forms: 1–7 **witnes**, 3–5 **wittnesse**, 3 *Orm.*, 6 **wittness**, 3–6 **wittenes**, **wytnesse**, 3–7 **witnesse**, 4–5 **witenes**, 4–6 **wittnes**, **wytnes(s**, (2 **witnys**, 3 **-nesce**, 4 **wijtnes**, **wittenesse**, 4–5 **whitnes**, 4, 6 **vytnes**, **wetness(e**, **witnesse**, (7 *Sc.*) **vitnes**, 5 **wyit(e)nesse**, **-(e)nes**, **witnesh**, **wetenesse**, **whetnesse**, **vitness(e)**), 5– **witness**. [OE. *witnes*, more freq. *gewitnes*, f. (*ge*)*wit* WIT *sb.*, IWIT + *-nes* -NESS. Cf. OHG. *giwitnassi*, MDu. *wetenisse*. The passage in sense from abstract to concrete is paralleled in F. *témoin* (:— L. *testimonium*). The uninflected pl. was frequent in early use; for separate illustration see sense 4.]

I. †1. Knowledge, understanding, wisdom. *Obs.*
c 950 *Rituals Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 194 Fore wisdom *vel* witnes ðæs biscop..*propter scientiam episcopi*. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 507 He sal..wenden lewes..To ðe wittenesse of Iesus crist. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 249 Whanne a symple man seiþ a treuþe, we trowen it not for he seiþ it,.. but Crist is man of greet witnesse. 1382 — *Prov.* viii. 5 Vnderstondeth, 3ee litle childer, witnesse [1388 wisdom; Vulg. *astutiam*]. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 435/1 The conynng and witnes that resten in his persone. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 97 His owne seyng that he had tolde before to a few persons of wytnesse [orig. *perpaucis arbitris*].

2. Attestation of a fact, event, or statement; testimony, evidence; †evidence given in a court of justice. See also 10.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 19 *Falsa testimonia*, leasa witnesa. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ne spec þu nænin þine nexta nane false witnesse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16080 His aun muth nu has him dampt, o wijtnes es na nede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 10 Þou ne aeelt nigge none ualse wytnesse aye þine emcristen. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 108 The Lordis .. ordanis the witnes now takin to be closit. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) II. clxi. 446 If nede be I shall proue it by the wytnesse of bymselfe. 1526 Tindale *Acts* x. 43 To hym geveth all the prophetes witnes. — 1 *John* v. 9 Yf we receave the witnes of men, the witnes of god is gretter. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 100 An euill soule producing holy witnesse, Is like a villaine with a smiling cheeke. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. P 6 That language [*sc.* the Greek] was fittest to containe the Scriptures, both for the first Preachers..to appeale vnto for witnesse (etc.). 1660 *Trial Regic.* 157 It is not that I would invalidate his witness. 1739 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 291 They are to make their choice, and abide by it: but which soever their choice be, the gospel is equally a witness to them; and the purposes of Providence are answered by this witness of the gospel. 1867 Dk. Argyll *Reign of Law* vii. 360 Nature is called as a witness, and then the witness she gives is condemned. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 11 There is the most trustworthy witness to the imitative propensity of this bird. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 7 Agamemnon..if the witness of Homer be accepted, brought the greatest number of ships himself.

†**b.** The action or condition of being an observer of an event. *Obs*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Wiðute witnesse of weopmen oðer of wummon þæt ou muwe iheren, ne speke ȝe mid none monne ofte ne longe. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccxxxii. 319 He was bound by othe afor notaries in presence and witnes of tho kynges.

c. Applied to the inward testimony of the conscience; after 2 *Cor.* i. 12.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* v. 12 Witnes þaire awn consciens and accusand þaim. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciana*) 175 Hafand his consciens vytnes How he in þat tyme liffand was. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. vi. 46 The ioye of a gode man is þe witnes of a gode conscience. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 220 May we with..the witnesse of a good conscience, pursue him with any further reuenge?

†**d.** In some versions of the Bible: = Testimony *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1530 Tindale *Exod.* xxxviii. 21 This is the summe of the habitacyon of witnesse. *Ibid.* 30 The tabernacle of witnesse. 1538 Coverdale 2 *Kings* xi. 12 He..set a crowne vpon his heade, and toke the witnes, and made him kynge. *Ibid.* xxiii. 4 That they shulde walke after the Lorde, and to kepe his commaundementes, witnesses, and ordinaunces.

3. Testimony by signature, oath, etc. Chiefly in phr. *in* (rarely †*into*) *witness of, hereof, whereof*, etc.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1723) 214 Þe chartre was forth brouht with wittnes enseled streit [orig. *Le rays..mette sun sel en testmeynaunce*]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 75 In witnesse of whuche þing wrong was þe furste..In þe Date of þe deuel þe Deede was aselet. 1388 in J. H. Ramsay *Bamff Charters* (1915) 22 In the wetness of the forsayd partyssyng Willame, Jon, [etc.]. 1410 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 17 In wytnesse of þis dede I haue set þerto me sel. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 38 Into witnesse of this he put to his seale. *Ibid.* 48 To the whyche wrytynge hys seel I-put to is wytnes. 1585 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 22 In wittenes whereof ..I..haith setto my seale. 1550 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) 76 In witnes of the quhilk to this present writ, subscriuit with our handis. 1698 *Sir R. Hutton's Yng. Clerks Guide* 1, (ed. 8) 240 In witnesse whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 27 The land was received as a fresh grant, which needed the writ and seal of King William as its witness.

4. One who gives evidence in relation to matters of fact under inquiry; *spec.* one who gives or is legally qualified to give evidence upon oath or affirmation in a court of justice or judicial inquiry.

Hostile witness, one who gives evidence adverse to the party by whom he is called. *Ultroneous witness*, see Ultroneous b.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 60 *Falsi testes*, lease *vel* lycce witnesa. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19419 Tua wittnes fals þai þam puruaid, To tell he had o godd missaid *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 74 Þei wolen..brynge many false witnesses & notaries in his absence, & in presence speke no word. *c* 1400 *Cato's Morals* 1 in *Cursor M.* App. IV, If þou be made wittenesse, For to say þat soþ is, Saue þine honour Als mikil as þou mai fra blame. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* II. xv. (1584) 61 Witnesses be sworne, & heard before them [*sc.* the jury)..openly. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sir Gregory Nonsence* Wks. 1630 II. 4/2 Truth must be found, and witnesses produced. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 6 b, When a tryall is by witnesses, regularly the affirmative ought to be proued by two or three witnesses...But when the tryall is by verdict of 12. men, there the iudgement is not giuen vpon witnesses. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 146 A Iudge ..ought to take notice of the Fact, from none but the Witnesses. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* (1887) I. 240 False witnesses are much cheaper than in Christendom. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 251 Many witnesses attested that he had borne arms. 1827 Ryan & Moody *Cases Nisi Prius* 31 *marg.*, In an action by executors, a paid legatee is a competent witness to increase the estate. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxxiv, How did you like standing witness? Ar'n't them lawyers impudent things, staring at one so? 1867 Wharton *Law-Lex.* (ed. 4), Hostile witness. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xii, It was certainly an odd chance which would throw them together in a police-court as barrister and witness. 1885 Miss Braddon *Wyllard's Weird* I, 'You can show that to the Coroner, he said; 'of course, you will be a witness.' 'About the only one necessary, I should think', said the doctor. 'I saw her fall.

uninflected pl. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1510 He had hym goo.. To the Sowdon, and telle hym the processe, And he wold be on of his cheff witnesse. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 104 The Lordis .. ordanis him to have letters to summond his witnes, and the party to here thame suorn. 1533 Cranmer *Let.* Misc. Writ. (Parker Soc.) 253 (MS.) That he hathe diuerse witnes, whiche culde make manyfeste depositions concernyng the mattir. 1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 33 Your owne confession in thes letires, besides the wittnes which ar against you, wolbe sufficient to condemne yow. 1713 Swift *Cadenus & Vanessa* 68 The pleader, having spoke his best, Had witness ready to attest.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxiv. 22 Þai [*sc.* the prophets and evangelists] ere witnes of his hightynge. 1576 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 213 If you doubt thereof historias and fables with one voyce are witnes of my saying. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 103 Well, let my Deeds be witnesse of my worth. 1635 D. Dickson *Hebr.* xii. 1. 284 The Examples of God's Sayncties in Scripture, should stand as Witnesses againist vs, if wee run not as becommeth. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 317 Why shouldst not thou..thy trial choose With me, best witness of thy Vertue tri'd? 1782 Cowper *Heroism* 81 Sweet nature..stands a witness at truth's awful bar, To prove you, there, destroyers as ye are. 1853 Maurice *Proph. & Kings* vi. 91 This prophet..is a true witness for the Lord God of Israel.

5. One who is called on, selected, or appointed to be present at a transaction, so as to be able to testify to its having taken place: *spec.* one who is present at the execution of a document and subscribes it in attestation thereof; more definitely, *attesting* or *subscribing witness*.

Often in formulæ corresponding to med.L. *teste me ipso, teste rege, his testibus*, etc, AF. *tesmoin*...

[*a* 995 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 288 Her cyþ on þysum gewrite hu Wynflæd gelædde hyre gewitnesse.] *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Ic bidde þe broðer Æðelred & mine swustre Cyneburh & Cynesuuith..þæt ge beon witnesse & þæt geo hit write mid iure fingre. *Ibid.* 675 Ic Theodorus arcebiscop of Cantwarbyrig am witnesse of þas gewrite. 1258 *Proclam. Hen. III* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1868) 21 Witnesse vs seluen [AF. *Teamoin Meimeismes*] set Lunden' þane Fȝtetenþe day on þe Monþe of Octobr'. *c* 1290 *Beket* 836 In *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 Ich was with him er wel inov..þare ne tok ich no witnesse of þat us was bitwone. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxxiv, Ye are suoren to God and to youre husbonde atte the chirche dore afore witnesse that ye shalle neuer breke it. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 51 These beyng witnesse, Robert of Wytham, Sire walter, (etc.]. 1463 *Irish Act 3 Edw. IV*, c. 32 We have done to be made these oure lettres patentes Oureself beying witnesse. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 239 Item, the foure witnes [of the execution] expensis in Edinburgh,.. xl s. 1525 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 23 Thies wittenesses, Thomas Beamont, [etc.]. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii, 205 Go too, a bargaine made: seale it...Ile be the witnesse. 1622 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 402 But come-on, Contract vs fore these Witnesses. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of News* v. ii, I haue your Deed...Is't not A perfect Act? and absolute in Law? Seal'd and deliuer'd before witnesses? 1630 Prynne *Anti-Arminn.* 139 Seuerall witnesses auerre it vnder their hands and seales. 1664 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 228 This..wee haue made bold to Certefie Witnesse our hands this First day of December. *c* 1696 in W. M. Morison *Dict. Decis.* (1807) 16183 The communers and witnesses present, who fortify and adminiculate the same. 1710 O. Sansom *Acc. Life* 73 He..threatned me before Witness, That if I did not pay him, I must expect to go to Prison. 1720 T. Innes *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 111 As it is clear by many ancient charters, and chiefly by the donors and witnesses in the chartularies of our monasteries. 1754 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 53 James Fullarton merchant in Edinburgh and the s^t^ John Strathie who also subscribe as witnesses. 1754 in Vesey *Reports* (1793) I. 11 Whether Testator's declaration before three witnesses, that it is his will, is equivalent to signing it before them. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xvii, We find his name in the parish register as a witness to the marriage of Maria Lobbs to her cousin. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. i. 76 *note*, These words, 'I give myself to thee', uttered by a woman to a man, even without the presence of witnesses,..render her his lawful wife if [etc.]. 1855 [see Surnchbing *ppl. a.*]. 1858 Ld. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xviii. 141 The statute requires the witnesses to attest and subscribe the will.

†**b.** A sponsor or godparent at baptism. *Obs.* orig. in Puritan use.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiv. § 5 In the phrase of some kinde of men they vse to be termed *witnesses*, as if they came but to see and testifie what is done. It sauoureth more of pietie to giue them their old accustomed name of fathers and mothers in God. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* I. iii, He was Witnesse, for Win, here, (they will not be call'd God-fathers), and nam'd her *Winne-the-fight*. 1643 Sir T. Hope *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 188 This day I wes witness to ane barne of the Lord Balgonies, callit Agnes. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. § 2 (1712) 215 Four days before this mischance he being witness to a Child, said, that that was the last he should be ever witness to. 1827 *Dial. in Devon Dial.* Gloss., To *Witness* or to *Stand Witness* to, to stand sponsor to a child in baptism.

6. One who is or was present and is able to testify from personal observation; one present as a spectator or auditor. (Cf. Ear-witness, Eye-witness.) Usually with *of*, occas. *to*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 144 No þinc nis witnesse þer of god þet we þeonne deð bute God one. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19004 Fra ded to lijf nu risen es he, And þar-of wittnes all ar wee. 1382 Wyclif *Heb.* xii. 1 Forsoothe and we hauynge so greet a cloud of witnessis [*Gr.* τοσοῦτον νεφος μαρτύρων, *L.* *tantum testium*] put to. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 39 [They shall] make þaire peticiun, and bi-fore whitnes offir þaire childir. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* xxxvi. 113 Þe Pope sayde a.. sermon of þe holyneese and þe myracles of Seynt Gilbert, rehersing þe witnes þere present. 1494 Caxton *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 213 This lyar coude not brynge no wytnessis. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, c. 10 § 2, ‖ witnesses or moo that woll witnesse and testefie the seid payment. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B v b, They were witnesse by syght, and not by heryng of other. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. V* 35 Because I was nether a witnes of the facte, nor present at the deede I ouerpasse that matter. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* vi. 66–71 Speciall witnesses and bruters abrode, of al the thynges that he wrought. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 360 b, No man might haue accesse to him, nor speake wt him without a witnesse. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* 209, a. *Scholar.* Why, didst thou not say thou knewst? *Wagner.* Haue you any witnesse on't? 1. *Scholar.* Yes sirra, I heard you. 1592 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 9 Faine would mine eyes be witnesse with mine eares, To giue their censure. 1628 J. Norris *Hierocles* 37 But had they no witness? I omit God..but had they not themselves, and the testimony of Conscience? 1694 Atterbury *Serm., Isa. lv.* 22 (1726) I. 152 Those Miracles being performʼd in the Desart, without any Witnesses but what were of that Nation. 1702 Pope *Dryope* 54, I saw, unhappy! what I now relate, And stood the helpless witness of thy fate. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 142 P 13 He is magnificent without witnesses. 1794 Paley *Evid.* II. ix. (1817) 235 It was the credit given to original witnesses appealing for the truth of their accounts to what themselves had seen and heard. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xxxv, Before such witnesses he dared not say half what he really felt. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav* II. II. viii. 22, I will endeavour to act as if she were witness of my actions. 1842 T. Wright *Biogr. Brit., Anglo-Sax. Per.* 467 Turgar..in his youth had been a witness of the destruction of the abbey. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxiii. 367, I have been twenty times witness to the singular effect which the sound of a bell had upon Napoleon. 1860 F. W. Robinson *Grandmother's Money* v, The inhabitants of Blackman's Gardens ..were witness to one of the..scenes. 1862 Stanley *Jewish Ch.* I. xviii. 391 'He judged Israel all his life;' even after the Monarchy had sprung up, he [*sc.* Samuel] was still a witness of an earlier and more primitive state.

fig. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 174 Then to the dance, and make the sober moon Witness of joys that shun the sight of noon.

b. In asseverative formulæ, in which a deity or a human being is invoked as one who is cognizant of a fact; as *God is my witness, Be my witness that*... Most often in phr. *to call* or *take to* (†one's) *witness*: to call upon or appeal to as one's surety; to swear by.

[*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 73 Ȝif he godd haſð to iwitnesse ðat he mid hluttер herte hit doð.] 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6934 Ich cluþie god to witnesse..þat ȝif ich of eni gulti am þat ich mote þolu þis fure Brenne.. & perisy. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17496 þat soth it es We tak drightin till vr wittnes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 155 The holy writ take I to my witnesse That luxurie is in wyn and dronkenesse. 14.. Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xvi. 10 And so wolde I, god take I to witnesse! 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdras* ii. 5, I call vpon the for a wytnesse ouer the mother of these children, which wolde not kepe my couenaunt. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 99, I take firste God to my witnesse, and afterwarde all the worlde, that I haue been at all tymes..true man. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xiv. 133 God is my Wytnes, that my Harte wyll not suffer me..to declare suche vyle Reportes. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* VII. 123 To which (if so it needefull is) I loue to witnesse call. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 239 Heauen be my witnesse you doe. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* CXXIV, To this I witnes call the foles of time, Which die for goodnes, who haue liu'd for crime. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 635 For me, be witness all the Host of Heav'n, If counsels different, or danger shun'd By me, have lost our hopes. 1700 Dryden *Sigismonda & G.* 397 That I have lov'd, I own; that still I love, I call to Witness all the Pow'rs above. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* II. i. 3 He had so often emphatically taken his neighbours to witness that he was weaving. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xxv, The tall boy..called those about him to witness that he had only shouted in a whisper. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, Though, God's my witness, there's no spite in me for my own sake.

†**c.** Referring to, usually introducing, the designation of an authority for a statement. (Cf. 7 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14701 Quarof was born þe king dauid, þat as þe tun of bethleem, þe bok is wittnes for to tem. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 274 They been deceyued that seyn that they ne be nat tempted in hir body, witnesse on [*v. r.* of] Seint Iame the Apostel. *c* 1440 *Sir Gowther* 117 The chylde throfe and..The duk sent after other sex, As wetnesse the storie. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiv. 488 Lord, this is sothe, securely, wytnes the profett Isay. 1488 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 54 Shewing the rose to be principall of all floures, as witnesh Barthilmew. 1589 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 42 [Jesus Christ] Sinnaris onlie Saluatioun, As witnes is thy word in write.

7. *fig.* Something that furnishes evidence or proof of the thing or fact mentioned; an evidential mark or sign, a token.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3843 To sen gode witnesse for-on, Dat wond was in ðat arche don. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 428 For freris..suspect in þis heresye, men schulden not comyne wiþ hom bifore þei schewid þo fayth by sufficyent wittenes. 1424–80 *Pol. Poems* xiii. 94 Lete werk be witnes þe can ȝoure Crede. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 33 For better witnesse of the antiquitie thereof, the inhabitaunts..doe..call all these old ruines Paleopolys. 1594 W. Harbert in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 12 Whose death was witnesse of her spotlesse life. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxviii. § 3 Our kneeling..is the gesture of pietie... What doth better beseeme our bodies, then to bee sensible witnesses of minds vnfainedly humbled? 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 48 It is the witnesse still of excellencie, To put a strange face on his owne perfection. 1599 — *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 97 Vpon the which [graues], I trust Shall witnesse liue in Brasse of this dayes worke. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* II. xxvii. P 2. They..smelt of oyle, the witnesse of an vnmanlike effeminate nicenesse. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxii. (1674) 170 [He bade them] remove away that vnfortunate Witness of their ingratitude from the eyes of the World. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* li, Now, wipe these witnesses from your eyes. 1859 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* xxvii, Italian asseverations ..., however true they may chance to be, have no witness of their truth in the faces of those who utter them. 1872 Freeman *Norm. Conq.*

IV. xvii. 8a Gifts yet more costly were now the witness of his personal presence.

b. Introducing a name, designation, phrase, or clause denoting a person or thing that furnishes evidence of the fact or exemplifies the statement. Also *as witness*, and, in early use, † *witness on*. (After L. *teste* . . ., F. *témoin* . . .)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11788 Bot we ne wrick þe wiallker, þe wark of him aua mai we dred, Als witines on vr eldres dede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 277 Witnesse [L. *testis est*] Tyburces and Cecilies shrifte. *c* 1386 — *Wife's T.* 95 Pardee we wommen konne no thyng hele, Witnesse on Myda, wol ye heere the tale. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 528 Wytnesse on Wycliff þat warned hem wiþ trewþe. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 366 Ioyntly to her Mercurius tooke hys cee As came to hys course—wytnesse the zodyak. 1598 F. MERES *Palladis Tamia* 281 b, The sweete wittie soule of Ouid liues in mellifluous . . Shakespeare, witnes his *Venus* and *Adonis*. 1626 CHAMPNEY *Vec. Bps.* 24 The wisest, and greatest clarkes haue erred, as witnesse the lape of Tertullian, Origen, and Lucifer. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xv. 192 Nature oftentimes recompenceth deform'd bodies with excellent wits. Witnesse Æsop. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 503 When Night Darken the Streets, then wander forth the Sons Of Belial, . . Witness the Streets of Sodom. 1671 — *Samson* 906 *Dal.* In argument with man a woman ever Goes by the worse. . . *Sam.* For want of words no doubt, or lack of breath, Witness when I was worried with thy peals. 1782 COWPER *Retirem.* 713 And novels (witness ev'ry month's review) Belie their name, and offer nothing new. 1858 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. ii, The strange, barbarous French which she and many other fine ladies of that time—witness her Grace of Portsmouth—employed. 1868 T. H. KEY *Philol. Ess.* 249 What progress is visible there is chiefly due to the energy of German, not French, scholarship, as witness the valuable collection of Greek authors that has proceeded from the press of Didot.

c. *spec.* In textual criticism, a manuscript or an early version which is regarded as evidence of authority for the text. (Usually in *pl.*)

1853 SCRIVENER *Collation MSS. Holy Gospels* Introd. I. p. xiii, The very rough and unsatisfactory process of counting the number of witnesses produced in behalf of each [reading]. 1870 UMWICK tr. *Bleek's Introd. N. T.* II. 305 By comparing the received text with Greek MSS. of the N. T. and other witnesses. 1906 FRIEDRICHSEN *Gothic Vers. Gospels* 194 Wherever the Codex [Argenteus] simulates the Vulgate text, the majority of Old Latin witnesses go with it.

d. Technical uses (see quots.; cf. F. *témoin*).

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Witnesses.* In fortification. (See Temoins.) [*Temoins, Fr.* In civil and military architecture, are pieces of earth left standing as marks or witnesses in the fosses or places which the workmen are emptying, that they may know . . how many cubical fathoms of earth have been carried.] 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 763 If any silver be produced it must be deducted from the assay. This is called the witness. 1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding* Gloss., *Witness*, when a volume is cut so as to show that it has not been so cut down, but that some of the leaves have still rough edges. These uncut leaves are called 'Witness'.

8. One who testifies for Christ or the Christian faith, esp. by death; a martyr. *Obs.* exc. as literal rendering of Gr. *μάρτυς* MARTYR.

The reference in Rev. xi. 3 is much disputed; see, e. g., Vigouroux *Dict. de la Bible* s.v. *Témoins.*

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xi. 3 And I shal ȝiue to my two witnesses, and thei shulen prophecie a thousynd dayes two hundrid and sixty. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect Innoc. Day*, Whose prayse this day, the young innocentes thy witnesses hath confessed, and shewed foorth . . in dying. 1557 *N. T.* (Geneva) Acts xxii. 20 And when the bloud of thy wytnes [*marg.* or, Martyr] Steuen was shed, I also stode by. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 128 One of the softest pillowes Christ hath, is laid under his witnesses head. [*a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 26 Apr. 1689, My Lord St. Asaph consider'd the killing of the two witnesses, to be the utter destruction of the Cevennes Protestants.], and the other the Waldenses and Pyrenean Christians.]

II. Phrases. (See also above.)

9. a. *In witness*: as a testimony or piece of evidence. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 3.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 4 In cyðnisse *vel* witnesa. [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ix. 5 ponne ge of þære ceastre gað, asceacað eower fota dust ofer hiȝ on witnesse.] *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520*, lf. 54 b, In witnesse of wche þinges we habbes don maken þues oure opene lettres. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 95 In two lynes hit lay . . And was I-writen riht þus In witnesse of treuþe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 34 In tokne and in witnesse That ilke ymage bar liknesse Of man and of non other beste. 1528 TINDALE *Declar. Sacram.* a ij b, They cast vp an heape of stones in wytnesse & called it Gylyad: yᵉ heape of wytnesse. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 1 Hang there my verse, in witnesse of my loue. 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 113 Venice doth at this day enjoy many great priviledges, in witness of her great worth and singular merit.

† b. *To stand in witness*: to act as a witness. *Sc. Obs.*

1516 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 402/2 The king . . rehabilis the said Johne and Johne to stand in preif and witnes.

10. *To bear witness*: (said properly of a person, a book, etc.) to give oral or written testimony or evidence; hence *fig.* to furnish or constitute evidence or proof; to testify, witness *to* (occas. *of*). *To bear* (one) *witness*: to corroborate one's statement or be a witness of one's action. (Cf. ON. *bera vitni*, OF. *porter temoin.*)

c 1200 ORMIN 12828 I barr to þe leode Wittnesse off himm, þatt he wass wiss Crisc Godess Sune. *c* 1205 LAY. 13932 Ich habbe his muneiles . . þat scullen witnesse beren eowe alle biuoren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6820 Tak þou noght wit tunge leier, Ne fals witnesse for felun ber. *Ibid.* 12580 Als lucas ve sais þe gospelere, þat wittnes lel es wont at bere. 1393 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2356 Certys þefte ryȝt wykked ys Whan þe dede bereþ wytnes [*Pus ze cee tesmoeine le ouvel*]. *c* 1395 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 412 þe godspel þareof bereþ witnesse. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3612 Þus may saules, als þe buke beres wytnes, By helpyd by way of rightwysnes. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 327 Hire white coroun beryth of it witnesse. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 89 Þre persones parcel-mele departable from oþer, And alle þre bote o god; thus abraam bereþ wittnesse. 1426 *Anc. Deed* A. 10383 (P.R.O.) This endentur tripartitit beres wittenes that [etc.]. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* XXXVI. 113 þe archbischop of Reymes was þere present . . and bare witnesse of þe holy lyf of Seynt Gilbert. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 34 The pepill so wickit ar of feirle, The fruiteis erde all witness beiris. 1526 TINDALE *John* viii. 18, I am won that beare witnes off my sylfe, and my father that sent me beareth witnes off me. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 80 In veritie you did, my bones beares witnesse, That since haue felt the vigor of his rage. *Ibid.* 93 God and the Rope-maker beare me witnesse, That I was sent for nothing but a rope. 1620 — *Temp.* III. i. 68 O earth, beare witnes to this sound, And crowne what I professe with kinde euent If I speake true. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 239 In seeking just occasion to provoke The Philistine . . Thou never wast remiss, I bear thee witness. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conquer* III, I can bear witness to that. 1839 KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 59 Her dress . . bore witness to a far more improved taste. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, To speak of heaven . . and to bring it to bear witness to the lie in his mouth. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 127 And I, in truth (thou wilt bear witness here) Have all in all endured as much. 1876 MELIOR *Priesthood* ii. 59 The striking witness which he [*sc.* Judas] bore to the innocence of the Lord.

† 11. *To take witness by* or *of*: to take example by.

c 1400 *Antwrs Arth.* 165 (Thornton MS.) Thus am I lyke to Lucefere, takis witnes by mee. *Ibid.* 273 Takes witnes by Fraunce. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 200 Tak witnes of the Feyndis Infernall, Quhilk houndit doun wes fra that heuinlie hall To Hellis hole.

† 12. *To bring, teem* (TEEM *v.*[1]) *to witness*: to bring under examination. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Moral Ode* 108 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Elch man sal þar biclepien himselfen and ec demen Hic [*read* his] ozen were and his þanc to witnesse he sal temen. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 12 In how many gret casis may it be, þat now regnip in þe kirk synful marchondise; bryng to witnes; examyn þe sawis; discusse þe deciis.

† 13. *To take witness of*: to call or take to witness (see 6 b); to appeal to as an authority or source of information. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 22583 (Fairf.), I take witnes of saint austine þat tellis how þis werlde sal fine. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 66 For this witnesse I take of god, that my corage Hath ben mor siek than my visage. *a* 1500 in Halliwell *Nugæ Poetica* (1844) 38, I take wyttenesse of Davyd kyng and at Salomon the wyse, That a woman for a litulle thyng ofte change hir servyse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 322, I take witnes of the gods (who never leave perjuries unpunished) that I often cried out against their impudency.

14. *With a witness*: with clear evidence, without a doubt, 'with a vengeance', 'and no mistake'. *Obs.* or *rare arch*

1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 98 French Camarick Ruffes, deepe with a witnesse, starched to the purpose. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. i. 121 Here's packing with a witnesse to deceiue vs all. 1609 J. DAVIES *Triumphs Death* Wks. (Grosart) I. 49/1 For now we sinne (yea with a witnesse sinne, Witnesse our conscience). *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* vi. (1642) 82 He was sent; but with a witnesse, as the saying is, to destroy. 1670 T. BROOKS *Whs.* (1867) VI. 198 That man is cursed with a witness that is cursed by Christ himself! 1690 LOCKE *2nd Let. Toleration* Wks. 1727 II. 270 The French King requires all his Subjects to come to Mass: Those who do not, are puniished with a witness. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 444 Gall is bitter with a Witness. 1816 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 103 Here's a levelling rogue for you! The world turned inside out, with a witness! 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiii, To every other person about her she plays countess and baroness with a witness. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* x. (1856) 90 At midnight, it blew great guns, with a witness.

III. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *witness-bearer, -bearing* sb. and adj. (see 10), *-heap* (cf. quot. 1528 in 9 a), *-judge*; **witness action**, an action in which witnesses are summoned, as distinguished from one in which only matters of law are argued; **witness-box**, an enclosed space in which a witness is placed while giving evidence; **witness chair**, a seat for witnesses at a court of inquiry; **witness-room**, an apartment in which witnesses assemble and remain while not giving evidence; **witness-stand** *U. S.*, the place where a witness is stationed while giving evidence.

1892 *Daily News* 16 July 7/1 Mr. Justice Kekewich . . ordered the motion to be set down as a *witness action. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 *Wyttenesse berare, *testis, testificator, testificatrix.* *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 59 Alle fals wytnes-bereryn. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1250/1 These vi. heauenly martyrs & witnes bearers of truthe. 1583 M. WOOD tr. *Gardiner's De Vera Obed.* 35 b, I folow Tullies meaning, who in the weighti importaunce of *witnes bearing, attributeth authoritie vnto such as be wittie & welthy men. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 8 The whole consent and witnessebearing of the great congregation. 1616 CHAPMAN tr. *Musæus* C 2, The witnesse-bearing-light Of Loues, that would not beare a humane sight. 1848 A. THOMSON *Orig. of Secession Ch.* iii. 96 Their resolute and unflinching witness-bearing. 1889 *Spectator* 2 Feb. 166/2 A very real kind of witness-bearing to what we call the supernatural. 1806 J. CARR *Stranger Irel.* 480, I was surprised to find . . that they had no *witness-box. The witness is hoisted upon the table. 1899 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xliii, Mr. Irwine was in the witness-box, telling of Hetty's unblemished character. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 7/2 The ex-Premier . . advanced to the *witness chair. 1528 TINDALE *Declar. Sacram.* a iij, And of al that covenant thei made that heape t . . . ss, callenge it yᵉ *wetnesheppe. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 576 My own experience shall their doom decide; A *witness-judge precludes a long appeal. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxii, She took her place in the *witness-room, worn and dispirited, but not anxious. 1896 HOWELLS *Impressions & Exp.* 71 A young man . . was called to the *witness-stand in behalf of the prosecution.

Hence **Wi'tnessdom** (see quot. and cf. 8 above).

1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxii. VII. 330 Our act may have the . . Virtue of Witness-dom, or as we . . translate it Martyrdom.

Witness (wi'tnés), *v.* Forms: see prec.; also 4 **witnis**, 5 **wythnesse, wittenessh**, 6 **wittenish**. [f. prec. In some ME. texts forms of the type *wittnes* (= witnesses) may be inflected forms of WITNE.]

1. *trans.* To bear witness to (a fact or statement); to testify to, attest; to furnish oral or written evidence of. (*a*) with simple obj.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13893 He and his lare will lasten al, þis will he self wittnes and sai. *Ibid.* 23800 þat wittnes us all hali gospelles. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 82 William of Malmesbirie witnesse it in his write. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 191 þat witnisseth holiwrite who-so wil it rede. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6938 We purchace, thurgh oure flateryng, . . Lettres, to witnesse oure bounte. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. iii. [ii] (1883) 171 Sidrac wythnesseth the same. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 308 She . . openly dyde wytnesse this same thynge at the houre of her dethe. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 220 That Goldsmith there, were he not pack'd with her, Could witnesse it: for he was with me then. 1683 H. MORE *Antid. Ath* III. iii. § 2 (1712) 92 Remigius writes that he had it witnessed to him by the free confession of near two hundred men. 1729 T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 117 Thus we see the antiquity of the settlement of the Scots in Britain witnessed by our own country writers. 1920 *Discovery* Mar. 90/1 The records . . contain . . references to their Royal founder, witnessing his continued interest in the progress of Science.

(*b*) with obj. clause.

13 . . *Guy Warw.* (A.) 6609 Ichil þe make messanger . . Ichil þat þou wittnesse me þat þe loue ste[de]fast be. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 263 Senec witnesseth openly How that Envie proprely Is of the Court the comun wenche. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2520, I witnesse you . . That he was A trew catholike person. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Prayer* II. 126 b, He wytnesseth in another place, the Martirs . . were wont . . to be remembred . . of the Priest at diuine seruice. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 272 Lorenzo heere Shall witnesse I set forth as soone as you. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* II. ii. E, Were not the party her selfe aliue to witnesse that [etc.]. 1859 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 186 To witness . . to the next generation, that England can never be clear from the guilt.

† (*c*) with complement (*for* . . . or inf.). *Obs.*

13 . . *Cursor M.* 12909 (Gött.) And þar-of es right no farlik, Quen he-self þe wittnes for alik. 1545 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. 41, I will earnestly witnesse hym . . before my heauenly father . . for one of myne, to haue the inheritaunce with mee. 1565 SHACKLOCK tr. *Hostus' Hatchet of Heresies* 12 b, Christ, whome the Scriptures wytnesse to haue bene incarnat. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 26 Noah was witnessed to be A man righteous and perfect. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. vii. 387 Those that knew him witnesse him to be of honest life.

(*d*) in imperative or subjunctive, as a form of appeal. Now *rare*.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 608 What-euer ye deme me to do, . . I bete you full highly with hert to fulfille, . . wittenes our goddes. *Ibid.* 1488 The fyfte . . Was Troylus . . That mykell worship wan, witnes ye of story. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 286 Ay me, it is my husband; witnesse you, That he is borne about inuisible. 1591 — *Two Gent.* II, vi. 25 And Siluia (witnesse heauen that made her faire) Shewes Iulia but a swarthy Ethiope. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 28, While I my Nisa's perjur'd Faith deplore; Witness ye Pow'rs, by whom she falsly swore! 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* I, Witness you three—I'm not afraid of him.

b. *transf.* Of a document: To furnish formally attested evidence of. Usually with obj. clause.

1474 *Anc. Deed* C. 5555 (P.R.O.) This bylle shalle wytnesse that I Thomas Ormond oweth to Hew Mathew [*3l. 6s. 8d.*]. *a* 1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 155/2 Cokettes of all such Clothes . . witnessyng the nombre of theym. 1503 *Ibid.* 527/2 This Indenture . . Wytnesseth That whereas [etc.]. 1551 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 425 This byll, mad the xvi. day of Aprill . . wittenisbit that whereas [etc.]. 1698 *Sir R. Hutton's Yng. Clerks Guide* I. (ed. 8) 1 This Indenture . . witnesseth, That [etc.]. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xv, And this indenture farther witnesseth, That [etc.].

c. *fig.* To furnish evidence or proof of; to be a sign or mark of, betoken. Also with obj. clause.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 240 [Þe] water witnessed þat he was god, for he went [= walked] on it. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 253 The tremblynge of the erthe . . the darkynge of the sonne wytnesse hym maker of all thynges. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. vi. (1912) 41 All other tokens witnessed them to be of the lowest calling. 1892 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 74 Thy face, and thy behauiour, Which . . Witnesses good bringing vp. 1899 T. STOKES *Life & D. Wolsey* G 3, The stones may witnesse shee was there. 1600 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* I. ii. C 5, The Director whose high erected scituation witnesseth his prerogatiue. 1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 12 You cannot ride to Ware or to Barkway, but your Hackneyes sides must witnesse your iourneyes. 1633 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* iv. 8 As the wounds we have vpon us can but too well witness. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of* [illegible] suffer'd. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* I. 229 The gilding and carving . . witnessed the expence that had once been lavished on it. 1823 EUSTACE *Class. Tour* (1821) I. viii. 292 The banks of the river, for many a mile, witnessed the rout of the Carthaginians. 1843 MACAULAY *Horatius* lxv, And there it stands unto this day To witness if I lie.

† d. To give evidence of by one's behaviour; to make evident; to evince. *Obs.*

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 168 His kinred and the mother chiefe did many a teare let fall Their woe to witnesse. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxxv. vii, Even gnashing teeth, to witness more their spight. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Loves of Candy* III. i, To finde occasion wherein I might witnesse My duty and obedience. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 15 Apr., Captain Dekings, an anabaptist, and one that had witnessed a great deal of discontent with the present proceedings. 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 207, I seek not mine, but his Who sent me, and thereby witness whence I am. *a* 1700 Dryden *Cymon & Iph.* 112 Long mute he stood, and leaning on his Staff, His Wonder witness'd with an Ideot laugh. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 105 (v.r.) He roll'd his eyes that witness'd huge dismay.

e. To show forth evidence of or as to (an object of allegiance) by faithful speech or conduct; to be a witness for. Also with cognate obj. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1526 Tindale *1 Tim.* vi. 13 Iesus Christ whych vnder Poncius Pilate witnessed a good witnesynge [1582 Rheims and 1611 Confession]. 1534 — *John* v. 32, I know that the witnesse which he witnesseth of me, is true. 1659 South *Serm., Matt. x. 33* (1677) I. 117 To be a Martyr signifies only to witness the truth of Christ. 1663 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XIX. 22 The glorious truth of God witnessed out by those contemned Christians which..are called Quakers. 1680 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* (1681) 333 John Baptist, who had Witnessed him into the World. 1833 *Tracts for Times* I. No. 10. 4 That very confirmation is another ordinance, in which the Bishop witnesses Christ.

2. *intr.* To bear oral or written witness; to testify. Now usually with *to* or *against*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11075 Forþi of him witnes [? witnessli] þus Vr lauerd,..'O wijf', he said, 'was neuer born nan A gretter barn þan sant iohan'. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 268 þat, as ierome & anselm witnesen,..here abitis ben ful of lesyngis. *c* 1380 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 436 At þe day of dom.. Crist and hise lawe shal witnesse azen 30u. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Swetnesse* 363 þe pistel witnesseþ wel Of þat profete. *c* 1400 Maundev. ii (1919) 7 As the storye of Noe witnesseth whan þat the culuer broughte the braunche of Olyue. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 36 And as the boke witnessith, Vter venquysshed the bataile. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 131 As his vncles..gaf & grauntid..to þe fore-seide minchons, as her chartirs witnessin. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a j, Many other notable..thyngys to the pleasure of noble personys shall be shewyd as the werkys folowyng witteneses. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 1056 Idlenes hath ban cause of much wyckednes, As Ecclesiasticus doeth playnely wytnes. 1595 Shake. *John* IV. ii. 218 Oh, when the last accompt twixt heauen & earth Is to be made, then shall this hand and Seale Witnesse against vs to damnation. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. i. 11, I witnesse to The times that brought them in. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 259 ¶ 6 The Prisoner brought several Persons of good Credit to witness to her Reputation. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 5 He avowed his innocence, called heaven to witness to his veracity. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 27 His simplicity..and earnestness are similarly witnessed to.

b. *fig.* (cf. 1 c).

1592 Greene *Groat's W. Wit* F 2, Lette their owne works serue to witnesse against their owne wickednesse. 1611 *Bible* Isa. iii. 9 The shew of their countenance doeth witnesse against them. 1836 Newman *Par. Serm.* III. vi. 93 Works of obedience witness to God's just claims upon us. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lost Bower* xlvii, The golden-hearted daisies Witnessed there..To the truth of things. 1856 Aytoun *Bothwell* v. xiv, How many churches, wrapped in flames, Have witnessed to the spoilers' power! 1860 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* vii. (1877) 153 So subtle an hypothesis..witnesses to a curious phenomenon.

† c. In pres. pple. absolute: *Witnessing* (so-and-so); = Witness *sb.* 7 b. *Obs.*

c 1400 Maundev. Prol. (1839) 2 [The Holy Land] is the Herte and the myddes of all the World; wytnessynge the Philosophere, that seythe thus; *Vertus rerum in medio consistit.* *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 4 To goo vndir the 3oke of penance..is not hard, witnessing þe sauiour.., wher he seithe..Lo! my 3oke..is swete. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* III. xii. 43 Our sayd lorde wytnessynge and sayeng. Who so euer for my loue forsaketh father or mother [etc.].

3. *trans.* a. To give formal or sworn evidence of (a fact, etc.); to depose in evidence. Now *rare*.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 65 b, þe avisurs of þe sikneesse sullen ben destreined to comen to þe curt to witnessen hoere sigt. 1428 *Munim. de Melrose* (Bann.) 519, I wes requeryt ..for to wytnes vndir wryt þe thyng at wes determynyt befor me in iugement. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Mark xv. 4 Answerest thou nothing? beholde how manie thei witnes against thee. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 172 The Aiax hie and Herauits eke can witnesse well his minde,..they heard the talke. 1602 Shake. *All's Well* v. ii. 200 Me thought you saide You saw one heere in Court could witnesse it. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 177 They did all of them witnesse one and the same thing; That I was the sonne of a principall Cavallero. *a* 1713 Burnet *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 586 If they would not witness treasonable matter against Baillie.

b. To attest formally by signature; to sign (a document) as a witness of its execution. Also *absol.*

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520*, lf. 54 b, Witnesinde vs sulf at Gaunt þe vifte dai of Octobre. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 231 To weende with hem to westmunster to Witnesse þe deede. 1439 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 32/2 Licence of the said Chifteyne wittenessed undre his seall. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 87 Thys wytnesseyth Alysaunder, of lyncolne byyshop, and many odyr. *Ibid.* 275 To this present writyng their commune seale..they have put to, witnessyng theire Chapiter. 1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* III. 46 *Sir Pos.* Come Sir, do you Witness it. *2 Clerk.* Ay Sir. *he sets his hand.* 1728 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* (1887) I. 240 A writing is drawn and witnessed. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 102/2 Maha Rajah said it was necessary to witness it to make it pukka. 1843 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* xviii, There I that's what I call a will; witnessed according to law, and all. 1871 Le Fanu *Rose & Key* II. 38 Lady Vernon..sends for her secretary, and seals, signs, and delivers it in his presence...And now he has duly 'witnessed' it. 1912 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 50 John Chishull witnesses as chancellor pretty constantly in the roll of 53 Henry III.

c. To be formally present as a witness of (a transaction).

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. II. 60 Hit witen and witnessen þat woneþ vppon eorþe, þat I, Fauuel, Feffe Fals to þat Mayden Meede. 1849 Sir J. Stephen *Eccl. Biog.* (1850) I. 43 By his side..sat Agnes the Empress-mother, brought there to witness and to ratify the judgment to be pronounced on her only child. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xiii, I would be much obliged to you if you could step round to the.. Bank with me. I want you to witness what passes.

4. (*transf.* from 3 c.) To be a witness, spectator, or auditor of (something of interest, importance, or special concern); to experience by personal (esp. ocular) observation; to be present as an observer at; to see with one's own eyes. In early use said mainly of the eyes or the ears. (In loose writing often used merely as a synonym of 'see'.)

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 43 Thee Troians..Whose fatal misery my sight hath wytneed heauye. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Ho* III. i, Take but that corner and stand close, and thine eyes shall witnesse it. 1637 Cokaine *Obst. Lady* v. iv, I will make known how much you are her Servant, and what affection my ears have witnessed.

1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Iliad. Iustine* XXXIII. 110 Others enclustred about him to dispatch him of his life, more enuious against him now, through his Noblenesse which they witnessed. 1613 Chapman *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* IV. H 3, I neuer witnes'd a more noble loue, Nor a more ruthfull sorrow. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 700 To witness with thine eyes what some perhaps Contented with report heare onely in heav'n. 1710 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) I. III. i. iii. 275 There is nothing ever so trivial, that he is not desirous shou'd be witness'd by the Party, whose Grace.. he sollicits. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 144 And witness, dear companion of my walks,..a joy that thou hast doubled long. 1787 *Generous Attachment* I. 26, I witnessed the uneasiness Mr. Melville endured. 1792 G. Wakefield *Mem.* (1804) I. 294, I met with an opportunity..of witnessing a most extraordinary ventriloquist. 1796 Southey *Lett. fr. Spain* xii. (1799) 164 Never did I witness a more melancholy scene of devastation. 1827 Macaulay *Ess., Machiavelli* (1843) I. 68 They witnessed the arrangement of the pullies, and the manufacture of the thunders. 1836 *Hints on Etiquette* (ed. 2) 30 Do not pick your teeth much at table, as..to witness it is not a pleasant thing. 1873 L. Stephen *Ess. Freethinking* 8 We are, however, passing through a great change, of which no living man can expect to witness the end. 1878 Morley *Diderot* I. iv. 70 As he could not witness the experiment, he began to meditate on the subject. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 5/1 Large crowds witnessed their departure, but no demonstration occurred.

const. clause. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xxiii, Thou art wise ..and generous...I have witnessed that thou art both.

absol. 1810 Wordsw. *Descr. Lakes* (1822) 121 The Lake of Uri..is disturbed from the bottom, as I was told, and indeed as I witnessed, without any apparent commotion in the air.

b. *fig.* Of a place, time, etc.: To be associated with (a fact or event); to be the scene or setting of; to 'see'.

1785 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) I. 78 That immortal fountain and valley, which had witnessed the beauty of Laura. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* VI. i, What various scenes..Are witness'd by that rod and struggling beam! 1813 Eustace *Class. Tour* (1821) III. iii. 204 These fertile plains..once witnessed the defeat and death of a Gothic monarch. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* iii, March and October have witnessed me ever as they came round, for thirty years, deal with the best barley in Shropshire. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1866) 264 The thirteenth [century] witnessed the rapid spread of the scholastic philosophy. 1881 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. iii. 194 The scenes which those harbours had witnessed thousands of years ago.

Witnessable (wi·tnĕsăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Witness *v.* + -able.] That may be witnessed.

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 25 Feb. 580/1 If this be not a witnessable fact, it is at any rate a self-evident one. 1891 *Athenæum* 30 May 710/2 In one..a great improvement is witnessable.

Witnessed (wi·tnĕst), *ppl. a.* [f. Witness *v.* + -ed 1.] a. Furnished with evidence or proof. b. Attested by a witness or witnesses.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* CXIX. C iv, All my delight Thy witnest will shall be. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. v. 110 The son-in-law shall..give the sire His witness'd will.

Witnesser (wi·tnĕsəɹ). Now *rare.* [f. Witness *v.* + -er 1.] One who witnesses; a witness.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. v. 53 Ye lyers forswerers and witnessers of falshede. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. v. 26 Whanne a mater..is witnessid..bi a reuerend..witnesser or denouncer or remembrer (as is God, an Apostil, or a Doctour). *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* XXXIV. 110 Þoo cleped þei þe witnesses, or witnesseres,..mad hem to swere þat hei schuld say soth in þat mater. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 55 They sitte with hym at the bourd of doome..as recorders and witnessers to the trouthe. *c* 1520 *Dial. Creatures Moralised* XXII. G iv, A false witnesser. 1584 T. Martin *Traictise Marr. Priests* Z iij, He was nowe so well become a constaunte witnesser of the passion of Christe, that..he gaue an example of an heauenly conuersation vnto all his subiectes. 1658 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. I. (1910) 42 Lyers, and false witnessers. 1665 J. Sergeant *Sure Footing* 19 An Eminent and Knowing Witnesser to Posterity of the Sence and Faith of the Church. 1874 W. P. Mackay *Grace & Truth* 36 The blessed Spirit, the witnesser of Christ.

† **Wi·tnessfully**, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. assumed adj. **witnessful* + -ly 2.] Evidently, plainly.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. v. (1868) 131 In þis wise more clerely and more witnesfully [L. *testatius*, v.r. *apertius*] is þe office of wise men ytretid.

Witnessing (wi·tnĕsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Witness *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of bearing witness or giving testimony. † *In witnessing of*, as a witness to; † *to bear witnessing*, to bear witness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18894 O þis gadring be-houes us þan, In witnesing to ches a man Vn-to þe seruis of vr tale. *Ibid* 27832 O couaitise..cums..fals witnesing,..and lesing. 1382 Wyclif *2 Cor.* i. 12 The witnesynge of oure conscience. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 299 To this flour..Hire white coroune beryth the witnesynge. 1426 Lydg. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 132 Gladly he cheuith what so he begynne,..The fyne therof berith witnessing. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. viii. (1883) 150, I haue put on eche keye a bille & writynge In witnessinge of the thynges abouesayd. 1526 Tindale *Rev.* I. 9 Iohn..was in the yle of Pathmos for the worde of god, and for the witnessynge of Iesu Christe. 1563 *Reg. Priuy Council Scot.* I. 254 Diuerse personis wer summond..to beir witnessing in the said mater. 1659 South *Serm.* (1697) I. 117 The witnessing of the truth was then so generally attended with this Event, that Martyrdom now signifies.. to witness by death. 1847 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xxviii, I have it on the witnessing of these two madmen..that you want me.

† b. In biblical use: = Witness *sb.* 2 d.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* CXVIII[I]. 2 Blisful þai þat ransakis his witnessyngis. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xcviii[i]. 7 Thei kepten his witnessingus, and the heste that he 3af to hem.

† 2. That which is uttered or stated in support of a fact or statement; evidence given. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16277 Vp þai ras and gaf a cri..Quat mister es o wiitnessing Again him for to lede? *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1269 Telle ous now, what is þi name,..þat we se sum witnesseing Of þi dede. 1476 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 52/1 Þe sadis partijs beand personaly present and þare allegations and witnessingis..herd. 1478 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 20/2 Johne ..sall bring sic..document and witnessing or testimonials of his seving þat he has. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 260 b, The Apostles in the gospell are called witnesses: and the Gospell, a testimony or witnessyng. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* Pref. p. viii, Vnto men we wil bring the witnessings of men, euen the things that euerie man readeth in his owne nature. 1616 W. Haig in J. Russell *Haigs* vii. 158 His habitude of lying, his noted perjury, [etc.]: qualities for which any man's witnessing were to be repelled in judgment.

3. Attestation (of a document). Chiefly in phr. † *in* or *into* (*the*) *witnessing of* = F. *en témoignage de.*

1405 *Rolls of Parl.* III. 605/2 In Witnessing of whilk thyng, to thys presentes we have sette our forsaide Seal. 1422 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 52 Into wytnessyng of which thyng, to this my present testament I haue put to my seell. 1561 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XIX. 481 Robert Hammiltoun.. for the mare witnessing hes subscrivit this his obligatioun with his hand.

4. The fact of being present and observing something.

1855 in *Cambr. Ess.* 154 The witnessing of the scenes. 1872 P'cess Alice *Mem.* (1884) 288 The witnessing of your grief rent my heart so deeply.

So **Wi·tnessing** *ppl. a.* (*spec.* in *witnessing part*: see quot. 1844).

1844 Williams *Real Prop.* 143 The *testatum*, or witnessing part, 'Now this Indenture witnesseth'. [See Witness *v.* 1 b.] 1855 C. Davidson *Prec. Convey.* (ed. 2) I. 64 When the instrument contains more than one witnessing part. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* i. § 4 Corruption festered to its loathsomest in the midst of the witnessing presence of a disciplined civilisation.

† **Witnessman.** *north.* and *Sc. Obs.* Forms see Witness *sb.* [a. ON. *vitnismaðr* (f. *vitnis*, gen. of *vitni* witness + *maðr* Man *sb.*1), accommodated in form to Witness *sb.* and Man *sb.*1] a. A witness. b. The (tenurial) duty of providing a witness in court.

1[illegible]. in *Reg. St. Bees Priory* (Surtees) 287 Myd bode and wytnesmann on thyylk stow. 1278 *Ibid.* 374 Pro witnesman et summonitoribus inveniendis ad faciendum districciones. 1290 *Anc. Deed* L. 458 (P. R. O.) [cf. *Ibid.* 374] Quieti de secta facienda ad Curiam meum..et de Bode et de Wyttenesman..que seruicia quondam petii de predictis Abbati et Conuentu. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 323 3e sal of me be wytnes-mene In þe towne of Ierusalem. 1452 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 29 The quhilk assise ripely avisit, and the witnesmen examynit and herd in the cause. 1493 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 319/2 þe lard of Amisfelde sall cause his officiare witht twa witnesmen..to pynd apoun þe commoune þat is debatabile.

Witney (wi·tni). Also 8–9 **Whitney** (8 -eye). A heavy loose woollen material with a nap, manufactured and made up into blankets at Witney, a town in Oxfordshire; also, formerly, a kind of cloth or coating made there. Also *attrib.* esp. in *Witney blanket* (for which the simple *Witney* is occas. used).

The name has been applied to similar materials made elsewhere, but in 1909 a decision of the Courts in an action brought under the Merchandise Marks Act upheld the restriction of the name to blankets produced by the Witney manufacturers.

1716 Gay *Trivia* I. 47 True Witney Broad-cloth with it's Shag unshorn, Unpierc'd is in the lasting Tempest worn. 1737 in Alice M. Earle *Costume of Colonial Times* (1894) 256 Fine Whiteneye at 53s a yard, Coarse Whiteneye at 28s a yard. 1762 Footk *Minor* II. 50 Whitney blankets for exportation. 1782 *New Bath Directory* 26 Whitney Blanket Warehouse. 1880 S. Jubb *Shoddy-trade* 45 Witneys have been made in a variety of plain colours, mixtures, and fancy styles. 1886 Gronow *Recoll.* Ser. IV. 155 He..wrapped himself up in a large Witney blanket. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xl, Give him one of our new whiteys to go behind his saddle. 1883 *Yorks. Textile Direct.* 3 Presidents, naps, witneys &c. 1885 *Mistletoe Bough* 25/2 A thick witney coat.

Witoten, witout(en, obs. ff. Without.

Witring, obs. form of Withering.

† **Witryff,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wit *sb.* + *ryff*, Rife *a.*] Abounding in cunning.

1398 *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 122 The crawis ar witryff beastis, and the Devill wil cum in thair likenes.

Witsafe, -saffe, -saufe, -save, -schaif, obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE. **Witsau,** var. WITHSAW *Obs.*

† **Witship** [1]. *Obs. rare.* In 1–2 witscipe, 3 *Orm.* wittshipe. [OE. (*ge*)*witscipe* = OFris. *witskipe*, OS. *giwitscepi* (MLG. *gewitschap*), OHG. *giwigscaf*: see IWIT and -SHIP.] Witness, testimony; knowledge.

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (1890) 72 Þa þe set biscopes halgunge in witscipe [*v.r.* ȝewitscype] stonde[n]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Gif he hit deð in his witscipe. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5709 Þatt all þin herrte beo þwerrt ut att tin wittshipe clene.

Wi·tship [2]. [f. WIT *sb.* + -SHIP.] With possessive pron. used as a fanciful title for a witty person.

1638 DAVENANT *Wits* IV. i. H 8, A little to Increase your witships allowance of aire.

Witson(e, -dai, -tyd, obs. ff. WHITSUN, etc.

Wittail(e, -aill, -ale, etc., obs. ff. VICTUAL.

Wittam: see WITHAM.

‖ **Witteboom** (vi·təbōm). *S. Afr.* [Cape Du. (*witte* WHITE *a.*, *boom* BEAM *sb.*[1])] = SILVERTREE 1.

1818 LATROBE *Jrnl. S. Afr.* 35 The foot..of..Table-Mountain is well clothed with witteboom (protea argentea).

Witted (wi·tĕd), *a.* Forms: see WIT *sb.*; also 4 **ywittede, wyttet,** 7 *erron.* **wittied, witti'd.** [f. WIT *sb.* + -ED [2].]

1. Having wit or wits (of a specified quality or amount): with qualifying adv., as WELL-WITTED, etc. (*obs.*), or in parasynthetic comb. with an adj., as *dull-, fine-, half-, gross-, light-, quick-, sharp-, slow-witted*, etc.; also in nonce-formations after *half-witted*, as *two-third-witted, whole-witted.*

† Also (in form *witti'd*, influenced by WITTY *a.*) in comb. *wealth-witti'd* (? whose wits consist in wealth).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 397 Wyse witted men and wel ylettred clerkes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 409 Þe scharpest witted men. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 235 Ryght wel ywittede men and wel lettred clerkes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. XXVI. 253 He was merueillously wytted. 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 213/2 Diuers yonge scolars..properly witted, feately lerned. 1532 — *Conf. Barnes* VIII. ibid. 749/2 Had he no learning at all, and wer witted but right meanely. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* V. XXVI. *Vives* 233 Claudian..was..elegantly wittied [1620 witted]. 1644 A. HOLLAND in J. Davies (Heref.) *Scourge Paper-Persecutors* 3 Wealth witti'd Loobies. 1648 J. EATON *Honeyc. Free Justif.* 44 Conceiving it after a carnall humane-witted fashion. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* II. 25 A forward, two-third witted fellow. 1904 A. C. BRADLEY *Shakesp. Trag.* 313 A quick-witted though not whole-witted lad

† **2.** Possessed of understanding or intelligence.

1528 MORE *Dyalogue* II. Wks. 201/1 Yet might a few witted men deuise and feine a thing of such a fashion that it would be beleued. 1606 MARSTON *Fawne* V. Iiv, Renowmed, witted, Dulcimel.

† **Wittee.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. WITTOL: see -EE.] A wife whose adultery was forced upon her by her husband.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. vi. & vii. 208 Such arts those gamesters have, Their Wittals to their wittees to enslave. *Margin.* The Wittall prostitutes his wife to be Wittee.

Wittely, obs. form of WITTILY.

Witten, obs. inf. and pa. pple. of WIT *v.*[1]; var. WITEN *v. Obs.*; Sc. f. WITTING *vbl. sb.*[1]

Wittenes, -nesse, obs. ff. WITNESS.

Witter (wi·tər), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 **wittir,** 9 **waiter, wutter, wyttyr.** [prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. *vitr, vitring* warning, sign (f. *vitra* to warn = ON. *vitra* to reveal), and WITTER *a.*[1] and *v.*]

1. Something that serves as a mark, sign, or token.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. iii. 52 A mark or wittir of ane greyn aik tre. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 272 Ane wyspe wpoun ewerie speir heid to be ane signe and witter to thame. 1644 D. HUME *Hist. Douglas & Angus* 98 He snatched away his spear with his guidon or witter. 1798 J. NAISMITH *Agric. Clydesdale* 105 To leave 20 or 25 select trees, called reserves or witters,..at each cutting. 1808 JAMIESON, *Waiter*, a token, a sign. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wutter*, the rod which is put in the tithe stooks of corn.

2. *Curling.* The tee (TEE *sb.*[3]) towards which the stones are aimed.

1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 166 Next Robin o' Mains, a leader good, Close to the witter drew. 1811 *Acc. Game Curling* 4 A..witter..is a small hole made in the ice, round which two circles of different diameters are drawn, that the relative distances of the stones from the tee may be calculated at sight.

3. *attrib.*: † **witter hole,** a hole serving as a mark in a *witter stone*; **witter length** *Curling*, as far as the tee; **so witter shot,** a shot that sends the stone exactly to the tee; † **witter stone,** a boundary stone, a 'march stone'.

1615 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 323 Ane great merche stane, havand four *witter hollis. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 65 Old wary curlers..won't waste stones on the guards. They sail them past the sentinels, nigh *wutter length. 1862 JAS. KENNEDY *Poems* 29 Their outer, and their inner wicks, And *witter shot. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 284 *Draw a Wutter Shot*, a curling phrase, signifying to give the stone so much strength, that it may slide the length of the mark, and no farther. 1615 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 322 Ane great *witter stane in the muir, merkit with four hollis. 1679 SIR J. LAUDER *Decis.* (1759) I. 66 The Lords..Find..that the stone called the witterstone is not a stone for the regulating thereof [*sc.* the 'regorging' of water].

Witter (wi·tər), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *north.* Also 8 **wetter,** 9 **wither, w(h)utter,** etc. (see *E. D. D.*). [Of obscure origin; cf., however, ME. *wither-hoked* (WITHER-[1] 3) and dial. *witter-huked* (Lonsdale Gloss. 1869).] *pl.* The barbs of an arrow, fishing-spear, fish-hook, or the like. (*rare* in *sing.*) Hence **Wittered** *a.*, barbed.

1773 H. FOORD in *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1784) II. 197 The other [whale] was lost,..by the Wetters, or Feathers of the Harpoon, giving way and bending. *Ibid.* 198 With one Wetter towards the Fish's head, the other towards her tail. 1792 *Archæol. Scot.* I. 392 In process of time, the lozenge form fell into disuse, and the arrow head was formed with two witters. 1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXVI, He deserved his paiks for't—to put out the light when the fish was on ane's witters! 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Regions* II. 223 The harpoon..consists of three conjoined parts, called the 'socket', 'shank', and 'mouth'; the latter of which includes the barbs or 'withers'. *a* 1824 in Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 6 They'd soon be darting in him Mony a witted poisonous stang. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wuttered*, barbed.

† **Witter,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 3–4 **witer,** 4 **wyter,** 4–5 **wittur.** [Late OE. or early ME., a. ON. *vitr* wise, f. OTeut. *wit-*: see WIT *v.*[1]] Knowing, cunning, wise. Also, cognizant, aware (cf. WISE *a.* 3 b).

c 1200 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1067 Se kyng..wislice hine bęþohte swa he full witter wæs. *c* 1205 LAY. 9600 Heo wes witer, heo wes wis. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 168 So made god wid witter mi3t, Al erue,..and wilde der. *Ibid.* 1308 Þo wurð Se child witter and war Þat for al offrende ben don. *Ibid.* 2330 Ne wiste 3e no3t Þat ic am o wol witter fo3t? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 698 Ne þe nedder was noght bittur þan, þowf he was euer wittur. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 75 Ac whose is witer and wys of wit. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 629 Sone wex he witter & wyse.

Hence † **Witterhed** [-HEAD], † **Witterness,** wisdom, prudence, knowledge.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3667 Ches Se nu her seuentI Wise men to stonden Se bi, And ic sal hem geuen witter-hed. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9728 Fader,..þi sun i es O þi strenght and þi witernes. *Ibid.* 23510 Godd, þat all wate þat es..Vte of his witernes be þai neuer.

† **Witter,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* Also 3 *Orm.* **witerr.** [Back-formation from WITTERLY, or prec. adj. with meaning transferred from the same: cf. MSw. *vitterliker*, (1) = ON. *vitrligr* wise, (2) manifest (so also early Da. *vitterlig*).] Clear, evident, certain.

c 1200 ORMIN 3363 Her ice wile shæwenn 3uw summ þing to witerr takenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2903 Min milche witter name eley He knewen wel. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 542 Idelnesse is..witter wissyng and wai till alkyns vices.

† **Witter,** *v. Obs.* (cf. next). Forms: 3–4 **witere,** 4–5 **wyter(e, wytter,** 5 **wyttyr(e, witter.** [f. WITTER *a.*[1] or [2]: cf. ON. *vitra* to reveal.] *trans.* To inform, instruct; in some early quots. perh. to make clear (to a person what to do).

c 1205 LAY. 1200 He3e Diana..wise me & witere [*c* 1275 witte me]..whuder ich mæl liðan. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 33 (Bodl.) Wite me & were & witere & wisse þurh þi wisdom to wite me wið sunne. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1550 To wayte þe wryt þat hit wolde & wyter hym to say. *Ibid.* 1587 When ho was wytered bi wyges what was þe cause. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 466 Ho has witered hire of þis? ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1239, I witter þe þe emperour es entirde in-to Fraunce. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. 2284 (Wemyss) Þai thocht..for to cum in prevate One him or he suld witterit [*Cott. MS.* wyttride] be.

Wittering, *vbl. sb. Sc.* and *north.* Also 4 **wit(e)ring, -iring,** *Sc.* **wittering, -yng.** [f. prec. + -ING [1].] Information, cognizance; *mod. dial.* a sign, token (cf. WITTER *sb.*[1] 1), a hint.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21583 Þat godd suld send hir witering (*Gött.* witring) sun, Quat he o þat cros wald ha don. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 348 Iames of Douglas of thare cummyng ..had wittering. *c* 1488 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. 411 Noe first send furþ þe rawin Till get wittering and knawlege Gif þat þe flud begouth to asuage. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Iv. 79 And of thair cupling wittering schew the air. 27.. *Broomfield Hill* viii. in Child *Ballads* I. 394 That was to be wittering true That maiden she had gane. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (E.D.S.), *Wittering*, an hint. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wittering*, a hint, a secret report. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.* s.v., I got a wittering o' 't from him.

† **Witterly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3–5 **wit(t)er-, wytter-,** (3 **witerr-,** 4 **wyter-, wit(t)ir-, wyttir-, witur-, weter-,** *Sc.* **vittir-,** 5 **wyt(t)ur-, -yr-, wetir-, -ur-, witre-,** (**whiter-, wihtur-**); 3–4 **-like, -liche,** 3–5 **-li,** etc. (-LY [2]). [Of Scand. origin (cf. MSw. *vitterliga*, early Da. *vitter-, viderlige*, corresp. to the respective adjs. MSw. *vitterliker*, chiefly neut. *-likit*, early Da. *vitter-, viderlig* clear, manifest): cf. WITTER *a.*[2] and *v.*] Clearly, plainly, evidently; certainly, for certain; without doubt, undoubtedly, truly.

Used esp. as a conventional addition in ME. verse, freq. with the verb *wot* (to know).

c 1200 ORMIN 785 & tatt wass witterrlike soþ Þatt Godess enngell seggde. *Ibid.* 2132 & witt tu wel Þatt Latin boc Full witterrlike wass kiþeþ, Whilc lac wass offredd forr þe preost. *Ibid.* 3446 [The Magi] wisstenn witterrlis þærþurrh Þatt swilic new king wass awwnedd. *c* 1205 LAY. 17563 Þu miht ileue me iseh, for þi is witerliche soð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 358 Loke3 þu hu witterliche wre Louerd sulf hit witnes8. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 791 Egipte clerkes..hem lerede, witterliche, Astronomije and arsmetike. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10013 Þe elleuend winter was, witerli, þer after. *Ibid.* 16039 Sal me son quer þat þou be gedd oun or man, Þat I mai wijt it witerli.

c 1330 *Leg. Rood* lii. 134 And pray him me to certify Of þe olle of mercy weterly. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1706 Wrapande hym ful weterly with a wroth noyse. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 330 Thai that I wat vittirly Eftir my wit rehers sall I. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. I. 11 Al þe welþe of þis worlde & þe woo þerinne, Wynkyng as it were wysely ich saw hyt. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 39 Helen wist nost witerly whilk was þe crosse þat Criste was done apon. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9180 Thies wordes, in his wo, witturly he said, Soberly so hym-selfe. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5463 Þat ilk place Whare þe fische lay dry, Þat was cuthberts witterly. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 3453 Suppos thai wyst It wytterly, Quhat suld that gold aw werraly.

Wittesontyde, obs. f. WHITSUNTIDE.

Wittham: see WITHAM. **Witti,** obs. f. WITTY *a.*

Wittieaster (witikæ·stəɹ). *nonce-wd.* [f. WIT *sb.* or WITTY *a.*, after CRITICASTER.] A petty or inferior wit, a witling.

First in Latham's Dict., 1872, where the following is quoted as from Milton on the authority of 'Ord MS.':—The mention of a nobleman seems quite sufficient to arouse the spleen of our witticaster. Hence in later Dicts.

Wittichenite (wi·tikənəlt). *Min.* [ad. G. *wittichenit* (Kenngott, 1853), f. *Wittichen* in Baden, where found: see -ITE [1].] Native sulphide of bismuth and copper.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 98.

Witticism (wi·tisiz'm). Also 7 **wittycism.** [Coined by Dryden, f. WITTY *a.*, after *criticism.*] A piece of wit; a witty saying or remark; a smart joke. In earlier use often *contemptuous* ('a mean attempt at wit' J.), or applied esp. to a joke made at another's expense, a jeer, a witty sarcasm.

1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc., Apol. Her. Poetry* c 1 b, A mighty Wittycism, (if you will pardon a new word I) but there is some difference between a Laugher and a Critique. 1683 — *Vind. Dk. Guise* 18 For the sake of a silly Witticism. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 13 What shal wee..think of Cramp-words, or Criticisms, Jocs, or Witticisms, Railleries and Drolleries..? 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* XLIX. (1779) II. 261, I had many witticisms to endure from the Branghtons. 1800 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Good Fr. Governess* (1848) I. 286 Assailed..by a variety of..maternal witticisms upon his uncouth appearance. 1842 H. ROGERS *Ess.* I. i. 22 The profane heartless witticisms of those with whom nothing is sacred. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* XX, At this witticism, there was a burst of laughter.

So **Witticise** (wi·tisiz) *v. intr.*, to utter witticisms.

1773 WESLEY *Wks.* 1872) X. 423 It lies therefore upon Mr. Hill to answer Mr. Sellon before he witticizes upon me. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 489 The sketching and witticising talent which characterizes so many of our modern travellers. 1881 *Dollar Instit. Mag.* Dec. 1 While we warble or witticise.

Witti(e)d: see WITTED.

Wittified, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* [f. WITTY *a.* + *-fied* (see -FY).] Possessed of wit.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 62 Those wittified ladies who were willing to come into the order [of wits].

† **Wittiful,** *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. WITTY *a.* + -FUL.] Full of 'wit', wise, sensible.

1590 LODGE *Euphues' Golden Legacie* (1592) I 2 b, Oh, Rosader, then be thou wittifull [*rime* pittifull].

† **Wittihede.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. WITTY *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Wisdom, understanding.

c 1318 SHOREHAM *Poems* VII. 95 Þe mytte hys fader..Wysdom þe sone, for wytti-hede þat he for3 toke.

Wittily (wi·tili), *adv.* Forms: see WITTY *a.*; also 4–6 **wittely** (4 -li, *Sc.* **wittely**), 5 **wyttely.** [f. WITTY *a.* + -LY [2].] In a witty manner.

† **1.** Intelligently, cleverly, ingeniously. *Obs.*

Not always easily distinguishable from 2.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2602 Þat wittily taust hem þe weies whider þei wende scholde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 4 Of Erþe and Elr hit is mad I-medelet to-gedere, Wiþ wynt and wiþ watur ful wittiliche I-Meint. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.*

1575 LYTE *Dodoens* Epist. to Queen 2j b, By their diligent inquisition they wittily found out the vse of many [plants]. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 184 Those women, who..so cunningly and wittily twisted on your fine skaines and clues. 1675 J. SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Satyre* 133 But is there any other Beast alive, Can his own Harm so wittily contrive? 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. xli. (1716) 69 Of good natural parts,..which did but arm their bad inclinations, and make them wittily wicked.

† **2.** Wisely, discreetly, sensibly. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4142 Sende wittili to þi wif & warne hire fore. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 264 Gude begynnyng.. And it be followit vittely, May [etc.]. *Ibid.* XIII. 571 Thai war gouernit full wittely. 1465 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 91 Ye may verely undirstand that it is not guided wittely nor discretly. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. XXXVI. 472 Alyxander fought wyldly and not wyttely. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 65 Whose lande is..well and wyttelye gouerned. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 107 Lord Bacon wittily advises to sprinkle a little forrage seed on the strawberry bed. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1676, Dr. Pritchard..preached ..very allegorically according to his manner, yet very gravely and wittily. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. II. xxiii. 136 How Learnedly he now conveyed all the Liberal Arts unto those that sat at his Feet; how Wittily he moderated their Disputations. 1824 SCOTT *Betrothed* VII, Thou hast studied some small revenge on me..and.. I think thou hast taken it wittily enough.

3. In a manner characterised by wit (see WIT *sb.* 7, 8, WITTY *a.* 7, 8); in a cleverly amusing way; with smart jocosity.

1563 T. Wilson *Rhet.* n. 58 To beginne with some pleasaunt tale or take an occasion to iest wittely. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 75 b, Hee..can give quip for quip so wittilie that those which begin the skirmish with him boldlie, are faine to retire shamefullie. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xviii. § 5 In conversation wittily pleasant, and pleasantly gamesome. 1691 Sir T. P. Blount *Ess.* I. 19 Therefore one wittily calls these Indulgences Emulgences. 1789 Goldsm. *Pres. St. Pol. Learn.* ix. Wks. (Globe) 440/2 When an unexpected similitude in two objects strikes the imagination—in other words, when a thing is wittily expressed. 1869 *Adam Smith's W. N.* II. ii. I. 326 *note*, Free trade in banking, it has been wisely and wittily said, is free trade in swindling. 1878 A. H. Markham *Gl. Frozen Sea* ii. 25 As one of our men wittily remarked on seeing his first iceberg, it reminded him strongly of the isle of Wight (white). 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* I, A good deal more talk, partly business, partly wittily told scandal.

† 4. Knowingly, wittingly. *Obs. rare.*

1653 Whitfield *Treat. Sinf. Men* iii. 5 That which he willingly and wittily suffers to be done. 1654 Fuller *Two Serm.* 36 Not willingly, wittily, or wilfully.

¶ 5. *irreg.* as adj. = Witty *a.* 4.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1079 Þat we vs avise,..To say our wil in wordes foune, And þat our wordes be wittely.

Wittin: see Wit *v.*[1], Witting *vbl. sb.*[1]

Wittiness (wi·tinės). [f. Witty + -ness.] The quality or character of being witty; † intelligence, sagacity; † cleverness, ingenuity; † wisdom, good sense, etc. (see Witty *a.* 2–8).

1533 J. Heywood *Dial. Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) 1 Ye show some wytty wyttines. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* Pref. a iv, Wittynesse of beastes and byrdes. 1544 Betham tr. *Purlitie's Precepts War* I. clxxxviii. I iv, In which case the wittynesse of yᵉ capitayn & knowledge, is moch requyred. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 264 Theyr [*sc.* spiders'] wittinesse, pollicie, quicknes and sharpnes of sence. 1656 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* viii. 6. 635 *To be carnally*] The quintessence of the fleshes wittiness, or rather wickedness. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Mark vii. 28 Not for the Wittiness of her saying, but for her Faith and Importunity. *Mod.* The wittiness of his remarks was refreshing after the dullness of the previous speeches.

Witting (wi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of mixed origin; in the forms 4 **witand, wyttande,** 5 **wetand,** a. ON. *vitand* consciousness, knowledge (f. *vita* Wit *v.*[1]) in phr. *at minni, vdrri,* etc. *vitand* to my, our, etc. knowledge; this type is app. in part continued in *Sc.* 5 **wyttyn,** 5–6 (9 *n. dial.*) **wittin,** 6, 9 **witten** (9 **wittance,** ? = *wittens*); in *Ayenbite* (see quots. 1340) in pres. ppl. form **wytende, -inde**; otherwise f. Wit *v.*[1] + -ing 1.]

1. The fact of knowing or being aware of something; knowledge, cognizance.

Most commonly with prep. and possessive (or *of*), as *at, by, of, to one's witting* (partly after OF. *a son escient*), to or with one's knowledge, as one knows; as far as one knows; knowingly, wittingly; *without one's witting*, without one's knowledge, so that one does not know; also *but witting*, without its being known; *with witting*, wittingly.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29962 [He] mai noght þis curaing scape, Þat comuns wit him þat þe pape Curss has at his witand. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. (*Blasius*) 114 Pane rase þe chyld & a-va cane ga As he had wittine of na way. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 250, I wrappèd þe neuere, at my witand. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlv. 72 A! bredir, be my wetand and i-wisse so wer we. 1466 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1461* 214/2 To gif us lele and trew counsale eftir thare wittin. 1474 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 32/2 Be wittin of vmquhile William of Striuelin. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *Without my wittins*, without my knowledge. 1824 Carr *Craven Gloss.* 124 Bout my wittin, without my knowledge. 1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* vii. 57 Neither word nor wittens of a family, to perpetuate our name to future generations.

β. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Huo þet onworþeþ his uader and his moder be his wytinde..mneȝeth dyadliche. *Ibid.* 37 Wyþoute hare wytende and wyþ-oute hare wylle.

γ. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 216 Withouten his conseille, or þe kynges wittyng. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23510 (Gött.) Forgiuen er þai [*sc.* man's sinn] and neuer þe less..Vte of his [*sc.* God's] witting [*Cott.* witernes, *Fairf.* witring] be þai neuer. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 236 Ye be the womman in þis world lyuynge Without-oute paramours to my wytynge That I best loue. *Ibid.* IV. 991 That god shuld han no parfit cler witynge More þan we men, þat han doutous wenynge. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 753 With oute wityng of any oother wight. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 63 [God's] weting and his before-weting is al oon. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 66 Þei..þat are chargid to sey þe soþe to þer witing. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. iv. 676 Þe Grekys.. þe bodels cast In til a cistern dep, qwhar þai Lay hid but wyttynge. 1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 267 Iustice moevith to preferre right.. & wronge nevir yive with wetyng. *a* 1450 Myrc 397 That heo avow no maner þynge But hyt be at hys wytynge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 12 Gode lete me haue delyueraunce yef euer man, my witynge, hadde to do with me. *Ibid.* 28 The Iuges examyned the gode hermyte yef it were so, and he seide, 'Ye', as by his wetynge. 1508 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. vii. G vii b, Who so trespasseth vnto his wyttynge ony of the .x. commaundementes, is in deedly synne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Q iii b, He went fro Rome to Salon .. without the witting of any person. 1560 *Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 99 Without thassentes or witting of the saide freholders. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 400 [If they be] sufferit to remane thairintill..be our witting. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 464/1 The cuntrie wherin the saidis guidis salbe ressett or remane for the space of tuelff houris of his witting. 1621 Hakewill *David's Vow* ii. 46 As..we have action implied in the Verb: so have wee witting, and willing, ..implied in the Adverb. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3), *Witting*, knowledge, judgment, wit.

2. Knowledge obtained or (esp.) communicated; information, intelligence, tidings, news; notice, warning. (Cf. Wit *v.*[1] 3.) Chiefly in *to get* or *have witting.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 359 We sall cum thair sa prestly, That thai sall haff na perseyvyng, Na ȝeit witting of our cummyng. *Ibid.* V. 540 Quhen men schupe hym to betrais, He gat vitting tharof alwayis. 1417 in Rymer *Foedera* (1710) IX. 487 Kepe this Matere..secre..that never Creature have Wittyng thereof. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 14 When thow shalte be brought oute ageyn to Iugement lete me haue wetynge. *Ibid.* 45 He merveyled..how merlin myght have witinge ther-of. 1497 *Merton Coll. Rec.* No. 1031, The same John Wreyght shall gyve wetyng and warnyng vnto the fermour then beyng. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. clx. (1811) 150 The sonnis sent wittynge to the pope..requyrynge hym of ayde and counceyll. *a* 1529 Skelton *Bowge of Court* 278 And I knowe ony erthly thynge That is agayne you, ye shall haue wetynge. *a* 1626 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1066 To giue him witting thereof. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxii, What will come o' ye gin the bailies suld come to get witting? 1893 W. R. Mackintosh *Around Orkney Peat Fires* ii. (1903) 34 His scouts..gave him 'wittance' of the..scheme.

¶ Used for the infin. in phr. 'to wit'.

1398, *a* 1400, 1440 [see Wit *v.*[1] B. 10 a, b].

Witting, *vbl. sb.*[2], bequest: see Wit *v.*[2]

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 421/1 Wyttinge, *legacio.*

Witting, *ppl. a.* Forms: see Wit *v.*[1] A. 6. [f. Wit *v.*[1] + -ing 2.]

a. Chiefly in conjunction with *wilfully* or *willing* (see Willing *ppl. a.* 2 f), advb. = Wittingly 1.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 368 Lyeres..þat were forsworen ofte, Wytynge [*v. r.* wytynglí] and willefully with þe false helden. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 138 Þylke þat don aȝeyne þe constytucyons of holy chyrche wytyng, he ys acurset tyll he come to amendement. 1531 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* ii. (1538) F viij b, He..whyche wyttynge and wyllynge shutteth hys eyes at the true lyght. 1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 66 No man wyttyng and wyllyng wyl hurt hymselfe. 1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* lx, How he witting and wilfully followeth his owne hurt. 1600 Holland *Livy* VI. xl. 945 We.. have practised nothing, witting and willing,.. prejudiciall to the Communaltie.

b. Chiefly *predicatively*: Aware, cognizant.

1560–80 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 138 Both witting and vnwitting me. *a* 1586 Sidney *Two Pastorels* ii. 89 Seely shepheards are not witting What in art of Loue is fitting. *a* 1629 Hinde *J. Bruen* v. (1641) 19 Using men both witting and unwitting. 1894 F. S. Ellis *Reynard Fox* 221 Hither..I..came, To make you witting of the same. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 885 Scarcely witting, he ran forward.

c. Conscious as an agent; that is consciously what the sb. denotes.

1678 Littleton *Dict., Lat.-Ang.*, A witwal or wittal, a witting cuckold. 1872 J. G. Murphy *Comm. on Lev.* iv. 2 Witting and wilful transgressors. 1912 *Oxf. & Camb. Rev.* Nov. 48 [Synge] was a witting artist of marvellous skill.

d. *transf.* of the action: Done consciously (and so with responsibility), 'conscious', deliberate: often in conjunction with *willing.*

1583 Bradford *Serm. Repentance* (1574) H iij b, This willing and witting offending & synning. 1582 Hanmer *Jesuites Banner* 4 b, Wee are all by nature the children of wrath, yet will you not confesse, that the corruption of nature is voluntary and witting. 1623 Hoby *Countersnarle* 55 These his witting falsifications. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Tri.* 316 So..fore-knowledge of God, is his witting and willing act or decree. 1879 Maudsley *Pathol. Mind* vi. 288 The notion of witting and wilful vice.

Witting, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of Wit *v.*[1]

Wittingite (wi·tiŋəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *wittingit* (Nordenskiöld, 1849), f. *Wittingsi* in Finland, where found: see -ite 1.] A variety of Neotocite.

1868 Dana *Min.* 492. 1892 [see Neotocite].

Wittingly (wi·tiŋli), *adv.* Forms: see Wit *v.*[1] A. 6 and Wettingly; also 4 **wytindeliche.** [f. Witting *ppl. a.* + -ly 2.]

1. With knowledge or awareness of what one is doing; knowingly, consciously; often implying 'designedly, deliberately, intentionally'. (In earlier use freq. conjoined with *wilfully* or *willingly*.)

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xciv. 11 Þai erre in hert..witandly & wilfully. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Þet we ne wrebþi uader ne moder wytindelíche. *a* 1390 Wyclif *Rom.* Prol., Greuousli to han trespassid, and witendely. *c* 1425 Audelay *XI Pains Hell* 114 in *O.E. Misc.* 214 Þai foreswere ham wettanly. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc. 82 Thow art nocht abill remissioun for to get, Wittandlie and thow suld ane ayu forȝet. 1538 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 83 Not willingly and wetingly to slip ouer siche fautes. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 14 If it were proued that he killed him wittingly, willingly and prepensedly. 1600 Shake. *Ham.* v. i. 13 She drown'd her selfe wittingly. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 524 After him..succeeded many valiant men..whom for breuitee I wittingly passe ouer. 1670 *Act 22 Chas. II* c. 1 § 4 Every person who shall wittingly and willingly suffer any such Conventicle..in his..House. 1723 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* v. ix. 347, I have endeavoured to say as little wittingly as I could. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* III. ix. (1861) 109, I would not wittingly dishonour my work by a single falsehood, misrepresentation, or prejudice. 1851 *Gloss. Cumberld., Wittenly*, wottenly; designedly. 1872 Proctor *Est. Astron.* ii. 26, I would by no means desire to imply that Sir John Herschel..wittingly overlooked known facts. 1872 Freeman *Engl. Conest.* ii. 105 Wittingly or unwittingly, much of our best modern legislation has..been a case of advancing by the process of going back.

† **2.** With knowledge; skilfully; wisely. *Obs. rare.*

Speaker.

Wittol (wi·təl), *sb. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 5–6 **wetewold,** 6–7 **wittold, wittall, wit-wal,** 6–8 **wittal,** (6 **wittole, -oll, -ale, -ald, witall,** 7 **whittoll**), 7–8 **wital,** 6– **wittol.** [Late ME. *wetewold*, app. formed after *cokewold*, Cuckold, with substitution of *wete*, Wit *v.*[1] for the first part of the word.]

1. A man who is aware of and complaisant about the infidelity of his wife; a contented cuckold.

14.. ?Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 720 Wetewoldes that suffre syn in her syghtes. *c* 1520 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 287 Some carefull cokwoldes..; Some famous wetewoldis, and they be moche wurs. 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* I. vii, Fond wit-wal that wouldst lode thy wit-lesse head With timely hornes. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* II. ii. 313 But Cuckold, Wittoll, Cuckold? the Diuell himselfe hath not such a name. 1614 W. Browne *Inner Temple Masque* ii, Come yee whose hornes the cuckold weares, The whittoll too, with asses eares. 1736 Vaughan *Voy.* (1760) I. 136 [He] being a good-humour'd easy Man, and a Wittol to boot, at their Tears and Entreaties, forgave 'em both. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. xcix, A real husband [*MS.* wittol] alway's is suspicious. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvi, She would not quit the estate and title of the wittol who had wedded her.

b. *transf.* (? with pun on *wit-all.*) One who has little sense; a half-witted person; a fool; occas. a witling.

1588 J. Ashe *Elis. Triumphans* To Rdr. A 3, They..are ..accounted of as wittals, for spending their studies about such common deuises. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkewormes* 34 To see great wittols little things despise. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 151 He that's wicked is a witall [*stultus*]. 1721 Amherst *Terræ-Filius* xxxix. (1726) II. 211 Heaven was crouded with religious punsters and witals. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxxvi, He told them they should see what message he was about to send to the witals [*sc.* the Mayor and Aldermen] of Kirkwall. 1866 Kingsley *Herew.* xxxiv, Gospatric! the wittol! the wood-cock!

2. *attrib.* That is a wittol, pertaining to or characteristic of a wittol; *transf.* half-witted, senseless.

1604 Marston *Malcontent* IV. iii. F a b, And do I liue to be the skoffe of men, To be their wittall cuckold..? 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* III. i, If thou wou'dst live, Without the Name of credulous, wittal Husband, Avoid thy Bride. 1780 Burke *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 11 Feb. 76 What sums the nursing of that ill-thriven..and ill-favoured brat [*sc.* Nova Scotia], has cost to this wittol nation! 1796 — *Regic. Peace* iii. (1802) 193 There are cases in which we may pretend to sleep: but the wittol rule has some sense in it, *Non omnibus dormio.* 1810 Wirt in J. P. Kennedy *Mem.* (1860) I. xviii. 258 As one of Congreve's wittol squires said.., it is a pleasure I would as soon be without. 1869 Lowell *Winter-evening Hymn to Fire* iv, And thy down-trod instincts savage To stealthy insurrection creep, While thy wittol masters sleep.

Hence † **Wittol** *v. trans.*, to make a wittol of.

1624 Davenport *City Night-cap* I. i, He would wittal me, With a consent to my own Horns.

Wittolly (wi·təli), *a.* Also 7 **wittally, wittoldly,** 9 **wittoly.** [f. Wittol *sb.* + -y[1] or -ly[1].] Having the character, or characteristic, of a wittol.

1598 Shake. *Merry W.* II. ii. 284 They say the lealous wittolly-knaue hath masses of money. 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* II. i. E 1, No, let me still be..thought A ielouse Asse, and not a wittally Knaue. 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* III x. (ed. 2) 893 Her husband was hanged for his wittoldly permission. *a* 1652 Brome *City Wit* IV. i, You are a Wittally Cuckold I know. 1848 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 83 Most of this finger-talk, wittoly wit, as well as the figs [*sc.* 'a fig for you', digitally represented], is confined to the lower classes.

† **Wittolry.** *Obs.* Also 7 **witald-, wittoldrie.** [f. Wittol *sb.* + -ry.] Complaisant cuckoldry; hence, extreme folly.

1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxvii. 168 Iust Guerdons for Ambition..For dastard Dotards, Wittolrie, and Harlots nice. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Folie, En amour est folie et sens*, in loue there is both wit and witaldrie. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* v. 257 Cabbas, a Roman (worthie for ever to be branded with base Wittoldrie).

Wittome: see Witham.

Witts (wits), *sb. pl. Mining.* Also **whits.** [Short for *tinwitts*: see Tin *sb.* 5.] Tin ore after the first dressing: see quot. 1853.

1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 858 Tin witts..The clean 'witts' contain native oxide of tin; black tin or resin tin, and wolfram with iron and arsenical pyrites, generally containing some copper. 1858 [Leifchild] *Cornwall* 208 This mixture of metallic matter, named Witts.

Wittual, wittule, obs. ff. Victual.

Witty (wi·ti), *a.* Forms: 1 **wit(t)iġ,** 3 **witi(ȝ, -eȝ,** 3–5 **wytti,** 3–6 **witti,** 4–6 **wytty, wittye,** 4–7 **wittie,** (4 **witthi,** *Sc.* **vitty,** 5 **witte,** 6 **wyttie, -ye,** *Sc.* (*sup.*) **wittiast**), 3– **witty.** [OE. *wit(t)ig* (also *gewittig*) = MLG. *wetig*, OHG. *wis(s)ig* (MHG. *wissic*), ON. *vitugr*: f. Wit *sb.* + -y[1].]

† **1.** Having wisdom. **a.** Said of God or Christ: cf. Wise *a.* 1 (*b*). *Obs.*

Beowulf 685 Witig god..hallz dryhten. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 25 Hu þas woruld worhte witig drihten. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6280 Swa witty and myghty es he þat nathyng til hym impossibel may be. 1380 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 532 This god is most mysty þyng þat may be. The most wytty and most ryȝtful. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* i. (1908) 18 The persone of the sone [is] al wyse and witty. *c* 1480 Henryson *Swallow* vi, God in all his werkis wittie is.

† **b.** Of human beings: Having good judgement or discernment; wise, sagacious, discreet, prudent, sensible. *Obs.*

In quot. *a* 1562 *advb.* = wisely.

[1057–34 *Lawes Court* lxxvi, Hit wes ær þyscon, þæt þæt cild þe læȝ on cradele...þa ȝiteras letan efen scyldiȝ & hit ȝewittiȝ were.] 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 488, I hald a man noght witty þat here es over-prowde and loly. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 10 Is þat þei seyn þat an hebene philosofre..is wittiere and trewere þan almyȝti god. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy*

1807 Wise in his wordys, witte of counsaille. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. v. 25 Ech witti man muste graunte that the first principal conclusioun hiſore sett is trewe. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. iii. Ioynynge to hym counsaillours Nestor and the witty Ulisses. *a* 1586 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 46 A..warnyng to use thy self more wittier hereafter. *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, 2091 To haue two meanes beseemes a wittie man. 1612 *Bible* Ecclus. xxi. 12 He that is not wise [*marg.* or, wittie], will not be taught.

2. Having (good) intellectual ability; intelligent, clever, ingenious; skilful, expert, capable. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

[*a* 1000 *Gifts of Men* 74 Sum biŏ ȝewittig æt wine beorhwyrde god.] *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 39 in Napier *O. Glosses* 2/2 *Per gymnosophistas*, þurh wittize plegmen *vel* gleawe gligmen. *c* 1205 Lay. 21134 He wes ihaten Wygar, þe witeȝe wurhte [*c* 1275 þe wittye wrohte]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 5 Wel artou witti,..wisdom to telle To Fayture or to Fooles. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 28 A gode lech and a witty. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 45 A wise man, and witty in armys & in alle his werkys. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 24 In workemanship and artes they are marueylous wyttie. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Wisd. viii. 19, I was a wittie childe [*R. V.* a child of parts]. *a* 1585 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxiii. § 8 He (no more wittie to frame, then blinde to judge hopes). 1612 Bacon *Ess., Of Judicature* (Arb.) 451 Iudges ought to be more Learned, then Wittie. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 76 Witty Copernicus. *a* 1636 Hales *Golden Rem.* (1673) 196 God who is..πολύτροπος εἰς σοφὴν πᾶν ἀνθρώπων..as Clemens speaks..is witty in Inventing of means to bring us to him. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 82 In gentle Verse, the Witty told their Flame. 1725 Watts *Logic* I. ii. § 4 When we say the Boy is strong or witty, these are proper or inherent Modes. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 728 Now..show this queen of cities [*sc.* London], that so fair May yet be foul; so witty, yet not wise. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*

(*b*) Of animals: = Wise *a.* 1 (*c*): cf. Wit *sb.* 5 c.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Noþing is more witty and besie þanne houndes. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 336 This wittie beast [*sc.* the elephant] keepeth in the woods. 1606 B. Jonson *Hymen., Barriers* 163 At her feet doe witty serpents moue. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 978 The Ape also is a Witty Beast, and hath a Dry Braine.

†**b.** In unfavourable sense: Crafty, cunning, wily, artful; skilful in contriving evil; also, foolishly ingenious in devising something to one's own hurt. *Obs.*

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 þat any oþer witty man perceyuyng his werk mow vsurpe it to hymself. 1580 Vautroullier *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 282 They are marueilous witty and wily in finding fault with other mens doings. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* IV. ii. 27 A maruellous witty fellow I assure you, but I will goe about with him. 1608 Bp. Hall *Char., Vnconstant* 111 He is..wittie to wrong himselfe. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 19 As simple as they seeme, they are witty enough in craft, revenge, and villany. *a* 1656 Hales *Golden Rem.* (1673) 123 They are unexpectedly, and..wonderfully prompt and witty to villany and wickedness. *a* 1683 Oldham *Passion of Byblis* Wks. (1686) 125 How came I witty to my ruin thus? *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xxi. iv, Witty too in Self delusion. 1706 Mrs. Centlivre *Love at a Venture* Epil., You Men are grown so witty in Deceit.

†**3. a.** Endowed with reason, rational. **b.** In full possession of one's wits, of sound mind. *rare.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints Lives* vii. 428 Wearð..his suna wittig. *c* 1300 *Kenelm* 219 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 53 Whan no man nolde þat witti was of him habbe munde A doumbe best wiþoute witte hadde aȝe cunde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 158 Þus was þis witty beast werwolf ferst maked. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I. x. 230 The Child returned to her friends perfectly in health, is a witty Girle, but it's doubted she will be but a dwarf.

†**4.** Having knowledge, knowing, learned. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 532 Ha somet seiden, þt wittiest ha weren of alle þe meistres. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1121 Wise & wittie of lorus. 1388 Wyclif *Deut.* I. 13 Witti [Vulg. *gnaros*] in mennus thingis. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 215 The wyttiour that any wight is..The biterour he is-bygge, bote yf he wel worche. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 79 Men that war symple and nocht witty of their persecutors. *c* 1670 Hosens *Behemoth* (1679) 254 He call'd a Parliament, and gave it the Supreme Power, to the end that they should give it to him again; was not this witty? 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 622 The most witty and exquisite Torments.

†**6.** (*transf.* from 1 b.) Showing, or springing from, good judgement or discernment; wise, discreet, sensible. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 220 Þei louen more..þe most witti reulis of lift crist þan þe vnwitti constitucions of synful

Obed., Bonner's Prof. 3 b, What a witti part it is, for a man to suspend his iudgement, and not to be rashe in geuing of sentence. *c* 1580 Ingelend *Disob. Child* Peror. G iv, Here ye maye learne a wyttie lesson. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* I. viii, Trust me, to giue, it is a witty thing. 1656 R. Fletcher tr. *Martial* IX. Epigr. vi, Thou very fain wouldst Priscus wed, I wonder not, 'tis witty so to doe. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 79. 3/1 The Bold assert 'tis Witty to be Brave,..The Timorous Wittily decline all Strife.

7. Possessing wit (see Wit *sb.* 7); capable of or given to saying (or writing) brilliant or sparkling things, esp. in an amusing way; smartly jocose or facetious.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 110, I know a wench of excellent discourse, Prettie and wittie. 1653 Walton *Angler* ii. 45 *Viat.* Is not mine Hoste a witty man? *Pisc.* Sir, To speak truly, he is not to me; for most of his conceits were either Scripture-jests, or lascivious jests; for which I count no man witty. 1664 W. Winstanley *England's Worthies* 345 Plautius,..by his conversing with jocular Wits,..became so famously witty, or wittily famous, as..he attained to an extraordinary height in the Comique strain. 1732–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 14 Whatever Person would aspire to be completely witty, smart, humourous, and polite. 1849 Froude *Nem. Faith* (ed. 2) 103 We are witty if it be so, not for applause but for affection. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 596 Learned for the nonce as Gibbon, witty as wit's self Voltaire.

†**b.** Sharply critical, censorious, sarcastic. *Obs.* or merged in prec. sense.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. iv. 32 Go too, thou art a wittie foole. 1632 G. Herbert *I'riest to Temple* xxvi. (1652) 106 Being partlall to themselves and witty to others. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 530 P 2 Will Honeycomb, who was so unmercifully witty upon the Women. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) II. 75 My Mother..says, I am too witty; Anglicè, too pert.

8. Of speech or writing: Characterized by or full of wit (see Wit *sb.* 8); cleverly amusing, 'sparkling', smartly facetious or jocular; † sarcastic.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 4 Your reasons..haue beene.. witty without affection, audacious without impudency. 1602 — *Twel. N.* III. ii. 46 Be curst and briefe: it is no matter how wittie, so it bee eloquent, and full of inuention. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 30 The Melancholy [humour]..is..too grosse for witty conceits and apt replies. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 152 Your Gentlemen that speak sharp and witty Things. 1708 Steele *Funeral* II. 27 This is not one of your Tringham Trangham Witty things, that your Poor Poets write. 1733 Swift *Apol. Lady Carteret* 146 The powder'd courtier's witty sneer. 1744 Corbyn Thomas *Ess. Wit, Humour*, etc. 37 Satire is a witty and severe Attack of mischievous Habits or Vices. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. i, He told the wittiest stories in the world without omitting anything in them but the point. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* i, 'Of course! One always marries girls; how stupid you are', said Lady Dolly...The counsellor smiled grimly, 'And then you will be a grandmother', he said...'I suppose you think that witty', said Lady Dolly.

9. *Comb.* (parasynthetic and adverbial), as *witty-brained, -conceited, -feigned, -pated, -pretty* adjs. (all in sense 2, and obs. or arch.).

1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 746 Japhetus' witty-fained Son. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 50 Some politique delegatory Scipio, or witty pated Petito. 1600 Breton *Strange Fortunes* 14 No lesse witty conceited of her dreame, then noting the cariage of her humor. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 684 Queint witty-pretty Toyes. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xli, The smart witty-pated lawyers. 1820 — *Monast.* xv, A witty-brained..and accomplished courtier.

Wituper, Sc. var. Vituper *sb.* *Obs.*

Witute(n, obs. forms of Without.

Witwall(wi·twɔl). Now *dial.* Forms: 6–7 witwol, 6–8 witwal, 8–9 whitwall, 6– witwall. [a. early mod. G. †*wittewal(e*, also †*weidewal* (Gesner), now *widewal, wiedewal*; = MLG. *weddewale*, early Flem. *widewael* (Kilian). Cf. Woodwall.]

†**1.** The Golden Oriole, *Oriolus galbula.* *Obs.*

1544 Turner *Avium Præcip.* I 7, Χλωρίον, ulreo,..Anglicè a uultuuol, Germanicè eyn witwol, oder eyn weidwall. 1601, 1658, 1676 (see Lorio †). 1672 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colleq.* 314 But one can hardly guess for what reason the..Raven and the Witwal [*L. chlorio*]..hate one the other. 1676 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 198 The Witwall, as it is by some called, *Galbula seu Picus nidum suspendens.*

2. The Green Woodpecker (*Gecinus viridis*) or the Greater Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus major*).

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 86 *Picus viridis*..the Hickwall, Witwall, or Green-Wood-pecker. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 137 The greater spotted Woodpecker or Witwall. 1844 Hood *Haunted Houses* I. 62 The ringing of the Whitwall's shrilly laughter.

†**Wi·tword.** *Obs.* Chiefly *north.* Also 4 wite-, 4–6 wyt-, 5 wytte-, 6 witt-; 4–5 -worde; 6 wytward. [OE. *witword* contract, agreement, f. *wit-* Wit *v.*[2] + Word *sb.*; later associated with Wit *v.*[3]] A will or testament; also, a covenant (in the scriptural sense): = Testament *sb.* 1, 4.

†997 *Laws Æthelred* III. § 3 Landcoop & hlafordes gift.. & lahcoop & witword & ȝewitnes, þæt þæt stande, þæt hit nan man ne awende. *c* 1080 *Charter Will. I* in Thorpe *Diplom.* 611 landum & Ealdred archebiscop witword 7 ðæs cinges 7 ðæs cwenland. *a* 1300 To þe kinges witworde. 1393 [illegible] 153 Fulfille I salle in dede þe kynges witwordes. 1393 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 186 In caase be that this wytword will noght perfurnysche, I will it be abrydged. 1411 *Sp. Pol. Poems* II. 201 Man, how darst þou ..My wit word wiþ þy mouþ tecche, And in þy werkis þou seyst hit nay? 1472 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 280, I will that bothe my ⁱ wyll and my wytword be fulfyld of the boole that is my propyr guddys at this tyme. 1555 *Churchw. Acc., Wigtoft, Linc.* (Nichols 1797) 199 Rec. for ye Wytword of Willm Brygthe 1ˢ.

†**Witty**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Wite *sb.*[2] + -y [1].] Blameworthy.

1330 Palsgr. 309/2 Wytye in faulte for a thyng, *faulteux.*

†**Witzchoura.** *Obs.* [a. F. *vitchoura*, a. Polish *wilczura* wolf-skin coat, f. *wilk* Wolf *sb.*] A style of lady's mantle (see quots.) fashionable *c* 1820–35. Also *attrib.*

1823 *La Belle Assemblée* Dec. 269/1 Witzchoura pelisse of *gros de Naples*,..trimmed with a very broad border of swansdown. 1833 *Ladies Pocket Mag.* I. 38 The *witchoura* is a very ample mantle, made with a very deep collar, and cape, and long, loose sleeves. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. v/1 [The mantle] is of the Witzchoura form, drawn close at the back, with large Turkish sleeves, and a deep falling collar. [1898 Lady M. Loyd tr. *Oxanne's Fashion in Paris* iii. 54 *Witzchouras* had not yet [*c* 1806] come into vogue.]

Wiue, obs. form of Wife *sb.*, Wive *v.*

Wiure *Her.*, var. *vivre* (F. *vivre* :— L. *vipera* Viper), a barrulet or cotise dancetté.

1688 Holme *Armoury* I. ix. 90/2 He beareth Argent, a Wiure, Nebule, counter Nebule, Sable. A Wiure is much less than either Barrulett or Cotise. *Ibid.* I. x. 102/1 A Wiure nebulee between 2 Cotizes. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., Wiure, Wyer, Viure, Viurée, and Vlurie.

Wive (wəiv), *v.* Forms: 1 wīfian, (3 wifue), 3–6 wyue (-ve), 3–7 wiue, 7– wive. [OE. *wīfian* (= MLG., MDu. *wiven*), f. *wīf* Wife *sb.*]

I. *intr.* (†rarely *refl.*) To take a wife, get married, marry. Const. †*on* (*o*), *with*. Also occas. with *it.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. § 1 Manige habbað ȝenoȝ ȝesæliȝlice ȝewifoð. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Canons* vii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 346 He ne moste on wydewum wifigan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 Judas..wiuede o Thamar. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 12 Ȝef þat he..ne schal wiuen on me, wiue þer his wil is. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1588 Quad rebecca to hire were, Esau wifuede us to dere. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6430 Þo adde hii bobe iwiued wel. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2896 To wiue on our kinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 223 Zaynte paul..zayþ to wodewon, 'huo þet guod is, he him hyealde ine þet stat; and yef hi him naȝt ne lykeþ, he him wyui'. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 217 Ther as myn herte is set ther wol I wyue. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 666 in *Macro Plays* 57 *Wultyrstondyngys*. We haue þat nedyt vs, so thryue I; *Wyll.* And yff þat I care, neuer wyve I. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. 28 It is harde to wiue and thryue bothe in a yere. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 56, I haue thrust my selfe into this maze, Happily to wiue and thriue, as best I may. *Ibid.* 75, I come to wiue it wealthily in Padua. 1606 Marston *Parasit.* v. H 4, Goe thy wales & wiue with whome thou wilt for my part. 1774 Johnson *To Mrs. Thrale* 27 All who wisely wish to wive. 1817 Byron *Beppo* xcii, With any other women did you wive? 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xxvii, Encouraging Neigh in his resolve to wive.

2. To be a wife, act as a wife. Also with *it. rare.*

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* E j b, Were it not very absurd..for maides being scarse borne, to begin to bride it, and say in so doing they woulde learne to wiue it? 1639 [see Wiving *ppl. a.*]. 1891 C. E. Norton *Dante's Hell* I. 100 Many are the animals with which she [*sc.* a she-wolf] wives [orig. *a cui sammeglia*].

3. *trans.* To take to wife, make one's wife, marry, wed (a woman); *pa. pple.* made or become a wife, married (*to* a man).

1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxv. 172 He wyu'd a Lady passing faire. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 145, I had rather hee should shrine me then wiue me. 1676 Hobbes *Odyssey* II. 203 Many other ladies we could wive. 1848–9 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. lxv, 'Wived to my son, the witch will soon be steady!' 'Wived to your son?—she is a wife already!' 1862 Meredith *Modern Love* xxxv, It is no vulgar nature I have wived. 1898 E. P. Evans *Evol. Ethics* I. 52 The Magians continued to wive their sisters in conformity to ancient usage.

4. To furnish with a wife, obtain a wife for; to marry *to* a wife: chiefly in *pa. pple.* married (of a man). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 62 Sinal pleasure taketh a man of al that euer he hath beside, yf he bee wised against his appetite. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* X iij b, They are euill horsed, and worse wiued, that ride on coltes & marrie younge giglittes. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 62, I bought him in Paules, and hee'l buy mee a horse in Smithfield. If I could get mee a wife in the Stewes, I were Mann'd, Hors'd, and Wiu'd. 1604 — *Oth.* II. i. 60 *Men*..Is your Generall wiu'd? *Cassio.* Most fortunately: he hath atchiu'd a Maid That paragons description. 1608 — *Per.* V. ii. 10 He is promisde to be wiued To faire Marina. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 V. 113 She..won so much upon his fancy, though already wiv'd, as to demand her in marriage. 1828 Craven *Flirtation* 372 His craft contrived To get the Priest with expedition wived. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxxvii, I promise you..that young Bennygask shall be richly wived. 1891 W. B. MacCabe *Berthe* III. xiv. 376, I [Henry] can do more strange things than unwive myself, and wive you.

†**b.** With *it*: To obtain a wife *for*. *Obs. rare.*

1608 J. Day *Humour out of Breath* I. i. B 3, *Oct.*..He one day get A husband for thee,... *Flo.*..Wiue it for [*sc.* my brethren], you shall not husband me.

5. To become the wife of, marry (a man; also *transf.* of an animal). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1628 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 175 So haue I seene two Buls together close; The fairest Cow in all the pasture chose To wine the Victor. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* xii. 283 Served by that Villain—by this Fury wived—What fate is mine!

6. *fig.* To 'wed', unite, couple. *rare.*

1866 Lowell *Latest Lit. Ess., Gray* (1891) 2 The thoughts, wived with words above their own level.

Hence **Wived** (wəivd), *ppl. a.*

1633 *Contile Whore* IV. end, He shalbe intombed with a wived maid. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 293/2 Gregory VII.. determined..that no wived priest should celebrate or even assist at the Mass.

Wivehood, -less, -ly: see Wifehood, etc.

Wivel(l, obs. forms of Weevil.

† Wi·ven, *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 **wyfyne,** 4–5 **wyuen(e.** [f. *wīv-,* Wife *sb.* + -en [1]. (In some instances perh. wk. gen. pl. of *wife.*)] **a.** Womanly, feminine. **b.** Wifely.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 29 To..fette hom Felice From wyuene [*v.r.* wyuen] pyne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nicholas*) 178 His body walkly he fed, & wyfyne company ay fled. *c* 1400 *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VI. 213 Panne þe queene bysæde here housbonde wiþ benygne [*v.rr.* wyvene, wyven] flaterynge [L. *uxoriis deliramentis*].

Wiver [1] (wəi·vəɹ). *north. dial.* Also 6 **wywer.** [Identical with *weaver, wafer, wefer,* † *waiver,* † *wayver,* † *weever,* in Waver *sb.*[1], Side-waver, and Northumb. dial. *inwaver, inwiver* (in sense a).] A long beam of wood. **a.** in the roof of a house; in † *wiver-tree,* Side-waver, *top wiver.* **b.** in a boat (see quot. 1894).

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 170 Amont heceler mettes la poutre [*glossed* the wiver-tre]. 1532 in *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 443/2 [Timber at Durham sawn into] wywers, rybbe, wynd balks. 1641 [see Side-waver 1]. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 148 They will sowe downe theire thatch in fower places, viz.; first close to the very wall plates, then two foote belowe the side wivers, then two foote above the side wivers, and lastly aboute a yarde or more belowe the rigge-tree. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Wiverr,* a long beam. The top wivere is the wind-balk or collar beam in a housetop. The side wivere is the long beam on which frame-houses formerly rested. (Obs.) [Misprinted *winerr.*] *Ibid., Wiver,* one of the timbers or wides of a boat on which the seats rest.

Wiver [2] (wəi·vəɹ). *rare.* [f. Wive *v.* + -er [1].] One who takes a wife.

1888 Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* II. 214 The young negro found the old wiver in the palms.

Wiver(e, Wivern(e: see Wyvern, Wyvern. **Wivers,** obs. f. Vivers. **Wives,** pl. (and obs. gen. sing.) of Wife *sb.*

Wiving (wəi·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wive *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Wive; taking a wife, marrying, marriage.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5955 He bihoȝte him..ȝif þer miȝte be eny red þoru wiuinge..vor is wif was ded. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 181 Whiles þow art ȝonge..Wreke þe with wyuynge ȝif þow wilt ben excused. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.R.* II. iii. (1495) b iij b/1 Angels..for they ben spyrytuall & bodyleese, they nede nother weddynge ne wyuynge. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 78 He allowed theim that wer towarde wiuyng, & yet wiued not. 1567 Turberv. *Epit.,* etc. 73 b, Let wyuing go, lyue single aye. 1592 H. Smith *Prepar. Marr.* 27 In wiuing and striuing, a man should take counsell of all the world. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 83 The ancient saying..Hanging and wiuing goes by destinie. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* v. 1832 The wivings of the wise King Solomon. 1756 *Monitor* No. 35. I. 324 The consequence of so much wiving, was a numerous progeny. 1872 Jaffreson *Brides & Bridals* II. 54 In a priest the act of wiving was under no lawful circumstances positively sinful. 1910 A. Hilliers *Master-Girl* vi. 152 Since the world and wiving began was there ever such a woman?

attrib. c 1620 Middleton, etc. *Widow* v. i. (1652) 59 [He] Sayes I'm ordain'd for him;..And that his wiving fate speaks in me to him.

So **Wi·ving** *ppl. a.*

1639 Glapthorne *Wallenstein* III. iii, The wiving Vine that bout the friendly Elme, Twines her soft limbes.

Wiviah, obs. var. Wifish.

Wiwes, obs. pl. of Wife *sb.*

Wiwi [1] (wī·wī). [Maori, = 'rushes' (T. Kendall *Gram. & Vocab. N. Z.* (1820) 228).] A New Zealand rush used to make an outer covering for the roof and walls of a house.

1842 W. R. Wade *Journ. N. Isl. N. Z.* iii. 61 The roof [of the house] is usually completed with a thick covering of wiwi (a small rush). 1875 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl.

Wi-wi [2] (wī·wī). *Austral. slang.* Also **wewi, wee-wee, oui-oui.** [ad. F. *oui, oui* yes, yes, taken as typical of the French language.] A Frenchman; also as *pl.* the French.

1845 E. J. Wakefield *Adv. N. Z.* I. iv. 94 If I had sold the land to the White missionaries, might they not have sold it again to the *Wiwi* (Frenchmen) or Americans? 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 180 Young chiefs..who will,.. like the 'Wi-wis' of Young France, indulge occasionally in what that volatile people style '*revolutions intestines*!' 1859 A. S. Thomson *Story N. Z.* I. II. i. 236 The Wewis, as the French are now called. 1872 Earl Pembroke & G. H. Kingsley *S. Sea Bubbles* i, Would that the imperious 'Oui-oui' had never placed foot upon your sacred shores!

Wiylde, Wiys, obs. forms of Wild, Wise.

Wizard (wi·zəɹd), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 5 **wyse)ard, -sar,** 6 **-sarde, -sard, wyssarde, wissard,** *Sc.* **wesser,** 6–7 **wizard,** (7 **wiseard, wiser**), 7–8 **wissard,** (**wisard**), 6– **wizard.** [late ME. *wysar(d, f. wys, wis, wiss,* Wise *a.* + -ard. The pronunciation with voiced *s* (z) follows *wisdom* and *wise.*]

A. *sb.*

† 1. A philosopher, sage; = Wise man 2. Often *contemptuous. Obs.*

The second quot. may belong to sense 2.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wysard (*K.* wysar), *sagaculus.* ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Coming of Antichrist* 371 *Antechristus,* Out on the [*sc.* Enoch], wyseard [*v.rr.* rasarde, roysarde], with thy wyles! For falcsely my people thou begyles. 1547 Baulowin *Mor. Philos.* I. I. (1550) A ij, The Grecians..haue therin taken great paynes, naming it first Sophia, and suche as therin were skilled Sophistes or wysardes. 1594 [Greene] *Selimus* 214 Perhaps you thinke that now forsooth you sit With some graue wisard in a pratling shade. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. xii. 2 Therefore the antique wisards well inuented, That Venus of the fomy sea was bred. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* IV. v. (1905) 82 *Albi.* I haue read in a booke, that to play the foole wisely, is high wisdome. *Gall.* How now, Vulcan! Will you be the first wizard? 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 56 The Politicians, the Philosophers, the Wizers of the World. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 571 First the wily Wizard [*sc.* Proteus] must be caught, For unconstrain'd he nothing tells for naught. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy* II. 99 Two young philosophers and wizards, called Phidias and Praxiteles.

2. A man who is skilled in occult arts; in later use, a man who practises witchcraft (the masculine correlative of Witch *sb.*[2]): = Wise man 3.

† Occas. applied to a woman.

c 1530 Cheke *Matt.* ii. 1 When Jesus was boorn in beethleem.., lo then yᵉ wisards cam from thˈest parties to Jerusalem. 1552 [see Wise man 3]. *c* 1574 G. Harvey *Marginalia* (1913) 163 Owr vulgar Astrologers, especially such, as ar commonly termed Cunning men or Artsmen. Sum call them wizzards. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 84 Sche is convick..as a common weser and socerer, and ordint to be brunt. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 237 Yet to none was he more spitefully bent than to wiseards and Astrologers. 1621 [see White witch]. 1629 Milton *Nativity* 23 The Star-led Wizards haste with odours sweet. 1674 Hobbes *Odyssey* 73, I was forc't to come T'inquire of th'Wizard, old Tiresias, What the Fates say about my going home. 1713 Swift *Author upon Himself* 7 Clowns on Scholars as on Wizards look, And take a Folio for a conj'ring Book. 1751 *Tryal T. Collet* (ed. 3) 3 A large Mob..at Tring..declaring Revenge against Osborne and his Wife, as a Witch and a Vizard. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 942 In July, 1825, a man was 'sworn for a wizard', at Wickham-Skeith, in Suffolk. 1851–61 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 107, I call myself a wizard as well; but that's only the polite term for conjurer; in fact, I should think that wizard meant an astrologer, and more of a fortune-teller. 1872 Hardwick *Trad. Lanc.* 133 A wizard who had wrought sad havoc amongst his neighbour's cattle. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 113 To dower her, past an eastern wizard's dreams.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*: *esp.* a man who 'does wonders' in his profession: in recent use often trivially applied to an expert.

The Wizard of the North, Sir Walter Scott.

1620 Shelton *2nd Pt. Don Quix.* xxxi. 202, I haue heard my Master say, who is the very Wizard of Histories,..when he came [etc.]. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* VI. xxiii, The choicest winds of Heaven, which are enchanted To music, by the wand of Solitude, That wizard wild. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 35 Gerard Dow, and other old Dutch wizards, who painted..such earthern pots that they will surely hold water. 1871 L. Stephen *Hours in Libr., Scott* (1874) 218 Some reason for suspecting that the great 'Wizard' has lost some of his magic power. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug. 7/2 The wizard of yacht-building.

c. A witch-doctor or medicine-man.

1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* x. (1879) 214 Each family or tribe has a wizard or conjuring doctor. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* 28 This man, had for some years occupied the position of Wizard-in-chief to the tribe.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wizard-craft, -finder, -man, -swarm; wizard-woven* adj.

1819 Shelley *Faust* ii. 210 Wizard-swarms cover the heath all over. 1819 Keats *Otho* III. ii, If he flames longer in this wise I shall believe in wizard-woven loves. 1876 H. Brooks *Natal* 334 The wizard-finder is not unfrequently turned to account by the stronger men of a tribe. 1891 Kipling *Life's Handicap* 277 He went to Juseen Dazé, the wizard-man who keeps the Talking Monkey's Head. 1897 *Folk-Lore* Mar. 53 Wizardcraft has the same ultimate origin as..the fairy belief.

B. *adj.* **1.** Having the powers or properties of a wizard; that practises wizardry; hence *gen.* having magical or witching power or influence.

1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) F iiij b, O wylie wincking wyzard Woolnes. 1649 Hammond *Serm.* vi. Wks. 1684 IV. 506 That wizard flesh within us, that hath thus bewitch'd us to its false pleasures. 1679 Dryden & Lee *Œdipus* IV. i. 55 Thou blind old wizard Prophet. 1746 W. Collins *Ode to Liberty* Antistr. 2 Beyond the Measure vast of Thought, The Works, the Wizard Time has wrought! 1747 — *Ode to Manners* 11 Some Pow'r..At which the Wizzard Passions fly. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xlix, Or in some shadowy glen's romantic bower, Where wizard forms their mystic charms prepare. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* xxvi, All day the wizard lady sate aloof, Spelling out scrolls of dread antiquity. 1838 Lytton *Rienzi* III. ii, These wild and wizard extremes of life. 1897 *Daily News* 14 June 5/3 The artificial production of diamonds by the wizard chemist of to-day.

2. Of, pertaining to, or associated with wizards or wizardry; hence *gen.* magic, enchanted, bewitched.

1638 Milton *Lycidas* 55 Nor on the shaggy top of Mona high, Nor yet where Deva spreads her wizard stream. *c* 1796 Roscoe in Currie *Burns's Wks.* (1800) I. 343 And let Despair, with wizard light, Disclose the yawning gulf below. 1808 Scott *Marmion* III. xx, Lord Gifford..tarried not his garb to change. But, in his wizard habit strange, Came forth. 1813 — *Trierm.* III. xxv, The wizard song at distance died, As if in ether borne astray. 1817 Moore *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* II. 221 Those tow'rs sublime,..Were ——'d from the haunts of men by a wide, deep, and wizard glen. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy, Interview* 194 Tasso, Guarini, waved their wizard-wands, Peopling the groves from Arcady. 1830 Tennyson *In Mem.* cxxii, The wizard lightnings deeply glow. 1918 N. Munro *Jaunty Jock* ii. 20 It was like as they were in some wizard fortress cut from rock.

3. *Comb.*: **wizard-like** *a.* = Wizardly *a.*

1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* v, I know you are fond of queer, wizard-like stories.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Wi·zardess,** a female wizard, witch; **Wi·zardism,** wizardry; † **Wi·zarding** *ppl. a.*, practising wizardry or witchcraft; **Wi·zard-ship,** wizardry.

1789 H. Walpole *Let. Hannah More* 9 Aug., I wish my Macbethian *wizardess would tell me 'that Cowslip Dale should come to Strawberry Hill'. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 353 It was vaguely left to force the belief, that on this occasion our basket either carried a distinguished wizardess, or..a wondrous medium. 1682 W. Richards *Wallogr.* 96 The study of *Wizzardism hath also been famous amongst them. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. ix, Whether Wizardism

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tart had learned the secrets of *wizardship during his travels.

Wizard (wi·zəɹd), *v. rare.* [f. prec. sb.]

† 1. *trans.* To call 'wizard'. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1603 Sir C. Heydon *Jud. Astrol.* iii. 111 If M. Chamber had considered that Aristotle and the Grecians had their chiefe knowledge from these nations that were Astrologers, he could neuer (for shame) haue wisarded them. *Ibid.* vi. 179.

2. To practise wizardry upon, to bewitch; to drive *away* as by magic.

1898 A. Austin *Lamia's Winter-quarters* 61 The last lingering trails of mist were gradually wizarded away. 1900 *Folk-Lore* (1901) June 177 If ȝah be a wizard, wizard me.

So **Wi·zarding** *vbl. sb.*, the practice of wizardry, witchcraft, or magic art.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 337 Those..cheating Arts of Mantela or Wizarding, with which the world always hath been..abused. 1924 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 650/1 When the people think that the wizard half of him is not sufficiently potent in spells, they get to wizarding on their own account.

Wizardly (wi·zəɹdli), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. Wizard *sb.* + -ly [1].] Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or resembling a wizard or wizardry.

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 23 O wyzardly dreame of dreames! 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* N a b, No wizardly astronomer of them all ever dreamed of any such calculations. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VIII. iv. 629 By wisardly and deuillish practises to vp-hold his owne greatnesse. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 404 Divers feigned Miracles, accompanied with some Wizardly Unsooth sayings. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 24, I count the Jewish wizzardly fable not here worth the relating. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* May 597/2 A power which seemed sometimes to have a touch of the weird and wizardly in it. 1923 James Hooper *Souvenir of George Borrow Celebr.* 14 Sergeant Bagge's encounter with the wizardly creature.

Wizardry (wi·zəɹdri). [f. Wizard *sb.* + -ry.]

1. The art or practice of a wizard or wizards; wizardly or magic skill; witchery, witchcraft.

1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cix. 671/1 If these [inchanters or witches] be forbidden; we must vnderstand.. yᵗ all other kinds of Wisardrie are deadly crimes. 1665 Patrick *Pilgrim* vii. 23, I never used any other Wizzard[ry] to make my Land better than my neighbours, but what you will find to lye in these Spades, Ploughs, and Oxen 1796 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XX. 535 The Arabic wizardry of the Italian, the elfen mythology of the German poet, seemed to offer rival resources for a supernatural machinery. 1855 Browning *Men & Women* I. *An Epistle* 219 The learned leech Perished in a tumult many years ago, Accused..of wizardry. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 239 All the witcheries and wizardries that found home in the imaginations of the people. 1877 Symonds *Renaiss. It.* VI. 343 As a physiognomist and diviner, he acquired a reputation bordering on wizardry.

b. *transf.* Magic lore.

1876 E. Dowden *Poems* 196 There I will sit, and score rare wisardry In characters vermilion, azure, gold.

2. *fig.* 'Magical' or 'bewitching' art, power, or influence; 'magic'.

1884 J. Parker *Apost. Life* II. 265 Time..works its wondrous wizardry upon the mind. 1887 *Academy* 20 Aug. 113/3 So fascinating a writer is Mr. Matthew Arnold, so all conquering is his own wizardry. 1901 'L. Malet' *Calmady* V. ii, You have employed a certain wizardry in the furnishing of that room.

Wize, obs. f. or var. Wise.

Wizen (wi·z'n), *a.* Also **wissen.** [Clipped f. Wizened, the resultant form suggesting a ppl. adj. in *-en.*] = Wizened 2.

1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 16 Aug., A thin, little, wizen old gentleman..came up. 1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 49 The ladies are all young and wizen, and the gentlemen are all old and wizen. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* XXXVII, Her little wissen face was as sharp as ever. 1880 F. G. Lee *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* II. 336 Her now drawn and wizen features.

Comb. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Spectre Tappington* ad fin., A dingy wizzen-faced portrait. 1888 Fergus Hume *Mme. Midas* I. ii, A small, wizen-looking little man.

Wizen (wi·z'n), *v.* Also 5 **wisen,** 6 **wisne,** 8–9 **wissen.** [OE. *wisnian, weosnian* (also *dwisnian, forwisnian*) = OHG. *wesanên,* -(*e*)*nên,* also *ar-, ir-, firwesenên,* ON. *visna* (Sw. *vissna,* Da. *visne*); cf. ON. *visinn* (Sw., Da. *vissen*) withered,

palsied: f. Teut. *wis-*, whence also MHG. *wesel* weak, perished; cf. Lith. *výsti* to wither, L. *vīescere* to wither, W. *gwyw* (= **wiswo-*) withered, OIr. *feugud* 'marcor'.]

1. *intr.* Of plants: To dry up, shrivel, wither. Also *transf.* of persons, their features, etc. See also WIZENED.

c 890 WÆFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* 134 Heo byð ġeswenced, þæt heo weornað [*MS. O.* weosnað] & brosnaþ in hire sylfre. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xv. 6 ȝif huxle in mec ne wunas ȝesended bið buta suxlce tuiġga & dryġeð *vel* wisneð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 115 Þa he [*sc.* the world] þus fæzzer wæs þa wisnode he on Cristes haliġra heortum. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 343 *Arida*, weosniendre.

a 1400 *MS. Cantab. Ff. v.* 48 lf. 90 Þe tre welold & wisened sone, & wex olde and dry.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wissen*, to wither. N. 1818 TODD, To *Wizen*, to wither; to become dry:..Common in several parts of the north of England. 1864 J. GILBERT & G. C. CHURCHILL *Dolomite Mountains* 493 After wizening with cold for an hour, we ran down to the hut for breakfast. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxvi, His plump features wizened, and his rosy cheeks grew white.

2. *trans.* To cause to wither or shrivel. *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. xii. 42 Tharfor thai suffir panis and turment,..Sum stentit bene in wisnand windis wak. *a* 1895 R. MᶜL. CALDER *Berwickshk. Bard* (1897) 223 Self has gained the upper han', An' wizened up their hearts.

Wizen, Sc. and north. f. WEASAND.

Wizened (wi·z'nd), *a.* Forms: 6 wysnit, -yt, 8 wissen'd, 8–9 wizen'd, 9 wiz(z)ened, wizzen'd, wisend, wissent, wussent. [orig. Sc. and north.: f. WIZEN *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Of plants, foliage, wood, etc.: Dried up, withered, shrivelled.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 124 In heych wysnit treis, The soir gled quhislis loud. 1721 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 93 The antient Nations..Maun study claes..Aff a' the wissen'd Leaves of Spite to shake. 1721 — *Ode to Mr. F——* 7 The Nags and Nowt hate wissen'd Straw. 1826 G. BEATTIE *John O' Arnha* (ed. 5) 58 Their wizzent timbers stour'd like sneishin! 1853 HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T., Pomegranate Seeds* 196 He set down the golden salver, with the wizened pomegranate upon it. 1880 HOWELLS *Undiscov. Country* ix, The farmer had ceased to coax his wizened crops from the sterile soil. 1888 *Garden* 18 Mar. 183/3 There is some excuse for eating wizened Muscats.

2. Of persons or animals, their features, etc.: Shrunken and dried up, thin and shrivelled. †Also of the throat, parched.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. ii. 70 [The wild wolf's] wysnyt throt, havand of blude sic thrist, Gendris of lang fast sic ane appetyte. 1728 RAMSAY *Last Sp. Miser* iv, The wissen'd beardless wights Wha herd the wives of eastern knights. 1785 BURNS *1st Epist. Davie* xi, I'll light now, and dight now, His [*sc.* Pegasus's] sweaty, wizen'd hide. 1818 SCOTT *Heart Midl.* xviii, Wadna I set my ten talents in your wuzzent face for that very word? 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxx. (1878) 518 A little wizened creature, with more wrinkles than hairs. 1872 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) x. 253 His..wizened face had a strong resemblance to the features of good-humoured goblins. 1903 MEREDITH *Lett.* (1912) II. 359 Your visit will give you a wizened old hen instead of the plump pullet you look for.

Comb. 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister?* xxxi, I'll have a reckoning with the wizened-faced old rogue.

b. *transf.*

1862 MRS. BROWNING *Song Ragged Schools* 28 In God's liberal blue air Peter's dome itself looks wizened. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. xix. 209 Below the top bars of a wizened grate was a chilly fire. 1905 SIR F. TREVES *Other Side Lant.* (1906) II. xix. 193 A wizened old city hidden among the hills.

Hence **Wi·zenedness.**

1887 KIPLING *Plain Tales, Bisara of Pooree* (1924) 263 It was his wizenedness and worthlessness that made him fall.. in love with Miss Hollis.

Wize roy, Wizir, obs. ff. VICEROY, VIZIER.

Wizle (wai·z'l). *dial* (*n. w. midl.*) Forms: 7 wisall, -ell, 8–9 wyzle, 9 w(e)isle, wysle, wisle, wizle. [Obscurely f. WISE *sb.*[2] Cf. WISOME, *wiser* (Eng. Dial. Dict.).] The (green) top of a plant having an edible root.

Hence †**Wisalled** *a. Her.*, having the wisles of a specified tincture.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. iii. 55/1 The tops of Carrats and Parsnips are by Gardiners termed Wisalls, and some Wisomes, so then according to the terms of Art, the Carrat is Or, Wisalled Vert. *Ibid.* ix. 181/2 Grass, Roots, Wisella, Grains. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Gloss. Wks. (1775) K 1/2 *Wyales*, stalks of potatoes, turnips, etc. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Wyales*, the stems of potatoes.

Wizzard, obs. f. WIZARD. **Wizzel(l,** var. WEZZLE *Obs.* **Wizzen:** see WEASAND, WIZEN.

†**Wlaffe,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *wlaffian*, of imitative origin. Cf. ME. *blaffers, blaffoorde* 'traulus' (Promp. Parv. 37).] *intr.* To stammer; to speak indistinctly. Hence †**Wla·ffer,** †**Wla·ffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also †**Wla·ffering** *vbl. sb.* (? erron.).

1025–50 *Rule Chrodegang* lx. (1916) 74 Of þam deafiað þa earan & wlaffiað seo tunge. *a* 1300 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 119 An old mon he fond, Bleryld & wlaffing. *c* 1325 *Glosa. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 173 A shecun mot I'un balbeye, *gloss* wlaffa. 1340 *Ayenb.* 262 And pernore ich ne seolde by bote a wlaffere ne sigge þing to þe uolle. *c* 1440 *Nominale* (Skeat) 84 Man draueleh and wlaffyth. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 159 By comyxtioun..wiþ Danes and..Normans, in many þe contray longage is ..and som veel straunge wlafferyage [*Caxton* ..

, Wlach, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 wlacu, -o, wlæc, 3 wlec(o)h, wleach, 3–4 wlach, 4 wlak, 5 wlake. [OE. *wlæc, wlacu* (an orig. *u*-stem) = MLG. *wlak* lukewarm (whence *wlackeit* 'tepor'); cf. OS. *wlakon*, MLG. *wla(c)ken* to be tepid; the ulterior relations are doubtful. For the phonology of the final consonant cf. FRECK *a.* (ME. *frak, frech*).] Lukewarm, tepid; also *fig.* Also advb. in *wlach hot* (cf. MLG. *wlakwarm*).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvii. 269 Ða ful oft beoð mid wlacum watre ġelacnode. *Ibid.* lviii. 447 Se þonne biþ wearm, nalles wlaco, ðe god ġeornlice ongindð, & eac ġeendað. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Ðe wop þe man wepeð for his ȝnoristenes wowe cumeð of þe wlache heorte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Forði þet tu ert ase wlech bitweonen two, nouðer cold ne hot. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 319/695 ȝif þov nimst riȝt puyr hot watur and dost cold þar-to, þov miȝt it makien euene wlach [*MS. Harl.* wlak]. 1423–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 522 In comparisoun to that [hote brennyng] lyȝe, oure fier is but as it were wlache hoot. *c* 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 304 Kepe it with wlake wyn unto the tyme.

Wlanc(k, wlank(e, var. WLONK *Obs.*

†**Wlappe,** *v. Obs.* [app. blending of *lappe*, LAP *v.*[2] with WRAP *v.*] *trans.* To wrap. Also *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 97 Comunly þei ben..wlappid in pride. *Ibid.* 223 Siche on is a dede careyne gon out of his sepulcre wlappid with cloþis of mornynge. 1382 — *Matt.* xxvii. 59. 1388 — *2 Tim.* ii. 4 No man holdinge knyȝthod to God, wlappith [1382 inwlappith] hym silf with worldli nedis. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. v. 306 [Comm. 2 Tim. ii. 4: see prec. quot.] Forwhi grete lordis han lasse nede forto wlappe hem silf in worldli nedis. [1899 J. HUNTER *Hallamshire Gloss.* s.v., In wlapping there is more of folding over, placing one layer over another, than in wrapping. We wrap up any thing in a silk handkerchief: the laundress wlaps up the shirt which she has ironed.]

†**Wlat,** *sb. Obs.* [OE. *wlætta*, related to WLATE *v.* Cf. MLG. *wlate.*] Nausea, loathing, disgust.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 2885) 68 Þelms he..hwylcne wleattan and soȝeðan on his heortan ne astyriȝe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 358 Wiþ spiwðan & wlættan..ġenim bares ġelynde. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1506 If þu bipenchest hwo hire ofligge þu myht myd wlate þe este bugge.

†**Wlat,** *a.* Also 3 wlath. [f. prec. or next.] Nauseous, loathsome. Hence †**Wla·tness,** nausea.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3300 A welle he funde at marath, Ðe water was biter and al wlath. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxx. (Tollem. MS.), I use þerof comforteþ..þe stomak, and abateþ wlatnesse [*Addit. MS.* wlateneese; orig. *nauseam*].

†**Wlate,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 wlath, 5 wlatte. [OE. *wlatian* = MLG. *wlaten.*]

1. *intr.* and *impers.* with *dat.* To feel disgust or loathing.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* xxi. 5 Us wlataþ nu for ðisum eohtostan mete. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 220 Þonne his mete þicgeað & drincað, þonne wlataþ hie. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 ȝif heo hit [*sc.* the filth of flattery] stunken, ham wolde wlatien þer ajean. *Ibid.* 400 Forði þet tu ert ase wlech..þu makest me uorto wlatien. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 354 Ouerfulle makeþ wlatie. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3538 Swyche men god almyȝty hatys And with here foule synne hym wlatys. *Ibid.* 9932 ȝyf þou hym louest, with synne þou wlates. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 305 With her vn-worþelych werk me wlatez with-inne. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 47 His hert wold wlaton and be aschamed of hymselfe, to þenk þat he wer conceyuet of so fowle þyng.

2. *trans.* To loathe, abhor.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* v. 7 Man of blodes & swikel wlath sall lord. 1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* ii. 18, I wlatede alle my bisynesse, that..most studiouali I trauailede. *c* 1395 *Plowman's T.* III. 2098 To worship god men wolde wlate. 1483 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (Pynson) VI. xvii. t viii, The glose..seyth that it is amaner of spech to do wlate auoutre and shewynge that auoutrye is ful greuous.

3. To disgust.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 187 Now me wlatis as myn syne þat I for-sak it. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5634 It wald haue wlated any wee þat welth to be-hald.

†**Wla·tful,** *a. Obs.* [f. WLAT *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Nauseous, loathsome.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 35 (MS. Titus) Hit is wlateful þing for to þenke þron; & for to speke þer-of, ȝet wlate- —— *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xiii. 2 Forbroken and wlatful made þai are In þair thoghts. 1340 *Ayenb.* 241 Þe wordle him hild uor uyl and uor wlatuol. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 47 Þe sede þat he ys conceyuet of, þat ys so fowle yn hymselfe and so wlatfull.

2. That has a loathing (*of* something). *rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 167 Ful vnpacient of pese ..and wlatful of sleuþe [*L. otium nauseat*].

†**Wla·ting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Forms: 1–3 wlatung (1 uulatunc), 3–5 wlating(e, -yng(e, (4 -iynge, -linge, wlath-, wlatt-). [OE. *wlatung*, f. *wlatian* WLATE *v.*] Loathing, nausea; abhorrence, detestation; *occas.* an abomination.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N 5 *Nauseatio*, uulatunc. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 80 Ȝenime wexbrædan..& þyðe hy; ðonne mid micalre wlatunge ȝewiteþ þæt aar on weg. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Habbeð wlatunge of þe muðe þet speoweð ut atter. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxvii. 9 Þai set me wlatinge to þam to be. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM I. 697 Hydous hyȝt were to þe syȝte, And to þe tast wlatynge And pyne. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 516 In þaire wlathynge þai mouyd [him] till wreth. 1340 *Ayenb.* 198 God heþ grat wlatynge of mych sacrefice. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 98 Þat may be knowe by..wlattynge, whenne þat a man ys lastynge. *a* 1450 *Myrc* 894 [782] Kogha þow not..Lest heo suppe ..make þat fare, For wlatynge þat þou herest þare [in ——

So †**Wla·tingness,** abhorrence.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* ix. 27 Cursse droppide on vs, and wlatyngeness [1388 wlatyng; Vulg. *detestatio*].

†**Wla·tsome,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 wlatsum, -som, wlatesome, *Sc.* wlatsum, 4–5 wlathsum. [f. WLAT *sb.* + -SOME.] Loathsome, detestable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23229 Fell dragons and tades bath þat ar vpon to lok ful lath, Ful wlatsum on to here or se. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 541 Lo! suche a wrakful wo for wlatsum dedes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathew*) 484 His wlatsum Infirmyte [*sc.* leprosy]. *Ibid.* xviii. (*Eugenia*) 428, I sal sa quhow myn saule vithine Is fylyt vith a wlatsum syne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 634 Ful wlatsom was the stynk of his careyne. *c* 1386 — *Nun's Priest's T.* 233 Mordre is so wlatsom and abhominable To god. *c* 1450 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 203 Man is but wlatsum erþe and clay. *c* 1460, 1562 [see the erron. form WALTSOM(E).

Hence †**Wla·tsomeness,** loathing, disgust.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 351 Þe abbot..Gat on his fete & stert hir fra,..Hafand at hyr gret wlatsumnes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 195 Here sour dowȝ is savery þing þat fordoiþ wlatsunnesse [*sic*]. 1398 [see WALTSOM(E)].

Wlaunke, -ness: see WLONK, -NESS.

Wleach, wlec(o)h, var. WLAK *a. Obs.*

†**Wlench,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gewlencan*, f. *ge-* Y- + **wlankjan* (f. *wlanc* WLONK; cf. OS. *giwlenkid*). Cf. FORWLENCH.] *trans.* To make proud; *refl.* to pride oneself.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 And on þis fihte is ech man strong, þe awelt is lichame, and wlenceð his soule. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1010 Leaf þi lease wit þæt tu wlenchest te in.

Wlesche, obs. form of FLESH.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1583 Ine wlesschе ioyneþ man and wyf, Children to multeplye.

Wlf, obs. f. WOLF. **Wlga(l)e,** obs. ff. VULGAR *a.*

†**Wlisp,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 4 wlysp. [OE. *wlisp, wlips* 'balbus', 'blæsus', related to **wlispian* to LISP.] Lisping.

c 1370 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 285 Seduus, i. homo qui non potest bene dicere s., qui Anglice dicitur wlysp.

Wlisp(e, obs. ff. LISP *v.*

†**Wli·te,** *sb. Obs.* [OE. *wlite* m., beauty, splendour, appearance, form, corresp. to OFris. *wlite*, OS. *wliti* sheen, form, ON. *litr* colour, countenance (see LIT *sb.*), Goth. *wlits* πρόσωπον, ὄψις, μορφή; also in the compound OE. *andwlite, onwlite*, beside *andwlita* (see ANLETH).]

1. Beauty; splendour.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxv[ii]. 8 Ic lufade wlite huses ðines. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 115 He [*sc.* the world] teah men to him þurh his wlite & þurh his fæzernesse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 Þe fader is on þe sune on þris wise, þat on is on westme,..þat oðer is on wlite..swo fair is ure louerd..and þe þridde is on þewe. *c* 1205 LAY. 2934 Heo wes þa ȝungeste sunter, a wliten alre vairest. *Ibid.* 22844 Keruseð of hire neose & heore wlite ga to lose. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 439 Þe lilie mid hire faire wlite Wolcumeþ me. *c* 1275 *Serving Christ* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Þer wereþ vre wlite in wurmene won. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliv. 5 Þi wlite and fairehed illke.

2. Face, countenance.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 16 Wlit *vel* ossion monna [Vulg. *personam hominum*]. *a* 1225 [see WARTUM 2]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2288 Sone he ȝede ut and stille he gret, Ðat al his wlite wurð teres wet.

Hence †**Wli·ti** *a.* [OE. *wlitiġ*], beautiful.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vi. 2 Ða ȝesawon Godes bearn..manna dohtra, ðæt hi wæron wlitiȝe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 313 He awundrede him of hire wliti westum.

†**Wlite,** *v. Obs.* [? Imitative; cf. OE. *writian* and WRITHLING.] *intr.* To pipe, chirp, warble.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 ȝif he witeð mid stefne for to liken wimmannen. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 This foules singeth ferly fele, Ant wlyteth on huere wynter (? *read* wynne] wele.

†**Wlo.** *Obs.* [OE. *wlōh* = OS. *wlōh*, MLG., MDu. *vlo*, ON. *lō* (Norw., Sw. *lo*, Da. *lu*) nap of cloth.] A hem or fringe; a nap on cloth.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 20 *Fimbriam vestimenti eius*, fas *uel* wloh wedes his. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 736 Somme of hem walkeþ Wlþ..cloþes ful feble, Wel neiȝ for-ward & þe wlon offe.

†**Wlonk,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Forms: 1–4 wlanc, 1–3 wlonc, 2 wlong, 3–6 wlonk, 4 wlanck, wlanck, wlanke, wlaunk, wlonke, 4–5 wlank. [OE. *wlanc, wlonc* = OS. *wlank*: cf. WLENCH *v.*]

1. Proud, haughty.

Beowulf 341 Ellenrof..wlanc Wedera leod..heard under helme. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 He wes prud & wlonc. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 844 Nawt wiȝ wit ah wiȝ wind of ane wlonke wordes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6307 Þir Iuus þat o will war wlanck, þai cund him ai ful litell thanck.

2. Rich, splendid, fine, magnificent: in later use esp. as a conventional epithet in alliterative verse.

Beowulf 2833 Maðmæhta wlonc. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 100 Fugel feþrum wlonc. *c* 1250 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 43 & tine wide wahes wlonke & welefulle. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 489 Sumeres tide is alto wlonc. *c* 1325 *Song of Mercy* 3 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 128 Wlanke deor on grounde gan glide. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1634 A while wol I stiute of þis wlonke murþe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 122 Wod & water & wlonk playnes. *Ibid.* 903, I schulde not tempte þy wyt so wlonc. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5089 A worthi wedow & a wlonk. *c* 1440 *Anturs Arth.* 347 Wlonkest in wede. *c* 1440 HOLLAND *Howlat* 553 Archebald the honorable, Weddit that wlonk wicht. 15.. *Tayle Bank* 128 (Bann. MS.) Joy i s within and joy without, Vnder that wlonkest waw.

b. Rich in moisture or sap; rank; lush.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xi. xl. (Tollem. MS.), Snow ..norischeþ and fedeþ good herbes and makeþ hem wlonke [orig. *impinguit*] *ed.* 1495 cranke; *ed.* 1535 ranke]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 449 The potere cley, the wlonk *uliginosa*], or sondy lene,..nye nought.

B. as *sb.* A fair or beautiful one.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3338, I went to that wlonke, and wynly hire gretis. *a* 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 36 Of thir fair wlonkes,..Ane was ane wedow. *Ibid.* 150 The wedo to the tothir wlonk warpit ther wordis.

†**Wlo·nkful**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. OE. *wlonc* pride + -FUL.] = WLONK.

c 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 394 In partyis four Of þis wlonfulle [*v.r.* waunkille] worde.

So †**Wlo·nkhede, -ness**, pride.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Al swa his festen þe awiše ouerkimet þes flesces wlongnesse. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1400 (Jesus MS.) Þar fleyș drahþ nv men to drunkenesse & to wlonkhede & to golnesse. *c* 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II.* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 330 Wlaunknesse of wele hem hath al ablent.

†**Wlouȝ, wlouh**, *a. Obs. rare.* [?OE. *gewlóh* adorned.] ? Opulent.

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 155 3if..þou art riche mon and wlouȝ And of richesse hast inouh. *Ibid.* 464 Hou þou schalt..riche mon bicome and wlouh.

Wlt, Wluine, Wman: see VULT, WOLFEN *sb.*, WOMAN.

Wm-, Wn-: see UM-, UN-.

Wnden, obs. pa. pple. of WIND *v.*[1]

Wne, obs. Sc. form of OVEN.

Wne, obs. form of WONE.

Wnse, obs. Sc. form of OUNCE *sb.*[1]

1563 *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), In weycht of ten wnsis.

Wnt, obs. Sc. form of WONT.

Wnys, obs. form of ONCE.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 123 Wnys or twyse.

Wo (wō), *int.* [Variant of WHO *int.*]

1. In *wo ho, wo ha, wo ho ho, wo ha ho*: a falconer's call to a hawk; also allusively.

1588 *Marprel. Epistle* (Arb.) 33 Wohohow, brother London, do you remember Thomas Allen? 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 39 *Clo.* Sola, sola: wo ha ho, sola, sola. 1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) CXXXVI, Come bird com.. come to me, With so ho ho, and wo ho ho cries she. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* v. i, He rush vpon them With a most hideous cry, the Duke, the Duke, Ha, ha, ha, wo ho, come againe, I say. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xvii, A woodcock sprang from some bushes, and the young lady threw off her merlin in pursuit. 'Sa ho—sa ho—wo ha!' hollowed the falconer.

2. A call to a horse to stop (cf. WHO *int.*, WHOA, WOA, and WAY *int.*). Also used in conjunction with other interjections, as *wo-back, wo-ho, hait-wo.*

Also dial. in various combinations with special applications; cf. quot. 1894.

1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 24 That he is docile, and will stop short with a 'Wohey'. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Anecd.* (1814) 11 When our waggoners and carmen make use of the terms *ge* and *wo* to their horses. 1801 G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* i. i. 1 *Farmer Harrowby, without.* Wo, ho! gently wi' 'em! so there! 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Weoh* or *Woo-a*, an imperative to stop cart horses. *a* 1825 Hait-wo [see HAIT *int.*]. 1834 WHATELY in *Life & Corr.* (1866) I. 247 It is stopping the Horse by a woo-ee instead of a sharp pull of the curb. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, 'Wo-o!' cried Mr. Pickwick, as the tall quadruped evinced a decided inclination to back into the coffee-room window. 1838 — *Nicholeby* vi, 'Wo ho!' cried the guard,..running to the leaders' heads. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Mar., I pulled very hard, and cried out, Wo! but he wouldn't: and on I went galloping for the dear life. 1872 [see GEE *int.*]. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 142 The carter's lads shouting 'Woaght!' to the horses as they steer through the gateway. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wo, Wo-hay*, a cartman's order to his horse to stop or stand still. *Wo-hi* and *Wo-hick*, turn to left or near side. *Wo-hup* or *Wo-gee*, turn to right or off side.

Hence **Wo** *v. intr.*, to call 'wo' to a horse; also in *vbl. sb.* (also *wohoking*).

1883 *Good Words* 10 The wo-wo-ing of the ploughboy. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *Witch's Head* xxxiii, Presently from the stables there arose a sound of kicking, plunging, and wohohing impossible to describe. 1889 T. E. BROWN *Manx Witch* 3 'You're very late on the road,' he says—and wasn and woin.

Wo, obs. form of How.

1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 5, I cannat tell wo sone.

Wo, obs. or arch. form of WOE.

Woa (wōa), *int.* Also **woah.** [Variant of WHOA.] = Wo *int.* 2. Hence **Woa** *v.*, to stop (*trans.* and *intr.*) with the call of 'woa'.

1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xxxviii, Woa-a-a then, will you! 1856 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Nov. 530/1 With a loud 'woah!' the man stopped the beast [*sc.* ass]. 1870 S. LANIER *Nine from eight* 31, I woa'd my mules mighty easy. 1871 M. LEGRAND *Cambr. Freshm.* 252 Woa, Princey, woa! But Prince wouldn't 'woa.' 1892 CHEVALIER *Wot Cher!* iv, 'Woa! steady! Neddy Woa!'

Woad (wōd), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1–2, 5–7, 9 *dial.* wad, 2 waad, 5 *Sc.* waid, wayde, 5–7 wadde, 6 *Sc.* vad, 6–8 wade, 7 *Sc.* wadd. β. 3–4 wod, 4–5 wode, 5–6 wood(e, 6 wo(a)dde, 6–8 woade (7 waude), 6– woad. γ. 5–6, 8 ode, 6–7 oade, 7 oad. [OE. *wád* = OFris. *wêd*, MLG., MDu. *wît, wîde* (Du. *weede*), OHG., MHG. *weit, weid* (G. *waid*) :—**waido-* (whence OF. *waide, gaide*, It. *guado*), by-form of **waisdo-* (whence med.L. *waisda, guaisdium*, etc., AF. *waisde*, OF. *guesde*, F. *guède*, formerly also *voide, voude, vouside*), related to Goth. **wisdila* (recorded in L. forms *vesisdelem*, etc.).

Ulterior connexion with OE. *wearu, weard* 'sandix', and (outside Germanic) with L. *vitrum*, Gr. ἰόάτε is doubtful. The hypothesis of a primitive loan may account for the remarkable phonological variations in pre-Germanic.]

1. A blue dye-stuff prepared from the leaves of *Isatis tinctoria* (see 2) powdered and fermented: now generally superseded by indigo, in the preparation of which it is still sometimes used.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 72 *Hic sandyx*, þis wad. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 1058 (Napier 99/2) *Ex..lacintho*, of wade. *a* 1200 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 544/46 *Sandix*, wod. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 76 Þin eȝene beþ colblake & brode Riȝt swo ho weren ipeint mid wode. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 17 No Madyr welde or wod no litestere Ne knewh. 24.. *De Artic. Inquir.* in *Sc. Acts* (1844) I. 682/2 Item de tynctoribus Burgensibus ponentibus manus suas in le wadde. 1436 *Libel Engl. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 180 The madre and woode that dyers take on hende. 1488–9 *Act 4 Hen. VII* c. 10 Wood called Tolowse Wode. 1494 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 322, ij mesers of Ode. 1495 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 45, 3 ton of waid. 1545 *Rates of Custome Ho.* d j, Woad of goscoyne the pipe iiii. pound vi. s. viii. d. Woad of the Ile of Surrey the ballet x. s. Woad of the Ile of Assorns [= Azores] the ballet x. s. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 200 The Merchaunt straungers ..daily brought Oade, Oyle, Sylke,..and other Merchaundyse into this Realme. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* (1565) 117 Al the Britons doe dye themselves wyth woade, which setteth a blewish color uppon them. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i. 59 He that respects to get, must relish all commodities alike; and admit no difference betwixt oade and frankincense. *a* 1618 *Rates of Marchandises* F 4 b, Iland or green Woad..Tholoze Woade. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 224 Azores..They affoord much Oade, which has made them most famous and best inriched them. 1715 GARTH *Claremont* 91 When Dress was monstrous, and Fig-leaves the Mode, And Quality put on no Paint but Woade. 1800 MARIA EDGEWORTH *The Will* iii, A gentleman who had set up an apparatus for manufacturing woad. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* VI. 327 Deep dyeing-earths, and woad and cinnabar. 1882 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 441 Woad..is manufactured now only at Parsons Drove near Wisbech. 1894 VICKERMAN *Woollen Spinning* 102 The woad cut into small pieces is cast into the vat, which is then filled with water.

fig. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 42 This..gives the judgement a tincture, nay, a deep woad of intense displeasure.

† *pl.* 1598 STOW *Survey* x. 64 The Marchants of Normandie made fine for licence to harbor their woads, till it was otherwise prouided. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 27 They returne wine and Woades, for which is alwaies paide ready Golde. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 75 The King..ordained; That wines and woads from..Gascoigne and Languedocke, should not be brought but in English bottomes.

2. The plant *Isatis tinctoria*, formerly extensively cultivated for the blue colouring matter furnished by it (see 1). Sometimes called *Dyer's* or *Garden Woad*, and DYER'S WEED. Also applied to other species of the genus *Isatis*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 94 Genim wades croppan. 1538 ELYOT, *Glastum*, an herbe lyke to plantayne,..some men englyshe it woadde. 1538 TURNER *Libellus, Isatis siue glastum,..vulgus herbam appellat* wad. 1548 — *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 40 Glastum is called..in english wad, & not Ode as some corrupters of the englishe tonge do nikename it. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 11 The diers occupy the garden wadde..in dyenge of wull and clothe. 1585 *Privil. agst. sowing of woad* 14 Oct., That no maner of person or persons..shal..breake vp..any maner of grounde..for the.. purpose to sowe or plant woade in. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. i. II. 214 An hearbe..Glastum, (*i.* Woad) with the juice whereof the women of Brittaine..annoint and die their bodies all over. *Ibid.* XXXIII. xiii. 484 These Asurs, receive first a dye, and are boiled with a certaine hearbe.. called Oad, the colour and juice whereof Azur is apt to drinke in and receive. 1633 *Costlie Whore* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, To..make our land beare woad instead of wheate. 1739 TROWELL *Treat. Husb.* etc. 33 Of Woad or Wade, the best Land for it. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Bedfordshire*, Woad, a plant used by dyers, is also cultivated here. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 77 A long and explicit covenant [in a lease] against growing pernicious weeds, such as flax, hemp, woad.

b. **Wild Woad**, the plant *Reseda Luteola*: = WELD *sb.*[1] 1. **Bastard Woad** = WELD *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xlvi. 66 There be two sortes of Woad: the one is of the garden...The other is wilde Wood. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXXVIII. 396 Of Sesamoides, or bastard Weld or Woade. 1611 COTGR., *Guesde sauvage*, wild woad, which growes of it selfe in grounds wherein th'other hath beene sowne; and differs not much from it but in staulke. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 445 Reseda Luteola ..Wild Woad, Dyers-weed. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr., Cowper Green* lv, Thy wild-woad on each road we see.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *woad-blue, -colour, -farm,* †*-fat* (= vat) *-gore* (GORE *sb.*[1] 1), *-house,* †*-lead, -man, -mark, -plant, -planter, -rose, -vat; woad-leaved, -painted* adjs. †**woad-nut**, ? corruptly **-net**, ? a ball of woad.

a 1667 SIR W. PETTY in Sprat *Hist. Royal Soc.* 289 Nor is Allum used in many Colours, viz. In no *Woad or Indico Blews. 1668 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 968 The outmost border of the innermost wings is sky or *woad-colour. *a* 1667 in Sprat *Hist. Royal Soc.* 301 An intense Woad-Colour is..of a Damson-colour. 1892 *Daily News* 23 July 5/4 There are now only four *woad farms and factories in the entire kingdom. 1479 *Will of Swayne* (MS.), *Odefatis. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* h ij, Lete woode your heer in an woodefatte a lyght plunket colour. 1569 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 155 My woadfat coveryngs. 1778 D. LOCH *Tour Scot.* 43 Adam Dickson, dyer and clothier, ..works two woad fats. 1856 *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 216a The hands..weed the *woad-fields three times. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 335 Qe nulle ne gette estreyin, poudre, fyms, *wodegor, nautre vilenye. 1703 tr. *Art of Dying* (1913) 350 Sheep should be put into the *Woad grounds to eat up the Grass and Weeds. 1809 [H. BEST] *Lit. Mem.* 436 We rode over the farm to the *woad-houses. 1485–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 157, ij a. pro operacione lxxix petr. plumbi operati in j * Wadlede. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 417 *Woad-leaved Centaury. 14.. in *York Mystt.* Introd. p. xxvi, *Wadmen. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 155 It [*sc.* the woad] becomes what the woadmen term *fasy*. 1800 J. HAIGH *Dyer's Assist.* 32 Woadman,..the name given to the Journeyman Dyer, whose principal business is to conduct the woad. 1823 J. MAY *Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 Some colours haue a slight ground of woad, but farre too weake for the depth of that colour it beares, yet can set vp the *woade marke, or *woade rose, which is vpon the piece at a farre richer depth than the peice is woaded throughout. 1545 *Rates of Custome Ho.* c viij b, *Wodnuttes the C. ij vi. s. viii. d. *Ibid.* d ij, Wodenuttes. 1563 *Ibid.* F vij, Woodnets the c. 1642 *Rates of Merchandises* 79 Woadnets the hundred containing five score, 00 10 00. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xliv, But how could those *woad-painted fighters withstand the skill..of our legionaries? 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 155 The colour resulting from the *woad plant. *Ibid.* 197 The *woad-planter gives 4 or £5. per acre per annum. 1800 J. HAIGH *Dyer's Assist.* 36 A *woad vat may be set without the addition of indigo. 1868–72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 852 Woad-vat (Pastel vat).

† **Woad**, *sb.*[2] *local. Obs.* Also 7 **oade.** [Error for *woar, oare*, ORE[5], by confusion with prec.] *Woad of the sea*: seaweed.

1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 55 Havinge lyme, sand, woade of the sea and divers other principall helpes to better the soile, where neede is. *Ibid.* 59 Oade of the sea. *Ibid.* 75 The sea ore, or woad as some call yt, which is verye weedes growinge vnder water in the sea.

Woad (wōd), *v.* Also 7 **wad, oad**; 5 *pa. pple.* **y-wooded.** [f. WOAD *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To dye, colour, or stain with woad, sometimes (in dyeing) as a ground for another colour. Often *fig.* or in fig. context (cf. *double-dyed*).

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 562/1 Cork may be used in dying uppon Wolle y wooded. 1549–50 *Act 3 & 4 Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 1 Nor that any person shall dye any Wooll to be converted into Cloth called Russettes [etc.], unlesse the same Wooll be perfectlie woaded boyled and maddered. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 132 His wit beeing deepe woaded with that melancholick blacke dye. 1613 [see *woad-mark*, WOAD *sb.*[1] 3]. *c* 1613 *Overbury's Wife*, etc. *Elegies* Wks. (1856) 6 Some murdering hand, oaded in guiltlesse blood. 1652 CLEVELAND *Poems, Upon Sir T. Martin* 31 Tom never oaded Squire, scarce Yeoman high, Is Tom twice dipt Knight of a double dy? 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. 99 The hypocrite is not thus woaded with impudency, to sinne at noonday. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* I. xlix. 76 It was never wet wadded, which giveth the fixation to a colour, and setteth it in the cloth. 1678 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) I. 206 Foul Error's motly vesture first Was oaded in a Northern blue. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. ix. 306 The Picts were apparently an unconverted tribe of indigenous savages, still tattooed and woaded. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 105 Tattoo'd or woaded, winter-clad in skins. 1894 VICKERMAN *Woollen Spinning* 98 A piece is sent to the dyer with strict injunctions that it must be 'woaded,' that it must have a ground of indigo put upon it for making the colour of the cloth or wool more durable.

b. To treat with woad, in dyeing.

[1579–1862: see WOADED.] 1705 *Whole Art of Dying* (1913) 244 'Tis above all of great importance to take care to have a perfect Black, whether it be Madder'd or Woaded only. 1727–38 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Dyeing*, Bright green is first dyed blue,..and lastly woaded.

† c. *transf.* (*fig.*) To ingrain like a dye or stain.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxi. 37. 511 Sin had woaded shamelesnes in their fore-heads. — *Jude* I. 8 Sin having oaded an impudency in their faces. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* Ode xvii. (1674) 67 The stains of sin I see Are oaded all, or di'd in grain.

2. To plant (land) with woad. *rare.*

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 154 He has now between two and three hundred acres of arable, on land he does not woad, in a course of crops.

† **Woa·d-a·shes**, *sb. pl. Obs.* [f. WOAD *sb.*[1] + pl. of ASH *sb.*[2]: corresp. to MLG. *wed(e)ascha*, MDu. *weedassche* (*weed-, weydasschen* 'cineres clavellati .. cineres smigmatici', Kilian), MHG. *weidaschen* 'sandix', 'clavellati cineres' (G. *waidasche*), whence F. *védasse*, † *wedasse*. Sense b is properly *wood-ash*, but the formal similarity of *woad* and *wood*, and the double use of the MDu. form, produced confusion.] a. The ashes of burnt winelees, used by dyers: = med.L. *cineres clavati* or *clavellati*, OF. *cendres clavelés*, F. *cendres gravelées.*

b. The ashes of burnt wood used to make a lye.

a 1387 *Sinon. Barth.* 16 *Cineres clavellate*, an. woode ashes. 1545 *Rates of Custome Ho.* a ij, Ashes called woad ashes the laste xx, s. 1562–3 *Act 5 Eliz.* c. 4 § 23 The art or occupation of a..burner of Ore and woade ashes. 1583 *Rates of Custome Ho.* A ij b, Ashes called wood or sope Ashes. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 363 This way was only to mingle exquisitly a quantity of Sal-Armoniack, with about thrice its weight of strong Wood-ashes. 1708 tr. *Art of Dying* (1913) 213 A Perfect Description, of Pot and Wood-Ashes. *a* 1736 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 267 Some persons at a great wash put ode, or pearl ashes tied in a cloth, and let it lie in the water. 1786 *Act 20 Geo. III*, c. 25 Preamble, Whereas Pot and Pearl Ashes, Wood and Weed Ashes, are essentially necessary in the whitening of Linen Cloth and Thread.

¶ Forms representing the G. and LG. words are illustrated in the following :—

1708 tr. *Art of Dying* (1913) *title-p.*, A Discourse of Pot and Weyd Ashes, as well as several other Foreign Ingredients used in Dying. *Ibid.* 136 Wayd-Ashes are prepared in the same manner [as pot-ashes], from the Ashes of burnt Wayd, that is Willow. 1708 SEWEL *Dutch-Eng. Dict., Weedasch*, Weed-ashes. 1780 [see above].

Woaded (wō·dėd), *ppl. a.* [f. WOAD *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ED.] a. Of a colour or dye: Having a basis

of, or treated with, woad. b. Of cloth, etc.: Dyed with woad or woaded dye.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 85 As a deepe woded die, which went to the bottome, and pearced into the tender wolle. 1580–1 *Act 23 Eliz.* c. 9 § 2 A..perfitte couler of woaded and mathered Blacke. 1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 The diers of London doe best obserue a true course in setting a woaded scale vpon woaded colours. 1615 S. WARD *Coal* [illegible] of very many colours more: A Woaded colour is free from stayning. 1862 C. O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Printing* etc. 212 The term *woaded colours*, still in common use for colours which are supposed to be dyed upon a basis of woad blue. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* iv. 66 The glossy woaded blacks of the unique Webster, which usually adorn the backs of youthful Sneakers. 1894 *Times* 14 May 4/3 Some good parcels of woaded wool serges.

So **Woa·ding** *vbl. sb.*

1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 The ground of good colours is substantiall woading, without which diuers colours cannot be perfectly made, as blackes, russets,..and such like. 1894 VICKERMAN *Woollen Spinning* 111 The 'woading' of blacks in too many instances has become so much of a formality..that the old tests are no longer of any service.

Woader (wōu·dəɹ). *rare.* Also 5 **woder.** [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] a. A dyer with woad. b. A cultivator of woad.

1415 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 75/1 Deux Drapers, un Woder, & un Tinctour. 1424 *Will of John Rouwe* (Somerset Ho.) Tinctor siue Woder. 1626 *Rich Cabinet* 55 b, To goe afield with victuals to his woaders or weeders. 1830 *Witherings Brit. Plants* (ed. 7) III. 752 *note*, The gangs of people called Woaders, who make the culture of this herb their peculiar employment. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 67 Silk Bleacher, Woader.

Woad-waxen: see WOODWAXEN. **Woag(e,** obs. Sc. ff. VOYAGE. **Woak,** dial. f. OAK. **Woald,** var. WELD *sb.*1; obs. f. WOLD. **Woan(e,** var. WONE. **Woant,** obs. f. WANT *sb.*1

Woar, variant of ORE 5, seaweed.

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 43/1 The woars of the seas.

Woar, obs. form of WOOER.

Woat, obs. form of OAT *sb.*

1673 G. Fox in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) July 98 Pease & barly & woats 2 shilens a bueshell.

Wob, Wobat: see WEB *sb.*, WOUBIT.

Wobble, wabble (wo·b'l), *sb.* [f. next.] The action or an act of wobbling; an unsteady rocking motion or movement; also *fig.*

1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 286 That direction being nothing but a certain wabble in the Earth's Motion. 1848 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* etc., *Wabble*, a hobbling unequal motion. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* iv. 89 The long, slow wobble of a badly spinning bait. 1870 STEINMETZ *Gaming Table* II. v. 154 The mouth[s] of the pockets..are easier of access; and the chance of a wobble all but avoided. 1896 WELLS *Wheels of Chance* v, The bicycle..began an absolutely unprecedented wabble. 1911 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Aug. 223/1 That is a quite characteristic wobble on the part of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

b. *pl.* (*Austral.*) A disease in cattle caused by eating the leaves of the palm-tree.

1895 *Queenslander* 7 Dec. 1090 Rickets or Wobbles in Cattle.

Wobble, wabble (wo·b'l), *v.* Also 8–9 *Sc.* **wauble.** [Corresponds to Upper, Middle, and Low G. *wab(b)eln*: cf. MHG. *wabelen* to move restlessly, and ON. *vafla* (synonymous with *vafra* WAVER *v.*): f. Teut. *wab-* (see WAVE *v.*). A parallel Teut. *wap-* appears in LG. *wappeln*, ON. *vappa* to waddle, OE. *wapolian* to bubble. (Cf. SWABBLE *v.*)]

1. *intr.* Of a person or animal: To move from side to side unsteadily or with uncertain direction.

1657 [see WOBBLING *ppl. a.*]. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1711) II. 91 This Bird is a Diver..They go wabbling from side to side. *Ibid.* 101 When they go to fly up they wabble a great way before they can raise themselves upon the Wind. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4178/4 Advt., Wabbles in his walking. 1749 MRS. DELANY *Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 515 James came wabbling on with the broken equipage, his Fribbleship much ruffled. 1786 BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* vii, Ye..ran them 'till they a' did wauble, Far, far, behin'. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 156 The snipe..Starts frae the sliiuy drain; and, to the spring..now wnubles fast. 1833 CARLYLE *Cagliostro* Ess. 1872 V. 73 'The two pinions on which History soars'—or flutters and wabbles. 1896 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Kate Cov.* vi. 69 Such a figure *I* never saw on a horse!..bumping when she trots, and wobbling when she canters. 1896 WELLS *Wheels of Chance* viii, He resumed the treadles,..jolted over a stone, wabbled, recovered, and began riding faster.

b. Of a piece of mechanism, a top, a missile, etc.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 45 The wheel..would not move perpendicularly, but wabble towards the Fore or Backsides of the Jack frame. 1680 *Ibid.* xii. 215 If in going about of your Work you find it Wabble, that is, that one side of the Flat incline either to the Right or Left Hand. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Wabble*, to wriggle about as an Arrow sometimes does in the Air. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* iv. xv, [A] hat..which..wabbles over your eyes and ears. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., A top wabbles, when it is in motion, and deviates from a perpendicular direction; a spindle wabbles, when it moves one way and the other. 1884 E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* June 88/2 Well now, watch the floats. If you see one bob under and wobble, a shad has struck the net near it. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 300/2 A projectile from a smoothbore is apt to 'wobble' and go wide.

c. To bubble; to boil. Now *dial.*

1725 *New Canting Dict.*, *Wobble*, to boil. The Pot wobbles, i.e. The Pot boils. 1829 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xv. III. 307 Sir Frederick smoked his chilum..and whiffed and 'wobbled', and wore away the evening. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Wabble*, to boil fast.

d. To shake or quiver like a jelly or fleshy body.

1748 [see WOBBLING *ppl. a.*]. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Hand-*[illegible] wobbling like a great [illegible]OWELLS *Foregone Con-*[illegible]tically. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 643 He wabbled with laughter at the delicious absurdity of the reminiscence.

e. To move unsteadily from side to side or backwards and forwards (without progression). Also *fig.*

1858 H. MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* iv. 214 From the mouth of the..figure a long tongue..was made to wabble. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* xv. 264 You see it well in old women: how the last teeth wobble. 1870 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiii. 307 The field of the microscope is crowded with organisms, some wabbling slowly. 1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* xiii, His knees wobbled. 1903 G. H. LORIMER *Lett. Self-made Merch.* xix. 288 He..shouted 'Hello!' in what he tried to make a big, brave voice, but it wobbled a little all the same.

2. *fig.* To hesitate or waver between different opinions or courses of action; to be inclined to favour first one side and then the other.

1884 *Bath Herald* 20 Sept. 3/2 The *Standard*..has..wobbled back to its old ways. 1885 DILKE in *Life* (1917) II. 111 The other members of the Cabinet either wobbled backwards and forwards, or did not care. 1906 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Social Silhouettes* 161 If you wobble or rat or play the Candid Friend, you are only too likely to find yourself cast at the next election.

3. *trans.* To cause to move unsteadily from side to side.

1831 T. ALLEN *Hist. Co. York* III. 41 The convex surface, with its glass pieces, is then turned and wabbled in the concave basin by steam power. 1881 P. M. DUNCAN in *Academy* 23 Apr. 468/3 One of the rigidly armoured Silurian fishes which learned to snap at its prey and got more food by the attempt to wobble its cranium.

4. *U. S.* To crumple *up.*

1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi. (1874) 119 The dish-towels dirty, and the dish-cloth all wabbled up in the sink. 1884 E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* June 88/1 To keep the net straight, and not all tangled and wobbled up.

5. *Comb.*: **wobble-heat,** a form of heat-energy caused by vibration; **wobble-saw,** a circular saw mounted askew on its spindle so as to cut a groove wider than its own thickness.

1899 LOCKYER in *Nature* 20 Apr. 585/2 To get concrete images of these effects we spoke of path-heat, spin-heat, and *wobble-heat. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2717 **Wabble-saw.* 1917 H. W. DURHAM *Saws* 53 'Drunken' or 'Wobble' saws.

Wobbler (wo·blǝɹ). Also 8 **wabler,** 9 **wabbler.** [f. WOBBLE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which wobbles; a person or animal that walks unsteadily; one who wavers or vacillates in opinion; also *spec.* (see quots. 1785, 1823, 1875).

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Wabler*, foot wabler, a contemptuous term for a foot soldier, frequently used by those of the cavalry. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf*, *Wabbler*, a boiled leg of mutton, alluding to the noise made in dressing it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2717 *Wabbler*, an elliptical cutter-head placed at such obliquity on the shaft as to revolve in a circular path. Sometimes called a *drunken cutter.* 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Aug. 1/1 Such a Government of Wobblers. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*, *Wobbler*, ..a horse that swerves from side to side when trotting.

Wobbling (wo·bliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WOBBLE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. WOBBLE.

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxvii, No wabblin' of his hind parts, but steady as a pump bolt. *a* 1848 *N. Y. Com. Adv.* (Bartlett) Leverrier's calculations gave the mass of the unknown planet, by which the 'wabblings' of Herschell were to be set right, at so much. 1861 MISS E. A. BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepulchres* II. xvi. 26 He nearly fell off his mule with the excess of the wabbling. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wobbling*, the unsteady motion of an elongated projectile through the air. 1907 *Athenæum* 27 Apr. 513/2 Here..is a slight wobbling in the artist's intention.

Wobbling (wo·bliŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WOBBLE *v.* + -ING 2.] That wobbles, in senses of the vb.

1657 LIGON *Barbadoes* 62 Cockroches, a creature..of a pure [illegible] 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 140 Its [*sc.* the bat's] evening flight and its unsteady wabbling motion amuse the imagination. 1881 CLARE *Vill. Minstr., Rustic Fishing* 46 Still wobbling curves keep wavering like a bite. 1883 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* III. 509/2 His whole singing was a bad wobbling trill. 1884 J. H. WALSH *Mod. Sportsman's Gun* II. 7 When discharged from a smooth bore,..an oscillating or 'wobbling' flight is produced. 1898 *Catholic News* 21 May 8/4 It cannot be said that the constituency is a wobbling one.

Wobbly (wo·bli), *a.* Also **wabbly.** [f. WOBBLE *v.* + -Y 1.] Inclined to wobble.

1851–62 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 149/1 The knees, which at first is weak and wabbly, gets strong. 1871 *Daily News* 11 Apr. 6 A brigade can fight as well if its line be slightly 'wobbly' as if it were dressed to death. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* I. 279 'Nancy!' cries Bobby,..speaking in a wobbly, quivering voice. 1878 *Athenæum* 13 July 42/2 His English..is decidedly 'wobbly'.

Hence **Wo·bbliness,** the state of being wobbly.

1880 MISS BROUGHTON *Second Thoughts* I. ii, General Tarlton is observing with chill misgiving a certain threatening wobbliness in the gait of his [top]. 1882 J. MORLEY *Recoll.* (1917) I. 174 A wobbliness which nobody is more conscious of or more disgusted by, than I am.

Woc, var. WOKE *a. Obs.* **Woce,** obs. Sc. f. VOICE. **Woch(e:** see VOUCH, WHICH, WOW (wall). **Woch(e)safe,** obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE. **Wod,** obs. f. WOOD *sb.* and *a.*; obs. pa. t. of WADE *v.*

Wod, obs. Sc. form of VOID *v.*

1477 *Lydgate's Dietary* 54 in *Makculloch MS.* (S.T.S.) 31 Wod al dronkynness, learis & lechoris.

Wod, obs. form of HOOD.

1559 *Inv.* (Warw.) in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. II. 306/2 A crest cap and a wod to weyr upon his sholder iiij s.

Wodake, obs. f. WOODHACK (woodpecker). **Wodbill, -bin, -binde, -cok(ke,** etc., obs. ff. WOODBILL, WOODBINE, WOODCOCK. **Wodd(e, Wodden,** obs. ff. WOOD, WOODEN. **Wodder, -ir,** obs. ff. WEATHER. **Wodderweght,** obs. f. WITHERWEIGHT *Sc.* **Woddie,** obs. var. WIDDY, WOODY. **Woddish, -y,** obs. ff. WOODISH, -Y.

Woddram, wodrome, early forms of WIDDENDREAM.

1644 in S. Hibbert *Shetl. Isl.* (1822) 594 The said sickness was taken off the said Marion and casten upon a young cow of the said John's, which took wodrome. *Ibid.*, An uther cow..also died mad and in woddram.

Wode, obs. Sc. f. VOID; obs. pa. t. of WADE *v.*; obs. f. WOAD, WOOD. **Wodehouse:** see WOODWOSE. **Wodeland, -liche, -ness(e:** see WOODLAND, WOODLY, WOODNESS.

Wodenism (wōu·dĕniz'm). *rare.* [f. *Woden* (see ODIN) + -ISM.] Odinism.

1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 236 Wodenism was so completely vanquished that even the coming of the Danes failed to revive it.

Wodensday, obs. f. WEDNESDAY. **Woder,** obs. f. OTHER, WEATHER. **Woderofe, -rove, -rowe,** obs. ff. WOODRUFF. **Wodershins,** obs. f. WITHERSHINS. **Wodeship, -sour,** etc., **-wale, -ward:** see WOODSHIP, etc. **Wodewe,** obs. f. WIDOW. **Wodewose:** see WOODWOSE.

Wodge (wǫdʒ). [? Vulgar alteration of *wedge*: cf. WEDGE *sb.* 4.] A lumpy protuberant object. Hence **Wo·dgy** *a.*, solid, bulky.

1907 PHYLLIS DARE *From School to Stage* v. 84 Not a London thin-bread-and-butter tea, but a great wodgy, six-sliced repast. 1922 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Dec. 797/1 A 'wodge' in his left breast-pocket.

Wodhacke, obs. f. WOODHACK. **Wodhed,** var. WOODHEAD. **Wodinsdai,** obs. f. WEDNESDAY. **Wodky,** variant of VODKA.

1875 R. H. R. *Rambles in Istria* 271 A glass of wodky.

Wodland, -liche, -ly: see WOODLAND, WOODLY. **Wodmell,** obs. form of WADMAL.

1522 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 154 A wodmell slope and a pare of breche of the same.

Wodnes(s, var. WOODNESS. **Wodou,** obs. var. WOODOO. **Wodowes,** var. WOODWOSE. **Wodowhod,** obs. f. WIDOWHOOD. **Wodrofe, -roffe, -rove:** see WOODRUFF. **Wodrome:** see WODDRAM. **Wodschipe,** var. WOODSHIP, madness. **Wodset(t,** obs. ff. WADSET. **Wodsore, -sour:** see WOODSORE. **Wodur,** obs. f. OTHER. **Wodwale, -ward, -wose:** see WOODWALE, WOODWARD, WOODWOSE.

Woe (wōu), *int., adv., sb., a.* Forms: *a.* 1–6, 8–9 *Sc.* and *north.* **wa,** 3–5, 9 *north.* **waa,** (*Sc.* or *north.* 4, 6, 9 **way,** 5 **ua,** 7 **weay,** 7–9 **wea,** 8 **weea**), 5– *Sc.* **wae**; (with *is*) *Sc.* 4, 6 **wais,** 6 **waiss, wayis,** 7 **waies, wayes,** 8 **waes**; (with *is tha*) *Sc.* and *north.* 7 **wee'st,** 8 **wae'st, wa-ist, waaist,** 9 **wa(a)st, waest**; 5 *Sc. sup. of adj.* **waast, wayest**; 1 *Northumb.*, 3 *Lay.* **wæ.** β. 2– **wo,** (3 **woa, wao, wuo,** 4 **who,** 5 **whoo, wooe,** 6 *Sc.* **voo, woi**), 4–6 **woo,** 4–**woe.** γ. 3 *Orm.* **wa33,** 2–3 **wei,** 3–4 **wai, way,** 4 **weye, we.** [Com. Indo-European interjection, used as a natural exclamation of lament; its forms fall into types distinguished by variety of vocalism, and reduplicated forms are characteristic of several of the Germanic langs.; most of these langs. have developed a substantival use of the simple forms (through such constructions as that in A. 6), and English and German have developed an adj. use.

OE. *wá*, also *wáh*, corresp. to OS., MLG. *wê*, (M)Du. *wee*, OHG., MHG. *wê* (G. *weh*, also *wehe*), ON. *vei*, *vá* (Sw., Da. *ve*), Goth. *wai ubai*, and further to L. *væ*, Lett. *wai*, OIr. *fé*, W. *gwae.* (Arm. *vay* and late Gr. *bá*, *oúá*, *ubai* are new formations.) Teut. **wai* is the source of the exclamations F. *ouais*, It. *guai*, Sp. *guay.*

The γ-forms are from ON. *vei* (cf. WELLAWAY). The spelling *wo* has been long prevalent in exclamatory use, and is still affected in poetry.

The forms properly substantival (as distinct from the above forms, which belong primarily to the int. and adv.) are:—OE. *wá*, also the reduplicated *wáwa* WOWE, MLG. *wâwe*, OHG. *wâwa* m., *wâwe* f. (MHG. *wê*, gen. *wêwes* str. n., *wêwe*, *wêhe* wk. m., str. and wk. f.); otherwise the orig. interjectional forms are used as abs.

OE. *wá* entered into compounds in the sense of 'grievous, evil, bad'; one of these, *wáwmód* peevish, survived into ME., see WEMOD; so Gothic *wai* in *waidêdja* ἀφρονῆς (f.

waldþe = OE. *wōnādād* crime), OHG. *wāt* in *untwart* evil fate, misfortune; cf. Lett. *wajack* weak, ill.

Partially disguised compounds are WELLAWAY, WELLAWO, and WAIL *v.*]

A. *int.* and *adv.*

I. 1. As an exclamation of grief or lamentation: = Alas! Often in combination with another int., as *ah, lo* (see WALE *int.*, WELLAWO); cf. WAESUCKS. *arch.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* Int. 327 *Ua*, euua [= eow + wa].

c 1250 *Death* 167 in *O. E. Misc.* 178 Wai hwi noldestu er of þisse beon icnowe? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6146 Awey [*v. r.* awai] sell ȝonge þinges, frendles were hii þere. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 188 A-wel, to soue he hit for-les. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13879 Cried he neyþer wo ne way, But ded he was, & þer he lay.

c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxiv. 366 Allas, oure synnes..say, 'wo, wo, wo!' *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* iv. 760 At hir he speryt giff scho forthocht it sar. 'Wa, ya', scho said. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. 76 Ah wo, wo, wo! the worst of woes I find! 1789 G. ADAMS tr. *Sophocles, Antig.* v. iv, Wo! and wo! Again, thou hast ruined an unhappy Man. 1854 PATMORE *Angel in He., Betrothal* 126 And if, ah woe, she loves alone.

† **b.** with following clause or phrase expressing the object of the lament. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 O, seiþ þus þe boc, wei þet he eure hit wule ibenche in his þonke. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 120 Wai [*v. r.* way] þat hit nis þarof bireued. *c* 1275 LAY. 8013 Wei þat ich nadde bi wur. *a* 1400 in *Minot's Poems* (ed. Hall) App. ii. 23 We for his Ending!

II. Construed with a dative (or, later, its equivalent), with or without a verb of being or happening, in sentences expressing the incidence of distress, affliction, or grief.

2. In prophetic or denunciatory utterances of the type of OE. *wā biþ þǣm mannum* = affliction or grief shall be the lot of the men; *woe be to us* = may affliction or distress light upon us; *woe is him* = cursed is he. *Obs.* or *arch.*

Beowulf 183 Wa biþ þæm ðe sceal þurh sliðne niþ sawle bescufan in fyres fæþm. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 61 Wa biþ þonne þæm mannum þe ne onȝyteþ þisse worlde yrmþa. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxx. (1883) 146 Wa byð ðam þe þær bið geteohhod to. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Harl. MS.) 102 Wo ys him þat þe knowe ne shal! 13.. *Northern Passion* 249 (Camb. Gg.) Who be þat man At þat treson fyrst began. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Sche seide: 'Ha treson, wo thee be', *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4564 Wailaway to wriches & wa is ȝow in erthe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiii. 55 Wa be to þe, Bethsaida! *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 Then woo schall be to hom þat schall here þys rebuke yn þat day. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 41 Heh allas!..and woo be the tyme they saide, that ever we shulde put..trust to the Frenshe partie. 1533 FRITH *Mirr.* ii. A vij, Woe be to them that couple and knytte houses to gether. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xvi. (1870) 273 Bacon is good for carters and plowmen,..but & yf they haue the stone,..they shall synge, 'wo be the pye!' *c* 1550 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 151 Waist ȝow. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 187 Way is the Hirdis of Israell. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 59 Woe were vs, if wee were at the rule and gouernement of creatures. 1636 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (ed. 3) 162 Woe is him whose bed is made in hell. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* XLV. 246 Woes us that we can neither shew nor receive kindness without danger. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 25 Wo be to the Villain, if he recollect not this! *c* 1860 FABER *Child's Death* vi, Thou art welcome, thrice welcome:—yet woe is the day! 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xi, But woe is him, if a nasty foe..smite him to the quick.

3. In merely declaratory statements of the type of OE. *him bið* or *is wā* = he will be or is distressed, afflicted, grieved, or sorrowful; ME. *him is (full) wo* = he is (much) distressed or grieved. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. vii, Þæm folce wæs seȝþres was, ȝe þæt hie þæt mæste ysel forbeian sceoldon, ȝe eac þæt hie his sciran ne dorstan. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 104 Huru him bið æt heartan wa, ðonne he hangiende helle wisceð ðæs engestan eðelrices. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 149 *Tedet animæ meæ vite mee.* Wuo is mi soule þat ich bide here swo longe. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11904 Himin wass wa33 & ange Off þatt he nohht ne wisste off Crist. *c* 1205 LAY. 1660 Swa swiðe wa him was þat al his wit he for-læs. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 Me is wo þet tu hit wost. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 882 þat beoþ her, wo is hom þes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3749 Me es sua wa, almast i weede. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 209 Him was ful wo þan on is þo3t, & ofte sekede amonge. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2684 Be alle the welthe of the werlde, so woo was theme neuer! *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 816 Cuthbert sawe, him was full wa.

b. very freq. in *Woe is me* (occas. † *to, unto me*): I am distressed, afflicted, unfortunate, grieved. Now only *arch.* and *dial.*

c 1205 LAY. 28345 Wa is me þat ich was mon iboren. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 185 Wa is me þet ic nm swa fremede wiþ þe! *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 146 Wais me, douchtir, for þe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3075 'Wa is me!' quod he,..'wa is me vnhappy!' *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 196 (Douce MS.) 'Wo is me for þi wo!' quod Waynour. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow & Other Birds* 265 Now ar þai deid, and wo is me þairfore! 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. i. 233 Bot nethеles, quhat harm, full wayis me! 1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* ix. 16 Wo is it vnto me [WYCLIF wo to me, COVERDALE wo vnto me, 1611 Woe is vnto me] yf I preache not the gospell. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 25 My sheepe bene wasted, (wae is me therefore). 1683 G. M[ERITON] *Yorks. Dial.* 6 Wales is me Husband, our awd Breads all gane. 1789 G. ADAMS tr. *Sophocles, Antig.* II. v, Wo is me a Wretch! 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xxiii, Waes me for Johnie Ged's Hole now..if that thae news be true! 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 120 To whom replied King Arthur, much in wrath: 'Ah, miserable and unkind, untrue,..Woe is me!' 1892 FURNIVALL *Hoccleve's Minor Poems* p. xliv, Lastly (woe is me!) I printed it in 1878 from [etc.].

4. *Woe worth* (in 16th and 17th cent. sometimes hyphened): may evil befall or light upon; a curse upon; cursed be or shall be: often in phr. *woe worth the day* (*the while, the time*). *arch.*

c 1205 LAY. 1362 Wa wrðe auer þene smiþ. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 37 Wa wurðe þat chaffere. *c* 1275 LAY. 8011 Wo worþe onread [*earlier text* Wale wale vuræd]. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7396 Cursed kaytif and wa worth þe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4118 And ȝif i wrong seie any word, wo worþ me euer. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 139 'Wo worthe wykkyde armour!' Percyvelle may say. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* iv. 744 Allace That I was maide, wa worthe the coursit cas! *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1715 Alas my birth, wo worth my life. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 34 Wo worth the, O Deuyll, wo worth the,..that thou haste made Englande to worshyppe false Goddes. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Passion* II. 199 May we not iustly crye wo worth the tyme that euer we synned! 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 66 Fall England, farewell peace, woe-worth our Weale and tranquillitie. 1683 G. M[ERITON] *Yorks. Dial.* 16 Weayworth this Trash. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 7 Then they all wept again, and cryed out: Oh, Wo worth the day. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* I. 17 Woe worth the Tongue! may Blisters sore it gall, That names Buxoma, Blouzelind withal. 1785 BURNS *Sc. Drink* xv, Wae worth that brandy, burnin trash! 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. ix, Woe worth the chase, woe worth the day, That costs thy life, my gallant grey! 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 244 Woe worth the hour that I beheld thee born.

† **b.** As an independent exclamation: = sense I.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 2. 43 Wo worthe, thei are dedde. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. 23 Woe worth when trees drop in their proper kinde!

¶ **c.** *Woe worth me!* used occas. loosely = *Woe is me.*

1887 SWINBURNE *Locrine* v. ii, *Estrild.* Woe worth me! *Sabrina.* Nay, woe worth Her wickedness 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* ix, Wo worth me when Agatha the tire-woman sets eyes upon it!

d. Similarly, *Woe betide you* (etc.). In mod. use *colloq.* with weakened sense: You (etc.) will get into trouble (if...). Also without obj.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 86 And ar þis weddyng beo wrouȝt wo þe beo-tyde! *Ibid.* III. 116 Er Ich wedde such a wyf wo me bi-tyde! 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 56 Now helpe, or woe betide thee euermore. 1808 [see BETIDE *v.* 1 c]. 1819 KEATS *La belle Dame sans Merci* ix, And there I dream'd, ah! woe betide, The latest dream I ever dream'd. 1839 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvi[i], Go to the sick man's chamber..; and woe betide you if you again quit it without my permission! 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* vi, If you're not sharp enough I'll creak the door, and woe betide you if I have to creak it much. 1868 [see BETIDE *v.* 1 c].

5. Without verb. **a.** const. dative (or its equivalent) = *woe be, woe worth, woe betide. arch.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 328 Hit is ȝecweden: Wa eow þe gadriað hus to huse. *Ibid.* xlix. 378 Wa me ðæs ic swuȝode! 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 95 Wa eow þe nu hlihaþ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 7 Wa] ysum middangeardе þurh swicdomas. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 19 Wa hem ðatt hie æure iscapene waren. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* viii. 13, I..herde the voys of an egle..seiynge..Wo! wo! wo! to the dwellinge men in erthe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 355 Wo the while, he was a thief! *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 139 Woo to vs ȝif we wole folewe hym that wolde sette his fete in the hille of lordschippe. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 853 Woo the whyle that bargayn I dyd euer make. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Cor.* ix. 16 And wo vnto me [1611 woe is vnto me], yff I preach not the Gospell. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 55 Then woe mine eyes vnlesse they beautie see. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 15 O woe, the day. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 389 Wo to him, that in the desart Land Of Lybia travels. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 25 Wae to that hand that dares..Defile the stream. 1794 BURNS *Song, Lovely Lass Inverness* 13 Now wae to thee, thou cruel lord, A bluidy man I trow thou be. 1829 DIGBY *Broad Stone Hon., Godefridus* 205 But woe the while! our fathers' minds are dead. 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* I. ii, Woe to thine ears had st thou heard the barbiton that night!

b. const. preps. *on, for.*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxx, Some articles we will minute down with which he shall comply, or wo on his head! 1852 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. xiv, It has ended thus. Wo on it! 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvi, Oh, woe for them..when they shall wake!

† **6.** *To do* or *work* (a person) *woe*: to inflict distress or trouble upon; to afflict; to do harm to. Also without regimen. *Obs.*

Orig. *woe* is adv. in this phr., but later apprehended as sb. (B. 1). (Cf. other langs., e. g. G. *weh(e tun.*)

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii. 138 Þa me grame wæron worda þinra, and me wa dydan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 289 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 177 Ac ȝet ne deð heom nout so wo in þo lobe biende bute þat hi witeð þat heore pine ne scal neure habben ende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 364 Is hit nu wisdom mon to don so wo him suluen? *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 49 Hu moni earmðen anan awakeneð þer-wið, þat wurcheð þe wa inoh. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 880 Abram hem folwede and wrouȝte woa. *Ibid.* 2100 Þeden ut-comen..vii. neet,..And..vii. lene after þo, Þe deden ðe..vii. fette wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5531 Bot ai þe mare þai did [þ]am wa þis folk multiplid ai mas. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 624 þe feynd, oure fa, Cesit nocht to wirk hyr way. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* x. 65, I do þe wele, why dost me woo? *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. xvi. 1571 Iubiter sulde noucht..wyrk hym mar wa na dispyte. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* III. 55 He kest the stone in þe watter, & had it waa worghe. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVIII. (Percy Soc.) 86 It doth right well appere..that love hath done you wo. 1533 *Respublica* 1648 Theis ladies.. prepare to worke vs woo and doo vs all mischiefe.

B. *sb.* (See also A. 6.)

1. A condition of misery, affliction, or distress; misfortune, trouble; grievous or sorrowful state. *poet.* or *rhet.*

c 1200 OANIM 897 Ba3e hemen fell to þolemn wa þurrh ifell wilees irre. *Ibid.* 4766 Tenn mennn..Forrimes þe gode Job þatt da33..& 3et bilamnp himm oþerr wa. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 237 Issa was hire firste name..Siðen ȝhe bioȝte us to woa, Adam gaf hire name eua. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7770 Þe king & oþer riche men..wolde euere abbe ynou wanne þe pouere adde wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2196 Nembrot..þat in his time wroght mikel waa. 13.. *Ibid.* 22472 (Edin.) Quar-to sold we be born to-day, Quen al þing sal com to way? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 950 He vald firate quyke þam fla, & bryne þame syne in doile & va. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4931 Youthe hem putte in Iupardye, In perell and in mych woo. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Pruis of Aige* 12 Wrechitnes has wroht all welthis wele to wo. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccxxxiv. 908 b/a The capitayne..had dayly great payne and wo to defende their towne. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 309 For neuer was a Storie of more Wo, Then this of Iuliet, and her Romeo. 1655 MILTON *Sonn. Massacre Piedmont* 14 From these may grow A hunder'd-fold, who ..Early may fly the Babylonian wo. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 3 The Fruit Of that Forbidden Tree, whose mortal taste Brought Death into the World, and all our woe. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 160 Pleased with his guests, the good man learned to glow, And quite forgot their vices in their woe. 1790 COLERIDGE *Genevieve* 8 Within your soul a voice there lives! It bids you hear the tale of Woe. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 983 My days, though few, have pass'd below In much of joy, but more of woe. 1814 — *Lara* I. ii, Lord of himself,—that heritage of woe. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, A screech-owl denouncing some deed of terror and of wo. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. viii, This scene of wo. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* iii, Her giddiness, her lightness of conduct, had wrought this woe.

personified. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4995 With hir labour and travaile Logged ben with sorwe and woo.

b. in conjunction with *weal.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 216 A fruit, ðe kenned wel and wo. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3449 There his folk come wel or weye, Him tofore nys bote deth. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* I. 2 Day & nyght, þi is assiduelly, in wele & wa. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 235 Fore wele na way Of þis place sal I nocht ga. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 687 *Cleopatra*, ȝe nere out of myn hertis remembraunce For wel or wo for carole or for daunce. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* v. 66 God hab lent ȝow discrecioun Bope of wele and of woo. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 182 Greit cause thay haif for till repent, Zot will thay nocht do so, Nouther for weill nor wo. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 351 Whate'er betide of weal or woe. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* vi. I. 299 Two important commonwealths, upon whose action..the weal and wo of Christendom was hanging.

c. In particularized use; chiefly *pl.*, Misfortunes, troubles, griefs.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* ix. 12 Oo woo passid, and lo! ȝit comen two wos. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 153 All the wois that Ouid in Ibin Into his pretty lytill buik did wryte. *a* 1568 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 9 That curst inconstant cative till accuse, Quhais variance of all my wois I wyt. 1599 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep., Q. Isab. to Mortimer* 16 One woe makes another woe seeme lesse. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Mad Fashions* A a b, Those Rebells that doe breed her [*sc.* Ireland's] woes. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 892 Latinus tears his Garments as he goes, Both for his publick, and his private Woes. 1714 YOUNG *Force Relig.* I 958 Now she revolves within her anxious mind, What woe still lingers in reserve behind. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. 61 The Lord sent me to you, to warn you of the woes that are coming upon you. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. xii. 152 Who has not been touched with the woes of his lovely and gentle queen, subjected by him to a trial of life and death, on a false charge of infidelity? 1940 *Discovery* May 146 The most fundamental cause of all our present economic woes.

† **d.** *transf.* A cause of misfortune. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1176 My wele, my woo, my paradise, my lyvis sustenaunce!

† **2.** Physical pain or distress; disease or infirmity. *Obs.* or merged in sense I.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 220 He lette ham þollen wo inouh—hunger & þurst, & muchel swinc. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1918 He was..pur mesel þo, & he bicom in is baptizinge hol of al is wo. 13.. *Northern Passion* 49 (Camb. Gg.) Pal..dyd hym tyll pyne and waa And euyr þai thoght hym for to slaa. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1033 A litil wetinge of watur his wo wol amende. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 530, I am all in aunter sa akis me þe wame, Of werke well ne I wede & slike wa tholis. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 36 Thys holy man..keuord many of hur wo, the doumbe, the defe, and other seke. [1783 CRABBE *Village* I. 227 Thus groan the old, till, by disease oppress'd, They taste a final woe, and then they rest.]

b. With reference to the pains of hell.

c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 209 To takenn ut off helle wa þa gode sawless alle. *Ibid.* 1400 Forr whatt tegȝ fellenn sone dun off heoffne unntill helle Till eche wa. *c* 1290 *St. James* 77 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 36 Þou sendest us þare we gret wo ifielde In gret torment and brenningue. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 534 Þus þe deuel ydampned hys, And wyþ hym..Deuelen wel mo;..Moche hys þe pyne þat hem oyleþ, And eke þe who. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* I. 108 The more he dwelleth theryn long, To his soule he encreseth woo. 1761 *Transl. & Paraphr.* xii. 8 Who looks to him with lively faith is sav'd from endless woes.

† **3.** Sorrow, grief, anguish (as a state of mind or feeling). *Obs.* or merged in sense I.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 263 Heo louede so horn child þat..In heorte heo hadde wo. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1483 Neiȝh wod of wiste for woo of þat sawe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1717 With alle þe wo on lyue, To þe wod he [*sc.* the fox] went away. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1360 Mony wyues, for woo, of þere wit past. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 57 Tendrely remembre on the wo & peyne, þat thow asuffridist in his passioun. *c* 1450 *Cri. Love* 256 'For-soth, quod she, 'they wallen of their wo.' *c* 1580 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxv. 81 My hairt, tak nowdir pane nor wa, For Meg, for Meriory, or ȝit Mawis. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jacke a Lent* C 2, The poore Curres,..stinke for woe for feare that another Lent is come sodainely vpon them. [1790 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 118 His down-cast Eye reveals his inward Woes.

1729 Young *Busiris* I. i, While the big Woe lies throbbing at my Heart.]

†4. Lamentation, mourning. Chiefly in phr. *to make woe. Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 465 Godard herde here wa, Ther-offe yaf he nouth a stra. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3360 (Laud MS.), Michel woo & grete wailynges Was made. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1839 *Lucrece*, The woo to telle hyt were impossible, That she and al hir frendes make attones. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1057 For shame! why makest þou al this wo? 1508 Dunbar *Two Maryit Wemen* 437, I haif a water spunge for wa, within my wyde clokis, Than wring I it full wylely, & weis my chekis.

5. An utterance of the word 'woe' in denunciation; an anathema, curse.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* p. xi, Her enden the eighte wools that God wishid to freris. Amen. 1546 Bale *Engl. Votaries* I. 75 He went fearcelye vpon them with wo vpon wo. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Ld. Craighall* 10 Aug., There is a *woe, woe to him by whom offences come*: This woe came out of Christ's mouth. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 146 A necessity is laid upon us with a woe, and an Anathema, if we come not to confession. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, She bore a male-child, under circumstances which added treble bitterness to the wo denounced against our original mother. 1821 Mrs. Wheeler *App. Cumbld. Dial.* 9 Here it was (a way light on the pleace!) At first I got a gliff o' Betty's feace. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* viii. 228 The woe .. pronounced by the Saviour—that woe so literally fulfilled.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *woe-hurricane, -mark, -trumpet* (Rev. viii, ix); also adj. = woeful (cf. C), as †*woe-day*, †*-thing*, †*-word*; objective, as *woe-begetting, -boding, -denouncing, -foreboding, -revolving* adjs.; instrumental, as *woe-adumbrad, -beseen, -bested, -cross-wounded* (see Cross- B), *-dejected, -delighted, -embroidered, -exhausted, -fraught, -illumed, -infirmed, -stricken, -struck, -surcharged, -tied, -wearied, -weary, -whelmed, -worn* adjs.; *woe-enwrap, -wrinkle* vbs.; in other advb. relations, as *woe-betrothed, -destined, -sprung, -wedded* adjs.; †woe-heart [cf. C. 1 b, d], an affliction; also Woesith.

1609 J. Davies *Holy Roode* I 1, Thy *Woe-adumbred Front. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 3 The natural progeny of that *wo-begetting parent. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 370 Al my face..So riveled and so *wo besein. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* xliii. ii, Full *wo bystad .. with sorowe and with care. *c* 1510 More *Picus* Wks. 29 If thou be neuer so wo bestad. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 845 Ye made me wo-bestad. 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Suppliants* 75 My bursting heart..*woe-betroth'd, fears e'en its friends. 1838 Eliza Cook *World* iv, The raven ..with its *woe-boding tone. 1609 J. Davies *Holy Roode* F 2, Comfort..Her *woe-crosse-wounded Heart. *c* 1205 Lay. 8750 Nu is icumen þin *wadæi. *c* 1346 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 48 Ipsis sit Waleway, meschef tristisaima woday. *a* 1796 Burns *Bannocks o' Barley*, Wha in his wae-days Were loyal to Charlie? 1786 — *To Ruin* 4 Thy cruel, *woe-delighted train. 1809 Campbell *Gert. Wyoming* III. xvi, [He] smote his breast with *woe-denouncing hand. 1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 86 The..years, which might change the abode of the souls of these tyrant whites into the frames of *woe-destined negroes. 1789 Savage *Wanderer* II. 203 She muses o'er her *woe-embroider'd Vest. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 26 Adams fall neuer so *woe-enwrapped the earth, as the relation of them shall. 1797 Mrs. M. Robinson *Walsingham* III. 56 The *woe-exhausted poet. 1824 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. ii. 56 The beleaguered and woe-exhausted city. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. xxviii, Three banners ..The *woe-foreboding peasant sees. 1797 T. Park *Sonn.* 203 *Woe-fraught breast of kesar or of queen. 1818 Holder *Poems* 69 From whose woe-fraught bosom break Those dismal cries? 1699 Rutherford *Let. to Vectess. Kennure* 1 Oct., I hope that Christ, when he married you, married you and all the crosses and *wo hearts that follow you. 1818 Keats *Endym.* iv. 527 *Woe-hurricanes beat ever at the gate. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 637, I..see more clear Thy works within my *woe-illumed mind. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Ep. Ded., My *woe-infirmed Witte, conspired against me. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* ix, The distress..which was crushing their lives out of them, and stamping *woe-marks over the land. 1824 Symmons tr. *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 65 Many a *woe-revolving year [πολύθρηνον αἰῶν']. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 276 Their *woe-sprung tears shall sue. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvii, Arthur could not see how pallid and *woe-stricken her face was. 1770 Hodson *Ded. Temple of Solomon* 5 The Fury of the *Woe-struck King. 1828 Carlyle *Misc., Werner* (1840) I. 169 A certain woestruck martyr zeal. 1612 Braithwait *Strappado* 97 A *Woe-surcharged heart. 1675 Cotton *Burlesque upon B.* 6 What! must I undergoe this *wo-thing, And suffer thus for doing nothing? 1619 Drayton *Bar. Wars* VI, xcv, Her *woe ty'd Tongue. 1680 C. Nesse *Church-Hist.* 493 While the Church lay under the *Wo-Trumpets. 1826 E. Irving *Babylon, &c.* I. 196 We expect the seventh trumpet, the last of the three woe trumpets. 1613 Chapman *Odyss.* xix. 700 When all poore men..Would..get their *wo-watcht pow'rs relieu'd. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iv. iv. 18 My *woe-wearied tongue. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 793 He slod sliȝli a-doun a-slepe ful harde, as a *wo wery welȝh for-waked to-fore. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 1 Wo-werie and wetschod wente ich forth after. 1613 J. Davies *Muses Teares* C 3, When thou..Cam'st to espouse his Halfe; *wo-wedded now! 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 255 On its woe-wedded [ἀλόλεκτρον] Paris' hated head. 1873 Browning *Aristoph. Apol., Herakles* 851 This..I pondered, though *woe-whelmed. *a* 1200 *Ancr. R.* 306 Heren þat harde word, þat *waword. 1621 *Mary Magd. Lament.* ii. 132 Poore *wo-worn woman. 1799 *Cupid & Psyche* 46 These wan and woe-worn cheeks of mine. 1887 Mrs. Gaskell *C. Brontë* II. xiii. 324 She saw her husband's woe-worn face. 1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Halt bef. Rome* 26 The woe-worn people. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 29 Let me.. wake olde and *woe-wrinckle my cheekes.

C. *adj.* (orig. and chiefly predicative).

This use has developed by a process common to the history of impersonal expressions in which an original dative has been converted into a nominative; *me is woe* became *I am woe*, as *me longeth* became *I long*.

1. Grieved, wretched, miserable, sorrowful. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

The first instance, like many more in early ME., is doubtful, because it is impossible to determine whether *seuete paul* is dative (see A. 3) or nominative.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Þa wes seuete paul swiðe wa and abeh him..to his lauerdes fet. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Þanne stonde8 þo wreches alse þo þe wo be8. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14546 His disciplis þan war ful wa, þat þair maister was hated sua. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1452 Now er men wele, now er men wa. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 799 Þan was egeas wondir wa, þat saw hymself confundit sa. 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 364 The swan is ded; his make is woo. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 401 Willȝham was wa he had na wappynis thar. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. xxxix. 334 Ful wo was la Beale Isoud. 1513 *Let. in Douglas' Poet. Wks.* (1874) I. Biogr. Introd. p. xxiii, I am rycht sory and woo therfor. 1503–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 15 It is an olde saying, 'The oxe is neuer wo, tyll he to the harowe goo'. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xxii. 10 Mourne not ouer the deed, and be not wo for them. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 10 My freind, quhat makis the sa way? 1632 Holland *Cyrupædia* 130 Cyrus understanding that Gadatas was long since full woe and even out of the world for feare. 1637 Rutherford *Lett., to T. Corbet* (1671) 173 If it be not so, I will be woe to be a witness against them. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 515 He was woe that ever she came into England. 1700 Dryden *Wife of Bath's T.* 108 Woe was the Knight at this severe Command! 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 211, I am wae for your Skathe. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* vii, I'm wae ye suld hae cause to say sae. 1835 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 44 Poor Queen!..I was wae to look at her, wae to think of her. 1887 Hall Caine *Deemster* xxxv, She had grown 'wae' as folk said.

In comp. and sup. forms.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvi. 245 Micht no man se ane vrather [*MS. E.* waer] man. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2004 And he þe waest [*v.r.* woest] of þe werd. 14.. *Chaucer's Compl. Pite* 3 (Phillipps MS.) In this worlde was no wight woer. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 963, I couth nocht won in to welth wretch wast [*v.r.* wayest]. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2855 More neuer ne [?he] was woer at no stounde Then off that he hade wrethed so Raymounde.

b. Said of the heart or soul, and in phr. *woe in heart*, etc.; esp. in north. dial. phr. *wae's t' heart* (*wast-heart, waestart*, etc.) = woe is me! alas!

The earliest quots. are doubtful: cf. 1 above.

c 1205 Lay. 2260 Corineus wes un-ede & wa on his mode. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 275 Þe stuard was in swerte wo, For he nuste what to do. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 12440 (Fairf.) For-soþ myne hert is wa. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 335 Gamelyn in his hert was ful woo. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3446 He nas neuer ere so sore aferde Ny neuer in hert half so wo. 1591 Drayton *Harmony Ch.* (Roxb.) 26 Oh holy blessed Sion hill! my heart is woe for thee. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 966 How woe my hart was. 1695 [see Wee't heart]. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Wae'st heart*, a condolence to the same purport with *wae's me*, woe is the heart, &c. 1708 Ramsay *Anacreontic on Love* 11 With his complaint my soul grew wae. 1773 Fergusson *Odo Gowdspink* 21 'Mang men, wae's-heart! we often find The brawest drest want peace o' mind. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 94 An' mony a time my heart's been wae. 1829 J. Hunter *Hallamsh. Gloss., Wast-heart-a-day*, an expression of grief or of commiseration. 1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. IX. 349/2 *Waestart*, a common expression of sorrow or condolence among the lower classes..around Leeds. 1894 R. Bridges *A Robin* iv, She was not there, and my heart is woe.

†c. In exclamations similar to those in A. 2, 3.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22105 Corozaim, al be ye waa! And sua be ye beth[s]aida! *c* 1340 Hampole *Wks.* (Horstman) I. 165 Wo is he þat wotnot [etc.]. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 338 Iervsalem, euir va þu be! *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 2691 This Glaunt hym toke, wo he be! 1580 *Calisto & Melib.* C ij b, A baudy wych Callyd celystyne that wo myght she be.

d. In attrib. relation (cf. *woe-day*, etc. in B. 6). *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 125 Some..left their lodgeings desolate,..with wae and sorry hearts. 1728 Theobald *Double Falsehood* iv. i, If he have a Mother,..she's a Woe-woman for him at this Hour. 1776 H. Brooke *Female Officer* II. iii, I am a woe woman this heavy day. 1913 N. Munro in *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 784/2 The wae wee chirrup of the yellow-yite.

†2. Of an event, situation, etc.: Woeful, miserable, 'sorry'. *Obs.*

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 38 Then alas, he was in a woe case. 1622 Day *Festivals* vi. (1615) 155 Were it not for Bread, it would be woe with Mankind. 1638 Heywood *Wise Woman* III. i, I hope so, or else I were in a woe case. 1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 69 If he did, it would soone bee woe with us all. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* VI. 256 Oh! woe it is to think So many men shall never see the sun Go down!

Woe-begone (*wōu-bigŏn*), *a.* (*sb.*) [The construction out of which this word arose is illustrated by the quots. immediately following, in which an objective pron. is governed by a compound tense of Bego (q.v. sense 8) with Woe *sb.* as subject (*Me is wo bigon* = Woe has beset me):—

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2130 Me was neuer so woe bigon, Yif thou it wost vnderstond! For..almost ichaue him slon. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 588 Noght wolde I telle how me is wo bigon But certes eyther moste I dye or pleyne.

Subsequently a change of construction took place, parallel to the passing of *me is woe* into *I am woe* (see Woe *a.*), *woe* and *begone* becoming consequently so indivisibly associated as to form a compound.

In the following quot. there seems to be a blend of the old and new constructions:

1593 T. Watson *Teares of Fancie* xxxviii, My hart doth whisper I am woe begone me.]

1. 'Beset with woe'; oppressed with misfortune, distress, sorrow, or grief. *Obs.* or *arch.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 312 He went and trent his bed opon, So man þat is wo bigon. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 336 In worlde nys wyght so harde of herte..That nolde haue had of her pyte So wo begone a thyng was she. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 272 Hellen.., Which of the See was wo bego, For pure drede hire herte hath lore 13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 140 Tyll anoynt with all his seke body þat wafull was and wa began. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 207 Þou myȝtist han holpe ȝong & oolde þat ben disesid and woo-bigoon. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 257 Beestys, byrdys, alle haue thay rest, when thay ar wo begon. *c* 1480 Henryson *Sheep & Dog* 1291 So is mony one Now in this warld richt wonder wo be gone. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiii. 79 Sa wobegone becam this lusty man That salt teris fast our his chekis ran. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 72 Euen such a man, so faint, so spiritlesse, So dull, so dead in looke, so woe-be-gone. 1603 J. Davies *Microcosmos* 192 To succour one another woe-begon. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 93 All wea-begune, thus liu'd the Shepheard long. 1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* xviii. 83 That lofty shade, who..seems too woe-begone to drop a tear. [1858 Thackeray *Esmond* III. ix, Poor Frank Castlewood, who Esmond thought might be wobegone on account of parting with his divine Clotilda.]

2. Of persons in respect of their looks, appearance, or manner: Exhibiting or betraying a state of distress, misery, anguish, or grief. Also *transf.* of inanimate objects.

The rise of this sense in the modern period was due to all your woe-begone looks behind. 1809 W. H. v. (1849) 112 The wo-begone heroes..eyed each other with rueful countenances. 1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* iv. 275 St. John's is the capital of Antigua...At present it appears sad and woe-begone. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* I. ii. 89 A poor mendicant approached, old and woebegone. 1866 Sala *Accepted Addr.* 153 It was the most woebegone excavation..you ever saw. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* viii, Remembering how sad and woe-begone the little man seemed at leaving England. 1891 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* xviii, 'And I dare say I should', she ended, laughing at this woe-begone picture of herself.

Comb. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* ii, Some woe-begone looking fellows were..laden with our baggage. 1898 R. S. Surtees *Ask Mamma* lxvi, A wretched, dilapidated woe-begone-looking place.

b. as *sb.* A woe-begone creature.

tears of those woe-begones.

Hence **Woe'-begoneness, Woe'-begonish** *a.*

1826 B. Hall in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) VI. 316 His countenance..a little woe-begonish. *c* 1863 J. Brown *John Leach* etc., *Thackeray's Death* (1882) 187 A strange visage, staring at him with an expression of comical woebegoneness. 1885 H. O. Forbes *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 159 The intermittent 'All'-il-allahs'—whose very woe-begoneness made me smile.

Woed, obs. form of Wood *a.*

Woeful (*wōu-fūl*), *a.* Also **woful**. [f. Woe *sb.* + -ful. (Revived or newly formed *c* 1750.)]

1. Of persons, their attributes, actions, etc.: Full of woe; afflicted with sorrow, distress, or misfortune; sorrowful, mournful.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11564 Ful waful made he mani wiif! *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* I. 214 Wepynge with ful woful chere. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 260 Wher thei myhten se The wofulleste upon this Molde. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 950 A wery wafulle wedowe, wryngande hire handez. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. vi. 126 Herynge aboute hym many complayntes of woful knyghtes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 68 It vperit be hyr voful contenens, that sche vas in grite dout ande dreddour. *a* 1557 Grimalde in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 112 For Wilford felt the wayters wrayfull wo. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* Introd. (1621) A 4, The infinite number of wofull Christians (whose grieuous groanings vnder the heauie yoke of infidelitie no tongue is able to expresse). 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* I. v. § 14 They dispatch Petition after Petition, Embassie on Embassie, representing their wofull estate. 1802 Leyden *Lord Soulis* xl, When Soulis thought on his merriemen now, A woeful wight was he. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* P 43 The haggard and woful stare of the eye. 1885 E. Arnold *Secret of Death* 10 Be sure that woeful father wept.

2. Of times, places, occurrences, etc.: Fraught with woe, affliction, or misery; miserable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2888, I rede yow take Ensaumple bi his waful wrake. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 260 Oure knyghtis one þe gronde lyse With wondes wyde one wafull wyse. *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 7 This is a wofull werde. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 49 O wo, O wofull, wofull, wofull day. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 240 That wofull war betweene the houses of Lancaster and Yorke. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 554 In this wofull Towne dwell not above two or three hundred Inhabitants. 1642–3 *Petit. Gen. Assembly* 4 Jan. 2 In this wofull case, and lamentable condition of your Majesties Dominions. 1777 Dalrymple *Trav. Sp. & Port.* lvi, Many old palaces going to ruins, the woeful memorials of antient splendour. 1803 Scott *Grey Brother* xx, A woful place was that, I ween, As sorrow could desire. 1843 Hawthorne *Tanglewood T., Minotaur* 98 The wofulest anniversary in the whole year.

3. In weakened or trivial senses: Such as to excite commiseration or dissatisfaction; 'grievous', 'sad', unpleasant; very bad, poor, or mean; 'pitiful', 'deplorable', 'wretched'.

1619 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* B 3, These mens honesties are like their states, At piteous, woefull, and at low prie'd rates. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 496 Mun, poore childe, is a woefull scholler. 1650 B. *Discal-limitudum* 2 It is a wofull while a coming. 1692 MRS. D'ANVERS *Academids* 53 She's in a wofull taking, When once she comes to miss her Bacon. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 418 What woful stuff this madrigal would be. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 117 Two Imposts over each other wou'd have a woful Effect. 1798 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 346 [She] had many good qualities, but was a woeful manager of children. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lxiii, He..has a woful consciousness upon him of being a scapegrace. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ii. 44, I had to return to camp..in a woful plight, minus my hat, and my shirt torn to ribbons. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 June 176/3 Wild dogs have .. made woful havoc of the sambar and spotted deer. 1910 *Ibid.* 2 Sept. 558/1 The woful results of uncritical thinking.

4. In comb. with another adj., as *woeful-wan*; also advb. = WOEFULLY.

1750 GRAY *Elegy* 107 Now drooping, woeful-wan, like one forlorn. 1794 *Girlhood of M. J. Holroyd* (1896) 259 His others are woful bad. 1820 S. ROGERS *Hum. Life* 282 One woeful-wan, one merrier yet as mad.

Woefully (wōu·fŭli), *adv.* Also **wofully.** [f. WOEFUL + -LY 2.]

1. In a woeful manner or condition; miserably, grievously; mournfully, sadly. *arch.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 198, I am A womman wofully bestad. *Ibid.* 267 Whan thei herde How wofully this cause ferde. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 275 The 3ow..Put out hir playnt on this wyis wofullie. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 302 b, As thou were so wofully arayed. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 33 Where many soules sit wailing wofully. 16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* v. i, These that do lead this day of jollity Doe march with Musick..Those that doe follow sad, and wofully. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Specialities Life* Rem. Wks. (1660) 35 That wofully distracted Church. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pichle* cxiii. [cv], I know..what makes you laugh so woefully. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Estate* xiii, 'I suppose she thinks so of me,' said Belton wofully. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 370 Wofully wed in a snow strewn bed.

2. So as to excite commiseration or dissatisfaction; grievously, deplorably, 'sadly'.

Occas. as a mere intensive: cf. *awfully, terribly.*

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iii. 58 You say but very little.. but in that little you wofully trifle. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxiv, Thou hast once wofully, irreparably deceived me. 1832 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xlv, Of defensive armour the supply was wofully small. 1843 *Peter Parley's Ann.* IV. 266 Mrs. Clinker, who was wofully, as she termed it, fond of pigs. 1885 *Truth* 11 June 928/1 The other exhibits are..wofully bad, and deplorably uninteresting.

Woefulness (wōu·fŭlnĕs). *arch.* [f. WOEFUL + -NESS.] Woeful condition; sad misery

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 3171 O dredefull dethe.. Takynge our heed from vs..Hath brought vs to threaldome, wofulnes and peyne. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 62 The harte stuffed up with wofulnes. 1686 G. STUART *Socio-Disc.* 2 Their wardeum [*marg.* Wofulness] seem'd vanish't. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XVII. 1118 He..muttered low for fear and woefulness.

Woele, obs. form of WHEEL.

† Woe·less, *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 **woles.** [f. WOE *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from woe.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 28 Petously complene 30r woles pane.

Woemen, obs. pl. of WOMAN.

† Woe·ness. *Obs. rare.* In 6 *Sc.* **wanes.** [f. WOE *sb.* + -NESS.] Grief, sorrow.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 80 The wemen..tuke sic melancoly, That sum for wanes lap into the se.

Woer, Woerd, Woes: see WOOER, WORD, OOZE.

Woesome (wōu·sŏm), *a.* Also *Sc.* **waesome.** [f. WOE *sb.* + -SOME.] Woeful.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xliv, She kend her lot would be a waesome ane. 1867 G. MACDONALD *Songs Summer Nts.* I. iii, 'Tis not a flowing wind, I see—An ebbing woesome thing. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 356/1 The copper blade passed through Lakanoo's breast-bone, cutting a woesome gash.

Wof, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

Woff, var. WAFF *v.*[3]

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 156/40 To woff like a dog, *latritare.*

Woft, Sc. var. WEFT *sb.*[1]

Wog, obs. Sc. f. VOGUE *sb.*

c 1700 M'ALPIE *Cert. Cur. Poems* (1818) 6 For we declair it wnto yow, The man hes gott the wog.

Woggle (wɒ·g'l), *v.* Variant of WAGGLE *v.*

1648 HEXHAM, *Loteren,* to Wagge, or to Woggle. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 767/1, I woggle my machine [*sc.* an aeroplane] from side to side. 1921 S. GRAHAM *Europe—Whither bound?* 131 The miserable green waggons of open horse trams woggled along the main ways.

Wogue, obs. Sc. f. VOGUE.

Wogul, vogul (w-, vōu·gul). Also 8 **Vogoul, Wougoul,** 9 **Wogule, Vogule.** [Russian BORYTE, G. *Wogul,* etc.] One of a tribe of the Ugrian stock inhabiting Tobolsk and Perm. Hence **† Wogulian** (-olian); **Wogulic** *a.* [G. *Wogulisch*].

Ibid., A Wougoul village is commonly composed of one family. 1813 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 256 Classes..of Languages.., Siberian, Permian, Wogulic. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 8/2 The Voguls..on the eastern slopes of the Urals.

Woh, var. WOUGH, Wow *sb. Obs.* **Wohe,** obs. f. WOO. **Wohey,** etc.: see WO. **Woice,** obs. f. VOICE. **Woid(e,** obs. Sc. ff. VOID, WOOD *a.* **Woidie,** var. VOIDIE. **Woifen,** obs. Sc. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.* **Wois, woise,** obs. ff. WHOSE. **Woitting,** obs. Sc. f. VOTING. **Woiwode,** var. VOIVODE.

† Woke, *a. Obs.* Forms: α. 1–3 **wac** (1 **waac,** *infl.* **wake**), 4 *north.* **wak,** 4–5 **wake;** β. 2–3 **woc,** (3 **wooc,** *infl.* **woke**), 3–5 **wok,** 5 **woke;** 1 *comp.* **waccra,** *superl.* 1 **waccust,** 4 **wakkest.** [Com. Teut. (wanting in Goth. and Fris.): OE. *wāc,* corresp. to OS., MLG. *wāk,* MDu. *weec* (Du. *week*), OHG. *weih* (MHG., G. *weich*) yielding, soft, ON. *veikr, veyk-r* (Sw. *vek,* Da. *væg* soft, Norw. *veik*) weak :— OTeut. **waikwo-,* f. **waikw-* : **wīkw-* to yield, give way: see WIKE *v.* Cf. WEAK *a.*, a. ON. *veikr.*

The word died out in the 15th c., being superseded by WEAK; if it had survived, its form in mod.Eng. would have been **wook* (wuk), the vowel being modified in quality by the initial (w) and shortened by the final (k).]

= WEAK *a.* in various senses. **a.** Pliant, flexible (only OE.). **b.** Lacking in strength, vigour, endurance, or courage; inferior physically or morally. **c.** Lowly in status or degree; insignificant.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlii. 306 Sua sua wac hreod & idel, ðe ælc hwiða windes mæg awecggan. *a* 1000 *Wanderer* 67 Ne sceal no to hatheort ne to hrædwyrde ne to wac wiga ne to wanhydig. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 2 Ic Ælfric munuc and mæssepreost, swa þeah waccre þonne awilcum hadum ġebyrige. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 191/19 *Lentus,* waac. 1050–73 *Charter* in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 430, ii forealdode ræclingbec swiðe wake, and .i. wac mæssereaf. *c* 1200 ORMIN 18328 Ioc amm i me sellfenn wac & full off unntrummnesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 23393 Ah frhten ich wulle .. wið Arður kinge, whaer unkere swa beoð þere wakere sone he bið þe laðere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 28 Do wel & dem ðe suluen euer woc. *Ibid.* 52 Ofte a ful hawur smið smeoðið a ful woc knif. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 9 Drehen se moni wa, for swa wac huire as te world forȝelt euuer at ten ende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2197 Ihe wurd wið child, on elde wac. *a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 582 in *O. E. Misc.* 135 Min hew falewiþ, and min wlite is wan, and min herte woc. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 354, I am þe wakkest, I wot, and of wyt feblest. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalene*) 389 For þu art wak & gret with barne. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Ireland* 146 The englysshe weren both argh & woke to assayllen and to fyght, þe Irssshe stronge & bold to wythstonde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 196 Then callyd þe norys to þe modyr, and bade hur..helpe hur forto folde þe chyldys clo|is; for scho was to woke, and myght not welde hom. 1487 HARDING *Chron.* I. in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Oct. 743 With curable mayme that maketh me wake.

d. *Wokefish* [cf. G. *weichfisch*], dried cod, stockfish.

1386 in R. R. Sharpe *Cal. Letter-bk. H Lond.* (1907) 299 Stokfisshe [called] halfwoxefisshe [*sic*].

† Woke, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wacian,** 3 **wakien,** 3–4 **woke, wokie.** [OE. *wācian,* f. *wāc* WOKE *a.*]

1. *intr.* To grow or become weak, to weaken; to become less severe, be mitigated.

993 *Battle of Maldon* 20 Þe þam man mihte oncnawan þæt se cniht nolde wacian æt þam wige. 1003 *O. E. Chron.* (LAUD MS.), Donne se heretoga wacað, þonne bið eall se here swiðe ġehindred. *c* 1205 LAY. 2938 Þa seldede þe king & wakede an aðelan. *Ibid.* 13466 Þa heo weore swa drunken þæt wakeden heore sconken. *Ibid.* 19798 His heorte gon to wakien [*c* 1275 wokie]. *c* 1275 *Signs of Death* 2 in *O. E. Misc.* 101 [H]wenne þin heou bloke|þ And þi strengþe woke|þ. *c* 1374 [see WEAK *v.* 2].

2. *trans.* **a.** To dilute, water. **b.** To soften (in quot. *fig.*). **c.** To soak in water: = WEAK *v.* 1 b.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 332 As who so filled a tonne of a fresshe ryuer, And went forth with þat water to woke with themese. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xv. 25 Ac grace growe|þ nat til goode wil gynne reyne, And wokie þorwe good werkes wikkede hertes. *Ibid.* XVII. 332 [He] with warme water of hus eyen woke|þ hit til hit white.

Hence **† Woked** *ppl. a.*, steeped.

1408–9 in R. R. Sharpe *Cal. Letter-bk. I Lond.* (1909) 75 [A proclamation forbidding the sale by retail of watered fish] pessoun eawee [called in English] Wokedfyssh.

Woke, obs. pa. t. of ACHE *v.*; pa. t. and pple. of WAKE *v.*; obs. form of OAK, WEEK.

† Wo·kely, *adv. Obs.* [OE. *wāclīce,* f. *wāc* WOKE *a.*: see -LY 2.] Weakly, feebly, poorly.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* v. 34 Ne eft to waclice ġeortreowe

a 1225 *A.* wocliche [*MS. C.* wachlichliche] & ȝiuest þe ueonde inȝong. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 10 Þe poure, þe beoð wacliche ȝeuen and bisst on vuele.

Wo·ken, *ppl. a. rare.* [pa. pple. of WAKE *v.*] Awakened.

1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 2 Birds with chirping Mattins call from bed The woken Suns already rising head. 1924 *Serena Blandish* vii. 120 Her newly woken spirit.

† Wo·keness. *Obs.* [OE. *wācnes,* f. *wāc* WOKE *a.*: see -NESS.]

1. Weakness, debility; (in OE. also) lowliness, inferiority.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 68 Hi bædon ðæt ða ȝymstanas awendon to heora wacnysse. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 1384 (Napier 37) *Utilitas, abiectio,* wacnya. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 83 Þu hafdest me inaked glad and bliðe; ac ich hes haue forloren for mine wocnesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 Þet we iknowen ure owune fehleasce & ure owune muchele unstrencðe, & ure owune wocnesse. *a* 1240 *Wohunes* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 273 And te strengðe of þe helpe mi muchele wacnesse. 1547 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 258 The debilitie and wakenes of my bodie.

2. Moisture. (Cf. *wakeness* s.v. WAK.)

1340 *Ayenb.* [illegible] Guod molde, resemble hete.

† Wokethistle. *Obs.* [app. f. WOKE *v.* (2 c) + THISTLE *sb.*] The teasel (the upper leaves of which form a cup, which is usually full of water).

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Ancel. Oxon.) 87 *Labrum veneris,* an. wokethistel.

† Wol(e, woll, *adv. Obs.* Orig. unstressed form of WELL *adv.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2995 Putifar was wol riche man. 13.. *Cœur de L.* 1280 A wol bold baroun. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 67 Woll wo beth þe wones. *a* 1450 *Songs & Carols* (Warton Club) 75 My cause xul be wol I-doo. *c* 1460 *Pl'ay Sacram.* 178 Dais wole dulcett for to dresse.

Wol(e: see WHILE, WILL, WOOL.

Wolant, Wolbede, etc., **Wolcome,** obs. ff. VOLANT *a.*, WOUBIT, WELCOME.

Wold (wōld). Forms: α. 1, 3, 4–6 *Sc.* **wald,** 5 **walde,** 7– *dial.* **waud,** 8 *dial.* **wadd,** 9 *Sc.* **wauld.** β. 3– **wold,** 4–6 **wolde,** 5–8 **would,** 7 **wowld,** *pl.* **woles,** 8 **woald.** γ. 6–7 **old,** 7 **ould.** See also WEALD. [Com. Teut. (not extant in Gothic): OE. (Anglian) *wald* (WS. *weald*: see WEALD) str. masc. forest, wooded country = OFris. *wald* forest, MDu. *woust, woud-* (Du. *woud*), OS. *wald* forest, ? wilderness (MLG., LG. *wold*), OHG. *wald* forest, wilderness (MHG. *walt, wald-* forest, wood, timber, G. *wald* forest), ON. *völlr* untilled field, plain (Sw. *vall* pasture, Norw. *voll* grassy plain) :— OTeut. **walþus,* of which the ulterior relations are doubtful. (From Teut. is derived OF. *gua(l)d* woodland, scrub, untilled land, whence *gaudine* bower, grove.)

After the early 16th cent., the word ceased to be in general use and became restricted to localities in which it entered into the proper designation of characteristic tracts of country, probably at one time thickly wooded; thence arose the general literary (esp. poetical) use defined in sense 3.]

† 1. Forest, forest land; wooded upland. *Obs.*

786 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 344 In limen were wealdo, & in burh waro uualdo. *a* 1000 *Judith* 206 Þæs se hlanca ġefeah wulf in walde. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 10 Wilde deor þet on þeos wilde waldes wunieð. *c* 1300 in Stow *Surv. Lond.* (ed. Strype 1755) II. 280/2 *marg.,* Fabri de Waldia. ?13.. in Sommer *Roman Ports & Forts Kent* (1693) 110 Septem Dennus in sylva quæ vocatur Wald. *Ibid.* 113 Homines quoque de Walda debent unam domum æstivalem quod Anglice dicitur Sumerhus, aut xx solidos dare. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3799 Þai droȝe furth be dissert & drinkles þai spill, Was nouthire waldis in þar walke ne water to ynde.

† 2. A hill, down. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 21530 Childric com sone ouer wald liðen [*later text* ouer dounes wende]. *Ibid.* 25758 Na whit heo ne funden quikes uppen wolden [*later text* vp þan hulle]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 938 Dre der he toc, lic ðre ȝer hold, And sacrede god on an wold. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Þe holy gost hyne ledde vp into þe wolde For to beon yuonded of aathanas. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 Ye Walde, *alpina.* *a* 1500 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Plays* 15/436 Hereby apon a wolde Scheppardis wachyng there fold. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xiii. 121 The travellour ȝond vnder the wald Iurkand wythdrawis to sum sovir hald. [1590 CAMDEN *Britannia* 279 *Cotswold*.. Montes enim & colles *Woulds* olim dixerunt Angli, vnde Glossarium antiquum Alpes Italiæ *The Woulds of Italie* interpretatur.]

3. A piece of open country; a plain; in early use (with *the*) sometimes = 'the plain', the ground, the earth; in later use chiefly, an elevated tract of open country or moorland; also *collect. pl.* or *sing.* rolling uplands. (Frequent since *c* 1600 in vague poetical use.)

c 1205 LAY. 10001 Stod þe wundliche wude amidden ane walde [*later text* wolde]. *Ibid.* 16461 Hengest bah a þene wald [*later text* Hii wende in to þan felde]. *Ibid.* 20842 Penne he bið baldest ufenan þan walde. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 606 Elpes..to-gaddre gon o wolde, So sep ðat cumen ut of folde. *Ibid.* 757 Ilk der ðe him hereð to him cumeð, And folezeð him up one ðe wold. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 555 Thair fayis, with thair mycht, noyand, Quhill to the wald cummyn war thai. Syne northwarde tuk thai hame thar way, And distroyit, in thair repair, The vale haly of Beauvare. 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 107 No man with comyn herd ne with sched herd com on the wold after gresse be mowen to it be maked and led away. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 826 in *Macro Plays* 102 Whyl he walkyth in worldly wolde, I, Bakbyter, am with hym holde. 1472 *Hist. Arrivall Edw. IV* (Camden 1838) 26 Aboute that place was a great and a fayre large playne, called a would. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xi. 13 Rane..dois smyte apon the wald [orig. *humum*]. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 73 The wast groundys (as hethys, forestys, parkys and old ȝe). 1587 HARRISON *England* II. xix. 206 in *Holinshed,* This may suffice for the vse of the word Wald, which now differeth much from Wold. For as that signifieth a woodie soile, so this betokeneth a soile without wood, or plaine champaine countrie, without anie store of trees. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 125 Swithold footed thrice the old. 1636 W. DENNY in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 16 Faire fleec'd Sheepe, which beautifie the Woulds. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol.* I. 237 On the bleak Weald the new-born Infant lay, Expos'd to Winter Snows. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xiii, Or who may dare on wold to wear The fairies' fatal green? 1821 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxix, Till he .. from his further bank Ætolia's wolds espied. 1832 TENNYSON *To J. S.* I, The wind, that beats the mountain, blows More softly round the open wold. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III *Blasphemer's Warn.* 5 With broad lands, pasture, arable, woodland, and wold. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prel., Between the forests

... wolds. 1905 A. C. Benson *Thread of Gold* iii, all ran the long pure line of the rising wold.

b. *fig.*

1613 G. Herbert *Temple, Pilgrimage* iii, That led me to the wilde of passion, which Some call the wold. *a* 1640 Jackson *Creed* x. Notes to xxxi. 3141 Though I have cut up in the Wolds of Gentilism, and layd together a Turf or two. 1877 L. Morris *Epic of Hades* II. 127 The thick-leaved coverts deep And wind-worn wolds of life.

c. in alliterative conjunction with *weed* (occas. with *waste, wild*).

1813 Scott *Triermain* I. xi, On vent'rous quest to ride,..by wood and wold. 1821 — *Pirate* xxvi, On they went, through wild and over wold. 1847 Longf. *Ev.* II. iv, The notes of the robin..Sounded sweet upon wold and in wood. 1896 J. Davidson *Fleet St. Eclogues* Ser. II. 70 And waste and wold Took heart and shone.

4. Used in the specific designations of certain hilly tracts in England, viz. the hill country of the East and North Ridings (*Yorkshire Wolds*, †*York(e)s-wold*, † *York-wolds*), the Cotswold district, the hilly districts of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 157/2 Fell called Shorlyng and Morlyng, growyng in Yorkeswold. 1548 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 202 My manor in Willoughby upon the woldes. 1596 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 408 Those large champaignes of Yorkswold, and Cotswolde. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 523 Part of it [*sc.* Leicester-shire] is called the Wold, as being hilly without wood. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxvi. Argt., Tow'rds Lester then her course she holds, And sailing o'er the pleasant Ouldz, She fetcheth Soare down from her springs. 1628 W. Burton *Leicestersh.* 206 Waltham on the Wouldes. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 28 Most of the grasse that groweth on the landes, and especially on the leyes of the wolds, is a small, sparrie, and dry grasse. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1012 In some wooddy parts of the Woles in Lincoln-shire. 1697 Meriton *Praise York-sh. Ale* (ed. 3) 80 (East-Riding Yorks.) For *Wolds* or *Woulds* [they say] *Wauds*. 1725 *MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 95 The Yorkshire Wolds, called here the Wadds. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Yorkshire*, A large tract called the York-Woulds. 1892 Scrivener *Fields & Cities* 20 The north of Lincolnshire is.. high and dry. It is called the 'Wold'; but that does not mean big stones and heather. The Wold is not a moor; it is a succession of good turnip fields.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wold-dweller, -fire, -hill, -land; wold-like* adj.; wold-mouse, a vole; woldsman, a dweller in the wolds.

1907 M. C. F. Morris *Nunburnholme* 12 The early *Wold-dwellers. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* II. (1814) 147 Like *wold-fire, at midnight, that glares on the waste. 1850 'Sylvanus' *Bye-lanes & Downs* Introd. p ix, A view of pastures, turnip and corn-fields, and *wold-hills, terminating in a distant glimpse of the ocean. 1799 *View Agric. Lincoln.* 12 The *wold land about Louth. 1848 Lytton *Harold* I. iii, Lands..wild and *wold-like. 1892 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 5/1 Voles, or '*wold-mice'. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xxx. 138, I am told by the experienced *woldsmen, that there is as great difference as possible in the neatness of the making up the sheaves. 1895 *Naturalist* 322 The Louth woldsmen were in the habit of attending Lincoln [market].

Hence **Wo'lder** in *Yorkshire wolder*, an inhabitant of the Yorkshire wolds.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xxx. 139 The experience of our Yorkshire wolders.

Wold, var. *quold*, pa. pple. of Quell, to kill.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 255 Til he was on be rode wold, And biried in be rocke cold. *Ibid.* 420 Abel an hundred 3er was hold, Dan he was of is broðer wold. *Ibid.* 526 Dor is writen quat 3te awold, Dat 8is werld was water wold.

Wold(e, obs. ff. Old, Weld *sb.*[2], Wield, Woold.

†Wolden-eized, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [App. an alteration of *wald-eized* Wall-eyed *a.*, due to the influence of ME. **walden*, OE. *gewealden* small. Cf. Waldeneie.] ? = Wall-eyed *a.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 5274 (Laud MS.) Alle wolden-eized hij [*sc.* the Albanians] beeþ By nizth als a Catt hij seeþ.

Wole, obs. f. Whole, Will, Wold, Wool, Woold. **Wolen**, obs. form of Woollen.

Wolf (wulf), *sb.* Pl. **wolves** (wulvz). Forms: *Sing.* 1–6 **wulf**, 3–4 **wlf** (dat. -ue), 4–6 **wulfe**, 4–7 **woulf(e**, 4–8 **wolfe**, (1 **uulf**, 4 *Sc.* **volf**, 5 **wlfe**, **wulff**, *Sc.* **wouff**, 5–6 **wolff(e**, 5–8 **woolf(e**, 6 **wolphe**, *Sc.* **vuolfe**, **volue**, 6, 8 *Sc.* **wowf**, 7 **wolph**, in Comb. **wolve**, 8 *Sc.* **wouf**, 9 *Sc.* **woof**), 3– **wolf**. *Gen.* 1 **wulfes**, 3 **wulues**, etc., 4–6 **wolfes**, 5 **wolfys**, 6 **woulfes**, **woluis**, 6–7 **woolfes**, **-ues**, 7 **wolues**, 8 **wolve's**, 7– **wolf's**. *Pl.* 1 **wulfas**, 3–4 **wulues**, 3–7 **wolues**, 4–6 **woulfes**, 4–7 **wolfes**, (4 **woluys**, **-es**, **wolwes**, *Sc.* **w(o)lfis**, 5 **woluess**, **vulves**, 6 **woulves**, **wolffes**, **wolfys**, **wulphes**, *Sc.* **woulfis**, **voulfis**, **wolffis**, **volf(f)is**, **voffis**, **voluis**, **vowis**, **wowes**), 7 **wolfs**, 7–8 **woolfs**, 4– **wolves**. [Com. Teut. and Indo-European: OE. *wulf* = OFris. *wolf*, OS., MLG. *wulf*, MDu. *wolf*, *wulf* (Du. *wolf*), OHG., MHG., G. *wolf*, ON. *ulfr* (Sw. *ulf*, Da. *ulv*), Goth. *wulfs*:— OTeut. **wulfas*. Feminine formations in Germanic are OE. *wylf*, OHG. *wulpa* (MHG. *wülpe*), ON. *ylgr*.

Indo-Eur. **wlq*ᵘ-*o*- is represented outside Germanic by Skr. *vṛkas*, Zend *vəhrkô*, Gr. Ἄλκος, Alb. *ulk*, Arm. *gail*, L. (dial.) *lupus*, OSl. *vlĭkŭ*, OPruss. *wilkis*, Lith. *vilkas*, Lett. *wilks*, and the corresp. fem. **wlq*ᵘ-*ī*- by Skr. *vṛkī*, Lith. *vilkė*, Russ. *volči-ca*.

Various details of these relationships have been much disputed, and the proposed ultimate connexion with Gr. ἕλκειν to draw, OSl. *vlěkǫ*, Lith. *velkù* to tear, or L. *vellĕre* to pluck (see Woot. *sb.*) is problematical.]

1. A somewhat large canine animal (*Canis lupus*) found in Europe, Asia, and N. America, hunting in packs, and noted for its fierceness and rapacity. Also applied, with or without defining word, to various other species of *Canis* resembling or allied to this: see also Prairie-*wolf*, Timber-*wolf*.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 332 *Lupus*, wulf. *c* 1000 *Be manna wyrdum* 12 (Gr.), Sceal hine wulf etan, har hæðstapa. *c* 1205 Lay. 21305 Þemie comed þe wlf wilde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5774 King edgar..het þat he him sende ech 3er..þre þousend of wolues in name of truage. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1328 Lyons, libardes and wolwes kene. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 207 Wandren as wolues, and wasten 3if þei mouwen. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3446 The wolfes in the wode, and the whilde beates. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 26/2, I sought the, to thende that of the vulues ne of the euyll bestes thou were not eten ne all to torne. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxii. 57 Throw hiddowis 3owling of the wowf [*rime* growf]. 1516 *Kal. New Leg. Eng.* (Pynson) 5 b, Two wood wulphes. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 66 Etine with vowis lions and oder beatis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* viii. 73 The beiris, lyons, voluis, foxis, and dogis. 1552 Huloet, Wolfes denne, *lupanarium*. 1593 Shake. *2 Hen. VI*, I. i. 242 The trembling Lambe, inuironned with Wolues. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 753 The laps or fillets of a Wolues Liuer. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* II. 27 The Woolues [are] not much bigger then our English Foxes. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 90 The Wolves,..of which are found two sorts; the Mastiff Wolf thick and short..; the Greyhound Wolf long and swift. *c* 1648 Howell *Lett.* I. iii. 120 Two huge Woolfs. *a* 1718 Prior *Power* 306 The Wolve's Portion, or the Vulture's Prey. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 395 Assembling wolves in raging troops descend. 1730 Ramsay *Fables, Condemned Ass* 7 The wowf and tod. 1814 Lewis & Clark *Trav. Missouri* (1815) I. 206 We caught in a trap a large gray wolf. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* xv. 48 The wolves howled from the prairies. 1868 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* 99 The American wolf, *Canis (Lupus) occidentalis*. 1880 Huxley in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 278 The Indian Wolf, *Lupus pallipes*,.. approaches the Jackals. 1888 F. Cowper *Castlewalla* 55, I have a wolf's snout hung about my neck, and no witch can hurt me. 1890 Mivart *Dogs, Jackals*, etc. 6 The size and proportions of the Wolf roughly resemble those of a large mastiff. 1891 Flower & Lydekker *Study of Mammals* 548 The true Wolves are (excluding some varieties of the domestic Dog) the largest members of the genus, and have a wide geographical range. 1900 *Nature* 30 Oct. 661/1 The South American maned wolf..carrying its head very low.

b. In comparisons, with allusion to the fierceness or rapacity of the beast; often in contrast with the meekness of the sheep or lamb.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 16 Heonu ic sendo iuſh sues scip in middum *uel* inmong uulfa. *c* 1205 Lay. 1545 Corineus heom rasde to swa þe rimie wulf. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 31 [He] Bigon anan ase wed wulf to weorrin hali chirche. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5680 No licchere is broþer him nas þane wolf is a lomb. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4047 Al so wolf þe schip gan driue, Arthour smot hem after swiþe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10207 He fore with his fos in his felle angur, As a wolfe in his wodenes with wethurs in fold. 1562 Winzet *Cert. Tractatis* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 14 The reularis in the middis of it ar lyke woulfis rauisching thair pray. 1605 Shake. *Lear* III. iv. 96 Hog in sloth, Foxe in stealth, Wolfe in greedinesse. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* I. 176 Unhappy France! Fiercer than evening wolves thy bitter foes Rush o'er the land. 1815 Byron *Destr. Sennacherib* I The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold. 1880 *All Year Round* No. 63. 307 I'm as hungry as a wolf; run, or I shall eat thee!

2. A figure or representation of a wolf.

1562 Lech *Armory* 97 b, The fielde is Azure, a wolfe Sallaunte, Argent. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xv. 145 Hee beareth Gules, two Wolues passant, Argent. 1727 Colden *Hist. Five Ind. Nations* Introd. (1747) 2 Three Tribes or Families, who distinguish themselves by three different Arms or Ensigns, the Tortoise, the Bear, and the Wolf. 1870 C. C. Black tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 548 Another very usual [armourers'] mark is a wolf. 1888 E. Castle *Sch. Fence* Plate I, Grooved single-edged blade, with 'wolf' or 'fox' mark.

b. *Astron.* The constellation *Lupus* (Lupus 2).

1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* IV. (1556) 270 This Centaure with his righte hande dooth holde a Wolfe, whiche is a seuerall constellation made of 19 starres. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 334 One detached branch of the Milky Way traverses the Wolf, and is lost in the Scorpion.

3. Applied to other animals in some way resembling wolves. **a.** (*a*) In S. Africa, a hyena: see also Aard-wolf, Strand-*wolf*, Tiger-*wolf*. (*b*) A Tasmanian marsupial, *Thylacinus cynocephalus*: see also Zebra-*wolf*.

[1596 T. Johnson *Cornucopiæ* B 4, A certaine Wolfe called Hyena.] 1812 Anne Plumptre *Lichtenstein's S. Africa* II. 15 The spotted hyena, *hyæna crocuta*, is here called simply the wolf. 1891 *Guide Zool. Gard., Melbourne* (Morris) In this cage are two marsupial wolves, *Thylacinus cynocephalus*, or Tasmanian tigers as they are commonly called. 1908 Rider Haggard *Ghost Kings* iv. 53 She saw the hyenas, two of them, wolves as they are called in South Africa.

b. A name for various voracious fishes (after Gr. λύκος, L. *lupus*): see also Sea-wolf 2, River-*wolf*.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 251 Woolues of the sea which sum thynke to bee those fyshes that wee caule pikes. 1569 Blague *Sch. Conceytes* 153 The Cockatrice on a time went to the sea side in the clothing of a Monke, and called to him the Wolf..The Wolf sithe..knowing what he was, sayde [etc.]. 1634 [T Brathwait] *Strange Metam.* C 3, The Pike ..is called the Wolfe of the water. 1653 Walton *Angler* vii. 144 Pikes..called the Tyrant of the Rivers, or the Freshwater-wolf, by reason of his bold, greedy, devouring disposition. 1868 Neill in *Mem. Wernerian N. H. Soc.* (1811) I. 539 *Trigla Gurnardus*, Grey Gurnard..known.. as Captain, ... *Weston*, *Gen.* 26 Sept. 3/3

1823 Scott *Quentin D.* x, I know thine appetite is a wolf's..Canst thou yet hold out an hour without food? 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* vi, There was no breakfast to lounge over; their lounge was taken in bed, to try..to deaden the gnawing wolf within.

6. A name for certain malignant or erosive diseases in men and animals (see quots.); *esp.* = Lupus 4. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1559 Morwyng *Evonymus* 86 Aqua vitæ is ... and profitable..against the disease called the Wulfe. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes Buckstone* 26 b, Frettinge vlceres, wolues in the brest, and many daungerous pustles. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* (1908) 230 The disease called the Wolfe, which is a kernell or round bunch of flesh, which groweth..vntill it kill the dogge. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 132 A disease [in cattle] which they call the Woolfe, others the Tayle [Tail *sb.*[1] 20]. 1589 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 295 A poore woman that had a woolfe in her legge. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. Unfold* 207 (*Horse*), Wolf, or over-growing of the Flesh. *Ibid.* 208 The Shoe-Wolf, or Boyls and Knobs on the Foot [of a horse]. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 2. 2/2

7. = *wolf-spider*: see 10 e. *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 247 Spyders..which by reason of their rauenous gut..haue purchased to themselues the names of wolfes, and hunting Spyders.

d. A name for various destructive insect larvæ, esp. that of the wolf-moth, which infests granaries.

1682 Lister *Godartius Of Insects* 63 Live Wormes, which our Dutch Boors call Woolves. 1694 A. van Leuwenhoek in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 194 The Wolf is a small white Worm armed with two red Sheers or Teeth..wherewith it bores and feeds on the Grains of Corn. 1743 H. Baker *Microscope* 223. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* II. (1828) I. 32 Leeuwenhoek's wolf (*Tinea granella*).

4. A person or being having the character of a wolf; one of a cruel, ferocious, or rapacious disposition. In early use applied esp. to the Devil or his agents (*wolf of hell*); later most freq., in allusion to certain biblical passages (e.g. Matt. vii. 15, Acts xx. 29), to enemies or persecutors attacking the 'flocks' of the faithful.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 24 Jan. 30 Þu eart deofles wulf. *a* 900 *Cynewulf's Crist* 256 Hafaðe sea wyrgda wulf tostenced, deor dædscua, dryhten, þin eowda. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 149 Woluys of helle stranglen hem. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* 694 As seith seint Augustyn, they been the deueles wolues that strangleh the sheepe of Ihesu crist. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 18 (Kalendar, June) Cyryce and Iulytte, kepe us fro þe wulfe. 1497 Br. Alcock *Mons Perfect.* A iij, It putteth from us the wulf the deuyll denourer of mannes soule. 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 43 The feend the woulfe of hell.

c 1205 Lay. 21315 Ich am wulf & he is gnt. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 120 Mon wroð is wulf, oðer leun, oðer unicorne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20935 (Edin.), Paul..Eftirward bicom prechure, Schepe of wlue, meke of felle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 513 [A priest] kepeth wel his folde So that the wolf ne made it nat myscarie. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* vii. 102 From þe wulf to saue al shepe of his flok. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 153 The wolf from the dore To worryn and to kepe From theyr goostly shepe. 1577 [see 9 j]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. (1912) 234 Since such a slye wolfe was entred among them, that could make justice the cloake of tirannye. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 128 Besides what the grim Woolf with privy paw Daily devours apace. 1722 Croxall *Fables Æsop* xlii. 79 If Wolves sometimes creep into the Church in Sheep's Cloathing. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 287 Let just restraint.. Chain up the wolves and tigers of mankind. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* II. 173 Why who are these? a wolf within the fold! A pack of wolves! 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 321 What good, honest, generous men at home, will be wolves and foxes on change!

†b. Applied to a person, etc. that should be hunted down like a wolf. (Cf. Wolf's-head.) *Obs.*

[1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 470 To hunt hym out of the land, With hund and horn, rycht as he were A volf.] ? 1554 W. Turner (*title*) The Huntyng of the Romyshe Vuolfe. 1593 Shake. *3 Hen VI*, II. iv. 13 Nay Warwicke, single out some other Chace, For I my selfe will hunt this Wolfe to death. 1606 Dekker *Seven Deadly Sins* 9 Hunt these English Wolues to death. *a* 1638 Brownlow *Rep.* II. (1652) 113 He is called the Oppresser of the Poore, and *Fleta* calls him Woolfe which ought to be hunted from place to place.

5. As a type of a destructive or 'devouring' agency, esp. hunger or famine; often in such phrases as *to keep the wolf from the door* (now always = to ward off hunger or starvation).

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* xcviii. xii. (1812) 281 Endowe hym now, with noble sapience By whiche he maye the wolf werre [*v.r.* bete] frome the gate. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* G ij, This manne can litle skyl..to saue himself harmlesse from the perilous accidentes of this world, keping ye wulf from the doore (as they cal it). *c* 1648 Howell *Lett.* VI. lx. (1650) I. 254 That Hee or Shee should have wherewith to support both,..at least to keep the Woolf from the door, otherwise 'twere a meer madnes to marry. 1670 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* I. ii. (1713) 31 That hungry Wolf, want and necessity, which now stands at his door. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 75/1 Poets call the Earth..the Woolf of the Gods, because it devours and consumes every thing. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. v. 276 Business began to flag, and the most I could do was to keep the Wolf from the Door. ... 9 a). 1892 Herman *His Angel* 73 It makes a lot of dif... ence to..one's happiness if the wolf is not scratching at the door.

b. Applied to a ravenous appetite or craving for food.

1576 Baker *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 66 b, The water cureth that sore feeding, which most men name the Wolfe. *c* 1600 *G. Peele's Merrie Jests* 18 Hauing as villanous a

What is call'd by..Surgeons a Wolf, is a sort of Cancerous Ulcer, more properly so called when in the Legs. 1741 [see TAIL *sb.*1 10]. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 108 The common people usually call a cancer in the breast a Wolf. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 153 All sorts of cancers, wens, and wolves.

† b. = *wolf's-tooth* : see 10 f. *Obs.*

1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* VII. xxxvii. 54 The woolfes..are two sharp teeth more then nature allowes, growing out of the vpper lawes, nexte to the great teeth.

7. A name for apparatus of various kinds. † a. An ancient military engine with sharp teeth, employed for grasping battering-rams used by besiegers. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxvi. K vj, Men make another engyn whiche is called wolffe that hath an yron bowed with grete and sharp teeth whiche engyn is in suche maniere sette to the walle that hyt cometh and gropith the maste of the mowton, and holdeth it so fast that hit can not be drawe nother forward nor bakward. 1632 HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 150 Nor had they as much as iron Wolves [orig. *lupi*] and Crowes to grasp the Ram withall.

b. A kind of fishing-net : also *wolf-net* (see 10 e).

1725 *Bradley's Family Dict., Wolf*, the name of a Net that is a great destroyer of Fish, as well in Rivers as in Ponds. 1847 HALLIWELL. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Wolf*, a kind of fishing-net.

c. *Textile Manuf.* A willow or willy (WILLY *sb.*1 3). (Cf. G. *wolf*, Sw. *vulf*.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Wolf*, a beating or opening machine, for tearing apart the tussocks of cotton as delivered in the bale.

8. *Mus.* a. 'The harsh howling sound of certain chords on keyed instruments, particularly the organ, when tuned by any form of unequal temperament' (Grove's Dict. Mus.); a chord or interval characterized by such a sound.

After G. *wolf* (Arnolt Schlick, *Spiegel der Orgelmacher*, 1511).

1788 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Music* (1871) 82 By this means the temperature of all thirds and 'fifths' can be highly improved, and what is called the 'wolfe' is entirely done away. 1889 HIPKINS in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 188 The G♯ to the E♭, he [*sc.* Schlick] calls the 'wolf', and says it is not used as a dominant chord to cadence C♯. *Ibid.* 485 In the mean-tone system..there is one fifth out of tune to this extent [nearly half a semitone]...There are also four false thirds, which are sharp to about the same extent...All chords into which any of these five intervals enter are intolerable, and are 'wolves'.

b. In instruments of the viol class, a harsh sound due to faulty vibration in certain notes.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms.* 1884 HAWEIS *Mus. Life* 225 A slight mistake in position [of the sound-bar], a looseness, an inequality or roughness of finish, will produce that hollow teeth-on-edge growl called the 'wolf'. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* July 15/2 There's a hantle o' wolfs on my father's strings.

9. Phrases. a. *To cry 'wolf'* : to raise a false alarm (in allusion to the fable of the shepherd boy who deluded people with false cries of 'Wolf!'). b. *To keep the wolf from the door* : see 5. c. *To have* or *hold a wolf by the ears* [= Gr. τῶν ὤτων ἔχειν τὸν λύκον, L. *lupum auribus tenēre*] : to be in a precarious situation or predicament (see quots.). † d. *A hair of the same wolf* : cf. DOG *sb.* 15 e. † e. *To howl among wolves* [= F. *hurler avec les loups*] : to adapt oneself to one's company, though one disapproves of it. f. *A wolf in a lamb's skin, in sheep's clothing*, etc. : a person who conceals malicious intentions under an appearance of gentleness or friendliness (in allusion to Matt. vii. 15). † g. *To be in the wolf's mouth* [cf. F. *à la gueule du loup*] : to be in deadly peril. h. *To see* or *have seen a wolf* [= Gr. λύκον ἰδεῖν, etc.] : to be tongue-tied (from the old belief that a man on seeing a wolf lost his voice). i. *To wake a sleeping wolf* : to invite trouble or disturbance (cf. DOG *sb.* 15 k). j. In various proverbial expressions.

a. [1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccix. 332 The Boy..would be Crying *a Wolf, a Wolf*, when there was none, and then could not be Believed when there was.] 1858 MRS. CRAIK *Woman's Thk.* xii. 316 She begins to suspect she is 'not so young as she used to be'; that after crying 'Wolf' ever since the respectable maturity of seventeen—..the grim wolf, old age, is actually showing his teeth in the distance. 1886 BARING-GOULD *Court Royal* xxxviii, This is Beavis' cry of wolf, is it?

c. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 425 The Bishop of Rome,..as the prouerbe is, helde the woulfe by both eares, ..he coueted to gratifie the kyng, and also feared themperours displeasure. 1631 QUARLES *Samson* xi. 63, I have a Wolfe by th' eares; I dare be bold, Neither with safety, to let goe, nor hold: What shall I doe? 1884 *Times* 29 Oct. 9/3 These expressions come from a man who has a wolf by the ears, whose task is well-nigh desperate.

d. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* I. iii, 'Twas a hot night with some of vs, last night, Iohn: shal we pluck a hayre o' the same wolfe, to-day?

e. 1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* vi. 281 This diuelishe promeise..we must howle among the Wolues. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* (1650) 287 What do you howling amongst Wolves, if you be not one?

f. [*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6260 Who-so take a wethers skin, And wrapped a gredy wolf therin.] *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 490 in *Macro Plays* 51 Ther ys a wolffe in a lombys skyn. 1533 ..clonthing? 1728 [see 4]. 1857 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xiv, Why had this tender lamb been allowed to wander out of the fold, while a wolf in sheep's clothing was invited into the pasture-ground?

g. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 42 Þan was Eilred in þe wolfes mouth.

h. [1480 CAXTON *Mirrour* II. xv. 100 Yf a wulf and a man see that one that other fro ferre, he that is first seen becometh anon aferd. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 98.] 1575 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* IX. 29 Mœris holdes his tounge, The wolfe hath spide out Mœris fyrst. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 75 My Voice grows hoarse; I feel the Notes decay; As if the Wolves had seen me first to Day. 1767 FAWKES tr. *Idyll. Theocritus* xiv. 30 'What are you mute?' I said—a waggish guest, 'Perhaps she's seen a Wolf,' rejoin'd in jest. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xviii, Our young companion has seen a wolf,..and he has lost his tongue in consequence.

i. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 174 Since al is well, keep it so: wake not a sleeping Wolfe.

j. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince.* 3064 A fliye folweb the honye; þe wolf, careyn. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 208 We saie whichte, the Woulfe is at hande, when the same man cometh in the meane season, of whom we spake before. [After L. *lupus in fabula.*] 1577 WOLTON *Cast. Christians* B iiij b, Lyons..doo not one encounter another, the Serpent stingeth no Serpent; but Man is a Woolfe to Man. 1643 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Let. sent to London* 6 It is a hard world when one Wolfe entes another. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* Y 67 You have given the Wolf the Wedder to keep. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV 103, I mourn the pride And av'rice that make man a wolf to man. 1872 BROWNING *Fifine* ix, If hunger, proverbs say, allures the wolf from wood.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *wolf bark, bite, chase, den, fur, growl, hair, hunt, kind, pack, pest, tail, track, -trap*; appositive, as *wolf ancestry, bitch, burd* (= offspring), *cub, dam, nurse, whelp*; in connexion with belief in lycanthropy or the association of human beings with wolves, as *wolf boy, brethren, charm, child, clan, dance, devil, life, man, mask, people, race, totem, type, woman*; also *wolf-belt, -shirt*. b. Objective, as *wolf-catcher, -hunter, -hunting, -rider, -scaring, -slaying, -spearing* sbs. and adjs. c. Agential or instrumental, as *wolf-begotten, -haunted, -moved* adjs. d. Similative and parasynthetic, as *wolf-coloured, -eyed, -grey, -headed, -shaped* adjs.; also *wolf-like* adj. and adv.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* iii, The great cur showed his teeth,—and the devilish instincts of his old *wolf-ancestry looked out of his eyes. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* ix. 251 Was that the *wolf-bark of the Corsican dynasty? 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 73 The *wolf-begotten Nape. 1883 STALLYBRASS *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1094 Our oldest native notions make the assumption of wolf-shape depend on arraying oneself in a *wolf-belt or wolf-shirt. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, When þe *wolfe bycche hath hir whelpes. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xix, He who speaks irreverently of the Holy Father..is the cub of a heretic wolf-bitch. 1873 FAYRER *Clin. Observ. India* 261 *Wolf Bite of the Forearm. 1857 DALTON (*title*) The *Wolf-Boy of China. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xiv, As yet the *Wolf-Brethren and their pack killed no men. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, There shall never be..dirge played, for thee or thy bloody *wolf-burd. 1611 COTGR., *Louvetier*, a *Wolfe-catcher. 1644 *Early Recs. Portsmouth, R. I.* (1901) 33 That the wolfe Catcher shall be payed out of the treasury. 1902 *Chamb. Jrnl.* July 473/1 The *wolf-charms he used. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* I. 244 That most exciting of sports, a *wolf-chase on horseback. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 268 In this district..'a *wolf child,' as the natives of India express it, was found some years ago. 1890 FRAZER *Golden Bough* iv. II. 351 The Indians of this part of America are divided into totem clans, of which the *Wolf clan is one of the principal. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 135 The largest bird of Paradise..The breast..is black, or *wolf-coloured. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. viii, A she-wolf, and her *wolf-cubs twain. 1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour.* 130 Five or six active wolf-cubs. 1582 STANY-

of Tales 307 þai said in þe wud a *wulfe den & þer was wulfe-whelpis þerin, bod þer dam was away. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 70 We will teach them to shelter *Wolf-devils! 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus, Fate Catches* 86 A *wolf-eyed rover. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 25 The little fierce half-naked boy who in front was wrapped in *wolf-fur. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 218 Coarse *wolf grey hair. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 223 A deep *wolf-growl that silenced the curs. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* v. 59 When the *wolf-hair began to break out and his bodily shape to change. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prel., The dark *wolf-haunted woods. 1898 *Saga-Bk. Viking Club* Jan. 35 Two *wolf-headed serpents. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* II. 12, I was on a *wolf-hunt by moonlight. 1841 *Ir. Penny Jrnl.* 8 May 353 He took the spear from the *wolf-hunter's hand. 1690 TEMPLE *Misc.* II. iv. 44 In his *Wolf-Huntings..when he used to be abroad in the Mountains three or four Days together. 1731–a *Norwich Mercury* 19–26 Feb. 1/2 The King went a Wolf-hunting. 1841 *Ir. Penny Jrnl.* 8 May 353 No particular breed of dogs was ever kept for wolf-hunting in this country. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xiv, Galazi asked him if he would..rule with him over the *wolf-kind. *Ibid.*, The desire of this *wolf-life. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Manger Louvrichement*, to eate *Wolfe like. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* iv. pr. iii. 51 The violent robber of others goodes..swellith in coueting, & [thou] mayst call him woolf lyke, feerce & contentious. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muses Sacrif.* (Grosart) 82/2 Our Wolfe-like Appetites. 1728 POPE *Odyss.* X. 513 Will you..wolf-like howl away the midnight hour? 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* i, Big wolf-like dogs. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. (*Ireland*) 83 Some..doe affirme, that certaine men in this tract are yearly turned into Wolves [*marg.* *Wolf-men]. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xiv, I have become a wolf-man. For with the wolves I hunt and raven. 1913 FRAZER *Golden Bough* xi. (ed. 3) II. 272 Indians dressed in wolf-skins and wearing *wolf-masks. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. II. 489 *Wolf-moved battered shields, O'er poor dead corpses. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* I. 275 The yellow skin of his [*sc.* Romulus's] *wolf-nurse. 1895 SIR H. MAXWELL *Duke of Britain* VIII. 105 Supposing the *wolf-pack overwhelmed you. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xvi, That *wolf-people of yours. 1872 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 680 We hear no more of the *wolf-pest till the days of Queen Mary. 1911 A. LANG in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 737/1 The..totem of the *wolf-race of men. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* v. i, Belsta, and Heidr, and Hulla..the *wolf-riders. 1804 CAMPBELL *Soldier's Dream* 6 The *wolf-scaring faggot that guarded the slain. 1891 *Hardwick's Sci. Gossip* 1 Oct. 233/1 The *wolf-shaped Mänagarm. 1883 *wolf-shirt [see *wolf-belt*]. 1649 C. WASE *Sophoclas, Electra* 1 [Apollo] the *wolf-slaying god. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 136 *note*, In a poem published as late as 1719, and entitled Macdermot,..wolf-hunting and *wolf-spearing are represented as common sports in Munster. *c* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* I. Wks. 1851 VIII. 431 The Russe of better sort goes..on his Sled..drawn with a horse well deckt; with many Fox or *Wolve-tails about his neck. 1911 J. A. MACCULLOCH *Relig. Anc. Celts* xiv. 218 An early *wolf totem. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss., *Wolf-Trap* is a German bearing. This trap is made of a stick, bent like the head of a pick-ax, and having in the centre a ring, whereto the collar is fixed. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxx, If we both get alive out of this wolf-trap, I'll do my best to save you. *c* 1440 *wolf-whelp [see *wolf-den*]. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, He was the imprisoned wolf-whelp, which at the first opportunity broke his chain. 1863 W. K. KELLY *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 252 Mention is made of a *wolfwoman in the Mabinogion.

e. Special Combs.: **wolf-berry**, a N. American shrub, *Symphoricarpus occidentalis*, allied to the snowberry; † **wolf-claw** = *wolf's-claw* (see f); **wolf-drum**, a drum with head made of wolfskin; † **wolf-fly**, a kind of large fly which preys upon other insects; **wolf-greyhound**, a greyhound used in hunting wolves; † **Wolfland**, a former nickname for Ireland; **wolf-madness**, a form of mania in which a man imagines himself to be a wolf (= LYCANTHROPY 1); **wolf-moth** (see quot., and cf. 3 d); **wolf-net** = 7 b; **wolf-note** = 8 b; **wolf-platform** *Archæol.*, a hill-side embankment in the form of a platform, suggested to have been used as a means of defence against the wolves of the lowlands; † **wolf-sheep**, a tribute of a sheep paid by a tenant for protection against wolves; **wolf-spear**, a wolf-hunter's spear; **wolf-spider**, a spider of the family *Lycosidæ*, which hunts after and springs upon its prey; **wolf-stone** (cf. DOG-STONE); † **wolf-thistle** = *wolf's-thistle* (see f); **wolf-tick**, a tick of the genus *Ixodes* infesting wolves and dogs; **wolf-tooth** = *wolf's-tooth* (see f). See also WOLF-DOG, etc.

1834 G. DON *Gen. Syst. Gard.* III. 451 *Wolf-berry. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clvii. 1374 *Woolfe claw Mosse. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 107 At the sound of *Wolf-Drum's rattling thunder The affrighted Sheep-skin-Drum doth rent in sunder. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Insectes* 934 The first..called in Latine, *Lupus*, in English, the *Wolf fly...feeds especially upon flies, if he cannot come by these he preys upon other Insects. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lupus*. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 *Astilus*, Wolf Fly. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* vi, Three alans, as they were then called (*wolf-greyhounds, that is) of the largest size. 1692 *Advice to Painter* 20 A chilling Damp, And *Wolfe-land Howl, run thro' the rising Camp. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 136 *note*, In William's reign Ireland was sometimes called by the nickname of Wolf land. 1666 BAYFIELD *Treat de Morb.* 49 *Lupina insania*, *Wolf madness. 1854 *Jrnl. Mental Sci.* 52 Lycanthropy or Wolfmadness. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 544 Another species..popularly called the *Wolf-moth (*Tinea granella*),..haunts granaries and malthouses, and does great damage by feeding on the grains and fastening them together with its silken web. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Wolf-Net*, ..a kind of net used in fishing, which takes great numbers, and has its name from the destruction it causes. 1915 *Proc. Camb. Philos. Soc.* XVIII. 85 On all stringed instruments of the violin type a certain pitch can be found which it is difficult..to produce by bowing. This note is called the '*wolf-note'. 1906 *Cornh. Mag.* May 615 At [the] base [of the hill] the great *wolf platforms would be set in a position where a conflict might be carried on without stampeding the herds in the camp above. 1538 in *Archæologia* LIII. 381 He hath yerely..one shepe of the best instede of a tolle called the *wolfe shepe, for the which..he ys bownde to hunt the wolfe. 1823 MRS. HEMANS *Siege of Valencia* vi, *Cid's Battle-Song*, That her sons..may..sharpen the point of the red *wolf-spear. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 270 One kind of Autumnall Lupi, or *Wolfe-Spyder. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lupus*. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 656 The Lycosidæ, or Wolf-spiders,..take their prey in fair chase instead of catching it in nets. *Ibid.* 657 About sixteen or seventeen British species of Wolf-spider are already known. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 181 For a dog-stone, 2 s. 6 d. For a *wolf-stone, 2 s. 6 d. 1525 *Grete Herbal* cxxii. (1529) H ij, De cameleonta. *Wolfe thystle. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 683 Wolfthistle. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. VI. iv. 302 The Ticks, or Irodes...In France the two principal species are—1, the *Wolf Tick; 2, Reticulated Tick. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Wolf-Tooth.

f. Combinations with genitive, as *wolf's-hide* (attrib.): **wolf's-claw**, a name for club-moss (= LYCOPODIUM 1); **wolf's-foot**, †(*a*) ? the sea-wolf, *Anarrichas lupus*; (*b*) = *wolf's-claw*; † **wolf's-thistle**, a species of carline thistle, *Carlina acaulis*; **wolf's-tooth**, *Farriery* [cf. MHG. *wolfzan*, G. *wolfszahn*] (see quots.); † **wolf's-wort** = WOLFSBANE, etc. See also WOLF'S-BANE, etc.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxi. 412 The fifth kinde of Mosse,

9 Mercy o' me! what have we here then? a Wolf in Sheep's

called *Wolfes clawe. 1783 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lycopodium*, The common wolf's claw moss. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* iii. (ed. 4) 289 The..common club-moss, or wolf's-claw, or 'stag's-horn.' 1443 in *Bekynton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 238 Chattok dedit piscem vocatum Pedulupum aut *Wolfes-foote al. Luperius. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* iii. clvii. 1374 Called..in English Woolfes foote, or Woolfes clawe, and likewise Club Mosse. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, Crowd close, little snipes, among the cup-moss and wolf's foot. 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus* 125 A *wolf's-hide mantle for his robe of state. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 279 *Wolfys thystyl: *camalion.* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Woolwisthistle is *Chamæleon.* 1565–6 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* iv. xlvi. (1580) 19 b, A horse..hauing two extraordinarie teeth called the *Woolfes teeth, which be two little teeth growing in the vpper iawes, next vnto the great grinding teeth. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 323 A Horse is said to have Wolves-Teeth, when his Teeth grow either Outwards or Inwards so that their Points prick and wound either the Tongue, or Gum when he eats. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Illustr. Horse Management* 146 At one year old,..frequently at birth, little nodules of bone, without fangs, merely attached to the gums, appear in front of each row of grinders. These are vulgarly denominated 'Wolves' Teeth'. 1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* 95 *Aconitum* *woulfes wort.

Hence **Wo'lfdom**, the realm or domain of wolves, wolves collectively; **Wo'lfhood**, the state or condition of being a wolf; **Wo'lfkin**, a young wolf; **Wo'lfless** *a.*, free from wolves.

1851 *Sun* 21 Jan. 3/2 Before the House of Hanover or Stuart,..Alfred or Boadicea, *Wolfdom was, and is and is to be. 1889 J. JACOBS *Fables of Æsop* I. 209 To him cunning was foxiness,..cruelty, *wolfhood. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Basset-Table* v. 39 Oh I thou *Wolfkin instead of Lambkin. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 15 Make the carcase a skeleton;..wolf and wolfkin, from the wilderness, wallow in it. 1893 L. STEPHEN in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 260 The sheep of a *wolfless region.

1. *trans.* To eat like a wolf; to devour ravenously.

1862 SALA *Seven Sons* III. xi. 272 [She] used to..wolf her food with her fingers. 1880 SPURGEON *Ploughm. Pict.* 105 Hungry dogs will wolf down any quantity of meat. 1903 *Speaker* 24 Jan. 419/2 The men..wolfing up meals of oyster stew in an atmosphere of perpetual dyspepsia.

2. *intr.* with *it*: To behave like a wolf; = WOLVE *v.* 1.

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 126 While 'Obeyd was wolfing it in Kaseem.

3. *trans.* To delude with false alarms: cf. prec. 9a.

1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 55 Those whose interest it was to wolf the credulous public out of their pence. 1917 'CONTACT' *Airman's Outings* 4 The dwellers in the blinking hole, having been wolfed several times, are sceptical.

Wolfbane: see WOLF'S-BANE.

Wo'lf-dog. [Cf. G. *wolfshund.*]

1. Any of several large varieties of dog formerly kept for hunting wolves, *esp.* the Irish greyhound or wolf-hound.

1652 *Order Ir. Privy Council* 27 Apr., Such great dogges as are commonly called Wolfe dogges,..which are useful for destroying of wolves. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 June 1670, The bulls did exceeding well, but the Irish wolfe-dog exceeded, which was a tall greyhound. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 280 Wolf-dogs (once so useful and celebrated) were perhaps peculiar to Ireland, but that species is now nearly extinct. 1840 C. H. SMITH *Dogs* II. 139 The Great Wolf-dog is not common in central Europe; and appears at present almost confined to Spain. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* 66 The Italian or Pomeranian wolf-dog. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* III. ii, When that horn sounds, a score of wolf-dogs are let loose.

2. A cross of a domestic dog and a wolf; recently in *Alsatian wolf-dog*, popular name of a dog produced by crossing the German sheep-dog with a strain of wolf.

1736 AINSWORTH, *Lycisca*, a dog ingendered of a wolf and a bitch, or a shepherd's dog, a wolf dog. 1755 JOHNSON. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 377/1 The black wolfdog of Florida resembles the black wolf of the same region. 1924 R. ARUNDEL *Police Dogs* 6 The German Sheep Dog (known in this country as the Alsatian Wolf Dog).

Wolfdom: see after WOLF *sb.*

Wolfe, obs. ff. WOLF, WOOF.

† Wo'lfen, *sb. Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 wylfen, 3 wuluene, wluine, 6 *Sc.* wolfyne. [OE. *wylfen*, of which the normal representative would be **wilven*; f. *wulf* WOLF *sb.* + -EN³. Cf. MHG. *wilvinne* (G. *wölfin*), MDu. *wolvinne* (Du. *wolvin*), Da. *ulvinde*, etc.] A she-wolf.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 362 Gif he drincð wylfene meolc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 120 Wummone wroð is wuluene, & mon wroð is wulf. *Ibid.* Þeo þet is iwend to wuluene, i Godes ehen, & is ase wuluene steafne in his swete earen. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 573 Leoun & wif, wluine or bere. 15.. *Henryson's Trial of Fox* 107 (Bannatyne MS.), The.. wildcat, & the wild wolfyne.

Wo'lfen, *a. rare*⁻³. [f. WOLF *sb.* + -EN⁴.] Pertaining to a wolf, wolfish.

1810 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXIX. 320 To wreathe anew the bonds of love, Which strife with wolfen tooth No more shall gnaw in twain.

Wolfer (wu'lfəɹ). *rare.* [f. WOLF *sb.* and *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. WOLVER.]

1. A wolf-hunter.

1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 13 The 'wolfers' proceed to gather up animals slain, carry them to camp [etc.]. 1888 *Century Mag.* Feb. 501/2 Trappers and wolfers, whose business is to poison wolves.

2. One who 'wolfs' food or drink.

1897 A. R. MARSHALL *Pomes* 118 (Farmer), The worn-out whiskey wolfer calmly slumbered through it all.

Wo'lfess. *rare.* Also 5 **woluesse**, -**es**. [f. WOLF *sb.* + -ESS¹.] A she-wolf.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 43 A wolfesse [*v.rr.* wolvesse, woluas] þat hadde i-lost hir whelpes. 1390 W. LYNNE *Carion's Cron.* 85 b, By chaunce came a wolfesse out of the nexte mountaynes. 1820 W. TOOKE tr. *Lucian* I. 360 *note*, The wolf lives instinctively solitary..so that even his connection with the wolfess is but of short duration.

Wolffian (wu'lfiăn), *a. Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. the name of the German embryologist K. F. *Wolff* (1733–94) + -IAN.] In *Wolffian body*, the mesonephron or primitive kidney; either of the two renal organs of the embryo of vertebrates; so *Wolffian duct.*

1844 HORLYN *Dict. Med.*, *Wolffian Bodies*, false kidneys. ..The substance by which the kidneys are preceded in the embryo, and which was first remarked by Wolff. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 594/1 The parovarium is formed out of the Wolffian body. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. 414 The earlier, primitive kidney duct is distinguished as the 'Wolffian duct.'

Wo'lf-fish. [After L. *lupus* (see WOLF *sb.* 3 b). Cf. G. *wolfsfisch.*] A large and voracious sea-fish, *Anarrhichas lupus*, having numerous sharp teeth and edible flesh; also called *sea-wolf.* Also applied to other fishes of the same genus.

1569 BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 153 Of the Cockatrice and Seawolf...The Wolf fishe marking him well..sayde [etc.]. 1605 R. F. *Dedekind's Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 77 As for the Wolfe-fish, gluttons hold the taile to be the best. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 315 The mouth of the wolf-fish is almost paved with teeth. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 64 In Torbay..where no wolf-fish (*Anarrhicus lupus*) or other shell-crushing pairs of jaws wander.

Wolfhood: see after WOLF *sb.*

Wo'lf-hound. = WOLF-DOG.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxii, We have brought down the game at last, quoth my lady's brach to the wolf-hound. 1872 M. COLLINS *Marg. & Merch.* I. i. 27 An enormous Pyrenean wolf-hound. 1899 *Dogs, their Managem. & Treatm.* 20 The Irish wolfhound, as he is known to-day, will weigh as much as one hundred and fifty pounds. 1923 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar., It was discovered when the Show opened that a valuable Alsatian wolf-hound had disappeared.

Wolfian (vǫ'lfiăn, wu'lfiăn), *a.*¹ and *sb.*¹ Also Wolffian. [f. the name of the German philosopher Christian *Wolf* or *Wolff* (1679–1754) + -IAN.]

a. *adj.* Pertaining to the philosophical system of Wolf, which was an eclectic adaptation of Leibnitzianism and scholasticism. **b.** *sb.* An adherent of this system. Hence **Wo'lfianism**, the philosophical system of Wolf; **Wo'lfianize** *v., trans.* to render Wolfian.

1792 ENFIELD *Brucker's Hist. Philos.* II. 572 Almost every German university was inflamed with disputes on the subject of liberty and necessity; and the names of Wolfians and Anti-Wolfians were every where heard. 1843 *Eclectic Rev.* Feb. 163 The influence of the Wolfian philosophy. *Ibid.* 164 It is undoubtedly to Wolfianism that we are to trace, in great measure, that coldness and lifelessness which characterizes the sermons of the latter part of the preceding century. *Ibid.* 165 The already Wolfianized mind of the rising ministry. 1874 G. S. MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* II. 116 Lange..sought..to demonstrate the Spinozistic and atheistic character of the Wolffian doctrine.

So **Wo'lfio-Leibni'tzian** *a.*, characterized by a combination of Wolfian and Leibnitzian views.

1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 250 The artificial harmonies of the Wolffio-Leibnitzian philosophy.

Wolfian (vǫ'lfiăn, wu'lfiăn), *a.*² and *sb.*² [f. the name of the German philologist F. A. Wolf (1759–1824) + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to F. A. Wolf or his theory regarding the Homeric poems (developed in his *Prolegomena ad Homerum*, 1795). **b.** *sb.* One who accepts this theory.

1875 W. D. GEDDES in *Contemp. Rev.* July 234 The Wolfian theory..that the Homeric poems were a congeries of originally independent lays..moulded into a unity in the time of Pisistratus. *Ibid.* 235 Next to him [*sc.* G. Hermann] in importance among the later Wolfians..stands Lachmann.

Wolfin, obs. Sc. form of WOVEN.

Wolfing (wu'lfiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WOLF *sb.* + -ING¹.] Hunting for wolves. Also *attrib.*

1875 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 128 When the wolfing season has commenced on the prairies, the hunter impregnates the carcase of a buffalo..with strychnine and places it in a likely position. 1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 13 The stock in trade of a party engaged in 'wolfing' consists in flour, bacon and strychnine.

Wolfish (wu'lfiʃ), *a.* Also 8 **woolf-**. [f. WOLF *sb.* + -ISH¹. Cf. MHG. *wolfisch*, and WOLVISH.]

1. Of or pertaining to a wolf or wolves.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 146/8 Wolfish, *lupinus.* 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 160 The wolfish race, Appear with belly Gaunt, and famish'd face. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 213 Ye may beat a wolf..yet all this will not drive away his wolfish nature. 1868 *Cornh. Mag.* July 70 The bristles that ornamented him in his wolfish state. 1890 *Temple Bar* Nov. 355 So vigorously had the wolfish tribe been hunted down that only one couple survived.

b. Abounding in wolves. *nonce-use.*

1747 COLLINS *Ode Liberty* 72 Where Orcas howls, his wolfish mountains rounding.

2. Characteristic of, befitting, or resembling that of, a wolf.

1574 *Govt. Tongue* viii. 146 All the wolfish deuises walk under this sheepe clothing. 1750 LADY MARY *Wkly.* (1838) III. 79 His..unsociable and wolfish disposition. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, Grope your way with me into this wolfish den. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VII. v, The eyes of the three men, with a fierce and wolfish glare.

3. Resembling a wolf, wolf-like.

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Indians* 259 To keep the [Indian] wolf from our own doors, by engaging him with his wolfish neighbours. 1884 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xiv. 242 Swarms of Cossacks, on fleet and wolfish horses.

b. Ravenously hungry. *U. S. colloq.*

[1842 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 632/2 My appetite was growing decidedly wolfish.] 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Wolfish*, savage, savagely hungry. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* II. 133 I'm wolfish.

4. *Comb.*, as *wolfish-faced*, *-looking*, *-visaged* adjs.

c 1779 CRABBE *Midnight* 295 Avarice..A Woolfish-Visag'd Fiend. 1852 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* XXVII, [The animal] is wolfish-looking. 1894 MRS. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 162 The wolfish-faced crowd had melted away.

Hence **Wo'lfishly** *adv.*; **Wo'lfishness.**

1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 66 The Wolfishness of those which..ought to have been the Christian Pastors, but went on scattering their Flocks, if not devouring. 1832 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 703 The Red Rover yowls wolfishly to the moon. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xl, Wolfishly eager for booty. 1890 J. PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* I. 203 Compare..the consummate wolfishness of Christian Europe with the simpler wolfishness of heathen nations.

Wolfkin, Wolfless: see after WOLF *sb.*

Wolfling (wu'lfliŋ). [f. WOLF *sb.* + -LING¹.] A young or little wolf. Also *fig.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 6256 (Laud MS.), Wulflynges he blachette also, Merueillous men ben þoo. 1570 FOXE *Serm. Christ Crucif.* 8 If a mighty hunter..happenyng vppon the Wolues denne, findeth there the young Wolfelynges. 1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 94 Wolflings the Lambs embrace. 1759 J. DOWNES in Tyerman *John Wesley* (1870) II. 342 Two bold, though beardless divines, so young, that they might rather be called wolflings than wolves. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. iii, Young children were thrown in [the river], their mothers vainly pleading: 'Wolflings,' answered the Company of Marat, 'who would grow to be wolves.' 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk* 204 Thou art a man, Little Brother, wolfling of my watching.

Wolfram (wu'lfiăm, vǫ'lfrăm). [a. G. *wolfram* (*wolfsrom* in Mathesius, 1562, *wolffram* in Ercker, 1580, *volfram* in Wallerius, *Mineralogia*, 1747), of uncertain formation: generally assumed to be an old miners' term f. *wolf* wolf + *rahm* cream (cf. *rahmerz* foamy wad), and to be the source of mod.L. *lupi spuma* (Agricola *De Nat. Foss.*, 1546), which corresponds, however, to G. *wolfsschaum*; but perh. f. MHG. *râm* dirty mark, soot.

The variants of the G. word, e.g. *wolffram(m, wolf(f)ert, wolfart, wolfrath*, suggest association with proper names. Since Agricola describes the *lupi spuma* as a light 'stone', it is improbable that it was the mineral wolfram.]

1. *Min.* A native tungstate of iron and manganese.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* ix. 132 Though this tin ore be not easily separable from wolfram, a kind of mock-tin, or an irony tin mineral. 1787 GROSCHKE tr. *Klaproth's Observ. Fossils Cornw.* 32 Wolfram of a foliated texture united to quartz and clay, is brought from Poldice. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 292 Oxide of tungsten...Preparation.—The mineral wolfram is reduced to the finest powder [etc.]. 1926 *Lancet* 8 Jan. 76/1 These electrodes are made..from a mixture of..ores.., the chief one being a tungstate of iron and manganese, known as wolfram.

2. The metal tungsten, obtained from this mineral.

1849 W. GREGORY *Outl. Inorg. Chem.* 197 Tungsten...Syn. Wolfram—Occurs in nature, chiefly in the mineral wolfram. 1907 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries* 2 May 436 Wolfram, or tungsten, a metal which is used as an alloy for hardening steel.

3. *attrib.*, as *wolfram mine*, *ore*; **wolfram lamp**, **-steel** = TUNGSTEN *lamp*, *-steel*; **wolfram-ochre** = TUNGSTIC ochre, TUNGSTITE.

1862 wolfram-steel [see TUNGSTEN 3]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 903 Trioxide of Tungsten..occurs native as tungstic ochre, wolfram-ochre, or wolframine. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 10/1 Dr. Auer..claims that the light obtained from the wolfram lamp is three or four times as brilliant as that given by the ordinary carbon lamp with the same consumption of electricity. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 227 A large specimen of hübnerite from Huara wolfram mine. 1916 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 9 Sept. 655/2 Quantities of wolfram ore are also produced in Australia.

Hence **Wo'lframate**, = TUNGSTATE; **Wo'lframed** *a.*, having wolfram added; **Wolfra'mic** *a.*, = TUNGSTIC; **Wo'lframine**, tungstic ochre, tungstite; **Wo'lframite**, = WOLFRAM 1.

1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 693 M. Le Guen has solicited attention to what he calls *'wolframed pig-iron. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Wolframiate*, *Wolframic acid. 1854 DANA *Min.* 143 *Wolframine. 1868 *Ibid.* 601 *Wolframite. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Returns* 228 Wolframite and smoky quartz, from Burma.

Wolf's-bane (wu'lfsbē'n), **† wolfbane.** [f. *wolf's*, gen. of WOLF *sb.* + BANE *sb.*¹, rendering mod.L. *lycoctonum*, a. Gr. λυκοκτόνον lit. 'wolf-slayer'.] A plant of the genus *Aconitum*, esp. *A. lycoctonum*, with dull yellow flowers, occurring in mountainous regions in Europe. Also applied to *Arnica montana* (*winter wolf's-bane*), and to the winter aconite, *Eranthis hyemalis.*

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 9 The other kynde [of Aconitum] is called Lycoctonum, & in englishe it maye be called wolfes bayne. But this kynde is deuided into two other kyndes, of whiche..the one may be called in englishe monkes coule or blewe wolfsbaine. The other kinde..may be called in Englishe yelowe wolfsbaine. 1578, 1597 [see MONK'S-HOOD 2]. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* xxvi. 220 Most

Herbarists call it *Aconitum hyemale*, and we in English thereafter, Winters Wolfesbane. 1696 W. Coles *Art of Simpling* 66 The Oyntment that Witches use is reported to be made .. of the Juices of Smallage, Woolfsbaine and Cinquefoyle. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxi. (1794) 298 Wholesome Wolfsbane [*Aconitum Anthora*]..has five capsules,..and the flowers are sulphur-coloured. 1820 Keats *Melancholy* I, Go not to Lethe, neither twist Wolf's-bane, tight-rooted, for its poisonous wine. 1846-50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 146 *Aconitum uncinatum*. American Wolf's-Bane. 1856-60 A. Gray *Man. Bot. N.U.S.* 13 *Aconitum reclinatum*. Trailing Wolfsbane. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1233/2.

†Wolf's-fist. *Obs.* In 3 wuluesfist, 6 woolfes fistes, 7 wolues fyste; also 6 wolfyst, 7 woolfist. [f. gen. of Wolf *sb.* + Fist *sb.*[2], of which Lycoperdon (Tournefort) is a translation.] The puffball, *Lycoperdon Bovista*. Also used as a term of abuse.

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/45 *Fungus*, wuluesfist. 1530 Palsgr. 289/2 Wolfyst, *uesse de loup*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. clxii. 1386 Puffes Fistes, are commonly called in Latine *Lupi crepitus*, or Woolfes Fistes. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* Prol., Out you soust gurnet, you Woolfist. 1611 Cotgr., *Vesse de loup* Wolues fyste.

Wolf's-head, wolf-head. Forms: see Wolf *sb.* and Head *sb.*

1. The head of a wolf; a figure of this, e. g. as a heraldic bearing.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 360 To slæpe, wulfes heafod lexe under þone pyle. †*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Alle falterde þe flesche in his foule lyppys, like wrethe as a wolfe-hevede, it wraythe owtt at ones! 1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* 230 Hugh the firste Earle of Chester, was surnamed de Loupe, because he bare a Wolfes head in his shield. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xv. 145 Hee beareth Azure, two Barres, Argent, on a Canton Sable, a Wolues head Errased of the second. 1878 F. T. Buckland *Log-Bk.* 5 A young man holding a wolf's head high up in the air. 1891 *Daily Tel.* 16 Apr. 7/2 Minnesota spent last year twenty-five thousand dollars in bounties on wolf-heads brought in.

2. *Old English Law.* A cry for the pursuit of an outlaw as one to be hunted down like a wolf; *transf.* (orig. in phr. *to cry wolf's head*) an outlaw.

17th century law books have various corrupt forms, as *wolfsrfod, woolfsthared, woolfarthfod, wolfstchsed.*

[*c* 1000 *Laws Edw. Conf.* vi, Lupinum enim gerit caput a die utlagationis sue, quod ab Anglis uulfesheued nominatur.] †*c* 1300 *Mirr. Justices* IV. iv. (Selden Soc.) 125 E point ne vient, qe des adunc le tiegne lem pur lou-e est criable Wolvesheved, pur ceo qe lou est beste haie de tote gent. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 700 (Hail. MS) Whan Gamelyn her lorde wolues-heed was cryed & made. 1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* VII. 1261 Out of ther court banyshed was prudence,.. Cried woluis hed was vertuous sobirnesse. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXI. 139 Now wols-hede and out-horne on the be tane! 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* i, By that time I shall be a wolf's head, and out of the law. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 95/2 Vengeance on these cruel wolf heads.

Wolfskin. The skin or pelt of a wolf; a garment, etc. made of this. Also *attrib.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, þe wolfe skynn is hote forto make koffes or pylches. *a* 1618 Harington *Sch. Salerne* II. (1624) 37 Garments..of Martyn or Wolfe-skinnes. 1734 *Free Briton* No. 255. 2/2 Multitudes believe ..that a Sheep-skin Drum bursts asunder at the beat of a Wolf-skin Drum. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* III. xvi, His bugle-horn .. in a wolf-skin baldric tied. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 809 His battle-writhen arms and mighty hands Lay naked on the wolfskin. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 743/1 When our own ancestors were..barbarians in wolfskins.

Wolf's-milk. [Cf. LG. *wulfsmelk*, MHG. *wolfmilch*, (G. *wolfs-*), Da. *ulvemelk*, etc.]

1. a. A spurge, esp. the sun-spurge, *Euphorbia Helioscopia*; so called from the acrid milky juice.

1575 Banister *Chyrurg.* 101 *Esula*, Woulfes milke. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 364/1 For the Felone of the Finger. Take the herbe called Woluesmilcke, tye the same with the Flowers on the Felon [etc.]. 1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 5 *Euphorbia helioscopia* (Sun Spurge) ..Country people call it..Wolf's-milk. 1897 R. N. Bain tr. *Ethel's Pretty Michal* XXV. 201 The witch took freshly plucked wolf's-milk flowers.

b. The fungus *Lycogala.*

1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 288 The beautiful round vermilion balls of the Lycogala, or Wolf's milk.

2. The milk of a wolf.

1847 Tennyson *Princess* VII. 115 Half the wolf's-milk curdled in their veins. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* XVII, They have drunk wolf's milk.

Wolfwort (wu·lfˌwɒɹt). ? *Obs.* [f. Wolf *sb.* + Wort.] a. A plant of the genus *Aconitum*: = Wolf's-bane. b. A plant of the genus *Periploca*, the juice of which was used for poisoning wolves.

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Loup*, *Herbe au loup*, Wolues-bane, wolfe-wort (a kind of Aconitum). 1658 (see Leopard's bane). 1773 J. Hill *Vegetable Syst.* IX. 43 Wolfwort. Periploca.

Wolfyst: see Wolf's-fist.

Wolhe, nolhe: see Will *v.*[1] 50b. **Wolken(e, -in,** obs. ff. Welkin. **Woll:** see Well, While, Will, Wool, Woold.

Wollastonite (wu·ləstənəit). *Min.* [Named by Lehman (1818) after the chemist and physicist W. H. *Wollaston* (1766-1828): see -ite [1].] Native metasilicate of calcium; tabular spar.

Applied also by T. Thomson to Pectolite.

1823 W. Phillips *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 211 Wollastonite... This substance occurs in the lava of Capo di Bove, near Rome, in small masses. 1836 T. Thomson *Outl. Min.* etc. I. 231 This was the reason which led me to give the appellation *Wollastonite* to the present species, which occurs.. near Kilsyth...It is related to *table spar.* 1868 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 183 Wollastonite..occurs as a rock-forming mineral chiefly in..rod-like or platy crystals.

Wolle: see Wall *sb.*[1], Will *v.*[1], Wool.

Wolle bode, obs. var. Woubit.

† Wolleyn, suggested by Lyte [a..er Woollen, q.v. ¶] as an alternative for Mullein.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxxi. 118 Mulleyn (or rather Wolleyn). *Ibid.* 119 Mulleyne, or rather Wulleyn.

Wollop, var. Wallop *v.*

1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* VI. (1850) 52, I wollopped the hoop around him. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* V, I have a rope's end of my own to wollop 'em.

Wollow, obs. form of Wallow *v.*[1]

1628-3 *Essex Archdeaconries Depos. Bk.* lf. 129 (MS.) She was drunck and lay wollowing in the durt.

Woilyn, obs. form of Woollen.

Wolp, obs. form of Wup *v. Sc.*

Wolron, var. Wilrone *Obs.*

a 1851 in R. Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 70 In place o' her ain bonny bairn, she fand a withered wolron.

Wolsome, var. Wilsome *a.*[1]

Wolsted, obs. form of Worsted.

Wolt, obs. pa. t. of Wield. **Wolt(e,** obs. var. Vault *sb.*[1]; see Will *v.*[1] A. 3. **Woltou, -towe** = *wilt thou*: see Will *v.*[1] A. 6 a. **Wolum,** obs. Sc. f. Volume. **Wolunte,** var. Volunty *Obs.*

Wolve (wulv), *v.* [f. inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.*]

1. *intr.* (also with *it*). To behave like a wolf, play the wolf.

1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. III. 187/2 If any Seducers were let loose to wolve it among the good people of Roxbury. *a* 1909 E. Thompson Seton *Billy* I. (C. D. Suppl.) A Wolf was 'wolving' on the east side of Sentinel Mountain.

2. Of an organ: To give forth a hollow wailing sound like the howl of a wolf, from deficient wind-supply.

1864 Le Fanu *Uncle Silas* I. XXV. 325 What an awful storm!..Don't you like the sound? What they used to call 'wolving' in the old organ at Dorminster! 1919 M. R. James *Thin Ghost* 130 The organ wolved—you know what I mean: the wind died.

† Wo·lveling. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.* + -ling [1].] = Wolfling.

1798 W. Roscoe tr. *Tassilo's Nurse* I. (1800) 23 Whilst ten young wolvelings shelter find.

Wolver (wu·lvəɹ). *rare.* Also 6-7 woolver. [f. Wolve *v.* or inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.* + -er [1].]

1. One who behaves like a wolf; a ravenous or savage creature.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 147 Three meales of a Lazarello, make the fourth a Woolner [*sic*]. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* Epistle to Rdr., Scylla and Charibdis, those two Cormorants and Woolners [*sic*] of the Sea. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 184 Jelly-fish, fierce little 'wolvers' throwing out their..stings.

2. One who searches or hunts for wolves.

a 1909 E. Thompson Seton *Billy* I. (C. D. Suppl.) As the wolver rode down an adjoining cañon, he saw a Wolf come out of a hole. 1922 *Chambers's Jrnl.* July 473/1 The wolver, exploring unsurveyed territory.

Wolverene, -ine (wulvərī·n). Forms: 6-9 wolvering, 8- wolverene, -ine (6 wool-, ulvering(e, 7 woolverin(e, *Sc.* voluering). [app. f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.*, but the formation is obscure.]

1. The glutton (*Gulo luscus*), now esp. the North American variety: see Glutton A. 4.

1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 236 Furres of woolveringes for pedlers cappe. 1591 G. Fletcher *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 14 Their beasts..are the losh,..the beare, the wolvering or wood dogge. 1619 Middleton *Love & Antig.* D1, Beasts bearing Furr,..Racoone, Moushye, Wolverine. 1747 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 103 The Quick-Hatch, or Wolverene. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* (1821) 225 Wolvering is a large animal, almost equal in size to the wolf. 1820 Harmon *Jrnl. Voy. N. Amer.* 426 The carcajou or wolverine, in shape and the colour of the hair, greatly resembles the skunk. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* XVI. 40 How the Wolverine, uprising, Made him ready for the encounter. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song of Dead* 8 Where the wolverine tumbles their packs from the camp.

2. The fur of the wolverene.

1596 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 2 A cassocke of grogran edged wth ulveringe. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 307 Furres called..Volueringis the peice, viii. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 56 Wolverings, undressed. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 7/1 It is already prophesied that wolverine is to be the favourite fur next winter. 1895 Kipling *2nd Jungle Bk.* 158 The long wolverine-fur fringe of her ermine hood.

3. A nickname for an inhabitant of Michigan. So *Wolverine State*, Michigan.

1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in Far West* I. 207 The genuine wolverine, or naturalized Michiganian. 1847 *Congressional Globe* 5 Feb. 332/2 A great Government bank—..a full-grown .. Wolverine wild-cat. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 Michigan is Lake State or Wolverine State.

Wolvin, obs. Sc. form of Woven.

† Wo·lvish, *a. Obs.* Also 5-6 wolw-, 6 woulu-, wollw-, *Sc.* volw-, 6-7 wo(o)lu-, 7-9 woolv-. [f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.* + -ish [1].]

1. = Wolfish 2, 3.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 174 Among wolvys be wolvyshe of corage. 15.. *Six Ballads with Burdens* (Percy Soc.) 5 This wollwyshe shepe. 1540-7 Coverdale *Frutiful Lesn.* L (1593) M 2, Iudas .. hauing woluish conditions vnder sheepes cleathing. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* V. (1912) 191 This woolvish sheepheard. 1604 *Supplic. Massepriests, Ans.* K 8, The woolvish cruelty of popish Inquisitors. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. iv. 330 With her nailes Shee 'l flea thy Wolvish visage. 1632 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* II. i. D 3 b, Out you woolvish mungrells! 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* I. clvi. 141 These Wolvish Back-Friends. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* I. x. 181 If superstition and despotism have been suffered to let in their woolvish sheep.

2. = Wolfish 1.

1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 233, I sawe the ffirendlie man wounde in a volwyshe weede. 1577 T. Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 87 The founder of the same [sc. Rome] with Wouluishe milke was fedde. 1793 Blake *Songs Exper., Little Girl Found* 32 Nor fear the wolvish howl Nor the lions' growl.

Hence **† Wo·lvishly** *adv.*; **† Wo·lvishness.**

1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 1211 Thy woluyshnesse by thre crownes wyll I hyde making the a pope. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* IV. 663 Some, wolvishly, did prey upon the quick.

So **† Wo·lvy** *a. Obs. rare*—[0].

1611 Cotgr., *Louvier*, Woluie, Wolfe-like.

Wolward, obs. f. Woolward. **Wolwat,** obs. f. Velvet. **Wolx,** obs. pa. t. of Wax *v.*

Wom, obs. form of Whom.

Woman (wu·măn), *sb.* Pl. **women** (wi·mėn). Forms (case-inflexions in OE. and early ME. as in Man *sb.*[1]): *Sing.* α. 1-5 wifman, 2-3 -mon, 2-4 wimman, (3 wim(m)on, wyman), 3-4 wymman, 3-5 wymmon (4 wyfman). β. 3 wummon, 3-5 wumman. γ. 3-5 womman, wommon, 4-6 woman, 5 womman, woman(n)e, 5-6 wommane, 7 whoman, (also 9 *dial.*) wooman, 3- woman. δ. 5 oman, 6 owman (?), 7 *Anglo-Welsh* o'man, 7-9 uman, 9 'ooman, umman. *Pl.* α. 1-4 wifmen, 1-4, 8 wimmen, 3-5 wymmen, (4 wyfmen, wimen, wemmen, 4-5 wymen, 5 vymmen, 7 *Anglo-Welsh* ymen). β. 3-4 wummen. γ. 3-5 wommen, 5 womene, vommen, woymen, 6-7 woemen, 4- women. δ. 4 *Sc.* vemene, 4-7 wemen, 5 wemyn, whemen, weymen, 5-7 weomen, 6 vemen, 6-7 weemen, 7 weamen. [OE. *wifmon(n, -man(n* masc., later fem., pl. *wifmen(n*, f. *wif* woman, Wife *sb.* + *mon(n, man(n* human being, Man *sb.*[1] A formation peculiar to English, and not extant in the earliest period of OE., the ancient word being Wife.

The regular ME. descendants of OE. *wifman, -men*, viz. *wimman, wimmen* (cf. OE. *lēofman*, ME. *lemman*, Leman) continued in use until the 13th century. By *c* 1200 the rounding of *wi-* to *wu-* is clearly established, and is at that time characteristic of western ME. texts. The form *wemman* appears in the late 13th century (first in western texts), and the corresponding pl. *wommen* in the late 14th. The simplification of *mm* in *womman, -en* and *wimman, -en*, and the consequent conversion of the first syllable into an open syllable gave rise to forms with *ō* and *ŏ*, which, continuing to the early modern period, provided the occasion for punning analyses of *woman* and *women* (see 1 b below). From *c* 1400 *woman* and *women* became regular spellings for sing and pl., and have been retained as a properly corresponding pair to *man* and *men*; but in the standard speech the pronunciation (wu-) was ultimately appropriated to the sing. and (wi-) to the pl., probably through the associative influence of pairs like *foot* and *feet*.

From at least the 16th century, the only variety in the pronunciation of the pl. has been in respect of the quantity of the first vowel, which was either short or long in the 16th and 17th centuries; but in the same period no less than five pronunciations of the sing. are recognized by orthoepists, viz. wu·măn, wʊ·măn, wɒ·măn, and u măn, ʊ·măn, of which all but the first have now sunk to vulgar or dialectal status.

Examples of the δ-forms of the sing., without initial *w*, follow here; for illustration of the more normal forms see sense 1.

† 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 343 Youre pore bede oman and cosyn, Alice Crane. 1558 Charnock *Bk. Astron.* Title of Chapter (MS.) Is the theffe man or owman or bothe? 1623 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. i. 52 *Eua.* Leaue your prables (o'man).. *Eua.* O'man, forbeare. 1632 Nabbes *Cov. Gard.* V. ii, Your Ladiships uman. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XV. x, When her Laship was so verï kind as to offar to mak mee hur one Uman. 1808 Jamieson, *Uman*, the pron. of *woman*. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiii, Putting on his spectacles to look at a married 'ooman! 1838 Jas. Grant *Sk. Lond.* 69 Bad luck to the 'ooman! 1898 G. W. E. Russell *Coll. & Recoll.* 14 Like other high-bred people of his time, he [*sc.* Lord John Russell]..called a woman an ''ooman'.]

I. 1. An adult female human being. (The context may or may not have special reference to sex or to adult age: cf. Man *sb.*[1] 4 a, c, d.)

† *Man or* (or *and*) *woman* used appositionally = male or (and) female.

ellipt. a. c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. vi. § 2 Minutia hatte an wifmon, þe on heora wisan soeolde nunne beon. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* ii. 22 God..geworhte ðæt rib, ðe he genam of Adame, to anum wifmen. — *Judges* iv. 22 Da clipode seo wimman cuðlice him to. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ȝif þa laȝe weren nu, nalde na mon mis-don wiȝ oðre, ne wepmon ne

& bring this swyn a-now To this pore wifman. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2156 Þe fayrest wymman under mone. 13.. *K. Horn* 552 (Harl. MS.) Er ne he eny wyf take Oþer wyþ wymmon forewart make. 1340 *Ayenb.* 31 He..sayþ to þe manne and to þe wyfmanne [etc.].

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 12 Hwarse wummon lueð oðer mon bi him one. *Ibid.* 58 Þis is a swuðe dredlich word to wummþet scheawð hire to wepmones sien. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 291 Nis no wummon iboren þet ðe beo

lliche. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3863 Man, wumman, every Sarasyn. 1499 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 (ed. Pynson), Wummman.

γ. *c* 1275 LAY. 2237 Womman [*c* 1205 wifmon] þoe hart hende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 211 Al vor a womman þat heleine was icluped þis bataile verst bigan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9000 Foluand a wicked womman will. *Ibid.* 20085 Quils scho spac þus, þat suet woman,..saint ioban..com. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 74 Þei weddeþ no wommon þat þei with deleþ. 14.. In *Rel. Ant.* I. 275 To onpreyse womene yt were a shame, For a womane was thy dame. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 7 And yff ye wold be a good etter off your mete allwaye, that ye myght waxe and grow ffast to be a woman. 1546 in J. Bulloch *Pynsours* (1887) 63 Euery pynour bayght man and woman. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. I. 125 One..that was a woman when Queene Guinouer of Brittaine was a little wench. 1592 — *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 165 Our youth got me to play the womans part, And I was trim'd in Madam Iulias gowne. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWC. *Stir M. Mar-all* III. (1668) 26 A Woman's in a sad condition, that has nothing to trust to, but a Perriwig above, and a well-trim'd shoe below. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* III. ad fin., Heav'n has no Rage, like Love to Hatred turn'd, Nor Hell a Fury, like a Woman scorn'd. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 216 Men, some to Bus'ness, some to Pleasure take; But every Woman is at heart a Rake. 1780 J. BROWN *Toleration* (1803) 81 No ecclesiastical power can reside in a heathen, a woman, or a child. 1804 WORDSW. '*She was a Phantom*' 27 A perfect Woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and command. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. lxi, Her stature tall—I hate a dumpy woman. 1835 HOOK *G. Gurney* vii. in *New Mo. Mag.* XLIV. 18 A girl of seventeen is a woman, when a man of seventeen is a boy. 1867 *Act 30 & 31 Vict.* c. 130 § 3 In this Act..'Woman' shall mean a Female of the Age of Eighteen Years or upwards. 1887 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act..'Woman' means a female of the age of sixteen years or upwards. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty.

pl. a. *c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* III. v. (1890) 262 Se wæpnedmen ge wimmen. *c* 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmonna þreat, fela fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Þa namen hi..carl-men and wimmen & diden heom in prisun. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Þif þe hodede wlite& mid stefne for to liken wimmannen. *c* 1290 *John* 196 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 408 Twelf þousend Men..With-oute children and wimmen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2753 Ofte in wimmen [*v.r.* wimmane, wommannes, wommanys, wommens] fourme hii come þo to men al so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7044 Zamazima..þe wimmen land wit-outen man. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 67 Of alle wymmane [*v.r.* wimmenne] Wurst was godhild þanne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 24644 (Edin.) Wit oþir wimen þat him soht. 1340 *Ayenb.* 20 To habbe uelazrede uleaslich mid wyfmen. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8583 *heading*, How ij. wemmen ware iugged for a childe þe tane alogh in hir bedde. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. vii. Our valliant Comragues..so fright the ymen that [etc.]. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* 60 What is cum amang Wimmen an Lasses E this Parish?

b. c 1205 LAY. 11718 Æc heo nomen wummen wunder ane monie. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 191 Þu ert briht and blisful ouer alle wummen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23451 (Götz.) Man [has] gret liking..On wummen fair for to bihald.

γ. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1016 3oure fingrus of fin gold 3e fullen wiþ ryngus, As is woimmenus wone for wordliche glose. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 91 Of alle wommen good wommian foond I neuere. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 58 Of body bothe and of visage Lik unto wommen of yong age. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiii. 143 Amazoyne, that is the Lond of Feimynye, where that no man is, but only alle Wommen. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 46 Here gynneth a dyté of women-his hornys. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 119 Bi wering of wommennys couercheefis. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 22 All good men and woymen. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 20528 (Laud) Ouyr alle women to bere croun. 1553 *Respublica* 1454 Men shoulde kynse women. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* (1586) 55 b, The fiftie virgins..certaine..baites being set of purpose by the gentlemen of Messena for their virginities, and now readie..being then maides, to bee made women that night. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. (S.T.S.) I. 290 Woemen quha had vowet chastitie. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 247 (*Venice*), I saw women acte, a thing that I neuer saw before. 1783–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. viii. 51 Girls are said to be sooner women than boys are men. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 502 Like one of Shakespeare's women. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* XXV, They were already loading hay, the women raking it into cocks and windrows. 1904 MAX PEMBERTON *Red Morn* viii, The women first, and one by one...If any man goes out of his turn, I will shoot him like a dog.

δ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 734 Men mycht her wemen hely cry. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Matthew*) 347 Marinage ..To cople men & vemene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8056 Hit is a propertie apreuit..To all wenen in the world..To be vnstable. *Ibid.* 10904 The wemyn..welt hom to ground with swappis of hor swordes. 1456 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 288 Most excellent princes of weymen mortall. 1503–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 252 For the makkyng of the nev vemens pevys. 1512 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 8 Servantes, prentises, weomen, and all other to pay 4d. a peece. 1553 *Respublica* 1462 Thei bee weemen and perchaunce maye bee faced owte. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 168 The French Liberty of the Weomen makes the Italians judge them without shame. 1641 (*title*) The Petition of the Weamen of Middlesex. *a* 1699 LADY A. HALKETT *Autobiog.* (Camden) 22, I dresed him in the wemen's habitt that was prepared, wch fitted his Highnese very well.

b. *Generically* without article: The female human being; the female part of the human race, the female sex. Hence gen. *woman's* = womanly, female, feminine.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 4 *Masculum et femininam fecit eos*, weopen-moem & wifmonn geworhte his. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxii. 5 Ne scryde nan wif hi mid wæpmannes reafe, ne wæpman mid wifmannes reafe. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 282 in *O. E. Misc.* 128 Wymmon is word-wep and hauep tunge to swift. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 29 Þe beste bern..þat euere of womman was i-bore. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 142 What is better than wisedoom? womman. And what is bettre than a good womman? no thyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 271 b, For in man as man is no assurance, & moche lesse in woman. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 800 Woman's a various and a changeful Thing! 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. xvii. 133 Woman is the glory of all created existence—But you, madam, are *more* than woman! 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* XXIV. *Song*, When lovely woman stoops to folly. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* VI. XXX. 1 O Woman! in our hours of ease, Uncertain, coy, and hard to please. 1823 — *Quentin D.* xiv, Get thee gone with thy woman's ware! 1849 FROUDE *Nem. Faith* 224 All that woman's care or woman's affection could do to soften off her end was done. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiv, 'But Wooman, lovely Wooman,' said Mr. Turveydrop..'what a sex you are!' 1853 KINGSLEY in *Life* (1877) I. 433 Woman's heart is alike in all ranks. 1894 'MAX O'RELL' *John Bull & Co.* 284 Of all the domestic animals invented for the service of man in South Africa, the most useful is woman.

c. *pl.* in pregnant use with reference to (irregular) intercourse with women.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 127 He..seiß þat for ates ne for drinches ne for wifmanne..ne scal man naure ben forloren. 1420–22, *a* 1532, 1621, 1727, 1819 (see WINE *sb.*[1] 1 *f* (*b*)). 1535 COVERDALE *1 Sam.* XXI. 4 Yf the yonge men haue onely refrained them selues from wemen. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull News* 15 Aboue all thynges let hym keepe hym self from Women.

d. As a mode of address. (Cf. MAN *sb.*[1] 4 *c*.) Now (except *dial.* and in renderings of foreign modes of speech) used chiefly derogatorily or jocularly.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 42 Wummon, seȝ þu hauest were after þi wil. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 289 Helpe me..marie, moder and maiden, deorwurþ wimmon. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 29 Ure louerd..sede to hire, Wat be-longeth hit to me oþer to þe, wyman? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16651 Wimmen, wimmen, dos a-wai! wepe yee noght for me. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B III. 105 Vnwittilly, womman! wrouȝt hastow oft. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* XV. 28 O thou woman, thi feith is grete. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 93 O! woman, arte þou woode? 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. i. 12 *Virg.* Oh heauens! O heauens! *Corio.* Nay, I prythee woman. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 343 O Woman, best are all things as the will Of God ordaind them. 1706 R. WEST *Hecuba* IV. 24 Oh Woman! thy Calamities are great. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ix, Arrah, woman, don't be talkin' your balderdash to me. 1860 SALA *Baddl. Poor.* I. iii. 63 'Will you hold your tongue, woman? her husband..cried out..'Woman! hold my tongue! This language to me!' 1901 S. MACNAUGHTAN *Fortune of Christina M'Nab* i, 'Woman, you are just perfect,' responded Colin, 'but you have not got the English tone.'

e. With allusion to qualities generally attributed to the female sex, as mutability, capriciousness, proneness to tears; also to their position of inferiority or subjection (phr. *to make a woman of*, to bring into submission).

c 1400 *Beryn* 872 She had done a vommans dede. *c* 1400 *Antura Arth.* 107 Hit waried, hit wayment as a womane. *c* 1525 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 23 Then know I a lyghter mete than that..It is evyn a womans tounge, For that is ever steryngye! *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 185 b, This peace was called the womennes peace, for because that notwithstandyng this conclusion, yet neither the Emperoure trusted the Frenche kyng, nor he neither trusted nor loued hym. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 83 *Iul.* Your reason? *Lu.* I haue no other but a womans reason: I thinke him so, because I thinke him so. 1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 79 At last, with a resolution, she played the woman, falling into so kinde a vaine of scoulding, as she had charged him with a thousand discourtesies. 1595 SHAKS. *John* V. vi. 22. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 36. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 112. 1602 — *Ham.* I. ii. 146 Frailty, thy name is woman. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* I. ii. 62 Be woman in all partes, saue in thy eies. 1612 FIELD (*title*) A Woman is a Weather-cocke. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. viii. 125 O what great Bargains are these! and cheap enough in any Womans Conscience! 1742 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 579 We conquer'd You, we made Women of you. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* XXI. II. 40, I have seen your husband carrying wood into his lodge to make the fire. Where was his squaw, that he should be obliged to make a woman of himself? 1850 SMEDLEY *F. Fairleigh* XXVII, Don't make such a fuss; you're as bad as a woman. 1852 KINGSLEY *Three Fishers* 3 For men must work, and women must weep.

f. (Now always with *the*.) The essential qualities of a woman; womanly characteristics; that which makes a woman what she is; womanliness; *occas.* the feminine side or aspect; †predicatively = feminine, womanish.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & No K.* IV. iv, But that my eyes Have more of woman in 'em than my heart, I would not weep. 1637 N. WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 18 Not in a fit of woman cry and whine. 1661 EVELYN *Tyrannus* 25 It is not possible to say which is the more Woman of the two Coated Sardanapalus's. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. 80 All the Woman work'd within your mind. 1771 MACKENZIE *Man Feel.* XXI. (1803) 28 Take away that girl,..she has woman about her, already. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XIV, It might be..said, that the Earl of Sussex had been most serviceable to the Queen, while Leicester was most dear to the woman. 1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* I. II. iii, Teach her to subdue The woman in her nature. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 532/2 Liddy was really taking the woman upon her in earnest. 1889 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii, She knew that all the woman in her somewhat masculine nature had gone out, in maternal affection to her husband's nephew. 1894 'G. EGERTON' *Keynotes* 188 To get at the woman under that infernal corset.

†**g.** *One's own woman*: mistress of oneself, independent. (After MAN *sb.*[2] 4 l.) *Obs.*

1603 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* III. i, I assure you He nere marry...Marry God forbid..He liue my owne woman.

h. In contrast, explicit or implicit, with 'lady' (see LADY *sb.* 4).

1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VII. 34 Hunting, shooting, fishing, wherein not many women (I should say ladies) are concerned. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXII, 'You are such an unreasonable woman,' remonstrated Mr. Benjamin Allen. 'I beg your pardon, young man,' said Mrs. Raddle,..'but who do you call a woman?' 1847 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 1128/1 Defendant pleaded..that the person described as a woman was in fact a lady. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* XXXIX, So that was the lady you spoke of as a woman?.. You might have told me who she was.

i. With qualification denoting status, occupation, or character, *woman* enters into many compounds or collocations more or less permanent, corresponding to those of *man* (MAN *sb.*[1] 4 *p*) but much less numerous: see the various qualifying words and BONDWOMAN, CHARWOMAN, COUNTRY-WOMAN, GENTLEWOMAN, HORSEWOMAN, MAN-WOMAN, NEEDLEWOMAN, OLD WOMAN, TIRE-WOMAN, TOWNSWOMAN, WISE WOMAN, YOUNG WOMAN, etc.

†*Woman bond*, nonce-inversion of BONDWOMAN. *First woman* = PRIMA DONNA. *Little woman*: a female child, girl (cf. *little man*, MAN *sb.*[1] 4 *f*); also, an affectionate or playful form of address to a girl or young woman, esp. one in whom womanly qualities are conspicuous. *New woman*: a woman of 'advanced' views, advocating the independence of her sex and defying convention; hence *new-womandom*, *new-womanish* adj.

1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* IV. 12 The second wedding was his son's, Whom on a woman bond he had begot. 1827 EARL MOUNT-EDGCUMBE *Mus. Remin.* (ed. 2) 47 At one of the smaller theatres, however, the part of first woman in an intermezzo..was filled by a very promising singer,..who became in time one of the best first men. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT (*title*) Little Women; or Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. 1880 [see PRIMA DONNA]. 1894 SARAH GRAND in *N. Amer. Rev.* March 271 Both the cow-woman and the scum-woman are well within the range of the comprehension of the Bawling Brotherhood, but the new woman is a little above him. 1894 'OUIDA' *Ibid.* May 616 The elegant epithet of Cow-woman implies the contempt with which maternity is viewed by the New Woman. 1894 *Granta* 8 Dec. 128 The Alexandra (Dublin) ladies..are models of new womandom. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 321 She is not at all of an unsentimental nature—only fractious—new-womanish, perhaps. 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* IV, They were pretty babies, dear little men and women.

j. In phraseological collocations corresp. to those s.v. MAN *sb.*[1] 18, as *woman of all work*, *business*, *colour*, *fashion*, *honour*, *letters*, *livelihood*, *pleasure*, *property*, *sense*, *the town*, *the world*: see also these sbs.

1484 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 257 Or ellis to marye hym till a woman of livelod to his degre. 1697 DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 303 A Woman of Sense and Breeding. 1705 VANBRUGH *Country-ho.* II, You must behave yourself like a woman of honour, and keep your word. 1748 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. vii, She resolved to preserve all the dignity of the woman of fashion to her servant. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXII, The young woman of all work. 1838 — *O. Twist* XLVIII, 'Coming,'..'Ah, and so'n the young 'oman of property that's going to take a fancy to me.' 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women & B.* (1876) 316 Our little woman of letters [*sc.* Lady Mary W. Montagu] read all the books she could lay her hands on. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 12 The..pleasant expression of countenance of a young woman of colour.

†**k.** In the 16th and 17th centuries freq. with play on a pseudo-etymological association with *woe*; also, less freq., between *weemen* (= women) and *we men*. *Obs.*

?*a* 1500 *Chester Plays*, *Creat.* 259 Woman,..soothe sayd I in prophesie when thou wast taken of my body, mans woe thou woldest be wittie, therfore thou wast so named. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* To Rdr., Man himselfe borne of a woman, is in deede a wo man, that is, ful of wo and miserie. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vii, A woman! As who saith, woe to the man! 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* II. xviii. (Arb.) 147 Not money: nor many, Nor any: but any, Not weemen, but weemen beare the bell. 1601 in Hullen *More Lyrics* (1888) 143 Women, what are they?..We men, what are we? 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* V. 1062 Weemen when they will Can weep. 1653 FLECKNOE *Misc. 70 Shep.* Woe has end, when 'tis alone; But in woman never none. *Nim.* Say of Woman worst ye can, What prolonges their woe, but man?

l. Proverbs.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2690 In *Macro Plays* 156 Per wymmen arn, are many wordys. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 396 Socrates ..sayd þat womman, ay þe mor sho was bett, þe wars was sho. 1520 *Calisto & Melib.* A iij b, Yt is an old sayeng That women be the dyuells netts and hed of syn. 1542 *Schole-h. Women* 690 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 131 Women and dogges cause much strife. 1548 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 31 b, Fyre, Sea, Woman, thre euyls. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 239 It..may be likened to the maner of women, who as the common saying is, will say nay and take it. *Ibid.* xxiv. 297 A woman will weepe for pitie to see a gosling goe barefoote. 1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) X ij, Is it not an old Prouerbe. That Women and Shippes are neuer so perfect but still there is somewhat to bee amended. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1629) 194 Seeing as the Proverbe is, a dead woman will haue foure to cary her forth. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 117 A woman, asse, and walnut-tree, the more you beat the better be. 1699 N. R. *Proverbs* 120 Three Women make a Market. *Ibid.* 120 Women laugh when they can, weep when they will. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 50 A womans work is never at an end. *Ibid.* 54 England is the Paradise of women. *c* 1825 MRS. CAMERON *The Cradle* 72 You know they say 'A woman's business is never done.'

2. A female servant, *esp.* a lady's maid or personal attendant. Often *pl.* (+ also = WOMENFOLK).

a 766 *Papal. Abp. Egbert* iv. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 282 Alf hwyle wif..hire wifman swinge. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XX. 18 God gewitnode ealle hys wimmen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 67 Þis zenne is þe uale maneres ase þe zergens aye hire lhordinges, þe wyfman aye hare leuedis. *c* 1450 *Merlin* V. 90, I..require that as soone as it is born that ye take it to one

of youre meete secrete woman. 1565 *Cal. Scott. Papers* (1900) II. 142 To play a partie at a playe theie call the bike, my mestres Beton and I agaynste the Quene and my lord Darlye—the women to have the gayne of the wynninge. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. iv. 93 Sir Thomas Bullens Daughter,..One of her Highnesse women. 1663 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* I. ii, A Note put privately into my hand By Angellina's Woman. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. viii, In Town I visit none but the Women of Women of Quality. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. ix. (Rtldg.) 360 Another coach and four, with Seraphina's women. 1893 'LESLIE KEITH' *Lisbeth* iii, I wonder ye dare put such an affront on me before the women! 1898 HICHENS *Londoners* x, From Mrs. Crouch, ma'am, her Grace's woman.

3. †**a.** A lady-love, mistress. *Obs.* **b.** A kept mistress, paramour.

13 . *K. Alis.* 7567 They toke and slowe Hirkan And yolde Kindeleke his woman. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) Q vj, A feruent Dialogue full of the affection of a louer with his womanne. 1639 J. S. *Clidamas* 25 Agree to bee my woman, and I will consent to bee thy man. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Oct., The Duke of York..leaves off care of business, what with his woman, my Lady Denham, and his hunting three times a week. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 384 If any of you take any of these Women, as a Woman or Wife,..he shall take but one. 1924 GALSWORTHY *White Monkey* III. vii, They tell me Elderson keeps two women.

4. A wife. Now only *dial.* and *U.S.*

Cf. OLD WOMAN 1 b and the corresp. use of *man* (MAN *sb.*1 8).

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7041 A night be his woman [*cum uxore*] he lay. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 305 See the hell of hauing a false woman: my bed shall be abus'd. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* II. i. A man can in his life-time make but one woman, But he can make his fifty Queanes a month 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. 295 Prepare thy Neck and put it in the Yoke: But for no mercy from thy Woman look. 1765 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 416 My poor little woman has been in the drooping mood for two or three days. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, Gates and his woman thought that they should come for'ard..to help the kindest master and missus ever was. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 103, I persisted in them to the last, as did my woman. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* vii. 147 He married my woman's aunt.

†**b.** The female mate of an animal. *Obs. rare.*

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 144 b, The hee Goate,..by a certayne instinct of nature,..goeth alwayes before his woman.

5. The reverse of a coin; in reference to the figure of BRITANNIA (q.v.) upon it. (Cf. MAN *sb.*1 17.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Harp*, Harp..is also the Irish expression for woman, or tail, used in toss-ing up in Ireland. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr., Ill-Will* III, *Thos.* Here goes—heads or tails? *John.* Woman for ever. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xi, I pulled out a shilling. 'If it's head we go, Jim; if it's woman, we stay here.'

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

6. a. Simple attrib. = 'of or characteristic of a woman or women, feminine, womanly'.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 29 The woman sexe is no lesse apte to learne al maner thynges then menne are. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 104 Woman modestie kept her silent. 1622 FLETCHER *Prophetess* III. iii, You'll find it but a woman-fit to try ye. 1631 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* III. i. 31 In this woman shape He cudgell thee. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 82 Into the woman-state asquint to pry. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. xxvi, The only man, in whom a foe My woman-mercy would not know. 1845 CLOUGH *Poems*, 'O θεὸς μετὰ σοῦ 7, I shall see thy soft brown eyes dilate to wakening woman thought. 1846 MRS. CARLYLE in *Jane Welsh Carlyle* (1924) 278 What a contrast I often think betwixt that woman and Geraldine! the opposite poles of woman-nature! 1883 BROWNING *Joch. Hohkadosh* 310 The woman-nature—the soft sway Of undefinable omnipotence O'er our strong male-stuff. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 346/2 The next moment he had taken the fair woman face between his hands. 1895 *Cath. Mag.* Dec. 453 Her shrewd woman-wit. 1897 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *In Kedar's Tents* xxvi. *heating*, Womancraft.

b. appos. (*a*) = 'female', esp. with designations of occupation or profession.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29420 If þou wit þi woman frend Find clerk be doand dede vn-hende. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* xvii. 9 A womman widowe. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 33 A wommau-payntym þat was his moder. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 600/47 *Sacerdotissa patrina*, a womangossyb. 1530 PALSGR. 280/2 Woman coke, *cuisiniere*. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 258 The famous woman poet Sapho. 1632 BROME *Court Beggar* V. ii. (1053) S 3 b, What Woman Monster's this? 1659 D. PELL *Improv. Sea* Ep. Ded. d j, Wee are so wise now, that wee have our woman Politicians. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 442 A woman-martyr who..offered herself to martyrdom. 1680 SHADWELL *(title)* The Woman-Captain. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. Note 31 A Woman-Grammarian, who corrects her Husband for speaking false Latin. 1697 — *Æneis* XI. 096 [1016] A Woman Warrior was too strong for thee. 1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* XXVI, The Woman Chief in Master of the War. 1717 POPE *Iliad* IX. 756 One Woman-Slave was ravish'd from thy Arms. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 54 A woman-shearer, through the harvest, is reckoned equal to the rent of a cottage and yard. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 540 The Princess with her monstrous woman-guard. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* I, Lisbeth's obstinate refusal to have any woman-helper in the house. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* I, With scarcely a woman-friend in the world.

†(*b*) = 'having the character of a woman, feminine, womanly; effeminate'. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. XXV. (1912) 497 Rather then onely shew her selfe a woman-lover in fruitles lamentations. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 329, I have been a pious fool, a Woman-King.

(*c*) With names of animals, forming designations of creatures having the qualities or properties of a woman and of the particular animal.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Womens Prize* IV. iv, I..know her To be a Woman-wolfe by transmigration. 1673 *Lady's Calling* I. iii. § 23 Nothing can be more unnatural, more odious, than a woman-tiger. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* xi, The brutes, acting under the direction of that woman-monkey. 1893 RODWAY *Hand-bk. Brit. Guiana* 67 How such an unwieldy creature [as the manatee]..could ever have been figured as a woman-fish can hardly be understood by anyone who has seen it.

c. objective, as *woman-follower, -killer*, †*-queller, -scorner, -slayer, -spiter, -worship, -worshipper, -wronger*; also *woman-bearing, -churching, -degrading, -despising, -flogging, -murdering*, †*-quelling* adjs.: similative and parasynthetic, as *woman-faced, -fair, -headed, -hearted, -proud, -vested* adjs.; instrumental, as *woman-bred, -built, -conquered, -daunted, -governed, -made, -ridden, -tended* adjs.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXVIII, The boy grew up delicate, sensitive, imperious, *woman-bred. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 466 A new-world Babel, *woman-built. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xli. 336 An uprising or *Woman Churching Treatment. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 333 *Woman-conquer'd [stood] there The bearded Victor of ten-thousand hymns. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betraying Christ*, etc. D iv, *Woman-daunted Peter. 1895 G. ALLEN *Woman who did* (1906) 64 Their own vile *woman-degrading and prostituting morality. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 686 Ausonius makes her [*sc.* the Sphinx]..*woman-faced. 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus* 96 Beside him sate An image *woman-fair. 1794 SOUTHEY *Coleridge's Fall of Robespierre* III. 281 The *woman-govern'd Roland. 1902 *19th Cent.* Dec. 989 The *woman-headed serpent. 1813 H. G. KNIGHT *Alasthar* III. xiii, Well may the mild, the *woman-hearted fail. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXIX, Having a firm conviction in his own mind that he was a *woman-killer and destined to conquer. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 58 Thou art..a Man-queller, and a *woman-queller. 1622 J. DAVIES *Sco. Folly* (Grosart) 10/1 Borsus the woman-queller. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. iv, A weak priest-ridden, *woman-ridden man. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XXIX. XXXII, He had prou'd him selfe a *woman-slayre. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* V, A perpetual sense of aggression had converted me, not into a woman-hater, but a *woman-spiter. 1857 LD. DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* vi. 36 The elegance and comfort of a *woman-tended home. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 163 *Woman-vested as I was. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* Introd. p. xviii, The *woman-worship of chivalry. 1856 READE *Never too Late* IX, Next Lady-day, as the *woman-worshipper calls it. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 7 Foule *womanwronger.

7. Special comb.: †**woman-actor**, (*a*) an actress; (*b*) an actor who takes women's parts; **woman-boat** = *women's boat* (10); **woman-body** *dual.*, a person of the female sex, woman; **woman-born** *a.*, born of woman; **woman-dangler**, one who dangles after women; †**woman-errant**, one who goes after women; **woman-grown** *a.*, that has become a woman; †**woman-house** *Sc.*, a laundry: see also *women-house* (9 c); †**woman-keeper**, a female nurse; †**woman-louper** *Sc.*, a whoremonger; **woman-mad** *a.*, mad after women; **woman-man**, an effeminate man, or one who in some way resembles a woman; **woman-market**, a place for the sale (*lit.* or *fig.*) of women; **woman-movement**, the movement for the emancipation of women, or the recognition and extension of women's rights; **woman-palaver** *African*, illicit commerce with a woman or women; **woman-physician**, (*a*) a woman's doctor; (*b*) a woman-doctor; **woman-post**, a female messenger or courier; **woman-raving** *a.* = *woman-mad*; †**woman-reputation**, reputation with women; †**woman-shoemaker**, a maker of women's shoes; **woman-slaughter**, the killing of a woman by a human being; **woman-suffrage**, the right of women to vote in public affairs; hence **woman-suffragist**, an advocate of woman-suffrage; †**woman-surgeon**, one who beautifies women by the aid of paints, washes, etc.; †**woman-tired** *a.* [TIRE *v.*2 2], hen-pecked; †(*ou*) **woman-ways, -wise** *advs.*, after the manner of a woman or women.

1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 146 (Dial. old Plays) Alexander Goffe, the *woman-actor at Blackfriers..used to be the jackall. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 146 Big skin '*woman-boats', when the dogs and the babies lay among the feet of the rowers. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* x, It was an awkward thing for a *woman-body to be standing among bundles o' darkened leather her lane, selling saddles and bridles. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xii, The young woman-body is dead in child-bed. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 181 Canst thou..Buy what is *woman-born, and feel no shame? 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 217 Nor in those days needed he [*sc.* Burns] help from woman-born. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 508/2 That when his back is turned the Senecas may not call him a thief as well as a *woman-dangler. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* II. ii, What make you here, my *woman errant? 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* iv, Their Jenny, *woman-grown, In youthfu' bloom. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 108 The maiden woman-grown. 1826 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 555/2 Cameram lie *woman-hous. 1754 *State of Process, Mrs. Forbes v. D. Scot* (Jam.) Water lying on the floors of the woman-house and kitchen. 1552 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) II. 80 Betwene euery xx children [of Christ's Hospital] [there was] one *woman keeper. 1630 ? DEKKER *Blacke Rod* (1905) 217 No Women keepers to rob you of your Goods, or to hasten you to your End. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 429 A *woman lowpar, landless. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 249 Accursed Paris, *woman-mad, seducer. 1603 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. I. *Vanity* 344 May one hope..In *Woman-Men a manly Constancie? 1682 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbiæ Flagellum* C 6, The Woman-man, Man-woman, chuse you whether, The Female-male, Male-female, both, yet neither. 1889 TENNYSON *On one who affected an effeminate manner* 4 But friend, man-woman is not woman-man. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 103 Another lady then demanded, if we had not a *woman-market. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 348 He never yet had set his daughter forth Here in the woman-markets of the west. 1898 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 5/1 It is in educational affairs that the *Woman Movement appears to be making the most progress. 1897 HINDE *Congo Arabs* 32 What every African traveller knows as '*woman-palaver'. 1533 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 274 To a *woman phisician..iijs. iiij*d*. 1591 H. SMITH *Preparat. Marr.* 76 To helpe him in his sicknesse, like a woman Phisition. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. vi. 85 Much lesse then the ignorant Empiricke, the peticoate or woman-physitian. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 218 But who comes in such haste in riding robes? What *woman post is this? 1626 *Raleigh's Ghost* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 547 How he [*sc.* Gondomar]..answered the expectation..of..the king ..shall be declared upon the next return of the woman-post, which passeth betwixt the English and the Spanish Jesuits. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 357 A woman-post in flying raiment. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad.* 50 Cursed Paris, thou *woman-raving seducer. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* vii. (1642) 395 To which popular credit and *woman-reputation they attained..by their saint-seeming sanctity. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4003/4 Robert Fleetwood, a *Woman Shoemaker. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Crabtree Lect.* 82 Least there should be man-slaughter, or *woman-slaughter committed. 1780 T. GORDON *Humourist* I. 169 But only be deem'd Woman-slaughter. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* ix, They had never heard of a verdict of woman-slaughter in their lives. 1567 *Times* 11 Apr. 12/1 *Woman Suffrage. [Text of two petitions.] 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Jan. 10/1 The sunflower badge..has been adopted by the Iowa *woman suffragists. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* I. ii, *Pal.* My nurse was a *woman-surgeon...*Rhe. A she-surgeon, which is in effect a meere matter of colours. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 74 Thou dotard, thou art *woman-tyr'd: unroosted By thy dame Partlet heere. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 174 With welwet bordour about his threidbair coit, On *woman-wayis weill toyit about his west. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 2308 This man Died *woman-wise.

8. Comb. with *woman's*, as *woman's* †*poet, tailor*; **woman's boat** = *women's boat* (see 10); **woman's man, a lady's man, a gallant**; †**woman's-meadwort** = MEADWORT 2.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v. *Canoe, Umiak*, the *woman's-boat. 1599 BRETON *Wil of Wit* (Grosart) 57/1, I thinke it better to bee thought a good *womans man than an ill mans woman. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xiii, Railing is the best qualification in a woman's man. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 156 P 2 The Woman's Man is a Person in his Air and Behaviour quite different from the rest of our Species. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 93 And him the Women call'd a Woman's Man. 1818 FESSENDEN *Laaies' Monitor* 31 Nor will I sanction any plan T'annihilate your pretty woman's man. *a* 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* lf. 209 Freynch cresse or *wymmanns medewourt. 1620 B. JONSON *Masque, News fr. New World* (1641) 42 *Chro.* Is he a Mans Poet, or a *Womans Poet I pray you? *2 Ht.* Is there any such difference? *Fac.* Many, as betwixt your mans Taylor, and your womans Taylor. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 262 What Trade art thou Feeble? *Feeble.* A *Womans Taylor sir.

9. Comb. with *women*: **a.** appos., serving as plurals of combs. with *woman* (see 6 b, 7).

13.. *Cursor M.* 8672 (Göt.) Þat ilke lym quar-with þat þai er kend fra wimmen kith. 1382 WYCLIF *2 Sam.* xix. 35, I may here..the vois of men syngers and of wymmen syngers. 1494 in *Housch. Ord.* (1790) 125 The woemen officers for to receave it in the chamber. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 1044 There is in the Church an order of women ministers called women-deacons. 1588 KYD *Housch. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 273 Homer, who..brought Penelope and Circes in the number of women weauers. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 148 The third kinde of diuiners are women-witches. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 30 The moste famous women saints. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xvii. (ed. 2) 542 Ten women-slaues. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* I. 11 Women Doctors (of whom for the most part there is more danger, then of the worst disease it selfe). 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. i. 8 By the aduice of her women-gossips. 1632 BROME *Court Beggar* V. ii. (1653) S 2 b, Women-Actors now grow in request. 1661 WALTON *Angler* xviii. (ed. 3) 233 A Sticklebag..is good ..only to make sport for boyes and women-Anglers. 1772 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III. 226 A parcel of women-relations. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xiii, These poor silly women-things. 1893 *Dict. Nat. Biogr.* XXXIV. 200 A procession, chiefly of women-workers. 1898 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 5/1 The Guild of Women-Binders.

b. objective, etc. synonymous with the corresp. combs. with *woman* (see 6 c, 7).

IV.

Tales of Coll. Life, Long-Vac. Vigil x, The *Morning Post* ..devoted..half a column to these women-absorbing topics. 1896 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 2/2 A nation of women-supported men.

c. Special comb.: **women-house** *Sc.*, a building set apart for women only; †**women-matters** *pl.*, matters relating to women; **women-men** *pl.* (see *woman-man*, 7); †**women-sleepers** *pl.*, female nurses (cf. *woman-keeper* in sense 7); †**women-strikers** *pl.* [STRIKER *sb.* 2 d], prostitutes; **women-suffrage** = *woman-suffrage* (see 7).

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. 149 At these [bleach-] fields,..there are a number of women not having families, nor residing in families, but in *women-houses, so called, erected on purpose. *c* 1865 J. SHAW in R. Wallace *Country Schools* (1899) 154 Large central buildings of the public works called 'women-houses'. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* IV. ii, Keep

these *women-matters..in our own verge. 1864 Merrotte *Emilia* xxxvi, Are there men-women and *women men?.. have we changed parts to-night? 1630 ? Dekker *London looke back* (1925) 190 When the Bell hath ceast tolling for thee, and thy *Women-sleepers leaue gaping for thy Linnen. 1665 Nerdham *Med. Medicina* 73 [Zacutus] hardly grants any possibility of *Women-strikers escaping [pox]. 1867 *Times* 4 Mar. 6/4 Mr. Mill upon *Women Suffrage.

10. Comb. with *women's*: **women's-boat**, a boat to be used by women only = Oomiak; **women's courses**, †evil = Catamenia; †**women's-kins**, of the female sex; **women's men**, pl. of *woman's man* (see 8); **women's suffrage** = *woman-suffrage* (see 7).

1823 Scoresby *Jrnl.* p. xxx, They had made a three years excursion along the eastern coast in a *women's-boat. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 62 Where wee apply cupping glasses to bring down *womens courses. 1379 *MS. Glouc. Cathedr.* 19, f. iv. 2 b, Menstrua. In Englysshe *wymmens yvell. 1534 *Will of Sir W. Butler* (Somerset Ho.), Euerye of my seruauntes aswell menskynes as *womenskynnes. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 536 P 2 That part of Mankind who are known by the Name of the *Womens-Men or Beaus. 1781 R. King *Mod. Lond. Spy* 59 We now drank our tea, which, to what are called women's men, is at that time of the evening generally very agreeable. 1863 *Times* 11 May 10/4 A branch of the National Society for *Women's Suffrage.

Woman (wu·mân), *v.* [f. prec.]

†1. Early nonce-uses. a. *intr.* To become woman-like; with *it*, to behave as a woman, be womanly. b. *trans.* To make like a woman in weakness or subservience. c. *pa. pple.* Accompanied by a woman. d. To make 'a woman' of, deprive of virginity.

1595 T. Edwards *Cephalus* (1878) 55 Her courage was euen then a womanning. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* III. ii. 53, I haue felt so many quirkes of ioy and greefe, That the first face of neither on the start Can woman me vntoo't. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iv. 195, I..thinke it no addition nor my wish To haue him see me woman'd. 1611 Heywood *Golden Age* III. i. G 1 b, I woman'd first Calisto, and made thee A grandfather. 1613 Daniel *Hymen's Tri.* III. ii, This day I should Haue seene my daughter Siluia how she would Haue womand it.

2. *trans.* To furnish or provide with women; to equip with a staff of women. (After Man *v.*)

1706 Mrs. Centlivre *Basset-Table* Epil., The Ship's well mann'd, and not ill Woman'd neither. 1830 Wheaton *Jrnl.* 271 The tops of the houses were manned and womaned for many a square. 1865 Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 108 A sea-boat womanned by a set of Grace Darlings. 1894 *Daily Tel.* 7 Aug. 5/2 Our hospitals,..not manned, but womanned, with intelligent nurses.

3. To address as 'woman': see prec. 1 d.

So *to dear woman*, to address as 'dear woman'.

1740 Richardson *Pamela* II. 269 She call'd her another time Fat-face and woman'd her most violently. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 399 Whom call you woman? Dare to woman me! 1883 D. Cook *Paul Foster's Daw.* iii, Don't come dear womaning of me.

Wo·man-child. *arch.* Pl. **wo·men-children.** [Woman *sb.* 6 b.] A female child.

1538 T. Watson *Sacrum.* iii. 15 If it be a woman childe, than let the christener say thus, [etc.]. 1560 Becon *New Catech.* VI. Wks. 164 I. 537 It is expedient, yᵗ..scholes for women children be erected. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. viii. 265 The women, by stealth, put a woman-child into the Princes cradle. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. xvii. 449 The father might assign a guardian to any woman-child under the age of sixteen. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 183 Such a temper—in one so young—..a child—a woman-child. 1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus* 108 An aged king, to whom the fates had spared But one fair woman-child.

Womandom (wu·mândam). [f. Woman *sb.* + -dom.] The realm of women; womankind.

1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 459 The whole womandom of the rooms is up in arms. 1891 *Pictorial World* 31 Oct. 19/1, I had a special brief for Fashion in the High Court of Womandom.

Womanfully (wu·mânfŭl), *adv.* [f. Woman *sb.* after *manfully*.] With womanly courage or perseverance; like a woman of spirit.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 660 Do all manfully and womanfully, good ladies and gentlemen, without let or gainsay. 1824 Southey *Let. to John May* 29 Aug. in *Life* (1849) I. 140 This she resisted most womanfully. 1870 Tyndall *Imag. Sci.* 23 You will manfully and womanfully prolong your investigations.

Wo·man-hater. Also (in pl.) **women-.** One who hates women; a misogynist.

1607 [Fletcher] (*title*) The Woman Hater. 1629 Massinger *Picture* II. ii, Surely, madam, I am no woman-hater. 1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* iv. 171 This Coarseness [toward women] does not alwaies come from Clowns, and Women-haters. 1728 Swift *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* 8 Against the sex to write a satire, And brand me for a woman-hater. 1877 'Rita' *Vivienne* I. i, I should scarcely think that the sudden introduction of a young and beautiful woman..into your domestic life was quite welcome to such a woman-hater as yourself.

†**Wo·manhead.** *Obs.* or *rare arch.* Forms and etym.: see Woman *sb.* and -head. = next.

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 299 (Fairf. MS.) And shal I prey, and weyve womanhede? c 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 890 The queene anon for verray wommanhede Gan for to wepe. c 1386 — *Man of Law's T.* 753 Thow glorie of wommanhede, thow faire may. c 1448 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* (1892) 50 To recommande me..To hir benigne & humble wommanhede. c 1490 Henry *Wallace* v. 692 Fra Inglismen to saiff my womanheid. 1496–7 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 196 She is amyable and good, with great wysdome and womanhead. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 160 Sueit Womanhede I saw cum in presence. 1570 Dr.ant *Serm.* D viij b, The Church of Christ is a woman, and hath womanhead towardes her beloued. 1597 in *J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 432 Deir damiselles I leave af your dreirie mean, And grow in godlines to womanhead. 1627 Drayton *Moon-calf* Agincourt etc. 265 When I sawe her rampant to transcend All womenhead (*sic*). a 1632 Donne *Reliquæ* 3 Graves have learn'd that woman-head To be to more then one a bed. 1894 J. Davidson *Ballads & Songs* 3 Now you surely know The wrongs of womanhead At last are fairly dead.

Womanhood (wu·mânhud). Forms and etym.: see Woman *sb.* and -hood.

1. The state or condition of being a woman.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 283 Alle here lymes so wel answerynge Weren to womanhode. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 545 She..,contrarie to Gods lawe, and the honest estate of womanhood, was clothed in mans apparell. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 220 May we with the warrant of womanhood..pursue him with any further reuenge? 1823 Byron *Juan* IX. lxxi, Her womanhood In its meridian. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 176 She..with all grace Of womanhood and queenhood, answer'd him. 1860 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* v, Her first conception of the stern Jewess had..been that of perfect womanhood.

b. The state of being a grown woman; the period of life succeeding to girlhood.

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 470 *Si apparuerint in ea signa pubertatis*, if the signes of her womanhood appeared. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 534 P 1 This has been my State, till I came toward Years of Womanhood. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 227 Misses..assume the dress Of womanhood. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, The change from childhood to womanhood. 1893 Crockett *Stickit Minister* 40 Janet grew to womanhood without a sweetheart.

(*b*) *attrib.* in *womanhood suffrage*, formerly freq. used (after Manhood 7) for *woman-suffrage* (Woman *sb.* 7).

1891 *Daily News* 28 Apr. 3/2 A future system of manhood and womanhood suffrage.

2. The disposition, character, or qualities natural to a woman or womankind; womanliness.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1041 *Dido*, If that god..Wolde han a loue for beaute & goodnesse And womanhod [*v.r.* womanhede] & trouthe. 1552 Huloet, Womanhode, *muliebritas*. 1590 Greene *Never too late* I. (1600) E 2, Courage is knowne in extremities, womanhood in distresse. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, III. iii. 125 There's neyther Faith, Truth, nor Woman-hood in me else. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* 260 To transgresse the bounds of womanhood. 1755 Johnson, *Womanhood*, *Womanhead*, the character and collective qualities of a woman. Obsolete. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xxxiii, Miss Brass's maiden modesty and gentle womanhood. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. viii. 255 My mother..had sympathy with every passion of true womanhood.

3. Women collectively, womankind.

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 992 Maydenly demure, Of womanhode the lure. 1712 *Freethinker* No. 39 They contribute to make this kind of Womanhood more universal, than it would otherwise be. 1858 Miss Mulock *Woman's Th.* 72 The infinite wrongs, errors, and sufferings of this mass of womanhood. 1889 Skrine *Mem. Thring* 203 Uppingham womanhood must next be taught to cook.

Womanish (wu·mâniʃ), *a.* [-ish 1 2.]

1. Of or belonging to a woman or women; a woman's; used or done by women. Now *rare*.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 58 With so swete a stevene Lik to the melodie of hevene In wommanysshe vois thei singe. 1555 Lady Vaux in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1445/1, I..doe prepare.. my womanishe backe to their burthens of reproufe. 1610 A. Cooke *Pope Joan* 100 They might haue pretended that they would not be subiect to a womanish and an whorish gouernment. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* III. 130 Spinning, weaving, and the like womanish chares. a 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* II. Notes (1673) 25 That this was a Womanish wear may be seen by the same Authors 97. Ep. of his I. I. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 342 *Peplum* is properly a womanish Pall or Veil. 1896 F. Harrison in *19th Cent.* Mar. 502 A separate degree-conferring and exclusively womanish university.

2. Characteristic of or proper to a woman or women; womanly, feminine.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 694 Tho wordes and þo wommannyssh [*v.r.* womanliche] þynges. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 72 Wherof in wommanysshe dreds Sche wok and nyste what to rede. *Ibid.* III. 304 Sche wolde hire goode name kepe For feere of wommanysshe schame. 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 46/1 The mothers drede and womannishe feare. a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 39 A voice, not softe, weake, piping, womannishe, but audible, stronge, and manlike. 1606 G. Woodcock *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* K k 4, Her priuat matters she had beene able to gouerne easily by her owne womannish wisedome. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Maid's Trag.* I, She has a brother..Like her, a face as womanish as hers. 1706 Kennett *Hist. Eng.* III. 784 He had a particular Averseness to Dancing, and all Womanish Exercises. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 363 P 9 Eve's Complaint..is wonderfully beautiful: The sentiments..have something in them particularly soft and womanish. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. 203 Nothing, said she, but Womanish Curiosity. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvii, To love her [*sc.* the camel] for the sake of her gentle and womanish ways. 1866 Mrs. H. Wood *St. Martin's Eve* xix, The pale features, regular to a fault, were of almost womanish beauty.

b. In derogatory use.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 229 As he which hath himself restreigned..Out of the manere of a man, And tok his wommannysshe chiere. 1532 More *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 760/2 Her questions .. wer like to be but friuolous & womannish. 1534 — *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. vi. (1553) G 3, Weping for our sinnes..they reckyn shame almost and womanyshe peuishnes. 1592 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 46 Womanish encountrings, vnasemely lyings and childish threatenings. 1685 Dryden *Thren. Augustæ*, viii, So weak, so womanish a woe. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* II. 207 She betrayed neither weakness, nor womanish submission. 1823 E. S. Barrett *Heroine* x. (1909) 57, I do not like .his pencilled eyebrows and curled locks, they look so womanish. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Apr. 402/2 He must have been under the influence of fears which it would be an excess of flattery to call womanish.

3. Resembling a woman, womanlike: in later use chiefly derogatory; also of a girl, Like a grown woman in her ways.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 93 He syh wher sat a creature, A lothly wommannysch figure. c 1470 Harding *Chron.* LX. ii, Elyne..was..More Angelyke then womannyshe of hewe. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § 2. 167 If musicke can make warriers womanish. 1788 Wesley *Jrnl.* 10 June, This girl.. being then between fourteen and fifteen years old. But she was then quite a womanish girl. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* lxv, Lascivious Otho, gluttonous Vitellius, savage Domitian, womanish Elagabalus.

†4. Having a great inclination or liking for women. *Obs. rare.*

1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xii. 18/1 A freer wylbe womanysh loke the holy horeson neuer so sayntly. 1579–80 [implied in Womanishness].

5. *Comb.*

1382 Wyclif *1 Kings* xv. 12 He took awey the wommannyah maad men [*effeminatos*] of the loond. a 1623 Fletcher *Love's Cure* III. ii, One so full of childish fear, And womanish-hearted.

Hence †**Wo·manish** *v. trans.*, to render womanish, to womanize.

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. I ij, Men..who ought not with suche delicacies [as music] to womannishe their mindes. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xii. § 3 This effeminate love of a woman, doth so womanish [*so ed.* 1590; *edd.* 1593–1674 womanize] a man, that (if he yeeld to it) it will.. make him..a launder, a distaff-spinner.

Womanishly (wu·mâniʃli), *adv.* [f. Woman-ish *a.* + -ly 2.] In a womanish manner or style.

1573 Baret *Alv.* W 319 Womannishly, faintly, fearfully, *muliebriter*. 1579 Twyne *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. lxvi. 248 When as she womanishly lamented that he should die an innocent. 1665 Brathwait *Comm. Two Tales* (1901) 13 To have his hair curled, and so womanishly disheveled. 1732 G. Jeffreys *Merope* I. 2 Are we sunk so womanishly low, That we can only mourn, and rail, and pray? a 1845 T. O. Davis *Life Curran* (1846) 69 They had..the same impassionate, womanishly sensitive hearts. 1860 Sir T. Martin *Horace* I. xxxvii. 65 A woman, yet not womanishly weak.

So **Womanishness** (wu·mâniʃnés), the quality or state of being womanish.

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 42 The minstrelsie of lutes ..is farre more fitte for the womannishnesse of it to dwell in the courte among ladies. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Theseus & Romulus* (1595) 43 That his womanishenes was rather to satisfie lust, then of any great loue. 1607 Markham *Caval.* I. 25 Such as out of their flemye womanishnesse seeke for such secrets. 1664 H. More *Exp. 7 Epist.* Pref. c v b, The more-then-ordinary Womanishness of the Church of Rome in that Intervall. 1858 *Housek. Words* XVIII. 414/1 There was no nonsense about Katie; no silly affectation of boyishness, no still sillier affectation of premature womanishness. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 12/2 The clergyman's acquired womanishness. 1883 J. Hawthorne *Dust* I. 207 A certain softness or womanishness in his nature, which his masculine taste condemned.

Womanism (wu·mâniz'm). [f. Woman *sb.* + -ism.] Advocacy of or enthusiasm for the rights, achievements, etc. of women.

1863 Ld. W. P. Lennox *Biogr. Remin.* I. 286 It became quite the rage to quote the ambiguous passages of her worst productions..as reflecting the strong-minded womanism of the nineteenth century. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xxvii. II. 163 That the mother of his daughter..should now turn round and take her part, from downright womanism, in the teeth of all reason.

†**Wo·manist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Woman *sb.*: see -ist.] A womanizer.

1608 Day *Law-Tricks* v. 1 2 b, Hee's a sweet womanist.

Womanity (wumæ·nĭti). *humorous.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ity, after *humanity*.] The normal disposition or character of womankind.

1843 Mrs. Browning *Lett. R. H. Horne* (1877) I. xviii. 81, I will be secret beyond womanity, if you are frank beyond discretion. 1858 Helps *Realmah* I. vi. 115 Mrs. Milverton and Lady Ellesmere are very like ordinary women. Womanity is strong in them. 1892 M. C. Salaman *Woman* 6 Each fresh experience of love..increases one's knowledge of 'Womanity'—if I may be allowed the term. 1896 *Daily Tel.* 4 Mar. 7/3 What will it profit a woman to gain an Oxford degree and lose her womanity?

Womanize (wu·mânəiz), *v.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To make a woman of (a man); *gen.* to render effeminate, to emasculate.

1593 [see Womanish *v.*, quot. a 1586] 1643 Torshell *Case Consc.* 9 Wee may not now suffer the thoughts of safety elsewhere to womanize our spirits. 1647 Stapylton *Juvenal* 29 *margin*, The Roman Sardinapall, men womanized. 1755 Johnson, *Womanize*, to emasculate; to effeminate; to soften. Proper, but not used. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* No. 136 P 5 To vitiate their morals, to womanize their spirits. 1852 Lytton in *Lett. Robt. 1st Earl Lytton* (1906) I. 40 Don't let Italy womanise you. 1881 Meredith *Tragic Com.* I. vii. 146 Men who have the woman in them without being womanized.

†2. *intr.* To become womanlike; to behave like a woman. *Obs.*

1604 Earl Stirling *Crœsus* III. ii. F 3, From the height of Honour to digresse, To womanize with courtly vaine delights. 1633 Withers *Abuses* II. Juvenilia (1633) 232 Such as can So much degenerate themselves from Man, In tyre and gesture both to womanize. 1736 Bailey (fol.).

3. To consort illicitly with women. *colloq.*

1893 Farmer & Henley *Slang, Cases*..to go wenching; to womanize. 1914 C. Mackenzie *Sinister St.* III. xii, The Bad Men went up to London and womanized.

Hence **Wo·manized** *ppl. a.*, in senses of the verb; under the influence of fears which it would be an excess of flattery to call womanish.

also, rendered womanly; **Wo·manizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Womaniza·tion**; **Wo·manizer**, one who goes after or consorts illicitly with women.

1684 Gee *Foot out of Snare* 62 Fit..to set a womanized Chaerea in Terence his Eunuchus. 1733 Drumm. of Hawth. *Entert. K. Chas.* iv. 31 Gorgeous raymenta, womanising toyes. 1734 T. Johnson *Percy's Chirurg.* I. xi. (1678) 17 These are some womanizing or womanish men. 1775 Ash, *Womanising*, the act of softening down to the qualities of a woman. 1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* xviii. 122 The womanized tone of the proud and happy mother. 1878 M. C. Jackson *Chaperon's Cares* iii, She is a womanized likeness of poor Edward. 1914 A. Harrison *Kaiser's War* v. 141 The growing softness of life beyond the Fatherland—the world's general womanization, as they [*sc.* Germans] called it. 1924 Galsworthy *White Monkey* II. ix, Somehow..I feel he's a womaniser.

†**Wo·mankin.** *Obs.* In 3 (*Orm.*) **wifmann-, wimmannkinn.** [f. Woman *sb.* + Kin *sb.*[1]; cf. Mankin[1].] = next, 1.

c 1200 Ormin 2334 Wel þho sahh..þatt þho wass sedi3 wimmann an all wimmannkinn bitweenenn. *Ibid.* 3058 Till weppmann & till wifmannkinn.

Womankind (wu·mănkəind). [f. Woman *sb.* + Kind *sb.* Cf. Womenkind.]

1. The female part of the human race; the female sex; women in general.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 9024 (Fairf.) For alle we come of woman kinde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 317 Pharao ..heelde womman kynde ful feble to be rebel. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 21 Bysseche for the deuowte wommankynde [*Prymer* (1895) 6 wommans kynde]. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 259 in *Babees Bk.*, Speke neuer vnhonestly of woman kynde. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxiv. 4 The foul delyte Off woman-kynd that dreidis for na schame. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xviii. 22 Thou shalt not lye with mankynde as with womankynde. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. v. 52 In gentle Ladies brest, and bounteous race Of woman kind. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 35 This man would suffer no woman-kind to do any service within his gates. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 9 In womankind, I can love nothing but you. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* v, I do admire Of womankind but one. 1822 Byron *Juan* vi. xxvii, My wish is..That womankind had but one rosy mouth, To kiss them all at once from North to South. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vi. 290 The soft and milky rabble of womankind.

†**b.** appositively or predicatively: Female. *Obs.*

c 1570 R. Coxe *Injunctions*, Their children and seruauntes both mankinde and womankinde. 1577 Bp. Aylmer *Articles to be enquired of* A 4 b, Any of his parish..eyther mankind or womankinde. 1624 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* II. D 2 b, Did I but only know her to be woman kind, I thinke it were sufficient.

2. The women of a family, household, company, country, etc.; female relatives and friends (sometimes also servants); (one's) women-folk.

1573 L. Lloyd *Pilgr. Princes* (1586) 8 Agreeing that the womankinde should passe away that night. 1825 Southey *Lett.* (1856) III. 318 My womankind join in kind regards. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvi, Pen, chafing under the persecution which his womankind had inflicted upon him. 1862 Kingston *Three Midshipmen* viii, All the womankind in and out of the house, for a long way round.

†**3.** A female human being; a woman. *Obs.*

a 1685 *Warn. Married Women* xxviii. in Child *Ballads* (1892) IV. 363/2 Since that time the woman-kind Was never seen no more. 1721 *Acts & Laws Massachusetts* (1724) 270 Whosoever shall be convicted of Assaulting .any Woman or Woman-kind. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* ix, 'Where's the younger womankind?'..'Indeed, brother, Maria..set away to the Halket Craig-head—I wonder ye didna see her. 1823 Byron in Trelawny *Shelley* (1887) 213 If we had a womankind on board, she would set us all at loggerheads.

†**4.** Womanhood. (Cf. Mankind A. 2.) *Obs. rare.*

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Peter* iii. 7 Let your wisdome succour the frailtie of their womankynde.

Womanless (wu·mănlĕs), *a.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -less.] Without a woman or women; having or containing no women.

1846 in Worcester. 1859 *Athenæum* 10 Dec. 772/2 It is a strange arena, the womanless world of cassocks. 1872 M. Collins *Princess Clarice* I. xvi. 254 Arthur Swingate found himself womanless. 1912 *Engl. Rev.* June 494 A womanless play called *The New Sin*.

Womanlike (wu·mănlaik), *a.* and *adv.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -like.] **A.** *adj.* Like, resembling, or characteristic of a woman or women; in derogatory use, womanish, effeminate.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 154/2 Femynyne, or woman lyke, *muliebris*. 1550 Crowley *Way to it saith* 315 Fingered ladies, whose womanlike behauiour..ought to be a lighte to al women. 1561 T. Norton tr. *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xix. 256 b, Clerkes were commaunded..to sheare their head..that they should not beare any shewe of womanlyke trimming. 1597 Drayton *Heroical Ep., Isab. to Mortimer* Notes so b, His behauiour and attire euer so womanlike, to please the eye of his lasciuous Prince. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* 31 Scorning to be seene in any woman-like exercise. 1647 Hexham I, Womanlike, delicate and tender. 1822 Scott *Talism.* xiv, Ashamed at being surprised in a womanlike expression of sorrow, Sir Kenneth dashed his tears indignantly aside. 1878 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 521 Trees were credited with woman-like inhabitants capable of doing good and ill. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* 516 The tearful womanlike face of the Christ.

B. *adv.* In a manner characteristic of women; after the fashion of women; like a woman.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 365 Sho was not ferd for sword nor wownd, nor wepid wommanlyke. 1556 Phaer *Æneid.* IV. (1558) I iv b, This pranking Paris fyne..With grekishe wymple pynkyd, womanlyke. 1635 *Life Long Mar of Westm.* (1872) 43 She..dressed him full womanlike. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xxxvii. 28 But she a nobler fate explored, Nor woman-like beheld the deathful sword. 1857 W. Collins *Dead Secret* v. iv. (1862) 221 'Of course', cried Rosamond, looking, womanlike, straight on to the purpose she had in view. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xxix. 303 He would not, it appeared, sit down without her permission. And, womanlike, she gave it.

Womanliness (wu·mănlinĕs). [f. Womanly *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being womanly; womanly character; † effeminateness.

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Mollicies, et mollicia*,..womanlynesse. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Pet.* iii. 1–6 The entier vprightnes, godlynes, womanlynes,..and sufferaunce of the wyfe. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. (S.T.S.) I. 214 Throuch the negligence of King Constantine, and his womanlines. 1647 Hexham I, Womanlienesse, *vrouwachtigheydt*. 1864 *Reader* 30 Apr. 564/2 The *Portia* of Mrs. Vezin is endued with the grace and womanliness that characterize all her performances. 1876 J. Parker *Paracl.* I. xvi. 259 The womanliness of the Divine nature, its infinite grace and pathos. 1881 G. Meredith *Trag. Com.* I. vii. 146 The choicest women are those who yield not a feather of their womanliness for some amount of manlike strength.

†**Wo·manlish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Blending of Womanish and Womanly *a.*] Womanlike, effeminate. **Wo·manlishly** *adv.*, **Wo·manlishness.**

1579 Twyne *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. xii. 181 Womanlyshly glorying [she] shewed her her most precious and fayre Iewelles. 1647 Hexham I, Womanlish or effeminate, *vrouwachtigh*. Womanlishly, *vrouwachtighlick*. 1648 *Ibid.* II, *Wijfachtheydt*, Womanlishnesse, or Effeminatenesse.

Womanly (wu·mănli), *a.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ly[1].]

1. Possessing the attributes proper to a woman; having the qualities (as of gentleness, devotion, fearfulness, etc.) characteristic of women; also said of these qualities or of actions which exhibit them.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 106 .O. wommanlyche wyf. *Ibid.* IV. 694 (Camb. MS.) Þo wordis & þo womanliche þyngis Sche herde riȝt nouȝt þow sche þere were. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 175 So womanly so benygne & so meke. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 2225 Youre wommanly pitee. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xii. (Skeat) I. 214 So precious perle, as a womanly woman in her kynde. 1421 Hoccleve *Jereslaus's Wife* 466 A lady the womanlyeste Of cheere. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 525 Your person, ittis so womanly. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 115 b, Where was her womanly pitie? 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 69 She coulde scarcely contene hir selfe from embracing him, had not womanly shamefastnes.. stayed hir wisedome. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* I. iii, Be womanly, Win; make an outcry to your mother, Win I 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* IV. 54 Rage choaks my words: 'tis Womanly to weep. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 272 P 1 One who was growing up to the same womanly Virtues which shine to Perfection in her. 1805 Southey *Madoc* I. xvii. 132 Womanly sobs were heard, and manly cheeks Were wet with silent tears. 1832 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. 235 Lady Goldsmid (that impersonation of all that is womanly and motherly). 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 568 Whatever womanly tenderness she [*sc.* Elizabeth] had, wrapt itself around Leicester.

b. In derogatory use, with reference to the bad qualities attributed to women; † (of men) effeminate, womanish.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 274 Þet nis nout iwar ne waker ne nis nout monlich, auh is wummonlich. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* xiv. 24 Men maad wommanlich weren in the loond. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) 1 Pet. iii. 7 Departynge to hem worschupe, as to a wommanlyche vessel þat is more febel þan ȝe beþ. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 228 b, Nyce aray, and new fangled garmentis, welthy fare and ydelnes: make men to be womanly. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* s.v. *Mollis*, *Molis homo*, a man effeminate, or womanlye. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 57 b, For very womanly malice, she set in the highest authoritie aboute the kyng her husband. 1558 Knox *First Blast* (Arb.) 22 Lest that again she slide and fall by womanlie facilitie. 1613 G. Sandys *Trav.* 23 Burning with a womanly spleen. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett., to Lady X—* 1 Oct. (1887) I. 128 The womanly spirit of contradiction. 1830 James *De L'Orme* xvii, Senor, are you a man? I would not, for very shame, have any one see you look so womanly. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xix, Has she baffled me by some piece of womanly jugglery?

2. Having the character of, befitting or characteristic of, a woman as contrasted with a girl.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 15 P 2 The Girl was very proud of the Womanly Employment of a Nurse. 1732 Arbuthnot *Aliments, Rules of Diet* (1736) 408 Young Persons under a womanly Age. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxxvi. 279 The girl begins to be womanly. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* iii, A short, brown, womanly girl of fourteen. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xv, A very little girl..wearing a womanly sort of bonnet much too large for her.

3. Belonging or proper to the female sex.

1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xliv, Her early training had kept her aloof from such womanly labours. *a* 1873 Lytton *Pausanias* (1876) 90 Cleonice..had enjoyed those advantages of womanly education wholly unknown at that time to the freeborn ladies of Greece. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 146 Many types of manly and womanly beauty.

Wo·manly, *adv. Obs.* or *arch.* [f. as prec.: see -ly[2].] In a womanly manner; like a woman.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9392 Wat he aþ Manliche higonne, he it aþ bileued Wommanliche, as vor defaute of wit in his heued. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3994 Cassandra..was a Clene Maydon,..Womonly wroght. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 7 Where as ye, ffull womanly and lyke a losser, remembre me with manyffolde recommendacion in dyuerse maners. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritis Wemen* 496 To euery man in speciall speke I sum wordis, So wisly, and so womanly, quhill warmys ther hertis. 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers, Lullabie of Lover* 4 And lullaby can I sing to, As womanly as can the best. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* iii. 2 (1619) 378 For how womanly haue many behaued themselues. 1723 *Britton* No. 7 (1724) 28 You..then very Womanly expect a Consideration, for the Trouble we put you to in Swearing. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Rom. Page* xxvii, Oh, womanly, she prayed in tent, When none beside did wake!

Womanness (wu·mănnĕs). *rare.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ness.] Womanliness.

1845 Mrs. Carlyle in *Jane Welsh Carlyle* (1924) 230 The only chance of my getting any right good of him was to make him forget my womanness. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 433 Above..all stood her femininness, her thorough womanness.

Wo·man-servant. Pl. **women-servants.** A female servant.

1529 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 43 Other wymen and wymen seruands. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Gen. xx. 14 Men seruauntes & wemenseruauntes [1580 (*Geneva* women seruantes]. 1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.* 1670 A woman seruant. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. 1787 IV. 15 She bribed a woman-servant to procure her a sword. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxiv, At this, the two women-servants lifted up their hands and eyes. 1855 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 263 A dirty woman-servant opened the door.

Wo·manship. *nonce-wd.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ship.] *Her womanship*: jocular title for a woman.

1609 Healey *Discov. New World* II. ii. 99, I..told her Womanship that for my part I had [etc.].

Wo·manshire. *nonce-wd.* [f. Woman *sb.* + Shire *sb.*] The domain or sphere of women.

1606 *Wily Beguiled* 73 Thou hast got the merriest woer in all Womanshire.

Woman's rights. Also **women's rights.** The rights claimed for women of equal privileges and opportunities with men. Also *attrib.*

[1799 the rights of woman: see Right *sb.* 20.]

1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* iv, One may sympathise with the advocates of woman's rights who point out this monstrous wrong. 1850 (*title*) Women's Rights Convention. 1864 'Annie Thomas' *D. Donne* III. 33 Even though Stephanie Fordyce was no woman's rights girl. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* v, We have seen something of the 'woman's rights' question in America.

Hence **Woman's (women's) righter,** a believer in or supporter of woman's rights.

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 23 Feb. 3/2 Women's righters in Germany. 1894 Le Gallienne *Retrosp. Rev.* (1896) II. 179 May she be saved from being a..woman's-righter!

Womar, var. Woomera.

Womb (wūm), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1–2, 4 **wamb,** 4–5 **wambe**; see also Wame. *β.* 1– **womb**; 1 **uommb,** 3–7 **wombe,** 5 *north.* **vombe,** 6 *Sc.* **voyme, voymbe.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *wamb, womb* str. fem. = (M)LG., MDu *wamme* (Du. *wam*), OHG. *wamba, wampa* (MHG. *wamme, wampe*, G. *wamme*, dial. *wampe*), ON *vpmb* (MSw. *vamb*), Goth. *wamba* κοιλία, γαστήρ: ulterior relations obscure.

For a Romance deriv. of the Teut. word see Gamberson.]

†**1.** = Belly. **a.** The abdomen. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xliii[ii]. 25 *Adhesit in terra venter noster*, setfalh in eorðan womb ur. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xxxvii. 3 Ic wiht geseah on wege feran, seo..hæfde feowere fet under wombe. *c* 1205 Lay. 19800 His neb bigon to blakien, his wombe gon to swellen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10794 Wan richard þe marschal..toward is fon in þe feld haþ is wombe iwent, Ssold he turne hom is rugh? *c* 1305 *Judas Isc.* 141 in *E. E. P.* (1886.) 212 His wombe to-berste amidde atuo. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 66 Inwyth the wombe of man..Is herte lyuer and longes. 23.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 144 His wombe & his wast were worthily smale. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 24 Tharmes, The wombe and al doun to the kne, Of bras thei were. *Ibid.* III. 215 What man that..wery is to swinke, Upon his wombe and lith to drinke, Forsak. *a* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 638/33 *Hic venter*, wambe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 39 Take þe Wombe of A luce, & sepe here wyl. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 53 Her wombis [L. *venter, aut viscera*], sidis, reynys, swelle or ake. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a iij b, All thyng with in the wombe saue onli the gall. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) I. 12 If he haue a great wombe, and his Cofers ful. 1526 R. Whytford *Martiloge* 100 They were racked,..than were theyr wombes or belye-fluyne the skynne of. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 25 And I had but a belly of any indifferencie, I were simply the most actiue fellow in Europe: my wombe, my wombe, my wombe vndoes mee. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 462 The Tormentor..drew violently with his hands, making my Wombe support the force of his feete. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 35 As for your Mare; let her have a compleat Body, Indifferent Long with a large Womb.

†**b.** The stomach (as the receptacle of food).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 17 Ne oncnauas ȝe forðon eghuelc þæt in muð inngaas in womb gaas? *a* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 159/27 *Alnus*, rif *uel* seo inre wamb. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke xv. 16 Ða gewilnode he his wambe fellen of þam beancoddan þe þa swin æten. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 145 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Ful wombe mei lihtliche speken of hunger & of festen. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 137 Of here wombe hie makieð here godd. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Þe fule man þe foleȝeð his wombes wil. 13.. *Cursor M.* 536 (Gött.) Manes wambe all licur drinkis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 53 Þanne saolle we betuene þe porse and þe wombe of þe glotoune habbe a unyr strif. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 262 Hongur..wrong him so be þe wombe, þat bope his eȝen watreden. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 462 He..Falles on þe foule flesch & fyllez his wombe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 447 Thanne sholde nat hunger in my wombe crepe. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 170 Withe ful wombe they preche of abstynence. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 39 Do in þe grete wombe of þe Schepe, þat is, the mawe. 1525 Barclay *Eclogues* iv. (1570) C iij b/2 When ye be mery and stuffed is your wombe..Then laude ye songes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxvi. viii. II. 248 The wombe..oftentimes in a day calleth unto us for victuals. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 58/2 If nought from without come in the wombe The Body needes must die. 1736 *Poor Robin* June B 2 b, Who makes a swill tub of his womb, Is but a speaking, prattling tomb.

†**c.** The bowels. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 286 Se nehtegeda mete heforaþ þone magan & he þone sammeltan þurh ða wambe utsent. *c* 1400

Maundev. (1919) xviii. 101 Men putten it in medicynes..to make the Wombe lax. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 70 A potage newise and laxatyue to þe wombe. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 51 If þat he be feble..voide þe fecis of his wombe bi clisteria. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xxxiv. (1869) 88 Þou berest him to priuee chambres..to voide his wombe. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) M ij, It is holsome for you, every day once to procure the dusty of the wombe.

†**d.** The belly-piece of a hide or skin. *Obs.*

1434 *Will of Ruddok* (Somerset Ho.) Calabir wombia. 1483 in *Antig. Rep.* (1807) I. 32 A greate bordure and purfile of ermyne wombes. 1531 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* lf. 11 b, Item, for a payer of wombs tande.., vid ob. 1552–3 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI* c. 23 § 3 Everie Girdler..maye..sell.. Neckes, Wombes and Shreddes of tanned Leather. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 269 Whereas you should only put the backs of skinnes into facing, you taw the wombs. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 305 Beaver bellies or wombes the peice, viii s.

¶ (*a*) In translations of the Vulgate rendering *venter* in the sense of 'heart, soul'.

c 825 *Vesp. Hymnes* vi. 31 *Expavit venter meus*, forhtade womb min. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* li. 29 My wombe [*later version* soule] is disturbid in sechyng it.

(*b*) tr. L. *ventriculus* = Ventricle I.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvi. (1495) I vij b/2 The herte hath two holownesses..And thise two holownesses ben callyd the wombes of the herte [L. *ventriculi cordis*]. *Ibid.* I viij/1 In the wombe of the hert is a pyece shappe as an eere wythout.

2. The uterus.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxvi[i]. 3 *Fructus ventris*, westem wombe. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 29 Eadzo biðon ða unberendo & ða wombo ðaðe ne scendon. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtunes* 87 Hv mai ðat moder forȝetien ðat child ðe his bar in hire wombe? *c* 1205 Lay. 199 Heueden Lauine þa quene kinebearn on wombe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3460 Childir tuin þat lai þer moder wamb wit-in. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 859 A child gan stere in hir wombe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 63 What wommans wambe myght bere so grete a light? *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 134 They were his bretherne of one wombe descended. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 94 Birds, that are shaped without the Females Wombe, haue in the Egge..Matter of Nourishment. 1718 Prior *Solomon* III. 115 Naked from the Womb We yesterday came forth. 1820 Shelley *Cloud* 83 Like a child from the womb. 1842 Tennyson *Day-dream* 28 Like hints and echoes of the world To spirits folded in the womb.

3. *transf.* A hollow space or cavity, or something conceived as such (*e.g.* the depth of night); †also, a belly-shaped object or part.

969 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 532 Þæt swa on east crofte þæt swa ondlong þære hege ræwe þæt on ondoncilles wombe. *a* 1000 *Riddles* lv. 48 [Clouds] feallan lætaþ sweart sumsendu seaw of bosme, wætan of wombe. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 2 Ic þa wihte geseah; womb wæs on hindan þripum abrinten. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xix. 7 Nakened shal be the flod wombe [*alveus viri*]. *c* 1392 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 3 The moder of thin Astrelabie is þe thikkeste plate, perced with a large hole, þat resseyuyth in hir wombe the thynne plates. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 56, I had moche leuer that the erthe wold opene and swalwe me in to his wombe. 1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 239, I may be pluckt into the swallowing wombe, Of this deepe pit, poore Bassianus graue. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 65 As violently, as hastie powder fier'd Doth hurry from the fatall Cannons wombe. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. v, Yee sootie coursers of the night, Hurrie your chariot into hels black wombe. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* x. 471 The fourth brought water, and made fuel shine In ruddy fires beneath a womb of brass. 1616 T. Scot *Philomythie* I 3 b, And both these rudely enter The strong ships wombe. 1661 Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 141 When the wind is gathered into that hole, and tossed to and fro in the womb of it, there is to be heard as it were a musicall sound. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 1278 What Earth will open her devouring Womb, To rest a weary Goddess in the Tomb? 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rem. Things* II. x. 334 There was seen at Mecklin fifteen Pair of Dice..in the Womb of a Cherry-Stone. 1722 Swift *Stella's Birthday* 68 As you raise it [*sc.* the bottle] from its Tomb, It drags behind a spacious Womb. 1797 J. Cuhr *Coal Viewer* 45 Inclosing it (*sc.* the boiler] with a circular wall 10 inches thick, as high as the womb of the boiler. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., Palm Sunday* iii, Stones in earth's dark womb that rest. 1857 B. Taylor *Northern Trav.* xxx. (1858) 315 You can..watch, through the vortex of whirling spray in its tortured womb, the starry coruscations which radiate from the bottom of the fall. 1863 — *Poems, Poet's Jrnl., and Eve in Winter*, Wait in the womb of the snow. 1887 Ian Hamilton *Ballad of Hadji* 14 Then through the womb Of night I galloped.

4. *fig.* (from 2) A place or medium of conception and development; a place or point of origin and growth; sometimes *spec.*, as †the matrix of metals, etc.

1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, II. i. 51 This England, This Nurse, this teeming wombe of Royall Kings. *Ibid.* ii. 10 Some vnborne sorrow, ripe in fortunes wombe. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 377 There are many Euents in the Wombe of Time, which wilbe deliuered. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Shilling* C 6 b, Siluer..from the wombe of vaust America. 1632 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 15 Elements are simple essences..and are the wombs of mixed things. 1665 J. Spencer *Vulg Prophs.* 8 There is not a more fruitful womb of seditions and confusions

and meanest Clay, and work in Serpents Poyson and Scorpions Venom. *Theo. Theol.* (1712) III. 89 The empty Womb of Nothing delivered itself of that Lump and confused Chaos, which..God..digested into that..Order we now see it in. 1797 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxix. II. 282 The cold womb of the earth is incapable of any better production than some miserable shrubs. 1798 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 396 *Pericarpium*, the Womb of the Plant big with Seeds, which it emits when mature. 1820 Coleridge *Friend* No. 22 P 2 The various unforeseen Events that are ripening in the womb of the Future. 1866 Veneda *El Dorado* IX. 95 The fulfilment of her destiny is in the womb of time.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *womb part, passage, -pipe, side*; *womb-enclosed, -lodged* adjs.; †**womb ache**, belly-ache, stomach-ache; †**womb brother**, a uterine brother; †**womb-cake** = Placenta I; †**wombgate** [Gate *sb.*1], = Vulva I; **womb-grain** [tr. G. *mutterkorn*], ergot of rye (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1848); †**womb-infant**, an unborn child; †**womb-joy**, gratification of the appetite, luxurious fare, belly-cheer; †**womb-liver** = *womb-cake*; †**womb-pancake** = *womb-cake*; †**womb-rope**, a belly-band of rope; **womb-stone**, a calcified fibroid tumour of the womb (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890); **womb-syringe**, a uterine syringe; †**womb syrup** (see quot.); †**womb-tack** [cf. Tack *sb.*1, *v.*1] = Womb-tie; †**womb-trumpet** [cf. G. *muttertrompete*], a Fallopian tube, oviduct.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlviii. (1495) f iij b/2 Gete..swaȝyth *wombe ache. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 2 Thess.* ii. 1 Brethren, *womb brethren, as near in nature as is possible. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Hartfordshire* (1662) II. 19 Son to Queen Katherine by Owen Theodor, her second husband, womb-brother to King Henry the Sixth. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* Introd., The Navil-vein, receiving blood out of the *Womb-cake. 1743 R. Poole *Journ. France* etc. (1744) I. 132 The Placenta or Womb Cake. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* II. xiv. 8 Thy *wombe-inclosed off-spring. 1379 *Gloucester Cath. MS.* 19 Press No. 2 *Tentigo* ys ycalled paries vulue Anglice the *Wombeȝates wall. Or elles lingula vulue Anglice the *Wombeȝates tunge. 1611 Cotgr., *Vrayne*, the pipe or passage whereby a *wombe-infants vrine is carried from it. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 68 Prelatis..sillen..trewe prechynge for..worldli lordschipe, & *wombe loie and idelnesse. 1388 *Songs & Poems on Costume* (Percy Soc.) 45 Unthrifte and wombe-ioye, *steriles et luxuriosi*. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. vi. (Tollem. MS.) [Children] bibinkeþ only in wombe ioye, and knoweþ not þe mesure of here owen wombe. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. xxxvi. So That same round mass is called Placenta Uteri, the Womb-pancake..; also the *Womb-liver. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* II. 8 On the seventh day she..voided the placenta (or womb liver). 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Agnetiere*, A *wombe-lodged infant. 1668 *Womb-pancake [see *womb-liver*]. 1598 Florio, *Vulva*,..the *womble part or *womb passage. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Womb-Passage*,..commonterm for the *Vagina*. 1611 Cotgr., *Vulve*, the *wombe-pipe, or priuie passage. *c* 1385 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 168 Ke porte à dos une dossere [*gloss* rige-leyther], E au ventre une venter [*gloss* a *wombe-rop]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 882 *Sele coler et ventrere*, Sadul hamborwe and womberope. *c* 1392 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 29 The lyne Meridional on the *wombe-side. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Ley the plke in A charger, the wombe side vpward. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 5/1 This Water is to be injected into..the Womb with a *Womb-Syringe. *Ibid.* 609/2 *Syrupus Uterinus*, i.e. *Caranna*, The *Womb Syrup, or Syrup of Gum Caranna. 1729 P. Walkden *Diary* (1866) 56 Henry Charnley viewed the horse, with packsaddle and *woontak, at £2 10s. 1703 *Etmullerus Abridged* 596 The Egg thus influenc'd, falls off into one of the *Womb-Trumpets.

Womb (wūm), *v.* [f. Womb *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To enclose as in a womb.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 239 The hidden harme..Wombed within our walles and realme about, As Grekes in Troy were in the Grekish beast. 1611 Shake. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 501 Not ..for all the Sun sees, or The close earth wombes,..will I breake my oath. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 113 In this from out another tree A bud they womb. 1871 G. Macdonald *Sonnnium Myst.* v. 30 A world that lay Wombed in its sun.

†**2.** To cause to swell *out*: = Belly *v.* 1. *nonce-use.*

1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. (II.) lxi. 57 Once lanched forth, hee may..find the blast, to wombe out his sailes more fully.

3. *pa. ppls.* Impregnated *with*. *nonce-use.*

1786 J. Courtenay *Poet. Rev. Char.* womb'd with fire the cloud electrick flies.

Wombat (wǫ·mbæt). Also **womat, wombach, wo(o)mbach.** [Native Australian name.] Any of the burrowing marsupials of the genus *Phascolomys*, native to South Australia and Tasmania, characterized by a thick heavy body, short legs, and a general resemblance to a small bear.

1798 Flinders in *Voy. Terra Australis* (1814) Introd. p. cxxviii, Point Womat, a rocky projection of Cape-Barren Island, where a number of the new animals, called *womat*, were seen. [*Ibid.* p. cxxxv, Called by the natives, *womat, wombat*, or *wombach*, according to the different dialects, or perhaps to the different rendering of the wood rangers who brought the information.] 1827 in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 175 The dogs had caught them three kangaroos, and two badgers or woombacks. 1852 J. West *Hist. Tasmania* I. 324 The Wombat, commonly called in the colony Badger. 1896 Gosse *Critical Kit-Kats* 267 Pater has often reminded me of some such armadillo or wombat.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1847 G. F. Angas *Savage Life* I. 66 Wombat burrows. 1859 C. G. Rossetti *Goblin Market* xvii, Cat-like and rat-like, Ratel- and wombat-like. 1870 Gordon *Bush Ballads, From the Wreck* 24 Look out for the holes On the wombat hills.

†**Wombolout.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **wombe-cloute, 5 wamclowte, womclotte.** [f. Womb *sb.* + Clout *sb.*1] The omentum; tripe. (Cf. *paunch-clout*, Paunch *sb.*1 3.)

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xiii. 63 He eet many sondry metes mortrewes and puddynges, Wombe-cloutes and wylde braune. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 503/1 Trype (or pawnchecloute.., or wamclowte..), *scrutium*. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 789/29 *Hec omentum*, a womclotte.

Wombed (wūmd), *a.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -ed 2.] Having a womb or belly (of a specified kind); also (quot. *c* 1430), great-bellied.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7731 Sulhe þikke mon he was & of grete strengþe, Gret wombede & ballede. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cvi. (1869) 213 Swollen and wombed thanne I become. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 285/2 This hollow wombed masse shall inly grone. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* VIII. 533 O'er the fire A tripod ample-womb'd.

†**Wombful,** *sb. Obs.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -ful.] As much as will fill the womb or the stomach.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 437 Sche leved here thrittene dayes in fleschelike likyng, and hadde her wombeful, and went hir wey [L. *implete utero abscessit*]. 1637 Rutherford *Lett., to Parishioners* 13 July (1664) 7 The earth worme, who can never get his wombfull of clay. 1637 — *Let. to A. Gordon* 234, I would break the door and be in upon him, to get a wombfull of love; for I am an hungered..soul.

†**Wombful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Womb *sb.* + Full *a.*] Having a full stomach.

1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* xlix. 30 He that lythe with women wombe fulle [*cf. ante* with fulle wombe].

Wombill, womble, obs. ff. Wimble.

Womble, Wombly, var. ff. Wamble, Wambly *a.*

†**Wombling, -long,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -ling, -long.] With the belly on the ground or along a surface.

13..*K. Alis.* 3658 (Laud MS.) Þe Addres..to-cleue þ wombe-lyng. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 451 Lay your cony wombelonge vche side to þe chyne.

†**Womb-tie, -tow.** *Obs.* In 5 wom(e)tye, wombtye, 6 womtoe. [f. Womb *sb.* + Tie *sb.*, Tow *sb.*2 Cf. Wame-tow, Wanty.] A girth or belly-band.

1481–3 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 496. No. 26 (P.R.O.) Bely girthes Wometyes. 1485 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiaries St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 383 Et in corda empta ad faciendum les Wombtyes iiijd. 1587 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 150, ij load saddles, a womtoe and a halter.

Womby (wū·mi), *a. rare.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -y 1.] Having a womb-like cavity; hollow.

1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 104 Caues and Wombie Vaultages of France. 1838 Singleton *Virgil* II. 536 To hide thee in the womby earth [orig. *cava..terra*].

Wome, obs. form of Whom.

Womell, obs. form of Wimble.

Womenfolk (wi·mĕnfōuk). Also *dial.* **-folks.** [f. *women*, pl. of Woman *sb.* + Folk.] **a.** Women collectively, womankind. Now *dial.* **b.** The women of a household, a party, or the like: *dial.* the female servants.

1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, You have been snubbed —the women-folk, as I call them, have driven you away. 1849 E. E. Napier *Excurs. S. Afr.* II. 389 Making your appearance in such a fashion, and that too, when you know there are women-folk in the house. 1877 Black *Green Past.* I, There was a stir among our women-folk. 1879 Burroughs *Locusts & Wild Honey* 131 We could gain no information from the 'women-folks'..nor from the men who had just come in. 1896 Rideal (*title*) Charles Dickens's Heroines and Women-Folk. 1911 *Times* 8 Aug. 3/2 Foreign residents have sent their women-folk by train to Mexico City.

†**Wo·menkin.** *Obs.* [f. *women*, pl. of Woman *sb.* + Kin *sb.*1] = next, 1.

1387 wommen kyn [see Men-kind].

Womenkind (wi·mĕnkəind). [f. as prec. + Kind *sb.* Cf. Men-kind.] **1.** = Womankind 1.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 335 Þis pope is nouȝt i-rekened in þe book of poopes for he was of wommen kynde. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* F ij, I can not for thy sake but say and thinke well of all womenkinde. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* III. i, 'Tis the truth that all womenkind is false. 1652 H. L'Estrange *Amer. no Jewes* 26 A curse entailed upon Eve, and all women kind ever since. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1699) 599/2 It..cures the Greensickness in Virgins, and most Diseases of the Womb in Women-kind.

1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xxxvi. II. 300 The womenkind always do think that. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 539/1 The..foot-warmers..used by all womenkind in Dutch churches. 1889 Mrs. E. Kennard *Landing a Prize* I. (1891) 2 This behaviour disgusted Mr. Bousfield with womenkind.

†**b.** = Womankind 1 b. *Obs.*

1571 Grindal *Injunct., Laity* § 10 Their children and seruaunts both menkinde and womenkinde. 1588 in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 255 [Every servant] bothe men kinde and wemen kinde. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. (S.T.S.) I. 133 Gif the king left successione behind him vndir xiiii ȝeiris in menkynd, and xii ȝeiris in womenkynd.

2. = Womankind 3.

1648 Josselin *Diary* (Camden 1908) 59 Some of the womenkinde of the parrish. 1674 [see Men-kind]. 1892 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* xiii. (1875) 159 The old gentleman evidently took a secret pride in his womenkind. 1908 W. B. Boulton *Gainsborough* 328 The patronage of gentlemen and their womenkind alone enabled him to live.

Woment, var. Wayment *v.* **Womet, -it,** obs. Sc. ff. Vomit. **Wommal,** var. Wammel *dial.* **Wommil, -ill,** obs. ff. Wimble. **Wommle,** var. Wamble. **Wompam, wompom,** obs. ff. Wampum. **Womple, wompyll,** obs. Sc. ff. Wimple.

Womward(e, obs. forms of Homeward *adv.*

1307 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) I. 249 They..returnyd womward.

Womyl, -ylle, obs. forms of Wimble.

Won, wone (wɒn, wōn), *v. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north.*, and *arch.* Forms: 1 **wunian,** (1–2 **uni-**), 2–3 **wnien, wunen,** 3 **wunie(n, wunye(n, wune, Ormin wunenn,** 3–4 **wne**; 2–4 **wonien,** 3 **wonin,** 4 **wonen, wonie(n, wonze, wonie, -y,** 4–5 **-ye**; 4–8 **wonne,** 4–9 **won(n, wone,** 5 **wonon, -yn,** (5–7 **woon,** 7 **woone**); *Sc.* and *north.* 4 **vone,**

vonne, 5–9 wun, 9 woan(e, woon, wonne, wunn. *Pa. t.* 1 wunode, 2 wnede, 3 wunede; 4 wonid, wonyed, wonde, *Sc.* wonnyt, 4–8 wond, 5 wonyd, vonnyt, 6 woond, (*pseudo-arch.* wonne), *Sc.* wonnit, 4– wonned, wonn'd, woned, won'd. *Pa. pple.*: see WONT *pa. pple.*; also 5 wunte. See also WIN *v.*[2] [OE. *wunian*, corresp. to OFris. *wunia*, *wonia* to dwell, OS. *wunôn*, *wonôn*, (M)LG., (M)Du. *wonen*, OHG. *wonên* (MHG. *wonen*, G. *wohnen*) to be accustomed, remain, dwell, ON. *una* to rejoice, Goth. **wunan* in *unwunands* troubled :— **wunôjan*, *-ôjan*, f. Teut. *wun-*, for further relations of which see WEAN *v.*, WIN *sb.*[2], etc.]

I. 1. *intr.* To stay habitually, dwell, live (in a place or with some one).

Beowulf 1128 Hengest..wunode mid Finn. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1140 *Immoratur*, wunat. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 57 Seo fæsternes þære saule þe on ecnesse wunaþ on heofena rices gesceaft.' *Ibid.* 105 Ac þær wunian mot [he]..mid engla sibbe on ecean wuldre. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 39 Hiz comon & geseawon hwar he wunode, & mid him wunodon on þam dæge. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 His under-þeodan..on his cyne rice wuneden. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Þer wunieð fower cunnes wurmes inne þet fordoð nuðe al þeos middelerd. *c* 1205 LAY. 17681 Þene þe sæte hæhe þe wunede an æi londe. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 517 Dis fis [*sc.* whale] wuneð wið þe se grund. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2742 Raguel Ietro þat riche man, Was wunlende in madian. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2678 Þou and þi childer it sal bigin And þat wons þi house wit in. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 17 He com his eam to socour fro fer þer he gan wonne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 232 He..is welcome whan he wil and woneth wyth hem oft. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 54, I hafe wunte with þis knyght þis xiiij yere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 82 In maner of hyrdis in pasturage, On wild montanis he wonnit all his age. 1557 PHAER *Æneid.* VII. (1558) S iv, What people dwells hereby, what townes they keepe, and where they wonne. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 88 Wheresoever the Romane winneth..there he woneth, and inhabiteth. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 240 Dis that woonneth still below. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Emb.*, etc. N 2, Simple and meane's the cottage where I won. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 457 Out of the ground up rose As from his Laire the wilde Beast where he wonns In Forrest wilde. 1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 5 An honest Miller wond in Fife. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 46 There's o Gentleman ot wooans abeawt three Mile off. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xiii, Up spoke the moody Elfin king, Who won'd within the hill. 1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* iii, Neither in Forest haunts love I to won. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* v. (1857) 83 There wons a barber in Dudley..of whom I purchased several fine trilobites. 1857 JEAN INGELOW *Gladys* 563 The wizard that wonned..underground.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

Beowulf 2242 Beorh ealgeard wunode on wonge. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 111 We scealan..þone rihtan geleafan fæste staðelian on urum heortum þæt he wær wunian mæge. *c* 1000 *Phœnix* 82 Þær se halga stenc wunaþ geond wynlond. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Ȝif we þis doð þenne wunet god almihti in us. *c* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 391 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Þeyh o mon wolde al þe worlde And al þe wunne þe þar-inne wuneyþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9666 For þes mai nourquar abide þar hate wons, or werr, or pride. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 2 He dos all to noht þe sinne þat wnis in his þoht. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 141 They haue..ryght sklender connyng Within theyr heedes wonnyng. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 3 Wastefull wayes, Where daungers dwelt, and perils most did wonne. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jac. IV*, I. iii, Thy sight hath cleerd my thoughts Of many banefull troubles that there woond. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. 17 For in that happy soil, doth pleasure ever wonne. *a* 1642 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* i. (1642) 56 And if it be blasphemy or Heresie, let them looke unto it, where it wonneth so familiarly with so many men. 1828 HOOD *'Oh! well may poets make a fuss'* 8: Where are ye, London maads..And gardens redolent of flow'rs Wherein the Zephyr wons? *a* 1839 LADY FLORA HASTINGS *Poems, Lay of Bell* 222 Ever within those sashless walls Sorrow woneth. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 504 That Wisdom yet might wonn with them again.

† 2. To continue to be, remain (in a certain state, condition, or way of life); to have existence, live.

Beowulf 1735 Wunað he on wiste, no hine wiht dweleð adl ne yldo. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 155, & heo wæs fæmne ær hire beorþre & heo wunaþ fæmne æfter hire beorþre. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iii. 595 Se læce..cwæð þæt he gelyfan wolde..ȝif he wunode of[er] mid-dæȝ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 ȝife us..þet he..mid his halie gast us lihte and in cherite to wnien inne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men þe waren wunende on elche of þese þrie times. *Ibid.* 179 *Viuimus in labore*,..on swunche we here wunien. 1340 *Ayenb.* 54 Þo þet libbeþ be þe goste byeþ þo þet ine þe loue of god wonyeþ. *a* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. IV. 205 Ȝif þou wol wone in weole, Prey for þe prest. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 963, I couth nocht won in to welth wretch wast, I was so wantoun of will. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 39 How might that bee, And he the stoutest knight, that euer wonne? 1595 — *Col. Clout* 307 Like as in this same world where we do wone. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. XXVII, Fancie, a lad that all in feathers wons.

† 3. To remain (in a place); to stay. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* IX. 146 Seo eadiga lucia on þære ylcan stowe wunode þe heo ofslazen wæs oðþæt ancerdas coman. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 83 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 40 Wone at hom, doustir.

† 4. *trans.* To dwell in, inhabit. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1260 Grendles modor..se þe wæteregesan wunian scolde, cealde streamas. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 172 Þær he heanne beam on holtwuda wunað. 1568 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1593) 39 The fire he ay doth shon, And chooseth him the contrary continually to won. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 75 When all this Earth..Was onely won'd with such as beastes be got. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. XXV, The toure wherein she lay enclos'd, Was with her damsels onely wond and mee.

II. † 5. *intr.* To be accustomed or used *to do* something. *Obs.* *To be wont*: see WONT *pa. pple.*

The regular form in this sense in OE. was *gewunian*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xli. (*Z.*) 247 *Solco* ic ȝewunige [*v.rr.* iwunie, wunize], *solans* wunizende. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wonon', or vse custummably, *usito.* 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 119 And thereto aye wonned to repayre The shepheards daughters. 1590 — *F. Q.* III. ix. 21 Her well plighted frock, which she did won To tucke about her short, when she did ryde. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. I. XXXII, These parts that won To drag in dirty earth.

† 6. *trans.* To accustom (a person *to* something); *refl.* to accustom oneself, become or be accustomed.

c 1200 ORMIN 19541 He wass sennd to fullhtnenn, To wunenn awa þe follc þærto, forr þatt te33 shulldenn ȝernenn Afftерr þe Laferrd Jesu Crist. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12088 If þou..wald lune þi sun, Til oþer thues þou suld him won. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wonon', or make to be custummyd or vayd.., *assuefacio.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 To Wonne, *assuefacere.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 85 Seint nicholas þe on his childhode wunede him to fasten. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Wunieð ou to lutel drunch. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 367 in *O. E. Misc.* 124 From lesynge þu þe wune. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 Þe ilke þet mest him woneþ to zuerie mest zeneȝeþ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 167 Þey woneþ hem to glotonye. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 10 Ye sal wne yu til strate gate. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xiv. 559 For to sette thee and wone thee to not loue money.

Won (wɒn), *ppl. a.* Also 6 wonne. Pa. pple. of WIN *v.*[1], in various senses of the vb.

1500–20 Ill-won [see ILL- 7]. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 155 b, An holy nation, a wonne people. 1598 BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* I. v, Whatsoeuer may happen vnlooked for, account that as wonne good. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dan.* V, A won battle. 1860 I. BWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 56 A won game. 1883 *Mem. Sam. Miller* iv. 108 Rendering at last to God His own won heritage.

Won, obs. form of ONE, WAN *a.*, WHEN; pa. t. and pple. of WIN *v.*[1] and 8; obs. pa. pple. of WIND *v.*[1]; var. WONE.

Wonable *a.*, Sc. var. of WINNABLE (see WIN *v.*[1] Forms *Inf.* β).

c 1620 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) 125 So many of the King's Servants, as were thought to be most wonable.

Wonce, obs. form of ONCE.

1599 HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 272 The rebell wonce in Rorie O More shewed himselfe.

† Wond, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [a. ON. *vándr* bad, wicked (Sw., Da. *ond*, Norw. *vond*, mod. Icel. *vondr*).] The evil one, the devil. (So Da. *den onde.*)

c 1250 *Death* 112 in *O. E. Misc.* 174 Nu þu schalt in þe putte wunie wid þe wonde.

† Wond, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* In 4 wa(a)nd. [f. WONDE *v.*] Hesitation.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8465 Man it clepes ecclesiastes, þat spekes mast wit-vten waand, Hu fals þis werld es for to fraand. *Ibid.* 21517 Þat þai fraand, wit-vten waand þai tok.

Wond, south. ME. var. FOND *v. Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9600 King henri wondede muche to nabbe men in offis..þat of conseil were..wia.

Wond, south. ME. var. *fond*, pa. t. of FIND *v.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 561 He astore wel is lond Wiþ homber kinges god þat me of his wond. *Ibid.* 3726 He.. wan it [*sc.* Ireland] al clene to him & al þat he vonde [*v.r.* wond].

Wond(e: see WAND, WIND, WONE, WONT, WOUND.

† Wonde, *v.* Forms: 1–2 wandian, 4–5 wand(e, wond(e, (4 waand, want, 5 whonde, wound(e, woonde; *Sc.* 5 waynd(e, 5–6 waind). [OE. *wandian* to shrink, hesitate, refrain, spare, corresp. to ON. *vanda* to make elaborately, make difficulties, find fault (cf. *vandr* difficult, etc., *vandi* difficulty, etc.): app. f. *wand-*, *wend-* to turn (see WAND *sb.*, WEND *v.*, WIND *v.*[1]; and cf. WANDIS *v.*).]

1. *intr.* To shrink or flinch for fear; to hesitate (esp. const. inf.); to refrain.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* XX. 149 Oft mon bið suiðe wandigende æt ælcum weorce & suiðe lætrænde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 [Sins] swiþe unsyferlice þæt se man wandaþ þæt he hi æfre asecge. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXVII. (*Z.*) 162 *Uereor* ic anðræcige oððe ic wandige. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Ac he ne wandode na him metes to tylienne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4334 How sco brought him to þe fand, Forth to tell wil i noght waand. *Ibid.* 5293 For-þi, leue fader, want þou noght, Al þi will it sal be wroght. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2693 Also shal þe womman wonde To take [in marriage] here godmodrys husbonde. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 898 The soudan tok the prest hi the honde, And bad him go and nothing wonde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4072 For drede of duresse nor of deth in erþe, nel i wonde in no wise what i þouȝt to sele. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2187 *Dido*, Loue wil loue, for no thing wele it wande. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 500, I wole..Do my deuer yf I dar, & for no dethe wonde. *Ibid.* 3380 Wond of þi weping, whipe vp þi teris. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. 3961 (MS. W.) Scho wayndit nocht þare feit to wesche. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 198 Quhar he fand ane..To cutt his throit, or steik hym sodanlye. He wayndyt nocht. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 219 But the duc Anthony wanded. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 91 Richt as the roe vspringis fro the ruta,..Nor waindis nocht the levis to outschute.

2. *trans.* To refrain from; to shrink from, avoid, shun; to refuse.

13.. *Cursor M.* 8361 (Gött.) He..bad hir say, ne wond it noght, Quat war best as hir thocht. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 3031 Ne hy ne wondeþ messeday, Ne none holy tyde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 266 This worthi knight with sword on honde His weie made, and thei him wonde. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1526 My ryght name schalle y not wande. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 1155 Socha wordes y rede thou wonde. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Plays* (E.E.T.S.) XXIII. 29 His wickednes he would not wonde [*v.r.* wound], Till he was taken and put in band.

Hence **† Wonding** *vbl. sb.*, flinching, hesitation.

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXVIII. 77 Nowe will we lere, Full warely to were 30u fro alle wandynge.

Wonde, irreg. pa. t. of WIN *v.*[1]

1571 FORTESCUE *Forest of Hist.* 65 Who so wonde [*ed.* 1576 wan] then the price.

Wonder (wʌ·ndəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 wundor, 2–5 wunder, (3 wnder, *Orm.* wunnderr, 4 wondere, wonþer), 4–5 wondre, wondur, wondire, -yr(e, wundyr, 4–6 wundir, woundir, -er, *Sc.* vounder, vondir, 4–6, 8 *Sc.* wondir, (5 wundur, wonther, wonþur, 6 *Sc.* winder, -ir), 6–7 woonder, 8–9 *Sc.* wonner, 3– wonder. [OE. *wundor* neut. = OFris. *wunder*, OS. *wundar*, (M)Du. *wonder*, OHG. *wuntar* (MHG., G. *wunder*), ON. *undr* (Sw., Da. *under*): of unknown origin.]

I. Something that causes astonishment.

1. A marvellous object; a marvel, prodigy.

The seven wonders of the world (= L. *septem mira, miracula*, or *spectacula*), the seven monuments regarded as the most remarkable structures of ancient times. *Nine days' wonder*, and allusive uses: see NINE *a.* 3 a and 4 b.

Beowulf 840 Ferdon folctozan..ȝeond widwegas wundor sceawian, laþes lastas. *c* 700 CÆDMON *Hymn* 3 Sue he uundra zihuses..or astelidæ. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 281 Ac hwæt is ðæt wundor ðe ȝeond ðas worold færeð, styrnenga gæð? *c* 1205 LAY. 21738 Þa..gunnen to fleonnen..into þan watere, þer wunderes beoð inoȝe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 151 Mirabilia Anglie. Þre wondres beþ in engelond,..Þat water of baþe is þat on, i at euere is iliche hot. *Ibid.* 155 Vpe þe plein of salesbury þat oþer wonder is þat ston heng is icluped. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 43 For þey schulde..write and certifie þe senatoures where and what wondres were i-founde. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 6, I rather would entreat thy company, To see the wonders of the world abroad. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 36 Carrion Flies..may seaze On the white wonder of deare Iulietts hand. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 194, I doo esteem it [*sc.* the idol] to be bigger then that at Roads, which was taken for 1 of the 7 wonders of the world. 1681 [see PEAK *sb.*[1] 3]. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* I. 142 The fair..Repairs her smiles,..And calls forth all the wonders of her face. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 267 All the wonders of the Mediterranean sea are described in much higher colours than they merit. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 71 We must have our journey marge Ample for the wayside wonders.

b. Marvellous character or quality; wonderfulness; marvels collectively. (Cf. MARVEL *sb.* 2 c.)

c 1220 *Bestiary* 266 Ȝet is wunder of ðis wirm [*sc.* the ant] More ðanne man weneð. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. v. 6 Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came Missiues from the King. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 181 *Mir.* O wonder! How many goodly creatures are there heere? 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. v. 41 As when The Bird of Wonder dyes, the Mayden Phoenix, Her Ashes new create another Heyre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 70 Great things, and full of wonder in our eares. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 35 Great things and full of wonder in your ears I shall unfold. 1802 'MONK' LEWIS (*title*) Tales of Wonder. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 16 When I dipt into the future..Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* IX. 129 We went out into the bright wonder of the moonlight.

c. (*transf.* from 7.) The object of astonishment (usually implying profound admiration) for a particular country, people, age, or the like.

World's wonder: the Marvel of Peru. *Wonder of the world*, the ginseng, *Panax Schinseng* (Treas. Bot. 1866).

1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 48 Hack their bones assunder, Whose life was Englands glory, Gallia's wonder. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xi. § 1 The bewtie whereof..was such, that euen this was the wonder of the whole world. 1607 *Ld. Coke's Sp. & Charge* F, This Sea-Inuyrond-Iland, the beauty, and wonder of the world. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* I. iv, She's the wonder of the Court, And talke oth' Towne. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 280 Babylon the wonder of all tongues. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Marvel of Peru*, a kind of Night-shade..with Flowers of such Variety that it is also call'd *The World's Wonder*. 1733 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 180 Wharton, the scorn and wonder of our days. 1831 E. BURTON *Eccles. Hist.* vii. 205 In Ephesus this feeling found an additional vent in the pride of having their temple considered the wonder of the world.

d. A marvellous specimen or example (*of* something); in *Sc.* used contemptuously.

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 182 In this Wonder of a Garden there is neither Grass-work nor Gravel. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 65 Our Whipper-in, wee blastit wonner, Poor worthless elf. 1853 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxiii, But surely she was a very wonder of beauty! 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 499/2 It was a wonder of beauty,..the fairest place of earth my eye ever rested upon.

e. *U.S.* A kind of cake; = CRULLER.

1848 DRAKE *Pioneer Life in Kentucky* (1870) 97 Other dainties awaited us as the result of killing hogs. 'They were 'dough-nuts' and 'wonders'. 1859 MRS. STOWE *Minister's Wooing* IV. 34 A plate of crullers or wonders, as a sort of sweet fried cake was commonly called.

2. A deed performed or an event brought about by miraculous or supernatural power; a miracle. *To do* or *work wonders*, to perform miracles. *arch.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John II. 11 Dis worhte frumma ðara wundra se hæland in ðær byrig. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Eal þæt folc þe his wundor ȝesæah, his noman myccledon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9409 Crist..wrohhte wunndre miccle ma þann ien þaw manȝ nu tellenn. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 60 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Hi seyden..Alle his wndres þat he dop is þurh þene vend. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 125 By wycchecraft he schal wirche wondres. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV.

(Roxb.) xl. 43 With þat ilke 3erde Moyses..dідd many wonders. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 785 He couth werk wounderis quhat way that he wald. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 For they se hym in his great myracles & wonders. 1562 Wyget *Cert. Tractatis* ii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 17 He send His Apostolis and seuinty-twa Discipulis .. geuand thaim also power to wyrk wounderis. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iv. 48 You iudge it straight a thing impossible To compasse Wonders, but by helpe of diuels. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iii. § 6 That doctrine which was confirmed by undoubted miracles, hath assured us of the coming of lying wonders. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 155 They saw distemper heal'd, and life restor'd, .. Confess'd the wonder. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* 6 The healing of the paralytic ..was a wonder, for 'they were all amazed'.

†b. An extraordinary natural occurrence, esp. when regarded as supernatural or taken as an omen or portent. Chiefly *pl. Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8618 Wanne me sede him of suche wondres þat god on erþe sende þat it was vor is luþernesse to truste he it wende. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 4014 For wonders þat shuld falle, als I trow, Agayn þe worldes hende er sene now. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11827 When he wist of thies wondres, thies wordes he said: 'Yonder towne wille takon in a tyme short.' 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. viii. 36 We haue bot sobir pissance, and no wonder, To help in battale. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 422 He rekened vp the wonders that went before his death. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 13 Mony sygnes be God war schawne and wonndiris. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* II. iii. (1687) 66/1 Of the Wonder [*sc.* a meteor] Aristotle gives a very slight account. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 320 My Father Governs with unquestion'd Right; ..And Heav'n by Wonders has espous'd his Cause.

8. A marvellous act or achievement. *To work, do*, or *perform wonders*: to do marvellous acts or bring about marvellous results; hence *gen.* to do surprising things.

c 1250 *Bestiary* 398 Listneð nu a wunder, Þat tis der [*sc.* the fox] doð for hunger. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 5 This bok schal afterward ben ended Of love, which doth many a wonder. *Ibid.* 136 With strengthe he [*sc.* Nebuchadnezzar] putte kinges under, And wroghte of Pride many a wonder. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 378 In this bataill hercules dide wondres & merualles. 1591 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, I. i. 122 Where valiant Talbot..Enacted wonders with his Sword and Lance. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 295 Don Sebastian did wonders in his own person, but overpowred with number, he [etc.]. 1727 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 207 Lay on Twenty Loads of Chalk alone upon an Acre, and it will perform wonders. 1731 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 270 The Millypedes or Wood-lice have a sulphureous spirit in them wch I have known do wonders on weak constitutions. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 23 For her the fancy, roving unconfin'd,..Works magic wonders. 1784 — *Task* IV. 87 Kattlerfelto, with his hair on end At his own wonders. 1827 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* V. vi, Inspired by your Ladyship's approbation, my steward has really done wonders. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. Seine* 192 Habit effects wonders.

4. *gen.* An astonishing occurrence, event, or fact; a surprising incident; a wonderful thing.

To hear, read, speak, talk wonders, to hear, etc., surprising accounts.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 319 A temple hii vovnde vair inou & a maumet amidde þat ofte tolde wonder gret & 3wat men bitidde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 67 Who that wolde ensample take .Of many a woudre here he mihte. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlviii. (1495) L iij b/1 Gete.. is kyndled in water and quenchid in oyle: and that is wonder. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11 (Trin.) Man 3ernen .. romaunce rede..Of kyng Arthour..Of wondris þat his knyztes felle. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 47 b, I ought..not turne my tale to talke of Robbyn Hoode,..or to speake wounders of the man in the Mone. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. i. 13 Bee you in the Parke about midnight, at Hernes-Oake, and you shall see wonders. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvi. 171 Some of these Lakes be very hote, which is another wonder. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* II. i, The love of boyes unto their Lords is strange, I have read wonders of it. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 136 They talk Wonders of her Beauty. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 563 The chilling tale Of midnight murder was a wonder..told to frighten babes. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xix, Why should you make a wonder of my wearing the badge of my company? 1890 Hartland *Science of Fairy Tales* i. (1891) 1 The weary hunters beguile the long silence of a desert night with the mirth and wonders of a tale.

†b. app. = Miracle *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 5 No3t standyng in ydilnes, nor to plays no wondyrs rynnynge.

†5. a. Evil or shameful action; evil; *pl.* evil or horrible deeds. *Obs.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, I ne can ne I ne mai tellen alle þe wunder ne alle þe pines ðæt hi diden wrecce men on þis land. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 Ic ne mai rimen..alle ðo sennes,..ne alle ðo wundren ðe ich, wrecche senfulle, habbe idon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Moni mon weneð to don wel þat he deð alto eweade [*MS. C.* wunder]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 69 Pride made angel deuel dwale, Dat made..euerilc wunder, and euerilc wo. *Ibid.* 3588. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1440 (Cott.) Fykenild me hab gon vnder Ant do symenild sum wonder.

†b. Destruction, disaster. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 7855 Þa scipen wenden to wundre ofter half hundred. *Ibid.* 12590 Heo slojen þer muchel wunder, twa & fiftí hundred. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 16 Bretayn..Where werre, & wrake, & wonder Bi sybes has wont þer-inne.

†c. Great distress or grief. *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5262 Yn þe put..He sagh so muche sorowe and wundyr, Of fendes fele þat þere wore. *c* 1450 *Sir Tryam.* 190 (Percy Fo.), Of this..I haue great wonder; for sorrow my hart will breake asunder. *a* 1600 *Northumberland Betrayed by Douglas* ii. in Child *Ball.* III. 422 As woe and wonder be them amonge!

6. Phraseological uses. †a. *To wonder*: dreadfully, horribly, terribly. (Cf sense 5.) *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 654 Faelle men hine fram stowe to stowe brudon and to wundre tawedon. *c* 1250 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 23 Leccherie seið 'schome þe menske of þi meidenhad,' & tukeð hire to wundre [*v.r.* al to wundre]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28006 Heuen he sal se part in sundre, And he sal here it cri to wonder.

b. *To a wonder*, in early use also †*to wonder* [after F. *à merveille*], marvellously, wonderfully, marvellously well. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1662 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 175 The unparallel'd Des-Cartes hath unridled their dark Physiology, and to wonder solv'd their Motions. 1698 Crowne *Caligula* IV, Y'are to a wonder fair. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Jan. 1658, Sentences in Latin and Greeke, which on occasion he would produce even to wonder. 1751 *Female Foundling* II. 11 He is better to a Wonder. 1790 Cowper *Let. to Carwardine* 11 June, His motives were not, nor could be, of the amorous kind, for she was ugly to a wonder. 1848 Lytton *Pelham* xxxi, I have flattered him to a wonder! 1843 Thackeray *Mr. & Mrs. Berry* ii, He ties his white neckcloth to a wonder.

†c. *To think* [Think *v.*1] *wonder* (const. dative of person): to seem a matter of astonishment (to); hence, of the person, to be astonished, to marvel, wonder. So, rarely, *to think* [Think *v.*2] *it wonder*, to be amazed at it. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Þonne ne þincþ us þæt nan wundor. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 484 Wundor me ðinceð eower ðingræden. *c* 1200 Ormin 218 All þe follc..þuhhte mikell wunnderr forrwhi þe preost swa lannge wass..att Godess allterr. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 3if him þunche8 wunder & selku8 of swuch onsweie. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 1786 Of þe dede here men may thynk wonder, For alle thyng it brestes in sonder. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* III. 176 Whi þou wraþþest þe now wonder me þinkeþ. *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xl. 54 Quhat Natur works, we may not think it wonder.

d. *It* (or †*that*) *is* (*was, were*, etc.) *no wonder*: it is (etc.) not surprising; usually with dependent *that*- or *if*-clause. Similarly, *it is* †*great, little, small wonder*, it is very, not very surprising; *it is* (*a*) *wonder, wonder it is*, it is wonderful.

†*A wonder is to speak*, it is surprising to tell.. †*Make it no wonder*, do not be surprised at it.

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1016 Forþon nis senix wundor hu him woruldmonna seo unclæne ȝecynd cearum sorgende hearde ondrede. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Hit nis nan wunder þah mon sunesie oðer hwile unwaldes, ah hit is muchele mare wunder ȝif he nule nefre swiken. *c* 1200 Ormin 9327 & tatt nass wunnderr þwerrt ut nan þatt he wass wiš o lare. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 378, & lute wonder it was þat strange men in is owe lond dude a such trespas. 13.. *Cursor M.* 746 (Gött.) Wonþer was hu he þider wan. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2215 Sore him greued his vene, As it no wonder nes. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 102 ȝif schrift schulde hit þenne swopen out, a gret wonder hit were. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 382 Though god his grace caste aweie No wondir is. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 811 Þare alike wirschip he wan ware wonder to tell. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 1 Þere þey lyved in ioy and merthe y-now, that it was wonder to wete. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 85 And it is wonder that your wylde Insolence Can be content with Measure presence. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Engl. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 50 He went..to the duke of Bedforde, whose arrivall, a wonder is to speake, how much it encouraged his owne frendes. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 167 For he affeird, it wes na winder, His cursour suld him cast. 1579 W. Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 168 It was a woonder, howe the corporall nature passed through the impenetrable body. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 193, I must away to day before night come, Make it no wonder. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 208 It was therefore no woonder, if without the kings consent..he attempted many things. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxv. 219 It were a wonder there is no greater notice taken of it. 1673 *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 19 That's a wonder you have none of your trollops with you. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 100 If he has a Reversion clear of Incumbrances, it's a Wonder. 1741 Warburton *Div. Legat.* VI. vi. II. 639 It is no Wonder his Arguments should look asquint. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. iv, 'No Man is wise at all Hours'; it is therefore no Wonder that a Boy is not so. 1860 Thackeray *Lovel* ii, You consume more tea than all my family,..and as much sugar and butter—well, it's no wonder you are bilious!

e. Without verb, esp. in *No wonder that, if*, or *though*; similarly, *Small wonder that* (etc.), *what wonder if*..? Also interjectionally in (*and*) *no wonder I, and what wonder!*

Cf. L. *nimirum*, Gr. οὐ θαῦμα, θαῦμα οὐδέν.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 100 No wonder though he siketh ofte. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 201 And heo wepte for wo, no wonder, I wene. *c* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 904 No wonther dough me smerte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Nowundyr, (*P.* nowonder), *nimirum*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 103 Na wondir, this is the selcouth Caribdis. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. vi. 11 Will poore Folkes lye..? Yes: no wonder, When Rich ones scarse tell true. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 606 What wonder then if fields and regions here Breathe forth Elixir pure. 1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* II. 812 *Her.* I was alarmed, *Mar.* No wonder; this is a place That well may put some fears into *your* heart. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iv, Pa's miserable, and no wonder! 1860 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xviii, She has given her honest little heart away—and what wonder! 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxxix, No wonder Nero loves her better than that pale sad lady who sits among the six Vestals. 1913 H. L. Jackson *Eschatol Jesus* 6 If 'the great authorities differ' small wonder that weaker minds are in doubt.

f. *The wonder is* . . , what is surprising is . . .

1609 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 316 *Edg.* He is gon indeed. *Kent.* The wonder is, he hath endur'd so long. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xi, The wonder is, not that there should be so many fatal accidents, but that any journey should be safely made. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. iv, The only wonder was, that it had not happened sooner.

g. *For a wonder*: as an instance of a surprising fact; strange to say.

1896 Reade *Never too Late* xxxvi, For a wonder he was not sea-sick. 1881 Saintsbury *Dryden* vii. 145 For a wonder Dryden resists..his unhappy tendency to exaggerate the coarseness of his subjects.

h. *In the name of wonder*: used with an interrogative word to give emphasis to a question; also *colloq.* or *dial.* shortened to *the wonder*.

1626 Massinger *Roman Actor* IV. ii, In the name of wonder, What's Cæsar's purpose? 1726 Addison *Freeholder* No. 9 P 12 What in the name of wonder do you mean? 1866 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* xxxv, How the wonder do you manage it? 1889 R. Bridges *Feast of Bacchus* III. 814 Who in the name of wonder are these queer foreigners?

II. 7. The emotion excited by the perception of something novel and unexpected, or inexplicable; astonishment mingled with perplexity or bewildered curiosity. Also, the state of mind in which this emotion exists; †an instance of this, a fit of wonderment.

c 1290 *St. Dunstan* 8 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 19 Þat folk stod al in gret wonder. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* v. 26 And greet wondir took alle men, and thei magnyfieden God. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 28 When Thomas had soo ydo, anon he criet for wondyr and for fere. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K vij b, Then he turning about, and beholding him..with a wonder [orig. *con marauiglia*] stayed a while wythout any word. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 135 You'le find a diff'rence, As we his Subiects haue in wonder found. 1611 *Bible* Acts iii. 10 They were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened vnto him. 1659 *Vulg. Err. Cens.* 31 Galen was hush'd into a wonder by some anatomicall observations. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 549 Satan ..Looks down with wonder at the sudden view Of all this World at once. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Nov. 1690, Lord Godolphin, now resuming the commission of the Treasury to the wonder of all his friends. 1738 Gray *Tasso* 25 Fix'd in wonder stood the warlike pair. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 215 And still they gaz'd, and still the wonder grew, That one small head could carry all he knew. 1814 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xxxi. 31 The grim brood..Stood in mute wonder 'mid the works of Rome. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxv, Max and Fritz were at the door listening with wonder to Mrs. Becky's sobs and cries. 1870 Lowell *Among my Books* Ser. I. 143 The faculty of wonder is not defunct, but is only getting more and more emancipated from the unnatural service of terror.

†b. *To have wonder*, to be greatly surprised; to marvel: = Wonder *v.* 1, 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17286+171 It was our lordes ordinans, for-þi no wonder has. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 485 And quhen he hard sa blaw & cry, He had wondir quhat it mycht be. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathon*) 121 All þat harde hyme, 3ald or 3ynge, Had wondyre þat sik grace suld be In ony manne. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xiv. 55 Thenne syre Arthur dyd so meruelliously in armes that all men had wondyr. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxi. 77 Thay saw that I nocht glaidder wax of cheir, And thairof had thai wonder.

†c. Profound admiration. *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 19 To so vnbeleeued a poynt hee proceeded, as that no earthly thing bred such wonder to a Prince, as to be a good horseman. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 117 All ignorant that soule, that sees thee without wonder. 1605 — *Macb.* I. iii. 92 His Wonders and his Prayses doe contend, Which should be thine, or his. 1607 Br. Hall *Holy Observ.* I. xx. (1609) 32 No man hath beene so exquisite, but some haue detracted from him, euen in those quallities which haue seemed most worthy of wonder to others.

8. [f. Wonder *v.* 2] A state of wondering (*whether*, etc.). *rare.*

1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* xix, Many profound secrets.. most of which related to their wonders if Jemima and Mr. Farquhar would ever be married. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* Iv. (1891) 45 Haunted by..a wonder whether he would find his way to St. Eve's.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

9. Simple attrib. (sometimes passing into adj.).

a. = 'that is a wonder, marvel, or prodigy', as *wonder-avenue, -child* (after G. *wunderkind*), *-flower, -night, -sight* (after G. *wundergesicht*), *-treasure.*

1838 Longf. in *Life* (1891) I. 293 The great wonder-flowers bloom but once in a lifetime; as marriage and death. 1845 J. C. Mangan *German Anthol.* I. 185 But, lo! a wonder-sight!—Ere long Rose, blooming,..The fairest lily ever seen. 1866 Howells *Venetian Life* viii. 120 That wonder-avenue of palaces [the Grand Canal]. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* xli, You..discover so many wonder-treasures..that you will never consent to return. 1890 — *Col. Reformer* xviii, A Pharos, a wonder-sign, an exemplar throughout all the civilised world. 1896 *Catholic Mag.* May 258 Hermann Cohen, by reason of his marvellous piano-playing, was looked upon as a 'wonder-child'.

b. = 'of wonder or wonders', as *wonder-book, -city, -literature, -story, -tale, -world* (cf. G. *wunderwelt*).

1851 Hawthorne (*title*) A Wonder-Book for Girls and Boys, (including 'Tanglewood Tales'). 1851 H. Melville *Whale* i. 7 The great flood-gates of the wonder-world swung open. 1854 *Zoologist* XII. 4487 A kind of wonder-story in zoology. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 144 The native wonder-tales must only be told in the winter. 1881 — *Anthropol.* 380 It is known to be only a version of the ..wonder-tale told by Herodotus. 1896 *Tablet* 15 Feb. 257 That Asiatic wonder-world, the Indian Empire. 1896 J. Davidson *Fleet St. Ecl.* Ser. II. 78 To wonder-worlds of old romance Our aching thoughts for solace ran. 1905 Roosevelt *Outdoor Pastimes* xi. 339 To read and enjoy the wonder-book of nature. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 6/2 All our wonder-literature. *Ibid.* 20 Sept. 2/1 Everything in that wonder-city [*sc.* Fez] was so like a half-remembered dream.

c. = 'miraculous, magic, magical', as *wonder-offspring, -staff* (cf. G. *wunderstab* magic wand), *-stroke.*

1846 Trench *Mirac.* Introd. iv. § 3. 46 By a mighty wonder-stroke of grace the polarity in the man is shitted. *Ibid.* xxix. 491 *note*, Sometimes (in early Christian art) he [*sc.* Jesus] is touching with his wonder-staff the head of Lazarus. 1907 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VIII. 208/2 The belief in such wonder-offspring was once as common in Europe.

10. Objective and obj. genitive, as *wonder-bearing, -exciting, -hiding, -loving, -promising, -raising, -seeking, -stirring, -writing* adjs.; †*wonders-doing* adj.; *wonder-hider, -seeker; wonder-worth, -worthy* adjs.; instrumental, as *wonder-dumb, -fed, -smit, -stricken, -struck*, †*-strucken, -wounded* adjs.; *wonder-beaming, -striking, -teeming, -waiting* adjs.; † *wonder-rap* [Rap *v.*3], *-strike* vbs.

1709 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* I. 130 Wilt thou, with him [*sc.* Newton], .. watch the shrine with *wonder-beaming eye? 1788 Hulbert, *Wonders doynge, *mirificus.* 1898 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 167 Shy birds stood Watching us, *wonder-dumb. 1835 Milman *Lat. Christ.* xiv. ii. (1864) IX. 77 This *wonder-fed and wonder-seeking worship. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. viii, The deceptions, and *wonder-hiding stupefactions, which Space p. ctises on us. 1851 *Zoologist* IX. 3167 The *wonder-loving and credulous Northmen. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* viii. (Bohn) 64 The *wonder-promising Matter, that was to perform all these marvels. 1813 — *Remorse* Epil. 28 Saintly hermits' *wonder-raising acts. 1612 J. Davies *Muses Sacrif.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 27/2 O sight of force to *wonder-rap all Eyes! 1791 Cowper *Odyssey* VI. 199 *Wonder-rapt I gaze. 1599 T. M[oufet] *Silkwormes* 53 Then list a while, you *wonder-seekers great. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. iv. 296 The phenomena known to modern wonder-seekers as those of somnambulism or clairvoyance. 1855 *Wonder-seeking [see *wonder-fed*]. 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* III. 99 Therefore, before Him, am I *wonder-smit. 1799 *Cupid & Psyche* 33 He'll tell the *wonder-stirring tales. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 51 At whose lay *wonder-stricken were the pards. 1856 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 65 The .. mysterious plan which perplexes and *wonder-strikes me in most cathedrals. 1644 Vicars *God in Mount* 4 The memorable and *wonder-striking Parliamentarie-mercies. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Noah* 597 Ashamed, *wonder-strook. 1638–56 Cowley *Davideis* IV. 855 If wonder-strook I at your words appear, My wonder yet is Innocent of Fear. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* II. xiii, [She] seemed wonder-struck, without knowing why. 1817 Malthus *Popul.* II. 210 Great and astonishing as this difference is, we ought not to be so wonder-struck at it. 1608 Muir *Doomesday* 562 *Wonder-strucken wights. 1798 Southey *Blenheim* v, With *wonder-waiting eyes. 1864 Browning *Dram. Pers., Abt Vogler* 44 Had I painted the whole, Why, .. there it had stood, to see, nor the process so *wonder-worth. 1622 Middleton *Honour & Virtue* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 361 Which is not the least *wonder-worthy note. 1905 G. Blount *Rustic Renaiss.* I. 10 [This] is in itself a wonder-worthy paradox. 1602 Shaks. *Ham* v. i. 280 Like *wonder-wounded hearers. 1603 in J. Davies *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 103/1 His *wonder-writing Hand.

b. advb., = 'wonderfully'. (After G. *wundergross, wunderschön*, etc.; cf. Wonder *adv.*)

1872 J. Payne *Songs Life & Death* 214 Oh, wonder-lovely maidens were the seven! 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Feb. 2/1 Oh, how wonder-beautiful! 1904 *Ibid.* 12 Feb. 2/3 Delicate wonder-white crystals.

11. Special comb.: **wonder-bag**, a negro amulet, = Obeah 1; **wonder-horn**, (*a*) a cornucopia of marvels; (*b*) a magical horn; **wonder-man**, a wonder-worker; †**wonder-master**, a magician; †**wonder-mase** *v. intr.* and *trans.*, to be amazed, or to amaze, with wonder.

1793 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ep the Pope* Wks. 1812 III. 209 Quako .. full of negro faith in conjuration, Loaded his jackass deep with *wonder-bags Of Monkeys' teeth, glass, horsehair, and red rags. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 178 Their world was a huge *wonder-horn. 1906 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 231 Was it that the wonder-horn was still echoing from the far-off, summoning the man .. to the soul-roads? 1883 Stallybrass tr. *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1232 He was the greatest magician or *wonder-man of them all. 1901 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 6/1 Cornelius Drebbel, 'the wonder-man of Alkmaar'. 1603 Harsnet *Pop Impost.* 57 This foule *wonder-maister is too full of wonders euer to be good. 1603 in J. Davies *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 7/2 Men did *wonder-maze, Which wonderment, this later worke of thine (Not by detracting from it) doth deface. *a* 1618 J. Davies *Wit's Pilgr.* ibid. II. 51/1 Hee taught Rights Rumes to repaire .. with Words, that wonder-mazed men.

†**Wonder**, *a. Obs.* Forms: see prec. [repr. OE. *wundor* Wonder *sb.* in compounds, as *wundorcræft* marvellous skill or power, *wundordæd* miracle, *wundortácen* wondrous sign, miracle, prodigy (so OS. *wundargudia* extreme torment, OHG. *wuntarsihi* 'spectaculum', MHG., G. *wundertat* miracle, ON. *undrsjón* spectacle, etc.; see also Wonder thing); cf. the similar origin of Main *a.*, and see Wonders *a.*] Wonderful, wondrous, marvellous. *On* or *in* (*a*) *wonder wise*, wonderfully (cf. MLG. *wunderwîs(e* adv.). See also Wonder thing, Wonder-work.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 He cwe8 a wunder word to þar sawle li þa witie ysniam. *c* 1205 Lay. 2147 Heo dude wnder crafte. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6919 þat folc com þikke amorwe to se þis wonder dede. *Ibid.* 8593 þe sixte yer þer com also a wel wonder cas. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1873 So wonder a wilde best þat weldes no mynde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1095 So sodanly on a wonder wyse, I was war of a processyoun. *a* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 419 Allas what is þis wonder maladye. *c* 1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 230 This warnynges beoth wonder and feole. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. II. 126 In wonderwyse holy wryt tellith how þei fullen. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg.* (1895) 46 Wiyn *al* watir he makiþ blyue, And doob manye a wondir dede. 1485 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 130 About that tyme, befel a wonder aduentur yn a woolde of Myth. *c* 1489 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2143 Thou schalt telle me of that cas; Hyt hys the wounderest that ever I herde. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVII. i. 689 He passed by a Castel where was a wonder turnement. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 73 With clothes vpon her hed .. Wrythen in wonder wyse. After the Sarasyns gyse. 1535 Coverdale *2 Chron.* XXXII. 24 And he prayed vnto the Lorde, which made him promes, and gaue him a wonder-token. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* iv. 58 And, wonder Vandermast, welcome to me.

Wonder (wʌ·ndəɹ), *v.* Forms: 1 **wundrian**, 3–4 **wondri**, 4–5 **woundre**, 4–6 **wondre, wondir**, (3 **wundren, wundre, wndre, wundrie, wondry**, *Orm.* **wunndrenn**, 4 **wondur**, 5 **wondyr, wundur, wunderon, wonderyn**), 5–6 **wonder, wounder**, -ir, 6–7 **woonder**, 4– **wonder**. [OE. *wundrian* = OS. *wundrôn*, (M)Du. *wonderen*, OHG. *wuntarôn* (MHG., G. *wundern*), ON. *undra* (Sw. *undra*, Da. *undre*); f. Wonder *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To feel or be affected with wonder; to be struck with surprise or astonishment, to marvel. Also *occas.* to express wonder in speech. **a.** in OE. const. genitive of the object of wonder, also with preps., now nearly always *at*, occas. *over*, formerly also *on, upon, of*.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* XXXIV. § 10, Hwa mæg þæt he ne wundrie awelcra gesceafta ures scyppendes? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Nis þæt to wundrizenne .. þæt he acweald beon wolde. *Ibid.* 153 He gehyrde heora þrowunga & he þa wundrode after þære gesihþe. *a* 1000 *Phænix* 331 Donne wundriað weras ofer eorþan wlite & wæstma. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark vi. 2 Manege gehyrdon & wundrodon on his lare. *c* 1200 Ormin 7633 Josep .. & Marje .. wundredenn baþe off all þatt hemm wass cwiddedd tære off Crisste. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 928 Þu flizst a niȝt and noȝt a-dai, þar-of ich wndri. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3716 Ȝe teniasse men ben in ebron, Quilc men mai ȝet wundren on. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5353 In lepes & in coufles so moche wias hii asolleþ hom bringe, þat ech mon ssal wondry of so gret cacchinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18774 Godmen o galilee, apon quat thing sa wonder yee? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 217 Somme of hem wondreȝ on the Mirour .. Hou men myghte in ȝ swiche thynges se. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7599 Mirabel wondred of hir woo, Whi hir ladie ferd soo. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 125 b/1 All the peple drewe to hym and wondred on hym. 1529 More *Dyalogue* x. 16 b/a We nothyng wonder at the ebbyng and flowyng of the see. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 136, I wonder of this being heere together. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* XXIV. 16 O, wareit be my weird, For wondring on a deitie divyne. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 856 Hast thou not wonderd, Adam, at my stay? 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1754) IV. 191, I wonder at you. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 191 Rufillus .. Wonders at Clodio's follies, in a tone As tragical, as others at his own. 1828 J. W. Croker *Irnl.* 7 Dec. in *C. Papers* (1884) I. iv. 123, I cannot but wonder at her living here and bearding the Prince in a way so indelicate. 1844 Emerson *Lect. New Eng. Ref.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 273 The unwise .. wonders at what is unusual, the wise man wonders at the usual. 1919 B. Capes *Shel. Key* xvii. 213 His benevolent truthfulness was a thing to wonder over.

b. with clause expressing the motive or object of wonder.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke i. 21 þæt folc wæs zachariam geanbidiende, & wundrodon þæt he on þam temple læt wæs. *c* 1386, *c* 1430 [see a]. 1553 *Respublica* 602 Nowe I doe lesse woonder that lost men, life to save, Ferre from lande dooe Labome agamste the roring wave. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 36 This causes men meruellouslie to wondir, that vndir that earth ar fund gret stokis .. of wondirful akes and vthir tries. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 217, I wonder that you will still be talking, signior Benedicke, no body markes you. 1671 Milton *Samson* 215, I oft have heard men wonder Why thou shouldst wed Philistian women rather Then of thine own Tribe fairer. 1676 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 33, I wonder my father would not ease himselfe from his Haddon inquietudes by staying at Belvoire. 1708 Swift *Bickerstaff Detected* 5 A Third Rogue tips me by the Elbow, and wonders how I have the Conscience to sneak abroad. 1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 133 We wonder the parties did not take a patent for the discovery. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, I wonder he is not more confidential with you.

c. const. *to* with inf. (usually = *at* with gerund).

1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xix. 183 When wee goe .. to the Indies, wee woonder to see the land so pleasant, greene and fresh. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 34 ¶ 4 He wondered to hear a Man of his Sense talk after that Manner. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 222 We cannot wonder to find a joint occasionally added to this part. 1840 Thackeray *Pictorial Rhapsody* Concl., Wks. 1900 XIII. 354 The drawing is executed in a manner so loose and slovenly that one wonders to behold it.

d. in indirect passive (now only in *to be wondered at* as adj. or pred. phr.).

1532 More *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 741/2 He had so monstrously dressed himself because he would be wondred on. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xii. 16–19 That to hymself .. he seme a stoute felow and one to be wondered at. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 266 Are these the breed of wits so wondered at? *a* 1702 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 28 Nor is this ignorance to be much wondred at. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xi, It cannot be wondered at if he took such opportunities as offered.

e. Without construction. Now *rare*.

c 1205 Lay. 473 ȝif heo wlleð frescipe bi-winnen ne wndre þou nawiht þer fore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11409 A sterre .. þat comete icluped is Aros .. Þat ech man miȝte wondri þat þe sterre isei. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 306 Herfore þei alle abaishiden and wondriden. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 185 Whrof thei merveille everychon, Bot Elda wondreth most of alle. 1533 Frith *Answ. More* (1548) D vj b, They .. vnderstoode not the Spirituall wordes of our Sauioure Christe, and therfore wondered and murmured. 1587 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 100 Quhen men sall se this haistie suddand change, Than sall thay wunder. 1621 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. vi. 82, Whil'st I am bound to wonder, I am bound To pitty too.

f. *pass.* (obs.) and *refl.* (obs. or dial.) in the same sense. Also † *impers.* (*me wondreth* = I wonder).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 376 Ne wundrie heo hire nowiht, ȝif heo als nout Marie. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 354 Muche he wule þonki þe And of þe su,e iwundred beo. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 161 Me wondreþ .. þat þou comest nouȝt to do batayl. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4895 Vs wondreþ at ȝowre nurture of pris, þat swylke vilenie in þe now lys. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9821 Þof þow wylne to þe wer, wonders vs noght. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2836 Þai ware so woundird of þat werke. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. iv. (1869) 3 Yit more j wundrede me of a thing that j seygh. 1533 Tindale *Supper of Lord* B vj b, I wonder me, that hys scholemaister here fayled him so conynge as he maketh hym selfe therin.

g. *I shouldn't wonder* (colloq.): I should not be surprised (*if*, etc.).

1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Ct. Wimblebury Duel*, 'Do you think you could manage to leave a letter there?' interrogated Trott. 'Shouldn't wonder,' responded boots. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 19, I should not wonder if he who said this did not understand what he was saying. 1913 Edith Wharton *Custom of County* I. iii. 35 Saying .. 'I wouldn't wonder' when she thought any one was trying to astonish her.

2. Usually with clause: To ask oneself in wonderment; to feel some doubt or curiosity (*how, whether, why*, etc.); to be desirous to know or learn.

I wonder is often placed after a question which expresses the object of curiosity or doubt; e.g. 'How can that be, I wonder?' = I wonder how that can be. Also *I wonder!*, colloq. exclamation expressing doubt, incredulity, or reserve of judgement.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 160 þe stones stondeþ þere so grete .. & oþere liggeþ heie aboue .. þat eche man wondry may hou hii were ferst arered. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 299, I wondred what þat was. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 210 Thei wondren what sche wolde mene, And riden after softe pas. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 6 ȝif the pacient considere or wondre or aske why that he putte hym so long a tyme of curyng. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 1, I wonder if Titania be awak't. 1611 — *Wint. T.* III. iii. 72 What haue we heere? Mercy on's, a Babe? A boy, or a Childe I wonder? 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 139 A man may wonder from whence proceed such opinions. 1681 Evelyn *Let. to Pepys* 6 Dec., P.'s Diary 1879 VI. 138, I know it has been wondered upon what pretence I should have sought to sit at the Navy Board. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 43 ¶ 1 One would wonder how any Person endow'd with .. ordinary .. Prudence .. should [etc.]. 1782 Cowper *John Gilpin* 96 His horse .. What thing upon his back had got Did wonder more and more. 1784 — *Task* I. 469 The heart .. finds no music in the song, .. and wonders why. 1847 Tennyson in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 244, I wonder whether you can read this scrawl. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iv, I still remained before the fire, wondering and wondering about Bleak House. 1858 *Punch* XXXIV. 2 Well, I'm sure! What next, I wonder! 1864 Mrs. H. Wood *Ld. Oakburn's Daus.* xvii, 'But what is it all to me?' wondered the captain. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Feb. v, Wondering of her wiles, and what the charge Shut in the dark obsidian pyx might be. 1898 J. K. Jerome *and Thoughts of Idle Fellow* 5 She wonders would they change it, if she went back. 1902 Stoker Clouston *Lunatic at large again* I. vi. 70 'Oh, it was entirely his own idea.' Mr. Mason threw him a curious look. 'I wonder!' said he.

†3. *trans.* To regard with wonder; to marvel at; often implying profound admiration (cf. Wonder *sb.* 7 c). *Obs.*

1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* ix. 8 Many a man wonderinge the bewtye of a straunge woman, haue bene cast out. 1567 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* II. 136 b, That which was more to be wondred in hym. 1593 R. Barnes *Parthenophil* XXVI. in *Arber's Garner* V. 354 If She be silent, every man in place With silence, wonders her! 1631 Heywood *2nd Pt. Fair Maid West* I. C 2, *Goodl.* You wonder me. *Mull.* No, thou art dull, or fearfull, fare thee well. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *My first Play*, I knew nothing, understood nothing, discriminated nothing. I felt all, loved all, wondered all.

b. impers. pass. *It is to be wondered* = it is to be wondered at (1 d). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 2 You shall see them so favour'd .. as it is not to be wondred if they have made so long opposition. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* I. 350 It is not then to be wondered, that there were many complaints. 1827 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 284 If it is wondered that they abused what was in their power. 1886 Symonds *Renaiss. It., Cath. Reaction* II. 414 It is not to be wondered that .. a mournful discouragement should have descended on the age.

†4. To affect or strike with wonder; to cause to marvel, amaze, astound. (See also † f.) *Obs.*

1558 G. Cavendish *Poems* (1825) II. 123 But how they durst presume it wonders me therefore. 1627 W. Sclater *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1629) 187 It wonders me to hear the desperate inference. 1638—*Serm. Expt imental* 28 Of all passages in the story of Job, that one thing wonders me. 1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 25 Oct., She alarms me sometimes for herself, at other times she has a sedateness that wonders me still more.

5. *intr.* To perform wonders. *nonce-use.*

1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 87 Katterfelto, with his hair on end At his own wonders, wond'ring for his bread.

Wonder, *adv. Obs.* or *arch.* (in later use *Sc.*). Forms: see Wonder *sb.* [Partly OE. *wundor* Wonder *sb.* in compounds, as *wundordgræfen* wonderfully carved (so in OFris. *wundergrêt* wonderfully great, OHG. *wunterwas* very sharp, MHG. *wunderschæne* very beautiful); partly OE. *wundrum*, advb. dative pl. of *wundor* (cf. MHG. *wundernalt* very old, etc., and the similar use of gen. pl. of ON. *undr* in *undradigr, -hárr* wondrously big, high, etc.).] Wondrously, marvellously, surprisingly; exceedingly, very.

c 1200 Orrm 7284 Wunnderr mikell shame wass till Isramle þedu. c 1205 Lay. 1154 Þa wnder cræftie men. *Ibid.* 1744 þat feht wes wnder strong. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4448 (Gött.) Þe king wid þalm was wonder wrath. c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 432 (Fairf.) Than founde I sitte even vpryght A wonder wel faryngе knyght. c 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 46 This prynce was a wyghte man..& wonder trewe till Alexander. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 83 Wassche hom and bew hom wondur smalle. 1536 Cranmer *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 322 Wherein I would wonder fain break my mind unto you. a 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 167 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 290 With that scho smylit woundir lustely. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. (S.T.S.) I. 169 Hadrian heiring this, was woundir discontent. 1708 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv, Now I believe ye like me wonder weel.

† Wonderclout. *Obs. rare.* [f. Wonder *sb.* + Clout *sb.*[1]] ? Something showy but worthless.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 208/46 A Wonderclout, blabbe, *garrulus, linguax.* 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Z 1 b, O wretched Atheisme, Hell but a scarecrow, and Heauen but a wonderclout in their doctrine. *Ibid.* Ff 4, Her meritorious worke, a Wonderclowte.

Wondered (wɒ·ndəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wonder *sb* or *v.* + -ed.]

† 1. Wonderful, marvellous. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xcvi. ii, Of his actes the wondred story Paint unto each people forth. *Ibid.* cvi. ix, God ..Preserv'd them soe by miracles of might,..And wondred works. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* viii. 448 Into what sundry gyres her wondered self she throws.

2. *Wondered-at*: see Wonder *v.* 1 a, d.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiv. 480 A great time Achilles gaz'd vpon His wonderd-at approch. 1615 — *Odyss.* xi. 242 My Father..vsde no sumptuous beds, Wonderd at furnitures. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* 8 Aug. (1881) 96 My..never-enough-wondered-at Lord Jesus.

¶ In the following, *wondred* is virtually in parasynthetic comb. (' performing such rare wonders').

1610 Shake. *Temp.* iv. i. 123 So rare a wondred Father.

† Wonderel. *Obs. rare.* In 5 **wunderelle, wundrel.** [Of Scand. origin (cf. MDa. *underli*): see Wonder *v.* and -el (cf. -le 1 b).] A wonder, marvel.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wunderelle (*K.* wundrel..), *prodigium.*

Wonderer[1] (wɒ·ndərəɹ). [f. Wonder *v.* + -er 1.] One who wonders *at* something.

1573 Baret *Alv.* W 323 A Wonderer: a marueler, *mirator.* [1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 233 *Paradoxon*, or the Wondrer.] 1608 Chettle *Hoffman* III. (1631) F 4 b, That giddy wonderers may amazed stand. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 1 To advance that crackt-brain head in the conceits of his European wonderers. 1734 J. Richardson *Milton's Par. Lost* p. xciii, Had the Bishop known This Story..he would not have been One of the Wonderers at Milton's Escape. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xiv, She was a great wonderer, as every one must be who takes a very lively interest in all the comings and goings of all their acquaintance. 1852 R. B. Mansfield *Log Water-Lily* 19 At our start, crowds of wonderers hung over the bridge. 1865 De Morgan in *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 730/1 His backers and his quizzers, his admirers and his wonderers.

† Wonderer[2]. *Obs. rare.* [f. Wonder *sb.* + -er 1.] A wonder-worker.

1647 Trapp *Comm. Rev.* xiii. 4 The Pope can doe whatsoever Christ can doe; yea and more too, it should seem by these wise wonderers.

Wonderful (wɒ·ndəɹfŭl), *a.*, (*sb.*), and *adv.* [late OE. *wunderfull*, f. Wonder *sb.* + -ful; cf. MLG. *wonderfull*, MSw. *under(s)fulder.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Full of wonder; such as to excite wonder or astonishment; marvellous; sometimes used trivially = surprisingly large, fine, excellent, etc.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 2757 (Napier 74/2) *Stupendo*, .i. *mirando*, mid wunderfulre, *spectaculo*, wæferenne. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Wunderliche ben þe ure ut sondes, and wunderful is ure louerd on þeunesse. c 1275 Lay. 280 Hii funde..þat ȝe mid one sone was wonderfol to telle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 85-5 God sende uor is luþernesse moni deoluol cas In þis lond & wonderuol. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6404 Of þe day of dome..And of þe wondirful takens many, þat salle falle byfor þat day. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1351 There were wemen to wale, A wondurfull nownbur. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 9314 (Trin.) Men shul him calle nomes sere Wondirful & counsellere. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 20 Þer God worcheth mony wondyrfull myracles for hym. 1508 Dunbar *Twa Maryit Wemen* 451 Wise women has.. wonderfull gydingis,..to belaip ther lelyis husbandis. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 49 The wonderfull and sumptuous woorke of the sepulcher whiche Artemisia made. 1596 J. Smythe in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 91 Whereof ensued unto me .a wonderfull payne in my stoinacke. 1611 *Bible* Prov. xxx. 18 There be three things which are too wonderfull for me; yea foure, which I know not. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* iv. 134 They made a wonderfull massacre of poore afflicted Christians. 1779 Mrs. Delany *Let. to Mrs. Port* 17 Apr., Give him the juice of clivers or goose grass, which is wonderfull, pounded with a little cold water. 1827 Carlyle *Misc., Richter* (1872) I. 11 The unhappy man persuades himself that he has..become a new creature, of the wonderfulest symmetry. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, Mr. Tomkins..had a wonderful eye for the picturesque. 1840 Faber *Hymns*, My God, how wonderful Thou art! 1882 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xxxvi. II. 303 Every Sunday morning, he trimmed his whiskers, and put on a wonderful waistcoat. 1884 Ruskin *Pleas. Eng.* iii. § 78 Robert Guiscard, the most wonderful soldier of that or any other time.

b. *The wonderful*: that which is wonderful. **†** Also *sb. pl.* wonderful things.

1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 73 This temper of the people..drove the magicians..to a confederacy with the Devil for a supply of wonderfuls to delude the people. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. i, Every Writer may be permitted to deal as much in the Wonderful as he pleases. 1849 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 20 One unvarying predilection for the wonderful runs through the whole series of his poems.

† 2. Filled with wonder or admiration. *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 308 Makinge persones wondirful bi cause of here wynnyng. 1552 Huloet, Wonderfull,.. *admirabundus.* 1583 Harbnet *Serm. Exod.* in *R. Stuart's Serm.* etc. (1658) 132 The H[oly] Fathers are wonderfull in the contemplation of mans excellency at the first.

B. *adv.* = Wonderfully 1. Now *dial.*

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 30 Now come þam..wondirfull hasty tythande. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 3866 A wonderfull gret route. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xi. (1883) I. 79 Cosmographie is to all noble men, nat only pleasant, but..wonderfull necessary. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Boldness* (Arb.) 518 Wonderfull like is the Case of Boldnesse, in Ciuill Businesse. 1722 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 381 Being full of wooden Cutts, wch makes the Book wonderfull curious. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 84 They're mainly wonderfu' contented. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* ix, She was wonderful fond of Elsie.

Wonderfully (wɒ·ndəɹfŭli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a wonderful manner.

1. So as to excite wonder; **†** miraculously; to a wonderful degree or extent; marvellously, astonishingly, surprisingly: often passing into a mere intensive = amazingly, well or much; extraordinarily, exceedingly.

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3. *attrib.*, as *wondering food, stock* (Stock *sb.*[1] 39)

Ireland *Scribbleomania* 20 One unvarying predilection for the wonderful runs through the whole series of his poems.

† 2. Filled with wonder or admiration. *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 308 Makinge persones wondirful bi cause of here wynnyng. 1552 Huloet, Wonderfull,.. *admirabundus.* 1583 Harbnet *Serm. Exod.* in *R. Stuart's Serm.* etc. (1658) 132 The H[oly] Fathers are wonderfull in the contemplation of mans excellency at the first.

B. *adv.* = Wonderfully 1. Now *dial.*

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 30 Now come þam..wondirfull hasty tythande. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 3866 A wonderfull gret route. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xi. (1883) I. 79 Cosmographie is to all noble men, nat only pleasant, but..wonderfull necessary. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Boldness* (Arb.) 518 Wonderfull like is the Case of Boldnesse, in Ciuill Businesse. 1722 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 381 Being full of wooden Cutts, wch makes the Book wonderfull curious. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 84 They're mainly wonderfu' contented. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* ix, She was wonderful fond of Elsie.

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c 1550 G. Walker *Dice-Play* (Percy Soc. 1850) 36 The poor boy..continued..a wondering-stock to all the [——. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* 72/2 Thus were the bodies of the Martyrs made a wondering stocke. 1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxxi. 7 He had..bin..counted as a wonderingstocke by reason of his miserable affliction. 1819 Keats *Otho* I. ii. 111 Let me no longer be the wondering food Of all these eyes.

Wondering, *ppl. a.* [f. Wonder *v.* + -ing 2.] That wonders.

1592 Timme *Ten Engl. Lepers* A a, The woondring Queene of Sheba..presented the most wise Salomon with the golde of Ophyr. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 257 Strait toward Heav'n my wondring Eyes I turnd. 1725 Pope *Iliad* I. 524 Then.. the Monster Titan came,..Thro' wondring Skies enormous stalk'd along. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. iii, The falcon, from her cairn on high, Cast on the rout a wondering eye. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xiii, 'Where in the devil's name are they gone?' said the wondering Dick. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Fr. Darcy* xxxvi, The two priests could only look on him with a sort of wondering astonishment. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* 8 The..sinister method of assault upon religion which we of a later day watch with wondering eyes. *Comb.* 1895 Mrs. K. T. Hinkson *Miracle Plays* Proem, Thy little one and wondering-eyed.

Wonderingly (wɒ·ndəriŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a wondering manner; in or with wonder.

1586 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxii. 33 Two flies togither wondringlie..In talke betwene them selues, as folowith did saie. 1600 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xi. lxii. (1612) 272 They, seeing vncouth Men, and Shippes, weare wondringly agaste. a 1736 in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxvi. 1 They were looking on each other wonderingly, like sleepers on an empty dream. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xv, I meditated wonderingly on this incident. 1881 Stevenson *Virg. Puerisque, Some Portraits by Raeburn*, The little child who looks wonderingly on his grandfather's watch.

Wonderland (wɒ·ndəɹlænd). (Also occas. with hyphen.) [f. Wonder *sb.* + Land *sb.* Cf. G. *wunderland.*] **a.** An imaginary realm of wonder and faery. **b** A country, realm, or domain which is full of wonders or marvels.

1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Compl. Ep. James Bruce* 332 Wks. 1812 II. 368 Where other trav'lers, fraught with terror, roam, Lo! Bruce in Wonder-land is quite at home. 1866 'Lewis Carroll' (*title*) Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) Apr. 66/1 Every mile of my journey opened to me anew..the surprises of this wonder-land. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 May 9/1 That wonderland of the world, Egypt. 1903 Agnes M. Clerke *Probl. Astrophysics* 6 The wonderland of molecular physics.

Wonderless, *a. rare.* [f. Wonder *sb.* + -less.] Destitute of wonder.

1601 Deacon & Walker *Answ. Darrel* 47 A very world of wonderles wonders.

† Wonderling. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Wonder *sb.* + -ling.] A wonderful being.

1698 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* II. 190 This made Job such a wonderling to his wife.

† Wonderly, *a. Obs.* Forms: see Wonder *sb.*; also 6 *Sc.* **wnderlie, vnderlie.** [OE. *wunderlic* = OS. *wundarlic* (MDu., MLG. *wunderlik*, Du. *wonderlijk*), OHG. *wuntarlih* (MHG., G. *wunderlich*), ON. *undrligr* (Sw., Da. *underlig*): f. Wonder *sb.* + -ly 1.] Wonderful.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* II. iv. § 8 Nu seo burg swelc is þe ær wæs ealra weorca..wunderlecast & mærast. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 181 Þa færinga coman þær hundas forþ on wunderlicre mycelnesse. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 He maket..wunderlice & manifældlice miracles. c 1200 Ormin 15645 Þatt Godess Sune off hesſine stah þurrh wunnderrliȝ mecnesse. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 427 There is a roche wel wonderly. c 1475 *Partenay* 1241 The fyfte child..had on ey and no mo,..wonderly to se. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxvii. (Arb.) 67 Dame said the foxe, thauenture of the world is wonderly, it goth otherwhyle by wenyng. 1533 Gau *Richt Way* (S.T.S.) 99 The vnderlie secret thyngis of God. *Ibid.* 40 His nayme sal be callit vnderlie consaiour.

† Wonderly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: see Wonder *sb.*; also 5 **wondarly.** [OE. *wunderlice* = OS. *wundarlico* (MLG., MDu. *wunderlike*), OHG. *wuntarlihho* (MHG. *wunderliche*) f. Wonder *sb.* + -ly 2.] = Wonderfully 1. **a.** In a wonderful manner; marvellously.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* liv. 423 Swa wundorlice hit todælde..se godcunda wisdom be hira ingeðeres ȝecarnungum. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 194 Wundurlice heo hælaþ, c 1205 Lay. 28607 Twa wimmen..wunderliche idlihte. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10043 Þat water subbe heye aros..& mo þan ten þousend men wonderliche adrenct. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2535 Wonderli a werwolf 3esterday hem asued. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 207 Som tyme burþes beeþ i-bore wonderliche and wonderliche i-schape. c 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 374 Wiþ þy blod principal, Wonderly þou haste va bost. c 1500 *Melusine* l. 5 Wherfore he punyshed them so secretly & so wounderly. a 1529 Skelton *Bouge of Court* 283 Anone ther mette with him,.. A man, but wonderly beseme was he. a 1562 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 32 The court..was wonderly furnyshed with noble men and gentlemen.

b. To a wonderful extent or degree.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 626 Þær wearð þa gegaderod wunderlice micel folc. c 1205 Lay. 7320 He wes wunderliche wrah [= wraþ]. c 1275 *Ibid.* 2077 He.., one nouwe borh makede..wonderliche [c 1205 wunderliche] fair. 1340 *Ayenb.* 267 Þe profetes..and þe patriarkes wonderlyche gledlynde þe blisse. c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 84 Wonderly delyuere and of greet strengthe. c 1422 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 320 His garnementes..hym beseen wonderly wel. ? 1482 J. Watton *Speculum Christiani* 98 b, Their sence [= incense] was wonderly wrought With riche spices. 1596 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxxxvii. 298 His hart wunderlie faynted.

Wonderment (*wʊ*ndərmĕnt). Chiefly *literary*. [f. WONDER *v.* + -MENT.]

1. The or a state of wonder; = WONDER *sb.* 7.

1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 78 After shamefull rumors raysed uppe to theyre dyffamacion, with shaundernose wonderment of the towne. 1589 GOLDING tr. *Heudings's Postill* 30 We must with holy wonderment embrace the heauenly Oracles. 1871 — *Calvin on Ps.* viii. Contents, Dauid bethinking himself of Gods fatherly bountifulnesse towards mankinde..is rauished into a wonderment of it. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 9 Whom all admired, as from heauen sent, And gazd vpon with gaping wonderment. 1688 BUNYAN *Sol. Temple* xxii. 52 That which added to their adornment, was the wonderment of a Queen. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 Feb., The wonderment with which they heard a proposal so new was diverting. 1799 COLERIDGE *'Now cold, nor stern, my soul!'* 8 They gape for wonderment. 1815 WORDSW. *Prose Wks.* (1876) II. 119 Much of what his biographer deemed genuine admiration must in fact have been blind wonderment. 1879 LEWES *Study Psychol.* viii. 155 The mind passes from at the miraculous to the discernment of order.

b. As expression of wonder: chiefly in *to make a wonderment*, to express wonder.

1563 M. WOOD tr. *Gardiner's True Obed.* 54 b, Her parentes..would make suche a lyke wonderment, as these men seme to vse against me. *a* 1565 R. TURNER in Matheck *Bk. Notes* (1581) 243 A great outcrie & wonderment was made against the Deacons & Priests of Constantinople. 1630 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. 2 (an. 1570) Much talke there was..of the murther of the Regent, many making a wonderment at vaine things, as his mothers dreame. 1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 110 What a wonderment is made of it. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 72 Why, Jack, thou needest not make such a wonderment, as the girls say. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 332 After the usual wonderments, and mutual applauses of our marvellous good looks. 1840 MRS. TROLLOPE *Widow Married* xxiv, What wonderments you do make about nothing.

2. An object of or a matter for wonder; a wonderful thing; = WONDER *sb.* 1–4.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 70 b, The games called Dionysiacs,..he called the greate woondrementes & gasynges of fooles. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 50/2 This obstinate and stoburn rebellion of tharchbishop stirred vp much anger.., that almost he was alone a wonderment to al the realme. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 213 *marg.*, Sir Hugh Spencer the yonger lead about for wonderment, lyke a beast. 1584 CONSTABLE *Diana* VII. i, A flouring fielde, the world's sole wonderment. 1592 SPENSER *Ruins of Rome* 28 Seuen Romane Hils, the worlds 7. wonderments. 1618 ROWLANDS *Sacred Hon.* 8 Therefore in Heathens Images he spake, Wrought wonderments, and wrought them so from grace. 1628 PRYNNE *Love-lockes* 33 They turne themselues into.. so many Monsters, and wonderments of the World. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* XXXV. 1 Deliverances, commonly, are but nine days wonderment, at utmost. 1737 FOOTE *Author* Prol., 'Tis Wonderment, them Boobies ben't ashamn'd. 1842 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* xv, It's a wonderment to me..how you got us off. 1859 REEVE *Brittany* 87 A shop with all sorts of household wonderments exposed for sale. 1915 H. JAMES *Sense of the Past* (1917) 150 To determine wonderments that should be beyond answering.

b. A wonderful example or instance (*of* something): = WONDER *sb.* 1 d.

1608 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* v. 85 But vpon Alcibiades they threw down a wonderment of welcome. 1697 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* IV. i, How many..have dedicated grave Works to Ladies, toothlesse, [etc.], and have call'd them..the patterns of perfection, and the wonderment of Women. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 253 The untended orchards are arrayed in a wonderment of blossom.

3. Wonderful quality: = WONDER *sb.* 1 b.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 20 That strange Dame, whose beauties wonderment She lesse esteem'd, then th' others vertuous gouernment. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. xxxii, How should I..limme forth her vertues wonderment? 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxxi. 313 That King will be looked upon as a King of wonderment. 1821 SUSAN *Misery* III. 251 As a climax of wonderment, the Winterton has succeeded with Lady Amelia. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* ii. (1876) 33 The child..opens his eyes upon things all of which are full of novelty and wonderment.

Wonder-monger. [f. WONDER *sb.* + MONGER[1] 2.] One who deals in wonders; a wonder-worker, or relater of wonders.

1612 BP. HALL *Contempt., O. T.* IV. iv, How are the great wonder-mongers of Ægypt abashed. 1681 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 436 Those Wondermongers cannot take away the Kings evill. 1748 ELIZA HAYWOOD *Female Spect.* No. 18 (1748) III. 281 Invention! cried our wonder-monger, do I not tell you, sir,..that I saw it with my own eyes! 1752 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) Pref., The God Proteus .. famous for being a juggling Wondermonger..and turning himself into all Shapes. 1851 NEWMAN *Prov. Pos. Cath.* 231 Future story-tellers and wondermongers. 1863 DE MORGAN *Pref.* in *From Matter to Spirit* p. xii, That some tricky wonder-monger had stuck the bill of a duck upon the neck of a quadruped. 1867 SWINBURNE *Blake* (1868) 94 No wonder-monger of the low sort need here have hoped for a pupil.

Hence **Wonder-mongering.**

1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 128 Another instinct which tends directly to discourage wonder-mongering. 1912 W. DE MORGAN *Likely Story* IV. 122 That..class of persons which, when its attention turns towards wonder-mongering,..loses its head promptly.

†**Wonderness.** *Obs. rare.* In 3 **wunder-nesse.** [f. WONDER *sb.* + -NESS.] A wonder.

c 1275 *Wom. Saunrin* 40 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Bi-twuxe þis twam volke me þunche þ a wunder-nesse.

†**Wonderning,** *v. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. WONDER + -ING.] *trans.* To make a wonder or marvel of.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* F 2, [illegible] ..wondernize the birth of common wit.

†**Wonders,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **wonderis.** [gen. of WONDER *sb.*; a Scand. idiom: cf. MSw. *undres*, gen. of *under* WONDER *sb.* in *undres miraculum, tidhen, thing* marvel, miracle, prodigy. Cf. *lives* alive (LIFE *sb.* 15). See also WONDROUS.]

A. *adj.* = WONDROUS *a.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1529 Þan þat þa wonders [*Gött.* wonþer] werkes wroght..Tua pilers þa mad. *a* 1300 *Sir Beues* 1469 (Chetham MS.) A wonders thinge [13.. *MS. A.* wonder-þing] ye may here. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXVI. (1555) $ ij b, It was a wonders case. *c* 1512 *1st Engl. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 89/1 Many dyuers maner and wonders beestes. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 89 A, ye be wonders men! *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* XXXV. (1814) 111 Whan the duke sawe these thre knyghtes do suche wonders meruayles in armes..he was..dyspleased. 1620 W. BASSE *Three Past. Elegies* I. (1893) 44 An Ivory boxe of wonders cost.

B. *adv.* = WONDROUS *adv.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) I. 45 Ye let light of that thing whiche firste ye maked to you wonders dere. 1393 *Piers Plowman's Tale* 609 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 324 Suche folkes be wonders stout. *c* 1520 *Everyman* 7 This matter is wonders precyous. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 220 Hym they receyue and intertayne wonders gentyllye. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 207 In danger of deith... Do weill is harnessit, and woundis bauld. ?*a* 1600 *Dialogue in Verse* in *Marlowe's Wks.* 1850 III. 304 But a' dances wonders well.

Hence †**Wonderaly** *adv.* wondrously.

1589 SKELTON *Dethe Erle Northumb.* 293 O perlese Prince..! Which to thy resemblaunce wonderaly hast wrought All mankynd. 1598 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xiv. 5 Be ye sure it doth wonderaly well.

Wondersome, *a. rare.* [f. WONDER *sb.* + -SOME.] Wonderful.

1774 DIBDIN *Waterman* I. i, I have often-times thought to myself, that it was a wondersome kind of thing, how it came to pass, that you two agree so badly.

†**Wonder thing.** *Obs.* (Also as one word.) [f. WONDER *sb.* or *a.* Cf. G. *wunderding*, MSw. *unders thing* (see WONDERS *a.*).] A wonderful thing, wonder, marvel.

c 1290 *St. Brendan* 677 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 238 A wonder þing it was to seo..A so gret best a-boute wiende. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1527 A wonder-þing now ze may here. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXVIIII[i]. 18, I sall bihalde wondirthyngis [Vulg. *mirabilia*] of þi Laghe. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 53 He sware..Ther was told hym a wondyr-thyng In hys chambyr to nyght. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXII. 2 This hindir nycht..To me was tawld ane windir thing. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 27 A wonder thing what thingis these olde thinges tell.

Wonder-work. [OE. *wundorweorc* = WFris. *wunderwirk*, MHG. *wunderwerc* (G. *-werk*), MDa. *underværk*, etc., f. WONDER *sb.* + WORK *sb.* In ME. treated as two words (cf. WONDER *a.*); in the modern period, a new formation.]

1. A marvellous or miraculous act; = MIRACLE 1. Also *gen.* a wonderful achievement.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Hie..wundorweorcum swiþe wuldorlice ascinon. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 705 Swylce he [*sc.* Christ] oðerra unrim cyðde wundorworca on wera ʒeyhðe. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 39 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 392 Þan wirkes he wonder werkes new. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1529 (Gött.) Þai þat þir wonþer werkes wroght. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Machar*) 30 In þis land we ken hym nocht, Quhare he wondir werkis wrocht. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* A j, By sundry meanes, this Wonderworke is wrought.

1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* 60 While the Christians,..on account of a few insignificant wonder-works, proclaim their Jesus for a god. 1889 JAS. GIBBONS *Our Chr. Heritage* 242 Saint John referring to the wonder-works of Christ.

2. A wonderful work or structure.

c 1275 LAY. 17376 Þo gonnen hii wende..to þan hulle.. war stod þat wonder worc. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 275 He bygan to bulde Seynt Albons his grete chirche from the foundement of a wonder werk of brend tyle.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. x, Fit speculation; such as ..He found in wonder-works of God and Nature's hand. 1887 WALLIS *Throne of Fisherman* 150 Forums which should surpass Trajan's wonderwork. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 238/1 These wonder works of the sea are broken ..into the most fantastic forms. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 2/3 The hotel is, like everything else here, a wonder-work.

3. Marvellous work or workmanship.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* V. CXXXIII. (1811) 116 A beer of wonder warke, standith..ouer yᵗ graue.

1863 *Pilgrimage over Prairies* II. 265 Impassive spirits ..whom the daily wonderwork of nature, her glorious displays of the soleman, the lovely and the wild, seem never.. to affect. 1883 in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. CXXXVI. 4 God was alone in the wonderwork of Creation.

Wonder-worker. [f. WONDER *sb.* + WORKER.] One who performs wonders or marvellous things; *esp.* a worker of miracles; a thaumaturge.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 169 Some of their better Prelates have removed..an image of our Lady, upon the broaching of a report that it discovered it selfe for a Wonder-worker. 1641 S. FAWCET *Seasonable Serm.* 27 The praying generation are the wonder-workers of the world. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xix. 407 That he may be accounted a stupendious Wonder-worker, a Creatour of his Creatour. 1728 ATTERBURY *Serm., Acts xxvi.* 26 (1734) I. 28 In China and Japan these Wonder-workers may pretend to have done as many Miracles as they please. 1856 MRS. YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. xviii. (1879) 346 A wonderworker in cloth. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 375 Hannibal..taking his place..among the great wall-builders and wonder-workers of Eastern history and legend. 1895 FR. MARIANUS *St. Anthony of Padua* 143 The saintly Friar, the Wonder-worker filled with love and sympathy.

So **Wonder-working** *ppl. a.*

1594 *Sathans* 284 Your wisedomes ouerflowing wit, Digs deepe with learnings wonder-working spade. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 230 To the high honour of our great and onder-working God. 1679 *Hist. Jehue* 28 They fall down afore this wonder-working Image. 1710 BROOME *Paraphr. 'Habakkuk* iii. iii, Waving his Wonder-working Wand. 1776 DUNBAR *Hist. Mus.* I. 194 The music of Orpheus, Amphion, ad such wonder-working bards. 1849 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* II. (1861) 10 The wonder-working sword of Harlequin. 1857 KEBLE *Serm.* x. 270 In the [illegible] rking Prayer of Consecration. — *Catholic Mag. Aug.* 108 There came..the wonder-working body of St. Cuthbert.

Wonderwyse: see WONDER *a.*

†**Wondlich,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 3 **wandlich.** [app. a. ON. *vándligr* bad, wicked, evil, f. *vándr*: see WOND *sb.*[1] and -LY[1].] app. Bad, evil.

c 1205 LAY. 6358 He hauede bi þare wimman ec wandliche sinne [*later text* ebte man].

Wondrous (*wʊ*ndrəs), *a.* and *adv. literary.* Also 6–9 **wonderous,** 6 **wond(e)rouse, wo(u)nderus, woundrous,** 6–7 **woonderous,** 7–9 **wond'rous.** [Alteration of WONDERS *a.* by substitution of suffix -OUS, after *marvellous.*] Wonderful.

a 1300 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1858 The sede wex grene, And on the dry herse gan spring Which me thought a wondrous thing. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* iv. (1555) C iiij, The wonderous serpente Of the seuen metals, made by enchantment. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* CXIX. 18, & so shal I spie out wonderous thinges in thy lawe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 5 A faire young man, Of wondrous beautie. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1673) 7 The Grecians, till barbarism began to steal in upon them, were men of wonderous subtlety of wit. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 483 Some of Serpent kinde Wondrous in length and corpulence. 1709 WATTS *Hymn*, When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory dy'd. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 155 Hope..has the wondrous virtue to educe From emptiness itself a real use. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* viii, For hours, and hours, this wondrous white woman poured forth her speech. 1864 BAYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xix. (1875) 357 The German mind, just beginning to put forth the blossoms of its wondrous literature.

B. *adv.* = next. *arch.*

a 1557 MRS. M. BASSET tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1391/2 An vrgent and wonderous necessarye cause. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 229 We found this auncient Well so wondrous deepe, that scarcely all our ropes could sinke our bucket in the water. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* vii. 77 As he made some Bodies wondrous great, so he made others wondrous little. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiii. 35 They tell me she is grown wondrous pretty. 1782 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 38 Some she would teach (for she was wondrous wise). 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* vi, This horse eats so wondrous slow. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 428 Lady, thou art wondrous fair.

Wondrously (*wʊ*ndrəsli), *adv. literary.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a wondrous manner; to a wonderful degree; wonderfully, marvellously.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* LXXXI. 12 Thane thocht I thus, this is ane felloun phary, Or ellis my witt rycht woundrouslie dois varie. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* XVII. 3 They were..put to horrible feare & wonderously vexed. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIV. xiv, Thou wondrously didst cause.. From thirsty flynt a fountayne flow. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. iv. 71 My Lord leanes wondrously to discontent. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 587 So wondrously was set his Station bright. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 17 (1824) 319 So wonderously adroit in pedestrian exercises. 1905 TREVES *Other Side Lantern* II. ix. (1906) 83 The walls of the main building are wondrously carved.

So **Wondrousness.**

1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 240 Because of the very wondrousness of this universe.

†**Wondsome,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Of Scand. origin (cf. MSw. *vandsamr* difficult, troublesome; Norw. *vandsam* difficult to please): see WONDER *a.* and -SOME.] Beset with difficulty; in quot. quasi-*sb.* (see FOR *prep.* 10). So †**Wondsomely** (**wandsomdly**) *a.* [cf. MSw. *vandsamliker*].

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3836 And for wondsome and wille alle his wit failede. *Ibid.* 4072 The waye vnto Wynchestre thay wente..Wery and wandsomdly.

†**Wone,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **wune,** 3–6 **wone,** 4–7 **won,** 4–8 **wonne,** (5 **wne, woone,** 6 **wun**). [ME. *wune, wũne*, aphetic f. I-WUNE, I-WONE, OE. *gewunna* = OS. *giwono* (MDu. *ghewonne*, MDu., (M)LG. *wone*), OHG. *giwona* (MHG. *gewon(e)*, related to MHG. *gewan*, ON. *vana*, which represent another grade: f. Teut. *ga-* Y- + *wun-*, WON, WONE *v.*]

I. [See WON *v.* II.] Habit, custom.

1. Habitual action or conduct (of a person); (one's) habits or practices collectively.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 266 [Heo] dude hit eft & eft, & feol so into ful wune þet heo lei & roteđe þerinne. *c* 1275 LAY. 14017 Þe Peutes dude hire wone [*c* 1205 wune]. 13.. *Guy W.* (A.) 130 Artow..Suward sone, þat of al godanes hab þe wone? *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 278 Þis kyng hedde a sone, Of such wit and of such wone..As was his fader. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 335 To lyuen in delit was euere his wone, For he was Epicurus owene sone. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 6 Chasti þaim fra iull wne, als þe fadir dos his sune. *c* 1405 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 66 Mych boysynesse or oryble synnes that..weren amendet, & yn better woone I-brogth. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 232 His woone was to wirke mekill woo. 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* 21, 26 He vseth not his custome [of eating twice a day] for þe stomak is out of his wone.

b. In particularized use; *pl.* habits.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Seint nichalas þe on his childhode wunede him to fasten, and þat wunę held to his liues ende. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 270 Hit is mun hlipa, his is mit wunę, þat ich me deage to mine cunde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2725 (Laud

MS.), He was þe Emperoures sone, Wel to juste was his wone. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 89 Treuþe..Bad hem .. wikkede wones wihtly to amende. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 79 He was wont before to stele, and nowþe not leue his old wone. *a* 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 3 in a gardyn, about twayn after noon, Ther were ladyes walking, as was her ——

2. Established usage or custom (of a people, country, etc.).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 205 Seint Iacob..nam ȝeme of þe wone þe weren þo, and ȝet hiden mid mannen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 368 Dis wune he [*sc.* harts] hauen hem bi-twen, Doȝ he an hundred to-giddre ben. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1681 Quat laban, 'long wune is her driuen, Firmest on elde, first ben giuen'. *Ibid.* 3137 Danne he kereden hem newe wunen. *c* 1290 *St. Edward* 18 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 47 Seint Edward..is sone Aftur him was king j-mad, ase lawe was and wone. *c* 1300 *Cursor*

is the wone. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 34 Thay ne hadden no wone of warytrest & parfor þey . dremt ham. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (1883) 163 Dede mens bodyes to byrye with mirre was the olde wonne.

3. Phr. *In wone*: as a matter of custom, customarily. *To have in wone*: to be accustomed *to do* something; to practise habitually; so *to be in wone, to have wone. To be of common wone*: to be common custom. *By* or *with wone*: as a matter of custom; used as a tag (also *in good wone*).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4728 Hii dude hom vorbere in þis lond þan hii were in wone. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21237 Mare as gospelliere wit won. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (B. M. MS.) 2 He callide to hym seynt Iohan..And seide, 'womman, lo, here þi sone, And, man, take hure to moder in good wone'. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 284 Of comun wone In chambre thei togedre wone. *Ibid.* II. 143 At hom if that a man wol wone, This Fievere [*sc.* jealousy] is thanne of comun wone Most grevous in a mannes yhe. *c* 1400 *Titus & Vesp.* (Roxb.) 3058 Aftur hym regnede Titus his sone, The Emperour most certeyn by wone. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 3292 (Cott.) He. had in won, By his wiff, oftsyis to ly O þir syndry women by. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (C.) 230 'Hee ye', she seide, 'Sywnrden sone, That all goodnesse hath in wone?' *c* 1436 *Libel Engl. Pol.* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 196 In somere tide wolde he have in wone, And in custome, to be fulle redy sone, Wyth multitude of men. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 116 All the good thou has in wone Of godis grace is bot a lone. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 31 Thay that vse to eat of it loke much more freshly then they had won to do.

II. [See Won *v.* I.] The action of staying or remaining; place of dwelling.

4. Phr. *Withouten wone*, without delay. Cf. *withouten hone* (Hone *sb.*[2]).

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 215 And yf thou sende hur not soone, Hastelye, wythowten wone, Then ryseth thera stryfe. *c* 1596 *King & Backer* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 5 Gramercy, felow, seyde owr kyng, withowtyn eney wone.

5. A dwelling-place, abode; *spec.* this world: = Wone *sb.*[2] 1, 3 b.

c 1205 Lay. 13492 Ne mæi i noht for muchele scome habben here þesne wone. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 513 Or enoch wente fro werldes wune Matusale was boren is sune. *a* 1300 *XV Signs* 164 in *F. E. P.* (1862) 12 Wel a3tist þe faire to lede Wile þou art in þis wreche wone [*rime* mone]. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 518 Of any wightes in wonne wysest i-holde. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3377 Sythe bretayne owte of troy was sought And made in bretayne hys owne wonne. 1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xxiii, Howe she telde Both what she was, and where her wun she helde. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III iii. 7 There the wise Merlin whylome wont (they say) To make his wonne. 1608 Torsell *Serpents* 269 She ..from the Center draweth a thred like wooll to lye vpon While double worke on euery part doth fortifie her wone. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. II. xxii. That free light hath given a free wonne [*rimes* sun, shone, begun] To this dependent ray. *Ibid.* xxiii, Flocks of souls..that have their won Where they list most to graze. 1683 — *Paralip. Prophet.* Pref. p. xxvi, The Wilderness the Won of Spirits and Ghosts. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. viii, With all the gods that love the rural wonne [*rimes* run, son, undone].

†**Wone**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Chiefly *poet.* Forms: 3 woan, 3–4 won, 4–5 woon, wone. [Midland and Southern variant (with ō) of Wane *sb.*[2], which is probably a. ON. *vān* hope, expectation, and therefore identical with Wone *sb.*[3] The germ of the sense of 'dwelling-place' is to be seen in ON. examples such as *þá er allar vánir vóru ránnsakaðar* when all the 'expected places' (places where it might be expected to be) were searched; cf. Norw. *von* place where one expects to find something, fishing-place, hunting-ground. Association with Won *v.* assisted the establishing and further development of the sense in ME.; cf. also Wone *sb.*[1] II. The allocation of meaning in particular instances is often doubtful.]

1. A place of habitation or abode, dwelling-place.

c 1275 *Sayings Christ* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 90 Ma grauæþ þis gode, in greote and in ston, þar wæren wre wiles in wurmenes won. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiv. 46 So wyde in world ys huere wen, In uch a seone untrewe is on. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2456 Ne iudde þei no won to wille Bot þe wode so grene. 14.. *Songs, Carols, etc.* (E. E. T. S.) 85/116 Pray we þat byrde so bright as bon..þat our dwellyng may be in her wone, With hym that for our sake was slone.

2. *sing.* and *pl.* A dwelling-house, dwelling, habitation: freq. applied to a palace.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Willunes ower wunes ne lete ȝe nenne wra slepen. *c* 1330 *Athelston* 735 Bope in-unne þey rod To Westmynstre wone. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 140 How wan þou into þis wra in wedes so fowle? 13.. *Gen. & Ex.* 2400 Ȝe schal in þis awe þer mayn to my wones. *c* 1384 *P. Pl. Crede* 172 A woon wonderlie well y-build, Wiþ arches on eueriche half. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18362 Thei al doun thes worthi wones, Led & tyn, scist & stones. *c* 1450 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 207 And al þe welþe wiþinne þi woon To susteine þee and þin householde. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. xxxiv, Reparrellit was that goddiss pleasand wone. 13.. *Floriden F.* lxxvii. in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 338 He tooke me from my father deere & keeped me within his woone. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 168/12 A Wone, *habitatio.*

b. *pl.* Rooms, chambers, apartments.

c 1385 *Orfeo* 331 Amyd the launde a castel he sye..Within were wyde wonys. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 917 Haf ȝe no woner in castel walle? *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 331 The wynter wones on the sonny side. *Tundale's Vis.* 1603 Large and rownde were the wones, þe flore was paved with preciouse stones.

c. *sing.* and *pl.* (with sing. concord). A city.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2472 Thay had wonne that wone be theire awene strenghe! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9857 Yonder won [*sc.* Troy] for to wyn. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* I. 141 For the grete welthe þat was in þat wonys [*sc.* the city of Alexandria].

d. *In* or *within one's wones*: in one's possession.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 76 He thut stant to day aloft And al the world bath in his wones. *Ibid.* 124 Thogh a man at ones Of al the world withinne his wones The tresor myhte have everydel.

3. *sing.* and *pl.* An inhabited place; a country, realm, territory, domain; *gen.* a place. Phr. *within wones, in wone* (freq. as a tag) = everywhere, anywhere.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8951 Passent calanged his fader wones, þe kyng for robberye of þe stones. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 75 [He] fulle bare mas many wone, Of gode men er non left. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 90 He so longe hadde riden and goon That he foond in a pryue woon The contree of Fairye So wilde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 295 Ther was ynowh withinne wones Of wepinge and of sorghe tho. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. I. 78 Deþ, as ich lyuede, Wonede in þo wones, and wyckede spiritus. 1399 — *R. Redeles* II. 180 Wher so þey ferde be ffryth or be wones. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* viii. 347 Fadres and Modres þat walken in won. *c* 1400 *Sir Pol. Poems* xxiii. 8 Prestes are lanterne hem to wysse þe wise weyes to heuene wones. 1412 *Ibid.* xi. 94 Hem thar not drede, where þey go, Here wele and worschip, in euery won. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* I. 26 A noble man,..Gracious in feld, pleisible in wones. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* liii. 126 Twelve the wysest Of Al that wos. 14.. *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 44 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 45 Ne fayre wordes brake neuer bone, Ne neuer schall in no wone.

b. Applied to this world (esp. in *worthly* or *worldly wone*); also to heaven (cf. also quots. 14.. in 1 and *c* 1400 in 3). Phr. *worthly* or *worthy in wone*, distinguished in the world or in this life.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 51 In al this wurhliche won,..Never ȝete y nuste nos lussomore in londe. *a* 1375 *Lay Folke Mass Bk.* App. IV. 637 From his blisse we schal be flemed Out of þat worþli won. *a* 1400 *Pistill of S.* 54 Þo þoujte þe wrenches to bewile þat worly [*v.rr.* wrthi] in wone. *Ibid.* 134 With wordes þei we —— þat worliche in wone. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 168 Pose worthely men in wone. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* xiii, Welcum, Wayner, i-wys wurlok in wone. 14.. T. Chestre *Launfal* 933 To wonye yn worldly wone. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* I. 184 To walk here in this worthely wone.

†**Wone**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. poet.* Forms: 3–5 won, 3–7 wone, 4 whon, 4–5 woon, wonne, 5 von, woone; 5 oon, one; *Sc.* and *north.* 3–4 wan, 3–6 wane, 4–6 wayn(e, (4 vayn, 6 vaine). [ME. *wōn*, app. a. ON. *vān* (see Wone *sb.*[2]), but the earliest form with prefixed *i-* (Y-), viz. I-won (q.v.), is remarkable in a word of Scand. origin.]

I. 1. Hope or expectation of a favourable issue; choice of alternative; hence, resource, expedient, course. Often in phr. *to have, know, see*, etc. *no other* (or *better*) *wone.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 7/226 Þo he nuste non oþur won [*v.rr.* whon, iwon]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 442 Þis gode folc of troye ..flowe in to þor castles, vor liii nadde oþer won. *Ibid.* 1915 He him vnderstod of þe beste won *Ibid.* 6540 He þeyte of luþer won, Vor to ale þis godwine. *Ibid.* 10749 He of scapede to churche, as him þoȝte best won. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5679 Moyses sagh na bettor wan Bot fled he in-to madian. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 247 Whon he sauȝ non oþur won, He bi-þoujte him sone Anon, Wher him was best to be. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 313 Sir Cleges sey non other won; Therete he grauntyd sone anon. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. vi. 876 Sen oþir succoure haf þe nane, Na þe can se na bettyr wayne. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 1295 The theff couth no better wonne, In to the see rennyth he sone. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7779 He wist noȝt whilk was better wane, To dye in fire, or els be slane. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 291 Flie myght tha nocht, thair wes na vther wane. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 85 Than, whes he had na vther o, He maid him for the kirk againe.

b. phr. (north.) *Will* [Will *a.*] *of wane* (less freq. *wone*), occas. *wilsome of wane*: at a loss, in bewilderment, without resource.

13.. *Cursor M.* 3051 (Göttt.) Nou gas þat wreche wille of wane Wandrand in wildernes alane. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 2 The kyng toward the wod is gane, Wery for-owt and will of vayn. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12823 All will of his wane his werdis to laite. *c* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxix, Nowe may wise men sitte ette home, Quen folus may walke full wille of wone. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 48 Wa is me, wretche in this warld, wilsome of wane! 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 496 Preist or clerk that tynis the spark sone; Fell meny one the maid rycht will of wane.

2. Opinion, belief. (Cf. Wene *sb.* 1.)

a 1300 *Havelok* 1311 More he lauede hauelok cnit, þan al denemark, bi mine wone! *Ibid.* 1970. 1300–20 *Visions of St. Paul* 207 in *O. E. Misc.* 109 Þise leoȝe riht in wone þat leas crist, Godes sone, Tok flesch and blod. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Cristofore*) 89 Twesand in wane, fowrer wone, þat þo þe mante master had bone.

II. Resources; abundance.

3. Phr. (*full*) *good wone*, (*full*) *great wone*: a good number, a great quantity; used either in apposition (often following the sb. qualified), or with dependent *of*. Also advb., more or less vaguely, but chiefly with reference to the exercise of great force or speed. So *evil wone*, scarcity, dearth.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 17 Engelonde is vol inoȝ of frut & ek of tren..Of stel of yre & of bras, of god coru gret won. *Ibid.* 5180 His vissares..so gret won of fisse him brouȝte, þat wonder it was. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7921 O scep he had ful mikel wan. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1907 He leyden on heuedes, ful god won. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 635 Whon thai weore bete ful good won. *c* 1380 *Leg. Rood* iii. 447 We sall gett water grete wane Here out of þis hard stane. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 170 Lyf..gaf hym golde, good woon, þat gladded his herte. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 108 þou gafe thaym welthe mare wone þan þay euer hadde. 14.. T. Chestre *Launfal* 360 He..keste her wall good won. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 2344 Brad ne corne he ete none, But water had he good one. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Cambr. MS.) 10329 Of harnes þou haste here gode oon. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 948 Thir wermen tuk off venysoune gud wayn. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.*, —— gold great wone [*sc.* one]. And riches for to lyve upon. *c* 1530 in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. XI. 7/2 Fruytes and corne shal fayle, gret woone. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 168/24 Good wone, *abundantia.* Euil wone, *inopia.*

4. Abundance, plenty. *In wone*: in abundance, plentifully.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2876 Thoru brennyng of þe brinstane, Quare-of þar es sa mikel wan. 13.. *Ibid.* 641 (Göttt.) Þis is a stede of welthful wone, Of ioye ne blis ne wantis nane. *Ibid.* 4353 Worldes welth to welde in wone. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 499 Pere won walleþ of watur in þe welle-springus. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 37 All thair vittalis war gone, That thay wantit in wone.

5. Fortune, wealth, riches, possessions.

a 1300 *Florice & Bl.* (C.) 386 Þe ne faileþ non Gold ne seluer ne riche won. *c* 1300 *Prov. Hending* xxvi, 3ef þou haue þin oune won. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* lv. 24 This worldes won. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3658 Hy ben y-clothed in alle wones. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1269 Were I worth al þe wone of wymmen alyue. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* II. 1370 That ye shuld parte al this welthe and wone. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 201 The large wones Of Prester John, ne al his tresory Might not unneth have bought the tenth party.

†**Wone**, *a. Obs.* Forms: α. 1–2 ȝewuna, 4 ywon(e, 5 iwone; β. 3 wune, 4–5 won, wonne, wone. [OE. *ȝewuna* = OS. *giwono* (MDu. *ghewone*, Du. *giwoon*), OHG. *giwon*: f. *ge-*, Y- + *wun-*, Won *v.*]

1. Accustomed, used, wont (*to do* something).

a. *c* 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 1 *Sicut consuererat*, sam þætte he ȝewuna wæs. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1036 Dydon eall swa hi ȝer ȝewuna wæron. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 176 Why he nold with hem come, So he before was? 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 188 Þerl a gret fest held At Warwike in þat cite, þat þan was y-won to be. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 358 For ... s thereto I-wone, To do Cristen men grete pyne.

β. 1[illegible] ...nd Ioss cam him a-gus, Als he was ille dai wune to don. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1384 Þe pine to bere a frut es won. *Ibid.* 2861 Þar þan fiue cites war won to be Es noght now bot a stinkand see. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2151 He..was here king, þat was hem wone Wel to yeme. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 246 [Satan] as he all tyme was wone, In-to diuast maid his ansuer. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxxii. 5516 Folk, þat was noucht wone To se sic awant.. Abaysait of þat sicht i-wis. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 23 Þe heruest dayes war ny whan skole is wone to cese. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (?1510) U iij b, And bayle that so fal is wone The eyght daye of the i

2. Customary, usual.

This is a doubtful sense assumed from such phrases as *as it is wone*, where *wone* is orig. and prob. always Wone *sb.*[1] 4 (cf. quot. *c* 1290 in sense *a*).

c 1205 Lay. 21184 He dude alse hit is wune, he streoneden hire on enne sone. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 83 Robend Courthose his sonne he gaf all Normandie, To hold, as it was wonne, als heyre of ancestrie.

Wone, *v.*[1]: see Won *v.*

†**Wone**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1 wanian, 3 wanenn (*Ormin*), wonȝ, -ie, wone, 3–4 wane. [OE. *wánian* = OFris. *wénia*, MLG. *wénen*, OHG. *weinôn* (MHG., G. *weinen*), ON. *veina* v.— OTeut. **waināǰan*, f. *wai-* Woe.]

1. *trans.* To bewail, bemoan.

Beowulf 787 Þara þe..ȝebyrdon..ær wanizean hellehafan. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 338 Siðfæt seoſian, ær cwanian, wyrd wanian. *c* 1205 Lay. 25847 Ȝa fond he þar ane quene..waneden hire alðes þæt heo wæs on liues.

2. *intr.* To lament, moan. Also *transf.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 902 Beornas grenzað, wepað wæmende wergum stefnum. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 3653 Þe þridde sealliþe deȝ þe mann wepenn wiþ3 akill & wannenn..forr hiss ajhenn sinne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 975 Solde euch mon wonie and grede, Rijt swich hi weren unlede. *c* 1275 Lay. 29807 Þe hordes hu..weopes and wone[*v.rr.* weinen]! *c* 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 187 in *O. E. Misc.* 152 Heo wonnȝ and grenes day and nyht. *c* 1275 *Cursor M.* 22056 (Fairf.) I tikkin hem to a hendin helle þat..wonis for wil-out ssesson.

Wone: see Wane. **Woned**: see Won *pa. pple.* **Wonesne**, var. Wheenne *Obs.*, whence.

Wonger: see Wonger.

†**Wonesome**, *a. Obs.* In 3 wunsum. [f. Won *v.* or Wone *sb.*[1] + -some.] Customary, usual.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Ac weore heȝ wunsum þelh hit ne hit nahte leȝnen. *Ibid.* 209.

Wong. *Obs.* exc. in place-names. Also **wang.** [OE. *wang, wong* = OS. *wang*, OHG. *wang*, only in *holzwangd* 'campi nemorei' and in place-names, (G. dial. *wang* mountain slope), ON. *vangr* (Sw. dial. *vång*, Da. *vang*), Goth. *waggs παράδεισος*. (See WANG 1.)] A plain, field; a piece of meadow land; *spec.* a portion of unenclosed land under the open-field system: now surviving locally in the proper designations of certain fields or common lands.

Beowulf 2048 Beorh eahgearo wunode on wonge wæteryðum neah. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 103 Seobban heofonas tohlidon, & seo hea miht on þyrne wang astag. *a* 1000 *Phænix* 23 þæt is wynsum wong. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1444 Borwes, tunes, wodes and wonges. ?13.. in Spelman *Gloss. Arch.* (1664), Tres acræ terræ jacentes in les wonga. 1371 in *Cal. Close Rolls* 351 [A third part of a furlong called the] Londmedewong..[a third part of a furlong called] Londwong. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wonge of londe, *territorium*. 1523 in *Lincoln Wills* (Linc. Rec. Soc. V) I. 157, ij acres landes lying in burgh callyd schothorne wang. 1528 *Ibid.* II. 97 A certeyn lande callyd Bawdwynwang. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wong*, an agricultural division or district of some uninclosed parishes...In the parish of Horningtoft, in Norfolk, for instance, there is the How-wong, q.d. the wong by the hill. 1896 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. II. 79 At Tickhill [Yorks] are lands, all or mostly meadow, called the North Wonga, South Wongs, Saffron Wongs, and Church Wongs. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., At Horncastle there is a piece of common land near the town called The Wong.

Wong, obs. form of WANG 1, cheek.

‖ **Wonga-wonga** (wɒ·ŋgăwɒ·ŋgă). *Austral.* Also **wanga-wanga.** [Native name.] An Australian pigeon, *Leucosarcia picata*. Also *wonga(-wonga) pigeon.*

1827 P. CUNNINGHAM *Two Yrs. N.S.W.* I. xvii. 321 A large pigeon named the *wanga-wanga*, of the size and appearance of the ringdove. 1846 J. L. STOKES *Discov. Australia* I. x. 314 At Captain King's table I tasted the wonga-wonga pigeon. 1887 W. S. S. TYRWHITT *New Chum in Queensland Bush* viii. 149 An occasional plain or scrub turkey, and wonga or squatter pigeons.

Wongen, variant of WANGUN.

1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 132 We..took possession of a deserted *wongen*, in which to cook and eat our dinner.

Wonger(e, var. ff. WANGER *Obs.*

Wongge tooth, obs. var. WANG-TOOTH.

Woning, *vbl. sb.*1: see WONNING.

† **Woning,** *vbl. sb.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wanung,** 2–3 **waning,** 3–5 **woning(e, -ynge(, 5 wowenyng.** [OE. *wdnung*, f. *wdnian* WONE *v.*2 + -ING 1.] Moaning, lamentation.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark v. 38 Ȝesaeh þæt wanung. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 104 La.. hwæt mæg beon geomrung and wanung ȝyf þæt nass se fulla mæden? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 In helle..þer is waning and graming and toþen grisbating. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þanne hauen wanspedie men on heorte wowe and on muðe woninge. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 321 Þu .tellest þat ich ne can nouht singe Ac al my reorde is woninge. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15454 Achilles liggen .. Ded In Troye In gret wowenyng. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 144 In al places was weylynge & wonynge, yollynge & cryinge.

Wonly, obs. f. ONLY. **Wonn(e,** obs. ff. ONE, WAN *a.*, WHEN.

Wonner, wo·ner. *arch.* Also 4 **wonere, wonyer.** [f. WON *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. G. *bewohner, einwohner.*] A dweller, an inhabitant.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter, Song of Moses* 506 All þe woners of chanaan wax starke. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxviii[i]. 19 A comelyng wonere I am in the erthe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 33 Þat is nouȝt pleynge to God, þat graunted þe place to þe olde wonyer. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* vi. cxcvi. (1811) 201 Wonner [citing Trevisa]. 1885 JEAN INGELOW *Sleep of Sigismund* xxvii, The shy wood-wonners.., bright-eyed furry things.

Wo·nning, wo·ning, *vbl. sb.*1 *Obs., dial.,* or *arch.* Forms: 1 **wunung,** 2–3 **-ing, -ieng,** (3 **-(i)unge, -i3inge, wun(n)ing, wonlinge,** 4 **-ynge, -enge, -(e)yinge, -ling,** *Sc.* **wonnyne),** 4–5 **wonyng(e, -inge, -lynge,** 4–6 **wonnyng(e,** (5 **wunnyng(e, vonyng,** 6 *arch.* **woonning,** 9 *dial.* **wunning, wunnen**), 4– **wonning, wo·ning.** [OE. *wunung*, f. *wunian*: see WON, WONE *v.* and -ING 1.]

I. 1. The action or state of dwelling or abiding. *To make one's woning,* to take up one's abode, to dwell.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (1885) 109 Ȝif he oft on seniȝne timan hine sylfne to mynstres wununge gefeastnian wile. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 We þæs ȝelefað..þæt swa hwylc man swa mildheortnesse nafað, ne bið þær Cristes..wunung on þære heortan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Þerefore he makede his wunienge in þe wilderne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Mi cume & mi wuninge, þauh hit þunche attri, hit is þauh bealuwinde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2604 In is stepmoder herte is woninge he [*sc.* the Devil] nom. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 914 In womman sal mi woning be. *Ibid.* 6157 Þair woaning þar..Four hundreth yere to þan had bene. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxvii. 66 His wonnynge is amange men that has clene thoghtis. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 761 Sum cristine þare wonnyne mais, þat þar propire kirkis hase. 1407 SCOGAN *Mor. Balade* 86 Let hem [*sc.* vices] have no wonning In your soules. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* iv. 3 The place That I haue graunte you..To haue your wonnyng in. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wonynge, or dwellynge, *mansio*.

2. A place of habitation, dwelling-place.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxx. 313 Wæs seo wunung þær swyþe wynsum on to wicenne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) iii. 154 Se hælend sende þæt on his fæder huse synd manega wununga. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 Þole me leoverd aliteiwan þat ich bimurne mi sor, er ich wite to þe bestere wunienge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5578–9 To certain wonlinge he hom broste bobe lowe & heye, So þat her wonlinge were al bi weste weye. 1340 *Ayenb.* 149 Þe erbe is wonlynge of bestes and of men. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. iv. (Tollem. MS.), Þe..hyȝest heuen,..cuntrey and wonynge of blisful men. *c* 1400 *Lay Folkes Mass Bk.* App. iii. 123 His soule þat is þe wonyinge of crist. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 28 Iheau I me bringe to þi woniynge. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 442 In Gyan land full haistely couth ryd, Raisyt feill fyr, and waistyt wonryngis wid. 1590 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 3 When I came first to this Cittie, my whole wardrope was onely a sute of white sheepe skins, ..my woonning, the wide world. 1602 W. BASSE *Three Past. Elegies* ii. (1893) 66 My woonning is in yonder stall.

3. A dwelling-house or dwelling-room, dwelling, habitation.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vi. 14 Wyrc ðe nu anne arc..& ðu wyrcst wununga binnan ðam arce. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 *Habitatio eorum non habet jaunam* .. Hore wununge naueð no ȝet. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 594 He made hire vnder erþe a wonlinge .. & huld hire þere .. priueliche. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 921 Nov walle þe a wonnyng þat þe warisch myȝt. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 177 The lady hir leif has tane, And went hyr hame to hir wonnyng. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xlii. 28 Whan he say veryly þat he was hool he took leue and walkith on-to his wonyng. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 94 Her name Is Elynour Rummynge, At home in her wonnynge. 1824–8 *Craven Gloss., Wunnen, Wunning*, a dwelling. In some parts of Craven this word is nearly extinct. When a cottage is divided into two parts, or habitations, it is called a house with two wunnings. 1901 G. MEREDITH *Reading of Life*, etc. 115 Clouds of them [*sc.* flies], under some herdsman's wonning, where there are the milk-pails.

II. 4. Custom, usage, habit. *rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wunnynge, or vsynge of custome, *frequentacio*. 1684 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 93 He knoweth my woning, lett me se what he can say.

III. 5. *attrib.*: **won(n)ing-place, -stede** (STEAD *sb.*), **-wane** (WANE *sb.*2; cf. *winning-wane*, WINNING *vbl. sb.*3), a dwelling-place.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1404 Here *woonynge placys yn Joye were dyghte. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2076 (Gött.) Bi me au þu [*sc.* Cain] noght to duell, þi woning place es made in hell. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18338 In helle mot be her wonyng-plas! *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curiasye* 847 in *Babees Bk.* 327 Of alle oure synnes cryst be oure leche, And bryng vs to his vonyng place! *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 842 For if the Gods my life wold haue proroged, They had reserued for me this wonning place. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5375, I giue him *woningsted to wale For euermare. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 76 So grete vengeance he nam..Fro Jork vnto Durhem no wonyng stede was. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3734 Oure werkis & of oure wonynge-stede, if ȝe wald knawe, I sal declare ȝow þe cas. *a* 1300 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (?1510) H iij, Where hath yᵉ sowle..In mannys body his wonnyng-stede. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 316 (Th. MS.), For me buse wende one my waye,..Vn-to my *wonnynge wane. *c* 1300 *Gest Robyn Hode* cxlviii. in *Child Ballads* III. 63/2 Where is thy wonynge wane?

Vonryde, var. WANDRETH *Obs.* **Wons,** obs. f. ONCE. **Wonsom,** obs. f. WINSOME *a.* **Wonsped,** var. WANSPEED *Obs.*

Wont (wōunt; *now chiefly U. S.* wnt), *sb. arch.* Also 6 **woont(e, wonte,** *Sc.* **wount.** [Early history and origin doubtful; perh. arose from a conflation of two synonymous constructions, *it is my wone* (WONE *sb.*) *to* .., and *I am wont* (WONT *pa. pple.*) *to* .., whence *it is my wont to* .. (In view of the textual variants in the quot. from 'Cursor Mundi', this must be considered a dubious instance.) Johnson marks this word as 'out of use'.] Habitual or customary usage, custom, habit. *Use and wont*: see USE *sb.* 9 b; *of* († *in*) *wont*, customary, usual.

13 . *Cursor M.* 13693 (Gött.) For þiþer ȝode he al vmstunt, Þar to prai ofte was his wont [*other texts* was he wont].

1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Wont or custome to an yvell thyng, *amorse*. 1543 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 24 Payand zeirly..the sowm of xx*li* bollis..with all..vther dew seruice, vse and wont. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 196 b, After our old wont, we came together vpon our othe in the churche of S. Maturyne. 1548 GRESTE *Agst. Priv. Masse* Liv, It was fyrst in wont that al the togethers assembled persones in yᵉ church did communicat eche day. 1550 LATIMER *Serm. preached at Stamford* Bij, They [*sc.* the Phariseus] wolde be ordred by olde wont, customes, forfatheis. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 2 'Tis not his wont to be the hindmost man. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iv. 6 Then it drawes neere the season, Wherein the Spirit held his wont to walke. 1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* III. iv, She shall come in a white wastcoat, And—..And perhaps torn stockings, she hath left her old wont else. 1667–8 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Mar., As merry as that fellow Joyce could make us with his mad talking, after the old wont. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian & Maddalo* 13 A narrow space of level sand ..Where 'twas our wont to ride. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xi. Her lodger .. gave her, contrary to his wont, a signal to leave the room. 1848 LOWELL *Fable for Critics* liii, His wont is to say very sharp things and do very blunt. 1850 NEWMAN *Serm. Var. Occas.* xii. (1881) 199 His commemoration is of daily wont in this neighbourhood. *a* 1856 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 363 Can I forget that this for thee too is Christmas, Christmas not as of wont—Christmas not of the earth? 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 385 They were..liable beyond the common wont of mobs to sudden gusts of feeling and impulse. 1903 *Times* 14 July 11/2 Bosnian use and wont and Oriental ideas were taken into full consideration. 1906 *Athenæum* 24 Nov. 665/2 The story is extravagant beyond the author's wont.

transf. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* VI. 218 My heart to alter from his wont it also doth disdaine. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 5 When things naturall in that regard forget their ordinary naturall woont. 1637 C. DOW *Answ. to H. Burton* 128 Envy her selfe..would have lost her wont. *a* 1854 H. READ *Lect. Brit. Poets* ix. (1857) 312 It is the wont of hollow things to echo.

b. in particularized use.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 135 b, Diogenes of a customable woonte auouched to bee a thynge muche more dangerous to falle in the handes of flaterers..then to lighte emong crowes. 1556 M. PARKER *Psalter* lxxviii. 226 To theyr old wontes they dyd retyre, as sturdy bow in bent. 1622 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3, 397 He is a foole still, he leaueth not his old wonts. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 2 Whoever..betakes himself to the scanning of bodies,..either as to their kinds of being or wonts of working. 1854 S. DOBELL *Balder* xxiii. 103 She [*sc.* Morn] won of God That ever when she walketh in the world It shall be Eden; and around her come The happy wonts of early Paradise.

Wont (wōunt; *now chiefly U. S.* wnt), *v. arch.* Forms: 5 **wunte, -on, wontyn,** 6 **wonte, wount,** *Sc. pa. t.* **vont,** 6–7 **woont,** 6– **wont**; *pa. t.* 6– **wonted, wont.** [f. WONT *pa. pple.* or back-formation f. WONTED.]

1. *trans.* To make (a person, etc.) accustomed or used *to* (occas. *with*); = ACCUSTOM 3, USE *v.* 18.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 298 Þat he mott wunte þaim & make þaim perfite in wirkyng of wull. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wuntun, or gretely to ȝeue an other vse and custome (*P.* wontyn or gretely to vse and custom), *assuefacio, usito.* 1535 *Goodly Primer* Pa. xxv, Wont me to thy paths. 1544 BETHAM tr. *Partillio's Precepts War* II. xxxii. K v, It shal not be vnprofitable to acquaynten and wount your horses..to suffer the sytter whyche is a gunner. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VII. xlvii. 882 And so offring her such meat as is most easie, you shall woont her to eate of the said hart. 1606 PEACHAM *Art of Drawing* 12 Before you . have woonted and made your hand ready in proportions of all sorts. 1636 J. OWEN *Mortif. Sin* (1668) 108 Wont thy Heart to thoughts hereof. *c* 1688 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 312 When I have visited her and a little wonted her to the place, I'll come home. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* June 689 The various defence and relief committees..have wonted people to the notion of organising the community.

b. *refl.* (rarely *intr.* for *refl.*)

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1213 He..woonteth himselfe to keepe farre from any iniust and unlawfull taking of money. 1614 T. ADAMS *Sinners Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 868 So these, that in youth haue wonted themselues to the load of lesse sinnes. 1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 18 To wont and accustome to the waters, they practising very much swimming. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 83 It is the best Course we can take to wont ourselves to that which is good. 1856 EMERSON *Engl. Traits* xvi. 275 We walked round the stones..to wont ourselves with their strange aspect.

† **2.** *trans.* To use habitually. *Obs. rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 784/1 It is no wysdome to wont a thyng that is nat honest.

3. *intr.* To be wont or accustomed; to be in the habit of (doing that which is expressed by the inf.). Chiefly in pa. t. = used (USE *v.* 20).

a 1547 SURREY *Poem in Add. MS. 17492* in *Anglia* XXIX. 337 Helpe to be walle the woffulle casse .. off me that wontede to rejoyes the flortwne offe my pleasante chyes. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S) I. 29 Flatteraris..spurit him to grettar tyrannie and oppressioun nor ony man vont to do befoir. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. ii. 14 Talbot is taken, whom we wont to feare. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 31 b, He determined .. to poyson the streame, where this iolly Forester wonted to drink. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* Ded. A 4, And how often wont your euer blessed Father, graciously to peruse Lines of mine. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1487 Sons wont to nurse thir Parents in old age, Thou in old age car'st how to nurse thy Son. *a* 1700 SEDLEY *Poet. Pieces* Wks. 1722 II. 10 To bouze old Wine, mad Pindar wonted. *a* 1703 BURNITT *On N. T.* Luke ii. 45 Had he not wonted to converse formerly with them, he had not now been sought amongst them. 1771 BRATTIE *Minstr.* I. xxxv, Where Fays of yore their revels wont to keep. 1837 WORDSW. *Cuckoo at Laverna* 60 With beast and bird..He wont to hold companionship so free. *a* 1851 MOIR *Sonn., Scottish Sabbath* v, With those he loved..He wont on Sabbath morn to cross the plain!

transf. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* Ded. (1875) 2 Not degeneratinge from youre former curtesye wontinge to accompanye all youre actions. 1640 R. BAILLIE *Canters & Self-convict.* Pref. 13 England wont not..to bee so scant of faithfull witnesses. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 11 His arms deform the roof they wont adorn. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) II. vii. 46 In as far as this wont to consist of potatoes or grain. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 43 He never can Bring back the glory that wont to be. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Sept. 12 The merry pipe, That wont to cheer the harvesting, is mute.

b. *absol.* (without inf.)

1585 LAMBARDE in *Camden's Lett.* (1691) 28 Sorrowing that I may not now, as I wonted, dwell in the meditation of the same things. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 26 The villein turn'd his face, (As wonts the Tartar..When as the Russian him in fight does chace). 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 40, I beare it on my shoulders, as a beggar wont her brat. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 28 The Earth left to be so fruitfull as it wont. 1594 R. C[AREW] *Godfrey of Bulloigne* (1881) 109 And with a semblant braue and nobellest, (As lightning wonts) he in his armour shines. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 461 He not exact hard fines (as men shall wont). 1836 RUSKIN *Marcolini* II. iii. Wks. 1903 II. 494 Peace, he is here—Lo you, he comes not forward as he wont.

† **5.** To dwell habitually, have its habitat. *Obs.*

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. clxvii. 140 The Kingfisher is a Solitary Bird, that Wonts commonly by the Water-side.

Wont (wōunt; *now chiefly U.S.* wnt), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* Forms: α. 1 **gewunod, -ad, -ed,** 2–3 **iwuned,** 2–5 **iwoned,** 3–4 **ywoned,** 4–5 **ywond(e** (5 **i-, ywonyd**); 3 **wuned,** 4 **wonde,** 4–5 **woned, -yd,** 5 **woond,** 7 **won'd, wond, wounded.** β. 3 **iwunet, iwonet,** 4–5 **iwont** (4 **iwonte, ywont,**

§ ywonet); 4–6 wunt, wount, wonte, (4 wonnt, wonp, *Sc.* vont, 4–5 wnt, 5 won(n)et, w(o)unte, 6 wante), 5–7 woont(e, 4– wont. [OE. *gewunod*, pa. pple. of *gewunian* WON *v.*]

A. *pa. pple.* †**1.** Accustomed, used *to*, familiar *with* (a thing, practice, or condition). *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i, His mod..to þam woruldsælþum gewunod wæs. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 278 Næs þæt Israhela folc gewunod to hreawum fæsce. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Ac hwanne hit [*sc.* the child] beð þarto wuned, hit wepeð þe lasse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28462 Til tauerne liuse my-seluen was wont. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. iv. (1868) 128 Þei han hire eyen so wont to derkenesse of erþely þinges. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 283 She neuere was to swiche gestes woned. *a* 1400 *Theophilus* xxi. in *Engl. Studien* XXXII. 8 For I was wont to noble fare Among prynces of londes. *c* 1430 HOLLAND *Howlat* 164 Cardinalis..With red hattis on hed, in haile takynning Off that deir dignite, with worschipe ay wont. *c* 1500 BARCLAY *Jugurth* lvii. 83 From his youth he was euer wont with hardnesse, hunger, thyrst, and labour.

2. Conjugated with the verb 'to be', and const. inf. (with or less freq. without *to*): Accustomed, used; in the habit of (doing something).

a. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Vre drihten wile cumen..and wile for-berne alle his fon and heom þet beoð iwunede uuel to done *c* 1200 ORMIN 19695 Ær wass he wunedd offte To cumenn till þe flumm till himm. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1431 Gwider vr king of þis lond is tiuage athuld sone Of rome þat is eldore were iwoned [*v.rr.* ywond, ywonte, wonnte, wonte] to done. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3776 Whan wer we woned be hy-hinde? 1340 *Ayenb.* 106 Al þet me wes ywoned byuore to louie. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 486 His clarioun.. With which he wonde is to hiraude Hem that me liste preised be. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII 143 Among wyues and wodewes ich am ywoned [*v.rr.* wonet to, wont to] sitte Yparroked in puwes. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 206 John Waleys and Alice his wyf..quyteclaymed..ij. d. of yerely rente, the which they were I-wonyd to haue. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 111/1 Lyke as he was woond to telle and reherce. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* III. xiii. 196 Of suche thynges men are woned to vse.

β. a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 257 Ant al þat hird þat ha wes i wunet to dreaien efter hire. *c* 1290 *Beket* 247 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 113 With more nobleie he rod i-nouȝ þane he was i-wonet to do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3922 A godd ..þe quilk þat he was wonnt anure. *Ibid.* 4452 To comforth þam wel was he wont. *Ibid.* 28223 My breth it wald be til vnhouse þat many man was wonto droue. 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 975 Sone, y was wunt þe swetly to wrappe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 220 That folk, that euir wes fre, And in fredome wount for to be. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 292 He forgatt hur,..nor did hur nott wurshup as he was wunte to doo. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1353 Art þow I-wont at lychwake Any pleyes for to make? *c* 1470 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 110 Servantes be not so delygent as þei were wonto bee. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1890 He was wonte to boste, brage, and to brace. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 16 Ay wont in desert darknesse to remaine. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 599 Your Ancient Conjurers were wont To make her from her Sphere dismount. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrip.* 108 Legions, wont to strem With stubborn nerves the tide. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xxiv, The lark was wont my matins ring. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* xii, He might have more good qualities than she had been wont to suppose. 1830 TENNYSON *In Mem.* viii, Every pleasant spot In which we two were wont to meet. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 350 The poet is wont to ignore the rivers when it suits his convenience to do so.

(*b*) predicated of things.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 57 Vre swinc and ure tilþe is ofte iwoned [*v.rr.* iwuned, wuned] to swinden. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 914 And so, grete tempest secede al, þat on þeyr frutys was wnt to fal. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 85 Parthia..was i-woned to conreyne al þe lond of foure contrees, of Assyria, of Media, of Persida, and of Carmania. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. i. (1919) I. 5 Constantynoble þat was wont to be clept Bezanzon. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 114/1 Al manere of Wynes . were wonid and used to pass through a vessell. 1566 *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) I. i. 44 Where the Backe was wante to stonde. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 359 The longer your letters were the more they were woont to please mee. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 123 Those looks That wont to be more chearful and serene. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* III. viii. (1817) 373 The prejudices which are wont to arise in our minds. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* vii. 127 Such a distinction is wont to be termed 'inorganic'.

b. Conjugated with the verb 'to have': in *had wont*, had been accustomed. Now *rare*.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 15 b, One of his good dames..who had wont to bestow the best roome..in her house on him. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XLIV. 137 A narrow path, where cattel had wont to go through. 1658 tr. *Scud's Com. Hist. Francion* I. 16 My Couch had wont to be upon curious Satin Quilts 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 239 The love-feasts that had wont to be between their Prince and them. 1870 J. BRUCE *Life of Gideon* vii. 120 He who had wont to come to the patriarchs..had actually come to him.

c. without inf.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 138 Þes..halga wer wæs gewunod þæt he wolde gan on niht to sæ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3500 Esau went for till hunt, A day, sum he was oft wunt. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathow*) 68 Þai cuth..Ger serpentis strik men ful sare, As befor-tyme wechis vont ware. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 321 Þif lif of þise newe ordris be more medeful þen mannes lif was woned. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 349 Inglismen thocht he tuk mar boundandly Than he was wount at ony tym befor. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxviii[i]. 149 Quycken me acordinge as thou art wont. 1698 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xv. (1674) 164 He found her not to have that Grace and Majesty which she had wont. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* v. i, He fought as he was wont, and four he slew. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XVII. 32 The common cry, Will, as 'tis ever wont, affix the blame Unto the party injur'd. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xii, All is going on as it was wont.

†**B.** *ppl. a.* = WONTED B. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xlviii. 33 The tredere of the grape the wont myrie song shal not synge. 14.. HOCCLEVE *Mis. Poems* 70/107 Lady! Of thy wont bontee, keepe alway the cours! *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. vii. 73 Þou..turnest anoon ayen to þe wont iapes of þyne herte. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 17 Aftir his wont disdaynful maner. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. iii. 1 So comes it now to Florimell by tourne,..To tast of ioy, and to wont pleasures to retourne.

b. *Ought and wont* (Sc.): due and customary. (Cf. *used and wont* s.v. USED *ppl. a.* 2 b.)

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 258 Yeldyng therof yerely to the chief lordis dewe and woned rentis. 1477 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 102 All vthir dew service aucht and wount. 1535 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* II. 261/2 With uther service and dewiteis aucht and wonit alanerlie.

Wont: see WANT, WEEN *v.*

Won't (wōunt), colloq. contraction of *will not* = *will not* (see WILL *v.*[1] A. 6 b). Also (cf. DON'T, SHAN'T) as *sb.* = refusal.

1908 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 168 Already he was beginning to know the just value of a woman's won't, so he gave up the contest. 1921 B. HOLLAND *Life Dk. Devonshire* I. xiii. 293 Hartington's 'won't' was stronger than his 'will'.

b. In hyphened comb. with infins., forming sbs. (occas. adjs.), e.g. *won't-learn*, one who refuses to learn; *won't-work*; *won't-wait*, that won't wait.

1857 R. M. BALLANTYNE *Coral Islands* xxiv, People who are sich born drivellin' won't-believers that they think [etc.]. 1868 FURNIVALL *Babees Book* 200 John Russell lets off his won't-learns very easily. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Feb. 7/1 The 'unemployables' and the 'won't works' are the recipients of most of the relief. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 8 Apr. 1/7 Won't-wait agitators.

Wonted (wō·ntėd; *now chiefly U.S.* wn·ntėd), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [Either f. WONT *sb.* + -ED, or an extension of WONT *pa. pple.*, apprehended later as pa. pple. of WONT *v.*]

A. *pa. pple.* †**1.** = WONT *pa. pple.* 2. *Obs.*

a 1413 *Chaucer's Troylus* v. 877 (Campsall MS.) And whiten gan the Orisonte shene Al Estward as it wonted is to done [*v.rr.* Al Esturwarde as it wonte is to done; Al estward as it was wone to done]. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 6779 Lo, Sire, Merlyne Is comen to 3ow here, That 3e Weren Wonted to loven so Wel. 1557 PHAER *Æneid.* v. (1558) N ij b, Syr Erix wonted was to giue combat. 1566 *Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 152 Omagher to contribute to Occarrall, as hath been wonted, the thirde parte of the said bonnaght. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* I. 15 A great Image..which was wonted to be set vp. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXXII. 109 Being enticed with the sweetenesse of the prey as men wonted to liue together vpon the spoile. 1612 R. SHELTON *Serm. preached at S. Martins in the Fields* 15 O theefe, wonted with violence to violate men.

2. = WONT *pa. pple.* 1. Now *U.S.*

1620 C. HAMPTON *Serm.* 2 He prouided..a tent, whereunto it had beene wonted. 1624 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues Royall* 1305 The Angell, wonted to Heav'n's Blisse-full Hall, Made little stay in this unholesome Stall. 1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 295 The Romanes were.. accustomed to war, wonted to victory. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. clxv. 138 She was wonted to the Place, she said, and would not Remove. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shakespeare* Wks. (Bohn) I. 364 Dramatic materials to which the people were already wonted. 1881 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* v. (1904) 98 Hepzibah had fully satisfied herself of the impossibility of ever becoming wonted to this..obstreperous little bell. 1878 *Scribner's Monthly* XVI. 56/2 Afterward we grew wonted to their beauty. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* LXXXVI. 855/1 He became wonted to his new station.

b. *absol.* Made familiar with one's environment. Now *U.S.*

1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. lxxvi. 159 Others vse to leade the horse to a..sheepe-pen, where great store of sheepe are wonted. 1641 [see WONTING c]. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* I. 74, I had crows..They grew so wonted as..to tolerate my near approach. 1874 — *Lett.* II. 238, I long to get back, and yet am just beginning to get wonted (as they say of babies and new cows) over here.

B. *ppl. a.* Accustomed, customary, usual. Now *arch.* or *U.S.*

1408 in Hakl. *Voy.* (1599) I. 177 According to their woonted maner. 1553 ASCHAM *Rept. Germany* A iij, Letters..full of your wonted good will towardes me. 1574 in *Hist. Fam. Fortescue* (1869) II. 234 Savage did send into the grounds, with the hounds, but the wonted boy, with 2 keepers. 1576 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 384 The wonted streame..ys..taken awaye. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* v. 199 It being growne past the wonted season of the comming in of ships. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 449 Out of the wood he starts in wonted shape. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 3 Wks. 1871 I. 138 The wonted indulgent methods of Providence. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 92 E'en in our Ashes live their wonted Fires. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* XXVI. The King.., in a threadbare cloak, with his wonted old high-crowned hat stuck full of images. 1848 LOWELL *Fable for Critics* lii, Archæologians..Have tried to make out, with a zeal more than wonted, 'T was a kind of wild swine that our ancestors hunted. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* ci. 22 As year by year the labourer tills His wonted glebe. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* xii. § 539. 299 Which obstructions may prevent the winds from taking up..their wonted supplies of moisture.

absol. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. i, The Wonted tumbles down; by imitation, by invention, the Unwonted hastily builds itself up.

Wontedly, *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] Customarily, habitually, usually.

1587 PARSONS *Pal. Place.* (1778) II. 182 [Her] hands wontedly were so cold both in Winter and Summer as the Mountayne Ice. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ii. § 23. 425 Wontedly the Land was defended by diet of Swords. 1629 JACKSON *Creed* V. l. 449 Oftimes more then wontedly pampering their wonted greene desires, ... the shelter of a sable suite. 1633 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 189 If the sight appear not as formerly or wontedly it did.

Wontedness, *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Accustomedness, habituation.

1648 *Eikon Bas.* xvii. 92, I might suspect my Judgement to be blassed..with some Prejudice and wontedness of Opinion. 1686 *Artif. Handsom.* 173 Wontedness makes even Blackamoors seem handsome to one another. 1868 A. D. T. WHITNEY *Patience Strong's Outings* iii, We shaded off our wontedness from one [carpet] into the other.

Wonter, var. WANTER [2], mole-catcher.

1637 in Giles *Rempton* (1847) Suppl. 3 Within these two meadows are several Hams of meadow, viz. the Bull Ham, ..the Worden Ham, the Wonter's Ham [etc.].

Wonti(e, obs. forms of WANT *v.*

Wonting, *vbl. sb.* [f. WONT *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb WONT. **a.** The accustoming (of a person *to* something).

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* Pref. A 2, The Wonting of us to the Use and Liking of these Levities, Leads..us to a Mis-understanding of Things.

b. Custom, wont.

1667 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. 78 Æneas and the Queen have made..A match to go, after her wonting, Into the Woods a Squirrel hunting.

c. *attrib.*: †**wonting penny**, wages paid to a cattle-herd for keeping beasts in a place until they are accustomed to it (cf. WONTED *pa. pple.* 2 b).

1642 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 120 The nowt heard hath for everie beast one pennie, which is called a wontinge pennie; hee..keepeth them..till they bee wonted and hanted togeather.

Wontless, *a. poet. Obs.* or *arch.* [f. WONT *sb.* + -LESS.] Unaccustomed, unwonted, unusual.

1587 T. HUGHES *Misfort. Arthur* I. ii, That both my hart and marrow quite be burnt, And synewes dried with force of woontlesse flames. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Hon. Beauty* 8 What wontlesse fury dost thou now inspire Into my feeble breast? 1608 MUNE *Fancies Farewell* i. 12 Mounted on wings of immortalitie, I feele my brest warmde with a wountlesa fire. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI. 349 He,..all astonish'd at their force And wontless valour, rage round the field. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* VI. 21 Daedalus..Along a wontless region floated off To th' icy Bears.

†**Wontlike**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 7 woont-. [f. WONT *sb.* or *ppl. a.* + -LIKE.] Wonted, accustomed.

1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 64 He stirred not, neither with woontlike disdaine once offered to reuenge so great an indignitie.

†**Wontly**, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. WONT *ppl. a.* + -LY [2].] According to custom, usually.

1634 VILVAIN *Ruchtr. Egtgr.* v. ii, Hot Fume..Which Wind And Earthquake wontly breeds. *Ibid.* 191 b.

†**Wontsomeness**. *Obs. rare.* [f. WONT *sb.* + *-someness* (see -SOME [1]).] Custom, habit.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IXX. 2124 Alkyne tame best..ran.. To woddis and to wildernes, Leiffand thare avne wontsumnes [*MS. Cott.* awlde hamlynes].

Wonus, obs. form of ONCE.

Woo (wū), *v.* Now *literary.* Forms: 1 wogian, 3 wohe, 3–4 woȝe(n, wowen, 3–6 wowe, (4 wouwe, 5 wowyn, wogh), 5–7 wow, wooe, 6–7 wo, 6–8 woe, 6– woo. [Late OE. *wōgian* (also *dwōgian* in trans. sense), of obscure origin.]

I. *intr.* (or *absol.*) **1.** To solicit or sue a woman in love; to court, make love.

a 1250 *Liber Scintill.* xiii. (1889) 68 Bearn worulde þissere wogiað & hi beoð ȝesealde to gyftum. *Ibid.*, Ne hi ne wo,iað ne hi ne lædað wif. *Ibid.* 70 Naht framað flæsc habban mæden ȝif on ȝeþance anlȝ woȝað. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 Ase a mon þet woweð [*MS. Titus* wohes]—ase a king þet luuede one leidi of feorrene londe. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 793 (Camb.) Whan þu farst to woȝe, Tak him þine glowe. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 40 Unto þe duke of Normundie he went for to wouwe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 7 Wher a womman is al one, It makth a man..The more hardi forto wowe. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiii. 44 Religious men of diuerss placis Cumis thair to wow and se fair facis. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 3 Is't possible, that..but seeing, you should loue her? And louing woo? and wooing, she should graunt? 1670 RAY *Prov.* 30 To wo is a pleasure in a young man, a fault in an old. 1786 BURNS *Duncan Gray* i, Duncan Gray came here to woo. 1820 CAMPBELL *Maid's Remonstr.* i, Never wedding, ever wooing, Still a love-lorn heart pursuing,..Wed, or cease to woo. 1849 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 442 A creature wholly given to brawls and wine, Drunk even when he woo'd.

b. Of animals.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* 44 Wowes this wilde drakes. *Ibid.*, Wormes woweth under cloude. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. i. (1495) A ij/1 Males [of birds] drawe to company of females..and wowe wyth beckes & voyce.

c. in fig. context.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Lo! þus ure Louerd woweð: nis hee to herd i-heorted þet a swuch woware ne mei turnen hire luue to him. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 78 In loves court..The povere vertu schal noght spiede, Wher that the riche vice woweth. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* XX. 120 He [*sc.* Christ] is worþy be loued, þat so dede wowe.

2. To make solicitation or entreaty; to sue *for*; to 'invite', 'call'. Also const. clause.

1625 BEATNWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 143 Th' Maide..Wooing with teares..That Ioue would giue this Monster th' ouerthrow. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* IV. xv, Even after an ill harvest we must sow, and after denials we must woo for God. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Cor.* iv. 5 (1656) 712 We are Christs Paranymphs, or spokesmen, and must woe for him. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 222 So poor George woos and prays and pleads in vain. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* iv, Towns and countries woo together.

II. *trans.* 8. To sue to or solicit (a woman) in love, esp. with a view to marriage; to pay court to, court.

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* vii. 14 Þa ða heo gewende of scole, ða awogode hi sum cnibt. *a* 1000 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 312 Þa forewand he Godwine wohne wið Brychtric Þa he his dohter awogode.]

c 1290 *St. Matthew* 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 80 A king..weide ire hebbe to his spouse and wowede hire wel fuste. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 546 (Camb.) Isolud..mi knizthod prouz, Ar ihc þe ginne to woze. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27938 If þou man nedd þe euer þar-till At forse woumman..Or woud hir wit wordes slight. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1247 *Dido*, He..wowede hyne to han hire as his wyf. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4412 Ther is a knyght hir wowith euery owre, Not for to wedde but for his paramour. 1530 PALSGR. 783/2 Thou arte but a foole to wo her, she is nat for the. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 307 Wooe hir, win hir, and weare hir. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vi. xxix. (1612) 146 Thus wowde he her, thus wonne he her, thus wowde and wonne hee sped. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 59 Long thus I woo'd her with dew obseruance, In hope vnto my pleasure to haue won. 1714 T. LUCAS, *Mem. Gamesters* (ed. 2) 41 He presum'd to woe a great Lady, who was a Widow. 1848 TENNYSON *Doro* 37 He woo'd and wed A labourer's daughter. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* iii, For four years he had thought of Nancy Lammeter, and wooed her with tacit patient worship.

b. Of animals.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. l. (1495) X vj b/2 The males woweth & plesyth the females. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 35 If she [*sc.* the Mare] refuse him..you may put a small Stone Nag to woos her. 1835 *Poultry Chron.* II. 412 [We] heard their loud gobbling on a sunny spring morning when wooing their mates.

† c. Said of the female: To solicit the love of.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. v. 344 Scho..Said Iosephe walde haf lyin hyr by, Qwhar to scho wowit hym besely. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. viii. 784 [She] wowed hym to have layne by hym.

d. In fig. context.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 390 Ieau Crist..þet al o þisse wise wowude ure soule. *a* 1240 *Urthsun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 287 A swete ihesu..hwine cou ich þe wo3e (*later text* wowen þe) wiþ swete luue. *c* 1430 *Hymnus Virgin* (1867) 69 In youghe whanne y was wilde & stronge, I e fals world fair dide me wowe. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 15 See that you come Not to woo honour, but to wed it. 1672 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. 113 In gaining him, I gain that Fortune too Which he has Wedded, and which I but Wooe. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 126 They are lost In chase of fancied happiness, still woo'd And never won. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iii, Venice..in old times would send forth the Chief of the State to woo and wed the reluctant sea.

4. To move or invite by alluring means; to entreat or solicit alluringly. (Said properly of persons, fig. of things.) a. const. obj. and inf.

c 1400 *Sowdone of Babylone* 546 His bugle to blow, they hym wowid. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 4 He..wooed them (with many fayre promises) to repent. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 293 My wayward Husband hath a hundred times Woo'd me to stake it. 1621 ELEING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 81 He was wood to consent to the patent of Inns. 1689 MILTON *Nativity* 38 Only with speeches fair She [*sc.* Nature] woo's the gentle Air To hide her guilty front with innocent Snow.

† b. THOMSON *Spring* 1036 Then forth he walks,..and woos the bird of eve To mingle woes with his. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* I. 217 Begone!—I woo thee not to stay. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 175 A mild air..wooing every bud and flower to burst forth into..beauty. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 487 Him they lured into their net.., wooing him to woo.

b. const. obj. and advb. phr. (or simple advb.).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 91 Þey heo were..busyly3 ywowed to cosses and clippynge. I 3it ache lefte clene mayde. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. ii, This gentlewoman is wooing Hermogenes for a song. 1611 *Two Noble Kinsmen* II. ii. 109 All those pleasures That woos the wits of men to vanity. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxv. 272 With the oratorie of 20 pieces a project to woo money out of peoples purses. 1682 BURTON *Admirable Curiosities* (1684) 23 To little purpose he woed the King and Queen for Reparation. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* I. i, Well might you hope to woe me to your Wishes. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 627 Those truths.. Invite thee, woo thee, to the bliss they share. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV i. 27, I will woo my pillow For thoughts more tranquil. 1830 TENNYSON *Owl* II. ii, Thee to woo to thy tuwhit. 1875 M'LAREN *Serm.* Ser. II. vii. 121 In spite of every silvery voice that woos him aside. 1882 T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & Jetsam* 8 A splendid summer day, wooing the very coat off your back.

5. To sue for or solicit the possession or achievement of; hence *fig.* to 'court', 'invite', 'tempt'.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/1 Wowyn', *procu, procito.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 180/1 To wowe, *procuro, ambio.* *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 140 Mak choice then of those than, Or of a thousand things'3..With that I wowd his wings. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 10 What a life is this That your poore friends must woe your companie. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 140 You take a Precepit for no leape of danger, And woe your owne destruction. 1625 BACON *Ess., Honour & Reputation* (Arb.) 671/2 Some in their Actions, doe Woe and affect Honour, and Reputation. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. iv. 5 Some..rather wooed then waited for their own deaths. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 90 Their Bones were drubb'd so sore They durst not woos one Combat more. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 413 All fasting else..Is wooing mercy by renew'd offence. 1781 — *Hope* 420 They that woo preferment. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 24 Whose hollow turret wooes the whistling breeze. 1820 BYRON *Juan* IV. xliii, Pale, statue-like, and stern, she wood the blow. 1882 W. BALLANTINE *Exper.* xxiii. 244 A theatre which for years before had wooed in vain the patronage of the public. 1883 R. BRIDGES *Prometheus* 935 She fled into the sea, pursuing there to woo The choking waters.

Hence Wooable (wū'ăb'l) *a.*, suitable to be wooed.

1923 ZANGWILL *Grey Wig, Merely Mary Ann* 162 She was well-nigh of wooable age.

Woo, var. WHOO *int.*

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Content* Poems, etc. (1742) 248 The chattring Sembriefs of her [*sc.* the owl's] Woo hoo, hoo. 1852 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xviii, An owl hovered around our heads uttering its doleful woo-hoo-a.

Woo, dial. f. Wo *int.* **Woo, woo'**, dial. ff. WOOL.

Wooc, Wooch, var. WOKE *a. Obs*, WOOSH.

Wood (wud), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 widu, wiodu, wudu, 2–3 wude, 3–6 (7 *Sc.*) wode, 4–6 wodd, woode, (7 *Sc.*) wod, wodde, (3 wd(d)e, 4 uud, *Sc.* vod, woud, voud, 5 woyd, whode, vode, voode, 6 woodde, wud), 5–6 *Sc.* wid(d, 5–wood, (9 *Sc.* wudd). [OE. *widu, wiodu*, later *wudu* str. m. = OHG. *witu, wito* (MHG. *wite, wit*), ON. *viðr* (Sw., Da. *ved*) :— OTeut. **widus* (cf. OIr. *fid* tree, wood, Gael. *fiodh* timber, wood, wilderness, W. *gwyddf* trees :— **widus*-).]

I. †1. A tree. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1364 Wudu wyrtum fæst. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* P 490 *Pinus*, furhwudu. *a* 1000 *Phænix* 37 Wintres & wudu hiht 7elice bledum gehongen. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 245 Ilkines sed Boðen of wude and of wed. *Ibid.* 326 He werpeð er hiss hornes In wude er in forses. [1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xxii. 2 Off ether syde off the ryver was there wode [Gr. ξύλον] off lyfe: which bare xij manner off frutes;..and the leves off the wodde served to heale the people with all.]

† b. *transf.* applied to objects made from trees or their branches, e.g. a ship (in OE. freq.), a spear, the Cross. (Cf. TREE *sb.* 3–6.) *Obs.*

In mod. arch. use associated with sense 7.

a 1000 *Dream of Rood* 27 Ongan sprecan wudu selesta. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 798 So sare was þe semble þire seggis be-twene, þat al to-wraste þai þar wode & werpis in-sondire. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 46 His precious Body.. broken on The Wood.

2. A collection of trees growing more or less thickly together (esp. naturally, as distinguished from a *plantation*), of considerable extent, usually larger than a *grove* or *copse* (but including these), and smaller than a *forest*; a piece of ground covered with trees, with or without undergrowth.

† *Honey of the wood*: = *wood-honey* (sense 10).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ciii. 20 *Omnes bestiae silvarum*, alle wilddeor wuda. 858 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 101 Butan ðem wioda ðe to ðem sealtern limpð. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXX. 31 He..rimede into þam wudu þær he þiccost wæs. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1112 Dis wæs swiðe god gear & swiðe wistfull on wudan & on feldan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 344 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 181 Hi muwen lihtliche gon...Durh ane godliese wude in-to ane bare felde. *c* 1290 *Kentish* 150 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 349 He[o] wende to þe wode of clent. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3887 In þe oþer half beþ grete wodes, lese & mede al so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8785 Mani wodds ha þai thoru gan, Bot sullk a tre ne fand þai nan. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sermon* Sel. Wks. II. 4 Hony of þe wonde. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 806 *Thisbe*, There comyth a wilde lyonee Out of the wode. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1350 Ouer hilles & hethes into holte woddes. 14.. *Stat. King's Forests* (Douce MS. 335 fol. 73) As touching the kinges veert that is to say the kinges wodes. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21606 Gladly ffolkys I conveye..To ward the woode, to gadie ffloures. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 11 Nathing of lufe I knaw, Bot keipis my scheip vndir 3one wid. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxix. 13 The wilde bore out of the wod hath wrutt it vp. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* viii. 41 Where the trees do grow scattering here and there one, so that those trees do not one of them touch an other, such places are called woods, but they are not properly to be called couerts. *c* 1614 MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 916 Then are those lovers two A hunting in the woddes resolv'd to goe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 203 Hills..adorned with some pleasant woods (which in higher Germany are of firre). 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 66 Woods, that wave o'er Delphi's steep. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 180, I..push'd alone on foot..Across the woods. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 177 We proceeded slowly upwards, through woods of pine. 1880 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* II. (1892) 82 All woods lure a rambler onwards.

b. *Woods and Forests*, more fully *Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues*, a department of the Civil Service (see quot. 1810).

1803 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 13547. 341 Surveyor-General of His Majesty's Woods, Oaks, Forests, and Chases. 1810 *Act 50 Geo. III* c. 65 § 1 Such Commissioners so to be appointed, shall be and be called 'The Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues'. 1812 *1st Rep. Comm. Woods, Forests*, etc. 18 Department of Woods and Forests. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. (1858) 247 But as to Statues, I really think the Woods-and-Forests ought to interfere. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xii, You can't offer him the Presidency of the Council,..You can't put him in the Woods and Forests.

3. Without article, in general or collective sense: Wooded country, woodland; trees collectively (growing together). Now *rare* exc. as in BRUSHWOOD 2, CORSEWOOD 2, UNDERWOOD.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 167 To wuda we gað mid urum freondum. *a* 1200 *Genesis* in *Anglia* IX. 259 Se on dune, se on wuda, se on wætere. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14568 Wude, & feld, & dale, & dun, all wass i waterr sunnkenn. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 661 (Laud) Þe king rod on huntingge, To wode he gan wende. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 33 In toftis in croftis, in wode and medi. 1557 *Lanc. Wills* (1884) 58 Towe hundreth Acres of Pasture xx^te acres of woodde. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 89 High land..: full of tall wood. 1688 tr. *Chevelin's Trav. Persia* 109 Luarzab..shut up the Passages by felling an infinite number of Wood. 1737 *Daily Gazetteer* 21 Feb. 2/2 Advt., To be Sold. A very large Quantity of all Sorts of Wood, with or without the Estate on which it stands. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 149 The real interest of the country requires that none but the worst lands be covered with wood. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. vi, Whole nights he spent ey moon-light pale, To wood and stream his hap to wail.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* A collection or crowd of spears or the like (suggesting the trees of a wood); *gen.* a collection, crowd, 'lot', 'forest'. (After L. *silva*.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* v. 300 Though my buckler bore a wood of darts. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. ii, The whole family, or wood of you. (1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 332, I might..observe what is answerable in the Church of Rome to the *Vinalia, Robigalia, Terminalia, Parentalia, Proserpinalia*, and other Feasts of the Gentiles; but this wood is so wide, that I may easilier lose my self in it then get through it.) 1670 G. H. tr. *Hist. Cardinals* III. III. 328 Cardinal Savelli..having discover'd his natural infirmities.., the whole Wood of his other good qualities were not sufficient to ballance them. 1670 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq Granada* II. (1672) 14 A wood of Launces. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* Pref., Wks. 1851 VIII. 469 In such a wood of words. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. II. 79 What a wood of difficulties and objections this side of the question is incompassed with. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 2 A wood of threat'ning lances.

5. Phrases and Proverbs. † a. *In a wood*: in a difficulty, trouble, or perplexity; at a loss. So b. *Out of the wood* (U.S. *woods*). (Cf. quot. 1664 in sense 4.) c. *To go to the woods*: to lose social status, be banished from society. d. *Man of the woods*: = ORANG-OUTANG. e. *A bird in the hand is better than two in the wood* (and similar phrases; now usually with substitution of *bush*, BUSH *sb.*[1] 1 c): a smaller actual advantage is preferable to the mere chance of a larger one. † f. *To have an eye to the wood*: to be on the look-out for some advantage. g. *Not to see the wood* († *see wood*) *for the trees* († *for trees*): to lose the view of the whole in the multitude of details. † h. *More ways to the wood than one*: different methods of attaining the same result (and similar phrases).

a. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 415, I am afraid we are in a wood. No wonder the nation is puzzled, when the wisdom of the nation is puzzled in this place. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 125, I am in a Wood, there are so many of them [*sc.* coffee-houses] I know not which to enter. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 28 Nov., I assured him I was quite in a wood, and begged him to be more explicit.

b. 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 20 Dec., Mr. Windham says we are not yet out of the wood, though we see the path through it. 1801 [see HALLOO *v.* 2 b]. *a* 1849 POE *X-ing a Paragraph*, Dxn't crxw..befxre yxu're xut xf the wxxds. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 8/3 It remains to be seen yet whether the Germans are not shouting before they are out of the wood. 1889 'EDNA LYALL' *Derrick Vaughan* I. 12 In a few months, I noticed a fresh sign that he was out of the wood. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 Nov. 2/2 The people of North Dakota seem not to be out of the woods in the matter of prohibition. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xxix, When a patient reaches this stage [of convalescence], he is out of the woods.

c. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 June 2/2 Two other gamblers whose social position was at least equal to Sir William's have gone..'to the woods'.

d. 1755 *Hist. Descr. Tower Lond.* 25 You are..shewn in this Yard a Man of the Wood. 1774, 1826 [see ORANG-OUTANG]. 1852 ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xx. 270 The hairy man of the woods.

e. *c* 1530 [see BIRD *sb.* 6]. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 30 Better one byrde in hande than ten in the wood. 1621 T. GRANTHAM *Eccles.* xi. 5. 297 A bird in the hand is far better then two in the wood.

f. 1598 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 292 The Damoyselle making a signe to hir suppliante [*printed* supply oute] (who had alwayes an eie to the wood).

g. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. iv. (1867) 51 Plentie is no deintie, ye see not your owne ease. I see, ye can not see the wood for trees. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Sij b, Thou canst not or wilt not see wood for trees. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 217 He could not have beene able as hee went along to have seene the Wood for Trees. 1752 *Affect. Narr. H.M.S. Wager* 92 This was like, not seeing the Wood for Trees. 1888 PATER *Ess. fr. Guardian* (1896) 95 Garrick.. bears no very distinct figure. One hardly sees the wood for the trees.

h. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. ix. (1867) 75 Ye tooke The wrong way to wood. *Ibid.* 77 There be mo waies to the wood than one. 1569 BILLAGE *Sch. Conceyetes* 64 Coustous men, which studie all the wayes to the wood to saue their money. 1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 74 There bee (as the Prouerbe sayeth) more wayes to the Wood then one.

II. 6. The substance of which the roots, trunks, and branches of trees or shrubs consist; trunks or other parts of trees collectively (whether growing or cut down ready for use).

Also with qualification, as BRUSHWOOD 1, TALLWOOD 1 *small wood, young wood.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 167 Se se ðe unw lice done wuda hiewð, & sua his freond oðslehð. *a* 1 *Gnomic Verses* ii. 110 Wuda and wætres nyttað. *c* 1205 LAY. 8700 Heo bi-gunnen þene wude feollen. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 97 Hewynge of wode. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 121 The hors is nedeful wode & stuff to carie. 14.. *Stat. King's Forests* (Douce MS. 335 fol. 73) If ther be any man that..caryeth a way any small wode. ? 1479 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 425 That no wodde there be solde vntil the price be sett vpon it by the saide maire. 1482 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 141 That non young wode be stryyd. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 121 In dyuers places in England there is wood the which doth turne into stone. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 40 Fruit gathred too timely will taste of the wood. 1611 COTGR., *Bois de brin*, round, or vnclaft-small-wood. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xiv. 414 The wood will pay for the ground. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 64 This stone I took to be wood petrified. 1808 L. KENNEDY & GRAINGER *Tenancy of Land* 151 Timber elm grows more commonly than any other kind

rch. 1855 T. F. Hanpower *Phot. Chem.* (ed. 2) 289 Acetic Acid is...produced...by heating close vessels.

b. as prepared for and used in arts and crafts.

In predicative use sometimes = wooden. (OE. regularly used *trēow* TREE (*sb.* B. 2) in this sense.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22543 Wodd and wall al dun sal dras. 1851–2 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 80 Y^e scrabbarde of wood turned. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 46 Bylles we vse to sharpe with Whetstones or instruments of Wood. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 90 He talkes of wood: It is some Carpenter. 1624 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Merry Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. (1630) II. 25 Edwin ... pluck'd the Minster down that then was wood, And made it stone. 1666 PETTY in Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 285 Colouring of Wood a la Leather by Lime, Salt, and Liquors. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 22 The model of the Mosque in wood. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Sept. 1677, The gates are wood...plated over with Iron. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 37 P 1 Other Counterfeit Books upon the upper Shelves ...were carved in Wood. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* ii. (1782) I. 56 No wood, except cedar, very curiously carved, was employed in any part of the building. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 302 Bibles bound in wood. 1826 W. Y. OTTLEY *Hist. Engraving* I. i. 5 The Origin of Engraving in Wood. 1842 R. A. WILLMOTT *Pleas. Lit.* (ed. 2) vii. 40 All the classic authors—in wood, with bright backs.

c. as used for fuel; FIREWOOD.

† Occas. *coll. sing.* faggots; locally, small coal (quot. 1805).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 4 Ær he hi bewerg mid wuda utan & forbærnde þa mid fyre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 402 Gederen wude þerto, mid þe poure wummon of Sarepte. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3189 Als wodde brinnes, þat es nadde and hevy. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 657/15 *Hoc focale*, wode to the fyre. 1480 *Howard Household. Bks.* (Roxb.) 18 Thei have received upon making of the iij. M. wode xiiij.s. viij d. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 224, cc wode xij^d & iiij candell v^d. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Ezek. xxiv. 10 Heape on muche wood: kindle the fyre. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 35 As fyre the wid we se Dois barne. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summer's Trav.* 44 The miserable Stipend or Hireling wages will hardly buy wood to make a fire for him. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* III. 311 The small coal used to heat the salt-pans is universally called wood by the salters on the eastern coast of Scotland. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. Introd. 1 Heap on more wood!—the wind is chill.

d. *Hort.* The substance forming the head of a tree or shrub; branch-wood; also, branches collectively; in a fruit tree, primarily leaf-bearing, as distinguished from fruit-bearing, branches. (Cf. *wood-bud*, *-branch* in 10.)

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 130 [Withies] be trees that wyll soone be nourysshed, and they wyll beare moche woodde. 1578 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* 46 If there be in your trees certain branches of superfluous wood that ye will cut of. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 32 Every Bud which hath but a single leaf produces only wood. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 302 A Peach, the more it runs to Wood, the better it will bear. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 705 Gardeners, when pruning for wood, cut farther back than when pruning for fruit. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 211/2 When a Heath has done blooming, and before it makes its new wood, is the time for pruning it into shape.

e. As the material of an idol or image. (Biblical.)

1535 COVERDALE *Esth.* xx. 32 Wod & stone wil we worshipe. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 236 Bewar, I am ane Ielous God, I am na Inlage, stock nor wod. 1688 *Letany for S. Omers* II. ix, All Adorers of the Mass, Who bow to Wood, and Stone, and Brass. 1819 HEBER *Hymn*, 'From Greenland's icy Mountains', The Heathen, in his blindness, Bows down to wood and stone!

f. *spec.* (*Hort.* and *Bot.*) The hard compact fibrous substance lying between the bark outside and the pith within.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlv. 449 It is vsuall to graft betwixt the wood and the barke, when trees begin to put vp their sap. 1673–4 GREW *Anat Pl.* (1682) 123 The next general Part of a Branch, is the Wood; which lyeth betwixt the Barque and the Pith. 1875 LASLETT *Timber* 20 A drying up or wasting away of the wood immediately surrounding the pith. 1877 A. W. BENNETT *Thomé's Bot.* 333 In the anatomical structure of the wood Gymnosperms resemble Dicotyledons in all essential particulars.

g. A particular kind of wood; freq. *pl.* kinds of wood. In *Pharmacy* formerly applied to particular kinds used medicinally: see quots.

Phr. †*To tell what wood the ship is made of*, to be seasick.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 248 Philautus not accustomed to these narrow Seas, was more redy to tell what wood the ship was made of, then to answeer to Euphues discourse. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 73 A wood full fit to forge the trolling wheeles Of chariots. 1600 W. S. *Thomas Ld. Cromwell* II. ii, To my victualles went the Sailers, and thinking me to bee a man of better experience then any in the shippe, asked mee what Woode the shippe was made of. [1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* C 2 b, I emy stood fearefull of euery calme billow, where it was no boote to bid him tell what the ship was made of, for he did it deuoutly.] 1681 CULPEPPER & COLE *Pharm. Lond.* 7/9 Cyprus. This Wood laid amongst cloaths, secures them from Moths. 1687 BLOME *Pres. St. Amer.* 14 Woods for the use of Dyers...Sweet smelling and curious Woods. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 63 The Nephritic Wood is thick, without Knots. *a* 1734 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 292 To ascertain how much

hard and strong woods used for architectural purposes.

1772 MACBRIDE *Th. & Pract. Physic* 635 A pint of decoction of the sudorific woods. 1798 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 15 A decoction of the woods. 1848 DUNGLISON

1850 BALLIN *Med. Dict.*, *Woods, the*, these formerly in repute as antisyphilitics.

h. *transf.* A hard substance found in the head of an elephant.

1809 C. ROSS *Four Yrs. S. Africa* 136, I sat on one [elephant] while they searched for the wood in his head. It lies about an inch beneath the skin imbedded in fat, just above the eye, and has the appearance of a thorn, or a small piece of twig broken off.

i. In echoes of the L. proverb which appears in Erasmus's *Adagia* II. v. xlvii in the form *Ne e quovis ligno Mercurius fiat* (see quot. *c* 1594, and cf. A. Otto *Sprichwörter der Römer* 220); hence, the 'material' or 'stuff' of which a person is 'made'.

Cf. similar uses of Gr. ὕλη, F. *bois*.

[1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 249 Is Eboule like her? O word divine! A wife of such wood were felicitie.] *c* 1594 BACON *Promus of Formularies & Elegancies* (1898) 19 A mercury cannot be made of every wood (but priapus may). 1594 — *Let. to Ld. Puckering* in Spedding *Lett. & Life* (1861) I. 293, I hope you will think I am no unlikely piece of wood to shape you a true servant of. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 5 Vertue is a meruelous workewoman, who can make Mercury of any wood. 1826 DISRAELI *Vis. Grey* IV. i. I know better than most men of what wood a minister is made. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* v, The wood of which a knight is made, and that is a squire.

7. Something made of wood: *spec.* a. The wooden part of something, as the shaft of a spear. b. A block of wood used for engraving or printing, as distinguished from a metal plate or type. c. The cask or barrel as a receptacle for liquor, as distinguished from the bottle. d. *slang.* The pulpit. e. The wooden wind-instruments in an orchestra collectively (also called *the wood wind*: see 10 below). f. Each of the bowls in the game of bowls.

a. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xv. P 9 A long piece of...Wyer...fastned into the Wood of the under half of the Mold. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 1191 The Wood [of the javelin] she draws, the steely Point remains.

b. 1899 J. JACKSON *Wood Engraving* viii. 720 Wood engraving is necessarily confined, by the size of the wood, to the execution of subjects of...small dimensions. 1886 in Ruskin *Rossetti* (1899) 217 An engraving on wood of my picture...there is an objection to sending 'the wood' travelling.

c. 1806 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks 1855 I. 174 When the speerit's been years in the wudd. 1888 J. ASHTON *Social Life Reign Q. Anne* I. 199 Ordinary clarets from the wood.

d. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xi, They say he's a pleasant fellow out of the wood. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 10 July 45/2 Mr. Beecher's activity has not been altogether confined to what irreverent people call 'the wood'. 1897 RYE *Norfolk Songs* 229 You are very good in flannel, Sir. I'll come on Sunday, and see if you are as good in wood.

e. 1879 E. PROUT *Instrum.* 77 The brass instruments, used ...in combination with strings or wood. 1901 W. J. HENDERSON *Orchestra* 81 The 'wood'...in the modern orchestra consists of flutes, oboes, clarinets and bassoons.

f. 1884 DOHERTY *N. Barlow* viii. 49 Here ancient fogies... tried To better aim their wandering 'woods' to guide. 1918 J. A. MANSON *Compl. Bowler* 194 The skip may...summon a player from the mat to look at the lie of the 'woods' before delivering his bowl.

8. Phrases. † a. *Against the wood*: 'against the grain' (GRAIN *sb.*1 10 b). † b. *A piece of wood*: a contemptuous appellation for a stupid person; a blockhead. c. *Wood and wood*: see quots. d. *To take in wood* (local U.S. colloq.): see quot. e. In names of certain trees: *Wood of Jerusalem*, a variety of pear; *Wood of life* = LIGNUM VITÆ 1.

a. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 35 Such a witte...well handled by the mother,...and wrought as it should, not ouerthwartlie, and against the wood, by the scholemaster.

b. 1692 *Nova Disc. Old Intreague* XXV, Next him Sir Ralph,...a very piece of Wood.

c. *a* 1625 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict., Wood and Wood*, that is when two timbers are let into each other so close that the wood of the one doth join close to the other. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 327/2 A straight Board, with a Staffe in the side, to draw over Corn in measuring,...Which measureing is termed Wood and Wood. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-m.* 142 *Wood and Wood.* This term implies that when a treenail, &c. is driven through, its point is directly even with the inside surface, whether plank or timber.

d. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 230 In the West, where steam-navigation is so abundant, when they ask you to drink they say, 'Stranger, will you take in wood?'

e. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxviii. 1309 Italian Lignum vitæ, or woode of Life, groweth to a faire and beautiful tree. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlix. 537 Peares, such as ...the wood of Hierusalem. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 79/1 The Lignum Vitæ, or wood of Life, hath a smooth leaf. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 332.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

9. General: a. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Made or consisting of wood, wooden.

1538 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 76 All wodde implementes. 1545 *Rates of Customs Ho.* d j, Wod crosses for bedes. 1578 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 133 Fower woodd bottels, one lether bottle. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* I. Wks 1851 VIII. 472 The...Sap of thir Wood-fewel burning on the fire. 1772 LUCKOMBE *Hist., Printing* 316 This Wood Handle with long working often grows loose. 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* (1852) 3 Smooth as glass,—level as wood pavement. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 26 A wood match red immediately rekindles when dipped into a jar of [oxygen]. 1863 A. YOUNG *Nat. Dict.* (ed. 2) 448 Wood-_____ is used most generally for covering a vessel's bottom that has been partially wormed. 1879 E. PROUT *Instrum.* 59 The 'wood instruments' in ordinary use in the orchestra. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 308 To store enough wood to go twenty miles you had to have wood billets everywhere; all over the deck...&c. 1901 *J. Bland's Carp. & Build., Home Handbk.* 62 Tarsia...was a species of wood inlay or mosaic. 1902 T. D. A... 280 The nave was covered with a wood ceiling.

b. attrib. (*a*) in sense 2 or 3, as *wood country*, †*-dike*, †*-eaves*, *-edge*, *-end* (END *sb.* 2), *-ground*, *-music*, *-path*, *-pathway*, *-ride*, †*-rim*, *-scenery*, *-shadow*, *-song*, *-stream*, *-top*, *-walk*, *-way*, *-world*; dwelling in or haunting a wood or woods, sylvan, as *wood-bird*, †*-burgess* (fig.), *chorister* (fig.), *-demon*, *-folk*, *fowl*, *-god*, *-goddess*, *-knight*, *-nymph*; growing in woods, as *wood-moss*, *root*, *-weed*; (*b*) in sense 6, as *wood-bote* (BOOT *sb.*1 5 b), *-cell* (CELL *sb.*1 12), *charcoal*, *-fibre*, *fire*, *reek*, *rick*, *shide*, *smoke*, *stack*; in sense 6 d, as *wood-shoot*; used for storing or conveying wood, as *wood barge*, *boat*, *box*, *cart*, *cellar*, *hay*, *loft*, *shed*, *sled*. c. objective, etc., (*a*) in sense 2 or 3, as *wood-keeper*, *-owner*; (*b*) in sense 6, as *wood-bearer*, *-broker*, *-carrier*, *-carter*, *-chapman*, *-chopper*, *-cleaver*, *-eater*, *-feller*, *-grower*, *-seller*, *-turner*, *-worshipper*; *wood-carting*, *-chopping*, *-eating*, *-hewing*, *-turning* vbs. and adjs.; *wood-like* adj. d. locative, as (sense 2), *wood-creeper*, *-dweller*, *-rover*; *wood-horn*, *-bred*, *-embosomed* adjs. e. instrumental and parasynthetic, (*a*) in sense 2 or 3, as *wood-crowned*, *-encumbered*, *-fringed*, *-girt*, *-skirted* adjs.; (*b*) in sense 6, as *wood-built*, *-cased*, *-faced*, *-hooped*, *-keyed*, *-panelled*, *-paved*, *-roofed*, *-sheathed*, *-walled* adjs.; *wood-pave* vb.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Fatarie naues*, lyghters, or †woode barges. 1568 in Marsden *Sel. Pleas Court Admir.* (Selden) II. 139 A woodbarge alias the Woolfe of Dorney. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 †Wodeberare, or caryare of fowayl. 1536–7 *Privy Purse Exp., Princ. Mary* (1832) 10 My lawyn grace wodberer. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 15) 159 Wood-bearer, one. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 145 Ilegin these †wood birds but to couple now? 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 97 The Wood-Birds feed upon the Fruits of Trees. 1839 EMERSON *Poems, Problems* 25 Yon woodbird's nest Of leaves, and feathers. 1448 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 299 Maistres of †wodbotes. 1691 *Andros Tracts* I. 142 Shallops and Wood-boats. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* xvi. 166 Those boats never halt a moment...except...to hitch thirty-cord wood-boats alongside. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 16 The †woodborne people...worship her as Goddesse of the wood. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Art P.* 347 The Wood-born Satyr. 1882 J. F. S. GORDON *Hist. Moray* III. 87 A forest, in which the burgesses had the privilege of †wood-bote granted to them. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 135/1, I looked for a place to rest, but there was nothing but a large †wood-box, with an old hemp sack to lie on. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIX. iv, The †woodbred swine. 1597 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 427 Thomas Jhones †woodbroker. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i, A very humble †wood-built place. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CIV. ix, †Wood-burgesses... Lions

pro equis del †Wodecartes. 1377–8 *Ibid.* 516. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 462/2 The †wood-carter answering them in a neighbourly spirit. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 58 Amos Burton...at present does †wood carting. 1907 *Install. News* Dec. 21/1 The board...is a D.P. Fuse and S.P. Switch †wood-cased type. 1861 HENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 23 In the †wood-cells of some trees we find their walls present ...large circular dots or discs which encircle them. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 98 To the Vascular forms belong the ducts and the vascular wood-cells or Tracheïdes. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* § 718 The coal and †wood cellar. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 368 The †wood-chapmen did not care to have their wood faggotted so early. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xiv. § 2. 892 The specific heat of †wood charcoal. 1842 EMERSON *Lect., Man the Reformer* Wks. (Bohn) II. 239 My †wood-chopper, my ploughman,...have some sort of self-sufficiency. 1897 HENTY *On the Irrawaddy* 163 The sound of †wood-chopping. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. lx, There the †wood-querists sat on a row. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 1 The medling Ape, that like a tall †wood cleaner, assaying to rend a...billet in two peeces, did wedge in his pettitoes. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* cxlii. 7. 918 As wood-cleavers make the shivers flye hither and thither. 1583–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 124 Gette thy quyckesettes in the †woode-countreye. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 188/2 A certayne wood countrey in Somersetshire, called Ethaling. *c* 1580 *Barbours* III. iii. 50 Som are called *folletti*, *forabeschi*, *fo asieghi*, that ys †wood-crepers, hedg crepers, & the whyte & red fearye. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 559 The †wood-crowned hill. 1820 W. IRVING *Sk. Bk., Spectre Bridegroom* (1821) I. 297 Some talked of mountain sprites, of †wood-demons. 1591 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XXII. 133 For vphaldin of the †woddikis of Falkland. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 404 The shods of some stout †wood-dweller. 1693 S. DALE *Pharmacol.* 539 Teredo...The †Wood-Eater. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 420 It is hard to attribute carnivorous propensities to so harmless a wood-eater as Hylobius. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 202 †Wood-eating Sneut-beetles. *c* 1325 †wode-hevene [see EAVES 1 b]. 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3376 Che weute to the welle by þe wode eule. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 475 Ha seiz vnder a †wode-egge...Fyue hondred men of Armes. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 8 There was a stout fellow yonder in the wood-edge. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. ix, High over Borthwick's mountain-flood His †wood-embosom'd mansion stood. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* (1818) II. 300 The Château...so lonely, so wood-embosomed. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. ix, Kentucky's †wood-encumber'd brake. 1783 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 502 His dwelling house in the †Wodend callit Dewcchew. *c* 1440 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 292 Lands in Wilmowe in the woodend of Hill. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 400/1 The improved †metallic wheel with †wood-faced tyres. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 699/17 *Hic fornidator*, a †woddeller. 1589 BLAGDEN *Sch. Conceytes* 54 As a Woddeller was carrying wood aucss a riuer side, he lost his axe. 1788 tr. *Bashford's Vathek* (1868) 90 The wood-fellers who directed their route.

1873 Bennett & Dyer *Sacht Bot.* 100 Whether *wood-fibres occur in Cryptogams is at least doubtful. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W.) 131 b, A *wode fyre, for peple to syt & wake therby. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xliii, The dying embers of a wood fire still glimmered on the hearth. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 185 Bugs never infest houses..in which wood-fires only are used. 1867 Morris *Jason* i. 262 All about The *wood-folk gathered. 1338 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. i. (Bodl. MS.), *Wood foules..dwelleþ in woodes and in þikke coppes of treen. 1787 Burns *'Admiring Nature in her wildest grace'* 13 The lawns *wood-fring'd in Nature's native taste. 1828 G. W. Bridges *Ann. Jamaica* II. xv. 227 Surprised to find their *wood-girt town surrounded by an armed force. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi. 9 The wyld *woodgods. 1610 Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* i. i, No Goblin, Wood-god, Fairy, Elfe, or Fiend. 1820 Keats *Lamia* i. 34 Full of painful jealousies Of the Wood-Gods, and even the very trees. *c* 1843 Carlyle *Hist. Sketches* (1898) 270 The *wood-goddess with her nymphs. 1581 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 824 & so followe the broke into another *wood ground. 1611 Cotgr., *Laie*, Wood-ground, by measure, or quantitie of *Arpens*. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 258 [He] has to pay more for his timber, to protect the *wood-grower. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp-Hunters* vi. 48 The water-drawing, *wood-hewing pueblos. 1891 Hardy *Tess* xxvii, The *wood-hooped pails.. hung..ready..for the evening milking. 1537 *Wood hoy [see Wend *v.* 6 c]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A *Wodde keper, *Incarius*. 1519 *Pres. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 32 That noo wode kyeper take no swyn into the woddys for akecornes. 1868 Holme Lee *B. Godfrey* xvii. 95 He is woodkeeper to Squire Gisborne. 1874 Tennent *Naval Archit.* 27 The pieces of which it is composed are connected by *wood-keyed hook scarphs. 1845 Browning *Flight of Duchess* xvii. 78 Like Orson the *wood-knight. 1548 Thomas *Ital. Dict.* (1550), *Seluaggio*, wilde, or *wooddelike. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII 224 A sort of sullen greenish Wood-like rust. 1785 Cowper *Let. to Newton* 19 Mar., We..have..more than two waggon loads of them in our *wood-loft. 1796 T. Townshend *Poems* 104 For many a long and languid day Upon the *wood-moss laid. *c* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. (1912) II. 74 The Nightingale *woodmusiques King. 1757 *Rest. Importation Bar-Iron* 17 The *Wood-Owner..divides his Wood into a Number of Cuts. 1832 *Gentl. Mag.* CII. i. 578/2 The *wood panneled ceiling. 1827-35 N. P. Willis *Idleness* 60 *Woodpath or stream, or slope by hill or vale. 1856 Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 139 These *wood-pathways ..led up a steep hill. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 281/1 To *wood-pave all the turnpike roads. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Nov. 2/1 The *wood-paved part of the Space. *Beowulf* 3144 *Wudu-rec astah. [1895 W. Morris *Beowulf* 109 The wood-reek went up.] 1898 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 87 That the blue wood-reek might chase away the flies. 1859 Blackmore *Lorna D.* x, The bark from the *wood-ricks [being] washed down the gutters. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 9 Beside the *woodride's lonely gate. 969 *Lease* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 528 Of swepelan streame west be *wuda riman. *c* 1205 Lay. 732, I þon wode rime. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 24/1 The *wood-roofed house. *c* 1205 Lay 467 Leouere heom his to libben bi þan *wode-roten. 1823 Hazlitt *Spirit of Age* i. Wks. 1902 IV. 198 Wreaths of snow under which the wild *wood-rovers bury themselves ..in winter. 1817 Lady Morgan *France* (1818) II. 309 Our celebrated landscape-painter, Robert,..assisted me in laying out the grounds, and disposing of my *wood scenery. 1479 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 425 Prouydid..that the *woddesillers leve not the bak..bare of wodde. 1554 in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 189 Wodseller and Citesin of the Citie of Bristowe 1755 Johnson, *Woodmonger*, a woodseller. 1828 Mrs. Hemans *Peasant Girl Rhone* 16 Sad and slow, Through the *wood-shadows, moved the knightly train. 1692 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 9 *Wood-sheathed Ships. 1844 Louisa S. Costello *Beam & Pyrenees* I. 282 We were glad to take shelter in a *wood-shed. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 *Wodeschyde.., *teda* 1577 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1873) 65 For nailes and wodshiddes and two skottells vjd. 1842 J. Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 299 Take the *wood-shoots close by their roots, so that the bark may grow over the wound. 1822 Hone *Fatal Discov.* 11, On the *wood-skirted lawn. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix. (1892) 211 The creaking of the *wood-sleds, bringing their loads of oak and walnut. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* vii. (1857) 48 Smelling of fresh straw in summer, and *wood-smoke in winter. 1601 *Death of Robt. Earl of Huntington* D 2, Fall to your *wod-songs therefore, yeomen bold. 1834 Mrs. Hemans *Poems, Happy Hour* 7 The sweet wood-song's penetrating flow. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Lignile*, fuell, or a *wodde stacke. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 379 The size of Faggots and Wood Stacks..differs in most Countries. 1913 'Q' *Hetty Wesley* II. v, The wood stack hid her from the Parsonage windows. *c* 1820 Mrs. Hemans *Tale 14th C.* 322 The *wood-stream's plaintive harmony. *a* 1583 Montgomerie *Flyting* 737 *Woodtyk, hoodpyk, ay like to liue in lacke! 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxi[i], The passing gleam fell on the *wood tops below. 1839 in *Inquiry, Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* (1870) 82 William..Sedgwick, *wood-turner. 1901 *Scotsman* 5 Apr. 7/2 *Wood turning tools. 1791 Charlotte Smith *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 228 Birds, who found food and shelter amid the shrubberies and *wood-walks. 1593 Markham *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* (Arb.) 46 The *wood-walled Cittizens at sea. *c* 1325 in Kennett *Par. Antiq* (1818) I 566 Dum acræ..juxta le *wode wey. 1906 S. W. Mitchell *Pearl* 19 The beauty of those wood-ways green. 1850 *Household Words* I. 29/1 *Wood-weeds, river-weeds, and other weeds. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 332 The humble-bee the wide *wood-world may roam. 1579 Fulke *Conf. Sanders* 587 To proue them *woode worshippers and idolaters.

f. In ME. poetry, in combs. *wood bough*, *lay* (Lea *sb.*[1]) = ? glade or grove, *lind* (= tree), *rise* (Rice[1], small branch), esp. in phr. *under wood bough*, etc. = in the woods, in the leafy shade: sometimes with allusion to secret love-making.

Cf. J. Hall's ed. of *King Horn* 1207 note.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 Euer is þe eie to þe wude leie [*v. r.* wodeleȝe], þerinne is þet ich luule. *a* 1290 *S. Eustace* 50 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 212 Þe hert wes muchel..her he wes ounder wode linde. *Ibid.* 32 Þere he wes ounder wode leye. *Ibid.* 76 [He] wes ounder wode-lowe. 13.. *K. Horn* 1160 (Harl.) Ȝef þou horn euer seȝe vnder wode leye. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 2485 Vnder wode bouȝ ai knewen day and niȝt. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4734 Wylde walkande by wode lyndes. 1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* iii. vii. (Skeat) I. 53 Beware of thy lyfe, that thou no wodelay use, as in asking of thinges that streccheu in-to shame! *c* 1460 *Gamelyn* 633 Adam loked tho vndir wode bough. *Ibid.* 676 As men that ben..hard be-stad vnder wode lynde. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1344 Rachis can ryn vndir the wod rise.

g. attrib. uses and comb. of pl. (sense 2). *U. S.* 1849 F. Douglas *Life* 59, I stopped my oxen to open the woods gate. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 391 Any land..may be improved by the addition of vegetable matter, such as woods litter. 1880 S. Lanier *Hymns of Marshes, Sunrise* 47 The woods-smell. 1902 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* v, Bands of woods-creatures. 1904 — *Forest* xiv, He was.. ; *Ibid.*, A hurry. 1908 ..amps,..five hundred woods-weary men.

10. Special Combs.: **wood-acid** = *wood-vinegar*; **wood-agate**, agatized wood (*Cent. Dict.*); **wood-alcohol** = Wood-spirit 2; **wood-axe**, an axe for hewing wood or felling trees; **wood-block**, a block of wood, *esp.* one on which a design is cut for printing from (cf. *wood-engraving*, Woodcut); **wood-block** *v.*, to pave with wood-blocks; †**wood-bone** [Boon *sb.*[1] 6], ? a boon-day for wood-cutting; **wood-borer**, something that bores wood; *esp.* any one of certain insects and other invertebrates which make perforations in wood; so **wood-boring** *a.*; **wood-bound** *a.*, (*a*) bound or fastened with wood; (*b*) of land, encumbered with woody hedges or trees; (*c*) enclosed by woodland; (*d*) see quot. 1892; **wood-branch**, a branch of a fruit tree kept primarily for growth of wood (6 d); **wood brick**, a block of wood cut to the size and shape of a brick, inserted in the interior walls of a building as a hold for joinery (Gwilt); **wood-bud**, a bud forming the rudiment of a wood-branch; †**wood-bush**[1] [Buss *sb.*[1]], a vessel for conveying wood, a wood-barge; **wood-bush**[2] [Bush *sb.*[1] 9], name of a wooded region in S. Africa; **wood-butcher** *U.S. slang*, an inexperienced carpenter; **wood-carpet**, (*a*) a floor-carpet made of thin pieces of wood arranged in patterns (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); (*b*) the geometer moth *Melanippe rivata* (E. Newman, 1869); †**wood-carriage**, a tenurial obligation to carry wood; **wood-carving**, the ornamental carving of wooden utensils, furniture, etc.; *concr.* a piece of such carving; hence **wood-carved** *a.*, **-carver**: †**wood-cast** [Cast *sb.* 13], a pile or stack of wood; **wood-colour**, the colour of wood; a pigment of such a colour; **wood-copper**, a wood-brown fibrous variety of olivenite; **wood-corn**, 'some quantity of Oats or other Grain, paid by Customary Tenants to the Lord, for liberty to pick up dead or broken Wood' (*Cowel's Interpr.* 1701); **wood-draughtsman**, one who draws for wood-engraving; so **wood-drawing**; **wood-dried** *a.*, dried by the heat of burning wood; **wood-drink**, a decoction of some medicinal wood (cf. 6 g); **wood-engraver**, (*a*) one who engraves on wood, an artist who does wood-engraving; (*b*) a name for various species of N. American wood-boring beetles, esp. *Xyleborus celatus*; **wood-engraving**, the process or art of engraving on wood or of making wood-cuts; *concr.* a design so cut upon a wood-block or obtained by impression from it, a woodcut; **woodfall**, a felling of trees for their wood, a cutting of timber; **wood-farm**, (*a*) a farm on which trees are grown for timber; †(*b*) an office in the Port of London, which dealt with the delivery of wood and other goods discharged; **wood-farmer** (see quot.); **wood-flour**, (*a*) a substance obtained by grinding wood containing starchy matter, proposed as a substitute for flour; (*b*) a very fine sawdust obtained from pine-wood, used as an absorbent surgical dressing; †**wood-fold**, a wood-yard; **wood-forester** *Sc.*, one who has charge of woods; †**wood-free** *a.* [cf. Free *a.* 27 b], entitled to take wood gratis; **wood-fretter** (cf. *wood-borer*); **wood-fungus**, a fungus that infests wood; †**wood-garth** = Wood-yard; **wood-gas**, gas for illumination obtained from wood; †**wood-geld** [Geld *sb.*], money paid for the privilege of cutting or gathering wood in a forest; also (according to 17th c. legal writers), the privilege of immunity from such payment; **wood-gum** = Xylan; †**wood-hag** [Hag *sb.*[3]], the right to cut wood; †**wood-hagger**, a wood-cutter, wood-hewer; **wood-hanging**, 'thin veneer on a paper backing, to be used as wall-paper' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wood-hewer**, (*a*) one who hews wood, a wood-cutter; (*b*) a bird of the family *Dendrocolaptidæ*, a South American tree-creeper; †**wood-hire**, payment or outrent for wood; **wood-hole**, a hole or recess in which wood is stored for fuel (cf. *coal-hole*); †**wood-honey** [OE. *wuduhunig* = L. *mel silvestre*, Gr. *μέλι ἄγριον*], wild honey; **wood-hook**, a hook for cutting off pieces of wood from trees; **wood-horse** *U.S.*, (*a*) a sawing-horse; (*b*) the walking-stick insect (*Cent. Dict.*); **wood-hung** *a.*, bordered with hanging woods; †**wood-iron**, ? iron smelted by means of wood; †**wood-leave** (Sc. *-leif*, *-lief*, *-leive*), leave or permission to cut or procure wood; *transf.* a duty charged for this; **wood-lock** *Naut.*, a piece of hard wood sheathed with copper, fitted closely beneath the pintle of a rudder to prevent the latter from rising; hence **wood-locked** *a.*, secured by a wood-lock; †**wood-lode**, the carriage or conveyance of wood; the right or privilege of carrying wood; **wood-lot** *U.S.* [Lot *sb.* 6 a], a plot of land containing or consisting of woodland; **wood-maid**, **-maiden**, a mythical female being dwelling in or haunting woods; †**wood-maker** = Woodman 2; **wood-master**, now *Hist.* the master or overseer of a wood; **wood-meal**, (*a*) a kind of flour, resembling sawdust in appearance, prepared from the root of the manioc or cassava-plant; (*b*) the powdered wood produced by the wood-worm; **wood-money** (see quot.); **wood-mote**, now *Hist.*, a court for determining cases in forest law, later called *court of attachments* (Attachment 3); **wood-mould**, mould consisting of decayed wood; **wood naphtha** = Wood-spirit 2; **wood-note**, a natural untrained musical note or song like that of a wild bird in a wood (in later quots. echoing Milton); **wood offering**, an offering of wood to be burnt in sacrifice; **wood-opal** [G. *holzopal*], opal formed by petrifaction of wood, opalized or silicified wood; **wood-paper**, paper made from wood-pulp; **wood-peat**, peat formed from decayed wood (*Cent. Dict.*); †**wood-penny**, (*a*) ? = *wood-silver*; cf. *woodland penny*; (*b*) Paul's betony, *Veronica officinalis*; **wood-piercer**, **-piercing** *a.* = *wood-borer*, *-boring*; **wood-pile**, a pile or stack of wood, esp. for fuel; **wood-plant**, (*a*) a plant with woody stem and branches; (*b*) a plant that grows in woods, a woodland plant; †**wood-plea court**, ? = *wood-mote*; †**wood-pleck** [Pleck], ? an enclosure in which wood is stored; **wood post**, a station where wood is procured; **wood powder**, (*a*) powder made by disintegration of wood, as sawdust; (*b*) a kind of gunpowder made from light porous wood; **wood-print**, a print from an engraved wood-block, a woodcut; **wood-pulp**, a pulp made by mechanical or chemical disintegration of wood-fibre, and used for making paper; also *attrib.*; **wood-ranger** *U.S.*, one who ranges woods; a scout or sharpshooter in American armies (cf. Ranger[1] 3); †**wood-rent**, ? = *wood-silver*; **wood-rock**, a compact variety of asbestos resembling dry wood, also called *mountain wood* (Cent. Dict.); **wood-saw**, a saw for cutting wood, as a buck-saw (Knight 1875); **wood-sawyer**, (*a*) a man employed in sawing wood; (*b*) the larva of a wood-boring beetle or other insect, which cuts off twigs, etc. (*Cent. Dict.*); †**wood-scathe** [Scathe *sb.* 1], a fiend or monster of the wood; **wood-screw**, a metallic screw specially adapted for fastening together parts of woodwork or wood and metal; **wood-service**, service as a wood-ranger; †**wood-silver**, ? a payment made in lieu of a supply of wood; cf. *woodland silver*; **wood-skin**, a light canoe made of bark, used by native tribes in Guiana; **wood-soot**, the soot of burnt wood, formerly recognized in the British Pharmacopœia as *fuligo ligni*, and used in dyeing; †**wood-speech** [Speech *sb.*[1] 10 b], a kind of wood-mote; **wood-still**, a still for distilling tar or turpentine from pine-wood (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wood-stone**, petrified wood, *esp.* a form of quartz consisting of silicified wood; **wood-stove**, a stove adapted for burning wood (Knight 1875); **wood-sugar** = Xylose (*Cent. Dict. Suppl.*); †**wood-tale**, a quantity of wood supplied as a due; **wood-tar**, a bituminous liquid obtained in the destructive distillation of pines and other trees; **wood-tin** [G. *holzzinn*], a variety of cassiterite or tin-stone of brownish colour and fibrous structure, resembling dry wood; **wood-vessel**, (*a*) a vessel carrying a cargo of wood; (*b*) *Bot.* a sap-conducting vessel in the woody tissue of a plant; **wood-vinegar**, vinegar or crude acetic acid obtained by distillation of wood, also called *pyroligneous acid*; †**wood-waste** (meaning unknown); **wood-wharf**, a wharf at which cargoes of wood are landed or shipped; so *wood-wharfing*;

†**wood-whistle**, ? the bishop's weed, *Ammi majus*; **wood-wind**, the wooden wind-instruments in an orchestra collectively (cf. 7 e above, and WIND *sb.*1 12 b); **wood-wool**, †(*a*) cotton; (*b*) fine shavings of wood, usually pine-wood, used as a surgical dressing and for various other purposes; **wood-wright**, a worker in wood, as a carpenter.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Wood-acid*, an inferior pyroligneous acid, distilled from oak, beech, ash, &c. 1862 *Wood alcohol [see PYROLIGNEOUS] *c* 1336 *Durham Acc. Rolls* 557 In factura unius *Wodeax. 1538 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 454 With ane wod-ax thair tha straik of his heid. 1625 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 300/2 Lie schaft of the wode aix. 1900 R. W. CHAMBERS *Cardigan* xxix, I..unsung my wood-axe. He drew his hatchet. 1837 HERBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 825 Two specimens of *wood-blocks, cut by Mr. Wightman. 1877 H. LAW & D. K. CLARK *Constr. Roads* 17 Following the experience of stone-set paving, the wood blocks of narrower dimensions answered better. 1883 *Builder* 24 Nov. 704/2 The prejudice against the use of good elm for purposes such as wood-block floors. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Aug. 4/2 The road leading from Shepherd's Bush to Uxbridge...the major part of which was *wood-blocked by the United Tramways Company. 1524 *Compotus of monastic property in Cottingham, Northants* (MS.), Vnu' *Wodbone in autumpno, vnam Gallinam ad Natale Dñi, et decem ova ad Pascha. 1850 A. WHITE *List Crustacea B. Mus.* 56 *Chelura terebrans*. Sea *Wood-Borer. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* viii. (1818) I. 240 The little *wood-boring beetles. (*Anobium pertinax* and *striatum*) also attack books. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2275/1 *Spiral Bit*, a wood boring tool..made of a twisted bar of metal. 1570 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 229 Two paire of *wood boune wheilla. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 35 Where it fronts the Sea, pois'nous Marshes, Wood-bound, over-shelter'd by Woods, and the like. 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I. 56 High Hedges, and low Pollards, are the bane of corn fields, in Norfolk, lands thus encumbered are..said to be wood-bound. 1876 HARDY *Hand of Ethelberta* xv, Ethelberta and Christopher stood within the wood-bound circle alone. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Wood-bound Trade*, in the coopering industry making packing casks in which to put bottles for export from breweries. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. II. iii. 111 The *Wood-Branches are those that form the Shape of the Tree. 1842 *Wood Bricks [see Nog *sb.*1]. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 249 Care should..be taken to cut them a little sloping behind a *wood bud, which may be easily distinguished from the blossom buds. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 346/1 The flower-buds are plump and roundish; the wood-buds are more oblong and pointed. 1587 *K. K. Mem. Roll* 302 Mich. v. 3 Navis Angl' voc' *woodbushe. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 2/3 Majajie, the mystical Queen of the *Wood-bush tribes. 1903 J. BUCHAN *Afr. Colony* 114 A delight in the Wood Bush is apt to spoil a man for other scenery. 1890 in Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang* s.v., Counting carpenters and *wood-butchers together, it is estimated that about 80,000 men make their living in London as carpenters and joiners. 1557 *Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 39 The freholders..hathe been accustomed..to pay..certain *woodd cariages and other duties. 1885 HALLIWELL *Life Shaks.* (ed. 3) 321 The elegant *wood-carved roof. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 62 The wood [of the alder]..is a favourite material for many purposes of the turner and the *wood-carver. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. cclx, Artists in *wood-carving. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5723, Book-case, wood-carvings, stone-sculpture. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A *Wodde caste, *strues*. 1618 *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 259 Chr. Wright..[presented] for buildling his wood cast and laying his tymber in the Kinges street whereby the people..cannot conveniently passe. 1628 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xii. 216 Your *Wood colours are compounded either of Vmber and White, Char-coale and White [etc.]. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 507 The sap-wood..has a light whitish or yellowish wood-colour. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 320 Hæmatitic Arseniate. *Wood Copper. 1535-53 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 76 Facit easdem consuetudines sicut Robertus de Stodlegh' preter *Wdecorn unum ferdellum. 1894 HERKOMER in *Daily News* 28 Apr. 6/7 Nearly all the *wood-draughtsmen of my time have become painters of eminence. *Ibid.*, He watches over the welfare of the artists now as much as he did in my *wood-drawing-days. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. I. 96/1 The *woode dryed mault..doth..annoye the heade of him that is not vsed thereto because of the smoke. 1592 R. HITCHCOCK in Arb. *Garner* II. 216 Wood-dried malt will make unsavoury drink. 1611 FLORIO, *Pigliare il legno*, to take the *wood or dyet drinke for the pox. 1696 FLOYER *Humours* 190 Drinking Wine, and two parts of Water, or Wood-Drinks. 1818 OTTLEY *Hist. Engraving* I. 97 It appears that the old German *wood engravers manufactured prodigious quantities of these religious cuts. *Ibid.* 31 The professors of *wood engraving. *Ibid.* 32 Another large wood engraving, representing the Madonna. 1588 WALSINGHAM in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 230 Yearely *woodfals in Middlesex. 1619 T. CLAY *Chorol. Disc.* 25 To see that the Woodfalls be made at seasonable times. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* (1772) I. iii. 153 *note*, *Wood-farms..not being very common. 1822 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 388 The business of the Woodfarm or River Office in the Port of London. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (ed. 2) 1123 *Wood-farmers, such as rent woodlands, to be periodically cut for fuel [etc.]. 1845 DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. V. 18 The wood is next dried..; and is afterwards ground repeatedly, till it assumes the form of a rough flour. The *wood-flour is then formed into small flat cakes by the addition of water. 1885 *Buch's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 965/2 Wood-wool and wood-flour, the latter the finest, are made from pine wood. LEVINS *Manip.* 219/20 A *Wodfould, *lignarium*. Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* (1884) 32 The Duke's head *1 ... forester. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 175 Kit's uncle Rob, the wood forester. 1584 *Charters rel. Glasgow* (1906) II. 513 Archibnlalle salbe *wod fre and quarell fre to the bigging..of the saidis mylne and bir dame. 1622 COTGR., *Tavellure*, the little worme called a *Wood-fretter. 1878 PRESCE *Telegraphy* 161 Dry-rot..is due to a species of *wood-fungus—the *Merulius lachrymans*—which destroys the tensile and cohesive power of the wood, and gradually reduces it to..a fine powder. 1343 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 39 Lapides pro pavimento del *Wodegarthe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 34/5 Y^e *Wodgarth, *lig[n]arium*. *c* 1885 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sci.* I. 285/2 The..city of Heilbronn has recently been lighted up with *wood-gas. 1220 in Spelman *Gloss. Archaeol.* (1664) 260 Et sint quieti..de omnibus geldis, & danegeldis, & *vodegeldis. 1334 in *N. Riding Record Soc.* N.S. III. 108 Quod ipse et homines sui sint quieti de omnibus geldis..Et de wodegeldis. 1594 CROMPTON *Jurisd.* 197 Woodgeld, is properly to be discharged of gathering within the forest, for the behoofe of the foresters, and other ministers there. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 233 Pudzeld [*i.e.* pudzeld] or Woodgeld is to be free from payment of money for taking of Wood in any Forest. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 868/1 Tree gum. *Wood gum, 1569 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1580, 810 Cum..lapicidiis, silvis, nemoribus cum lie *wode hage. 1569 *Chartrs Cross-raguel Abbey* (1886) I. 193 Cum earundem silvis et nemoribus cum lie Wodhag. 1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/8 m. 2 (P.R.O.) In stipendiis Walteri Le *Wodhagger pro meremio prosternendo in bosco de Stagholme. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* III. vii. 69 Let no man thinke that..these gentlemen spent their times as common wood-haggers at felling of trees. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 25 The American *wood-hanging..has been applied for the finish of the suite of rooms. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxix. 11 Hutan *wuduhewerum & ðam ðe wæter berað. 1300 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 255/1 Roberto le Wodehywere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A Wodde hewer, *lignarius*. 1867 SCLATER & SALVIN *Exotic Ornith.* (1869) 71 *Xiphocolaptes major*, (Rusty Wood-hewer), 1362 in Blount *Fragm. Antiq.* (1815) 368 Pro *wodehyre ob', 1438-9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 74 Pro Wodhire apud Aldyngrige, Brome, et Rylley, hoc anno, iiij*d*. 1512-13 *Ibid.* (MS.), Pro Wodhire in Aldyngryge et Rylley, iij*d*. ob. 1668 ETHEREDGE *She Wou'd if she Cou'd* I. i, Creep into the *Wood-hole here. 1703 J. PHILIPS *Splendid Shilling*

the floures [of brech] and gadre wode hony in holo
c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 184/30 Saynt Ion ete leues, brod and rownd and whyt,..and when þay byn frotude..thay byn swete as hony..and byn callyd wod-hony. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 *Wodehoke, or wedehoke, *sarculus*. 1508 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 134, 1500 wood hookes, and tooles to make faggots. 1849 F. DOUGLAS *Life* 116 Mr. Johnson kindly let me have his *wood horse and saw. 1748 WARTON *Pleas. Melanch.* 315 *Wood-hung Menai, stream of druids old. 1536-7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 694 Et in 4*s* petr. ferri de stauro dni Prioris pro le *Wodyron ad 4*d*., 26*s*. 8*d*. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 283 Payit be the said Robert for *wod leif in France, xviij frankis. 1620 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 300 Dewtels for grund-lieve and woodlieve. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-m.* 142 **Wood-lock*, a piece of elm or oak, in the throating or score of the pintle, near the load-water line. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 529 The pintles are hooks which enter the braces, and the rudder is then *wood-locked. 1863 *Cal. Inquis. p. M. Hen. III* (1904) 563, 15*s*. 4*d*. *wodelode. 1377 in *Somerset & Dorset N. & Q.* (1911) Dec. 342 Johannes Purdy tenet unam virgatam..reddet per annum vij*s*. vj*d*. pro Wodelode iiij*d*. 1742 in W. M. Sargent *Maine Wills* (1887) 473 A third part of a *Wood Lott for Cutting of ye wood or for feeding. 1866 LOWELL *Among my Bks., Lessing* (1870) 304 He would soon be driven to the cutting of green stuff from his own wood-lot, more rich in smoke than fire. 1616 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For bread and drink to the teners and *wood makers. 15.. in Blount *Anc. Tenures* (1679) 168 The *Woodmaster and Kepers of Needwoode shale every yere mete at.., Birkeley Lodgge ..one Seynt Laurence day; at which dey and place a Woodmoote shal be kept. 1826 HON. SMITH *Tor Hill* I. 292 A Woodmote having been held on the same day,..the wood-master and his men came to swell the procession. 1760-72 J. ADAMS tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 324 The common food of the inhabitants..throughout Brazil, is the farina de Pau or *wood-meal, which is universally eaten instead of bread. 1892 J. J. SEIDEL *Organ* 121 Pipes..so completely eaten by the wood-worm, that the wind blows out the dust or wood-meal through all the holes. 1892 *Labour Comm.* Gloss. s.v. *Money*, Some yards in the barge-building industry allow the men to take home small pieces of wood; others allow 2*d*. per day in lieu of wood; this is termed *wood money. 15..., 1826 *Wood-mote [see *wood-master*]. *a* 1612 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxii. § 1 (1615) 207 The said Court of attachments then called the Wood-mote Court. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. vi. 71 The court of attachments, wood-mote, or forty days court, is to be held before the verderors of the forest once in every forty days. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 484 A small portion of the field was manured with a compost of night-soil and *wood-mold. 1842 *wood-naphtha [see WOOD-SPIRIT *sb.*]. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 134 If..sweetest Shakespear fancies childe, Warble his native *Wood-notes wilde. 1789 BURNS *Let. to M'Auley* 4 June, Mrs. Burns..has a glorious *wood-note wild 'at either old song or psalmody. 1887 S. COLVIN *Keats* v. 103 Wild wood-notes of Celtic imagination. 1611 *Bible* Neh. x. 34 We cast the lots among the priests, the Leuites, and the people, for the *wood offering..to burne vpon the altar. 1816 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min* I. 246 *Wood-Opal. 1800 KOOPS *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 88 The substance of the *Wood Paper on which these lines are printed. 1262 *Cal. Inquis. p. M. Hen. III* (1904) 502, 2 d, *Wudepanies. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 102/29 Wodpenie, *betonica Pauli*. 1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. 19/8 *Pholas Lignorum*..*Wood Peircer. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 279 The *Wood-Piercing Bee. 1892 HULOET, *Woode pyle, *strues*. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* vi. 68 The Cook Maid, going to the Wood-pile to fetch Wood to dress Supper. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. 1. 107 They built a Town and fenced it round about with a kind of Wood-pile, or Wall of great Timber Trees. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* xxi. 222 The seldomest spectacle on the Mississippi to-day is a wood-pile. 1773 *Holme on Spaldingmoor Inclt. Act* 18 Banks, *Wood-Plants, Quicksets, or Fences. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 19 Wood-plants flourish about this border. 1870 *Cowell's Interpr.*, **Woodplea-Court*, is a Court held twice in the year in the Forest of Clun..., which was anciently the same with Woodmote-Court. 1322 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 668 That no inhabitant..make eny gardeyn or *wodpleck with-in xij^{te} fote [of the town wall]. 1924 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 27 ... 862

Leisha *wood peat is on the bank of the river surrounded by forests. 1870 in *Boorde's Introd. Knowl.* 99 *Wood-powder, Boorde's remedy for Excoriation. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 322 In combustion wood powder is far more rapid than black. 1816 W. Y. OTTLEY *Hist. Engraving* I. 91 The very early *wood-prints of Germany. 1908 *Dublin Rev.* July 216 The book is adorned with charming wood-prints. 1886 *Patents, Abridgm. Specif. Manuf. Paper* II. (1876) 427 Improvements in preparing..*wood pulp for the manufacture of paper. 1787 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. XXVII. II. 270 A company of *wood rangers..to scour the country near our settlements. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCII. 720/2 The white wood-rangers were as ruthless as their red foes. 1774 T. WESLEY *Antig. Furnaces* 209 These [iron forges] were destroyed..at the request of the customary tenants, who charged themselves with paying the rent of 20 l. by a rate which is now called *Woodrent or Bloomsmithy rent. 1844 EMERSON *New Eng. Reform.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 260 The labour of the porter and *wood-sawyer. *c* 1275 LAY. 25859 Wola þat þe *wode-scaþe hauæþ þe þus for-fare. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xxiv. 402 What is meant by *Wood Screws, are taper Screws made with Iron, having very deep Threads, whereby they hold fast when screw'd into Wood. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 222 These plates ..are attached to the ship's side by a plentiful supply of wood-screws, screwed into the timber backing. 1757 R. ROGERS *Irnls.* (1769) 52 Volunteers in the regular troops, to be trained to the ranging, or *wood-service. *c* 1445 in Lysons *Environs Lond.* (1796) IV. 132 [In this survey two payments are mentioned called] *wodeselver [and] averselver [a composition for labour]. 1333-6 *Abingdon Obedientiarx Acc.* (Camden) 5 De redditu de wodeselver x li. iij*s*. 1520-21 in Eyton *Antig. Shropsh.* (1856) III. 385. 1824 WATKINTON *Wand. S. Amer.* I. (1903) 32 There is neither curial nor canoe, nor purple-heart tree in the neighbourhood to make a *wood-skin to carry you over. 1866 SIR W. PETTY in Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 296 In Cloth Dying *wood-soot is of good use. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Dy(e)ing*, Wood-soot, containing not only a colour, but a salt, needs nothing to..make it strike on the stuff. 1770 *Cook's Voy. round World* III. viii. (1773) 632 Of the colour of wood soot, or what is commonly called a chocolate colour. 1222-3 in Dugdale *Monast. Angl.* (1825) V. 268/1 In curiis nostris.. shiris, halsmotis, et *wodespeches. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 325 *Woodstone..is commonly..the substance of petrified wood. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 647 Hornstone occurs under three modifications; splintery hornstone, conchoidal hornstone, and woodstone. 1535-52 *Rentalia Glaston* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 83 Et debet habere *wdetale contra Natale, scil. unum truncum [etc.]. 1837 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* iv. § 6. 298 *Eupione*, which Reichenbach obtained during the rectification of the products from *wood-tar. 1787 GROSCHKE tr. *Klaproth's Observ. Fossils Cornw.* 13 The most remarkable species of stream-tin is a tin-ore like hæmatites, or what is called *Wood-tin. 1825 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 202 The famous wood-tin, so called from the woody appearance of some of the pebbles, was formerly found in the Loth stream works in abundance. 1796 NELSON 26 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 220 Not a *Wood-Vessel bound to Piombino would go out of the Port. 1883 M^cNAB *Bot., Morphol. & Physiol.* ii. 42 The xylem..consists..of three sets of cells, viz. the wood vessels, the wood prosenchyma, and the wood parenchyma. 1837 HERBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 849 There are four principal kinds: namely, wine vinegar, malt vinegar, sugar vinegar, and *wood vinegar. 1535-52 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 135 Et debet carriare bladum cum carecta sua per j diem et debe, auxiliari ad *wddewaste. 1279 *Liber Cust.* (Rolls) 150 Q'j serra lie au pilier qi estet en Tamise a *Wodehwarfe. 1854 NORDEN *Spec, Brit., Essex* (Camden 10 Places wher they take in wood,..wch places are called vpon the Thames, westward, haws or wood wharfes. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Sept. 1666, The coale and wood wharfes. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 212 A tug was taking a couple of deal-loaded barges to a woodwharf. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 136, I propose what in the neighbourhood of Hull is called *wood-wharfing. *a* 1400 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 8 *Amen agreste*, similis fraxinarie, anglice, *wodewhisgle [*v.r.* wodewhistle]. 1876 *Wood wind [see WIND *sb.*1 12 b]. 1901 W. J. HENDERSON *Orchestra* 19 Next in importance to the strings is the wood-wind, which is divided into three families—flutes, oboes, and clarinets. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonymus* 323 With a little *wode woul dipte therein rub the teethe. 1885 [see *wood-flour*]. 1887 *Advance* (Chicago) 7 July 432 In workshops, the wood-wool is even replacing cotton waste for cleaning machinery. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* III. 75 All who chanced to know The *woodwright's craft. 1883 J. PARKER *Tyne Clyde* 6 At a wood-wright's door, where I stood on a large block of old oak.

b. In names of animals, chiefly birds and insects: (i) that live in woods, as *wood bee, fly, gnat, hornet, moth*; esp. in designations of particular species or groups, as *wood Argus* (ARGUS 3), *dormouse, fly, lady* (LADY *sb.* 9), *mite, rattlesnake, red-bird, sand-piper, swift* (SWIFT *sb.*2 4), *tattler, tiger* (TIGER *sb.* 11), *wagtail* (see quots.); *wood* MOUSE, PEWEE, PIE (*sb.*1 3 b), SWALLOW (*sb.*1 2 b); (ii) that live, bore, or burrow in wood; e.g. in local names of species of woodpecker, as *wood-jobber, -knacker, -tapper*, and in *wood-borer, -fretter, -piercer, -sawyer* in 10; **wood-ant**, (*a*) a large ant, *Formica rufa*, living in woods; (*b*) a termite or white ant, which burrows in wood; **wood baboon** = DRILL *sb.*3; **wood-beetle**, a wood-boring beetle; **wood bison, wood buffalo**, a variety of American bison (*Bison bison athabascæ*) found in the wooded parts of the west of Canada; **wood-bug**, an insect of the genus *Pentatoma*; **wood-cat**, †(*a*) a fanciful name for the hare; (*b*) a wild cat living in woods, *spec.* the S. American species *Felis geoffroyi*; **wood-cracker** *dial.*, the nuthatch, *Sitta cæsia*; **wood-cricket**, a species of cricket found in woods, as *Nemobius sylvestris*; **wood-culver** = WOOD-PIGEON; **wood-deer** = *wood-goat*; **wood-digger**, a West Indian

insect (see quot.); **wood-drake**, the male of the *wood-duck*; **wood-duck**, a species of duck inhabiting woods, *esp.* the N. American summer duck, *Æx sponsa*, and the Australian *Bernicla jubata*; **wood-frog**, a species of frog found in woods, as the N. American *Rana sylvatica*; **wood-goat**, a S. African species of antelope, *Antilope sylvatica*; **wood-grouse**, (*a*) the capercailye *Tetrao urogallus* (see GROUSE *sb.* 1); (*b*) the spotted Canada grouse, *Canace* (*Dendragapus*) *canadensis*, or allied species; **wood-ibis**, a stork of the subfamily *Tantalinæ*, esp. *Tantalus loculator*, which inhabits wooded swamps in southern U.S.; a wood-stork; **wood-kingfisher**, a name for birds allied to the kingfisher, living in woods: = *king-hunter* (KING *sb.* 13 b); **wood-leopard** (*moth*), a species of spotted moth (*Zeuzera pyrina*), the larva of which bores into the wood of trees; **wood-owl**, any species of owl living in woods, as the tawny or brown owl, *Syrnium aluco*; **wood-partridge** = *wood-grouse*; **wood-pelican** = *wood-ibis*; **wood-pheasant**, (*a*) = *wood-grouse* (a); (*b*) in Zanzibar (see quot. 1892); **wood-quail**, any bird of the genus *Rollulus*, of the Malay archipelago; **wood-rabbit**, the common rabbit of U.S., *Lepus sylvaticus*, also called *cotton-tail*; also, any rabbit living in a wood; **wood-rat**, any rat of the American genus *Neotoma*; **wood-robin**, a local name of the American *wood-thrush*; **wood-shrike**, (*a*) = WOODCHAT; (*b*) an African shrike of the genus *Prionops*; **wood-shrimp**, a crustacean of the family *Cheluridæ*, as *Chelura terebrans*, which bores in submerged wood; **wood-slave**, a West Indian lizard of the species *Mabouya*; **wood-snail**, any species of snail inhabiting woods, esp. *Helix nemoralis*; **wood-snake**, a snake that lives in woods, as those of the family *Dryophidæ*; **wood-snipe**, -**snite**, names for the woodcock (British or American); **wood-star**, a name for several species of humming-birds, as those of the genus *Calothorax* and the Bahama sheartail, *Doricha evelynæ*; **wood-stork** = *wood-ibis*; **wood-swine**, a swine living in woods; *spec.* the bosch-vark, a ferocious wild swine of S. and E. Africa; **wood-tantalus** = *wood-ibis*; **wood-thrush**, (*a*) a species of thrush of the eastern U.S., *Turdus* (*Hylocichla*) *mustelinus*, noted for its beautiful coloration and sweet song; (*b*) a local name of the missel-thrush, *T. viscivorus*; **wood-tick** [TICK *sb.*[1]], a tick of the family *Ixodidæ*, found upon plants; **wood-warbler**, (*a*) the wood-wren, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*; (*b*) a general name for the American warblers (WARBLER 2 b), esp. those of the genus *Dendroica*; **wood-wasp**, (*a*) a wasp that lives in woods, as *Vespa sylvestris*; (*b*) a wasp that burrows in rotten wood, as some species of *Crabronidæ*, or a wasp-like insect whose larvæ bore in wood, as the horn-tails; **wood-worm**, an insect larva or other invertebrate, as the ship-worm (see TEREDO), which bores in wood (also *fig.*); **wood-wren**, a species of warbler, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*, or its congener the willow-wren, *P. trochilus*. See also WOODCOCK, etc.

1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mountch Syst.* 90 The *Wood-Ant feeds upon Leaves. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 140 In the West Indies, (they are called) Wood Lice, Wood Ants, or White Ants. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 33 Length of the wood-ant (*F. rufa*) three-eighths of an inch. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 196 *Wood Baboon. Inhabits Guinea. 1598 TARLTON *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xii. (Bodl. MS.). Some beb feeble been and some beb *wood been. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* H 3 b, The wood-pecker..doth more harme to wood-bees then garden-bees. 1795 WINTERBOTHAM *View U.S.* IV. 483 *Wood-beetle, Leptura. 1829 R. T. GORE *Blumenbach's Nat. Hist.* 190 Leptura...2. Aquatica...The Wood-beetle...On aquatic plants of all kinds. 1843 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. xi. 76 As thoroughly drilled as ..a piece of wood that has been eaten with the maggot of the wood-beetles. 1895 C. W. WHITNEY in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 10/2 To hunt *wood-bison,...now become the rarest game in the world. 1892 W. PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 143 These animals go by the name of *wood buffalo. 1836 REDDING *Hist. Mod. Wines* iii. (ed. 2) 47 A nauseous odour ..from a vast number of *wood bugs which had been.. crushed in the [wine] press. *c* 1880 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The friendless, the *wodecat. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Nat. La Plata* 25 It is called wood-cat, and..is an intruder from wooded districts north of the pampas. 1858 STANLEY J. WEYMAN *Shrewsbury* XXVI, Speak, you viper, and don't stand there glowering like a wood-cat! 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 175 A little bird, sometimes seen, but oftner heard in the Park at Woodstock, from the noise that it makes, commonly called the *Wood-cracker. 1774 GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* VII. 330 The *wood-cricket is the most timorous animal in nature. *a* 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 531/32 *Palumbus*, *wudeculfre. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 15 Meates and drynkes makynge good juyce...Wodde culvers. 1668 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Orint.* 201 Mice, Dormice, and Swine do sooner perish with hunger, than they do eat of a Ring-Dove or Wood-Culver. 1822 PLUMTRE *Lichtenstein's S. Africa* I. 194 Large animals, such as buffalos, *wood-deer (*antilope sylvatica*). 1838 W. P. HUNTER in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1794) II. 245 A New Species of Warbler, called the *Wood Wren...It..comes with the rest of the summer warblers. 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 372 *Phyllopneuste Trochilus*. The Willow Wood-wren.

6. In names of plants or their products (usually designating particular species) growing in woods, as *wood calamint*, *fern*, *germander*, *horsetail*, *hyacinth*, *liverwort*, *pea*, *pimpernel*, *rasp*, *reed*, *rose*, *sedge*, *violet*, etc. (see quots. and CALAMINT, etc.); **wood-almond**, a West Indian shrub, *Hippocratea comosa*, producing edible seeds like almonds; **wood-anemone**, the common wild anemone, *A. nemorosa*, abundant in woods, and blossoming in early spring; also applied to other species; **wood-apple**, (*a*) a wild apple, crab-apple; (*b*) the fruit of *Feronia elephantum*, an East Indian gum-yielding tree allied to the orange, or the tree itself; also called *elephant-apple*; **wood betony**, the common betony, *Stachys Betonica*; **wood crab** = *wood-apple* (a); **wood cranesbill**, *Geranium sylvaticum*, a wild species with light purple flowers; **wood-grass**, any species of grass growing in woods; **wood-lily**, †(*a*) ? the meadow-saffron, *Colchicum autumnale*; (*b*) the lily-of-the-valley, *Convallaria majalis*; (*c*) the common winter-green, *Pyrola minor*; (*d*) any plant of the N. American genus *Trillium*, grown here as a spring-flowering perennial; †**wood-march** [OE. *wudumerce*: see MARCH *sb.*[1]], the common or wood sanicle, *Sanicula europæa*; †**wood-mint**, pennyroyal, *Mentha Pulegium*; †**wood-nep** [NEP *sb.*[1] or [2]], see quots.; **wood nut** (tree), the hazel, *Corylus avellana*; **wood-spurge**, a species of spurge, *Euphorbia amygdaloides*, with greenish-yellow flowers; **wood strawberry**, *Fragaria vesca*; **wood-vetch**, any species of vetch growing in woods, esp. *Vicia sylvatica*, with pink or white flowers streaked with purple; **wood-vine**, (*a*) the bryony, *Bryonia dioica*; (*b*) *yellow wood-vine*, a species of mulberry, *Morus Calcar-galli*. See also main words.

1697 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* CCXCI, The *Wood Anemone or Wind-flower. 1826-80 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 100 *Anemone Ranunculoides*; Yellow Wood Anemone. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 190 Xesodene *wudu sopla. 1430 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1899) July 514 Ooke, esshe, holyn, wodapiltre and crabtre. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Vellangn*, *Yelanga*, vernacular Indian names for the wood-apple, *Feronia Elephantum*. 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 121 *Hordeum sylvaticum* (Lyme-grass, or *Wood Barley). 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. xv. 92 Bees gather not of flowers which have deep sackets, as..*Wood-bettony. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 217 Apply Wood Betony bruised. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 152 The Box proper for planting Palisades, is the *Wood-Box. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 715/38 *Hec arbitus*, *wodcrabtre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A Wodde crab, *acroma*. 1525 *Grete Herbal* cclxxxiii. (1529) Q ij, Wood crabbes, or wyldynges. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 602 *Geranium batrachoides alterum*...*Wood Cranesbill. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 214 A hill purpled with wood cranesbill. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Aspidium nevadense*, Nevada *Wood-fern. *Ibid.*, *Polypodium vulgare*, Adder's Fern, Common Polypody,..Wood Fern. 1844 WHITTIER *Pumpkin* 26 When *wood-grapes were purpling. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. vi. 7 *Wood grasse hath many thicke and threadie rootes. *Ibid.* 8 *Gramen sylvaticum*..is called in our toong Wood grasse or Shadow grasse. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. iii. 473 *Listera ovata* was plentiful, as well as *Calamintha Clinopodium*, and several wood-grasses. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccccliii. 957 *Wood Horse taile. 1671 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* vi. 7 The *wood-hyacinth is the best English representative of the tribe of flowers which the Greeks called 'Asphodel'. *a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 517 in *Anglia* XVIII. 320 *Wode-lillie with..Blo purpre flowres, no lefe on stele. 1579 LANCHAM *Gard. Health* 679 Woodlillie, or Lillie conuaile. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 352/2 The Virginian Cowslip..attains true development in semi-shady spots and so does the large white Wood Lily. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Pyrola minor*, Common Winter-green, Wood Lily. *Ibid.*, *Trillium*, American Wood-lily. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 20 Genim..*wudumerce. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 544/8 *Saniculum*, *i. sanicle*, *i.* wudemercke. *a* 1387 *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 38 *Sanicula*, i. wodemercke. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Wood March is Sanickle. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 557/20 *Origanum*, *i. pullol real*, *l.* *wde-minte. 1525 *Grete Herbal* xlviii. (1529) C v b, Amum, *woodnep, or pennywort. 1597 GERARDE *Catal. in horto* 29 *Sison*. Wood Nep. 1597 — *Herbal* II. lviii. 979 The later Herbarists haue named this plant *Dulcamara*, *Amaradulcis*, and *Amaradulcis*...we call it Bitter sweete, and *Woodnightshade. 1578 *Wood Nut tree [see HAZEL[1] 2]. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Mere. Bot.* 24 *Astragalus sylvaticus*. *Wood-pease, or Heath-pease. 1820 HOGG *Tales, Bridal of Polmood* (1836) II. 80 Gathering *wood-raspa for a delicate preserve. 1826-80 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 120 *Arundo Calamagrostis*. *Wood Reed-grass. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 90 Genim *wudu sosan. 1624 MANKHAM *Cheap Husb.* Table Hard Words, Woodrase or wilde-Eglantine. 1706 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. 1721 III. 363 Nought by Experience than the Wood-Rose found, Better to cure a mad Dog's poisonous Wound. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xvi. 20 *Wood Rushie grasse. 1826-80 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 256 *Carex Sylvatica*; *Wood Sedge. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxxiii. 403 Sweete *wood Spurge...Venomous wood Spurge. 1709 *Choice. Husb. & Gard.* 154 Spurges of Different Kinds...the Wood-Spurge, the Cipress-Spurge, and the Myrtle-Spurge. *a* 1869 ROSSETTI *Form.* 1895 BROWNING *Mesmerism* 7 At night, when..the wood-worm picks, And the death-watch ticks. 1792 T. LAMB in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1794) II. 245 A New Species of Warbler, called the *Wood Wren...It..comes with the rest of the summer warblers. 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 372 *Phyllopneuste Trochilus*. The Willow Wood-wren.

Longa, Woodspurge 18 Among these few..The woodspurge flowered, three cups in one. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Fragaria vulgaris.* Common or *Wood-Strawberry. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Pulse* 6 G 1/2 Dr. Lister..recommends for the improvement of sandy, light ground,..all plants of the..pea kind, and particularly..the *wood vetch. 1823 Scott *Rokeby* iv. ii, Where profuse the wood-vetch clings Round ash and elm,..Its pale and azure-pencill'd flower Should canopy Titania's bower. 1862 Miss Pratt *Flowers. Pl.* II. 312 This Bryony is commonly called also Wild Vine, or *Wood-vine. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Woodvine, Yellow, *Morus calcar galli.*

Wood, *a.* (*sb.*[2], *adv.*) *Obs.* exc. *dial.* or *rare arch.* Forms: 1–6 (9 *Sc.*) wod, 3–7 (9 *arch.*) wode, (4 *Sc.* vode), 4–5 woed, 4–6 woode, woud(e, wodde, (5 ode, ootbe, *Sc.* woide, void, 5–7 *Sc.* wodd), 6 wodd, (oode, wyd, *Sc.* vod, wuid), 6–7 woodde, (6, 9 *Sc.* wid, 7 would, 8– *Sc.* and *dial.* wud), 4– wood. [OE. *wód* = OHG. *wuot* (in *ferwuot* raging, frantic), ON. *óðr*, Goth. *wōþi-*, **wōþs* possessed (cf. OHG., MHG. *wuot*, G. *wut* rage); f. Teut. *wōð-* (to which belong also OE. *wōþ* song, sound, ON. *óðr* poetry, and Woden) :– Indo-Eur. *wōt-*, represented by L. *vātēs* seer, poet, Olr. *fáith* poet, W. *gwawd* song of praise, the fundamental meaning being 'to be excited or inspired'. From the mutated stem are OE. *wéde* mad, *wédan* Weide *v.*, *wéden* in Wedenonfa', Widdendream. The form *oothe* is from Scand. Compounds are Brain-wood, Red-wood *a.*]

1. Out of one's mind, insane, lunatic: = Mad *a.* 1.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E 249 *Epilentinus*, woda. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John x. 21 Ne synt na þa wordes mannes word. *c* 1200 Orm. 15506 He draf ut off wode menn Defless. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 12086 A wode man touched on hys bere,..And a-none he hadde botenyng. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 554 3if i told him treuli my tene .. He wold wene i were wod. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 46 Woode men, he 3euep hem þer mynde, And makip meseis hool. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 334 His folke sall no ferre fyt he go welland woode. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 372/2 Oothe, or woode, *amens.* 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) G, They bee bitten of the wood dog the devil, & be fallen wood themselves. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 101 Anis wod and ay the war. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 34 Through vnaduised rashnesse woxen wood. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 82 b. Gif any man is Lunatick, woodde, or furious, with space of manifest wit and iudgement betwix ilk time. 1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* D 2 b, In the North parts of England, ..when they thinke that a man is distracted or frenzy, they will say the man is Wood. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 86 The wife was wood, and out o' her wit. *c* 1730 — *Betty & Kate* iv, That 's like to put us wood. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxvii, Some folk say, that pride and anger hae driven him clean wud. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Wood.* mad, rhyming with *food.* This word is rarely used. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. ix, Am I demented? Stark wode?

b. Of a dog or other beast: Rabid: = Mad *a.* 6.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 4 Wiþ woden hundes slite. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xx. iv. (Tollem. MS.), [Hevey] helaþ þe bityngе of a wood hounde. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xviii. (Arb.) 44 Ye sawe neuer wood dogges do more harme. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 57 Quhen it [*sc.* the dog-star] ringis in our hemispere, than dogis ar in dangeir to ryn wod. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. B v, Garlyke..is good agaynst the bitinges of madd or wood beastes. 1608 *Melrose Regality Rec.* (S.H.S. 1914) 60 Scho [*sc.* a mare] ran woid and drounelt hirself in Tueid. 1610 Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* II, Bitten wod. *a* 1669 Spence *Brass of Corn* (1858) 281 The dog ran wod that barkit at her.

c. In phr. of comparison, often expressing fury or violence (cf. 3): e. g. *as* (*if*) *he* (etc.) *were wood*; *as* or *like wood* (cf. Mad *a.* 1 c).

c 1200 *Bestiary* 338 We brennen in mod, And wuröen so we weren wod. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 508 Starinde ah he were wod. 1340 *Ayenb.* 140 Hi yernaþ hi liheneþ nee wode. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 3859 He cryedde & rosede as þaw he were wode. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxviii, They..beganne to crye lyke wode folke. *c* 1460 *Play Sacrum.* 403 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 70 Yt bledyth as yt were woode, I wys. *a* 1510 Douglas *K. Hart* I. 224 Thai preik, thai prance, as princis that war woude. 1588 T. Howell *Newe Sonnets* (1879) 121 From me he fled as woode. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 30 Like a would-woman. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* I. II. xciii, Thou..rav'st as thou wert wood. 1722 Ramsay *To Earl Dalhousie* 23 Some like to..gar the Courser ris like wood.

d. With qualification, as *half*, *near* (*nigh*), *worse than*, etc., the combined phrase becoming virtually equivalent to one of the derived senses below.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3840 He was ney uor wraþþe wod. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 36 He gan to berke on þat barn..Þat it was neiz of his wit wod for fare. 14.. *Childh. Jesus* 133 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 113 Frawdyn was wrope & nydel ode (*v.r.* nerehande wode). *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxvi. 99 Þe knight was halfe woode for wo. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 428 In propyr ire he wox ner wode for teyne.

2. Going beyond all reasonable bounds; utterly senseless; extremely rash or reckless, wild; vehemently excited: = Mad *a.* 2, 4, 7.

c 900 Ælfred *Solil. August.* (1922) 25 Hwa is swa wod þæt he dyrre cweðan þæt God ne se mon? *c* 1205 Lay. 3714 Swa wod he was to fehte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 120 þet tu schelt demen þi seolcen wod, þo þa þer tosward þeahtest. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 99 þai men may be holden wode, þat chese þe life and loves þe gude. ?*a* 1386 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 803 Couvoitise is euere wode, To gripen other folkis gode. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 264 Awole he dodde..As he that was for love wod. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* 499 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 204 Be he so hendy or so wode In his londe to aryse, He wol se his harte blode. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 96 A woode wisdom, and a wise woodenesse. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* II. viii. 89 A schoop cled in foxis skyn, & a dowe wodar þen any wode best. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 195 A ryss proud man, void and vaneglorious. 1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 12 Ther ys no best..so wyld, sode, or cruel, but to man by wyndom he ys subduyd. 1556 Lauder *Tractate of Kyngis* 286 3e salde nocht chase vnto that cure Ane Vincilent nor wod Pasture. 1590 Barrough *Meth. Phisick* I. xxvii. (1596) 44 They that haue this disease [*sc.* mania] be wood & furiously like wilde beasts. 1747 Upton *New Canto Spenser's F. Q.* xxvi, Guileful Dissimulation, and pale Fear, And Discord wood.

b. Violently angry or irritated; enraged, furious.

c 1205 Lay. 2189 Humber wes awa swiðe wod for al þat lond on him stod. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5979 Suan..þe he hurde of þis cas Made him wrop & wod ynou. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 25 Þei..ben wode 3if men speken treuly a3enst here cursed synnes. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 229 Tho that haue a brandynge colure like the lye of fyre, lightly wexen woode. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* lxvii. 112 The grete stedes..becam alle araged and wood for thurst. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 282 Ye more it is preached the more they grudge, and the woodder bee they. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 146 To quhome scho turnit about with ane wode and furieous contienance. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 192 Heere am I, and wood within this wood, Because I cannot meet my Hermia. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. xix. 267 Be not thou wood too, nor a jot inraged. 1682 Shadwell *Lanc. Witches* I, Pray now do not say ought to my Lady, by th' Mass who'l be e'en stark wood an who hears on't. 1786 Burns *Sc. Drink* xiii, When neebors anger at a plea, An' just as wud as wud can be. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xlii, Now he's anes wud and aye waur, and roars for revenge. 1828 Kingsley *Red King* 23 King William starts up wroth and wood.

c. *transf.* of rage, pain, etc. (Cf. Mad *a.* 5.)

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4415 In is wod rage he wende Vor to awreke is vncle deþ. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. ii. (1868) 68 Þe woode wraþþes of hem. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 287 In this wilde woode peine. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2168 Þar is na wa in þe werd to þe wode hunger. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2695 Thar was the batell faryous and woud. 1607 J. Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 103 To execute..against them (in his wood furie) whatsoever he [illegible]

d. *fig.* of inanimate things, as the sea, wind, fire: Violently agitated; 'furious', 'raging'. (Cf. Mad *a.* 7 b.)

c 1200 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1075 (MS. D) Seo wode sæ & se stranga wind hi on þæt land awearp. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 371 Þe wawes were so wode Wiþ winde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 331 A reyn..so wilde and wood That half so greet was neuere Noees flood. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 593 Wynde aroos wiþ wood rage. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* vi. in Ashm. (1652) 98 Flames brenning fierce and woode. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* x. 39 Temppestes horrible of the woode see. *a* 1510 Douglas *K. Hart* I. 75 About the wail thair ran ane water void, Blak, stinkand, sowr, and salt as is the sey. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* I. met. iv. 7 Wood Vesevus..that bursts out his smoky fires.

†B. quasi-*sb.* (*a*) madness; (*b*) in phr. *for wood* (see For- *pref.*[1] 10), 'like mad', madly, furiously.

c 1275 *xl Pains of Hell* 48 in *O. E. Misc.* 148 Snakes and neddres stingeþ for wod. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6201 Þer-uore hii flowe ver wod. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 276 She..hath such wo, whan folk doth good, That nygh she mekith for pure wood. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* III. 657 Lat vs.. sesne..That woinmen louen vs for wode. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 286 Betwen the wawe of wod and wroth Into his dowhtres chambre he goth. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5777 Out of witt he was for wode.

† C. *adv.* Madly, frantically, furiously (chiefly in *wod wroth*). *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6109 Þe king knost wiþ hom was þo so wod wroþ. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 5 3if þei.. haten and ben woode wroþ with men þat trewly dispisen synne. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* xxxviii. 94 The knyght.. bytwene twe perylle: on on halue, þe wode-yernynge watyr so grysly; on other halue, hys fomen. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4913 The king of kinges quoke woode That any shuld be bold..bettre than him self were. *a* 1533 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 515 The more the Kynge spake for the Englyshe men, the more woder were they dysposyd agayne them. 1553 Douglas *Æneis* XII. vii. 9 Wod wroth be worthis, for dyscnse and dyspyte That he na mycht his fayis succur. 1535 Coverdale *Hosea* vii. 5 They begynne to be woode dronckeu thorow wyne. 1569 Blague *Sch. Conceytes* 94 The pacient hearing this..was wood angrie, and commaunded all ye Phisitians to be put out of doores. 1621 Dekker *Pathos. Heaven* (1631) 240 They are so extreordinarily enamoured..and are so wood-mad of it, that they will have it.

D. *Comb.*: † **wood-like** *a.* = Woodly *a.*; † **woodsick** [Sick *a.*], mad. See also Woodman[2].

1598 T. Procter *Gorg. Gallery* O iv b, Wherwith distract with *woodlike rage, the[se] words he out shrade. *c* 890 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 238 Þa wæs 3elæded se *wodseocca [v.r. wedenðseoca] man to..Benedicte. 94.. in Wr.-Wülcker 505/25 *Mægar*, wode sek.

† **Wood**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4–5 wode. [f. prec.] *intr.* To go mad; to rave, rage (also *fig.*).

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. met. iii. (1868) 203 Þou3 þei þe anoyn nat þe body, 3itte vices wooden to distreine mas by wounde of þouʒt. *c* 1386 — *Sec. Nun's T.* 467 He smauth and he woodeth in his Aduersitee. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 282 Whan I ne may my ladi see, The more I am redy to wraththe,..I wode as doth the wykke Se. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxvi. (1869) 61 Deth is a beste so wykke that who so seeth it he woodeth. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 2164 The kynge..began to wode, That his knyghtes bore downe were.

Wood (wud), *v.*[2] [f. Wood *sb.*[1] (Cf. OE. *wudian* to fell wood.)]

I. † 1. *trans.* To surround with or inclose in a wood or trees; *refl.* and *intr.* to hide or take refuge in a wood. *Obs.*

1538 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 295 The Bowne.. ys metely wodeyd in bege rowys. *a* 1589 R. Lane in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 742 The Sauages..betooke themselues to flight: we..followed for a smal time after them, who had wooded themselues we know not where. 1645 *City Alarum* 13 We should not tread those Mases of fortune, wherein we have often wooded.

2. *trans.* To cover (land) with wood, as trees; to plant with trees, convert into woodland.

In this sense a back-formation from Wooded *ppl. a.*, q.v. for earlier quots., cf. also Wooding *a.*

1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* xxxiv. (1808) II. 36, I was delighted with the fine pear-trees which wooded the country. 1818 Stewart *Planter's Guide* (ed. 2) 20 Transplanting could do this;..an entire Park could be thus wooded at once. 1896 Howells *Impressions & Exp.* 6 The primeval forests densely wooding the vast levels.

II. 3. *a. trans.* To supply with wood for fuel; to load (a vessel) with wood.

1608 in *Foster Engl. Factories India* (1909) III. 280 Were woodded and ballasted our shippe. 1710 R. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 117 This Island where we carein'd, wooded, water'd, and fitted our Ships. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 40 Our next employment was wooding and watering our squadron. 1804 Nelson in *Mar. in Nicolas Disp.* (1845) V. 472 Seamen being in want of wood, to be ordered..to the Island of Asinara, to cut wood, for which purpose she may remain forty-eight hours. In much less time the Victory could be wooded. 1900 Lennox *James Chalmers* x. 70 The people helped in wooding the vessel.

b. *intr.* To procure or take in a supply of wood for fuel. Also (in mod. use) with *up*.

1630 Capt. J. Smith *Trav. & Adv.* II. 97 In this little Ile of Mevis,..I have remained, to wod and water and refresh my men. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 76 In this river I imagined we might wood and water. 1896 Ot[illegible]

Adrift Amer. 220 We went on down the river,..stopping.. occasionally to 'wood up', as taking in fuel was termed. 1901 W. P. Livingstone *Laws of Livingstonia* 56 The v was wooding..with rosemary and ebony logs.

4. Bowls. *To be wooded*: see quot.

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 130/2 The jack is said to be 'wooded' when surrounded by bowls.

5. *trans.* To furnish with a wooden support; to prop with wood.

1938 *Glasgow Her.* 14 June 6 Simpson wooded the place [in a coal-mine] temporarily, in order..to prevent a further fall.

Wood, obs. form of Woad.

† **Woodage.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + -age.]

1612 Cotgr., *Lignade*, woodd age; provision of wood.

Woo'd-ash, *pl.* **-ashes.** [Wood *sb.*[1], Ash *sb.*[2]] The ash or ashes of burnt wood.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 253 This oil served..when mixed with wood-ashes, to supply the use of tallow. 1826 C. Wordsworth *Athens* V. (1855) 26 Kneading some cakes to be placed among the wood-ashes of the fire, and baked. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* 699 Natives who had rubbed themselves with wood-ash until their complexions were 'the color of slate-pencil'.

¶ See Wood-ashes.

Wood-bill (wu'dbil). [OE. *wudubill(*: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Bill *sb.*[1]] An implement used for cutting wood, pruning, etc.: = Bill *sb.*[1] 4.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) F 48 *Falcastrum*, wudubill. *c* 890 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 213 Some dæge sende he him irengelcennen, þæt is hatene wudubilla. 1296 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 284, 3 twybilles, 3 wodbilles. 1483 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 373, 3 wodbill. 1680 Blount *Boscobel* I. (1680) 44 His Name was agreed to be Wil. Jones, and His arms a wood-Bill. 1788 Cowper *Let.* 28 July, The axe and the woodbill..have..been constantly employed.

Woodbine (wu'dbain), **woodbind** (-baind). Forms: see Wood *sb.*[1]: *a.* 1 -bind, -bend, 1–6 -binde, 4–7 -bynde, 5 -bende, 5–6 -bynd, 6– woodbind; *β.* 6 -byne, -bin, (*g dial.* wid(d)bin), 6– woodbine. (Also with hyphen, formerly often as two words.) [OE. *wudubind*, *-binde*, also *-bend*, f. *wudu* Wood *sb.*[1] + root of Bind *v.* (*bend-*, *band-*); cf. Da. *vedbende* ivy, and, for the second element, Withebind. For the loss of final *d* cf. *line* for *lind*, *rine* for *rind*.

Similar formations are OE. *widewinde* 'volvelo', 'edera', 'viburna', 'convolvulus', *withthindh* 'involuco', ON. *við-bindill* ivy, Norw. *vid(e)pundel*, *vinandel*, *vibendel* 'caprifolium'.]

1. A name for various plants of a climbing habit; in early use (later only dial.), convolvulus and ivy;

now chiefly (*U. S.*) the Virginia Creeper *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*, and the West Indian *Ipomœa tuberosa* (Spanish Woodbine).

bendum]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 302 Genim þysse wyrte wyrttruman þe man capparis & ðrum naman wudubend hatað. *Ibid* II. 34 Wyrc eagsealfe wudubindes leaf. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 418/25 *Hedera nigra*, wudubind, eorþfig. *c* 1440 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 Recipe—þe luyse of smalache or merch, wormode,..petite consoude, wodbynd. 1525 *Gerte Herbal* ccccixvii. (1529) Aa iv b, *De Volubilis*. Woodbynde. 1562 Phi.kington *Expos. Abdyas* Prof. A a iij, The woodbinde..climbes vp & spreades it selfe ouer all the branches, vnto it haue ouergrowen and kylled the bole tr... 1562 Bullein *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* (1579) 21 b, This is called *Holsine, Smilax*, or *Campanella*, or the Bell Wodbinde. 1570 Buchanan *Chamæleon* Wks. (S.T.S.) 44 As ye wod bind clymeth on ye oik and syne with tyme distroyis ye tre. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Table Eng. Names, Illew Woodbind, or ladies bower. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* v. 170 A kinde of Wood-bind..which runnes vpon trees, twining it selfe like a Vine: the fruit..eaten worketh..in the nature of a purge. 1625 Gordon *Pharmace-pinax* II *Baccæ Hederæ*. Berries of Wood-bind. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Woodbind, Spanish, *Ipomœa*.

β. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 97 Necessarie herbes to growe in the garden for Physick... 23 Stitchwort. 24 Valerian. 25 Woodbine. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 212 *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*..has long been cultivated as a covering for walls, and is best known by the name of Woodbine.

2. *esp.* The common honeysuckle, *Lonicera Periclymenum*, a climbing shrub with pale yellow fragrant flowers; also extended to other species, as the N. American *L. grata*.

a. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/39 *Mater silua, i. cheuefoil, i.* wudebi[n]de. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1231 As abowte a tre..wryþe the soote wode bynde. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barth.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 14 *Caprifolium*, wodebinde. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 82 Wodbynde or Honysuckle..windeth it self about busshes. 1624–8 Shirley *Sch. Complement* II. a withered Bryer. ow that woodbind ... Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xvi. (1794) 204 The Woodbind has..slender trailing branches, twining round the boughs of trees.

β. 1548 Elyot, *Periclymenon*, an herbe called woodbyne, whiche beareth the honysuckle. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* II. i. 251, I know a banke where the wilde time blowes,..Quite ouer-canopied with luscious woodbine. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 146 The Musk-rose, and the well attir'd Woodbine. 1728 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 19 May, The walls are in the nature of lattices; and, on the outside of them, vines and woodbines planted. 1847–60 Darlington *Amer. Weeds* 160 Agreeable Lonicera. Wild Honeysuckle. American Woodbine. 1856 Miss Mulock *John Halifax* ix, There was a yellow jasmine over the porch at one front door, and a woodbine at the other.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1588 Spenser *Virgils Gnat* 82 Others..browse the woodbine twigges. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* III. i. 30 Beatrice.. Is couched in the wood-bine couerture. 1599 Cutwode *Caltha Poet.* lxxxiv. C 6 b, She commeth to the woodbind tree. *Ibid.* cxvi. E 8, She goes vnto the Woodbine Tree. 1704 Pope *Spring* 97 Haste to yonder woodbine bow'rs. 1713 *Guardian* No. 125 To taste the odours of the woodbine grove. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 461 In the gelid caverns, woodbine-wrought. 1848 J. E. Carpenter *Poems & Lyrics* 93 The cottage..With porch—all woodbine-clad. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. xxii. i, The woodbine spices are wafted abroad. 1895 R. W. Chambers *King in Yellow, Street of Our Lady of Fields* ii. (1909) 232 A white house and woodbine-covered piazza. 1908 [Eliz. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 141 Across a woodbine hedge.

Hence **Woo·dbined** (-bəind) *a.*, overgrown or adorned with woodbine.

1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* v. 104 The woodbined wall. 1898 'Cotswold Ieve' *Lyra Piscat.* 109 Those woodbined oriels.

Woo·d-brown. Also 3 wudebrune, 4 wodebron, 4–5 -broun, 6 (? *errors.*) woodbroney. [f. Wood *sb.*[1] 6 + Brown.]

† **1.** The herb bugle, *Ajuga reptans*, in reference to the brownish tint of the leaves. *Obs.*

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 554/7 *Bugloxa, i. bugle, i.* wudebrune. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 13 *Bugla*, bugle, i. uodebroun.

¶ Glossing L. *fraxinus* ash-tree.

a 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.*, 188 Hertwourt or wodebroun, *f[r]axinus*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl., Woodbroney is *Fraxinus*.

2. [partly after G. *holzbraun.*] The brown colour characteristic of wood (see quot. 1805). Also as *adj.*

1805 T. Weaver *Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 63 Wood-brown is a very pale colour, being a mixture of yellowish-brown and much ashes-grey. 1839 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* II. 367 The wings and tail wood-brown. 1886 Mrs. Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* ii, The loveliest balmoral I ever saw in my life!..Why, you'll look like a hamadryad, all in these wood-browns!

Woodbury (wu·dbəri). The name of Walter Bentley *Woodbury* (1834–1885), inventor of many contrivances connected with photography, used attrib. in designations of processes invented by him, as *Woodbury-gravure*, *-process*; esp. **Woodburytype** (wu·dbəritaip) [see -type], a process in which a design on a film of gelatine, obtained from a photographic negative, is transferred by heavy pressure to a metal plate from which it may be printed; a print thus produced; also *attrib.*

1889 *Photogr. Jrnl.* 16 Jan. 21*/2 The Woodbury Type Company. 1870 Woodbury *Patent Specif.* 4 Dec., in *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 563 The ordinary Woodbury printing-press. 1878 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xv. 243 Woodbury printing. 1878 Abney *Treat. Photogr.* 274 The Woodburytype process. 1881 *Athenæum* 22 Jan. 134/1 This book..is illustrated by Woodburytype reproductions of contemporary views of the Tower of London. 1881 *Nation* (N.Y.) XXXII. 219 A two-page Woodburytype of a Caxton eaten..by bookworms. 1882 *Hazell's Annual* 559 It is an improvement upon the well known Woodbury process, and has been given the name of Woodbury-gravure.

Wood-carne, -cerne, obs. ff. Wood-kerne.

Woodchat (wu·dtʃæt). [First found in a posthumous work of Ray's (see first quot.), where it appears to be for **wood-cat*, a literal rendering of G. *waldkatze* (Naumann) or *waldhatze* (Brehm): thus not connected with Chat *sb.*[2]] A species of shrike, *Lanius rutilus* (*rufus*, or *auriculatus*), a rare summer visitor to England; also called **woodchat-shrike.**

a 1705 Ray *Synops. Meth. Av.* (1713) 19 The lesser Ash-coloured Butcher-bird with a white Spot on each Shoulder: The Wood-chat. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* V. 136 The woodchat resembles the [red backed butcher-bird] except in the colour of the back, which is brown and not red as in the other. 1781 Latham *Syn. Birds* I. i. 169 Wood chat shrike. *La Pie-grieche rousse.* 1860 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 376 The Woodchat Shrike has occasionally but very rarely been found in England. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 845 The Woodchat,..with a bright bay crown and nape, and the rest of its plumage black, grey and white.

Woodchuck (wu·dtʃək). [Alteration, by association with Wood *sb.*[1], of American Indian name: cf. Cree *wuchak* (Watkins), *otchock* (J. Richardson), Wejack.] A common N. American species of marmot, *Arctomys monax*, of a large stout form, which burrows in the ground, and hibernates in winter.

1689 in *Hist. Coll. Essex Inst.* (Mass.) IV. 236/1 A parcell of meadow commonly called Woodchuck meadow. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 454 The Woodchuck is a ground animal of the fur kind, about the size of a martin. 1819 Warden *Acc. U. S.* I. 225 Marmot of Maryland, *Arctomys monax*,..known by the names of woodchuck and ground hog. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* vi. 125 O'er these logs we cannot clamber? Not a woodchuck could get through them. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Septimius* (1883) 230 Caverns which they had dug out for their shelter, like swallows and woodchucks.

Woo·d-coal.

1. Charcoal obtained from wood; with *pl.*, a piece of this: = Coal *sb.* 4. *arch.* or *Hist.*

1663 [see Coal *sb.* 4]. 1727 [Dorrington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 14 In both..places appeared to have been fire made ..by wood coals. 1855 Browning *Fra Lippo* 38 It's not your chance to have a bit of chalk, A wood-coal or the like?

2. = Lignite.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 348 Coal..is often..found under basalt:—Wood coal is sometimes found under both. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Phil.* I. iii. (1851) 45 Thin seams..of fossil-wood and wood-coal.

Hence † **Woo·d-coaler, -coʻllier,** a maker of or dealer in 'wood-coal' (sense 1): = Collier 1, 2.

1600 *West Riding Sessions Rolls* (Yorks. Rec. Ser. III.) 216 Robertus Scoorer nuper de Emley..wooddcollier. 1649 in Marshall *Edwinstow Reg.* (1891) 32 Elizabeth Childe wood coallers wife. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4447/4 Richard Badily, a Wood-Collier.

Woodcock (wu·dkɒk), *sb.* Forms: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Cock *sb.*[1]; also 2–3 **wide cok,** 4–5 **wodekoo,** 5 **-kok, wodkoke,** 6 **wodkooe,** *Sc.* **widcoik.** [Late OE. *wudu-, wudecoc(c*, f. Wood *sb.*[1] and Cock *sb.*[1] Appears in OF. as *huitecox, witecos, vidacos*, etc., and in Norman dial. as *videcoq.*]

1. A migratory bird, *Scolopax rusticula*, allied to the snipe, common in Europe and the British Islands, having a long bill, large eyes, and variegated plumage, and much esteemed as food. Also, the allied *Philohela minor* of N. America, similar in appearance and habits but smaller.

Properly denoting the male bird, but commonly applied to both sexes; cf. Wood-hen 1. In sportsman's use with collective pl. *woodcock*; cf. *grouse, snipe, teal*, etc.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 258/5 *Accga*, wuducoc. *a* 1100 *Gloss.* ibid. 132/20 *Acetta*, anite, *uel* wudecocc. 1273 *Liber Cust.* (Rolls) 82, ii wodecokes pro iii obolis. 1321 *Ibid.* 304 Le bon widecoke pur i denier. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 164 Un arncye [*gloss* a wode-koc]. *Ibid.* 174 Asses [*gloss* wodekok]. 1347 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 42, ix pluuers, ij Wodekokes. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 35 Þo crane schalle..be..Drazun at þo syde as wodcockis. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* d i, The wodecok is comborous to ale: bot if ther be crafte. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 30 Woodcockes, are of a good temperaunce, and metely lyghte in dygestion. 1538 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 92 A mure fowle vilj d, a widcoik vilj d. 1658 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 58 Send to the fouller and sie if he can get moor fowles or plivers or partridges or woodcokis. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 28 Mayors and Woodcocks come in about Michaelmas. 1768 Pennant *Brit Zool.* II. 348 Woodcocks generally arrive here in flocks. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. lxvii, He cannot live, like woodcocks, upon suction. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 249 In woodcock and true snipe..the eye..is placed far back and high up. 1900 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 152 The woodcock are notoriously late.

b. Applied to other birds.

(*a*) Local name for the pileated woodpecker of N. America, also called *log-cock*. (*b*) *Little woodcock*: = woodcock-snipe (see 4). (*c*) *Sea woodcock*: see Sea *sb.* 23 c.

a 1813 A. Wilson *Foresters* Poet. Wks. (1846) 228 Crested wood-cocks hammer from on high. 1889 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 191 Great Snipe (*Gallinago major*)..

woodcock, Woodcock snipe (Ireland). 1888 G. Temperley *Bird Names* 152.

2. In allusive use (from the ease with which the woodcock is taken in a snare or net), in reference to capture by some trickery, or as a type of gullibility or folly; hence applied to a person: a fool, simpleton, dupe. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1430 Lydg. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 48 With wodcokkes, lerne for to dare. *a* 1500–34 *Cov. Corp. Christi Pl.* ii. 432 For, dame, woll I neuer vast my wyttis, To wayte or pry where the wodkoce syttis. 1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 958/2 As though he trusted that all the worlde wer woodcockes saue himselfe. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* Apol. (Arb.) 72 Cupide sets vpp a Springe for Woodcockes, which are entangled ere they descrie the line. 1602 Shake. *Twel. N.* II. v. 92 Now is the Woodcocke neere the gin. 1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 376 This most incogitant woodcock. 1684 T. Washbourne *Div. Poems* 1 Or like the Wood-cock hide their heads, and then, 'Cause they see none, think none sees them again. 1679 *Hist. Jetuer* 25 What have the wise Woodcocks of the Council to do with our Affairs? 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No 3. 2/2 That he shou'd not, In his own Trade appear a Woodcock. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxii, Poor woodcock, thou art snared! 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II. ii, We hold our Saxon woodcock in the springe, But he begins to flutter.

3. Various transferred uses. a. = *woodcock-shell* (see 4); more fully *thorny woodcock*. b. A variety of apple. c. = *woodcock soil* (see 4). d. *Scotch woodcock*: fancy name for a savoury dish: see quot.

a. 1818 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Woodcock, *Murex Haustellum*. 1818 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 208 *Murex Tribulus*, Thorny Woodcock or Venus Comb.

b. 1700 Nourse *Disc. Benefits Husb.* x. 148 The Woodcock is a fair large Apple, and produces an excellent Cyder. 1803 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXI. 262 The old pauson, woodcock, and red musk, are generally large apples.

c. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xlvii. 197 Our soils are, in general, either a loam, brick earth, or woodcock, and under them clay.

d. 1879 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 24 May 1/4 'Scotch Woodcock'..consists of hard boiled eggs chopped up, mixed with..anchovy sauce, and then laid on slices of hot buttered toast.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *woodcock-pie, -shooting*; **woodcock clay** = *woodcock soil*; **woodcock-eye,** = Snap-hook 2; **woodcock-fish** = Snipe-fish 1; **woodcock-fly,** a fly used by anglers (see quot.); **woodcock gun,** a gun used for shooting woodcocks; **woodcock owl,** a local name for the short-eared owl; **woodcock('s) pilot,** a local name for the golden-crested wren (see quot. 1893); **woodcock-shell,** one of several species of *Murex* having a long spout resembling a woodcock's bill; **woodcock-snipe,** the great snipe, *Scolopax major*; **woodcock soil,** a loose soil consisting of a mixture of clay and gravel; **woodcock wing,** (*a*) the wing of a woodcock; (*b*) = *woodcock-fly.*

1780 Young *Tour Irel.* II. 8 A hill..which is wet *woodcock clay. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) II. 155 Having the trace-rings..made with a screw, whereby they may be changed, and *woodcock eyes substituted in their place. 1880–4 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit. & Irel.* I. 250 *Centriscus scolopax*..The trumpet, bellows-fish, *woodcock or snipe-fish. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 24 Oakfly, Ash-fly, or *Woodcock-fly, found on the body of an Oak or Ash..is a brownish fly and is taken from the beginning of May till the end of August. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 205 If making *woodcock guns, less elevation is required, the distance of shooting being shorter. 1840 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* III. 461 *Asio brachyotos*. The Streaked Tufted-Owl..*Woodcock Owl. Mouse-hawk. 1598 *Mucedorus* v. ii. 86 Now wee maie goe to breakefast with a *woodcoke pie. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 11/1 Woodcock-pie is..a famous Christmas dish at the Palace. 1872 *East Anglian* IV. 112 '*Woodcock Pilot'. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 368 The bird [*sc.* Golden-crested Wren] in autumn visits the east coast in enormous flocks,..they are well known to the fishermen as 'Woodcock's Pilots,' from their generally preceding by a few days the advent of those regular immigrants. 1907 *Athenæum* 11 May 570/2 The most interesting of these local terms is that of '*woodcock pilot', by which the goldcrest is known to all the wild fowlers. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 98/1 Taking my breakfast..with as much indifference as if I were going *woodcock-shooting. 1885 *Woodcock snipe [see 1 b]. 1764 Young in *Museum Rust.* III. lxiii. 284 Loose, *woodcock, brick-earth soils. 1775 N. Kent *Hints to Gentl.* 14 Woodcock-soil generally consists of yellow, or white clay, with a mixture of gravel; is seldom fruitful. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 3528 Except God make me lichter nor ane fedder, Or send me doun gude *Widcok wingis to flie. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 7 Apr. 6/2 A bull trout ..succumbs to the woodcock wing.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Woo·dcock** *v.*, *intr.* to act like a woodcock (see quot., and cf. quot. 1654 in 2 above); **Woo·dcockise** *v.*, *trans.* to make a 'woodcock' of, to befool.

1817 Maria Edgeworth *Ormond* vi, Like all cunning people, he *woodcocks—hides his head, and forgets his body can be seen. 1811 Combe, *Boscawed*, gulled, abused, *woodcockised, made a woodcocks.

Woodcraft (wu·dkraft). (Also *U. S.* **woods-craft**: see Wood *sb.*[1] 9 g.) [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + Craft *sb.*]

1. Skill in, or skilled practice of, matters pertaining to woods or forests, esp. (in early use) to the chase; now (chiefly in U. S. and Colonial use) applied esp. to such knowledge of forest conditions as enables one to maintain oneself or make one's way.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1603 A wyze þat was wyz vpon wod

crafte To vnlace þis bor lufly bigynnes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 110 Of woodecraft wel koude he al the vsage..A Forster was he.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ix, Thou hast begun thy woodcraft well. 1833 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xxxiv, One or two other leaders of the camp, versed in woodcraft, examined with learned eye the trees. 1870 BRET HARTE *Idyl of Red Gulch* Wks. (1872) 58 When he had built a fire against a tree, and had shown them other mysteries of wood-craft. 1892 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, The..steering straight in a country without a landmark, was likely to bear hard upon his woodcraft. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, He was full of delight over everything that savored of the woods or woodscraft.

2. Skill in woodwork, or in constructing something of wood.

1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 325 They..Nor knew to build a house..With wicketed sides, nor any woodcraft knew. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. viii. 127 The chief carpenter [has] some good books on woodcraft.

Woodcut (wu·dkʌt). [f. WOOD *sb.*1 + CUT *sb.*2 21.] A design cut in relief on a block of wood, for printing from; a print or impression obtained from this; a wood-engraving. (Formerly more freq. called *wooden cut*: see WOODEN *a.* 4.)

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 84 All those excellent Wood Cuts of Hans Schiratyn and Adam Altorf. 1816 OTTLEY *Hist. Engraving* I. 102 The wood-cuts, which constitute what are termed the old block-books. 1838 DICKENS *Let. to Miss Hogarth*, A new publication..each number to contain four woodcuts. 1857 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 460 The woodcuts of the *Illustrated London News*.

attrib. 1865 WAY *Promp. Parv.* p. xlv, The well-known wood-cut device used by Wynkyn de Worde. 1887 R. R. BOWKER in *Harper's Mag.* July 182/1 Charles Knight's popular illustrated books..again revived wood-cut work.

Wood-cutter (wu·dkʌtəɹ).

1. One who cuts wood; one who cuts down or fells trees, or cuts off their branches, for the wood; a wood-hewer.

1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 14 Dec. Suppl. 2/3 Cross-cut, pit, hand, woodcutters, tennon, and a variety of other saws. 1775 LYNCH in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 84 Will it be right to keep your heroes for wood-cutters? 1837–42 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. ix. 129 The axe of the woodcutter echoes..in the forest. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxiii, The huts of the wood-cutters, where the vessel stopped for fuel.

2. A maker of woodcuts, a wood-engraver.

1821 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 104 Our historical wood-cutters have thought it much to follow..those lines ready-pencilled by the Inventor on the blocks. 1904 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 12 June 365/2 Mr. Maudslay interpreting the stone carvings, and the woodcutters interpreting Mr. Maudslay.

Wood-cutting, *sb.*

1. Wood-engraving. Also *attrib.*

1788 *Hearne's Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 382 Wood-cutting being not so much used since ingraving came up. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* liv, The arts of printing and woodcutting have, in China and Japan, made books very cheap. 1890 *Athenæum* 1 Mar. 281/2 Many inequalities.. observed in the output of woodcutting *bottegha*.

2. The action or employment of cutting down trees for wood, or of cutting wood with saws or other appliances. Also *attrib.*

1872 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Machines* 92 Wood-cutting Machines. 1893 RODWAY *Hand-bk. Brit. Guiana* 49 Wood-cutting grants are obtainable. 1899 — *Guiana Wilds* 19 Now and again he did a little wood-cutting.

Wooddie, -y, -ish, obs. ff. WOODY, WOODISH.

Wood-dove. [Cf. Du. *houtduif*, G. *holztaube*.] = WOOD-PIGEON. Also applied to certain S. African birds allied to this (see quot. 1875–84).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 59 The wodedowue vpon a spray She sang ful loude and cleere. ' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 Wode Dowe, or stokk dowe, *palumba*. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 114 Whan..curlews cary clothes,.. & woddowes were woolknyffis, theves to kyll,..Than put in a woman ȝour trust & confidence. 1789 SAVAGE *Wanderer* v. 92 While the soft-murm'ring, am'rous Wood-Dove coos. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* I. 287 *Columbas Œnas*...Stock Dove. Wood Dove. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk. Jas. I & Chas. I* (1898) 74 Melodious as the voice of wood-doves. 1875–84 *Layard's Birds S. Afr.* 564 *Haplopelia larvata*. Rufous-breasted Wood-Dove. *Ibid.* 570 *Chalcopelia afra*. Emerald-spotted Wood Dove. *Ibid.* 572 *Tympanistria tympanistria*. White-breasted Wood Dove.

Woode, obs. form of WOAD, WOOD.

Wooded (wu·dėd), *ppl. a.* [f. WOOD *sb.*1 or *v.*2 + -ED.] Furnished with wood or woods; covered with growing trees; abounding in woods or forests. (*a*) predicative, in ppl. construction; in later use giving rise to sense 2 of WOOD *v.*2, of which it may be taken as the pa. pple. Usually with adv.

1603 CAMDEN *Rem.* 1 Isle of Britaine..aboundant in pasture, plentifully wooded. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. i, It is well wooded, and well watered,—the acres Fertile and rich. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Introd., His estate was.. well wooded and full of timber. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 141 The land is flat, marshy and wooded with pines, birch, larch and willows. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 237 The neighbourhood of Kenmare was then richly wooded.

fig. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* I. ii, The hills are wooded with their partisans, And all the valleys overgrown with darts, As moors are with rank rushes.

(*b*) in attrib. construction, preceding the sb.

1782 PENNANT *Journ. Chester to Lond.* 292 Some pretty pieces of water, winding along a fine wooded dell. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii, In a wooded park..was situated the ancient mansion. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 107/2 The..Ganges Canal..runs straight as a die between its wooded banks.

Wooden (wu·d'n), *a.* Also 6–7 wodden, woodden, 6–8 woden. [f. WOOD *sb.*1 + -EN4.]

I. 1. Made or consisting of wood.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Duratum*, wodden. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 37 Raking them with woodden Rakes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. ii. (1592) 121 To fall downe prostrate before a wooden Idoll. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 34 The images of many of the French Kings, set in certain wodden [*sc.* 1776 wooden] cupbords. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 1 If the Joyner performed his Work well in making the Wooden-work. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 40 Beat every two or three rows of turf, while moist, with the wooden-beater. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, A kind of wooden Machine. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xv, A massive wooden stool. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 197, I reached a wooden hut. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 69 The slowly-rolling wheels of a wooden wain..with wooden wheels, wooden pole, and wooden yoke.

b. *transf.* in various occas. senses: Made or produced by means of wood; dull or dead, as the sound of wood when struck; relating to or occupied with wood; full of objects made of wood; hard and stiff like wood.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 155 Like a strutting Player.. To heare the woodden Dialogue and sound 'Twixt his stretcht footing, and the Scaffolage. 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 62, I..would no more endure This wooden slaueries [*sc.* piling logs]. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 699 Secure from Wooden Blow. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 57 Put the whole lump into a wooden Fire. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 261 Trees..useful for the Carpenter, Joyner, or other wooden Tradesman to work upon. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 442 In the woodenest outskirts of North Cambridge. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 762 A feeling as if the throat were 'wooden'. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* X. No. 38 Descr. Plate xvii, The fingers have..become slender, pale and wooden.

2. *fig.* Having some quality likened to the hard dry consistence of wood, or to its inferior value as compared with precious metal or the like.

a. Lacking grace, liveliness, interest, or the like; expressionless, spiritless; dull and inert; stiff and lifeless.

a 1586 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B 3 b, He wyll neuer blush, he hath a wodden face. 1625 BACON *Ess., Boldness* (Arb.) 519 When a Bold Fellow is out of Countenance;..that puts his Face into a most Shruncken, and woodden Posture. 1823 R. H. in *Examiner* 17 May 315/2 The drawing and character are..in some parts feeble and wooden. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xiv. 215 The seeming poverty of his Intellect, his blank wooden looks. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iv. (1890) 130 This earlier and woodener matter [of poetry]. 1899 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 526/1 A dryasdust antiquary of the most wooden type.

b. Of persons or their attributes: Mentally dull; insensitive, inapprehensive; unintelligent, blockish.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. vii, Who have so leaden eyes, as not to see sweete Beauties showe: Or seeing, have so wooden wits as not that worth to knowe. 1592 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 89 Ile win this Lady Margaret. For whom? Why for my King: Tush, that's a woodden thing. 1629 S. LEE *Temple of Solomon* 194 Their lying wonders.. so often recited in their wodden Legends. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) II. 453 *note*, The Rumps of a House, 'twas the wooden Invention of Generall Browne (a woodmonger). 1698 *Christ Exalted* 40 To talk of a Law that admits of Sin, is to make the Maker of such a wooden Law to be little better than a wooden God. 1805 MOORE *To Lady Heathcote* 51 Those fops..With heads as wooden as thy ware, And, Heaven knows! not half so polish'd. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IV. ii. (1849) 150 The sight of that wooden old man, as I had often spoken of him..weeping like a woman..surprised me. 1833 CARLYLE *Ess., Diderot* (1872) V. 7 Withal, however, he is wooden; thoroughly mechanical. 1849 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* v, He's got a bad ear for music. ..When people have wooden heads..It can't be helped. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Engl. Tongue* iv. 178 The wooden notion that it is an inherent quality in a word to be of this or that part of speech.

†**c.** Of inferior character, poor, worthless.

1592 LYLY *Gallathea* II. iii, I shall haue but wodden lucke. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 104 (1810) 100 In old time were golden prelates, and wooden chalices, but in this time, wooden prelates and golden chalices. [Cf. CHALICE 2 γ, quot. 1528.] 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 119 Making a wooden Spade..; but this did my Work in but a wooden

†**3.** Belonging to the woods, sylvan. *Obs. rare.*

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* I. B 2 b, Sylvanus..this woodden god. 1843 CARLTON *New Purchase* 30 Our wooden country's mighty rough..for some folks. *Ibid.* 115 Religious meetings in the wooden world.

II. Special Collocations. †**4. Wooden cuts**: = WOODCUT. So *wooden picture, print. Obs.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 1 Cutting their Letters upon Blocks in whole Pages or Forms, as among us our Wooden Pictures are Cut. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 31 Printed from a Wooden Cut the Picture of a Bear baited by six Dogs. 1708 HEARNE *Collect.* 25 Feb. (O.H.S.) I. 294 Raphael, a Wooden Print. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 92 Elegant initial letters, and fine wooden cuts. 1837 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* I. i. Ix. § 18. 470 Otto Brunfels of Strasburg..published a..work in three volumes folio, with 238 wooden cuts of plants. [1898 LOWELL *Fab. Critics* 1596 *note*, Cuts rightly called woodcut, as all must admit.]

5. Wooden horse. **a.** [cf. L. *equus ligneus*.] A designation for a ship. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1599 NASHE *London Stuffe* 29 They are glad on their wodden horses to post after [the herring]. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxi. (1647) 264 The Low-countreys, the best stable of wodden horses, and most potent in Shipping. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xv, [He] saw nothing in this worse than an ordinary fit of sea-sickness...He assured his passenger.. that he hoped to drink a can with him..; for all that he felt a little out of the way for riding the wooden horse.

b. An instrument of punishment, chiefly military, formerly in use (= HORSE *sb.* 6 b): see quot. 1688. *Hist.*

1609 *Lex Scripta Isle of Man* (1819) 103 The Offender [for theft]..under the Value [of 6½d.] to be whipped, or sett upon a Wooden Horse ordained for such Offenders. 1648 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. II. 1369 Henry Matthewes and Robert Rowe were..tried by Court Marshal and sentenced to ride the Wooden-Horse at the Royal Exchange. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 812 Worse Than mannaging a Wooden Horse. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 290/2 Moderne punishments used among the Souldiery...Ridding the wooden horse; setting him on an horse made of wood with a sharp rigged back, his hands tyed behind him, and Musketts or weights hung at his feet. *c* 1700 J. LEWIS *Mem. Pr. William Henry* (1789) 11 The Duke bid his boys ..put the taylor on the wooden horse, which stood in the presence-room for the punishment of offenders, as is usual in martial law. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 44 Punishments..inflicted by Officers without the Sentence of a Court-Martial,..Picketting—tying neck and heels, and riding the wooden horse. 1899 BALDOCK *Cromwell* 360 Two soldiers of Dean's regiment rode the 'wooden horse' for an hour.

†**c.** A name for the scaffold or gallows; also for an instrument of torture: = HORSE *sb.* 24. *Obs.*

1642 [see HORSE *sb.* 24]. 1732 CHANDLER tr. *Limborch's Hist. Inquis.* II. 222 A Wooden Bench, which they call the Wooden Horse [described at length].

d. The wooden figure of a horse (ἵππος δουράτεος, Odyssey VIII. 492, 512) in which the Greek invaders were concealed at the siege of Troy. Hence †**Wooden-horse** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to capture by means of this.

1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir Gregory Nonsence* Wks. (1630) II. 3/2 Vntill the Woodden Horse of trusty Synon, Foald a whole litter of mad Colts in Harnesse. 1666 *Third Advice to Painter* 32 Hark to Cassandraes Song, o're Fate destroy, By their own Navyes; Wooden horse thy Troy. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 226 Epeus was celebrated as the builder of the wooden horse in which the heroes were concealed.

e. A wooden structure in a gymnasium, for vaulting exercise: = HORSE *sb.* 6 c.

1854 G. ROLAND *Gymnastics* 27 The wooden horse..Interesting from the number of exercises practised upon it.

6. Wooden shoe: a shoe made of wood, as the French SABOT; in the 18th c. popularly taken as typical of the miserable condition of the French peasantry.

1607 [see SABOT 2]. 1702 DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* I. 268 Two hundred Thousand Pair of Wooden Shooes, Who God be thanked, had nothing left to lose. 1713 ADDISON *Drummer* Prol. 8 Round-heads and Wooden-shoes are standing Jokes. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xix, What! give up liberty, property, and, as the Gazetteer says, lie down to be saddled with wooden shoes! 1809–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* iii. (1850) 29 He calls all hands on deck; talks to them of king, country, glory, sweethearts, gin, French prison, wooden shoes, Old England, and hearts of oak. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, King William..our immortal deliverer from papists and pretenders, and wooden shoes and warming pans. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 62 In France great numbers of the peculiar wooden shoes, called '*sabots*', are made of Alder.

7. Wooden spoon: a spoon made of wood; *spec.* one presented by custom at Cambridge to the last of the Junior Optimes, i.e. the lowest of those taking honours in the Mathematical Tripos; hence, this position in the examination, or the person who takes it. Also in extended use, referring to the lowest of a list or set in other connexions.

'At Yale, formerly, the student who took the last appointment in the Junior Exhibition; later, the most popular student in a class.' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1803 *Gradus ad Cantab.* 237 Wooden Spoon, for wooden heads:..the lowest of the Junior Optimes. 1820 BYRON *Juan* III. cx, Sure my invention must be down at zero, And I grown one of many 'wooden spoons' Of verse (the name with which we Cantabs please To dub the last of honours in degrees). 1858 EARL MALMESBURY *Mem.* (1884) II. 127 The 'wooden spoon' which is given to the Minister in the House of Commons who has been in the fewest divisions. 1883 in *Standard* 20 June 2/7 There was no opposition to the presentation of the time-honoured 'Wooden Spoon'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 8/2 The international matches..have now all been played,..Ireland, who won the championship last year..have only 1 point, and take the 'wooden spoon'.

8. Wooden walls (after ξύλινον τεῖχος, Herodotus VII. 141): ships or shipping as a defensive force. (Rarely in *sing.*)

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* To Rdr., Our Wodden Walles (as Themistocles called the Ships of Athens). 1598 STOW *Surv.* 468 [484] Ships..bee the wodden walles for defence of our Realme. 1629 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Mag.* iii. (1681) 129 Our carnal confidence and security in the strength of our wooden and watry walls. *c* 1645 in *Wood's Life*, etc. (O.H.S.) II. 55 Your stone and wooden wall Shall not defend you, but shall then Begin to sink and fall. 1750 BRAWNE *Lex Mercat.* (1752) 248 Our wooden walls are our bulwarks and redoubts, to which we owe our safety. 1849 LONGF. *Building of Ship* 69 Every climate, every soil, Must bring its tribute, great or small, And help to build the wooden wall! 1886 GEN. P. THOMPSON in *Bradford Observer* 26 Apr. 6/1 Your wooden walls wherein you your trust, have become fit only for firewood, or at most for transports.

9. In various special collocations: †**wooden bridle**, a fanciful name for a rudder; †**wooden casement, cravat**, slang or jocular names for the pillory (cf. *kempen cravat* s.v. CRAVAT *sb.* 1 b); that

†**wooden dagger**, the dagger of lath worn by Vice in the old moralities; †**wooden doublet** *jocular*, a coffin; **wooden island** (see quot.); **wooden isle**, a rhetorical designation for a ship; **wooden leg**, an artificial leg made of wood; also *fig.*; **wooden mare** = *wooden horse*, 5 b; **wooden pear**, an Australian tree, *Xylomelum pyriforme*, bearing hard inversely pear-shaped seed-vessels; †**wooden ruff** = *woollen cravat* (see RUFF *sb.*[2] 4); **wooden surtout** *slang*, = *wooden doublet*; **wooden tongue**, an infectious disease of cattle and horses, in which the tongue is enlarged and hardened; **wooden ware**, articles, esp. household utensils, made of wood (sometimes written with hyphen or as one word; cf. *earthenware*); **wooden wedding** *U.S.*, the fifth anniversary of one's wedding, on which it is appropriate to give presents made of wood; **wooden wedge** *Cambridge Univ.* (see quot. and WEDGE *sb.* 8).

1614 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues Royall* 703 A skilfull Pilot, ..Her winged manage rightly to command With hempen Reins, and *wooden Bridle. 1683 *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 606 To be pelted with Eggs thro' a lewd *wooden-casement. *1676 Poor Robin's Intell.* 4–11 Apr. 2/1 We hear of none this bout that are to wear the *Wooden Crevat. 1589 NASHE *Martins Months Minde* Wks. (Grosart) I. 182 The *woodden dagger may not bee worne at the backe, where S. Paules sword, hangs by the side. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. iv. 77 This roaring diuell i'th olde play (*ec.* Pistol), that euerie one may payre his nayles with a wooden dagger. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gentl.* v. i, According to his merits he should wear A guarded coat, and a great wooden dagger. 1761 [F. FORREST] *Ways to kill Care* Ded. p. ii, Where to find a guardian for the bawling brat, in case papa..should suddenly fumble into his *wooden doublet. 1808 ASHE *Trav. Amer.* III. 310 *Wooden Islands, are places, where..large quantities of drift-wood have..been arrested and matted together in different parts of the river. 1603 CHETTLE *Eng. Mourn. Garm.* E 3, The inhabitants of those *wooden Iles, are worthy Sea-men. 1580 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 366/2 P^d^ to ye Joyner for a *wooden Legge..xviij^d^. *a* 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. iii. (1664) 81 She hates a man with a† his Limbs; a Wooden-leg, a Crutch..wins her heart. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* I. (1672) 9 Every man should be of some use in the body politick.. else he is but an artificial member, a meer wooden leg. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 48 P 2, I was the old Soldier who..pretended that I had broken my Wooden-Leg. 1887 BESANT *The World went* II, His right leg had been lost in action, and was replaced by a wooden leg. 1829 *Woodes mare [see MARE[1] 2 b]. 1829 SCOTT *Old Mort.* IX. *note*, The punishment of riding the wooden mare was..one of the..cruel modes of enforcing military discipline. 1889 MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 615 *Xylomelum pyriforme*.. Native Pear. *Wooden Pear. 1865 *Slang Dict.*, **Wooden surtout*, a coffin, generally spoken of as a wooden surtout with nails for buttons. 1884 KLEIN *Micro-organisms & Dis.* xvi. 148 In cattle the disease [actinomycosis] manifests itself by firm tumours in the jaw,..and particularly by a great enlargement and induration of the tongue—*wooden tongue. 1924 *Christian World* 12 Mar. 3/2 A Haverfordwest saddler has died from the disease known as 'woodan tongue'. It occurs occasionally among horses, but is extremely rare in human beings. 1727 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* 80 If a Man should build a fine and magnificant Seat, and fill the Inside thereof..with ..*Wooden-ware and the most sordid Furniture. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 495 Large quantities of.. woodenware, handles, spools, bobbins, etc. 1888 *Girl's Own Paper* 24 Mar. 407/3 In America, too, the fifth anniversary of the marriage ceremony is known as the '*wooden-wedding'. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), **Wooden wedge*, the last name in the classical honours list at Cambridge.

III. 10. Combinations, as (in sense 1) *wooden-barred*, *-hooped*, *-hulled*, *-legged*, *-pinned*, *-seated*, *-shoed*, *-soled*, *-walled* adjs.; (in sense 2 a) *wooden-faced*, *-featured* adjs.; also †**wooden-footed** *a.*, wooden-shod; **woodenhead**, a stupid person, a blockhead; **wooden-headed** *a.*, having a 'wooden head', stupid (hence *wooden-headedness*); **wooden-weary** *a.*, stupefied with weariness.

1834 *Poultry Chron.* II. 23/1 Every one of our pens was made with an open *wooden-barred back. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 78 By this name [ac. Dorcas], the Amorous Knights were wont to salute freckled..*wooden-faced wenches. 1869 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* XXII, His nieces,..whose wooden-faced stolidity had..something..suggestive of being listened to and stared at by two Dutch clocks. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* VII, A *wooden-featured .. Major. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. I. 12, I heard a certain *wooden footed [orig. *seccolanute*] Frier Preach. 1831 CARLYLE *Let. to Wife* 8 Sept., I..saw the coronation procession, which seventy or eighty thousand *wooden heads besides were looking at. 1906 J. OXENHAM *Giant Circumstance* X. 140 Is it true that that woodenhead placed you under arrest? 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 143/1 That still more *wooden-headed creature, a man who fails to appreciate his value. 1850 DICKENS *Let. to Mrs. Watson* 24 Dec., For which *wooden-headedness the Child shall be taken to task. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 454 A large *wooden-hooped net. 1883 *Whitaker's Alm.* 443/1 Of the *wooden-hulled vessels the largest is the *Lissa*. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabbygenteel Story* i, A stout old *wooden-legged Scotch regimental surgeon. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk., Undertakers* 86 Square-sailed, *wooden-pinned barges. 1892 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* XXV, The *wooden-seated American chairs. 1820 *Wooden shoed [see SABOT 1]. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk., Cartouche*, Virtue..may exist among wooden-shoed Papists as well as honest Church-of-England men. 1820 MILMAN in *Biogr. Sk.* I. (1900) 18 *Wooden-soled shoes. 1910 CROCKETT *Dew of Youth* I. ii. 10 Tramp of wooden-soled clogs. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rhymesia* 23, I walked on between the tall, straight ..... A sudden turn in the *wooden-walled alley..brought me face to face with a great, still lake. 1888 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 427 Hounds..*wooden-weary with long watch.

Hence (chiefly *fig.*) **Woo·den, Woo·denize** *vbs.* (*nonce-wds.*), *trans.* to render woolen; **Woo·denly** *adv.*, in a wooden manner; **Woo·denness**, wooden quality or style; **Woo·deny** *a.*, of a wooden quality.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 239 How little was needs feare that the unguilding of our Prelates will prove the *woodening of our Priests. 1877 SHEELAIR *Mount* 235 When the poetic vigour was enfeebled and *woodenised by age. 1653 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1888) 63 You would have both pitied and laughed at me if you could have seen how *woodenly I entertained the widow. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 361 To have some sport in seeing how woodenly he would excuse himself. 1882 D. C. MURRAY *Joseph's Coat* I. xi. 160 Sitting by the fireside,..looking woodenly respectable as of old. 1894 W. C. RUSSELL *Good Ship 'Mohock'* I. 15 The mechanical hireling..who does his duty woodenly. 1872 *Daily News* 30 July, *Woodenness.. cannot with truth be said to be banished from the manning of the Aldershot force. 1886 *Spectator* 6 Nov., Lit. Suppl. 1505 The book is..readable, notwithstanding faults of woodenness, which are inevitable whenever authors do not make their studies from life. 1880 SWEET *Hist. Eng. Sounds* p. xi, The 'woodenness' which then characterized German philology. 1864 *Morning Star* 19 Sept., Some of the horses ..are *woodeny old screws without a pace in them beyond the regulation amble. 1885 C. L. PIRIE *Lady Lovelace* III. XXXVIII. 19 Making..hard woodeny angles against the.. leaden sky. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xii. 210 Woodeny hardness [of the heart muscle]. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Apr. 415/2 The capercailzie..gives vent to..several hard woodeny clicks.

Wood-end. *Shipbuilding.* = *hood-end* (HOOD *sb.* 8). Cf. *whooding*, HOODING (sense 3, 1627).

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

†**Wooder** (wu·dəɹ). *Obs.* [OE. *wudere*, f. *wudian* to cut wood; later directly f. WOOD *v.*[2] or *sb.*[1] + -ER[1]. Cf. WOODYER.] = WOODMAN[1] 2.

c 1050 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 371/5 *Calones*, wuderas. 1275 *Rot. Hundr.* II. 210 Andreas le Wodere. 1307 *Cal. Close Rolls* 35 *Edw. I* 484 Matthew le Woder. 1767 *Wallis's Voy.* in Hawkesworth *Voy.* (1773) I. 468, I ordered that no man, except the woodcrs and waterers, with their guard, should be permitted to go on shore. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 419 They..sent wooders to fell timber.

Wood-evil. [? f. WOOD *a.* + EVIL *sb.*] Local name for dysentery or a similar disease in sheep and cattle; also called *moor-evil* or *black-legs*.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 50 A sickenes among shepe.. called the wode euyll..cometh in the sprynge of the yere, ..and maketh them to halt, and to holde theyr necke awry. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap & Good Husb.* III. xix. 73 The wood-euill or Crampe..is a weakenesse or straying of the sinewes got by colds and surfeits. *a* 1720 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 295 They have a distemper in Leicestershire frequent amongst the calves, which in that country they call the black-legs; but.. in Staffordshire..the wood-evil. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* III. 495 The Wood-evil is seldom or never found among Sheep that have their Pasture in low Grounds. 1749 [see *moor-evil*, MOOR *sb.*[1] 6]. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 152/2 Wood-evil, moor-ill, or pantos..is brought on in cattle by their devouring the acrid buds of trees, by bad winter provision, by impure water, and similar causes.

†**Woo·dful**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare.* [irreg. f. WOOD *a.* + -FUL.] Mad, furious.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 56 This sight foule freighted with woodful phrenaye Chorœbus.

Woodhack (wu·dhak). *Obs.* (or *dial.*) Forms: 5 **wodehake, wodake**, 6 **wo(o)dhacke**, 9 **woodhack**. [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + stem of HACK *v.*[1] (Cf. *notehake*, NUTHATCH.)] A woodpecker.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 Wodehake, or reyne fowle. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 763/1 *Hic ictor*, a wodake. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 418 The woodhacke, that aygeth chur Howly, as he had the mur. 1530 PALSGR. 280/2 Wodhacke a byrde. 1888 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 100 Green woodpeckes (*Gecinus viridis*)..Wood hack (Lincoln).

So † **Woo·dhacker** (*rare*).

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Dict.* (1550) *Picchio*, a woodhacker or a woodwall.

†**Woo·dhede.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 **wod(h)ed**, 4 **wod(e)hede**. [f. WOOD *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Madness, extreme folly.

c 1230 *Gen & Ex.* 533 Wimmen..swilc woded wenten on, Golhed hunkinde he gunnen don. *Ibid.* 3539 Swilc wod-hed his folc cann on, Dat he seiden to aaraon, 'Mac vs godes foren us to gon'. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9017 Twelue folys a karolle dyȝt; Yn wodehed as hyt were yn cuntek. 1340 *Ayenb.* 18 Þe oþer ontreujþe þet comþ of prede is wodhede.

Woo·d-hen. [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + HEN *sb.*]

1. A female woodcock. Now *rare*.

Formerly, like the woodcock, often rendered as a tenant's due.

1282–4 *Yorkshire Inquis.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc. 1892) I. 248 [One fowl at Christmas, called] le Wodehen. 1363 in Blount *Fragm. Antiq.* (1815) 358 Reddendo..et unam Wodhenne. 1372 *Close Roll* m. 4 *dorso*, Turcia pars gallinarum illarum que erant locate infra dominium de Groby que vocantur le Wodehennes. *c* 1390 *Dial. Creatures Moralised* lxxi. A A ij, Ornix the wodehenne espyed the eggis of a Pecocke. 1601 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 160/2 Cum silvarum gallinis lie wode-hennis. 1896–98 E. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Clouds* IV. iv, I will not pay one groat to anyone, Who's not enough to misname woodhens 'woodcocks'. 1901 RHYS *Celtic Folklore* I. 55 The wife then flew away like a woodhen..into the lake.

2. Any flightless rail of the genus *Ocydromus*, of New Zealand and other Pacific islands: = WEKA.

1777 COOK *Voy. South Pole* I. iv. (1777) I. 73 In the bottom of this arm or cove [of Dusky Bay] we found many ducks, wood hens, and other wild fowl. 1845, 1873 [see WEKA].

Wood-house (wu·dhous). [HOUSE *sb.*[1] 3.] A house, shed, or room in which wood is stored.

[1274 *Close Roll 2 Edw. I* m. 10 De wodehouse videlicet Johanne Herny pro quatuor acris & dimidia terre quatuor solid.] 1356–7 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 23 In..emendacione domus de le Wodehous, vs. viij d. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 318 In the which mese is I-conteyned:—j halle, with ij. celers; j kechyn,..j dosse hous; j woodshous. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 225/16 A Wodhouse, *lignarium*. 1674 T. FLATMAN *Poems, To Mr. Austin* 14 Thus a black velvet Casket hides a Jewel; And a dark woodhouse, wholesome winter fuel. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Dial. Locke & Montaigne* Wks. 1907 II. 243 To the Coal hole or woodhouse? 1823 LOUDON *Encycl.* play in the wood-house.

Woodhouse, var. WOODWOSE.

Woodie, var. WIDDY; obs. f. WOODY.

Woodiness (wu·dinés). [f. WOODY + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being woody.

1. Woody texture, consistence, or appearance.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XV. XXVIII I. 450 Some fruits,..neither without in shell, nor within-forth in kernell, have any of this woodinesse. 1670 EVELYN *Sylva* XXX. (ed. 2) 209 The Vatican Ilex, the Vine which was grown to that bulk and Woodinesse, as to make Columns in Juno's Temple. 1760 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 933 It promises, from the thickness and woodiness of its stem,..to become a shrub of six or seven feet high. 1830 NICHOL. *Archit. Heavens* i. 17 Until individual trees could no longer be distinguished, and the view terminated in a..vague appearance, which I may be permitted to call a diffused woodiness. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VI. viii. § 10. 72 A very characteristic example of two faults in tree-drawing; namely, the loss not only of grace and spring, but of woodiness.

2. The condition of being full of woods or forests; prevalence or abundance of woodland; *concr.* woody growth.

1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I. 119 By Woody Waste [is meant] grass land over-run with rough woodiness. 1799 STUART in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 114 Their movements were so well concealed by the woodiness of the country. 1869 BLACKIE *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 180 The rich-sloping..woodiness that you remember on the Rhine.

Wooding (wu·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *wudung*, f. *wudian*: see WOOD *v.*[2] and -ING[1].]

1. The action of procuring or taking in wood for fuel, esp. on board a vessel; also, feeding a fire with wood.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 222 Þæt Israhela folc gefafode þæt sume ða hæðenan on beora ðeowte leofodon, to wudunge and to waterunge.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 69, I graue leaue to as manye as would to goe ashoare, hauing done watering and wooding. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 116 Besides our constant Employment in Wooding and Watering. 1866 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* 35 By dint of constant wooding I contrived to warm mine [ac. stove]. 1875 BEDWORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 145 Notice any convenient creeks or rivers for wooding or watering.

attrib. 1789 PORTLOCK *Voy.* 314 As this island I would advise the watering and wooding business to be done. 1804 GILLESPIE in A. Duncan *Nelson* (1806) 222 The wooding and watering parties. 1863 RUSSELL *Diary North & South* I. 269 The scenery and the scenes were just the same as yesterday's—high banks, cotton-slides, wooding stations.

2. The action of planting ground with trees; *concr.* a plantation or collection of trees. *Sc.*

1788 PICKEN *Poems* 76 The mantlan ivy clings To wooding in the grove. 1790 A. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 106 Deep in lanely woodings lost. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 355 The wooding of two acres of ground ..as a Close Plantation. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 103 Much of the wooding which gives variety ..to the landscape.

Woodish (wu·diʃ), *a.* Now *rare*. Also 6 **wodd-**, 6–7 **woodd-**. [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1].]

1. Having the nature, quality, or consistence of wood; (somewhat) woody.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 40 b, The braunches [of Lithospermon] are..strong..and woddishe. *Ibid.* 87 A, ..woddish torche or fyrebrande. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 225 Quince-Peares are of a verie hard and wooddish substance. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 224 Bastard-biltany .. having many brown woodish Stalks.

†2. Belonging to or characteristic of the woods or wooded country; sylvan. *Obs.*

1588 T. THOMAS *Lat. Dict.* (1613), *Faunalem*..wilde, woddish, rude. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 116 Wasson woodish sports. 1630 CAPT. J. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* 2 He retired himselfe into a little wooddie pasture...Here..he built a Pavillion of boughes...His friends perswaded one Salgnier Theadora Polalega..to insinuate into his wooddish acquaintances.

†**Woo·dist.** *Obs.* *nonce-wd.* In 7 **wooddist.** [f. as prec. + -IST.] = WOODSER, WOODMAN[1] 4.

1623 T. CAMPION *Relat. Royal Entert.* B 2, Such musick as the wilde Wooddists shall bee ashamed to heare the report of it.

Woo·d-kern, -kerne. *Hist.* Also 6 **-karne**, 7 **-cerne, -cerne**. [tr. Ir. *coitheamach coille* (*coithearn* KERN *sb.*[2], *coill* wood).] An Irish outlaw or robber haunting woods or wild country; such outlaws collectively.

Used by Holland to render L. *latro*.

1548 *State Papers, Irel., Edw. VI.* I. 84 (MS.) The lyued of peopell which we call outlawes & woddkerne. 1582 DERRICKE (*title*) The Image of Irelande, with a Discoverie of Woodkarne, wherein is..expressed, the Nature of the..Wilde Irishe Woodkarne, their notable ..... celeritie and prouesse to Rebellion. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy*

...ix. 1065 The same is said unto me..which were more beseeming to speake unto a wood-kerne and robber by the high-way side. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 121 Cormacke O Neale..was of a mild honest disposition..yet..little lesse barberous then the better sort of wood kern. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 210 The Lawlesse Wood Carnes in Ireland. 1656 in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1911) VI. 316 Mount Leinster ..which by reason of the great adjoining woods hath always beene haunted with Irish Tories or Woodcernes. 1845 Petrie *Eccl. Archit. Irel.* 96 At the close of the sixteenth century, these Towers became the receptacles of thieves and wood-kerne.

Wood-knife.

1. A dagger or short sword (Knife *sb.* 1 b) used by huntsmen for cutting up the game, or generally as a weapon. *arch.* or *Hist.*

1426 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 76 A sword harneised, a wodeknyf harneised, and a Dagger. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xxi. 764 They were shoters, and coude wel kylle a dere.. and they dayly bare bowes and arowes, hornes & wood kaynes. 1568 Fulwell *Like Will to Like* Eij b, Come no neer me you knaues for your life. Lest I stick you bothe with this woodknife. 1612 Cotgr., *Malcus*, a Fauchion, Hanger, Wood-knife. *a* 1650 *Boy & Mantle* xxxviii. in Child *Ballads* I. 273/2 He pulld forth a wood knifle,..He brought in the bores head. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* III. xxvi. 212 He drew his woodknife and hit the priest on the head. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxiv, The gay Baldric, which sustained a bugle-horn, and a wood-knife instead of a sword. 1867 Morris *Jason* I. 83 The wood-knife at the side.

2. A large knife for cutting off branches or twigs.

1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* vii. 54 The *catcador*.. conducted the party for hours through the tangled brush-wood,...using the wood-knife at every step.

Woodland (wu·dlănd). Forms: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Land *sb.* Land covered with wood, i.e. with trees; a wooded region or piece of ground.

849 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 141 Æ⁊ber ꝥe ætelond ꝥa eyrð lond ꝥe eac wuduland. *c* 1205 Lay. 1609 Wenne hundes hine bistondeð i þon wode-londe. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 208 In that wodde land. 1496 Sir G. Hayr (*Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 137 Cow or calf..in wodland uphrocht. 1536 Bewse *Meat. Land* A ij, Woodlande and fyldelande be not measured with perches of lyke and equale length. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 31 What champion wasteth, That woodland refuseth. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 567 In the midst of this Woodland standeth Covestrey. 1622 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xiii. 15 What is now the Woodland in Warwickshire, was heretofore part of a larger Weald or Forest, called Arden. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 88 There's no Field Champion-Land of that yearly value for either Corn or Pasture, as is the Wood-land. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 307 She to the Wood-land with an Exile ran. 1763 W. Roberts *Nat. Hist. Florida* 34 The number of marshes and woodlands prevented the horse from pursuing them. 1793 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 276 Tracts of woodland never yet cleared, but kept inclosed for a supply of fuel and timber. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. iv. I. 214 A hunting-seat of Queen Elizabeth,..when the neighbourhood was all woodland. 1867 'Ouida' *Cecil Castlemaine* i, The morning was fair and cloudless, its sunbeams piercing through the darkest glades in the woodlands.

b. *attrib.* Of or pertaining to woodland; used, situated, dwelling, or growing in woodland; consisting of or containing woodland; belonging to or characteristic of woodland; sylvan.

†*Woodland penny, silver* = *wood-penny, -silver*: see Wood *sb.*[1] 10.

Pro Wodlandpennez ejusdem ville. 1536 Bewse *Meat. Land* A ij, Two maner of perches, the woodlande perche and the fyldeland perche...The woodlande perche is commonly .xviii. foote in length. But in some places it is longer. 1577 Harrison *England* III. xii. 111 b/1 in *Holinshed*, Adders..are found only in our woodland countreyes and highest grounds. 1601 Shake. *All's Well* IV. v. 49, I am a woodland fellow sir, that alwaies loued a great fire. 1610 Horton *Baculum Geodet.* VI. iii. 264 The woodland measure of 18 foote in the pole. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 783 Adore the Woodland Pow'rs with Pray'r. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IX. 178 Rows'd by the woodland nymphs..The mountain goats came bounding o'er the lawn. 1798 Wordsw. *Tables Turned* iii, Come, hear the woodland linnet. — *We are Seven* iii, She had a rustic, woodland air. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* III. xiii, They came to a woodland brook. 1831 — *Quentin D.* Introd., In the more woodland districts of Flanders. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxv, Garments ..rather the worse for a fortnight's woodland travel. 1885 Tennyson *Maud* I. xii. ii, Gathering woodland lilies. 1877 Black *Green Past.* i, The secrecy and silence of the still woodland ways. 1879 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 68 The Woodland Caribou and the Barren-ground Caribou are the names given to a larger and a smaller breed in Canada. 1901 *Country Naturalist Thomas* 76 The [grey] partridge is becoming a woodland bird.

Hence **Wood·lander**, an inhabitant of the woodland; *occas.* an animal that lives in woodland.

1734 T. West *Antip. Fungers* (1805) 40 The woodlanders of High Furness were charged with the care of the flocks and herds. 1810 Wordsw. *Poems Wks.* (1876) II. 259 A few vassals following the employment of shepherds or woodlanders. 1887 Hagar (*title*) The Woodlanders. 1889 F. A. Knight *By Leafy Ways* 62 Another much calumniated woodlander, the badger.

Woodlark (wu·dlăk). Forms and etym.: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Lark *sb.*[1] A species of lark (*Alauda arborea*) which perches on trees; distinguished from the skylark by having a shorter variegated plumage, and a different song.

Gloss. *W. de Biblesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 164 *La* ...[*yelow wode-hathe*]. *c* 1320 *Moulinde* (Skeat) 208 ...nde of chalenedre and wodelarke. 1591 Turner *Preserv.* E 2 b, ...

...And frantickly ran woodly through the wood. 1725 R. *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, They sleapit me when woodly & id.

Woodman[1] (wu·dmăn). Pl. **woodman.** Forms and etym.: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Man *sb.*[1] (Cf. Woodsman.)

The meaning in the following is uncertain:—970 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 603 Fram hwitinghe to wudemannes tune. 1272 *Rot. Hundr.* II. 19 Johanni Wodeman.

1. One who hunts game in a wood or forest; a huntsman. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, *As of* þe maneres howe he shalde be vsed y passe ouere lightly, for þer is no wodeman nor good hunter in Inglonde, but þei ouen do it wele ynough. 1575 *Gentlem. Exerc.* H 8, There is a saying amonge hunters that he cannot be A gentleman which loueth not hawkinge and hunting, whiche I haue heard olde woodmen oft allowe. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* v. v. 30 Am I a Wi[illegible] deman, ha? Speake I like Herne the Hunter? 1626 Boys *Expos. Prophet Ps.* xlviii. 9 Wks. (1629) 935 Woodmen say that Deere are most circumspect in the pasture. 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* III, I have taken more Pains to single you out, than ever Wood-man did for a Deer. 1689 Scott *Last Minstrel* VI. vii, Conrad..Was by a woodman's lyme-dog found. [1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* xi. 85 He looked down with contempt upon the rangers, as..inexperienced woodmen, but little skilled in hunting lore.]

b. *fig.* or *allusively.*

1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) 47 He was not..so ill a Woodman as to giue ouer the chace at the first default. 1604 Shake. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 170. 1618 Fletcher *Chances* I. ix, I see ye are a wood-man, and can chuse Your deare. 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* II. i. 28 Has the old Cupid, your Father, chosen well for you? is he a good Woodman?

2. One who looks after the trees in a wood or forest; one who fells or lops trees for timber or fuel; also, one who provides or purveys wood.

1426 Lydg. *Do Gall. Pilgr.* 27745 Her ys a woode off lytel prys, Wych a woodeman selleth me. 1530 Palsgr. 289/2 Woodman that lyveth by sellyng wode, *bocquillon.* 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 519/2 *Dendrophori*,..woodemen or such as carrie wood about streetes to be sold. 1674 Milton *Comus* 484 Either som one like us night-founder'd here, Or els som neighbour Wood-man. 1726 J. Laurence *New Syst. Agric.* 229 Of the Aspen Tree our Woodmen make Hoops, Firewood, and Coals. 1820 Campbell *Beech-Tree's Petition* 2 Spare, woodman, spare the beechen tree. 1836 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. vii. 83 Bonsall and Petersen are now woodmen, preparing our daily fuel. 1873 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 230 Each half company providing a woodsmen, a waterman. 1903 Maud S. Rawson *Apprentice* 141 The oldest woodmen say that it takes a hundred years to grow a perfect oak for an English ship.

†3. A forester having charge of the king's woods.

1394 Cromptton *Jurisd.* 146 b, Annot quee sera Forest, le Roy coulent appointer certaine officers, ... keeper, Forester, Woodmen, Regardeu, Agistem. 1624 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xxi. (1615) 193 The forresters & woodmen did take no good regard to the forests.

†4. An inhabitant of the woods, a wild man, a savage; a person representing one in a pageant, or a figure of one in heraldry: = Woodwose. *Obs.*

1442 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 9 The fleschowaris sal fynd [for a play], twa or four wodmen. 1566 in J. Nichols *Comp.* [illegible]

Itin.

into subjection all the woodmen. 1660 J. Tatham *Royal Oake* 20 Several persons in the habit of Wood-men and Wood-Nymphs. 1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Woodman*, a name given by several Writers to the wild man, or savage.

5. A workman who makes something of wood, esp. the woodwork of a carriage.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 175/1 When the body is finished from the hands of the woodman, it passes into the hands of the carrier. 1908 *Advt.*, Wanted Coach Builders and Whe[illegible]rights. 2ds.

Hence **Wood·man(s)craft, Wood·mansship**, the business or skill of a woodman; †**Wood·manlike**, †**Wood·manly** *advs.*, in the manner of or befitting a woodman.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, If þe lorde will haue þe deere vadone, he þat he biddeth..shulde vnde hym þe moste wodemanly and cleanly þat he cane. And wonderth ye nought, bough y say wodemanly, for it is a poynte of wodemanscrafte. 1479 [see Woodale]. 1575 Gascoigne *Hearbes* 256 Gascoignes woodmanship written to the L. Grey of Wilton. 1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, You know what belongs to the Wood-manship, the Wardship, and Stewardship. *a* 1640 *Marr. Sir Gawaine* in Furnivall & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 106 The kyng in hys hand toke a bowe, And wodmanly he stoopp'd lowe. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* xxix, It were bad woodmanship to raise the hollo upon the game, ere it had been driven within compass of the nets. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 23 July 122/1 Colonel Fraser's political sagacity hardly seems on a par with his woodmanscraft. 1911 A. C. Benson *Reuben* v. 180 He was fond of woodmanship. His..hedging-gloves and his chopper were very characteristic signs of his presence.

†**Wood·man**[2]. *Obs.* Forms and etym.: see Wood *a.* and Man *sb.*[1] A madman, lunatic, maniac.

1297 R. Glouc. (*Rolls*) 3138 Hii wende as wodemen; hii wende hii were ywerne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Symon & Iudas*) 422 Wodmen..In quhame þe fendis pas can dwel. *Ibid.* xlix. (*Cristofore*) 285 Þe lingis,..Fore a wodman deany hym. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1351 He trampelid fast with his feet, & al to-tare his ere And his visage hoch, ryȝt as a woodman. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. xii. 432 Cryenge and rateynge hym as a wood man. 1812 J. Parfre *Candlemas-Day* in Marriott *Miracle-Plays* (1838) 200 Like as a wodman he gan to fray.

Woodmonger (wu·dmɔŋgəɹ). Now *rare* exc. *Hist.* Forms and etym.: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Monger *sb.* A dealer in wood; a timber-merchant, or (*esp.*) a seller of wood for fuel.

1260–1 *Cal. Wills Crt. Hustings, Lond.* I. (1889) 2 Robert le Wudemongere. 1272 *Ibid.* II. 247 William Wodemongere. 1464 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 567/2 Carpenters, Woodemongers and Colemakers. 1587 in *Archæologia* XXXVI. 91 Paide to Mr. Fermer, wodemonger, for a M and iii qrs. of billetts, xviij s. viij d. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, V. i. 69. 1609 Dekker *Raven's Alm.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 186 Winter, ..the friend to sans but Colliers and Woodmongers. 1630 Massinger *City Madam* II. i, Though The dishes were minted one upon another, As woodmongers do billets. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 213/4 The many great abuses committed by the Company of Woodmongers in the Sale..of Fuel. 1700 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. iv. v. 76/1 Two Woodmongers Wharfs for the Sale of Fuel. 1701 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 194 Vessels, such as the Wood-mongers, that is the Wharf Keepers, or Coal-Sellers furnished. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* II, These sturdy oaks had long since become the property of ...

woodmonger. 1908 W. G. Collingwood *Scandinavian Britain* 111 'Six score to the hundred' is still familiar to Lake District gardeners and wood-mongers.

Woo·dness. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: see Wood *a.* [OE. *wōdnes*: see Wood *a.* and -ness.]

1. Mental derangement, insanity, mania, frenzy, lunacy, craziness: = Madness 1.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 458 Þa ȝeaxode se cyning Pollmius be ðam witseocum menn, hu se apostol hine fram ðære wodnysse abredde. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvi. 24 Poul, thou maddist.. ; manye lettris turnen thee to woodnesse. 1492 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* v. xviii. (W. de W. 1496) 220/1 Yf a man in his woodnesse & rauynge slee man & woman or childe. 1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* III. (1593) 72 Drunken woodnes wrought by wine. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* (1634) 238 Wee yet retayne in some parts of England the word *wadnes* for furiousnesse or madnesse. 1637 Thornley tr. *Longus Daphnis & Chloe* 60 Their minds were struck with a kind of Woodnesse. 1803 W. S. Rose *Amadis* 128 Wrapt in imagin'd flames to woodness stung Deep in a roaring stream, she headlong sprung.

2. Extravagant folly or recklessness; vehemence of passion or desire; wildness, infatuation. Cf. Madness 2.

c 1000 in Assmann *Hom.* (1889) 60/212 Þa sæt he..tælende þone hælend..His wodnys wearð ȝewrecen awa þurh god. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1382 They callen loue a woodnesse or folye. 1387 [see Wood *a.* 8b]. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 76 A woode wisdom, and a wise woodenesse. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* II. viii. 90 Here is lufe with-outen meyknes, wodnes ful likynge. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* vi, Now perceyue I wel thy foly and grete wodenesse. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* II. I viij. It is extreme vodnes to doubt quhither thay ar to be kept haly or nocht. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 284 When their genitalles are full of seede they grow into woodnesse and rage of lust.

3. Violent anger, wrath, fury, rage; extreme fierceness, ferocity, savageness, cruelty. Cf. Madness 3.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 30 Þæt earme wif ȝelyfde his wælhreowum ȝeflaehte, and wearð mid maran wodnysse astyred. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vi. 2 Lord in thi wodnes argu me noght. *Ibid.*, Wodness or ire is a stirynge of mannys will, excitand to vengaunce. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* li. (*Paulus*) 704 Nero wes brocht In sa miekill wodnes of thocht, Þat he his awne modir gert sla. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 474 Heo ter hir clobus al in sunder, in a gret woodnesse. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 237 In her wodnes thei kyllid the bischop of Caunterbiry. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) R viij, You haue chased the bulle, and scaped his woodnes. 1550 Bale *Engl. Votaries* II. Q j, He fretted for wodenes, and was angry with himselfe. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 166 He proceeding in cruelty, and daily increasing his savage woodness against the Saints of God. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvi. xiii. 593 Wild and savage beasts..madded..with blind rage and woodnesse against one. 1825 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 I. 12 While I just girn out-by yonner, wi' perfect wudness when I think o' you..rinning down me, and ither men of genius. 1906 Doughty *Dawn in Britain* xiii. IV. 96 So woodness kindles his great heart, gainst Romans.

b. *fig.* Excessive violence or severity, 'fury' (of pain, or of inanimate things, as wind, fire, etc.).

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* II. 704 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 It doth noth awey all þe pyne, But all þe wodnesse for þe tyme. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2008 Þe fuerne wyndes, And the wodenes of waghes. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 81 His kechyn was a-fyre sodenly, and likly to perisah with wooddenes of fyre. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 189 Fayre flowres wherof the nynte parte faded by the wodnesse of the northe. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 209 The Lord of Wyndis, wyth wodenes, God Eolus, his bugill blew. 1587 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 227 No rage of drenching sea, nor woodenesse of the winde.

Wood-nymph.

1. A nymph of the woods; a superhuman being imagined as a beautiful maiden inhabiting woods; a dryad or hamadryad.

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* M ij b, The Woodnymphes likewise followed moste nicely tripping. 1634 Milton *Comus* 120 By dimpled Brook, and Fountain brim, The Wood-Nymphs deckt with Daisies trim, Their merry wakes and pastimes keep. 1667 — *P. L.* IX. 386 She..like a Wood-Nymph light Oread or Dryad..Betook her to the Groves. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxvii. Marble statues of wood-nymphs. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxvii, She possessed the form and hue of a wood-nymph, with the beauty of a sylph. 1867 Morris *Jason* I. 92 Then mayst thou find, In some fair grassy place, the wood-nymphs kind.

b. *transf.* (cf. Dryad 2 a, Nymph 2).

1780 Mrs Cowley *Belle's Stratagem* II. 1, The maxims you learnt among the wood-nymphs, in Shropshire, won't pass current here.

2. a. Name for certain species of humming-bird, esp. of the genus *Thalurania* (Gould). b. Collectors' name for moths of the genus *Eudryas*.

1861 Gould *Trochilidæ* II. Plates 93–107. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 462 The beautiful wood-nymph, *Eudryas grata*.

Wood-oil. A name for several oils or oily substances obtained from various trees: (*a*) from the East Indian *Dipterocarpus alatus* and other species (= Gurjun *balsam* or *oil*); (*b*) from the East Indian Satinwood, *Chloroxylon Swietenia*; (*c*) from the seeds of the Chinese Oil-tree or Varnish-tree, *Aleurites cordata* (also called *tung-oil*, from Chinese *yu-t'ung* or *t'ung-tzŭ-shu*, native names of the tree), used chiefly for varnishing woodwork. Also *attrib.*

1759 in A. Dalrymple *Oriental Repertory* (1793) I. 202 The Biraghmah Dominions yield Gold,..Earth-Oil, and Wood-Oil. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 93/1. 1842 W. Robinson *Assam* 62 The Dipterocarpus levis..yields the thin liquid balsam commonly known by the name of 'wood oil', and which is much used in painting. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 438 *Chloroxylon Swietenia* furnishes East Indian Satin-wood, and an oil called Wood-oil is obtained from it. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* IV. 1411 Tung-, Tree-, or Wood-oil..is a product of the so-called 'oil-tree' of China, Cochin China, and Japan. 1890 Hosie *Three Yrs. W. China* 18 The wood-oil tree..was scattered about among the fields.

‖ **Woodoo** (*wudū*·). Also 8 wodou, 9 wassoo, wudu. [Turkish *wazū*.] The minor ablution of the Mohammedans. Cf. Abdest.

1794 P. Russell *A. Russell's Hist. Aleppo* I. 194 The ordinary preparation for prayer, consists in washing the face, hands, and feet, and is termed Wodou. 1813 J. Forbes *Oriental Mem.* III. 124 Ablutions, called the wazzoo, preparatory to the namauz, or prayer. 1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* I. ii. 67 The father usually teaches his son to perform the *wooduo* and other ablutions. 1855 Burton *Mecca & Medinah* (1879) 56 The first thing on rising is to perform the Wuzu, or lesser ablution.

Woodos(e, -owes, var. Woodwose.

†**Woo·dpeck.** *Obs.* Also 6 -pyke. [app. alteration of Woodpecke after next.] = next, 1.

1552 Hulort, Woodepyka byrde, *picus.* 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 224 Certeyne byrdes..lyke vnto those which we caule woodwaules or woodpeckes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* x. xxix. I. 285 Men say that in the territorie of Tarentum there be no wood-pecks or tree-jobbers. 1694 Addison *Poems, Virgil's 4th Georg.* 19 Nor Wood-pecks, nor the Swallow harbour near. 1706 Gardiner tr. *Rapin's Gardens* (1728) 297 Wood-pecks, and various birds the trees invade.

Woodpecker (wu·dpeikəɹ). Also 7 -picker. [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + Pecke *v.*[1] + -er[1]. (Cf. the Gr. names δρυ(ο)κολάπτης, δρυοκόλαψ, δρυοκόπος, f. δρῦς tree + κολάπτειν to peck, κοπ- to strike.)]

1. A bird of the family *Picidæ*, esp. of the sub-family *Picinæ*, comprising very numerous genera and species found in most parts of the world; usually having variegated plumage of bright contrasted colours with various markings; characterized by their habit of pecking holes in the trunks and branches of trees.

1530 Palsgr. 289/2 Woodpecker a byrde, *espec.* 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 228 As the Wood-pecker, his long tongue doth lill Out of the clov'n pipe of his horny bill, To catch the Emets. 1604 Drayton *Owle* 192 The Woodpecker, whose hardned beake hath..pierc'd the heart of many a sollid Oke. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* V. 172 Numbers of small Birds..Wood-pickers. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 472 The Woodpecker..is a very beautiful bird; there is one sort whose feathers are a mixture of various colours; and another that is brown all over the body, except the head and neck, which are of a fine red. 1808 Moore *Ballad Stanzas* ii, I heard not a sound But the woodpecker tappling the hollow beech-tree. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1860) 184 In North America there are woodpeckers which feed largely on fruit. 1862 — *Orchids* iii. 127 As a woodpecker..climbs up a tree in search of insects. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 192 Woodpeckers nest in holes in trees.

b. With defining words, denoting various species.

The three British species are the Green Woodpecker (*Gecinus viridis*), the Pied or Greater Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus major*), and the Barred or Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (*D. minor*). Others are the Great Black Woodpecker (*Picus* or *Dryocopus martius*) of the northern parts of Europe and Asia, and many N. American species, as the Downy W. (*Picus* or *Dendrocopus pubescens*), the Golden-winged W. (*Colaptes auratus*), the Hairy W. (*Picus* or *Dendrocopus villosus*), the Pileated W. (*Hylotomus* or *Dryotomus pileatus*), etc. Several of these are locally known by special names, as Flicker, Hickwall, Ivory-*bill*, Log-*cock*, Popinjay, Sap-*sucker*, Witwall, Woodspite, Yaffle, etc. (see these words).

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 86 *Picus Martius*..the great Wood-pecker. 1731 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1754) I. 21 *Picus varius minor, ventre luteo.* The yellow belly'd Wood-pecker. 1788 Latham *Gen. Syn., Birds* I. 558 Red-necked woodpecker. The whole head and neck..are crimson. *Ibid.* II. 592 Yellow Woodpecker..less than our green Woodpecker: being only nine inches in length..is common at Cayenne. 1788–1800 [see Spotted *ppl. a.* 4 b]. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 129 The Black Woodpecker subsists on insects, which it catches on the bark of trees..It is able to pierce..hard trees, as the oak and hornbeam. 1808 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* I. 142 His tri-colored plumage..is so striking..that almost every child is acquainted with the Red-headed Woodpecker. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 602/2 The golden-winged, and the yellow-bellied woodpeckers..are also with us. 1898 Maria R. Audubon *Audubon & Frnds.* II. 51 Harris and Bell had gone shooting and returned with several birds, among which was a female Red-patched Woodpecker.

†2. *Cant.* At gaming, a bystander who encourages novices by putting up small stakes. *Obs.*

1608 Dekker *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* iii. D 2, He that winnes all, is the Eagle. He that stands by and Ventures, is the Woodpecker. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Woo·d-pigeon. Any of the species of pigeon that live in woods, as the stock-dove, *Columba œnas*, and (now esp.) the ring-dove, *C. palumbus*.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 77 *Columbus Cavernalis*..the Stock-dove, or Wood Pidgeon. 1743 Shenstone *Pastoral Ballad* II. v, I have found out a gift for my fair; I have found where the wood-pigeons breed. 1780 G. White *Selborne, Let. to Pennant* 30 Nov., As to the wild wood-pigeon, the *œnas*, or *winago*, of Ray, I..see no reason for making it the origin of the common house-dove; but suppose those that have advanced that opinion may have been misled by another appellation, often given to the *œnas*, which is that of stock-dove. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 217 Knots or bunches..formed by means of a plexus of young shoots,..apt to be mistaken..for a wood-pigeon's nest. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* 303 The forest is not Wood-pigeons and turtle-doves abound.

Woo·d-quest, -quist, -queest. Now *dial.* Also 6–7 -quyst(e, -coyst, 7 -quiste, -coist. [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + *quest, quist*, Quest.] = prec.

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* III. xvi. 109/2 Grated bread in the broth of a woodquyste. 1580 T. Newton *Approved Medicines* 85 b, Y^e stockdoose, or Woodquist. 1588 Batman *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XII. vi. 181/2 The Stock-doue or Wood-coyst. 1603 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 231 Ring-doues, or Wood-coysts. 1762 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 12 Dec. 2 Two Brothers being out a shooting Wood-quists. 1826 J. N. White *Poems* 28 The wood-quest wild. 1829 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, Wood-quist. 1877 *Hon. Miss Feilward* II. ii. 173 The woodquests' cooing formed a melodious bass.

Woo·d-reeve. Also 6 -ryfe, 7 -reefe, 8 -reef. [f. Wood *sb.*[1] 2 + Reeve *sb.*[1] 2.] The steward or overseer of a wood or forest.

1579 Twyne *Phisicke agst. Fort.* I. xlvii. 70 What is he now other then a Woodryfe, or Woodman? 1643 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Spent vpon our woodreefe for coming to giue vs notice of some abuses done to our wood. 1795 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIII. 218 Those [trees] that fail to form so desirable a shape as in the opinion of a judicious wood-reef is necessary. 1866 *Morn. Star* 6 Mar. 6/5 The case was proved by Wm. Goodhew, woodreeve to Miss Hayes. 1913 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 5 We are mostly shepherds and wood-reeves and thackers and foresters here.

†**Woo·d-rowel.** *Obs.* [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + Rowel *sb.*, in reference to the whorled leaves.] = next.

1568 Turner *Herbal* III. 94 Of wood rofe or wood rowell. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* 683 Woodrowell..is a good healer vp of wounds. 1908 *Engl. Dial. Dict., Wood-rowell*, sb. Obsol. Yks. The sweet woodruff, *Asperula odorata*.

Woodruff (wu·drŭf). Forms: 1 wudu-, wuderofe, -rife, 3 wuderoue, 4 woderowe, 4–5 -rove, 5 -rofe, wodrove, -roffe, -ruffe, 5–6 -rofe, 6 woodroue, -rowe, -rofe, -roof(*f*)e, 7 -rof, -rough, 7– -roof, (8 -rooff), 9 woodruff, (*Sc.* -riff, *arch.* wooderoofe, wood-ruffe). [OE. *wuduroſe*, f. *wudu* Wood *sb.*[1] + **roſe*, **rife*, of unknown meaning.] A low-growing herb (*Asperula odorata*, N. O. *Rubiaceæ*) found in woods in Britain and Europe generally, with clusters of small white flowers, and strongly sweet-scented leaves in whorls; also descriptively or distinctively called *sweet woodruff*. Also *attrib.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 28 Herba astula regia þæt is wudu rofe. *Ibid.* II. 64 Wiþ þære winestran sidan sare wudurifan ȝecnuwa on eced. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558/10 *Hastula regia, i. muge de bois, i.* wuderoue. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wo, when woderove springeth. *a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 191 Woderowe, *hastilogia*. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 566/20 *Astula regia*, woderofe. 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 81 Rose-garlondis and wodrove-garlondis. 1538 *Grete Herbal* xli. (1529) Civ, De astula regia. Woodroue. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccccxlvii. 966 In English Woodroofle, Woodrowe, and Woodrowell. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xv. (1794) 164 Shemrdia and woodroof have funnel-shaped corollas. 1824 Hogg *Tales & Sk., Priv. Mem. Fanatic* (1837) V. 83 Murder will out, though the Almighty should lend hearing to the ears of the willow, and speech to the seven tongues of the woodriff. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xix. 263 As a bunch of woodruff will sweeten a lumber-room.

b. Extended to other species of *Asperula*.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccclxvii. 965 There is another sort of Woodroofle called *Asperula Cærulea*, or blew Woodroofle. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 98/2 Woodroof...Some have blew, others purple coloured flowers. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* II. App. A. 260 Woodroof, a species of madder used as a red dye. 1865 *Sowerby's Engl. Bot.* (ed. 3) IV. 231 *Asperula Arvensis*...Blue Field Woodruff. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1236 Woodroof, or Woodruff.., Quinsy, *Asperula cynanchica*.

Woo·d-rush. [Rush *sb.*[1]] Any plant of the genus *Luzula*, comprising grass-like herbs allied to the rushes, with clusters of chaffy brown flowers.

The name belongs properly to the sylvan species, as *L. sylvatica* (Great Wood-rush, also called *wood-grass*); the common species *L. campestris* (Field Wood-rush) is better called *field-rush*.

1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem.* 213 Small hairy Wood-rush. 1857 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 209 *Luzula sylvatica* (Great Hairy Wood Rush). 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 170 The broad-leaved wood-rush, with its hairy leaves, may..be gathered in woods. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 188 Luzula albida..is a very graceful woodrush of a peculiar shade of light green.

Woo·d-sage. [Sage *sb.*[1]] A common name for Wood Germander (*Teucrium Scorodonia*), a labiate herb with dull greenish-yellow flowers, and leaves having a heavy aromatic smell like sage and a bitter flavour like hops.

1758 Hoblase *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 229 Wood-sage, *Salvia agrestis seu scorodonia*,..at St. Michael's Mount. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 519. 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estate* 91.

†**Woo·dsale.** *Obs.* [Sale *sb.*[2]] A periodical sale of wood or timber from an estate.

1479 in *Catal. Anc. Deeds* (1915) VI. 168 The said beches to be drawen on the saide grounde wodmanlyke after the custume of wodsale. 1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII*, c. 46 § 10 The said Maistre of the Wardes..shalhave auctorite..to make wood sales to the Kinges use of al underwoddis. 1562 Leigh *Surv.* (1577) D iv, Profites of woodsale, is where sometymes the Lord of a Mannour doeth make a yeerely sale of his woodes. *c* 1617 Bacon *Memorial* Wks. 1819 V. 485

What course shall be taken for the rest of the years with the wood sales for supply of this 25,000 *l.* yearly. 1586 in *Ymale. He. Comm.* XLIII. 622 Warrants for raising £2,000 ..by Wood Sales in Dean Forest.

attrib. 1609 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 243 A sort of lusty bil-men set In wood-sale time to sell a cope.

Wood-sear, -seer, -scere (wu·dsɪə·). Also 9 *erron.* -sour. *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + SERE *a.*]

1. A frothy exudation on plants, produced by an insect: = CUCKOO-SPIT[2] 1; also, the insect itself.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 72/1 *Attelabus*, .. the smallest sort of locustes that be wingless: ye woodseare. 1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* B ij, Such a warming, as shall make all his deuices as like wood, as his spittle is like wood-seere. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. viii. 39 Spiders, wormes, woodseere and other such like vermine. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 28 That spumeous froth or dew (which here in the North we call Cuckow-Spittle, and, in the South, Woodseer..) looks like a heap of glass-bubbles. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 135 Insects of mysterious birth ..Hid in knots of spittle white..' Wood seers' call'd, that wet declare, So the knowing shepherds say. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 535 The abundance of woodseare and honey dew on herbs indicates fine weather.

attrib. 1599 CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* lviii. C 2 b, I will not (as the creeping canker) waste thee, nor as the worm in wodsear time bespew thee.

2. The season in which a tree or shrub will decay or die if its wood be cut.

Erroneously explained as 'the season for cutting wood'.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 122 From Maie til October leaue cropping, for why? In wood sere, whatsoeuer thou croppest wil dy. *Ibid.* 129 The bushes and thorne..In woodsere or sommer cut downe to destroy. 1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* ii. 43 If wood be cutte after the sunne decline from vs till he come to the equinoctiall, (which time they call woodsere) it will neuer growe againe. 1612 FOLKINGHAM *Feudigr.* I. ix. 22 All sappie weedes cut downe in Woodseare, and often mowne againe.., their roots will putrifie and rotte. 1851 *Gloss. Essex* 14 *Woodsere*, decayed or hollow pollard, also the season for felling wood.

3. *attrib.* or *adj.* Applied to 'loose, spungy ground' (Lisle). Hence **Woo·d-seary** *a.*, in same sense.

1670 AUBREY in *Miscell. Cur. Subj.* (1714) 24 Let us imagine ..what Kind of Country this was..by the Nature of the Soil, which is a Soure, Woodsere Land, very natural for the Production of Oaks especially. *a* 1721 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 87 Chalk fills up the vacuities of sandy, or wood-seary ground. *Ibid.* 79 Cold, loose, hollow, wood-sear land. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. viii. (1762) 37 Chalk laid on sandy or wood-seary ground. 1821 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 112 The red strong land on the high level parts of the Downs, which was once woodland, and sometimes expressly called 'wood-sour land'.

† Woo·d-shaw. *Obs.* Forms and etym.: see WOOD *sb.*[1] and SHAW *sb.*[1]; also with gen. 4 **wodes-schawe.** A thicket: = SHAW *sb.*[1] 1 b.

c 1205 LAY. 21361 Halden ut of wude scaje scalkes swiðe kene. *a* 1300 *Thrush & Night.* 179 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1864) I. 57 Fowel, for thi false sawe, For bedd i the this wode shawe; Thou fare into the filde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 339 Whan sche under the wodeschawe Hire child behield. *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 73 And als he wente by a wodschawe [*v.r.* came by a lytell schawe] Pare mett he with a lyttill knaue. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7618 Then men myȝt se swerues drawe Thikkere then trees by wode-schawe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xii. 356 Sir Iamorak..rode vnto the forest, and there he mette with two knyghtes houynge vnder the wood shawe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 10 His navy derne amang the thik wod schaw.

† Woo·dship. *Obs.* [OE. *wódscipe*: see WOOD *a.* and -SHIP.] Madness; = WOODNESS.

c 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 245/12 *Furia, insania, amentia*, wodscipe, rebnes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 120 *Ira furor brevis est*: wreððe is a wodschipe. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 221 Leste þu wreoke ham on me i wodschipe of þine wreððe. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* XXXVI[II]. 8 Ende fram ire, and forsak wodeship. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. CXX. (1869) 62 Glotonye hath double woodshipe; woodshipe of savouring, and woodshipe of outrageous spekinge.

Woodshock (wu·dʃɒk). [app. popular alteration of a native form of WOODCHUCK (see WEJACK).] A North American species of marten or its fur: = FISHER 2 b, PEKAN.

1829 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 52 *Mustela Canadensis* (Lin.) The Pekan or Fisher ..Its skins are.. imported into England..under the names of Woodshocks or Fishers.

Woodside (wu·dsəid). Forms and etym.: see WOOD *sb.*[1] and SIDE *sb.*; also with gen. 4 **wodes-syde, 6 woodessyde.** The side or edge of a wood.

Chiefly in phr. with prep., as *by* or *under the* or *a woodside* = beside a wood; cf. BARNSIDE, ROADSIDE, WAYSIDE.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5734 Bi a wildrin wod side. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1024 (Camb.) His folk he dude abide Vnder wude side. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 139 Thai that in the wodsyde weir. *c* 1400 *Parce Michi* 382 in *26 Pol. Poems* 148 By dale, by doune, by wodes syde. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 210 So that ye wylle goo thys tyde Downe to the chapylle under the wood syde. 1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Woodes-yde, *oriere du bays*. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* vii. 28 They came to a lytyll woodsyde. 1638 CROMWELL *Sp.* 4 Feb. in *Carlyle*, I would have been glad to have lived under my woodside, to have kept a flock of sheep, rather than undertaken such a government as this. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* ccxlviii, Thus to some desert Plain, or old Wood-side, Dire Night-hags come. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 12 A buck, or male hare, is known by its..feeding farther from the wood-sides. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* ii. (1870) 47 You see a little withered old man by a wood-side opening a wicket. 1833 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 253 The woodside on the south is very swampy. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* XXXV, It will be as well for some of us to remain here; and, spreading our men along the wood-side, prevent the escape of the villains. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 425 The snow may be gone..except ..along fences and woodsides.

attrib. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 402 Like a babbling woodside brook. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 68 In the wood-side field.

Woodsman (wu·dzmən). Pl. **woodsmen.** (Chiefly *U.S.*) [f. *wood's* gen. sing. or *woods* pl. of WOOD *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]; cf. BACKWOODSMAN.] A man who inhabits, frequents, or ranges the woods, as a huntsman, sportsman, wood-cutter, etc. (cf. WOODMAN[1] 1, 2, 4); one acquainted with or accustomed to the woods.

1688 CLAYTON *Virginia* in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 122 There are abundance of brave Red Deer, so that a good Woodsman, as they call them, will keep a House with Venison. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 86 The Captain..told him..that he was but a sorry Woodsman, and that he would swing him but twice round and he should not guess the way out again. 1755 R. ROGERS *Jrnls.* (1769) 9 One company of woodsmen or rangers..to make excursions towards the enemy's forts. 1797 F. BAILY *Jrnl. Tour N. Amer.* (1856) 358 My companion..was an excellent woodsman; and I..trusted myself to his guidance, well knowing that he would not easily mistake the track. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* II. xiv, A wood-man thou and hast a spear, And couldst thou such an insult bear? 1825 — *Talism.* xxii, The low wail of a dog, ..which, as an experienced woodsman, he had no hesitation in recognising to be that of his own faithful hound. 1827 HOOD *Plea Midt. Fairies* xlvi, A merry Woodsman, clad in green, Stept vanward from his mates. 1875 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xvi, Rube was far too practical a woodsman to pass such a slot without inquiry. 1896 *N. Y. Weekly Witness* 30 Dec. 13/1 The woodsmen were going for the opposite party. 1901 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* vi, A veteran woodsman who had come to swamping in his old age.

Woo·d-sorrel. [Englishing of *sorrel de boys*, superseding WOODSOUR: see WOOD *sb.*[1] and SORREL *sb.*[1] (3 a): so called from the sour taste of the leaves, resembling that of sorrel.] The common name of *Oxalis Acetosella*, a low-growing woodland plant having delicate trifoliate leaves and small white flowers streaked with purple, appearing in spring.

1525 *Grete Herball* I. (1529) C vj, Alleluya, wood sorell or cocowes meate. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xliii. 502 Wood Sorrel is a lowe or base herbe, without stalkes. 1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 192, I took a good quantity of mithridate and wood-sorrel. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 166 Wood sorrel,..being boiled up with [milk], and coagulating, the whole is put into casks..and kept under ground to be eaten in winter [in Lapland]. 1888 T. W. REID *Life W. E. Forster* (ed. 2) I. ii. 42 The first appearance of cuckoo or swallow, of wood sorrel or anemone. 1899 R. BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* vii, Woodsorrel's pencilled veil.

b. Applied with defining words to other species of *Oxalis*; also in the West Indies to species of *Begonia*.

1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 201 The yellow wood sorrel, or *Oxalis corniculata*. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 49 The *Oxalis crenata*, or Notched Wood-sorrel, a tuberous-rooted esculent, cultivated in Peru under the name of Oca. 1858 A. IRVINE *Handbk. Brit. Plants* 754 *Oxalis stricta*,..Upright Yellow Wood-sorrel. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 787/2 Sorrel, wood, *Begonia acutifolia*.

† Woo·d-sour. *Obs.* Forms: see WOOD *sb.*[1]; 4–6 **-sour,** 5 **-sowr, -soure, -soour,** 6 **-sore, -sower.** [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + SOUR *sb.*, corresp. to ON. *skógarsúra* (*skóg* SCOGH, wood, *súra* sorrel), Da. *skovsyre*. Cf. (= sorrel) MDu. *suerkruyd, suerick*, Du. *suring*, WFris. *súrblêden* pl., G. *sauerampfer*, etc; and (= wood-sorrel) G. *sauerklee, sauerkraut*, Da. *surklever*, etc.] = prec.

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 20 *Alleluia*, i. wodesour. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 68 Panis cuculi alleluya, i. wodsour, is a treyfole growyng vnder buschez and berep white flourez, is a ful sour herbe. 1538 TURNER *Libellus, Oxys..a latinis dicitur trifolium acetosum, ab officinis Alleluya, vulgus etiam uocat Alleluya* wodsore, & cuckowes meat. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 74 Oxys ..should be called wod sour or sorell. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xliii. 503 This herbe is called..in English Woodsorel.. and Woodsower. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Woodsower is *Oxys*.

Wood-sour, erron. form of WOOD-SEAR.

Woodspeck (wu·dspek). *dial.* Also 6 **-spike,** 9 **-speck.** [See WOOD *sb.*[1] and SPECK *sb.*[3] Cf. WOODSPITE.] A woodpecker.

15.. Woodspecke [see SPECK *sb.*[2]]. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 25 Euery suche leafe or pricke [of juniper] is very like vnto ye ende of the tonge of an hucheil or wodspike. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIV. (1593) 330 On the head thereof were garlands store, And eke a woodspecke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXX. xvi. II. 399 As many as have about them the bill of a woodspeck when they come to take hony out of the hive, shall not be stung by bees. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Woodspack*, a woodpecker. 1885 [see WOODSPITE].

† Woo·d-spell[1]. *Obs.* [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + SPELL *sb.*[1] 3.] A spell or charm against danger in passing through a wood or forest.

1579 [see SPELL *sb.*[1] 3]. 1622 J. MASON *Anat. Serc.* 63.

Woo·d-spell[2]. *U. S.* [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + SPELL *sb.*[3] 2.] A spell or turn of work at piling or storing wood for fuel.

1864 WEBSTER, *Spell*..2. A gratuitous helping forward of another's work; as, a wood-*spell*. (U. S.) 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* XXXVII, It was in the winter of this next year that the minister's 'wood-spell' was announced. ..There was a certain day set apart in the winter, when every parishioner brought the minister a sled-load of wood. 1876 — *Poganuc P.* II. 12 The great wood-pile in the back yard, where, at the yearly 'wood-spell', the farmers deposited the fuel needed for the long..winters.

Woo·d-spirit. [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + SPIRIT *sb.* 3, 21.]

1. *Myth.* A spirit or imaginary being, fabled to dwell in or haunt woods.

1845 [C. H. J. ANDERSON] *Swedish Brothers* 4 The Nipen, or wood-spirit was..said to haunt these woods. 1877 [J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 184 The wood-spirits, *Lyeshie*, bear most resemblance in conception and character to Pan and the Satyrs. 1911 W. W. FOWLER *Relig. Experience Roman People* x. 235 Diana was a wood-spirit, a tree-spirit.

2. Crude methyl alcohol obtained from wood by destructive distillation.

1842 in Ure *Revenue in Jeopardy* (1843) 11 A sample of crude naphtha..the unrectified combustible liquid obtained from the distillation of wood,..imported from Scotland under the name of naphtha or wood-naphtha...It is named in Chemistry wood-spirit or pyroxylic spirit. 1854 ROWALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 367 Wood-spirit is used to some extent..in place of alcohol, in spirit-lamps. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 731/1 Methylic alcohol,..more popularly known under the several names of pyroligneous spirit pyroxylic spirit, wood spirit, wood alcohol, and wood naphtha.

Woodspite (wu·dspəit). Now *dial.* Also 6 **-specht,** 7 **-speight, -spight.** [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + SPEIGHT.] A woodpecker; *esp.* the Green Woodpecker, *Gecinus viridis*.

1555 GESNER *Hist. Anim.* III. *Avium* 680 Primum pici genus Angli spechtam & wodspechtam..nominant. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVII. x. II. 282 The roots must bee digged up in the night season, for feare that the Wood-speight or Hickway should see them: for in the day time the said bird would flie in their faces that carie it away, and be ready to job out their eyes. 1656 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* H 2, The coloured Woodspite runs along the trees. 1818 REYCE *Brev. Suffolk* (1902) 45 Others, whose notes I cannott commend.., as the Cookow, the Jay, the wood spight, the owle. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 249 The Green Woodspite or Wood-pecker is called the Rain-Fowl in some parts of the country. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 99 Green Woodpecker...Wood spite (Norfolk). Wood spack (Norfolk; Suffolk).

Woodsy (wu·dzi), *a. U.S.* Also **-ey.** [Irreg. f. *woods*, pl. of WOOD *sb.*[1] (see 9 g) + -Y[1]; formed thus for distinction from *woody*.] Of, pertaining to, characteristic or suggestive of the woods; sylvan.

1861 WHITTIER *Cobbler Keezar's Vision* vi, Woodsy and wild and lonesome, The swift stream wound away. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* XXXVII, [We] ran..about the piles of wood..with a joyous satisfaction. How fresh and spicy and woodsy it smelt! 1883 *Longm. Mag.* II. 78 Their songs have the delicacy and wildness of most woodsey forms. 1900 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 367 There was a deep, woodsy stillness everywhere.

Woodwall (wu·dwɔl). Now *dial.* Forms: 3 **wude-,** 3–5 **wodewale,** 5 **-woll, wodwale,** 6 **wode-, woodw(h)ale, -waule, -weele,** 7 **-wal, woodhall,** 6– **woodwall.** See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [ME. *wodewale*, ad. or cogn. w. MLG. *wedewale* (early Flem. *widewael* 'oriolus') f. *wede* WOOD *sb.*[1] + **wale* of obscure origin. (Cf. WITWALL, and, for sense 2, HICKWALL.)]

†**1.** A singing bird: in early quots. of uncertain identity, but prob. (as later) the Golden Oriole, *Oriolus galbula*, which has a loud flute-like whistle: = WITWALL 1. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1059 (Cott. MS.) Þrusche & þrostle & wudewale [*Jesus MS.* wodewale] An fuheles bobe grete & smale. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 26 The wilde laveroc ant wolc ant the wodewale. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 166 Escoter la note de l'oriol [*gloss* a wodewale]. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 658 In many places were nyghtyngales, Alpes, fynches, and wodewales, That in her swete song deliten. *Ibid.* 914 With popyniay, with nyghtyngale, With Chalaundre, and with wodewale. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 83 On fresh braunches syngith the wodwale. *a* 1600 *Robin Hood* ii. in Child *Ballads* III. 91 The woodweele sang, and wold not cease, Amongst the leaues a lyne. *a* 1630 *Leger & Grine* 922 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 383 The throstlecocke, the Nightingale, the lauerocke & the wild woodhall. 1687 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 24 That Bird which Holerius calls Galbula, that is Woodwall. *a* 1667 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* (1671), Witwall vel Woodwall,..*galbula*.

2. A woodpecker; *esp.* the Green Woodpecker, *Gecinus viridis*: = WITWALL 2.

In quot. 1489 tr. OF. *bruhier* buzzard.

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xliv. 173 But men saye in a comyn langage that 'neuer noo wodewoil dyde brede a sperhawke'. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 224 Byrdes..somewhat lyke vnto those which we caule woodwaules, or woodpeckes. 1566 *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 15 § 2 For the Head of everie Woodwall Pye Jaye Raven or Kyte, one peny. 1825 *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. 185 [The Green Woodpecker] is called in different parts of England by the various names of Woodspite,..Woodwall, and Poppinjay. 1916 J. R. HARRIS in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 222 In Devonshire a common name for the bird is Woodall.

Woodward (wu·dwəd), *sb. Hist.* Forms: see WOOD *sb.*[1]; also 6 **wodwarte,** 7 **wooddard.** [Late OE. *wuduweard*, f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + WARD *sb.*[1] Survives as a surname in the forms *Woodward* and *Woodard*.] The keeper of a wood; an officer of a wood or forest, having charge of the growing timber.

c 1050 *Rect. Sing. Pers.* § 19 (Liebermann 432) Wuduweardæ ȝebyreð ealc windfylled treow. 1290 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 26/1 Wodewardos & proprios Forestæ as Ministros Iloscorum sucorum predictorum. 1324–5 *Ibid.* 422/2 Le Wodeward Sire Johan de Brakenbery. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 Wodewarde, or walkare in a wode for kepynge, *lucerius*.

1495 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 466/1 The Office of Woodwarde within the Countie of Caernarvan. 1563 Bp. SANDYS in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxv. 356 [He] is now my tenant and my bailiff and woodward of my mannour. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 33/43 A Wodwarte, *saltuarius*. 1619 T. CLAY *Chorol. Disc.* 25 The Wood-ward is..an Officer of Charge, vnto whose care and trust, the custodie of the Lords Woods, and Receipt of the profits arising out of the same, are chiefly committed. 1638 WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 209 The wooddards greene with Tyrian dye was dight. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worc.* (Worc. Hist. Soc. Proc.) I. 454 Heerevppon dyd the Byshop of Worcester appoynt hys servant to bee hys woodward in Wenlond, and within the chase of Maluern. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 119. 4/1 James Worseley, Esq.; is made Woodward of the New Forest. *a* 1720 LESLIE *Husb.* (1757) 362 My woodward assures me, that windy weather makes the sap rise much sooner in trees than it would otherwise do. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 20 The first officer [of the New Forest], under the lord-warden, is the woodward..Under the woodward are twelve regarders. 1871 *Daily News* 21 Sept., The under-keeper of the Loughton and Theydon Walks, gave evidence..that the .Lord of the Manor of Loughton had enclosed a thousand acres of the public land,..and that his woodward..had cut down several thousand trees.

¶ Used for WOODWOSE.

1488 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scot.* I. 82 A wodward of gold with a dismant. 1552 *Huloet's Dict., Corpus*, a beast in face like a Satyre, or woodward. 1566 in J. Nichols *Comp. Ironmongers* (1866) 90 Hewe Watts and Xpofer Beckes, Wadwardes, or Ivemen.

b. As the title of an officer of the 'Ancient Order of Foresters'.

1886 *Rules Court No. 2091 Foresters* No. 22 The Woodwards shall visit the sick members..once a week.

Hence †**Woo·dwardship**, the office of woodward.

1408 in *1st Dep. Kpr.'s Rep.* 700 [The] Wodewardships [of the commotes of Penthlyn and Thalepont, Merionethshire]. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 379/1 The Office of Keping of the Parke of Haseley, with the Wodewardship. 1586–7 in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1886) 242 Mr. Inkpen..sold him the woodwardship of that manor for 33/4. 1849 in *Proc. Ho. Comm.* XLIII. 389/1 The..best Ship Timber there within the Wood-Wardship of Cesar Robert, Esquire.

Woodward, **-wards** (wu·dwɒ̈d(z)), *adv. rare.* [f. WOOD *sb.*1 + -WARD(S.] Towards or to the wood. † *From the woodward*: away from the wood.

1622 Lady M. WROTH *Urania* 238 An other Lady..running from the Wood-ward. *a* 1649 J. C. MAGGAN *Poems* (1859) 371 Rary rode woodwards. 1823 N. GALE *Country Muse* Ser. II. 9 When the bush..brings the pigeons woodward.

Woodwarden. *rare.* [f. WOOD *sb.*1 + WARDEN *sb.*1] = WOODWARD *sb.*

1748 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* (1903) III. 205 That some of the Woodwardens go and view y^e^ wood blown down.

Woodware (wu·dwēə). [f. WOOD *sb.*1 + WARE *sb.*3] Articles made of wood, collectively.

1839 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 326 Ironmongery, matches, ..hatchets, woodware, and nails. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Random Illus.* 49 'And what is there at Chesham?' 'Woodware. They make chairs, and bats, and..toy spades.'

Woodwax (wu·dwæks). ? *Obs.* Also 6 wodwesse, -wosse, 9 *dial.* woodwish, etc. [OE. *wuduweaxe*, f. *wudu* WOOD *sb.*1 + **weaxe*, presumably f. Teut. *waxs-* to grow, WAX *v.*1] = WOODWAXEN.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 66 Wudu weaxe & hexerlfe gecnuwa þa togædere. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 85/33 Wodwesse, *glastum*. *Ibid.* 175/37 Wodwosse, *glastum*. *a* 1667 SIR W. PETTY in Sprat *Hist. Royal Soc.* 296 The Yellows are Weld, Wood-wax, and old Fustick. *a* 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 49 In Bradon Forest growes very plentifully rank wood-wax. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 241 Green-weed or Wood-wax. 1804 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 486 *Wudwaxe*, a yellow flower, which grows on bad land, and has a bitter taste. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II. 435 The wood-wax and gorse are very abundant.

Hence **Woo·dwaxer**, one who gathers woodwax.

1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 77 Our poorer people..used to collect it by cart loads..; and the season of 'woodwaxen' was a little harvest to them:..the old woodwaxers tell me that [etc.].

Woodwaxen (wu·dwæksən). Forms: 4–5 wodewexen, 6–9 woodwaxen, 9 wood-waxen. [app. oblique case of OE. form of WOODWAX (*wuduweaxan*) taken as nom. The form *woodwaxen* is due to association with WOAD.] The plant dyer's broom or greenweed, *Genista tinctoria*.

1367 *Close Roll 41 Edw. III*, m. 9 *dorso*, Tercia pars tocius comoditatis..tam in denariis quam de subbosco & wodewexen. *a* 1400 *Old Usages Winchester* in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 358 Euerych a cert y-lade w^t^ wader, þ^t^ comeþ to selle, twey pans;..Also, y cart y-lade w^t^ wodewexen to selle, fowre pans. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 51 The Marigolde of Manardus is called Lysimachia...Woodwaxen [*glastum*]..groweth in Medowes and Pastures like to Broome. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. viii. 667 Of base Broome or Woodwaxen. 1640 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 46. 1820 [see WOODWAXEN above]. 1881 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 236.

Woodwork, wood-work (wu·dwɜ̈k).

1. †**a.** A piece of work in wood; an article made of wood, or such articles collectively. *Obs.*

1530 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 126, I give vnto my sonne Edmund Bacon all my plate,..bandinge, wood worke, hounhold stuffe, and furniture. 1682 GREW *Museum* II. I. ii. 392 With these, all the turn'd Wood-Works in India and China are wrought and burnished. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 37 Wood-works, such as Pater-Nosters, Button-Molds, Toys, &c. *c* 1750 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 342/2 The acknowledged skill of her ancient artizans in wood-works.

b. (without *pl.*) Work in wood; *esp.* those parts or details of a manufactured object or artificial structure which are made of wood; the wooden part of something.

1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. 205 If we could suppose this mill to have a power..of repairing all the parts that were worn away, whether of the wood-work or of the stone. 1795 *Farm. Dict. s.v. Plough*, This depends much upon the Truth of the Iron Work, and therefore it is best the Plough should rather be accommodated to the Iron,..the Wood-work being easily alter'd. 1827 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 6/1 A groin is a frame of wood-work, constructed across a beach. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. vii, That long cupboard over the woodwork of the mantelpiece. 1882 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. xxxviii. 178 Some of the woodwork of the benches was..torn from its place.

†**2.** A grove or plantation artificially laid out.

1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 28 A large Woodwork cut into a Star, with a circular Alley.

3. a. Work done at cutting wood. *nonce-use.*

a 1861 T. WHITNASH *Life in Open Air* xii. (1863) 94 We..chopped at the woods for fuel. Speaking for myself, I should say that our wood-work was ill done.

b. Work done in wood, as carpentry.

1913 *Board Educ. Rep. Pract. Work Secondary Sch.* 84 Syllabus of wood-work for country or small isolated Schools.

So **Woo·dworker**, (*a*) a worker in wood, one who makes things of wood; (*b*) a machine for working in wood (= JOINER *sb.* 3); **Woo·dworking**, the action of working in wood, the manufacture of wooden articles (also *attrib.*); †**Woo·dworkman** = *woodworker* (*a*).

1639 in Marshall *Edmonstone Rec.* (1891) 32 Geo. Wightman..a woodworkman. 1872 J. RICHARDS (*title*) A Treatise on the construction..of Wood-working Machines. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 418/1 *Cabinet-file*, a smooth, single-cut file, used in wood-working. *Ibid.* 2813/2 *Wood-worker*, for different kinds of work. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 72 We stroll through the woodworking-shops, where nothing is done by hand that can be done by machine. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss. s.v.*, In the coach-making trade wood workers consist of wheel-makers, body-makers ..., and carriage-makers.

†**Woo·dwose, woo·dhouse**, *sb. Obs.* (exc. *Hist.*). Forms: 1 wudewæsa, 4 wodwos, (-wysse), 4–5 wodewose, 4–6 wodwose, 5 wodwose, (-wous(e, -woys, -wosh(e, -wysshe, wodewyse), 5–6 woodwose, -wyse, 6 -wose, *pl.* wodys, vodys. β. 5 woodowes, 6 wodowes, woodos(e, wodehouse, -howse, wood(e)hous(e. [Late OE. *wudewósa*, f. *wudu* WOOD *sb.*1 + **wósa* (of obscure origin).] A wild man of the woods; a savage; a satyr, faun; a person dressed to represent such a being in a pageant.

Sometimes taken for or construed as *pl.*

a 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 108/22 *Satiri, vel fauni,.. uel fauni ficarii*, unfæle men, wudewæsan, unfæle wihtu. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 721 Sumwhyle wyth wormes he werres,..Sumwhyle wyth wodwos, þat woned in þe knarres. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 281 þis Breusteres douhtur..tolde þe folk as wodewose wilde Who gat on hire þis forseyde childe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. xix. (Tollem. MS.) Perin [*sc.* in Africa] ben satires, wodewoses, tigris, and oþer horrible bestes. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3817 Alle vnwyse wodewyse he wente at þe gayneste. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 7697 [4737] In *Anglia* XII. 616 Partanope hath now forsake The wodwous [*v.rr.* wodwoys, wodwose, wodwosse] lyfe. 1480 CAXTON *Chron.* (Rolls) 257 The Kyng of Fraunce daunsed in his halle with iiii knites, and was arayed lich a wodwous. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* xxii, A wodewose named Satyre. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 109 Woode woose be vpward nostreled, *Satyri sunt sili.* 1555 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 96 Men lyke wodys alle in gren. 1586 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 15 A wodewose, *satyrus*.

β. *a* 1509 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 231 Fourthly came..the Erle of Essex..w^t^ a woodhous preceding, and beryng a Sere tre. ? 1525 FITZHERB. *Husb.* Colophon, Emprynted at London in Southwarke, at the sygne of the wodowos. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 9 b, These beastes were led with certayne men appareiled like wilde men, or woodhouses. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* Pref. A iij, Some wente naked, some romed lyke woodoses, none did anye thing by reason. [1831 ASHPIN *Anc. Customs* etc. *English* 251 The savage men, or wodehouses, as they are sometimes called, frequently made their appearance in the public shows. 1866 J. NICHOLS *Comp. Ironmongers* 86 *note*, The engravings..represent ivy-men or wood-wards, characters introduced in the pageants..of that period [*c* 1515]. They were sometimes called woodhouses.]

b. A figure of such a being, as a decoration, a heraldic bearing or supporter, etc.

1358 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 465 Item j. botoner de roses, pris xl *s.* Item j. botoner de wodewoses, pris *c s.* 1382 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 121 Lectum..broudatum cum signis de wodewose. *a* 1460–90 *Wars Alex.* 1340 A vestoure ..Wrost full of wodwose & oþer wild bestis. 1498 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) IV. 133 Sex cochlaria optima arg[entea] cum wodwoshes.

β. 1493 *Will of Feld* (Somerset Ho.), Dozen spones of silver with woodowes on thende. 1513 in *Archæologia* LXVI. 347 A Counterpoint of woodehouse lyned w^t^ canvas. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 49, vj Sponys with woodos gylt. [1910 F. BOND *Misericords* 26 The wodehouse is a very common supporter in heraldry. 1910 *Archæologia* Ser. II. XIX. 21 Three woodhouses; between crosses.]

Hence †**Woo·dwose** *v. intr.*, to run wild.

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 274 Ho is wodore þen þat mon þat muche skile and reson con..And goþ siþen wod wexande!

Woody (wu·di), *a.* Forms: 4 wodi, 4, 6 woddy, 6 woddye, wood(d)ye, 6–7 woddie, wood(d)ie, 6–8 wooddy, 6– woody. [f. WOOD *sb.*1 + -Y 1.]

I. 1. Covered or overgrown with wood; having a growth of trees or shrubs; full of or abounding in woods or forests; wooded.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 492 In a woddy glen. 1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xiii. 20 The erthe, fat, or lanyn, wodi, or with outen trees. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* iv. (1874) 27 Such heathy, woddy, and moory ground, as is vnfruteful for corne or pasture. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 33 Whence as he to those woodie hils did flie. *a* 1672 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 234 The said mannour was in antient time, when 'twas wooddy, a stall or den for wild boares. 1768 GIBSON *Decl. & P.* xiii. IV. 230 A small woody island. 1796 [see WOODINESS 2]. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* viii. I. 305 The woody mountain tracts. 1842 HOWITT *Ger. & Dom. Life Germany* 251 As we approached, the hills..became wilder and woodier. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XVII. 7 The rose-hung lanes of woody Kent.

¶ **b.** Bushy.

1609 *Bible* (Douay) 2 Kings xvii. 10 They made them statues..under everie thicke woddie tree [Vulg. *omne lignum nemorosum*].

†**2.** Belonging to, inhabiting, or growing in woods or woodland; sylvan. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 18 The wooddy Nymphes, faire Hamadryades. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkewormes* 14 The beards of woody outlawes fell. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict. Earth* vii, A grassie hillock..With woodie primroses befrecked. 1635 J. S. *Bonarelli's Filli di Sciro* I. v. 20 Some woody Deity.

b. Of, pertaining to, or situated in a wood.

a 1721 PRIOR *Colin's Mistakes* i, To Wimpole's woody Shade his Way he sped. 1809 COLERIDGE *Three Graves* 495 Deep in a woody dell. *a* 1840 JOANNA BAILLIE *Verses Kirtled Spring* 17 The woody nook where bells of brighter blue Have clothed the ground. 1911 Mrs. H. WARD *Case Rich. Meynell* xiv. 288 As they neared the end of the woody path, he looked up again.

II. †**3.** Made of wood, wooden. *Obs. rare.*

a 1540 BARNES *Images* Wks. (1573) 346/1 Stony & wooddy Images. 1563 *Mirr. Magr., Hastings* xx, In pryson pent, whose woddye walles to passe Of no lesse peryll than the dying was.

4. Of the nature of or consisting of wood; of or belonging to the wood as a constituent part of the plant; ligneous.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xvi. § a. 27 Salt Marsh Spike grasse hath a wooddie tough thicke roote. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Elem. Nat. Philos.* ix. (1754) 33 Herbs are those plants, whose stalks are soft, and have nothing woody in them. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* 804 *Shrubby*, somewhat woody, as the stems of the Rose. 1846 *Zoologist* IV. 1282 The small roots of rose-bushes..sometimes produce rounded, warty, and woody knobs, inhabited by..gall-insects. 1859 DAWSON in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XV. 630 Leaves..strengthened by nerves..composed of scalariform and woody tissues. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 87 Fibrous and woody elements..exist in varying proportions in all vegetable foods.

b. Of a plant: Of which wood is a constituent part; forming wood; having the stem and branches of wood; *woody plant*, a tree or shrub, as distinguished from a *herb*; *spec.* in distinctive names of particular species, as *woody nightshade*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lvii. 398 Some Herboristes of Fraunce do cal it *Solanum lignosum*, that is to say, Wooddy Nightshade. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 48 Hardly to be called herbaceous; it is rather hard and wooddy. 1832 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 99 The most northern woody plant..known is a kind of Willow, *Salix arctica*. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* July 307 Cinquefoil, grows woodier.. from its..upland situation.

c. Resembling wood; having the texture or consistence of wood.

tougher, or, in the language of the colliers, more 'woody'. 1871 *Yng. Gentleman's Mag.* Mar. 132 An immense woody shell as large as a baby's head..hanging on one of the lower branches of the very tree on which I was sitting.

5. Pertaining to or characteristic of wood; resembling that of wood; having some quality (*e.g.* the smell) of wood.

1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 46 A piece of oak,..which, ..exposed to the sun and rains for a century,..yet smells woody. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xi. 100 Apples..Their substance is as hard as their flavour is woody and sour. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* XII. 782 The gripping woody bite [of an arrow]. 1900 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Isle of Unrest* IX. Clean woody odours.

b. Having a dull sound like that of wood when struck.

1875 R. H. R. *Rambles in Istria* 30 A good campanile.. .ith two sweetly toned bells—why is it that ours are always so unmusical and woody? 1877 *Hon. Miss Forward* I. vii. 241 A little cottage piano, woody and dull of tone.

Woody, variant of WIDDY.

Wood-yard. Forms and etym.: see WOOD *sb.*1 and YARD *sb.*1 A yard or inclosure in which wood is chopped, sawn, or stored, esp. for use as fuel. Also *transf.* (quot. 1774).

1329–29 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 7 In j meuri empt. pro le Wodyard, xj*d*. 1537–8 *Privy Purse Exp. Princ. Mary* (1831) 54 Item to the Squillery, v]*s*. Item to the saw-pits. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Sept. 1676, Over against his Majesties wood yard. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 266 Their wood-yards are larger or smaller, in proportion to the number in family; and..the usual stock of timber, for the accommodation of ten heaven, consists of about thirty feet in a square surface, and ten in depth. 1889 LANDOR in *Life*

(1892) I. v. 62 There is no wood to be had from the College woodyard. 1899 Jarman & Rees *Brittany* 268 We begged permission of the barren proprietress of a woodyard, to pitch our tent among her heaps of timber.

†Woodyer. *Obs.* In 5 **wodyere.** [OE. *wudi(g)ere*, f. *wudian* to cut wood: see -IER. Cf. WOODER.] = WOODMAN 1 2.

a 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 139/32 *Calones*, wudieras. *Ibid.* 150/32 *Calones*, wudigeras. c 1450 *Voc.* in *Anglia* III. 246 A wodyere that sclale me..wode in his foreste. 1860 *Sussex Weekly Advert.* 29 Nov. in *N. & Q.* (1910) 11th Ser. II. 389 To Be Sold Eight acres..of Underwood...Apply to James Wratton..the woodyer, who will shew the wood.

Wooed (wūd), *ppl. a.* [f. Woo *v.* + -ED 1.] That is courted by a lover. Also *absol.*

1882 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* Pref. B 2 b, The wooed woman not to be by anie meanes counted or accused in marriage. 1891 Le Gallienne *Retrosp. Rev.* (1896) I. 23 A wooer at a certain hot moment entreats the wooed: 'Will you, I ask once more, show your belief in me by letting me encircle you with my arm?'

Wooer (wū·ər). Forms: 1 **wogere**, 3, 5 **woware**, 4–5 **wowere** (4 **wouwere**), 4–6 **wower**, 5–6 *chiefly Sc.* **wowar**, 5 **woar**, *Sc.* **wowsir**, 6 *Sc.* **wawar**, 6–8 **woer**, 6– **wooer**. [OE. *wógere*, f. Woo *v.* + -ER 1.] One who woos a woman, esp. with a view to marriage, a suitor; *rarely* a woman who woos a man. Also in fig. context.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xvii. 157 Sume hi wyrcað heora wogeram drencas..þæt hi hi to wife habbon. c 1050–80 *Rule of Chrodegang* lii. (1916) 64 Þonne wite þu þæt hi beoð wogeras swiðor þonne preostas. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 90 Ich am woware scheomeſiſ. Ich nulle nouware bichuppe mine leofmon bute ine stude derne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 71 Ȝe faren lyke þise woweres, þat wedde none wydwes but forte welde here godis. a 1395 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xliv, That it myghte come to theffecte of true spousage he hathe suche gracyous spekynges this maner of a wower to a chosen soule. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol. 196 Traist nocht all talis that wantoun woweris tellis. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 73 He vnto hir a goodly tale began, More like a wooer, than a wedded man. 1633 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* 88 He compares God to a Woer, the Angell to a sollicitour, and Mary to the beloved. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8 Now, Woer, quoth he, wou'd ye fight down I'll gie ye my doghter's love to win. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* v, She were fittest Valentine in Perth for so craven a wooer. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. xvi, Mr. Bounderby went..to Stone Lodge as an accepted wooer. 1869 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xviii. 44 'Love at first sight' is no uncommon thing when Jesus is the wooer.

b. *transf.* of the lower animals.

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 126 b, If shee haue not been horsed before, she will so beate her woer, yᵗ [etc.]. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 236 It is not always the males [sc. butterflies] who are the wooers.

c. *Comb.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 300 To crowd In amorus voce and wowar soundis lowd. 1785 Burns *Hallowe'en* iii, The lads sae trig, wi' wooer-baba. 1825 Jamieson, *Wooer-bab*..the garter knotted below the knee with a couple of loops, formerly worn by a young man who was soo sheepish so announce in plain terms the purpose of his visit.

Woof (wūf), *sb.*1 Forms: α. 1 **owef**, 3 **of**, 4–5 **oof**, 4, 6 **ofe**, 5 **offe**, 6 **owfe**, 7 **oufe**. β. 6–7 **woofe**, **wouf(e**, (6 **wolfe**, **wowfe**, 7 *pl.* **woovis**), 7–8 **wooff**, (8 **wooft**, **whoof**), 7– **woof**. [OE. *ðwef* (later *ðwef*), f. *ð* + *wefan* to WEAVE. (Cf. the later parallel formation *dweb*, *dweb* ABB.) ME. **owf*, *oof* became *woof* partly by association with WARP *sb.* in *warp and (w)oof*, or with WEFT.]

1. The threads that cross from side to side of a web, at right angles to the warp: = WEFT *sb.*1 1.

α. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 467 *Cladica*, west uel owef. c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 364/23 *Cladica*, west, oððe owef, oððe claudica. c 1200 *MS. Bodl.* 730 ff. 145/1 *Subtemen*, of. 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xiii. 47 A wollun clooth, or lynnen, that hath a lepre in the oof, or in the werpe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xi. (1495) 2a iv b/1 The spynner..begynnyth fro the mydyll poynt & gooth rounde abawte the ofe. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 628/1 *Subtegmen*, [*glos* warpel, *sic quoque stamen*, [*gloss* offe]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 362/1 Oof, threde for webbynge, *texus*. 1530 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 35 b/a The warpe, *stamen*. The ofe, *subtegmen*. 1599 Minsheu *Sp. Dict.* s.v. *Lino*, The owfe or thread of linnen. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 337 To spoole, winde quils, lay his warpe, shoot oufe.

β. 1530 Tindale *Lev.* xiii. 48 Whether it be in the warpe or woffe of the lynen or of the wollen. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 257/25 Vᵗᵉ Woofe of a web, *subtegmen*. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 846 As it is in the Warpe, and the Woofe, of Textiles. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Pt.* xv. 2 Such, as through whose whole lives godliness runneth, as the Woof doth through the Warp. 1724 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 188 The Workmen shall not make Use, neither in the Warp or the Woof, ..of any Yarn of a different Quality. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 324 Threads thrown across by the shuttle are called the woof. 1802 Joanna Baillie *1st Pt. Ethwald* III. iv, But tell them, British matrons cross the woof With coarser hands than theirs. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 76 In a web the warp is stronger than the woof.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context, often in collocation with *warp*.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* I j, To..wrappe vp his filowarpes woofe with so euill a liste. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* M 2, The proces of that Oration, was of the same and thrid with the beginning. 1607 W. Hawkins *Apollo Shroving* 2. I. 8 Where euery English thread is enterlac'd with a lillicke woollen woofe of strange wordes. 1737 Gray *Bard* II. i, Weave the warp, and weave the woof, The winding sheet of Edward's race. 1849 [see Warp *sb.*1 2 b].

1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xix, That commerce of feigned and preposterous admiration which..made the woof of all learned intercourse. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. 29 The woof of self-interest is so cunningly interwoven with the warp of righteous feeling that very few of us can tell where the threads cross.

2. Thread used to make the woof; also in vague poetical use.

1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* I. iii. (1541) 3 b, To warpe, or els wynd spindels in a case, for to throw wofe of. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* II. iii, The old wife shee spun the woufe. 1634 Milton *Comus* 83 First I must put off These my skie robes spun out of Iris Woof. 1638 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 388 Thair suld be no woovis wovin of townis folkis thairin. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 244 Iris had dipt the wooff. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* xi, Did I weave these visions from the woof of my madness?

3. A woven fabric, esp. as being of a particular texture: = WEFT *sb.*1 3; also, the texture of a fabric. Often *transf.* or *fig.*

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 74 That woof and plight that the whole tickliſh frame of worldly beings are wheel'd into at such a tide of day [*viz.* dawn]. *Ibid.* 74 That we can sometimes force bodies to close with the woof or tenor of the whole. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 164 To spread the pall beneath the regal chair Of softest woof. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* III. 40 Curious woofs of beauteous hue. 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* XIX. 173 A robe..of subtlest woof. 1811 Scott *Don Roderick* II. xxiv, Flames dart their glare o'er midnight's sable woof. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 232 There was an awful rainbow once in heaven: We know her woof, her texture. 1826 Joanna Baillie *Martyr* II. iii, The very spider through his circled cage Of wiry woof,..Scarce seems a lothly thing. 1838 Lytton *Alice* V. v, That girl's thread of life has been the dark line in my woof. 1846 — *Lucretia* II. xviii, The Parcæ closed the abrupt woof, and lifted the impending shears. 1866 — *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 4 The woofs of Phrygian looms. 1871 Bryant *Odyss.* V. 426 Receive this veil, and bind its heavenly woof Beneath thy breast.

†4. The action of weaving. *Obs. rare.*

1700 Dryden *Ceyx & Alc.* 237 Alcyone..hastens in the Woof the Robes he was to wear.

Woof (wūf), *v.*1 *rare.* [f. Woof *sb.*1 Cf. Woofed.] *trans.* To arrange (threads) so as to form a woof; to weave. Also *transf.*

1894 Alice C. Macdonell in *Lyrs Celtica* (1896) 252 Woof well the cross threads, To make the colours shine. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* July 6/2 The fearful tangle of vegetation, warped and woofed together by lianas and creeping plants.

Woof (wuf), *int., sb.*2, and *v.*2 Also **wouf**, **wowff**. Imitation of a gruff abrupt bark of a dog; also *transf.* (Cf. Whoof.)

1804 Tarras *Poems* 59 (Jam.) Curs began to wouff an' bark. 1839 J. Ballantine in *Whistle-Binkie Ser.* II. 26 The wowff o' the colley. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxv, Every now and then..he [*sc.* a dog] would discharge a 'Woof', like a minute-gun at sea. 1885 Rider Haggard *K. Sol. Mines* iv, Presently..came a loud 'woof, woof!' 'That's a lion', said I. 1918 B. Carle *Air Men o' War* 14 The hoarse 'woof' of a bursting anti-aircraft shell.

Woof, obs. pa. t. of WEAVE *v.*

Woofed (wūft, *poet.* wūfĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Woof *sb.*1 + -ED. (Cf. Woof *v.*1)] Woven; *fig.* intricate.

1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxxii, So mus'd awhile, entoil'd in woofed phantasies.

Woofy (wū·fi), *a. rare.* [f. Woof *sb.*1 + -Y 1.] Resembling a woof or woven fabric; of dense texture.

1826 Joanna Baillie *Martyr* II. i, Close round us hung the vapours of the night Had form'd a woofy curtain.

Wooing (wū·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 **wogung**, 3 **wouhinge**, **wowunge**, 4–6 **wowyng**, **-ing**, 6 **woynge**, **wooyng**, 7–8 **woing**, 7– **wooing**. [f. Woo *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb Woo; amorous solicitation, courtship: in ME. often with dyslogistic implication.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* vii. 301 Weard þa se casere for þære wogunge astyrod. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 Mid wouhinge, mid toggiunge, oðer mid oðī tollunge. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Icham for wowyng al for-wake, wery so water in wore. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 2361 Now know I wel þy cosses, & þy costes ala, & þe wowyng of my wyf. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1553 *Hypsip. & Medea*, As wolde god I leyser hadde & tyme ek by proces al his wowyng for to ryme. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 164 Cause out..leccherous woordys, wowynges, leccherous syȝtes. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 195 Hys vnaduised wowyng, hasty louyng and to spedy mariage. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* v. ii 824 Our woing doth not end like an old Play: Iacke hath not Gill. 1645 Fuller *Good T'A. in Bad T.* (1646) 206, I do not like the wooing, that you should fetch a Bride with Fire and Sword. 1721 Ramsay *'The Last Time I came o'er the Moor'* I, I met betimes my lovely Maid, In fit Retreats for wooing. 1790 Burns *Song, Duncan Gray*, Duncan Gray cam' here to woo, Ha, ha, the wooing o't. 1887 Tennyson *Window* 166 Here is the golden close of love, All my wooing is done. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxvii, No girl likes to do her own wooing: she must be courted.

Proverbs. [1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 73 *Pet.* I would fain be doing. *Gre.* I doubt it not sir. But you will curse Your wooing.] 1639 N. R. *Proverbs* 24 Courting and wooing brings dallying and doing. 1670 Ray *Prov.* 48 Happy is the wooing, that is not long in doing.

b. freq. in *to go, come, ride a* (or †*on*) *wooing*.

c 1460 Metham *Wks.* (1916) 190 Yt ys spedeful that day to go a wowyng. 1505 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 201 His short gowne..which he had lente to Tho. Atkinson for iij dayes to ride on woweinge with. 1604 Shake. *Oth.* III. iii. 72 What? Michael Cassio, That came a wooing with you? a 1625 in T. Ravenscroft *Melismata* F 2 b, The Progge would a wooing ride. 1690 Locke *Govt.* I. ii. § 175 His Servant whom he sent a wooing for his Son. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 129 P 20 When they go a wooing..they

put on a red Coat. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* iii, He went out to-day a wooing.

c. *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 116 Þis is wowunge after Godes grome, & tollunge of his vuel. a 1240 *O. E. Hom.* I. 269 Her biȝ þe wowunge of ure laueð. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* Wowynge, *procacio*. 1596 Drayton *Leg. Robt. Dk. N.* xxvi, Except in Perill, thou do'st not appeare; Yet scant..., then, but with Intreats and Wooing. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. ii. (1616) 41 My Maiden-Muse flies the facitious Swaines,..Will not dilate. His curious searches, his respectlesse wooings. 1898 Gibbon *Life* xviii. (1873) 218 Work is the wooing by which happiness is won.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wooing act, dance, day, language, wind, suit*.

1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1589 (2), I have plainly shewed their Ticking noise to be a *wooing Act. 1596 Shake. Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 68 As wealth is burthen of my *woing dance. 1560 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 230 In love is no lacke, no is no *wooyng day. 1878 Gibbon *For the King* iii, The ardour of our wooing days. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* To Rdr. (end), To Gentlewomen and their Loves is consecrated all the *Wooing Language..feigned by the Muse amongst Hills and Rivers. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 412 Henceforth my *woing minde shall be expresst In russet yeas, and honest kersie noes. 1620 *Beauclerck MSS.* (Hist. MSS Comm.) I. 210 He comes upon a *wooing suit for the Infanta.

Wooing (wū·iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Woo *v.* + -ING 2.] That woos. a. That solicits in love; courting, as a lover; †wanton.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* vii. 13 The cause ȝunge man she kisseth; and with wowende [1388 wowynge] chere she flatereth. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 409 [He] ordeyned wommen to serven hem..þat semede wowynge gigelottes in cloþing, face, and semblant. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 163 Whan þou, wyth wowyng woordys, styrest opere to þi lust, it is deuly synne. 1746 Dunkin in *Frank Hor., Sat.* II. v. 21 The wooing Tribe, in Revellings employ'd, My Stores have lavish'd.

b. *fig.* Alluring, enticing.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* iv. 1–6 He maye not abyde the wowynge worlde to bee loued. c 1860 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 73 They..step back, or forward, in their wooeing wise. 1838 Lytton *Alice* XI. iv, The letter was most courteous, most complimentary, most wooing. 1838 Mangan *Poems* (1903) 204 Each wooing Zephyr that goes, At will from flower to flower a-maying. 1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* II. iv, Be thou a wooing breeze.

Comb. a 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 93 No Hamus or soft Carpophorus appears More wooing-voic'd.

Wooingly (wū·iŋli), *adv.* [f. Wooing *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a wooing manner.

†1. Wantonly, impudently. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxi. 29 The vnpitous man wowendeli [1388 vnschamefastli, Vulg. *procaciter*] stablith his chere. 1382 Hulomt, Wowingly, *procaciter*.

2. Enticingly, alluringly.

1605 Shake. *Mach.* I. vi. 6 The Heauens breath Smells wooingly here. 1804 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* lxxxi, I perhaps did not go so wooingly to work as some one more designing would have done. 1849 Miss Mulock *Ogilvies* xi, It came over her senses wooingly. 1884 Mrs. C. Praed *Zero* viii, The air kissed wooingly.

3. Like a wooer; with amatory speeches.

1868 Holme Lee *B. Godfrey* xvi, He was..whispering.. wooingly.

Wook(e, obs. pa. t. of WAKE *v.*, obs. f. WEEK.

Wool (wul), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3–6 **wul**, **wull**, 3–6 **woll**, 4–5 **wulle**, **wolle**, 4–6 **wole**, **woolle**, 5–6 *Sc.* **vol**, (1 **wul**, 3, 6 **wol**, 5 **who(o)ll**, **whowl**, *Sc.* **woyll**, **voyll**, **wo**, 6 **woull(e)**, 5–7 *Sc.* **wow**, 6–8 **wooll**, (8 **owl**, 8– *dial.* **woo**, **oo'**, **oo**), 6– **wool**. [Com. Teut. and Indo-Eur.: OE. *wull*, str. f. = OFris. *welle*, *ulle*, (M)LG. *wulle*, MDu. *wolle*, *wulle* (Du. *wol*), OHG. *wolla* (MHG. *wolle*, *wulle*, G. *wolle*), ON. *ull* (Sw. *ull*, Da. *uld*), Goth. *wulla* :— OTeut. **wullō* :— pre-Teut. **wlnā*.

Cognate are Skr. *ūrṇā*, Zend *varənā*-, OSlav. *vlĭna*, Lith. *vilna* thread of wool, pl. *vilnos* wool, OPruss. *wilnis* coat, Russ. *volna* fleece, wool, Gr. Ἄμπυξ (Dor. Ἄβυξ) wool, οὖλος (:—*ϝόλϝος) woolly, curly, Lat. *vellus* (:—*wełnos) fleece, *lāna* (:—*wṓlnā) wool, Ir. *olann*, Welsh *gwlan*. The ultimate etymology is doubtful.]

1. The fine soft curly hair forming the fleecy coat of the domesticated sheep (and similar animals), characterized by its property of felting (due to the imbricated surface of the filaments) and used chiefly in a prepared state for making cloth; freq., the material in a prepared state as a commodity.

Spanish or *oriental wool*, wool treated with a dye, used as a cosmetic.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 84 *Lana*, ull. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 356 Blace rammes wul on watere gedyfed. c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 290/25 Unawemmen wull. c 1050 *Kath.* 246 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 69 Also man draweth with combes wolle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10033 Greye monekes þat newe come & pouere þo were, Jesse al hor wolle þerto of one ȝere. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 168 Þe mone folk..doand him seruise, Þat bies woule & wyne. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 18 Hit beo cardet with Conscience, as clobers dob heor wolle. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2721 *Lucrece*, Softe wolle..she wroughte To hepe hire from sleuthe & Idilnesse. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 161 Oure Englyssbe commodytees, Wolle and tynne. 1480 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 33 Hows father wyll schappe the remenand of good wheoll of thys sorte. 1506 *Acts Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 249 Item, for woll to the schulderis of it [*sc.* a gown] xvjˢ. 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* iii. 4 Mesa yᵉ kynge of the Moabites..payed tribute vnto the kynge of Israel with the woll of an hundreth thousande lambes. 1634 Milton *Comus* 752 To tease the huswifes wooll. 1676 Spanish wool [see Stammel *a.* 7]. 1712 J. Morton

Northampt 431 Wool wrought together and compacted as closely, as Wool is by the Workman's Hands, in the making a Hat. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 65 P2, I am ashamed to tell you that we are indebted to Spanish Wool for many of our masculine ruddy complexions. 1787 Dyer *Fleece* II. 72 In the same Fleece diversity of wool Grows intermingled. 1826 J. Rennie *New Suppl. Pharm.* 292 Oriental Wool. This coloured wool comes from China in large round loose cakes. ..The finest of these gives a most lovely and agreeable blush to the cheek. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 246, I hear Dead sounds at night..Like footsteps upon wool. 1871 W. Reid *Sheep* 82 An increased supply of mutton and wool.

b. The fleece or complete woolly covering of a sheep, etc. ; *out of the wool*, shorn.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 161 This whethur and þe wole were wonderly keppit By..Mars. 1530 in Phillipps *Wills* (*c* 1830) 180 Threescore Sheep, to be delivered unto him out of their wool. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 42 To bring the woll, the skin, and hyde To Edinburgh Towne. 1841 Sarah, Lady Lyttelton in *Corr.* (1912) 310 Lord S...left town..'to see the sheep just out of the wool after shearing.'

c. The short soft under-hair or down forming part of the coat of certain hairy or furry animals.

1603 Shake. *Meas.* iv. i. 15 Eye of Newt, and Toe of Frogge, Wooll of Bat, and Tongue of Dogge. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 274 The powder of the wooll of a Hare burned..fasteneth the haire from falling off. 1615 Markham *Country Contentm.* i. 103 After your dogge hath courst, ..first cleanse his mouth and chaps from the wool of the Hare. 1623 B. Jonson *Underwoods, Celebr. Charis* iv. 25 Ha' you felt the wooll of Bever? 1737 *Regist. Importation of Bar-Iron* 13 The American bought the Beaver Wool (the raw Material [of a hat]) at a much cheaper Rate. 1837 Youatt *Sheep* iii. 57 The camel has, at the base of its long hair, a quantity of wool. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 288.

†d. As the material of the thread spun and cut off by the Fates *Obs.*

1608 B. Jonson *Hue & Cry after Cupid* Wks. (1616) 939 That was reserv'd, vntill the Parcæ spunne Their whitest wooll; and then, his thred begun 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Epithal.* 162 Let bounteous Fate your spindles full Fill, and winde up with whitest wool.

e. With qualifying word. See also *full-wool* (Fell *sb.*[1] 4), *goat's-wool* (Goat 4 c), Lamb's-wool, *skin-wool* (Skin *sb.* 13), etc.

1495 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 42 Centum stones de fliesse wolle et skyn wolle. 1498 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 219 A pok of lam vol. *c* 1541 *Tonnage Indentures* 19 Cotiswold wolle of the growynge of this present yere. 1698–9 *Act 11 Will. III*, c. 20 § 2 Manufactures..made of Sheeps Wooll or Coney Wooll.

f. In comparisons, e. g. *as soft, white as wool.*

Verse. Psalter cxlvii. 16 Se selee snawe swe swe wulle. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 265 Hire her was hor and swiþe swiþ3t as þel it were wolle. 1382 Wyclif *Rev.* i. 14 The heed of him and heeres weren white, as whijt wulle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 63 Softer than the wolle is of a wether. *c* 1480 Henryson *Two Mice* 359 Als warme as woll. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 63 Gif 3our sinnis be..reid as purpur neuthertheles yai sal be quhit as wow. 1742 R. Forbes *Ajax* etc. *Shop Bill* (1755) 38 Some are cotton, That's softer far na' ony woo, that grows on mutton. 1839 Longf. *Wreck of Hesperus* xviii, She struck where the white and fleecy waves Looked soft as carded wool.

g. Phrases and proverbial sayings. (*a*) *Against the wool*: contrary to the direction in which wool naturally lies, the wrong way. (*b*) *To draw* (or *pull*) *the wool over* (a person's) *eyes*: to make blind to facts, to hoodwink, to deceive. *U. S.* (*c*) *To dye in the wool*: to dye the wool before spinning; *fig.* in *pass.* to be thoroughly imbued; *dyed in the wool* (chiefly U. S.), thoroughgoing, out-and-out (cf. *wool-dyed* in 5 d). †(*d*) *To gather wool*: see Wool-gathering 2. (*e*) *Great* (*much*) *cry and little wool* (etc.): much talk or clamour with insignificant results (see Cry *sb.* 16). (*f*) Miscellaneous.

(*a*) 1532 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* iv. Wks. (1573) 415/1 wresteth all the Scriptures & setteth them clean agaynst the woll, to destroy this article. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 30 What should your face thus agayne the woll be shorne For one fall? 1599 Breton *Will of Wit* (Grosart) 60/2 But begging is a vile life in the meane time. *Patience.* Then worke. *Anger.* That goes against the woolL. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvi. 298 Let us..brush our former Words against the Wool.

(*b*) 1855 Frances M. Whitcher *Widow Bedott* xv. (1883) 55 He ain't so big a fool as to have the wool drawd over his eyes in that way. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 517 They think they find a prize, If they can only pull their wool o'er other people's eyes. 1884 Howells *Silas Lapham* vii, I don't propose he shall pull the wool over my eyes.

(*c*) 1579–80, 1679 [see Dye *v.* 1 c]. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. § 28 Children as it were in the Wooll of their infancie died with hardnesse may neuer afterwards change colour. 1830 D. Webster *Sp.* in *Mass. Spy* 10 Feb. (Thornton) In half an hour [he can] come out an original democrat, dyed in the wool. 1840 J. P. Kennedy *Quodlibet* ii. 52 As patent a dyed-in-the-wool Democrat as Theodore Fog himself. 1872 *College Courant* 21 Jan. (Schele de Vere *Amer.*) A drenching rain has washed the indigo from his new suit dyed in the wool at home, into his skin. 1885 Hummel *Dyeing Textile Fabrics* 289 If in any dyed woollen fabric the colour has been imparted to it while it was yet in the state of unspun wool, it is said to be wool-dyed, or to have been dyed in the wool. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 503/2 Socialists dyed in the wool. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 23/2 The governor of Alleghenia is a dyed-in-the-wool scoundrel.

(*d*) 1577 T. Kendall *Flowers Epigr., Trifles* 15 The Papist praies with mouth, his minde on gathering woolle doeth goe. 1603 Breton *Packet Mad Lett.* II. (1633) 83 For their wits, if they loose not their owne fleeces, let them gather Wool where they can.

(*e*) *c* 1480 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 132 His hyghnes shall haue þeroff, but as hadd þe man þat sherid is hogge, muche crye and litil woll. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 28 Here is..as one said at the shearing of hogs, great cry and little wool. 1644 Prynne *Falsities & Forgeries* 9 Here is a great cry indeed, but little wool. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 165 Humph, quoth the Dee'l when he clip'd the Sow, A great Cry, and little Woo. *a* 1734 North *Lift L.d. Kpr. North* (1742) 170 For Matter of Title he thought there was more Squeak than Wool. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. (Rtldg.) 201 At first, there was much cry but little wool. 1868 Hinlo *Prov. Scot.* 142 'Mair whistle than woo', quo' the souter when he sheared the sow.

(*f*) 1383 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 264 Thyne sheep ar ner al shabbyd, þe wolf shiteþ woolle. 1583 Howard *Defensative* A j b, Wooll driueth backe the Cannon shotte. 1620 Shelton *Don Quix.* II. lxvii. 455, I would not haue her come for wooll, and returne shorne. 1680 C. Blount tr. *Philostratus* 243 It is ill Woull that will take no Dye. 1805 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* lii. 242 Sancho Panza..says,..many go for wool, and come home shorn. 1864 Browning *Mr. Sludge* 630 If such as came for wool, sir, went home shorn; Where is the wrong I did them?

2. Applied to substances resembling sheep's wool.

a. A downy substance or fibre found on certain trees and plants; also, the thick furry hair of some insects or larvæ. Cf. Cotton-wool 1.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvi. 268 In that Lond ben Trees, that beren Wolle, as thogh it were of Scheep; where of men maken Clothes, and alle thing that may ben made of Wolle. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 59 b, His Apple or fruite is all ouer apparalled with a certaine kinde of wooll called Cotton. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxxi. 118 The other white Mulleyne ..hath white leaues fryssed with a soft wooll or Cotton. 1684 J. Peter *Siege Vienna* 108 Sacks of Wool made of Trees. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Xylon*, Seeds..wrapped within that soft ductile Wool, commonly known by the Name of Cotton. 1827–8 R. Sweet *Flora Austral.* 15 Leaves.. thickly clothed with white wool. 1831 Don *Dicklamydeous Pl.* I. 513 The wool contained in the fruit is called *Samauma* in Brazil, with which the natives stuff pillows and bolsters. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 611 The *Noctuelites*...The body is generally clothed with scales rather than with wool. 1885 Tennyson *Spinster's Sweet-Arts* xii, The wool of a thistle a-flyin'. 1895 Oliver tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Pl.* I. 354 Horse-chestnut leaves, when they make their way through the..bud-scales, are thickly covered with wool.

b. Any fine fibrous substance naturally or artificially produced. † Also (*poet.*) applied to ice.

Philosophic(al, Philosophers' wool: see Philosopher 5 b. [1596 T. Johnson *Cornucopiæ* C 3 b, A stone named Abeston ..; which hath..a kinde of Wooll growing about it.] 1599 M[oufet] *Silkwormes* 74 The smel..of silken wool that's new. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Tropheis* 751 As the rigour of long Cold congeals To harsh hard Wool the running Water-Rils. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 94 Into this form may the whole substance of the Zinc be converted. Several names have been given to these flowers, such as Pompholix, Philosophic Wool. 1850 C. J. Hempel *Homœopathic Pharm.* 275 Flowers of Zinc, Philosophical Wool. *c* 1865 Philosophers' wool [see Philosopher 5 b]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wool*..a slag of iron blown by steam into a fibrous form. Known as slag-wool, or silicate cotton. 1884 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 419/2 Slag-wool. ..The wool..is principally used for covering boilers or steam-pipes. 1885 [see Glass *sb.*[1] 16].

c. The short crisp curly hair of a negro. Also *gun.* (jocularly), the hair of the head.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3256/4 Run away..a Negro Boy.. the Wooll off the right side of his Head about the breadth of a Crown Piece. 1730 Southall *Bugs* 6 Meeting with an uncommon Negro, the Hair or (rather) Wooll on his Head, Beard, and Breast being as white as Snow. 1767 Carteret in Hawkesw. *Voy.* (1773) I. 509 The people are..woolly-headed, like Negroes..the hair, or rather the wool upon their heads, was very abundantly powdered. *a* 1853 in 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* I. ix, He'd got no wool on the top of his head,—just the place where the wool ought to grow, you know. 1884 Sir S. St. John *Hayti* iv. 146 The principal trouble to the female negro mind is her unfortunate wool.

slang phr. 1830 R. Lower *Tom Cladpole's Jurn.* cxxxvi, Dat rais'd ma wool. 1890 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang* s.v., 'Keep your wool on,' don't get angry.

3. Woollen clothing or material; Sc. phr. *among the wool*, in the blankets.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11118 He..Ne wered noþer wol ne line. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1272/2 How proude is many a man ouer his neighbour, because the wull of hys gowne is fyner? *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gentl.* I. i, A Country Fool, good to..eate course bread, weare the worst Woull. 1818 J. Kennedy *Poet. Wks.* 44 (E.D.D.) They.. dea amang the woo, Fu' quiet that night. 1888 Edith A. Barnett *Common-sense Clothing* 28 Wear wool in hot weather; do as you please in cold.

b. The nap of a woollen fabric.

1563 Fulke *Meteors* (1571) 14 Garmentes, whose woll is hyghe, as fryesse mantels, and suche lyke. 1577 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 34 Such patrons doo scrape the wooll from our [the parsons'] clokes. 1836 H. Manwaring *Tailors' New Guide* 16 First open the cloth with the wool to go with the back seam. 1892 N. Gale *Country Muse* 32 How his Pilot Jacket shows Ghosts of snowballs on the wool!

c. Twisted woollen yarn used for knitting and mending garments.

1840 Mrs. Gaugain *Lady's Assist. Knitting* I. 22 The Cap requires eight penny skeins of coloured Berlin wool, and six of white. *Ibid.* 27 Work,..with white,..never breaking off the wools till the whole is finished. 1849 Esther Copley *Compr. Knitting-bk.* 4 Embroidery Wool is about the size of the thinnest Lady Betty. *Ibid.*, Shetland Wool..is in use for shawls, handkerchiefs, and scarfs. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 332 Stocking..knitted with German fingering wool.

4. A quantity or supply, or a particular kind or class, of wool. Chiefly in *pl.*

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iv. 21 Whane þe countis were cast with þe custum of wullus. *c* 1400 *Coutin. Brut* ccxxv. (1908) 293 þe King asked þe vif part of alle þe meble goodes of Engelond, and þe wolles. 14.. *Chaucer's Pard. T.* 582 (Corp. MS.) Comeþ vp, 3e wyues, offreþ 3oure walles. ? *c* 1470 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 283 The comme ours wollys for to bye. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 b, They followe..but one kynde of marchaundyse as Woulles or Sylkes. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 61 Wools are as yet at high rate, but I thinke shortly they will fall. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxiii. 299 If they could make profite of their woolls by sending them into Europe. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4288/3 The Wools to be seen at Leathersellers Hall. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 124 Wools have been distinguished in commerce into two classes; fleece wools and dead wools. 1839 E. B Ramsay *Remin. Scott. Life & Char.* (ed. 3) 67 *Cus.* A as oo? *Shop.* Ay, a' as oo [= Aye, all one wool].

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib., as *wool-bale, -blanket, -bob* (Bob *sb.*[1] 6), *-clip, -coat, -crop, -hat, -import, -lock, -mattress, -produce, -production, -sheet, -side, -tax, -top* (Top *sb.*[1] 2); = relating to or concerned with the manufacture, storage, transport, or commercial handling of wool or woollen goods, as *wool-bill, -boat,* †*chamber, -dray, duty, -fair, -hall, -loft, -market, quay, -room, -sale,* †*-ship, -store,* †*-tool, trade, -wain, warehouse, weight, -wharf.* b. objective, etc. esp. in terms denoting operatives or machines concerned with the manufacture of wool or woollen goods, as *wool-breaker* (Breaк *v.* 2 c), † *brogger, -broker, -burler, -buyer,* †*-chapman, -cleaner, -cutter, -dealer, -dresser -drier, -duster, -dyer, -factor, -farmer, -gleaner, -grower, -holder, -jobber, -maker, -merchant, -monger, -moter, -oiler, -picker, -printer, -puller, -roller, -scourer, -scribbler* (Scribbler 2), *-scutcher, -seller, -slubber, -washer, -wearer, -weaver,* † *-webster, -weigher; wool-beating, -broking, -bundling, -burring, -classing, -cleaning, -growing, -picking, -printing, -producing, -pulling, -rearing, -scouring, -washing* sbs. and adjs. c. instrumental, similative, and parasynthetic, as *wool-backed, -fringed, -laden, -lined, -overburdened, -white, -wooled* adjs.; also *wool-like* adj.

1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 13/2 Soft *wool-backed satin. 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 31 Long caravans of drays.. laden with *wool-bales, hides, &c. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* I. 74 Our woollen manufacturers..when suing for their *wool-bill, of infamous memory, bringing one Thomas Wilkinson from Dunkirk quay..to swear that wool passes from Dunkirk without entry, duty or any thing being required. 1519 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Club) II. 174 Ane payr of dowbill *woll blankatis. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 570 It is not that wool-blanket, smothering affair that we were wrapped in down by Buana. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* July 171 The journey was continued in a flat-bottomed *wool-boat. 1891 Miss Dowie *Girl in Karp.* 102 The lads of the village had..coloured *wool-bobs..in their black felt hats. *a* 1691 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 110 Mr. Ludlowe..and his predecessours have been *woolI-breakers 80 or 90 yeares. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 427 Wool-breakers ..separate the fleeces by themselves that run most of a sort. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 319 Gill-machines of the ordinary construction as represented in the wool-breaker. 1714 [Blanch] *Beaux Merchant* III. 42 The *Wooll-brogger buys his Wooll in the Summer, and sells out the greatest part in the Winter. 1852 T. Baines *Hist. Liverpool* 756 *note*, Mr. Thomas Southey, *wool-broker, London. 1871 W. Reid *Sheep* Contents p. vii, *Woolbroking advantageous to the Grower. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-bundling Machine. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Wool-burlers*, women who remove the little knots or extraneous matters from wool, and from the surface of woollen cloth. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wool-burring Machine*, a machine for picking the burs from wool. 1642 *D. Fergusson's Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 8 A woole seller kens a *woole buyer. 1778 W. Donaldson *Agric.* 110 The rich grazier, who can compel the wool-buyers to his own terms. 1876 J. S. Blackie *Lett.* (1909) 245 We took dinner..with the big sheep lairds, the wool-buyers and wool-brokers. 1603 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 22 Y^e^ graneries; y^e^ *woole chamber. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* iii. 157 The feete and the skin they sell vnto the *woolchapmen. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xi, A natural aptitude for *wool-classing. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wool-cleaner*, a machine for cleaning dust, burs, and other foreign matters from wool. *Ibid.*, Fig. 7345 *Wool-cleaning machine. 1893 *Times* 18 July 5/6 The *wool-clip of the year throughout Australia. 1904 McCabe *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 107 The embryonic *wool-coat usually, in the case of the human embryo, covers the whole body. 1884 Helen Jackson *Ramona* i, You could reckon up the *woolcrop to a pound while it was on the sheep's back. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6192/9 Mary Louff.., Coney *Wooll-Cutter. 1819 Rees *Cycl.* s.v. *Wool*, The English *wool-dealers. 1845 D. Mackenzie *Emigr. Guide Australia* 91 Of these bales, ..one of our ordinary *wool-drays, drawn by eight bullocks, will carry to Sydney from 15 to 20. 1727 Arbuthnot *Tables Anc. Coins* etc. 300 Struthium..is a Root us'd by the *Wool-dressers. 1887 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., **Wool-drier*, a workman who dries wool after washing. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-dryer*, a machine for removing the moisture from wool after washing, dyeing, or what not. *Ibid.*, **Wool-duster*, a machine for mechanically removing the coarser impurities from wool. 1673–4 Earl Essex *Papers* (Camden) I. 172, I cannot learn that any more then 1500*l*, or at most 2000*l* a year, was ever made for *wooll dutys to ye chief Govern^r^. 1898 E. Baines in T. Baines *Yorks.* (1875) I. 648 *Wool dyers. 1802 T. Peck *Norwich Direct.* 10 Coulsen Ralph, *Wool-Factor. 1866 *Monthly Mag.* June 482/1 At a recent meeting of..wool growers of Glamorganshire, resolutions were adopted for establishing a *wool-fair in that county. 1742 Jarvis *2nd Pt. Quix.* III. xvii. II. 258 Pedro Perez the *wool-farmer. 1884 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* xviii, The heavy clouds..had..settled down in a black, *wool-fringed bank. 1899 H. Johnston *Chron. Glenbuchie* xxii. 235 Her profession was that of a *wool-gleaner. 1826 *wool growers [see *wool-fair*]. 1847–58 Webster, **Wool-growing*, n., producing sheep and wool. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 42 *Wool-growing would be profitable if it were not for rav

1731 *Engl. Gentlmn* I. 2 v. *Buckingham*, This Town was many years a wool-staple, and many of its *wool-halls are yet standing. 1856 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XI. 240/2 *Wool hats are made entirely of coarse native wool and hair stiffened with glue. Before the emancipation act these hats were largely exported for negroes' wear. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 57 Another meeting of foreign *wool holders. 1919 *Glasgow Herald* 27 June 7 A congestion of *wool imports at the docks. 1778 ASH, **Wool-jobber*, one who buys up small parcels of wool and sells them again. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xii, The teams *wool-laden departed. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 159 The straight hairs on the leaves disappear by cultivation, but the *wool-like hairs continue on the stem. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 251 Dense bodies of white wool-like exhalations fill the deeper valleys. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 43 He then told me to put on my *wool-lined rubber boots. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* v. 15 The hope of the vnpitous is as a *wlle loke, or thistil-doun. *c*1425 HOCCLEVE *Lerne to Dye* 819 Myn hope is as it were a wolle-loke Which the wynd vp reisith for his lightnesse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wullok, *villus*. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 245, xix newe cabulles owte of the *Wollofte at Southampton. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 887 The wool-loft bears evidence that sheep form a part of the live stock. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 403/1 A *Wolle maker, *lanifex*. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 192 It will take a long time to cause such a demand for woollen goods as appreciably to affect the

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11173 [They] þe porters bede To late in tueie *wolmongers, hor chaffare in to lede. *a* 1400 *Old Usages Winch.* in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 353 No wollemongere..ne may habbe no stal in þe heye-stret. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 257 Wool and Woolmongers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 531/2 Impurities..are afterwards picked out by boys or women, called '*wool-moaters', or 'wool-pickers'. 1694 BLOUNT *Acad. Elog.* 47 The *Wool-ore burthened sheep. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Wool-oiler*..a device for attachment to the first breaker over the feed-apron, and immediately in front of the feed rolls of the carding-machine. 1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII* c. 4 § 1 Weauers, tuckers, spinners, diers, and *wulpikers..haue ben..without worke. 1843 [see *wool-meter*]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Wool-picker*, a machine for burring wool. 1817 M. BIRKBECK *Notes Journ. Amer.* (1818) 36 The wife was at a neighbour's on a '*wool-picking frolic,' which is a merry-meeting of gossips..to pick the year's wool and prepare it for carding. 1867 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Wool-printer. 1852 EARP *Gold Col. Austr.* 3 The *wool produce of Australia. 1856 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 186 A *wool-producing breed. 1903 FLEMMING *Pract. Tanning* 1 The first operation to which sheepskins are subjected by the tanner or *wool-puller is soaking. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 278/2 A high duty on wool makes it cheaper to have the '*wool-pulling' done in England, and let the skins come to us as our raw material. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 351/1 Charges sur les Laynes..al *Wolkey en la Port de Londres 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 5 The ij pokets woll, beynge at the Wollkey. 1721 *Act 8 Geo. I* c. 31 All that Piece or Parcel of Ground..called or known by the Name of Wooll Key, situate in the Parish of All Saints Barking in the City of London 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Feb. 10/1 A large *wool-rearing district. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 20 Sept. 13/7 The fleece he carries to the 'skirting table,' where the '*wool roller' stands. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 779 The granary and the *wool-room are both seven feet high. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Wool-sale*, a periodical public sale, in London or Liverpool, for the disposal of large quantities of wool. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xii, The reputation of the Garrandilla clip in the forthcoming wool sales. 1858 E. BAINES in T. Baines *Yorks.* (1875) I. 652 *Wool Scourers, Driers, &c. 1860 JUBB *Shoddy-trade* 60 *Wool-scouring..has become general, as regards fine foreign and colonial wools. *c* 1830 in Southey *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 491 Mr. Taylor, *wool-scribbler, ..City Road. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wool-scribblers*, machines for combing..wool into thin downy translucent layers. 1884 *Spectator* 26 Apr. 548 An ideal *wool-scutcher, with more tearing-power than any other combination of iron teeth. 1641 *Woole seller [see *wool buyer*]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Wool-sheet*, a packing-wrapper for bales of wool. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 80, I undyrstond be yowr letter that aull the *whowlschypys ar cwm to Calles. 1903 FLEMMING *Pract. Tanning* 65 By which all fleshy particles are removed from the inner or flesh side and the loose dirt removed from the *wool side [of the pelt]. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 9 The *wool slubber, ..after a visit to the beer-shop, resumes his task with violence. 1848–43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 241 The *wool-tax fell heavily upon the inhabitants. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 2 Deputies from the manufacturing districts, anxious for the repeal of the wool tax. 1578 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 282 Studills, wheles, card and all *woull tolles. 24.. in Wr.-Wülcker 588/31 *Icarpa*, a *wolletoppe. 1775 ASH, **Wooltrade*, the trade of buying and selling wool. 1906 KIPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* viii. 242 They go over to Rye o' Thursday in the *wool-wains. 1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Diss. Ch.* I. 397 The meeting-house in Gravel-lane, was afterwards occupied as a *wool-warehouse. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 51 No *wool-washer ought to allow his suds to run away in the form they leave the bowls. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 955/2 'Smith's' wool washer. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 38 So much has been heard..of the superior *wool-washing in Verviers. 1553 W. TURNER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. iv. 49 Whereas there sitteth but seven or eight linnen-wearing bishops..in the convocation-house, if there be threescore pastors and elders, they are *woolwearers. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 306/2 *Lanarius*, .. a *woull weauer. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 219 *Wollewebesteres and wesseres of lynnen. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* vi. (1673) 123 (Illustr.) The word..is by the Scholiast expounded so, by *Lanā-pendia* (a *wool-weigher). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Wool weight*. The following are the subdivisions used in weighing wool. 1326 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* I. (1889) 319 Le *Wollewharf. 1483 *Ibid.* II. (1890) 435. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 1098 The blazing frankincense, Whose smoke, *wool-white as ocean foam, Hung in dense flocks beneath the dome. 1848 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) I. 281 Thick wool-white fog. 1821 KEATS *Lamia* II. 279

A sacred tripod . Whose slender feet wide-overs'd upon the soft *Wool-woofed carpets.

d. Special comb.: **wool-ball** (see quot.); †**wool-battery**, a battery faced with wool-packs built up as a breast-work; **wool-bird** *slang*, a lamb; †**wool-bow** (see quot. and Bow *sb.*[1] 13); †**wool-butter**, butter used to salve the wool of sheep; †**wool-craft**, wool manufacture; **wool-driver**, one who buys wool from a sheep-owner to sell it in the market or to manufacturers; **wool-dyed** *a.*, dyed 'in the wool' (see 1 g (*c*)); **wool-fat** (*a*) = SUINT; (*b*) = LANOLIN; **wool-flock**, coarse, inferior wool; †**wool-folder** = WOOL-WINDER; †**wool-gatherer**, one who collects wool from the flockmasters; †**wool-graither**, one who prepares wool for the manufacturer; **wool-grass**, name for various grasses or grass-like plants having woolly spikelets, as the American *Scirpus cyperinus* (*S. eriophorum*) and the European *Erianthus ravennæ*; **wool-grease** = SUINT; **wool-hole** *Printing*, also *Printers' slang* (see quot.); †**wool-hurdle**, a sheep-fold; **wool-mark** = SHEEP-MARK; †**wool-master**, an owner of wool-producing sheep; a wool-producer; **wool-mill** = WILLY *sb.*[1] 3; **wool-moth**, the clothes-moth, *Tinea sarcitella*; **wool-needle**, a blunt needle used for wool-work; **wool-nipping**, a portion of wool nipped off a sheep in branding; **wool-oil**, †(*a*) oil used to salve the wool of sheep; (*b*) = LANOLIN; **wool-owner**, a sheep-owner; **wool-pated** *a.*, woolly-headed; **wool-plant**, ? = MULLEIN; **wool-press**, a press used in packing wool; **wool-scour** *Austral.*, a large shed where wool is washed; **wool-screw**, a wool-press; **wool-shear**, now only *pl.* **-shears**, shears used for shearing sheep; also †*wool-shearers*; **wool-shed** *Austral.*, the large building at a sheep-station in which the shearing and wool-packing are done; **wool-sorter**, a sorter of wool; *wool-sorters' disease*, anthrax, also known as *splenic fever*; so **wool-sorting**; **wool-spinner**, (*a*) a workman who spins wool; (*b*) a species of mussel (see quot. 1815); so **wool-spinning**; **wool-sponge** *U. S.*, a variety of bath-sponge; **wool-stock**, a heavy wooden hammer used in fulling cloth; **wool-thistle** = *woolly-headed thistle* (see WOOLLY-HEADED a); **wool-tree**, any species of *Eriodendron*; **wool-weed**, any species of *Eriocaulon* (pipewort); †**wool-weigh** *sb.* [WEIGH *sb.*[1] 2], scales for weighing wool; †**wool-weigh** *a.*, that weighs out wool for spinning; **wool-wheel**, a wheel for spinning wool; **wool-witted** *a.*, woolly-minded; **wool-yarn**, yarn spun from wool; *spec.* (see quot. 1863).

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., **Wool-balls*,..masses of Wool compacted into firm and hard balls, and found in the stomachs of sheep. 1852 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 342 A large model of my wheel-barrow stanchion gun artillery, with *wool battery, for raking a close column of infantry. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Engl. Spy* I. 156 The wing of a *wool bird [= shoulder of lamb]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 291/1 **Wool-Bow*,..an Instrument by which Wool is rent and torn and beaten very fine,..before it can be worked into Hats. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 352/2 Reddendo..barrel-lam butiri *lie* **woilbuttar*. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 297 Pullas..fonde vp meny crafte, and specialliche *wolcraft [*Lanificium*]. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xliv. (1495) G iij, This londe [*sc.* Coe] was fyrste endowed wyth wolle crafte. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. 13 Yf..the said *Woolldryver shall sell his sayd Woolles at any other place forthe ..of Halyfaxe. 1775 W. DONALDSON *Agric.* 111 The wool-drivers, or owlers, are the only persons who profit by their necessities. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 97 The distinction between '*wool-dyed' cloth and 'piece-dyed' cloth. 1892 *Jrnl. Soc. Chem. Industry* X. 709/1 An Improved Manufacture of Saponifiable Fatty Matter from *Wool-Fat. 1555 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 451 A newe charter..by the whiche they have the forfaictures of *woll flocks. 1666 *Act 14 Charles II* c. 18 § 1 Whereas..great quantities of Wooll Woolfels..Yarn made of Wool Woolflocks..are secretly exported. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 27 Aug. 7/9 We would not object if Parliament forbade the sale of wool-flock as bedding material. 1550 *Proclam. Winding of Wools* 23 May 2 No grower..or gatherer of any wolles..shall..set a worke any *wollefolder, or wollewynder to folde or wynde his..wolle or wollen, vnlesse [etc.]. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 108 Aull *wholl getherars wher sent for be wryt. 1581–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI* c. 7 § 1 The corrupt practises of diverse..Woolgatherers and Regrators. *c* 1420 *Pref. EA. Jerome* vi. in *Wycliffite Bible* (1850) I. 67 *Wulle graithers and fullers. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xvii. (1863) 331 The arching and sheaf-like top of the *wool-grass. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 501 *Scirpus Eriophorum*, Michx. (Wool-Grass.) 1892 *Jrnl. Soc. Chem. Industry* X. 709/1 Acids generally used in the recovery of *wool grease from the waste water from wool washing and combing factories. 1841 SAVAGE *Dict. Printing* 814 **Wool hole*, a place boxed off sometimes under a stair case, or in any situation where the dust will not affect the press room,..in which the wool ..rded wherewith to make the balls. *Ibid.*, *Wool hole*, the workhouse. When a compositor or pressman is reduced by age or illness to take refuge in the workhouse, it is said he is in the *Wool Hole*. 1586 [J. CARE] *Praise Musc.* vi. 76 When he hears his maids either at y^e *woolhurdle, or the milking pail. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 93 It is in your power to follow your stinted stock, and claim it anywhere by the *wool-mark. 1850–3 *Davey Rept. in Suffolk.* (E.E.T.S. 1872) 202 Refusyng none, but only them that hath

al this aboundance, that is to saye, shepe or *woll-masters, and inclosers. *a* 1692 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 120 Our cloathiers combine against the wooll-masters, and keep their spinners but just alive. 1698 *New Mills Cloth Manufactory* Introd. p. lxxx, The woolmasters secured a small advantage. 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXXVIII. 4 O 3 b, The wool for coarse goods is passed several times through the *wooll-mill. 1830 BOUCHER *Analyt. Dict.* 176 The Woolmill, (commonly called the Devil). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 887 The *wool-moth then takes up its residence, in summer, amongst such fleeces. 1888 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 522 **Wool Needles*..are short and thick, with blunt points, and long eyes, like those of darning needles. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 83 Course *Wool-nippings and Tarry Pitch-marks..having great virtue in them. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 68 Wool-nippings..are beneficial for lands. 1545 *Rates of Customs Ho.* d j, *Woll oyle called trane oyle the tonne. *a* 1585 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 519 All our wolle oyles and swete oyles. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 225 Wildrake came down with Mr. Craven and the other *wool owners. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. i. 27 The Inhabitants of this Island..are all Negro's, *Wool-pated like their African neighbours. 1883 BROWNING *Joch. Hakkadosh* 18 Hairs silk-soft, silver-white, Such as the *wool-plant's. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxiv, I dreamed..that the devil had got me under the *wool-press, screwing me down as hard as he could. 1911 BEAN *'Dreadnought' of the Darling* xi. 101 The wool..goes on to be washed by machinery in a second big shed, the *wool-scour, so as to get the grease and dirt out of it. 1888 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 82 Wooden *wool-screw. 1643 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc.* I. 184, I took ane scilf and..set ane coggie full of water in the seive, and then laid ane *woll scheir on the coggis mouth. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (ed. 2) 373 The wool-shears are ..worked with one hand. 1829 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 414 A Lad ..was wounded in the abdomen by a pair of *wool-shearers. 1890 CLUTTERBUCK *Port Phillip* II. 23 In some instances the flood has swept away the *wool-sheds. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxiii, Backed by huts, sheep-yards, a wool-shed, and the usual concomitants of a flourishing Australian sheep station. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 412/2 Merchants in Sydney, some of whom employ *wool-sorters of their own to assort and repack it for the London market. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 97 If the wool-sorter be out of practice for any considerable time, his fingers lose the delicacy of touch indispensable to his occupation. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 10 Dec. 3/8 Henry Slater has died here from 'woolsorter's disease'. 1858 E. BAINES in T. Baines *Yorks.* (1875) I. 653 The *wool sorting done by the proprietors themselves. 1825 S. BROOKES *Conchol.* 257 *Woolspinner, *Mytilus discors*. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 208 In proportion, however, to his taciturnity was the loquaciousness of a woolspinner. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xii. (1895) 85 Superintending..a great *wool-spinning we then had. 1879 SIMMONDS *Commerc. Products Sea* 159 The [American] grades are glove sponge ..*wool sponge..and yellow and hard head. 1858 — *Dict. Trade*, **Wool-stocks*, heavy wooden hammers for milling cloth, or driving the threads of the web together. 1769 J. HILL *Herb. Brit.*, *Wool-thistle. 1831 DON *Dichlamydeous Pl.* I. 512 *Eriodendron lanatherum*..Smooth-anthered *Wool-tree. 1772 J. HILL *Veg. Syst.* X. 26 *Woollweed. Eriocaulon. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 548/21 *Compana*, *wulwæsa. 1833 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 452 Ane pair of woll weyiss, ane pair of ballendis of brass, [etc.]. *a* 1662 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* vi. (1673) 100 Illustr. 123 Wo to the *Wool-weigh-maide. 1630 in Ramsay *Banff Charters* (1915) 223 Ane *woll qwheill. *a* 1806 JAS. THOMSON *Poems* (1894) 233 A gude woo' wheel, my wife to spin on. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* iv, A woman stands at the great wool-wheel, one arm extended, the other holding the thread. 1908 A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* I. i. 12 A belated Mastodon, stumbling from some old German forest..would have caused little more sensation among the *wool-witted villagers. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 360/2 Grete quantite of fyne *Wolle yerne. 1598 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 88 To Jenet my doghter, all my wolle and wolle yarne. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* 39 Wool yarn is spun from the short fibres of the fleece..; and Worsted yarn from the long staple.

Wool (wul), *v.* [f. WOOL *sb.* (Cf. OE. *wullian* to wipe with wool.)]

1. *trans.* †**a.** To coat or line with wool. *Obs.*

1660 in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. XII. 67/2 One Richard Bailey, who..is also very skilfull in the Art of Oyling of Linnen Cloath or Taffaty, or Woolling of either, so as to make it Impenetrable.

b. To stuff *up* with wool.

1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* viii, I feel as if some hand had woolled up my ears.

2. *U. S. slang.* **a.** To pull the 'wool' or hair of (a person) in sport or (esp.) in anger.

1854 in *Congressional Globe* July 1690 (Thornton), I regret very much to see these two gentlemen from Illinois wooling each other in the most approved fashion. 1869 LE FANU *Wyvern Myst.* I. 263 The more you and the old boy wool each other the better for Hal. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unoff. Patriot* 315 Wool little Margaret's curly pate for me.

b. To 'pull the wool over the eyes of': see quot.

1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*, *Wool*, to (common), to get the better of, to discomfit.

†**Woolage.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 wollage. [f. WOOL *sb.* + -AGE, after obs. F. *lanage*.] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Lanage*, wollage; the trade of wooll, or gaine thats made thereof.

Woolant, obs. form of VOLANT *a.*[2]

1503 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 238 Woolant piece over the head.

Wool-beard, -bed: see WOUBIT.

Wool-bearer. An animal that bears wool, *esp.* a sheep.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 403/1 A Wolle berere, *lanifer*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 631 The Epithets of this beast are, horne-bearer,..wool-bearer [etc.]. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 134 A huge wooll-bearer, slaughtered there. 1652 BARKSDALE *Nympha Lib.* II. xiv. 45 The trembling Wool-bearer. 1677 YOUATT *Sheep* iii. 93 Many an animal that had not been dreamed of as a wool-bearer. 1891 C. ROBERTS

Adrift Amer. 245 To maunder on behind the slow and harmless wool-bearers.

So **Woo'l-bearing** *a.*

1830 Booth *Analyt. Dict.* 186 The Sheep, or Woolbearing animal (*Ovis aries*).

† **Woo'l-blade.** *Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wolblad*, f. *wolle* Wool *sb.* + *blad* Blade *sb.*] Mullein.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 138/1 *Verbascum*,..woolblade: loongwoort. 1606 *Holyoke's Rider's Dict.*, Etymol. n. K kk 113/1 *Candelaria*, torch-hearbe, wooll-blade, longwort. 1838 Lady Wilkinson *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 59.

Woo'l-card. [Cf. LG. *wull(e)harten*, MDa. *uldkard*, etc.] An instrument (see Card *sb.*[1] 2) used in carding wool. Also in comb.

1564 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 96, iij paire of woll cardes. 1587 Mascall *Bk Cattell* i. (1596) 71 Ye shall therefore vse to kembe them with wooll cards or horse combe, as some do. 1629 *Leather* 10 Woll-Card makers. 1630 *Proclam.* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 164 English Wyer..for the making of good Wooll Cardes. 1790 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 125 For pricking the Leathers of Wool, Silk, Cotton, or any other Cards. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 231 The works [at Barnsley] were long famous for the manufacture of wool-cards.

So **Woo'l-carder**, one who cards wool; **Woo'l-carding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Cardeur de laine*, a wooll carder. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 166 The wool-carding engine. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* i, Streets..noisy with the .. broad jests of wool-carders in the cloth-producing quarters.

Woo'l-comb. [OE. *wullcamb* = OHG. *wollakampf* (MHG. *wollechampf*, *wollekam*, G. *wollkamm*), ON. *ull(ar)kambr* (Sw. *ullkam*, Da. *uldkam*): see Comb *sb.*[2]] The toothed instrument used in carding wool by hand; later also, a machine to perform the same operation.

a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 269 Wulcamb, clp, semb. 1428 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 3, j. par de wollecombes. 1533 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 431 Ane par of woll camis. 1613 in *Trans. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1792) I. 273 An heckell with a pair of clatting wool cammis. 1780 Edmondson *Her.* II. Alph. Arms, *Bromley*, Ba. three wool-combs ar. 1797 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* III. 125 Bishop Blaise, to whom their traditions ascribe the beneficial invention of the wool-comb. 1834 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xv, Just as if I'd had it teased with a pair of wool-combs. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 111 Withal the wool-comb's sound within the fleece Began and grew.

Woo'l-comber. [Cf. MLG. *wullkemmer*, (M)Du. *wollkammer*, G. *wollkämmer*.]

1. One who combs or cards wool.

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5820/4 Philip Adams,..aged 25, a Woollcomber. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. x. I. 156 Half a dozen wool-combers perhaps are necessary to keep a thousand spinners and weavers at work. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 244 The wool is not carded in the factory, but is given out to the wool-combers, who comb it by hand. 1889 J. Burnley *Hist. Wool* etc. 210 The term 'woolcomber' had completely changed its significance. In 1823 it indicated a member of the operative classes; in 1873 it was only used in regard to a class of employers. 1903 *Times* 9 Aug. 17/2 An outbreak [of fire] at a Bradford woolcomber's.

2. = Wool-comb, *rare*.

1834 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* I, I should sit on pins—as woolcombers—with nothin' but summer drawers on, till the account appeared.

So **Woo'l-combing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1723 *Abridg. Specif. Patents, Spinning* (1866) 3 Two instruments of iron, to be used in the said trade of woolt kembing and pressing. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 387 The woolcombing business was formerly carried on..at Chumleigh. 1837 Hebert *Engin. Encycl.* II. 913 Woolcombing by machinery has now almost superseded the work by hand. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 440/2 A new wool-combing apparatus.

Woold (wōld), *sb.* Forms: 7 wolde, would, 9 woold. [Related to next.] a. *Naut.* = Woolding. b. *attrib.* in *woold cord*, *rope* (cf. WFlem. *oelkordje*): binding cord or rope.

1628 *Yoke* (Kent) *Estate Accts.* ii. 215 (MS.) For making 36 lbs of hempe into a woold- rope. 4/-. 1639 *Ibid.* If, 802 A payer of would ropps. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 43/1 The Would or wouldings of the mast or yard: is the ropes about them to keep on a fish. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 775 [Bundles of weld plants] are tied up by a string made for the purpose, and sold under the title of woold cord.

Woold (wōld), *v.* Forms: a. 7 woll (*pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* wolled, woolled), 9 wool; β. 7– would, 8– woold (9 wowld, wold). [The late appearance of this word suggests that it is a back-formation from Woolding (q.v.), but it was probably a late ME. adoption of MLG. *wolen*, *wölen* (LG. *wölen*, pa. pple. *wöld*), MDu. *woelen* 'premere . . constringere, torquere' (Kilian), Du. *woelen* to woold (whence G. *wuhlen*, *wulen*, Da. *vule*), also Du. *bewoelen* (G. *bewuhlen*), Flem. *woeln*, *oelin* to bind round with cord or rope, WFris. *woeljo* to wind. (Further relations are uncertain.) The infinitive forms *would*, *woold* appear to be due to the influence of the pa. t. and pa. pple.] *trans.* (*Naut.*) To wind rope or chain round (a mast or the like) to strengthen it where it is broken or where (being made of two or more pieces) it is fished or scarfed. Also said of the rope.

a. 1626 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 96 The master sent hym to tell me the mast was wolled. 1660 R. Hayward *Voy. S. Sea* xxvi. 86 Wee woolled the two byghtes to the shanks. *Ibid.* lxi. 247 In fishing and wolling our masts and yards. 1674 Josselyn *Two Voy.* 5 We found the head of our mainmast..shivered and the fore-top-mast crackt; So they wolled them both.

β. *a* 1625 Manwayring *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) 126 To *Would*: or *Woulding* is to bind Ropes about any Mast, yard, or the like, to keepe on a fish, or somewhat to strengthen it. 1692 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 35 With her whole Body wouldred about with Hawsers for preventing her very sides falling out. 1730 W. Wrightsworth *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyelt'* 30 Oct., Yesterday in the afternoon stowed the Lanaretta, and this morning Woolded the Main Mast. 1730 [see Woolding 1 b]. 1804 Nelson 27 Aug. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VI. 172 You will use every dispatch in woolding and securing the foremast. 1837 Marryat *Perc. Keene* xx, Our main-mast had received so many shots, that we were obliged to wold it for its support.

b. *gen.* To wrap or bind round.

1773 Romans *Florida* App. 65 Keeping your lead going, till you come on soundings so soft that the lead will bring none of the mud up, unless it be woolded with canvas. 1823 [see Woolder]. 1833 Marryat *Peter Simple* xliii, A carronade, well woulded up. 1837 E. Howard *Old Commodore* xiv, This love of a sail was woulded, with studied accuracy, by brilliant, black, and very narrow ribbon. 1847 Halliwell, *Would*..(2) To twist a chain round a refractory horse to render him obedient. *Kent.* 1890 W. C. Russell *Nelson* 62 Her hull was kept together by cables, which frapped or woolded the fabric from stem to stern.

Woold, obs. form of Weld *sb.*[1]

Woolder (wū·ldər). Also 6 woller, 8 wooler, 9 wolder, woulder. [f. Would *v.* + -er[1].] †a. *Naut.* A woold rope. *Obs.* b. *Rope-making.* A stick used as a lever in woolding; also, a workman operating this. By extension applied also to other similar levers (see quots. 1863, 1875). c. *dial.* A rolled bandage.

1548 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 277 Six coyle of rope for wollers. 1730 Blanckley *New. Expositor* 190 *Woolers*, Double, Single, Hand—used at the Rope Yard, and the Men that work with them, are a great Help to those that heave at the Hooks in laying or closing Cables. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 59 *Woolders*, single and double handed, are sticks about three feet long and four inches in circumference, with strops of rope-yarn made fast, to fix on the rope and assist the men at the hooks in closing the rope. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 487/1 (Rope-making), The woolders should keep their eye on the men at the crank, and make their motion correspond with his. 1823 Moor *Suffolk Words* 497 *Woulders*, bandages. 'Teent quite well, I'm forced to keep the woulders on.' Would is also used as a verb. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wolder*, a rolled bandage. 1863 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 360 *Spanish Windlass*, a wooden roller having a rope wound round it, through the bight of which rope an iron bolt called a woolder is inserted as a lever for heaving it round. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2981/2 The three [strands] are placed in the three grooves of a conical wooden block termed a *top*, through which is passed a transverse stick forming the handles or *woolders*.

Woolding (wū·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: *a.* 5 wolling, 5–6 wolyng(e, 6 wooling(e. β. 5 woldynge, 7 *pl.* wouldens, 7–8 woulding, 7– woolding (9 wolding). [late ME. *wol(l)ing*, prob. ad. MLG. **woling*, MDu. **woeling* (Du. *woeling*, whence G. *wuhling*, *wuling*, Da. *vuling*, cf. Sw. *vulning*), f. MLG. *wolen*, etc. Would *v.*]

1. The action of binding an object tightly with cord; esp. *Naut.* the action of winding rope or chain round a mast or yard, to support it where it is fished or broken. Also *attrib.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wolynge, or stronge byyndynge (*K.* woldynge, *S.*, *W.* worlynge), *provolucio*, *prostriccio* (*perstrinctio*). 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 207 A

[illegible] *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 174 Wooling ropes, xij coyles. 1670 in *Cal. St. Pap., Col., Amer.* (1889) 50 It is a common thing amongst the [W. Indian] privateers,.. to cut a man in pieces,..sometimes tying a cord about his head, and with a stick twisting it till the eyes start out, which is called 'woolding.' 1677 W. Hubbard *Pres. St. New-Eng.* 50 He would owne nothing but what was forced out of his mouth, by the woolding of his head with a cord. 1730 Blanckley *New. Expositor* 110 *Nails*, *Woolding*, drove through the Ropes that Would the Ship's Masts. 1804 Larwood *No Gun Boats* 14 Such masts require no splicing, no wolding, no fishing. 1883 W. D. Curzon *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 76 For Barge and Ship Builders, barge nails,.. scupper and woolding and lap nails.

2. *concr.* a. A wrapping, swathing (in first quot. glossing L. *perо* a rustic boot); esp. *Naut.* (often *pl.*) the rope or chain used in woolding a band or wrapping of rope wound round a mast, spar, etc.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 656/9 *Hic perо*, *-onis*, wolyng. 1568 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 123 The Tyger sprong the woolings of her bolt-sprete. *a* 1625 Manwayring *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) 127 Also those Ropes, which come from the beake-head, over the bolt-sprit, and Lashes it fast downe from rising off the pillow are called the Wouldings of the bolt-sprit. 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12 Coates and wouldings, for all masts and yards. 1699 T. Allison *Voy. Archangel* 36 We..got two Wouldens on our Redder Head. 1759 Shrewsbury *Artillery* v. 388 Sew up your Cloth, and reinforce it throughout with a Woulding of Marline. 1746 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 54 The main-mast was sprung at the upper wouldding. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Yard*, They [sc. the lateen yards] are..composed of several pieces fastened together by wouldings. 1788 A. Cochrane *Divest. Using Coal Tar* 11. 1837 E. Howard *Old Commodore* xiii, The immense wolding of flannel and his right leg.

Woolf(e, obs. forms of Wolf *sb.*

Woo'l-fell. *Hist.* [Fell *sb.*[1]] = W

1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 173/2 All sakkes of Wolle and Volle felle yshipped by Marchantis Englissh. 1543 tr. *Stat. Staple* 27 *Edw. III* c. 2 The staple of wollen, leither, wolfelles, and leade growynge and comynge forth within our sayd realme. 1622 Davies *Why Ireland*, etc. 42 Woolt and Woolt-fels were euer of little value in this Kingdome. 1675 Homers *Odyssey* xvi. 39 To which [seats] Enmates a Woot-felt apply'd With Rushes under it. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 304 The duties on wool, sheep-skins, or woolfells, and leather, exported, were called *custumæ antiquæ sive magnæ*. 1829 R. Thomson *Magna Charta* 389 A half mark upon every 300 wool-fells, or undressed sheep-skins. 1888 Dowden *Transcripts* 196 Chaucer loved the woolfells and leather of the Petty Customs only because they helped to save his purse from getting light.

Woolfist, var. Wolf's-fist.

Woo'l-gathering, *vbl. sb.* and *gerund.*

1. The action of gathering fragments of wool torn from sheep by bushes, etc.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 404 b, Your Diuinitie ramgeth very much at randon, as if it were strayed and ranaying in some wildernes a woll-gatheryng. 1878 E. Peacock in *Archæologia* XLVI. 384 Wool-gathering yet goes on in many places even on enclosed lands. 1889 H. Johnston *Chron. Glenbuchie* xxii. 261, I got it by working for it—hard 'oo'-gathering and hard spinning.

2. In fig. phr. *to go* (*run*, *be*) *wool-gathering*, formerly always *a* (or † *on*, † *of*) *wool-gathering*: to indulge in wandering fancies or purposeless thinking; to be in a dreamy or absent-minded state: said esp. of 'the wits', etc. Similarly, *to send* or *set* (*a*) *wool-gathering*.

1583 T. Wilson *Rhet.* II. 59 Hackyng & [illegible] though our wittes and our senses were a woll [illegible]. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 652 Their mindes goe a wool-gathering. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 42 To busy the wittes of his people, for running a woolgathering. 1602 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* IV. i. (Roxb.) 46 My Husband..[had] so drawne mee, after him, on woole-gathering, in search of him, as now you see mee. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estiennes's World of Wonders* xxxix. 349 This gentle Frier (whose wit was not gone of wool-gathering). 1685 Br. Mountagu *App. Cæsar* 23 If you read them, but marked them not, your wits went on wool-gathering at that instant. 1692 Gaule *Magastrom.* 41 He..sends his father-in-law almost a wooll-gathering. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VII. 326 That my wits may not be sent a woolt-gathering. 1796 *Girlh. M. Y. Holroyd* (1896) 386, I suppose you thought my Brains were Wool gathering? 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* (1873) I. i. 7 Sacred Poets have gone a woolgathering after 'Ideals' and suchlike. 1890 J. Hatton *By Order of Czar* II. xii, You are wool-gathering a little, eh?

b. Hence, Indulgence in idle imagining or aimless speculation.

1607 Middleton *Fam. Love* v. iii, Ha' you summoned your wits from wool-gathering? 1824 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 279 A great deal of wool-gathering about what it will bring. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xxvii, There never was such a chap for wool-gathering. 1893 Patmore *Religio Poetæ* (1898) 90 The crazy wool-gathering which is ordinarily regarded as thought.

So **Woo'l-gathering** *a.*, indulging in wandering thoughts or idle fancies.

1850 Mrs. Stowe in *Life* (1889) 140 If my wits are somewhat wool-gathering and unsettled. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* i, It was Seth Bede, as was allays a wool-gathering chap. 1893 E. H. Barker *Wand. Southern Waters* 259 At those moments when the wool-gathering mind has to be hurried back and fixed upon the sacredness of the ritual.

† **Woo'l-house.** *Obs.* [House *sb.*[1] 3.] A building for the storage (or manufacture) of wool.

1295 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* I. (1889) 122 [House called] Wolhous [in] Sporieresiane. 1340 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 540 Et in planks sarrandis pro le Wollehous de Pytingdon, 6s. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 804/12 *Hoc lanificium*, a wullhowse. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 249 Havyng owte the cordage owte of the Wollehouse. 1542 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1857) I. 81 In ye wullhouse a pyle of wole. 1546 *Inv.* in *Milton Papers* (Camden) 92 In the woolt-house, hoppes at 2 0 0. 1783 Berridge *Wks.* (1864) 430 Mr. John Raymond's great house, with his woolhouse..and two thousand pounds worth of wool.

Woolled (wuld), *a.* Forms: 5–6 wolled, *Sc.* wollit (6 vollit), 6– woolled, 8– (now *U. S.*) wooled. [f. Wool *sb.* + -ed[2].]

1. Bearing wool, covered with wool; having the wool still on, unshorn.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290/2 Many..personnes leaden oute of the Royaume..grese noumbre of Shepe wolled into Flaundres. 1489 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 217/2, v sculde wollit schaip. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. x. 9 The wollit schaip him followand at the bak. 1550 *Ker. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 104 The said vollit skynnis. 1552 Huloet, Wolled or wrapped in wolle, *lanatus*. 1820 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 385 At times we find a 'woolled one' on the fell after a shepherds' meeting, then we just shear it. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 6/3 Bales of woolled sheepskins.

2. Having wool of a specified kind.

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 137 b, Looke, that your Ewe haue a large body, deepe woolled. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Houssu*, *Mouton houssu*, a sheepe well woolled. 1778 D. Loch *Tour Scot.* 20 Well adapted for..feeding the best woolled sheep. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 283/2 The best breeds of fine-woolled sheep. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 74 A good long-wooled skin. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 283 The original sheep in most countries where improved species are now found, were invariably fine wooled.

† b. Of cloth: Having a (good) nap. *Obs.*

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. iii. 381 You must then cover such cloths with thicke new cloath being well woolled [Fr. *bien laines*].

Woollen (wu·lĕn), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1, 5 **wullen**, 4–6 **wolen**, 4–7 **wollen**, (4 -ene, wolyn, wullun, 4–5 wollin, 5 -yn, wolland, -on, 6 **wolan, woulne**, *Sc.* **wolene, woone**, 7 **wollan**, 8–9 *north.* **woon, woun**), 6– **woollen**, (now *U.S.*) **woolen**. [Late OE. *wullen*, f. *wull* Wool *sb.* + -EN[4], replacing the mutated form *wyllen* (=OHG., MHG. *wullîn*). Cf. (M)LG. *wullen*, (M)Du. *wollen*, Fris., G. *wollen*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Made of or manufactured from wool.

1046 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 107 Ic ge-an sancte Æðelðryðe anes wullenan kyrtles. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4445 (Laud MS.) Pe spere carf þoruȝ out As þoruȝ a wollene clout. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 353/1 File de Laȝn appelle Wolya-yerne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* V. 215 My wyf was a webbe and wollen cloth made. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 1. 32 Pen take a quantyte of wollen clope. 1536 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 300 Scottis wairia, sic as claith, lynning and woone. 1575 A. Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* III. 9 Nowe doth the Ram, and other sheepe theyr wollen garments dryve. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 278 Woollen Yarne being within ye prohibition of ye aforsaid Acts. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. i. 13 The woollen coat, which covers the day-labourer. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 41 Coarse woollen stockings. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 183 In winter, the people are all clad in woollen garments. 1828 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 403 A woollen carpet is a non-conductor of heat. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* 60 A woollen yarn..is a thread spun from wool in which the fibres are arranged so as to lie in every direction.

†**b.** Covered with (a fleece of) wool. *Obs. rare.*

1482 in *Charters &c. Edin.* (1871) 169 Of the hundreth skynnis, wollin, calfis, gattis, [etc.]

†**c.** *fig.* Silent, as if padded with wool: said of the feet or footsteps. *Obs.*

After L. *pedes lanâtos* or *lanatos habere*, "to have woollen feet", to walk silently, to move unperceived.

1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 173 Following with wollen feet, but smiting with an arme of iron. 1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 362 You shall find..woollen pace and iron vengeance.

¶ The allusion in the foll. quot. is uncertain.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 36 There is no firme reason.. Why he cannot abide a gaping Pigge?..Why he a woollen bag-pipe. [See 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 432/2 s.v. *Bagpipe.*]

†**2.** Wearing woollen clothing, (*a*) as a mark of penance (cf. Woolward *a.*), (*b*) as a mark of poor or lowly status. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* cci. 593 By comyn acord of the bisshoppes they cam wullen and barfote in the chirche of our lord. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. ii. 9, I muse my Mother Do's not approue me further, who was wont To call them Woollen Vassailes, things created To buy and sell with Groats.

B. *sb.* Cloth or other fabric made of wool or chiefly of wool. *Now rare.*

† *To lie in the woollen*: to sleep with a blanket next to one. *To be buried in woollen*: to have a woollen shroud, as required by the Act of 18 & 19 Chas. II for the encouragement of the woollen manufacture.

a 1300 *Fragm. 7 Sins* 16 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 29 Linin, wollin, glouis and schone. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 18 He hihte þe sorþe to sarsen ow vchone Of wollene, Of linnene. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11112 (Trin.) He wered noujer wollen ny lynne. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 457 Vesselys or vestmentes of sylke, lynen, or wollyn. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 122 In Winter, they would be clothed with Wollen for taking of cold. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 33, I could not endure a husband with a beard on his face, I had rather lie in the woollen. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 309 His Breeches were of rugged Woollen. 1666 *Act 18 & 19 Chas. II* c. 4 (*title*) An Act for Burying in Woollen onely. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 187 Let 'em damn us to Woolen, I'll never repine At my Lodging when Dead. 1778 D. Loch *Tour Scot.* 14 There are several looms employed here..for linens and coarse woolen, adapted for country use. 1791 A. Macaulay *Hist. Chepstow* 116 An affidavit was sent..of the body having been buried in woolen in Saint Pancras church-yard. 1836 C. Wordsworth *Athens* v. (1853) 87 Over which is a shorter vest of woollen. 1885 Ada S. Ballin *Sci. Dress* 128 Woollen should be worn not only in winter but in summer also. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 73 Knee caps..are made of stout woollen or horsey.

b. *pl.* Woollen cloths or clothes.

1820 Stuart in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 577 A great quantity of English goods, particularly woollens, found their way into that country. 1826 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 52 Instead of melting under an equinoctial sun in the lightest cloathing...they were glad to resume their woolens. 1829 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 53 They grew small sallad by means of woollens, in which the seeds were sown. 1856 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* III. iv. 358 The exportation of Irish woollens to the colonies and to foreign countries was prohibited.

¶ A proposed name for the Mullein, *Verbascum Thapsus*, formed by substituting *wull*, *woll* Wool *sb.* for the first syllable (but cf. M.L.G. *wullene* 'I verbascum').

1578 (see Wollewyf). 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclvi. 630 Mullein is called..in English Mullein, or rather Woolen. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Woollen..*Verbascum Thapsus.*

C. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly of the *sb.*): **a.** simple attrib., as *woollen†-card, district, -loom, manufacture, -mill, -trade, -weaving*; **b.** objective, as *woollen-dyer, -manufacturer, scribbler* (Scribeller[2]), *-spinner*, †*-webster, -worker*; **c.** instrumental and parasynthetic, as *woollen-clad, -frocked, -stockinged* adjs.; **d.** Special comb.: **Woollen Act**, the act of 18 & 19 Chas. II prescribing burial in woollen; †**woollen-going** *vbl. sb.* = *westward going* (see Woolward b); †**woollen-head**, a thick-headed or dull person (in quot. *attrib.*); †**woollen-witted** *a.*, = Woolly-headed c; **woollen-work**, †(*a*) woollen manufacture; (*b*) = *wool-work*. Also Woollen-draper.

1678 Dryden *Œdipus* Prol. 36 Record it,..The first Play bury'd since the *Woollen Act*. 1812 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 204 Cardes called *woollen cardes*. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 168 The *woollen-clad soldiers of Alexander. *c* 1890 Cassey *Ventilation* 14 In the *woollen districts. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4611/4 James Ford of *Bow*, ..*Woollen-dyer. 1884 Bayce *Holy Rom. Emp.* x. (1886) 175 An imperial penitent, standing barefoot and *woollen-frocked on the snow. 1493 [H. Parker] *Dives & Pauper* I. xxxvi. (W. de W. 1496) 76/2 All they that was..masses synging, fastynges,..*wullen goeynge, and such other in theyr wytchecraft. 1736 Tolneray *Hist. 2 Orphans* III. 31 Proving to the *woollen-head justice, that we are neither felons nor vagrants, tho' he was disposed to call us so. 1538 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 200 Unum *wollanlome. 1565 *Burgh Rec. Irestwich* 25 Oct. (Maitl. Club) 69 Ane volene twyne. 1666 *Act 18 & 19 Chas. II* c. 4 For the Encouragement of the *Woollen Manufactures of this Kingdom..Be it enacted [etc.]. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. viii. 1846 McCulloch *A.c. Brit. Emp.* (1854) I. 277 Various branches of the woollen manufacture have been introduced into Roxburghshire. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* II § 2 Other manufacturers, as well as the *woollen. 1802 *Ann. Reg. Chron.* 67 The woollen-manufacturers are incensed at the introduction of new machinery. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 72 At Bannockburn and Stirling, are a few *woollen-mills. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Woollen-scribblers*,..machines for combing or preparing wool into thin downy translucent layers. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 61 The object of the *woollen-spinner will always be to have yarn in which [etc.]. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 7 Dec. 4/4 Women, thick-booted, *woollen-stockinged, flannel-petticoated. 1735 Berkeley *Querist* § 89 Our hankering after the *Woollen-Trade. 1842 Buchanan *Woollen Manuf.* II. 68 The wool and woollen trade. 1588 Kyd *Housek. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 272 [A wife's] principall care should be of Lynnen or of *wollen weauing. 1630 tr. *Camden's Hist. Elis.* I. 219 Other such like stuffes of linnen and woollen weauing. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 99 (MS. T.) *Wollene webesteris and weuesris of lynen. 1638 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 170, I, Richard Umpelbie of Lineslandes, wollan webster. † 1620 Fletcher *Love's Cure* II. i, Thou *Woollen-witted Hoeheeler. 1632 Shirley *Lady Pleas.* III. (1637) G 2, Course woollen witted fellowes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 403/1 *Wollond warke.., *lanificium*. 1866 *All Year Round* XV. 289/2 Four young ladies, carrying baskets of woollen-work. 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 287 The arrival from the Spanish Netherlands of *woollen-workers.

Woollen-draper. Now *Hist.* [f. prec. *sb.* + Draper *sb.*] A dealer in woollen goods.

1554 *Act 1 & 2 Phil. & Mary* c. 7. § 1 Lynnen Drapers, Woollen Drapers, Haberdashers and Grocers. 1619 Puncheon *Microcosmus* Iv. 52: The Woollen Draper hath belonging to him, the Dier, Cottoner, Sherman, Fuller [etc.]. 1642 Earl Monm. tr. *Bisaudi's Civil Wars* VI. 24 The Company of Wollen-drapers kept a Store-house in Calleis, from whence the Low-countries, and all Germany were furnished. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XI. v, I can neither live on Hopes or Promises, nor will my Woollen-draper take any such in Payment. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* XXI, Ford's was the principal woollen-draper, linen-draper, and haberdasher's shop united. 1890 Gross *Gild Merch.* II. 53 The trades of clothiers, weavers, woollen-drapers.

So **Woo·llen-drapery**, woollen goods; also, a shop for the sale of these.

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2322/4 All sorts of Woollen Drapery. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 40 Dealers in upholstery,..woollen drapery. 1919 *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XVI. 141 Daniel Dunbabin, of Warrington, of a substantial woollen-drapery.

Woollenette (wulénĕt). *U.S.* Also woolenet. [f. Woollen *sb.* + -ette.] A thin woollen stuff.

1829 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. 3, I wish you would send me up some nankeen pantaloons, as my woolenet ones are so tight that they are uncomfortable. 1846 Worcester, *Woollenette*, a thin woollen stuff.

†**Woo·ller.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 woller. [f. Wool *sb.* + -er[1].] A wool-carrying ship.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 111 Yowre oder stuffe I schall send..unto yowre masterschypp be on of the wollers. 1693 *Ho. Lords MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 384 The Bill..gives but half to the privateers of all Owlers and Woollers.

Woolliness (wu·linés). [f. Woolly *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being woolly, in various senses; also *concr.* a woolly substance.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclix. 634 Leaues..like vnto those of Hygtaper, but far whiter, softer, thicker, & fuller of woolliuesse, which wooll is so long, that one may with his fingers pull the same from the leaues. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 210 The Seed with its Woolliness, beginning a little to rise of its self at the lower-end of the Head. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xiii. (1794) 142 The woollyness of the flowers in the Reed. 1824 *Examiner* 307/2 Mr. Fielding's execution is..soft without woolliness. 1836 *Mem. W. Vowell* p. xvii, He [*sc.* Yarrell] said that though pretty well he felt a 'wooliness 'in the brain. 1839 Gullick & Timbs *Painting* 198 A 'mazzy', feeble, unpleasant appearance,..technically called 'woolliness'. 1861 M. Horatius *Hannah* 344 The hair is black and waving...its curl is perfectly free from the woolliness of the African. 1883 *Hardwicke's Phot. Chem.* (ed. 9) 152 In attempting to coat a large plate, a wavy appearance, often known as woolliness of the film, is seen at the lower corner. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* IV. v, That state of numb woolliness to which yesterday's loss portion of labour had brought her. 1894 H. O. *Primates* I. 204 The woolliness of their under-fur.

†**Woo·lling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Wool *sb.* + -ing[1].]

1. Combing wool; only in *woolling comb.*

1599 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 One p' of woullinge combes.

2. Coating or lining with wool.

1660 [see Wool *a.* 2 a].

3. Carrying of wool, esp. illicitly (= Owling).

1685 [in J. Lawson *Jrnl.* (1900) 3 The great number we met of coulden all the way bigat in us great fears of

woolly Rain (cf. *Clouds* 1008), Nutricious! 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 280 Short woolly curls o'erfleec'd his heading head. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* II. 91 Its fur..is of a woolly nature. 1840 R. H. Dana *Def. the Mast* xiii. 32 Coarse black hair, but not wooly, like the negroes. 1856 Geo. Eliot *Scenes Cler. Life, A. Barton* ii. The sky had the white woolly look that portends snow. 1901 *Words of Eye-witness* 33 A puff of woolly smoke in the air.

b. Having a soft and clinging texture; said esp. of edible things which are consequently unpleasant to the palate; also of the surface of a road.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 217 The Fruit..is pretty sweet but woolly [orig. *cotonneux*]. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 416 He..has a pair of leaders ready when the roads run woolly. 1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 207 Barley..is apt to render the flesh [of poultry] insipid, and woolly. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 619 She has found the eggs of Spanish fowls eat woolly. 1862 White-Melville *Inside Running* ix. 345 Time's short,..roads woolly, and whip-cord scarce. 1874 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 439 The pulp soon assumes a spongy appearance, technically known as 'woolly'. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 176/2 Turnips have become all tops, and..are just getting into the woolly

natural covering of wool, wool-

Merch. V. I. iii. 84 When the warbe of generation was betweene these woolly breeders in the act. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 844 Like him in Caves they shut their woolly Sheep. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XII. 319 Then suddenly was heard..To low the ox, to bleat the woolly train. 1788 Picken *Poems* 104 T'wall score o' sheep..sal be thine, O' soy sheep, the fattest o' the plain. 1860 G. H. Kingsley in Galton *Vac. Tour.* 139 [The colly dog] is jumping from one woolly back to another, intent on singling out the one which has been indicated to him.

b. Having hair resembling wool: applied esp. to negroes (= *woolly-haired* or *-headed*).

1767 Carteret in Hawkesw. *Voy.* (1773) I. 368 Two of the natives..were black, with woolly heads. 1812 Mrs. Rarbauld *1811*, 166 Streets, where the turban'd Moslem, bearded Jew, And woolly Afric, met the brown Hindu. 1882 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* xxiv, He had eaten pemmican, and ridden a woolly horse. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 351 It was a large, woolly poodle, snowy white.

c. In specific names of animals, often rendering L. *lanatus*, *laniger*.

Woolly bear *colloq.* (esp. *children's*), also *dial.* woolly boy, a large hairy caterpillar, esp. the larva of the tiger-moth.

1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadr.* I. 213 Woolly Manicuuce. 1783 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) II. 296 Woolly Rat. 1802 Dorothy Wordsworth *Jrnl.* 7 Nov., Like an immense caterpillar, such as, when we were children, we used to call *Woolly Boys*, from their hairy coat. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 535 The pear..is seldom affected with the woolly aphis. 1883 Weed *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 335 Its [*sc.* the Tiger-moth's] caterpillar is..familiar under the name of Woolly Bear. *Ibid.* 508 Fig., Woolly crab, *Dorippe lanata*. 1877 Cassell's *Nat. Hist.* I. 272 The Woolly Monkeys, *Lagothrix*. *Ibid.* 292 The Woolly Lemur—The Avahi. *Indris laniger*. 1878 *Ibid.* II. 333 *Rhinoceros tricheirhinus*, or the Woolly Rhinoceros.

d. *Wild and woolly*, orig. applied to the Far West (West *sb.*[1] 3 b) of the United States of America on account of its rude and uncivilized character; hence *gen.* barbarous, lacking culture.

1891 A. Wilcox *Tales of the 'Wild & Woolly West'* Publishers' Note, Woolly..seems to refer to the uncivilized ——untamed ——hair outside——and still in the si

condition of the Western Pioneers. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/1 How many Indians did you kill? How, Cappen, I want something wild and woolly.

†c. = WOOLLEN *a.* 1 c. *Obs. rare.*

1632 DEKKER *Match Me* II. D 1 b, Thankes vengeance; thou at last art come (Tho with wolly feet).

4. Of parts of plants: Covered with a pubescence resembling wool; downy, lanate, tomentose.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxiv. 124 Asthiopis hath great brode woolly leaues. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest* ii, The blushing Apricot, and woolly Peach. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 611 Rough is the Stem, which woolly Leafs surround. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Abutilon*, The large-leav'd American *Abutilon*, with woolly Stalks. 1845 BROWNING *Lost Mistr.* ii, The leaf-buds on the Vine are woolly. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 53 Githago segetum..Calyx woolly.

b. In specific names of plants, often rendering L. *lanatus* or *tomentosus*.

Woolly butt [BUTT *sb.*[4] 4]. an Australian name for species of *Eucalyptus*, esp. *E. longifolia*.

1597 GERARDE *Herball* I. lxxiii. 106 *Bulbus Eriophorus*, Woolly Iacint. *Ibid.* II. cclix. 634 We may call it Mullein of Æthiopia, or woolly Mullein. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 61 Hypericum tomentosum,..Lobella Woolly S. Iohnswort. 1830 J. D. MAYCOCK *Flora Barbadensis* 294 *Phaseolus Mungo*..Woolly-Pyros. 1857 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 211 *Salix lanata*..Woolly Broad-leaved Willow. 1862 *Internat. Exhib., Catal. Products Queensld.* 25 Eucalyptus sp..Woolly Butt. 1882 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 324 'Woolly Gum' of Berrima..This is the smooth-barked variety of *Eucalyptus Stuartiana*. 1912 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 247 Giant woolly-butt forests.

5. *gen.* Having a wool-like texture, surface, or covering.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 27 The nativo [nitre] is generally acicular or woolly. 1924 C. MACKENZIE *Sinister St.* III. xv, The golf-bag..woolly now with the accumulated mildew of neglect.

6. *transf.* and *fig.* Lacking in definiteness or incisiveness; 'muzzy'; (of the mind, etc.) confused and hazy; (of painting, etc.) lacking in clearness or definition; (of sound, etc.) dull and indistinct.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 54 It [*sc.* a picture] looks woolly, undecided in shapes. 1839 CHATTO & JACKSON *Wood Engraving* 711 Some of the chiaro-scuros..seem too soft and woolly. 1864 YATES *Broken to Harness* I. viii. 146 The daughter of old Dunkel..was a little woolly. 1865 HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 518 Pusey's woolly mind appears to cling to him [*sc.* Gladstone]. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxxv. II. 198, 'I suppose you know..' said Mrs. Waule, in the lowest of her woolly tones. 1874 LIBLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* v, The farm-servants..lost in woolly wonder. 1878 LOCKYER *Stargazing* 354 Except on the finest of nights the stars..appear woolly. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* xix, 'That is not a bad remark, Joseph,' replied the laird, with woolly condescension. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque, Some Portraits by Raeburn* (1905) 142 Dugald Stewart's woolly and evasive periods. 1884 *Bazaar* 26 Dec. 681/3 A drawing to look into, but rather woolly at a few paces off. 1895 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 572 The performance..growing woollier and woollier in tone, and then dying out in sleep. 1897 *Graphic* Christmas No. 9 The stiff woolly piano.

7. *Comb.*, as *woolly-butted* (BUTT *sb.*[3] 4), *-coated*, *-haired*, *-leaved*, *-looking*, *-minded* (hence *-mindedness*), *-pated*, *-tailed* adjs.

1843 J. BACKHOUSE *Narr. Visit Austral. Col.* 445 The Gum-trees..are of several species. One called here, the *Woolly-butted Gum, seems identical with the Black-butted Gum of Tasmania. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 341 A lank, *woolly-coated weed [*sc.* a horse]. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 3 June an. 1781, Lord Monboddo's notion, that the ancient Egyptians..were not only black, but *woolly-haired. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, Miss Swartz, the woolly-haired young heiress from St. Kitt's. 1868 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. xlvii. (ed. 10) II. 563 The..woolly-haired rhinoceros. 1882 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 380 *Inula Suaveolens*. *Woolly-leaved Inula. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 128 The Woolly-leaved Rose (*Rosa tomentosa*). 1881 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Breislakite*.., a *woolly-looking variety of aluminous pyroxene. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/4 There are plenty of such *woolly-minded men in high places. 1923 *Blackw. Mag.* May 598/2 The Don, with much alacrity and *woolly-mindedness,.. proceeded to ransack all the lockers. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 18 A comely well Limb'd Person, though a *Woolly-pated Coffery. 1848 tr. *Heffmeister's Trav. Ceylon* etc. II. 362 *Woolly-tailed Yak ox.

B. *sb.* A woollen garment or covering; now esp. *pl.*, garments or wraps knitted of (fleecy) wool.

1865 *Slang Dict., Woolly*, a blanket. 1899 *19th Cent.* Aug. 283 'Granny the Thimbleman'..knits woollies for the 'quality'. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 514 *note*, Flannel shirts ..and woollies of all sorts for the wounded soldiers. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 248/2 Some thin underclothing and a 'woolley' in addition to the spare shirt and socks.

Woollyer, Wooll(e)ying, var. forms of WILLYER, WILLYING *vbl. sb.* (s.v. WILLY *sb.*[1]).

1828 T. ALLEN *Co. York* II. 302 Teasing, or as it is sometimes called, woolleying, is done upon a large cylindrical machine. 1875 BAINES *Yorks.* I. 670 Woollyers.

Woo'lly-head. A person with woolly hair, *esp.* a negro; hence, a nickname for an abolitionist in America.

1849 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Woolly-heads*, a term applied in the first place to negroes, and then to anti-slavery politicians. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 20 Sept., I must do the American press the justice to say that..I get it quite as hot from the Woollyheads as from the Copperheads. 1884 *19th Cent.* June 903 Our friends the 'woolly heads' [*sc.* Arabs] are peeping at us from amongst the bushes.

Woo'lly-hea'ded (stress variable), *a.* Having a woolly head; a. in specific names of plants; b. Woolly-haired; c. *fig.* Dull-witted.

a. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 20 *Cardnus eriocephalus* ..Wolly-headed Thistle. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 701 *Carduus eriophorus*..Woolly-headed Thistle. 1897 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 237 *Cnicus eriophorus*.. (Woolly-headed Plume-thistle). 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 72 *Andropogon bombycinus*..'Woolly-headed Grass.'

b. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 5. 2/1 The Blacks in Guinea are Woolly-headed. 1813 PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man* vi. § 6. 307 Most of them resembled the woolly-headed Papuas. 1877 Miss A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xvi. 435 Abyssinians and Nubians,..flat-nosed, and wooly-headed.

c. 1883 Miss BROUGHTON *Belinda* iv. iv, She has taken.. the Borrowdale road, walks along it for some distance confused and woolly-headed. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 This, too, not by silly, woolly-headed people, but by practical, hard-headed men of business.

Woollyish (wu·liiʃ), *a. rare.* [f. WOOLLY *a.* + -ISH[1].] Somewhat woolly.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* (1796), Woollyish,..*sublanatus*.

Woo'lman. Now chiefly *Hist.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + MAN *sb.*[1]: cf. MDu. *wolman* 'lanarius'.] A dealer in wool, a wool-merchant.

1390 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 43 John de Gysburn, wolleman. 1424 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 84 Joh. Deyster, woleman. 1458 in *Hearne's Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 256 Hic jacent Johannes Townsende, quondam..Wolman istius villae [etc.]. 1550 *Proclam. Winding of Wools* 21 May 1 The Masters & wardens of the company, and felowshippe of the wolmen of the Cytie of London. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 27 Woolmen dislike and find greate falt with woll that hath much salve or tarre in it. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb* (1757) 425 When the wool-man was weighing my wool, he shewed me the difference of some fleeces in goodness. 1762 *Lond. & Environs* VI. 363 *Woolmen*, a company probably of great antiquity, though they have no charter, and are a community only by prescription. 1912 J. S. M. WARD *Brasses* 20 The brasses of the woolmen are the finest. 1920 *Glasgow Herald* 21 Oct. 7 Woolmen, bankers, and journalists were consulted.

†**Woo'lner.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 **wollner.** [f. WOOLLEN + -ER[1].] A dealer in woollen goods.

1619 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1906) 87 To publish unto the brokers and wollners of the towne your intente to sett them a worke in the makinge of broade baftaes.

Woo'l-pack. [f. WOOL *sb.* + PACK *sb.*[1]]

1. A large bag into which a quantity of wool or of fleeces is packed for carriage or sale.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 12171 [They] Ride vpe tueye wolpakces, chapmen as hii were. 14.. in Krapp *Lag. St. Patrick's Purg.* (1900) 65 Stoppeng and shovyng þe felthe downe into here bodies as þe wold stoppe a wullepak. 1600 *Maldon, Essex, Docts.* Bundle 162 lf. 3 (MS.), il a. of Richard Studd, collector for the woolpacks, for the profitts of his office this yeare. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* D 1, In chaires of hardest oke they sate Insteede of woull-packes. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 285/2 A Wool Pack..is a great number of Fleeces made up together in a cloth tied at the four ends. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iv, There was a Fellow with a Wen in his Neck, larger than five Woolpacks. 1758 *Hist. London-Bridge* 14 The Foundation of this Bridge is by the Vulgar generally believed to be laid upon Woolpacks; which Mistake probably arose from a Tax upon Wool towards its Construction. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Progr. Taste* I. 104 This wards the jokes of ev'ry kind,..As wool-packs quash the leaden ball. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xx, This coming Countess..hangs on our arms as dead a weight as a woolpack. 1845 D. MACKENZIE *Emigr. Guide Australia* 91 One man is employed in gathering the fleeces as they are shorn —another in folding them up, and handing them to a man who is pressing them into a large bag, called a wool pack, capable of containing..about 250 lbs. of wool, or about 100 average fleeces. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxii. 368 Hempen fabrics were used for woolpacks.

†b. = WOOLSACK 2. *Obs.*

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Epig. on People* Wks. (1687) 254 We.. Call'd out a Parliament,..Which being obtain'd at last, what did they do? Even squeese the Wool-packs, and lye snorting too. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Aug., My Lord Chancellor being gone to the House of Lords, I went thither, and ..there staid all the morning, seeing their manner of sitting on woolpacks, &c. which I never did before. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 261 These twelve judges sitt in the House of Lord[s] on wool packs.

2. *transf.* Something resembling a wool-pack.

†a. A large mass of white water. *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 267 Boystrous woolpacks of ridged tides, came rowling in, and raught him from her. 1733 *Trnv. J. Massey* 36 We spy'd that which Sailors call a Wool-Pack, seemingly as big as a great Cask, within Cannon-shot of our Ship.

b. orig. *wool-pack cloud*: A fleecy cumulus cloud. Chiefly *pl.* (or *collect. sing.*).

1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Otia Sacra* (1879) 128 A day most clear!..wherein Some wool-pack Clouds in corner's bin. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 440 The sky full of light wool-pack clouds boding no rain. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. lii. 483 In the north of England, such clouds are called woolpacks. 1869 *Daily News* 13 Feb., The ordinary cumulus or woolpack cloud. 1883 BURTON & CAMERON *Gold Coast* I. iii. 69 The bright blue air, flecked with wool-pack.

c. *pl.* Masses of Wenlock limestone. *local.*

1848 J. PHILLIPS in *Mem. Geol. Surv.* II. i. 185 The solid masses of limestone are locally termed 'Woolpacks'.

3. *attrib.*, as *wool-pack cloud* (see 2 b); in quot. *a* 1651, ? resembling a pack of sheep.

a 1652 CLEVELAND *Mixt Assembly* 4 Chaos of Presbyt'ry, where Lay-men guide With the tame Woolpack Clergy by their side.

Woo'l-packer. One who makes up packages of wool for transport or sale. Also, later, a machine for packing wool. So **Woo'l-packing.**

1376 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 584 In donis dat. Wolpakkers, 4*d.* ? 1480 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 30, xxvj sarplerys the weche ys fayre woll as the woll packar..saythe to me. 1543 tr. *Act 8 Hen. VI*, c. 22 That no wolpacker shal make within the realme but good and due packyng. 1604 *Proclam. Winding Wools* 18 June § 2 All Wool-packers, and Winders of wools. 1639 *Stow's Surv.* 640 The Company of Woollpackers. 1868 W. WILSON *Hist. Dis. Ch.* I. 330 [The old meeting-house] is at present occupied by a wool-packer. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Wool-packer*, a machine for compressing and tying fleeces. *Ibid.*, Wool-packing table. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 33 The wool-packing season was at its busiest.

Woolsack (wu·lsæk). [f. WOOL *sb.* + SACK *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *wolzak*, G. *wollsack*.]

1. A large package or bale of wool.

a 1300 *Sat. People Kildare* xi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 254 3e marchans wiþ 3ur gret packes of draperie..and 3ur wol sackes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 99 Bot lich unto the wollesak Sche proferth hire unto this knyht. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) II. 32 Sum say..that Wollesakkes be yn Ewelm in token of Marchaundise. 1875 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Praise* [illegible]

TRAPP *Comm. Esther* I. 10. 107 Having farced his body with good chear like a wool sack. 1915 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5324/2 Woolsacks and other Materials of use in making a Siege. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 87 ¶ 2 As woolsacks deaden arrows though they cannot repel them. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 457 Old London Bridge was built not 'on woolsacks', but out of the proceeds of a tax on wool.

b. Applied jocularly to a corpulent person.

1596 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 148.

2. A seat made of a bag of wool for the use of judges when summoned to attend the House of Lords (in recent practice only at the opening of Parliament); also, the usual seat of the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords, made of a large square bag of wool without back or arms and covered with cloth. Often *allusively* with reference to the position of the Lord Chancellor as the highest judicial officer; hence, *the woolsack*, the Lord-Chancellorship; *on the woolsack*, in this office.

[1339: see SACK *sb.*[1] 2 d.]

a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* II. iii. (1589) 49 In the middest thereof vpon woolsackes sitteth the Iudges of the realme, the maister of the roules, and the secretaries of estate. But these that sit on the woolsackes haue no voice in the house. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 123/2 In the middle roome beneath them sit the chiefe iustices and iudges of the realme, the barons of the excheker, the kings serieants, and all such as be of the kings learned councell, ..and all these sit vpon great woollsacks, couered with red cloth. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 11 The Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, upon the Woull-sack. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 95 The Lord Chancellor..sits on the first Wool-Sack...Upon other Wool-Sacks sit the Judges, the King's Council at Law, and the Masters of Chancery. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 536/2 The noble Lord on the Wool-Sack. 1785 *Rolliad, Prob. Odes* xvi. 8 By G—d I swore, while George shall reign, The Seals, in spite of changes, to retain, Nor quit the Woolsack, till he quits the throne. 1796 T. MORTON *Way to get Married* I. i. (1800) 16 *Count.* Pray stick to the law. *Tang.* And to the woolsack. Does not the hope of that. cram our courts full of barristers, with heads as empty as they leave their clients' pockets? 1817 EVANS *Parl. Deb.* 414 The Lord Chancellor took the Woolsack at one o'clock. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 108 What seated Thurlow, and Wedderburne,..and Brougham on the woolsack? Work. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Eloquence* Wks. (Bohn) III. 189 If the performance of the advocate reaches any high success, it is paid in England..with seats in the cabinet, earldoms, and woolsacks. 1862 Miss BRADDON *Lady Audley* XXV, She drags her husband on to the woolsack, or pushes him into parliament. 1901 *Empire Rev.* I. 467 The woolsack is technically not in the House, a fact recognised by the Standing Orders which provide that when the Lord Chancellor wishes to speak he is 'to go to his own place as a Peer'.

attrib. 1633 DAVENANT *Cælum Brit.* Wks. 1673 I. 362 Though I am but a Woollsack-god, and have no vote in the sanction of new Laws.

‖**Woolsaw** (wu·lsɔ). Also 8 **woolesaw**, 9 **oulasser.** [Mosquito *wulasha*.] Among people of African descent in Central America, an evil spirit or demon.

1757 R. HODGSON *Mosquito Territ.* (1881) 46 A kind of priests called Sookies, who..pretend to deal with an evil spirit called Woolesaw. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 267 Their great evil spirit is the 'woolsaw' or devil. 1842 T. YOUNG *Residence on Mosquito Shore* vi. 72 After sun-set a Sambo will not venture out alone, lest the Oulasser should carry him away.

†**Woolsey**, *sb. Obs. rare.* The second element of LINSEY-WOOLSEY used independently.

1737 BENTLEY *Rem. Disc. Free-Thinking* liv. III. 22 Unless he thought his Verses were to sell by the Foot, no matter for the Stuff whether Linsey or Woolsey.

Woolsey (wu·lzi), *a. rare.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + -SEY derived from LINSEY-WOOLSEY.] Woolly; woollen.

1839 LANDOR *Andrea of Hungary* IV. iv, This woolsy race (*i.e.* sheep). 1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* I, The Carrier's mantle, or woolsey coat.

Woolskin (wu·lskin). Also 6 **wol-, volskyn** (g. [SKIN *sb.*] A sheepskin with the fleece on it.

c 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Sheepe & G.* 361 The wolle skynnys makith man to rise To gret richesse in many sondry wise. 1482 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 103/1 þre hundretht & foure skore woll skynnes. 1532-3 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 109 Expenduntur 44s wolskyns. 1533-4 *Ibid.* 313 Vocatus wolskyngs. 1812 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 340 Woll skins the hundreth, xx li. 1843 *Docq. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 370 Lettres Patentes..for the collectinge of the Custome of wooles hydes woolskinnes..in the Porte of ..Southampton. 1903 FLEMING *Pract. Tanning* 64 Woolskins are also very cheaply tanned in the following manner.

Woo'l-staple[1]. [STAPLE *sb.*[2]] A market appointed for the sale of wool.

1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Essex* (Camden) Introd. p. xvii, Ther are within this cytie the longe Woulstaple and the rounde, both which take name of the Staple that ther was kepte for woules. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 July 1656, The pinnacle of one of their wool-staple houses. 1778 *Engl. Gaz.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Sandwich*, The wool-staple was removed hither from Queenborough, in the reign of Richard II.

So **Wool-stapler** [STAPLER 2], a merchant who buys wool from the producer, grades it, and sells it to the manufacturer. Also **Wool-stapling.**

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4529/3 Eden Hardy,..Bermondsey, ..Woolstapler. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 160 The matted fleeces supplied by the wool-stapler. 1888 T. W. REID *W. E. Forster* I. 137 The wool-stapling business of James Fison and Son of Thetford. 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* xlviii, An Australian wool-stapler.

Wool-staple ². [STAPLE *sb.*³] The staple of (a particular) wool.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 155 The distance between the first and last pair of rollers is much greater, on account of the greater length of the wool-staple.

Woolsted, obs. form of WORSTED.

Woolster (wu·lstəɹ). *Sc.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + -STER.] A wool-stapler (Jam. 1825).

1577 in *Agric. Surv. Ayr.* 90 (Jam.) All other art or trade viz. of shoemakers,..carpenters, and woolsters.

Woolsy: see WOOLSEY.

Wooluish, var. WOLVISH *a. Obs.*

†**Woo·lward,** *a. Obs.* Forms: see WOOL *sb.*; also 6 woldward. [ME. *wolleward*, prob. alteration of **wollewerd* (of which there is perh. a relic in the form *wellewerd*, for *wollewerd*, of quot. 1480), from an unrecorded OE. **wullwerd*, f. *wull* WOOL *sb.* + *-werd*, *-wered* wearing, clothed (in), f. stem of *werian* WEAR *v.*¹ (cf. OE. *linenwered* clothed in linen, and prob. *scirwered*, *sweglwered* 'clothed' or enveloped in brightness). The assimilation of *-werd* to -WARD, initiated by lack of stress, would be furthered by the prevalence of the word in the phr. *to go woolward* (cf. *to go heavenward*).] Wearing wool next the skin, esp. as a penance: chiefly in *to go woolward.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 1024 Baruot go, Wolle-ward and wakynge. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 1 Wolleward and wete-shoed went I forth after. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 43 Saynt Thomas, be come to Caunturbury, wolward and barfote. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* xcix f 1, Good men.. that wenten baarfoot & wellewerd [*Brut* 99 wolward] for to haue mercy of the ij. kynges. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvii. 574 He is goon his wayes wulwarde & barefote wyth a sory staff in his hande. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 181 Truly it was a more glorious sight to se saynt Poule ..in hungre, thurst, watchynge, in colde, goynge wolward. 1583 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 717 The naked truth of it is, I haue no shirt, I go woolward for penance. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel* III. ii. v. i. 627 Poore people fare coursly, worke hard, goe wollward and bare. 1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* xvi. 2 If he thought his shirt were infected with that heresie, he would tear it from his own back, and rather goe woolward. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, To walk wool-ward in winter.

b. in attrib. position or comb.

1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* IV. xxi. (W. de W. 1496) 286/2 Auowe that she hath made to god as of fastynge, of pylgremage, contynence, wolwarde goynge, and such other. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* (1537) 93 His fastynge, his woldward goynge, bare foote goynge. 1608 BP. HALL *Serm.* 30 Mar., Wks. 1634 II. 327 Their woolward and barefoot walks. 1655 [G. HALL] *Tri. Rome* vi. 73 What woolward penances, what weary pilgrimages?

c. *To lay woolward*: to bury in wool. *rare.*

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 85 The sexton..so laid the dead bodies wool-ward.

Woolwich (wu·lidʒ). The name of a town in Kent, used attrib., esp. to designate productions of its old dockyard and the Royal Arsenal, as *Woolwich-gun*, *-hulk*; also **Woolwich-beds** *Geol.* (see quot. 1859); **Woolwich infant,** a jocular name given to a class of heavy guns.

1794 BURNS *Epist. fr. Esopus* 40 The shrinking Bard.. dreads a meeting worse than Woolwich hulks. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms*, *Woolwich-beds*, a name occasionally employed by English geologists to designate those beds of plastic and mottled clays, sands, and rolled flint-pebbles which lie between the 'Thanet Sands' and the 'London Clay'. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clavig.* ii. 21 The 35-ton gun called the 'Woolwich infant', which is fed with 700 pound shot and 130 pounds of gunpowder at one mouthful. 1875 W. T. VINCENT *Warlike Woolwich* 30 *note*, The name of the 'Woolwich Infant'..was suggested to the writer of these pages by Sergeant Major Adamson, of the Depot Brigade, Royal Artillery. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 472 *Woolwich Gun*, a gun rifled on the French system, with this modification, that the grooves are shallower, and have their corners rounded off.

Wool-winder. [WINDER *sb.*¹ (WIND *v.*¹ 16, 22 b).] One who 'winds' or packs up fleeces for transport or sale.

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 52 Let the wol be well folden or wounden with a woll-wynder, that can good skyll therof. 1550 *Proclam. Winding of Wools* 23 May 1 The felowshippe of wole wynders, otherwyse called wollmen. 1627 HOWELL *Londinop.* 63 The residue of the Lofts were letten out to Marchants, the Wooll-winders and Packers therein, to winde and pack their Wools. 1727 BYROM *Rem.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 286 It was the feast day of the woolwinders. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 138 Pick up the fleeces, and carry them to the wool-winders.

Wool-work. [Cf. G. *wollwerk* woollen goods.]

†1. Working in wool; manufacture of woollen goods. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 (Add. MS.) Wolle werke, *lanificium.* *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clvi. (1811) 145 His doughter he set to spynnynge and woll warke. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 172/39 Wolworke, *lanificium.* 1630 BRATHWAIT *Engl. Gent.* 125 The Towne of Kendall, so famous for Wooll-worke.

2. Needlework executed in wool usually on a canvas foundation. Also, knitted wool fabric.

1873 *Cassell's Housek. Guide* IV. 5 Design for a fire-screen in wool-work. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 465 Berlin woolwork. 1888 FERGUS HUME *Alma. Midas* Prol., A red cap of wool-work.

attrib. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Mar. 3/2 The eye of a wool-work needle. 1903 MRS. BARNES-GRUNDY *Vacil. Hazel* 55 She placed a woolwork cushion at the back of my head.

So **Woo·l-worked** *a.*, worked in wool, consisting of wool-work.

1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Apr. Suppl. 8/2 A good wool-worked Cricket-belt. 1900 *Bookseller's Catalogue*, Magnificent Woolworked and Silk Picture.

Woo·l-worker. [Cf. G. *wollwirker.*] One who works in wool.

1372 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* II. (1890) 151 [The light of] Wolwyrchers [in the same church]. 1552 HULOET, Wolle worker, *lanifex.* 1903 A. ROBERTSON *R.C. Ch. in Italy* ix. 187 St. Blaise..was once venerated in Yorkshire as the patron of woolworkers.

Woom, var. VOME *Obs.*, vomit.

Woomera (wū·mərä). *Austral.* Forms: wom-(m)erah, womrah, wom(m)-, wummera, wommeira, womerar, wo-, wamara, woom-, wammera, wommora, -ala. [Native name, given as *womar*, *womerra*, *wommerru*, etc. in various vocabularies.] A throwing-stick used by Australian aboriginals. = THROWING-STICK a. Also = next.

1817 OXLEY *Jrnls. Two Exped. N. S. Wales* (1820) 117 He [*sc.* the native] was quite naked, except the netted band round the waist, in which were womerahs. 1835 J. BATEMAN in Cornwallis *New World* (1839) I. 407 We .. encountered six men, armed with spears fixed in their wommeras. 1845 J. O. BALFOUR *Sk. N. S. Wales* 17 A *whamee* a whizzed past where I was standing, and with unerring aim struck Fighting Jemmy on the arm. 1907 *Mem. Mag.* Oct. 935 He,..with the aid of a favourite womerah, could send a long spear, tipped with palm-wood, through a deal plank an inch thick a hundred yards away.

Woomerang (wū·mərəŋ). *Austral.* Also wom-. [Native name (*wo-mur-ring* in D. Collins *N. S. Wales*, 1798, I. 613).] A missile club used by Australian aboriginals. = THROWING-STICK b.

1849 J. C. PRICHARD *Ethnol.* in *Man. Sci. Enquiry* 433 The ancient Gauls were known by their gæsa or javeline..The Australians by their woomerangs or throwing-sticks. 1864 J. ROGERS *New Rush* II. 46 Next—high in air the womerang-spear he flings.

Wooms. (See quot.)

1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Commerce* (ed. 2) 628 A mixture of *cheek* beaver, with white and brown stage beaver, or seasoned beaver, commonly called 'wooms'.

Woon (wūn). [Burmese *wun*] A Burmese administrative officer. Also **Woondock, Woongee,** names for different grades of this.

1800 M. SYMES *Acc. Embassy Ava* xiii. 308 To assist in the administration of affairs, four officers, called Woondocks, are associated with the Woongees. *Ibid.* 309 There are..officers ..who bear no ostensible share in the administration of public affairs, such as the Daywoon, or King's armour-bearer; the Chaingeewoon, or master of the elephants; also the Woons of the Queen's household. 1856 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* June 561/1 A message came down from the Woon, or head man, of the friendly people who inhabited the interior town of Pegu. 1886 LD. R. CHURCHILL in *Daily News* 26 Jan. 2/4 Those [English] officers were supported by troops and were working through local woons.

Woon, var. WONE, WOOLLEN.

Woond(e, Woonder, Woone, Woont: see WIND *v.*¹, WONDER, ONE, WONT.

Woontak: see *womb-tack*, WOMB *sb.* 5.

†**Woop.** [? var. of HOOP *sb.*³ 2.] The bullfinch.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 91 *Rubicilla*, Pyrrhula, the Woop, or Bulfinch.

Woop, variant of WOUP *Sc. Obs.*

Woorali, wourali (wurā·lí). Also 8–9 **woorara, 9 woorrara, wooraly.** See also OORALI, URALI, URARI. [See CURARE.] A South American climbing plant, *Strychnos toxifera*, from the root of which one of the ingredients of the poison CURARE is obtained; also, the poison itself. Also *attrib.*, as *woorali poison, vine.*

[1596 L. KEYMIS *Relat. Second Voy. Guiana* G 2, Names of poysoned hearbes. Ourari.] 1769 E. BANCROFT *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 101 The Woorara, which is the principal ingredient in the composition of the fatal Indian arrow poison of that name. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* I. xv. 395 A few of the above arrows are frequently dipped in the woorara poison, which is instantaneously fatal. 1803 WINTERBOTTOM *Sierra Leone* I. xv. 271 A kind of dart,..dipped in a poison called woorrara. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* 53 A vine grows in these wilds, which is called wourali. *Ibid.*, The wourali poison destroys life's action so gently, that the victim appears to be in no pain whatever. *Ibid.* 54 He scrapes the wourali vine and bitter root into thin shavings. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 152/2 Wooraly, Urari, or Poison-plant of Guiana. 1882 *N. Syd. Soc. Yearbk. Med.* 28 Nervous sensibility, after its suspension by woorara poisoning. 1892 P. FOUNTAIN *Alts. & For. S. Amer.* vii. 185 My mixture..was, like the true wourali, innocuous if swallowed. *Ibid.* 189, I have..strong grounds for believing that it is snake-poison that is the active principle in the wourali paste.

Woord, Woorld, Woory(e, etc., obs. ff. WORD, WORLD, WORRY *v.*, etc. **Woos,** obs. f. OOZE, WHOSE. **Woosel,** obs. ff. OUZEL. **Woost,** obs. 2 sing. pres. ind. of WIT *v.*¹ **Woosy(e,** obs. ff. OOZY. **Woot(e,** obs. ind. pres. of WIT *v.*¹

Wootes, obs. pl. of OAT.

1559 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 74, v° peckes wootes.

Woots (wūts). Also **wuds.** [app. orig. misprint for *wook*, repr. Canarese *ukku* (pronounced with initial *w*) steel.] A crucible steel made in southern India by fusing magnetic iron ore with carbonaceous matter. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 322 Doctor Scott..has sent over specimens of a substance known by the name of woots; which is considered to be a kind of steel. 1824 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. III. 436/2 Wootz, a steel from India, has lately been most successfully employed [for cutlery]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1176 The wootz ore consists of the magnetic oxide of iron, united with quartz. 1869 BALDWIN *Prehist. Nations* vi. (1877) 229 The celebrated India steel called wuds. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* May 569/1 The Indian 'wootz' steel,..which possesses remarkable toughness and sharpness.

Woo-woo. Imitative of the sound of wind.

1841 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Baillie* (1872) VI. 215 The ever-moaning..unsyllabled *woo-woo* of wind in empty churches!

Wooy, Sc. form of WOOLLY *a.*

Woose, var. OOZE.

Woozy (wū·zi), *a. U.S. slang.* Fuddled with drink; hence, muzzy, 'dotty'.

1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 22 Apr. 3/2 In the woozy lexicon of the voting church there is no such word as power. 1909 'O. HENRY' *Roads of Destiny* iv. 64 A woman gets woozy on clothes. 1912 CONAN DOYLE *His Last Bow* viii. 192 The man was mad. Well, he went a bit woozy.

†**Wop.** *Obs.* [OE. *wōp*: see WEEP *v.* etym.] Weeping. Hence †**Wopi** *a.*, tearful.

Beowulf 785 Þara þe of wealle wop gebyrdon, gryreleoð galan godes andsacan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 12 þær bið wop & toþa grietbitung. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Ure drihten .. iturnd hore horte and heore wope to muchele blisse. *c* 1205 LAY. 5970 Walle muchel was þa wop [*c* 1275 wepinge]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 376 Iblesced beo þu, Louerd, þet ..efter wopie wateres þeldest blið muruhðen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6912 Heo..bileuede þer al niȝt In wop & in orisons. 1340 *Ayenb.* 71 Oure blisse is ywent in-to wop.

Wop, var. WHOP. **Wopen,** obs. f. WEAPON.

†**Wopne, -one.** [?]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/2 Wopne, or pyxe (*S.* wopone of pis), *urina.*

Wopnen, obs. form of WEAPON *v.*

Wopper, var. WAPPER *a.*

Wor, var. WAR *a.* and *adv.*, worse.

†**Wo·rble,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [var. of WARBLE *v.*³; cf. WRABBLE *v.*] *intr.* To wriggle, writhe; to wallow.

a 1598 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 444 We wer..then worbling [*ed.* 1616 warbling] and waltering in our awin sinne and filthinesse. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xlvii. 10 Vhy haif I not, O God, als blunt a [braine] As he that daylie worbleth in the wyne. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Wrabil*, S. *warble*, *wurble*: as to *wurble in* or *out.*

Worble, variant of WARBLE *sb.*²

1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* xi. 309 The Worble of the Ox.

Worcester (wu·stəɹ). The name of the county town of Worcestershire, used *attrib.* to designate articles originating there, e.g. (formerly) a fine cloth, (now chiefly) a kind of China ware; also *ellipt.* = †Worcester cloth, Worcester porcelain, etc.

Worcester sauce = Worcestershire sauce (see next).

1551-2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 5 All and everie white Clothe and Clothes whiche shalbe made within the Cittie of Worcester commonlye called Longe Worcesters. *Ibid.* § 7 All and everie White Clothe and Clothes comonlye called Shorte Worcesters. 1820 R. WARNER *Tour Northern Counties* I. 47 That exquisite porcelain..known by the name of Worcester china. 1822 *Auction Catal. Fonthill Abbey* 45 A Worcester tea and coffee set. 1848 H. R. FOSBROKE *Stowe Catal.* 2 An oval sugar-basin, cover, and stand, of rare old Worcester. *Ibid.* 9 A pair of vases, of Worcester porcelain. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* XXXI, He poured Worcester sauce into his coffee, and cream over his devilled cutlets. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 648/1 Dr. Wall..started the Worcester Porcelain Company in 1751. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 8/6 Hops. Worcester..Trade in Worcesters keeps quiet.

Worcestershire (wu·stəʃəɹ). The name of an English county: *attrib.* in *Worcestershire sauce*, which is made in Worcester (also *ellipt.* for this).

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* li. § 107 Worcestershire Salts. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iii, They found no fault with my Worcestershire Perry, which I sold them for champagne. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 22 A bottle of Worcestershire. 1889 G. ALLEN *Falling in Love*, etc. 205 Mulligatawny soup, Worcestershire sauce, preserved ginger, hot pickles.

Worch, Worcher, Worchip: see WORK, WORKER, WORSHIP.

Word (wɞɹd), *sb.* Forms: 1–word, 1–6 wurd, (3 wored, woerd, weord, wuord, wort), 3–6 werd, 3 (4–6 *Sc.*) wourd, (4 wrd, 4–6 worde, wurde, *Sc.* vord(e, vourd, 5 worp (?)), 4–7 woord (6–7 -e), 5–6 *Sc.* wird(e. [OE. *word* str. n. = OFris., OS. *word*, MDu. *wort* (Du. *woord*), OHG., MHG., G. *wort*, ON. *orð* (Sw., Da. *ord*), Goth. *waurd* :— OTeut. **wurdom* :— pre-Teut. **wrdho-*; cf. Lith. *vardas* name, Lett. *wards* word, forename, OPruss. *wirds* word, OIr. *fordat* 'inquiunt'.

Indo-Eur. *wordh* is generally taken to be a deriv. of *wer-*, *wert-*, which appears in Gr. *ἔρρω* I shall say, *ῥῆτωρ* speaker, L. *verbum* word, Skr. *vratám* command, law, etc.)

I. Speech, utterance, verbal expression.

1. *collect. pl.* Things said, or something said; speech, talk, discourse, utterance; *esp.* with possessive, what the person mentioned says or said; (one's) form of expression or language. Often in such phrases as *in these, other*, etc. *words*, in (such-and-such) language; *many words, few words* (see also 22, 26); *to give words to, to put into words*, to express by means of language; *beyond words*, incapable of being expressed in language, unutterable, unspeakable.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 83 Þæt þas word sind soþ. *a* 1000 *Caedmon's Gen.* 2389 Ne wile Sarran .. ʒelyfan wordum minum. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 Ne mai no man þese word seggen..ʒif he haneð on his heorte onde. *Ibid.* 43 Vnderstonde we on ure heorte his holie wordes. *Ibid.* 217 On þame fewe litele word lotieð fele gode word, ʒif hie weren wel loponed. *c* 1205 LAY. 3606 *þa* alde king..þas wnord seide. *Ibid.* 8835 Nu beoð his word [*c* 1275 wordes] gode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 890 Til þat worm þan drighin spak Wordes bath o wrath and wrak. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 752 Sen thou speiris so ryaly, It is gret skill at men chesty Thi prowd vourdis. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 1. i. 21 These ar the wordes of the prophete Dauid. *Ibid.* II. 66 Youre holy rewle forbydeth you all vayne and ydel wordes. 1526 TINDALE *John* vi. 63 The wordes that I speake vnto you are spirite and lyfe. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 5 Ane prayer is noth the mair pleasand to god for ewsse we wse mony voidis in it. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. iii. 209 Giue sorrow words: the griefe that do's not speake, Whi-pers the o're-fraught heart, and bids it breake. *Ibid.* v. viii. 6, I haue no words, My voice is in my Sword. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 89 Seeing they cleare such a great point in a few words. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 865 Soft words to his fierce passion she assay'd. 1709, 1786 words of course [see COURSE *sb.* 36 a]. 1749 *Copy Let. Fr. Lady at Paris* 17 Not yet, answered Mr. de Vaudreuil, at which Words, the Prince darted a menacing Look at him. 1813 LADY BURGHERSH *Lett.* (1893) 61 Words can't describe the figures the women dress here. 1817 SHELLEY *Sonn., Oxymandias* 9 And on the pedestal these words appear. 1819 SCOTT *Betrothed* xvii, Forbear these wild and dangerous words!..There may be here those who will pretend to track mischief from light words. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. viii. 184 All this is what I have often heard you say yourself in other words. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xx, When he had a duty to perform, Captain Dobbin was accustomed to go through it without many words or much hesitation. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* v. i, I sometimes hold it half a sin To put in words the grief I feel. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* xvii, I have no words..to express the very great thanks which I..owe you. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* viii. At a loss to give indignation words. 1885 ' H. CONWAY ' *Family Affair* xxvii, To use his own words, he was in a cleft stick. 1892 *Temple Bar* Dec. 541 She could not put her fear into words. 1905 ELIN. GLYN *Vicita. Evang.* 277 Her tact is beyond words.

b. In various obsolete or casual uses (sometimes *spec.* speech as distinguished from writing).

Beowulf 612 Dær wæs hæleþa bleahtor, hlyn swynsode, word wæron wynsume. *a* 940 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* V. 243 Ic Æðelstan..on ðisum ʒewrite mid wordum afæstnie, ðæt ic wille [etc.]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 24 þa com se engel to hire and hi ʒegrette mid Godes wordum. *c* 1205 LAY. 52 Feþeren he nom mid fingren..& þa soþere word sette togadere & þa þre boc þrumde to are. *Ibid.* 6675 Mid wirden and mid writen he dude heom wel to witen þat [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12226 Fle for-soth fra him wil i, His wordes i mai noght vnderli. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *Prol.* 313 Discreet he was and of greet reuerence; He semed swich his wordes weren so wise. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 18 We felle in wordes of prisonners. *Ibid.* 25 The wiff aught to..lete the husbonde haue the wordes, and to be maister. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 542 Stameryng in his word-a. *c* 1489 — *Blanchardyn* vii. 28 Wythout moo wordes the knyght mounted..on horsbake. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 47 Sayand till hir with wirdis still. Half perv of your presoneir. 1560 DAUS tr. *Steidane's Comm.* 1 [They] affirmed their doynges to be good, bothe in wordes and writyng. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1215/1 We had more woordes of thys matter 1606 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 134, I would not Haue you..gine words or talke with the Lord Hamlet. 1677–8 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XIX. 61 Shee ..was much runn into words. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 723 They..in Words and Tears had spent The little time of stay.

c. *spec.* The text of a song or other vocal composition, as distinguished from the music; also, the text of an actor's part. In first quot. also *sing.*

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* I. xxi. 56 Whyle there ye thre thynges in goddes seruyce..The sentence, the worde, and the songe, the notes and songe serue to the wordes, and the wordes serue to the inwarde sentence. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 88 To th' selfe-same tune and words. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 238. 1761 VICTOR *Theatres Lond. & Dublin* II. 5 The Rehearsals..begin to be of Use to the Actor: When he is quite perfect in the Words and Cues. 1774 [see SET *v.* 73]. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 270 Till at the last she set herself to man, Like perfect music unto noble words. 1890 BARING GOULD *Old Country Life* 279 A marvellous store of old words and tunes in her head.

2. *sing.* Something said (= sense 1); a speech or utterance; esp. defined by a possessive or demonstrative. *arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 4 Ne leofaþ se mon be blisse anum ac be ælcon worde þe of godes muþe ʒæð. *a* 1178 *Cott. Hom.* 235 He cweð a wunder word to þar sawle bi þa wiue ysaiam. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 45 Min word .. Mass holpenn þa þatt redenn itt to sen & tunnderstannderenn. *Ibid.* 282 Swa wass filledd spennlig þatt word tatt ær wass cwiddedd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1600 þis word out of his hert sprang..' Me reus þat euer made i man.' 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 145 With that vorde assemblit thai. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xvi, Waye me for thi wirde! *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 538 Wallace was blyth fra he had heard thair wourdis.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxvii. 15 The wird of Ieasu is fulfillit rycht, Sanctis sicut dixit. 1584 POWTRAIN *Myrrour Christes Passion* 124 A contemplation of this secunde worde spoken by Christe vpon the crosse. *Ibid.*, This moste comfortable worde of our most sweete sauyour Iesu spoken vnto the theefe. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1258/1 At this worde which he coupled with an othe, came I in. 1782 COWPER *Conversat.* 533 He bless'd the bread, but vanish'd at the word. 1801 SCOTT *Eve St. John* xxviii, Yet hear but my word. 1832 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxviii, We have striven..to draw some word from her; but she..sobs, and answers nothing. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 217 So at this word the king along the shore Built many a tower. 1872 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 69 The word, alas! dies even in the pen.

b. with negative expressed or implied, or with *every*: Any or the least utterance, statement, or fragment of speech; anything at all (said or written).

a 1000 *Riddles* xix. 1 Ic..ne mæg word sprecan. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 70 þatt uppon all þiss boc ne be Nan word ʒen Cristess lare. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 260 (Harl.) Þah hue ne dorste at bord Mid him speke ner a word [*v.r.* no worde]. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1166 Thair was na word mouand, Sa war thai all stil. *a* 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maryit Wemen* 357, I sall say furth the south, diesymyland no word. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traictise* V iv b, He sal not haif ane vourd to answair. 1611 *Bible* 2 Sam. xix. 10 Why speake ye not a word of bringing the king backe? 1667 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 305 He..got an order..without so much as telling me one word of it. 1676 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 83, I was above four months before I could gett one word of answer from him. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xi. (1840) 298 They never heard a word of English. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xlviii. 342 You undo me, if one word of this matter escape you. 1758 MRS. LENNOX *Henrietta* II. ii (1761) I. 205 That..her every word and action [might] be under his direction. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* XXX, I would not mention a word about it to her. 1858 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 70 No word indicating that he took blame to himself. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 294 It is now eighteen months since I heard a word..from my friends. 1879 MCCARTHY *Donna Q.* I. iii, Before she had time to put in a word. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxi, Her ladyship held out her hands, without a word.

c. *A word*: a (short or slight) utterance or statement; a brief speech or conversation; similarly *a word or two*, † *a couple of words.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1896) III. 1423 Master of þe shepe, a word with þe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Than yf we be touched with a sharpe worde, we shal yelde a.. gentyll answere. 1581 T. WILCOX *Glass Gamesters* vi. C v b, Nowe a worde or two, out of the fathers, ..for the ouerthrowyng of Dice and Cardes. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xxv. (Arb.) 307 So occupied in the Princes affaires, as it is a great matter to haue a couple of wordes with them. 1611 *Bible* Isa. I. 4 To speake a worde in season [*Geneva* a worde in time] to him that is wearie. 1639 [see WISE *a* 6 c]. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, I entreated to be heard a Word or two. 1820 CRABBE *Borough* XXII. 5 Peter..had of all a civil word and wish. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate*, Some ordinary word of recognition passed between her and her mother. 1837 — *Pickw.* XXXIV, And now, gentlemen, but one word more. 1841 TENNYSON *Dora* 42 If you speak with him.. Or change a word with her. 1845 BROWNING *Men & Women*, (*Till*) One Word More. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* iii, I leave in ten minutes and write you here my last word.

d. *spec.* Something said on behalf of another; esp. in such phrases as *to speak a* (*good*) *word for*: see also 23. † In quot. 1625, *pl.* votes.

1540, etc. [see 23]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 197 A Gentleman..understood that I had been robbed in France, whereupon hee gave his word for me vnto the Maior. 1625 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 472 Whoesoever.. shall labour or practise to gaine woordes for to make a Mayor, Sheriffe, or any other officer. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Early Ger. Lit.* (1872) III. 196 The venerable man deserves a word from us. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 301 Any dissolute courtier for whom one of the king's mistresses would speak a word.

e. *spec.* A watchword or password.

To give the word: (*a*) to utter the password in answer to a sentinel's challenge; (*b*) to inform officers or men of the password to be used.

[*c* 1400–: see WATCHWORD.]

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvii. 230 When he sawe his tyme, he cryed his worde & token. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 93 *Lear.* Giue the word. *Edg.* Sweet Mariorum. *Lear.* Passe. 1667 DUCH. NEWC. *Life Dk. N* (1886) II. 92 He offered my Lord the keys of the city, and desired him to give the word that night. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. New Forest* v, He gave the word, and the gate was opened. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 608 The word by which the insurgents were to recognise one another in the darkness was Soho. 1855 *Ibid.* xvi. III. 679 The first morning on which Marlborough had the command, he gave the word 'Wirtemberg.' 1868 *Queen's Reg. & Orders Army* P 42 The Governor ..will give the Word or parole in all places within his government.

† 3. *abstr.* or *collect. sing.* (without *a* or *pl.*) Speech, speaking: often as distinguished from writing, esp. in phr. *by word*, now *by word of mouth* (see 19); also, the faculty of speech; occas. language, tongue. *Obs.* exc. as in 19.

a 1000 *Gloria Patri* 56 þu..him..sealdest word and ʒewitt. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3043 þatt Godess enngell sennde þerr Till Josepp þurrh wipp worde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24074 Es na tung mai speke wit word, Ne writer write wit penn ord. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 206 Coueite in Sinnoun is to sein Coueitance upon the word Roseth. *Ibid.* III. 135 Above alle erthli creatures The hihe makere of natures The word to man hath yove alone. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 44 Sho sal be repreuid foure sithe with worde. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 200 The Carll was wantoun of word. 1492 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 185/2 Duncane laid in wedset a land and tenement in Linlithqw to Thomas Gudelad be word and but charter or possessione. *a* 1513 DOUGL. *Eneados* D. n. iii. (Arb.) 36 No man for despite, By worde or by write Hi s falowe to twine. 1580 HAY in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 39 The traditione ye have learned either be word, or be our epistle. 1668 A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 74 The Anti-episcopall government..which by word and writ he had maintained. 1728 P. WALKER *Life Peden* To Rdr. (1827) p. xiii, It is.. maliciously spread, both by Word and Writ.

4. *sing.* and *pl.* Speech, verbal expression, in contrast with action or thought.

Beowulf 289 Lætað wiðan worda and weorca. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 85 We..ʒyltaþ..þurh ʒeþoht, & þurh word, & þurh weorc, & þurh willan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Cant. Hom.* 118 Mid worde, mid dæde, & mid alle heorte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 65 ʒif man haseð wiþ us ʒilt, woerdes oðer wurkes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15263 For þat i sai yow here wit word, Þar sal yee find in dede. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 94 Ouþer in word or dede has þou greued him. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 The word was lich to the conceite Without semblaut of deceite. *c* 1400 in *26 Pol. Poems* xiii. 127 Wiþ word of wynd, inad neuere werre ende. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 29 He was iust & trewe in dede & in word. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lx. 6 Baith in werk, in word, and eik intent. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 209 Wordis without werkis availȝeis nocht a cute. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III v, Great Caesars warres cannot be fought with words. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 97, 98 My words flye vp, my thoughts remain below, Words without thoughts, neuer to Heauen go. 1605 — *Mach.* II. i. 61 Words, to the heat of deedes, too cold breath giues. 1605 BODLEY *Let. to Fromes* 1 May, Wordes are women, and deedes are men. 1667 SPRAT *Hist Royal-Soc.* 434 A Society that prefers Works before Words. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 9 Thy actions to thy words accord. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccol.* I. iii. 61 Men's words are ever bolder than their deeds. 1860 [see DEED *sb.* 3 b]. 1875 [see DEED *sb.* 1].

5. *pl.* orig. in various phr. denoting verbal contention or altercation, e. g. † *to be* or *fall at words* (*into words*), † *to have some* or *many words*, † (*some*) *words are between . .*, etc., now chiefly *to have words* (*with*); hence simply *words* = contentious or violent talk between persons, altercation; also with epithet, as *hard, high, sharp.*

†occas. Defamatory or libellous statement.

1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 105 Your brother and Debenham were at words. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii 88 Whan we playd togyder, we hadde some wordes. 1526 *Hundred Merry Talys* (1887) 8 The other agayn said he shuld not, & he agayn said he wold bryng them ouer spyte of his teth & so fell at wordys. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxv. 222 Whan I se that wordes [be] betwen you, I shall lasu out. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Altercor, Cum patre altercasti dudum*, thou wast at words. 1590 *Tarlton's News Purgat.* (1844) 82 Whereupon they grewe to woords, and from woords to blowes. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, II. v. 46 In argument vpon a Case, Some words there grew 'twixt Somerset and me. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 3 When hard Words, Jealousies, and Fears Set Folks together by the Ears. 1684 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 307 His royall highnesse has brought his action of scandalum magnatum against Dr. Titus Oates for words. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xii. 86 High words passed between them. They parted in passion. 1823 *Sixteen & Sixty* II. iii, Propriety and myself have been at high words on your account. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 16 He and I Had once hard words, and parted. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi. Words have arisen between the housemaid and Mr. Towlinson. 1862 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 103 We had got into words about an invitation. 1913 M ROBERTS *Salt of the Sea* vii. 182 My old man said he was a blood-sucker, and that led to words.

6. Report, tidings, news, information. (Always in *sing.* without article, in such phrases as *to bring, send, write word; to have word; word come*, etc.)

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 173 Sona swa þæt word becom to Nerone. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1046 Þam cynge com word þæt unnfriðscipa læʒen be westan and herʒodon. *c* 1205 LAY. 3739 And Cordoille com þat word þat heo was iworðen widewe. *c* 1205 [see SEND *v.*1 6 b]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 826 He sende þe quene is doʒter word wuch is aunters were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11454 Word cum til herod þe kyng þat þar was suilk kynges cummun. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 119 He schall hafe worde within a day and a nyght. 1415 SIR T. GREY in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 583 He sende me no more worde of yat mater til I cam to Yorke. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 102 Hur husband. hard no tithandis nor wurd of his wyfe nor of his childer. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxv. 221 My brother Huon..is now..in the abbay of seint Maiwyse, the abbot there hath sent me worde therof. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 48, I must carry her word quicksely. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 118 Bid you Alexas Bring me word, how tall she is. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iv. § 11 Alexander ..writ word to his Mother he had found out the head of Nilus in the East Indies. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 284 P 3 Send me Word..whether he has so great an Estate. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvi, We had word this morning..that Mr. Dombey was doing well. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxx, A servant brought word that Major Pendennis had returned. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IV. xxiii, The Parson writes word that the lad will come to-day.

b. Common report or statement, rumour. (Usually with *the, this*, etc.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 15 Þis word was ʒewidmærsod mid iudeum. *c* 1205 LAY. 160 Þa com þat word to him, þat was widene cuð, þat þe king Latin ʒef Lauine his douter Eneam to are brude. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1017 (Camb.) Þe word bigan to springe Of Rymenhilde weddinge. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 78 Ouir all the land the word gan spryng, That the Bruce the Cumyn had slayn. *a* 1578 [see SPRING *v.*1 5]. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* iii. 38 Word gaed she was nae canny. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 6 An evil word is gone abroad of me. 1819 SCOTT *Noble Marriage* xiv, Her husband died in distant land, such is the constant word.

† c. Common report in praise or celebration of a person or his actions; fame, renown, high repute.

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* vii. 368 Þa sprang his word wide ʒeond land. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Do sprong þe word of his hali lifiode wide into þe londe. *c* 1205 LAY. 6302 Of hire wisdome sprong þat word wide. *a* 1225 *Ancr.*

R. 86 We is me þat he, oðer heo, habbeð swuch word ileðe. 13.. *Cant. & Gr. Kut.* 1532 Your worde & your worchip walkes my quene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 205 The worde of his werkes thurghe þe worlde sprange. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 252 The worde of him walkit baith fer and ner.

d. Reputation, character (*of* being or having what is stated). *Sc.*

1720 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* I. 89 Roole had word o' meikle sitter, Whilk brought a hantle o' wooers till her. 1824 JAMIESON s.v., 'She gets the word o' being a licht-headit queyn', i.e. it is generally said of her.

7. A command, order, bidding; a request. (See also 17.) Usually qualified by possessive or *the*.

To say the word: to give the order, say 'go' or the like. In phr. *to send word* sometimes combining senses 6 and 7.

873–89 *K. Ælfred's Will*, Þa word ȝelæstan þe on mines fæder yrfewrite standað. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1630 Hy bræcon cyninges word. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 51 Silden he us wille, If we heren to his word. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 736 God seide wurd to abram: 'Abram, ðu fare ut of lond and kin.' *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 363 in *O. E. Misc.* 47 Alle þat beoþ in soþe i-hereþ myne word. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18053 Quan i word herd þat he badd I quok for him. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e v b, The first worde to the houndis that the hunt shall owt pit. 1496 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 29 Please your Graice to send me wourd quhat serves. I sall do. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* v. 5 Yet nowe at þy worde I wil loose forthe the net. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 164 His worde only ruled, & his voyce was only hearde. 1560 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* III. (1561) E viij, If thou sayst the word, we goo. 1594 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 38 Then euery souldioure kill his Prisoners, Giue the word through. 1601 — *Jul. C.* I. ii. 104 Vpon the word, Accoutred as I was, I plunged in. 1631 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid West* IV. i. 44 Shall I strike that Captaine? say the word, Ile have him by the eares. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 708 When at his Word the formless Mass..came to a heap: Confusion heard his voice, and wilde uproar Stood rul'd. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xxxvii. 270, I rang..to beg my cousins' company. They wanted but the word: In they came. 1803 WORDSW. *Sons. Pass Killicranky* 12 O for a single hour of that Dundee, Who on that day the word of onset gave! 1806 [see SPEAK *v.* 21]. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 25 In my time a father's word was law. 1856 DICKENS *Christmas Stories* (1874) 50, I gave Ramee the word to lower the Longboat and the Surf-boat.

b. *Ten Words*: the Ten Commandments, the Decalogue. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* iv. 13 The ten wordis, that he wroot in the two stonen tablis. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Exod.* xx. 17 These ten words written by God himself. 1884 S. COX *Miracles* 18 The fundamental moralities of the 'Ten Words'.

8. A promise, undertaking. Almost always with possessive, as in *to give* (*pass, pledge*) *one's word, to keep* (*hold* arch.) *one's word, to break one's word; to be as good as one's word*, to keep one's promise (*so to be worse than one's word*, to break one's promise); *a man of* († *master of*, etc.) *his word*, one who keeps his promises; also *on* († *in, under*) *the word of* (*a prince*, etc.). See also 15, 18, 28 b.

See also BOND *sb.*[1] 8, BREAK *v.* 15 c, PLEDGE *v.* 2 b, PLIGHT *v.*[2] 2, etc.

1071 *Blickl. Hom.* 243 Hwæt syndon þine word, Drihten.., 'Gif ge me ȝehyraþ and ȝe me beoð fylȝende, ne an loc of eowrum healfe forwyrð?' *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1014 (Laud MS.) Man..freondscipe ȝefæstnode mid worde & mid wæddе.] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 67 It sit wel every wiht To kepe his word in trowthe upryht. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 22 That the symple parole or worde of a prynce ought to be more stable than the oth of a marchaunt. 1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 513/2 The said Kyng..bound hym by his writyng,..and also in the worde of a Kyng promysed to kepe the same. 1526 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 527/2 Our soverane lord promittis fathfullye and on the word of ane kyng, that [etc.]. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 304 Neither proued Marcus Tullius a false manne of his woorde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 98 b, My Lorde of Winchester. hath subscribed..vnder the worde of priesthod, to stande at the aduise..of the persones abouesaid. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* E iij b, The seconde..poynte in a Gentleman..is promes kepyng, as to bee Mayster to hys woorde. 1580 T. FORREST *Parf. Looking Gl.* 5 b, Haue..greater care in geuing thy worde, then in lending thy money. 1584 LODGE *Alarum* (Shaks. Soc.) 60 Promising..(so his creditour woulde be his wordes master) to doo his indeuvour to performe his will. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 222 Keepe word Lysander. *Ibid.* III. ii. 266–8, *Lys.* I will keepe my word with thee. *Dem.* I would I had your bond:..Ile not trust your word. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr. 94 b, The deuill & he be no men of their words. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 258 To Master Broome, you yet shall hold your word. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 357 For that I promis'd you Ile be as good as my word. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 3) 256 An honest mans word must be his maister. 1692 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* V. v, Will you be worse then your word? 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 130 They..did not fly from their Words but stood firmly to what they first proposed. 1823 SCOTT *Pirate*, III. xxii, I swore upon the rood, Neither to stop, nor turn, nor rest,..In life or death I hold my word! 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 533 Having solemnly pledged his word..not to attempt anything against the government. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* Iv, Give me your words to show her no countenance. 1886 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* iii, No English government goes back on its word.

9. With possessive: Assertion, affirmation, declaration, assurance; esp. as involving the veracity or good faith of the person who makes it. See also 15, 18, 28 b.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 87 Sir Toby will be sworn that I am no *Fox*, but he will not passe his word for two pence that you are no Foole. 1602 — *Temp.* II. i. 86 His word is more then the miraculous Harpe. 1730 *Lett. to Sir W. Strickland rel. to Coal Trade* 30 The Buyer..must take his Goods unseen on the Seller's Word. 1736 AINSWORTH *Engl. Lat. Dict.*, To call back one's word, *revocare, retractare, denegare*. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 212, I just saved my Word.

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xl, I give you my word that my brother did not leave a shilling to his son. 1859 KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, What surety had he that Lee would leave him in peace..? none but his word—the word of a villain like that. 1885 SPURGEON *Treas. David* Ps. vii. 3–6 If we cannot be believed on our word, we are surely not to be trusted on our oath.

10. a. An utterance or declaration in the form of a phrase or sentence. *arch.* (Cf. 25.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 236 Dæt word bellmþ8 synderlice to Gode anum, Ic eom. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 152 The hopelesse word, of Neuer to returne, Breath I against thee. 1780 COWPER *Boadicea* 13 Rome shall perish—write that word In the blood that she has spilt. 1903 J. KEATINGE *Priest* iii. 46 We should put down the three words 'Peace', 'Perseverance', 'A worthy Communion to-day.'

b. A pithy or sententious utterance; a saying; a maxim; a proverb. Now *rare* or merged in 2, exc. in BYWORD 1, NAYWORD[1] 2 (*dial.*), *household word* (see HOUSEHOLD 8); † in first quot., a 'dark' saying, riddle.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1079 Gywe [= if] he cane vndo þat worde. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 49 He þou will be lutely, resayfe these thre wordes with-owtten forgetynge. 1599–1888 [see HOUSEHOLD 8]. 1645 BP. HALL *Rem. Discontents* 130 It is a true word of Saint Augustine, that every soul is either Christs Spouse, or the Devils Harlot. 1833 DE QUINCEY *Revol. Greece* Wks. (ed. Masson) VII. 317 It seemed likely..that..Shakspere's deep word would be realized, and 'darkness be the burier of the dead'. 1853 TRENCH *Prov.* 26 That well-known word which forbids the too accurate scanning of a present, 'One must not look a gift horse in the mouth'.

† **c.** A significant phrase or short sentence inscribed upon something; = MOT[1] 1, MOTTO 1. *Obs.*

1431 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 88 My crevte, myn armes,..and my word 'mercy and ioie'. *a* 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 87 On her purfyl her word..*Bien et loyalment*. 1568 LEIGH *Armorie* (1568) 42 b, The armes of enerye gentleman..with the supporters helme, wreathe, and creast, with mantelles, and the woorde. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* D iij, The Painter..hath drawne him his word with a Text-pen. *Zelus domus tuæ comedit me.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 38 And round about the wreath this word was writ, *Burnt I do burne.* *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 144 (1810) 159 His word was *quid non.*

11. Religious and theological uses (in *sing.*, mostly with possessive or def. article); often in full, *the word of God* (*God's word*), *the word of the Lord*, etc.

a. A divine communication, command, or proclamation, as one made to or through a prophet or inspired person; *esp.* the message of the gospel (also *the word of Christ, of grace, of life*, etc.).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 141 On þa ilcan stowe on þere þe we wæron ȝesamnode þær we ȝecherdan Godes word. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 19 Ælc þæra þe godes wurd ȝehyrð. — Mark iv. 14. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Þis monne me mei sermonen mid godes worde, for hwat he scal his sunne norsaken. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19214 Vte o þair hali hertes hord Spedli þai spæld godds word. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii[ii]. 172 My tunge sall shew forth þi worde. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* vii. 4 And loo! the word of the Lord to Nathan, seiynge, Go, and spek to my seruaunt Dauid, Thes thingis seith the Lord. — *Col.* iii. 16 The word of Crist dwelle in ȝou plenteuously. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 145 As my sowlle sufferth pacyently wronges..in obedyence of his worde. So I hope to be rewarded after the trouthe of his worde. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* iv. 17 As sone as eny trouble or persecucion ariseth for the wordes sake, anon they fall. 1526 — *Acts* iv. 31 They spake the worde of god boldely. *Ibid.* xx. 32, I commende you to god and to the worde of his grace. 1584 MARTIALL *Treat. Crosse* 83 The lawes of the church (which lawes are the worde off god). 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 181 The ministerie of the word is a coadiutor with the Spirite. 1648 T. SHEPARD *Clear Sunshine of Gosp.* 12 This old man hath much affection stirred up by the Word. 1758 WESLEY *Hymns*, 'See how great a flame aspires' iii, Sons of God, your Saviour praise!..He hath given the word of grace. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xlix, Where I used to be blessed in carrying the word of life to the sinful and desolate. 1921 *Act 11 & 12 Geo. V*, c. 29 Sched. vii, To ...te union with other Churches in which it finds th... ord to be purely preached. 1927 DAVIDSON *Addr. Convoc.* 29 Mar. in *Church Times* 1 Apr. 392/1 Right Reverend and Reverend Brothers in the Sacred Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

b. The Bible, Scripture, or some part or passage of it, as embodying a divine communication.

1553 *Proclam.* 28 Aug. 1 Some euell disposed persons, whiche take vpon them..to interprete the worde of God, after theyr owne brayne. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2187/1 *Gage*. The worde sayth it is his body before it is eaten. *Wood*. Those words would I faine heare: but I am sure they be not in the Bible. 1587 ALLEN *Def. Priesthood* Pref., They remember well (such is theyr exercise in ye word) how ye disdayne of Moyses & Aaron prelacy ouer ye people [etc.]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 44 What? the Sword, and the Word? Doe you study them both, Mr. Parson? 1781 COWPER *Hope* 659 Mighty to parry and push by God's word With senseless noise. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xl, Read us a chapter out of the Bible. I am very low in my mind, and at such times I like to hear the Word. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* i. 7 The word of God declares, first of all, that the Son of God is 'The true Light'.

c. *The Word* (*of God, of the Father*), *the Eternal Word*, etc., as a title of Christ: = LOGOS, q.v.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John i. 1 *In principio erat uerbum*, in fruma wæs word. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 613 Godus worþliche word as we wel trowen, Is sone soþliche of mon. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 3 God..That al things made in sapience By vertue of woorde and holy goost. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 103 The endelesse worde of the father that is oure lorde Ieus cryste. 1587 ALLEN *Def. Priesthood* 29 The estrelle fourme of our owne nature, ioyned marueilously in one person, to the woorde and eternall Sonne of God the Father. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 163 And thou my Word, begotten Son, by thee This I perform. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 897 Thou art the source and centre of all minds..eternal Word! 1803–6 CARY *Dante, Purgat.* VII. 29 Until it pleas'd the Word of God to come Amongst them down. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XXXVI, And so the Word had breath, and wrought With human hands the creed of creeds. 1874 LIGHTFOOT *Colossians* 221/2 The Eternal Word is the goal of the Universe, as He was the starting-point.

II. An element of speech.

12. A combination of vocal sounds, or one such sound, used in a language to express an idea (e. g. to denote a thing, attribute, or relation), and constituting an ultimate minimal element of speech having a meaning as such; a vocable.

Sometimes with reference to the writing of a word as an indivisible unity, e.g. *as one* or *a single word, as two words.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ii. (Z.) 5 Butan þam stafum ne mæg nan word beon awriten. ?*a* 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. 57 This word *autem*, either *vero*, mai stonde for *forsothe*, either for *but*. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* I. ii. 7 There ys many wordes in Latyn that we haue no propre englysah accordynge therto. *Ibid.* II. 77 Thys worde Amen ys a worde of hebrew. 1582 MULCASTER *Positions* xli. (1888) 244 Wordes be names of thinges applyed and giuen according to their properties. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. i. 68 You doe ill to teach the childe such words. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 190 Words..have their signification by agreement, and constitution of men. 1677 (see WITTICISM) 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. ii. § 1 (ed. 2) 293 *marg.*, Words are sensible Signs necessary for Communication. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* II. ii. 170 Long darken'd Words he shall with Art refine. 1820 WORDSW. *Resolution & Indep.* xiv, Choice word and measured phrase, above the reach Of ordinary men. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* V. iv. 14 These three words..'They must die'. 1853 TRENCH *Prov.* 31 So long as a language is living, it will be appropriating foreign words, putting forth new words of its own. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 250 We use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision. 1884 J. A. H. MURRAY *N. E. D.* I. Gen. Explan. p. xxiii, There are necessarily many compounds as to which usage has not yet determined whether they are to be written with the hyphen or as single words.

b. †(*a*) As designating a thing or person: A name, title, appellation. *Obs.* (*b*) As expressing an idea: A term, expression.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xi, On his maran ceastre, seo eahle worðe þære þeoda is nemned Wiltaburlix. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 135, 'Ic eow sende frofre Gast.' Þæs wordes and ðæt is swa mon cweþe þingere oþþe freðend. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. xv. (S.T.S.) 200 Sa þir gaulis, following the werde of þe said place (quhare þai war cumin to), biggit ane toun namit milliane. 1571 LD. BURGHLEY in E. Nares *Mem.* (1830) II. 544 *note*, Your assured loving friend, William Cecill. I forgot my new word, William Burleigh. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. i. 85 Deuise for faire a fairer word then faire. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* H 4, I doe before hand gyue the worde of disgrace to any that shal so say. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 354 Sulphureous and Mercuriall, which are the Chymists Words. 1668 MOXON *Dyalling* 48 An Explanation of some Words of Art used in this Book. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* I. 20 *Rubbishy* seems the word that most exactly would suit it.

c. A written (engraved, printed, etc.) character or set of characters representing this.

a 1000 *Riddles* xlvii[i], Moðde word ȝræt. 1901 [see WRITE *v.* B. 2]. 1612, 1888 [see SPELL *v.*[1] 3]. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. iv. § 1 We convey [our Ideas] to each other by the Means of certain Sounds, or written Marks, which we call Words. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 596/1 Betokening, as the words inscribed upon their foreheads implied, that they were a dedicated race. 1904 BUDGE *3rd & 4th Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus.* 210 The common name for words of power of all kinds is 'heku', and whether they were inscribed upon amulets, or merely recited over them, the effect was the same.

d. In contrast with the thing or idea signified.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtesy* (Oriel MS.) 343 His [*sc.* Chaucer's] longage was so feyre and pertinent, That semed vnto mennys heryng, Not only the worde, but verrely the thing. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* vii. 289 Wise men take Words for the shadow of Things. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 87 This word [*sc.* nature]..frequently..is used merely as a word.., they who use it not knowing themselves, what they mean by it. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 110 Thoughts that breath, and words that burn. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. i. 214 A business of words only, and ideas not concerned in it. 1820 *Examiner* 723/2 Men are apt to be led away by words. 1827–1876 [see THING *sb.*[1] 8 a]. 1867 DR. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* ii. (ed. 4) 62 Words, which should be the servants of Thought, are too often its masters. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* x. 106 'You don't take any interest in the Malgamite scheme?' 'No,..And I am weary of the very word.' 1912 *Times* 5 Aug. 7/3 A question of words.

e. *The word* (as predicate): the right word for the thing, the proper expression; hence contextually denoting or indicating the thing spoken of, esp. the business in hand or to be done. *colloq.*

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 58 Bid them prepare dinner. *Clow.* That is done to sir, onely cover is the word. 1612 — *Cymb.* V. iv. 155 Come Sir, are you ready for death?..Hanging is the word, Sir. *Ibid.* V. 420 Pardon's the word to all. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* I. ix, If Threats are to be cut, let Swords clash; Snug's the Word, I shrug and am silent. *a* 1704, 1892 [see MUM *sb.*[1] B]. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 403 P 5 Sharp's the Word. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. ii, True: me when tricking is the word. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlviii, Steady's the word, and steady it is. Keep her so! 1885 HOWELLS *Ind. Summer* ii. 26 Lady-like was the word for Mrs. Bowen. 1885 W. S. GILBERT *Princess Ida* I., Contempt? Why, damsel, when I think of man, Contempt is not the word.

III. Phrases. (See also above senses.)

* with preposition.

13. a. At a or one word: (*a*) upon the utterance of a single word; as soon as a word is spoken; without further parley; without more ado; at once,

forthwith; so †*at the first word*; (*b*) in short, briefly, in a word; so †*at wordes thre*, †*at fewe wordes*, †*at wordes short*, etc. *To be at a* or *one word*: to be brief. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 118 (Harl.) Þe children ede to þe stronde ..Ant in to shipes borde At þe furste worde. 13.. *Gregorius* 618 in Herrig *Arch. Neu. Spr.* LV. 435 A Cardinal þer spac a mong, schortliche he seide at wordes þreo. 13.. *Coer de L.* 101 Seuene score, and moo ȝ wene, Welcomyd hem alle at on wurd. *Ibid.* 2813 The Saresaynes..comen afftyr flaste flyngyng, At schorte wurdes a gret route. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 7770 (Fairf.) Þen drogh saule his awen squorde And slogh him-self atte a worde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Alcib.* Prol. 12 Pleynly at a word, Thy drasty rymyng is nat worth a toord. 14.. *Siege of Troy* 1724 Allexander dyed at worddis short. *a* 1400–50 *Alx. Curtasye* 764 in *Babees Bk.*, When þe sewer comys vnto þe borde, Alle þe mete he sayes at on bare worde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2129 Thou shalt be holpen at wordis fewe. *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 17 Hakke hom on a borde, As smalle as þou may, at a worde. *c* 1450 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 363 Thes vil anges..bad here lodesman at a word Shuld cast hem ouer the ship bord. 1483 *Vulgaria quedam abs Terentio* 2 b, Tell me att oon word [*vna verbo*] what thou woldist wyth me. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 123 At a word I would haue flung it awaie. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 319 Go-too: I haue spoke at a word. Fare you well. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. i. 109 He hath wrong'd me, indeed he hath, at a word he hath. *Ibid.* iii. 15, I am at a word: follow. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. i. 218 *Vrsula.* I know you well enough, you are Signior Anthonio. *Anth.* At a word, I am not. 1601 — *Jul. C.* I. ii. 270 If I would not haue taken him at a word, I would I might goe to Hell. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Surnames* 104 At a word, all (names) which in English had *Of* set before them,..and all which in Latine..haue had *De* præfixed,..were borrowed from places. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 231 That I may speake fully at a word, it is the most plentifull habitation and seat of Kings. 1694 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* ii. 45 They were at a Word in Dealing: Nor could their customers many Words tempt them from it. 1777 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* I. 1 To be at a word, will you render it possible for me to call you my son? 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* XXVI, So you may at a word count upon remaining prisoner here until [etc.]. *a* 1845 B'NERS NAIRNE *Song, Caller Herrin'* vii, At ae word be in ye're dealin'.

† b. *At one word*: of one mind. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6812 Boþe hii were at one worde to libbe in clene liue, So þat hii were wiþoute eir.

c. *To take* a person *at his word*: to assent to his statement, or agree to his proposal; to accept what he says and act accordingly.

1535 COVERDALE *1 Kings* XX. 33 He sayde: yf he be yet alyue, he is my brother. And the men toke him shortly at his worde,..and sayde: Yee Benadab is thy brother. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 17 *Ant.* Get thee away. *Dro.* Many a man would take you at your word And go indeede. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* II. i, Old as I am I take thee at thy word, And will tomorrow thank thee with my sword. 1749 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. xii, One of the servants whispered Joseph to take him at his word, and suffer the old put to walk if he would. 1800 WORDSW. *Idle Shepherd-Boys* v, 'Come on, and tread where I shall tread.' The other took him at his word, And followed as he led. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 12 May 4/7 Our contemporaries must not be offended if we decline to take them quite at their word.

14. a. In a word: in a simple or short (esp. comprehensive) statement or phrase; briefly, in short. Now only introductory or parenthetical. Occas. *in one word*; also †*with a word*.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 72 His yeares but yong, but his experience old; His head vn-mellowed, but his iudgement ripe; And in a word..He is compleat in feature, and in minde. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 283 Then did we two, set on you foure, and with a word, outface'd you from your prize. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* I. i, Tell me in a word what ist you would with me? 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* II. xiv. 235 To return to my former Studies, and Recreations, and Dyet; and in a word, to my wonted course of Life. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xii. 496 If you will have in one word a just distribution of each, it is this, that the Idea we see in God, but the sentiment we feel in ourselves. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 4 Houses, Mountains, Rivers, and in a word all sensible Objects. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 236 Some natural exposure on a cliff, in a valley, by a stream, or wherever—in a word—the surface coating of soil being absent, the underlying rock can be seen. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 13 Man in a word is dependant on that which lies outside himself.

b In so many words (tr. L. *totidem verbis*, cf. So 37 d): lit. in precisely that number of words; in those very words; also, †word for word.

1670 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 23, I rendred it even almost in so many words..*totidem fere verbis interpretatus sum*. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* XV. (1840) 253 William told us in so many words, that it was impossible. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scotland-Yard*, That the Lord Mayor had threatened in so many words to pull down the old London Bridge, and build up a new one. 1882 W. COLLINS *Black Robe* I. 194 That the object was to bring Romayne and Stella together..was as plain to him as if he had heard it confessed in so many words.

15. On or upon one's word: (*a*) in const. with a verb, in sense 8 or 9: On the security of, or as bound by, one's promise or affirmation; hence (*b*) as an asseveration, *on* or *upon* (†*of*, †*a*) *my word*: A-suredly, certainly, truly, indeed.

(*a*) 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* v. i, The good turne that..you promised me on your word. 1600 E. HLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 206 If he woulde assure him vpon his word, he would go to the campe. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Ho* II. i, *Doll*..Tis but poore fifty pound. *Alla.* If that bee all, you shall vpon your worde take vp so much with me.

(*b*) 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 59 Of my word, I haue written to effect. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 2 A my word we'l not carry coales. 1598 — *Merry W.* IV. ii. 61 He will seeke there on my word. 1649 *Decl. Commons Rebell. Irel.* 52 Upon my word your Lordship is little beholding to him. 1646 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 308 But of my word she will not meet with the like proffer again. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xvii, A very good boy, Bill, upon my word. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXXIX, Upon my word and honour, Captain Gills, it would be a charity to give me the pleasure of your acquaintance. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* XXXVIII. II. 295 Upon my word, I think the truth is the hardest missile one can be pelted with.

b. (with ellipsis of prep.) *My word!* as an ejaculation of surprise. *colloq.* or *vulgar.*

1857 LOCKER *Lond. Lyrics* 72 Half London was there, and, my word, there were few..But envied Lord Nigel's felicity. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xix, My word!..that's something like a mob!

*** with another sb.

16. A word and a blow: a brief utterance of anger or defiance, followed immediately by the delivery of a blow, as the beginning of a fight; hence in reference to prompt or sudden action of any kind; sometimes used predicatively of a person. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 43 *Tyb.*..Gentlemen, Good den, a word with one of you. *Mer.* And but one word with one of vs? couple it with something, make it a word and a blow. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 178 He's but a word and a blowe. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) IV. XXVI. 207 My cousins are grieved [at my going so soon]: they did not expect that I would be a word and a blow, as they phrase it. 1820 BYRON *Juan* III. xlviii, With him it never was a word and blow, His angry word once o'er, he shed no blood. 1840 MRS. TROLLOPE *M. Armstrong* iv, Mr. Joseph Parsons had a Napoleon-like promptitude of action, which the unlearned operatives described by calling him 'a word-and-a-blow man'. 1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico* XXVII. 242 Firm friends and bitter enemies, with them it is 'a word and a blow'.

17. Word of command: a word or short phrase uttered by an officer to a body of soldiers as an order for some particular movement or evolution; also by a carter to a horse, etc.

1639 R. WARD *Animadv. War* I. 230 You are to vse these words of Command following. 1684 R. H. *School Recr.* 45 Keep..your Musket hard against your Shoulder after you have fired, till the next Word of Command. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, I have seen this whole Body of Horse upon a Word of Command draw their Swords at once. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, The hoarse shout of the word of command ran along [the line]. 1883 [see COMMAND *sb.* 1 b]. 1898 [see GEE *int.*, def.].

18. Word of honour: an affirmation or promise by which one pledges one's honour or good faith.

1814 D. H. O'BRIEN *Captiv. & Escape* 65 They suspected we were deserters..We assured them upon our word of honour, they were very much mistaken. 1896 EDITH THOMPSON in *Monthly Packet* Christmas No. 97 He had passed his word of honour..that he would report himself at the fort.

19. By word of mouth: by speaking, as distinguished from writing or other method of expression; orally. Hence *word-of-mouth* attrib., executed, done, given, etc. by speaking; oral.

a 1533 UDALL *Royster D.* III. ii. (Arb.) 40 A little message vnto hir by worde of mouth. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Hecyra* I. ii, It cannot be told by word of mouth, howe desirous I was to returne hither againe. 1601–1849 [see MOUTH *sb.* 3 c]. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndom.* II. 121 Pretending I know not what nuncupatory will by word of mouth. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Trav.* 44 They can flatter..with Pen, Picture, and by word of mouth. 1752 BERKELEY *Th. Tar-water* Wks. 1871 III. 498 Of this I have been informed by letters, and by word of mouth. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* XXXIV. (1885) 288 He would rather tell him of this by word of mouth than by letter.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 562 Word-of-mouth wills are, in certain cases, allowed by the Statute of Frauds. 1829 — *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 6 The language..employed in word-of-mouth discussion. 1894 K. HEWAT *Little Scott. World* Pref. p. xii, The author has to acknowledge his indebtedness..for much word-of-mouth information.

b. *humorously* in reference to drinking.

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* ii. 164 Come, Sir John, take it by Word of Mouth, and then give it the Colonel. (Sir John drinks.)

20. Word for word: in the exact, or (in reference to translation) precisely corresponding, words: = VERBATIM A. 1 a, b. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.* = VERBATIM B. 1.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1008 *Dido*, I coude folwe word for word Virgile. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 61 He..dyde do saye to hym word for worde lyke as the physicien had sayd. 1538 COVERDALE *N. T.* Ded. +1j b, We do not followe thys olde Latyn texte word for word. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 28 He speaks three or four languages word for word without booke. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes* Pref., If a man should undertake to translate Pindar word for word. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* XXII. 741 Some..have been able to rehearse the whole New Testament word for word. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 291 Dwell not on Incidents already known; Nor Word for Word translate with painful Care. 1860 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* I. viii, 'I will faithfully repeat it to you'..'Faithfully?—word for word?' 1878 W. T. THORNTON (*title*) Word for Word from Horace. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 107/1 The 8th section of the Act of 1874 is word for word the same as the 40th section of the Act of 1833.

c 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* To Rdr. A 4 b, Those Translators..that affect Their word-for-word traductions. 1858–9 G. P. MARSH *Engl. Lang.* xvii. (1860) 361 More closely literal, more exactly word-for-word translations.

b. So †*word after word* (occas. †*after the word*), *word by word* (also attrib.), †*word in word*, †*fro word unto word*.

[*a* 1000 *Ælfred's Boeth.* Proem, Hwilum he sette word be worde, hwilum and-sit of and-gite.] *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Ich wille..segge ou þe crede word after word. 1379 *Cleuc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. I. i. iii. lf. 7 All that I have sayde yn this chapitre Isaac techith word by word. ?*a* 1400 *Wycliff's Bible* Prol. xv. 57 This wole..make the sentence open, where to Englishe it aftir the word, wolde be derk and douteful. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ii. 144 The..late named psalmes..ben ouer long to be rehercid word bi word here. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3187 Geffray the letters After breke and rayd, Fro wurde unto wurd. 1493 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 308/2 Þe bill of Complaint..of þe quhilk þe tenour followis word in word. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 2 b, Then turnyng hymself to his accuser, [he] declared worde by worde what he had said. 1575 (*title*) A Commentarie of M. Doctor Martin Luther upon the Epistle of S. Paul to the Galathians first collected and gathered word by word out of his preaching. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Verbatim*, word by word. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 25 The kind of word-by-word examination of your author which is rightly called 'reading'. 1907 H. W. FOWLER *S. P. E. Tract No. XXVI* 193 And let me here accept my title word by word: I am a moralizer because I wish morals to be drawn [etc.].

*** with qualifying adj.

21. Fair words (FAIR *a.* 5): pleasant or attractive speech (usually implying deceitfulness or insincerity).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 899 Me nædre..to forsceape scyhte & to scyldfrece fah wyrm þurh fæ, ir word. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* (1888) 11 Ic habbe beswiken min emcristen mid faire wordes. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. (1878) 191 By hys dyssymulatyon and fare wordys. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. ix. (1867) 18 It hurteth not the tounge to geue fayre wurdis. 1639 [see PARSNIP 1 b]. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Plain Dealer* v, Fair words butter no cabbage. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 282 The men began to murmur against Captain Swan..but he gave them fair words. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 340 'Ho, ho! my masters', cried he; 'fair words break no bones'.

22. Of few words: not given to much or lengthy speaking; taciturn; laconic.

c 1430 HOLLAND *Howlat* 175 Off fewe wordis, full wyse and worthy thai war. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. E iij, Of few wordes, and no bragger. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 38 That men of few Words are the best men. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3260/4 Well set and middle sized, and of few Words. 1759 DILWORTH *Pope* 120 [Gay] had always been a man of but few words. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXIV, Mr. Dubbley, who was a man of few words, nodded assent.

23. Good word: a friendly, favourable, or laudatory utterance; something said on behalf of or in commendation of a person or thing. *To give* (one) *a good word*, to speak well of. *To say* or *speak a good word for*, (*spec.*) to recommend to the favour of another. †In *pl.* also (*a*) used *ellipt.* in deprecation of angry or violent speech (see GOOD *a.* 7 b, quot. *c* 1592); (*b*) in bad sense = *fair words* (21).

c 1205 LAY. 665 Heo hine gretten mid godene heore worden. [*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20095 þan spak Ihesus words gode, Als he hang þar on þe rode.] 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. i. N iv, [Thou] dyddest speke a good word for me, and dydst tourne away..the..strokes from me. 1548, *a* 1632 [see GOOD *a.* 7 b]. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 77 Good woordes bryng not euer of good deedes good hope. 1873 BARET *Alv.* W 352 That helpeth one with his good worde at a time, *suffragatorius*. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. ii. 217 You gaue good words the other day of a Bay Courser I rod on. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Fawne. Tower-bottles* A 7, False hearts can put on good wordes and lookes. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 222 Only giving us good words instead of Payment. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. p. xlviii, The Good Word, that Mr. Grævius has been pleas'd publicly to give me. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* i. 71, I know I shall always have your good Word. 1852 C. B. MANSFIELD *Paraguay* etc. (1856) 364 My friend M. Cerruti..has diplomatic business here; and with his good words..I hope to be in clover. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XXIII. V. 78 It was ..not in the character of tenant that the Czar was likely to gain the good word of civilised men. 1892 [see GOOD *a.* 7 b].

24. Half a word (HALF *a.* 1 b): a very short utterance, a slight fragment of speech or conversation.

1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 29 Taking it for granted, that we two understand one another by half a Word. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, Might I have half a word with you?

25. Last word (in special senses). a. The final utterance in a conversation or (esp.) dispute. b. *pl.* The latest utterance of a person before death. *The Seven Last Words*, the seven utterances of Christ on the cross (also simply *The Seven Words*). c. The final or conclusive statement, after which there is no more to be said; hence *transf.* (also *latest word*) the final achievement, the latest thing.

a. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1416/2 My lorde of Lincolne.. sayde that thou were a frantike felow, and a man that wyll haue the last worde. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 43 Come hee- and shee-scolders, you that..will rather loose your liues, then the last word. 1878 LE FANU *Willing to Die* XXXVI, It was plain..she would have one last word more.

b. 1692 H. HARRISON (*title*) The Last Words of a Dying Penitent. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. XXXII, 'Charge, Chester, charge! On, Stanley, on!' Were the last words of Marmion. 1870 tr. *Bellarmine* (*title*) The Seven Words from the Cross. 1874 E. KING (*title*) Meditations on the last seven words of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1883 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* III. 476 *Seven Last Words, The*..a composition of Haydn's dating about 1785..The 'Seven Words' were for long a favourite in Vienna both in church and concert-room.

c. 1881, 1892 [see LAST *a.* 6]. 1888 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 5/6 The long mantles that are the latest 'word' of Paris fashions. 1901 'L. MALET' *Sir Richard Calmady* v. vi, The clothes..supposed..to present the last word of English fashion.

26. Of many words: given to much or lengthy speaking, loquacious, talkative, verbose; also said of a statement, verbose.

c 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 43 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 183 Be noght of many wordes. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1438/1 Your diffinition is of many wordes to no purpose. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 158, I thanke you, I am not of many words, but I thanke you. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* XXXIV, She was not a woman of many words. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iii. (1901) I. 18 Augustus Barnington, ..not being a man of many words, contented himself by stammering something about honour.

**** with verb.

27. Make words. †**a.** *To make few* or *many words*: to speak briefly or at great length. Also *to make but one word. Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 843/1 To make fewe wordes, *a brief dire.* *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III (1654) 38 Fall to thy business and make few words. 1677 MILTON *New Dict.*, To make many words about a small trifle, *barguigner, contester pour une chose de neant.* 1752 AINSWORTH *Engl.-Lat. Dict.* s.v., I will make but one word with you..*to absolutum breui.*

b. with neg.: (Not) to say anything (more) about a matter; (not) to speak or make mention *of.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 67 To make no words of that which I have oftentimes read,..what harme can there be in death. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 50 Lycurgus neuer brabed or made words at the matter. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 259 Those Chronicles of the English Saxons.. reported only their owne fortunate battailes, and victuries but never made words of their foiles & overthrowes. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. xiv, I will be so far from making any Words with you, that I will give you a Shilling more than your Demand 1773 GOLDSM. *Steops to Conq.* IV, Bring me your bill, and let's make no more words about it. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par* III. iv 8 Then no more words the Strong Man made, but straight Caught up the elder in his arms.

†**c.** To make a proposal *of. Obs.*

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 43 Herod..cast his eye..upon Herodias..and durst make words of marrying her.

d. To speak at (too) great length *of. Sc.*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* XXXVI, You make words of nothing. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., *To make words*, to talk more about anything than it deserves.

28. a. Take (up) the word: to begin speaking, esp. immediately after or instead of some one else.

Partly after F. *prendre la parole*; partly from Gr. *τὴν παραβολὴν ὑπολαβεῖν* to take up one's 'parable' (PARABLE *sb.* d).

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 204 The kinge Yon toke the worde & sayd [etc.]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccliii. 819/1 Than the duke of Bretayne toke the wordes, & sayd [etc.]. 1557 *N. T.* (Genev.) Luke x. 30 Iesus taking his word said [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 510 Then Drances took the word. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I XXII, Young Selby..reverently took up the word: 'Kind uncle, [etc.].' 1811 *Ora & Juliet* II. 192 Henry was going to address Mrs. Brewster; but lady Harriet took the word. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* XXXV, There was a general murmur. 'My Lord Duke', said the Count of Crèvecœur, taking the word for the rest, 'this must be better thought on.' 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* X, The Colonel, left alone with his wife.., made haste to take the word. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* I. 32 The Father of Gods and of men..took up the word.

b. *To take* (a person's) *word*: to accept (his) statement or assertion as true or trustworthy: usually with *for*, esp. in the phrase *take my word for it* used to emphasize an assertion = I can assure you, you may be sure, believe me. †Formerly also, to accept or trust (a person's) promise; to give (him) credit (*for* a debt).

1587 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 69 He givinge his fayth promyse to Mr Alderman..Mr Alderman tooke his worde. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 66, I take your Princely word, for these redreases. 1597 E. S. *Discov. Knts. Poste* A 4, Will you take my word for two pence? Take thy word? He see thee hangd first (qd she) pay me my money. 1668 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* I. i. B 4, Saue your credit and let swearing alone, I dare take your word. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in a Wood* IV. i. 62 But may I take your word Jonas? 1693 *Humours Town* 38 Take my word for't. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 284 P 4 Take my Word for it, there is nothing in it. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iii, Nobody will take our words for sixpence. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl* 30 Sept., I took his word and honour that he would make an effort. 1864 WHATELY *Chr. Evid.* iii. 21 How can you know, except by taking the word of the learned for it? 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in a Boat* 186 On a matter of this kind you can take Harris's word.

c. *To take* (a person) *at his word*: see 13 c.

IV. 29. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib. Of, pertaining or relating to, or consisting of a word or words, as *word-accent, -group, -history, -memory, -music, -order, -stock, -trap, -weapon*; (with agent-n. or the like) dealing with or acting by means of words, as *word-conjuror, -epicure, -juggler, -master, -pirate, -smith, -warrior*, etc.; (with n. of action or the like, in instrumental sense) done or carried on by means of words, as *word-battle, -fence* (FENCE *sb.* 2 b), *-juggling, -war, -wound, -wrangle*, etc. **b.** Instrumental, as *word-beat, -pity* vbs.; *word-charged, -clad*, †*-stroken, -wounded* adjs. **c.** Objective, as *word-bearer, -breaker*, †*-bridger* (BRIDGE *v.*²), *-hunter, -spinner*, etc.; *word-breaking, -building, -coining, -compelling, -juggling, -keeping, -spinning, -splitting*, etc. sbs. and adjs.; also with pl., †*words-speaking*; *word-coinage, -composition, -formation*, etc. **d.** Special comb.: †**word-bate** [BATE *sb.*¹], contention about words; **word-blind** *a. Path.*, affected with **word-blindness**, *i. e.* inability to understand written or printed words when seen, owing to disease of the visual *word-centre*; **word-bound** *a.*, (*a*) restrained in speech, unable to use words freely or fluently; (*b*) bound by one's word or promise; †**word-braving**, boasting; **word-catcher**, (*a*) one who catches or cavils at words, a petty or carping critic; (*b*) one who catches and collects words: applied contemptuously to a lexicographer (quot. 1835); **word-catching**, catching at words, petty criticism; **word-centre** *Anat.*, each of certain centres (CENTRE *sb.* 7 a) in the brain which govern the perception and use of words (spoken or written); **word-craft**, the art of using words, oratorical or literary skill; **word-deaf** *a. Path.*, affected with **word-deafness**, *i. e.* inability to understand words when heard, owing to disease of the auditory *word-centre*; †**word-dearthing** *a.*, producing dearth of words, involving a great expenditure of words; †**word-flowing** *a.*, fluent in speech; **word-hoard**, literal rendering of OE. *wordhord* treasure of speech; **word-paint** *v. trans.*, to 'paint' in words, describe vividly, make a *word-picture* of; so **word-painter, word-painting** *sb.* and *a.*; **word-perfect** *a.*, knowing perfectly every word of one's lesson, part, etc.; **word-picture**, a vivid description in words, presenting the object to the mind like a picture; **word-play** [cf. G. *wortspiel*], a play of or upon words (see PLAY *sb.* 7 b); **word-shot** *nonce-wd.* [after *ear-shot*], the distance within which one person can speak to another; **word-spite**, spite or ill-will expressed in words (in quot. *attrib.*); **word square**, a set of words of the same number of letters to be arranged in a square so as to read the same horizontally or vertically; a puzzle in which such a set of words has to be guessed (Webster Suppl. 1880); **word-strife**, a rendering of LOGOMACHY; **word-vision**: see quot., and cf. *word-blindness*; †**word-wood** *a.* [WOOD *a.*], 'mad', wild, or unrestrained in speech. See also WORD-BOOK, etc.

1903 WINBOLT *Lat. Hexam. Verse* 75 Discrepancy..between *word-accent and metrical stress. *a* 1640 JACKSON *Creed* X. XXXVII. 31?55 *Word-blates, or Verbal Quarrels, arising from ambiguous .. expressions. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* XXVII, Not unwilling, like a philosopher and a Greek,..to embark in anything like a *word-battle. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* XXXII. 442 The *word-bearer for the rest of the apostles proves also, when occasion requires, the sword-bearer. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III 197 They revile, and *word-beate our persons. 1898 H. C. BASTIAN *Aphasia* etc. 329 The patient .was neither word-deaf nor *word-blind. 1881 J. ROSS in *Lancet* 26 Nov. 905/1 This particular variety of amnesic aphasia has been named '*word-blindness' by Kussmaul. 1644 W. NEWPORT *Fall of Man* 23 For a Christian to be absolutely *word-bound, to be tied so to anothers forme or his own, that he hath no liberty to vary in any expression, is a great bondage. 1714 *Spect.* No. 560 P 2 If I appear a little word-bound in my first..responses, I hope it will..be imputed..to the long disuse of speech. 1836 JOANNA BAILLIE *Separation* II. iii, Learn from him The story of the war. Word-bound he is not: He'll tell it willingly. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xvii. 195 A *word-braving, or scorning of all wealth in discourse. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iii, The promiser..escapes not the sin of a *word-breaker, because he hath been a drunken braggart. *Ibid.* vii, Better is an empty stomach..with a clear conscience, than a fatted ox with iniquity and *word-breaking. *a* 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Pref. Ep. vii. 72 Recapitulatour, *word bregger. 1862 W. BARNES *Tiw* p. v, The known course of Teutonic *word-building. 1894 (*title*) Word Building as a Guide to Spelling. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 166 Each *Word-catcher, that lives on syllables. 1835 R. GARNETT *Philol. Ess.* (1859) 8 Of this sort of knowledge—the very foundation of all rational etymology—our word-catchers do not seem to have had the smallest tincture. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. x. 330 This narrow-minded, sour, and dogmatical little word-catcher. *a* 1743 SAVAGE *Whs* (1775) II. 253 (Jod.) Is not *wordcatching more serviceable in splitting a cause than in explaining a fine poet? 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. iv. 152 Sharp word-catchings,..and all the quips and quibblets of bar pleading. 1898 H. C. BASTIAN *Aphasia* etc. 14 It is permissible to speak of these portions as auditory and visual '*word centres' respectively. 1879 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXV. 398 He sought truth, not controversy and *word-chopping. 1818 W. TENNANT *Auster F.* VI. lxi, Sweet utterance of *word-clad breath. 1865 *Reader* 4 Feb. 133/1 Largely drawn upon by our modern *word-coinage, more especially by the nomenclature of science. 1900 *19th Cent* Mar. 482 *Word-coining was then a common industry. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* IX, A time-serving and *word-coining politician. 1892 LOWELL *Dante* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 139 The ..*word-compelling Dante. 1904 H. BRADLEY *Making Engl.* 127 The copious *word-composition of Greek. 1848 MASSEUS *Mor. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 576/1 These.. specimens of Greek subtlety..they would be inclined to denounce..as the exploits of a mere *word-conjuror. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 592 He is..'wordcraftes wis. 1804 J. COLLINS *Scriptorem* A 3, A Novitiate in the Science of Word-craft. 1894 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 869/2 The French school of literary critics of life..have been curious in their wordcraft. 1898 H. C. BASTIAN *Aphasia* etc. 329 Such individuals though *word-deaf have nevertheless preserved their voluntary speech. 1886 *Bush's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 329/1 The so-called *word-deafness, in which the patient hears but does not understand words, though he reads them understandingly and repeats them perfectly. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 108 Thys huge *word-dearthing taske. 1892 *Tablet* 29 Aug. 332 The science of *word-derivation is a growing one. 1880 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxvi. VII. 456 The vanity and frivolity of these masters of *word-fence. 1682 R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 66 CRASSUS .. was a *word-flowing Speaker. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* ii. 36 A perfect *word-fog of directions and advice. 1884 CUNT in *13th Addr. Philol. Soc.* 77 The oldest phase of the Hæmitic *Word-formation. 1884 H. SWEET *ibid.* 90 Concentrating his attention on the mere sounds of his *word-group. 1897 ANWYL *Welsh Gram.* § 19 The unit of connected speech is..the word-group; *e.g.* in English, 'what-do-you-want?' 1876 WHITNEY *Lang. Study* ii. 66 If English stood all alone among the other languages..but an insignificant part of its *word-history could be read. 1892 BROOKE *E. E. Lit.* I. 1 Widsith told his tale, unlocked his *wordhoard. 1876 A. S. PALMER (*title*) Leaves from a *Word-hunter's Note-book. 1733 ARMSTRONG *Taste* 131 Those sacred groves where raptur'd spirits..In *word-hunting waste the live-long day. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 399 *Word-images as integral components of percepts and concepts. 1876 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 160 Barbaric *word-jingle. 1901 *Month* Jan. 16 The greatest *word-juggler of all time. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1867) I. ii. 14 The *word-juggery of mysticism. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* XIV, iii. (1864) IX. 143 Bewildered by his own skilful *word-juggling. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Insights* XXXIV. 330 Very faith, deeper than mere *word-keeping. 1866 G. STEPHENS (*title*) The Old Northern Runic Monuments of Scandinavia and England, with Introductions, Appendices, *Word-Lists, Runic Alphabets, &c. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 69 What the long-*word-makers call an 'interosculant' group. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lx, The order of *word making. 1884 H. SWEET in *13th Addr. Philol. Soc.* 89 This..makes the colloquial language a far better medium of teaching *word-meanings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 394 Forms of *word memory. 1853 MRS. GORE *Dean's Daus.* xxiv, Do not give Miss Mordaunt reason to suppose me the only *word-mill in the family! 1898 SWEET *New Engl. Gram.* II. § 1772 The original Arian *word-order. 1894 DYAN *Man's Keeping* vi, His mother.. *word-painted a picture to him. 1906 G. A. B. DWAR *Faery Year* 57 We can no more word-paint the water than we can the sunbeam. 1861 *Bentley's Misc.* XLIX. 169 Owen Meredith is another *word-painter, even luxuriant in power. 1866 (*title*) *Word Paintings: in Series. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (ed. 3) 296 Like a poem, a parable is a word-painting. 1888 *Archæologia Cantiana* XIV. 3 The descriptive power of a *word-painting historian. 1694 PRYS *Let. in Academy* (1890) 9 Aug. 110/1 Your Specimen of Musick-Characters..must appeare Gracefull, when ye *Word-Part shall bee added. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 255 You are..a meer *Word-pecker. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Word-pecker*, one that play's with Words. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 104 [He] had gone over, with care and loving attention, every little trifling detail of this interview, until he might fairly have been described as '*word-perfect.' 1858–61 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* (1863) 284 Such *word-pictures as you find in Dante. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* To Rdr., Banish these *Word-pirates, (you sacred mistresses of learning) into the gulfe of Barbarisme. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. iii. 8 Not so much *word-pitying her, as providing necessaries for her. 1896 J. RENDEL HARRIS *Hermas in Arcadia* 74 To determine what the *word-play consists in. 1921 H. M. R. MURRAY *Esther upon Esther* Introd. p. xxix, Word-plays of the kind..are..not common in Latin verse of the time. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. 1. 123 You cannot bring us of, from the *word-preaching. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 383/2 Dame Law..call'd over her *Word-selling Crew. 1872 *Yng. Gentleman's Mag.* 212 Little *word-sketches of those absurd scenes. 1896 *Literary World* 19 June 571/2 Stevenson, the soaring child of genius and the plodding *word-smith. 1928 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Acts xvii. 18 What is it that this *wordsower would say? 1887 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 187, I am an inveterate *word-spinner. 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* III. Pref. p. v, Huge folios, full of dreary *wordspinning. 1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 561 A silly, yet ferocious, *wordspite quarrel between Otho and Hugh-le-Grand. 1861 J. TULLOCH *Engl. Purit.* iv. 436 He had too large a soul to take delight in mere *word-splitting. 1890 *Little Folks* Jan. 68 Geographical *Word Square. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5431 They maken fooles glorifie Of her *wordis spekyng. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 511 Perfor is it not gretelie to charge of wurdis-spekyng and a man do wele. 1926 FRIEDRICHSEN *Gothic Vers. Comp.* 23 By skilfully grafting the vigorous scions of his own speech on to the exotic *word-stock. 1863 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 9 Searching the *word-stores of the provincial speech-forms of English. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 107 The end of this *λογομαχία*, or *Word-strife. 1850 T. A. TROLLOPE *Impress. Wand.* iv. 56 The emasculated tribe of *word stringers. 1822 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 263 Whilest he was hearing this sad storie..being so *word-strooken to the heart. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 307 With a wily *word-trap, hee deceiued the Archbishop. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Com. Aristoph.* I. 92 With silent glee his word-traps he lays deftly. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 313 Visual ideation, more particularly in reference to the association of written symbols with their meaning—that is *word-vision—is specially impaired by lesion of the left angular gyrus. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* ii. 14 (1656) 906 Livy telleth us of the Athenians, that they waged *Word-war against Philip. 1866 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxvi. VII. 460 The word-war of the dogmatists. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 123 He regarded with dislike the idle *word-warfare of scholastic ingenuity. 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* 1447 Those *word-warriers..Had their heads fild with cooming fantasies. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* i. (1867) 27 Professional word-warriors of the fourth and fifth centuries. *a* 1555 RIDLEY *Cert. Godly Comfor.* (1556) 34 b, Truste not..to these *worde weappons, for the kingdome of godde is not in wordes, but in power. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* VIII. iii. (1874) 109 Trevanion was a terrible *word-weigher. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 281 in *O. E. Misc.* 128 Wymmon is *word-wop [*v.r.* word-wod]. 1902 F. E. HULME *Proverb-Lore* 124 Sword-wounds

may be healed, 'word-s . . .) are beyond healing. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iv. 503 When the preacher..Dropp'd the new word,..we heard the cry Of the 'word-wounded. 1643 HEALE *Answ. Fisher* 12 Indisposed to this kind of 'word wrangle. 1914 D. CRAWFORD *Thirsting After God* III. i. 143 Mere windy 'word-wrangling. 1877 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xii. 3 This dubblehartednesse..maketh man dubble-tunged & 'woordwresters.

Word (wɜːd), *v.* [f. WORD *sb.*; cf. OHG. *wortôn* in *spilewortôn* to jest, MHG. *worten* to converse, discourse, ON. *orða* to talk, Goth. *-waurdjan* to speak).]

1. *intr.* To utter words; to speak, talk. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1205 LAY. 18058 Þe king wordede þus. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIV. 246 Wil ȝe worden to me þus was for ich aresonede reson. *?a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3393 And now wate thow my wo-o, worde as the lykes. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3261 Al be thut Geffrey wordit sotilly, The Steward & þe burgeyis held it for foly, Al that evir he seyd. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 131 The judge..will not ask men..how they have worded it, but how they have walked. 1819 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 252 Thus wording timidly among the fierce. 1850 [see WORDING *vbl. sb.* 1].

b. *To word it*: to talk, esp. excessively or violently; to have (high) words *with*. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. i. C 3 b, My Lords, you shall not word it any further Without a milder limit. 1613 DAY *Dyall* vi. (1614) 109, I will not stand wording it with our Adversaries. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xi. 7 Thus God words it with them. 1647 — *Comm. Jas.* iii. 13 (1656) 929 *Who is a Wise man.*] Not he that words it most; for *multiloquio stultilogium*. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCCCXXIII. 399 He that .. contemns a Shrew to the Degree of not Descending to Word it with her. *a* 1726 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 148 Men may snarl, and word it high against providence. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia. Word*, to dispute; to wrangle. Ex. 'They *worded* it a long while.'

2. *trans.* To utter in words, say, speak (occas. as distinct from singing); †also, to speak of, mention. *Obs.* or *arch.*

13 . *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 421 When I hade worded quatsoeuer I cowpe, To manace alle þise mody men. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiii. 9 Say, that the last I spoke was Anthony, And word it (prythee) pittiously. 1621 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 240, I cannot sing: He weepe, and word it with thee. 1663 WATERHOUSE *Fortescutus Illustratus* 484 This way of Government being .. changed, .it was made capitall (not onely to endeavour, but even to word the restitution thereof). 1849 [see WORDING *vbl. sb.* 1].

†3. a. To ply or urge with words. *Obs. rare.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 191 He words me Gyrles, he words me, That I should not be Noble to my selfe.

†b. To bring by the use of words (into or out of a specified condition or course of action). *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. xix. 32 To have to doe with perverse irrationall half-witted men, and to be worded to death with nonsence. 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* I. Ep. Ded. A 3 b, Men are not to be Worded into new Tempers, or Constitutions. *a* 1726 *Ibid., 1 Peter ii.* 23 (1744) VIII. 187 Not..to word away our souls, or declaim ourselves into perdition.

4. To express in or put into words; to compose, draw up. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

1613 (*title*) Songs of Mourning..Worded by Tho. Campion. And set forth to bee sung with one voyce to the Lute, or Viol: by John Coprario. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 32 It would giue vs occasion either in wording or sentensing the principall parts thereof to looke back a little into this outworne dialect. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 210 Before the first Logician ever worded a Proposition. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 223, I would have the question worded, before you rise, lest to-morrow be spent in it. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 282 Love dictated, Love worded ev'ry Line. 1828 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 624 Spreading languages .. have flourished and have faded, without wording one eminent narrative poem. 1832 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 456 This statement of limits is found worded over again in the Protocol.

b. esp., and now only, with reference to the kind of language or form of words used; hence freq. with advb. qualification.

1619 MIDDLETON *Love & Antip.* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 315 Triumphs, wherein Art hath been but weakly imitated and most beggarly worded. 1671 BAXTER *Holiness* Ixiv. 18 They have not the skil to word and methodize their notions rightly. 1702 J. NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 126 'Tis in reality one and the same question, only differently worded. 1713 POPE *Let. to Addison* 14 Dec., This litt e instant of our life, which (as Shakespear finely words it) is rounded with a sleep. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xx. III. 153 Instructions angrily worded. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* I. viii, It is coarsely worded, I admit,..but, believe me, the advice is sound. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xxii. 267 She kept repeating to herself various ways of wording her message; for it was..no easy one to construct.

c. *nonce-uses.* To represent as in words; to pad *out* with (unnecessary) words.

1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. iv. 26 This matter of marrying his Kings Daughter..words him (I doubt not) a great deale from the matter. 1646 T. COLEMAN *Brotherly Exam. Rev.* Postscript 22 Pamphlets .. wherein six pages .. are worded out to thirty six.

Word, obs. (erron.) form of WEIRD *sb.*

14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb.) 2155, 7416.

Word: see ORD, WORLD, WORTH *v.*

Wordage (wɜːdéj). *rare.* [f. WORD *sb.* + -AGE.] Words collectively; = VERBIAGE 1.

1829 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 417 The plates are .. sufficient without all the wordage. 1838 ARNOT *Lares from Heaven* Ser. II. 82 [The tongue] may revolve with the rapidity..of.. machinery, throwing off..a continuous web of wordage.

Word-book (wɜːdbuk). [f. WORD *sb.* + BOOK *sb.*; in sense 1 cf. G. *wörterbuch* (f. gen. pl. of *wort* word + *buch* book), Du. †*woordboek*, *woordenboek*, Icel. *orðabók*, Sw. *ordbok*, Da. *ordbog*.]

1. A book containing a list of words (as of the vocabulary of a language, a book, an art, or science) arranged in alphabetical or other systematic order.

The term is often used where it is desired to avoid the implication of completeness or elaboration of treatment characteristic of a dictionary or lexicon.

1598 FLORIO *Ital. Dict.* To Rdr. b 1, If no other bookes can be so well perfected, but still some thing may be added, how much lesse a Word-booke? 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Vocabulary*, a Word-Book, a little Dictionary containing a Collection of Words. 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1755 (1904) I. 197 Johnson's Dictionary..a work of much greater mental labour than mere Lexicons, or Word-books, as the Dutch call them. 1867 SMYTH (*title*) The Sailor's Word-book: an Alphabetical Digest of Nautical Terms. 1879 MISS JACKSON (*title*) Shropshire Word-Book: a Glossary of Archaic and Provincial Words, etc. used in the County. 1888 (*title*) A Word-Book for Students of English History.

2. The 'book of the words' or libretto of a musical composition.

1878 J. MARSHALL in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 353 Besides translating many foreign libretti, [H. F. Chorley] wrote the original word-books of one version of the 'Amber Witch' (Wallace),..of the 'May Queen' (Bennett), [etc.]. 1891 *Guardian* 23 Sept. 1531 Mr. Culwick's interesting summary of the word-book and its annotations.

Words: see ORD, WORD, WORLD, WORTH *v.*

Worded (wɜːdéd), *ppl. a.* [f. WORD *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Formed into words; expressed in or put into words. *rare.*

1626 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* IV. i. 69 Away with this vn-worded passion.

Transp. Abr. I. 516 No worded description of a moving spectacle is a hundredth part as moving as the same spectacle seen with one's own eyes.

b. Qualified by an adv.: Expressed in a particular kind of language or form of words; phrased in such-and-such a manner.

1848 W. K. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten* V. II. 210 A cautiously worded, but firm answer. 1871 MISS BRADDON *Lovels* I, Every occasion brought..the same coldly worded letter. 1899 MACKAIL *W. Morris* II. 270 His latest and most carefully-worded confession of faith.

2. Full of words: a. involving the use of many words, wordy; b. having a good stock of words at command. *nonce-uses.*

1638 WILKINS *New World* vi. 81 He was much opposed by Aristotle in some worded disputations, but never confuted by any solid reason. 1734 J. RICHARDSON *Milton's P. L.* p. lxxxiii, A Man of Learning indeed, and a Great Etymologist, but a Meer Scholar...Morus was also a Worded Man; and he was a Celebrated Preacher.

Wordel, Wordely, obs. ff. WORLD, WORLDLY.

Worder (wɜːdəɹ). *rare.* [f. WORD *v.* + -ER 1.]

†a. One who uses (many) words; a chatterer, prater. *Obs.* b. One who puts something into words; one who frames the words or terms of a subject.

1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* I. 3 They were neither worders, or giuen to high laughter. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 206 Each good Action speaking more effectually.. Conviction to Spectators, than any (though the subtlest worder) could ever arrive to. *Ibid.* 359 It were to be wished, we could not say as much of our high worders, of their Covetousnesse. 1883 E. HOOKER *Pref. Perdage's Mystic Dis.* 36 Other worders as there are too many, not to conceal som of our impertinently idl Pulpit-praters [etc.]. 1887 KNOLLYS *Sk. Life Japan* 267 The..details belong to the worders of science.

Wordeyn, obs. form of ORDAIN.

Wordie, var. WORDY *sb. Sc.*; obs. f. WORDY *a.*, WORTHY.

Wordily (wɜːdili), *adv.* [f. WORDY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a wordy manner or style; with excess or abundance of words; verbosely.

1522 *World & Child* 277 The kynge of Wrathe full wordely ..wyll me maynteyne. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Haue, an Earth* II. lxvii, Some wordy-men..raught at Rethorikes Rules to rule thereby:..they rul'd wordily. 1702 CALAMY *Life R. Baxter* I. 364 This Article of the Controversie hath been manag'd very Wordily. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* I. 32 Sophists and rhetoricians begin to flourish and everything that can be wordily elaborated, is grist for their mill. 1891 SMILES *Mem. J. Murray* I. ix. 198 Southey wrote so smoothly, so easily, so wordily.

Wordine, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of WORTH *v.*

Wordiness (wɜːdinés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being wordy; excess or multiplicity of words; verbosity.

1707 BAILEY (vol. II), *Wordiness*, .. Talkativeness, &c. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VII. xiii. 122 The empty wordiness of his factious subjects—their intemperate harangues. 1882 J. ANGUS *Handbk. Engl. Tongue* 373 A copious phraseology is one cure of wordiness, and is essential to effective writing.

Wording (wɜːdiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WORD *v.* (or *sb.*) + -ING 1.]

1. Speaking, talking, utterance. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 62 The Senate will leave wording presently. 1605 MARSTON *New Way* III. ii, *Maevoll.* Pray you a word Sir. *Greed.* No wording now. 1609 KEATS *Otho* II. i, Fine wording, Duke! but words could never yet forestall the fates. 1849 SEARS *Resurrection* 211 I. (1859) 126 The wording and rewording of liturgies in set prayer. 1850 BUSHNELL *God in Christ* 139 They must have their reality to me in what they c . when taken as the wording forth of God.

altrid. 1880 SWINBURNE *Queen-Mother* I. ii, All this wond-ling-time I am not perfect where this wrong began.

†b. A saying, statement. *Obs. rare.*

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxiii. 348 Old Wordings.. proning trew.

†2. Angry or abusive speech; 'having words' (see WORD *sb.* 5). *Obs.*

1564 *Child-Marriages* 129 In wordinge betwixe the mother of the said Isabell & the said Rafe, the said Rafe said to her, that 'her doughter Isabell was a heore and a thief'. 1598 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 18 She termeth..his outfacing & wording at me, audacitie and manly boldnesse. 1624 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII. viii. (ed. 2) 780 They are great gamsters, their play like that of Dice: in which they carrie themselues very patiently without swearing or wording.

3. The action of putting or condition of being put into words; composition or expression in language (spoken or written), esp. in reference to the words used; mode of speech, form of words, phrasing.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* iv. 36 Tis believ'd this wording was above his known stile and Orthographie. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 364 If constancy may be tainted with this selfish-

[illegible] other parts of publick Worship, doth in effect leave nothing to the Ministers spirit but the wording of it. 1687 LD. SUNDERLAND in *Magd. Coll.* (O. H. S.) 169 His Majesty leaves the wording of it to you. 1728 BERVAL *Play is the Plot* II. i. 18 Take me Pen, Ink, and Paper, and write him a Letter of my Wording. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. 7 Some forms necessary in the wording of last wills and testaments. *Ibid.* vi. 248 This is the form of the coronation oath, as it is now prescribed..: but the wording of it was changed at the revolution, because..the oath itself had been framed in doubtful words and expressions. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 962 Things for which no wording can be found. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXIV, I entreat the attention of the jury to the wording of this document. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* IV. vii. § 43 His plain and manly sentences often give us pleasure by the wording alone. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* x. (1875) 411 The clear thought which is..at the bottom of that troubled wording. 1888 PROCTOR *Fam. Science Studies* 43, I have altered the wording..in such a way as to avoid the use of technical expressions. 1913 *Spectator* 26 July 148/2 The meaning..is plain, though the wording is, to say the least,..involved.

4. A set of written words, an inscription. *rare.*

1908 *Times* 28 Jan. 4/6 A box..with..the well-known Havana indications, including the lock-label with the Spanish wording.

So †**Wo·rding** *ppl. a.* (*a*) consisting in (mere) words, verbal; (*b*) using many or empty words, wordy; (*c*) characterized by angry words, contentious, quarrelsome.

1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxx. (1631) 48 Patrone of the vulgar whose wording favour..hath such an operation with mans frailtie. 1615 J. STEPHENS *Sat. yr. Ess.* 315 It is probable she was begotten by some..Wording Poet, for she consists of as many fearefull sounds without science. 1688 BUNYAN *Holy War* To Rdr. (1684) A 3 b, In Parleys, or in wording Jars.

†**Wo·rdish,** *a. Obs.* [f. WORD *sb.* + -ISH 1.]

1. Consisting in or concerned with words, esp. mere words (as opposed to realities); verbal: cf. WORDY *a.* 3.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 33 A perfect picture I say, for hee yeeldeth to the powers of the minde, an image of that whereof the Philosopher bestoweth but a wordish description. *Ibid.* 69 Both [Poetry and Oratory] have such an affinity in this wordish consideration. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 56 Blundering the plainest truths with multitudes of wordish evasions. 1675 CROWNE *Calisto* v. 73 All wordish praise she is so much above That eloquence would prophanation prove. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 454 To make the Doctrine of Words to be a..part of Philosophy, is to make Philosophy Wordish.

2. Using, or containing, an excess of words; verbose: = WORDY *a.* 1.

1604 SCOLOKER *Daiphantus* Argt., More desirous to be thought honest, then so to be worldish beyond discretion. *a* 1637 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 29, I have made my story too wordish;..I should have pared much away.

Hence †**Wo·rdishly** *adv.*, †**Wo·rdishness.**

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 26 Lequacity, that is, voluntary talking wordishly without a syllable of sense. *Ibid.* 390 The emptie wordishnes in his 'Reply'. 1697 — *Solid Philos.* 286 All the Wordishness, and empty Disputes among Trivial Philosophers.

Wordle, obs. f. WORD; var. WORTLE.

Wordless (wɜːdlés), *a.* [f. WORD *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Inexpressible in words; unspeakable, unutterable. *Obs.* or merged in 2.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 223 Wordles song is þe herte michele bliss, þe heo haueð of haueneliche singe, and se mai þeroffe be stille ne mid worde hem atellen. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Cor.* XV 51 (1656) 702 This, likely was one of those wordless words [ἄρρητα ῥήματα: 1611 unspeakable words] that Paul heard in his rapture, 2 Cor. 12. 4. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Perdage's Mystic Dis.* 66 Hee was caught up into the third Heaven..where Hee heard wordless Words (so the Greec most emphatically) Words unutterabl, unexpressible.

2. Not expressed in words; unspoken, unuttered.

a 1300 *Chaucer's Dreame* 289 So thought I..That wordlesse answere in no toun Was tane for obligacioun. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Elisa* II. iv, So sat she joyless down in wordlesse grief complaining. 1820 BYRON *Juan* III. lviii, The storm,.. deep, and wordless *like* Of a strong human heart. 1890 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 289 Some wordless prayer of agony. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. viii. 270 The deaf-and-dumb..work out..such analogies..in their wordless thought,

1884 'Edna Lyall' *We Two* xix, Love of the deepest sort is wordless.

3. Not uttering a word; not speaking, silent, speechless. Also *transf.* of action or feeling (cf. 2).

a 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 326 Wordlesse he was, and semed sicke. 1593 Shakes. *Lucr.* 112 Her iole with heaued-vp hand she doth expresse, And wordlesse so greetes heauen for his mocquerie. 1692 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 5) 320 She, wordless, went, But looked her thanks. 1881 Christina Rossetti *Later Life* iii. Poems (1904) 198 Our wordless tearless numbness of distress. 1890 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 8 Feb. 300/2 The patient was quite speechless, or, at least, wordless. 1904 G. Watson *Sunshine & Sentim.* 188, I was unable to follow her, and stood dumfounded and wordless.

b. Lacking the faculty or

1848 J. Quarles *Poems* of thirsty children cleave To their unliquid mouths. 1848 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 16 May 322 A Word for the Wordless.

c. Lacking words for expression.

1881 Poynter *Among the Hills* I. 182 Her mind was too uncultivated, too wordless. 1896 Howells *Impressions & Exp.* 104 The innocence of wordless infancy.

4. Not accompanied by words; (of a play) acted without words.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. n. *Babylon* 333 The winged quiers,..Their sounds want sense; their notes are word-lesse still. 1855 Bailey *Mystic* 137 No wordless murmurs of expectant joy. 1882 J. Hawthorne *Fort. Fool* xxx, The little wordless song which his..mother had sung. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Jan. 3/2 The history of wordless plays on the modern London stage. 1902 G. K. Chesterton *Man who knew* 258 The man..cast it down with a wordless sound more shocking than a curse.

Hence **Wo·rdlessly** *adv.*, **Wo·rdlessness.**

1892 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 5) 250 The eagle they petitioned to preside,..The bird of curved beak and radiant eye Bowed wordlessly, and swept down from the sky. 1891 M. Muriel Dowie *Girl in Knrk.* xiii. 178 We were left..wordlessly grateful. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 3/1 The momentary wordlessness that is certain to fall occasionally to the lot of everyone.

Wordli(e,-lich(e, Wordling, obs. ff. Worldly, Worldling.

Wordlore (wɜ·ɹdlōɹ). [f. Word *sb.* + Lore *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *wortlehre.*] a. The study of words and their history; the words collectively of a language and their history. b. (= G. *wortlehre.*) The doctrine of the forms and formation of words; morphology.

1870 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* Mar. 282 (*art.*) Word-lore. 1872 Kennedy *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 5 Etymology comprises:—I. Phonology or Soundlore, the doctrine of Sounds. II. Morphology or Wordlore, the doctrine of Words. 1904 A. S. Palmer (*title*) The Folk and their Word-Lore: an Essay on Popular Etymologies.

†**Wordly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Word *sb.* + -ly[1].] Dealing in, or consisting in, mere words; verbal.

1633 Ames *Fresh Suit agst. Ceremn.* Pref. p. v, These wordly gospellers. *Ibid.* II. 36 A wordly distinction betwixt Doctrinall and Rituall Ceremonies.

Wordly, -lyche, obs. forms of Worldly.

Wordman (wɜ·ɹdmăn). *rare.* [f. Word *sb.* + Man *sb.*[1]] A man who deals with or has command of words; a master of language. So **Wo·rdmanship,** skill in the use of words.

1623 Cockeram II, A great Word man, *grandiloquus.* 1654 J. Webster *Acad. Exam.* 68 Men that..think themselves the most skilful wordmen or Logodædalists in the world. *a* 1721 Prior *Dial. betw. Charles & Clennard* Wks. 1907 II. 213, I will not shew my Anger against this Word-man. 1882 Stevenson *Men & Bks.* Pref. p. xiii, The great contemporary master of wordmanship, and indeed of all literary arts.

Wordmonger (wɜ·ɹdmɔ̆ngəɹ). [f. Word *sb.* + Monger.] One who deals in words, esp. in strange or pedantic words, or in empty words without sense or substance. *contemptuous.*

1590 *Turlton's News Purgat.* Ep. Ded. A 2 b, The wordmongers of malice, that like the Vipers grew odious to their own kinde. 1628 Shirley *Witty Fair One* v. iv, A pedantical, lousy wordmonger. 1749 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 331 God hath cautioned me against these word-mongers. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* vi. iii. (1866) 813 The word-mongers who could clothe one shivering thought in a hundred thousand garments. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* II. ii, Diagonalise! thou art a word-monger

So **Wo·rdmongering, -mongery.**

1879 H. N. Hudson *Hamlet* Pref. p. xiv, Too much time ..spent in mere word-mongering and lingual dissection. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 Mar. 87/3 Word-mongery has been overdone here and there.

Wordre, obs. form of Order *sb.*

Wordsworthian (wɜ·ɹdzwɜ·ɹpiăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the name of the English poet William *Wordsworth* (1770–1850) + -ian.] a. *sb.* An admirer or imitator of Wordsworth, or a student of his works. b. *adj.* Of, belonging to, or characteristic of Wordsworth; (of a poem) composed by, or in the style of, Wordsworth.

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 12, I am enough of a Wordsworthian not to confine my tastes to the received elegancies of society. 1829 Lockhart in *Scott's Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 340 Miss Hume is an ecstatic Wordsworthian, and is to go to see him one of these days in the flesh. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Painters* III. IV. xvii. § 29. 304 'J'aime mieux ma mie,' is.. the first Wordsworthian poem brought forward on philosophical principles, to oppose the schools of art and affectation. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 44 Given to indulge in Wordsworthian musings. 1898 R. H. Hutton *Scott* xvi. (1878) 162 Even Scott, who was so little of a Wordsworthian,..must have savoured that day..to that favourite Wordsworthian poem.

perfectly balanced between the desirability of gorgeous Swinburnesque ornament and Wordsworthian austerity.

Hence **Wordsworthianism.**

1881 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Feb. 215 There has been of late a recrudescence of Wordsworthianism.

Wordy, wordie (wɜ·ɹdi), *sb. Sc.* [f. Word *sb.* + -y[6].] A little or slight word.

1728 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xx, She her man like a lammy led Hame, wi' a well-wall'd wordy. 1785 Burns *To Rev. J. M'Math* iii, A pack..Wha..Can easy, wi' a single wordie, Lowse hell upon me. *a* 1840 Joanna Baillie *Song, Wee'd & Married* 38 Weel waled were his wordies.

Wordy (wɜ·ɹdi), *a.* [Late OE. *wordig,* f. Word *sb.* + -ig, -y[1].]

1. Full of or abounding in words. a. Of speech or writing: Consisting of or containing many words; = Verbose 1.

c 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* in Napier *O.E. Glosses* 38/1416 *Verbosa,* wordig. 1580 Wyclif *3 Cor.* Prol., Wordy eloquence of philosophie. 1641 Br. Hall *Answ. Vind. Smect.* 103 In this their wordy, and wearisome Volume. 1713 Rowe *Jane Shore* III. i, To deal in wordy Compliment Is much against the Plainness of my Nature. 1778 Br. Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* Prelim. Diss. p. lxviii, The Chaldee Paraphrase..often wanders from the Text in a wordy allegorical explanation. 1853 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (ed. 10) II. Note 5. I. 297 If the Franks scorned the complex and wordy jurisprudence of Rome. *a* 1873 Lytton *Pausanias* i. (1876) 49 The Athenian fashion of wordy boasting. 1877 Kinglake *Crimea* (1880) VI. ix. 309 This despatch was beyond measure wordy.

b. Of a person: Using an excess of words; = Verbose 2; *occas.* garrulous, talkative.

1382 Wyclif *Job* xvi. 21 My woordi frendis [1388 fil of wordis]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/2 Wordy, *verbosus, & cetera; vel* Chaterer. 1636 Sir R. Baker *Cato Variegatus* 9 Words against wordy men, thou must not vse. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 448 P 1 Phocion, beholding a wordy Orator, while he was making a magnificent Speech to the People. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xiv. (1901) I. 106 The barber's pretty but rather wordy wife. 1881 Stevenson *Virg. Puerisque* 80 A wordy, prolegomenous babbler.

†2. Skilled in the use of words. *Obs. rare.*

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 80/1 Be he a Pleader, and a wordie Man. 1609 — *Hum. Heav. on Earth* II. lxviii, Some wordy-men, by words, sought worthinesse. 1680 Otway *Orphan* iv. vii, You talk to me in Parables, Chamont; You may have known that I'm no wordy Man.

3. Consisting or expressed in words; of words; verbal. Now chiefly in phr. *wordy war.* (Often with mixture of sense 1 a.)

1627 W. Sclater *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1629) 129 Intrusion on Gods Prerogatiues royall is rather in facts, then wordy profession. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* James ii. 14 Is not a meer wordy Profession an unprofitable thing to your selves..? Will..saying you believe, profit to Salvation, if you..live not according to the Gospel? 1725 Rowe *Lady Jane Gray* I. i, These Clergy Quarrels, These wordy Wars of proud ill-manner'd Schoolmen. 1741 B. Franklin *Poor Richard* (1850) 122 He that talks much, talks in vain; We from the wordy torrent fly. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* II. 463 All that wordy tempest for a girl. 1814 Byron *Lara* I. xxiii, To mar The mirthful meeting with a wordy war. 1860 Tennyson *Sea Dreams* 21 When the wordy storm Had ended.

Wordy, -nesse, obs. ff. Worthy, Worthiness.

†**Wore,** *sb. Obs.* Of doubtful origin and meaning; perh. identical with Ware *sb.*[1], Ore[5] (OE. *wær*) seaweed, but possibly repr. OE. *wæra, wærum,* glossing med.L. *sablonum, sablonibus* ? sandy or pebbly shore (see, however, note in Napier's *O. E. Glosses,* p. 49).

a 1320 *Alysoun* iv. in Wright *Lyric P.* 28 Icham for wowyng al forwake, wery so water in wore. 13.. *Maximon* in Böddeker *Altengl. Dicht.* 249 Y wake as water in wore; Iesu crist, bin ore!

†**Wore,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* Also worl. [perh. to be referred to OE. *wðrian* only intr. to wander, f. *wðr-,* root of *wðrig* Weary *a.*, q.v.] *trans.* To trouble, disturb, confuse.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 386 Þis mong woreð [*r.* woreð] so þe eien of þe heorte þet heo ne mei iknowen God. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Bodl.) 714 Þet hare fleasches eggunge, ne þe feondes fondunge..ne worl [*v.r.* weorri] hare heorte wit. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 24 Ther afterward this worldes won with muchel unwynne us woren wolde.

†**Wore,** *v.*[2] *Naut. Obs.* Pa. t. of Wear *v.*[2] irreg. used for inf.

1744 J. Phillips *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 8 As it made the Signal to wore Ship. *Ibid.* 41 Fresh Gales..which obliged most of the Ships to wore and bear down to the Leeward.

Wore (wōəɹ), pa. t. of Wear *v.*[1]; pa. t. and pple. of Wear *v.*[2]

Wore, obs. pa. t. of Be *v.*; obs. f. Ore[2], Ore[5]; var. Ware *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

Wored, obs. form of Word.

†**Worl,** *a. Obs.* [? f. stem of Wore *v.*[1] + -d, -y[1]. (Connexion with OE. *wðrig* is improbable.)] 'Troubled', disturbed, turbid.

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Hu mahte þu ieuen þine scondewe in worle watere. *a* 1225 *Moral Ode* 142 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Betere is worl water drunch þen atter meind mid wine. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 386 Haue euer ichir heorte þus, & do al þet tu wilt. Haue worl heorte & al þe sit vuele. *c* 1250 *St. Brendan* 160 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 206 Twey faire welleine, þat en was swyþe clar, And semdel worl..þat oþer was.

Worle, obs. form of Weary *v.*

Work (wɜk), *sb.* Forms: α. 1–3 wurc, 2–4 wurk(e, (3 *Orm.* wurrc, wurrk-), β. 1–4 were, (2 wurc, wurk, *Orm.* werrc), 3–6 werk(e, (4 -ke, -kke, 5 wherk, 6 *Sc.* verk); *Sc.* and *north.* 4 warc(ke, vark, 4–7 warke, 4– wark. γ. 1 wyrc, 1–2 wurc, 3 wurck, wurk, (3 wirke); 4 wirke. δ. 1–3 worc, 3–7 worke, (3, 6 worck, 4 vorke, 6 woorke, wourke, 6–7 worcke), 6– work. ε. 2–3 wurch, 3, 5–6 worch(e, wurch, 9 *dial.* wurtch; ζ. 7– warch (see Ware *sb.*[1]). [OE. *worc* = OFris., OS., (M)LG., (M)Du. *werk,* OHG. *werah, werc* (MHG. *werch, werc,* G. *werk*), ON. *verk* (Sw., Da. *verk*) :– OTeut. **werkom* (see Work *v.*); cognate are Gr. *ἔργον,* Arm. *gorc,* Zend *varəsa-* activity. Forms γ and ε show partial assimilation to the forms of Work *v.*; see also Ware, warch *sb.*[1] (in a specialised sense).]

I. 1. Something that is or was done; what a person does or did; an act, deed, proceeding, business; in *pl.* actions, doings (often collectively = §). *arch.* or *literary* in gen. sense.

stag. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Þis weorc bið deoflum se mæsta teona. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 10 God weorc heo worhte on me. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 318 Þæt weorc wæs begunnen ongean Godes willan. *c* 1205 Lay. 2174 Menbriz dude an vuel weorc. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 25 Halden ham I reste fram þat fleschliche werc. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 80 Or it wer alle ent þe werke þat þei did wirke. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 446 Chaistese þam..Efter þe werk þat þai hane wroght. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 310 Whyle god fulfylleth thys dayes the worke of nature. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 434 Quhen Wallas thus this worthi werk had wrocht. *a* 1529 Skelton *P. Sparrowe* 369 The kestrell in all this warke Shall be holy water clarke. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 207 b, So the worke of God,..ther rose suche a sodain wynde and a terrible tempest. 1595 Shakes. *John* IV. iii. 57 It is a damned, and a bloody worke. 1599 Peele *David & Bethsabe* E ij b, Is not the hand of Ioab in this worke? 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* III. xv. 272 A people of that beastly disposition, that they performed the most secret worke of Nature in publike view. 1679 South *Serm., Prov. iii. 17* (1697) I. 28 After a long fatigue of Eating, and Drinking, and Babling, he concludes the great work of Dining Gentilely. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvii, For almost the last time in which she shall be called upon to weep in this history, she commenced that work. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* viii, All this doctor's stuff is no use, unless you can say a charm as will undo her devil's work.

pl. Beowulf 289 Secead witan worda and worca. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxii. 210 Gif we hie myndgiað hiera godna weorca. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 3 Ne do ze na æfter heora worcum; Hig secgeaþ & ne doð. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Alle we beoð in monifald wawe..hwat for ure eldere werkes, hwat for ure azene gultes. *c* 1290 *Hymns* 26 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 257 Þat ic non þing mid unriehte Wurche þe werches þe beoð towlde. *c* 1290 *Prayer to our Lady* 29 in *O. E. Misc.* 189 Ich habbe isuneget mid wurken and midd mube. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1963 Wit lele werks lek þee dele. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 3 In Habite of an Hermite vn-holy of werkes. 1471 Canton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 29 She was..wyse in her werkes honeste in conuersacion & flowryng in alle vertuys. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xi. 2 When Jhon beinge in preson herde the workes of Christ. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Isa. lix. 6 Their workes are workes of iniquitie. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. viii. 129 Hypocrisie loues her workes should be seene, but not her humour. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* xxxi. Wks. 1765 II. 223 A Deity, whose very words are works, and all whose works are wonders. *a* 1863 Whately *Chr. Evid.* v, The works performed by Jesus and His disciples were beyond the unassisted powers of man.

b. *Theol.* (*pl.*) Moral actions considered in relation to justification: usually as contrasted with *faith* or *grace.* Rarely in *sing.* (See also 32.)

Covenant of Works: see Covenant *sb.* 8 a.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 268 Þif I shal werke be here werkis to wynne me heuene,..Þanne wrouȝte I vnwisly. 1382 Wyclif *Eph.* ii. 9 By grace ȝe ben saued bi feith,..it is the ȝifte of God, not of werkis, that no man glorie. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox, Wolf & Husb.* 807 Warkis that fra farme faith proceidis. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* xi. 6 Yff hit be of grace then is it not by the deservynge of workes (1611 then is it no more of workes). 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S. T. S.) 107 Faith causis hime to virk throw lwiff godlie and christine varkis. 1625 Mountagu *App. Cæsar.* 164 The person with God must be made acceptable..before any work of his become approveable. 1635 D. Dickson *Hebr.* vii. 19. 131 To seeke to bee..Justified and saved, by workes, is to seeke that by the Lawe, which could never bee brought to passe, by it.

c. Qualified by phr. with *of* expressing the moral quality of the action, as *a work* or *works of charity, of darkness, of mercy,* etc.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 Þe were of þesternesse þat ben alle heuie sennen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19764 Cristen sco was and euer fus Abute all werkes of almus. 1340–1384 [see Mercy *sb.* 7]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 25 It is werk of mercy to birie dede men. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 342 It was a werke of charitee. 1526 Tindale *Eph.* v. 11 Have no felishippe with the vnfruitfull workes of derckenes. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 28 Amonges other workes of Charitie.. we shoulde..comforte the sicke. 1703 Earl Orrery *As you find it* v. ii. 63, I have another Work of Charity upon my hands,..to reform an extravagant Husband. 1820 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III. ii, Even in her dreams Her soul is at some work of charity.

d. *The work of . . .*: a proceeding occupying (a stated length of time). So *a work of time*: a proceeding which takes a long time.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 2 The confused mass and matter of heaven and earth was made in a moment; and the ..disposition of that chaos or mass was the work of six days. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* II. xxi, To wrench the sword from Wilfrid's hand..Was but one moment's work. 1818 — *Hrt. Mid.* II, They had now only to double a small head-land..; but in the state of the weather, and the boat being heavy, this was like to be a work of time. 1829 — *Anne of Geier.* xxxi.

1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxxiii, All this was..but the work of a few minutes. 1906 Alice Werner *Natives Brit. Central Africa* vi. 136 Once the water has been brought to the boil, which..is apt to be a work of time.

c. *spec.* (see quots.).

1869 Landseth *Life Adam Thomson* I. 43 The services on such an occasion [*sc.* the communion] were..emphatically designated by devout people 'the work'. 1887 W. S. S. Tyrwhitt *New Chum in Queensland Bush* viii. 147, I have found the Cape rifle..a very useful gun for Queensland work (*i.e.* kangaroo shooting). 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* lvii. II. 395 The 'work' of politics means in America the business of winning nominations..and elections.

2. Something to be done, or something to do; what a person (or thing) has or had to do; occupation, employment, business, task, function.

Often only contextually distinguishable from 1; in later use viewed as a fig. or extended application of 4 or 5.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xiii. 34 Se man [þe]..sealde his þeowum þone anwald ǽghwylces weorces. *c* 1200 Ormin 1833 Whatt weorrc himm ias þurrh Drihhtin sett To forþenn her onn eorþe. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* x. 40 The werke that he hath vndertaken. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 218 Fie vpon this quiet life, I want worke. 1601 — *Ham.* v. ii 333 The point envenom'd too, Then venome to thy worke. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Ouvrage*, Euerie bodies worke is no bodies worke. 1643 Burroughes *Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea* ix. (1652) 302 It is not my worke to handle the point of the Sabbath-day or Lords-day now. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 206 Gentlemen, and Ladies..Wi' ev'n down want o' wark are curst. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxviii. 259 The Lord has a work for mas'r. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* iv. § 82 The desert has its appointed place and work. 1868 Trollope *Belton Est.* i. 9 To fight the devil was her work,—was the appointed work of every living soul.

b. *Cricket, Rowing*, etc. What a batsman, an oarsman, etc. has to do, esp. with reference to the points at which his force is to be applied.

1851 Pycroft *Cr. Field* vii. 117 Be sure you stand up to your work, or close to your block-hole. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* II. viii. iii. § 2. 476/1 He [*sc.* a rower] sits quite square to his work. 1902 G. C. Bourne *Carrmanship* 32 Those theorists who would have us place carsmen some three to six inches away from their work.

3. †a. Action (of a person) in general; doings, deeds; conduct. (Often conjoined with *word*.) *Obs.*

971 [see Word *sb.* 4]. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 108 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 167 His ssa werch and his þonc te witnesse he scal demen. *c* 1200 Ormin 5426 Whase maȝȝ wiþþ word & weorrc Her fillenn Godess wille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8696 Bath warr and wis in all his werc. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 3 Wha sam haris my word and dos it in werke. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw* 1244 Ilkane be werk and be will Is worth his rewarde. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 9 Inuertlie in thair hart and outwertlie in thair word and wark. 1564–78 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 34 The sutli [man], whose woorke is either dronkennesse, adulterie, thefte. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 15 Maisters of ane euil steik of vark Sould ay detest the godlie, vpricht lyf. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Deut. v. 1 Heare Israel the ceremonies & iudgements..and fulfil them in worke.

b. Action (of a person or thing) of a particular kind; †doing, performance; working, operation. In various connexions; of a thing, often in reference to result; *to do its work*, to produce its effect (cf. 9 b).

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 4 In werke of ony goode dede. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xvi. 89 If the maner of outring which is sauory in a sermonyng schulde be sett..In the office of scole prouyng..al the werk ther of schulde be the vnsauerye and the vnspedier. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 58 Hyn bowsse..schall come to be pluckyd schortly down or elles burnyd for the schortter warke. *a* 1635 Sibbes *Confor. Christ & Mary* (1656) 92 The work of God's spirit in his children, is like fire. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* v. 36 The composition or dissolution of mixed bodies..is the chiefe worke of Elements, and requireth an intime application of the Agents. 1731 *Art of Drawing & Paint.* 23 When the Spirit of Wine has done its Work, it must be pour'd off. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 348 It will be so steady that no unevenness of the ground will be able to throw it out of its work, as a clod or stone will a common harrow. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. cii, Famine, despair, cold, thirst, and heat, had done Their work on them by turns. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iii, The brandy-and-water had done its work.

c. *Cricket.* Deflection of the ball after touching the ground, resulting from the spin or twist imparted to it by the bowler.

1846 W. Denison *Sk. Players* 12 His delivery is from over the wicket, so there is..scarcely any 'work' from it. 1882 *Evening News* 2 Sept. 1/6 The amount of work the bowlers could get on the ball.

4. Action involving effort or exertion directed to a definite end, esp. as a means of gaining one's livelihood; labour, toil; (one's) regular occupation or employment.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cliii. 23 Utgæð mon to werce his. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Exod.* xx. 9 Wyrc six dagas ealle ðine weorc. *c* 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* xiv, Niht wæs geworht to reste ealswa dæȝ to worce. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 61/248 An Asse ..is i-harled here and bere and to file weorke i-do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5870 þat..ned-wais suld þai Do tua dais werkes on a dai. *Ibid.* 21508 Of he kest al to his serk, To mak him nemel til his werk. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvi. 265 Thorghe werk of his men. 1557–8 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 236 Doinge certen lobbes of woorke. 1612 R. Fenton *Usurie* 89 A dayes worke is valuable at a certaine price. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 88 In Carpentry and Joyners work. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 618 Man hath his daily work of body or mind Appointed. 1783 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 372/1 To leave off Work perhaps Half an Hour before Bell Ringing. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xxxiv, I do all the work of the house. 1866 Ruskin *Crown Wild Olive* i. 40 There must be work done by the arms, or none of us could live. There must be work done by the brains, or the life we get would not be worth having. 1872 Smiles *Charac.* iv. (1876) 98 Work—employment, useful occupation—is one of the great secrets of happiness. 1899 *Manch. Guardian* 14 Oct. 5/6 Half the workmen employed are Italians, who are said to do four times as much work as the Bulgarians. 1924 'Ian Hay' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 3 Philip was a glutton for work.

b. Used *gen.* in reference to any action requiring effort or difficult to do. Often with epithet.

1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 141, I had as myche worck as I cowde by ony meanys to pacyfye theyme. 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* 20 Wee had Worke enough to get any of our Men to looke to our Shipp. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) ii. 8 Walking obliquely up a steep hill when the ground is what the vulgar call greasy. Sad work! 1832 Ht. Martineau *Life in Wilds* vi. 76 It..was weary work with any tool but the hatchet. 1864 Browning *Rabbi Ben Ezra* xviii, Here, work enough to watch The Master work, and catch Hints of the proper craft. 1900 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 127 It was hard work rowing, for the wind was against him.

c. *spec.* The labour done in making something, as distinguished from the material used (in reference to the cost); = Workmanship 1.

1737 W. Salmon *Country Builder's Estimator* (ed. 2) 25 Steps of common Stairs,..of Oak, 8*d.* per Foot; the Work only 2*d.* per Foot. *Ibid.* 26 Whole Deal-Doors..are allowed, work and half work, or double work, if of two-inch Stuff, in consideration of their being wrought on both sides.

d. Exercise or practice in a sport or game; also, exertion or movement proper to a particular sport, game, or exercise.

1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports* I. III. vi. § 2. 194 On all occasions after the day's work, the frictioning must be had recourse to. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 161 Lilly then made a good point, and the other backed very well, these two doing the prettiest work seen as yet. 1877 [see Worker 2]. 1882 *Society* 7 Oct. 23/2 As a man he has done extraordinary work at long-jumping, sprinting, and hurdle-racing. 1895 foot work [see Foot *sb.* 35].

5. A particular act or piece of labour; a task, job. Also *gen.* something difficult to do, a 'hard task' (cf. 4 b); or in special connexions, e. g. a particular operation in some manufacture. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 960 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 1885) 65 Gif hy ut an æcere wurc [*v.r.* weorc] habben [L. *si opera in agris habuerint*]. *c* 1205 Lay. 8709 An are nihte firste þat worc [*c* 1275 worch] wes iforðed. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5527 Wit herd werckes þai heild þam in. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 136 A þral. vnþryuandely cloþed, Ne no festiual frok, bot fyled with werkkes. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* iv. 22 Alle werkis of bras and of yrun. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 318 He ought to mowe the ladies corne ix. daies.., without other werkes that he shold do. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. v. *Heading*, In loving of the douchty Hercules The pepill singis his werkis. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1095 Cockys armys! this is a warke, I trowe. 1580 G. Harvey *Let. to Spenser* Poet. Wks. (1912) 627/2 Vnlesse ye might..haue your meate, and drinke for your dayes workes. 1819 Rees *Cycl.* s. v. *Foundery*, The ear of the bell requires a separate work, which is done during the drying of..the cement. 1894 Maitland in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* IX. 419 At the beginning of the fourteenth century we see that some of the 'works' were done in kind, while others were 'sold to the homage'

†b. In early use applied *spec.* (in *sing.* or *pl.*) to the building or repair of a church. *Obs.*

Cf. *Beowulf* 74, *Crist* 3.

1387 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 2 To the werkes of our lady of Abbechirch xx *s.* 1398 *Munim. de Melrose* (Hann.) 490, I..sal paye like wowke..halfe a marc..to þair new werke of Melros. 1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 81 Y be-quethe to the wherk of the Ile of the toon side of the Cloistere..vj *s* viij *d.* 1482 in *Charters &c. Edin.* (1871) 169 Of ilk schip in generale of gudis ij bollis..to sanct Gelis werk.

6. a. Trouble, affliction; in later use in lighter sense: Disturbance, fuss, 'ferment'. (See also 31.)

b. Pain, ache: see Wark *sb.*[1] *dial.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 569 Þæt þam wellzan wæs weorc to þolianne. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9207 Holichirche He bigan to worri & made him þe worse wurche. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 92 He seyde that thys troble sholde begyn in Maye,..that the Scotts sholde make us werke. 1676 Earl of Anglesey in *Essex Papers* (Camden) 71 Philipsburgh and Mastrick are sore pressed, and there is hot worke at both. 1717 Prior *Alma* III. 250 Tokay and Coffee cause this Work, Between the German and the Turk. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* ii, This work about Esther, and not knowing where she is, lies so heavy on my heart. 1898 *Warwicksh. Gloss.* s.v., There'll be nice work over this broken window.

7. *Math.* The process of or an operation in calculation; a process of calculation written out in full; = Working *vbl. sb.* 7, 7 b. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1557 Recorde *Whetst.* Cc ij, The totalle will bei (as here in worke appeareth) 335016. 1663 J. Johnson *Arith.* I. Cz, The proofe of Addition is made by Subtraction: for if you subtract the numbers which you added from the totall of the Addition, there will remaine nothing, if the worke be truly done. *a* 1675 Cocker *Arith.* (1688) 249 Reduce a fraction to its lowest terms at the first Work. *Ibid.* 270 Quest. 6. What is the Quote of 8 divided by $\frac{2}{3}$? Answ. 4 which is equal to 12...See the work in the margent. 1709 J. Ward *Introd. Math.* (1734) 19 Take a few Examples without their Work at large. 1839 Maynard *Gaudacre's Arith.* (ed. 9) 37 When ..the remainder is more than the divisor, the quotient figure was too small, the work must be rubbed out, and a larger number supplied.

8. *Physics* and *Mech.* The operation of a force in producing movement or other physical change, esp. as a definitely measurable quantity: see quots.

1855 Rankine *Misc. Sci. Papers* (1881) 216 'Work' is the variation of an accident by an effort, and is a term comprehending all phenomena in which physical change takes place. Quantity of work is measured by the product of the variation of the passive accident by the magnitude of the effort, when this is constant; or by the integral of the effort, with respect to the passive accident, when the effort is variable. 1873 Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) I. 5 The unit of Work is the work done by the unit of force acting through the unit of length measured in its own direction. 1877 Atkinson tr. *Ganot's Physics* (ed. 8) 42 When a force produces acceleration, or when it maintains motion unchanged in opposition to resistance, it is said to do work. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 238 In lifting coals from a pit, the amount of work done is proportional to the weight of the coals lifted; that is, to the force overcome in raising them; and also to the height through which they are raised.

II. 9. With possessive: The product of the operation or labour *of* a person or other agent; the thing made, or things made collectively; creation, handiwork. Also vaguely, the result of one's labour, something accomplished.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* viii. 7 Ζesettes hine ofer werc honda ðinra. *Ibid.* cxliv. 10 Ondettað ðe, dryhten, all werc ðin. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 3 Ic wat ðætte God rihtere is his axenes weorces. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 207 Wæs þæt ilce hus eac hwem dragen, ealas efter ȝewunan mennisces weorces þæt þa waxas wæron rihte. 1382 Wyclif *2 Chron.* xx. 37 For thou haddist couenaunt of pese with Ochosia, the Lord smote thi werkes. — *Jer.* i. 16 Hem, that..offreden to aliene goddis, and honoureden the werc of ther hondis. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 236 Lord, þou shalt clepe me, And I shal answere to þe, werk of þyn hande. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* lxiv. 8 We all are the werke of thy hondes. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 136 Thether the workes of euery familie be brought. *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* III. ii, Ile make the Clowdes dissolue their watrie workes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 59 The Almighty Father..bent down his eye, His own works and their works at once to view. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 809 The waxen Work of lab'ring Bees. 1773 Monboddo *Lang.* (1774) I. Pref. 1 Man in his natural state is the work of God. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. iv, And now thy work, where is thy work? Swift, out with it; let us see thy work! 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 281 Dare we dream of that..Which wrought us, as the workman and his work, That practice betters? 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 298 Workmen and also their works are alike apt to degenerate. 1890 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (ed. 4) 208 Mine's work, good work that lives!

b. The result of the action or operation of some person or thing; 'effect, consequence of agency' (J.); (one's) 'doing'; the device or invention *of* some one.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxii. 17 Ther shal be the werk of riȝtwisnesse pes. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 364 Looke on the Tragicke Loading of this bed: This is thy worke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 212 Mimic Fansie..misjoyning shapes, Wilde work produces oft, and most in dreams. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 35 This wonderful Œconomy for the Propagation..of Animals can not be the Work of the fortuitous meeting of Atoms. 1753 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 171 Other Heretics..condemned Marriage as the Work of the Devil. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* iv, What has been between us has been the work of the law, not my doing. 1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* xxiii, This suggestion, the work of the pipe.

10. Without possessive: A thing made; a manufactured article or object; a structure or apparatus of some kind, esp. one forming part of a larger thing. Now chiefly in generalized sense with qualification, esp. in established compounds such as Brickwork, Fireworx, Frameworx, Latticework, Wax-work.

c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 690 *Opere plumario*, blisiuuidi uuerci. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxix. 16 As if..the werk sey to his makere, Thou hast not mad me. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 1135 Tre wark thai brynt, that was in to tha wayes. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* i. 15, I sawe a worke off wheles vpon the earth. 1591 Ralegh *Last Fight of Revenge* (Arb.) 21 All her tackle cut a sunder, her vpper works altogither rased. 1598 Barret *Theor. Mod. Warres* 134 Eight men who haue in their charge the iron workes, cables, anchors, and grappling. 1621 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Iron & Steel* (1858) 1 The misterie and arte of meltinge iron ewre, and of making the same into cast workes or barra. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 825 The radiant Arms beneath an Oak she plac'd..He rowl'd his greedy sight Around the Work. 1706 Phillips, *Pastry*, Work made of Paste or Dough. 1805 T. Lindley *Voy. Brazil* 45 A long arched vault, with a plank work on one side. 1819 Rees *Cycl.* s.v. *Foundery*, Foundery of statues, great guns, and bells...The matter of these large works is.. commonly a mixture of several [metals].

†11. An architectural or engineering structure, as a house, bridge, pier, etc.; a building, edifice.

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 3 Se weallstan þe ðu wyrhtan in wíðwurpon to weorce. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 368 Se ðe ne bytlaþ of ðam grundwealle, his weorc hryst to miccelum hre. 1076–85 *Westm. Abbey Domesday Book* lf. 463 De quadam mansione terre apud London quam Anglica lingua 'Vuerc' appellant. *c* 1205 Lay. 16951 He lette buiden halles & rihte al þa workes þe ær were to-brosene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8780 þe wrightes þat suld rais þe werck. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 14 Þu art petir, at is, oure stane, to byg myn wark one haff I tane. *c* 1490 *Merlin* ii. 27 The mountayne that the werke was sette on gan to tremble. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. i. I iij b, This warke that is in buylde...

b. *pl.* Architectural or engineering operations. *Clerk of the Works, Master of the Works*: see Clerk *sb.* 6 c, Master *sb.*[1] 18 a.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 12 Sept. 1641, The New Citidall was advancing with innumerable hands,..I was permitted to walk the round and view the workes. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* vi. 66, I had works in progress all up and down the line.

12. *spec.* (*Mil.*) A fortified building, fortress, fort; a defensive structure, fortification; any one of the

several parts of such a structure (often in *pl.*). Also as second element of a compound, as *earth-work, field-work, horn-work, out-work*, etc.

The continental equivalent is found in BULWARK.

a 1000 *Daniel* 44 To ceastre..þær Israela mihta weoron bewriġene mid weorcum. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 19 Fortrace, and werk that was with out the toun, That brak, and brynt. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 237 b, He taketh Turrine,..and fortifieth it with workes and strength of men. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. ii. 3, I will be walking on the Workes. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. iv. 61, I was faine to..let 'em win the Worke. 1669 STAVELEY *Fortification* 4 There may be..occasion in Forts to raise..Platforms, or Batteries, to command all the other Works. 1738 R. ROGERS *Jrnls.* (1769) 6, I..sent out four men as spies, who..informed me, that the enemy had no works round them, but lay entirely open to an assault. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* XV, Some six or eight thousand men..whom their leader wisely judges to be safer in their works than in the field. 1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 87 If the ditches of a work can be filled with water, it is an excellent means of defence. 1879 TENNYSON *Defence of Lucknow* ii, Frail were the works that defended the hold that we held with our lives.

13. A literary or musical composition (viewed in relation to its author or composer); often *pl.* and *collect. sing.*, (a person's) writings or compositions as a whole.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1118 In hir wirschip wald I bigyn A last-and ware apon to myn. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 324 Als tellis elynandus Of sancte Johnnis varkis, sayand þus, Quhene he suld þe ewangel wryte [etc.]. *c* 1450 CARGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* Prol. 1 Than wil I, in þe name of our Lord Ihesu, beginne þis werk. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 381 Plutarke and Petrarke..With Vincencius..that wrote noble warkis. 1545 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 111 Ony bukys or verkys of the saide Lutheris. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 41 He made also a newe lybrary, garnyshyng it..with most principall warkes in euery science. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* K vj b, Alexander Magnus..vsed alwayes to carrye wyth hym the woorkes of Homer. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 681 When I was first writing this worke. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 ¶ 1 A Man who publishes his Works in a Volume. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XV, The famous foreigner—gathering materials for his great work on England. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* i, A Johnson's Dictionary—the interesting work which she invariably presented to her scholars on their departure. 1865 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. i. 18 This title distinguishes the Vedic hymns..from all other works. 1879 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* I. 116 Bach wrote unceasingly..; and the quantity of his works is enormous. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Nov. 3/3 It bears a stronger resemblance to the work of 'Ouida' than to that of any other English writer. 1900 W. P. KER *Ess. Dryden* Introd. p. xix, The history of Corneille's original work.

14. A product of any of the fine arts (in relation to the artist), as a painting, a statue, etc. In the phr. *a work of art* including, besides these, literary or musical works (13), and connoting high artistic quality. Also (without *pl.*), artistic production in the abstract, or artistic products collectively.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. viii, Pandenus, a counnyng painter,.. required the craftis man to shewe him where he had the.. paterne of so noble a warke. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. lxxiv. 6 They breake downe all ye carued worcke therof. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 107 Her Mothers Statue..by that rare Italian Master, Iulio Romano, who (had he himselfe Eternitie, and could put Breath into his Worke) would beguile Nature of her Custome. 1611 COTGR., *Ouvrage de Marqueterie*, Checker-worke, or Inlaid worke, of sundrie colours. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Dial., Locke & Montaigne* Wks. 1907 II. 243 Your Work is meer Grotesque, half Images of Centaures and Sphynxes trailing into Flowers and branches. 1736 T. ATKINSON *Comf. Painter & Engraver* 16 If the Engraver..with masterly shading Touches improve the Work. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vii, [The portrait] is considered a perfect likeness, and the best work of the master. 1877 S. REDGRAVE *Descr. Catal. Water-Col.* 22 Protect your drawings..from the utter destruction so many fine works have suffered from exposure to the direct rays of the sun. 1883 *Atlantic Monthly* Jan. 86 The homage of rapt appreciation due to a great work of art. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 43 The carved work mouldered fast 'Neath the suns, and the frosts.

†**15.** Make, workmanship; *esp.* ornamental workmanship (phr. *of work* = ornamental). *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. i. 179 Colers of crafty werke. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 46 Ane ymage of stane of alde werk. 1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 56 Too fyne borde-clothes, þe one of werk, þe oþer playn. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vii. (1883) 140 A gate of marble of meruaylious werke. 1529 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 57 My best ioyned bed of Flaunders wourke. 1603 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 26 One large coobard carpett..of Turkeye work. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov. 1644, A rare clock of German worke. *Ibid.* 18 Jan. 1645, The walls..are incrusted with most precious marbles of various colours and workes. 1795 MRS. COWLEY *Town before you* I. iii. 9 Why did I never tell you before that she is a sculptor. She has a large room full of fine things of her own work.

b. *concr.* An ornamental pattern or figure, ornament, ornamentation, decoration. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

c 1467 *Nobis Bk. Cookry* (1882) 52 Mak gret coffynes with lowe liddes..and lay on the liddes wild werks. 1547 in Feuilleraz *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 11 Cootes..of clothe of golde with workes. 1620 *Mourt's Relat. Engl. Plant.* 12 Baskets..curiously wrought with blacke and white in prettie workes. *Ibid.* 38 Their faces..painted,..some with crosses, and other Antick workes. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Mar. 1646, The bed was dress'd up with flowers, and the counterpan strewed in workes.

16. The operation of making a textile fabric or (more often) something consisting of such fabric, as weaving or (usually) sewing, knitting, or the like; *esp.* any of the lighter operations of this kind, as a distinctively feminine occupation; also *concr.* the fabric or the thing made of it, esp. while being made or operated upon; needlework, embroidery, or the like.

See also DRAWN-WORK, FANCY WORK, LACE-WORK, OPEN-WORK, etc.

1382– [see NEEDLEWORK]. [1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 41 Whan sche takth hir werk on honde Of wevinge or embroudrie.] 1440 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) App. 18a A vestment of baudekyn yᵉ ground black with grene Werk. 1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Worke made of woll, *œuure de layne, lanifice.* 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Ezek. xvi. 10, I clothed thee also with broydred worke. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xli. 320 Their maner of weaving their workes, being both sides alike. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. to Miss Thrale* (1788) II. 290 Your time, my love, passes, I suppose, in devotion, reading, work, and company...Of work, unless I understood it better, it will be of no great use to say much. 1795 MRS. COWLEY *Town before you* I. i. 2 Mrs. Fancourt..(rising and laying down her work). 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, The work she had knitted, lay beside her. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* xlviii, Taking pleasure..not in music, nor books, nor that tranquil pastime which women call work. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* vii. (1898) 65 On the other side [sat] a girl, with work on her lap, sewing.

17. An excavation in the earth, made for the purpose of obtaining metals or minerals; a mine. *Obs.* exc. = WORKING *vbl. sb.* 16.

1475 tyn werk [see TIN *sb.* 5]. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 213 All the gounes yn the colle warkys and abowte the marttes were schett for joye. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 46 He wolde haue them sent into..the Iles called Cassiterides, to labour in tynne workes. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 400 Sauffand the werk and mynd of Glengonar and Wenlok. 1604 G. BOWES in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 111 Cleansing an ould worke..I found the same 13th feette deepe. *c* 1620 in G. C. BOND *Early Hist. Mining* (1904) 15 After..his collyers have wrought sixe dayes in the workes. 1665 cole-workes [see COAL-WORK 2]. 1769 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 108 Four colliers at work in a pit near Whitehaven, were all suffocated by the foul air of an old adjoining work. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m., Work*, a stall or working place.

b. A kind of trench in draining. *local.*

1653 BLITH *Eng. Improver Impr.* vii. 93 Cut a good substantiall Trench about thy Bog..; And..make one work or two just overthwart it. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 31 That the disposition of the trenches (provincially 'the works of the meadow,') should be uniform. 1799 T. WRIGHT *Art of Floating Land* 60 That one feeder made diagonally, and two others in different directions..will..with the assistance of the smaller works..be competent to effect a regular distribution of the water.

18. *pl.* An establishment where some industrial labour, esp. manufacture, is carried on, including the whole of the buildings and machinery used; a factory, manufactory, etc. In later use commonly construed as sing., in earlier use (to *c* 1860) also in *sing.* form. Often as the second element of a compound; see references below.

1581 iron workes, 1634–8 iron-work [see IRONWORK 2]. 1627 allome workes [see ALUM 5]. 1728 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 273 The servants,..in both the works, were upwards of three hundred. 1748 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 24 At Liverpool. We went to see..silk works where one wheel works above 300 Twisting bobbins. 1791 BURNS *Verses on window at Carron*, We came na here to view your warks In hopes to be mair wise. 1819– gas works [see GAS *sb.* 7]. 1822 tan-work [see TAN *sb.*¹ C. 1]. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vii, During the half-hour allowed at the works for tea. 1882 *Daily News* 4 Mar., A new works for the manufacture of steel wire. 1898 MRS. H. WARD *Helbeck* III. i, On night-duty at a large engineering 'works'.

attrib. 1885 W. S. HUTTON (*title*) The Works Manager's Hand-Book. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 8/7 The position of the directors..; of their consulting chemist, and of their works chemist.

19. Something that is to be or is being operated upon: in various connexions (see quots.; cf. also 15).

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 190 The Diameter of the Work they intend to Turn in the Lathe. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 104 Boil the work, either in alum-water, or aqua fortis. 1882 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Work.* Ore not yet dressed.

20. A set of parts forming a machine or piece of mechanism: orig. *sing.*, esp. as the second element of compounds (see references below); as an independent word now only *pl.*, the internal mechanism of a clock or watch, which actuates the hands or the striking apparatus.

Also (*colloq.*) humorously applied to the internal organs or viscera of an animal, as in *to take out the works* = to 'draw' a fowl, etc.

a 1628– [see CLOCK-WORK]. 1667– [see WATCHWORK]. 1670– [see WHEELWORK]. 1766 A. CUMMING (*title*) Elements of Clock and Watch-work. 1769 W. EMERSON *Mechanics* 109 This work is within the watch between the two plates. 1772 T. MUDGE *Descr. Timekeeper* (1799) 40 The repeating work. *Ibid.*, The balance work. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Watch*, The interior works of an ordinary watch. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii, He took to pieces the eight-day clock..under pretence of cleaning the works.

21. A froth produced by fermentation in the manufacture of vinegar: cf. WORK *v.* 33.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 4 To..see if the fermentation [of the vinegar] has been complete,..we plunge into the liquor a white stick or rod..: if it be covered with a white thick froth, to which is given the name of work (*barm*), we judge that the operation is terminated.

III. Phrases. (See also above senses.)

* with *work* as obj. of a preposition.

†**22.** A work, awork [A *prep.*¹]: = *at, on, to work* (23, 26, 28, 29); esp. in *to set a work. Obs.* exc. as in A-WORK (q.v.).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 16 Monkis and freris assenten to werris wiþouten cause, and bringen þes lordis awerke. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2399 Tho was Durnedale set a werke. 1440 *Paston Lett.* I. 167 Amy how ye can sett hem a werk in the Parlement. 1482–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 67 That your redyng & study be..pryncypally to enforme your selfe, & to set yt a warke in youre owne lyuynge. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 432 That they that set them awarke shuld pay for hym. 1530 PALSGR. 722/2 Sette hym nat a worke, he can do yvell ynoughe of hymselfe. 1556 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 4. 173 Beggers..to be sett a worke, & be compelled..to gett their owne lyvinges. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 437 The Gods and Demons being first made, by the Supreme God, were set a work..by him afterward in the making of man. 1694 W. WOTTON *Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1697) 371 To set their Members awork to collect a perfect History of Nature. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 170 To move and set a work the great principles of actions.

23. At work.

Used predicatively with *set* (SET *v.* 23); *to work* is now more usual (see 29).

a. Occupied with labour; engaged in a task; working, esp. at one's regular occupation. (Of a person or animal; also of a machine.)

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 74, I was set [=seated] at worke, Among my Maids. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xvii. ¶ 1 That the Matrice fly or start not back when it is at Work. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 369/2 You may rest your right Hand or Arm upon it [*sc.* the maulstick], ..whilst you are at work [*sc.* painting]. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccccxl. 417 You [the Mole] have Nothing for Digging 'tis True; but pray who set you at Work? 1709 STAYPE in *Thoresby's Lett.* (1832) II. 235 The book will make one hundred sheets..there are three presses at work about it. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 351 We may..set beggars at work. 1840 DICKENS *Old Curi. Shop* x, The poor woman was still hard at work at an ironing-table. — BESANT *All Sorts* XXXII. (1898) 222 The street..was as quiet as on the Sunday, the children being at school and the men at work.

b. *gen.* Occupied in some action or process, esp. one directed to a definite end or result; actively engaged; operating. (Of persons or their faculties, or of animals; also of forces or influences.)

1625 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 17 The Blades..who were att worke to have brought new troubles uppon us. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 344 The Father is always at work in the government of the world. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Oct. 1688, The Jesuites hard at worke to foment confusion among the Protestants. 1800 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 3 He has set mightier principles at work. 1826 *Cornh. Mag.* V. 35 The mare..continued her feeding. How she enjoyed this plashy young grass! She had been at work in this way for the last five or six hours. 1887 LOWELL *Democracy* etc. 12 The little kernel of leaven that sets the gases at work. *a* 1890 LIDDON *Life Pusey* (1893) II. 151 Newman..was at work on his article on 'The Catholicity of the English Church'. *Ibid.* 170 The same influence..was already at work.

c. in passive sense: In process of being worked.

1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 50 § 36 Two shafts..with which every seam for the time being at work in the mine shall have a communication.

24. In work. a. †(*a*) = *at work*, 23 a; (*b*) in regular occupation; also with qualifying adj., as *in full work, in good work* = working full time or remuneratively.

1535 COVERDALE *2 Chron.* x. [ix.] 33 Daye and night were they in worke withall. 1568 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 328, I am content to set some of my men in work. *c* 1612 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1904) 15 It is mutche wished..that suche an ingein may be seene in worcke. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Notes Tour Lancs.* 30 When in good work the united earnings of both averaged about 30*s.* weekly.

†b. *To put in work*: (*a*) to make use of; (*b*) to put in operation: = *set to work*, 29. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XXVIII. 288 In that Contree..men putten in werke the Sede of Cotoun. 1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 100 The Iesuites..put in worke all their artifices. 1653 URQUHART tr. *Rabelais* I. viii. 41 For his Gloves were put in work sixteen Otters skins,..for the bordering of them. 1664 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 193 These rude Remains being put in Work, in his Judgment, before the Flood.

25. Of work. a. *Piece of work*: see PIECE *sb.* 7. b. —— *of all work* (†*works*): employed in all kinds of work, esp. in a household: chiefly in *maid-of-all-work* (see MAID *sb.*¹ 4 b); hence allusively.

1775 *Pennsylv. Even. Post* 30 Mar. 114/2 Advt., Wanted a complete Servant for a Place of all Work, in a middling Family. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* XXXVIII, Two maids and two men, indeed..! No, no; they must get a stout girl of all works. 1821 SCOTT *Mrs. Radcliffe* Biogr. Mem. (1834) I. 359 A garrulous waiting-maid;..a villain or two of all work. 1821 BYRON *Reply to Southey* Wks. (1846) 513/1 This arrogant scribbler of all work. 1822 — *Vis. Judgem.* 6, Mine is a pen of all work. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. iii. 97 The kitchen servant-of-all-work.

†**26.** On work, in *to set* (a person, etc.) *on work* = *to work* (29). *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 40 To the setting his subiectes on worke, and keeping them from idlenes. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* Transl. Ep. (1895) 16 Hauing no profitable busines wherupon to sette himself on worke. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (1904) 239 His wittes shalbe new set on worke. 1596 GASCOIGNE *Dreame of*

Doomsday Wm. 2910 I. 284 They..buyld houses,..till fellides,..and set milles on worke. *a* 1645 Featly *Reynolds* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1651) 487 It pleased his Majesty to set some learned men on worke, to translate the Bible. 1692 Norris *Pract. Disc. Div. Subj.* (1728) III. 134 When the Powers of the Soul shall be more awaken'd, and its thoughts more vehemently set on work. 1768 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* v. lii. 401 By setting on work such immense ...rs of our manufacturers.

27. Out of work (Out of 11 b): having no work to do, unemployed, workless. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.*, or as *sb.*

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, 2 ii. 124 All out of worke, and cold for action. 1886 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 5/7 The Amalgamated Engineers..had lost £40,000 last year in out-of-work pay. 1887 *Spectator* 4 June 763/2 Afraid of being out of work. 1908 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 39 The unemployed of all classes, including the genuine out-of-works.

28. To go to work (Go *v.* 34): to proceed to some action (expressed or implied); to begin doing something; to commence operations. So *to fall to work* (see Fall *v.* 66 e).

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 347 Vche a mayde that he mette he made hir a signe Semynge to synne-ward..and to the werke 3eden. 1393 *Ibid.* C. vii. 181 To werke we 3eden. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 2811/1 Say your mind, & go briefly to worke: for I think it almost dinner time. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. ii. (1912) 152 Swearing he never knew man go more aukewardly to worke. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* iv. i. 36 Ile go another way to worke with him: Ile haue an action of Battery against him. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 20 P 2, I shall go a shorter and a plainer way to work. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* I. 363 This parliament..went expeditiously to work upon the business of reformation. 1890 *Temple Bar* July 329 His wits went instantly to work.

29. To set to work (Set *v.* 112, 113). a. *trans.* (*a*) To set (a person, the faculties, etc.) to a task, or to do something; less commonly, to put (a thing) in action; *refl.* to apply oneself to labour, or to some occupation or undertaking; to set about doing something.

1497–8 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* (1886) XLIII. 168 A fyne..*for* werkyng by nyght & settyng to werk a child vnbound & vnablid. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1246 A nysot..That wyll syt ydyll..And can not set herselfe to warke. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 246, I set Friday to Work to boiling and stewing. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* xii. i. (1782) IV. 211 The time drawe near when I shall set thy address to work. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* iv. (1842) 105 Such a lamp..is.. soon set to work, and as soon extinguished. 1867 'Ouida' *Cecil Castlemaine*, etc. 235 Somebody else daring him to go in for honours,..he set himself to work to show them all what he could do. 1879 Sala *Paris Herself Again* xxxi, The owners set their wits to work.

† (*b*) To begin working upon: cf. 23 c. *Obs.*

1694 T. Houghton *Royal Instit.* Ded. A 3 Which Veyns and Mines, if they was..Set to Work, by any that understands them, would..prove as Rich.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*: see a (*a*): = 28.

1692 W. Nicholls *Answ. Naked Gospel* 92 The Doctor sets to work to his exposition of the Trinity. 1782 R. Cumberland *Anecd. Emin. Painters* I. 147 The devout painter sate to work. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 353, I..set to work at another two-act piece. 1889 H. D. Traill *Strafford* iv. 46 Charles..set seriously to work to govern alone.

** with *work* as obj. of a verb. (See also 3 b.)

30. To cut out work *for* a person: to prepare work to be done by him, to give him something to do; now only *to have* (*all*) *one's work cut out* (colloq.): to have enough, or as much as one can manage, to do.

1619, 1795, 1866 [see Cut *v.* 56 l]. 1879 H. C. Powell *Amateur Athletic Assn.* 19 This [race] Crossley had all his work cut out to win.

31. To make work. a. (also *to make a work*): To work havoc or confusion; hence, to make a to-do or fuss, to cause disturbance or trouble (cf. 6); †in quot. 1574, to trouble oneself *to do* something. *dial.*

1530 Palsgr. 616/2 He maketh suche a worke whan he cometh that all the house is wery of hym. 1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 234 Thay maid na werk To seek ony. 1582 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* iii. (1586) 136 These women ..like some Phisitions, make work where all was well before. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* i. iv. 20 There is Auffidious. List what worke he makes Amongst your cloven Army. 1678 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1885) III. 102 It is a foolish thing for scots men to complain or make worke heir, or to endeavour a Rebellion in scotland. 1867 *E. B. Ramsay's Remin.* (ed. 13) 30 People make a work if a minister preach the same sermon over again. 1826 Scott *Antiq.* ix, Ou dear! Monkbarns, what's the use of making a wark? 1884 Walford *Baby's Grandmother* iv, Passing in and out and making no end of a work.

b. *To make work for*: to give (a person, etc.) something to do.

1595 Shaks. *John* ii. i. 303 Yong Arthur..Who..this day hath made Much worke for teares in many an English mother. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* ii. 238 Lest by sauing their workmanship, my selfe might haue made worke for the hang-man. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 2 To make more Work for the Hempen Whores in London.

c. with qualifying adj., as *to make good, short, sure* (etc.) *work* (*of* or *with* a person or thing): to do the business, or deal with the person or thing, well, shortly, surely, etc.; often with special implication, as *to make short work of* or *with*, to destroy or put an end to quickly; to settle and dismiss peremptorily; *to make sure work with*, to ...e, to get safely into one's possession or control.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. vi. 35 Come with me, & we will make short worke. 1607 — *Cor.* iv. vi. 95, 100 You haue made good worke, You and your Apron men...You haue made faire worke. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 965 Having made sure worke with one, she [*sc.* the spider] hyeth her to the Center of her Web, obseruing..whether any newe ... will ..... 1706 M. Henry *Gen.* xxxviii. 7 Sometimes God makes quick work with sinners. *a* 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 164 Believing they would at last make shorter work with me, and dispatch me with pistols. 1789 Twining *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) II. 52 Seeing what strange work Lord Shaftsbury has made with this passage in his..translation of it. 1814 Scott *Red-gauntlet* let. xi, Wild work they made of it; for the Whigs were as dour as the Cavaliers were fierce. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* vi. i, It is a very awful tale, sir, but I will make short work of it. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xli, The Doctor, on his..mare, was making good work of it across the plains. 1883 *Law Times* LXXIX. 169/2 A Lords Committee would probably make very short work of these precedents.

*** with qualifying adj. (or phr.: see also 1 c, d, 14, 31 c).

32. Good work: a morally commendable or virtuous act; an act of kindness or good will; *esp.* (in religious and theological use) an act of piety; usually *pl.* such acts done in obedience to divine law, or as the fruits of faith or godliness (cf. 1 b).

c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* i, Þurh soðe lufe & þurh hyr. sumnesse & þurh oðre gode worc. *c* 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 24 Gif beteran oðram on godum weorcum & eadmodren we beoð gemette. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Oðre godere werke þe nu were long eou to telle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26525 Es na god werc wit-vten mede, Ne na wick wit-vten wrak. 1340 *Ayenb.* 160 Zigge ich wel, þet in on wyt þise seue uirtues be-uore yzed byeþ þe bozes of riztuolnesse, and al þet frut of guod workes þet of ham wexeþ belongeþ to þise trawe. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxvi. 10 What be 3e heuy [*gloss* or sory] to this womman? sothely a good work she hath wrouzt in me. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* 2. iii. 13 He ouzte be douzty and strong into gode werkis. 1516 *Kal. New Leg. Eng.* (Pynson) 2 He dyed in great Age full of good werkes & vertues. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* 41 When a man hath done but two good workes in all his life. 1623 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Rest.* 183 Those times are to be shunned at the beginning of any good work. 1784 Erskine *Serm., Tit. iii. 8* Wks. (1792) 92 To make a work a good work, it must be done, by a good and holy person, renewed by the Spirit of Christ, and justified by his merit. *a* 1819 G. Hill *Lect. Div.* v. lii. (1850) 472 Good works are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith. 1887 J. Hutchison *Lect. Phil.* iii. 25 Every good work wrought within us and wrought by us.

**** **33.** Proverbs and proverbial sayings.

24.. [see Hand *sb.* 60 e]. *c* 1530 R. Hilles *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1858) 240 Meny hondys makyth lyght werke. 1670 Ray *Prov.* 158 All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy. 1897 *Globe* 9 July 1/2 Heroic conduct of this type has to be, and is, regarded by British officers..as 'all in the day's work'.

IV. 34. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *work-hour*, *-pause*, *-place*, *-room*, *-thing*, *-time*, *-tool*, *-yard* (see also Work-day, etc.); (of persons) employed in manual, mechanical, or industrial labour, as *work-girl*, *-servant* (see also Work-folk, -man, etc.); (of animals) used for work on a farm or otherwise (='of burden' or 'of draught'), as *work-beast*, *-horse*, *-mare*, *-nag*, *-ox*, *-steer*, *-stock* (cf. OE. *weorcnitelsen*); pertaining to or used for needlework or the like (see 16), as *work-case*, *-desk*, *-drawer*, *-pattern*, *-stand* (see also *work-bag*, etc. in d). b. Objective, etc., as *work-seeker*; *work-producing* adj. c. Instrumental, as *work-driven*, *-hardened*, *-stained*, *-worn*, *-weary*, *-worn* adjs. d. Special comb.: **work-bag, -basket**, a bag, or basket, to contain implements and materials for needlework; **work-bench**, a bench, with accessories, at which mechanics work, esp. a carpenter's bench; **work-board**, a board upon which some kind of manual work is done; **work-box**, a box to contain instruments and materials for needlework; **work-covenant** *Theol.* = *Covenant of Works* (see Covenant *sb.* 8 a, and cf. sense 1 b above); **work-fellow** = *work-mate*; **work-field**, (*a*) a field or piece of ground used for training in farm-work; (*b*) a 'field' of work, region of activity; **work-hand**, (*a*) [Hand *sb.* 8] a person employed by another to do work; (*b*) with defining adj. [Hand *sb.* 9], as *a good work-hand*, one who is a 'good hand' at work, a capable worker; **work-holder**, a device in a sewing-machine for holding the work or fabric; † **work-holy** *a. Theol.*, aiming at or pretending to holiness on the ground of works (see 1 b); † **work-jail**, a penal workhouse; **work-lead**, †(*a*) a vat (Lead *sb.*1 5 a) used for fermentation; (*b*) = G. *werkblei*, lead as it comes from the smelting furnace, containing impurities; † **work-like** *a.*, inclined for work, industrious; **work-mate**, a fellow-labourer, one engaged in the same work with another or others; **workmonger**, a controversial term for one who expects to be justified by works (see 1 b); **work-shy** *a.*, shy of or disinclined for work, lazy; hence *work-shyness*; **work-stone**, a sloping cast-iron plate (? originally a stone) in the front of an ore-hearth, with a groove down which the melted metal flows; **work-table**, a table for supporting working materials and tools; *esp.* a small table with compartments and drawers, and sometimes with a well for needlework; **work-train**, a train of wagons or trucks for conveying materials for construction or repair of a railway, etc.

1775 Twiss *Trav. Port. & Sp.* 36, I bought here several *work-bags made in the Brasils. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* v, Some half-dozen reticules and work-bags, 'containing documents', as she informed us. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 39 A small Basket..about the Size of the Womens *Work-baskets in England. 1897 Voynich *Gadfly* i. vii, His mother's work-basket stood in a little cupboard. ... to labour then, let us never wish to see our citizens occupied at a *work-bench, or twirling a distaff. 1864 R. Kerr *Gentl. Ho.* 307 A Carpenter's Shop..will contain..the well-known work-bench of the trade, and perhaps a lathe. 1811 Sutcliff *Trav. N. Amer.* 58 A tailor..whose *work-board being at a front window, he had an opportunity of noticing the passengers in the street. 1885 C. (G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. iv. 325/1 The [watchmaker's] 'workboard' should be made of well-seasoned wood. 1811 Miss Hawkins *Countess & Gertrude*, *Workbox. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* viii, Berry brought out a little work-box,..and fell to working busily. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Housek. Managem.* 25 You must have a *work-case with thread, cotton, needles, pins, thimble, scissors, knife, and pencil. 1892 Westcott *Gospel of Life* 260 The *work-covenant of Sinai brings to light the duty and the weakness of men. 1611 Florio, *Scrignetto*, a little shrine, chest, coffin, or deske...Also a womans *worke-deske. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* viii, She took from her *work-drawer an enormous..piece of knitting. 1880 E. H. Rollins *New Eng. Bygones* (1883) 42 These farmers..were almost always *work-driven and weary. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* xvi. 21 Thimotheus my *worke felow. 1564 *Brief Exam.* D ij b, We nede many workefelowes. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Nov. 9/3 A training-farm or *'workfield' managed by the poor-law authorities. 1918 Asp. Davidson in *Times* 30 Dec. 6/3 Their activities are in His larger workfield now. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* iv, The blooming young *work-girl. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* i. vi, We're work-girls, and we've got to earn our living. 1866 Carlyle *E. Irving* in *Remin.* (1881) I. 129 Miller's assistant and *work-hand for many years was John Bell, a joiner. 1893 T. N. Page *Ole Virginia* 173 He was a good work-hand, and a first-class boatman. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* iv, She stands knitting..with her *work-hardened hands. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2180/2 The cylinder sewing-machine has a cylindrical *work-holder for sewing seams on sleeves, trousers,..and other tubular work. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 42 b, The sophistres, *worke-holy, & iustifiars,..which so magnifie their dedes. 1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 41 Inventarye..in ye stable.. Item iiijor *warke horses. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 17 A pair of work-horses may be accommodated in a space of sixteen feet by eight. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* vii, To try and get a little sleep before *work-hour. *Ibid.*, Unfettered by work-hours. 1628 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 233 Breaking up the *worke-jayles, or bridle-wels [L. *refractis ergastulis*] by right of Warre. 1834 Poulett Scrope in *Hansard's Parl. Debates* Ser. iii. XXIII. 1326 The whole country must be studded with district workhouses, or rather work-gaols. 1472–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 156 Pro operacione cc^{a} v^{xx} xiij petr. plumbi in iiij *warkledes, brewledes, et j steplede. 1882 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Work-lead.* See *Base bullion.* *a* 1642 Bedell *Erasmus* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1651) 57 Seaven Cities, no contemptible portion of witty and *work-like Greece. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* lxxviii, A *Workmayd in her Summers weed, With Sheafe and Sickle. 1587 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 144 One *worke horse or maire. 1851 H. Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 95 The man accordingly got a boat, and was soon afloat among his old *workmates. 1549 Allen *Jude's Par. Rev.* xii. 3–6 The truth of the christen faith..beyng persecuted..of Emperours and Kynges, of *workemongers. 1582 Marbeck *Bk. Notes* 882 The Harlots and Publicans repenting truly, and..submitting themselues to the mercie of God, are more acceptable vnto God, then ye proud workmongers, that trust in their owne righteousnesse. 1888 Mrs. Booth *Addr. Crit. Salvation Army* 7 One class of critics stigmatise us as being.. work-mongers. 1576 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 411, ij *worȝke nagges. 1587 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 210, xxj *wark oxen. 1897 O. Wister in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 534/2 He looked as wise as a work-ox. 1825 Scott *Guy M.* xxix, Miss Bertram's *work-patterns. 1894 A. S. Robertson *Provost o' Glendeskie* 91 The Glendooklan year contained two *work-pauses. *a* 1888 Bewick in *Zoologist* (1862) Ser. I. XX. 8130 He had it sent for to my *work-place. 1875 *Act 38 & 39 Vict.* c. 55 § 91 Any factory, work-shop, or workplace..not kept in a cleanly state. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* vii, The *work-room of Simon Glover was filled to crowding by personages of no little consequence. 1848 Mrs Gaskell *Mary Barton* xiii, Thoughts..of the morrow ..to be spent in that close monotonous work-room. 1892 *Daily News* 18 May 6/2 There are no openings for *work-seekers. 1593 *Lanc. Wills* (1884) 255, I gyve..unto everye one of my *worke servants over and besids theire waiges 2 s. apeece. 1904 H. Preston-Thomas *Rep. Vagrancy Comm.* 4 If the council..decide that (to use the expressive term officially employed) he is *work-shy (*Arbeits-scheu*). *Ibid.* 9 The offence of most of them has been begging or 'work-shyness.' 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 25 Jan. 3/2 His rough and *work-stained hearers. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Oct. 5/1 There are some of us who have learned to love that work-stained river. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xxix, He placed another chair opposite that near the *work-stand. 1912 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 350/2 Setting him up with a *work-steer and a milk cow. *Ibid.* 360/2 Wheat..for his *work-stock feed. 1667 in Pettus *Fodina Reg.* (1670) 35 Five Hearths with Backs, Cheeks, *Workstones, Iron Plates, and other necessaries. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. iii. 336/2 Extending forwards from the front of the hearth..is an iron plate called the 'fore-stone' or 'work-stone' also S. & Hy. Lee *Cantork, T.* (ed. 2) III. 139 On one side stood an ornamental *work table. 1889 'Mrs. Alexander' *A Bay* i,

A small basket work-table, overflowing with bright-colored wools and silk. 1812 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 168 The playthings and the *workthings, that this unlucky search discovered. 1898 Besant *All Sorts* xx. (1898) 143 During *work-time he planned an ... for Miss Kennedy and her girls. 1889 Browning *Asolando, Epilogue* iv, At noonday in the bustle of man's work-time. 1588 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 151 Bellowes and other *work tooles. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* Oct. 10 The *work-train is again engaged in hauling gravel on the road. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* I. i. 54 Look I am I not *Work-wan, flesh-fallen? 1865 Mrs. L. L. Clarke *Common Seaweeds* iv. 75 The man of business takes a ramble on the sea shore, *work-weary. 1865 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* vi. (1878) 170 When for a few moments that *work-worn man takes up his Bible. 1614 T. Gentleman *England's Way* 31 Houses, and *worke-yards erected for Coopers, and Rope-makers. 1864 R. Kerr *Gentl. Ho.* 308 An enclosed Work-yard is... required... The Workshops ought to face it.

Work (wɜ̄k), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **worked** (wɜ̄kt), *arch.* and *techn.* **wrought** (rɔt). Forms: see below. [(1) OE. *wyrcan*, pa. t. *worhte*, pa. pple. *geworht*, = OS. *wurkian*, OHG. *wurchen, worhta, wurhta, giworht, gewurchet* (MHG. *wurken, würken, worhte, geworht, gewürket*), ON. *yrkja, orta, ortr*, Goth. *waurkjan, waurhta, -waurhts*:—OTeut. **wurkjan*, **wurχt-*; (2) OE. (Mercian) *wircan*, = OFris. *werkia, wirna, wrochte, wrocht*, OS. *wirkian, war(a)hta, war(a)ht*, OHG. *wirchen, warahta* (MHG. *wirken, warhte*, G. *wirken, wirkte, gewirkt*), ON. *verkja, virkja* to feel pain:— OTeut. **werkjan*, **warχt-* (**wurχt-*). A third OE. type represented by late *wercan, weorc(e)an* seems to point to early influence of the sb. *we(o)rc* (see Work *sb.*) upon the vowel of the vb.

Other Teut. forms are OFris. *werka*, OS. *-werkon*, (*-werhot*), (M)Du. M(LG.) *werken*, (*wrochte*, etc.), OHG. *werchên* (MHG. *wurchen, werken*), ON. *verka* (*-að*) in certain technical uses, *orka* to manage, effect, contrive (Sw. *verka* to do, perform, *virka* to crochet, Da. *virke* to operate, act, weave, etc.).

The Indo-Eur. base *worg-, worg-, wrg-* is represented outside Germanic by Zend *vərəzyeiti* he works, Gr. *ἔρδω* (:—**werǵ(i)ō*, *βέ̄ζω* (:—**wrǵ(i)ō*) I do, perf. *ἔοργα, ὄργανον* Organ, *ὄργιον* Orgy, OIr. *fairged* they made, *do-fairci* prepares, and the forms s.v. Wark *sb.* and *v.*, and Work *sb.*

The normal representative of OE. *wyrcan* would be **worch* (for the vocalism cf. *worm, worse, wort*); the substitution of *k* for *ch*, producing the modern standard form (wɜ̄k) instead of (wɜ̄tʃ), is shown in north-midland areas *c* 1200, and is due mainly to Work *sb.*, though Scandinavian influence (see various forms above) is possible.

The new pa. t. and pa. pple. *worked*, formed directly on the inf. stem, became established in the 15th century; it is now the normal form except in archaic usage (in which the older form *wrought* may appear in any sense), and in senses which denote fashioning, shaping, or decorating with the hand or an implement: see Wrought.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Inf.* and *Pres.-stem.* α. 1 wyrc(e)an, (wyrcean), 2–3 wurchen, (3 wrchen, wuerche, wourche), 3–6 wurche, 5–6 wurch. β. 1 wirc(e)an, 3–5 wirche(n, 4–6 wyrche, 5 wyrch, wirch, (whirche), 9 *dial.* wirtch. γ. 1 weorcean, wercan, (2 *imper.* wrec), 2–4 werchen, (3 werechen), 3–5 werche. δ. 3–6 worch(e, (4 worsche, 6 *arch.* woorchen).

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 8 Hreonisse doas *vel* wyrcas. *Ibid.* xxi. 28 Wuire in wingeard minne. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 75 Þæt we sceolan god weorc wyrícean. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 264 Hu mon læcedomas wiþ þon wyrcean scyle. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 On monie wisen mon mei wurchen elmessan. *c* 1200 wuerche [see B. 3 d]. *c* 1205 Lay. 2547 Sca3e were wrchen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 408 Uesus MS) He wile of bore wurche [*Cott.* wrchen] bareh. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 84 With feyth truly for to wurch. 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* 1382 In Gods seruyce they honourablye wurche. β. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xiv. 2 Se...wircð rehtwisnisse. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 722 (Cott. MS.) Clerkes ginneþ songes wirche. 13.. *Northern Passion* 1354 Alle the bettyr þey myghte wyrche. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6659–63 He had wirken whanne that neede is...Seynt Poule that loued al hooly chirche He bade thappostles forto wirche And wynnen her lyflode...And selde wirketh with youre honden. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 344 Elburwe þat religyose house let after whirche. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 45 þe place wher arsenek is putte in, if it wirch perfitely, shal bycome blo & bolned. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xiii. 222 Forto...wirche holi deedis. 15.. *Merck. & Son* 200 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 146 He made aym evyn with every man, as far as he cowde wyrche. 1847 Halliwell, *Wirtch*, to ache. *North.*

γ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 67 Þæt þu scealt...Godes willan wercan. *c* 1200 *Rule of Chrodegang* xvii, Þonne hi ne þurfon gemæne worc weorcean, wirce mic sum þing þæs þe his agen need sy. *a* 1275 *Colt. Hom.* 225 Wrec þe me an arc. *c* 1200 werche3 [see B. 2 i]. *c* 1275 Lay. 12167 Ich wolle werechen after þine willan. *c* 1460 wercha [see B. 2 c].

δ. *c* 1275 *Pains of Hell* 310 in *O. E. Misc.* 200 Wo-so-euer wil hakou þis sunnunday Wele and worch it ful. 1380 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* viii. 84 Wymmen wih childe þat worchen no mowen. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 283 Þei wolen not... worsche aftir good conscience. *c* 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) App. xx. 94 Hi þouste woorche wo. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 8 Crist graunt us grace truly to worch. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* viii. 6 To woorches all our will. 1605 Waddon *Lance, Sauge* 84 When a man's hom[illegible]in' To

c. 3 (*Orm.*) wirrkenn, 4 wirc, wirek(e, wirkke, wyrkke, wyrc, (wrick, wrik, wryk, *Sc.* vyrk), 4–6 wirke, wyrk(e, *Sc.* virk, 4–6, 8 *Sc.* wirk, 5 wirken, 5–6 wyrcke. ζ. 3–6 werke, 4 were, werkke, werken, 5–6 werk, (6 weorke). η. 4–7 worke, 6 woorke, wurk, *Sc.* vurk, 7 worck, 6–work. θ. 5–6 warke, 9 *dial.* wark.

α. *c* 1200 Ormin 10218 To wirrkenn allmess wurrkenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2289 To wrik þare wik wil. *Ibid.* 2600 To wyrk wondres. *Ibid.* 21251 Þi will to wirc. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9001 How þey schuld wyrke. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 4 Þo bokes of holy kyrc, þat holy men...con wyrc. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christopher*) 79 To wryk in we his wekit pouste. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 488 He thouaht to wirk with alicht. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1468 Fulle graythelye he wyrkkes. *c* 1400 wirken [see 1 β]. 1530 Palsgr. 783/1, I wyrke...Declared in 'I worke'. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 21 The iugement of gode (quhilk virkis al thyng). 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 482 For to wyrcke. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* ix. (S.T.S.) II. 202 Feireng...that Angus suld wirk thame sum...inlure.

ζ. *c* 1200 werke6 [see B. 20]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14704 Þe werckes þat i werc. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. T.* 1477 As for to werken any thyng in contrarie. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 785 He couth werk wounderis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 136 b, It can werke no effect. 1553 *Respublica* 86 Avaryce maie weorke factes.

η. 1340 *Ayenb.* 206 Alneway workinde. 14.. *Sir Beues* 1708 (Pynson) Lat god worke what his wol is. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* XI. 225, I will do what I can...then must Godd worcke. 1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* Ded. 108 The Lorde work in the hertis of the rych. 1570 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 9 Matter...for them to wurk uppon. 1582 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 368 Destroy the block, That wirkis thir Turkis aganis the. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 634/1 Divine powers which should woorke vengeaunce on perjurours. 1603 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 52 Discharging our broadsides as fast as wee coulde laied them and worck them. 1648 in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. IX. 223/2 Brick to worke up the wall.

θ. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 1. xiii. 35 The handes warke. *a* 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 799 Whereat they barke, And mar all they warke. 1880 Mrs. Parr *Adam & Eve* II. 143 If 'tis to be done, he'll wark the oracle for me.

2. *Pa. t.* α. 1–3 worhte (1 worohte, uorhte); 1–4 wrohte, (3 wroote, *Orm.* wrohhte), 3–4 wrouht(e, 3–5 wro3t(e, 3–6 wrou3t(e, wrout(e, wroght, 4 wroghte, wroht, wrowht, (wroth), 4–5 wroughte, *Sc.* wroucht, 4–6 *Sc.* wrocht, (wrocht), 5 wrow3te, wrowt, (wrouth), 6 wrowght, 5– wrought. β. 1–2 warhte; 3 wrahte, wrauhte, 3–4 wra3te, 4 wraht, 5 *Sc.* wrauoht, 6 wraught.

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ix. 6 Uorhte lam of ðæm spadle. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 19 Hælend...þæt wundor worhte. 1056–66 *Inscr. on Dial, Kirkdale Ch., Yks.*, Haward me wrohte. *c* 1200 Ormin 2256 Godd...þatt alle shaffte wrohhte. *c* 1205 Lay. 12024 He harm worhte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Þe þet wrouhte þe eorðe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 156 His miȝt ...ðe wroutis [= wrought them] on ðe feorðe day! *Ibid.* 230 [illegible] þan wroght [illegible] (MS. Camb. Gg.) Þei wrothin hit wit maistrie. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3694, I wrou3t nouȝt þe best. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xviii. 258 Johne wroucht syne sa vittely. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 403 Ful many an hethen wroghte[stow ful wo. *c* 1400 *Pater Michi* 53 in *26 Pol. Poems* 144 In youthe I wrought folyes fele. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 106 Þe apostill wrowt wiþ his handis þingis able to mannis vse. *c* 1405 *Cast. Perseu.* 3077 in *Macro Plays* 174 Wheyber he wrouth wal or wyckyd-[illegible] 1589 Skelton *Wofully Arrayd* 49 Y wrought the, I bowght the frome eternal fyre. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 39 The halie spreit vrocht thi conceptione. *Bible* (Great) Ruth ii. 19 Where wroughtest thou? 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 159 His servantes that attended and wroute at the Coorte. 1573 *Ibid.* 196 The wyerdrawer...that...wrowght upon sundry propertyes. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. (S.T.S.) I. 299 How ...vnwisllie thay wrocht.

β. *a* 1200 *Life S. Chad* in *Anglia* X. 64 He warhte eac dezuiran eardung stowe. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 Þa warhte god feole tacne. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1071 Þet he wrahte pullíche wundres. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 106 He...of his eyre briddes wrauhte [*Cott.* wra3te]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 36 My wrechted wylle in wo ay wra3te. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. xlii. 5314 Al þe willis þat he wraucht [*rime* noucht]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 70 Sin, not Time, first wraught the change.

γ. 1 wyrote, 2 werote; 5 wyrkkyd, 6– worked (7– work'd).

c 825 *Vesp. Hymns* I. 3 *Digiti mei aptaverunt psalterium*, fingras mine wyrctun hearpan. *a* 1175 *Colt. Hom.* 229 Þa wercte he fele wundra. *c* 1470 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 They that wyrkkyd soche wooll. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxlvi. (1530) 924/1 Vrbayne...waxed proude and worked all on heed. 1743 Bulkeley & Cumming *Voy. S. Seas* 206 It being smooth water, she work'd very well.

3. *Pa. pple.* α. 1 geworht, etc.: see Ywrought. β. 4 worȝt, worght; 3 *Orm.* wrohht, 3–4 wro3t, 4 wroghte, wrouht(e, wrow(h)t, (wrohut, wro3th, wrouth), 4–5 wro3te, wrou3t(e, wroht, 4–6 wroght, *Sc.* wrocht, 4–7 wroughte, (5 wrowgt, wrow(g)th, wrout, wrothte, wroth, wrht), 5–6 wrowght, 6 (wrowte, wrotte, rought), *Sc.* wrouoht, (wrocht, rooht), 7 wrote, 4– wrought. γ. [1 gewarht], 3 wrauht, 6 wraught.

β. [See *Leiden Riddle* 3 Nl must lc mec binorthes nuflan fiusum.] *c* 1200 Ormin Dedi. 253 Ice hafe hemm wrohht thes boc. *a* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 40 Of þeat Wes heouene and eorðe samen wrogt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28314 (Cott.) Þerfor haf i worght þis bok. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2352 Dubbing haueth ofte scaþe wrouth. *Ibid.* 2453 He hauelok] ful wo wrouht.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1564 (Gött.) Iesu þat all has ——— 13.. *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 167 3if ich hane sinnes wrought. 13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 264 To his likenesse þou art wrout. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 94 3e had nocht wrocht on that maner. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3564 Had he werȝt ay to weet welth. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 26 Lord, þu hast wrouȝt al our warkis in vs. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) Prol. iii. 3 It was wrht o-pon þe harde stane. 1449 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 79 O juge thi decre la...wroct ful unrychtfully. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 278 (Winch. MS.), Madde, or wroth be crafte or cunnyng, *factus*. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de Cura Rei Fam.* III. 81 Qwhat wonder suld he wrythte. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 The...figuris that had bene graunt, wrocht, and brodrut. 1586 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 56 A tylte...the wych was wrotte on Assencion day. 1588 N. Burne *Disputation in Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 119 The lyme...could not be wrocht. 1589 Daniel *Prof. & Ep. bef. Paulus Ionius* To Rdr., Wks. (Grosart) IV. 24 This [invention]...which time hath now at length perfited and rought into a more regulare order. 1838 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds* Bundle 148, No. 2 b, The earth being lately by the tide wroughte.

γ. [*c* 725 *Corpus Glass.* C 780 *Conderetur*, gewarht. *c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* v. ii. 216 Mon hæt Corrinthiace fatu salle þe þærof gewarhte waron. *a* 1200 *Life S. Chad* in *Anglia* X. 230 Heo wes gewarht ufan on huses gelicnesse.]

c 1275 *Sarving Christ* 7 in *O. E. Misc.* 90 Yef we habbeþ werkes yeynes þi wille wrauht. 1528 *Sel. Pleas Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 135 To...cawse further myschefe to have byn wraught. *a* 1542 Wyatt *Poems* (1908) 55 Geese, frend, what I am, or how I am wraught.

δ. 5 worohed. ε. 6 workyd, 6– worked.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VI. xi. 299 We haue worched al maner of sylke werkes. 1538 workyd [see B. 8]. 1783 Budgell *Bee* No. 5. I. 180 In what an hurry a Weekly Pamphlet of three Sheets must be work'd off.

II. Signification.

I. Transitive senses.

* To perform, executa.

1. To do, perform, practise (a deed, course of action, labour, task, business, occupation, process, etc.). Now *arch.*; chiefly with cognate obj. *work* or *deed*, or in such phr. as *to work a miracle, to work wonders* (pa. t. and pa. pple. freq. *wrought*), in which sense 10 is blended with this.

Beowulf 930 A mæg god wyrcan wunder æfter wundre. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Eal swa hwæt swa se gesenelica lichama deþ oþþe wyrceþ. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xlvii. 3 He axode hwæt hy wyrcean cuþon; hi andswarodon...: We synd sceaphyrdas. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 10 God weorc heo worhte on me. — John iii. 2 Ne mæg nan man þas tacn wyrcan þe ðu wyrest, buton God beo mid him. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Leornia6 god to wurchenne. *c* 1200 Ormin 9088 Swillke sinndenn alle þa þatt wirrkenn gode werkess. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 59 Swich elmesse to wurchen. *c* 1200–[see Wonder *sb.* 2, 3]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1053 Oðre...þurh wicchecrefftes wurchi6 summe wundres. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Wurche þet me hat hire wi6uten grucchunge. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2218 Þe breðere ne wisten it nost Hu 6is dede wurðe wrost. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2569 Seint germayn...prechede, ...& vair miracle wroȝte. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 5870 (Fairf.) Þai salle...wirk ij. dayes werk a-pon a day. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 241 Wirk alle thyng by conseil. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. x. 50 And wolde...wirche sumwhile the oon craft and sumwhile the other craft. 1568 Dunbar *Two Married Women* 331, I maid that wif carll to werk all womenis werkis. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. § 3 God worketh nothing without cause. *c* 1600 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 435 She worcketh knittinge of stockinge. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Garden* x. (1623) 87 Grafting...is thus wrought. 1649 Br. Hall *Cases Consc.* IV. viii. (1654) 361 A Sacrament, conferring Grace by the very work wrought. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art Poetry* 264 Let not such upon the Stage be brought, Which better should behind the Scenes be wrought. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 557 So God wrought double 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Lag., Wallace* xci, In (... right valiant deeds he wrought. 1831 Dixon *W. Penn* (1872) 12 The miracles wrought by Spanish saints. 1863 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* I. iii. 64 The twenty years of exile and servitude had wrought their work. 1904 Budge *3rd & 4th Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus.* 181 Stone object, with twenty facets,...probably used in working magic. 1920 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 25 The special work which he undertook, and the rich ability with which he wrought it.

b. To do (something evil or harmful); to commit (a sin, wrong, or crime). *arch.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* v. 7 Alle ða þe wircað unrehtwisnisse. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 569 Sipes þe sinkeð, and scaðe ðus werkeð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24158 Vn-reufulli yee wirc vnright. *c* 1325 *Gy Warw.* 759 Anon, so þu hast sinne wrought,...to rifte þat þu gange. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 688 Þe hete... enforceþ þe flech folie to wirche! *a* 1382 Minot *Poems* (Hall) vii. 60 Fals treson alway þai wroght. *c* 1449 ...ock *Repr.* III. xi. 342 The pseudo Apostills wrouȝten persecucious...aȝens the trewe Apostlis. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5638 When he had þis theft wrought. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 161 Mony gret wrang thai wrocht. 1535 Coverdale *Esth.* xxxiii. 26 Ye worke abhominacions, euery one defyleth his neghbours wife. 1611 *Bible* Matt. vii. 23 Depart from me, ye that worke iniquity. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 25 Working that malice on the creatures...which he could not...wracke on their Creator. 1829 Hood *Eng. Annus* xlii, Methought, last night, I wrought A murder, in a dream!

†**c.** To perform, observe (a ceremony, etc.). *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 18 Mið ðec Ic wyrce eastro [*Vocle paschæ*] mið ðegnum minum. *c* 1205 *Chron. Eng.* 311 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 283 Eleutherie, the pope of Rome, Stablede suithe sone Godes werkes wurðie, Ant singe in holy Chirche. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3683 Goddes minister...þat þe sacrament of þe auter wirkes. *c* 1460 *Play Sacrum.* 325 Seyng hys evyngong as yt hys wonhappe for to

†**d.** To carry on, wage, make (war). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3220 Dat folc ebrn to werchen wi. *a* 1300 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 31 A were es wroght...Jowre walkg with to wrote. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. metr. vii. 214 (

the batayles by x. yer. *c* 1475 *Partonay* 4036 Where this Geant were procured and wrought.

2. To perform, carry out, execute (a person's will, advice, etc.). *Obs.* or *arch.* (in later use passing into sense 10).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 67 Þæt þu scealt on mæhwylce tid Godes willan wercan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 21 Se þe wyrcð mines fæder willan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Hu me sulde godalmihti serue, and his wille wurche in orðe. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 35 (Bodl. MS.) Wurch eleusius wil for ich þe seoue leane. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 307 He..graunted him..Forto worchen his wille as lord wiþ his owne. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 491 His riche men..þat his red wrousten. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2881 All the souerains..assignet me hir, For to wirke with my wille, & weld as myn owne. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxix. 23 Lat Fortoun wirk furthe hir rage. 1593 Munday *John a Kent* (Shaks. Soc.) 12 Leave the God of heaven to woorke his will. 1700 Dryden *Cock & Fox* 589 The false loon, who could not work his will By open force, employ'd his flattering skill.

‡b. To construct, produce, effect.

3. To produce by (or as by) labour or exertion; to make, construct, manufacture; to form, fashion, shape. *Obs.* or *arch.* in general sense; often, now usually, implying artistic or ornamental workmanship (most commonly in pa. pple. *wrought*; see also e). See also *work up*, 39 h.

Beowulf 1452 Swa hine fyrndagum worhte wæpna smið. *c* 1205 Lay. 22911 Ich þe wulle wurche a bord..þat þer mazen setten to sixtene hundred & ma. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 559 Of body ful wel wrought was she. *c* 1386 — *Sqr.'s T.* 190 He þat it wroghte koude ful many a gyn. *c* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 271 A bok..þat men callyt an abece, Pratyiych I-wrout. *Ibid.*, Wrout is on þe bok with-oute, V. paraffys [*Bodl. MS. 789* wrouȝt]. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1882 So curyously, in so lytell a compace, In all thys world was neuer thyng wrought. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 964 To ane preuie Chalmer..thay him led, Quhair ane burely bed was wrocht. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 138 Quharof the beis wrocht thar hunny sweit. 1548 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 115 Some of them, whych..worke ye kinges Artillarie for war. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* lxxxiii. (1636) 86 The liver..is the place where all

Virg. Georg. I. 267 The blind laborious Mole In winding Mazes works her hidden Hole. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 103 A hundred cabinet-makers in London can work a table..equally well. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XVI. 272 A goblet exquisitely wrought. 1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 258 A public road, beneath which is worked a path conducting to a fine lawn. 1840 Scoresby *Chevver's Whalem. Adv.* I. (1858) 4 Whether the first..whaling harpoon used in America was wrought there. 1864 J. Hunt tr. *Vogt's Lect. Man* x. 269 The [flint] instruments of oval shape have been mostly worked by gentle blows.

(*b*) with immaterial object.

of hali kirkes. 1721 Prior *Predestination* Wks. 1907 II. 351 Are not the Texture of our Actions wrought By something inward that directs our thought? 1752 Gray *Bentley* 9 Each dream, in fancy's airy colouring wrought.

b. Said of God: To create. Also in *pass.*, the pa. pple. sometimes becoming equivalent to 'born'. *Obs.* or *rare arch.* see also 7.

Beowulf 92 Þæt se almihtiga eorðan worhte. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 4 *Qui fecit ab initio masculum et feminam fecit eos*, se ðe worohte from fruma woepen-monn & wifmonn geworhte hia. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 369 Nis buten an godd,..þet al þe world wrahte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 373 He wroght apon þe toþer day þe firmament. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 90 Alas (quoth shee) that I was wrought. *c* 1441 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 205 Alle women that in this world be wrought. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 364 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 297 Quhat sall I do? Allace, that I wes wrocht. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxlv. v, All creatures thou hast wrought..shall their Creator sound. 1639 Mure *Ps.* viii. iii, The moone, the twinckling starrs..Works, by thy finger wrought. 1648 Bp. Hall *Breathings Devout Soul* § 19 The less I can satisfie my self with marvailing at thy works, the more let me adore the majesty and omnipotence of thee that wroughtest them.

c. To construct, build (a house, church, wall, bridge, etc.) *Obs.* or *rare arch.* See also 39 a.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 22 Ða cwæðon hi betwux him þæt hi woldon wyrcan ane burh. 13.. *Leg. Gregory* 218 Chirches, chapels, boþe ysame Werche sche dede. 14..*Sir Beues* (MS. M.) 3685 Beues dyd wyrke Abbeys, mynesters, and meny a kirke. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 64 Welll wroght wes the wall, And payntit with pride. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 300 They..the Mole immense wraught on Over the foaming deep high Arcbt. *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jorus.* 7 Mar. (1707) 18 An old Bridge..exceeding well wrought. 1735 J. Price *Stone-Br. Thames* 7 Scaffolds for working the said Piers from Bottom to Top. 1747 Gould *Engl. Ants* 12 Their [*sc.* ants'] double Saw, by means whereof they work their Apartments. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* I. 2 Earls were the wrights that wrought it [*sc.* a house].

†d. To 'make', obtain (a friend). *Obs. rare.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxiv. § 3 Mid þia andweardan welan mon wyrcð oftor fiond ðonne freond. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Mid weldede of giue [man mai] frend wurche.

e. const. *of*, rarely *out of* (the material or constituents); also *in* (some material), usually implying artistic or ornamental workmanship. (In later use almost always in pa. pple. *wrought*.)

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 12 Hit is þæs godcundan anwealdes gewuna þæt he wirce of ylle good. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John ii. 15 He worhte swipan of strengon. *c* 1[illegible] Ælfric *Gen.* vi. 14 Wyrc ðe nu anne arc of ahsawenum bordum. *c* 1000 — *Hom.* I. 22 God..cwæð þæt he wolde wyrcan mannan of eorðan. *c* 1200 Ormin 15128 Nollde nohht

wollde off waterr wirrkenn win. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22804 He þat dos flexs worth in to lame, O lam mai wirc flessli licam. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 204 A newe chaumbre-wouh wrouȝt al

of bordes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xxiv. 141 In the myddes of this palays is the mountour for the grete Cane þat is alle wrought of gold & of precyous stones. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 131 O Lord, quhilk wrocht all thingis of nocht. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. i. 68 Their streaming Ensignes, wrought of coulloured silke. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 681 Good milestones are wrought out of the rocke. 1709 A. Phillis *To Earl of Dorset* 34 Every shrub, and every blade of grass, And every pointed thorn, seem'd wrought in glass. 1841 Lover *Handy Andy* xi, Various ornaments..wrought in the purest gold. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 206 Forty-six noble columns, some wrought in granite and some in marble.

†4. To compose (a book or writing), to write.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* III. xvii, On þære bec, þe ic worhte. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 169 Se ðe þas boc worhte. *c* 1200 Ormin Ded. 24 Þatt ice þiss werre þe shollde wirrkenn. *Ibid.* 14269 Þatt boc, þatt Moysses & tatt profetess wrohhtenn. *a* 1272 *Lune Ros* 2 in *O. E. Misc.* 93 A Mayde criates me bit yorne Þat ich hire wurche a luue ron. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14836 Of Ynge saw y neuere nought, Neyþer in boke write ne wrought. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 372 As though that he of malice wolde endyten Despyt of love, and had him-self hit wroght. 1617 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 13 Who likes, approves, and usefull deems This work, for him 'tis wrought. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. iv. 60 Some therefore ask, can comedy be thought A real poem, since it may be wrought In style and subject without fire or force.

†b. To utter, speak, say. *Obs. rare.*

c 1330 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 30 Þai ditted þaire eris, for þai suld noght Here þir wurdes þat þus war wroght. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) I. 43 Philip Valays wordes wroght And said he suld þaire enmys sla.

5. To make (a 'web' or textile fabric), to weave; to make (something consisting of such fabric, as a garment, quilt, etc.) by means of needlework, to sew or knit; to ornament with a design, figure, or pattern in needlework, to embroider.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 377 Two pilches weren ðurȝ engeles wroȝt. *a* 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 350 Non of þe Citee ne shal don werche qwyltes ne chalouns by-poute þe walles. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xliii. 272 A damisell..þe whiche can wel werche your sherte. 1521–22 *Act 3 Hen. VIII* c. 6. § 2 The Walker and Fuller shall truely walke fulle thikke and werke every webbe of wollen yerne. 1592 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 991 Now she vnweaues the web that she hath wrought. 1595 — *John* IV. i. 43 My hand-kercher..(The best I had, a Princesse wrought it me). 1631 Davenant *Gondibert* II. with

Sterne *Sent. Journ., Paris*, She was working a pair of ruffles. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 33 A splendid cover..of tapestry richly wrought. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* I. ii. 21 You have wrought your web thinner and thinner. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 654 In the weaving of ribbed hosiery, the plain rib courses are wrought alternately. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 174 The princess, who had been educated only to work embroidery, to play on the spinet, [etc.]. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* vi, I'm going to work Mr. Laurence a pair of slippers.

b. const. *with* the design, figure, or pattern.

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 807 His garnement was euerydell Portreied and wrought with floures. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV.* (1830) 115 An hoby harneis..enbrowdered and wroght with ageletts of silver and gilt. 1575 in *Archæologia* XXX. 12 Sixe quyshions, wrought withe my L. [= Lord's] armes. 1842 Tennyson *Audley Court* 20 A damask napkin wrought with horse and hound.

c. with the design, figure, or pattern as obj.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 507* The Danes bare in their Ensigne a Raven wrought..in needle-worke. 1841 *Hart's Fancy-work Bk.* 18 To work patterns drawn on canvas. 1859 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* Ser. I. (1861) 286 Working her name on the blankets. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* IX. (1885) 65 The maxims you cherish would have served..for your grandmother to work on samplers.

6. To make (an image or figure); to delineate, paint, or draw (a picture, ornamental design, etc.); to carve (a statue or piece of sculpture); also, to represent by an image, portray, picture. *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. in special connexions. See also 39 h.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23216 Painted fire..Þat apon a wagh war wroght. 1448–9 Metham *Amorynus & Cleopes* 60 Lettyrrys off gold, þat gay were wrowght to þe ye. 1597 W. Barlow *Navig. Supply* H 1, If these diuisions be wrought vpon Latten plates. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 206, I shall proceed to the working a Pattern or two in Soft Wood. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* V. 328 There, Ganymede is wrought with living Art. *a* 1707 Prior *To the Hon. C. Montague* ii, Each, like the Graecian Artist, woo's The Image He himself has wrought. 1769 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* (1778) 19 The pictures, thus wrought with such pain, now appear like the effect of enchantment. 1780 *Mirror* No. 103 A large iron gate, at the top of which the family arms are worked. 1874 J. H. Pollen *Anc. & Mod. Furniture S. Kens. Mus.* 129 As the ornamental tooling is worked on leather by the bookbinder.

†7. With complemental word or phrase: To cause to be..., make, render; to change, convert, turn into something different; to bring into a specified state; also, to make or create in the form of. With simple compl. or const. *to*, *into*. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 13 Hyt ys awriten, min hus is xebedhus; witodlice ge worhton þæt to þeofa cote. *c* 1205 Lay. 18737 His lond þu forbærnest, & hine bisse wurchest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8392 For þi luue was i widue wroght. *Ibid.* 12370 Ye þat he has wroght to men And þat efter his aun ymage. *Ibid.* 24088 (Edin.) Þat wroht of wite. 13.. *Ibid.* 13804 (Göt.) He þat me hal has wroght. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9004 Mony woundet þat worthy & wroght vnto dethe. *c* 1420 *Sir Cleges* 336 Thys sawe I neuer..; Syn I was man wrowght I *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 6 Welth is away, wit is now wrechtin to wrinkis. 15.. Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 113 Ordane for Him ane resting-place, That is so worie wrocht for the. 1623 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, II. ii. 47 We had need pray..for our deliuerance; Or this imperious man will worke vs all From Princes into Pages.

1639 Saltmarshe *Policy* 43 If you suspect th of a promise, worke them obliged by some ap ment and pawne.

8. To make, form, or fashion *into* something (formerly also †*in*); to make up; to compound (ingredients); to shape (material). See also 39 e.

In various connexions; cf. senses above. Often with special reference to the process or operation performed; thus passing into branch II.

1536 Starkey *England* II. i. 173 Our marchantys cary them [*sc.* lead and tin] out.., and then bryng the same in workyd agayn, and made vessel therof. 1582 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 303 All our olde hempe is spunne and wrought in tenne cables..and thirteene Hausers. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 65 Gun-powder of a..Russet colour ..may be judged to have all its Receipts well wrought. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* I. 9 When you joyn several Bars of Iron together..and work them into one Bar. 1717 Prior *Alma* III. 461, I..melted down my Plate, On Modern Models to be wrought. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 135 To unlay a cable to work into running rigging. 1880 *Q. Mus. Mag.* II. 17 The subject of the Fugata..is a very good one. It were to be wished that it had been worked into a regular Fugue. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 464 String Rugs..are made from odds and ends of..wool, which are ..worked into coarse canvas in loops.

†b. To inflict (wounds). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Melayne* 1522 We sall wirke þam wondis full wyde. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 363 Anoyntmentys..for to anoyntt his woundys sere, That Iues þym wroght. 1497 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 339 These theues and robeurs amote..fiersly vpon philotes.., worchynge and gyuyng to him many woundes.

c. To produce or cause by continued application of physical force, e. g. friction; to 'wear' (a cavity, etc.) by attrition.

1836 C. Wordsworth *Athens* xxvi. (1855) 274 The wheels have worked deep grooves in the rock. *Mod.* He works holes in the seat of his trousers.

9. To put in, insert, incorporate, esp. in the way of construction or composition (cf. 3, 4): in various special connexions (see quots.). See also 36 a.

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 83 Glasse wrought with good lead, ..Glass wrought with an Arch well leaded. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 262 We..work into the Aperture, the Colours we would give the Flower. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 226 P 1 Those occasional Dissertations, which he has wrought into the Body of his History. 1721 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 48 To..work 3 whole Plank between 2 Buts. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. vii. 42 The love of pleasure..was wrought into his habit. He was a slave to it. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 254 Such a hedge may be repaired by thrusting..brush..into the holes..and ..working saplings through it obliquely. 1888 *Iron* 25 May 465 Heavy coils of iron..have been wrought round the..fore part of each gun.

b. *Hort.* To graft (*on* a stock): also *fig.*

1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* ii. 10 The Romanes early wrought so much civility upon the Brittish stock. 1725 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 28 Getting the word of life wrought in your heart. 1837 T. Rivers *Rose Amateur's Guide* 72 A collection of Chinese Roses worked on short stems. 1859 R. Thompson *Gard. Assist.* 387 The..portion cut off, is termed the scion, or graft, and the rooted plant, on which it is placed or worked, is called the stock. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 203 [The Kilmarnock willow] is frequently worked on low stems, and in consequence much of its beauty is lost.

10. To effect, bring about, bring to pass; to accomplish, achieve; to cause, produce. (In early use often approaching sense 1.) See also 38 f, 39 h.

c 1200 *Bestiary* 498 He him iuel werkeð. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 850 He werken sckaðe and bale. *Ibid.* 1812 Ðe ne leate ic noȝt, 'Til ðin bliscing on me beð wroȝt. *c* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* I. 774 Saunacion to werche. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 412 With his ferefull folke to Phocus hee rides, And is wilfull in werk to wirchen hem care. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20926 (Edin.) To quilis he wrogte þe cristin scam. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1173 Forto wirch me no wrong. 1380 Wyclif *2 Cor.* vii. 10 That sorwe that is aftir God, worchith penaunce ..; forsoth sorwe of the world worchith deeth. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1696 *Lucretia*, Ful longe lay the sege & lytil wroughten. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IV. i. (1495) 81 v b/1 In dyuerse maters [heete] werkyth dyuerse effectes. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 32 in *26 Pol. Poems* 122 So moche woo hit [*sc.* sin] hath vs wrought. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxi. 5 He wirkis sorrow to him self. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 135 Tarland quhil the tyme virk ane bettir chance. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 210 They were confederated..to worke him an vtter mischiefe. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 39 Whose daggers dinte wrought his dolefull death. 1596 Bacon *Max. Com. Law* iii. (1636) 15 Words are so to be understood, that they worke somewhat, and be not idle and frivolous. 1602 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. 1, Who else..his safetie might haue wrought. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 200 He replyed, that what Porke might work upon mans body in other Nations, it worked not there. 1704 Ramsay *Vision* xxiv, Lat them..

tion. 1829 Jefferson *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 17 To wait the event of this campaign will certainly work delay. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* xxxi, The ravages that confinement and sorrow had worked upon him. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xxvi, The beer had wrought no bad effect upon his appetite. 1843 Macaulay *Lays Anc. Rome, Virginia* 78 Let him who works the client wrong beware the patron's ire! 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 475 They were objects of general esteem and respect.., and wrought an impression favourable to the ultimate reception of the doctrines which they taught. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 283 The destruction wrought by the sea. 1912 *Halsbury's Laws of England* XXIV. 250 An alienation by tenant in tail..worked a discontinuance.

†11. To act in order to or so as to effect (something); to plan, devise, contrive; to put in practice, manage (a business or proceeding). *Obs.*

Castiglione's Courtyer II. (1577) G viij, Hee ought ... the matter wisely. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Unnat. Father* Wks. (1630) II. 137/2 He resolued to worke some meanes to take away their..liues. 1633 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 78 The Conspiratours so wrought the matter, that very many of the Nobility assented to the marriage. 1647–8 COTTERELL tr. *Davila's Hist. France* (1678) 19 The Cardinal ardently wrought the Prince's destruction by counseling the King. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 646 To work in close design, by fraud or guile What force effected not.

*** To do something to an object (thing or person).

12. To bestow labour or effort upon; to operate upon: in various connexions and shades of meaning.

a. To till, cultivate (land): = LABOUR *v.* 1; *rarely*, to cultivate (a plant or crop).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ix. 20 Noe..began to wyrcenne ðæt land. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 589 Faat lond, ydonged, moyst, & well ywroght Oynons desire. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 49 b, [God] dyd..set hym in paradyse.. for that entent that he sholde worke and kepe it. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 120 Choose soile for the hop of the rottenest mould, well doonged and wrought. 1622 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 107 The earth is soft and sandy, esy to bee wrought. 1744 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 121 For the..raising, planting, and working a vegetable (called Sesamo) extraordinary productive of oyl. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* XX. (1813) 394 When the ground can be conveniently worked. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 263 The common of Rattry..is indeed very barren; but if it were wrought, it would produce turnips and then grass.

b. To get, 'win' (stone or slate from a quarry, ore or coal from a mine, etc.) by labour; also with the quarry, mine, etc. as obj.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3069 Me wolde wene þat in þis lond no ston to worke nere. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. vii. 226 The silver that hath beene wrought in the country. 1618 RALEGH *Apol. Guiana* (1650) 54 It had been no lesse a breach of Peace to have wrought any Myne of his,..then it is now cald'd..a breach of peace to take a towne of his. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* X. 62 We found the Vein wrought three Yards wide, and twenty Fathom deep. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub* 21 Several parts of the Lode..have been indiscreetly hulked and worked. 1792 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 99, I..went to view the quarries where the flat paving and steps were wrought. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. iv. 124 Roofing-slates and flagstones have been worked in some places 1844 J. DUNN *Oregon Terr.* 241 The natives were anxious that we should employ them to work the coal. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 212/2 Several mines were worked for this metal.

c. with various objects: see quots.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1721 *Lucretia*, Softe wolle..she wroughte. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 360 When he worked White Paper, he caught the sheet by the upper further corner. 1839 MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* X. 60 The road had been but little 'worked'..and in some parts was almost in a state of nature. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 7 The heaps with the most distinct tracks and most worked (*i.e.*, continually used). 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 15 Dec. 792 Produce of value, such as tea, coffee, indigo, drugs, etc., have to be 'worked' for sale purposes; and this term embraces the opening of the package, examination for seadamage, sorting into qualities, and a host of other operations.

d. To manipulate (a substance) so as to bring it into the required condition; *esp.* to knead, press, stir, etc. (a plastic substance), or to mix or incorporate (such substances) together by this means; also, to spread (a colour or pigment) over a surface.

1417 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 183 That he wyrk na lede amanges any other metall.., bot if it be in souldur. 1466 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 306 That no tanner, ne glover,..wyrche harr leddyr at the ryver. 1494 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, c. 19 Cussions stuffed with..gotis here, which is wrought in lyme fattes. 1568–6 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship, Horses Dis.* iiii. (1580) 22 Mingle them togither, & stirre them continuallie in a pot.., vntill the Quicksiluer be so wrought with the rest, as you shall perceiue no quicksiluer therein. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 36 You shall see..how I will worke this geare lyke wax. 1653 WALTON *Angler* viii. 170 Mix with it [*sc.* paste] Virgins-wax and clarified honey, and work them together with your hands before the fire. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 340 When they are wrought to a paste, roll them with the ends of your fingers. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 147 This salt they work into the butter. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. I. 41 After the butter is taken from the churn it must first be well squeezed or 'worked' by the hand. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 285 Some cooks..worked sesame flour..with honey and oil. 1889 C. WALLIS *Dict. Water-colour Technique* 14 The first tone should be decidedly grey..; and on this may be worked Raw Sienna and Brown Madder.

e. To shape (stone, metal, or other hard substance) by cutting or other process; also, to beat out or shape (metal) by hammering (see WROUGHT *ppl. a.* 4). Also with *down*. Also *transf.* to wear by friction or attrition. Also *fig.*

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 65 Before the Glass is wrought down to its true Figure. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 157 A greater number of Boards to work to a Level. 1703 *Ibid.* 37 Till you have wrought [*ed.* 1677 filed] the Spindle from end to end. 1727 BERKELEY *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 530 Stone easily wrought. 1782 COWPER *Flatting Mill* 2 When a bar of pure silver or ingot of gold Is sent to be flatted or wrought into length. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* ii, Little thinking if we work our souls as nobly as our iron. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlix. (1856) 465 It [*sc.* an iceberg] is an amorphous mass, so worn that it must have been newly wrought before its release from the glacier. 1855 SQUIER *Adv. Mosquito Shore* ix. (1856) 146 The trunk of the ceiba..is invaluable...The wood is easily worked. 1885 *Athenæum* 21 Mar. 362/2 The facility of working it [*sc.* limestone] would lead one to expect that an arcuated architecture would have sprung up in Assyria.

f. To do artistic work upon; to decorate, inlay (*with* something). (Cf. INWROUGHT 1.) *rare.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 62 Two Pillars..couered and wrought with blue and Gold. *Ibid.*, Roofe and sides imbost and wrought with gold.

g. *Sporting* (with the game, or the scent, as obj.).

1568 in *Archæologia* XXXV. 207 The Emperore and my Lord wente a hontynge of the hare..and worked xx. hares or theare aboutes. 1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* III. 23 He says we've worked them [*sc.* the rabbits] quite enough. 1888 *Times* 26 Oct. 10/3 When I tried to work the scent of a deer which had got away.., the hound proved quite useless.

h. *To work one's passage* (etc.): to pay for one's passage on board ship by working during the voyage.

app. arising from ellipsis for *work for*; but cf. 38 e.

[1752 *Affect. Narr. Wager* 152 The Captain of this Vessel he prevail'd on to carry them..on Condition of..their Working the Voyage for their Passage.] 1836 MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 8 A pretty yellow-haired lad,..who works his passage out. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* XXV, Some months afterwards Amory made his appearance at Calcutta, having worked his way out before the mast from the Cape. 1884 *Century Mag.* Jan. 365/1 An educated young Englishman..worked his passage as a coal-passer and ash-heaver.

i. *colloq.* or *slang.* To go through or about (a place) for the purposes of one's business or occupation; to carry on one's trade or business, or some operation, in.

spec. (*a*) of a hound, (*b*) of an itinerant vendor, beggar, etc.; (*c*) of a clergyman; (*d*) of a canvasser.

1834 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 68, I gave up my bitch..to Joe, to work the enclosures, and he got 5 brace and 1 hare. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 79 I've worked both town and country on gold fish. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 117 To work a street or neighbourhood, trying at each house to sell all one can. 1849 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xii, Frank Maberly [a parson] had been..as he expressed it, 'working the slums' at Exeter. *a* 1885 SLADEN *Poetry of Exiles* (ed. 2) I. 24 You and I..Were working on this very Twelfth the old Dumfriesshire moor. 1893 *Daily News* 18 Feb. 3/5 To use an electioneering phrase, it is not easy to 'work' this hilly region. 1897 *Tit-Bits* 4 Dec. 186/2 A professional beggar who 'works' seventy or eighty streets in a few hours.

transf. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 393 He 'worked' the hunting-field largely. It constantly reappears in his novels.

j. *slang.* To deal with in some way; to get, or to get rid of, esp. by artifice; (of an itinerant vendor) to hawk, sell.

1839 *Dict. Flash or Cant. Lang.* 36 Work the Bulls, get rid of bad 5s. pieces. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 84 They made more money 'working' these [*sc.* pine-apples] than any other article. 1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Col. Reformer* x, Somebody might claim the colt..—say you'd worked him on the cross.

k. To investigate or study systematically. See also *work out* (38 k), *work up* (39 j).

1900 J. SHEPHARD & W. STRICKLAND in *Handbk. Austral. Assoc., Melbourne* 74 The aquatic worms are an untouched group. There are very many forms and when worked they will doubtless yield interesting results.

l. To operate upon so as to get into some state or convert into something else; to bring or reduce *to*; *refl.* with *compl. adj.* to go through some process so as to become . . . See also *work up*, 39 e.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 70 An English trauayler..aduised me to make the same [*sc.* Malmesey] alwaies about the middest of Maie, that it might haue 3. hot moneths togither to work it to his ful perfection. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. *ad fin.*, So the pure limpid Stream, when foul with Stains ..Work's it self clear, and as it runs, refines. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. ix. 59 His estate would..work itself clear. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* v. 113 All human achievement must be wrought down to this spoon-meat. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 4/6 It would take some time for the trade to work itself right.

13. *Math.*, etc. = *work out*, 38 g; cf. 28.

1593 P. FALE *Horologiogr.* 25, I worke this altogether like to the South reclining 45.4..untill I have found out the Elevation of the Meridian. 1623 J. JOHNSON *Arith.* II. 137 A second way more briefly to worke this question. *Ibid.* 291 The same example wrought another way. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xiv. 86 English Navigators work their Observation by the Complement of the Sun's Altitude. 1794 J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (1898) 40 In all proportions wrought by Gunter's Scale. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* IX. 72 To sit a horse and to work figures by head at the same time. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. v, The sum comes to the same figures, worked either way. 1885 S. LAING *Mod. Sci. & Th.* 5 To calculate the distance..with as much ease..as if we were working a simple sum of rule of three.

14. (= *work on*, 31). **a.** To act upon the mind or will of; to influence, prevail upon, induce, persuade (esp. by subtle or insidious means); more widely, to bring into a particular mental state, disposition, etc. Also, in later use, to strive or take measures to induce or persuade; to urge. See also *work up*, 39 k.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* V. lxxvii, For frends, opinion, & succeeding chaunce, Which wrought the weak to yeld, the strong to loue. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xviii. § 2 In Negotiation with others; men are wrought by cunning, by importunitie, and by vehemencie. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 532 Yet could hee not bee wrought..to disclose his 1640 ROBERT *Abstinence* 48 What doth the Lord? works Peters heart from this objection, and so — willingnesse. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. i, Are your Hearts subdu'd .. and wrought By Time and ill success to a Submission? 1842 TENNYSON *Miller's D.* XIII, God..who wrought Two spirits to one equal mind. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* III. The house or the clothes..cannot be wrought into an equal power of utterance.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXVI, I have been working him even now to abandon her. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, He was constantly working the Squire to send him..to a public school. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* liv, Sooner or later, he must come round; and the only way to do it, is to work him slowly.

b. To act upon the feelings of; to affect, agitate, stir, move, excite, incite. Also *refl.* (occas. *intr.* for *refl.*). Now usually *work up*; see 39 k.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 149 My dull Braine was wrought with things forgotten. 1612 — *Temp.* IV. i. 144 Your fathers in some passion That workes him strongly. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 1247 Love, Anguish, Wrath, and Grief, to Madness wrought,..his lab'ring Soul oppress'd. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* I. § 4 Sometimes they work themselves into high passions. 1809–11 COMBE *Syntax* XX. 21 The well-dress'd man now stopp'd, to know What work'd the angry Doctor so. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* IV, Grasping his cane tightly, as was his wont when working into a passion. 1838 — *Nich. Nick.* XXXIV, 'Who has?' demanded Ralph, wrought by the intelligence..., and his clerk's provoking coolness, to an intense pitch of irritation. 1848 — *Dombey* XXIII, Endeavouring to work herself into a state of resentment. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* IX. ii. (1864) V. 220 Philip..wrought by indignation from his constitutional mildness. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. v. 13 Which rigour wrought those children of the ground To that mad rising.

c. Of medicine: To take effect upon.

1712–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Mar., I take a little physic over-night, which works me next day. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 26 Apr., Let. ii, It worked Mrs. Gwyllim a pennorth.

d. To practise on, hoax, cheat, 'do'. *U. S.*

1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 Sept. 6/1 (*heading*) Waltham officers looking for a horse-dealer who has been working that town. 1894 HOWELLS *Trav. fr. Altruria* 228, I might ..suspect him..of..working us, as my husband calls it.

**** To move, direct.

15. To move (something) into or out of some position, or with alternating movement (to and fro, up and down, etc.): usually with some implication of force exerted against resistance or impediment. Also *fig.*

1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 215 This little ditch is not alwaies in one place but in time workes it selfe from one place to another. 1692 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 49 Her Rudder wrought it self out of the Irons, hanging only by the uppermost Pintell. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* IX. (1840) 166 The rage of the floods..works down a great deal of gold out of the hills. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* XX, That secret charm, which, once impressed upon the human heart, is rarely wrought out of the remembrance by a long train of subsequent events. 1841 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 327 Water is poured into it, and soil stirred in till the pit is half full of mud...The roots of the tree are then inserted, and worked about. 1857 B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* XII. (1858) 127 In vain I shifted my aching legs and worked my benumbed hands. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* V. 135 Some people work their flies. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 62 The tube.. can be 'worked down' through the hyaline cap. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 878 Loose body felt at inner side of knee and by working the knee he can make it evident to the touch. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 July 325/4 A neighbouring battery of guns..were being worked into position with a heaving-song.

16. To direct or manage the movement of; to guide or drive in a particular course; *spec.*, *Naut.* to direct the movement of (a ship) by management of the sails and rudder; to move and direct (a boat), as with oars; also in *Angling*, to 'play' (a fish).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 513 A Ship by skilful Steersman wrought Nigh Rivers mouth or Foreland. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 23 The Practick Part of Navigation, in working of a Ship in all Weathers at Sea. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 336 Having no Sails to work the Ship with. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 160 Make a dam.. and a sluice, and work the water upon it through the winter. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 193 Making the finest canoes,..and.. expert in working them when made. 1823 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 74 He worked a salmon to a miracle. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, Getting on the box, and working the team down street. 1878 C. TUTTLE *Border Tales* 31 To work the ship out of danger. 1912 *Standard* 20 Sept. 7/2 Special trains..will be worked over the systems of the Great Northern [etc.] railways.

17. *refl.* To make one's (or its) way; = 18.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 196 [The vermin] will..worke themselues further in, so that your Terriers shall not be able to find them. 1639 S. DU VERDUS tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 99 Octavian..wrought himselfe into her good will. 1655 MAS. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 15 How to make a Boat work it self against both Wind and Tide. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 281 P 5 [The mole] so swiftly working her self under Ground, and making her way so fast in the Earth. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* I, The women worked themselves into the centre of the crowd. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iv, Tom..worked himself into his shoes and his great coat. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* I. (1876) 21 The solitary thought of a great thinker will dwell in the minds of men for centuries, until at length it works itself into their daily life.

18. with *way*, etc. as obj., usually *to work one's* or *its way*: = 33, 33 b; also *fig.*

1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iii, Through Winds, and Waves, and Storms, he works his way. 1720 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 311 They worked their way down these streams. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* IX, [A contagious disease] ravaged the English Borders, and made some incursions into Scotland where it afterwards worked a fearful progress. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* II. (1892) 50 Mrs. Trafford worked her way round to Major Lovelace. 1889 R. BRYDALL *Art Sect.*

vi. 126 He gradually wrought his way against the usual obstacles which a poor artist must always encounter. 1908 [Eliz. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 23 The fluffy golden kerria..having worked its way through the thick wall.

***** Causal senses.

19. To set or compel (a person, animal, etc.) to work; to exact labour from; to employ or use in work. See also 39 i.

1445 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 225 What man that wurchithe ony man of the seide craft in contrarie-wyse he shall forfet..x s. to the Towne walle. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* I. (1617) 50 Many good breeders..will let their Mares after they are quickned be moderately trauelled or wrought. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. xvii, Oxen..are reckoned the best meat, if not too much wrought. *Ibid.* clii, The Slaves are usually so well wrought in the day,..that they do not easily awake. 1798 J. Naismith *Agric. Clydesdale* 123 Some gentlemen have again begun to use oxen for all the purposes of draught. The Right Honourable Lord Douglas always works a few. 1841 R. Oastler *Fleet Papers* I. 267 Whether it was right to work little boys and girls in the mills, longer than from six o'clock in the morning to six o'clock in the evening. 1888 *Times* 23 Oct. 7/6 The manner in which the hounds should be worked. 1912 Sir G. O. Trevelyan *Geo. III & C. Fox* I. vii. 243 The occupants of the best-paid places for the most part were not worked at all.

b. To bring or get into some condition by labour or exertion.

1688 Folkingham *Pamela Med.* 72 As Oxen wrought leane, regaine the flesh of young beefes by good pasturage. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. li. 246 He..protested that he would not be accessory to the Destruction of so many Innocents, whom he foresaw, would be wrought and starved to Death. 1834 G. Thorburn *Resid. Amer.* 224 When first I began to handle the hammer,..my hands blistered too; but I wrought the blister down. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xliv, She worked herself to death. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xiii, Richard said that he would work his fingers to the bone for Ada. 1908 H. Walks *Old Allegiance* viii. 134, I should think you were working the edge away by this time.

20. To set in action, cause to act; to direct the action of; to exercise (a faculty, etc.); to actuate, operate, manage: with various objects, as a machine or apparatus (passing into ****: cf. 16), an institution or scheme, etc.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 63 The rauesshyng to wreken of Eleyne..þei wroughten al hire peyne. c 1390 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 772 To mend the crime thai will wirk all thair mane. 1591 Drayton *Harmony Ch., Deborah's Song* 59 Her left hand to the naile she put, her right the hammer wrought. c 1610 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 23 A smale weight..will growe heavye before it be worked up and worke many wheeles. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 126 Water is raised by a machine,..wrought by an horse. 1791 R. Mylne *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 15 The Power of the Millers in working their Heads of Water. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* v. xi, The mariners all 'gan work the ropes. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xxxi. (ed. 3) 312 The cabinet-makers ..combined against it, and the patent has consequently never been worked. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xiii, They are ..dead dolls, wooden, worked with wires. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 1/2 No one believes that every people is capable of working every sort of institutions. 1877 *Daily News* 29 Oct. 5/6 The best way to 'work' the elections. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* ix, Always working her money and my own very cautiously. 1902 Trevelyan *Brit. Hist. 19th Cent.* ix. 154 Great noblemen who were also great coalowners, working their own mines. *a* 1903 W. P. Ker *Taxso in Ess.* (1925) I. 339 The best way of working figures on their stage.

b. In fig. or allusive phrases expressing cunning management or manœuvring, as *to work the oracle* (see Oracle *sb.* 1 b), *the ropes, one's ticket* (Ticket *sb.*1 6 b).

1859 *Slang Dict.* 217 Work the oracle, to succeed by manœuvering, to concert a wily plan, to victimise. 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xvii, How our mutual friend worked the ropes is more than I can tell you. 1919 *Athenæum* 15 Aug. 739/2 'Working one's ticket' means taking steps, such as feigning insanity or sickness, in order to get discharged from the army.

c. To cause to ferment.

[Cf. quot. 1594 in 22 b.] 1764 Eliza Moxon *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 140 To make Balm Wine...When it is cold put a little new yeast upon it, and beat it in every two hours,..so work it for two days.

II. Intransitive senses.

* To act; to perform work or labour.

21. Of a person: To do something, or to do things generally; to act, esp. in the particular way mentioned; to proceed; to conduct oneself, behave, 'do'. *Obs.* or *arch.*, or merged in other senses.

a 1000 *Soul & Body* 64 (Gr.) Swa þu worhtest to me. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 27 Hem þe on him believeð and þar after werche8. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5819 Wisemen he drou to him, & after hom he wrogte. 1340-70 *Alisaunder* 517 In battail..bigly too wirch. c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 497 This noble ensample to his sheepe he yaf That first he wroghte, and afterward that he taughte. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 7 Þey schulleþ fonge her mede of hym þat rewardeþ ..al þat wel worcheþ. c 1400 *St Pol. Poems* v. 8 Gostly blynd..þat leueþ wit, and worcheþ by wille. c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 140 Wher God list werche may be noon obstacle. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 340 [He] putte hym self in to the grettest prees of the batayille wher he wrought mortally. *a* 1529 Skelton *Dyuers Balettys* Wks. (Dyce) I. 84 Aduertysyng you..to warke more secretly. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 1357 If he haue wrought against the lawes. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 63 He, because he could not otherwise speake vnto him, wrought by signes. 1601 Shake. *All's Well* iv. ii. 29 This ha's no holding To sweare by him whom I protest to loue That I will worke against him.

†**b.** *To let work*: to allow to act or proceed (*let God work* = leave the rest to God). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 13 Ne þarf þe bute wilnen, & lete godd wurchen. 14.. *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 3372 Iosyan .. trauayled of chylde..She sayde,..'go hens away,..And late me worke and our lady'. 1546 [see A. 2 g].

22. To act for a purpose, or so as to gain an end; to plan, plot; to contrive, manage. *arch.*

a 1000 *Beath. Metr.* xx. 87 Þæt ðu mid gebeahte þinum wyrcest þæt ðu þæm gesceaftum swa gesceadlice mearce gesettest. c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 417 God..may so for yow wirche, That..Ye may repente of wedded mannes lyf. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 63 How he can werche Among the wyde furred hodes, To geten hem the worldes goodes. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 248 Thai wyrk ay to wayt wa with suppryz. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 239 Se how politikely the French kyng wrought for his aduantage. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 322 Without the Kings assent or knowledge, You wrought to be a Legate. *a* 1674 Milton *Hist. Moscovia* v. Wks. 1851 VIII. 322 The Chancellor, with others of the great ones..so wrought, that a Creature of thir own was sent to meet Sir Jerom. 1887 Morris *Odyssey* XII. 445 So wrought the Father of Gods and of men that I was not seen.

23. Of a thing (abstr. or concr.): To do something; to perform a function, or produce an effect; to act, operate, take effect; *esp.* to act in the desired way, do what is required; to be practicable or effectual, to succeed. See also 33.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3137 Þat fire..wirkes on wonderful manere,..Thurgh wilk þe saule most clensed be In purgatory. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 49 Louse þi lippes a-twynne & let þe gost wurche. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 593 Þi strinth sal nocht wyrke Agane þe treuthit of haly kirke. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* No. 2. i. lii. If. 3 b, As the sonne wirkyth in all creaturis her beneathe. c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1901 Ther Nature wol nat wirche, Fare wel Phisik; go ber the man to chirche. c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 71 Whanne þe wyt werketh and þe wyl ys trauaylled. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 206 Prayer,..outsayd In erthe, worchyth in hevyn. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 376 Thise wordes wroughte in the hertes of the calcedonyens and gaf to them corage. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* viii. 28 All thynges worke for the best [1611 worke together for good] vnto them that love god. 1528 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xi. 91 b, Opium..doth so worke with them..., that they loose both their wits and vnderstanding. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii. My plot begins to worke. 1652 French *Distill.* I. 40 This Oil taken inwardly worketh upward and downward. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 507 Nature her self..Wrought in her so, that seeing me, she turn'd. 1671 — *Samson* 850 It was not gold..That wrought with me. 1784 Twamley *Dairying* 30 This [salt] will.. cause the Rennet to Work quick. 1832 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 245 How will the Reform Bill work in the return of members to Parliament? 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* vi. 75 The stomach works well and performs its functions with vigour. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* xvi. 262 [He] left the difficulty ..to work in the minds of the apostles. 1861 Trollope *Framley Parsonage* xxix, Lady Lufton was beginning to fear that her plan would not work. 1869 W. T. Thornton *On Labour* iv. i. 357 The cases..showing how this arrangement works. 1891 Scrivener *Fields & Cities* 116 This is how private ownership of property works. 1892 Mrs. Clifford *Aunt Anne* I. ii. 40 Walter had tried sending Florence and the children and going down every week himself; but he found 'it didn't work'.

b. Of a machine or apparatus: To perform its proper function; to act, operate.

Sometimes felt as *intr.* for *pass.* from 20. In this and next sense passing into **.

c 1620 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 15 Smale modles often fayle..when they cume to worcke upon heavye ..weightes. 1702 *Post Man* 21–24 Feb. 2/2 Advt., There is a small Engine, that Raises Water..now set up at the Engine-House..in Dorset Garden, which will Work every Saturday and Wednesday. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 12 Cranes or Skrews, or any other Engine, working either by Leavers or Pullies. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii, Telegraphs working; flags hoisted. 1867 tr. *Clausius' Mech. Theory Heat* 198 A machine which works with expansion. 1889 Gunter *That Frenchman* iv. 37 Maurice.. closes the door..trying it to be sure the spring lock has worked. 1917 Miss M. T. Jackson *Museum* ii. 67 Like all mechanical devices it [*sc.* the thermostat] does not always work.

c. Of a part of mechanism: To have its proper action or movement in relation to another part with which it is in contact.

1770 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 324 [He] beamears..so much of the Cheeks as the ends of the Head works against. *Ibid.* 366 The square holes the Hose works in. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 130 The four bevelled nuts work into the bevelled wheels..and so turn them. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 172 An index working over a scale.

24. To do something involving effort (of body or mind); to exert oneself (physically or mentally) for a definite purpose, esp. in order to produce something or effect some useful result, to gain one's livelihood or some profit or advantage, or under compulsion; to do work, perform a task or tasks, to toil: = Labour *v.* 11. (Opposed to Play *v.* 10, or to Rest *v.*1 2.)

To work double tides: see Tide *sb.* 14.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xli. § 3 Hwy sceall þonne eenig mon blon idel, ðæt he ne wyrce? c 1200 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 28 Ga and wyrce to-dæg on minum wingearde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Loke8..bet þe ne been neuer idel: auch wurche8, oðer rede8, oðer bede8 i beoden. c 1275 Lay. 8710–21 Þare wrohte heinas, þare wrohte sweines, and þe king mid his honde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6843 Sex dais sal yee wirc,..And yee sal rest þe seuend dai. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 38 Me lord is olde & may nouȝt werche. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 303 Þey weate is to þe vyne & wroȝte. c 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 14 Wel ought we werche, and ydelnesse withstonde. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xi. 342 Poul..wrouȝte with hise hondis forto haue his lijflode to preche. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 880 A woman which..sabbot-day dyd violate Vnlaufully wurkynge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 72 b, We must worke and labour in goostly exercyse certayn dayes. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1562) 36 As good play for nought as worke for nought. c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 30 Our men wrought dalie to hoyse aborde all such goodes. 1620 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 784/1 At such one of the saidis mynes as they sall have last wrought into. 1621 T. Granger *Expos. Eccles.* xii. i. 315 We must worke with the Oare while we haue strength, and after sit at the sterne. *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* 178 Thinke of ease, but worke on. 1852 Kingsley *Three Fishers*, For men must work, and women must weep. 1861 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* III. clxiii. 280 To have taxed his paper, or his ink, or the rush-lights that he wrought by. 1865 Ruskin *Crown Wild Olive* I. 40 Our third condition of separation, between the men who work with the hand, and those who work with the head.

b. const. *at*, *on* or *upon*, †rarely *in*, *of* (a material object, esp. in making (cf. 14), a subject of study or literary treatment, an occupation, etc.).

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Martin abbot.. wrohte on þe circe. c 1200 Ormin 16283 Swa þæȝȝ stodenn ..To wirrkenn o þe temmple. 1378 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 237/1 [Solomon] þeron..Dede worchen foure & coke and his man for workynge in the seatts at Churche. 1612 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muse's Sacrifice* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/2 That proud Pyramed..Whereon, three-hundred-three-score-thousand wrought full twenty Yeeres. 1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref., A sentence of Hesiod so commendable, that..Livie in that [Oration] of Minutius hath it well and diversly wrought-on 1687 Prior *Hind & P. Transv.* Wks. 1907 II. 15 Vulcan working at the Anvil. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 205 Some Basons have been worked upon several times, without being able almost to make them hold Water. 1840 G. Godwin *Last Day* I. 5 How hard some folks do work at what they call pleasure. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The little [church-] porch, where a monotonous ringer was working at the bell. 1893 Liddon, etc. *Pusey* I. v. 96 Pusey..spent from fourteen to sixteen hours a day working at Arabic. *a* 1903 W. P. Ker *Taxso in Ess.* (1925) I. 342 Taxso had been working at his epic poem.

(*b*) In humorous or trivial use, implying vigorous action of some kind.

1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Feb., The Duchess and the great ladies were all seated,..working away at the ices and macaroons.

25. To exert oneself in order to accomplish something or gain some end (expressed by context); to strive: = Labour *v.* 12.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1470 He wrogten and figt, Queðer here sulde birðen bi-foren. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 352 He is frend to þe frere þat hatiþ þus his synne & worchiþ to distrie it. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420 To Wyrke, *aperiare & -ri*, *anxiari*, *conari*, *cooperari*, *connitl.* 1591 Shake. *1 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 27 Your Honors shall perceiue how I will worke, To bring this matter to the wished end. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiv, Such a deed might make one forswear kin, clan, country, wife, and bairns! And yet the villain wrought long for it. 1873 Burton *Hist. Scot.* V. lviii. 230 He was a refugee in England during the regency of Morton, who wrought hard to lay hands on him. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xvii, That guilty and intriguing minister of Tiberius..had for years worked on with the deliberate intention of clearing every one of them from his path, and climbing to that throne himself.

26. To do one's ordinary business; to pursue a regular occupation; to be regularly engaged or employed in some labour, trade, profession, etc. (*in* a place, *for* or *under* a master or superior). Said also of animals. Also more widely, to do something for a definite end, to engage in some systematic occupation. (Often coinciding with 24.)

1307 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 181 Boclemakers ..to serve and to wyrk to pouer and to riche within this cite. *a* 1400 *Ipomydon* 398 'For mete', he sayde, 'I wold wyrke fayne.' c 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xli. 17 Be-neth þat hous..was housyng be þe ground, in whech dwelt coynoures of siluyr, and wroute þere ful busily. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 130 Taylours weorking by greate or taske worck. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 10 Rude Mechanicals, That worke for bread vpon Athenian stals. 1612 S. Rid *Art of Jugling* C 4, The..matters wherevpon Iuglers worke vpon, and shew their feates. 1676 Marvell *Mr. Smirke* I 4 b, Did not St. Paul himself, being a Tent-maker,..work of his trade..to get his living? 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3809/8 He [*sc.* a glover] wought in Colemans-alley. 1704 De Foe *Giving Alms no Charity* (1859) 58 'Tis the men that wont work, not the men that can get no work, which makes the numbers of our poor. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* III. 326 He wrought for some days in the habit of a peasant, cutting faggots in a wood. 1834 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* ii. (1858) 35 The farmers for whom he wrought. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xi, He's one of the Company you work under. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* ii. 34 Ants work not only all day, but in warm weather often all night too. 1883 Swinburne *Misc.* (1886) 117 It was not the aim of Wordsworth to work on the same lines, to rule in the same province as do these. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* iv. 40 It is he who has made the discovery upon which we are working.

b. const. *in* (†*with*) the material upon which labour is expended in some business or manufacture.

1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 54 Than Iupiter began to lerne spynne and to werke in the silke. 1474 — *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 93 Thise..ben named drapers..for so moche as they werke wyth wolle. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Plasmo*, the warke of a potter, or of hym that worketh in erthe. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. xlv. 9 They that worke in flaxe. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. vi. 223 The veine of Tinne..is..rough and very painfull to worke in. 1788 R. Smith *Harmonics* (ed. 2) 176 Any man who works true in brass may easily apply it [*sc.* this mechanism]..to any harpsi-

gherd ready made. 1889 Boutell *Arms & Armour* ii. 38 The Greeks of that age..were able to temper it [sc. iron], and they had actually commenced working in it.

c. *spec.* of sporting dogs. (Cf. 12 g.)

1879 (see Working *vbl. sb.* 2). 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 163 Bruce and Rob Roy..both worked in good style. 1874 Carpenter *Mental Phys.* I. ii. § 3. (1879) 104 Young Pointers and Retrievers, when first taken into the field, will often 'work' as well as if they had been long well trained.

27. To perform the work proper or incidental to one's business or avocation; to operate or practise in a professional way. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

1340 *Ayenb.* 174 Þe leche ne may nazt werche mid þe zike hete-yef he yzi his wonde. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat.*

[illegible] *c* 1500 in *A*

63 b/2 Wan yᵉ mone is..in cankro Leone or Libra it is good [to] wurch in trees that bethe newe sprongen.

b. Said esp. of the performance of artistic work or the practice of an artist. †*Worked upon*, †*about*: decorated or ornamented, e. g. with embroidery, engraving, or the like; also *fig.* *Worked over*: having the surface remodelled or redecorated.

1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xlv, 10 A vesture of gold (wrought about with dyuerse colours). *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxii. (1912) 291 Her apparrell of white, wrought upon with broken knots. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 200 How lik'st thou this picture?..Wrought he not well that painted it? 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 102 Exercising his scholars..in the necessary rudiments..before he would suffer them..to worke in colours. 1706 tr. *De Piles' Art Painting* 336 He work'd also in Sculpture. 1783 *Sch. Miniature* 42 When you work after Prints. 1786 Strutt *Biogr. Dict. Engravers* II. 402 This artist worked with the graver only. 1874 J. H. Pollen *Anc. & Mod. Furniture S. Kens. Mus.* 131 The work is profusely gilt and worked over with tooling. 1875 Fortnum *Maiolica* iv. 39 He worked about 1550. 1883 T. Westwood & Satchell *Bibl. Piscat.* 219 The scroll has..been 'worked over', much to its detriment. 1889 R. Bevdall *Art in Scot.* vii. 125 The students wrought in the academy daily at painting.

fig. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* iii. 39 For a long time there has existed..a tendency to work over such verbs, abandoning their irregularly varying inflection, and reducing them to accordance with the more numerous class of the 'regularly' inflected.

28. *Math.*, etc. To proceed (in a particular way) in calculation; to perform a calculation; to go through the process of solving a problem.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 5 Whan þat the degree of thy sonne falleth by-twixe two Almykanteras.., thow Most werken in this wise. *c* 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 23 Here he teches how þou schalt wyrch in þis craft. Þou schalt multiplye þe last figure [etc.]. 1612 A. Hopton *Baculum Geometricum* 35 For the distance of sides of Triangles, worke thus. 1614 Handson tr. *Barth. Pitisco's Trigonom.* II. 20 If you worke by the table of latitudes..the difference of longitude will be 68 deg. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 62 You must work as if the Piece were fortified no more than only so much as the thinnest part of the Metal is. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Surveying* 7 G 2/1 If instead of squaring the half feet, you square the half yards.., and work with them, you will attain the same end without any regardable difference. 1823 J. Guy *Tutor's Assist.* 79 Work for the tare and trett as before.

29. Of a substance (corresp. to various senses in 12); usually with qualifying adv. or phr.: To behave in a particular way while being worked. See also 39 d.

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 136 Whan the yron is well hoote, hit werketh the better. 1668 Gerbier *Princ.* 24 Portland Stone works well. 1676 J. Smith *Art of Painting* ii. 26 Vermillion...If it be ground fine..no Colour works better. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xlviii. 205 Whilst in the quarry, it works better than after it has been exposed to the sun. 1823 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 732 Yellow ochre..is..much used [sc. in painting], as it works very freely. 1877 *Paper hanger* etc. 68 Distemper mixed with jellied size will lay on better..than when the size is used hot. Colour mixed on the former plan works cool and floats nicely, while the latter works dry, and drags and gathers.

30. With *on* or *upon* (†*into*, †*of*, †*to*, *with* arch.): To operate upon, produce an effect upon, take effect on, affect, influence: a. physically or generally.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 700 Of the hevyn..How that the disposicioune Suld apon thingis virk heir doune. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 219 He toke poison..but..it would not worke vpon hym. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) iii. 55 As for a weddow, wirk weill on hir wame, I knaw no craft sall cause hir lufe 3ow bettir. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xvii. 314 This fault cannot bee imputed to the body..: neither can it be imputed to any infection received first from the body; for the Soule could not be wrought into by the body. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. iii. 188, I know my Physicke will worke with him. 1607 Hakewill *Apol.* IV. xiv. § 5 (1630) 314 The same [sun-] beams exhale both stinking vapours out of the dunghills and sweete savours out of flowres, the beame is every way the selfne which workes vpon them, only the difference of the subjects..is it that..diversifies the effects. 1730 W. Burdon *Gentl. Pocket-Farrier* 75 When a Purge works..too strong upon him..give him an Ounce of Venice Treacle. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 237 Cyril, with whom the bell-mouth'd glass had wrought,..began To troll a..tavern-catch.

b. mentally or morally; sometimes, to do something in order to affect, strive to influence (with *to* = Labour *v.* 13); sometimes, to influence successfully, prevail upon, induce, persuade: = 14 a. (Often in indirect passive.)

1626 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 737 Which wrought so on the Swaine, they could not smother Their sighes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 140 Sir Thomas..seriously wrought with the Grand Signior and his Counsell, to haue had him restored againe to his Lands. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 435 Shee cries and tackes on..but all we can doo will not worke of her. 1662 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 4 He works to the Lady[manor] to send another to measure it [sc. the farm]..He prevails with her, she sends another. 1669 Penn *Diary* 20 May (1879) VI. 79 The King may yet be wrought upon..to bring changes in our Office. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1823) I. 339 But he would not be wrought on. 1799 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 184 He was not to be worked upon by Intriguers. 1802 Scott *Quentin D.* xxviii, Sweetest Lady, work with thy child, that he will pardon all past sins. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 72 She..worked on his feelings by pretending to be ill. 1889 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. 266 He had many minds to work upon and to win over to his cause.

31. To ache, hurt: = Wark *v.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2688 Thoffe my schouldire be schrede,..And the wielde of myne arme werkkes a littille. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 531 Sa sare werkis hire þe wame..þat all scho dredis hire dede. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1814, I felte such wo, my wounde ay wrought. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. v. 848, I may not stonde, myn hede werches soo. 1808 Jamieson, *To work*, to ache.

32. Of liquor: To ferment.

1570 Timme tr. *Marlorat's Expos. Matt.* ix. 17 When the newe wyne worketh or spourgeth, the vessels breake. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 183 b, The Hony is..suffered to stand vncouered a fewe dayes tyll it haue wrought, and cast vp a loft all his dregs. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6022 About 7 or 8 dayes after the Must hath been thus boyled it begins to work. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 57 The tube wherein the Wine is working. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) ii. § 5. 129 The liquid becomes turbid, and small bubbles rise to the surface; or in popular language, it begins to work or to ferment.

fig. 1600 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. (Arb.) 9 Such barmy heads wil alwaies be working. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxiv, Men's brains are working like yeast.

** To move in a particular way or direction.

33. To go or move along, or in a particular course; to make one's (or its) way, take one's (or its) course; now usually, to make way slowly, laboriously, with some exertion or difficulty, or in an indirect course. (Usually with adv. or phr. expressing the direction or course: see also 36 b, 38 b, 39 c.)

c 1400 *Treat. Astrom.* 3 (MS. Add. Bodl. B. 17), Therbe...vij. planetis that meuyn and werkyn in the .vij. heuenes. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. ii. (1883) 87 Fortune hath of no thinge so grete playsir as for to torne & werke all way. 1535 Coverdale *Jonah* I. 13 The see wrought [Luther *fuhr*, Vulg. *ivit*, LXX. ἐκυρίευεν] so, & was so troublous agaynst them. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 891 The raging Fires..lurking in the Seams,..Work on their way, amid the smouldring Tow. 1802 Colman *Broad Grins, Elder Bro.* (1819) 118 Being *Bacchi plenus*,—full of wine,—..He work'd, with sinuosities, along. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* I, [The dog] worked round and round him, as if..undecided at what particular point to go in for the assault. 1862 Pycroft *Cricket Tutor* 57 A ball working away only a little way to the leg. 1878 Lady Brassey *Voy. Sunbeam* I. 2 After midnight..the wind worked gradually round..and blew directly in our teeth. 1898 G. A. B. Dewar *In Pursuit Trout* 26 The trout was working up stream, always keeping under the bank. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 7/3 The Russians..worked round to the rear of the Turkish army.

b. To make one's (or its) way slowly or with effort through something, as in penetrating gradually through a substance, burrowing in the ground, etc.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxix. 132 So lang sall þis fox wirk in þe erthe þat at þe last he schall comme oute amang þis folk. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12007 All the cite..þai set vppon fyre,..Wroght vnder walles, walt hom to ground. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 47 Sum says it is a mater that wirkes out of the stanes. 1692 in *Archæologia* XII. 189 Sometimes the coneys work under the wall into the garden. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Walk* 7 Z 3/2 The bottom of the walks should be laid with rubbish, coarse gravel, &c...and beaten down close, to prevent the worms from working through it.

c. *Naut.* Of a sailing vessel: To sail in a particular course, to make sail; *esp.* to beat to windward, to tack. See also 39 c.

1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. xii. 204 The shipping..had direction to worke about to another Creake. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/2 Perceiving..that they wrought from us, we followed them..with all the Sail we could make. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 223 She had sprung her fore-top-mast, which had disabled her from working to windward. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 116 A little before noon we weighed, and worked up the river. 1823 Scoresby *Jrnl.* 2 We reached down the river, and, on the ebb, worked out of the Rock Channel. 1836 Marryat *Pirate* xvi, The Comus..worked, in short tacks, outside the reef. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxiii. (1856) 184 We are working, i.e., beating our way in the narrow leads..between the main ice and the drift.

d. To proceed in a particular direction in some operation.

1877 *Paper Hanger*, etc. 26 The paper hanger generally works from left to right. 1882 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Working home*, working toward the main shaft in extracting ore or coal. 1920 F. Fawcett in *Folk-Lore* (1921) XXIII. 39 He is given several sharp blows on the ribs, beginning under the armpit and working downwards.

e. *transf.* and *fig.* in various connexions. See also 39 c.

1692 [..] Tryon *Art Brewing* (ed. 3) 49 So soon as it [your Corn] begins to come, or as some calls it Work. 1848 Lytton *Harold* IX. iii, A silent war between the two for mastery was working on. 1859 Mrs. Gaskell *C. Bronte* I. ii. 27 Their religion did not work down into their lives. 1863 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. ix. Hoping as Our Johnny would work round [=recover]. 1889 Browning *Pallachic* ii. vi. 295 Hence..the tumes [*sc.* demonstrations] often praise round again, in popular usage, to mean proof which is 'sufficiently' or 'practically' conclusive. 1893 P. Hamilton *Out of Egypt* II. 238 A new conversation starts up every hour, and never time to work to a conclusion.

34. To move restlessly, violently, or convulsively; to be in a state of agitation or commotion; to toss, seethe, rage (as a stormy sea, etc.); to struggle; to twitch; *Naut.* of a ship, to strain or 'labour' so that the fastenings become slack (cf. 35); so of an engine or carriage (see quots. 1791, 1892 s.v. Working *vbl. sb.* 12). Also *fig.* of thought or feeling; sometimes with allusion to 32.

1581, 1582 [see Working *vbl. sb.* 10, *Apol. a.* 4]. 1608 Shake. *Per.* III. i. 48 The sea workes hie. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Relat. Journ. Wales* (1859) 12 The well..doth continually work and bubble with extream violence. 1689 H. Pitman *Relat. in* Arb. *Garner* VII. 352 Our little vessel..wrought so exceedingly by reason of the great motion of the sea, that we could not possibly make her tight. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v., A ship is..said to work, when she strains and labours heavily in a tempestuous sea, so as to loosen her joints or timbers. 1770 Wesley *Jrnl.* 4 July, She..wrought, like one strangled, in her breast and throat. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* I. xiii, With men he can be..unaffected, but when he has ladies to please, every feature works. 1840 Dickens *Old Curi. Shop* lviii, Shaking his head, and working with both his hands as if he were clearing away ten thousand cobwebs. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xl. 93 While everything was working, and cracking, strained to the utmost. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* 5 With his face all working with sorrow.

fig. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 215 While thoughts like these were working in the minds of many Dissenters. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1300 Sea was her wrath, yet working after storm. 1885 C. Stanford *Synnb. Christ* vi. (1878) 162 Tempests of feeling often work beneath an unchanged face.

35. With complement: To move irregularly or unsteadily so as to become out of gear.

1770 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 303 [To] hinder the Press from working into a twisting position. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxv. 83 The anchor on the lee bow had worked loose, and was thumping the side. 1874 J. D. Heath *Croquet-player* 26 If the handle [of the mallet] be properly wedged into the head, it ought never to work loose.

III. With adverbs, in special senses.

36. Work in. a. *trans.* To insert, introduce, incorporate (in various connexions: see 9, 12 d).

1675 A. Browne *App. Art Paint.* 21 Working in, driving, and sweetening the same Colours one into another. 1738 E. Smith *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 209 Work in three quarters of a pound of Sugar. 1826 M. Crosfield in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* XX. 93 The 5 American Epistles..abound with choice passages of Scripture well wrought in. 1827 Hele *Friends in C.* I. viii. 124, I would try and work in the old good thing with the new. 1870 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) II. App. 584 A..tale in which several particulars..are worked in with a lofty contempt for chronology.

b. *intr.* To make one's (or its) way in. *lit.* and *fig.* See 33.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 216 These..sudden gusts make it difficult for ships to work in with the wind off shore. 1849 Hele *Friends in C.* II. i. 12 All he meets seems to work in with, and assimilate itself to, his own peculiar subject. 1928 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Apr. 5/4 Yorkshire troops..threw the enemy out of the village..but the enemy again worked in.

37. Work off. *a. *trans.* To print off (as from a plate); esp. to print in final form, so as to be ready for publication or distribution.

1662 Evelyn *Sculpture* 36 The very first..who published any works of this kind under their names, wrought off by the Rolling-Presse. 1672 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 247 Wee were then looking over and correcting the story of John Wycleve in 'Hist. et Antiq. Univ. Oxon.' before it was to be wrought off from the press. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 7 That..execrable Dog of a Printer..has work'd off the last Sheet..without sending me a Proof. 1708 T. Hearne *Coll.* 11 Apr. (O. H. S.) II. 102 Mr. Thorpe gave but 10 pence per hundred for working off his Plates to Schutzer. 1734 *Gentl. Mag.* XXIV. 58/1 An accident..to the Plate prevented a sufficient number [of etchings] from being wrought off. 1868 E. Edwards *Raleigh* II. Introd. p. lxxxi, By an accident of a miscarriage of proofs in the Post Office, the three letters..were worked off, prior to correction of the press. 1882 Pebody *Engl. Journalism* xv. (1883) 207 The printers..often found themselves working off papers half through the night and all through the day.

†b. To make and throw off. *Obs.*

1695–6 *Act 7 & 8 Will. III*, c. 20 § 3 A..profitable Invention..for the..more speedy..knitting of..Stockings..whereby great Quantities are wrought off in a little time. 1739 Melmoth *Fitzosb. Lett.* lxii. (1749) II. 218, I am willing enough to join with you in thinking, that [the souls of both sexes] may be wrought off from different models.

c. To perpetrate, 'play off'.

1891 Nat. Gould *Double Event* xvi, A nice little swindle you worked off on me that time.

**d. To take off or away by a gradual process, effect a riddance of; to get rid of, disburden oneself of, free oneself from, by some continuous action or effort.

1678 Ryther *Trag. Last Ag* off the Remains of Phedra's

1706 A. De la Pryme *Let.* 27 Mar. in *Diary* (Surtees) 251 Returning to his labour,..he sweat and wrought it [*sc.* canine madness] of [= off] without any physic. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 226 Nature is working off some latent Enemy. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxv, You..take some of his quack medicines, and then he will allow you a run on shore to work it off. 1873 *Standard Gk. Poets* vii. 294 Should a man arise capable of seeing rightly and living purely, he may work off the curse. 1880 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Rebel of Family* II, So full of thoughts and energies she does not know how to work them all off.

†e. To draw off or dissuade (a person) from a certain course. Cf. 14 a. *Obs.*

1693 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* I. III. xvi. (1687) 94/1 Glaucus before he was 20. years old had..aimed at some great office in the Common-wealth, not to be wrought off from this fancy ..until addrest by some friends to Socrates, who made him acknowledge his own error.

†f. To take or tear off by continuous application of force. *Obs.*

1703 Parker *Eusebius* VIII. 146 When the Flesh of her Sides and Breasts had been wrought off with Pincers, she was Sentenc'd to the Sea.

g. To finish working at; to dispose of and get done with.

1820 J. Haigh *Dyer's Assist.* 33 When a vat has been heated two or three times, and a good part has been worked off. 1842 W. S. Gilbert *Mountebanks* I, Ginseppe, he's to be married tomorrow,..and so on until we are all worked off. 1920 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 4/2 When the existing con- ..] for new steamships are worked off.

h. To put to death; to hang. *slang.*

1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lxiii, He was ready for working off.

38. Work out. *a. *trans.* To bring, fetch, or get out by some process or course of action; to get rid of, or effect a riddance of; to expel, deliver, efface, etc.

1588 Daniel *Civ. Wars* v. lxxi, These people-minions they must fall To worke out vs, to worke themselues int' all. 1619 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. § 10 That..you may worke out the knots and Stondes of the mind. 1667 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 216 If the Fox be in the earth,..they take this course to worke him out. 1848 Gage *West Ind.* 2 Such plenary Indulgences, which may..work that soul out, which lyeth..in the deepest pit of Purgatory. 1660 Dryden *Astræa Redux* 273 Tears of Joy..Work out and expiate our former Guilt. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* p. x, Strong Bodies will work out the Poyson they take, by degrees. 1758 *Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 3/2 To work out the old servants of the Crown, in order to make way for a more uniform system. 1874 Willshire *Anc. Prints* lii. 91 The engraver of metal plates has not rested satisfied with the chafing-tool, [etc.]..in working out their substance, but has had recourse to corrosives.. to bite..away the metal.

b. *intr.* To make its way out, esp. from being imbedded or inclosed in something; to become gradually loose and come out: cf. 33, 35.

In quot. 1698, to lose its effect gradually.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxx. xiii. II. 394 To draw forth spils of bones, and make them to worke out. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 2 Underlays..are often apt to work out, and..subject it to an unstable and loose position. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 127 The Liquor working out by his Walking, he began to grow weary. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 231 *Forelock*, a small wedge of iron driven through a hole near the end of iron pins to keep them from working out. 1832 Marryat *N. Forester* iii, Fresh splinters of the bone continually worked out.

c. *trans.* To work (a mine, etc.) until it yields no more; to exhaust by 'working'.

1545 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1904) 8 [The parties shall cause all such coalpits as shall hereafter be] cleane wrought out and gettyn [to be] caste in and stopped. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* vii, The Highlands were indeed a rich mine; but they have, I think, been fairly wrought out. 1857 Westgarth *Victoria & Gold Mines* 226 The diggings, the greater part of which..had been abandoned as ground 'worked out,' to use the digger's phrase. 1906 Hockaday in *Vict. County Hist., Cornwall* I. 320/1 As one part [of the rock] was worked out it was filled in with rubble from the new excavations.

d. To wear out, esp. by labour, or by continued application of force. *Obs.* or *rare.*

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Ouurer, Le temps ouure.* Time workes (or weares) out euerie thing. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lvii, During what long thankless nights had she worked out her fingers for little Georgy.

e. To discharge (a debt or obligation) by labour instead of a money payment.

1670 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 354 Who cannot pay his 5*l*...shall worke it out in the House of Correction. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 3/2 Whereas I..am indebted £26:17:6...I am desirous to engage and work it out. 1828 Kennedy & Grainger *Tenancy of Land* 297 The highway-tax is most frequently worked out. 1840 Dickens *Old Curs. Shop* xiv, Mind you're here, my lad, to work it out.

†**f.** To bring about, effect, produce, or procure (a result) by labour or effort; to carry out, accomplish (a plan or purpose).

In quot. 1597, to preserve to the end.

1534 Tindale *Phil.* ii. 12 Worke out youre awne saluacion with feare and tremblynge. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 182 We..Knew that we ventur'd on such dangerous Seas, That if we wrought out life, was ten to one. 1621 T. Granger *Expos. Eccles.* vi. 11. 248 Doth he not most often by his wit worke out his woe? and by his strength procure his owne ruine? 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts* Hosea x. 12, Hee loves to injoy blessings, but not to earne, and worke them out. 1642 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 223 To go about to work out true peace by..compliances with men, is an endlesse work. 1805 Wordsw. *Waggoner* IV. 128 When the malicious Fates are bent On working out an ill intent. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* II. 78 O lift your natures up:..work out your freedom. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 141 The natural tendency of their mode of life..worked itself out as time went on. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* II. § 7. 93 The fortunes of England were being slowly wrought out in every

g. To go through a process of calculation or consideration so as to arrive at the solution of (a problem or question), to solve; also, to reckon out, calculate. Cf. 13.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xix, Day after day, Old Sol and Captain Cuttle kept her reckoning..and worked out her course, with the chart spread before them. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* vi, While she completed the exercise, or worked out the sum (for Mdlle. Moore taught her arithmetic, too). 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xviii, She tried to work out the question in her own mind, whether her eagerness for classical learning was a wrong sort of ambition. 1892 *Speaker* 2 May 533/1 A practised novel-reader could probably work out the problem and complete the plot.

h. *intr.* for *pass.*: (*a*) of a course of events, narrative, etc.: To proceed so as to issue in a particular result; (*b*) with *at*, of a quantity: To amount to (so much) when reckoned up, to 'come to'.

1825 Ld. Coleridge in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. Bench Div. 806 The justice of that course, and how it works out is shewn.. by the late Lord Chief Justice. 1887 *Spectator* 3 Sept. 1173 It is..impossible to tell..how the situation in Ireland will work out. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 26 July 321/3 This [quantity of tea] when infused works out at about 4,000,000 gallons.

i. *trans.* To fashion by cutting out, excavation, or the like. ? *Obs.*

1719 Dr. Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 68 When I had wrought out some Boards..I made large Shelves. 1776 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 100 The old one then, with as much assiduity as it before worked out its hole, now closes the mouth of the passage.

j. To bring to a fuller or finished state; to produce or express in a complete form or in detail; to develop, elaborate.

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvii, To see how Marlow, Shakspeare, and other play artificers, work out their fanciful plots. 1851 Wyttе-Melville *Good for Nothing* xxxix, A picture.. worked out with a skill and knowledge of light and shade. 1865 J. Fergusson *Hist. Archit.* II. I. ii. I. 380 [Italy] did not work out the Basilican type for herself. 1880 M'Carthy *Own Times* IV. lxvii. 518 The theory [of the survival of the fittest]..was worked out with the most minute and elaborate care. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxviii, An idea..which..works itself out in his brain. 1895 F. Harrison in *19th Cent.* Aug. 217 This important and far-reaching truth is worked out by Mr. Mallock with much acuteness.

k. To study or investigate completely; to work through. *Obs.* or *rare.*

1830 H. N. Coleridge *Grk. Poets* (1846) 10 After a boy has worked out a book or given portion of a classic poem.

***l. *Pugilism.* *intr.* To box for practice, as distinguished from engaging in a set contest.

1907 *Daily Express* 27 May 13/7, I saw Barber work out in the gymnasium..boxing four rounds with Young Johnny Brown.

39. Work up. *†a. *trans.* To build up, construct, 'raise' (a wall, etc.): usually with special reference to the actual process. Cf. 3 c. *Obs.*

Occas. to build up material around (quot. 1712).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1542 The walles [were] vp wroght, wonder to se. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 1532 The Giaunt wrought vp his wall And laid stonys gret and small. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 259 In working up the Walls of a Building, do not work any Wall above 3 foot high before you work up the next adjoining Wall. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 219 Set this Pole very upright,..and work up the Foot of it with Rubble.., for fear its own Weight, or the Wind, should throw it down. 1735 J. Price *Stone-Br. Thames* 8 Strong Cross-Walls..must be work'd up to the Top of the Crown of the Arches.

†b. To lift or raise (a weight) by labour; to hoist. *Obs. rare.*

c 1620 [see 20].

c. *intr.* To make one's (or its) way up, against impediment or indirectly; to vance; also *fig.* Cf. 33, 33 c, 33 e.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 478 Till body up to spirit work. 1790 Beatson *Naval & Mil. Mem.* II. 194 He ordered the Queen borough ahead to observe their motions, and continued endeavouring to work up after them. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xxvi, Nearer and louder came the oar-roll, like thunder working up from the east. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 28 Oct. 2/4 The Torridge is in full flood, and plenty of salmon are working up to spawn. 1899 Kipling *Stalky* I. 27 He was merely working up to a peroration. 1903 G. H. Lorimer *Lett. Self-made Merch.* viii. 109 He was..drawing ten thousand a year, which was more than he could have worked up to in the leather business in a century. 1916 Ld. E. Hamilton *1st Seven Divisions* (1917) 41 An advance flanking corps that was said to be working up from the direction of Tournai.

**d. *trans.* To stir up, mix, or compound, as a plastic substance or substances: cf. 12 d. Also *intr.* for *pass.*: cf. 29.

c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 127 Let hit stande nyne dayes & nyne nyztes, & þan go werche hit vp, & let frye hit in apanne. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* Va, Take.. Frankencense, [and] as much oyle as shalbe thought sufficient, make it and worke it vp well. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 53, I advise all students that be troubled with wind..to cause Fennell seeds, Anise or Careway to bee wrought up in their bread. 1840 Dickens *Old Curs. Shop* xviii, A stew of tripe, ..and cow-heel,..and bacon,..and steak,..and peas, cauliflowers, new potatoes, and sparrow-grass, all working up together in one delicious gravy. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 213 Any hard material, that does not soon work up into mud or grind into dust. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xi, Hannah had left a pan of bread to rise, Meg had worked it up early,..and forgotten it.

e. To make up (material) *into* something by labour (cf. 8); also, to bring into some condition, esp. so as to be ready for use (cf. 12 l).

1591 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1904) 12 The fyner and hammerman for working up the said 50 tonne of barr iron. 1698 *Acts Massachusetts* (1724) 216 No Person ..shall work up into Shoes..any Leather that is not tanned and curried in Manner as aforesaid. 1739 Labelye *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 60 Fir..Timber was chosen as being..the easiest work'd up. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 325 Seneca..starting a doubt whether God made His own materials, or only worked up such as He found already in being. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* III. Sel. Wks. (1892) 278 The raw and prepared material [*sc.* silk]..is worked up in various ways. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* Introd. 7 The straw-plait..is wrought up into hats and bonnets. 1889 W. T. Thornton *On Labour* III. v. 323 A builder..willing to keep his men employed during the bad weather..allowed them to work up a quantity of stone to be ready for use in the spring. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 106 Mediastinal sarcoma..spreads in upon and works up the pulmonary tissue in an irregular and crab-like manner, simulating

f. *gen.*, or in reference to something immaterial: To make up, develop, expand, enlarge (*to* or *into* something).

1693 Creech in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiii. (1697) 336 For he that but conceives a Crime in thought, Contracts the danger of an Actual Fault: Then what must he expect that still proceeds To finish Sin, and work up Thoughts to Deeds? 1712 Budgell *Spect.* No. 397 P 2 Your agreeable manner of working up Trifles. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Rural Life* (1821) I. 112 A spray could not tremble in the breeze.. a leaf could not rustle to the ground—..; but it has been noticed by these..observers, and wrought up into some beautiful morality. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. 278 All this could easily be wrought up into a claim. 1907 Mrs. C. Kernahan *Fraud* iv. 28 He had got a dramatic situation..which he meant Danvers to work up.

g. To bring by labour or effort *to* or *into* a higher state or condition. Cf. k below.

1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesy* 66 This last is indeed the representation of Nature, but 'tis Nature wrought up to an higher pitch. 1760 D. Webb *Inq. Beauties Painting* 138 The expression in this statue [Laocoon], is worked up to such a just extremity,..that, as the least addition would be extravagance, so every diminution would be a defect. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* I, The kitchen and buttery were worked up to a high state of perfection. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* III. xviii. (1878) 237 A man can work himself up into an immortal condition of 'equality with the angels' ..no more than an ox or an ass can work himself up into humanity.

h. To make up, form, construct, compose, produce (something material or immaterial): with special reference to the process, or to the labour, exertion, or care expended upon it. Cf. 3–6, 10.

1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 153 P 1 An eminent artist, who wrought up his pictures with the greatest accuracy. 1713 — *Cato* I. iv, The Sun..Works up more fire and colour in their cheeks. 1820 *Q. Mus. Mag.* II. 60 Fugues wrought up with infinite art, and little effect. 1825 *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Mar. 5/5, I have perhaps worked up this picture a little too elaborately. 1897 Henty *On the Irrawaddy* 120 My uncle is working up a very good business. 1911 'G. A. Birmingham' *Lighter Side Ir. Life* I. 9 He stood..in front of the looking-glass working up appropriate gestures.

i. *Naut.* To set to or keep at needless and disagreeable hard work as a punishment. Cf. 19.

1840 R. H. Dana [see Haze *v.*1 2]. 1841 — *Seaman's Man.* Dict., *Work up...*, a phrase for keeping a crew constantly at work upon needless matters, and in all weathers, and beyond their usual hours, for punishment. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 208 The hands no longer felt that they were continually being 'worked up' or 'hazed' for the sole, diabolical satisfaction of keeping them 'at it'.

j. To 'get up' (a subject) by mental labour; to study carefully and in detail; to master by research. Cf. 12 k.

Mod. I'm working up mathematics for my examination. He's working up the history of the period for his new book.

***k. *trans.* To bring by effort, or by some influence, into a particular state of mind or feeling, esp. one of strong emotion; to stir up, arouse, excite, incite (the mind, imagination, etc., or the person) *to* or *into* a state or action; to induce or persuade by effort *to do* something; without const., to put into a state of excitement, excite, agitate. Also *refl.* Cf. 14 a, b.

1688–9 Stillingfl. *Serm., 1 Pet. iv. 18* (1698) III. 120 It is no very hard Matter to work up a heated and devout Imagination to the Fancy of Raptures and Ecstasies. 1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* 25 To work up their Lewdness with Verse and Musick. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 172 P 2 We cannot but tremble to consider, what we are capable of being wrought up to. 1752 Young *Brothers* IV. 1, When I have work'd him up to violence. 1831 James *Philip Aug.* xxx, His whole powers and energies had been wrought up to bear it firmly and calmly. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* x, Tell him magnificent lies—astonish him with grand materials for a note-book and work him up to publish. 1874 Burnand *My Time* xxxi. 306 My father had tried to work himself up into a passion. 1906 Beatrice Harraden *Scholar's Dau.* xiii, Every time I speak of it, I get fearfully worked up.

l. To put into commotion, stir up, agitate (physically). *rare.*

1705 Addison *Italy* 34 This Lake [Garda] perfectly resembles a Sea, when it is work'd up by Storms.

m. *intr.* To be gradually stirred up or excited; to proceed or advance to a state of agitation or commotion. Cf. 34, and c above.

1682 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 141 So, several Factions from this first Ferment, Work up to Foam. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 36 P 3 You know a premeditated Quarrel usually begins and works up with the words, *Some people.*

Workability (wɜːkəbi·lĭti). [f. next + -ity.] The condition of being workable; capability of being worked.

1874 *Daily News* 17 July 5/5 The workability, to coin a word, of the Militia. 1876 in F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 300 We must have the engineer before us to prove the workability of the line. 1892 *Solicitor's Jrnl.* 5 Nov. 4/2 We.. hope that the new rules will be drafted with a full regard to practical workability in detail.

Workable (wɜ·rkăb'l), *a.* [f. WORK *v.* + -ABLE.]

1. Of substances or materials: That can be worked, fashioned, or manipulated for use; said also of the state in which they are capable of being worked.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 139 As the potter most cunyngly doth cast his pottes when his claye is soft and workable. 1629 JACKSON *Creed* VI. II. ix. § 1 Workable or fashionable unto any set forme. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* ix. 55 It is but eight or nine Inches thick, but the Roof and Covers being strong, it is a workable Coal. 1843 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 118 Coal and fireclay, of workable value. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* V. 299 Many heavy clays..might be made friable, and easily workable by a liberal application of lime. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blawearie* 90 The 'ochre hole'..had been found too wet to be workable.

2. That can be worked, managed, or conducted, as a contrivance, establishment, institution, etc.

1736 in *Naval Chron.* (1799) I. 267, I stood off.., to put the ship in a workable state. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 367 Often making a circuit to secure good, workable gradients. 1889 W. CHADWICK *Life De Foe* V. 272 Each of those hands was well furnished with a good workable hedging-bill. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 29 Nov. 3 The only workable boat of the Lord Hood was manned. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* xii, There's not one of 'em knows how to plan a good workable hot-house. 1901 *Daily News* 28 Feb. 9/1 To realise how much had been done to make the hospital a really workable place.

b. of a plan, system, scheme, or the like.

1865 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (ed. 3) 63/1 Assuming the plan to be workable. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* xi. 445 A permanently workable, broadly comprehensive ecclesiastical scheme.

3. Capable of working. *rare.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 358 Very nearly seven millions of wives and children of a workable age still unoccupied.

Hence **Wo·rkableness**, workability.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Contents p. viii, Tried the workableness of the Rock. 1874 MORLEY *Compromise* i. 4 The immediate and universal workableness of a policy.

Workaday, work-a-day (wɜ·rkădē), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: a. 3 (*Orm.*) **werrkedaȝȝ, werkedei,** 4-5 **werkeday**(e. β. 6- **workyday,** 7- **worky-day** (6-7 **workie-,** 7 **worki-, workey-**). γ. 9 **workaday, work-a-day.** [ME. *werkeday* (3 syllables), of uncertain origin: possibly f. gen. pl. (OE. *weorca*) of WORK *sb.* + DAY *sb.*[1], but perh. more probably f. directly on these with assimilation to the trisyllabic *sunnedei* SUNDAY, *messedei* MASSDAY. The type *workyday* is due to the influence of HOLIDAY, and *workhaday* presumably to that of NOWADAY(S.]

A. *sb.* A day on which work is ordinarily done (distinguished from *holiday*); a work-day, working-day. *Obs.* or *dial.*

a. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11315 Forr ȝure wuke gifeþþ ȝuw Aȝȝ sexe werrkedaȝȝess. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 18 Valleð to þer eorðe ȝif hit is werke dei, mit te Gloria Patri. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. v. (Skeat) I. 104 After the seven werkedays of travayle. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4971 In þe longe ȝere be werke daye[s] I-nowe. 1446 AUDELAY *Poems* 80 On the werkeday ȝif that thou be About thi labor treuly. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* (1900) 893 For, a-pon þe werkeday, Men be so bysy in vche way.

β. 1550 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. I. xxvii. 218 That divers preachers within your diocess..do preach as well the worky days as the holy days. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. F 5, On workyday I neuer coulde be taken With better meate..then roots or chimnye bacon. 1598-9 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* IV. iii, Fellow Onion for thy sake I finish this workiday. 1603 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 700 Sondaies, Holydaies, and workie days. 1653 FLECKNOE *Misc.* 127 He is one that makes alwayes Holy day for others, and worky-day for himself by taking upon him all the businesse. 1725 BOURNE *Antig. Vulg.* xli. 116 We find a great Deference paid to Saturday Afternoon, above the other worky Days of the Week. 1769 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mrs. H. More* 20 July, What the common people call a worky-day. 1850 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xvii. 170 If our teacher ain't ashamed to stop and shake hands with us, o' worky-days.

γ. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xlix, In the very clothes that he wore on work-a-days. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 238/2 Life was an unbroken work-a-day.

B. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* (cf. WORKING DAY). Belonging to or characteristic of a work-day or its occupations; characterized by a regular succession or round of tasks and employments; of ordinary humdrum everyday life: freq. in phr. *this workaday world.*

β. 1534 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 146 My worky day cassocke. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 33 Prythee tel her but a worky day Fortune. 1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* III. i, With such a Workiday-rough-hewn face too! 1781 MISS TALBOT *Let. to Mrs. Carter* 27 Sept., Oh this nasty worky-day world! 1877 F. JACOX *Scriptures Prov.* xlix. 545 In the common law of facts in this worky-day world.

γ. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. 1826 I. 6 The plain reality of this work-a-day world. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xviii, The less of real, hard, struggling work-a-day life there is in that romance, the better. 1857 MUSGRAVE *Pilgr. Dauphiné* I. i. 8 Their work-a-day dress is a coarse brown or blue serge surtout. 1859 JEFFSON *Brittany* xvii. 284 We cannot long indulge in day-dreams in this workaday world. 1874 P. RUSSELL *Leaves Journalist's Note-bk.* 53 Goswell-road is..one of the most work-a-day of London thoroughfares. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xii, 128 He did not attempt to understand the lighter side of life, but took it seriously as a work-a-day matter.

Work-brittle, *a. dial.* Also **-brattle, -brackle,** etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Work-brocco*). [f. WORK *sb.* or *v.*; the second element appears to be BRITTLE *a.*, but the sense-development is obscure.] Eager to work, industrious.

1840 TRAFF *Marrow Gd. Authors in Comm. Pl.* 607 What r. Anne Bullen] be so work-brittle, being a Queen? *V. C. Words, Work-brocco,* i. e. work-brittle, very earnest or intent upon one's work. *a* 1880 PEACOCK *Ms., Work-brattle,* fond of work. Lanc. 1881 *Oxfordsh. Gloss.* Suppl. (E.D.S.), *Work-brittle,* eager to work.

Work-day (wɜ·rkdē), *sb.* and *a.* [OE. *weorc-dæg* (= Du. *werkdag,* OHG., MHG. *werctac,* G. *werktag,* ON. *verkdagr*) does not seem to have survived; ME. *werkday* is prob. a new formation on WORK *sb.* + DAY *sb.*[1], or ad. ON.; cf. WORKADAY.]

A. *sb.* A day on which work is ordinarily performed; a week-day.

c 1430 *Freemasonry* (1847) 270 That the mason worche apon the werk day. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Werkday, *feria.* 1488 *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 270, I wold my prest shuld sing in them the werke dales during the 12 monethis. 1535 COVERDALE *Esth.* xiv. 2 Yͤ dore of the ynnermer courte.. shall be shut the vj. worke dayes. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* rubric, When the holy Communion is celebrate, on the worke day. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Of Place & Time of Prayer* I. 239 They vse all dayes a lyke, workedayes and holydayes are all one. *a* 1639 HINDE *Y. Brusen* xlvii. (1641) 153 Neither holy-day, nor work-day. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Platonic Lady* I. ii. Wks. 1760 II. 194 She..paid the Labourers their Wages on Work-days, and took a Jigg with them on Holy-days. 1844 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. *Hannah* 22 We (the privileged) see on a work-day the names which the sabbath announces to the generality.

¶ Used for DAYWORK 2.

1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* (1691), When they performed their Boons or Work-days to their Lord.

B. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of a work-day; performed, worn, etc. on a work-day; also *fig.* = WORKADAY B.

c 1500 *Ely Episc. Rec.* (1891) 211, I give to Edmund Garred my worke day gown. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 103 My warkday gowne. 1563 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxv. 357 My Visitation Sermons and Workday Sermons. 1622 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 77 My woorkday gowne..thre woorkday aprens, one woorkday band. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. iii, No'er, in work-day world, was seen A form so witching fair. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xl, [It] relieves the mind from petty calculation and workday cares. 1849 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 72, I saw him..after unloading the waggon, in his workday clothes. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 26 Unfit for this workday world. 1889 CORBETT *Monk* xiv. 295 This dull work-day soldier.

Worked (wɜ·rkt), *ppl. a.* [f. WORK *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Used for farm-work.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 170 An old worked Ox fatting as well, and being as good Meat as a young one.

2. Executed or ornamented with needlework, engraving, or the like.

1740 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 47, I desire you to send me up my worked facing and robing. 1746-7 MRS. DELANY *Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 447 In my Irish green damask and my worked head. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xl, The worked-worsted chairs. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxx, She turned the watch upon the table, and..looked at the worked letters within. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 281 Elaborately dressed, with a worked shirt-front and huge white waistcoat.

3. Shaped, fashioned, or dressed for use or ornament.

1864 J. HUNT tr. *Vogt's Lect. Man* x. 288 He reports that he has found..worked flints at a depth of twelve feet in a stratified soil. 1892 *Archaeologia* LIV. 110 Many fragments of worked bone and horn were discovered.

4. In various senses: Contrived, managed, conducted, etc.; *Hort.* grafted.

1848 W. PAUL *Rose Gard.* 106 When potting worked plants, we should have an eye to suckers from the wild stock. 1882 F. E. HULME (*title*) Worked Examination Questions in Plane Geometrical Drawing. 1886 COL. MAURICE *Lett. fr. Donegal* 4 A cleverly-worked intrigue. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 June 12/2 'Leased' or 'worked' lines.

5. With advs., as *worked-off, -out, -up* (see the corresponding senses of the verb).

1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 360 He grasps off the Worked off Heap so much at once..as he can well govern. 1882 *Rep. Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U.S.* 642 The worked-out space becomes more or less filled with bowlders. 1893 *Helps to Study of Bible* 269 Some old worked-out mines. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 3/3 The worked-up feelings of a personal witness of these scenes. 1908 *Stage Year Bk.* 21 An ingeniously conceived and vigorously worked-out spectacle play.

Worker (wɜ·rkəɹ). Forms: see WORK *v.* [f. WORK *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. Du. *werker,* MHG. *werchær* (G. *werker*).]

1. One who makes, creates, produces, or contrives. † a. Applied to God as maker or creator; sometimes *absol.* the Creator, (one's) Maker. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1302 þe worcher of þis worlde. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxvi. 3 My werkere I schal preue rightwis. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 53 He, of natur that wirker was and king. *Ibid.* 60 He, the wirker, that put in his sic grace. 1537 *N. T.* (Genev.) Ep. ej, God the Creatour, moste perfect and excellent worker of all thinges. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. § 2 Only the workes and operations of God haue him both or their worker, and for the lawe whereby they are wrought. *a* 1620 W. PERKINS *Cases Consc.* (1629) 4 He is the author and worker thereof [*i.e.* of goodnesse].

b. An author, producer, contriver, or doer; † also with epithet, *as evil worker* = evil doer. *arch.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 262 And therfore is the worcher woo the vice. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 266 þus men mai have prophecie, and al þes habitis in þer soule, and be schrewid wirchirs. 1382 — *Luke* xiii. 27 Alle worchers of wickidnesse. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. ii. (Skeat) I. 63 Al your werkes be cleped nedende, and moven in vertue of the firste werchar *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 88 Þe workere of meruayllus ys con god. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. ii. 427 God is the chief and principal and verí worchar of the principal effect. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 344 Castler of wer, wyrkar of wykitnes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. iii. 203, I sall the warrand, and the wirkar [orig. *auctor*] be To mak the baldly vndertak. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iii. 2 Beware of dogges, beware of evyll workers. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* iii. 5-8 They can not leye to goddes charge the synnes, wherof themself be wyfful workers. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* II. vi, If any thing happen otherwise then well, euen that same varlet is the worker of it. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 107 The workers of the common safetie. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 286 They believe that the devil is the doer or worker of every thing that gives offence. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 606 The worker of all this evil. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XVII. 441 She grew to be the sorceress, Worker of fearful things.

c. *transf.* of things.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* li. 11 Dred is wirkere of vertus. 1624 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 106 The Tobacco ..was the worker of that miracle. 1632 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* IV. i, You can say well: if you be mine, wench, you must doe well too, for words are but slow workers. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, What a worker of hypocrisy this sight..would appear to be!

† d. ? A commercial agent. *Obs.*

1560 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 303 The chelffe serchar (whome ys all my worcker, and conveyer of all my velvets).

2. One who works or does work of any kind (sometimes with adj. denoting the quality of the work); esp. one who works *in* a certain medium, *at* a specified trade or object of manufacture, or in a certain position or status (often denoted by prefixed sb., etc., as *boiler-worker, cloth-worker, iron-worker, metal-worker; co-worker, fellow-worker; brain-worker, hand-worker*); in early use also, † a maker or manufacturer (*of* a specified thing).

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxvii. 13, 14 With the workere, of alle werk [Vulg. *cum operario agrario, de omni opere*]. 1388 — *Acts* xix. 24 A man, Demetrie bi name, a worcher in siluer. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. vi. 98 Now haue we none instrumentes, ne here ben no workers for to make them newe. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* vi. 62 Oon of thi workers falle [the tree] That kunyngest is of his felous alle. 1474 CAXTON *Chesses* III. v. (1883) 119 The two laste that ben practisiens and workers ben callyd phisicyens and cyrurgyens. 1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 404/2 Th' Offices of Maister and Werker of oure Money. 1530 TINDALE *Exod.* XXXV. 35 Broderers and workers with nedle. 1566 *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 11 § 4 Every Hatmaker that is nowe a maker or worker of Hates. 1611 COTGR., *Ouvrier,* a workeman; an Artificer, or handi-craftsman,..& generally, any worker. 1666 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 357 Lazy people, and no good workers. 1663 COWLEY *Ode upon Dr. Harvey* iii, He so exactly does the work survey, As if he hir'd the workers by the day. 1760 *Court & City Reg.* 224 His Majesty's Mint...Master and Worker, Hon. Wm. Chetwynd, Esq. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 76 Mr. Naish, tin-plate-worker. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 41 Another worker in ivory cut through that tusk which Lord Shelburne gave me. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nich.* x, I spoke of you as an out-of-door worker. 1877 *Oxf. & Camb. Undergrad. Jrnl.* 25 Jan. 273/2 Cowles not only has the knack of getting work out of his men, but is a very hard worker himself, though not a pretty oar. 1880 BESANT *All Sorts* XXXV. (1898) 242 There are a great many workers—ladies, priests, clergymen—among them, trying to remove some of the suffering. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 207 The full happiness of that time to me cannot be explained except to consistently hard workers.

b. In emphatic use, esp. as opposed to *idler,* or the like.

1628 C. LEVETT *Voy. N. Eng.* viii. in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. VIII. 190 Except for every three loiterers, he have one worker. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxviii, A dreamy, neutral spectator..when he should have been a worker. 1866 RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* I. 8 The distinction between workers and idlers, as between knaves and honest men. 1871 — *Fors Clav.* lx. 4 *note,* Here and there we have a real worker among soldiers, or no soldiering would long be possible. 1889 G. B. SHAW in *Fabian Ess.* 6 Rent ..paid..by a worker to a drone.

c. One who is employed for a wage, esp. in manual or industrial work; now often in the language of social economics, a 'producer of wealth', as opposed to *capitalist.*

1848 KINGSLEY in Benham *Cassell's Bk. Quot.* (1907) 185 Workers of England, be wise, and then you must be free. 1857 *Housek. Words* 27 June 603/1 The first great body of workers, namely the clerks [*i.e.* railway clerks]. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 14 They belonged to the ancient and honourable family of Workers—that extensive family which constitutes the backbone of our country's greatness, the common working people of England. 1867 LEVI *Wages Working Classes* 6 Some have limited the meaning to such as are in receipt of weekly wages, and some would limit the term 'workers' to such as are employed in the production of wealth. It might seem also a condition of such appellation that the person should stand in the capacity of a ——— or worker for others...On the other hand, we must remember that in many occupations the workers are paid by the month or quarter. 1885 E. B. BAX *Relig. Socialism* (1890) 125 This, then, is the empire which the blood and sinew of you, workers, squandered to maintain and extend. 1892 MORRIS *Poems by Way* 122 For that which the worker winneth shall then be his indeed, Nor shall half be reaped for nothing by him that sowed no seed. 1903 (*title*) The Workers' Educational Association.

d. Of animals: † (*a*) A draught animal. *Obs.*

1587 *Tabs* (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) fol. 9 One payer workers at £15.

(*b*) A horse, dog, etc. that works (well).

1824 [J. W. Carleton] *Hyde Marston* I. 74 It's not fair to keep the double thong always going with a free worker. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 161 Bell and Lilly..the latter being a small, mean-looking white bitch, but a very good worker. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 283 Geldings..were proved to be very good workers in Somaliland.

(*c*) The neuter or undeveloped female of certain social hymenopterous and other insects, as ants and bees, which supplies food and performs other services for the community.

1747 W. Gould *Engl. Ants* 73 As soon as the Queen has deposited a Parcel of Eggs, the Workers take them under their Protection. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xvii. (1817) II. 32 The *workers* or larvæ, answering to the hymenopterous neuters, are the most numerous and at the same time most active part of the community. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 351 Fertile workers lay none but male eggs.

e. *U. S. Politics.* One of a class of political agents or partizans subordinate to a 'boss'.

1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. lxiii. 451 The large and active class called, technically, 'workers', or more affectionately, 'the Boys.'

3. Applied to apparatus or pieces of machinery.

†a. A vessel in which wine has 'worked'. *Obs.* b. One of the small card-covered cylinders or 'urchins' in a carding-machine. c. A leather-worker's two-handled knife (Knight *Dict. Mech., Suppl.* 1884). d. In pillow lace-making, *pl.* the bobbins that are worked across a pattern. e. = Washer *sb.*[1] 5 b. f. With prefixed sb., applied to an apparatus for 'working the material denoted by the sb., as *butter-worker*.

1594 Plat *Jewell-h.* III. 70 Let your vessel bee such as hath alreadie conteined some muste or other liquor that hath wrought therin, (for he that knoweth not the vse of a worker is but a slender artist). 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 267 Each pair of cylinders consists of a worker and a cleaner somewhat less in size than its fellow, and turning in the reverse direction of the drum. 1853 — *Dict. Arts* I. 766 The points of this roller (called a 'worker') are inclined in a direction opposed to the movement of the swift. 1853 *Baily's Technol. Wbch., Worker, Washer* in paper manufacture. 1878 *Technol. Dict., Worker, Stripper* of the scribbling-machine. 1885 J. J. Manley *Brit. Almanac Comp.* 28 The butter-milk and water are carefully pressed out in one of Bradford's butter workers.

4. With adverbs, as *worker-up* (see Work *v.* 39).

1698 *Second Ed. New Almanack* 10 He be no very good worker up. 1698 *Acts Massachusetts* (1724) 116 Tanners, Carriers, and Dressers, or Workers up of Leather. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 3 The worker-up of novels.

5. *attrib.*, as (sense 2 d (*c*)) *worker ant, bee, cell, grub*; **worker bobbin** = 3 d; **worker card** = 3 b.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xix. (1817) II. 138 The instinct and industry of the worker-bees. *Ibid.* 161 The instinct of the queen invariably directs her to deposit worker eggs in worker cells. *Ibid.* xxiv. 394 When all the worker-brood was removed from a hive, and only male brood left. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 361 It is not invariably found that the bees will at once convert a worker grub into a queen. 1881 Cowan *Bee-keeper's Guide Bk.* vii. 80 If we examine a hive, we shall find that worker-comb is ⅓ths of an inch .. thick. 1882 *Athenæum* 1 July 18/3 As in bees and wasps, worker ants occasionally produce fertile eggs. 1894 Vickerman *Woollen Spinning* 139 We call one of each of the pairs of top rollers a 'worker' card, in distinction from the adjoining one, which is a stripper.

Workfolk (wɜ·kfōuk). Also (now *rare*) -folks. [f. Work *sb.* + Folk *sb.* Cf. Du. *werkvolk.*] = Workpeople, *esp.* farm labourers.

c 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 285 That eyche wyrfolk be payd in good mond. 1566 *Engl. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock 1866) 114 One sacringe bell—wch Mr Edmond Haselwood ..vsed in his house (as he said) to call worckfolke to dinner. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 164 Wages by him payd to 214 woorkfolkes. 1578 *Bk. Chr. Prayers* 88 b, We beseech thee (O thou Lord of the haruest) send workfolks into thy haruest. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. i. 327 At the discretion of the gardener,..according as his number of workefolkes is more or lesse. 1622 *S'hampton Assembly Bks.* (1924) III. 40 Theis seargmakers..were..desiered to pale good English money to their workes folkes. 1706 *Guide for Constables* 30 Clothiers must pay their..workfolks their wages in ready money. 1808 *Craven Gloss., Warh-folk*, labourers. 1849 Rock *Ch. Fathers* II. vii. 412 The lowliest work-folk in the town. 1883 T. Hardy in *Longman's Mag.* July 233 The regular farmer's labourers—'workfolk' as they call themselves. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Aug. 6/4 A slight improvement in the conditions under which farm workfolks live. 1900 *Athenæum* 20 Dec. 831/3 The writer..had.. smoked with the workfolk in their public-houses.

Workful (wɜ·kfūl), *a.* [f. Work *sb.* + -ful. Cf. OE. *weorcfull* 'operosus'.]

†1. Active, operative. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 199 Þe virtues huerof we habbeþ y-speke aboue be-longeþ to þe vurste liue þet is ycleped werkuol. 1552 Huloet, Werkefull, *operosus*. 1566 Harding *Confut.* II. xiii. 97 Seest thou then how workefull is the word of Christ? 1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. 60 In the most single essence of God, there is a workfull power. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., The Philosophy of our day and Land being so much workful as the world knows it to be.

2. Full of (hard) work; hard-working.

1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. v, You saw nothing in Coketown but what was severely workful. 1875 Holyoake *Hist. Coop.* I. 353 Being very watchful and workful as a secretary. 1891 *Review Rev.* 15 Oct. 352/2 Seven happy workful months spent in Paris.

Hence **Wo·rkfulness**, †activity; laborious activity.

1573 Dade tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* 27 In the meane tyme his workfulnesse perceth euen into yᵉ very Church. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 459 He might have seen, in any Coketown of the manufacturing districts, an allowance of what is playful, to compensate for its workfulness. 1903 J. C. Earth *Robt. Wallace* vi. 174 He resigned..a position of usefulness and workfulness.

Workhouse (wɜ·khous). [OE. *weorchūs*: f. Work *sb.* + House *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *werkhuus*, Du. *werkhuis*, MHG. *werchūs* (G. *werkhaus*), ON. *verkhūs* (in comb.).]

1. A house, shop, or room in which work is regularly performed; a workshop or factory. *Obs.* or *Hist.*

a 1100 in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 288/3 *Officina*, smiðþe *uel* weorchus. *Ibid.* 286/27 *Ergasterium uel operatorium*, weorchus. 1350 in Riley *Mem. London* (1868) 260 In the werkhous..12,000 of plaunche-nail..3000 of dornail. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 307 Þe werkhous þere þey doo here werkes 1432–50 in Glascock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1889) 6 Le Werkhous latomorum juxta cimiterium. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 324 The Grounde wher as the seid Ship was made & the Workehouse Belonging to the same. 1575 in Plomer *Abstr. Wills Engl. Printers* (1903) 23 My workehowse of printing. 1601 Holland *Pliny* III. vi. I. 61 The worke houses and furnaces of potters. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3260/3 There were taken with him several Pairs of Stockins wet, as if they had been taken out of a Dyers Work-House. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 445 His workhouse, of 20 cabinet-makers, is said to be a very considerable manufactory. 1881 S. R. Macphail *Hist. Pluscardyn* Introd. 7 The court by which we first entered is occupied with stables and work-houses.

b. *fig.*

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* I. 34–35 The holy ghoste ..in thy woombe, (as it wer in an heauenly workehouse) shall accomplishe the workyng of this holy babe. 1582 Mulcaster *Positions* vi. (1888) 48 The liuer..the workhouse of thicke and grosse blood. 1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* 195 Christ being the very worke-house, and shop of the Devil, in which he wrought. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 112 The Heart is the Workhouse of life and heat. *a* 1762 W. Law *Comf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 81 The works of the devil are all wrought in self, it is his peculiar workhouse.

2. *spec.* orig. A house established for the provision of work for the unemployed poor of a parish; later, an institution, administered by Guardians of the Poor, in which paupers are lodged and the able-bodied set to work. The official name is now *poor-law institution*.

Earlier (and obs.) names were †*house of work* (1552, see House *sb.*[1] 8), †Working-house (1597–8, etc.); names of later introduction are †*house of industry* (1771–2 Irish Act 11 & 12 Geo. III. c. 30, see Industry 4 b), Poor-house (1782); for *union workhouse*, abbreviated to *union*, see Union *sb.*[1] 10 b, 12.

1628 in W. Cotton & H. Woollcombe *Gleanings Munic. Rec. Exeter* (1877) 156 The said house to bee converted for a workhouse for the poore of this cittye and also a house of correction for the vagrant and disorderly people within this cittye. 1653 *Act Commw.* c. 13 (1658) 259 If he hath not wherewith to satisfie such Fine, the said Judges may adjudge him to the Pillory or a Work-house, or both. 1670–2 *Act 22 & 23 Chas. II*, c. 18 (*title*) An Act for the better regulateing of Workhouses for setting the Poore on Worke. 1702 *Post Man* 10–13 Jan. 2/1 The President and Governours for the Poor of the City of London, having enlarged their Work-house without Bishops-gate. 1732 *Flying Post* 12 Aug. 2/2 His Mother, who was maintain'd by his Labour, being come upon the Parish, is sent to the Work-house at Wandsworth. 1782 *Act 22 Geo. III*, c. 83 § 18 The several Poor Houses or Workhouses to be built..under the Authority of this Act, shall be situate within the Parish or Township for which they shall be used. 1797 Mrs. Berkeley *Poems G. M. Berkeley* Pref. p. cccx, Most well-regulated Bridewells are Paradises compared the Oxford Work-ho 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, First of May*, He believed he'd been born in the vurkis, but he'd never know'd his father. 1856 Emerson *Engl. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 72 Hargreaves invented the spinning-jenny, and died in a workhouse. 1900 J. J. Clarke *Soc. Administr.* 83 The workhouse or institution is the representative institution of the Union, and is the foundation of all indoor relief.

allusively. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 58 Through Adams fall the world was become a work-house, an house of correction for mans sin.

3. A prison or house of correction for petty offenders. *U. S.*

1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †a. in sense 1, as *workhouse stable*.

1569 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 218 In the warkhouse stable, sadles, haltars.

b. in sense 2, as *workhouse brat, cough, fever, inmate, master, system; workhouse-bred, clearing* adjs.; **workhouse sheeting**, strong twilled unbleached cotton material used for sheeting, curtains, etc.; **workhouse test**, the test of good faith put to an applicant for poor relief by which he was obliged to consent, as a condition of relief, to go to the workhouse if required.

1810 Crabbe *Borough* xxii. 60 Workhouse-clearing men, Who, undisturb'd by feelings just or kind, Would parish-boys to needy tradesmen bind. 1834 E. Lytton Bulwer in *Hansard's Parl. Debates* Ser. III. XXII. 891 In those states [of America] where a strict workhouse discipline was kept up. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* v, Then I'll whop yer when I get in,..my work'us brat! *Ibid.* xxxvii, Admiration at the workhouse-master's humility. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 560/2 The Utopian expectations of many, that a strict workhouse-test would destroy pauperism. 1850 Carlyle *Latter-day Pamph.* i. 49 This brutish Workhouse Scheme of ours. 1857 Bosanquet *Rom. Rye* xlii, He would rob..a workhouse child of its breakfast, as the saying is. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xiii, Base-born, workhouse-bred! 1889 Conan Doyle *Sign of Four* ix, You would have made an actor, and a rare one. You had the proper workhouse cough. 1892 C. Creighton *Hist. Epidem. Brit.* II. 328 There was no gaol-fever, workhouse-fever, or domestic typhus in general. 1894 Oakeshott *Humanising of P. Law* 26 Nearly one-third of the workhouse inmates [were] sixty-five years old or over. 1905 J. J. Clarke *Local Govt.* 326 Workhouse infirmaries.

Hence **Wo·rkhoused** *a.*, lodged in, or habituated to, a workhouse.

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 115 Poor, workhoused wretches! 1895 in Begbie *Life W. Booth* (1900) II. 204 The parishes can send people to us before they have become workhoused.

Working (wɜ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Work *v.* + -ing[1]. Cf. MDu., MLG. *werkinge*, OHG. *wer(a)chunga*, MHG. *werhunge*; MHG. *wurkung*; (MH)G. *wirkung*.] The action of Work *v.*; the result of this.

I. 1. Performance of work or labour; †formerly also, that which is done, work.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21997 Qui doe þou men all plaint to mak, For þi wircking on vr sabbat? 13.. *Ibid.* 5320 (Göttt.) We sal find wirking for þair sake; Apon þair neckes sal þai bere Bollis wid stan and wid mortere. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 603 Coterellis, rentis, workyngis, helpis, wardis, releifis. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 243 For vj dayis wyrken, vj s. 1590 Crowley *Epigr.* 186 To se where the treasure will finde them workinge, To the profit of the Cityе. 1879 Rice *Insect. Vices* Bill, Is Carde plaiyng woorkyng? Is the blasphemie of Goddes moste holie name a woorkyng? 1626 Sir E. Mountagu in *Bucclauch MSS.* (Hist. Comm.) I. 249 He..wondered at what you had told him of my mother's working, being stone blind. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 357 There has been no working in the Gold Mine for this long time. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 147 The working upon the wreck, and the securing the provisions. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 237/1, I like to see the working of the hounds; to see them in difficulty; to mark the threading, the stopping, the eagerness to find. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iv, The laws of the State forbid their working more than nine months in the year. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Apr. 2/3 Working is agreeable to my nature and to my health.

†2. Performance, execution, achievement (of some particular work or action); procedure. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Marcus*) 50 Of þe virkine Of ferly werkis þat he wrocht. 1382 Wyclif *1 Cor.* xii. 10 The worchinge of vertues. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 276 To se the worchinge of the dede. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 136 In Suche shewynge and oppyne wyrchynge of good werkes. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 21 A maner of wirchyng in fistula in ano. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xiii. 224 Bi her..wirching of miraclis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 74 b, In declynynge from euyll, and in dylygent workynge of good. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. viii. 143 For the working whereof, the vapors and exhalations of the sea, are sufficient. 1612 in *30th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 530 For yᵉ working of their other endes. 1678 A. Browne *Appendix Art Paint.* 20 Observe that you be not too Curious in the first Working, but rather make choice of a good Free and Bold Following of Nature. 1693 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 261 In which Fig. 2. is shewn the usual way of bad Working.

†3. Making, manufacture, production, preparation, construction; also, the manner or style in which something is made, handiwork, workmanship. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 49 We han a wyndow in worching [C. IV. 51 a worchyng] wol stonden vs ful heige. 1452 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 282, iij sengulere Principalls in werkyng in inbowyng and in Scantlyon accordyng to the Principalls. 1460–70 *Bk. Quinte Essence* 5 Anoþer maner worchinge of oure quinta essencia is þis. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 278 For werking of the irne werk to the samyn hous, vj li. xij d. 1535 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 51 For working of ij doores. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. (1878) 94 A thousand such tryfelyng thyngys, wych other we myght wel lake, or els, at the lest, our owne pepul myght be occupyd wyth the workyng therof. 1601 *Act 43 Eliz.* c. 10 (*title*) An Acte for the true workinge and makinge of Wollen Clothe. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* IV. xx, Two streets..Of severall stuffe, and severall working fram'd. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 21, I shall now shew you the working of a Spring-lock. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 55 The difference between the working of a Vault and a Wall.

4. The action of operating or performing work upon something; manipulation, management (of an apparatus, a vessel in navigation, etc.); exploitation (of a mine, etc.); also in *Angling* (see quot. 1880).

†*In* (*the*) *working*: being worked upon, when worked upon; in operation; in use.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 208/2 No maner of Merchaundises ..of the growyng nor wurkyng of the Landes and parties that the seide Duke..occupieth. 1545 Aschaм *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 114 Whan the backe and the bellye [of the bow] in woorkynge, be muche what after one maner. 1577 Harrison *England* III. i. 93 b/2 in *Holinshed*, Because it [sc. brown bread] is dry and brickle in the working..some adde a portion of rye meale. 1618 Ralegh *Apol. Guiana* 57 The working of a Myne there. *a* 1642 Sir W. Monson *Naval Tracts* I. (1704) 190/2 They could not discern the Lord General's Working, but stood their Course as before directed. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xi. 201 When the Treddle comes down in working. *Ibid.* xiii. 292 A piece of Ivory..strong enough to bear working till they bring it to as small a Cilinder as they can. 1795 *Local Act 35 Geo. III*, c. 256 § 30 Nothing in this Act..shall..prevent the working or scouring of the same..Mines. 1831–2 P. Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 546/2 This scraping, or working, as it is termed,..renders the skin soft and pliant. 1843 *Bail's Technol. Wbch., Working of a* blast-furnace (the mode of action to which the quality of iron is subjected). 1880 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* vi. (ed. 5) 225 You must..dip your fly to and fro to shake the water out and so dry it for another cast. This sometimes will require seven or eight 'flips' or workings to effect. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 333 Should it be wished during the lecture to introduce a mechanical slide,..the working of it is as follows. 1894 *Trans. Anthrop. Inst.* XXIII. 273 If they [sc. flints] possess definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather, of material, of working.

b. The carrying on or putting into operation (of a scheme, system, legislation, etc.).

1892 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 245 *heading*, Working and Prospects of the Reform. 1845 C. F. Barker *Mem. on Syria* title-p., The Purchase and Tenure of Land, And the Working of the Old and New Tarif. 1847 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 397 Exhibiting on that wide theatre the useful working of the fundamental institutions of the British monarchy. 1884 Stockton *Lady or Tiger* 14 His majesty..was greatly interested in the workings and development of this trial. 1884 Dilke in A. Cawston *Street Improv. London* (1893) 201 The working of the byelaws in Birmingham under the 90th section of the Public Health Act. 1912 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 43 Some changes in the working of the chancery.

5. Action, operation. a. Of a person; esp. *collect. sing.* and *pl.* actions, doings, deeds. † *Good working* (rare): good works. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 386 God is so parfyte in alle his worchynge þat [etc.]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 698 The children of Mercurie and Venus Been in hir wirkyng ful contrarius. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 29441 (Cott. Galba) Þou may with him comun in dede, Bot þe wers may þi wirking spede. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6123 Thou most discouere all thi wurchyng, How thou seruest, and of what thyng. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3169 Withoute engyn of fals werkyng. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11511 They sholde ellys for hunger deye, Ne were I & my werchyng. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 110 To wythstonde alle temptacyouns & to be perseuerauntt in good werkyng. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xviii. 258 That he was lijk in wirching to a vyne. *c* 1480 Henryson *Swallow* i, The hie prudence, and wirking meruelous,..of god omnipotent. 1539 Morison *Invect. agst. Treas.* title-p., Wherein the secrete practises, and traiterous workinges of theym that suffrid of late are disclosed. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. § 2 The being of God is a kind of Law to his working. 1692 L'Estrange *Fables* cxlvii. 134 The Wayes and Workings of Providence are unsearchable. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 21 Against Wind and Tide too, there's no Working. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* (1785) IV. 246, I leave you to your own Workings. 1876 W. P. Mackay *Grace & Truth* 220 In the twelfth chapter of Revelation we have depicted a remarkable series of Satan's workings. 1909 W. James *Unveiled Heart* 70 Almighty and Everliving God,..it is Thy glory to conceal Thy workings.

† b. Of a thing; sometimes *pl.*, functions. *Obs.* in general sense.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4907 Þe wirkyng of þe fire awa brinnand. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. i. (1495) Y j b/2 Membres [of beestys] ben..dyuers in werkynge, as it faryth in the eerus of the olyphaunt with the whyche he fyghteth. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 80 Alle þe fyue wyttes þat sholde gouerne..alle þe wyrkynges of þe body. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xvi. 242 That the seid parties of heuen reuilden ful myche the worchingis of bodies here binethe in the louzer world. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 342 (Camb. MS.) Loue is sotyle,..Scharpe in worchyng. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 10 In Aperill quhen cleithit is..The abill grounde be wyrking off natur.

c. Of a drug, medicine, etc.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 45 Þat worchyng shal better done and sonier if þe secounde day after þe puttyng to of arsenek be putte to larde wiþ þe emplastre sanguiboetes. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. (1568) 96 The lesse kynde [of Poly] is..more effectuus or stronger in working. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 1 b, She shal whilest she is in sleepe imbrace hir husband through the working of this stone. 1580 T. B[edford] *Treat. Med.* (1615) 17 These strange workings of these foreigne drugges in our bodies. 1632 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 39 His Rosen is in smell, taste, and working better than common Turpentine. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 79 After my physicks working. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 281/2 It is a good Medicine for the Purposes intended. .In the working of it, you must be sure to provide two or three Quarts of Posset-drink..aforehand.

d. Of the mind, conscience, etc. Often *pl.*

1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 33 Glory growes guiltie..When for Fames sake..We bend to that, the working of the hart. 1591 — *1 Hen. VI*, V. v. 86, I am sicke with working of my thoughts. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xciii, What ere thy thoughts, or thy hearts workings be. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 580. 1707 Rowe *Royal Convert* V. i, The secret workings of my Brain, St.nd all reveal'd to thee. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 310 Who can account for the workings of an apprehensive mind, when all that is dear and valuable to it is at stake? 1798 S. & Ht. Lee *Cant. T.* II. 380 A friend..would find a generous pleasure in aiding the workings of an ingenuous nature. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* XII. ii, His brain, with busier workings. *a* 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Hermann.* Workings Of conscience. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 138 *note*, The Archdeacon now gets very eloquent, and gives us all the inner workings of the mind.

e. The conduct or operations collectively of a factory, vessel, or the like.

1873 *Act 36 & 37 Vict.* c. 72. § 58 Any grating..placed so as ..to interfere with the effective working of any mill. 1900 Goode *Econ. Cond. Centr.-Europe* I. 12 In full working the cotton mills of Russia consumed about 1,500,000 bales of cotton per annum. 1900 *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V*, c. 30 Sch. I. 11, The profits or the gross earnings of the working of the vessel.

6. Influential operation; influence, effectiveness; also, the result or effect of operation or influence. Somewhat *arch.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* Tn. pr. xi. (1868) 95 Whan þei ben gadred to-gidre al in to-a forme and in to oon wirchyng [orig. *in unam velut formam atque efficientiam*]. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 84 Thanne schal the werkyng be ful seue Of 'Ne reminiscaris, Domine!' 1480–1530 *Exhort. vdg. Holy Script.* ij b, [The words of Scripture] haue euer an heauenly ... workinge in them. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 14 Throw wirking of the Spirite in til our hart. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxiii. (1912) 295 Her fayre colour decaied;..and hastily grew into the very extreame working of sorowfulnesse. 1592 Timme *Ten Engl. Lepers* E 2 b, There is as great defiaraunce betweene the working of hypocrisie and the working of grace, as betweene the working of arte, and the operation of nature. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 96. 291 The Workings of Superstition are insinuating and slow. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. xix, The workings of a parent's love upon the truth and conviction of this very hypothesis. 1861 Brougham *Brit. Const.* xl. 150 *note*, The working of clerical prejudice in..a liberal mind. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* i. 20 Faith, hope, and charity, are the three primary workings of the Holy Ghost in the soul.

7. Mathematical calculation; the process of calculating, or performing the necessary mathematical operations for ascertaining, a quantity, etc. Now chiefly, the statement of the operations involved in solving a mathematical problem.

c 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 552 By his A. speere in his wirkyng He knew ful wel how fer Alnath was shoue. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 35 This is the workinge of the conclusioun, to knowe yif þat any planete be directe or retrograde. *a* 1400 in Halliw. *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 62 Þat leves after þi wirkyng es þe heght fro A poynte to þe heght of þe thyng. *c* 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* 30 Þou most know well þe craft of þe wyrchynge in þe tabulle. 1543 Recorde *Gr. Artes* 123 Yᵉ same yᵗ appeareth of yᵉ other working before. 1624 J. Eyre *Exact Surveyor* 73 Which by the working according to the former directions, will be found to be about 63 yards. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xvi, The observation every day at noon, and the subsequent working of the ship's course. 1878 Todhunter *Conf. Studies* 74 That a knowledge of mathematics may be gained without the perpetual working of examples. 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Nov., No marks are to be allowed in the arithmetic paper unless the candidate shows up the 'working' of the sums as well as the final result.

† 8. Aching; ache, pain. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 96 For werkyng of the hed. *Ibid.* 152 For wynd in þe hed, & werkyng in þe hed. *Ibid.* I. 11 in *Anglia* XVIII. 295 3if a man..In hys heed hath gret sekenesse, Or ony grewaunce or ony werkynge. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 76 Corupcioun of sight, werkynge of þe brayn. *Ibid.* 77 He felys his mete bitter in his brest, and werkyng of þe koghe.

† b. Stomachic or intestinal disturbance. *Obs.*

1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* ii. 4 b/1 in *Holinshed*, Beyng moderately taken..it [*sc.* Aqua vitæ] kepeth..the belly from wirtchyng. 1650 Venner *Via Recta, Tobacco* 407 So..as to cause a violent and sickly working both upward and downward. 1727 Flover *Asthma* i. 9 A loose Stool frequently happens from the great working in the Belly, occasion'd by the Fit.

9. Fermentation of liquor.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Aestus mustulentus*, the fomyng or sprincling vp of newe wine, in ale we call it worknyng. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 998 Staying the Working of Beere. 1666 Charleton *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 153 Sickly commotions, or (to speak in the dialect of Wine-coopers) Workings. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 561 It will set your Wine in a gentle working, and purifie it in twenty four Hours. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Wash*, With respect to the..workings of this liquor, great regard is to be had to the containing vessel. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) 203 Conclude the fermentation in from 40 to 50 hours, and when it is cleansed do not fill up too frequently, for it will work off with great rapidity: rather, by moderate fillings, encourage its working. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1324 Unless the weather be very severe, the working (as it is called) proceeds equally well with that removed to the vaults or cellars.

10. Restless movement of water (esp. the sea); straining of a ship, a vehicle, etc. so as to loosen the fittings.

1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxix. 73 The Seas went so high..they thought it unpossible for the shippes to escape;..by the working of them it was thought, that sometime they did hoyse up theyr shippes aboue the Element. 1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* iii. 34 The working of the Lough makes it sandy. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 157 The water the Pink had made by her working and straining in bad weather. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 301 By the continual working of the carriage [*sc.* a carrier's cart], two of them had been broken. 1892 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.* 414 The working of the frames of locomotives signifies the loosening of their joints, due to the strains communicated to them by the engines. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Nov. 10/5 Owing to the working of the masts the deck was opening up.

b. Involuntary movement of the face or mouth, esp. due to emotion.

1800 Wordsw. *Pet Lamb* 28, I unobserved could see the workings of her face. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, As if to prevent his seeing the working of his countenance. 1844 Eliz. Sewell *Amy Herbert* xl. I. 201 The working of her forehead showed the storm that was gathering. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lii, Lighting a candle, which displayed the workings of her mouth [*sc.* 'mumbling and munching'] to ugly advantage.

11. The proper action or movement of a piece of mechanism or the like.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. II. xl. (1890) 110 To hinder the working of your Fire-works. 1707 [Dobbington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 38 Quarll..was astride on the main yard, with a hatchet to cut down what stopped the working of it. 1807 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 77/1 The only noise he heard..was the working of a neighbouring pump. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* ix, The workings of his lungs pumped great jets of blood out.

12. Gradual movement or progress (as against resistance).

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 93 It will so enrage the Oyl, and raise the Scum, that it might endanger the working over the top of the Kettle. 1822 Playfair *Illustr. Huttonian Theory* 402 The working of water collected from the rains and the snows.

II. *concr.* † 13. Decorative work. *Obs.*

1536 in *Antiq. Scotic.* (1771) 193 Curiously ornate with dyvers workings and chasings. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4373/4 A..Purse, worked round with 3 distinct Rows of Gold Wosking

14. A place in which mineral is or has been worked; a mining excavation.

1766 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 86 The foul air in an old working took fire. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 969 Many water-logged fissures come to be cut by the workings. 1892 *Echo* 8 Oct. 3 An explosion..occurred in a part of the working which extends in a northerly direction beneath the town. 1912 *Times* 10 July 8/1 Another explosion..took place,..while a rescue party was below in the workings.

III. 15. With adverbs, as *working-off*, *-out*, *-together*, *-up* (see Work *v.* 39); also *attrib.*

1662 Evelyn *Sculptura* lii. 33 They also engrave upon stone, and imprint with it; but with this difference in the *working-off; that the paper being black, the Sculpture remains white. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 240 By being careful in the operation of working off, a thinner paper is employed. 1843 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxxii, Let him have his humour. ..It may be the working off of his madness. 1842 Manning *Serm.* I. (1848) 17 All the face of the world bespeaks the *working-out of the prophecy. 1866 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* III. xx, 'It will be the working-out of my visions', said Henry. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 215 The working out of Descharge's idea revolutionised sea warfare. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Returns* 184 The determination and working out of the Tabanidæ of Tropical Africa. 1823 Cockeram II, A *working together, *cooperation*. 1678 Rymer *Tvag. Last Age* 70 If the Poet observe not these measures, the *working up of a Scene, is plainly the tormenting of nature, and holding our ears to the Grindstone. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 135 All..is done..under the force of artificial impulse, causing what is called a working-up. 1893 *Daily News* 6 Feb. 7/4 Best steel working-up sheets. 1913 *Athenæum* 10 May 528/2 A working-up to a strong climax.

IV. 16. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib.: = of or for working or the performance of a certain work, as *working hour(s, humour, life, light, method, part, rate, talent, time, -week* (cf. Working-day 2), *week-day, year*; = used or worn when one is working, as *working apron, clothes, dress*, † *gear, instrument*, † *stole* (Stool *sb.* 6), *stone, tool*; = pertaining or necessary to, involved in, the conduct of a business, etc., as *working capital, costs, expenses, fund*; = belonging to or situated in or at a working (sense 14), as *working breast, drift, face, floor, headway, pit*. b. Special comb.: **working-arch**, a tymp-arch; **working-barrel**, the cylinder in which the piston of a pump works; **working-beam**, a walking beam; **working-big** *a.* (see quot.); † **working-box**, = *work-box* (Work *sb.* 34 d); † **working canvas**, canvas upon which embroidery is worked; **working cylinder**, **working door** (see quots.); **working drawing**, usually pl., the drawings made of the plan, etc. of a building from which the workmen employed carry out the construction of the work; **working heat** (see quot.); **working-hole**, (*a*) the opening in a furnace at which the melted glass is drawn out; (*b*) any of the holes which bees use in working; **working load**, the maximum load that a member in a machine or other structure is designed to bear; **working order**, a condition in which a machine, system, etc. works (well, badly, etc.); **working outline**, an outline which forms the basis of a finished drawing; **working place**, † (*a*) a workshop; (*b*) the place at which a worker executes his work, *spec.* that at which a miner is engaged in excavation; **working point**, the 'point' in a machine at which the useful work is done; **working rate** (see quot.); **working room**, (*a*) space in which one may work, room for the performance of work; (*b*) a work-room; † **working school**, a kind of industrial school; † **working-shop**, = Workshop 1; **working-tube**, a glass-worker's blowing-iron; **working-tun**, a vessel in which fermentation takes place.

1769 Lady Mary Coke *Jrnl.* 4 May (1892) III. 67, I had but just time to throw off my *Working Apron. 1833 *Bell's Technol. Mech.*, *Working arches..of a blast furnace. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 730/2 To return the pump pistons into their places at the bottom of their respective *working barrels, in order that they also may make a working stroke. *Ibid.* 752/1 The rod X of the piston P is suspended from the arch of the *working-beam. 1849–50 *Weale's Dict. Terms*, *Working ... in mining, signifies sufficiently large for a man to work . 1898 in *N. & Q.* 11th Ser. I. 423 My small inlaid *Working Box. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Put*, to convey coal from the *working breast to the tramway. 1812 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 319 Linning cloth ..*working canvas for cusheonis. 1697 *Acts of Interregn.* (1911) II. 1213 Canvas called ..Working Canvas for Cushions. 1912 *Pitman's Commerc. Encycl.* IV. 1690 The *working capital of a business is the amount available for conducting its operations after it has been equipped in such a manner as to be in the condition desired in regard to fixed assets. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 309 Dressed in ordinary *working clothes of varied colours. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 19/2 The *working costs, including the London expenses. 1823 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 143 Such low steam..being admitted into a steam-vessel..; or *working cylinder..; will there be expanded in any ratio required. 1893 *Bell's Technol. Mech., Working cylinder*, principal cylinder of a water-pressure engine. *Ibid.*, *Working door of a reverberatory furnace (that opening through which the crucible is brought). 1897 Ray
The furnace has a *working door at the end.

1680 The actual execution from *working drawings. 1807 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* Pref. p. iv, The illustrations for this work..have been specially prepared by the author from working drawings. 1833 Mrs. S. Moodie *Life Clearings* 49 Her coloured flannel *working-dress. 1880 *Rep. Ho. Repr. Proc. Mct. U. S.* 639 Further connections between these cross-drifts are made by *working-drifts parallel to the central one. 1868 *N. Amer. Rev.* Jan. 46 Returns for *working expenses. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *'*Working face*, the place where the miner is excavating the mineral. 1924 *Brit. Mus. Returns* 90 An important series of implements and flakes from *working-floors in or below brick-earth at Round Green near Luton. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* x, A contribution to the *working fund. 1698 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 170 All my loume, *working geare and my husbandrie geare. 1640 *Ibid.* 174 All my working geare which belong to my trade. 1790 *Act 30 Geo. III*, c. 21 § 1 To make, erect,.. Water Wheels, Fire Engines, Mills, Machinery, Working Gears,..for raising ..Water from the said River Wenson. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 242 Running a gallery.. above the *working headway to the highest place worked. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 390 The fire is afterwards increased, for working the glass, to what is called the *working heat; and this I found, in plate-glass, to be 57°. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 577 Semi-circular holes..a little above the top of each pot, called *working holes. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 276, I pack them [*sc.* bees] closely on benches in the cellar, leaving the box and working-holes open. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Hill & Valley* vii, After *working hours the evening before. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxi. (1898) 154 His pay by the piece..gave him, as already stated, tenpence for every working hour. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xxxv, I'm in a *working humour now,..so don't disturb me, if you please. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 305/2 *Werkynge instrument for sylke women. 1864 C. Knight (*title*) Passages of a *Working Life during half a century. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 459 A square of ruby fabric admits a safe *working light. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* vi. 102 If there's a good working light to-morrow I lose a day. 1878 Martin tr. *Haeseler's Winding Mach.* 19 A round steel rope would bear a *working load of 13-15 kiloga. 1912 *Nature* 26 Dec. 460/1 Formulæ and tables selected from the *working methods of practical photographers. 1872 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 29 June 410/2 To see that the [telegraph] line is in *working order. 1878 Higginson *Hist. U. S.* xviii. 178 They at once began to get the militia into good working order. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xiii, Mark took care that his appetite, usually in good working order, should be deranged by the emotions of the morning. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Painting* 147 A finished drawing of the full size being ready, a part of this '*working*' outline..is now nailed to the wall. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 84 The *working part [of architecture] may be helped by deliberation. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I, (Globe) 72 The working Part of this Day. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Architt.* I. 38 The whole Business of the working Part of building is this. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 617 [The fire] breaking down the..partition between the waste and the *working pit, made the most terrible explosion ever beheld. 1554-5 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 176, ij dozen of Russhes for the *working places of thoffice. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, L'ouvroir d'vn chacun mestier, ou on besogne*, a working place, a shop. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xxi. (1842) 502 Besides the working-place..., another, unconnected with the busy part of the laboratory, should be appointed. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 960 Each miner continues to advance his room or working-place. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 51 All the motion which has been accumulated on the fly during the whole progress of its accumulation, is exerted in an instant at the *working point. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *'*Working rate*, the rate per ton paid to a miner. 1775 Romans *Florida* App. 9 From Beak's-Key, to the Riding Rocks, and Roques, there is *working room plenty, and good anchorage. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* i. (1842) 16 There is working room all round it. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 258 The atmosphere of their working-rooms is so poisonous that birds die after being exposed to it for a fortnight. 1787 Hawkins *Life of Johnson* 391 Dr. Madden, so well-known by his premiums for the encouragement of Protestant *working-schools in Ireland. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 450 The dust of a *working-shop. *?c* 1475 *Promp. Parv.* 305/2 (Camb. MS.) Lyncet, a *werkynge stole. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 7 For the stuff and making of iiij working stoles for the Quene..v s. iiij d. 1530 Palsgr. 290/1 Workyng stole fore a sylkeman, *mettier.* 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 410/1 A *working stone: a stone that serueth to worke withall, as the whetstone. 1863 P. Barry *Dockyard Econ.* 218 The *working system of the Thames Company is contract between owner and shipbuilder. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* iv. 66 The solid result depends on a few men with *working talent. 1783 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 372/2 The *Working Time that is now lost in making up the Bundles. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 101 Thou handledst no caruyng nor *woorkyng toole. 1690 Child *Disc. Trade* (1698) 182 Not to hinder any man from keeping as many servants as he can, nor looms, working-tools, &c. *a* 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* 30 A people so barbarous, and destitute of all Working-Tools. 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* i. 3 Employing a second stone as his working-tool,..he struck off splinters from the first stone. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 63 After the *working-tube has collected nearly sufficient colourless glass from one pot. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 372 Covering your Fat close, that it [*sc.* yeast] fall not in your *Working-Tun. 1892 J. E. C. Munro in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 472 If the *working week was reduced from 56½ to 48 hours. 1867 Aug. J. E. Wilson *Vashti* xiv, She remarked that your eyes were, in comparison with other folks', what Sabbath is to *working week-days. 1913 *Times* 13 Aug. 3/2 The *working years of life.

Working (wɔ·rkiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Work *v.* + -ing.[2] (In several uses formerly often hyphened to the *sb.*)] That works, in various senses.

1. Of a person, personal attribute, etc.: Active, operative; energetic. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) I. 43 He..that neither han lyf ne soule, ne ordinaunce of werchinge limmes. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. iii. (1912) 20 A woman..of so working a minde,..it was happie shee tooke a good course. 1635 F. White *Sabbath Ep. Ded.* 9 They command whatsoever their own working-heads affect. 1646 J. Whitaker *Uzziah* 14 He had a working head, and a dextrous hand. 1682 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxviii. 476 The working-heads of the enemies of that State. 1706 ? Prior *Ep. Elector Bavaria* 58 Wks. 1907 II. 371 Preluding cannons tell th' approaching storm, And working armies take a dreadful form. 1820 Keats *Ode to Psyche* 60 A rosy sanctuary will I dress With the wreath'd trellis of a working brain.

† b. Of a thing (concr. or abstr.): Operative, effective. *Obs.*

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. iii, You see, my Lord, what woorking woordes he hath. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, Prol. 3 Things..Sad, high, and working, full of State and Woe. 1620 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Shilling* B4 A gentle working Potion. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 49 Childish man, who have not the art to qualifie and prepare these working mineralls. 1654 E. Johnson *Wonder-wkg. Provid.* 16 This was the first working providence of Christ to stir up our English Nation. *a* 1709 J. Lister *Autobiog.* (1842) 43 Some working physic that might be likely to..remove the distemper.

2. That works or labours; *esp.* that works for an employer in a manual or industrial occupation (see also Working-class, -man).

1639 G. Platters *Discov. Infin. Treas.* Pref. C4 b, How the working poore may be imployed in these new improvements. 1892 *Poor Man's Guardian* 31 Dec. 4/2 The evils that beset the working population. 1864 Ramsbottom *Phases* 23 Honest wortchin' folks one sees By scores reawnd th' Poor-law Office dur. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* I. (1876) 25 The common body of working-people. 1913 Macrwen *Hist. Ch. Scot.* I. xviii. 388 There must have been innumerable parishes which had no working parish priests. 1922 W. P. Ker *Coll. Ess., Molière* (1925) I. 352 Respectable advice to working playwrights.

b. In contrast with: (*a*) 'master', 'managing', etc., in designations of trade or occupation; (*b*) 'sleeping', in reference to partners in a firm. Also in designations of persons or animals that work or are active in a special way.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4436/3 He is by Trade a Working-Goldsmith. 1793-4 *Matthews's Bristol Directory* 78 Tanner, George, Working-cutler, Maryport-street. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. vii. P2, I..became the working partner in a new firm. 1839 in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1866) I. 478 The Working Petty Officers of the Royal Navy. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 507 The working Committee of a show. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vii, A working-jeweller population. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* x. § 2. 747 Benjamin Franklin, who had risen from his position of a working printer in Philadelphia to high repute among scientific discoverers. 1898 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 2/4 Working homers, wonderful for their speed, such as are used on Government

for a special piece of work outside their ordinary duties.

1744 M. Bishop *Life* 204 I mounted Guard as Sergeant upon a working Party, and took them to a Mine, in order to work at a Sap. 1834-47 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* (1851) 172 The men who undertake a surprise may be divided into four parties: 1st, the guides and interpreters; 2nd, the combatants; 3rd, the troops to cover the retreat; 4th, the working party.

d. Of horses and cattle: Employed in work, esp. in agricultural work.

1613 *Liber Deposit. infra Archidiacon. Colcestrensem* lf. 89 (MS.), The herbadg or pasture of anye workeing cattell. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 21 Apr. Suppl. 1/2 To be sold..several pair of working oxen. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 204 Bean and pease-straw is the customary fodder of the working stock. *c* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 29 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Two colts are generally bred from the mares to keep up the stock of working-horses. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Like an old working bullock in a lucerne field. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 124 A working horse..will..swallow an inordinate quantity of water very rapidly.

e. Of a bee or ant: That is a 'worker'.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Queen-bee* 6 H 1/2 Not only these common or working bees, but also the drones, or male bees. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxvii. (1818) II. 513 If we suppose them to know that the queen and working-grubs are originally the same.

f. In comb.: Producing, creating.

W. C. *Polimanteia* (1881) 82 Glittering hate-working

† 3. Aching, throbbing with pain. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vi. 8 Sore bonys, & warkand feets. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 204 With mony werkand wound. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 75 Ay quhair tha hit makand ane werkand wound.

4. Of the sea, etc.: Agitated, tossing. *poet.*

1582 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 6 The working sea I wil goe seeke in point of morning gray. *Ibid.* VII. 123 Much like the Ocean waue, Which working storme, not green, but black doth make ye colour haue. 1621 W. Mason *Ess.* 93 The billowes of the working-sea that cannot rest. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* clxxi, On Biscay's working-Bay. 1676 — *Aurengz.* IV. i, A working Sea, remaining from a Storm. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XII. 265 Oars they seize, Stretch to the stroke, and brush the working sea

5. Of liquor: Fermenting

1675 Evelyn in J. Ross *Engl. Vineyard* 44 Some replenish their working Wines with Water only.

6. Of the features of the face: Moving involuntarily or convulsively, esp. as the result of emotion.

1753-4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xi. 75 That little witch, I have been watching her eyes, and every working muscle of her saucy face. 1838 Lytton *Alice* IX. iii, The smile vanished at once, as her eyes met his changed and working

2848 Dickens *Dombey* xi, The working lip was loosened; and the tears came streaming forth. 1882 — *Mut. Fr.* IV. vii, 'I heard of the outrage,' said Bradley, trying to constrain his working mouth.

7. Of an organism, a piece of machinery, etc.: That performs its function (esp. in a specified manner); that 'goes' (as opposed to being stationary).

1608 Shake. *Per.* v. i. 155 But are you flesh and blood? Haue you a working pulse, and are no Fairie? 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Vaisseau qui se manie bien*, a good working ship; a ship that is easily managed and steered. 1829 *Newton's Lond. Jrnl. Arts* 1 Feb. 115 Mr. J. A. Haswell exhibited a large working model of the new [railway-]switch. 1874 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 393 A continuous-working reverberatory furnace.

b. *Naut.* applied to certain sails.

1882 *Standard* 21 Aug. 6/6 Lorna and Chittywee last, the latter with a large jackyardtopsail set, the others having working squareheaders. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 450/2 Racing or working rigs. 1898 Anstead *Dict. Sea Terms, Working foresail* (in fore-and-aft rig), a foresail which runs on a horse. *Working jug*, the same as a standing lug; and it often has a boom.

8. a. Of a majority: Sufficient to secure the passing of measures.

1858 *Penny Cycl.* and Suppl. 495/2 With the command of a working majority of about a hundred in the House of Commons, Sir Robert Peel entered on the greatest period of his political career. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. (1861) V. 131 It was not impossible that the servants of the Crown might, by prudent management, succeed in obtaining a working majority.

b. Of a theory, etc.: That provides a basis upon which to work.

1849 Grote *Greece* II. xlv. V. 399 The confederacy would never have become a working reality. 1871 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* I. v. 112 If it be only a working hypothesis, to keep us, while confined in the human, from blindly and unconsciously dashing ourselves against the laws of the divine. 1875 Maine *Hist. Instit.* xiii. 400 He wishes to alter..them according to a working rule gathered from his reflections. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent of Man* 8 No one asks more of Evolution at present than permission to use it as a working theory. 1919 G. Huddleston *Peacemaking at Paris* ii. 25 To make a temporary treaty which would give us a working relationship with Germany.

Hence **Wo·rkingly** *adv.*, † effectively; industriously; **Wo·rkingness**, † effectiveness.

1621 Florio, *Operosita*, workingnesse or operation. 1640 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 269 Christ..in the residue of his whole life, afterwards fulfilled the whole Law, actually, workingly and perfectly. 1859 Atkinson *Walks & Talks* (1870) 291 Such pretty birds hammering away so cheerfully and workingly.

Wo·rking(-)cla·ss. Chiefly *pl.* **wo·rking cla·sses.** [Working *ppl. a.*, Class *sb.* 2.] The grade or grades of society comprising those who are employed to work for wages in manual or industrial occupations.

1823 R. Owen *New View Soc.* 5 The poor and working classes of Great Britain and Ireland have been found to exceed twelve millions of persons. 1844 H. Cockburn *Jrnl.* (1874) II. 83 What are termed *the* working-classes, as if the only workers were those who wrought with their hands. 1875 *Act 38 & 39 Vict.* c. 36 § 5 The accommodation of..as many persons of the working class as may be displaced. 1890 *Act 53 & 54 Vict.* c. 69 § 18 The provisions of section eleven of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885, ..shall have effect as if the expression 'working classes' included all classes of persons who earn their livelihood by wages or salaries.

b. *attrib.*, as *working-class family, house, vote.*

1869 W. T. Thornton *On Labour* III. v 316 Leading unionists, and working-class leaders. 1884 in A. Cawston *Street Improv. London* (1893) 105 Those working-class houses that you have bought up and repaired. 1895 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 558 The working-class vote. 1913 *Times* 14 May 5/3 The 3,000 working class families which form the population.

Wo·rking(-)day. (Also 6 **warkynday**, 6-7 **workenday.**) [f. Working *vbl. sb.* + Day *sb.*1]

1. A work-day.

1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 237 A hose clothe, one for the halydays..and a nothyr for the workyng dayes. 1538 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 62 The said John Halmdry shalbe dyscharged and his shyp of the sayd salt .. within vj lawfull workyng dayes. 1549 W. Thomas *Hist. Italie* 79 Euerie holidaie, and many times the workendaies, the same sitteth from diner till nyght. 1561 Bp. J. Parkhurst *Injunct.* A ij b, That they baptise not children on the wourking daies. 1626 in *Chequo-bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 72 That a competent number of

Devon. Wills (1896) 27 My blew coat which I did weare worken dayes. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 340 They quite forgot the days, and knew not a Sunday from a working-day any longer. 1832 Sir F. Palgrave *Rise & Progr. Eng. Commw.* II. p. cli, The first open or working day after the two great weekly festivals of Sun-day and Moon-day. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Feb., Then comes dismal February, and the working-days with it,..after the Christmas and the New Year's heyday and merry-making are over. 1921 Onions *Shake. Gloss.* p. vi, The compilation of which has occupied the full working-days of a year and a half.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (= Workaday B.), as *working-day clothes, dress, face, world.*

1538 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 26 A roond warkyaday gowne. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 83 Our shepheard must put on his working day face, and frame nought but doleful Madrigalls. 1594 Greene & Lodge *Looking Gl.* (1598) C4, If you heard her working-day words,..they be rattles like thunder. 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 12 Oh how full of

briers is this working day world. 1683 in *Bedfordshire N. & Q.* (1889) II. 237 All my working-day clothes of wollen or stuffe. 1833 LANDON *Misc. Poet. Wks.* 2 The working-day portion of life's wondrous whole. 1840 DICKENS *Old Curs. Shop* xliv, The working-day faces come nearer to the truth. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lvi, The working-day world. 1873 NEWMAN *Serm. Var. Occas.* (1881) xiv. 275 The working-day dress.

2. The portion of a day devoted to work or allotted to labour as a day's work.

1878 J. MACDONELL in *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 389 Leaving the length of the working day unchanged. 1890 J. E. C. MUNRO in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 472 The more rational proposals to establish a short working day.

†Working-house. *Obs.* [WORKING *vbl. sb.*] = WORKHOUSE 1, 2.

1487 in *Cal. Lett.-bk. L London* (1912) 242 [That no time-expired apprentice..set up shop or] wirkyng hous [within the City]. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. Chor. 23 In the quick Forge and working-house of Thought. 1721 *Act 10 Anne* c. 19. § 55 Any such Goods, so made, printed, painted, or stained..in..their Ware-houses, Working-houses, or Places aforesaid.

1597–8 *Act 39 Eliz.* c. 5 (*title*) An Acte for erecting of Hospitalls or abiding and working Howses for the Poore. 1639 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 178 The common workinghouse of Bury.

Working-man. A man of the working classes; a man employed to work for a wage, esp. in a manual or industrial occupation: a term inclusive of 'artisan', 'mechanic', and 'labourer'.

1816 T. WILLIAMS *Means Improv. Condit. Poor* 23 How much more pleasant is the occupation of a working-man than of a beggar, or a vagrant! 1830 *E'ham Petit. Rights* § 6 in *Life T. Attwood* (1885) 154 That..all the taxes ought to be taken off from those articles necessary for the subsistence and comfort of working men. 1873 *Iron* 5 July 5/1 The..prevalence of what are called 'working-men's candidates'. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 8/2 The word 'working-man' was here held to include a clerk or small shopkeeper, or anyone whose total income did not exceed £150 a year. 1901 W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* x. 43 Mr. Wertzelmann..held out a hand like a working-man's.

So **Working-woman.**

1843 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xv, A child, playing at washing, and imitating a poor working-woman. 1918 *Current History* Feb. 200 Workingmen and workingwomen have raised the cry for bread, peace, and liberty in the street.

Workless (*wɜ·*klɛs), *a.* [f. WORK *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Doing no work; inactive, idle. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. ix. (1889) 150 What doo ye here, why are yow werkless? 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* I. xxx. (W. de W. 1496) 69/1 Nedy werkelesse men that go so gay & spende grete. 1572 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxv. 8 Wee imagin I wote not what maner of workiesse and ydle sovereintie, as though he ruled not mankynd with his power and providence. 1609 C. POTTER *Consecration Serm. Mar. 15, 1608* 77 These verball Doctors, these worklesse talkers. 1881 'VERNON LEE' *Belcaro* vii. 195 Inactive, with listless limbs and workless hands.

†2. Of faith: Without works. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 529/2 A manne maye..haue the righte faythe ydle and woorkelesse. 1653 MANTON *Exp. James* ii. 14 The apostle calleth a workless faith a dead or lifeless faith.

3. Unprovided with work; having no work to do; out of work, unemployed. Often *absol.* with *the*.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 356 The workless silence, wageless misery. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Nov. 1/2 The bitter cold of the fireless room..will wring from the workless workers a still more piteous moan. *Ibid.* 7 Dec. 10/2 The Workless in the Country. 1892 MRS. G. A. SALA *Famous People I have met* 28 The..workless weavers of the East-end.

Hence **Worklessness,** the condition of being workless; unemployment.

1883 G. MACDONALD *Donal Grant* xlii, Ye maun be growin' some short o' siller!' this time o' warklessness! 1892 *Teynbee Rec.* Dec. 89 We are confronted this Winter with a worklessness which approaches..that of 1886.

Work-loom. *Sc.* and *north.* (now in form wark-). [f. WORK *sb.* + LOOM *sb.*1] A tool or implement, esp. one used in manual labour.

c 1425 *Noah's Ark* in *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 22/82 Unlusty I am..Workloems for to work and weeld. 1478–6 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 33 Gude and sufficiand graith and workloumys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 82 The lust of all sic werklomis was adew. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 161/34 A Worke loome, *instrumentum*. *a* 1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 43 That warkloome quite [*sc.* a pen]. 1691 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 140, 4 pund steell for ye work loomes. 1788 BURNS *Addr. to Deil* xi, The best wark-lume i' the house. 1796 GALL *Tint Quey* 9 [He] gat his warklooms a' in tune, To ca' some tackets in his shoon.

Workman (*wɜ·*kmɛn). Pl. **workmen.** Forms: see WORK *sb.* and MAN *sb.*1; also 4 **werman,** *Sc.* **warman.** [OE. *weorcmann* = Du. *werkman*, OHG. *werahman* (MHG. *werch-, wercman*), ON. *verkmaðr.*]

1. A man engaged to do work or (usually) manual labour, esp. one employed upon some particular piece of work: an operative; often (contextually) a skilled worker; † occas. a worker (*in* a medium).

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xvii, He sceal habban gebeadmen & fyrdmen & weorcmen. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 37 *Operarii*, weorcmenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 20892 A crafti weorc-man. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 404 Læn euentid, hwon me ȝelt were-men hore deies hure. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3230 A morwe þe barouns gomne arise Sum to bonten and sum to cherche, And werk men gonne for to werche. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 91 *Dignus est operarius mercede sua*; Werþi is þe Werkmon his hure to haue. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 364 It myght nocht suffice..at a met bred to be,..to warmen thire. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 39 He had so mony werkemen of dyuerse craftys, þat a man schuld not here his felow speke for dount of strokes. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 22 A werkman in metall. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 77 What is a woorkman, without his tooles? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xlii. 306 A man is obliged in conscience to set on work upon all occasions the best workman. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 21 May 1645 This place has also been famous for lutes made by the old masters..; the workmen were chiefly Germans. 1705 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 8 If I would learn the Nature of a Watch, the Workman takes it to pieces. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. s.v. *Beds of a Stone*, In arching the beds are called summerings by the workmen. 1883 W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 48 There were under the hands of the workmen..some of the cylinders for the bridge across the Dubbo river.

b. Connoting a class or grade, or in correlation with 'employer', 'capitalist', or the like.

1704 DE FOE *Giving Alms no Charity* (1859) 38 The price of wages not only determines the difference between the employer and the work-man, but it rules the rates of every market. 1727 — *Eng. Tradesman* I. Introd. 2 There are several degrees of people employ'd in trade below these, such as workmen, labourers, and servants. 1868 RONEY *Rambles on Rtwys.* 62 These companies issue what are called 'workman's tickets.' 1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* II. Index 27 By workmen I mean people who must use their heads as well as their hands for what they do; by labourers, those who use their hands only. 1875 *Act 38 & 39 Vict.* c. 90 § 10 The expression 'workman' does not include a domestic or menial servant, but save as aforesaid, means any person who, being a labourer, servant in husbandry, journeyman, artificer, handicraftsman, miner, or otherwise engaged in manual labour,.. has entered into or works under a contract with an employer. 1906 *Economist* 13 Dec. 2048/2 At the present time..there is a widespread tendency to consider that no one is a workman unless he be engaged in manual labour. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 12 Sept. 5/4 It was declared that the term 'workman' should include clerks.

c. Of ants or bees: = WORKER 2 d (*c*). *rare.*

1870 DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 349 Besides the neuters, workmen, and soldiers, two sorts of nympha.

2. A skilled or expert craftsman. *Obs.* exc. in *Glassmaking*, the first man of a 'chair'.

1478 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 4/2 þe lordis..causit þe cheruse to be weyt and prisit be werkmen, quhilkis prisit it to v li Scottis. 1496 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 574 There shall no persone of þe Craft set no straunge Journeyman on warke without license of þe Maisters of þe Craft, and they to see that he be a warkman. 1530 PALSGR. 272/2 This kote was never made of a workeman, it is but boungled up. 1553 ASCHAM *Rep. Germany* A iij b, Here is stuffe plenty to furnish well vp a trimme history if a workeman had it in handlyng. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 88 By working we become workemen. 1657 WORTHINGTON *Diary* etc. (Chetham Soc.) I. 100 He was not satisfy'd in William Pope, because he was not a workman of his trade. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 71 From whence one may reasonably infer, that he's himself no Work-man. 1721 PERRY *Daggenham Breach* 68, I had answer'd them like an Artist, and like a Workman. 1849 [see SERVITOR 3].

b. *transf.*; e. g. applied to a rider, esp. in hunting, who manages his horse well or is conversant with the technique of the field; also to a horse that takes its fences well, etc.

1832 *Q. Rev.* XLVII. 238 The Squire having hit off his fox like a workman. 1840 J. C. WHYTE *Hist. Turf* II. 577 Although so splendid a rider over a race-course, Old Chifney by no means shone as a workman across a country. 1868 WHYTE-MELVILLE *White Rose* I. xiv. 177 'I'm blessed if the young 'un isn't a workman!' he mutters, while he marks Gerard's easy seat. 1887 F. GALE *Game Cr.* 63 [Our opponents] were all 'workmen'..and a tough job, clearly, was cut out. 1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* xii, A fine, solid, but active-looking horse,..looking more of a workman over timber than the other.

†3. The Creator; = WORKER 1 a. *Obs.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* P j b, The greate workeman of thynges god almightie himselfe. 1560 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* III. (1561) G j, That workman first, that made ye skies the earth, and seas also. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. (1592) 64 This Speech [= Logos] being the workeman of God the Lord of the whole World. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* D 7 b, Darknes was not created; tis as old As that great workman which the whole doth mold.

4. One who works or practises his craft or art (in some specified manner).

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* xiii, As good a workman of his craft as ony was at that tyme in alle the world. 1. C. *Two Merry Milkmaids* IV. i. L 4 b, And thou beest so good a workeman, thou shalt draw my Picture. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Outl. Prov.* 67 Never had ill workeman good tooles. 1668 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Idea Perfect. Paint.* Advt. to Rdr. 2 a, Albert Durer, a German Painter, and a most incomparable Workman. 1849 PARKER *Gothic Archit.* 88 It being one of the characteristics of a good workman not to waste his material. 1868 DARWIN in F. Darwin *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 98 My health makes me a very slow workman.

5. *attrib.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 Mony politic verkmanlumis for mecanye craftis. 1803 HEBER *Palestine* 199 No workman steel, no ponderous axes rung. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 5/2 The workmen-shareholders.

Workmanlike (*wɜ·*kmɛnlɔik), *adv.* and *a.* [See -LIKE.]

A. *adv.* In a manner or style characteristic of a good workman.

1447 *Hist. Dunelm. Scriptores Tres* (Surtees) App. p. cccxiii, The said..Alexander [etc.]..sall wirke the said myne werkmanlike. *c* 1565 J. SPANKE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 304 They..doe lagge their flesh,..as workemanlike, as a Ierkin maker with vs plaieth a Ierkin. 1622 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* xviii. 691 The Gardiner.. their selected plants doth workman-like bestowe. 1628–29 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 302 To be all plastered over with lyme and hayer workeman lyke. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 20 Darts of blacke Ebony barbed strongly and workmanlike. 1897 'O. ROSCOMYL' *White Rose Arms* I, You do your work as workmanlike as ever.

B. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to a workman; characteristic of or suitable to a workman. *rare.*

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 103 To write, in such workman-like termes, as may serve for a Clark of the works to speak unto them. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxvi, An old workmanlike habit of carrying his pocket-handkerchief in his hat.

2. Characteristic or resembling (that of) a good workman; orig. said of the execution of a work; later applied also to persons or animals having an efficient, 'business-like', or 'smart' appearance or action.

1739 LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 56 To compleat t'

manner. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 475 A clock or artificial and workman-like construction. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, [He] filled out three glasses of gin, which Job Trotter and Sam disposed of in a most workmanlike manner. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 363 In nailing in the young shoots, dispose them as straight and as regular as possible: it will look workmanlike. 1862 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 58 Never in his life had he seen such a thoroughly workmanlike exterior. 1874 *Fancier's Gaz.* 4 Dec. 618/2 [A dog] Nice and evenly-balanced all over, workman-like. 1878 LORD R. GOWER *Remin.* (1883) II. 207 Two very workman-like little horses. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* July 98 There is very much..to be done that requires nothing more than good workmanlike ability.

Hence **Workmanlikeness.**

1890 DAY *Every-day Art* 90 Even the amateur should know something of the value of workmanlikeness in ornament.

Workmanly (*wɜ·*kmɛnli), *adv.* and *a.* [f. WORKMAN *sb.* + -LY.]

A. *adv.* = WORKMANLIKE A.; efficiently, skilfully.

1467 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 185 Suche girdelles as be clerely and warkmanly made upp. 1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God* (1534) C j, An ymage of his father very cunnyngly and workemanly carued. 1543 BALE *Yet a Course* 27 That he hath not gone processyon vpon saturdayes at euensonge, nor workemanlye made hys holye water and holy breade. 1545 — *Image Both Ch.* I. Pref. (1550) A vi b, The beastes head that was wounded, is now healed vp againe so workemanly. 1550 — *Engl. Votaries* II. 104 Here was a gnat workemanly strayned out to swalowe in a camell for it. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* To Rdr. (1634) A 2, Some three or foure prettie pictures (in octavo) cut in brasse very workmanly. 1656 DUGDALE *Antiq. Warw.* 355/2 To make and set up, finely and workmanly, a parclose of timber. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Sept. 278/2 The four famous folio volumes workmanly bound in grey boards and canvas.

B. *adj.* = WORKMANLIKE B. (esp. sense 2).

1545 BALE *Myst. Iniq.* 43 Marke the good workemanlye handelynge..therof. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 200/47 Workemanly, *artificiosus*. 1582 MULCASTER *1st Pt. Elem.* (1925) 64 Whatsoeuer shall belong to coloring, to shadowing, and such more workmanlie points. 1590 WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 33 The roofes are couered with fine gold, in a very workemanly sort. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxx. 452 He has it upon an implied contract to render it again when made, and that in a workmanly manner. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. iii. § 4 Rudders, and yards, and cables, all needing workmanly handling and workmanly knowledge. 1907 *Times* 22 May 3/2 Not only the best architectural, but the best workmanly, skill has been employed.

Workmanship (*wɜ·*kmɛnʃip). [f. WORKMAN + -SHIP.]

†1. The performance or execution of work or a work; work, labour: in early use often, the labour or amount of labour performed on a particular task or piece of work. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Cursor M.* 1684 (Fairf.) Loke þi werk-monshepe be sleyghe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 288 Panne shal boral clerkes..drede to wratthe ȝow..ȝowre werkemanship to letta. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 127 With gret sleihte Of werkmanschipe it was begrave. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6132 Nature.. Passeth soothly werke-man-shepe. 1467–8 *Rolls Parl.* V. 620/1 To oversee the werkmanship of the seid Craftymen. 1503 *Acc. L.d. High Treas. Scot.* II. 206 For making and werkmanship and inlayk of the samyn xx li. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 124 The charges of garniture & workemanshipp with stuf & other prouisions bought & made of new this yeare. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 9 b, The knowledge of..handycrafts, of workmanships. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* xciv. ii, Sight shall he want, From whose first workmanshipp the eye did grow? 1612 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 163 Paid for mendinge the bell ropes with leather and workmanshipp, x d. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 150 A table..the Jewels wherof they valued at fiftie thousand Crownes, and the workmanship at twelve thousand Crownes. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 297 In case they would be at the charge of bringing stone, he would find Workmanship, and build them a Tower. 1732 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 78 All Workmanship to be performed at a fixed Price. 1793 J. LODGE *Topogr. Hist. Hertf.* 54 Second year's rent and workmanship 2 3 0. 1818 *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 195 An instance ..where a master took a man up to a magistrate for spoiling the work, and the man paid every penny of the workmanship of it.'

†2. Action, agency, operation. *Obs.*

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1343/2 By the woorkemanshippe of his heauenly mercy. 1545 BALE *Myst. Iniq.* 20 b, Eyther had prestes wyues of their owne in those dayes, or els there was some other good workemanshyp a brode. 46 — *Engl. Votaries* I. 4 b, The deceytfull workemanshyp the instrumentes of Sathan. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. v. 29 Before his audacious workmanship the Churches were rul'd in common by the Presbyters.

†b. Creation, making, manufacture, production.

1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 49 After that the workmanshippe of the World was fully perfected. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 70 That it might haue a hot monethe togither to work it to his ful perfection... I haue thought good .. to set downe mine own fansie, for the easier stirring vppe of this Malmesey to his workmanship. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* 259 'Tis a great Mystery..how Tubal-Cain..could ever have taught the Workmanship and Use of them.

† **c.** Make, fashion. *Obs. rare.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* v. 80 b, As he varied from the workemanshyp of other bodyes, so had he one passage also of choler that visited the ventricle.

3. That which is wrought or made by a workman or craftsman; (a person's) work. Also *transf.* something produced: *arch.* exc. as in *piece of workmanship*, which may properly belong to 1.

1523 *Act 19 & 14 Hen. VIII*, c. 2 A proper marke..by the which their wares, vessels, and workmanshippes..may be knowen. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Esdras* viii. 7 We all are one workmanshipe of thy handes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 The plesand verkmenschips that vas in the middis of hyr mantil. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* L ij b, The daie..whiche is the effecte, or woorkemanship of the Sunne. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a ij, Formally, Number, is the Vnion, and Vnitie of Vnits. Which vnyting and knitting, is the workemanship of our minde. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 18 To worship..the workemanship of mens handa. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 283 It was the onely quarrell he pickt with his workmanship, that man was alone. 1710 PRICE *Examiner* No. 6 P 2 A curious Piece of poetical Human nature, considered as the divine workmanship. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VII. § 12 Inconsistent ideas which are often the workmanship of their own brains. 1752 *Affect. Narr. Wager* 28 A little Hut,..the Workmanship, I guess, of some Indian. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* xi. III. 266 This ball is the workmanship of the ants. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* I. 63 A new piece of gold or silver.. with noble workmanship on it. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xiv, There's no denying she's a rare bit o' workmanship. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 200 As the world was His workmanship; so man was made in His image.

4. Skill or cunning as a workman; craftsmanship as exhibited in a piece of work.

1529 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 6 Of gud and sufficient stuff ..and sufficient werkmanschip. 1541 COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* a C iv, For to cut is a redy and easy thynge, but for to heale by medycamentes is a greater thynge and that requyreth workemanshyp. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 68 The inhabitants..doe excell in curious woorkmanshippe and mechanicall inventions. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. I. 17 Idiots admire in things the Beauty of their Materials, but Artists that of the Workmanship. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* Iv. 66 It is counted a piece of good workmanship in a Joyner, to have the craft of bearing his hand so curiously even. 1838 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. vi. 93 Some rings of negro workmanship. 1889 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 911 It is subject.. that makes plays enduring, *plus* of course the requisite dramatic workmanship. 1909 *Mem. W. E. H. Lecky* 48 He had a high ideal of literary workmanship.

Work-master. Now *rare.* [Cf. MLG. *werkmêster*, ON. *verkmeistari* (MSw. *werkmestare*).] A master workman; an overseer or employer of workmen.

a 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* II. H vij b, Lyke a wyse workemaster haue I layed the fundacyon, for I fyrst beganne to preche you Christ. 1535 COVERDALE *Song Sol.* vii. 1 Like a fayre lewell, which is wrought by a coonynge workmaster. *a* 1589 M. PHILIPS in Hakluyt *Voy.* 580, I came to Siuill, and sought me out a workemaster, that I might fall to my science, which was weauing of taffataes. 1617 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 193 This medicine..to an Artist which is a true Preparer of medicines..is plaine and pleasant to be done, and..will doe the worke-master credit that useth it. 1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 297 That the workmaster be left at Liberty to make choyce whether he will have a Carpenter or Joyner to lay the same. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* Title-p., Contracts betwixt the Workmaster and Workman. 1816 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* (Bohn) 307 The contents of every work must correspond to the character and designs of the work-master. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. xxiv. 492 Like a bravo who loves his trade, he set about the task of his work-masters.

b. *fig.*: esp. applied to God as creator and ruler; rarely of a thing.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* xiii. 4 Ye are workmasters of lyes. — *Wisd.* vii. 22 The worckmaster of all thinges hath taught me wysedome. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 198 These moste solempne ordinaunces of ye most high workemaster God. 1605 *London Prodigal* III. ii. 93 Nature, in her building, is a most curious worke-maister. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* I. xix. (1617) 79 The braine of a man being a busie and laborsome workmaister. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* I. iii. 26 The armes and hands, the worke-masters of all things. *Ibid.* lxi. 295 The greatnesse, goodnesse, wisdome, power of the chiefe work-master.

Work-mistress. [f. WORK *sb.* + MISTRESS, after prec.] A woman who controls or superintends work: only *fig.*, chiefly of Nature (personified).

1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* lxviii. 108 b, Nature the great workemistresse. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 337, I assure you Venus is the work-mistresse of mutuall concord. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 60 God,..by an evident manifestation, that the ____ ____ which she acted, was a well-pleasing service of his own.. had decreed the protection of the work-Mistresse. 1678 A. BROWNE *Appendix Art Paint.* 22 Since Nature, that Cunning Work-Mistress, is so extremely Various in her Representations. 1877 CARPENTER tr. *Vieth's Outl. Hist. Relig.* 224 Athena, the goddess of art, the 'workmistress' (*Ergane*).

Work-out. *Pugilism.* [See WORK *v.* 38 l.] A boxing bout for practice.

1927 *Daily Express* 27 May 13/7 Either in a work-out or in an actual contest.

Workpeople (wɜ·kpiːp'l). [WORK *sb.*] People employed in manual or industrial labour for a wage; workmen and (or) workwomen.

1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 216 You cannot imagine what a parcel of cheating brutes the work people here are. 1828 *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 152 How many people do they employ, weavers, warpers, winders and work people, of every description? 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. iv. § 1 (1865) I. 69 Each capitalist has money, which he pays to his workpeople, and so enables them to supply themselves. 1883 W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 36 Mechanical skill on the part of the workpeople not being necessary—the machines in fact doing the most part of the work.

Workshop (wɜ·kʃɒp). [f. WORK *sb.* + SHOP *sb.* 3.] A room, apartment, or building in which manual or industrial work is carried on.

1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* Ep. Ded. (Arb.) 23 Alexander the Great, passing on a time by the workeshop of Apelles, curiously surueyed some of his doinges. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl.* 132 (*Ostig*) Supreme beauty is seldom found in cottages or work shops. 1813 CLARKSON *Mem. W. Penn* xviii. 335 All prisons were to be considered as workshops. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, What was observable in the furniture, was observable in the Veneerings—the surface smelt a little too much of the workshop and was a trifle sticky. 1902 *Act 2 Edw. VII*, c. 22 § 149 The expression 'workshop' means..any premises, room or place, not being a factory, in which..or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which..any manual labour is exercised

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* Table s.v. *Supper of Lord*, The constitution which toke away from lay men the cup of the Lorde, came out of the deuells workshop. 1761 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 62 *note*, Two accurate treatises, which come from the workshop of the Benedictines. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lii, Fergus's brain was a perpetual workshop of scheme and intrigue. 1838 DISRAELI *Sp.* 15 Mar. in *Hansard's Parl. Debates* XLI. 939/2 To suppose that.. the continent would suffer England to be the workshop for the world. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 8 The workshop of Nature. 1900 W. P. KER *Ess. Dryden* Introd. p. xxi, If he cannot explain the secrets of the dramatic workshop.

c. *attrib.*

1869 J. G. WINTON (*title*) Modern Workshop Practice as applied to marine, land, and locomotive engines. 1873 SPON (*title*) Workshop Receipts, for the use of manufacturers, mechanics, and scientific amateurs. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 3/5 The workshop system answers because the master works with his men, and gets the best out of them.

† **Work-silver.** *Obs.* [WORK *sb.* 5.] A cus- of set

vocatis Werkseluer et quinque solidis annuis vocatis lesowseluer. 1544 *Patent Roll 36 Hen. VIII* p. 3. m. 4 (P. R. O.) Proficua nostra quecumque vocata le Custumary Worke Syluer in hemyngforde abbatia. [1798 LYSONS *Environs Lond.* II. 564 The tenants services due formerly in this manor [Sudbury] seem to have been commuted for certain sums of money called work-silver.]

Worksome, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. WORK *sb.* or *v.* + -SOME.] Explained in Dicts. as = Industrious, diligent; but perh. modelled on G. *wirksam* efficacious, operative.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VI. vi, Equality, Frugality, worksome Blessedness.

Workwoman (wɜ·kwumăn). [f. WORK *sb.*, after *workman.*] A woman who works; a female worker or operative; † a woman who does needlework.

1530 PALSGR. 250/1 Workewoman, *ouuriere.* 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* VI. 119 That they good workewomen may bin. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* XIII. iv. 291 Wherein..nature sheweth hir selfe a proper workwoman. 1591 SPENSER *Muiopotmos* 260 The most fine-fingred workwoman on ground. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 5 Vertue is a meruelous worke-woman, who can make Mercury of any wood. 1675 HOMER *Odyssey* (1677) 188 One of these merchants sooth'd her into sin: For good work-women may be made do that. 1758 JOHNSON, *Workwoman*..a woman that works for hire. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 280/1 While the work-woman produces a kind of chain-work on the surface of the muslin. 1886 ESQUIROS *Cornwall* 74 The workwomen of the mines. 1886 BESANT *All Sorts* xxxix. (1898) 263 To live here as a workwoman among other workwomen.

Hence **Wo·rkwomanlike** *a.* or *adv.*, **-womanly** *a.*

1642 C. VAN PAS *Les abus du Mariage* Pl. 4, I now am Mistris of my crafte, and can Worke-womanlike deale in it. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 6/2 The silver spade, to which she put her foot in true workwomanly fashion.

Worky (wɜ·ki). *U. S.* [f. WORK *sb.* + -Y^6^.] A worker or operative. Also *attrib.*

1833 T. HAMILTON *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 272 The operative class [of New York] have already formed themselves into a society, under the name of 'The Workies'. *Ibid.* 275 The *Worky* convention. 1835 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) II. 309 The reasons why no gentry were admitted were,..because there was no room for more than the 'workies'. 1894 *Sunday Reform Leaflet* (Columbus, Ohio) Sept. 5 Take away this rest-day, and you..turn us into a nation of mere 'workies'.

Workyday, obs. var. WORKADAY.

† **Worl**, *v. Obs.* prob. var. WHIRL *v.*

c 1330 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 126 All þat euer myght it here, They myght not them self aastere, But worled on a hepe. *c* 1600 CHALKHILL *Thealma* 1577 Why do you kneel?..I know No worth in me to worl you down so low.

Worlais, obs. pl. of WARLOCK.

a 1300 *Hegi Mori* 23 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 733 Þe worlais, þai wil be her Fert take þair pray.

World (wɜ·ld), *sb.* Forms: α. 1 weorold, wurold, worold, uorold, wiarald, 1–3 weorld, worold, -eld, -old, 2 wurold, 3 we(o)reld, wærald, *Orm.* we(o)relld. β. 1– world; 1–3 weorld, 4–6 worlde (2 worlð, 3 wurld, 5 whorlld(e); 2–3 werld, 3 *Orm.* werld, 3–5 werld(e; *north.* and *Sc.* 3– warld, 5–6 warlde, varld, (5 warlode). γ. 4–6 wordle, 5 wordel, wordil; *north.* and *Sc.* 5–7 wardle, 6 wardill, vardil, wardel, vardel; 3 werdle. δ. 3–6 word, 4–5 worde (6 woande); 3–5 werd, 4–5 werde; 4 wird; *north.* 4, 6 ward. ε. 3 worl, 3–5 worle, 5 worlle, orlle, 6 worell; 8 worl', *north.* and *Sc.* 5 warle, 8 warl', 9 warl. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *weorold*, *worold*, *world* str. f., rarely m., corresp. to OFris. *wrald*, *ruald*, *warld* (EFris. *warld*, WFris. *wrld*), OS. *werald* (MLG. *werlt*, *warlt*, LG. *werld*, MDu. *werelt*, Du. *wereld*), OHG. *weralt* (MHG. *werelt*, *werlt*, *welt*, G. *welt*), ON. *verǫld* (Sw. *verld*, Da. *verden*): a formation peculiar to Germanic, f. *wer-* man, WERE *sb.*^1^ + *ald-* age (cf. OLD *a.*, ELD *sb.*^2^), the etymological meaning being, therefore, 'age' or 'life of man'.]

I. Human existence; a period of this.

1. a. Chiefly *This world*, *the world*: the earthly state of human existence; this present life.

To (unto, OE. *oð) the world's end*: as long as human things shall last, to the end of time (with admixture of senses 7, 9). Similarly in phrases such as *as long as the* or *this world lasts*, and *in this world.*

832 *Charter* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 447 Þet he ðas god forðieste oð wiaraldæ ende. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xviii. 137 [Hi] ne doo̊ him nan oðer god ðisse weorolde. *a* 1 *Blickl. Hom.* 57 We witon þæt æic white..to ende efsteþ — oneteþ þisse weorlde lifes. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 'Andswere me'..he wile seggen, 'hwat hafst ðu swa lange idon on ðare woreld?' *c* 1205 LAY. 5028 Þa wifmon þa þe a ðas weoreld iberr. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 Þet ha yef us swiche werkes to done in þisse wordle þet þo saulen of us mote bien isauued a domes dai. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 32 Fader ..ðu giue me seli timinge To thaunen ðis werdes biginninge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 91 Quat bote is to sette traueil On thyng ..þat es bot fantum o þis warld? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2335 Was neuere yete ioie more In al þis werd, þan þo was þore. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1058 Allas of me vn-to þe worldis ende Schal noþer ben wretyn noþer I-songe No good word. *c* 1400 *tr. Pol. Poems* I. 123 They han here heuene in this world here. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 12 Ale the wyt of this word fallus to foly. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 43 Wa is me, wretche in this warld, wilsome of wane! 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 289 In this 'werd that now is. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 22 Yearelie to be distributed..twenty pounds in pence to the poore people duringe the Worlde. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 36 He aall with va rest, And we with him, as lang as warld may lest. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 108 Time himselfe is bald, and therefore to the worlds end, will haue bald followers. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 102, I prethee now deliuer them, like a man of this World. 1670 T. BLOUNT *Acad. Eloq.* (ed. 4) 230 The Heir of a Knight in the right line shall be an Esquire to the worlds end. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* II. ii. § 8 A Christian's chief care being to pass quietly through this world to a better. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xliv, 'As to that,' said he, 'I must rub through the world as well as I can.' 1856 DICKENS *Christmas Stories* (1874) 43 She was too good for this world and for me, and she died six weeks before our marriage-day.

b. With reference to birth or death; esp. *to bring into the world*, to give birth to (see BRING *v.* 7 c); *to come into* (or *to*) *the world*, to be born (see COME *v.* 4 c); *fig.* (of a book) to be published; *to go* or *depart out of this world.*

Beowulf 60 Dæm fæower bearn forð gerimed in worold wocun. *a* 1000 *Genesis* 2284 Þu scealt, Agar, Abrahame sunu on worold bringan. *a* 1000 *Epist. Alex.* in Cockayne *Narrat.* (1861) 32 Ðin modor gewiteð of weorulde þurh scondlicne deað. *c* 1205 LAY. 17935 He sæt stille alse þeh he wolde of worlden liwiten. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2389 Ic sal to min sune fare..or ic of werlde chare. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5176 & þe nyentepe day of aueryl out of þis worl he wende. [1388] *c* 1380– [see COME *v.* 4 c]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2653 (Dubl.) Qwen he went of þis warld. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3953 Þaw y shulde now out of þis worde gone. 1579 RANDOLPH *Let.* in Buchanan *Wks.* (S.T.S.) 56 The last little Treatise..that lately come into the World. *c* 1588 *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 250 Not doutand bot angels and sanctis depairted out of this wardle may and do pray for us. 1627 [see BRING *v.* 7 c]. 1784 BURNS *Addr. Illeg. Child* iv, My funny toil is now a' tint, Sin' thou came to the warl asklent. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 3 Having been born into the world with a club foot.

c. without article (with blending of sense 7): † (*a*) *On*, *o*, *in world*, in this life, on earth.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* IV. xxiii. (1890) 332 Eal þæt heo for worulde [*v.r.* on weorulde] hæfde. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Vnclene wif þoleð scome on weorlde & unclene wif bið unwurð on liue. *c* 1205 LAY. 22069 Þe king for-bæd heom.. þat na mon on worlde swa wod no iwurðe..þat his grið breake. *Ibid.* 23475 Þat nuste he neuere on weorlde hu feole þusend þer weoren. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 120 An wirm is o werlde, wel man it knoweð. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1349 Hwore so he o worde aren. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 872 Whaben in worlde he were, Hit semed as he myzt be prynce. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1270 In warld was non so wiis Of craft þat men knewe. 1467 HARDING *Chron.* I. in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 740 This book..Whiche no man hath in worlde bot oonly ye. *c* 1478 *Partenay* 3816 Pray for me All dais while lif in worle here haue ye.

† (*b*) In genitive = temporal, earthly, secular: freq. in *world's* (*worldes*) *riches*, *wealth*, *men* (WER *sb.*^2^ 2), and the like. *Obs.* (in later use *Sc.*)

Beowulf 2343 Ende gebidan worulde . *c* 1275, etc. [see Wrt *ob.*² 2]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Þe hie weren wuniende in Ierusalem..and hadden þe fulle of wurldes richelese. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 48 Hise wise sune, Þe was of him fer ear bi-foren Or and wurldes time boren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8314 Salamon..sal be a man o pes, And mikel haf o werldes es. *Ibid.* 12416 To sett ieu to werld lur. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 362 For coveitise and worldes pride. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 674 Alle my werdes wele. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxiii. (1908) 159 Forsakynge all worldes besynesse. 1508 Dunbar *Poemes* vi. 34 A barell bung ay at my bosum, Of varldis gud I had na mair. 1612 J. Davies (Heref.) *Of Worth of Sylvester* 52 S.'s Wks. 816 For whose deare birth, thou didst all ease refuse, Worlds-weal, and (being a Marchant) thy Receits. 1666 G. Woodcocke *Hist. Justine* 15 b, When he saw they would not sel their liberty for any worldes good. 1781 Burns *My Nanie, O* vi, My riches a's my penny-fee..; But warl's gear ne'er troubles me. 1786 — *To Mr. J. Kennedy* iv, Now if ye're ane o' warl's folk, Wha rate the wearer by the cloak. *a* 1796 — *Now hank & hras* ii, The chield wha boasts o' warld's wealth. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* May 165 Let warld's gear gang.

d. *The other, another, the next, a better world, the world to come* or *to be*: the future state, the life after death. Sometimes viewed as the 'realm' of departed spirits.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 32 Ne byð hyt hym forgyfen, ne on þisse worulde, ne on þære toweardan [1388 Wyclif, nether in this world, ne in the tother; 1526 Tindale, nether in this worlde, nether in the worlde to come]. *c* 1200 Ormin 4192 Reastedaȝȝ..tacneþþ all þatt reste & ro Þatt hallȝhe sawless brukenn Inn operr werelld. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Nicene Creed*, The lyfe of the worlde to come. 1581 Hamilton in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 73 The horribill tormentis preparit for thame in the varld to cum. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* iv. iii, Will there be no slanders, No jealousies in the other world? 1715 I. Mather *Several Serm.* title-p., When Godly Men dye, Angels carry their Souls to another and a better World. 1738 Wesley *Hymns*, '*Attend while God's Eternal Son*' v, Far from..Sin, and Earth, and Hell, In the new World thy Grace hath made, May I for ever dwell! 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 170 He..Allured to brighter worlds, and led the way. *a* 1796 Burns *Epit. on Friend* 7 If there's another world, he lives in bliss. 1809 Magee *Atonement* (1816) II. 107 The appellation, 'mighty dead',..becomes applicable to all the inhabitants of the invisible world. 1816 Shelley *Mont Blanc* 49 Some say that gleams of a remoter world Visit the soul in sleep,—that death is slumber. 1846 Tennyson *Golden Year* 56 'Tis like the second world to us that live. 1864 — *En. Ard.* 899 Who will embrace me in the world-to-be.

e. *gen.* A state of (present or future) existence.

c 1300 *Beket* 77 Heo..ȝeode aboute as a best..As heo were of another wordle. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. v. 134 Both the worlds I giue to negligence, Let come what comes. 1807 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immortality* 149 Blank misgivings of a Creature Moving about in worlds not realised. 1859 FitzGerald *Omar* xxv, All the Saints and Sages who discuss'd Of the Two Worlds so learnedly.

2. The pursuits and interests of this present life; *esp.*, in religious use, the least worthy of these; temporal or mundane affairs. † *World's* = worldly.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 399 [370] Ne won he æfter worulde ac he in wuldre ahof modes wynne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10103 Thrin fas..þis werld, my fleche, þe warlau als. 1340 *Ayenb.* 92 Þe more þet [me] lykeþ þe zuetnesse of þe wordle, þe lesse me wyleþ þe zuetnesse of god. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. lf. 4, þe devel, þe worlde, ande the flesch. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perserv.* 192 in *Macro Plays* 83 Who-so spekyth a-geyn þe werd, In a presun he achal be sperd. *Ibid.* 1009, 1017 Þe Werld, þe Flesch, & þe Devyl, are knowe grete lordis. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* I. iii. F iv, Bycause he is so sore sette, or to gredy vpon the world, or his thrift. 1564 J. Martiall *Treat. Crosse* 17 Christ hath subdued sinne, conquered the worlde, discomfited the deuil. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 73 Ah Palinodie, thou art a worldes childe: Who touches Pitch mought needes be defilde. 1675 Owen *Indwelling Sin* ii. (1732) 17 Whence is it, that Men follow and pursue the World with so much greediness? 1782 Cowper *Love of the World Reproved* 25 Renounce the world—the preacher cries. 1784 — *Task* II. 389 Infidelity and love of world. 1807 Wordsw. *Misc. Sonn.* I. xxxiii. 1 The world is too much with us. 1843 J. Martineau *Chr. Life* xvii. 255 The world..i.e. the opportunities of action with a view to temporal good. 1882 Seeley *Nat. Relig.* II. i. 130 The World is the collective character of those who do not worship.

3. The affairs and conditions of life; chiefly in phr., esp. with the verb *go* (e.g. *how the world goes*, how events shape themselves; *how goes the world with* (a person), how are his affairs; *as the* (or *this*) *world goes*, as things are, considering the state of affairs); also † *to let the world slide*, to allow things to take their course, to leave matters alone; *to let the world wag* (see Wag v. 7 c).

Beowulf 1739 Ac him eal worold wendeð on willan. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvi. § 1 Ðe þenc þu nu.. Boetius..hwæðer þin worold þa eall ware æfter þinum willan. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 318 Hyra worold-wela zahwyrfed. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 19 A Feir fayld ful of folk fond I þer bi-twene, ..Werchinge and wondringe as þe world askeþ. 13.. *Gesm. & Gr. Knt.* 130 & wynter wyndes agayn, as þe worlde ... *c* 1480–5 *MS. Trin. Coll. Dubl.* D. 4. 18 in *Archæologia* XXIX. 341 Trust not..youre foes, For þei be double in wirking, as þe worlde goe. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 232 William Paston..paid to the parson..xxiiij*li.*..It is yerly worth, as the world goth now, *xli.* 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 82 How? father, .thynkes the whorlde qwheesy.. and therfor he whowide that se gepart not yowrselfe to hofton to Bregys. *a* 1529– [see Wag v. 7 c]. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* IV. iv. T iij, What is the matter, or howe gothe the worlde with hym? 1564 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 26 Now let 'vs go..and see how the worlde goeth with Master Antonius. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1848/2 What a Gospeller [he]..was in King Edwardes tyme, which now turning with the world, sheweth him self such a byter Persecuter..in Queene Maries time. 1596, 1621 [see Sloth n. 3 b]. 1600 Shaks. *Hen. V*. II. ii. 178 To be honest as this world goes, is to bee one man pick'd out of two thousand. *Ibid.* III. ii. 285 Some must watch, while some must sleepe; So runnes the world away. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 74 However the world goes, we may yet make a tolerable shift. 1713 Pope *Let. to Addison* Wks. 1737 VI. 32 And give me leave to tell you, that (as the world goes) this is no small assurance I repose in you. 1833 Dickens etc. *Hounsh. Words* Christmas No. 23/1 How's the world used you since this morning? 1886 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xviii, The world is out of joint. 1886 Baring-Gould *Crt. Royal* iv, What was the world coming to, when the police poked their noses into his shop?

†b. State of human affairs, state of things; hence, season or time as marked by the state of affairs. *Obs.*

1486 *Paston Lett.* I. 400 And as for the iijde *li.* to be sette on Olivere is talle, I can not see it wole be, for there is noo suche worlde to bringe it abowte. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 Here ys but strange warlede..the sekenese raynyd sore at London. 1484 *Ibid.* 152 What world wee schall hawe wt Flaunders I can nott say, I feyr me they wyll breke wt us. ?1503 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 232 Good yt is that we see to our owne surtie.. wat world so euer shall hapen to fall here after. 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 70 If the worlde would haue gone as I would haue wished, king Henryes sonne had had the crown. *Ibid.*, What nede in that grene world yᵉ protector had of yᵉ duke. *c* 1523 — in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 295 They do but seke delayes till they may se how the world is. 1530 Palsgr. 559/2 Let the place be well fumygate..it is a daungerous worlde [Fr. *temps*] nowe a dayes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 195 b, Til he might spye a tyme conuenient, & a world after hys awn appetite. *c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 178 Others which foretold this dolorous dolesful wretched world that followed upon this divorce. 1596 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 94 This is no world To play with Mammets. 1614 Chapman *Odyssey* XI. 602 But take close shore disguisde, nor let her know, For tis no world to trust a woman now.

†c. (One's) condition in life, (good) fortune. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 16 Bot every clerk his herte leith To kepe his world in special. *Ibid.* 84, I not in what degree Thou schalt thi goode world achieve. *Ibid.* III. 170 Whan that he weneth best achieve His goode world.

4. Secular (or lay) life and interests, as distinguished from religious (or clerical); also (by association with III, as in b and d below), secular (or lay) people. *Of the world*, †*world's*: secular; see also Man of the world a.

a 1030 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 109 Oððe æfter gode oððe æfter wurulde he sy. *c* 1200 [see Man of the world a]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 24 Hwon þe preostes of ðe worlde singeð hore messen. *c* 1290 *Beket* 244 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 113 Þo þis holi Man was i-torned fram þe office of holi churche To a gret office of þe world. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27172 Worlds man, or clerc, or closterer. 1340 *Ayenb.* 49 Þe enlefte [sin of adultery] is of man of þe wordle to wyfman of religioun. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 97 Bot bettir chepe sal ye selle þan þe men of þe werld dose. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 That is to say, some chose to go by the worlde and some by religion. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 25 The oder varkis qvhilk ar techit in al the buikis of the wardel. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 321 Hee taking a loathing to the world..retired into that hospitall..where with poore people hee lived to God. 1672 Ravenscroft *Mamamouchi* II. i. (1675) 24 I'l threaten to flee beyond Sea to a Nunnery, and for ever seclude my self from the World. *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 337 In the 80th of her age, forsaking yᵉ world she desired nothing more, then to dedicate herselfe to God, in a Religious estate. 1717 Pope *Eloisa* 208 How happy is the blameless Vestal's lot! The world forgetting, by the world forgot. 1808 Scott *Marmion* II. iii, The Abbess..early took the veil and hood, Ere upon life she cast a look, Or knew the world that she forsook. 1848 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 12 A book which is not only esteemed in the Church, but has had the honour..of commanding the respect of the world. 1888 'Bernard' *Fr. World to Cloister* ii. 12 Having resigned the situation I held in the world.

b. In the Society of Friends applied to those outside their own body.

1648 G. Fox *Jrnl.* (1852) I. 70 The Lord commanded me to go abroad into the world. *c* 1680 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1912) LV. 82 The Other Months Named after ye Manner of ye world. 1698–9 Story & Gill in S. B. Weeks *Southern Quakers* (1896) 67 The displeasure of God..against mixed marriages between them [sc. Quakers] and the world. *a* 1713 Thomas Ellwood *Hist. Life* (1714) 340 Thomas Dell and Edward Moor [were discharged] by other People of the World, paying their Fines and Fees for them. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 57 They are receiving a perpetual accession to their numbers from among the 'world's people'. 1867 Dixon *New Amer.* II. x. 93 Some of these [Quaker] ladies..have husbands (as the world would call them).

c. † *To go to the world, to be* (a man, woman) *of the world*: to be married.

1585 Calfhill *Answ. Martiall* 109 b, Ye say when a man wyl marry, then he goeth to the world. 1599 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 230/2 This man is of the worlde, that is to say, he is maried: This man is of the Churche, that is to say, Spirituall. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 331 Good Lord for alliance: thus goes euery one to the world but I. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. iii. 5, I do desire it [marriage] with all my heart: and I hope it is no dishonest desire, to desire to be a woman of yᵉ world? 1602 — *All's Well* I. iii. 20 But if I may haue your Ladiships good will to goe to the world, Isbell the woman and we will doe as we may.

d. In biblical and religious use: Those who are concerned only with the interests and pleasures of this life or with temporal or mundane things; the worldly and irreligious.

1382 Lamb. *P. Pl. A.* I. 97 Lord not þi leam, for lyuere hise techeþ, þat is þe Wildeste word þe to bi-traye. 1382 Wyclif *John* xv. 19 But I chees you fro the world, therfore ... 28th you. 1540–7 Coverdale *Fruitf. Lem.* E 1 b, The world, that is to say, fleshly men and ... of the world, receiue not this spirite. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* lv. vi, The World with fruitless Pain Seek Happiness below.

†5. An age or (long) period of time in earthly or human existence or history; *pl.* ages. *Obs.*

Phrases. † *By long worlds*: ages ago. *In* or *to worlds long*: for ages. *Worlds of years*: ages, centuries. *The world(s) to come*: future ages, posterity.

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Þis bitacnað þe world þet wes fram biginnegge [etc.]..In þisse worlde nas na laȝe ne na larȝeu. *c* 1205 Lay. 23425 A þere ilke worlde [*c* 1275 worle] þa þis wes iwurðen wes Francene loud Gualle haten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1492 Þe formast werld adam he-gan, Þar-of lamech he last man. *Ibid.* 13128 Suilc a man was neuer yeitt Sin ani werldes ware. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 176 These olde worldes with the newe Who that wol take in evidence, Ther mai he se [etc.]. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 223 Þe olde philosophers vsyd it by longe werldes. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 262 Who wol do puruyaunce in worldis longe, The palmes forto sette he must ha mynde. *Ibid.* 482 Tyl worldis longe This drynkis woke abide and ay be stronge. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 115 All thys worlde ys departed in to thre tymes. The fyrst tyme was when men lyued after the lawe of nature [etc.]. 1549 Ridley in Potts *Liber Cantabr.* (1855) 245 *note*, A dangerouse example to the worlde to cum. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 44 He that all warldis was beforne, Come downe of Marie to be borne. 1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 18 For that in the worldes to come, it might be known who was the author therof. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* viii. (1592) 87 The Heauen goeth about continually, and in so many worlds and ages as haue beene, we perceiue no alteration at all. 1593 Hilson *Perpet. Govt. Ch.* 5 This was the blessing due to the elder Brother in the first world. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* D 7, Tarquinius..prouident in peace, & in that young world, a notable polititian. *a* 1600 Hooker *Serm., Habak. ii. 4* Wks. 1874 III. 640 Adam and all the fathers before Christ, till Christ's coming, were for so many worlds together detained. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 2 Forgetfull of all other things in their ancient country, after so many worlds of yeeres. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 180 True swaines in loue, shall in the world to come Approue their truths by Troylus. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 202 [200] From all which 'tis as clear, that we meant in the dayes of yore by the word World, time, ages [etc.].

b. A period or age of human history characterized by certain conditions or indicated by the character of those living in it. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by 16 a.

1330–1600 Golden world [see Golden *a.* 7]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 160 It was used in that good old world, when men wiped their nose on their sleeve (as the French man sayes). 1781 Blair in *Sc. Transl. & Paraphr.* (1793) 12 All old things now are past away, and a new world begun. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 401 These were men whose minds had been trained in a world which had passed away. 1886 E. B. Bax *Relig. Socialism* 106 In Shakespeare's 'historical plays' the characters live and speak in the world of the sixteenth century.

6. In various phrases translating eccl. Latin *in secula seculorum, in seculum seculi* = for ever and ever, for all time, through eternity. †a. *From world into world(s, in world of world(s, in to* (*the*) *world(s of world(s, through all worlds, world always.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxi, Þa nu sculon standan to worulde. *c* 1110 *Ælfred's Boeth.* Epil., Si þe lof & wylder nu & a a to worulde buton zghwilcum ende. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Þe lauerd..wuniende and rixlende on worulde a buten ende. *c* 1330 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 39 Ah achal lifnden him al swettere & sauurure, fram worlde in-to worlde. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lx. 9 Swa saime saie sal I þe same In werld of werld vnto þi name. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxiv. 10 Desolat shal [his land] be in to worldis of worldis. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 34 As hit was in the bygynnynge and now and euere; in the worldes of worldes amen. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 332 Sche sal..loue god euer of al his lone And wirchip him werld alwals. *c* 1420 *Prymer* (1895) 16 Glorie be to þee, lord...in euerlastynge worldis. *Ibid.* 74 He ordeynede þo þingis into þe world, & in to þe world of world [*L. in æternum, et in sæculum sæculi*]. 1434 Misyn *Mending of Life* 131 To qwhome be wyrschip & ley..in warld of warldys. Amen. 1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 1. 4 Thorough worlds of worldes; whiche signifieth for euer. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xv. xii. 411 Eternall God, which liuest and reignest euer one God through all worlds, Amen. [1842 Tennyson *Gard. Daw.* 203, I heard his deep 'I will,' Breathed, like the covenant of a God, to hold From thence thro' all the worlds.]

b. *World without* (ME. *abuten* or *buten*) *end*; later used hyperbolically: Endlessly, eternally. Hence as *adj. phr.* = perpetual, everlasting, eternal; and as *subst. phr.* eternal existence, endlessness, eternity.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Þeo þet hefden ofearned þe pinen of helle world a buten ende. *c* 1305 *St. Swithin* 209 in *E. E. P.* (1863) 46 Þat vuel..ne schal no leng ileste, Ac þu worst þerof hol and sound, worlde wiþouten ende. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 465, I must nedis weynd, And to the dwill be thrall warld withouttен end. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 94/1 Many benefetes ben gyuen to thonour of our lord Jhū crist whiche is blessed world wythouten ende. Amen. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins*, As it was in the beginning, is now, and euer shalbe, world without ende. 1598 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 799 A time me thinkes too short, To make a world-without-end bargaine in. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxi. Wks. 1851 III. 484 This man..thinks by talking world without end, to make good his integrity. 1723 in *Life Ld. Hardwicke* (1847) II. 499 Lᵈ Chesterfield writes Works without End. 1881 Morris *Macbail's W. M.* (1899) II. 34 This world-without-end-for-everlasting hole of a London. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 20 Dec. 831 A city pastor, with a world-without-end of things to be done. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xiv, My heart and soul and senses, World without end, are drowned. 1903 F. Young *Sands of Pleasure*

v, Small wonder if the embodiment of the world-without-end should prove no encourager of man's happiness!

II. The earth or a region of it; the universe or a part of it.

7. The earth and all created things upon it; the terraqueous globe and its inhabitants. (See also 21 a, 22 a.)

Citizen of the world: see CITIZEN 2c. *Universal world*: see UNIVERSAL *a.* 2. *Wide world*: see WIDE *a.* 1 b.

*c*888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Þeah þu þa ealle geseafta ane naman genemnede, elle þu neendest togedere & hete woruld. *c*893 — *Oros.* I. vi. § 2 On þass Ambiciones tide wurdon swa mycele wæterflod geond ealle world. *a*900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 659 Se þass world gesceop, godes gæst-sunu. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 We habbeð ihereden þurh wise witega hu he ærest astalde þeos woreld al for ure neode. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15460 Godd shop all þe werrld off nohht. *c* 1205 LAY. 7206 He [Julius Cæsar] þohte to bi-winnen..al middel-eardes lond and halde þat worlde in his hond. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 901 Wiste no man of werlde þa, Quat kinde he was kumen fro. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 346 Bot be þat mad al thing o nought To-geder he al þis werld wroght. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 222 Noe sones..departed al þys werd..in þre parties. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* I. 4 Ich wente forth in þe worlde wonders to hure. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1302 He mon ride þus & regne ouire all þe ronde werde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) 180 Men myghte go be Schippe alle aboute the World, and aboven and benethen. 24.. *Childh. Jesus* 111 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 113 Jhesu, þat alle þys orlle hath wrowt. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Psalms lxxxix. 12 Thou hast layed the foundacion of the rounde worlde, and all that therin is. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 214 b, The vyage made by the Spanyardes rounde aboute the worlde. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Ark* 60 The World's-re-colonizing Boat [*viz.* Noah's ark). 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 168 And thirtie dosen Moones..About the World haue times twelue thirties beene. 1633 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* viii. 25 The Bisquayn Ship..wherein Magellan compassed the World. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 646 The World was all before them, where to choose Thir place of rest, and Providence thir guide. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 372 Its own revolvency upholds the world. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 300/1 (*Drake*) This voyage round the world, the first accomplished by an Englishman, was thus performed in two years and about ten months.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1598 in T. Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 73 Paid to Crowe for makyng of iij worldys..ij^{s}. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 408 Her breasts like Ivory globes circled with blew, A paire of maiden worlds vnconquered. 1597 — *Lover's Compl.* 7, I..Ere long espied a fickle maid full pale..Storming her world with sorrow, whose world and raine. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Epist.* I. xix. 29 Through open Worlds of Rhime I dar'd to tread In Paths unknown. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 706 See, the sun splits on yonder bauble world Of silvered glass.

c. In phr. with *go round*, orig. referring to the rotation of the earth, but used chiefly fig. with implication of other senses (e. g. I a, 3).

1782 BURNS *A Toast* 4 Their fame it shall last while the world goes round. 1788 HURDIS *Village Curate* (1797) 21 'Tis drink, And only drink, that makes the world go round. 1882 W. S. GILBERT *Iolanthe* II, It's Love that makes the world go round!

d. *The world's end*: the farthest limit of the earth. Chiefly used hyperbolically.

Used as the proper name of out-of-the-way localities or houses, esp. formerly, of certain inns kept for illicit purposes (cf. quot. 1695).

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 272 Will your Grace command mee any seruice to the worlds end? I will goe on the slightest arrand now to the Antypodes. 1608 tr. *Matthieu's Powerfull Favorite* 13 Is it for this (say they) that they haue sent him to the worlds end. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. ix, Poor innocent! you don't know that there's a place call'd the *World's End*? 1707 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v. *World*, *attrib.* 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 90 Now we stand On the world's-end-land!

e. In generalized sense, usually qualified by *a.*

1696 DRYDEN *Æneas.* III. 33 Too truly Tamerlain's Successors they, Each thinks a World too little for his sway. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* II. i. (1730) 39 This [spherical figure] must be allowed to be the most commodious, apt Figure for a World on many Accounts. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 290 They have great force upon me.. or one world would not have held Mr. Lovelace and me thus long. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 89 'Tis pleasant through the loop-holes of retreat To peep at such a world. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* v. ii. 189 Life is not worth a world That you should weep to take it.

f. *pl.* Used hyperbolically for: 'a great quantity'; often advb. 'a great deal', 'infinitely' (cf. 19 b). (*a*) pl. *Not* (. .) *for worlds*: not for all the wealth in the world, not on any account.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 317 Like two contrarie tides, either of which are able to carry worldes of shippes, and men upon them. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 223 Nor doth this wood lacke worlds of company. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Unnat. Father* Wks. 1630 I. 142 Through worlds of Deaths I'l breake to fly to him. [1892 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xix, I would not part with this for worlds of ore.] *Ibid.* xxiv, Nor would he do one act for worlds, that could..cast a shade over the fame and honour of one ——. 1872 LOCKER *Lond. Lyrics* (ed. 5) 178 I'd give worlds to borrow Her yellow rose with russet leaves. 1874 W. S. GILBERT *Sweethearts* II, I'm sure I wouldn't stand in his way for worlds. 1892 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* 2, She seemed to be separated by whole worlds of difference from such ladies as his own mother. 1892 'G. TRAVERS' *Mona Maclean* VI, I was worlds too shy. 1900 H. S. HOLLAND *Old & New* 33 They look to you worlds apart.

(*b*) sing., in negative context, e. g. *not for the world, all the world,* † *half the world.*

99 *Prin. Ha. Nun.* Not for the world faire Madam, by my will. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. iii. 68 Would'st thou do such a deed for al the world? 1629 ENCOMBELLE *Fr. Gard.* N 6 b, I would not faile in it for any thing in the world. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 32 Not for all the world, purposing any hurt vato him. 1664 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Antiq. Soc.* (N. S.) 178 A thing I would not have been guilty of for halfe the world. 1669 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. i. 6 He would not for all the World return again. 1732–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 43, I won'dn't be as sick as she's proud, for all the World. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 807 He..Can dig, beg, rot,..but could not for a world Fish up his dirty and dependent bread, (etc.). 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxviii, But I am sure I would not do such a thing for all the world. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* viii, Not for the world..will I be a spy on my kind godfather's secrets. 1847 BUCKSTONE *Flowers of Forest* III. vii, No, no—not for the wide wide world. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. iii. 62 Daphne, usually loquacious, felt as if she could not have spoken for the world.

8. With qualification: Any part of the universe considered as an entity, as † MIDDLE WORLD (the earth), *lower* or *nether world* (Hades or hell, less freq. the earth), UNDERWORLD 1.

c 1200, *c* 1250, 1822 [see MIDDLE WORLD]. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 44 This beneath world. 1609–[see UNDERWORLD 1]. 1700 [see NETHER *a.* 6]. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 729 The groans of nature in this nether world, Which Heav'n has heard for ages. 1786 BURNS *Nature's Law* II, This lower world I you resign. 1789 — *To Mr. Renton*, Though 'twere a trip to yon blue warl' [i.e. hell]. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XVII. 22, I..With Virgil..visited the nether world of woe.

b. A planet or other heavenly body, esp. one viewed as inhabited.

1713 ADDISON *Cato* V. i, But thou shalt flourish..Unhurt amidst..The Wrecks of Matter, and the Crush of Worlds. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 254 Being on Being wreck'd, and world on world. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 82 The sun, a world whence other worlds drink light. 1870 R. A. PROCTOR (*title*) Other Worlds than Ours. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXXI. 419 Overhead the great worlds became more visible in the deep vault of blue.

9. The material universe as an ordered system; the system of created things; 'heaven and earth'; the cosmos. Also (rarely) a system of heavenly bodies. Also *fig.* † In early use chiefly in *the greater* or *more world*, the macrocosm, and *the less* or *little world*, the microcosm, man. Now *rare.*

c 1200 ORMIN 17597 Mycrocosmos, þatt nemmnedd iss Affterr Ennglissh speche þe little werelld. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 550 For þis resun þat þee haue hard, Man es clepid þe lesse werld. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 645 Ze liknen a lud to a litil wordle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 72 A soubtil man,.. Which thurgh magique and sorcerie Couthe al the world of tricherie. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 182 No meruayle thoughe god had more delyte in the thow lesse worlde that were yet to be made, then of thys more worlde. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xvi. 50 This clerenesse..enuyronneth al aboute the worlde the foure elementis whiche god created. 1529 *Interl. Four Elem.* A vj b, The yerth as a poynt or center is sytuate In the myddes of the worlde. 1536 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Lyke as the great worlde was made perfecte in vij dayes, so ye lesse worlde, that is man, is made..perfecte by grace in these vij spirituall dayes. 1552 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* I. (1556) 4 The worlde is an apte frame of heauen and earthe, and all other naturall thinges contained in them. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. i. 10 (Qo. 2) In his little world of man. 1633 HERBERT *Temple, Man* viii, Man is one world, and hath Another to attend him. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. i. (1890) 444 Surely the Astronomers had reason to term this Sphere..a thing of no dimension at all, being compar'd to the whole World. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxiv. § 2 The great collective Idea of all Bodies whatsoever signified by the name World. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* III. i. 182 Thy Works apparent to us, the System of the bigger World! 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *University*, The four Faculties are supposed to make the World or Universe of Study. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 8 The Philosophers of the present Age teach us, that the Universe..is replenished with Systems or Worlds of different Bodies. 1882 T. FOWLER *Shaftesbury & Hutcheson* 106 We may infer that Shaftesbury conceived the relation of God to the World as that of soul to the body. Nature is ..the vesture of God, and God the soul of the Universe.

10. The sphere within which one's interests are bound up or one's activities find scope; (one's) sphere of action or thought; the 'realm' within which one moves or lives.

In the earliest instances with allusion to the microcosm of man (see 9).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 31 How it [*sc.* virtue] extendeth it selfe out of the limits of a mans own little world, to the gouernment of families. *a* 1642 SUCKLING *Poems* (1648) 12 In each mans heart that doth begin To love, there's ever fram'd within A little world. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. II. xv, She dwells in her own self, there doth reside, Is her own world, and more or lesse doth pen Her self. 1807 WORDSW. *Personal Talk* 23 Children are blest and powerful; their world lies More justly balanced; partly at their feet, And part far from them. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* II. ii, With no aspirations beyond the little world in which she moved. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 28 The atmosphere of insolence in which he dwells;..the taint of contempt which infects all the intercourses of his world. 1853 T. T. LYNCH *Self-Improvem.* iii. 53 A man's world is not of the senses simply, but of the spirit too. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xvi. 268 [His] world was a narrow one, consisting as it did of himself and his bank-book.

11. A section or part of the earth at large, as a place of inhabitation or settlement; † a country or region.

New World, a continent or country discovered or colonised at a comparatively late period, esp. the continents of America (the Western Hemisphere) as distinguished from the *Old World*, or the continents of the Eastern Hemisphere, esp. Europe and Asia, as being known before the discovery of America.

1555 EDEN *Decades* title-p., The Decades of the Newe Worlde or West India. 1582 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* Ep. Ded. A iij b, Some of them..seeke new Countries and new worlds to shew their valiancie in. 1589 HAKLUYT *Princ. Navig.* (title-p.), The English vallant attempts in searching almost all the corners of the vaste and new world [illegible] 1. I,..driuen by warre from forth my native ——— 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 45 This little world, This precious stone, set in the siluer sea. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. title-p., Voyages..to all parts of the Newfound world of America, or the West Indies. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. i. 115 From the one side to the other [of the Bosphorus]..men out of these two worlds may parly one to another with audible voice. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. E 2 b, Tanais..doth diuide

FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 183 This World produces two Harvests. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 721 Thence Arts o'er all the northern world advance. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. (1801) 16 Alexander the Great..when he had conquered what was called the Eastern World..wept for want of more worlds to conquer. 1812 ROGERS *Voy. Columbus* II. 39 From world to world their steady course they keep. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 57 Come, my friends, 'Tis not too late to seek a newer world. 1859 CORNWALLIS (*title*) A Panorama of the New World [Australia]. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 Before the New World poured in so many objects hitherto unknown to Europe. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. 29 *note*, The influence which American freedom would exert upon the Old World.

12. A division of created things; *esp.* each of the three primary divisions of natural objects (the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms).

Organic world, the animal and vegetable kingdoms; *inorganic world*, the material world outside these.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 3 Nor..did I neglect..whatever either the Vegetable or Animal World afforded. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 112 The vegetable world is also thine, Parent of Seasons! 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* (1873) II. viii. 530 In the inorganic world, the magnificent discoveries of Newton were contumeliously rejected. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 70 As in the animal or vegetable world.

13. A group or system of things or beings associated by common characteristics (denoted by a qualifying word or phrase), or considered as constituting a unity.

1673 T. BLOUNT (*title*) A World of Errors discovered in the New World of Words. 1688 G. SINCLAIR (*title*) Satans Invisible World discovered. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iii. § 27 (1695) 319 The whole intellectual World; a greater certainly, and more beautiful World, than the material. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 389 Truth is where the Divine Ideas are,..in the Intelligible World, that world of true light and glory. 1704 *Ibid.* II. iii. 253 Intellectual world means the world of spirits, whereas by intelligible world we mean the world of Ideas. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 536 Then, all the world of waters sleeps again. 1807 WORDSW. *Personal Talk* 33 Dreams, books, are each a world. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Witches*, Dear little T. H..finds all this world of fear [*i.e.* night fears]..in his own 'thick-coming fancies'. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xvi, We carried in the steerage nearly a hundred passengers; a little world of poverty. 1851 [see VISIBLE *a.* 1]. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 213 The external world is governed by acts, the internal world by opinions. 1874 MIVART *Contemp. Evol.* (1876) 199 The mingling of the hyperphysical world of rationality with the irrational creation. 1893 W. S. FURNEAUX (*title*) The Outdoor World; or, Young Collector's Handbook.

† b. *World of words*: a dictionary. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO (*title*) A Worlde of Wordes, Or Most copious, and exact Dictionarie in Italian and English. 1611 COTGR., *Vocabulaire*, a Vocabularie, Dictionarie, world of words. 1696 PHILLIPS (*title*) The Moderne World of Words, or A Vniversall English Dictionary,...*Novus Orbis Verborum.*

III. The inhabitants of the earth, or a section of them.

14. The human race; the whole of mankind; human society. (See also 21 b, 22 b.)

Sometimes passing into 15.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1484 Hwæt! ic þæt for woruldе sæþolade. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17406 Swa lufede þe Laferrd Godd þe werelld, tatt he sennde Hiss ajhenn Sune..to wurrþenn mann onn erþe. *c* 1205 LAY. 9072 Jesu Crist..alre worulde wunne. *c* 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 128 In *O. E. Misc.* 214 Þe sun of god, þat a3ayn bo3t þe word. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 1 So that it myhte in such a wyse, Whan we ben dede.. Beleve to the worldes eere. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 506 in *26 Pol. Poems* 140 And so shall I see my sauyour Deme the worlde. 1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 31, I suppose it wolbe hard for you to purge your selfe before God or the worle. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* VI. vi. § 2. 620 They make Decrees expressely againste Goddes Woorde, and that not ..couertly, but openly, and in the face of the worlde. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. i. § 2 It being impossible that persons employed by a God of truth should make it their design to impose upon the world. 1724 DERHAM *Astro-Theol.* (1769) 27 The condition, state and order of the world inhabiting the earth. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 307 In Faith and Hope the world will disagree, But all Mankind's concern is Charity. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 128 In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world. 1842 — *Walking to Mail* 69 You know That these two parties still divide the world—Of those that want, and those that have. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* vi. (1875) 337 The whole world was redeemed by Christ.

† b. *World's, worlds(s shame, shame of the world*: universal or public disgrace. *Obs.*

Replacing the OE. compound *woruldscamu* (ME. *worldscame*); see 24 a.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 333 He schal with worldes schame

Himself and ek his love achame. 1483-4 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 4 Persones of noe substaunce ne havar, not dredyng God nor worldes shame. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 27 Worlds shame. 1612 Chapman *May Day* IV, Has not one of them [*sc.* disguises] kept you safe from the shame of the world? 1732-8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 32 Fie, fie, Miss! for Shame of the World, and Speech of good People. 1882 Pusey *Par. & Cath. Serm.* xii. 264 One decided act of blind, obedient faith, ready..to bear what might bring the world's shame.

c. *Against the world*: in opposition to or in the face of all mankind; hence, against all opposition, † in preference to everything else. (See also 21 b.)

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 224 But yesterday, the word of Cæsar might Haue stood against the World. 1699 W. Walker *Idiomat. Angle-Lat.* 331, I am for the woods against the World, i.e. before any thing. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 124 There will I..hold thee with my life against the world.

15. The body of living persons in general; society at large, 'people', the public; often with reference to its judgement or opinion.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 120 Fellow, why do'st thou show me thus to th' world? Beare me to prison. 1618 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 127 Yet let both hym and the world judg of me yf I dealt frendly with hym. 1693 *Humours Town* 29 To make the World think he has been at a good Meal. 1738 Pope *Epil. Sat.* i. 147 In golden Chains the willing World she [*sc.* Virtue] draws. 1762 Churchill *Night* 351 You must be wrong, the World is in the right. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 681 He..call'd the world to worship on the banks Of Avon, fam'd in song. 1828 Ld. Ellenborough *Diary* (1881) I. 201 There are all sorts of stories of the Lord High Admiral, and the world says he is mad. 1833-8 Newman *Hist. Sk.* Ser. III. x. (1873) 291 It is harder to resist the world's smiles than the world's frowns. 1858 Mrs. Craik *Woman's Th.* ix. 230 How often do we hear the phrases,—'What will the world say?' 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 936 The world, the world, All ear and eye. 1893 *Bookman* June 85/1 From the world's point of view his unpopularity was richly deserved.

16. Usually with qualification: A particular division, section, or generation of the earth's inhabitants or human society. a. with reference to the place or time of their existence.

1382 Wyclif *2 Pet.* ii. 5 If God..sparide not to the first world, but kepte Noe [Tindale the olde worlde but saved Noe]. 1601, 1704 Western world [see Western *a.* 4]. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 76 The old world, as is thought, was ignorant of this sport. *c* 1670 A. Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. [illegible]

deron's Magico Prodigiose I. 126 The wisdom Of the old world masked with the names of Gods. 1899 Wrightson *Sancta Respubl. Rom.* 4 Theodosius left the Roman world in peace. 1902 G. M. Trevelyan *Brit. Hist. 19th Cent.* v. 91 To prevent the domination and exploitation of the European world by France.

b. with reference to their interests or pursuits.

1602 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iv. 2 One of the greatest in the Christian world Shall be my suretie. 1658 R. Baillie in *Durham's Comm. Rev.* (1660) To Rdr. B 2 b, The matter of it..cannot but be very welcom and acceptable to the world of Believers. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 195 P 2 The Learned World are very much offended at many of my Ratiocinations. 1779 Sheridan *Critic* I. i, A gentleman well known in the theatrical world. 1796 Nelson 25 Nov. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 305 The part allotted to me..ended, as our world here, say, much to my credit. 1779 *Mirror* No. 38 The female world. 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* III. 74 Satiated as I am, and as I suppose two thirds of the reading world have been with sonnets. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 470 A fact now well known to the chemical world. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 304 An extraordinary circumstance is stated to have taken place in the musical world. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 219 Two noblemen, whose names are as eminent in the poultry world as in rank. 1870 Huxley *Lay Serm.* iii. 48 The serene resting-place for worn human nature—the world of art. 1882 Sala *Amer. Revis.* viii. (1885) 160 The whole world of ruffiandom. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 5 He brought us news from the mathematical and grammatical world. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 442 An old marine engineer..who loves them [his engines] as living things,..defending them..against the aspersions of the silly, uninformed outside world.

17. Human society considered in relation to its activities, difficulties, temptations, and the like; hence, contextually, the ways, practices, or customs of the people among whom one lives; the occupations and interests of society at large.

To begin the world: to begin to take an active part in the affairs of life; to start one's career.

1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 21 He seythe that he shall dwelle with his wyffes fader..and he will no forther medill in the werde. 1536 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 215 These two will attempt the worlde to seke theyr fortune. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2237/2 A stocke of money to begin the world withall. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. ii. 236 Olde folkes you know, haue discretion, as they say, and know the world. 1704 M. Henry *Church in House* 35 You are beginning the World (as you call it). 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 401 P 2 However he had so much of the World, that he had a great share of the Language which usually prevails upon the weaker Part of that Sex. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* I. § 1 That great Whirlpool of Business, Faction, and Pleasure, which is called the World. 1753-4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xvi. 124 He will be still kinder to them, when they are old enough to be put into the world. 1756 (*title*) Address to a Young Lady on her entrance into the world. 1830 Newman *Par. Serm.* IV. xii. 212 By the world, I mean all that meets a man in intercourse with his fellow. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiii, The world is before you; and it is most probable that as you enter it, so it will receive you. 1882 W. Ballantyne *Exper.* I. ix. 215 He was a perfect child in the world's ways. 1886 Besant *All Sorts* xxxii. (1898) 227 Two thousand pounds; that's a large sum to hand over...Upon my word,..you will have to begin the world again. 1899 Jesse L. Williams *Stolen Story* etc. 286 Hamilton J. Knox had been one of the great men of his day..when in college. He was in the World now.

b. with reference to social status or worldly fortune.

† *To be beforehand* or *behindhand in* (or *with*) *the world*: to be in prosperous or indigent circumstances.

1687 *Miscn Gt. Fr. Dict.* s.v. *World*, To be before hand in the World, *être à son aise*...To be behind hand in the World, *faire mal ses Affaires*. 1777 Thicknesse *Journ. France* (1789) I. 20 My landlord, Monsieur Dessein, who was behind-hand with the world ten years ago, is now become one of the richest men in Calais. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 672 Low in the world, because he scorns its arts. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxix, Indications of the good gentleman's having gone down in the world of late. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xxvii, His family is getting up in the world. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xiv. (1885) 122, I am getting on a little in the world, and am in the way to earn a little money. 1889 (see Come v. 56 e).

18. High or fashionable society. More explicitly *the world of fashion, the fashionable world*; also *the polite world, the great world*, † occas. *the very first world*. (See also 21 c.)

Half-world (= Demi-monde): see Half- II. n.

1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* I. i, He talks too like a man that knew the world To have been long a Peasant. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 15 P 7 She..fancies herself out of the World, when she is not in the Ring, the Play-House, or the Drawing-Room. 1713 Swift *Cadenus & Vanessa* 430 To know the world I a modern phrase For visits, ombre, balls, and plays. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* Wks. 1837 II. 185, I leave the great world to girls that know no better. 1750 Chesterfield *Let. to Son* 11 June, The court is called the world here, as well as at Paris; and nothing more is meant, by saying that a man knows the world, than that he knows courts. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* Jan. 24/2 The polite world. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 158 To mak a tour, an' tak a whirl, To learn *bon ton* an' see the worl'. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 24 Apr. 1779 (1904) II. 292 Mr. Beauclerk..told us a number of short stories in a lively elegant manner, and with that air of *the world* which has I know not what impressive effect. 1791 Charlotte Smith *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 32 His solicitude to maintain his importance as a man of taste in the fashionable world. 1796 — *Marchmont* IV. 280, I saw enough of the lives of people of the very first world. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* ii, It is but a glimpse of the world of fashion that we want. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* ix. (1891) 109, I must tell you that the Parish set comprised 'the world' of the ancient city.

IV. Idiomatic uses and phrases: see also above.

19. A world. a. A vast quantity, an 'infinity'; in early use, esp. a vast expanse (of land or water). *A world of years, of time* (obs. or dial.): a vast extent of time, an age, an eternity. (Sometimes more emphatically *a whole world of*.)

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 28 The playner part of ffraunce a craft hath fonde To repe in litel space a world of londe. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxxii, Standing there I sawe A warld of folk. 1579-80 North *Plutarch, Nicias* (1595) 589 A world of trumpets, howboyes, and such marine musicke. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 353 A world of torments though I should endure. 1589 Warner *Alb. Eng., Æneidos* 151 My Father..deliuered mee with a world of Treasure to Polymnestor. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 39 He, making speedy way through spersed ayre, And through the world of waters wide and deepe. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 94 For there will be a World of Water shed, Vpon the parting of your Wiues and you. 1598 Chapman *Blinde Beg. Alexandria* D 3 b, What a worlde of tyme Is it for me to lie as in a sounde, Without my life. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XIV. i. I. 404 Yet continued it hath a world of yeares uncorrupt. 1620 Quarles *Pentel.* N 4, Seruing a world of yeeres. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 26, I beheld a world of old Bookes. 1662 Evelyn *Sculptura, Acc. Signor Favi* c 6, He had made provision of sundry huge Volumes,..besides a world more which he had sent away. 1703 Earl Orrery *As you find it* II. ii. 22, I have a World of Business to do this Afternoon. 1779 G. Keate *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 78 A ship that hath traversed the globe, and cut her passage through a world of waters. 1804 Scott 29 Mar. in *Lockhart* I. xii. 412, I had a world of things to say to you. 1818 Rogers *Voy. Columbus* v. 2 A world of waves, a sea without a shore. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. v. (1866) 79 A whole world of passions. 1854 Anne E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., It'll take a world of time to do it. 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* iv. 22 These long walks in the clear mountain air are doing you a world of good.

b. Used advb.: Infinitely, vastly. (Cf. *worlds*, 7 f.) *arch.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 160 His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide, For his shrunke shanke. 1879 Hesba Stretton' *Needle's Eye* xxxiv, Her smile..had a world more tenderness in it. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 June 5/2 The Venus Anadyomene is a fine thing, but the Statue of Liberty is a world finer.

† c. *It is a world*: it is a great thing, it is a marvel. Similarly † *it is a world and wonder*, † *wonder a world*. *Obs.* or *dial.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 2203 Euerychone on other ferly they sette..and trewly for to speke It was a world to here the sperys breke. 1519 *Interl. & Elem.* C v b, It is a worlde to volupteous appetites. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 323. 1600 Holland *Livy* III. xxvi. 105 A world and wonder it is to hear them [etc.]. 1620 Bp. Andrewes *96 Serm., Holy Ghost* xiii. (1629) 233 But it were a world to rake up old errors. 1666 Dundale *Orig. World*, 132/2 The Prince so served will tender meats,..as it seemed wonder a world to observe the provision. 1882 *Lele. Glean.* s.v., It's a woo'd to see that theer little un order the big uns to the roights about!

20. The world (see also above senses). a. *In the world*: on earth, in existence; (*a*) as an intensive phrase after a superlative or *all*, *no*, *not a*, *everything*, *nothing*, etc. Also occas. † *in* (*a*) *world*; Obs. *en worulde*.

a 1070 *Laws Ethelred, De scrifte* § 25 On hwam mæg hwre sefre senig man on worolde swyðor God wurðian ðonne on cyrcan? 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 181 Þe veirreste men in þe world þer lune [*sc.* in England] beþ ibore. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 240 Mar to prys Than all the gold in warld that is. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5132 Threttí gobelettis of gold, þe grattest in þe worde. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 224 He began to make the greteste sorow in the worlde. *c* 1500 *Melusine* v. 87 He had nat mow say one only word for all the gold in the world. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 74 And I had but one penny in the world, thou shouldst haue it. *a* 1589 R. Lane in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 739 The River of Choanoak, and all the other sounds,..shewe no current in the world in calme weather. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 3 The least winde i' th' world wil blow them downe. 1608 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 41 *Cres.* Hectors a gallant man. *Mem.* As may be in the world Lady. 1694 Atterbury *Serm.* (Isa. lx. 22) (1726) I. 120 The Gospel of Christ, at its Earliest appearance, had all the Probabilities in the World against its Success. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 148 P 7 It is the hardest thing in the World to be in Love, and yet attend Busin 1726 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 123 They would have gi all they had in a world to have been off. 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 21 Thats aw spite, nowt ith ward else. 1846 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* III. viii, Here is everybody in the world that I wish to see, except yourself. 1853 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Mr. Minns*, He was..the most retiring man in the world. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xxvi, Hartley enjoyed his dinner..as if he had not a debt in the world.

(*b*) intensifying an interrogative.

1530 Palsgr. 467/2 He wyste nat in the worlde what to do. 1593 Shaks. *John* v. iv. 26 What in the world should make me now deceiue..? 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 12 He knew not what in the world to doe. 1614 Day *Dyall* Ep. Ded. ¶ 2 b, Hee..could not tell where in the world he had laid it. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Private Theatres*, And if they don't know how to do this sort of thing, who in the world does? 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* xxvi, How in the world did you persuade the captain?

† b. *Of the world* [cf. F. *du monde*]: = *in the world* (20 a). *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 238 Al studied þat per stod, & stalked hym nerre, Wyth al þe wonder of þe worlde, what he worch schulde. 1476 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) II. 7 Yff ye wold be a good etter off your mete..ye shuld make me the gladdest man off the world. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 69 Wherfore they began to cry and demene the grettest sorow of the worlde. 1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 300 The most gentle and affable Prince of the world. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 72 No setled Sences of the World can match The pleasure of that madnesse. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* III. ix. 203 He began the most sadd and dolefull lamentation of the world.

c. *Of* (all) *the world*: out of the whole world, above all others in the world. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 150 The man of the world, excepting yourself.., for whom I have the dearest respect. *Ibid.* III. 3 You are the man of the world whom I would have chosen. 1782 Cowper *Hope* 427 The book of all the world that charm'd me most Was—well-a-day, the title page was lost!

† d. *All the world*: in every respect; = 21 e.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. viii, There the Bastard was bred up,..all to the World like any Gentleman.

e. *To think the world of*: to have the highest possible opinion of or regard for.

1894 'L. Keith' *Lisbeth* xvii, She thinks the world of Lisbeth. 1903 F. Young *Sands of Pleasure* II. i, She was kept by a Russian Prince, who thought the world of her.

f. See Man of the world. Similarly *woman of the world*, a woman who is experienced in the ways of life or the conventions of society.

1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 132 Girls..boldly staring at all that is going on, and serving themselves, like little women of the world. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* viii, Presently (though with all the skill of a woman of the world) she shuffled away the subject.

21. All the world. a. The whole of the inhabited globe; the entire earth (or universe).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Me were leofere þenne al world (etc.). 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 703 Þei al þe world wer min & al þe richesse iwis. *Ibid.* 7551 Þer nas prince in al þe world of so noble fame. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1090 It [*sc.* the hill] was so hey, þat y wel mouthe Al þe werd se, als me þouthe. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* viii. 36 What profiteth it a man, if he wynne al the world, and do peyringe to his soule? *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 18 Þat was þe athill Alexandire ..Þat azte euyn as his awyn all the werd ouire. 1440 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 70 Aboue all erthely Princeps thorw all the word Christene and Hethene. *c* 1450 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 122 Alle the worlle schalle to-dryve. 1587 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 4 Go sour way into all the warld, and preiche the Euangell. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 139 All the world's a stage, And all the men and women, meerely Players. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* II. v. (1720) 48 Every where all the World over. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 698 Such London is, by taste and wealth proclaim'd The fairest capital of all the world. 1830 Tennyson *Sea-Fairies* 41 Who can light on as happy a shore All the world o'er? — *New Year's Eve* 24 In the early early morning.. the red cock crows..When..all the world is still.

b. Everybody in existence; in narrower sense, everybody in the community, the public. *Against all the world*: in opposition to or competition with everybody. (= F. *tout le monde*.)

All the world and his wife: see Wife *sb.* 2 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14495 All þe world mon wit him rijs. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2386 Þou mayst nat excuse þe with 'pou seist, for þou, And say, 'al þe worlde so doos'. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxii. 219 For amercie and hise shal al þe worlde greue. 1406 Audelay *Poems* 2 That al the werd schal have wyttying. 1529 Cresswell in Merriman

Life & Lett. (1900) I. 33 Theire insaciable apetite..ys so manyfest and notoryus to all the word. 1588 in *Border Papers* (1894) I. 307 The Kinge .. will maynteine it [*sc.* religion] to the uttermoste of his power against all the worlde. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 225 Which I, with more, then with a Common paine, 'Gainst all the World, will rightfully maintaine. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 157, I will faithfully serve her against all the World. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Doctor Dubit.* III. iv. rule 13. 284 The Rogation fast (all the world knows) was instituted by Mammercus Bishop of Vienna. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* I. i, All the world loves him. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xii, A man has no business to place them on paper for all the world to read. 1854 TENNYSON *Charge of Light Brigade* iii, Charging an army, while All the world wonder'd. 1879 MCCARTHY *Donna Q.* I. 60 A woman can be handsome without all the world running after her.

c. Everybody in fashionable society; everybody of account.

1813 *Sk. Char.* (ed. 2) I. 39 Oh, all the world's here, the season was never so full. 1860 TROLLOPE *Castle Richmond* xxvii, All the world—her world and his world—would think it better that they should part. 1877 *Echo* 31 July 1/4 The London Season when 'everybody' goes out of town—all the world, indeed.

d. Everything in existence: often in intensive emotional use = All that is of value or account *to* a person, something supremely precious.

Cf. quot. 1382 in a above.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 104 My life, my ioy, my food, my all the world. 1704 POPE *Autumn* 88, I may..Forsake mankind, and all the world—but love! 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xlvi, You, my mother, and Margaret must henceforth be all the world to me. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* iv, Happiest of all, there was the consciousness of his love, who was all the world to her.

e. *For all the world*: in regard to, or taking into consideration, everything in the world; hence, in every respect, exactly (like, etc.). Also occas. † *for all this world*, †*in all the world*. (See also 7 *f* (*b*).)

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16063 For al þe werd, so ferde he, On lyue wolde he non let be. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1244 For alle þis world in swich present gladnesse Was Troilus and hath his lady swete. *c* 1386 — *L. G. W.* Prol. 218 For al the world ryght as the dayseye I-corounede is with white leuys lite. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vii. 40 Sic ene had he, and sic fair handis tway, For all the warld, sic mouth and face, perfay. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 93 For all the World, As thou art to this houre, was Richard then. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 149 A paltry Ring..whose Posie was For all the world like Cutlers Poetry Vpon a knife. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xliv. I. 349 Thumbs and great toes they have moreover, with joints like (in all the world) to a man. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* iii. 15 Two narrow paire of staires, that for all the world haue crooked windings like those that lead to the top of Powles steeple. 1662 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 339 Iust, for all the world, as the Pharises are taxed by our Sauiour. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. iii, As to her singing..she has a shrill, cracked pipe, that sounds for all the world like a child's trumpet. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. v. P 3 She..dressed herself up in such a costume, as to look for all the world as if her sex were of a piece with her appearance. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 3 This city..was for all the world like a rabbit warren.

22. The whole world. a. = 21 a.

1534 TINDALE *Luke* ix. 25 What avaunttageth it a man, to wynne the whole worlde, yf he loose him sylfe? 1557 *Bible* (Geneva) 1 John v. 19 We knowe..that the whole worlde lyeth in wyckednes. *c* 1570 *Misogonus* III. iii. 72 (Bond) As any is ith whole woaude. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 4 The vther parte..sa is situat, as frome the hail warlde it war diuidet. 1605 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Delin.* II. i. 7 Man..had left him notwithstanding for his lot the whole world besides. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. x, It being just so long since he left his parish, and the whole world at the same time behind him. 1836 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. viii, Ethel [was] full of glee and wonder, for once beyond Whitford, the whole world was new to her.

b. = 21 b.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 62, I had the whole worlde against me with all their force and myght. 1589 J. ROGERS *Glasse Godly Love* in *Tell-trothes N. Yr.'s Gift* etc. (1876) 188 The amendment of all the whole world. 1570 BUCHANAN *Admonit.* Wks. (S.T.S.) ii 3e haif oblelst 3our selfis befoir ye haill warld to continew in yatilk vertew of iustice. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 175 One touch of nature makes the whole world kin. 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* II. Wks. 1799 II. 110 The whole world concur in giving him sense. 1918 *Nation* (N.Y.) 7 Feb. 133/2 The whole world is beggaring itself by war.

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

23. a. Simple attrib. = 'of, pertaining to, or relating to the world' (in various senses), as *world-age, -architect, -area, battle, craft, day, egg, era, field, formation, hero, level, love, nausea, noise, ocean, philosopher, power, principle, riddle, sadness, sect, sorrow, stratum, stuff, wilderness, wisdom, wreckage, wright*; in certain cases with reference to early cosmogonies, as *world-egg, -mill, -mother, -oak, -tortoise, -tree*.

Some of these are translated from or modelled on G. compounds, as *weltalter* world-age, *weltgeräusch* world-noise, *weltschmerz, weltsorge*, world-sadness, world-sorrow.

1908 *Ch. Times* 5 June 761/4 Our Lord's teaching..was that the end of the present *world-age was at hand. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 635 The idea..of a *world-architect, who is limited by the character of the material he uses. 1911 ZWEMER *Unocc. Mission Fields* Pref. p. vii, The entire *world-area has not yet been wholly covered by the tracks of the explorer. 1871 R. B. VAUGHAN *S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 295 He was a world-saint, for he had a *world-battle to fight and win. 1840 STRICKLAND *Lives Queens Engl.* I. 87 William Rufus..had an abundant share of *world-craft, and well knew how to adapt himself to his father's humour. 1821 MRS. BROWNING *Cave Gwidi Wind.* II. 758 The earliest *world-day light that ever flowed. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 108 The ——— serpent..that ——— in its yeast And lays its *world-eggs in thy brightness. 18[illegible] SAVCE *Compar. Philol.* III. 99 The primeval world-egg of [illegible] sophy, out of which all things have been generated. 1898 J. MARTINEAU *Study. Christ.* 139 The end of the great *world-era of the Lord. 1840 S. WILBERFORCE *SA. Missions* (1874) 72 How great a thing..it is to be entrusted with sowing the *world-field with the seed of man. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 916 A part of the *world-formation. 1844 MARG. FULLER *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 27 To implore these *'world-heroes'..to beware of cant above all thing— H. CROSSY *Conform. World* 20 Many an honest..— has unguardedly gone down to the *world-level. RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Robertland* 4 Jan. (1672) 205 Pride, & self love, & Idol-love, & *world-love. 1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 218 That the *world-mill has a *mándull*, the mill-handle, which sweeps the uttermost rim of the earth. 1900 *19th Cent.* Dec. 992 The *World-Mother looked down through the ascending [illegible] roar and hustle of *world-noises and affairs which make history. 1904 *Folk-Lore* Sept. 295 The *world-oak or cloud-oak of Central and Southern Europe. 1877 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Outlines Hist. Relig.* 181 A sea-voyage over the *world-ocean. 1853 THACKERAY *Engl. Hum.* iv. 160 Mat was a *world-philosopher of no small genius. 1880 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 409 He has, like all great *world-powers, a real dignity and majesty. 1912 W. TEMPLE in *Foundations* v. § iii. 243 A *World-principle, the Logos of the Stoics. 1909 *Hibbert Jrnl.* July 723 Science..knows that the pretence of solving the *'world-riddle' by her means alone is a mere echo of youthful enthusiasm. 1901 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. s.v. *Pessimism*, The same *'world-sadness' (*Weltschmerz*)..colours..the poetry of Omar Khayyam, Leopardi, Heine, and Byron. 1853 T. PARKER *Theism, Atheism* Introd. p. xlviii, All the *world-sects, as well as all the Christian sects. 1896 *Sunday Mag.* Nov. 729 The *World-Sorrow. 1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne Page* I. 285 That *world-stratum called society. 1886 WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 213 The background of the heavens is phosphorescent with the glow of these distant fields of *world-stuff. 1858 CARLYLE *Frnch. Gt.* I. iv. I. 46 Scepticism, which is there beginning at the very top of the *world-tree. 1870 HARDWICK *Treat. Lanc.* 177 The great world-tree, *Yggdrasil*. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 108 The scape goat of this dark *world-wilderness. 1748 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1410 *World-wisdom much has done, and more may do. 1899 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. iv, The narrow world-wisdom of this Welsh aunt. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. x, The Cimmerian *World-wreckage. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Cromwell & Porter* Wks. 1907 II. 267 Your System-Makers and *World-wrights.

b. Objective, as *world-beater, -batterer, -builder, -controller, -creator, -destroyer, -encircler, -improver, -lover, -maker, -monger, -sharer, -stormer, -teacher, -watcher, -worker; world-conquering, -embracing, -fearing, -forgetting, -making; world-adorning, -alarming, -bettering, -changing, -cheering, -commanding, -compassing, -compelling, -contemning, -covering, -despising, -devouring, -embracing, -encircling, -forgetting, -knowing, -lifting, -producing, -rejoicing, -renouncing, -reviving, -revolving, -scorning, -shaking*, †*-shogging, -subduing, -supporting, -surrounding, -swallowing, -tossing, -wasting, -winning* adjs.; *world-despise* vb. c. Instrumental, as *world-adored, -despised, -entangled, -fretted, -jewelled, -ridden, -studded, -used, wearied, -worn* adjs.; similative, as *world-deep, -great, -high, -like, -long, -old* adjs.; see also WORLD-WIDE. d. In other adverbial uses, (*a*) 'from or to the world', 'in, about, or over the world', 'to the end of the world', as *world-abiding, -abstracted, -bound* adjs., *-dweller, -famed, -famous* [cf. G. *weltberühmt*] adjs., *-flight, -lasting, roving, -wandering* adjs.; (*b*) 'over the whole world', 'to all the world', as [illegible] *n, -noted*, regard to *'ck, -tired, -wearied, -weary* (hence *-weariness*); (*d*) with pl. in sense 7 *e*, as *worlds-high* adj.

1876 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 52 The world-wide and *world-abiding masterpieces. 1898 *Trans. Yorks. Dial. Soc.* I. 7 A *world-abstracted monk in his solitary cell. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 554 King, conqueror, and master, *world-adored! 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 231 Thy wondrous *World-adorning Fruit. *a* 1629 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVI. xci, The *World-alarming Trumpets. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 303/1 The master of Palo Alto believed that the filly would prove to be a *world-beater. 1875 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 376 One should..try to be an improver, a *'world-betterer' (Cambridge slang of my time). 1896 TOLLEMACHE *Jowett* 118 That ardent world-betterer T. H. Green. 1877 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 10) 148 Great deeds, great thoughts, great schemes, *world-bettering. 1797 T. PARE *Sonn.* 9 My *world-bound bark must course an hardier way. 1824 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 264 He saw us world-bound. 1824 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 158 Imaginary *world-builders, like Mr. Spencer, lay their foundations in shallows. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I, The *world-changing battle of Sadowa. 1603 CHETTLE *Eng. Mourn. Garm., Sheph. Spring Song* F 4 The Sun, which now doth gild the skie, With his light-giuing and *world-cheering eie. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Extasie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 90/1 A Ladie..Clad like a *World-commanding Potentate. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. I. vi. (1864) 236 Their *world-compassing migrations. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Dec. 3/4 Wartburg, whence Luther's song entered upon its *world-conquering career. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Scourge Ld. Rhimesters* Wks. (Grosart) I. 98/2 Thy *World-contemning Thoughts. 1819 SCOTT *Quentin D.* viii, *How now I..our world contemning daughter—Are you robed for a hunting-party, or for the convent, this morning? *Speak. *c* 1848-50 BEATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 33 [illegible] As they were the *'world controulers. 1826 W. ELLIOTT *Nun* 80 There lies a *world-corrupted friend. 1877 CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 635 The idea of a *world-creator, for whom the means can have no existence apart from the end. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 299 The grand interior tide-stream and *world-deep tendency. 1847 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 272 Their world-wide, though not world-deep, experience. 1892 EVELYN *Let. to Pepys* Aug. P's Diary (1889) IX. 365, I have been philosophising and *world-despising in the solitudes of this place. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. vi. 91 How often has fiction made us sympathize..with the *world-despised. [illegible] l-mongi destroyers of antiquity. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Ark* 449 These stormy Seas' deep *World-devouring waves. 1902 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 5/2 The *world disturbing turmoil [in the days of the Reign of Terror]. *c* 1586 COUNTESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIX. i, *World-dwellers all. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* ii. (1852) 18 The *world-embracing benefits of his [Abraham's] seed. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., 5th Sund. in Lent* xii, The *world-encircling sun. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Holy Rood* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/2 Ye heau'ns weepe out your *world-enlight'ning eies. 1822 CRABBE *Tales* xix. 202 *World-entangled men! 1866 TREVELYAN in *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 412 The *world famed Straits of Salamis. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. 176 A cunningly devised Beheading Machine, which shall become famous and *world-famous. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* xi. 373 One who made the insignificant place of his origin world-famous. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Dom. Rule* (1842) 58 Ridicule..tends to make a poor and *world-fearing character. 1895 K. GRAHAME *Golden Age* 54 Rosa looked far away in a visionary, *world-forgetting sort of way. 1813 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 15 Feb. 104/1 The charm that stillness has for a *world-fretted ear. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii, And so..did this of Royalty..grow mysteriously..till it also had grown *world-great. 1853 T. T. LYNCH *Self-Improvem.* 25 Young men and others' as self-improvers are to become *world-improvers. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 243 Night comes, *world-jewelled. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* I. vii, The..well-turned insinuations of his *world-knowing mother. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 8) 270 *World-known for strangest powers. 1851 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 105 No marble of which *world-lasting statue may be hewn. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 274 It hath starlike beauty, And *worldlike might. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* I. (1848) 18 Then shall..the *world-long growth and gathering of this awful mystery be accomplished. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 87 The *world-lover ends his hope and happinesse, when he dyes. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 138, I can't find in my heart to deny that skill to a *World-maker, that I must needs give to a Watch-maker. 1871 R. B. VAUGHAN *S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 678 Plato..who admitted a world-maker, and a Providence.

thee in that 6th of Matthew 33 Verse? 1615 T. ADAMS *Blache Devill* 48 Monstrous and *world-noted wickednesse. 1858 M. C. CLARKE (*title*) World-noted Women. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1747 The *world-producing Essence, who alone Possesses being. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* xi. 20 Every one Takes pleasure in the *world-rejoycing Sunne. 1854 tr. *Hettner's Athens & Peloponnese* I The *world-renowned islands of Ægina and Salamis. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 52 Thou *world-reviving sun. 1727-46 — *Summer* 32 With what an awful *world-revolving power Were first the unwieldy planets launched along The illimitable void! 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XVII. 16 Þese *worldes-riche men. 1848 ELIZA COOK *Dreamer* XXVII, The dense *world-ridden brain. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 460 Inferior theirs to man's *world-roving frame. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* II. i, In *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 29, I That have studied with *world-skorning thoughts The way of Heaven. *c* 1205 LAY. 12043 Þa comen to-somne *weorld-sell men. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. I. *Ark* 444 *World-shaking Father. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 5 Christianity..was a world-shaking faith. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 36/1 The..tragic and world-shaking events which are associated with the history of the..Parliament of Great Britain. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 76 These three *World-sharers, these Competitors Are in thy vessell. 1611 COTGR., *Croule-univers*, *World-shogging, all-shaking. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* Introd. p. xiii, Their recklessness of all consequences soared *worlds-high above the various egotistic systems. 1836 NEWMAN in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 239 *World-sick, to turn within and image there Some idol dream. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 233 Your *world-spread language. 1876 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 271 The man who, like one of the *world-stormers of more modern times..could carry everything before him. 1822 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 12 The ætherial web, *world-studded, of the skies. 1851 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 103 Iron, of which *world-subduing machines may be wrought. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. A *world-supporting elephant. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 661 *World-surrounding æther. 1883 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 166 At one *world-swallowing stride, the heart of the tornado reached the clearing. 1887 HAWEIS *Lit. Ages* viii. 211 The Jew never was to have an Empire. He was the *world-teacher not the world-ruler. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 657 *World-tossing Tempest! 1860 TROLLOPE *Cas. Richmond* XXVI, That dry, time-worn *world-used London lawyer. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 290 Those poore *world-wandring men. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 325 Jove's world-wandering herald, Mercury. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 119 This *world-wearied flesh. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. vi, It was..this singular purity of heart which made to the world-wearied man the chief charm in Evelyn Cameron. 1858 FABER *Spir. Conftr.* (1870) 240 *World-weariness is a blessed thing in its way. 1726 MURPHY *Zenobia* I. i. 16 This and *world-weary spirit. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1240 Night that lulls world-weary day. 1820 BYRON *Werner* IV. i. 410 A *world-winning battle. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. vi. (1872) 146 Giant Labour, truest emblem there is of God the *World-Worker. 1868 A. A. WATTS *Richmond Hill* ix, The *world-worn man may here repair. 1840 MANNING *Serm.* XXI. (1848) I. 320 The wearied and world-worn spirit.

24. Passing into adj. 1 a. in comb. derived from OE. compounds of *weorald*, in which this is equivalent to 'of or pertaining to this world, earthly, mundane', as *woruldhât*, *-god*, *-þing*, *-wela* worldly possessions or wealth, *woruldcyning* an earthly king, *woruldscamu* public disgrace (cf. 24 b above), *woruldwynn* earthly joy.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þer seal beon worldwunne wiß-uten poserte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7513, & uss birrþ weorelld-þingess lusst Forrbuȝhenn & forrwerrpenn. *Ibid.* 12079 Off þatt hemm weoralldahhtess speddd A33 waxeþþ mare & mare. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Gef þu hauest worold wele þu miht þarof wurðliche fare. *c* 1205 LAY. 7345 Freoliche we hit haldeð wiþ alle weoruld kingen. *Ibid.* 8323, & after muchel weorld-scome wurð-scipe wurhten. 12.. *Moral* LAY. 28132 Nolleþ hii hit bi-gynne for none worle-þinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13981 Petre and andreu..wit a word þal left þair scippe tuin, For þat was al þair werld win [*Gött.* worldis win]. 14.. *MS. Sloane 1593* xlii. 25 in *Herrig's Archiv* (1908) CIX. 60 If þu welde þi wordel goodes [etc.]. *Ibid.* 81 Þis wordel good xuld incres.

b. With the meaning 'of or pertaining to the whole world, embracing the whole world, world-wide, universal'.

Orig. translating or modelled on G. compounds, as *welthandel* world-commerce, *weltkrieg* world-war, *weltmacht* WORLD-POWER, *weltreich* world-empire.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* 53 [Immortality] That is the great world question. 1848 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) 272 Pride and World-Ambition. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. ii, The World-Dramaturgist has written: *Exeunt.* 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 6 That primeval age of gigantic 'world-strife' (if we may be allowed to Anglicize a German compound). 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 42 The great World-victor's victor will be seen no more. *Ibid.* 233 In that world-earthquake, Waterloo! 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xciv. XII. 367 Alexander, had he lived, would..have multiplied..the communications..between the various parts of his world-empire. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* I. i. I. 20 The huge world-conflagration. *Ibid.* v. vi. 594 The Second Act..of this foolish World-Drama of the Double-Marriage opens. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 553 Alexander's policy was essentially different from that of the world-monarchs before him. 1864 — *Daniel* ii. 78 When He took away their world-rule, He left them in being as nations. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vii. (1866) 99 The two great ideas which expiring antiquity bequeathed to the ages that followed were those of a World-Monarchy and a World-Religion. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* May 699 With the world price of wheat so closely approximating to the cost of production. 1894 A. J. BALFOUR *Found. Belief* (1895) 3 Looking at the World-problems which..we are compelled to face. 1898 *Q. Rev.* July 264 In any serious world-struggle we should be certain to have each other's sympathy. 1899 *Daily Tel.* 21 Aug. 6/7 We have had thrust upon us a drama played upon a world-stage. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 4/2 The great British World-Empire. 1905 *Ibid.* 22 Sept. 3/2 The great world-commerce, upon which the very existence of England will depend. 1906 *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 5/2 A world-parliament of the Universities. 1909 *Ibid.* 8 Apr. 4/2 This..is the type of dirigible by which in a world-war..360,000 German troops could be transported from Calais to Dover in half an hour.

25. Special comb.: **world-divided** *a.*, (*a*) separated from the rest of the world; (*b*) 'worlds' apart or asunder; **world-history** [G. *weltgeschichte*], history embracing the events of the whole world; hence *world-historic*, *-historical* adjs.; **world-language**, (*a*) a language universally read and spoken by educated people; (*b*) a language for international use; **world-life**, life in the world, earthly life; **world-old** [G. *weltalt*], as old as the world; **world-order**, an organized state of existence in this or another world; **world-policy**, **-politics** [G. *weltpolitik*], a policy or politics based upon considerations affecting the world as a whole; hence *world-politician*; **world-revolution**, a world-wide revolution in the social order or in any sphere of activity; **world-ruler**, a ruler of the (known) world; **world-soul** [G. *weltgeist*, *weltseele*], the animating principle which informs the physical world; **world-spirit**, (*a*) the spirit of the world in its mundane aspects and activities; (*b*) = *world-soul*; **world-state**, (*a*) a state comprising the whole world; (*b*) a state possessing world-power; **world-thane** *Hist.* [OE. *woruldþegn*], a secular 'thane'; **world-view** [G. *weltanschauung*], contemplation of the world, view of life; so *world-viewer*; **world-wise** *a.*, wise in the things of the world, worldly-wise; **world-worn**, a low creature of earth; **world-year** (see quot.).

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Sonn.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 321 Our little *World-divided Ile. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. v. 3 Since world-divided Britain owns his sway. 1899 *Folk-Lore* Mar. 75 Races world-divided in their range and their social conceptions. 1897 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. II, Of these ages *World-History can take no notice. 1900 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 1006 A philosophy of history and civilisation..which holds its ground as the basis both of World-history and Christian theology. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxiii, Is this romantic *world-historic position of his. 1879 — *Theo. Sauck* xiv. 235 Something truly Roman and *world-historical. 1889 *Athenæum* 24 Aug. 256/3 The two classical and four great [illegible] 1890 *Daily* German Professor [illegible] proposed English guage. *c* 1200 *Ayr. Pr.* (Th.) cill. 1 wunien on *world-life. *c* 1200 ORMIN worelld-lif lss full Off sinnes þeosterrosenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 32075 Þu nindest nanne pape..he þe seal scriuen of þine worold-lifen. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 324 With the world thy part is now...Now behoves to live The worldlife of the future. 1840 T. GORDON tr. *W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* I. 265 The *world-old Oriental idea of the mystic unity of those contrasts which..are all united in God. 1860 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. i. 7 No modern traveller..has left a written account of this world-old place. 1878 LOWELL *Wordsw.* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 357 The world-old question of matter and form. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. (1860) 72 There is a nobler *world-order than that in which we live and move. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 38 The Struggle for the Life of Others..[is] engrained in the world-order as profoundly as the Struggle for Life. 1896 *Daily News* 10 Mar. 6/5 The Minister again declared that Germany did not think of inaugurating a '*world-policy'. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Mar. 2/1 A world-policy alliance with Japan. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. iv. I. 572 Papa [King George I.] and Husband [the King of Prussia] being so blessedly united in their *World-Politics. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 24 June 4/3 The considerable measure of success which the Kaiser's intervention in Morocco has attained is an instructive lesson in the solidarity of world-politics. 1905 *Ibid.* 27 May 3/2 Our Future is on the Sea? Critical Inquiries and Deductions by a German *World Politician. 1832 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 60 The great *world-revolutions send in their disturbing billows to the remotest creek. 1911 G. ELLIOT SMITH *Anc. Egyptians* I. 6 The great world-revolution inaugurated by the advent of the Age of Metals. 1874 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* 160 We protest against the awful power that the *world-rulers used in former days. 1881 *N. T.* (R.V.) *Eph.* vi. 12 Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but..against the world-rulers [κοσμοκράτορας] of this darkness. 1918 *The Crime* II. 403 The bombastic ..vision of the future as it appears to the German World-ruler. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 202, I am the *world-soul, nature's spirit am I. 1896 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* I. iii. 27 The philosophers who believe themselves organs of the world-soul. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xxi, The *world-spirit can rebuke as sharply as the Spirit which was in John. 1909 INGE *Faith* viii. 129 This World-Spirit was once incarnated in a human life. 1890 COSTELLOE *Ch. Cath.* (1892) 25 She prophesies of a *World-State, and laughs at the little fences statesmen draw upon the map. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 1 Nov. 3/2 However desirable may be the lot of a small State among small States, the conditions are changed in a world of world-States. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 225 Ealdormen, Holdes, Hetgerefas, Messethegnes, and *World-thegnes. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 83 The mass-thane or clergyman stood on a par with the world-thane or gentleman. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Christ.* 321 The deep penetration of his [sc. Paul's] mistaken *world-view. 1906 D. S. CAIRNS *Christ. in Mod. World* v. 233 Christianity, alike in its Central Gospel, and in its World-view, must come to terms with Hellenism. 1862 GEN. P. THOMPSON in *Bradford Advertiser* 20 Dec. 6/1 More instances will occur to the thoughtful *world-viewer. *c* 1205 LAY. 13782 Þa *worelde-wis mon þa oðere children biwusten. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 240 Was he world-wise? 1886 LYTTON *Str. Story* lxvii. II. 292 Silently thinking, I walked by the side of the world-wise woman. 1617 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* II. i, Away thou *World-worm, Thou win a matchless Beauty? 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. 429 Rear your children to be men, not to be world-worms; to be saints, not to be drudges. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 76/1 These Ages were regarded as the divisions of the great *world-year, which would be completed when the stars and planets had performed a revolution round the heavens.

†**World**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.] *trans.* **a.** To furnish with a world of people; to people. Also *intr.* with *it*. **b.** To bring (a child) into the world.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. 140 Zamois, when Troy must perish, shall send downe her Floods a Fleete, And world it where our Father rulde...But long time hence,.. that World shall world an Ile. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] lix. 170 Like Lightening, it can strike the childe in the wombe, and kill it ere 'tis worlded.

Worldful (wɜ·ɹldful). Also **-full.** [f. WORLD *sb.* + -FUL.] As much or as many as would fill a world. Chiefly in hyperbolical use.

1846 HARE *Mission Comf.* (1850) 4 Spiritual food wherewith to feed the whole world through all the generations of mankind, and worldfuls over and above. 1879 P. BROOKS *Influence of Jesus* II. 82 That through His sonship this world-full of men is to learn that they are God's sons. 1879 BLACK *Macleod of D.* xxiii, The one small word filled with a whole worldful of light and joy.

†**Wo·rldhood.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -HOOD.]

1. Worldly possessions.

15.. HEN. VIII in D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1841) II. 136 Content yourselves with what you have already, or else seek honest means whereby to increase your worldhoods.

2. State or condition as a world.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 183 Not in the world as now 'tis, but chang'd in its kind of worldhood.

Worldish, *a. rare.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -ISH 1.] Of or belonging to this world; worldly.

13.. *Cursor M.* 22754 (Edin.) Al þinges þat ani wordische [*v.r.* worldis] bald wit hinges. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 951 Swilk men worldisshe men men calles þat þair luf mast on þe world settes. *Ibid.* 2065–6 Þas men worldesshe men men calles, For about worldisshe þynges þai here travaile Ful bysily. 1827 CUNNINGHAM *Lane of Gleneslan-Mill* iv, Wert thou an idol all of gold, Had I the eye of worldish care, I could not..love thee mair.

Worldkin. *nonce-wd.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -KIN.] A little world, microcosm.

1832 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ix, I too could now say to myself: Be no longer a Chaos, but a World, or even Worldkin.

Worldless (wɜ·ɹldlés), *a. rare.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Not having a world to live in.

1826? LAMB in *Wks.* (1909) II. 824 Can the houseless have a claim above the worldless?

2. Not containing a world or worlds.

1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 222, I have seen him seize upon an orb, And cast it careless into worldless space. 1856 AIRD *Tragic Poem of World* I. i, The timeless, worldless, infinite abyss.

3. Free from the world, unworldly.

1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 472 He pluck'd her dagger forth From where his worldless heart had kept it warm.

Worldliness (wɜ·ɹldlinés). [f. WORLDLY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The condition of being worldly; devotion to worldly affairs to the neglect of religious duties or spiritual needs; love of the world and its pleasures.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 121 Þes proude possessioners lien on seyntis & sclaundren hem wiþ worldly lif..And þei bryngen forþ poyntis of here worldlyneese whanne þei diden ajenst holy lif & techynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wordlynesse, *mundialitas*. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Trial of Fox* 36 O fulische man! plungit in wardlines, To conqueis warldlie gude. *c* 1590 *Faire Em* I. ii. 41 Yet may our myndes as highly scorne to stoope To base desires of vulgars worldlynes. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Mark xii. 37 Hypocrites..who by their long Liturgies, and Ceremonies,..do but cloak their Worldliness, Pride and Oppression. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm., Haggai* i. 5 (1771) VII. 12 But supposing we are clear both of Worldliness and Vanity, still what can we answer with respect to Pleasure? 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 263 The Latin church stood in need of reform. Its thorough worldliness..rendered this necessary in a religious view. 1884 PENNINGTON *Wiclif* viii. 266 The sight of the vice and worldliness of many of the bishops around him.

†**2.** Worldly affairs. *Obs. rare.*

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. lxxxiii. (1811) 62 The Saxons.. couenaunted wᵗʰ. the Brytons, yᵗ the Brytons shuld entende theyr worldlynes and other necessaries. And the Saxons as theyr Sowdiours shuld defende the lande.

Worldling (wɜ·ɹldliŋ). [f. WORLD *sb.* + -LING. Cf. G. *weltling*.]

1. One who is devoted to the interests and pleasures of the world; a worldly or worldly-minded person.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jude* 23 b, They bee worldelinges, and geuyng them selues in to the seruice of worldly affectes. 1563 SAUNDERS in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 214 You haue dronke of the holy spirite with other, vnto whom the knowledge hereof semeth not folyshnes (as it doth vnto worlynges). *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 272 The godlie, for his..doctrine, lovit him; the warldlings, for his parentage and place, reverenced him. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. xxvii. 330 A Worldlings thoughts, like a Fools, are all for the present. 1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alcyone* 186 The covetous Worldling in his anxious Mind Thinks only on the Wealth he left behind. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 19 Trifles, with which those Worldlings are taken up. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i, The world will think with worldlings; but my heart Has still been in my duties. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. App. H. 369 The various pretexts under which Worldlings delude themselves and neglect the welfare of their [illegible] 1912 LADY BURGHCLERE *Life James, 1st Dk. Ormonde* I. xv. 474 A gay worldling of no known occupation.

†**2. a.** A 'citizen of the world', cosmopolite.

b. An inhabitant of the world. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1589) 309 Socrates said, that he tooke not himselfe to be either an Athenian or a Grecian, but a worldling. *c* 1600 *Timon* I. iv. (Shaks. Soc. 1842) 23 *Gelas.* What cuntreyman, I pray you, sir? *Pseud.* A Wordling. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* II. viii. 133 God reuealed not this art [of navigation] to the old worldlings. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 26 Which our Worldlings call a Moon also. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lii, The heart must Leap kindly back to kindness, though disgust Hath wean'd it from all worldlings.

3. a. *Comb.*, as *worldling-like* adv.

a 1639 WOTTON *Poems, Descr. Countrey's Recreat.* v, The fond Credulity Of silly Fish, which worldling-like, still look Upon the bait, but never on the hook.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Worldly.

1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xiv. 377 Those..conceal a Wicked and Worldling-heart, under the Garb..of Religion. 1845 MANGAN *German Anthol.* I. 74 That to which worldling natures are blind.

Worldly (wɜ·ɹldli), *a.* Forms and etym.: see WORLD *sb.* and -LY 2; also 3 worlich, 8 *Sc.* warly. [OE. *woruldlic*: cf. OFris. *wraldlik*, OS. *weroldlik*, MLG. *wer(l)tlik*, MDu. *weraldlik*, Du. *-lijk*, OHG. *weraltlih* (MHG. *wer(e)litlich*, G. *weltlich*), ON. *veraldligr* (Sw. *verdslig*, Da. *verdslig*).]

1. Of or belonging to this world (as distinguished from the other world); pertaining to or connected with man's earthly existence; earthly, mundane.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* viii, Þæræe..hwæðer þe betere þince, nu nanwuht woruldlices fæstes & unhwearflendes bion ne mæg? *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 60 To forsewenyysse woruldlicra æhta. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 149 If he ne mei mid worldliche echte his neode ibete þet him sare rowþ. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1628 Þatt tu þweorrt ut..forrwerrpe All weorelldlike lif & lusst. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Þeos alhðe [of the bliss of heaven]..schal urouwen on more þens muhte eni worldlich alhðe. *Ibid.* 190 Euerich worlich wo is Godes sonde. *c* 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 29 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 234 Þis corbell seie þis worldly blis Is but a fykel fantasy. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 813 Worldly selynesse Which clerkes callen fals felicite. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 453 Þis is þe freest vse þat men han off worldly godis. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 241 Alle fleshly lustys abe dede dampyne, No wordly wunshope myght hyr supprise. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 14 Humilite is the first entre and wey of frendship and wordely loue. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3838 Adieu, my pleasance And glad-

sense worly | 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xii. 13 Welth, warldly glair, and riche array. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, With al my worldly Goodes I thee endowe. 1596 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* li. 94 Then doth all worldelie pleasure past apere..all vanites. 1617 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xviii. 6 Too sone (alace I)..Thy paint is acted on this wordlie stage. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 213 And thou thy self seem'st otherwise inclin'd Then to a worldly Crown. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 139 Exempt from worldly Hopes and Fears. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. viii, The parson..persisted in doing his duty without regarding the consequence it might have on his worldly interest. 1784 BURNS *'Green grow the Rashes'* iv, Warly cares, an' warly men, May a' gae tapsalteerie, O! 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlix, Too much a child in worldly matters. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, While I wander along,..my worldly substance a few dollars. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 246 In point of worldly prudence, his conduct was unexceptionably wise. 1871 SMILES *Character* i. (1876) 8 Indeed, goodness in a measure implies wisdom—the highest wisdom—the union of the worldly with the spiritual.

† **2.** Of, belonging to, or connected with this world and its inhabitants; earthly, human, mortal.

c 1205 LAY. 6304 Heo wes swiðe wis of wordliche dome. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 58 Þe weies þat were here wordliche makua. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 371 Who so wol haue to wyue my worldliche daughter. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 Wald Godd þat þir werldly lordes ware at gude accorde. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xliv, Gif ze be warldly wight, that dooth me sike. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 128 No wordely drede schall me withdrawe, That I schall with þe leue and dye. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 55 Is it not ..a monstrous thinge yᵗ no man shulde be founde able to governe a worldly kingdome save Bisshopes and prelates that have forsaken the worlde. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) To Kinges, princes and worldlie rulers did conspire against God. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 73 Too what soyle worldlye to iourney Thow doost commaund vs? 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 56 The breath of worldly men cannot depose The Deputie elected by the Lord. 1602 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* IV. I. (Roxb.) 43 *Don.* I had a husband once, but he has left mee. *Arn.* A worse then myne the wordly eye beholds not. *Don.* A worse then myne the heauenly coupe enfolds not. 1614 J. DAVIES in W. Browne *Sheph. Pipe*, etc. G 4 b, Of world, ne worly men take thou no keepe. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 193 God did not make the world or worldly beings, that the higness..of them should set forth to us his alfilling-ness.

† **b.** Of the whole world, universal, general. *Obs.*

1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 153 Ye do thus admonyshe them, to thintent they shuld..eschewe ..the wordely rebuke that they might incurre hereafter. *a* 1552 *Vox Populi* xi. 38 in *Shelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 410 There is no smale nombre That this faute dothe incombre: Yt is a wordly wondre.

c. Of the terrestrial globe. *rare.*

1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* I. 40 [The sun] comes; and, to the worldly wax, best gives Its temper and impression.

† **3.** Of or belonging to the world (as distinguished from the church or the cloister); secular; *occas.* † lay. *Obs.*

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 7 Mar. 36 He forlet þa wæpna ond þa woruldlican wisan ond eode on þæt mynster. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 121 Bi colour þat crist was þus worldly lord, þerfore þei schulden haue þus seculer lordischipis bi heritage of crist. *c* 1390 in *Wyclif's Wks.* (Wycl. Soc. 1910) 145 A curat and an officer in wordly seruise. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. lxii, It may be that there is many a wyf and many worldlyche woman shall be nerer god than thou. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6030 It folowith not that they Shulde..her soules leese, That hem to worldly clothes chese; ..Men may in seculer clothes see Florishen hooly religioun. *a* 1500 *Bernard de Cura rei fam.* I. 4 Sum [books] maide for law of god in document, And oþir sum for varldly regiment. *c* 1500 *Melusine* lvii. 336 There he herd the deuyne seruyse deuoutly but yet had he on hys worldly gownes. 1582 JEWEL *Apol. Ch. Eng.* 56 b, What other be the Abbots at this day in yᵉ Popes kingdome, but worldly Princes? 1658 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 315 All this time [of the floods], Shrovetide, some worldly people came in to see the harm which the waters had done us.

4. Of persons, their actions or attributes: Devoted to the world and its pursuits.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 983 Þe worldlich mon euere i-liche Loueþ þing þat is worldliche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 210 Alle þoȝtes ulessliche and wordleliche me sselꝺ dizte uram þe herte. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 89 Worldly prelatis ful of cousitise symonye & heresie. *c* 1410 LOVE *Benavent. Mirr.* xxxi. (1908) 153 Worldely men and fleschely. 1570 GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* II. 20 Besides more worldly mindes they haue, and of more wanton chere, Than worldlymen. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 89, I thus neglecting worldly ends, all dedicated To closenes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 803 The conquerd also..Thenceforth shall practice how to live secure, Worldlie or dissolute. 1693 PRIOR *To C'tess of Exeter* 26 You far above Both these Your God did place; That Your high Pow'r might worldly Thoughts destroy. 1785 BURNS *Ep. Lapraik* XX, Awa, ye selfish, warly race. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. xii, The worldlier passions are the growth of mature years. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Transformation* xii, It is the surest test of genuine love, that it brings back our early simplicity to the worldliest of us. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* viii. 218 A man who is trying to serve two masters is a worldly man. 1900 VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-Stealers* xi, The 'Green Dragon' ..was the point of migration to the worldly part of the county, just as the Cathedral was the point of migration to the spiritual.

5. *Comb.*, as *worldly-witted* adj.; † **worldly-handed** *a.*, occupied in worldly or secular employment; **worldly-minded** *a.*, having a worldly mind, having the thoughts set upon the things of this world (hence **worldly-mindedness**).

1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 256 You have brought us to be 'worldly-handed men, handy-crafts-men. 1661 *Song of Mary* in FAIT *Sel. P., Ellis.* (Parker Soc.) II. 426 The world disdaines them; And why? because they are not *worldly-minded. 1622 *Bible* Luke xiv. (heading), Vnder the parable of the great supper, sheweth how worldly minded men..shalbe shut out of heauen. *a* 1638 [see UNHUMBLED *ppl. a.*]. *a* 1648 PRESTON *Mt. Ebal* (1638) 36 **Worldly mindednesse*..begets coldnesse of affection. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. Iv. § 4. 405 Men..carried from Worldly-mindedness to Heavenly-mindedness. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* vii. Prose Wks. 1886 II. 313 Evil propensities, and self-seeking, and worldly-mindedness. 1863 *Homilies* II. *Inform. Places Script.* I. 8 a b, And some *worldlye witted men, thynke it a great decaye to..their common wealthes, to geue care to the simple..preceptes of..Christ. 1845 MRS. NORTON *Child of Islands* (1846) 168 The shallow craft of worldly-witted fools.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **Worldlify** *v. trans.*, to render worldly; † **Worldlihood**, worldliness; **Worldlily** *adv.*, in a worldly manner; † **Worldly-ship**, worldliness.

1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits' Downf.* 57 When religion was once *wordlefied in him, and that state-matters..had so great a

Catech. Exam. 122 Hired and *worldlily-interested advocates. 1889 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* iv, He began to reconsider *worldlily* and suspiciously all the incidents. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 151 And þis *worldlyshipe shal laste as longe as prelatis ben þus worldli.

Worldly (wɜ̈·rldli), *adv.* [f. after prec. with -LY².] Cf. OHG. *werltlîchi.*] In a worldly manner; with a worldly intent or disposition: freq. qualifying an adj. used attrib. (and hyphened). See also next.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 234 Alle þe haluwen weren worldliche itented. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 427 We ben busy of no swink nor no burn maken For to wirchen our wil & wordliche serue. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 151 Here is þe world taken for men þat lyven worldli. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 162 It were als litel nede or lasse, That thou so worldly wolt compasse With flaterie frto serve. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 104 Þei lifen worldly, & bidun þer vicis wiþ a veyn hiȝt of better lif. *c* 1485 *Wisdom* 405 Her is a man that levith wardly. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 20 Worldly lyuynge chrysten people. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xi. P j b, Those worldly disposed people. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 568 By things deemed weak Subverting worldly strong, and worldly wise By simply meek. 1700 DRYDEN *Wife of Bath's Tale* 493 Since I see your Mind is Worldly bent. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 197 [A] lowering of religious tone to the level of the worldly-religious world around. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 332 They embrace and sanctify every form of worldly-personal consequence. 1896 BLACK *Briseis* xvii, Worldly-pious waverings.

Worldly-wise (stress variable), *a.* Wise in a worldly manner or in worldly affairs; *transf.* of actions or conduct. Also *absol.*

c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* I. 45 Worldly wys is gostly nys. *c* 1415 *Crowned King* 85 Þou most be worldly wys & ware þe be-tymes. 1540 COVERDALE *Frwitf. Lesu.* To Rdr. (1593) P 3 b, This is peraduenture laughed to scorne of the vnexpert, proud, worldly wise. 1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdyas* E e ij, These Edomites..picked oute..the worldly wisest men, thei coulde finde to be their rulers. 1667 (see prec.). 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xiii. 97 It was now, in the worldly-wise way of thinking, become his interest to keep up the distance..between them. 1852 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 485 The friars with worldly-wise Keen sidelong glances. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iv, The lads.. imposed on by the cynical and worldly-wise tone which their..uncle had assumed.

b. *Worldly wiseman* (cf. WISE MAN): a worldly-wise man; now only with allusion to the character so named in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress.* So † *worldly wiseling* [-LING].

1592 LODGE *Catharos* (Hunter. Club) 22 Oh worldly wiseman, you are still entring into the marrow of matters. 1620 DONNE *Serm., Ps. cxliv. 15* (1640) 749 Not onely a worldly wiseman, but a Christian wiseman may reach out both hands, to both kinds of blessings,..spirituall and temporall. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 30 The worldly Wiselings who for coarse carnal ends decry all pretence to the understanding of Prophecies. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 434 There worldly wisemen sold the damaged beast.

World-man. [OE. *woruldman*, f. *world* WORLD *sb.* + MAN *sb.*¹]

1. A man of this world, a human being.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1016 Woruldmonna seo unclæne ȝecynd. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxviii. 20 An þara tungla woruldmen hatað wænes þisla. *c* 1205 LAY. 28131 Nulleþ [hii] hit biginne for nane weorld-monne [*later text* worldmin].

BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 342 The hero is the world-man, in whose heart One passion stands for all, the most indulged.

† **2.** A man who is devoted to this world; a worldling. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 881 Ichulle fordon þe wisdom of þeos wise world men. 1621 BP. W. BARLOW *Eagle & Body* (1609) E 2 b, An infallible note, he will not say of a reprobate, but certainly of a worldman, not yet regenerate.

World-power. [After G. *weltmacht.*]

1. The power of 'this world' (as distinguished from the spiritual world); secular power.

1866 BARING-GOULD *Curs. Myths Mid. Ages, Antichr. & Pope Joan* 139 Christ will descend to avenge the blood of the saints, by destroying Antichrist and the world-power. 1884 *Expositor* Feb. 89 To crush the heathen world-power, and thereby abolish idolatry.

2. Any of the powers (nations, empires) that dominate the world.

1901 B. HARRISON in *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 184 If the World Powers have any recognised creed, it is that it is their duty as 'trustees for humanity' to take over the territories of all the weak and decaying nations. 1904 J. GAIRDNER in *Camb. Med. Hist.* II. xiii. 472 The foundation of England's greatness as a world-power.

† **World-riche.** *Obs.* Also 4 **worldesriche.** [OE. *woruldrice*: see WORLD *sb.* and RICHE *sb.*] 'The kingdom of the world', the world.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* Iv. 38 Þa he hine aseed of ðæm worldrice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11800 Þurrh þatt te laȝe gast himm bæd All weorelldrichess ahhte. *c* 1205 LAY. 17182 Swa wid swa is weorlde-riche nis nan weorc his liliche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 366 To seche in al this worldesriche, Men schal noght finde upon his liche. *Ibid.* II. 230, I hadde his levere than a Myn Of Gold; for al this worldesriche Ne mihte make me so riche As sche.

† **Worldship.** *Obs.* [OE. *woruldscipe*: see WORLD *sb.* and -SHIP.] Worldly things.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xviii. 130 Nele nan Godes ðeow hiene selfne to ungemetlice ȝebindan on worldscipum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16333 Swillc lif las all þwerrt ut dæd Fra weorelldshipess lusstess.

Worldward (wɜ̈·rldwɑ̈d), *adv.* (*a.*) [f. WORLD *sb.* + -WARD.]

1. (orig. *To the worldward*) In regard to the world; in worldly respects.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* Iv. 29 Although I be rich and honorable to the worldward. 1587 — *De Mornay* xvi. (1617) 283 Considering man what hee is to Godward, to the World-ward, to Manward and to himselfe. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 148 Such as live worldward just, but have no care of religion. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. vi. (1640) 82 Be not Hypocrites, satisfied with some externall shew of religiousnesse, and orderly living to the world-ward. 1652 J. READING *Guide Holy City* xix. 215 Another man riseth in honours..another is many wales prosperous to the world-ward.

2. Towards or in the direction of the world.

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 45 Thoughts that were roving heiward, worldward, and sinward. 1865 LOWELL *Thoreau* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 368 Emerson..has drawn steadily manward and worldward

B. *adj.* Directed towards or facing the world.

1857 J. HAMILTON *Lessons fr. Gt. Blog.* 261 Over his general and world-ward conduct his eye could glide with prevailing satisfaction. 1883 *Evang. Mag.* Oct. 464 Such vanities had a worldward tendency. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* May 26 They chose a beggar from the world outside To keep their worldward door for them.

So **Worldwards** *adv.*, in respect of the world.

1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 79 Thy church,—One, universal, and invisible World-wards, yet manifest unto itself.

World-wide (stress variable), *a.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + WIDE *a.*] 'As wide as the world'; extending over or covering the whole world.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 71, I had the ground to be a pillow, and the world-wide-fields to be a chamber.

1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 125 The world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm. 1852 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 899 The world-wide throes Which went to make the popedom. 1860 WORCESTER, *World-wide*, co-extensive with the world; as, 'World-wide fame'. 1877 C. GRIKIE *Christ* lvii. (1879) 693 The Jews thought Christ would raise Israel to world-wide supremacy. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlii, The world-wide air was azure. 1912 *Athenæum* 24 Aug. 183/2 The problems he undertook to solve were worldwide.

b. as *adv.*

1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 294 Where in caves live the world-wide known gipsies.

Hence **World-widely** *adv.*, **World-wideness.** *nonce-wds.*

1897 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/1 World-widely famous. 1900 *19th Cent.* July 37 Don Sturzo's ambitions are Cæsarean in their world-wideness.

† **Worldy,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -Y¹. (The difficulty of writing *-ldl-* correctly makes it probable that some examples are errors for *worldly.*)] Worldly.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 5302 Þan scholdest þow of al þis lond wrestle..agaynst power, and agaynst worldy rueles of the darckenes of this worlde. 1592 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 5 Nathing in this life apperis to warldy men mair facil.

Worley, worlie, var. forms of WURLEY.

Worling, var. WARLING *Obs.*

Worm (wɜ̈m), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wyrm**, 3, 5–6 *Sc.* **wirm**(e, (3 **wrim**, 5 **wrme**, 6 *Sc.* **virme**); 1–3 **weorm**, 3–5 **werm**, 4–5 **werme**; 1–4 **wurm**, (3 **wurem**, *Orm.* **wurrm**, 3, 5 **wrm**); 6 **wourme**, *Sc.* **woirme**, 6–7 **woorme**, 4–7 **worme**, 3– **worm**. [OE. *wyrm* (i— **wurmi-*s) = OFris. *wirm* (WFris. *wjirm*, NFris. *wiirm*, EFris. *wurm*), OS. *wurm* serpent (MLG., LG. *worm*, MDu., Du. *worm*), OHG., MHG., G. *wurm* †serpent, worm; also (with *a*-stem) ON. *ormr* (for **wormr*) serpent (Sw., Norw., Da. *orm*); the stem of Goth. *waurms* ὄφις is uncertain. Related to L. *vermis* worm, Gr. *ῥόμος*, *ῥόμαξ* wood-worm.

In this word, as in Woman and Woer, the spelling *wo* is an early graphic substitution for *wu* (cf. ME. *wolf, wulle, wonder*, for OE. *wulf, wull, wundor*), and this again is a reversion from OE. *wy* (i.e. *wi*) to the unmutated vowel through the influence of the following *r*. More normal developments of OE. *wyrm* appear in the ME. (eastern and Sc.) *wirm* and (south-eastern) *werm.*]

† **1.** A serpent, snake, dragon. Now only *arch.*

Beowulf 2583 Þa se wyrm onwoc. *a* 1000 *Metres Deut.* xxxii. 24 Ic sende wildeora teð on hi mid wurmum & mid-

drum. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 321 He..Wente in to a wirme, and tolde eue a tale. *c* 1290 *St. James* 179 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 39 A fuyr Drake þar-opon a-gein heom cominde huy seize.. Anon hadde þi lupere worm is pouwer al ilore. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5896 Þan tok aaron þis lik yeird, And on þe flore he kest it doo, And it become a worme felon. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 720 Sumwhyle wyth wormes he werres, & with wolues als. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 66 Whi wolde God vr sauesour suffre such a worm In such a wrong wyse þe wom-

sawe the worme hange on hys bonde. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 243 Hast thou the pretty worme of Nylus there, That killes and paines not? 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1068 O Eve, in evil hour thou didst give eare To that false Worm. 1727 Pope *To Mr. John Moore* iii. That ancient Worm, the Devil. 1778 W. Hutchinson *View Northumb.* ii. 162 The Laidley Worm of Spindleston Heughs. 1784 Cowper *Task* vi. 780 The mother sees, And smiles to see, her infant's playful hand Stretch'd forth to dally with the crested worm. 1867 Morris *Jason* x. 258 Therewith began A fearful battle betwixt worm and man.

†2. Any animal that creeps or crawls; a reptile; an insect. *Obs.* In ME. often *wild worm.*

Cf. *blind-worm, slow-worm* (a lizard); also *galleyworm, glow-worm.*

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* i. vii, Froxas comon..swa fela þæt man ne mihte..nanne mete gezyrwan, þæt þara wyrma nære emfela þæm mete, ær he gegearwod wære. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* iv 18 Ne wyrce ge eow..nane anlicnysse.., ne fugeles, ne wyrmes [*reptilium*], ne fisces. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Þer wunieð fower cunnes wurmes inne [*viz.* adders, toads, frogs and crabs]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Þe scorpiun is ones cunnes wurm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2982 Þis wirmes [frogs and toads] storuen in þe stede. *c* 1325 *Sir Orfeo* 252 (Sisam) Now seþ he noþing þat him likeþ, Bot wilde wormes bi him strikeþ. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 112 Briddes and beastes..And wilde wormes in wodes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 27 If Cow or Calf or Sheepe or Oxe swelle That any worm hath ete or worm ystonge. ?*c* 1400 Lydg. *Æsop's Fab.* v. 117 Thus were these wormes [the frog and mouse] contrary of livyng. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* viii. 21, I wil cause cruell wormes (or flyes) to come vpon the. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 37 Cantarides..are grene wormes shewing with a glosse lyke golde. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* ii. xxxvii. 196 This herbe dryueth away..the stinking wormes or Mothes called Cimici. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* ii viii. 41 b, Certaine small flying wormes, which with their billes and stinges picking the other figs, sodayenly after they are picked, they come to a good and perfect ripenesse. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* ix. 128 b, Vnderneath this bed of Sage, The fellow that did dig, Turnd vp a toade, a loathsome sight, A worme exceeding big. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vii. 476 At once came forth whatever creeps the ground, Insect or Worme. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* xiv. 274 The meek worm that feeds her lonely lamp Couched in the dewy grass. 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unb.* iv. 543 Ye beasts and birds, Ye worms, and fish.

†b. Applied (like *vermin*) to four-footed animals considered as noxious or objectionable. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1573 Lions & Libardes & other laithe wormes. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxiv. (Arb.) 100 Alas me growleth of thyse fowle nyckers [*sc.* young marmosets].. I sawe neuer fowler wormes.

3. A member of the genus *Lumbricus*; a slender, creeping, naked, limbless animal, usually brown or reddish, with a soft body divided into a series of segments; an earthworm. More widely, any annelid, terrestrial, aquatic, or marine.

Also with defining term, as *dew, earth, ground, lug, mud, pipe, rag, rain, sand, sea, tag, tube, water*: see the words.

a 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 320/31 *Uermis*, wyrm. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. cxv. (1495) hh i b/1 Some ben water wormes and some ben londe wormes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 44 Maddockis, þat ben wormes of þe erþe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyrme, *vermis.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 b, Lyke as the worme y^t is crushed or poysoned, may scantly crepe or lyfte vp her heed. 1530 Palsgr. 290/2 Worme in the erthe, *ver de terre.* 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 149 A marrishe is to be preferred before a dry ground, that they [*viz.* swine] may.. digge vp woormes. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. i. 79, I neuer.. trode vpon a worme against my will, but I wept fort. 1732 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 269 The slimy tribe of Snails and Worms. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 144 We now are in doubt whether he means a real worm, or a young animal of the lizard species. 1840 Newman *Parochl. Serm.* V. viii. 128 Like worms working their way upwards through the dust of the earth. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1878) 166 Pectinaria Belgica..is an Annelid, or true worm. 1855 Gosse *Mar. Zool.* i. 84 The Sea-mouse (*Aphrodita*) one of the most common as well as the largest of our Worms. 1881 Darwin *Form. Vegt. Mould* i. 13 Worms are nocturnal in their habits.

b. Prov. *Tread on a worm and it will turn*: i. e. even the humblest will resent extreme ill-treatment. Also in variant or abbreviated forms, e. g. *Even a worm will turn.*

Cf. F. *un ver se recoquille bien quand on marche dessus.*

1546 Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 32 Tread a woorme on the tayle and it must turne agayne. *a* 1548, 1641 [see Turn v. 66 d]. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, ii. ii. 17 The smallest Worme will turne, being troden on. 1611, 1641 [see Turn v. 39 c]. 1691 S. Shaw *Diff. Humours Men* 18 He has scarce the courage of a Worm, to turn at him that treads upon him. 1818 [see Wound v. 3]. 1837 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Liv.* xxv. 245 It exhausted the patience of the much-enduring Willis; so that the worm turned again—insolently. 1864 Browning *Mr. Sludge* 72 Tread on a worm, it turns, sir! If I turn, Your fault!

†c. *Naked as a worm*: entirely naked (= F. *nu comme un ver*), or in allusion to this. *Obs.*

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 454 Nakid as a ——— she. *a* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 804 Lat me nat lyk a worm go by the weye. *c* 1440 *Cov. Myst., Fall of Man* 291, I walke as ——— *a* 1467 [see Naked a. 1 b].

†d. *To look worms*: ? to peer narrowly (*through*). *Obs.* (But perh. a corrupt reading.)

c 1600 *Timon* i. ii, I'le make the[e] looke wormes through the pryson gratas, Vnlesse thou satisfie to me my debt.

4. Any endoparasitic helminth breeding in the living body of men and other animals. Usu. *pl.* (formerly often with *the*). Also, the disease or disorder constituted by the presence of these parasites.

The numerous kinds are indicated by a defining term, as *flat, gourd, Guinea, hair, maw, palisade, pin, round, tape, thread*: see these words.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 120 Wiþ þam wyrmum þe innan eztlað þam men. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2213 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 170 Ful of wormes was is flesch. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xii. 23 And he waastid of wormes, deiede. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 466 Als lang as he liffid after, wormes & mawkis bred in his flessh & eate it away. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij b, A medecyne for wormys called anguellis. 1563–74 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 103 The wormes is a lyght dysease, and they lye in the greatte paunche, in the belye of the horse, and they are shynynge, of colour lyke a snake, syxe inches in lengthe. *a* 1530 J. Heywood *Play of Love* 676 (Brandl) Wherby loue is a drynk mete To gyue babes for wormes, for it drynketh bytter swete. 1630 Randolph *Aristippus* 25 The King of Russia had died of the wormes, but for a powder I sent him. 1652 W. Poole *Country Farrier* 33 To cure the Wormes, or Bottes that doe wring his belly. 1665 *Golden Coast, Guinney* 10 There is a kinde of long Worm, that ariseth in the Legs, Arms, and Thighs of some men that come hither. 1705 Borman *Guinea* xiii. (1721) 94 The National Diseases here are the Small-Pox and Worms. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* (1736) 413 Children subject to Worms ought not to live much upon Milk, Cheese, or ripe Fruits. 1822 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 365 In an attack upon worms, brisk cathartics should always take the lead. 1826 J. Evans *Brit. Herbal* 57 Germander, the juice of the leaves dropped in the ears killeth the worms in them. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxxvi. 534 A dose of santonin often produces results which will seem to justify a diagnosis of 'worms.'

5. The larva of an insect; a maggot, grub, or caterpillar, esp. one that feeds on and destroys flesh, fruit, leaves, cereals, textile fabrics, and the like. Also collect. *the worm*, as a destructive pest.

With defining term prefixed, as *book, caddis, canker, case,* † *cawel, horn, measuring, palmer, red, rook, silk, slug, span, tobacco, whirl, white, wire*: see these words.

a 1000 *Riddles* xlviii. 3 Me þæt þuhte wræstlicu wyrd..þæt se wyrm forswealg wera ġied sumes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Wiðuten salt fleshs gederes wurmes..& forroteð sone. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10045 Þo grene corn in somer seolde curne, To foule wormes muchedel þe eres gonne turne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6612 Þai fand bot wormes creuland emid [*i. e.* in the manna]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxiv. (Tollemache MS.) In somer þe tender leues þerof beþ eten with smal schagges, and with oþer wormes. 1425 Hoccleve *To Sir John Oldcastle* 466 The worm for to sleen in the pesecod. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* iv. 965 Now pike out moughthes, attercoppes, wormes, And butterflie whos thost engendring worm is. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* p. xxv, The Chambres schal haue al the clothes in her warde,..makyng, repayryng, and kepyng them from wormes. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iv. lx. 522 The small wormes that are found within the knoppes or heades of Teaselles. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* ii. iv. 114 She..let concealment like a worme i'th budde Feede on her damaske cheeke. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 78 The small Wormes of the Drones. *c* 1630 Milton *Arcades* 53 Or what the cross dire-looking Planet smites, Or hurtfull Worm with canker'd venom bites. 1684 Whitlock *Zootomia* 230 Books are subject among other Chances to fire, and the Worme. 1677 *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 35, I observed worms in wheat and Rye. 1718 Prior *Solomon* iii. 132 The Worm that gnaws the ripening Fruit. 1767 in A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 39 Wheat never plants kindly after a thin crop of clover; but is subject to the worm, and to be root fallen. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* iii. 239 The crawling worm, that turns a summer-fly. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Shakesp.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 358 They have left..no file of old yellow accounts to decompose in damp and worms. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xli, The worms have eaten the cloth a good deal. 1857 Kingsley *Lett.* (1877) II. 42 The office of worms in this world is to prevent, while they seem to accelerate, putrefaction. 1884 J. Phin *Dict. Apicult.* 78 When worms are spoken of by the ordinary beekeeper, the larvæ of the beemoth are almost always meant. 1886 *Tobacco* (ed. Lock) 55 Worms, in the American phraseology, here generally known as caterpillars, are the *bête noire* of the tobacco grower.

fig. 1557 R. Edgeworth *Serm.* 305 b, Pride, which is the moght, the worme that eateth vp the riche men. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 287 Nothing can man have so pleasing, green, and, in appearance, so lasting, which has not its own worm prepared by God, whereby, in the dawn, it may be smitten and die.

b. The larva or grub of many kinds of beetles, destructive to trees, timber, furniture, etc. (Cf. 9 and *wood-worm* (Wood *sb.*[1] 10 b).)

a 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 122/35 *Tormes, uel ten* wyrm þe boraþ treow. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* Right as wormes shendeth a tree. *c* 1470 *E. E.* (Warton Club) 70 Iff wormys wex in a tre. 1532 [*Gov.* ii. xiv. P 2 As the wormes do brede moste gladly in softe wode and swete. 1587 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 154 As the woirme that workis vnder cuire At lenth the tre consumis that is duire. 1602 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xxiv. I. 539 As touching the Worme, some trees are more subject unto it than others. 1657 R. Austen *Fruit Trees* i. (ed. 2) 72 Foure Diseases that sometimes happen to Fruit-trees. Mossinesse, Bark bound, Canker, and Wormes. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 190 The Worm is very apt to get between the Bark of this Wood after it is fall'd. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* iii. 236 Worms ate the floors, the tap'stry fled the wall. 1893 C. J. Gahan *Furniture Beetles* 5 Furniture or .. woodwork..destroyed by what is commonly known as *the worm*—little six-legged, white grubs which live inside the wood, devouring it and turning it to powder.

c. *contextually.* A silkworm.

a 1300 *Leiden Riddle* 9 Uyuuah moc ni suoſan gyndi-cruftum. 1599 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 146 In this country breed the Wormes which make silk. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkewormes* 53, I thinke that God and nature thought it meete, The noblest wormes on noblest tree to feede. 1624 Shaks. *Oth.* iii. iv. 73 The Wormes were hallowed, that did breede the Silke. 1626 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* ii. ii, An especial good piece of Silk; the Worm never spun a finer thread. 1634 Milton *Comus* 715 Spinning Worms, That in their green shops weave the smooth-hair'd silk. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 220 It is good to let the [Mulberry] Leaves be clear of Dew or Rain before you give them unto the Worms. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 59/1 As these moulting periods approach, the worms lose their appetite and cease eating.

6. A maggot, or, in popular belief, an earthworm, supposed to eat dead bodies in the grave.

a 900 *Juliana* 416 Þæs lichoman sæþe on legre sceal weorðan in worulde wyrmas to hroþor. *a* 1000 *Soul & Body* 114 Rib reafiað reðe wyrmas. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 We beoð wiðuten al swa se deade mannes þrub, þe is wiðuten ihwited, and wiðinne stinkende and full of wermes. *c* 1250 *Death* 157 in *O. E. Misc.* 178 Nu þe sculen wormes [*Jesus MS.* wurmes] wunien wiðinne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14321 Wormes biginnes at ete him nu. *a* 1400 *Minor P. Vernon MS.* 661/114 Wormes blake wol vs enbrase. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 37 b, Thou shalt haue no power to fele the stenche of thy body, nor howe the wormes shall suke thy roten kareyn. 1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 164 My soull to God my maker, and my bodie to the wormes. 1580 *Bible* (Geneva) Job xix. 26 Though after my skin wormes destroy this bodie. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* iv. i. 108 Men haue died from time to time, and wormes haue eaten them. 1611 *Bible* Job xxiv. 20 The worme shall feed sweetly on him. *a* 1679 J. Ward *Diary* (1839) 274 Three months after, his bodie went to the wormes. 1795 M. G. Lewis *Monk* (1796) III. 63 (*Alonso the Brave* xii), The worms they crept in, and the worms they crept out, And sported his eyes and his temples about. 1815 Southey *Life & Corr.* (1850) IV. 135 Some of our party told me of a third [grave], in which the worms were at work, but I shrunk from the sight. 1892 W. Watson *Great Misgiving* 4 in *Lachrymæ Musarum* 52 Life is a feast, and we have banqueted—Shall not the worms as well?

punningly. (Cf. Shaks. *Ham.* iv. iii. 21–3.) 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v., He is gone to the diet of worms, he is dead and buried, or gone to Rot-his-bone.

b. *fig.* as one of the pains of Hell (Mark ix. 48, Isa. lxvi. 24).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark ix. 48 Aworpen on helle fyr, þar hyra wyrm ne swylt. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 53 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 Þe wurmes..þat dop þe saule teone. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* i. 2 Þe saule thurgh assent gets þe worme þ^t neuer sall dye. 1547 Becon *Agst. Whoredom* iii. in *Homilies* i. R iv b, The worms, that shall there gnawe the conscience of the dampned, shall neuer dye. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 230 As to the other Fate of Books, it is to be feared these feed their Authors never dying Worme. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vi. 739 Driven down To chains of Darkness, and th' undying Worm.

c. *Worm's* or *worms' meat*, said of a man's dead body, or of man as mortal. Also † *worms' food* or *ware*; *food* or *meat for* (or † *to*) *worms.*

[*a* 1000 *Soul & Body* 127 Lic..biþ þonne wyrmes gieft. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xxx. 145 We syndon deadlice menn and to duste soeolon on worulde wurðan wurmum to mete.]

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Ne schalt tu beon wurmes fode? *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 59 Þat lam & wurmene mete. 1340 *Ayenb.* 216 Saint bernard sayþ huet is man bote uelþe.. wermene mete (*esca vermium*)? *Ibid.*, He is..mete to wermes ine his dyaþe. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 7 in *26 Pol. Poems* 121, I shalbe wormes ware. 1421–22 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1087 It is to gret an abusioun, To seen a man, þat is but wormes mete, Desire riches. 1582 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* vi. Q j b, To day with myrthe alyue, and foode to wormes within a whyle. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* iii. i. 112 They haue made wormes meat of me. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1671) 235 Fear not clay and worm's meat. 1675 Cocker *Morals* 45 Poor Worms-meat, Soar not to the hight of State. 1677 Otway *Cheats of Scapin* ii, By Heaven, he shall be Worms-meat within these two hours.

7. †a. A tick or mite breeding in the hand, foot, or other part of the body. *Obs.*

See also Handworm, *nose-worm* (Nose *sb.* 18), *wheal-worm* (Wheal *sb.*[1] b), Ring-worm, Dew-worm (etym. note).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 124 Gif wyrm hand ete. 1563–74 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 47 There be some shepe, that hath a worme in his foote, that maketh hym halte. 1530 Palsgr. 290/2 Worme in the hand, *ciron.* 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* i. (Arb.) 49 A litle blayne, a small cutte, yea a sillie poore worme in his finger, may kepe him from shoting wel ynough. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* i. iv. 65 Her Waggoner, a small gray-coated Gnat, not halfe so bigge as a round little Worme, prickt from the Lazie-finger of a man [Qo. 1 maide]. 1629 Brondelle *Fr. Gard.* G 7 b, His knees are very round, he hath a worme at the right knee.

†b. *fig.* or *allusively. Obs.*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* K iv b, To picke a worme betweene two forked fingers [*i.e.* to make horns: cf. Cotgrave s.v. *Ciron*]. 1604 ? Dekker *Newes fr. Grauesend* Ep. Ded. in *Plague Pamphlets* (1925) 67 Strange fashions did I pick (like wormes) out of the fingers of euery Nation.

c. *popularly* = Comedo.

1730 Swift *Lady's Dressing Room* 64 A Glass that can to Sight disclose The smallest Worm in Celia's Nose, And faithfully direct her Nail, To squeeze it out from Head to Tail. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 752 It is also known as grub, worm, black-head, or 'waster'.

8. An earthworm, or a larva (see 3, 5 above).

a. as the food of birds.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 602 Ac wat etestu..Bute attercoppe and fule ulize, An wormes, ȝif þu miȝte finde Among þe uolde of harde rinde? *c* 1382 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 346 The foules smale That eten as that nature wolde enclyne, As worme, or thynges of whiche I tel no tale. *c* 1386 — *Sqr.'s T.* 609 And to the wode he wole and wormes ete. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Jesuel* 94, I had leuer half scrapit beir with my naillis Amangis this mow, and luke my lyfis fude, As draf, or corne, small wormis or smaillis. 1629

Snake. *Mach.* IV. ii. 32 How will you flee? *Son.* As Birds do Mother. *Wife.* What with Wormes, and Flyes? 1670 Ray *Prov.* 84 The early bird catcheth the worm. 1813 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 28 The old birds feed them with small worms, caterpillars and insects. 1894 [Hooton] *Bilberry Thurland* III. 205 As brisk as a robin wi' worms. 1864 Browning *Dram. Pers., Caliban* 51 The pie with the long tongue That pricks deep into oak warts for a worm. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, As the early bird catches the worm.

b. as bait for fish.

Also with defining term prefixed, as *caddis, dew, dug, lob, lug, red*, etc.: see these words.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1129 As fisch þat is wt hok inomen, þat whon þe worm he swolewep alast, He is bi þe hok itiyed fast. 1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) D j, *Lumbrex*, a worme or an angle twache. 1566 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 130 Diggyng downe the comon dycke..for gettyng of wormes. 1604 Shaks. *Haml.* IV. iii. 28 (Qo. 2) A man may fish with the worme that hath eate of a King, and eate of the fish that hath fedde of that worme. 1624–34 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* xx. (1906) 258 For your live baits they are wormes of all kinds, especially the red worme. 1657 T. Barker *Barber's Delight* (1659) 41 For the Barbell, I have taken great ones in Ware river with wormes, for I know no better bait than wormes. 1806 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Tristia, Elegy Dunthorne* 6 Patient as men, upon the river's side, Who for a dinner throw the worm or fly.

collect. sing. 1909 W. C. Platts *Light Lines* 82 There may be no particular skill required in catching a few trout with worm in coloured water.

9. A name for various long slender crustaceans and molluscs (e.g. *Teredo navalis*, the ship-worm) which destroy timber by boring. Also collect. *the worm*, as a destructive pest.

Formerly supposed to be a grub or larva: cf. 3 b and Teredo. See also *ship-worm* (Ship *sb.*[1] 9 b), †Tree-worm.

1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 314 She being a new shipp, onely spoyled with the worme. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 7 Securing the Hulls of his Majesties Ships against the Worm. 1774 E. Long *Jamaica* III. 740 This tree..having been found to stand the sea-water very well, uncorroded by..the worm, which is not able to penetrate it. 1864 Browning *James Lee's Wife* II. iii, Some ships, safe in port indeed, Rot and rust, Run to dust, All through worms i' the wood.

II. 10. *fig.* A human being likened to a worm or reptile as an object of contempt, scorn, or pity; an abject, miserable creature.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxii. 7 Ic soðlice eam wyrm [*vermis*] & nales mon. *c* 1200 Ormin 4870 Icc amm añ wurrm, & nohht nan mann. 1340 *Ayenb.* 215 Ich am, he sede, a lite werm, and no man. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) Pref. 1 In þat land he wald..suffer hard passioun and dede of þe Iews for vs synfull wormes. 1402 *Friar Daw* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 43 Sith that wickide worme, Wiclyf be his name, began to sowe the seed of cisme in the erthe. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. iv. 67, I am þi most poure seruaunt, and an abiecte worme. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xiii. § 2 O Clinias,..the wickedest worme that euer went vpon two legges. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. v. 87 *Pist.* Vilde worme, thou wast ore-look'd euen in thy birth. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Millaine* III. ii. G 4 b, If I am dull now, may I liue and dye The scorne of wormes & slaues. *a* 1668 Duppa *Rules & Helps Devot.* I. (1675) 26 A Dignity that raiseth us poor Worms of the Earth to a kind of equality with the Angels themselves. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 238 All this dread Order break—for whom? for thee? Vile worm! 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 213 He, from his exceeding manfulness.., Wroth to be wroth at such a worm. 1864 Trollope *Small Ho. Allington* xxvii, Poor reptile; wretched worm of a man! 1882 Besant *All Sorts* vii. (1898) 67 The meanest amongst us poor worms of earth. 1926 *Introduction to Sally* iv. 51 In the presence of her loveliness, what a mere mincing worm he was.

b. Similarly *the son of a worm* (after Job xvii. 14).

1633 Shirley *Gamester* II. (1637) D 1, He that affronts Me, is the sonne of a Worme, and his father a Whoore. 1878 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 3 Man, who is a worm, and the son of a worm.

†c. With qualification expressing tenderness, playfulness, or commiseration: A human being, 'creature'. *Obs.* (In 16th c. esp. *loving worm.*)

Cf. G. *das arme wurm*, applied to a child.

a 1553 Udall *Royster D.* III. ii. (Arb.) 41 Yea and he is as loung a worme againe as a doue. 1562 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. R ij, Thus bicause they woulde bee counted to louynge woormes, they make menne counte them lyars, and fonde flatterers. 1568 Fulwell *Like will to Like* A ij b, Yet are women kinde wormes I dare wel say. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 247 Apuleius Asse was .. a cunning Ape, a loouing worme. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. i. 31 Poore worme thou art infected. *a* 1625 Fletcher *M. Thomas* I. i, *Val.* How does his father? *Hyl.* As mad a worm as e'er he was. 1626 B. Jonson *Staple of Newes* v. iii, There bee sits like an old worme of the peace.

†d. Used, like Caterpillar 2, for: One who preys on society. *Obs.*

1591 Greene *Notable Disc. Coosnage* Wks. (Grosart) X. 30 The seruing-man sent with his Lordes treasure, loseth ofttimes most part to these worms of the commonwelth. 1633 *Costlie Whore* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 296 Lords, see these wormes of kingdomes be destroyed. [Cf. 895 *ante* the catterpillers of the state.]

e. *slang.* A policeman.

1865 *Slang Dict.* 272 *Worm*, the latest Slang term for a policeman.

11. *fig.* A grief or passion that preys stealthily on a man's heart or torments his conscience (like a worm in a dead body or a maggot in food); esp. the gnawing pain of remorse. Cf. Canker-worm 2.

Sometimes 'the worm that never dies' (as in 6 b).

a 900 *Andreas* 769 Brandhata nið weoll on gewitte, wearm blædum fag. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 280 The worm of conscience. 1560 *Nice Wanton* 281 (Manly) The worme of my conscience, that shall never dye, Accuseth me dayly more and more. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 143 Euery man read easily in his face..that some secret worme gnawed vpon his accustomed ioy. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 220 The Worme of Conscience still begnaw thy Soule. 1623–4 Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* III. iv, 'Twil hardly buy a capcase for ones conscience tho To keep it from the worm. 1727 Pope *To Mr. John Moore* viii, Their Conscience is a Worm within, That gnaws them Night and Day. 1733 Smollett *Ct. Fathom* xlv, While in this manner he secretly nursed the worm of grief that preyed upon his vitals. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* II. xxvii, And, oh! that pang where more than madness lies! The worm that will not sleep—and never dies. 1826 Hazlitt *Plain Speaker* x. Wks. 1903 VII. 206 We secretly persuade ourselves that there is no such thing as excellence. It is that which we hate above all things. It is the worm that gnaws us, that never dies. *a* 1865 J. Gibson in T. Matthews *Biog.* (1911) 56 Nor did I feel the worm of envy creeping round my heart whenever I saw..a beautiful idea skilfully executed by any of my young rivals.

†b. A whim or 'maggot' in the brain; a perverse fancy or desire; a streak of madness or insanity. Often *wild worm* (cf. 2). *Obs.* (So G. *wurm.*)

[illegible] *a* 1530 [illegible] in whose hed By a frantyke worm his opinion is bred. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 44 Some private Scorpion in your hearte or some wild worme in your heades hath caused you to conspire my death and confusion. *Ibid., 3 Rich. III* 42 The wilde worme of vengaunce waueryngе in his hed. 1606 Chapman *Gent. Usher* v. iv. 50 But a father Would rather eate the brawne out of his armes Then glut the mad worme of his wilde desires With his deare issues entrailes. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Millaine* v. i. L 2 And if I now out-strip him not, and catch him,..hereafter I'le sweare there are wormes in my braines. 1633 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1888) 84 Lest you should think I have as many worms in my head as he. 1674 Rymer *Rapin's Aristotle's Poesie* 47 The Emperor Nero who had the Worm in his Head, and conceited himself a Wit. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 278 He has a worm in's brain. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 26 Nov. (O.H.S.) I. 100 He presently after laid it aside, by reason the worm (wth w[ch] he is possessed) mov'd in his head another way.

†c. *Greedy worm* (cf. 13): avarice or greediness as an itching passion in the heart. *Obs.*

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* III. 42[51] Auarise, to al vertu con-

understanding, when he is not troubled with this greedy worm.

12. *The worm*: formerly a popular name for various ailments supposed to be caused by the working of a 'worm', or resulting in a worm-shaped tumour or growth. †a. Colic. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1500 *Roule's Cursing* 57 in *Maitland Fo.* (1919) 263 The worme, the wareit vedumia [= wedenonsa']. *c* 1623 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) I. 12 That Sunday ..schoe took the worme at midnight, begoud to cast, and so contineued al Mononday. 1654 *Ibid.* II. 275, I heard after sermon of M. W. G. haiving the worme, and not being able to com to the kirk al the Saboth.

b. Toothache. *Sc.* ? *Obs.*

Cf. Shaks. *Much Ado* III. ii. 27.

a 1583 Montgomerie *Flyting* 302 (Tullibard. MS.) The choikis, the charbunkill, with þe wormis in thy cheikis. 1673 Wedderburn *Vocab.* 20 (Jam.) *Laborat dolore dentium*, he hath the worm. 1881 W. Gregor *Folk-Lore N.E. Scot.* x. 48 It was a common belief that toothache was caused by a worm at the root of the tooth, and toothache was often simply called 'the worm'. 1890 Service *This Netherlands* vii. 44 The auld man was girnin' wi' the worm.

†c. ? An abscess or swelling thought to resemble a worm in shape. *Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 336 If a Horse do labor in that kinde of impostume which they vulgarly call the Worm, either any where as well as in the nose, they do open the skin with a searing Iron.

III. 13. A small vermiform ligament or tendon in a dog's tongue, often cut out when the animal is young, as a supposed safeguard against rabies; = Lytta.

Also †*greedy* or †*hungry worm*: see Greedy 2 d, Hungry 4.

1530, 1588, 1607 [see Greedy 2 d]. 1598 Elyot *Dict., Lytta*, a worme in a dogges tongue. 1589 Nashe *Pasquil's Ret.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 223 Full of play like a wanton whelpe whose worme was not taken out of his tongue. 1654 C. Ware *Gratius' Cyneget.* B 8 b, Where the tongue is with fast tendons bound, The fury (call'd a worme) is thence convey'd. 1737 [see Hungry 4]. 1668 R. Owen *Anat. Vertebr.* III. 197 The long cylindrical fibrous body..called 'lytta', and in Dogs, where it attains its largest size, 'the worm'.

fig. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* I. 6 Your worme from your youth hath been a proud conceit of your self, which, being sourlabed vnder your tongue so long, makes it now runne riot.

b. A tendon in a dog's tail, often cut or pulled out when the tail is being docked.

1877 Stables *Pract. Kennel Guide* 242 There is no earthly occasion for pulling out the nerve or 'worm' as it is called.

14. Used to render L. anatomical terms. †a. The epididymis (see quot. and cf. Wormy *a.* 2). *Obs.*

1548 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* I. xi. (1552) 23 Thys parte of the sede cariars may be called the worme: in latyn, *Corpus lumbricosum*: for because that it hath many conuolutions as wormes lyinge togeather haue.

b. The median lobe of the cerebellum; the *vermis* or vermiform process.

1827 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

15. An artificial or natural object resembling an earthworm.

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5858/4 A small Picture of a Man in Armour, set in Gold in a Shagrin Case, a little Gold Worme on each side the Picture. 1894 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* 129 The drippings made worms of wet in the thick dust of the road. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Jan. 7/2 The 'worm' of the Somerset Light Infantry..is a black thread woven into the gold lace on the officers' sleeves.

b. *pl.* The coiled pods of *Astragalus hamosus.*

1849 *Gardeners' Chron.* 3 Feb. 96 Vegetable and Flower Seeds..Hedgehogs per paper 0*s.* 3*d.*..Snails 0*s.* 3*d.*..Worms 0*s.* 3*d.* 1900 L. H. Bailey *Cycl. Amer. Hort.* 1990 Under the name of 'Worms,' 'Snails' and 'Caterpillars,' various odd fruits of leguminous plants are grown as curiosities... *Astragalus hamosus*..is the one usually known as 'Worms'.

16. Used as the name of various implements of spiral form. (Supposed to resemble the sinuous shape and movement of an earthworm.) †a. The screw of a screw-press. *Obs.*

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Cochlea*,..the vice or wourme of a presse. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus.*

b. A double or single screw fixed on the end of a rod, used for withdrawing the charge or wad from a muzzle-loading gun.

1591 G. Clayton *Mart. Discipl.* 27 Euery Souldiour to haue a sufficient Caliuer,..rammer, worme (etc.). ? 1594 Barwick *Disc. Weapons* 8 His scrues and wormes to serue all for his skowring sticke. 1600–1 *Churchw. Acc. E. Budleigh* (Brushfield 1894) 19 P[d]..the makinge cleane of the muskettis and for a worme and scowerer. 1703 *La Hontan's Voy. N. Amer.* I. 132 My Men began..to unload their Pieces with Worms, in order to charge 'em afresh. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4455/4 Fine Triangle Worms..experienc'd for drawing of Balls out of Pieces, with Scowerers and Washers to them, made either to screw upon the Rod with a Socket, or to pin on. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 Best double worm, box handle, single worm, ash handle. *c* 1800 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 4 What is the use of the worm? To draw the gun after loading.

c. A sharp-pointed spiral tool, used for boring wood or soft stone; an auger or gimlet, or the screw of such a tool. *local.*

1594 Plat *Jewel-ho.* II. 28 If there happen to bee any quarrie of soft stone betweene him and the marle: he must firste make his entrance thorough the stone with a piercing worme. 1812 [see Screw *sb.*[1] 5]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Worm* 6. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Worm*, a gimlet.

d. The thread or spiral ridge of a male screw.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 32 The Rules and manner of cutting Worms upon great Screws. The Threds of Screws when they are bigger than can be made in Screw-plates are called Wormes. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 322/2 The Screw-Pin (of a vice) is cut with a square strong Worm or Thred. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 12/2 If these Rings or this Worm be..cut in too near to the centre of the Skrew, the weight will then be moved by shorter Leavers. 1732 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor* 143 *Screws for Hatches*, are made with a very nice Worm, that works in a Nutt let into a Sort of Drum-head. 1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 42 The endless or perpetual screw *AB*, having one worm, leaf, or tooth, which drives the teeth of the wheel *CD*. 1802 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XX. 254 He..made the thread of the worm too fine. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 152 Fly-screws and others having several worms. 1884 *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 488 The inner end of the spoke has a worm cut upon it and is screwed into a solid metal centre, or hub.

e. A spiral channel cut in a hollow cylinder to correspond to the ridge of a screw which turns in it; the spiral of a female or hollow screw.

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Reservatory*, Each Pipe is three foot and a half long, and there are Bridles at each end of them, which are join'd and closed together by Screws and Worms. 1835 *Brit. Cycl. Arts & Sci.* II. 357/1 In the head is fixed a metal nut, containing a worm or hollow screw. The worm is adapted to receive the screw by which the pressure is produced. 1875 Fortnum *Maiolica* vi. 52 Some of these pieces have a stopper fitting into the neck by a screw, the worm of which is worked upon it by means of a piece of wood formed with projecting teeth, the interior of the neck being furnished with a corresponding worm. 1878 'H. Collingwood' *Secr. Sands* iii, In either end of each length was inserted a narrow band of metal thick enough to allow of a worm and screw, so that all the lengths of each cylinder could be screwed together perfectly water-tight.

f. The spiral of a corkscrew; also, the corkscrew as a whole. *local.*

1682 Grew *Museum* III. § I. v. 303 A Steel Worme used for the drawing of Corks out of Bottles. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1367 A close spiral revolution like the Worm of a Bottle Screw. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Worm*,..The spiral of a cork-screw. 1887 *Kentish Gloss., Worm*, a corkscrew.

g. An endless or tangent screw the thread of which gears with the teeth of a toothed wheel (or similar device).

1739 Desaguliers in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 197 Where rods are to be rais'd high,..then an endless Screw turn'd an Handle at each End..leading an Axis in Peritrochio, as it is commonly call'd, a Worm and Wheel applied to a Crane, with a Gibbet, is most useful. 1839 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil., Hydrostatics* etc. § 243 This wheel revolves on an axis, upon which there is a worm or endless screw. 1869 Smiles *Industr. Biogr.* xv. 293 The plan he adopted was to fix a worm-wheel on the side of the ladle, into which a worm was geared. 1904 Macnair *Dict. Metering* 229 Worms were formerly cut on a lathe, and the wheels in a gear-cutting machine in the usual way, the t being set diagonally to match the angle of the wo

h. A long spiral or coiled tube connected with the head of a still, in which the vapour is condensed.
1641 FRENCH *Distill.* i. (1651) 25 Put it into a Copper Still with a worme. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2386/4 Six Backs, several Stills and Worms. 1737 A. COOPER *Distiller* i. (1760) 2 A subsequent Treatment of the fermented Liquor by the Alembick, or hot Still, with its proper Worm and Refrigeratory. 1883 'C. E. CRADDOCK' *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* xv, They..cut the tubs and still to pieces, destroyed the worm, demolished the furnaces. 1887 *Manch. Exhib. Catal.* 239 Samples of Whisky. Model Still and Worm.

i. A spiral heating flue in a furnace or coiled steam pipe in a boiler.
1758 [DOSSIE] *Elaboratory Laid Open* 9 Another great error in the building furnaces, particularly those for harts-horn pots, or sand-pots, is the carrying the fire round the object, to be heated, in a vermicular flew, or worm (as it is commonly called); .. as the principal force of the fire is exercised on that great mass of brickwork, which forms the worm. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 299 They [*sc.* two caldrons] may be set in the open fire, without any flew or worm round them, in an oven-like furnace. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 371 The steam is either admitted into the copper by a perforated pipe, or it is made to circulate within it through a closed coil or worm.

j. A spring or strip of metal of spiral shape.
1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6328/2 A Steel Worm or Rowling Spring,..to be used in hanging of Coaches * 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 172/2 The cutting instrument.. performs its operations with wonderful precision, frequently cutting a large and continuous shaving of thirty or forty feet in length..which, curling up, forms a curious and perfect worm or screw.

IV. 17. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. gen., as *worm-kind, -tribe*; objective, as *worm-breeding* adj; instrumental, as *worm-cankered, -consumed, -gnawed, -gnawn, -spun, -worn* adjs.; dative, as *worm-reserved, -ripe*; parasynthetic, as *worm-shaped* adj.
1611 FLORIO, *Vermifero*, 'worme-breeding. 1830 TENNYSON *To J. M. K.* 6 Thou art no sabbath-drawler of old saws, Distill'd from some 'worm-canker'd homily. 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muses Sacrif.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 65/1 The 'Worme-consumed Corse. 1793 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Epistle to the Pope* 76 The wise Parisians mock her 'worm-gnaw'd shrine. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 491 Th'old, rusty, mouldy, 'worm-gnawn words of yore. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 166 Animals of the 'worm kind..being entirely destitute of feet. 1611 COTGR., *Vermiformes*, two 'worme-resembling parts of the *Cervelet*. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 176, I am the vnworthiest of all 'worme-reserued wretches. 1893 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Delect. Ducky* 117 A glance up at the 'worm-riddled rafters. 1893 J. STRONG *New Era* xi. 247 This morbid, 'worm-ripe piety, once in favor. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 430 When it is extended, it is of a 'worm-shaped figure. 1870 P. M. DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 384 The larvæ are worm-shaped. 1922 *The Enchanted April* IX. 138 Mrs. Fisher had never cared for maccaroni, especially not this long, worm-shaped variety. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 214 Though we glister it neuer so in our 'worme-spunne robes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 5 This may serve to distinguish them [*sc.* caterpillars] from the 'worm tribe. 1820 PRAED *Eve of Battle* 119 Sleep, in Honour's 'worm-worn bed. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* lxiii, Worm-worn volumes.

b. In sense 8 b, as *worm-bag, -bait, farm, -hook,* †*-poke, -tackle, -tin*; *worm-bobber, -catcher, -catching, -fisher, -fishing, -hunter, -hunting*; †*worm-embowelled* adj.
1909 W. C. PLATTS *Light Lines* 83 Scudding across the meadows, with his rod and his 'worm-bag, to the river. 1842 PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* 48 On the Axe the only kind of 'worm bait used is the blackhead or bluehead. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & Widows* I. 11 He is a mere 'worm-bobber—cannot throw a fly or spin a minnow. 1880 F. BUCKLAND *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* 11 A short gentleman, like you, sir,..would never make a 'worm-catcher. 1881 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 594/2 Mr. Wells offered to back against Frank Buckland a long-legged and long-armed friend .on any night at 'worm-catching. 1608 DAY *Hum. out of Breath* I. [ii.] B 3 b, And see if any siluer-coated fish Will nibble at your 'worme-emboweld hooks. 1880 F. BUCKLAND *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* 10 A 'worm farm at Nottingham. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 113 The 'worm fisher ought ..always to possess a stock of it [hart's-horn moss]. 1904 GALLICHAN *Fishing Spain* 64 The worm fisher has his opportunity when the streams are in spate. 1842 PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* 48 'Worm-fishing is followed with greatest success.. during the season of mowing grass. 1837 W. C. STEWART *Pract. Angler* vii. (ed. 3) 133 Fly-fishers are apt to sneer at worm-fishing. 1747 BOWLKER *Art Angling* 64 This is a very large Fly, and is to be made upon a small 'Worm-hook. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *North. Angler* 12 In Carlisle..we speak of..large worm, middle, and small worm hooks. 1865 A. S. MOFFAT *Secr. Angling* 165 If the 'worm-hunter only takes care to tread softly upon the bosom of his mother earth. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 159 The worm-hunter will turn over every likely stone or rubbish heap which comes in his path. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3421 He employed himself in this 'worm-hunting for a considerable time ? 1630 W. LAUSON *Comm.* on J. Dennys *Secr. Angling* Note 23 'Worme poake of cloath. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 108 In preparing 'worm-tackle. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 427 The rod, basket, and..the 'worm-tin.

c. In sense 4, as *worm-colic, -disease, -fever, -sickness*; also in names of remedies, as *worm-cake, -lozenge, -medicine, -powder, -preventive, -syrup, -tea*; also *worm-killing* adj.
1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 23 June, Suppl. 2/3 His never failing 'worm cake, which destroys that vermin so pernicious to children. 1788 J. HURDIS *Village Curate* (1797) 108 His worm-cake and his pills. 1810 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), '*Worm-cholic*, a distemper in horses, occasioned by broad, thick, and sheet worms or trunchcons. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Helminthiasis*, 'worm disease. 1772 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* II. Index, 'Worm fever. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Worm fever*, pyrexia consequent set up by intestinal worms. 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 164 You..'worm-killing, blistering, glistering —. 1828 SUSAN FERRIER *Marriage* I. xxvii, If Mary had taken some of her nice 'worm-lozenges. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 2/1 The popular 'worm lozenges'; [illegible] Recommenders of some newly-broached worm-medicines. 1727 POPE in *Miscellanies*, To Mr. John Moore, Author of the celebrated 'Worm-Powder. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 447 The 'worm-preventives are medicines which give tone to the intestinal membrane. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *'Worm-sickness*, a severe disease occurring among sheep in Holland, set up by the fly *Lucilia sericata*. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 30 June 3/3 A new invented 'Worm-Syrup. 1850 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) II. 1478 A preparation kept in the shops of the United States, and much prescribed by physicians, under the name of '*worm tea*, consists of spigelia root, senna, manna, and savine, mixed together.

d. In sense 16 g, as *worm-drive, -gear, -gearing, -jack, -pinion, -rack, -screw, -shaft, -spindle, -thread, -wheel.*
1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 4/2 This machine..retains.. the silent 'worm-drive. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/1 Wanted, 10 ton Foundry Ladle, extra strong, with 'worm gear. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Suppl.*, *'Worm Gearing.. has an arrangement for transmitting circular motion in either direction. 1904 MECREDY *Dict. Motoring* 128 Worm gearing is used in the steering apparatus for adjustments. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 37 Fig. 1. is call'd a 'Worm-Jack. 1913 F. YOUNG & ASTON *Complete Motorist* (ed. 8) 277 A worm-driven axle with the 'worm pinion underneath. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *'Worm-rack*, a rack gearing with a worm-wheel. 1677 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 172 To this a toothed arch was fastened, by the help of which, and a 'worm screw, the piece of wood..might be raised or depressed easily. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 228 The toothed wheel, acted on by the worm-screw. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 391 The mechanical power is a central worm screw working in four racks on pillars. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 372 Screws or 'worm-shafts, which are placed as to keep the carriage parallel to the drawing rollers [.. spinning mule]. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 45 That the Teeth of the Worm wheel may gather themselves into the Grooves of the Worm in the 'Worm-spindle. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 43 All things here laid down relating to the perpetual screw, do suppose that the axis of the worm-spindle lies in the plane of the wheel it works in. 1925 *Chamb. Jrnl.* May 332/2 The 'worm-thread and the teeth in the strip are square and of great strength. 1677 'worm-wheel [see *worm-spindle*]. 1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 73/1 A vertical shaft, on the bottom of which is a worm, taking into a worm-wheel. 1925 *Chamb. Jrnl.* May 332/1 An ideal clip for hose connections..based on the worm and worm-wheel principle.

e. In sense 16 h and similar applications, as *worm-cooler, -maker, -pipe, refrigeratory, -safe, -tank, -tub.*
1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 35 A large 'worm cooler, which contained nearly 60,000 gallons of water. 1793–4 *Matthews's Bristol Directory* 31 Pewterers, 'Worm-makers, and Copper-smiths. 1850 *Patent* in *Law Times Rep.* X. 861/1 The coal is put into a common gas retort, to which is attached a 'worm pipe passing through a refrigerator. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 6 A clean copper still, furnished with a capital and 'worm-refrigeratory. 1853 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) I. 504 The 'worm-safe..is a contrivance for permitting the distiller to observe and note at any period of the distillation the alcoholic strength or specific gravity of his spirits, without the still. 1860 GRENER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 79 The worm is..fastened securely by iron stays into the 'w.. tank. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 158 Barbadoes Cedar..is..frequently made into 'worm-tubs. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* I. xvi. (1760) 74 Another Requisite to be observed is that the Water in the Worm-tub be kept cool. 1880 *Act 43 & 44 Vict.* c. 24 § 143 (1) An officer may require a distiller..to cause the water in any worm tub..to be drawn off.

f. Special combinations: **worm-bark**, the anthelmintic bark of the West Indian cabbage-tree, *Andira inermis*; **worm-burrow**, the hole made by a worm in the earth; a fossil perforation of this sort; **worm-cast**, the convoluted mass of mould thrown up by an earthworm on the surface of the soil after passing through the worm's body; so **worm-casting**; **worm-conveyor** (see quot. 1910 and CONVEYER 4 b); †**worm-earth** = *worm-cast*; **worm-fence** *U.S.* = SNAKE-FENCE; †**worm-fowl**, *collect.* birds that feed on worms; †**worm-fret** *a.* [*fret*, obs. pa. pple. of FRET *v.*!], worm-eaten; †**worm line**, a spiral; **worm month** *Sc.* and *N. Ir.*, July (or the second half of July and first half of August); cf. Da. *ormemaaned*; **worm-oil** = *wormseed oil*; **worm pipe-fish**, *Syngnathus* (*Nerophis*) *lumbriciformis*; **worm red** *a.*, ?dull brownish red; also *sb.*; **worm-shell**, the twisted shell or tube of a marine annelid or mollusc, as *Serpula* and *Vermetus*; also applied to the animal itself; **worm-snake**, a name for various small harmless snakes, as *Typhlops nigrescens* and *Carphophis amœna*; **worm-spring**, a spiral spring; †**worm-state**, the larval stage in insect transformation; †**worm-stone**, a spirally-twisted fossil; †**worm-tongued** *a.* (see sense 10); **worm-track** = HELMINTHITE; **worm-tube** = *worm-shell*; **worm-web** *Sc.*, a cobweb; †**worm-work**, ? a winding earthwork.
c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 631/2 *Geoffroea*,..also called the 'worm-bark tree. 1880 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Worm-Bark*,..the bark of the *Geoffroea Surinamensis*.
1899 PAGE *Geol. Terms*, *Armicolites*,..those circular holes ..which appear..on the upper surface of many .. and which seem to have been 'worm-burrows. 1883 *Science* I. 320/2 The more slender side-roots descend chiefly through worm-burrows. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 213 One worm-burrow from the Cambrian of Bray Head. 1726 *Complete* [illegible] gradually accumulate on the surface to form a layer of the very finest soil. 1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* 10 On such grassy paths 'worm-castings may often be seen. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Werkshop Rec.* Ser. III. 439/1 From the stones it [*sc.* crushed slag] passes through a 'worm conveyer to a brick-press. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 53 The worm conveyor, also known as the Archimedean screw,..consists of a continuous or broken blade screw set on a spindle. This spindle is made to revolve in a suitable trough, and as it revolves any material put in is propelled by the screw from one end of the trough to the other. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 2 'Worm-earths also abound most in the richest land. 1796 F. BAILY *Jrnl. Tour N. Amer.* (1856) 111 They place split logs angular-wise on each other making what they call a '*worm-fence' and which is raised about five feet high. 1833 T. HAMILTON *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 149 The worm fences and the freshness and regularity of the houses are sadly destructive of the picturesque. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, The primitive worm-fence is universal, and an ugly thing it is. *c* 1382 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 505, I..wol sey my veyrdit..For watir foule...And I for 'worme foule, seyde the foole cukkowe. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. 6566 'Wermfrete stokkes. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* A iiij b, An other sorte of lines is there, that is called a spirall line, or a 'worm line, whiche representeth an apparant forme of many circles, where there is not one in dede. 1782 J. RAMSAY in Allardyce *Scot. & Scotsmen 18th C.* (1888) II. 256 It looked liker February than the 'worm month. 1824 JAMIESON, *Worm-month*..the month of July, Perths... from the hatching of many kinds of reptiles in this month. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Worm month*,..a fortnight before and a fortnight after Lammas. 1835 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *'Worm-oil*. 1835 JENYNS *Man. Brit. Vertebr. Anim.* 488 *Syngnathus lumbriciformis*, Nob. ('Worm Pipe-Fish). 1832 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 309 The files..are then heated .. to a sort of 'worm-red. 1833 *Ibid.* II. 80 The [sword-] blade is then hardened..by the smith heating it in the fire until it becomes worm red. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 252 The pot is then placed in a bright coal fire, where it remains till the whole is of a worm red. 1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 194 *Tubuli in quibus vermes*, 'Worm-shells. *c* 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vi. liii, Great Indian furrowed Worm-shell. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 432 The Serpula, or Worm-shell. 1776 MENDES DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 148 The third family is the Vermiculi, or Worm Shells. 1860 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1859, 206 The Ivory Worm-shell (*Vermetus abnormus*). 1861 *Ibid.* 1860, 210 Family Vermetidæ. (Worm-Shells.) 1885 F. MCCOY *Prodromus Zool. Victoriæ* xl. 7 *Typhlops nigrescens*...The Blackish Australian 'Worm-Snake. 1885 [see *ground snake*, GROUND *sb.* 28 b]. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 133 The upper Wire or Point.. is by Means of the 'Worm-spring EF.., made to push the said Beam upwards with the Force of the Spring. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 488/1 There must be a worm-spring fastened to the key, and to the bar W.., to keep down the end of the key. 1758 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 64 This Insect, in the 'worm-state, is about the bigness of a louse. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 126 At the same rubble Quarries we find also the *Lapides vermiculares*, or 'Worm-stones. 1682 GREW *Museum* III. § I. v. 303 The Worme-Stone.. Not much unlike a Steel Worme used for the drawing of Corks out of Bottles. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 17 'Woorme-toungued Oratours, dust-footed Poets, and weatherwise historians. 1899 PAGE *Geol. Terms*, *Vermiculites*.. the smaller..'worm tracks which appear on the surfaces of many flaggy sandstones. 1776 MENDES DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 285 A single Vermiculus, or 'Worm-tube. 1883 *Science* II. 88 2 As the coral grows, it spreads round the worm-tube. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 213 A supposed Worm-tube from the Chalk..of Bridlington. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 214 My bed-cloth consisted of a single covering not thicker than a 'wormweb. 1821 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* I. xxi. 178 Your Leddyship's character's no a gauze gown, or a worm web. 1643 *Lancash. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 179 They bringe up an open trench in a 'worme work, the earth being indented or sawed, for the securitie of their mynars.

Worm (wɜm), *v.* Forms: 3 wirme, 6–7 worme, 7 woorme, 7– worm. [f. the sb. Cf. Du., G. *wurmen* (in various senses).
In *Gen. & Ex.* 3348 'Quo so nome up forbone mor it [the manna] wirmede, bredde, and rotede bor' read 'wirmes bredde' (cf. Petrus Comestor *scatebat vermibus*).]

I. 1. *intr.* To hunt for or catch worms.
1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* II. 153 When he [the boar] feedeth on fearne or rootes, then is it called rowting or fearning, or (as some call it) worming: bycause when he doth but a little turne vp the grounde with his nose, he seeketh for wormes. *Ibid.* III. 154 In soft places where he wormeth. 1611 COTGR., *Vermiller*, to worme, to root for wormes. 1614 MARKHAM [illegible] *Hist. Brit. Fishes* 11 Men, women, and children are employed in 'worming'. 1899 R. HAGGARD in *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 520 The old thrush goes on worming without even taking the trouble to look up.

2. *trans.* To cause to be eaten by worms; to devour, as a burrowing worm does. Chiefly *pass.*, to be eaten by worms. Also *fig.*
1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. i. A 3, The body, as the Duke spake very wisely, is gone to be wormd. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 4. 530 The people called him [Herod] a god, but the wormes soone confuted their ridiculous deity, That ..when the Angell had worm'd that Idoll, he might say, Behold your king. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 816 Ev'ry plague that can infest Society, and that saps and worms the base Of th'edifice that policy has rais'd. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xxvii. 235 The Manse had fallen into a sore state of decay—the doors were wormed on the hinges. 1864 T. S. WILLIAMS

& Simmonds *Engl. Commerc. Corresp.* 285 Buffalo hides except rubbed, holed, or wormed, cannot be laid down at all near your limit. 1895 *Bookseller's Catal.*, Some few margins are wormed, but this can be repaired at a trifling cost. 1900 *Trans. Highland & Agric. Soc. Scot.* Ser. v. XII. 235 It might have been suspected that part of the thinness [of the oats] at one end of the plots was due to worming.

b. To eat (one's way) *through*. (Cf. 9 c.)

1898 Masson *Milton* I. 481 There were men who had wormed their way through libraries, and might be classified according to the colours left in them by the food they had devoured.

II. 3. To extract the 'worm' or lytta from the tongue of (a dog). (Supposed to be a safeguard against madness: see Worm *sb.* 13.)

1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 369 It shall be good when spanell whelpes are one moneth olde..to worme them vnder the toung. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* i. 6 A dog not wormed while he is yong, will in time proue mad. 1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* I. vii, *Int.*..Hee Will screw you out a Secret from a Statist —. *Com.* So easie, as some Cobler wormes a Dog. 1642 Peacham *Worth of Penny* 21 For a peny you may have your dog worm'd, and so be kept from running mad. 1748 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 3 Oct., Patapan is in my lap; I had him wormed lately, which he took heinously. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* vii, The men..assisted the laird in his sporting parties, wormed his dogs, and cut the ears of his terrier puppies. 1835 Browning *Protus* 50 He wrote the little tract 'On worming dogs'.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (as a remedy for madness, a ribald tongue, or greediness).

1564–78 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 62 You learned your Retorike in the vniuersitie of Bridewell; you were neuer well wormed when you were young. 1589 Nashe *Countercuffe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 77 The blood and the humors that were taken from him, by launcing and worming him at London vpon the common Stage. 1613 Day *Festivals* xii. 335 Abishai desiring leave..to go and worme that unhappy Tongue of his [Shimei's]. 1619 R. Harris *Drunkard's Cup* 9 He bans, and cannot be quiet till his tongue be wormed. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* iv. i, Is she grown mad now? Is her blood set so high? I'le have her madded, I'le have her worm'd. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Milleine* iii. ii. G 3 When I had worm'd his tongue, and trussed his hanches. 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* i. 12 He is such a froward testy old fellow, he should be Wormed like a mad Dog. *a* 1679 J. Ward *Diary* (1839) 137 A certaine woman that eat much before her husband, and hee complained of her to her mother, shee told him itt was her fault, for she had not wormd her.

†c. *To worm a person in the nose*: to extract information from him by adroit questioning. *Obs.*

Cf. F. *tirer à quelqu'un les vers du nez.*

1613 *Trans. Annc. & Mod. Times* ix. xxii. 953/2, I haue so cunningly wormed my husband in the nose; that he hath discouered vnto me, more Mony then hee acquainted you withall.

4. To rid (plants, esp. tobacco) of 'worms' or grubs.

1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* v. 172 Wormes in the earth also there are but too many, so that to keepe them from destroying their Corne and Tobacco, they are forced to worme them euery morning,.. else all would be destroyed. 1641 [cf. Worming *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1649 W. Bullock *Virginia* 12 The poore Servant goes daily through the rowes of Tobacco stooping to worme it. 1779 J. Carver *Treat. Culture Tobacco* iv. 23 This is termed 'worming the tobacco'. 1864 De Coin *Cotton & Tobacco* 274 The plants ought to be wormed—which means searched and cleared of worms—at least once a week.

absol. 1886 C. G. W. Lock *Tobacco* 69 The usual practice is to worm and sucker while the dew is on in the morning.

III. †5. To pry into the secrets of (a person); to play the spy upon. *Obs.*

1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman-Hater* iii. iii, O he is a very subtile and a dangerous knave, but if he deal a Gods name, we shall worm him. *a* 1616 — *Wit without Money* iv. iv, I'le teach you to worm me, good Lady sister, and peep into my privacies to suspect me. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 41 You have..a Lay-presbytery to worme your Purposes and Consciences. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* iv. 211 Spies with eye askance, Pretended heretics who worm the soul.

6. *To worm* (a person) *out of*: to deprive or dispossess of (property, etc.) by underhand dealing. ? *Obs.*

1617 W. Fennor *Compters Commw.* 20 It was onely a tricke to worme mee out of my money. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV* xi, Richard (whom late wee left dethron'd) is not Worne from the Storye, though worm'd out of King. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Worm'd out of*, Rookt, Cheated, Trickt. 1728 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 58 This gave us a suspicion..that they jointly contriv'd to worm us out of this Mony. 1838 Lytton *Alice* iii. viii, We cannot wrestle against the world, but we may shake hands with it, and worm the miser out of its treasures.

7. *To worm out*: to thrust out, get rid of, expel, by subtle and persistent pressure or undermining.

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* ii. ii, I haue tied vp the louing worme my daughter, and will see whether fansie can worme fansie out of her head. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* i. § 30 67 It is a riddle to me, how this story of Oracles hath not worm'd out of the World that doubtful conceit of Spirits and Witches. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* i. (1671) 46 He did not only stock his Colledge with such a generation of Non-conformists as could not be wormed out in many years after his decease; but [etc.]. 1668 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 227 The industrious Portugeze, whom they have wormed almost out of all their discoveries in Asia and Africa. 1683 in J. Wickham Legg *Eng. Ch. Life* (1914) 115 A Temper, which must Inevitably..Worme out once againe the Common Prayer. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Worm*, to work one out of a Place, &c. 1714 R. Fiddes *Pract. Disc.* ii. 271 He who has the handsomest address..in worming others out of business, and winding himself in. 1748 E. Erskine *Serm.* (1755) 332 The Venom of the Old Serpent has diffused itself through all the Powers and Faculties of the Soul and Body; and it is worming out your Life. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 214/1 Such a body of troops as..in time might be able to worm out the English from the trade of Bengal. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Worm*, to worm out,..also to undermine, or supplant. 1811 Lamb *Elia* Ser. i. *Bachelor's Complaint*, Innumerable are the ways which they take to insult and worm you out of their husband's confidence.

8. *To worm out*: to extract (information, a secret, etc.) by insidious questioning. Similarly const. *out of* or *from* (a person).

1715 Addison *Drummer* ii. i, I fancy..thou could'st worm it [a secret] out of her. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Worm*, to worm out, to obtain the knowledge of a secret by craft. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Fop. T.*, *The Will* iv, I do not want to worm your secret from you. 1807 Crabbe *Birth of Flattery* 56, I ..Who've loosed a guinea from a miser's chest, And worm'd his secret from a traitor's breast. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* xi, Old Wood knew all her history... He had wormed it out of her, day by day. 1844 A. Smith *Mr. Ledbury* xx. (1886) 60 He was able..to worm out a description of the locality. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* x. xx, By little and little our Juvenile Talleyrand..wormed out from Dick this grievance. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* iii. 68 He counsels his mother not to let the king worm from her his secret. 1865 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* v. 62 The judge ordered one of his peasants to visit the man, and to worm the truth out of him. 1900 'Anthony Hope' *Quisanté* i. 14 She could not get out of him, but she found herself trying to worm out all she could.

b. To extract (money, etc.) *out of* (a person) by pleading.

1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, They make the labourer fancy that he is not to depend upon God and his own right hand, but on what his wife can worm out of the good nature of the rich.

9. *intr.* To move or progress sinuously like a worm; also *transf.* of things. Usually with adv., as *about*, *along*, *up*, *down*, or prep., as *in*, *into* (a confined space). Also, to move windingly *through*; to twine or twist *about* (something).

1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Tri.* i. xxii, Thousand flaming serpents hissing flew..And woorming all about his soule they clung. 1800 G. Colman *Br. Grins, Elder Bro.* (1819) 118 He [a drunk man] work'd, with sinuosities, along, Like Monsieur Corkscrew worming thro' a Cork. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xx, I little like that smoke which you may see worming up along the rock above the canoe. 1839 Bailey *Festus*, *The Centre*, Through seas and buried mountains..have we wormed Down to the ever burning forge of fire. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 139 They wormed through the grass to within forty or fifty feet of the rifle-pits. 1885 *Cyclist* 19 Aug. 1101/1 The procession..moved off in a straggling manner...Once in order, however, the riding was excellent, and a very presentable line wormed through the Newport Road. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xvi, The caves and their passages worm about inside the koppie.

b. *refl.* in same sense.

1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* 255 So, kneeling,..or fairly stretched at full-length supine.., we worm ourselves into the holes and crannies. 1899 D. C. Murray *Dangerous Catspaw* 200 Gale wormed himself into the little passage. 1927 Agatha Christie *Big Four* viii. 107, I crawled cautiously out of the bushes, and inch by inch..I wormed myself down the steep path.

c. With advb. acc., as *to worm one's way*. Also of figurative progress (cf. next).

1822 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 399 Fistulous ulcers..have sometimes..wormed a sinuous path, and opened into the way to the episcopal bench. 1851 F. B. Head *Stokers & Pokers* iii. 39 A number of newspaper-vendors..are worming their way through the crowd. 1869 Trollope *He Knew*, etc. lxii. (1878) 348 That snake in the grass who wormed his way into my house. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* vii. 117 The screw..rushed round, worming its angry way through the long quiet waves.

10. *fig.* To make one's way insidiously like a worm *into* (a person's confidence, secret affairs, etc.); to burrow *in* so as to hurt or destroy. Also, to wriggle *out of* (a difficulty).

1627 P. Fletcher *Locusts* iv. xxi, To comply With that weake sexe, and by fine forgerie To worme in womens hearts, chiefly the rich and high. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Church-Rents* ii, But when debates and fretting jealousies Did worm and work within you more and more, Your colour faded. 1639 Saltmarshe *Policy* 231 Vse subtle and crafty men, they will search, and skrew, and worme into busines of difficulty. 1833 Ritchie *Wand. Loire* 138, I worm into their secrets like a being of supernatural power. 1868 *Cornh. Mag.* July 68 We cannot pause to tell how imposters..wormed into his confidence. 1881 Tennyson *Cup* i. i. 54 And once there I warrant I worm thro' all their windings. 1893 in J. H. Barrows *World's Parlt. Relig.* I. 618 These facts..are exceedingly embarrassing for the adherents of the evolutionary theory; but they worm out of the difficulty in a manner that provokes..a smile.

b. *refl.* To insinuate oneself *into* (a person's favour or confidence, a desirable position, etc.).

1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Aug., I was endeavouring to settle some points of the greatest consequence, and had wormed myself pretty well into him, when his Under Secretary came in..and interrupted all my scheme. 1712 *Perquisite Monger* 10 One Zaraida..so worm'd herself into the Confidence of her Mistress, as to be in the highest Esteem with her. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* iii. iii. P 4 If you have management enough to worm yourself into his confidence. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, Worm yourself into her secrets; I know you can. 1853 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* iii, Flucker,..with admirable smoothness and cunning, wormed himself into cabin-boy on board the yacht. 1871 Dixon *Tower* III. v. 45 He was to worm himself into the family councils. 1912 J. H. Rose *W. Pitt & Gt. War* xx. 432 This was before Wedderburn had wormed himself into favour with Lord North.

11. *trans.* with prepositional extension: To move (an object) *off*, *down*, *through*, etc. by a gradual tortuous propulsion or dragging.

a 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 227 Aided by the urgent stream, we carefully and delicately..wormed our boat off the rock. 1873 J. T. Moggridge *Harv. Ants* i. 33 We measured a tunnel [formed by ants] by worming a straw down it. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* 231 Dick had gradually wormed his right arm clear of its bonds. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 2/2 To repel all attempts on the part of the enemy to worm his patrols through our advanced troops.

IV. 12. [See Worm *sb.* 16 d, e.] To make a screw-thread on. †*To worm in*, to screw in; to insert and secure by screwing.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii. i. iv. *Handie-Crafts* 523 He hatcheth files, and winding vices wormeth. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 18 It hath four Iron Hooks.., whose Shanks are Wormed in. 1868 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* x. (1876) 130 A smith may be engaged generally in forging or worming screws. 1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 271 Its outer surface is smooth for four inches from the distal end; but for the rest of its length it is wormed.

13. *Naut.* To wind spun-yarn or small rope spirally round (a rope or cable) so as to fill up the grooves between the strands and render the surface smooth for parcelling and serving.

1644 [implied in Worming *vbl. sb.* 6]. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Worm a Cable*, or *Hawser*,..to succour or strengthen it, by winding a small Rope all along between the Strands. 1732 Capt. W. Wrigglesworth *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 22 Sept., Got our Main Stay down, Wormed the lower end of it. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Emmieller un tiail*, to worm a stay. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 13 Apr. 2/2, 60 fathom of cable, part of which is wormed. 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 28 It should be tarred and wormed with stout spunyarn. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. 360 Three men can worm, parcel, and serve a fathoms of 12-inch in an hour.

14. To remove the charge or wad from (a gun) by means of a worm (see Worm *sb.* 16 b). Also *absol.*

1800 C. James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., *To worm a Gun*, to take out the charge of a fire-arm by means of a worm. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* 209 No. 4. Worms, sponges, rams home, runs out, and trains. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentlm. Mag.* Jan. 79/1 The guns were 'wormed', 'sponged', loaded, and run out.

†**Wormatic**, *a. Obs.* [f. Worm *sb.*, prob. after *rheumatic.*] Of, consisting of, or containing worms.

1665 Nedham *Med. Medicinus* 177 The Wormatick Cadaverous Humor and Matter. *Ibid.* 521 It came from a Wormatick Cause in the Bowels...Salts might kill the Worms. 1690 R. Clark *Vermiculars Destroyed* 15 Slime and wormatick matter.

†**Worm-eat**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = Worm-eaten, *lit.* and *fig.*

1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* i. iv. 6 Some brauer braine in high Heroick rimes Compileth worm-eate stories of olde tymes. 1601 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* iv. iii. 1936 Spending the marrow of their flowring age, In fruitelesse poring on some worme eate leafe. 1607 R. Turner *Nosce Te* E 3, This worme-eate Churle.

†**Worm-eat**, *v. Obs.* [Back-formation from next.]

1. *trans.* To eat into by, or as by, worms.

1598 Florio, *Tarmare*, to mothe-eate or worme-eate. 1633 Chisenhale *Catholike Hist.* 109 Should the gnawing rusty teeth of time worm-eat and rase all his Records. 1663 Head *Hic & Ubique* ii. i, so Let 'em rot with their cares And worldly affairs, And worm-eat their souls with their treasures. *a* 1739 Jarvis *Don Quix.* ii. iv. x, Leave off these vanities, which worm-eat your brain.

2. *intr.* To undergo being worm-eaten.

1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 125 That they bee reade-deale, which are allmost as durable as oake, and will not worme-eate so soone as white deale.

Worm-eaten, *pa. ppls.* and *ppl. a.* Eaten into by a worm or worms.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxxiv. (1495) Q iii/1 Frute..yf it be not roten nother worme eten. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 45 Take white pese and washe hom wele; ..Devoyde þo worme-etone alle bydene. 1493 *Festyvall* (W. de W. 1515) 139 An olde staffe of assahe that..was all worme eten. *c* 1570 *Misogonus* iii. iii. 84 A neighboure of yours wch is payned in his mandible wth a wormetone toth. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. ix. 57 Some made in books, some in long parchment scrolles, That were all worme-eaten, and full of canker holes. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* iii. iii. 145 Smircht worm-eaten tapestrie. 1600 Abbot *On Jonah* xx. 434 The worke of wormes shall not be refused, to cloath a worme-eaten body. 1633 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 72 He found [it] in an old rotten worm-eaten book. 1679 *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 45 Yo beans were sound and yo pease wormeaten. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1730 III. 316 Old worm-eaten Presses, whose Doors flew open on our Approach. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 148 Then, like worm-eaten fruit, it drops and dies. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxvii, Old worm-eaten ship timber. 1883 J. G. Wood in *Sunday Mag.* Oct. 628/2 No one ever yet found an unsound or worm-eaten nut in a squirrel's store.

b. *transf.* Applied to organic tissue which is indented with small holes.

In Elizabethan writers as a jocular description of a 'grog-

1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 18 A huge ——— nose, like a cluster of grapes hanging downewards. 1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yeare* F 1 An Antiquary might haue pickt rare matter out of his Nose, but that it was worme-eaten (yet that proued it to be an auncient Nose). 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 966 [illegible] above the stricture was distended and worm-eaten by small ulcers. *Ibid.* IV. 746 A larger superficial ulcer..with irregular 'worm-eaten' or 'mouse-nibbled' margins. 1899 *Ibid.*

VI. 330 The surface [of the bone] has a v … aten appear-

c. *fig.* (of persons and things). Decayed, decrepit; antiquated, outworn.

c 1575 W. Wager *Longer thou liuest* 309 (Brandl) You begin to be scabbie and worme eaten, It is time Salt vpon you to strow. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 6 His worm-eaten Conscience. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 158 Your close in the treble part is so stale that it is almost worme eaten. 1604 ? Dekker *Newes fr. Gravesend* Ep. Ded. A 4 That worme-eaten name of Liberall…It's a name of the old fashion. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* I. vii. § 4. 103 And therefore..were all thinges among the Greekes (which antiquitie had worne out of knowledge) called *Ogygia*, which we in English commonly call (worme-eaten) or of defaced date. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1672) 187 O poor fools who are beguiled with painted things..and rotten worm-eaten hopes! 1721 Ramsay *Tartana* 362 These musty Fools Who only move by old worm-eaten Rules. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Sept. 5/1 The worm-eaten bibliophile.

absol. 1730 Pope *Let. to Gay* 2 Oct., The employment I am fittest for—converation with the dead, the old, and the worm-eaten.

Hence †**Worm-eatenness**, worm-eaten condition.

1617 Rider *Bibl. Schol., Caries*..Rottennesse or worm-eatennesse in wood. 1617 Barbier *Janua Ling.* 94 The tops of chesnut trees rot with rustie wormeatennesse. 1666 J. Smith *Old Age* 85 By the ceasing of the teeth we must understand, all those infirmities that are incident to them by reason of age, whether looseness, hollowness, rottenness,.. wormeatenness, [etc.]. 1730 Bailey (folio), *Verminousness*, Fulness of Worms, Worm-eatenness.

Worm-eater.

1. A bird or other creature that feeds on worms; *spec.* the Worm-eating Warbler (see below).

1760 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* II. 200 The Worm-eater [of Pennsylvania]. 1831 Swainson & Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 221 *Sylvicola* (*Vermivora*) *peregrina*. ..Tennessee Worm-eater. 1878 J. Buller *New Zealand* 1. v. 39 A desperate gang headed by a chief called 'Kaitoke' (worm-eater).

2. [f. Worm-eaten.] (See quots.)

1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 22 Apr. 2/3 A man..gave his occupation as that of a worm-eater…He said he was employed by a furniture manufacturer to fire shot at furniture so as to give it a worm-eaten appearance. 1900 *Daily Mail* 31 Oct., Worm-eaters .. assist the makers of spurious oak furniture to deceive the public by drilling worm holes into the wood so as to give it an ancient appearance.

†**Worm-eating**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* The eating of worms into fruit, timber, etc.

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* 1. 36 Steeping of seeds in the infusion of wormewood, centuary, coloquintida, and such like, will defende them from wormeating. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* 1. x. 48 Hee shall cleanse them [*sc.* trees] from wormes, filthines, and worme eatings. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* IV. 15 To preserve these Stocks or Tops from rotting, or worm-eating, rub them over thrice a year with Sallet or Linseed-oyl. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 40 To make good the damage she brought home by Worm-eating.

Worm-eating, *ppl. a.* That eats worms for food. *Worm-eating Warbler*, the bird *Helmitherotherus vermivorus* of the eastern U. S.

1817 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* X. 730 Worm-eating Warbler. *Sylvia vermivora*…Inhabits Pensylvania. 1831 Swainson & Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 204 The worm-eating Warblers (*Vermivoræ*). 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 93 *Helmi*[*ntho*]*therus vermivorus*. Worm-eating Warbler.

Wormed (wɜ̄·md), *ppl. a.* [f. Worm *v.* and *sb.* + -ed.]

1. Eaten into or bored by worms; infested with worms.

1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 371 Wormed, the state of timber or plank when a number of internal cavities are made in it by a particular kind of worm, called the *Teredo navalis*, that abounds chiefly in tropical climates. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 96 Old bushes may generally be seen growing, all knaggy and wormed, about decaying onsteads. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 976/1 There is great reason to believe that some inflammatory action of the liver, of the eye, and of other wormed viscus, precedes the evolution of parasites in them. 1883 R. Bridges *Prometheus* 108 Then in the ruined dwellings and old tombs He dug, unbedding from the wormed ooze Vessels and tools of trade and husbandry. 1913 Masefield *Daffodil Fields* 111, Wormed hard-wood piles were driv'n in the river bank.

2. Formed with a screw-thread. Also in parasynthetic combinations = furnished with a (specified) number of screw-threads.

1683 Moxon *Printing* xl. P 1. 62 A Three-Worm'd Spindle comes faster and lower down than a four-Worm'd Spindle. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Aug. 11/1 Two perpendicular bars of iron are firmly fixed at B B, the upper portion of each of them deeply wormed for a screw. When the silo is full, planks are laid lengthwise over its whole surface, through which the wormed ends of the iron bars protrude.

Wormer (wɜ̄·mər). [f. Worm *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who pries into the affairs of others; one who 'worms out' (secrets).

The meaning in quot. 1620 is uncertain.

1620 Chettle *Hoffman* III. (1631) F 2 b, How say you, most valiant and reprobate Country men: haue ye not heard I haue bin a stinger, a tickler, a wormer. 1820 Mrs. Nathan *Langreath* III. 163 The insidious wormer of family secrets.

2. a. One who catches or collects worms for bait.

1880 F. Buckland *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* 72 It is a very interesting sight to see the lights of the numerous wormers when they are out with their lanterns collecting of a dark … 1882 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 594/2 A long reach is in… to a good wormer.

b. One who angles with a worm or worms as bait.

1892 A. Lang *Angling Sk.* 26 In a small burn a skilled wormer may almost depopulate the pools. 1909 W. C. Platts *Light Lines* 82 And how keen some of these old are!

3. *U.S.* = Worm *sb.* 16 b.

1891 *Century Dict.* 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.* 1911 Webster.

†**Wormete**, *a. Obs.* In 4 wermethe. [OE. *wyrmète*, f. *wyrm* Worm *sb.* + *ēt-* pret. stem of *etan* Eat *v.* Cf. MHG. *wurmæze*.] Worm-eaten.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 126 Wiþ wyrmetum lice. 1340 *Ayenb.* 229 Ase þet frut ne is nazt guod, þaz hit by wel uayr wiþ-oute, huanne hit is uorroted and wermethe.

Worm-grass.

†1. A species of stonecrop, *Sedum album*, with worm-like leaves. *Obs.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxvii. 214 Wilde Prickmadam, great Stone Croppe, or Wormegrasse. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxxxvi. 414. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Worm-Grass*, an Herb that kills Worms.

2. The Pinkroot, *Spigelia marilandica*, of the Southern U. S., the root and leaves of which are used as a vermifuge. Also applied to *S. Anthelmia*.

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 156 *Anthelmenthia*…*Spigelia*.. Worm-grass. 1786 Abercrombie *Arrangem.* 66 In *Gard. Assist.*, *Spigelia marilandica*, or Mariland worm grass, or Carolina India pink. 1822 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 375 The Indian-pinks, or worm-grasses..*s*[*pigelia*] *anthelmia*, and *s. Marylandica*. 1864 Griesbach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Worm-grass, *Spigelia Anthelmia*.

Worm-hole. A hole made by a burrowing worm or insect in wood, fruit, books, etc.

1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 946 To fill with worme-holes stately monuments. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. iv. 86 'Tis no sinister, nor no awk-ward Clayme, Pickt from the worme-holes of long-vanisht dayes. 1615 Rowlands *Melancholie Knt.* 33 Old bookes, wherein the worm-holes doe remaine. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 167 As for your Float let it be of the lightest Cork you can get, clear from cracks or worme holes. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 23 Others, whose time of transformation is also near at hand, fasten their tails to a tree, or to the first worm-hole they meet, in a beam. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-T.* (1883) 261 An apple with a worm-hole. 1874 Willshire *Anc. Prints* III. 79 The worm-holes so frequently to be met with in the old crab and pear-wood blocks of the early masters.

Hence **Worm-holed** *a.*, perforated with worm-holes.

1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. 202 The resolution and persistence of the one, like sound timber wormholed and made shaky, as it were, by the other's infirmity of will and discontinuity of purpose. 1878 'S. Beauchamp' *N. Hamilton* I. 166 'See, sir,' he would say as he turned the chairs over with a rap on the floor, to shake the sawdust out. 'There's the proof: worm-holed you see, sir, worm-holed'.

Wormhood. *nonce-wd.* [-hood.] The state or condition of being a worm.

1692 S. Shaw *Diff. Humours Men* 26, I doubt he will make a worse Beast of him than a Worm; if the company do not over-rule him, he'll make him that he cannot crawl, and then he will lose his worm-hood as well as his manhood.

Wormian (wɜ̄·miən), *a. Anat.* [ad. mod.L. (*ossa*) *Wormiān-a*, f. the name of the Danish physician Olaus *Worm* (1588–1654).] The designation of small bones of irregular shape (otherwise styled *ossa triquetra*), frequently found in the sutures of the skull.

1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 59 A wormian bone, which varies in size, and is frequently of an oval form. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 960/1 An interval is formed, which is afterwards filled up with Wormian ossicles. 1866 Huxley *Prehist. Rem. Caithn.* 88 There is a large Wormian bone in the right crus of the lambdoid suture. 1884 J. G. Garson in *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XIII. 391 The wormian bones are small in most instances.

Worming, *vbl. sb.* [f. Worm *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. a. Extraction of the 'worm' or lytta from a dog's tongue.

1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 371 The worming doth discharge the Spanell of madnesse and frenesie. 1654 C. Wase *Gratius' Cyneget.* Illustr. 13 To prevent Madnesse by Worming. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 31 Worming..is most efficatious.

b. *slang.* (See quot.)

1859 *Slang Dict.*, *Worming*, removing the beard of an oyster or muscle.

2. The action of ridding (plants, etc.) of 'worms' or grubs.

1641 Milton *Animadv. Remonstr. Def.* 52 [He] challenges as his right..the clipping of every bush, the weeding and worming of every bed. 1864 De Coin *Cotton & Tobacco* 274 The worming must continue, after the hoeing is done, until the plants are ripe for cutting.

†3. The practice of a spy or informer. (In quot. *attrib.*) *Obs.*

1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman-Hater* III. iii, Has not many men been raised from this worming trade?

b. The use of insidious methods of progress or advancement.

1916 *Nineteenth Cent.* Nov. 1074 In the Two Americas, ..Deutschtum has, by silent worming, won enormous power all the way from Chicago to the Chilean coast.

4. Angling with worms as bait.

1842 Pulman *Rustic Sk.* 48 Zo 't's all up wi' wormin', an' huosward da trot Th' angler, wull pleyz'd wi' th' spoort e've a-got. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 The other methods of taking trout..are spinning, live-baiting and worming. 1920 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 99/2 When I showed him how to cast the worm up-stream,..he was delighted with this, to him, novel method of worming.

5. The action of catching worms (for bait).

1882 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 594/2 Worming is an art; the worms are very cunning, and apt to pop back into their holes if the hunter treads heavily.

6. *Naut.* The process of winding spun-yarn round a rope or cable, so as to fill up the spiral furrows between the strands (cf. Worm *v.* 13). Also *concr.*, the yarn or line thus used as a filling.

1644 Manwayring *Sea-mens Dict.* 116 Worming is the laying of a small roape, or line alongst, betwixt the strands of a cabell or hawser. 1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 120 Lanyards, Ratling, Worming. 1792 Smeaton *Edystone L.* (1793) § 137 Not only the servire and worming were cut, but the cable itself was..injured by the sharpness of the rocks. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 63 Worming is made of 2 or 3 strands. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 27 The worming is put in the lay. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise Cachalot* 84 A favourite design is to carve the bone into the similitude of a rope, with 'worming' of smaller line along its lays.

7. A worm-like incrustation.

1903 Conrad & Hueffer *Romance* v. III. 403, I knew the feel of every little worming of rust on the iron candlestick.

8. *Comb.* **worming machine** (for making screw-threads); **worming-pot**, a utensil for forming worm-like ornaments on stoneware.

1866 J. Chamberlain in *B'ham & Midl. Hardware Distr.* 607 They [*sc.* screw-blanks] are next carried to the 'worming machine. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1017 Common stoneware is coloured by means of two kinds of apparatus; the one called the blowing-pot, the other the 'worming-pot.

Worming, *ppl. a.* [f. Worm *v.* + -ing 2.] Winding, twisting; *fig.* working or advancing insidiously or tortuously.

1626 B. Jonson *Staple of Newes* v. ii, I ha' you in a purse-net Good Master Picklocke, wi' your worming braine, And wrigling ingine-head of maintenance. 1630 Fuller *Pisgah* III. v. 369 But Saint Hierome will have them [*sc.* windows] lattised, *Lignis interrasilibus, et vermiculatis*, with worming or winding splinters of shaved wood. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Charity* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 156 Your sly, sneaking, worming souls, Whom Friendship scorns, and Fear controuls. 1835 W. G. Simms *Yemassee* I. 14 (Funk) Around the fields the negro piles slowly the worming and ungraceful fence.

†**Wormish**, *a. Obs.* [-ish.] Worm-like; as weak or despicable as a worm.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* V. (1922) 177 In such a shadowe, or rather pit of darkenes, the wormish mankinde lives, that neither they knowe how to foresee, nor what to feare. 1626 Hayward *Sanct. Troub. Soul* I. § 3. 52 Be not angry with vs (wormish weakelings) although we offend; for thou knowest what we are and whereof we are made. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 3, I haue a..iudgement to discerne such wormish wespes.

†**Worm-kin.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wyrmcyn(n, 3 wrimkin. [OE. *wyrmcyn*(*n* = OHG. *wurmchunni*, *-khunni*, MHG. *-kunne*, f. Worm *sb.* + Kin *sb.*1] The race of worms or serpents, or a species of these.

Beowulf 1425 Þeawon ða æfter wætere wyrmcynnes fela, sellice seedracan sund cunnian. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. ix. (1883) 136 On westennum wildeora & wyrmcynna missenlicra. *c* 1200 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xi. 12 Scorpionem, þæt is an wyrm-cynn. *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 3895 Dor-fore ham cam wrim kin among, ðat hem wel bitterlike stong.

Wormless (wɜ̄·mlės), *a. rare.* [-less.] Free from, destitute of, worms.

1837 Darley *Syren Songs* V. Poet. Wks. (1908) 441 In the wormless sands shall he Feast for no foul gluttons be. 1901 Mabel Barnes-Grundy *A Thames Camp* VII. 111, I was in a shocking bad temper owing to the absolutely wormless condition of our plot.

†**Wormlet.** *Obs.*—[-let.] A little worm.

1611 Florio, *Vermiuncci*,..wormelets. *Ibid.*, *Vermolini*, little wormes, grubs, or wormelets.

Worm-like, *a.* and *adv.*

A. *adj.* Resembling a worm in structure, form, movement, etc.; vermiform.

1721 Bailey s.v. *Valvula major*,..the foremost Worm-like Process of the *Cerebellum*. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* I. 173 The whole body of the water then is found replete with little worm-like insects. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 77 A strange spiral, or worm-like, motion. 1868 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 218 A dreadful fat worm-like black thing with onions ..; it was lamprey. 1885 *Guide Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 50 The Ant-eaters have narrow heads with long snouts, to accommodate their enormously long worm-like tongues.

b. *fig.* (Cf. Worm *sb.* 13.)

1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* XI. 252, I..wished that Man Should start out of his earthy, worm-like state, And spread abroad the wings of Liberty. 1877 Gladstone *Diary* 7 May in Morley *Life* II. VII. iv. 363 Never did I feel weaker and more wormlike.

B. *adv.* After the manner of a worm.

1813 Byron *Corsair* I. xiv, That heart hath long been changed; Worm-like 'twas trampled, adder-like avenged. 1841 Browning *Pippa Passes* III, A pale wretch..Who through some chink had pushed and pressed, On knees and elbows, belly and breast, Worm-like into the temple.

Wormling (wɜ̄·mlin). Also 7 **wormeling**, **wormlin**. [f. Worm *sb.* + -ling. Cf. ON. *yrmlingr*.] A small worm; chiefly *fig.*, a poor despicable creature.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. I. II. *Imposture* 498, O dusty wormling! dar'st thou strive and stand With Heav'ns high Monarch? 1612 Shelton *Quix.* III. iv. (1620) 149 God.. doth not abandon the little flies of the aire, nor the wormlings of the earth, nor the spawnlings of the water. 1621 Brathwayt *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 14 Thou wormlin, how dar'st thou reuile his name? 1626 Sir W. Alexander *Doomesday* 185 Vile wormeling, Thou whose tender pride The weakest

sunshine scarce couldst byde. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 109 The good and great, That lent a portion of their wealthy power, And sav'd a wormling from destruction's fate. 1858 E. Caswall. *Masque of Mary* etc. 179 The uncreated Word, who flesh became For us poor wormlings creeping on the ground. 1891 C. Dawson *Avonmore* IV. 83 But if [there is] a God, what of the wormling man, Who madly dares impeach His awful will?

†Wormly. *Obs. rare.* [? Named from *Wormley* in Herts. or that in Surrey.] A horse.

1603 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 852 Thy white Wormly brave [*ton blanc coursest*].

Wormseed (wɚ·msīd). [Worm *sb.* 4.]

1. A name for various plants considered to have anthelmintic properties; as swine's fennel or sulphurwort, *Peucedanum officinale*; *Artemisia Santonica, A. Vahliana, A. judaica, A. maritima*; *Erysimum cheiranthoides* (Treacle or English Wormseed); *Chenopodium anthelminticum* and *Ambrina anthelmintica* (American Wormseed); *Halogeton tamariscifolium* (Spanish Wormseed).

a 1400–30 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 188 Swynys fenkel or wyrmsed: *fœniculus porosus*. *c* 1400 [see *swynesfenel*, Swine 5 b]. 1541 *Bk. Properties Herbs* D j, *Feniculus poeticus*.. is called worme sede. It is good to destroy wormes in a mannes body. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. xxii. 212 Cameline, or English Woormseed. *Ibid.* 213 Treacle Worme-seede riseth vp with tough and pliant braunches. *Ibid.* II. cccckxxv. 942 The Latines name it *Semantina*: the seede is called *Semen sanctum*, Holie seede, and *Semen contra Lumbricos*: in English Wormseed; the herbe it selfe is also called Wormseed, or Wormseedwoort. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* VII. xxvIII. 867 *Camelina*.. English Wormeseede. 1686 Ray *Hist. Plant.* I. 368 Absinthium Santonicum Alexandrinum C. B.. Semen Sanctum Park. Sementina Ger.. Wormseed. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Worm-seed, *Chenopodium*. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 163 *Chenopodium anthelminticum* is very plentiful on the road. The English who settled here, call it Worm-seed and Jerusalem Oak.. In Pensylvania and New Jersey its seeds are given to children, against the worms. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* III. 585 *Erysimum cheiranthoides*.. Treacle Wormseed. 1831 J. Davies *Mat. Med.* 418 Wormseed. Jerusalem Oak. *Chenopodium anthelminticum*.. growing all over America. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Spanish Wormseed, *Halogeton tamariscifolium*.

2. The dried flower-heads of one or other of these plants, used as an anthelmintic. Formerly also in pl. *Levant, Alexandrian, Barbary, Tartarian wormseed*, that prepared from species of *Artemisia*.

1500 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 234 Worme sede, ij s. vi. d. 1538 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 269 Woorme seede of the best kynde, cauled *Semenzina*. 1594 R. Wilson *Coblers Proph.* ii. 427 (Malone Soc.) *Sould.* I abhorre and defie thee. *Con.* Euen as the child doth wormeseed hid in Raisons. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccexxxv. 941 This Wormwood called *Semantina* and *Semen sanctum*.. beareth that seede which we haue in vse, called Wormseede: in shoppes *Semen santolinum*. 1615 in W. Foster *Lett. recd. E. Ind. Co.* (1899) III. 177 Wormseeds likewise doth grow in Corosson. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 25 The Child certainly knows.. That the Wormseed or Mustard it refuses, is not the Apple or Sugar it cries for. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3983/4 The Cargo of the Ship Hamstead Galley,..consisting of.. Worm-seeds, Gum Arabeck [etc.]. 1727–51 Chambers *Cycl.*, Wormseed, *Semen contra, semen sanctum*, or *semen santonicum*. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Chenopodium*, The fourth and fifth Sorts were brought from America, where the Seeds are call'd Worm-Seed. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 82 The Chenopodium, producing the semen santonicum, or worm-seed, a medicine formerly in great character. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Wormseed*. The name is applied in herb-shops to *Semen contra*, the produce of several species of *Artemisia*. 1867 Watts *Dict. Chem.*, Wormseed. *Semen Cinæ. Semen Contra. Semen Santonici.*—The flower-buds of *Artemisia Vahliana, A. Sieberi*, and *A. inculta*. 1880 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 293 Santonica or worm-seed.

3. The eggs of the silkworm moth. Cf. Seed *sb.* 5 a.

1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scotl.* 133 By supplying the Planters in those Parts with small Quantities of Wormseed, of the best Breed.

4. *attrib.* in *wormseed mustard, oil*, † *stone, weed*, † *wort* (see quots.).

1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 35 *Erysimum cheiranthoides*. *Worm-seed Mustard. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 167 The essential oil of Chenopodium anthelminticum, known in North America under the name of *Worm-seed Oil, is powerfully anthelmintic. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.*, Worm-seed-oil. *Oleum cinæ*. 1789 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. 65 A Stone .found in..Cornwall: and is called there, *Wormseed-Stone, being thick set with small Bodies, not unlike the *Semen Santonici*, or Wormseed. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 170 The *Worm-Seed Weed. 1830 J. D. Maycock *Flora Barbadensis* 446 Worm Seed Weed. *Chenopodium anthelminticum*. 1597 *wormseedwoort [see 1].

Wormship. *nonce-wd.* [-ship.] The personality of a worm. (With possess. pron., as a mock-title.)

1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* v. cxlix, Vain Son of Dust pull down thy foolish Crest, And in this Glasse thy feeble Wormship see. 1652 Benlowes *Theophila* II. xviii, Now serves our Guiltiness, as winding sheet To wrap up Lepers; Cover meet; While thus stern vengeance does our Wormships sadly greet. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* cxxxiv. (1789) IV. 217 A dead man being..property *under the earth*; so that..as the property properly belonged only to the worms, the matter ought to be submitted to their worshipful wormships.

†**Wormstall.** *Obs.* [? Altered f. dial. *oumer*, Umber *sb.*1 + Stall *sb.*1] An outdoor shelter for cattle in warm weather.

1620 Holland *Pliny* xvIII. xxxiii, Drive thy sheepe and cattaile out of the Sunne, into some worme-stall and place of shade. 1613 Markham *Eng. Husb.* Former Pt. ii. A 4, The shelter will..be as [illegible] for cattell in the summer. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray*, *Wormstall*, shelter for cattel in hot weather.

Wormwood (wɚ·mwud). Forms: 5 wyrmwode, 5–6 worm(e)wod(e, 6 wormwodd, worme-, woormeswoodde, wourmewodde, 6–7 -wood(e, 6– wormwood. [Altered f. Wermod, as if f. Worm *sb.* + Wood *sb.*1]

1. The plant *Artemisia Absinthium*, proverbial for its bitter taste. The leaves and tops are used in medicine as a tonic and vermifuge, and for making vermouth and absinthe; formerly also to protect clothes and bedding from moths and fleas, and in brewing ale. It yields a dark green oil.

a 1400–30 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 11 For to makyn surripe of violet; it. of wormwode. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wyrmwode, herbe, *absinthium*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* c v, A medecyne for an hawke that hath mites. Take the luce of wormewode and put it ther thay be and thei shall dye. 1573 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 201 For wormewoode to lay amongst the bedding at Coleman Streete, xij*d*. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 123 Where chamber is sweeped, and wormwood is strowne, no flea for his life dare abide to be knowne. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 30 When it did tast the Worme-wood on the nipple of my Dugge, and felt it bitter. 1620 Beaum. & Fl. *Faithf. Shepherdess* II. ii. D 2 b, These for frenzy be A speedy and a soueraigne remedie, The bitter Wormewood, Sage and Marigold. 1626 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* II. i, He burnt wormwood in't, to kill the fleas i' the rushes. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 628 And Artemisia grows, where Wormwood grew. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Garden* (1861) 140 Wormwood gives its flavour to the 'purl' of the English workman. 1899 Bridges *Idle Flowers* xv, Ragwort and stiff Wormwood And straggling Mignonette.

b. With qualifying word, designating species of *Artemisia* and some similar plants; as

†**French wormwood**, *A. gallica* or *A. Santonica*; †**Holy w.**, *A. Santonica*; **Pontic, Roman w.**, *A. pontica* or *A. Absinthium*; **Sea w.**, *A. maritima*; **Tree w.**, *A. arborescens* of the Mediterranean. Also **Roman w.**, *Ambrosia artemisiæfolia*; **Wild w.**, *Parthenium Hysterophorus*.

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* 7 Wormwod pontike..in englishe maye be also called wormwod gentle. *Ibid.* 8 Absinthium santonicum..may be called in englishe frenche wormwod. *Ibid.*, Frenche wormwod is weaker then Sea wormwod is. 1551 — *Herbal* I. A iiij, Ponticum absinthium ..maye be named in english, wormwode gentle or wormwode Romane, Wormwode pontyke. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ii. 5 The second kinde of Wormwood is called..in Latine *Seriphium*, and *Absynthium Marinum*...In English Sea wormwood. *Ibid.* 6 *Santoni* wormwood, or French wormwood. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccexxxiii. 940 It is called in English small leafed Wormwood, Romaine Wormwood, garden or Cypres Wormwood, and French Wormwood. *Ibid.* II. cccexxxv. 941 Holie Wormwood..called *Semantina* and *Semen sanctum*..beareth that seede which we haue in vse, called Wormseede. *Ibid.* II. ccccxxxvi. 943 *Absinthium arborescens*. Tree Wormwood. 1696 Sloane *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 127 Artemisia humilior flore majore albo...Wild Wormwood. 1721 *Queen's Closet* 20 To make Syrup of Wormwood. Take Roman Wormwood, or Pontick Wormwood, half a Pound. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Absinthium*, The Roman and Sea Wormwoods are great Creepers at the Root...The Tree Wormwood rises to be a Shrub five or six Foot high. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Wormwood, Wild, *Parthenium*. 1884 Thoreau *Walden* xiv. (1886) 261 It was overrun with Roman wormwood and beggar-ticks. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Wormwood, wild, *Parthenium Hysterophorus*.

allusively. 1672 R. Wild *Poet. Licent.* 27 This bitter Cup hath Roman Wormwood in't.

c. *Salt of wormwood*, an impure carbonate of potash, obtained from the ashes of wormwood.

1617 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 209 The salt of wormwood is esteemed hot and dry like the hearb. 1666 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 95 Salt of wormwood and juyce of lemmon. 1756 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 277 To four pints of lime-water..I added 20 gr. of salt of wormwood. 1789 Buchan *Dom. Med.* xiv. (1790) 153 An ounce of the bark.. with an equal quantity of salt of wormwood. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 95/2.

2. *fig.* An emblem or type of what is bitter and grievous to the soul.

1535 Coverdale *Deut.* xxix. 18 Lest there be amonge you some rote, that beareth gall & wormwodd. — *Amos* v. 7 Ye turne the lawe to wormwod. *Ibid.* vi. 12 Ye haue turned true iudgment in to bytternesse, and the frute of rightuousnesse in to wormwod. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 90 But.. amonge his soo many prosperous, pleasaunte, and luckye affayres, fortune mengeled sume seedes of wormewoodde, and corrupted his pure corne with the malicious weedes of coccle. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 857 To weed this Wormewood from your fruitfull braine. 1593 G. Harvey *New Let. Notable Cont.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 285 Conuerting the wormewood of iust offence into the angelica of pure attonement. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* F 4 Too much gall dyd that wormwood of Gibeline wittes put in his inke. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *London to Hamburgh* C 4 b, All his sugred sweet promises, were in the proofe but Gall and wormwood in the performance. 1620 Bacon *Hen. VII* 209 These two Persons ..turned Law and Iustice into Woorme-wood and Rapine. 1628 Ford *Lover's Mel.* II. ii. (1629) 33 *Mel.* Ha, ha, ha. *Rhe.* There's wormewood in that laughter. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 107 Venemous also is the Wormewood of his braine. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Repentance* lv, Sweeten at length this bitter bowl, Which thou hast pour'd into my soul; Thy wormwood turn to health. 1642 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 232 It had beene happy for this land, if your priests had beene but onely woodan; all England knowes they have been to this Iland not wood, but wormewood. 1692 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 239 Thus Judgment is turned into Wormwood: for it is embittered by injustice, and delays make it sour. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 23 My life is bitter as wormwood.

b. *To be wormwood* (or *gall and wormwood*): to be acutely mortifying or vexing (*to* a person).

1819 Malkin *Gil Blas* xII. x. (Rtldg.) 435 The accounts her ladyship brought from Madrid were wormwood to the duke. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xi, His presence and his communications were gall and wormwood to his once partial mistress. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. VIII. iv. 32 It was worm- [illegible] to a vast number of people.

3. Used as a name or specific epithet for certain moths.

1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 92 The Wormwood (*Cucullia Absinthii*, Ochsenheimer). *Ibid.* 134 The Wormwood Pug (*Eupithecia Absinthiata*, Stephens). *Ibid.* 169 The Wormwood Eyelet (*Semasia pupillana*, Stephens). 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 136, 434.

4. Short for *wormwood ale* (see 5).

a 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 425 Oxford, All Souls. ..Their silver cups..are called ox-eyes, and an ox-eye of wormwood was a favourite draught there. Beer with an infusion of wormwood was to be had nowhere else.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wormwood-bush*, † *-cake, -dist, -draught, -drink*; *wormwood-coloured* adj.; **wormwood-ale, -beer**, ale or beer in which wormwood is infused; **wormwood oeal** (see quot.); **wormwood water, wine**, a cordial prepared (like absinthe or vermouth) from wormwood; also *fig.*

1603 *wormewoode ale [see *w. beer*]. 1665 in *Maitland Club Miscell.* (1840) II. 328 For wormewood alll and other alll in the morneing 000 03 00. 1603 F. Hering *Cert. Rules* B 1 b, You may vse a good draught of *wormewoode beare or ale. 1718 *Poor Robin* May A 8 b, Scurvy-grass Ale, clarified Whey, And Wormwood Beer are good they say. 1858 Lady Wilkinson *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 418 Purl, or wormwood-beer. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* v. 38, I came opposite to a small clump of *wormwood bushes. 1658 W. M. *Queens Closet Opened* (ed. 4) 15 *Wormwood Cakes good for a cold Stomach, and to help Digestion. 1858 Lady Wilkinson *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 353 An old belief continues to be connected with the circumstance of the dead roots of wormwood being black, and somewhat hard, and remaining for a long period undecayed beneath the living plant. They are then called '*wormwood coal'; and if placed under a lover's pillow they are believed to produce a dream of the person he loves. 1816 *Beckford's Vathek* (ed. Garnett) 72 He awoke..stung to the quick by *wormwood-coloured [1786 wormwood-colour] flies. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* II. *Providence* 46 Gladly will I, like Pontick sheep, Unto their *wormwood-diet keep. 1750 Lady Luxborough *Lett. to Shenstone* 9 Sept., I have a return of my fever to-day; and take *wormwood-draughts. 1698 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 [Let it] be celebrated with cowheeles, and tripes, the keenest mustard, and the bitterest *wormewood drinke. 1612 Webster *White Devil* v. vi. 5 *Vit.* Ha, are you drunke? *Flam.* Yes, yes, with *wormewood water; you shall tast Some of it presently. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* ii. 45, I aduise them to take two or three parts of wormwood-water, and one of *Aqua vitæ*. 1725 G. Smith *Distilling* 46 Wormwood-water is in good demand in the Country. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 168, I was..attacked with a violent pain in my stomach, which yielded only to a strong dram of wormwood water (*Eau d' Absinthe*). 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Absynthites* ..*wormewoodde wyne. 1587 Harrison *England* II. vi. (1877) 150 Artificiall stuffe, as ypocras and wormewood wine. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 81 In upper Germany the first draught commonly is of wormewood Wine. 1692 in *Earthquake at Lima* (1748) App. 328 This Gentleman..engaged me to take a Glass of Wormwood Wine with him, as a Whet before Dinner. 1806 J. Pinkerton *Recoll. Paris* II. xv. 208 A decanter of Jamaica rum, Wormwood wine, or that of Vermouth. 1844 Mangan *Love & Madness* Poems (1903) 323 Why must Medjnims evermore Drink their tears as wormwood wine?

b. *fig.* Attrib., passing into adj. = bitter, tart, unpleasant to experience. So also † **wormwood lecture**, a scolding or 'talking to'.

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 893 Thy secret pleasure turnes to open shame,..Thy sugred tongue to bitter wormwood tast. 1620 B. Jonson *Postaster* I. ii, An honest decayed commander, cannot skelder, cheat, nor be seene in a bawdie house, but he shall be straight in one of their wormewood comedies. 1608 Day *Law Tricks* II. C 2 b, Trust me, loue hath kild That worme-wood humor. 1640 *Womens Sharpe Revenge* 5 And now lately one or two of the sonnes of Ignorance haue pen'd three severall.. ill-favoured Pamphlets..called Lectures, as the Juniper Lecture, the Crabtree Lecture, and the Wormwood Lecture, wherein they have laid most false aspersions upon all women generally. 1678 Dryden *Kind Keeper* II. i. (1680) 14, I shall read him a Worm-wood Lecture, when I see him. 1682 M. Parker (*title*) A brief sum of certain wormwood lectures: Which women used to sing and say Unto their husbands every day. 1871 F. T. Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 24 Clouding with wormwood drops the wine of life. 1895 G. P. Lathrop in *Month* (B. C.) Jan. 6 Notwithstanding the wormwood memories of wrongs in the past. 1897 Hardy *Poems of Pilgrimage, Lausanne*, Still rule those minds on earth At whom sage Milton's wormwood words were hurled.

Wormy (wɚ·rmi), *a.* [f. Worm *sb.* + -y 1. Cf. MHG. *wurmic, -ec*, G. *wurmig*, Du. *wormig*.]

1. Attacked, gnawed, or bored by worms or grubs; worm-eaten.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxxiii. (1869) 128, I am a wormy wilowh; who so leneth to me is lost. 1568 Leon *Armorie* (1568) 120 b, Studiously keeping those monuments from wormie wemes. 1612 Cotgr., *Vermeux*, wormie, full of wormes. 1708 Ozell tr. *Belloni's Lutrin* 54 The wormy Boards, by Time's corroding Spight disjoin'd. 1736 Mrs. Calderwood in *Colinton Collect.* (Maitland Club) 213 All the fruit in that country is very wormy, and some of the finest nuts had a great worm in the kirnall. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Woodnotes* II. 307 And thou,—go burn thy wormy pages. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lvii, An old brown, panelled,

dusty vestry, ... the ...rmy registers diffu...d a smell like faded snuff. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 176 We have picked nearly every apple (wormy or otherwise).

transf. 1833 in *New Statist. Acc. Scotl.* (1845) III. *Selkirk* 41 The .. herbage on the hills .. was destroyed by a caterpillar in 1762, long called the *wormy* year.

b. *fig.* = Worm-eaten c.

1612 *Coryate's Crudities, Panegyr. Verses* 05 b, Old wormy age that in thy mustie writs Of former fooles records the present wits. 1908 Hardy *Dynasts* III. vii. viii. 343 Europe's wormy dynasties rerobe Themselves in their old gilt.

c. *Arch.* = Vermiculated 1 c.

1823 [see Vermiculated 1 c].

2. Of the body, its parts and secretions: Infested or affected with worms, itch-mites, etc. Of fish: Lousy (*U. S.*).

1509 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 36a/1 An oyntment for the Wormye, and itchinge Handes. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* II. xlii. 255 The iuice thereof dropped into wormie eares, doth kill the wormes that is in them. 1625 Hart *Anat. Ur.* II. viii. 105 What would..he presage by such a wormie vrine? 1679 Trapham *Disc. Health Jamaica* 103 Children the chief subjects of Worms and wormy Slime. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. 140 It is used by Chirurgeons in putrid and wormy ulcers. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Ascarides*, The horses that breed ascarides are, above all others, subject to slime and wormy matter. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 974/2 The poor of Scotland ..are not more wormy than the better fed poor of England. 1884 *Springfield* (Mass.) *Wheelmen's Gaz.* Nov. 210/3 The stream was fairly alive with trout but the large ones were wormy.

3. Of earth, soil, the grave, etc.: Infested with worms, full of worms.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 384 Damned spirits all,.. Alreadie to their wormie beds are gone. 1645 Milton *Death for Infant* 31 Yet can I not perswade me thou art dead.. Or that thy beauties lie in wormie bed. 1631 W. Lisle *Fatwa Æthiopian* x. 176 The men of Sere, Who brought the King two silken robes to weare, Of daintie sleaue drawne from their wormie trees. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 345 Loose wormey ground. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* III. 281 Feelingly sweet is stillness after storm, Though under covert of the wormy ground! 1838 De Quincey *Shaks.* Wks. 1890 IV. 76 The wormy grave brought into antagonism with the ascenting of the early dawn. 1852 Hawthorne *Blithedale Rom.* II. iv. 71 Birds..busily scratched their food out of the wormy earth.

transf. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xlix, Wherefore all this wormy circumstance? Why linger at the yawning tomb so long?

4. Resembling a worm; worm-like.

Formerly in techn. terms, esp. *Anat.*; as *wormy body* [tr. *corpus lumbricosum*: see Worm *sb.* 11 a], the epididymis; *wormy process* = vermiform process (Vermiform 3 b).

1543 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* I. xi. (1552) 23 b, When thys foreasyd wormye body hath attayned to the myddle regyon..of thee stone, it..is no more..thycke wrethed, but playne, smoth, and round. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 477 The anterior and posterior processes of the braine, called vermi-formes or the wormy processes. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Wks.* VI. xxix. 222 The 4. other [muscles of the hand] are called, by reason of their figure, the *Lumbrici* or wormy muscles. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1683) 60 Pliny.. calls it *Coccus Scolecius*, or the Wormy Berry.

1836 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* I. 220 A weary, wormy darkness, spurred i' the flank With flame, that it should eat and end itself Like some tormented scorpion. 1876 Morris *Æneids* VII. 351 The dreadful wormy thing Seemed the wrought gold about her neck [*fit tortile collo aurum ingens coluber*]. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 327 With fleshy, brilliant, long, wormy feelers instead of fins. 1893 Mrs. Croker *Village T.* (1896) 152 Lumps of sticky cocoanut and deliciously long, wormy native sweets.

b. *fig.* Grovelling; earthy; crooked, tortuous.

1640 Br. Reynolds *Passions* XXXVII. 459 Hereby wee are brought to a Just Contempt of sordid and wormie Affections. *Ibid.* XXXVIII. 499 To be of a creeping and wormy disposition, ..to raise the Soule unto no higher Contemplations, than Base and Worldly. 1862 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 353, I have constantly considered the light of the Sun married as a husband to the Splendour of the Glo-worm;.. one Heavenly and constant; but the other wormy or corruptible. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* VII. 669 That is the fruit of all such wormy ways, The indirect, the unapproved of God: You cannot find their author's end and aim.

5. Of or pertaining to worms. *poet.*

1801 Southey *Thalaba* IX. XXIII, Next with naked hand, She pluck'd the boughs of the manchineel; And of the wormy wax she took, That, from the perforated tree forced out, Bewray'd its insect-parent's work within. 1842 Hood *Elm Tree* III. 351 With sudden fear her wormy quest The Thrush abruptly quits.

†**Worn**, *v. Obs. rare.* [? repr. OE. *weornian* to wither, fade.] *intr.* To waste *away*.

1538 Starkey *England* 76 And so hyt fallyth into many-fest dekey, and by lytyl and lytyl wornyth away.

Worn (*wɒ*m, *wɔ*ːn), *ppl. a.* Forms: see Wear *v.*[1]; also 7 **woorn**. [pa. pple. of Wear *v.*[1]]

1. Impaired by wear or use, or by exposure; showing the results of use or attrition.

1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps* cli. Wks. (1876) 196 Heuen & erth shall peryashe..theyr condycyons shall in maner be olde & worne. 1563 in *Inventaires de la Royne Descosse* (Bannatyne Club) 57 Mair ane vther coitt of blew veluot weill auld and worne. 1573 Baret *Alv.* s v., Old worne houses and rotten, *exesa aides*. 1575 A. Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* VI. 17 The waightye pott of Bacchus with worne eares [*attrita ansa*]. 1578 Turberv. *Venerie* xxii. 64 Whether it be a worne footing or a sharpe cuttyng foote. 1817 Keats *Spec. Induction* 13 From the worn top of some old battlement. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* iii, His dress consisted of..a worn dark suit. 1849 A. Gatty *Bell. Pref.*, The worn pen of an habitual sermon writer. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 8/1 By the new arrangement, bankers in the country are deprived of all excuse for not sending in their worn coins. 1903 Edith Wharton *Castle. Country* II. xv. 203 The curtains of worn damask.

b. *fig.* Of words or ideas: Hackneyed by use or repetition; trite.

1569 Robt tr. *J. van der Noot's Theat. Worldlings* 37 Hys woren Romyshe trashe patched and newly redressed. 1642 R. Carpenter *Experience* III. v. 47 According to the worne axiome of Divinity, Grace perfecteth nature. 1823 Landor *Imag. Conv., L. Philippe & Guizot* Wks. 1876 VI. 565 There you will see the most honourable men at the helm of government, who never thought their worn words worth keeping any more than their worn cloaths.

2. Of persons: Wasted, enfeebled, or exhausted by toil, exposure, age, anxiety, or ill-health; showing signs of such enfeeblement. (Cf. *care-worn.*) Also of animals.

1508 [see 1]. 1573 Baret *Alv.* s v., An old worne souldiour. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 64 Finding him so worne and wasted with continuall mourning. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 164 Though..The his and mightie gods should say they would againe renew To youth my worne corpse. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 2368/1 To doctor Sanders a naturall borne subiect, but an vnnaturall worne priest. 1650 Pepys *Mem. Navy* (1906) 85 A worn unassisted Secretary. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 400 So worn, so wretched, so despis'd a Crew. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VII. 906 To conceal Tender emotions spreading from the heart To his worn cheek. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* viii, The President..looked somewhat worn and anxious, and well he might. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xxiv, I. was shocked to see the worn look of his handsome young face. 1870 Huxley *Lay Serm.* iii. 48 The serene resting-place for worn human nature—the world of art. *a* 1891 T. B. Aldrich *Lander* (Cent.) Lead the worn war-horse by the pluméd bier.

b. Of land: Spent, exhausted, no longer fertile.

1681 R. Knox *Hist. Ceylon* 20 Which Inclosures they will keep up for several years, until the Ground becomes so worn, that the Flowers will thrive there no longer. 1860 Worcester cites Gray.

†3. Of time, a period: Past, spent. *Obs.*

1621 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. i. 142 Infirmitie (Which waits vpon worne times).

4. With adv. (See also Worn-out.)

a. *Worn-down*: in senses 1, 2 above.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 147 The poor worn-down sort [of horses] are the most common victims of this barbarity. 1833 C. Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 265 A worn-down crater. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xix. (1873) 440 The worn-down sandstone. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 876/2 The old worn-down tooth is shed.

b. *Worn-in*, ingrained by attrition or exposure to weather. (Cf. Inworn.)

1883 *Gd. Words* Aug. 543/2 Weather-stain and worn-in dirt.

†c. *Worn-up* (Wear *v.*[1] 10 b) = Worn-out 2.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 209 A purchaser of worn-up horses.

Hence **Wo·rnness**, worn condition.

1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* vi. 72 The first poetry, the first fresh touches [of her new life]..were passed into established use, and dulled into wornness and commonness.

Worne, rare obs. form of Warn *v.*[2]

Wornel, wornil, var. ff. Warnel.

Worn-out, *ppl. a.* [See Wear *v.*[1] 9 b, 10 b, 11, 17. Cf. Outworn.]

1. Of material things: Injured, damaged, defaced by wear, usage, attrition, or exposure, esp. to such a degree as to be no longer of use or service. †Of graphic characters: Obliterated.

1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* iv. 72 The errour I imagine to be from restoring of wooren out times in Bede and others. 1615 Sandys *Trav.* 40 The bases whereof did beare these now worne out characters. 1637 Spelman in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 153 A single letter in a worne-out worde, is a great help to revive what wanteth. *a* 1643 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 1 It is a very obscure and almost worn-out stamp of that glorious Image in which at first God made man. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. P 2 For..Triangular Punches, I commonly reserve my worn out three square Files. 1756 C. Smart tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xix. 38 For the bribe of a worn-out coat. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop*, The worn-out thin shoes. 1851 Richardson *Geol.* (1855) 439 A worn-out vein of ironstone. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xxii. 259 The worn-out carpets and old-fashioned chairs. 1874 Burnand *My Time* xxxiv. 372 There was a worn-out old safe in a corner.

b. Of a colour: Dull; not bright or vivid.

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Apocynum*, Small Umbels of worn-out purple-colour'd Flowers. 1818 *New Bot. Garden* I. 6 These [flowers of Asclepias Syriaca] are of a worn-out purple colour.

2. Of persons, living things, etc.: Utterly exhausted and wasted in strength or vitality.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 17 Feb. 1695 The Hospital design'd to be built at Greenwich for worn-out seamen. 1758 P. Williamson *Life* (1812) 49 They used all proper means to recover my worn-out spirits. 1789 Wesley *Minutes* Wks. 1872 VIII. 327 Every worn-out Preacher shall receive, if he wants it, at least ten pounds a-year. 1793 Cowper *To Mary* 55 Thy worn-out heart will break at last. 1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* II. 927 We kill a worn-out horse, and who but women Sigh at the deed? 1796 Marshall *Planting* I. 93 The rough and the worn-out Hedges. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xi. 105 Her father was a worn-out, broken merchant. 1852 Hoskyns *Talpa* 78 The specific operation of lime upon a worn-out soil. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 395 This practice of crossing with a Gamecock was much in vogue with the old breeders, to improve a worn-out stock. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* V. xiv. 496 These, in the woods, worn-out men sank down on the bare, frozen ground.

b. Of a smile: Faint, feeble, 'wan'.

1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xiv, At last, with 'bated breath,' and a very worn-out smile, [she] faltered forth.

8. Of ideas, devices, etc.: Hackneyed by use, trite, stale, out of fashion. Of institutions: Effete.

1723 Addison *Cato* I. iii. 7 Your cold Hypocrisie's a stale Device, A worn-out Trick. 1780 Cowper *Mutual Forbearance* 5 Those hangings, with their worn-out graces. 1820 Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* IV. 5 Under the claims of a set of antiquated and worn-out nobility. 1849 in *Cruiser Papers* 3 May, His speech..treated a worn-out subject so as to make it appear a new one. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Lit.* II. 23 This composition..exhibits the worn-out Grecian mythology in an aspect of picturesque novelty. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xv, I am too old for that worn-out quibble. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* XXVIII. (1898) 294 The House of Lords.. was an effete and worn-out institution.

†4. Of time: Past, departed. *Obs.*

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1350 This patterne of the worne-out age.

Hence **Worn-outness** (also *-outiness*).

1844 [. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* ii, The worn-outiness of the old pony on which he used to ride. 1898 B. Gregory *Side Lights* 434 Receiving allowances..on the same plea of wornoutness.

Worod, obs. pa. t. Worry *v.*

Worow(e, obs. forms of Worry *v.*

Worp, obs. form of Warp.

Worple, var. of Warple *sb. dial.*

†**Worral.** *Obs.* Also warral, waral, (woralla). [a. Arab. ﻭﺭﻝ *waral.*] A monitor lizard; = Varan.

1724 Maundrell *Journ. Aleppo* Add. 3 Here is found a large Serpent which has legs and claws, called Woralla. 1738 T. Shaw *Trav.* 429 Of the Lizard Kind, the Warral is of so docible a Nature, and appears withal to be so affected with Musick, that I have seen several of them keep exact Time and Motion with the Dervishes, in their circulatory Dances. 1743 R. Pococke *Descr. East* I, 208 The Worral.. is .four feet long,..has a forked tongue. 1744 C. Thompson *Trav.* III. 326 The Worral is a Sort of Lizard, which sometimes is thirty or forty Inches in Length.

Worre, obs. f. War *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], War *a.* and *adv.*

Worret, Worrey: see Worrit, Worry *v.*

Worriable (*wɒ*·riăb'l), *a.* [f. Worry *v.* + -able.] That can be worried or roughly treated.

1888 C. Lloyd Morgan in *Nature* XXVI. 524/2 A dog can call his companion's attention to a worriable cat.

Worricow (*wɒ*·rikəu). *Sc.* Forms: α. 8 **wirry-cow**, **-kow**, 8–9 **wirricow**, **-kow**. β. 8–9 **worry-**, **worricow** (9 **worricowe**, **warricoe**). [f. Worry *v.* + Cow *sb.*[3] (as if 'a goblin apt to worry').] A scarecrow; a hobgoblin. Also *transf.* a person of frightful or unprepossessing appearance.

α. 1721 Ramsay *On Maggy Johnstown* xi, I hirsl'd up my dizzy Pow, Frae 'mang the Corn like Wirricow. 1728 — *Gen. Mistake* 181 Much hated Gowk, tho' vers'd in kittle Rules, To be a Wirry-kow to writing Fools. 1825 G. Beattie *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 41 Or yet wi' wirrikows to mingle, That brinstane belsh. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* vi, That's Yawkins and his crew..the ill-contriving wirricows.

β. 1787 Smollett *Reprisal* II. i, It canna be our commander Monsieur de Champignon, running about in the dark like a worricow. 1789 D. Davidson *Seasons* 122 The worrycow gid sic a yell. 1809 T. Donaldson *Poems* 37 Where harpie, imp, an' warricoe, An' goblins dwell. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* II, They do say there's a sort o' worricows and lang-nebbit things about the land. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, It..keeps unceevil folk frae staring as if ane were a worrycow.

b. with *the* = the Devil.

1719 W. Hamilton *3rd Ep. Ramsay* xiii, May thou..thro' thy creed, Be keeped frae the wirricow, After thou's dead. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Farmer's Ingle* vii, Auld warld tales.. O' warlocks loupin' round the wirrikow.

Worried (*wɒ*·rid), *ppl. a.* [f. Worry *v.* + -ed.] In senses of the vb.: Killed or mangled by biting, etc.; maltreated, harassed; troubled or distressed in mind.

1559 Bp. Cox in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. vi. 99 God was mightily angred with his People, because they offered unto God the Blind, Lame and worried Sacrifice. 1644 Quarles *Sion's Elegies* III. ii, Heaven's souldiers doe beleager My worried soule. 1646 — *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 115/2 Can poore affrighted Lambs wanton, and frisk upon the pleasant plaine, when as their worried Mothers tremble at the Quest of every Curre? *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XIV. lxx, His worryed limbs forthwith the Soldiers stretch To fit Him to His wide tormenting Tree. *Ibid.* XIX. xxxvii, Must thou Sail from thy quiet Home, and yield to be The worried Slave of all the Winds that blow. 1800 Hurdis *Fav. Village* 111 To the branch Which midway meets him in his worried flight. 1845 C. K. Sharpe *Corr.* (1888) II. 347, I am now better—but a good deal shaken, as they say of half-worried kittens. 1864 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* IV. 194 A fagged, worried, hard-working, dusty-footed labouring man. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. v, 'I don't mean that,' said Mrs. Boffin, with a worried look. 1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* XXXVIII, 'You look ill and worried,' said the Colonel. 1903 Bridges *Wintry Delights* 248 And 'tis a far escape from wires, wheels and penny papers And the worried congestion of our Victorian era.

Worrier (*wɒ*·riəɹ). Forms: 6 *Sc.* **wirrear**, **-iare**, 7 **-ier**; 6 **wurrier**, *Sc.* **worriar**, 7– **worrier**. [f. Worry *v.* + -er[1].]

1. An animal that kills or injures others by biting and rough treatment. Also *fig.*

c 1536 Lyndesay *Compl. Bagsche* 96 For I half bene, ay to this hour, Ane wirrear of lamb and hog. 1563 *Elgin Rec.* (New Spalding Club) I. 173 Calling him auld wouff facet theiff carle and worriar of scheip. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* vi. (1833) B 4 b, Diogenes..being admonished that so he should be torne by birds and beasts, did reiyre a tanet, in requyring a cadgall to be coutched beside, whereby to weare his wirriers away. 1634 Canne *Necess. Separ.* 33 Being doubtlesse very theeves, robbers, wolves, and worriers of the Flocke. 1883 J. Spencer *Prodigies* III. § 4 (1665) 209 Κύνες χθόνιοι terrestrial Dogs (so they called their more material and coarser sort of Daemons, conceived the Worriers of

Souls). 1732 SWIFT *Exam. Abuses Dublin* 12 Tory Dogs; whereof great Numbers have since been so prudent, as latterly to change their Principles, and are now justly esteemed the best Worriers of their former Friends. 1839 HOOD *To Lady Dep. India* 31 Go where the fierce musquito is a worrier. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (ed. 2) 29 The Worrier-Dog—the Cow with Crumpled horn.

† b. *jocularly.* A swiller *of* (liquor). *Sc. Obs.*

1584 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 12 Still daylie drinckand or be dyne, A wirriare of the gude sweit wyne.

2. One who harasses or persecutes another.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 304 P6 Certain Persons..who by the Strength of their Arms, and Loudness of their Throats, draw off the Regard of all Passengers from your said Petitioners; from which Violence they are distinguished by the Name of *the Worriers.* 1734 SWIFT *Yahoo's Overthrow* xi. Wks. 1765 XIII. 291 On this Worrier of Deans whene'er we can hit, We'll shew him the way how to crop and to slit.

3. One who causes distress of mind to another; also, one who gives way to anxiety or mental disquietude.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 11 Feb. 3/1 'Worry' is from inside, and the fault of the 'worrier.' 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Dec. 802/1 Both brothers write of their mother, an excellent woman but a worrier—of the son she was with and about the son she was absent from.

Worriless (wʌ·rilés), *a.* [f. WORRY *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from worry.

1889 *Science* 2 Feb. 88/2 The professor, leading a comparatively congenial and worriless life, is a deeper sleeper [than the teacher].

Worriment (wʌ·rimĕnt). Chiefly *U. S.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -MENT.] The act of worrying or causing anxiety; the state of being worried or troubled in mind. Also, something that harasses or causes worry.

1845 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nature* I. v. 128 The worriment we have had about money lately has set you a dreaming. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* I. iv. 91 Over and over again he had been on the point of giving her up, out of sheer worriment and exhaustion of soul. 1866 'G. F. HARRINGTON' *Inside* I. 9 It was a special weapon in her arsenal in the worriment of her husband. 1883 E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 46/1 Her slight tendency to worry saved others a world of worriment. 1885 B. ROOSEVELT *Copper Queen* I. x. 165 Ready with vinegar, hartshorn, and the usual worriments towards resuscitation. 1912 MRS. ALLEN HARKER *Mr. Wycherly's Wards* vii, 108, I don't know how they'll take this fresh worriment.

Worrisome (wʌ·risŏm), *a.* [f. WORRY *sb.* or *v.* + -SOME[1].] Apt to cause worry or distress; given to worrying.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xlv, I must give orders..that you come in at once, with that worrisome cough of yours. 1882 H. C. MERIVALE *Faucit of B.* II. i. xix. 43 Which is likely..to become before long the highest good of these worrisome days. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 61/1 The best an' the most worrisome woman that God ever made.

So **Worrisomely** *adv.*

a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIX. vii, How worrisomly cross and peevish were Thy feeble years.

Worrit (wʌ·rit), *sb. colloq.* Also 9 -et. [f. the vb.] A state of worry or mental distress; a fretting care or anxiety. Also, a person that worries others or himself.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xvii, 'A parochial life, ma'am, continued Mr. Bumble, ..'is a life of worrit, and vexation, and hardihood.' 1844 in Ashwell *Life Bp. Wilberforce* (1880) I. vi. 221 Assuaging any and every worret, temporal and spiritual. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, 'Mrs. Richards's eldest, Miss!' said Susan, 'and the worrit of Mrs. Richards's life!' 1861 CALVERLEY *Charades* 1, Endless cares and endless worrits, well I knows it, has a wife 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Hawkbeck* 68 The young men did not mind strictness, but they would not stand worrying...B was as kindly and good-natured as possible, but he was a worrit.'

Worrit (wʌ·rit), *v. colloq.* Also 9 -et. [App. a vulgar alteration of WORRY *v.* Cf. WHERRIT, WERRIT.]

1. *trans.* To worry, distress, vex, pester.

1818 LAMB *Let. to Mrs. Wordsworth* 18 Feb., These pests worrit me at business. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxvi, 'Don't worrit your poor mother, said Mrs. Sanders. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lviii, Lord bless us, how she did use to worret us at Sunday-school. 1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II. xiv. (1904) 313 Why worrit yourself about finding Arthur Carr at all? 1869 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) III. 235, I have been worriting myself these last days with those Welsh chaps and our early history.

b. with advb. extension.

1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II. x. (1904) 259 It don't do me no good: it only worrits me into a perspiration. 1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* viii. 116 Sir Abraham won't get papa another income when he has been worreted out of the hospital. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* XXVI. II. 66 It will worret you to death, Lucy; *that* I can see.

2. *intr.* To give way to worry; to experience or display mental disquietude, impatience, etc.

1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II. xiv. (1904) 327 It was how to track the man as was Mary's death, that I puzzled and worrited about in my head, at that time. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* viii. (1881) 127 He..snaps, and worrits, and won't speak to her sometimes for a whole morning. 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* vii, 'Look alive, girl! Come—bustle, bustle! It's gone six o'clock.' 'Why, father, how you keep on worriting!'

Hence **Worritting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxiii, There would be none of this *worriting and wearing. 1848 GERALDINE JEWSBURY *Zoe* I. 38 [He] is just the naughtiest and most *worritting boy I ever saw. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* I. xi. 194 Here and there some..worriting, energizing mortal..gets command of a boat. 1871 SMILES *Character* viii. 219 Worretting, petty, and self-tormenting cares.

Worrow, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

Worry (wʌ·ri), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. A troubled state of mind arising from the frets and cares of life; harassing anxiety or solicitude.

1804 W. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1838) III. 190 Broomfield ..is a scene of almost as much bustle as Old Palace Yard. So much so, that the incessant *worry* (it is an expressive word) of this house makes me think of quitting it. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* XXV, It were better to know the worst at once, than to be kept on the worry all your days. 1838 BUCKSTONE *Our Mary Anne* 20 After all the worry of mind I have endured this day. 1844 DICKENS *Martin Chus.* xxii, Martin felt, from pure fatigue, and heat, and worry, as if he could have fallen on the ground. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* II. XXVI. (1888) 290 The fact is ..I have a good deal of worry upon me. 1871 SMILES *Character* viii. 219 Cheerfulness..enables nature to recruit its strength; whereas worry and discontent debilitate it. 1879 MRS. CRAIK *Young Mrs. Jardine* III. ix. 227 It is not work that kills, but 'worry'.

transf. 1866 LONGF. *Flower-de-luce* ii, Thou laughest at the mill, the whir and worry Of spindle and of loom.

b. An instance or case of this; a cause of, or matter for, anxiety; *pl.* cares, solicitudes.

1823 *Sketches of Character* (ed. 2) I. 178 You may suppose what a worry Mrs. Mac. was in. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* v. 27 Eliza came in here..in a great worry, crying and taking on. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 66 There is scarcely a greater worry which invalids have to endure than the incurable hopes of their friends. 1869 LEVER *Davenport Dunn* ix. 76 'Delicious spot to come and repose in from the cares and worries of life', said Lord Lackington. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* iv, Rich people have about as many worries as poor ones, I think. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 25 To learn to write with the left hand is a labour and a worry. 1912 *Times* 1 May 10/2 His chief worry was that he was unable to be of any further use.

2. The act of biting and shaking an animal so as to injure or kill it. (Properly of hounds when they seize their quarry.)

1847 SURTEES *Hawbuck Grange* xii. 250 The whole pack flew from their noses to the worry, and rolled one over another with their victim into the river. 1859 G. A. LAWRENCE *Sword & Gown* iii. 28 They will..join in the 'worry' as eagerly as the youngest hound. 1882 C. LLOYD MORGAN in *Nature* XXVI. 524/2 But no dog could tell his companion of the successful 'worry' [*sc.* of a cat] he had just enjoyed. 1886 *Forst's Sporting Notes* III. 235 And then among the reeds is a rolling over, a confusion, and a worry.

transf. 1902 'LINESMAN' *Words by Eyewitness* (1900) 200 There is a brief and breathless 'worry' at the top, and the hill is ours. Few Boers have remained to face the bayonets.

3. Irritation or morbid stimulation (of bodily tissue).

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 750 This form of looseness appears to be due to direct worry of the mucous membrane.

Worry (wʌ·ri), *v. Pa. t.* and *pple.* worried. Forms: α. 1 **wyrgan,** 4 **wyry3(e,** 4–5 **wirwe, wirie, wiry(e, wyrie, wyry(e, 5 wyrwyn, wyrhy,** 5–7 **wirrie, wyrry,** 6 *Sc.* **wirrey, virry,** 5–6, 9 *Sc.* **wirry.** β. 4 **werew,** *Sc.* **wer(r)y,** 4–6 **wery(e,** (5 **were, werou-),** 5–7, 9 *dial.* **werry,** 6 **wearry,** 6–7 **wearie, weary.** γ. 4–6 **worow(e,** (4 *pa. pple.* **yworewid,** 5 *pa. t.* **worod,** 6 *3rd sing.* **woroeth),** 5 **worwyn,** 6–7 **worrow,** 7 **wurrow;** 4–7 **wory(e,** (5 **vory),** **worie,** 6 **worrye,** 6–7 **woorry(e,** 7 **woorie, worrey, whorry, worr'** (*in verse*), 6–8 **wurry,** 6– **worry.** [OE. *wyrgan* = OFris. *wergia* to kill, MLG. *worgen,* MDu. *worghen* (Du. *worgen, wurgen*), to strangle, throttle, OHG. *wurgan, wurkjan* (MHG. *wurgen, würgen,* G. *würgen*), to strangle, worry, kill by violence:—OTeut. **wurgjan,* related to **werg-,* a strong vb. stem found in MHG. *irwergen* to throttle:— Indo-Eur. **wergh-.*

The α- and β-forms (*wirry* and *werry*) are normal ME. developments of OE. *wyrgan*: cf. the forms of MERRY *a.* The γ-forms apparently represent a late WS. **wurgan,* with later graphic substitution of *wo-* for *wu-*; see the note to WORM *sb.* The original *w*-sound of this form is indicated by the late spellings with *woo-*.]

† **1.** *trans.* To kill (a person or animal) by compressing the throat; to strangle. *Obs.*

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* S 558 *Sf(r)angulat,* wyrgeð *uel* smoraþ. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1921 On þe morwen, hwan it was day, Ilc on other wirwed lay, Als it were dogges þat weren henged. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII. 534 (MS. β) Harald.. threwe hym to the grounde and had wyried [*MS.* γ ywyryed] hym with his hondes, nadde he be the rather delyvered out of his clowes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyrwyn', *strangulo, suffoco.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. v. 26 Tua gret serpentis..The quhilk he wyrreit wyth his handis tuay. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 191 Thay wirrit him to the deid. 1606 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* (1885) VII. 185 He tuike the said compleiner be the throat and thought to have wirryed her or she had awaked.

β. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1915 Weren he werewed. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 994 He..weryt hyme [*eum strangulavit*]. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 23 The fende weryit him in his bed. 14.. *Quatuor Serm.* (Caxton 1483) d 4, I denounce..al tho that werye or slee theyr generacions. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/2 To Wery, *strangulare, suffocare.*

γ. 13.. *St. Greg. Trental* 19 in *Min. Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 261 Anon as hire child I-boren was, þe Nekke heo nom, þe child heo woriede [*Cott. MS.* wyryede]. 14.. *Promp. Parv.*

That thay abstayne..fra it that is worreit [Acts xv. 20]. 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 240/3 East Lawdiane knawis the lone and fidelitie of ane of thair Ministers towards his wyf, wha worriet hir before he passit to his preaching.

† b. *fig. Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII. 465 Þese..wexe so riche þat it semede þat þe douzter passede and werled [*v.rr.* wyryede, wyryed, wyryde] þe moder [*ut filia ditata matrem superpredi videretur et suffocare*].

† **2.** To choke (a person or animal) with a mouthful of food. Used with the food as subj., or *refl.* and *pass.* Const. *on* (the food); hence *to be worried,* or *worry oneself, on* = to devour greedily. Also *fig. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16909 Al til iesus þe thrid dai had fughten gain sathan, And werid him on his aun bit, als hund es on a ban. 14.. WYNTOUN *Chron.* VII. 314 (Wemyss MS.) God lat neuer of it a crote, Till I be weryit [*v.rr.* wyrryd, wereyt], pass oure my throte. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1568 On suche a femele my flesshe wolde be wroken...weryed I wolde be on suche a bayte. *a* 1529 — *P. Sparrow* 89 Gib, I saye, our cat Worrowyd her on that Which I loued best. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 663 How Godowyn worreit himself to Deid in Presence of Edward King. *Ibid.,* The breid..stak so fast.., it wirreit him to deid. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 276 'God gif that breid wory me, gif evir I was othir art or part of Alarudis slauchter.' And incontinent, he fel doun weryit on the breid. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 55 To be *Worried,* to be choak't. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Collect. Writ.* (1883) II. 39 She..squattles up a mutchkin at a waught, which was like to wirry her.

† b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To be choked, to choke. Const. *on* (as above). *Obs.*

c 1420 WYNTOUN *Chron.* VII. 504 Swa suddandly richt at þe burde He wereit. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXI. 24 Now quhill thair is gude wyne to sell, He that dois on dry breid virry [*v.r.* wirrie], I gif him to the Devill of hell. 1715 in Maidment *Old Ballads* (1844) 33 He..like a fool, did eat the cow, And worried on the tail. 1736 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1884) V. 123 A great fat carle..so short necked that you would think he would worry [at] every word he spoke. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 385 You fasted long, and worried on a Fly.

† **c.** Of smoke: To suffocate (a person). *Obs.*

1755 *Edom of Gordon* XV. in Child *Ballads* III. 434 Dear mother, gie owre your house,..For the reek it worries me.

3. *trans.* To seize by the throat with the teeth and tear or lacerate; to kill or injure by biting and shaking. Said e.g. of dogs or wolves attacking sheep, or of hounds when they seize their quarry.

α. *c* 1380 [see b]. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 226 Wolues þat wyryeþ men, wommen and children. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadgerr* 25 Mak ane suddand schow vpon ane scheip, Syne with thy wappinnis wirrie him to deid. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* 156 There is ouer mony doggis in scotland that virreis there master as acteon vas virreit. 1606 *Wily beguiled* 72 My dog wirried my neighbours sow, and the sow died. 1683 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 383 Mastisbe and cur doggis..quha..wyrries and devouris thair sheip.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 259 Sewine hundis com quhare he lay, and verrit hym sodanly. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6264 He wolde hem wery and drinke the bloode. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xviii. 46 þe prophete Abdo þat was weroude [*v.r.* wirwed] of þe lyoune. 1554 W. PRAT *Aphrique* K iv b, Manye other beastes whiche the dogges do werye & kyll. 1586 WHETSTONE *Engl. Mirror* 44 If a Beare appeare,..they will all joyne to wearie him. 1599 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* B iv, The mastiues of our land shall werry ye. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Acteon..was..werried to death with his own dogs. *a* 1633 GOUGE *Comm. Hebr.* xi. 37 When he observeth that the Wolf hath wearied some sheep.

absol. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 142 Farre from home old foxes werry.

γ. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1229 Lyons, libardes and wolwes kene, þat wald worow men bylyve, And rogg þam in sonder and ryve. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1505 Ryȝt bifore þe hors fete þay fel on hym alle, And woried me þis wyly wyth a wroth noyse. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 958 Jone warlawe wyt, he worows vs alle! *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8777 To scle the Gregais wold he not ses, As liongre I3 oun bestes vories. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 421 And with þat he ran on þe selie lambe and worod itt. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 47 The men of Hyrcania, that keepe Mastiffes, to woorrye them selues. 1592 BACON *Observ. Libel* (end) Resuscit. (1657) 150 The persecutions of the Primitive Church...As that, of Worrowing Priests, under the Skins of Bears, by Dogs, and the like. 1620 QUARLES *Feast for Wormes* Med. iii. D 4, Alas! the rau'nous Wolues will worr' thy Sheepe. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 36 Many dogs may easily woorie one. 1680 P. HENRY *Diar. & Lett.* (1882) 285 Ralph Nixon had three sheep worry'd to death in one night. 1795 *Life John Metcalf* 3 One of the young hounds happening to worry a couple of lambs. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 88 Many dogs..are in the habit of looking out for sheep to worry, at some distance from their homes. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XX, She bit me...She worried me like a tigress. 1866 AUGUSTA WILSON *St. Elmo* v, Did not he worry down and mangle one of my best Southdowns? 1867 *Times* 8 May 13/2 Defendant's dog.. seized Mrs. Miller by the leg, and bit her several times, throwing her down, and worrying her very much.

absol. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 990 Such a dog am I, To worry, and not to flee. 1899 H. D. RAWNSLEY *Life & Nat. Eng. Lakes* 173 A dog that shows signs of worrying is 'put down' at once.

b. *fig.* (or in figurative context).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 24 No warde to hem hou faste þe woluys of helle wirien cristen soulis. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 72 His owen kynde briddis, þat weren..well ny yworewid with a wrouge leder. 1529 MORE *Dyalogs* IV. xi. 114 b/2 To play yᵉ wyly foxes & wyrry simple soules & pore lambes. 1549 [see 3 a]. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 328 That they..ouerse that other Ministers do theyr dutye, that the wolues do not worrye the flocke. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 1448/2 My L. is it not enough for you to wery your own shepe, but ye must also meddle wᵗ other mens sheps? 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 238 Even so

these parts of our life which are diseased, naught and ill affected, .. these they seise upon, and are ready to worry and pluckle in peeces. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 67 To let them still hale us, and worrey us with their band-dogs, and Pursivants. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 317 Herod pretended to worship Christ when he intended to worry him. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Africa* I. 1 White sea-dogs coursed and worried one another over Father Mersey's breadth of mud.

c. *transf.* To bite at or upon (an object); to kiss or hug vehemently; to utter (one's words) with the teeth nearly closed, as if biting or champing them.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 568 Queene Hecub ronning at a stone, with gnarring seasd theron, And wirryed it betweene her teeth [*morsibus insequitur*]. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 58 Then againe worryes he his Daughter, with clipping her. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* IV. 54 And then he grew familiar with her hand, Squeez'd it, and worry'd it with ravenous kisses. 1903 L. J. VANCE *Ter. O'Rourke* I. xiv, As the Irishman entered, Prince Felix said a word, or two, low-toned and tense—worried them between his teeth, like an ill-dispositioned cur. 1914 A. N. LYONS *Simple Simon* I. i. 13 Their sons, late of the Great School, home from India on leave and unanimously worrying small moustaches of the tooth-brush pattern.

d. *intr.* To pull or tear *at* (an object) with the teeth.

1882 *Little Folks* Jan. 24/2 There was Floss worrying at the parcel, which had only thin paper wrapped round it.

4. *trans.* To swallow greedily, devour. Also with *up*. Latterly *north.* and *Sc.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5900 Bot aaron wand it wex aa kene þas oþer it wired [*Gött.* wirid, *Trin.* woryed] al bidene. 1619 A. GIL *Logon. Angl.* Pref. B 3 To worrow, *Voro.* 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 225 They had seene him weare many [jewels] and twas them, hee had woorried in his Ostrich appetite. 1643 HORN & ROE. *Gate Lang. Unl.* li. § 568 Stout feeders..do nothing else but devour (never lin wurrowing). 1788 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 138 Think ye.. worry, devour, eat ravenously.

5. To harass by rough or severe treatment, by repeated aggression or attack; to assail with hostile or menacing speech.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 46 But in spite of Custance, which hath hym wexied, Let vs see his mashyp solemnely buried. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 34, I thought verilie they woulde haue worried one another with wordes, they were so earnest and vehement. 1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark all* 12 Hath your nightly watchings and continuall disorder of your braines so whorried your senses. 1632 PEYTON *Catastr. Ho. Stuarts* 74, I being a man can speak by experience, who hath been most justly worryed by the hand of the Almighty for sins. 1675–7 WARWICK *Mem. Chas. I* (1701) 321 Cromwell .. marched forwards into Scotland, and left Lambert to worry Hamilton in England. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Serm.* iv. (1681) 212 No mans Life or property will be safe; mankind would worry and prey upon one another. 1725 B. HIGGONS *Rem. Burnet* II. (1736) 177 He cruelly worries the Memory of a Daughter of England. 1729 GAY *Polly* I. xiv, In conniving at my escape, you save me from your husband's worrying me with threats and violence. 1842 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. I. 302 They vowed they would give peace to the land they were then wasting and worrying by fire and sword. 1877 FREEMAN in *Brit. Q. Rev.* Jan. 182 He perhaps hardly brings out how thoroughly Edward the Third was worried into war by the aggression of Philip. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 23 Feb. 5/3 Having found their range during daylight, they continued to worry our men all the night.

transf. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXII. x, Soil..if not duly worried, digg'd and plow'd, Harrow'd and torn. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 304 A repeated application to some of these drugs..by worrying the cardiac ganglia..tends to dilatation of the heart.

b. with advb. extension expressing result, as *away*, *in*, *to death*.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Abigo*, He chased or weried away his sonne to Rhodes. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* E 4 First to scratch out false Cressidaes eyes, and then (which was worse) to woorry her to death with scolding. 1659 MILTON *Civil Power* 74 If departed of his own accord, like that lost sheep..the true church either with her own or any borrowd force worries him not in again. 1678 *Poor Robin's True Char. Scold* 6 Thus she worries him out of his senses at home. 1721 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 184 He is wurryed to death by those ungrateful nations.

c. *transf.* With adv. (e. g. *out*, *down*) or advb. phr.: To get or bring into a specified condition by harassing treatment, persistent aggression, or dogged effort. Similarly *to worry one's way*.

1727 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 55 The Tenants.. have been suffer'd to..worry out the strength of the Land by sowing Rape, &c. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XX. XXX. 256 You at last worry out a solitary spark [from the flint]. 1870 E. E. HALE *Ten Times One* iii. 61 While she 'worried down' the tea, and ate a slice of toast. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept. 435/2 All such points he will delight to worry out for himself. 1894 CROCKETT *Play-actress* IV. 52 Worrying out a knotty point in the 'Original Hebrew'. 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* II. ii. 48 Scott..worried his way into some understanding of the language by main force. 1900 A. HOPE *Lucinda* II. 24 Waldo was not quick-witted, but he had a good brain. If he got hold of a problem, he would worry it to a solution.

d. To irritate (an animal) by a repetition of feigned attacks, etc.

1807–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* III. Wks. 1839 II. 146/2, I admit there is a vast luxury in selecting a particular set of Christians, and in worrying them as a boy worries a puppy dog. 1820 DIBDIN *Old C. Shop* XXI, Hissing and worrying the animal [a chained dog] till he was nearly mad.

e. *U.S.* To afflict with physical fatigue or distress.

1828 WEBSTER, *Worry*, .. 2. To fatigue; to harass with labor; a popular sense of the word. 1876 HOLLAND *Seven Oaks* v. 66 For three steady hours he went on, the horse no more worried than if he had been standing in the stable.

f. Fencing. *To worry the sword*: 'to fret one's opponent by small movements in rapid succession which seem about to result in thrusts or feints' (*Century Dict.*).

6. In lighter sense: To vex, distress, or persecute by inconsiderate or importunate behaviour; to plague or pester with reiterated demands, requests, or the like.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 906 Witness when I was worried with thy peals. 1728 GAY *Begg. Op.* II. xiii, 'Tis barbarous in you to worry a Gentleman in his Circumstances. 1788 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 196 He had continually worried the Assembly with message after message. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* VII, You worry me to death with your chattering. 1846 LANDOR *Wks.* II. 9 (*Albani & Picture-dealers*), I am infested and persecuted and worried to death by duns. They belabor and martellate my ears. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. v. 103 She will worry you till you give your consent. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 15 July 5/3 The supply of ignorant *cicerone* to worry visitors with their foolish babblement. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* VI. 281 The scholars were not to be worried with everlasting ritual observances. 1907 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Adam in Moonshine* x. 203 They won't really do anything but worry you with questions.

b. with advb. extension as *out*, *out of* (something).

1729 SWIFT *Grand Question debated* (1732) 8 But, Madam, I beg, you'll contrive and invent, And worry him out, till he gives his Consent. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* I. x. 169 Addressing 'dear Angelina' in an affectionate whisper that would never have led one to suppose she worried the poor girl's life out at home. 1876 HOLLAND *Sevenoaks* XV. 209 She..had worried him out of his life, and he had gone and left her childless. 1898 *Times* 18 Oct. 9/3 If by chance it [the French Government] imagines that this country is going to be worried out of the position taken up by Lord Salisbury, it is making a very grave mistake.

7. To cause distress of mind to; to afflict with mental trouble or agitation; to make anxious and ill at ease. Chiefly of a cause or circumstance, or *refl.* or *pass.*

1820 HAZLITT *Table-Talk* XXIII. (*On great and little Things*), Small pains are..more within our reach; we can fret and worry ourselves about them. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall, Bachelor's Conf.*, He had settled the point which had been worrying his mind. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* V, I quite fret and worry myself about her. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* I. (1868) 21 Increasing anxieties about money had worried her. 1867 TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* II. lvi. 121 Men when they are worried by fears..become suspicious. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. iii. 95 This self-plagiarism sometimes worries us. 1875 MRS. RANDOLPH *Wild Hyacinth* I. 74 Don't worry yourself about it, my love. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* XXI. (1891) 238 It puzzles me and worries me to guess why Miss Lavinia always wanted to drop the subject.

b. in pa. pple., denoting a state of mind.

1863 PRINCESS ALICE *Mem.* (1884) 60, I am sure, dear Mama, you are worried to death about it. 1867 TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* I. XXI. 179 The subject..was a sore one, and he was worried a little. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* XXIII. II. 25 He felt a little worried and wearied, perhaps with mental debate. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 602 Some patients are attacked [by lichen] when worried or in low condition.

c. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To give way to anxiety or mental disquietude.

1860 WORCESTER, *Worry* v.n., to indulge in idle complaining; to fret; to be troubled. (Colloquial.) *Roget.* 1861 HOLLAND *Lessons in Life* XIII. 181 When she can find nothing to do, then she worries. 1874 LD. COLERIDGE in *Life* (1904) II. ix. 244 'Don't coddle and don't worry' is his recipe for longevity. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* IX. IV. (1882) 414 Men would no more worry about finding employment than they worry about finding air to breathe. 1901 ALDRIDGE *Sherbro* XX. 205 My head-man..begged me not to worry.

8. *intr.* with advb. extension (cf. the transf. uses 5 b, c, 6 b above): a. To advance or progress by a harassing or dogged effort; to force or work one's way *through*. Of the wind: To go *on* blowing in a harassing way.

a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IV. XCVII, Yet worying among the waves they spy'd A wracked Mortal. *Ibid.* XIII. IV, Winter .. worries forward at his due Determin'd season, spight of all the Ice Which clogs his heels. 1820 W. IRVING *Sk. Bk., Spectre Bridegroom* 212 He was naturally a fuming, bustling little man, and could not remain passive..He worried from top to bottom of the castle with an air of infinite anxiety. 1823 SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* I. 23 For the next three days the wind went worrying on. 1901 *Daily Express* 21 Mar. 7/1 In the end we worried through and.. anchored. 1903 KIPLING *5 Nations* 211 When the wind worries through the 'ills.

b. To get *through* (a business, piece of work) by persistent effort or struggle; so with *through* adv. *To worry along*: to contrive to live, 'keep going', in the teeth of trials or difficulties (*U. S.*).

1873 HOWELLS *Chances Acquaint.* (1882) 299 She must..try to worry along without him. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* XX, I worried through that war without a scratch. 1878 — *Celia's Arb.* XII, Often on Saturday night I wonder how I have managed to worry through the work of the [illegible] think [illegible] worries through [illegible] than could be expected.

9. *Comb.*: †**worry peter** (*tree*) = CHOKE-PEAR.

Worrying (wʊ·riiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of strangling or of biting and tearing by the throat.

In quot. 1621 'worrien' is perhaps this word, altered for the rhyme.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/2 Werying, *jugulamen*, ..*suffocamen*. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 422 The moste importune barkynge of Dogges, and weriens one an other. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* etc. 194 How duely I did keepe My woollie store (as I had care) from worrien, Scab, sought, the rot or any kind of murren. 1839 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xii, Then the astounded Tom heard the worrying of a terrier, and the squeak of a dying rat.

2. The action of harassing, pestering, or distressing.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* IIx, Worryings and quellings of young children. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 157 Amidst all this worrying and being worried. 1884 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. vii. (1872) VI. 218 Such worryings (*ces sortes de compromis*) leave their mark on a man.

Wo·rrying, *ppl. a.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ING 2.]

†1. Given to harrying or raiding. *Obs.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 209 A greater rabble of worrying freebutters.

2. Harassing; distressing to the mind or spirits.

1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life* I. 212 Your whole conduct is literally worrying and annoying in the extreme. 1834 HOOK *Gilbert Gurney* XI. *New Mo. Mag.* XLII. 470 Whether she would allow me to send her anything to cheer her up after her worrying journey. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXVI, There are few things more worrying than sitting up for somebody, especially if that somebody be at a party. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* VII, Whatever the sound is, it is a worrying sound.

Hence **Wo·rryingly** *adv.*

1842 MOORE *Mem.* VII. 312 The difficulty..still haunts me most worryingly.

Worsam, var. of WORSUM *Obs.*, pus.

Worse (wɜːs), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **wiersa**, **wirsa**, 1–2 **wyrsa** (1 **wuyrsa**), 2 **wurse**, 2–6 **wurse**, 4 **wirse**, 3 **wrse**, 3–6 **wurs**; 3– **worse**, 3–6 **worsse**, 4 **worss**, 3–7 **wors**, 6 **woorse**, **wourse**, 7 **wours**, 9 *vulgar* **wuss**. *β.* 2 **werse**, **wersa**, 2–6 **werse** (3 *Orm.* **werrse**), 3 **weorse**, 4 **wersse**, 4–5 **vers**, 4–6 **wers**, 5 **weroe**; 5–6 **wars**, **warse**, 5–6, 8–9 *north.* **warse**. [OE. *wyrsa*, *wiersa* = OFris. *wirra*, *werra* (for **wirsa*, **wersa* by assimilation), OS. *wirsa*, OHG. *wirsiro*, *-ero*, *-oro* (MHG. *wirser*), ON. *verri* (for **wersi*; Sw. *värre*, Da. *værre*; see WAR *a.*), Goth. *wairsiza* :— OTeut. **wersizon-*, f. root **wers-*, found in OS., OHG. *werran*, G. (*ver-*) *wirren* to entangle, confound (see WAR *sb.*1) + *-izon-* compar. suffix.

For the graphic change of *wu-* to *wo-* see the notes to WORM *sb.* and WORRY *v.* The *β.*-forms appear first in north-east midland texts and are app. due to Scandinavian.]

A. *adj.* Used as the comparative of BAD, EVIL, ILL, or as the opposite of BETTER.

1. More reprehensible morally; more wicked, depraved or vicious; more cruel, unkind, or ill-conditioned.

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* XLV. § 3 Þi hi send wyrsan þonne nytenu þy hi nellaþ witan hwæt hi sint. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* XII. 45 Þonne gæð he, and hym to ȝeniman seofun oþre gastas wyrsan þonne he. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 979 (Laud MS.) Ne wearð Angelcynne nan wærsa dæd gedon. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1140 Oc sefre þe mare he laf heom, þe wærse hi wæron him. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 82 Idel speche is vuel; ful speche is wurse. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1100 He werse was þan Sathanas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 64 Ine þise senne [of swearing] byeþ þe cristene worse þanne þe sarasyn. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 Þei stelen þore mennis children, þat is werse þan stele an oxe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Priest's T.* 466 Now certes I were worse than a feend If I to yow wolde harm or vilanye. 1398 — *Lenvoy a Bukton* 28 Bet ys to wedde than brenne in worse wise. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 195 It is saide in old sawes..Wars pepill wars lawes. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 132 Three Iudasses, each one thrice worse then Iudas. 1672 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 226 And didst thou return holy from thence?..Nay somewhat worse than I went. 1718 PRIOR *An Epitaph* 26 So ev'ry Servant took his Course; And bad at First, They all grew worse. 1818 WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1838) IV. 395 Keswick worse now as to morals than thirty years ago. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 232 The song Might have been worse and sinn'd in grosser lips Beyond all pardon. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XI, 'He *be* a bad'n, sure enough,' Mr. Horrocks remarked; 'and his man Flethers is wuss.' 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* III. 69 Considering it no worse to employ myself usefully than to pass the time loitering about.

b. qualifying an agent-noun.

1633 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 347 Wors livers than my self have seen their errors. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* XXXV. II. 199, I only hope and trust he i n't a liver than we think of.

c. *Worse and worse* = worse in an increasing degree, progressively worse.

1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* III. [26] He that is frowarde of hert wyll euer be the worse and worse. 1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 151 That the Wicked and Wilfull..should..wax [illegible]se and woorse. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. Proem. i, The [illegible]..being once amisse growes daily woourse and woourse.

2. More harmful, painful, grievous, regrettable, unfavourable, unlucky, etc. offensive, unfavourable, unlucky, etc.

[illegible] He..forgeald hraðe wyrsan wrixle wælhlem þone. *c* 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* XXIX. § 2 Hwylc is wirsa wol.. þonne he bebbe on his geferrædenne..feond & freondes

anlicnesse? *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 120 Oft slo wund biß ßæs þe wiorse & ßy mare, ȝif hio biß unwemmlice ȝewriðen. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 243 Þy læs wen sie þæt..God ..us sende on wyrsan tintrego. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 16 Se slite byð þe wyrsa (*pejor sclisura fit*). *c* 1200 ORMIN 7395 Þa baþ hemm ȝarrkedd mare inoh & wærse pine inn helle, þann iff (etc.). *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 19 Se herre degra, se þe sal is wurse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7691 Wo so come to esse hiin riȝt of eni trespas, Bote he payde him þe bet, þe wors is ende was. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 366 Now is my prison worse than biforn. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 293 Yn werse tyme blewe he never hys horne. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Aulan* xiii, Werse is the stroke of a tonge than the stroke of a spere. 1532 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xiii. (1883) I. 116 Whiche nowe, beinge men, nat onely haue forgotten their congruite..but, that wars is, hath all lernynge in derision. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* II. 300 And to that horrible cruell dede he gaue no wurse name but vncomely demeanure. 1580 G. HARVEY *Three Proper Lett.* 35 *Non omni dormio*, worse lucke. 1596 *Edward III*, II. I. 451 Lillies that fester smel far worse then weeds [= Shaks. *Sonn.* xciv. 14]. 1597 MIDDLETON *Hist. Chinon* v. F 4, Closelie pent vp in delights, farre more worse vnto her than darke Dungeons. 1600–12, 1693 [see REMEDY *sb.* 2 b]. 1634 A. WARWICK *Spare Min.* 2. (ed. 2) 74, I will either make my fortunes good, or bee content they are no worse. 1638 STYLE *Rch.* 23 Oftentimes dubious words shall be taken in the worse sense. 1685 DRYDEN *Sylvæ* Pref. a 3, But it will be ask'd why I turn'd him into this luscious English, (for I will not give it a worse word). 1697 — *Æneis* IV. 526 What have I worse to fear? 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 319 Which of these is worse, Want with a full, or with an empty purse? 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* I. i, I never see her but she puts me in mind of my poor dear wife. *O'Con.* Ay, faith; in my opinion she can't do a worse thing. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxviii, 'If the weather becomes worse—' 'It can't be worse,' interrupted O'Brien, 'it's impossible to blow harder.' 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 384 *note*, This word [ΑΙΜΑΘΕ] bore two meanings; its better sense implying *brightness* and *splendour*, its worse betokening *fatness* and *grease*. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vi, Come, you drop that stick or it'll be worse for you. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Grmm. Assent* II. x. 398 If logic finds fault with it, so much the worse for logic. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxv. II. 36 No very good news; but then it might be worse. 1876 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* (1884) 333 The rain continued persistently, having got worse just as the prayer began. 1879 MCCARTHY *Donna Q.* I. 35 There are worse things to be endured in life than being thought too much of by one's husband. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 6 If you have not profited by my outlay, so much the worse for you.

† b. Harder to deal with, more difficult. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 50 Þe blake clað..is þiccure aȝein þe wind, & wurse to þurhseon. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1114 Vor ȝif hii adde o þing iwoune of castel oþer of toune, Wel þe worse it wolde be to bringe hom þer doune.

c. More unattractive; more unsuitable or unfitting; more faulty, incorrect, ill-conceived, etc.

1640 HOBBES *Hum. Nat.* Ep. Ded. (1650) A 7, For the Stile, It is therefore the worse, because, whilst I was writing, I consulted more with Logick then with Rhetorick. 1666 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 187 The argument was bad, the plot worse, the contempt of authority worst of all. 1741 CTESS. POMFRET in *Ctess. Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 85, I went to see the palace of prince Giustiniani. In my life I never saw a worse. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Story Injured Lady* (1746) 2 She has bad Features, and a worse Complexion. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 338 Nothing makes a man worse company than being in love with his own thoughts. 1841 SPALDING *Italy* I. 372 They were much given..to fixing maximum prices on provisions of every sort, but in respect to corn they did what was even worse. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxv, 'Worse manners', said the hangman,..'I never see in this place afore.' 1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico* xxxiii. 306 Old manuscripts, written on bad paper, and with worse ink. 1868 A. L. GORDON in Turner & Sutherland *Developm. Austral. Lit.* (1898) 201 Mount.. has a head worse if possible for business than mine.

d. With agent-noun: More unskilful or inefficient; that does the work more badly. Also, more addicted to some (specified) bad habit.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 136 If I was a bad Carpenter, I was a worse Taylor. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 439 These remarks..become more applicable, when the substance acted upon is a worse conductor of electricity. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxiii. II. 21, I never heard but one worse roarer in my life, and that was a roan. 1898 J. ARCH *Story of Life* xii. 281 The more uneducated a man is the worse hand he is at waiting.

e. *Worse and worse*: cf. I c.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) And ðæt lastede þa xix. wintre wile Stephne was king & sume it was werse & werse. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Why not to Courte?* 132 Whyles he doth rule, All is warse and warse. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 2 b, All thynges.., as well in the realme as without, waxed worsse and worsse. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 93 Worse and worse, she will not come: Oh vilde, intollerable, not to be indur'd. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1760/2 The affairs of Hungary grow worse and worse. 1720 LADY B. GERMAINE in *Ctess. Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 73 Worse and worse here every day—no soul left that we know but Lady Kit and Mrs. Coke. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* iv. 121 So when you plague a fool, 'tis still the curse, You only make the matter worse and worse. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 23, I have been patient; but it's growing worse and worse—flesh and blood can't bear it any longer. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* iv, 'This is worse and worse,' said Lady Gethin, gravely.

3. Less good, not so good, inferior; of lower quality or value.

Beowulf 1212 Wyrsan wigfrecan wæl reafedon æfter guðsceare. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxx. § 1 Ic wat..þæt manigfeald mon sceamaþ þæt he wiorðe wyrsa þonne his eldran wæron. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John ii. 10 Ælc man sylþ ærest god win & þonne hig druncene beoð þæt þe wyrse byð. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 65 Þe þingð ðat þu nanut naht to wurðin..ane wurse mann þane ðu art. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14064 Sibbenn he biginnebþ To brinngenn forþ summ werrse win, Son summ þe folic iss drunnkenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 383 Heo wes a cheuese, hire cheap wes þe wrse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 58 O gode partre coms god peres, Wers tre, wers fruit it beres. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 190 And so þei menen þat criet..nedid alle prestis to leue þe betre and take the worse lif. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's Prol.* 28 That ilke fruyt [the medlar] is euer leng the wers Til it be roten. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 5 Men sein it [the world] is now lassed, In worse plit than it was tho. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 65, I saw newer Hollendars make whorsse payment in my dayys. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 35 The solle and the seede, with the sheafe and the purse, the lighter in substance, for profite the wurse. 1594 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 200 My worse cloke. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvii. § 2 They which at all times haue opportunitie of vaing the better meane to that purpose, will surely hold the worse in lesse estimation. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 139 The Master is a Wise and Valiant Romane, I neuer thought him worse. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. ii. 32 He ha's a cloud in 's face. *Eno.* He were the worse for that, were he a Horse. 1615 J. TAYLOR (WATER P.) *Urania* xliii. B 8 b, Worse then the dust, that vnder-foot is trod. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. 2, I attribute this Costiveness..to his yeares, being on the worse side of forty. 1759 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 32 Sheep..should be bought from a worse land to bring on to a better. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. viii, Though it is acknowledged, that the commodity of the distant country is of a worse quality than that of the near one. 1770 *Cases temp. Hardwicke* 35 It can never be interpreted, that removing oneself from a worse prison to a better is a surrender of oneself into custody. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., 'They are prime stanes' ..; 'warse than the best wad never serve the monks, I'se warrant.' 1894 *Times* 10 July 11/3 [Tennis] Two fine chases —worse than a yard and better than half a yard.

† b. Of silver or coin: Of less value *than* (a specified standard). *Obs.*

1488–9, 1676, 1681 [see STERLING B. 3]. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 27 The sayinge is, that since priests haue bene minters, money hath bene worse then it was before. 1715 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5349/3 A certain Person was indicted for selling Silver Wares worse than Sterling. 1716 *Ibid.* No. 5404/4 Silver..one third Part worse than the said Act directs. 1782 in *Phil. Trans.* (1803) XCIII. 235 The coins were worse than standard.

† c. In phrases implying loss or defeat, as *the worse deal, end, part, side. Obs.*

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1225 Ond þær womsceaþan on þone wyrsan dæl fore scyppende scyredo weorþað. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21466 Þan said þat iun, bi sant drightin Mi thinc þe wers part es mine. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 29 Þat ȝere men of þat side schal haue the worse ende and be ouercome. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Cambr. MS.) 602 Wyth pryde he wolde juste wyth Gye: The worse parte come hym bye. *Ibid.* 3537 Yf he falle on þe warse syde. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Love* 1238 (Brandl) Then shall I shewe such a thyng in this purs As shortly shall shewe hersin your part the wurs. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* lxxiii. 449/1 He shall obtayne no right in Law. And if he doe, yet shall he haue the worse end of the staffe.

d. *To be worse than one's word*: to fail to carry out, or act up to, what one has promised.

1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in a Wood* v. v. 89 Will you be worse then your word? 1713 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. viii. (1841) I. 139, I will not be worse than my word to my lady. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxxix. 352 Mrs. Soorocks was not worse than her word, for [etc.].

e. *Worse half*: used jocularly to match *better half* (see BETTER A. 3 c).

1763 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Lady Browne* 19 Oct., It is not fit my better-half should be ignorant of the state of her worse-half. 1884 FLOR. MARRYAT *Under Lilies & Roses* iv, The preparations would serve to occupy our time, whilst our worse halves are out shooting.

4. Predicatively (often with *the*: see THE *adv.*).

a. Of persons: Less fortunate, less well off; in less favourable circumstances or position. Const. *for* (some person or thing that causes deterioration or loss).

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1064 (Laud MS.) Swa þet seo scyre & þa oðra scyre þe þær neh sindon wurdon fela wintra þe

he finde oþur folk folewen his dedus. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 26 And drinke whon þou druiest, but do hit not out of Resun, þat þou worþe þe worse whon þou worche scholdest. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1761 To make fayre promyse, what are ye the worse? *a* 1542 SIR T. WYATT *Poems* (1913) I. 150 A diligent knave that pikes his maisters purse May please him so that he withouten mo Executor is, and what is he the wourse? 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 183 A foot of Honor better then I was, But many a many foot of Land the worse. 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 263 When I told you My state was nothing, I should then haue told you That I was worse then nothing. 1601 — *Twel. N.* v. I. 30 Thou shalt not be the worse for me, there's gold. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 261 Say, this were death That now hath seiz'd them, why they were no worse Then now they are. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* I. 1 Miserable Vrania, worse art thou now then these thy Lambs; for they know their dams, while thou dost liue vnknowne of any. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 203 Thou art never the worse, for others being better. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* III. i, I hadn't the Pleasure of knowing his Distresses till he was some thousands worse than nothing. *a* 1784 JOHNSON in Mrs. Piozzi *Anecd.* (1985) 43 How would the world be worse for it,..if all your relations were at once spitted like larks, and roasted for Presto's supper? 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Jackdaw of Rheims*, Nobody seem'd one penny the

b. Less well in health, physical condition, or spirits; less hale or strong.

The worse for (Sc. *of*): overcome or intoxicated by (liquor, drink). Also *transf.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark v. 26 [Hiru] hit nalt ne fremode, ac wæs þe wyrse. 1388 WYCLIF *Mark* v. 26 [She] was nothing amendid, but was rather the wors. *a* 1440 *Partenay* 6401 (E.E.T.S.) Forthewyth was broghte hym hys hakeneye,

you brooke it ill, it makes him worse. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 213, I am the worse when one sayes, swagger. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* E 2 b, There was she worse then before. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 23/1 He was at first very ill, then got better; he is now worse. 1839 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. viii. 261 He answered, that he had ridden more than forty [miles] a weak before,..and felt nothing the worse. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1872) V. xliii. 196 Germanicus grew rapidly worse. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 10, I hope you were not the worse for my visit.

(*b*) 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* I, My mother had retired to her bed a little the worse for liquor. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxxix. II. 316 When a man..has..made himself the worse for liquor, he's done enough mischief for one day. 1881 J. B. GOUGH *Sunlight & Shadow* 266 Who ever saw me the worse for drink? 1885 STEVENSON *Prince Otto* III. ii. 268 To tell you the open truth, your Highness, I was the worse of drink. 1913 *Spect.* 24 May 874/1 A learned judge said of Mr. Gladstone that he was often 'the worse' for flattery.

c. Of things: In less good condition; showing signs of damage, deterioration, or loss of quality. Const. *for* (see 4 a), obs. or dial. *of*.

It would be none the worse for: i. e. it would be all the better for, would be improved by. *colloq.*

c 1290 *St. Dominic* 64 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 379 Þat writ lay longue in þat fuyr, and neuere þe weorse it nas, Ne nouȝt i-wemned of one letter. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 101 Let brede hem [*sc.* olives], lest they hete and be the wers. 1546, 1706, 1721 [see WEARING *vbl. sb.*1 3]. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 207 What were thy lips the worse for one poore kis? 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. xii. 35 Euery matter worse was for her melling. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xviii. 129 Sir Charles answered.. That he would take a survey of the timber upon his estate, and tell that which would be the worse for standing. 1782 COWPER *John Gilpin* 183 A hat not much the worse for wear. 1824 in *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1825) 213 His face..rather the worse of the dirt by which it was encased. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, Blue satin shoes and sandals (a *leetle* the worse for wear). 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 20 Their allowance of rice and Indian meal would not be the for such additions. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xvii. (1885) 137 Her finery was naturally all the worse for having been fine. 1911 *Athenæum* 19 Aug. 216/3 We do not know that his book is much the worse for this avowal of purpose. *Mod.* His coat would be none the worse for a good brushing.

d. *Worse and worse*: cf. I c, 2 e.

1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 83 Saturne thus felyng hym in grete sorow & trowble and alwey wors and wors as a fore is sayd. 1553 *Respublica* IV. iii. 1019 Truelie, I fele miselfe hitherto wurse and wurse. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. iv. 117, I pray you speake not; he growes worse and worse. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, 'Well, Jane?' 'Wuss and wuss, Miss B.,' Firkin said, wagging her head. 'Is she not better then?'

5. *Comb.*, as *worse-natured*, *-tempered* adjs.

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* Pref. A 3, His being badly nurtur'd formerly, and worse natur'd still. 1689 *Gentl. Calling* 446 These differ from the former..as a worse natured fool from a better. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. ii. 10 My poor sister is not naturally good-humoured...She must therefore have appeared to great disadvantages when she aim'd to be worse-temper'd than ordinary.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.* Chiefly ellipt. or absol. uses, with or without the def. or indef. article.

1. A person that is less good, virtuous, kindly, etc. As *pl.*, those that are worse.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 In halie chirche boð betere and wurse. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1057 (Gött.) Caym was þe feindes fode, was neuer wers of moder born. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 80 Bope burnes & burdes, þe better & þe wers, Labes hem alle iufuyly to lenge at my fest. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 17 Beholde thi selfe, and thou mayst see Thow xalte beholde no wher a warse. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Envoy 12 The better pleasse, the worse despise, I aske nomore. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 216, I feare there will a worse come in his place. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 68 And let her dye too, and giue him a worse, and let worse follow worse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 903 He..shall see her gaind By a farr worse. 1823 BYRON *Juan* x. lxvii, That worse than worst of foes, the once ador'd False friend. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Nov. 2/4 Fool will take Fool, and Worse take Worse.

† b. *The worse*: the Evil One, the Devil. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 187 Iob..þe wan wiþ þe wurse. *Ibid.* 191 Neddre smuhgð dieliche. Swo doð þe werse. *c* 1205 LAY. 1140 Temple heo funden þar ane..þe wrse hit hafde to welden. *Ibid.* 21092 Þe wurse [*c* 1275 þe feond] hine luuede. *Ibid.* 29188 Crist seolue he forsoc and to þan wunnen he tohc.

c. *sb. pl.* (*One's*) *worses* = inferiors. (Nonce-use, after *betters*.)

1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxviii. 9 Speaking to you, then, as workers, and of myself as an idler, tell me honestly whether you consider me as addressing my betters or my worses? *Ibid.* 18 The question whether you are the betters or the worses of your masters.

2. Something worse; what is more evil, harmful, grievous, unlucky, etc.; a greater degree of badness.

Beowulf 1739 He þæt wyrse ne con. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Hu meaht þu þonne munan þæt wyrse & þæt laðre nu ðu ðæt laðre hafast gebeahtad? *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 1039 He þæt betere geceas..& þam wyrsan wiðsoc. *c* 1205 LAY. 3432 Ich wende awille wel to don ac wurse ich habbe vndon. *Ibid.* 24800 Þu swa nalt don þu scalt wursen vnderfon. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9432 Alas! — seyde, y bider cam! Fro wycke vntil wors y nam. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1074 Now is wykke I-turned vnto

worse. *c* 1300 *Lancelot* 513 Wers than this can nat be said for me. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 10 This tyraunt too, whose senses stil to worse and worse de runne. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 46 For feare of worse, that may betide. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 301 Oh no, the apprehension of the good Gives but the greater feeling to the worse. 1602 — *Ham.* III. iv. 179 Thus bad begins, and worse remaines behinde. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 79 To feare the worst, oft cures the worse. 1614 Bp. Hall *Recoll. Treat.* 974 Weake and base mindes euer incline to the worse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 128 Though thereby worse to me redound. *a* 1796 Burns *Grace bef. Dinner*, And, if it please thee, Heavenly Guide, May never worse be sent. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. iv, Worse than adversity the Childe befell. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xx, With fair warning not to come back on such an errand, lest worse come of it. 1864 Tennyson *Enoch Arden* 742 That which he better might have shunn'd, if griefs Like his have worse or better. 1864 G. A. Lawrence *Maurice Dering* I. 132 You had better take yourself off peaceably, before worse comes of it. 1869 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. 423 (*Lovers of Gudrun*), Ah, farewell, Lest of mine eyes thou shouldst have worse to tell Than now thou hast! 1896 Housman *Shropshire Lad* xliv, Dust's your wages, son of sorrow, But men may come to worse than dust.

b. *To do worse*: to behave more wickedly, badly, foolishly, etc.; also, with dative of person or *to*, to deal with or treat (a person) more harshly or unkindly.

Orig. const. with the adv.: see Worse *adv.* 2, 2 b. In the early examples given here, the inflexion seems to indicate the neut. adj. or quasi-sb., and the word is perh. usually so apprehended in later use. Cf. *to do good*, Good *sb.* 3 a.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) Næure hethen men werse ne diden þan hi diden. *Ibid.* 1140 He...dide þanne wærse þanne he hær sculde. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 223 Trin. MS.) Werse he doð his gode wines þan his fiendes. *c* 1205 Lay. 3406 Nule heo me do na wurse þanne hire lond forwurnen. *Ibid.* 29186 Gurmunddes mon he bicom; ne mihte he na wurse don, for crist seolue he forsoc. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1408 Hweþer deþ wurse, flesch þe gost? *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8696 Syn þey had mercy & pyte, Wirse þan þey schul nought do we. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 250 Why schulde noȝt men now reprove popes, ȝif þei don now werse? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Squire's T.* 592 Who kan sey bet than he, who kan do werse? 1396 — *Lenvoy a Bukton* 17 But yet lest thow doo worse, take a wyfe. *c* 1500 Medwall *Nature* II. 245 In good fayth syr ye may do wurs. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* iii. 5 Thou speakest soch wordes, but thou art euer doinge worse, and worse. 1605 Shake. *Macb.* IV. ii. 71 To do worse to you were fell Cruelty.

c. What is less good or precious or valuable. (Cf. Worse *a.* 3.)

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. Wks. 1922 II. 22 Never after to feede of worse then furmentie. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 55 Neuer so rich a Iem Was set in worse then gold. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 102 For what God after better worse would build? 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 289 All below, whether by Nature's Curse, Or Fate's Decree, degen'rate still to worse. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lvi, That thorn-pressure which must come with the crowning of the sorrowful Better, suffering because of the Worse.

d. Used as an alternative or addition to an unfavourable epithet or characterization = something worse still. Usually *or worse, and worse.*

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 72 Men may lykne letterid men to a lusheborgh, oþer werse. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 1011 A vyllayne orels wers sothly thou was borne. Walton *Angler* vii. 147, I might say more of this, but it might be thought curiosity or worse. *a* 1734 North *Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 224 The Man's Wife was his Nurse, or worse. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, They say, sir, he went up to court, and slandered the nuns there for drunkards and worse. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xxv. 269 Everybody knows that it is a disgrace or worse—perhaps a crime.

3. In phrases with a preposition. a. *For better, for worse*, also *for better or (for) worse*: used where an issue is doubtful or beyond human control.

To put to better and to worse: ? to subject to every kind of luck (quot. *c* 1430).

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 24 For bet, for wers, for oght, for noght, Sche passeth nevere fro my thoght. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 244, I wolle putte my body to better & to worse, To fyȝte for þe qwene. *a* 1500 *Sarum Manuale, In sponsalibus* (Rouen 1501) fo. xlvii, I N. take the N. to my wedded wif to haue and to holde fro this day forward for bettere for wers for richere for powerer. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 90 b, And so for better or worse, the Francheman called the Englishman knaue and went away with the stockdouse. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 122 For better for worse. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lix, Mr. Towlinson...informs the kitchen that him and Anne have now resolved to take one another for better for worse. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* i. (1876) 20 Character is undergoing constant change, for better or for worse. 1905 H. W. Boynton *Brut Harte* 85 He had also, for better or worse, a decided instinct to invest human nature...with certain attributes of ideal grace.

b. *For* (†*to*, †*into*) *the worse*: chiefly used to indicate the result of a change in condition or quality, fortune, or circumstances.

c 1460 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxiv. 113 þe Iournee chaunged after to þe worse. 1548 Forrest *Pleas. Poesye* 350 The worlde is chaunged from that it hathe beene, Not to the bettre but to the warsse farre. 1600 [? G. Bryddes] *Hors Subs.* 319 Honor nourisheth in light and vain men a wrong opinion of their own worth, and consequently, often changeth their manners into the worse. 1668 Dryden *Maiden Q.* III. i, All we have done succeeds still to the worse. *a* 1752 W. King *Letter* Wks. 1776 III. 272 It is thy curse Ever to change, and ever for the worse. 17.. [Burns] *Carl, an the king come* II, I trow we swapped for the warse. 1895 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 263 *note*, The Doric character generally was undergoing a most important change for the worse.

c. *From bad* (†*evil*, †*ill*) *to worse.*

1549 Latimer *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 122 He by unrepentaunce fell frome euyll to worse, and frome worse, to worste of all. 1550 Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 32 You whych haue gotten these goodes into your own handes, to turne them from euyll to worse. 1582 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 73 Suche driftes draue he, from yll to wars and wars. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Febr. 12 Must not the world wend in his commun course From good to badd, and from badde to worse, From worse vnto that is worst of all..? 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Travels* 43 You draw us from bad to worse, and from worse to worst. 1649 C. Wase *Sophocles, Electra* 38 See then last Bad enough to Worse advance. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 106 Thus will this latter, as the former World, Still tend from bad to worse.

†d. (*To judge*) *to the worse*: disadvantageously, unfavourably. *Obs.*

1549 Coverdale *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xiv. 39 Take heede that no man iudge others actes to the worse [*nec alius alium judicet in malum*].

e. (*To differ*) *for the worse*: to one's disadvantage.

1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* III. xi. 83 The situation of the Quaker differed from that of other dissenters, and differed for the worse.

4. *The worse*, the losing or less desirable part (in a contest, or the like); disadvantage. Cf. A. 3 c and Worst *sb.* 8. Chiefly in the phrases which follow (b, c, d).

c 1205 Lay. 26504 And ær heo to-tweinden þe wurse wes Rom-leoden. *Ibid.* 26997 Bruttes wokeden þa & heore wes þat wurse. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Cambr. MS.) 11073 He þoght, þe warse went on hys syde. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 7700 (Trin.) Of þis batail þat was so anel þe wors [*Cott.* force, *Gött.* fors] on kyng saul fel. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 39, I byleue, yf the kynge beseege the castelle that the worse shalle retourne vnto hym.

b. *To have the worse*: to be worsted or defeated in a contest. Also *gen.* to have the disadvantage in a comparison with another.

c 1205 Lay. 26712 þa iwræð sone þat Bruttes hafden þat wurse. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16373 He þat hit gan, þe worse he hadde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 48 Penne is me lyȝtloker hit lyke & her lotes prayse, þenne [illegible]ch & þe wroth & þe wers haue. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 400 Yow loueres axe I now this question, Who hath the worse [*v.r.* werse], Arcite or Palamon? 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 380 Wicke is to stryve and have the worse. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 56 In that bataile was grete mortalite on bothe parties, but the bethen peple hadde moche the werse. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xxx. 261 Sir Gawayne and syr Trystram mette, and there syr Gawayne had the werse. 1567 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* II. xxx. 352 b, In the end, the Salimbenes had the worsse [in a skirmish with the Montanines]. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. v. 15 Was neuer man, who most conquestes atchieu'd, But sometimes had the worse, and lost by warre. 1860 Emily Eden *Semi-attached Couple* iv, Perhaps the instinct that always leads a man to foresee when an impending explanation is not likely to end in his favour, prompted him to divine that he should have the worse of this. 1888 Oman *Hist. Greece* xv. (1901) 142 A running fight ensued, in which the invaders had greatly the worse.

†c. *To go* (*away*) *with*, *to go* (or *come*) *to*, *unto*, *by the worse*: to be defeated or worsted, fail, miscarry.

(*a*) *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 49 The folk of Troye hem seluen so myseledden That with þe worse at nyght homward þey fledden. 1632 Holland *Cyropædia* I. 12 Went he any time away with the worse? very pleasant he was and laughed at himselfe most of all.

(*b*) 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. lx. 46 Fyghte not with the swerde ye had by myracle, till that ye see ye go vnto the wers. 1532 Tindale *Exp. v-vii Matt.* vii. (*c* 1550) 87 b, Which handes, if thou for werines once let fal, thou goest to the worse immediatly. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xi. 67 In those ordinary bickerings...he commonly went to the worse. *Ibid., Agricola* 251 Now sommer and winter alike they went to the worse [*tum nostate atque hieme iuxta pellebantur*]. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 96 As Truth got euer the vpper hand,...so the brochers and vpholders of falshood came euer to the worse.

(*c*) 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 310 The beginning should procede of you, whiche in the cause are inferiours, and goe by the worse. 1565 Golding *Cæsar* 1. 23 [c. 31] To whom the Heduanes and their confederates had diuerse tymes ... great domage. 1642 C. Burges *Serm.* 5 Nov. 55 Have they not miscarried, and gone by the worse all along? 1642 J. Shute *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 34 Neither let us despair of them, because they have been foiled, that they will still hereafter go by the worse. 1671 Milton *Samson* 904 In argument with men a woman ever Goes by the worse.

†d. *To put to the* (or *one's*) *worse*: to defeat, worst, discomfit, in a contest or conflict. *Obs.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. lviii. 510 He put me to the worse or on foot or on horsbak. *c* 1482 J. Kay tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* Ded. in Gibbon's *Crusades*, etc. (1870) 136 But ther [at Rhodes] he was put to hys worse and to shame. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Pessumdo*, to cast vnder foote, to put to the worse. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 78 For euer, if they chaunced to skirmishe, the Frenchmen were put vnto the worse. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 9 When he had by the space of ten yeares warred with diuers Kings, and often put them to the woorse. 1606 G. Woodcock *Hist. Iustine* IV. 22 He was twice put vnto the worse [IV. iv. 9 *duobus proeliis victus*]. 1611 *Bible* 2 Chron. vi. 24 If thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy. *a* 1642 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 263 Aretas...took the field againe, but was put to the worse.

†e. *To wring to the worse*: to vex, distress. *Obs.*

1583 Ascham *Germany* Wks. (1904) 133 Octauio was euer more wrong to the worse by many and sundry spites.

Worse (wɜːs), *v. Obs.* exc. in nonce-use. Forms: 1 wyrsian, wyrsigan, 2 wursian, 3 wurse(n, wursi, wursin, werse(n, *Orm.* wersenn, 4 worsi, 4, 6–7, 9 worse. [OE. *wyrsian*, f. *wyrsa* Worse *a.* Cf. OFris. *wersia* to resist, withstand, OHG. *wirsên* (MHG. *wirsen*, *wirsn*) to make worse.]

1. *intr.* To become or grow worse, deteriorate.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxvii. 6 Fuladun & wyrsadon [*deteriorati sunt*] wundsweðe mine. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 124 He accolde beon aacyred fram manna neawiste, ȝif his hreofla wyrsigende were. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xxxiii. (1883) 158 Folclaȝa wyrsedan ealles to swyðe. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1085 (Laud MS.) & aa hit wyrsode mid mannan swiðor & swiðor. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 þa sande me clæðes..for to biwinden þe rapes, þet his licome þe feble wes ne sceolde noht wursien. *c* 1200 Lay. 18931 ȝif ich wilne sehte, þenne wursede [*c* 1275 wersede] ich on crafte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 326 þe wunde þet euer wurseð an hond, & strengre is forte helen. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 265 Sikere ha beoð ..of þulli blisse, þat hit ne mei neauer mare lutlin ne wursin. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Efterward comþ werlhede þet makeþ þane man weri and worsi uram daye to daye. 1854 Sir J. D. Hooker in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) I. 352 Evil as our days are, whether they mended or worsed, it would [etc.].

2. *trans.* To make worse, impair, injure, blemish.

c 1200 Ormin 11845 To werrenn & to nibbrenn uss Biforenn Godess ehne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 428 ȝe muwen muchel þuruh ham beon i-goded, and i-wursed [*MS. T.* wursnet]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2165 þet tet wake ules ne wursi neauer mi mod. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 302 Mine sunnen habbeð grimliche iwursed me. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 822 Hire holy maidenhod þat neuer for no þing i-worsed nas. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 261 Oþer creaturis ben beterid, and noon ben worsid, bi þis ȝifte. *Ibid.* III. 349 Whan þei maken freris, þat ben worsid bi þis makyng, þei don hem a goostli harm. 1398 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* To Rdr., Other Translators, who are reputed to haue taken great paines in worsing their authors. 1626 Breton *Good & Bad* 39 His breeding may eyther better or worse him. 1641 Quarles *Esther* Wks. (Grosart) II. 321 What's good, (like Iron) rusts for want of vse, And what is bad, is worsed with abuse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 440 Perhaps more valid Armes,..when next we meet, May serve to better us, and worse our foes. 1887 A. Trollope *Last Chron. Barset* (1869) I. xlii. 446 [Waiter at country inn *log.*] Them as goes away to better themselves, often worses themselves, as I call it. 1888 *Referee* 22 Feb. 7/4 Instead of bettering it [*sc.* their condition] they have 'worsed' it.

Worse (wɜːs), *adv.* Forms: α. 1 wiers, wirs, 1–2 wyrs; 2–6 wurs, 3 wrs(e, 3–6 wurse; 3–6 wors, 3–worse, 4 worsse, 6 woorse. β. 2–6 wers, 4–6 werse, 5 weroe; 5–7 wars, 5, 8–9 *north.* warse, 5–6 warsse. [OE. *wyrs*, *wiers* = OS. *wirs*, OHG. *wirs* (MHG. *wirs*, *wirt*), ON. *verr* (for **wers*; hence War *adv.*; Sw. *värr*), Goth. *wairs*: see Worse *a.*] Used as the comparative of the advs. *badly, ill, evil, evilly.*

1. More badly or wickedly; more censurably or foolishly in regard to conduct.

In *do worse*, the word is now perh. usually regarded as the neuter adj. or sb.: see Worse *sb.* 2 b.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 189 Da underbioddan ðæt hie wiers ne don ðonne him man bebeode. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 181 Wyrs deð se ðe liehð oððe hæs soðes ansæceð. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1416 Such heo mahte beo of golnesse, þat sunegeþ wurse in modinesse. *c* 1315 Shoreham III. 221 Þou halst wel wors þane maseday þane man myd hys workynge. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 783 Wers wirchen no folk þan ȝe welȝes alle. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 102 Unwitilly, ywys, wrouht hastou ofte, Bote worse wrouhtest þou neuere þen whon þou fals toke. *Ibid.* A. XI. 279 Þanne marie þe maudeleyn who miȝte do wers? *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 44 But oure Pharisees to dai done wel wers. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 32 We male doo much ill, er we doo much wars. 1782 Cowper *Table Talk* 518, I judg'd a man of sense could scarce do worse Than caper in the morris-dance of verse.

b. More severely, hardly, harshly, unkindly, or unfavourably.

†*To do* (a person) *worse*, to treat more harshly or severely. Cf. Worse *sb.* 2 b, and, for the use of the adv., Wok A. 6.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 236 (Lambeth) Hi bæn deð wa Inoch.. Nute hi hweþer hom deþ wurs [*Trin. Coll.* doð wers]. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 37 Deih he betere do ðan an oðer, þeih hweðere he læte wers of him seluen, ðanne he do of oðre. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 793 Telstu bi me þe wrs [*Cott.* wurs] for þan þat ic bute enne craft ne kan? *c* 1400 *ap Pol. Poems* II. 66 Euel thou spekest, worse dost mene. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1365 He hym reported wers thanne euer he ment. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 68 Her sone tytan gouerned hym so malicyously and allewey worse and worse with out ony compassion on the peple. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xix. 9 We will deale worse with the then with them. 1553 *Respublica* 13 But let this be taken no wurse then yt ys mente. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 45 Now I but chide, but I should vse thee worse. 1598 — *Merry W.* II. i. 56, I shall thinke the worse of fat men. 1605 — *Lear* II. ii. 135 My Sister may recieue it much more worses, To haue her Gentleman abus'd, assaulted. 1667 in *Extr. St. Papers Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 271 They have used us worse then they did before. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 484 Will they not deale Worse with his followers then with him they dealt? 1820 Wordsw. *Stanzas Castle Indol.* 33 Some thought far worse of him, and judged him wrong. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiv, I hope you won't think the worse of me for having made these little appointments at Miss Flite's. 1888 Tennyson *Columbus* 206 Being but a Genovese, I am handled worse than had I been a Moor. 1888 W. Collins *Black Robe* I. 236 You are sure you won't think the worse of me, if I tell it?

c. More carelessly, faultily, unskilfully, imperfectly, etc.

c 1205 Lay. 28360 Mon I þan flihte non þer ne mihte fkenne nenne kempa, no wha dude wurse [*c* 1275 wurs], no wha bet. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 Oðer ȝif me ȝemeð wurse ei þing fleaned oðer biteih to witene, þen he wene þet hit ouh. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 505 Yet þu singest wrse [*Cott.* worse] þan þe beyrnge. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 322 It doth hym worse þan his wyf or wete to slepe. *c* 1400 *ap Pol. Poems*

lx. 51 Here wantes, þat þey wayn þe worse *Ibid.* x. 20 We fareþ as knaue þat takeþ his hyre byfore, Serue his mayster wel þe worse þerfore. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 64/1 Your Souldeours..the wars paied of theire wages. 1538 Starkey *England* 99 The ground also wors tyllyd and occupyd. 1546 Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 32 Who is wurs shod than the shoemakers wyfe? *Ibid.* 34 At end I might put my winnyng in mine eye, And see neuer the woorse. 1580 Sidney in A. Collins *Lett. & Mem.* (1746) I. 289, I would..your Worship would learne a better Hand, you write worse then I, and I write evell enough. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. i. 30 If euer you haue spent time worse, ere now. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 35 There are who judge still worse than he can write. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. vii, I may put all the good I have ever got by you in my eyes, and see never the worse. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, III. XI. 368 Raw soldiers, ill-disciplined, and worse commanded. 1821 Southey *Lett.* (1856) III. 288 The prints are ill drawn and worse executed upon stone. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 394 The English women of that generation were decidedly worse educated than they have been at any other time since the revival of learning.

2. More unfortunately, unluckily, or unhappily. *Worse off*, in worse circumstances, less happily or fortunately situated: see Off *adv.* 11.

In early use often with impers. vb. and dat. of person, e.g. (*if*) *it, chewes, limpe him wors* (cf. Wox A. 3 and *Holland* 1347 'wirs is thãm öðrun'); later, *it is, goes*, etc. *worse with him.*

Prov. *to go further, and fare worse*: see Further *adv.* 1 a.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvi. 247 Đylæs him ðy wirs sie. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John v. 14 Ne synza þu, þe-læs þe þe on sumon þingon wyrs getide. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 904 (MS. F) Ac hi þær..wyrs geferdan þonne hi æfre wendan. *c* 1205 Lay. 3453 Wel oft wes Leir wa and neuer wurs þanne þa. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 34 Me is þe wurs þat ich þe leeo. *c* 1275 *Vox & Wolf* 202 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 276 Therfore ich fare the wors. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 116 Ofte hadde horn beo wo Ac neure wurs þan him was þo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26784 And worthes þam wel wers þan ar, And quilum bettis neuer mare. *c* 1325 *Sir Orfeo* 98 (Sisam) When Orfeo herd þat tiding, Neuer him nas wers for no þing. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 143 And alle for her forfadres þei ferden þe worse. *Ibid.* XIV. 206 And if he chyde or chatre, hym chieueth þe worse. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4550 þay awondrede of him ecchon, þat for al þe strokes þat þay gerde on, þat hym nas nozt þe wers. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 547 And Absolon hym fil no bet ne wers. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 740 By god, for thi wordes he shal fare the wors. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5985 The Trolens full tyte were tyrult to ground: Thurgbe Achilles chiualry hom cheuyt the worse. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xlv. 51 Make oþere folk þe worse to lyue, For synguler profyt þou wolde haue. *c* 1440 *Aniurs of Arth.* 615 But him lymped þe worse. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 302 'Suster, how is it with the?' And sho answerd agayn & said; 'Nevur wars.' *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 191 God spede, dere wife, how fayre ye? *Vxor.* Now, as euer myght I thryfe, the wars I thee see. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxix. 216 It is now with me wers than euer was. 1585 Bp. J. Clerk in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 316 He shall ryght well knowe that he farythe nothyng the wars for the Kynges Highnes and your Grace is recommendation. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 67 But this mocion worse succeded then the entreators deuised. 1573-80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 44 But worse shall he speed, that soweth ill seed. 1609 Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy) 12 Seeke him and finde him hee must, or it would goe worse with him. 1639 G. Platter *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* 21 But the more I tryed the worse I sped. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 996 With ruin upon ruin, rout on rout, Confusion worse confounded. 1832 G. C. Lewis *Lett.* (1870) 20 On the whole they are rather worse off than the convicts in the hulks. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 467 A clamour grew As of a new-world Babel, woman-built, And worse-confounded.

b. *Worse and worse.* Cf. Worse *a.* 2 e.

1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 159 The exchaunge goyth ever the lenger warsse and wars. 1553 *Respublica* IV. ii. 990 And howe doo youe mend now in your thrifte & your purse? *People.* As soure ale in sommer, that is still wurse & wurse. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 105 How dooth your eye syght? woorse and woorse (said he). 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 83 It mends like soure ale in summer worse and

3. a. As an intensive, with verbs of hurting, harming, vexing, fearing, hating, etc.: More greatly, severely, or intensely; in a greater degree.

1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 21 Such as feare the report of a Caliuer, worse then..a hurt wilde-Ducke. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. iii. 163 He would but make a sport of it, and torment the poore Lady worse. *a* 1600 Donne *Sat.* iv. 90 As Itch Scratch'd into smart, and as blunt iron ground Into an edge, hurts worse. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. viii. 2, I do hate thee Worse then a Promise-breaker. 1613 — *Hen. VIII* III. ii. 295 He startle you Worse then the Sacring Bell. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 893 Such another Field They dreaded worse then Hell. *Ibid.* VI. 607 Back defeated to return They worse abhorr'd. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* I. 312 Which, angry as he is, will ver him worse. *a* 1796 Burns *Ep. from Esopus* 65 Thou know'st, the virtues cannot hate thee worse. 1819 Keats *Cap & Bells* xviii, That fellow's voice, which plagues me worse than any. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. ii. 110 That stern yet pitcous look, those solemn tones, Wound worse than torture.

b. As a diminuent, with verbs of liking, trusting, praising, pleasing, etc.: In a lesser or lower degree, less, less well. Similarly *worse at ease*, less well at ease.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xix. 143 Đylæs hira hufa aslacige, & he him öe wirs licige. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1043 (Laud MS.) Se arcebiscop wende þæt hit sum öðer manna abiddan wolde..þe he his wyrs truwode and uöe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5035 þe wick ar neuer þe worthier, þat man tell quat þe daghti er, No þe gode þe wers to prais, Quat-so men o þe wick sais. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* III. 168 Nay, lord, quaþ þat ladi, leef him þe worse, Whon ze witen witerliche wher þe wrong lib. *c* 1530 Redford *Wyt & Sci.* 635 (Manly) Ye, and I lyke him never the wurs. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 774 Your treatise makes me like you worse and

1600 — *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 25 The more one at euse he is, the worse he is. 1607 — *Cor.* v. ii. 75 The glorious Gods..loue thee no worse then thy old Father Menenius do's. 1627 Harington in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 250 Even Augustus was the worse beloved for appointing an ill man to his

4. *Worse than* used before an adj. (sb., vb.) as a form of pejorative comparison. Cf. More C. (*adv.*) 5.

13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 742 (MS. G.) Ze were [*v.rr.* wors, wars] þan wode, how dar ze negh þis stede? 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 175 Oh keepe me from their worse than killing lust. 1603 — *Lear* I. ii. 82 Brutish Villaine; worse then brutish. 1607 — *Timon* III. v. 106 I'm worse then mad. 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 419 Besides thir other worse then heathenish crimes. — *Samson* 803 By worse than hostile deeds. 1799 Wordsw. *Ruth* 164 O Ruth! I have been worse than dead. 1810 — *Sonn.*, '*Yet, yet, Biscayans*' 3 Else 'twere worse than vain To gather round the bier these festal shows. 1867 A. T. Drane *Christian Schools* II. vi. 253 Among the scanty relics that escaped the hands of these worse than Vandals. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xx, To feed the worse-than-Ugolino hunger of never-satiated scandal and gossip. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Jan. 3/2 He deliberately chose to worse than waste his opportunities and his talents.

5. Used parenthetically or conjunctionally to introduce an additional clause or sentence containing a further and stronger instance of action which incurs reprobation. Cf. More *adv.* 6.

1784 Cowper *Task* II. 21 Thus man devotes his brother, and destroys; And, worse than all, and most to be deplor'd, ..Chains him, and tasks him, and exacts his sweat With stripes. 1805 Wordsw. *Rob Roy's Grave* 24 They stir us up against our kind; And worse, against ourselves. 1913 G. Murray *Euripides* vii. 166 He had denied the gods; worse, he had denounced the doings of the gods as evil. 1926 H. E. Rollins *Gorgeous Gallery* p. xvi, Worse still, he has omitted one leaf.

6. *Comb.*, as *worse-affected, -applied, -armed, -bodied, -born, -calculated, -disposed, -executed, -governed, -ordered* adjs.; also †worse-opinionated *a.*, having a more unfavourable opinion (*of*); †worse-willing *a.*, less well-disposed; more unwilling.

1627 Morvson *Itin.* II. 63 It was apparant that either he was growne weaker in iudgement or *worse affected to the Queenes seruice. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 418 Before the rest of my deere Country-men, Of better wit, but *worse-applyed pen. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* XXVIII, If the Lord of Hosts should cast the balance in behalf of the fewer numbers and *worse-armed party. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 20 Ill fac'd, *worse bodied, shapelesse euery where. 1834 H. Lytton Bulwer *France* I. 92 That 'great manner,' ..by which the old nobility strove to keep up the distinction between themselves and their *worse-born associates. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* III. VI. i. 50 Parliament was so completely an instrument of bad government, that it was *worse calculated to produce good results than the mere arbitrary will of a King. 1579 T. F. *Newes fr. North* D j b, I am very sure, that many are *wurse disposed, and much more vngodly in high and honorable calling. 1820 *Q. Mus. Mag.* II. 454 Irregular, ill-directed, and *worse-executed rehearsals. 1678 Sir W. Temple *Ess. Govt.* Misc. (1680) 69 Fugitives out of some *worse governed Family. 1642 Hevlin *Hist. Episc.* II. vi. 436 Confessors..who..having suffered much in testimonie of their perseverance, became the *worse-opinionated of those, who had not beene endued with an equall constancie. *a* 1725 South *Serm.* IV. 366 An ill-inclined Judgment, and *worse-ordered Morals. 1549 Coverdale *Erasm. Par.* 1 Cor. ix. 20–3 That..I might, folowing their mindes, allure them either vnto Christ, or at the least, not make them thereunto *worse willing by displeasing their mindes. 1590 Somerset tr. *Calvin's Epistle* B ij b, But this muste not astonyshe vs, nor make vs wurse willynge or fearefull. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches.* II. ii. (1886) 23 The people would be woorse willing to accuse them; for feare least they worke revenge upon them.

Worsement (wɜ·rsment). [f. Worse *v.* + -ment, after *betterment*. Cf. Worsenment.] Deterioration and depreciation of real property caused by the action of persons outside without the owner's consent.

1884 Ld. Salisbury in *1st Rept. Royal Commiss. Housing Working Classes* Q. 13690 If you charge for betterment, do not you think you should pay for worsement? 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 July 2/2 We doubt whether the abolition of the gates and bars will in fact conduce to the 'worsement' of the squares and streets in question. 1908 Arnold-Forster in *Mem.* (1910) XXII. 340 That the principle of betterment should only be adopted concurrently with the principle of worsement, or deterioration.

b. *transf.* and *gen.* (nonce-uses).

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 1/1 This morning's batch contains 52 pages of 'amendments' (or worsements, ought not Mr. Plunket to call them?) on the Home Rule Bill. 1900 *Ibid.* 17 June 11/2 The 'Worsement' or 'Betterment' of Directors...Do the Directors stand to lose or gain..by the consolidation of the companies and the enlargement of the capital?

Worsen (wɜ·rsn), *v.* [f. Worse *a.* + -en[5] 1. Cf. Lessen *v.*

The word is common in dialect (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) and was reintroduced to literature *c* 1800–1830 (by writers like Southey and De Quincey) as a racy vernacular for *deteriorate* and the like.]

1. *trans.* To make worse; to impair, vitiate, cause to deteriorate.

a 1225 [see Worse *v.* 2]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 122 Tymes byn changet, men byn worsont. 1533 tr. *Erasm. Com. Crede* 27 b, Such persons which by crafte done appayre and worsen the commune coyne. 1642 Milton *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 10 It is still Episcopacie that..worsens and slugs the most learned, and seeming religious of our Ministers. 1644 Digby *Nat. Soul* x. § 11. 432 A..state, where she can neyther be bettered, or worsened. *c* 1647 Feltham *Resolves* II. xiii. (1661) 205 Life in it self is a Blessing; And it is not worsened by being long. 1670 Baxter *Wks.* (1867) VI. 230 The righteous are signally sanctified by fiery dispensations, but the wicked are signally worsened by the same dispensations.

1806 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 251 If offeminacy could become the attribute of a whole nation, it would be proper to institute societies for worsening the condition of the poor. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* (1808) II. 337 Methodism.., has worsened whatever it has altered. 1816 — *Ess.* (1832) I. 172 The manufacturer worsened his wares, the landholder increased his rents. 1832 — *Peninsular War* III. 703 Men whose nature, originally bad, had been worsened by their way of life. 1835 Carlyle in Froude *Life in London* (1884) I. I. 19 To ask able editors to employ you will not improve but worsen matters. 1853 De Quincey *Autobiogr. Sk.* ii. Wks. 1860 XIV. 93 Their case was certainly not worsened being booked for places in the grave. 1870 Morris — *Earthly Par.* IV. 40 There sat a woman all alone Whom some ten years would make a crone, Yet would they little worsen her. 1906 *Spectator* 30 June 1043/2 Irrelevance and confusion are worsened, not bettered, when advanced under the cloak of a distinguished reputation.

b. *spec.* To inflict loss upon (a person, locality) in respect of real property (see Worsement).

1894 *Times* 4 Apr. 6/2 Every man who was worsened having to be compensated before he was turned out. 1894 *Daily News* 21 June 2/3 The construction of these thoroughfares had worsened Wardour-street and other streets through diversion of the traffic.

c. To represent (a thing) as worse than it is; to depreciate.

1885 Jean Ingelow *Perdita* 66, I have worsened life, I have wronged the world. 1885 Gladstone in *Times* 28 Apr. 7/4 The policy which is necessary in the existing circumstances, which I shall say nothing to exaggerate or worsen.

d. *refl.* To make oneself worse or (*dial.*) worse off.

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* s.v., I will not worsen myself. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 167 Moab and Ammon chose them gods like themselves, and worsened themselves by copying these idols of their sinful nature. 1864 Kingsley *Water of Life* (1879) IV. 52 They feel that they have weakened and worsened themselves thereby. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* v, That's how the working men are left to foolish devices, and keep worsening themselves.

2. *intr.* To become worse, deteriorate.

1795 Wordsw. in *Mem.* (1851) I. 86, I am still much engaged with my sick friend; and sorry am I to add that he

325 Next day Schroll was in a violent fever...On hearing this report, Schroll rapidly worsened. 1809 Southey *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 183 It is the nature of man to worsen if he be left to himself. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* ii. (1858) 9 If life last longer..the general condition of the poor must be bettering instead of worsening. 1861 Bereby. Hope *Engl. Cathedral* v. 184 However the world may mend or worsen. 1880 Miss Broughton *and Thoughts* II. iii. vi. 226 The weather has again changed and worsened. 1888 Morris *Hopes & Fears for Art* iv. 219 Whether the times better or worsen.

Hence **Wo·rsened** *ppl. a.*; **Wo·rsening** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

(*a*) 1830 Southey *Let. to Allan Cunningham* 4 Mar. in *Life* (1850) VI. 89 The portrait..is a worsened copy of 'Fitzbust the Evangelical'. 1875 A. J. Ellis tr. *Helmholtz' Sensat. Tone* 783 Skhismic Intonation exaggerates the errors of the Thirds in Bosanquet's, of which it is simply a worsened form. 1888 *Jewish Chron.* 17 Feb. 11/2 Even this worsened condition is disputed by some eminent authorities.

(*b*) 1831 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 250 To the serious injury of his health, and even to the worsening of his temper. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. i, Such..desperate hope that worsening of the bad might the sooner end it and bring back the good. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xix, The ten or twelve years since the parting had been time enough for much worsening. 1887 *Athenæum* 29 Jan. 153/3 The steady worsening of social conditions.

(*c*) 1858 Carlyle *Frederick* IX. x. (1873) III. 173 Does not reach Potsdam till the 14th September, and then in a weak, worsening, and altogether dangerous condition. 1891 G. A. Smith in *Robert W. Barbour* (1893) 425 A very large number of worsening or desperate cases [of drunkenness].

Wo·rsen, dial. or illiterate alteration of Worse *a.* and *adv.* (? arising from the colloq. *worse'n* = worse than).

1634 Heywood & Brome *Lancash. Witches* V. i. L 1, It stinket..worsen than ony brimstona. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. xi, From bad to worse, from worse to worsen. 1854 A. E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., It's worsen than it was.

Worseness (wɜ·rsnės). [f. Worse *a.* + -ness. Cf. Worsenness.] The quality or state of being worse or inferior.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 287 And sib þe worsnesse of þing is matere of sorewe, man shulde have more sorewe for synne þan for ony oþer þing. 1845 Sir J. D. Hooker in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) I. 207 The badness of the specimens, the worseness of the published descriptions. 1871 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* V. 83 We will have..no equality..; but recognition of every betterness that we can find, and reprobation of every worseness. 1913 J. Hunter in L. S. Hunter *Mem.* (1921) 248 He said I was worse than when I came the first time—the worseness due, no doubt, to the strain and worry of last winter.

†b. *spec.* Quality below the standard for gold or silver. Cf. Worse *a.* 3 b and Betterness 1 b.

1782 in *Phil. Trans.* (1803) XCIII. 135 The accuracy of these assays was farther confirmed, by nearly the same average of w ; being found upon more than 170000 guineas.

Wo·rsenment. [f. Worsen *v.* + -ment.] Occas. used in preference to Worsement as a more analogical form.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 July 2/1 The word, we suppose, ought to be 'worsenment', for while the verb of better is

'to better', the verb of worse is 'to ... 1905 J. M. Robertson *Chamberlain* ix. 43 Whereafter his worsenment is swift indeed. 1906 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Mar. 2 If 'betterment' is recognised, worsenment should be equally allowed for.

Worser (wɔ·ɹsəɹ), *a.* and *adv.* Also 6 wurser, woorser, 9 *vulgar* wusser. [A double comparative, f. Worse *a.* and *adv.* + -er 3. Cf. *lesser*.

The word was common in the 16th–17th c. as a variant of 'worse', in all its applications. In modern use, it is partly a literary survival (esp. in phrases like *the worser part, sort, half*), partly dial. and vulgar.]

A. *adj.* = Worse *a.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xix. cvi. ll viij/1 Morethrumbles egges ben lyke to Geys egges but they ben lesser.. and worser of smellynge. 1553 Brende tr. *Curtius* vii. 122 b, Fearing the sequel of worser inconueniences. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 127 If one should sett Lukes Veluet against Geane Veluette, the Lukes will appeare better, and the Geane will seeme worser. 1589 *Mirr. Mag., Duke of Suffolk* xxiii, To preserve me from a wurser yll. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in *Wks.* (1843) I. lix, The one woulde call thother Swanborn, the whyche they dyd take for a worser woorde then knaue. 1572 R. T. *Discourse* 40 Vniuster then Pilate, worser then Lucifer. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 99 What worser for barlie than wetnes and cold? 1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* xxx. (Arb.) 66 In harder case and worser plight am I. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 33 They are not onely not inferior to any nation in the world in the excesse of apparell, but are farre woorser, if woorser can be. 1591 Shake. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 36 Chang'd to a worser shape thou canst not be. 1595 Markham *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* clxxi, His pure part, from worser parts refind. 1605 *London Prodigal* v. i. 68 (Brooke) Such bad beginnings oft haue worser ends. 1605 Rowlands *Hell's broke loose* To Rdr. (Hunterian Club) 7 All composed of the scumbe and waste worser-sort. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacrif.* v. i. K 2, I find she is A diuell, worser then the worst in hell. 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. i. § 8. 36 The conclusion alwaies followes the worser part, if there be any worse. *a* 1639 W. Whateley *Prototypes* I. iv. (1640) 15 We must speake of Caine, who being the elder brother was yet the worser man. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxxviii. 26 The worser sort of Papists. 1667 *Termes de la Ley* 352 It is there taken in the worser sense. 1688 Norris *Hierocles* 88 Hence 'tis that the worser actions are accompany'd with the worser pleasures. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* III. iv. 83 Our own great infirmities and failings..deserve a worser place, a more incommodious Habitation. 1762 *Lond. & Country Brewer* I. (ed. 4) 38 The worser earthy Part of the Hop is greatly the Cause of that rough, harsh, unpleasant Taste. 1783 Burns *Remorse* 9 Or worser far, the pangs of keen Remorse. 1821 Southey in *Edinb. Ann. Reg.* II. 1. 417 Upon the convention of Cintra ministers had chosen the worser part. 1827 [see Half *sb.* 4 b]. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* II. 208 Lawcraft, if not a twin-fiend with Priestcraft, is..perhaps the worser devil of the two. 1854 S. Austin *Germany* 312 The worser part of the press was timid, venal and obsequious. 1871 M. Collins *Inn Str. Meetings* 33 One might imagine it a worser Troy. 1876 Farrar *Marlb. Serm.* xxvii. 272 He must break, if need be, his old life in two, and fling away the worser half. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* xi. 621 For I, e'en I, the bondsman of a worser man was made.

vulgar. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii, You might ha' made a worser guess than that, old feller. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* III. i, 'It's the butties', said Nixon; 'they're wusser nor tommy.'

b. *absol.* and *ellipt.*

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* I. iv. (1592) 13 He .. setteth Tenedos on fire, whose fearefull flames espide, Gaue Sommons vnto carelesse Troy for worser to proulde. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* ii. (1617) 22 [He] shall not bee able to discerne which is the worser. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 269 If thou shalt reserue the better for thy selfe, and giue the worser vnto God. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* ix. 394 A worser neuer liued. 1635 Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 58 If the change chance to be from a bad Prince to a worser. 1660 Gauden *God's Gt. Demonstr.* 50 There is no necessity..to make evil deeds good by doing worser. 1680 W. Allen *Peace & Unity* 75 This was no call to the better sort of Christians to separate from the worser. 1840 G. Godwin *Last Day* I. 5 Fanny, you are a hignorant creature, and Mr. Brisk's a worser. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 233/1, I hear it was a toss up which day was the better or 'wusser' of the two.

†**c.** *sb. pl.* (One's) inferiors. *Obs.*

1582 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 91 b, They ought to beholde their inferiours with a more gratious eie,.. by meanes whereof they get the good will of their worsers.

B. *adv.* = Worse *adv.*

1560 Pilkington *Expos. Aggeus* C iiii b, And the worser learned be preferred afore the better, to the ministery,..let not the better disdayn him. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 90 There pasture and cattel..worser do fare. 1584 Lyly *Campaspe* v. i, How like you this? doth he well? *Diog.* The better, the worser. *Ibid.* v. iv, I pray thee, what doost thou think of loue? *Diog.* A little worser then I can of hate. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IX. li. 232 But thus do ye, nay worser. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. i. 105 How do you Lieutenant? *Cas.* The worser, that you giue me the addition. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 90, I cannot hate thee worser then I do, If thou againe say yea. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* III. i, 'Twould make his head ake worser than his horns do. 1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 45 My hostesse asked me how I liked this tale? I said, it was.. good enough to passe time that might be worser spent. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 435 Where he does well, none does better, but where ill, none worser. 1664 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 81 His Draught I am confident you will like the worser, because he likes it so well. 1672 tr. *Palafox's Conq. China* xxiv. 429 The other Chinese Merchants..were much worser used. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. Com.* 48 Persons..that have a great deal of Idle Time lying upon their Hands, and can't tell how to employ it worser. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop*, Your poor dear wife as you uses worser nor a dog.

Worser (wɔ·ɹsəɹ), *v. rare.* [f. Worser *a.*, after Better *v.*] *trans.* To make worse; *refl.* to impair one's worldly position. Hence **Wo·rsering** *vbl. sb.*

1842 *Collectanea Glocestr.* 283 *Worsered*, made worse. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 827/2 This, be it for the bettering or the worsering of the type, is to our democratic..civilization forbidden forever. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 514 She says, 'Be going to better myself, Guv'nor.' I says, 'Take care you don't worser yourself.'

Worserer (wɔ·ɹsəɹəɹ), *a.* A further extension (jocular or vulgar) of Worser *a.*

1752 Foote *Taste* I. (1781) 8, I have heard, good Sir, that every Body has a more betterer and more worserer Side of the Face than the other. 1842 *Collectanea Glocestr.* 283 *Worser, worserer*, worse.

Wo·rserment. [f. Worser *a.* or *v.* + -ment, after *betterment*.] = Worsement.

1890 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 5/3 What, if we may coin so barbarous a term, may be called the avoidance of 'worserment'. 1902 C. G. Harper *Holyhead Road* I. 93 They received no compensation for this 'worserment' which must have practically ruined many of them.

†**Wo·rserness.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Worser *a.* + -ness. Cf. Worsenness.] The quality of being 'worser' or inferior.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiii. lxxviii. 322 In Heats and Colds Extremities is Worsernesse in neither: Nor, working in their Seasons, is a Betternesse of Either.

Worsest (wɔ·ɹsɛst), *a.* A jocular and dial. refashioning of Worst, as if f. Worse *a.* + -est. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 104 But a laughing woman, with two bright eyes, Is the worsest devil of all.

Worset(t, worssett, north. ff. Worsted.

Worship (wɔ·ɹʃip), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 weorð-scipe, -scype, *north.* worðscip, 3 worðscipe, -schipe, -schepe, 4 worþsipe, -schip, wortscip, -schyp; 3 worsipe, 4 -sipe, 4–6 -schipe (4 -schupe, 5 -schype, whorshype); 4–5 worschepe, -shepe; 4 worchipe, -chepe; 4–5 worschippe (5 -schyppe), 4-chippe, 5–6 worshyppe, 5–7 -shippe; 4 worscip (-sip), 4–6 worschip (4–5 -schipp, 4 -schyp); 4–5 worchip, -chyp, -chep; 4– worship (6–7 -shipp), 5–6 worshyp (5 -shypp); 6 *Sc.* wourship, 7 wourship; 9 *vulg.* wash-up. *β.* 1–3 wurð-, wurþscipe (1 -scype), 3 wurð-, wurþschipe, -shipe (*Orm.* wurrpahipe), -sipe, -scype, wurhscipe; 3 wrð-, wrþsipe, wrh-, wrscipe (-sipe), 4 wrshepe, -chepe; 3 wurschipe (*Orm.* wurrshipe), -sipe, 4 -shype, 5 -chipe; 4 wurshippe, 5 -chippe, 6 wushippe; 5 wurschip (-chip, -chyp, -chep), 5–6 wurship. *γ.* 1 wyrðscipe; (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 4 wirscipe, -schepe, 5 -shipe, -chipe, -chepe, wyr-; 4 wirscippe, 5 -shippe, wyrschyppe, -chippe (vir-, vyrchippe); 4 wirscip(p, -scep(p, 4–6 wirschip (6 -schep, virschip), wirchip, -chep; 5 wir-, wyrship. [OE. *weorðscipe*, later *wurð-, wyrð-*, northern *worðscipe*, f. *weorð* Worth *a.* + *-scipe* -ship. The formation is peculiar to English.]

I. 1. The condition (in a person) of deserving, or being held in, esteem or repute; honour, distinction, renown; good name, credit. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* (Common down to 16th c.)

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. § 4 Hi wunnon æfter weorðscipe on þisse woruldе, & tiolodon goodes hlisan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 44 Witga on his cæðle worðscip ne hæfdi. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* ibid., Nan witega næfð nanne weorðscype on his agenum earde. *c* 1205 Lay. 3159 Worðschepe [*c* 1275 worsipe] haue þu. *Ibid.* 3291 Me þuncheð þat mi feader nis no whit felle, no he wurh-scipe ne can. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1342 An maide mal luue cheose þat hire wurþschipe ne forleose. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8619 (Kölbing) On him y told hir wele bitowe: So ful y knawe hiin of worþschipe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 551 þat were semlyest to seye to saue my worchep. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 83 To seke in Armes worshipe and honour. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 155 To wynne þe maystrie of wommen þou getest but litel worschippe. *c* 1430 *Compleynt* 341 in Lydg. *Temple Glas* 63 Of worshepe, honour & mesure She is the welle. 1485 *Paston Lett.* I. 21 Because ye arn..of worshepe and cunnyng worthyly endowed. 1492 *Ibid.* 35 The said Erle..hath..desired to kepe his trouthe and worship unblemyshed. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 9 Every man dyd hys best to gete worshyp there. 1530 Palsgr. 418/1 If he wyll say it of his worshyp [*sur son honneur*] I dare affyrme it. 1538 *Institt. Gentl.* Prol. *vj b, Thus most men desyre the title of wurship, but fewe doo worke the dedes that vnto worship appertaigne. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxxx. ii, With thy justice mercy dwelleth, Whereby thy worshipp more excelleth. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1318 It will be to your worship, as my knight,..To see that she be buried worshipfully.

†**b.** A source or ground of honour or credit (to a person). *Obs.*

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 199 Nis hit ðe no wurðscipe þet þe deouul me to-drawe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 2675 Salomon seith It is a greet worshipe to a man to kepen hym fro noyse and stryf. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 285 Moche worship it were..to vs alle Might I þe ram and þe rynge bryngen home to þis halle. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7099 Litle worship had it been If ye my ladies clothes had seen. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xxi. 146 Me semeth hit were your worship to helpe that dolorous knyghte. 1492 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 3 b, The synnes that a man..is shryuen of ..shall be moche worshypp to hym. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xix. 22 It is a mans worshipe to do good.

†**c.** One who, or that which, constitutes a source or ground of honour. *Obs.*

c 1420 Hoccleve *Mother of God* 27 Thow art ensaumple of thawtlees, And of vileynes worship and honour. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiv. 73 He bad ga fech Rhebus, kyng ryall steyd, Quhilk was hys wirschyp and hys comfort hayll. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* iii. 3 But thou (o Lorde) art my defender, my worshipe, and the lifter vp of my heade. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 345 Wallace, the obeife horsser and Wirschep of the Wairis, drew him back to the Scottis partie.

†**d.** *spec.* Worthiness in battle; valour. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7025 After þam com Iedeon, þat wirscep in his time had don. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 30 And throw his worschip sa wroucht he, That he reskewyt all the flearis. *Ibid.* xv. 154 Bot thar fell fayis sa can assaill, That thar mycht no worschip availl. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. xvi. 1321 Hir douchtyr. Tuk vp armys in hir stede, þat worschep pruffit in meny deide.

†**2.** In phrases: **a.** *To win (one's) worship*: to gain honour or renown. *Obs.*

c 1200 Orrm 12373 Forr þurrh þatt tatt tegȝ woldenn ba ȝemn Godd wurrshipe winnenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9439 He luued hir wil mare þan are, For wirscipp þat soo did him win. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 818 Who þat þer be of mest mizt, Grete worþschipe he winneþ. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 618 Nis no man vpon mold þat more worchip winnes. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* lii. 57 A worþi knyst wol worchip wynne. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 35 That Auntre shall by-gynne.. That knightis shall there worship wynne. 1472 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* v. xxviii. in *Ashm.* (1652) 133 But wyll ye here what worshyp and avayle, They wyn in London. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 574 Vpon ye v. day played togyder an Henauder, and a squyre called John Stewarde, whiche daye also the Englysshe man was ye worshyp. 1579 *Satir. Poeme Reform.* xxxvi. 157 Quha vantis be bluid thay all thair worschip wan. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 3 Vpon a great aduenture he was bond,..To winne him worship. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. 184 That with industrious paines hath..wonne His true got worship.

†**b.** *To get*, or *have, the worship of*: to gain the honour of overcoming or winning. *Obs.*

1482 Caxton *Godfrey* lxxii. 116 Bawdwyn, and they that were with hym,..said that they ought to haue the worship of this toun. *a* 1500 Arnold *Chron.* (1811) p. xxxv, A batell in Smytfeld, betwene the Lord Scales and the bastard of Burgoyne, and the Lord Scales had the worship of the felde. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 574 An Englysshe esquyer.. gatte suche worshyp of the same Henauder, that the kynge ..made hym streyght knyght.

3. The condition (in a person) of holding a prominent place or rank; dignity, importance, high standing or degree. Now *arch.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Swelce þu..sie ðines æxnes benumen, æȝþer ge þinra welona ge þines weorþscipes. *c* 1030 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 105 Swa hwylcere ylde oððe wurðscipe [L. *dignitatis*] he si. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132, He com on a' Petres messe dei mid micel wurscipe into the minstre. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 55 Danne his scolde forliesen ða michele wurðscipe mang ðo aingles. *c* 1205 Lay. 22452 Swa þu scalt wunien in wurðscipe þire. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 278 Al so as prude is wilnunge of wurðschipe, riht al so..edmodnesse is fedunge of wurðschipe. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7099 Constant [a monk] þe coroune tok, &..þus to worschipe gan he lende. 1340 *Ayenb.* 18 Guodes of auenture, ase richesses, worsipe, and hȝnesse. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 13 For to haue lykynge of mete and drynk and cloþ and worldly worschipe. *c* 1435 *Chron. Lond.* (Kingsford 1905) 42 We pryve hym [Richard II] off alle kyngly dignyte, and worship. 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 13 Ye ar inbylled to be made knygth at this Coronacion..but and it lyke you to take the worchip uppon you [etc.]. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 409/2 There was a clerke moche renomed at rome whiche could not come to the worship that he desyred. 1535 Coverdale *Joh* xiv. 21 Whether his children come to worshipe or no, he can not tell: And yf they be man of lowe degre, he knoweth not. 1549 in Tytler *Eng. under Edw. VI* (1839) I. 219 And we.. and others of worship in these countries..do incur by these meanes much infamy. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 208 Yet is it not to be forgot, In Court that some to worship come. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. § 7 In professing that his intent was to adde by his person honour and worship vnto hers, he tooke her plainly and clearely to wife. 1607 *Stat.* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 57 Savinge unto everye man his higher place of worshipp and degree. 1732–8 Swift *Polite Conv.* 194 She was as fine as Ffipence; but truly, I thought there was more Cost than Worship. 1765 Foote *Commissary* I. Wks. 1799 II. 8 Indeed you labour..for little or nothing: only victuals and cloaths, more cost than worship. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* II. vii, Worship and birth to me are known By look, by bearing, and by tone.

†**b.** With *a* and pl.: A distinction or dignity; a position of honour or high place. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 73 Al þe blisse of þise wordle him asolde by drede and wo, rychesses dong, worþsipes voulhede. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1139 Pride of lyf þat some in hert kepes, Falles to honours and worshepes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 113 Offa..was wroþ wiþ men of Caunterbury, and byname hem þat worschippe [*sc.* the archbishopric]. *a* 1395 Hylton *Scala Perf.* II. xxvii. (W. de W. 1494), He þat hath forsake the loue of the worlde in worshyppes and riches. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 22 How they whanne wyth were wyrchippis many. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 25368 (Cott. Galba MS.) He þat victori may gete sall be corond [with] wirschippes grete. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiv. 35 If þou haddist lyued unto now in worshipes & lustes of þe worlde. *c* 1492 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 69 Riches and worshippes ben but lentе to man for a tyme. 1605 Shake. *Lear* I. iv. 288 Men..That..in the most exact regard support The worships of their name. 1626 G. Woodcock *Hist. Iustine* III. 59 That it should be lawfull for them..to possesse all their estates and worships whatsoeuer.

†**c.** An alleged name for a company *of* writers. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vij, A worship of writeris.

4. *Man, gentleman,* etc., *of worship*: a person of repute and standing. Now *arch.*

In quot. 1398 contrasted with *of honour* (= belonging to the nobility).

1340 *Ayenb.* 259 Hit becomþ wel to man of worsipe..þet he by..amesured ine alle his dedes. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 17 Panne weies of worschipe..Wiþ his lettres he let to þe

had sende. c 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 834 He..was a man of worshipe and honour. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 18 With other folkes of wourshippe, preests, and good frendys. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* Prol. b ij, Euery great estate, bothe men & women of worship, that haue great possessyons of landes and tenementes, shulde haue [etc.]. 1556 *Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 21 They..shall examyne hym or them before the nexte gentilman of worshipe. 1577–87 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* 39/1 in *Holinshed*, There are besides these noble men, certeine gentlemen of woorship, commonlie called baronets. 1592 Chettle *Kind-harts Dr.* To Gentl. Rdrs. 3 Besides, diuers of worship haue reported, his vprightnes of dealing. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 265 In this Cloyster were buried many persons, some of worship, and others of honour. 1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* C 2 b, Kinde Mr. Thomas Banister, the Mayor, Who is of worship and of good Respect. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* ix. 178 Our Author (though a person of witt and worship) deriveth his intelligence from a French writer disaffected in religion. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* v. vi, All the World know me to be a Knight, and a Man of Worship. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xix, 'This in our presence, and to a man of worship!' said the Abbot. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg.*, *Leech of Folkestone*, Which [mansion] bespoke the owner a man of worship, and one well to do in the world. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 295 His uncle and his grandfather were both men of worship in my boyish days.

† **b.** So *of good*, or *great, worship*. *Obs.*

1555 J. Proctor *Wyat's Rebell.* 6 b, Christopher Roper (a man of good wurshippe, and so estemed of them). *Ibid.* 7 Maister Tucke..& maister Dorrel..gentlemen of good wurshyppe, and Iustices of peace. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* i. (1879) 103 One dish or two of good wholsome meate was thought sufficient for a man of great worship to dyne withall. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* F 2, The other two.. seemed meaner then himselfe, but yet Gentlemen of good worship. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 12 It hath ben allwaies inhabited with diuerse Knights and gentlemen of greate worshippe.

† **c.** *Place of worship*: a 'good house'. *Town of worship*: an important town. *Obs.*

1484 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 314 Sweche dysports ..as sche hadde seyn husyd in places of worschip ther as sche hathe beyn. 1494 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 130 The said lordes goeing on foote in everie towne of worshippe.

5. With *your* or *his*: A title of honour, used in addressing or speaking of a person of note. In later use *spec.* as the title of a magistrate.

1548 Geste *Pr. Masse* Ded., I..doo offre ye same..to your worshipful mastership, not that I adiudge it a present, worthy your worship, but that [etc.]. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* B 6 b, Your worships..were then elected Governours of this said Hospitall. 1570 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 1 Your wurship is not ignorant that [etc.]. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* iii. iv. 61 What does his casheer'd Worship mutter? 1631 Heywood *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* iii. i. 28 *Roughm.* Ha, what will you draw? *Clem.* The best wine in the house for your worship. 1693 Dryden *Persius* v. 111 Now Marcus Dama is his Worship's Name. 1722 De Foe *Relig. Courtsh.* i. ii. (1807) 59 Indeed I did not know your worship at first; I am sorry to see you out so late, and 't please your worship, and all alone. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* iv. v, He..arrived when the justice had almost finished his business. He..was acquainted that his worship would wait on him in a moment. 1768 *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 12) 45 To P.S. Esq; High Sheriff of the County of Y. *Sir, your Worship.* 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* iv. i, *Dig.* I have got a letter for your worship. 1797 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge* 10 Jan., Is it a farm you have got? And what does your worship know about farming? 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxv, 'This here's Pickvick, your wash-up,' said Grummer. *Ibid.*, 'Muzzle!' 'Your worship'. 'Open the front door'. 'Yes, your worship.' 1861 Agnes Strickland *Old Friends* Ser. ii. 73 For which I humbly hopes your worship will be pleased to send him to Botany Bay. 1861 *Hand-bk. Letter-writing* 63 To his Worship..E. C. Walton, Esq., Mayor of Manchester.

† **b.** Without personal pronoun. *Obs. rare.*

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xvi. cii. 404 If Variance hapt to fall, They went not to such Worships as like Tyrants men miscall. 1663 Barrow *Serm.* (1687) I. xii. 171 The next in dignity to himself..(Though such an alliance would perhaps be thought derogatory to the Worships of our days).

† **c.** *My worship*: jocular for 'me', 'myself'. *Obs.*

1601 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes* iii. v. (Roxb.) 39 If I shewe you not such a peice of Hammer-craft,..neuer giue you my worship credit hencefurth. 1668 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 223, I saw 3 good matches at Newmarket which pleased the king well, but not my worshippe, for I gott no money by them. 1728 [De Foe] *Street-Robberies* 10 My Mother..got a Hand-Basket, into which..she put my Worship. *Ibid.* 26 She let him know that her Husband (meaning my Worship..) was out of town.

† **6.** Of things: Repute, worth, value. *Obs. rare.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Wel wurð wunne be of wurðshipe swo hit be. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8259 O wortscip was þis tre to wonder. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xcix. (1495) M iiij b/1 Moost worshyp is in whyte glasse [Isidore xvi. xvi. 4 *maximus honor in candido vitro*].

II. † **7.** Respect or honour shown to a person or thing. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hept.*, *On Old Test.* (1922) 28 He heold his fæder on fullum wurðscipe þær. c 1000 Wulfstan *Hom.* xxxiii. (1883) 163 Ealne þone bysmor..we gyldað mid weorðscype þam þe us scandað. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1115, He his onfeng mid mycelan wurðscipe. c 1200 Ormin 3905 Si Drihhtin..Wurrþshipe & loff & wulldērr. . . a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Bereð wurðschipe þerto, uor þe holi sacrament þet ȝe iseoð þer þurh. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12002 Til eldrin men wirscip to scau. c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1032 That I may of yow here sayne Worshyp or that ye come agayne. 1389 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 7 To bringe þe body in to þe place þider withe worschepe. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1950 A souerayn sal ger gestes kepe With . . & with gret wirchepe. c 1420 *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 241 He salutyd his moder with gret werchepe. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 181 And therfor grete honoure, glorie, and Perpetuel virchippe, is to the Prynce. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 34, I haue spokyn w^t^ Bongay and he . . of yow myche whorschype. 1508 Dunbar . . 103 . . thow with wirschep wald sa fane be styld, . . souerane senȝeour! 1535 Coverdale *Apoc. Esther* xiii. 14 Thou wotest that I loue not the glory and worshipe of the vnrighteous. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 117, I . . mitted nothing, which might make for your aduauncement, ..in respecte of the worship that might be ministred by wordes. a 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Ireland* (1633) 70 So that they were then received with all worship.

† **b.** *In, for*, or *to* (one's) *worship*: in honour of. Also with dat. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Heo..nomen þa..blostme and. bistreweden al þane weye him to wurþscipe. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Halewen þet ȝe luuieð best & mest, in hore wurðchipe sigged oþer les, oþer mo. c 1290 *Magdalena* 338 in *S. E. Leg.* 472 Þe Marie heo manden wardein of heom.., þe swete holie Maudeleyne in cristes wurthschipe, For heo was þe kingue of heouene leof and deore. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 111 In hir wirschip wald i bigyn A lastand warc apon to myn. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 17 In stede of kynge's banere he did him bere þe croice, In wirschip of Jhesu. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 93 Medus..cleped þe citee Media also, in worschippe of his moder. . . *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 27 A bretherhode þer is ordened of bar. . ..in þe worschep of god and ye moder. c 1430 *Compleynt* 550 in Lydg. *Temple Glas* 66 In hir worshepe & memorye, Was mad a laumpe of this ston. c 1450 Capgrave *St. Aug.* Prol. 1 Than wil I..beginne þis werk, to þe worchip of þis glorious doctour. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 235, I wold make my doblet all worsted for worship of Norffolk. 1494 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 558 Such Craftes..as bere ȝerely charge in þis Cite to þe worship of the same. 1526 R. Whytford *Martiloge* 51 b, The dedicacyon of a chirche that saynt Bonyface ye pope halowed in the worshyp of our lady & of all martyrs. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 125 It is written at the length, and in most shewyng maner, to their honour and worship.

† **c.** *To do* (one) *worship*: to show honour, pay respect or homage, to. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 9828 Claudien..wes þi cudliche freond, þe dude þe þa wurhscipe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2757 [Jethro's daughters] gunen him ðore tellen, Hu a ȝunge man..ðewe and wursipe hem dede. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 5290 (Fairf.) He has me cast of alle my care, and done me worshepe. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 206 Our gastly fadirs..techis us.. til ilk man that worshipfull is, for to do worship aftir that it is. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C.) 1222 So moche worschypp he haþ for me ido. c 1450 *Life St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7000 Kyng william in his ȝere thryd Worschip to Robert comyn did. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 329 Ye have doon to theim soo grete worship. 1526 Tindale *Titus* ii. 10 That they maye do worshippe to the doctryne off god oure saveoure in all thynges. a 1553 Udall *Royster D.* i. iv, Do your maister worship as ye haue done in time past. 1610 B. Jonson *Alchemist* iii. iv, That shirt may doe you More worship then you thinke. [1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xvii. § 3 IV. 78 To accompany the King on his voyage or simply to do him worship on his departure.]

† **d.** *To have*, or *hold, in worship*: to hold in honour. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 67 For þe puple hadde Crist in worship as a prophete. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 429 Belles and staues [That] in worschippe men haues. c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) ix. 34 Þai hafe þat place in grete wirschippe. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* iii. 6 That his philosofris..be had in worshipe and high recomendacioun. *Ibid.* xviii. 15 And euyrmore loke that thou holde alle thi lordis in gret worshipe as they ben of estate.

8. Reverence or veneration paid to a being or power regarded as supernatural or divine; the action or practice of displaying this by appropriate acts, rites, or ceremonies.

Place of worship: see Place *sb.* 16.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5980 Þe folk. of egypte..mas to beistes þair wirscipe. *Ibid.* 5985 Thre dais gang..We most weind in to wildirness To mak vr lauerd his wirscip to. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7362 We [Saxons] haue Godes seeres, ffor whos wyrschip we make auteres. c 1350 . . *Rood* iii. 63 Oure angels went fra vs oway, Bifor god . . wirschip to ma. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1141 Þarfor rowle I wil reherce, How þai sal do wirchep alway, . . þen þai to god sal sing or say. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* ii. 208 Whan theyre ioye ys not else but that worshyp and glory be gyuen vnto god. 1550 Crowley *Way to Wealth* 215 Doinge them dayly worshipe and reuerence in the temples. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 12 Lord, thow will haif..Wirschip in Spirite and veritie. *Ibid.* 87 Quhilk is the trew wirschip and rychteousnes That God requyris of mankynd. 1596 Barlow *Three Serm.* i. 3 His presence in that temple so holy, so glorious, and appointed for his woorship. 1641 J. Burroughs *Sions Joy* 53 The changers of Gods worship amongst the ten Tribes were wiser. 1644 (*title*) A Directory for The Publique Worship of God, Throughout the Three Kingdoms. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* ii. iv. § 7 Which Pliny takes notice of as a great part of the Christians worship. 1680 Burnet *Rochester* 53 He believed there should be no other Religious worship, but a general Celebration of that Being in some short Hymn. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 147 ¶ 4 As the matter of Worship is now managed, in Dissenting Congregations. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* vii. Wks. 1813 I. 485 In some places scarce as many ministers remained as to perform the duties of religious worship. 1777 *Archæologia* (1779) V. 197 The Church of Kirkdale was considered in Doomsday-Book as the place of worship belonging to that manor. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 20 He redeemed man from the worship of that idol, self. 1838 Lytton *Leila* i. iv, The attitude that Nature dedicates to the worship of a God. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* vi. 129 To think that we know everything about God is to benumb and deaden worship; but mystical thought quickens worship. 1883 C. D. Warner *Roundabout Journ.* 45 Protestant worship was forbidden in this region, houses of worship were pulled down, meetings for worship were forbidden.

b. *transf.* Veneration similar to that paid to a deity. *Obs.* . . and . . height..To his grand face, as women will. . . *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. i. 25 The dying city..obtained wider worship in her decrepitude than in her youth. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 13/1 The General Assembly addressed James in terms of worship extraordinary to a republican ear.

9. With *a* and pl. A form or type of veneration or adoration; † a single instance or occasion of performing the acts associated with this.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. iii. 334 Virachocha, which helde the chiefe place amongst the worships which the Kings Inguas made. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxxv. 1 The Church, in her Worships, is terrible as an army with banners. 1657 J. Watts *Scribe*, etc. iii. To Rdr. *1 b, This Dipping of two new Sisters in a Pond of the Yard ..being in publick, upon the Lords-day, and betwixt the Morning and Evening Worships, drew away much people thither. 1669 W. Penn in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* iii. (1912) 282 The Phar[isees], Esseans, Saduces &c had the free exercise of their destinct worships. 1687 *Proclam.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2221/5 And likewise Indemnifying fully and freely all Quakers, for their Meetings and Worships. 1835 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* Introd. p. xii, A faith, which..stood far indeed above the baser worships, which surrounded it. 1845–6 Trench *Huls. Lect.* Ser. ii. v. 217 Free from the more debasing admixtures of most..worships of heathendom. 1859 I. Taylor *Logic in Theol.* etc. 210 Continuing..to dispense the customary gratuities among the ministers of worships, which were still adhered to by large masses of the Roman people. 1906 A. E. Whatham in *Amer. Jrnl. Relig. Psychol.* II. 56 Asherah worship was a combination of two separate worships.

b. *poet.* An object of worship. *rare.*

1621 Fletcher *Isl. Princess* ii. vi, By that brightness That gildes the world with light, by all our worships,..I will not rest.

III. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *worship-deed*, † *-house*, *-music*, *-song*; *worship-worth*, *-worthy* adjs.; † **worship-willer**, one who desires to be worshipped.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12770 But wold ȝe, lord, do my rede, ȝe scholde do a worschip-dede. 15.. *Plowman's T.* i. 228 (Urry), Soche worship-willers mote ill fele. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* 364 Then were the wisest of the people woorship woorthie. 1794 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 9 The Castle..with their Worship House adjoining is a fine Object. 1871 Forman *Living Poets* 363 This..offers positive existences as worship-worthy in the room of those ideas. 1884 *Chr. World Pulpit* 12 Nov. 309/2 This passage..indicates..the true nature of worship-song. 1884 Payne *1001 Nights* IX. 151 None is worshipworth save God alone. 1929 C. A. Harris *Brit. Music* 130 The Fathers of the Genevan School prohibited all worship-music except unisonous psalm-tunes.

Worship (wɔ̄·ɹʃip), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4 **worþ-, worssipie**; 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) **worschipe**, 4 **-schupe**, 5–6 **-schype** (6 **-schypen**); 4–5 **worshipe(n)**, **-sshipe**, **-shepe(n)**, 4- **shupe**; 4–5 **worschippe**, 5 **-shippe**, 5–6 **-shyppe**; 4 **worsip**, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) **worschip** (5 **-schyp**), 4–6 **worshyp**, 4- **worship**; 6 **woorship**, *Sc.* **wourschip**; 3–5 **worchip** (5 **-chep**, **-chyp**, **-chyppyn**), 4–5 **worchipe** (5 **-chepe**, **-chepyn**). *β.* 3 **wurðsupen**, **wursipe**, 5 **wurshepe**, **-schip**, **-shup**, **-chippe**, **-chep**, 6 **wurship**. *γ.* (Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 4 **wyr-**, **wirschipe**, 5 **wir-**, **virschepe**; 4 **wirsc(h)ippe**, 5 **-shuppe**; 4 **wirscip** (**-scep**), 4–5 **wirschip** (6 **-schep**, **virschip**); 5 **wirchip(e**, **-chep**, **wyrchip**. [Early ME. *wurþ-*, *worþscipien*, f. *wurþ-*, *worþscipe* Worship *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To honour or revere as a supernatural being or power, or as a holy thing; to regard or approach with veneration; to adore with appropriate acts, rites, or ceremonies.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 We understonden ure louerd on ure eðele bede, and wurðsupen him on ure edie dede. c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 94 in *O. E. Misc.* 213 Hole cherche is a house of prayere, Þe ȝat of heuen crist doþ hit calle, To worchip þer-in our saueour. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1937 Noe.. did to rais an auter suyth; He ȝod to wirscippe godd als wis. *Ibid.* 22292 Þat hali trinite..aght ouer-all wirsceped be. 1340 *Ayenb.* 5 Þou ne sselt habbe god bote me ne worssipie ne serui. *Ibid.* 6 Zuiche byeþ þe ilke þet worssipeþ þe momenes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 170 The Cronique.. Seith that the gentils most of alle Worschipen hire and to hire calle. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* ii. 5796 And þei of Lewne worschip Wlcanus, þe god of fyre. 1447 Bokenam *Seyntys, Marg.* 153 And for she dede wurshepe Crist and loue..Hyr fadyr hyr hatyd. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 315, I come from Ierusalem, where I have worshypd the holy grave. 1529 More *Dyaloge* iv. Wks. 253/1 Euery man well woteth how reuerently hym selfe worshypped both our lady and all saintes. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* i. v. 8 To driue farre away the true God whome we ought to feare and worshyp. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 53 The King was as superstitious in worshipping those miraculous herrings as the fisherman. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 12 Men use to worship the rising sunne. 1647 Cowley *Mistr.*, *Leaving me* 6 They worshipt many a Beast, and many a Stone. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect.*, *Poland* (1685) 74 There is no City in the World where God is Worshipped after so many different Ways, unless in Amsterdam. 1743 J. Morris *Serm.* vii. 200 The true God, whom their fathers had worshiped. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 328 The virgin Mary, with the infant Jesus, and St. Mary Magdalene worshipping him. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 191 We may say..that the most frightful of reptiles is worshipped by the most..barbarous of mankind. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* i. vii. 202 Men have worshipped some fantastic being for living alone in a wilderness. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th Cent.* I. v. 293 The God whom Butler worships is, in fact, the human conscience deified.

b. *transf.* To regard with extreme respect or devotion; to 'adore'.

1700 Mrs. Manley *Power of Love* I. (1741) 126 Why may I know and worship my Benefactor? 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XI. ii, Men are strangely inclined to worship what they do not understand. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. ii. 69 Under the shadow of the genius that he had worshipped almost from boyhood. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 258 Lady Churchill was loved and even worshipped by Anne. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* x, She had worshipped Intellect, and now it had become her tyrant. 1856 Dickens, etc. *Wreck Golden Mary* ii. 19, I worshipped the very ground she walked on! 1859 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* iv, Our mother was the sweetest..of women—Malmie and I worshipped her. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 508/2 His wife simply worshipped him.

c. *absol.* To engage in worship; to perform, or take part in, the act of worship.

a 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Matt. iv. 9 If to worship before the devil, be to worship the devil, then to worship before the image, is to worship the image. 1814 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Blakesmoor*, I..knew every nook and corner, wondered and worshipped everywhere. 1860 Warter *Seaboard* II. 462 It distresses me sadly to see the effect of not worshipping where good men of all ages have been used to worship. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* ii, Ever since the first day.. he had persistently and abjectly worshipped at the shrine of Mrs. Lovelace. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* vi. 52 The parish church in which the Cuthbert family had worshipped.

†2. *trans.* To honour; to regard or treat with honour or respect. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 511 Siðen sal..chirches ben wurshped mor and mor. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6474 Fader and moder þou wirschip ai. *Ibid.* 28141 Ic hafe coueitid in blis to be for-þi þat alle suld wirschippe me. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 163 Richard curteise was,..Forgaf alle þe trespas, wirschipid himself aboue,..Wirschipped him at reson, right as himself was digne. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 94, I wol Worschupe þer-Wiþ Treuþe in my lyue. 1390 G[ower] privelege of regalie Was sauf, and al the ... was in his astat. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 39 þai war fayr yong men..and þai war wurshuppid & had in grete dayntie with evure man. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* XXV. 538 Worship your better, & love your neyghbour. 1530 Palsgr. 784/2, I worshyp a man, *Je honnore*...I have ever worshypped hym for his great vertues. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) Q iv b, A womanne knowing hir selfe so muche beloued and worshipped many yeares togither..at length is brought to loue him. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 120, I..will honour those alwayes that be honest, and worship them..whom I shall know to be worthy in their liuinge.

†b. To treat with signs of honour or respect; to salute, bow down to. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 168, I grette þe goode mone as þe gode wyf me taujte, And afterward his wyf, I worschupet hem boþe. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 62 And þis Putiphar & his wife come & mett hym, and wurschippid hym. c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* lii. 480 Thanne his Meyne Aȝens hym gonne gon, and hym worschepid Everichon. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 175 When he had thus sayde, euery man worshypped hym, and dyuers kneled downe at his fete. 1535 Coverdale *1 Kings* ii. 19 The kynge stode vp, and wente to mete her, and worshipped her. a 1592 H. Smith *Serm.* (1594) 228 If they doe so admire me in silkes, how would they cap me..and worship mee, if I were in velueta? 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* VII. ix. § 5 When he had worshipped Absalom, he withal wished that his Kingdom might last a long time.

†c. To honour *with* gifts, etc. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 213 Offa..worschipped [L. *insignivit*] Aldulf, bisshop of Lichefeld, wiþ þe archebisshoppes pal. *Ibid.* III. 69 þe kyng of Babilon worschepede [L. *honoravit*] þis Ezechias wiþ ȝiftes. c 1450 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk., Bidding Prayer* iii. 71 We sal pray specially for all þaes þat wirchips þis kirke owther with buke or bell, uestment or chales. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 84 So that none of us reserve and kepe to his propre use but ringis and iouches for to worship his wiffe and children withalle. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 87, I suppose..that oure lord dyd worschype hys seruante with seche benefettys ꝛo geue other example.

†3. To invest with, raise to, honour or repute; to confer honour or dignity upon. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 330 At London is his heued, his quarters ere leued, in Scotland spred, To wirschip þer lies. c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 286 þe manheed of Crist is a margarite þat worshipiþ his Chirche and confortiþ mennis hertis. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* 4 The excercyse of bokes worshippeþ a leche. *Ibid.* 38 Sich pronosticacion..shal worshipe þe bisynes of þe leche. c 1450 Burgh *Secrees* 2326 Lyke as a Robe fayr of greet Rychesse, Worshippeth the body of a mighty kyng, So fair language Worshippeth a lettir with good enditynge. c 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 111 She had a-went, she had worshipped all her kyn. a 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1594) 337 He gapes for a phrase that..he may haue one figure more to grace and worship his tale. 1601 A. Munday *Downf. Earl Huntington* I. iii. B 3, You haue dishonoured mee, I worshipt you, You..Vnto a Iustice place I did preferre, Where you vniustly haue my tenants rackt.

Worshipabi·lity. *rare.* [f. next.] Capability of being worshipped.

1822 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 378, I commend the modern Unitarians for their candour in giving up the possible worshipability of Christ.

Worshipable (wɜ·ʃipăb'l), *a.* [f. Worship *v.* + -able.]

†1. Entitled to honour or respect; honourable, worshipful. *Obs.*

c 1405 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3511 Thy dispesicion Ordeyned had the table By lyklyhede of high degre And of estate ful worshipable.

Ib. 94 b, Se howe lowely in a stall or stabil howe that she mate this lady worshipabil. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7724 A Gerger off Sobyrnesse, The wych Armure ys profytable, To alle folkys worshepable.

2. Capable of being worshipped.

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* I. (1858) 296 Nature is still divine,.. the Hero is still worshipable. 1887 P. Freeman *Princ. Div. Serv.* II. 273 A worshippable Presence of Christ, resulting from their consecration. 1888 *American* VI. 7 Woman's being is to him fairly worshipable.

Worshipful (wɜ·ʃipfŭl), *a.* (*sb., adv.*). Forms: α. 4 worþsipuol; 4 worshup-, 4–5 worsehip-, worsohip- (4 worship-), 5 worship-, 4– worship-, 5–6 worshypful, *Sc.* wourschip-, 6 woorshipfull, etc. β. 5 wurschip-, -ohep-, 5–6 -shipful(l. γ. 5 wir-, wyrship-, etc. [f. Worship *sb.*]

1. Of things: Notable or outstanding in re of some (good) quality or property; distingui imposing; reputable, honourable. Now *arch.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxi. 14 Worschepfulle [L. *pretiosum*] þe name of þa. Bifore hime it sal be swa. 1340 *Ayenb.* 80 Vor uirtue is þing wel worþsipuol, lostuol and uremuol. 1357 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. II. 219, I beleve that the moost worshipful sacrament of the auter is Crystis body in fourme of bred. 1388 Wyclif *Gen.* XXVIII. 17 Hou worschipful [L. *terribilis*] is this place! 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. xliv. (Tollem. MS.) With his comynge þerto oure Lorde made þis Mounte [Tabor] worschipful [L. *commendabilem*]. c 1450 *Merlin* v. 85 He..seide that so high and wurschipful a-mendes dide neuer a lorde to his man. c 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 6815 In the most worschepful and reverent ꝑyse they hym beryeden as they cowde devyse. 1479 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 171 The mare of this said wirshupfull cite for time beyng. 1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 189 He shall gyue vs power to preche.., whiche shall be a very worshypfull office. 1560 Pilkington *Exhos. Aggeus* (1562) 182 They shall finde mo worshipfull names geven to the preachinge minister, then to any one sorte of men. 1575 Laneham *Lett.* (1871) 1, I am placed at Coourt heer (as yee wot) in a woorshipfull room. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 173 When this right worshipful title [of knighthood] was by the Prince conferred upon one. a 1661 ... pleasant and worshipful Tales. 1806 Scott *Woodst.* ii, Will he give us the remains of his worshipful and economical house-keeping? 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xxi. IV. 626 Whether standing or sitting, his look was worshipful and kingly. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Deronda* xxxvii, Isn't that better than painting a piece of staring immodesty and calling it by a worshipful name?

absol. a 1871 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* v. (1876) 176 Aristotle distributes good things into three classes—the admirable or worshipful [τὰ τίμια]—the praiseworthy—the potential.

2. Of persons: Distinguished in respect of character or rank; entitled to honour or respect on this account. Now *arch.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* XXVIII. 4 Kouynge that makis men worschipful. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 205 Ilk man that worshipfull is. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 182 And ek so worschipful a wif, The doughter of an Emperour, To wedde it schal be gret honour. c 1450 *Chron. Vilod.* 3147 A worshipfulle woman in þat contre þo dwelt. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* lviii. 34 Þus shalt thou be holden wijs and worshipfulle for thi governance. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. viii. 425 Syr Tristram that is the worshipfullest knyght that now is lyuynge. *Ibid.* XVI. iii. 668 Of a moche more worshypfuller mans hand myghte I not dye. c 1530 *Prov. in Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 58 A nobyll and a wurshipfull hert nevyr askyth of womens dedys. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 272 Wyse & woorshypful men experte in nauigations. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* To Rdr. ¶¶¶ i b, The answere..beyng intercepted by my worshypfull frend, came not into my handes. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 199 Small townlets..which have given surnames to ancient and worshipfull families. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 396, I encountered with a Worshipfull English Gentleman Mr. Stydolffe Esquier of his Maiesties body. 1658 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 197 Edwin Sands, Arch-Bishop of Yorke, born in Lancashire of worshipfull Parentage. 1819 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* II. 52 Oh! what a delicious painter of mind and body is that worshipful Master Aubrey! 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* Let. CCXVI. (1871) IV. 239 If not the noblest and worshipfulest of all Englishmen, at least the strongest and terriblest.

†b. Applied to Bede, = Venerable *a.* 1. *Obs.*

Caxton *Golden Leg.* 421/1 He is not called of holy chyrche Saynt bede but worshypfull bede.

3. a. As an honorific title for persons or bodies of distinguished rank or importance: formerly used very widely, but now restricted to justices of the peace, aldermen, recorders, the London city companies and freemasons' lodges and their masters. *Right worshipful* is applied to mayors, and the sheriffs, aldermen, and recorder of London.

1398 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 316 Y..by for yow hier, worshepeful fader in God, and lord, Richard, by the grace of God erche byshop of York,..make avowe [etc.]. 1405 *Rolls of Parl.* III. 605/1 To comune..with the Wyrshipfull Prince Robert the King of Scotland, and his Counsell. 1426 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 10 Vnto his wirshipfull Mair,.. and all þe wirshipfull Counsell of þe cite of York. 1473 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 79/1 The fundation of that worshipfull Fader William Wykeham, sumtyme Bisshop of Wynchestre. 1578 T. Nicholas tr. *Certer' Cong. W. Indiæ* (1796) Ep. Ded., Whilest I abode..in the Isle of Palma, in affaires of marchandize for the worshipfull Thomas Lock deceased. 1625 Camden *Rem.* Ded. 1 To the Right Worshipfull, Worthy and Learned Sir Robert Cotton. 1628 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 48 The Worshipfull Companys letters. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Summers Trvv.* 20 The right worthy worshipfull Knight Sir Paul Neale. 1641 W. S. *Mere's Edw. V* Ded., To the Right Worshipfull Sir John Leinhall Knight. 1720 A. Ferrier *Rules Deportm.* (1877) 79 The Manner of directing *Mr* your Letters... To the Right Worshipful Lady M. S. .. To the Worshipful Lady A. S.

1772 Pope *Hor., Sat* bvv II. ii. 74 How pale, each Worshipful and Rev'rend guest Rise from a Clergy, or a City feast! 1776 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 286, I thanked.. his worshipful brethren of the Council. 1788 *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 22) 46 To the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Mercers. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lvii, A dusty old beadle..who has something to do with a Worshipful Company who have got a Hall in the next yard. 1849 James *Woodman* II, Sir Charles Wainaste, a right worshipful gentleman also. 1876 *Law Rep. 2 Probate Div.* 380 A certain Cause now pending in our Consistory Court, before the Worshipful Thomas Hutchinson Tristram, ..our Vicar General.

b. Used in forms of address, as *worshipful sir*, (*right*) *worshipful master*, etc.

1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 19 Right worthy and worshepefull Sir, I recommaunde me to yow, [etc.]. 1449 *Corr.* etc. *Coldingham Priory* (Surtees) 124 Wirshipfull sir I comend me to ȝowe. c 1460 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 42 Ryth reverent and worsepfull husbon. c 1488 Benyngton *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 342 [To Henry, Duke of Somerset, begins] High migthi Prince and my right worshipful and good lord. 1473 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 144 Ryght wyrshypfull and my ryght tendre modre, I recommaunde me to yow. 1542 Udall in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 2 Right worshipfull and my singlar good Maister. a 1592 Greene *Alcida* (1617) Ded. A 3, To the Right Worshipfull, Sir Charles Blount, Knight. *Ibid.*, So (right worshipfull) after your returne from the Low Countries, [etc.]. 1682 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* III. i, Her Ladyship, Right-worshipful, is pleas'd not to be at home. 1788 *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 22) 48 Justices of the Peace, and Mayors, are stiled Right Worshipful. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* ix, 'Thanks, most worshipful,' returned Miss Vernon. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. i, It shall not be my fault if I do not, though but a humble headman to your worshipful Mastership, help to make them so. 1885 *Dict. Daily Wants* s.v. *Addresses*, The Mayors of all Corporations, with the Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Recorder of London, are styled *Right Worshipful*; and the Aldermen and Recorder of other Corporations, as well as Justices of the Peace, *Worshipful*. 1908 *Complete Letter-writer* 21 A Mayor is addressed as The Worshipful the Mayor of —; in a few cities as 'Right Worshipful'.

c. *absol.* (chiefly pl.) or as *sb.* In later use *spec.* a magistrate.

c 1450 *MS. Trin. Coll. Camb. R. 3. 19* lf. 170 b, Worshipfull and dyscrete that here present be, I wyll you tell a tale, two or thre. c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 655 þan durst y do my devoire with any worshipfulle to be wonnynge. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 129 As by the reporte of dyvers worshyppfulles..yt ys to us openly declared. 1568 *Child-Marriages* (1897) 49 As he hard it reportid by diuerse worshipfull and others. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 30 b, Haunng..deceiued some Justices of Peace, and other worshypfull of countrey, where they dwel. 1595 *Churches Acc. St. Marg. Westm.* (Nichols 1797) 24 When the worshipfull of the parish..went the perambulacion to Kensington. 1806 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* X. 213 Anon the day of trial comes, The Worshipfuls were on their bums, And all the court in solemn silence sat.

†4. Showing or bringing honour or distinction *to* a person; reputable or honourable *for* one. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 14 And ȝif þat seyn þat grete chirchis ben worschipful to god [etc.]. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 46 þer is no þing more worschipful to a leche..þan to kepe a lyme woundid fro swellynge. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 325/2 Crafies which be convenient, worshipfull and accordyng for Gentil wymmen, and oþer wymmen of worship. ¶ 1472 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 143 That shuld not be worchepfull for you; for men shull not than set be you. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 63 For he had oppynyon that hit was as worshipfull and fitynge to a kynge to pardone as to punyssbe.

5. Imbued with the spirit of worship or veneration.

1809 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* II. 274, I should have been more humble, panegyrical, worshipful. 1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 3 The Whigs., are more worshipful of that perfection of wisdom, the glorious British constitution. a 1861 T. Woolner *My Beautiful Lady, Night* IX, Or kneels she worshipful beside her bed. 1892 Hardy *Tess* XXXI, He would sometimes catch her large, worshipful eyes ..looking at him from their depths.

6. Deserving or capable of being worshipped; worshipable.

1872 Browning *Pisme* XXXII, Obey Implicitly, nor pause to question, to survey Even the worshipful! 1901 *Athenæum* 19 Jan. 72/3 The theory of transmigration of ancestral souls into worshipful plants and animals.

†7. *adv.* = next. *Obs. rare.*

1470 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 139 It is a fowle slaunder that he was so worshipful beried..and so litill do for hym ...

Worshipfully, *adv.* Now *rare.* Forms: α. 4–5 worschip-, 5 worschyppe-, worshep-, worshipp-, 5–6 worshyp- (5 wershyp-), 6 worshypp-, woorshipfully, etc.; 4 woorshipfull, worshepefulleke. β. 4 wurschyp-, 5 wurshepfully. γ. 4 wirship-, wirshep-, 4–5 wirschip-, 5 wirship-, wyrsshypfully. [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

†1. With due honour; with words, acts, or attentions, expressive of esteem or regard. Now *arch.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9897 þat y þys wrþy sacrament mowe begynne, And wurschypfully þer-of to speke. 1387 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 186 That we neuen noght his name but worshipfully. 1389 *Engl. Gilds*, (1870) 87 þan xal ilk a broþer..comyn and gon wiþ þe corn to chirche, worchepefulleke. c 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1907) 248 Oure lady and hir sustres and Maudeleyn receyuyed hem worschipfully with kneiynge and lowe bowynge to the erthe. 1449 Bokenham *Seyntys, Margt.* 170 Fro whens..they come to..a mynyowne place..wher worshipfully Austyn was receyuyd. a 1500 *Mirk's Festial* I. 20 It is grett shame to me.. that I ne doo you to be conueyed worshipfully thrugh my land. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xlvii. 20 He ordeyned to kepe the holy daies worshipfully, and that the solempne

feastes..shulde be honorably holden. 1579 Twyne *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. xliii. 219 b, Thou oughtest eyther to speake worshypfully of thy father, or els to holde thy peace. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1319 It will be to thy worship, as my knight,..To see that she be buried worshipfully. 1872 — *Gareth & L.* 809.

†2. In such a way as to confer honour or dignity, or to make a good appearance. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12462 He schulde set hit most worschipfuly, for he wolde vrie his pane wypal. *c* 1380 *Will. Palerne* 3157 God has þe nou3t for-gete.. for worchipfulli artou wedded to welde a kinges sone. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vi. 80 He gers þam be keped honestly and wirschipfully...þan sall scho be..bawmed and wirschipfuly cledd. 1448 Hen. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 378 To thentent that divine seruice shal mowe be doon therin worshipfully vnto the honour of god. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1117 Worshippffully we shulle hyr lede Into the palys and bery her so. 1535 Coverdale *Neh.* iii. 20 After him buylded Baruc the sonne of Sabai the other pece worshipfully & costly. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 42 The wisedome of Salomon, is worshipfully thought of throughout the whole compasse of the world. 1606 Dekker *Seven Deadly Sins* Wks. (Grosart) II. 38 Worshipfully is this Lord of Limbo attended, for Knights themselues follow close at his heeles.

†3. So as to obtain or deserve honour or praise; worthily. *Obs.* (or *arch.*)

1429 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 127 If she gouerne hir worshipfully. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* iv. 8 If a kyng wolle regne worshipfully, it bihouyth him neyþer to haue..skarste ne fool large. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. iv. 123 The thyrd..is wel to be one of the knyghtes of the round table ..for many tymes he hath done ful worshipfully. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 336/1 Charges, which must be kept and borne Worshipfully and Honourably. *a* 1500 *Bale's Chron. in Six Town Chron.* (1911) 141 They worshipfully ruled and governed. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 914 To take on hande Worshepefully to withstande Such temporall warre and bate. 1545 in *Cal. St. Papers Irel.* Pref. 6 The said Wyllame fowght stylle manly and worshipfully. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Berks* (1662) 209 A family of his alliance is still worshipfully extant in this County. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 490 Then Sir Lavaine did well and worshipfully.

†4. *Ironically.* Finely, properly. *Obs.*

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* III. Wks. 463/2 Is not this conclusion worshipfully deduced vpon scripture?

5. In a spirit of worship.

1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. i. 39 Gleaning worshipfully what fragmentary illustrations of the history..of the family might fall from their lips.

Worshipfulness (wɚ·ʃɪpfŭlnĕs). Also 4 **worschupefulnesse**, 5 **worschipfulnes**, 6 **woorship-**. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being worshipful, in various senses.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 501/298 Vppon a day for worschupefulnesse þe Pope wolde synge a Messe. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 82 Y saw al seche [= such] with a special certen worschipfulnes put to ful softe and esy peynyn. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* xxxix. 26 Honestnes is vertousnes, and woorshipfulnes Due where honestnes, or vertusnes, bearth rout. 1608 Ford *Lover's Mel.* v. i, I owe all Sir-Reuerence to your Right Worshipfulnesse. 1877 Blackie *Wise Men* 137 We may not confront the polished and blasoned worshipfulness of the Ten Hundred, with our blank smocks and uncurried roughness. 1887 Flor. Warden *Schehersaade* III. 168 Distant awe and reverent worshipfulness.

†**Wo·rshipfulty.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Worshipful *a.* + -TY 1.] Worshipfulness; in quot. as a title.

1589 Nashe *Countercuffe* A ij b, To be breefe with your worshipfultie, Pasquill hath posted very dilligently ouer all the Realme.

†**Wo·rshiphead.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **worþsiphede.** [f. Worship *sb.* + -HEAD.] Dignity, rank.

1340 *Ayenb.* 49 Þis zenne anheteþ and lozeþ by the hodes and þe worþsiphede.

Worshipless (wɚ·ʃɪplĕs), *a.* [See -LESS.]

1. Not practising worship; unworshipping.

1765 J. Brown *Char. Jrnl.* 231 What mad-men are these, who thrust themselves..into wicked, worshipless families.

2. Destitute of worship; unworshipped.

1813 Byron *Hebrew Mel., On Jordan's Banks* 12 How long by tyrants shall thy land be trod? How long thy temple worshipless, Oh God? 1839 Bailey *Festus* xxxiii. (1848) 336 Who gave their names to stars which still roam round The skies, all worshipless. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 453 Long has the god been worshipless!—To prayer! *c* 1914 H. S. Holland in S. Paget *Mem.* (1921) 300 [He felt the Cathedral services] rather limp and worshipless.

†**Worshiply,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 4 **worþsiplich.** [f. Worship *sb.* + -LY 1.] Honourable.

1340 *Ayenb.* 80 Me can todele þri manere guodes, guod worþsiplich, guod lostuol, and guod uremsol.

†**Wo·rshiply,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4 **worþschiplich(e, worschip-, worsip-, worshepliche**; 4 **worshepeli, -ly**, 4 **worschip-**, 5 **worshyp-, worshup-, worshep-**, 5– **worshiply** (-lie, etc.). *β.* 5 **wurchyply**, 7 **wurshiply.** *γ.* 4 **wirschiply**, 5 **wyrchiply.** [Irreg. f. Worship *sb.* + -LY 2.] = Worshipfully *adv.* (in various senses).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27498 Wirschiply, I thanc it þe, þat sulik a simple wroght als me Did be broght vnto preist-hade. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 131 His lordis honour he held worþschipliche, & defended it wele & hardiliche. *Ibid.* 5040 Þan y-herberwed weren he Worþschipliche in þat cite. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 81 To 3orke þe[ll] com a3eyn, & wrouht þer worschiply..a Kirk of our Lady. 1340 *Ayenb.* 84 Þo þet libbeþ be hyre onestete: þe like..libbeþ worsipliche to þe wordle. *c* 1400 *Brut* 121. 26 Þis Belyn duellede þo in pees, and worshepliche him helde amonges his barons. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 494 My Lord Chanceler wold that my master schuld be beryed wurchyply. 1473 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 69 The whiche king Cirus receiued the saide Lisander full worshiplie in his palais. *c* 1489 Skelton *Death Earl Northumbld.* 186 Barons and those knygtes bold..Whom he as lord worshyply mainteyned. 1601 J. Dee *Diary* (Camden) 64 He used me and reported of me very freely and wurshiply.

Worshipped (wɚ·ʃɪpt), *ppl. a.* [f. Worship *v.*] Regarded with worship; adored, venerated.

1727 Dyer *Fleece* II. 361 To Agra, the proud throne Of India's worshipp'd prince, whose lust is law. 1803 Visct.

[illegible] shipped one! 1871 Smiles *Charac.* ii. (1876) 49 The poet himself was..interred beside her worshipped grave.

absol. 1860 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXXII. 141 The Worshipped and the worshipper are there.

Worshipper (wɚ·ʃɪpəɹ). Also 4 **worschiper, wirshiper**, 5 **wor-**, 6 **woorshypper**, 7, 9 **worshiper.** [f. Worship *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who worships. Freq. const. *of* (the deity or thing worshipped).

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 88 Þes wickid ydolatrours, worschiperis of false goddis. 1382 — *2 Macc.* I. 19 Prestis that thanne weren wirshipers of God. — *Acts* xvii. 22 Men of Athenis, bi alle thingis I se 3ou as veyn worschiperis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 168 God..is a spiryte: and they that be his true worshyppers, must worshyp hym in spiryte. *a* 1533 Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) [illegible] He was a greatte louer of his goddis, and woorshypper theym. 1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) M j, Such fansies lighted nowe in Papistes, and irreligious mens heades,.. delighteth in true worshippers hurt. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i. 41 True worshippers of Mars. 1632 Gouge *God's Arrowes* III. § 3. 187 This immortall fewde against worshippers of the true God. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 58 The ready imitation of his [Odin's] superstitious worshippers. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* I. 241 Fire, being the purest body in nature, its worshippers supposed that it ought to be honoured with the purest kind of devotion. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxii, The good father..is..already a worshipper of the Deity whom I have served. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. iii, All men, especially all women, are born worshipers. 1858 Fitz-Gerald *Omar* ii, When all the Temple is prepared within, Why lags the drowsy Worshipper outside? 1876 J. Parker *Paraclete* I. vii. 108 The worshippers of Intellect may not know that they are worshippers of God under another name.

b. One engaged in, or taking part in, divine worship.

1829 Scott *Talism.* ix, Did you, or did you not, know any lady amongst that band of worshippers? 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 252 The worshippers were dispersed, beaten, and pelted with snowballs. 1914 J. Mackay *Ch. Highlands* v. 107 Few worshippers could be got together.

2. *transf.* One who regards a person or thing with feelings akin to worship; a devotee.

[illegible] prizes..In asserting the Liberty of the Gospel and the Worshippers of it. 1788 Crowe *Leveadon Hill* 3 And, vested so, Thou dost appear more gracefully array'd Than Fashion's worshippers. 1792 Almon *Anecd. W. Pitt* I. xx. 331 Notwithstanding the state of modern depravity, Truth will continue to have her worshippers. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* v. i, When the Poet dies, Mute Nature mourns her worshipper. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* II. v, A worshipper of the 'Glass of Fashion', rather than of 'the Mould of Form'. 1847 S. Hickson in *Westm. Rev.* XLVII. 60 We can only conclude, worshipper of Shakspere as he is, that he prejudged the question. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 85 Sarsfield was..too honourable a gentleman to abuse his immense power over the minds of his worshippers.

Worshipping (wɚ·ʃɪpɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Worship *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of offering worship (to a deity).

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9372 But yn alle here moste gladyng, To fals goddys þey made wurschypyng. *c* 1325 Shoreham II. 4 Þou opene myne lyppen, lord,..And my moupe..Schel þyne worschypyng sende. 14.. *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 174 Angels alle in his presence Ar vndyr thyn obedyence, And do the worshippynge! 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 195 They selle..by ydolatrye from the worshypynge of very god. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 36 The abhominable synne of ydolatry, yᵗ is the worshyppyng of false goddes. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* Contents, The worshippinge of ymages. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 158 b, [They left] the worshipping and calling on their false gods. 1623 Cockeram II, A worshipping of Idols, *Idolatrie.* 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 375 For..virtue, and God's better worshipping.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this; a form or variety of worship.

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 197 They..were wretchedly ledde to the worshypynges of Idols. 1549 Olde *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol. ¶ iij, To walke..as it were before the porche of the temple,..to expell and kepe out all false worshyppinges. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xx. (1617) 348 What are all the worshippings of God which man hath ordained of his owne head, but childish imaginations. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. vi. 406 To acknowledge one God, whome varietie of Sects and worshippings should best content. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 193 That the thoughts..should enkindle in us..hearty worshippings, of a boundless goodness.

†2. The action of honouring, revering, or treating with profound respect. *Obs.*

13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 993 Hase pese with wirschiping, iosep of Aramathy. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Too myche worshypyng of Antecristis lawe. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* cxxxix, He that to hir worschipping Myght ought auaile. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 45 Some perchance would thinke that next after the praise and honoring of their gods, should commence the worshippings and praise of good men. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 77 For the dignities sake of religion, which cannot be liable to all base affronts, meerely for the worshiping of a civil mariage.

attrib. 1621 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, This worshipping kinde of entertainment is a superstitious vanitie.

Wo·rshipping, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That worships; engaged in worship.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 126 Then will his cross be exalted for an ensign to the circling, bending, and worshipping universe. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 446 In 1738, there were seven worshipping assemblies in this town [Newport]. 1876 Blackie *Lect. to Wife* (1909) 240 Either I must speak the truth and offend the worshipping widow, or print lies and prostitute my own intellect. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxxii. 308 She was a brand-new bride,..happy in herself and her grave and worshipping stripling of a husband.

Hence **Wo·rshippingly** *adv.*, adoringly.

1850 Miss Mulock *Olive* xxiii, Once again I will lie on the floor of the Sistine, and look up worshippingly to Michael the angel. 1891 D. Dormer *Steven Vigil* II. iv. x. 51 Mary's eyes were continually straying across to rest worshippingly on her sister's face.

†**Wo·rsing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Worse *v.* + -ING 1.] Deterioration.

c 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 195 He..is haldin to restoir..the wad [= pledge] to the debtour, without worsing or deterioratiouu.

Wo·rsle, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 **worsill.** [var. of Warsle *v.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *worstelen.*] *intr.* To wrestle. Hence **Wo·rsler**; **Wo·rsling** *vbl. sb.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III, iv. 138 Our fallowschip exerce palestrale play,.. Nakit worsling and strouggling at nyse poynt. 1535 [see Warsle *v.* 1] 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 43 Be worsling first in faith the feild was myne. 1573 *Ibid.* xxxix. 330 Then wes he worsland our ane wondie swyre. 1629 Z. Boyd *Last Battell* 12 (Jam.), I cannot expresse what a worsling I finde within mee. *Ibid.* 1073 (Jam.) We shall worsle with God in prayer that your end may be peace. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Worsle*, to wrestle, to contend. *Worsler*, a wrestler. *Worsling*, wrestling.

Worst (wɚst), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **wyrresta, wyrsta, wirresta, wierresta, (wyrest)**; 1 *Northumb.* **wurresta**, 2–6 **wurst**, 3–4 **wrst**; 3–6 **worste**, 3–**worst**, 6 **woorst**, 9 *vulgar* **wust.** *β.* 1 **werresta**, 1–2 **wersta**, 2–6 **werst**(e, 3 **wer(r)est**, 4 *Sc.* **verste**, 4, 6 *Sc.* **verst**; 4–6, 8–9 *north.* **warst**, 5–6 **warste.** [OE. *wyrresta, wyrsta, wierresta, werresta, wersta* = OFris. *wersta*, OS. *wirsista*, OHG. *wirsisto, -esto* (MHG. *wirseste, wirste, wiirste*), ON. and Icel. *verstr* (Norw. *verst*, Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*):—OTeut. **wersistaz*, f. *wers-*: see Worse *a.* and -EST.

The *β*-forms, which were local in OE., were reinforced in Anglian ME. by Scandinavian; cf. Worse *a.*]

A. *adj.* Used as the superlative of the adjs. *bad, evil*, or *ill.*

1. Most bad or evil, in regard to moral character or behaviour; most vicious, wicked, cruel, etc.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 11 He ne sceal lufian to unȝemetlice ðas woruldȝeȝeldа, forðæm hie oft cumaþ to þæm wyrrestum monnum. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 153 Ȝeseoh ða scande & ða wierrestan ðing ðe ðas menn her doð. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 45 And swa byð þysse wyrrestan cneorysse. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Gif ðu luuest ðo ilche ðe ðe luuiȝeð: ne don swa ðe werste menn of ðe woreld? *c* 1205 Lay. 29545 Þer he funde þa wurste men þa on londe wuneden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 82 Idel speche is vuel; ful speche is wurse; attri speche is þe wurste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8616 Þe worste men of þe lond, & mest cruel al so, He wolde make is conseilers. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 648 Fikenhild, þat was þe wurste moder child. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 99 When y my self have thourh-soht, y knowe me for the wrst of alle. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 4456 Gog and Magog..þe werst folk þat in þe world duels. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2098 Þer wones a wyȝe in þat waste, þe worst vpon erþe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 261 Myn housbonde is to me the worste man That euere was. — *Merch. Prol.* 6, I have a wyf, the worste that may be. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 145 Pride, Which is the werste vice of alle. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 37 He..went vnto a grete company of thevis; & he, þat was gude emang his brethir, was þer þe warste of all. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Worst, or most badde, *pessimus.* *a* 1500 *Mankind* 297 In *Macro Pl.* 12 He ys worst of þem all. 1552 Huloet, Warste of all, *nequissimus, pessimus.* 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* I. iv. 13 His worst fault is that he is giuen to prayer. 1607 — *Timon* IV. ii. 39 Strange vnvsuall blood, When mans worst sinne is, He do's too much Good. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 579 The worst avarice is that of sense. 1737 — *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 37 Chaucer's worst ribaldry is learn'd by rote. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 299 It will be impossible to keep the new tribunals clear of the worst spirit of faction. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. iii. 11 The worst passions are softened by triumph. 1918 *Cornhill Mag.* June 562 Able editors, who most often quoted what was worst and most Prussian in Carlyle.

b. Qualifying an agent-noun or the like.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 66 Þu ne cuðest ðone soðan freond; and for ði þu beurne on ðone wyrstan feond. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 140 Homely enemyes ben þe worste. 1382 — *Ephes.* vi. 16 The firy dartis of the worste enmye [*tela nequissimi ignea*]. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 62 Þe fowlest worme, þe warst synner, þe lawest of men. 1675 Dryden *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 13 And yet believe your self, your own worst Foe. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lvi, My worst enemies..never accused me of being meek. 1854 J. S. Mill *Lett.* (1910) II. App. A. 371 His worst flatterer is himself. 1862 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xx, Lord Welter's worst enemies could not accuse him of driving slow. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 12 The man of the world, that worst enemy of the world.

2. Most grievous, painful, unlucky, uncomfortable, unpleasant, unfavourable, etc.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiii. 22 *Mors peccatorum pessima,*

deaß synfulra se wyrresta. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 2 Dæt is þæt sweotolosta tacen þæs mannan yfeles on þisse weoruldæ, & þæs wyrrestan edleanes æfter þisse weoruldæ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 245 Ic wæs getoxen to þæm wyrstan tintregum. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an 1086 (Laud MS.) Swylc cōðe com on mannum, þæt full neah æfre þe oðer man wearð on þam wyrrestan yfele, þæt is on þam drife. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 217 (Lamb. MS.) Þe þe deþ is wille mest, he haueð wurst mede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14555 Of all him fell þe worst lot. 1382 Wyclif *Rev.* xvi. 2 A wounde feers and worst [1388 werst, Vulg. *vulnus saevum et pessimum*]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 349 False Egiste..Was demed to diverse peine, The worste that men cowthe ordeigne. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 145 Then come þay all wroþe and beten þys man on þe worst maner þat þay cowþe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 174 I traist to God our worst dayis ar gane. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xxvii. (1889) 248 Of two euyls men ought euer to eschewe and flee the worst of bothe. 1552 Huloet, Worste tyme for a publycque weale, *alienissimum rei publicæ tempus*. 1577 B. Goodge *Herrebach's Husb.* IV. 176 b, [illegible]

The worst of words. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 193 He repaires to his owne house, meager, pale, and in the worst case that can be imagined. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 462 But pain is perfet miserie, the worst Of evils. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 392 That hope alone will fortifie my Breast Against the worst of Fortunes and of Fears. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 498 We thought they ought to be one of them put to the worst of Deaths. 1765 Gray *Spears* 8 What awaits me now is worst of all. 1803 *Frnl.* IX. 527 The worst cases were discharged cured bout an average period of twelve days. 1809 *Ibid.* XIV. 227 Bleeding had been attended with the worst consequences. 1809 *Ibid.* XXI. 410 The two worst wounds in the loins were foul and deep. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 240 It was by her address and invention that I got my scoolerkin of a 'study' improved out of some of its worst blotches. 1881 W. Collins *Black Robe* I. 272 'How does Stella bear it?' 'In the worst possible way..In silence.'

b. Hardest, most difficult to deal with. Const. *to* and inf.

c 1400 *King Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 200 Þre þinges on erþe beþ þat men mowen nou3th yknowe...þe werst is þe fierþe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35 Moost perylous kynde of lepry & worst to be cured. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 87 The best things are worst to come by. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xiv. 98 Our worst piece of work was now before us.

c. U. S. colloq. phr. *the worst kind*; also used adverbially = most severely, most thoroughly.

1839 Marryat *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 227 He loves Sal, the worst kind. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 517 *Worst kind.* Used in such phrases as, 'I gave him the worst kind of a licking.' Also adverbially; as 'I licked him the worst kind,' i. e. in the worst manner possible, most severely.

3. Most wanting in the good qualities required or expected; least good, valuable, desirable, or successful; most inferior; meanest or poorest in quality; least considerable or important.

c 1325 *Sir Orfeo* (Sisam) 367 þe werst piler on to biholde Was al of burnist gold. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1570 The werst walle for to wale..Was faurty cubettes by coursee. *c* 1440 *Sir Amadas* (Weber) 345 The warst hors is worthe ten pownde Of hom all that here gon. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. xvi. 439 The werst of them wille not be lyghtly matched of no knyghtes that I knowe lyuynge. 1493 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 82, iiii syluer sponys of the werste sorte. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 213 To John Colson my worst chamlet dublet. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 38 marg., The more hast yᵉ wurst speede. 1580 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 214 The best geris tane away and sauld, and the werst reserult. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 49 Grale wheat is the grossest, yet good for the clay, though woorst for the market, as fermer may say. 1644 Milton *Areop* (Arb.) 33 Naturall endowments haply not the worst for two and fifty degrees of northern latitude. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. 226 He was secure, being on the worst side of fifty. 1696 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 182 For then yᵉ University would have the disposall of their liveings, wᶜʰ now they give to yᵉ worst men they can find. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 299 In the worst inn's worst room. 1740 Mrs. E. Montagu *Corr.* (1906) I. 42 Living in a cottage on love is certainly the worst diet and the worst habitation one can find out. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. vii, To charge the same for the very worst provisions, as if they were the best. 1786 Burns *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* xv, They drew me thretteen pund an' twa, The very warst. — '*My Father was a Farmer*' II, 'My talents they were not the worst. 1829 Lytton *Falkland* 10 He was one of that class..who, with the best intentions, have made the worst citizens. 1836 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 436 Burnaby Green was the worst of translators. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 127 One of the worst dogs is then slipped at the herd. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 466 It was the worst [show] I ever saw, cattle included.

†b. Phr. *At* (*the*) *worst hand*: (*a*) in a position of defeat; (*b*) most dearly or unprofitably; (*c*) on the lowest estimate. *Obs.*

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 352 He saw well that his folke was at the worste hande, soo made he to sowne the retrete. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 380 They were driven at the worst hand to sell unto the mercilesse Merchants, their Cowes, Hackneyes [etc.]. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Deatribæ* 491 More ignorant barbarisme here, than in Paulus, who at worst hand hath related it in good and true Latine.

†c. *In worst part*: in the most unfavourable aspect or construction. *Obs.*

a 1530 J. Heywood *Play of Love* 1308 A louer best loued hath paynes in lyke wyse As here hath apered by sondry weys Which shewyth his case in wurst part to aryse. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XXIV. 124 Myself take that wrong he hath done To Hector in worst part of all.

†d. *To have the worst end* (*of the staff*, etc.): cf. Worse *sb.* 3 c. *Obs.*

1564 T. Dorman *Proof Cert. Articles Relig.* 92 Yow maie haue cause to thincke, that yow holde by the worst ende of tthe staffe. 1597 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1204 then, ye half then The warst end of the trie.

4. *predicatively*. Most unfortunate or badly off.

1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 126 Or to be worse then worst Of those, that lawlesse and incertaine thought I imagine howling. 1605 — *Lear* IV. i. 2 To be worst, The lowest, and most dejected thing of Fortune.

5. *Comb.*, as *worst-humoured*, *-intentioned*, *-natured*, *-surfaced*, *-willed* adjs.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 105 Warst willid traytoris [*malignissimi proditores*]. 1636 Harrington *Oceana* (1658) 103 When I consider that our Country-men are none of the worst natur'd. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* III. i. 25 Every body knows I am the worst natur'd fellow breathing. *a* 1680 Earl Rochester *Allus. Horace* 60 The best good Man with the worst natur'd Muse. 1774 *Goldsmith's Retal.* Postscript, Thou best humour'd man with the worst humour'd Muse. 1896 Crockett *Grey Man* xxxiv. 231 The greediest and worst-intentioned rascals in the world. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 3/1 From Blois to Chartres was the worst-surfaced road we came across.

B. *sb.* (absol. uses of the adj.; usu. with *the*.)

1. *The worst*: one who is, or those who are, most objectionable or least estimable in moral character, behaviour, accomplishments, etc.

1606 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 68 And let worse follow worse, till the worst of all follow him laughing to his graue. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Church-porch* st. 72 Judge not the preacher...The worst speak something good. 1737 W. Wilkie *Epigoniad* IX. 270 Favor, your sex and innocence will plead, Ev'n with the worst. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* I. 435 Lovely to the worst she [Virtue] seems. 1880 Tennyson *First Quarrel* xiii, An' *she* wasn't one o' the worst. 1898 Kipling *Day's Work* (1903) 363 Mr. Pepper himself, beyond question a man of the worst.

†b. *spec.* The Devil. Cf. Worse *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1388 Wyclif *Ephes.* vi. 16 The firy dartis of the worste [1382 the worste enmye]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1561 Thou sot with vnsell, seruand of o þe werst!

2. What is most objectionable or deplorable in regard to morals, taste, etc.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 174 How so his mouth be comely, His word sit evermore awry And selth the worste that he may. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4656 He þat wayues ay þe werst & wirkis þe bettir. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Souls* (Caxton 1483) I. xvii. 14 He is euermore redy to do and say the werst. *c* 1480 Henryson *Trial of Fox* 10 Of euill cummis war, of war cummis werst of all. *c* 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* cl. 8 In the very refuse of thy deeds, There is such strength and warrantise of skill, That in my minde thy worst all best exceeds. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 65 For that we easily encline to the woorst. 1855 Lynch *Letters to the Scattered* vii. 95 Unchecked sin tending to the perfect worst in wretchedness because to the perfect worst in character.

b. With *of*: What is most reprehensible or faulty in a person's character.

1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, Do you know the worst of your father? 1871 Geo. Eliot *Middlemarch* xxxviii. II. 284 He's Whiggish himself..; that's the worst I know of him. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* VIII. ii, 'We's all so modest in Primrose Court, that's the wust on us,' replied the woman.

3. What is most grievous, unlucky, painful, hard to bear; a state of things that is most undesirable or most to be dreaded.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 304 Beth nought agast..For hardely þe werste of þis is do. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 25 Bot yet the werste of everydel Is last. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 532 All scho dredis hire dede & doute for þe werst. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXV. 212 þe werste is paste. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 1222 Off Wallace end my seiff wald feiff, for dredis To say the werst. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 166 Prouyde for the woorst, the best wyll saue it selfe. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* I iv, N. O. (fearyng the worste). 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 96 And the worst fall that euer fell. 1605 — *Lear* IV. i. 8 The Wretch that thou hast blowne vnto the worst, Owes nothing to thy blasts. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* v. xii, Take good heart, the worst is past, sir. You are dis-possest. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowes* v. § 15. 498 Wisdome teacheth men to forecast the worst, that they may be provided against the worst. *c* 1660 J. Gwynne *Milit. Mem.* (1822) 84 We were prepar'd, as knowing the worst, to receave our doome bravely. 1665 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 251, I beleeve she conceales the worst from you. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 269 Her Husband..Who guards her, or with her the worst endures. 1674 — *Samson* 1570 Then take the worst in brief, Samson is dead. *a* 1798 Burns '*In vain would Prudence*' 4 Above that world on wings of love I rise, I know its worst—and can that worst despise. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* XIV, Tell me the worst at once. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* IV. 220 The best thing we can do, is to get off as fast as we can, for fear of the worst. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* XXXVI, I knew the worst now, and was composed to it. 1859 W. Collins *Q. of Hearts* II, To face the worst that might happen. *a* 1873 Lytton *Pausanias* II. i, I am prepared for the worst, even recall. 1893 Ashby-Sterry *Naughty Girl* VII. 68 She turned pale..and fancied the very worst.

b. A course of action ill-advised in the highest degree.

1588 Grafton *Chron.* II. 767 Wherefore me thinketh it were not the worst to send to the Quene some honourable and trustie personage. 1591 Savile *Tacitus Hist.* II. § 39 Neither can it so easily be discerned what had beene best to haue done, as that it was the worst which they did.

c. The worst part, degree, or phase *of*.

1615 Sandys *Trav.* 138 Hauing with two dales rest refreshed them, now to begin the worst of their journey. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* xxii. (1891) 252 Miss Theodosia had already got the worst of her grief over. 1919 *Glasgow Herald* 8 Sept. 7 The confectioners .. have got over the worst of their sugar troubles.

d. *The worst is*: the most painful or unfortunate thing or circumstance is (*that* . . .). Also *the worst of* (something), *the worst of it*, *is*, etc.

1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A 6 b, The woorst is, they thinke that impossible to be done in our Tongue. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xv. 30 The worst of all was that more then 13000 persons remayned dead. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 379 Now the worst on't was, a Chirurgeon was scarce in Mansoul. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 284 ¶ 5 The worst of it is, that the drowsy Part of our Species is chiefly made up of very honest Gentlemen. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VI. xviii, And 'twill be lucky, if that's the worst on't. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. ii. (Ridg.) 6 But paying through the nose was not the worst of it. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii, The worst of it is, that having a high regard for the old lady, he wants to make her a convert to his views. 1849 Rock *Ch. of our Fathers* I. v. (1903) I. 293 But this is not the worst of having a church too near the houses of a small town. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Cranford* xiv, Here I broke down utterly...The worst was, all the ladies cried in concert. 1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* vi. 68 And she couldn't help it, poor lady, either; that is the worst of it; one gets so as not to be able to help things.

e. Phr. *To come*, †*fall to the worst*; †*to go all of the worst*.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 237 Ful many a worthi kniht It hadde assailed,..And everi it fell hem to the worste. *Ibid.* 380 Falle it to beste or to the worste. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 222 b, And therefore the matter gooeth not all of the wurst, when the lighter maladie..expelleth and drieuseth out the greater. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* 233 Things never come to the worst but they mend.

f. *If the worst come*(*s*) *to the worst*: if things fall out as badly as possible or conceivable.

1597 E. S. *Discov. Knts. Poste* C 3 b, If the worst come to the worst, it is but the hiering of a hackney to ryde to London. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 28 Had the worst come to the worst, yet could we not haue wanted meate and drinke. 1667 Dryden & Dr. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* II. (1668) 14 Why, if the worst come to the worst, he leaves you an honest woman. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 108 Let the Worst come to'th Worst. 1729 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 202 If the worse came to the worst, I could but die. 1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* XIII. (1895) 93 Which would have been a witness for the elders, had the worst come to the worst. 1904 Weyman *Abb. Vlaye* III, If the worst comes to the worst, I can aid him.

†g. pl. *Worsts* = the things that are worst (in phr. *worst of worsts*). *post. Obs.*

1609 Jonson *Epicoene* v. iv, This is worst of all worst worsts! that hell could haue deuis'd. 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* xv. 37 But what is worst of worsts, (Lord) often I Haue cry'd to Thee, a stranger to my cry.

4. What is least good in quality or least valuable; the most inferior kind or lowest quality (of an article).

†*a* 1400 *Stanzaic Life of Christ* 2344 But Caynes cornes God forsok, that of the worst made his offryng. 1509 *Will in Archæol.* LXVI. 314 Item j grayles oon of the best another of the worst. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 125 Pale Gods part furst, and not of the wurst. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* ¶ iiij, The very woorst of all being of great vertue and value. 1587 Harrison *England* II. vi. (1877) 149 Being sure that they [the clergy] would neither drinke nor be serued of the worst. 1612 Sandys *Trav.* 136 The merchants brought with them many Negroes; not the worst of their merchandises. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1671) 215 The worst of Christ, even his chaff, is better than the world's corn.

5. *At* (*the*) *worst*. a. In the most evil or undesirable state that can be; at the greatest disadvantage; fallen to the lowest degree of badness, illness, or misfortune. Similarly *at one's worst*.

1532 More *Confut. Tyndale* Wks. 1557 fol. 611/2 That they shalbe no woorse, parde, not when they be at yᵉ very worst, then faithful harlottes. *a* 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* xcv. 2 Yet sighes, deare sighes, indeede true friends you are, That do not leane your best friend at the wurst. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 250 Thou hast me, if thou hast me, at the worst. 1605 — *Mach.* IV. ii. 24 Things at the worst will cease, or else climbe vpward, To what they were before. 1605 — *Lear* IV. i. 27 Who I? can say I am at the worst? 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 209, I would be at the worst; worst is my Port. 1771 T. Hull *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III. 122 Mrs. Stanhope was at the worst.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 6 A man leaveth things at worst, and depriveth himself of means to make them better. 1630 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 122 When the world is at worst it will mend.

1845 Hr. Martineau *Autobiog.* (1877) II. 362 Your people (never beginning to do their best till they are at their worst). 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Southey & Landor* Wks. 1853 II. 168/2 Unhappily Italian poetry in the age of Milton was almost at its worst. 1870 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 12 A dark and tyrannical superstition at its worst. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 716/1 No Dickens himself at his very worst has such tiresome repetition. 1887 Saintsbury *Hist. Eliz. Lit.* 284 Heywood, even at his worst, is a writer whom it is impossible not to like.

b. Even on the most unfavourable view or estimate or surmise.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* V. 96 Somwhat shal I seye; For at the worste it may yit shorte our weye. 1729 P. Walkden *Diary* (1866) 73 At the worst, I would subscribe to take half a quarter. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. 288 At the worst, what do they amount to. 1824 Southey *Let. to May* 29 Aug., He had seasons of good-nature, and at the worst was rather to be dreaded than disliked. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* ix, I thought..that if a man played long enough he was sure to win at last, or, at the worst, not to come off a loser. 1872 Thirlwall *Lett.* (1881) II. 267 Urban II pronounced that the killing of an excommunicated person was not a murder, but at the worst an offence to be expiated by a penance.

1598 Florio, *Alpeggio andare*, at woorst, if the woorst fall out. 1624 Milton *Comus* 484 Or else some neighbour Woodman, or at worst, Some roaving Robber calling to his fellows. 1667 — *P. L.* II. 200 If our substance .. cannot cease to be, we are at worst On this side nothing. 1670 Dryden

pt. Pt. Comp. Granada v. ii, But 'tis, at worst, but so consumed by fire, As cities are, that by their falls rise higher. 1738 J. Blake *Plan Mar. Syst.* 36 He is at worst sure of wholesome bread. 1778 Sir J. Reynolds *7 Disc.* 215 So that not much harm will be done at worst. 1837 Landor *Pentam.* i. Wks. 1853 II. 308/1 Brutus and Cassius, at worst, but slew an atheist. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* I. vii. 209 This kind of thing went on for another week of weather which at worst was showery.

6. (*To do*) *the worst* or *one's worst*: the utmost evil or harm possible. Hence occas. *one's worst*, without *do*.

c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xiv. 48 Blanchardyn herkned the prouost, to whom boldly he answered that he shold doo the best and the worst that he coude [in the joust]. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 78 It is the man among all oure enmyes, that worste doeth to vs. 1528 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 177 [He] beds them to do to hym the best and the worst that they can For he setts not a Strawe by them all. 1553 Ascham *Germany* Wks. (1904) 133 Let his enemies do to him the worst they could. 1567 *Horestes* 385 (Brandl) Drawe thy sword, vylyne, yf thou be a man, And then do the worst, that euer thou can. 1568 North *Guevara's Dial Pr.* iv. xiv. 150 b, The woorst they can doo, they can but murmur. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iii. i. 40, I do not feare the flaw, It hath done to me the worst. 1869 Morris *Earthly Par.* iii. *Lov. Gudrun* (end), I did the worst to him I loved the most.

(*b*) 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 311 Ha, thou fortune, I thee defie, Nou hast thou do to me thi werste. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lvii. 511 Wete ye wel that I am sire Tristram de lyones, and now doo your werste. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* iii. ii 24 Treason ha's done his worst. 1616 T. Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 30 A fig for him. Let him doe his worst. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Travels* 43 And therefore now you with all double diligence, doe endevour to doe your best to doe your worst. 1650 T. Vaughan *Anthroposophia* 87 When Death hath done her worst. 1653 Walton *Angler* iv. 115 Let the winde sit in what corner it will, and do its worst. 1713 Addison *Guard.* No. 102 P 8 To defie the Cold and Rain, and let the Weather do its worst. 1781 Cowper *Table Talk* 729 Satire has long since done his best; and curst And loathsome ribaldry has done his worst. 1842 Browning *Pied Piper* xi, You threaten us, fellow? Do your worst, Blow your pipe there till you burst! 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxxii. (1898) 226 Now you may go away and do your worst.

(*c*) 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iii. iii. 5 Therefore to our best mercy giue your selues, Or like to men prowd of destruction, Defie vs to our worst. 1611 — *Wint. T.* iii. ii. 180 What old or newer Torture Must I receiue? whose every word deserues To taste of thy most worst.

7. The harshest view or judgement; as *to speak* or *think the worst* (*of* a person or thing).

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxix. C. iv, Let princes talk, And talk their worst of me. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* ii. iii. 159 She's my good Lady, and will conclude, I hope, But the worst of me. 1632 Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 63, I hold my selfe greatly injured of such as iudge of me rather the worst than the best. 1871 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* ix. 2 The worst he can venture to say is, that it is ridiculous.

†b. *To take* or *wrest to the worst, to take at worst*: to put the most unfavourable construction upon. *Obs.* Cf. Worse *sb.* 3 d.

1535 Coverdale *Prov.* x. 32 The lippes of the righteous are occupied in acceptable thinges, but the mouth of the vngodly taketh them to the worst. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Supererr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 52 Let me not bee mistaken by sinister construction, that wreasteth and wrigleth euery sillable to the worst. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* v. i. 181, I cannot choose but tell him that I care not, And let him tak't at worst.

c. *To make the worst of*: to regard or represent in the most unfavourable light.

1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* II. 162 But it's over, you know; so what signifies making the worst of it? 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, Now I was hot, and had made the worst of it, instead of the best. 1877 Trench *Lect. Med. Ch. Hist.* 115 Roman Catholic writers make no attempt to conceal the depth of desecration and dishonour which the Papacy then passed through; nay, they seem rather to take a pleasure in making the worst of this.

8. Defeat in a contest. (Cf. Worse *sb.* 4.) †a. *To put to the worst*: to defeat, overcome. Also *to put at, drive to the worst; to give* (one) *the worst on't. Obs.*

c 1460 *Three 15th C. Chron.* (Camden) 59 She..put him dyverse tymes at the worste. 1574 Hellowes *Guevara's Ep.* (1584) 398 They liued by robbing and pilling one from another, euermore driuing the weakest to the worst. 1592 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Destroço*, putting to the woorst, putting to flight. 1598 R. Bernard *Terence, Andria* I. iii. (1607) 20 *Me & illum horus perundedit*. My master hath put him and me to the worst. 1644 Vicars *Jehovah-Jireh* 194 Our left wing being thus put to the worst. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 229 Why, I would a fought as long as Breath had been in me; and had I so done, I am sure you could never have given me the worst on't. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Mar. 1687 The party were exceedingly put to the worst by the preaching and writing of the Protestants. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* I. v. (1840) 69 Putting Michael and all the faithful army to the worst.

b. *To have the worst*: to be defeated. †Similarly *to go* or *come to, come* or *go by, come off by, go away with, come off with the worst.*

1529 *Morte Darthur* I. ix. (W. de W.) Fyghte not with the swerde..til that ye see ye go to yᵉ worste [*Caxton* vnto the werse]. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shrew* I. ii. 14, I should knocke you first, And then I know after who comes by the worst. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 90 His owne side came to the worst, doing more scath to themselues than to their enemies. 1624 *London Prodigal* I. i. 32 He is a mighty brawler, and comes commonly by the worst. 1643 Sir E. Howe *Counter-mande* 24 Hee which bringeth a great Armie into the field, without victuall or munition, is like to goe by the worste. 1650 [see Go *v.* 57 c]. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. ii. 20 There was a shrewd brush lately twixt the young King and his Mother, who..met him in open field..; but she went away with the worst. 1712 E. Ward *Brit. Hud.* 26 Those who laugh'd aloud at first, At last may chance to come by th' worst. *Ibid.* 116 Those who by reviling first Begot the Fray, came off by th' worst. 1834 Godwin *Lives Necrom.* 184 In these wars, the Paris generally came off with the worst.

1598 R. Bernard *Terence, Andria* II. v. (1607) 43 *Nostrum partii timeo*. I feare our side will haue the worst. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. iii. 300 There happen'd a fray betwixt the Souldiers..and the Halberdiers..; the last of which had the worst of it. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 166 The King of the Bulgari made a troublesome, uncertain War upon the Empire, which sometimes had the better, oftentimes the worst. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvi, George..bragged..about his valour in the fight,..in which he decidedly had the worst.

Worst (wɜːst), *v.* [f. Worst *a.*]

†1. *trans.* To make worse, impair, damage, inflict loss upon: = Worse *v.* 2, Worsen *v.* 1. *Obs.*

1620 Harington in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 321 Her betterring the state of my father's fortune (which I have, alass! so much worsted). 1648 Earl Westmoreland *Otia Sacra* (1879) 82 God makes all things for good; 'tis Man Sowers and worsts Creation. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Pref. P 16 If I be intemperate I grow sick and worsted in some faculty. 1688 Penn in Clarkson *Mem.* (1849) xviii. 115 Thy father's public spirit had worsted his estate. 1728 W. Smith *Ann. Univ. Coll.* 88 By which the College may be said to be wosted [*sic*] above 3*l.* 10*s.* per Annum. *a* 1742 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* ii. (1822) 26 A pear grafted upon a quince may be mended but if grafted upon a white thorn will be worsted. *Ibid.* xix. 274 *note*, But suppose I had worsted my substance, are there not many who..have lessened their estates, though they have never practised agriculture? 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 26 To better the Condition of the Tenants at the same time, at least not to worst them. 1748 — *Clarissa* (1811) VII. 347 Suppose you kill one another, will the matter be bettered or worsted by that? 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* II. xiv, Nor is there any doubt but the land is annoyed and worsted [*infestetur*]..by these seeds. 1783 Pott *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 69 He may be much worsted by the experiment.

†b. *intr.* To grow worse, deteriorate. *Obs. rare.*

1782 P. Beckford *Th. Hunting* (1802) 314 We perceived that our scent worsted, and were going to stop the hounds. *c* 1825 Jane Austen *Persuasion* (1818) I. i. 10 Anne haggard, Mary coarse, every face in the neighbourhood worsting.

2. *trans.* To defeat, overcome, get the better of (an adversary) in a fight or battle.

1636 Brathwait *Rom. Emp.* 20 After many battailes Otho being worsted..slew himselfe. 1647 Earl Monm. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 187 He got a notable Victory, worsting a great many of the Enemy with a much lesser number. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 878 The Bear was in a greater fright, Beat down and worsted by the Knight. 1703 Earl Orrery *As you find it* II. ii. 27 There's no more believing him than the Paris-Gazette, when it relates a Battle where the French were worsted. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 194 The Syrians having been worsted in the hilly country. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. liv. (1862) IV. 527 A battle ensued, in which that prince was completely worsted. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 391 He turned on them and worsted them badly before making his escape. 1886 Child *Eng. & Sc. Ballads* II. 441/2 The page worsts his accuser in a duel. 1889 Morris *Ho. Wolfings* 18 In forty fights hast thou foughten, and been worsted but in four. 1902 J. F. Rusling *European Days & Ways* 299 Blücher now took pleasure in getting even with Napoleon for worsting him at Ligny.

b. To defeat in argument, in a suit, attempt, etc.; to outdo, prove better than; to quell (an attack).

1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 209 Lest if you were silent the people should think you were worsted. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 150 How are al Lyricks out-gon by Davids Harp and how do Salomons Proverbs (for contracted sense) worst Seneca? 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* v. 229 And where His Highnesse was worsted or wearied, Arch-bishop Cranmer supplied His place. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 520 Remember how in Arms and Politicks We still have worsted all your holy Tricks. 1693 *Humours Town* 20 If I must be worsted, it shall be in good Christian English. 1694 Kettlewell *Comp. for Persecuted* 69 Who art of times pleased to permit a righteous Cause to be worsted. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1781 (Oxf. ed.) II. 414 Johnson could not brook appearing to be worsted in argument. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Irish Bulls* ix, I could not bear to go away worsted, and borne down as it were by the English faction. 1868 Milman *St. Paul's* iii. 70, He appealed to Rome, but was worsted in his appeal. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* I. v. 136 In any skirmish with this young lady he was likely to be worsted. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 273 [I was] in the habit of feeling worsted in everything I tried of original work. 1911 Ross *Pitt & Gt. War* x. 234 In this secret chaffering Pitt and Grenville were worsted.

Hence **Worsting** *vbl. sb.*

1842 J. H. Newman *Ch. Fathers* 60 We might have conquered by a worsting which was honourable and dignified. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. ix, The dispute ends in the worsting of the person to whom alone it is of any consequence to succeed.

Worst (wɜːst), *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1 wyrst, wyrrest, wierst, 2–3 wurst, 4–5 worste, 6 woorst, 4– worst. *β.* 1–2 werst, 3–6 werst (3, 6 *Sc.* verst, *Orm.* werrst, 4 werist), 4–5 werste, 6– *Sc.* warst. [OE. *wyrrest, wyrst, wierst* = ON. (Icel., Norw.) *verst* (Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*). Cf. Worst *a.*] In a manner, or to a degree, that is most (or extremely) bad or evil.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxii. 209 Donne hie wenes þæt hie habben betst gedon, þæt we him Gonne secgen ðæt hie habbben wierst [*Cott.* wyrst] gedon. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxxiv. 60 Þa ofermodan oðre rican ðe þis werixe folc wyrst tuciað. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1087 (Laud MS.) [He] dyde xit ealra wurst ofer eall þæt land. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 14 Þis beoð þe wepnen þet me wurst wundeð. *c* 1200 Ormin 4030 Um hirrþ clippenn all awæȝ þe flæshess fule wille, Þatt allre werrst & allre mast Werdeþþ þe wrecche sawle. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 68 Of alle wymmanne Wurst was godhild þanne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21450 [I shall treat him] þe werst [*Gött.* werist] þat euer i can or mai. *c* 1380 *Serm. Feriale.* 280 Þat me greueþ werst. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 370 As þe people of israel were werste gouernyd undir her prestis. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 121 Thus he, which love hadde in desdaign, Worste of all othre was besein. *Ibid.* II. 15 Whan that he worst ferde. 1449 *Compl. Scotl.* vii. 69 The thrid part of hyr mantil..vas verst grathit. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* xvi. 46 They cary victuallis to þe toun That werst dois dyne. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 11, I am not the worst furnished of a servaunt with this good fellow. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 206 When thou did'st hate him worst. 1689 N. Carpenter *Architophel* II. (1640) 66 Oftentimes he that can best act, can worst pen his own part. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* iv. 142 The Turkes Sabboth is worst kept of all. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 205 But Gentlemen, an' Ladies warst, Wi' ev'n down want o' wark are curst. 1787 — *John Barleycorn* xi, But a miller us'd him worst of all, For he crush'd him between two stones. — '*My Father was a Farmer*' iii, And when my hope was at the top, I still was worst mistaken. 1888 Saintsbury in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 893/1 In this great mass [of correspondence] Voltaire's personality is of course best shown, and perhaps his literary qualities not worst.

b. With a vb. of liking, loving, allowing, pleasing, etc.: Least well, least.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 195 Oft hit gesamleþ þæt his ahta weorþaþ on þæs onwealde þe he ær on his life wyrrest ufe. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 4386 (Fairf.), I salle þe make wiþ myne housbande þe werst loued [*Cott.* luue] of alle þis lande. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxvii. 84 Oftyme suche maystres as ben of lest reputacion ben mooste necessary, and worst mowe ben myssed. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* ii. (Arb.) 153 Cæsar and Cicero, whose puritie was neuer foiled, no not by the sentence of those, that loued them worst. 1577 B. Goodge *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. (1586) 150 Swine of al other beastes can woorst away with hunger. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. iii. 21 Of all the faults beneath the heauens, the Gods doe like this worst. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 78, I cry your Honour mercie; you may worst Of all this Table say so. 1634 J. Levett *Ordering Bees* 8 Bees of all other creatures can worst away with any great noyse. 1786 Burns *What ails ye now'* xii, But, Sir, this pleas'd them warst ava.

c. *Comb.*, as *worst-affected, -bred, -damaged, -deserving, -favoured* (Sc. *-faurd*), *-formed, -governed, -looking, -managed, -manned, -paid, -used* adjs.

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) F 5 The pehenne (the whiche of price unto him without comparison is the worste faverdeste). 1702 Rowe *Amb. Step-Mother* II. i, What Titles had they had,..if Nature had not Strove hard to thrust the worst-deserving first? 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* xxxii. 170 His majesty's worst-affected subjects. 1751 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) II. 103 The worst-bred man in Europe, if a lady let fall her fan, would certainly take it up and give it her. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 283 In the worst-formed bodies..there lies an immortal spirit. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* 74 The warst-faurd wyfe on the shoris of Fyfe Is cumlye comparet wi' thee. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* xxiii, Waiting for the slowest and worst manned vessels. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Streets—Morning*, The hardest worked, the worst paid, and too often, the worst used class of the community. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* ix, I thought him the worst-looking dog I had ever beheld. 1857 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 318 The worst-used woman I ever knew. 1871 Le Fanu *Checkmate* I. 276, I believe that we are the worst-governed and the worst-managed people on earth. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 55 The worst-damaged plate was taken out, re-rolled, and replaced.

Worsted (wu·stéd), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 worth-, 4 wurthstede, worthested(e, wortestede; 3 wr-, 4–5 wurstede, 6 -steede, 5–6 wurstede (5 -stet); 4–5 wirsted, 6 wyrsted, 5 wrested; 4–6 worstede (5 wore-), 4– worsted (4 -seted, 6 -stedd, -styd; 5 -stet, 6 -stett; 6 vorsted), 5 worsteyd, 6 -steid; 6–8 worstead; 6 woorstred, 7 -sted, -stead. *β.* 5–6 wolsted(e, 6 wullstid, ulsted, 7 wolsteed, 6, 8 woolsted. *γ.* 5–6 wusted, 5–7 wosted, 6–8 woosted. *δ. Sc.* and *n. dial.* 4, 6–7, 9 worset, 4, 6–7 worsett, 7 worsset; 5–6 worsat, 6 worsatt, -eit, 9 wurset, -it, wossat, wusset; 4 wirset, 5 wirsat, 6 wirsait; 5 wersed. [From the name of a parish in Norfolk, north of Norwich, originally (OE.) *Wurðestede*, later *Wurthstede, Worthsted*, etc., and now written *Worstead*.]

†1. (Anglo-Latin) *pannus*, (Anglo-French) *drap, de Wurthstede*, etc.: = sense 2. *Obs.*

1296 *Cal. Close Rolls* (1904) 511 Pannum de Worthstede. 1301 *Lat. Pat.* 4 Oct. in *Northampton Bor. Rec.* (1898) I. 59 De quolibet panno de wurthstede qui vocatur coverlit. 1328 *Rolls of Parl.* II. 28/1 Ses poueres..Overours des Draps de Wurthstede en le Counte de Norff. 1347 *Ibid.* 168/2 Pur Draps de Worstede une novelle Custume leves. 1350 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 173 In 11 pannis de nigro worsteo. 1402–3 *Ibid.* 182 In tribus pannis de wirsted. 1442–3 *Ibid.* 185 In 1 panno nigro de worestede.

2. A woollen fabric or stuff made from well-twisted yarn spun of long-staple wool combed to lay the fibres parallel.

a. 1293 in *Camden Misc.* II. 13 Pro xl. ulnis de wrstede ad caligas faciendas. 1345–9 in *Archæologia* XXXI. 78 Eidem ad vnam aulam de worstede operatam cum papagallis. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 262 Of double worstede was his semycope. 1393–4 *Act 17 Rich. II*, c. 2 Les Marchants & overours de draps appelez sengle Worstede. 1421 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 19 Also y be-queythe to Robert, myn heldest son, a reed bedde of worsteyd. 1429 *Paston Lett.* I. 478 Item, j pece of grene wurstet xxx yards longe. 1465 *Ibid.* (1904) IV. 201 A coverlyte of whyte wurstede longyng therto. 1535 in *Archæologia* IX. 249 A dubblette of wurrsteede. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 61 b, Within hys gate..dwelled dyuerse Frenchmen that Kalendred Worsted, contrary to

the kynges lawes. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 475 They obtained..that the Worsted made there [at Norwich] might be transported. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Norf.* (1662) 247 It surpasseth my skill to name the several stuffs (being Worsted disguised with Weaving and Colouring) made thereof. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 150 The very worsted still look'd black and blue. 1771 Mrs. Haywood *New Present for Maid* 258 Directions for cleaning of Worsted and other Sorts of Stuffs. 1886 Beck *Draper's Dict.* 373 *Worsted*, cloth of long stapled-wool, combed straightly and smoothly, as distinct from woollens, which are woven from short staple wool, crossed and roughed in spinning.

β. 1436 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 152 Unum cowle de nigro wolstede. 1551–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI*, c. 7 § 1 Any kynde of Clothe Chamlettes Wolstede Sayes [etc.]. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 76 His guarde..all in a Liuery of Wolsted.

γ. 1440 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 182 A vestment of Black wosted. 1481–90 *Howard Housch. Bks.* (Roxb.) 38 A piece wusted iij. yerdes deppe, for stremers and standartes. 1537 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 126 Item a vestment of grene wusted w^t an obe. 1556 *Towrson's 1st Voy.* in *Hakluyt* (1589) 108 They shewed vs a certaine course cloth,..it was course wooll, and a small threed, and as thicke as wosted. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 235 Sleeues.., one halfe of woosted, the other of veluet.

δ. 1350 [see 1]. 1375 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* II. 505 Per empcionem de xij ulnis cum dimidio de wirset 1436 *Registr. Aberdon* (Maitl. Club) II. 148 Vnum vestimentum integrum de nigro wersed. 1483 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 112/1 A couering of Inglis worsat. 1520–1 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 305 One vestment of blacke worsett. 1565 in Hay Fleming *Reform. Scot.* (1910) 610 Ane baithky^t [*sic*] of roich worsat, to ly under nobillis feit. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 289 Beltis..of worsett the groce, viij li.

b. With *pl.* A particular variety of this fabric.

1324–5 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 292/2 Draps qe homme appele Worthstedes & Aylehames. 1348 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1708) V. 618 Stapula..aliorum Pannorum de Worstedes. 1393 *Pat. Roll 16 Rich. II*, n. 28 Feb., Pro mercatoribus et operatoribus de worstedes. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 Persones that maken untrewe ware of all maner Worstedes. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 14 A Worsted man of Norffolk, that solde worstedys at Wynchester. 1541–2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 2 The makinge and weavinge of worstedes and other clothes. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* V 92 As if a man should carrie Mockadoes and woolsteds to be sold at Norwich. 1603 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 27 They inuented..the making of tapestrie, saies, searges, wosteds, russets. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 833 The class of goods technically distinguished as 'woollens' in distinction to 'worsteds.' 1895 *Daily News* 13 Sept. 5/3 The revival is more apparent in the production of the higher class of goods known as worsteds than in that known as woollens.

3. A closely twisted yarn made of long-staple wool in which the fibres are arranged to lie parallel to each other. Later, a fine and soft woollen yarn used for knitting and embroidery (cf. Wool *sb.* 3 b).

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 235, I pray yow ye woll send me hedir ij. clue of worsted for dobletts, to happe me thys cold wynter. 1546 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 236 Ane grit buyst, and certane kemmis, worsettis, spectikyllis, and vther small geir in it. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 296 Sewing worssett. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 143 Their loom stands before them, and in their left hand they have several ends of round bottoms of Woorstead of many colours, which they place in their several places. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 265 She being a Spinner of Yarn or Woosted. *a* 1745 Swift *Story Injured Lady* (1746) 7 If a Tenant carried but..an Inch of Worsted to mend his Stockings, he should forfeit his whole Parcel. 1784 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. viii. (1793) II. 507 Woollen yarn and worsted are prohibited to be exported under the same penalties as wool. 1841 Barham *Legl., Nell Cook* Scene, Mrs. John Ingoldsby at the table, busily employed in manufacturing a cabbage-rose..in many-coloured worsteds. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* lx. (1901) II. 152 The young ones sought out their threads and their worsteds to work her a collar or a piece of crochet work each. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 134 The syphon, which may consist of a single thread of wool or worsted.

4. *attrib.* or *adj.* Made of worsted or worsted yarn; said of cloth, thread, garments, etc.; also in specific names of fabrics or materials, as *worsted braid*, *damask*, etc.

1410 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 637/2 Les Worstedes appelez Worsted-beddes, doubles, & sengles. 1492 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 202 For ij dowbil wirsaat beltis til him, price iij s. 1502 *Ibid.* II. 198 For iiij elne worsait ribane to cord the said goune. 1533 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 43 A wolsted dublet. 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 67 Item iij worsted copes. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 74 Spangled like to the woosted stockings of Saturne. 1603 Erondelle *Fr. Gard.* D 8 b, I will haue no worsted hosen. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numb., Widow's Teares* iv, The woosted thred is cut, that made us clothing. 1720 T. Gordon *Humourist* I. 45 Renouncing his Buckles and conforming to Woolsted-Tapes. 1748 Smollett *R. Random* xvii, His white silk stockings were converted into black worsted hose. 1818 Scott *F. M. Perth* vi, The thumb of his mother's worsted glove might hold the treasure of the whole clan. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 555/2 Worsted shag [is made] at Banbury and Coventry. 1858 Lytton *What will He do?* I. vi, Two small worsted rugs. 1878 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Vict.* ii, Voluminous worsted curtains falling before the narrow windows. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 524 Worsted Braids..Worsted Damasks.

Comb. 1767 *Ann. Reg.* 158 The looms of a worsted-lace-weaver.

5. Simple attrib. and adjective comb., as *worsted-breaker*, *-comber*, *-dealer*, *-factory*, *-machinery*, *-maker*, *-making*, *manufacture*, *-manufacturer*, *merchant*, *mill*, *repository*, †*-shearing*, †*shearman*, *-spinner*, *-spinning*, *-throwster*, *trade*, *-weaver*, *-weaving*.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 217 These two endless chains pass over fluted guide-rollers (like those more obviously seen in the *worsted-breaker). 1722 in P. Wright *New Bk. Martyrs* (1784) 808/1 William Hussey, a *worsted comber. 1730 Parson & White *Directory Leeds* etc. 426 *Worsted Dealers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 554/1 A *worsted factory in the north. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2819 *Worsted machinery. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 95 [illegible] state of the *worsted manufacture. 1736 in *Rec. Convent. Royal Burghs Scot.* (1885) V. 604 The case of the silk and *worset manufacturers. 1821 T. Peck *Norwich Directory* 11 Crowe William, Worsted-Manufacturer. 1481 *Paston Lett.* III. 278 One Holt, a *worstede marchaunt. 1880 Goldw. Smith *Cowper* vii. 200 The letter slides from spiritual despair to the worsted-merchant. 1896 W. White *Hist. etc. Norf.* 96 Two *worsted mills at Norwich. 1898 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Worsted-repository*,..a shop where fancy knitting-wools are sold. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 17 § 1 The *Worsted Sheremen wythin the seid Citie.. have chosen Wardens of *Worsted sheryng. 1830 Parson & [illegible] sted-Throwster by Trade. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 68 The *worsted trade of England. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 The craft of *Worsted Wevers. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4319/4 George Durant, of the City of Norwich, Worsted-Weaver.

Worsted (wŭ·stĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Worst *v.* + -ed.] Defeated.

1690 Child *Disc. Trade* (1698) 198 The worsted party, by the fate of war, being deprived of their estates. 1780 S. J. Pratt *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 52 The general on the worsted side affected to be dismayed. 1822 J. & H. Smith *Rej. Addr.* i. (1873) 6 God bless the guards, though worsted Gallia scoff. 1869 Gladstone *Juventus Mundi* iii. 84 A place of refuge for fugitives, and for the worsted party expelled from other portions of Greece.

absol. 1855 Browning *Old Pict. Florence* xiv, To submit is the worsted's duty.

Worstness. *rare.* [f. Worst *a.* + -ness.] The quality or state of being worst.

a 1665 J. Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 92 Lastness or worstness in estate or condition.

†**Worsum, wursum.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 worsm (uuorsm), wursm, 3 (9 *north. dial.*) wursum (wrusum), 4, *Sc.* 6–7, 9 worsum; *Sc.* 7 worsam, -some, 6 woursome, 9 woursum. β. 3, 6 *Sc.* wirsum (3 *Orm.* wirrsemn), 9 *north. dial.* wirsom. [OE. *worsm*, *wursm*, metathetic form of the more usual *wormes*, *wurmes* (also *wyrmes*), app. related to *wyrm* Worm *sb.*] Purulent matter, pus.

a. *c* 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 777 *Pus*, uuorsm. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 100 Heo..þæt worsm [*v.r.* worms] ut atyhð. *Ibid.* II. 202 Oþ þæt he þæt wursm of muðe hræce. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 274 Mine wunden..gederes neowe wrusum [*v.r.* wursum] & foð on eft uorte rotien. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21835 Quer-at wrang vte worsum and ware, And wormes creuld here and bare. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. ix. 64 Thir wretchit mennis flesche, that is his fude, And drinkis worsum, and thair lopperit blude. 1595 Duncan *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Pus*, *sanies*, worsum of a byle. 1610 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 95 For Bewltching of ane kow, quhairthrow þe haill milk that scho þaireftir gaif was bluid and worsam. 1613 P. Forbes *On Rev.* iv. 15 It is not mixed with bloud.. much lesse with bloudy worsum. 1666 *Despaut. Gram.* D 4 a (Jam.), *Tabes*, rotten and putrified blood and worsome. 1808 Jamieson, *Woursum*, *Worsum*, purulent matter; S. pron. *wursum*. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Words* (ed. 3), *Wursum*, pus; particularly when foul.

β. *c* 1200 Ormin 4782 War & wirrsenn toc anan Ut off his lic to flowenn. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* 302 (Titus MS.), Hwon..al þe fulðe scheawes him & wringes ut tat wirsum. 1297 in *Misc. Spalding Club* (1841) I. 93 Thow..keist witchecraft on the snid cow,..that scho gewe no milk, bot..lyk wirsum or wenem. 1847 Halliwell, *Wirsom*, foul pus. *Yorksh.*

b. quasi-*adj.* Purulent.

a 1599 Rollock *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 444 He has not skunnert..at thy worsum bylis, and botchis.

Wort (wŭt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 wyrt, 2 wirte, 6 *pl.* wirtes; 2 wert, 4 *pl.* wertes; 1, 3, 5–7 wurt (5 *pl.* wurten), 3 wrt, 3–7 worte (5 wourte), 4–wort (5 *pl.* worttus, 6 woort). [OE. *wyrt* root, plant = OS. *wurt*, OHG. (MHG. and G.) *wurz*, ON. (Icel., Norw., Sw., Da.) *urt*, Goth. *waurts*; the stem is related to those of ON. *rót* Root *sb.*, and of L. *rādix*, Gr. ῥίζα.

For the history of the spelling and pronunciation, see the note to Worm *sb.*]

1. A plant, herb, or vegetable, used for food or medicine; often = pot-herb.

Not in ordinary use after the middle of the 17th cent. and now *arch.* As a second element, however, retained in various plant-names, as *colewort*, *liverwort*.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxxix. 6 On marne swe swe wyrt leoreð. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 173 Manegra cyuna wyrta & grasu. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 42 Ȝiue teoðas meric & cunela & alc wyrt. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 70 Deos wyrt þe man betonicam nemneð. *c* 1205 Lay. 31884 þat folc fiah in to wudes..heo luueden bi wurten. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 129 Ilk gras, ilc wurt,..His owen sed beran bad he. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6999 It wolde finde hom ioc & worten inowe bi þe yere. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 42 Schadowed þis wortes ful schyre & schene, Gilofre, gyngure, & gromylyoun, & pyonys. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 170 Whan she homward cam she wolde brynge Wortes or other herbes tymes ofte. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 46 Hakke smalle þy wortis and perayl. *c* 1475 *Macro Plays, Mankind* 665, I was neuer worth a pottfull a wortis, sythyn I was borne. 1535 Elyot *Governour* III. xxii. (1883) II. 343 Wortes that the Gilde de bryngt furthe, for their potage. 1538 Lyte *Dodoens* v. lxxv. 642 Cyrsos..is set in gardens amongst potte herbes, or wortes. 1604 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* vii. 238 *Wirts* or *Worts*. Woortes, for which wee now vse the French name of herbes. 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Pr., Winter* xvi. 11. 204 It is an excellent [illegible] to be able to take pleasure in worts and water, in bread and onions. 1725 [illegible] ral name for an herb; *Liverwort*, *spleenwort*. [illegible] ref. p. liii, We find the healing power of worts spoken of as a thing of course. 1888 A. S. Wilson *Lyric Hopeless Love* cxv. 330 And worts and pansies there which grew Have secrets others wish they knew.

†2. A general name for any plant of the cabbage kind, genus *Brassica*; colewort. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 190 Woman mylk and wortis souplih. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* I. 134 Saue wortis [*excepta caulibus*] sowe in hem what euere hit be. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-Bks.* 69 Hare in Wortes—Take Colys, and stripe hem faire from the stalkes. *a* 1500 *Mourn. Hare* in *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 44 Yf I to the toune come or torne, Be hit in worttus or in leyke. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Brassica*..*anglice uocatur* wortes *aut* Cole *aut* Cole Wortes. [1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. i. 123 *Fal.* Good worts? good Cabidge.] 1601 Holland *Pliny* xix. iv. II. 11 Here is the stem of a woort so well growne, here is a cabbage so thriven and fed, that a poore mans board will not hold it. 1617 Fletcher *Valentinian* III. ii, I am poor,..yet digging, pruning,.. Planting of Worts and Onions, any thing That's honest,.. I'll rather chuse. 1648 Herrick *Hesper.*, *To M. Jo. Wicks* 12 A Dish Of thrice-boyl'd-worts. 1725 Johnson, *Wort* a. A plant of the cabbage kind.

†3. *pl.* = Pottage 1. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182, Prol. 231 He shall lat ordeynn wele his soper with wortis of the necke of the hert and of oþer good metes. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 114 Wortes made of olde chese, cicer, cristall beaten to powder and taken with hony. 1547 Baldwin *Mor. Philos.* 7 If thou, Diogenes, couldest flatter Dionise, thou shouldst not need to make woorts. 1596 Withals *Dict.* (1620) 51/2 *Pulmentum*, a meate made lyke grewell or wortes.

†b. With qualifying word: esp. *long worts*.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-Bks.* 5 Lange Wortys de chare.—Take beef and merybonys, and boyle yt in fayre water; þan take fayre wortys and..parboyle hem in clene water [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Lange Wortes de pesoun. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 518 Frumenty with venesoun, pesyn with bakon, longe wortes not spare. *c* 1500 *Wyl Buche's Test.* (Copland) B 1 b, For to make small wortes..then take herbes of the beste that thou can gete for wortes, and hewe them small.

4. *Comb.*, as †*wort blade*, †*-leaf*, †*-plant*, †*porridge*; †**wort-cropper**, a name for the hare; **wort-cunning** (pseudo-*arch.*), the knowledge of herbs and plants; †**wort-stook**, a cabbage-stalk; †**wort-yard**, a herb-garden. Also Wort-worm.

14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* (MS. Harl. 2257), *Caulis*,..a *worte blade. 13.. *Names of Herbs* (MS. Digby 86 if. 168 b), Þe cawelhert, þe *wort-croppere. 1864 Cockayne (*title*) Leechdoms, *Wortcunning, and Starcraft of Early England. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* 13 Rocketh in a Docke or *Worte leafe. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 786/37 *Hec elusculum*, a [illegible] so Wort-stocks beeing dried and burnt into ashes. *c* 1000 *Cambr. Ps.* cxliii. 13 *Prumptuaria*, hordyrn *oð *wyrtgeardas. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 331 He..suffrede not, for defaute of preching, Goddis vyneȝerde passe to a wortȝerd. 1382 — *1 Kings* xxi. 2 *3if* to me thi vyn ȝerd, that I make to me a wort ȝerd.

Wort (wŭt), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 wyrt, 5 wirt; 4– wort, 4–7 worte (5 wortte), 4 wourt, 5 wurt(e, 5–7 woort (6 woorte). [OE. *wyrt* = OS. *wurtja* spicery, MHG. and G. *würze*, spice, brewer's wort), f. the stem *wurt-*; cf. *wyrt* Wort *sb.*[1]]

1. The infusion of malt or other grain which after fermentation becomes beer (or may be used for the distillation of spirits), unfermented beer. †Of beer: (*to be*) *in wort*, still unfermented. (See also Sweetwort.)

c 1000 *Ags. Leechd.* II. 268 Bewylle þone þriddan dæl on hwætenes wyrt. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 158 Fre wort to ale. *a* 1387 *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 16 *Circumellum*, worte. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-Bks.* II. 107 Seth hem [*sc.* quinces] in goode wort til þey be soft. 1492 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 243/2 Þe spoliatioun..of.. half a chalder of malt in all and wort. 1574 R. Scot *Hop Gardon* (1578) 54 In the first Woorte..there goeth out of these Hoppes almost no vertue at all. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 233 Nay then two treyes, an if you grow so nice Metheglin, Wort, and Malmsey. 1600 Rowlands *Greenes Ghost* 8 They put in willowe leaues and broome buds into their woort in stead of hoppes. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 385 It were good also to try the Beere, when it is in Wort, that it may be seene, whether [etc.]. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) I. 314 This in a hours time will ferment and froth like Wort. 1731 P. Shaw *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 65 When a parcel of Wort, brewed in the common manner, is become fine by standing. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 240/2 An eighth Part of the Wort evaporated in three Hours boiling. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 24/1 By the excise rules, 100 gallons of such wort ought to yield one gallon of proof spirit for every five degrees of attenuation. 1868 Spencer *Princ. Psych.* VI. vii. (1872) II. 72 Fermenting wort gives out carbonic acid. 1880 *Act 43 & 44 Vict.* c. 24 § 5 (2) No person may, without being licensed..Brew or make wort or wash.

†b. *Sc. To play wort*: to work or stir the mash in the brewing vessel. *Obs.*

1644 *Aberbrothick Kirk Sess. Rec.* 10 Jan., The collectores.. delaieth that Alexr Greig his wyff & his woman war playing wort. *Ibid.* 22 May, James Robertson..denyed that their was any wort played in his hous the fasting Wednesday.

†c. *fig. To cast in one's worts that*, etc.: to give one something to meditate upon or consider. *Obs.*

1539 Cromwell *Let. to Hen. VIII*, 3 Feb. (1910) II. 176 And yet further I casted in his wortes that if they wold regarde them [*sc.* the Pope's censures] your highnes was and

should be liable..to defende..yourself..and that..they should not fynde your grace unfournished of all thinges expedient.

2. An infusion or decoction of malt formerly used

| Malt,

Anglice Wort. 1766 in Macbride *Th. & Pract. Physic* (1772) 642 The first day he took the wort, he had the following scorbutic symptoms. 1770 Rush in *Med. Observ.* (1772) IV. 367 An Account of the Usefulness of Wort in some ill-conditioned Ulcers.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly in names of utensils and materials used in brewing, as † *wort-cake, -condenser, -cooler, copper,* † *dish,* † *-fat, -filter,* † *-lead, -refrigerator,* † *-stone,* † *-trough, tub, tun*; also *worts-receiver.*

1795 Sir J. Dalrymple *Let. to Admiralty* 3 My Yeast-powder..to set the first parcel of *Wort-cakes in fermentation. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wort-condenser*, one for condensing the vapor which rises from the wort in the process of boiling. *Ibid.*, *Wort-cooler*, usually a shallow vat of large area, in which the infusion of malt is placed to cool. 1878 *Cbell Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 406/2 The consumption of fuel was much more considerable in the immense grate under the *wort copper. 1747 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 80 In the brewhouse..a *wort dish, sixpence. 1367 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. lxxviii, iiij gilfatts sive *wourtfatts. 1883 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 172 Ane masking fatt, ane wortfatt. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wort-filter*, one for extracting the clear liquor from the boiled mash. 1480 *Inventory* in *Lincoln Chapter Acc. Bk.* A. 2. 30. f. 69, 2 *wortleddes. *a* 1550 in Strutt *Horda* (1776) III. 65 Item 6 wort leeds, callyd coolars. 1893 Nettleton *Manuf. Spirit* 103 They drain by several pipes..into a *worts-receiver. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wort-refrigerator*, an apparatus for cooling wort after boiling with hops and previous to fermentation. 1580 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1883) 178 A mask fat, a *wort stane. 1548 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 30 A browyn leed..a maskefatt,..and a wortston. 1485 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 37 iij *wort trogh de lapide. 1660 *Melrose Regality Rec.* (S.H.S.) I. 295 Ane woorttroch. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 320 Foure gyle fattis and ane *wort tube. 1625 *Tube* (Kent) *Estate Accts.* (MS.) fol. 178 The great *worte tunne in bruhouse.

† **Wort,** *sb.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* [Metathetic form of *wrot* Wroot *sb.*] The snout of a pig.

1507 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 436 That nay swyne be haldin withtin this toun, vtteuche band, or ane ring in thar wort,..and gif thai be fundin vteuche band, and without ring in thar wort,..thai salbe eshet, [etc.].

Wort, variant of Wroot.

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 370 Black Worts. Black Whortle-berries.

† **Wort,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [Metathetic form of *wrot* Wroot *v.* Cf. Wort *sb.*[3]] *trans.* Of swine: To root or dig *up* (ground).

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 264 Ane swine that ..wortis othir mennes landis, sal be slane. 1560 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 218 That odiouse Beast and lecherouse Swyne (quhal hais worted and rated vp the Lordes wyne yard so far as in him wes). 1597 Jas. VI *Daemonol.* III. i. 59 When as Swine wortes vppe the graues. 1808 Jamieson, To *Wort, Wort-up*, v.a., to dig up.

Wort, var. *worts,* Forth *conj.* (= until).

a 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 4920+22 Vorte [MS. a. wort] God yt wolde amende.

Worth (wɪ̄þ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 weorþ, weorð (1–2 weord), wurð (2 wurhðe), wyrþ, 1, 3 wurþ, 2–3 wurth (5 wurthe, wyrtht); 1, 4 worþ, 3– worth (6 worthe), 4–7 worthe, 6 woorth, wourth(e. [OE. *weorþ* (*wurþ, worþ*) neut., = OFris. *werth*, OS. *werd*, OHG. *werd* (MHG. *wert*, G. *werth, wert*), ON. *verð* (Norw. *verd*, Da. *værd*), Goth. *wairþ*. Cf. Worth *a.*]

1. Pecuniary value; † price; † money.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xliii. 13 Ðu bibohtes folc ðin butan weorðe. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* IV. x. 198 Þeh þe he hie sume wiſ feo gesealde,..he þæt weorð nolde agan. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 89 Hire innoþ þu gefyldest nigon monaþ mid ealles middangeardes weorþe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 9 Þys mihte beon geseald to miclum weorþe, and þearfum gedæled. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Þæt he nime þa ilke ehte oðer his wurð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 Nis heo uniseli þæt mit te wurð of heouene buð hire helle! 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7674 Þe King William uorto wite þe wurþ of is londe Let enquerí strailiche [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12390 Treen beddes for to make, Was he wont for worth to take. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 46 That al the gold of Cressus halle The leste coronal of alle Ne mihte have boght after the worth. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 539 He sholde yeve to them eschaunge to the worthe of the same scrip. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 2 Chryses..with things of price,..His daughter captiue helde by Greekes by worth hir home to buy. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 133 A pearle..makes all base, & to come under the worth thereof. 1695 Locke *Further Consid. Value Money* 27 Rising and falling of Commodities is always between several Commodities of distinct worths. 1782 Cowper *Charity* 133 The bark..Charg'd with a freight transcending in its worth The gems of India. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Doctors' Commons*, Some pc wrty-stricken legal ..selling his chance..for a twelfth part of its worth. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* IV. 41 Of little worth Was all the gear that hall did hold.

b. The equivalent *of* a specified sum or amount.

For OE. examples see Pennyworth, and cf. Halfpennyworth, *pounds' worth* (s.v. Pound *sb.*

1308 *Reg. Priory Seal Scot.* I. 258/2 The malis..of the vi merkis worth of land of the Redecastell. 1583 Stockem *Chr. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 55 b, This victualler had about him in Gold to the Worth of 20. Florins. 1607 Shake. *Timon* III. iii. 22 I'de rather then the worth of thrice the summe, Had sent to me first. 1627 *Treasurer's Remembr.* (ed. 2) B 6, The Operation of the worth of 30 *li.* Annuitie for 6 yeares. *a* 1687 Petty *Polit. Arith.* viii. (1691) 108 If the Tradesmen..could do one Million worth of Work extraordinary. 1782 *Cowper Table-T.* 85 The worth of his three kingdoms I defy, To lure me to the baseness of a lie. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 410 'Take Five horses and their armours!'..'My lord, I scarce have spent the worth of one!' 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xxiii, He always gets the worth of his money.

† **c.** In allusive phr.: The amount or value *of* something small or insignificant. *Obs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 150 Þer nas man..Þat bireft him worþ of a slo. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 170 3it 3eue 3e me neuere þe worthe of a russhe. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 24 Beggyng of hir booteth not the woorth of a beane.

† **d.** Money (in contrast to goods). *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5393 Þai had noþer worth ne ware Þat þai moght for bair mete spare.

2. The relative value of a thing in respect of its qualities or of the estimation in which it is held.

Freq. with implication of high value: cf. b.

1340 *Ayenb.* 82 Hit seeweþ þet þe wordle is ydel, ine byinge vyl, in worþ biter. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 23 Of Selver that was overforth Schal ben a world of lasse worth. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 174/2 Yᵉ Worth of a thing, *pretium, dignitas.* 1599 Storer *Life & D. Wolsey* C 3, A man made old to teach the worth of age. 1605 Camden *Rem., Epitaphs* 42 This bad inscription which I insert more for the honor of the name, then the worth of the verse. 1626 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 2 A man knoweth not the worth of a thing before that he wanteth it. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 880 Nor doth the bold'st attempts bring forth Events still equal to their worth. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art Poet.* 326 Let them not come forth, 'Till the ninth ripening Year mature their Worth. 1788 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. ix, I knew not..the full worth of steadiness and prudence till I knew this young man. 1857 Maurice *Epist. St. John* I. 4 He made me see the worth of habits, the worth of acts, the worth of moral purposes. 1877 C. Grikie *Christ* XXXI. (1879) 370 The worth of man's homage to God does not depend on the place where it is paid.

b. High or outstanding value, excellence. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Weeks' Observ.* D 2 b, A paire of such Organs, which for worth and workemanship are vnparalelld in Christendome. 1699 *Gentl. Calling* VI. xvii. 435 Any thing that carries the stamp of ancient worth and nobility. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. § 16. 469/2 A covetous Pelagian, and one that had nothing of worth in him.

3. The character or standing of a person in respect of moral and intellectual qualities; *esp.* high personal merit or attainments.

In early use also comprising rank or dignity.

1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 108 His worth is warrant for his welcome hether. 1593 — *Rich. II*, III. iii. 110 By the Worth and Honor of himselfe,..His comming hither hath no further scope, Then for his Lineall Royalties. 1613 G. Sandys *Trav.* 19 He was a iust Prince, full of worth and magnanimitie. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* Ded. A 2, The accomplished mirror of true worth, Sr. T. H. the elder. 1635 Abbe *Funeral Serm. Gataker* 46 To favour the Son very highly for his own worth and work in the Ministry. 1728 Young *Love Fame* III. 263 How hard for real worth to gain its price? 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* I. xvi. 203, I regard him..for his own worth's sake, and for his uncle's. 1788 J. Hurdis *Village Curate* (1797) 14 The down-cast eye of modest worth, Which shrinks at its own praise. 1829 Southey *Funeral Song, Pcess Charlotte of Wales* 21 Henry, thou of saintly worth. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* 3 Each did much to raise the measure of worth..of mankind.

b. In *pl.*, † sometimes of one person.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. ii. § 4 How can you him unworthy then decree, In whose chiefe parte your worthes implanted be? *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* III. iv. 1037 If that your maiestie can looke so lowe, As my despised worths. 1616 T. Scot *Philomythie* II. C 3, If either of you, thinke you can Out of your owne worths, proue more fit. 1632 Wever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 116 Honourably preferred, and provided for according to their worthes.

4. In the phrases *of great, little, no*, etc., *worth.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 22 A goodlie Ladie..That seemed to be a woman of great worth. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 25 As the sacrament it selfe is a gift of no meane woorth. 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 161 Euerie day Men of great worth resorted to this forrest. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 70 Seeing resistance of no worth, [they] fled. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 952 Forgive him, then, thou bustler in concerns Of little worth. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* XXX, Caldrons and tripods of great worth. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* II. 397 And two dear things are one of double worth. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Colonna & Buonarotti* Wks. II. 217/2 A man of highest worth.

b. *Of worth*: of high merit or excellence.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* XLV. i, My harte endites an argument of worth. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* III. i. 107 She ..Is promis'd by her friends Vnto a youthfull Gentleman of worth. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 38 Rings and Iewels of Gold inammeld and set with stones of worth and lustre. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 84 All the Kaanas or Governments of Persia were likewise bestow'd upon persons of worth. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. Pref. p. vii, Women of worth and sense are to be found everywhere. 1822 L. Hunt *Rimini* IV. 391 Her thin white hand, that wore a ring of worth. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* XXVII, The sordid wretches..conceive those temptations too powerful for men of worth.

5. The position or standing of a person in respect of property; hence *concr.*, possessions, property, means. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* II. vi. 32 They are but beggers that can count their worth. 1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xvi. (1615) 109 Euery Gentleman, Husbandman, Farmer and householder of any worth. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 206 They..generally loue play;..so that..they will hazard all their worth, themselues, wiues, children and other substance. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* (1782) II. 227 She gave in an estimate of her worth, to what amount the Ladies knew not.

1812 Crabbe *Tales* XVII. 172 To legal claims he yielded all his worth.

† **6.** *To take at, of,* or *to worth; to take* (*accept, bear, have*) *in worth,* or *in good worth; to take* (or *bear*) *well in worth*: to take (something) at its true or proper value; to take in good part, to be content with. (See also Aworth *adv.*) *Obs.*

(*a*) 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 105 Take we her wordes at worthe, for here witnesse be trewe. 1483 *Vulgaria abs Terentio* n ij, I thanke the that thou tokist it to worthe. *Ibid.* q ij b, Thi mynde or hert that shulde take it at worthe. *c* 1500 *Everyman* 903 This memoryall men may haue in mynde, Ye herers take it of worth.

(*b*) *c* 1482 *Paston Lett.* III. 278 Yf she be eny better than I wryght for, take it in woo[r]the, I shew the leeste. *c* 1490 Caxton *Rule St. Benet* (1900) 234 He that it was sent vnto shall take it in worthe & thereſully. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1439 And so as ye se it wyll be no better, Take it in worthe suche as ye fynde. 1576 Gascoigne *Kenelw. Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 200 That yon take in worth my will, which can but well deserve. 1636 Sir R. Baker *Cato Variegatus* 16 When a poore friend, a small gift gives to thee: Take it in worth: and let it prayned be.

(*c*) *c* 1500 *Yng. Child. Bk.* 114 in *Babees Bk.*, Be it gode or be it badde, Yn gud worth it muste be had. 1523 [Coverdale] tr. *Dulichius' Old God* (1534) O j, Yf greate abbottes wolde take my salutation in good worthe it sholde be redy for theym. 1549 Latimer *3rd Serm bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 82 It becommeth me to take it in good worthe, I am not better then he was. 1576 R. Peterson *G. della Casa's Galateo* 26 Some..neuer take in good worthe the honour and courtesie that men doe vnto them. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* A iij b, Not doubting that you will take this small gift in good worth. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* I. vi. 26 He compounds with his father to accept in good worth the vtmost of his endeavour.

(*d*) *a* 1542 Wyatt *Poems, Lo I how I seek* 8 Hap evyll or good I shallbe glad To take that comes as well in worthe. 1564 *Brief Exam.* A iij, I trust your most Reuerende fatherhood wyll beare all these thynges well in worth. 1592 Timme *Ten Eng. Lepers* A 2, Pardon my rudenesse herein, and take it well in worth.

Worth (wɪ̄þ), *sb.*[2] Now only *Hist.* Also 7 woorth. [OE. *worþ* (*weorþ*), *wurþ*, = OS. *wurd*, MLG. *wurd, word.*] An enclosed place, a homestead.

Except in quot. 1649, only by inference from place-names in which it forms the second element.

1575 Lanham *Let.* (1871) 4 The name..is called Kenelworth. Syns most of the Worths in England stand ny vntoo like lakes [etc.]. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 5 b, Worth signifieth a watry place or water. 1649 *Deed of Conveyance, Windsor*, All those two closes..one..on Yᵉ Spittlehill and the other in the Woorth comonly called Margret Acre. 1917 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 378 Probably the 'worths' were farms on clearings made later than the original settlements.

† **Worth,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Perh. an error for Worthing.] Manure.

1609–10 *Act 7 Jas. I*, c. 18 § 1 The Counties of Devon and Cornewall, where the moste parte of the Inhabitantes have not commonly used any other Worth, for the bettringe of their Arrable Groundes and Pastures.

Worth, *sb.*[4], error for Ord (beginning).

14.. *Sir Beues* (S) 893 [He] tolde [it] boþ worth and ende.

Worth (wɪ̄þ), *a.* Forms: 1–2 weorþ, weorð, weorðe, 1–5 worþ, 3–5 worþe, 3–6 worthe, 3– worth; 1, 3 wurð, 1–5 wurþ (*Orm.* wurrþ, 3, 5 wrþ), 3–5 wurth (5 wurght), 4–5 wurthe; 5 wourth, 6–7 woorth (6 -the); 5 werth, 9 *dial.* wirth. [OE. *weorþ, worþ, wurþ*, = OFris. *werth*, OS. *werd*, MDu. *wert, weert* (Flem. *weerd*), *waert* (Du. *waard*), OHG. *werd* (MHG., G. *wert*), ON. *verðr* (Icel. *verðr*, Norw. *verd*, Sw. *värd*, Da. *værd*), Goth. *wairþs*; the relationships of the stem are obscure. OE. also had the derivative form *wierðe, wyrðe*, which is represented by *wurðe, wurthe*, in early southern texts; see Wurthe *a.* The Anglian form of this, *weorðe*, cannot in ME. be distinguished from *weorð.*]

Almost always (now only) in predicative use, or following the sb. as part of a qualifying phrase.

I. 1. Of the value of a specified amount or sum; equivalent to (something) in material value.

Also used indefinitely in direct or indirect questions; see group (*b*).

(*a*) *a* 695 *Laws Ine* lv, Ewo biſ mid hire giunge sceapa scill. weorð. *Ibid.* lviii, Oxan horn biſ x. peninga weorð. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 22416 Somme riche robes, wyþ [*v.r.* worth] many poundes. *c* 1330 *Athelston* 391 Now is my goode hors forlorn,..He was wurþ an hundryd pounde. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 718 At the beddes hed he fond A sword, worthe an Erlys lond. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 86 3e haue a comyn sayng among you, and sayn þat Godys grace ys worth a new fayre. 1480 Warkworth *Chron.* (Camden) 25 Alle the good that was therin, whiche was worthe xx. ml. li. or more. *c* 1530 [see March *sb.*[2] 2]. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 81 Though the horse..be nat the .xx. part worth in value of the summe of money. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 44 A rottenly mould is land woorth gould. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 289 An ell of the scarlet of Venice or of Turkie-cloath is here worth thirtie ducates. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 45 A penny at a pinch is worth a pound. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* V. 127 What Present worth thy Verse can Mopsus find? 1705 Addison *Italy, Pavia* 28 It [the statue] is esteem'd worth its weight in Gold. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 285 He would be worth a mint of money, and make one of the best hunters in the kingdom. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 80 It is worth ten pieces of gold. 1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* § 122 The money of all nations is worth, at its maximum, the property of all nations, and no more.

(*b*) *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1085 He lett ge-uriten

..hu mycel ale mann hæfde..& hu mycel fece hit were wurð. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lvii. 37 Loke what it is wr± [= wr þ], þat ye ne sette na felun price þar-on. 1598 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 19 A Fyne..whych amounteth nygh asmoche as the sayd landes..be worth clyerly to be solde. 1605 Ergndelle *Fr. Gard.* K 5 b, There is a fayre Diamond, what is it worth? 1795-6 Wordsw. *Borderers* III. 1278 Pray tell me what this land is worth by the acre. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* ii. 37 What'll it be worth when it is reaped?

ellipt. *a* 1690–1874 [see Candle *sb.* 5 f]. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xviii, The game didn't seem worth the candle.

b. Of (such-and-such) value *to* a person. Also with dative of person.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* xii, [The Dene sayd] I pray yow what is this benefyce worth to yow a yere. 1533 More *Apol.* x. Wks. 867/1 Al the landes and fees that I haue..is not at this daye..worthe yearelye to my lyuynge, the summe of full fyftye pounde. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 303 Certenly that countrey is not so much worth vnto hym, but that, if he myght with his honour, he coulde be content to forgoe it. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 160 He said the first oath should stand and that it should be worth her 100*li*. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 83 Which Employment was worth to him about fifteen thousand pounds yearly.

c. In contemptuous comparisons. Sometimes *ellipt.* after verbs of action: see (*b*).

For further examples see Button *sb.* 1 b, Cress 2, Fas 2, Fig *sb.*[1] 4, Fly *sb.*[1] 1 d, Halfpenny 1, Haw *sb.*[2] 2, Leek 3, Mite[2] 1 b, Pease *sb.* 2 b, Pin *sb.*[1] 3 b, Preen *sb.* 1 b, Straw *sb.*[1] 7, Turd 1 b.

c 1250 *Orison of Our Lady* 28 in *O. E. Misc.* 160 Þis liues blisse nis wurð a slo. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 86 ibid. 95 Hit nere on ende wrþ on heryng. *c* 1290 *St. James* 52 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 35 Ouwer power nis nouȝt wurth an hawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26992 Hop as god at hald wit house, bot til vnskil noght worth a gloue. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 769 For euery gadlyng nat wurþ a pere Takyþ ensample at ȝow to swere. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3267 Þis lond nis worþ anay [= an egg], When þou darst do swiche adede. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* i. 24 Þai fled,..And all Þaire fare noght wurth a flye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 334 To hasten is noght worth a kerse. 14.. ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 597 For all the baytys that ye for hym haue leyde..be nat worth a peere. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 8 Whereas in maters not woorth a blewe point..wee will spare for no cost. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 7 She knewe it to be but a feigned & peinted mattre & not woorth two strawes. 1580 Fulke *Retentive, Discov. Dang. Rech* ii. 181 Therfore these three differences are not worth three chippes. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 72, I would say they [the Jesuits] had no scholerisme worth a blew button amongst them.

ellipt. 1776 Foote *Bankrupt* II. 36 Manufacturers, and meagre mechanicks? fellows not worth powder and shot.

(*b*) 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 204 Þou fisshes not worþe a leke, rise & go þi ways. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 54 Schal no deuel at his deþ-day deren him worþ a Myte. *c* 1425 *Macro Plays, Castle Perser.* 2227 Go hens! ȝe do not worthe a tord!

2. Of material value; capable of being estimated in terms of money or some other material standard; valuable as a possession or property. Qualified by adv. of quantity, as *little, much,* †*nought.* †*Well worth*: of full value. *arch.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Þe sullere loueð his þing dere and seiȝ þat it is wel wurð, oðer betere; þe beȝer..seiȝ þat hit nis noht wurð. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 306 Lityl is worth the reme of an ey. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 218 As for a goose hawke I gett non here yett for..my lordd Chamberleyn beyth hem upp and [= if] they be any thyng wurth. 1538 T. Watson *Seven Sacr.* xviii. 113 Bye me one or twoo of the best of them and leaste woorthe. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. iv. C iv b, Ah sir, when one is hungry, good meat is much worth. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 138 It may rightly be saide..that the feathers are more worth then the byrde. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 6 Fruit blown vnripe, are small worth. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 19. 126 A Carbunkle is more worth than a Rock. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 68 My Time or Labour was little worth, and so it was as well employ'd one way as another.

b. Of value in other than material respects. *arch.*

c 1200 Ormin 1136 Mare wass hiss bede wurrþ þann alle þe33re lakess. *c* 1205 Lay. 26555 Nis noht wurð þratte buten þer beo dede ær. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8318 His sacringe was lute worþ & napeles it was ydo. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 25 That figure..Betokneth how the world schal change And waxe lasse worth and lasse. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 36 Hyt ys so muche worthe,..The vertu therof no mon telle may. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. xli, Better worthe is to lyue in pouerte surely, than to lyue rychely beyng euer in daunger. 1568 Cecil in *Cal. St. Papers Irel.* Pref. 8 Marry! an ounce of advise is more worth to be executed aforehand than in the sight of perrills. 1579 Googe *Lopez de Mendoza's Prov.* 32 That wisedome is more woorth then the weapons of the mightie. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 37 Their prayers for them is more worth then the means of sustenance which they receive from them. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 29, I do not think it so much worth to gain his approbation. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. Y. Juniper* II. 173 A blessing that is more worth than all the wealth of which the Jews have ever cheated honest men. 1834 Southey in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 321 He will have..a living lesson, better worth than Divines could teach. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* II. II. ii. 148 Little worth is woman's beauty, So oft an image dumb we see.

3. Of a specified or certain value in other than material respects.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 810 To soþ þou seidest me, þat as muche as ich hadde ich was worþ. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8550 Þy lyfe hym þynkeþ ys wurþ no þyng. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 261 For riȝt wisdam is worþ al þe world [illegible] 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 75 Weore þe Bischop.. [illegible] biforn his Eren, Heo scholde not beo so hardi to deceyue þe peple. 1526 J. Rastell *Hundred Merry Tales* (1866) 93, I pray yᵉ teche me my Pater noster, & by my trouth I shall therfore teche the a songe of Robyn hode that shall be worth .xx. of it. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 30 A dram of sweet is worth a pound of sowre. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 248, I thought an howers rest worth a Kings ransome. 1638 Chillingw. [illegible] luction worth [illegible], an Hour of [illegible] in Bondage. 1795-6 Wordsw. *Borderers* II. 1003 A thought that's worth a thousand worlds! 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxviii, A night-cowl of good claret is worth all the considering-caps in Europe. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* VI. lxxx, But one live dog is worth ten lions dead. 1887 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 574 The judgement of a competent tribunal is always worth something. 1894 *Solicitors' Jrnl.* XXXIX. 2/1 In a matter of this kind a grain of common sense is worth a peck of scientific hair-splitting.

b. In the phrase *as much as .. is worth.*

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 24 P 4 It is as much as my Life is worth, if she should think we were intimate. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* x, To haul on a wind was as much as her spars were worth.

c. *For all (it, one) is, was worth*: to the fullest extent. Orig. *U.S.*

1883 *Mercury* (N.Y.) in Ware *Passing Engl.* 5 Scalchi, to use a side-walk phrase, played Siebel for all the character was worth. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 1 Oct. 2/4 The Boston Post, having worked the bogus..letter for all that it was worth, now admits that it was a forgery. 1889 Gunter *That Frenchman* xxi. 298 [The steamer] is driving, for everything she is worth, down the waters of the Finnish Gulf. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 197 We spun round and round ..I steering the whole time for all I was worth.

†**4.** Valuable; of value or use (*to* some end); worthy. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 90 Zaynte paul..heþ hyer ynemned þe meste gentile guodes þet man may do and þet mest were ywoned to by worþ and profiti. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* v. 13 To no thing it [salt] is worth ouer, no bot that it be sent out, and defoulid of men. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 196 Hit is noȝt wourth, the Science and Iugementes of the Sterrys. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. viii. 325 And therfore this afore sett answere is not worth. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2545 To I All by dene Or ther worthe walles holde.

†**b.** Worth while. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 785 Vs thoughte it was noght worth to make it wys..And bad him seye his voirdit as hym lesta. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. i. 136, I wote not that it is worth forto talke in resonyng with eny persoon of the laife vpon eny mater of Goddis lawe, but if he be able [etc.].

5. Of standing in respect of possessions, property, or income; possessed of, owning. Usu. with specification of the sum.

1460 *Paston Lett.* III. 429 Enquere of hym wher his goode is, and what he is wurthe..; for I undre stande that he is wurthe in money vᶜ marke. 1497 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 129 She is called worth mˡⁱ beside hir land. 1532–3 *Act 23 Hen. VIII*, c. 2 Euery suche person..beynge worthe in mouable substaunce the cleere value of .xx.li., or aboue. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 59 Gentlemen that ..wolde not be seen in london so..disgysed for asmoche as they ar worthe or hope to be worthe. 1567 Harman *Caveat* 62 The troth is..she would wekely be worth vi. or seuen shyllinges with her begging. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 257 Sr Theodore Mayerne is dead and left his dawghter wourth a hundred thousand pounds in ready mony. 1676 Etherege *Man of Mode* III. iii, You are for Masks, and Private Meetings; where Women engage For all they are worth I hear. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 260 P 1 If..all my Securities are good, I shall be worth Fifty thousand Pound. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* lxxxii, She assures me..that I shall be sole heiress of all she is worth. 1821 Lamb *Elia* I. *Old Benchers Inner T.*, He was master of four or five hundred thousand pounds; nor did he look.. worth a moidore less. 1878 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii, She will be worth something when she is married.

†**6.** Of persons: Of account or importance; entitled to respect or honour; worthy. *Obs.* (In OE. also of things.)

Beowulf 1900 He þem batwearde..sword gesealde, þæt he syðþan wæs..maþme þy weorðra. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 2 Welig & weorð & rice & foremære on his agnum earde. *a* 1200 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 260 A swa he gecneordra, swa bið he weorðra. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 870 Þa gislas þe on þam here weorþuste wæron. *c* 1200 Ormin 5000 & tu þe selff narrt rihht nohht wurrþ Wiþþutenn Godess hellpe. *c* 1205 Lay. 30993 þer neoren eorles no wurðer [*c* 1275 worþere] þene cheorles. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 172 Ȝa, leue lord, godes sone, welcom be þou & worþ come. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 þet byeþ þe heȝe men and þet byeþ mest worþ. *Ibid.* 90 Huo þet lest heþ, last is worþ. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2498 He wan a-ȝen to william & to his worþ make. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 310 Fore þe more a man may do,.. The more is he worth and worthi. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xvi. 32 He that can rule him selfe, is more worth then he yᵗ winneth a cite.

II. †**7.** Of sufficient merit, entitled by merit, deserving, *to* be or do something. *Obs.*

In OE. usually expressed by *wyrðe*: see Wurthe *a.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 316 We ðe naeron wurðe beon his wealas geciȝde. *c* 1200 Ormin 2357 Þærþurrh wass þho wel wurrþ to ben Swa wurrþedd her onn erþe. *Ibid.* 29875 Forrþi wass þho wurrþ att Godd,..To don þatt dede o Sannt Johan. *c* 1205 Lay. 3965 Hu mochel wor3 leste þu me [*c* 1275 hu mochel worþ holdist þou me] to walden kineriche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12892 I am noght worthe to lese þe thuanges of his ece. 1340 *Ayenb.* 231 Nazt ne is worþ to habbe maidenhod of bedye þet heþ wyl to by y-spoused. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Peter*) 332 He...mad hym bysshop [illegible] for þat he ves worth to haf sic degre. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 207, I trowe ther be nouȝn..That halt him lasse worth than I To be beloved. *a* 1400 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 4502 He was worthe to wyn victorys.

b. Deserving or worthy of (something). † In early use with genitive.

In OE. only in form *wyrðe*: Angl. *wearðe*.

c 825 *Will* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 573 Ða hwile wille ðæt Seara ænig ele þe londes weorðe sie. *c* 888 *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 For his craftum he bið anwealdes weorðe, gif he his weorðe bið. 12.. in Bracton *De Legr. Angl.* IV. I. (Rolls) III. 284 He ne es othes worthe that es unes cyttyr of oth broken. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10353 Now, lokes if þis lede seolde longyng be worthe, As þou writis in þi wordes. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 902 Than es þer wark worth mikyl mede. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12300 (Trin.) Þe childes frendes fro þat houre helde lhesu worþe honoure. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1245 Ilkane be werk and be will Is worth his rewarde. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 18 And it is hardly possible to misse in grafting so often, if your Gardiner be worth his name. 1772 T. Munns *Descr. Tunbridge* (1709) 19 It flatters me not a little that you should think any thing of mine so much worth your trouble. 1830 Marryat *King's Own* iii, The captain..is not worth his salt. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 194 He will have recognised..How much that's good in man..makes Monsieur Léonce Miranda worth his help.

†**c.** Without const.: Of merit, deserving. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 358 Þour place is ordeyned in hevene after þat þe ben worþe.

†**d.** Deserving on account of demerit or fault. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 72 In worde, & werk I am to wite and worth to blame. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 44 (Fairf.) Our dedis fra our hert takis rote, queber þai be worþ bale or bote. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7104 Wel were it worth to bene brent.

8. Sufficiently valuable or important to be an equivalent or good return for (something). Also const. *of.* *Worth (the) while*: see While *sb.* 3 b.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 355 The queene..beat Iudas ful ofte, but al for nouȝt, for it was not worþ þe while. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. vii. 129 Thair with my handis wrocht I worth my dedi. 1556 Huddard *Display. Protestants* 40 It shall be worth the trauell to say somwhat therein. 1642 C. Saltonstall *Navigator* 65 They [the Theoremes] will give you so great a light..that it will be well worth your labour. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 262 To reign is worth ambition though in Hell. 1711 W. King tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* iii. 107 That the crown of France was well worth the trouble of hearing one mass. 1866 Neale *Sequences & Hymns* 23 Ye, who sometimes think the glory Of the labour scantly worth.

b. With vbl. sb. (in early use with *the, one's*) as complement. † Also *to* with inf. (quot. 1559).

The const. also occurs with OE. *wyrðe, weorðe.*

In recent times the illogical use of *worth* for *worth while*, and vice versa, is frequent.

(*a*) 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* IV. vii. X ij b, My corne..was not worth the cuttyng downe. 1559 Clouus in Burgon *Life Gresham* (1839) I. 235 It was sure a sight worth to go 100 myles to see it! 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. v. 13 (*margin*) Three smal Ilands discouered not worth the entering. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* I. 32 A Tower.. worth the seeing, for the antiquity and building. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 122 All histories will tell you, it is a point worth the looking into. 1669 Earl Sandwich tr. *Barbo's Art of Metals* I. (1674) 129 It is very well worth ones making a Journey purposely to see them. 1692 L'Estrange *Fables* cccxlili. 300 Hang 'em All up..they are not Worth the Begging. 1798 Wordsw. *Peter Bell* III. 815 An Ass like this was worth the stealing! 1832 Lister *Arlington* II. 252 You may think it little worth the telling,..but you shall know every thing.

(*b*) 1591–3 Spenser *Col. Clout* 85 Well I weene it worth recounting was. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 28 Viewing round about all what was worth seeing in so famous a place. 1686 [Allix] *Dissert.* iii. in *Ratramnus' Body & Bl.* (1688) 54 It is worth observing..that the Adoration of the Sacrament sprang not up till some Ages after. 1751 Hume *Eng. Princ. Morals* vii. (1902) 256 [He] soon lost his iron lamp, the only furniture which he had worth taking. 1762 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. iv, That the matter is somewhat spread is now not to be helped, and therefore little worth thinking

[illegible]

living? 1889 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* III. 284, I have then, as at all times, found life eminently 'worth living.' 1925 Sisam *Skeat's Havelok* p. xxxi, When a text has any claims to belong to the thirteenth century, it is worth noticing what evidence it contains for the lengthening of short vowels in open syllables.

c. With nouns having the force of vbl. sbs.

1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 231 He is acquainted with diuers things worth the knowledge. 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 137, I..was very inquisitive in asking about every particular Thing that was worth my Observation. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. 338 It is worth the reader's attention to observe. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iii, 'They are not worth your notice,' said the dismal man. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 76 The rusting of this pa[illegible]al is worth closer study.

†**9.** Fit, meet, proper. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7315 It es noght worth, leif sir king, þat man in godd hause mistrouing. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 3426, I maynly pow swere,..þe worthe wage þalm [to] wayne þat þal hane wele serued. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince.* 441 Certes to blame ben þe lordes grete,..þat hir men lete Vsurpe swiche a lordly apparaille; [It] is not worþ.

Worth (wɜ̄þ), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: (see below). [Common Teut.: OE. *weorðan, wurðan* (*wearþ, wurðon, geworden*) = OFris. *wertha, wirtha, wirda* (WFris. *wirde*), OS. *werðan* (MLG. and LG. *werden*; MDu. and Du. *worden*), OHG. *werdan, wurthan* (MHG. and G. *werden*), ON. and Icel. *verða* (Norw. dial. *verda, verta*, MSw. *varþa, vardha*, Sw. *varda*, Da. *vorde*), Goth. *wairþan.* The stem is prob. the same as that of L. *vertere*, OSlav. *vrĭtĕti, vratiti* (Russ. *vertet'*), Lith. *vertti* (stem *vert-*), Skr. *vṛit* (*vartati, vartti*) to turn, the sense in Germanic having developed into that of 'to turn into', 'to become'. Cf. -ward *suffix.*

OE. compounds are represented by the obsolete Forworth and I-worth.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

I. a. *Inf.* a. 1 weorðan, wurðan, wyrðan, 2–3 wurðen, wurþen (3 *Orm.* wurrþenn), 3 wrþan, 4 worþen, worthyn. β. 2 wurðe, 4 worþe, 4–5 worþe, 4–6 worthe. γ. 4 worþ, 4–5 worth. δ. 4 worde, 5–7 *Sc.* word.

a. *Beowulf* 2526 Unc sceal weorðan..swa unc wyrd geteoð. *a* 900 *Andreas* 182 (Gr.) Sceal feorhgedal..æfter wyrðan. *c* 1000 *Daniel* 115 (Gr.) Þætte rices gehwæs..sceolde..ende wurðan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He wiste..þat hit wurðen solde. *c* 1200 Ormin 492 Þatt nan ne sholldе wurrþenn Þa sett to wurrþenn prest. *c* 1205 Lay. 1234 Þar on þu scalt wrþan sæl. *c* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 200 in *O. E. Misc.* 115 It sollen wurþen to nout. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 262 (B.M. MS.), Ne schal me neuer worþen wel. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 9 Schent mote y worþen. *a* 1400 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 3if on be in poynt to worthyn wod.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of þat þe sholde wurðe. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 2171 Swiche no miȝt y neuer werþe. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 327 God lene him grace to god man to worthe. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 491 Cursed mot he worthe. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1817 What shall worthe of vs twoo!

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 930 To puder sal þou worth again. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 47 Lat hem worth til lewte be iustice. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 2878 He bad hym..on a blonk worth. 1549 Latimer *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 What wyl worth..of thys man?

δ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22489 (Edinb.) Þe sternes..sal..worde al blak sum sal col. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Cirpicane*) 1181 Now quhat sal word of me? 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 30 He wald word man for our saluation. *a* 1665 W. Guthrie *Serm.* 14 (Jam.) What will word of my wife?

b. *Pres. Ind.* (*3rd sing.*) a. 1 weorðeð, (uuiurthiþ), wyrðeþ, 3 wurðeð, 4 worþeþ (*pl.* worþen); *north.* 1 worðes, 4 worþes, -is (*2nd* worþest), 5 worthis, *Sc.* wordis, wourdis. β. 1 weorð, wierð, wyrð, wirð, wurð, 2 wrð, 3 wurþ, 3–4 worþ, 4–6 worth (4 worþi); *2nd* 1 wyrst, 3–5 worst.

In OE. and early ME. the present tense is sometimes used in place of the future.

a. 725 [see B. 2]. *a* 900 *Andreas* 483 (Gr.) Ȝif ðu..larne þinra ænra wyrðest. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 34 Huu worðes ðis? *a* 1000 *Laws of Æthelbirht* xxxiv, Ȝif banes blice weorðeþ, iii scillingum gebete. *c* 1205 Lay. 8786 For ȝet heo wurðeð þe laðe. *c* 1290 *Beket* 998 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 135 Alle we worþes I-brouȝt to nouȝte. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 His wortheth al to wyn. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 407 Þou worþest to hewen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1106 Hit worþes to youres. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. v. (Tollem. MS.), Þe oulr party .. worþeþ more liȝte, and þe neþer parties .. worþen more heuy. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 782 Vp he worthis vppon his stede. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 706 Sone is Wymond, I wait, it worthis na weir. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Jewel* 23 Þe bow þat ay is bent Wordis vnsmart.

β. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* Iv, Þonne he betwux us & hire wyrð. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 111 He wierð self to ðæs onlicnesse. *c* 900 *Beda's Hist.* Pref. i. (1890) 8 Hu wurð he alles ȝelæred? *a* 1000 *Laws Æthelbirht* lxv, Ȝif he healt weorð, þær motan freond seman. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* iii. 19 Ðu..to duste ȝewyrst [*v.r.* wyrst]. *Ibid., Exod.* vii. 9 Heo wyrð to næddran. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Fram þa forme man to þa laist þe wrð et þes wrldes ende. *c* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 304 in *O. E. Misc.* 120 And selde wurþ he blyþe and glad. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1570 So is þe stude icliped nou & euere worþ. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 128 Sauued worþ he neuere mo. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 488 Þyn auaunt worþ dere aboȝt. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. Prol. 187 Slekyt worth thir beistis skynnis.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2232 Þos worst þer king anon. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 404 Ysaued woratow (*v.r.* worst þou) neure. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 805 Elles þow worst beleyn. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1505 Certys, syre, thou worst schent.

c. *Pres. Subj.* 1 weorðe, (uueorthae), 2–3 wurðe, (*pl.* wurðen), wurþe, 3 wurthe, 4 wurth; 3–4 worþe, 4–6 worthe; 4 worþ, 4–worth, (4 worthi, 5 vorth); 6 *Sc.* wirth.

725 [see B. 2 b]. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* III. 58 Ȝif næxl of honda weorðe. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Iþonked wurðe him. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Ure fon..wulled swo don, þatte we wurðen us warre. *c* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 633 Wel worþe he wid. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 434 Waried wurthe he. *Ibid.* 2873 Blissed worþe his soule ay! *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* ii. 21 Wele worth þe while. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 146 Mensked he worþe! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 597 Till ye fay worthe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4871 Woo worth the tyme. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xliv. 9 Wo wirth the fruct..And wo wirth him. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Passion* II. 199 Wo worth the tyme that euer we synned. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xviii. 887 Ah woe worth him.

d. *Imper.* 4 worth, 5 worthe.

a 1330 *Otuel* 823 Worþ vp bi-hinden me her. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 249 Thanne worthe upp, Walis.

2. *Past Tense.* (*1st* and *3rd sing.*) a. 1–3 wearþ, wearð, warð, 2, 4 ward (2 uuard), 3–4 warp (3 *Orm.* warrþ); 2–3 werð, werþ, 4 werþe, werth; *pl.* 1 wurdon, 2 wurðon, wurþen, 5 wordeu. β. 3 wurð, wurd, worþ, (4 worþe), 4–6 worth (5 worthe). γ. *Sc.* and *north.* 5 word, 5–6 worde.

a. *a* 900 *Andreas* 1343 (Gr.) Hwæt wearð eow? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 12 On ðam dæge wurdun herodes & pilatus ȝefrynd. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135 Wurþen men suiðe of uundred. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 Þær warð mychel smoltnyss. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Sum ..werð totreden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 He..wearð þær mide scheked. *c* 1200 Ormin 10960 Þærafterr warrþ itt eft to nohht. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 4723 Opon a mule sche warþ anon. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 277 At laste he worþe slice. *c* 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) App. G. 171 Noble he worþ & riche. *c* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 131 He ward yn greet dette. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xvi. (Arb.) 34 Thus ——— my teeth al blody.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Þat bred wurð to fleis. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 995 His name so wurð a lettre mor. *Ibid.* 2107 Ihe wurd wiȝ child. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 209 in *O. E. Misc.* 144 Þat folk worþ eft worþe I-spild. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 295 Lowys..worþe sike. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvi. 286 What worthe of hit he ne knew. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 13 Wictaill worth scant. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xi. 86 The myndis worth agast.

γ. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 420 He worde stane-blynde. 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 137 He knewe not..what worde of them.

3. *Past Participle.* a. 1 ȝeworden, 2 -ðen, wurðen, 4 iworþe. β. 1 worden, 2 ——— 3 *Orm.* wurrþenn, 5 wurthen; 2–3 worðen, 4 worþen, 4–5 worthen; *Sc.* 4–5 worthyn, -ine, 5–6 worthin (6 -ing), 6 wordine. γ. 2 wurþe, 5 worthe.

a. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 223 He..sona wearð hal ȝeworden. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 Þær warð ȝeworðen mychel smoltnyss *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 And is þat..iwurðen to meastling. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 287 Þe Parthes þat were I-worþe rebel.

β. *c* 1200 *Daniel* 124 (Gr.) Wearð he..acol worden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of þat..alse þeh hit wurðen were. *c* 1200 Ormin 3873 Godess Sune..Wass wurrþenn mann. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*James*) 198 Herrod..was worthine þe devilis lyme. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9691 To frete hom with fyre, þat were fey worthen. 14.. Wyntoun *Cron.* (W.) IV. 1654 Thai had sene The wethere worthing brycht and schene. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxli. (1869) 131 On horse he is wurthen vp. *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 6 Wit is worthin wrynkis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. Prol. 26 Wenis thou..the craw be worthin quhite. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 29 That God is wordine mane.

γ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 Also suteliche swo it wurþe were. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. vi. 516 Lete se what schulde haue worthe of the men.

4. *Weak forms.* a. *Pa.t.* 3 wurðede, 5 wurthed; 4–5 worthed(e, -id (*Sc.* -yd); *Sc.* and *north.* worthit, -yt (5 wourthit). b. *Pa. pple.* 4 worped, worthed, *Sc.* 7 worde, 9 wort.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2946 Þe fisses..wurðeden dead. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 485 Til worþed an ende. *Ibid.* 678 A duk to haue worþed. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 354 Thame worthit..abyde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxiv. 112 Þe whilk..worthed till a worthy and a..Cristen man. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 307 What at wurthed of þe bodie cuthe neuer man tell. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 973 Thus wourthit schir Gawyne wraith. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) *Siij.* The kyng..worthed there vpon. 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 149 He knoweth not what is woorde of the graill. 1629 Z. Boyd *Last Battell* 425 (Jam.) What can bee worde of such a..professor. 1828 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 38 What could be wort of a' the sheep.

B. Signification.

1. *intr.* To come to be, come to pass, come about, happen, take place.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 34 Cuoeð..[Maria] to Þæm engel, huu worðen ðis? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 He bebead þam winde & þare sæ, & þær wearð ȝeworðen mycel smyltness. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of þat þe sholde wurðe. *Ibid.* 197 Hit is worðen alse ure louerd wolde. 13.. *Northern Passion* H 410 Or þe kok haue krawin thrise Sall it worth opon þis wise. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 483 Wyth wele walt þay þat day, til worþed an ende, in londe. *c* 1400 *Lay. Reed* lv. 127 And so it wurthed at þe last þe cros al out of minde was past. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* xvi. 38 Aftyr this, worth gret spech yn-to all þe lond.

b. In the subjunctive mood, expressing a wish for something to happen to one, usually with dat. of person.

13.. *Cursor M.* 25633 (Gött.) Gabriel..said, 'leuedi! ful of blis, al worth þe wel!' *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2221 He let his oth al ouer-go, Euere wurþe him yuel and wo! *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 2567, I ne wot in wat wise to worche be best,..but worþe god wiþ alle. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 493 Eft he seyde to hem-selfe wo mote þou worþen. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 482 But ever worthe hem wel that doth thee moche sorwe. *c* 1480 *Mirk's Festial* 295 Þe dor tyneth on hym for euermore and so eurelasting farewel worthe hym and hys werkys.

c. In the phrases *woe worth* (now arch.), and *well worth* (obs.) followed by noun or pronoun. (Cf. Woe A. 4, Well *a.* 1.)

(*a*) *c* 1205 Lay. 3359 Wa worðe þan monne þe lond hauseð mid menske. 13.. *Cursor M.* 21992 (Edin.) Antecriste..wa worþe his wit! *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4118 3if i wrong seie any word, wo worþ me euer. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 320 Wo worthe evere fals envie! *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. 260 Woo worthe the oure that euer I was made in! 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xi. 132 Wo worth this sword, for by hit haue I geten my dethe. *a* 1542 Sir T. Wyatt *Poems* (1913) I. 76 Thou toke her streight from me: that wo worth thee! 1600 Holland *Livy* v. xlviii. 811 Wo worth men conquered, and downe with them still. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numb., Widow's T.* 21 Woe worth the Time, woe worth the day, That reav'd us of thee, Tabitha. *a* 1801 R. Gall *Poems & Songs* (1819) 30 Wae worth ye, sir! It sets ye ill To talk to me in sic a style. 1810, 1870 [see Woe A. 4].

(*b*) *c* 1205 Lay. 13079 Wel wurðe þe Vortiger þat þu ært icumen her. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 155 Wel wurðe his miȝt.., ðe wrout is on ðe seofðe day! 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2127 Wel worth þe, wyȝe, þat woldes my goda. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* ii. 5 It es wrokin, I wene, wele wurth þe while. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 379 Wel worth of dremes ay þese olde wyues. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox & Wolf* 35 Weill worth my Father, that send me to the lair.

2. To become, come to be (something): a. With sb. or adj. as complement.

725 *Bede's Death-verse* 1 Fore there neldfaerae nesnig uuiurthit thoncsnotturra than him tharf sie. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 173 Þa hwile þe he þær stod, he wearþ farraga geong calbt. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135, And uuard þe smilc als it ware thre niht ald mone. *Ibid.* an. 1154, Þat lloe dæi..þa sæclede he & ward ded. *c* 1200 Ormin 160 Oþre unnfæwe shulenn ec Full glade & blibe wurrþenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 32107 Þenne scullen i[n] Bruttene blissen wurðen riue. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1175 Abimalech wurð sek on-on. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2806 Louerd he worþ of france. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 836 Til y tristrem se, No worþ y neuer blibe. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 965 Bute þe loweste þat liuede his lord mihte worþe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 289 Scheepe þat drynkeþ of þat coon [river] schulle worþe blak, and schepe þat drynkeþ of þat oþer schal worþe whyte. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 699 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 3if on be in poynt to worthyn wood For peyne of teth, dragance is good. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. iii. 245 He suld hawe worthyd rede for schame A fre kynryk swa til defame. 1456 Sir G. Hayt *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 45 For dout that thai worth proude and hautayn of thair office. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol. 245 O lust,..Thyself consummyng worthis insaciable.

b. With past participles.

738 *Bæda's Death-verse* 5 Hwæt his gastae .. æfter deothdaege doemid wæorthae. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135, Wurþen men suiðe of uundred & of dred. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Sum of þe sæde seol..bi þe weie and werð to-treden. *c* 1200 Ormin 347 Þatt streon þatt wass..lac to wurrþenn offredd her O rodetreowwess allterr. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1943 In ðis ðisternisse,..3et wurðe [he] worpen naked and cold. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2802 Cristendom worþ icast adoun. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2091 But god now hem help, slayn worþ þei alepend. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 404 Hut þow lyue by lore of *spiritus iusticie*,..ysaued worstow neure. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1871 If þou tarie longe her-wyþ þou worst y-schent Heye þow worst an honge. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* xlix. 124 Al the contrey forth ther-aftyr worth so I-storbet, that [etc.].

3. With prepositional or adverbial complements:

a. To come to be, attain to being (in a particular place or condition).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* Iv, Swa deð eac se mona..þonne he betwux us & hire [the sun] wyrð. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1028 Þonne..Adames cynn..weorþeð foldrmete gardes æt ende. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 327 Þo he adde is bone ido he werþ salepe riȝt þere. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 248 He wend anon to worthe out of his mynde. *c* 1400 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 505 The strete werth a fuyre. *c* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 131 So savagelych hys good he besette, That he ward yn greet dette. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1096 Lat it worth at my wil the wourschip to wale.

b. To turn or be converted *to* something; to change in status *to*.

Beowulf 2203 Heardrede hildemeceas..to bonan wurdon. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 870, Hit þa þæt ær wæs ful rice, þa hit weard to nan þing. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xxx. 145 We..sceolon on worulde wurðan wurmum to æte. *c* 1200 Ormin 6976 Þatt steorrne..Warrþ all to nohht..Affterr þatt Crist wass fundenn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Þat bred wurð to fleis and þe drinke to blod. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 And is þat tu wendest gold, iwurðen to meastling. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud) 467 Þou art so fayr and briycte, þou schalt worþe to knyte. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1106 Quat-so-euer I wynne in þe wod, hit worþez to youres. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 746 And ich a beggers brol.. worþ to a writere. 1456 Sir G. Hayt *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 211 Sa that, bot gif thare war a soverane..all the world wald worth to nocht.

c. To get *up*, *on* or *upon*, a horse, etc.

c 1290 *Beket* 1164 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 139 Þe holi Man..werth op..and rod him forth wel faste. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 4723 Opon a mule sche warþ anon. *c* 1350 *Arth. & Merl.* 5053 (Kölbing) A destrer þo ladde Agreuein..& seyd, 'Worþ her on hastiliche!' *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. ii. (1868) 35 Worþe vp [L. *ascende*] yif þou wilt. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, Þe horsmen þat beth þere at þe deth, shulde worthe vppe on horse. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 11398 Kyng Arthewr be þe Reyne his hors took son, .. 'My leve frend,' he seide, 'worth vp in haste.' *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) *Siij*, For thy the kyng Boccus anon Toke hors and worthed there vpon.

d. To become *of* (= happen to, betide). Also with *on*.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 277 God behiȝt hem Isaac, and tolde what shulde worþe of him. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxi. 139 We wist neuere what worthed of þe remenaunt. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. vi. 516 Lete se what schulde haue worthe of the man in these ȝeeris, if thei hadden not be mad religiose. 1549 Latimer *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 What wyl worth, what wyl be the ende of thys man? *c* 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 150 He knew not from whence they came, or what worde of them. 1629 Z. Boyd *Last Battell* 425 (Jam.) Then many shall wonder what can bee worde of such a blazing professor. *a* 1665 W. Guthrie *Serm.* 14 (Jam.) What will word of my house? And, What will word of my goods and gear? 1828 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 38, I was..considering what could be wort of a' the sheep.

e. To pass *away*, go *hence*, remain *after* (= behind).

13.. *Cursor M.* 19110 (Edin.) Þe lastand dede sal worþe awai. *c* 1380 *Will. Palerne* 2355 Wende listly hennes & late me worþ after. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1975 Þou shalt hanse þat I hete & þou hence worth. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 22588 (Trin.) Lord god þat laste þ ay þou shal vs do to worþe away.

4. *To let* (one) *worth*: to let alone; = I-worth 6.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2330 Per fore he was so prout & þe king nas him suff bote as a saade, & let im worþe al out. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3507 'Lat me worþ', quaþ william, 'þat schal I wite sone'. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 187 For-þi I conseille alle þe comune to lat þe catte worthe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6037 Late ladies worthe with her thyngis. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 58 Than seide Merlyn, 'Let me worthern ther-with, and I shall a-quyte me of the couenaunt that I made'.

5. To behove, need, be necessary. Usu. impersonal with dative preceding (*him worthit*, etc.). *Sc.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 194 Him worthit, magre his, abyde In till ane hamelat neir thair-by. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 652 Þis Nero worthit ay of ned..ryse aye quhene

e. c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* vi. 333 þis Pyppyne þan..Werthit til tak til hym..Off Frawns þat tyme þe gouernayle. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 271 Schir Amar said; 'Trewis it wordis tak'. *Ibid.* VIII. 1626 Off this sayn[g] me worthis for to cess.

† Worth, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 1 weorðian, wurðian, wyrðian, *north.* worðigan, 2–3 wurðien, -in, wurðen (3 *Orm.* wurrþann), wurðgin (*pa. pple.* 2 iwurðeȝed, 3 iwur(d)geþ), wurðie, 3 wurrþe, worþi, 5 worth(e. [OE. *weorðian, wurðian*, f. *weorþ* Worth *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To honour (a person or thing); to treat with honour or respect.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 123 Ðu weorðast ðine suna ma ðonne me. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Weorþian we eac þa clabas his hades. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 8 þis folc me mid welerum wurþaþ [*v.r.* weorþaþ]. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 We ajen þene sunne dei swiþeliche wel to wurþien. c 1200 Ormin 2358 Þærþurrh wass ȝho wel wurrþ to ben Swa wurrþedd her onn erþe. c 1205 Lay. 13402 Þas cnihtes weoren an hirede hæhliche iwurðed. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 262 Ihesus..Ros fro ded on ðe sunenday, ðat is forð siðen worðed ay. *Ibid.* 3303 Wurð ðin fader and moder so, ðat ðu hem drede. a 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 2124, I wald more worth .. a wyse man disciple, þan þe honour þat Acheles a3t.

b. To pay divine honours to (a deity); to worship.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* IV. iv. 162 þa diofla þe hie an simbel weorþedon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 27 Ȝif þu fealiest to me & me weorþast. c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John iv. 22 Ȝie worðigas þte ȝe ne wutun, we worðiað þte we wutun. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Hine ȝe sculе wurþian and herumen and luuian mid al ouwer heorte. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Ure hlouerd iheau crist..heȝed and wurðed bie he. c 1205 Lay. 1162 Heo wurðeden þæt anlicnes: þe scucke hit on-seng. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1845 Wiȝ newe alter wurðed he wel ðe strong god of ysrael.

2. To raise to honour; to distinguish.

a 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 1195 (Gr.) Biȝ..se hwæteadig wigge weorðod, se þæt wicg byrȝ. a 1000 *Waldere* I. 22 (Gr.) Weorða ðe selfne godum dædum. c 1205 Lay. 2614 Al his cun he wurðede, richen & wrecchen. c 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) App. G. 134 Þeos foure weyes on þis lond, king belin..Made & worþede ham wiþ gr[et] franchise.

Worthen, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Worth *a.* + -en.] *trans.* To raise in worth.

1894 'G. Egerton' *Discords* 241 Woman has cheapened herself..through ignorant innocence, she must learn to worthen herself by all-seeing knowledge.

Worthethy, obs. form of Worthy.

Worthful (wɜ·ɹþfúl), *a.* Forms: 1 weorðful, 1–3 wurð-, wurþful (3 *Orm.* wurrpfull), 3 wurthful; 4 worþuol, 7 worthful(l; 6 wyrthfull. [OE. *weorþ-, wurþful*, f. *weorþ, wurþ*, Worth *sb.*[1] In later use app. re-formed (partly to match *worthless*) in 16–17th and again in 19th cent., perhaps on the model of G. *wertvoll*.]

1. Of persons: Honourable; deserving of honour; meriting respect or reverence; full of worth or merit. Also *absol.*

Beowulf 3099 Swa he manna wæs wiȝsend weorðfullost wide ȝeond eorðan. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 8 Ne site þu on þam fyrmestan setle, þe-læs..sum weorðfulra siȝ Inzelaðod fram hym. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086. § 8 Se cyng Willelm..wæs..swiðe rice & wurðfulre.. þonne eniȝ his fore-genga were. c 1200 Ormin 3105 Helyas wass..an wurrpfull prophete. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1481 Ȝef he is wurþful and aht man. 1340 *Ayenb.* 16 Þe heȝe men..and þe hardi and þe worþuolle. 1536 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 126 Ryght wyrthfull sir, with due reverens my duty remembred [etc.]. 1607 Rowlands *Guy Warw.* Ep. Ded., Disdain not therefore (most worthful and precious spirit) .. to vouchsafe the view of these Artless Lines. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 2 Cor.* x.13 (1656) 728 As any man is more worthful, he is more modest. 1849 Rock *Ch. Fathers* II. 272 Those high-born dames and worthful females whom Margaret the queen had drawn about her. a 1900 G. Tyrrell *Autob.* (1912) I. 238 The more worthful have to repair the defective training of the noviceship.

† 2. Respectful, reverent; loyal. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 440 Munecas ȝestaþolode to weorþfulre þeunge halenden cristes. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2678 Or [= before] hane he hire pliȝt & sworen, ðat him sal feiȝ wurðful ben boren.

3. Having worth or value; valuable; precious.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 140 Þet heo..strenðeð & deð menske hire wurðfule soule. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1017 His wundri werkes & wurðful in eorðe. a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Turn to þe worlde þi wurðful rode þat þu spreddest þe on.

a 1340 Wyatt *Ps. cil.* Proem. 15 The Justice yᵗ so his promesse complyshythe For his wordes sake to worthlesse desert. 1390 J. Proctor in C. S. *Right Relig.* A iij, I will leaue you, loth to keep you too long, perusing a worthlesse pamphlet.

† Worthily, *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 worþiliche, -lych, worthilyche; 4 worþili, worthily, -yly, 5 wurthyly, wordyly. [var. of Worthly *a.*, after *worthy.*] Worthy, honourable.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 343 Wolde þe, worþilych lorde,.. Bid me bo3e fro þis benche. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 146 For-þy vche saule þat hade neuer teche, Is to þat lombe a worthyly wyf. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1642 A worþiliche wiȝt, wel wo is me nouþe! ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 693 Seyne that worthilyche wy went vn-to chambyre. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 365 (Thornton MS.) Scho was the worthiliest wyghte, þat any wy myghte welde.

Worthily (wɜ·ɹðili), *adv.* Forms: *a.* 4 worþ-, worthilyoh, 5 wurthilyche; 4 worþili, -ily, -yly, 4–5 worthili, 4–6 worthyly (4 -ylye, 5 -ylie, wurthyly), 4– worthily (5 worthithly, 7 worthilie); 5 wordyly(e, 6 *Sc.* vordily. *β.* 4 worthelioho, -eli, 4–7 worthely (6 -elie, woorthely). [f. Worthy *a.* + -ly[2]. The *β*-forms are not always distinguishable from variants of Worthly *adv.*]

† 1. With due dignity, pomp, or splendour. *Obs.* (Passing into sense 3.)

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 72 When þay had waschen, worthyly þay wenten to sete. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4290 With a real route he rod hire a-3eins, & worþili hire be welcomed. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 8, I..was war of a womman worthed yclothed. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1632 Priam .. a pales gert make,..Full worthely wroght & by wit caste. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. 12 Thei buryed the body of the knyȝt, worthely among hem in a newe sepulcre. a 1450 *Contin. Brut* 462 This coronacion was worthely doon. *Ibid.* 486 Lordes and ladyes were worthely serued thurgh all the Court. 1522 *World & Child* (facs.) A ij, I am not worthely wrapped nor went But powerly prycked in pouerte.

† b. Becomingly, elegantly. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 244 Bot his wombe & his wast were worthily smale.

2. In a manner befitting one of high standing or character; in accordance with one's own dignity or personal worth; honourably, nobly.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 286 Men tellen þat he doth In armes day by day so worþily..þat alle prys hath he. 1382 Wyclif *Ephes.* iv. 1 So I..byseche, that ȝe walke worthily in the clepinge, in which ȝe ben clepid. a 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 1405 Þai within on þe wall worthili with-stude. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 259 Al this sayde worshyp was done vnto oure lady..by cause she had worthyly ouercome the fende. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 462 Hercules and theseus did worthyly and digne of memorye. 1569 J. Rogers *Glasse Godly Love* (1876) 188 This blessed state of Matrimony..I exhort you..that you walke worthely therin. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ii. 25 Well may I certes such an one thee read, As by thy worth thou worthily hast wonne. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 208 Worthily spoken Mecenas. a 1629 Hinde *Y. Bruen* xxxi. (1641) 97 He that had done so worthily at Ephrata, became famous in Bethlehem. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 2 The gentleman has moved worthily, and like a gentleman. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 807 The soul that sees Him,..learns at least t' employ More worthily the pow'rs she own'd before. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. II. vii. 380 He worthily fell, in fighting for his people. 1858 J. G. Holland *Titcomb's Lett.* vii. 157 An incident of a life worthily spent. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Feb. 5/5 The office he has long worthily held as parliamentary secretary to the Trades' Union Congress.

b. Const. *of*, or ellipt. for this.

1842 W. L. Garrison *Life* III. 15 There are..some..who do not walk worthily of their profession. 1881 F. T. Palgrave *Visions Eng.* 237 Oft hast thou acted thy part, My country, worthily thee!

3. According to desert or merit; as one (or it) is deserving or worthy; deservedly, justly, rightly.

The attribution of desert may be either to the subject or object of the sentence.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Prol. 3 We menge wordis of louynge as þat worthily he may trow him. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys, Marg.* 86 This blyssyd mayde Margrete worthyly Be these seze vertuhs to heuene dede stye. 1535 Coverdale *1 Chron.* xvi. 25 For the Lorde is greate and can not worthely be prayed. 1548 Patten (*title*) The Expedicion into Scotlande of the most woorthely fortunate prince Edward. 1592–3 Spenser *Col. Clout* 375 Or be their pipes vntunable and cracsie, That they cannot her honour worthylie? 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 209 The other wines of this Country..and all the other fruits cannot be worthily praised. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* Ep. Ded. 1 For all men to cast their eyes upon, and that worthily; for most costly and pretious was their matter. 1695 Ld. Preston *Boethius* II. 62 That which cannot be taken away is worthily esteemed the most excellent. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 2 We know of no one..wherein he [the Wild Man] is worthily represented. 1844 H. G. Robinson *Odes of Horace* I. vi, Who worthily of Mars shall write In adamantine Tunic bound? 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* ix, His father..promised him the succession—which indeed he had worthily deserved.

b. Used with reference to demerit or the punishment for this.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xvii. (Bodl. MS.), Dauid blamed worthilich þe seruantes of king saule þat were sleping. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 247 But suche youth..worthily lyue in vnwylynge strife and payne. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 278 But if thou wilt be styl sturdy..The Lord shall plage the worthely. 1590 Greene *Repentance* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 267, I haue so [illegible] thee that I [illegible] 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* IV. 168 In th was in many passages theref worthi T. Stanley *Iphit. Philos.*

is worthily hateful to all men. 1784 Cowper *Three.* 494 Egregious purpose! worthily begun In barb'rous prostitution of your son.

c. Fittingly, in respect of subject or matter.

1589 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 6 My trauayl herein coulde no wayes be more worthely bestowed. 1595 T. Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 14 Here a man not knowing the mistery, might worthely be astonned. 1642 J. Eaton *Honeyc. Free Justif.* 68 That new distinction..is the more worthily to be suspected for a corrupter of the Gospel.

4. With due devotion or reverence; in a fitting spirit; reverently, devoutly; also, with real desert by reason of faith or good life.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xiv. 1 Lord who sall won in þi tabernakle, þat is wha worthily lufis þe here. c 1386 Chaucer *Parv. T.* 385 Men may also refreyne venial synne by receyuynge worthily of the precious body of Ihesu crist. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxiii. (1869) 42 And if this bred thou wolt nempne and clepe wel and worthilyche, I say it is bred of lyf. a 1500 *Hist. K. Bocchus & Sydrache* (? 1510) *F* iv b, Yf this word be worthely spoken It shalbe hard fro erth to heuen. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 171 b, Clennesse of hert, whereby they may worthyly handle and prayse god. 1565 Harding *Answ. Jewel* 130 By the vertue and efficacie of this Sacrament duely and worthely receiued. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* XV. xxiii. 563 We do worthily beleeue that the 70. had the spirit of prophecy. 1755 Young *Centaur* I. 21 As to God, they say, 'The natural religion commands us to think worthily, and speak reverently, of Him'. 1770 *Sacraments Explain'd* (ed. 2) 54 A second Thing required, is the State of Grace, without which, no one can worthily receive this Sacrament.

† 5. At a proper rate or value. *To take worthily*: to accept graciously. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 382 Hellye left þe grete richesse ..& tooke worþili þe pore ordenance..þat a goode man & his wyfe proferid to hym. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 180 As thei come To hire..To schewen such thing as thei broghte, Whiche worthili of hem sche boghte.

† Worthine. *Obs.* [OE. **worðign*, var. of *worðig*, f. *worþ* Worth *sb.*[2] Survives in place-names as *-wardine.*] An enclosure, close; see also quot. 1701.

12.. *Reg. Prior. B. M. Wigorn.* (Camd.) 95 b, W. persona de Wittuf pro j Wrthin; In feuto viij. d. 1701 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett), *Worthines*, a Worthine of Land, a certain quantity or dimension of Ground so call'd in the Manner of Kingsland, Com. Hereford.

Worthiness (wɜ·ɹðinés). Forms: *a.* 4 worþi-, worþynes(e, 4–7 worthi-, worthyne, 5–6 worthy-, 5– worthiness; 4 wurþy-, 5 wurthyness(e, wurthines (wurghtinesse); 6 woorthi-, woorthyness(e, wourthines. *β.* 5 wordynesse, 6 *Sc.* wirdines. [f. Worthy *a.* + -ness.]

1. The character or quality of being worthy, in various senses: a. Of persons.

a. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 3737 þe help..Availles til þe saules in purgatory,..Affir þai or of worthynes. c 1376 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 178 In al þis world þer nys a bettre knyght Than he þat is of worthinesse welle. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 90 Remembrance That thei toke of his worthinesse Of knyhthod and of gentilesse. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys, Anne* 607 This lady to preysen..Affyr þe meryte of hyr worthynesse, Fer passyth my wyt. c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xiv. 49 O thou free knyght, replenyshed wyth prowesse & of grete wordynesse.

b. Of things or qualities.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. vii. (1495) 556 Siluer..bereþ þe prise after golde in worþines and valow. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5536 For ther may be no Richesse Ageyns frendshipp of worthynesse. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17383 For love excellyth in worthynesse Every treasour and rychesse. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 288 All erthly creatures restored ageyne in maner to the worthynesse of effects that they were made for. 1542 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 37 P 1 Suche..hereditamentes shoulde be knytt vnyted and annexed, .. agreable to the worthinesse and dignitye thereof. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 67 Next vnto the Rose in woorthynesse, for his Sauour and beautifull whitenesse is the Lillye. 1598 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 47 Art can doe nothing without the materiall; whereas the materiall without Art hath her own worthinesse. Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. 2. 235 Is there ever the less [illegible] ness in it, because God cannoth it? a 1768 Secker *Serm.* (1772) VI. 152 Convinced of their Mission from Heaven by ..the singular Worthiness of their Conduct. 1850 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 267 Say, if you can,..when was there more real worthiness of existence.

c. With *a* (and plural), *that*, or *this*.

23.. tr. Æthred in *Engl. Stud.* VII. 308 Now, mates,.. go ayer and chalange oun partye of alle þis sweete wurþynesse. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xv. 235 Forto be..denoujt remembrid..upon Goddis worthinessis. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our*

in 1550 Crowley *Inform.* Sel. Wks. (1872) 163 Stand not to much in your own conceyte, gloriynge in the worthynes of your bloude. c 1550 *Fatre Em* I. iv. 35 Such costly robes As may become her beauties worthynes. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. i. 212 He is a good one, and his worthynesse Do's challenge much respect. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. x. 46 Worthinesse, is a thing different from the worth, or value of a man; and also from his merit, or desert; and consisteth in a particular power, or ability for that, whereof he is said to be worthy. a 1676 Hale *Common Law* (1713) 239 They are in Law in the same Right of Worthiness and Proximity of Blood, as their Root..was. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* I. 204, I am awaken'd to see more Worthiness in you, than ever I saw in any Lady in the Land. 1821 Wordsw. *Prioress' T.* I. 30 My knowledge is so weak, .. To tell abroad thy mighty worthiness. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 773 A Divine Charity not only perceives real worth, but even creates worthiness where it did not before exist.

β. c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 203 Thei semede to be of grete wordynesse. c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xiv. 49 O thou free knyght, replenyshed wyth prowesse & of grete wordynesse.

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a man's note is only current and worthful because the man is good. 1888 Furnivall *E. E. T. S., Texts preparing, Gen. Notices* 3 Some [Lives of Saints] are dull..But..all are worthful for the history of our language. 1893 Upton *Hibbert Lect.* (1894) 298 The presence of absolutely worthful ideas in our consciousness.

Hence † **Worthfulhead**, honour, dignity; **Worthfulness**, value.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3499 Ne let ðu nogt mis wurð-ful-hed [illegible] fendes red. 1894 Pentecost in *Brit. Weekly* Make this the touchstone of worthfulness in [illegible]

† Worthihead, -hood. *Obs.* [f. Worthy *a.*] Honour; distinction; worthiness.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 333 Thar may no man haf worthyhede, Bot he haf wit to speir his stede [*v.r.* dede]. c 1470 Harding *Chron.* Ed. Prol. (1812) p. x, He was a knyght, chefe for worthihede.

Worthiless, obs. var. Worthless *a.*

Ladye II. 91 A prerogatyue is an excellente worthynes. 1590 Stockwood *Rules Construct.* 8 This worthiness of one person aboue another, is not of birth or blood. 1597 Jos. Taylor *Diu. Friendship* 30, I may take in also the accidental and extrinsick worthinesses. 1683 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. x. 11 There is a worthiness consistent with free Grace. 1751 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) I. xxxvi. 256 My Brother is valued by those who know him best, not.. for this or that single worthiness [etc.]. 1803 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 243, I could make a swelling..passage about the old gentlemen and their worthinesses. 1860 Trench *Serm. Westm. Abbey* xxxiii. 382 There is a worthiness in God's saints,..though that worthiness is itself of God's free giving.

† 2. With possessive pron., as a title. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* Prol. 92 He..bad me doo my besynesse That to his hihe worthinesse Som newe thing I scholde boke. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 1038 Sire, wetis it wele, youre worthines [etc.]. *Ibid.* 3163 First wrate I to youre worthines. 1465 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 587/1 The grete and outrageouse costes and expenses not unknowen unto your worthynesses, which..I bare, in execution of the said charge. 1564 *Brief Exam.* B j, Your worthynesse may knowe what my iudgement is. 1600 Chettle *Hoffman* I. (1631) C 1, We know your worthinesse is experienc't in all true wisedome. 1608 Heywood *Sallust, Hist.* Ded., Your worthinesse.

† 3. Ceremony, pomp. *Obs.*—1

a 1450 *Coutin. Brut* 428 The Quene was dellyuyryd of a feyre sone,..whiche with high and grete worthynesse was brought forthe, and cristenyd.

† 4. The quality of deserving *to* be treated in a specified manner. *Obs.*—1

1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 303 3et [this sin] ..passith in worthinesse to ben punischid in peynis of helle.

† Worthing 1. *Obs.* Forms: 1 weorðung, 1–2 wurðung, 1–3 wurðing; 1 worðung, 3–4 worþing (4 worþynge). [OE. *weorðung, wurðung*, f. *weorð-, wurðian* Worth *v.*2] Honour; respect; worship.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* iii. 33 For ðære weorðunge ðæs folcas he bið on ofermettu aweniged. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 4 Ne is witge buta worðung. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Lev.* ii. 2 Lecge uppan þæt weofod Drihtne to wurþunga. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 Þenchеð nu men hwilch wurðin(g) eow hauеð idon þe heouenking. *Ibid.* 109 Godes laze bit ec mon wurðie efre his feder and his moder mid muchelere wurþunge. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 33 Ðu giue me seli timinge To thaunen ðis werdes biginninge, De, leuerd god, to wurðinge. *Ibid.* 3787 Of ðo Reklefates for wurðing, Woren mad..Corunes. *a* 1300 *Fall & Passion* 3 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 23 Þat is mote wiþ moch worþing..to 3ov schow is vp-riding. *c* 1325 Shoreham iii. 182 As al holy cherche þe takþ, þou make þyne worþynge.

b. *Worthing day*, Sunday; *worthing-night*, ? Sunday night.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Þat was heore sunedei and bet heo heolden heore wurðing del þene we doð. *a* 1327 *Adam Davy's Dreams* 87 Me met a sweuene, on worþing-niȝth Of þat ilche derworþe knyth.

† Worthing 2. *Obs.* [app. f. ME. *wurþ* Worth *a.* Cf. Gooding *vbl. sb.*] Dung; manure. Also *fig.*, moral corruption or filth.

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Þat smal chef þet flid ford mid þe winde bicumeð wurþinge. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 3 Ne lettu neauer þe unhwiht warpen hire i wurðinge. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Þe ilke sari wrecches þe i þe fule wurðinge vnwedde waleweð..þeos waleweiȝ i wurðinge, & forrotieð þrin.

c 1580 in T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1774) App. viii. 3 D 4, Five hundred fudder, or wayne lead, alias coupe load, of wurthinge or dung. 1591 *Broomflest Manor Roll* (MS.), Item, that Thomas Waile remove his swynestye..that the worthing or fylth theirof do not corrupt the water. 1592 in *Lancs. Q. Sess. Rec.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 54 Eighte wayne lodes of worthinge or dounge. 1609 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 161, xxj lood of worthing for barlye..; xv loodes of worthinge, with good store of lyme in yt.

attrib. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 337/1 A Worthing Forke, or a Dung Fork. 1876 E. Leigh *Cheshire Gloss., Wording hook*, dungfork.

Worthless (wɜ·ɹþlés), *a.* [f. Worth *sb.*1 + -less.]

1. Of things, etc.: Destitute of (material) worth; having no intrinsic value.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 117 Me thinkes I do digresse too much, Cyting my worthlesse praise. 1591 — *Two Gent.* iv. ii. 6 But Siluia is..too holy, To be corrupted with my worthlesse guifts. 1664 Dryden *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded., My Lord, this worthless Present was design'd you, long before it was a Play. 1693 Prior *To Hon. C. Montague* vii, Scorning at Night the worthless Prey, We find the Labour gave the Joy. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xviii. 435 A worthless triumph o'er a worthless foe! 1784 Cowper *Epist. J. Hill* 28 Can gold grow worthless that has stood the touch? 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxiii, Why should I occasion more bloodshed was that he was a Papist. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* III. 300, I am very sorry that an honest man..should have been fooled by a worthless girl.

absol. *a* 1768 Secker *Serm.* (1770) III. 190 If it brings the Worthless and the Wicked into Credit and Familiarity with their Betters. 1850 W. James *Princ. Psychol.* I. 532 The mode of genesis of the worthy and the worthless seems the same.

† 3. Unworthy (in various senses) *of* something, or *of* a person. *Obs.*

1592 Greene *Philomela* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 176 But now thou art valued worthlesse of all thy former honours. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* v. i. 61 A peeuish School-boy, worthles of such Honor. 1620 Chettle *Hoffman* iv. (1632) H 2, The worthy Dutchesse, worthles of this death, Was murder'd. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* xxi. 79 But the wise Man will scorne soe poore An Act, soe worthles of him.

Hence **Worthlessly** *adv.*

1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xxxii, Miss Oliver..was..exacting, but not worthlessly selfish. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Ajax* 1160 Me too it shames to hear Words of a babbler, prating worthlessly.

Worthlessness (wɜ·ɹþlésnés). [f. prec. + -ness.] The character or quality of being worthless.

1621 Cotgr., *Vilité*, vilenesse, baasenesse, worthlesnesse. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. ix. 87 That his people may find his worth by the worthlessnesse of him that succeeds. 1666 H. Stubbe *Indian Nectar* Pref. 12 Man ought to entertain other despair, then what his own Worthlessness creates in him. 1703 J. Savage *Lett. Antients* liv. 139, I am heartily glad that other Ladies besides me have discovered thy Worthlessness. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lvii. 297 The meanness and intrinsic worthlessness of the object (supposing he could attain it) would fill him with shame..and disgust. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 313 A cold cruelty of practice, quite equal to the worthlessness of her principles. 1852 Grote *Greece* II. lxxi. IX. 247 He proclaimed that ..he was ashamed of the worthlessness of his countrymen. 1884 R. W. Church *Bacon* v. 102 The many extravagant tributes paid..to high-handed worthlessness.

† Worthly, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 weorðlic, wurðlic, 2 wurdlich (*comp.* wuredluker), 3 wurð-, wurþlich (*sup.* wurðlukest), 4 wurthli; 3–4 worþlich (3 *sup.* -lokest, 4 *comp.* -loker), 4 wortlich, -lych, worþelych, 5 worþelyche; 4 worþ-, worthli, -ly, worþe-, worthely. [OE. *weorðlic, wurðlic*, f. *weorð* Worth *sb.*1 + -ly 1.]

1. Of things: Having great value or importance; noble, fine, excellent, worthy.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. x. 140 Papirius..weorþlicne sige hæfde. *a* 900 *Juliana* 9 Wes his rice brad, wid & weorðlic. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xix. 143 Hi worhton eac þa wurðlice cyrcan. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1058, He ..wurðlic lac 3eoffrode. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Heo haſð mid hire þreo wurdliche mihte. *c* 1205 Lay. 11772 Ah loke wulche..wunliche londes, whulche wurðliche wude. *Ibid.* 28923 He..bad alle þe 3eonglinges..þat heo heom bizeten wurðliche wepnen. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 287 Hwi nis me unwurhþ elc wurþliche þing azein þe muchel delit of þi swetnesse. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1029 Swiche meting nas neuer non made Wiþ worþli wepen wiȝt. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 464, I wysse a worþloker won to welde I neuer keped. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 1024 Hee aboute hath ibene.. And iwonne at his will þe wortlych places. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 761 Her wer a worþly won For man, þat wer in doute. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 146 Riches of golde, syluer, yowella, and othyr worthely possessionys. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 126 The cytteseyns..shall have alle ande every franches..þe whiche of worthely mynde be progenys of oure lorde the kynge,.. to hem and to hys sayde cytte were grauntyde.

2. Of persons: Estimable, honourable, worthy.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 1 Ac þanc hu weorðlic and hu foremærlic þe wolde se mon þincan. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1083, Hi þa mid weorðlicum weorode..hine.. feredan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Ðu ert wel don man and þarto wurðlich. *c* 1205 Lay. 25496 Wenhauer his quene, wurðlukest [*c* 1275 worþlokest] wiuen. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 26459 Hii þanne gonne go and leope to horse, worþliche kempes. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1687 Play miri he may Wiþ þat worþli wiȝt. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* v. 38 Als wise man of wordes and worthli in wede. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 233 Canstou me graiþ tellen To any worþely wiȝt. *c* 1467 in *Excerpta Hist.* (1831) 188 That no man thenk that I..undirtake the thynges abovesaide by any arrogance..to be callid worthly.

† Worthly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3 wurðeliche, -like, wurðliche (wirdliche, *Orm.* wurrþlike), -lich, -lic; 3–5 worþliche, 3–4 worþ-, worthli, 5 worthely, wordly, 4–6 worthly. [f. Worth *a.* + -ly 2.] **1.** = Worthily *adv.* 1.

c 1200 Orm 8177 All he wass wurrþlike shridd, Alls iff he were o life. *c* 1205 Lay. 14164 Þu sca[l]t habben gærsume hæhliche heom to neden & wurðliche scruden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 174 Heo schulen beon ine heouene, ouer oðer kunnes folke, wurðliche iheied. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1518 Dor he was for his fadres luuen Holden wurðelike a wel a-buuen. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 673 He..welcomes hir worþli. *Ibid.* 3302 Whan þei were cloþed worþli in here wedes. *c* 1400 *Vwaine & Gaw.* 184 When we war in that fayre palays, It was ful worthly wroght always.

2. = Worthily *adv.* 2.

c 1205 Lay. 5770 Þe scullеð eow wurðliche wreken. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 1498 Þan Alexander..Wynnes worthly ouer þe wallis with-in to þe cite.

3. = Worthily *adv.* 4.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 81 His flesc and his blod,..3if he hit swa wurðliche underfenge, swa hit wurðe were. *c* 1200 Ormin 1033 Þatt folkess haligdomess, Þatt wærenn inn an arrke þær Wel & wurrþlike gemmde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11618 Þe lauerd agh yee worthli to lufe. 1552 S. Gardiner *Explic. Cath. Faythe* 78 For such as receaue Christes most precious body and blond in the Sacrament worthly, they haue Christ dwellyng in them.

4. = Worthily *adv.* 3 c.

1480 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 43 Hyt was so gret and ynestymable that y can not remembre..how y myght wordly speke of hyt.

† Worthmint. *Obs.* Forms: 3 wurðmunt, -mund, worðmunt. [OE. *weorð-, wurð-, wyrðmynt* (also *-mynd, -myndu*), f. *weorþ*, etc., Worth *sb.*1] Honour; worship.

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† Worthness. *Obs.* [OE. *weorð-, wurð-, wyrþnes* (north. *worðnis*), f. *weorþ*, Worth *a.*] **a.** Honour. **b.** Worthiness.

1298 *Proclam. Hen. III*, § 2 Þat vre radesmen..habbeþ idon and schullen don in þe worþnesse of gode and on vre treowþe for þe freme of þe loande. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a j, Beyng in worthenes aarmes for to bere by the Royall blode in ordynance.

Worthship. [f. Worth *sb.*1 + -ship.] The condition of being of worth.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* I. vi, It is the summary..of all manner of 'worship', and true worthships and noblenesses whatsoever. 1851 — *Sterling* I. v, The world..its worthships and worships unworshipful.

Worth-while, *sb. rare.* [See While *sb.* 3 b, and Worth *a.* 8.] The quality of being, or that which is, worth while.

1867 Mrs. Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* ii, How did the world seem to such a person, and where was the *worth-while* of it? 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Aug. 2/1 The pursuit of the worth-while.

Worth-while, *a.* [Cf. prec.] That is worth while; of sufficient value or importance.

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Hence **Worth-whileness,** the quality of being worth while.

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Worthy (wɜ·ɹðí), *a., adv., sb.* Forms: *a.* 3 wurði (wrþi), 4 wurþy (wrþy), 4–5 wurthi, -thy (5 whurthy); 5 *Sc.* wirþy, 6 *Sc.* wirthie, -thy; 3–5 worþi (4 wortþi), 4–5 worþy, 3–6 worthi (4 worthti, 6 *Sc.* vorthi), 3–7 worthye, 4–7 worthie (4–5 worthé), 3– worthy (4 worthethy, 5 whorthy; *Sc.* 5 vorthy, 6 vorthty); 5 wourthy, 6 woorthie, -thye, 6–7 woorthy. *β. Sc.* (and *north.*) 5–6, 8– wordy, 6 wordy, wirdy, -die, worde. [ME. *wurði, worði*, etc., f. Worth *sb.*1 + -y, replacing OE. *wyrðe, weorðe*, Wuerthe *a.*, and in some senses OE. *weorð, wurð*, Worth *a.*

The following are illustrations of the *β*-forms:

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A. *adj.* **I. 1.** Of things: Having worth; possessed of value or importance; good; excellent. Now *arch.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1501 Firme birðe was wurði wune. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 226 Cristene men shulden þenke shame to..foule þe worþi suyt of Crist. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiv. 28 Thauh ich preise pouerte þus and preoue hit by ensamples Worthiour. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 190

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Nov. 3/1 The book seems to us about as worthless as a book can be without being morally offensive.

2. Of persons: Lacking worth or merit; destitute of moral character; contemptible, despicable.

1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, v. v. 53 So worthlesse Peasants bargaine for their Wiues, As Market men for Oxen, Sheepe, or Horse. 1622 Braun. & Fl. *Maid's Trag.* II, *Asp.*..Perhaps he found me worthless. 1629 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Kicksey Wincey* B 5 b, Seuenthly, and last's a worthy worthlesse crew, Such as beau'n hates. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1060 The Timnian bride Had not so soon preferr'd Thy Paranymph, worthless to thee compar'd. 1713 Addison *Cato* IV. ii, Am I then doom'd to fall By a boy's hand?..and for a worthless woman? 1772 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 68 He was a worthless fellow, though an excellent workman. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxix. 278 They get lazy..and take to drinking, and go all down to be

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10160 (Laud) Of hym we wille our story rede, For worthyest yt is in-dede. 1537 Seager *Sch. Vert.* 513 in *Babees Bk.*, Aristotle the Philosopher this worthy sayinge writ. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 108 The Date (a woorthy tree) bendeth vp againyst his burden. 1593 *Bacchus Bountie* B 1 b, The pots feet finely roasted In a worthie fire. 1608 R. Hayman in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 31 Vnlesse your maiestie suddainely assist, this worthie busines is like to vanish Lamentablely. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 171 Cows and Oxen are worthy Beasts, and in great request with the Husbandman. 1674 Playford *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 85 All the most passionate Graces used in this most worthy manner of singing. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scot. in 1772*, 303 According to the worthy custom of these islands.

† b. Of the value of, worth (so much). *Obs.*

1309 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6323 Hys vessel was ten mark wurþy *(v.r.* wrþy]. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Nativ.* 592 Thyrd parte the worlde, as reade wee, that temple was worthye. 1569 *J.* Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 160 The thinge is so muche worthy as it maye be solde for. 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 36 b, If thou saie they are no gifts, but trifles worthie nought. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xx. 183 The traffike they make of it, is worthy much mony. 1702 Ramsay *Rise & Fall Stocks* 124 We thought that dealer's stock an ill one, That was not wordy half a million.

c. Capable of justifying (expense).

1785 J. Phillips *Treat. Inland Nav.* 44 It would be found worthy the expence to carry the navigation..to Braintree.

2. Of persons: Distinguished by good qualities; entitled to honour or respect on this account; estimable.

13.. *K. Horn* (Harl.) 1220 For þer bueþ myne knyhte worþi men & lyhte. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 162 Of his men most worþi, at þam conseille gan [he] take. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 597 *Cleopatra*, This ilke senatour Was a ful worthy gentyl werriour. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xv. 67 Criste es þe best, þe worthiest and next to Godd. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 197 Iosue the Wourthy and wyse weryor. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xxi. 36 The good.. admonestyng of the worthy duc encreaceth in an oost hardynes..and vertue. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Offices* 24 Thou monte worthy iudge eternal. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 20 He callde the auntients of the host, they that most worthy were. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 239 Long liue King Richard, Englands worthie King. 1639 W. C. *Italian Convert* xxx. 222 But especially his worthy wife did then shew her selfe most loving and loyall. 1663 Jer. Taylor *Funeral Serm. Abp. Armagh* 20 He was bred in Cambridge, ..under Mr. Hulet, a grave and a worthy Man. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 106 P 4 My worthy Friend has put me under the particular Care of his Butler. 1758 *S. Hayward's Serm.* Introd. p. iii, A small collection of your late dear and worthy Pastor's sermons. 1806 H. Siddons *Maid, Wife, & Widow* III. 211 That worthy man could read hearts with great perspicuity. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. ii, Slowly then rose Alred, Bishop of Winchester, the worthiest prelate in all the land. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, She would like her to be..married to some worthy person.

b. *absol.* in sing. or plural sense.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 33 Þis maister was made sitte as for þe moste worthy. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 196 That he be [= by] worthi and be wise..was conseiled. *c* 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 342–3 Howe Kynge Pryamus, with al the worthy of Troyans partye, kame to the felde. 1490 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 149/2 To tak a deligent inquesicioune..of þe best and wordiast of þe said burghe. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xlix. 10 The cepter shal not be remoued from Iuda..tyll the Worthye come. 1845 J. C. Mangan *German Anthol.* I. 76 The Worthy possess not the earth.

c. *Worthy of blood* in *Eng. Law*: see quots.

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 2 b, The elder brother shall haue the lande by discent, ..for that, that the eldest brother is more worthy of blod. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 12 b, The bloud of the part of the father is more worthy..in iudgement of law, than the bloud of the part of the mother. *a* 1676 Hale *Common Law* (1713) 230 In the Case of Purchasers, ..it resorted to the Line of the Mother, and the nearer and more worthy of Blood were preferred. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 213 The worthiest of blood shall be preferred. 1841 Stephen *Comm. Law Eng.* I. 382 All the female ancestors..were equally worthy of blood.

d. Of mind or character: Having a high moral standard.

1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* IV. 12 But all three are men of worthy minds, and deserve better fortune. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VI. 469 Such as are styled, in the cant term of the day, men of worthy characters;—one of the most silly, insignificant words, that ever came into fashion. 1843 Miall in *Nonconformist* III. 1 An act of homage done to great and worthy principles.

Comb. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Conc. Weapons* 50 b *marg.*, No honorable nor worthie minded men. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 153 He is a worthy-hearted child. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 227 A worthy-minded parson of the old school.

†**3.** Of persons: Holding a prominent place in the community; of rank or standing. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Cant. T.*, Prol. 217 Famuler was he With frankeleyns..And [eek] with worthy wommen of the toun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7607 There was Ecuba þe honerable.. With women of worship, the worthiest of Troy. *c* 1460 *Urbanitatis* 45 in *Babees Bk.*, If þou sytte be a worthyor man Then by self thow art on, Suffre hym fyrste to towche þe mete.

†b. *Worthy man* (also as one word): a man of note or standing. *Obs.*

1487 in *Cov. Leet Bk.* (1907) 111 The seyd meir..made com afore hym thes wurthymen folowenge. 1438 *Ibid.* 182 The whiche bille the seid meyre..send to all the wurthymen of the seyd lete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 Ȝerde, borne a-forne a worthyman, *Quiris.* 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 338/2 Burgeis and Worthymen, Cominaltie and their Successours. *a* 1500 *Bald's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 133 To have..had diverse worthymen and their goodes of the cites.

†**4.** Of things: a. Strong, powerful. *Obs.*[—1]

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlix. 3 Fire in his sight sal brenne sothli And in his vmgange storme worthi [L. *valida*].

†b. Honourable; held in honour or esteem. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 24 Is cryst more of myste & more worthy name Than Ihesu or Ihesus? *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 98 Þis stat is most worþi in þe chirche. 1537 N. T. (Geneva) *Matt.* xxiii. 6 They..loue to syt in the worthiest place at feastes. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i. 192 We knew..The Lords would not be too exasperate, To inlure or suppresse your woorthy tytle. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5 b/2 The worthyest partes of the bodya, as the Braynes, Harte, Liver, or throte. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov. by Sea* Ep. Ded., All which..I humbly Dedicate to your Noble, Worshipfull and worthy Acceptances. *Πύρι* Paion *Down-Hall* ix, He is a Lawyer of worthy Renown.

5. Of sufficient worth or value; sufficiently good; appropriate, fitting, suitable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12492 Ilkan him gaf worþi offrand. *a* 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* xviii. (1886) p. lxvii, God, that is mervelous in his seyntes he..with worthy preysyng magnyfied. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Sacrum.* I. 214 A right & a worthy estimation, and vnderstanding of this mistery. 1594 in Brydges *Restituta* (1815) III. 298 You that..sought for vtter in a forraine soyle, As worthie subjects of your silver yea. 1738 Gray *Stadius* l. 19 Ye Argive flower..Receive a worthier load; yon puny ball Let youngsters toss. 1808 Scott *Marmion* I. xii, We saw the victor win the crest He wears with worthy pride. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 64 It was improved by the insertion of worthy windows.

†b. Sufficiently heavy or severe; deserved, merited by default or wrong-doing, condign. *Obs.*

1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 197 No hell can be a worthy payne For your offence, it is so greate. 1574 *Homilies* II. *Wilful Rebell.* IV. 386 A woorthy end of al false rebelles, who..become hangmen vnto them selues. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cvi. xv, Often he freed them..But..Left them at length in worthy plagues to pine. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iii. 7 He has much worthy blame laid vpon him. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Merry Wherry Voy.* Wks. 163/2 II. 10/2 They..did as much as lay in them to doe, ..to giue them worthy punishment.

6. Of persons: Possessed of sufficient worth, desert, or merit.

1552 *2nd Prayer-Bk. Edw. VI, Communn.*, rubric, The humble..acknowledgyng of the benefites of Chryst, geuen vnto the woorthye receyuer. 1788 Picken *Poems* 86 A wordy frien' is e'en right rare, An' virtue ill to hit on. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. clv, Thou Shalt one day, if found worthy,.. See thy God face to face. 1832 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 146 No worthy successor of Richard Turpin arises to 'murder sleep'. 1883 *Manch. Even. News* 6 July 2/1 Mr. Phelps..is bent on proving that he is a worthy successor to Mr. Russell Lowell.

b. Of actions, etc.: Adequate or suitable in respect of moral excellence or noble aims.

1563 *Homilies* II. 444 (*title*) An Homely of the worthy receauing..of the Sacrament of the body and bloud of Christ. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Hornbk.* iv, Your next worthy worke is, to repaire to my Lord Chancellors Tomb. 1619 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* C 3, I know there's many worthy projects done, The which more credit..hath won. 1675 Comber (*title*) A Companion to the Altar. Or, an Help to the worthy receiving of the Lords Supper. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 223 Before the eyes of men, awake at last, Who .. turn to wakeful prayer and worthy act.

II. With various constructions.

Freq. intensified by *well*: see Well *adv.* 16 b.

7. Of sufficient merit, excellence, or desert *to* be or have something. †Also with *that*.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 286 In *O. E. Misc.* 6 Ne deme ðe nost wurði, Ðat tu dure loken up to ðe heueneward. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1012 Of ðe ðre he wurðede ðe ton,..Ðe was wurði wurðed to ben. *Ibid.* 3753 He seiden he weren wurði bet To ðat seruise to ben set. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4036 Ioseph he sagh a night in sueuen, þe quilk es worþie for to neuen. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. II. 91 Worþi is þe Werkmon his hure to haue. 1377 *Ibid.* B. III. 228 Mede is wel worthi þe maistrye to haue! *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 228 Þat we may fle fro paines of hell And be worthi in blis to dwell. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 97 O mayden worthy to be loued of god. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I requyre you all in the moost worthy to be loued woundes & passyon of Chryst. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 11 He will, perchance, be fund worthie to be counted amang the maist wirthie vndir the sone in his tyme. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 139 Not worthy to be named the same day..with God. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. x. 46 He is Worthiest to be a Commander..that is best fitted with the qualities required to the well discharging of it. 1708 Atterbury *Serm.* (Job xxii. 21) 24 That we may be found worthy to be admitted into the Blessed Vision of him in the next [life]. 1781 Cowper *Retirement* 700 All such as manly and

...lity of Pla...

iv. 53 One hand alone on all the earth was worthy To place these flowers. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 307 The only knowledge worthy to be called knowledge.

ellipt. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxi, Ȝe mone haue mayatus euyry ware As wele wurthi ȝe ar noe.

b. With ellipsis of *to*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1148 It es nogtht worþi forgiuen be. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 46 As hire thoghte..Sche was noght worthi axen there, Fro when they come. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xx. 120 He is worþy be loued.

†c. Const. *for* (some purpose). *Obs.*

1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 76 He is as worthy for an Empresse loue, As meet to be an Emperors Councellor. 1638 Earl Monm. tr. *Perute's Wars Cyprus* 65 Doria refused to fall upon any petty businesse, as not worthy for his Kings Fleet, to run any hazard in.

8. Deserving *of* something, by reason of merit or excellence.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20350 Berns..oft er for þair dughtihede Selcuth worþi mikel of mede. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 492 Your labours shall neuer be dygne ne worthy of preysyng. *c* 1534 Tindale *Prol. Mark*, Ye see..of what authoritie his writing is, and how worthy of credence. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 177 He was founde..best worthy of that bishopprick. 1605 Camden *Rem., Wise Sp.* 286 No mortall man doubtlesse is woorthy of such an high name. 1650 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 181, I thinke him worthy of much greater trust and favor. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 68 For now she's..wordy of my hand. 1725 — *Gent. Sheph.* I. i, Weel are ye wordy o' t. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 596/1 The only Service..worthy of Preferment in the Army. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* IV. 137 It contains nothing worthy of attention. 1848 L. Hunt *Jar of Honey* Pref. 16 French has lately been thought worthy of cultivation. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvi. 192, I thought such services worthy of some recognition. 1879 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 4. 128 Abelard was a foe worthy of the menaces of councils.

b. With ellipsis of *of*: Deserving, meriting.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29362 (Edin.) Þa wentes loifuler þan are, ..þat tal for him war worthi grame. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* ii. 40 The trewe seruant is worthy hys mede. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* lxxxiii. (1811) 62 That thou..resygne..the Rule of thy lande to hym yᵗ is more worthy this rome than thou art. 1550 Crowley *Informm.* Sel. Wks. (1872) 162 Your owne conscience shall iudge you worthye no mercye. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Matrimony* 240 This man is worthye much commendation. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xxxviii, Oh glue thy selfe the thankes if ought in me, Worthy perusal stand against thy sight. 1639 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) I. 94 There is

worth your acceptance or worthy my labour. 1648 Wnyard *Midsummer Moon* 3 Good ingenious soules..are thought worthy heaven because they boast no merit. 1678 Dryden *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 14 Be worthy me, as I am worthy you. 1727 Switzer *Provt. Gard.* I. v. 38 And it is worthy remark, that he waters (etc.). 1743 Frances tr. *Odes* IV. ix. 30 Greece had with Heroes fill'd th' emb... Plain, Worthy the Muse in her sublimest Strain. 1777 W. Dalrymple *Trav. Sp. & Port.* cxxxii, It was worthy notice, I was informed. 1813 J. C. Hobhouse *Journ.* (ed. 2) 509 Whatever was worthy imitation was imitated by the Turks. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 712 Him too you loved, for he was worthy love. 1889 Swinburne *Stud. B. Jonson* 83 Dame Polish is a figure well worthy the cordial and lavish commendation of Gifford.

c. With verbal sbs. (Cf. Worth *a.* 8 b.)

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 90 Þan þe grete deuull..sayde þat he was wurthi lovyng. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iii. 2 Nowe is it worthy the hearyng to knowe how our Lorde Iesus Christ began & entred with the matter, that he came for. 1582 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A 6 b, Either to doe thinges worth the writing, or to write things worthy the reading. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 152 The wordes of Beniamin are worthy the inserting. 1683 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 143, I took boat from Middleburgh to Dort; nothing occurred worthie noticeing. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 27. 179 He is not worthy regarding who has not some Spice of this Ambition. 1785–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* III. 1179 'Twere matter Worthy the hearing. 1879 Morley *Burke* iii. 40 A time..when England would not be worthy living in.

9. Deserving or meriting by fault or wrong-doing. Const. as in senses 7 and 8.

(*a*) *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 447 in *O. E. Misc.* 14 Man al so ðe foxes name Arn wurði to hauen same. *c* 1386 Chaucer *A. B. C.* 123 And þat my soule is wurthi for to sinke. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 236 Þow haddest [be] better worthy be hanged þerfore. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 155 He said his head war wurthi to be smetyn off. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iv. iii. 435 Mannys lawe..is leeful and not worthi be vndirnome and blamed. *c* 1460 *Contin. Brut* 517 Þei said playnly þat þe Lords Say,..& many mo, wer traytoures, & worthy to be dede. 1508 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B v, Thou arte worthy to be hanged. 1581 T. Norton tr. *Calvin's Inst.* I. ix. 20 Then suche carelessenesse is woorthye to bee laughed at. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* III. xix. (1886) 56 Whereby it is inferred that they are worthie to die. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 171, I think, therefore, he is worthie to paie 300 li dammage.

ellipt. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1417 Pilatus he sende.. Vorto holde hom harde inou, as hii wel wrþi were. 1586 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 41 To be hongyd and heddyd ..and there sufferde as they ware wordy.

(*b*) 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 746 As ȝe ben worþi of wo whan þe word fallus. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4788 Þat we ar worþi to þe deth, wel we be a-knowe. 1508 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 32 Your wyfe hays had hyll wordes for me, qwylk yᵗ I was never worde off. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 84 There are manie woorthie of great blame in this respect.

(*c*) *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vi. 2 Sett noght swilk skilles agayns me þat i be conuycte & worþi dampnacioun. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. ix. 36 In this fyre haue they theyr sepulture, none other be they worthy. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 20 b, Idlenes euermore [is] worthie l... 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 28 Oh hatefull case, worthy reproche. 1625 Brathwait *Strappado* 193 O I were worthy death, Not to loue them.

10. Appropriate, suitable, becoming, fit: †a. In the phrase *It is worthy that . .*, or variations of this. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7311 It es wel worthye þat qua Mai bere no wel ne thole na wa. 13.. *Ibid.* 6308 (Gött.) Þis ilk es he þat broght vs thoru þe rede se,..Þar-for es worthti he honurd be. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7573 It were worthy To putte thee out of this baily. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. xiv. (1859) 79 Now for this feste shalle we seyen the graces, as worthy is, with all oure dylygence. 1492–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 288 Yt is worthy that man shulde calle..all the workes of god to prayse hym. *c* 148... *Wolf & Cadger* 249 'It is wellí worthie', I want none tyke, [etc.].'

b. Const. with noun as object. In later use = of sufficient excellence, etc., to be appropriate for (one). Now *arch.* and *rare*.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 267 Þe glose..seyth, þat it is nost worthy god to be mercyfull to hym þat is cruel & vnmercyfull. *c* 1513 More *Hist. Edw. V* Wks. 33/1 Katheryne..is ..in verye prosperous estate, and woorthye her birth and vertue. 1639 Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 40 Her lookes..did but seeke to find a Rocke worthy her shipwracke. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 1178 These are Imperial Arts, and worthy thee. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVIII. 266 The host to succour, and thy friends to save Is worthy thee. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* II. 130 To teach him all such arts and sciences as are worthy the heir to a great Kingdom. 1833 Tennyson *Dream Fair Women* 264 A name for ever! ..Worthy a Roman spouse. 1852 J. H. Newman *Idea University* viii. (1873) 286 It is the drawing the mind off.. to subjects which are worthy a rational being.

c. Const. *of*.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 219 Mine *Aeneas*, which if it were worthy of your person, I wold most willingly present it to your highnesse. 1592 Spenser *Ruins Time* 287 Treasure passing all this worldes worth, Worthie of heauen it selfe, which brought it forth. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* xxi. *To Y. Kennedy* (1671) 186 That our little inch of time-suffering is not worthy of our first night's welcome-home to heaven. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 241 Nectar, visiting each plant, ..fed Flours worthy of Paradise. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI. 633 Let that vile Soul in that vile Body rest; The Lodging is well worthy of the Guest. 1733 *Gentl. Mag.* LXV. 340/2 His charities..were truly splendid, worthy of the son of the celebrated Bishop of Cloyne. 1810 Scott *Lady* ... warriors feel In foemen worth... their steel. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xxiv, Your sentiments and conduct are worthy of the noble house you descend from. 1864 Bayne *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1873) 244 There had been

pontiffs whose fearlessness and justice were worthy of their exalted office.

†11. Under an obligation *to* do something. *Obs.*—1

1469 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 128 Whoche wele considered, she were wurthy to recompense you.

B. *adv.* or quasi-*adv.* Worthily; in a manner worthy *of* (something). *Obs.* or only *poet.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 1477 Sir Wawen her welcumed worþy en ferre. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 360 Thay callit it the best ȝule than, And maist worthie began, Sen euer King Charlis was man. 1526 TINDALE *Rebes.* iv. 1, I..exhorte you that ye walke worthy [Gr. ἀξίως] off the vocation wher with ye are called. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 114 Among all other creatures..the Horse may worthiest challenge the chiefest place. 1806 H. SIMMONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* II. 67 It is a prouder triumph to found a race by living worthy, than to receive the greatest honours from the records of the dead. 1815 MRS. PILKINGTON *Celebrity* III. 47 Satisfaction which arises from a conviction of having acted worthy of ourselves.

b. In comb. with adjs. or verbs, as *worthy-sing* vb. (= to sing worthily), *worthy-sweet* adj.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Trophels* 34 Let me his Harp-strings..haue; His Lute, and not his Launce, to worthie-sing Thy glorie. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* xlv, The leafy sounds of woodlands ..Brought interposition worthy-sweet.

C. *sb.* 1. A distinguished or eminent person; a famous or renowned man or woman; esp. a man of courage or of noble character.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 1508, 'I woled wyt at yow, wyȝe,' þat worþy þer sayde,..'what were [etc.].' *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 755 A sete þat was..vnder a windowe of þat worþeis chaumber. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9481 He woundit þat worthy in his wide þrota. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4103 Vp-on þe whiche .. many worþi loste þer his lif. *c* 1490 HOLLAND *Howlate* 849 The Pape..Wosche with thir worthyis, and went to counsall. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Sam.* i. 21 There is the shylde of the Worthies smytten downe. — *1 Macc.* ix. 21 Alas, that this worthy shulde be slayne. 1580 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 46 Too serue this woorthy, ..My father vnwaltby mee sent. 1605 *1st Part Jeronimo* III. ii. 30 This fierce, courageous Prince, a noble worthy. 1648 A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 126 Sundry worthies of the Scottish nation. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 322 Rule to trye the reall worth of Feminine worthies by. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 149 Did not our Worthies of the House, Before they broke the Peace, break Vows? 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) Ded. A 6 b, To excite some renown'd Worthy to do you Justice. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 647 With commendation due, To set some living worthy in his view. 1829 SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. xviii, The Bard of years to come..Shall with the Worthies of his country rank Llewelyn's name. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 2 Before he can be..registered among the worthies of humanity. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 81 In the course of the next year England lost one of her truest worthies.

b. *spec.* A hero of antiquity.

1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 133 A maske of greate personages representinge the woorthyes of the greekes. 16.. ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* IV. v. 119 He to the world shall add another Worthy. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 51 Hercules among all the other Worthies was most frequently made in a Lions skinne. 1712 POPE *Temple Fame* 65 *note*, The western front is of Grecian architecture: The Doric order was peculiarly sacred to Heroes and Worthies. 1766 HURD *Lett. Chivalry* 32 Do not you remember that the Grecian worthies were..as famous for encountering Dragons..as for suppressing Giants?

c. *The nine Worthies*: nine famous personages of ancient and mediæval history and legend, also called †*the nine Noblas* (see NOBLE *sb.*1 1 b).

The number is composed of three Jews (Joshua, David, and Judas Maccabæus), three Gentiles (Hector, Alexander, and Julius Cæsar), and three Christians (Arthur, Charlemagne, and Godfrey of Bouillon).

c 1417 *Agincourt* 13 Though thou be not set amonge yᵉ worthyes nyne, Yet wast thou a conqueroure in thy tyme. 1484 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 133, I bequeth to my brother..the hallyng with the ix wurthy. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 21 (1877) 62 Charlemayne..for his valyauntnesse is of the nombre of the nyne worthyes. [1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. 128 For well this Subiect might increase the Worthies vnto ten.] 1620 TOFTE *Honours Acad.* II. 3 That famous Iosuah, one of the nine Worthies. 1619 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* C 2 b, Forgot had bin the thrice three worthies names, If thrice three Muses had not writ their fames.

transf. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 156 Semyramis..is one of the nine worthies of that sexe.

†d. A prominent scholar or theologian. *Obs.*

1629 HUMBON *Short Dial.* A iij b, Popish grounds, which our owne worthyes, long since haue rased and overthrowne. 1629 — *Defence* 1. Pref. e3 b, Is not this,..to make voyd all the writings of our worthyes written in condemnation of those corrupt translations? 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. P 13 So many of their Worthies disclaiming the now received conceit.

e. Applied colloquially or facetiously to any person, esp. one having a marked personality. (Common in 19th cent.)

1731 WARBURTON *Pope's Wks.* III. 69 Thus it fared with our two Worthies. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii, Tressilian acquiesced, and the two worthies left the apartment together. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, Stirring the taproom fire and..taking part in the conversation of the worthies assembled round it. 1840 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lanes & Downs* I. 13 Another worthy of York appertain to the turf about this period. 1880 BROWNING *Drum. Id* Ser. II. *Pietro* 351 Ho, my knaves without there! Lead th worthy downstairs!

2. A thing of worth or value. *rare.*

1586 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 296 In her faire cheeke, Where seuerall Worthies make one dignity.

†**Worthy**, *v. Obs.* [f. WORTHY *a.*]

1. *trans.* To render, or hold, worthy (*of* thing); to raise to honour or distinction.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. 109 Who hath worthyed kinges in the felde? 1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* i. 13–21 This is the honoure that the heauenly father worthyed vs withal. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Martiall* 128 b, To make hir wel apayde, that she should be worthied to haue a God to talk to hir. *Ibid.* 170 b, Sith the Scripture is worthyed of these titles. 1621 W. WATSON *Impert. Counsid.* (1831) 4 By how much I might be worthied with a favourable conceit had of you all. 1629 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 128 When he..put vpon him such a deale of Man, That worthied him, got praises of the King. 1634 QUARLES *Job Militant* Med. xvi. N 1, So wisedome be the message; Embassadours are worthyed in th' Embassage.

2. To hold in honour, pay respect to.

c 1485 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 93 The Pepil of the londe manshiply hym sholde vp-take, and worthy as lorde.

-worthy, the adjective employed as a second element in a number of compounds, of which only a few have come into regular use, as *blame-*, *note-*, *praise-*, *sea-worthy*. The earliest instances, occurring in the 13th century, are later variants of forms in *-wurthe* (OE. *-wyrðe*), as *dere-*, *lowe-*, *stalworthi* for earlier *derewurthe*, etc., = OE. *dēor-* and *stælwyrðe*. Other OE. examples, as *nytwyrðe*, are not represented in ME., and there is app. no direct connexion between OE. *þancwyrðe* and the late ME. *thankworthy*. Of new formations the 13th cent. affords *deathworthy*, the 14th *blame-* and *thankworthy*, and the 15th *sale-worthy*; the 16th adds *faith-*, *honour-*, *praise-*, *note-*, *fault-*, and *name-worthy*, and the 17th *worship-*, *wonder-*, *scorn-*, *fame-*, *laugh-*, and *labour-worthy*. The common *sea-worthy* is not recorded before 1807, and more recent formations from the 19th cent. include *mark-*, *song-*, *battle-worthy*, and irregularly from verb-stems, *teach-* and *paint-worthy*.

Wortle (wɜ·t'l). Forms: α. 5 **wirtil, writel, 9 whirtle, wortle.** β. 7 **wurdle, 9 wordle.** [Of obscure origin.] An implement used in the drawing of wire or lead-pipe (see quots. 1875). Also *Comb.*, as *wortle-maker*, *-plate*.

1430 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 248 Joh. Smyth, wirtilmaker. *Ibid.* 260 Tho. Smyth, writelmaker. 1664 H. POWER *Exp. Philos.* 56 Your Wire-drawers know, that if they take a short piece of Wire,..and drill it through, that then though they draw it out to the smalness of a hair, yet will it still remain hollow quite through in despite of their Wurdle. 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXVII. 3 M s, The workmen are provided with a great number of these plates..; they are called whirtles. *Ibid.*, This winds up the double chains, drawing the pipe through the whirtle, by which it diminishes its size and lengthens it out. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whirtle*, a perforated steel plate through which pipe or wire is drawn to reduce its diameter. *Ibid.*, *Wordle*, one of the pivoted cams in a draw-head,..capable of simultaneous adjustment..to regulate the size of the throat through which the tube or wire is drawn. 1888 *Science* 24 Dec. 286/1 The wire..breaking into short lengths when being pulled through the wortles. 1913 *Engineering* 18 Apr. 541/3 It is also probable that the earliest wortles were hard stones. *Ibid.* 542/1 The wortle-plates required by those engaged in drawing wire by hand.

Wortle(berry, obs. ff. WHORTLE(BERRY.

†**Wortling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WORT *sb.*1 + -LING.] A young vine-plant.

1691 Y. WORTH *New Art Making Wines* 9 But if thou wilt repair an old Vine, these [roots] are taken out, and are now call'd Wortlings. *Ibid.*, These our Wortlings..are the better able to defend against the Frost.

Wortwale, var. WARTWALE *Obs.*

†**Wortworm.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **worte worm** (6 **worme**), 5 **wort worme, -wyrme, wurtwurme.** [f. WORT *sb.* + WORM *sb.*] A caterpillar that feeds on worts or cabbages.

1388 WYCLIF *Joel* I. 4 A locuste eet the residue of a worte worm [L. *residuum eruce*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/2 Wort wyrme, þat etythe wortys, *eruca*. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* I. 880 Tak luce of hennebane With sour aysel,.. Ereither wol be worteworms bane. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Fishing* I j b, In August take wortwormes & magotes. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Worte wormes.

Worwyn, wory(e, obs. forms of WORRY *v.*

Wos, obs. and vulgar f. *was*, pa. t. of BE *v.*

Wos, wose, obs. forms of WHOSE.

Wosbird, dial. var. *whore's bird* (WHORE *sb.* 3).

Wose, obs. f. OOZE. **Wosen**, obs. f. WEASAND. **Wosie**, obs. f. OOZY *a.* **Wosing**, obs. f. OOZING *vbl. sb.*

†**Wosith.** *Obs.* Also 3 **wasiȝ**, [wei-siȝ]. [f. WOE *sb.* + SITHE *sb.*1] Trouble, affliction.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 209 ȝif he seȝ his emcristene þollen wosiȝ. [*c* 1205 LAY. 25846 Þa fond he þer ane quene..weop for hire wei-siȝ.] *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus) 32 Alle þe alde wiues schome craft, þat cunnen of þat wasiȝ. *Ibid.* 53 Lutel wat melden..of hire wasiȝes of þat fode festringe. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15712 Manie obere sore hit ment,..þat wyth hym byde many wo sith.

Wosse, wossche, obs. ff. WISH *v.* **Wosseyle**, obs. f. WASSAIL *v.* **Wost**, obs. f. VOUST *sb.* **Wost(e, wostow(e, wostu:** see WIT *v.*1 **Wostour**, obs. f. VOUSTER. **Wosy(e**, obs. ff. OOZY.

Wot (wɒt), *v. arch.* Forms: (see below). [var. of WIT *v.*1, due to the carrying over of the preterite-present stem *wāt* (earlier and northern *wōt*) into other parts of the verb. The substitution occurs first in the 2nd pers. sing. (*wāst*, *wȳst* for *wōst*, *wȳst*) and the plur. (for *witon*) of the present tense, and appears in northern texts from the end of the 13th century. In the 14th cent. the new forms *wotest* and *woteth* (*wōtis*) appear. The infin. *woten* occurs early in the 15th cent., and *wotte*, *wote*, *wot* in the 16th, together with the pres. pple. *wotting*. The pa. t. *wotted* is an archaism of the 19th cent.] *trans.* and *intr.* To know. Freq. const. with *of*. (See WIT *v.*1)

1. *2nd sing. pres. indic.* a. *north.* and *Sc.* 4–5 **wat**, 4–6 **wate**, (4 **whate, quat, vat**), 6 **wait**, (**wait**). β. 4 **whote**, 5 **woot, wot.**

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 766 Wat þou [*Gött.* quat, *Fairf.* wate] quarfor? 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2666 Ne þou whate never in what stede þou sal dyghe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 241 Thou vat nocht quha is thi frend. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxxix, Lo, wate thou quhy? *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xiii. 5247 (Cott.) Quhar was God, wat þou oucht, Befor þat hewyn and erde was wrouchť? 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 126 Thou vait that ane man vil hane childir of deferent conditionis. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Cri. Venus* I. 404 Thryis als mekle scho reuis, That thou not wait. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 133 Thow wate nocht quhen that it will licht.

β. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 4 þou whote wham I mene. *c* 1400 *Nom-Cycle Myst. Plays* iii. 40 Now wot þou wele of all oure wo. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3031 (Trin.) Wende in hye vnto mesopothanye, þere þou woot oure frendes wone.

2. *Pres. indic. plural.* a. *north.* and *Sc.* 4–6, 8 **wat** (4 **quat**, 5 **vat**), **wate** (5 **quate**), 5–6 **wait** (6 **vait, waite**). β. 4–6 **wote** (4 **wotep, wotin**, 5 *north.* **woteys**), 5 **woote**, 5–6 **woot, wott(e**, 5–9 **wot** (5 **whot**).

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4729 Wel wat [*Fairf.* wate] yee Mi stiward ioseph al fedes me. *Ibid.* 24571 We wat [*Gött.* quat] mast quat er þai þar. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2432 Ofte chaunges þe tymes here, als men wele wate. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 172 Of pollucione of fleache grovis, as ve vat, giltines. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 2931 (Cott.) As ȝhe wate and has herde tel. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 151 Changeing of men that wate the kingis secretis..may do grete scathe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. Prol. 66 Lik as the sawle of man is ane, we wait, Havand thre poweris distinct and separate. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* v. 32 Thai vait nocht quhat thing is the varld. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 58 Quhilkes to cal scheip or gait..we knawe nocht, nor wat we weil. 1720 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 171 Right wiel they wate That truth and honesty hauds lang the gate. 1724 — *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 66 Now wat ye wha I met yestreen?

β. *a* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 39 Þys clerkys..wote þat ys to wetyn. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 51 We woot wel þat þe kepynge of largesse ys right herd. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2432 They..whot nat wher to saue or lese. *c* 1460 *Play Sacr.* 334 Ye wott what I haue sayd. 1521 FISHER *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 315 We woot that that people of the Iewes was a shadow of the chrysten people. *c* 1530 LATIMER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xliii. 119 Ye call the Scripture the new Lerninge; which..is eldre than any lernings, that ye wote to be the old. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 90 Then you may come and see the picture ..that you wot of. 16.. MIDDLETON etc. *Old Law* III. i, I have found out the true age..of the party you wot on. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xxxii. 5 Wot you what?..he hath confessed himself as guilty..as his man. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) IV. xvii. 141 Wot ye not the indelicacy of an early present, which you are not obliged to make? 1841 JAMES *Brigand* iv, There are more dangers around than you wot of. 1874 MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* xi. II. 30 'Don't forget to caress the old gentleman you wot of,' said the Advocate frequently.

3. a. *2nd sing. pres. indic.* 5 **wotest, -ist, -ys(t**, 6– **wottest**, 6 **wottst, wotste**, *Sc.* **wattis.**

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. 74 Wottest thou not wel.. that every shepherde ought..to seke his sperkelande sheep. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 45, I myȝte nat lyve els, þowe wotist. 1448–9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cleopes* 360 Wotys thow qwat me thynkyth best? 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxiv. 72 This knyght is a man of more worship than thou wotest of. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Prol. ✠ iv b, Thou wotteste not what thou teachest. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) A vij, For well thou wotste, if thyrsty were my minde ..Then would I [etc.]. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 426 Thou wattis not quhat thou wald. 1829 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, Wottest thou that Lucas de Beaumanoir..is now himself at Templestowe? 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Crowned & Buried* xv, I would have The dead whereof thou wottest, from that grave.

b. *3rd sing. pres. indic.* 4 **wotis, 6 woteth, -ith, 6 wottyth, 6– wotteth, 9 wots**; *Sc.* 6 **wattis, 7 waits, 9 wats.**

13.. *Cursor M.* 10506 (Gött.) He wotis þis hane I þersid ay. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1431 Lytill wotith the goslyng what the goss thynkith. *Ibid.* 1438 Wele wotith the cat whos berde she lykkith. 1532 *Dial. Lawes Eng.* II. liii. 44 It is therefore no synne to say he wottyth not where he is. 1535 COVERDALE *Baruch* iii. 32 He that woteth all thynges, knoweth her. 1577 *St. Aug. Man.* (Longman) 27 O kyngdome without ende!..where the day..woteth not what time meaneth. 1600 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Mirum in Modum* (Grosart) 6/1 Through which she wots what works hir woe or weale. 1633 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) 81 Quho waits hot the Lord wil deal bountifully with his servant once this weak as he did [etc.]. 1808 SCOTT *Hvt. Midl.* xi, Let her know that he she wots of remained here..expecting to see her. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VIII. 88 The ant wots of its ways, The white doves know theirs well.

4. *Infin.* 5 **woten, 7 wote**; 6 **wotte, 6– wot.** Also *subj.* 6 **wote**; *imper.* 6 **wot, wat, 7 wote.**

1424 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 99/2 Which is gret deel to alle the Kynges trewe liegus..to woten of ȝwiche mescheefs done and used withinne the Reame. 1598 FLORIO *Pr.* 123 (1876) 253 No meruayle it is yf than the sely soule..wote not what

to saye. 1550 Pallen. Ep. Ded. p. iij, So that we myght wotte for the kepynge of trewe congruite in that tonge.. how [etc.]. 1575 A. Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* III. 8 If so much thou know not, then, well wot, the goate is mine. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxx. liii. II. 406 Wote well, that ordinarily the water thereof is not good. 1605 Camden *Rem., Lang.* 19 Conscience, they called Inwit, as that which they did

Æneids III. 379 The other things the Parcæ still ban Helenus to wot.

5. *Prs. ppls.* (and *verbal sb.*). 6 **wottyng**, 6–**wotting.**

1543 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 42 People brought to extreme distresse and not wottyng how to lyue. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 220 Wottyng and weenyng, were those two thinges one. 1574 A. L. *Calvin's Four Serm.* ii, He stammered, not wotting what to say. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 60 Well wotting that there was no such thing. 1827 Scott *Harold* III. iii, Hardly wotting why, He doff'd his helmet's gloomy pride. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* XIV. 451 And neither the Queen nor Laertes the Elder were wotting of this.

6. *Past tense.* 9– **wotted.**

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* viii, That honest gentleman's terror communicated itself to him, though he wotted not why. 1853 Huxley in *Life & Lett.* (1900) I. 114 Having rushed into more responsibility than I wotted of. 1901 'Linesman' *Words by Eyewitness* (1902) 217 He will see many things he wotted nothing of.

Wot, dial. and vulgar form of What.

Wot(e, obs. forms of Oat.

Wote, obs. Sc. form of Vote *sb.*

Wote: see Wit *v.*[1], Wot *v.*

Woth, obs. ind. pres. of Wit *v.*[1]

† Wothe, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4 **waþe** (**quaþe**), 4–5 **wathe** (5 **waghe**, ? **wauhte**, *Sc.* **vathe**); 4 **wath** (**quat**, 5 *Sc.* **vath**); 4 **wayth**, 5 *Sc.* **waith**. *β.* 4–5 **wothe**, 5 **woth**. [a. ON. **wāðe* (ONorw. and Icel. *vāðe*, *vāði*, Norw. *vaade*, *vaae*; MSw. *vaþe*, *vadhe*, Sw. *våde*, Da. *vaade*), perh. f. **wā* (ONorw. and Icel. *vá*), harm, disaster.]

A. *sb.* The condition of being exposed to or liable to injury or harm; danger, peril; hurt or harm; a cause of harm or injury. Also const. *of.*

α. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxiv. 3 Sorwes of dede vmgafe me ai, And wathes of helle me fand þai. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1846 þe stormes starked wit þe wind, Wath vas bifor and sua bihind. *Ibid.* 20362 Quen man es in wath o ded. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 293 If him com any scaþe, tinselle of seignorie, Tille þow it wille be waþe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* v. 65 Nay, certis it is no wathe, Ete it safely ye maye. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 1737 Fast south thai went; to bid it was gret waith.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 375 Bot much þe bygger 3et was my mon, Fro þou was wroken fro vch a wope. 13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 233 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 271 Bot for wothe ne wele, ne wrathe ne drede.. I remewit neuer fro þe rizt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6030 For to wacche and to wake for wothis of harme. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* XX. 143 She seyþ, þey go to helle wopes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 416 Ye shuld not be so spitus standyng in sich a woth.

B. *adj.* Dangerous.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4213 Allas! þat I him [Joseph] ouþer oute-sent, þat wal þat was so wath to wend. *Ibid.* 28687 To fall in syn hu gret foly,—hu quat [*Cotton Galba* wathe] it es þar-in to ly.

Hence † **Wothely** *adv.* [Icel. *váðaliga*, MSw. *vadhelika*, *vadelige*], dangerously, perilously.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2090 This gentille.. wondes alle wathely, that in the waye stondes! *Ibid.* 2186, I am wathely woundide, waresche mone I neuer! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8827 Achilles woundit full wothely in were of his lyffe. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 303 (Thornton) Arthure..Salle be wondede, I wysse, falle wathely [*Douce* wofely; *Irel.* wothelik], I wene.

Wothe, var. of *woghe* Wough *sb.*[2]

Wother, obs. form of Other.

Wother, woper, obs. forms of Whether.

Wother-weight (Sc.); see Wither-[1], 2.

† **Wo·tless**, *a. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. Wot *v.*] Unknowing, ignorant.

1594 H. Constable *Diana* VI. x, Whose hands I kisse.. when she stands wotlesse whom so much she blisseth.

Wot-save, obs. form of Vouchsafe *v.*

Wott, obs. Sc. form of Wit *sb.*

Wott(e, obs. ind. pres. of Wit *v.*[1]

† **Wo·ttingly**, *adv. Obs.* [f. *wotting*, pres. pple. of Wot *v.*] Wittingly, knowingly.

1530 Palsgr. 846/2 Wottyngly, *a escient.* 1892 *Gloss. Cumberld., Wittenly*, wottenly; designedly.

† **Wottoo** = wilt thou: see Will *v.*[1] A. 3 a. 8.

1701 Steele *Funeral* iii (1702) 42 Wottoo, Wottoo Fright thy own Trembling shivering Wife.

Wou, obs. f. How *adv.*; obs. Sc. f. Vow *sb.* and *v.*[1]

Wou·bit, oo·bit, *dial.* Forms: *α.* 5 **wolbode** (**welbode**), **wolle bode**; 5 **welbede**, 6 **wolbede**, 7 **wolbet**, **volbet**; 7 **wool-beard**, **woollbed**, 8 **wool bed**. *β. Sc.* 6 **wowbat**, **woubet** (**voubet**), **wobat**, 9 **vowbet**, **wounbit**. *γ. north.* and *Sc.* 7 **oubut**, 9 **oubit**, **oobit**, **ubit**, **youbit**, **hoobit**, **hubert**; **obeed**. [ME. *wolbode* and *welbede*, app. f. *wel* Woe *sb.* with obscure second element; the form *-bede* may be connected with Bode or Bidde.] A hairy caterpillar, esp. the larva of the tiger-moth; a 'woolly bear'. Also *transf.* (and *attrib.*) applied contemptuously to a person.

α. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 706/15 *Hic multipes*, a welbode. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A welle bode (*A.* Wolbode), *multipes*. 1496 *Treat. Fishing w. Angle* (1883) 24 Bynde it on your hoke with fletchers sylke and make it rough lyke a welbede. 15.. *Ortus Vocab.* (Shrewsbury MS.) Wolbede. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XXIX. v. II. 369 The Wooll-beads or Caterpillers,..which are a kind of earth-wormes.., all hairie, having many feet, and courbing archwise as they creepe. 1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* iii. 27 Those rough insects (which some call Wooll-beds, because of their wool-like outside, and rings of divers colours). 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 8 (1700) 35 Palmer-worm, Palmer-fly, Wooll-bed, and Cankers, Are all one Worm. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 18.

β. 1508 Dunbar *Twa Marlit Wemen* 89 Ane wallidrag, ane worme, ane auld wobat carle. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 94 Swa ladeis will nocht sounze With waistit wowbattis rottin. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 268 Wan-shapen woubet [*v.r.* wowbat, wolbet], of the weirds invyit. *Ibid.* 614 An warloch, an warwolfe, an voubet but haire. 1801 Sibbald *Chron. S. P.* Gloss., *Woubit*, *Oubit*, one of those worms which appear as if covered with wool. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* XIV. 143 The *hairy wowbet*, or *yeubit*,..is the name given by boys [in Berwickshire] to the caterpillar of the tiger-moth.

γ. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 103 The English-Northren-men call the hairie Catterpillers, Oubuts. *c* 1800 *Ayrs. Gl. Surv.* 693 (Jam.) *Ubit*, dwarfish. 1825 Jamieson, *Oobit*, a hairy worm, with alternate rings of black and dark yellow. 1852 Kingsley *Poems*, *The Oubit*, It was an hairy oubit, saw proud he crept along. 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. 117 Very like a huge caterpillar or hairy *oobit*. 1865– in dialect glossaries, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Wouch(e, var. forms of Wough *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

Wouchaif(f)e, Wouchesafe, etc., obs. forms of Vouchsafe *v.*

Woud, obs. Sc. f. Void *v.*, obs. f. Wood *sb.*[1] and *a.*

Wouf, var. Woof *int.*

Wouf(e, obs. form of Woof *sb.*[1]

Wough (*wʊ*, *wʊf*), *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 1–4 **wah** (5 *Sc.* **wacht**). *β.* 1 **wag**, 4 **wagh**, **wau**; 1 (*dat.*) **wage**, 3 **wa3he**, **wau3e**, 4 **waghe**, **wawe**; *pl.* 1 **wages**, 3 **wa3es**, 4 **waghis**, 5 **wawis**, **-es**. *γ.* 4 **wo3** (*dat.* **wo3e**, *pl.* **wo3es**), 4–7–9 **wogh**, 5 **woch**, 8 **woagh**; 3–4 **wouh**, 4 **wou3**, **wougho**, 5, 8–9 **wough**. *δ.* 4–5 **wowe**, 4 **wow**; *pl.* 3–5 **wowes** (3 **woawes**), 5 **wowen**. [OE. *wāg* (also *wāg*), *wāh*, = OFris. *wāch* (W.Fris. *weach*, EFris. *wôch*, NFris. *woch*, *wuch*, *âch*, etc.), related to Goth. *waddjus*, ON. *veggr* (see Wig *sb.*[2]).

The later Sc. *waw*, *wa'*, and northern dial. *waow*, *waa*, *wa'*, are normal phonetic developments of *wall*, and their wide currency indicates that they represent that word rather than this.]

1. A wall of a house; a partition.

α. c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 7 Swa swa sliccs huses wah bið fæst sæfter ze on ßære flore ze on ßæm hrofe. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 288 Hiin ne widstent nan þing, naðer ne stænen weall ne bryden wah. *c* 1200 Ormin 1013 An waȝherifft Wass spredd ȝra wah to waȝhe. *c* 1205 Lay. 25887 He nom þare halle wah [*v.r.* wað] and helden hine to grunde. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 247 Is eauer hire unþeaw forte sechen in-ȝong abute þe wahes to a murðrin hire þrinne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23216 (Edin.) Paintid fire.. þat apon a wah war wroht. *a* 1300 *Bernardus de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 7 Quhile þa ly by þe wacht.

β. Beowulf 1662 Þæt ic on waȝe geseah wlitig hangian eald sweord eacen. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* v. xv, 250 He oft ..slog mid his heafde on þone wag. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 151 Hie þa wurdon sona ablinde..& heora heafdu slozan on þa waȝas. *c* 1200 Ormin 6815 An waȝhe off Cristess kirrke. *Ibid.* 6825 Þatt hirrestan Þatt band ta tweȝȝan waȝhess. *c* 1205 Lay. 20182 Heo letten alle þa scrud at þere dure werpen vt, wascen þe waȝes [*c* 1275 wowes]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7667 þe king þan hent a sper scarp To stair him thoru vnto þe wau [*Gött.* wawe; *Fairf.* wagh]. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6619 A purtrayd fire on a waghe, þat es paynted outher heghe or laghe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3222 Ȝit ware þe wawes of þe wanes,..Polischid all ef pure gold.

γ. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 95 Caritéð arist up fram ðe grundwalle, and beclepð all ðe woah. *c* 1290 *St. Dunstan* 132 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 93 þe harpe he hengvp bi þe wouh. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 970 (Camb.) þe se bigan to þrote Vnder hir woȝe. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1144 Þys olde man was broght so logh þat he lay ful colde besyde a wogh. 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 Betuene ham and paradys ne is bote a lyte woȝ. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* lxi. 4 As to a boowid woughe, and to a ston wal put doun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4773 In the castell..all was bare as a bast, to þe bigge woghes. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 785 Hym liketh best a daubed wough, and he Wel hane a wal of cley and stoon. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 181 An adyrcope..come of þe woch. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 54 A *Wogh*, a Wall, Lanc. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray*, A *Wogh*, any Partition, whether of Boards or mud Walls, or Laths and Lime; as a Boarded-wogh, studded wogh. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 69, I crope under a Wough. 1847 Lytton *Lucretia* II. xix, She lived agin the wogh yonder, where you see that gust coming out.

δ. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 172 Þauh hire licome beo wiðinnen þe uour woawes. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1308 Wowes west and here huse. 1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4272 Here mayst thou bettyr slepe a throwe Than lyyte and loke vppon a

23.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1532 In þe [illegible] vpon þe playn wowe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 324 Ther was nothing hem betwene, Bot wow to wow and wall to wall. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18388 Troye is doune & ouer-throwen, Tour & bour, walls & wowen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wowe, wal [*s.v.* wowe or wall], *paries, murus*. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 552, I. yonde bitwene the wowes. *a* 1470 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) v. iii. 258/2 God lyknyth flaterers to thoym that playstren & paynten walles and wowes without.

2. *Mining.* The side of a vein.

1683 Manlove *Liberties of Lead-Mines* 234 If..woughs be streta, the Miner then may fire. *Ibid.* 259 Water holes, Wind holes, Veyns, Coe-shafts and Woughs. 1681 T. Houghton *Rara Avis* (E.D.S.) 44 *Woughs*, the walls or sides, sometimes of hard stone, and sometimes soft. 1696 R. Fullness *Astrologer* 1. Wks. (1858) 135 Where wough or rider, twitch'd a leading fast, There he was matchless at a tearing

3. *Comb.*: † **wough-nail**, **wall-nail** (Wall *sb.*[1] 22). OE. *wāgrȳft*, *-rift* occurs in the Ormulum as *waghrifft*.

1331 in Topham *Collag. Chap. St. Stephen* (1834) 67 Ridem pro 1000 de Wounail empt' pro quadam intercisu' in dicta domo faciend'. *c* 1300 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. 498 [On the Irish estates we find a kind of nail called] 'woh' or 'wouwe-nails'. 1422 *Ibid.* III. 447 Wogh prig nails.

† **Wough**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 1–4 **woh**, 3 **wooh**, 3 (5 *Sc.*) **wooht**, 4 **woht**. *β.* 1 (3) *dat.* **wo** (**woo**), 3–4 **wo3** (4 **wo3h**), 3–5 **wogh**, 1 *dat.* **wo3e**, 3–4 **wo3e** (4 **wo3he**), 3–5 **woghe**, 5 **wothe**. *γ.* 3 **wou**, 3–5 **wow**; 3–4 **wouh** (3 *pl.* **wouhwes**), **wou3** (5 **wough**, **wow3**), 4 **wough**, 5 **wugh**, *Sc.* **wouch**; 5 **wouche**, **wou-**, **wow3e**, **woughe**. [OE. *wōh* (inflected *wō-*, *wōg-*), neut. of *wōh* Wough *a.* used as *sb.*]

1. Wrong, evil; injury, harm.

α. c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* VI. x. 264 Þa sende him hiora an,.. þæt he woh bude. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xciii. 4 Hi..woh meldiað. *c* 1205 Lay. 11589 Þat wes swiðe muchel woh. *c* 1250 *Death* 261 in *O. E. Misc.* 184 Lete us hatie þat woh and luule þat riȝte. *c* 1250 *Orison* 16 Ibid. 160 þu brohtest dai and eve niȝt, Heo broȝte woht, þu broȝtest riȝt. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Harl.) 52 Mon haþ do me shome ynoh wyþ word ant dede in heore woh.

β. a 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. § 7 Englas..nanes wos [*s.v.* woxes] ne wilniað. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xlv. 1 Hie..nyllað wietan mid hweleum woo [*s.v.* wo] hie gestriendon. *c* 924 *Let.* in Birch *Cartul.* II. 236 Ic him wolde fyistan to ryhte and nesfre to nanan wo. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 Al riht is leid and wogh arered. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1550 Þus hym frayned þat fre, and fondet hym ofte, For to haf wonnen hym to woȝe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 544 For þat were swiche a woȝh þat neuer wolde be mended. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2812 As me is wa for þi woȝe & þi wrange bathe.

γ. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 126 Wouh þet me mis-deð us, oðer of word oðer of werc. *Ibid.* 290 Wel is us nu, Louerd, nor þe dawes þet tu lowudest us mide oðre monnes wouhwes. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7979 Of two pynges wakned hys wough. *c* 1350 *Cast. Love* 1117 Ȝif þou wole a-menden his wou3, þou most doþ þolen þorw strong pyne I-nou3. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1333 Her hertes was full of sorow and woughe.

2. In phrases: **a.** *To do* or *work wough.* Also const. *to*, *on* (a person) or with dat.

(*a*) *c* 1205 Lay. 21456 Þat ne scal þe king woh don. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Vor þolemod is þe þet þuldeliche aberæð wouh þet me deð him. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15808 Wit þair bestens bete þai him And did him mikel wogh. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 119 To William did he wouh, He *did* breane Helwelle, & William broþer slouh. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 119 For here schall no man do the woghe, till aughte dayes ben a-goo.

(*β*) 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7687 Vor ne mon ne durste him he wro3te muche woo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20340 (Edi [illegible] mis, þat wrobt on him wro3ten woghe. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 700 The wyis wre vthir grete wandreth and wouch. *Ibid.* 1109 To wirk wandreth or wough. *c* 1550 *Hunt. Cheviot* XXVI. in C *Ballads* III. 308/2 He wrought hom both woo and wou

b. *To have wough*: to be in the wrong.

c 1205 Lay. 3327 Lelneði þu hanes mochel wouh. 3043 Þu hauest woh & [he] haued riht. *a* 1225 *Ancr.* Me leoue sire, þu hauest wouh. *c* 1275 *Passion o* 332 in *O. E. Misc.* 46 Seye þu me soþ, Yf þu ert gywene kyng oþer hi habbeþ woh. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 1531 þat seiȝen he hadde þe riȝt, þe steward hadde þe wou3. *c* 1400 *Solomon's Bk. Wisd.* 284 Ac so wys clerk ne worþ þer þat ne schal hane to don ynou3, fforto disputen a3eine hym þei3 he haue þe wou3.

c. *Mid* or *with wough*: wrongfully. (OE. also *on wōh.*)

c 885 *Ælfred's Will* in Birch *Cartul.* II. 177 þæt ic mine mæȝecild oððe yldran oðre ȝingran mid wo for-demde. *c* 960 *Lawes Edgar* II. iv, & se þe oðerne mid woge forseggan wile, þæt he [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Þes ruperes and þas reuares þet nemeð oðres monnes eahte mid wohe. *c* 1205 Lay. 24811 Of Frolle þan kinge, þat þu mid woȝe at Paris aslouȝe. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Summe tide ich habbe iheued of oðer monnes mid woh. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1239 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 149 [They] solden þe kinge of al þe wo þat seint thomas hadde with wou3. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 161 Herode kyng wit wogh For crist mak þe childer slogh. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3080 Ich cn of hem þat he toke, he slouȝ, Were it wiþ riȝt, were it wiþ wou3. [*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4806 Wiþ gode riȝt & no wou3.]

d. *Without(en) wough*: truly.

13.. *Guy Warw.* 6876 Ich it seye, wiþouten wou3. *c* 1400 *Merlin* 1415 (Kölbing) Herknep alle, wiþ owte wou3h, Y schal 3ow telle, why y lough. 14.. *Sir Bowes* (S.) 2135 Certes, madame, with out wow3. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 1172 Suche virtuous werkus he wolde welle do Fulle sexteyche wt-owte ony wothe [*rime* bothe]. *Ibid.* 2100. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2638 Withe Syr mader, with-outen woughe, Full sone acordement gon they make.

Wough (wuf), *sb.*[3] Also *Sc.* **wouch**. [Imitative. Cf. Wuff.] The bark of a dog or other animal.

1824 Macfarlane *Gallovid. Encycl.* 481 *Wouch*, the same with *bouch*, a dog's bark. 1892 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* II. xxii. 200 The hound, with a short 'wough' dropped in upon his head. 1898 *Longm. Mag.* May 67 Little squirrels ..have quite a large vocabulary,..a bark or wough when

†Wough, *a. Obs.* (or *dial.*) Forms: 1–4 woh (3 wop), 4 wouȝ, 9 *dial.* oogh; *pl.* (etc.) 3 woȝe, woȝhe, wowe. [OE. *wōh* (inflected *wōg-*, *wōz-*), of obscure origin. Hence Wough *sb.*²]

1. Crooked, bent.

a1225 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul.* II. 114 Danne fram langan leaze to ðam won stocce. *c*1897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 67 Sio micle nosu & sio woo. *a*1000 *Laws Æthelb* xliv, Ȝif mus oþþe eaze woh weorðeþ. *a*1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 146/38 *Diverticula, diverticule*, mistlice woȝe wegas. *a*1250 *Owl & Night.* 813 Þe fox..can paþes riȝte & woȝe.

1866 Brockett *Prov. Words Lincs.* 141 The woodman said that the stuff was kind, but all I've seen was oogh inclined.

2. Wrong, evil, bad. Also *absol.*

Beowulf 1747 Wom wundorbebodum werȝan gastes. *c*888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 3 Hit is woȝ þæt hi mon læte unwitnode. *a*1000 *Riddles* xl. 24 (Gr.) Woh wyrda ȝesceapu *c*1200 Ormin 1375 Þær Cristess menniscnesse Dranncdæþess drinnch o rodetreo forr ure woȝhe dedess. *c*1205 Lay. 4333 Þat is woh & na wiht riht. *a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Wiðute knotte & dolke of woh inwit & of wreinde. *c*1250 *Owl & Night.* 164 Schild þine ȝvikeldom vram þe liȝte, & hud þat woȝe [*v.r.* wõwe] among þe riȝte. *c*1300 *Sir Tristr.* 1730 Her wening was al woȝ, Vntroweand til hem to. *a*1400 *Octovian* (Weber) 1030 Florentyn nazt forsok hyt, Þey hyt wer woȝ.

†Wough, *int. Obs.*⁻¹ = Waugh, Wow.

*a*1563 Udall *Royster D.* III. iv. (Arb.) 52 Wough, she is gone for euer, I shall hir no more see.

Wouȝ, obs. var. How *adv.*

†Wouhleche. *Obs.*⁻¹ [f. *wouh-*, repr. OE. *wōg-*, stem of *wōgian* to Woo + *-lǽce* -ledge.] Wooing, courtship. So also †**Wouhleohung.**

*a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 No wouhleche nis so culuert ase is o plainte wia. *Ibid.* 388 He uor wouhlecchunge sende hire his sonden.

Wouke, obs. form of Week *sb.*

†Woul, *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative. Cf. Wawl *v.*] *intr.* To howl, cry, wail.

*c*1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 748 *Tesson cralle*, Brok woulith. 1382 Wyclif *Hosea* v. 8 Woule ȝe in Bethauen. *Ibid.* vii. 14 Thei crieden not to me in her herte, bot thei wouliden in her couchis.

Would (wud), *sb.* [The subj. of Will *v.*¹ used substantively.] The feeling or expression of a conditional or undecided desire or intention.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 32 Bot yit is noght mi feste al plein, Bot al of woldes and of wisshes, Therof have I my fulle disshes. 1606 Fenner *Hid. Manna* (1656) 58 Thou hast a settled will to sinne, but a sorry would, or a months minde to repent. *a*1633 Binning *Serm.* (1735) 559/2 Your Woulds and Wishes after Christ and Salvation, are not the real Exercises of your Soul's flying unto him for Salvation. 1864 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 131 If all my 'woulds', dear Jones, were changed to 'coulds', I'd deck thy bungalow with Europe goods. 1876 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 151 All writings must be in a degree exoteric, written to a human *should* or *would* instead of to the fatal *is*.

b. With *the*, denoting desire or intention in contrast to duty or necessity.

1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xvii. 197 But so it will always be with silly girls, that distinguish not between the *would* and the *should*. 1831 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Early Ger. Lit.* (1872) III. 188 When man, hemmed-in between the Would and the Should, or the Must, painfully hesitates.

Would, obs. f. Hold *v.*, Old *a.* Weld *sb.*¹, Wold; var. Woold *sb.* and *v.*

Would-be (wu·dbi), *a.* and *sb.* [The phrase *would be* (see Will *v.*¹ 40) used attributively and absolutely.]

A. *adj.* Of persons: That would be; wishing to be; posing as.

In the earliest examples used as a mock addition to a designation or title: cf. B.

1300 Graystanes in *Hist. Dunelm. Script. Tres* (Surtees) 77 Eum [*sc.* Henry de Luceby] contempserunt, vocantes eum H. walde be Priur. 1642 Kynaston *Leoline* etc. 138 By the skill of Marquis would-be Iones, 'Tis found the smoakes salt did corrupt the stones.

1649 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* v. 21. 286 Epictetus complained that there were many would be Philosophers, as far as a few good words would goe. 1692 *Rabshakeh Vapulans* 2 The Wou'd-be-Wits, and wou'd-be-Wise, The witty Fool must have the foremost place. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 73. 2/2 The next a Proctor's Clerk, a Would-be Beau. 1730 *Student or Oxf. Misc.* I. 23 None but Academical Pedants and would-be-wits. 1794 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 112 We shall see what the court lawyers..and would-be ambassadors will make of it. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* IV. ii, They are not rascals—they are would-be men of the world. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* ii. 91 Antiochus was a propagator of false religions, a would-be destroyer of the true. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 307 Napoleon I..actually bequeathed a legacy..to Cantillon, the would-be assassin of Wellington.

b. *transf.* Of things: Intended as.

*a*1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 54 The burnished plate That decks the would-be rustic gate. 1896 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. xxvi, Speaking with a would-be tone of congratulation. 1869 Trollope *He Knew* etc. xcii. (1878) 513 He had continued to speak with the same fluent would-be cynicism. 1901 H. Sutcliffe *B. Cunliffe* V. 75 His usual stilted gait softened to a would-be airiness.

c. With following adj., forming a hyphened phrase.

1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xxvii. 238 The would-be-genteel concombs of Calcutta. 1840 T. Gordon tr. *W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* II. 80 Books..are filled with Philistinism and would-be-wise morality. 1865 Annie Thomas *On Guard* II. 90 A sayer of would-be-sensible things. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. iii, With a would-be-valedictory wave of the hand.

d. *Would-be-thought*: wishing to be considered as.

1805 T. Harral *Scenes of Life* II. 67 The wits, and would-be-thought wits, of the day. 1815 Mrs. Pilkington *Celebrity* II. 148 'Perhaps I might', rejoined the would-be-thought cynic.

B. *sb.* One who fain would be (something specified or implied).

Sometimes used as a fictitious surname.

(*a*) 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* Dram. Pers. (1607), Politique Would-bee, a Knight..Fine Mada. Would-bee, the Knights wife. 1708 Mrs. Centlivre *Love at Venture* I. i. 5 *Enter a Servant. Ser.* Sir, here is Mr. Wou'dbe to wait on you.

(*b*) 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 238 They are the Politick would-be's of the Clergy. *c*1730 Ramsay *To his Son* vi, Yet, this let little would-be's know. 1732 *London Mag.* I. 240 Of all the Fops in Nature, none are so ridiculously contemptible as the Wouldbees. 1761 Cowper *Conversat.* 612 A man that would have foiled, at their own play, A dozen would-be's of the modern day.

†Wou·lder. *Obs.* [irreg. f. *would*, pa. t. of Will *v.*¹ + *-er* 1.] In the proverbial phrase *wishers and woulders*: those given to saying 'I wish...' and 'I would...', i.e. indulging idle wishes instead of making active efforts.

The proverb in which the word rimes with *householders* is freq. quoted (with slight variations) down to the 18th cent.

1508 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) C vj, Wyshers and wolders be small housholders. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 26 Wishers and wolders be no good householders. *a*1617 Bayne *Lect.* (1634) 140 A man may bee a wisher and woulder with Balaam, but misse of his desires. 1623 R. Carpenter *Consc. Christian* 28 The imperfect Essayes..of lazie languishing wishers and woulders. 1646 Hammond *Tracts, Consc.* 36 The hypocrisie of the wisher and woulder, that could wish he were better then he is. 1670 Ray *Prov.* 295 (Scot. Prov.) Wishers and wolders are poor householders. [1870 Schaff *Comm. Prov.* xxi. 25–6 Wishers and woulders are neither good householders nor long livers.]

†b. In *well-woulder*: well-wisher. *Obs.*⁻¹

1643 *Plaine English* 28 These are well-woulders to the Parliament.

Would-have-been, *a.* [The verbal phrase used attributively.] That would have liked to be, that aimed at being, (something specified).

1744 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect.* V. (1748) I. 233 Her penetrating eyes immediately discovered her would-have-been gallant. *Ibid.* VII. II. 29 The would-have-been member was ready to burst with inward rage at this sneer. 1844 Alb. Smith *Adv Mr. Ledbury* xxxiv, The would-have-been assassin of Louis the Fifteenth. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Nov. 7/2 The hunt goes forward after the would-have-been invaders of Natal.

†Wou·lding, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [irreg. f. *would* pa. t. of Will *v.*¹] The action or fact of desiring. Usually coupled with *wishing*.

1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* K iii, There be some who onely with wishyng and wouldyng are riche in their owne fantasie. 1620 Sanderson *Serm. ad Clerum* iii. (1681) I. 51 You may call it wishing and woulding, (and we have Proverbs against wishers and woulders) rather than Praying. 1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* I. (1656) 314 If woulding and wishing will bring them to heaven, then they may come thither. *a*1724 M. Henry *Wks.* (1835) I. 123 Wishing and woulding is but trifling.

b. *pl.* Desires, inclinations.

*a*1640 Fenner *Sacrif. Faithfull* (1648) 38 Many a poore soule, that hath forcible wouldings, and wracked desires after grace and holinesse. 1661 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* III. (1662) 554 Some lazy wouldings or wishings, or weak velleities. 1710 J. Norris *Chr. Prud.* 217 They have a great many imperfect Motions, Inclinations, Half Consents, and Velleities or Wouldings to do so. *a*1758 Jon. Edwards in *Life Brainerd* (1845) 368 His desires were not idle wishings and wouldings.

†Wou·ldingness. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + *-ness.*] Desire, inclination.

*a*1660 Hammond *Pract. Catech.* I. iii. Wks. 1674 I. 31 And 2. whatsoever you do, you do, first against one velleity (or wouldingness) or other; and secondly, with some mixture of the contrary.

Woulfe (wulf). Also Woulf. [The surname of Peter Woulfe (?1727–1803), a London chemist.] *Woulfe's apparatus*, a series of glass receivers (*Woulfe's bottles*) formerly used in distillation.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 109 A bent tube immersed to the bottom of the water, contained in one of Woulf's bottles. 1813 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 332 Woulfe's apparatus evolved so large a quantity of subtile, elastic, and often incondensable vapours. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 369 An arrangement of vessels first devised by Glauber, but which with some modifications, has since received the name of Woulfe's apparatus. 1855 Scoffern *Elem. Chem.* 358 The..Woulfes bottles are about two-thirds filled with water.

Woulk, obs. Sc. form of Week *sb.*

Woult, obs. Sc. var. Vault *sb.*¹

Wouman, obs. form of Woman.

Wound (wūnd), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1–3 wund, 3 wunde (wnde); 3–5 wonde, 4–6 wond (6 *Sc.* vond), 5 woynd, 6 *Sc.* wind. *β.* 3–7 wounde, 3– wound (5 wownd, *Sc.* vound); 8 *pl.* wawnds. [Common Teutonic: OE. *wund* = OFris. *wunde*, *wund* (WFris. *weune*, EFris. *wûn*), MDu. *wonde* (Du. *wond*), OS. *wunda* (LG. *wunde*, *wunne*, *wunn*), OHG. *wunta*, *wunda* (MHG. *wunte*, *wunde*, G. *wunde*), ON. (Icel., MSw.) *sund* (Da. *vunde* from LG.), of uncertain relationship.

The original *d* was normally lengthened before *nd*, but in the standard pronunc. has been prevented from developing into *ou* (as in *bound*, *hound*, *ground*, etc.) by the influence of the *w* (in contrast to *wound*, pa. t. of Wind *v.*²). The pronunc. (wuind) is however given by some dictionaries of the 18th (Kenrick, 1773; Jones, 1798), is widely current in ——, is implied in various forms of Wounds and Zounds, and was common in the adv. Woundy.]

1. A hurt caused by the laceration or separation of the tissues of the body by a hard or sharp instrument, a bullet, etc.; an external injury.

†*Death's wound*: see Death-wound.

a. Beowulf 2711 Þa sio wund ongon, þe him se ecrôdraca ær ȝeworhte, swelan and swellan. *c*900 *Beda's Hist.* II. ix. (1890) 124 Eac wæs se cyning ȝehæled from þære wunde, þe him ær ȝedon wæs. *c*1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 180 Wiþ wunda,..ȝenim þas wyrte þe we senecio nemdun. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Þa com þer an helendis Mon and heuede roupe of him and wesh his wunden mid wine. *c*1205 Lay. 23969 He wunde afeng feouwer unchene long. *c*1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 287 in *O. E. Misc.* 48 Ne schullen hi nouht yete þolie none wnde. *c*1300 *Havelok* 1980 He haues a wunde in the side. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5337 Bybalde þe wondes þat yhe styked. *c*1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 301 Þan he sakede of Olyuere..If þat he any wonde bere in ya body þat tyde. *c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 6316 Achylles..hymselfe fore to no fyght for hys fel wondys. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 181 The bee is a Passynge wrathfull beste..and for vengeaunce they lewyth thar Stynglil in the wonde. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xvi. 33 He toke them. and Wassbed their wondes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiv. 121 The mortal vondis that he hed reasuit fra beastis his seruituir.

*β. c*1290 *Sancta Crux* 438 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 24 To-gadere huy smiten to grounde..and maden heom wel bitere woundes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11397 He hadde mo þan tuenti wounde ar he were inome. *c*1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 442 And þere þeih sholen se sobliche, His grisli wounden openliche. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 137 Of word among the men of Armes Ben woundes heeled with the charmes, Wher lacketh other medicine. *c*1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xix. 87 Þe blude runnes doun fra þer woundes. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/1 Wownde, festryd, *cicatrix*. Wownde, made wythe swerde or other wepne, *stigma*. *c*1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xv. 356 He..cast hym doun to the grounde with a wounde mortall. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* I. ccl.xxvii. (1557) 120 b, There be dyuers sortes of wounden, some be newe and freshe woundes and some be olde wounden, some be depe woundes, [etc.]. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. ii. 55 Dead Henries wounds, Open their congeal'd mouthes, and bleed afresh. 1622 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* I. 3. Wounds should be drest and heal'd, not vext, or left Wide open, to the anguish of the patient. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 271 Octavius..was shortly after shot by the Besieged, and dyed of the Wound. 1679 Oldham *Sat. Jesuits* III. (1681) 70 A Wound though cur'd, yet leaves behind a Scar. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. VIII. 222, I receiv'd a wound with a sword which laid me on the ground. 1744 J. Armstrong *Art Preserv. Health* III. 516 For want of timely care Millions have died of medicable wounds. 1770 Goldsm *Des. Vill.* 157 The broken soldier..Wept o'er his wounds. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 387 Having..several sabre and pike wounds. 1841 Lever *O'Malley* lxxi, 'And his wound? Is it a serious one?' said a..voice, as the doctor left my room. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxvi, The blood flowed from a wound on the head. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-eaters of Tsavo* vii. 78, I..bathed and dressed his wounds.

b. Esp. in the (*Five*) *Wounds* of Christ.

*c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Ac he hom helde mid his halie fif wunden. *a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 292 Nem ofte Jesu..Vlih into his wunden, creop in ham mid þine þouhte. *a*1300 *Leg. Rood* ii. 258 He aros to lyue From depe þen þridde dai myd is wounden viue. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 648 Alle his afyaunce vpon folde was in þe fyue woundez þat Crist kaȝt on þe croys. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 135 By meryte of our lordes fyue woundes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 The moost werthy to be loued woundes & passyon of Chryst. 1533 in *Linc. Dioc. Docum.* (1914) 157 The ij. cunstabelles.. shall deyll v^d in honor and worship of the v. wondes of our lord to the v. pore-t folkes in the towne. 1625 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* 220 They..brought into the field many men, vnder flying colours, wherein were painted in some, the fiue wounds of our Lord. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 53 The Church of the five wounds of our Saviour. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* II. 21 And figured there The five dear wounds our Lord did bear. 1845 Pusey tr. *Horst's Parad. Soul* (1847) II. vi. 81 Salutations to the Five Wounds of Christ. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 549/2 As regards full stigmatization, with the visible production of the five wounds, ..the oldest case, after St. Francis, is that of Ida of Louvain.

c. Used as an oath or strong exclamation, as *By Christ's*, or *His, wounds*, *His arms and wounds*, *Wounds of God*, etc. (Cf. Wounds *int.*)

See also Blood *sb.* 12e, God *sb.*¹ 3, God *sb.* 14 a, Goo¹ 2, and Oons, Swounds, Zounds.

*c*1350 *Athelston* 144 Sodaynly þan schalt þou dy, Be Cristes woundys fyue. *c*1480 Henryson *Wolf & Lamb* 2689 Be his woundis, fals tratour, thow sall de. *a*1533 Berners *Huon* clxxxix. 760 Than the maister ruffian began to swere bloode & woundes that thei ahulde plei at the dyse. 1550 Latimer *Serm.* G ii b, He cried oute, what, shall I dye (quod he) woundes, sydes, hart, shal I dye,..woundes and sydes shal I thus dye? 1560 *Nice Wanton* 215 It is lost, by His woundes! and ten to one! 1568 Fulwell *Like will to Like* B 1 b, Gogs hart..., Blood, wounds and nailes, it will make a man mad. 1589 *Rare Tri. Love & Fort.* (Roxb.) 143 By his wounds I would never lin [etc.]. 1600 Chettle *Hoffman* IV. (1631) H 2 b, S'wounds ile confound her, and she linger thus. 1708 Cibber & Vanb. *Provok'd Husb.* I. 14 Ad's waunds, and heart!..I'm glad I ha' fun ye. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Random* xi, 'Blood and wounds! (cried Weazel) d'ye question the honour of my wife, madam!' [1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xxv, Wounds of God! In what way thought you that a lawyer listened to your rigmarole?]

d. *fig.* or in fig. context.

*a*900 *Cynewulf's Crist* 1314 Eala! Þær we nu magon wrabe firene ȝesecan usum sawlum synna wunde. *c*1000 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 80 Ælfremeda wunda ne abarian [*L. aliena vulnera non detegere*]. *c*1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Ure halende com to helen þe wundes þe þe deoȝel hadde on mancun broht. *a*1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 289 Þine wunden healen þe wunden of mi saule. *c*1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 230 My foo that gave myn herte A wounde ful.. Hoccleve *Virg. & Christ* 62 Vn-to the souerain leche,

greye of grace, þat he my wowndes vouchesauf to cure. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* 1. Wks. (1572) 261/1 The wound of temptation beyng greater then that it could bee healed with the preaching of a woman. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 That the woundes of the Church might be healed. 1592 TIMME *Trm Eng. Lepers* L 3 b, Who falleth from patience by the wounds of evill tongues. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 59 The wounde of the priviledge of the House not soe greate, as that his Majestie shoulde conceave a suspicion of our seale to his honor. *a* 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* i. xi. 84 This Wound is not cured by saying, that he first conquers one, and then more. 1708 POPE *Ode St. Cecilia* 29 She...Pours balm into the bleeding lover's wounds. 1744 H. BROOKE in E. Moore *Fables* xv. 14 The wounds of honour never close. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, Louis, who searched the wounds of the land with steel and cautery. 1860 MRS. BROWNING *De Profundis* v, And tender friends go sighing round, 'What love can ever cure this wound?' 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* xi, My jewel will always believe the best of me; time will heal up her wounds.

2. *transf.* An incision, abrasion, or other injury due to external violence, in any part of a tree or plant.

1574 T. HYLL *Ordering Bees* etc. 77 Then the barke of him [an Apple tree] is sicke: then cut it with a knife,...and when the humour thereof is somwhat flowen ouer,...stoppe diligently his wounde with clay. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 33 Make as few wounds in a Tree as possibly you can. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 397 If you have occasion to make any great Wounds, cover them over with Clay. 1799 H. ROOKE *Sh. Sherwood Forest* 15 Where the Bark has been stript off for cutting the letters, the wood which grows over the wound never adheres to that part. 1857 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 73 If the cortical layers, while yet young, are accidentally injured, the part destroyed is again regenerated, and the wound healed up without a scar. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 79 Wounds to the wood are also frequently produced during the felling of neighbouring Trees.

b. In other transf. uses.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 689 Soon had his crew Op'nd into the Hill a spacious wound And dig'd out ribs of Gold. *Ibid.* ix. 782 Her rash hand..Forth reaching to the Fruit, she pluck'd, she eat: Earth felt the wound. 1792 PAKENHAM in *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 210 Fifty-eight lower masts were wounded,...thirty-two of which had their wounds in the upper third.

3. *Surgery.* An incision or opening made by a surgical operator.

1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. vi. 143 If...you ..then by a Wound made in an Artery shall put in a crooked hollow probe. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 522 The wound of the integuments was contracted with strips of adhesive plaster. 1884 THOMPSON *Tumours of Bladder* 37 At the operation no tumour was found,...on Feb. 20, the wound was quite healed.

4. Something which causes a wound (lit. or fig.).

1715 POPE *Iliad* IV. 225 My varied belt repell'd the flying wound. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 667 Let thy words be wounds..For, so, I shall not fear thy power to hurt.

†**5.** (= L. *plaga.*) a. A blow, a stroke. (Cf. PLAGUE *sb.* 1.) *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xii. 47 Thilke seruaunt that knew the wille of his lord, and made not him redy, and dide not vp his wille, schal be betun with many woundis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xvi. (1495) n ij/1 The seruaunt that is not chastysed with wordes muste be chastysyd with woundes. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 68.

†**b.** A plague. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1207 That was the ten woundes of Egypte.

†**6.** An imperfection, a flaw. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. i. 1 Our first and ingenerated forefathers, from whom..we derive our being, and the severall wounds of constitution.

7. *Her.* (See quot.)

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 10 Seuen signes, or tokens whiche are figured in Armes round..7. Is of Purpre, and is to be called a Wounde.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attributive, as *wound-complication, -fever, -mark, -print, -secretion, -surface, -typhoid*; with meaning 'used for the healing of wounds', as *wound balsam, -herb, -oil, -ointment, -paste*; **b.** objective and instrumental, as *wound-dilator, -dressing, explorer; wound-inflicting, -plowed, -producing, -scarred, -worn* adjs.

1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* IV. i. 300, I like and approve better of Wound Oyles, and of Wound Ointments, than of *Wound Balsams. 1850 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) II. 1505 Wound Balsam. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 213 A common and formidable *wound-complication. 1846 JAMES *Heidelberg* III. 141 In every country town,..the latter [*sc.* the barber] exercised the craft of bone-setting and *wound-dressing. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Wound explorer*, an electric sound used in searching for bullets. 1888 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 70 Pyæmia (*wound-fever, surgical infection). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxci. 308 In the world there are not two better *wound herbes. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 543 Golden Rodde..is the most soveraigne ...ndherbe of many. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 416 Clowns-woundwort an excellent woundherb. 1868 J. E. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 209 So did the *wound inflicting brute rush on. 1892 J. A. HENDERSON *Ann. Lower Deeside* 114 One of the survivors of the gang used to exhibit...the *wound-mark of a dagger. 1698 *wound-oil, *-ointment (see *wound balsam* above). 1753 J. BARTLET *Genti. Farriery* XXV. 224 Pledgits of tow spread with black or yellow basilicon (or the wound ointment). 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 907 Herr König did not approve of *wound-pasta. *c* 1600 J. DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* i. 1. (1882) To Thou art a Souldier, and thy *wound-plow'd face Hath every furrow fill'd with falling tears. 1862 J. M. NEALE *Hymns Eccl. Church* 88 In His Feet and Hands are *Wound-prints, And His Side. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 5/3 One of the most terrible *wound-proc bullets with which our military could be armed.

GUNTER *Mr. Potter* xii. 244 The ...ther-beats... ...nd-scarred veteran of the plains. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 2 This cord..was saturated in *wound-secretion. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Barry's Phaner.* 108 *Wound-surfaces, of whatever sort, are closed and healed by it. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 611 Pyæmia has been called *wound-typhoid. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 62 His pale *wound-worn limbs.

9. Special comb.: **wound-cork**, a protective layer formed on a damaged trunk or branch of a plant or tree; †**wound-drink** (see quot. 1694); **wound-free** *adj.*, free from wounds; invulnerable; **wound-fungus**, a fungus which grows on the injured part of a plant; **wound-parasite**, a parasite infesting damaged plants; **wound-rocket** (see quot.); †**wound-shrub**, a shrub having healing properties; **wound-stripe**, a strip of gold braid worn by a wounded soldier on the left sleeve, vertically, above the cuff; †**wound-tree** (see quots. and cf. *wound-shrub*); **wound-weed**, = WOUNDWORT; **wound-wood**, wood formed over an injured part.

1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 76 A corky tissue—*wound-cork—may be formed in consequence of wounds to the bark. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* CCCXXXV. 614 Of Bugle..The decoction..is an especial helpe in all *Wound-drinkes. 1694 W. SALMON *Pharm. Bate* 757/2 A *Wound Drink, or Drink for wounded People. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* XII. xciii. 263 Nor scapt the Troian *wound-free. 1613 — *Silver Age* III. i, When we prou'd his skin To be wound-free, not to be pierc'd with steele. 1624 — *Gunaik.* VI. 280 An hearbe with whose juice if he would annointe any part of his bodie it should preserve it wound-free. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 77 They are less suited for the entrance of *wound-fungi than wounds on the living branch. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 76 The normal duramen is preyed on for nutriment by many *wound-parasites. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 82 Barbara herba..maye be called in englishe *wound-rocket, for it is good for a wounde. 1629 LOVELL *Herball* 542 *Wound-shrub, *Isontecpatlis*, *Vulnerum medicina.* 1919 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Feb. 82/2 A young fellow with *wound-stripes on his arm. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1650 *Negundo mas & fœmina.* The male and female *wound tree. *Ibid.*, *Nimbo.* Another healing or wound tree. 1887 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 288 *Solidago Virgaurea* ..This Golden Rod..was called *Wound-weed. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 77 These reagents..even replace the formation of protective *wound-wood.

Wound (wūnd), *v.* Forms: 1 wundian, 2 wundie, 3 wunden (4 wnden); 3–5 wonde, 5–6 wond; 3–6 wounde (4 wownde, 5 wowndyn, 6 *arch.* wounden), 4– wound (5 *Sc.* vound). *Pa. t.* 5 (9 *arch.*) wound. [OE. *wundian* (f. *wund* WOUND *sb.*) = OFris. (*w*)*undia* (WFris. *wounje*), MDu. and Du. *wonden*, OHG. *wuntôn* (MHG. *wunden*, G. *verwunden*), OIcel. *undaðr* pa. pple.; also OE. *gewundian* = Goth. *gawindôn.*]

1. *trans.* To inflict a wound on (a person, the body, etc.) by means of a weapon; to injure intentionally in such a way as to cut or tear the flesh.

c 750 *Pœnit. Abp. Egbert* IV. xxii. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 210 Gif hwylc læwede man oðerne wundige, gebete wið hine ða wunde. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* XXVIII. 277 Swelce he..sua nacodne hine selfne eowige to wundigeanne [*v.r.* wundianne] his feondum. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* XXI. 22 Se ðe man wundað & wile hine ofslean, swelte he deaðe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Gif þu me wundedest, ic sculde wundie þe þer on-3ein. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Hie him bireueden alle hise riche weden and wundeden him swiðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 1704 Heo..mid wepnen hine wundeden [*c* 1275 wondede] & seoððen hine slewen. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2102 in *S. E. Leg.* 166 He woundede is Arm swyþe sore, þat blod orn faste a-doun. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 330 Come Roberde's squiere, & wonded him wele more. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 421 Crist..koude not ordeyne siche buschementis to robbe men & to wounde hem. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3403 Eneryche gan oþer for to hurte and wounde, Til eche his felawe hath cruelly y-slawe. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 36 Preamble, Stanhop..lay in wayte uppon the said sir William and hym grevously wounded and maymed. 1586 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 17 Brake owte of the kynges jayle of Newgatte Owyn..& wondyd hys keper. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 155 If he wound him to death, this is no Crime. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 180 With her dart the flying deer she wounds. *c* 1800 *Young Hunting* lv. in Child *Ballads* II. 148/1 He..little thocht o that penknife Wherewith she wound him deep. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 110 From the day on which I had wounded him, he had never spoken. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *A. Quatermain* xxii. 254 They hacked and hewed at him with swords and spears, wounding him in a dozen places.

refl. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xix. 87 Þai wound þam self in þe legges and þe armes. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 136 He woudyd hymselfe in þe bonde wyth his nalle grevesly.

b. Said of the weapon, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvi. 5 Wæpen-stræles þa me wundedon. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1374 One of þe arwys wounded [*v.r.* wndede] a kny3t. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 75 His cruell darte did Pirus wounde. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1185 My Honor lie bequeath vnto the knife That wounds my bodie so dishonored. 1707 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 31 No engine or human art can wound him. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Voy.* v. 29 One [of the muskets]..flew out of the Soldier's Hand, and falling against my Leg wounded it very much.

c. Freq. in passive.

c 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 894, Hlora cyning was gewunded on þam gefeohte, þæt hi hine ne mehton feriæn. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17431 A33 þær anly wundedd wass þurrh þa firene neddress. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 853 Wunded for was gret folc and slagen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5974 Þe king let..do vnder lechecraft hem þat iwounded were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7766 Þe king eagt was wounded sare. *c* *Will. Palerne* 1377 Wel walde he nouȝt his ... was he sore. 1382 WYCLIF *Zech.* xiii. 6 With thees Y was woundid in the hous of hem that loueden me. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xliii. 283 Of a wilde swyn thow were wondid sore thoruh thin hype. 1538 in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 237 The residue being wondide to death flede away. 1612 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 453 Hee was deadly wounded in the head. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. 88 In a wound in the right Temporal Muscle, where the Artery was wounded. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383. P 2 An honest Man that has been wounded in the Queen's Service. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXV, Count Morano was wounded as bad as he. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, All the coaches had been upset,..each coach had averaged two passengers killed, and six wounded. 1892 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* IXV, For nearly three centuries the legend lingered on..that Nero was the wild beast, wounded to death, but whose deadly wound had been healed.

2. *fig.* To injure, inflict pain or hurt upon, in a manner comparable to the infliction of a wound; in later use *esp.* to pain or grieve deeply.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Þar ðu art ðurh hem [*sc.* sins] ȝewunded, þat ðu cunne hes halen. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12484 Þe deofell cumm to wundenn Crist þurrh gluterrnessess wæpenn. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 15 He..schoteð niht & dæi hise earewen ..to wundi þe wið wac wil & makien to fallen. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 14 Thai may say we ere woundid with charite. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 533 So sore hath she me wounded That stod in blak wyth lokyng of her eyen. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. v. 78 Nedy I am & hongry,..wonedyd & ill-colorde for absens of my lufe. 1532 ELYOT *Gov.* II. xii. (1883) II. 235 Wherwith Gysippus was so wounded to the harte,..that oppressed with mortall beuynes he fell in a sowne. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 25 ...me wounded with the clawes of ...is, but with the eyes of a Lady. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 6 May, He has said that he would wound me with the person where my greatest interest is. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurenge.* II. (1676) 16 Oh! Indamora, hide those fatal Eyes; Too deep they wound, whom they too soon surprise. 1738 JOHNSON *Lond.* 168 Fate never wounds more deep the gen'rous Heart, Than when a Blockhead's Insult points the Dart. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxix, She dared not trust herself to speak, least she might wound Marianne still deeper. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* V. xviii, And many a word, at random spoken, May soothe or wound a heart that's broken! 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxiv. 402 If he says something careless she is sensitive to it, and it wounds her. 1908 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* viii, It does wound one deeply to hear the Highest and Holiest things spoken of in this way.

b. With immaterial objects.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1702 When þe saule es wounded with syn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 43 b, The mynde is so wounded with ignoraunce..that [etc.] 1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* viii. 12 When we synne so agaynst the brethren and wounde their weake consciences. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* v. i, We must not wound reputation. 16.. *Lust's Domin.* II. v, It wounds my soul, To see the miserablest wretch to bleed. 1631 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* III. i. 32 To spare my flesh And wound my fame, what is't? 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, Better to die ten thousand thousand deaths, Than wound my honour. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xviii. 128, I come to attend you as a duty which I owe to my mother's memory; and I hope this may be done without wounding that of my father. 1832 J. AUSTIN *Jurisprr.* (1879) I. 342 The execution would wound the sovereignty of the foreign supreme government. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 92 You have undone me, wounded my credit with the King, past recovery. 1884 L. J. JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. 52 Moore's vanity was easily wounded at any time.

c. Used to express the effect of harsh or disagreeable sounds upon the ear.

1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* I. i, [*A Dead March within, and Trumpets.*] *Max.* Somewhat of mournful, sure, my Ears does wound. *a* 1678 TRAHERNE *Poems of Felicity* (1910) 52 The Bells do ring,..Their shriller Sound doth wound the Air. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. iii. 94 Their ears are wounded by the language of vice. 1866 TROLLOPE *Claverings* i, I shall be away from Clavering, so that the marriage-bells may not wound my ears.

3. *absol.* or *intr.* To inflict a wound or wounds; to do harm, hurt, or injury (physically or otherwise); to impair in any way. Freq. *fig.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 71 Se clewþa.. wundað & sio wund sarað. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2540 The sword, Wych ys sharp..To wonde, & hurte, & parte atwene. 1591 DRAYTON *Harmony Ch., Song Moses* XX, I kil, giue life, I wound, make whole againe. †1600 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* V. 2 This curtesie Wounds deeper than your Sword can, or mine own. 1668 J. WILSON tr. *Erasm. Praise of Folly* (1913) 137 Sometimes also they use somewhat of a sting, but so nevertheless that they rather tickle than wound. 1692 PRIOR *Ode Imit. Hor.* xi, He Wounds, to Cure; and Conquers, to Forgive. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 203 Willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike, Just hint a fault, and hesitate dislike. 1744 E. MOORE *Fables* x. 30 From the hoop's bewitching round, Her very shoe has pow'r to wound. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian & Maddalo* 413 Even the instinctive worm on which we tread Turns, though it wound not. 1829 *Chambers Phys. Sci.* 272 Its strokes are so fine and delicate, that while it wounds it pleases. 1860 THACKERAY *Roundabout P., Thorns in Cushion*, Ah me! we wound where we never intended to strike.

4. *transf.* To pierce or cut as with a wound; to damage in this way.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 124, & te like wind ne wundeð nost bute þe eare one. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 9 Yit nas the grownd nat wownded with þe plowh. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 459 Hit is unlaweful among us to woundy þe hilles wiþ culter and wiþ schare. 1583 DEE *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 The anuyl and hammer shall soner be wounded and leape away. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 267 His wooen girthes he [the steed] breakes asunder, The bearing earth with his hard hoofe he wounds. 1608 — *Per.* IV. Prol. 23 When she would with sharpe needle wound The Cambricke which she made more sound By hurting it. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* X. 422

Force on the Vessel that her Keel may wound This hated Soil. 1743 R. Blair *Grave* 109 The tapering Pyramid I.. whose spiky Top Has wounded the thick Cloud. *a* 1746 J. W. Baker in *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Turnep*, Some [turnips] which had been accidentally wounded by cows. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 446/1 (*American*), The American aloe ..yields, when wounded, an abundance of sweet fluid. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 820/1 s.v. *Shipbuilding*, For the sake of avoiding unnecessarily wounding the timbers.

†b. *spec.* To damage (a mast), esp. in a naval action. *Obs.* (freq. in 18th cent.)

1743-4 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 211 The Namure being in a shattered Condition,..all the Topmasts wounded. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* I. 100/2 The Orpheus .. is peppered very well too, her masts very much wounded. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 26 June 1/3 Her rigging was much cut, and her mainmast wounded.

c. *fig.* Of wine: To overpower.

1613 T. Milles tr. *Mexia's Treas. Anc. & Mod. T.* I. 610/1 Vpon the left hand..lay the bodies of beasts stretched out along, sleeping verie soundly...All were wounded with Wine. 1819 Shelley *Cyclops* 416, I..filled Another cup, well knowing that the wine Would wound him soon.

Wound (wound), *ppl. a.* [Pa. pple. of Wind *v.*1] Subjected to winding, in various senses of the verb.

1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xxvii. 1 An eddere,..a crookid wounde serpent. 1583 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 78, ij paire of bownd wheales..j paire of wounde wheales. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* III. i. 88 Soft as the loosening of wound arms in sleep.

Wound, pa. t. and pple. of Wind *v.*1

Woundable (wū·ndăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Wound *v.* + -able.] Capable of being wounded; vulnerable.

1611 Cotgr., *Blessable*, Woundable. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* III. iii. 414 Power and Profit are the two apples of Princes eyes, woundable with the least touch thereof. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* IV. xiv. 130 So woundable is the dragon, under the left wing, when pinched in point of profit.

Wounded (wū·ndĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ed1.]

1. Subjected to, injured or impaired by, wounding; suffering from a wound or wounds: a. Of persons or animals.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* lxxxvii. 6 As woundid men slepende in sepulcris. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7238 Mony woundit wegh fro his wepyn past. 1422-30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 5410 Pere I leue þis dedly wounded man, Ful sore sake. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 254 There lay hee stretch'd along like a Wounded knight. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I. 74 All these wounded Patients. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 337 A needless Alexandrine ends the song That, like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. 283 It is the wounded soldier who deserves the reward. 1795-6 Wordsw. *Borderers* v. 2152 The wounded deer retires to solitude. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* III. x, It stretch'd him on the plain, Beside the wounded Deloraine. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. xi. 205 Like some poor wounded bird that steals into a thicket to die. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lyn.* 633 Kay near him groaning like a wounded bull.

b. Of parts of the body.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5 b/a We can not, without dilaniations of the wounded parte, drawe forth the bullet. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 25 Ouer Suffolkes necke He threw his wounded arme. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 946 Fix'd on his wounded Face a Shaft he bore. 1769 E. Bancroft *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 399 A cataplasm.. applied to the wounded part, is the general remedy for venomous Bites. 1806 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 101 A stratum of coagulated blood..extending from a few inches below the wounded part.

c. *fig.* Impaired, attainted.

1692 Prior *Ode Imit. Hor.* xiii, Tell 'em howe're, the King can yet Forgive Their guilty Sloth,..And let their wounded Honour live.

2. *absol.* Those who have received wounds.

c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* l, Þam gemete þe gode læcas doð ymbe gewundode. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 5 Als wounded, slepand þat are In throghes. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* II. 67 From the defeat of the Scotch-army near Dunbar, there came many of the wounded to St. Johnstons. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* IV. xxiii, The yellow moon her lustre shed Upon the wounded and the dead. 1845 C. Sumner *True Grandeur Nations* (1846) 15 A little cheese and a few vegetables are all that can be afforded to the sick and wounded. 1894 in W. W. Tomlinson *Songs & Ballads Sport* (1895) 260 Round the goals the wounded sit.

3. *fig.* Deeply pained or grieved.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 370 Sche hath my wounded herte enoignt. 1823 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, II. ii. 75 The quiet of my wounded Conscience. 1647 Fuller (*title*) The Cause and Cure of a wounded Conscience. 1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 341 No wounds like those a wounded spirit feels. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlix, The wounded heart of Florence. 1884 Flor. Marryat *Under Lilies* ii, The only person in the room who pours oil upon his wounded sensibility. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* lix, If there were anyone who could bring healing to her wounded soul.

4. Of inanimate objects: Marked or injured by cutting or piercing.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LV. v, Their speach..softer flowes then balme from wounded rind. *a* 1727 Parnell *Song* Poems (1737) 80 No more he..with a True-love Knot and Name Engraves a wounded Tree. 1728 Prior *Solomon* III. 229 Whom the cut Brass, or wounded Marble shows Victor o'er Life. 1801 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 384 The greatest quantity of rope has been made from the wounded cables of the prizes. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xlix, Wide scatter'd hoof-marks dint the wounded ground. 1846 Dickens *Battle of Life* I, For a long time, there were wounded trees upon the battle-ground. 1857 W. G. Smith tr. *Tuberf's Dis. Plants* 75 A healing tissue immediately begins to form on wounded surfaces.

†5. = Woundy *adv. Obs.*

1733 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 28 P 2 A wounded sharp Boy he is.

Wou·ndedly, *adv.* [f. Wounded *a.* + -ly 2.]

†1. = Woundily. *Obs.*

1704 Waldron *Heighe for Husb.* II. ii. 33 Are you certain sure..it was only a leady I met?—it look'd woundedly like an angel!

2. In a wounded manner; as though wounded.

1800 Coleridge in Mrs. Sandford *T. Poole & Friends* (1888) II. 100 It does a friendship no good for a man to have felt resentfully, and woundedly, towards his friend. 1905 A. S. Alexander *Tramps* 95 [The grey hen] rises, fluttering broken-wingedly or woundedly.

Wou·ndedness, [as prec. + -ness.] The state of being wounded.

a 1640 Fenner *Serm.* (1657) 223 The Patients here are felt and discerned to have two wounds or maladies; First, brokenness in heart, Secondly, woundednesse.

†**Wou·nden**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [pa. pple. of Wind *v.*1] Twisted, twined.

Beowulf 2193 Him was..wunden gold estum geæwed, earmhreade twa. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 65 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 392 A wonden wrethe þat his heued hyd Spred he all furth on breda. 1602 W. Basse *Three Past. Elegies* ii. (1893) 61 A wounden wreathe she had of Baies and Firre.

Wounder (wū·ndəɹ). [f. Wound *v.* + -er.] One who or that which wounds.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 424/1 A Wounder, *plagarius*. 1573-80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 7 Your father was my founder, till death became his wounder. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* XVI. x. (1886) 410 The blood of him that is wounded, reboundeth and slippeth into the wounder. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 179 Like a Bull, that beares A wounding iauelin; whom the wounder feares. 1818 Todd. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* I. 23 He was one of the *feditori* or wounders, i.e., one of the band of volunteers who . made the assault upon the enemy. 1901 'Linesman' *Words by Eyewitness* (1901) 57 Shells are unlovely killers and wounders.

Wounder, obs. form of Wonder *sb.* and *v.*

Wounderus, obs. form of Wondrous.

Woundikins, *int.* [f. Wound *sb.* 1 c: see -kin.] A variant (with dim. ending) of Wounds *int.*

1836 E. Howard *R. Reefer* xxxii, Woundikins! if there bean't feyther.

Woundily (wou·ndili), *adv. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. Woundy *a.*2 + -ly 2.] Excessively, extremely, dreadfully.

1706 Farquhar *Recruit. Officer* I. i, It smells woundily of Sweat and Brimstone. 1710 in Wilkins *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 90 Sir Peter..pour'd such charges that wounded much deeper, But yet he was woundily beat. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* X. x. P 98, I..got off in a twinkling; being woundily afraid that he would strip me of my clothes. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 17, I own I'a woundily afraid of dead men. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxviii, The butler observed, 'it was burning clear now, but had smoked woundily in the morning.' 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lii, Pen..suffered woundily when called on to pay his share. 1880 L. Wingfield *In H. M. Keeping* II. 248 You convicts are woundily crooked cattle.

Wounding (wū·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wound *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb; the fact of being wounded. Also *fig.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 3737 (Laud MS.), Ri3th also he was arise, Of his woundyng he was agrise. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alexander* 4795 Pare was hurling on hi3e,..Quat of wrestling of wormes, & wonding of knigtis. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* 52 If any man..be amyten in any party of þe legge violently and without wondyng of þe skynne. 1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 140, I ame Indytyd thear for beatyng and wondyng of one John Holtt. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 2 Nine dayes Apollo bent, and shot, and them with wounding sped. 1633 P. Fletcher *Piscat. Eclog.* v. xvi, How can thy eye most sharp in wounding be, In seeing dull? 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. iv, An Indictment of Assault, Battery, and Wounding, was instantly prefered against Tom. 1799 W. Nicol *Pract. Planter* 225 All wounding, in pruning, should be performed on, or towards the extremities of boughs which [etc.]. 1842 Manning *Serm.* xviii. (1848) 267 The sharp inward wounding of the soul. 1890 *Retrospect. Med.* CII. 275 All kinds of head injury from slight concussion to compound comminuted fractures of the skull with wounding of the brain substance.

2. = Wound *sb.* 1.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 65 That this your wounding got, Which irkes you so, he should delay. 1595 Markham *Sir R. Grinvile* (Arb.) 78 At length, the Maister..hath procurd The Knight discend, to haue his woundings curd. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 7 The great physician of sin-sick souls..had healed my own woundings.

Wounding (wū·ndiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That wounds or injures; capable of causing hurt or pain. *lit.* and *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Mid spere of woundinde word..weorreð lecherie..wiþ þe lefdi of chastete. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LXIV. iv, Their own tongues to their own woe Shall all their wounding sharpnes bend. 1596 *Edward III*, V. 138 Crosbowes and deadly wounding darts. ? 1638 Wotton in L. P. Smith *Life & Lett.* (1907) II. 384 You have left in him *illos aculeos*,..for you are indeed a wounding man, as my servant Nicholas saith. 1648 J. Quarles *Fons Lachrym.* 23 Oh what a wounding sorrow 'tis to think How all will be destroyd. 1728 Prior *Solomon* III. 360 His Journey to pursue, Where wounding Thorns, and cursed Thistles grew. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 271 Forms Of furies, driving by upon the wounding storms. 1845 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* IX. III. 176 To a simple unsophisticated girl, this must surely have been cutting and wounding. 1915 F. S. Oliver *Ordeal by Battle* III. i. 181 The result must necessarily be wounding to the credit of popular institutions all the world over.

Hence **Wou·ndingly** *adv.*

1867 *Temple Bar* May 144 What she had said to him quietly, was said now roughly, woundingly. 1909 J. D. ——— *Comedy* xv. 272 What she implied was woundingly true of that old self of mine which had so recently come under my observation and censure.

Woundir, obs. form of Wonder *sb.* and *v.*

Woundit, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of Wind *v.*1

Woundless (wū·ndlĕs), *a.* [f. Wound *sb.* + -less.]

1. Free from a wound or wounds; unwounded.

1579 Spenser *Shaph. Cal.* Oct. 41 Doubted Knights, whose woundlesse armour rusts. 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vii. 353 He that steals home wound-less from the Wars, Is held a Coward. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 216 Undertaking to deliver them you in a short time woundlesse and friends. *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 42 So many sluggard knights lying in field, for all I see your person woundlesse. 1735 Johnson. 1817 Moore *Lalla R., Fire-worshippers* IV. 565 And some who, grasp'd by those that die, Sink woundless with them. 1853 M. Arnold *Balder Dead* ii. 28 All at night return to Odin's hall Woundless and fresh. 1891 Meredith *One of our Conq.* I. xiii. 226 His pride in appearing woundless and scarless.

†2. That cannot be wounded; invulnerable. *Obs.*

1604 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. i. 44 (Qo. 2) Whose whisper..may misse our Name, And hit the woundlesse ayre. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maiden's Blush* 338 Th' Angell..through the woundless Welkin swifter glides Then Zephyrus.

3. Inflicting no wound, unwounding, harmless.

1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* VIII. 346 And not a dart fell woundless there.

Woundly (wou·ndli), *adv.* ? *Obs.* [f. Wounds *int.* + -ly 2.] = Woundily *adv.*

1646 Quarles *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 80/1 One thing hee told me, now I think on't, troubles me woundly. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) 72 Wat [Tyler] was woundly angry with Sir John Newton. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 41 Andrew..talk'd woundly wittily to them all. 1839 C. Clark *J. Noakes* xxxiii, A woundly larned man was he.

Woundrous, obs. form of Wondrous.

Wounds (woundz), *int. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 9 wouns; 7-8 wauns, 8 waund(s; *dial.* 8-9 wuns. [pl. of *wound*: see Wound *sb.* 1 c.] = God's wounds; used as an oath or asseveration.

a. 1610 Dekker *Shoemaker's Holiday* D 1, Wounds then farewell. 1753 Foote *Englishm. Paris* I. 24 But Wounds how the Powder flew about. 1801 G. Colman *Poor Gentl.* I. i. 4 Wouns! let me come at him. 1820 Keats *Cap & Bells* lxii, 'Wounds! how they shout!' said Hum. 1822 Scott *Nigel* ix, Wouns! man, we'll stuff his stomach with English land.

β. 1694 Echard *Plautus* 14 Waunds! I ha'nt let fly sure. 1706 Farquhar *Recruit. Officer* I. i, Wauns! I wish again that my Wife lay there. 1708 Cibber & Vanbr. *Provok'd Husb.* IV. 65 Waund, he'll storm any thing. *Ibid.* 68 Waunds! you have had one hundred this Morning. 1796 T. Morton *Way to get Married* II. ii. (1800) 33 *Clem.* Who's at the door? *Serv.* Wauns! forgot. It be maister Dashall fra Lunnon.

γ. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Reader, Wks. (1862) p. xxxiv, Wuns eigh; theawrt likt' strowll ogen. 1843 T. Wilson *Pitman's Pay* 57 'Wuns', says aw, 'this rough beginnin'..freightens me'.

Wou·nd-up, *a.* [f. *wound*, pa. pple. of Wind *v.*1 + Up *adv.*] That has undergone winding up (see Wind *v.*1 20).

1837 Lever *H. Lorrequer* I, All were breathless in their wound-up anxiety to hear of their countryman. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxix, That .. old gentleman is still murmuring, like some wound-up instrument running down.

Woundwort (wū·ndwɝt). [f. Wound *sb.* + Wort *sb.*1, after Du. *wondkruid*, G. *wundkraut.*] A popular name given to various plants from their use in healing wounds, *esp.* (*a*) one of the species of *Stachys*, often more fully as Clown's w., Downy w., Marsh w., etc.; (*b*) the golden-rod (*Solidago Virgaurea*); (*c*) the kidney-vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria*); (*d*) the comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*); †(*e*) Saracen's w. (*Senecio saracenicus*); (*f*) Hercules'all-heal (*Opopanax Chironium*); (*g*) Knight's pondwort (*Stratiotes aloides*).

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 87 Solidago saracenica..is called in duch Heidnische wuntkraut...It may be called in english Woundewurte. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. xcvii. 347 Saracenes Consounde is called in Latine *Solidago Saracenica*,..in English..Saracenes Woundwoort. *Ibid.* xcix. 349 Of captaine Doreas his Woundwoort. *Ibid.* cclxxxv. 677 It seemeth to be *Stratiotes aquatilis* or *Strattiotes potamies*, or Knights water Woundwoort. *Ibid.* cclxxiv. 851 Of Clownes Woundwoort or Alheale. *Ibid.* 852 Whereupon I haue named it Clounes Woundwoort. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 693 *Achillea Sideritis lutea*. Achilles yellow Woundwort. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* cxxii. 381 Allheale..is called in English Hercules Allheale, and Hercules Woundwort. 1718 Rowe *Lucan* IX. 1566 Woundwort and Maiden-weed perfume the Air. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 320 The downy Woundworth [*sic*]..Is a native of ..Jamaica. It should be a fine vulnerary. 1796 Burney *Mem. Metastasio* I. 364 You speak to me of dittany and wound-wort. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* III. 532 *Stachys sylvatica*,..Hedge Nettle Woundwort. *Ibid.* 728 Common Goldenrod. Woundwort. *Solidago Virga-aurea*. 1819 Rees *Cycl., Wound-Wort*, Hercules's, or All-heal, the *Laserpitium chironium* of Linnæus. 1829 *G.W. Johnson's Cottage Gard. Dict., Anthyllis vulneraria* (common woundwort). 1837 Anne Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 190 *Stachys sylvatica* (Hedge Woundwort). *Ibid.* 191 *Stachys palustris* (Marsh Woundwort). *Ibid.* 192 *Stachys Germanica* (Downy Woundwort). *Ibid.* 193 *Stachys arvensis* (Corn Woundwort).

Woundy (wū·ndi), *a.*1 *rare.* [f. Wound *sb.* + -y 1.] a. Characterised by wounds. b. Causing wounds.

1660 WATERHOUSE *Discourse Arms* 30 Like Sicinius Dentatus who served his Country one hundred and twenty battayles, and brought from them woundy Testimonies of valour. 1846 HOOD *Love* 5 What art thou, Love? .. a boy that shoots, From ladies' eyes, such mortal woundy darts.

Woundy (wau·ndi), *adv.* and *a.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 8 **waundy**. [f. WOUNDS *int.* + -Y[1].

The pronunc. (waundi) is given by Sheridan (1789) and Smart (1846) in contrast with the noun (wə́ndi).]

A. *adv.* Very; extremely; excessively.

a. c 1621 ROWLEY etc. *Witch Edmonton* II. i, 'Tis woundy cold, sure! 1660 *Dial. betw. Tom & Dick* 1/2 And yet the Thief is woundy Close. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. xiii, He was woundy angry when I gav 'n that wipe. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 79 His drinking much Flip, makes him woundy subject to the Vapours. 1774 C. DIBDIN *Waterman* i, She keeps her a-bed woundy late of a morning. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xv, His orders are woundy particular. 1829 — *Jrnl.* 19 Apr., We smoked and I became woundy sleepy. 1864 LE FANU *Uncle Silas* II. 237 He was 'a woundy ugly customer in a wax, she could tell me.'

β. 1718 BREVAL *Play is the Plot* II. i. 19 And the Jade's a great Fortune, and waundy handsom too into the Bargain. 1791 O'KEEFE *Mod. Antiques* I. (1792) 16, I was waundy hungry.

B. *adj.* Very great; extreme.

1682 *Plain Dealing, Dial. Humphrey & Roger* 1/1 By the Mass, Hodge, thou say'st well, I have a woundy mind to do as thou say'st, but [etc.]. 1708 FARQUHAR *Twin-Rivals* v. iii, You must know Sir, there is a Neighbour's Daughter that I had a woundy Kindness for. 1718 BREVAL *Play is the Plot* II. i. 11 And has she such a waundy deal of Wit, do you say Sir? 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 37 So he flew into a woundy passion and threatened to horsewhip me. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. 213 You'll kill a woundy sight on 'em, I think, at that distance. 1888 F. COWPER *Capt. Wight* 218 They castle folk be a woundy lot of gallants.

Woundyr, obs. f. WONDER *sb.* **Wounded,** **Wount(e,** obs. ff. WONT *ppl. a.* **Wounty,** obs. f. WANTY.

†**Woup.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 wowp, wop, 6–8 woup, 7 woupe, 8 woop. [Of obscure origin; the related verb is now represented by WUP.] A hoop or ring, esp. a finger-ring of plain metal as distinguished from one set with stones.

1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 310 For outquitting of Wille Wodis wowp at lay in wed.. xxviij s. 1535 in Ramsay *Banff Charters* (1915) 70 Ane woup of gold. 1542 *Acts & Decreets* I. f. 140 Ane woup of gold about his arme of ane pund weycht. 1633 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Warliston) *Diary* [illegible] *Fraser Papers* (S.H.S.) 104 Three woups and a pearl necklace... A small diamond ring, three woops and a pair of gold lockets.

Wourd, obs. form of WORD.

Wourne, var. *worne, wurne,* WARN *v.*[2]

1568 *Jacob & Esau* I. iv. B iij, But wife Rebecca, I woulde not haue you to mourne, As though I did your honest petition wourne.

Wourt(e, obs. forms of WORT *sb.*[1, 2].

Wous, southern form of FOUS *a. Obs.*

13.. *Vox & Wolf* 12 in *Rel. Antiq.* II. 272 Withinne the walle was on hous, The wox was thider swithe wous.

†**Wous,** var. of VOUS *int. Obs.*

1674 J. HOWARD *Engl. Mounsieur* v. ii. 62 *French.* Make way English Clown. *Wil.* Wous, but we won't.

Wousheesauff, obs. f. VOUCHSAFE. **Woust,** obs. f. VOUST. **Woustour,** var. VOUSTER *Sc.* **Wout,** var. VAULT *Obs.* **Wout(e,** obs. vars. VAULT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] **Wou-wou,** var. WOW-WOW. **Wouyn,** obs. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*[1]

Wouz, var. HOW *adv.*

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 356 Wiþ bartes of heyneese wouȝ halwen þei chirches.

Wove (wōuv), *ppl. a.* and *sb.* [var. of WOVEN: see forms of WEAVE *v.*[1]]

1. = WOVEN *ppl. a.* 1, 2, 3.

1720 SHAFTESB. *Soliloquy* III. ii. 147, I can't conceive..how a Writer changes his Capacity, by this new Dress, any more than by the wear of Wove Stockins, after having worn no other Manufacture than the Knit. 1827 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. v. ii. 37 Opening a trade for wove goods on the coast. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xii, The chairs and couches were covered with Eastern wove mats. 1840 MRS. GAUGAIN *Lady's Assist. Knitting* I. 57 If a wove stocking, open up the seam. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 15 'Mid bergs about the Ice-cap Or wove Sargasso weed.

b. *Wove mould,* the particular kind of mould used in making wove paper (see quot. 1854).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 927 The frame-work of a *wove* mould is nearly the same. 1854 C. TOMLINSON *Obj. Art-Manuf., Paper* 20 In wove moulds, as their name implies, the wire is woven into wire cloth.

2. *techn.* Of paper: Made on a mould of closely woven wire. (See 1 b, and cf. WOVEN *ppl. a.* 4.)

1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 63 Wove Foolscap. 1825 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 86 It is printed on the most splendid wove paper. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIX. 43 A hand-made, blue wove Foolscap paper.

b. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1839 *Stationers' Handbk.* 12 In woven papers may be mentioned *Blue Wove*..; then comes another, which..is termed *Yellow Wove.* 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 56 That warm cream colour..so much desired in high-class cream wove and laid post.

Wove, pa. t. and pple. of WEAVE *v.*[1]

Woved, obs. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*[1]

Woven (wōu·v'n), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **wouen, wovyn**; *Sc.* 5 **wowen,** 6 **wolvin,** 7 **wolfin.** [pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*[1]]

1. That has undergone the process of weaving; formed or fabricated by weaving.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 242 A wowen quhyt hatt scho brasit on with all. 1560 B. GOOGE tr. *Pallingenius' Zodiac* II. (1561) C iiij, The wouen webbe of flaxe. 1575 in *Archæologia* XXX. 19 Item v paire of woven shets. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 293 Busteanis or woven tweill stuffe. 1727 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesm.* (1732) I. 332 Her Stockings from Tewskbury, if ordinary; from Leicester, if woven. 1758 WHITEHEAD *Verses to People Eng.* 4 And Navies powerful to display Their woven wings to every wind. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. ii. 27 You clothed me in a robe of woven gold. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 834 Where Scythia's shepherd peoples dwell aloft, Perched in wheeled wagons under woven roofs. 1883 W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 80 Travelling endless woven wire sieves.

fig. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 33 We set about To bring the world within the woven spell.

2. Formed by interlacing or intertwining after the manner of weaving.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 4 Soone after comes the cruell Sarazin, In wouen maile all armed warilly. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. v. 32 Whilst he, Lion like, Intangled in the net of their assaults, Frantiquely wrends, and byt(e)s the wouen toyle. 1628 MAY *Virg. Georg.* II. 49 Take a thick-woven Osier colander, Through which the pressed wines are strained clear. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 902 They live here longer..then in their artificial woven Hives. 1793 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 240 Long grass and willows form the woven wall. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* XXXIII, Woven tracery ran..o'er The solid rind. 1892 W. B. YEATS in *1st Bk. Rhymers' Club* 7 Under the woven roofs of..boughs.

fig. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 6 A pernicious woven-knot of malignant active spirits. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 48 Voice of living beings, and woven hymns Of night and day. 1892 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1897) XIII. 121 The groups thus obtained, with substitutions which interchange the two sets of letters, are said to be 'woven' groups.

Comb. 1885 MRS. CADDY *Footsteps Joanne-D'Arc* 12 Horses feed in the wide, woven-fenced fields.

3. Interlaced, intertwined; wreathed.

1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 459 A well..Images all the woven boughs above. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 232 The kiss, The woven arms, seem but to be Weak symbols of the settled bliss..I have found in thee. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* III. cx, Fair was her prison, walled with woven flowers.

†4. Of paper: = WOVE *ppl. a.* 2. *Obs.*

1797 *Brit. Critic* IX. 72 We have volumes every day, on woven-paper,..in which war is execrated.

Woves, obs. form of VOWESS.

a 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) II. 33 An Image in the Habite of a Woves.

Wow (wau), *sb.* [Imitative: cf. WOUGH *sb.*, and BOW-WOW.] a. A bark or similar sound. b. A waul.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 231 Johnson with a surly wow, wow. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 125 It's weak i' the wow, like Barr's cat. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 452/2 A barking deer explodes in an unexpected 'wow' ten yards off.

Wow (wau), *v.* [Imitative: cf. prec.] *intr.* To howl; to waul.

1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 234 The wolf wow'd hideous on the hill. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss., Wow,* to howl. 1900 C. LEE *Cynthia in West* v. 69 You should hear her wow, just like an owld cat!

Wow (wau), *int.* Chiefly *Sc.* [Of exclamatory origin: cf. VOW *int.*]

1. An exclamation, variously expressing aversion, surprise or admiration, sorrow or commiseration, or mere asseveration.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 19 Out on thir wanderand spiritis, wow! thow cryis. 15.. *Feblis to Play* 74 (Maitl. fols 178) Ane winklot fell and hir taill vp; wow, quod malkin, hyd 3ow. 1721 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 74 Wow! that's braw news. 1789 BURNS *Grose's Peregr.* II And wow! he has an unco sleicht O' cauk and keel. 1823 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, Wow, woman, the Bertrams of Ellangowan are the auld Dingawaies lang syne. *a* 1840 JOANNA BAILLIE *Poems, Fy, let us a'* 26 But wow! he looks dowie and cow'd. 1892 LUMSDEN *Sharp-head* 36 As below the brig we turn—Oh, Wow! the deavin' din there!

b. Followed by *but* or *gin.*

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. 40 And wow gin she was skeigh And mim that Day. 1724 — *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8 The woer he step'd up the house, And wow but he was wond'rous crouse. *a* 1800 *K. Henry* x. in Child *Ballads* I. 299/1 O whan he slew his good gray-hounds, Wow but his heart was sair! 1823 J. BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* vi. 151 My auld uncle Willie cam doun..An' wow but he was a braw man.

2. In other than Scottish use.

1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* v. 35 Wow! my father, of those two regiments not one escaped. 1926 J. J. BELL *Little Grey Ships* 27 'Wow!' exclaimed the young seaman .. 'Wish I was in Egypt. How's this for cold, old Bill?'

Wow, obs. Sc. f. Vow *sb.* and *v.*[1, 2]; obs. f. Woo *v.*, var. WOUGH *sb.*[2] **Woward(e,** var. ff. VAWARD. *Obs.* **Wowbat,** obs. var. WOUBIT. **Wowchaiffe, wowchesaf,** obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE *v.*

†**Wowe.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wawa, 2–4 wawe, 3–4 wowe, 3 wou. [OE. *wáwa* = OHG. *wâwa,* ON. *vá* ;— O Teut. **wawan-,* f. the root **wai-,* repr. by OE. *wâ* WOE.] Misery, distress, trouble, sorrow.

a. a 1000 *Genesis* 466 (Gr.) Þæt þær ylda bearn moste onceosan godes & yfeles,..welan & wawan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xlviii. (Z.) 279 On ðære wæroan awritene heofunga.. and wawa...Se wawa getacnaþ þone ecan wawan, ðe ða habbaþ on hellewite. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 He wurð ideemed to þollen wawe mid douelen in helle. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 151 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Eure he walde her inne wawe and ine wene wunien. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13349 Þatt he abollde wurrþenn harrd To þolenn alle wawenn.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 Here is..smertinge, sorinesse, wurinesse, and oðre wowe muchel. *c* 1205 LAY. 27560 Þar was wowe and sorinisse inowe. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 414 Al þat ho singeþ hit is for wowe. *a* 1300 *Fragm. Seven Sins* I. iii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 17 Þis worldis wel nis bot wowe. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM VII. 858 Þanne falþ ous rewelyche by kende To sorȝfry wowe.

Wowe, var. WOUGH *sb.*[1] and *a.*; obs. form of WOO *v.*

†**Wowell.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. connected with *wouelle* in *Saxon Leechd.* II. 266.] Coltsfoot.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 240 *Pes pulli, herba tussitris*, ..donnhowe uel wowell uel feldhowe.

Wowen, obs. f. WOO *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WOVEN *ppl. a.*

Wowf (wauf), *a. Sc.* [Of obscure origin.] Crazed, daft, mad.

1820 SIBBALD *Chron. S. P.* IV. Gloss., *Wowf,* mad. 1829 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* vi, It is very odd how Allan, who, between ourselves,..is a little wowf, seems at times to have more sense than us all put together. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* ch. vii, 'What d'ye mean by deft [= daft]—eh?' 'Just Fiffsh', replied Peter; 'wowf'. 1897 SMAITH *Fierceheart* ix. 101 Is yer honour gane clean wowf?

Wowing, obs. form of WOOING *vbl. sb.*

Wowl (waul), *v.* [Imitative.] *intr.* and *trans.* To howl.

1757 [E. PERRONET] *Mitre* I. xxviii, A second blinks and wowls his dread. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wowl, v.* to howl, to wail vociferously.

Wowld, obs. f. WOLD. **Wown,** obs. pa. pple. of WIND *v.*[1] **Wownd(e,** obs. ff. WOUND *sb.* and *v.* **Wowp,** obs. var. WUP *v. Sc.*

Wowser (wau·zəɹ). *Australia.* [Of obscure origin.] A Puritanical enthusiast or fanatic.

Hence *Wowserism, Wowserite.*

1909 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 4 'Wowser' is a term applied by certain portions of the Australian Press to parsons of all denominations, more particularly to those who are fanatical on temperance and social evils. Their followers are called 'Wowserites', and their propaganda 'Wowserism'. 1912 *Nation* 11 May 214/2 A wowser is one who wants to compel everybody else..to do whatever he thinks right, and abstain from everything he thinks wrong.

Wowt(e, obs. var. ff. VAULT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

‖**Wow-wow**[1] (wau-wau). Also **wou-wou, wau-wau, wawou, wa-wa, wawah, wah-wah.** [a. Malay ꦮꦮ *wauwau,* Javanese *wawa* (whence also Du. *wouwouw, wauwauw*), imitative of the animal's cry.] The silver gibbon of Java, *Hylobates leuciscus.* Also applied to *H. agilis.*

a. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* I. 209 The Ash-coloured or Silvery Gibbon, also called the Wou Wou. 1828 *Libr. Entert. Knowl., Menagerie, Monkeys* etc. I. 283 The wou-wou (*Hylobates Leuciscus*) is covered with a very fine long fur of a woolly texture. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Wand. Eastern Archip.* 70 The loud plaintive wailings of a colony of Wau-waus.

attrib. 1894 H. O. FORBES *Handbk. Primates* II. 154 The Wau-Wau Gibbon. *Hylobates leuciscus.*

most delightful of apes.

Wow-wow[2]. [Imitative.] A bird of British Guiana.

1835 H. G. DALTON *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 413 The 'boclora', or wow-wow (*Trogon melanopterus*), so named from the noise it makes, is about the size of a small pigeon.

Wow-wow[3]. ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Only in *wow-wow sauce,* a fanciful name for a preparation used with stewed beef.

1820 MAY *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 4) 325 Wow Wow Sauce for Stewed or Boulli Beef. 1828 *Enquire Within* (ed. 35) 285.

Wowyn, obs. f. WOO *v.* **Wox,** obs. Sc. f. VOICE *sb.* **Wox, Woxe(n,** obs. pa. t. and pa. pples. of WAX *v.*; **Woxin, Woxsen,** etc., obs. pa. pple. of WAX *v.*

Woy, *int.* Also **woyh.** [Exclamatory.] A call to a horse to stop. (Cf. WAY, WO, WHOA *int.*)

1797 T. MORTON *Cure for Heart-ache* I. i, *Frank* (*with evil*) Woyh! whoh! Smiler! 1829 R. KERR *Agric. Berw.* 503 Formerly, in speaking to their horses, carters..in calling to stop used the incommunicable sound of *prrse,* now *ee,* or *woy.* 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Who, Woy,* a word used to stop horses in a team.

Woyage, obs. Sc. f. VOYAGE. **Woyce,** obs. Sc. f. VOICE *sb.* **Woyd,** obs. f. WOOD *sb.*[1] **Woyd(e,** obs. Sc. and north. ff. VOID *a., sb.,* and *v.* **Woye,** var. VOYE *Obs.,* way. **Woyid,** obs. Sc. f. VOID *v.* **Woys(e,** obs. ff. VOICE *sb.* **Woyse,** obs. f. OOZE *sb.* **Woywod,** var. VOIVODE. **Wozte,** obs. var. VAULT *sb.*[1] **Woze,** obs. f. OOZE *sb.*[2] **Wozen,** obs. f. WEASAND. **Wp(e, Wpone,** etc., obs. ff. UP, UPON, etc.

Wr.

Wr- (r), a consonantal combination occurring initially in a number of words (frequently implying twisting or distortion), the earlier of which usually have cognates with the same initial sounds in the older Germanic languages. The combination is regularly preserved in Gothic, OS., OFris., and OE., but in OHG. is reduced to *r*. In ON. the *w* was lost before *rð*, *rl*, at an early date over the whole Scandinavian area; at a later period in all other words in ONorw. and OIcel. In the modern Germanic tongues *wr-* remains in Du., Flem., LG., and Fris., and is represented by *vr-* in Da., Sw., and some Norw. dialects.

Some 130 words in *wr-* are recorded from the OE. period, and a number of these survive in the later language, while others have been added from Du. and LG. Early difficulty in pronouncing the combination may be indicated by the Old Northumbrian spellings with *wur-*, and by the 14–15th cent. *weritt* 'writ', *werangus* 'wrongous'. The *r* is sometimes separated from the *w* by metathesis, as in ME. *wærð* for *wreð* 'wroth', *wærch* for *wrech* 'wretch', *wirten* for *written*; but conversely *wr-* may arise from the same cause, as in OE. *wryhta* 'wright', for *wyrhta*. Signs of the dropping of the *w* begin to appear about the middle of the 15th cent. in such spellings as *ringe* for *wringe* v., *rong* for *wrong* adj.; these become common in the 16th cent. (for examples see WRANGLE, WRAP, WRAK, WRECK, WRENCH, WREST, etc.). Reduction of the sound is also indicated by the converse practice of writing *wr-* for *r-*, which similarly appears in the 15th cent. (in *wrath* for *rathe*), and becomes common in the 16th; for examples see the subordinate entries under WRACK, WRACKED, WRAGGED, WRAP, WRAPE, WRETCHLESS, etc. In standard English the *w* was finally dropped in the 17th century; it has remained (though now obsolescent) in Scottish, and in some south-western English dialects is represented by *v*, which is also regular in north-eastern Scottish.

The phonetists Bullokar (*Amendment of Ortographie*, 1580) and Gill (*Logonomia*, 1621) have *wr-* throughout, and no doubt pronounced the *w*. Later authorities, e.g. R. Hodges (*English Primrose*, 1644), mark the *w* in this combination as silent.

Wr, obs. var. OUR *pron.* **Wra**, ME. var. WRO. **Wraak**, var. WRAKE *sb.*[1] *Obs.* **Wraaste**, obs. var. WREST *sb.*[1] **Wrabbe**, var. WROB *v.* *Obs.*

croked and crabbed, Frowardly fashonde, so waywarde and wrabbed. 1548 *Jacob & Esau* II. ii. Haue any mo maisters suche a man as I haue?..so eluishe, so frowarde? So crabbed, so wrabbed, so stiffe, so vntowarde?

†Wra·bble, *v.* *Obs. rare.* In 6 wrabel-, *Sc.* wrabill. [Of obscure origin. Cf. WARBLE *v.*[3], WORBLE *v.*] *intr.* To wriggle.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. Prol. 245 In wrablis [*ed.* 1553 warblis] dulce of hevynly armonyis The larkis..Lovys thar leyc with tonys curyus. [Cf. WRIBLE.]

Wrache, obs. Sc var. WRETCH *sb.*

Wrachit(ness, obs. Sc. ff. WRETCHED(NESS.

Wrack (ræk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 wræc, 3–5, *Sc.* 6 wrak, 4 wrac, 4– wrack, 6–7 wracke. [OE. *wræc* neut., f. pret. stem of *wrecan* to drive, etc., WREAK *v.* Cf. WRACK *sb.*[2], by which the later senses (esp. sense 5) may partly have been influenced; in writers of the 16–17th cent. it is sometimes uncertain which word is intended.

The evidence of rhymes shows that early northern ME. instances of the spelling *wrak* usually have a long vowel, and belong to WRAKE *sb.*[1]]

I. 1. Retributive punishment; vengeance, revenge; in later use also, hostile action, active enmity, persecution. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *poet.*

Freq. coupled with words of similar meaning, as *woe*, *wrath*, *wreak*, and tending to pass into sense 2.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. XXV. (1890) 356 Hi..mid þy wilte ðæs foresprecenan wræces slæxene wæron. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Þæt unasecganlice wræc & þæt ungeendode wite, þæt þon unlædon þær geteohhod bi þ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 890 (Gött.), Til þat worm vr lauerd þan spack wordis bath of wreth and wrack. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 24 Sic diuisioun may nocht lest rycht lang, But weir and wrak and mekle opin wrang. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 177 And yet can man..Use wracke for rewth I can murder like him best? *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Psalms* LXXVIII. xix, Now pine and paine conspire With angry angells wreak and wrack to fraine. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ii. 21 There gan he ..with bitter wracke To wreake on me the guilt of his owne wrong. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn*, *K. Olaf* II. v, Strange memories crowded back Of Queen Gunhild's wrath and wrack. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 316 Will it bring him back To let loose on the country war and wrack?

fig. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 49 Hath he not lost much wealth by wrack of sea?

†b. In the phr. *to do* or *take wrack* (*on* one).

12.. *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 91 Tol Tem Sok et Sak with yryn' and with water dene and do wrak. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1585 Myn hornys [are made] for to take wrak On shrewes, & to putte abak.

2. Damage, disaster, or injury to a person, state, etc., by reason of force, outrage, or violence; devastation, destruction.

In very frequent use from *c* 1580 to *c* 1640.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5426 The tother [bow], hydouse and ryght blak, Wrought al oonly for the wrak, Ful of knottys. 1418–20 — *Chron. Troy* I. 2184 For lak of manhod drawip hym euer a-bak; He is so dredful and ferful of þe wrak. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 188 The golden apple that the Troyan boy Gaue to Venus.., Which was the cause of all the wrack of Troy. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* v. ii, Loe, here..the wofull wracke And vtter ruine of this noble realme! 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* VI. 120 On this odde knight alacke We neuer shall set eyes againe, this day wil be his wracke. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 25 Eftsoones the others..on their foes did worke full cruell wracke. 1634 *Malory's Arthur* I. CXXXIX. Ff 2, If he be angry he wil.. worke you much wrack in this countrey. 1640 T. CAREW *Perswasions to love* 69 Time and age will worke that wrack Which time or age shall ne'er call back. 1659 *Bibliotheca Regia* (title-p.), Such of the Papers..as have escaped the wrack and ruines of these times. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. i, When he hoisted his standard black, Before him was battle, behind him wrack. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 414 The wind in winter-time Has made in Himalayan forests wrack. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. 122 While the country was a prey to fire and sword, the Church stood high above the wrack and waste.

b. In the phr. *to bring, go, put, run to wrack* (*and ruin*). Also *fig.* Cf. RACK *sb.*[5] 1.

In freq. use, esp. with *go* (*went*), *c* 1560–*c* 1680.

1418 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* Prol. 161 For nere writers, al wer out of mynde, Nat story only, but of nature and kynde The trewe knowyng schulde haue gon to wrak. 1420–8 — *Thebes* II. 2215 Vpon his foon he rolled it [*sc.* a huge stone] at onys, That ten of hem wenten vnto wrak. 1528 ROY *Rede Me* (Arb.) 41 What did monkes and fryeres thanne, When masse went thus to wracke? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. iii. P iij b, He whose shyppe is gone to wracke. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 70 This Arke..by diuine prouidence..was gouerned from running to wracke. 1591 SPENSER *Teares of Muses* 400 Thy scepter rent, and power put to wrack. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 111 Arezzo beeing by long dissention amongest themselues almost brought to wracke. 1606 G. WOODCOCK *Hist. Iustine* XVI. 67 The greater part of his army..were all put to wrack. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 670 And now all Heav'n Had gone to wrack, with ruin overspred. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* v. ii. (1733) 115 All their Affairs went to wrack upon it. 1757 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 421 All nature was going to wrack..Gods and men were perishing in one common ruin. 1864 KINGSLEY *Roman & T.* ii. (1873) 31 All things were going to wrack. 1876 BROWNING *Pacchiarotto*, etc. 129 The man but for whom had gone to wrack All that France saved from the fight.

(*b*) 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* I. IX. 18 Herod..supposing his rule to goe to wracke, and ruine. 1577 H. BULL tr. *Luther's Comm. Ps.* (1615) 287 Whiles all things seeme to fall to wracke and ruine. 1588 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* 196 Gods familie and the common wealth goe to wracke and ruine.

c. In other phrases, as **†*at*, *in wrack***. *rare.*

1592 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. (1595) 51 When Rome was now at wracke, her Nobilitie spoyled, and her glorie trode vnder foote. 1601 J. BARLOW *Ghost-herefi* 113 Round his gang crashed roof and wall in wrack.

d. *dial.* The brunt or consequences *of* some action. (Cf. RACKET *sb.*[3] 4.)

1844 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* s.v., 'Mind you'll stan' the wrack o't'. 1871– in south. dial. use (Oxf., Berks., Devon): *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v.

3. A disastrous change in a state or condition of affairs; wreck, ruin, subversion. ? *Obs.*

c 1400 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* 49 Where oure dede and purpos ys of the wracke of chastite. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 236 A frend no wracke of wealth, no cruell cause of woe, Can force his frendly faith vnfrendly to forgo. 1588 GREENE *Menam.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 87 Wit oft hath wracke by selfe-conceit of pride. 1591 *2nd Pt. Troubl. Raigne K. John* (1611) 108 What haue I lou'd but wracke of others weale? 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinvile* (Arb.) 42 The wet worlds sacke Swells in my song, the Dirge for glories wracke. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 24 The miserie is example, that so terrible shewes in the wracke of maidenhood. 1690 LOCKE *3rd Let Toleration* x. 281 Toleration then does not..make that woful wrack on True Religion which you talk of. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* XXVII, He that serves Peveril munna be slack, Neither for weather, nor yet for wrack. 1862 LYTTON *Strange Story* II. 159 Have all those sound resolutions..melted away in the wrack of haggard dissolving fancies!

†b. The ruin, downfall, or overthrow of a person or persons; adversity, misfortune. *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7727 Lat no man..with hys wordys falsly smyte, Malycyously to make wrak Off hys neyhebour. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 82 Tyrantis settand thair haill purpois and intent vpone mischeiff and wrack of vtheris. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. XIX, On Cupids bowe, how are my hart strings bent, That see my wracke, and yet imbrace the same? 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinvile* lvii, To flye from them..Were to ..crush my selfe with shame and seruile wrack. 1625 A. GIL *Sacred Philos.* I 119 By sinne there was a generall wrack of mankinde. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Painter* 55 Presuming of his certain wrack, To help him late, they send for Rupert back. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. CXXXVII, That smooth-tongu'd Gale whose whispers woke That Wrack which stole on me.

II. †4. An instance of suffering or causing wreck, ruin, destruction, etc. *Obs.*

1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. i, Amongst so many wracks As I haue suffred both by Land and Sea. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 609 The new Conquerours..by wrackes testified to the earth, that they had wrecked themselues on her and their enemies. 1630 LORD *Banians* 33 Thunder and lightning..such as seemed to threaten a finall wracke to the earth. 1632 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Iron Age* I. i, Troy was twice rac't, and Troy deseru'd that wracke.

†b. A means or cause of subversion, overthrow, or downfall. *Obs.*

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 20 The Syrens song is the Saylers wrack. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, I. ii. 105 And thus I feare at last, Humes Knauerie will be the Duchesse Wracke. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 781 The fool Amphimachus, to field, brought gold to be his wrack. 1613 DAY *Festivals* (1615) ix. 248 How at length might it haue prooved a wrack to his owne Person. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Prime.* (1659) 183 When shall I be delivered from thee, gaol of my soul, and wrack of my salvation. 1682 COCHRAN in Howie *Cloud of Witnesses* (1778) 199 Jugling with the Lord..hath been our ruin and wrack.

5. A thing or person in an impaired, wrecked, or shattered condition. (Cf. WRACK *sb.*[2])

a 1586 SIDNEY *Psalms* XXXVII. xv, The mann whom God directs,..Though he doth fall, no wrack he proveth. 1612 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 366 Young one,..who is this Thou mak'st thy bloody Pillow?..What's thy interest in this sad wracke? *a* 1803 in Child *Ballads* IV. 187/2 O spare me, Clyde's water,..Mak me your wrack as I come back, But spare me as I gae. 1866 GREGOR *Banffshire Gloss.* 204 *Vrack*, ..a broken down person. 1888 *Scot. Sermons* in *Brit. & Irishman* May, Doon gaed the biggin', an unco wrack.

b. That which remains after the operation of any destructive action or agency; a vestige or trace left by some subversive cause. Also *fig.*

In later use, esp. with *leave*, freq. by misapprehension of Shaks. *Temp.* IV. i. 156, where the reading (altered by Malone to *wrack*) is *rache*: see RACK *sb.*[1] 3 b.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iv, I am a poore, poore orphant—a weake, weake childe, The wrack of splitted fortune. 1636 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Muse* iii. note, Poetry.. makes what Choice it pleases out of the Wrack of Time of things that it will save from Oblivion. 1793 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 360 No wrack of all the pageant scene remains. 1813 BYRON *Glaour* 1237 The wither'd frame, the ruin'd mind, The wrack by passion left behind. 1878 ROSW. SMITH *Carthage* 406 An ancient seat of civilisation..was swept away at a single stroke, leaving hardly a wrack behind.

†c. A damaged or injured part; damage, impairment. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1602 DONNE *Progr. Soul* I. vii, This soule which oft did teare And mend the wracks of th' Empire. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xvii. 151 With the threeds..[the spider] repaireth all rents and wracks of the same [web]. *Ibid.*, A man carefull of his priuate estate, and of good foresight, in repairing of small decaies and preuenting of wracks. *a* 1632 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 9 We mend the wrack and staine of our apparel.

Wrack (rek), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4–5, *Sc.* 6–7 wrak, 5 *Sc.* wrac, 6–7 wracke, 6– wrack (9 *Sc.* vrack). [a. MDu. (also mod. Du.) *wrak* neut. (older Flem. *wrache*, Kilian), or MLG. *wrak*, *wrack* (whence G. *wrack*), = MDa. *vrak* (Da. *vrag*) neut., MSw. *vrak* (*wrack*, *wrag*); Sw. *vrak*) neut., Norw. dial. *rak* neut., wreck, wrecked vessel, a parallel formation to OE. *wræc* WRACK *sb.*[1]

Except for its frequent use by southern writers between 1508 and 1690 (cf. the note to WRACK *sb.*[1]), the form is predominantly northern and Scottish.]

1. A wrecked ship or other vessel; a vessel ruined or crippled by wreck. Now *dial.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 313 The Constable of the Castel down is fare To seen this wrak and al the shipe he soghte. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 29 She will..split or billage on a Rocke, a wracke. 1636 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Ps.* xlviii. 76 Blacke Eurus roars, And spreads his wracks on Tharsian shores. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 126 Close by shoar we saw the wrack of that Salque, which stranded the same day. 1698 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 594 His ship become a wrak. 1756 in *Hist. Coll. Essex Inst.* (U.S.A) V. 258/1 Drowned from the wrack of the sch[ooner]. *Ibid.*, The sea came and washed them over from the said wrack. 1772 ANNE LINDSAY *Auld Robin Gray* v, But hard blew the winds, and his ship was a wrack. 1862 LONGF. *Birds of Passage* II. *The Cumberland* vi, Down went the Cumberland all a wrack. 1905 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 209 'Wracks, man,' he shouted,..pointing to the double light-house,..'there is no chance of wracks for a puir fisherbody noo'.

transf. (of persons). 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 27 Menaphon..espied certain fragments of a broken ship floating vpon the waues, and sundrie persons driuen vpon the shore...These three (as distressed wrackes) preserued by some further forepoynting fate [etc.]. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich III*, I. iv. 24 Me thoughts, I saw a thousand fearfull wrackes; A thousand men that Fishes gnaw'd vpon. 1601 — *Twel. N.* v. i. 82 That most ingratefull boy..From the rude seas.. Did I redeeme; a wracke past hope he was.

b. Remnants of, or goods from, a wrecked vessel, esp. as driven or cast ashore; shipwrecked effects or property, wreckage; also in earlier use, the right to have such. Now *arch.*

1428 *Excheq. Rolls Scotl.* IV. 439 Le wrak cujusdam navis combuste infra portum de Leth. 1452 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 185/1 Invenerunt dictum forestarium custodem de *Wrac* et *Waif* infra dictum dominium de Coldingham. 1501 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 428 Ane brokin schip,..quhilk, throw storme of sey, happin to brek, and the wrak of hir come in on the cost of Croudane. 1584 GREENE *Morando* Wks. (Grosart) III. 84 Tis an ill flaw that bringeth vp no wracke. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 165 As rich As is the Owse and bottome of the Sea With sunken Wrack. 1639 in Maitland *Hist. Edinburgh* (1753) II. 151/1 All their antient Rights,..with Pit and Gallows, Sack and Soke, Thole, Theam, Vert, Wrack, Waifs [etc.]. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* I. (1669) 72 Charybdis is a Gulf..which violently attracting all Vessels that come too nigh it, devoureth them, and casteth up their wracks [*cf.* 1652 wrecks]. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* IV. i, My own lost Wealth thou giv'st not only back, But driv'st upon my Coast my Pyrat's Wrack. 1759 PHILPOTT *Villare Cant.* 11 Witsom were goods driven to the shore, when there had not been for some space any wrack visible. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 591 Casting up mire and blackness and storm-vext wrack of the sea. 1897 *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 333 Through the heaped mysteries of waith and wrack, When the long wave from the long beach draws back.

† c. *pl.* Fragments of wreckage. Also *fig. Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1912) 350 Who then myselfe should flie So close unto my selfe my wrackes doo lie.

2. The total or partial disablement or destruction of a vessel by any disaster or accident of navigation; = SHIPWRECK *sb.* 2. Now *rare.*

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 41, I haue in my voyage suffred wrack with Vlisses. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 1 As when a ship..An hidden rocke escaped hath vnwares, That lay in waite her wrack for to bewaile. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 2 Glad that with wracke of ship, and losse of goods they may prolong a despised life. 1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog* v. 331 In a wracke, wee trust A Sayle-yard, or a Planke of broken Chest, To carrie vs. 1673 DRYDEN 2 *Pt. Conq. Granada* (ed. 2) III. 205 As Seamen, parting in a gen'ral wrack, When first the loosening Planks begin to crack Each catches one. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Flotson*, Jetson, or Goods cast out of the Ship, being in danger of Wrack. *a* 1879 H. DEWAR in *Poems of Places, Brit. Amer.* 35 In the wrack tall masts would crack.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1580 H. GIFFORD *Posie of Gilloflowers* (1870) 52 Fell Sathan is chiefe rular of these seas: Hee seekes our wracke, he doth these tempestes rayse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. Wks. 1922 II. 130 Yet being imbarqued in the same ship, the finall wrack must needs be common to them all. 1600 DEKKER *Fortunatus* Wks. 1873 I. 124 Ryot sets up sayles, And.. Drives your vnsteddie fortunes on the point of wracke inevitable. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. iii. § 7 When Seas did foame..His force effecting with his cares preuented still my wracke. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. ii. 5 Hee that steeres by that gale, is euer in danger of wracke. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trivarch., Rich. II*, vii, The greater winds of Faction broke'in here, To make a wracke. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. CCXXXIV, That venturing any longer stay to make, Was but to run upon a certain wrack.

3. Marine vegetation, seaweed or the like, cast ashore by the waves or growing on the tidal seashore. (Cf. WRECK *sb.*[1] 2, VAREC 1.)

Also *cart-, grass-, help-, lady-, sea-wrack.*

In first quot. the precise sense is not quite clear.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. ix. 34 Rent me in pecis, and in the fludis swak, Or drown law vndir the large seis wrak. 1551–[see SEA-WRACK 2]. 1562 [HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 101 Divers sorts of Sea-Oake, or Wrack. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 71 Herbs..growing commonly upon Stones and Rocks in the Sea: 14. Wrack. 1700 WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* (1883) 42 *note*, When the sea-weed is driven in greater plenty, all the people..divide the wrack according to the proportion of land they have. 1726 *Pettiveriana* I. 139 Full of small seedy Warts as in our common Wrack or *Quercus maritima*. 1763 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* XXXII. 300 Fucus, Wrack, or Sea-weed properly so called, has two kinds of bladders. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* I. 10 The shores..of the lake were strewed..by a line of *wrack*, consisting..of marine plants [etc.]. 1853 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 57 The purple and olive wreaths of wrack, and bladder-weed, and tangle. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* 78 The farmers grow sea-weed for manure, cutting the wrack periodically...Stones are placed for the wrack to grow on.

b. Weeds, rubbish, waste, etc., floating on, or washed down or ashore by, a river, pond, or the like; = WRECK *sb.*[1] 2 b.

1598– water-wrack [see WATER *sb.* 29]. 1821 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 396/2 To prevent the *wrack* floating on the surface of the water finding its way into the sluice. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* I. 14 When we came within five or six miles of the land, the yellowish-green tinge of the sea.. was suddenly succeeded by muddy water with wrack, as of a river in flood. *Ibid.*, The wrack, consisting of reeds, sticks and leaves. 1877 V. L. CAMERON *Across Africa* I. 63, I observed wrack of grass and twigs in the branches of small trees..,showing how high the floods..must be at times.

c. Field-weeds, roots of couch-grass or the like, esp. as loosened from the soil to be collected for burning; vegetable rubbish or refuse found on agricultural lands; = WRECK *sb.*[1] 2 c.

1725 PENNECUIK *Tweeddale* 6 [They] will not suffer the *Wrack* to be taken of their Land, because (say they) it keeps the Corn warm. 1825 JAMIESON, *Wrack*, Dog's grass,.. *Triticum repens*, Linn.; Roxb. Perhaps denominated *Wrack*, because..it is harrowed out in the fall, and burnt. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* April 658 Seed has to be sown, turnips have to be thinned and hoed..and 'wrack' gathered. 1894 HESLOP *Northumb. Gloss.* 799 *Wrack*, weeds; especially 'whickens' and sea-weed.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *wrack-ship* (= sense 1); † *wrack-rich*; *wrack-threatened, -threatening*; also † **wrackfree**, = WRECKFREE *a.*; † **wrack-goods** [cf. Du. *wrakgoederen*, G. *wrackgut*] *Scots Law*, = sense 1 b; **wrack-spangle** *local* (see quot. 1856).

1570 in W. Boys *Hist. Sandwich* (1792) 775 Savyng that we shalbe wrakfree of oure owne goodes whatsoever. 1594 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 590 All which together like a troubled Ocean, Beat at thy rocky, and wracke-threatning heart. 1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 138 More deafe.. then are the wrack-rich Libique rocks. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 38/2 A Sternelesse Shippe..On mightiest Seas, wrack-threatn'd on each syde. 1671 *Shetland Docum.* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 194 To..secure all wrack and waith goods. 1681 STAIR *Instit.* vii. 76 Our Custome agrees with..other Nations, except in the Matter of waith and wrack Goods. 1693 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) III. iii. 420 Where the Wrack ship is, the Owner may be known by Writs in the Ship. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wrackry*,..wrack-free, exempt or freed from the forfeiture of Shipwracked Goods and Vessels to the King. 1856 *Household. Words* 8 Nov. 391/1 Wrack-spangle, the popular name of these things, implies that they deck the sea-weeds as spangles adorn robes. The savans call them Serpulæ.

Wrack (ræk), *sb.*[3] Also 5, 6 *Sc.* **wrak**, 6 **wracke**, 9 *Sc.* **vrack**. [a. (M)LG. or Du. *wrak* (whence MHG. and G. dial. *wrack* refuse, rubbish, Da. *vrag*, Sw. *vrak*, refuse); see also WRAKE *sb.*[3], WRECK *sb.*[2], and cf. WRACK *a.*]

1. That which is of an inferior, poor, or worthless quality; waste material; rubbish. Now *rare.*

1472–5 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 156/2 Such [bowstaves] as were called the wrak, not goode ne able to make of but Childern' Bowes. 1492–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 249 Reparaciones [on a mill]..pro cariagio le ramell et wrak a scacario usque Viram. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 4 That no persone or persones doo caste or unlade out of any maner of Ship..any maner of Balaste rubbishe gravell or any other wracke or filthe, but oonelie upon the Lande. 1866 GREGOR *Banffshire Gloss.* 204 *Vrack*, anything worthless. *Ibid.*, 'His nout's jist mere vrack.' 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 27 March 4 They send anything—the very wrack of towns—instead of the valuable agricultural labourer which we want.

† b. *Sc. World's wrack*, earthly 'pelf' or 'dross'; worldly possessions, goods, or gear. *Obs.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow & Birds* 307 (Bann.), Our wickit ennemye..evir is reddye, Quhen wretchis in his warldis wrak do scraip, To draw his nett. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxiii. 10 For warldis wrak but wellfair nocht awailis. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 203 Quhill..stuffit weill with warldis wrak, Amang my freindis I wes weill kend. *a* 1586 in *Maitland Fol. MS.* (S.T.S.) 841 Now he has gold and warldis wrak lyand him besyd. 1792 BURNS *My Wife's a winsome wee thing* IV, The warld's wrack we share o't, The warstle and the care o't.

2. An inferior grade of flax. Also *attrib.*

1879 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 298/1 Of the lower qualities of Riga flax the following may be named:—Wrack flax, White picked wrack,..Picked wrack flax. *Ibid.*, The lowest quality of Riga flax is..Drelband Wrack.

Wrack, freq. erron. f. RACK *sb.*[1] 3, 3 b.

1794 MRS. PIOZZI *Synon.* II. 397 Observing how the wrack rides before the wind. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* V. i, The smoke rises..to join the wrack of clouds. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* II. 57 A filmy wrack wreathes round and upward.

Wrack, erron. f. RACK *sb.*[3] 1, 1 b, 1 c.

cal Notions, which put the Understanding upon the Wrack. 1866 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads* 306 For the pure sharpness of her miseries She had no heart's pain, but mere body's wrack.

Wrack, erron. f. RACK *sb.*[6]

1829 H. MURRAY *N. America* II. III. iv. 442 They abhor a trot, and instruct the animal only in a pace and a wrack.

† **Wrack**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **wrac**, 6 *Sc.* **wrak**. [a. MLG. *wrak*, *wrack*, LG. *wrak* (whence G. dial. *wrack* worthless, Sw. *vrak-*, Da. *vrag-*), or MDu. *wrac*, *wrak* (Kilian *wrack*, *wraack*, Du. *wrak*), OFris. *wrak*, *wrac* base (WFris. *wrak* shaky); cf. WRACK *sb.*[3]]

1. Of persons: Worthless, base, evil.

c 1375 *Kindheit Iesu* 313 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 12 Bote a giw of heorte wrac Alle hise lawes bare he to brac.

2. Damaged, impaired, injured; unsound.

1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 264, iiij last heryng, iij wrack & on rooue; the wrack cost viijs & the roue ixd. 1498–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 32 Item, a diaper clothe, wrack, content in lengthe iij yardes di. 1584 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 343 To devyde the guid and sufficient fische fra the wrak and evill.

† **Wrack**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3 **wracken**, 4–5 **wrak**, 6 **wracke**. [Irreg. var. of WREAK *v.* Cf. *brack*, *brak*, for BREAK *v.*]

1. *trans.* To avenge or revenge (a person, deed, etc.); to punish. Also const. *on.*

c 1205 LAY. 20056 Baldulf..þencheð in þissere nihte to alæn þe..to wracken his broðer. *a* 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 338 Merci criende lutel availede, 3wan Crist it wolde so harde wrac. [1871 WADDELL *Psalms* xviii. 47 The God wha wracks a' right for me.]

2. To give vent to or wreak (spite, malice, etc.).

1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 199 The King went to wrack his spite on their corpes. 1644 J. FARY *Gods Severity* (1645) 82 You..must needs wrack your malice by revenge. 1720 PRIOR *Cupid Mistaken* iii, Couldst thou find none other, To wrack [*ed.* 1709 wreck] thy spleen on?

Wrack (ræk), *v.*[2] Now *arch.* or *dial.* Also 5–7 **wracke**, 6–7 *Sc.* **wrak**, 9 **rack**. [f. WRACK *sb.*[2] Cf. WRECK *v.*[1]]

† 1. *intr.* To suffer or undergo shipwreck. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. XXXVIII. 331 One told hym there was a knyghte of kyng Arthur þ[a]t had wrackyd on the rockes. 1596 [A. MUNDAY] tr. *Sylvain's Orator* 333 The ship happened to wracke, so that the poore man and his daughter saued themselues in a little Island. *a* 1620 J. DYKE *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 146 When a Shippe wracks at Sea, the goods are utterly lost. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 36 We may..cast our wares into the Sea, to lighten the ship that it wracke not.

fig. and in fig. context. *a* 1590 GREENE *Alcida* (1617) C 1 b, Thus selfe-loue..Makes beautie wracke against an ebbing tide. 1596 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1629) 307 Their Loue hath wracked, and from kind loue, beene turned to deadly hate. 1616 B. JONSON *Forrest* iii. 95 God wisheth none should wracke on a strange shelfe. 1620 BACON *Hen. VII*, 223 Sir, you haue beene saued vpon my coast, I hope you will not suffer mee to wrack vpon yours.

2. *trans.* To wreck (a vessel, mariners, etc.); to ruin or cast ashore by shipwreck. Chiefly *pass.*

1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 1368 Driuen hard vpon the bare and wrackfull shore, In greater daunger to be wract, then he had been before. 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, II. ii, I feare me he is wrackt vpon the sea. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. (1636) 44 Goods wrackt..shall be preserved to the use of the owner. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. (1634) 86 They pursuing the victorie, had left part of the fleet..to saue those that were wrackt. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 86 Most of the Fleet, wrackt that Night by a sudden Tempest, lay split on the Shore. 1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 22 Putting provision therein for subsistance, in case we should be forced ashore and wracked. 1755 JOHNSON. 1838 J. F. COOPER *Homeward Bound* XXIV, I esteem it a great privilege..to have the honour of being *wracked*.. in such company. *Ibid.*, If she [the ship] had been honorably and fairly wracked. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 19 The seas..With outstretch'd angry arms..Wracking whole fleets in pride like riven toys.

fig. and in fig. context. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks (Grosart) II. 193 A professed Curtizan, whose honestie and credit is so wracked in the waues of wantonnesse. *Ibid.* 242 No..tempests of aduersitie shal..wracke my fancie against the slipperie rockes of inconstancie. 1594 *Selimus* G 3 b, My feeble barke,..while thy foamie floud doth it immure, Shall soon be wrackt vpon the sandie shallowes. 1598–9 B. JONSON *Cæst Altered* II. vii, O! in what tempests do my fortunes saile, Still wrackt with winds more foule and contrary, Then any other northern guest. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 23 Though wrack'd and lost, My Ruines stand to warn you from the Coast. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. CCXVII, Till miserably wrack'd, most woful she Quite sinks in this self-torments monstrous Sea. [1897 W. BEATTY *Secretar* II. 77 The wind that drave them ..was the same that had wracked..Darnley, and Bodwell.]

3. To cause the ruin, downfall, or subversion of (a person, etc.); to ruin, overthrow. Also *refl.*

1564 QUEEN MARY in *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* XIV. 202 Seing the puir men, awnaris of the saidis ship and guidis, ar ..uterlie heriit and wrakkit. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 186 Suppose we auld wrack [1621 wrake] our self, and tyne The feild, and all our kin be hangit syne. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XLI. iv, Now he is wrackt, say they, loe their he lies. 1604 A. CRAIG *Poet. Ess.* A 4, When Troy was wrackt,..He came...Yet sayd he nought. 1628 PRYNNE *Love-lockes* 59 Externall Beautie..betrays and wrackes the Soules of many. 1792 BURNS *What can a young lassie* IV, I'll cross him, and wrack him, until I heart-break him. 1810 in R. H. Cromek *Remains* 27 He'll dance wi' ye, 'O'er Bogie', Maiden, and wrack ye.

refl. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. xvi. 47 b, That weake, and enuied if they should conspire They wracke themselues, and he hath his desire.

b. To render useless by breaking, shattering, etc.; to injure or spoil severely; to destroy.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1320/2 In the towne of Bedford the water came vp to the market place..; their fewell, corne and haie was wrackt & borne awaie. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* I. i, Of them all scarce seuen [ships] doe anchor safe, And they so wrackt and weltred by the waues [etc.]. *a* 1678 MARVELL *Bermudas* 9 Where he the huge Sea-Monsters wracks, That lift the Deep upon their Backs. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. XXXVIII, As if the world's wide continent Had fallen in universal ruin wracked. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* VI. 56 The [castle]..is wracked by the

Saxon's breath. 1899 S. Macmanus *Chimney Corners* 252 His queeny bee..was wrackin' an' ruinin' all afore her.

trans.f. a 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. lxvii, Doth Stella now beginne with pitteous eye The raigne of this her conquest to espie? Will she take time before all wracked be? 1594 Shakes. *Rich. III*, IV. i. 97 Eightie odde yeeres of sorrow haue I seene, And each howres ioy wrackt with a weeke of teene. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* III. cxxxii, The Precedent may dangerous prove, and wrack Thy Throne and Kingdome.

4. *intr.* To undergo ruin or subversion.

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxxvii. xviii, [Those] who be swarved To ill, both they and theirs shall wrack. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 191 Ayde..without which the whole Empire were in daunger of wracking. a 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlvi. 56, I smore if I conceill, I wrak if I reveill, My hurt. 1607 J. Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 89 What gaine these..when they..themselves remaine castawayes, wracking in the depth of hell.

Hence **Wra·cking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1621 Cotgr., *Ruinement*, a ruining, *wracking, spoyling. 1642 Vicars *God in Mount* 23 The utter wracking and worrying of the..holy lambes of Christ. 1611 Cotgr., *Naufrageux*, *wracking, shipwrack-bringing.

† **Wrack,** *v.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* [ad. MLG. *wracken* (whence G. *wrachen* to sort), to reject, refuse, var. of *wraken*, Wrake *v.*[3]] *trans.* = Wrake *v.*[3]

1609 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 284 Ilk last vessell wrackit, judget and brunt be thame [*sc.* inspectors]. 1621 *Ibid.* 326 Anent the mater of the hering and barrells thairof, sufficiencie of pakking and wrakking of the same.

† **Wrack,** *v.*[4] *Obs.*[—1] (? ad. Du. *wraken* to make leeway. Cf. G. *wrak, wraking*, leeway.)

1635 L. Foxe in *North-West Fox* 180 In that distance holding the same course, I had 2 deg. 14 min. to wracke upon, and within one point at most of my paralell.

Wrack, freq. erron. f. Rack *v.*[3]

1553–5 Latimer in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxv. 98 The Martyrs in the old Time were wracked. 1622 Fletcher *Sea Voy.* I. i, The Money I lis wrackt by usury. a 1637 B. Jonson *Discov.* Wks. (1641) 118 Doubtfull writing hath wrackt mee beyond my patience. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., As the one had wrackt and limm'd my thoughts, with endless tentera. 1683 Cave *Ecclesiastici, Eusebius* 33 The Church rather expounds the Opinion..into a favourable sence, than nicely weighs and wracks their words. 1720 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* II. xiv. 370 What great Concern wracks the Spirit of a faithful Servant of God. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. II. xiv. 353 Landlords had now so wracked their rents. 1736 *Monitor* No. 72 II. 297 If they wrack their brains..to find out [etc.]. 1785 Burns *Scotch Drink* i, Let..Crabbit names an' stories wrack us, An' grate our lug. 1895 Parkhurst in *Advance* (Chicago) 7 Mar. 808/3 Sin..wracks the machinery of the mind. 1898 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 5/3 They themselves are wracking their busy brains.

absol. 1607 Shakes. *Cor.* v. i. 16 A paire of Tribunes, that haue wrack'd for Rome, To make Coales cheape.

Wracked (rækt), *ppl. a.* [f. Wrack *v.*[2] + -ed [1].] That has undergone or suffered wreck, esp. shipwreck; ruined, destroyed.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 15 Yeelding the Greekes a thorough feare, the Troyans courage his, So that the wracked Campe restore his credite worthilie. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 371 A hundred Prophets..from sad drowning keep The wracked planks on th' Idol-Ocean deep. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* IV. lxxxv, When Ioe an angry Sea..on its proud waves bears In dreadfull triumph a wrack'd Man. 1652 Nedham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 157 Those wrack't goods that had been seized by the Receivers of his Customs. 1747 *New Canto Spenser's F. Q.* xxiii, The wrack'd Merchant, now secure, from Shore Looks back with Dread on all his Perils past. 1864 Mrs. Lloyd *Ladies Polc.* 17 Every body's troubles is her troubles, from a wracked boat to a broken putcher! 1875 Morris *Æneid* IX. 263 Two cups..which my father took from wracked Arisbe's hold.

Wracked, erron. f. Racked *ppl. a.*[3]

1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Trophæis* 823 Hee makes th' whole Kingdom's wracked ribs to meet. 1656 Cowley *Davideis* III. 683 Merab rejoyc'd in her wrackt Lovers pain. a 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* X. ccxxxiv, New fear Stormed their wracked Souls.

Wracker [1] (ræ·kəɹ). *rare.* [f. Wrack *v.*[2] + -er [1].] One who wrecks, ruins, or subverts.

1621 Cotgr., *Ruineur*, a ruiner, wracker, spoyler.

† **Wracker** [2]. *Obs. rare.* [f. Wrack *v.*[3] + -er [1], or ad. MLG. *wraker* (whence Da. *vrager* sorter).] = Wraker.

1584 [see Wraker]. 1719 in *Rec. Convent. Royal Burghs Scot.* (1885) V. 217 By means of wrackers of herrings to be imported there. *Ibid.*, To appoint..ane overseer of these wrackers.

Wracker [3] (ræ·kəɹ). *rare.* [f. Wrack *sb.*[2] 3 + -er [1] 1. Cf. Vraicker.] One who collects wrack, vraic, or seaweed.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 293 The Norman wrackers, as they gathered sea-weed on the beach.

Wracker, obs. var. Racker [1].

1736 Ainsworth [1], *Contortor*, ..a wracker, or wrester.

† **Wra·ckful,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 3 wraoful, 4 wrakful, 5 -fulle. [f. Wrack *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Characterized by resentment or anger; vengeful, angry.

c 1230 [implied in next]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 302 Now God in nwy to Noe con speke Wylde wrakful wordes. *Ibid.* 541 Suche a wrakful wo for wlatsum dedes Parformed þe hyze fader. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3818 He wente at the gayneste, Wondis of thas wedirwyns with wrakfulle dyntys.

Hence † **Wra·ckfully** *adv.*, vengefully. *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 41 Hwen godd se wracfulliche fordeemde his heh engel.

† **Wra·ckful,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* In 4 wreoful. [OE. *wræcful*, f. *wræc* Wrack *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Full of misery; wretched.

c 1321 in Wright *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 256 For wille is red, the lond is wreeful; For wit is qued, the loud is wrongful.

Wra·ckful, *a.*[3] Now *arch.* and *rare.* [f. Wrack *sb.*[2] + -ful.]

1. Causing shipwreck; wreckful.

1558 Phaer *Æneid* II. 64 To Syllas wrackfull shore with shyppe approche we nye. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* T iv b, That..sheares the fruitles sande with wrakfull waues. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 353 To stand still firm against the roaring noise Of wrackfull Neptune. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* i. 326 Where king Latinus lent safe harbor for his Ships, with wreckfull tempests rent. 1623 Drumm. of Hawth. *Flowres of Sion* xii. 6 These Lockes, of blushing deedes the gilt attire, Waues curling, wrackfull shelfes to shadow deepe. 1633 T. Bancroft *Gluttons Feaver* F 2 b, A Vessell, neare some wrackfull strand.

2. Causing destruction or devastation; effecting damage or harm; destructive.

1578 *Mirr. Mag.* 23 b, Then my delight was in the diery dent Of wrackful warre. 1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 24 Eu'n so the king of streames..Beyond his banckes abroad all wrackfull goes. *c* 1600 Shakes. *Sonn.* lxv. 6 O how shall summers hunny breath hold out Against the wrackfull siedge of battring dayes? 1633 T. Bancroft *Gluttons Feaver* B 6 Cracke all mine arteries with tortures tride, Yet must more stormes, more wrackfull woes abide? 1821 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Jan. 30/1 A people that..has not had its mind and feelings warped by that wrackful war.

3. Subject to, attended by, injury, harm, etc.

1582 T. Howell *Deuises* B iv, To shunne the sheete of shame, Which had bewrapt her wrackfull blemisht name. 1612 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muses Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 82/1 This Life, a Way; (a wrackfull way) that Wisedome lothes to proue. 1812 Scott *Don Roderick* III. vi, What wanton horrors marked their wrackful path!

Wracking, erron. f. Racking *vbl. sb.*[3] (also *attrib.*).

1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1083/1 Certain Instruments..made use of for the wracking of Criminals. 1688 Holme *Armory* III. 311/1 A Wracking Plank, with a Rowling Wheel of so many Spokes. 1803 W. Blake *'I saw a Monk'* ii, Voltaire [arose] with a wracking wheel.

Wracking, erron. f. Racking *ppl. a.*[1] 2.

1749 *Milton's P. L.* (ed. Newton) II. 182 We perhaps..shall be hurl'd Each on his rock transfix'd, the sport and prey Of wracking whirlwinds. 1837 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Mirabeau*, The sport of wracking winds.

Wrack-rider. Also **rack-.** *north. dial.* (See quots.)

1794 Hutchinson *Hist. Cumbld.* I. 460 [The] Brandling..is the Rackrider of the county of Durham, and the Samlet. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words, Wrack*, or *Wrackrider*,..the same species of trout as the brandling.

† **Wra·cksome,** *a. Obs. rare*[—1]. [f. Wrack *v.*[2] + -some [1].] Destructive.

1584 Hudson *Du Bartas' Judith* II. 361 Then mine not you their towers and tourets tall, Nor bring the wracksom engine to their wall.

Wrackstaff, obs. erron. form of Rack-staff.

1706 E. Ward *Hud. Rediv.* I. xii. 6 If he eat Nothing but Wrack-staves for his Meat.

Wrae, Sc. var. Wro *sb.* **Wraeche,** obs. var. Wretch. **Wraestlen,** obs. f. Wrestle *v.* **Wraet,** obs. pa. t. of Writhe; obs. var. Wroth *a.*

Wrag, obs. erron. f. Rag *sb.*[2] 2.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 63/1 Two stone offices ..formed of Kentish wrag ashlar.

† **Wrag,** *v. Obs. rare*[—1]. [Of imitative origin. Cf. Waggle *v.*[1]] *intr.* To struggle or strive; to resist. Hence **Wragging** *vbl. sb.*

a 1275 *Ancr. R.* (MS. Cleopatra C. vi) fol. 173 b, For þeo set [*sic*] fondunges..wagged oðer hwiles, & [heo] mote wresten azein wið strong wraggunge.

Wrag, erron. f. Rag *v.*[2]

1841 J. Blackwood in Mrs. Oliphant *Blackwood & Sons* (1898) II. 261, I do not forget to wrag the Doctor on this subject.

† **Wragged,** obs. erron. f. Ragged (rough).

c 1600 Shakes. *Sonn.* vi, Then let not winters wragged hand deface, In thee thy summer ere thou be distil'd.

† **Wra·gger.** *Obs.* Also **wrager.** [Cf. Wrag *v.*] One who wrangles.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 38 Both bosters and bragers god kepe vs fro;..Sich wryers and wragers gose to and fro For to crak. *Ibid.* xxx. 143 A bag full..Of Wraggers and wrears, a bag full of brefes, Of carpars and cryars [etc.].

† **Wra·ggle,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 3 wragel-, 6 *Sc.* **wraggil, wraigle, 7 wragle.** [See Wrag *v.* and -le, and cf. WFris. *wraggelje* to waddle, LG. dial. *waggeln* to wiggle, to wriggle.]

1. *intr.* To struggle or strive; to resist. Hence **Wra·ggling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 374 Þe oðer bitternesse is bitternesse in wrastlunge, & in wragelunge aȝean nondunges. *Ibid.*, For þe ȝet [*sic*] fondunges, þet beoð þe deofles swenges, wagged oðer hwiles, & [heo] moten wresten aȝean mid stronge wragelunge.

2. To wriggle. Hence **Wra·ggling** *ppl. a.*

1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 195 Wan wraiglane [*Maitl.* wraggil-land] wasp! 1608 Middleton *Blurt, Master Constable* C 2, I strugled and stragled, and wrigled and wragled.

Wra·ggle, *v.*[2] (See quot. and cf. Raggle *v.*)

1873 Gillies in *Trans. N. Z. Inst.* (1876) VIII. 246, I could make out two or three holes..where the silk lining..was raised and waggled.

Wragh, obs. var. Wrath *sb.*; var. Wraw *a.*

Freq. in the Egerton and Harleian copies of the *E. E. Psalter*, e.g. iii. 13, xvii. 9, lix. 1, lxxiii. 1.

† **Wragland.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin. Perh. merely a var. of the erroneous form *wranglan(d)* cited s.v. Wranlons; but cf. Waggle *v.*[1]]

1. (See quot. and cf. Wranlons.)

1621 Cotgr., *Raboudrie*, wraglands; crooked, or misgrowne trees which will neuer proue timber.

2. (See quot. and cf. Wreckling.)

1621 Cotgr., *Rabougrir*,..to wax mishapen, or imperfect of shape; to become a wragland, or grub.

Wrah, variant of Wraw *a. Obs.* **Wraht,** var. *wrought*: see Work *v.* **Wrai(e, Wraier,** var. Wray(er *Obs.*

† **Wrain-bolt,** variant of Ring-bolt. Also † **Wrain-stave,** a staff for inserting in an eye of this.

1750 Blanckley *Naval Expos.* 17 *Wrain Bolts.* [Each] has a ring at one End for a Staff to go through, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 190 *Wrain Staves* are a Sort of thick Billets, tapered so at each End that they may go into the Ring of the Wrain Bolt. [Hence in Rees' *Cycl.* (1819), Young *Naut. Dict.* (1846), Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* (1867), etc.]

Hence † **Wrai·ning-bolt, -staff.** *Obs.*[—1]

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776), *Autsit*, a crooked instrument of iron, used to bind the side-planks round the timbers in ship-building. The English artificers perform this operation by wraining-bolts and staffs.

Wraist(e, obs. variants of Wrest *sb.*[1], *a.*, and *v.*

Wrait, obs. or Sc. pa. t. of Write *v.*

Wraith (rēth), *sb.* Orig. (and chiefly) *Sc.* Also 6 wrath, wrayth, wraithe, 7 wreath. [Of obscure origin.]

1. An apparition or spectre of a dead person; a phantom or ghost.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* X. x. 112 Nor ȝit na vane wrathis nor gaistis quent Thi char constrenyt for to went. *Ibid.* xi. 93 In diuers placis The wraithis walkis of goistis that ar deyd.

ham's wraith, in heavenly graith,..cry'd, 'Willie, rise!' 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. Introd. 146 In realms of death Ulysses meets Alcides' wraith. 1861 E. S. Kennedy in *Peaks, Passes & Glaciers* Ser. II. I. 170 She..died broken-hearted. ..Afterwards, in the still of the evening,..the damsel's wraith would enter the dairy department. 1866 Alger *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 288 While Winander, Fairfield and Rydal remain, to all visionary minds his [*sc.* Wordsworth's] wraith will haunt them. 1893 T. E. Brown *Old John*, etc. 44 While I..Drift vaporous to the ancient sea, A wraith, a film, a memory. 1900 A. Upward *E. Lobb* 226 Tall, pale and hollow-eyed, with gaunt cheek-bones,..like a wraith from an extinct world.

fig. 1880 G. Macdonald *Diary Old Soul* Feb. ix, Duty's firm shape thins to a misty wraith.

b. An immaterial or spectral appearance of a living being, freq. regarded as portending that person's death; a fetch.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* X. xi. 127 Thydder went this wrath or schaddo of Ene. 1597 Jas. VI *Dæmonol.* III. i. 60 These kindes of spirites, when they appeare in the shaddow of a person..to die, to his friendes,..are called Wraithes in our language. 1692 R. Kirk *Secr. Commonwealth* i. § 7. 18 What the Low-countrey Scotts calls a Wreath, and the Irish *Taibhshe* or Death's Messenger. 1772–3 R. Fergusson *To Mem. Dr. W. Wilkie* 35, I dream't yestreen his deadly wraith I saw Gang by my ein as white's the driven anaw... I kent that it forespak approachin' wae. 1820 Scott *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* I. p. cxxxvi, The wraith of a person shortly to die, is a firm article in the creed of Scotish superstition. 1844 Mrs. Grant in *Mem. & Corr.* (1844) III. 66 A wraith ..is the shadowy likeness of an absent living person. 1858 Lytton *Alice* XL. ii, As the shape of the warning wraith haunts the mountaineer. 1870 Myers *Poems* 92 She and her love,—how dimly has she seen him Dark in a dream and windy in a wraith! 1872 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 404 This is well shown by the reception not only of a theory of ghosts, but of a special doctrine of 'wraiths' or 'fetches'.

transf. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xvii, An opposition procession was there entering, headed also by men in black... 'Is it our double?' asked Shirley; 'our manifold wraith?'

fig. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxii. 13 O hollow wraith of dying fame, Fade wholly, while the soul exults.

c. Without article.

1884 E. Gurney in *19th Cent.* 796 The coincidences of death and wraith are due to chance. 1898 H. Newbolt *Island Race* p. x, O Strength divine of Roman days, O Spirit of the Age of Faith, Go with our sons on all their ways When we long since are dust and wraith.

2. A water-spirit.

1742, etc. [see Water *sb.* 24 q]. 1801 M. G. Lewis *Bothwell's Bonny Jane* ii, I hear, with mournful yell, The wraiths of angry Clyde complain. 1832 J. Bree *St. Herbert's Isle* 132 Wraiths and warlocks by the rush-grown mere. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* x. (1858) 203 Highlanders..cutting down their corn, when the boding voice of the wraith was heard.

3. An appearance or configuration suggestive of a wraith or spectre.

1888 Whittier *Storm on Lake Asquam* iii, A fire-veined darkness swept Over the..range; A wraith of tempest,.. From peak to peak the cloudy giant stepped. 1912 L. Tracy *Mirabel's Isl.* i, Through the wraiths of scud he thought he had seen something.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wraith-land, -seeing, -spell*; *wraith-like* adj.

1736 *Yorkshire diary* in *N. & Q.* (1912) 390/2 For the warding off of all things whatsoever from the dead—be they imps, wraithspells, wick things and the like kat. 1864 J. Young *Homely Pictures* 126 Their leggies gat wraith-like, their cheekies gat death-like. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I.

wraithlands!

Wraith, obs. Sc. var. WRATH *sb.*, *v.*, WROTH *a.*

Wraith(e, erron. var. RATHE *sb.*[2]

1824 CARR *Craven Glass., Wraiths*, shafts of a cart. 1851 L. D. B. GORDON *Art Trad. Illustr. Cat.* p. viii[20], The 'wraithe' is for the purpose of keeping the threads separate. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb. 7/2 He got a rope, fastened it... to the cart wraiths, and..strangled himself.

Wraithly, etc., obs. Sc. varr. WROTHLY, etc.

Wrak: see WRACK *sbs.*, WRAKE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[3]

† **Wrake**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 wracu, 3–5 **wrak**, 4 *north.* wrac, 5 **wraak**, *Sc.* vrak; 2– **wrake**, 5–6 *Sc.* **wraik**. [OE. *wracu* (oblique cases *wrace*, *wræce*), f., revenge, vengeance, etc., = Goth. *wraka* persecution, f. the same stem as OE. *wrecc* neut., WRACK *sb.*[1] For the related OS. *wrâka*, OHG. *râhha*, see WRECHE *sb.*]

1. Suffering that comes or is inflicted as a retribution or penalty; retributive punishment, vengeance, revenge. Also (*b*) coupled with cognate terms.

Hist. I. xv. § 2 (MS. Corpus Camb.), Ne wæs unxelic wracu þam ðe iu Caldeas bærndon Hierusaleme weallas. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Bute we turnen to gode anradliche, he wile his sweord draȝen, þat is his wrake. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 30 Ah we schulen sechen efter wrake on alle þat we biwiteð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13055, I dred bot þou ne bete þi sake, þou sal noght dei wit-vten wrake. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 386 [On] þe moste mountaynes..flokked þe folke, for ferde of þe wrake. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 179 At þe laste Iudas for wrake Rubene in þe nek..strake. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 70 Wolt þou werne wrake to hem þat hit desseruethe? *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) U j b, That scourge is a swerd of wrake That one shal agayne a nother take. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. ii. 120 The cruell wraik of that dissaitfull slycht.

(*b*) *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 ȝif ȝe..to-brecað mine lare.., þenne scal eou sone ȝewaxen muchele wrake and sake, here and hunger. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1194 Ic wot hwar sal beo nip & wrake. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 552 So cam on werlde wreche and wrake. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 890 Til þat worm þan drightin spak wordes bath o wrath and wrak [*Trin.* wrake]. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3389 Þer shewed God weyl by þat kas þat þe kote a-cursed was, And tokened wel soroweand wrake. 1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 252 The grete vengaunce and wrake That schulde falle for synnes sake. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2446 Vengeaunce shalle than on you come, With sorowe, woo and wrake! *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1451 The knyghtis answerd with wo and wrake. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. x. 117 Hevy wraik And sorofull vengence ȝit sall the ourtak.

b. In the phr. *to do, have, nim* (= take), *ta*, or *take wrake* (*of*, *on*, or *upon* a person or thing, or with indirect object).

In freq. use *c* 1375–*c* 1480, esp. with *take*.

† *a* 900 *Laws of Ine* ix, ȝif hwa wræce do, ærðon he him ryhtes bidde. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 7 Ne deð god his ȝecorennra wræc..? *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Þa ilke wrake þe ic dude þe, þu scoldest don me. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 205 God nom..muchele wrake for are misdede. *a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 647 in *O. E. Misc.* 136 For he þe wile wrake don. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12554 On þe sakles he auld ta wrake. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 485 For to take wrake Or wickedly to venge him opon his euen-cristen. *c* 1450 *Ludus Cov.* 375 Mercy nay nay they xul haue wrake. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanch.* xxvi. 95 To be presented..to the kynge of salamandrye,.. for to haue wrake vpon hym. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) E j, On thy goddes we shall do wrake. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. vi. 80 The montane Caphareus,..That vengeans take and wraik apon our floit. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xxiii. (S.T.S.) II. 40 We desire nowther þe goddis nor men to tak ony wraik or punyssement on ȝow. 1613 CHAPMAN *Hymn to Hymen* Plays 1873 III. 122 Let Peace grow cruell, and take wrake of all.

c. *In wrake of*, in revenge or punishment for. *Sc.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 709 In wrak of hyr fals plicht [the accuser] deit sodanely in þare sicht. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. iv. 91 For strang hunger sall ȝe stand in sic state, In wraik of our iniuris and bestis slane.

2. Adverse action; active enmity; hostility; mischief.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 106 His sunu hatte Mars, se macode ǽfre ȝewinn, and wrohte, and saca and wræca he styrede ȝeloma. *c* 1205 LAY. 4040 Wrake wes on londe; wa wes þone vustronge. *a* 1327 *Metr. Treat. Dreams* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 262 Armes y-sen ant eke bataille, Hit is strif ant wrake withoute faille. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 397 All thus the wrake gan biginne, And with wrethe thai went atvinne, Tho bold bernes to. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 85 What þorw werre and wrake and wycked hyȝdes, May no preiour pees make in no place. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 125 Hertis devided have caused mochel wrake. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2675 Syr gawayne And mordreite that mykelle couthe of wrake. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. i. 797 For and there ryse warre and wrake betwyx syr launcelot and vs, wete you wel [etc.].

3. Distress of body or mind; pain, suffering, misery.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 51 (Gr.), Nis þær on þam londe..ne wop ne wracu, wentacen nan. *c* 1390 *Bonaventura's Medit.* 366 My brebren also, kepe hem fro wrake. 13..*Sir Beues* (A.) 328 A was ibrouȝt in tene & wrake Ofte for þat childes sake. 13.. *Lay. St. Gregory* 338 He tok þat child wiþouten hete and bar it hom wiþouten wrake. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* 866 Þis wille turne vs all to wrake & to dole. *c* 1480 *Ludus Coventriæ* 189 He xall suffer for mannys sake..moch gret sorow and wrake.

4. Destructive harm or injury; wrecked, ruined, or impaired state or condition; ruin, destruction, wreck.

a 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 142 in *O. E. Misc.* 111 For God may ȝiuen wanne he wele good after yuil, wele after wrake. *c* 1280 *Sir Ferumb.* 1813 He wol þe chacy as ys so & werche þe sorwe & wrake. *a* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 786 Her was muche manqualm, wrake was in londe. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xvii, Thase wrechut wurmus..wurchen me this wrake. Thus to wrake am I wrogte, Waynor, i-wis. *c* 1450 *Guy Warw.* (C.) 2158 For thy sake To vs ys comen moche wrake, And all for the loue of the. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* VII. xx. 244 He wil doo moche harme.., and worche you wrake in this countray. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Banks Helicon* 47 Fals Helene..caused King Priamus wraik [*v. r.* wrake] In Troy. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 178 That sik hatred war nocht the occasioun of the wrake of the hail Realme. 1620 CHETTLE *Hoffman* I. (1631) B 4 b, Newes..more welcome then the sad discourse Of Leninberg our nephewes timeles wrake.

b. In the phr. *to bring unto, to fall into, to go, put*, or *work to wrake*.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 9204 (Trin.), Ierusalem was stroyed & take; þat kyngdome fel in to wrake. *c* 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 35 Alas, all þen had gone to wrake; Wold ye haue slayne my son Isaac! *c* 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1905) 25 Iurrours went also to Wrake, wher that they myht be ffounde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. vii. 110 By multitude and nomer on vs set All ȝeid to wraik. *c* 1550 R. BIRSTON *Bayte Fortune* A ij b, Displeasure and thought doth bring him vnto wrake. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 207 W[h]ych made muche myserye, and wrought this realme to wrake. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 158 Quhen his armie was al put to wrake.

5. An instance or occasion of suffering or inflicting vengeance, harm, injury, or the like.

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 4950 Now es vs comen our ald sakes In to wandret new, and wrakes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 235 þat oþer wrake þat wex on wyȝes. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1562 Kyng Rychard hys hostel gan take, Thar he gan hys fyrste wrak. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* I. 1361, V. wrakys syndry has our tane..þis Bretane. *Ibid.* II. 533 The wrakys ten in Egipte rasse. *c* 1440 *Bone Florence* 1077 God had sende on hym a wrake, That in the palsye can he schake. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 948 The quene..swore to venge hyr of that wrake. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 125 Seand nathing bot wraiks to come to hir pretendit husband.

Hence † **Wra·kedom**, revenge. *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1205 LAY. 76 For þe wrake-dome of Menelaus quene.. for hire weoren on ane daȝe hund þousunt deade.

† **Wrake**, *sb.*[2] Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 6–7 *Sc.* **wraik** (6 **vraik**), 7 **wraick**. [var. of WRACK *sb.*[2]; the form may be due to the influence of the preceding word.]

1. Shipwreck; = WRACK *sb.*[2] 2.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. iii. *heading*, How that Enee wes with the tempest schaik, And how Neptune his navy saitit fra wraik. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrake of a shippe, *naufrage*.

2. Wreck, wreckage; = WRACK *sb.*[2] 1 b.

1544 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 205 Ane schip of fyr, quhilk wes storit as vraik in hir cumin in the havyn. 1582 *Sc. Acts Parlt., Jas. VI* (1814) III. 255/2 The haill wraik and wayth that sal happin to be fund..within the boundis of the saidis landis or sie coist thairoff. 1620 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 146/1 Cum lie wraik et wair, piscaria de lie yair de Avach, silvis lie scroggis et bussis. 1625 [see WAITH *sb.*[2]]. 1632 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Lanark* (1893) 327 With furk, fork, ..vert, vair, wraik, vennysone.

3. Sea-wrack; = WRACK *sb.*[2] 3.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Broch mor*, Wrake of the sea. 1597, 1687 [see SEA-OAK]. *c* 1600 KENNETT in *Promp. Parv.* (1865) 533 Reits, sea-weed, of some..called reits, of others wrack or wraick.

4. *Sc.* A wrecked edifice, etc. *rare*[−1].

c 1625 A. CRAIG in H. Bisset *Rolment* (S.T.S.) I. 23 One man..consecratis religius workis to Gods: ane Other leavs sad wrakis, and Ruynis now.

† **Wrake**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* **wraik**. [var. of WRACK *sb.*[3]; for the long vowel cf. WRAKE *v.*[3]] Refuse, rubbish; something worthless.

a 1350 *Northern Passion* (G.) 1372 Þe met of þat oþir [tree] ne wol it notht del. Hit was schortir þan þe make. Awei þei alongen hit alle for wrake. *a* 1586 *Maitland Quarto MS.* (S.T.S.) 111 Sum houpe is ȝit that my seruice sall speid, Without ye quhilk I wait I am bot wraik. 1604 A. CRAIG *Poet. Ess.* C 3, Then shuld we not bin poynted at for wrake, scorne, and disgrace.

† **Wrake**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4 *north.*, 5 *Sc.* **wrak**, 8 **rake**; 6 *pa. pple.* **ywrake**. [Irreg. var. of *wreke* WREAK *v.*, prob. influenced by WRAKE *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *wraken*, var. of *wreken*; MLG. *wraken* to torture.

OE. *wraciende* occurs as var. of *wrecende* (= carrying on) in *Oros.* 1. xi.]

1. *trans.* = WRACK *v.*[1] 1. Occas. *refl.* Also *fig.*

c 1205 LAY. 6015 Wrake we us on Bruttes & in to þan londen we sullen faren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6256 Bot þan i sal me on him wrake. *Ibid.* 6597 Drightin sal me on yow wrak [*v.r.* wrake], To sauue þaa men þat has na sak. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* 88 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 90 Deth & Life ..striuith a sterne strife King of Life to wrake.

2. *intr.* To execute vengeance (*on* a person).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25458 O mans-slaghter had I na mak, Ne nan sa wild in wa to wrak [*Fairf.* wrake], To riue þe grene and gra. *Ibid.* 27459 Quare euer he mai þat man ouer-tak, He sal wit suerd apon him wrak [*Fairf.* wrake].

3. a. To be wroth or angry. *rare*[−1].

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vii. 12 (E.), God demer riht, þoland, and strang, Nou wrakes [*v.r.* wrathes] he daies alle lang?

b. To wax violent or furious; to rage.

c 1330 *King of Tars* 148 Gret werre tho bigon to wrake, For the mariage ne moste be take Of that mayden heende.

4. *trans.* To vent (one's wrath); = WREAK *v.* 3.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 14 Ah wofull man, what..wrath of cruell wight on thee ywrake..doth thee thus wretched

b. To take (vengeance) on some one.

† *Mem. Capt. Peter Drake* I. xiii. 100 In the End, I ... rake my Vengeance on Mrs. Dickning.

† **Wrake**, *v.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* Also **wraik**(e. [var. of WRACK *v.*[2] Cf. WRAKE *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To bring (a person) to ruin; = WRACK *v.*[2] 3. Also *refl.*

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXVIII. 142 And scho wer wraikit, all the warld may wene, Than sould the Duke but dout reasnif ye croun. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 71 They thocht no thing better nor to wraike them and that witht extreme weiris. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) 41 The Lord the wicked wraikes. 1603 *Philotus* liii, Quhome haue ȝe wraikit bot ȝour awin. 1621 [see WRACK *v.*[2] 3, quot. 1567].

b. To subvert or overthrow.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 74 Apperandly thir pialgis ar powrit out To wraik this warld, and wait ȝe quhair about? 1574 *Ibid.* xlii. 447 Quhen the Kirk sa ȝe haue wrakit, ȝit all the Kirkis sall not be stakit. *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 246 The presuming..of the cheiff corrupt members..had vitlat and wrakit the esteat of the Kirk.

2. To hurt, harm, or injure severely; to damage, wreck, or ruin materially.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxiv. 8 Quhair furious Fleming schot his Ordinance, Willing to wraik him wantit na gude will. 1578 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 113/2 Sum of thair housias wyffis and bairnis being thairin wer alluterlie wraikit and brount. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 88 His haill geir surmounting to mair nor thrie thowsand lib...ar altogidder wrakit and away. 1607 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 295 Dumbartane..is liklie to be wrakit be the inundatioun of the watter of Clyde. 1692 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 595 Ane bush..named the Generall, was wraked in this harbour.

3. *intr.* = WRACK *v.*[2] 4. *rare*[−1].

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 67, I dout not, in our dayis, Hepburnis will wraik for wyrrying of the King.

Hence † **Wra·king** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1569 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bann. Cl.) 147 The wraiking of James erle of Mortoun and his assistaris.

† **Wrake**, *v.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 **wraik**. [a. (M)LG. *wråken* (whence Sw. *vraka*, Da. *vrage*), older Du. *wraaken*, Du. *wraken*, older Flem. *wraecken* (Kilian), to reject, etc. Cf. WRACK *v.*[3]] *trans.* To examine (goods, etc.) with a view to rejecting or destroying the unsound, faulty, or damaged. Hence **Wraking** *vbl. sb.*

1584 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 343 All the heiring and quhyte fische that sall cum within the said port..to be strukin vp, visitet and wraket. 1599 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 60 Anent the office of jedgeris wraking and burneing of all hoghedis and barrellis of herings. 1609 *Ibid.* 284 Nane to be transporit furth of the realm quhill thai [*sc.* herring-barrels] be packit, wraikit and merkett as followis.

† **Wra·keful**, *a. Obs.* [f. WRAKE *sb.*[1] + -FUL. Cf. WRACKFUL *a.*[1], WREAKFUL *a.*]

1. Vengeful; = WRACKFUL *a.*[1]

a 1225 [implied in WRAKEFULLY]. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* 329 Ane wraikfull sentence geuin on fair Cresseid.

2. Of persons: Revengeful, vindictive.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 51 (E.), Leser min be niht and dai Fra mi faes wrakeful [*v.r.* wrathful] are.

3. ? Wicked; sinful.

c 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 23 This wrakeful werkes under wede in soule soteleth sone.

4. *Sc.* Destructive.

c 1625 *Bisset's Rolment* (S.T.S.) I. 22 Evin in this act, thow rearest a Monument That all the spyte of wraikfull tyme out faces.

Hence † **Wra·kefully** *adv.*, vengefully. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 364 Wule God so wrakefuliche awreken him upon sunne? *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2047 (Royal MS.), Hu wrakefulliche [*Cott. MS.* wrakeliche] wenestu wule he ant wreðða uppon þe, wrecche!

† **Wra·ker**. *Sc. Obs.* [f. WRAKE *v.*[3] + -ER[1] or a. (M)LG. *wråker*. Cf. WRACKER[2].] One who inspects goods and rejects or destroys the faulty.

1584 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI*, III. (1814) 302 [To] appoint ane discrete man to be visitour, wraker [*v.r.* wracker], gager, and birnar of the saidis treis. 1584 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 343 Jadgeares, wrakeris, visitouris and markeris of the haill herling and quhyte fishe that sall cum within the port. 1598 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 31 Iadger burnear, or wraker of all barrellis and hogheidis of salmond and hering.

† **Wrakling**. *Sc. Obs.* Also **-lin**, **-lyne**, **-lene**. [ad. MLG. *wrakelinge*, MDu. *wrakelinc* (whence also Fris. *wrakling* plank-nail, Da. dial. *vrækling*).] A large make of nail, esp. used in shipbuilding. Also *collect.*

1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 230 The expensis..for the macken of the erne grathe of the barge [include]..for wraklynys bocht, xvj[li]. *Ibid.* 253, vij stane and xij pundis of boltis and wraklyng. 1496 *Ibid.* 320 Ane thousand of singil bowsaleit, and liij[m] wraklene.

attrib. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 334, iij[c] gret wraklin nalis.

† **Wrall**, *sb. Obs. rare.* Also **wrawl**. [f. next.]

1. A winding or twisting; a twist or coil.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lx. (Camb. MS.) Þe eddir amphibena..wiglep wiþ wralles [*ed.* 1495 wrynkles] corckles & draustis of þe bodi.

2. A wreathed decoration or ornamentation.

1540 in V. Green *Hist. Worces.* (1796) II. App. p. iii, Item, vj spones with wrawles. *Ibid.* p. iv, vj spones with wralls.

‡ **Wrall**, *v. Obs.* [Of obscure origin; cf. UNWRALL *v.*] *trans.* To wreathe, wind, or twist; to convolve.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xli. (Tollem. MS.), Þese holes ben set in þe stony bon [of the ear]..and ben wrallid and wounde as a spyndel of a presse. *Ibid.* XVII. lxxx,

Genista] hab..3elow floures in somer, likke and wrallid [L. *involutos*]. *Ibid.* XVIII ix. (Bodl. MS.), Serpentes and addres þat may binde and walle and folde is owne bodie.

fig. *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 1. 370 Such successours [of Peter] ben to bold, In winning al their wit they wral.

Hence † **Wra·lling** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Smellinge smoke..croked wiþ many bendinges and wrallinges.

Wrall, etc. : see WRAWL, etc.

Wramp (ræmp), *sb. north. dial.* and † *Sc.* Also 9 ramp. [Of obscure origin. Cf. MLG. *wrampachtich*, Da. *vrampet* warped, twisted.] A twist or sprain. Chiefly *fig.*

1669 FLEMING *Fulfilling of Scripture* (1671) 99 How dreadful it is to give the conscience a wramp which is more easily hurt then healed. 1690 D. WILLIAMSON *Serm. bef. King's Commissioner* 17 Young ones may get a wramp, and a wrong set by bad Masters. *a* 1706 in J. WATSON *Coll. Poems* I. 60 It will be better than Swine Seam, For any Wramp or Minzie. 1724 M. SHIELDS *J. Renwick* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 138 Grieved for the Wounds and Wramps, Stabs and Strokes his Mother Church of Scotland hath received. 1747 RALPH *Misc. Poems* 17 Oft wittingly..I fell, Pretendin some unlucky wramp or strean. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 3). 1876- in Cumb. and Northumb. glossaries (s.v. *Ramp*).

Wramp (ræmp), *v. north. dial.* and *Sc.* [Related to prec.] *trans.* To twist or sprain (the ankle, etc.); to rick or wrench.

1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Ibid.*, Cumb., I've wrampit my kute. 1876- in Cumb. and Northumb. glossaries (s.v. *Ramp*). 1897 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws* IX. 201 He's wrampit his ankle.

Wran, Sc. or dial. var. WREN.

† **Wrancheval.** *Obs.*[-1] (Meaning obscure.)

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 1608 Þe fand hyt was þat schente hyt [*sc.* spousing] al Myd gyle and hys abette, Wrancheueil.

Wrancke, obs. erron. f. RANK *a.* **Wranckle**, obs. erron. f. RANKLE *v.* **Wrang**, obs. or dial. pa. t. of WRING *v.*; obs., dial., or Sc. var. WRONG.

† **Wrangel.** *Obs.* [Cf. WRONG *sb.*1] The rib of a boat. Also *attrib.* in *wrangel-nail.*

1355 *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III*, m. 33 Computat in..[3,900] de Wrangelnaille et .xlvlj. doleis vacuis emptis. 1511 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 331 Reparacions of makyng and amendyng the Boote belongyng to the Bridge....Peyd..for v wrangells, xviij d. Item..for ij wrangells, viij d.

Wrangl(an(d)s : see WRANLONS, WRAGLAND, and WRONG *a.* 1.

Wrangle (ræ·ŋg'l), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An angry dispute or noisy quarrel; an altercation or bitter disputation.

1547 LATIMER in Foxe *A & M.* (1563) 1350/2 Or els he had neuer come into this wrangle for his own goods with your brother. 1622 COTGR., *Noise*, a brabble, ..wrangle, squabble. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 92 [This] animated all those persons who were mutinous & discontented .. to raise wrangles & cavills at what ever I did. 1732 SWIFT *Consid. Two Bills* Wks. 1841 II. 225/1 An infinite number of wrangles and litigious suits in the spiritual courts. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 72 When discord agitated the assembly of the gods, and their wrangles had made a bear-garden of Olympus. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 335 The complicated wrangles of this continent. 1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* p. cvi, Preferring the songs of Colonean nightingales to the wrangles of the stage. 1859 HOLLAND *Gold Foil* xxiv. 279 The disgraceful wrangles of the religious newspapers. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 2 (1882) 171 Each..had to be extorted after a long wrangle between the borough and the officers.

attrib. 1600 PARSONS *Warn-word to Sir F. Hastings* 22 The arrival of O.E., his wrangle-word. *Ibid.* 26 This pedling marchant comming later to the faire with his wrangle-word. *transf.* 1866 G. A. LAWRENCE *Sans Merci* II. 235 There are days when [the horse]..will jump only on compulsion; but he has to deal with sharp spurs and hands of iron; and he has never once got much the best of a wrangle.

† **2. a.** A disputatious answer or argument. **b.** A controversy. *Obs.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 21 b, To the fourme of wordes he hath formed a wrangle, the matter he graunteth belike to be true. 1752 LAW *Spirit of Love* I. (1766) 1 Your Objections rather tend to stir up the Powers of Love, than the Wrangle of a rational Debate.

3. Without article: The action of wrangling; angry altercation or argument; noisy dispute or contention.

a 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) III. lii. 81 From this dialogue the assembly fell to wrangle, and broke up quarrelling. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. xci, None can hate So much as I do any kind of wrangle. 1834 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 159 They are just well and ill enough together to turn the stream of wrangle into a new channel. 1877 TALMAGE *Serm.* 253 The Book of Job has been the subject of unbounded theological wrangle.

Wrangle (ræ·ŋg'l), *v.* Also 7-8 **rangle.** [Cf. LG. *wrangeln*, MHG. *rangelen*, frequentative f. *rangen* (= MLG. and LG. *wrangen*) to struggle, wrestle, make uproar, related to *ringen*: see WRING *v.*]

1. *intr.* To dispute angrily; to argue noisily or vehemently; to altercate, contend; to bicker.

1377 [see WRANGLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1532 ELYOT, *Altercor*, to contende with wordes,..to wrangle. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 2 *Tim.* ii. 24 The servant of the Lord must not wrangle. 1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* I. (1925) 83 The contrarie to right wold be soon espied, howsoeuer it [*sc.* the tongue] wrangle. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Humility* iv, Here it is For which ye wrangle. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 212 None do here Use to swear, Oathes do fray Fish away, .. Fishers must not rangle. 1704 PRIOR *Let. to M. Boileau Despreaux* 192 With too much Heat, We sometimes wrangle, when We should debate. 1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* I. viii, First secure what share you can before you wrangle for the rest. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 55 Now wrangling and grumbling to keep up the ball. 1847 JAMES *Convict* iii, Sometimes they laughed and wrangled good-humouredly enough. 1867 [T. WRIGHT] *Some Habits Working Classes* 124 Even in ——— in which no premeditated resolve to wrangle exists, wrangles often occur. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* I. iii. 22 While his Norman lords were wrangling.

b. Const. *about, against, anent, over*, and esp. *with* (a person).

c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* II. 326 Why cleimen they wholy his powere, And wranglen ayenst al his hestes? *c* 1400 *Langland's P. Pl.* C. XVII. 80 Þaugh cousteyce wolde with þe poure wraxle [*Camb. MS.* wrangle] þei mai nat come togederis. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* v. ii. (Arb.) 80 Certaine men with you haue wrangled About the promise of mariage by you to them made. 1596 BELL *Surv. Popery* II. ii. 194 Howsoeuer you wrangle about your formall succession. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* i. 6 Did man..come wrangling into the world, about no better matters? 1650 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lang. Unl.* § 795 They wrangle anent.. that universal and present remedie, whether it bee to bee had or no. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 353 Quarrelling and wrangling about their wealth. 1746 LD. HARDWICKE in Harris *Life* (1847) II. 290 Wrangling about trifles, they lose great objects. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, They sometimes wrangle with her for an hour together under my study window. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* I. 3 While rival farmers wrangle over rates and road-making. 1904 *Verney Memoirs* II. 135 [They] were still wrangling with his mother and his many creditors.

fig. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 144 Mens Natures wrangle with inferiour things. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* K 2 b, Let vs no longer wrangle with our Witties, Or dally with our Fortunes. 1618 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 207 The windes favorable, and the seas composed; but anon they began to wrangle and we to suffer.

transf. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights Muses, Musicks Duell* 43 A nightingale..In controverting warbles evenly shar'd, With her sweet selfe shee wrangles.

c. To make a noise suggestive of or comparable to wrangling; to jangle.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* I. 178 The golden bits keep wrangling as they go. 1873 LONGF. *M. Angelo* I. ii. ad fin., Low and loud the bells..Jangle and wrangle in their airy towers.

2. To argue or debate; to engage in controversy; formerly also, to dispute or discuss publicly as at a university, for or against a thesis, etc. Freq. const. *about, over, upon, with.* Also with clause (quots. *a* 1586, 1586).

1570 DRANT *Serm.* C iij b, Hence wrangle the Iesuistes, hence wrastle the Sorbonistes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 41 So must they bee content little to mooue: sauing wrangling, whether Vertue bee the chiefe, or the onely good. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1595) 46, I must wrangle whie you stole awaie Toms bread and butter. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xvii. (1627) 208 In wrangling about words, not disputing to the purpose, and to the point. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 182 Being resolved..to forsake my own [opinion], if any man will wrangle with me for it. 1665 J. BUCK in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. B. p. lxxii, The Commencers and their Sophisters are disputing and wrangling there until the clock strikes 5. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 49 All the question (wrangle e'er so long) Is only this, if God has plac'd him wrong? 1773 LD. MONBODDO *Language* (1774) I. I. viii. 108 About which we see men wrangle and dispute without end. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 4 When..few [were ready] to write or wrangle for their creed. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 365 The factions of the Parliament House, awe-struck by the common danger, forgot to wrangle. 1877 FIELD *Lakes of Killarney to Golden Horn* 75 For this reason..the Assembly wrangles over unimportant matters. *transf.* *a* 1608 in Davison *Poet. Rhapsody* (1621) 102 Tell wit how much it wrangles In tickle points of nicenesse. 1858 H. BUSHNELL *Serm. for New Life* vii. (1861) 93 The mind that judges God..stumbles, complains, wrangles, and finds no issue to its labour.

3. *trans.* † **a.** With *out*: To argue out (a case, dispute, etc.); to contest or dispute contentiously to an end or issue. *Obs.*

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. vi, If I make 'hem not wrangle out this case to his no comfort. 1632 BROME *North. Lass* v. ix, While they wrangle out their cause, let vs agree. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 184 If he could but stiffly wrangle out a vexatious dispute. 1728 [DE FOE] *Street-Robberies* 42 The poor Captain was left to wrangle it out with the People of the House.

b. In *pass.* To be argued or debated.

a 1734 NORTH *Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 165 And so it was wrangled off and on till the Session ended.

c. To utter wranglingly. *rare*[-1].

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxviii, All that had been wrote or wrangled thereupon in the schools and porticoes of the learned.

† **4.** To get (something) *out of* a person by bargaining. *Obs. rare*[-1].

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. 75 We wrangled out of the King ten quarters of Corne for a copper Kettell.

5. To influence or persuade (a person) by wrangling or contention; to argue *out of* a possession, etc., or *in* to some state.

1633 BURROUGHS *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1652) 4 Princes..disdaining to bee wrangled out of the ancient rights and regalities. 1658 BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* viii. 282 To wrangle the Church of England out of a good possession. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNING *Serm.* (1674) I. xii. 165 Will a man..be wrangled out of his Evidences? 1678 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 295 All the devils in hell shall never wrangle a believer out of his heavenly inheritance. 1705 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 70 This Latter would have wrangled 'em out of it. 1847 Mrs. GORE *Castles in Air* viii, Moral philosophy [has] wrangled the world in and out of its senses.

b. To force or drive *out of* a place by wrangling.

1693 C. MATHER *Wond. Inv. World* 26 To wrangle the Devil out of the Country, will be truly a new Experiment.

† **c.** *refl.* To harass (oneself) by altercation. *Obs.*

1649 BP. SANDERSON in D'Oyly *Life Sancroft* II. 442 When we have wrangled ourselves as long as our w.ts and strengths will serve us. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 8 (1726) 37 In this..mischievous course have these our reverend old mothers continued for several centuries, wrangling themselves about trifles.

6. With *away, out.* To consume, spend, or pass away (time) in wrangling. *rare.*

1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* IV. 230 They..may at last possibly agree to wrangle out the evening of their lives together. 1905 R. GARNETT *W. Shakespeare* 53 Do I weakly Wrangle away my precious moments?

7. *Western U. S.* To take charge of (horses); to herd.

1903 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* xiii. 197 Forrest detailed Rod Wheat to wrangle the horses, for we intended to take Honeyman with us.

Wra·ngled, *ppl. a.*[1] ? *Obs.* [Cf. RANGLE *v.*] Wreathed; twisted; injured by twisting.

a 1560 PHAER *Æneid* VIII. (1562) Bb iij, Both noise and feare thei mingled through their work, and wrangled wrathes of following flame. 1807 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XI. 17 The stump..was harder than his head; and his arm was a little wrangled, as we may say, by pitching on it.

Wrangled (ræ·ŋg'l'd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. WRANGLE *v.* + -ED [1].] Disputed, contested.

1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* II. ix, The children returning ..to ask loudly for arbitration on some wrangled point.

Wrangler (ræ·ŋglə1). [f. as prec. + -ER [1].]

1. One who wrangles or quarrels; an angry or noisy disputer or arguer.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 4 Here is gylys Fogeler of ayebery,..With wallys the wrangler. *c* 1520 *Dial. Creatures Mor.* v. B ij b, Many one..ageynst Lawe and Reason somtyme wyll stryue and..be full of questyons, wherfore they be takyn for wrangelers and euyll people. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 Lucilla..will either shut mee out for a Wrangler, or cast mee off for a Wiredrawer. 1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 68 Giles James, a swaggerer and wrangler, much discommended. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 159 Convinced gainesayers and wranglers they are, in stead of convincers. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xiii. § 20 Rather like well-bred gentlemen in polite conversation, than like noisy and contentious wranglers. 1790 COWPER *Iliad* I. 360 But this wrangler here—Nought will suffice him but the highest place. 1809 IRVING *Knickerb.* IV. i, His name [illegible] of Bohemia.

fig. and *transf.* 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 129 Where so the wofull Louer is, euen there also is he [*sc.* Cupid], In bedde the wrangler will not misse his pillowbeare to be. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 75 The Seas and Windes (old Wranglers) tooke a Truce. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Family* ii, What doth this noise of thoughts within my heart?..L— Turn out these wranglers, which defile thy seat.

Prov. 1616 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 244 A wrangler neuer wanteth words. 1672 T. HUNT *Abeced. Scholast.* 28 Many Lawyers, many Wranglers.

b. One who engages in argument, debate, or controversy; a debater, disputant, or controversialist.

1561 T. N[ORTON] *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xviii. 245 b, Nowe least any wrangler shoulde stirre vs vp strife by reason of the names of sacrifice and sacrificing preist. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 90, I set downe the proportions..to content wranglers, who..will..take occasion to..detract from that which they cannot disprooue. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 42 Teaching them the subtilities of Logic, which as it is usually practised, enables them for little more than to be excellent wranglers. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. viii. § 12 These general Maxims..are of great Use in Disputes, to stop the Mouths of Wranglers. 1742 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. II. Append. 23 There is indeed a Time when a serious Writer would not trouble himself to confute or set a Wrangler right. 1774 REID *Aristotle's Logic* vi. § 2 (1788) 127 A man who has studied logic all his life may be, after all, only a petulant wrangler. 1842 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* iv. 79 The argumentative resources of the modern..wrangler [*earlier edd.* stoic]. 1881 PAXTON HOOD *Christmas Evans* 162 He was not a wrangler, not disposed to maintain debates as to his rights.

c. The name for each of the candidates who have been placed in the first class in the mathematical tripos at Cambridge University. See TRIPOS 2, and cf. SENIOR *a.* 3.

1750 *Friendly Adv. Old Tory to Vice-C. Cambr.* (1751) 26 The Wranglers..have usually expected, that all the young Ladies of their Acquaintance..should wish them Joy of their Honours. 1791 in C. Wordsworth *Schol. Acad.* (1877) 323, I did above three times as much as the Senior Wrangler last year. 1822 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 571/2 These two drivellers are represented as having been fellow-wranglers at College! 1831- [see SENIOR *a.* 3]. 1849 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xli, He took up his books once more, and came forth third wrangler. 1874 C. WORDSWORTH *Soc. Life Eng. Univ.* 232 The set for Com. Priora, Feb. 9, 1748-9..being the earliest which bears on its back a list of the Wranglers and Senior Optimes.

fig. *c* 1820 BYRON *Diary* Wks. (1846) 630/2 Lady B. would have made an excellent wrangler at Cambridge.

2. *Western U. S.* One who is in charge of a string of horses or ponies on a stock-farm; a herder.

1888 ROOSEVELT in *Cent. Mag.* April 851/2 There are two herders, always known as 'horse-wranglers'—one for the day and one for the night. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV.

403/2 One of them would…overpower the 'wrangler' in the darkness, and turn the horses loose.

Wra·nglership. [f. prec. 1 c + -SHIP.] The position or rank of a wrangler of Cambridge University.

1792 in Wordsworth *Schol. Acad.* (1877) 323 I'm perfectly satisfied that the Senior Wranglership is Peacock's due. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXX. 397 Obtaining the senior moderatorship [in Dublin university] (analogous to the wranglership of the English universities). 1882 *Standard* 30 Jan. 3 To witness the last conferment of degrees under the old system of Wranglership. 1883 Miss M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* XXX, Those young ladies as yet outside the intellectual region of Wranglerships and the Classical Tripos.

attrib. 1872 *Daily News* 25 Mar., Men break down under a wranglership competition.

Wranglesome (ræ·ŋg'lsəm), *a. colloq.* or *dial.* [f. WRANGLE *sb.* + -SOME.] Given to wrangling; quarrelsome; contentious, peevish.

1827 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* App. 215/1 Why do you flurry yourself so much: the child is only a little wranglesome and cross. 1847 HALLIWELL. 1869– in dialect use (Yks., Lanc., and Chesh.).

Wra·ngling, *vbl. sb.* [f. WRANGLE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb; noisy quarrelling.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 34 There as wratthe and wrang- … a strife, a debate or wrangling. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 137 Mars…causes discord and wrangling. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* IV. 137 The king of brutes…wad.. rage Wi' bootless wrangling in his cage. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xii, Though wild debate And wrangling rend our infant state. 1882 SIR C. DILKE in Gwynn *Life* (1917) I. 426 Much unseemly wrangling would be prevented for many years.

fig. 1609 ARMIN *Maids of More-cl.* C 2 b, 'Twill become ye, well, when wrangling wrestles with such violent iniurie.

b. Controversial argument or debate; contentious disputation.

1618 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 219 There falleth out amongst them oft-times…much wrangling about the questions. 1641 MILTON *Reformation* 25 What wrangling the Bishops and Monks had about the reading, or not reading of Origen. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. ii. (1692) 71 Philosophy…became little else than an Art of Rangling upon a multitude of Idle Questions. 1720 S. PAYNE *Bp. R. Cumberland's Sanchon.* p. XXVII, His Averseness to any thing like Wrangling made him…leave his Book to shift for it self. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 334 All that wrangling and witticism wherewith the prophecies…have been pelted by freethinkers. 1827 WHATELEY *Logic* 26 A system of such rules…must, instead of deserving to be called the art of wrangling, be [etc.]. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* XXV. 436 A refuge from platform oratory and senatorial wrangling.

attrib. *c* 1700 POMFRET *Strephon's Love* 10 Those dull, pedantic rules, They had collected from the wrangling schools. 1708 ROWE *Royal Convert* I. i, Unpractis'd in Disputes, and wrangling Schools.

2. A wrangle; a noisy quarrel.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 472 They that can-not suffer the wranglynge of young marryed women. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Vocation* 1152 He heard amid the street A wrangling, jangling, and a murmur rude. 1668 GLANVILL *Plus Ultra* Pref., Consider me as a Person that contemns … bridge, and the disputations at Oxford, are apt to give young men a controversial turn, which [etc.]. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* II. i, Truce with these wranglings, and but hear me! 1870 TALMAGE *Fr. Manger to Throne* 562 Unseemly wranglings concerning who should be greatest in the kingdom of Christ.

Wra·ngling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That wrangles, quarrels, or disputes; engaged or embroiled in, given or addicted to, noisy altercation or dispute; contentious.

1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 261 Hys atorney ys a wranglyng felow, he wold non odyr mony but nemiyng grotes. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* II. 40 Thow manytycore, ye marmoset,…Wranglynge, waywyrde, wytles, wraw, and nothyng meke. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* V. 100 Mars is a wrangling craking wretche. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. XXXIV, The third Hæreticus, a wrangling carle. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. XXXI. (1674) 36 It might serve…for a Lesson to wrangling Courtiers. 1728 POPE *Let. to Caryll* 28 Jan., The unrighteous labours of wrangling statesmen, and the quarrelsome ones of uncharitable divines. 1739 DILWORTH *Pope* 39 After the death of poor wrangling Dennis. 1820 WORDSW. 'Dogmatic Teachers' 2 Ye wrangling Schoolmen, of the scarlet hood! 1828 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl., For wrangling curs will fight over a banquet as fiercely as over a bare bone. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. V. 112 The wrangling nobles of Philistia.

transf. and *fig.* 1587 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Dd IV, A wrangling tongue is the best language thou hast. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Whs.* (1753) I. 25 Thy happy stroke can into softness bring Reason, that rough and wrangling thing. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist., Revolution* XIII, And he, the bright day's husband,…Beheld a wrangling heart, as 'twere her soul On eddies of wild waters cast. 1899 SWINBURNE *Rosamund* I. 18 Let no wrangling breath distune the peace That shines…about us.

b. Noisy; clamorous; also *transf.*, jangling.

1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knt.* III. E 3 b, When the sad nurse to still the wrangling babe, Shall sing the carefull story of my death. 1848 LONGF. *Belfry of Bruges, Carillon* II, When the wrangling bells had ended. 1858 MRS. GOSS *Life's Lessons* II. 227 Her remote Dale, with its wrangling beck. 1892 *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 214/1 So has it fared with the marshlands…with their wrangling sea-fowl.

2. Of the nature of wrangling; contentious, noisy, clamorous.

1551 GARDINER *Explic. Christ's Presence* 43 Whereof this auctor may not thinke nowe as vpon a wranglyng argument, to satisfie a conjecture diuised. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. vi. § 6 To finde him busie in wrangling altercation. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 57 Because hee may not as a Judge sit out the wrangling noyse of litigious Courts. 1653 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* XIX, This wrangling piece of Learning. 1728 HORROCH in Keble *Life Bp. Wilson* (1863) 307 The wrangling, jangling disputes about the Divinity of our Saviour. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* (1811) 216 Some wrangling dispute or other that shall sour the whole company.

3. Marked or characterized by noisy or contentious disputation or altercation.

1576 WHETSTONE *Rock of Regard* I. 97 A wrangling hate, where once was passing loue. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. iv. 55 Accursed, and vnquiet wrangling dayes. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 251 Our wrangling humour and desire to be cavilling about questions disputable. 1628 MAY *Virg. Georg.* II. 61 He sees no wrangling courts, no lawes undone By sword. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Destinie* III, Thou neither great at Court,…Nor at th' Exchange shalt be, nor at the wrangling Bar. 1725 POPE *Iliad* II. 307 Peace, factious monster, born to vex the state, With wrangling talents form'd for foul debate. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* XXXIV. 262 It is hard to behold the worshipped men of our wrangling days become degraded under modern light. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 111 At call of Polyneices, stirred By bitter heat of wrangling claims, Against our land they gathered.

Hence **Wra·nglingly** *adv.*

1611 COTGR., *Tempestativement*, .. contentiously, seditiously, wranglingly. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* IV. 65 We should .. discourse of it not .. Wranglingly and Contentiously,..but Cordially and Spiritually.

†Wrang-nail. *Obs. rare.* [var. of ME. *angnail* (OE. *angnægel*), perh. by confusion with *warnail* (OE. *wærnægel*) WARNEL.] A corn on the foot or hand; = AGNAIL 1.

?*c* 1530 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 64 For to Dystroy a Wrang Nayle, othe[r]wyse callyd a Corne. 1596 WITHALS *Dict.* K j, An agnayle or wrangnayle [1586 wragnayle], *clauus*.

Wrang-nail, -rope: see WRONG *sb.*1

Wrangous(lie, -uis(lie, -us(lie, etc., obs. vars. WRONGOUS(LY.

Wrangwis(e, -ly, -ness, obs. ff. WRONGOUS, -LY, -NESS.

Wrankle, obs. erron. f. RANKLE *v.*

†Wranlons. *Obs. rare*−1. [Of obscure origin. Cf. WRAGLAND 1.] *pl.* Unthriving trees that will never become timber.

1432–3 MARTIN in *Year-Book* 11 *Hen. VI* (1567) 2 b, Querkes qe sont appelles wranlons quel ne voet estre meresme, mes est suable bois, il nest aiuge wast. [Hence in Kitchin *Crt. Leet* (1580) *wranglans*, in translation (1651) *wrang-lands*, whence in Blount (1656), Skinner (1671), Coles (1677), etc.; also Bailey (1721) *wranglings*.]

Wrap (ræp), *sb.* Also 5 **wrappe.** [f. the vb. Not usual before the 19th cent.]

1. a. A wrapper or covering. Also *fig.*

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 218 Thow must square & proporcioun þy bred…and so shaltow make þy wrappe [*v.r.* wrapper] for þy master manerly. 1589 HAKLUYT *Voy.* 216 In Goa they vse not to abate any tare of any goods, except of sacks or wraps. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 100 That want of power to penetrate through wraps and appearances to the essence of things.

b. A cover, blanket, rug, or the like for laying over or drawing about the person when travelling, reposing, etc. (Cf. 2 b.)

1861 *Daily Chron.* 12 Sept., We have heard…Livingstone, the African explorer, and many other travellers, say that at night no wrap could equal the beard. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 54, I had…two large carpet-bags, a bundle of heavy wraps, and an umbrella, to transport with me. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 25 A few wraps in case of a night bivouac.

2. A loose garment or article of feminine dress used or designed to envelop or fold about the person; a shawl, scarf, or the like.

1827 *Lady's Mag.* June 342/2 The Circassian wrap is much worn for half-dress;..it well sets off the fine bust of a well-made female. 1840 *Ladies' Cabinet* Mar. 202 This is not however the case with the cloaks or shawls adopted as wraps for evening parties. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* X, Arthur..had the delight of putting Zadwidga's wrap around her shoulders. 1894 MRS. DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 222 Her face…was close to his shoulder; a light wrap of lace framed it.

attrib. 1887 *Manch. Exhib. Catal.* 64 Warm Wrap Shawls.

b. An additional outer garment used or intended to be worn as a defence against wind or weather when driving, travelling, etc. Usu. *pl.* (Cf. 1 b.)

a 1817 JANE AUSTEN *Watsons* (1879) 353 Tom Musgrave in the wrap of a traveller. 1845 A. MANNING *O, Chelsea Bun-h.* XIV. 229, I was taking off my wraps, and making ready to go up stairs. 1861 J. H. BENNET *Winter Medit.* (1875) I. 2, 303 A bitter cold north-west wind..had been blowing, which obliged us to use all our wraps. 1898 J. B. WOLLCOMBE *Morn till Eve* I. 2 After unrolling and unbuttoning his outer wraps, the doctor..ascended the stairs.

3. a. *spec.* A single convolution, twist, or winding of a thread in fastening an object.

1879 OGDEN in J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* (1886) 172 Secure it with one wrap and two hitches before taking the tweezers off, cut off silk [etc.].

b. *techn.* (See quots.)

1888 C. P. BROWN *Cotton Manuf.* 28 A complete revolution of the latter [worm-wheel] means 3564 yards—technically called a wrap. *Ibid.*, If a warp contains 4 wraps and 7 teeth, it is 14,445 yards long.

Wrap, obs. erron. f. RAP *sb.*1

Wrap (ræp), *v.* Also 4–7 **wrappe** (6 *arch.* **wrappen**), 6 **warppe,** 6, 9 *dial.* **warp,** 7–8 **rap,** 9 *dial.* **wrop.** [Of obscure origin. Cf. the earlier BEWRAP *v.* (also BELAP *v.*, LAP *v.*2 with the variant WLAPPE, and WAP *v.*2), and NFris. *wrappe* to press into, stop up, Da. dial. *wrappe* to stuff.

The dialect var. *wrop* had formerly greater currency. 'This word is often pronounced *rop*, rhyming with *top*, even by speakers much above the vulgar' (Walker, 1791). 'The same pronunciation is not uncommon in some parts of the United States' (Worcester, 1878).]

I. 1. To cover, enwrap, or swathe (a person or part of the body) by enfolding in a cloth or the like; in later use esp., to envelop or enshroud with a garment; to attire, garb, clothe in an enfolding garment. Occas. *refl.* Also with advs., as *about, around, round.*

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 975 Sone, y was wunt þe swetly to wrappe, Now swaþe y þe dede. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3904 Hys chaumberlayn hym wrappyd warm. He lay and slepte. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. XX. 64 When thou bytoke hym me to clothe and wrappe. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 245 The vyrgyn wrappynge and gatherynge togyther the handes and fete of her lytel sonne..in a bande. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Gen.* XXXVIII. 14 She..coured hir with a vaile, and wrapped her selfe. — *Isaiah* XXVIII. 20 For the bed is streict.., and the couering narowe that one can not wrap him self. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* i, The Heav'n-born-childe, All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 477 Some term Beasts thus wrapped about the Body [*ante* 'with a Towel'] charged with a pale. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III. 495 Helen..in her lucid veil close wrapt around, Silent retired. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* VI. XXVI, A shape with amice wrapp'd around. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. ii, All three were wrapped to the cheek-bones and over the ears. 1909 J. L. ALLEN *Bride of Mistletoe* VI. 159 Coarsely wrapped and carrying some bundle.., [she] opened her front door.

b. Const. *in* (†*on*) or *with.* Also *refl.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 745 He gript his mantel; as a weiþ woful he wrapped him þer-inne. *Ibid.* 2609 Þei..wist wel þat þei went wrapped in þe skinnes. *c* 1375 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 255/10 Iesu, swete, beo noth wroþ þou ich nabbe clout ne cloþ..þe on to folde ne to wrappe. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* XXXVII. 1 King Ezechie..kutte his clothis, and wrappid is with a sac. *c* 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* VI. (1908) 47 Sche..wrapped hym in the keuerchiefes of hir heued. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. 6/69 Pouert eek liggith the colde wyntris nyht Wrappid in strauh, withoute compleynynge. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XXVII. 59 Joseph toke the body, and wrapped it in a clene lynnyne clooth. 1547 *Bk. Marchaundes* C V b, Thus coyffed and wrapped with their read hattes of this..capper, they go fro town to town. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 52 Weake wretch I wrapt my selfe in Palmers weed. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 171 Married women ..wrap their heads and mouthes with a narrow long piece of linnen. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Charac., Corrupt Judge* (1908) 68 He wraps himself warm in Furs. 1758 J. SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 186 With his Legs wrapt close in a Pair of good Hay-Boots. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 675 Some noble lord Shall..wrap himself in Hamlet's inky cloak. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* XXII, Sir Kenneth..then wrapped him in the haik, or Arab cloak. 1832 — *Ct. Rob.* XXVIII, Let me wrap my head round with my mantle..to dispel this dizziness, 1872 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* III. 247 We had to wrap our invalid in quite a heap of rugs and shawls.

transf. and *fig.* 1382 WYCLIF *Job* XXXVIII. 9 Whan I sholde setten the cloude his clothing, and with dercnesse it..I wrappide aboute. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol., He wrappeth him in his frend, þat condescendith to the riht-ful preiers of his frend. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1036 So lewdly in my termes I me wrappe. *c* 1550 in *Gamm. Gurton* II, I am so wrapt, and throwly lapt Of loly good ale. 1575 VAUTROLLIER *Luther on Ep. Cal.* 136 As he [*sc.* Christ] is wrapped in our flesh and in our bloud. *c* 1640 WALLER *Apol. Sleep* 28 Where Phœbus never shrouds His golden beams, nor wraps his face in clouds. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* 359 Faith wraps it self in the righteousness of Christ. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VIII. 953 Sad Nilus..spreads his Mantle o're the winding Coast; In which he wraps his Queen. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xli. 313, I was resolved, if I were applied to, to wrap myself close about in a general denial. 1759 MASON *Caractacus* 75 Silent, as night, that wrapt us in her veil, We pac'd up yonder hill. 1892 TENNYSON *In Mem.* V. iii, In words, like weeds, I'll wrap me o'er. 1866 *Reader* 2 June 533 Francis II, wrapping the imperial phantom on its fall as decently as he could. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 143 She had to wrap her shivering spirit in a blind reliance..on him.

c. Freq. with *up*; esp. in later use *passive*, = attired in warmer or protective clothing. Also *refl.*

c 1648 HOWELL *Lett.* II. lxix. (1892) 495 If you continue to wrap up our young acquaintance..in such warm choice swadlings, it will quickly grow up to maturity. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* II. XVIII, Now serves our guiltiness as winding sheet, To wrap up lepers; cover meet. 1664 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 20 In the night time they are forc'd to wrap themselves up in certain linnen cloaths. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 196, I know a gentleman..[whose] servant wraps him up in a sheet dipped in cold water. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 148 The former thinks the cold so severe, that he wraps himself up in all the garments he can procure. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lvii, Are you well wrapped up?..It's a desperate sharp night for a young lady to be out in. 1886 KINGSTON *Three Midshipmen* X, Their blankets..quickly dried, and the poor fellows were then wrapped up in them again. 1889 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* V, He had to be wrapped up against the cold and further fortified by a cup of black coffee.

d. *absol.* for *refl.*

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XI, She never wrapped up enough. If a man don't wrap up..he has nothing to fall back upon.

1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 52 The governess ..won't wrap up..: nothing but a frost-bite will make her careful. 1885 MRS. ALEXANDER *Valerie's Fate* ii, I advise you to take that delightful shawl of yours to wrap up in on your return.

2. To cover or envelop (an object) by winding or folding something round or about it; to surround *with* or enwrap *in* a covering, wrapper, or the like, esp. so as to protect from injury, damage, loss, etc. Also *transf.* (Cf. LAP *v.*[2] 3.)

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xxi. 9 The swerd..is wrappid with a pal after the preestis coope. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 628 Canacee..softely in plastres gan hire [*sc.* an injured falcon] wrappe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* x. iv. (Bodl. MS.), Brijte bemes of stronge fuyre schyneþ but þei beþ wrapped. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* 121 b, Hercules..brak the bondes in whiche he was wrapped and swaded in. 1484 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 149, iij Angelettes wrappyd yn paper. 1508 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 269 Yf ye wyll wrappe your soueraynes brede stately. *c* 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* K j, Dyp wool in the decoction .., and let thy syde be wrapped often therewyth. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 110/2 The cod, or coate wherewith any kind of pulse is wrapped or couered. 1600 *2nd Pt. Return Parnass.* I. iii. 352 He..furnishes the Chaundlers with wast papers to wrap candles in. 1647 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kings Welcome to Hampton Court* 3 Thou hast not wrap'd thy Talent in a Clout. 1676 COTTON *Angler* II. vii. 57 A great Hackle, the body black, and wrapped with a red feather. 1762 COWPER *To Miss Macartney* 33 Some Alpine mountain, wrapt in snow, Thus braves the whirling blast. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. I, Subtle poniards, wrapt beneath the cloke. *c* 1890 BP. SELWYN in F. D. How *Life* (1899) 160 We can't be kept in bandboxes and wrapped in cotton wool all our lives. 1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 49 Wrap the tube in a piece of clean white paper.

fig. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 122 For all his witte in his wede ys wrappid ffor sothe. 1545 BALE *Myst. Iniq.* 67 For that shall they be wrapped in the cheanes of longe darkenesse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 87 Because thys second sorte is wrapped within the folde of the proposed subiect.

refl. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* v. 1 Stond fast therfore ., and wrappe nott youre selves agayne in the yoke of bondage.

b. Freq. with advs., as *about*, *down*, *round*, *together*, and esp. *up*.

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xiv. 19 Thou forsothe art cast aferr fro thi sepulcre ..; and aboute wrappid with hem that ben slayn with sweord. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. i. (1878) II. 21 When the Bore is .cut out, ech peece is wrapped vp.. with bulrushes, osier peeles, packethreed,. or such like. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 27 The old man..sends the weapons wrapt about with lines, That wound..to the quick. 1600 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* II. (1906) 13 When he has quite don with his plates..see that he..cleanse them very perfectly, wrapping them up in papers. 1676 COTTON *Angler* II. viii. 78 A white Hackle, the body of white Mo-hair, and wrapped about with a white Hackle Feather. 1726 SWIFT *Adv. Grub-st. Writers* 8 Your still-born Poems shall revive, And scorn to wrap up Spice. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 35 When you use them, wrap them up in tow. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiii. 566 Waxed paper is very useful..for wrapping up deliquescent or changeable substances. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac* xxix. (1862) 418 Every limb was wrapped round with these stripes by itself.

ellipt. 1879 OGDEN in J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* (1886) 170 Take a length of gut,..test it,..lay it underneath the hook, and wrap down with the waxed silk close and even.

†c. *Prov.* (See quot., and cf. LAP *v.*[2] 3 d.) *Obs.*—[o]

1677 MIÈGE *Fr. Dict.* II, Wrapped up in his mothers smock, *aimé des femmes*.

3. To envelop or enclose *in* a surrounding medium, as flames, water, etc. Freq. in *passive*. (Cf. 6 d.) Also *refl.*

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xiv. 27 The Egipciens fleynge,..the Lord wrapte hem with ynne in the myddel floodes. — *Judith* xiv 4 The dukis of hem..finden hym heded, in his blod wrappid. *c* 1510 *Gesta Rom.* (W. de Worde) A v, In his blode the bone was wrapped. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 55 Sad shadowes gan the world to hyde From mortall vew, and wrap in darkenesse dreare. *c* 1699 *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 326 A Man .Whose Father is wrapped in mould. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 158 Of these the vigilance I dread, and to elude, thus wrapt in mist Of midnight vapor glide obscure. 1715 POPE *Iliad* IV. 54 Fulfil thy stern desire, Burst all her gates, and wrap her walls in fire! 1761 GRAY *Odin* 93 Till wrap'd in flames, in ruin hurl'd, Sinks the fabric of the world. 1785 COWPER *Task* IV. 124 Oh Winter,..Thy forehead wrapt in clouds, A leafless branch thy sceptre. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* I, The baron who wrapped the castle of his competitor in flames. 1908 G. CORMACK *Egypt in Asia* II. 18 The loftier summits are wrapped in clouds.

fig. and in fig. context. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxvii. 19 Wee forsothe ben wrappid in derchenesis. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 18 The fylthy voluptuousnes of the body, wherin the synner walteth and wrappeth hymselfe lyke as a sowe waloweth..in the puddell. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. ii 118 (Q. 2), Why doe we wrap the gentleman in our more rawer breath? 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 176 Wrapping sin in clouds won't alter its character, my girl.

ellipt. 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* v. 27 And he was wrappid bifore the feet of hir.

†b. To involve, environ, or entangle (a person, etc.) in something that impedes movement or restricts liberty; to catch in this way. Chiefly in *passive*. Also with *in*. *Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1686 Be war of þencombraunce Of þe feend, which..him castiþ þe wrappe in & wrye. 1560 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Foure Serm. Songe Enoch.* (1574) D vij, When we shall mourne so that we should be so wrapped in and tangled. 1582 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 1210 How surely are the wareles wrapt by those that lye in wayte? 1569 BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 168 The Hart..being entred into a thick wood, his horns were wrapped faste in the boughes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 158/1 Absalom ..beeing wrapped by the haire to a tree.

Ag. 1591 GREENE *2nd Pt. Conny Catching* (1592) B 4 These moathes of the Common-wealth, apply their wits to wrappe in wealthy farmers with strange and vncouth conceits. 1594 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 636 O how are they wrapt in with infamies, That from their own misdeeds askaunce their eyes?

c. To clasp, embrace. Also in fig. context. (Cf. LAP *v.*[2] 3 c.)

1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* IV. ii. 58 What dost thou wrap and fumble in thine armes? *a* 1600 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* II. vii, To perswade our great Grandmother the earth to wrap his cold body in her warme bosome. 1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 192 Others you'll see..Wrapt in th'embraces of a kersey coat. 1797 COLERIDGE *Melancholy* 3 Her folded arms wrapping her tatter'd pall.

4. To envelop, entangle, or implicate (a person, etc.) *in* (†*into*), to surround, encompass, or beset *with*, some (esp. prejudicial) condition of things, as sin, trouble, sorrow, etc. (Cf. ENWRAP *v.* 2 c.) Also occas. with *up*.

Freq. in *passive*, not always distinguishable from 6.

1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 81 We be..wrappid with many myscheuys. *a* 1400 *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 234 Mannes soule was wrapped in wo. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 959 My goost is wrapped in an heuy drede. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. v. 68 A synner þou art & encombred and wrapped in many passions. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. vii. 16 Suche as than bare moost rule in the towne, were so wrapped with treason, y^t [etc.]. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xi. 32 God hath wrapped all nacions in vnbeleve. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 37 b, The deuill is disposed to wrap vs in sondry calamities at one time. 1624 CARLETON *Thankf. Remembr.* ix. 95 They..stirred vp new troubles..by wrapping them in new garboiles against the King. *c* 1659 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 326 It is a Man wrapped in woe. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 40, I see him brood, Wrapt in his mental solitude. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 147 So the stately Queen abode.., Wrapt in her grief. 1899 G. WYNDHAM in *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Dec. 3/3 We were living from day to day wrapped in anxiety.

refl. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 586 Alle this manere of folk..wrappen hem in hir synnes. *c* 1430 in *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 217 þou wrappist þee wiþ vanytees. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 49 He brought him selfe into a streyghter custody..and wrapped him selfe into tortures and punyshmentes. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Induco*, To wrappe or intangle him selfe in captious questions. 1675 DRYDEN *Aureng.* I. (1676) 13 Though in one Fate I wrap my self and you.

transf. *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 428 Unhappy Deity! Why lov'st thou still in these deceits to wrap my fantasy?

b. To involve, enfold, or enwrap (a person, etc.) *in* some soothing or tranquillizing state or influence. Freq. in *passive*, = sunk *in* slumber, rest, etc. Also with *up*.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 291 Ho so þus leued his lyff to the ende, Euere wrappid in welle,..Myȝte scie [etc.]. 1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 10 When I am wrappyd in wele. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 41 Carelesse Quiet lyes, Wrapt in eternall silence farre from enemyes. 1598 *Mucedorus* IV. I. 42 Musicke speake loudly now, the season's apt, For former dolours are in pleasure wrapt. 1727 POPE *Eloisa* 302 Enter, each mild, each amicable guest; Receive, and wrap me in eternal rest! 1730 THOMSON *Autumn* 1202 He..hears, At distance safe, the human tempest roar, Wrapt close in conscious peace. 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 25 His senses gradually wrapt In a half sleep, he dreams of better worlds. 1842 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ix, The house is wrapped in slumbers. 1857 HOLLAND *Bay Path* XXX. 371 Wrapped in ineffable repose, lay her child. 1872 *Punch* 2 March 95/2 They were soon wrapped in sound and healthy slumbers.

fig. 1791 COLERIDGE *Happiness* 79 Where far from splendour, far from riot, In silence wrapt sleeps careless Quiet.

5. To involve or enfold (a subject or matter) so as to obscure or disguise the true or full nature of it; to conceal or hide by enveloping *in* a mass of different character. Cf. 3.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* XXXVIII. 2 Who is this, wrappende in sentencis with woordis vnwise? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 507 Al were he ful of treson and falsenesse It was so wrapped vnder humble cheere And vnder hewe of trouthe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1426 A word þat is wrappid, and in wrath holdyn. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Implicata res controuersiis*, a mattier wrapped and incombred with many controuersies. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. iv, He dispatched privat letters to al those principall Lords.., wrapping their hopes with such cunning, as they rather [etc.]. *a* 1639 T. CAREW *Ingrateful Beauty Threatened* iii, Wise poets, that wrapt Truth in tales. 1712–4 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 104 Some dire disaster ..; But what, or where, the fates have wrapt in night. 1739 MASON *Caractacus* 41 Heard'st thou the awful invocation, Youth, Wrapt in those holy harpings? *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1772) I. v. 85 The religion of the Egyptians .. was all mystery, wrapt in obscurity. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xviii, I have no objection that leeches should wrap their words in mist. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* Poems (1850) I. 284 Zeus requires Thy declaration.. Do not wrap thy speech..but speak clearly! 1865 R. W. DALE *Jews, Temp.* iii. (1877) 35 The image wrapped in the word..is a very impressive and instructive one. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xii. 253, I found the question wrapped in darkness.

b. Freq. with *up*. Also *transf.*

1382 BIBLE (Genev.) *Micah* vii. 3 Therefore the great man he speaketh out the corruption of his soule: so they wrap it vp. 1601 DANIEL *To Egerton* vi, If it be wisedome..Which so imbroyles the state of truth with brawles, And wrappes it vp in strange confusednesse. 1619 VINCT. DONCASTER *Let.* in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 119 Sum more bitternes then her Highnes had wrapped up in sweet termes. 1669 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* 125 Here is no wrapping up Religion in strange figures and mysterious non-sense, which the Ægyptians were so much given to. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 271 P 4 If it had been proper for them [*sc.* ladies] to hear,..the Author would not have wrapp'd it up in Greek. 1779 *Mirror* No. 20, It was some error in education which had wrapt up Cleone's character in so much obscurity. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 228 Their best..plan for seizing on the savings of other men's industry in the funds, is only spoliation wrapped up. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 14 Without troubling to wrap up his resolve in smooth-sounding words.

6. Of qualities, etc.: To invest, environ, or beset (a person, etc.); to encompass *in* some condition. Also with *up*. (Cf. 4.)

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xviii. 12 Al aboute feris shul gasten hym, and withinne wrappen his feet. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Cor.* 28 Albeit matrimonie be a holy thyng, yet it wrappeth a man..in worldlye care. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 358 b, The self same cause..wyl shortly after wrap vp them also in great distresse. 1592 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 602 Ay me..whom euill hap Vnworthy in such wretchednes doth wrap. 1608 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. iii. 54 (Q. 1) Some deere cause Will in concealement wrap me vp awhile. 1630 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 388 Humane Justice..wraps up the innocent and the guilty in the same punishment. 1668 SIR R. HOWARD & DRYDEN *Ind. Queen* II. i, Guilty rage, Which..wrapt all things in one cruel fate. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Yow.* 122 Thy power, thy fulness of blessing, wrap my soul up in astonishment and devout silence. 1737 POPE *Hor., Ep.* II. i. 401 O'er the land and deep, Peace stole her wing, and wrapt the world in sleep. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 146 They disentangle from the puzzled skein, In which obscurity has wrapp'd them up, The threads of.. shrewd design. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. XXX, Oblivion wrapped Our spirits.

transf. *a* 1542 WYAT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 73 Some pleasant bower thy wo may wrappe, and thee defend, and couer.

b. Of mould, etc.: To contain, cover (the dead).

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. v, By the fresh turned up mould that wraps my sonne. 1745 COLLINS *Ode on Death of Col. Ross* vii, Every sod, which wraps the dead. 1792 BURNS *Highland Mary* iii, Cauld's the clay, That wraps my Highland Mary! 1794 — *Sonn. Death R. Riddel* ii, The sod that wraps my friend.

c. To form a wrap or covering for (a person or thing); to cover, clothe. Also with *round*.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* X. 129 About him a mandilion,.. A garment that 'gainst cold in nights, did soldiers use to wrap. 1732 POPE *Ep. to Cobham* 249 Let a charming Chintz, and Brussels lace Wrap my cold limbs, and shade my lifeless face. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* II. XIX, A palmer's amice wrapp'd him round. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* 504/1 Wrappers..differ from them [*sc.* labels] in having larger margins, so that they can inclose or wrap up a bottle of patent medicine, a bar of soap, etc.

fig. 1842 TENNYSON *Vis. Sin* IV. v, Wine is good for shrivell'd lips, When a blanket wraps the day.

d. Of flames, etc.: To spread or extend around, about, or over (something); to surround, encompass. (Cf. 3.) Also with advs., as *round*, *up*.

1696 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 534 [A] sudden cloud..all his fame benights, and all his store, Wrapping him round, and now he's seen no more. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* II. 13 Night had wrap'd in Shades the Mountain Heads. 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 385 Flames sudden wrap the walls. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 357 Our own muddy atmosphere, that wraps us round in obscurity. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* III. xxiv, Not faster..speeds the midnight blaze,..Wrapping thy cliffs in purple glow. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xviii. 133 A thick fog ..wrapped the mountain quite closely. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 337 The snow had wrapped all the city in a white clinging mystery.

fig. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XV, How beautiful was the tranquillity that wrapped the scene. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 4 The speaking quietude That wraps this moveless scene.

e. To veil or conceal *from* a person, etc.

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* Ded. xiv, While clouds are passing by Which wrap them [*sc.* stars] from the foundering seaman's sight. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 105 A cloud..That wrapt the Goddess from him.

II. 7. To wind or fold up or together, as a pliant or flexible object; to roll or gather up in successive layers; = LAP *v.*[2] 2. Occas. with *up* or *together*. Also *transf.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2421 As bliue þe bere schimes from here bodi þei hent, & wiȝtly wrapped hem to-gadere. 14.. *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. ix. (B. M. Add. MS.) fol. 266 b/2 Alle kynde of serpentes and addres þat by kynde may wrappe and folde his owne body. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* ii. 8 Then toke Elias his cloke, and wrapped it together. 1555 WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* I. ii. B v, For eale thei, the begynner of thinges visible, wrapped vp bothe heauen and earth..togither in one paterne. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 18 The vgly monster.., wrapping vp her wrethed sterne arownd, Lept fierce vpon his shield. 1600 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) I. 416 Can there be miste or darkenes where you are, whose beames wrappes up cloudes as whirlewindes dust? 1608 *Great Frost* in Arber *Garner* I. 87 The western barges might now wrap up their smoky sails; for..their voyage was spoiled. 1633 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 304 Thunder is..an exhalation ..thickened and wraped into a cloud. 1662 R. VENABLES *Experienc'd Angler* V. 62 Bream loveth red worms, especially those that [lie]..wrapped up in a knot or round Clue.

fig. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. vii. (1868) 60 Deþ wrappeþ togidre þe beyes heuedes and þe lowe. 1382 WYCLIF *Lam.* I. 14 Wakide the yoc of my wickednesse in his hond, wrappid thei ben togidere, and leid on my necke. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 80 Wayte well my wordis, and wrappe hem togedir. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 27 In these fewe lines, I haue wrapped vp the most tedious part of Grammer. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 337 For end, he wished malicious..persons a better spirit..and so wrappeth vp all with commendations. 1628 DONNE *Serm.* (1661) III. 273 In all this, thou dost but wrap up a snow-ball upon a coal of fire. 1625 BACON *Ess., Cunning* (Arb.) 442 Some name in readinesse so many Tales and Stories, as there is Nothing, they would insinuate, but they can wrap it into a Tale.

refl. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Torqueo*, The snake serpent wrappeth himselfe in rounde rundels.

8. To fold, wind, or roll (a covering, garment, or the like) about a person, etc.; to arrange or dispose (a wrapping, etc.) so as to cover or envelop; = Lap *v.*[2] 1. Usu. with advs. or preps., esp. *about*, *around*, *round*.

Somewhat rare before *c* 1790.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7368 A large couerechief of threde She wrapped all aboute hir heede. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Intortus*, His garment wrapped rounde about his lefte arme. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 36 His garment.., The which his naked sides he wrapt aboute. 1636 Sir H. Blount *Voy.* 19 The Levantines used to wrap white linnen about their heads. 1773 Graves *Spiritual Quixote* xi. iv, Unto the old Incumbent at his gate.., His banyan, with silver clasp, wrapt round His shrinking paunch. 1796 Coleridge *'Away, those cloudy looks'* vi, There shiv'ring sad,.. Round his tir'd limbs to wrap the purple vest. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. i, The warder..wraps his shaggy mantle round. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vi. 45 Wrapping my plaid around me, I wandered up towards Charmoz. 1888 *Blackw. Mag.* March 309/1 Dick..wrapped the heavy coat around her and held her in his arms.

fig. and *transf.* *a* 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* iv. 83 Thou, who didst wrap the cloud Of infancy around us. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xxxvi, The God wraps a purple atmosphere Around his shoulders. 1865 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* x. 160 Among many..people, the body is regarded as a mere garment wrapped around the soul.

b. To twist or coil (a pliable or flexible substance, etc.) *round*, *about*, or *on* something; to twine. Also *refl.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 127 Cutte the settes..the more halue a-sonder;..and wrappe and wynde theym together. 1535 Coverdale *Jonah* ii. 5 The depe laye aboute me, and the wedes were wrapte aboute myne heade. 1560 Bible *Job* viii. 17 The rotes thereof are wrapped about the fountaine. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 390 Woodbine hath many small branches, whereby it windeth and wrappeth itself about trees. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Turban*, About this [cap] is wrapped a long piece of fine thin linnen or cotton. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxxix. 310 Again she wrapped her arms about me. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 119 The Screw of Archimedes..is formed by wrapping a tube round a cylinder. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxviii, 'What did you wrap this round the book for?' said St. Clare, holding up the crape. 1854 R. Blakey *Angling* 60 A strong peg..on which..the line can be wrapped.

9. a. *intr.* (for *refl.*). To twine, encircle, or wreathe *round* or *about* something as or in the manner of a wrapper or cover; = Lap *v.*[2] 1 b. Also *transf.*

1608 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* D j b, The Vyne so loueth the Elme by nature that it wrappeth more kindely about it. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 223 A Flat Leather Thong, which wrapping close and tight about the Rowler..commands it the easier. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 35 (1713) I. 228 Well; and Conscience,..when you have once boil'd it tender in the Pipkin of Reformation, it will wrap about your Finger like a Glove. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 272/1 [With] the formation of the extreme end of the breakwater..it would be next to impossible for a sea to warp or wrap round it. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 55 Gneiss is often found wrapping round the central granitic axis of mountain chains.

b. Of a garment: To extend *over* the figure, etc., so as to cover it, or form a lap. (Cf. Lap *v.*[2] 8.)

1798 *Lady's Monthly Mus.* Nov. I. 397 The gown, wrapping over one side,..drawn up a little with white cord. 1827 *Lady's Mag.* Nov. 621/1 Mantles..well wadded, capacious, and wrapping well over the form, are much in request.

Wrap-, the verb stem in comb. with a sb. or adv., in sense of 'that which wraps or is wrapped about', as **wrap rcal** (see quot.), **wra'p-round**, a garment for wrapping round a person; **wrap tobacco** (also *ellipt.*), = Wrapper *sb.* 4. Also Wrap-rascal.

1877 Browning *Agamemnon* 120 A wrap-round [Gr. ἀμφίβλαστον] with no outlet..I fence about him—the rich woe of the garment. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Oct. 11/1 What is known as 'wrap' tobacco is the special kind which it is sought to cultivate. *Ibid.*, 'Wrap' fetches from 2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* [per lb.]. 1890 Nasmith *Mod. Cotton Spinning Machinery* xiv. 291 In order to ascertain the counts of yarn, a machine known as a 'wrap reel' is employed. This consists of a small fly or swift.

Wrap, erron. f. (freq. *c* 1600–1680) of Rap *v.*[3]

1582 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* iv. ii. 239 His noble limmes in such proportion cast As would have wrapt a sillie

is little enough for Wife and Children. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* xvi. 206 Whatsoeuer he could wrap or wring. 1642 Symmons *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* C, The command must needs come with much evidence when it wrappeth the will into such an height. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Vandal Wars* II. 55 Artabanes..[fell] into a deep musing,..seeming wrapt with the greatness of the action. 1679 C. Nesse *Antid. agst. Popery* 193 The Apostle..[was] wrap'd up to the third heaven. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 408 He wraps and wrings all he can. 1922 E. Phillpotts *Grey Room* iv. 106 He was wrapt from this life to the next.

Wrape, obs. erron. f. Rape *v.*[2] 4.

1589 Peele *Arraignm. Paris* II. ii, The least of these delights,..Able to wrape and dasle humaine eyes.

Wrappage (rɛ·pėdʒ). [f. Wrap *v.* + -age.]

I. 1. That which wraps, enfolds, or covers; a wrap or outer covering; a wrapper of a parcel, packet, or the like.

In freq. use, esp. *fig.*, from *c* 1860.

fig. 1827 Carlyle *Schr., Richter* (1840) I. 25 Every work, be it fiction or serious treatise, is embaled in some fantastic wrappage, some mad narrative accounting for its appearance. 1842 Sara Coleridge in Coleridge *Addl Rem.* (1843) II. 445 To consider the words of Scripture as mere wrappages for some more definite revelation out of Scripture. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iii, Not till..he had unwinded from him the wrappages of it [*ante* the conscious life ecclesiastical], could he become clear about himself. 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. iii. 68 All these things, dress, fortune, etc. are mere wrappages compared with the substantial ground of a man's character. 1881 A. C. Bradley in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 36 The words of the *Prometheus*, however insignificant their historical wrappage may have seemed to him.

lit. 1846–8 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. I. vi. ad fin., To-morrow this sheet..shall be the wrappage to a bar of soap. 1871 W. Collins *Marq. & Merchant* I. 238 No possible wrappages can keep that poison from operating. 1886 D. C. Murray *First Person Sing.* xxii, The knots were conquered, the paper wrappages removed.

b. Without article. Material used for covering or enveloping; wrapping material. Also *fig.*

a 1876 M. Collins *Th. in Garden* (1880) I. 187 Odd things are met with in the papers used by shopkeepers for wrappage. 1881 E. Dowden in *Academy* 12 Feb. 118 Nothing should be lost, except what is unvital, mere wrappage and encumbrance of history.

2. A loose garment for enveloping the person; a wrapper. Also in fig. context.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. i, The vestural Tissue..which Man's Soul wears as its outmost wrappage and overall. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iv, Figure under what thousand-fold wrappages and cloaks of darkness Royalty, meditating these things, must involve itself. 1863 D. Wilson in *Edin. New Phil. Jrnl.* XVIII. 79 The constant laying of the infant to rest on its side,..along with the fashion of cap, hat, or wrappage, may [etc.]. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* III. 446 Another wrappage, namely one thick veil That hid her, matron-wise, from head to foot.

3. Something wrapped up; a package, parcel.

1883 *Daily Tel.* 19 Nov. 5/3 This paper wrappage was taken on by train to Stalybridge.

II. 4. The action of wrapping. *rare*–°.

1846 Worcester (citing *Ec. Rev.*). [Hence in later Dicts.]

Wrappe, obs. var. (and pa. t.) of Warp *v.* 1.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7517 Alle naked hym-self he wrappe Among þe þornes þat were sharpe. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21932 Yiff I hadde wrappyd the, Nakyd, cast the vp and doun In thornys for thy savacioun. 15.. *Henryson's Paddock & Mouse* 171 (Harl. MS.), Now hie, now law,..Now on the quheill, now wrappit [*Bann. MS.* wappit] to the ground.

Wrapped (ræpt), *ppl. a.* and *pa. ppls.* Also 7– **wrapt**. [f. Wrap *v.* + -ed 1.]

I. 1. Concealed, covered, hidden.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* x. iv. (Bodl. MS.), Fuyre..beschyneþ alle þinges wiþ his..wrapped [L. *circumvelatus*] bristenes. 1601 Chester *Love's Mart.*, etc. (1878) 225 He be partener Of thy harts wrapped sorrow more hereafter.

2. With *up*: a. Involved, complicated; couched in complex, covert, or vague terms.

1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1853) II. 304, I have analyzed these declarations, because being somewhat wrapped up in their expressions, their full import might escape, on a transient reading. 1896 *Daily News* 13 Jan. 7/1 It is the way of the 'Temps' to speak in wrapped-up language, but throughout..the crisis its utterances have been even more than usually enigmatical. 1898 *Ibid.* 14 Nov. 5/2 The beauty of the Fashoda Blue Book was the absence..of wrapped up phrases.

b. Muffled *up* in, covered *up* with, a wrap or enveloping garment.

1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* ii, The shining figure of a wrapped-up man. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 1/3 The wrapped-up figure on a pedestal.

c. Marked or characterized by absorbed attention. (Cf. 5.)

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Nov. 4/1 His incapacity to hear.. gives him a more wrapped up air than the brother. 1893 *Daily News* 27 June 6/3 Faces wore a 'wrapped up' expression, and voices were hard and tuneless.

3. Drawn together, fashioned, made, or constructed by wrapping or twining.

1820 Keats *Cap and Bells* xxv, With hasty steps, wrapp'd cloak, and solemn looks .. [he] upon his errand sallies. 1837 Kirkbride *Northern Angler* 2 The wrapt hackle flies are generally most esteemed in this part of the country. 1907 C. Hill-Tout *Brit. N. Amer., Far West* vi. 209 Woven basketry..embraces by far the greater number of basket forms, and includes..such [kinds] as wicker-work, wrapped-work, twilled-work.

II. In predicative use. 4. Deeply interested, centred or absorbed, *in* a person or thing.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 34 b, Benedict the .xiii.. was wrapped in his owne folishe and fantastical opinion. 1581 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 599 Him that is wrapped in the businesse of this world. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. cxv, My daughter!..I see thee not, I hear thee not, but none Can be so wrapt in thee. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxv, Whether Mr. Dombey, wrapped in his own greatness, was at all aware of this or no.

b. Freq. with *up*. † Also const. *with* (= *in*).

In very frequent use from *c* 1820.

(*a*) 1699 Boyer *Fr. Dict.* II, I am so wrapt up with him, *je l'aime si éperdument*. 1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1705) 242 How much soever some People may be Rapt up with their *Sal Volatile*. 1784 P. Wright *New Bk. Martyrs* 704/2 King James was..so wrapt up with a conceit, that he had now conquered the whole nation.

(*b*) 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 139 P 5 Being wrapped up in the safety of my old age. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 105 P 6 The State-Pedant is wrapt up in News. 1776 Foote *Bankrupt* I. 3 His whole soul is wrapt up in Miss Lydia. 1784 P. Wright *New Bk. Martyrs* 805/2, I want words to express it, he was like one wrapped up in heaven. 1826–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) xvi. III, Before you are yet sufficiently wrapped up in the study. 1831 Bramley *Ess., Wordsw.* 166 His heart was wrapped up in his wife and sister. 1880 J. Path *Confid. Agent* I. 32, I like a man to be wrapped up in his own calling.

c. *Wrapped* (*up*) *in*, entirely associated or bound up with; quite dependent on; involved in.

1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* v. 131 O then, first for your own Illustrious sake, And next, for Us wrapp'd up in you, beware Of his Designs in time. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 123 P 4 His young Wife (in whom all his Happiness was wrapt up) died. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 137 He was the only child..and..the lives of his parents were wrapt up in him. 1849 James *Convict* I. 108, I put mine [*sc.* happiness] under your guardianship also, for mine is wrapped up in yours. 1859 Miss Piddington *Last of Cavaliers* II. 69 My mother's whole life is wrapped in him. 1892 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (ed. 3) 167 Wrapped up in the mysterious nature of Self-existence, is the equally mysterious power of communicating existence.

5. Absorbed or engrossed *in* thought, contemplation, etc. Also in earlier use with *up*.

Perhaps partly suggested by Rapt *pa. pple.* 4.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. iii. 128, I am wrap'd in dismall thinkings. 1634 Milton *Comus* 546, I..began Wrapt in a pleasing fit of melancholy To meditate my rural minstrelsie. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. ii, He is always..wrapped up in cogitation. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* xiii, He seemed to be wrapped up in profound contemplation. 1771 Beattie *Minstrel* I. xix. 1 Where the stripling, wrapt in wonder, roves. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. i. P 2, I found..Don Cæsar just as much wrapped up..in the contemplation of the happy couple. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* II, Some.. were resting..with their eyes closed, as if wrapt in prayer or meditation. 1894 Baring-Gould *Kitty Alone* II. 162 The girl stood wrapped in delight.

Hence † **Wra·ppedly** *adv.*, intricately. *Obs.*–°

1589 Rider *Bibl. Scholast.* 1685 Wrappedly, *contorte.* 1647 Hexham I. s.v.

Wrapper (rɛ·pəɹ), *sb.* Also 6 **wraper**, 8 **rapper**, 9 *dial.* **wropper**. [f. Wrap *v.* + -er 1.]

I. 1. That in which anything is wrapped, enveloped, or enclosed; a piece of fabric or other material forming a wrapping; esp. in later use, a protective covering for a parcel or the like.

c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 224 Take bobe endis of þe towelle,..and wrythe an handfulle..next þe bred myghtily, and se þat thy wrappere be made strayt. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiii. 153 His wounde opend, and out of it ranne blood thrugh the wraper. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne enuelope & couuerture*, a wrapper. 1611 Cotgr., *Enuelope*, a wrapper; a peece of wast paper for that purpose. 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II*, c. 28 § 6 Woollflocks..pressed togeather with Scrues..into Sacks Baggs and other Wrappers made of Wool or Linnen. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 90 P 7 My legs [were] closed together by so many Wrappers one over another, that I looked like an Ægyptian Mummy. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Wrapper*, a coarse Cloth in which Bale-Goods are wrapped, &c. 1785 W. Tooke in Ellis *Lit. Lett.* (Camden) 430 As soon as such a number of books are perfected, the surplus of the various signatures are thrown aside for wrappers and other official uses. 1820 G. V. Sampson *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 354 The fabric..is of two characters: 1st, Narrow, or 27 inches wide, called wrappers, and made of tow-yarn...2d. Wide;..made of lint yarn. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xxiii. 374 The object would often be attainable by a wrapper of tin foil. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvi, I saw the burial of a pilgrim,..miserably poor...There was no coffin, nor wrapper. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 449 The assassin..had torn open the wrapper of the package.

transf. 1552 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 35 b, The thyrde wrapper of the [fœtus]. *Ibid.* 36 These iii. wrappers or caules.

fig. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* I. ii, Each was hidden under almost as many wrappers from the eyes of the mind.

b. A detachable outer paper cover of a book, published part, etc., intended to protect the print, boards, or binding.

1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 394 Any publication, calling itself a Review,..used as the means of circulating the celebrity of such remedies,..on their wrappers, covers, or a few leaves tacked at the beginning and end. 1829 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 507 The wrappers to the parts of this work. 1891 *Athenæum* 3 Oct. 448/2 Books..notable for the sylvan colour of the wrappers, their large print and liberal margin.

c. A covering to protect and compact a newspaper, magazine, etc., when sending by post or delivery.

1846–8 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. I. vi. ad fin., Tearing off the wrapper of my newspaper. 1871 *British P. O. Guide* 2 Jan. 10 The postage must be prepaid..by the use of a stamped wrapper. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* ii, A large table littered with newspaper wrappers.

d. *pl.* = Wrap *sb.* 1 b. ? *Obs.*

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 312 *Railway blanket*,..a traveller's warm wrapper. 1865 Mrs. L. L. Clarke *Common Seaweeds* I. 18 A double strap such as we use for a rolled railway wrapper. *Ibid.* vii. 137.

e. A sheet put over furniture, shop-goods, etc., to protect from dust or fading.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, The tarnished paws of gilded lions, stealthily put out from beneath their wrappers. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* I. ii. § 2 At half-past six in the morning..he would..dust boxes and yawn, and take down wrappers and clean the windows. *Ibid.*, Hanging wrappers over the fixtures and over the piles of wares upon the

2. An article of apparel for wrapping, rolling, or coiling about the head. *rare.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 7 Other two ladyes.., and on theyr heades skayns and wrappers of Damaske golde with flatte pypes. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 264 The women of the lower class wear on their heads a wrapper of white linen.

b. A shawl, mantle, etc., for wearing about the person.

1782 J. Warton *Ess. Pope* II. 330 Pope was so..infirm, and his body required so many wrappers and coverings, that it was hardly possible for him to be neat. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxv, A man..pulled off a large wrapper which had concealed the lower portion of his face...'Pop that shawl away' [he said]. 1889 Mabel Collins *Prettiest Woman* I, She had thrown a loose white wrapper round her shoulders. 1897 *Daily News* 25 Dec. 2/3 The silk wrapper that he was wearing was stolen from off his neck.

3. An outer garment, esp. for indoor wear or use in household work, designed for loosely enveloping the whole (or nearly the whole) figure; a loose robe or gown. In later use chiefly *U.S.*

1734 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* Ser. IV. VI. 42 The [Indian] Queen's [garment] was a sort of scarlet rosetti in the make of our English wrappers. 1740 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1903) I. 84 Her dress, her avarice, and her impudence must amaze any one that never heard her name. She wears..an old mazarine blue wrapper, that gapes open and discovers a canvas petticoat. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xxvi. (1841) I. 265 Her wrapper, or morning-gown, a piece of Irish linen, printed at London. 1788 *Jrnl. Yng. Lady of Virginia* (1871) 42 We got up [from bed], put on our rappers, and went down in the Seller. 1839 Dickens *Nicholby* xxiv, Mrs. Curdle was dressed in a morning wrapper. 1882 [see Morning *sb.* 7 b]. 1883 Miss C. F. Woolson *For the Major* vii, His wife..had just risen—or so it seemed, for she wore a rose-colored wrapper. 1886 A. G. Murdoch *Scotch Readings* (ed. 2) 15 She got on a working wrapper, and sat herself down. 1905 *Outlook* 21 Nov. 603/2 The Englishwoman..scorns the hideous 'wrapper' which so many French and Americans wear in the bosom of their family.

b. An article of dress, esp. for masculine wear, intended to wrap about or fit loosely over the person; a wrap. Now *dial.*

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 30 Nov. 2/3 Tandy was clad in a white serge wrapper, resembling a friar's gown. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* II. vi, A shower of rain now began to fall. Sir Peter,..turning to Walter,..said to him, 'What! no cloak, sir? no wrapper even?' 1842 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 86 Just the same price as I gave for a Chesterfield wrapper (as it is called). 1844 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 411 The dress of the people, both male and female, commonly consists of a large loose wrapper and trousers. 1888 T. Hardy *Wessex Tales* I. 58 An old milkman near, in a long white pinafore or 'wropper'. 1892 — *Tess* xiv, The brown rough 'wropper' or over-all—the old-established..dress of the [harvesting] field-woman.

4. Tobacco-leaf of a superior grade prepared and used for the outer cover of cigars or of plug-tobacco; a covering made of this. Chiefly *U.S.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 274/2 Filler, is the inside of the Roll [of tobacco]: which is any sorts of Leaves and Stalks. Wrapper, the out side of the roll, which are good leaves. 1839 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) I. 48 The filling of cigars now belies the wrapper. 1864 R. L. De Coin *Hist. & Cult. Cotton & Tobacco* 302 The best leaves..are required by the twisters for wrappers around twists or plugs. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 May 4 A cigar consists of three parts, the wrapper, the bunch, and the filler.

b. *U. S.* A cigar.

1849 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* 60 Our friend..expending a whole bunch of Spanish wrappers among .. horrified audiences.

5. *Bot.* †a. (See quots.) *Obs.*

1718 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 256 The Wrapper of the Acorn..is a sort of Box set off with several Scales pale green. *c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 446/1 *Calyx*, the cup. ..*Involucrum*, or wrapper, a cup remote from a flower. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Corolla*, The envelope, cover, or wrapper of the stamens and pistils.

b. In Fungi, = Volva.

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 286 *Agaricus volvaceus*...Wrapper at the root, grey or greenish. *Ibid.* 373 Lycoperdon...Wrapper many-cleft, expanding. 1807 Jas. E. Smith *Introd. Botany* 253 *Volva*, Wrapper, or covering, of the Fungus tribe. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1337/1 *Volva*,.. the membranous covering, curtain, or wrapper of the fungus tribe, hiding the parts of fructification, till bursting all round it forms a ring on the stalk.

6. *Amer.* a. (See quot.)

1792 G. Cartwright *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Wrappers*, loose sleeve-pieces to button round the wrists, to defend them from the frost.

b. A make of leather boot adapted for fastening round the leg (also called *wrapping-boot*).

1808 Pike *Sources Missis.* (1810) III. App. 36 A kind of leather boot or wrapper. *Ibid.*, In the eastern provinces the dragoons wear, over this wrapper or boot, a sort of jack-boot made of sole-leather.

c. An undershirt. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*

7. *Lumbering.* A chain for binding logs on a skid.

1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 391/2 The load is stopped exactly opposite long parallel skids. Two men cautiously unhook the 'wrappers'.

II. 8. One who wraps or packs up anything; *spec.* one whose occupation consists in wrapping parcels. Also with *up*.

1591 Percivall, *Envolvedor*, a roller, a wrapper vp. 1755 Johnson. 1886 in S. Timmins *Resources*, etc. *B'ham* 356 Women & Girls as Lacquerers: Chargers of Tubes, Press Women, & Wrappers-up. 1891 *Instr. Census Clerks* 45 Cutlery:..Wiper,..Getter up, Wrapper up. *Ibid.* 99 Factory Labourer..: Storeman, Wrapper, Slinger. 1883 *B'ham Daily Post* 11 Oct., Grocery and Provisions.—Junior..wanted... Good flat wrapper and correct accountant preferred.

III. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrapper-apron*, *-brat*; *wrapper-addresser*, *-writer*.

1876 Mrs. G. L. Banks *Manchester Man* II, She..had taken off her wrapper-brat [*footnote* A sort of close pinafore]. 1893 *Pall Mall G.* 23 June 12/1 They were..mostly clerks and .wrapper addre-sers. *Ibid.*, Some half-dozen wrapper-writers,..each..copying with lightning-like rapidity from a directory page before him. 1896 M. Quiller-Couch *Jane Vervoy*, etc. 145 Enveloped in what was commonly called a 'wrapper-apern'.

Wrapper (ræ·pəɹ), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To cover with, enclose or envelop in, a wrapper.

1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 263/2 Vegetable parchment..is used very extensively..for wrappering the better class of literature. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 209 Delivering the papers folded and wrappered ready for post. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 24/2 A volume in quarto, handsomely, but alas! very loosely, wrappered.

2. To cover *up* in or as in a wrapper.

1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* II. ix, All the stalls were wrappered up, and all the minor exhibitions locked and barred.

Hence **Wra·ppered** (-əd), *ppl. a.* Also **Wra·pperer**, one who covers (esp. magazines or books) with wrappers.

1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* iv, A cheerless, shutter-darkened, wrappered-up shop. 1906 — *Days of Comet* I. v, Two other wrappered figures came out of the bungalows. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 24 April 12/3 Girls wanted as book wrapperers (magazine).

Wrappering (ræ·pəriŋ). [f. as prec. + -ing[1] 1 d.]

1. Coarse fabric or material used or designed for wrapping or covering.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 88/2 Upon the bricks is placed a quantity of..gravel, and a piece of fabric, such as common wrappering. 1864 Mrs. H. Wood *Oswald Cray* xiv, Her apron is a piece of wrappering off a bale of goods. 1867 *Morn. Star* 17 Sept. 6 Calverley..tied round his neck a piece of linen wrappering.

2. A loose outer garment; a wrap or wrapper.

1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* I. x, Mrs. Dare was silently removing some of her outer wrapperings. 1900 F. S. Ellis *Rom. Rose* I. 406 A great fur cloak for wrappering She wore.

† **Wra·ppery.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. as prec. + -y [3].] A wrap or covering.

1662 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 354 The hand or arm of the Young is cut off..; neither is it found among the wrapperies [L. *involucris*], even as the head is.

Wrapping (ræ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wrap *v.* + -ing[1]. App. rare between the 16th and 19th cent.]

1. The action of covering with or enveloping in a wrap or wrapper. Occas. with advs., as *round*, *up*. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/1 Wrappynge, or hyllynge, *cooperccio*, *involucio*. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* 170 Which [arrow] he pulled out and without wrappinge of his wound called for his horse. 1611 Cotgr., *Emmaillotement*, a swadling, or a wrapping in swathe bands. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 73 A wrapping round of inconvenient considerations with an impenetrable cloud of the plainest-seeming words. 1872 March. Dufferin *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 52 The children play in the snow...Their nurse, Mrs. Hall, dislikes the wrapping up.

b. The action of interlacing or intertwining; the fact of being interwoven. Also *fig.*

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* 105 By reason that the wreathing and wrappinge togither of the bowes kept them of from the bodies of the tree. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Implexus*, dissimilar, will not accomplish the object designed.

2. Something used or designed for enveloping or wrapping up; a wrap or covering. Also in fig. context.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 9 My witt is ful luyte to unwralle be wrappyinges of so wonder werkes. 1388 Wyclif *Wisd.* vii. 4 Y was nurschid in wrappyngis, and in greet bisynessis. 1855 [G. R. Leifchild] *Cornwall* 298 The wearing of thin shoes and stockings during unsuitable weather, being a dangerous transition from the thick shoes and wrapping worn by the same persons in daily work. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 775/2 Broken leaf tobacco..firmly wrapped round with one or two wrappings of whole leaf tobacco. 1883 Gilmour *Among Mongols* xvii. 201 The volumes are..carefully swathed up in their yellow wrappings. 1894 'J. S. Winter' *Red Coats* 78 Dolly was eagerly tearing the paper wrappings off the big box of sweeties. *fig.* 1836 Arnold in Stanley *Life* (1844) II. 28 Having been enabled to receive Scripture truth in spite of the wrapping which has been put round it. 1901 F. Campbell *Love* 319 Hidebound in a wrapping of utter selfishness.

b. An article of dress used or intended for enveloping the figure; a loose covering or upper garment; a wrap, wrappage, or wrapper.

1635 Rainbow *Serm.* 15 The sheepe..gives us shelter enough from the cold, why should we hunt after more costly furres and wrappings? 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iii, A gentleman in the coach who..looked very large in a quantity of wrappings. 1882 T. Coan *Hawaii* 35, I..preached in wet clothes, continuing my..labors until night, when in dry wrappings I slept well. 1899 Rodway *Guiana Wilds* 30 No stiff wooden figure made up of corset and wrappings, but a woman of flesh and blood.

3. *attrib.* in sense of 'used or designed for wrapping or covering', as *wrapping-cloth*, *-silk*, *-wire*; † **wrapping boot** *U. S.*, a form of boot adapted for wrapping about the ankle and calf; **wrapping-paper**, a special make of strong paper for packing or wrapping up parcels.

1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock, 1866) 75 A cup of sylver for the communion with ij wrappinge clothes for yt. 1648 Hexham II, *Een Windel*.., a Wrapping-cloath. 1808 Pike *Sources of the Mississippi* (1810) III. App. 42 Their dress is, the wrapping boot with the jack boot, and permanent spur over it. 1828–32 Webster, Wrapping paper, 1842 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* (ed. 3) 470 Strong common brown wrapping paper. 1860 Rimbault *Pianofortes* 183 Modern pianofortes have steel wire throughout, with about one octave in the bass closely lapped. The wrapping wire is of soft iron for the upper part of the octave, and of copper for the lower. 1883 *Daily News* 24 Apr. 5/8 The four main cables are 158 inches in diameter...There are 243 miles 493 feet of wrapping wire on each. 1883 W. D. Curzon *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 80 The manufacture of the heavy and coarse sorts of wrapping paper. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Silk*, *Wrapping-silk*, a fine strong floss employed in the manufacture of artificial flies.

b. In sense of 'used or worn as a wrapper or enveloping outer garment', as *wrapping cloak*, *coat*, *mantle*, *pelisse*, *robe*. Also Wrapping-gown.

1767 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 8 Nov., What was my surprise to see a large man, in an immense wrapping greatcoat, buttoned up round his chin! 1800 *Lady's Monthly Museum* Nov. V. 408 White muslin wrapping robe, with full sleeves. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxi, His dress [was] a horseman's wrapping coat. 1824 Mevrick *Ant. Armour* II. 11 The birrus or large wrapping cloak. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* x, The large wrapping man's cloak which she wore. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 198 He came, and to the floor he cast His wrapping mantle.

c. With advs., as *wrapping up department*.

1883 W. D. Curzon *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 101 [In] the wrapping up department..girls are busily engaged wrapping up goods of all kinds.

Wra·pping, *ppl. a.* [f. Wrap *v.* + -ing[2].] That wraps, covers, or envelops. Also *fig.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 50 In vayne Laocoon ..is to sone embayed with wrapping girdle y coompast. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxxi. ii, Preserve me from the wyly wrapping nett, Which they for me..have sett. 1813 [Leigh Hunt] in *Examiner* 31 May 351/1 Give me..a small wrapping silence about me. 1869 *Daily News* 13 Oct., The necessity of plunging through a deep gulph of air before one meets the wrapping and oblivious wave.

Hence † **Wra·ppingly** *adv.*, disguisedly. *Obs.*—[1]

1649 Canne *Snare Broken* 12 It would not have been so ambiguously, darkly, wrappingly given forth.

† **Wra·pping-gown.** *Obs.* [f. Wrapping *vbl. sb.* 3 b + Gown *sb.*] A night-gown.

1709 S. Wesley in Quiller Couch *Hetty Wesley* (1903) I. viii, She had nothing on but her shoes and a wrapping-gown. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 139 P 7 She rush'd out of bed in her wrapping gown, and consulted her glass. 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb.* I. ii, I shall never be reconciled to this nauseous wrapping-gown. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. x. P 5 What was my surprise at meeting him in his wrapping-gown and night-cap. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* I, The wide wrapping-gown and night-cap. 1877 Miss Yonge *Cameos* III. i. 8 The King..was soon standing before the fire in his wrapping-gown.

Wrap-rascal (ræ·pˌrɑskăl). Now *arch.* or *dial.* [f. Wrap *v.* + Rascal *sb.*[3] Cf. *hap-harlot*.] A loose overcoat or great-coat, esp. worn in the 18th century; a surtout.

1716 Gay *Trivia* I. 58 The true Surtout. *marg.*, A Joseph, ..rap-rascal .. 1738 in W. C. Sydney *Eng. & Engl. 18th C.* (1891) I. 121 Those loose kinds of great-coats.. which I have heard called 'wraprascals'. 1820 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 191 A sort of knave's coat; or (to use an appellative not many years ago applied in vulgar language to a particular sort of surtout) a wrap-rascal. 1845 *Punch* VIII. 87 The shapeless articles which, under the various names of Taglionis, Wrap-rascals,..are now placed on the human form. 1884 Sala *Journ. dus South* I. i, Muffled up in these hirsute wrap-rascals, and with wide-awake hats slouched over our eyes. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxv, On the threshold, in a rough wraprascal.., stood James More.

fig. 1812 J. O. in *Examiner* 23 Nov. 750/1 The specious cloak of Prudence,—that wraprascal of the worldly-minded. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers*, *Letts's Diary*, There is the cozy wraprascal, self-indulgence—how easy it is!

attrib. 1898 Weyman *Castle Inn* 192 A big dingy man in a wrap-rascal coat.

†b. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1796 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue* (ed. 3), *Wrap Rascal*, a red cloak, called also a roquelaire.

Wrapt, obs. erron. f. Rapt *ppl. a.* 2.

1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* IV. 337 [She] was absorbed in..wrapt expectation. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. xiii. P 16 He will hear it read with so grave and wrapt a silence.

Wrapture, obs. erron. form of Rapture.

† **Wrase.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **warse.** [OE. *wræsen* band, tie. Cf. also LG. *wrasen* stuffed pad for the head.]

1. A small bundle.

c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 383 in *O. E. Misc.* 48 Of one wrase of þornes he wryþen hym one crune. *c* 1470 *Gath. Angl.* 425/1 (A.), A Warse [*sic*], *fasciculus*.

2. = Wase 2. (Cf. Wreath 5 a, Writh.)

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Arculum*,..a roll that women weare on their heads to beare water: a wrase [*Elyot* wase].

Wraskle, obs. var. Wrakle *v.*

Wraste, Wrastil, Sc. varr. Wrestle.

Wrasse (ræs). Also 8 **wraws**, 8-9 **wrass.** [ad. Cornish *wrach*, mutated form of *gwrach* = Welsh *gwrach* wrasse, also old woman (cf. Old wife 3). Mod. Cornish dial. has also the form *wrath*, and *wrasse* may be an E. plural in -s.]

1. One or other species belonging to the acanthopterygian family *Labrida* or esp. the genus *Labrus* of bony, thick-lipped, marine fishes; esp. the ballan (the 'old wife', *Labrus maculatus*) or the striped, red, or cook species (*L. mixtus*), found on the British coasts.

a 1672 Willughby *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 319 *Turdus vulgo*

tisshouse, Thestl swarbd Venetis: Cornub. *Wrasse. Ibid.* 320 *Cornubiensibus* Wrasse *dicitur. a* 1703 RAY *Syn. Pisc.* (1713) 136 *Turdus vulgatissimus*,..the Wrasse, or Old Wife. 1758 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 249 The Wrasse, or Old-wife,..is frequent in the Mediterranean. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 307 The Labrus or Wrasse [has] the body oval; the head middling; the lips doubled inward. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 295 The brilliant wrasses dart out and in, decked in scarlet and green. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 686/2 Some 450 species of wrasses..are known.

b. With distinguishing epithet.

'Comber, cook, cuckoo, rainbow, red, small-mouthed, striped wrasse: see these words.

1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 203–8 Ballan Wrasse. .. Bimaculated Wrasse, *L. bimaculata*. Trimaculated Wrasse...Striped Wrasse...Gibbous Wrasse. 1776 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) pl. xlvii, Comber Wrasse. Antient Wrasse. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 279–291 The Green-streaked Wrasse...Red Wrasse, Three-spotted Wrasse [etc.]. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 310 *L. Lineatus*, the Lineal-streaked,..*L. variegatus*, the Blue-streaked,..*L. carneus*, the Three-spotted Wrasse. 1848 *Maunder's Treas. Nat. Hist.* s.v., Several species of this Acanthopterygious fish, viz.., the Cook Wrasse or Blue-striped Wrasse (*L. variegatus*), the Comber Wrasse (*L. comber*). 1874 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 30–41 Green Wrass...Scale-rayed Wrasse...Small-mouthed wrass. [etc.].

c. *New Zealand.* (See quots.)

1870 J. HECTOR *Fishes N. Zealand* 108 A small Wrasse,.. called the Spotty or Poddly. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 518/2 *Wrasse*, this English name..is given, in New Zealand, to *Labrichthys bothryocosmus*, Richards. Called also Poddly, Spotty, and Kelp-fish.

2. Without article. Wrasses collectively.

1750 HEATH *Acc. Isl. Scilly* 45 The Fish are..Pilchards, Hake, Wrass, Whitiers. 1763 in Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 143 Where the whistling fish, wraws, and polacks resort. 1878 P. THOMSON in *Trans. N. Zealand Institute* XI. 384 Wrasse, Parrotfish, and Spotties are often in the market. 1883 *All Year Round* 16 June 16/1 The bill of fare of a family of the neolithic period...They had mullet and wrasse, dogfish and skate.

3. *attrib.*, as *wrasse family, -fish.*

1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 309 *Labrida* (the Wrasse, or Rock-fish Family). 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Labrus*, Wrasse-fish (*Labrus maculatus*).

† **Wrast**, *sb. Obs.*[-1] (Meaning obscure.)

Perhaps *to-wrast* pa. pple., 'wrested away' (from what is right): but cf. next.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1663 He..dalt with hir al in daynte, how-so-euer þe dede turned to wrast.

† **Wrast**, *a. Obs.*[-1] [OE. *wræst*, *wrǽst* elegant, noble, excellent. In ME. perh. a back-formation from UNWRAST *a.*] **a.** Of sound: Loud, strong. **b.** Of persons: Stout, active.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1423 Wylde wordes hym warp wyth a wrast noyce. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 170 Wilde fire þei kast, þe kyng to confound, His schipmen were fulle wraste [*printed* wrask], els had he gon to ground.

Wrast, etc.: see WREST, etc.

Wrat (ræt). Now *dial.* or *Obs.* Also 6 **wratte**, 9 **wraught**. [a. (M)LG. *wratte* (LG. *wratt*, Du. *wrat*), or metathetic var. WART *sb.*] = WART *sb.* 1.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* II. ccxix. P]/1 The syck wrattes in the foundament. 1562, 1629 [see WART *sb.* 1]. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* I. 30 Black hairy wrats..Out-throw her fiz were like mustaches seen. 1808 JAMIESON. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* s.v.

† **Wratbyhe.** *Obs.*[-1] [Of obscure origin; perh. f. Cornish *wrath* WRASSE + *bihan* small.] (See quot.)

1443 in *Bekynton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 238 Magister Tregoran dedit piscem vocatum base et le wratbyhe alias a tenche of the see.

Wratch, etc.: see WRETCH, etc.

Wrat(e, obs. or Sc. pa. t. of WRITE *v.*

Wrath (rɔθ, *U.S.* rāth), *sb.* Forms: α. 1 **wræ̆ðu**, -o, 3 **wræððe**, 2 **wredðe**, 3 **wredde** (**wreadde**), 2–3 **wreððe**, 3–4 **wreþþe**, 4–5 **wretthe**. β. 1 **wræ̆ðo**, 3 **wræððe** (**wræðhe**), **wraþe**, 3 *Orm.*, 4–5 **wraþþe**, 4–5 **wratthe**. γ. 3 **wraðe**, 4–5 **wraþe**, 4–6 **wrathe**; 3 **wrað**, 4– **wrath** (4 **wragh**, 5 **wraap**, **wraugth**, 7 **wrauth**). δ. *Sc.* 5–7 **wraith**, 6 **-the**, 6 **vraith**, **vr-**, **wrayth** (**wrayith**). [OE. *wræ̆ðu*, *-o*, = *wrǽþþu*, f. *wrīþ* WROTH *a.* + *-þu*:—Teut. *-iþō*: see -TH[1]. Cf. WRETHE *sb.*

The original long vowel (æ) was shortened before the double consonant, and gave the two ME. types *wreþþe* and *wraþþe*. From the latter comes the mod. *wrath*, with later lengthening of the *a*, as in *path*, *lath*. This pronunc. (rāþ), regarded by Walker (1791) as 'more analogical', and formerly common in Eng. use but now displaced by that with the rounded vowel (rɔθ), is still given as the standard by American dictionaries.]

1. Vehement or violent anger; intense exasperation or resentment; deep indignation: **a.** In the phrases *for*, † *o*, † *on*, *of*, *with* († *mid*), or esp. *in wrath.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iii. 5 [Jesus] ymb-scauwde his mid wræðdo..cuæ̆ð to þæm menn, aðen hond þia. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 Þe lauerd [scal] do hit for rihtwisnesse ..and noht for wreðde. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 121 Ne he ðe ðurhwuneð on wraðþe, ne he ðe wuneliche lið on hordome. *a* 1205 *Leg. Kath.* 1361 Þe Kaiser laste his heaued, as wod mon, of wræðde. *Ibid.* 2048 His wrakelliche, wenestu, wule he, al o wræðde, wreken on þe, wrecche! 13.. *Guy Warw.* (C.) 3306 It is Guy, That in wrath from the woll departi truly. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* iii. 5 He biholdynge hem aboute with wrathe..saith [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6697 Then for wrath of his wound..He gird to a grete. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11. 79 Some vse when they here the fende named in play or in wrathe to saye Aue Maria. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. ii, My heart is swolne with wrath, on this..villaine Tamburlaine and of that false Cosroe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 86 Yet being men they..stared ghastly,..some for wrath, to see their captive Dame. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* II. (1669) 24 Come not near me to night, while I'm in wrath. *c* 1743 SIR C. H. WILLIAMS *Wks.* (1822) I. 203 Great Earl of Bath, Be not in wrath, At what the people say. 1798 WORDSW. *Peter Bell* 348 On he drives with cheeks that burn In downright fury and in wrath. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 243 But we may go in wrath.

b. In general use. Occas. *personif.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Wreððe haſð wununge on þes dusian bosme. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 41 All þare hwile ðe ðu wraððe oðer nið hauest mid te. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3863 Der ros wreððe and strif a-non Atven moysen and aaron. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 6 He ne suffred neuere wrath to be aboue. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 98 Beo wel i-war of wraþþe þat wykkide Schrewe. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3872 Wratthe, þe body of man inward fretith. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 210 in *Macro Plays* 83 Wretthe, þis wrecche, with me schal wawe. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 214 Ageyn hym wrathe if thou accende The same in happ wylle falle on the. 1526 TINDALE *Ephes.* iv. 31 Let all bitternes, fearsnes and wrath..be put awaye from you. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 35 Such one was Wrath, the last of this vngodly tire. 1640 G. SANDYS *Christ's Passion* II. 201 Wrath, the Nurse of War. 1692 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 125 Upon every triffle they shall be provoked to Wrath. 1782 COWPER *Expost.* 132 He judg'd them with as terrible a frown As if not love, but wrath, had brought him down. 1839 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* IV. ii. 40 Wrath was abroad and in his path. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvi, Mrs. Brown's daughter looked out..; and there were wrath and vengeance in her face. 1883 *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 143 He was now full of wrath and resentment against them.

transf. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* v. 595 He..heard the weltering of the waves of wrath. 1848 O. W. HOLMES *Battle of Lexington* iii, Fast on the soldier's path Darken the waves of wrath.

c. With qualification (adj. or poss. pron.).

a. c 900 *Rituals Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 12 Ælc bitternesse & irra & wræððo,..sie ginvmmen from ivh. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 For-3if þi wreððe and þi mod, for þenne is þi bode god. *c* 1205 LAY. 1441 Corineus..seide þas ilke word mid muchelere wreððe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* IV. 163 Þe way was y-opened forto take wreche of al olde wraþþe. *a* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 857 Þis spousing was enchesen of gret hate & wrebbe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 154 Of my wretthe wreke me I will.

β. a 1200 *St. Marher.* 18 Þa ward þe reue woð ant beð.. o great wraððe bringen forð a uet. *c* 1205 LAY. 6370 Ah hit wes muchel hærme..þat þurh his wraððe his wit wes awemmed. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 941 Þe wraþþe binymeþ monnes red. *c* 1300 *Will. Palerne* 728 3if þemperour were wiþ me wroþ his wraþþe forto slake. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 154 The king..Was..so wel paid That al his wratthe is overgo. *c* 1485 *Cursor M.* 5085 (Trin.), Mi wraþþe is clene fro me goon.

γ. c 1300 *Haveloh* 2719 Do nu wel with-uten flit, Yeld hire þe lond...Wile ich forgiue þe þe lathe, Al mi dede and al mi wrathe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 51 Mars which ..I he old wrath of Juno to fulfille Hath sette the peoplis bertis..on fyre Of Thebes [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1373 Yet in his wraugth this thought he euer among, If he shuld avenge hym sodenly [etc.]. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. vii, His mayster..by grete wrathe beganne to bete hym. 1526 TINDALE *Ephes.* iv. 26 Lett nott the sonne goo doune apon youre wrathe. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. i. 106 Who sued to me for him? Who (in my wrath),..bid me be aduis'd? 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* II. C 3, Ech roreth out his wrath, Nor other need of drums or trumpets hath. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 651 The Seer..could not yet his Wrath asswage. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 30 Which must end me, a Fool's wrath or love? 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 339 When he had respectfully suffered her wrath to vent itself, he made apologies. 1860 THACKERAY *Philip* xxvii, His chafing, bleeding temper is one raw; his whole soul one rage, and wrath, and fever. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. xxv. 209 The Evil one with terrible wrath Seeketh a path His prey to discover.

δ. c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Cadger* 7 In his wraith he werryit thame to deid. *c* 1550 M. NISBET *N. Test.* (S.T.S.) II. 238 *marg.*, As for malice or vnlawful wraith, it is vtirly forbiddin. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* l. 296 His hoarie head he reares Above the waters, toss'd by Juno's wraith.

d. Righteous indignation on the part of the Deity.

c 900 *Rituals Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 8 God,..beado folces ðines biddendes rvmmodlice bisch, & sv'oppa ðines vraððo ..ymbwoend. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 Fondie we te kelien godes wraððe mid teares. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xciv. 11 (E.), Als in mi wrath swore I best, If þai sal in-ga in mi rest.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 13 Forto apese the wrathe of God.. thel..fasted. 1535 COVERDALE *Hosea* xiii. 11, I gaue the a kinge in my wrath. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 30 For the abusing of thir dayis..God is at wrayith with vs. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 803 As when the wrath of Jove Speaks thunder. 1667 — *P. L.* III. 406 To appease thy wrauth.. (thy Son) offerd himself to die For mans offence. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* x. 556 The native fires, which God awoke, And kindled with the fury of His wrath. 1853 T. PARKER *Theism, Atheism*, etc. p. li, To appease the wrath of God, or purchase his favour.

e. *transf.* Violence or extreme force of a natural agency, regarded as hostile to mankind or growth.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 19 Thou barrein ground, whome winters wrath hath wasted. 1608 *The Great Frost* in Arber *Garner* (1895) I. 86 [This] may teach them..in summer to make a provision against the wrath of winter. 1846 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. xvi, Sharp bristles hedg'd up high His back, which did all wrath of thorns defie. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* IV. xxi, A wasted female form, Blighted by wrath of sun and storm. 1813 — *Rokeby* VI. xxi, Mine be the eve of tropic sun!..No twilight dews his wrath allay. 1833 WORDSW. *'If Life were slumber'* 34 She knelt in prayer —the waves their wrath appease. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 588 All her flower of body..With the might of the wind's wrath wrenched.

2. An instance of deep or violent anger; a fit or spell of ire or fierce indignation.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 41 Þe dieule..arar8 upp 8e wraððhes and þe cheastes and te bitere wordes. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 294 Bituex þe kyng of France & þe erle..Was þat tyme a distance, a wrath bituex þam nam. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 27671 (Fairf.), To deme a man til ille for a wrab he has him tille. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3310 In a wrath, þe wale kyng swyth Him of his principalete priued. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 68 Hit is better to leue a gylty man vnpunyshyd than to punyshe hym in a wrath or yre. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Cor.* xii. 20 Lest there be amonge you, debates, envyenges, wrathes, stryuynges. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. vi. 8 So both to wreake their wrathes on Britomart agreed. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 79 Lingring perdition..shall step by step attend You, and your wayes, whose wraths to guard you from [etc.]. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* III. 79 For haughty spirits and high wraths are rife Among the Gods. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 706 When some heat of difference sparkled out, How sweetly would she glide between your wraths.

† 3. Impetuous ardour, rage, or fury. *Obs.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 78 [They] go vpon the oost..by soo grete wrathe that it was merueyll. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Macc.* iv. 25 Bearynge the stomack of a cruel tyraunt, & yᵉ wrath of a wylde brute beest. 1597 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, I. i. 109 Henrie Monmouth, whose swift wrath beate downe The neuer-daunted Percie to the earth. 1602 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 257 Your opposite hath in him what youth, strength, skill, and wrath, can furnish man withall.

† b. The ardour *of* passion, love, etc. *Obs.*[-1]

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 44 They are in the verie wrath of loue, and they will together.

4. Anger displayed in action; the manifestation of anger or fury, esp. by way of retributory punishment; vengeance: **a.** Of the Deity, etc. Freq. in *wrath of God, day of wrath.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxi. 23 Riſ forſion ofer-auſinisso micelo on-usa eorðo & wræ̆ðo þisse þiosum. 1050–70 in *Leofric Missal* (1883) 1/1 Hæbbe he godes curs and wræ̆ð e ealra hal¿ena. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 He..biddeð þat godes wraððe cume uppen his ojen heued. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Thess.* I. 10 Jhesu, that delyuerede vs fro wraththe to comynge. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 27360 (Fairf.), Þe day of wrab & wrake & sorou. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 107 Sodeynly þanne þe wretthe & þe wreche of god schal fallyn on þe. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 61 The whyche..treasur to hem fro daye to daye the wrathe of owre sauyur ihesu cryste in the daye of hys wrathe. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccius.* vii. 16 Remembre that the wrath shall not be longe in tarienge. 1583 W. HUNNIS *Ps.* vi. 1 If into heauen I might ascend,..O Lord, thy wrath would thrust me forth downe to the earthe againe. 1624 QUARLES *Job* ix. 46 The smoothest pleader hath No power in his lips, to slake his [*sc.* God's] Wrath. 1682 PEDEN *Lord's Trumpet* (1730) 13 When Wrath is so near, I pray You to take notice what Ye are doing, for..[soon] Ye shall ..be overthrown with the Wrath of God. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* I. 7 Sin brings us under the wrath and curse of God. 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 133 To redeem [him] from wrath, His Saviour once did bleed and die. 1820 SHELLEY *Fragm., Satire upon Satire* 14 Then send the priests..To preach the burning wrath which is to come. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. v. 107, I have dedicated myself to..the god of wrath and vengeance.

b. Of persons.

a 1500 *Songs & Carols* (Warton Cl.) 98 The chylderyng 3yng, With Herowdes wratthe to deth were wrong. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. (S.T.S.) II. 94 The wraith and Ire of romanis aganis þe veanis war defferrit to þe nixt 3ere. 1620 CHETTLE *Hoffman* III. (1631) F 3, The Dukes squadrons arm'd with wrath and death, Watch but the signall when to cause on you. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 14 The wrauth Of stern Achilles on his Foe. 1782 COWPER *Table-T.* 597 Man lavish'd all his thoughts on human things—The feats of heroes, and the wrath of kings. 1809 WORDSW. *Prelude* x. 96 Avengers, from whose wrath they fled In terror. 1838 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* (1852) 339 Legal wrath is nothing else than the just award of crime. 1868 HEAVYSEGE *Jezebel* I. 130 My red wrath shall fall like you bright bolt.

5. An act done in anger or indignation.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 42 3if 3e wyl fle fro þe ilk wrettys [*sic*] of god. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccvi. [ccii.] 633 To make amendes for all wrathes, forfayres, and dommages that euer they dyde to hym. 1611 BIBLE *Zech.* vii. 12 Therefore came a great wrath from the Lord of hostes. *a* 1754 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* (1755) 200 No Man can read his Bible..but he must hear of a wrath to come from God upon Impenitent Sinners.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrath-fire, -storm*; objective, as *wrath-provoking*, † *-venger*; similative, as *wrath-faced, -like*; instrumental, as *wrath-bewildered, -consume* v., *-kindled, -swollen.*

a 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. v. 52 She..kissed so sweetely as might make Wrath-kindled Ioue away his thunder shake. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 152 Wrath-kindled Gentlemen be rul'd by me. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* iv. D 8 b, [To] Threaten to drawe his wrath-venger, his sworde. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 42 The guilt of such a wrath-provoking sin. 1656 SPARROW tr. *Boehme's Aurora* xix. 434 When thou fightest against him, thou stirrest up his wrath-fire. 1728 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 356 The extraordinary stirrings of the Jacobites, and their elevation, especially since our wrath-likedivisions at Court. 1787 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* III. 66 They fly dispers'd, nor tempt ..His wrath-swoln neck and eyes of living fire. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 27 His sov'reign's wrath-bewilder'd brain. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar K.* ivi, Whether the one True Light Kindle to Love, or Wrathconsume me quite. 1886 J. PULSFORD *Infelicitage* v. 63 The wrath-storm which our sins have created. 1892 G. MEREDITH *Poems* 81 It surges like the wrath-faced father Sea To countering winds.

Hence †**Wra·thhead**, wrath; deep anger. *Obs.*–1
1389 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 12460 God .. Oþer for-3yueþ..alle with gladehede, Or alle abydeþ to hys wraþhede.

Wrath, ME. var. Wroth *a.*

Wrath (rɔ̄þ), *a.* [var. of Wroth *a.*, prob. by association with Wrath *sb.*] Wroth, angry, irate; deeply resentful.
Somewhat rare; but occurring in various passages of the Douay Bible (1609) where earlier versions and the Authorized have *wroth*.
1535 *Treviso's Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xii. 316/2 No creature is.. more feruente to take wreche than is the bee whan he is wrathe. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* ii. i. 20 Oberon is passing fell and wrath [*prime* hath]. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. viii. 43 Whereat the Prince full wrath, his strong right hand .heated vp on hie. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Gen.* xl. 2 Pharao being wrath against them .. sent them into the prison. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xviii, Th'old Dragon under ground..wrath to see his Kingdom fall. [1847 Madden *Læmon* I. 271 When he was wrath with any man.] 1860 Thackeray *Lovel* iv, Lovel, seldom angry, was violently wrath with his brother-in-law. 1862 Bulwer *Strange Story* II. 229, 'I saw the child..looking towards us, and..she seemed near. I felt wrath with her.

†**Wrath**, *v. Obs.* Forms: α. 3 wrɵðden, wreþþen, 4 wreþþe, wretþe, 4–5 wretthe. β. 3 wraðden (wraðhin), 3–4 wraþþen (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4–5 wraþþe, 5 wrapþi, wrathþe; 3 wratþen, 4–5 wratthen, wratthe. γ. 3 wrɵðden, wraþen (wrahþen), 4 wrathen, 4–5 wraþe, wrathe, wraþ (4 wragh), 4–6, *arch.* 9 wrath. δ. 5, *Sc.* 6 wraith. [Early ME. *wreþþen*, *wraþþen*, f. the sb. (see Wrath *sb.*), taking the place of the earlier *wrɵðen* Wrethe *v.* Cf. Awrath, Iwrathe, and Wroth *vbs.*]

1. *intr.* To be or become angry, wrathful, or wroth; to feel, manifest, or exhibit anger; to rage.
c 1205 Lay. 1450 Þa iwreðdede [*v.r.* Iwrɵðede] Numbert. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 746 Þe king bigon to wrɵðden [*Cott. MS.* wraðden]. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxi. 10 Sinful sal se, and wrath he sal. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 230 3et wrathed not þe wy3, ne þe wrech sa3tled. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. i. 189 *Vf* he wratthe, we mowe be war. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C.) 632 He wrathed sore yn is hertte. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 3 Whan the gode man herde this he gan to wratthe.
transf. *c* 1275 Lay. 4577 Þe wind com on wiþere, And þe sea wreþþede. *Ibid.* 12006 Þe see was wonderliche wod; and þe see wraþþede.
b. Const. *against*, *at*, *in*, *with* (a person or thing).
1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 111 Whan wrathed Steuen with Dauid of Scotland. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8442 The worthy at his wife wrathet a litle. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 80 A gentille knightes doughter that wratthed atte the tables with a gentille man.
transf. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxiii. 3 When wrathed [*Harl.* wraghed] breth of þa in us þus. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cxxiii. 3 Whan ahulde wrathen the wodnesse of hem in to vs.
c. Of the Deity: To be or grow righteously angry or wroth (*against* or *with* a person or thing).
a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vii. 12 (H.), God demer rith,..Nou wrathes be alle daies in land? 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. ix. 128 Caymes kynde & his kynde coupled togideres, Tyl god wratthed for her werkis. 1382 Wyclif *Lam.* v. 22 Lord,.. thou wrathedist a3en vs hugely. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 77 And God wratthed therwith, and bade Moyses [etc.].

2. *trans.* To make (a person, etc.) irate, angry, or wroth; to move to wrath, ire, or deep resentment; to anger, enrage; to annoy, vex.
In very frequent use from *c* 1250 to *c* 1450.
α. *c* 1205 Lay. 3771 Heu werɵede [*c* 1275 Hii wreþþede] heore moddri mare þene heo sulden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 426 On alle wise uorberen to wrɵðen hore dame. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* (A.) 276 And þu hi myd worde iwreþþed heuedest. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Þet we ous loky þet we ne wreþþi uader ne moder wytindeliche. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4045 Þenk eftsones to auenged be of þe Amyral þat hab y-wreþþed þe. *a* 1450 *Northern Passion* (D) 727 Petir stod wretthid ful sore.
β. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 99 Se ðe hafð ðese eadi mihte, him ne mai no mann wraðhin. *c* 1205 Lay. 7200 Þe feond wes iwraðhed. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7721 3if þat eni him [= William] wraþþede, adoun he was anon. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3369 (Laud MS.), Ne shaltou wraþþe þi lorde gent. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8584 Of þese dedly synnes seuene, Þat we wraþþe with God of heuene. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. ii. 85 Serwe on þi lokkes, Such weddyng to worche to wraþþe with truþe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xii. (Bodl. MS.), Þe bee whan he is ywraþþed. *a* 1450 Myrc *Parv. Pr.* 1142 Hast þou..Wrathþed þy neȝbore in any þynge? 1480 Caxton *Cron. Eng.* ccxxx. 244 The kyng was gretely meuid and wratthed.
transf. *c* 1205 Lay. 12006 Þe sæ wes wunder ane wod, and ladliche iwraðhed.
absol. 13.. *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 260 Lechery.. wasteþ.., hit wraþþeþ, hit bigileþ.
γ. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* (B.) 276 If..þu hire mid worde wraþed hauedest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16427 Pilate forthoght þaim bath to wrath. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 981, I wraþed him neuer .. in word ne in dede. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1151 Ne I wolde haue wrathed her truly. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 29 But yn a myshappe..þay wrapeden hor modyr. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f v b, Wrath not thy neighborys next the. [1866 Morris *Ayenb.* 8 *marg.*, Wrath not thy Father or Mother.]
transf. *c* 1205 Lay. 4577 Þe wind com on weðere, and þa sæ he wraðede [*c* 1275 þe see wreþþede].
δ. *c* 1400 *Brut* ii. 310 Wherfore þe King was gretly.. wraithed. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Wolf & Lamb* 43 He wraithit me, and than I culd him warne Within ane ȝeir.
b. Predicated of things. Somewhat *rare*.
a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 238 Ne nis na þing hwerþurh monnes muchele madschipe wrɵðeð [*Cott. MS.* wraðeð] him wiþ mare [etc.]. *c* 1250 *Hali Meid.* 27 Moni þing schal hem wrɵðen & gremen. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 37 Sir Jamys is evyr choppyng at me..with syche wordys as he thynkys wrathe me.

c. To provoke or incite (the Deity) to righteous anger or wrath; to move to displeasure. Also const. *to*, *with*.
In frequent use from *c* 1325 to *c* 1485.
c 1200 Ormin 5615 Þu Ne darrst nohht Drihhtin wraþþenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Monnes soule .. geð ut of hire hele heouenliche cunde, & forte paien hire, wrɵðeð hire schuppare. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8813 Þo þou..wraþþedest so muche god. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 606 Al our lois..We schuld lese, and, for that sinne, Wretthi God therto. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1227 (Fairf.), Vn-esly cayme..and alle his cespringe ..wraþet him wiþ wikked rede. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 16 Ihesu, for them y þe biseche þat wraþþen þee in ony wise. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 978 Hast þou..I-wrathþed þy god greuowsly? 1483 Caxton *St. Wenefr.* 3 Thou hast gretely wratthed oure lorde.

3. *refl.* To wax, become, or grow angry.
c 1205 Lay. 20345 Arður..þis gomen iseh and wrɵðde hine

661 Fader, no wretþe þe nouȝt. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. iii. 176 Whi þou wraþþest þe now, wonder me þinkeþ. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 4125 Hurre brother wratthede hym þo at þe last. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxvii. 644 Anon to wraththen sche gan hire there. [1822 Scott *Peveril* xxii, 'Nay, wrath thee not, Will,' said Ganlesse.]

4. *trans.* To be or become angry with (a person); to treat with anger, ire, or deep resentment.
c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 174 Ne I nyl forbere, yf þat ye don a-mys, To wrathen [*Harl. MS.* wreth] yow, and whil þat ye me serue, Cherycen yow right after ye deserue. 1375 *Cantic. de Creatione* 288 3ut bad me Michel with word od Worschipen þe, or elles god Wolde wrathen me. *c* 1430 in *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 191/11 Whi wraþþist þou me? y greue þee nouȝt. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* 73 b, A cruell stepdame will my children wrath [L. *saeviet in partus meos*].

5. To afflict, harm, or injure; to bring to grief or disaster.
13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1529 Gwichard, who haþ wretbed þe, & where hastow in bateyle be? 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn't.* 726 For werre wrathed hym not so much, þat wynter was wors. *Ibid.* 2420 Adam,..Salamon..and Samson..were wrathed wyth her [*sc.* woman's] wyles. 14.. *Guy Warw.* 2123 (Camb. MS.) 3252 Or they be passyd the hyllys hye, We schall þem wrath.

Hence †**Wra·ther**, one who excites, or moves to, wrath; †**Wra·thing** *vbl. sb. Obs.*
1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* ii. 7 Therfor thou shalt speke my wordis to hem,..for thei ben *wraththers*. *c* 1370 *Stacious of Rome* 107 (Vernon MS.), *Wraþþing of Fader or Moder ȝif hit be In godes nome he forȝiueþ þe. *c* 1400 *Cato's Morals* 296 in *Cursor M.* 26723 For nane alde wraþþing hate no3t þi frende if he chaunge his manere. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 241 Principally for dreed of god, for dreed of his wretthyng. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 84 For drede of sclaunder and wratthinge of her.

Wrath, obs. erron. f. Rathe *adv.*
c 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 2145 (Linc. Inn MS.), King Anguis ..Did arme his men wrath & prest.

Wrathe, obs. pa. t. of Writhe *v.* **Wrather-hail, -heal, -hele**, varr. Wrother-heal *Obs.*

Wrathful (rɔ̄·þfůl), *a.* [f. Wrath *sb.* + -ful. Cf. Wrethful *a.*, Wrothful *a.*]

1. Of persons, etc.: Harbouring wrath; full of anger; enraged, incensed.
a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 51 Mi leser artou..Fra mi faes ben wrathful ai. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gyde Warw.* 262 Þeder he wole lihten adoun Wraþfiul..as a lioun. 1388 Wyclif *Prov.* xv. 18 A wrathful man reisith chidyngis. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xli. (Bodl. MS.), Some [bees] beþ..foule to sist and more wraþfulle þanne oþer. *c* 1430 in *Babees Bk.* 12 [Do not be] to wielde, ne to wraþful, neiþer waaste. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 758 He was malicious, wrathfull, enuyous. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 28 Al the frushe and leauinge of Greeks, of wrathful Achilles. 1614 Milton *Ps.* cxxxvi. 10 O let us his praises tell, That doth the wrathfull tyrants quell. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 344 The Bees, a wrathful Race. 1697 — *Æneis* viii. 81 With sacrifice the wrathful queen appease. *a* 1718 Prior *2nd Hymn of Callimachus* 88 Lest wrathful the far-shooting God emitt His fatal Arrows. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 303 They hung down their heads, and looked gloomy and wrathful. 1846 W. H. Mill *Five Serm.* (1848) 116 Describing Himself as wrathful against the determined sinner. 18— 'Rita' *Vivienne* i. viii, Her heart was wrathful and indignant. 1892 A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus, Ohio* I. 325 — tollgates..were torn away by wrathful citizens.
b. *transf.* Of things.
1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* i, The wrathful winter prochinge on a-pace. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. ii. 30 Thousand furies wait on wrathfull sword. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. ii. 902 Thou hast felt the rod Of the revenging wrathfull hand of God. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iii. ii. 43 The wrathfull Skies Gallow the very wanderers of the darke. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 461 Nor with less Rage Eurialus employs The wrathful Sword, or fewer Foes destroys. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 38 ₱ 3 They stripp'd and..fought full fairly with their wrathful Hands. 1727 Thomson *Summer* 741 Unusual Darkness .. gains The whole Possession of the Air, surcharg'd With wrathful Vapour. *a* 1825 Mrs. Hemans *Treasures of Deep* ii, Sweep o'er thy spoils, thou wild and wrathful main. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lvi, A threatening light..which..showed like a wrathful sunset.

2. Marked or characterised by, expressive of, of the nature of, wrath or anger.
1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 98 Full of ymaginacion Of dredes and of wrathful thoghtes, He fret himselven al to noghtes. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xx. 77 Þan come þe hom in wraþþeful hete. 14.. *Of Manners* 8 in *Babees-bk.* 34 Of wraþful wordis eschewere be ware. 1534 Barclay *Eglogues* (1570) B iv/1 Better is..a small handfull with rest and sure pleasaunce, Then twenty dishes with wrathfull countenaunce. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* ii. 49 Now is the tyme of destruccion and wrathfull displeasure. 1620 *Mirr. for Mag.* 690 Ioue in the tempest of his wrathfull mood Powr'd downe his wreake vpon my wretched hed. 1691 Gouge *God's Arrowe* iii. § 3. 186 Wrathfull and revengefull affections. 1726 Pope *Iliad* v. 209 Him..with a wrathful Look The Lord of Thunders view'd. 1894 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vii. 252 The tremendous screams of their wrathful voices. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* March 452 His accelerated and somewhat wrathful departure from Brackenhurst.
Comb. 1885 C. J. Lyall *Anc. Arab. Poet.* 5 A lion wrathful-eyed.

Wra·thfully, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2. Cf. Wrethfully *adv.*] In a wrathful manner; angrily, wrothfully.
c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1362 Þe king for þis was swiþe wroþ, wraþfulliche swore his oþ. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 375 Bot he hem wrathfulli congeide. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. i. 18 His sword he drew all wrathfully. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* ii. i. 172 Let's kill him Boldly, but not Wrathfully. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* II. 281 He .. said wrathfully, Begone, rageful Woman! 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* 189 Zeus..Right wrath bent. 1839 Dickens *N* plied Miss Squeers w March 4/8 The recollections of our correspondent have apparently been wrathfully awakened.

Wra·thfulness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The state, condition, or quality of being wrathful; wrath, ire.
1382 Wyclif *Eccius.* i. 28 Wrathefulnesse forsothe of wilfulnesse..is his turnyng vp so doun. 1546 *Wychlyffes Wycket* (1828) 3 He shalbe raysed tyll the wrathfulnes before determyned is perfectilye made. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xxxii. 189 There is no wrathfulnesse in God. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xlii. 1, What iron band, or what sharp hard mouth'd bit..Can bridle wrathfulness and conquer it? 1683 J. Pordage *Mystic Div.* 118 To the Fire-essence do belong, Fierceness, Fierinese, Wrathfulness. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Irefulness*, wrathfulness. 1899 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* I, Adam..was afraid she had thought him serious about his wrathfulness.

†**Wra·thless**, *a.* Also 4 wraþþeles. [f. Wrath *sb.* + -less.] Free from, devoid of, wrath.
c 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xii. 42 To alle that ever hider eode, To do to day my neode, ichulle be wraththe-lees. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii. i. *Handycrafts* 635 Tost by the Fiend that fiercely tortures them, With wrathlesse wounds their senseless members wounding. *c* 1636 Waller *On C'tess Carlisle's Chamber* 14 Before his feet so sheep and lions lay, Fearless and wrathless, while they heard him play.

Wrathli, Wraðliche, etc., varr. Wrothly *adv.*

†**Wrath money.** *local.* [var. of *warth-money*: cf. *ward-silver* Ward *sb.*2 25 b and Wardpenny.] = Wroth money.
1730 Thomas *Dugdale's Warwick.* I. 4/2 The party paying it must go thrice about the cross, and say The *Wrath* money, and then lay it in the hole of the said cross before good witness.

†**Wrathness.** *Obs.*–1 In 5 wrathen [f. ME. *wrath* Wroth *a.* + -ness.] Anger.
c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 22 Dragons..schall derke in þer denne In wrathe when we writhe, or in wrathen

Wrathy (rɔ̄·þi, *U.S.* rӕ·þi), *a.* Orig. (and chiefly) *U.S.* [f. Wrath *sb.* + -y 1. Cf. Wrothy *a.*]
1. Of persons: Feeling, or inclined to, wrath; wrathful, very angry, incensed.
1828 J. F. Cooper *Red Rover* viii, You are wrathy, friend, without reason. 1828 Webster, *Wrathy*, very angry; a colloquial word. 1833 [S. Smith] *Lett. J. Downing* viii. (1835) 66 When things don't go right, and the Gineral gits a little wrathy. 1859 Trollope *West Indies* (1860) xiii. 198 They are wrathy men, and have rough sides to their tongues. 1887 Mrs. D. Daly *S. Australia* 307 The wrathy owner of the missing horses.
absol. 1902 C. G. Harper *Holyhead Road* II. 183 But the habitations of wrathy and peaceable are alike overthrown.
b. Marked or characterized by, expressing or evincing, deep anger or indignation.
1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* II. 212 A wrathy red light has come into his deep eyes. 1890 *Big Game N. Amer.* 352 He was in a decidedly wrathy mood. 1897 H. G. Wells *Certain Matters* (1898) 231 Coming back to wrathy swearing,..I am sorry to see it decay.

2. *transf.* Of the elements, etc.: Fierce, violent, tempestuous.
1872 Talmage *Serm.* 200 The shrill blast of the wrathiest tempest that ever blackened the sky or shook the ocean. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. xxxi, The wrathy, masterful, winter sea.
Hence **Wra·thily** *adv.*, wrathfully. *U.S.*
1847 Webster. 1879 G. W. Cable *Old Creole Days* (1883) 235 The negro begged; the master wrathily insisted.

†**Wra·thling**, *a. Obs. rare*–1. [Imitative. Cf. Rattling *ppl. a.*] (See quot.)
a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Leics.* II. 206 [They] have an harsh and wratling kind of Speech, uttering their words with much difficulty and wharling in the Throat, and cannot well pronounce the Letter R.

Wraught, obs. f. *wrought*, pa. t. of Work *v.*

Wraw, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: α. 3 wrah, 4 wragh, 5 wraȝe; 4 wreu, 4–5 (9 *north. dial.*) wrawe, 4–6 wraw, 9 *dial.* raw. β. 4 wrowe, wroȝ, 5 wrow. [Of obscure origin; the forms indicate an unrecorded OE. **wrâh*, **wrâg.*]
1. Of persons: Angry, wrathful, wroth.
c 1205 Lay. 3554 Þa iherde Leir king; þer fure he was swiþe wrah. *a* 1275 *Ancr. R.* 426 (Cott. Cleop. MS.), Þet nan freon ow ne parti wiþ scandle, ne wrah, ne mispaiet. *a* 1300

Thrush & Night. in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 51 Hy gladieth hem that hath wrowe. *c* 1315 Shoreham IV. 139 Wat helpþe hyt so wrau to be, Wanne þou wyþ gode chyst? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Manc. Prol.* 46 With this speche the Cook wax wrooth & wraw. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 8 Wisit þat er seke;.. Sahtil þat ere wraȝe. *c* 1500 *Blomfield's Test.* in Halliw. *Nugæ P.* 9 They be than so angry and so wraw. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 40 Thow mantycore,.. Wranglynge, waywyrde, wytles, wraw, and nothyng meke. 1811 Willan in *Archæol.* (1814) XVII. 163 *Wrawe*, angry. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* 126 *Raw*, angry.—Sittingbourne.

b. Marked or characterized by anger or ire.

c 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* (K.) 80/2 Clenchyn a-ȝen in wraw speche,..*obgarrio.*

2. Peevish, crabbed; perverse, contrarious.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 677 Accidie maketh hym heuy thoughtfull & wrawe [*v.rr.* wrowe, *Ellesm. MS.* wrawful]. *c* 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 99/2 Crabbyd, awke, or wrawe.., *cronicus, bilosus. Ibid.* 533/1 Wraw, froward, ongoodly,.. *protervus, exasperatus.*

Hence † **Wraw ful** *a.*, = Wraw *a.* 2; † **Wraw·ly** *adv.*, perversely; † **Wraw·ness**, perverseness.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 680 He dooth alle thyng with anoy and with wrawnesse, slaknesse, and excusacion. *c* 1400 wrawful [see prec. 2]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 18/2 Awkely, or wrawely, *perverse, contrarie. Ibid.* 533/1 Wraw *protervia,..bilositas, perversitas.*

† **Wraw**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **wrawen.** [ad. MDu. *wrauwen*, of imitative origin.] *intr.* To miaul, as a cat; to mew.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* x. (Arb.) 22 Thenne..began he [*sc.* Tybert the cat] to wrawen for he was almost ystranglyd. 1662 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 611 Quhan we vold [= would] be in the shap of cattis, we did nothing but cry and wraw.

† **Wrawed**, *a. Obs.* Also 5–6 **wrawd.** [f. Wraw *a.* + -ed[1].] Angry, wroth; perverse.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3167 For he..Is wrawid & wrathfull of will, & wode as a lyon. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 590 Crabbe is a slutt to kerve & a wrawd wight. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 116 O forlorne Dido, now now wrawd destenye grubs the.

Wrawl, *v. Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* Also 4 **wral**, 6 **wrall**, 7 **wralle**; 5, 7 **wrawle**, 6, 8 **wraul**, 7 **wraule**, 6– **wrawl** (9 *dial.* **rawwl**); also 4 (9 *dial.*) **warl.** [Imitative. Cf. Norw. *vraula, raula*; also Da. *vraale, vrøle*, Sw. *vråla*, LG. *wrâlen*, to squall, bellow, scream.]

1. *intr.* To utter an inarticulate noise or sound; to bawl, squall.

c 1440 *Ipomydon* 1835 Thus he wrawled & wroth a way, One word to hyr he nolde not say. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 191 Bralling fooles that wrall for euerie wrong. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 152 Man alone .she hath laid all naked upon the bare earth,..to cry and wraule presently from the very first houre that he is borne into this world. 1606 Bryskett *Ctv. Life* 53 Euer crying and wrawling for they wote not what. *c* 1780 M. Lonsdale in S. Gilpin *Songs Cumbld.* (1866) 276 Guidman stuid wraulin at her lug, An' ca'd her manny a garrick. 1811 Willan in *Archæol.* (1814) XVII. 163 *Wrawling*, quarrelling, or contending with a loud voice. 1859 B. Brierley *Daisy Nook* 49 A lot o' dhrunken chaps rawlin' wi' one another.

† 2. Of a cat: = Wraw *v. Obs.*[-1]

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. xii. 27 Some were..of cats, that wrawling still did cry.

Hence **Wraw·ler**, one who brawls or squalls; **Wraw·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37/2 Blaffoorde or *warlare [*Winch. MS.* wrawlere]..,*traulus.* 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 1837 [Mrs. Palmer] *Dial. Devon. Dialect* 9 Wot'n ge..to rail an zee the wraxlin? 1845 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxx, I'll..buy me a pair of horn-tips to my shoes, like a wraxling-man. 1867 Rock *Yim an' Nell* cxxi. (E.D.S.), Jan's wraxling ginged tha wildego. 1892 Sarah Hewett *Peasant Speech Devon* 130 A wraxling match between Joe Gooding and Dick Gollop.

Wray, ME. or dial. var. Wro.

† **Wray**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wrezan, wreȝan**, 2 **wreizen, 3 wreȝen, wreiȝen** (*Orm.* **wreȝ(h)enn**); 2 **uureien**, 2–3 **wreien**, 3 **wreyen**, 5 **wreyyn**; 3 **wreiȝe**, 3–4 **wreie**, 3–5 **wreye**, 4–5 **wreȝe** (5 **wreythe**), **wregh(e**, 4 **wreȝ, wrei**, 4–6 **wrey**; 4 **wroie, wroye**, 4–5 **wraie**, 5–6 **wray** (6 *Sc.* **vray**). β. 3–4 **wryghe**, 5 **wrigh**, 4–5 **wryen, wrye**, 4–6 **wrie**, 5–6 **wry**. γ. 5 *Sc.* **wre**, 8 *north. dial.* **wree.** [Comm. Teut.: OE. *wrēȝan, wrēgan*, = OFris. *wrôgia, wrêia* (WFris. *wroegje*, EFris. *wrögje, wrög*, NFris. *wröge*), MDu. *wroeghen* (Du. *wroegen*), OS. *wrôgjan* (MLG. *wrogen, wrugen, rogen*, LG. *wrogen, wragen, wrögen, rögen*), OHG. *ruogen* (MHG. *rüegen*, G. *rügen*), ON. *rôgja* (Icel. *rægja*; Norw. *røgja*, Sw. *röja*), f. the stem *wrôg-* (ON. *rôg* slander, strife), with a variant *wrôh-* which appears in Goth. *wrôhs* accusation, *wrôhjan* to accuse.

By normal dialectal developments, three main forms of the stem appear in ME., viz. *wrey* or *wray*, *wry*, and northern *wre*.]

I. 1. To accuse, denounce, or inform on (a person); to expose (one) by revealing or divulging information, etc., to one's harm, prejudice, or discredit; to charge with a crime, offence, fault, etc.; = Bewray *v.* 2.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) D 74 *Defferuntur*, melduadun *uel* wroegdun. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 10 Dec. 216 Ic cume eft on domes dæȝ ond þe þonne wreȝe beforan Crystes þrymsetle. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* II 184 Færde þa ardlice..to þam heah-ȝerefan..and begann hi to wrægenne. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1069, Her man wræȝde done biscop Æþelric on Burh, & sende hine to West mynstre. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Ne mei þe deofel þe wreien on þan öðre liue. *c* 1200 Ormin 2889 He [*sc.* Joseph] wass sedmod & milde, I þatt tatt he ne wollde nohht Unnshabiȝ wimmann wreȝhenn. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 84 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Þe maystres of þe temple..For to vndernyme yre *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 804 Pilat..sepin to þe Iewes..sayd: 'Ze wrigh him wrangwisly'. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2859 Sho hyr talde..How wikkedly that sho was wreghed, And how that traytyrs on hir leghed. *c* 1450 *Northern Passion* (MS. Ad.) 609 þe lewes..ledde hym..vn to..cayphase And by fore hyme þay gune hym wrye. 1480 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* (1482) 167 b, Cithei o..borwede of one scilla, but he was wryed er þe bargayne was made.

refl. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1076, Walþeof sorl ferde ofer sæ & wreide hine sylfne & hæd forgyfenysse. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 ȝif þu wreiest þe seolfen to þine scrifte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 Mon schal wreien him seluen ine schrifte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26706 Qua wil noght him-seluen wrei..nu ar he dei. *Ibid.* 16466, 26701, 26716, 26967. *fig.* *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Let..þouhtes munegunge wreie him, & bicleope him of mi-liche sunnen. *a* 1400 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 741 In bremful bale he schal hit by, When concience his werk schal wrye.

b. Const. *to* (another), *of* (a thing).

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 8 Nov. 202 Þa wreȝdon þa oðre cræftigan hy to þam casere. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 14 Ic nanne intingan findan ne mæg on þisum men of þam þe ge hine wreȝað. *c* 1132 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an. 1132, Þa com Henri abbot & uureide þe muneces of Burch to þe king. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 172 He was sone iwreied to þe kinge Salomon. *c* 1308 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 200 Ic am I-wreiid, Sire, to the, For that ilk gilt. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3303 Here wil we no longer duelle: To þemperour y-wraid we beþ. *c* 1400 *Pepysian Gosp. Harmony* 95 Þe Jewes euerichon bigonnen hym to wryen of many þinges. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacionn* (Roxb.) 134 Antipater..was wryed to the Emperoure Julian.

fig. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 141 ȝif ure hierte..us ne undernemeð naht ne ne wreihð of nane senne.

refl. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26668 Þat þou..wrei þi-self and oþer noght O þi wicked werkes wroght.

2. To declare or assert (something about another) by way of accusation or denunciation; to bring forward as a charge.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 25 Aug. 152 Þa foron þa hæðnan biscopas ond þæt wreȝdon to þæs kyninges breðer. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 478 Þæt folc wrehton his modignysse to ðam casere. *c* 1200 Ormin 416 Þatt fand mann nan þing upponn hemm To wreȝenn, ne to tælenn. *c* 1350 *Northern Passion* (1916) II. 128 Somme..folwede [Jesus] þinges to bere; Wat þey miȝte on him leye To þe Iuws vorto wrey.

3. To reveal or disclose (something secret) perfidiously or prejudicially; to divulge with breach of trust; to betray; = Bewray *v.* 3.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26690 Þat þou sa wrei þin aun dede, Þat na soigne be for þe lede. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3656 Non com ogain..To wray þe kinges parlement. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VI. 281 But his counsaile was I-wried, and he was..I-closed in an abbay. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxxxiii. (Tollem. MS.), Quyrin..; þis stou wryeþ and discouereþ in slap counsel and priuite. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3546 Priamus has..spies That ȝoure counsayl to him wries. *c* 1565 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden, 1856) 21 As sone as the said lordes wiste that their counsaille was discovered and wraid, they fledde. 1569 *Mirr. Mag., Lord Hastings* xivii, Alas, our counsels wryed to catch the goodie! 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 128 Cut out my tong,..Least I should wrage this bloody deede of his.

4. *gen.* To reveal, disclose, or divulge (a fact, etc.); to declare, communicate, or make known; = Bewray *v.* 4.

a 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 533 (Camb. MS.) Hele ihe wulle, and noþing wreie, Ower beire cumpaignie. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciau*) 1446 Like ȝere solempuyt fest..þai mad, one þat day scho deyt, fra þat he hyre fyf had wreyt. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 216 In his songes somwhat wolde he wreye His wo as in a general compleynyng. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* IX. III. 5 The deid is auld for to beleif or wry, Bot the memor remanis perpetually. *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 57 Your sighes yow fet from farre, And all to wry your wo. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. T.* R vij b, Then gan hee wrie his former loue, And all his flame vntolde.

transf. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 91 Alas I dye; the torche is come that al this world wol wrie. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* x. v. (Tollem. MS.), Leye bischineþ derke þinges, and wryeþ þinges þat ben hidde, and makeþ hem knowe.

b. Const. with clause. *rare*[-1].

1575 *Gascoigne's Posies* Wks. 1907 I. 83 In thundring he wrayes, where highest mindes be thrall.

5. To reveal or make known the presence of (a person); to expose; = Bewray *v.* 5.

c 1290 *Beket* 1214 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 141 With him a-morewe he nam His oste, þat he ne scholde him wreiȝe forto he aftur weie cam. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1675 And for þai scholde him nouȝt wrain, Vnder his hond he made him pal. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1706 Þay sued hym fast, Wrezande hym ful weterly with a wroth noyse. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18341 To an..old tour..He hyed hem with mechel hast For drede lest thei were y-wraied.

b. To put (a person) in the power of an enemy or opponent by disloyalty or treachery; to betray.

c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 111 in *O. E. Misc.* 150 He..þat wreyeþ his sibbe oþer him sled Abuuen his eyen þe flod geþ. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 117 He was I-wreyed by þe same douȝter Fausta..and flȝ to Marcil. *Ibid.* 159 þere he was I-wreyed wiþ [= by] a wenche.

c. To expose (a person) by revealing some hidden fact or private matter.

c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5460–a Als stolne thyng wreghes a thefe funden, When it es obout his neke..bounden, Right swa þair syns sal wreghe þam þar. *c* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 147 Thane seyde syr Launfal.., Tell ye no man of my poverte...The knyghtes answerede and seyde tho, That they nolde him wreye never mo. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 36 Wreȝ hir noht þat te þing es sent to. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 62 As a theef wol be gladde there as he ys hidde, and not be wrayed of his theefte. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) *G* j, Yf thou thy frende it say, And wenyst he shal the not wrey.

6. To reveal, disclose, or discover the true character of; to show or expose the existence or presence of (something desired to be concealed); to betray; = Bewray *v.* 6.

1576 Whetstone *Rock of Regard* I. 38 Thou mayst (God wot) thy visard vaile, thy wanton maskes are wrayd. *Ibid.* 65 The colours which I wore, my secrete mourning wrayde. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Stater* iii, The werke wrayes the man, seeme he neuer so fine.

7. To expose to view; to exhibit, show.

1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* M iij, He wried his wounds, he shewde the shameful blows, He told the trayters treason.

8. *intr.* or *absol.* a. To denounce or slander a person; to make accusations, cast aspersions.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2179 Meriadok wrayeþ ay, To þe king þus seyd he. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* II. 84 þat no manere mede shulde make him wrye. 14.. *Wheatley MS.* (1921) 8 First ye gloþered, now ye wrye.

b. To make disclosures or statements.

c 1425 *Thomas of Erceld.* (1875) 2 If þ solde sytt to domes-daye, With my tonge, to wrobbe and wrye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxi. 85 They askid yf I a prophete ware, And I saide 'nay'; but sone I wreyede high aperte.

c. *north. dial.* (See quot.)

1781 J. Hutton *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *To wree against a person*, to insinuate to his disadvantage.

Hence **Wraying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 317 *Accusatio*, *wrexing. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Þe vifte [vice] is Wreiunge. *Ibid.* 304 We schulen beon cwite of wreiunge ette muchele dome. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 739 The ladi bad hire maydens anon, Out of hire chaumbre forte gon, For drede of wriyying sake. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27671 (Cott. Galba MS.), Þai will of deme a man with ill, And has bot a wreghing þar-till. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 102 He beleued þe fals mannys talya & wryynge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 2 Þe on [rule] riwieð þe heort, þe makeð hire sfne & smeðe, wiðute knotte & dolke of woh inwit & of *wreinde. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26350 [One should be] Wreland [in confession].

† **Wray**, *v.*[2] *Obs.*[-1] [See Ray *v.*[2] 5.] *intr.* To evacuate.

1560 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* IV. i. M 2, I thinke some Bird has wraid in my eye.

† **Wrayer.** *Obs.* In 1 **wregere**, 2 **wreiere**, 4 **-er, wraier**, 4–5 **wreyer** (4 **wroyer**). 5 **-are**; 5 **wryer**; 5 *north.* **wrear.** [OE. *wrēgere* (f. *wrēgan* Wray *v.*[1] + -er[1]), = OFris. *wreiere, wröger* (NFris. *wröger*), MDu. and older Flem. (Kilian) *wreegher.*] One who denounces, discloses, or betrays; an accuser or betrayer.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 336 Se saida wregere cwæð, Buton ge forgifon [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 57 Prud ne wreiere ne beo þu noht. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26709 He sal for-soth on domes-dai Hane wreiers [*Fairf.* wroyers]. *c* 1350 *Sir Tristr.* 3088 Þe wraiers þat weren in halle, Schamly were þai schende. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 102 He was onful & bakbyter, wreyer, false & traytur. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37/2 Blabbe or labbe, wreyare of counselle,..*futille.* *c* 1480 [see Wrasener].

Wyll neuer leue her *wrawlyng. 1570 Goode *Popish Kingd.* II. (1880) 21 b, Children there that lye, And fill their eares with wrawling all the night. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1219 Cries and wrawlings of an infinite number of children. 1623 *New & Merry Prognost.* E 2, Beggars loue brawling, And wretches loue wrawling. 1573 A. Anderson *Expos. of Benedict.* 30 To quiet & make stil his wanton and *wrauling cryes. 1619 R. West *Bk. Demeanor* 60 in *Babees Bk.*, Nor practize snuffingly to speake, for that doth imitate The brutish Storke..and the wralling cat. *c* 1620 *Welsh Embass.* IV. 1510 [The women] to still their wrawlinge bastards cry out, husht [etc.].

Wrax, erron. f. Rax *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.*

Wraxle, *v. Obs.* exc. *s.w. dial.* Forms: 1 **wraxlian**, 3–4 **wraxli**, 4–5, 9 *dial.* **wraxle** (5 **wracsle, wraskle**, 9 *dial.* **wroxle, roxle**). [OE. *wraxlian* = OFris. *wraxlia* (WFris. *wrakselje, wrokselje*). The orig. form of the stem may have been *wræc-*; cf. OE. *wræstlian* Wrestle *v.*] *intr.* To wrestle; to contend, strive. Also *fig.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxii. 24 Da wraxlode an engel wiþ hyne on merigen. *c* 1000 — *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 578 Ic wæs ..on unmætum conflictungum winnende and wraxligende. *c* 1275 Lay. 1858 Brutus þine lette witie..fort lete fondien of his main stronge, to wraxli to vore Brutus. *Ibid.* 24699 Somme þar wraxlede and wiþer-game makede. *c* 1305 *St. Swithin* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 45 Þe baldelikere hi miȝte Huppe ouer diches wher hi wolde, boþe wraxli and fiȝte. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 67 Yf wratthe wraxle with þe poure he hath þe worse ende. *Ibid.* So þaugh couetyce wolde with þe poure wraxle þei mai nat come to-gederis. 14..

Wight glossaries. 1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Dec. 479 (Cornish dialect), *Wraxle*,..to wrestle.

Hence **Wra·xling** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 150 *Luctatio*, wraxlung. *c* 1275 Lay. 2871 Þar was mochel folk at þare wraxlinge. 1768 *Ecossois Scolding* Gloss., *Wraxling*, wrestling.

† Wray-ful, *a. Obs. rare.* In 3 **wreiful**. [f. WRAY *v.*[1] + -FUL.] Containing or involving an accusation; accusatory.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 302 Schrift schal beon wreiful, bitter, mid seoruwe. *Ibid.* 304.

Wrayst(e, obs. f. WREST *sb.*[1] and *v.* **Wrayt**, obs. pa. t. of WRITE *v.* **Wraythe**, obs. pa. t. of WRITHE *v.*[1]

† Wray-ward, *a. Obs. rare.* [Prob. an alteration of WAYWARD *a.*] Perverse, froward.

1516 *Pronip. Parv.* (W. de W.) C iij, Crabbyd or wrayward, *acerronicus, bilosus.* *c* 1500 *Dial. Creatures Mor.* v. B ij b, A wrayward man cawseth stryues. *Ibid.* xii. D ij b, A sertayne lorde somtyme had a wraywarde seruant and luylwyllyd.

Wrd, obs. form of WORD.

Wre, obs. Sc. variant of ORE[2].

1633 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 44/2 Reservand to ws yron wre and all other kynd of mineralles.

Wre, Sc. var. WRAY *v.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. var. WRY *v.*[1]

Wrechednes(s, obs. ff. WRETCHEDNESS.

Wreade, obs. var. WREATHE *v.*

1584 TWYNE *Æneid* XI. S i, The snake about him wrigling winding wreades with griefe of wound.

Wreak (rēk), *sb.* Now *arch.* or *Obs.* Forms: 4-7 **wreke** (4, 6 **wrek**), 6-7 **wreake**, 6- **wreak**. [In early Northern texts a normal variant of WRECHE *sb.*; in later use prob. substituted for this, or for WRAKE *sb.*, under the influence of the verb.]

1. Pain or punishment inflicted in return for an injury, wrong, offence, etc.; hurt or harm done from vindictive motives; vengeance, revenge.

In frequent use from *c* 1540 to *c* 1620.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22604 (Edin.), Saint peter sal be domb þat dai, . For doubt of damsteris wrek [*Cott.* wreke]. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 5338 Howe suld þai þam in þe tyme of wreke Bestille? *Ibid.* 6101 Þe day of wreke and of vengeaunce. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12072 Þe sayntis of hell Were wode in hor werkis for wreke of Achilles. *c* 1440 *Prose Life Alex.* 76 Þe wrethe & þe wreke of oure goddes..falles apon vs. †*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* x. 120 [On] all knaves childer in this Countrey.. shall fall the wreake. 1526 TINDALE *Prol. Romans* Wks. (1572) 49/1 He describeth the outward conuersation of Christen men, how they ought..to commit wreake and vengeaunce to God. 1559 *Myrr. Mag.* 63 But wrath of man his rancour to requite, Forgets all reason... I mean by rancour the parentall wreke. 1587 TURBERV. Ili, Nor shall the life or goods Of thee, or any thy assistants, feel The wreak of his just anger. 1865 *Reader* No. 149. 309/2 Pride and haughty wreak From irreverence begin. 1899 SWINBURNE *Rosamund* II. 32, I would..the wreak of wrath were wroken, and I Dead.

b. In the phr. *to perform, seek, spend, work*, and esp. *take* (. . .) *wreak*.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* Prol. 202 (Petyt MS.), When god toke wreke of Caym synne. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1136 (Fairf.) þat I sal take wreke on þe. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* v. 61 God..on the pujple tho took ful grete wreke. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXV. 191, I saide that he shuld..of youre warkys take wreke. 1525 TINDALE *Whs.* (Parker Soc. 1849) 229 No man should avenge himself, or seek wreak, no, not by the law. 1576 WHETSTONE *Rock of Regard* I. 72 Sith fortune threates, to woorke our wreake of ioy, By sowning of our ship in seas of yre. 1582 BATMAN *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xii. 349/1 No creature is more wreakful, nor more feruent to take wreak than is the Bee when he is wrath. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 162 A huswife of Millan wrought her wreake vpon the fruite of her womb. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy D'Ambois* III. i. E 4 Dull and drossie in performing Wreake of the deare bloud of my matchless Brother. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 308 Enough of wreak is spent; A passage hath been made among the foes. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 167 None murdered the damsel but I; take her wreak on me this moment.

† c. *In* (or *for*) *wreak of*, in revenge of, in return or repayment for. *Obs.*

1599 B JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iv, Would to heaven (In wreak of my misfortunes,) I were turn'd To some faire water-Nymph. 1599 PEELE *David & B.* E ij, They with him conspire, And kill thy sonne in wreake of Thamars wrong. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* V. i. 123 Death..he shall indure For wreake of that joyes exile I sustaine.

d. The avenging of a person.

1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* III. i, Your defect of spirit and valour, First showne in lingring my deare Brothers wreake.

† 2. An instance of taking vengeance or exacting retribution. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 51 God þat giues wrekes me to. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 750 Of the Grekes the cruel wrekes. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXI. xiii, My tongue..[shall] Tell thy wreakes and their disgraces, Who this ill to me procure. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of Time* 397 Where mortall wreakes their blis may not remoue. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm.*, *Passion* xvi. (1661) 284 To take a wreak or revenge upon sin.

† 3. Harm, injury; damage. *Obs.*

15.. *Parl. Byrdes* 24 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 168 All the byrdes..Said, the Hauke doth vs great wreake. *a* 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 38 Vnkind tongue, to yll hast thou me rendred, For such desert to do me wreke and shame. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins Rome* 33 These same olde walls..is that which Rome men call. Behold what wreake, what ruine, and what wast. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Mindes Melodie* vi. 44 My foes..would rejoise To see my wreak, and would my soule subuert.

Wreak (rēk), *v.* Forms: 1-2 **wrecan**, 2 **wrecc**, 2-4 **wreken** (3 **wreken**, **werken**, **wrecken**, *Orm.* **wrekenn**), 5 **wrekene**, **wrekyn**; 3-7 **wreke** (4 **wrekke**), 4-5 **wrek** (4 **wreek**), **wreke**, 5 **wreeke**, **wreike**, 5-6 *Sc.* **wreik**, 6-7 **wreake**, 6- **wreak** (7-8 **reak**); *Sc.* 5 **wryk(e**, 6 **wrik**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wrec** (**wurec**, *pl.* **wrecon**), 2-3 **wrac**, 3 *pl.* **wrake**, 4-5 **wrake**, 5 **wrak**, 6-7, 8-9 *arch.* **wroke** (9 **wrok**); 4 **wrek**. *Weak*: 4-5 **wreked**, 4 **-id**, 5 **-yd**, *Sc.* **-yt**, 6- **wreaked** (8 **raked**, 9 **wreak'd**, *Sc.* **wreakit**). *Pa. pple.* 1 **wrecen** (**gewrecen**), 3-4 **wreken** (**iwreken**), 3-5 **wreke** (4 **y-**, 4-5 **iwreke**); 3-7, 9 *arch.* **wroken** (4-6 **y-**, 5 **iwroken**), 4, 5-6 *Sc.* **wrokin**, 4-5 **wrokyn**, 5 **-yne**, 6 **wrokne**, *Sc.* **wrokkin**, **wrockin**, 6-7 **wrooken**; 4-5, 9 *arch.* **wroke** (4-5, 6 *arch.* **ywroke**, 5 **iwroke**), 6 **wrooke**, *Sc.* **wrok**. *Weak*: 6, 9 **wreaked**, 6 **wrekte**, **wreakt**, 7 **wreakt**, 9 *U.S.* **reaked**. [Common Teut.: OE. *wrecan* str. v. (*wræc*, *wræcon*, *wrecen*), = OFris. *wreka* (WFris. *wrekke*), OS. *wrekan* (MLG. and LG., MDu. and Du. *wreken*; also LG. *wrdken*), OHG. *rëchan*, *rëhhan* (MHG. *rechen*, G. *rächen*), ON. and Icel. *reka* (Norw. *reka*; Sw. *vräka*), Goth. *wrikan* (to persecute), f. the Teut. stem *wrek-*, pre-Teut. **wreg-*, cognate with that of L. *urgëre*. Cf. WRACK *v.*[1], WRECHE *v.*, WRECK *v.*[2], also A-, BEWREAK *vbs.*]

I. †1. *trans.* **a.** To drive, press, force to move. *Obs.* (OE. only.)

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 213 *Torquet*, wurasc. *a* 1000 *Riddles* L. 2 (Gr.), Hwylc is hælepa þæs horsc..þæt þæt mæxe asecgan, hwa mec on siõ wræce? *Ibid.* XXI. 11 Me þurh hrycg wrecen hongaþ under an orþonc pil.

† b. To cast or throw *out* of a place. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3148 Ilc folc is to fode framen,..And nozt bor-of [*sc.* of a kid] vt huse wreken. *Ibid.* 3191 Dor he dolmen,..and hauen up-brozt õe bones ut of õe erõe wroken.

† c. *transf.* With *out*. To pass or spend (time). Cf. DRIVE *v.* 21. *Obs.*[1]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1547 Quen sa fele yeier ar wroken oute, þe mikel spere es rune aboute.

† 2. To banish or expel, to drive out or away. *Obs.*

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1076, Sume hi wurdon geblende, & sume wrecen of lande. †*a* 1300 *Gregory* 216 Sche halpe þe pouer and þe lame, þe deuel fram hir for to wreke. 1340 *Ayenb.* 215 Huerout he wrek þo þe zyalde and bozte ine þe temple.

fig. and *transf.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 Huanne he his zael wreke out of his uelaȝrede. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4428 For all zoure wisdom, I-wis, is wroken to zour tongis.

II. 3. To give vent or expression to, to exercise or gratify (wrath, anger, etc.); to vent.

a 900 *Genesis* 2508 Þas folc slean, cynn on ceastrum mid cwealmþrea, & his torn wrecan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) LXXXIV. 5 Ne wrec þu þine yrre, wræce mode, of cynne on cynn. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19606 Forrþi let he takenn himm To wrekenn hise tene. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 324 He schal nat ryghtfully his yre wreke. 1421 *Pol. Poems* 83 Lete not vengeaunce þy wraþþe wreke. Vengeance is goddis. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4674 Darel roode wel wrothe and yll, For he had not wroken his fill. 1530 PALSGR. 785/1, I wreake myne anger. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron., Hist. Eng.* I. 231/1 The more to wreake his wrath, the King spoyled many Religious houses of their goodes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 23 As when Dan Æolus..Sends forth the winds..Vpon the sea to wreake his fell intent. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 383 They were staied..in this sweetnesse of wreaking their anger, and satiating their revenge. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 10 [The] heart-breaking stile of Enemies: and such Enemies too, as to wreake their malice. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. ii. 93 'Tis my hate and the deferred desire To wreak it, which extinguishes their blood. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* IV. I. 113 So in time to come May Agamemnon wreak his wrath. 1878 SKELEY *Stein* III. 315 Stein wreaked his disappointment in unsparing criticism.

transf. 1794 WORDSW. *Guilt & Sorrow* 103 The only creature..On whom the elements their rage might wreak. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. vii, Beneath most calm resolve did agony wreak Its whirlwind rage.

b. More usu. constr. *on* (†*in*, *against*) or *upon* a person. (Freq. from *c* 1560.)

c 1200 ORMIN 19866 Þho..þohhte þatt þho shollde onn himm Wel wrekenn hire tene. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 589 Wel hastow lord y-wroke on me þin Ire. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 133 Þar-fore þai wrekyt þar wodnes In þis Iamia, callit þe les. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* III. vii. 107 Lauer I had ye had wroken your angre vpon me. 1556 PHAER *Æneid* IV. (1558) L iij, On my brother fals I wroke my tene. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 9 Pandosto..determined to wreake all his wrath on poore Bellaria. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* ccvi, I neuer will retire, Vntill our Teene vpon the French we wreake. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 180 As tho' they wou'd reak their Malice upon God. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 1233 The moody Sire, to wreak his Hate On Realms. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* Pref., I wreaked my Resentment upon the innocent Cause of my Disgraces. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* lxiv. (1806) IV. 732 The church..persevered in the project of wreaking her own enmity against the nonconformists. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankenstein* viii. (1865) 119 That I might wreak the utmost extent of my anger on his head. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xiii, The dwarf..wanting somebody to wreak his ill-humour upon. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. 112 To wreak a coward's spite on the corpse of the dead Harold.

c. *refl.* Of a passion, feeling, etc.: To give expression to (itself); to find utterance or free course.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 5 Disleall knight, whose coward courage chose To wreake it selfe on beast all innocent. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 186 That the indignation of mankind should have wreaked itself upon the chief monsters. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* xiii, In the education of her child, the mother's enthusiasm of thought had something to wreak itself upon. 1887 R. S. STORRS in *Liter. Mag.* Aug. 106 The Hellenic spirit..wreaked itself in immortal expressions on the choicest marbles and temples in the world.

d. To bestow or spend *on* a person, etc.; to expend.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Sonn.* Wks. 1598 II. 303 She hath no other cause of anguish But Thereus love, on her by strong hand wrokne. 1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* 107 To wreak Such love upon the task as [etc.]. 1872 BROWNING *Pr. Hohenst.* 174 God..Grants each new man . Intercommunication with Himself, Wreaking on finiteness infinitude. 1872 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 76 *Mephis.* Here is the genuine path for you; Yet strict attention must be given. *Stud.* Body and soul thereon I'll wreak.

† 4. To punish or chastise (a person); to visit with retributive punishment. Also *refl. Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. § 3 Þæt wæs þæt mon wræce & witnode hwone for his yfle. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 1090, Se cyng wæs smeadende hu he mihte wrecon his broðer Rodbeard, swiðost swencean. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21773 For to wreke þam was he bun þat þus did cast þair goddes dun. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXVIII. 186 With the Iues he [*sc.* Jesus] was so stad, to ded they can hym wreke. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm.* (1661) 265 To wreak ourselves for so often offering so foul indignities to Heaven.

transf. *a* 1658 LOVELACE *Poems* (1904) 134 The desp'rate Heron..turns his last to wreak The palisadoes of his [*sc.* a falcon's] Beak.

† b. To injure, hurt, or harm (a person). *Obs.*

c 1440 *Bone Florence* 104 He was..all to-brokyn, Ferre travelde in harnes, and of warre wrokyn. 1578 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXII. 124 Lat neuer thair micht..Haue strenth or power thame for to hurt or wreik. *a* 1593 MARLOWE tr. *Ovid's Elegies* II. xi. 22 What each one speakes Beleeue, no tempest the beleeuer wreakes [L. *credenti nulla procella nocet*]. 1683 W. WALKER *Phraseol. Gen.* 1351 In labour the stronger wreaks the weaker. *In opere firmior* (*bos*) *imbecilliorem conficit.*

III. 5. To avenge (a person).

In senses 5, 5 b, very frequent *c* 1200-*c* 1600. The passive construction, *to be wreaked* (†*wroken*), freq. implies that the revenge is taken by the injured party, and is thus equivalent to the reflexive use.

Beowulf 1385 Selre bið æg-hwæm þæt he his freond wrece þonne he sela murne. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke XVIII. 5 Forðon woedo *wel* hefiȝ wæs me..ðas widiua ic wræco ða ilco. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 979, Hine nolden his eorðlican mæȝas wrecan. *c* 1205 LAY. 27612 Cumeð hidere to me, and wreke we Beduer min æm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1856 Symeon and leui it bi-speken, And hauen here sister þor i-wreken. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3495 Mani on slain þer lay...Ful wele wreken er þay. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 4466 Wrekeþ 3our fader wiþ 3our miȝtes. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 855 Þe wee in his wrath wrekis his modire. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXV. 451 Thei thought well to be wreken whan thei saugh tyme. †*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* v. 201 Therfore how will I wroken be? 1530 PALSGR. 454/1 He wyll be wroken whan you shall thynke lest. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 13/1 He counteth it for a sufficient reuenge, that he can reuenge and be wreaked. 1765 in Percy *Reliques* I. 106 And soon i' the Gordon's foul hartis bluid He's wroken his dear ladie. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 335 Grant me some knight to..Kill the foul thief, and wreak me for my son.

refl. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Ne wrec þu þe mid wussinge ne mid warienge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Ne wrekie ȝe nout ou suluen, ne ne grucche ȝe nout. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 85 To wreke hymself he þouȝte With werkes or with wordes whan he seighe his tyme. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 369 Antropos, hir self to wreke, Doth ful many thredes breke. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 320 Will God I leiffe, we sall ws wreke on part. †*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* XIV. 267, I am as wroth as I may be, And some way I will wreak me. 1530 PALSGR. 785/1 If thou cannest nat wreake the, byte the poste. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. viii. 44 How worthily..Iustice that day of wrong her selfe had wroken. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 70 They that by combat seeke to wreake themselues. 1659 SOMNER *Dict.* s.v. *Wrecan*, *Vulgo dicimus*: to wreke ones selfe, or take revenge.

b. Const. *of*, *on* (†*o*, *in*), or *upon* (†*up*) one who has done harm, etc.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke XVIII. 3 Widiua..cuoeð wræc ðu mec of wiðerworde minum. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 279 He his sincȝyfan on þam sæmannum wurðlice wrec. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 5 Þanne ȝelpð he ðat he is wel iwreken of his unwine. *c* 1205 LAY. 12210 [To] wreken uppen [*c* 1275 vppe] Maximien Valentin & Gratien. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2028 Þe shenkeð on him for to ben wreken. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5962 (Kölbing), Þe king..Wele him wrake of his foman. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 169, I wolde be wreken on þis [B. II. 194 wroke of þo] wrecches. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 31 In oure lordes name, y am wroken in hem. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 88 Lorde, þou wreke me apon þis man. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* (1482) 358 b, He wold be wroken vpon kyng rychard. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Dan Barth., Del. Disc.* 50 The Goddesse of reuenge deuiede So to bee wreackt on my rebelling wyll. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 21 Both greedie fiers on other to be wroken. *Ibid.* IV. vi. 23 She..vpheld her wrathfull hand, With fell intent, on him to bene ywroke.

transf. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 148 Be war forthi thou be noght sik Of thilke fievere [*sc.* jealousy]..For it wol in himself be wroke. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1566 That on suche a female my flesshe wolde be wroken. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* IV. i, Canst thou hope..that these handes will not be wrooke on thee? 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 102 To wreake the Loue I bore my Cosin, Vpon his body that hath slaughter'd him.

refl. *c* 1200 ORMIN 914 God wollde himm wrekenn o þe preost. *c* 1205 LAY. 13052 Wreked eow ȝif ȝe cunnen of Sexisce monnen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21963 Vr neghburs mai þam on vs wreke. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 46 Of fals Edrik sayn wild he him wreke. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 395 *Ballade*, Hym deynyth nat to wreke hym on a flye. *c* 1450 *Cvt. of Love* 702 She saw an egle wreke him on a fly. *a* 1542 WYATT *Poet. Whs.* (1913) I. 131 Comfort thy self my woefull hart, Or shortly en thy self the wreke.

1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorbodue* II. i, Attempt redresse by armes, and wreake your-self Upon his life. 1604 PARSONS *3rd Pt. Three Conuers. Eng.* 192 The Duke thought best to vse this mans meanes, to wreake himselfe of the said Bishops. 1611 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* III. i, That I may wreake my selfe vpon my selfe. 1732 T. BOSTON *Mem.* x. (1899) 298 They usually wreaking themselves on the ministers as the cause of all public evils. *c* 1830 in Child *Ball.* III. 438/1 He micht hae spared my lady's life, And wreakit himsell on me! 1879 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 800 Well that ye came, or else these caitiff rogues Had wreak'd themselves on me.

†c. To revenge (a person) *of* (*on*) a wrong, injury, etc. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 76 Þe King was carefull in hert, Till hee were wroken of þe wrong. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 56 On euery wrong a man may nat be wreken. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3199 He will me wreke on 3oure werke wers þan of thefes. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4634 Be wroke he wold of sum thing. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 1098 Syth hyt ys soo, Cryste wreke hur of hur woo. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 600 Then ye wyll be wroken Of euery lyght quarell. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 34 To find ane way of Pechtis to be wrok Of thair injure. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 21 Stirring to be wroke Of his late wrongs. 1591 *2nd Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 73 Tis Gods decree to wreake us of these harmes.

refl. c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 620 On his falshede fayn wolde I me wreke, If I wiste how. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 22 About the park thai set.. With vi hundreth.., All likly men, to wrek thaim of thar harmes. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 606/2 The man..wanted nothing but faithful subiectes to haue wroken himselfe of such wrongs. 1578 T. PROCTER *Gorg. Gallery* B iv, That thou and I shall ioyne in ioy, and wreake vs of our wrong.

†d. To deliver or rescue (a person) *from* or *out of* woe, etc. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 375 Much þe bygger 3et was my mon, Fro þou was wroken fro vch a wo3e. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 29 Out of whoo 3et art not wrokyn, In helle logge þou xalt be lokyn. *Ibid.* 330, I xal delyvere mannys kynne,—From wo I wole hem wreke!

†e. *refl.* To satisfy or gratify (oneself). *Obs.*—1

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 181 Whiles how art 3onge, and þi wepne kene, Wreke þe with wyuynge, 3if þow wilt ben excused.

6. To take vengeance or inflict retributive punishment for, to avenge or revenge (some wrong, harm, or injury).

Beowulf 1670 Ic..fyren-dæda wræc, deað-cwealm denizea. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxviii. 10 Wrec blod ðiowa ðinra ðæt agoten is. *c* 1205 LAY. 19365 He þohten hider wenden & wræken his fader wunden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17332 Miself es sett to wrek þe wrang. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 327 Þat non ne mihte comen hire to..with hir to speken, þat euere mihte hire bale wreken. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxxii. 43 For the blood of his seruauntis he shal wreke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1750 Now [is] tyme..To mene vs with manhode & our mys wreke. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Ep. ii. in Ashm. (1652) 109 Of your great fortune ye be not presumptuous, Nor vengeable of my rode to wreke every wrong. *a* 1525 *Vergilius* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* (1858) II. 23 When wyll you wreke your faders dethe? 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IX. 169 Yet list he not their wretched woe to wreake. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 141 The dome diuine..Yet strikes at last, and surely wreakes the wrong. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xi. 5 For of a womans hand it was ywroke, That of the wound he yet in languor lyes. 1622 FLETCHER *Prophetess* II. ii, Lend me your helping hands To wreak the Parricide. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XII. 338 Arms, Arms, the double-form'd with Fury call; To wreak their Brother's Death. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* II. xxvii, Vanoc's death must now be wroken. 1814 — *Lord of Isles* IV. xxx, O Scotland! shall it e'er be mine To wreak thy wrongs in battle-line. 1887 SWINBURNE *Locrine* IV. ii. 56 My will It is that holds me yet alive..Till all my wrong be wroken.

b. Const. *on* or *upon* (a person or persons).

a 900 *Juliana* 204 Þonne ic nyde sceal..on þære grimmestan godscyld wrecan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2386 Wroken on þaim sal be þat wrang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 227 Wreik on thame the mekill ill That thai and tharis has done vs till. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxix. On my-self bene al my harmys wrokin. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron., Hist. Scot.* I. 390/1 That he might haue wroken his grief vpon him. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 15 Perhaps this hand may..wreake your sorrow on your cruell foe. 1717 POPE *Iliad* IX. 684 She.. call'd the powers beneath On her own son to wreak her brother's death. 1882 TENNYSON *Promise of May* I. 507 Why then the crowd May wreak my wrongs upon my wrongers. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. xii. 37 On him, [I] beseech thee, wreak my wrongs amain.

†c. To vindicate (something). *Obs.*

c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 18 God bidde þ vengeaunce hije, And helpe trouþe be wel wroken. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 10 Poore clout-shooes gate their clubs, and willingly attend, To wreke there mistris cause.

†7. To visit (a fault, misdeed, evil action) with punishment; to punish (wrong-doing). *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXVIII. § 7 Þæt is þonne hiora mildsung þæt mon wrece hiora unðeawas be hiora gewyrhtum. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 383 Ðæt he ða gyltas..wrece on scyldezum monnum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 185 Swa se wer hit wrecaþ gif his wif hie forhealdeþ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Godes wrake cumeð on þis woreld to wrekende on sunfulle men here gultes. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Ne bi-hold þu ham [*sc.* sins] nout leste þu wreoke ham on me. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3067 So sal þin hardnesse ben wreken, þat men sulen longe þor-after speken. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 77 Þat wikkednes, þat men suld haf wroken. *a* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 395 Þat god may wreke Euerich a word þat we spake. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xix. (Arb.) 46 A! reynart that ye now al thus haue your wyl I pray god to wreke it. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ii. 22 There gan he..with bitter wracke To wreake on me the guilt of his owne wrong. 1620 BEAUM. & FL. *Faithf. Sheph.* v. i, Else Pan wreak, With double vengeance, my disloyalty.

8. To inflict or take (vengeance, etc.) *on* or *upon* a person; to execute or carry out by way of punishment or revenge.

In frequent use from *c* 1250.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 30 That ye make punyssyon thereof and wrek on hym grete vengaunce. 1590 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 589 He left the Dame, Resolv'd.. To wreak his Vengeance, and to cure her Love. 1738 P. WILLIAMSON *Life & Adventures* (1812) 39 So desirous was every man to have a share in wreaking his revenge on them [*sc.* dead Indians]. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 412 Xerxes..wreaked his vengeance upon Babylon. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* IV. vii, An historian springs up, who wreaks ample chastisement on it [*sc.* a nation] in return. 1855 PALEY *Æschylus* Pref. (1861) p. xxv, Till vengeance had been wreaked for the wrongs suffered in life. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1236 Thou hast wreak'd his justice on his foes. 1899 SWINBURNE *Rosamund* II. 32/2, I would the deed Were done, the wreak of wrath were wroken, and I Dead.

b. To cause or effect (harm, damage, etc.).

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. xxxix, With thee..will I seek Through their array of banded slaves to wreak Ruin upon the tyrants. 1818 — *Rosal. & Helen* 670 That poor and hungry men should break The laws which wreak them toil and scorn, We understand. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, [In]the fog..the unpopular steanier..always was..wreaking destruction upon somebody or something. 1880 *Daily News* 22 Sept., Landslips..are looked for and wreak but little harm.

c. To inflict or deliver (a blow, etc.); to deal.

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. x, The wreathed Serpent.. did ever seek Upon his enemy's heart a mortal wound to wreak. 1849 MEREDITH in *Chambers' Edin. Mag.* July 16/2 There the murder-mouthed artillery..Wrok the thunder of its treachery On the skeleton brigade. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 55 Though they wreak Upon me stroke and again stroke.

9. With *out*. To exact by way of punishment.

1879 MOMERIE *Origin Evil* I. 16 Justice, which can only be appeased by wreaking out a certain quantity of agony as an equivalent for a certain quantity of sin.

IV. †10. *intr.* To take vengeance; to inflict punishment. Also const. *on*. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxvii. 12 In noman dryhtnes ic wreocu in him. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lvi. 435 Ic wrice on eow æfter eowrum ȝeðeahte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxlix. 7 Mid þy hi wrecan þenceað wraðum cynnum. *a* 1000 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Lat him wreke ðe is riht deme ouer ðe liuiende. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2049 Hu wrakeliche, wenestu, wule he, al o wraðõe, wreken on þe, wrecche! *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xcviii. 9 Our God, þou herd hem; þou, God, was mercyful to hem and by ginnand to wreke in alle her fyndeynges. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 198 Bot neuer 3et ..I herde þat euer he wrek so wyberly on werk þat he made. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 2786 Thai here glaidly, and lytill spekis, Laith for to crab and seldin wreikis. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 252 Fy, now 3owr oares employ, Sack, wreak, revenge, demolish and destroy!

Hence **Wrea'king** *vbl. sb.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19336 (Edin.), Quebir 3ie wil driue on us þe blame Of ani wreking of [*Faisf.* on] þis name. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. vii. (1868) 147 Agamenon..purged in wrekyng by þe destruccioun of troie þe loste chambres of mariage of hys brober. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 323 Thy wordis and werkis will haue a wrekyng. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 298 When our hearts..tell us it is but the wreaking of our Malice. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* XXXVIII. 41 The Wreaking of a Malice, and..the gratifying of a Revenge.

Wreak, erron. f. *reak*, obs. var. RECK *v.*

1579 SPENSER *Sheph Cal.* Dec. 29 What wreaked I of wintrye ages waste. 1592 R. JOHNSON *Nine Worthies* F j, He layde him downe like one that wreaked no guerdon to this grace. 1594 *Selimus* 200, I wreake not of their foolish ceremonies. 1600 [see RECK *v.* 3 a]. 1683 G. MERITON *Yorks. Dialogue* 661 Better's a comming; pray thee, do not wreak [*rime* break].

Wreak, obs. erron. f. REEK *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Wreake, ? variant of WRECK *sb.*[1] 5.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 41 The French lye yonder like to wreakes of sand.

†**Wreake,** obs. var. WRECK *v.*[1]

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 49 Huge whales in Seas that mighty carricks wreake.

Wreaker (ri'kəɹ). Now *arch* and *rare*. Also 4–5 **wreker**(e, 5 **-ar**, 6 *Sc.* **wrekar**. [f. WREAK *v.* + **-ER**[1]. Cf. OHG. *rechâri* (MHG. *-ære*, *-er*, G. *rächer*), MLG. *wreker*, *wrecher*, (M)Du. *wraker*, and WRECHER.] One who takes vengeance; an avenger.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* viii. 3 Þat þou for-do þe faa, þe wreker him vnto. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. iv. (1868) 128 Ne seek no foreyn wrekere [*ed.* 1560 wreckerie] out of þi self, for þou þi self hast prest þe in to wicked þinges. *c* 1381 — *Parl. Foules* 361 The stork the wrekere of a-vouterye. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 18 That thow destroye the enemy and the wrekere. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 201 b/2 This holy man was a grete wreker and auenger on hymself. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. ix. 82 Tysyphone, the wrekar of misdedis. 1557 PHAER *Æneid.* VI. (1558) Sj, Brutus, mischief wreaker. [1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 68 The storke..ys a greater wreaker of the adulteryes of his owne kynde.] 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* XI. 280 For him she left indeed All woes that a mother's wreakers to dreadful end may speed.

Wreakful (ri'kful), *a.* Also 6 **wreke-**, 6–7 **wreakeful**(l. [f. WREAK *sb.* + **-FUL**. Cf. WRACKFUL, WRAKEFUL, WRECHEFUL *adjs.*]

Freq. from *c* 1560 to *c* 1610. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1. Of persons, etc.: Given or addicted to revenge; vengeful.

1532 TINDALE *Wks.* (1572) 24/2 They also fayne ye saintes ..more wreakeful, and vengeable, then the Poetes fayne their goddes. 1582 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 2116 Not helping to do any sinne that wreakefull Ioue forbode. 1590 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 201 A wreakful mind and revengeful of injuries. 1598 [see WREAK *sb.* 2 b]. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIV. 159 Atrides; this, doth passing fitly stand With sterne Achilles wreakfull spirit. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Scaliger Comm* to Knowing well, that Antonio was wreakful, and vindicative. 1821 W. RICHARDSON *Maid of Lodbilt* III. Of their own renown Wreakful assassins are those shallow rulers. 1829–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XI. 92 Less wreakful pours Justice divine on them its vengeance down.

b. *transf.* Of natural agencies.

1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorbodue* III. i, Destroy, I say, with flash of wrekefull fier The traitour sonne. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* 7 b, Was earth consumde with wreakful waues? 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Eden* 297 The wreakfull nature-drowning Flood Spar'd not this beauteous place. 1626 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v. 344 Unsuccoured..From wreakefull stormes' impetuous tyranny. 1878 R. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 18 Summoning..From earth, and air, and their more proper hell, All wreakful influences.

2. Marked or characterized by desire for revenge; of the nature of vengeance or retribution.

1532 *Henryson's Test. Cresseid* 329 (Thynne), So scheweth through thy dede, A wrekeful sentence gyuen on Cressyde. 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* IX. 166 This short discourse..is onely you to pray..to put this wreakful wrath away. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 153 He will (in wreakfull recompence that thou hast so disgrac't him)..deforme thee. 1620 NICCOLS *Eng. Elisa* Induct. 9 In top of heau'n he tooke his wreakfull stand Ore that great Towne. 1626 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 592 Cold winter's stormes and wreakfull teene. 1752 MENDEZ *Seasons, Spring* 11 The cuckoo.. with his wreakful tale the spouse doth fray. 1797 MICKLE *Concub.* I. xxiv, Left to your Aunts fell Spight and wreakfull Crueltie.

Wreakless (ri'klĕs), *a.*[1] *rare.* [f. WREAK *sb.* + **-LESS**.] a. Unpunished. b. Unavenged.

1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* III. i, Nought that is Approu'd by Reason, can be Cowardise. *Charl.* Dispute when you should fight. Wrong wreaklesse sleeping, Makes men dye honorlesse. 1615 — *Odyssey* II. 223 You still wreaklesse liue; Gnaw (vermine-like) things sacred: no lawes giue To your deuouring. 1880 SWINBURNE *Birthday Ode* 142 Under these the watch of wreakless wrong With fire of eyes unhungered.

†**Wreakless,** *a.*[2] *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. WREAK *v.*, obs. var. RECK *v.*] = RECKLESS *a.*

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vi. 7 So flies the wreakless shepherd from y^e^ Wolfe.

†**Wreaks,** erron. f. REAKS (pranks) *Obs.*

1633 MORE *Antid. agst. Atheism* III. vi. 125 A very perfidious Master, who plays wreaks..on purpose to betray them.

Wrear, var. WRAYER *Obs.* **Wreast,** obs. f. WREST *v.*, WRIST. **Wreastlen,** obs. f. WRESTLE *v.* **Wreat,** Sc. var. WHITE *sb.* and *v.* **Wreatch,** obs. f. WRETCH *sb.*

Wreath (riþ). Pl. **wreaths** (riðz). Forms: 1 **wriða, wriþa,** 4–5 **wrøpe,** 4–6 **wrethe,** 5 *Sc.* **wreth,** 6 **wreith, wrayth,** 6–7, 9 **wreathe,** 6– **wreath** (9 *north. dial.* **wreeath**). [OE. *wriða, wriþa*, f. the weak grade of the stem of *wriþan* WRITHE *v.*[1] Cf. WRITH *sb.*

The alleged OE. *wrǽð* as a variant of *wrǽd* rests only on a transcript by Junius.

Walker (1791) gives the pronunciations (riþ) and (rið), preferring the former on grounds of analogy, though he thinks it 'the least usual mode'. Occasional rimes of that period (e.g. Roscoe, Shelley) attest the currency of the latter pronunciation.]

I. 1. Something wound, wreathed, or coiled into a circular shape or form; a twisted or wreathed band, fillet, or the like.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXIII. 608 Hi..becnytton anne wriþan eall onbutan his swuran. *a* 1050 *Liber Scint.* (1889) 200 Mid wriþan treowenum [L. *loramento ligneo*] ȝewriþen grundweall..na byþ tosłopen. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 65 A wonden wrethe þat his heued byd Spred he all furth on brede. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) XXIII, For sometyme þei croiteth in wrethes and sometyme flatte. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clii, The sowles & stakes be pyghte in the grounde, & there abowte ben wrethes wouen & wounden of thornes & roddes. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrethe of olde cordes dypped in grece and pytche,..*tourbiginaulx*. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 180 White taffata for wreathes abowte their hattes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 187 A low Tulipant (or wreath of silke and gold). 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. XV. 420 Where one gaineth a garland of bayes, hundreds have had a wreath of hemp. 1696 J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 162 Let them be thicker, by wispes or wreathes of small sticks—wrapt up in linnen. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Rigging*, A circular wreath or rope, called the grommet, or collar. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 122 *Grommets*,...wreaths of rope which confine the oars. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss., Garlands*, wreaths of ribbon enclosing a white glove. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 205 *Wreaths*, four short pieces of hemp rope placed round the legs of a horse.

b. A ring, band, or circlet of (usu. precious) metal, etc., esp. for wearing as an ornament; a torque.

a 1000 *Riddles* lix. [lx.] 5 Friþspæde bæd God nerigende gæste sinum se þe wende wriþan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 568 Ic þæslen sunne wriðan on his nosu, and sunne bridel on his weleras. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5723 (Laud MS.), A grieslich best..; Tee3 he had so wrøpen wrþen. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlvii. (*Euphemia*) 196 To quham þe lug..gef a kirtil & of fyne gold a wrethe þar-til. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1287 A wrethe of gold..Vpon his heed, set ful of stones brighte. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 46 [He] take..a grete wreth of golde..and put it about his hals. 1443 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 111 The schireffes of Coventre hath..a salt seller, the wrethis gilt. 1591 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 303 Cum uno flore argenti in fundo, cum uno wrelth deaurato circa florem. *c* 1830 *Hichescorner* 587 They be yemen of the wrethe that be shakled in gyues. [1895 THORPE tr. *Beowulf* 4041 Oft she a ringed wreath [OE. *hrab-wriþen*] to the warrior gaue.]

c. *Her.* A representation of a ring or circlet used as a bearing; *spec.* the circular fillet or twisted

band by which the crest is joined to the helmet; = ORLE 1 c. Also *fig.* (quot. 1622).

1478, etc. [see TIMBRE *sb.*²] 1513 in *Glover's Hist. Derby* (1829) I. App. 61 Robert Darley bayryth..3 barres upon his nek, sabul unde or wave, issant owt of a wrayth goulis and sylver. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 105 He beareth on a wreathe 'Topaze' and 'Saphiere' an Alcian. 1620 BACON *Hen. VII* (1876) 13 The wreath of three, was made a wreath of five; for to the three first titles of the two houses..were added two more. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 393/2 A Sarazens Face..environed about the Temples with a Wreath or Torce. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3608 The Wreath is a kind of roll..which ancient knights wore as a head-dress when equipped for tournaments. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. 265 The Crest was worn supported by a Chapeau or Wreath. 1869 CUSSANS *Her.* 172 A Coronet, or a Wreath,.. was composed of two strands of twisted silk, on which the Crest appeared to be supported. *Ibid.*, The Wreath, Bandeau, or Torse (sometimes, though improperly, styled a Chaplet).

† d. A metal ring forming a holder for a spindle.

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 335 The Spindle is kept from moving end-ways, by Wreaths, in the same Manner as the Axis of a Wheel-Barrow i *Ibid.* xxiii. 377 The Hopper and Spindle are .. kept in their Place .. by two Wreaths screw'd on to the Spindle.

2. Something resembling or comparable to a twisted or circular band; *esp.* a coil of a spiral column of smoke, steam, or the like.

Before *c* 1790 *rare*; freq. from *c* 1820: cf. next.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 58 So spake the Sovran voice, and Clouds began To darken all the Hill, and smoak to rowl In duskie wreathes. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. lx. 281 Having lit her pipe, to add a few more wreathes to the general volume. 1866 *All Year Round* XV. 189/1 Certain misty wreaths—the skirts..of an adjacent sea-fog—kept sweeping up the valley. 1899 GUNTER *M. S. Bradford* xvi. 210 As he puffs the wreaths out of his complacent lips.

b. Freq. const. *of* (smoke, etc.).

1789 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 122 As the sun declines.. The shepherd, all involved in wreaths of fire, .. shows a shadowy speck. 1794 — *Guilt & Sorrow* lviii, Where wreaths of vapour tracked a winding brook. 1797 SCOTT *Erl-King* ii, It is but a dark wreath of the cloud. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. v, Wreaths of dust were spinning round..before the morning blast. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 365 Wreaths of sea came rolling in. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. iii. 288 The homes of the fishermen were putting out curling wreaths of smoke.

c. A bank or drift of snow; a snow-wreath, snowdrift. Freq. *wreath of snow.* Orig. (and chiefly) *Sc.*

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, The thick blawn Wreaths of Snaw..May smoor your Wathers. 1744 THOMSON *Winter* 818 Scarce his Head Rais'd o'er the heapy Wreath, the branching Elk Lies slumbering sullen in the white Abyss. *c* 1790 in Burns *Wks.* (1800) IV. 177 Weeping at the eve o' life, I wander through a wreath o' snaw. 1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds of Scot.* 13 While yet in mountain cleughs Lingers the frozen wreath. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* v. ii. (1864) 284 [He] lived to see his empire melt away like the winter's wreath. 1853 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 26 Those wild gardens amid the wreaths of the untrodden snow.

d. *transf.* A bank of sand.

1890 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 207 Endless links and sand wreaths.

3. Each of the turns, convolutions, or coils of a ringed or spiral structure, spiral shell, etc.; a whirl, whorl.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 61 There is in most hives 17 or 18 wreathes. *Ibid.*, 4 wreathes from the bottome. 1659 FULLER *Pisgah* v. vii. 155 The four first wreaths of my scrue are undoubtedly..true. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1012 The open of the shell is pretty sound, the second turn or wreath is very large for the proportion. 1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 416 A small Brown Buccinum..; with a roundish Mouth of six Wreaths. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Scalare*, A peculiar species of .., screw shell, the several wreaths of which [etc.]. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 58 Let the wreaths (or twists) of the [sheaf] bands be turned upward, toward the ears. 1818 *Gleaner's Portfolio* Sept. 68 The wreaths being ornamented with transverse undulating costæ.

b. *Conch.* The genus *Turbo* (TURBO 2); a turbinated or wreathed shell; a turbinate.

1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 128 *Turbo.* Wreath. ..Its animal [is] a Slug. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 595/2 The clathrus, or barbed wreath, has a taper shell of eight spires. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 203 *Turbo*, Whorl or Wreath.

† c. *Bot.* = COROLLA 2. *Obs.*

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. iii. (1765) 7 The Petal..encloses and protects it [*sc.* the flower] in the manner of a Corolla, or Wreath.

4. A fold, crease, or wrinkle.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Alle falterde þe flesche in his foule lyppys, Ilke wrethe as a wolfe-heuede, it wraythe owtt at ones! 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. xxvii. 484 As it [*sc.* the fig] is verie fat the iuice doth constraine the skin to fall into wreathes. 1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. v. 295 If he haue a short chub neck, with a thicke skin, and many wreathes, or rolles, about the setting on of his chaps. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* I. 126 The Wild-Goat is as big as a Hart..They have Wreaths and Wrinkles on their Horns. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1740) II. 72 You will know whether it [*sc.* the horny part of the hoof] be smooth and ..., otherwise, in Wreathes or Wrinkles.

b. A raised band or string-course. *rare*⁻³.

1677 MILTON *Fr. Dict.* s. *Cordon de muraille*, an out-standing wreath or edge of stone on the out-side of a building, commonly distinguishing the several Stories.

c. *north. dial.* (See quot.)

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* 271 *Wreath*, the mark and swelling on the skin occasioned by a blow.

5. a. = ROLL *sb.*¹ 8 c. Now *dial.*

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 43 b/1 A wase or wreath to be layed vnder the vessell, that is borne vpon the head. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 213 A Wreath, *cirrus, cesticillus.* 1587 MILTON *Gt. Fr. Dict.* s. *Tortillon*, ..a Wreath of Cloth which Women lay upon their heads when they carry a Pail or Basket. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1825–76 in Yorks. glossaries. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 172 The *sheel*..is carried on a 'wreath' or pad.

† b. A roll of bread. (Cf. TORTE.) *Obs.*

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 220 They beat their corne to powder: then they make paste of it, and of the paste, cakes or wreathes. 1613 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 47 A present of..10 wreathes of bread, and a basket of grapes.

† c. (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Penide*, a Pennet; the little wreath of sugar taken in a cold.

6. a. A twist, coil, or winding (of some material thing or natural growth); a sinuosity; a winding motion.

1589 ? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iv, The Cedar..knitteth it selfe with such wreaths into the earth, that it cannot be remooued. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xviii. (1662) 53 The second wreath of that Cable. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 242 The very tailes of them [*sc.* large sheep] hanging in many wreathes to the ground. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 517 Of his tortuous Traine [the serpent] Curld many a wanton wreath in sight of Eve. 1708 POPE *Sappho* 149 Round your neck in wanton wreaths I twine. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 213 A troop of porpoises..In curling wreaths..gambol on the tide. 1810 SHELLEY *Postb. Fragm. M. Nicholson, Spectral Horseman* 50 Then does the dragon..twine his vast wreaths round the forms of the daemons. 1815 — *Alastor* 338 Twilight.. Entwined in duskier wreaths her braided locks O'er the fair front..of day. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 72 A lowly look on..twisted wreaths of the worm in dirt.

† b. *Venery.* The tail of a boar. *Obs.*

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241 The tayle of a Bore is to be termed his wreath. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* iv 27 b. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.* [Hence in some later Dicts.] 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Landships* D 2, A Deere, Bore, a Hare,..haue no more tayles then a Jack-an-Apes, for it is a Deares Single, a Bores Wreath, a Hare or Connyes Scut. [1817 PUCKLE *Club* 90 ['I he flatterer's] next discourse was of the tail or aingle of a deer, the wreath of a boar.]

7. Something formed by twisting; yarn of a specified texture.

1737 DYER *Fleece* III. 62 A diff'rent spinning ev'ry diff'rent web Asks from your glowing fingers: some require The more compact, and some the looser wreath.

8. A curve in the handrail or string of a geometrical stair; that part of the handrail which bends round such curve.

1814 P. NICHOLSON in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXXII. 134 The Plank, out of which the Wreath is to be cut. 1820 — *Staircases*, etc. p. iii, Squaring the wreath upon geometrical principles. 1871 R. RIDDELL *Carp. & Joiner* 68 In this case the wreath must be in two pieces. 1881 *Dict. Architecture* s.v., A wreath of a staircase handrail is continuous in a circular or elliptic staircase.

9. *south. dial.* (See quots.)

1813 DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 268 *Wreaths*, the long rods of hurdles used for sheep-folding. 1856 *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 727 *Wreathes*, (Dorset.), withes to keep hurdles and sowels together.

10. *techn.* A defect in glass (esp. flint glass), consisting in almost imperceptible striæ producing certain optical aberrations. ? *Obs.*

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 584 An uniform flint-glass, free from striæ, or wreath, is much in demand for the optician. *Ibid.*, Glass allowed to cool slowly in mass in the pot is particularly full of wreath.

II. 11. A chaplet or garland of flowers, leaves, or the like, esp. worn or awarded as a mark of distinction, honour, etc. Also rarely without article.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* D iv b, The whiche Astragalus shalbe as it were certaine round beryes and the other Astragalus.. shalbe wrothonne [*sic*] like a wreath. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. iii. 7 Apollos sonne perceauing him with Garland on his head,..caused him to cast the wreath away. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iii. (1605) Gg 8, Goddesse of Artes and Armes,.. Be thou assisting to this Poet of mine, With funerall wreathes incompassing his browes. 1628, etc. [see LAUREATE *a.* 1 b]. 1694 PRIOR *Hymn to Sun* ii, As His Infant Months bestow Springing Wreaths for William's Brow. 1737 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 196 He the wreath Pontific bore amid the Spartan camp. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 712 But fairer wreaths are due..To those who, posted at the shrine of truth, Have fall'n in her defence. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* I. ii, The shepherd kings of patriarchal times, Who knew no brighter gems than summer wreaths. 1839 DICKENS *Nicklaby* xxiv, Mrs. Borum and the governess cast wreaths upon the stage. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 288 She..shall wear Alternate leaf and acorn-ball In wreath about her hair. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 29/2 He is ready to resign his victor's wreath to Darwin.

fig. and *transf.* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, v. i, [May] this crowne,..like the snakie wreathe of Tisiphon, Engirt the temples of his hatefull head. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 61 Hee..gained The Stewards nobler name: and..attain'd The royal Scottish wreath, upholding it in state. 1613 BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 73 Sow-thistle.., whose downy wreath If any one can blow off at a breath, We deeme her for a maide. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 938 There he..obtains fresh triumphs o'er himself, And never with'ring wreaths. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 46 Auspicious Hope! in thy sweet garden grow Wreaths for each toil. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xvii, Twilight o'er the east wove her serenest wreath. 1838 WORDSW. *Death Jas. Hogg* 30 Our haughty life is crowned with darkness. Like London with its own black wreath.

b. Const. *of.*

? *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 213, I for þe on my hed suffyr a wrape of stynkyng hornes. 1595 SPENSER *Epith.* 256 Hymen also crowne with wreathes of vine. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 459 A Crown, Golden in shew, is but a wreath of Thorn; Brings dangers. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* V. 177 The ——— Crew, with Wreaths of Poplar Boughs, Their Temples crown. 1709 POPE *Summer* 20 The Muse..adds this wreath of Ivy to thy Bays. 1800 WORDSW. *Ellen Irwin* 4 A Grecian maid Adorned with wreaths of myrtle.

fig. and *transf.* 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 113 The wreath of radiant fire On flicking Phœbus front. 1828 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 397 The glory..That plays like a wreath of halo-light Around his Mary's head. 1841 EMERSON *Esz., Love* § 5 The remembrance of these visions..is a wreath of flowers on the oldest brows. 1868 FARRAR *Silence & V.* iii. (1875) 60 The power and splendour of her literature, conferred upon her [*sc.* Greece] a wreath of unfading admiration.

c. A trailing cluster of flowers, tendrils, etc.

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 631 A poore Chappel.. adorned onlie with wilde mosse, and wreathes of clasping Ivie. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 138 Long wavy wreaths Of flow'rs..Blush'd on the panels. 1798 WORDSW. *Lines in Early Spring* 10 Through primrose tufts..The periwinkle trailed its wreaths. 1881 E. WAUGH *Lancs. Songs* (ed. 5) 84 Wreaths of fairy frost-work hung Where grew last summer's leaves.

d. *Purple wreath*: (see PURPLE *a.* C 2 c).

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 789. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Petrea volubilis*, the purple wreath, .. is a native of the West India islands and of the mainland from Vera Cruz southward.

e. As the title of a book comprising a collection of short literary pieces; = GARLAND *sb.* 4.

In frequent use from *c* 1825.

1753 (*title*), The Wreath: a Curious Collection of New Songs. 1799 E. DUBOIS (*title*), The Wreath; composed of Selections from Sappho [etc.]..accompanied by a prose Translation and Notes. 1843 (*title*), The Ayrshire Wreath: a Collection of Original Pieces, in Prose and Verse. 1881 'A. L. O. E.' (*title*), A Wreath of Indian Stories.

f. A representation of a wreath in decorative work, metal, stone, etc.

1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* iii, A certain brightly painted china plate, whose bird of paradise, nestling in a wreath of convolvuli and rosebuds, had [etc.]. 1890 YOUNG *Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* 506 Four..wrought silver garlands or wreaths for crowning the Master and Wardens on Election Day.

† **12.** A twisted mass (*of* something). *Obs.*—⁰

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Wrongel van Pieren ofte Wormen*, a Wreath of Wormes for bobbing.

III. 13. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wreath hurdle, line, -offering, part, rail, work*; *wreath-drifted, maker, -wise*; **wreath animaloule** (see quot. and cf. PERIDINIAL *a.*); **wreath shell**, = sense 3 b; **wreath-wort**, the early purple orchis, *O. mascula.*

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 370 *Wreath-Animalcules (*Peridiniidæ*). 1832 MOTHERWELL *Poet. Wks.* 76 More dazzlingly white Than the *wreath-drifted snows. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 181 The making of *wreath hurdles is a profitable business. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 597 Draw a line, which will give the *wreath line formed by the nosings of the winders. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 55 Artificial Flower Maker:..Shell Flower Maker. *Wreath Maker. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Korner & Sister* Poems (1875) 425 With his *wreath-offering silently to stand In the hush'd presence of the glorious dead. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 597 In preparing the string for the *wreath part, a cylinder should be made. 1820 P. NICHOLSON *Staircase*, etc. 17 Getting a *wreath rail out of the least quantity of stuff. 1825 W. HAMILTON *Hand-book* 423 *Turbo*, the *wreath shell. 1845 J. C. MANGAN *German Anthol.* II. 105 Hand-with-hand, linked *wreathwise round, The virgins dance in order. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 384 The same person ..hath contrived an Engine to turne *wreath work. 1730 W. GEORGE in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) III 255 Another large partition, encompassed with plaited wreath-work. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 248 Purple *Wreath-wort.

Hence **Wreathage**, wreaths collectively. *rare*⁻¹.

1883 W. ALLINGHAM in *Athenæum* July 79 Then one sees ..In their hedgerow wreathage manifold Clustering.

Wreathe (rēð), *v.* Also 6–7 wreth(e, 6–9 wreath, 7 wreeth, wreith, 9 *Sc.* wraithe. [Early mod. Eng. *wrethe*, partly a back-formation from *wrethen* (see WREATHEN *ppl. a.*), pa. pple. of WRITHE *v.*¹, and partly f. WREATH *sb.* Senses 6–7 clearly show the influence of WRITHE *v.*]

I. 1. *trans.* To twist or coil (something); to form or fashion into a coil or coils. Occas. in fig. context. Also with *about, up.*

1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. xii, These hooles bene wrethed and wounde as a spyndle of a presse. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 327 Longe heare which they wreath on both sydes theyr eares. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 879 An adder Wreathed up in fatal folds. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 246 These parts yeeld sheepe, whereof the taile of one wreathed to the ground, doth [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 346 Th' unwieldy Elephant..us'd all his might, and wreathd His Lithe Proboscis. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. x. 22 The Guts are oblong, round, hollow bodies variously wreathed about. 1738 THOMSON *Agamemnon* I. vii. 26 Troy..yet wreathing smoke to heaven. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 102 Yonder nodding beech That wreathes its old fantastic roots so high. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. xviii, Fitz-James..wreath'd his left hand in the mane. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 6 Therefore ..are we wreathing A flowery band to bind us to the earth. 1826 SHERER *Notes & Refl. Ramble Germany* 126 A large hollow spire of open stone-work, wreathed and twisted as fancifully as an elegant toy might be. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* vi. 246 The chain of spiritual despotism had been beaten and wreathed upon the anvil..of the.. afflicted Church.

refl. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 68 To ymagine that the coale should wreth or turne it self in some place to the one [vein]. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Digress. 379 The Beards of wilde Oats..continually wreath and unwreath themselves according to..the temperature of the ambient Air. 1733 *Adventurer* No. 31 P 10 Wreathing themselves in various contortions, a new brood of serpents hissed round

her head. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 585 Like the slugs, they wreath themselves up, and when touched make themselves quite round. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* I. (1858) 80 The clouds wreathing themselves in that strange wild way.

b. To wind or turn (some flexile object) about or over something; to form or adjust as a wreath or encircling coil. Freq. with *round* or *about*. Also *transf.*

1530 PALSGR. 785/1 He had a kercher wreathed about his head. 1583 tr. *Maison Neuve's Gerileon* I. 80 b, [This] dismeasured Crocodile..wreathyng his Tayle..all aboute his [*sc.* a horse's] Feete afore. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xii. 125 They..weare on their heads a cloth wreathed. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* v. K 4 b, A new Head being set vpon your Statue, A Rope is since found wreath'd about it. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* v. 42 A Serpent wreathed about a Sword, placed vpright. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 30 Round that, they wreath a white or red Turban. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus* 11 Ye waves That o'er th' interminable ocean wreath Your crisped smiles. *a* 1824 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VIII. 352 An ill-adjusted turban..wreathed around their sunburnt brows. 1845 J. C. MANGAN *German Anthol.* II. 62 The white flowers wreathed Around my temples by thy whiter hand. 1877 TENNYSON *Achilles over the T.* 5 Around his head The glorious goddess wreath'd a golden cloud.

refl. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 109 About his necke A greene and guilded snake had wreath'd it selfe. 1632 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlewoman* 122 The luye..windes and wreathes it selfe about the Plant. 1866 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* v. 83 The gorgeous drapery of romance gradually wreathed itself round his name.

c. *Sc.* To fasten or secure (a yoke) upon a draught-animal. Only in fig. context.

Perhaps partly by influence of *Lam.* i. 14 (see 3 b. *fig.*).

1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 17 These men..labour to wreith the yok of thair oppressiounes upon thair bodyes and soules. *a* 1732 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 46 A yoke, which the wretched sufferers can neither bear, nor yet shake off, is wreathed about their necks. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* II. (1817) I. 399 Troops..employed as instruments for subduing the Scots, and wreathing the yoke about their neck. 1777 WATSON *Philip II*, I. 92 Till, the yoke being wreathed about their necks, the most secret murmurings became..fatal to those who uttered them. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* VII. 500 Not those who..sailed To purchase human flesh, or wreath the yoke Of vassalage on savage liberty.

transf. 1852 J. JARVIS *Disc.* 108 The burden of man's guilt is wreathed to the neck of the Only Begotten.

2. To surround or invest with or as with something twisted or turned; to enwreathe. Also with advs., as *about*, *in*.

1598 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 41, vj Corled hed Sculles..wrethen abowte with redd golde sarsnett and sylver Lawne. 1631 T. HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Fair Maid of West* I. B j b, I for this Will wreathe thee in a glorious arch of gold, stuck full of Indian gemmes. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 76 Dusk faces with white silken Turbants wreath'd. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 7 With stings of asps the leafless plants were wreath'd. 1832 SCOTT *Betrothed* Note D, Three hundred of the British, who fell there, had their necks wreathed with the Eudorchawg. 1833 WORDSW. *In Frith of Clyde* 4 Ne'er did morn..more gracefully..wreathe with mist his [*sc.* a crag's] forehead high. 1854 F. W. MANT *Midshipman* 90 Like some huge baronial castle wreathed in with smoke. 1879 BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* i. 18 Wreathed with fresh Sculpturings of forgotten warfare.

fig. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 243 Contentment wreathes with silk and velvet the prisoner's chains.

b. To encircle or surround with a wreath or garland; to bedeck or adorn with or as with a wreath; to garland.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 55 This Nymph..gan'd upon his clustring locks, With Ivy berries wreath'd. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* I. 5 With Laurels wreath your posts, And strow with Flow'rs the Pavement. 1708 POPE *Sappho* 25 Would you with Ivy wreath your flowing hair. 1796 COLERIDGE *To a beautiful Spring* 6 With one fresh garland of Pierian flowers..My languid hand shall wreath thy mossy urn. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxi, To wreathe a victor's brow. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, Doors and windows were..wreathed with garlands. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* V. 73 Then with the myrtle of Venus the chieftain wreathes him.

c. Of flowers, etc.: To encompass or enclose (an object) as or after the manner of a wreath; to form a wreath about (something).

1728 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 140 In the Flow'rs that wreath the sparkling Bowl, Fell Adders hiss. 1796 COLERIDGE *On Autumnal Evening* 10 Each flower that wreath'd the dewy locks of Spring. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 2/3 Flowers of heaven I..wreathing The God-centred vision of all coming years!

3. To unite (two or more things) by twining or twisting together; to entwine, intertwine; also, to fold (the arms).

1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* 13 A rope folded and knit with many knots, one so wrethed within an other, that [etc.]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 61 You shall wynde and wreathe the greene blades [of the garlic] togeather, and treade them to the grounde. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 29 You haue learn'd..to wreath your Armes like a Male-content. 1596 MASCALL *Cattle* 275 To ring hogges,.., some put a red paste wyar vnder the skinne of his snout,..then wreath it altogether. 1600 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 33 Enter Andrugio and Antonio wrethed together. 1808 WORDSW. *White Doe* 1724 If she too passionately wreathed Her arms. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. viii. I beheld..An Eagle and a Serpent wreathed in fight. 1847 MADDEN *Lapsmon* III. 32 Twelve swine, tied together, with withies exceeding great wreathed altogether.

b. To combine (several things into one structure) by interweaving; to twine together; to form or make by intertwining.

a 1547 SURREY *Poet. Essl.* IV. 34 Cables brayded thre fould .., to gether wrethed swer [= sure). 1579 E. K. *Gloss. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 81 A kind of woodde..fit to wreath and bynde in leapes to catch fish withall. 1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xxix. 400 A great cord wreathed of chaines of roasted mays. 1767 GRAY *Death of Hoel* 13 Chains..Wreath'd in many a golden link. 1788 COWPER *Gratitude* 7 She gave..me beside, Wreath'd into an elegant bow, The ribbon. 1821 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 263 Hurdles..made of hazel rods closely wreathed. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rural Life* 289 *Bliahe*, a bar of wood..with holes to take the soles of a hurdle while the maker wreaths it.

refl. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 283 The leaues of this *Cocus* ..wreathynge them selues one within an other.

fig. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxvi. § 8 When..heauenly and earthly happines are wreathed in one crowne. 1612 BIBLE *Lam.* i. 14 The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand: they are wreathed, and come vp vpon my necke. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (J.), In such base noisome hearts you shall ever see pride and ingratitude indivisibly wreathed and twisted together.

†**c.** *local.* To support, maintain, or hold up (a bank, etc.) by or as by wattled work. *Obs.*

1569 *Survey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (L.C.C., 1909) 34 That he stake wreth & lande vppe so mutche earth as neade ys. 1572 *Ibid.* 120 To stake walle or wreath his banke against the riuer of thames. 1576 *Ibid.* 232 To scale watle and wretche [*sic*] the outer side of the saied shewer.

4. To arrange or dispose flowers, etc., as (a wreath); in later use *esp.* to adjust or fashion (flowers, etc.) into a garland or chaplet.

1595 *Lecrine* II. vi. 14 A flowring garland wreath'd of bay. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 892 From his slack hand the Garland wreath'd for Eve Down drop'd. 1828 *Lady's Mag.* Aug. 446/1 A very beautiful chintz, with flowers, delicately wreathed.. on a striped ground of yellow muslin. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* iv. § 2 His next step was to gather the flowers themselves, and wreathe them in his capitals. 1892 TENNYSON *Akbar's Dream* 23 Gathering..From each fair plant the blossom choicest-grown To wreathe a crown..for the king.

†**5.** To make (a bow) by a supple bending of the body. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1730 THOMSON *Autumn* 1197 Let..those of fairer frame.. Wreathe the deep bow, diffuse the lying smile.

II. †**6.** To strain or turn forcibly round or to a side; to wring, wrench, or wrest. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 56 Sir Guyon..from so heauie sight his head did wreath. 1592 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. (1595) 23 Statelie trees (some tops wherof the wind seemeth to wreath and turne at one side). 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 85 By wreathing their [*sc.* fugitives] throats he turned them againe vpon the enemies. 1617 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 139 They killed a man which was a first-borne, wreathing his head from his body. 1668 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* II. (1906) 15 To wreath, rub, slap and smooth them [*sc.* blankets] till you have rendred them very soft and gentle. 1674 HOOKE *Animadv.* 52 This Plate must be wrenched or wraithed, so that the Plain thereof must stand parallel to the Plain of the Index-Frame. 1718–48 POPE *Rape Lock* IV. 100 Was it for this you..your locks..with tort'ring Irons wreath'd around? 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* II. ix. § 7 Moses threw it [*sc.* a diadem] down to the ground, and..wreathed it round, and trod upon it.

fig. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 344 To wrest the will of man, or to wreath his heart to our humours.

†**b.** *fig.* To extend unduly the application or meaning of (a writer or writing); to 'wrest', stretch, strain. *Obs. rare.*

1566 STAPYLTON *Rel. Untr. Jewel* IV. 62 b, To wreate and wrethe Scriptures at his pleasure. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) II. 1820 It is shame for you to wrast and wreath the Doctors as you do. 1686 J. HAMMOND *Leah & R.* (1844) 93 They were resolved to wreth and stretch their commission to the prejudice of Mary-land.

†**c.** *refl.* To worm (oneself) *in*; to insinuate.

a 1575 JEWEL *On 2 Thess.* ii. 1, 2 [Antichrist] shall shew forth himself at the first with countenance of deuotion and holinesse, that hee may..secretly wreath in himselfe.

d. To twist, turn, or contort (the body, limbs, etc.); to writhe.

1642 MILTON *Apol. agst. Smect.* Wks. (1697) 334 When in the Colleges..young Divines..have been seen so oft upon the Stage wreathing and unboning their Clergy-limbs. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* VIII. 171 Octa his wounded Body wreaths in Pain. 1697 R. PRIECE *Bath Mem.* II. v. 318 He was suddenly seized with a violent Convulsion Fit, which wreathed him every way. 1711 GAY *Rural Sports* I. 256 Impatient of the wound, He rolls and wreaths his shining body round. 1787 *Minor* III. ix. 187 My mother..wreathed her body,..and cried. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* XI. xi, Even in death their lips are wreathed with fear. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* IX, Margaret wreathed her throat in a scornful curve.

e. To alter (the features, etc.) *in*, *into*, or *to* a smile, etc. (Cf. WREATHED *ppl. a.* 1 c.)

1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. xxiii, Contempt kept Bertram's anger down, And wreathed to savage smile his frown. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xvi, Gilbert..walked up to the pair, his weather-beaten countenance wreathed into..paternal smiles. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* x. 286 [They] wreathed their countenances in ghastly smiles.

refl. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-Sea Fruit* I, The mobile mouth..will wreathe itself into such a smile that [etc.].

†**7.** **a.** To take (something) by force; to wrest or seize. *Obs. rare.*

1590 C. S. *Right Relig.* 22 To wreath from Princes their crownes is more impossible. *Ibid.* 13 Authoritie to wreath from kinges their crownes.

†**b.** To rend or tear. *Obs.*

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 204 If it should happen to haue lighted on any part of the shippe,..it would rent and wreth sayles, mast, shroudes and shippe and all in maner like a wyth. 1606 N. B[AKTER] *Sydney's Cornucia* E 3, The steamme of an Oke in peeces they wreath. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 487 Lyons..doe not onely bite, but also wreath and teare the wounds.

III. *Instr.* **8.** To undergo or deviation; to diverge or swerve; to coil. Also with *round*.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* XII. vii. 205 From their course the starres doo wreath, And soules she conjure can. 1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) XXXI, The Bay tree.. seems to sigh..And with the wanton wind to wrig & wreath, against the god. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 64 Sometymes the same [vein of limestone] is found to wreath to the northe and southe. *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 236 Aiax a farre greater stone lift up, and, wreathing round, With all his body layd to it, he sent it forth. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 190 Downy bents, that to the air did wreathe. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 60 Where..the lithe brown sea-flowers wreathe and sway.

fig. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* III. 131 Beauty is never so beautiful as when, if I tease it, it wreathes back on me with spirit. 1892 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XLIX, The lightest wave of thought shall lisp, The fancy's tenderest eddy wreathe.

†**b.** To become involved or intertwined. *Obs.*

1632 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlew.* Table † 2, The lute while it is winding, decayes the plant, with which it is wreathing.

9. To assume the form of, circle in the manner of, a wreath. Also *fig.*

1776 J. BARCLAY *Par. Psalms* 88 The flames of fire shall round him wreathe. 1814 BYRON *To Belshazzar* ii, Go! dash the roses from thy brow—Gray hairs but poorly wreathe with them. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) 444 A strange, palpable obscurity, wreathing up in long strata to the northward. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* VII. 395 Real fire of pine-wood..Wreathing around my body greedily. 1875 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* iii. (1887) 81 The weary penman who could send a smile wreathing from Land's End to John o' Groats.

b. *Sc.* To form into, assume the shape of, a snowdrift or snow-wreath.

1861 R. QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 43 We'd na be rad o' scath fra wather, Though snaw was wreathin'. 1887 *Suppl. Jamieson* 280/1 The snaw was wraithin' in the glen.

10. Of flour or meal, in milling: To hug the eye of the millstone so closely as to hinder its descent.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v.

Wreathed (rēðd), *ppl. a.* [f. WREATHE *v.* + -ED 1. Cf. next and WEITHED *ppl. a.*]

1. Formed by or as by wreathing, wrying, twisting, or twining; arranged or disposed in coils, curves, or twists; contorted, twisted.

In frequent use from *c* 1590 to *c* 1630.

c 1530 TINDALE *Exod.* XXVIII. 14 Thou shalt make..cheynes off fine golde: lynkeworke and wrethed, and fasten the

1603 B. JONSON *Masque* Blackness P 1 Musique made out of wreathed shells. 1608 SIR H. PLAT *Garden of Eden* (1653) 142 Winding the young stock about the stick,..it will grow in a wreathed form. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 114 [The] Diadem..might have been of wreath'd Linnen, or Gold, or other solid matter. *a* 1721 KEN *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 273 Unicorns..with their terrible wreath'd Hornes. 1743 DAVIDSON *Virgil, Aeneid* VII. 352 A chain of wreathed gold. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. x, The Eagle..unremittingly assailed The wreathed Serpent. 1822 P. NICHOLSON *Stairc.* p. iv, The geometrical construction of the wreathed part of the Rail. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* XX, The short and proudly wreathed lip. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Anchstme* 362 The fog at times lies wreathed, white and still.

fig. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXIX. D iii, From falshoods wreathed way, O save me, Lord. 1846 J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1903) 95 Whence flowed the tones Of silver lyres, And many voices in wreathed swell.

†**b.** Corrugated; wrinkled. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 42 The Fig tree..all his Wood not so plaine, as wrethed & wrinckled. 1668 BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 12 You shall find the better-tasted fruit to be more wrethed or wrinckled.

c. Formed by wreathing the countenance.

1633 MILTON *L'Allegro* 28 Nods, and Becks, and Wreathed Smiles.

†**2.** Crossed, folded; also, having the arms folded.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii 235 Longauille Did..neuer lay his wreathed armes athwart His louing bosome, to keepe downe his heart. 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinvile* IV, Thetis ..with wreath'd armes. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. ii, Another..walks off melancholic, and stands wreath'd As he were pinn'd up to the

3. **a.** Of columns, etc.: Twisted or shaped in a screw-like form; contorted.

1624 WOTTON *Elem. Archit.* 31 Wreathed, and Vined, and Figured Columnes, which our Author himselfe condemneth. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, Some of the columns wreathed, others spiral. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 596 Wreathed columns; such as are twisted in the form of a screw. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1053 *Wreathed columns*.. are..very appropriately called contorted columns.

1681
The little gun.
barrell.

4. Formed or combined by twining or interweaving; entwined, intertwined.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtile Contров.* 8 A banquet..vnder a wreathed arbor of Laurell, Iasemen, Holly, and Iuy. *Ibid.*, A banke of wrethed boughes. 1593 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 4. 524 These chaines,.. were they of cords, of wreathed tress, of iron,..might bee burst asunder. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Wreath* 2 A Wreathed garland of deserved praise. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 406/2 Two Serpents in Fesse to the sinister; wreathed, respecting. *Ibid.*, Two Snakes wreathed in pale. 1795 H. TOOKE *Purley* II. 256 A *waddle* hedge, is a hedge of..twisted or wreathed twigs or boughs. 1817 *Dunstable Monuments* I. 1 Here St. Joseph..erected,..of wreathed twigs, the first Christian

oratory in England. 1868 Tennyson *Lover's Tale* II. 43 They vanish'd.. Beneath the bower of wreathed eglantines. *transf.* 1762 Warton *On Sir J. Reynolds's Painted Window* 24 Where Superstition with capricious hand In many a maze the wreathed window plann'd.

fig. 1820 Keats *Ode to Psyche* 60 A rosy sanctuary will I dress With the wreath'd trellis of a working brain.

5. Covered, decked, or encompassed by a wreath or wreaths; garlanded.

1819 Keats *Lamia* I. 38 When from this wreathed tomb shall I awake? 1847 Longf. in *Life* (1891) II. 76 Byron's wild and wicked travesty..hits the Laureate [*sc.* Southey] hard on his wreathed head. 1897 *Daily News* 30 June 6/2 The wreathed coffin was conveyed..to the burial ground.

b. *Her.* Encircled with a twisted band or wreath.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 473/2 A Flower de Lis Wreathed, or in the middle Wreathed. *Ibid.* 393/2 A Sarasens Head.. wreathed about the temples. 1898 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 143/2 Heads are also blasoned wreathed or banded, as the case may be.

c. In the specific names of birds (see quots.).

Frequently used by Latham.

1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 358 Wreathed Hornbill ..on the top of the upper mandible is an appendage..rounded at top. 1785 *Ibid.* V. 216 Wreathed Plover?..round the crown runs a list of white, encircling the head like a wreath. 1819 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. 488 Wreathed Pluvian. *Pluvianus coronatus*,..[= Latham's] Wreathed Plover. 1823 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 140 Wreathed Warbler...From the eye round to the nape a white line, passing backwards, and surrounding it as a wreath at the back part.

Hence **Wrea·thedness.** *rare*⁻⁰.

1730 Bailey (fol.), *Contortuousness*, wreathedness.

Wreathen (rī·ð'n), *ppl. a.* Also 4–6 **wrethen**, 5 **-yne**, **-in**, (?) **wrethe**. [ME. *wrīðen*, normal variant of *wrīðen*, pa. pple. of *wrīðen* Writhe *v.* Cf. Writhen *ppl. a.*]

1. = Wreathed *ppl. a.* 1.

a. *a* 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 5526 All þe watir of þe werd [to him seemed] bot as a wrethen neddire. 1401–2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 393 vj libr.de wrethyn candell, *xs.* *a* 1480 *Songs & Carols 15th C.* (Warton Club) 85 My baselard hast a wrethin hafte. 1483 *Will of Pachett* (Somerset Ho.), A wrethyne rynge of golde. *c* 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 310 Great gilte Candilsteks costid withe wrethin shanks. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 207 b, Veluet..fret with flowers of Siluer, and small twigges of wrethin worke. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* lv. 5 Mercure with his wrethin wand. 1887 *Suppl. Jamieson* 280 Wrethin"strae-rapes.

β. 1568 Bible (Bishops') *Exod.* xxviii. 22 Chaynes of pure golde and wreathen worke. 1598 Delonev *Jacke Newb.* i. Wks. (1912) 7 The Bel-weather..by the force of his wreathen hornes..slew him. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 245 Many..are the Epitheta which are giuen to Snakes, as..Gorgonean, wreathen, slyding. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xxviii. 14 Thou shalt make..two chaines of pure gold..; of wreathen worke shalt thou make them. 1798 *Mass. Mag.* Nov., Imagination very easily giving them [*sc.* stalactites] pedestals and chapiters, and even wreathen-work. 1872 J. Hay *Pike County Ball.* (1880) 154 Wreathen amulet Forged against sword-stroke. 1872 Ruskin *Aratra Pentelici* 51 The wreathen work of its doors, ..the foliage of its capitals. 1875 — *Fors Clav.* lviii. 288 The pierced fractional coins will only bear a chased wreathen fillet. 1877 Blackmore *Erema* II, The glorious woods of wreathen gold..all were mine.

Comb. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 566 Wreathen-podded Whitlowgrass. [Grows in] Fissures of limestone rocks.

2. Formed or arranged by or as by twining or interweaving; entwined, intertwined.

1621 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. ix. § 21. 81 Their Oratory, built onely of wrethen wands. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 58 To build a Church or Oratorie of wreathen wands. 1713 Cᵗᵉss Winchelsea *Misc. Poems* 39 The Flowers..In wreathen Garlands dropt agen On Lucullus. *a* 1850 in Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Orders* (1852) 45 A church of wreathen wands.

Wreather (rī·ðəɹ). [f. Wreathe *v.* + -er 1.] One who or that which wreathes, twists, or twines. Also *transf.*

1566 Stapleton *Ret. Untr. Jewel* IV. 62 To proue you wresters and wrethers of Gods holy words. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 5 Pityocamtes, that is to say, a wreather or bower of pine apple trees. 1648 Hexham II, *Een Wrijter*, an Extorter, a Wreather, or a Wrester. 1817 Keats *Sleep & Poetry* 14 Sleep,..Soft closer of our eyes!..Wreather of poppy buds, and weaping willows!

Wreathing (rī·ðiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.]

1. The action of twisting or contorting; the fact of writhing; an instance of this.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Torsement*, a wreathing. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiii. 223 Leauing their mouings free; which yet..shall come to the end which God hath listed to appoint vnto them, whatsoeuer windings and wreathings they seeme to themselues to make. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 34 By the wreathing of their bodies..they seek to avoid the pursuer. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. v. 8 Touching the Contorsion or Wreathing of the recurrent Nerve. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.*, 130 The Earth-Worm..by a sort of wreathing..takes hold of the Ground with its small Feet. 1794 R. J. Sulivan *View Nat.* II. 456 The sun,..whose oblique course is not unaptly represented by the wreathings of a snake. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 451 The attendants told me, from the wreathing of her body.., that she would soon have another fit. 1823 Joanna Baillie *Poems* 260 [Steam] With tressy wreathings playing in the air. 1829 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Oct. 23 Mid the wreathings of the vapour dim The goddess grew in glory visible.

fig. 1612 Shelton *Quix.* I. IV. vi. (1620) 345 His Friend did notable injurie to their amitie in searching out wreathings and ambages in the discovery of his most hidden thoughts to him. 1641 Fanshaw *True Relat. Parl. Rich. II*, 37 Infinit wreathings of contention.

b. *concr.* That which is wreathed or twisted.

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. xiii. 449 And for these grafts it is ynough, if euerie one of them, haue one good eiclet or two aboue the wreathing. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* (ed. 2) xii 110 To Painters, for the picturing of some exquisit armes, leg, torse or wreathing of the body.

†2. A wresting of the sense or meaning of something. *Obs.*

1608 Prynne *Cons. Cozens* 67 Which is a grosse abuse, a wreathing, a peruerting of the Scriptures.

3. The action or fact of entwining or intertwining; an instance of this.

1552 [see Wrapping *vbl. sb.* 2 b]. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 53 Boughes and braunches..did..dilate Their clasping armes, in wanton wreathings intricate. 1661 Boyle *Spring of Air* II. ii. (1682) 32 In strings there is required either wreathing or soma..texture of component parts. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Cry of Children* viii, Let them touch each other's hands, in a fresh wreathing Of their tender human youth! *a* 1901 W. Bright *Age of Fathers* (1903) II. 83 The wreathing of a garland for the Penates.

4. The action of investing with a wreath.

1852 Grote *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 137 The operations of wreathing and unwreathing must here have been performed by the soldiers symbolically.

Wreathing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.]

1. That wreathes, twists, or twines; enwreathing.

1677 Dryden *State Innoc.* III. 16 When your kind Eyes look'd languishing on mine, And wreathing Arms did soft embraces joyn. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* IV. 22 Unbidden Earth shall wreathing Ivy bring. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* 180 To cast from off her Brow the wreathing Green. 1816 Byron *Siege Cor.* vi, In red and wreathing columns flash'd The flame. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv, [To] see the wreathing water in the rapids hurrying on to take its fearful plunge. 1887 Higby *Holiday on Road* 327 The wreathing mists and wandering clouds of such a day.

†2. *Wreathing-team*, part of the gear of a plough. Perhaps an error for *wrethen* Wrathen *ppl. a.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 5 He muste haue his ploughe and his..horses, and the geare that belongeth to them;..bowes, yokes, landes, stylkynges, wrethynge-temes.

Hence **Wrea·thingly** *adv.*

1848 J. C. Mangan *German Anthol.* II. 59 That lone Gate which the tall wild weeds encircle wreathingly. 1892 *Temple Bar Mag.* Aug. 542 [The smoke] falls wreathingly upon the face of the sleeping child.

Wreathless (rī·ðlės), *a.* [f. Wreath *sb.* + -less.] Having no wreath; destitute or devoid of a wreath or wreaths.

1805 Coleridge *Work without Hope* 11 With lips unbrightened, wreathless brow, I stroll. 1878 Swinburne *Poems & Ball.* 139 While youth with burning lips and wreathless hair Sang toward the sun. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 30 March 5/7 The almost clandestine removal of the coffin.. wreathless and flowerless to the numbered luggage-van.

Wreathlet (rī·ðlėt). [f. as prec. + -let.] A small wreath.

1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 958 From that Wreath he has woven wreathlets. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 491 These tiny wreathlets wandered hither and thither. 1887 [C. Mackay] *Twin Soul* I. xxii. 235 The blue smoke curled in beautiful wreathlets to the sky.

Wreathy (rī·ðĭ), *a.* [f. as prec. + -y 1.]

1. Of the form of a wreath, coil, or twisted band; marked or characterized by convolution, twisting, or twining; wreathing, curling.

1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxiii. § 1. 303 A vast multitude of seuerall little ioyntes, and wreathy labyrinthes of nature. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* (ed. 3) III. xxiii. 135 That famous one [*sc.* horn] which is preserved at St. Dennis near Paris, hath wreathy spires, and cochleary turnings about it. 1798 Joanna Baillie *Fugitive Verses* (1840) 3 Slowly mounts the smoke in wreathy clouds. *Ibid.* 110 Wreathy folds. 1817 Moore *Lalla R., Nourmahal* 411 Those wreathy, Red Sea shells, Where Love himself, of old, lay sleeping. *a* 1851 Moir *Evening Tranquillity* vi, Above yon cottage..The wreathy smoke ascends. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxvi. (1856) 332 The long, wreathy brown clouds.

transf. 1784–5 *Ann. Reg., Poetry* 137 Wreathy smiles, and roseate pleasures, Are thy richest, sweetest treasures. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 513 The very foam of the sea, flung in all its wreathy airiness from the crest of a wave.

2. Decked with a wreath or wreathing.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* IV. 438 The Bacchanalian Dames.. houl about the Hills, and shake the wreathy Spear.

b. *Her.* (See quot.) *rare*⁻⁰.

1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her., Tortilly*,..a term applied to Ordinaries which are wreathed; the term *wreathy* is also found.

3. Of the nature of, forming or constituting, a wreath or garland. Also *transf.*

1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* 181 Her bristling Locks the wreathy Fillet scorn. 1725 Pope *Odyssey* VI. 152 Around his loins the verdant cincture spreads A wreathy foliage. *c* 1750 R. Cumberland in *Mem.* (1806) 62 The victim beast,..With all its wreathy honours on its head. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 90 On Carmel's brow the wreathy vine Had all its honours shed. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. 146 A wilderness of blossom, interwoven, intertwined, wreathy, garlandy. 1830 [see Garlandy *a.*]. 1848 Browning *Flight of Duchess* xvii. 59 His forehead chaplated green with wreathy hop.

Wreat(t, obs. Sc. forms of Write *sb.*¹

†**Wreeche,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *wreccan* (*wreahte*, *wrehte*; *wreaht*, *wreht*) to arouse, undertake, raise. Cf. MDu. *wrecken*, NFris. *wrâhi* to waken, *wrâken* (adj.) awake.] *trans.* To rouse, arouse; to bring to life.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 193 Ne sceal he no ǽnt an don ǽnt he ana wacize, ac he sceal eac his friend wreccean [*v.r.* wreccan]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xl. 241 We sceolan on slæpe..ac he læt þurh-wacol.., and wrehte us siððan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 106 Þo hit bycom þat he hayhte [= hatched] & of his eyre briddes wrahte [*Cott.* wrajte].

Wreeche, Wreche, etc.: see Wretch, etc.

Wreeful, variant of Wrackful *a.*² *Obs.*

†**Wreke,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3 **wrecche**, 3–6 **wreche**, 4–6 **wrech**, 4 **wriecche**, 4–5 **wreeche**, 5 **wreach**. *β.* 3–4 **wrache**, 5 **wrach**. *γ.* 4–5 **wreeche** (4 **vreeche**), 5–6 **wretche**. [The normal representative of an OE. *wrǽc* (with palatal *æ*) fem., of which however the existing texts present no example which can be definitely distinguished from *wrǽc* neut., Wrack *sb.*¹ (A possible instance occurs in *Riddles* ii. 4, if the reading *wræce* is correct.) The vowel of *wrǽc* (:—earlier **wrāh-jō*) corresponds to that of OFris. *wrêke*, *wrêtse* (NFris. *wrêk*, *wrêk*), OS. *wrâka*, *wrâka* (MLG. *wrâke*; MDu. *wrâke*, Du. *wraak*), OHG. *râhha* (MHG. *râche*, G. *rache*), Goth. *wrêkei*.

The *β*-forms partly represent a south-eastern variant of *wrǽcche*, and are partly due to confusion with *wrake* Wrake *sb.*; the *γ*-forms show assimilation (in some instances merely graphic) to *wrecche* Wretch *sb.* The normal spelling, if the word had survived into modern English, would have been *wreach* or *wreech*.]

1. Retributive punishment; vengeance; = Wreak *sb.* 1.

In very frequent use from *c* 1290 to *c* 1450.

a. *c* 1200 Ormin Introd. 19 Forr þatt wass mikell wrecche wiss þatt all folic for till helle. *c* 1205 Lay. 29581 Vre drihte ..his wreche sende an wrǽttliche þan folke. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 532 So cam on werlde wreche and wrake. *a* 1333 W. Herebert in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 80 Nou, dame, ich þe byseche At þylke day of wreche..spek nor me. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 230 3et wrathed not he wyȝ, ne þe wrech nazt̄led. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 625 The wreche of god hym smoot so cruelly, That thurgh his body wikked wormes crepte. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) III. viii. 55 Euer haue they in theyr hertes holden wreeche and rancour. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 15 For doubt of such pride and wreach, He must be ware that will this Science teach. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 469 To kepe þis place from wreche.

Personif. 1413 *26 Pol. Poems* 53 Euere by trouþe stondes wreche, For wreche is goddis champioun. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 698 In *Macro Plays* 58 Let se: cum in, Indignacion & Sturdynes,..Wreche, & Dyscorde expres.

β. *c* 1200 [see 1 b *β*]. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (H.) 1560 The eyȝhte day betokynth gret wrache. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 804 He forȝet alle his fre þewes, & wex wod to þe wrache, for wrath at his hert. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 36 And for wrach schuld falle on hymselfe yn party, þerfor [etc.]. 1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xii. 315 b/1 Some [bees] for grete wrath and desyre of wrache stingeþe soo depe, that [etc.].

γ. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1585 Þus him vel vrecche of god, vor he þe apostles slou. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 658 Leef on hym that strengor is, For doute of more wrecche [*rimes* teche, leche]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 253 Anon þe pride of Romayns,..oþer som oþer wrecche of God all myȝti falleþ vppon hem. *a* 1470 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) I. xxix. 67/2 Harde wretche was comyng but yf they wolde amende them of her falshode. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. (1811) 147 Hir eyen dystylled dropes of blode,..the which, in token of Goddes wretche, in yᵗ boke remayne at this day.

b. In the phr. *to do, have, make, nim, seek*, and esp. *take wreche*. (Cf. Wreak *sb.* 1 b.)

a. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 3ef þu wreche ne secst hwanne þu time siest. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* 107 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 197 3if þu heuedest wreche inumen of mine luðernesse. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 56 in *O. E. Misc.* 143 Elles vre louerd god on vs wulle don wreche. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2334 Ichabbe of him wreche inou, wanne he biseçþ min ore. *a* 1300 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 4 Tak wrech of sinful man. 13.. *K. Horn* 1292 (Harl. MS.), þat lond ichulle þorhreche & do mi fader wreche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 45 He heþ ynome to lite wreche. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3404 [They] þoust manli to make wreche here lorde to queme. *c* 1485 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 180 Yn hope þat god shold take wrech of ham. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6396 Generides, youre lord, now besech On this mater to doo som wrech. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xii. 244 Be war lest god wele taken wreche. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* II. (1811) 24 This Appolyn toke wreche of theim that spoyled the goddes & theyr Temples. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme* (1811) 138 To take wrech for the cruell murder of his nevew.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 He nam stronge wrache þer-of. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 724 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 300 Hou schulde he speren eni mon Wen he of bestes wrache nom?

2. An act or instance of vengeance; = Wreak *sb.* 2.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 641 On wreche ðat sal 3et wurðen sent, wan al ðis werld wurðe brent. *Ibid.* 2985 Þe ðridde wreche dede aaron Bi-foren ðe king pharaon. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 229 Fro heuen to helle þat hatel schor laste...þis bit was a brem brest & a byge wrache. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 329 Egipte was I-smyte wiþ ten grete wreches. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxi. (Tollem. MS.), God sente mo wreches upon þe Egyptians þan ten. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5043 (Trin.), Fast on god þo gon þei cal To delyuer þa folke of þat wreche. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 241 By reason of a wreche done.. vpon one of Kynge Wyllyams knyghtes.

3. Affliction or calamity; deep distress, misery.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3396 3et sal ðe kinde of amalech Ben al fled dun in deades wrech. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. I. (Skeat) I. 60 Thinke on your wreche and your daunger. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 138 Lord of loue..For þe was set sely sacrynge, To winne þe world þat was in wreche. *c* 1450 *Ludus Coventriæ* 327 Cryst..hath us wonnyn owt of wrecche. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 19 Sip þat deuelis be dampned, & ful of wreche of helle.

b. *To go to wreche*, to go to wrack. *rare*⁻¹.

13.. *Body & Soul* 242 in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 343 Thys other thing, nou thou art ded, Al schal geynliche gon to wreche.

†**Wreche,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To rescue or deliver; = Wreak *v.* 5 d.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16076 þat bischop

cam, his folk to preche, þer Cristendam fro Paen wreche (*v.r.* to reche).

2. *refl.* To avenge (oneself).

1398 Trevisa *Glanvil De P. R.* xviii. vii. (Bodl. MS.), þe bore..takeþ herte and strengþe to wreche hym of his aduersarye wiþ his tuskes.

3. To give effect to (wrath, etc.); = Wreak *v.* 3.

c 1420 Lydg. *Ballad Commend. Our Lady* 41 Or þe wycked fend his wrath up on us wreche [*rime* leche].

Hence † **Wre·cher**, an avenger (*of* some wrong).

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* viii. 3 þat þou destruye þe enemy and þe wrecher [L. *ultorem*] of Adam sinne.

† **Wre·cheful**, *a. Obs.* Also 3–4 **wrech-**; 4 **wrac(o)h-**, 5 **wreechful**. [f. Wrechе *sb.* + -ful. Cf. Wreakful *a.*] Vengeful; revengeful.

c 1290 *St. Edmund* 333 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 309 God..nis nou3t so wrechful ase men weneth. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 377 Seyntes and halowes of þis lond beeþ more wrecheful þan seyntes of oþer londes. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xii. (B.M. Add. MS.), No creature is more wrecheful .. þan is þe bee whanne he is ywrapped. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) 1 Thess. iv. 6 God is wrachful of alle suche men. *c* 1420 *Lanterne of Light* 99 He smytiþ not to venge is owene wreechful herte but to do þe wille of God & saue his neibours soule.

Wrecht, obs. Sc. form of Wright *sb.*[1]

Wreck (rek), *sb.*[1] Forms: [1–3 wrec (1 werec, waerecc, warec), 2 wrech, 3–4 wrek, 3 wreck-, 4 wrekk,] 3, 5–6 wrak, 5–7 wrakke, wracke, 6– wrack. [a. AF. *wrec*, *wrech*, *wrak* (also *werec*, *waarec*, *warec*, whence F. *varech*, *varec* Varec), a. ON. **wrec*, **wrek* (Norw. and Icel. *rek* n.), f. the stem of *wrekan* to drive: see Wreak *v.*, and cf. Wrack *sb.*[2] The AF. word is also the source of med.L. *wreccum*, *warectum*. The ON. variant **wreke* (Icel. *reki*) is represented in English by the obsolete Wreke. Another French form appears in Vraic.]

I. **1.** *Law.* That which is cast ashore by the sea in tidal waters; esp. goods or cargo as thrown on land by the sea from a wrecked, stranded, or foundered vessel. Occas. *wreck of the sea* (med.L. *wreccum maris*, AF. *wrec* or *wreck de mer*), † *wreck of the king* (med.L. *wrech regis*). Cf. Shipwreck *sb.* 1, Shipbreche.

[1077 Wm. I in *Chron. Abb. Ramsey* (Rolls) 201 Bramcestre ..cum omni maris ejectu quod nos *wrec* [*v.r. waarec*] nominamus. 1175–6 *Pipe Roll Hen. II* (1904) 83 Quia accepit wrech regis. 1200 K. John *Charter to Dunwich* in *Rotuli Chart.* (1837) 51/2 De ewagio de wrec et lagan et de omnibus aliis consuetudinibus. *a* 1268 Bracton *De Leg.* I. xii. (Rolls) I. 60 Item ubi non apparet dominus rei, sicut est de wrecco maris. 1292 Britton I. 216 Par fraunchises de aver wrek de mer trové en soen soil. 1343 in *Rymer's Fœdera* (Rolls) II. II. 1225 Wreccum maris..tam de piscibus regalibus, quam de aliis rebus quibuscumque, ad terram ibidem projectis. 1600: see Jetsam 2.]

1288 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 52 Wrek, weyf, stray, merchet, lecherwyt, blodewyt. *Ibid.* 57 Wrek et weyf, stray. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 321/2 Wrecke of the Sea, Weyves, Estrayes. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 221 Mastras Clere hath sen down hyr men, and with set alle the stuff and wrekke. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 205/1 The same Duc shall have.. Wrekke of the See, Tresour founde. 1576 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 229 If a ship were cast on shoare..and were not repaired by auche as escaped on liue within a certaine time, ..this was taken for Wreck. *Ibid.*, If from thencefoorth any one thing (being within the vessell) arriued on liue, then the ship and goods should not be seised for wrecke. 1630 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* May (1921) 427/2 Burying a man that came ashore when the Kings wreck came ashore. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (1657) 24 The Kings Prerogative, chap. 17. the King shall have Wreck of the Sea throughout the whole Realm. 1666 *N. Riding Rec.* VI. 101 A warrant against 11 Britton men for riotously taking a whale and other wrecke. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v., Wreck, antiently, not only comprehended goods..from a perishing ship, but whatever else the sea cast upon land; whether it were precious stones, fishes,..or the like. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 283 If any persons..take any goods so cast on shore, which are not legal wreck. 1768 *Ibid.* III. 106 The court of the admiral [had]..no manner of cognizance..of any wreck of the sea: for that must be cast on land before it becomes a wreck. 1800 Addison *Amer. Law Rep.* 63 *Wreck*, in its legal signification, is confined to such goods as, after shipwreck at sea, are by the sea cast upon the land. 1821 *Act* 1–2 *Geo. IV*, c. 75 § 26 That no..person who may be entitled..to Wreck of the Sea..shall be entitled to appropriate such Wreck or Goods..until he [etc.]. 1868 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov., The more scrupulous deliver up their spoil to the receiver of wreck. 1886 J. Williams in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 687/2 As wreck in the last resort became crown property, it was never subject to forfeiture. *Ibid.*, Wreck was frequently granted to subjects as a franchise.

2. = Wrack *sb.*[2] 3, Sea-wrack 2 a, Varec 1. Latterly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

Cf. *tangle-wreck* Tangle *sb.*[1] 3, *sea-wrack* s.v. Sea-wrack.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson) s.v b, Wrek of the see, *alga*, *uuga*. 1500 *Ortus Vocab.* B iij, *Alga*,..*herba marina*, i.e. *Illud quod maris proficit*, wrekke or frothe of the see. 1634–5 Bereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 97 The grass, weeds and wreck, brought by the sea..and left upon the sands. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v., Wreck..in some places..is with..rich sea-weed or wreck for manure. 1806 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* III. 351 Sea-ware..driven upon the shore by the tides..is commonly called *blown wreck*. 1876 in *Cleveland Gloss.* Suppl. 1894 K. Hewat *Little Scottish World* vii. 120 The 'Wreck Brethren'..annually..raised funds for their purposes and regulated the carting of the wreck.

b. = Wrack *sb.*[2] 3 b. Now *dial.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrek, of a dyke, *or* a fence, or stondynge watyr, *obex*. 1748 *N. Riding Rec.* VIII. 249 The Treasurer to pay £1 for clearing away the wreck from How and Kirby Misperton Bridges. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* II. 298 Our faces were concealed by the 'wreck' that covered the stones. 1877–86 in Lincoln and Chesh. glossaries. 1884 G. S. Streatfeild *Lincoln. & Danes* 376 Wreck, weeds and other rubbish floating down streams or on ditch water.

c. *Sc.* and *dial.* = Wrack *sb.*[2] 3 c.

1743 R. Maxwell *Sel. Trans. Soc. Improv. Agric. Scot.* 12 Cause pull up and gather carefully the Wreck, or Roots of Weeds and Grass, into Heaps. 1787 W. H. Marshall *Norfolk* II. 392 *Wreck*, dead undigested roots and stems of grasses and weeds in plowland. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 59 A field..where dung was applied amid mountains of wreck, or couch grass.

3. A vessel broken, ruined, or totally disabled by being driven on rocks, cast ashore, or stranded; a wrecked or helpless ship; the ruins or hulk of such. Occas. also *wreck of a ship*.

[*c* 1290 *Fleta* I. xliv. (1647) 61 Item dicitur wreckum navis vel batellus fractus, de quibus nihil vivum evaserit.] ? *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Man of Law's T.* 415 Wks. (1532) 24 b, The constable of the castel downe is fare To seen this wrecke, & al the shyp he sought. 1611 Cotgr., *Vuaruesque*, a wrecke, or ship cast away. 1652 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. 67 Charybdis is a Gulf..which violently attracting all Vessells that come too nigh it, devoureth them, and casteth up their wrecks. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 80 He shall restore whatever Wrecks may happen on his Coasts. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 189, I could plainly see..the Wreck of a Ship cast away in the Night. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 14 The Ship is a perfect Wreck. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 669 Three..from the wreck on oars and rafts descend. 1805 J. Turnbull *Voy. World* (1813) 392 The ship..struck upon a reef of rocks.., and shortly became a total wreck. 1812 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* I. 32 Fast the miserable Ship Becomes a lifeless wreck. 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* lxxix, The wreck of a little coasting craft still lay about two hundred yards to sea.

fig. and in fig. context. 1782 Cowper *Retirem.* 386 To the fair haven of my native home, The wreck of what I was, fatigu'd, I come. 1796 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 350 Such is the person you come to see, or rather the wreck of what was never a first-rate vessel. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* I. 322 All of manhood in him..had given way and left him a stranded wreck. 1885 Tennyson *The Wreck* 5 My life itself is a wreck,..I am flung from the rushing tide of the world as a waif of shame.

b. An unserviceable or crazy old vessel.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 5/2 There are too many of these old wrecks [= barges] on the river.

4. a. *Law.* A piece or article of wreckage; a fragment of a wrecked vessel or its cargo. Freq. *pl.*

1570 in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 775 Wrecks and fyndalls floating, and the half of all wrecks and fyndalls jottsome. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 489/2 [Richard I] pardoned al wreckes by sea..., releasing for euer al his right to the same. 1579 [Rastell] *Termes Lawes* 187 b, The Lorde shall haue that as a wreck of ye sea. 1652 Needham *Selden's Mare Cl.* I. xxv. (1663) 167 The Question is, whether the Goods bee.. called Spoils or Wrecks. 1729 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v. *Lagan*, [If] these Goods..are cast away upon the Land, they are then a Wreck. *Ibid.* s.v., It was usual to seise and forfeit Wrecks to the King, only when no Owner could be found. 1768 [see 1].

b. Without article. = Wreckage 2.

1744 *Gentl. Mag.* 616/2 Several chests, broken masts, and other pieces of wreck floating in the sea. 1796 Charlotte Smith *Narr. Lost Transports* 34 The Chissel-bank..was strewn..with pieces of wreck, and piles of plundered goods. 1813 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 42 Six men reached the shore..upon planks, being much bruised by the surf and wreck. 1833 Redding *Shipwrecks* I. 194 All the crew believed the ship was crushed to pieces, but no wreck floated up. 1865 Swinburne *Feliste* 80 [Such things] As the sea feeds on, wreck and stray and castaway.

5. A drifted or tossed-up mass; a large heap; a great quantity; an abundance. Now *north. dial.*

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* II. 34 Where Chesill lifts Her ridged snake-like sands, in wrecks and smouldring drifts. 1683 G. M[eriton] *Yorks. Dial.* 15 There's sike a wreck, it [*sc.* corn] ligges all down o'th Land. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Words* (ed. 3), *Wreck*, a great quantity..as a confused heap. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 224/2, I saw wrecks on 't.

6. That which remains *of* something that has suffered ruin, demolishment, waste, etc.; the dilapidated, disorganized, or disordered residue or remainder *of* anything. Also (*a*) with *a* and pl.

(*a*) 1723 Addison *Cato* v. i, But thou shalt flourish..Unhurt amidst..The Wrecks of Matter, and the Crush of Worlds.

tinued obstinate and mad, going..over the wrecks of the house. 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* 493 An envy of the isles, a pleasure-house.., It scarce seems now a wreck of human art. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. iv. 335 The Republican party was formed..out of the wrecks of the Whig [.

(*b*) 1743 R. Blair *Grave* 30 Names once famed, now dubious or forgot, And buried 'midst the wreck of things which were. 1781 Smollett *Per. Pic.* ix, From the wreck of the hammock [she] made an occasional bed for herself on the floor. 1794 M[i]

tinued voyage, by the shores Of Asia, and the wreck of cities old. 1849 Arnold *Hist. Rome* II. xxxi. 255 There he was joined by the wreck of the consul's army. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxxvi, An Mamma surveyed the wreck of

d *fig.* 1792 Burns *Song of Death* iii, Then [illegible] the dull p[illegible] —ho sinks in the dark, Nor wayes o'en the wreck [illegible] 1823 Shelley *Q. Mab* v. 209 He sheds A passing tear perchance upon the wreck Of earthly

b. The broken-down, debilitated, or emaciated form *of* a person. (Cf. 7 b.)

1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 225 It was, indeed, the wreck of her once noble lad. 1836 Lytton *Duchess de La Vallière* v. iii, These wrecks of man Worn to decay. 1839 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 62 All the Portuguese here were mere wrecks of men—frail, yellow, and fever-stricken.

7. That which is in a state of ruin; anything that is broken down or has undergone wrecking, shattering, or dilapidation.

1824 Southey *Roderick* xvi. 62 Amid heaps Of mountain wreck, on either side thrown high,..The tortuous channel wound. 1826 Scott *Antiq.* iii, This wreck of ancient books and utensils. 1842 Macaulay *Horatius* lv, Like a dam, the mighty wreck [*sc.* of a bridge] Lay right athwart the stream. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xx, Alas! a crack, a flap, a rattle, ..and all forward was a mass of dangling wreck. 1889 Mrs. E. Kennard *Landing a Prize* i. (1891) 4 What was left of the wreck had to be given up to creditors.

fig. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. viii. (1866) 145 The life-hopes have become a wreck.

b. A person of undermined, shattered, or ruined constitution; one who is debilitated by ill-health, hardship, etc. (Cf. 6 b.)

1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* I. 336 *Osw.* But how fare you? *Her.* Well as the wreck I am permits. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* I. xxxi, 'Yes,' continued the venerable wreck, after a short pause. 1837 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) II. 335 It is easy to see you have suffered! an entire wreck, like myself. 1899 E. W. Hornung *Dead Men* xii, I was slowly dying of insomnia. I was a nervous wreck. 1901 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. of her Mother to Elis.* xxxi. 154, I think I am in for influenza. I feel a perfect wreck.

8. [By misapprehension.] = Wrack *sb.*[1] 5 b.

1787–9 Wordsw. *Evening Walk* 306 No wreck of all the pageantry remains. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* ix. 130 These ruins soon left not a wreck behind. 1838 I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* v. 185 Other systems have..been swept away, leaving hardly a wreck behind.

II. **9.** The disabling or destruction of a vessel by any disaster or accident of navigation; loss of a ship by striking on a rock, stranding, or foundering; an instance of this; = Shipwreck *sb.* 2. *To make wreck*: cf. Make *v.*[1] 64.

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 507/1 Yf eny of the forseid Wares or Chaffares..come into this Reame or Wales by wey of wrek. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 212 There is a grete chyppe go to wrekke be for Wynterton. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* I. 4 This Arke..by diuine prouidence..was gouerned from running to wreck. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 490/1 That euery person makyng wrecke by sea, and comming aliue to lande, shoulde haue all his goodes free. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 6 Learning his ship from those white rocks to saue,.. Threatning vnheedie wrecke and rash decay. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s.v. *Flotsen*, Jetson is a thing cast out of the shippe being in danger of wrecke. 1672 Dryden *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. 107 As Seamen, parting in a gen'ral wreck, When first the loosening planks begin to crack, Each catches one. 1749 *Gentl. Mag.* 396/1 The ill behaviour of his crew, and the bad condition of the ship occasioned its wreck. 1795 Burns *O Mally's mark* iii, Her two eyes..Would keep a sinking ship free wreck. 1809 R. Warner *Tour Cornwall* 158 A range of rocks, the terrible scene of many a disastrous wreck. 1845 C. Wilkes *Narr. U.S. Explor. Exped.* II. 91 In leaving the harbour we had a narrow escape from wreck. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., We are..shipwrecked sailors; and I will tell the story of the wreck.

fig. and in fig. context. 1564 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest* (1888) 93 The ship of fooles..wanteth a good Pilot, the storme, the rocke, and the wrecke at hand. 1770 Cowper *Let.* 25 Sept., The storm of sixty-three made a wreck of the friendships I had contracted.

b. *Stock Exchange.* (See first quot.)

1876 'E. Pirro' *Ye outside Fools!* 360 A *Corner*, *Pool*, *Clique*, *Ring* are all terms equivalent to a *Rig* or *Wreck*. *Ibid.* 408 The seductive interest of Rigs and Wrecks.

10. The action of subverting or overthrowing an established order of things, etc.; the fact of being brought to disaster; downfall, overthrow, ruin.

1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 494 He came into Mesopotamia, not without plaine daunger and wrecke to the state. 1594 Spenser *Amoretti* xxv, Than all the woes and wrecks which I abide, as meanes of blisse I gladly will embrace. 1608 *Great Frost* ad fin., Being..thus round beset with the horrors of so present a wreck, he fell down on his knees. 1763 J. Brown *Poetry & Music* v. 78 The most celebrated bards of ancient Greece, whose songs have perished in the wreck of time. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* III. iii, Proud of calamity, we will enjoy the wreck of wealth. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* Introd. (1846) I. 23 The wreck of their ancient liberties. 1839 Talfourd *Glances* I. i, You come To share the wreck of the Macdonalds. 1885 J. Payn *Talk of Town* I. 182 It was not that she feared to risk the wreck of her own happiness.

fig. 1793 Burns *'Where are the joys'* iv, A' that has caused this wreck in my bosom, is Jenny.

b. The action of wrecking or breaking apart; the fact of being materially wrecked or ruined; destruction or demolition.

1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 266 ¶ 2 Books, which..may last as long as the Sun and Moon, and perish only in the general Wreck of Nature. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 25 The manner in which he relieves the earth from this universal wreck. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. xxix. 376 In accounting for these extraordinary accumulations of broken coal we may undoubtedly refer their origin to the wreck of the regular seams. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 32 Dealing thunderous wreck to the two hostile vessels. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *Wreck*, a break-down, as in a shaft or on an incline.

c. In the phr. *to go to wreck* (*and ruin*).

a 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. 542 Our fained shields and wepons them they found, And..our discording voice they

knew. We went to wreck, with nomber ouerlayd. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 11-17 The flocke goeth to wrecke and vtterly perisheth. 1600 Holland *Livy* 676 All things els about him went to wreck. 1721 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 65, I saw our men go to wreck. 1789 Burns *Elegy on Year 1788* 4 A Towmont, sirs, is gane to wreck! ? 1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1858 I. 126 To wreck goes every notion or feeling that divides..the brave man from the brave. 1877 Black *Green Past.* i, The whole estate is going to wreck and ruin. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xxviii, Here you are in a bad way: ship lost,..your whole business gone to wreck.

allipt. 1782 Burns *'No Churchman am I'* v, A letter inform'd me that all was to wreck.

III. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wreck buoy, case, chart, flag*; objective and instrumental, as *wreck-finder, raiser, -seeker*; † *wreck-fishing, -raising, -threatening*; also *wreck-devoted, -strewn.*

1874 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket-bk.* v. 109 *Wreck buoys are painted green. 1892 Marsden *Sel. Pleas* p. xliv, In 1377 a *wreck case was tried before justices. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* No. 2747, Large *wreck chart of the British Isles for 1861. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. iv. 42 A *wreck-devoted seaman thus might pray To the deaf sea. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 7/1 (citing *N. Y. Tribune*), The wreck of a coal barge was first located...Two boats, termed '*wreck-finders', then..by means of derricks or suction pumps raise the coal to the surface. 1674 Temple *Let.* Wks. 1720 II. 310 This Invention of *Wreck-fishing [by Sir Edmund Curtis], for the Recovery of His Majesty's Tin, cast away before Ostend. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Sept. 8/4 The Thames Conservancy have hoisted their green '*wreck flag', warning all craft to steer clear of the debris. 1881 *Instr. Consuls Clerks* (1885) 36 Wharfinger, Wharf Agent,.. *Wreck Raiser. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 5/2 The *wreck-raising vessels that are to make an attempt to save some of Admiral Cervera's unfortunate squadron. 1843 Capt. Marryat *M. Violet* xxviii, The unconscientious *wreck-seeker of a captain. 1821 Shelley *The Fugitives* 21 The Earth is like Ocean, *Wreck-strewn and in motion. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* iv. 620 Inaccessible *Wreck-threatening Staten Land's o'erhanging shore.

b. Attrib. in names of persons having, or appointed to take, charge of wreck or wreckage, as **wreck commissioner, -master.**

1846 Worcester (citing *Lee*), *Wreck-Master*, a master of a wreck. *a* 1868 in Grant *Rep. Wrecking Bahamas* 77 The first-licensed wreck-master boarding a vessel wrecked, stranded, or in distress..shall..become the master of all wreckers employed on such vessel, and shall be styled the 'wreck-master'. 1876 *Act* 39-40 *Vict.* c. 80 § 29 It shall be the duty of a wreck commissioner..to hold any formal investigation into a loss. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., *Receivers of wrecks* (in Great Britain), *wreck-masters* (in New York and Texas), officers whose duty [etc.]. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 70 Instructions for the handling of explosives..should be placed in the hands of the railroad staff, including wreckmasters.

c. Special Combs., as **wreck-fish**, the stone-bass; † **wreck-goods** *Sc.*, goods cast ashore from a wreck; † **wreck-make**, *poet.* that which causes wrecks; **wreck-ware** *Sc.*, **-weed**, = sense 2; **wreck-wood**, wood washed up or ashore from a wreck; also *attrib.*; **wreck-works**, salvage-works for raising a wreck or wrecks.

1880 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 18 This fish..is called in Devonshire, *Wreck fish, because it follows floating timbers. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 270 Special Line, furnished with all accessories, used in fishing for Stone Bass or Wreck-fish. 1693 Stair *Institl.* (ed. 2) Alph. Kn, *Wreck-goods.. become Escheat as Publick. 1765-8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. i. § 13 Wreck-goods..were not claimed as escheat, but secured for the owners. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 88 And Caulons castels we doe spy, with Scylla the *wreckmake. 1865 Way *Promp. Parv.* 533 *note*, On the coasts of Scotland sea-weed is called '*wreck-ware'. 1821 Scott *Pirate* x, One whom the sea flung forth as *wreck-weed. *Ibid.* v, The *wreck-wood that the callants brought in yesterday. 1843 *Times* 25 July 3/2 The mast is still standing, and very little wreck-wood has driven from her. 1895 Quiller Couch *Wandering Heath* 5 The rain drove.. salant like threads of gold silk in the shine of the wreckwood fire. 1903 E. Childers *Riddle of Sands* xx, The *wreck-works were evidently what they purported to be.

† **Wreck**, *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [var. of Wrack *sb.*[3], after prec.] 'Pelf'; 'dross'; = Wrack *sb.*[3] 1 b.

1562 Winzet *Cert. Tractatis* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 8 Hauand regarde to the wrak of this warld or lustis of thair bodyis. *a* 1568 Blyth in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunt. Club) 321/11 Ane wrecheard sall haif no mair, Bot ane schort scheit at heid and feit, For all his wrek and wuir.

† **Wreck**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [Alteration of Wreak *sb.*: cf. Wreck *v.*[2]] Vengeance; revenge.

1551 *Legh's Armory* 56 b, His irefull heart straight braided out wrothfull wordes of wrecke [1562 wreke] and reuenge. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vi. 16 Ah cruell hand, and..hart That workst such wrecke on her.

Wreck, obs. erron. var. Rack *sb.*[1] 3.

1707 E. Smith *Phædra & Hipp.* III. 30 Why did you raise me to the heights of Joy, Above the wreck of Clouds and Storms below?

Wreck, var. Reck *sb.*[2] (= Rack *sb.*[2] 5 d).

1674 Ray *Coll. Words, Smelting Tin* 122 The head tin passes to the *wreck*, where they work it with a wooden rake in Vessels. 1800 Miss Edgeworth *Lame Jervas* ii, I had new models made of the sieves for lueing, the box and trough, the buddle, wreck, and tool.

Wreck (rek), *v.*[1] Also 5–6 **wrek-**. [f. Wreck *sb.*[1] Cf. med.L. *wrecare* (12th cent.).]

In various senses common only in passive use.

† **1.** *trans.* To cast on shore. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Sir Amadas* (W.) 475 Folke fordryven in the schorwe, ..Brone stedes,..All maner of ryches,..Wrekkyd with the water lay. [= xliv. (Camden), He fond wrekun a-mang the stones Knyztes in meoueure.] *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 894 He may that lady whyte as flowre, Was wrekyd on the sonde. *a* 1500 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. (1907) IV. 87 [Seizing them] as goodes wrekked, which neither can ne may soo boe taken as long as the veray owners thereof be certainly knowen. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iv. 5 A Coffer strong,.. seeming to haue suffred mickle wrong by being wreckt vpon the sands. 1729 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v., If Goods wreck'd are seised by Persons having no Authority. 1881 *Act* 1–2 *Geo. IV*, c. 75 § 26 That Part of the Coast where the same [goods] shall have been stranded, wrecked or found.

2. To cause the wreck of (a vessel); to wreck (a ship); = Shipwreck *v.* 1 b. Chiefly *passive.* Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

1570 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent.* (1576) 298 A shippe laden with the Kinges owne goods was wrecked within the precinct of this libertie. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 7 The ribs of vessels broke, And shiuered ships, which had bene wrecked late. 1732 *Gentl. Mag.* 976 A great Number of Ships were wrecked..by stormy Weather. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 395 Brought into the European seas, in some India ship that might be wrecked upon her return. 1845 J. C. Mangan *German Anthol.* II. 100 The shallop of my peace is wrecked on Beauty's shore. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. ii. 60 So bravely as we have struggled against the overwhelming waters! The vessel is finally wrecked! 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* lxxvii, If the *Wainoora* has sailed,..she is wrecked somewhere on the coast.

refl. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 716 This frail bark of ours, when sorely tried, May wreck itself without the pilot's guilt.

b. To make or cause (a person) to suffer or undergo shipwreck; to involve in wreck; also, to cause the loss of (goods or cargo) by shipwreck; = Shipwreck *v.* 1. Chiefly *passive.*

1627 Monyson *Itin.* II. 8 The..Spaniards, last yeere wrecked on the Coasts of Connaght.., had left.. great store of treasure. 1796 Charlotte Smith *Narr. Lost Transports* 14 A young Gentleman,..wrecked himself, and wandering along the unhospitable shore. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xx, We were wrecked in our boat last night. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II. i, Thy villains with their lying lights have wreck'd us! 1903 S. E. White *Forest* vii, A big roller rips along your gunwale [of a canoe]. You are wrecked. *fig.* 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* 148 The rocks on which high hearts are wrecked. 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 2) 393 Bound to earth, Wrecked in the deeps of Heaven, in Death's expiring birth! 1880 W. H. D. Adams *Wrecked Lives* Ser. I. p. vi, If he would not wreck his life amid the rocks and quicksands of worldly lusts.

absol. 1881 H. D. Rawnsley *Sonn. Eng. Lakes* 115 So may it be when storms my life shall strand On treacherous shoal,..May..waves that wrecked reach out a pitying hand To gulf my sorrow.

c. *transf.* (See quot.)

1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 144 There be some quicksands, wherein footemen are in danger to be wrecked.

3. To cause or bring about the ruin or destruction of (a structure, etc.) as by violence or misuse; to reduce to a ruinous condition in this way; to shatter, ruin, destroy.

1510 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 70 [He] maketh Fysch garthes & weeres..by reason wherof the seid porte is ao wrekked & shallowed, that [etc.]. 1594 Spenser *Amoretti* lvi, That tree..am I, whom ye do wreck, do ruine, and destroy. 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* 370 Thou too, O Comet.., Who drew the heart of this frail Universe Towards thine own: till, wrecked in that convulsion,..Thine went astray. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 9/2 The mob..commenced 'wrecking' Conservative houses, stoning one sick old gentleman as he lay in his bed. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 34 The everyway external stream..leaves it [*sc.* a rush]..wrecked at last. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 123 The joint is found to be c[illegible]

transf. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* xli, How now? My Duke's crown wrecked?

b. To cause or bring about the subversion or overthrow of (some condition or order of things); to shatter, ruin.

1749 Smollett *Regicide* I. vi, O recal Those flatt'ring arts thy own deceit employ'd To wreck my peace! 1791 Burns *Fair Eliza* ii, Can'st thou wreck his peace for ever? 1806 in *Sheridaniana* 334 Their want of tact and judgment has wrecked the party. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VII. iv, Do not wreck, upon trifles, a noble interest we have in common. 1883 Sir C. S. C. Bowen in *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 251/2 We hear of abuse of different kinds of process .. which amounts to wrecking credit. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 11 Jan. 6/2 His Administration was very nearly wrecked at the outset.

c. To frustrate or thwart; to prevent the passing of (a measure, etc.).

1885 Motley *Dutch Rep.* v. v, Every fresh attempt at an amicable compromise was wrecked upon the obstinate bigotry of the leading civic authorities. 1901 *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 7/2 The measure will, it is pretty certain, be wrecked before it gets out of committee.

4. To bring (a person) to ruin or disaster; to subvert, ruin. Also *refl.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ix. 4 All his mind is set on mucky pelfe, To hoord vp heapes of evill gotten masse, For which he others wrongs, and wreckes himselfe. 1594 [see 3]. 1644 *Raleigh's Remains* 48 If he resolve..to wreck him, and to have his life. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 214 Let ruling Angels from their spheres be hurl'd, Being on Being wreck'd, and world on world. 1782 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Odes R.A.'s* iii. Wks. 1812 I. 20 Despising Pride, whose wish it is to wreck 'em.

b. To shatter (a person's health, constitution, or nerves) by sickness, hardship, or the like; to destroy the quality or tone of. Usu. in *passive.*

1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. (1857) 125 The drunkard ..discovers that he is unexpectedly degraded, his health wrecked. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courr.* 213, I wonder your nervous system isn't completely wrecked.

5. *intr.* a. To suffer or undergo shipwreck; = Shipwreck *v.* 2. Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

1672 Milton *P. R.* II. 228 Honour, glory, and popular praise; Rocks whereon greatest men have oftest wreck'd. 1671 — *Samson* 1044 What Pilot so expert but needs must wreck Embarqu'd with such a Steers-mate at the Helm? 1729 Berkeley *Lett.* Wks. 1871 IV. 161 My letters were in one of the vessels that wreck'd. 1880 Mrs. C. Clive *Why Paul Ferroll* iv, With all her early impressions wrecking around her, she did not know to what to cling. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 172 The *montagna bruna* on which Ulysses wrecked. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* II. ii, Holy Church May rock, but will not wreck, nor our Archbishop Stagger on the slope decks for any rough sea.

b. To break down in health.

1896 R. Bridges *Growth of Love* xiv, What is this wreck of all he hath in fief, When he that hath is wrecking?

6. a. To cause damage by washing *up.*

1634 *Rotherham* (Yorks.) *Feoffees Accounts* (MS.), P[ai]d to Tho. Sandall..for paveing at the bridge where the water had wreckt up.

b. To silt *up*, as with tide-driven sand, etc.

1786 in *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1789) VII. 56 By a gradual, continual loss of out-fall amongst the sands, and by the sluice on the marsh and other parts wrecking up.

7. To seize or collect wreck or wreckage; to search *for* wreck. Also *transf.*

1848 *Times* 28 Mar. 7/1 The news of the wreck spread rapidly.., and in the evening a large mob assembled with a view of 'wrecking'. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Oct. 3/1 [Your job,] perhaps, is to go 'wrecking' for firewood. Down upon the rocks the friendly tide casts many a spar and log.

† **Wreck** (rek), *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6–7 **wreake, 6–7, 9 reck, 7 reeke.** [Late variant of Wreak *v.*; the exact reason for the shortening of the vowel is not clear, but cf. dial. *breck* for Break *v.*]

1. *trans.* = Wreak *v.* 5, 5 b. Chiefly *refl.*

1570 Levins *Manip.* 54 To Wreck, *vindicare.* 1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 331 Any larger commission granted to vs to wreck our selues vpon our brethren. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* I. 10 The minde and intention of the Apostle here.. was not..to wreake himselfe vpon them. 1622 P. Hannay *Philomela* lxxxiv, The world shall know I was not slow To wreak a wronged maid. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* VI. Wks. 1851 V. 242 They wreck'd themselves on the Countries round about, wasting..all Essex, Kent, and Sussex.

2. = Wreak *v.* 3.

1658 *Whole Duty Man* xv. § 31 It is a kind desire of his amendment (and not a willingness to wreck his own rage) which [etc.]. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 11 Being ready at once to asswage his Concupiscence, and wreck his Malice. 1681 *Character Ill-Court-Favourite* 5 These Insufferable Grandees, who reck their Private Spleens.

b. With preps., as *on, upon, against* (a person, etc.); = Wreak *v.* 3 b. Also with *out.*

, 1577 Grange *Golden Aphred.*, etc. Q ij b, She sought on me to wrecke hir spight. 1583 Grefne *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 151 With what greater plague..can..the vniust gods..wreck their wrath and extreme rigour vppon any man. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 25 That malice.. which he could not there so easily wrecke on their Creator. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxvi, To wreck his spleen, or ease his mind upon the Parliament. 1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* IV. i, Give him Pow'r to wreck his Hatred Upon his greatest Foe? 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 439 P 3 [They] often wreck their particular Spite or Malice against the person whom they are set to watch. 1777 Watson *Philip II*, I. 191 The king.. was determined to wreck his resentment on all concerned. 1793 R. Gray *Poems* 25 Some in the fray wreckt out his spleen On some sly pate or sawney.

3. = Wreak *v.* 6, 7.

1593 Marlowe *Edw. II*, IV. iv, For the open wronges and Iniuries Edward hath done to vs,..We come in armes to wrecke it with the swords. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. iv. 24 He Talus sent To wiecke on them their follies hardyment. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 12 Satan..came down..To wreck on innocent frail man his loss Of that first Battel.

4. = Wreak *v.* 8.

1764 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 232 There was no object on whom to wreck their vengeance. *a* 1790 Henry *Britain* (1793) VI. 419 They not only wrecked their vengeance on the living, but on the ashes of dead heretics.

Wreck, obs. erron. var. Rack *v.*[3] 2 c.

1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 101 Splicing the long Sides of the Belts, so as they may not wreck in dropping them down. [Cf. Wrecking.]

Wreck, obs. erron. form of Reck *v.*

Wreckage (re'kėdg). [f. Wreck *v.*[1] + -age 3.]

1. The action or process of wrecking; the fact of being wrecked. Also *fig.*

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. ii, Wreckage and dissolution are the appointed issue for both [*sc.* wisdom and folly]. 1892 Gasquet & Bishop *Edw. VI & Bk. Com. Prayer* 272 A lively picture of the wreckage of ecclesiastical structures at that time [1548-9] 1899 Mackail *Life Morris* II. 291 There had been much wreckage of unverified beliefs and extravagant hopes.

2. Fragments or remains of a shattered or wrecked vessel; wreck.

1846 Worcester (citing *Times*). 1867 *Morn. Star* 4 Feb., A large quantity of timber, ship's spars, &c...The wreckage appeared to be that of a large ship. 1888 T. P. Battersby *Elf Island* 36 The deck was..covered with wreckage. 1899 Doyle *Duel* (1909) 219/2 Some of the wreckage from those vanished vessels.

attrib. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 23 His wreckage-spars, His harried ships.

b. *pl.* Pieces or fragments of wreck. *rare.*

1884 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. vii, A bolt shot into the storm-tost Sea and its wreckages.

3. Material of or from a wrecked or shattered structure; a ruined fabric, building, etc.

1874 J. Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* xvi. 508 The ice-current.. would leave upon their frozen shores the wreckage of the distant mountains. 1892 Baring-Gould *In Troubadour*

Land viii. 172 They form the wreckage of a palace for princes. 1894 DOYLE *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 103 The venerable wreckage of a feudal keep.

b. *fig.* Persons whose lives have been wrecked, who have failed to maintain a position in society.

1883 F. PEEK (*title*) Social Wreckage; a Review of the Laws of England as they affect the Poor. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Nov. 6/1 Twenty beds.. are nightly filled by wreckage, more or less battered, from the stress of life. 1898 *Daily News* 18 Apr. 5/1 What a line of flotsam and jetsam it is!..that mass of human wreckage.

Wrecked (rekt), *ppl. a.* [f. WRECK *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. That has undergone or suffered shipwreck; destroyed, lost, or cast ashore by shipwreck; = SHIPWRECKED *ppl. a.*

1729 WOODWARD *Fossils* I. 216 The Coral found affix'd and growing upon wreck'd Ships. 1795 W. LEE *Hist. Lewes* 547 It has..been the practice of many lords to keep the wrecked goods. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 394 Wrecked mariners, Who cling to the rock of a wintry sea. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* vii, One wave..made the wrecked vessel completely manifest in her whole bulk. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* II. 483 Whether the old man..was one of the wrecked cruisers, or a wrecker,..is not specified. 1869 *Daily News* 11 Aug., Throwing upon the holders of wrecked goods the burden of accounting for their possession.

2. Damaged or destroyed by wreck, violence, or disaster; shattered, ruined.

1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 224 Like weeds on a wrecked palace growing. 1818 — *Marenghi* vii, Thou shadowest forth that mighty shape in story, As ocean its wrecked fanes, severe yet tender. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng* ix. (1880) 150 Amidst the ruins of a wrecked church. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2821/1 Removing obstructions from the track, such as wrecked cars or locomotives.

b. *fig.* That has suffered wreck; brought to ruin or disaster.

1819 KEATS *Lines to Fanny* 33 That most hateful land, [where]..my friends..live a wrecked life. 1855 G. BRIMLEY *Ess.* (1858) 84 The incipient stage of madness, springing from the wrecked affections. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xviii. 301 He flung into bribery what was left of his wrecked credit. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 470/2 He was thinking of the old king with the wrecked mind.

Wrecker [1] (re·kəɹ). [f. WRECK *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

1. One who causes shipwreck, esp. for purposes of plunder by showing luring lights or false signals; a person who makes a business of watching for and plundering wrecked vessels; also, one who wrongfully seizes or appropriates wreck washed ashore.

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1821) I. 27 The good people.. thronged like wreckers to get some part of the noble vessel.. driven on shore. 1843 *Times* 20 Jan. 3/6 Although the officers of the coast-guard keep a sharp look-out, considerable depredation was carried on by the wreckers. 1888 FARRAR *Early Chr.* xxii, Cornish wreckers went straight from church to light their beacon-fires.

fig. 1865 THOREAU *Cape Cod* vi. 105 Are we not all wreckers contriving that some treasure may be washed up on our beach?

b. One who wrecks or ruins a structure, institution, concern, etc.

1888 C. G. WALPOLE *Short Hist. Irel.* 441 The Defenders especially had begun to turn the tables upon the 'wreckers', and were the terror of the country side. 1889 GASQUET *Hen. VIII & Eng. Monast.* II. 426 Like a swarm of locusts the royal wreckers went forth over the land.

fig. 1883 *American* VI. 37 Lawyers and agents, who might be described with fairness as 'wreckers' and who generally manage to absorb the assets. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Feb. 10/1 As a wrecker of Cabinets Ireland holds a proud position.

c. *fig.* One who wrecks, or successfully obstructs the passing of a measure, etc.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 12 July 1/2 If..they are not able to reckon more than 8 Parnellite 'wreckers'. 1901 *Scotsman* 20 Nov. 8/4 The wreckers in the Senate claimed for America the right of fortifying the Canal.

2. *Stock Exchange.* (See first quot.)

1876 'E. PINTO' *Ve Outside Fools!* 359 *Wreckers*,..those who make a similarly-organized attack as bears upon some stock, rotten or good,..and force down the price by large and successive sudden sales. 1884 *American* VIII. 84 The clamor of contending inflaters and wreckers at the stock exchange.

Wrecker [2] (re·kəɹ). Orig. (and chiefly) *Amer.* [f. WRECK *sb.*[1] + -ER [1].]

1. A person engaged in salving wrecked or endangered vessels or cargo; a salvager, salvor.

1804 M'KINNON *Tour West Indies* ix. 137 Those persons called wreckers, who are licensed by the Governor of the Bahamas, and cruise amongst these islands for the benefit of salvage. 1819 *Edwards' Hist. W. Indies* (ed. 5) IV. 225 The business of wreckers..consists in giving assistance to those who are wrecked, or in danger of being so, upon the almost endless rocks and shoals [of the Bahamas]. 1851 *Rovings in Pacific* I. 173 Our own vessel..had heeled on to a sunken patch in the offing...It gave us wreckers a tremendous fright. 1878 TALMAGE *Old Wells* 273 The wreckers shoot a rope out to the suffering men.

2. A ship or vessel employed in salvaging sunk, wrecked, or stranded vessels.

1864 WEBSTER. 1868 [see WRECKING *vbl. sb.*[2] 2]. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 5/2 The Wreckers and Admiral Cervera's Vessels.

†**Wreck-free**, *a. Obs.* [Early ME. *wrec-frī*, f. WRECK *sb.*[1] 1 + FREE *a.*] Exempted or free from the forfeiture of wrecked vessels and goods.

1205 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 153/2 Cum socca & sacca & thol & theam & infangenethef & wrecfri & witefri & lestagefri & locofri. 1298 *Charter to Cinque Ports* in *Rymer's Fœdera* (1816) I. ii. 798/2 Et quod habeant infangenethef; & quod sint wrecfry, & wytefry & lestagefry. 1398 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 117 (tr. quot. 1278), That they shall be wreckefree, lastagefree, and loucopfree. [1706 PHILLIPS (*Wrec-fry*); and in later Dicts.]

Wreckful (re·kfŭl), *a.*[1] [f. WRECK *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Causing shipwreck, ruin, or disaster; dangerous, destructive.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. viii. 36 Straungers..which on their border Were brought..by wreckfull wynde. 1812 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. i, The wreckful storms that cloud the brow of War. 1848 MANGAN *Poems* (1903) 106 This dull world still slumbers...In a midnight dream, Drifts it down Time's wreckful stream. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold* III. i. 52 A summer mere with sudden wreckful gusts From a side-gorge.

†**Wre·ckful**, *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. WRECK *sb.*[3] + -FUL. Cf. WRACKFUL *a.*[1], WRAKEFUL *a.*, WREAKFUL *a.*] Full of, manifesting or taking, revenge; marked or characterized by vengeance.

1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* IV. xvii. (1568) 138 Per force my self dooth straine the wreckfull gods, vouch saue it doo not so. 1601 W. T. *Ld. Remy's Civ. Consid.* 36 If a man haue to deale with some manner of men which are wreckfull, of a strange nature, hard to please. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 709 The Earle in wreckfull displeasure..laid his Castle even with the ground.

Wre·cking, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. WRECK *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of destroying by shipwreck or causing wreck; the fact of having suffered wreck.

1775 ASH, *Wrecking*,..the act of destroying by dashing against rocks or sands at sea; the act of destroying by violent means. 1851 W. COLLINS *Rambles beyond Railw.* v. (1852) 108 'Wrecking' is a crime unknown in the Cornwall of our day. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 3 Wrecking was no longer permitted by public morality. 1891 C. DAWSON *Avonmore* 46 Till drunk with wrecking's awful toil, Havoc will laugh and Ruin smile!

attrib. 1885 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. XI. 428/1 The Wrecking system once practised on the English coasts.

2. *concr.* That which is wrecked; *pl.* wrecked remains.

1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 200 The more vigorously all will toil To mend the wreckings of a fallen race.

Wre·cking, *vbl. sb* [2] *Amer.* [f. WRECK *sb.*[1] 3.]

1. The action or business of salvaging a wreck or wrecks.

1804 [see 2]. 1868 H. D. GRANT *Rep. Wrecking in Bahamas* 35 Wrecking has become a regular vocation for a considerable portion of the population.

2. *attrib.*, esp. in sense 'used for, or in connexion with, relating to, salvaging wreck', as *wrecking car, crane, outfit, pump, train*; also *wrecking law, operation.*

1804 M'KINNON *Tour West Indies* ix. 144 Effecting an immediate escape in a wrecking-vessel from this wild and inhospitable spot. 1868 H. D. GRANT *Rep. Wrecking in Bahamas* 36 Copies of abstract of the wrecking laws. *Ibid.* 62 The harbour-master.., who formerly commanded a wrecker and now owns licensed wrecking vessels. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 644/1 Fairbairn's traveling-crane..is adapted for a wrecking-crane for railroad use. *Ibid.* 2821/1 *Wrecking-car*, one carrying devices for removing obstructions from the track, such as wrecked cars or locomotives. *Ibid.* 2821/2 *Wrecking-pump*, a steam-pump specially designed for pumping the water out of bilged or sunken vessels in order to raise them. 1891 *Harper's Weekly* 19 Sept. 714/2 A wrecking train soon removed the débris. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 68 The wrecking outfit should be immediately available. *Ibid.*, Wrecking operations.

b. In sense 'engaged in salvaging wreck or wrecks', as *wrecking company, crew, expedition.*

1851 *Rovings in Pacific* I. 149 Bound on a wrecking Expedition. 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 33 A wrecking crew of curlew hastily manned the uprooted tree that tossed wearily beyond the bar. 1891 in *Leeds Mercury* 19 Sept. 12 Captain Merritt, of the Merritt Wrecking Company.

Wrecking, obs. erron. var. RACKING *vbl. sb.*[3] 1.

1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 128 That the Timber..be both firmly spliced and bolted together, to prevent their wrecking, swagging or dislocating.

Wre·cking, *ppl. a.* [f. WRECK *v.*[1] + -ING [2].]

1. That wrecks; causing wreck, ruin, or destruction; destructive.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 228 [Industry] is in itself..satisfactory; as freeing our mind from distraction, and wrecking irresolution. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. ix. P 4 The wrecking fury of the storm. 1880 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* Wks. (1912) 275 The moon, That poured her midnight noon Upon his wrecking sea. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Feb. 7/2 Playing a wrecking game towards the present Government.

2. Going to wreck; becoming wrecked.

1903 S. E. WHITE *Forest* viii. A man..scaled the face of the moving jam, and reached the top just as the two sections ground together with the brutish noise of wrecking timbers.

Wreckle, variant of WRIGGLE *sb.* 3.

1816 BINGLEY *Useful Knowl* III. 225 Sand-launce, Sand Eel, or Wreckle (*Ammodytes tobianus*) is a small fish distinguished by its eel-shape.

Wre·ckless (re·klès), *a. rare.* [f. WRECK *v.*[1] + -LESS.] That cannot be wrecked.

1821 BYRON *Heaven & Earth* iii. 753 Hence to where our all-hallow'd ark upreara Its safe and wreckless sides!

Wreckless, obs. erron. f. RECKLESS *a.*

Wre·ckling. Now *dial.* [var. of RECKLING. Cf. WRECLING.] A weak, puny, or dwarfish animal (or plant); *spec.* the smallest and weakest of a litter.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 530 It causeth it [sc. the vine] to seeme scorched and full of knots, yea and to grow like a dwarfe or wreckling. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* I. 48 When shee should come to foale, shee would bring fourth nought but a wreckling. 1624 — *Cheap Husb., Swine* xi. 94 Take the wreckling, or worst Pigge, and nurselet it all euer. 1782 [see RECKLING]. 1825- in dialect glossaries, etc. (N. Cy. Nhb. to Warw.).

attrib. 1620 tr. *Pastor Fido* IV. viii. M 2 b, Too much I honour thee, poore weake and wreckling child.

Wree, Sc. variant of WRY *v.*[2]

†**Wreekes**, erron. f. REAKS (pranks) *Obs.*

1608 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 3) III. ii. vi. iii. 515 Fawnes and Satyrs will certainely play wreekes.

Wreest(e, obs. or dial. varr. WREST *sb.*

†**Wre·gling**. *Sc. Obs.* = WRECKLING.

1679 in Wodrow *Ch. Hist.* (1828) IV. 302 What through grace he will make such a weak wregling able to endure.

Wrehohe, obs. f. WRETCH *sb.* **Wrei**, etc.: see WRAY *v.*, etc. **Wreicht**, **Wreight**, obs. ff. WRIGHT *sb.*[1] **Wreist**, obs. Sc. var. WREST. **Wreithe**, obs. f. WREATHE *v.* **Wreitt**, **Wreitten**, obs. Sc. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WRITE *v.*

Wrek, alteration of WRACK *v.*[4]

a 1635 L. FOXE *North-West Fox* in *Voy.* (Hakl. Soc. 1894) II. 280 In that distance holding the same course, I was 1 d. 17 m. wrekt from my true course.

†**Wreke.** *Obs.* Also 6 reke. [a. early ON. **wrēke* m. (Icel. *rekr*, Norw. *reke*), from the same stem as **wrek* neut.: see WRECK *sb.*[1]]

1. = WRECK *sb.*[1] 1.

1420 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 32 Every man bere knoweth wel þat þe wreke is parcel of þe enheritance of Ermyngton. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 213 Remembir your ryth of your wreke at Wynterton. *Ibid.*, Gret plante of wreke of the schyppe..worth meche mony. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 34 *Preamble*, With wreke of the Sea and all other forfaitures. [1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 23 Lordes marchers..shall have, hold, and kepe within..the precincte of their said Lordeshippes..wreke de mere, wharfage.]

2. = WRECK *sb.*[1] 2.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wreke, of þe see, *alga, norga.* 1500 *Ortus Vocab.* BB viij b/1 *Norga, fax maris*,..wreke. 1545 ELYOT, *Vlua*, reke or wiedes of the sea.

Wreke, etc., obs. ff. WREAK *sb.* and *v.*

†**Wrele**, *v. Sc. Obs.* [?Of imitative origin.] *intr.* To struggle or move about writhingly.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. Prol. 298 Quha is attachit on till a staik..Ma go no ferrar, but wiele about that tre. *Ibid.* v. iv. 114 First Sergest behind sone left hes he, Wreland [L. *luctantem*] on skelleis and wndepis of the see.

Wren (ren). Forms: α. 1 **wrenna** (**werna**), 3–7 **wrenne**, 5 **wrenn**, 5–6 **wrene** (6 *pl.* **wreneys**), 5– **wren**. β. 1 **wrænna** (**wærna**), 3, *Sc.* 6–7 **wranne**, 5 *Sc.*, 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **wran** (7 **wrane**, 9 **ran**), *Sc.* 6, 9 **vran** (9 **vraun**). [OE. *wrenna* (also with metathesis *werna*), *wrænna* (*wærna*), obscurely related to OHG. *wrendo*, *wrendilo*, Icel. *rindill.*]

1. *Ornith.* One or other species of small dentirostral passerine birds belonging to the genus *Troglodytes*, esp. the common wren (jenny- or kitty-wren), *T. parvulus*, native to Europe.

In quot. *c* 1450 used in some allusive s

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 136 *Birbicariolus*, werna. *a* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 532 *Parrax*, wrenna, *uel* hicemaxe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 564 (Jesus Coll. MS.), Hwat dostu godes among monne? Na mo þene doþ a wrecche wrenne [*Cotton MS.* wranne]. *Ibid.* 1717 þe wrenne [*Cotton MS.* wranne] for heo cuþe singe þar com..To helpe þare nyhtegale. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 107 Levere is the wrenne, Abouten the schowe renne, Than the fithel draut, Other the floute craf. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 349 So that the litel wrenne in his mesure Hath yit of kinde a love under his cure. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Flour of Curtesye* 57 The sely wrenne, the titmose also,..have free eleccioun To flyen..Wher-as hem liste. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXVIII. 373 Thus shull the knyghtes of the rounde table go to a-venge the deth of the wrenne. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparrow* 600 The prety wren, That is our Ladyes hen. 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, v. iii, The Wrenne may striue against the Lions strength, But all in vaine. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 13 As little wrens, but newly fledge, First by their nests hop up and downe the hedge. 1632 HEMLOWES *Theoph.* I. xcviii, Shrubs cannot cedars, nor wrens eagles praise. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 224 P 2 Thus the fable tells us, that the wren mounted as high as the eag by getting upon his back. 1750 C. SMITH *State Co. Cork* II 334 The Wren makes but short flights..; is to hunt and kill him is an antient custom of the Irish on St. Stephen's day. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 268 The wren may be placed among the finest of our singing birds. 1829 WORDSW. *The Contrast* 30 This moss-lined shed, green, soft, and dry, Harbours a self-contented Wren. 1864 BRYANT *Little People of Snow* 21 A pleasant spot in spring, where first the wren Was heard to chatter. 1888 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 688/2 The range of the Wren in Europe is very extensive.

β. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 260 *Litorius*, wærna. *a* 1200 *Voc.* Ibid. 286 *Bitorina*, wrænna, *uel pinitorus.* *a* 1250 [see α]. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 649 The litill we Wran, That wretchit dorche was. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 Robeen and the litil wran var hamely in vyntir. 1823 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 128 Wrans an robin-riddicks. *a* 1825 in Halliwell *Nursery Rhymes* 184 We'll hunt the wran, says Robin to Bobbin. *a* 1859 in *N. & Q.* and Ser. VIII. 209/2 The wran, the king of all birds. 1880-91 in Antrim, Cornwall, and Devon glossaries. 1899 SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Some Exper. Irish R. M.* I, The carpenter.. wished the divil might run the plumber through a wran's quill.

Phrases. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* III. 105 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 434 As wise as any wrenne And holy as an henne. *a* 1598 FERGUSSON *Prov.* (S. T. S.) 10 As sair fights wranes as cranes.

transf. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 70 [Stage direction] Enter Maria. *Toby.* Looke where the youngest Wren of mine comes.

b. With distinguishing epithets.

1638 W. LISLE *Hellodorus* VI. 87 A bird no bigger then.. the Tyuny Wren. 1648- [see JENNY WREN]. 1828-34 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) II. 288 *Sylvia troglodytes*,

Winter Wren. 1829– [see KITTY[1] 2], 1831 J. RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 570 Wren... Provincially called] Vrnun, or Ran. Cutty, Katy, or Kitty Wren. 1848 *Maunder's Treas. Nat. Hist.* s.v. The American House Wren (*Troglodites domestica*)..Inhabits the whole of the United States. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* March 616/1 The winter wren [*T. hyemalis*]..is a saucy little atom. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 137 An example of the St. Kilda Wren (*Troglodytes hirtensis*).

2. Applied, esp. with distinguishing term, to various other small birds of the family *Troglodítidæ* or *Sylviidæ*, resembling the common wren in appearance or habits; esp. the gold-crest (*Regulus cristatus*).

Also *hill-*, *marsh-*, *reed-*, *rock-*, *sedge-*, *willow-*, *wood-wren*: see HILL *sb.* 4 f, MARSH 4 b, REED-WREN, ROCK *sb.*[1] 9 c, SEDGE *sb.*[1] 6, WILLOW *sb.* 6, WOOD *sb.*[1] Some provincial names are recorded by Swainson (1885), pp. 25–27.

1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 287/1 The *Carolina wren.. (*Thryophorus Ludovicianus*) and the Marsh Wren..(*Cistothorus palustris*)..are found chiefly in the vicinity of water. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words* Eng. Birds 87 The *copped Wren: *Regulus cristatus*. 1700– [see COPPED *ppl. a.* 3]. 1750 C. SMITH *State Co. Cork* II. 335 The *Regulus* or *crested wren..is a smaller bird. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 383/2 [The] (golden-crested Wren..must not be confounded with the rarer *Fire-crested Wren,..also to be seen in Britain. *Ibid.* 383/1 This species is the..*Gold crested Wren..and Kinglet of the modern British. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* iv. (1870) 67 The twitter of the *golden wren. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 511 The small and delicate *golden Crested-wren. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 170 The Golden-crested Wren is diffused throughout Europe. 1830 BOOTH *Analyt. Dict.* I. 98 The smallest of all the British birds, is called the Golden-crested Wren. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 227 The *golden-crown'd Wren: *Regulus cristatus*. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* xli, The feeble little golden-crowned wren, that shadow of a bird, braves our severest frosts. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 203 *Gold-naped Wren, *Sylvia elata*,..inhabits Cayenne in the winter. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* s.v., Yellow Wren... Provincial[ly called] Willow Wren. *Ground Wren. 1758 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 95 The *Ruby-crowned Wren. 1760 *Ibid.* II. 143 The *Yellow Wren hath..been figured and described by different authors under various names. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) II. 378 The yellow wren [*Sylvia trochilus*] frequents ..places where willow trees abound from which it takes one of its names.

b. Applied to various Australasian species of wren-like birds (see quots.).

Also *emu-*, *rock-wren* (see EMEU 4, ROCK *sb.*[1] 9 c).

1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* III. 18 *Malurus Cyaneus*,.. Superb Warbler, Blue Wren, etc., of the colonists. *Ibid.* 29 The Striated Wren [*Amytis striatus*] ran with amazing rapidity. *Ibid.* 19–31, 39–40 [many species of *Malurus*, *Amytis*, and *Hylacola*].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wren-hunting*, *-like*; **wren-box**, a collecting-box used by 'wren-boys'; **wren-boys**, in Ireland, a party of boys or young men, carrying a decorated holly-bush with a wren or wrens hanging from it, who go about on St. Stephen's Day singing verses; **wren-bush**, a bush used for this; †**wren creeper**, a variety of tree-creeper (see quots.); **wren song**, the song carolled by the wren-boys; **wren-tail**, **wren's-tail**, an artificial fly for trout-fishing; **wren-tit** *U.S.* (see quot.)

1902 *Folk-Lore* June 131 A *wren-box from the Pitt Rivers Museum at Farnham. ? *a* 1800 in Croker *Researches in S. Ireland* (1824) 233 It won't agree with the *Wren boys at all. 1824 CROKER *Ibid.*, A holly bush..having many wrens depending from it..is carried from house to house with some ceremony, the 'Wren boys' chaunting several verses. *a* 1825 in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 489 Song of the Youghal Wren-boys. 1871 *Yarrell's Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) I. 465 The dead bird, hung by the leg between two hoops,..was carried about by the 'Wren-boys' [of Cork]. 1902 *Folk-Lore* June 131 [He] exhibited a *Wren-bush from co. Wicklow. 1904 *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 537 The practice of carrying about 'the wren-bush' on St. Stephen's Day. 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 268 *Wren Creeper,..Size of the..Willow Wren. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* IV. 271 Wren Creeper, *Certhia trochilea*,..inhabits America. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* iv. 44 A whole Parish running like madmen from Hedg to Hedg a *Wren-hunting. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 36 Wren-hunting. [Particulars follow.] 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 10/1 It used to be a common custom..to make wren-hunting parties a feature of the season from Christmas to New Year. 1641 *True Char. of Untrue Bishop* 4 Witnesse his many Sparrowish, *Wrenlike wanton extravagances. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* v. 207 From those loftiest notes Down to the low and wren-like warblings. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* CXXXI, I'm nobody—a wren-like journalist. 1835 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 489 The *Wren Song in Ireland. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *Northern Angler* 40 The *Wren's Tail,..an excellent summer fly. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 245/2 The Wren's Tail..[legs of a wren's tail-feather, used as a hackle. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. 204 The *Wrentail, Brown Bent, Froghopper. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 38/1 Among the best of these are..the wren-tail, the grouse and partridge hackles. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 79 *Chamæidæ*; *Wren-tits..much like a titmouse in general appearance,..with the general habits of wrens.

†**Wrench**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: α. 1–2 **wrenc**; 2–6 **wrench**, 3–6 **wrenche**. β. 6 **wrinch**(e. [OE. *wrenc*, corresponding in form to OHG. *renki* twist, sprain (G. *ränke* bend, hollow), and in sense to MHG. and G. *ranke* bending, turning, trick, artifice. Cf. WRENE *sb.* and WRENCH *v.*]

1. A crooked, cunning, or wily action or device; a trick, wile, or artifice. Freq. coupled with *wile*.

α. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv. § 1 Nauht ne derexað monnum manes ahtes, ne þæt lease lot þe beoð mid þam wrencum bewrigen. *a* 1050 *Lofer Sciatill.* xxxvii. (1889) 136 Oa swa hwylcum wrence words smiz swerize. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1003, Ða sceolde..Ælfric landan þa fyrde ac he teah forð þa his ealdan wrencean. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 He fondede god solf mid his wrenche. *a* 1289 *Ancr. R.* 270 Auh þis beie sacrament..ouer alle oðer þinges unwriðð his wrenches, & breked his strenches. *a* 1290 *Prov. Ælfred* 163 Monymon wenep þat he wene ne þarf, longes lyues, ac him lyeþ þe wrench. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7721 He dredde hym of sum wykked wrenche. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 347 At þe laste Turgesius deide by gileful wyles and wrenches. 14.. *Sir Beues* (E.) 2753+32 þe dragoun cowde 100 many a wrenche. *a* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 1690 Þere ne shal..No wrenches ne no fendes wyle Make þat swetnesse away to gon. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* All those thynges were wroughte by wrenches of spyrittis. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) 7 A iiij b, The wrenches and wyles..that the this people..dos vse to gette money with.

β. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrinches or wyles, *chariuaris*. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) A a vij, If we take not hede to prepare against his wrinches, it wyll ouerthrow vs. 1547 *Bk. Marchauntes* 9ij, God knoweth what wily wrinches..they do commit fro day to day.

2. Without article: Trickery, deceit, guile; fraud.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9924 Of is luþer wrenche..Four hondred & four score mid treson he slou þere. *c* 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 44 He was stronge adrad þut of wommanes wrenche. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 438 She schette the dore, and set him on benche. Wil ye nou i-here of wommannes wrenche? 1566 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* xxvi. 10 Their right hand with wrenche and wile for bribes doth plucke and pull.

Wrench (renʧ), *sb.*[2] Also 5 **wrynche**, 6–7, *dial.* 9 **wrinch** (9 *dial.* **wringe**, **ringe**); 6 **wren(t)che**, 9 *Sc.* **wrunch**, **runch**. [App. not a continuation of the prec. word, but directly based upon the verb.]

†**1.** *On wrench*, crosswise. *Obs. rare*[–1].

? *c* 1460 *MS. Forhington 10* fol. 58 (Halliwell), The vij. wyffe sat ene the bynche, And sche caste her legge one wrynche.

2. An act of wrenching, or the fact of being wrenched; a twisting or pulling aside, awry, or out of shape; a violent twist or turn.

1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrenche, *torche*. 1618 BP. HALL *Contempl., O.T.* xii. i, Gods iudgements are the racke of godlesse men: If one straine make them not confesse, let them bee stretched but one wrench higher, and they cannot be silent. 1755 JOHNSON, *Wrench*, .. a violent pull or twist. 1771 LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* 87 A Wrench is thus formed. *Ibid.* 88 Retire a little upon the second wrench. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xi, The little stone having been raised with one wrench of a spade. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xxii, They all could hear..the creak of wood slowly yielding; the wrench of iron; the mighty fall of the ponderous gates. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* iii, [She] gave a contemptuous wrench of her shoulder. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* iv, [The yacht] jibbed round of a sudden, with an appalling wrench at the horse.

fig. and in fig. context. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxii. 128 The same reason wold..serue with one lytell wrenche ferther, to take in lyke wyse a waye from euery other man. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* ii. ii. 218 A Noble Nature May catch a wrench. 1854 BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) II. 167 Quite conscious that it is a strong wrench that drags him out of so large a part of the habits of life. *a* 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daughters* (1866) I. 247 Then, with a wrench, changing the subject,..he broke out [etc.]. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 51, I shall..bless each kindly wrench that wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

b. A sudden or sharp twist or jerk causing pain or injury to a limb, person, etc.; a sprain, strain. Also in fig. context.

1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrenche out of joynt, *deboytement*, *disjoincture*. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 49 If he haue a wrentche, or haue taken colde in his arme. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 98 If..a wrenche breake a bone without perishing the fleshe or skinne whiche couereth it. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 69 Every small Wrinch, or stepping awrie, is enough to put an ill-set Bone out of joynt. 1665 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 100, I have got such a wrench in my ancle. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 226 They haled him into the ship, without..any other injury than a wrench in his arm. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* viii. § 1 The contortions and wrenches to which the limbs of animals are continually subject. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xix. 134 They compelled the arms to take a position which, if the footing gave way, would necessitate a wrench. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* iv, She quietly gave a wrench to the neck of the young hope in her breast.

c. An instance of this in horses; also with *the*, as the specific name of an ailment.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 301 Claribel supposing it hadde bin some wrench, commaunded his man to bathe the horse leg. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* 59 The Curbe ..commeth..by some straine or wrinch wherebie the tender sinewes are grieued. 1687 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Laud Ships* C 6 b, The shedding of the haire, the Horse-hipped, the Wrench, the Neckecricke. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 306 A horse that hath gotten a wrench in his shoulder. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3105/4 A dark brown gelding,..goes waddling behind, as if he had a Wrench in his Back. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Entorse*, Wrenches of the Pasterns in Horses.

d. *fig.* A parting or separation causing painful or violent emotion; pain or anguish resulting from leave-taking.

In frequent use from *c* 1875.

1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xii. (1855) 202 The misery of the wrench from all that is dear and bright. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 4 It was not without a wrench that they tore themselves from their English homes. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* x, Now that it had come to parting with the last of them [*sc.* daughters] it was an undeniable wrench.

e. *Mathematical Physics.* (See first quot.)

1876 BALL *Theory of Screws* 4 We now introduce the word *wrench*, to denote a force *and* a couple in a plane perpendicular to the force. *Ibid.* 5 These wrenches could be replaced by one wrench which is called the resultant wrench.

†**3.** A sharp turn, bend, or deflection; an abrupt turning movement. *Obs. rare.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Argt. ad fin., The reader wandering vppe and downe, as it wer in wrenches, or ..in a mismase diuersly tournyng and wyndyng. 1596 SIR J. DAVIES *Orchestra* liii, I loue Meanders path, .. Such winding sleights, such turnes and tricks he hath, Such Creekes, such wrenches, and such daliaunce.

fig. 1654 I. AMBROSE *Ultima* 203 Austin after some turns and wrenches concludeth thus.

b. *Coursing.* A turning or bringing round of the hare or rabbit at less than a right angle.

1615 MARKHAM *Country Content.* I. viii. 105 That Dogge which glueth the first turne, if after the turnes be giuen and neither coat, slip, nor wrench extraordinary, then he [etc.]. 1686 (see WRENCH *v.* 2]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. ix. 189/1 A Wrench, is not a turn, but as it were, a half turn. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* 598/1 A cote is when.. one [dog] outruns the other, and gives the hare a turn or wrench. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 218/1 Working Power is evinced by the Wrench and the Turn. 1887 *Field* 29 Feb. 335/3 The brindled [greyhound] eventually finishing the course with a couple of wrenches and a kill.

4. Change from the original purport or signification; a strained or wrested meaning; a forced or false interpretation. (Cf. WREST *sb.* 3.)

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 55/2 If there be wrench in this Parallell, It is in that [etc.]. 1701 STRYPE *Life Aylmer* 265 Whence..the Popish Bishops might see their Wrenches and Cavillations..to be maintained thereby. 1864 LOWELL *Black Preacher* 11 But since I might chance give his meaning a wrench,..I'll put what he told me..In a rhymed prose.

5. One or other form of mechanical screw.

1552 *Acts Hen. VIII* (ed Berthelet) 40 The Bier [=buyer] ..shall not..straine..the same clothes..by teintour or wrinche [1524 wynche]. 1598 FLORIO, *Storta*,. a wrench or wrest that ioyners vse. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 810 Hee was faine to cause them to bee tormented with their thumbes in a wrinch. 1618 DALTON *Country Justice* 34 Any teynters, wrinches or other engines whatsoeuer, wherby any deceipt may be vsed in..the stretching of any wollen Cloth. [1708 *Guide for Constables* 31 Tenters,..headwrinches, or other engines for stretching of cloth.] 1845 JAMIESON, *Wrunch*, a winch or windlass. *Lanarks*[*hire*].

†**b.** *fig.* A means of compulsion or constraint. *Obs. rare.*

1628 BACON *Hen. VII*, 90 He..resolued to make this profit of this businesse..as a Wrench and meane for Peace.

c. A tool or implement of various forms, consisting essentially of a metal bar with (freq. adjustable) jaws adapted for catching or gripping a bolt-head, nut, etc., to turn it; a screw-key, screw-wrench, or spanner.

Also *bed-*, *monkey-*, *pipe-*, *screw-*, *tap-*, *tube-wrench*: see those words.

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 78 A spindle that is turned with a wrench upon the outside. *Ibid.* 223 Tool-budget..[for carrying] the few requisites for the coachman's use—such as a wrench, a hammer, a chissel. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxi, We worked very hard until the hole was large enough, using the crow-bar..and a little wrench. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6111, Patent wrench and mallet to save all taps from damage. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 299/2 The wrench or spanner..is used for fastening the headstock or poppet down on the bed.

d. *Surg.* Applied to various makes of instruments having adjustable jaws, spec. for gripping a deformed foot to be rectified by torsion.

1895 *Arnold's Catal. Surg. Instruments* 774 Wrenches for bending Thomas's Splints. 1896 TUBBY *Deformities* 416 Some wrenches are formidable and powerful instruments. *Ibid.* 418 Holding the foot in the bite of the wrench too long.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrench finisher*, *forger*; *wrench hammer*, *handle*.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822/1 *Wrench-hammer*, a hammer having a movable member to form a spanner. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* lv, Mr. Mordacks..holding him, as in a wrench-hammer, all the way, silencing his squeaks, with another turn of screw. 1882 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1889) 44 Wrench Finisher and Forger. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 957/1 *Wrench Handle*, a double-arm wrench for use with dies for cutting threads, and other purposes.

Wrench (renʧ), *v.* Forms: α. 1 **wrencan**, 2–4 **wrenchen**, 4, 6 **wrenche**, 5– **wrench**, 6 **wrensh** (7–8 **rench**, 8 *arch.* **wranch**). β. 4 **wrynch**, 5 **wrynche**, 6 **wrinche**, 6–7 **wrinch**. [OE. *wrencan* to twist, turn (also *fig.* to practise wiles), = OHG. *renchan* (MHG. and G. *renken*) to twist; of obscure relationship. Cf. WRENE *v.*]

I. †**1.** *intr.* a. To perform or undergo a quick or forcible turning or twisting motion; to turn or writhe (*about* or *aside*). Also *fig.* *Obs.*

α. *c* 1050 *Indicia Monast.* (MS. Cott. Tib. A iii) fol 97, Is þæs horderes tacen, þæt mon wrence mid is hande, swilce he wille loc hunlucan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 At plezæ.. þih and shonkes and fet oppieð, wombe goeshieð, and shuldres wrachieð. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 281 Hu þu was naket bunden faste to þe piler, þat tu ne mihtes nowhwider wrenche fra þa duntes. *c* 1375 [see WRENE *v.* 1]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII. 538 Anoon his knyues come to Venus to have the ryng, but heo wrenchide [*MS.* a. wrynchede] and blenchide and strof longe tyme, but [etc.]. *c* 1500 *New Nothr. Mayd* 132 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 7 To fulfyll His wanton wyll, Wrenchynge from me alway. *c* 1530 TINDALE *Num.* xxii. 25 The asse..wrenshed vnto the walle and thrust Balams foote vnto the wall. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 958 This Torpedo..Doth not as other Fish, that wrench and wriggle When they be prickt. 1629 BP.

Mountagu App. Cæsarem 319 Setting some rigorous Puritans aside, that like no Religion but one of their owne making,..there are few Calvinists..that will wrench at this. 1716 Gay *Trivia* III. 123 Should thy shoe wrench aside, down, down you fall.

β. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1538 Some gase wrynchand to and fra, And some gas hypand. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xviii. (1845) 84, I can not wrynche by no wyle nor croke, My heart is fast upon so sure a hoke. *a* 1630 T. Taylor *God's Judgem.* I. I. xxii. (1642) 84 A charet..,wherein were certain yron-works, which with wrinching about gave an horrible sound. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 497 Rather then goe to law, to sit down by losse; and without wrinching forgo what was his due.

† b. *Fencing.* (See quots. and cf. Whirl *v.* 3.)

1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* Index, *Wrenching*, is to disarm, by whirling off your adversary's blade, without setting any bounds to it, or whirling to any certain parade. *Ibid.* 88 When you parry with a Prime, wrench round into a Tierce.

2. *Coursing.* Of a hare, etc.: To veer or come round at less than a right angle; to rick.

1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 244 A deare..will holde on the same waye, and neuer turneth and wrencheth as a Hare will do before the Greyhounds. 1686 R. Blome *Gentl. Recreat.* II. 98/1 Sometimes the Hare doth not Turn, but Wrench; for she is not properly said to Turn, except she Turn as it were round, and two Wrenches stand for a Turn. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Coursing*, If the hare turns not quite about, she only *wrencheth*, in the sportsman's phrase. 1839 *Laws of Coursing* in Youatt *Dog* (1845) 261 If a dog draws the fleck from the hare, and causes her to wrench or rick only.

II. 3. *trans.* To twist or turn (a thing) forcibly or with effort; to jerk or pull with a violent twist; = Wrest *v.* 1. Also with advs., as *about, round.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Summe iuglurs beoð þet ne kunnen seruen of non oðer gleo, buten makien cheres, & wrenchen mis hore muð. *Ibid.* 222 Ich chulle wrenchen hire þiderward ase heo mest dredeð. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 146 Some will take theyr bowe and writhe and wrinche it. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 41 Small seedes, whiche be as they were wrenched or writhen about. 1590 Tarlton *News Purgat* 22 Though shee coulde not treade right, yet wrincht her shooe inward. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. xi. 444 The wood of such great plants, doth pinch and wrinche the graft mightily. 1674 [see Wreathe *v.* 6]. 1718 Bp. Hutchinson *Witchcraft* 146 One [cart carrying corn] wrench'd Amy Duny's House, upon which she came out in a Rage. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xiii, If you venture to call for assistance, I will wrench round your neck. 1825 — *Talism.* xxviii, Each strange and disproportioned feature wrenched by ... into still more extravagant ugliness. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxi. 422 The limestone of the principal branch is suddenly wrenched round. 1863 B. Taylor *Poets Jrnl.* III. *Watch of Night* 7 Blow, winds..And wrench the trees forlorn That struggle where they stand. 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 588 All her flower of body,..With the might of the wind's wrath wrenched and torn.

b. To tighten with or as with a wrest or wrench; † to tune (a harp, etc.) in this way. Also with *up.*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* H iij b, Orpheus with thy Harpe in hande, Arion also..., Wrinche vp your strings. *Ibid.* M ij b, Playing..vppon their Harpes, wrinched and set to the highest note of Diatesseron. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2253/1 The eye [of the spanner] is caught over the stud on the collar, so as to wrench it fast.

fig. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* I. viii. 21 For thy Reuenge Wrench vp thy power to th' highest.

† 4. *fig.* a. To draw or turn (a person) aside; to force *out of* the right way. *Obs.*

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 4 Þæt tu ne maht nanes weies..wenden me ne wrenchen ut of þe weie. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 124 Nes þer nan þet mahte neauer eanes wrenchen hire..ut of þe weie. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 47 Ihesu crist..leue swa hare heorte halden to him, þat hare flesches eggunge..ne weorri hare heorte wit, ne wrenche ham ut of þe wei þat ha beoð in gongen.

† b. To draw *out* or expel (temptations); to withdraw or shelter (oneself); to divert or deflect towards another. (Cf. Wrench *v.* 2.) *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 244 Swuche þouhtes ofte, i vlealiche soulen, wrenchen ut sonre vlealiche tentaciuns þeone sumine of þe uorme. *Ibid.* 294 Þet tu ne meiht þis scheld holden o þine heorte, ne wrenchen þe þerunder frommard þe deofles earewen. *Ibid.* 304 Zif þu seist þet þin unstrencðe ne muhte nout eðes, þu wrenchest þine sunne o God.

† c. To misrepresent or slander (a person).

c 1300 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 237 Zef y am wreint in heore write, Thenne am y bac-bite.

5. To injure or pain (a person, the limbs, etc.) by undue straining or stretching; to rick, sprain, strain.

a. 1535 Palsgr. 783/1, I wrenche my foote, or any lymme, I put it out of joynt. 1538 Lyte *Dodoens* 935 A playster.. upon places that be out of ioynt or wrenched. 1611 Florio, *Storcersi le membra*, to straine or wrench ones limmes out of ioint. 1638 W. Lisle *Heliodorus* viii. 141 Bagoas .with a fall Had wrench'd his leg,. 1729 Swift *Direct. Serv.* Rules, You wrenched your foot against a stone, and were forced to stay. 1835 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* 1064 *note*, To wrench the ankle. 1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxii, He ..came down on the pavement and wrenched his leg.

fig. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xix. 204 Would it not have wrench'd and sprain'd his soul?

β. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 259 By wrinching their foote in drawing on their hose. 1583 tr. *Maison Nouve's Gerileon* 34 b, His fistes..so were wrinched that he felt them not. 1607 Topsell. *Four-f. Beasts* 78 If an Ox be wrinched and strayned in his sinewes. 1684 J. S. *Pryall & Pleas. United* 204 Leg out of Joynt or Wrinched.

b. To affect with severe pain, suffering, or anguish; to distress or pain greatly; to rack.

1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* vii. xv, Forthwith this frame of mine was wrenched With a woful agony. *a* 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* vii. 870 Through the space Of twelve ensuing days his frame was wrenched. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 436 A spirit not my own wrenched me within.

transf. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* v. 31 Should the whole frame of earth by inward throes Be wrenched.

6. To pull or draw with a wrench or twist; to twist or wrest out; to force, turn, etc., by a twisting movement: a. With preps., as *from, into, out of, to.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 Swiftlye they determind..too wrinche thee nauye too southward. 1604 Shake. *Oth.* v. ii. 288 Wrench his Sword from him. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 534 Turnus..Wrenched from his feeble hold the shining sword. 1730 Thomson *Winter* (ed. 3) 360 When Justice..Wrench'd from their hand Oppression's iron rod. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 201 Seizing his pistol, [he] wrenched it out of his hand. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 39 To wrench the rivets from my quivering wounds. 1822 B. D. W. Ramsay *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* I. i. 25 We wrenched out of the wall an iron hook.

fig. and in fig. context. 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 74 How often dost thou..Wrench awe from fooles? 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 290 O most small fault,..Which like an Engine, wrencht my frame of Nature From the fixt place. 1790 Burns '*What needs this din*' 20 Bruce..Wrench'd his dear country from the jaws of ruin. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 13 Nor could he [sc. Shakspere] have been wrenched from his place in the edifice..without equal injury to himself and it. 1851 Hawthorne *Ho. Sev. Gables* xvi, To wrench it [sc. a fixed opinion] out of their minds. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* xlii. III. 283 His gift was that which wrenches success out of the very jaws of failure.

refl. 1834 Sir F. B. Head *Bubbles fr. Brunnen* 129 As if the corpse..had wrenched himself once again into daylight.

b. With advs., as *away, off, out, outward, up; asunder, open.*

1607 Topsell. *Four-f. Beasts* 364 Staying the midst of your toole vpon the horses neather iaw, wrinch the tooth outward. 1608 Shake. *Per.* III. ii. 53 *Sec. Gent.* 'Tis like a coffin... *Cerimon.* Wrench it open straight. 1639 G. Plattes *Discov. Infin. Treas.* xii. 84 In a quarter of an houre the whole bush is wrenched up by the rootes. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. I, I had the fortune to..wrench out the pegs. 1796 Boys *Agric. Kent* (ed. 2) 120 A hop-dog, to wrench up the poles. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* I. x, As he was speaking came a spasm, And wrenched his gnashing teeth asunder. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 251 He went up to the door, wrenched off the fastenings. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxiv, Like a harp of which all the strings had been wrenched away except one. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Oct. 5/1 They wrench off cupboard doors to spare themselves the trouble of closing them.

fig. 1821 Hazlitt *Winterslow* x. (1850) 174 The revolutionary wheel which has of late wrenched men's understandings almost asunder. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* x, Wrenching up her natural feelings of home. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 218 It seems some unseen monster lays His.. filthy hands upon my will, Wrenching it backward into his.

refl. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. i, What he had in tow.. sometimes seemed to try to wrench itself away.

absol. (for *refl.*) 1918 P. A. Talbot *In Shadow of Bush* xxv. 277 At sight of us she wrenched free.

c. Without const. Also *fig.*

1635 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* II. *Starre* v, Desire that never will be quench'd, Nor can be writh'd, nor wrench'd. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* X. 1273 To wrench the Darts which in his Buckler light. 1723 [Croxall] *Orig. Canto Spenser* xx. (1714) 17 Those honest Hounds..Striving..to wranch the Chain, Which did her tender Limbs to th' Rock upty. 1879 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* (1912) 248 The lazy cows wrench many a scented flower.

d. To seize or take forcibly; = Wrest *v.* 4.

1605 Shake. *Macb.* III. i. 63 They..put a barren Scepter in my Gripe, Thence to be wrenched with an vnlineall Hand. 1796 Southey *Joan of Arc* V. 474 If the iron rod Should one day from Oppression's hand be wrench'd By everlasting Justice! 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* v. vi, Wrenching from ruin'd Lowland swain His herds and harvest. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Ireland* vi. 92 Those from whose hands he had wrenched the means of subsistence. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* 12 To wrench from the reluctant hands of diplomacy exceptional modifications of those fatal treaties. 1868 E. Edwards *Raleigh* I. ix. 143 Spoils had been wrenched from Spain such as hitherto were almost unexampled.

e. To deprive (a person) *of* something by wrenching or wresting.

1786 Burns *To Mountain Daisy* viii, Till wrench'd of ev'ry stay but Heav'n, He, ruin'd, sink!

7. To twist, alter, or change from the right or true form, application, or import; to wrest, pervert, distort. Cf. Wrest *v.* 5.

1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 29 Wrenching thys text of scrypture..after their owne phantasie. *Ibid.*, Thei wrench these wordes a wrye. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. iv. (Arb.) 89 Let his ryme and concordes be true,..and not darke or wrenched by wrong writing. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 100 Should impertinent secrecies be reuealed;..euery proposition wrinched to the harshest sense? 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 32 These devout Prelates for these many years have not cess't in their Pulpits wrinching, and spraining the text. *c* 1655 — *Sonn.*, '*Cyriack, whose Grandsire*' 4 [He] in his volumes taught our Lawes, Which others at their Barr so often wrench. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* viii. 212 They proceeded to wrench that power to the restraining of all dissentients. 1877 Winchell *Reconcil. Sci. & Relig.* xii. 325 It is infinitely better to learn how God really did proceed, than to..wrench our Bible to make it fit a misconception of facts.

† b. To derive (a word) by alteration *from* another. *Obs.*

1605 Camden *Rem.* (ed. 3) 70 *Lewis*, wrenched from *Lodewick*, which Tillius interpreteth, Refuge of the people.

8. *Coursing.* To divert, turn, or bring round

They wrench her once or twice, ere she a turne will take. 1839 *Laws of Coursing* in Youatt *Dog* (1845) 260 When a dog wrenches or ricks a hare twice following, without losing the lead, it is equal to a turn. 1840 *Sportsman* II. 218 Wrenched by the one or the other of her pursuers, she seemed every moment almost in the jaws of one of them. 1865 *Field* 4 Mar. 151/3 Rebe wrenched her hare half a dozen lengths in advance of Master Sweeney.

absol. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 10 Gardenia shot in front, and..turned; she then wrenched and killed. 1886 *Field* 20 Feb. 227/2 Mr. Dent's dog went up for the kill after wrenching once.

† 9. To drive, impel, or thrust (a weapon) with a twisting movement. *Obs. rare.*

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* IV. i. 23 Scipio hath wrencht a sword into hys brest. *Ibid.* v. 322 He wrencht it to the pommel through his sides.

† b. *refl.* To force (oneself) *in* among others. *Sc. Obs.*—1

1709 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 454 [Such] persons..In a time of party and division, get in where they ought not to be, and when they have wrenched themselves in, talk [etc.].

10. *absol.* To pull or tug (*at* something) with a turn or twist. Also *fig.* and *transf.*

1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 1132 Th' incumbent Heroe wrench'd and pull'd and strain'd; But still the stubborn Earth the Steel detain'd. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IX. ix. P 3 France has been wrenching and screwing at this Lorraine, wriggling it off bit by bit. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, He..again grasped the stone..and wrenched at it. 1891 Kipling *Life's Handicap* 245 The water snarled and wrenched and worried at the timber.

b. To come *out* by or as by wrenching.

1903 E. Childers *Riddle of Sands* viii, The lower screw-plate on the stern post had wrenched out.

Wrench, obs. or dial. erron. f. Rinse *v.*

Wrenched (ren(t)ʃt, *poet.* re·n(t)ʃéd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wrench *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Sprained, strained; dislocated.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 77 b/2 Wrenched or hurte in the loinles, *distortus.* 1567 Grenham in Burgon *Life* (1839) II. 218, I wolde have waited upon you.., but that my wrenched legge would not suffer me. 1684 J. S. *Pryall & Pleas. United* 73 Foot out of Joynt or wrinched Foot. 1892 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 87 Who never knewest..pang Of wrench'd or broken limb. 1897 Anne Page *Afternoon Ride* 89 Briefly loosed the wrenched wrist.

b. Twisted, wrung. Also with *off.* Occas. *fig.*

1894 A. Morrison *M. Hewitt Investigator* 245 A trap-door..six or eight inches open, the edge resting on the half-wrenched-off bolt. 1908 A. Noyes *W. Morris* 63 There are wrenched hands and writhen lips in it. 1913 A. Reade *Poems Love & War* 78 From our tears..and wrenched hearts, Let some fair harvest spring.

2. *Pros.* (See quot.)

1891 J. C. Parsons *Engl. Versif.* 144 Wrenched Accent. —This term is used when the metrical stress is thrown upon a syllable which would not ordinarily be accented.

Wrencher (re·n(t)ʃəɹ). [f. Wrench *v.* + -er 1.]

1. A machine or instrument for wrenching or wringing. *rare.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIX. l. 892 Souryssbe thynges..bere downe the meete as it were a pressour other a wrencher [*MS.S.* wrynge]. 1892 S. Warren *Diary Late Physician* I. 380 Before proceeding to use our screws, or wrenchers, we once more looked and listened.

2. One who or that which wrenches or twists. Also *fig.*

1847 in *Home Life Sir D. Brewster* (1869) 190 [Thou wert] The pillar of thine own beloved fane; Thy wrencher of its chill and crushing chain. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 415 The wrencher of a civil institution to his own individual aggrandisement.

† **Wre·nchful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Wrench *sb.*1 + -ful.] Artful, crafty, deceitful.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 His wihtful crokes, & his wrenchfule wicchecreftes. *c* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 890 Þe wrenchfule feont ..wiõ his wiles weorp ham ut sone of paraises selhõen. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 64 Þu wrenchfule [*Titus MS.* wrech-wile] ful wiht! al for nawt þu prokest me to for-gulten.

Wrenching (re·n(t)ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wrench *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb in various senses; an instance of this.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxviii. (Addit. MS.), Þe hond is greued..by wrastinge and wrenching of loyntes. *c* 1430 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 5 (Addit. MS.), Þe secunde techynge a comyn word off wrenchynges out of loynte. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 An other maketh a wrynchinge with hys backe. 1580 Blundevil *Horsemanship* 51 b, Of the wrinching of the shoulder. 1674 *Barbette's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 27 Sometimes the Bone is..forced out of its place.. but a little, or half, which is called Sub-luxation, or Wrenching. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 338 By the Twisting (or Renching) of the Wheels. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* I. i. 160 My curdling limbs Quiver with the anticipated wrenching. 1861 Dickens *All Year Round* 13 July 365 The sudden wrenching of him out of our boat. 1884 E. Yates *Recoll.* I. 139 The charioteers..declined to submit them to the unavoidable twists and wrenchings.

Whose loue hath eased the wrenching of my heart. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 391 No tyranny being equal to the wrenching of law for penal purposes.

b. *spec.* The action of rectifying a deformed foot, esp. by a foot-wrench.

1896 Tubby *Deformities* 415 Wrenching..may be effected more especially in this degree by manual force, and in the severer degrees by special apparatus. *Ibid.*, When wrenching is carried out with the hands.

† 2. A griping pain in the bowels. *Obs.*

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 124 Vexed much with wrinching and griping in the bowels. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 442 The wringings and wrinchings..in the guts or belly of a man or woman.

3. *attrib.* in *wrenching-iron*.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. of Err.* v. iii. 22 Giue me that Mattocke, & the wrenching Iron. 1769 *Public Advertiser* 6 June 3/2 The Thieves left behind them a Wrenching Iron, about two Feet long.

Wre·nching, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That wrenches or twists; of the nature of a wrench. Also *fig.*

1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* II. xxv. 315 Yet we haue still gone forward, and could not bee pull'd backe by any wrenching arme whatsoeuer. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* vii. 99 The stem must be..strengthened to resist the wrenching stresses. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* xix. 248 He ..gives this wrist..a wrenching twist. 1894 T. PINKERTON *Blizzard* 105 The thought..gave him a wrenching pang.

Hence **Wre·nchingly** *adv.*

1884 L. MACBEAN tr. *Buchanan's Spir. Songs* 28 He was stripped and wrenchingly Stretched out with cruel strain.

† **Wrench-milk.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **wrynche, urynche.** [f. the stem of WRENCH *v.* Cf. OE. *wringhwæg* curd.] Curd.

1512 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v, *Oxigulum*, wrenche mylke. [1525 *Oxigala*, wrynche mylke.] 1530 PALSGR. 285/2 Urynche mylke, *maigre* [read *maigre*].

† **Wrene,** *a. Obs. rare.* [OE. *wrēne* lascivious, libidinous.] Wanton.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6600, I schal the teche bothe burdoun and mene, Ne be thow neuere so wroth ne wrene.

Wrene, ME. var. WRY *v.*[1]

Wrenean (reni·ăn), *a.* [f. the name of the architect Sir Christopher *Wren* (1632–1723) + -AN.] Of or pertaining to, following or consonant with the architectural theories or practices of, Sir C. Wren; built by Wren.

1813 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 132 The decorations of the Wrenean school of architecture. *Ibid.* 133 Topped with Wrenean pedestals and balls. *Ibid.*, Whether at the Wrenean, or any subsequent period. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 3/1 The exquisite gates which adorn the Wrenean terraces of Chelsea.

Hence **Wrene·anize** *v. trans.*, to make Wrenean in character.

1813 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 133/1 The lanthern is wholly Wreneanised, in two tiers with lights to each.

Wreng, obs. var. WRING *v.*

† **Wrength.** *Obs. rare*[-1]. [repr. OE. type **wrǽngðu*, f. *wrang* WRONG *a.* For the formation cf. *length*, *strength*.] Crookedness; distortion.

c 1200 *Bestiary* 85 in *O. E. Misc.* 3 Danne goð he to a ston, & he billeð ðer-on, Billeð til his bec biforn haueð ðe wrengðe forloren.

† **Wrenk,** *sb. Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **wrenk(e.** *β.* 5–6 **wrink(e, wrynk.** [Northern var. of WRENCH *sb.*[1] Cf. next.]

1. = WRENCH *sb.*[1] 1. Freq. coupled with *wile*.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* Prol. 2 Thou filde this gaste as full of witte..That al beastes er red for man, Sa mani wyle and wrenk he can. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1360 Þe world . ledes a man with wrankes and wyles. 13.. *Cursor M.* 13336 (Gött.), Na wrenkes [*other MSS.* wrenches] of þe maledight Againes hir sal haue no might. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 67 With wrynkis and with wiles to wend me my weys. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 37 For euerie wrink, forsuith, thow hes ane wyle. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving*, etc. 3 The deuill wyll cast mony wrenkis of falsait. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXX. 42 In me..wes mony wrink and wyle. *a* 1508 MERSAR in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 808/19 For every wrynk luk that ye haif a wyle.

2. Trickery, deception; = WRENCH *sb.*[1] 2.

1536 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 246 For falshed & for wrenk he forsuore þe land.

† **Wrenk,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **wrenke, wrinok.** [Northern var. of WRENCH *v.* Cf. prec.]

1. *intr.* To writhe; to turn *away*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17458 Bot iesu crist þat rightwis es,.. A-wai to wrenk he dos þe wrang. *Ibid.* 19353 Þan be-gan þai wrenk [*Gött.* wrinck, *Fairf.* wrenche] and wrest, And for tene þair tethe to gnast.

2. *trans.* To turn aside, to divert from oneself. (Cf. WRENCH *v.* 4 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26385 Þis ypocrites..wald al wrenk þair aun witen, For to sem þam-self god and lele.

Wrennian (re·niăn), *a.* [See WRENEAN *a.* and -IAN.] Built by, or in the style of, Sir C. Wren.

1853 *Ecclesiologist* XIV. 393 The gallery front of a Wrennian church of two orders, such as S. James's Piccadilly.

Wreoen, Wreoðen: see WRY *v.*, WREÐEN *v.*[2]

Wrest (rest), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 3–6 **wreste,** 5– **wrest** (7–9 **rest**), 5 **wreeste,** 6 **wreast,** *Sc.* **wreist,** 7 *Sc.* **wriest,** 8 **rist.** *β.* 4–5 **wrayst(e,** 5 **wraist(e.** *γ.* 5 **wraaste, wraast,** 5–6 **wraast(e.** [f. the verb.]

I. 1. The action of twisting, wrenching, or writhing; a twist, wrench; a tug or violent pull; † a turn of a tuning-peg (quot. 1501).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3462 Þair strut it was vn-stern stith, Wit wrathli wrestes [*Gött.* wraystes] alþer writh. *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 26 in *Babees Bk.* 300 First to the ryght honde þou shalle go, Sitthen to þo left honde þy neghe þou cast; To hem þou boghe withouten wrast. *c* 1500 *Proverbis* in *Anstey. Rep.* (1809) IV. 406 Stoppide in the freytes they [*sc.* lute-strings] abydeth the pynnes wrest. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. iv, Thair instrumentis all maist war fidillis lang, But with a string quhilk neuer a wreist 3eld wrang. 1875 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 53 With the wreast of a Cok [he] was sure of a coolar: water spurting vpward. 1611 COTGR., *Torse*, ..a wrest, wrinch; wrythe, wrying.

1803 A. HERSCHEL in *Nature* March 458 The time-rates of each of these momenta..are respectively angular moment or twirl (of a force-couple) and tractive moment or wrest (of a motor-couple).

fig. c 1430 LYDG. *Lyfe of our Lady* (Caxton, ? 1484) I viii b, It causeth hertes no lenger to debate That partyd ben with the wreste of hate. *a* 1590 GREENE *Orpharion* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 32 Loue,..if it be ouerstrained, cracketh at the first wrest. 1598 S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 126 In the strong wrest of supplication, then, sole trauailing.

b. Extent of wresting; hence, reach of capacity; stretch, strain. *rare*[-1].

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* L ij b, Thou wert chosen to make an Oration.., in which (hauing toyled thy wits to theyr highest wrest) thou [etc.].

† **c.** Without article. Twist or coil. *Obs.*[-1]

a 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 49 Thei hade for the moste parte long heare, withowte wrest or curle.

† **d.** *Sc.* A wrenching or sprailing of the muscles; a sprain or strain. *Obs.*

1628 *Orkney Witch Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superstit. Scotl.* (1834) 118 [To make] a wresting thread, and give it in the name of the Father, Sone, and the Holie Gaist,..it wald mak ony wrest of man or beast haill. *c* 1700 in Jas. Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1706) I. 60 It will be good against the Pine Of any Wriest or Strienzie. 1881 PAUL *Past & Pres. Aberdeen.* 15 Mr. Thomson then [= in 1698] being bed-rid by reason of a wrest in his ankle.

† **2.** *fig.* An ill or evil turn; a trick. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* (E.) 1930 A made hire alway to ete ferst, Lest þey deden him ony wrest. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 187 Than shall we wayte þam with a wrest, And make all wast þat þei haue wroght.

† **3.** The action of wresting, forcing, or straining the meaning or purport of words, etc.; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 169 b, By what wrest of Logicke doth Osorius gather habilitie of Freewill out of the holy ordinaunces. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 22 They seke fauls armure by wrest of scripture. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 467 Where the witnesse of the other hath often a wrest and tacke of her corruption. *Ibid.* 716 It is..partly falsification, partly a wrest of the Scripture. 1609 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 38 To picke quarels at words, by wrests and streines, neither to purpose nor to sense.

II. *techn.* † **4.** *Surg.* A peg for tightening a ligature by twisting. *Obs.*

c 1370 ANDERNE *Practica* (MS. Ashm. 1434) fol. 4 In quo foramine vnum vertile, anglice *wrayst*, imponatur. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne* 9 By middes of whiche wraiste in þe ouer ende shal be a litel hole.

5. An implement for tuning certain wire-stringed instruments, as the harp or spinet; a tuning-key. Now *arch.*

In ME. sometimes erron. used to render L. *plectrum*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Þe sowne of speking bynde þ wordes; as wreste [1495 wraste].. temperith þe strenges, so þe tonge smyteþ þe teeþ. *c* 1425 in *Anglia* VIII. 109/32 Þis newe tymbrer settiþ..hir handys and fyngers for a wrast, þat is an instrument of organ-songe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wreste of an harpe or other lyke, *plectrum*. *c* 1460 *Liber Pluscardensis* (1877) I. 390 Sal we the menstral wyt? Yha, bot he bent and pruf thaim [*sc.* the strings] with his wraist. 1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) Z vij, A harper wt his wrest maye tune the harpe wrong. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 38 His harp in good grace dependaunt before him: hiz wreast tyed to a green lace, and hanging by. 1612 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 333 Wrests for virginals the groce, vi li. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 1 April, Calling on the virginall maker, buying a rest for myself to tune my tryangle. 1668 *Ibid.* 20 July, To buy a rest for my espinette at the ironmonger's.

1793 *Minstrel* I. 91 Beside it, suspended by a green lace, he hung the wrest, or key, by which it is tuned. [Cf. quot. 1575.] 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, A silver chain, by which hung the wrest, or key, with which he tuned his harp. 1831 H. NEELE *Rom. Hist.* I. 201 Trying his harp strings, and with his wrest or screw tuning them to the proper pitch. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 36 The distinctive badge of the [minstrel's] profession was the wrest or tuning-key.

transf. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Soune is..yschape with þe wraaste [L. *plectrum*] of þe tunge.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 3 There lacked a wrest to the harpe to set all the strynges in a monacorde and tune, which was the matrimony..betwene the kynge and.. Elizabeth. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 81/1 O let the longest Large be shortest Briefes In this discordant Note, and turne the Wrest. 1623 JAS. I *Edict agst. Private Combats* 45 This small instrument the Tongue ..being kept in tune by the wrest of awe.

c. *Her.* The figure of a 'wrest' used as a charge.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 87 b, His crest a wrest in crosse, Sol. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 59/2 He beareth Argent, a Virginall Wrest sable.

† **6.** a. An implement for wresting; a tool for turning bolts, nuts, etc.; a screw-key. Also *fig.*

1589 in *Trans. Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.* (1878) I. 12, iiij vice pynnes with a wrest for a field bedde. 1593 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durham* (Surtees) 8 Two silver..Candlesticks for two tapers..to be taken in sunder with wrests. 1598 [see WRENCH *sb.*[2] 5]. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 4 This fellowship in feeding together is..a wrest that straineth and stretcheth benevolence to the utmost.

fig. a 1590 GREENE *Alcida* (1617) E 4, Faith is the key that shuts the spring of loue, Lightnesse a wrest, that wringeth all awry.

† **b.** A machine for hoisting or hauling weights. *Obs. rare.*

1584 R. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 104 They deuised certayne engines or wrestes [Gr. μηχαναί] to heaue vp stones from the grounde,..hauyng vppon each stayre a wreast.

† **c.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*[-1].

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 102/1 Wrest, is that by which Saw Teeth are set.

7. Special Combs., as **wrest block,** = *wrest plank*; **wrest-pin,** the peg or pin round which the ends of the wires or strings of certain musical instruments are coiled; a tuning-pin (also *attrib.*); **wrest-plank,** the board in a piano in which the wrest-pins are fixed (also *attrib.* and *Comb.*).

1787 H. WALTON *Specif. of Patent* No. 1607, The *rest block,..the damper..,and the rest pin..are made the same as they always are made in Grand Piano Fortes. 1783 J. BROADWOOD *Specif. of Patent* No. 1379 3 The *rist pins to which the strings are fixt. 1800 T. LOUD *Specif. of Patent* No. 2391. 2 The rest pin block. 1809 P. ERARD *Specif. of Patent* No. 3065. 2 The want of stability in the wrest pin plank. 1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 722/1 The tuning-pin screws..into the thick metal wrestpin-piece. 1799 J. SMITH *Specif. of Patent* No. 2345. 2 The Drawing.. shows the *rest plank, trussed with wood. 1846 BURKINYOUNG in *Repert. Patent Invent.* (1847) IX. 78 The rest plank bridge. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 50 Piano Manufacturing:.. Tuner. Turner. Wire Maker. Wrest Plank Maker.

Wrest, *sb.*[2] *Agric.* Now *dial.* Also 9 **wreest, wrist.** [Incorrect spelling of *rest*, var. REEST *sb.*, by association with prec. and WREST *v.*] A piece of iron († or wood) fastened beneath the mould-board in certain ploughs. b. A mould-board.

1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improver. Impr.* XXVIII. 190 The Plough-sheath, Wrest, Beam, Share, and Coulter. retain these names clearly in most parts. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agricult.* 207 Any Plough..having its true Pitch, with its true cast on the Sheild-board and short Wrest. 1763 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 165 The earth of the furrow, in rising up from the fore part of the wrest, is soon resisted by the mold-board, and turned over suddenly. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agriculture* 6 March 1776 *note*, The wrest is..the piece of wood, or iron,..which is meant to *wrest* open and clear effectually the bottom of the plow-furrow. 1796 BOYS *Agric. Kent* (1813) 64 The furrows..are opened with an old plough, with a wrest at each side. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 408 The wrest or mould-board. 1887 PARISH & SHAW *Kentish Dial.* 191 *Wreest*,..that part of a Kentish plough..on which it rests against the land ploughed up. 1893 *S. E. Worc. Words* 49 *Wrist* (*Wreest* or *Rest*) of a plough, a piece of wood below the shield-board, which wrests the earth aside from the plough.

Wrest, obs. var. WRIST *sb.*

Wrest (rest), *v.* Forms: *α.* 1 **wrestan,** 3–4 **wresten,** 5 **-yn, -on,** 4–6 **wreste,** 4– **wrest** (7 **rest**); 6–7 **wreast(e,** 6 *Sc.* **wreist** (9 **reist**), 6 **wryst(e,** *Sc.* **wrist.** *β. north.* 4 **wraist(e,** 5–6 **wrayste.** *γ.* 4–6 **wrast, wraste.** *Pa. t.* 3–5 **wraste;** (also *pa. pple.*) 4–5 **wrast,** 5 **wraiste, wrest;** 4 **wraisted, wrastid** (etc.), 6– **wrested.** [OE. *wrǽstan*, = ON. **wreista* (ONorw. and Icel. *reista*; MDa. *vreste*, Da. *vriste*):—**wraistjan*, related to WRIST.

The northern forms with *ai*, *ay*, are directly ad. ON. **wreista*.]

I. 1. *trans.* To subject (something) to a twisting movement; to turn or twist. Also with advs., as *about*, *away*, *round*.

α. a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 95 (Gr.), T..hine..on ða tungan sticað, wræsteð him ðæt woddor, and him ða wongan briceð. *c* 1205 LAY. 7532 Julius hit wraste & þat sweord stike feste. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 3104 Hur fyngres ache wrast, þe blod out brak. Sche trembleđe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. ix. (Bodl. MS.) fol. 248/2 Þe poette seiþ þat serpente wraste his owne white heed backeward. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 7510 (Trin.), I shook hem bi þe berdes so þat her chaules I wraste in two. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrestyn, and wrythyn a-3en, *reflecto*. 1548 ELYOT, *Intorquere mentum*, to writhe or wreste the chynne. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 1. 272 A small rod of siluer..which is wrested, so that the two ends meet. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 148 A shoe is wrested and turned according to the fashion of a crooked or splay-foot. 1676 MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks. (Grosart) III. 153 The heliotrope flower.. wrests its neck in turning after the warm sun. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 193 A Rope..which they bring over the Top of all the loaded Sheets, and wrest it at the Tail [of each wagg F. THOMPSON *Poems* 59 He wrested o'er the ri that garmenting which wrought him wrong.

transf. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 105 Notwithstanding all these barres, within which he [sc. a mountain-range] is pent, twined, and wrested.

β, γ. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 9 Wraistyng þe skynne atuyx þe tawel & þe fistule. † *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xvi. 547 This Caytyfe..shall be wronge wrast, or I weend away. 1530 LEVINS *Manip.* 203 To wrayste, *torquere*.

† **b.** To screw or turn (the pin or pins of a musical instrument) so as to tighten or tune the strings; to tune or tighten (a stringed instrument, its wires, etc.) by means of a wrest. Also with *up*. Occas. in fig. context.

a 2000 *Bi Manna Wyrdum* 82 (Gr.), Sum socal mid hearpan set his hlafordes fotum sittan,..& a snellice snere wræstan, lustan scralletan. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 340 An harpe haþe þre partis,..þe ouermost in which ben stringis wrastid. *Ibid.* 342 And sorowe of trespasse ayeyne hem ten [*sc.* strings] shal wraste his harpe to a-corde welle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wreston, *plecto*. 1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) Z vj, The clarycord hath a tunely kynde As the wyre is wrested hye and lowe. 1582 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 127 Our lyfe is like to instrument of Musicke, which sometime wresting vp the strings

and sometime by loosing them, become more melodious. 1587 Greene *Vrlania.* 11, Siluestro..had almost made ——— peeuish, fearing if he wrested not the pin to a right key, his melody would be marred. 1615 Swetnam *Arraignm. Wom.* 29 As fidlers do their strings, who wrest them so high [etc.]. *fig.* 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1166 þat walmed his wrath & wrast hit so hyȝe, þat [etc.]. 1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* VI. 423 Of an harpe he herde the sueste soun. Which instrument ..Wrestid hym ageyn to al gladnesse. 1584 Greene *Mirr. Modestie* (1866) 19 The Judges .. by the power of the law thought to wrest hir vpon a higher pin. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 232 Rouze thy spirites..and wrest them vp to the most outstretched ayry straine of elocution.

†c. To put or set *in* with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 120 He can do nothing else in musik but wrest & wring in hard points vpon a plainsong. 1606 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* III. ii. 450 Theres a fine word now; wrest in that if you can by any meanes. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 109 If the subtle serpent can but see a hole to wrest in his head.

2. To pull, pluck, drag away, or detach (a person or thing) with a wrench or twist; to twist, tear, or wrench out, etc. Also with advs., as *aside, forth, off, out, whence*, or preps., as *off, out of*, and esp. *from*.

a. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4309 Bineþe þe nekke he him nom, & wraste him adoun of is hors. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6195 þe lyd vp sone þey wraste. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 181 Fyve knyȝtes myȝte not wreste the rope out of his hond. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 190 Wyth that syr Guy his swerde out wrasted. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xiv. 670 Hym from his hors anon he wraste. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 33 From her..The wicked weapon rashly he did wrest. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies* III. (1662) 197 He also then assisted Henry Bull..to wrest out of the hands of the Choristers, the Censer. 1698 T. Frogge *Voy.* 33 Young girls..could not be wrested from them [*sc.* apes] without a great deal of difficulty. 1724 C. L. *St. Taffy's Day* 37 Brass Knockers strong, from Doors fierce wresting. 1778, etc. [see Wrest *sb.*²].

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxii, Foster..wrested the flask from her hand. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 21 Thou from a mother's arms canst wrest her daughter asunder.

transf. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1800 He was corsed for his vnclannes,..& of þyse worldes worchyp wrast out for euer 1885 Flor. Marryat *Tom Tiddler's G.* 173, I procured a bed, whence I was wrested at an unearthly hour the next morning.

refl. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 163 In another Condition, I should..have wrested my self out of their Clutches Scotfree.

β, γ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3466 He þat on þe right side lai þe toþer him wraisted oft away. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 80 Pay..Wryþe me in a warlok, wrast out myn ȝȝen. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Cotton) 316 He hyllde his hand so faste, That owte he myght hit [*sc.* a leaf] natt wrast. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. xii. 21 His yron axe..by no meanes..backe againe he forth could wrast.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 24 Suche euyll oppinyon once fastened in mennes hartes hard it is to wraste oute, and maye growe [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 88 b, That our holynes, deuocyon, & good religyon..wrast vs not from the fauour of God. 1587 Harrison *England* II. ii. (1877) I. 53 Being sore grieued, that she had..wrested out such a verdict against him. 1693 Prior *To Dr. Sherlock* 44 You wrest the Bolt from Heav'ns avenging Hand. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, XI. Wks. 1813 III. 350 Unfortunate Princes from whose hands some strong rival had wrested their sceptre. 1796 Wordsw. *Borderers* 1617, I yielded up those precious hopes, which nought On earth could else have

states are poor propos: but who can wrest out Germany?

†c. To force (a person) out *of* something. *Obs.*—1

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 261 He is wraiste of his witte or will of his wone.

†d. *transf.* To press or force *out* (sounds, etc.); to emit or utter, esp. with difficulty. *Obs.*

c 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knight* 48 The nyghtyngale.. her voys gan oute wrest. *c* 1500 *Joseph Arim.* 388 In May, whan the nightyngale Wrestes out her notes muaycall. 1576 Whetstone *Rocke of Regard* II. 116 To wrest out this following complaint. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* H j, The poore gentlewoman not able to wreste out one worde for weeping.

†e. With *forth*. To pass or spend (time) in pain or distress. *Obs. rare*—1.

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* D iij, With many a sobbing sighe..he wrested foorth the tedious night.

†3. To turn or dispose (some one, his heart) to a person or thing; to incline or influence (a person, etc.) *to* do something. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1482 Wyȝe þat is so wel wrast alway to god. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1427 Fynally he gan his herte wreste To trusten here. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7739 He brydlede hem, & dyde hem wreste, Whatewere they herde, to seye the beste. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 237 If thai with wrang ought walde þe wrayste Owte of all wothis I sall þe were. 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) B ij, Ofte tymes by force they wrest and wring him to their handes. 1592 Greene *Repentance* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 137 A yong man is like a tender plant, apt to be wrested by nurture either to good or euill. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 52/2 A gweete-sowre thing (Which may the Sov'raign wrest, the subiect wring) Call'd Lieges'-loue abus'd. *a* 1618 Ralegh *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 23 To wrest the King, and to draw the inheritance vpon himselfe, hee perswaded his Majestie to relinquish his enterest.

†b. To move (the mind, attention, etc.) from a settled state or an object; to unsettle, unfix; to divert *to* something else. *Obs.*

Wars Alex. 4622 Ouir wild [= will] is many ways wraiste, as þe wedire skiftis. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* x, Langer slepe ne rest Ne myght I nat, so were my wittis wrest. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 70 We gloir for to speik of Christ:..Bot sar fra him our hartis we wrest. 1570 Goodr *Pop. Kingd.* Pref. B ij b, They..carefully wrest their mind hither and thither, to obtaine the forgiuenesse of their sinnes. 1609 Ld. Brooke *Mustapha* III. l, Who wrests his princes mind Presents his faith vpon the stage of chance. 1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 188 Whereas Ariosto will..wrest his [*sc.* a reader's] Attention to a new businesse.

c. *poet.* To draw aside, divert (a look).

1738 J. G. Cooper *Father's Advice to his Son* iii, The father's eyes no object wrested, But on the smiling prattler hung.

4. To usurp, arrogate, or take by force (power, a right, etc.); to assume forcibly (a dignity or office); to seize, capture, or take (lands, dominion, etc.) from another or others: a. Const. *away, from* (also in early use with dative), *out of*, † *into, upon*.

In very frequent use (esp. with *from*) since *c* 1820.

1426 Audelay *Poems* 23 He syȝ the Trinyte apere within his body clere, then enterd in hym envy, Whan he hade seyne this gloryis syȝt, He wolde wrast hym his myȝt. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 15, I was very muche grieued..that the triumphe which most iustly you did deserue, was so wrongfully wrested from you. 1609 Bible (Douay) 2 *Macc.* iv. 24 He..wrested the high priesthood upon him self. 1660 T. M. *Hist. Independ.* IV. 13 The English affairs and Government being thus wrested into the hands of a few desperate persons. 1682 Burnet *Rights Princes* iii. 96 The Popes had so strugled to wrest the Investitures out of the hands of the Princes of the West. 1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* IV. i, Oh I teach my Power To cure those Ills,..Least Heav'n should wrest it from my idle Hand. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, II. Wks. 1813 V. 261 The emperors, too feeble to wrest them out of their hands, were obliged to grant the clergy fiefs of those ample territories. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. vi. 294 The rights, thus wrested from the grasp of Rome. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxii. 384 They had gradually wrested his authority out of his hands.

fig. and in fig. context. 1549 Coverdale, etc *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 32 They..through their strength in faith..wreste out with strong handes the benedicion of God. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 470 Thou hast..urg'd me hard with doings, which not will But misery hath rested from me. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Philosophy* I. i. 3 The spoils of all nature are.. wrested with reluctance, from the mine, the forest, the ocean, and the air. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Seine* 5 To wrest a territory from the sea. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* (1899) 163/2, I had wrested from fortune her favours and smiles.

b. Rarely without const.

1535 Coverdale *Prol.* P 24 Lest thou..wrest the righte of the straunger. 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* Wks. (Grosart) II. 87/1 He shall returne, what he did wrest. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxv. 230 The great means of the Clergie in time of Popery was rather wrested then given.

absol. 1582 C. Fetherstone *Dial. agst. Dancing* A 4, The extorcioner wresteth and wringeth, to the ende he may augment his gaines. *a* 1618 Ralegh *Prerog. Parlt.* (1628) 19 The Lords being to strong for the King, forced his consent. ..They wrested too much beyond the bounds of reason.

c. To obtain or gain (money, information, etc.) by extortion, persistency, or strong persuasion; to wring; = Screw *v.* 5. Also with advs., as *out*, or preps., as *from, out of*.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Extorqueo*, Thou diddest wreste..from Ceasar, 50. talentes. *Ibid.*, *Veritatem extorquere*,..to wreste out the truth. 1592 Greene *Disput.* 12 Boon Companions, that by their wittes can wrest mony from a Churle. 1601 Mountjoy in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) III. 149, I should have wrested out of him [*sc.* a prisoner] the certainty of all things. 1624 *Termes de la Ley* 185 b, Exaction is where an Officer or other man demandeth and wresteth a fee..where no fee..is due at all. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. 91 At last she wrested leave from her Husband to live a Nun. 1671 Milton *Samson* 384 Did not she.. reveal The secret wrested from me? 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvii, Your obstinacy can neither wrest from us the truth nor pervert it. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlii, She battled with herself.., but he wrested the answer from her. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Truth* ad fin., Tortures..could never wrest from an Egyptian the confession of a secret.

transf. 1591 Spenser *Ruines of Time* 486 Deepelie musing at her doubtfull speach, Whose meaning much I labored foorth to wreste.

5. To strain or overstrain the meaning or bearing of (a writing, passage, word, etc.); to deflect or turn from the true or proper signification; to twist, pervert; = Wrench *v.* 7, Screw *v.* 3 c.

In very freq. use *c* 1575–*c* 1700. An earlier example is implied under Wresting *vbl. sb.* a.

a. a 1533 Frith *Babe* (1548) C iiij b, Sophisters wolde wrest their sayinges, and expounde them after their fantasy. 1582 Mulcaster *Positions* iii. 12 Is it not he which wringeth the writer, and wresteth his meaning? 1626 Gouge *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* § 1 The forenamed point, 'The Dignity of Chivalry', is not violently wrested. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 287 To wrest and torture words to comply with his extravagant Wit. 1708 O. Dykes *Eng. Proverbs* 120 Are not the holy Scriptures good, because they are wrested? 1738 Jurin in *Keill's Anim. Oecon.* 98 See also how that can be done, which my learned Antagonist seems most to have wrested. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxxi, You appear convinced of my guilt, and wrest every reply I have made. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 32 Nay, do not wrest my words. 1909 T. R. Glover *Conf. Relig. in Early Rom. Emp.* x. 309 He can quibble and wrest the obvious meaning of a document to perfection.

absol. 1564 Martiall *Treat. Crosse* 84 Lett heretickes wringe and wrest as longe as they list, to wise men they shal neuer be able to persuade the contrarie. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* C 2, The end of all being, is to knowe God, And not as your worshippe..wrests to creep into acquaintance, and *fig.* 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 4 This submyssion of myne is by them wrest into a wronge meanyng. 1582 Howell *Devises* G j, For Golde who shunnes to wrest a wrong And make it seeme as right and strong? 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 14 God forbid..That you should fashion, wrest, or bow your reading. 1617 Campion *4th Bk. Ayres* xx, Wrest euery word and looke, Racke euery hidden thought. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 28 Nor wrest I any experiment to make it *quadrare* with any preconceiv'd Notion. 1768 Walpole *Hist. Doubts* 94, I have thus, without straining or wresting probability, proved all I pretended to prove.

γ. 1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 1126 By wrastynge the text, to the scriptures sore decay. 1561 T. N[orton] *Calvin's Inst.* III. 201 Diuines, that..violently wrasted..many places of Scripture. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Repentance* II. P 6 The aduersaries go about to wrast this place for to maintaine their auricular confession withall.

b. Const. *against, from*, † *into, to, unto*.

1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 P 1 The Pope..did obfuscate and wreste Goddis holy worde..from the spirituall and trew meanyng therof. 1550 Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 138 They wrest the saying of Paule vnto a wrong meanynge. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 9 What places of scripture the Papistes do depraue and wraste into a wronge sense. 1612 T. Taylor *Titus* i. 6 They are glad to snatch here and there a word, to wrest against the Author's meaning. 1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* xviii. 116 To wrest names from their known meaning to senses most alien. 1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 135 St. Paul himself..mangles some citations..and seems to wrest them to a different sense. 1820 *Q. Mus. Mag.* II. 260 *note*, This word has been wrested from its pristine and legitimate signification. 1851 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) I. 272 When you try to wrest Scripture and history to your own use. 1904 S. H. Butcher *Harvard Lect.* 184 If their utterances could not be wrested to the desired end.

absol. 1540 Coverdale *Confut. Standish* (1547) d vij b, Thus make ye of gods holy scripture a shipmans hose, wresting and wringing to what purpose ye will.

c. To put a wrong construction on the words or purport of (a writer); to misinterpret.

1555 Philpot in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1499/2 It is shame for you to wrast and wrieth the doctors as you do. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* To Rdr. (Arb.) 18 His schollers were woont...howe right soeuer hee wrote, to wrest him. 1604 *Supplic. Masse Priests, Answer* L 4 b, They haue no reason to quarrell with any of vs for wresting, or mistaking, or misalledging Fathers. 1656 Bramhall *Replic.* vi. 273 A confused companie of Authors..of little knowledge in our English affairs, tentered and wrested from their genuine sense. 1687 Prior *Hind & P. Transv.* Pref., Those Authors are wrested from their true Sense.

†d. To derive or deduce (a name, etc.) irregularly *from* something; to change improperly. *Obs.*

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 628/1 The Irish thinke to ennoble themselves by wresting theyr auncientrye from the Spaynyardes. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 59 *Gervasius* in Latine..may signifie..honourable, as wrested from *Gervasius. Ibid. Iames*, Wrested from *Iacob*. 1712 *Brightland's Gram. Eng. Tongue* 137 Asparagus, Sparagus,..which the Vulgar wrest to..Sparrowgrass.

6. To turn or deflect (a matter, etc.); to divert *to* (*unto*, † *into*) some different (esp. undue or improper) purpose, end, etc.; to distort or pervert.

1524 Sir T. More in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 256 To use th'erle of Angwish for an instrument to wryng and wreste the maters in to bettre trayne. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* xxiii. 8 Giftes blinde euen them y^t are sharpe of sight & wraist the righteous causes. 1598 Rowlands *Betraying Christ* 3 The art of Poesie..being..wrested and turned to the fooleries of Loue. 1620 E. Blount *Horæ Subs.* 148 Let not the parties ielousie..wrest or wry his iudgement in the least degree to preiudice. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. 225 One casuall event that may bee but wrested to their purpose. 1721 Berkeley *Prov. Ruin Gt. Brit.* Wks. III. 208 Cunning men, who bend and wrest the public interest to their own private ends. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester* xv, By wresting to the prisoner's disadvantage every circumstance. 1861 Ld. Brougham *British Const.* xvi. 247 A Pemberton wresting the rules of evidence, to the sacrifice of innocent persons. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 281 The forms of government..might be overborne and perverted; and the charge of thus wresting and warping them is shared [etc.].

b. To deflect (the law, etc.) from its proper course or interpretation; to turn from the right application; to misapply, pervert.

a. c 1530 Tindale *Deut.* xvi. 19 Wrest not the lawe..nether take any rewarde. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse of Govt.* v. ix, Where no mediacions..may wrest the sentence of the Lawe. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 622/2 The same Statutes are..very easely wrested to the fraud of the subject. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xxiii. 6 Thou shalt not wrest the iudgement of thy poore in his cause. 1683 Burnet tr. *More's Utopia* 149 A sort of People, whose Profession it is..to wrest Lawes. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. li. 75 The law was generally supposed to be wrested, in order to prolong their imprisonment. 1885 Ld. Fitzgerald in *Law Times' Rep.* LIII. 477/2 He would..have been wresting one of the rules.

β, γ. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* viii. 3 His sonnes..toke giftes, & wraysted the lawe. 1549 Latimer *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 53 To wrast the wayes of iudgement.

†c. To divert or deflect unjustly *upon* some one. *Obs.*

1609 Bible (Douay) *Ps.* lv. 4 They have wrested iniquities upon me. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 476 The Governour had wrested the Inquisition vpon mee.

7. a. To overstrain the muscles of (a joint, etc.); to sprain, strain, or rick (the foot, ankle, etc.). Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1550 Lyndesay *Play* 742, I haif wrestit my schank. 1567 J. Sanford *Ejectatus* 29 Take heede..that thou wreaste not thy foote. 1649 T. Woodnoth *Hermes Theol.* 147 He.. stumbled, and wrested his foot. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 375 He, vnhappellie going throw Abirdein .., wrestit his cute or leg. 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* V. 84 *s. Sc.* I have rested my wrist, by using a hammer.

b. To affect with griping pain; to rack, wring.

c 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1302 *Con. Cau.* Ye shall be clappyd with a coloppe That wyll make you to halt and to hoppe,

Cru. Con. Som be wrestyd there that they thynke on it forty dayes. 1700 BLACKMORE *Deborah's Song* 202 The earth with dreadful gripes was sore opprest, Which did its twisted bowels wrest.

II. †8. *intr.* To struggle or contend; to strive or wrestle *against* something. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 374 [Heo] moten wresten azean [fond-un·ges] mid stronge wrageliinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19353 (Edinb. MS.), þan bigan þai [*sc.* the Jews] wrenke and wraiste [*v.rr.* wraist, wrest], And for tene þair tebbe to graiste. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3554 Thei holde 3ow so sore agast, That 3e dar not with hem wrast. 1548 P. NICHOLS *Godly New Story* E iij b, For some wring & wrest to go backe agayn into Egypt. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 277 Ane fische..in the nette,..Ay wristing and thristing, the faster still is scho. 1590 LODGE *Rosalind* P 2 b, He that wrests against the will of Venus. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* I j b, She strugled, she wrested, but all was in vaine. *transf.* 1577 FULKE *Confut. Purg.* 447 The blessed state of them that dye in the Lord, in the meaning of which you wrest and wrigle, like a snake.

†9. To force a way, make way with effort, find egress. Also with *through*, *out*. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* L 9 þay bonden hym to þe crosse.. so hard..þat þe blod wrast apon ychc a knot. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1377 The timbre and yre thorugh hys body wraste. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 81 The faire Enchauntresse.. Tryde all her arts..thence out to wrest.

†10. Of sound: To break forth. *Obs.*[-1]

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1403 Sturnen trumpen strake steuen in halle, Aywhere by þe wowes wrasten krakkes.

Wre·stable, *a. rare*[-0]. [f. WREST *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being wrested.

1611 FLORIO, *Torcevole*, wrestable, to be wrested.

Wrest-balk, obs. erron. f. REST-BALK *v.*

1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 158 Another practice here, is to veil or wrest-balk at Midsummer.

† Wrest-beer. *Obs. rare*[-1]. (See quot.)

Perh. for *rest-beer*, from the time it was allowed to lie before being used.

a 1654 SELDEN *Table-T., Parlt.* (Arb.) 81 Just as in brewing of Wrest-Beer, there's a great deal of business in grinding the Mault;..then it must be mash'd,..then they keep a huge quatter when they carry it into the Cellar, and a twelve month after 'tis delicate fine Beer.

Wrested (re·sted), *ppl. a.* [f. WREST *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. That has undergone wresting or wringing; twisted. Also *transf.*

1609 HOLLAND *Ammianus Marcell.* 50 Holts and darts discharged violently from the writhed and wrested strings of a brake or such like engine. 1626 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II v. 440 A wrested Bryre Onely kept close the gate which led unto it. *a* 1627 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 72 The ache of a wrested joynt. 1656 J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 320 The Bone may alwaies remain wrested.

2. *fig.* Deflected or turned from the true meaning or natural application; strained, perverted.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (Arb.) 60 The bare wordes of the lawe, or a wrythen and wrested vnderstandinge of the same. *c* 1554 HOOPER in Coverdale *Lett. Mart.* (1564) 160 This iudgement of Paul is more to be followed, then al our own fayned and wrested defences. 1559 T. BRICE *Reg. Martyrs* July 1557 D ij, When wrested law put him to deth. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 32 So many wrested Scriptures, so many false conclusions. 1615 J. STEPHENS *Satyr. Ess.* 175 For he, wanting the humor of his wrested observance, falles away into ignorant silence. 1687 ATTERBURY *Answ. Consid. Spirit Luther* 46 Little wrested sentences of authors. 1729 T. INNES *Crit. Essay* I. 330 Wrested texts of the Old Testament. *a* 1743 SAVAGE *To Sir R. Walpole* 133 New courts of censure ..Explain'd, at will, each statute's wrested aim. 1868 J. BRUCE *Digby's Voy. Medit.* Pref. p. xv, Opinions..raised upon wrested inferences.

3. Drawn out, taken or acquired, by force.

1565 COOPER s.v. *Cado, Non sponte cadentes lachrymas*, wrested teares. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. I. 24 Death me liefer were, then such despight, So vnto wrong to yield my wrested right. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 154 Vast confusion waites As doth a Rauen on a sicke-falne beast, The imminent decay of wrested pompe.

Wrester (re·stəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER[1].]

1. One who wrests or wrenches; a twister; †one who tunes with a wrest.

1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Whs.* (1568) Z vj, Any Instrument mystunyd shall hurt a trew song; Yet blame not the claricord ye wrester doth wrong. 1552 HULOET s.v., Wryste or wrythe, *extorqueo*. Wryster and wrynger, *idem*. 1611 COTGR., *Retordeur*,..a wrester, a retorter, a wrier backe.

†b. An implement for picking locks. *Obs.*[-1]

1591 GREENE *2nd Pt. Cosny-Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 86 The Picklocke is called a Charme. He that watcheth, a Stond. Their engins, Wresters.

2. One who wrests, strains, or deflects the meaning or application of words, etc.; a perverter, distorter.

1533 MORE *Conf. Tindale* Wks. 524/1 A false wrythe and wrester of holy scripture. 1560 JEWELL *Answ. to Cole* 1 vi, A falsarie, a wrester, a corrupter of the Doctoures. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* II. ii, A troubler of good men, and a wrester of lawes. 1609 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 348 All such wresters and peruerters of the truth. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greyb.* 310 Antick foppish jugglers, and wresters of Holy Writ. 1721 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) III. 287 In the first of these Senses,..these Wresters of it bent and Warped the streight Line and Measure of their Duty. 1891 W. C. WILKINSON *Epic of Saul* I. 21 Those wresters of the law must feel the law.

transf. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. vii. (Arb.) 166 To forbid all manner of figuratiue speaches,..as meere illusions to the minde, and wresters of vpright iudgement.

Wresting (re·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING[1].]

1. The action of twisting, or turning awry; the fact of being wrested. Also with *off*.

1398 [see WRENCHING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1548 ELYOT, *Torsio*, *Montgonerie*[illegible] fanggit in þe net,..With wreisting and thrysting, The faster stykis scho. *a* 1616 HEALEY *Epictetus* (1636) 79 In thy walkes thou hast a care to avoide..the wresting of thy feete. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Distorsion*,..a wresting or wringing several Ways. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Sprain*,..a violent Contorsion or Wresting of the Tendons of the Muscles. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* x. 135 Never dreaming the wresting off [*sc.* of a staple] had been done beforehand.

transf. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 480 The wresting of the Inquisition vpon me.

†b. Adjustment of the strings of a musical instrument by tightening with a wrest; tuning in this way. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Whs.* (1880) 341 Many men fallen in þis wrastyng [of a harp] & in goostly syngyng aftur. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrestynge, *plectura, plexura*. *c* 1500 *Proverbis* in *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 A slac strynge in a Virgynall..dothe abyde no wrestinge, it is so louse and light. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* II. xviii. e 2 b, A harper..occupyed about ye wrastynge of his harpe strynges. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 26 b, When he..with writhyng and wrestyng had brought his heresie into tune. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* II. i. § 4 The wresting of a string too high marres the musick.

c. *fig.* The action of taking away or obtaining by force; exaction; extortion.

1611 COTGR., *Extorsion*,..a violent wringing, or wresting of things from others. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 339 The wresting of the Kingdom of Poland from Papal Subjection. 1721 BAILEY, *Extortion*, an unlawful and violent wresting of Money, &c. from any Man. 1853 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 289 His wresting from her the secret which had been locked for ages in the ice caves.

† d. With *in*: (see WREST *v.* 1 c). *Obs.*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 124 The vnpleasantnesse of it commeth of the wresting in of the point.

2. Perversion, distortion, or deflection of the meaning, interpretation, or application; misinterpretation; an instance of this.

c 1444 PECOCK *Donet* 140 Prechers ben woned to wrynge oute of a worde alle maters whiche to hem liken, bi wrasting of sillablis and of lettris. *Ibid.* 142. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 66 Blasphemouse bablynges and abhomynable wrastynges of the scriptures. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 473 He hath nothing that may not bee reasonably construed on our side without any wresting. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxix. 528 It were an vtter wresting of the Text, to conuey it any other way. 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 4 A wresting of actions and wordes to the worse or sadder part. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 19 The ridiculous wresting of Scripture. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. iii. § 20 A manifest perverting of Justice, and a barefac'd wresting of the Laws. 1712 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. 267 Expressions..so bright and clear, as should prevent all possible Wrestings and Misconstructions. *a* 1774 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1777) III. II. 61 Aiming to find out such a sense of them [*sc.* principles of human reason], without violence or wresting, as may coincide or prove reconcileable therewith. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* I. (1876) 5 If a prophecy..admitted of no wresting.

†3. The action of contending or struggling; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 180 Be lowly not sollen, if ought go amisse, What wresting may loose thee, that winne with a kisse. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 355 Their dayly exercise then was a continuall wresting agaynst the world, and the Devill. 1613–8 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 140 Discontentment still goes on, and neither side get any thing but by hard wrestings.

†4. Griping or wringing pain. *Obs.*[-1]

1548 PHAER *Regim. Life* 59 In suche a disease, the glystre muste be greate in quantitie, or els ye shulde make wrestynge & roumblynge in ye bellye.

5. *Comb.*, as **†wresting-vice, stick,** one suitable for or used in wresting or twisting; **wresting thread,** *Shetland dial.*, a thread wound or tied round a sprained or injured limb as a charm to effect a cure.

1568 W. SKINNER tr. *Montanus Inquis.* (1569) 26 b, Hys armes..are bound with very stiffe and small cordes..which afterwards they straine with certaine stiffe wresting stickes or troncheons. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 9 The hangman prepared both hookes and wresting-vices 1626 [see WREST *sb.* 2 c]. 1840 *New Statist. Acc.* (1845) XV. 142 The 'wresting thread'..is a thread spun from black wool, on which are cast nine knots, and tied round a sprained leg or arm. 1883 R. M. FERGUSSON *Rambling Sk.* 122 When a person received a sprain the Wrestin Thread was cast.

Wre·sting, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That wrests or twists; in quot. *fig.*

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1608 Let your Lust and Lykynge stande for a lawe. Be wrastynge and wrythynge, and away drawe.

Hence **Wre·stingly** *adv.*

1613 R. YONG in Zouch *Dove* A 3 b, But Love breaks forth,..And wrestingly, out of my wonted lynes, It makes me shuffle in these hobling rymes.

Wrestle (re·s'l), *sb.* [f. next. Cf. WARSLE *sb.*]

1. Without article. The action of wrestling or struggling; the fact of having wrestled. Also *fig.*

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* IV. pr. vii. 99 So ought not a wise man beare with greefe, fortunes wrestell [L. *certamen fortunae*]. 1796 BURNS *Poem on Life* vii, His pangs, And murd'ring wrestle, As..he hangs A gibbet's tassel. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ix. II. 118 War in Italy, universal spasm of wrestle there, being now the expectation of foolish mankind. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 819/1 Their limbs gnarled and twisted as if they had won their places by splendid wrestle. 1913 'Q' *Nicky-Nan, Reservist* xvii, He paused, seemingly in wrestle with an inward reluctance.

2. A struggle between two persons, each trying to throw the other by grasping his body or limbs; also, a wrestling-bout according to rules; a wrestling-match. Also with *over, up*.

1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* I. 13 Corineus,..Whom in a Wrestle the Giant catching aloft, with a terrible hugg broke three of his Ribs. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* I. lxxvi, Beyond the tilt-yard spread the larger space, For the strong wrestle and the breathless race. 1854 W. WATERWORTH *Orig. Anglicanism* 196 Fondness for the wrestle and the race prevailed. 1893 ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling* 54 On the following day, the loser in the wrestle up proved victorious. *Ibid.* 85 Owing to some oversight on the part of the umpires, they decided it must be a wrestle over.

b. *fig.* A struggle or contest.

1830 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* iii. 4 Both parties in the wrestle professing earnest wishes of peace to us. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 62 The body politic..straining every nerve in a wrestle for life or death. 1893 HORTON *Gospel Entering Europe* 27 [Paul's] long wrestle with mutual realities in the desert of Arabia.

'restle (re·s'l), *v.* Forms: *a.* (1 **wrestlian**), 3 **wrestlen, wreastlen, wreastlin, wrestilen,** 3–4 **wrestlen,** 5 **-lyn, wrestelon,** 4–6 **wrestel, wrestil,** 5 **wrestele, wrestell, -tyll,** 5– **wrestle** (6 **wressell**). *β.* 3 **wrastlen,** 3, 5 **wrastelen,** 5 **wrastel(l)yn, -tlyn,** 4–6 **wrastel,** 4–5 **-tele, -til,** 5 **-till, -tule, -tyl,** 6 **-tyll(e, -tell,** 4– (latterly *Sc.* or *dial.*) **wrastle** (6 **wrasle,** 8 **rassle,** 9 *dial.* **wrostle, wros(s)le**); 4 **wrastil, -tly,** 9 *s.w. dial.* **wrastly, wrassly.** *γ.* 4–5 **wristele, -tle, wrystille, -tel,** 9 *dial.* **wrustle, wrus(s)le, russel.** [OE. **wrestlian,* frequentative of *wrǽstan* to WREST, represented in the cognate languages by NFris. *wrassele, wrâstle,* MLG. *worstelen, wrostelen,* LG. *wrösseln, frusseln,* MDu. *worstelen* (also Du.), *werstelen, wrastelen.* Cf. WARSLE *v.*, WRAXLE *v.*]

I. 1. *intr.* To strive with strength and skill to throw a person to the ground by grappling with him; to endeavour to overpower and lay down another, esp. in a contest governed by fixed rules, by embracing his body and limbs and tripping or overbalancing him. Also with †*samen*, †*yfere*, *together*.

a. *a* 1100 [see WRESTLING *vbl. sb.* 1]. *c* 1205 LAY. 1858 Brutus hine lette witen..to wreastlene bi-foren Brutus, Geomagog and Corineus. *Ibid.* 24699 Summe heo wreastleden And wiðer-gome makeden. 13..,*c* 1375 [see *β*, *γ*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrestelon, *luctor, palestrizo*. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* iv. 14 So to gedre they wrestled longe tyme. 1503 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 238 To wrestle all manner of ways, at the pleasure of the commers. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 447 To wrestle in the games of Olympia. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 229 With professours of wrestling, to bestrew his bodie with dust..for to wrestle. 1718 A. THOMPSON tr. *Geoffrey of Monm.* IV. viii. 107 Two noble Youths..wrestled together, and afterwards had a Dispute about the Victory. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 915 Arising to a third essay, They should have wrestled yet again. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 290 A handsome sum of money has been subscribed to be wrestled for. 1889 W. ARMSTRONG *Wrestling* 283 The platforms at rural fairs where local champions wrestled for a fall.

β. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* 318 (MS. Titus D. XVIII), Ich..biheold oðe wrastling, oðer me self wrastlede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7439 Ac he ouercom þe deuel, & adoun him caste, To gadere as hii wrastlede, & bond is honden vaste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3939 Sa lang þai wrasteld [*Gött.* wrestild, *Fairf.* wrestled] samen bare þat iacob was ban hurt wel sare. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 8 Pipen he koude,..and wel wrastle and sheete. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 164 Pus þai wrasteld togedyr, & þis man fell. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 320 He..toke the kynge wyth both his armes by the waste, & wrastled togyder a longe whyle. 1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* xix. 61 b, To shoote, to wrastle, to dooe anye mannys feate. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 86 [They] do wrastle..two and two with force of armes. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Tropheis* 268 Wee wrastle not..For painted sheep-hooks, or such pettie Prize. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 288, I am now a laying in the fourth week; and I am strong enough even to wrastle. 1758 L. LYON in *Mil. Jrnls.* (1855) 33 [They] hopt and rassled together to see which would beat and our men Beat. 1795 MACNEILL *Scotland's Scaith* II, Wha wi' Will cou'd rin or wrastle, Throw the sledge, or toss the bar? 1876– in dialect glossaries (Sc., Yks., Lanc., Som.). 1896 P. GRAHAM *Red Scaur* vi, Learnin' her son to box ..and wrastle.

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3933 Sammen handlinges wristeld [*Fairf.* wresteled] þai Al þe night, til it was dai. †*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1142 Wrothely þai wrythyne and wrystille togeders. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* iv. 14 To lerne to fight, to wristle,..& to put at ye stone. 1869– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (*wrustle, wruzzle, russle*, etc.).

b. Const. *with* or †*mid* (a person, etc.).

a. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1804 Iacob..bi-lef þor on þe nigt,..And þor wrasteiede an engel wið. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. iii. 295 Wiþe hym wrestlyt þe angel. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* iv. 14 That he shold wrestell with Coryn. 1530 PALSGR. 756/1 Wrestell nat with me, for I wyll throwe the on thy backe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 171 She woolde oftentymes play and wrestle..with the kynges chamberlens. 1728 STEELE *Spect.* No. 502 P 5 Were there a Scene written, wherein Penkethman should break his Leg by wrestling with Bullock. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 246 He that wrestles with us strengthens our nerves. 1856 KINGSLEY *Heroes* 169 He challenges all comers to wrestle with him. 1889 W. ARMSTRONG *Wrestling* 229 Sam Rundle..recently wrestled with Carkeek the American.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 280 þe 3eape wrastlare nimeð 3eme hwat turn his fere ne cunne nont, þet he mid wrastleð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 515 Vor he scolde mid corineus wrastli be adde ibeot. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1798 A place to pleye, ordeyned Brutus,..[for Corineus] For to wrastle wyþ þat geaunt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 276

Sche coupe eke Wrastel .. Wip any ponge man, were he neuere so whight. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lvii. 373 Darste thou wrastill with me? *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 563 He..toke ay[illegible] by the wast for to wrastle wyth hym. 1530 Palsgr. 785/1, I dare nat wrastell with hym, leste he gyve me a fall. 1612 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muses Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 41/2 O thou, whom Iacob wrastled with a space. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* I. xxiii. 93 Consider..how many Spectres have been seen or felt to wrastle, pull or tug with a man.

γ. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxii. 24 And loo! a man wristlide with hym vnto the morwe.

c. To struggle physically (*with* something) after the manner of wrestling.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 56 This infant..wrastling with snakes in his swadling cloutes. 1613 Heywood *Silver Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 129 It fits loues sonne Wrastle with Lyons, and to tugge with Beares. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* A 6, Against the rugged waues, we tugge and wrastle. 1643 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 94 She tugs and wrastles with the foamie waves. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Lady G. B.* xxxii, With her in mimick war they wrestle; Beneath her twisted robe they nestle. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* ii, Thames, the 'old Eton fellow' that wrestled with us in our boyhood. 1893 Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling* 77 The boat..upset, and the strong man went down, unable to wrestle with his remorseless foe.

fig. and *transf.* 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xv. (1495) v vj, [Mercury] is callyd the god of wrastlyng,..for he [= the planet] wrastlyth wᵗ the sonne as he wold ouercome hym. 1539 Bible (Great) *Ecclus.* li. 19 My soule hath wrestled with her [*sc.* wisdom]. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xvi. 4, I wrassill with the wind. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 933, I have in this worke wrastled with that envious and ravenous enemy Time. 1611 Cotgr., *Luicter contre les ombres*, to wrastle with shadowes; to be angrie without cause. 1844 A. B. Welby *Poems* (1867) 89 In bondage I must wrestle here with death. 1893 Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling* 41 When lying on his death bed, while wrestling with a foe sure to triumph in the end.

d. With complement.

1893 Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling* p. xliv, If Best did wrestle second,..it must have been for some minor prize. *Ibid.* 26 Morton threw Halliwell of Penrith, and..Anthony McDonald..wrestled up with him.

2. To contend or struggle in hostility or opposition (*with* or *against* another or others).

a 1200 *St. Marherete* 14 Wrestlin ha moten ant wiðerin wið ham seoluen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2035 Wiecche mon..I hwerto wultu wrastlin wið þe worldes wealdent? 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 224 If wratthe wrastel [*v.r.* wrystel] with þe pore. 1388–9 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 471 Prelatis, here deme 3ee and wrastulis 3ee who schal be mayster. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 350 Pan, which is the god of kinde, With Love wrastlede and was overcome. 1526 Tindale *Eph.* vi. 12 We wrestle not agaynst flesshe and bloud: but..agaynst worldy ruelars. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 167 For Kyng Henry..and Richard..wrested for the game, and strous for the wager. *a* 1575 Pilkington *Nehemiah* iii. 5 (1585) 41 b, Men..that dare and wil wrastle with the rich in correction. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 116 Wrastling with the venetians they had almost bereaued them of their estate and taken their city. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1688) III. 396 Venice wrastleth with the Turk.

b. *fig.* To strive or labour (esp. to obtain the mastery, superiority, or advantage) *with* or *against* difficulties, circumstances, forces, personal feelings, etc. Also (*b*) without const.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 To wrastlen stalewardliche azein þes deofles swenges. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xiii. 11 All þat wrestils agayns vices in actif lif. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* 655 This vertu is so..vigerous that it dar..wrastle agayn the assautes of the deuel. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1571 Who that..Wyl wrastle ageyn yt [*sc.* vengeance]. 1489 Skelton *On Death Erle Northumbld.* 82 They buskt them ..Againe the kyngs pleasure to wrestle or to wring. *c* 1534 T. Starkey *Let. to Cromwell* in Collier 9 *Hist. Lett.* (1871) 48 In such tyme as I was wrastelyng wyth my fevur. 1553 Wood tr. *Gardiner's De Vera Obed.* 5 b, Thei..haue wrestled against the truth of a long time. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 79 Iewes who wrestled in vaine against the decree of God. 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* ix, You must wrastle stoutly with the difficulties. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 167 We rave, we wrestle with Great Nature's Plan. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1771) I. iv. 79 Strive to..wrestle against principalities and powers. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., Tuesday bef. Easter*, Rather wouldst Thou wrestle with strong pain, Than overcloud Thy soul. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, I had to wrestle with my self-respect.

transf. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* I. v. 52 Were it not thou art my fathers sonne, And striuing kindnes wrestled not with ire.

(*b*) *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii. 170 Of corupcioun of my body, for it is heuy to wrestil here as lange. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xi. 214 His witt schal be dressid and led forthe..with myche lasse peyne and labour, than forto wrastle withinneforth in his owne ymaginaciouns. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 218 b, The more that ony persone relucketh, wrestleth, or stryues to ouercome these manyfolde temptacyons. 1563 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 21 Who dothe wrest his will to wrastle in eche wronge. 1654 E. Johnson *Wonder-working Provid.* *104 For the which all the Israel of God fight,..wrastle, pray.

c. To strive earnestly (*with* God) in prayer. With allusion to Gen. xxxii. 24–26.

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* i. 180 The Lord..whom we must wrastle withall by our praiers. 1638 [see 11]. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* viii. lxxiv, By pray'r God's serv'd betimes; remember who The blessing got by wrestling so. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* II. 57 [They] wrestled with God in their daily Prayers for his Release. 1818 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxiii, We have prayed, and wrestled, and petitioned, for an offering. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xxiv, The mother..wrestled with God in earnest prayer.

3. a. To labour, toil, or exert oneself; to strive (*for* something); to tussle.

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* li. 25 My soule wrastled in it; and in doing it I am conformed. 1549 Latimer *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 207 Thus go these prelates about to wrestle for honoure. 1598 Phaer *Æneid.* viii. S ij b, They their ships in marble seas with ores dyd wrastlyng towe. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 469 Whilest Hysmaell was thus wrestling for the Persian kingdome. 1620–6 Quarles *Feast Worms* 1493 They rebell, and wrastle, And neuer cease, till they subdue the Castle. 1831 Carlyle *Misc.* (1872) IV. 28 How many a poor Hazlitt must..believe that he is seeking Truth, yet only wrestle among endless Sophisms. 1873 Gosse *On Viol & Flute* 55 Two of us swam out to it..And as I strove and wrestled in the race, I turned and saw [etc.].

fig. 1633 Shirley *Bird in Cage* I. i, Like errand Knights, our valiant wits must wrastle To free our ladyes from the inchanted Castle.

b. Of natural agencies, etc.: To engage in conflict or strife; to act against each other.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 525 Wrope wynde of þe welkyn wrasteles with þe sunne. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 784 As þe erth & all þe elementis at anes had wrestild. 1865 S. Bowles *Across the Continent* xviii. 185 River and rock have striven together, wrestling in close and doubtful embrace.

c. To engage in argument, debate, or controversy; to debate, dispute.

c 1450 Capgrave *St. Augustine* 53 A-geyn all þese þis souereyn maystir..stood as a strong geaunt, wrestiling with argumentis for þe clennesse of þe feith. 1521 Fisher *Serm. agst. Luther* iii. Wks. (1876) 337 Here Martin luther for his shrewed brayne wyll some thyng wrastell agaynst vs. 1565 Calfhill *Answ. Martiall* 105 Hosius doth wrestle marualously about the word. 1626 Donne *Serm.* 783 They were loath to wrastle with the people, or force them from dangerous customes.

d. To busy, occupy, or concern oneself closely or earnestly *with* a subject, etc.; to deal *with* something as a task or troublesome duty.

c 1454 Pecock *Folewer* 7 Summe..wrastlen so long þerwith til þei gete competent vndirstondyng þerof. *Ibid.* 15 Eny obir hard writyng with which þei schulen wrastle. 1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* I. (1925) 43 The other..will rather cast awaie their armor, then wrastle with the difficulties of vnknown and vneasie passages. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* Pref., The yong student..wrastling with..difficult termes. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 14, I am wrestling still with —— and preparing you an after-dinners Recreation. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. Introd. 13 Wrestling with language and logic. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* ix. 80 After wrestling with French history or German poetry.

4. To twist or writhe about; to wriggle, move sinuously; to work backwards and forwards.

† *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 890 He welterys, he wristeles, he wryngez hys handez. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 655 Petrius peyned hym sore to a-rise and turned wrastelinge. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 15 He wrange, he wrastled, and cryed, ..he wiste not how he myght gete out. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* xiii. iv. 82 The snaill..Fleand the birnand heit.. A lang tyme gan do wrassill and to wreill. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Paradox agst. Libertie* 659 When Eole doth unlock Sterne Auster's stormie gate, making the waters wrastle, And rush ..against the sturdy Castle. *a* 1628 Preston *New Covt.* (1630) 154 Fire if it be out of its place, water, if it be out of its place, it is still wrastling..till it returne to its owne place. *c* 1870 B. Harte *Fr. Pedro's Ride* in *Fiddletown*, etc. (1873) 108 He saw the wild oats wrestle on the hill.

b. To move or proceed with effort or toil; to struggle *out* (*of*) or *through* some place or condition. Also *fig.*

1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* III. lix. 150 The armie..could hardly wrestle out of the snowe. 1614 Lithgow *Trav.* I. j b, Wrestling amongst intricate pathes of rockes: two of our Asses fell ouer a banke. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 93 Wee..lost our way,..and at length wrastled to Geer. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xvii. clxxi, Breath..forced is to goe about, And through the Noses Sluces wrestle out. 1728 Ramsay *Robt., Ricky & Sandy* 70 A squirrel wi' his bells Ay wrestling up. 1853 W. Cadenhead *Flights of Fancy* 255 (E.D.D.), When we've wrastled thro' the warl', as wrastle we maun a'. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life* 83 The flames running from thatch to thatch, and, as they express it, 'wrastling' across the intervening spaces. 1899 E. F. Heddle *Margot* 151 Once he said he would like to live to hear how Christian 'wrastled through'.

II. 5. *trans.* To engage in (a wrestling-bout or match). Also in fig. context.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2276 If it 3oure mekill maieste miȝt any thinge plese, I wald to wacken 3oure welth now wirstill a turne. *c* 1422 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 5038 Per-with þis land hath wrastled many a pul. 1588 Drake *Let.* 31 July in Barrow *Life* (1843) 304 We have the armey of Spayne before us, and mynd with the Grace of God to wrasseall a poull with hym. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv. xxxiii. 226 Now Ptolemais being to wrestle her last fall, stripped her self of all cumbersome clothes. 1645 [see Fall *sb.*¹ 23]. 1672 R. Wild *Declar. Lib. Consc.* 23 And for their Seditions and Treasons, let us leave Tyburn and them to wrastle a fair fall about them. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* iv, Hark thee, friend,..wilt thou wrestle a fall with me? 1824 — *Betrothed* Conclusion, Have we not wrestled a turn before now? 1843 in Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling* (1893) 38 Charles Lowden..would wrestle a match with any individual of the same age. 1855, 1883 [see Fall *sb.*¹ 23].

6. a. To contend with (a person) in wrestling; to overcome by, throw in, wrestling. Also with *down*.

Cf. the earlier *over-wrestle* Over- 21, and Wrestle *v.* 2 c.

1828 in Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling* (1893) 164 He now challenges his opponent..to wrestle him for ten guineas. 1843 *Ibid.* 58 The veteran..will be happy to accept the challenge, and wrestle Mr. Lowden..for £5 or £10 a side. 1881 Du Chaillu *Land Midn. Sun* II. 51 A stout girl of twenty, strong enough to wrestle any man. 1903 S. E. White *Forest* xv, [He] is not a mighty man physically... I think I could have wrestled Peter down.

b. *Western U.S.* To throw (a calf) for branding.

1888 Roosevelt in *Century Mag.* April 861/2 A fire is built, the irons heated, and a dozen men dismount to, as it is called, 'wrestle' the calves.

7. To push or thrust *into* something with a wrestling motion. *rare*—¹.

1820 Byron *Juan* v. lxxviii, Wrestling both his arms into a gown, He paused.

III. With adverbs. 8. *To wrestle down*, to put down by wrestling or striving; to suppress, quell.

c 1612 Chapman *Iliad* xx. 31 These his words did such a warre excite, As no mans powre could wrastle downe. 1818 Scott *Hamn.* II. xxiv, If..they wrestled down Feelings their nature strove to own. 1816 — *Bl. Dwarf* vi, I will wrestle down my feelings of rebellious humanity.

† 9. *To wrestle off*, to set aside by argument; to controvert, rebut. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1639 Laud *Confer. w. Fisher* 241 Where is then the Scriptures Prerogative? I know there is much shifting about this Place [*marg.* Num. 2], but it cannot be wrastled off.

10. *To wrestle out*: † a. To struggle through (a period of time) in discourse, etc. *Obs.*

a 1786 *Pennecuik's Collect. Scots Poems* 120 When Mess John has wrestl'd out the [hour] glass.

b. To go through, to perform or execute, to carry out, with struggle or effort.

1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxii, In a moment the wretch wrestled out his last agonies. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xxxiii, I would rather *wrestle* out a logical dispute any day. 1842 Manning *Serm.* (1843) I. 32 They have wrestled out the strife with the unseen powers of the wicked one.

11. To drive or force *out of* something (as) by wrestling. Also *fig.*

1638 A. Henderson *Serm.* (1867) 279 If so be that we will wrestle with God for a blessing, and prevail with him, then ..we sall wrestle the enemies out of it also. 1858 R. Chambers *Domest. Ann. Scotl.* I. 9 How to wrestle the people out of their love of the May-games.

Wrestler (re'slə1). Forms: α. 1 **wrestlere**, 4 **wrestlare**, 5 **-telare**, **-teler**, 5– **wrestler**, 6 **wreastler**. β. 3 **wrastlare**, 4–5 **-t(e)lere**, 5 **-teler**, **-tyller**, 6 **-tlear**, **-tleer**, 6–7, *Sc.* and *dial.* 9 **wrastler**, 9 *dial.* **wrossler**. γ. 4–5 **wristeler(e**, 4 **-tilere**, 9 *dial.* **russ(e)ler**. [OE. *wréstlere*, agent-noun f. **wréstlian* Wrestle *v.* + -er¹. Cf. older Flem. *worsteler*, Du. *worstelaar*.]

1. One who wrestles; esp. one who practises or is skilled in the art of wrestling, as an athlete.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 431 *Luctator* [sic], wrastlere. *a* 1225 [see Wrestle *v.* 1 b β]. 1382 Wyclif *Bible* Pref. Ep. vii. (1850) 70/1 Abacuc, a strong wristeler [1388 wrastelere] and a sharp, stondith vpon his waard. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 383 Minotaurus was a grete man and huge,.. and a wiȝt wrastlere. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* i. 94 By Iacob ys vndyrstond a wrasteler. 1497 Br. Alcok *Mons Perfect.* C iij 14 A wrestler..intendeth to haue yᵉ vyctory c yᵗ he wrestled wᵗ. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* Tal Diogenes mocked a wrastlear. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* B ij b, One listed to see wrestlers bestirre them in their play. 1625–6 Boys *Wks.* (1629) 190 Runners and wrastlers contend for a crowne that shall perish. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 444 He embraces him and..lifts him above Ground, as Wrestlers do, to throw him down again. 1721 Budgell *Spect.* No. 161 P 3 She was overlooking a Ring of Wrestlers. 1785 *Lond. Chron.* Mar. 262/3 He was celebrated as a prize fighter, a wrestler, and a cricketer. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 44 When wrestlers join to tug each other down. 1876 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) II. 351 As a Cumbrian wrestler struggles..to get a good grip of his antagonist. 1901 N. Lloyd *Chronic Leafor* vi, I was the best wrastler in the valley.

fig. 1682 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xvii. 317 The prayers of Mr. Knox..were mighty wrestlers with God. 1721 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 596 He is..a great favourite, and mighty wrestler in prayer. 1814 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xii. 32 The hallow'd wrestler [St. Dominic], gentle to his own, And to his enemies terrible.

2. *fig.* One who strives or contends with difficulties, against adverse conditions, etc.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlii. 11 For Iacob is als mykill as say as wrestlers or supplantere of syn. — *Cant.* 514 Iacob, ..þat is, wristlere agayns vicys. *c* 1454 Pecock *Folewer* 114 In hem þat ben with passions blasi wrastlers. 1577 Hanmer *Eccl. Hist.* To Rdr., The valiant wrastlers, and inuincible champions of Christ Iesu. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xv, He shall see in those young things..little wrestlers with him for his daily bread. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* II. iv. 72 Experienced wrestlers with fate and fortune.

3. *Western U.S.* One who throws cattle for the purpose of branding.

1888 Roosevelt in *Century Mag.* April 861/2 The calf-wrestlers, grimy with blood, dust, and sweat, work like beavers.

4. *Comb.*, as *wrestler-like*; **wrestler frog**, the S. American 'wrestling' frog, *Rana luctator*.

1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xv. 309 He will proone faire, fat, ful of bloud, & b[l]ockish, which habit Hippocrates called wrastler-like. 1626 Chapman tr. *Museus* G 6, Notus and Boreas wrastler like imbrace. 1892 W. H. Hudson *Naturalist in La Plata* iv. 77 Plate, Wrestler frog. [*Ibid.* 76 The frog,..catching two of my fingers round with its fore legs, administered a hug.]

Wrestless, ? obs. f. Restless *a.*

Perh. associated with Wrest *v.*, and intended to mean 'not admitting of being turned aside'.

1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 368 H[illegible] ..and wrestlesse passions spent the time till his returne. 1648 J. Quarles *Fons Lachrym.* 38 His wrestlesse arm hath bent his yeelding bow.

Wrestling (re'slin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wrestle *v.* + -ing¹.]

1. The action or exercise of two persons grappling or gripping in a contest of strength and adroitness, the one endeavouring to throw the other by tripping or overbalancing him; the fact of contending or throwing in this manner. Also in fig. context.

a 1200 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 102/2 *Pe* ... lunge. *c* 1205 LAY. 1871 Þer wes muchel folc at þere wrastlinge. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 705 Alf tueie men goþ to wraslinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28526 At wrestelyng, at wake, rengd haf i. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8873 What wiþ wristling, waf wiþ togging. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 548 Ouer al ther he cam, At wrastlynge he wolde haue alwey the Ram. *c* 1400 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. vi. 356 To se how þat this Coryne Wald deil wiþ him in wrestlyne. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 350 He..caught the kynge..by the waast in maner of wrastelynge. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 90 b, Wrastlyng also with the armes and legges..dothe exercise the one and the other. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 152 The weaker hath the woorse, in wrestlyng alway. 1613 DEKKER *Strange Horse Race* Wks. (Grosart) III. 325 There could I describe what warlike Races the Winds held with the Waters: their Wrastling, Running, Retiring. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 7 They must be also practic'd in all the locks and gripes of wrastling. 1701 COLLIER *M. Asrvl.* 125 The right Knack of Living resembles Wrastling more than Dancing. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 41 The fatal effects of carrying great weights, running, wrestling, and the like. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. 64 The wrestling is only practised on the afternoon of St. Bartholomew's day. 1830 MAURICE *Mor. & Mst. Philos.* (ed. 2) I. 126 Some say that Plato..gained a prize for wrestling at the Isthmian games.

b. With *the.* The sport of grappling and throwing; a contest in wrestling; a wrestling-match.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 318 Ich..biheold hit, & oðe wrastlinge & oðer fol gomenes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5217 Þe wrastlinge bitvene hom was somdel to3t. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1800 On a clyf faste by þe se þe wrastlyng was ordeyned to be. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 190 Towardes þe wrastleing þe yong childe rode. *c* 1430 *How the Good Wijf* 82 in *Babees Bk.* 40 Go not to þe wrastelinge, ne to schotynge at cok. 1518 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 154 The wrestlyng at Seynt Jamys tide. 1598 STOW *Surv.* (1603) 324 This yeare was a great fray at the wrastling. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 28 June, Went to Moorefields..and saw the wrestling..between the north and west countrymen. 1725 POPE *Odyssey* VIII. 104 None in the leap spring with so strong a bound, Or firmer, in the wrestling, prest the ground. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 588/1 Leaping and running..generally accompany the wrestling as prize games. 1893 ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling & Wrestlers* 189 He went..to Newcastle, and won the wrestling there.

c. With *a* and pl. A wrestling-bout or match.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 992 3yf þou euer settyst swerde eyþer ryng For to gadyr a wrastlyng. *Ibid.* 8987 Karolles, wrastlynges, or somour games. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 171 Thar was ther be siden cried a wrastelynge. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 201 Leuyth youre rennyng on holy-dayes to wrestelynges, markettys, & feyris. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Gilbert* 65 Thei..vsed not to renne to wrastillingis, berbaytingis and swech oþir onthrifty occupaciones. 1536 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 6 Thys yere was one John Norwelde..slayne at Blackehethe at a wrestlynge. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 37 Great preparation was made of stage playes,..wrastlings, and other infinite pastymes. *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 620 Palides then set forth Prize all the wrestlings.

2. The action of striving or contending, maintenance of resistance, opposition, or strife, on the part of persons.

c 890 WÆRFERÞ tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 320 Swa wæs þær þa æsc wrestlung ymb Stephanum. *Ibid.* 321 He þa..ut ferde of lichaman to gewinne & to wrestlunge lifes & deaðes. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Ephes. vi. 12 For ȝoure wrastlynge ..is..aȝeyn princes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. XXXIX. 54 So this wrastlyng endured a long space; but fynally the knyght was rescued. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 19 b, [To] make ye redy to this wrastling, if ye esteme the blessed rewardes of the gospell. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 294 With sore Wrestling agaynst the parching Sun. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm.* 23 Sept. 9 Our wrastling, and striving with that fierce and peremptory opposition. *a* 1844 in Stanley *Arnold* I. ii. 32 His absolute wrestling with evil. 1883 *Knowledge* June 334/1 That heavy and subtle wrestling for position which distinguishes the first-class player [of chess].

transf. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 979 The river having with a great turning compasse after much wrestling, gotten out towards the North. 1634 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Justine* IV. 74 This concurse and wrastling of the water.

fig. 1596 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1347/1 Hys catholike faythe..euer continue shal whyle this worlde last, what wrestlyng soeuer the infideles shall make with it. 1639 S. DU VERDUS tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 227 How unequall is the wrastling between reason and passion in a weake spirit. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* I. iii. (1866) 45 Language which describes the wrestling of the soul. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 2 Life as a long wrestling with unseen and invisible forces of grace.

b. The action of struggling or labouring.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 238 Al þus,..ise wrastlunge [*printed* winstlunge] of tentacion, arised þe biȝeate. *a* 1225 [see WRAGGLE *v.* 1]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 61 And so yn wrastelyng, scho woke of hyr slepe. 1583 PILKINGTON *Burrowes of Paules* C4. M iiij, Saint Willyams horse,.. wyth wrastlynge and sparringe vppe, saued himselfe and his master from drowninge.

fig. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 252 Which it will be no impeachment for the wisest to tosse bootes for a truth, without any diffident wrastling with it.

c. The action of striving earnestly in prayer; an instance of this.

1722 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 664 You have our prayers here, and..the Church of Scotland has a share in your wrestlings. 1828 J. PYE SMITH *Script. Test. to Messiah* I. 96 The 'wrestlings' of holy prayer. 1900 A. MCILROY *Druid's Island* viii, After deep consideration, an' sore wrastlin' wi' the Almichty in prayer.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrestling article, bout,* † *game, -house, -master, -match, ring*; **wrestling place**, a place where wrestling is practised or held; † **wrestling pull**, a bout of wrestling; = PULL *sb.*[2] 3; **wrestling school** *Gr. Antiq.*, = PALÆSTRA 2.

1384 PARKYNS *Inn-Play* 62 To make these *Wrestling Articles yet more stronge they may be with a Noverint Universi. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 237 [The ballads] treat..of *wrestling bouts with Charon. 1598 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ix. 43 Coridon..Did chalenge Calidore to *wrestling game. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* 8 The olives here tell more to us of Olivet..than of..the wrestling-

the Diluvians..have been celebrated *Wrestling Masters. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 272 Say further what the wrestling-master Instructed you. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Feb. 1667, A *wrestling-match for £1000..before his Majesty. 1889 W. ARMSTRONG *Wrestling* 233 What a Lancashire wrestling-match is like. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 *Wrestelynge place, *palestra.* 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 42 At Clarkenwell at the wrestlynge place. *a* 1592 GREENE *Deb. betw. Follie & Love* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 218 Hath not Follie inuented a thousand deuices to drawe a man from idlenesse, as..Dancing schooles, Fencing houses, wrastling places? 1620 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 23, I pray you whose wrestling place is this? 1620 CAREW *Cornwall* 2 This *wrastling pull betweene Corineus and Gogmagog. 1698 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 461 The *wrestling ring in Lincolns Inn Fields. 1893 ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling & Wrestlers* 52 [He] would not be quick enough in his movements in the wrestling ring. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* vii. I. 290 The exercises of the troop in.. the *wrestling-school. 1623 COCKERAM, *Gymnastiche*, a teacher of the *Wrastling Science. 1893 ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling & Wrestlers* 9 Old and young regarded wrestling science..with keen relish. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* XXVI, When I be in *wrestling trim.

Wrestling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That wrestles or contends, in various senses. Also *transf.*

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 531 As wrastling windes, out of dispersed whirl Befight themselues. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 156 Your paine shalbe..wrastling, tearing, and intollerable. 1597 C. MIDDLETON *Fam. Hist. Chinon* VI. 38 His Father.., whome wrestling age had almost now layed along in hys graue. 1605 Z. JONES tr. *Leyer's Specters* 12 There was amongst the Greeks, a Diuell ..named..the wrastling Diuell. *c* 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIX. 361 All their stall flies up in wrastling flame. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 465 The thundring noyse of my wrestling voyce. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* XXIV. vii, Thou the true wrestling Jacob art. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* VII. 266 The wrestling thews that throw the world. 1889 W. ARMSTRONG *Wrestling* 232 Wrestling men are impulsive beings. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Naturalist in La Plata* 366 How I saw and lost the noble wrestling frog [= wrestler frog].

2. Marked or characterized by strife or contention, or by earnest striving.

a 1593 MARLOWE tr. *Lucan* 299 His graue looke appeasd The wrastling tumult. 1620 T. PEYTON *Glasse of Times* I. 50 That none by wrong oppression might Be crost, by cunning, wringing, wrestling guile. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* V. (1857) 98 It was impossible to avoid being struck with its wrestling earnestness and fervour. 1889 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* XLVII, She poured forth her soul with the wrestling intensity of a last pleading.

† **Wresty**, obs. erron. f. RESTY *a.*[1]

1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* Prol. I, Wresty Nature's Spight. 1702 — *False Friend* V. I, I was at first, a little wresty, and stood off.

Wret, obs. or dial. var. WART *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WRIT *sb.*; obs. pa. pple. or Sc. pa. t. of WRITE *v.*

Wretar, obs. Sc. f. WRITER.

Wretch (retʃ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wrecca, wræcca**, 2–5 **wreccha**, 2–3 **wræccha**, 3–4 **wrecche, wræcche**, 3–5 **wrecchche**, 4–5 **wrecchhe, wrecheh**, 5 **wreech**, 3–6 **wrecche** (5 *Sc.* werche), 4–5 **wrech** (5 *Sc.* werch), 4–6 **wretche**, 5– **wretch** (6 **wreatch**); 4 **wroche**, 8 *dial.* **wrotch**. *β.* 4–5 **wrich, wriche** (**wirche**), **wryche**, 5 **wrycche**, 6 **wrytche**. *γ. Sc.* 5–6 **wrache** (5 **warche**), 6 **wratche**, *Sc.* and *dial.* 9 **wratch**. [OE. *wrecca, wræcca*, = OS. *wrekkio, -eo* (applied to the Magi), OHG. *reccheo, reccho*, etc., exile, adventurer, knight errant (MHG. and G. *recke* warrior, hero):—OTeut. **wrakja(n)*-, f. the stem *wrak-, wrek-*: see WREAK *v.* The contrast in the development of the meaning in Eng. and German is remarkable.]

A. *sb.* † **1.** One driven out of or away from his native country; a banished person; an exile.

The ME. instances are doubtful; they may be contextual uses of sense 2.

Beowulf 2137 Þa wæs winter scæsen, fæger foldan bearm; fundode wrecca, gist of geardum. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* ii, Þa lioð þe ic wrecca geo lustberlice song ic sceal nu heofiende singan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 722, Ealdbriht wrecca gewat on Suðrexe & on Suð Seaxe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's Prol.* 58 Now help thow..Me flemed wrecche in this desert of galle. *c* 1450 *Ludus Coventrie* 26 Goo naked vngry and bare foot.., as wrecch in werlde þou wende. *Ibid.* 27, I wende as wrech in welsom way.

2. One who is sunk in deep distress, sorrow, misfortune, or poverty; a miserable, unhappy, or unfortunate person; a poor or hapless being.

a. *c* 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* x. 38 Ne mæg mon æfre þy ofð sanne wræccean his cræftes baniman. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* vi. (2883) 48 Wræccena reaflac is on heora hamum. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 3if þe cristene mon bið mæfui, and 3if þe wrecche bið mædi. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 So hæh ȝeoue nes neuer hiluen to so k...e wrecche... *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 203 in *O. E. Misc.* 75 Nv wenep ek þes wrecche þat he ne þurue recche. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13564 Cowardie halp þer no wrecche. 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 385 Mercy or almes is a wille of relevynge of a wreche oute of his mysese. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 15 Modir of mercy,.. Benigne confort of vs wrecches all! *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* clvi. (1811) 145 He was ..mylde and gracious to the poore, and marcyfull to wretchis and nedy. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 225/1 Solomon the..happy king of Juda, bycause of his Idolatrie..is of a soudeine made a wretch of all other. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* B 3 b, Poore wretches, which (were it not for your charity) would perish in your streetes. 1672 T. HUNT *Abeced. Scholast.* 140 If money do fail a wretch thou art. *a* 1721 PRIOR *24 Songs* iii. 8 She scorns to hear, or see, The wretch that lies so low as me. 1754 GRAY *Pleasure* 49 The Wretch, that long has tost On the thorny bed of Pain. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* IV. v, Even in the grave there is no rest for me, Cut off from that last hope, the wretch's joy. 1855 LD. GRANVILLE in *Life* (1905) I. 106 Being a bed-ridden wretch I do not venture to disobey you. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 349 O King, whom all the world henceforth shall know As wretched among wretches.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23104 (Edinb.), Þar sal stand on his left side, Wrichis stad in waful wide. *Ibid.* 23236 Þe v. [pine of hell] es vndemenes of dint, þat þa wriches þar sal hint. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 150 A Wrytche, *miser.*

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Machar*) 1010 Þan was þat wrache wondir wa.

b. Without article. (Freq. in apposition to a personal pronoun.)

c 1200 ORMIN 10140 Þatt te birrþ forr þe lufe off Godd Wiþþ uuell wrecche dælenn. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 294 Allas, wreche, hou may I duelle? *c* 1330 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 63 God & man my spouse is—Wele aght me, wryche, to luf him dere. *c* 1400 *St Pol. Poems* 112/163, I, wreche, whyder shal y fle. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (Percy Soc.) 65 Alas! I wretche and yet unhappy peke Into.. trouble. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Fynally I beseche all..to praye for me wretche. 1633 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* I. 2 For myself, poor wretch, I went..in my misery to Setuval. 1743 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 14 Imagination's fool, and error's wretch, Man makes a death, which nature never made. 1790 COWPER *On Receipt Mother's Picture* 24 Hover'd thy spirit o'er thy sorrowing son, Wretch even then? 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 909 Fond wretch! He leans upon his crutch, and talks of years To come. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 36, I, poor wretch, in possession of nothing.

c. Used as a term of address.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Weilawei wrecche,..al swa oðe þu mihtest..amiten of þin aȝen heaueð. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2049 Hu wrakeliche, wenestu, wule he, al o wraðe, wreken on þe, wrecche! *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 37 Ah, wrecche! þe care aȝaln þi pinunge þrahen binimeð þe nihtes slepes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7178 A! wrecches vnwar, woo ys in our hond! *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* III. 331 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 437 Ye call that poore man wretch, As thoughe ye hadd no retche. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIV. 503 O wretch of Guests.. thy Tale hath stirr'd My minde to much ruth. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* V. ii. 34 Poor wretch, I pity thee.

d. Applied to animals, birds, or insects.

a 1300 *Fox & Wolf* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 66 The wrecche binethe nothing ne vind, Bote cold water. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow* 1908 Thir hungrie birdis wretchis we may call. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* 628 Vpon them shall be fastened manie boordes or hurdles..for to pleasure this small wretch [*sc.* a silkworm] withall. 1620 *Ld. Cromwell* IV. i. 47 Who sees the Cob-web intangle the poore Flie, May boldlie say the wretches death is nigh. 1627 DRAYTON *Nymphidia* XXVII, Soone away the Wasps doth goe, Poore wretch was neuer frighted so. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. iv, This was the second time this squire had endeavoured to kill the little wretch [=a favourite dog]. *Ibid.* VI, The hare was no sooner on shore than it..listened to the sound of the pursuers. Fanny was wonderfully pleased with the little wretch. 1744 THOMSON *Summer* 273 The villain Spider.., fixing in the Wretch his cruel Fangs, Strikes backward. 1800 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 210 As to the rearing of calves, there is a [cruel] superstition...As soon as the wretch is produced,..two persons..pull it most forcibly.

e. A person or little creature. (Used as a term of playful depreciation, or to denote slight commiseration or pity.)

c 1450 *Merlin* XXXIII. 683 He that was full fierce and prowde hadde shame to iuste with so litill a wrecche. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 44 The pretty wretch lefte crying, & said I. 1599 BRETON *Miseries Manillia* ii, With these last words, Farewell good mistresse, the good poore wretch..gave up the ghost. — *Scholler & Souldiour* 30 Oh 'tis a heavenly noise to heare the sweete wretch [=the nightingale]. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 90 Excellent wretch: Perdition catch my Soule But I do loue thee. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 25 May, She being a good-natured and painful wretch. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. vii, Had you exposed the little wretch in the manner of some inhuman mothers. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 12 He whistles as he goes, light-hearted wretch, Cold and yet cheerful. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 227 Swift as the radiant shapes of sleep From one whose dreams are Paradise Fly, when the fond wretch wakes to weep. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* XXVIII, Two little boys hailed us..—two little wretches with blue noses and white cheeks. 1892 'S. MORTON' *Curatics* 85, I see my wife wants me. The poor wretch is terribly jealous.

3. A vile, sorry, or despicable person; one of opprobrious or reprehensible character; a mean or contemptible creature. Also without article.

In very frequent use from *c* 1300.

a. *a* 1000 *Juliana* 351 Hyre se feond oncwæð, ' less wordum mælde. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 47] to forgulten,..& waldes warpe me as wrecche i þi leirwite. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1074 Dat folc vn-seli, ..So sori wrecches of yuel blod. 1340 *Ayenb.* 25 Þus him loiseþ and him gloriseþ þe wreche ine his herte. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 169, I wolde be wreken on þis wrecches þat worchen so ille. 1422 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 310 The feythles wrecche how hath he him for-swore. *a* 1450 *Medit. Life & Pass. Christ* 1230 Wiþ rugged nayles þe wrecches wode Nailed him hard

to þe rede. 1535 Prelpot in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 230 Vnto me moste vile, sinnefull, wicked and vnworthy wretch. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 337 These wretches entred into the Princesse Chamber, and brake her head. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Observ. & Trav. fr. London to Hamburgh* C 4 b, [They] were amazed at the ingratitude of the wretch. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 104 The perfidious wretch Theseus abandoned the poor Ariadne. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. i, Wretch that I am, how have I lived, as without God in the world. 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 30 Let eternal infamy pursue The wretch to nought but his ambition true. 1805 J. Turnbull *Voy.* xvii. (1813) 212 The wickedness of the wretch who would import a cargo of spirituous liquors into the..Society Islands. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxix, If I be wretch enough to give place to the devil. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xi, What wretches men were, to be sure!

β. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 78 Þe wrecches [*Camb. MS.* wryccches] of þis worlde is none ywar bi other. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 360 If any wight with þis wriche any werse wate werkis. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* L 2 He ys not but a wryche and slyme of erth.

γ. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 118 Consume this wratche with Brinstane. 1886– in Scottish glossaries, etc.

b. Used as a term of opprobrious address.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1033 Brademond, olde wreche,..Ertow come Iosiane to feche? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4003 'A! wriches!' quod þe wale kyng,..'Eftir þe deth of 3our duke quat deynes 3owe to stryue?' *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 71 A, kowarde of kynde,..& combred wrecche! 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* IV. v. V j b, Thou wretched person,..thou wretche that thou art. 1605 Shake. *Lear* III. ii. 53 Tremble thou Wretch. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 93 Wretch!..look back upon a mis-spent Life. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xxii. 248 Wretch, dost thou repent? 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 90 Thou wretch! Will none among this noble company Check the abandoned villain?

c. Used without serious imputation of bad qualities.

1688 Prior *Ode* vii, Levelling at God his wand'ring Guess ..Laws to his Maker the learn'd Wretch can give. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, Her 'wretch of a husband', as she inwardly called him. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. viii. 159 A wretch of a pedant who knows all about tetrameters.

†4. A niggardly or parsimonious person; a miser. *Obs.* (In later use chiefly *Sc.*)

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6203 Þe wrecche saw hys tresoure sperd, And sette hym up yn hys bedde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 188 Uor to ssette þe porses of þe wrechchen þet hi ne asolle by open to do elmesse. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 634 Vse.. thy richesses..that men haue no..cause to calle thee neiþer wrecche ne chyncche. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xli. 5 Be nocht a wreche, nor skerche in 3our spending. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VIII. Prol. 53 The wrache walis and wringis for this warldis wrak. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. i. H iij b, Snayles ..all the wynter season kepe theym within their sheiles, lyuynge lyke a wretche. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 318 All wratchis may tak example be this man nocht to hurd vp thair alluir. 1673 Wedderburn *Voc.* 23 (Jam.), *Est valde avarus*, he is a great wretch.

†5. A poor or paltry thing. *Obs. rare*—1.

? *a* 1300 *Prov. Hendyng* 202 Þis worldes loue ys a wrecche.

6. *Comb.*, as *wretch-like.*

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* IV. 961 Th' abiect threshold [she] chose Of her faire chamber, for her loth'd repose; And mournd most wretch-like.

B. *adj.* †1. Of persons: Poor; miserable; deeply afflicted; = Wretched *a.* 1. *Obs.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1083, Þa wreccan munecas lazon onbuton þam weofode. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137, Wrecce men struen of hungær. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 125 Alswa baldeliche mei þe wrechesta mon clepian drihtan him to federe. *c* 1205 Lay. 6556 Wha se hæfde richedom, he hine makede wrecche mon. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4187 Alas þou wrecche mon, woch mesaunture Aþ þe ybroȝt in to þis stede. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4811 Sche was a wriche wiman þat michel sorwe so was an. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xiii. (Addit. MS.), No man is more wrecche noþir haþ more woo..þan he þat hath an yuel wif. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 4151 Allas! I, woful creature,..I, wrecche woman. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 47 Þenke how febull and how wrecche he ys, when he ys bore. 1556 Olde *Antichrist* 158 The wretche people thinks they haue holpen a soule. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ix. 30 It is the mynd..That maketh wretch or happie.

†2. Of conditions, etc.: = Wretched *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1131 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1132, Crist rærde for þa wrecce muneces of Burch & for þæt wrecce stede. *a* 1200 in *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.*, etc. (1838) 5 Þonne biþ þat wrecche lif ended. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4094 Þat we after hor wrecche deþ hor londes auonge. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 949 (Fairf.), Wende out of þis louesom lande, in-to þe wrecche werlde þou gange. 1583 G. Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 60 Yet see, ah wretch, and woful plight,..Thy goodnesse to mee farre passeth all masters to their seruants.

†3. Despicable; vile; reprehensible. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 103 Kiel mine wreche herte, þe is iattred of his manifealde fondinges. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1406 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 146 Ich drede for mine wrechche gultes þat worse worth þe ende. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9913 Þe wrecche lu þer giwes. *c* 1330 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 80 To holi chirche..þes þeu sende, And to vs wreche sinful, lif wyt-outen ende. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 33 Sardanapallus was a man more wrecche þan eny womman.

†4. Of a paltry character; = Wretched *a.* 3 b.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 335 Euer crowe þ þi wrecche crey þat he ne swikeþ nyht ne day.

†**Wretch**, *v. Obs.* Also 5 wrecche, *Sc.* 7 wreche, 8–9 wratch. [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To render miserable.

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 300 Ye fore namyd bishop ..contynuynge his tyrannyes,..greued yᵉ bisshop of Wynchester, and wretchyd nygh all yᵉ londe.

2. *intr.* To be or become niggardly or parsimonious. *Sc.*

a 1596 D. Ferguson *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 20 As the caris riches he wretches [Kelly (1721) wratches]. 1633 W. Struther *True Happiness* 139 As the wretch wretcheth, the more he is enriched. [1853 Trench *Proverbs* 204 The more the carle riches he wretches.]

†**Wretchcock.** *Obs.* [Alteration of Wretchock, prob. by misprint in the text of Jonson, and adopted from this by Gifford.] = Wretchock.

1641 *B. Jonson's Gipsies Metam.* Wks. 30 The famous impe yet grew a wretchcocke [1692 wretchcock]. 1816 Gifford *B. Jonson's Wks., Masque* VII. 371 *note*, In every large breed of domestic fowls, there is usually a miserable little stunted creature....This unfortunate abortive, the goodwives..call a wret[c]hcock. 1817 — *Persius* ii. 55 *note*, The poor puny wretchcock in whom the good old grandmother sees the future son-in-law of kings.

†**Wretchedom.** *Obs.* In 3–4 wrecche-, wrechedom, 3 -dome, 4 -dom, -dam. [f. Wretch *sb.* + -dom.] Misery; distress; baseness.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 Muchel godnesse hit is uorto icnowen wel his owune wrecchedom, & his wocnesse. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 705 in *O. E. Misc.* 138 Þe rede mon he is..scolde, of wrechedome he is king. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3113 In wrechedom er now all went. 13.. (see Wretcheddom).

Wretche, var. Wrecche *sb. Obs.*

Wretched (re·tʃĕd), *a.* Forms: α. 3–5 wrecched (-ede, 4–5 -id, 4 -ide, 5 -yd, -et), 5 wrechched (-id, -yd); 3–5 wreched (3–4 -ede, 3–5 -id, 4 -yde, 5–6 -yd, *Sc.* -it, -yt), 5 wrechid, wreached, 6 wreiched; 5– wretched (5–6 -id, -yd, *Sc.* -it, 6 wretcched). β. 3–4 wrichede (4 -ed, 5 -id), 4 wryched, 4–5 wricched, -id, 5 wryccched. γ. *Sc.* 5–6 wrachit (5 wrochit), 6 wratchet, -eit, -it, ratchit. [Irreg. f. Wretch *a.* + -ed[1]. Cf. Wicked *a.*[1]]

1. Of persons, etc.: Living in a state of misery, poverty, or degradation; sunk in distress or dejection; very miserable or unhappy.

α. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Þanne ic wolde ðo wrecchede saule sa rewliche acwellan. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 277 Ihesu..riche ar tu..., and tah poure þu bicom for me, weati and wrecched. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24517 Allas! quat es me nu to red, I wrechidest of all! *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2426 Wrecched saul,..what may thou say When þou partes fra þe body away? *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 60 Þe wrechid Thebans bretheren two Were slayne. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladys* 7 So ȝe vouchsafe of youre tender charyte ..to praye for oure right poure & full wretched soulle. 1482 (see Wretchedful *a.*). 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 173 Pepul, wych now lyue in idulnes, wrechyd and pore. *a* 1592 Greene *Alphonsus* IV. iii, I am..the wretchedst man aliue. 1622 Fletcher *Prophetess* III. i, We are no Spinsters; nor, if you look upon us, So wretched as you take us. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., My Heart Discovered* 37 What should the wretched Widow do? ? 1705 Berkeley in Fraser *Life* (1871) 475 Man without God wretcheder than a stone or tree. 1795 Southey *Vis. Maid Orleans* II. 238 A most wretched band Groan'd underneath the bitter tyranny Of a fierce dæmon. 1829 Hood *Dream Eugene Aram* xix, My wretched, wretched soul..Was at the Devil's price. 1838 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* v. i, The poor exasperated Mother, wretchedest and angriest of women. 1882 J. Hawthorne *Fort. Fool* I. xxiv, A mountain of it can't make you one hair's breadth the happier or the wretcheder.

β. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ii. 2 Þa ere fendis, þat bigiles wricched saules.

γ. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 24 We wratcheit sinnaris pure, Our sin hes vs forlorne.

b. *absol.*, in sing. or plural sense.

1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* xvi. 4 For whi dust is endid, the wretchid [1382 the wrecche] is wastid; he that defoulide the lond failude. 1576 Whetstone *Roche of Regard* I. 41 *marg.*, Others pleasures a griefe to the wretched. 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 37 Who might be your mother That you insult, exult,..Ouer the wretched? 1730 Thomson *Autumn* 1102 Let These Insnare the wretched in the toils of law. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* liv, The delight of having made the wretched happy. *a* 1806 H. K. White *Remains* (1825) 306, I heard the wretched's groan, and mourn'd the wretched's doom. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* ii, The wretched look often more picturesque than their betters.

2. Of conditions, etc.: Marked or distinguished by misery or unhappiness; attended by distress, discomfort, or sorrow.

α. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 141 Hwu wunderlich was his hider-cume and hwu wrecchede his her-biwist. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 949 3ee most leue þis lufsum land, Vnto þe wreched werld to gang. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 557 Þe bygynnyng of man..Es vile and wreched to behalde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 138 A wrecched hous he helde al his lyf tyme. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 9573 (Laud MS.), Here now my prayere Of this wrecchid preson. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 47 Myserabel penury and wrechyd powerty. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 3 You see howe in this wretched warre our people doe decay. 1602 Shake. *Ham.* III. iii. 67 Oh wretched state! Oh bosome, blacke as death! 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* I. 15 The raging Sword and wastful Fire Destroy the wretched Neighbourhood around. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 402 The Savages..killed them over again in a wretched Manner, breaking their Arms. 1785 Burns *Winter Night* ix, Think, for a moment, on his wretched fate! 1847 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (ed. 3) II. 512 The disorderly and wretched state of the population. 1885 Tennyson *Maud* II. v. ii, Wretchedest age, since Time began, They cannot even bury

β. *c* 1420 Maundev. (Roxb.) vi. 82 It es lang sen any dreut come nere þat wrichted place.

γ. *c* 1480 Henryson *Prais of Age* 83 This wrachit warld may na man trow. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* Prol. 229 In this wracheit vaill of sorrow. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 57 Quhen fra this wratcheit lyfe we wend.

b. Of weather, etc.: Causing discomfort; very unpleasant or uncomfortable.

1722 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 27 March, A rainy wretched scurvy day from morning till night. 1826 Disraeli *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, It was such a wretched night out o' doors. 1888 *Encycl. Dict.* s.v., Wretched weather.

3. Distinguished by base, vile, or unworthy character or quality; contemptible.

c 1290 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Þe ilke þinges so bieth bitere to þo wrichede flesesce. *c* 1290 *Cadocsus MS. Digby* 86 y-pult. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 80 Þat god haue merci..of my wreched synfulnes. 1496 Dan G. Hays *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 172 Of this wrechit disobeysaunce cummys untreuth. 1495 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 500/2 Their cursed, myschevous and wreched purpose. 1529 More *Dyalogue* III. xl. Wks. 226 We take suche a wretched pleasure in the hearing of their sin. — Grafton *Chron.* II. 776 *margin*, Oh dere and wretched dissimulation! 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 278 The wretched nature of the young man, and his extreame impletie. 1652 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 213 Compatriots infected with the same leprosy of a wretched peevishness whereof those..rapacious varlets have given such cannibal-like proofs. 1720 T. Innes *Crit. Essay* (1879) 311 Knox himself..led on the furious mob in this wretched expedition. 1734 Sherlock *Disc.* (1759) I. iii. 109 The wretched Circumstances which put an end to our Lord's life. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Pawn. Shop*, Where the practised smile is a wretched mockery of the misery of the heart. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. ix. 421 The thing was clearly some wretched court intrigue.

b. Of a poor, mean, or paltry character; mean, worthless; sorry, trifling.

1378 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 403 Quhen sic a knycht, sa richt worthy As this is.., In-to sic perill has hym set To vyn ane wrechit hamlet. *c* 1450 Capgrave *St. Augustine* 46 His clopis..wer not ouyr costful, ne ouyr wrecched. 1480 *Lincoln Diocese Doc.* 45, I gyff..my wrechid body to be Beryd in a chitte with-owte any kyste. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. 265 This wretched victory they shall obtaine, where..the Lord shal suffer them to ouerspreade the darknes of lyes. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 124 Their lean and flashy songs Grate on their scrannel Pipes of wretched straw. 1668 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 274 He who play'd upon the Timbrel accompany'd with a wretched inharmonious Voice. *Ibid.* 406 A wretched coarse Cloth. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 13 ? 6 The wretched Taste of his Audience. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* (1757) 297 A paper written in such wretched Spanish as we could muster up amongst us. 1776 E. Harwood *Edn. Classics* (ed. 2) 5 Editions..printed on wretched paper. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Sec.* I. 189 That still wretcheder apology for a coat. 1845 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 263 So wretched had his education been. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxx, The wretched little islets of Gyara and Tremerus.

4. Of persons, etc.: Contemptible in character or quality; despicable, reprehensible; hateful.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 79 There stode a dragon,...Wretched and skaled al wyth asure. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 82 [When] he hard þis clauce red,..þis wrichid clerk made a skorn þerat & sayd þat it was fals. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 62 Nero..., of alle men wrecchidest, redy to alle maner vices. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 1400 Had he the warld, and be wrachit off hart, He is no lord as to the worthines. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 b, Al though they be wretched lyuers & noughty packes. 1560 tr. *Fisher's Godly Treat. Prayer* C j b, Euery man, be he neuer so extreme and wretched a synner. *c* 1585 [R. Browne] *Answ. Cartwright* 66 To eate the Lordes supper with open vnrepentant & wretched persons is not lawfull. 1712 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 92 The absurdities of every wretched sect of Atheists. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 207 The wretched tyrant..had exhausted the whole magazine of animal terror. 1849 Tennyson *Maud* X. ii, At war with myself and a wretched race, Sick, sick to the heart of life, am I.

transf. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 266 The icebergs are wretched enemies in the dark.

5. Of persons or animals: Poor in ability, capacity, character, etc.

c 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 85 On spurre with the whiche he was compellid to stere his wrechid hors to renne. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 150 Such as are farrowed in winter are commonly poore and wretched. 1668 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Idea Perf. Paint.* 16 By the hand of some wretched Dauber. 1680 Sala *Lady Chesterfield* 31 The women who make the wretchedest wives in the world. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 363 Daniel's omission of the wretched kings between Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar.

†6. Niggardly; miserly. (Cf. Wretch *v.*[2]) *Obs.*

1652 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 280 That the minister is the greediest man in the parish,..and that the richer they become..the more wretched they are.

7. *Comb.*, as †*wretched-fated*, *-witched*, and esp. *wretched-looking.*

1592 Sylvester *Ivory* 405 People..Pleas'd with the blaze, do, wretched-witched Elves, For fuell (fooles) cast-in their willing Selves. 1612 Chapman *Odyss.* XX. 50 Thou most sowre, and wretched-fated man Of all that breath! 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 74 The single wretched-looking horse of each, half drowned in the torrent. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 383/2 The cattle of the district are in general wretched-looking. 1864 A. McKay *Hist. Kilmarnock* 295 The wretched-looking farm-houses of former years.

Hence †**Wretchedness**, misery. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Cast. Love* 408 He..tyed hym..To wrecchedsam [P.r. wrecchedam] and serwe i-nou.

†**Wretchedful**, *a. Obs.* [var. of Wretchful *a.*, after prec.] Full of misery; miserable, wretched.

1382 Wyclif *Judg.* v. 27 Cisarum..was wrappid bifore the feet of hir, and he lay out of liif, and wretchidful. *c* 1440 *Promptor.* 69 What schal y banne, most wrechidful, benke? *c* 1485 in *Anglia* X. 343/1 Wrecchedefulle & sorowfulle þou schalt abyde þe grace of þe hye Iustyce. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 36, I herde and sawe..the wrechid companyes of men and women euer wrechidful bounden to gedyr.

†Wre·tchedhede. *Obs.* In 3–4 wrecched-(4 wrocched-), 4 wrecchid-, 3–4 wrecchid-, 3-5 wrechedhede (4 -hed, 5 -heed). [f. WRETCHED *a.* + *-hede* HEDE 2. Cf. WRETCHEHEAD.] The state or condition of being a wretch or wretched person; wretchedness, misery.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cvl.41 [God] helped poure fra wrecched-hede. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 23 Crist..us teches For to forsak this werdes winne Ful of wrechedhed and sinne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2141 (Gött), For þi ill wrecched-hede [*Trin.* wrecched hede] þu sal lede euer þi liif in nede. *a* 1400 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 240 Whan y þenk vp-on my dede.., Dede torneþ into wrecchidhede.

Wretchedly (re·tʃédli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a wretched manner.

1. In a miserable or unhappy fashion; with great misery, discomfort, distress, or unhappiness; miserably.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9459 Quen he sa wrechedli had tint His heritage. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 842 Þus wrechedly endes þe lyf of man. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxiii. 251 Thei lyven fulle wrecched-liche; and thei eten but ones in the day. *c* 1410 *Lanterne of Liȝt* 51 Art þou not þanne wrechidli diuldid in þi silf? *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 5 Adam..fel so wretchydly in to synne. 1538 STARKEY *England* 74 For lake therof [*sc.* food] many..lyue veray wrechydly. 1568 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 82 Tyll death from this lyfe, did hir wretchedly fetche. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* I. lxxxvi, Crest-fall'n by sin, how wretchedly I stray. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ess., Liberty* P 7 Thus wretchedly the precious day is lost. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 403 It is our lots to be so wretchedly situated..as to be content with forty shillings *per* cow *per annum*, nett profit. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. i. 77, I can bear—However wretchedly..—In life what others could not brook to dream. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* IX. 76 This body..In thy despite here mangled wretchedly. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. viii. 187 Arnulf..drove him out to die wretchedly in exile.

b. In a way suggestive of indisposition or bad health.

1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* VI. 832 Methinks I look so wretchedly to-day! 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* XXX, Though looking most wretchedly, she ate more.

2. So as to cause, or involve in, misery, distress, or discomfort.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5049 Þe wreche..þat þus wrecched-liche vs drifþ out of vre kunde londe. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11. 190 Wretchedly caste oute from the glory of paradyse. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 223 b, The hepyng of synne vpon synne, wretchedly by his aunceters. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 July 1656, A faire towne, but now wretchedly demolished by the late siege. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., The prisoners were wretchedly lodged.

†3. *Sc.* In a miserly or niggardly manner. *Obs.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xvi. 21 Sum gevis to litill full wretchilly, That his giftis ar not set by.

4. Qualifying adjs. (or advs.): To a distressing, vexing, or unsatisfactory degree; deplorably, very badly; = MISERABLY *adv.* 5.

In the trivial use frequent from *c* 1830.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. 76 They are wretchedlye blynde, for want of lyuelye knowlege in the sacred scriptures. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* XIX. Wks. 1686 III. 219 Sloth is a base quality, the argument of a mind wretchedly degenerate and mean. 1696 STANHOPE *Chr. Pattern* I. iii. (1700) 8 Both Error and Vice do..so wretchedly abound. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 July 1679, The land all about wretchedly barren. 1810 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 4 Miss Berry ..looking wretchedly ill. 1830 GREVILLE *Mem.* 5 Feb. (1875) I. 275 They are wretchedly off for speakers. 1898 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 65 You will find it a wretchedly stupid letter. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* XXVII. II. 306 The hospitals were in a wretchedly disorganised condition.

5. In an inexpert, unsatisfactory, or crude manner; inefficiently, unskilfully, very poorly.

1677 MILTON *Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To do a thing wretchedly,.. *faire mal quelque chose.* *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 July 1656, A statue of Collus in wood, wretchedly carved. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 136, I made me a Suit of Cloaths wholly of these Skins;..they were wretchedly made. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. XXVII. II. 269 The capital..was a small place wretchedly fortified. 1778 E. HARWOOD *Edit. Classics* (ed. 2) 59 This Edition wretchedly reprinted, Francof. 1690. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. XXVI. 349 We are wretchedly prepared for another winter on board. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 16 Lina, dearest, ..you were playing [billiards] almost as wretchedly as I.

Wretchedness (re·tʃédnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being wretched.

1. A condition of discomfort or distress caused by privation, poverty, misfortune, adversity, or the like; great misery or unhappiness.

In very frequent use from *c* 1375.

a. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6108 Þe day of wrethe and of wrechednes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 67 Yet hath this brid..Leuere in a forest that is rude and coold Goon ete wormes, and swich wrecchednesse. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* vii. 19 Thenne..comyth agen..our lord, whenne þat he hath pyte of our wretchidnesse. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 448 Yf thou were in the abysmes of wrechidnes and myseryes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 He cast hym out into this vale of mysery and wretchednes. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 614/1 When they are weary of warres, and brought downe to extreeme wretchednesa. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 61 Is wretchednesse depriu'd that benefit To end it selfe by death? 1679 DRYDEN *Pref. to Troil. & Cress.* ad fin., Consider the wretchedness of his condition. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 229 Thought, busy thought!..Strays (wretched rover!) o'er the pleasing Past: In quest of wretchedness perversely strays. 1760 D. WEBB *Inq. Beauties Painting* 161 A fine image of hopeless wretchedness, of consuming grief. 1820 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 302 The manifold wretchedness to which the poor Irish tenant is liable. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XLV, The great manufacturing town reeking with lean misery and hungry wretchedness. 1887 BRUCE SMITH *Liberty & Liberalism* 615 What we call 'wretchedness, unhappiness, and sin' are the inevitable results of the gap which does..exist between our powers and our aspirations.

β. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* li. 21 Þe dred of god is noght of wricchidnes bot of loy. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXVI. 124 Þai lisse with grete wriechednesa and scantnesa.

γ. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Prais of Age* 28 Wrachitness his [= has] turnyt al fra well to vo.

b. A cause or occasion of misery.

1382 WYCLIF *James* v. 1 Do now, 3e riche men, wepe 3e, 3oulynge in 3oure wrecchidnesis that ahulen come to 3ou. *c* 1410 *Lanterne of Liȝt* 49 Þis a sorowful vanite & a greete wrecchidnes. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 242 How grete tormentes & how grete wretchednesses they gather and hepe to theyr owne sowles. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, Call not the Past Time, with all its confused wretchednesses, a lost one. 1893 *Amer. Mission.* (N.Y.) Dec. 436 To these vices..is added now a new wretchedness,..the vice of drunkenness.

2. The condition or character of being base or vile, odious or contemptible; despicableness, meanness, badness.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10887 (Gött.), Widuten sinne and wrecchednes Sal þu be mayden as þu es. *Ibid.* 17288+273 Als mikel os scho loued bifore þe dele & wricchednes, Als mikel..loued scho crist thoru his grete godenes. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 7 3if it so befalle þat any of þe bretherhede falle in pouerte..so it be nat on hymselue alonq, thorwȝ his owne wrecchednesse. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* XLIII. 413 For more they loven wrechchednesse Thanne hevenely thing. *c* 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 52 Therfor ye oughte..conceyve the gret adversite that fallithe to us is..only for synne and wrecchidnes. 1523 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 2010 For baudy balades full of wretchednes. 1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* IV. i. 81 b, They..returned to their old wretchednes and sinful abhominacions. 1617 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1639) C], Censuring other men in many things, but not perceiving their own wretchedness at all. 1643 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. [illegible]

1735 JOHNSON, *Wretchedness*, ..despicableness.

†b. A base or reprehensible action; a vicious trait, deed, etc. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 171 Þei..tellen leyngis & wrecchidnessis of synnis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 795 [To] doon so heigh a cherlyssh wrecchednesse Agayns franchise and alle gentillesse.

†3. *Sc.* The state or condition of being miserly or parsimonious; niggardliness, miserliness. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 526 Thai sawft na Sotheroun for thair gret riches; Off sic koffre he callit bot wretchitnes. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1857 Wrechitnes richt so..Haith Realmys maid ful desolat & barre. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXI. 4 He that hes gold and grit richess,..And levis in to wrechitnes, He wirkis sorrow to him sell.

4. The state or condition of being mean, sorry, or paltry; inferiority, worthlessness.

1820 *Naval Chron.* XXIII. 39 His seventh assertion..is ..a curious specimen of the wretchedness of his information. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., The wretchedness of a performance.

5. The fact or character of being uncomfortable or unpleasant; discomfort.

c 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, After a little conversation about the wretchedness of the weather. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 782 The gray wretchedness of the afternoon was a fit prelude to Barra.

†Wretchful, *a. Obs.* Forms: (see quots.). [Irreg. f. WRETCH *sb.* and *a.* + -FUL. Cf. WRETCHED-FUL *a.*] Wretched; miserable; unhappy.

1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* V. 15 Wreccheful forsothe infirmyte; what maner he cam, so he shal turne azeen. — *Rev.* iii. 17 Thou art a wreccha, and wrechful [1388 wretcheful], and pore, and blynd, and nakid.

†Wretchhead. *Obs.* In 2 wrecched, 2–4 wrec-, 3–4 wrecc-, wrechhede, 3 wrecchehed, wrecchade, 5 wrecheheed. [f. as prec. + -HEAD. Cf. WRETCHEDHEDE.] = WRETCHEDNESS 1.

Frequent in Robert of Gloucester's *Chronicle.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137, Wes naure get mare wrecched on land. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Þas þeues..boð þo þat weren imakede engles in houene, and fellen ut for hore wrechede. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 We þankieð gode ..8e 3ew hauet of 8essere michele wrecchade ibroht. *Ibid.* [illegible]

1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 202/133 Þench noube, louerd, on mine wrechhede! 13.. *Chron. R. Glouc.* (MS. Digby 205) 5053 Nowe we ben..Dryuen oute clene..with sorwe & wrechehede [*v.rr.* wrechede, wrechhede, wrecheheed].

Wretchless (re·tʃlés), *a.* ? *Obs.* [Erron. form of *retchless*, obs. var. of RECKLESS *a.*]

Also 1609 Daniel *Compl. Rosamond* lii, 1617 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. 385, 1662 — *Serm.* VI. § 33 (in *Eccl. Pol.* 302), 1669 [illegible]

retch(e)lesse, retchless.

1. Of persons: Heedless, careless, imprudent; = RECKLESS *a.* 1.

1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 85 Thus (carefull I) doe care for careless thee, Whilst wretchles thou, makst no account of mee. 1617 *Greene's Arbasto* V. D 3, A fit reuenge for so wretchlesse an enemy. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* IV. App. 20 The people fell away from their wrecklesse and lascivious king. 1666 [see RECKLESS *a.* 2]. 1681 *Gesta Rom.* V. B 3, This young Lord..sought many Realms, and found many wretchless foole. 1853 TRENCH *Prov.* (ed. 2) 136 The motto of some, who..become utterly wretchless, caring not..how much further they advance.

2. Heedless *of* something; = RECKLESS *a.* 2.

1661 RUST *Origen's Opin.* 37 Some in their charge, who ..are..wretchless and insensible of all wholesome counsels.

3. Marked or characterized by heedlessness or carelessness; = RECKLESS *a.* 3.

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 473 The vnmercifull regard which wretchlesse and childish mindes beare towardes the greatest labors and deserts of the best men. 1633 [see RECKLESS *a.* 3]. 1686 OSBORNE *Observ. Turks* § 15 This ..doth often hurry such as have had their hopes deluded.. into wretchlesse infidelity. 1873 ALLESTREE *Lady's Calling* I. v. § 26 The comprehensive description of the most wretchless profligated state of sin.

Hence **†Wre·tchlessly** *adv. Obs.*

1618 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* 87 Hee doth vpbraid him with..folly, which would so wretchlesly, and sinfully depart with that? 16.. in *Strype's Eccl. Mem.* III. App. 124 Cursed are al they that do the Lord's busines wretchlesly.

Wretchlessness (re·tʃlésnés). Now only *arch.* [Erron. form of *retchlesnes*, obs. var. of RECKLESSNESS. Cf. RECKLESS *a.*]

Also 1634 Raleigh *Hist. World* IV. iii. § 5, 1718 Daniel *Civ. Wars* V. xxi, where however the earlier edd. have *retchlesnes(se*, etc.

1. The condition or quality of being reckless or heedless; recklessness.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* II. 1304 [A language] corrupted not so much by the mixture of other Tongues, as through a supine wretchlesnesse. 1647 HAMMOND *Power of Keys* iv. 213 The pride and self-conceit of some, the wretchlesnes of others. 1673 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* II. 455 For any men to have the Doctor's..sentence of Predestination alway before them, is no way..apt to beget either despair or wretchlessness.

1845 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, Till lately, from my youth up, I was given over to all wretchlessness and unclean living. 1860 A. L. WINDSOR *Ethics* iv. 209 To the wretchlessness of human nature his mind..must have been peculiarly sensitive.

2. Disregard or neglect *of* something.

Frequent in echoes of quot. 1630.

1630 *Articles Ch. England* XVII. C 2, Whereby the Devil doth thrust them either into desperation, or into wretchlessness [*earlier edd.* rech(e)lesnesse] of most unclean living. [1819 G. S. FABER *Dispensations* (1823) I. 171 To drive man to absolute despair and thence (as our Church expresses it) to complete wretchlessness of unclean living.] 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 377 What a rare insolence and wretchlessness of sin must be involved in such expressions. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 17 Dec. 719/2 His fault-finding is due to wretchlessness of most unclean desperation in him.

†Wretchly, *a. Obs. rare.* In 2–3 wrecheliche. [f. WRETCH *sb.* + -LY 1.] Wretched, miserable.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Adam..ferde ut fram þe fulle edinesse of paradis in to þesse wrecheliche hateringe of þisse worelde.

†Wre·tchly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3 wrecchelîche, wrecchelîi, 3–4 -lyche, 4 wrecheli, 5 *Sc.* wrechly. [f. WRETCH *a.* + -LY 2.] In a wretched or distressing manner; miserably.

c 1200 ORMIN 3326 And tohh þatt Godd wass..wundenn þær swa wrecchelîi Wiþþ clutess inn an cribbe. *c* 1205 LAY. 12096 Ne miðte hit na mon telle þet weoren mi wimman Swa wrecchelichen atozene. *Ibid.* 30554 Þa wes he wrecchelîche of-lust after deores flæsce. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 88, I wrouthe wrecheli now & wrabede drihten. 13.. *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Hearne) 9157 Ac [þe] kyng..nom hym vaste, And in prison hym huld, & wrecchelyche he deyde atte laste. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXIII. (*Seven Sleepers*) 161 Sa þat þai suld.. for hungyre de wrechly.

So **†Wre·tchlike** *adv. Obs. rare*—1.

c 1200 ORMIN 3708 To libbenn her onn eorþe Full wrecche-like inn usalldom Off metess & off claþess.

†Wre·tchness. *Obs. rare.* In 4–5 wrechenesse, 5 -nys, wrechenes. [f. WRETCH *a.* + -NESS.] Wretchedness; misery; a cause or source of distress.

a 1330 W. HERBERT in *Rel. Ant.* II. 227 What! ich vol of wrechenesse, hou shal ich take opon, When ich no god ne bringe to-vore the domes mon? 1382 WYCLIF *Job* XXX. 12 At the riȝt of the est my wrecchenesses anoon risen. 14.. in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 42 The hard change off fortune..discendithe..to myche vnease or wrechenys. 1483 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 2 Mony worshipfull men..were compelled ..to lyff in greate penurie and wrechenesse.

Wretchock (re·tʃok). Now *dial.* Also 6 wretchocke, -cocke, 7 -cock. [f. WRETCH *sb.* + -OCK. Cf. WRETCHCOCK.] The smallest or weakest of a brood, etc.; a puny fowl; a diminutive person, little wretch.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 465 The goslenges were untyde; Elynour began to chyde, They be wretchockes [*v.rr.* wrethocke(s] thou hast brought, They are shyre shakyng nought! 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 87 Learned philosophers..are the dryest, leanist, ill-fauoriddist, attiest, base-mind[e]dist carrions and wretchockes that euer you sett your eie on. 1621 B. JONSON *Gypsies Metam.* in *Horatius*, etc. (1640) 48 The famous Impe yet grew a wretchocke [*Heber MS.* wretchock], and..for seuen years together he was carefully carried at his Mothers back. 1903 R. M. GILCHRIST *Beggar's Manor* 223 She can't have gone of her own account; the poor wretchock dotes on you. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Wretchock*, ..the smallest pig of a litter. s. Worcestersh.

Wrete, obs. var. WART *sb.*; obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WRITE *v.* **Wreten,** obs. f. *written*, pa. pple. of WRITE *v.* **Wreth,** obs. f. WREATH, WREATHE *v.*; obs. Sc. f. WROTH *a.*

†Wrethe, *sb. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 wræðo, -u, wræþu, 2 wræþe, 3 wreðe, 3–5 wreth, 4–6 wrethe, 6 *Sc.* wreath. *β. north.* 4–5 wrythe, 5 writh(e, *Sc.* wryth. [OE. *wræðo* (also *wræðu*), *wræþu* (f. *wræð* WROTH *a.*), = MLG. *wrêde.* ON.

*wrīðī (Norw. *vreide*; MSw. *wredhe*, *wredhe*, Sw. and Da. *vrede*), *reiði* (Icel. *reiði*, Norw. *reide*). A different OE. formation is represented by WRATH *sb.*]

1. Violent anger; = WRATH *sb.* 1. Also in the phr. *be* (= by), *but*, *for*, *of*, *in*, *on*, *through*, *with wrethe*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iii. 21 And miððy ȝeherdon his eodon to haldanne hine, cuoedon forðon þætte on wræðo [L. *in furorem*] ȝecerred wæs. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 1052, Forþan hi wæran intinga þare wræðe ðe was betwyx him & ðan cinge. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 Yef se deuel us wille a-cumbri þurch senne..oþer þurh wreþe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 482 Lamech wið wreðe is knape nam. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10049 Moght in hir noþer be wreth ne het, Hir [illegible] ncyane

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* (Thornton MS.) 299 (Halliwell), Thus thay fighte in the frythe, With waa wreke thay thaire wrythe. 1422 YONG tr. *Secreta Secret.* 135 Hatredyn engendryth wronge and wrethe. *c* 1440 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 75 But in nothynge thay myght acorde, & begon to de-pert, as in wrethe. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrethe, angre, *courroux*, *maltalent*. 1587 W. FOWLER *Whs.* (S.T.S.) I. 53 Sometymes through wreath, I forced was..To teare them all in peaces small.

Personif. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 624 Wrethe bestrode a wylde bore, and next hem gan ryde.

transf. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 231 An huge bore of meruelous wreth.

2. A fit or display of wrath; = WRATH *sb.* 2.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 865 (Dubl. MS.), Sir, lat þi wrethes all wende. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 117 Wrethis, hatredis, detraccions mekely suffyr.

3. Of the Deity: = WRATH *sb.* 4 a.

c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 11 In alle soðfæst-[nis] ðin se ymbvoended [L. *avertatur*]..wræðo ðin. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 174 Hæfþ eal folc..micele wræþe set gode þurh his sinne gilt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27362 O þat soruful dai o pain, .Þe dai o wreth, o quak and soru. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1552 Þarewyth þai wreth God þat sese all; And his wreth at þe last sall with þam mete. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 191 þat tyme þat Egipt was i-smyte wiþ God all myȝties wrethe. *c* 1420 [see WREAK *sb.* 1].

4. Injury, hurt, harm. *rare.*

c 1400 *Melayne* 96 Wende thy waye..To Charles..& he sall wreke thy wrethis alle. *c* 1440 *Bone Florence* 1613 Hys mowthe, hys nose, braste owt on blood, Forthe at the chaumbur dore he yode, For drede of more wrethe.

Wrethe: see WREATH, WREATHE *v.*, WRIT *sb.*

† Wrethe, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 *Northumb.* **wreðan** (**wuræðan**), 2–3 **wreðen** (3 **werðen**), 5 **wrethyn**; 4 **wreþi**, 4–5 **wrepe**, **wreth(e**, 5 *Sc.* **wreyth**. *β.* 5 *north.* **writhe**. [OE. *wræðan*, causative verb f. *wrāþ* WROTH *a.* Cf. WROTH *v.*]

1. *trans.* Of persons (or things): To make angry; to vex, anger, irritate. = WRATH *v.* 2.

In frequent use from *c* 1300 to *c* 1400.

c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 107 Se cyng..mið ðy ȝiherde wræðde & sende herȝum ainum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 34 And wuraeðde [L. *iratus*] hlaford his ȝesalde hine ðæm pinerum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Bute we inwarliche imilcien and forȝeuen þan monne þe us wreðeð and sceandet. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 38 For moni þing schal ham wreaðen & gremien. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* 197 þet ich ðe wreðede sume siðe hit me reoweð sore. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 3461 Sir, ye er wrethed wrang; That sal ye wit wele or I gang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 43 Gif he tuk till his helping, Ane or othir suld wrethit be. 1422 YONG tr. *Secreta Secret.* 199 God..no man refusyth, haue he neuer so myche hym wrethyd. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2856 More neuer ne was woer..Then off that he hade wrethed so Raymounde.

b. *refl.* To wax angry; = WRATH *v.* 3.

c 1205 LAY. 9214 Þe kæisere hine wrædde, þe wurs him wes on heorte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18221 Wit þis can iesus him to wreth. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 12 God is rightwis iuge;..he wrethis him noght ilk day. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 905 For na thing that thou mai sayn, Wil I me wreth. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. XXXII. (1869) 153 Nature wolde wretthe hire if man [etc.].

c. *impers.* = ANGER *v.* 2 b.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4639 Or ellis ȝow writhis with ȝour wele, for ȝe na welth haue!

2. *intr.* To become or be angry; = WRATH *v.* 1.

c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 197 Wræðde..diwi [L. *framuit diabolus*]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 22 Eghuelc seðe uraeðes broðere his. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Tobreoke anes eorðliches monnes heste, he wile wreðe wið þe. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 13 (Bodl. MS.), Affrican wreaðede & swor awiðe deopliche. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1584 Be ðu ðer.. til esau Eſſe moðed be, ðe wreðed nu. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 12 Gripes disciplyne, leswhen lord wreth: and ȝe perisch fra rightwis way. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 207 þat he schulde whanne he gan to wreþe sele ofte and by ordre foure and twenty lettres of Grewe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2593 Þen þe berne writhis, Fandis him first on be-fore, & all fologes eftir. 14.. *Titus & Vesp.* (Roxb.) 1404 (Addit. MS. 10036), Thei wreþed with him for his sawe. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4853 It was for his syne That his fader had wrethed heuylyso.

3. *trans.* To be angry with (a person); = WRATH *v.* 4.

c 1420 *Chaucer's Troylus* III. 274 (Harl. MS. 2280), Ny nyl [I] forbere if þat ȝe don amys To wreth ȝow. *c* 1500 *Poems Cray MS.* (S.T.S.) 46 Quhy wrethis þou me? I greif þe nocht.

Hence **† Wre·thed** *ppl. a.*; **† Wre·thing** *vbl. sb.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 1 He sall be seen til ill men as *wrethid and as wode. 1387 *Satir. Poems Reform.* lv. 136 The crewell work of wretheit womanheid. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29511 Quen man..wit *wrething wode, Gis his sentence on ani man. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3036 Lefe of þi wordis, For writhing of þir wale treois, & willne þaim na mare. 1483 JAS. I *King's Q.* cxlvi, By quhois effectis greit ȝe movit are to wrething.

† Wrethe, *v.*[2] *Obs.* In 1 **wreþian**, **wreðian** (**wreð-**), 3 **wreðien**. [OE. *wreðian* (also *a-*, *ge-*, *under-wreðian*), f. *wraðu* support, etc., = OS. *wrēdian*, *giwrēdian*.]

1. *trans.* To prop or hold up; to support or sustain. Also in fig. context. (Only OE.)

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxi, Heora ælc [*sc.* creature] wind wið oðer, & þeah wreðeð oðer, þæt hie ne moton toslupan. *c* 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 175 Wreþiende [L. *sustenans*] þa tydran limu betwyh his ȝingrena handum. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 523 (Gr.), Se ðe rodor ahof & ȝefæstnode folmum sinum, worhte & wreðede.

2. *refl.* To support (oneself) by leaning upon another; = LEAN *v.*[1] 2 b. Also *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 3if þet heo werged, euerichon wreoðeð him bi oðer. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 857 Alle þeos writeres writes þet ȝe wreodieð ow on.

3. *intr.* To rely *on*, depend *upon*, a person.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 142 þet heo owun to beon of so holi liue þet..al Cristene uolc leonie & wreoðie upon ham. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1327 We ne cunnen..warpen na word ageinn to weorrin ne to wreðden him þet he wreoðeð on.

Wrethen, -in, obs. or Sc. varr. WREATHEN *ppl. a.* **Wrether hail,** var. WROTHER-HEAL *Obs.*

† Wre·thful, *a. Obs.* [Early ME. *wrēðful*, f. *wrēðe* WREATHE *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. WRATHFUL *a.*, WROTHFUL *a.*]

1. Of persons: Angry, irate; = WRATHFUL *a.* 1.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Heo wes..lihere and awikel, and wreðful and ontful. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 Pellican is a leane fowel, so weamod & so wreðful þet [etc.]. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5107 Ihesu Crist, þat til þam swa wrethful sal seme þan. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* IV. 297 For he was.. wreþful, and priveliche envious and opounliche disceyvable. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 233 He that hath a sharpe noose and smale, he is wrethfull.

absol. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Þe wreðfule biuoren þe ueonde akirmeð mid kniues. 1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Þe þridde werre þet þe wreþuolle heþ is to þan þet byeþ onder him.

2. Marked or characterized by wrath.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 141 The bischop sau that Godd wald tak Of this man sin wrethful wrac. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. viii. 163 Quhidder this turn to Goddis wrethfull wraik, Or hardyment and honour.

Hence **† Wre·thfully** *adv.*; **Wre·thfulness.** *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 58 Þe hound of wrethfulnes [*text* wrechfulnes; L. *iracundiæ*] grenniþ wiþ his teþ. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2218 Then thes paynymes wrethfully ther-thens Whent.

† Wrethly, var. of WROTHLY *a.* and *adv.* *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 3462 (Götz.), Þair strut it was vnsterne stithe, wid wrethly [*Cott.* wrathli] wraystes oþer wreche. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Age & Youth* 66 (Bann. MS.), He on his wayis wrethly went but wene.

Wreppe, etc., obs. variants of WRATH, etc.

Wreton, -yn, obs. ff. *written*, pa. pple. of WRITE *v.*

Wrett, etc.: see WRIT *sb.*, WRITE *v.* **Wrett(e,** obs. or dial. varr. WART *sb.*

† Wretthy, *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. *wretth*, ME. var. of WRATH *sb.*] = WROTHY *a.*

14.. *Latin-Eng. Voc.* (MS. Harl. 2257), *Fervidus, id est, calidus, iracundus, Anglice* hot, wretthy.

† Wrewche, ? error for *wewch* WOUGH *a.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 125 Malkyne went hame blyth annewche,..And so left him, bayth wo & wrewche, In dolour & in cair.

Wrey, etc., varr. WRAY *v.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. f. WRY *v.*[2]

Wrible, obs. Sc. var. WANBLE *sb.*[1]

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. ii. 18 The birdis..Wyth wriblis [*ed.* 1553 werblis] sweit..Gan meis and glaid the hevynis. *Ibid.* VII. xii. 147. [Cf. WRABLE.]

Wriched, -id, etc., obs. varr. WRETCHED *a.*

Wrich, obs. var. WORK *v.* **Wrich(e,** obs. varr. WRETCH *sb.* and *a.* **Wricht,** Sc. var. WRIGHT *sb.*[1]

Wrick (rik), *sb.* Also *dial.* **wrick.** [f. WRICK *v.*[2] Cf. RICK *sb.*[2]] A sprain or strain.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* 254 This wrick, or sprain of the coffin-joint. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 641 A wrick in my back.

† Wrick, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 4 **wricke, wrikke.** [ad. MLG. **wricken* (in *vorwricken*, *-wrycken*; LG. *wrikken*) to move here and there, to sprain; or Du. *wrikken* to move jerkily, to scull (whence G. *wricken*, Da. *vrikke*, Sw. *vricka*). Cf. WRIG *v.*] *intr.* To move (jerkily or unsteadily) from side to side.

c 1305 *St. Dunstan* 82 In *E. E. P.* (1862) 36 Þe deuel he hente bi þe nose...Þe deuel wrickede her and þer. 1398–99 *Erthe upon Erthe* 2 Erþ geþ on erþ wrikkend in weden.

Wrick (rik), *v.*[2] [Perh. the same as prec., but recorded earlier as RICK *v.*[2] Cf. however WRICK *sb.*] *trans.* To sprain or strain.

1886–93 in Somerset, Berkshire, and Wiltshire glossaries. 1904 *County Gentleman* June 1963 [The race-horse] having wricked his back badly.

Wride (rəid), *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 1 **wrid, wryd,** 7– **ride.** [OE. *wrid*, f. *wridan*, *wridian* to put forth shoots, grow. Cf. Yks. *writh*, *rithe*.] A shoot, stalk, or stem; a group or bush of stalks, etc., growing from one root.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.*, *Cubnus*, wyrð [*Erfurt* wryd]. 944 in Birch *Cartul.* II. 542 Þurh þone lea to þam miclan hæselwride. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 Ȝenim æscþrote neoþe wrid. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 223 Lettuce with other herbis in a wride. *Ibid.* II. 207 Heere is an helful thyng, a wondir wride. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 743 The Frenche Onion hath no great stemme, but only a great wride or head neare the ground. 1685–[see RIDE *sb.*[1]]. 1790 *Oxford Jrnl.* 21 Aug. 3/2 From a single oat.—One hundred, and thirty three wrides, or stalks. 1848 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 370 A wride of hasel or ash. 1886 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 313 (Dorset), A hazel-bush may contain many wrides.

Wride (rəid), *v. s.w. dial.* [f. prec., or perh. a survival of OE. *wridian*, *wridian*. Cf. WRITHE *v.*[2]] *intr.* To put forth shoots; to spread out.

1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* s.v. 1848 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* s.v., The wheat da wride out well. 1873– in s.w. dial. use (Som., Dorset, Devon).

Wrie, etc.: see WRAY *v.*[1], WRY *v.* and *a.*

Wried (rəid), *ppl. a.* [f. WRY *v.*[2] + -ED[1].]

1. Turned aside; deflected, diverted.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXV. iv, A vaine deceiver, Whose wryed footing not aright directed Wandreth in error.

2. That has undergone contortion or twisting; writhed, contorted.

1576 A. HALL *Acc. Quarrel*, etc. (1816) I. 100 His colour.. crymson, his eyes fyry, his visage wryed unnaturally. 1598–9 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* II. iv, Vsing their wryed countenances in stead of a vice, to turn [etc.]. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 348 The Quoiter..who stands wryed in a Gesture ready to deliver. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* XXIII. 656 A silver cup That crookt and wryed was about the brim. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* IX. 372 His thick neck [was] wryed and twisted. 1892 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 206 His mouth was wried with agony.

transf. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Prol. 178 Vsing his wryed lookes (In nature of a vice) to wrest and turne The good aspect of those that shall sit neere him.

† Wriels. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wrigels** (**wyrgels**), **-ils, wrills**, 3 **wrieles, wriheles**, 4 **wrielys**, 5 **wriels** (**weryels**). [OE. *wrigels*, etc., f. *wrig-*, ppl. stem of *wrīon*, *wrēon* WRY *v.*[1] + -ELS.] A covering; a veil. Also *fig.*

In quots. *a* 1225 and *c* 1400 taken as a plural; see -ELS.

? *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ci. 27 Swe swe wrigels onwendes hie, & hie bioð onwende. *c* 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) 296 He þa his wrigels ȝeopenode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 320 Of þeos six wrieles despoille þine sunne. *a* 1275 *Ibid.* 420 (MS. Cott. Cleopatra), Wimpel ne hefde, nouðer ne nemned bali write, ah wriheles of heuet. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxiv. 8 Nakid thei leue men,..whom wederes of hillis moisten, and not hauende wrielys [L. *velamen*] clippe stones. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton, 1483) IV. XXIX. 61 They faren right as done weryels of ymages made of clothe, stopped with strawe.

† Wrien, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* In 3 **iwrien,** 4 **wreyen.** [pa. pple. of WRY *v.*[1]]

1. Hidden; covered.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 Herto ualleð a tale, and on iwrien [*v.r.* hulet] uorbisne.

2. Accoutred; equipped.

c 1330 *Arth. & Mer.* 7355 (Kölbing), He cleped an amirall,..Wiþ fiften þousand wreyen knistes, & bad him, þe cuntre sle doun ristes.

Wri·er. *rare.* [f. WRY *v.*[2]] One who twists.

1611 COTGR., *Retordeur*, a twister,.. a wrier backe.

Wrieson(e, -oun(e, -own, obs. Sc. ff. ORISON.

† Wrig, *sb.*[1] *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. WERG.] The willow-tree.

1564 *Braseneose Coll. Munim.* 19 (Berks.), [The tenant may take] boowes of the wrigges to make stakes..for the mentayning of the mowndes.

Wrig (rig), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* [Cf. WRIGLING, WRECKLING.] The smallest or weakest of a litter, brood, or family.

1805 G. MCINDOE *Poems* 67 Tho' [I am] the wrig In a' the nest there's nane sae big, Excepting Jock. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 700 The small weak pigs are usually nicknamed *wrigs*, or pock-shakings. 1899 J. COLVILLE *Scot. Vernacular* 15 The wee wrig, or *puis-né* member of the litter [of pigs].

† Wrig, obs. erron. f. RIG *sb.*[4]

1698 N. WRITING *Il Insonio Insom.* 139, I have espied a plump-cheek'd bonny lass. She is a wrig, I warrant.

Wrig (rig), *v.* Now *dial.* [? ad. LG. *wriggen* to twist or turn, an imitative word of the same type as *wrikken*; see WRICK *v.*[1]]

† 1. *trans.* To twist or bend (some flexible object) about; to cause to writhe or wriggle. *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 177 The bore his tayle wrygges..Agaynst the hye benche. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. xi. 37 Thus worms in sturdie pride Do wrigge and wrest their parts divorc'd by knife.

† 2. To turn aside; to divert. *Obs.*—[1]

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 88 First thee pilot Palinure thee steard ship wrigs to the lifthand.

3. *intr.* To move sinuously or writhingly; to wriggle, writhe. Now *dial.*

1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* XXXI. B 6, The Bay tree.. seems to sigh..And with the wanton wind to wrig & wreath, against the god. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.* 408 The child 's allus wrigging about. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* s.v.

Wriggle (ri·g'l), *sb.* Also 8–9 **riggle**, 9 **wreckle.** [f. next. Cf. LG. *wriggel* wilfulness.]

† 1. A piece of sophistry; a shift. *Obs.*—[1]

1675 T. TULLY *Let. Baxter* 14 To think such little wriggles and Evasions will pass for rational Discourse.

2. A quick writhing movement or flexion of the body, etc. Also *fig.*

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 85 ¶ 5 They have always a peculiar Spring in their Arms, a Riggle in their Bodies. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 481 Such length as they [*sc.* animalcules] can throw themselves forward by one wriggle of the tail. 1829 *Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist.* II. 220 [The water-shrew] swims very rapidly;..his very nimble wriggle is clearly discernible. 1862 TROLLOPE *N. Amer.* I. 37 Fishes ..resist..their motion with no dorsal riggle. 1899 J. VINCENT *Set By. Bath & Wells* 11 To kill a story that has..got into print, and to leave it dead, and without a wriggle.

transf. 1899 A. LANG in *Contemp. Rev.* March 403 There

the line gives a wriggle, suggesting that the circle was evolved out of a spiral.

b. A sinuous or tortuous formation, marking, etc.; a wriggling or meandering course.

1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 84 *Wriggle*, any narrow sinuous hole. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Daus.* I. i, The serpentine walks were mere wriggles. 1881 Ruskin *Bible Amiens* ii. § 24 A few careful pen-strokes, or wriggles, of your own off-hand writing. 1899 [see Wriggled *ppl. a.*].

c. A turn or sinuosity. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1853 Hawthorne *Tanglewood T., Minotaur*, At every new zigzag and wriggle of the path.

3. *local.* The sand-eel or sand-launce.

1816 [see Wreckle]. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* xxxiii, We dug wriggles out of the sand. 1885 *Field* 26 Dec. 895/3 Sand-eels are known..along the Sussex coast as 'riggles or wriggles', from their action of burrowing into the sand.

Wriggle (ri'g'l), *v.* Also 5 wryggle, 6–7 wrigle, 7–9 riggle. [a. (M)LG. *wriggeln* (LG. dial. also *friggeln, vriggeln*, = Du. *wriggelen*, WFris. *wriggelje*, Norw. *vrigla, rigla*), frequentative of *wriggen*: see Wrig *v.*, and cf. Wiggle *v.*]

1. *intr.* To twist or turn the body about with short writhing movements; to move sinuously; to writhe, squirm, wiggle: a. Of reptiles, etc.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xviii. ix. 758 The adder Alphibena..glydeth and wryggleth [*MSS.* wigleth, -eþ] wyth wrynkles. 1558 Phaer *Æneid* v. M iv b, As when some serpent..wrigling wreathes his limmes about. 1591 [see Wrench *v.* 1]. 1606 Marston *Parasit.* II. i. C j b, How the poore snake wriggles with this suddain warmth. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 43 The Snake..by turning and wriggling laboured ..to avoid it. 1881 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 490 As clearly as you may see..a serpent wriggle in the grass. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xx, Eels..are used to being skinned. Yet they wriggle a bit.

b. Of things.

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VI. 77 The tip of Philomelaas tongue did wriggle to and fro. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Bb j b, Philomelaas tongue, which being cutte of, wrigled vp and downe a longe season. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. xxxiii. 227 The severall parts of Insects being cut asunder, may wriggle and stirre for a while. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 471 The pieces of an eel cut asunder continue to wriggle. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* III. v, His nose at the same time wriggling with most portentous agitation. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* iii. 65 The float will often bob and wriggle about..before the bite is confirmed. *fig.* 1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* IV. i, [It] makes the spirit of the flesh begin to wriggle in my bloud.

c. Of persons (or animals): To twist, turn, or move uneasily.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 111 If sheepe or thy lambe fall a wrigling with taile. 1608 [see Wraggle *v.*^{1} 2]. 1610 B. Jonson *Alchemist* v. iv, Here shee is come. Downe o' your knees, and wriggle. 1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 125 The Lambs came under the damms, to riggle and nussle at their duga. 1730 Swift *To a Lady* 90 Then apply Alecto's whip Till they [*sc.* villains] wriggle, howl, and skip. 1735 Somerville *Chase* IV. 460 On pointed Spears they lift him [*sc.* an otter] high in Air; Wriggling he hangs. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. i, Ethel..wriggling fearfully on the wide window-seat. 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* vi, He wriggled in his jacket to make a more comfortable fit.

transf. and *fig.* 1577 [see Wrest *v.* 8]. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 10 Observe that..when put together they may not wriggle in the least. 1825 Carlyle *Love-Lett.* (1909) II. 159 Self is a foundation of sand...Fools writhe and wriggle and rebel at this.

2. To move, proceed, or go with a writhing or worming movement. Const. with advs., as *along, away, in, out*, or preps., as *from, into, through, up*.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii, These vinegar tart spirits are too pearcing...Finde they a chinke, they'l wriggle in and in. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* Wks. 117/2 The Eele..would wriggle vp and downe in his muddy habitation. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Mark* ix. 25 Devils run and wriggle into their holes, as worms use to do in time of thunder. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaich Syst.* 67 Talons fit to hold fast the Live Prey that it wriggle not from them. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 375 No lizard wriggles through the brake. 1857 Mrs. Gatty *Parab. fr. Nat.* Ser. II. (1868) 129 The eels wriggled away in the mud. 1892 C. L. Morgan *Anim. Sk.* 235 Wriggling and squirming up a dark green vertical wall.

fig. and in fig. context. 1734 Swift *Let. to Faulkner* Wks. 1841 II. 726/1 Is it not sufficient to see with what pain and shame he wriggles along. 1762 Warburton *Doctr. Grace* Pref., Truth..forbids us to riggle into her sacred presence through by-paths. 1840 Hare *Mission Comf.* (1846) 47 That the Understanding is over-ready to..riggle along the crooked paths of evil. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* vii. 246 His words come cautiously and suspiciously wriggling up to you.

b. To flow or run sinuously; to meander.

1640 [see Wriggling *ppl. a.* 3]. 1688 W. Richards *Wallogr.* 34 A Rivulet which wrigled along with a crooked current. 1760 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 1 Sept., The Trent w. 1861 Reade *Cloister &* among the antiquities. 1894 *.* 388 The southern Himeras, whose salt waters wriggle to and fro in the broad dale.

3. a. To insinuate oneself *into* favour, place, etc.; to advance, 'creep' or get *in*, by wheedling or ingratiation.

(*a*) 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. iv, Now doe he creepe, and wriggle into acquaintance with all the braue gallants. 1633 Shirley *Gamester* I. (1637) B 3 b, The Courtiers make Us cuckolds; marke, we wriggle into their Estates. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 235 By low ignoble Offices..To wriggle into Trust and Grace. 1748 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 457 Earth's subtile serpents..Which wriggle into wealth, or climb renown. *c* 1853 Kingsley *Misc.* (1859) I. 39 A scheme by which to wriggle into Court favour. 1871 Dixon *Tower* III. iv. 29 Lake had crept and wriggled into place and pay.

(*b*) 1636 Massinger *Gt. Dk. Flor.* II. ii, This courtier.. perhaps, by his place, Expects to wriggle further: if he does, I shall deceive his hopes. *a* 1652 Brome *Queenes Exch.* I, He's the King's Favourite;..we may fear he'l wrigle in Twixt him and us. 1691 *Satyr agst. French* 9 If they but wriggle in his Lordship's Ear,..they learn to domineer. 1769 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Imit. Horace* I. xii, He..Who, wriggling to the Hanoverian Guards, Kept the poor Prince of Brunswick out.

b. To make use of shuffling or sinuous means; to get *out of*, escape *from*, a condition or position by evasion, mean artifice or contrivance.

a 1646 Burroughes *Exp. Hosea* v. (1652) 240 This affliction that thou doest so riggle to get out of. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* III. 99 Men will wriggle any way to get from under the force of a text. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 223 Certain to..wriggle out of its inevitable results by..dangerous artifices. 1858 Doran *Court Fools* 315 He wriggled out of his bargain. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* I. 114 You are wriggling cunningly out of the position.

4. *trans.* To cause to writhe, twist, or bend tortuously; to move or turn writhingly or with quick jerks. Also with advs., as *aloft, away, down, out, up*, or preps., as *from, into*.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* I. (1878) 109 Sheepe wrigling taile hath mads without faile. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 50 Their tayls..they [*sc.* two serpents] wrigled. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 97 Wrigling his elbowes and shoulders scornfully from me. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* x. 365 The wretched Patient cannot lie down,..wrigling his body all manner of ways. 1729 Swift *Direct. Serv.* ii, Make room for the sauce-

from that of the chair. 1887 Eggleston *Graysons* xv, He tried to pull and wriggle his trousers-legs down to their normal place.

refl. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 35 These [insects] would..wrigle themselves up to the top of the water again. 1739 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 45 With violent squeezing.. we riggled ourselves into seats. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. iv, Besenval is painfully wriggling himself out, to the Champ-de-Mars.

fig. 1712 *Odes of Horace* II. 12/2 *Et* might easily riggle it self into the place of *ut*.

b. To bring into a specified state, form, etc., by writhing or twisting. Const. with advs., as *asunder, off*, or preps., as *into, to*. Occas. *refl.* Also *fig.*

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 18 With your Fingers and Thumb..wriggle it quite asunder. 1857 W. C. Stewart *Pract. Angler* vii. (ed. 3) 138 The worm..being free to wriggle itself into any shape. 1858 [see Wrench *v.* 10]. 1876 O. W. Holmes *Motley* xvii. 115 Slavery is wriggling itself to death.

5. To introduce, insert, or bring *in* (something) by wriggling; to insinuate (*into* something).

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* E 4 b, A snaile coulde not wriggle in her hornes betwixt them. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* I. lv. 55 A Slam, Thin-Gutted Fox made a Hard Shift to Wriggle his Body into a Hen-Roost. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 374 As to the width of the gates,..the men..could..easily incline the roller on one side, and..wriggle it in. — Lytton *Pelham* II. 313 Power..is a snake that when it once finds a hole into which it can introduce its head, soon manages to wriggle in the rest of its body.

fig. 1708 Vanbrugh *False Friend* I. i, I'm afraid..they'll riggle you into some ill-favour'd affair. 1767 A. Campbell *Lexiph.* (1774) 71 When you have wriggled in..a new-fashioned long-tailed word.

b. To insinuate or introduce (a person) gradually (*into* favour, office, etc.), esp. by subtle or shifty means. Also with *in*. Chiefly *refl.*

1670 Cotton *Espernon* I. iv. 180 He by the means of the Mistriss..wriggles himself into the company of the Duke's Baker. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 355 By these arts doth Satan, like a cunning serpent, wriggle himself into the affections of men. 1720 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 5 Dec., While he was wriggling himself into my favour. 1754 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 28 March, She would have wriggled herself into the best clause in the will. 1766 — *Let. to Mann* 18 July, He might have wriggled his brother in [= into office] afterwards. 1847 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* xvi, He wriggled himself into the good opinion of the coachman. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. x. 359 [He] wriggled himself into a peerage.

c. To make (one's way) by sinuous motion. Also in fig. context.

1863 W. Phillips *Speeches* viii. 214 Cunning statesmen who have wriggled their slimy way to wealth. 1891 *Century Mag.* March 649/2 The Pi-Utes..wriggled their way out through the passages in the rocks. 1899 E. Callow *Old Lond. Tav.* I. 119 Whitebait seem to have wriggled their way higher up the river.

6. † a. To cut or carve (something) with a wriggly or sinuous pattern; to slash. *Obs.*

1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* IV. iii. 274 A collar of brawne, cut downe Beneath the souse, and wriggled with a knife. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* I. i. 4 Many more..by prowesse of the Captaine Joneses of our times.. have been hackt, hew'd, wriggled and utterly confounded.

b. To form in a tortuous or sinuous manner.

1760 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 20 June, Stanhope..has.. wriggled a winding-gravel walk through [the groves]. 1896 *Voice* (N. Y.) 8 Oct. 2 Be content to wriggle pretty patterns on the mud of spoils!

† 7. To twist, pervert. Cf. Wrest *v.* 5. *Obs.*

1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 52 Sinister construction, that wresteth and wrigleth euery sillable to the worst. 1637 J. Williams *Holy Table* 2 Which when it is in writing,..is no more by a disputant indeed to be wrigled and wrested.

Hence Wriggled (rig'ld) *ppl. a.*

1590 Bosswell *Armorie* II. 200 They haue..a wrigled tayle, and croked tethe like to a Bore. 1621 Cotgr., *Frisgotteries*, frets; cranklings, wrigled flourishings, in carvings, &c. *a* 1643 Cartwright *Ordinary* II. iii, Your hollow thumb join'd with your wriggled [dice] box. 1899 A. Lang in *Contemp. Rev.* March 403 At each side are two-circled and one-circled specimens with the wriggled line, and two cups and circles with no wriggle.

Wriggle- (rig'l), the verb-stem used attrib. in a few combs., in the sense 'undergoing or characterized by wriggling', as † **wriggle-eye**, **-tail**, etc.

In quots. 1579, 1620, app. from *wriggled tail.*

1579 Spenser *Shep. Cal.* Feb. 7 They wont in the wind

riggle-tayle-Comfits, not worth mouthing. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 473 A dance of women.., the usual wriggle and stamp affair.

Wriggler (ri'glər). [f. Wriggle *v.* + -er^{1}.]

1. One who or that which wriggles; *esp.* a etc.

Ep. Ded., The Fryes of
:p out of their Graves and Dungeons. 1694

sand-eels or lance-fish. 1836 in *Advance* (Chicago) 28 June 897/2 To make the little wriggler [= a child] sit still. 1914 *Melbourne Argus* 27 March 13 Mosquitoes..in the larval state..are known as wrigglers.

2. *fig.* One who makes his way by subtle, ingratiating, or underhand means.

1632 A. Wilson *Swisser* II. i. 163 To obserue the tyme, yee wriglers. There is an ytching height that all do ayme at, Iiut diuers wayes to come to 't. 1785 Cowper *Tiroc.* 432 Providence,..In spite of all the wrigglers into place, Still keeps a seat or two for worth and grace.

3. (See quot.)

1900 *Daily Mail* 31 Oct., Wrigglers are engravers who devote their working hours to the tracing of those zig-zag lines which are so often a feature of cheap Britannia metal teapots.

Wri'ggle some, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Wriggle *sb.* + -some.] Wriggling.

1891 G. Macdonald *There & Back* xxii, The wrigglesome, slimy things [*sc.* water-snakes].

Wriggling (ri'glin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wriggle *v.* + -ing^{1}.]

1. The action of the verb in various physical senses; an instance of this.

1580 Tusser *Husb.* 2 b, How to cure the wrigling of ye taile in a sheepe or a lambe. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 427 The Lampreis..get betwene the very mashes [of a net], which with their much winding and wrigling they will wrest wider and wider. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 67 The wrigling and playing of the Mandril. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Oct., Lovet, towards the end of dinner, after twenty wrigglings, said [etc.]. 1843 Le Fevre *Life Trav. Phys.* III. iii. viii. 189 Appetite..is not sharpened by the wriggling of the locomotives. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* i, The wrigglings of a worm.

2. *fig.* Evasion; equivocation; shuffling.

1866 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 56 He is..my superior, even in the master art of wriggling. 1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 7 Feb. 652/2 There is a wriggling that is wrong, as when Peter wriggled from the questioning accusations of the servant girl.

3. *attrib.* in allusive use, as † *wriggling disease, mordicancy, trade.*

1690 D'Urfey *Collin's Walk Lond.* I. 17 If any of his Flock were seiz'd By heat, with wrigling Disease. *a* 1693 Urquhart *Rabelais* III. xxxii. 271 Their..figging Itch, wrigling Mordicancy. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* VI. 91, I am a Baker, And..have..a Wrigling-Pole. 1765 [E. Thompson] *Meretriciad* 40 The fam'd itinerant lass..by her motions in the wriggling trade, Two sterling thousands..made.

Wri'ggling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing^{2}.]

1. That wriggles or squirms; writhing.

1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* V. 63 b, A wrigling taile streight to his limmes was added more beside. 1587 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1292/1 Two wrigling or scralling serpents. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. v. 102 As an Angler..A wrigling yealow worme thrust on his hooke. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 42 He assumes..the shape of a wriggling crooked serpent. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. 363, I must take care..the little riggling rogue does not slip through my fingers. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* vii. 167 A native emerges out of the moving mass of dead elephant and wriggling humanity. 1888 J. Inglis *Tent Life* 296 A great wriggling iguana.

transf. c 1390 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 71 Thir wrigling werse than plaine sall pass perfyt.

2. Characterized or distinguished by wriggling or writhing.

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 887 As a fell Serpent..With wriggling pase doth still approach his Foe. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 42 A wrigling motion, like that of eels. 1783 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Odes to R.A.'s* I. viii, Won with such wry mouths and wriggling pain. 1799 Southey *Nondescript, Filbert*, Watching two maggots run their wriggling pace doth. 1859 Murchison *Siluria* (ed. 3) xii. 303 Wriggling movements of a Salamandroid quadruped. 1888 Gunter *Mr. Potter* xxii. 259 [A dog] with tail and ears and body all wriggling ecstasy.

fig. 1688 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., He took a wriggling byas in his Letter, which I am not pleased with. *c* 1869 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 289 The wriggling prurience of such lackey's literature as is handed round.

3. Meandering; tortuous; winding.

1640 J. Gower *Ovid's Festin.* III. 48 [Sylvia] came unto the wriggling brook. *Ibid.* 60 His slow'ry greene, Which wrigling Tyber haves. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 5 It is not unlike the crawling of a Snake, it's various Hills and Vallies..seem to borrow that riggling Shape.

Hence Wri·ggglingly *adv.*

1626 Deacon & Walker *Answ. to Darel* To Rdr. 4 They ..do rather *incedere tortuosè*, goe wrigglinglie to worke. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* v. 73 [He spoke] wrigglingly, and with..gesticulations towards the pit.

Wriggly (ri·gli), *a.* [f. Wriggle *v.* + -y¹. Cf. LG. dial. *wriggelig* willful.]

1. Given to wriggling; squirming, writhing.

1866 Edmondston *Gloss. Shetl. Dial.* 92 *Rigly* [sic], unsteady, rickety. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 2/1 The thrush ..twice..found a wriggly creature, and these he carried off to his family.

2. Winding; sinuous; tortuous.

1902 C. G. Harper *Gt. North Road* II. 257 One leaves Dunbar by wriggly and exiguous streets.

Wright (rəit), *sb.*¹ Forms: α. 1 wyrhte, *Northumb.* wyrhta, -te, wyrchte, 1–2 *Kent.* werhte; 2 wirhte, 3 wurhte, wuruhte. β. 1 wryhte, 3 wruhte, wrihhte, 3–4 wriht(e, 5 wrihte, 3–5 wryhte, wryht, (3, 5 wryth, 5 wrythe), 4 wry3t(e, 4–5 wri3t, 4–6 wrighte (4 whright, wrigth, writh), 5–6 wryght(e, 4–wright; 2 wrichte, 5–6 *Sc.* wrycht (6 vrycht), 5–7, 9 *Sc.* wricht (5, 9 vricht, 9 wiricht); 4 wreght, 5 *Sc.* wreght, 6 *Sc.* wreicht, 7 wreight, 9 *dial.* wreeght. γ. 5 wryte, *north.* write, 9 *north. dial.* wreet (whreet), reet. [OE. *wyrhta, wryhta*, etc. (also *gewyrhta*), = OFris. *wrichta*, OS. *wurhtio, -eo*, OHG. *wurhto* (MHG. (in combs.) *wurhte, würhte, worhte*), f. *wurh-* :—OTeut. **wurχ-*, variant stem of **wurk-*: see Work *v.*]

1. An artificer or handicraftsman; *esp.* a constructive workman. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

Eye-, glassen-, mill-, tile-wright: see those words.

a. ? *a* 695 *Laws of Ine* lix. (*Liebermann* I. 116) Mon sceal sinle to beregafole aʒifan ær anum wyrhtan vi pund-wæʒa. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 3 Ahne ðis is sniið *uel* wyrhte, sunu Maries? *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 318 God eac forði hi tostencte, swa þæt he forʒeaf ælcum ðæra wyrhtena seltcuð ʒereord. *c* 1205 Lay. 21134 On aluisc smið..i he wes ihaten Wygar, þe witeʒe wurhte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 Þe calix þet was imelt iðe fure ..wolde he, ʒif he kuðe speken, awarien.. his wuruhte honden?

β γ. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark, Introd. 3 Wundrande þæt lar & mæhto ðæs wrihtes sunu *vel* smiðes sunu. *c* 1030 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 2 Þam he..clypað his wryhtan [L. *operarium*]. *a* 1200 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 204 And ic..bebeode ðat paðu mi meodes [*sic*] wrichte and Wlnoð min huscarl..on ðam minstre hersumian. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 385 Þis drithin..in his witte..all purueid His werc, als dos þe sotill wright. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 137 Þe fyngres is ful hand, for failled thei here þombe,.. Sholde no wryʒt [*Ilchester MS.* write] worche. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 497 He made seke in euery regioun ..For euery wriʒt and passyng carpenter. 1715 Cheyne *Philos. Princ. Relig.* vi. 324 Being rapt into admiration of the infinite Wisdom of the Divine Architect, and contemning the arrogant Pretences of the World and Animal Wrights. 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 207 Upon that central shrine..Laid down..The scribe, and the physician, and the wright His several offering. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 224/1 *Wreights*, or *Wrights*,..work-people in general.

† b. Applied to the Deity, = Creator I. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* ad fin., Drihten ælmihtiga God, wyrhta & wealdend ealra ʒesceafta. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 9 Wlitiʒ is se wong eall,..æþele se wyrhta..se þa moldan ʒesette. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 20 Þu wisest wruhte of alle, markedest eorðe. *c* 1200 Ormin 18780 þatt all þatt shaffte þat wass wrohht Wass lif inn himm þe wrihhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 331 Þis wright þat spek of here..wroght bath erth and heuen.

† 2. One who does or performs something; a doer or worker. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 111 Forðon þe nan wyrhta ne mæʒ god weorc wyrcean for Gode buton lufon & ʒeleafan. *a* 1000 *Genesis* 1004 Him ða se cystlessa cwalmes wyrhta sedre after þon andswarode. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 At tese fif gaten fared in deaðes wrihte, and þerinne doð. *a* 1300 [see Battle *sb.* 14].

3. One who works in wood; a carpenter, a joiner.

From *c* 1470 to *c* 1655 chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*; in later use only *Sc.* and *north. dial.* (or *arch.*). The Sc. pron. is' (w)rixt', (north-eastern) 'vrixt'.

Cart-, house-, plough-, ship-, timber-, wagon-, wain-, wheel-wright: see those words.

a. *c* 1205 Lay. 16969 He lette axien anan..gode wurhten þe mid axe cuðe wurchen.

β. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 27 Wið-uten .. ðe wrihte his timber to keruen after ðare mone. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1666 A schippe be-houes þe to dight, þi self sal be þe maister wright. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9163 He ded come wryʒtes [*gloss.* carponters] for to make Couseryng ouer hem. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 19 Joseph was a forgere of trees, þat is to seie a wriʒte. *c* 1450 *Northern Passion* 161/462 Than wantide the wryghtis a tre. 1464 *Nottingham Rec.* (1883) II. 372 To the wright..to make the Pillorye, v s. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* viii. D 8 The wryghte uncertaine what to make, a stoole or God of ma. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 42/1 He sawe yet howe the rest [of the ships]..might bee repaired: wherefore he chose forth wrightes among the Legions. *a* 1629 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. i. § 8 (1622) 193 As we may..see, in Platoes fore-named instances of his Smithes, and his Wrights. 1634 Z. Coke *Logick* 64 This Ship-wright ..makes the Ship, not as he is a man or good, but as he is a Wright or Artisan. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, Masons and wrights shall soon my house repair. 1780 Sir J. Sinclair *Observ. Scot. Dial.* 198 *Wright*, at present, is a general name for timber workmen;..but the Scots, by *wrights*, mean *carpenters*. 1829 Carlyle *Misc., German Playwrights* I. 7 The millwright, or cartwright, or any other wright whatever. 1898 *Times* 5 March 12/3 At Hull..about 500 wrights are on strike. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* IX. 109 Nor yet among them ever ship-making wrights there are.

fig. a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 91 Hier is igadered swilch timber þe næure rotien ne mai, and þis derewurðe mihte is wrihte ðerover.

Sc. Prov. 1670 Ray *Prov.* 227 He is not the best wright that hewes the maniest speals.

γ. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 230 Thy fadir knewe I wele be sight, He was a write his mette to wynne. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch. MS.), Wryte, or carpentare, *carpentarius*. 1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 230 A wryte that mayd my mastyrys stabyle. 1824– in N. Cy., Nhb., Dur., Yks., and Lanc. glossaries (*reet*). 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* 628 *Wreet's shop* a carpenter's, or more frequently a Wheelwright's shop. 1877–90 in Yks. glossaries (*wreet*).

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wright-craft*, † *-house, -smith*; † **wright-garth**, a joiner's yard; **wright-work**, work performed or done by a joiner.

1385–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 391 [Le] Wrigthous et le Plomberhous. 1474–5 *Ibid.* 94 Le Wrightgarth et Swynegarth. *a* 1619 M. Fotherby *Atheom.* II. i. § 8 (1622) 193 One Arte, of Wright-Craft; and one Arte, of Smiths-Craft. 1630 *Ann. Banff* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 64 Ane load of wricht wark 2s. 1672 in Holmes *Pontefract Bk. Entries* (1882) 103 Item, for wrightworke, [*£* 5]. 1882 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 56 Wheelwright, Wrightsmith.

Hence † **Wri·ghtry**, = Wrighting. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. (*Noah & Ark*) 250 Now assay will I how I can of wrighiry.

† **Wright**, *sb.*² *Obs.* In 2–3 wriht, 3 *Orm.* wrihht. [ME. reduction of **i-wriht*, OE. *gewyrht*: see I-wurht.] Desert, what one has deserved; hence, blame, fault.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 Crist us ʒeue of him mihte; betere þenne we habbeð wrihte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 217 Ich triste þat he [*sc.* God] nele neng [don?] bi mine wrihte. *c* 1200 Ormin Ded. 208 To þoleun dæþþ o rodetre Sacclæs wiþþutenn wrihhte. *Ibid.* 8240 He wass flemmd & drifenn ut All affterr hiss wrihhte.

Hence † **Wri·ghtful** *a.*, having deserved something; † **Wri·ghtlesslike** *adv.*, undeservedly.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2076 Ic cam stolen of kinde lond, and her wrigteleslike holden in bond. *Ibid.* 2204 Wrigtful we in sorwe ben, for we sinizeden quilum.

Wright (rəit), *v.* Also 4 wrihte, 9 *n. e. Sc.* vricht. [f. Wright *sb.*¹, or Wrighting.]

† 1. *trans.* To build, construct. *Obs. rare.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 88 At London, a haule he did vp wright. *Ibid.* 321 A brigge he suld do wrihte.

† 2. To repair (a ship); to renovate, mend.

Perh. erron. for *righted*: see Right *v.* 11 c.

a 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 391 Having there new wrighted up such ships of his as had been..bruised in the fight.

3. *intr.* To pursue the occupation of a wright. *Sc.*

1866 Gregor *Banffsh. Gloss.* 204.

Wright(e, obs. varr. Write *sb.* and *v.*

Wrighting (rəi·tiŋ). Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: (see quots.). [f. Wright *sb.*¹ + -ing¹.] The occupation, business, or craft of a wright or carpenter.

a 1300 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) *H* iij, Wryghtyng is also a conyng That myght not be foreborne be my iugyng. 1828 [Carr] *Craven Gloss., Whreeting*, carpentry. 1866 Gregor *Banffsh. Gloss.* 204 A've been a' simmer at the vrichtan. 1900 O. Agnus *Jan Oxber* iv. 96, I shall follow my wrighten agen.

† **Wriguldy-wrag.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Cf. next.] Mischief; harm.

1519 Rastell *Interl. Four Elem.* E 2, Jak boy, is thy bowe i-broke? Or hath any man done the wryguldy wrage?

† **Wrig-wrag.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. Wrig *v.*]

1. *Sir Wrig-wrag*, ? a contentious person.

a 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 149 The follest alouen oadyr heuen,..Wytles, wayward, Syr Wryg wrag. *a* 1529 — *Sp. Parrot* 91 Let syr Wrig wrag wrastell with syr Delarag.

2. *At wrig-wrag*, at daggers-drawn; at enmity or variance.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* G b, Their townes..were stil at wrig wrag, & suckt from their mothers teates serpentine hatred one against each other.

Wriht, obs. form of Wright, Writ *sbs.*

† **Wrike nail.** *Obs. rare.* [Origin obscure: cf. Wrick *v.*¹] ? A screw-nail.

1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 283 Prouision of Stuff for the Cokkebote aforesayd:..ffor c wryke nayles vj*d*.

Wrily, var. Wryly *adv.*

Wrim, obs. var. Worm *sb.*

† **Wri·mple**, *sb. Obs.* Also 5 wrympyl. [Cf. Rimple *sb.* (also Rumple *sb.*²), and Wrimpled *a.*] A crease or fold; a rimple, wrinkle.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson) 528 b, Wrympyl, or rympyl, *rugo*. *Ibid.*, Wrympyl, or pleyt of cloth, *plica*. 1578 Florio *1st Fruites* 88 b, The smooth throate maketh foldes with wrimples. 1603 — *Montaigne* I. xxii. 51 The hoarie head and frowning wrimples of custome. 1611 Cotgr., *Gelasin*, a wrimple in the face.

† **Wrimple**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Probably a back-formation from Wrimpled *a.* Cf. the later Rimple *v.*]

1. *trans.* (See quots. and cf. Jag *v.*¹ 2.)

1611 Cotgr., *Frunger*, to fringe;..also, to..wrimple, lag, or snip on th' edges. *Ibid.*, *Rider*, to wrinkle, or to wrimple.

2. *intr.* To pucker the face or countenance.

1627 Reeve *God's Plea* 86 Alas we do but only..wrimple at a Pulpit-launcing,..sing a Penitential Psalm.

Hence † **Wri·mpling** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Ridement*, a wrinkling, wrimpling, ing. *Ibid.*, *Rugosité*,..a crumpling, wrimpling, furrowing.

† **Wri·mpled**, *a. Obs.* Also 5 wrympyld. [f. MDu. or MLG. **wrimpelen* (older Flem. *wrempelen* 'to drawe the mouth awry', Hexham), frequentative of MLG. *wrimpen, wrimpen* to wrinkle, bend, turn. Cf. the earlier Rimpled *a.*] Wrinkled, rimpled, or puckered; creased.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 203, I can not armys blasse, Nor to the fulle rynge hire belle, That is so wrympyld as a mase. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 37 Neyther haue they theyr bellies wrimpeled or loose. 1577 Whetstone *Gascoigne* B j, I holde a forme, within a wrimpl R. D[allington] *Hypnerotomachia* 28 b, A Dr wrimpled backe. 1611 Cotgr., *Renfrongné*,..wrimpled, crumpled, puckered. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. i. xlvii, Wafts of winds central That ruffle..Psyche's wrimpled veil. 1657 Reeve *God's Plea* 23 The wrimpled skin..of that old man. 1672 tr. *Hurtado's Lazarillo* II. O 4, Seeing me so bleak, and wrimpled, like an old Wives belly.

Wrinch, erron. f. *rinch*, var. Rinse *v.*

1621 *Two Noble K.* I. i. 171 We stand before your puissance Wrinching our holy begging in our eyes To make petition cleere.

† **Wrinch**, var. of (or error for) *winch* Wince *v.*¹ 1.

1589 ? Lyly *Pappe w. Hatchet* E j b, Rub no more, the curtall wrinches.

Wrinch, Wrine, obs. varr. Wrench, Wry *v.*¹

† **Wrine**, *v. Obs.*⁻¹ [a. ON. **wrina* (ENorw. and Sw. dial. *vrina*, Norw. *rina*). Cf. Wrine *v.*] *intr.* To squeal, as a pig.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 139 To Wrine, *vociferare, vt porcus.*

Wring (riŋ), *sb.*¹ Also 1, 5 wringe, 4–6 wrynge, 9 ring. [OE. *wringe*, f. *wringan* Wring *v.* Cf. OE. *win-wringe*.]

1. A cider-press or wine-press.

c 890 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 230 Sanctulus..brohte æmtige cyllan þyder to þære wringan. *a* 1350 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 28 Ivy schroud red wyth blod..Ase troddares in wrynge. *Ibid.*, þe wrynge ich habbe y-trodded al myself on. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. xxxviii. (B.M. Add. MS. 27944), Sourisshe þinges..bereþ doun þe mete as it were a pressoure oþer a wrynge. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 495 (Colchester MS.), Oilmylles, wheeles, wrynges,..I nyl not speke of nowe. *Ibid.* XI. 107 Erly sette on werkyng hem [*sc.* olives] the wrynge. 1532–3 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 155 The dragge, and the wrynge, and the vate. 1664 Newburgh in Evelyn *Pomona* 40 The Cider, bottled immediately from the wring. 1844 W. Barnes *Dorset Gloss.* 370 *Wring*, a press, as a cider-wring. *a* 1906 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Cider from the wring.

2. A cheese-press.

[1670 in C. Worthy *Devon. Wills* (1896) 27 A cheese wring.] 1892 T. Hardy *Tess* I. 226 The measured dripping of the whey from the wrings downstairs.

3. *Wring-house*, the house or shed where a cider- or cheese-wring is kept.

1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 472 Wring-house for making cider. 1842 G. Pulman *Rustic Sketches* 52 In th' ringhouse hard to work, Th' mill da grind. 1886 T. Hardy *Woodlanders* xlii, His dwelling, cider-cellar, wring-house.

Wring (riŋ), *sb.*² [f. Wring *v.*]

1. The act of wringing, twisting, or writhing; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 237 Bot he that forsake I shall gyf hym a wryng that his nek shall crak. 1611 Cotgr., *Garrot*,..a wring, or pinch in the wythers. 1634 Hp. Hall *Contempt., N. T.* iv. xxiv. P 1 The sighs, and tears, and blubbers, and wrings of a disconsolate mourner. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* III. i, My brother has given it a wring by the nose. 1789 T. Rawlins *Fam. Archit.* 17 Arch-Stones, if any Wring or unequal Pressure happen,.. will naturally settle close to each other. 1889 *Century Mag.* May 85/1 She gave the shirt..a vicious wring.

fig. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* I. i, Have I not crush't them with a cruell wring? 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxii. 72 We sinke vnder the wring of sorrow.

b. The action of squeezing, pressing, or clasping; a squeeze or clasp of the hand.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii, A Wring by the hand, with a Banquet in a corner. *Ibid.* v. iv, The Wring by the hand, and the Banquet is ours. 1605 Chapman *All Fools* II. i. D 4 b, Yet do I vnderstand..your secret iogges and wringes; Your entercourse of glaunces. 1621 Brathwait *Time's Curtain drawn* M 8, A winke, a nodd,..a wringe, a kisse, Sent by some Childe. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. xvii, James, with one wring of the hand, retreated. 1894 J. A. Stuart *In Day of Battle* xvii, I gave the good soul's hand a hearty Christian wring.

2. A sharp or griping pain, esp. in the intestines.

c 1500 *Roulis Cursing* 62 Ane of thir infirmitteis.., The stany wring, the stane and sand blind. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* I. xxviii. 195 Hens dung swallowed by hap, bringeth frets and wrings in the bellie. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 220 An horse..sore vexed with a suddaine gripe or wring in his belly, fell down. 1611 Cotgr., *Tranchaison*, a gripe, or a wring, as of the Chollicke, &c.

3. With *down*. That which is obtained by wringing.

1874 T. Hardy *Far fr. Madding Crowd* III, To look at the last wring-down of cider.

Wring (riŋ), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. ppls. wrung (rʌŋ). Forms: *Inf.* 1 wringan, 2–4 wringen, 4 wryngen, 5 -one, -yn, wringin; 3–7 wringe (5 ringe), 4–6 wrynge, wryng, 4–5 wrong, 4–wring (6 *Sc.* wrink-, 7–8, 9 *dial.* ring). *Pa. t.* 1–9 (now *dial.*) wrang, 4–6 wrange (*pl.* 1 wrungon, 3–4 -un); 3–7 wrong, 3–6 wronge, 6 wroong, wroung (*pl.* 4 wrongen, 5 -un); 4– wrung (6 wrunge). *Pa. ppls.* 1, 4 wrungen, 6 wrunge, 6– wrung (8 Sc. wrang); 3–7 wrong, 3–6 wronge (4–6

ywrong, 4–5 y-, iwronge), wrongen, 5 wrounge, 6 wroung, wroong(e. *Weak pa. t.* 5–8 wringed; *pa. ppls.* 6–7 wringed. [OE. *wringan* (*wrang, wrungon*; *wrungen*), = OFris. **wringa* (WFris. *wringe*), OS. **wringan* (in *âtwringan*; MLG. *wringen*, LG. *wringen, ringen*), MDu. and Du. *wringen*, OHG. *rinkan, ringan, ringen* (MHG., G. *ringen*). Other grades of the stem *wring-* are represented by *wrang* WRONG *a.* and Goth. *wruggô* snare.]

I. 1. *trans.* To press, squeeze, or twist (a moist substance, juicy fruit, etc.), esp. so as to drain or make dry. Also *transf.* and in fig. context. (Cf. 14 b.)

c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 250 Witodlice hit xelamp..þa þa Langbeardisce mæn wrungon eleberȝan on þære treddan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xl. 11 Ic nam þa winberian & wrang on þæt fæt. *c* 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 2064 Đe beries þor-inne [*sc.* a cup] me ðhuȝte ic wrong. 13.. *K. Alis.* (W.) 333 Herbes he tok..And stamped heom in a morter; And wrong hit [*Laud MS.* wronge it out] in a box. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 65 His faire steede.. So swatte, þat men myghte him wrynge, His sydes were al blood. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-Bks.* 28 Take Molberys, and wrynge a goode hepe of hem þorw a clobe. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 75 Wryinge hit [*sc.* turnsole with glair] into a schelle. 1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 438, I haif a water spunge for wa,..Than wring I it full wylely. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 325 Protagenes portraied Venus with a sponge;..if once she wrong it, it would drop bloud. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 147 God is wringing grapes of red wine for Scotland. 1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* vi. 65 Wash it [*sc.* moss] well,..wring it very dry. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xvii. 147 Strain them [*sc.* elderberries] through a coarse Cloth, wringing the Berries. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 263 Pour the rest of the milk to it,.. then wring it through a cloth. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* III. i. 97 That your face Seen through my sleep has wrung mine eyes to tears For pure delight in you.

absol. c 1050 in Techmer *Zeitschrift* (1885) II. 123 Donne þu cvse habban wille, sete þonne þine twa handa togæþere bræ[d]linga, swilce þu wringan wille.

b. To strain (juice, moisture, etc.) from a moist or wet substance by squeezing or torsion; to extract (fluid) *from* or *out of* something by pressure, etc. Occas. in fig. context. Also with advs., as *forth, out* (sense 14 a).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 2 Ne meaht þu win wringan on midre winter. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 72 Ȝenim þære yican wyrte leaf, .. wyl on wætere, & wring þæt wos. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Newe wyne þat is newe take oute of þe presse and wrong. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 138 Cristes Cros ȝit spac þis speche: Furst was I presse wyn to wringe. 1535 COVERDALE *Judges* vi. 38 He wrange yͤ dew out of the flese. 1576 G. BAKER tr. *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 12 b, We .. distill the lycour wrynged forth. 1632 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 69 Oyle is wringed and strained out of olives. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 21 May 1645, A laundress wringing water out of a piece of linen. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* 42 The intolerable Pressure wrung Blood, instead of Sweat, from every Pore. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ.* i. 17 You have to..wring the honey and oil out of the rock. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., Wringing the water from his coarse clothing.

transf. 1632 BELL tr. *Luther's Table Talk* xxxv. 381 He wringeth from me a bitter sweat.

c. *transf.* To force (tears) *out of* the eye, *from* a person, etc.; to squeeze out.

a 1393 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. lix. (W. de W. 1494), He ..somtyme wryngeth a tere oute of his eye. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. xiii. 135 Art thou come..To wring more teares from Isabellas eies? 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. v, The gripe of chaunce is weake to wring a teare From him. 1683 DRYDEN & LEE *Oh. Guise* III. i, It wringes the Tears from Grillon's Iron Heart. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* xvii, It is not a small distress that can wring tears from these old eyes. 1815 MILMAN *Fazio* I. i, 'Twere sin to charity To wring one drop of brine upon thy corpse. 1819 KEATS *Otho* III. ii. 221 A foolish dream that from my brow hath wrung A wrathful dew.

2. To twist, writhe, or wrest (a person or thing); to force (a limb, etc.) *round* or *about* so as to cause a sprain or pain.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 196 Teoh him þa loccas, & wringe þa earan & þone wangbeard twiccize. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 162 Hongur..hente wastor bi þe mawe, And wrong him..be þe wombe. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1014 By the nose I schall the wryng, Thow berdles gadlyng. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xl. (Arb.) 111 The foxe..grepe the wulf fast by the colyons. And he wronge hem so sore that [etc.]. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2196 Iche shall wrynge the..on the wryst. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 114 After they had chaffed his temples.., wrong hys little finger [etc.]. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. IV. v. 338 He wrung her throat so straitly betweene both his armes, that [etc.]. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Agonie* ii, There shall he see a man..wrung with paine. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 137 ¶ 3 Let me wring your Neck round your Shoulders. 1727–41 [see TWIST *v.* 9 b]. 1815 BURNEY *Dict Marine, To Wring a Mast*, is to bend or strain it out of its natural position by setting the shrouds up too taught. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* viii, It's but wringing the head o' him about at last. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 64 The memlook..began to wring it [*sc.* another's ear] by little and little. 1881 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* xix, I shall wring that Budd's neck if he comes in my way.

refl. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 171 The common people..wrong them selfes by the berdes.

fig. 1900 J. L. ALLEN *Incr. Purpose* iv. 39 His heart-strings were twisted tight and wrung sore this day.

b. To contract or contort (the features, etc.); to screw, distort, turn awry.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1060 (Camb.), Horn tok bordon & scrippe, & wrong his lippe. 1576 WHETSTONE *Rocke of Regard* I. 83 She wroung her mouth awry. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. v, Would'st have me..wring my face with mimic action? 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 141 When he fauneth [*sc.* a dog] wringeth his skinne in the forehead. — J. WILSON *Projectors* I. i. 8 Do you not observe Sir, how hard he wrings his brows? 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. XXX. When pain and anguish wring the brow. 1889 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 184 The white face..wrung with unspoken thoughts.

c. To twist or force (the features) *into* or *to* a smile, etc.

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 4) VII. XXXV, The necessity..of wringing your features into a smirk, in addressing a poltroon. 1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* xciv, To hope my solemn countenance to wring To idiot smiles!

3. To twist (a wet garment, cloth, etc.) in the hands, so as to force out water; also in recent use, to pass through a wringer. Occas. in fig. context. Also with *away* (quot. 1728).

c 1300 *Havelok* 1233 He sholen hire cloþen waahen and wringen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 18 Dowel shal waashen it [*sc.* a coat] and wryngen it þorw a wys confessour. *c* 1425 *MS. Sloane* 73 fol. 201, [When] þat þou moystist it þus.. loke þat þou wrynge it clene. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 494 After she toke oute the sherte appertly and wronge hit. 1530 PALSGR. 785/2, I wringe..a clothe that is wete. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XI. X. 152 The presses were wrung, the vessels flowed with wine. 1633 FORD *Tis Pity* III. vii, My whole body is in a sweat, that you may wring my shirt; feel here. 1684 BOYLE *Porosum. Bod.* iii. 12 To purify Quicksilver by tying it up strictly in a piece of kids..leather, and then wringing it hard to force it out. 1728 RAMSAY *Last Sp. Miser* vii, I never..wrung away my sarks with washing. 1732 SWIFT *Let. to Y. Brandreth* 30 June, Take care of damps;..if a stocking happens to fall off a chair, you may wring it next morning. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 283 Weeping, she wrings his dripping hair. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 51 A wet sheet, dipped in water, and well wrung.

c 1425 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 275 A woman ys a worthy to hard labour, as to wash, to wring.

b. To clasp and twist (the hands or fingers) together, esp. in token or by reason of distress or pain. In very frequent use from *c* 1300.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 43/303 He weop and criede and wrong is hondene. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 980 (Camb. MS.), Hire fingres [*Harl.* hondes] he gan wringe. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 68 Wroþliche he wrong his fust. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 23960 (Fairf.), Hir louelie fingris ho did wringe. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 815 They weptyn faste and wrang ther hande. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 37 There had you seen .. many a hande wrongen. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxx. 765/1 They wronge their handes and tare their heeres. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* IV. i. Song, Come you whose loves are dead,..Weep and wring Every hand and every head. 1659 W. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pharon.* III. II. 105 Her hands Wringing each other's ivory joints. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* IV. v, Wherefore dost thou wring thy tender hands? 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1811) I. 204 Persons in violent grief wring their hands and convulse their countenances. 1848 MANGAN *German Anthol.* I. 262 She wrang her hands till blood gushed forth. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 89 He wrung his fingers together and breathed hard.

transf. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, The wind sawed.... The shrubs wrung their many hands.

absol. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23960, I se him hang, I se hir wring. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1212 Lat hym care and wepe and wryng and waille. *c* 1430 *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 236, I wringe & wepe as þing for-lorn. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 251 She wrong and wept a pace.

4. Of a tight shoe or boot: To press painfully upon (the foot, toe, etc.); to hurt (a person) in this way; = PINCH *v.* 1 b.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 347 The schoon schulden be so narowe, that thei schulden needis wringe his sones feet into greet peyne. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. vii. X iij, Doth thy shoe wrynge the? 1580 NORTH *Plutarch, P. Æmylius* (1595) 262 Is not this a goodly shooe?..yet..neuer a one of you can tell where it wringeth me. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. 11 Hee bought a paire of Bootes, whereof the one was so straite that it wrong his legge and foote verie sore. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* II. (1620) 223, I know where my shoo wrings me. 1678 OTWAY *Friendship in F.* IV, Quit her! as chearfully, as I would a Shooe that wrings me. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 207/2 None knows where it [a shoe] wrings him but he that wears it. 1831 R. LOWER *Tom Cladpole* XXIV, I gun to feel..De haboot ring ma toe.

b. In figurative contexts; esp. in the proverbial phrase *to know where the shoe wrings one*, or variants of this: cf. PINCH *v.* 1 b.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 342, I woot best wher wryngeth me my sho. — *Wife's Prol.* 492 He sat ful ofte and song Whan þat his shoo ful bitterly hym wrong. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 57 My selfe can tell best, where my shoee doth wryng mee. 1584 LODGE *Alarm* E iij b, We shall finde whereas their shoes wringeth them. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* A 4 b, I haue a shooe wrings me to th' heart. 1634 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 253 Here it is that the King of Spains shoe wrings him. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 314 They see where the shoe wrings him.

c. *absol.*, esp. in fig. or proverbial use.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 413, I see that others maye geese where the shooe wringes, besides him that weares it. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 54 As he were a Coblers eldest sonne, [he] would by the laste tell where anothers shooe wringa. 1609 ROWLANDS *Crew Kind Gossips* 4 Little do you know where my shoo wrings. 1638 A. FOX tr. *Würtz' Surg.* II. XXV. 149 He that weareth the shooes knoweth where they wring. 1887 *Brighouse News* 23 July (E. D. D.), Every man knows best where his shoe wrings.

5. To cause anguish or distress to (a person, his heart, etc.); to vex, distress, rack.

In freq. use from *c* 1780, esp. with *heart*.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1531 So hard hym wrong of sharp desir þe peyne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 91 If that thou fiele That love wringe thee to sore, Behold Ovide and take his lore. *a* 1535 FISHER *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 419 A penitent soule, that is sore prest and wrong with viter shame. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Dan Barth., Reporter* vi, In deede the rage which wrong him there, was rathe. 1624 WITHER *Juvenil., Epigr.* v. 6 Where only thine own guiltinesse doth wring thee. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 32 Every word hath its weight, and secretly wrings those lay-Levites. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 158 For Nature..Wrings the sad Soul, and bends it down to Earth. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* xxviii, Though he has wrung my heart,..that shall never inspire me with vengeance. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Aug.* III. ii, Even the sunbeam..seemed but given to wring him [*sc.* a prisoner] with the memory of sweets he could not taste. 1845 MANGAN *German Anthol.* I. 161 Remorse may wring thy soul too late! 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 79, I must tell you all, Howe'er it wring my heart.

absol. 1553 ASCHAM *Germany* 23 His talke is alwayes so accompanied with discression..,as he neither biteth with wordes, nor wringeth with deedes. *a* 1893 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poems* (1904) 215/1 O faces unforgotten! if to part Wrung sore, what will it be to re-embrace?

b. To affect (a person, etc.) with bodily pain, hurt, or damage (sometimes *spec.* by torsion or pressure); to hurt, harm, or injure. Now *dial.* or *arch.* (after Shakspere).

c 1320 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2047 Howe the gowte wryngeth me by the too! 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Constrictus*, The mouthe wrounge with the bytte. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 249 Wring not a horse on the withers, with a false saddle. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 55 After they had first wrung their foreheads with twisted ropes. 1633 *St. Papers, Col.* 217 [Stale cider] doth extraordinarily wring the belly. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 176 Being wrung by her Pain. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4886/4 Rung with the Fetters on the white Foot, and rung a little on the Shoulders. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 195 When scalding Thirst their burning Bowels wringe. 1882 *N. & Q.* 29 July 94/1 My clothes wring me. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* 192, I wrung my shoulder with carrying a twenty-stale ladder.

absol. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Weedes, Compl. Gr. Knt.*, A peece which shot..so streight, It neyther bruised with recule, nor wroong with overweight.

fig. or in fig. context. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 387 For deny I wil not that I am wroung on the withers. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 7 The poore Iade is wrung in the withers. [Cf. UNWRUNG *ppl. a.*] 1888 E. GOSSE *Congreve* 3 It wrung the withers of the poets of Collier's day.

c. To distress or afflict (a person) by exaction, severity, etc.; to oppress, keep down.

1550 BECON *Fortr. Faithful* c iij, Thus yͤ pore people be so wrounge of these ungentle gentlemen, yͭ the selye soules are lyke unto dry haddockes. 1599 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 352 So as you [do not]..wring your Tenants in such sort for your private gain. 1613 PURCHAS tr. Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 232 My Lorde, I have not bin forward to wringe you with requests. 1625 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* III. 537 The meanest Groom I saw, I feared so, I durst not wring, nor wrong, nor wrangle with. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 152 Bare existence, man, to live ordain'd, Wrings, and oppresses with enormous weight.

†d. To press or ply (a person) with argument or confutation. *Obs. rare.*

1567 HARDING in Jewel *Def. Apol.* 2 What doo Heretikes when they are vrged and wroonge, when by force of argumentes they are straighted. 1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* viii. 7 Thus our Saviour wrings those supercilious and censorious hypocrites.

6. To wrench or wrest out of position or relation; to cause to change place by turning or twisting. Const. with advs., as *apart, asunder*, or prepa., as *from, off, out of*.

wryngyth [*MSS.* roteþ] theym out of the grounde. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* I. 15 The prest shal..wrynge the neck of it a sunder. *a* 1553 UDALL *Roister D.* I. iv, He wrong a club ..out of the hande of Belsebub. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XXV. (1592) 386, I will..wring a sunder the yron barres [= Isaiah xlv. 2]. 1635 *Long Meg Westm.* XX, Meg..did wring the stick out of his hands. 1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 18 Our Rudder Head was wrung in peices. *a* 1784 in Child *Ballads* III. 480/1 His neck in twa I wat they hae wrung. 1827 BORROW *Romany Rye* XII. (1903) 257 My mouth being slightly wrung aside, and my complexion rather swarthy. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* XI, I'll wring his calf's head off his body.

fig. and in fig. context. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. B j, Godly Counsaillours, whom..this wicked rable found meanes to wryng out of faucur. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 295 Now you haue my opinion, you must not think to wring me from it. *a* 1592 [see WREST *sb.* 5 b]. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. XII, Who the life from both their hearts can wring. ¶ *c* 1830 BAYANT *The Past* V, My spirit..struggles hard to wring Thy bolts apart. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 52 Each kindly wrench that wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

refl. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VIII. 127 To wring themselves out of God's hand by annihilation.

b. To bring out (words, etc.) with effort.

a 1300 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 34 þou manl wrang word Wiþ wanges ful wete. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Praise* (No. 3) i, Lord, I will..speak thy praise,... Then will I wring it with a sigh or grone. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 1 Hear these tuneless numbers, wrung By sweet enforcement and remembrance dear.

7. To acquire or gain (money, property, a right, etc.) by exaction or extortion; to wrest or wrench *from* or *out of* a person, etc.

a 1300 *Sarrasins* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 3 þe wreccheȝ wringit þe mok so fast; up ham alif hi nul nozt spend. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 583 *Flecto*, to wryngе mony. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 213 All which priuiledges..they..do what they

can to wrest and wring from us. 1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 215 Those offences..are committed when any..wringeth money or other things from another man. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 367 That Marquisate of Saluzzes.. which Henry the fourth of France wrung from him. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Extort*, to wrest, wring or get out of one by force, threat or authority. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* vi, Hard hands have wrung from me my goods, my money, my ships. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 727 To wring taxes out of the distressed population. 1868 Farrar *Silence & V.* i. (1873) 15 The fields which the usurer has wrung from the orphan.

absol. 1582 [see Wrest *v.* 4 b].

fig. and *transf.* 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 620 How hardly that Act of Parliament was wronge out of them. 1608–22 Bp. Hall *Epist.* i. Ep. Ded., It were well..if I could wring ought from my selfe not vnworthie of a iudicious Reader. 1828 Carlyle *Misc., Burns* P 31 They will wring from Fate another hour of wassail and good cheer. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) I. 160 To wring from the very soil more than it could produce. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 464 The pressure which had wrung from him the only good acts of his whole reign.

b. To exact, extort, or draw (an admission, consent, etc.) *from* or *out of* a person, etc.

In frequent use from *c* 1830.

c 1444 [see Wresting *vbl. sb.* 2.] 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 213 At the common Law, *Nemo tenebatur prodere seipsum*, and then his fault was not to be wrung out of himselfe, but [etc.]. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 41 The Lord doth not so..to wring from him some tearmes of homage. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1199 [They] constrain'd the bride To wring from me..my secret. 1721 Young *Revenge* II. i, I wrung a promise from him he would try. 1792 Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* i. 352 To wring the slow surrender from his tongue. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Brooke Farm* vi. 79, I was determined no enemy should wring a complaint out of me. 1864 G. A. Lawrence *M. Dering* II. 83 The gay dare-devilry of the man wrung from both..admiration. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 293 These are not admissions wrung by the energy of his opponents from Mr. Huxley.

transf. a 1813 Shelley *Falsehood & Vice* 73 The stifled moan Wrung from a nation's miseries.

fig. 1853 Maurice *Proph. & Kings* xxv. 441 Wringing out of texts or symbols..the proof of some New Testament revelation.

8. To press, clasp, or shake (a person's hand); to press (a person) *by* the hand; to shake hands with.

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1170/1 The one toke the other by the tip of the finger, for hand would there none be wrongen thorow the grate. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 333 So wringing hir by the hand, he ended. 1601 [? Marston] *Pasquil & Kath.* III. (1878) 137 I'le..wring thy fingers with an ardent gripe. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Aug. 1673, He wrung me by the hand. 1713 Addison *Cato* i. iv, The good old King at parting wrung my hand. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* xvii, Langley took his hand, and..wrung it hard. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* I, Mr. Toots..wringing Walter by the hand. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* iii, He shook hands with Tom, wringing his hand harder than he knew.

b. To squeeze or compress *together*. *rare*—1.

1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* i. (1891) 3 He joyned in on Mappe..the [four] greate sheeres [= shires]..by reason whereof he was forced to wringe them..neere together.

9. **a.** To subject (something) to a writhing, wresting, or turning movement; to press, drive, or impel in this way. Occas. *fig.* or in fig. context. Also with preps., as *in*, *into*, *upon*.

J. Hall *Crt. Vertue* 73 b, Of wexe they make scripture a nose, To turne and wryng it evry waye. 1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* Peroration (1925) 252 In tormenting the minde, and wringing it to the worst. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches.* xiii. xxv. (1886) 270 If you wring a testor upon ones forehead, it will seeme to sticke, when it is taken awaie. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. ii, Wringing [*folios* wrieng] her waste, and thrusting out her chinne. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 135 It is a hint That wrings mine eyes too 't. 1648 xxxv, And is it true, then,..that the bridegroom's face was wrung round ahint him? 1862 Mrs. Browning *Little Mattie* iii, Her lips you cannot wring Into saying a word more.

transf. c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* vii. 28 [He] wringed his strock atte the pullyng out ayen, that he made of his swerde.

b. To wrest or twist (a writing, words, etc.); to strain the purport or meaning of; to deflect, pervert; = Wrest *v.* 5.

[1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. v. 31 Wily-man and wittiman and waryn wryngе-lawe.] 1546 *Supplic. of Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 77 Wringyng & wrestynge the Scriptures. 1582 [see Wrest *v.* 5]. 1606 S. Gardiner *Bk. Angling* 109 By this wringing the Scripture and causing it to bleede. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* v, By wringing the collective allegory of those seven Angels into seven single Rochets. 1645 — *Tetrarch.* 8 [God's] commands and words..are not to be so strictly wrung, as [etc.].

absol. 1540 Coverdale *Confut. Standish* (1547) d vij b, Thus make ye of goda holy scripture a shipmans hose, wresting and wringing to what purpose ye will. 1564 [see Wrest *v.* 5].

c. To turn or deflect (a matter) *into* or *to* something; to convert. ? *Obs.*

1524 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 132 To wryng and wreste the matters in to bettre trayne, if they walke a wrye. 1548 L. Hunt *Your Honey* p. xvii. (tr. Bacon), So are those doctrines best and sweetest which..are not wrung into controversies and common-places.

†**d.** To incline or dispose (a person); to bend or divert *to* something. *Obs.*

1528 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 210/1 Our harte ouer thinketh the iudgement wrong, that wringeth us to the worse. 1553 Ascham *Germany* 6 b, Octauio was euermore wrong to the worse by many and sundry spites. 1579 [see Wrest *v.* 3].

e. To wreathe, twist, or coil (something flexible); to wind or dispose in coils.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xvi. 50 b, Another great columne..in forme of three serpents, wrong one within another. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29 b/1 Cause the patient gentlye to wring about his neck a table napkinne or a towell. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* iv. iii. 3 That is to say, a Serpent writhed or wrung together. 1837 A. Tennent *Vis. Glencoe* 49 Some in coils their forms did wring, As when the deadly serpent's spring Insures its victim's doom. 1896 'M. Field' *Attila* iv. 197 She catches hold of her own veil and wrings it round her head.

†**10.** *refl.* To wriggle or insinuate (oneself) *into* a place, favour, etc. *Obs.*

a 1525 *Vergilius* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* II. 27 The deuyll wrange hym selfe into the lytell hole ayen. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* B 4 b, They wring themselues into his good opinion ere he be aware. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* III, Niggard life Hath but one little, little wicket through. We wring our selves into this wretched world..to curse and raile. 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Superbia Flagellum* D 7 b, These vipers..proudly make humility a screw, To wring themselues into opinions view.

II. With adverbs.

11. Wring down: To force, squeeze, or press down; *spec.* to force down the throat.

wrings downe sallets, or
Mad. Crowd lii, There were the fellers round her wringing down the cheese [in the press].

12. Wring in: To insert, insinuate, or bring in with or as with a twisting movement. Chiefly *fig.*

1579 Fulke *Heskins Parl.* 227 Maister Hesk. would fain make Euthymius to speak for him, if he could tell how to wring him in. 1597 [see Wrest *v.* 1 c]. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iv, Who when they haue got acquainted with a strange word, neuer rest till they haue wroong it in. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxi. 287 Giue me those Lines..In which things naturall be, and not in falsely wrong.

13. Wring off: To wrest or force off by twisting or turning round.

c 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1909 Of some I wrynge of the necke lyke a wyre. 1611 Bible *Lev.* i. 15 The Priest shall bring it vnto the altar, and wring off his head. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. v, One of our servants..wrung off the bird's neck. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* iv. i. 167 Let one.. Wring my crown off and cast it underfoot.

14. Wring out: **a.** To force out (moisture) by or as by twisting; to squeeze out. Also *fig.* and *transf.* Cf. Outwring *v.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 712 Hee wringes oute þe wet wus. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2527 *Phillis*, To meche truste wel may I pleyne..on ȝoure teris falsely out i-wronge. 1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* xvi. 10 He that was wont to wringe out, schal not wrynge out wyn in a pressour. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 50 Þen grynde tansy, þo iuse owte wrynge. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 33 Gedeon wronge out the dewe. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 40 b, He that bloweth his nose ouermuche, shall wringe out bloude. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxvii, With that the fellow..wrang out teares. 1612 S. Rid *Art of Jugling* E 3 b, So (with a little sponge in your hand) you may wringe out blood or wine. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* 111 A sturdie woman, washing and winding of linnen clothes,..wrings out the water. 1743 Blair *Grave* 328 From stubborn shrubs Thou wrung'st their shy retiring virtues out. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. i. 196 Such return Wrings out the tears from my old wither'd heart.

transf. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Colde aier..is ywronge oute [L. *exprimitur*] and idrawe to þe vtter parties.

b. To strain (a wet fabric, etc.) with a twisting motion, so as to press out most of the moisture. Also const. *of* (the liquid in which the thing has been wetted).

13.. [see 2]. 1388 Wyclif *Judges* vi. 38 Whanne the flees was wrongun out, he fillide a pot with deew. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 417 [After it has been] so steped xix dayes, Wrynge out the mirte [= myrtle berries] & cleuse hit. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 23 Wet a long cloth,..wringe it well oute. 1576 G. Baker tr. *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 11 b, We wring out..the thynge infused. 1676 Wiseman *Surg.* II. ix. 191 With a Compress wrung out as is prescribed. 1771 Mrs. Haywood *New Present for Maid* 268 Then wring them out of those suds. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *M. Barton* viii, Just help me wring these out, and then I'll take 'em to the mangle. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 419 A large towel wrung out of cold water.

c. To get or fetch out (something) with a wrenching movement; to wrench or wrest out.

c 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* 2 Sam. xxiii. 21 (MS. Bodl. 296), He wrong out þe spere fro þe hond.

d. To express or bring out with effort. (Cf. 6 b.)

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 106 Oft, Dawe, in thi writtyng, thou wryngist out contradiccion. 1831 Lamb *Elia* II. *Newspapers 35 Years ago*, We were wringing out coy sprightliness for the [Morning] Post.

e. To obtain or draw (something) from another by pressure, application, or art; to extract, elicit, bring out.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 b, Of all theese thynges can they [*sc.* merchants] wrynge out [L. *elicere*] golde and syluer, to the wonderfull losse of people. 1582 Lyly *Endym.* v. iii, Marking..my sighes,..by questions [he] wrunge out that, which was readie to burst out. 1598 Greenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* xv. v. 228 Lest false praise, and wrong out by praiers be restrained. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* II. v, Present thy guilt, As if twere wrung out with thy conscience gripe. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 30 That which claws away world from about them, would, 'tis like, wring out their Planethood from within them. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* ii. 38 The gratification..is wrung out from the very torments of the heart. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV, 287 In order to wring out from them the names of their employers. 1899 Browning *Martin Relph* 121 He wrung their pardon out.

†**f.** To expel or depose (a person) from position or office; to thrust out. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 174 b, After he had wrongе oute [L. *eliserat*] Mathew Helde..he..placed [another]..in his rome. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 932 In which office he continued, vntill hee was wrung out by Wolsey.

15. Wring up: **a.** To pull up with a twist; to wrench up.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 185 The wedis with an hond most vp be wronge. [Cf. *upwring*, Ur- 4 a].

b. To squeeze, press, or compact by torsion; to twist or screw up.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 14 Take almondes, bray hem, wryng hom up. *c* 1440 in *Housek. Ord.* (1790) 442 Take parsel, and grinde hit, and wringe hit up with egges thrugh a streynour. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. iv. 244 Wring the book up tightly in the press. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* lii, The very white frock..which had been wrung up and ironed by her mother's own hands.

c. *Mining.* In passive. Of a lode: To become diminished or dwindled.

1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xl. 343 By continuing the workings through the space so wrung-up. 1855 [J. R. Leifchild] *Cornwall* 143 Sometimes the lode.. becomes 'wrung up', or impoverished.

III. *intr.* †**16.** To flow or run *out* under pressure; to issue. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Al þet fule wrusum scheawes him, & wringed ut bluoren al þe wide worlde. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 281 Þat te blod wrang ut at tine finger nelles. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11700, I wil þat vte þe water wring. ? *c* 1400 *Emare* 881 The teres out of hys yen gan wryng. *a* 1450 *Northern Passion* (D) 1280 Þe bloode a non began out to springe And þan þe watir after to wringe.

†**b.** To struggle or force a way *out*. Also *fig.*

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 1110 Thus oute at holes gunne wringe Euery tydynge streght to Fame. *a* 1525 *Vergilius* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* II. 26 There was a lytell hole, and therat wrange the deuyll out like a yeel. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches.* III. xvi. 51 Little holes where a flie can scarselie wring out.

c. *Mining.* With *out*. (See quot. and 15 c.)

1855 [J. R. Leifchild] *Cornwall* 91 Sometimes the schist so abounds in the lode, that the quartzose part disappears altogether, or is only continued in minute strings. In such a case, the lode is said to have dwindled away, or to have *wrung out*.

†**17.** To suffer or sustain twisting, wrenching, or turning. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1368 Þe keiser..bed..ba binden ham swa, þe fet & te honden, þet ha wrungen azein.

b. To be engaged in, to perform the action of, writhing or twisting; *esp.* of the hands.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 85 His body was to-bolle for wratthe,..And wryngynge he ȝede with þe fiste. *c* 1438 *Torr. Portugal* 1690 Fore his men pursued a dere, To his castell,..That doth my hondys wring, This Giaunt hym toke. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 780 Koghe þow not þenne, þy þonkes, Ny wrynge þou not wyth þy schonkes. ? *a* 1480 *Piers of Fulham* 143 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 7 A gentyll byrd takyn can no defense, Save wrastyll and wrynge with the tale a lyte. 1548 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 69 When they sawe the worlde som what lyke to wrynge on the other syde, they denyed it. 1604 E. T. *Case is altered* C ij b, His wife with her handes wringing entertaines him with a weeping. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 153 Mr. Wetеyes went with hands wringing together. 1813 J. Edmeston in *Sacred Poetry* (1868) 243 The hands I love dearly are wringing.

†**18.** To fling *away*; to rush precipitately. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2557 Richard the whiles away he wronge, Thile thai were alle dismayede.

19. To twist the body in struggling or striving; to struggle *with* or strive *against* something; to contend, labour, or endeavour earnestly.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. v. 168 Arthur weltred and wrong that he was other whyle vnder and another tyme aboue. 1489 [see Wrestle *v.* 2 b]. 1548 P. Nicols *Godly New Story* E iij b, Some wring & wrest to go backe agayn into Egypt. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* i. 59 The more he [*sc.* a fly] wrange, the faster was he wrapt [in the web]. 1590 Drant *Two Serm.* K vj, Iannes and Mambres wrong and shouldered at the truth. 1791 [W. Beckford] *Pop. Tales of Germans* II. 123 Violent convulsion fits shewed that they were wringing with death. 1837 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) IV. 114 With the many-headed coil of Lernean serpents.. [Hercules] wrestled and wrang..for life or death.

b. To twist, turn, or struggle in pain or anguish; to writhe.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1409 Swyche a cramp on me sett is,..I ly and wryng. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 43 He..looked as if he had been wringing hard on a close-stool. 1612 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. vi. 79 He wrings at some distresse. 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* lxix. 167 How is it [*sc.* a worm] vexed with the scorching beames, and wrings up and down! 1789 [see Wrinkle *v.* 2]. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. i, In hydra-wrestle, giant 'Millocracy'..wrestles and wrings in choking nightmare.

c. To suffer or undergo grief, pain, punishment, etc. (*for* something).

1565 J. Hall *Crt. Vertue* 134 b, None but the poore Doth wrynge therfore, And suffer the distres. 1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* 42 The shoemaker,..hath so scanted his shoe that his foote wringeth therewith. 1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspiracy* I. i, Such as are impatient of rest; And wring beneath some priuate discontent. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 28 My heart wrings with regret. 1831 K.

Lover's *Tom Clarkpole* cxlvi, My toe did ring full sore. 1888 *N. & Q.* 17 June 468/2, I took it [*sc.* a feather bed] away,..because he would not wring so [*i.e.* have such bed-sores].

20. †**a.** To set *upon* a person with hostile language. *Obs.*

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 334 Whereunto tendeth all the endeuour of those men, whome Osorius here wringeth vpon [L. *oppugnat*] so sharpely.

b. To carry *on* wringing or torture. *rare*—[1].

1821 Byron *Two Foscari* I. i, Let them wring on; I am strong yet. *Guard.* Confess, And the rack will be spared you.

†**21.** To associate, or join hands, *with* another. *Obs. rare.*

1580 Lupton *Siuqila* 109 Which [bribe] belyke you thought that my handes did so tickle to touche, that I would wring with the wrong and flee from the truth.

Hence †**Wringed** *ppl. a.*, wrung; squeezed (out).

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 50 Wee wer al inueigled, with wringd tears nicetye blended. ?*a* 1600 *Roman Charity* in A. Philips *Coll. Old Ball.* II. 142 With wringed Hands, and bitter Tears, These Words pronounced she. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1682) 637 'Tis as if Divine Goodness did kneel down to a Sinner with wringed Hands.

Wring, obs. erron. f. Ring *v.*[2]

†**Wring-bolt,** obs. erron. f. Ring-bolt.

1815 Burney *Dict. Marine, Wring-bolts,*..in ship-building, are bolts used to bend and secure the planks against the timbers. [Hence in Crabb (1823) and later Dicts. Cf. Wrain-bolt.]

Wringe, obs. variant of *wrinch* Wrench *sb.*[1]

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 3 A Dame..Whose wringes, winks, whose curious smiles and words, And scraping feete, lost blandement affoords.

Wringer (ri·ŋəɹ). Also 6–7 **ringer.** [f. prec. + -er[1]. Cf. OHG. *ringari* (MHG., G. *ringer*) wrestler.]

I. 1. An exactor, extortioner; an oppressor.

a 1500 *Sermon* xxi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 3 Such a wringer goþ to helle for litil gode þat nis noȝt his. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 206 How lost you your welth?..Who was your welthes wringer? 1578 T. Wilcocks *Serm. Pawles* 56 Masters detayning seruaunts wages; a roring sinne, whiche shall make the wringers houle for it. *a* 1628 Sylvester *Sec. Sess. Parlt.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 141 An Act against all greedy Wringers, Wrongers, Usurers, and Oppressors. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xxxii, You're..a screwer by deputy, a wringer, and squeezer, and a shaver by substitute.

2. One who presses *out* juice or moisture. *rare*—[1].

1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* xvi. 10 Y haue take awei the vois of wryngeris out [L. *calcantium*].

b. One who wrings clothes or the like after washing; one whose occupation consists in wringing.

1598 Shake. *Merry W.* I. ii. 5 There dwels..his Laundry; his Washer, and his Ringer. 1618 Reyce *Brev. Suffolk* (1902) 82 Wringers, spinners, weavers, burlers. 1832 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. iii, Old Lieschen,..who was..his washer and wringer. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 59 Gun Cotton Manufacture: Beater. Dipper. Wringer.

transf. 1573 Harvey *Letter-Bk.* (Camden) 102 Her waste so laste; her fingers sutch wringers.

†**3. a.** One who twists or distorts. *rare*—[1].

1552 Huloet, Wringer or wryster of a thinge out of ordre, *elico.*

†**b.** = Wrester 2. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1560 *Godly & Fruteful Treatise,* Wresters and wringers of thy holy scripture.

†**4.** One who causes pain, suffering, etc.

1602 *Contention betw. Liberality & Prodigality* IV. H, Thistles, and nettles most horrible stingers, Rauens, grypes, and gryphons, oh vengible wringers.

II. †**5.** A crow-bar. (Cf. Ringer *sb.*[1] 3.) *Obs.*

1703 [R. Neve] *City & C. Purchaser* 48 They..united into one intire Body, so that they are forced to get them out with Wringers (or Iron-bars).

6. A wringing-machine.

IV. 298 Passing it between the rollers of the wringer.

7. A device for wringing hot fomentations before application.

1884 Eva Lückes *Lect. Nursing* vii. 135 You will require new fomentation flannels and wringers. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 435 A good wringer is made by a strip of ticking.

Wri·nging, *vbl. sb.* [f. Wring *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses; the fact of being wrung.

c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 5452 Þer was siking.., weping & wringinge for wo at here hertes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxii. (Bodl. MS.), Oile..renneþ þe better and be clenner oute of þe draffe in the wringinge and pressinge. 1481 [see Wring *v.* 9 a]. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* Pref. c iij, The peynfull wringing of so vneasie a yok. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* To Rdr., He hath but a slight wringing by the eares. 1606 J. Carpenter *Solomon's Solace* xiv. 57 The wringing of the shoo being knowne to him only which weareth it. 1612 Bible *Prov.* xxx. 33 The wringing of the nose bringeth forth bloud. 1656 Jeanes *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 156 With..wringing of hands, knocking of breasts, tearing of haire. 1706 [see Wrestling *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1728 Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* I. 54 In this great Length of the Tube of the Bowels..no Body can encrease or diminish the Contractions or Wringings of the same. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* clxiv. (1819) III. 224 That wringing of the hands, beating of the breast. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* lv, Her broken words, and her wringing of her hands. 1894 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* iv, The wringing of turkeys' necks.

b. *fig.* The action of wresting or taking forcefully; extortion.

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* C ij, Ready to suffer wrong without wringing of reuenge out of Gods hand. 1607 Cowell *Interpr., Extortion,* .. an vnlawfull.. wringing of money or money worth from any man. 1612 [see Wrestling *vbl. sb.* 1 c].

c. With advs., as *out, up.*

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 29 The wringing out of grapes to her husband. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Extortion,* an unlawful..wringing out of money..from any person. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall,* etc. xi. 343 The miner..terms such points..of contact a nipping-in or wringing-up of the lode.

2. The action of squeezing or pressing water or moisture out of clothes, etc.; †the personal service of doing such. Also in fig. context.

1560 *Wills & Invent. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 191 To find hym fyre and a chamber with all wessyng wry[n]ginge and one to help hym one with his clothes and of. 1587 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 508/1 Meit drink clething bedding weaching and wringing. 1626–7 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 92 My keepinge with..washinge, wringinge and other necessaryes during my life. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Love Unknown* 26 My heart..in a font..was dipt and di'd, And washt, and wrung: the very wringing yet Enforceth tears. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* ix, Breakfast shall be on the board in the wrin of a dishclout. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 96 wringing [of wool]..is..effected thus. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2822/2 The ordinary wringing injures fine apparel.

†**3.** A griping or wringing pain, esp. in the intestines. *Obs.*

c 1550 H. Lloyd *Treas. Health* Liv, The ryndе of the pyne apple tree..doth..take awaye the wryngyng of the bely. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 235 The gryping paynes and wringings of the bellie. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 445 The torments and wringing of the cholique. 1607 [see Wrestling *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* I. 83 The wringing of the Guts. 1721 Bailey, To *Verminate,*..to have a griping or wringing in the Belly.

†**b.** The action or fact of feeling remorse, apprehension, or mistrust; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII,* II. ii. 28 Doubts, wringing of the Conscience, Feares and despaires. 1633 Fletcher & Shirley *Nt. Walker* I. i, No wringings in your mind now, as you love me. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 36 He beheld her, in the wringings of penitential desolation. *Ibid.* 41 The weight and wringing that was then at his heart.

4. Perversion; = Wresting *vbl. sb.* 2. ? *Obs.*

1565 Calfhill *Answ Martiall* v. 127 Hys wordes without wringing or wresting at all, be taken..to importe much lesse. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 279 Wordes in the Gospell, which (by wringyng and wreatyng) you doe accustome to force to your purpose. *a* 1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Self-Deceiving* (1630) 222 Diuers such like wringings of Scripture. 1852 Mrs. Jamerson *Leg. Madonna* 325 Without any wringing of the text for an especial purpose.

5. *concr.* In *pl.*, that which is wrung out. Also *fig.*

1867 Denison *Astron. without Math.* 168 That great law..prevents the whole earth and the sea..from flying in pieces like the wringings of a mop. 1886 Browning in *Maggs' Catal.* March (1897) 48 The 'quality of lying is not strained' in this particular case, but droppeth 'as should the wringings of a felon brain for the sake of a dollar'.

6. *attrib.,* as †*wringing point*; **wringing-machine,** a machine for wringing clothes, etc., after washing; a wringer.

1637 Walton in Wotton *Reliq.* (1651) 166 Then was Stigand, the Metropolitan,..fairly deposed, being too stiffe for the times: which was indeed the wringing point. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 698 A washing and wringing machine. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 417 Wringing-machine Maker.

Wri·nging, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing[2].]

1. †**a.** Of hands: That undergo wringing, squeezing, or pressing; wrung under distress. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2324 Heo..seh..wepmen & wummen, mid wringinde honden wepinde sare. 1579 Hake *News out of Powles* (1872) B vj, Another cryes with wringing handes. 1596 *Roman Charity* in *Roxb. Ball.* VIII. 6 With wringing hands and bitter teares, these words pronounced she. 1709 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 73 Wringing Hands and Gnashing Teeth thenceforth and for ever.

b. Quasi-*adv.* in *wringing-wet,* very wet; so wet that moisture may be wrung out.

..dabbled all with durt, and wringing wette. *a* 1614 *S Jude* I. in *Hooker's Wks.* (1888) III. 605 A poor fisherman ..with his clothes wringing wet. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* III. I. 377 The wringing-wet Influence (as Housewives call it) of ☽ and ♀. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 21 Aug. 128/2 Their handkerchiefs are 'wringing-wet'. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 387 Then I clutch..a wringing wet blanket. 1901 Aldridge *Sherbro* xxiii, Foot-sore, utterly exhausted, and wringing wet with perspiration.

2. That writhes or twists.

1597 Deloney *Gentle Craft* II. Wks. (1912) 81 The wrathfull Dragon with his long, wringing taile.

3. Causing pain, distress, or anguish; racking, distressing.

1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 27 Nipping neede & wringing want. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 250 The wringing pains in the bellie. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 188 A painfull wringing grief in the body after food. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* II. viii, One task..which, however wringing to my heart, must be completed. 1891 H. Lynch *G. Meredith* 88 The wringing sorrows brought about by his own baseness.

b. Characterized by oppression or extortion.

1620 [see Wrestling *ppl. a.* 2]. 1824 Byron *Lara* II. viii, Many a wringing despot..Who work'd his wantonness in form of law.

c. Causing straining or stretching (of the fingers).

1678 Mace *Musick's Mon.* 42 Therefore were they constrain'd to extreme hard, cross, and wringing Stops..upon the Finger-board.

†**Wringle,** *sb. Sc.* [f. next.] (See quot.)

1808 Jamieson, *Wringle,* a writhing

†**Wringle** (ri·ŋg'l), *v. Obs.* Also 7 **ringle.** [Corresponds in sense 1 to Da. *vringle,* Sw. and Norw. *vringla,* to twist, entwine, and in sense 2 to Flem. *wringelen* to squirm, writhe. The precise source is not clear.]

1. *trans.* To entwine or twist together; to wreathe.

1578 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 63 b, This Serpente I haue described as wringled into a wreathe.

2. *intr.* To move sinuously; to writhe.

1596 [see next]. 1643 *'Powers to be resisted'* 12 A poore worme..will wringle away from the foot, and earth it selfe. 1648 Hexham II. *Ringen,* to Ringle, or to Wrestle. 1789 *Shepherd's Wedding* 12 (E.D.D.), She threw and she drew, she wringl'd and wrang.

Hence **Wri·ngling** *ppl. a.*

1596 Davies *Orchestra* liii, I lose Meanders path;..In his indented course and wringling play He seemes to daunce a perfect cunning Hay.

Wringle- (ri·ŋg'l), the verb-stem used attrib. in **wringle-gut, -straw** *dial.,* †**-tail** : (see quots.).

1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 937 There is another Fly..which Pennius calls *Curvicaudem* [=curved tail], very well in English a Wringle-tail, in regard that..he bends his tail towards him with his sting started. 1691 Ray *N. Co. Words* (ed. 2) 84 *Wringle-straws,* or *Straws,* .. Windle-Straws. 1777 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., *Wringle gut,* one who frets his guts to fiddle-strings by twisting and turning his body. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* 160 *Wringlesthrass,*..a coarse grass.

†**Wringleather,** obs. erron. f. Ringleader.

1525 Warham in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 366 Some of the chief wringleathars.

Wringle-wrangle. *rare*—[1]. [Reduplication of Wrangle *sb.* with change of vowel as in *jingle-jangle, tingle-tangle,* etc.] Controversial argument; wordy disputation.

[Cf. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* II viii, They be so..quarrelsome..; wringle, wrangle, wrongle, snap, growl, scratch.]

1888 Besant *All Sorts* xlv, The House was not sitting, and there was no wringle-wrangle of debates to furnish material for the columns.

†**Wri·ngly,** *adv. Obs.* [Cf. Wringle *v.* 1.] In a wrung or twisted manner; twistedly.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* (Arb.) 137 Three showrs wringlye wrythen glimring, and forcеblye sowcing.

Wri·ng-staff, -stave. *rare*—[0]. [Cf. Wring-bolt, Wrain-stave.] A staff for inserting in an eye of a ring-bolt.

1815 Burney *Dict. Marine, Wring-staves,*..are strong pieces of wood used with the Wring-Bolts. [Hence in Crabb (1823) and some later Dicts.] 1884 *Imp. Dict.* s.v., *Wring-staff*;..called also Wrain-staff.

Wrink, var. Wrenk *sb. Obs.*

Wrink (riŋk), *v.* ? *Obs.* [Cf. Wrinkle *v.* and ME. *forwrynkked* (For-[1] 8).] = Wrinkle *v.* 3 b.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 22 Grief and age had wrink'd her brow.

Wrinkle (riŋk'l), *sb.*[1] Also 5–6 **wrynole, -kle, -kel, -kul, -kyl(le,** 6 **wrynckle, wrinkel(l, -kyll, -okel,** 6–7 **wrino(k)le** (6 **rinkle,** 7 **rinckle, -el).** [Of obscure origin; possibly a back-formation from Wrinkled *a.*

Somner's OE. '*wrincle,* ruga, a wrincle' is not otherwise known. Kilian's '*wrinchel,* ruga' is also uncertified, and is rendered suspicious by his citing the English word.]

I. †**1.** A sinuous or tortuous movement, formation, etc.; a winding or curving; a sinuosity. *Obs.*

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. 26§3 An hous. Callid Laborynthus, ..Ful of wrynkles. 1480 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* (1482) 40 b, Laborintus .. is an hous .. wrought with .. windynges so diuersly by wonderful wayes and wrynclis, that [etc.]. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. v. 62 The eddir..Lang wrinklis makis oft with hir body. *Ibid.* XII. viii 69 Als feill wrynklis and turnis can scho mak As dois the swallow.

2. A crease, fold, or ridge caused by the folding, puckering, or contraction of a fabric, cloth, or other pliant substance. Occas. in fig. context. Also without article.

In quots. 1676, 1869 with allusion to sense 4 b.

a 1400 *Wycliffite Bible* Gen. xxxviii. 14 (MS. Cotton Claudius E II), She took a roket clob wiþ many wrynclis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/1 Wrynkyl, or plate yn clothe, .*plica.* 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshman* (Percy Soc.) 1 Nor of

..so wrapped in wrinkels. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiii. 212 With their hosen hanging about their heels, ful of wrinckles. *Ibid.* xv. 312 He takes it at heart, to haue a wrinckle in his pumpe. 1617 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 150 That there be no wrinckles in the cloats applied. 1676 W. Hubbard *Happiness of People* 54 Cause..for that virgin..Church to condemn themselves for some spots or wrincles in their garment. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 16 ¶ 2 His stockings [were] without a wrinkle. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 175 The roll of canvass..winds up and lets down without a single wrinkle. 1869 Mrs. Stowe *Oldtown Folks* v, Her Sunday bonnet was without spot, her Sunday gown without wrinkle.

fig. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* IV. 191 She so farre insinuated into the King's breast, that the wrinckles of all suggestions were cleared.

b. A slight narrow ridge or depression on a surface; a longitudinal mark; a corrugation.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 100 The wryncles on the hone. 1601 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. iv. 1409 One that.., admires the good wrinckle of a boote. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* I. 226 The Wild-Goat[s]..have Wreathe and Wrinkles on their Horns. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. ¶ 2 He leaves no wrinckles in the turnings up [of the paper lining]. 1727 Bracken *Farriery Impr.*

(1740) II. 71 Whether it [*sc.* the horny part of the hoof] be smooth and even, or..in Wreathes or Wrinkles. 1742 H. Baker *Microsc.* (1743) 224 The little Wrinkles, Hollows, or Crevices of the Cork. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 850 Wrinkles arising from the desiccation of the tube. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 154/1 When.. docked she did not show a wrinkle in her copper.

clear and polished surface of their existence.

c. *transf.* of physiographical features.

1809 Wordsw. *Prelude* VIII. 583 Here is shadowed forth From the projections, wrinkles, cavities, A variegated landscape. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* xiv, Every point and wrinkle in the headland. 1900 Le Gallienne *Prov.* xv. 234 Northleach, lying in 'a wrinkle' of the still dreary hills.

3. A small fold or crease of the skin, esp. due to age, care, displeasure, etc.

In frequent use from *c* 1500.

c 1425 *Cursor M.* 18840 (Trin.), His forhede feir wemles in sigt wibouten wrynkul [*earlier MSS.* runkel, -il, ronclis] bit was sligt. 1530 Palsgr. 290/2 Wrinkell in ones face, *raiere.* 1586–90 Greene *Metam.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 30 Venus frowned on the smith with a rinkle on her forehead. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 169 Fier..causeth wrinckles and spots on their bodies. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Reh.* 52 There are many wrinckles and chaps we will not fill up with the paint of art. *c* 1788 W. Blake *Tiriel* 108 To count the wrinkles in thy face. 1837 R. M. Bird *Nick of the Woods* III. 72 Though the wrinkles of forty winters furrowed deeply in his brows. 1877 Black *Green Past.* ii, The calm and thoughtful forehead that had as yet no wrinkle of age or care.

b. *transf., fig.*, and in fig. context.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. 1, Their blood had (as it were) filled the wrinckles of the seas visage. 1643 Cary *Expos. Job* I. 1519 A perfect soul-state, and a perfect state of body, hath no wrinkle in it. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* 22 No wrinkles in the face, no gray hairs on the head of eternity! 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxii, Roll on, thou.. Ocean!.. Time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.* 199 *Wreeangs*,..wrinkles of dust or dirt upon the skin. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XX. v, [They] have contributed a wrinkle of human fun to the earnest face of Life.

c. A ripple or ruffle on the surface of water; a wavelet. Chiefly *poet.*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* v. xlvii, As when a stone.. Prints in the angry stream a wrinkle round. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 39 The Sea.. was as smooth as Glass, not the least curl or wrinkle discernable. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* II. 180 Nor faintest wrinkles o'er the waters creep. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 17 Where the blue lake's wrinkle marks the river's inrush pale.

4. *fig.* A moral stain or blemish.

Freq. coupled (as in next) with *spot*, after Eph. v. 27.

a 1400 *Pauline Ep.* (Powell) Eph. v. 27 þe kyrke..not hafande a spot or a wrynkylle. 1408 *Wycliffite Bible* Eph. v. [illegible]

fesse al our hole lyfe, and euery wryncle & parte therof. 1569 Robt tr. *J. van der Noot's Theat.* 97 A glorious Church, without any spot or wrinckle. 1643 Cary *Expos. Job* I. 1519 Poverty is the wrinkle of riches, and disgrace is the wrinkle of honour. *Ibid.*, In the state of glory.. we shall not have..one spot or one wrinkle.

b. Without article; chiefly in *without* (*spot or*) *wrinkle.*

1526 Tindale *Eph.* v. 27 A glorious congregacion with oute spot or wrynckle. [Hence in later versions.] 1643 Cary *Expos. Job* I. 1519 Believers have now a righteousness in Christ without spot or wrinkle. 1681 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxvii. 105 Henry..continued in that condition eighteen years without wrinkle of Fame. 1675 T. Brooks *Gold. Key* 325 In this Robe of Righteousness..we are without spot or wrinkle.

5. *Anat., Zool., Bot.* = Ruga.

1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 32 Though that the matrix..be full of ryuelles or wrinkles. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 117 The skinne of their [*sc.* quadrupeds'] jawes..., if it lie in wrinkles,..sheweth he is olde. 1639 T. de Gray *Expert Farrier* 352 A wrinckle..in the shoulder or in any other joynt. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 275 It is a..root, which by exsiccation hath contracted wrinkles and lineations. 1732 Monro *Anat.* 12 When they [*sc. laminæ*] make the first Turn or Wrinkle, he stiles them *Cancelli corrugati.* 1774 Goldsmith *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 214 The muzzle [of the mandril] is..strongly marked with wrinkles. 1775 [see Ruga]. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 176 The numerous folds or wrinkles which line the inner surface of the duodenum. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* xiii, Like the wrinkles on a nutmeg.

6. A section of a calcining furnace.

1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 448 The oven is there thrust out of the furnace into the 'wrinkle'.

II. †7. A crooked or tortuous action; a crafty device; a trick or wile. *Obs.*

1402 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 45 A! for-writhen serpent, thi wyles ben aspied, with a thousand wrynkels thou vexed many soules. 1547 Latimer in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1350/2 When you note me to be so muche abused by so ignorante a manne, so simple, so playne, and so farre without all wrincles. *c* 1550 *Dice-Play* B v b, Euery wrynkel they haue to couer and worke discelt with al. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* I 34 Euery wile and..euery wrinkle of womens dis-

8. *colloq.* A clever or adroit expedient or trick; a happy device; a 'dodge'.

Freq. from *c* 1840 in phr. *to put one up to a wrinkle* (*or two*). Perh. a development from the following, or some similar piece of repartee:

1732–8 Swift *Polite Conv.* I. 74 They say, mocking is catching. *Miss.* I never heard that. *Now.* Why, then,..you have a wrinkle more than ever you had before.

1827 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 212 He could put her up to a wrinkle or two. 1848 *Punch* July 29 Ha..

knows 'a wrinkle for everything. 1873 'S. Beauchamp' *N. Hamilton* II. 155 'You surely don't mean to say you are going to fish with blue-bottles?' 'Yes, I do...It's a wrinkle.' 1882 *Cassell's Bk. Sports* 40 Such wrinkles experience alone will teach.

transf. 1832 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 44, I was.. among the workmen, getting some *ne plus ultra* wrinkles done for the great gun, covers, etc.

b. A piece or item of useful information, knowledge, or advice; a helpful or valuable hint; a 'tip'.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* II. 230 On that most auspicious day, I acquired two additional wrinkles. 1860 Ld. W. Lennox *Recreat. Sportsm.* I. 277 While upon the subject of yachting, we would venture to offer..a 'wrinkle' as to coppering them. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* VI. xii. 408 [That] news..hasn't got into the papers yet, but I've had the official wrinkle.

9. *Cant.* An untruth, fib, lie.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Wrinkle*, an untruth.

III. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrinkle-filling*, †*-wisard*; *wrinkle-coated, -faced*, †*fronted, -furrowed, -scaled*; *wrinkle maker.*

1567 Turberv. *Epit.*, etc. 70 Was neuer Bull so fell with wrinckle fronted face. 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 380 Ingenious Saturn,..bald, hoary, wrinkle-faced. 1594 Nashe *Terrors of Night* F j b, So Socrates..was censured by a wrinckle-wyzard. 1613 Dekker *Devils Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) III. 351 The Founder and Vpholder of Paintings,..Wrinkle-fillings, and Botchings vp of old.. Faces. 1744 Akenside *Pleas. Imag.* III. 129 A female old and gray, With..wrinkle-furrow'd brow. 1784 Twamley *Dairying* 55 Curdly or wrinkle-coated Cheese. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 716 *Podolepis rugata*, wrinkle-scaled Podolepis. 1836 E. Howard *R. Reefer* Ixvii, Thought is a sad wrinkle maker. 1907 J. London *Before Adam* xii, A little..fellow, wrinkle-faced.

Hence **Wri'nkleful** *a.*, full of wrinkles or creases; **Wri'nklet**, a small wrinkle.

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 121 With her best complexions, She mends her faces wrinklefull defections. 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 224 The lake smoothed down Each shining wrinklet.

Wrinkle (ri·ŋk'l), *sb.*[2] Also 7 **wrinckle**. Now *s.w. dial.* and *local U.S.* [Alteration of Winkle *sb.*, after prec.] The periwinkle or whelk. Also *transf.*

1589 Rider *Bibl. Scholast.* 1724 A walke, or wrinkle, *turbo.* 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 30 b, Wrinckles,..and Muscles, are gathered by hand upon the rockes. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. I. 454 Oysters and small Wrinckles. 1750 Heath *Acc. Isl. Scilly* 46 Of Shell-fish are denominated..Shrimps, Limpets, Wrinkles. 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Royal Tour* Proem. 24 She swears I'm..Rather a wrinkle, limpet, paltry muscle. *a* 1870 J. Couch *Polperro* (1871) 253 A journey to the sea-coast..to pick 'wrinkles'. 1880–5 in Cornwall glossaries.

Wrinkle (ri·ŋk'l), *v.* Forms: 5–6 **wrynkle**, 6 **wrynkel, wrynckle**, 6 **wrinkel**(**l, -kill, wrinkyl**, 6–7 **wrincle**, 6–8 **wrinkle**; 6– **wrinkle** (7 **wringkle**). [app. a back-formation from Wrinkled *a.* or Wrinkling *vbl. sb.*]

Somner's OE. '*wrinclian*, rugare, crispare,..to wrinkle' occurs in no known text, and was prob. inferred from *gewrinclod.* Kilian's *wrinckelen* 'rugare' is also uncertified and rendered suspicious by his citation of the English word.]

1. *intr.* To suffer or undergo contraction or puckering into wrinkles or small folds; to become corrugated. Also with †*together*, *up.*

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* C iij, This crampe..

Ho. II. (1506) 47 If ye kernel do wrinkle or run together. 1729 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* 90 [This] Apple..is apt to wrinkle and wither. 1788 G. Parker & Stalker *Japaning*

in folds. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. 147 The ice..seemed to wrinkle up in obedience to the pressure.

transf. 1653 Walton *Angler* v. 127 If he sees the water but wrinkle or move in one of these dead holes. 1864 Buchanan *Undertones, Proteus* iii, A trackless Ocean wrinkling tempest-wing'd.

b. Of persons, the face, etc.: To become creased or puckered; to assume or undergo marking with wrinkles, creases, or lines; to crease.

1530 Palsgr. 785/2 Your face begynneth to wrinkell. 1606 Marston *Parasit.* II. C 3, What are you fleering at? ther's some weakenes in your brother you wrinkle at thus. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. iv. (1699) 35 If he reach old Age..his Face wrinkles. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4232/4 When he Smiles both corners of his Mouth wrinkle. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 89 P 5 The finest Skin wrinkles in a few Years. 1819 Keats *Fall of Hyperion* I. 225 This old image here, Whose carved features wrinkled as he fell. 1890 *Nature* 20 Feb. 378 Its body began to wrinkle and to plump up.

c. To contract *into* smiles, etc., by puckering.

1853 J. B. Morley *Lett.* (1885) 221 His face wrinkles into countless smiles. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* II, Dolefull's face wrinkled into half its usual size with delight.

†**2.** To move sinuously; to wriggle. *Obs.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Piscis tortilis*, a fish that wriggeth and wrinkleth. 1655 [see Wrinkling *ppl. a.* 3].

3. *trans.* To form or cause corrugations, wrinkles, or folds in or on (a surface, etc.); to corrugate. Occas. in fig. context. Also with *over.*

1562 Cooper, *Thesaurus*, to..wrinkle, crumple, frumple. 1650 Milton *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1851 V. 278 Neither do I care to wrincle the smoothness of History with ragged names of places unknown. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Madder*, Too

hasty a drying wrinkles and splits the back. 1796 Coleridge *To Young Friend* 38 A beauteous spring..scarce wrinkled by the gale! 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 342 The flood of cloud, Which sunrise from its eastern caves Drives, wrinkling into golden waves. 1820 — *Prometh. Unb.* II. I. 137 A wind swept forth wrinkling the Earth with frost. *a* 1824 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Crinkle*,..to wrinkle, twist, plait, or rumple irregularly. *a* 1826 T. Seddon in *Mem. & Lett.* (1858) 205 A wilderness of mountain tops, in some places..wrinkled over with ravines.

absol. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. 75 b, This pouldre..draweth together the loosed parte, it dryeth, riueleth, or wrynkeleth.

b. To contract or draw (the skin, countenance, etc.) into creases or wrinkles; to pucker, crease. Also *refl.*

1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* (1569) I. F iv, That the swelling of their body, might not irrugate and wrinckle their faces. 1600 *2nd Pt. Returne Parnassus* III. iii. 1324 My master will..looke on the title and wrinckle his browes. *a* 1661 Holyday *Persius* (1673) 298 He..ne're wrinkled his nose. 1721 Bailey, *Frown*, to..wrinkle the Forehead. 1798 Southey *Surg. Warning* vi, He wrinkled his black eye-brow. 1828 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* v. vii, As if the face of the Sphynx were to wrinkle itself in laughter. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. xv, Wrinkling his face into a very map of curves and corners.

fig., and in fig. context. 1606 Shake. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 79 A Grecian Queen, whose youth & freshnesse Wrinkles Apolloes. 1647 T. Calvert *Heart Salve* To Rdr. 3 The other carries with it a decor and beautie that no old age.. can wrinkle or furrow with uncomelinesse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 839 A keen North-winde..Wrinkl'd the face of Deluge, as decal'd. 1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* III. 463 What is the secular Music that thirty years have not wrinkled, withered, and rendered superannuated! 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 242 One..Whose heart was wrinkled long before his brow?

absol. c 1779 Crabbe *Midnight* 438 The Brow of State, On which Distraction..helps the Scythe of Time to wrinkle there.

c. With *up.*

?*c* 1590 *Sir T. More* III. ii. 203 For know,..Mirth wrinckls vpp my face. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 3 Wrinkling up his nostrils. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. v. 33 That no foul Linen wrinkle up the Nose. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 38, I fear that wicked laughter round his eye, Which wrinkles up the skin even to the hair. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* v. ii. 186 Sad at her mouth a little, with drawn cheeks And eyelids wrinkled up.

d. To screw up (the eyes). Also with *up.*

1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, Quilp, wrinkling up his eyes and luring her towards him with his bent forefinger. 1901 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. to Elin.* x. 43 Blanche wrinkled her eyes at him in the prettiest way.

4. To manifest (something) in or by facial wrinkles. Also *refl.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xix, Some ill-favoured cheerefulnesse..began to wrinckle it selfe in his face. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. xiii, Only crows' feet were wrinkled round them [*sc.* eyes]—marks of black old Time.

5. *intr. Cant.* (See quot.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Wrinkle*, to lie, or utter a falsehood.

Hence **Wri'nkler.** *Cant.* (See quot.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Wrinkler*, a person prone to lying; such a character is called also a *gully.*

Wrinkled (ri·ŋki'd), *a.* [f. Wrinkle *sb.*[1] + -ed[2], or in early use representing the rare OE. ppl. form *gewrinclod* winding (of a ditch), serrated: cf. Wrinkle *v.*]

†**1.** Formed or disposed in convolutions, sinuosities, or windings; twisted, curled, coiled. *Obs.*

c 1403 Lydg. *Temple Glas* 84 þe hous, That was forwrynkked [*v.r.* so wrynkled] bi craft of Dedalus. *c* 1407 — *Reson & Sens.* 3607 The house of Dedalus..is so wrynkled to and froo That man not, how he shal goo. 1412–20 — *Chron. Troy* II. 2512 þe serpent..Whiche wrinkled is, as ye may beholde, Vp-on þe yerde [= Mercury's wand]. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* V. x. 79 The hous..Hait Laborynthus, with mony went and streit, Had wrinkillit wallis. *Ibid.* VI. i. 60 Laborinthus..Full of wrinkillit vnreturnable diseait. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 554 The fourth kind of red cole is called..in Englishe Wrinckled or ruffed Cole. 1587 Mascall *Bk. Cattell* III. (1596) 283 The wrinckled tailes of hogs.

2. Having, distinguished by, or formed into wrinkles, corrugations, or creases; contracted or puckered into small furrows and ridges; corrugated; also, pleated.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 34 Pecke wheate..oft tymes..is flyntered, that is to saye, small corne wrynkeled and dryed. 1530 Palsgr. 785/2 Where have you ben, your kercher is wrinkled. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 32 b, The Apple tree is..of wrinckled barck. 1612 *Two Noble K.* I. i. 122 Like wrinckled peobles in a glassie streame. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 160 The wild Irish used to weare 30 or 40 elles [of linen cloth] in a shirt, al gathered and wrinckled. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 129 P 5 Every Ribbon was wrinkled, and every Part of her Garments in Curl. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl. s.v. Leaf*, So as to give upon the whole [leaf] a wrinkled surface. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 402/2 The smooth and polished enamel..[of the tooth] presents a finely wrinkled appearance. 1861 Holland *Less. Life* v. 70 Objects..distorted by reaching the eye through wrinkled window-glass. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 8/1 A large, wrinkled lump of chalk.

fig. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. vii, The wrinckled fortunes of this poore spinster. 1643 Cary *Expos. Job* I. 1519 His wealth and honour were extreamly wrinkled.

b. *post.* Formed by, due to, swelling or surging.

c 1821 Chapman *Iliad* VII. 49 Fresh horror..driven through the wrinkled waves By rising Zephyr. 1822 J. Lane *Contin. Sayer's F.* 193 Now Titan, in th'orisontal, wrinckled wave, had filld his lavor.

3. Of persons, the face, etc.: Marked with small folds, wrinkles, or furrows; creased, lined, furrowed,

a 1529 Skelton *El. Rummynge* 17 Her face..Woonderly wrynkled. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 270 To view with ..wrinkled brow An age of poverty. 1628 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1872) 123, I am..crabbed, wringkled, olde. 1652 Barksdale *Nympha Lib.* II. ix. 30 With wrinckled face, thou cry'st out, Vanitie! *a* 1683 Oldham *Rem.* (1684) 114 An old wrinkled Baboon. 1728 Pope *Iliad* XV. 118 On her wriukled front..Sat steadfast care. 1786 *Backford's Vathek* (1883) 93 A wrinkled old eunuch. 1868 Scott *Marm.* VI. xi. His large and wrinkled hand. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Beauty*, Character gives splendour to youth, and awe to wrinkled skin.

transf. 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* I. iii. 5 A purpose More graue, and wrinkled, then the aimes..Of burning youth. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* II. xxxiii. Old age, with its gray hair, And wrinkled legends of unworthy things. 1817 Wordsw. *Pass of Kirkstone* 17 Wrinkled Egyptian monument; Green moss-grown tower.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1594 Shake. *Rich. III*, I. i. 9 Grim-visag'd Warre, hath smooth'd his wrinkled Front. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. iii. D, Or lies he hid Within the wrinckled bosome of the world? 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 71 Casting off the old and wrincl'd skin of corruption to..wax young again. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* Pref. 2 The frowns of perverse and wrinckled fortune. 1670 Clarendon *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 197 The wrinkled face of antiquity. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 139 The hoary mountains and the wrinkled ocean Seem younger still than he. 1871 E. F. Burr *Ad Fidem* xvi. 351 The fresh present, and wrinkled antiquity.

c. Marked or characterized by wrinkles.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 154, I am entred into my wrinkled and withered age. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 69 After our vnbridaled youth coms sage and wrinckled yeares. 1607 A. Brewer *Lingua* IV. ii, These two my lord Comedus and Tragedus,..This grave.., That light and quick, with wrinkled laughter painted. 1634 Milton *Comus* 871 Listen and appear to us.., By hoary Nereus wrincled look. 1753 *Adventurer* No. 74, The lectures of wrinkled wisdom. 1792 Burns *'In Simmer when'* i, A dame in wrinkled eild.

4. *Bot., Anat., Zool.* Marked by rugæ or wrinkles; rugose, corrugated.

1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1574) 117 Those Nauews be the better, which be long and in a manner wrinckled. 1577 B. Goodge *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 167 The heades and the neckes ... a wrinckled skinne. 1613 Pur... The skinne vpon the vpper part ... ed. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 267 Their [*sc.* horses'] wrinkled and round nostrills. 1707 Bailey, *Rugosus*,..(in Botan. Writers,) wrinkled. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 49 Leaves on leaf-stalks, ..wrinkled and shining. 1854 Murchison *Siluria* ix. 233 Wrinkled tubes of these [annelids]. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* 83 The Spoonworm..with a strange scalloped and wrinkled proboscis. 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* iv. 65 The rugose or wrinkled corals.

b. In specific names (see quots.).

1681 Grew *Museum* I. 127 The Wrinkled-Snail. *Cochlea rugosa.* 1770 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1777) IV. 95 Wrinkled V[enus] with thick shells, marked with rugose concentric *striæ.* 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. 33 Wrinkled Baboon,.. with..large blood-red wrinkled callosities behind. 1801 Pennant *Tour* 114 *Salix reticulata*, or Wrinkled Willow. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. 28 Wrinkled Tortoise, *Testudo rugosa.* ..Tortoise with black wrinkled shell. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 333 A curious envelope..thrown by a Wrinkled Hornbill (*Anorrhinus corrugatus*).

5. *Comb.*, as *wrinkled-old, -leaved, -visaged.*

1592 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 133 Were I hard-favour'd, foul, or wrinkled-old. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 195 *G[eranium] Lividum.* Wrinkled-leaved Crane's Bill. 1838 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 172 A grey,..wrinkled-visaged figure.

Hence **Wri·nkledness.**

1552 Huloet, Wrincklenesse [*sic*], or ruggednes of the skynne, *scabredo.* 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Rugosité.* 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Tortuosity*,..writhenness, wrinkledness. 1889 E. W. Benson in *Life* (1899) II. 262 The Shah has a..neare and wrinkledness of e

Wri·nkled, *ppl. a.* [f. Wrinkle *v.*] Subjected to wrinkling. In quot with *up.*

1829 Meredith *R. Reverel* xxiii, Putting the mouth of the pipe to his wrinkled-up temples.

Wri·nkleless, *a.* Also 8 **wrinkless.** [f. Wrinkle *sb.*[1] + -less.] Destitute of or free from wrinkles.

1793 Holcroft tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* xliv. 225 The wrinkless, compressed, yet open forehead. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxvii. 245 He wore..wrinkleless kids. 1881 C. Gibbon *Heart's Problem* iii, His sallow and almost wrinkleless face.

Wrinkling (ri·ŋklin), *vbl. sb.* [f. the stem of OE. *gewrinclod* (see Wrinkled *a.*) + -ing[1].]

†1. A twisting or coiling; a sinuosity. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 9 As laborintus..hab many.. wyndynges and wrynkelynges, þat wil nouȝt be vnwarled. 1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxiii, A good smellynge smoke,..full meuable, and tornynge, and crokyd with many bendynges and wrynklynges.

2. The action of creasing, puckering, or contracting into wrinkles; the fact of becoming corrugated or rivelled.

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* C iij, Retraction and wrynkelynge together of the veynes. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 346 A certaine contraction and wrinckling..of the orifice. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 173 The Curtizans make all the forepart of their gownes in like manner open, to avoid wrinckling. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) 111/2 The wrinkling of the lower part of the Vagina. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 174 If the Fly had been Dead for some while.. I could have observed none of this Wrinkling. 1839 *Habits of Gd. Society* iii. 149 A peculiar wrinkling [of the trousers] from the foot to the knee. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 268 [The] degree of wrinkling of the back of the mesothorax. 1888 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 40 Wrinklings of the crust ..gave rise at first to baby mountain ranges.

transf. 1878 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* 120 The olive-leaves curl, violets crisp and close Like a nymph's wrinkling at the bath's first splash.

attrib. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2822 *Wrinkling-machine*, ..one to wrinkle transversely the upper leathers of boots and shoes.

3. *concr.* A series or collection of wrinkles; a puckered surface, formation, etc.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. lxiii. (W. de W.) I viij, Ye fatnes..stretchyth oute the wrynkelynge of the skynne. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* 379 The shriueled wrincklings yᵗ appeare on womens bellies after their deliuerance. 1628 Folkingham *Panacea Med.* 66 It cleanses the Ventricle from ..Crudities sticking to its rugosities and wrinklings. 1857 P. P. Carpenter *Cat. Mazatlan Shells* 225 The first whirl ..is characterized by extremely minute wrinkling over the whole surface, only discernible..when quite fresh. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* III. iii. § 6 Such wrinkling of brow and mouth as only an experienced actor can produce.

b. *spec.* (See quot.)

1894 *Amer. Dict. Printing* 588/1 *Wrinkling*, an uneven surface in a book, caused by not being properly backed or pressed, or occasioned by dampness.

Wri·nkling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing[2].]

1. Causing or forming creases or wrinkles.

1601 [? Marston] *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 69 The wrinkling print of Time err'd when it seal'd my forehead vp with age. 1756 Mason *Odes* 16 To thee, whose..polish'd brow The wrinkling hand of Sorrow spares. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 62 Ye icy Springs, stagnant with wrinkling frost. 1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* I. i, A wrinkling smile crossed the sexton's brow. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 49 We..took thy wrinkling cares For ruffling hopes, and called thee weak.

2. Undergoing marking with, characterized by, wrinkles or creases.

1791 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. 113 Glad Echo..Her wrinkling founts with soft vibration shakes. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 100 This wrinkling brow, Naked and bare of its great diadem. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 27 The wrinkling stalk of Time. 1882 Cable *Mme. Delphine* iv. 13 Furniture..carved just enough to give the notion of wrinkling pleasantry.

†3. Wriggling, writhing. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1653 Lauson *Dennys' Secr. Angling* 21 There be divers wayes to catch the wrinkling Eele.

†Wri·nklingly, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. as Wrinkling *vbl. sb.* + -ing[2] + -ly[2].] In a tortuous or curving manner; sinuously.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. xxx. (MS. Tiberius D. vii) fol. 29 Laborintus ys an hous..wiþ turnynges & wyndynges so dyueralych & so wrynklynglych [*Rolls ed.* I. 313: wrynkyngliche] ywroȝt [etc.]. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* III. 157 In olde women..sometimes,..they [*sc.* breasts] are knit wrinkl[l]ingly vpward.

Wrinkly (ri·ŋkli), *a.* [f. Wrinkle *sb.* + -y[1].] Full of, marked with, wrinkles; creased; puckered; crumpled.

1573 Twyne *Æneid* x. Dd iv b, Him Tryton..blew with whelked shell, Whose wrinckly wreathed flue, did fearful shril in seas outyell. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 117 The Fruit being ripe is wrinkly. 1742 Shenstone *Schoolmistr.* xxix, Sour'd by age,..he..furls his wrinkly front. 1793 Holcroft tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* vii. 46 Foreheads.. which are wrinkly, short and shining. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* lxxv, The Captain older and more wrinkly than she expected. 1888 Sladen in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XVI. 197 The whole membrane becomes very thick and wrinkly. *transf.* 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xxxii, Mrs. Waule.. giving occasional dry wrinkly indications of crying.

Wrinse, erron. f. Rinse *v.*

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 63 b, They wash and wrinse themselues very cleane.

Wrisled, obs. f. Wrizzled *a.*

Wrisoun(e, obs. Sc. ff. Orison.

Wrist (rist). Forms: α. 1– **wrist,** 5–6 **wriste,** 4–5 **wryste,** 5–6 **wryst**; 4 **virste,** 5 **wirste,** 5–6 **wyrste,** 9 *dial.* **wurst.** β. 4–7 **wrest** (5 **wrost**?), 5–6 **wreste,** 6 **wreast** (**wrast,** 8 *dial.* **wraste**), 9 *Sc.* **reist.** [OE. *wrist*, = OFris. *wrist, -wirst* (in *hand-, fôt-wirst*), *-werst* (in *fôt-werst*), *-rust* (NFris. *wrast, wrest*), MLG. *wrist* (LG. *wrist, wirst, rüst*), MDu. *wrist*, MHG. *rist* m., *ristе* f. (G. *rist* m., instep, wrist), ON. *rist* f., instep (Da., Sw. *vrist*, Norw. *vrist, rist*), prob. f. *wrīð-*, weak grade of the stem of *wrīðan* Writhe *v.*]

1. *Anat.* That part of the human frame between the fore-arm and the metacarpus; the joint by which the hand is united to the fore-arm; the carpus, or radio-carpal joint, of primates.

Cf. *arm-wrist* (Arm *sb.*[1] III), Hand-wrist.

α. ? *a* 940 *Laws Athelstan* in *Liebermann* I. 386/1 Gif hit anfeald tyhtle sy, dufe seo hand æfter þam stane oð þa wriste. *c* 1325 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 78 The virste, *la coude de la mein.* 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1.. ..a fust fayland þe wryste. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* IX. xxxii He heeld.. Hand and fyngres aboue the coles bribt, Til the ioyntes fallyng beer & yonder, From the wirste [*var.* wrest, wrost, wristis] departid wer assonder. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wrynt, or wyrste of an hande, *fragus.* 1530 Palsgr. 290 Wrist of ones hande, *poignet.* 1574 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lxvii, Cassandra..they haled From Pallas house,..Her wrists fast bound. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 49 An eare as bigge as the wrist of a mans arme. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 204 The Doctor fairly twisted his wrists. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 315 ¶ 3 The fan can play without any force..but just of the wrist. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 37 A substance..as thick as one's wrist. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 211 The pulse in the wrist was scarcely to be felt. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. i. 433 [Taking] her dear hands ..about each little wrist. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 808 The wrist of the orang, gibbon, the tailed apes.

β. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1769 Beues smot..is left hande þe wreast. 14.. [see α] *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 393 The whiche..had theyr ryght handes smyten of by the wrestes. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* K vj, Both his handes cut of by the wrestes. 1600 Maban tr. *Alemen's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 354 Fastening Cords to the wrests of mine arme. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 184 The axillary artery.. passing by the wrest or place of the pulse. 1788 Vallancey *Vet. Bargle* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Wrasta*, the wrist.

b. Without article.

1686 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 422, 3 Payres of black Buttons for wrist and neck. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvi, I'll bracelet him with iron both on wrist and ankle.

c. *transf.* That part of a garment, sleeve, or glove, which covers the wrist.

1808 *Lady's Mag.* Aug. 446/1 The cuffs at the wrists of all gowns. 1873 Susan Coolidge *What Katy did* iii. 44 She..adjusted her veil and the wrists of her three-buttoned gloves.

2. †a. The joint of the thigh or knee. (Cf. OE. *cnéow-wyrst.*) *Obs.*[—1]

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5830 Men wend his the [= thigh] bane had bryst; He had na harme in bane ne ...

b. The ankle; the instep. Usu. *wrist of the foot.* Now *dial.*

c 1530 *Hickscorner* (*c* 1550) B ij, *Freewyll.* But can they go no more. *Imag.* O no man, the wrest is twyst so sore. 1547 in Leland *Collectanea* (1774) IV. 321 He..tyed himselfe..a little beneath the Wrist of the Foot. 1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* II. 22 Thys vnguent must be applyed vppon..the wreste of the handes, the wreste of the foote [etc.]. 1612 Shelton *Quix.* (1620) II. 169 About the Wrists of her Legs..she wore two..Bracelets. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* (1631) 1005 The *Tarsus* or wrest of the Foot. 1698 A. Fox *Wurtz' Surg.* II. xxv. 152 The bone of the Foots wrist. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl., Reist*, the instep. Upp[er] Clydes[dale]. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* 799 *Wrist-o'-the-foot*, the ankle.

3. *Comp. Anat.* A part or joint analogous or answering to the wrist in man: a. The carpus or carpal joint in birds. b. The knee or knee-joint in the fore-legs of animals. c. *Ichth.* (See first quot.)

a. *a* 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 327 The Wrist of Birds consists of but two bones. b. *a* 1843 *Ibid.* 315 The Wrist [in reptiles], *carpus*, consists of numerous small bones. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 221 That [carpal bone] on the radial side of the wrist [in *Crocodilia*] is the largest. 1890 Mivart *Dogs, Jackals*, etc. 6 Vertically from the wrist up the front of the [wolf's] leg. c. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 308 [In] some spinous fishes the carpal bones are so elongated as to form a sort of arm or wrist, to the extremity of which the pectoral fin is articulated. *Ibid.*, Fishes with Wrists to the Pectoral Fins. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 176 The carpal bones of these fins..increasing in length from the ulnar to the radial side of the wrist.

4. a. *Mech.* One of the partitions of the bucket of an overshot water-wheel. ? *Obs.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 903/2 We have heard them named the Start or Shoulder, the Arm, and the Wrest (probably for wrist, on account of a resemblance of the whole line to the human arm). 1829 *Nat. Philos., Mechanics* v. 80 (L. U. K.), This bucket is formed of three planes;.. BC is called the arm, and CH the wrist.

b. A pin or stud, projecting from the side of a wheel, crank, etc., to which a connecting rod is attached; a wrist-pin.

1864 Webster. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1720/1 *Pitman-box*, the stirrup and brasses which embrace the wrist of the driving-wheel. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 229/2 A wrist on a crank wheel.

c. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1863 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 450 *Wrist of an anchor*, the continuation of the arm in a square or rounded form towards the palm or fluke.

5. *attrib.*, as *wrist connection, end, power*; freq. in sense 'worn about or depending from the wrist', as *wrist-bag, -cord*, †*-favour, -iron, -plaster*, etc.

1904 *Daily Chron.* 28 Jan. 6/5 The sums stolen out of the '*wrist-bag' purses. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2822/2 A pin passing through the axis of a *wrist-connection. 1866 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 201 A well-known New Zealand weapon..is an edged club of bone or stone...Through the neck it has a hole for a *wrist-cord. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 321 The *wrist end of the ulna. 1626 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* III. i, A fine *wrist-favour of this gold. 1871 *Archæologia* XLIII. 426 Stone *Wrist-guards... Those [plates] of finely-grained green stone..appear to be intended to be worn on the wrist. 1885 Runciman *Skippers & Sk.* 83 We divides the sets of *wrist-irons. 1728 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Eye*, Mix all these together..to a Consistence fit

*wrist-straps.

b. In sense 'of or pertaining to a wrist-band or sleeve-cuff', as *wrist-button, -link, -stud.*

1836 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* xxx. 315 His wrist-buttons, his shirt-studs, the camelia in his coat. 1839 *Habits of Good Society* iii. 142 Elaborate studs..and wrist-links, are all abominable. 1885 Le Fanu *Guy Dev.* II. 38 Having buttoned his jewelled wrist-studs in. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2822/2 *Wrist-link*, a link with connected buttons for the wristband or cuff.

c. In Cricket, etc., in the sense 'effected or directed by means of wrist-work,' as *wrist hit, -play* (hence *wrist-player, -playing*), *shot, stroke.*

1862 Pycroft *Cricket Tutor* 19 Throwing back the bat to the balls..necessitates good wrist-play. 1867 *J. Lillywhite's Cricketer's Comp.* 109 A. G. Lee, capital wrist player. 1888 Steel & Lyttelton *Cricket* 42 Players are not equally good both at the forward driving and the wrist-playing games. 1895 Kipling *Day's Work, Maltese Cat*, Hughes made some

sort of quick wrist-stroke [in polo]. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 April 2/1 The cut was not a wrist hit, but a vehement exhibition of energy. 1906 *Ibid.* 22 March 10/1 A wrist shot that was remarkable.

d. Special Combs., as †**wrist-bander**, a muscle which bends or controls the wrist; **wrist-bone**, any one of the small bones of the wrist; a carpal bone; **wrist clonus** *Path.*, spasmodic contraction of the muscles of the hand, produced by sudden backward pressure; **wrist-drop** *Path.*, an affection marked by inability to extend the hand and fingers, resulting from paralysis of the forearm extensor muscles; also *attrib.*; **wrist-fall**, a drooping ruff or band (cf. FALL *sb.*[1] 23 c) formerly worn about the wrist; **wrist-guide** (see quots.); **wrist jerk** *Path.*, wrist clonus; **wrist-pin** *Mech.*, = WRIST 4 b; also *Comb.*; **wrist-plate** *Mech.*, an oscillating plate bearing one or more crank-pins or wrists on its face (*Cent. Dict.*); **wrist-watch**, a small watch worn in a wristlet or strap around the wrist; **wrist-work**, flexure of the wrist, as in batting.

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg. Wks.* 922 Both the *Carpiflexores*, or *Wrest-benders, arise from the .. inner process. 1852 HULOET, *Wreast bone of the hand, or arme, *brachiale*. 1618 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* ix. 29 The brawne of the arme must appeare full, shadowed on one side, then shew the wrist bone therof. 1845 SCOTT *Talism.* ii, The wrist-bones peculiarly large and strong. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 42 Two little carpal bones, or wrist-bones. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 33/2 Odd cases of supernumerary wrist-bones. 1888 *Ibid.* VI. 771/2 A *wrist clonus may be produced by a .. forcible hyperextension of the wrist. *a* 1841 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 522 One of these consequences [of the use of lead] is .. *wrist-drop. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 693 The two commonest varieties—the wrist-drop type and the upper arm type. 1890 MRS. A. E. BARR *Friend Olivia* iii, The lace *wrist-falls and neck-bands. 1861 J. S. ADAMS *5000 Mws. Terms* 108 **Wrist Guide*, that part of Logier's Chiroplast which guides the wrist. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 90 The wrist-guide, by which the position of the wrist was preserved [in piano-playing] from inclination outwards. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 700 The *wrist and elbow jerks. *Ibid.* VII. 191. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822 The *wrist-pin is a truncate, conical, tubular piece attached to the crank-wheel by a bolt. *Ibid.*, *Wrist-pin Turner*, a machine for turning wrist-pins .. or [for] the turning of journals. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* iv, Field-glasses, *wrist-watch, buckles, and buttons should be dulled. 1898 RANJITSINHJI *With Stoddart's Team* vii. 103 His cutting was hard and full of *wrist work. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 June 3/2 There was any amount of wrist-work in his cutting.

Wrist: see WREST *sb.* and *v.*

Wristband (ri·stbænd, ri·zbănd). [f. WRIST + BAND *sb.*[1]]

1. The band or part of a sleeve (esp. of a shirt-sleeve) which covers or fastens about the wrist; a cuff or sleeve-band.

1571 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 146 Skarfes, ffawchions, buskins, wrestbandes. 1611 COTGR., *Poignet de la chemise*, the wrist-band, or gathering at the sleeue-hand, of a shirt. *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Bloody Brother* IV. ii, You'l ..dip your wrist-bands, (For Cuffs y' have none) as comely in the sauce As any Courtier. 1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* II. i, With that the Hands to pocket went, Full Wrist-band deep. 1752 BERKELEY *Th. Tar-water* Wks. 1871 III. 500 Unbuttoning the neck and wristbands of his shirt. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxx, Although his coat was short in the sleeves, it disclosed no vestige of a linen wrist-band. 1886 *Tit Cat* XVI. 208 He was keenly conscious of his old boots and crumpled wristbands.

b. A band worn as a protector on the wrist. *rare.*

1882 *Imp. Dict.*, *Muffettes*, ..a wristband of fur or worsted worn by ladies.

2. A bracelet or wristlet.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 950 *Armilla*, ..a bracelet or wrist band. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 365 A Silver Wrist-band, or Hoop to come about their Arms. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Brachiale* (Lat.), ..a Bracelet, ..a Wrist-band. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 June 5/2 Wrist-bands, which are a revival of the beaded bracelets worn in early Victorian days, have been introduced.

b. A band for shackling the wrist.

1884 THOMPSON *Tumours of Bladder* 27 The feet and hands [of the patient] are attached by anklets and wristbands. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 870 Strait-jackets are a survival of the dark ages, and leather wrist-bands and bandages abrade the skin.

3. A bandage for fastening round the wrist; also, a wrist-plaster.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. v. 94 The *ligamentum latum*, or wrist-band, that keeps the tendons .. from inconveniently starting up. 1684 — *Porosum. Bodies* iv. 32 Those [plasters] that Physicians call *Pericarpia*, or Wrist-bands.

Wristed (ri·stĕd), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED 2.]

1. Having a (specified kind of) wrist.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 61 White-wristed Juno .. Being much incensed. 1888 STEEL & LYTTELTON *Cricket* 53 Strong-wristed players play more back [etc.]. 1903 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. vii. § 4 A thin wristed hand.

2. Carried on the wrist.

1899 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 7/5 A green parrot, 'wristed', like a falcon, but not hooded.

Wrister (ri·stəɹ). *U.S.* [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] A knitted covering for the wrist; a muffetee.

1879 WEBSTER *Suppl.* 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 624 A neighbor, come to tea, was crocheting wristers for her grandson.

†**Wri·stkin.** ? *nonce-word.* *Obs.* [f. as prec.: see -KIN.] A muffetee.

1826 CARLYLE *Love Lett.* (1909) II. 257 She has manufactured two pairs of wristkins. 1831 MRS. CARLYLE in *Mem.* (1903) II. 35 A pair of woollen wristkins.

Wrist-joint (ri·st,dʒoint). [f. as prec. + JOINT *sb.*] The joint of the wrist; the radio-carpal articulation or joint: a. In man.

1634–5 BERKETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 47 The obstruction, which perhaps occasioned .. that swelling in the wrist-joints. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 109 Wrist joint. This articulation .. is formed by the junction of the hand and fore-arm. 1842 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1307 The wrist-joint enjoys every [such] variety of motion. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 54 The extensors of the wrist-joint.

b. In birds.

a 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 327/1 The Radio-carpal bone .. forms .. a cap to the front of the Wrist-joint. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 31 Extension of the hand upon the wrist-joint increases and completes the unfolding of the wing.

Wristle, etc., obs. varr. WRESTLE *v.*

Wristled, obs. f. WRIZZLED *a.*

Wristlet (ri·stlĕt). [f. as prec. + -LET.]

1. a. (See quot.)

1847 WEBSTER, *Wristlet*, an elastic band worn by ladies around the wrist, to confine the upper part of a glove. [Hence in some later Dicts.]

b. A bracelet; = WRISTBAND 2.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 862 Articles for the Modea, Djedda, and Mecca Markets: .. Armlets and wristlets. 1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* viii. 203 The king .. wore, for ornament, neatly-worked wristlets of copper. 1889 *Daily News* 8 June 5/4 The poor little creature .. had been decorated with a pair of silver wristlets.

c. A handcuff, a wrist-iron.

1881 *Daily Tel.* 31 Dec. 6/1 Wearing black dresses instead of grey, with leg irons as well as wristlets, to show that they were bad-conduct men. 1901 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 7/5 The illegal use .. of belts, anklets, and wristlets, in restraining violent lunatics.

d. A small strap for wearing on the wrist. Also *attrib.*

1891 *Times* 16 Oct. 4/6 Blue gauntlet gloves, and watch in wristlet. 1914 *Ibid.* 24 Aug. 9/4 Stealing a wristlet watch .. from a dressing-box at the baths.

2. An ornamental band or covering for the wrist.

1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 19 July 86/1 Wrought muslin wristlets about two inches in width. 1861 T. B. ALDRICH *Pampina* Poems (1875) 90 A siren lithe .. With wristlets woven of scarlet weeds.

b. A muffettee. Cf. WRISTBAND 1 b, WRISTER.

1869 *Eng. Mechanic* 26 Nov. 264/1 Wristlets, muffs, collarettes, .. in different patterns, .. are knitted on the LK knitter. 1888 *Century Mag.* XXXVI. 771/1 Knitted gloves, suspenders, comforters, wristlets.

†**Wri·stling**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.*[1] [Of obscure origin.] The action of, or fact of undergoing, curling, coiling, or twisting.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 151 The wrystling and turnyng vp of the tayle [L. *cauda contorta*], is a signe of a sound Hogge.

Wristy (ri·sti), *a.* *Cricket.* [f. WRIST + -Y[1].] Performed by flexure of the wrist; marked by or clever in wrist-work.

1888 *Longm. Mag.* May 47 He was a good bat, noted for his 'wristy' play, as some critic termed it. 1893 W. L. MURDOCH *Cricket* 54 A quick, wristy throw.

Writ (rit), *sb.* Forms: 1– writ (1 *north.* u(u)rit, *pl.* writto, wriot(t)o, 3–4 wriht, 5 wrethe, *Sc.* wirt, 6 wret), 3–8 writt (4 weritt), 3–7 writte; 3–7 wryt (5 *Sc.* wryte, wyrt), 4–6 wrytt (6 whrytt), 3–7 wrytte. [OE. *writ* (also *gewrit* I-WRIT), = ON. and Icel. *rit* writing (Norw. *rit* drawing), Goth. *writs* pen-stroke, OHG. *rîz* m., stroke, character (MHG. *rîz*, G. *ritz* m., *ritze* f.), f. the weak grade of *wrītan* to WRITE. Cf. HANDWRIT, and WRITE *sb.*[1]]

1. Something written, penned, or recorded in writing; a writing. Now *rare.*

a 900, *c* 950 [implied in sense 1 c]. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, [He] fand þa hidde in þa ealde wealle writes þet Headda abb[od] heafde ær gewriton. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 100 Al ho habbeð in hore write þet we miduden here. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8493 Þis writte wit sele was red and sene, Bot fa it wist quat it wald mene. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2486 Þis writ shal henge bi him þare. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 154 Sir haf here þis writ, & schewe him alle newe. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3390 Ful oft sythe þe writ he dide rede. 1488–92 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 87 There was a writ fund .. sayand: In hac boxa [etc.]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 151 b, He couered his mynde craftely, that his writte myght haue some shewe. 1586 WHITNEY *Emblems* 143 Th' Emperor .. tooke his penne, for to confirme the cause. But all in vayne: .. he rente the writte in twaine. 1762 LD. TALBOT in *Wilkes' Lett.* (1769) I. 10 A person who hath been the object of the writ of any paper. 1891 WALSHAM How in *Life* (1898) 323 You have a writ given you, which is like a small cake. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 4/2 The writs of the insane are generally distinguished by great length.

transf. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1974 Đo Iacob saȝ dat sori writ [*sc.* the bloody coat], He gret.

†b. A written work, a book; also *pl.*, the writings or works of an author or authors. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Phænix* 405 Þæs þe us leornaras wordum secgaþ, & writu cyþaþ. *a* 1300 *Vices & Virtues* 35 He wisseð ðes mannes iðangc .. ðurh haliȝe writes. *c* 1250 *Hali Meid.* 9 And tat schal forðre i þis writ beon openliche ischeawet. *Ibid.* 39 Herone his read, þat he i þe fruncke of þis writ readde. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9655 Her after sone in þis writs, Whi he it dede, ze schul it wite. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 608 He wald-eyed was, as þe writ schewys. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 63 Woo to hem þat .. writun writtis of vanitalnes. 1486 HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 15 Sanct Paule in his wryttis, sayand [etc.]. 1508 KENNEDY *Flyting w. Dunbar* 238 How thy forbearis come .. the writ makis me war. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garment* (1616) C 3 b, The Authors .. in their written plaine discusse, Fairer was not Tytirus. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) Epist., In the following writ I point at the danger. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 665 Let Israels foes .. rashly judge his Writ Apocryphal. 1687 — *Hind & P.* III. 2 Much malice .. Perhaps may censure this mysterious writ.

c. *spec.* Sacred writings collectively, the Bible or holy Scriptures, = SCRIPTURE *sb.* 1; †a single passage in these. Freq. without article (cf. 2), in *Holy* or *Sacred Writ.* † Also *pl.*

a 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 79 Cwoeð forðon ðio writ, eghwoelc se ðe gilefeð on hine ne bið sceomiende. *c* 900– [see HOLY WRIT]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 54 Ah huu forðon bioð gefylled wurigotto? *Ibid.* Mark xii. 10 Ne writ ðius leornada ȝie. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 67 Þenc ðat ðe writt seið þat eure lie ðe mildce ouer ðe rihte dome. *c* 1420 *Lantern of Light* 132 Alle þoo þat trowen þat helþe may cum of vaing Goddis word þat we clepen writtes. ? *c* 1490 in *Ashmole MS.* (S.T.S.) I. 57 He vsit euer mercy and euer will for the writ sayis In eternum [etc.]. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, I. iii. 61 His Weapons [are] holy Sawes of sacred Writ. 1685 WALLER *Div. Love* I. 44 Sacred Writ our reason does exceed. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. i. 60 Cæsarea .. is remarkable in sacred writ upon several accounts.

transf. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. Prol. 12 At Tarsus, where each man Thinks all is writ he speken can.

† d. A written communication; a missive, letter.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 Sainte powel .. wrot þo a writ and sende hit synfulle men. *c* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 407 He .. sende iseelede writes .. to alle þe icuiðe clerkes. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 930 (Camb. MS.), A writ he dude deuise; Aþulf hit dude write. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4508 (Laud MS.), He .. sent to Alisaunder a wrytt. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1774 Delyuerieþ me þe wryt, þat Charles sente to sir Balanne. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 425 The knycht Schew him the wryt lord Persie had him sent. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. iii. 264 All too late I bring this fatall writ. 1590 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. ii. 26 A letter written to Hieronimo .. 'For want of incke receiue this bloudie writ'.

2. a. Without article (cf. 1 c). That which is written; written record.

c 1205 LAY. 25005 Nu ze habbeoð iherd .. wulc word heo sendeð us here into vre londe mid write [*c* 1275 writ] & mid worde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7137 (Laud MS.), Þe kynge .. tolde hem by wrytt his damage. *c* 1375 in *Anglia* I. 315 507 Þut after he [= Adam] gat þretty sones mo, .. þus in writ fynde y. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 84 As I in writt fynd. 1622 J. MAYER *Treas. Eccles. Expos.* 266 Barnabas cured the sick with the touch of euangelicall writ. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 184 If of my raign Prophetic Writ hath told That it shall never end. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 247 He .. Of ancient writ unlocks the learned store. *a* 1732 T. BOSTON *View Covt. Grace* (1734) 266 A Will declared, testified, and signified by Word or Writ. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iv, The mere human surmises and doubts which clash with Homeric writ!

† b. = WRITING *vbl. sb.* 9. Also *fig. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8495 Þis writte [on a marble stone] wit fele was red and sene. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1136 He bad bulden of marbre A pller .. & þat þei wrouhten a wrytte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/1 Wrytte, vpone a grave stone, .. *epitaphium*. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 393 Reid the writ of thar werk, to 30ur witness. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. xxxix, This found he grauen in the tender rinde; .. he mused on this vncouth writ. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* 203 There is writ remaining after sin is acted... Writ written with a pen of iron, and diamond.

c. Written command, order, or authority.

In later use generalised from the senses under 3.

a 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 3if hit ne be pley of lond by wryt. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Husb.* 48 Half þe writ or witnes for to schaw? *c* 1500 *Vox populi* 328 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 279 Lyens to compownde .. By fyne or wrytte of post. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 117 Touchyng appellatyonys in causys and remouyng by wrytt. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4103/3 Her Majesty hath been .. pleased, by Writ, to Call [him] to the House of Lords. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 148 The convention in 1688 .. did not assemble without writ. 1808 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* II. 1020 [When] the proceedings .. have been instituted in the county court by plaint, and not by writ.

3. A formal writing or paper of any kind; a legal document or instrument. (Passing into next.)

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Hu se papa Agatho hit feostnode mid his write. *a* 1200 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 203 Ich mid ðusen write ȝelde and ȝeue .. ten broðren on Chertseye ðo .x. hyden lond. 1298 HEN. III *Proclamation*, We senden ȝew þis writ open, ieained wiþ vre seel. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 136 He sende writes sone on-on After his erles. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 49 Alle to witnesse wel what þe writ wolde, In what manere that Meede in mariage was i-feffed. 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 257/2 Writtes executories under the Kynges grete Seale. 1487 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 402 (Paid) for a nother wrytte uppon the patent of lyvelode, ij.s. iiij.d. 1538 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 91 [He] was made a baron by the Kinges wryt. 1562–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 231 That he may haif inspectioun of the saidis writtis produclt. 1602 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* D vj, The Bishop .. Caus'd writs be set on Rochesters great Church .. commaunding me remem— .. appeare. 1672 *Sc. Acts* (1820) VIII. 87 The Writers to the signet .. are heirby discharged, to forme or write writtis of any kind .., unles [etc.]. 1729 T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* Pref. (1879) 22 A writ under his great seal. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 239 Witnessing the King's writ for that purpose. 1892 TENNYSON *Foresters* IV. 48 Lawful King, Whose writ will run thro' all the range of life.

b. *Law.* A written command, precept, or formal order issued by a court in the name of the sovereign, state, or other competent legal authority, directing or enjoining the person or persons to whom it is addressed to do or refrain from doing some act specified therein.

a 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 361 Þe wryt þat me pledeth in Þe Cites, by-fore Justyces. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 206 [To] come fully to the strengthe of the courte for the kyngis breef or writte. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1516) 33/1 A wryt was directed vnto the Mayre and Aldermen, chargynge theym that [etc.]. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* III. i. 89 Bring them away to execution: The writt is come aboue two houres since. 1620 *2nd Pt. Returne fr. Parnass.* v. iii. 2104 To be briefe Academico, writts are out for me, to apprehend me. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxiii. 4 There are no writts signed for their execution. 1717 Prior *Dove* xviii, This cruel Writ, wherein you stand Indicted. 1820 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) II. 779 After possession has been given under the writ. 1874 Ld. W. P. Lennox *Recoll.* I. 281 A brother of an M.P., finding sundry writs out against him.

c. With *of* (the specific designation).

Writ of aiel, certiorari, cessavit, distringas, ease, elegit, entry, error, execution, formedon, habeas corpus, injunction, inquiry, manumission, mesne, mort d'ancestor, non est inventus, privilege, prohibition, ravishment, rebellion, right, summons, venire facias, waste, etc.: see these words.

a 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 3if he is y-pleted by wryt of plee of londe. 1481 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 134 My wrethe of subpena. 1568–9 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 305 Any writt of dower. 1643 Cary *Expos. Job* I. 967 A writ or patent of protection. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s.v., Writ of Assistance,...of Privelege,...of Rebellion. 1833 *Act* 3–4 *Will. IV*, c. 27 § 36 [lists many writs thereby abolished]. 1868 *Act* 28 & 29 *Vict.* c. 104 § 47 A Writ of Diem clausit extremum may be issued.

d. *spec.* A document issued by the crown conveying a summons to a spiritual or temporal lord to attend Parliament, or directing a sheriff to hold an election of a member or members of Parliament.

c 1400 *Contin. Brut* 384 To þe parlement was somned by wryt...iiij bisshopes & iiij abbotes. 1455 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 335 He was elect Abbot...after the seid Parlement somond, and hadde never Writte of Parlement. 1573 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 147 The whrytt for reloynyng ye Parlament. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 630 Then was Edward Nevill by the King's Writ called unto the Parliament. 1659 Prynne (*title*), A Brief Register, Kalendar, and Survey of the several Kinds and Forms of Parliamentary Writs. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Sept. 1688, Writs were issued in order to a Parliament. 1709 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v. *Parliament*, Among the Parliament Writs 14 Eliz. 1762 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. lx. 292 They issued some writs for new elections. 1861 Buckle *Civilis.* (1869) II. 217 In 1264 [the Earl of Leicester] set the first example of issuing writs to cities and boroughs. 1888 J. Williams in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 697/1 The writ is to be returned by the returning officer...with the name of the member elected endorsed on the writ.

†4. = Writing *vbl. sb.* 5. Freq. *in writ. Obs.* (latterly *Sc.*).

c 1160 *Ælfric's Hom.* (MS. Bodl. 343) fol. 63 b, Felm wundrum...þe we her nyllmð on write setten. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Þet rihte ileue setten þe twelue apostles on write. *c* 1200 Ormin 3282 He badd settenn upp o writt All mannkinn, forr to lokenn [etc.]. *a* 1300 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 154 Skeig he was...Þat þis lore put in writte. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 13 To put in wryt a suthfast story. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* VII. 206 Loke ye do it well in wrytt. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 14 When in writ I do theirof reherse. 1652 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 446 The Bishop of Rosse his memorialls, left in writt. 1684 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst. Law Scot.* (1694) 218 A Testament...does require to be in Writ.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *writ-charter*; *writ-proof* adj., *-reader*, *-reading*; †**writ-rune**, a written character; hence in *pl.*, a document or letter.

c 1205 Lay. 5750 Þa com Þer a mon irnen...Þe brohte writ-runen. 1781 *Reading not preaching* II. 5 To apply this to our writ-reading clergy. *Ibid.* 7 All that writ-readers can read. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* lxxxviii, Our family have been writ-proof for centuries. 1906 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 506 The writ-charter addressed to the shire-moot.

Writ, dial. variant of Wart *sb.*

Writ (rit), *v. Anglo-Irish.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To serve (a person) with a writ or summons. Also *refl.*

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Nov. 8/1 Pat Herty [interjected]..'I was writted myself, and sold out'. 1894 Somerville & Ross *Real Charlotte* xxviii, Why don't ye writ her for the money?

Writabi·lity. *rare.* [Cf. next and Ability.] Capability, readiness, or disposition to write.

1770 H. Walpole *Let. to Lady Ossory* 15 Sept., Having recovered my write-ability enough to thank your ladyship..for your kind intentions. 1788 — *Let. to Mrs. H. More* 22 Sept., My writability in pressing my letters on you.

Writable (rəi·təbl), *a.* [f. Write *v.* + -able.]

1. That may be written; capable of being reduced to or set down in writing.

1782 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 30 Oct., The talk was by no means writable; but very pleasant. 1799 Coleridge in Sandford *T. Poole* (1888) I. 300, I go to the famous Harz Mountains..to see the mines...On my return I will write you all that is writable. 1853 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* III. ii. 97 All written or writable law respecting the arts is for the childish and ignorant.

2. Suitable for writing with.

1844 Mrs. Browning *Lett. Horne* (1877) I. 267, I am turning this pen round and round to find a writable side to it.

†**Writa·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [Irreg. f. as prec. + -ation.] Poor or insipid writing.

1778 Miss Carter *Lett. to Mrs. Montagu* (1817) III. 95 What writing, as somebody used to say, what writation it all is! 1787 Bentham *Whs.* (1843) X. 174 Nine-tenths of it is bad writation about the origin of society.

Writative (rəi·tătiv), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ative.]

1. Disposed to write; given or addicted to writing. Now *rare.*

1738 Pope *Let. to Swift* 17 Aug., Increase of years men more talkative but less writative. 1758 Chesterf. *Let.* 19 Dec., Deaf people are commonly as frivolously writative. 1900 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Jan. 83 Our 'writative' [illegible]

2. Marked by inclination or addiction to writing.

1946 Burke in *Leadbeater Papers* (1862) II. 72, I always distinguish between a man's talkative and writative character. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 102, I was in a fine writative vein.

Write (rəit), *sb.*[1] Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5–7 **wryte** (5 **vryte**, 6 *Sc.* **vryit**, **wryt**), 4 **wrijt**, 5 **wryjt**, 6 *north.* **wrighte**; *Sc.* 6–7 **wreit** (6 **vr-**, **ur-**), 7 **wreitte**, 6–9 **wreat**, 7 **wreatt**, **wrait**, 9 **wraet**, **vreet**. [var. of Writ *sb.* after Write *v.*, or directly f. the latter.

Examples earlier than the 16th century are prob. mere graphic variants of *writ* (as sometimes shown by the rime), but may have helped to introduce the new form.]

†1. That which is written; a written record or work; a writ, writing, letter, document, etc. *Obs.*

Latterly, and from *c* 1465 to *c* 1630 chiefly, *Sc.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8495 (Fairf.), Þis write wiþ many was rede and sene. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C.) 2260 Forþe he goth with þat wryte. 1466 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 214/2 Made the day of this present write be us and our counsale. 1500 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 32 We haiff subscriwit þis wryte wyth our handes. 1566 Stapleton *Ref. Untr. Jewel* IV. 32 The..Legat brought forth a write from Zosimus. 1568 T. Howell *Newe Sonets* (1879) 114 Thes my trifliyng toyes, and far vnconning writes. 1633 *Costlie Whore* IV. ii, Let's read these writes. What's here? complaints against my worthy brothers. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* (1699) 261 A Write that is null. 1703 Dalrymple *Coll. Sc. Hist.* 267, I have neither seen Writes nor Chartularies, only a Copy of the Charter. 1762 in *Nairne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 98 His own proper writes and evidents.

†2. a. *Holy* (or *the*) *Write*, = Writ *sb.* 1 c.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4845 Holy wryte swyche men holdes As wylde wulues brekyng foldes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 184 Þe fyrste skil..he tuk vt of haly vryte [*rime* it]. 14.. *Arth. & Merl.* 686 (Douce MS.), Þus holy wryȝt wetnessyþ hyt. 1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Pain* 537 Holy wryte teacheth you so. 1567 *Guds & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 113 Thow..hes promittit in the write..Of all thair Sin to mak thame quyte.

†b. Written record; writing; = Writ *sb.* 2. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

1483 in *Acts Lords of Council* (1918) II. p. cxxvii, Ane act of the Lordis..gevin thairupon be..actentik write and His felowe to twite. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 366 Of the quhilk..the nobillis..hard tell alswell be wreit as be toung. *c* 1657 Sir W. Mure *Whs.* (S.T.S.) II. 238 The monuments of wryte of the greatest antiquitie. 1681 Stair *Instit.* I. 345 Private Ways are Constitute..by going and coming that way uninterrupted..fourty years without Write, or any other Right. 1885 Jamieson *Suppl.*, *Write*,..writing, as contrasted with verbal communication.

†3. *Law.* = Writ *sb.* 3 b, c. *Obs.*

a 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 361 Wrytes of newe disseysyne,..And wrijt of ryȝt of dowarye. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 212 Ye must have a meen be sum wryte of trespas for them. 1489–90 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 92 Afore Easter, send upp your pardons, wrytes of dedimus. 1526 in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 2 By wright of entre. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 117 He wyl by wryte remoue hys cause to the court at Westmynstur. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 249 A Baylife..serued with one wryte an whole score or tweyne.

4. *Sc.* = Writ *sb.* 4. Only in phr. *in write.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 227 The king..All his desyr in wryte syne to him send. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. David II*, 47 The summonds..sall be put in write. *a* 1645 Ld. Napier *Mem.* (1793) 49 To set downe there..informations in wreat under there hand. 1727 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 270 They behoved to set them [*sc.* answers] down in write.

5. a. *Sc.* Handwriting; manner or style of calligraphy.

Hand of write: see Hand *sb.* 16 b.

a 1614 J. Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 185 He causit wryt a copie in guid wrait. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Laws Scot.* II. 525 One mans write will differ from it self at several occasions. 1814 *Galt's New Brit. Theatre* I. 351 Whose write is it? not Henry's, sure, no—yes! 1825 Jamieson *Suppl.* s.v., *Swa' write*, small text; *Grit*, *Big*, or *Muckle write*, round text. 1887 Service *Life Dr. Duguid* 190 My write being noo very crabbit.

b. *Write-of-hand*, the art or method of writing. *dial.*

1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's L.* xliii, A could wish as a'd learned write-of-hand,..for a've that for to tell Christopher as might set his mind at ease.

Write (rəit), *sb.*[2] [f. the vb.]

1. *Write-off*: †a. A printed form with blanks for filling in with writing. *Obs.*

1732 Beawes *Lex Merc. Redivo.* 363 No Money will be paid..without such a Draught, or what is called, a Write off. 1826 in P. Auber *Analysis, Suppl.* (1828) 56 For every sum drawn out of the Bank of England, a write-off, or draft, shall be signed.

b. A cancellation in or by writing.

1905 *Daily Chron.* 22 July 2/6 The write-off in respect of the short weight was inevitable.

2. *Write-up*, a written account or description commending or praising a person or thing. Orig. (and chiefly) *U.S.*

1887 *Aberdeen* (Dakota) *Republican* 31 Dec. 2/2 The LaMoure Progress..has an elaborate write-up of its city and county. 1902 Eliz. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 22 What 'write-ups' they gave me, to be sure!

Write, obs. var. Wright *sb.*[1]

Write (rəit), *v.* Forms: (see below). [OE. *writan*, = OFris. *writa* to score, write (Frisn. *writs* to wear by rubbing, etc.), OS. *wrītan* to cut, write (MLG. *wrīten*), OHG. *rīzan* to tear, draw (MHG. *rīzen*, G. *reissen*), ON. *rita* to score, write (Norw. *rita*, *vrita*, Sw. *rita* to draw); cf. ON. and Icel. *rita* (wk. v.), to write. The relationship of the stem *writ-* to Du. and LG. forms without *w* (MDu. and MLG. *riten*, etc.) is doubtful.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Inf.* (and *Pres. stem*). α. 1–2 **writan**, 2–4 (6 *arch.*) **writen** (3 *Orm.* **writenn**, **writtenn**), 4 **wryten**, 5 **-yn**, **writon**; 4– **write** (5 **wrijte**, 9 *dial.* **wroite**). 4–6 **wryte** (5 **wreyte**, **whryte**, **wryth(e**, 9 *north. dial.* **wreyt**), 5 **wrytt(e**, 5–7 **wryt**, 6 **vryt**; 5 **wrighte**, 6–7 **wright**, 6 *Sc.* **vriht**, 5 **wrygth**, **wryȝt(e**, 5–6 **wryght**, 6 **wrychte**. β. 4–5, *Sc.* 6 **writte**, 5–6 *Sc.*, 8 **writt**, 4, *Sc.* 5–7 **writ**, *Sc.* 5–7 **vrit**. γ. 5–7, 9 *Sc.* **wret** (7 *Sc.* **vret**), 6 **wreit**, **wrete**, *Sc.* **wreit**, **ureit**, 7–9 **wreat** (9 **vreet**, **wireete**). δ. *Sc.* 6 **wraite**, 9 **vrait**.

α. 832 in *O. E. Texts* 445 Þis mid episcopus rodetacne [lc] festnie & write. 835 *Ibid.* 447 Ic abba xeroefa cyðe & writan hate hu min willa is. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 40, Matheus..agan his godspell to writen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 648 [None] mai write..Þe mikel ioy. 14.. *Chaucer's Anel. & Arc.* 209 (Harl. MS.), Sheo gane hit wreyte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wrytyn, *scribo*. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 87 [He prayeth] me to wrythe to 30w. ?*a* 1450 tr. *Higden* V. 359 Orator..did wryȝte the Actes of thapostles. 1480 in *Cely Papers* (Camden) 52 As of any tydynges her y con none wrytt yow as ȝett. 1503 Dunbar *Thistle & Rose* 23 In my honour sum thing thow go wryt [*rime* delyt]. 1589 Peele *Eglogue* B j b, To writen sike praise. ?1626 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* xvi. 3 My barren muse..to wryt forbears. 1673 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* July (1914) 98 Thou should wright to her. 1864 Tennyson *North. Farmer* xv, Summun I reckons 'ull 'a to wroite.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5323 Þe king þan did his lettres writte [*rime* lite]. *Ibid.* 9898 Fairer..þan..ani clerc mai writ wit inc. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxxxii, Quhat nedis me..To writt all this? 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 25 Al the buikis..quhilk..oders cane writ. *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 365 To writt her life. 1704 Atholl in *Seafield's Lett.* (1915) 137, I did myself the honour to writte..last week.

γ. 1477 in *Malcolmiana MS.* (S.T.S.) 28 *Sarffe*,..to wret. 1536 Boorde in *Introd.*, etc. (1870) 52 To wrett att theyr request. *a* 1547 in *Anglia* XII. 260 Off hur goodnese then wolde I wrete. 1573 Tyrie in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 11, I haif thocht..to wreit this writting amanges the rest. 1603 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 31 The man that teichis me to vret. 1640 Sir W. Mure *Counter-Buff* 52 A schollar..A pasquill did against his Countrey wreat. 1699 *Seafield's Lett.* (1912) 256, I have..litell to wret. 1705 *Ibid.* (1915) 46 He layes it on me to wreat. 1859 E. B. Ramsay *Remin.* v. (ed. 5) 99 To write..in old-fashioned Scotch pronunciation..[is] to wireete. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xlix, Ye'll jist vreet aff at ance. 1914 Angus *Shetland Gloss.* 158 *Wret*,..to write; *p.t.* and *pa. p.* wret.

δ. 1564 Q. Mary in *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* XIV. 202 We ar movit..to wrait this present unto you. 1580 Hay in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 68 That quhilk Ihone Caluin wraites in the fourt buik. 1866 Gregor *Banffsh. Gloss.* 204 *Vrait*,..to write.

b. *3rd pers. sing.* 1–4 **writ**, 3 **wryt**.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 2 Mycel yfel deð se ðe leas writ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 Þe deofel..writ heo [*sc.* a sin] in his tables. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 245 The Philosophre..Writ and conselleth to a king.

2. *Pa. t.* a. *Sing.* (latterly also *pl.*). α. 1–6, 9 *north. dial.* **wrat** (3 *pl.* **wratonn**, 5 **whrat**, *Sc.* **vrat**, **wart**), 4, 6 **wratte**; 2, 4– **wrate**, 5 **wraite**, *Sc.* 5–7 **wrait**, 5 **wrayt(e**, 6 **wraitt**, **vrait**, 9 *dial.* **wraat**, **wreat**.

Since *c* 1300 chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*, but also in southern use *c* 1540–*c* 1620.

743–5 in Earle *Land Charters* (1888) 42 Wilfrið bisceop he hit wrat. *c* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 God þas laȝe..wrate his him self. *c* 1200 [see B. 4 b]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 21243 Þe godspel in itali he wratte [*Fairf.* wrate, *rime* smate]. *c* 1378 *Ibid.* 1470 (Fairf.), Ennoc..wrate [*Gött.* wrat] sum bokis wiþ his hande. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. 1854 Þis Alexander..Wart [*v.r.* wrait] til Schir Mathow. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 76 The clawys that ȝe whrat of Laysetter. 1585 Whitney *Choice Embl.* (1586) *4 b, Seneca..wratte lamentable Tragedies. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1912) 25 Upon a roote of the tree..she wrat this couplet. 1620 T. Peyton *Glasse Time* I. 51 That sweete Disciple which the Gospell wrate. 1708 Falconer in Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 130, I wrate once and again. 1824 [Carr] *Craven Gloss.* 124 *Wraat*,..wrote. 1828– in Yorks. and Linc. glossaries (*wrate*). 1894 Hesslop *Northumbld. Gloss.* 799 He wrat him a letter.

β. 3–8 **wrot**, 5–6 **wrotte**, **wrott**; 4 **wrote**, 5 *pl.* **wroten**, 6 **wroate** (**wroght**); 4–5 **wroot**, 6 **wroott**, **wrout(e**.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Elch of hem wrot [= *Lamb. Hom.* 75 wrat] his uers. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9281 A fende..wrote alle þat euer þey spake. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4778 (Laud MS.), He..wroot Alle þise wondres. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xix. 478, I..wrote [*v.r.* wroot, wrouȝte, wroȝt] as me mette. *c* 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* Acts xv. 23 The apostlis..wroten..greting. ?1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 200 A letter from you wherin ȝe wrotte for your mone. 1513 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 282 A letter the Swyssers wrootte unto me. *a* 1529 Skelton *Ware Hawke* 282, I wrote a verse. ?*c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. 189 Sythe I last wroght to you. 1557 in Foxe *A. & M.* (1576) 2891/1 Whether thou wrotest it not. 1590 Tarltun *News Purgat.* A 2 Virgill after he wrot his *Aeneides*, wrote his *Cukas*. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. 246 He wrot to..Cecil to release him.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 299 A Letter..which thou wrotest.

γ. 5–9 (now *dial.*) writ (6 *Sc.* vrit), 5–7 writt, (7 ritt), 6–7 writte; 5 wryt, 6 wrytte.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6585 There as he writ of these worchynges. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 15 3e wryt to me a clawys in your letter. 1539 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 152 Yowr Kyng wrytte agaynste Lwttber. 1562 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione* II. (1900) 144 A letter which [she] writt unto her lover. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 226 They writ to all their brethren. 1648–63 [see B. 22 b]. 1666 in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 14, I ritt wonce to you. *a* 1699 Lady Halkett *Autobiog.* (Camden) 9 My Lord H. writt to my mother. *a* 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 323, I writ to her, she received my letter. 1788 *Trifler* No. 12. 156 Authors (who writ in the Latin tongue). 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. i, He writ back a letter.

δ. 5–7 wrote.

c 1454 Pecock *Folewer* 7 þe book which y write in englisch. 1582 R. Robinson tr. *Leland's Assertion* iii. 5 That Iohn which concerning Arthure write the golden historie. *a* 1700 [see B. 16].

ε. *Sc.* 6–7 wreit (vreit), 7 wreitt, wreat, 6 wrett, 6, 9 wret.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* 116 Also he vreit ane lettir. *c* 1560 [see B. 7 b]. *a* 1568 *Henryson's Sum Practysis* 9 (Bann. MS.), The quhilk..3e nocht vnderstude, Bot wrett on as 3e culd. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* (T.) 645 Witness sum vers he wreit [*Harl. MS.* wreat]. *a* 1600 —*Poems* (1910) 240 Sant peter wrett ane vþair quhair. 1652 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 45, I wreitt lykewayes to my sone in law to assist him. 1914 [see A. 1 γ].

b. *Pl. a.* 1 writon, 3–5 writen (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4–5 wryten, 5 writun, wrytyn (9 *dial.* rit'n); 4 write, 5 whryte, *Sc.* wryt.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xviii. § 3 Eac þa ðe hi ymb writon. *a* 1200 *Vices & V.* 27 Þat ðe ure hali faderes..writen. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 85 Yit of that Calistre And Aristotle whylom write To Alisandre, thou schalt wite. *c* 1450 Capgrave *St. Gilbert* 95 Þei..mor-ouyr wrytyn and sent on-to þe Pope, compleynyng. 14.. *Wycliffite Bible* Acts xv. 23 The apostlis..wroten [*v.r.* wryten, writen, writun]..to hem.. greting. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 55 3e whryte to howr father that [etc.]. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss.* 86 Wey rit'n,..Yai rit'n,..Dhai rit'n.

β. 1 wreotan, -on, 4–5 wreten, wrete.

852 in Birch *Cartul.* II. 58 Her sindan ða naman ðere mounа þe þis wreotan & festnedan. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* (1890) 346 Þætte seolfan þa his lareowas set his muðe wreoton. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 94 Þe gentil genosophistiens.. To þe emperour alixandre here answerus wreten. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 147 Athanasius..and oþer bisshoppes ..wrete for seventy chapitres. *c* 1440 *Wycliffite Bible* Acts xv. 23 (MS. Bodl. 277), Þe apostlis..wreten bi þe hondis of hem..greetyng. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 76 Your eronds that ye wrete to me fore.

ey] wr

oon epistil. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 88 My cosyn Cler wrytted to me that sche spake with Schrowpe.

3. *Pa. pple.* a. *a.* (*a*) 1 ȝewriten, 2–3 ȝewriten, 3–5 i-, 4–5 ywriten, 4 ywriton, -ein, 3–4 i-, 5 ywryten, 5–6 -yn. (*b*) 1–7 writen (1 uuriten, 3 *Orm.* writenn, 5–6 wirten, 5 -in), 4–5 writene, 4–5, *Sc.* 6 -in, 5 -yn, -on, -un, 6 *Sc.* writyn(e; 4–6 wryten, 4–5 -yn (wyrtyn, 5 *Sc.* vyrtyn), 5 -un, -on, -ine, *Sc.* vrytin; 6 wryghten, 6–7 wrighten.

(*a*) *c* 880 in *O. E. Texts* 452 Ond sio ðis lond gewriten & unbesliten [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 [It] wes iwriten inne þa table. *Ibid.*, Nu weren þas þreo laȝe ȝe-writen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4042 Hit is y-writein. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 174 Wordes i-writen in þe Ewangelye. †*c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 221 Y wrytyn at Godolphyn.

(*b*) *Beowulf* 1688 On ðæm wæs or writen fyrn-ȝewinnes. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 224 A boken hit[is] writen þer me mei hit reden. *a* 1400 in *Ra.ig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 157 Tyl a lettre of loue me lede, þat was wyrtyn on a wall. *a* 1447 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 8 Wrytyn..the xij. day of Marche. 1517 *Lincoln Wills* (Linc. Rec. Soc.) V. 75 The last will.. wirten the day a bovesaid. 1552 *Office of Augm., Misc. Bk. XLV*, No. 147 The daye..aboue wryghten. 1693 *Seafield's Lett.* (1912) 127 This is wryten in my bed. 1703 *Ibid.* (1915) 8, I have writen to the Earle.

β. 4–5 iwritten, 5 ywrytten, 6 ywritten; 4– written (5–6 writtyn, 5–6, *Sc.* 7 -in, 7 writt'n), 4–6 wrytten, 5 wryttyn (whryttyn), 5–6 -yne, 9 *Sc.* vrutten.

13.. *Cursor M.* 6993 In his time war þe fabu[l]s written. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VIII. 41 As it is i-written in his lyf. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Chron.* II. 225 As in þe Bibil wryttyn [*v.r.* writtin] is. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 78, I have whryttyn to yow dyvarys lettyrs. 1582 A. Brooke *Romeus & Jul.* 721 Ywritten haue I red..There is no better way to fishe. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 71 Things not before discourst or writt'n of. 1872 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xlviii, [How] hiana he vrutten to you?

γ. 4–5 iwreten, 5 -yn, ywreten; 4–7 wreten, 4–6 -yn, 5–6 -in, 5 -yne, -on, *Sc.* 6–7 wreittin (6 vreittin), 7 wreaten, 6 wraitten.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 79 As þere is wreten in lettres. *Ibid.* 441 Emerus..had i-wreten and descryved Anselmes lyf. 14.. *Chaucer's Sec. Nun's T.* 91 (Lansd. MS.), Euery where þis wordes al wi[ȝ]golde wreten [*Camb. MS.* i-wretyn] were. 1476 in *Cely Papers* (Camden) 4 That Thomas Kesten hat ywretten vnto me. 1534 Cromwell in *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 385 Wretyn at my house. 1582 *Exechq. Rolls Scotl.* XXI. 422 The landis aboune wreittin. 1664 J. Carstairs *Lett.* (1846) 109, I have wreaten ane other lyne to the Lord Chancellor. 1685 *Seafield's Lett.* (1912) 10, I would have wreten to you. 1693 *Ibid.* 109 [A letter] wraitten to him.

δ. 5, *Sc.* 6 wrettyn, 6 wretten (-on, *Sc.* -in).

1445 *Paston Lett.* I. 39 Wrettyn in haste, at Norwich. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxvi. 407 Letters..wretten on the pament. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 50 This letter..[was] wrettin be thir thrie fotreaid personis in all heist.

ε. 7 *Sc.* wraitten.

a 1614 J. Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 367, I have wraitten a special treatise thairof.

b. *a.* 3–5 i-, ywrite, ywryte; 3–7, *Sc.* 8 write (7 wright), 4–6 wryte.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 241 Hit is iwrite Nemo [etc.]. *c* 1200, etc. [see Ywrit *pa. pple.*]. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 228 (Trin.), A boc hit is write. 13.. *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 1902 Ywrite [*v.r.* wryte] was lo þis. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* cccxvi, Þe sothe as y fynd yn story y wryte. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 43 Wryte at London. 1678 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm* App. V. 53 Hee has wright my Lord all particulars. 1688 [see B. 15 a]. 1705 Seafield *Lett.* (1915) 61 It is write by one I can trust.

β. 5 i-, ywritte, 5, 6–7 *arch.* ywrit; 5–6 writte (5 whritte), 5 wrytte, 5–6 wryt, 6– (now *dial.* or *arch.*) writ, 6–7 writt.

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 122 As y fynde writte. 1424 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 39 I-wrytte at London. 1457 *Paston Lett.* I. 417 Wryt hastily at London. *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Anglia* XVIII. 273 As it is writt. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 19 Her sacred Booke, with bloud ywrit. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. xxvi, On which..be ywrit These words. 1681 Penn in *Penn-sylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* (1864) I. 210, I have..writt truth. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1103 The letter..being writ And folded.

γ. 3–5 iwrete, 4–5 ywrete; 4–6 wrete, 7 *Sc.* wreat(e, wreitt.

c 1175 Lay. 29981 Þat soþe his iwrete. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2179 Hyt ys seyde þurgh lawe wrete, þat [etc.]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil Pilgr.* 10008 The word ywrete in sapyence. *a* 1529 Skelton *Bouge of Court* 438 On that sleue these wordes were wrete. 1568 J. Carstairs *Lett.* (1846) 97, I have wreate a lyne to the Provost in that matter. 1694 *Seafield's Lett.* (1912) 144 The Secretarys are wreitt to anent it.

δ. 5 ywret; 5 wrette, 5, *Sc.* 9 wret, 5, 7 wrett.

1423 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 83 Y wret at Exeter the day..a bove y sayd. †1460 *Paston Lett* I. 539 Wret the v. day of Decembre. 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 126 The other was wrett yesternight. 1914 [see A. 1 γ].

ε. 6–8, 9 *dial.* or *illit.* wrote (6 roten), 7 wroate; 6 wrotte, 7 wrott, 7–8 wrot.

1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede* 22 Such thinges as I haue wrote of the most holy father. *c* 1572 Gascoigne *Fruites* xcii, When workes of warre are wrotte by such as I. 1637 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Drinke* D j b, So I .Have wroate a hotchpotch. 1693 Pepys in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 212 As had they been wiott on purpose. 1710 Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* iii. 154 An exhortatory Epistle wrot to him. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Verse*, The Books themselves were wrote [1738 written] all running. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxiv, Has she wrote to me? 1879– in dial. glossaries (Shropsh., Warw., etc.).

B. Signification.

I. *trans.* 1. †a. To score, outline, or draw the figure of (something); to incise. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1688 Hroðgar .. hylt sceawode, ealde lafe, on ðæm wæs or writen fyrn-ȝewinnes. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 160 Nim sume tiglan..& writ on hiere ða burg Hierusalem. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 290 Writ þonne þam horse on þam heafde foran cristes mæl. *c* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 190 [She] wrat on hire breoste..þe hali rode taken. *c* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 413 Another thing was don there write That semede lyk an Ipocrite. *a* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 1350 Loue þat art so mykel of myȝt, Writ in myn herte þat reuful sȝt. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 136 By myne eie the Crow his clawe dooth wright. 1590 — *F. Q.* II. viii. 43 Guyons shield..Whereon the Faery Queenes pourtract was writ.

b. To form (letters, symbols, words, etc.) by carving, engraving, or incision; to trace in or on a hard or plastic surface, esp. with a sharp instrument; to record in this way.

In later use not clearly distinguished from sense 2.

a 1000 *Gnomic Verses* 139 Ræd sceal mon secgan, rune writan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* x. 2 Ic write on ðam bredum ða word ðe wæron on ðam ðe ðu ær bræce. *c* 1175, *c* 1250 [see Table *sb.* 2 a]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 80 Þorw carectus þat cryst wrot þe iewes knewe hemselues Gultier.. Þan þe woman. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) iii. 17 In the Dust and in the Powder..thei wroot Lettres and Figures with hire Fingres. *c* 1450 Capgrave *St. Augustine* 25 He took a peyre tables, and wroot in þe wax al his desir. 1538 Coverdale *Deut.* xxvii. 3 Thou shalt set vp greate stones, ..and wryte vpon them all the wordes of this lawe. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 117 Men being first inforced to write their actes..in barkes of trees. 1649 Ogilby tr. *Virg., Bucolicks* v. 13 I'll try that Song on the green Beech I writ. 1697 J. Lewis *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 77 He made an Epitaph..to be wrote on a stone. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* III. 325 On Poets' Tombs see Benson's titles writ. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 582 Blush, calumny! and write upon his tomb..Thy deep repentance of thy thousand lies. 1832 Sir F. Palgrave *Hist. Anglo-Sax.* vii. 153 The slips of bamboo upon which the inhabitants..write or scratch their compositions with a bodkin. 1887 Lockie *Lond. Lyrics* 32 It was I wrote her name on the sand.

Ag. and in fig. context. *c* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 [Jesus Christ] þe sceolde his agen wille .. in ure heorte write. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25586 Suete iesu I..þi pines in vr hertes write. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* 109 Þy countretayle þey wil shewe, þe skore, In helle or in heuene, wreten trewe. 1599, 1620 [see Table *sb.* 2 c]. *a* 1628 Preston *Effectual Faith* (1631) 49 It is the Holy Ghost that must write them in your hearts: woe can but write them in your hands. 1633 H. More *Antid. Ath.* I. ix. 27 When we see writ in our Souls.. the Name or rather the Nature and Idea of God. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* i. 2 The names of the older generations are writ in brass on the glowing walls of the Inferno.

transf. 1588 Shaks. *Titus A.* III. i. 170 Which of your hands hath not..rear'd aloft the bloody Battleaxe, Writing destruction on the enemies Castle? *a* 1623 Fletcher *Love's Cure* I. i, Useless are all words Till you have writ performance with your swords. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxii, Roll on, thou..dark blue Ocean!..Time writes no wrinkle on thy azure brow.

c. fig. *To write in the dust, in* or *on sand, water, the wind*, etc., with reference to absence of abiding record. (See Water *sb.* 1 f, and cf. Sand *sb.*[2] 2 c.)

1513 More *Edw. V* (1641) 130 For men use to write an evill turne in marble stone, but a good turne in the dust. 1612–3 [see Water *sb.* 1 f]. *a* 1634 Chapman *Revenge for Honour* v. ii, Words writ in waters, have more lasting Essence, then our determinations. *a* 1658 Lovelace *Poems* (1904) 203 But what women say to kind Lovers, we write in rapid streams and wind. 1793 J. Nott tr. *Catullus* lxvii. II. 213 What.. are woman's vows? Fit to be written but on air, Or on the stream! 1821 Keats in *Poet. Wks.* (1876) p. xxx, Here lies one whose name was writ in water. 1846 Mrs. Browning *Lett.* (1899) I. 433, I may say of Henrietta that her only fault is, her virtues being written in water. 1847 Mangan *Poems* (1903) 99 Oh! let not your vow Have been written in sand!

d. *transf.* To impress or stamp marks indicating (some condition or quality) *on, in*, or *over* a person, etc.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 162 There is written in your brow Prouost, honesty and constancie. *a* 1653 H. Binning *Sermon* Wks. (1845) 648 Insobriety is written upon many passages of your behaviour. 1668 Dryden *Mac Flecknoe* 195 A Tun of Man in thy large Bulk is writ. 1844 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxv, Cook and housekeeper is written on her round face. 1866 Lever *Sir B. Fossbrooke* I. 78 One on whom Nature had written gentleman. *a* 1899 in *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 1/2 Duty is written all over him.

2. To form or delineate (a letter, symbol, ideogram, etc.) on paper or the like with a pen, pencil, etc.; to trace (significant characters) in this manner.

743–5 [see A. 2 a]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xvi. 6 Nim þine fetere..& writ fiftiȝ. *c* 1200 Ormin Ded. 104 Þatt he An bocstaff writte twiȝȝess. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2527 And he ðat ðise lettres wrot, God him helpe well not. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2481 We deme, þat..þare be writen þise leteres: 'þis is þe swike' [etc.]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VI. 221 He fonde þre R and þre F i-write. *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* 16 Þat digit þat þou hast y-write. 1521 Barclay *Introductory* B j, Whan .P. is wryten in the ends of a worde in frenche. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 31 And her before the vile Enchaunter sate, Figuring straunge characters of his art, With liuing bloud he those characters wrate. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III. 12 It was as easie..to erre in writing two for sixe and twentie, as for three and twentie. 1647 T. Hill *Paul* (1648) 25 Some tell us Jeremiah and Zachary written contractively in the Hebrew are the same. 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Voy.* I. 4 Unhappily, the Secretary wrote Zeila for Dancala. 1845 *Kitto's Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* (1849) I. 602 At other times they [*sc.* hieroglyphics] are phonetic, and written by an alphabet of about 140 letters. 1887 A. J. Ellis in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 381 Some system of writing speech-sounds.

b. To enter or record (a name) with a pen, etc.; to mention (a person) in this way. Also in fig. context.

c 1200 Ormin 3554 He shall writenn alle þa þatt cwemmdenn himm o life Onn eche liless bokess writt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6889 He..wrat þe nam, and sett to sele. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 31 Otho..heet take hym þe names i-wrote of hem þat were gilty. *a* 1400 in Heath *Grocer's Comp.* (1869) 41 Plate, Alle these xxij personis before wretyn. *a* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 884 To writon vs in buk þat neuere failes. 1472 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 25 We ordeyn that all vacabondes, bifore writen, kepe gode reule. 1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* iv. 3 Al soch as are written amonge the lyuynge at Ierusalem. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Inscribo*, They write their owne names in the titles of their bookes. 1683 Cockeram II. s.v., To Write his name to a Band. 1714 Addison *Spect.*, No. 568 ₱ 3 [He] had written the Names of several Persons..at the Side of every Sin..mentioned by that excellent Author. 1772 R. Fergusson *Braid Claith* i, To hae your name Wrote in the bonny book of fame. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., St. Barnabas* v, Never so blest, as when in Jesus' roll They write some hero-soul. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* v, Glynn took her programme and wrote his own name for several waltzes.

fig. 1594 Spenser *Amoretti* lxxv, My verse..shall..in the heuens wryte your glorious name. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) 248 *To write one's name on a joint*, to have the first cut at anything,—leaving sensible traces of one's presence on it.

3. a. To set down in writing; to express or present (words, etc.) in written form; to pen. Also (*b*) said of the pen, etc. Occas. in fig. context.

In frequent use from *c* 1380.

852 in *O. E. Texts* 446 Ic..mid cristes rodetacne ðis festnie & write. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 233 Se Halga Gast dihtode ealle þa þing þe haligе men writon. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* xxxi. 24 Æfter ðam ðe Moyses wrat ðisse æ bebodu. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 23 Hire bone wes þet ich hit write on bocfelle. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 467 in *O.E. Misc.* 50 Pilates wrot him seolf a writ al on hying. *c* 1290 *Beket* 222 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 123 þis child..Seruede A borgeys of þe toun, and his a-countes wrot. 1303 [see A. 2 β]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 174 Þeos beþ wordes i-writen in þe Ewangelye. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 566 in *26 Pol. Poems* 139 Who may graunte me thys boone, That my wordes wreten were. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 11 He..wrott in alle his lettres..the yere of his regne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 2 These instruccyons ye I haue gathered & wryten for you. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. i. 37 Can you not reade it? Is it not faire writ? 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 489 A Comforter..the Law of Faith..upon thir hearts shall write. 1688 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* July (1912) 136 At leasure it may bee written faire in the Booke. 1732 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III.

(1754) 163 His Hand had wrote what was directly contrary to the Dictates of his malicious Mind. 1788 Clara Reeve *Exiles* III. 191, I will get these instructions wrote in a proper form. 1825 J. F. Cooper *L. Lincoln* III. 258 At the close of his long life, he wrote Gen., Bart., and M.P. after his name.

(*b*) 1883 J. G. Petrie *Man. for Type-Writer* 4 Machines ..which write capitals and small letters. 1897 *Strand Mag.* May 593/2 No pen can write, no song sing, and no story tell of half their happiness.

fig. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 35 About it, and write happy when th'hast done. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1671) 134, I painted a providence of my own, and wrote ease for my self and a peaceable ministery. 1888 Ruskin *Præterita* III. iv. 159 Mozart's birth wrote the laws of melody for all the world ..irrevocably.

b. To form by painting or the like; to paint.

a 1400 [see A. 3 a a]. 1586 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 54 Alle churches new whytte-lymed, with the commandmenttes wryttyne on the walles. 1861 in *Archæol.* (1770) I. 16 To the peynter for wrighting the scripture. 1714 Swift tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. 90 The lines Writ underneath the Country Signs. 1837 Whittock *Bk. Trades* (1842) 358 Most mere house-painters undertake to paint sign boards..and..write them tolerably well. 1889 Sutherland *Sign-Writing* I. 2 A man might set out and write a sign in the time.

† c. To translate *into* another language. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Babees Bk.* 1 This tretys the whiche I thenke to wryte Out of latyn in-to my comyne langage.

d. *Writ* (*written*) *large*, penned, recorded, or exhibited in large or prominent characters. Chiefly in fig. use.

c 1645 Milton *Sonn., On new Forcers of Conscience* 20 *New Presbyter* is but *Old Priest* writ Large. 1866 'Geo. Eliot' *F. Holt* viii, The man was no more than the boy writ large, with an extensive commentary. 1868 Farrar *Silence & V.* iii. (1875) 56 Let us look beyond them, and see it writ large upon the history of nations. 1877 L. Morris *Epic Hades* II. 217 That my life.. Was but a tale Writ large by Zeus.

e. Of a manuscript, etc.: To bear or exhibit in writing.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. iii. 145 Whose Chronicle thus writ, The man was Noble. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 470 P 2, I have ..been informed, that such or such Ancient Manuscripts for an *et* write an *ac*.

† f. To employ in dating. *Obs.*

1681 Marius *Adv. Bills of Exchange* (1700) 13 At Hamborough and Strasburg..they do write the same stile with us here in England, namely old stile; but in all other parts beyond the Seas..they do generally write new stile.

g. To print by means of a typewriter; to type-write; = Type *v.* 4.

1883 J. G. Petrie *Man. for Type-Writer* 3 Writing and re-writing familiar words until the fingers run easily.

4. To state or relate in writing; to draw up or frame a written statement of (circumstances, events, etc.); to chronicle or make a record of. Also with *to*, *unto* (a person), or indirect personal object.

In very frequent use from *c* 1300.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* Pref. (1890) 4 Þæt ic be ðam halgan fæder Cuðbyrhte wrat oððe on þysse bec oððe on oðre. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Fela þinga we magon writan þe on ðam ilcan geare gewordene wæron. *c* 1175 [see A. 1 b]. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 695 In boke is ðe turtres lif writen o rime. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6793 As it is of hire iwrite, & of ire holi fame. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17843 We sal yow write..All þat we herd and sagh. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8970 Þere..Þey dede to wryte yn boke þys chaunce. 1387, 1423 [see A. 3 a, γ, 2 β]. 1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 71, I wrythe to 3ow the very cause why. 1497 Bp. Alcok *Mons Perfect.* C j b/2 Cryst cam into ye worlde, as it is wryte. 1559 in T. Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 17 We woll not write it for gospell that their power is so greate. 1568 Hacket tr. *Thevet's New found World* xxvii. 42 b, There resteth nowe to wright that, the which we haue learned. 1643 Digby *Observ. Relig. Med.* (1644) 44 To peruse what I have written at full upon this point. 1672 J. Webster *Metallogr.* i. 12 The *Collegium Conimbricense* are perswaded that he writ the truth. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 18 Whose life is so curiously writ by Thomas Hubert. 1794 *J. H. Moore's Pract. Navig.* (ed 10) 169 Occurrences which are written on the log-board. 1833 Tennyson *Dream Fair Wom.* lx, It is written that my race Hew'd Ammon, hip and thigh. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* II. i. 55 Which alms (Remembering what was writ of Magdalen) I gave not grudging.

fig. and *transf.* *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 He..wrot mid his owune blode salus to his leofmon. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xvii. 181 His herte blod wrot oure hele, And Ihesus body, þe parchemyn is. *a* 1586 Sidney *De Mornay* v. P 9 We read in nature that there is but one God, as a thing which we finde written euen in the least creatures. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. i. 22 That selfe-hand Which writ his Honor in the Acts it did. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1682) 814 Those Testimonies of it [*sc.* God's patience], which were written in showers, and fruitful seasons. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 311 In adverse providence, when ponder'd well, So dimly writ, or difficult to spell. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xiv. 355 The great tale of which it became the theatre is legibly written on its natural features.

b. With clause as object, either introduced by *that*, etc., or directly quoted.

(*a*) 835 [see A. 1 a]. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* (1890) 42 Writeð Eutropius þæt Constantinus se casere were on Breotone acenned. *Ibid.* 460 Hi on heora sinoðgewrit ongeþeoddon, & þus writon betwyh him: Wilfrið [etc.]. *c* 1200 Ormin (1878) II. 354 Acc hallȝhe weress wratenn uss,..þatt [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 42 Leteð writen on one scrowe hwat se ȝe ne kunneð nout. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 4 If noman write hou that it stode. 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 348 As ye wrygth they sey now. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 397 A table wherin was wreton wyth letters of gold Passe no further [etc.]. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 230 Of Pompeius it is writen, that [etc.]. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 99 Sum wrytes scottis to eit menis fleesche. 1886 *Seafield Lett.* (1912) 23 They write that..their fleet sailed from the Texel. 1961 L. Morris in *Cambrian Reg.* (1796) I. 368 The bad sign-painter..was obliged to write over his [illegible] writes, that 'Other friends remain'.

transf. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 191 Paraventure in thilke large book Which þat men clipe the heuene ywriten was With sterres..That he for loue sholde han his deeth allas! 1616 T. Scot *Philomythie* K 8, The stiffe-vdder'd Cow [missing]..the merry milke-maide..by chance, wrot on the ground With milk-white letters where shee would be found.

c. To convey (tidings, information, etc.) by letter; to send (a message) in writing. Freq. with *to* or *unto*, or with dative of person; also with *how*, *that*, etc., and clause.

(*a*) ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3904 He..wraite vn-to Waynor how the werlde chaungede. 1449 [see A. 2 c]. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1900) 164 He wrott unto the Duke,..he would [etc.]. 1596 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 32 He writes me here, that [etc.]. 1626 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 150 They wrot me how the Portingals had 4 galliona. 1685 Evelyn *Mrs. Godolphin* (1847) 92 She writes me..what conflicts she had endur'd. 1763 Scrofton *Indostan* (1770) 77 The Colonel..wrote the Soubah, 'That ..their enemies' [etc.]. 1833 J. H. Newman *Lett.* (1891) I. 434, I had..written to Rose how we had best start agitating. 1875 B. Meadows *Clin. Observ.* 69 [She] writes me that she is very much better.

(*b*) 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. vi. 63 Haue you with heede perused What I haue written to you? 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* I. iv. § 12 Alexander..writ word to his Mother he had found out [etc.]. 1676 Essex in *E. Papers* (Camden, 1913) 59 What you say..hath bin writt over hither by divers. 1678 [see A. 3 b a]. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 179, I beg you will write me word..whether [etc.]. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1792) III. 159 Your brother writ me an account of your fatal falling away. 1843 Lowe *Fishes Madeira* I. 102 Mr. Yarrell writes me word that [etc.]. 1850 Miss Mulock *Olive* xxv, You will.. write me word how it looks.

d. To decree, ordain, or enjoin in writing. Chiefly *fig.* (of fate).

1560 Bible (Genev.) 1 *Esdr.* vi. 17 King Cyrus wrote that this House shulde be buylt vp. 1675 Dryden *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 14 'Tis writ in Fate, I can be onely yours. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxxv, 'It was not so written,' said Antonio, who..was a fatalist. 1902 'Roma White' *Backsheesh* xvii. 280 That which is written is written. It is stronger than I. So let it be.

5. a. To give a written account or enumeration of; to describe or depict in writing.

c 1000 *Three O. E. Prose Texts* 2 Ac þa ðing þe me nu in gemynd cumað ærest þa ic þe write. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 19 Ne mai ic þenchen,..ne on boke write, alle þo pinen of helle. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 240 Efter þe urouren þet beoð her iwritene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 648 Ne writer nan mai writ wit inc þe mikel ioy þat þam es lent. 23..[see A. 2 β]. 1382 Wyclif *Eccles.* xlii. 7 The ȝyuen thing..,and the taken, al diskryue, or wryte. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xl. 55 [= Rev. xxii. 18] Putte God upon him the veniaunciis writun in this book. *c* 1600 Shaks *Sonn.* xvii, If I could write the beauty of your eyes. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 131 When the Egyptians will write a man eating or at dinner, they paynt a Crocodile gaping. 1636 E. Dacres *Machiavel's Disc. Livy* II. 545 Things which they have done, that lived in the manner above written.

b. To treat of (a subject, theme, etc.) in writing.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 45 We gemetton ðone hælend..þone wrat moyses & þa witezan on þære æ. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 152 Those who haue of late daies written the art of musicke. 1721 Felton *Dissert. Classics* (1718) a 4 b, The Difficulties of writing History. 1737 Pope tr. *Hor., Ep.* II. i. 146 Ev'ry flow'ry Courtier writ Romance. 1821 Byron *Diary* 29 Jan., They talk Dante—write Dante.

c. To give expression to (one's feelings, thoughts, etc.) by means of writing; to express in written form.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1756 Þar he demeþ mony riht dom & diht & wryt [*v.r.* writ] mony wisdom. 1382 Wyclif *Job* xiii. 26 Thou writist aȝen me bitternessis. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxiv. 146 Lord,..aȝens me þou doest wryte Bitternesse, bote swete is past. 1524 Q. Margaret in Green *Lett.* (1846) I. 319, I did write my mind plainly to you. 1633 Walton *Angler* 1. 29 God..[allowed] those..to write his holy will in holy writ. 1703 Seafield *Lett.* (1915) 34, I shall write my thoughts with all freedome. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 76 My heart is full, and I can't help writing my mind. 1798 Nelson in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 96 Buonaparte writes his distress for stores.

6. To compose and set down on paper (a literary composition, narrative, verse, etc.); to put into or produce in literary form, to bring out (a book or literary work) as an author; to indite.

In very frequent use from *c* 1570.

?*a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 84, Her Iohannes..wrat þa boc Apocalipsis. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 55 For alswa god hit bit, and inne þe godspelle þe he writ. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 85 Þis ic habbe iwriten for ðe te frieurien þanne ðu niede hafst. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4124 He [*sc.* Moses]..wrot an canticle on ðat booc. *a* 1278 *Lewe Ron* 210 in *O. E. Misc.* 99 And yeue him god endynge þat haueþ iwryten þis like wryt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14399 Vr for-eldres þe bible ..þo, *c* 1386 [see Style *sb.* 13]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* Prol. 6 Good is that we also..Do wryte of newe som matiere. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. v. 18 To him that writeth my songe & my prayynge. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 25 Al the buikis..qvhilk..oders cane writ. 1585 [see A. 2 a]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. lvii, In pearcing phrases late The Anatomie of all my woes I wrate. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 257 When Moses writte that storie. 1632 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 311 Pamphlets which..he wrote to persuade those [etc.]. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* (1727) 30 They writ the whole Poem on purpose to abuse some one. 1781 Cowper *Lett.* 22 July, I have writ Charity..as well as I could. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, [*It*] the monks..take not to writing chronicles. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 22/2 He is..busy writing the new novel.

fig. and *transf.* *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xciii, The falce beasts history Is writ in moods and frounes and wrinckles strange. 1823 Bagehot *Lit. Stud.* (1879) I. 142 Marmion was 'written' while he [*sc.* Scott] was galloping on horseback.

b. With various prepa., as *against*, *for* or *to* (or with indirect personal object), *of*, *on*, or *upon* (a subject, person, etc.).

c 1200 Ormin 5810 [They] writenn off þe Laferrd Crist Goddspell o fowwre bokess. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* x. 169, I wrote hir many bokes. 1481 in W. Blades *Caxton* (1882) 231 The polytyque book, whiche that Tullius wrote vpon the disputacons. *c* 1500 *M. Nisbet N. T.* (S. T. S.) I. 27 It was nedful that it [*ante* the euangel] war writin alss aganis heretikis. 1585 Whitney *Choice Emblemis* (1586) Ep. Ded. 04 His priuate bookes he wiatte to Iraian, of counsell and gouernement. 1685 Waller *Div. Poesy* 1. 17 Verse so designed, on that high subject wrote. 1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 568 P 3 Some-body had written a Book against the 'Squire. 1794 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Ellen* II. 47 Volumes wrote on the subject could not do it away. 1820 *Q. Mus. Mag.* II. 68 The character of the Count [in the opera] has been obviously written for Signor Garcia. 1888 Barrie *When a Man's Single* xi. 180 Mary Abinger..read them [*sc.* books] proudly, knowing that they were all written for her.

c. To compose and set down (music, a melody, etc.) in notes.

1672 T. Salmon *Ess. Adv. Music* Contents, Chap. iv, One who can Sing a Treble part, can immediately Sing that which is written for the Base. 1782 Burney *Hist. Mus.* II. 366 Such keys as these pieces are written in. 1827 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 208/1 Airs..written in two parts. 1885 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* II. 105 [Arne] wrote new music for Addison's opera 'Rosamond'.

7. To pen (a document, writing, etc.); to put into proper written form; to draft or draw up. Also in fig. context.

831 [see A. 1 c]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xix. 19 Witodlice pilatus wrat ofer-ȝewrit. *c* 1200, etc. [see Writ *sb.* 1 b, 1 c]. *a* 1333 W. Herebert in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 19 And helpe he wole ich wot, Vor loue þe chartre wrot, þe enke orn of hys wounde. *c* 1400 *Ploughman's Tale* 111. 1367 This writing writeth the pellican. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 324/1 The said Officers woll write newe distresses ayenst your Commissioners. 1476 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 42/1 þe hande þat wrate þe said write. 1573 [see A. 1 γ]. 1659 W. Chamberlayne *Pharon.* III. i. 252 Where Loves fair hand hath Valours passport wright. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Mark xv. 37 The inscription wrote by Pilate over our suffering Saviour. 1752 Smollett *Per. Pic.* vii, A lawyer ..to write her last will. 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 517, I had made no question of thine eyes or heart, Nor spared to read the scriptures in them writ, Wert thou my son.

b. To pen (a letter, missive, note, etc.); to communicate with a person by (letter, etc.). Freq. const. *to*, † *unto*, or *till* (now *Sc.* and *north. dial.*), or with indirect personal object (cf. 22 b).

Freq. from *c* 1450. See also Billet-doux, Chit *sb.*[3], Letter *sb.*[1] 4, Love-letter, Note *sb.*[2] 26, Pistle *sb.* 1.

c 1000 *Three O. E. Prose Texts* 2 Alexandres epistoles..þone he wrat & sende to aristotile. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5323 þe king þan did his lettres writte To somond al. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1293 My rede is þis..þat hastily a letre thow hire write. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1782 þe lettre þat ys til hym wryte. *c* 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 66 He garte writte anoþer lettre, and sent it to Talyfride. 1513 [see A. 2 a β]. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) ix. 17 It is þe hairt to quhome 3e wret The misseif. 1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 94 This daye Mr. Cocks writt me a letter. 1668 [see A. 3 b γ]. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 4 P 2 Another hath just now writ three Lines to Clarissa. 1802 Marian Moore *Lascelles* II. 126 The young man..writ her a polite note. 1848 Thackeray *Van, Fair* xlix, I want you..to write a card for Colonel and Mrs. Crawley. 1891 'J. S. Winter' *Lumley* iv, I've got..a dozen letters to write for you.

fig. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Cor.* iii. 2 3e ben oure pistle, writun in oure hertis.

c. To fill in (a cheque, etc.) with writing.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* liii, Perker wrote a cheque for the whole amount.

8. To describe or designate (a person) by writing *to* be something; to style, call, or term in writing; to set down in a particular class. Also *transf.*

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xxii. 30 Writ this man a bareyn man, — 1 *Macc.* viii. 20 For togidre write vs 3oure felawis and freendis. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* x. 63 The kynge..wrote him amonge his chefe frendes. 1565 Cooper s.v. *Ascribo*, Write or adde me also to be of my brothers opinion. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1640) 61 If one were a Knight, they would write him..Sir John Finch, Knight. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. i. 101 Whereby he does receiue Particular addition, from the Bill, That writes them all alike. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* 1. i, [That] you will vouchsafe To write me, I' your family. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xxii. 30 Thus saith the Lord, Write ye this man childlesse. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Church, Vanitie* 6 Heark and beware, lest what you now do measure And write for sweet, prove a most sowre displeasure. 1687 R. L'Estrange *Answ. to Dissenter* 47 The Author Writes himself a Church-of-England-Man.

fig. 1634 Whitlock *Zootomia* 186 The Invention or Advance of most Arts write [*sic*] the despised Scholler Creditor. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 758 Halle wedded Love..Farr be it, that I should write thee sin or blame. 1820 Scott *Abbot* I, One whom Heaven had written childless. 1896–9 Dickens *Novels & Tales* VI. 59 (Fl.), Nature had writ him villain on his face.

b. *refl.* To designate (oneself) by a particular title in documents, letters, etc. Also *fig.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S. T. S.) II. 81 He..wrate himself consul. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 193 Duke Reinere..writyng hymself kyng of Naples, Sicile, and Jerusalem. 1570 Goose *Pop. Kingd.* 1. (1880) 4 Therefore doth he

wright Himselfe as heyre apparent to the Empire. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 367 These write themselves the Presbytery of Belfast. 1678 *Black Prince* in *Hart. Misc.* (1809) III. 231 John, duke of Lancaster..wrote himself king of Castile and Leon. 1772 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 94 St. Giles's, Cripplegate,..of which church he wrote himself vicar in 1566. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, A man of law, Nichil Novit, writing himself procurator before the Sheriff-court. 1837 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xx, In due process of time he took his degree, and wrote himself B.A. 1880 RUSKIN *Bible Amiens* i. (1884) 3 Why should..a little Frankish maid [*sc.* Amiens] write herself the sister of Venice?

ellipt. 1678 GODOLPHIN *Repert. Canon.* (1681) 13 The Archbishop of Canterbury..writes himself *Divina Providentia*.

c. *To write oneself man*, etc.: To arrive at man's (or woman's) estate; to attain manhood, or a specified age. (Cf. 11 b.)

1660 FELL *Hammond* (1662) 3 He grew the Tutor of those who begun to write themselves men. 1663 HEAD *Hic & Ubique* iv. ii. 45 Now since I write my self Man, go thy way. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxiv, Thou wilt be mad with vanity ere thou writest thyself man. 1832 — *Cast. Dang.* v, The governor had attained his thirtieth year..and his lieutenant did not yet write himself one-and-twenty.

d. *refl.* To name (oneself) in writing; to sign.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* ix, This same Demetrius, for so he wrote himself when in foreign parts. 1921 BARRIE *Peter & Wendy* v. 80 James Hook, or as he wrote himself, Jas. Hook.

e. To bring or reduce (a person, etc.) to a specified state by writing. Chiefly *refl.*

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 32 A dire dilemma! either way I'm sped, If foes, they write, if friends, they read me dead. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 662 The Craftsman hath seen better Days; but he has wrote himself into Contempt. 1751 WARBURTON in *Porson's Tracts* (1815) 345 *note*, That no man was ever written out of reputation, but by himself. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Calais*, I had wrote myself pretty well out of conceit with the *Desobligeant*. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xi, You have..written yourself out of five hundred a-year. 1852 THORPE *Northern Mythol.* III. 15 Another, whose cabbages were constantly stolen from his garden, wrote the thief fast from Saturday night till Sunday. 1871 LYTTON *Coming Race* xvii, If we wrote our fingers to the bone, we could not throw any light [etc.].

f. To make (one's way) by literary work.

1890 T. F. TOUT *Hist. Eng.* 111 Addison wrote his way with his Whig pamphlets to a secretaryship of state.

9. To spell (a word, name, etc.) in a specified or particular manner in writing.

c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 109 Forr he ne mazz nohht elless Onn Enngliash writtenn rihht te word. *c* 1205 LAY. 28869 On feole bocken his noime me swa writeð. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 748 And for this word scho gert vrit swa, Men wend the Franch-men suld it ta. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 9 And Varro..wrytes domineis and serveis, for dominis and servis. 1659 PHILIPOTT *Kent* 395/2 Blackmanstone, written Bleachmanstone, that is, Man's bleak Town. 1747 JOHNSON *Plan Eng. Dict.*, Many words written alike are differently pronounced. 1828 DUPPA *Trav. Italy*, etc. 8 In this MS...Virgil is uniformly written Vergil. 1855 WAY *Promp. Parv.* p. lxxiii, The word written according to the orthography of the period.

10. To carve, grave, or trace letters or words on (a hard or plastic surface). Also *fig.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3613 Oðere tables he broȝte eft writen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2040 Bi water he sent adoun Liȝt linden spon. He wrot hem al wiþ roun. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxi. 18 The Lord ȝaf to Moyses..two stonen tablis of witnessyng, writun with the fyngre of God. *c* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 883 He wrot his body wiþ harde nailes. *Ibid.* 1190 Strong was þy pyne þe to wyte His fayre forhed with þornes wryte. *c* 1820 BEDDOES *Poems, Pygmalion* 157 Writing the sand idly, he paused.

b. To cover, fill, or mark (a paper, etc.) with writing; to trace significant characters on (a surface, etc.).

a 1240 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 249 Euch an [*sc.* devil] bereð a gret boc al of sunnen iwriten wiþ swarte smeale leattres. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* ii. 9 A boke.., the which was writen withinforth and withoutforth. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 175 Wyde wyndowes y-wrouȝt y-written full pikke, Schynen wiþ schapen scheldes to schewen aboute. 1448 *Anc. Deed C.* 5103 In *Castal.* VI. 173 A large roll of parchemyn wretyn and lympned with certeyn maters. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 5 Aftyr that y had made and wretyn a fyve or six quayers. 1530 PALSGR. 499/2 Correcte this boke, it is falce written. 1593 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 138 Till she haue writ a sheet of paper. 1739 *Wks. Learned* I. 103 That the Leaves of these two great Poets were wrote at Random. 1833 MRS. STOWE in *Life* (1889) 70 The envelope was written in a scrawny, scrawly, gentleman's hand. 1843 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* (1903) IV. 87 A small strip of vellum written with the following translation.

11. a. To employ, or be able to employ, (a particular language) in writing.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 24 Ne mowe we alle Latin wite, Ne Ebreu ne Gru þat beþ i-write. 1521 A. BARCLAY (*title*), The Introductory to wryte, and to pronounce Frenche. 1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* (1903) 59 Such people, as teach children to read and write English. 1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded. P 4, I have endeavoured to write English, as near [etc.]. 1757 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (ed. 2) IV. 28 Charles VI. ..speaks and writes Latin, Italian, Spanish, and French. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 13 The Latin which Gregory writes is..his native tongue.

b. To employ (a name, word, etc.) in designating oneself; esp. †*to write man*, = 8 c.

(*a*) 1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. vii. 74 The Turke, that two and fifty kingdoms hath, Writes not so tedious a Stile as this. 1599 — *Much Ado* v. i. 37 How euer they haue writ the stile of gods.

(*b*) 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 30 As if he had writ man euer since his Father was a Batchellour. 1621 etc. [see MAN *sb.*[1] 4 c]. 1626 B. JONSON *Underw., Celebr. Charis* 1. 3 Though I now write fifty years, I have had, and have my peers. 1672 M. LOCKE *Obs. on Ess. Adv. Mus.* 2 When I began to write Man, and had convers'd in the world. *a* 1766 in Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (ed. 3) I. 38 All mankind is the pupil..of female institution; the daughters till they write women. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 219 Just as I had written man; or..was of age. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiv, The elder, well-eised, and dark-visaged, may write fifty and five years.

c. To employ (a particular literary style) in written compositions.

1772 R. FERGUSSON *To Mr. R. Fergusson* ii, You write sic easy stile and plain,..Nae suth'ron lown dare you disdain.

12. To execute (a particular style of handwriting).

1390– [see HAND *sb.* 16]. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 100 Nay, he can..write Court hand. 1632 LENTON *Charac.* C 9, Hee writes a faire hand. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3865/4 Writing a tolerable Clerk's-Hand. 1726 [see ROMAN *a.*[1] 5 b]. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversation* 28 Whoe'er writ it, writes a Hand like a Foot. 1766 [see ROUND HAND 1]. 1851 H. MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 3 hand. 1865 LE FANU *Guy Dev.* II ; What a hand he

II. With advs. 13. **Write down.** a. To put or set down in writing; to commit to, describe or record in, written form; to note or jot down.

1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. iv. 3 Write downe thy mind, bewray thy meaning so. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 571 Things knowne betwixt vs three, Ile write you downe. 1688 *Rec. Scott. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S. H. S.) 40 He gives out wool to scrubleing and writes itt down. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 155 P 2, I will..write down all they say to me. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* I. p. xi, For the Purpose of writing down his Life from his own Mouth. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xvii, I write down these opinions, not because I believe that [etc.]. 1891 W. BRIGGS & BRYAN *Geometry* 143 This enables us to write down at once the equation.

b. With complement. Also *fig.*, and *refl.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. ii. 78 O that hee were heere to write mee downe an asse! 1602 — *Ham.* I. ii 222 We did thinke it writ downe in our duty To let you know of it. 1854 LEVER *Dodd Family Abroad* xvi. 138 It's like writing yourself down Goth at once to oppose these. 1856 MRS. GORE *Life's Lessons* III. 70 Why does not E. H. write himself down M.P. in the new House?

c. To overcome or suppress, to disparage or depreciate, by writing; to condemn or decry in writing; to write in disparagement of.

1726 SWIFT *Let. to Mrs. Howard* 17 Nov., However, one thing I was pleased with, that after you had writ [me] down you repented, and writ me up again. 1773 JOHNSON in Boswell *Hebrides* 1st Oct., It was said to old Bentley, upon the attacks against him, 'Why, they'll write you down.' 'No, sir,..no man was ever written down but by himself.' 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Jan. 49 [Wilkes] actually *wrote down* at least one administration. 1850 H. WALTER *Tindale's Answ. More* Introd. Notice a This effort to write down Tyndale and his labours. 1851 [see 18 e]. 1902 A. MACHEN in *Among my Books* 103 That his only object is to write down those tedious romances of chivalry.

absol. 1877 STUBBS *Med. & Mod. Hist.* v. (1886) 110 It seems..that no man's zeal is roused to write unless it is moved by the desire to write down.

d. *refl.* To diminish or destroy one's literary reputation by inferior writing.

1716 ADDISON *Free-holder* No. 40 P 3 There is not a more melancholy object in the learned world, than a man who has written himself down. 1773 [see prec.]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 4 He has written himself down at a terrible rate by his last publication.

e. To reduce (an account, total, assets, etc.) to a lower amount in writing.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 6/1 That this, as well as all other similar accounts, should be steadily written down, and finally out of the balance-sheet. 1897 *Ibid.* 8 Sept. 6/1 The assets have been written down in a drastic manner.

14. **Write in.** To insert (a fact, statement, etc.) in writing; †to inscribe.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxi. 12 It hadde a wal..and in the ȝatis of it twelue aungels, and names writun in. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. xi. 1060 Obir fenȝheide fabillis sere I wil forber to wryt in heyre. 1483 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 42 A book of papyr to wryte in expensis. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* I. 208 All the great scenes have been written in by him. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-hags* liv. 390 It was a moment's work to write in the other name [on a pardon]. 1903 *Athenæum* 3 Jan. 10/2 The date is written in by the rubricator.

15. **Write off.** a. To note the deduction of (money) in an account or financial statement; now *spec.* to record the cancelling of (a sum, as a bad debt, depreciated stock, etc.).

1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 107 To send the..Bill to the House of the Acceptant, and desire him to order that the Value be write of in Bank. 1752 BEAWES *Lex Merc. Redivr.* 363 Write off from my Bank Book, one hundred and fifty-seven Pounds. 1819 *Mortimer's Commerc. Dict.* (ed. 2) 87 One of the clerks..writes off the sum required. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 283/2 The company wrote off the loss as a bad debt.

fig. 1889 *Spectator* 21 Sept., China and India being written-off as full of people.

b. To compose (a letter, etc.) with facility or expedition.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii, She wrote off a letter to a friend. 1862 — *Philip* xxviii, Philip was writing off..one of his grand tirades. 1872 [see A. 17].

16. **Write out.** a. To make a (fair or perfect) transcription or written copy of (something, a rough draft, etc.); to copy out; also, to transcribe in full or detail, as from brief notes or shorthand.

To write out fair, to make a fair copy of.

1548 ELYOT s.v. *Describo*, To write out a boke by an other mans copie. 1565 COOPER, *Exscribere alicui*, to write out the copie of a thyng to one. 1611 COTGR. s.vv. *Copier*, *Transcrit*, *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 336 His bookes, w[hi]ch she write out and faithfully practised. 1776 *Trial Nundocomar* 41/1 The writer wrote out a Persian bond. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xii. P 5, I..offered to write his memorials out fair. 1877 *Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 108 Atticus..wrote out his sermons and learnt them by heart.

b. *refl.* To exhaust one's resources or stock of ideas by excessive writing; = OUTWRITE *v.* 3.

1832 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* Introd., The Author had exhausted himself, or, as the technical phrase expresses it, written himself out. 1905 *Author* 1 Feb. 152 He has written himself out.

17. **Write over.** a. To write (something) anew or again; to rewrite; = OVERWRITE *v.* 3, RESCRIBE *v.* 2.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 120, I will haue that subiect newly writ ore. 1594 — *Rich. III*, III. vi. 5 Here is the Indictment...; Eleuen houres I haue spent to write it ouer. *a* 1645 LD. NAPIER *Mem.* (1793) 51 They might gaine some tyme in wreating them [*sc.* articles of accusation] over to consult vpon the mater. 1721 R. MARTIN in Burton *Life Challoner* (1909) I. 32 They spent..two dayes in..writeing over fair all ye answers. 1751 CHATHAM *Lett. Nephew* I. 1, I am extremely pleased with your translation now it is writ over fair.

b. To cover the whole or remaining surface of (a book, etc.) with writing; = OVERWRITE *v.* 1 b.

1828 DUPPA *Trav. Italy*, etc. 9, I saw MSS. of some of the Codes..written over with monkish commentaries.

18. **Write up.** a. To put in writing a full account, statement, or record of (something); to give an elaborate description of, describe fully; to pen or write in full or detail.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. ix. 127 (Royal MS.), I wyll noucht wryt wp all That I hawe sene in my tyme fall. 1535 COVERDALE *Esther* xii. 4 Mardocheus wrote vp the same matter. 1592 TIMME *Tow Eng. Lepers* G 3 b, The Divell that playeth hott in this worlde, writeth up all in his booke. 1860 *Cornh. Mag.* II. 730 You will be waited for.. by a few of the discontented, and asked to 'write up' certain parts, without any reference to your story. 1887 J. HAWTHORNE *Tragic Myst.* II, After interviewing the sentry.. they departed to write up the tragedy.

† b. To enter (a person, his name) in a roll, list, etc.; to enroll; = INSCRIBE *v.* 1 b. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Priests of Peebles* 277 Thai wryt wp leile and falss, ..And dytis þaim vnder a perdoun. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* x. 36 There shall xxx. M. also of the Iewes be written vp in the kynges hoost. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* lxxxvii. 6 The Lorde shall rehearse it, whan he wryteth vp the people. 1666 P. GORDON *Diary* (Spald. Club) 72 Haveing told where wee were to lodge, they..sent a writer to write up our names.

c. To form, trace, or place (something) in writing in an elevated position.

1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* v. 25 This is the scripture, that is written vp. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 169, I will.., ouer the Chayre of State,..Write vp his Title. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, Not content with writin' up 'Pickwick' [on the coach-door]. *Ibid.* lii, I call it a dispensary, and it's always writ up so.

d. To raise or elevate by writing.

1752 WARBURTON *Pope's Wks.* III. 68 Writers..writing themselves up into the same delusion with their Readers.

e. To commend (something) to notice or favour by appreciative writing; to laud by way of advertisement.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 165 She was never written up, to use the modern technical expression, in the Reviews. 1851 DE QUINCEY *Wks.* (1863) XII. 21 Byron..wished to write up Pope by way of writing down others. 1893 'Q.' [QUILLER COUCH] *Delect. Duchy* 7 I'll go in presently and write up this place.

f. To bring (a journal, report, etc.) up to date, or to the latest event, fact, or transaction; to complete (some record) in writing.

1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* III. v, He..writes up the journal neglected for a week or two. 1848 HANNAY *Biscuits & Grog* 19 Now that we..have little to do, suppose we write up our logs? 1900–1 *Proc. Univ. Durh. Phil. Soc.* II. 3 Even the minutes of the Curators cease to be written up.

III. *intr.* 19. To inscribe letters *in*, *on*, or *upon* a hard or plastic surface by scoring, tracing, engraving, etc. Also *transf.* and in fig. context.

Differing from next chiefly in the specification of the material written on.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John viii. 6 Se hælend abeah nyþer & wrat mid his fingre on þære eorþan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 434 Swilce anes mannes hand writende on ðære healle wæge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13729 He stuped dun, and wit his hand He wrat a quil in to þe sand. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 60, I lere ȝou,..such writynge ȝe leue, To writen in Wyndouwes of ȝoure wel dedes. 1382, 1387 [see TABLE *sb.* 2 b]. *a* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 842 On þi forhed so whit so snow Thow writest with a thorny bow. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 206 He couth wryte.. With his neb for mistar, Apon the se sand. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. vii. 111 The speir ourturnit in the dust did write. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxxvii. 16 Take a sticke and wryte vponit. 1585, 1621 [see STYLE *sb.* 1]. 1674 C. F. *Wit at Venture* 85 They write in sand when they make oaths. 1706 STEVENS *Sp. Dict.* I. s.v. *Escrivir*, To write on the Sand, or Water, is to do things to no purpose, as that Writing is immediatly effac'd. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917/2 The Chinese..wrote or engraved with an iron tool upon thin boards or on bamboo. 1818 [S. WESTON] *La Scarse* 31 A great quantity of styles to write with on wax-tablets. 1878 [see STYLE *sb.* 5].

fig. *a* 1400 *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 114 Þogh my hert be hard as stone, ȝit maist þou goostly write þer-on. *a* 1633 [see WRITING *vbl. sb.* 7 b].

20. To engage in, perform the action of, writing (esp. with pen and ink); to produce (a specified kind of) writing.

To write and read: see READ *v.* 25 b.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xliv. 2 Hreod writ[eres] hræðlice writendes. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 79 He þat her least on wrat swa as he cuðe. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliv. 2 Mi tunge rede-pipe maister-writer, Of swiftlike writande be þer. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* viii. 1 Tac to thee a gret boc, and writ in it with the poyntel of a man. † *a* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 828 He bad & wrot & radde & huld godes seruise. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 12 He cowth wryte and reid. *c* 1544 R. CROKE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 336 Provided..that no man may force hym [*sc.* a pupil] to wryte oonles I be there presente, to dyrecte..his said hande and stile. 1590 P. BALES *Writing Schoolemaster* (title-p.), The Arte of Brachygraphie: that is, to write as fast as a man speaketh treatably. 1623 COCKERAM II, To Write after a strange manner, in so much as no man can reade it. *decipher.* 1662 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 159 We think they write backwards, and they, that we do. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* ii. 186 Chartres scarce could write or read. 1775 C. JOHNSTON *Pilgrim* 73 Any one..may write away, without restraint,.. whether they can even so much as spell. 1818 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxx, 'Do thou write.' 'Your Royal Highness forgets,' said Ramorny, pointing to his mutilated arm. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I iii. 148 A fat philosopher sitting writing..with a goose quill. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* 18 Then would they [*i.e.* the monks] read or write, what long melodious hours!

transf. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 54 The crystyn pepulle wolde wryte dayly..aboute the placys of her herte wyth her fyngur. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* li The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ, Moves on.

b. Said of the writing-pen.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 191 Deuise Wit, write Pen, for I am for whole volumes in folio. 1733 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 98 Whether the..whiten'd wall provoke the skew'r to write. 1742 GRAY *Lett.* (1900) I. 118 My having at last found a Pen that writes. 1786 S. TAYLOR *Shorthand Writing* 98 A steel or a silver one [*sc.* pen] that will write fine.

c. To depict on glass, etc.; to paint.

1824 SUTHERLAND *Sign Writer's Assistant* 24 To write, gild and ornament on glass. 1889 — *Sign Writing* viii. 10/1 Writing upon the glass.

d. To print by means of a typewriting machine or the like; to typewrite.

1873 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2677/1 Johnston's apparatus for the blind is to enable them to write by pressure upon letters in the required order. 1883 J. G. PITRIE *Man. for Type-Writer* 3 The learner must be content to write slowly and deliberately at the commencement.

21. To perform the action of composing and putting on paper; to practise literary composition; to engage in authorship or literary work.

In very frequent use from *c* 1600.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Ic write & feostnize mid Cristes roðetacne. *c* 1205 LAY. 41 Þa makede a Frenchis clerc Wace wes ihoten, þe wel coube writen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17846 Sundri þai þam fra oþer saite, And aiþer be himseluen wrate. 1387 [see A. 2 b β]. 14.. *Wheatley MS.* (1921) i. 59 If I write al my lyue I schuld neuer here woo dyscryue. *c* 1443 PECOCK *Donet* 6 It is honest ynouȝ a man to speke and write aftir oon of þo opyniouns. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, Therupon I begon after my poore maner to wryte in latyn. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Gouv.* III. ii, To conceiue that he spake or wrot like olde Duns or Scotus. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxviii. comm., S. Paul not only preached, but also writte. 1689 PRIOR *Ep. Electra, Shepherd* 38 He writes well, who writes with Ease. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* Pref., A gentleman who had wrote for the stage. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 332 Halifax.., from whom Dryden was not ashamed to own that he had learned to write. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 177/1, I am not writing in the dark.

fig. 1649 LOVELACE *Poems* (1904) 62 He fights now with her Penne, And she writes with his Sword.

b. With preps., as *about*, † *be*, † *o*, *of* (= on), *on*, *upon*, † *ymb* (a matter, subject, etc.); or *against*, † *contrary*, *to* (a person, etc.).

In very frequent use from *c* 1390.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. § 3, Swa some swa þa writeras dydon, & eac þa ðe hi ymb writon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Se halga godspellere swa be him wrat. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 410 Se habbeð of þeos blissen i-writen on o'er stude. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21324 Matheu..o crist manhedes writte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 90 Thilke time at Rome also Was Tullius with Cithero, That writen upon Rethorike. *Ibid.* 91 Among the whiche in Poesie To the lovers Ovide wrot. 1448–9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 524 Qwere he off constellacionnys doth wryght. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 22 Sen thir clarkis hes writtin in thair stylis To 3oungar folk. 1565 COOPER s.v. *Rescribo*, To write contrarie or agaynst olde orations. 1644 [see A. 3 a β]. 1698 FLOYER *Asthma* (1717) p. i, All the Moderns that have Writ on that Subject. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 499/2 Had they wrote against the Ministry, we could have borne it. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 252 For thee we..explain a thing till all men doubt it, And write about it, Goddess, and about it. 1819 S. ROGERS *Human Life* Poems (1856) 138 Once in thy mirth thou bad'st me write on thee. 1883 TYLOR in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 199/2 Cicero writes of them as wise men, augurs, and diviners.

c. With various qualifications.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxxvi, By spirits taught to write, Aboue a mortall pitch. 1678 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 114 The fault is most his own who should have writ to the capacity of vulgar Readers. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Evremond's Ess.* Pref. iii, His subjects are often great and noble, and then he never fails to write up to them. 1721 FELTON *Dissert. Classics* (1718) 91 It must be our Care to think and write up to the Dignity..of the Things we presume to treat of. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. vii. P 5, I should be sorry to write down to their comprehension. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Ways & Words* 33 Authors will learn to write down to the lowest standard.

d. To compose music, a melody, etc.

1672 M. LOCKE *Obs. Ess. Adv. Mus.* 14 Our Method of the Scale; which never gives..occasion for.. writing in improper Keys. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 556 The custom..of writing upon a Plain-Song. 1789 *Ibid.* III. 209 Tallis and Bird had..long accustomed themselves to write for voices.

22. To compose a letter, note, etc.; to communicate information, etc., send word, by writing; to conduct epistolary correspondence. Also with *for* (a person or thing) or *to* (do something).

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 244 Whan derewor þe dindimus þe enditinge hurde Of alixandre askinge as he write hadde. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1208, I kan not trowen þat she wol write a-yen. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 2432, I wrate to 3ow at me to wayue [*v.r.* wafe] be ten wyse clerkis. † 1482 [see A. 2 a β]. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 89 Sir wheras you required me to write, for that [etc.]. 1586 RALEIGH *Lett.* 29 May, The sider which I wrat to you for. 1626 BP. MOUNTAGU in *Corr. J. Cosin* (Surtees) I. 104, I haue no[t] much newes, nor occasion to write. 1692 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (Camden) 158, I have expressly wrot to be informed of it. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 36 Goods, such as the Captain had writ for. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 172 P 6, I applied to him by letter, but had no answer. I writ in terms more pressing. *a* 1842 in Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 318 He wrote to request my aid. 1890 R. C. LEHMANN *H. Pludyer* 31 Tell Mary she hasn't written for an age.

b. With preps., as *to* (also *unto*, *till*), or indirect personal object (cf. 7 b). Also const. *of*.

In group (*a*), freq. from *c* 1560. In group (*b*), rare until *c* 1770; freq. *c* 1790–*c* 1865; now regarded as commercial or colloquial.

(*a*) *c* 1000 *Three O. E. Prose Texts* 1 Þa ȝeþohte ic for þon to þe to writanne. 1382 WYCLIF *Jude* I. 3 Makinge al busynesse of writinge to 3ou of 3oure comoun helthe. 1434 *Acts Privy Counc.* IV. 351 The King hath writen to þerle of Northumber[land]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 945 Than Eduuard wrayt till Menteth prewalle. 1534 CROMWELL in *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 304 Wherefore..I..am bold to wryght vnto you. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 103, I writ unto my friends. 1663 CHAS. II in Cartwright *Madame* (1894) 136, I writt to you yesterday. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* IV. 191 The abbess was wrote to concerning me. 1814 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XII. 7 Write to me to General Colville's quarters. 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Children.* viii, Ferrers wrote to a friend of his at Chertsey.

(*b*) *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1303 Thow hast not wreten here syn þat she wente...Now write here þanne [*MS. Gg.* to hire]. 1611 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 15 Together with..Mr. Cook's Books you wrote me of. 1672 in *Camden Soc. Misc.* (1881) 13 Being in hast, have not tyme to wright any body else. 1763 ELIZ. CARTER in *Mem.* (1808) I. 356, I writ you from Amsterdam. 1795 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 32 As I write you,..I shall not write Mrs. Nelson this day. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Anecd.* (1814) 246 *Wrote* me, and *write* you, (merchant's language). 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxxi, Clive..wrote me about the transmogrification of our schoolfellow. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 840/1 Mr. Adams was another character of whom my host had written me.

c. With advs., as *off*, *over*. **Write in** (*Theatr.*), to send in notice in writing.

1577 HARRISON *England* III. I. (1878) II. 10 He wrote ouer for more of the same fish. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xv, He wrote off to Frank at Whitehall. 1866 LEVER *Sir B. Fossbrooke* II. 283, I..have written off to Tom Lendrick to come over here with his sister. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Nov. 9/2 The plaintiffs did not 'write in' or give notice that they were coming.

23. In clauses introduced by *as*, or with advs., as *so*, *thus*.

11.. in *Eng. Misc. to Furnivall* (1901) 91 Swa swa Lycas wrat on his godspelle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11467 For þe prophet had written sua, And said [etc.]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 525 Then slayn wes mone thowsand.., As Dares in his buk he wrate. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 356 Þis Poul .., whan he wroot þus in prisoun to folk to turne hem to Crist. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Augustine* 60 Rith þus he wrot in Latin. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* G iv, It was done as the kynge had wreton. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 83 Thys hath destroyd more then any pestylens, as Lyuius wrytyth. 1594 H. WILLOBIE *Avisa* to your Lo[rdship]pe, ther is non. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 95 Thus has one of those foul-mouth'd Poets wrote. 1770 [DALRYMPLE] *Anc. Sc. Poems* 310 The Cardinal ..writes thus to Cardinal Borromeo, 24th November 1561. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* 121 While I am writing thus about the production..of these love-songs.

24. To follow or practise writing as a profession or occupation; to work as a clerk, amanuensis, or journalist; † *Sc.* to act as a 'writer'.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 138 To write to þe kynges seel and hold seculer courtes to byȝe & to selle. 1690 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 2 Thomas Hunter, wryter,..wes fund giltie of perjurie; and thairfoir wes declaired incapable of wryting or agenting ony bussines. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xx, You might live through it on much worse terms than by writing for Snagsby. 1895 ESCOTT *Platform, Press*, etc. 281 The *Daily News*, on which Pigott once wrote.

25. To spell words in writing; to represent words, etc., orthographically.

c 1680 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 7 To wryte orthographicallie ther are to be considered the symbol, the thing symbolized, and their congruence. *Ibid.* 21, I wald understand quhy they wryte not as they speak. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Moham.* A 4 b, I..writ as near, as I could, to their way of speaking it.

IV. *intr.* for *passive*.

26. a. To be described in writing. *rare*—1.

1827 LADY MORGAN *Mem.* (1862) II. 247 The comfortless, unaccommodating reality of those times which paint and write so well.

b. To be penned or written. *rare*—1.

1862 O. COCKAYNE *St. Mariner.* (1866) p. v, The manuscripts..write straight away from end to end of the ruled lines.

Writee (raitʹ). *rare.* [f. prec. + -EE.] One to or for whom something is written; a reader.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIV. Comm., Where a man is vnderstood, there is euer a proportion betwixt the writers wit and the writees. 1885 *Punch* May 243 The 'Writer' and the 'Writee', the 'Joker' and the 'Jokee'.

† **Writeling**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.* [Cf. OE. *writian*, to chirp, chatter, etc., and -LE 3.] Trilling or warbling (of the nightingale).

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 48 West þu þat ich ne cunne singe, Þeȝ ich ne cunne of writelinge? *Ibid.* 914 Wi nultu þare preoste singe, An teche of thire writelinge?

Writer (rəitəɹ). Forms: 1–5 **writere**, 3– **writer**, 6–7 **wrighter**, *Sc.* **writter** (6 **writare**, **-air**, 6–7 **writtar**, **-are**); 4–7 **wryter**, 5 **-ere**, **-are**, 5, *Sc.* 6 **-ar**, *Sc.* 6 **wrytear**, **vryter**, **wryttar**; *Sc.* 6 **wreter**, **-ar**, **wrettar**. [OE. *writere*, f. *writan* WRITE *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. ON. *ritari* writer, Sw. *ritare*, OHG. *rizari*, etc., painter (G. *reisser* tracer).]

I. 1. A person who can write; one who practises or performs writing; occas., one who writes in a specified manner; = PENMAN 2. Also with advs., as *down*, *out*, *up*.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* liv. 423 Swa se writere, ȝif he ne dilegað ðæt he ær wrat [etc.]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 186 Oft ȝehwa ȝesihð fæȝre stafas awritene, þonne herað he done writere. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1914) 331 Þench o þi writere i þine beoden sumchearre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24075 Es na..writer [mai] write wit pens ord, Hu þat vr stur was strang. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 301 Þys monke was þe feyrest wryter þat was knowen in all þe world. *c* 1450 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (F.) 354 Whoso wol vse this deuocioun, I pray him..Sey a pater-noster for the writere. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* xi. B j, Some fawte eyther in the translatour, or in the wryter, or nowe a dayes in the prynter. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 501 *Eclogarius*,.. a gatherer or writer down of such things in a sumniarie. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 145 This disease, much resembling that of writers, to wit, the itch of the fingers ends. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Transcriber*,..a Writer out, or Copier. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxvi. (1862) VI. 15 His duty of Anagrapheus or 'Writer-up' of all the old laws of Athens. 1888 F. HUME *Mvie. Midas* I. ii, Wishing his long fingers were round the writer's throat.

b. One who paints words, etc.; a sign-writer.

1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 360 The Sign Painter, however, or writer, is a journeyman or master solus. 1861 *Internat. Exhib., Lists Trades U. K.* 80 Writers and Gilders on Glass. 1871 CALLINGHAM *Sign Writing* 98 In order to imitate raised letters..the young writer should have some idea of..the elements of linear perspective.

c. *Writer's cramp* (*palsy*, *paralysis*), a form of cramp or spasm affecting certain muscles of the hand and fingers essential to writing, and resulting from excessive use of these.

1853 SIEVEKING tr. *Romberg's Nerv. Diseases* I. 320 A peculiar form of local spasm in these parts has..recently been made known under the name of the Writer's Cramp. 1885 H. A. REEVES *Bodily Deformities* 351 Writer's or Scrivener's Palsy. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Scrivener's palsy*, ..a spasm or cramp.., called also Writer's Paralysis.

2. One whose business or occupation consists in writing; a functionary, officer, etc., who performs clerical or secretarial duties; a scribe, clerk, or law-writer.

Ship's writer: see SHIP *sb.*[1] 9 c.

c 890 WERFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 52 [He] wæs writere [L. *notarius*] in þissere halgan Romane cyrican. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* Pref., Siððan min on Englisc Ælfred kyning awende wolda ȝehwelc, & me his writerum sende suð & norð. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* ix. 2 O man..with.. an ynkhorn of a wryter [L. *scriptoris*] in his reynes. *c* 1450 *Godstow Register* 141 Walter scriptor oþerwise writer of þe abbei of Gloucetur. *Ibid.*, Scriptor or wryter. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 42, I beqwethe to..John Elys, wrytere,.. a gowune of blak. 1526 *Reg. Privy Seal Scott.* I. 512 Make and him directour of the chancellary..with power..to make deputis, clerkis, wrytaris. 1607 COWELL s.v., Writer of the tailes..is an officer in the Exchequer. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* p. vii, A very unskilful Writer (whom I was often times by haste reduc'd..to imploy). 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 586 Writer and Embellisher of the Queen's Letters to the Eastern Princes. *Ibid.* 734 William Douglass.., Writer to the Privy Seal. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 239 The Writer, or the Person who officiates in his Place, is carefully to note the Circumstances of the Danger. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* x, This [affidavit] was given out, sir, to a Writer. 1873 W. STOKES *Rapid Writing* 104 Ready Writers, or persons prepared to write at a moment's notice.

† b. *Jewish Hist.* = SCRIBE *sb.*[1] 1. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hept.* (1902) 46/2 Esdras se writere awrat ane boc. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 4 Þa ȝesamnode herodes ealle..þære..folces writeras. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 247 Esdras, the writere, come doun wiþ þe kynges lettres. 1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxvi. 32 Jeremye..3af it to Baruc, the writer.

c. Sc. *Writer to* († *of*) *the Signet* (abbrev. *W.S.*), originally, a clerk in the Secretary of State's office, who prepared writs to pass the royal signet; in later use, one of an ancient society of law-agents who conduct cases before the Court of Session, and have the exclusive privilege of preparing crown writs, charters, precepts, etc.

1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* I. 89 Item, to the writaris of the signet, at the Kingis commande, ij vnicornis, xxxvj *s.* 1568 *Sc. Acts* (1814) III. 377 That the secretair admonische all his deputis and writtaris to the

signet That [etc.]. 1672 [see WRIT *sb.* 3]. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 301 There is at present about One hundred ordinary Writers to the Signet. *Ibid.* 734 Writers to the Queen's Signet. 1789 BURNS *Let. to Ainslie* 6 Jan. I do not know if passing a 'writer to the signet' be a trial of scientific merit. 1835 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 252 The College of Justice, a...society composed of judges, advocates, writers to the signet, and solicitors. 1881 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 2/1 A writer to the signet...is the highest grade and finest flower of the profession of solicitor, as practised in Scotland.

ellipt. 1594 in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) 230 Quhatsumevir writtare obeyis nocht his lordschipis deputeskeipare of the signet. 1695 *Ibid.* p. xliv, Ane convenient house, where...the wryters may meet upon all occasions. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* v. (1845) 36/2 In the discharge of his functions as a Writer's Apprentice.

d. *Sc.* An attorney or law-agent; an ordinary legal practitioner in country towns; a law-clerk.

1540 *Sc. Acts* (1814) II. 359 Except þame þat ar writtaris notaris and scribis in our souerane lordis courtis of Justice. 1565-6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 417 We haif subscrivit thir presentis...befoir thir witnessis, Alexander Hay, writtar, [and] Williame Dowglas. *c* 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (Bann. Cl.) 324 He maid the haill sublectis to trimble vnder him,..vexing the haill wreters and lawers to mak sur his giftis and conkissis. 1658 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 210 A long call...maid be the Judges of the Court of Sessioun, and of the laweiris, clerkis, and writeris. ^ 1773 R. FERGUSON *Rising of the Session* i, Tir'd o' the law,..The wylie writers..Hurl frae the town in hackney chaises. 1816 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxv. 216 The fees both of advocate and writer. 1888 D. GRANT *Sc. Stories* 153 He had put him into the office of a 'writer' in the county town.

e. A clerk in the service of the former East India Company. Now *Hist.*

1676 in Wheeler *Madras* (1861) 64 Some of the Writers.. by their lives are not a little scandalous. 1747 in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* (1886) 742/2 Mr. Robert Clive, Writer in the Service, being of a Martial Disposition. 1775 CARACCIOLI *Life Clive* I. 14 Mr. Clive..had served the East India company seven years, as a writer. 1809 *Cobbett's Pol. Reg.* 22 Apr. 578 These Writers are clerks, sent out to India, ..where they collect taxes from the people. 1891 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 345 Writer to the Most Honourable the East India Company.

3. One who writes, compiles, or produces a literary composition; the composer *of* a book or treatise; a literary man or author; = PENMAN 3, 3 b. Also with *on* († *of*) or *upon* (a subject).

In very frequent use from *c* 1560. Also *book-, comedy-, essay-, history-, letter-, news-, pamphlet-, play-, prose-, story-, tragedy-writer*, etc.: see these words.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. § 3 Hu ne forealdodon þa gewritu þeah & losodon þonecan þe hit wære, swa some swa þa writeras dydon. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 327 Nu togeare þa Brihtferð writere þis awrat synd feowertyne epactas. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 2 Ant ich biȝet hit iwriten of þe writere þe, al hire passiun. *c* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 856 Philistiones fliten, & Platunes bokes; & alle þeos writeres writes þet ȝe wreoðieð ow on. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21196 Lucas was..O þe apostols dedis writer. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 90 Many an other writere..the bokes wise Translateden. *c* 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 8 As it semeth to the writere here of most spedeful and edifienge to hem. 1538 STARKEY *England* 137 Prouysyon to stoppe folysch wrytarys and lyght bokys of the gospel. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 97 Such were..Moses and Debora in theyr Hymnes, and the writer of *Iob*. *c* 1622 [see WRITER]. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1687) 841/2 A great Writer, ..and exceeding for multitude of Books. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Music*, The most antient writer of [= on] musick..was Lasus Hermionensis. 1752 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 5, A cold, trifling, frothy Writer. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Hor. Sparkins*, A writer of fashionable novels. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xv. 219 It has been remarked by writers on our Constitutional History. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 334 Women dress for each other, says one writer.

b. One who is writing. *The (present) writer*, the writer hereof.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 4, I the wrettar that dois considdar weill The sindrie myndis of men. 1623 JONSON *Golden Trade* 8 It pleased them to imploy mee the present wrighter. 1784 COWPER *Table-t.* IV. 18 Tears..trickled down the writer's cheeks Fast as the periods from his fluent quill. 1837 W. C. STEWART *Pract. Angler* vii. (ed. 3) 139 A brother of the writer made the same trial with the same result. 1895 ARBER *Sh Marprel. Controv.* 193 The present Writer's belief on this subject.

c. A composer of music.

1688 T. SALMON *Prop. Perform Music* 19 That the Writers of Musick may more certainly know where to fix their Flats and Sharps. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 367 Written Discant,..which is..practised in Italy, by all writers for the Church. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. iv. 261 [Corelli] the simplest and purest writer of Italian melody.

d. *Writer-up*: see WRITE *v.* 18.

1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 80, I had been misled by those writers-up of this country. 1904 *Times* 1 June 14 He carried on business as a writer-up of advertisements.

4. *ellipt.* The writings of an author.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 2 Let therefore these few lines..suffice, out of an antient Writer. 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 122 [This] history makes me suspect he transcribed what he hath out of some writer. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 465 In some of the classic writers it is said [etc.]. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 11 A whole host of able writers are suffered to moulder in obscurity on the shelves of our libraries. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. 96, I saw the other day in an American writer a humorous account.

5. *Writer's sand* (see quot. and SAND *sb.*² 8).

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 479 Such granulations vary in size from the finest 'writer's sand' (tuberculous dust) to [etc.].

6. One who typewrites; a typist.

1883 J. G. PETERS *Man. for Type-Writer* 13 Unless the printers are accustomed to the writer's style of shortening words.

II. 7. A make of paint-brush.

1884 R. LESLIE in Ruskin *Dilecta* (1900) 6 Turner..used short brushes, some of them like the writers used by house decorators. 1889 SUTHERLAND *Sign Writing* iv. 4/4 A few sable and camels-hair pencils...There are what are called 'writers'.

8. A pen, etc., that writes in a specified manner.

1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 12/2 These pens..are certainly excellent writers.

III. 9. *attrib.* (chiefly appositive), as *writer body, chiel, -lad*; *writer-type, word*.

1686 SIR J. LAUDER *Decis.* (1759) I. 401 Some Writer lads were also accessory. 1717 RAMSAY *Elegy on Lucky Wood* ix, The writer lads ha' well may mind her. 1785 BURNS *To W. Simpson* iii, Ferguson, the writer-chiel. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xviii, I have just arrested her *jurisdictiones fundandæ causæ*. Thae are bonny writer words. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Clerical Intrigue* 108 A miserable writer body frae Glasgow. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 169 That's the writer-type. He has the same modelling of the forehead as Torp.

Hence **Wri·teress**, a female writer or author; an authoress; **Wri·terling**, a petty writer; a sorry or indifferent author.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 636 Our rhyming *writeresses are frequently single gentlewomen. 1835 THACKERAY *Char. Sk.* Wks. 1898 III. 517 Remember it henceforth, ye writeresses —there is no such word as authoress. 1800 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 420 Every writer and *writerling of name has a salary from the government.

Writership (rəi·təɹʃip). [f. prec. + -SHIP 3.]

1. The office or position of a writer in the service of the former East India Company. Now *Hist.*

1763 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 358 The surprising applications made by the top familys for writerships..confounded him. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Proc.* 98 The motives that influenced..their nominations to writerships. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 21 Being offered a writership, he scouted the idea of a civil appointment.

2. The office or employment of a clerk; a clerkship.

1884 *Public Opinion* 5 Sept. 304 Officers..who are thoroughly competent for writerships in dockyard[s] and victualling yards at home.

Writh (riþ). Now *dial.* [Cf. Da. *vrid*, Norw. (*v*)*rid*, turning, evasion, etc.; ON. *rið* winding staircase.] = WRITHE *sb.* 1, 1 b.

14.. *Latin-Eng. Voc.* (MS. Harl. 2257), *Grunt*, a writh. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 150 A Writh, *cesticillus*. 1844 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 370 *Writh*, the bond of a faggot.

Writh, southern dial. var. FRITH *sb.*² 3.

Writhable (rəi·ðăb'l), *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. WRITHE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being writhed.

c 1485 *St. Christina* in *Anglia* VIII. 126 She..croked hir armes & fyngers as if þey were wryþabil for softenesse.

Writhe, varr. WRETHE *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

Writhe (rəið), *sb.* Also 6-7 wrythe. [f. next. Cf. WREATH *sb.*, and OHG. *rida* 'tensio'.]

†**1.** Something twisted, wreathed, or formed into a circular shape; a twisted band; a wreath. *Obs.*

[illegible] 1569 UNDERDOWNE *Heliodorus* IX. 127 [Each] hathe a round Wrythe vpon his head, in which their Arrowes are set in order.

†**b.** (See quot. and cf. WREITH.) *Obs.*—⁰

1552 HULOET, Wrythes, or any thing that may be wrythed about like a willow or osier, *vitilia, ium*.

c. A curled or twisted formation; a wreath or twist.

1857 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 219 The castle sate its rock as a strong rider sits his horse,—fitting its limbs to every writhe of the flint beneath it. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketching Club* 164 The writhe in his mustache.

2. An act of writhing; a twisting or writhing movement of the body, countenance, etc.; a contortion.

1622 COTGR., *Torse*,..a wrest, wrinch; wrythe. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 185 Men who..could watch the excruciating writhes..of others. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 99 The head or leading flank..whose writhes and turnings are followed by every other part of the body [of troops]. 1812 CHALMERS *Biogr. Dict.* V. 318 He..expired.. without a writhe in his countenance. 1890 MISS BROUGHTON *Alas!* xvi. The silent writhe with which Jim receives this piece of information.

†**b.** A twinge *of* pain, etc. *Obs.*—¹

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 133, I had some writhes of it [*sc.* rheumatism] before I entered Champagne.

3. Degree of tautness; tension. *rare*⁻¹.

1879 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 235 A body..of parchment, strained upon a hoop to the required writhe or degree of stiffness for resonance.

Writhe (rəið), *v.*¹ Forms: 1 wriðan, 3 wriðen, 4 wrypen, 4-5 wrythen, 5 wrythyn, writhyn; 4-5 wripe, 4- writhe (6 wriethe), 4-7 writh (6 wrieth); 4-5 wrype, 4-7 wrythe, wryth. *Pa. t.* 1 wrað, 3 wrið, 5 wraythe, wrathe; 3 wreoð, 4-5 wrop, wroth, 5 wrothe, wreoth. *Pl.* 1 wripon, 2 unrythen, 3 wrypen, 4 writhen (7 writhe); 5-6 wrythen (6 wrethen). *Pa. pple.* 1 gewriðen, 3 ywriðen, 4-5 ywripen, ywrithen, ywrype, y-, iwrithe; 1, 4 wripen, 4- writhen (4 -un, 5 -yn, 6 -in), 5-7 wrythen (5 -yn); 4 writhe, 5 wrythe; 4 wroþen, 4-6 wrethen (5 -yn), 5 ywrethe; 6 wrothonne. *Weak pa. t.* and *pa. ppple.* 5- writhed, 4-6 wrythed. [OE. *wriðan* str. v. (pa. t. *wriþ*, pl. *writon*; pa. pple. *gewriden*), also *gewriðen*, = OFris. **wriða* (NFris. *wriir, wrial*), OHG. *ridan* (in *ga-, kiridan*; MHG. *riden*), ON. *riða*, MSw. *wripa* (Sw. *vrida*), MDa. and Da. *vride*, related to *wriða* WREATH. Cf. WREATHE *v.*

The northern ME. pa. t. *wraythe* may represent ON. **wreiþ* pa. t. of **wriða* (later *riða*).]

I. *trans.* **1.** To twist or coil (something); to fashion into coils or folds; to dispose or arrange in a coiled or sinuous form; to bend or distort by twisting. Freq. with *about, over, round* preps., *up* adv. Also *refl.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXVI. (Z.) 155 *Torqueo*, ic wriðe. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Me dide cnotted strenges abuton here hæued & uurythen to fæt it sæde to þe hærnes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 9 He bar a bordun i-bounde wiþ a brod lyste, In a weþe-bondes wyse i-wriþen aboute. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 278 A ȝerde mai growe so greet..þat men shal not wriþe it. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 118 Writhe not the hed of thy sarment. *a* 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* (1868) 21 He writhed a litell wipse of strawe. *c* 1460 (see WRAPPER *sb.* 1). *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (T 1310) *A* ij b, A grene wand..may be wrethen whyle it is grene. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* II. 128 The floures grew very thyck together as they were writhen about the stalcke. 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Selfe-Deceiving* (1630) 279 Correcting the crookednesse of a twig hee writhes it too much the other way. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 149 Never was there..serpent wrythen up so suddenly. 1643 in Sir J. Temple *Irish Rebell.* (1646) 117 They would take and writh wyths about their heads. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* I. viii. 12 The pulse called Lupines, still looks after the Sun, that it may not writhe his stalk. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* III. xviii, Twisting and writhing the head of a shoot. ?*c* 1745 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xx. 39 Here the dry dipsa writhes his sinuous mail. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* v. 597 The Worm..writhing its folds In hideous sort. 1832 MOTHERWELL *Poems* 45 This leafless tree, That's writhen o'er the linn. 1866 CHR. ROSSETTI *Prince's Progr.* 6 Who twisted her hair..And writhed it shining in serpent-coils. 1901 WEYMAN *Ct. Hannibal* vi, The tiring-maid..flung herself..at Mademoiselle's knees,..writhing herself about them.

†**b.** To force in wreaths. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. iv. 7 (Camb. MS.), Veseuus.. writ[h]ith [L. *torquet*] owtthorw his brokene chymynees smokynge fyres.

c. To change or fashion *into* († *to*) some form, etc., by wreathing or twisting.

1582 MULCASTER *Elementaria* I. (1925) 25 If the pliable mind be vnwiselie writhen to a disfigured shape. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, Their countenances seemed fiercely writhen into the wildest expression of pride. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. I. § 26 The Arab..points the arch and writhes it into extravagant foliations. 1879 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (ed. 2) 291 Snow lies..writhed into loveliest wreaths.

†**2.** To unite, combine, or make compact, by twisting, entwining, or interweaving; to join *with* something, twine together; to intertwine. Freq. with *together*. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 25974 Pat weore twelf swine..mid wiðen..y-wriðen al to-gadere. 1388 WYCLIF *Judges* xvi. 9 As if a man brekith a threed of herdis, writhun with spotle. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cl. (Bodl. MS.), Al schrubbes and treen wiþ prickes..beþ ywounde and ywrethe togedres, and biclippiþ..euriche oþer. *a* 1420-30 *Bk. Curtasye* 440 in *Babees Bk.* 313 Litere..Wele watered, i-wrythen, be craft y-trode. *Ibid.* 442 Wyspes..Wele wrethyn and turnyd a-ȝayne þat tyde. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1792 The wyf fast hyre keyes wrothe in the end of the borde clothe. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* viii, The begge also..With sicamour was set and eglantere, Writhen in-fere so wel. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Nervi tortiles*, ..stringes writhed together. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xiii. 86 Let them rub them ..with a wisp of straw harde writhen together. 1654 WHITELOCKE *Jrnl. Swed. Emb.* (1772) I. 179 Their stirrup [is] a withe writhed togither. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xiii. 209 Thick truncks, which were writhen variously amongst themselves.

†**3.** To form or fashion (a wreath, etc.) by plaiting, entwining, or twisting; to plait. Also with *together*. *Obs.*

c 1275 [see WRASE 2]. 1388 WYCLIF *John* xix. 2 Knyytis writhen a coroun of thornes. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 122 Þay wrythen a crowne of þornys and setten on his hed. 1530 *Treat. Galaunt* 191 Theyr typpettes be wrythen lyke to a chayne. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* XXVII. 29 Writhing together a crown of thistels. 1569 SHUTE *Archit.* D iv b, The other Astragalus..shalbe wrothonne like a wreath.

†**4.** To turn or wrench round or to a side; to twist about; to wring. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3462 Þair strut it was vn-stern stith, Wit wrathli wrestes alþer writh. 1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* I. 15 Whanne the heed is writhun to the necke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. iii. 19 Ane blusterand bub..The schippis stewyn frawart hir went can writhe. 1584 BEDINGFIELD tr. *Corte's Art Riding* 101 An angrie horsse..that dooth wryth his head from one side to the other. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* II. (1617) 80 To carrie your cudgell in his eye of that side which he most writheth. 1697

fig. and in fig. context. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. xi. 93 Hir fayne spreit in all partis writhis [L. *vertebat*] sche. *a* 1549 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 282 [He] writhed his loke toward the royal walls. 1609 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 142 A yoong wench hath him sure enough by the neeke, and doth writhe him which way she list. 1684 H. MORE *Answer* Pref. b j b, The Remarker..has writhen and forced his Wit and Invention to personate [etc.].

†b. *fig.* To divert or deflect from or to a person, course, etc.; to cause to turn away, bend, or incline towards another. Cf. WRENCH *v.* 4 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15569 For þal wald writ [*orr.* writh, wriþe] on me..al þair aun wijt. *Ibid.* 18101. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 361 Þar-for scho thocht wele to wricht [*read* writhe] in hyme hir wikitnes alsuyth. *Ibid.* xlii. (*Agathe*) 97 For to wryth agathis wil fra cryst. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 2012 Whan þat he his aspectis glade Fro a man listeth for to writhe. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* II. (1540) 87 Pleasures fayre..ofte tymes wrythe the bygger partes of the soule fro vertue. 1562 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* I. ii, Lest the fraude..Of flattering tongues..wrythe them to the wayes of youthfull lust. 1642 CHAS. I *Let. to Mayor of Bristol* 2 The rebellious instigation..to writhe and bend your inclinations to oppose Me. 1685 [see WRENCH *v.* 6 c].

†c. With advs., as *about, aside, away, back.* Occas. *fig.* and in fig. context. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4359 Fortune..can writhe hir heed awey. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Bludy Serk* 107 Sa suld we wryth all syn away. *c* 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* A j, If the eyes be wrythen asyde. *a* 1564 BECON *Treat. Fasting* iv, To wryth his head about lyke an hope. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Lev.* v. 8 He..shal wryth backe the heade therof.

5. To subject (the body, limbs, etc.) to a contorting or twisting movement; to twist, contort; to wring or wreathe. Also with advs., as *around, round, together, up*, and absol.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 66 He wroth hus fust vp-on wratthe. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xviii. 1975 Þan spak Makbeth dispytusly,..Lyk al wrethyn [*v.r.* wrythin] in his skyn. *c* 1450 *Ludus Coventriæ* 28 Wrythe on to my necke bon with hardnesse of þin honde. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Torqueo*, To writhe one's necke. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Constancie* vii, He..Whom nothing can procure.. To writhe his limbes. 1691 BAXTER *Certainty Worlds Spirits* 166 Some Reapers..were hurt, writhen, and one killed with a Whirlwind. 1721 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 P 3 A Country Girl..writhing and distorting her whole Body. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 75 The alarmed Goddess..Writhes her fair limbs. 1824 W. BROWN *Hist. Propag. Chr.* II. 434 In the fall, his hip was writhed. 1865 B. BRIERLEY *Irkdale* I. 143 Aw'll wrythe thy neck reawnd. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 14 March 1/1 The Arabs..writhed their bodies under guns, Gatlings, and muskets.

refl. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 328 Then Satan first knew pain, And writh'd him to and fro convolv'd. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI. XXXII, The mountaineer Yet writhed him up against the spear. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-hags* XXIII. 169 The creature writhed himself in glee.

b. To distort (the face, etc.); to draw awry; = WRING *v.* 2 b.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* 189 The God of Ire..Wrything his face with mony angrie word. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 Some make a face with writhing theyr mouthe. 1548 ELYOT, *Interqueere mentum*, to writhe or wreste the chynne. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Prov.* XIX. 1 Better is a poore man..then a rich writhing his lippes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 569 They..writh'd thir jaws. 1755 JOHNSON, *Distortion*,..irregular motion by which the face is writhed. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 74 [They] Madly dash'd the darts together, writhing barbarous lineaments.

c. To utter, speak *out*, with a writhe.

1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* XXI. 290 As they drag her back..she writhes out to Ora..: 'They'll do the same to you'. 1902 SNAITH *Wayfarers* XII, Sir Thomas would grunt and wriggle and writhe his tipsy protests.

d. To make or pursue (its way) by writhing.

1867 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* 326 The snake which has writhed its way to the Mocking Bird's nest.

6. To twist or wrench (something) out of place, position, or relation; = WRING *v.* 6. Const. with advs., as *asunder*, †*atwo, off, out*, or preps., as *from, off, out of.* Also *refl.* Occas. *fig.*

1388 WYCLIF *Sam.* XXIII. 21 Bi miȝt he wrooth out the spere fro the hond of the man. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 271 He his necke hath writhe atuo. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 48 Sethe þy capone,..brisse hom in hast And wrythe itwen. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* X. 39 There myghte ye see..crampons of yron wrythen a sondre. 1554–9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 12, I wolde God in sondare I myght wrythe his necke boune. ? *a* 1600 in Child *Ballads* III. 413/35 Then he writhe the gold ring of his fingar. 1606 MARSTON *Parasit.* V. H 4 b, Cupid.., Whose force writh'd lightning from Joues shaking hand. 1684 H. MORE *Answer* 224 Before their heads be writhen off. 1849 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* IX, She writhed herself free. 1887 D. C. MURRAY *One Trav. Returns* XVII, Writhing the water from their auburn hair.

fig. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11616 But god..wrangis in his wrathe writhis to ground. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 5/2 Here the Bishops began first to writhe out theyr elections and theyr neckes a litle from the Emperours subiection.

†b. To insert (something) *in* or *into* a space by insinuation or twisting. Also *transf.* and *refl. Obs.*

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* I. xliv. (1596) 67 You may writh a linnen cloth..in the nosthrils. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* G 2 b, This desolatiue-Trumpet of Ierusalem; a weake breath or two I will writhe into it. 1598 B. JONSON *Every Man in Humour* III. v, He had so writhen himselfe, into the habit of one of your poore *Infanterie*.

†7. To wrest, strain, or pervert the meaning of (a writing, passage, word, etc.); to deflect, misapply; = WRENCH *v.* 7, WREST *v.* 5, 6, WRING *v.* 9 b. *Obs.*

In frequent use from *c* 1555 to *c* 1600.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Hh iv, They haue..writhen and enlarged the discipline of Justyce. 1546 GARDINER *Declar. Joye* 43 The pelagians..searched out places of scripture, and writhed them violently..to their purpose. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Torqueo*, To wreste & writhe the law. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* vi. 106 The *Ladies Psalter*, wherein that which is spoken of God by the Spirit of God is writhed to her. 1662 HERBERT *Body Divinity* I. 199 Wresting and writhing mens writings to another meaning.

†b. To misinterpret (a writer); = WREST *v.* 5 c. 1585 [see WREST *v.* 5c]. 1587 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. xiv. 47 Stephen and Paule..howe soeuer they be writhed, yet must..so be vnderstanded.

II. †8. To envelop, enfold, or swathe (something) by winding or folding. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Egbert's Penit.* III. xvi. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 202 Þa ðe forbrocene wæron, þa ge ne wriþon [L. *ligavistis*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke X. 34 ł a genealæhte he, & wræd his wunda. *c* 1205 LAY. 17762 Wreoð nu wel þene king þæt he ligge a swmting. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 160 Hir heed writhen was..with a greet towayle. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* .. v. (Bodl. MS.), Been..makeþ honye ..abesse yt ..... and ywrithe wiþ waxe. *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtayse* 685 in *Babees Bk.*, Þen brede he brynges, in towelle wrythyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/1 Wrythyn, *idem quod* hyllyn.

†b. To confine or fasten with a cord, bond, etc.; to bind, fetter. *Obs.*

Beowulf 964 Ic hine hrædlice heardan clammum on wælbedde wriþan þohte. [*c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Crist..ferde to helle and iwræð þene alde deouel.] *c* 1205 LAY. 17394 Þe mote uaste heom wriðen mid strongen sæil-rapen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 80 Þay..Wryþe me in a warlok, wrast out myn y3en. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 98 Coordes of synful men ha a bouten writhe me.

fig. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9088 In hir loue was he so writhen, That he myght not his wille refrayn.

†c. To secure or fix (something) *with* a pin, etc. *Obs.*–1

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 12 Assay Ovens made..of strong Armor-plate, and writhen with Ironpins.

†9. To surround or invest *with* something; to wreathe, enwreathe. Also with *about. Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* V. v. 12 Ane mantill brusit with gold, With purpour selvage writhin mony fold. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* II. (1728) 227 A Caduceus writhen about with two serpents.

III. *intr.* 10. To move or stir in a turning or sinuous manner; to change posture by twisting; to twist about.

a 1300 in *Maþ' Poems* (Camden) 336 Thi wretche with [= wit] so thunne, That ay was writhinde as a wond. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5472 Þey..sawe hys coloure ofte ouer caste; And wroth a-boute, to and fro. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1200 Þen he wakenede, & wroth, & to hir warde torned. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 510 For a penе on a day..forth þay goș, Wryþen & worchen & don gret pyne. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1141 Wrothely thai wrythyne and wrystille to-geders. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 111 Elles the one ende [of a bow-string] shall wriethe contrary to the other. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 26 The babe..wrythed with the head to seeke for the pap. 1622 COTGR., *Serpeger*, to..wrigle, writhe, or goe waiuing, &c., like a serpent. 1809–14 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VI. 291 The Indian bird That writhes and chatters in her wiry cage. 1820 SOUTHEY *Lodore* 61 Flying and flinging, Writhing and ringing,..this way the Water comes down at Lodore. 1893 MARY CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* XVI, [He] lit the paper, and..watched it writhe under the little chuckling flame.

fig. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XIII. 126 This warld fowre neuer so,..Now in weyll, now in wo, And all thyng wrythys.

b. To contort the body, limbs, etc., as from agony, emotion, or stimulation; to twist *under* or *with* pain, distress, etc.; to wring, turn. Also with *about.*

In frequent use from *c* 1800.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1920 Thane the worthy kynge [Arthur] wrythes, and wepede with his eghne. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1189 (Ashm. MS.), Þe wale kyng..writhis him vnfaire [*Dubl. MS.* wex wode wroth]. *Ibid.* 1409. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* VIII. xi. 1776 Al brym he belyt in to brethe, And wrythit al in wedand wrethe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. CXXXVI. 242 Beaumayns..walowed and wrythed for the loue of the lady. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. v, Let them..be..empal'd, and left To writhe at leisure round the bloody stake. 1798 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* II. 431 [She was]..ithing under the wound. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XIII, Mr. Brass, after writhing about,..was by this time awake also. 1848 EDMESTON *Sacred Poetry* 171 Though the nerves may writhe with pain. 1890 W. BOOTH *In Darkest Eng.* 280 [illegible] full of human wrecks, writhing in anguish,

Tempest XXXIV, Passion, writhing in torment,..seized him in a Titan grip.

c. *poet.* To twine or coil (*round* something).

1798 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* III. (1853) 33, I saw The pictured flames writhe round a penanced soul.

11. To change place or position, to turn, move, or go, with a writhing or twisting motion. Usu. with preps., as *about, down, from*, †*of, to, up*, or advs., as *apart, away, back, out.*

c 1205 LAY. 6729 Þe king..him wrað [*c* 1275 leop] to, ase he hine wolde anho. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 350 Of þe way a fote ne wyl he wryþe. *Ibid.* B. 533 Wylde wormez to her won wryþez in þe erþe. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Ilke wrethe as a wolfe-heuede, it wraythe owtt at ones! 14.. *Chaucer's Miller's T.* 97 (Camb. MS.), With here hed sche wrythed faste a-way. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1835 Thus he wrawled & wroth a-way. 1540 HYDE tr. *Vives' Introd. Chr. Wom.* II. xii. 122 Whan thou wrythest awaye from thy steppe chyldren, callynge the mother. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* I. (1593) 18 He proffered kisses too the tree, the tree did from him wryth. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* XI. cili, Struggling for speech, the pale lips writhed apart. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 237 Vivien..Writhed toward him, slided up his knee [etc.]. 1891 F. TENNYSON *Poems* 369 Snakes writhed to their holes.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 986 If ther myght ben a variaunce, To wrythen out fro godden purueynge. *Poems* (Rolls) II. 90 Thei ben bastard braunches that.. writhyn wrongli away from holy chirche techinge.

Writhe (rəiðd), *ppl. a.* [f. WRITHE *v.*1 + -ED 1. Cf. WREATHED *ppl. a.*]

1. That has undergone writhing, contortion, or twisting; twisted.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. LXXXIII. 764 The stem [of the smaller cedar] is croked or writhed. 1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* H ij, Wrythed wrinckles [shall] peere on blemisht browe. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* I. xliv. (1596) 67 A writhed linnen cloth. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 50 The writhed and wrested strings of a brake. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 396 The angular and variously writhed Worm-tube.

transf. 1582 COOPER *Answ. Defence Truth* 84 All, that here you haue vttered, be nothinge but wrythed coniectures.

b. Of the features, etc.: Subjected to contortion or writhing; contorted, wry.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Laide grimace*, a writhed mouth. 1603 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 96 Snuffing with a wrythed nose the Amber. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 150 They have a black and wrythed Face. 1802 JOANNA BAILLIE *2nd Pt. Ethwald* II. ii, There be some Whose writhed features..do stare upon you. 1830 TENNYSON *'Clear-headed friend'* iii, Those writhed limbs of lightning speed. 1868 KINGLAKE *Crimea* IV. 292 A breed of the human race whose numberless cages of teeth stared out..from between the writhed lips.

2. Fashioned by or as by twisting or convolution.

1552 HULOET, Writhed, or wynded one in another as a cord or rope is lincke to lincke, *versatilis.* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Funes intorti*, writhed cordes. 1802 LEYDEN *Mermaid* i, How softly mourns the writhed shell Of Jura's shore, its parent sea! 1858 SEYRING *Builders' Prices* 55 Every inch opening in the writhed rails.

b. Of pillars, etc.: = WREATHED *ppl. a.* 3 a.

1825 SCOTT *Talism.* XXVII, The fantastic forms of writhed pillars. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* iii. 92 The dark..porches and writhed pillars of Verona.

Hence **Wri·thedly** *adv.*, **-ness.** *rare.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Contorte*,..frowardly: obscurely: intricately: writhedly. 1755 SCOTT, *Contortuousness*, writhedness.

†**Writhel.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] ?Wild lettuce.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3153 Ilc man after his owen fond, Heued and fet, and in-rew meten, Lesen fro þe bones and eten, Wiþ wriðel and vn-lif bread. [Cf. Exodus xii. 8 'Et edent carnes ..et azymos panes cum lactucis agrestibus'.]

Writhen (ri·ðn), *ppl. a.* Also 4 writhun, 6 -yne, 4–9 wrythen. [pa. pple. of WRITHE *v.*1 Cf. WREATHEN *ppl. a.*]

1. Subjected to writhing, twisting, or turning; twisted out of regular shape or form; contorted; †also, closed, clenched (quot. 1377). a. Of things.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5723 (Laud MS.), A griselich best..; Teeþ he had so wreþen wriþen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 174 Þe wrythen funte, or the werkmanschip of fyngres. 1483 in *Arnold's Chron.* (1811) 116 Item a peir of coral beedis, the gawdies gilt wrythen. 1520 in *Archæologia* LIII. 14 One playn paten chased yn the foote w^t a wrythen knope. 1564 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* 44 b, A writhen arme of the tree. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. iv. 93 Some smoked beeve, Hang'd on a writhen wythe. 1611 COTGR., *Grugeons*, the..most writhen fruit on a tree. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. XX. 53 In Men this Neck is more long-round, narrow, and a little writhen. 1689 MOYLE *Sea Chyrurg.* II. XIII. 61 The Muscles bruised and writhen. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 506 Dread Jove (whose arm in vengeance forms The writhen bolt). 1947 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* U j b, Curl'd Stone..has..writhen Lumps in it. 1892 ALLINGHAM *Poems, Music-master* II. XV, The writhen elder spreads its creamy bloom. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., At Eleusis* 72 That lame wisdom that has writhen feet.

fig. 1894 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Ebb Tide* II, 'I'll give my father up,' returned Herrick, with a writhen smile.

b. Of persons, their features, etc.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1111 A bauld writhen man. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 91 Their countenances [were] writhen and terrible. 1635 R. JOHNSON *Hist. Tom a Lincolne* II. iii. (1682) G 3 b, Her cheeks..now appeared old and writhen. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 447 Till, with a writhen Mouth,.. He tastes the bitter Morsel. 1822 SCOTT *Talism.* XIV, My choice were rather..that my writhen features should blacken ..in this evening's setting sun. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 23 Her lip was gray and writhen.

2. Combined or made by, subjected to, twining or plaiting; intertwined, entwined, or plaited. Cf. WREATHEN *ppl. a.* 2.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 84 Garas lixtan, wriðene wælhlencan; wordum & þordum hofon herecombol. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Thess.* ii. 9 Wymmen..ouryngge heer silf, not in writhun heeris, ethir in gold,..but [etc.]. 1388 — *Ecclus.* XIV. 12 Writhun reed threed. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. v. (1869) 3 A corde wel wrythen, þat bi places was knet. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 31 Pees and beanes..set..thre sheues together, the toppes vpwarde, and wrythen together. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezod.* XXXIX. 15 Wrythen cheynes of pure golde. 1585 HIGINS *Iunius' Nomencl.* 213/2 *Corona gestilis*,..a writhen garland. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 221 Many cordes of wrythen and twisted sinewes. 1674 J. WARREN *Metallurg.* XIII. 210 A capillary or hairy piece..crisped and writhen together. 1733 T. GENT *Hist. Rippon* 57 They built an House..with

Wrythen Wands or Boughs. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 224 *Wrythen*, pp.. : intertwined.

3. Disposed or arranged in coils, folds, or windings; formed or fashioned by or as by coiling, convolution, etc.

Cf. the earlier *forwrithen* ppl. a. (For- *pref.*[1] 8).

c 1342 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 178 A writhyne rynge of golde. 1559 Mowyng *Evonym.* 77 Destilled in serpentine, or writhen, or crouked vessels. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 263/2 *Linamentum tortile*, .. a rolled or writhen tent. *a* 1608 Dee *Relat. Spir.* 1. (1659) 115 A Serpent .. leaned upon her twice writhen taile. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 961 The wrythen rolls of the turbant. 1693 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* 1. 454 His writhen Shell he takes. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. 258 [Full] of intertwining writhen snakes.

†**4.** *fig.* Wrested; perverted; deflected. *Obs.*

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* 1. (1895) 91 A wrythen and wrested vnderstandynge of the same. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* 1. xiii. 31 b, To fense themselues againste the crooked writhen suttleties with plaine and simple truthe.

5. *Comb.*, as *writhen-faced, -formed.*

1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* L4 b, A wearish dwarfish writhen facde cobler. *c* 1862 J. T. Staton *Rays fro' Leomisary* 115 A thing that's writhen-formt.

Hence **Wri·thenness.** *rare*[−0].

1727 Bailey, *Tortuosity*, .. writhenness, wrinkledness.

Wri·theneck. [f. Writhe *v.*[1]] = Wryneck 1.

1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 103 Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*). So called from the extraordinary pliancy of its neck; whence also Writhe-neck.

Writher (rəi·ðəɹ). Also 5–6 **wrythar.** [f. Writhe *v.*[1] + -er[1].] One who writhes or twists; † one who perverts.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 674 Ther were bostera, .. Praters, fasers, strechers, & wrythers. 1533 [see Webster 2]. 1545 Brinklow *Lament.* 25 Ye wresters and wrythers of Goddes holy worde.

Writhing (rəi·ðiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb in various senses; an instance of this. Also with *away.* Occas. *fig.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 119 With writhyng of a pyn. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Ballad Commend. Our Lady* 96 3if ony offence or writhyng in hem be, þu art ay redy up-on her woo for to rewe. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 136 Yf Lyberte lacked a reyne Where with to rule hym with the wrythyng of a rest. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 241 Let .. thy laughter [be] without vnseemely writhing of thy mouth and visage. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 60 A writhing away or turning about of the bodie. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 189 Ill-fauoured gestures, and writhing of their mouth and eyes. 1668 Holme *Armoury* II. 84 The Writhing [of a tree] is the turning of branches. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* 1. xxxvii. 34 The Writhings of the wrathful Asp. 1827 Keble *Chr. Year, Wedn. before Easter*, The writhings of a wounded heart. 1835 R. M. Bird *Hawks* (1856) 134 Sterling .. could not trace a single writhing or quivering of limb. 1889 Clark Russell *Marooned* xii, A slow writhing .. of the shadowy substance of the brig's sails, masts, and hull, into determinable forms.

†**2.** = Wresting *vbl. sb.* 2, Wringing *vbl. sb.* 4.

1555 Travers in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. 87 Without wrythyng, wrastyng, or doubtyng of his promis. 1562 Cooper *Answ. Defence Truth* 78 All the argumentes that you haue brought are nothing but writhinges of extraordinary cases. 1662 Herbert *Body Divinity* 1. 189 What wrything and wringing the Protestants make to shift off this place.

Wri·thing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing[2].]

†**1.** That wrings or extorts; practising extortion. *c* 1520 [see Wresting *ppl. a.*].

2. That writhes; twisting or turning to and fro.

1798 R. Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy* 76 Where writhing earth-worms meet th' unwelcome day. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xcvii, Smiles .. raise the writhing lip with ill-dissembled sneer. 1865 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* x. 170 The forked and writhing lightning. 1882 T. S. Hudson *Scamper through Amer.* 171 Our driver adroitly left one [rattlesnake] a writhing corpse.

transf. 1897 Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 3 The children whose faces watched them through the writhing window panes.

3. Marked or characterized by sinuous or tortuous movement.

1808 Jamieson, *Wringle*, a writhing motion. 1818 Hazlitt *Lect. Poets* iii. 128 The writhing agonies within. 1848 Lytton *Harold* v, A writhing attempt to smile.

Hence **Wri·thingly** *adv.*, in a writhing manner.

1612 Cotgr., *Tortulment*, .. wryingly, writhingly. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* IV. 524 The monster .. turned writhingly. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* III. vii, Turning over writhingly in her chair.

Writhled (rɪ·ðld), *a.* [app. f. the stem of Writhe *v.*[1] (see -le 3); but perh. an alteration of Rivelled *a.*]

1. Of persons, the skin, etc.: Wrinkled; shrivelled, withered. Now *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Vultus*, To make the face writheled and wrinkled. 1591 Shake. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 23 This weake and writhled-shrimpe. 1599 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. 187 Cold, writhled Eld. 1649 Lovelace *Poems* (1904) 100 Cynthia spotted, she impure; Her body writheld, 1693 J. H. tr. *Juv. Sat.* x. 11 A writhled and discouler'd skin. 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., St. Dorothy* 445 This makes him sad and writhled in his face.

Comb. a 1626 R. Cox *Actæon & Diana* 4 A writhled fac'd companion.

†**2.** Rough; shaggy. *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1600 *Timon* v. iv. (1842) 86 An vnshorne beade, a writhled beard, beetle browed.

Writhy (rəi·ði), *a.* [f. Writhe *v.*[1] + -y[1]. Cf. Da. *vridig* flexible.] Moving sinuously; writhing.

1742 Blair *Grave* 330 Nor Fly, nor Insect, Nor writhy Snake, escap'd thy deep Research.

Writing (rəi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Write *v.* + -ing[1].]

I. 1. The action of one who writes, in various senses; the penning or forming of letters or words; the using of written characters for purposes of record, transmission of ideas, etc. Also with *out.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Of silence & of spache nis bute a lore; & forði, ine writunge, heo eornes bode togederes. 1340 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* III. 61 For-þi I lere 30u, lordynges such writynge 3e leue, To writen in Wyndouwes of 3oure wel dedes. 1377 *Ibid. B.* XII. 84 Þe clergye .. conforted þe womman. Holykirke knoweth þis þat crystes writynge saued. 1487–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 132 For the wrytyng of the names of the ffounnderes. 1513 Moar *Rich. III*, Wks. 56 For al ye time .. could scant haue suffised vnto ye bare wryting alone. 1549 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 42 To waplett the paintour .. ffor the wryting of lx peces of Canvas. 1632 T. Powell *Tom All Trades* (1876) 141 The Scriveners .. had no imployment, but writing of blanke Bonds. 1672 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 508 This way that I propose of the King's writing himself, is the only way to effect it. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 288 He directed me to send it with a Letter of his Writing. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917/2 The bark of trees was also used for writing by the ancients. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvi. 423 The diamond should be held in a vertical position during the writing. 1849 Mrs. Merrifield *Orig. Treat.* I. p. xxix, The two branches were frequently practised by the same person, whence the term 'writing' .. was applied to painting on glass, which was also called 'writing on glass'. 1882 *N. & Q.* 30 Dec. 512/2, I believe Lancaster first suggested writing on sand with the finger. 1898 J. Taylor tr. *Kautzsch's Hist. Lit. O. T.* 10 The writing out of the products of those earlier days.

fig. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* 413 He that hath yt [*sc.* faith] in his herte of goddes own wrytynge.

b. *At this* (*present*) *writing*, at the time of writing this. Also *up to this* (..) *writing.*

1728 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 4 Jan., I am, at this present writing, not very much turned for the recollection of what is diverting. 1832 J. P. Kennedy *Swallow B.* (1860) 13 An account of all my doings up to this present writing. 1846 C. Mitchell *Newsp. Press Direct.* 77 The critical (musical) department .. is at 'this present writing', to use an Irishism, nothing if not meagre. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 433/2 It is at this writing given out that [etc.].

c. = Typewriting *vbl. sb.*

1883 J. G. Petrie *Man. for Type-Writer* 5 While the writing is being done by the fingers of the right hand. 1899 Wardle *Univ. Typewriter Man.* 10 It also keeps the paper in position for writing.

2. The art or practice of penmanship or handwriting.

c 1440 Lydg. *Horn, Shepe & G.* 187 Yiff pennys & writyng were a-wry, Off remembrauunce we had lost the kay. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 278 Johun enformyd hym in wrytyng, & in endytyng. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. xxv. 80 They having no vse of bookes, or writing. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 126 Before the invention of letters and writing. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v., Writing is now chiefly practised among us by means of pen, ink, and paper. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. xvii, The poor people .. bred their son to writing and accounts, and other learning. 1784 T. Astle (*title*), The Origin and Progress of Writing, as well hieroglyphic as elementary. 1828 *Mirror* V. 75/2 The three R's—Reading, Writing, and Rithmetic. 1892 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLII. 244 Writing .. is the art of fixing speech by conventional signs.

b. Style, form, or method of fashioning letters or other conventional signs (esp. in handwriting or penmanship); the 'hand' of a particular person.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 278 Þat his voys, his wrytynge, .. was lych þe voys, lyche þe hand, .. of Johun his mayster. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 248/2 False wrytynge, *plastographia.* 1476 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 42/1 It wes his awne propir hand and writting. 1560 Bible *Ezra* (Genev.) iv. 7 The writing of the letter was the Aramites writing. 1590 P. Bales *Writing Schoolem.* Q 2 The Arte and knowledge of faire writing. 1602 [J. Willis] *Art Stenegr.* (title-p.), A very easie direction for Steganographie, or Secret Writing. 1660, etc. [see Short-writing, Shorthand c]. 1658 Phillips, *Calligraphy*, fair, or handsome writing. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Gothic*, Gothic character, or writing, is a character, or manner of writing, which [etc.]. 1742 [see Hieroglyphical *a.* 2]. 1784 T. Astle *Orig. & Progr. Writing* 7 This .. produced a further change in writing.

round-hand writing. 1892 Zangwill *Bow Mystery* 80 The landlady knew his writing.

c. The occupation of a (professional) writer.

1894 *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) 230 To be suspendit fra all writting quhill the payment of the foirsaid pane. 1682 *Sc. Acts* (1820) VIII. 244/1 All writers to the Signet, All publict Notars and other persons imployed in writeing

3. The action of composing and committing to manuscript; expression of thoughts or ideas in written words; literary composition or production.

a 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 326 Ther-to he koude endite and make a thyng, Ther koude no wight pynchen at his writyng. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. 2677 As the poete bi wrytyng techith vs. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 1 Al thynges that ben reduced by wrytyng ben wryton to our doctryne. 15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 321 Gif lytil rewarde be in wryting, Bettir war leif my paper quhyte. 1597–8 Bacon *Ess., Studies* (Arb.) 20 Reading maketh a full man, .. and writing an exacte man. 1629 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 80 After the wrytinge of this other the Lord Oboyne .. delyuered me your Ma[jes]ties of the 13. 1665 *Extr. St. Papers Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 213 Hee .. is .. not of parts for the writeing of such a Letter. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. xii, Writing .. is but a different .. for conversation. 1823 Mirror *Olde Pedr.* xxx, Magazine writing .. is the most difficult of all writing. 1889 'Miss Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* III. Though

3. Style or manner of composition or literary expression.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xx. (Percy Soc.) 98 Beseching you .. to pardon me of my rude wrytyng, For with woful herte was myne endytyng. *c* 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 84 Doubtful wrytynge .. is whan the wordes may be expounded dyuers wayes. *a* 1626 Bacon *Ch. Countrey.* Wks. 1879 I. 344 Bitter and earnest writing must not hastily be condemned. 1684 Dryden *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded., Supposing our countrymen had not received this writing [of scenes in verse] till of late. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 409 P 20 A finished Taste of good Writing. 1760 D. Wilkie *Inq. Beauties Painting* vii. 199 It is the character of fine writing .. that the thoughts should be natural. 1819 Keats in Forman *Wks.* (1883) III. 320 Fine writing is, next to fine doing, the top thing in the world. 1884 Church *Bacon* ix. 220 Easy and unstudied as his writing seems.

c. The composition of music.

1782 Burney *Hist. Music* 490 The most subtle and elaborate productions [*sc.* masses] that I have ever seen in this kind of writing. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 109/1 The art of writing in parts. 1889 Prout *Harmony* (ed. 3) 243 Four-part writing is justly considered the foundation of harmony.

d. With advs., as *down, in, off.* (Cf. 12 g.)

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Dec. 6/3 Some scheme for the writing

of capital liabilities.

†**4.** Manner of setting down in written form; spelling, orthography. *Obs.*

1521 A. Barclay *Introd.* A v b, Whiche is contrary bothe in the true wrytynge, & also to the true pronuncyacion of perfyte frenche. 1582 [see Writing-master]. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 7, I .. seeing alk uncertentie in our men's wryting, as if a man wald indyte one letter to tuentie of our best wryteres, nae tuae .. wald agree. 1636 B. Jonson *Eng. Gram.* fii, The unsteadfastness of our tongue, or incertainty of our writing. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Orthography*, Attempts have been since made to reduce the writing to the pronunciation.

5. The state or condition of having been written or penned; written form. Freq. *in writing.*

See Commit *v.* 10, Put *v.*[1] 16 b, Reduce *v.* 15 b.

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 268/2 Yeving in a Pedegree in writyng. 1460 *Paston Lett.* II. 120 Let them .. send ther excuse to me in wrytyng. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 2 Thei .. commit to wrytinge, stories. 1611 Cotgr., *Mettre par escrit*, to .. set downe in, commit vnto, writing. 1697 tr. *Perkins' Profit. Bk.* vii. 179 Another will .. by him put in writing. 1753 *Act 26 Geo. II*, c. 19 § 15 Which Examination the said Justices are hereby required to take down in Writing. 1831 Palgrave *Hist. Anglo-Saxons* vii. 151 Many matters now consigned to writing. *Ibid.* 152 Some little was reduced into writing. 1887 Bissell *Oblier Dicta* Ser. II. 42 The author's agreement .. is in writing.

II. 6. That which is in a written (now also typewritten) state or form; something penned or recorded; written information, composition, or production; literary work or compilation.

† *The* or *Sacred Writing* (quots. 1340, 1797), Scripture.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4672 Seynt Yaodre seyþ yn hys wrytyng, 'Alle þo' [etc.]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 71 Zuyche byeþ þo zonges of helle ase þe writinge ous telþ. 1382 Wyclif *Dan.* v. 7 Who euere shal rede this wrytyng. *c* 1444 Pecock *Donet* 156 Alle suche men .. I remitte into þe writing and witnessing of seynt Austyn. 1481 *Paston Lett.* I. 208 The Sheriffe .. hath writyng from the Kyng that he shall make such a panell. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* lxvi. (1811) 45 That sayinge disagreeth to the wrytynge of Eutropius. 1537 *Country Lect Bk.* 726 Which was latelie surrendered & given vpp by wrytyng to theme. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 64 A carrion death, Within whose empti eye there is a written scroule; Ile reade the writing. 1611 Bible 1 *Esdras* ii. 2 He made proclamation .. by writing. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 329/1 A passage in sacred writing, where the Philistines .. sent back the ark of God. 1868 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* II. 755 Neither the 4th nor 17th sections of this statute require, that the agent should be authorised by writing. 1877 Lockhart *Scott* xxvii. (1845) 256/1 He pointed out to me this hand which, like the writing on Belshazzar's wall, disturbed his hour of hilarity. 1887 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 65 The laundress .. denied all knowledge of the type-writer or the writing.

allusively. 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xxii, Cut it down, and you will have no more writing upon your wall.

transf. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 407 Nature is God's writing, and can only tell the truth.

7. A written composition; freq. *pl.*, the work or works of an author or group of authors; literary productions.

In frequent use from *c* 1560.

1340 *Ayenb.* 46 Þis boc is more ymad uor þe leawede, þanne uor þe clerkes þet conneþ þe writinges. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Macc.* ii. 1 It is founden in dyscryuyngis, or wrytyngis, of Jeremye, the prophete. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* 1. xv. 81 Holi Writt in this wise takun, is not holier neither better than eny other writing is. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 38 That suche wrytynges be approued by .. discrete goostly fathers. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 105 Famous men have studied to illustrate these Arts .. by their writings and disputations. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 4 P 8 The Writing is only to admonish the World. *a* 1720 *Hist. Quakers* (1732) Pref., The said Bishop .. hath of such an high Esteem by his Writings. 1828 Shelley J & *M.* 340 If this sad writing thou shouldst ever see. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 108 The writings of the fathers. 1850 Jephson *Brittany* xiv. 233 A writing to the effect that .. it [*sc.* a museum] was closed altogether.

b. *The* (*sacred* or *holy*) *writings*, the Scriptures.

1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Þanne þridde day .., uor to uolueille þe writinges, he arest uram dyaþe to liue.

Wks. (1735) 20/2 The Hand of God must a

Heart, are they understand the Writings of the Scriptures. 1683 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 397 The truth of the holy Writings. 1711 FELTON *Dissert. Classics* (1718) 94 The Sacred Writings, even in our Translation, preserve their Majesty. 1847 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 438/1 Mention is made of the use of signets in the sacred writings.

c. A musical composition.

1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* III. 397 It appears from the writings of this..exquisite harmonist, that he had..studied the greatest masters of his own time.

8. a. A written document, note, etc.; a letter or missive.

1456 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 58 All though my wrytyngges put yow many tymes to gret labour. 1513 Q. CATH. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 90 Came a Post from my lord Howard with a writing at length of every thing as it was. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* L v, Y^e childe brought the same wryghting to the handes of Mertia. 1629 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 256 These were the contents of the writing. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 353 Without another clear and express Donation, wherof they shew no Evidence or Writing. 1892 GIRDLESTONE *Found. Bible* 21 There are frequent references in the Book of Ezra to writings, such as proclamations, genealogies, decrees, letters, copies.

b. A written paper or instrument, having force in law; a deed, bond, agreement, or the like; a document relative to a marriage contract or settlement.

In very frequent use from *c* 1500.

1448 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 66 If any suche writyng were knowe and proved by my seide Lorde and the other arbitrous. *c* 1480 *Godstow Reg.* 530 Into witnesse they put to theire seales, euerych to others writyng. 1520 in Glascock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 37 P[ai]d for makyng the wrytynges betwene the parisshe and the belfounder. 1550-3 in Barfield *Thatcham* (1901) II. 103 Pd. for two locks for the chest wher the wrightings are kept. 1631 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* III. i. 40 These writings are the evidence of Lands. 1668 SEDLEY *Mulberry Gard.* II. ii. 27 You do not lay the necessity of marrying Home enough to her: .. our Counsel [might] Have been drawing the Writings. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 231 P 2 The Lawyers finished the Writings (in which..there was no Pin-Money) and they were married. 1754 J. SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 71 Perhaps your Lordship's Writings [= property-deeds] are in the Hands of those two Fellows. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 235 The Court ordered all deeds and writings ..to be delivered up. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* ix, No writings at all were made, and the ceremony merely read through. 1893 SIR J. W. CHITTY in *Law Times Rep.* LXVIII. 430/1 The statute..requires a deed in cases where formerly a mere writing would have sufficed.

†c. A writ *of* divorce, etc. *Obs. rare.*

1380 WYCLIF *Col.* ii. 14 Doynge awey that wryting of decree, or dom, that was ayens you. 1388 BIBLE (Bishop's) *Matt.* v. 31 Whosoeuer putteth away his wyfe, let hym geue her a wrytyng of diuorcement.

9. Wording or lettering scored, engraved, or impressed on a surface; an inscription.

1380 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxii. 16 The wrytyng forsothe of God was grauen in the tables. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII. 249 His epithaphy—pat is, writynge on his grave. 1388 WYCLIF *Mark* xii. 16 Brynge 3e to me a peny.. Whos is this ymage, and the writyng? 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 397 He shewid the wrytyng that that other ymage halde. 1530 PALSGR. 675/1 There was a writynge upon his grave, but the weather hath put it out. 1580 BIBLE (Genev.) *Ecclus.* xlv. 11 Precious stones .. set in golde .. with a writing grauen after the nomber of the tribes of Israel. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xxxix. 30 They made the plate..of pure gold, and wrote vpon it a writing, like to the engrauings of a signet. 1623 COCKERAM II, Writings on Tombes, *epitaphes*. 1726 [see WEITE *v.* 19]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917/1 The most ancient remains of writing .. are upon hard ..., such as stones and metals.

10. Words, letters, etc., embodied in written (or typewritten) form; written lettering.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9904 He so moche sorow hadde, As hys wrytyng was alle to-fade. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. J. Ravenau..shews how to revive, and restore old writings almost effaced. 1787 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 481 A new Method of recovering the Legibility of decayed Writings. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, The writing looked like a skein of thread in a tangle. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 957 For restoring faded writing. Brush it over with a solution of ammonium sulphide. 1899 WARDLE *Univ. Typewriter Man.* 14 Regulating the width between the lines of writing.

11. *Printing.* (See NEWS *sb.* 5 b.)

III. ***attrib.*** **and** ***Comb.*** **12. a.** Simple attrib., as *writing chair, course, day, exercise,* †*glove, hand, lesson, night, terms, -time.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 425/2 A wrytynge chare. 1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* (1925) 235 The platting of this my writing course. 1663 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 501 A pair of writing gloves, 2*s*. 1675 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 430 Having been always on writing nights in an hurry. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* Epilogue, My writing days are over. 1788 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. 205 My writing-time is expended. 1808 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. ii. 44, I shall hold myself well paid on the *writing* hand. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii, Preparations for giving Kit a writing lesson. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* iv, The two were not .. on speaking, or even on writing terms. 1878 DAVIDSON *House Painting* 206 What is called the Script or writing character, the most elegant of all.

b. In sense 'used for writing with', as *writing apparatus, cane, fluid, implement, tool, wire,* etc. Also WRITING-INK, -PEN.

Cf. OE. *writing-fiþer* 'a pen'.

1589 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 7/2 *Graphium*, a writing wyer. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 201 The sharp point of a bodkin or writing steele. 1820 M. KOOPS *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 37 *Charta Augusta*..being too thin for the writing-cane. 1829 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. vi. P 1 That minister .. made me take my writing apparatus. 1844 SCOTT *Talism.* xxi, Give him writing-tools. 1840 *Patents* (1869) 96 Ink or ... *Ibid.* 388 An ... 'writing' or 'library' seta. 1873 W. STOKES *Rapid Writing* 78 The formidable iron Writing implement bearing the name of Style.

c. In names of devices for performing or executing writing, as *writing automaton, -ball,* †*engine, machine, telegraph.*

1695 *Athenian Merc.* 9 April, The Writing Engine, for taking several Copies of the same thing at once. 1708 J. DUNTON *Life & Errors* 239 [Ridpath] invented The Polygraphy, or Writing Engin. 1799 *Patents* (1869) 8 A certain ..writing and drawing machine. 1819 *Ibid.* 21 A machine.. which I denominate the penographic or writing instrument. 1868 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 136/2 [A] Writing-machine for the Blind. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2803/2 *Writing-telegraph*, one which sends autographic messages. 1880 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Writing-ball*, an electric printing apparatus. 1904 STANDEN & TAYLOR *Typing* i, Manipulating the writing machine [= typewriter].

d. In sense 'used or designed for writing upon', as *writing cloth, material, slate, surface.* Also WRITING-BOOK, -PAPER.

1800 M. KOOPS *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 33 These writing-materials were not in general use. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 63, 2 [Reams] Writing Royal. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 540 Downe's patent tracing and writing cloth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2477/2 *Table*, a tablet .. [or] writing-surface. 1888 BURDON *12 Good Men* II. v. 96 To get out his writing materials, and to scribble.

e. In sense 'forming a support or surface for writing on', as *writing ledge, slope.* Also WRITING-BOARD, -DESK, -TABLE 3.

1885 *Patents* (1869) 179 [The cover] which forms the continuation of the writing slope. 1900 *How to Make Things* 53/1 The construction of the writing ledge.

f. In sense 'engaged for or employed in writing', as *writing class, clerk, hand.*

1823 SCOTT *Antig.* vi, My lawyer['s]..writing-clerk (habited as a sharp-shooter) walked to and fro before his door. 1860 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2867, Saving the cost of a writing clerk. 1898 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 17 If he ever puts me into one of his books I'll..amputate his writing-hand. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 79 The writing-classes joggled each others' arms and elbows.

g. With advs., as *writing-off, -out.* (Cf. 3 d.)

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 June 11/1 Its sister in misfortune.. dare not face the writing-off stage yet. 1904 *Ibid.* 9 Feb. 4/2 The 'writing-out' process from which most popular authors suffer.

13. Special Combs.: **writing booth** †(*a*) *Sc.* a writing-chamber; (*b*) a booth or stall where writing is transacted; **writing cabinet,** an article of furniture in which a writing-desk is combined with drawers, shelves, and other facilities for writing; **writing-case,** a portable case for holding writing requisites, and providing a desk or surface to write upon; also *Comb.*; **writing centre,** a physical centre which controls the action of writing; **writing-chamber,** a room or chamber where writing is transacted; freq. *pl.*, a lawyer's offices; **writing diamond,** = DIAMOND *sb.* 4; †**writing dust,** = *writing sand*; **writing-frame,** a frame with guides designed to help the blind in writing; **writing hand,** the peculiar position assumed by the hand in shaking palsy (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); †**writing house,** a writing-chamber; **writing-pad** (see PAD *sb.*[8] 4); **writing-room,** a writing-chamber; †**writing-sand,** a kind of sand used to dry wet ink after writing; †**writing-standish** = STANDISH; †**writing type,** script type.

1597 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 121 Ane hous..to be ane *vreting buyth to..thair servitour and clerk. 1609 in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) p. xlvii, All wrytteris to the ... ...blic writing ... 1738 Monocled *writing cabinet...The whole of the drawers, closets, and partitions may be opened by one lock. 1853 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 253 He drew from a little *writing-case ..some paper, a cut cane, and an ink-horn. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VII. iv. ad fin., Crown-Prince has given him in keeping a writing-case with private letters. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 655 If the tumour should happen to produce complete destruction of the auditory nerve-centre..or the *writing centre. 1618 in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) p. xliii, The *wryting chalmer of Adame Lawtie. 1708 J. SPOTTISWOODE *Introd. Stile* Pref., I did draw out of my Collections I had made, while in a Writing-Chamber,..such [etc.]. 1873 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. Test.* 4 In the scriptorium or writing-chamber of their convents. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iii. 71 Fragments of diamond..set in handles..are called scratching or *writing diamonds. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 69 The shining or glassie powder..usually implyed in *writing dust. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2823 *Writing-frames for the blind. 1397 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 253 The *wreitting hous for the clerk of this burght. 1598 FLORIO, *Scrittoio*,..a counting house or writing house. 1824 FOSBROKE *Encycl. Antig.* 108 Monasteries had..Museums, Scriptoria, or *writing-rooms. 1830 THACKERAY *Pendennis* I, The adjoining writing-room. 1750 HEATH *Acc. Scilly* 57 [A bay] where the Beach..is covered with an exceeding fine *Writing Sand. 1809 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 274 Fine white writing-sand. 1773 BOSWELL *Let. to Johnson* 2 Dec. in *Life*, You may..have a little *writing-standish made of it. 1815 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* 313 *Writing types,..a kind of letter.. much used in France.

Writing (rəi·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That writes; engaged in, addicted to, writing.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 44 What names the writing person hath here writ. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 246 A ... Rank superiour to the Writing Worthys. 1728 RAMSAY *General Mistake* 181 To be a wirrykow to writing fools. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiv, Do you take any interest in writing people? 1893 *Athenæum* 24 June 800/3 A great mistake,..to which one writing architect at least is liable.

Wri·ting-board. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12 e + BOARD *sb.*] A board on which to rest the paper while writing.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wrytynge borde, *plutenum*. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schrijf-bordt*, a Writing board. 1773 J. NOORTHOUCK *Hist. London* 619 The writing school..contains long writing boards..to sit and write upon. 1823 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 630 Underneath this writing-board is a space for papers.

Wri·ting-book. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12 d + BOOK *sb.*]

1. A blank book in which to write for purposes of record, etc.; a book containing or consisting of writing-paper.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Cayer*, a quier of any written paper, when a whole writing booke is deuided into equall partes. 1645 *Papers rel. Scots Army* (S.H.S.) 306 Payed for 3 wreattinge books, £0 14. 6. 1701 *Maryland Laws* v. (1723) 16 Substantial Writing Books..for registring such Proceedings in. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, Poor Briggs went and placed herself obediently at the writing-book. 1865 *Enquire Within* (ed. 27) 93 Buy coarse white paper,..ready to be made into writing-books.

2. An exercise book in which to practise penmanship or handwriting; a copy-book.

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* iv. (1627) 30 A little copie booke fastened to the top of his writing booke. 1775 ASH. C'TESS OSSOLI *Woman in 19th Cent.* (1862) 333 Having the youngest daughter set..copies in the writing book. 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 64 Guiding her hand over the writing book.

Wri·ting-box. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 13 + BOX *sb.*[2]] A small box for containing paper and other writing requisites.

1474 *Paston Lett.* III. 110 My wryghtyng box of sypresse. 1757 R. BENTLEY tr. *Hentzner's Trav.* 32 Two little silver cabinets..which she uses for writing boxes. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* (1868) 416 That his writing-box should be set upon his bed before he rose. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 164 A writing-box of sandal wood, inlaid with ivory. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. ii. 63 The..business which must be despatched before he had a right to close his writing-box.

Wri·ting-desk. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12 e + DESK *sb.*]

1. A desk used or designed for writing on; such a desk fitted with conveniences for holding writing materials, papers, etc. Also *transf.*

1611 FLORIO, *Scrittoio*,..a writing deske. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 370/2 He beareth Argent, a Writing Desk, proper. *c* 1732 SAVAGE *Wks.* (1775) II. 263 The advertisement of the Lady's writing-desk. 1829 SCOTT *Wav.* Gen. Pref. P 11 The drawers of an old writing desk. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* i, A number of..bills, neatly docketed in his writing desk.

attrib. 1891 C. NISBET & D. LENNOX (*title*), Everybody's Writing-Desk Book.

2. A make of portable writing-case or box which on being opened forms or provides a desk or surface for writing on.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6039, Despatch boxes, writing desks, and dressing cases. 1865 *Patents* (1869) 370 Improvements in portfolios, writing desks, writing cases.

Wri·tinger. *nonce-word.* [f. WRITING *vbl. sb.* + -ER[1].] An expert in handwriting.

1868 FURNIVALL in *Percy's Folio MS.* I. p. xiii, The change of the shape of the c..may help some future and more learned writinger to settle the date.

Wri·ting ink. Also **writing-ink.** [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12 b + INK *sb.*[1] 1.] A make of ink or writing-fluid prepared or suitable for writing with the pen.

ELYOT, *Atramentum scriptorium*, writyng ynke. ... same [water] into very good black writing ink. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Ink*, Chinese Ink is..not fluid, like our writing Inks. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 478/2 A blue writing ink has been lately introduced. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 2 For inking in drawings the best Indian ink should be used, and not common writing ink.

Comb. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* 417 *Writing-ink Maker*, a manufacturer of fluid inks for writing with.

Wri·ting-master. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 13 + MASTER *sb.*[1] 10.]

1. A teacher of or instructor in writing, penmanship, or calligraphy. Also *transf.*

1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* I. (1925) 62 The hole ortegrafie, which concerneth the right writing of our tung, will ..help the writing master. 1646 in Roberts *Soc. Hist. Eng.* (1856) 407 Given to the writing mr., 2*s* 6*d*. 1696 DANSON in Marvell *Def. John Howe* 126 With a Writing-Master's directing his Scholars hand. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Nov., That is a common caution that writing-masters give their scholars. 1754 G. BICKHAM (*title*), The English Monarchical Writing-Master. A new county copy-book. 1822 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. vi. 182 'Patience is a virtue,' was my writing-master's favourite copy. 1826 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib. Trouds.* II. xi, In the college school. There certainly was a writing-master. ... from the scribblings on the egg shells.

Wri·ting-paper. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12 d + PAPER *sb.*]

1. A special make of paper, usu. with a smooth

surface and sized, for writing upon; now *esp.*, note-paper.

1548 Elyot, *Epistolaris chorus*, writyng paper. 1596 *Edward III*, II. ii, Go, breake the thundring parchment bottome out,..I will vse it as my writing paper. 1600 J. Lane *Tom Tel-troth* (1876) 113 If all the earth were writing paper made. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2179/4 All sorts of Writing and Printing Paper. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 391 The film was not thicker than common writing-paper. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VI. i. p 4 Writing paper such as a secretary of state need not be ashamed of. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 110/2 Strong and tough writing-papers for account-books.

attrib. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* I. 23 A blank writing paper book..with pen and ink.

2. A sheet of this. *rare*—1.

a 1777 in Evans *Old Ball.* I. 255 A writing-paper..Upon his head he had to wear, which did his treason show.

Writing-pen. [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 b + Pen *sb.*2 4.] A pen suitable or adapted for writing.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xxxi. (Addit. MS.), A wrytinge penne hatte *Calamus scripturalis*. 1535 Coverdale *Judges* v. 14 Out of Zabulon are there become gouernours thorow the wrytinge penne [Luther *Schreibfeder*]. 1636 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini, Pol. Touchstone* 410 He bore in his chief Standard..a writing Pen. 1688 Holme *Armoury* (Roxb.) III. xv. 20/1 The Pen Knife is that with which we make the Pen, or writting Pen. 1831 *Patents* (1869) 30 Certain improvements in the construction of writing pens. 1866 *Ibid.* 390 To utilize writing pens which are.. worn out.

Writing-school. [Writing *vbl. sb.* 13 + School *sb.*1 1, 9.]

†**1.** A school in which writing or calligraphy is taught. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 433/1 He goeth to the writyng scole. 1607 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 294 A writting schoole..for instructing of the youth in writing and arithmetik allanerlie.

Education of Youth..especially with Regard to their Studies at the Writing-School. 1773 [see Writing-board]. 1780 *Mirror* No. 81, Going along with a set of other girls..to.. a public writing-school.

2. At Oxford University: A room used or set apart for written examinations.

1876 T. G. Jackson *New Exam. Schools Univ. Oxf.* 3 The three Writing Schools..occupy..the first floor. *Ibid.*, The large crowded Writing Schools. *Ibid.* 6 For occasional use as a Writing School..I have arranged two of the Vivâ Voce Schools.

So †**Writing-schoolmaster.** *Obs.*

1590 P. Bales (*title*), The Writing Schoolemaster: Containing three Bookes in one;.. teaching Swift.., True.., Faire writing. 1632 J. Davies (Heref.) *Lively Portraiture* (title-p.), The Writing Schoolemaster: The Anatomy of Faire Writing.

Writing-table. [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 e + Table *sb.*]

†**1.** A small thin tablet, sheet, or plate of wood, ivory, or other material for writing (esp. notes or memoranda) upon; a writing-tablet; = Table *sb.* 2 b. Cf. Tablet *sb.* 1 c. Usu. *pl. Obs.*

1526 Tindale *Luke* I. 63 Zacari..axed for wrytynge tables and wroote. 1589 Nashe *Pasquill's Counter-C.* A ij b, A newe paire of Writing-tables with profitable Notes for that quarter. 1629 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. iii. 242 She taketh up her Writing-Tables, in which she writeth these lynes. 1696 in *Hart. Misc.* (1744) I. 312 Writing-tables Paper's Place supply'd. 1809 J. Murray *Pract. Rem. Med. Paper* 13 The use of lead as the material of the writing table.

†**2.** = Escritoire. *Obs.*

1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Oct., Lady Orkney is making me a writing-table. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6119/3 [He] took with him a Writing Table, containing 15 Drawers.

3. A table used, suitable, or adapted for writing on, having usu. drawers and other accessories or conveniences.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 2096 A handsome writing-table, with numerous drawers and divisions for containing papers, money, &c. 1864– [see Knee-hole]. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 227 Torpenhow brought him the money..and carefully put it away in the writing-table.

attrib. 1893 Mary Cholmondeley *Diana Tempest* xi, The little pile..that you wound up, and put in your writing-table drawer.

b. = Writing-board.

1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2803 The writing table lets down, exposing a number of drawers, shelves, and pigeon-holes.

So **Writing-tablet,** = prec. 1.

1809 J. Murray *Pract. Rem. Med. Paper* 17 There are writing tablets of ivory, and of wax. 1831 *Patents* (1869) 31 A durable copy book or writing tablet. 1891 *Smith's Dict. Antiq.* II. 733 Ordinary Greek writing tablets.

†**Writinge,** early f. Ritling (var. Reckling).

1611 Cotgr., *Cadet*, the vnderling, starueling, or writling of a beast. *Ibid.*, *Gringuenc* the smallest, or most writhen fruit on a tree, writlings. *Ibid.* s.vv. *Coustz*, *Regrouné*.

†**Writrix.** *nonce-word.* [f. Writer, after L. fem. agent-nouns in *-trix*.] A female writer; an authoress.

1772 Nugent *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 145 Why should it not be said, she was not a common woman, but a genitrix, and an elegant writrix?

Written (ri·t'n), *ppl. a.* Forms: 4–6 writen (5 *Sc.* -in, 5 ywriten), 4 wreten (5 -on, 6 -yn, *Sc.* -in); 5 writtin, wrytin, -yn, 6– written (6 whrythyn, 7 writt'n. [pa. pple. of Write *v.*]

1. That is composed, recorded, preserved, or mentioned in writing; committed to writing; also, that is in writing (as opposed to oral or printed); manuscript.

In very frequent use from *c* 1570.

a 1300, etc. [see 2 b]. 1485 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 385 The above wryttin Perse Lyncbe, Mayor. *c* 1511 *First Eng. Bk. Amer.* Introd. (Arb.) p. xxxi, In the lande of Armeneten..is whrythyn scruyce of the masses. 1565 Harding *Answ. Iwelles Challenge* 30 b, Thinges.. either declared by written scriptures, or taught by the holy ghost. 1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* Ep. Ded. ¶ 2 Printed or written discoueries and voyages. 1617–20 Morvson *Itin.* (1903) 139 The written Relations of this tyme testifye that..they mantayned..6ooth men at Armes. 1669 Holder *Elem. Speech* 9 Written Language..is permanent. 1738 C'tess Pomfret in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) I. 24, I make The tour of the world in Gemelli's written one. 1782 [see Writer 3. c] 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* II, He will consent to accept a written apology. 1865 *Patents* (1869) 365 Letters and other written documents. 1899 Wardle *Unto. Typewriter Man.* 6 The Bell gives the operator warning when the written line is about to be completed.

fig. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* V. iii. 42 Can'st thou not..Raze out the written troubles of the Braine? *a* 1638 Lovelace *Poems* (1904) 168 O sacred Peincture!..Thou..art a written and a body'd mind. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* XII. vii, Bitter penitence, That gives no respite night nor day from grief, To abide the written hour. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 809 Thou wouldst ask that giant spirit The written fortunes of thy house.

transf. 1889 Sutherland *Sign-Writing* II. 2/1 The consideration of what a written sign ought to be. 1901 C. R. Conder *First Bible* 62 To assign dates to the written monuments on stone.

b. Of laws: Reduced to, established by, writing; formulated in documents, codes, or printed works. (Cf. Unwritten *ppl. a.* 1 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14843 We sari men, quat mai wee sal, Ne knau we noght þe writen lal. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. Prol. 8 Moyses..Broucht to þe Iowis þar wrytyn lawys. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 146 Alle lawe posityf and alle lawe wreton condempne the vnto the deth. 1684 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst. Law Scot.* (1694) 4 Our written Law comprehends, First, our Statutory Law [etc.]. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Writing*, We also say, *written law*, *lex scripta*, in opposition to common law. 1853 [see Writable *a.* 1]. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 365 The question whether a written law comes relatively early or late in the history of a nation.

2. a. That is inscribed or carved upon; bearing engraving or inscription.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII
we may make Ywriton
Brit. XII. 433 Written Mountain, Mountain of Inscriptions, ..a supposed mountain..in the wilderness of Sinai. 1794 W. Hutchinson *Hist. Cumbld.* I. 138 Written Rocks on Gelt. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* IV, Presently we did pass a narrow lane, and..espied a written stone.

b. Bearing, inscribed or covered with, writing.

1580 [see Writing-book 2]. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 64 A carrion death, Within whose emptie eye there is a written scroule. 1698 T. Violet *Proposals* 19 A written parchment, and a written sheet of paper annexed thereunto. 1699 *Athenian Merc.* 24 Dec., A flat bundle of written Papers. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* II. ii, Treaties which in all ages have been but written parchments. 1869 *Patents* 6 The written paper and the copying paper are laid on a board. *fig.* 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 210 Oh, lift Thine eyes, that I may read his written soul!

†**3.** *Written hand*, cursive form of writing; a form of running hand. *Obs.*

1532 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 45 A prymmer lymmed with gold and with Imagery, wretyn hond. 1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* Ep. Ded., This worke..being as yet but in written hand. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* I. 86 An old breviary of written hand and much esteemed. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Jan. 1658, He had..skill to reade most written hands. 1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* II. i, We appoint him our Secretary for he can read written hand. 1849 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 13 Oct. 239/1 Here, Theresa, see what it [sc. a paper] says: you can read written hand better than I.

4. Of letters, etc.: Traced or formed with the pen.

1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* (1925) 60 Som writen figure or accent. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 7 The symbol, then, I cal the written letter. 1861 Paley *Æschylus* (ed. 2), *Persians* 332 The vestiges of the written digamma. 1877 *N. & Q.* 31 March 246 Origin of written characters. 1882 *Lancet* 26 Nov. 904/2 As he wrote each letter he named one aloud, but the written and spoken letter never corresponded with one another.

5. a. That has been written to. Also with *to*. In quots. *absol.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) I. 206, I command thee to be pleased: If not for the writer's, or written's sake, for thy word's sake. *Ibid.* II. 121 [The letter] was written..on one knee, kneeling with the other. Not from reverence to the written to, however.

b. With *advs.* That has been written *about*, *down*, *out*, or *up*.

1754 Richardson *Corr.* (1804) II. 298 Your capital men.. with their short written-down speeches. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 59/2 Not that I'd b'lieve any written-out foolishness. 1897 P. Warung *Tales Old Regime* 149 Negligently-written-up records. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 203 Using the native languages in his phonetically written-down form. 1899 *Daily News* 22 June 6/2 The best written about post of modern times.

Writter (ri·təɹ). [f. Writ *sb.* + -er 1.] One who serves a writ or process.

1880 *Punch* 4 Nov. 213/2 There was a regular army of writters to meet me. 1887 Black *Sabina Zembra* XXXI, The writters would be after him like a pack of wolves.

†**Wrive,** *v. Obs.* In 5 wryve. [ad. MDu. *writven* (Du. and Flem. *wrijven*); MLG. and LG. *writven*, *writen*; WFris. *wrivarje*, NFris. *wrüwen*, = OHG. *rîban* (MHG. *rîben*, G. *reiben*).] To rub.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* xliii. (Arb.) 116 They rubbed and wryued hym vnder his temples and eyen. [Hence 1894 W. T. Ellis *Reynard the Fox* 328 They..wryved his eye.]

†**Wrixle,** *v. Obs.* Also wrixel, wryxle. [OE. *wrixlian*, *-an* to alter, change, exchange, etc., also *gewrixlian*, altered form of *gewrixlian*, = OFris. *wixlia*, OS. *wehsalon*, OHG. *wehsalon* (G. *wechseln*), etc.]

1. *trans.* To alter, change, confound.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3120 Þai hade laisure..þere likyng to say, And wrixla þere wit & þere wille shewe.

†**Wrixling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.*—1 [OE. *wrixlung* 'mutuum', f. *wrixlian*: see prec.] The action of or the fact of being changed.

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 207 Ich bide þe..bi his cloðes wrixlunge, Nu red nu hwit, him on hokerunge.

——— (ri·z'ld), *a.* Now *dial.* Also wrisled (7 wristled, 8 wrisled). [? var. of Writhled *a.*] Marked with creases, wrinkles, or corrugations; wrinkled, shrivelled.

The reading *wrizled* in Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 23 (where the authoritative texts have *writhled*) is due to Hanmer, 1744.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 47 Her wrisled skin as rough, as maple rind, So scabby was, that [etc.]. *c* 1696 Sir H. Cholmley *Mem.* (1870) 32 A wristled [finger] nail, as if it had been crushed. 1703 tr. *Boemus's Gutbos* 49 They look as awkward and wrisled as an old Company of Spaniards. 1708 Gay *Wine* 9 Youthful fires..paint with ruddy hue His wrizled Visage. 1777 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., A wrisled apple, a wrizled old woman. 1873–1898 in Somerset and n. Yorks. glossaries.

Wro. Now *north. dial.* Forms: *α. north.* and *Sc.* 3–6 wra, 5 wraa, 5, 9 wray (9 ray), 9 wrae (rae), wraie. *β.* 4–5 wro, 5 rowe. [a. ON. **urð*, later *rð*, *rþ* nook, cabin (whence MSw. *vræ*, *vra*, Sw. *vrå*, Da. *vraa*, Norw. *raa*, *rø*).]

1. A nook or corner; a retired or sheltered spot.

α. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28135 Þaa wafui wraa sa dedli dim, All lighted þe lem þat come wit him. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 495, I..giffis bot a lytil wra, a vyd merkat þare-for I ta. *a* 1420–30 *Wars Alex.* 4190 Quare þre wees in a wraa walk þaim allane. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. Prol. 158 Sum blind Cyclopes of thi laithlie wra. 1840 De Quincey *Wks.* (1889) II. 365 The Dalesman..selects a sheltered spot (a *wray*, for instance), which protects him from the wind altogether. 1891 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Ray* sb.3

β. a 1300 *Havelok* 68 He made ham lurken, and crepen in wros. *c* 1305 *Plowman's Tale* 1. 81 As I wandred in a wro, In a wodè besyde a wall. *a* 1400 *Stat. Rome* 181 A lutel be-hynde..þer stont a Chapel in a wro. *a* 1425 *Thomas of Erceld.* (1875) 43 Nare þat wro is a well.

transf. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 866 In appocalyppce is wrytan in wro, I saghe, says Iohan, þe loumbe.

2. *Sc.* An enclosure or shelter for cattle. ? *Obs.*

1808 Jamieson s.v. *Rae*.

Wroath, obs. var. Ruth *sb.*1 4 b.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 78 He keepe my oath, Patiently to bear my wroath.

†**Wrob,** *v. Obs.*—1 In 5 wrobbe, wrabbe. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To speak of a matter; to give information.

c 1425 *Thomas of Erceld.* (1875) 2/1 If þ solde sytt to domesdaye, With my tonge to wrobbe [*v.r.* wrabbe] and wrye, Certanely þat lady gaye, Neuer bese scho sakryede for mee.

†**Wro'bber.** *Obs.*—1 [f. prec.] An informer.

c 1390 *Havelok* 39 Wreieres and wrobberes made he falle.

Wroche, etc., obs. forms of Wreak *sb.*, etc.

Wrocht(in, Wroote, Wroght(e, etc.: see Work *v.*, **Wrog,** southern ME. var. Frog 1, **Wroght,** obs. var. Wroth *a.*, **Wrohte,** var. Wrought *sb. Obs.*, **Wroie,** obs. var. Wray *v.*1 **Wroith,** obs. Sc. f. Wroth *a.*

†**Wroke,** *sb. Sc. Obs. rare.* Also wrouk. [a. MLG. *wrok*, *wruk* (LG., Du. *wrak*) enmity, hatred, spite.] Active ill-will or hatred; spite, malice.

a 1300 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 23 All þat wroke sall ende wyght þam selwne. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V. xi. 22 Juno.., Not satysfyit of hir auld fury nor wrouk.

Wroke, wroken, etc.: see Wreak *v.*

Wrong, *sb.*1 Now *dial.* Also 2 wranga, 3–4 wrange, 3–5, 6 *Sc.* wrang, 6 *Sc.* wraing, wrayng; 4–5 wronge. [a. ON. **wrang*, *rangr* (gen. *rangar*), rib of a ship (Norw. *rong*, *raang*, *wrong*, *vraang*, Sw. dial. *vrang*), f. **wrangr* curved, bent: see Wrong *a.* Hence also MLG. *wrange*, Du. *wrang*, F. *varangue* (14th c.), *varangue*, Sp. *varanga*, floor-timber of a ship.

†**1.** A rib of a ship or other vessel; also, a floor-timber of a ship. (Cf. Rung *sb.* 4.) *Obs.*

(The sense of the OE. instances is not clear.)

c 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 201 *Canerunnum*, wrang. *c* 1100 *Ibid.* 180 *Nomina navium, et instrumenta earum*:..

[illegible] *Exchq. K. R.*] 3, Wranges empt. Et v.s. 3 *d.* in *v.* 6 *Ibid.* 3/20 m. 1 *dorse*, In 3*l.* 2*s.* ar'beribus emptis [illegible] ad Wrangas faciendas in Galea, xxv.s. 1396 *Ibid.* 19/32 m. 6 In xl. lignis emptis in grossa pro Wrangis faciendis.. 1382 *Exchq. Acc. Q. R.* 20/27 (P.R.O.), Pro factagio et

wranges inde confectis in nave predicta. *1307 Acc. Excheq. K. R.* 44/11 (1) m. 6 In xxiiij. Wronges..infra paruam batellam expenditis. *c* 1425 *Ibid.* 52/3 m. 9 Pro lx pecis mesremil ..pro Wrangys..dicts balingere Regis inde faciendis. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. xii. 164 Thal..gan to forge newlis wrayngis and airis. *Ibid.* xx. ii. 98 Vpbiasis ourloft, hechis, wrangis, and how.

2. A large crooked branch or bough of a tree, esp. one cut off and lopped for timber. Latterly *dial.*

II. 392 *Wrongs*, crooked arms..of trees. 1823 E. Moore *Suffolk Words* 498 The wrongs of oaks..are as valuable nearly as the body or right up timber. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wrong*, a crooked bough.

3. *attrib.* (in sense 1), as †*wrong-nail*, †*-rope*; †wrong-head, = Rung-head (cf. *wrung-head*).

1296 *Acc. Excheq. K. R.* 5/20 m. 3 *dorso*, M. C. clauis s[c]llicet Wrangnayl emptis, iij.*d.* *c* 1340 in Nicolas *Hist. Navy* (1847) II. 477 [Two ropes called] wrangropes, lj*s.* 1362 *Acc. Exchcq. K. R.* 20/27 (P. R. O.), Pro mmccc. wrongnaill' emptis pro reparatione navis. 1356 in *Pipe Roll 32 Edw. III*, m. 33/1, lj. wrangeropes..et xxj. basteropes. 1633 *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 50, 6 Nov. (MS.), She was sheathed from her bende to the wrong head.

Wrong (rɒŋ), *sb.*[2] Forms: α. 1–5, *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 6– wrang (4 vrang, 9 *north. dial.* wrank), 4–5, *Sc.* 6 wrange. β. 3– wrong (5 worng), 4–6 wronge (5 wronke, 6 wrongue, 7 ronge), 5 wrunge. [Substantival use of Wrong *a.*]

I. 1. That which is morally unjust, unfair, amiss, or improper; the opposite of right or justice; the negation of equity, goodness, or rectitude. (Freq. contrasted with *right.*)

a 1200 *Wulfstan's Hom.* xlii. 303 Þa unrihtdeman, ðe.. wendaþ wrang to rihte and riht to wrange. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Talewise men þe..maken wrong to rihte, and riht to wronge. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 877 If riht goþ forþ & a back wrong. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4381 For wrong ne lefte he nyȝt ne day. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 177 Degradyt syne was he Off honour..Quhethir it wer rycht wrang or rycht, God wat it. *c* 1430 *Chron. Anglica* 245, I wolle..fyȝte for þe qwene with whome þat wronge seythe. *a* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Lamb* 79 Quhar wrang and reif suld dwell in propertie. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 65 They put no diffe rence betuix wrang and right. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iv. 1 For to maister wrong and pulssant pride. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 116 Right and wrong, (Betweene whose endlesse iarre, Iustice recides). 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 662 One,..eminent In wise deport, spake much of Right and Wrong. 1737 [see Right *sb.*[1] 3]. 1782 Cowper *Conversat.* 149 Without the means of knowing right from wrong. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 72 The abandonment of all principle of right enables the soul to choose and act upon a principle of wrong. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 35 Why are right and wrong at strife?

Personif. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* I. 61 A wiht þat wrong is I-hote, Fader of Falsnesa. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 728 in *Macro Plays* 39 Let se fyrst, Wronge & Sleyght! Dobulines & Falsnes, schew yowur myght! 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 266 But Wrong a mightie monster is. *a* 1586 Sidney *Sonn.* Wks. 1598 II. 321 For Love is dead: Sir wrong his tombe ordaineth. 1847 Mangan *Poems* (1903) 84 It forestold fair Freedom's triumph, and the doom of Wrong.

†b. The fact or position of being in the wrong (cf. 8 a). Chiefly in the phr. *to have wrong* (cf. Fr. *avoir tort*). *Obs.*

a 1300 in *Maȝ's Poems* (Camden) 335 Ic seyȝe, gas[t], thou; hast wrong .. Al þe wyt on me to leye. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1282 Whan I had wrong and she ryght She wolde..For-yeve me. 1420–a Lydg. *Thebes* II. 1812 But he hadde wronge, Which thoght..the ȝeer was wonder longe Of his Exil. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonse* xii, I.. thanke yow gretely. For ryght ye haue and I grete wronge. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xv. (1592) 241 But let Aristotle alone (for he hath wrong). 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 121 Sche wil be in wrang to her housband, gif that he knawesng, sche offend. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* (1620) 117 Whether you have right or wrong, I knowe you must have the last word.

c. Deviation from fact, accuracy, or correct standard; incorrectness, error.

c 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* 8 To command..the schooles to teach the future age right and wrang. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* II. (1892) 126 Whether..there was some mixture of right and wrong in their reasoning.

2. Unjust action or conduct; evil or damage inflicted or received; unfair or inequitable treatment of another or others; injustice, unfairness.

α. 1a.. [see β]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxv. 279 *Iherus.* I wyrk no wrang, that shall thou wyt. *c* 1490 Henry *Wallace* VI. 824 It slaklis lre off wrang thai suld radres. *c* 1520 M. Nisbet *N. Test.* (S.T.S.) II. 72 Christ heir, in repreifing wrange, did nocht resist it with wyolence. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 72 Wickit men delytis ay in to wrang. *a* 1598 Ferguson *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 108 Wrang hes nea warrand. 17.. Ramsay *Address to Town Council*

β. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 168 (Lamb. MS.), Ne scal him [*sc.* God] na mon mene þer of strengþe ne of wronge [*Egerton MS.* wrange]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 72 To wronge micht him no man bringe, Ne for siluer, ne for gold. *c* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxv. 68 Iheus, for love thou tholedest wrong. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* I. 117 Alle þat wrong worchen, wende þei schulen After heore deþ-day (etc.). *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 15920 (Trin.), Þo bere me wrong on honde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wronge, a-ȝen truthe and ryghtewysnesse, *injuria*. *a* 1500 *Gest Robin Hood* xciv. in Child *Ballads* III. 61 The hye justyce and many mo Had take in to theyr hondes Holy all the knyghtes det, To put that knyght to wronge. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 302 The false accusacyon & testimonyes of ye Iewes was so euydent & playne wronge. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ii. 18 No ought he car'd, whom he endamaged By tortious wrong. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xlv. 7 Behold, I cry out of wrong [*marg.* or, violence], but I am not heard. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* 111 Which mention..I haue willingly made of his Name..with much wrong to his other vertues. 1671 Milton *Samson* 76 Expos'd To daily fraud, contempt, abuse and wrong. 1749 Melmoth *Fitzosb. Lett.* lxxii, Ye plaintive crew, that suffer wrong. 1793 R. Gray *Poems* 126 He doth conceive..of high affront And mighty wrong committed. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. vii. 131 One who never sees wrong, without the noble resolution to revenge it. 1874 J. Sully *Sensation & Intuition* 154 A man who never knows the deep anguish of conscious wrong until [etc.].

b. *Law.* Violation, transgression, or infringement of law; invasion of right to the damage or prejudice of another or others: injury, harm, mischief. In early use *Sc.*

1a.. [see Tenwet-nay]. 1328 in *Acts Parlt. Scotl.* I. (1844) 471/1 Torth & noun raysoun quod dicitur wrang & unlaw. *a* 1400 *Ibid.* 647/1 Quoniam attachiamenta sunt principia et origo placitorum de wrang et unlaw. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 117 So justyce ys oppressyd..and wrong takyth place. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.*, etc. I. 95 b, Vnjustlie, and against the law, with wouch, wrang, and vnlaw. 1670 Blount *Law Dict.*, *Tort-feasor*, a Doer of wrong, a Trespasser. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* ii. 43 The ancient Irish Law of Civil Wrong.

c. *To do* (. . .) *wrong*, to act unjustly or unfairly (*to* a person or thing, or with dative).

c 1220 *Bestiary* 798 Bimene we us, we hauen don wrong. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2683 He..brogte vn-warnede on hem figt; He hadden don egipte wrong. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20084 Man dos to fasting mikel wrang. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 222 If man wole chese to don wrong. 1372 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 72 Þe child þouthte sche dide him wrong. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 126/2 Do wronge a-ȝene resone (β. ayenst reason or lawe), *injurior*, *prejudico*. 1482 Caxton *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 72 The lawe and right doth noman wrong. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 28 That he whiche hath done wrong, be compelled to make restitution. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 87 Place doong heape a low..Where water all winter time did it such wrong. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 440, I feare you haue done your selfe some wrong. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* 102 As the King of England can doe no wrong, so neither can he doe right but..by his Courts. 1737 Pope *Hor., Ep.* II. ii. 12 To say too much, might do my honour wrong. 1821 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xiii, By which she has done me great wrong. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lii. ii, Thou canst not move me from thy side, Nor human frailty do me wrong.

†d. *To have* (. . .) *wrong*, to suffer injustice, prejudice, or harm; to receive injury. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3077 'Hu! haue ȝe wrong,' quad pharaon, 'ȝu wapmen giue Ic leue to gon'. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9582 Quyte þe weyl oute of borghgang, þat þou ne haue for hyt no wrang. *c* 1410 *Lantern of Light* 45 Glotenye .. drowneþ þe wittis of þe peple, til þat þei be vnresonable & kunnen not knowe whanne þei han wrong. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 5 Þogh þay haue moche wrong, þay may not gete amendes. 1509 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 626 He had grete wrong in certeyn fiyldes ..by the comens of Couentre. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 20 Suche as thinke they haue wronge at his hande. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 12 In their opinion he had wrong to be so charged. [1821 Scott *Kenilw.* v, He thinks he hath wrong, and is not the mean hind that will sit down with it. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* x, I own you have had some wrong.]

3. In various prepositional phrases: †a. *With* or *mid* (. . .) *wrong*, wrongly, wrongfully, unjustly. (Cf. 4.) *Obs.* [Cf. ON. *með rangu* wrongly.]

1124 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1124, [They] smidon þat se king heold his broðer Rotbert mid wrange on heftnunge. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 209 (Lamb. MS.), Þa þe ledden hore lif mid unriht and mid wrange. *c* 1290 *Beket* 839 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 130 Me pinchez with gret wrong þe chalanges þe king. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 210 Steuen..suore, þat .. þe kyng, no non of his, suld chalange þat of fe, With wrong no with right. *c* 1400 *Brut* 257 Þe Kyngus person bare..þe blame, wiþ wrong. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xliii. (Arb.) 115 Suche false extorcionners .. oppresse the poure peple wyth grete wronge. *a* 1500 *Gest Robin Hood* cclxviii. in Child *Ball.* III. 69 There I holpe a pore yeman, With wronge was put behynde. 1598 Yong *Diana* 27 Rather then blame discredit me,..Let me with wrong forgotten be.

b. *In* or *by wrong*. (Cf. 4 b.)

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 542 That y shalle faythly fyeght, Both in werng and in ryght. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 28 For makenesse obteyneth more..than violence..can purchase or obtayne by right or wronge. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iv. 42 His am I Atin, his in wrong and right. *Ibid.* vii. 30 None could weene Them to efforce by violence or wrong. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xxii. 13 Woe vnto him that buildeth..his chambers by wrong. 1895 Tennyson *The Letters* 11 Then we met in wrath and wrong.

†4. Claim, possession, or seizure that is unjustifiable or unwarranted on legal or moral grounds. Esp. in phr. *with* or †*mid* (. . .) *wrong*. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 27300 For heo al mid wronge wilneden of ure londe. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2806 Þat þe swike Haues it [*sc.* the kingdom] halden with mikel wronge. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 fol. 56 b, 3if þe Eir mid wronge vsurped þe seisine of Eldere þoru deesslaine. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 209 And gyff that ony man thaim by Had ony thing that was worthy, .. With rycht or wrang it have wald thai. *c* 1410 *Lantern of Light* 45 Conetise of hem þat purchasen wiþ wrong her neiȝboris ground & her catel. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* II. 540 That..none other for hym or in his right, myght neuer clayme .. ony thyng of right, or of clayme, or of wronge, in the forsaid acre of lond. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 12 Proud Lucifera..did vsurpe with wrong and tyrannie Vpon the sceptre.

†b. In the phr. *by*, *in*, †*o*, or †*of* (. . .) *wrong*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28795 Vr iauerd..recouses..nan Almus ..t o [*v.r.* of] wrang es tan. 1328 in *Star Chamber Cases*) II. 83 [He] hathe of his owne auctoryte and wronge into the premisede. 1548 Elyot, *Iure vel iniuria*, or wronge. 1588 Kyd *Housek. Philos.* Wks. (1901)

678 Riches, either miserably gotten or encreased by wrong. 1594 — *Cornelia* v. 439 Must I liue to see great Pompeys house..Vsurpt in wrong by lawlesse Anthony? 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 281 Therefore no relation of an estate by wrong can helpe him. 1729 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v. *Right*, An Estate gain'd by Wrong. 1828 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 141 The defendants had done nothing to vest the freehold in them, either by right or by wrong.

5. With possessive pron. or genitive: †a. Injustice, harm, or evil inflicted upon another or others; wrong-doing. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Duty of Christians* 59 in *O. E. Misc.* 143 We schule to criste grede, And bidde mylce of vre wrong. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6430 Now we þe executore haue myseyd, And of hys wrong he haþ vpbreyd. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 76 More to wyte is her wrange, þen any wylle gentyl. 14.. in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* I. (1844) 352/2 Of a man grantand his awne wrang. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XIII. 84 Gramerci, Lord, that list eek mortifie My wronge. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* I. i. 63 Sen Pallas mocht on Grekis tak sic wraik..for Aiax Oilus wrang? *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xl, Loue knowes it is a greater griefe To beare loues wrong, then hates knowne iniury. 1632–a *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 168 He shall therefore pay 500[li]..and make recognition of his fault and wrong. 1642 J. M[ason] *Argt. conc. Militia* 27 It is against the rule of Law, that any man should take advantage of his owne wrong.

b. Injury, hurt, harm, or prejudice received or sustained by a person or persons. Also in phr. *to* or †*in one's* (*own*) *wrong*.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 13 Ofte haf I wayted wyschande þat wele, þat wont was whyle deuoyde my wrange. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 13 Whom all þe londe loued,.. And ros with him rapely to rigtyn his wronge. *a* 1. *Wars Alex.* 2812 As me is wa for þi woȝe, & þi wrange bathe. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 57 b, It is not lawfull for anye Christian to reuenge his owne wronge. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. viii. 11 What meane ye thus vnwise Vpon your sciues anothers wrong to wreake? 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* II. 209 That she, to her own wrong, and every other's grief, Would needs be telling things exceeding all belief. 1686 H. Phillips *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 93 He will rebate in his own wrong. 1660 Waller *To King on his Return* 62 Armies and fleets..redressed his wrong. *a* 1740 Spotswood in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 204 Be cautious how you dispose of the profits of your parish; least you pay it in your own wrong. *a* 1768 Secker *Serm.* (1770) II. 364 The Abilities of the Man, that uses them to his Neighbour's Wrong. 1820 Shelley *Dirge* 8 Wail, for the world's wrong! — *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* II. 139 My words..shook Heaven, Proclaiming vengeance, public as my wrong.

Ag. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple*, *Storm* iii, There it stands knocking, to thy musicks wrong, And drowns the song.

6. Physical hurt or harm caused to or sustained by some thing or person; treatment causing material injury or damage. (Cf. 11.) Now *rare*.

1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvii. 10 With wrong and harm..of charge and schipp .. bygynneth selling for to be. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxii. (Bodl. MS.), For þe more ese withstonding and putting of wronge and of hurting [of the marrow]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* x. 22 In wanyng of Phebes be they toflonge, So may hit meest auayle and do leest wronge. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 32 Light ladder and long doth tree least wrong. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 39 Flaxe..the more wrong it suffereth, the better doth it prooue. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iv. 5 There before them stood a Coffer strong,..But seeming to haue suffred mickle wrong. 1600 Chettle *Hoffman* iv. (1631) H 2 b, A powder..Being set on fire to suffocate each sence Without the sight of wound, or shew of wrong. *c* 1660 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 262 Small forts..to defend the merchants and their goods from wrong. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xxi. 429 Lest time or worms had done the weapon [*sc.* a bow] wrong. 1873 A. G. Murdoch *Lilts* 44 Dinna dae the deer-boards wrang, An absent tenant canna see ye.

7. *The wrong*, that which is wrong; the opposite of justice or equity; absence of right or fairness; unjust or wrongful action.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17458 Þof it neuer haf lasted sua lang, A-wai to wrenk he dos þe wrang. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 749 Here ȝe muwen se þe wrong. 1388 Wyclif *Acts* vii. 24 Moises..dide veniaunce for hym that suffride the wronge. 1421 *Pol. Poems* 44 My swerd..Shal shede þe rist fro þe wrong. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VI. xiv. 25 Brutus..can revenge the wrang in his cuntre. 1596 Lauder *Tractate* 132 And your fals glosing of the wrang, Sall nocht mak ȝow to rax heir lang. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1030 Capacity not rais'd to apprehend Or value what is best In choice, but oftest to affect the wrong. 1821 Scott *Cast. Dang.* iv, If the Scottish have not had the right upon their side, they have..defended the wrong with the efforts of brave men. 1861 Paley *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 337 *note*, If the wrong has been wholly on one side.

8. The fact or position of acting unjustly or indefensibly; the state of being wrong in respect of attitude, procedure, or belief. (Cf. 1 b.) †a. In the phr. *to have the wrong*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6029, I haue þe wrang, And al þis wrak on me es lang. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 908 The steward was so strong, And hadde the right and he [= Amis] the wrong. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 2900 Than sal thou thiseluen se Wha haue the wrang, the wife or he. *c* 1450, 1828 [see Right *sb.*[1] 6 b].

b. In the phr. *to be* or *put in the wrong*.

a 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) II. 793 Þou wolt..þi soule to helle bringe, Vor þou ert in þe wronke [*v. r.* wronge]. 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 300 Ye knowe ye were in the wronge. 1513 West in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 74 Your Grace was in the right and he in the wronge. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1900) 186 Thinking that he himselfe had bine in the wronge. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.*, v. I. 86 You are I' the wrong To speake before your time. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* Wks. 1720 III. 92, I am in the wrong, I own it. 1785 Hutton *Hist. Birmingham* (ed. 3) 223 The authors I have seen are

all in the wrong. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 266 He had now put himself in the wrong. 1850 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xi, I quarrelled with her last night. I was quite in the wrong. 1859 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 380 It puts Lord Tennyson so brutally in the wrong.

† c. *To give the wrong to*, to regard as being in the wrong. *Obs.*—[1]

1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 558 They shall gyue the wronge and blame to the Troians, And to vs the loose.

II. 9. A wrongful, unjust, or unfair action; a violation or infringement of one's rights; an injury received or inflicted; a mischief. a. With *any*, *no*, *that*, *this*, etc.

1267–77 *Agr. Laws* (Liebermann) I. 486/1 Ic nelle gebolian, þætænig man eow ænig wrang beode. *c* 1290 *Beket* 230 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 113 Þar-of nolde he þollen no wrong. *c* 1330 [illegible] and euery wrong redresse. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 90 That sege wald sit with none wrang, Of berne that wes borne. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* ix. (Arb.) 19 That he myght auenge this our grete wronge. 1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* III. li. (1893) 239 If any wronge be layde vnto hym. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxii, She resolved to spende all her yeares ..in bewayling the wrong, and yet praying for the wrong-doer. 1611 Bible *Eccltus.* x. 6 Beare not hatred to thy neighbour for euery wrong. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 300 Thou thy self with scorne..wouldst resent the offer'd wrong. 1715 Pope *Iliad* II. 300 Durst he, as he ought, resent that wrong, This mighty tyrant were no tyrant long. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 25 All shall give account of ev'ry wrong, Who dare dishonour or defile the tongue! 1795–6 [see Wrong-doer 1]. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 36 That each had suffer'd some exceeding wrong. 1880 Shirley (J. Skelton) *Nugæ Crit.* x. 444 The wrong indeed was redressed, as far as redress was possible.

b. With *a* and pl.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6447 Quar thoru in right þai suld be gett, In smale wranges þat þar war. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5541 Alle þas þat has tholed here Falshedes and wranga. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11616 God, þat..wrangis in his wrathe writhis to ground. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc. 70 Quhen thow art alld, and ma na wrangis wyrke. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 302 Quha war woundet or had gottin vtheris wrangis. 1786 Burns *Author's Cry & Prayer* xii, Thou echo thro' Saint Stephen's wa's Auld Scotland's wrangs. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvii, We are for righting our ain wrangs.

β. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11154 God..late hem [illegible]er here soules leue For no wronges þat þey chese! 13[illegible] Langl. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 19 As clobers..þat Conterfeteþ diseseites and Conspiret wronges. 1422– [see Redress *v.*[1] 11]. *c* 1430 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 145 My sowlle suffereth pacyently wronges and contraryous thinges. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. 867 May such a wrong passe from a father's mouth? 1612, etc. [see Redresser]. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 740 Trees bent their Heads to hear him sing his Wrongs. 1794–6 Coleridge *Relig. Musings* 306 The innumerable multitude of wrongs By man on man inflicted. 1811 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 11 Thy wrongs his guilty soul shall sting. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv. § 4. 191 A wrong of brother against brother was also a wrong against the general body of the gild.

c. *Law.* An invasion of right, to the damage, harm, or prejudice of another or others; a violation of law or statute; a tort or trespass.

1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London [complaynen]..of many wronges subtiles, and also open oppressions. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 265 He was at þe parlement at Wynchestre forto haue amendede þe wronges and trespasses þat were done amongus þe peple. 14.. in *Acts Parlt. Scotl.* I. (1844) 337/2 Þe quhilk wrang was amuffyt betuen þaim in þe lande. 1528 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 128 They came to make their humble peticion .. and sewed their grevys and wronges afforseid. 1588 Jas. VI in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 419/2 A puir man that dar nocht seik redres of this wrang be the ordinar course of iustice. 1617 — in Halliwell *Lett. Kings Eng.* (1846) II. 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds. 1671 F. Phillips *Reg. Necess.* 259 The parties.. endeavouring such breaches of Priviledge, should not take advantage .. of their own wrongs or tortious doings. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 2 Wrongs are divisible into two sorts or species; private wrongs, and public wrongs. 1770 *Cases temp. Hardwicke* 35 The declarations must fall likewise as grafted on a wrong. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 498 Where there is reparation due on account of wrongs suffered through gross carelessness. 1888 Pollock in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 454 Civil wrongs..for which there is a remedy by action in courts of common law jurisdiction. *Ibid.* 454/2 An actionable wrong.

d. In the phr. *to do the* (. . .) *wrong* (*to* or *unto* a person, or with dative).

c 1230 *Spec. Gr de Warw.* 602 Þenk..Off þe wrong and þe vilte, þat men to Iesu Crist dede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 666 Þe wrange þat to myn god is done. *a* 1400 *Pauline Ep.* (Powell) 2 *Cor.* vii. 12 Not for hym þat has don þe wrong, nor for hym þat is suffryd. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* 4 The wrong that I have done the flies here among. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vii, The great wrong & iniurie that was done vnto him. 1643 Cary. *Exiles. Yob* I. 663 Only the creditor can remit the debt, and he the offence to whom we have done the wrong. 1672 *Acts Privy Council Scotl.* III. 345 She was the person who did the wrong. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* ix, The Earl deeply resented the wrong done to himself. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxvii, In spite of the wrong he had done and the wrong he meant to do him.

e. Similarly with *a*, *any*, etc., or pl.

1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xx, 13 Frend, I do thee no wronge [1388 noon wrong]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 845 That ye [1388 noon wrong]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 845 That ye han doon grete Injuries and wronges to me, causeles .. han doon grete Iniuries and wronges to me. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) vii. 13 Yef man dos yu ani wrang. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 267 Th' enjuryes and wrongys done .. to John Paston. 1580 Bible (Genev.) 2 *Macc.* iii. 12 That it were altogether vnpossible to do this wrong to them. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 80 As thou lou'st me, do him not that wrong. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 28, I do not think I shall do you any wrong to send you a better companion. 1676 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 30 The wronge Lord Marshall doth him, and all the younger children. 1823 *Nat. Intelligencer* (Washington, D.C.) 29 July 1/3 The wrongs done us by the British government. 1885 Tennyson *Maud* I. x. iv, I might persuade myself then She would not do herself this great wrong. 1861 Mill *Utilit.* (1863) 73 In each case the supposition implies two things—a wrong done, and some assignable person who is wronged.

† 10. An incorrect or improper procedure. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 53 The figtre now teneye [L. *inoculare*] hit is no wronge In weet lond. *Ibid.* X. 3 The same ek is no wronge Rather to do.

† 11. A physical or material injury, hurt, or damage. (Cf. 6.) *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXVII. (Tollem. MS.) By þe leues þe spray is defendid..agens colde and hete, and agens all wronges of frostes and snowe. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 339 Yf me ferne hit wel..That in the tre the do no wronge.

† 12. Something obtained or held wrongfully. *rare.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 133 þerfore, restoryth 3oure wrongys, & caste out þe wose of false coueytise! *Ibid.* 136 3oure nede þanne excusyth 3ou nouȝt fro dedly synne, but ȝe ȝerne ȝalde to hem 3oure dette & 3oure wrong!

III. 13. *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *wrong-repressing*, *righting*; *wrong-redresser*, *-righter*; also *wrong-caused*, *incensed*, *-vexed*; *wrong-proof* adj.

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxxv. 1, Speake thou for me against wrong speaking foes. *a* 1586 — *Arcadia* I. ii, Striving.. which coulde..recount their wrong-caused sorow. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. i. 52 These swelling wrong incensed Peeres. 1598 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. lxxxi, Wrong-worker Riot. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* 210 Long wrong-vext, in a not-Need-less Cause. *a* 1616 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Introd. View* (1830) 17 A penal, or say a wrong-repressing code. 1831 Wordsw. *Highland Hut* 12 Some gentle heart wrong-proof, Meek, patient, kind. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* v. lxxxiii, The great Wrong-Redresser. 1869 Kingsley in *Life & Lett.* (1877) II. 296 The most unexpected forms of actual wrong-saying and doing. 1889 J. K. Stephen *Lapsus Calami* (1891) 52 A nursery of wrong-righters.

† **Wrong**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* = Lean *sb.* 13.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 374/1 All the Nicks or Notches in the [watch] Wheels are termed Teeth, and those in the Pinions are called Wrongs.

† **Wrong**, obs. variant of Wring *sb.*[1] 1.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 495 Ollmilles, whelis, wrongis [L. *prelum*], not bigonne Of new.

Wrong (rɒŋ), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: α, 1–5, 6– *Sc.* and *north. dial.* wrang (6, 9 vrang, 9 *north. dial.* wrank), 4–5 wrange. β. 3– wrong (3 wronk, 5 rong), 3–6 wronge; 9 *north. dial.* wrung, wrunk. [Late OE. *wrang*, a. ON. **wrangr*, *rangr* awry, unjust (Norw. *vrang*, *rang*, MSw. *vranger* (Sw. *vrång*), (M)Da. *vrang*), = MLG. *wrange*, *wrangh* sour, bitter, MDu. *wrangh*, *wranc* bitter, unpleasant, hostile (Du. *wrang* acid, tart; whence WFris. *wrang*); related to Wring *v.*

The adoption of the word in the OE. period is shown by its use as a sb. (see Wrong *sb.*[3]), but examples of the adj. are lacking, unless *on wrangan kylle* in a Berkshire document of 944, preserved only in a 13th century copy (Birch *Cartul.* II. 557), is accepted as original, and as representing this word. Early ME. instances may occur in the following place-names:—

a 1153 in *Coucher Bk. Kirkstall Abbey* (1904) 52 Confirmo donacionem terre quam eis fecerunt Rogerus de Wrangebroc et Henricus Walensis. 1167–8 *Pipe Rolls Hen. II*, 56 Pro murdro in Wrongedichhundred [in Rutland]. 1198 *Pipe Rolls Rich. I*, 23 Terra in eadem villa [in Suffolk] s. ad Wrangaker i acr', et i rodam.]

A. *adj.* I. †1. a. Having a crooked or curved course, form, or direction; twisted or bent in shape or contour; wry.

c 1200 Ormin 9207 All þatt ohht iss wrang & crumb Shall effnedd beon & rihhtedd. *Ibid.* 9653. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 78 His [*sc.* the eagle's] bec is þet biforn wrong. [*a* 1258 in *Cartul. Mon. Rameseia* (Rolls) I. 353 Fulbrocfurlange; Wrongelande; Wylokescroft.] 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xxi. 19 A man..[that] is ether of litil, ether of greet, and wrong [L. *tortus*] nose. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19656 The crookydnesse..off my crok, Wrong at the ende, as ys an hook. *a* 1470 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* VIII. xv. (1493) F ii, The bowe is made of ii. thynges, Of a wronge tree, and a right strynge. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) P j, A cocatryce .. hath .. many teth crokyd and wronge. 1611 Cotgr., *Gauche*, left, left-handed; ..wrong, sinister, awry. 1613 in *North Riding Records* IV. 143 Thone acre a brode wrangland, stinting att the streta, lying between six narrow wranglandes, towards the north, and one narrow wrangland ..towardes the south.

Ag. 1340 *Ayenb.* 159 Yef þe onderstondinggе is wrong, oþer yef he tuysteþ oþer wyþwent..; al þe inwyt mel by þiestre and þe hieap of uirtues.

† b. Marked by deviation; deflected. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Glacynge, or wronge glydynge of boltys or arowys..*deviatus*.

† c. Of an oblong shape. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Warpyn, or wrot wronge or aveloge, as vessalle, *oblongus*. *Ibid.* 534/1 Wronge, or avelonge.., *oblongus*.

2. Of persons: Mis-shapen; deformed. Latterly *dial.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxx. (1869) 132 Bolstowes j am, and bakinge, and wronge. To the virty j go hippinge. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wrong*, crooked. A wrong man or woman. *Norf.* *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wrong*, .. deformed; misshapen in person.

II. 3. Of actions, etc.: Deviating from equity, justice, or goodness; not morally right or equitable; unjust, perverse. Also *absol.*

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16498, I sal me-seluen on me wreck For þis marchandis wrang. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 384 Wepande ful wonderly alle his wrange dedes. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5994 Alle wrang haldynge of gudes sere. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 2048 For wit þai wele þat þai sal cum To reknyng on þe day of dome..Als sche sal for hir warkes wrang. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 421 (Douce MS.), Þou has wonene hem in werre, with a wrange wille. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lx. 11 The wrang spending of my wittis fyve. 1786 *Har'st Rig* cix, The beding time does now begin...Now, tho' they're a' together mixt, There's naething wrang. 1822 Scott *Nigel* ii, I hope there was naething wrang in standing up for ane's ain country's credit.

β. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* B. 596 Þe woke ginne þu conseon, þe wronke ginne þu rihtan mid alle þine mihten. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 4582 Alle þe werre & þis wo is our owenge dedes. 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xix. 13 Thow shalt not doo wronge chalenge to thi neiȝbore. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 22276 (Trin.), Anticrist ..shal him shewe in þo d[a]yes .. his werkes wronge to fulfille. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 26 So þat oure wirkyng be noght wronge. 1535 Coverdale *Hab.* I. 4 This is the cause, yͤ wronge iudgment procedeth. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Kal.* May 102 So often times, when as good is meant, Euil ensueth of wrong entent. 1620 T. Peyton *Glasse of Time* I. 50 That none by wrong oppression might Be crost, by..wrestling guile. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 144 A wrong Sentence given by authority of the Soveraign. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* Auth. Apol. P 13 One of the wrongest attempts in nature to turn into ridicule..a work which had cost so much time. 1728 Vanbrugh & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* III, When a sad wrong word is rising just to one's tongue's end, I..swallow it. 1763 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 211 If the finger rest against the trigger of a loaded musket, and a man stand just before, you cannot do a wronger thing. 1853 Miss Yonge *Heir of Redclyffe* IX, She did not awaken her mind to consider that anything could be wrong that Philip desired. 1861 Mill *Utilit.* (1863) 9 [That] creed holds that actions are wrong..[in proportion] as they tend to produce the reverse of happiness. 1878 Jevons *Pol. Econ.* 65 There is nothing..morally wrong in a strike..when properly conducted.

b. In the phrase *it is* (*would be*, etc.) *wrong to* (do some thing).

1596 Spenser *Hymn Heav. Love* 180 Had he required life of vs againe, Had it beene wrong to aske his owne with gaine? 1781 Cowper *Conv.* 291 'Tis wrong to bring into a sick. 1857 Borrow *Romany* [illegible] *19th C.* II. 93 It would be indeed wrong..to say he was making love at all.

4. Of persons: Deviating from integrity, rectitude, or probity; doing or prone to do that which is evil, noxious, or unjust; opprobrious, vicious.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29 Þe wrang to here o right is lath. 13.. *Ibid.* 2804 (Göttt.), Þis nembrot..was wrang werour, Reuer and manqueller gratt. 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* lii. 12 My pupile his pleteres, or wrong axers [L. *exactores*], spolleden. *a* 1492 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* VIII. xv. (1493) F ii, Of them yͤ ben wronge throughe synne. *Ibid.* F ii b, So Crist at the doome shal sett the wrong lyuers on his left honde. 1728 Dr Fox *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 78 For I think,. we have all been wrong, and..it is my part to submit. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 780 Th' incorrigibly wrong, the deaf, the dead! *a* 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Truants* 58 Queer little devils were they! Cob was the strongest, Mob was the wrongest. 1896 B. L. Farjeon *Betrayal* I. *Fordham* iv. 209 It don't make black white, 'cause I'm a wrong 'un.

b. Actively opposed († *to* another); antagonistic.

1340 *Ayenb.* 204 Swarpnesse of liue to do his vlesc enderuot þet is wrang to þe goste. 1780 Cowper *Rep. Adjudged Case* 2 Between Nose and Eyes a strange contest arose,—The spectacles set them unhappily wrong.

5. Not in conformity with some standard, rule, or principle; deviating from that which is correct or proper; contrary to, at variance with, what one approves or regards as right.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 32 Y-wis hit is al wrong, Al wrong y wrohte for a wyf, that made us wo in world ful wyde. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 67 Whi wolde God..suffre such a worm In such a wrong wyse þe wommon to bi-gyle? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 169 Of here wrong condicion To do justificacion. *c* 1450 in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. xxxix, Her husband cometh..and seyeth the feyrest langwage that ever ye hard. But all is rong; he is ever in trouble. 1550 Crowley *Epigrams* 916 Ye must saye as they saye, Be it wrounge or ryght. 1591 Spenser *Daphn.* 243 She fell away in her first ages spring;..For age to dye is right, but youth is wrong. 1676 Hale *Medit. Lord's Pr.* 183 When I look into my Conscience, I find her easily bribed, and brought over to the wrong party. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xxi. § 26 The foundation of vice in wrong measures of good. 1709 Pope [illegible] were applied to a wrong use. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) III. xxviii. 333 Permitting the interview, which they suppose the strongest step that could have been taken.

b. Not in consonance with facts or truth; incorrect, false, mistaken.

c 1420 *Pryck Lyft Aduc.* 34 And þe hafland in vs a wrange consayte, blamez vs. 1526 More *Dyalage* III. Wks. 230/2 Our hart euer thinketh the iudgement wrong, that wringeth us to the worse. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. i. 54 If any heare By false intelligence, or wrong surmise Hold me a Foe. 1611 Bible *Deut.* xix. 16 If a false witnes..testifie against him that which is wrong. 1670 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 473, I do not use to be found in a wrong story. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 13 Mad Men put wrong Ideas together, and so make wrong Propositions. *Ibid.* § 69 Fashion and the common Opinion having settled wrong Notions. 1728

CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1751) s.v. *Error*, Some philosophers define error [as]..a wrong judgment, disagreeing with the things whereon it is passed. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Misacceptation*, a wrong understanding or apprehending of any thing. 1865 WILLIAMS *Mem. M. Henry* 304 A wrong date is assigned to the delivery of this Sermon. 1871 LE FANU *Rose & Key* II. 27 Her watch..being seldom more than twenty minutes wrong, either way. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 370 An allegation ..if wrong..deviates more or less from the truth. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 111 There is something wrong in this, deer do not stand up..to be shot down that way.

c. Of belief, etc.: Partaking of or based on error; erroneous.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 42 þat þai ne falle in wrang trouȝ. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 31 Marry, for that shee's in a wrong beleefe, I goe to certifie her Talbot's here. 1696 COWLEY *On Death of Crashaw* 56 His Faith perhaps in some nice Tenents might Be wrong; his Life..was in the right. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 306 For Modes of Faith let graceless zealots fight; His can't be wrong whose life is in the right. 1755 JOHNSON, *Misbelief*,..false religion; a wrong belief.

6. Not right or satisfactory in state or order; in unsatisfactory or bad condition; amiss.

What's wrong with (mod. colloq.), what is the matter with (see MATTER *sb.*[1] 25 b), what objection is there to, why not have (etc.)?

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 58 Also flowyng emoroydes somtyme ar hidde.., þat of som þai ar demed to be dissenteriker and yuele wrong. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 80 What aylithe you? y trow there be sum thinge wronge with you. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* III. 188 If any thyng wrang be, Soyne is she wroth. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 131 In thy default se that na thing be wrang. *a* 1568 *Wyse of Auchtermuchty* 103 (Bann. MS.), Scho fand all wrang that sowld bene richt. 1781 COWPER *Exhort* 301 Policy is busied all night long In setting right what faction has set wrong. 1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate of Culross* 56 We shall never get right till we get as far wrong as we can. 1814 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xv, 'Something wrong here,'..said the traveller, pointing to his own forehead significantly. 1833–[see PUT *v.* 25 b]. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. ix, You see,..it might put us wrong with our son-in-law. 1860 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Sc. Life* 52 Nothing wrong with Mrs. Graeme, I hope? 1905 R. A. KNOX *Viaduct Murder* ix. 90, I want to know what's wrong with a game of bridge?

b. *Turf.* Of a horse: Held in check so as to cause him to lose the race.

1889 *Sporting Times* 29 June (Farmer), Isabel and Maudie knew the Turf and all its arts—They had often blewed a dollar on a wrong 'un.

c. (See quot.)

1895 BREWER *Dict. Phrase & Fable* 1315 *A Wrong 'un*, a horse which has run at any flat-race meeting not recognised by the Jockey Club.

7. Not adapted, according, or answering to intention, requirement, or purpose; not proper,

on Husb. XII. 109 Kitte of euery roten thyng or drie, For grene yf that me kitte of, that is wronge. 1514 BARCLAY *Cit. & Uplondyshman* (Percy Soc.) 11 Than was no cocke.. To laye wronge egges within a straunge nest! 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* x. 83 The iueis interpret it to the vrang sens. 1550, 1560 [see WREST *v.* 5 b]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 110, I haue directed you to wrong places. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, He..claps his dish at the wrong mans dore. 1613 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 63 Of which if he thinks to make me ye first example he will find he has fixed upon a wrong man. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 126 They brought me to the wrong side of a pretty Square Tank, or Well. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Misrepresent*, not to represent fairly, to give a wrong or false Character of. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Misplace*, to put in a wrong Place. 1736 [see WRONGNESS 2]. *a* 1778 TOPLADY *Anecd.* Wks. 1794 IV. 152 To put your hand into the wrong pocket. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 38 (1794) II. 60 This was the wrongest time that could be chosen. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Mrs. Battle*, An adversary, who has slipt a wrong [playing] card. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xvii, Shoving the old and helpless, into the wrong buss. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xl, The fatal step of choosing the wrong profession. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* II. 67 Never did a man so persistently..do the wrong thing in the wrong

b. In various allusive phrases: (see quots. and BARK *v.*[1] 2, BOX *sb.*[2] 21, SHOP *sb.* 8 b, SOW *sb.*[1] 3).

1554 RIDLEY in FOXE *A. & M.* (1563) 931/1 If you wil heare how Saint Augustine expoundeth that place, ye shal perceaue that ye are in a wronge boxe. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 75 Ye tooke..the wrong sow by theare. 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 584 *Vlulas Athenas*, you bring your Corne to a wrong market. 1639 J. CLARKE *Param.* 7 You bring your hogs to a wrong market. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 440 You'd have sworn he had got the wrong pig by the ear. —JAS. HALL *Leg. West* 46 You are barking up the wrong tree, Johnson. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* xii, Does he want..money? meat? drink? He's come to the wrong shop for that, if he does. 1877 'SAXON' (Mrs. TROTTER) *Gall. Gossip* 190 Ye've got the wrang soo by the lug this time. 1897 *Daily News* 4 March 6/1 The now well-quoted phrase of Lord Salisbury's, 'we put all our money upon the wrong horse'. 1907 *N. & Q.* 29 Jan. 46/2 'You will find yourself in the wrong shop!' is a vague threat.

c. *The wrong end*, the end, extremity, or limit less adapted, suitable, or proper for a required or particular purpose. Occas. *fig.* Also quasi-*adv.* (quot. 1897).

1587 UNDERDOWNE tr. *Heliodorus* VI. (1895) 266 Calasiris carried Carichias quiver.., the wrong ende downeward on his shoulders. 1600 *2nd Pt. Return Parnass.* III. iii. 1303 My master..then turning..the wrong end of the booke vpward. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi. § 24 T— —— at the wrong end, learning Words first. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CLXXV. 147 Till a Vain Repentance M

the Wrong End on't. 1737 [see GO *v.* 2 c]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. iii. P 5 This was setting up the trade of a steward, but beginning at the wrong end. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* III. 252 He looked prodigiously cruel, having, as our country folks term it, got out of bed the wrong end first. 1878 [see END *sb.* 24]. 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New English* I. 491 We talk of the wrong end of the stick. 1890– [see STICK *sb.*[1] 14 e]. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* 125 Patent rockets that went off wrong-end-first. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* XXXII, Daly knew men. He was at the wrong end of the whip.

d. *Typog.* Not of the proper size, character, or face. Freq. in *wrong fount* (abbrev. *w.f.*); also *attrib.*

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 444 Letters that..are of a wrong Fount. 1808 STOWER *Printer's Gram.* 216 Plate, The Exemplification of Typographical Marks...Stet. Ital. ..w.f. 1896 *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* p. xviii, Wrong-font characters, broken space-lines, and bent rules.

e. Not of requisite social standing.

1899 LEVER *D. Dunn* XXXII, She is 'tres grande dame',.. and never knows wrong people,..such as are to be met with in society; not by claim of birth and standing, but because they are very rich, or very clever, in some way or other.

8. Of a way, course, etc.: Leading in, having a trend or aspect to, adirection other than one intends, desires, or expects.

To go the wrong way, of food, etc.: see WAY *sb.*[1] 4 e.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Wylgate, or wronge gate, *devia*cio. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 765 Some brekyng downe the walles to bring in the next way, and some yet drew to them that holpe to carye a wrong way. 1573 GASCOIGNE *Hearbes* Wks. 1907 I. 349 He much mistooke and shot the wronger way. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 158 The Russe Emperor..leading foorth his armie to incounter him marched a wrong way. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyropædia* 94 They chaunced upon a wrong by-lane. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* XXI, That he had himself ordered the man to go a wrong way. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* 39 Only take care to point his head the wrong way. 1833 REDDING *Shipwrecks* I. 71 They were steering a wrong course. 1835 MACAULAY *Mackintosh* Ess. (1897) 304 Were their faces set in the right or in the wrong direction? 1856 SARA ROBINSON *Kansas* (ed. 3) 40 We..took the wrong road when nearly there. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* XXXII, This here crew is on a wrong tack, I do believe.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 1818 Þorus myst of errour falsely to forveye By þathis wrong from þe riȝte weye. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 Takynge the wronge waye, they liue here a whyle in worldly pleasure. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 75 Ye may see, ye tooke The wrong way to wood. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *Countrey Newes* Wks. (1890) 174 That the allegory of justice drawne blind, is turned the wrong way. 1698 COLLIER *Short View* 210, I observe the Moral is vitious: It points the wrong way. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 17 Grace leads the right way: if you choose the wrong, Take it, and perish. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. i. P 6, I..muttered blessings on them the wrong way, and swore outright. 1846 OLMSTED *Mech. Heavens* 133 Because all the inquirers into Nature were upon a wrong road, groping their way through the labyrinth of error. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 March 6/5 The bill..seemed to proceed upon the wrong tack.

9. *The* (or *a*) *wrong way*, the way or method least conducive to a desired end or purpose; the (or an) incorrect manner.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXVI. 546 Rohars..sayd, 'Sire,..here is my gage'. 'Rohars,' sayd Charlemagne, 'here ye take a wronge waye'. 1639 J. CLARKE *Param.* 8 You go the wrong way to worke. 1651 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 318 Hee tooke the wrong way to right himself. 1727 [see GO *v.* 4]. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 31 Oct. 14/3 They went the wrong way to work to gain the ear of the House.

b. (*The*) *wrong way* († *wrong-way*, Sc. *wranggates*), in adverbial use, = in a contrary or opposite direction or position to the proper or usual one.

1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. viii, You wou'd have taken 'em for Friesland Hens, with their Feathers growing the wrong way. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3325/4 The S stands the wrong way. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 157 A Band, or a Cravat put the wrong way. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* XXIII. 360 Being wrong-way upwards, the Seed is apt to arch in them. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expos.* 103 *Marking-Yarn*,..is white Yarn spun the wrong Way. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 210 Syne wrang-gaites round the kirk gaed he. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Dream* XIV, At night..He lies like a hedgehog rolled up the wrong way, Tormenting himself with his prickles. 1862–[see RUB *v.*[1] 3a, 13 e]. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. ix, All three [had] got out of bed the wrong way that morning.

10. *Wrong side* († *wrong-side, wrongside*).

Cf. Da. *vrangside*, Norw. *rangsida*.

a. That side of some thing, a fabric, etc., which lies or is normally turned inward, downward, or away from one; the side opposite to the usual, or principal; the lower or under, the back or reverse, of two surfaces.

1511–2 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 2 The Walker..shall not rowe..Clothe..on the right side nor of the wrongside. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 137 He hath turnd his typpet twyse..: Fyrst on the wronge syde and last on the right. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 635/2 The manner of theyr womens riding on the wrong side of theyr horse, I meane with theyr faces towardes the right side. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 14 How quickely the wrong side [of a glove] may be turn'd outward. 1632 T. HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* IV. i. 42 The three sheep-skins with the wrong side outward. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5353/12 A Jet black Mare,..a thick Mane lying on the wrong side. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 98 Slit the leg of lamb down on the wrong-side. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXI, Keeping on the wrong side of the road. 1890 L. C. D'ORVE *Notches* 92 He jumped hastily on to his pony (from the wrong side, after the Indian fashion).

fig. and in fig. context. 1553 ASCHAM *Germany* Wks. (1904) 147 Homer..: whose saying in Greeke is excellent, but beyng turned in the wrong side into English, it shall lesse delight you. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. ii. 9 Of Gloster Treachery..When I inform'd him, then he call'd me Sot, And told me I had turn'd the wrong side out. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to J. Meine* 7 Sept., Christ's..winds turn not when he seemeth to change, it is but we who turn our wrong side to him. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 438 Till frowning skys began to change their chear, And time turn'd up the wrong side of the year. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. x, In looking at the fair tapestry of human Life,.. he dwells..chiefly on the reverse; and indeed turns out the rough seams, tatters, and manifold thrums of that unsightly wrong-side, with..indifference.

b. In the advb. phr. (*the*) *wrong side out* († *outwards*), *before*. In later use freq. without article.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 68 So turnes she euery man the wrong side out. 1604 — *Oth.* II. iii. 54 My sicke Foole Rodorigo, Whom Loue hath turn'd almost the wrong side out. 1663 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) V. 100 He will find, that if ever another Turn befals the Nation, it will be the Wrongside outwards, the Lowest Uppermost. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXXIV, His hat was on wrong-side before. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* liv. 481 We all struggled frantically into our clothes,..getting them wrong-side-out and upside-down, as a rule. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* IX, Trying hard to twist into its proper place a finger of the glove which would go on wrong side out.

c. Phrases: *To laugh on the wrong side of one's mouth* (see LAUGH *v.* 1 b); *on the wrong side of the blanket* Sc. (see BLANKET *sb.* 3).

1714 LUCAS *Gamesters* 65 But tho' he laugh'd, 'twas on the wrong side of his Mouth. 1771, etc. [see BLANKET *sb.* 3]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. vii. § 1, I..began to laugh and sing, though it was sometimes on the wrong side of my mouth. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXXVII, Shafton, men say, was a-kin to the Piercie on the wrong side of the blanket. 1837 CARLYLE *Diamond Necklace* III, By and by thou wilt laugh on the wrong side of thy face mainly. 1889 [see LAUGH *v.* 1 b].

d. The side, party, or principle of which one disapproves.

1649 [see RIGHT *a.* 10 b]. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 740 Because forsooth thy courage has been tried And stood the test, perhaps on the wrong side. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* III. i, He could argue on the wrong side of any question with an acuteness [etc.].

e. *On the wrong side of*, older than (a specified age); upwards of. (Cf. SHADY *a.* 2 b.)

a 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* V. ii. (1664) 140 She is smitten in years o'th wrong side of forty. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCCL. 306 An Old Man on the Wrong-side of Fourscore. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 282 P 3 They had..passed their Prime, and got on the wrongside of Thirty. 1773 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 220 He is on the wrong side of an elderly man, but seems to have good health. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* III. xx, Am I..to look like a methodist parson on the wrong side of forty! 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 394 A good looking woman, a little on the wrong side of thirty, perhaps.

f. The disadvantageous, undesirable, or unsafe side *of* some place, object, etc.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 521 We were on the wrong side of the Straits of Malacca. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* IV. i, He..takes me..into the lobby [to vote]..but ..I was got o' the wrong side the post. 1791– [see POST *sb.*[1] 8 i]. 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* (1809) VI. 91 [The horse] has got an awkward trick..of leaving the other two on the wrong side of the fence. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* X, His grandsire was from the wrong side of the Border. 1893 MISS CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* I, The poor meagre home in a dingy street; the wrong side of Oxford Street.

fig. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* I. 10 We are got a little on the wrong side of the Question. 1783 COWPER *Ode to Apollo* 2 Patron of all those luckless brains, That, to the wrong side leaning, Indite much metre. 1861 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Scot. Life* Ser. II. 65 That he would not speak to his wife on this the wrong side of eternity. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 38 For love, I think of that as dead men of good days Ere the wrong side of death was theirs.

g. *To get up* or *out of bed* (*on*) *the wrong side*, with allusion to the supposed disturbing effect on one's temper. (Cf. RIGHT *a.* 20 c.) *colloq.*

1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* I. 167 You have got up on the wrong side, this morning, George. 1867 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of S.* XI, Miss had got out of bed the wrong side. 1887 [see GET *v.* 65 a].

11. Of persons, etc.: a. Judging, believing, or acting contrary to the facts of the case; incorrect in judgement, assertion, or action; mistaken, in error.

1693 LOCKE *Educ.* Wks. 1714 III. 35 His Practice must by no means cross his Precepts, unless he intend to set him wrong. 1735 POPE *Prol. to Sat.* 158 Did some more sober Critic come abroad; If wrong, I smil'd; if right, I kiss'd the rod. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 270, And I own I am wrong. 1797 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 93 Though my head was wrong, my heart was right. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) V. Concl., If I am wrong in this. 1836 LYTTON *Duchess de La Vallière* III. iii, I was not wrong to feel remorse, But wrong to give it utterance! 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 37, I should be very wrong not to obey you.

b. Not normal or sound *in* the senses, etc.; not sane.

1765 SIR J. PORTER in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 381 Any suspicion that he was wrong in his senses. 1828 D. WEBSTER *Orig. Sc. Rhymes* 23 (E.D.D.), This maid that was wrang in the mind. 1881 D. THOMSON *Musings* 44 Lasses will laugh at yer havers, An' think ye are wrang in the head.

III. †12. That has no legal right, title, or claim; not legitimate; unlawful; = WRONGFUL *a.* 3 b. *Obs.*

1503 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2026 3yf a woumman yn

herdam do swyche outrage þat a wrong eyre bere herytage. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 682 There were..Wrong ——— with gret extorcioners. 1496 Sir G. Hayt *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 83 In the quhilk tyme the traytrous Romayns maid thre wrang papis. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 225 Herry the wrong Kyng of Spayn. *a* 1586 Maitland in *M. Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) 428 Fray god degressouris and vrang possessouris, repent sall ye.

†b. *Wrong-heir*, the hermit-crab. *Obs.*

1730 S. Dale *Taylor's Hist. Harwich* 436 The Wrong-Heirs or Bernard the Hermit. 1834 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 155 The hermit crab..takes up its abode in univalve shells which it finds empty; hence has been named *Wrong heir*.

13. Marked or characterised by illegality; not legally valid.

1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 459 þe chirchewardens kepen hit still be wronge possession and sett hit to ferme yerely. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 159 Be thy Title right or wrong, Lord Clifford vowes to fight in thy defence.

†b. Obtained unjustly; held unlawfully. *Obs.*

1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* 324 God neuer suffereth the thirde heyre to enioye his fathers wrong possessions.

†**14.** False; fictitious; unreal. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 706 For soþe, ich am a mad man now, wel ich may knowe, Forto wene in þis wise þis wrong metyng soþe.

†**15.** Belonging to, situated on, the left side. *Obs. rare.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1480 Wrothely one the wrange hande sir Gawayne he strykkes. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 38 Becaus the Rivere of tyber severit þame fra þe romane landis on þare richt handis, þai turnit þame on þare wrang handis.

IV. *Comb.* **16.** Parasynthetic, as *wrong-ended* (see 7 c; hence *wrong-endedness*), *wrong-hearted* (hence *wrong-heartedness*), *-haired*, *-jawed*, *-minded*, *-principled*.

a 1400 *Octavian* (Camb. MS.) 107 Moche sorowe deryth mee, That Rome schalle wrong-heyred [*v.r.* wrange-ayerde] bee In vnkynde honde. 1552 Huloet a.v., Wronge iawed, or hauinge the neither longer then the vpper iaw, *bronchus*. 1803 James *Milit Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., The inhabitants of England and Ireland are seldom wrong-hearted. 1835 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) III. 375 Evidences of the wrong-endedness of a property-qualification, with which the British people are unhappily familiar. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 88 His judgment of books is not so much superficial..as it is wrong-principled. 1883 *Imp. Dict.* IV. 669 *Wrong-minded*, having a mind wrongly inclined; entertaining erroneous or distorted views. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 910 Wrong-headedness may be as fatal now as wrong-heartedness.

B. *adv.* **1.** In a direction differing from the right or true one; by an erroneous course or way; astray.

13.. *Cursor M.* 5760 (Göttt.), Mi folk of ysrael es in wa; þai haue ben led wrang alsua. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15720 He sailed al day, & on þe nyght, Vnwhile bope wrong & ryught, Til he com in-til an Ilde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 332 By God, thoughte he, al wrang I haue mysgon. 1572 Gascoigne *Gascoigne's Woodmanship* 31 He winked wrong, and so let slippe the [bow-]string, Which cast him wide. 1614 Sylvester *Parl. Vertues Royall* 706 A fair Ship..wants..A skilfull Pilot,..That never wry shee sail, nor wrong shee row. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5295/12 Lost or carried wrong.., several Parcels of Goods. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* I. ii, Lock-a-daisy, my masters, you're come a deadly deal wrong! 1824 Mactaggart *Gallov. Encycl.* (1876) 293 We may wander even on kend grun; so I may run myself wrong in Gallowa, a land I weel ken. 1869 W. S. Gilbert '*Bab*' *Ballads*, *Peter the Wag* 15 He loved to send old ladies wrong, And teach their feet to stray. 1878 Miss Bird *Hawaiian Archip.* 403 Our guide took us a little wrong once..' Wrong' on Mauna Loa means being arrested by an impassable *a-a* stream.

fig. 1399 Langl. *R. Redeles* III. 80 Thus lafte þey [*sc.* the young eagles] þe leder þat hem wrong ladde. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 267 How liable we are to be led wrong by passion and private interest. 1735 *Man* xxxvii. 4 When the powers of the soul are wrong directed. 1786 Burns *Prayer in Prospect of Death* iii, List'ning to their [*sc.* passions'] witching voice Has often led me wrong. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* App. I. (1891) 251 Tintoret..may lead you wrong if you don't understand him.

†b. In an oblique or deflected line or position; obliquely, askew. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 312 Sette hit [*sc.* a bough] in the delf so lenyng wronge [L. *obliqua*]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 182 We twoo schall see tille aythir side, For ellis þis werke wille wrie all wrang. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xvi. 547 This Caytyffe I have cast, shall be wronge wrast, or I wend away.

2. *To go wrong.* a. To take a wrong way, road, or course; to go astray. Also in fig. context; and *fig.*, to make a mistake; to fall into error; to err.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15448 A taken þan I sal youu glue, þat yee sal noght ga wrang. 13.. *Ibid.* 25681 (Gött.), All þat singes þis sang..þu lede þaim right þar þai ga wrang. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 193 Na wonder es, yf þai ga wrang, For in myrknes of unknawyng þai gang. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 120 Whenne he wolde nost folwe hym [*sc.* the angel]..Out of the waye he wente wronge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 202 Goo wronge, *devio*, *delire*. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VI. Prol. 8 To follow Virgile in this dirk poese, Convey me, Sibill, that I ga nocht wrang. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 71 b, Whan this sterre was hyd,..they went wronge to theyr great peryll. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 24 *Æne*[*mannon*]. We go wrong, we go wrong. *Alas.* No yonder 'tis. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 427 The Learn'd..So much ..scorn the crowd, that if the throng By chance go right, they purposely go wrong. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 1 It being easy to go wrong where no-body has beaten the Way. 1753 R. Gray *Poems* 20 There's many a one.. That fir frae gude's way hath gane wrang. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 282/1 We went wrong in making any active intervention. 1873 H. Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* xiv. 337 There are more ways of going wrong than of going right.

b. To deviate or depart from moral rectitude or integrity; to take to evil courses; also (*b*) to fall from virtue.

1300–20 Dunbar *Poems* v. 33 Sanct Petir hat hir with a club,..becaus the wif 3eid wrang. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* iv. 19 But yf he go wronge, she shall forsake him. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 356 Thus men go wrong..; Bend the straight rule to their own crooked will. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lviii, That when ladies had had homes and mothers, they went wrong in their way too. 1888 H. S. Merriman *Phantom Future* viii, I tried..to show you that I was not quite a blackguard. But it was useless; I went wrong again

(*b*) 1837 Lytton *E. Maltrav.* 21 She had a vague idea about girls going wrong. 1888 M^c^Carthy & Praed *Ladies' Gallery* III. viii. 169 A home..for poor girls who had gone wrong.

c. Of events, etc.: To happen amiss or unfortunately; to issue or result unsuccessfully or unprosperously.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. ii, Should you deceiue vs, twould go wrong with you. 1595 Shaks. *John* I. i. 41 Your strong possession much more then your right, Or else it must go wrong with you and me. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Oct., This day has gone all wrong, by sitting up so late last night. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch-Bk.*, *Rip van Winkle*, Everything about it went wrong, and would go wrong, in spite of him. 1857 Borrow *Romany Rye* xlii, Everything seemed to go wrong with me—horses became sick [etc.]. 1885 G. R. Sims in *Pall Mall G.* 7 April 19/2 A thick slime of what looks like toffee gone wrong. 1891 E. Kinglake *Australian at Home* 114 A pal or two..ready to help a chap if things go wrong.

d. Of things: To get out of gear or working order; to fail to work, run, etc., by reason of friction, trouble, or break-down. Of a clock or watch: To fail to keep correct time.

1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* v. i, While others [*sc.* clocks] may keep going continually, and continually be going wrong. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* v, We have had an accident with these [handcuffs], and I find the lock of one of 'em goes wrong. 1871 Lytton *Coming Race* xxii, That watch..has never gone wrong since I had it. 1885 *Law Reports* 10 P.D. 100 The machinery had gone wrong. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 29 Jan. 342/2 The water supply has gone wrong.

e. Of persons: To fail in some undertaking or enterprise, or in the general conduct of life.

1829 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 203 Seein' Papists' side gae wrang, Out at the Chanc'llor's-door he flang. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xvii, He was a very kind old man...I'm really sorry he's gone wrong.

f. Of food, etc.: To get into bad or unsound condition; to become unwholesome.

1888 *Imp. Dict.* II. 403 *To go wrong*, to become unsound, as meat, fruit.

3. Not in accordance with good morals or a just standard of actions; in a manner contrary to equity or uprightness; unjustly, unfairly; = Wrongfully *adv.* 1, Wrongly *adv.* 2.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1362 Heo may do bi myne songe, hweþer heo wile wel þe wronge. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 12180 Þys erymyte..beheld..whyche come with gode deuocyoun, And whyche for ouþer enchesoun: Alle sagh þys ermyte euerydeyl, Who come wrong, and who come weyl. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1176 Per-for þe wronger he wirchea, al þe world may know. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1608 Wyne þat es myghty & strang Mase witty men forto wirk wrang. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 170 Hit is þorowe þe werke of god or þey [*sc.* gold chains] be wronge wonnen. 15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 322 The regeand tirrant ..is exilit and his ofspring The land of Juda, that ioslt wrang. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vi. 80 We perceiu'd both how you were wrong led, And we in negligent danger. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 188 The Right Divine of Kings to govern wrong. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 191 The tithes.. were gifted away to others (right or wrong, I do not presume to enquire). 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lxi, I do conjure my relative..to set right..whatever she has done wrong,..because it *is* wrong, and not right. 1865 Grote *Plato* I. vii. 299 We ought not..to act wrong or unjustly.

4. Out of accordance or consistence with facts or the truth of the case; mistakenly, erroneously; incorrectly; = Wrongfully *adv.* 2 b.

c 1200 Orrin 10060 Swillke sinndenn alle þa þatt spellenn wrang & leȝhenn. *Ibid.* 18312 Acc þatt nȝs nohht; ȝe wenenn wrang Off me. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13906 Qua will þe sla? qui sais þou wrang? 13.. *Gosp. Nicodemus* 110 ——— *Palerne* 4118 ȝif i wrong seie any word, wo worþ me euer. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 14 Ofte speke þal wrang. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 780 To Fyfe he past, to wesy that cuntre, Bot wrang warnyt off Inglismen was he. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 13 Anethum is wronge englished, of some anise. 1593 G. Fletcher *Licia* B 3 b, Wrong they doe esteeme She hath no beat. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 1355 You took my meaning wrong. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xvi. § 12 A thousand odd Reasons.. may make one Man quote another Man's Words or Meaning wrong. 1703 N. Rowe *Ulysses* IV. i, Whoe'er Brought you the Message..Mistook the Queen, and has inform'd you wrong. 1721 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 204 Thus at last a Mind..sees its Hindrances and Obstructions, and finds they are wholly from it-self, and from Opinions wrong-conceiv'd. 1792 Cowper *Judgm. Poets* 29 To poets..The nymphs refer'd the cause, Who..all judg'd it wrong. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* v. 278, I take her for the flower of womankind, And so I often told her, right or wrong, 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxiii, In spite of her c—— and assiduity she guessed wrong. 1864 Lathe *Tam. Bodkin* xxiii, Ye maun hae been wrang informed.

5. Not in the right or proper way; in an improper or unfitting manner; improperly, unduly, amiss.

c 1200 Orrin 10090 Whatt, ȝettȝ don þa hewenn folle O Drihhtin wrang to frowwenn, & wrang to ledenn þeȝȝre lif, & Drihhtin wrang to þeowwtenn. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 196 He wot inayht in euche songe, hwo singeþ wel hwo singeþ wronge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12480 Quen þat þai wrang wit lesu delt. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6487 Our gude dedys or ofte done wrang. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 107 My witte en nyȝtes wrong ȝ ware. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 264 Here worke þou all wrang. 1594 Commun in *Shelton's Wks.* (1568) 2 v b, If he [*sc.* the harper] play wrong. 1832 Tindale *Expos. 1st Ep. John* Prol. (1538) 7 b, Because we be wronge taught. *c* 1600 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 12 The south..pronounces ou, we ou, both, in my simple judgement, wrang. 1735 *Man* xiv. 5 Methods..extremely wrong calculated for promoting the real perfection ..of individuals. 1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 332 They will amend it whenever they find it works wrong. 1848 *Life Planter Jamaica* 96 The estate was wrong managed. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* I. x. 198, I asked him to come on with me...I hope I did not do very wrong. 1887 O. Wister *Lin M'Lean* 164 Every guest's uneasiness lest he drink his coffee wrong.

b. Out of proper order or due place.

1573 Baret *Adv.* s.v., To put on his shoes Wrong, *inducere calceos alicui praeposterе*. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 30 All the question..Is onl. this, if God has plac'd him wrong?

c. Clumsily; inelegantly; badly. *rare*—1.

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Misfashioned*, shapen wrong or illy.

6. *Comb.* a. With pa. ppples., as *wrong-directed*, †*-feigned*, *-grounded*, *-ordered*, *-screwed*, *-timed*.

1768–74 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 371 A dull, or careless, or *wrong-directed application. 1813 Bradshaw *St. Werburgh* II. 282 Subtall policy and *wrong-feyned guildens. 1768–74 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 80 *Wrongiety and obstinacy. *a* 1586 *Sidney's Arcadia* ——— 1922 II. 214 To heare The poore-clad truth of loves *wrong-ordred lot. 1849 Cuttler *Green Hand* xiii. (1856) 122 As if one saw through a *wrong-screwed glass. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* II. 122 Don't let a little *wrong-timed Bashfulness take place.

b. With strong pa. ppples., as †*wrong-taken*(*n*; †**wrong-gotten** *a.*, unjustly obtained; ill-gotten.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27867 Til wrang takin [þing] (*v.r.* ——— *Wycliff's Sel. Wks.* ——— 472 If he..make restit——done of wronge-goten godis. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 97 He þat ful is fylde Wip wrong take pore mennys thrift. *c* 1424 in *Anglia* VIII. 256/10 Summe men..þat hadde mykel spendid..of wrange-goten goodes. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 202 It was all of robbery & of wrong-getten gudis.

c. With vbl. sbs. and pres. ppples., as *wrong-believing*, *-going*, *-thinking*, *-voting*; also †*wrong-wresting*, = turning aside.

a 1580 Phaer *Æneid* IX. Cc iv, The winds vpcaught that stroke, and Iuno Queene the daunger brake Wrongwresting as it went. 1632 H. Bell *Luther's Colleg.* Iv. 90 Superstitions and wrong-believings. 1850 J. Brown *Disc. our Lord* I. 367 Our short-comings and wrong-goings. 1857 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* I. xlvi. 284 Depriving wrong-voting officers of their commissions. 1877 Huxley *Techn. Educ., Sci. & Cult.* (1882) 66 Clear and consecutive wrong-thinking is the next best thing to right-thinking.

Wrong (rɒŋ), *v.* Also a. 5 **wronge**, 6 *arch.* **wrongen**; β. 4– (latterly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) **wrang**, 9 *n.e. Sc.* **vrang**. [f. Wrong *a.*]

I. *trans.* **1.** To do wrong or injury to (a person); to treat with injustice, prejudice, or harshness; to deal unfairly with, withhold some act of justice from (some one).

In frequent use from *c* 1600.

α. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12868 Þen schul we ryghte, þat now vs wranges. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollards* 64 Now are lust men oft wrongid, and schrewis vnpunischid. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 266 He wyll be with me ayenst myn oncle in iche mater,..that he entendyth to wrong me in.

——— be rather glad to be so deapysed & wronged. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 623 By this Statute the sayd Irish Lord is wronged, for that he is cutt of from his customarye services. 1621 Bible *Prov.* viii. 36 Hee that sinneth against me, wrongeth his owne soule. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* iv. (1662) 73 Why should it be in the power of a subject..to wrong his Prince and his Country? 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 515 To this false Foreigner you give your Throne, And ——— Friend, a Kinsman, and a Son.

——— have been wronged. They have been driven to madness by injustice. 1839 Dickens *Nicholeby* xx, [That] day of reckoning..will be a heavy one for you if they are wronged. 1888 *Act* 44–45 *Vict.* c. 58 § 180 (*a*), An officer..who thinks himself wronged by his commanding officer.

refl. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. iii. 178 Good master Ford, be contented: You wrong your selfe too much. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 88 We wrong ourselves if we oppose their Sentiments. 1886 Tennyson *Sea Dreams* 168 His gain is loss; for he that wrongs his friend Wrongs himself more.

β. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xcii, Thus were thai wrangit that did no forfet. *c* 1459 *Reg. Aberbrothoc* (Bann. Cl.) II. 205 Ewyl myndit personis..wrangis and tribulis us. *c* 1540 *Dr. Doubble Ale* 2 b, Some wolde he shuld be hanged Or els he shulde be wranged. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 182 Ȝ suffrit him nocht in ane lot to be

——— look into thy bonie face, And say, 'I canna wrang thee'. 1788 R. Gray *Poems* 97 Some silent sang, And glow'rt as they were wranged. 1824 Jamieson *Suppl.* s.v.

b. To violate or do violence to; to treat unfairly or without due respect.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xiii. 70 So that he not wronges [*sic*] the lawe of kinde..neither therbi wronges Holi Scripture. 1592 *Sallmon & Pers.* III. i, Spare me not, for then thou wrongst my honour. 1600 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 263, I do receive

your offer'd loue like loue And wil not wrong it. 1672 Dryden *Conq. Granada* III. i, You wrong our Friendship when your Right you name. 1708 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 43 Without wronging the Rule of the Gospel. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* III. vi, I would return it, but that I must touch it that way, and so wrong my oath. 1784 Burns *1st Epist. to Davie* viii, To say aught less wad wrang the cartes, And flatt'ry I detest. 1808 Scott *Marm.* III. Introd. 112 The friendship thus thy judgment wronging With praises not to me belonging. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* VII. 221 She pray'd me not to judge their cause from her That wrong'd it. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xix, Rely on my not wronging your forbearance and considera-

2. To deprive or dispossess (a person) wrongfully *of* something; to cheat, defraud.

c 1484 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 64 [He] is injuried & wronged of his tennor in Arkenden, contrarie to right and concience. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* IV. 208 A Citizen so wrong'd Of the honor him belong'd. 1660 *Myst. Good old Cause* 13 He hath wrong'd him of a great estate. 1730 Swift *Let. to Esquire* 3 Jan., You wronged me of half my due. 1773 R. Fergusson *Ghaists* 98 The succeeding generations [to] wrang O' braw bien maintenance. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Jan., I never wronged any man of a shilling. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lx, Ask anybody..whether I have ever wronged them of a farthing. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xlv, [He wants] to wrang no man o' 's money. *ellipt.* 1807 Rowlands *Diog. Lantk* (Hunter. Cl.) 34 Haue I wrong'd thee in all my life, Mouthfull of Hay or Grasse?

3. To do injustice to (a person) by statement, imputation, opinion, etc.; to impute evil to, asperse or calumniate undeservedly; to discredit or dishonour by word or thought.

1594 Shake. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 421 *Queene.* Shall I forget my selfe, to be my selfe? *Rich.* I, If your selfes remembrance wrong your selfe. 1599 Peele *David & Bethsabe* B ij b, Woman thou wrongst the King, & doubtst his honour. 1620 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* I. 535 His first Speech should be, to clear himself from Suspicion of wronging this House. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balsac's Lett.* (vol. I) 120 Nor will I believe he was made after the image of God, lest therein I should wrong so excellent a nature. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 27 July, He says that the Duke of York is suspected..; but that he do know that he is wronged therein. 1713 Addison *Cato* III. i, Thou wrong'st me, if thou think'st Ever was love..like mine. 1782 Cowper tr. *Mme. Guion, Happy Solitude* 9 Thy creatures wrong thee, O thou sov'reign Good! Thou art not lov'd, because not understood. 1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* I. 167, I wot not what ill tongue has wronged him with you. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* vi, He wronged his uncle, however, in supposing [etc.]. 1836 Lytton *Duchess de La Vallière* III. v, My foolish fancies wronged him! 1861 Tennyson *In Mem.* I, I wrong the grave with fears untrue.

4. To cause undeserved physical harm or injury to (a person, etc.); to affect harmfully or injuriously; to hurt or damage. Now *Sc.*

1595 Spenser *Epithal.* 49 For feare the stones her tender foot should wrong. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 37 The people after dinner, warmed with drinke, are apt to wrong any stranger. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 211 One [fruit] out of curiositie I tasted of, which..malignantly bit and wronged my mouth and lips. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. P 5 The edges of his Graver..may, in a slip, touch upon the Side and Face of the next Stroak, and wrong that more or less. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 151 Without breaking or wronging the greater Roots. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 376 Those boughs also..draw all the sap to them and wrong the rest that are weaker. 1793 R. Gray *Poems* 54 A gude man loves his beast, And will not wrang him. 1826 R. Hetrick *Poems* 92 Is't 'cause some farmer's wranged his pechan At some drunk frolic.

refl. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii. 190 They..greatly erre and wrong themselues, that..surcharge their bodies with ouer-much meat. 1899 J. B. Salmond *Man Sandy* xiii. 93 Blair lauch till I thocht he wudda wranged himsel'.

†**b.** To impair or injure the quality or substance of (something); to affect detrimentally or harmfully; to mar, spoil. *Obs.*

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* II. iii. 46 If she..forgoe his loue, She both will wrong her owne estate and ours. 1630 in *Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) II. 898 All authoritie being dissolved, want of government did more wrong their proceedings, than [etc.]. 1638 W. M. *Garcia's Sonne Rogue* 149, I was constrained ..with the force of my sneezing to wrong my breeches. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* Pref., Do not

the widdow, an indifferent good play, but wronged by the women being to seek in their parts. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 30 May 1662, Her teeth wronging her mouth by sticking a little too far out. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 748 Sweet is the harp of prophecy: too sweet Not to be wrong'd by a mere mortal touch.

5. *Naut.* To outsail (another vessel); to outdo or surpass in sailing; also = Blanket *v.* 2. ? *Obs.*

1685 T. Phelps *Captiv.* 8 We had try'd his sailing all ways, but found we could not wrong him any way. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. vi, One Ship is said to wrong another, that exceeds it in swiftness of sailing. 1707 S. Brunt *Voy. to Cachigallista* 21 Our Sloop wrong'd 'em so much, that we soon came up with, and took them. 1748 Smollett *R. Random* lxv, We were very much wronged by the ship that had us in chase. 1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* I. x. 73 The officers [of an English man-of-war]..observed they wronged her so much, they could go round her if they pleased. 1867 Smyth *Sailors' Word-bk.* 739 To outsail a vessel by becalming her sails is said to wrong her.

II. *intr.* †**6.** To act wrongly, harmfully, or injuriously; to do wrong (*to* a person, etc.). *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 268 For whan that boll cherche wrongeth, I not what other thing schal rihte. *Ibid.* II. 389 God and..the world..Largesse awaiteth as belongeth, To neither part that he ne wrongeth. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 61 Our beloued sonnys Abbot and Couent..shewed þat Richard Clerke and summe oþer.., vppon tithis possessions and oþer thynges.., wrouge to þe same. 1540 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 49 The assise deliuerit that Agnes Baldon wrangit in the..breking of Katerine Falconeris beid. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. i. 219, I wrong to say so. *a* 1676 Hale (J. s.v. *Higgle*), It argues an ignoble mind, where we have wronged, to higgle and dodge in the amends.

7. To heel over. (Cf. Right *v.* 6 c.) *nonce-uses.*

1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii, The ship rights. Before one can say 'Thank Heaven!' she wrongs again.

Hence **Wro·nging** *ppl. a.*

1845 J. C. Mangan *German Anthol.* II. 60 That strong.. devotion which..saved from wronging stain the sacred garland of Homage.

Wrong-doer (rɒ·ŋdʉəɹ). Also **wrongdoer.** [f. Wrong *sb.*[2] + Doer.] One who does wrong.

1. One who commits wrongful, unjust, or blameworthy acts; one who transgresses or offends against the moral law.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xiii. (Skeat) I. 18 Suche maner badnesse, whiche is used to purifye wrong-doers, is somwhat. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. li. 223, I knowe hov all þinge is doon, I knowe þe wronge doer & suffrer. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iv. (1885) 116 That he defende his peple ayenst wronge doers inwarde bl justice. *Ibid.*, All the wronge doers of þe reaume. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 307 Wyllyam, which was..a defendor of ye pore people agayne extorcioners & wronge doers, was by them put wrongfully to deth. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxii, She resolved to spende all her yeares..in..praying for the wrong-dooer. 1612 Br. Hall *Contempt., O. T.* IV. ii. P 11 Who is so ready to except and exclaim as the wrong doer? 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 183 [That] the King..may both govern and rule..the Holy Church, and that he defend the same from wrong-doers. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* III. i, Vindictive Jove prepares his Thunder. Let the Wrong-doer and the Tyrant tremble. 1795–6 Wordsw. *Borderers* v. 2071 He forgave The wrong and the wrong-doer. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 646 They were..men of blameless life, and..were regarded..not as wrongdoers, but as martyrs. 1880 W. H. D. Adams *Wrecked Lives* Ser. I. p. iv, The unerring Nemesis of Failure dogs the footsteps of the wrongdoers.

2. *Law.* One who is guilty of a wrong, tort, or trespass; a trespasser, tort-feasor; a law-breaker.

1901 *Nottingham Rec.* (1885) III. 306 The said Mayres and brethern..shall..punyshe the wrongdoers therin in such maner as they may lawfully do. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 181 For that [action] maketh him a wrong doer. 1642 — *Inst.* II. 168 If the goods or merchandises..be ..taken away by certaine wrong doers not knowne. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 171 If any Seat..be taken away by a Stranger, the Church-warden..may have their Action against the Wrong-doer. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 182 A writ of entry in the post..only alleges the injury of the wrong-doer. 1828 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 142 For the same acts that are good, when done by the person who has right, are not sufficient in the case of a wrong-doer. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 271 Shall the master..be answerable pecuniarily to the dead man's widow, or shall it be the wrong-doer? 1911 *Times* 17 May 3/4 He..denied that the mere fact..relieved a wrongdoer from paying damages.

Wrong-doing (rɒ·ŋdʉiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also **wrongdoing.** [f. as prec. + Doing *vbl. sb.*] The action of doing wrong or amiss, or the fact of wrong being done.

1. Transgression of or offence against the moral or established law; reprehensible action or behaviour; evil-doing, misdoing; misconduct.

Rare before 19th c. In frequent use from *c* 1860.

1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 444 The Priour & Couent..desiren

Gen. 1355 To withstand the doing of wrong; to be against wrong doing, *obstistere injuriæ.* 1828–32 Webster. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 10 The idea of honour is such as to exclude all fear, except of wrong-doing. 1858 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* lxxv. II. 25 It is the rule of heaven, that wrong-doing shall bring sorrow. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, To act [thus]..would have been to betray uneasiness and confess wrongdoing.

2. A wrongful or blameworthy action.

1874 M. Creighton *Hist. Ess.* I. (1902) 82 A wrong-doing of which it felt no guilt. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* 245 [She] seemed to have suffered for every body else's wrong-doing.

Wrong-doing, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. as prec. + *doing*, pr. pple. of Do *v.*] That does wrong, harm, or ill; prone to or committing wrongful actions.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xxxl. 83 þat te celeresse sal ..be meke, and sobur, and noht..noius, ne wrangdoande [L. *injuriosus*]. 1728 Prior *Solomon* III. 205 The..violent Will of the wrong-doing Great. 1902 *Daily News* 3 Jan. 6/1 The populations of wrong-doing cities must pay.

Wronge, etc., obs. pa. t. and pple. of Wring *v.*

Wronged (rɒŋd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wrong *v.* + -ed [1].]

1. Of persons, etc.: Wrongfully, unfairly, or unjustly treated; affected harmfully or prejudicially; injured.

a 1547 Surrey *Æneid* IV. 462 The wronged bed by me of my deare sonne, Whom I defraud of the Hisperian crown. 1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* I. ii, The smaller compasse that the realme doth holde,..The nearer [is] justice to the wronged poore. 1593 Shake. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 221 The wronged Soules Of butcher'd Princes. 1620 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 278 A wronged womans reuenge. 1683 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* v. (1735) 211 Take this wrong'd horse and use her handsomely. 1709 Atterbury *Serm.* II. 221 He resolves to make Personal Restitution, ..the Wrong can be discover'd and the wrong'd Person reach'd. 1806 Scott *Winter in Lond.* II. 204 Some wronged female orphan of this old Abbey. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, Two dragon sentries..on duty over the wronged innocence imprisoned. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* viii, The knight..was charged with favour towards the wronged Britannicus.

absol. 1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* (1925) 264 The name of Christians, which verie title enioyneth a search to avoyd contention, euen by submission of the wronged. 1692 Mandman *Nav. Spec.* 187 That the strong Man be..made to restore the Wronged to his Right. 1864 [see Wronger]. 1891 J. K. Stephen *Quo Musa Tendis?* 35 When the wronger falls and the wronged wins bays.

2. Of things: Subjected to detriment, prejudice, or unfavourable bias.

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 23 The vengeance of my wronged honour. 1644 Milton *Divorce* (ed. 2) 4 He therefore..shall restore the much wrong'd and over-sorrow'd state of matrimony. 1692 Benlowes *Theoph.* II. lxi, She sees defamed Glory, wronged Right. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* v. viii, On thy wronged grave one hand appeasing lays The humble flower. 1875 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* 125 Strain a point the other way, And handsomely exaggerate wronged truth!

†**b.** Perverted. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1619 A. Newman *Pleas. Vis.* C 3 b, Besides, preferments would attend On me that I might be the end, Whereat Mens wronged thoughts might aime.

3. Diseased; having the normal functions disordered.

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg. Wks.* xv. ii. 562 Great paine in the interim torments the patient by reason of the wronged periostium. *Med. Sc.* A wronged stomach.

†**Wrongeld.** *Obs. rare.* Also **wrongeyeld.** [? f. Wrong *sb.*[1] + *yeld* Yield *sb.*] A form of tallage.

1340 in *Cal. Rotulorum Patent.* (1802) 137/2 Rex confirmavit relaxacionem Thome Comitis Norff[olk]..concessam tenentibus suis..manerij de Lopham..de quodam tallagio vocato Wrongelde. [Cf. *Ibid.* (1898) 545 Le Wrongeyeld.]

Wrongen, obs. var. Wrung *ppl. a.*

Wronger (rɒ·ŋəɹ). Also 4 **wrongar.** [f. Wrong *v.* + -er [1]. Cf. LG. *wranger* distorter.]

1. One who wrongs another; a person who does wrong or amiss; an inflicter of wrong, harm, or injury; a wrong-doer.

Freq. from *c* 1840 (often contrasted with *wronged*).

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. xiii. 549 Defenders ayens wrongers and diffamers of the..wickid world. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 1098 That he should warne the wronger to appeare..at Court, it to defend. 1594 Barnfield *Sheph. Content* xxv, If any by his fellowes be oppresst, The wronger..Shall be well bangd. *a* 1618 [see Wringer]. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 457 A great Wronger of our Nation. 1821 E. Elliot *Corn Law Rhymes* (1904) 23 In our prayers, If we forget our wrongers, may we be Vile as their virtues. 1864 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 228 Utterly unable to make out whether his client was the wronged or the wronger, guilty or not guilty. 1895 W. Watson *Purple East* (1896) 16 A charge from Him Who watches..To smite the wronger with thy destined rod.

2. An injurer or misuser *of* something.

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* ii. 152 Arme thee, traytor, wronger of renowne. 1620 Beaum. & Fl. *Faithf. Sheph.* iv. i, Learn not to be a wronger Of your word; was not your promise laid. *a* 1625 — *Noble Gent.* I. i, Do not give thy self..so open vile, So great a wronger of thy worth, so low. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Wranglands* (old Records), mingrown Trees that will never prove Timber, q. d. Wrongers of Land.

Wrongful (rɒ·ŋfʉl), *a.* Also 5 **wrangful.** [f. Wrong *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Full of wrong, injustice, or injury; marked or characterized by wrong, unfairness, or violation of equity; unfair.

c 1321 [see Wrackful *a.*[2]]. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 211 Pandolf proued þe kyng, in his disputeson, He mayntend wrongfulle þing, & wild to no reson. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 358 Of his wrongfull herte he demeth That al is wel. *c* 1445 Pecock *Donet* 94 þou3 al þis lijf be foule, peynful,..vnkynde, wrongful. ? 1520 Ld. J. Butler in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 51 There is noo thinge so unjuste or so wrongfull but our Deputie here..wolde..suffer..the same. 1553 Ascham *Germany* 10 This fact was very wrongfull of the Pope for the deede. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* I. ii, Heape not wrongfull shame On her. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 581 Nor want they lots, nor judges to review The wrongful sentence. 1810 Southey *Kehama* II. iv, In that wrongful and upbraiding tone Kehama found relief. 1859 I. Taylor *Logic in Theol.* 261 A wrongful policy may be maintained. 1879 Tourgée *Fool's Err.* xl. 301 He regarded slavery simply as an unnatural and wrongful accident.

b. Of actions: Performed, executed, or done unjustly, unfairly, or harmfully; injurious, harmful; unjust.

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 618 þe kinde of þi manhede Wolde haue wreche of wrongful dede. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 358 Thei wrongfull werres usen. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 186 3euynge occasioun of offence..by envie, false couetise, and wrongful demynge. 1500 *Ord. Crysten Man* (W. de W. 1506) iv. viii. Q iv b, In suche maner that the stroke or the betynge after yᵉ ryght may be sayd cruell & wrongfull. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. vi, Where daunger would offer to make any wrongfull threatning upon him. *a* 1667 Jer. Taylor (J.), He..must redeem his fault by alms, according to the value of his wrongful dealing. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Usurping*, a wrongful taking that which is another's Right. 1839–40 Wordsw. *Sonn.*, *'Fit retribution'* 3 She plants well-measured terrors in the road Of wrongful acts. 1877 E. R. Conder *Basis of Faith* v. 2 ... and corrupt self-interest make wrongful entrance.

†**2.** Of persons: That commits wrong; that does wrong or injustice *to* (or *against*) another. Cf. Wrong *a.* 4. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Luke* xii. 58 Lest peraventure..the domesman bitake thee to the wrongful axere, and..the wrongful axere sende thee in to prisoun. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 2504 (Trin.), þis nembrot [was]..wrongful emperour, Robber &

monqueller greet. *Ibid.* 21539 Wrooþ wex þat wrongful [*v.r.* wrangwis] kyng (= Herod). 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 25 It foloweth not that God is to any man wrongfull. *Ibid.* 1 *Cor.* 40 Yf we ryse not,..bothe you and I..are also founde wrongful agaynst god. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXVIII. x, Mighty wrongfull foes, Who do evill for good. 1614 R. HARRIS *Samuels Funerall* (1618) 88, I shall be wrongfull to conceale the other.

3. a. That is contrary to law, statute, or established rule; unlawful, illegal, tortious.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 567 To yeuen consell to aeryseu wrongful custumes and taillages. 1489 *Paston Lett.* I. 454 The wrongfull entre..made upon serteyn personys feffyd to myn use. 1483 *Nottingham Rec.* (1883) II. 395 þe seid forcible & wrongfulle entres punyssable grevously by your lawes. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 622/2 The wrongfull distrayning of any mans goodes. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 277 b, When an estranger that no right hath presenteth to a Church,..the wrongfull act..is called an Usurpation. 1789 JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Trespass*, They were the Goods of the Plaintiff, when the Taking will be wrongful. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. ix. 150 Unless the owner..will declare his continuance to be tortious, or, in common language, wrongful. 1844 MACAULAY *Sp.* 6 June (1854) 327 All the statutes of limitation..sanction possession which was originally wrongful. 1862 *Chambers' Encycl.* III. 462/1 It was regarded as treason to the king, inasmuch as it was a wrongful detaining of his free liegeman. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 36 To charge Godric with wrongful occupation of the King's land.

b. Of persons: That is such without legitimacy or right; holding office, possession, etc., unlawfully or illegally; having no legal right or claim; = WRONG *a.* 12.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. 60 In reuengement of the right against the wrongfull heyre. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 19 Charge them we cannot as..wrongfull possessors of that whereunto they haue right. 1612 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* xii. 359 His..son..to death was lastly done, To set his rightful Crown upon a wrongful head. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 263 Seizing the franchise, or ousting the wrongful possessor. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, There is a rightful heir..; and a wrongful heir, who loves her too.

†**c.** Unjustly detained. *Obs. rare*—1.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. viii. 27 The Prince..did of him requere That Damzell, whom he held as wrongfull prisonere.

†**4.** Of the nature of error; mistaken, incorrect, erroneous. *Obs. rare.*

c 1470 *Cath. Angel.* 424/2 (A.), Wrongfulle, *erroneus*. 1562 COOPER *Answ. Priv. Masse* 113 To depende vpon your wrongefull interpretacion of Christes wordes.

Wrongfully (rɒ·ŋfŭlli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a wrong or wrongful manner; wrongly.

1. In a manner contrary to the principles of justice or equity; unjustly, unfairly.

In very frequent use from *c* 1400 to *c* 1600.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 414 If þat I consente, I wrongfully Compleyne i-wys. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* iii. 14 He seith to hem, Smyte ȝe wrongfulli no man. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 275 þou seest gode lyuerys suffere wrongefully. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* I. ii. (1883) 19 He was dampned to deth wrongfully. *a* 1513 [see WRONG-DOER 1]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiv, Not to suffer such treasures to be wrongfully hidden. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balsac's Lett.* (vol. I) 121 Justice so exact ..that they will not condemn the Devil himself wrongfully. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* v. 447 Salius..pleads the prize is wrongfully conferred. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xix, When once a vile name was wrongfully or injudiciously given. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxvi, If he acted wrongfully, it was in no shape by any precept or example. 1893 MISS CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* iv, When a man was wrongfully keeping possession of many thousands.

b. In an illegal or unlawful manner; contrary to the law; unlawfully, illegally, tortiously.

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 119 All maner land that is holden by me or yn my name wrongfully. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 446 Also the people..hurten the flysshe in Swanneswel-pole be þeir wasshyng ther, which they don wrongfully. 1554 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* III. 215 b, Yf a man wrongfully take my goodes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 231 b, Possessions, which wer from you bothe torciously and wrongfully with holden. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 30 If they possess them [*sc.* their lands] wrongfully, then ought they to surrender their tytle. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxi. 113 A man might enter in to his own Land, (and dispossesse such as wrongfully possessed it,) by force. 1752–3 *Act* 26 *Geo. II*, c. 19 § 5 Where any such Goods..are wrongfully bought, sold, or concealed. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 4 When [another]..wrongfully detains one's wife, child, or servant. 1810 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) II. 1249 Plea, that..because the gate was wrongfully erected across the same, the defendant pulled it down. 1885 SIR N. LINDLEY in *Law Rep.* 14 Q.B.D. 816 The sons' goods were in this case wrongfully seized.

†**2.** In an improper fashion; incorrectly. *Obs.*

1549–50 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 91 Where they find any Ground wrought wrongfully by any man, contrary to the right and custom of the Mine. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* B ij b, Knotty Subtiltees that are bothe false, and wrongfully framed together.

b. Mistakenly; erroneously; falsely.

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 180 The Governor was right in his Conjecture, and did not suspect them wrongfully. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 123, I am forced to assume, perhaps wrongfully, that [etc.].

Wrongfulness (rɒ·ŋfŭlnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state, quality, or character of being wrong or wrongful; absence of right, equity, or justice; wrongness.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 7346 (Trin.), Nou þer may iren nor stele were meones wrongfulnes wele. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxxvii. 222/2 To abstaine from anoyance, wrongfulnesse, and violence. 1587 — *De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 264 Wit is maimed with ignorance, Will with wrongfulnesse. 1647 SEXBURGA *Anglia Redivivus* II. lv. 98 The right or wrongfulness of this that hath been said. 1826 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. i. ii. 13 The summary expulsion of all superstition, wrongfulness, and ill-will. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Apr. 488/2 [To] allege the wrongfulness of his own acquisition. 1880 MATTHEW *Wyclif's Wks.* 393 On the Wrongfulness of the Clergy holding Secular Office.

†**Wrong-half**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 wrang-halue, 5 -half. [f. WRONG *a.* 10 + HALF *sb.* 1.] *trans.* In fulling: To dress the reverse side of (cloth) in some manner.

a 1400 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 8 Qe nul folour face amesner..nul drap al moiyn auant qll solt lauee et apparaillee en manere qe home appele *Wranghalwed*. 1514 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 640 þat non of the occupacion..wrong-half no cloth but only vse dobyns or amoth tasyls. 1518 *Ibid.* 639 That no man..put no cloth to ony walker to full but if he will burle it & wranghalf it within the Cite. *Ibid.*, That hytt be well byried &..truly wranghalft.

Wro·nghead, *sb.* and *a.* Also **wrong-head.** [f. WRONG *a.* + HEAD *sb.*]

A. *sb.* A perverse or wrong-headed person; one who displays perversity of judgement.

1729 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* II. p. v, There really are such Wrongheads in the World, as will fancy Vices to be encouraged, when they see them expos'd. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 168 The Family of the Wrong-Heads is..a very numerous one. 1753 tr. *Genard's School of Man* 189 The part of..a wrongheaded acted to perfection. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 630 There is another point on which 'the Wrongheads' are equally mistaken. 1853 TRENCH *Proverbs* 57 Obstinate wrongheads, who will take no counsel except from calamities.

B. *adj.* = WRONG-HEADED *a.*

1732 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 148 This jealous, waspish, wrong-head, rhyming race. 1850 LEVER *R. Cashel* liii, Tierney is in one of his wrong-head humours.

Wrong head: see WRONG *sb.*[1] 4.

Wrong-headed, *a.* (Stress variable.) Also **wrongheaded.** [f. WRONG *a.*: cf. prec.]

1. Having a perverse judgement or intellect; persistent or obstinate in erroneous opinion; perversely or obstinately wrong.

In frequent use from *c* 1750.

1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 26 The pious fraud of some wrong-headed Christian. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xxi, The characters of these wrong-headed enthusiasts. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. i. P 5 The most wrong-headed retail dealer in the town. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xx, There's no reason she should die or live miserably because you are wrong-headed. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 10 Nov. 5/1 The furious zeal of wrong-headed bigots.

2. Marked or characterized by perversity of judgement.

1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 436 So long as we entertain a wrongheaded distrust of England. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. iv, The wrong-headed anger of her master. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* IV. I. (1861) 216 Carts that went before the horses; weather-cocks that turned against the wind; and other wrong-headed contrivances. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xviii, Wrong-headed and treacherous behaviour. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 5/3 Had her Southern Slav policy been less persistently wrong-headed.

Hence **Wrong-hea·dedly** *adv.*

1737 *Hervey's Mem.* (1848) II. 398 [He] insisted, very wrongheadedly, that he would have his directions in writing. *a* 1778 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1904) I. 30 [The headmaster] was very severe, and wrongheadedly severe. 1866 *Athenæum* 31 Mar. 427/3 The man..would act very wrongheadedly. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 23 Aug. 3/1 This was to make, wrongheadedly, a toil of pleasure.

Wrong-hea·dedness Also **wrongheadedness.** [f. prec. + -NESS.]

1. The quality or character of being wrong-headed; perversity of judgement or intellect.

In frequent use from *c* 1850.

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* p. xii, The Limits that separat Wisdom from Folly, Wrong-headedness from intellectual Sanity. 1752 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1834) III. 5 There is no end of his misfortunes and wrong-headedness. 1792 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 8 The wrongheadedness and insanity of Mr. Godwin's publication must be admitted. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxiv. (1857) 341 The wrongheadedness of a jury. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 299 [It] is enough with many to convict the inquirer of wrong-headedness and credulity. 1889 BARING-GOULD *Arminell* xli, Through youthful impetuosity and wrongheadedness I have jumped out of my social world.

2. With *pl.* A perverse or untoward act.

1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 18 Nov., He was enabled..to carry them [*sc.* the Powers] on to the main object of the war, notwithstanding their..separate views, jealousies, and wrongheadednesses.

Wronging (rɒ·ŋiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WRONG *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of doing wrong or acting wrongfully; an instance of this.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xvii. 395 If remedie of this wronging schulde be do in this wey. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 416 Without ony wrongyng of the heires..of the forsaid Thomas. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *John* iv. 51 The man of a worldely spirite prouideth for his owne commoditie at al handes, yea euen with wronging of his brother. 1604 *Ho. Comm. Jrnl.* I. 218/2 [They] were Instruments of..much wronging and oppressing the People. 1624 *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 28 April (MS.), That their shippe might..not bee overpressed with saile to the wrongeinge of her. 1699 *Gentl. Call.* (1696) 7 A wronging, a calumniating even of the very Devil. 1720 A. PETRIE *Rules Good Deportm.* (1877) 116 ... of the Magistrate of his Right, but it wrongs all fair Traders. 1887 A. L. GORDON *Ashtaroth Wln.* (1912) 253 Yet I forgive your wronging,..I call your

(rɒ·ŋlĭ), *a.* [f. WRONG *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat wrong.

1649 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) II. 22 All these paper bundles were written last summer, and are wrongish, every word of them.

Wrongless (rɒ·ŋlĕs). *rare*—0. [f. WRONG *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Devoid of, free from, wrong.

1735 JOHNSON, *Wronglessly*, adv. (from *wrongless*). [Hence in Ash (1775) and later Dicts.]

Wronglessly (rɒ·ŋlĕslĭ), *adv. rare.* [Cf. prec. and -LY 2.] Without doing wrong or inflicting injury; harmlessly.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xv, He was..dearly esteemed of her for his exceeding good parts, being honorable courteous, and wrongles[s]y valiant. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* II. 95 Some woman..may have darkened his story—darkened it wronglessly, it may be with coldness, or only with death.

Wrongly (rɒ·ŋlĭ), *adv.* Also 4 **wrongli, -liche**; 5 *north.* **wrangell**, 9 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **wrangly.** [f. WRONG *a.* + -LY 2. Cf. ON. *rangliga*, Norw. *ranglige*; MSw. *vranglika*, Da. *vrangelig*.]

1. In a wrong, undue, or inappropriate fashion; unfittingly, improperly. Also *Comb.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11069 Anens God, he ys nat ofyte Holy cherche wrongly lyue. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* a power could not resist the ready minded force of Amphialus. *a* 1830 SIR T. LAWRENCE in Williams *Life & Corr.* (1831) I. 231, I began life wrongly, I spent more money than I earned, and accumulated debts. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* ii, She..was so afraid of speaking wrongly, that she was silent. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 2 May 5/6 A wrongly-set switch.

b. Inaccurately; incorrectly. Cf. WRONGFULLY *adv.* 2.

1633 [? WARE] *Spenser's State Irel.* Pref. ¶ 3 b, He deceased at Westminster in the year 1599. (others have it wrongly 1598.) 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 13. 72 Mad Men,.. having joined together some Ideas very wrongly..mistake them for Truths. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 414 The judgement is evidently misstated, or wrongly printed. 1858 [see URINOMETER]. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 735 If any houses have been omitted, or wrongly included under any heading.

c. In an erroneous manner; by mistake or misapprehension; erroneously, mistakenly; = WRONGFULLY *adv.* 2 b.

1735 JOHNSON, *Misbeliover*, ..one who holds a false religion, or believes wrongly. 1809–14 WORDSW. *Excurs.* v. 508 What sees he but a creature..that yearns, Regrets or trembles, wrongly, or too much? Hopes rashly. 1838 JAMES *Robber* iv, You construe what I have said very wrongly. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 407 To us, rightly or wrongly, general principles appear rather as [etc.]. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Mar. 147/1 The methods..have, rightly or wrongly, largely fallen into discredit.

2. In an unfair, unjust, or inequitable manner; unjustly, unfairly; = WRONGFULLY *adv.* 1.

1340 *Ayenb.* 8 And yet sene3eþ he more þet deþ oþer purchaceþ sseame oþer harm to oþren wrongliche. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. iv. 92 False puple, That by-gyleþ good men and greueþ hem wrongliche. *c* 1400 *Cato's Morals* in *Cursor M.* App. 1672 A-gaine man rigtwise striue þou in na wise, ne wrangell him greue. 1419 *Pol. Poems* 69 To wynne wrongly wele, wod þey gan wede. *c* 1480 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 249 Many of them wrongly wandryng from the ryghtnes of fayth. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXIX. ii, Wrongly sett to worke my woe. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. v. 23 Thou.. would'st not play false, And yet would'st wrongly winne. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* v. cl, There he had his rightfull punishment, Though wrongly done; and there he lost his head. 1839–40 WORDSW. *'The Roman Consul'* 10 When they by wilful act A single human life have wrongly taken. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* viii, I have been wrongly accused.

Wrongness (rɒ·ŋnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

†**1.** The state or condition of being curved or crooked; crookedness, wryness. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wrongenesse, of werke,..*curvitas*. *c* 1475 *Ibid.* 433/2 (K.), Ryth, with owtyn wrongnesse, *rectus*.

2. Want of correctness or exactness; unsuitability or inappropriateness to a desired purpose or end; faultiness, error.

1726 BUTLER *Serm.* 306 There was a Probability, if he could see the whole Reference of the Parts appearing wrong to the general Design, that this would destroy the Appearance of Wrongness and Disproportion. 1796 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 365 Though not right in itself, it may

Education is, as nearly as may be, impossible: however, in degrees of wrongness there is no limit. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* V. 10 The Botanical lecturer was, to the extremity of wrongness, wrong. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Sept. 2/2 Her gown, even her gloves—everything that could be wrong was wrong, with the worst of all wrongness.

3. The character or quality of being morally wrong or wrongful; injustice, wrongfulness.

In frequent use from *c* 1870.

1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1834) I. ii. 100 Malice, envy, falsehood, injustice, irrespective of their wrongness [etc.]. 1843 MILL in *Nonconf.* III. 2 As if a man's sense of rightness and wrongness were nothing. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Statics* x. § 1. 128 To determine the ... actions. 1881 *Gentl. M.* ... chastising us right and ... to sit at ease.

4. a. A wrong bent, tendency, or inclination. *rare.*

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. v. 203 The Wrongnesses within themselves which the best complain of, and endeavour to amend. 1799 W. GILPIN *Serm.* II. 219 What wrongnesses do such thoughts produce..in our tempers, in our behaviour!

b. A wrongful, unfair, or faulty act or action; a wrong.

1856 Faber *Creator & Creature* III. iv. (1858) 457 All our wants..and all our wrongnesses carry their manifold burdens to God's fidelity.

Wrongous (ˈrɒŋəs), *a.* Latterly *Sc.* (and *north.*). Forms: α. 2–6 **wrangwis** (5 -wiss(e, -uise, 6 -uis), 2–5 **wrangwise** (3 wranc-), 5 -uise, 4–5 -wys(e, 4 **wrangewis**, -wys, 5 **vrangwis** (-ways, **wranwos**), 6 **wrangwus**; 3 **wrongwise**, 4–5 -wis, -wys (5 -wos, -wos). β. 5– **wrangous** (6 -oous), 5–7 **wrangus** (5 -ws, **werangus**, 5–6 **vrangus**, 9 *dial.* **wrangush**), 5 **wrangis**; 5– **wrongous** (5–6, 9 -ous, 6, 9 -oous, 5 -ys, -os, 5–6 -us). [Early ME. *wrangwis*, *f. wrang* Wrong *a.* + *-wis*, after *rihtwīs* Righteous *a.* Cf. MSw. and older Da. *vrangvis*, Sw. *vrångvis* iniquitous, Da. *vrangvis*, Norw. *rangvis*, self-conceited.

The orig. spelling *wrangwis*, *-wise*, survived until the 16th c.; the obscured endings *-wes*, *-wos*, *-wus*, *-os*, etc., appear in the 15–16th c., and *wrangous*, *wrongous*, about the end of the 15th c. Cf. Righteous *a.*]

The exact sense is doubtful in the following early example:—? *a* 1200 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 47/2 *Salebrosos J. asperos*,..wiþerwyrde, wrangwise, wo3e.

†**1.** Of persons: Acting wrongfully, inequitably, or unjustly; rascally, iniquitous, unjust. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 256 Þer inne boð..Med-ierne domes men, and wrongwise [*Egerton MS.* wrancwise] reuen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11539 Ful wrath he wex, þat wrangwis king. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxii. 12 Wrongwis men & couatous. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 116 He þat hauys right a longe vyage, ys wrongwys. *c* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Lamb* 157 Wrangous men of fals Intent. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxi. 4 He shal..punysh the wrongeous doer. 1567 *Guide & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 99 For wrangus men sall end mischeuouslie. *a* 1599 Rollock *On 2 Thess.* (1606) 19 (Jam.) So man by nature is a wrangous and vnjust iudge. *c* 1628 Bisset *Rolment* (S.T.S.) II. 262 Princes of Scotland, that war..wrangous usurperis of the crown.

absol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 837 Þe wrangwis wit þar waful wrak Þar þai biginning gan to tak.

2. Marked or characterized by wrong, injustice, or unfairness; = Wrongful *a.* 1.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 48 Þer ne scal me us naut binimen mid wrangwise doune. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7548 Godd es euer on rightwis side, Werraand again wrangwis pride. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lxv. 43 Thoro þat er rayaid..dissensiones, and werangus ordinansis. *c* 1430 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 249 Thi sharppest byndynge and wrongwys Captivitee. *c* 1490 Henry *Wallace* IX. 919 Off crystin blud to se it was gret syn, For wrangwis caus. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xxxv. 12 Bewarre of wrongeous offeringes, for ye Lorde.. regardeth no mans personne. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 583 Lufe is wrangous, and lufe is variable. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 74 It is nocht for no wrangous quarrell that we haue assembellit our selffis. 1617 Jas. I in Halliwell *Lett. Kings Eng.* (1846) II. 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds. *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1655) 52 The wrongous judgement and sentence given against them. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xxvi, The wrongeous mischief ye would noo do to the sweet girl. 1830 — *Lawrie T.* IV. vi, The issues of his wrongous suspicions.

b. Of actions, etc.; = Wrongful *a.* 1 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22276 Þan sal..sone þe anticrist come,.. his werkes wrangwis to fulfill. 1367 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 222 Wrangwise takyng..of othir men godes. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 12 A wrangwise wylnynge or 3ernynge to haue any maner of gude that vs awe noghte. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. ix. 626 Na war his mercy grete excede Our gilt and our wranguise deid. 1483 in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 108 The actioun..anent the wrangwise occupacioun of the landis. 1517 *Reg. Privy Seal Scotl.* I. 448/2 The wranguis taking or steling of certane money. 1523 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 32 In wrongus withholding of her Dowre. 1568 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 444 The alledged investing, and wrongous electioun of the said regent. *c* 1628 Bisset *Rolment* (S.T.S.) I. 8 Pilate beand..vexit in his aspreit for ..his wrangus doingis. 1907 *Times* 17 April 10/5 A Court of Session action for damages for alleged wrongous certification of lunacy.

3. Not right or justifiable in nature or application; not applicable or proper; unfitting, unsuitable.

a 1350 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 89 3e suld haue schame On me to put swilk wrangwys blame. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 551 Yonder is a fals tabyll,..It is falsly writen, I wys, This is a wrangwys thyng. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 649 Othir sum said, it was the wrangwis place. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 81 He tuke litil fore how beit he war honorit with wrangwis stile. 1567 *Guide & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 274 Allace I this is ane wrongeous way. ?*a* 1800 *Lord Ingram* xxv. in Child *Ballads* II. 129/2, I will not father my bairn on you, Nor on no wrongeous man. 1821 *Joseph the Book-Man* 32 Perchance I've play'd some very wrongous prance.

b. Wrongly directed or constituted.

1768 Ross *Helenore* 17 If Lindy chanc'd..To play a feckless or a wrangous shot. 1843 R.W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* iv. 77 In their improvement, if the State be wrongous and defective, you must raise the State to the people.

4. †*a.* Obtained by illegal, wrongful, or unfair means; ill-gotten. *Obs.*

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. xiii. 1130 Be thyft, Oppyn refe, or wrangwys gyft,..all I wan The gud. *c* 1480 Henryson *Trial Fox* 11 (Bann. MS.), Off wrangus get [*v.r.* geir] cummys wrang successioun. 1539 Gau *Richt Way* (S.T.S.) 26 Thay that haldis wrangus guidis of thair nichtburs or takis wp wrangus rentis. 1660 Hamilton in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 234 The Ministers dar not teache this restitution of wrangous gelr. *a* 1790 in Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 180 Wrangous gear can never thrive.

b. *Scots Law.* Contrary to law; unlawful, illegal.

1672 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 275 Manifest oppression and wrongous imprisonment committed upon the said complaner. 1700 *Sc. Acts Parlt.* (1823) XI. 213/2 The draught of the Act..for preventing wrongous imprisonments and against undue delayes in tryalls. 1701 *Ibid.* 278–275. 1783 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 430/2 Under the pain of wrongous imprisonment. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxx, Dougal will have a good action of wrongous imprisonment and damages agane him. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* xxii. 473 The pedlar.. raised an action for wrongous imprisonment. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 March 6/8 Pursuer claimed..damages for wrongous dismissal.

Wrongously (ˈrɒŋəsli), *adv.* In later use chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 4–6 **wrangwis-**, 4–5 **-wys-**, 5– **wrongously**, etc. (see Wrongous *a.*); also 4–7 **-lie**, 4 **-li**; 5–6 **-le**. [f. prec. + *-ly* 2.]

1. In a wrongful, unjust, or evil manner; wrongfully, unfairly, inequitably.

In very freq. (esp. *Sc.*) use from *c* 1425 to *c* 1650.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 32 It schawed..That I led mi lif wrangwislie. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 22 [People] wrangwisly slane or harmed. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 13 Noghte anely he þat wrangwysely getes, bot he þat wrangwysly haldes. 14.. *Guy Warw.* 6300 (Camb. MS.), Þou doyst vncurtesliye For to smyte me wrongeuliye. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 48 To pray for me, at I be nott wrongoslie putt to dead. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 58 If thou swere wrongwosly,..Thou art worthi grete blame. 1468 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 19 Ye tennauntes..have wrangwisly halden & occupies xviij poules feet of ye grounde. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* IV. xx. (S.T.S.) II. 123 For þe said law put þe faderis fra þe public landis quhilkis þai wrangwislie possedit. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxiv. 12 God condemneth no man wrongeously. *a* 1615 *Briese Cron. Erlis Ross* (1850) 17 He was sinistrouslie and wrongously put out of the Abbay. 1680 Alison in Thomson *Cloud of Witnesses* (1871) 62 They have ..... d me wrongously. 1756 Burson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* (1790) II. 81 The injury done to our characters..which..[have] been most injuriously and wrongously attacked. 1833 Chalmers *Const. Man* (1834) I. vi. 242 If one [child]..on returning..shall find the chair in the possession of another occupier..it has the sense of being wrongously dispossessed. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 462 Where a free man is wrongously captured or detained. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* 340 She..slapped the schoolmaster for hating me wrongously.

2. Without good ground or justification; for no sufficient cause or reason; undeservedly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27693 If þou..ever thoro envie Has anl man wreid wrangwisly. *c* 1350 *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 94 My well of my wele sa wrangwysly wryed. *a* 1400 *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 204 3e wrigh [*v.r.* blame] him wrangwisly. 1483 in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 103 The malis of the landis..excepand xli...quhilk it is allegit..that he is wrangwisly chargit with. 1563 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 53 Paull at that tyme wes..maist wrangwslie persuadit, that all that he did wes..pleasand to God. 1574 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 202 David..declarit that..the kirk wes wrangwslie and sinesterlye informit of him. 1639 *Large Declar. Late Tumults Scotl.* 377 Wherein..wee are heavily and wrongously blamed and taxed of many great offences. 1828 E. Irving *Last Days* 323 To endure reproof wrongously, for Christ's sake. 1885 Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 215 Let these folk go, for they are wrongously accused.

†**b.** Without due title, claim, or warrant.

14.. in *Anglia* VIII. 164 Hee wrangusly toke to hym þe name of an hirde-man. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 23 Ane othir callit Damas was put in the sege wrangwisly.

†**3.** Incorrectly; = Wrongly *adv.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign., Bovata Terræ*,..quhilk in sum buikes, is wrangeousllie writtin, *Davata terræ*. 1732 Monro *Anat. Bones* (ed. 2) 291 A small Cavity..where the *Recti interni minores*, commonly (tho' wrongously) ascribed to Cowper, take their Rise. 1740 in Heslop *Northumbld. Wds.* (1894) 799 Pay'd by..one of ye late stewards, his fourth part of ye money—wrongously given to Ralph Smith.

†**Wrongousness.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **wrangwisnes.** [f. as prec. + *-ness*.] The state or condition of being wrong; wrongfulness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7543 Qua-sa fightes in wrangwisnes, Him helpes noght his Irinnes. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 136 Sua stroies mare men the lesse, Wit wa and werldes wrangwisnes.

†**Wrongwende,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. Wrong *a.* + *-wende*, as in *hálwende*, etc. Cf. Norw. *rangvend.*] Distorted, turned aside.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 254 Þeo..habbeð þe nebbes wrongwende euerichon frommard oðer, hwon non ne luueð oðer.

Wrong-wise, *adv.* [f. Wrong *a.* + Wise *sb.*[1] II.] In a wrong or reverse manner.

1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xi. 99 The illuminations, that they might be seen in their true position by the people, had to be limned wrong-wise up with regard to the writing.

†**Wroot,** *sb. Obs.* In 1 **wrot**, **wrut**, **wurot**, 4–5 **wrot**, 5 **wrotte**, **wroughte**. [OE. *wrót*, = MLG. *wrote* (a mole), LG. *wrote*, *wröte*, WFlem. *wroete* (snout). Cf. next and Wort *sb.*[3]] The snout of a swine, etc.; a proboscis.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 188 *Bruncus*, wrot. *a* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 118 *Proumscida*, ylpes bile, *uel* wrot. *a* 1325 *Old Age* ii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 249 Moch me anueþ þat mi dribil druiþ and mi wrot wet. *c* 1375 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 43 Þis bestes heore wrot to him gonne beode. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiii. xxix. (Tollem. MS.), The sea swyne..picchiþ þe wrot [1535 snowte] in grauel. *Ibid.* xviii. xlii. (Bodl. MS.), With his wrotte and snowte he wrotiþ vp treen. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 587 *Grunnus*,..a grwyn, or a wrot.

†**Wroot,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wrotan**, 2–4 **wroten** (5 -yn), 4–7 **wrote** (5 **wroth-**), 4–6 **wroote**, 6–7 **wroot** (5 *Sc.* **wrotte**, 6 **wrutt**). [OE. *wrótan*, = OFris. **wróta* (WFris. *wrotte*, NFris. *wrate*, *wrôte*, *wrdt*), MLG. *wroten* (LG. *wröten*), MDu. and Du. *wroeten* (Antwerp dial. *wruten*), OHG. **wrôtôn*, *ruozôn* to plough up, ON. and Icel. *róta*, (M)Sw. and Norw. *rota*, Da. *rode*), *f. wrót* Wroot *sb.* Cf. Root *v.*[2], Wore *v.*, Wrout *v.*]

1. *intr.* To turn up soil with the snout, as swine in search of food; to dig up the earth by grubbing; = Root *v.*[2] 1. Also in fig. context.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 689 *Subige*, ... *a* 1000 *Riddles* xl.[1]. 107 Swin, bearg bellende on bocwuda won wrotende wynnum lifde. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Nime swin, þe uuille and wrote8 and sneuie8 aure fule. *c* 1205 Lay. 469 Wilde swin þat wrote8 seood þan grouen. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 83 (Ellesm.), Right as a soughe wroteth in euerich ordure; so wroteth [*other MSS. add* sche, she] hire beautee in stynkynge ordure of synne. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) v, [Wild boars] wrote in þe grounde with þe rowell of hir snowte. *c* 1440 *Avow. Arth.* xii, The bore..be-gynnus to wrote, He ruskes vppe mony a rote. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 80 In the wylderneese of this worlde where they labour & wroote in the erth. *a* 1586 Sidney *De Mornay* Pref. P 2 We..preach the kingdome of heauen, and haue our groynes euer wrooting in the ground. 1587 Harrison *England* III. viii. (1878) II. 52 Some [sheep] also will wroot for them [*sc.* saffron-bulbs] in verie eger maner. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ii. 320 That cruell Boare, whose tusks turn'd up whole fields of graine, And wrooting, raised hills upon the leuell Plaine. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 144 To lye it wheare it may bee well wroten amongst with swine and beasts. *Ibid.* 148 Rye-strawe, well wrote amongst.

b. *transf.* Of worms.

c 1308 *Erthe upon Erthe* 2 Þan schullen an hundred wormes wroten on þe skin. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 467 God wayned a worme þat wrot vpe þe rote. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23282 (Trin.), Þo wormes euer shul on hem wrote. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. 6435 Lik a werm that wrotith on a tre.

c. Of persons: To turn up the ground. *rare*—[1].

a 1325 *Orfeo* 239 Now he most bothe digge and wrote, Er he have his fille of rote.

2. *trans.* To turn over, dig or tear up, with the snout, as in grubbing or burrowing; = Root *v.*[2] 2. Occas. with *up*. Also in fig. context.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxix. 13 Hine utan of wuda eoferas wrotað. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* vi. 32–33 A were es wroght,..3owre walles with to wrote. Wrote þai sal 3owre dene. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 406 Molde-worpis þat wroten þe erþe. 1398 [see Wroot *sb.*]. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Rootes þat þei [*sc.* boars] wrote oute of þe erthe. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 148 (Addit. MS.), There entred a swyne, and the new plantes..he wroted. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 102 The Sow..wrooting vp the clots of the yearth. 1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 89 Cursed be those Swynishe senses, whiche can wroote together all rootes of wickednesse. [1602 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. iv. 1390 If his earth wroting snout shall gin to scorne.]

transf. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xv. 27 The couetous man wrutteth vp his owne house.

b. To draw or cast (earth, etc.) by grubbing.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 802 Light molde aboute and on, anoon let wroote. *Ibid.* III. 445 More [mould] a litel herre vppon hit wrote. *Ibid.* XII. 469 But wete hym ofte, and donge aboute hym wrote.

Hence †**Wroo·ting** *ppl. a. Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 79 A wroting vicus [L. *vicus corrosiuus*] is þat of his malice fretiþ [*B.M. Addit. MS.* wroteþ]. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 232 The wrotyng hogge. 1600 Tyvnne *Emblems* (1876) xxiii. 5 With wrootinge groyne..[the] warlike bore Turnes vp and betters that bad lande.

Wroot, obs. erron. form of Root *v.*[1]

†**Wroo·ter.** *Obs.*—[0] [f. Wroot *v.* + *-er* 1. Cf. Du. and older Flem. *wroeter*; WFlem. *wroster* (snout), also WFris. *wrotter* field-worker.] An animal that roots.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wrotare, *verver* (K. *verver*).

†**Wroo·ter,** obs. erron. f. Rooter [1] 1.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 299 Mollyfying the..homely crucifier of Iesus Christ crucifyde & wrooter vp of Pallestine.

Wroothe, obs. form of Wroth *a.*

†**Wroo·ting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Wroot *v.* + *-ing* 1.] The action of grubbing or rooting; the result of this, the furrow made by a pig rooting.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 147 Curatis..resten as mold-warpis in wrotynge of worldly worschipe & erþely goodis. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. 1, 1. iii. fol. 6 b, Si[illegible]ula ys a sore that is lyke a swynes wrotynge. *c* 1440 *Parv.* 534/2 Wrotynge, of beestys, *versio*. Wroty swyne, *scrobs*. 1492 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 333 Whate with wrotyng and tredyng of the saide beastes [*sc.* swine]. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 586/1 We must yoke them for breking hedges, and ringe them for wrotinge.

Wropper, dial. f. Wrapper *sb.* **Wros(se,** obs. varr. Worse *a.* **Wrot,** obs. metathetic var. Wart *sb.* **Wrotch,** etc.: see Wretch, etc. **Wrote,** pa. t. and pa. pple. (now *illit.*) of Write *v.*

†**Wroth,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 5 **wrooþ**, **wrooth**, 5, *Sc.* 6 **wrothe**, 6 **wroath.** [f. Wroth *a.*, replacing Wrath *sb.* or Wreth *sb.*] Deep anger or resentment; wrath, rage, or fury; ire.

The earlier examples are doubtful. The first may be a mis-writing for *wrethe* or *worthe*, and the [illegible] tival, as in Gower *Conf.* VI. 2696 (see Fon-[1] *prof.* 10).

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2077 All þe werd [*v.r.* werld] war to walke his wrothe to with-stand. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18289 (Trin.), Leuy for wrooþ..smet him on þe heed a dint. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* II. x. 24 Sair pwnitioun of Greikis dred scho, als Hir husbandis wroth. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* VI. 109 Thus sem the traytorous lade the king with griefe and wroth a fire. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 182 Imagin'd wroth Holds in his blood..swoine and hot discourse. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 892 The objects of our Wroth. *Ibid.* II. 737 At this the Knight grew high in wroth.

Wroth (rɔthþ), *sb.*[2] *Cornish dial.* [Cf. WRASSE.] One or other species of wrasse.

1750 HEATH *Acc. Isl. Scilly* 317 The Coast is plentifully stored..with Sea Round Fish; as..Cunner, Rockling, Cod, Wroth, Becket. 1880 JAGO *Anc. Lang. Cornwall* 314 *Wroth*, a fish known as Conner, or sea Carp.

Wroth (rɔthþ, rɔþ), *a.* Forms: α. 1 wraþ (*Northumb.* uraþ, wuraþ), 2–3 wraþ (5 wrad), 3–4 wraþ, 4 wrape, 4–5, *Sc.* 6 wrathe (4 wrahte), 4–5 wrath (4 wragh, 5 *Sc.* vrath, 6 wraathe, wraathe), *Sc.* 5–6, 8 wraith (6 wreith); 3 wræþ (wærþ), 6 *Sc.* wreth. β. 3 wroþ, 3–5 wrop (3–4 vrop), 3–5 wrope, 4–6 wrothe, 4– wroth (4 wrogh, wroght, wropt, 4–5 wroht, worth, 5 wrought, wroghth, wourthe); 4–5 wroop, wrooth, 5 wroope, 5 rowthe, 6 wrouthe. [OE. *wrāþ*, = OFris. *wrâth* evil, OS. *wrêð* (MLG. *wrede, wrēt*, LG. *wrēd*), MDu. *wrēt, wreet* (Du. and Flem. *wreed* cruel), OHG. *reid, reidi* (MHG. *reit, reide* curled, twisted), ON. **wreiðr, reiðr* (Norw. *vreid, reid*, Da. and Sw. *vred*) angry, offended, f. the pa. t. of *wrīðan* to WRITHE. Cf. WRATH *a.*]

In very freq. use *c* 1250–*c* 1450. Rare (exc. in or after Biblical usage), *c* 1550–*c* 1850, being regarded as 'out of use' by Johnson, 'nearly obsolete' by Ash, but as 'an excellent word and not obsolete' by Webster (1828–32). Revived in sense 1, esp. in formal or dignified style, *c* 1800.

1. Stirred to wrath; moved or exasperated to ire or indignation; very angry or indignant; wrathful, incensed, irate.

Rarely *attrib.*, as in quots. *a* 1225, 1375, *c* 1400.

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 7 Đe cyniȝ uutedlice miđ þy ȝeherde wurað wæs. *a* 1000 *Genesis* 2260 Đa wearð unbliðe Abrahame ȝeworþeowe wrað on mode. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, Þa þe cyng Willelm ȝeherde þæt secgen þa wærð he swiðe wrað. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ne beo þu nefre ene wraþ þer fore. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19603 And ta warrþ wraþ Herode. *c* 1205 LAY. 8268 Þa wes he wræð ful liwis. *Ibid.* 28723 Þus þe king wordede, wræð on his þonke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1599 Þof he was wrath it was na wrang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 245 Micht no man se ane vrathar man. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 1 He, as a wrath fader,..deseret vs os not hys sons. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 18 Tho gan the luge to be right wrath. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 100 The Carll..wox wonder wraith. *c* 1500 M. NISBET *Ephes.* iv. 26 Be ye wrathe, and will ye nocht do synn. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) vi. 38 For be scho wreth I will not wow it. 1590 BUREL in Watson *Coll.* II. (1709) 2 Anna, wondrous wraith, Deplors hir sister Didos daith. *a* 1776 *Lord Ingram* in Child *Ballads* II. 231/2 A' was blyth at Auld Ingram's cuming, But Lady Maisdrey was wraith.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 Al þat me was leof, hit was þe loð; þu ware a sele ȝief ich was wroð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 120 Wroð mon is he wod? *c* 1290 *Becket* 413 Þo was þe king wel of i-nouȝ, wrobere þane he was er. 13.. *Cursor M.* (Gött.), If he it wit he wil be wroght [*Trin.* wroþ]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xli. (BM. Addit. MS.), By þ galle we ben wroþ, by þe herte we ben wys. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 22 Thanne she was wrother thanne afore. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 113 Sire,..ye be wroth of som other thyng. 1526 TINDAL *Matt.* xxii. 7 When the kyng hearde that, he was wroth. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* x. 65 For he was nether wroth, nor murmured against Christ. *a* 1599 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vi. 35 There-at loue wexed wroth. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xx. 7 If he be very wroth,..euill is determined by him. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* [illegible]

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. ix, I he parson..saying, 'You behold, Sir, how he waxeth wroth at your abode here'. 1820 WORDSW. '*A Book came forth*' 7 But some..Waxed wroth, and with foul claws..On Bard and Hero clamorously fell. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 23 Then the old man Was wroth, and doubled up his hands. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xl, Sir Leicester is majestically wroth. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* XXXIII, 'I know it,' said Carroway, too wroth to swear.

absol. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 944 Selde endeþ wel þe loþe & selde playdeþ wel þe wrobe.

transf. c 1386 CHAUCER *Cook's T.* 34 Reuel and trouthe.. been ful wrothe al day as men may see.

b. Said of the Deity.

a 1200 in Earle *Land-Charters* (1888) 253 Crist..him wurðe wraþ þe hi hæfre ȝebywie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 959 Wa es me! lauerd,..þat euer i mad þe wrath. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5479 When he es wrathe þat es maker of alle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 96 Ther shal the..wrothe Iuge sitte aboue. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. I. 117 God was wel þe wrober. *a* 1450 *Myrk's Festial* I. 4 Aboue hym schall be Crist his domes-man so wrobe, þat [etc.]. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 206 The goddis war sa commovit and wraith, þat [etc.]. 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* lxiv. 9 Be not wroth very sore, O Lord. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* V. 1110 The God was wroth. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 351 He saw full many a God Wroth as himself. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* I. I. 28 Why should not Heaven be wroth?

c. With dative, or const. with prepa., as *against, at, on,* † *to,* † *toward,* † *upon,* or esp. *with.*

(a) *a* 1000 *Genesis* 403 Þonne weorð he him wraþ on mode. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxxiv. 4 Þæt ðu us ne weorðe wraþ on mode. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4814 Forr whatt iss Drihhtin me þuss wraþ? *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 Beo hit nu, þat..ti were beo þe wraþ.

(*b*) *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Þi les ðe god iwurðe wraþ wiþ eou. *c* 1205 LAY. 6369 A-nan se he wes wraþ wid eni. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 570 Corineus..wrob inou was Toward þe king Iotrin. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12293 Al tymes ye God more wrober with þys þan [etc.]. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* iii. 5 For mani men to him er wroth. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 202 Gyff ony thar-at war wrath. 1388 WYCLIF *Num.* xxiv. 10 Balaach was wrooth azens Balaam. 1412 *50 Pol. Poems* 47 First whan god wiþ man was wroh. 1483 CAXTON *Racyell* (Sommer) 535 Dyane..was wrothe and angry vpon them. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 90 Charlemayne..was wrothe to theym. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* XXVIII. 9 The Lorde God..is wroth at Iuda. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 19 She..woxe halfe wroth against her damsels slacke. *Ibid.* VII. 8 Be not wroth With ally Virgin. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* LXXXIX. 38 Thou hast bene wroth with thine anointed. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XIV, The signor, it seems, had lately been very wroth against her. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 160 Then got Sir Lancelot suddenly to horse, Wroth at himself. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 39 She, dear soul, was very wroth against him always. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 1277 Wroth with his pitiless sire, he slew himself.

fig. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 30 Þe wrang to here o right is lath, And pride wyt buxumnes is wrath.

† **2.** Marked or characterized by anger or wrath; indicative of ire or indignation. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxiii. 4 Hi..hi mid wraðum wordum trymmað. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxiii. 1 Wrathe es þi breth, ouer schepe of þi fode. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* cxxiii. 3 Her wodeship was wrope ogains us. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1706 Þay sued hym [*sc.* a fox] fast, Wreȝande hym ful weterly with a wroth noyse. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 828 (Fairf.), Sone bigan veniaunce to kithe, al was wrab þat er was blithe. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 22 Wroth woords statelye thus [he] vsed. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XII. XXXIII, Wroth fiery Knots are marshalled upon Her Forehead.

† **3.** Of a fierce, savage, or violent disposition or character; stern, truculent. *Obs.*

Beowulf 319 Ic to ðæs wille wið wraþ werod wearde healdan. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. ii. 254 Þa wearð Tiberius Romanum swa wraþ & swa heard swa he him ær wæs milde & ieþe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxvii. 5 Þa þe wydew wraðe æt dome. *c* 1205 LAY. 18583 Þis iherde Gorloi andsware ȝaf, eorlene wraðest. *Ibid.* 28503 Arður þat wraðest kinge. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 6402 Þar was mani bol and mani cuihtes wrobe [*c* 1205 bisi kempen].

† **b.** In the phrase *as wroth as* (*the*) *wind. Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 319 He wex as wroth as wynde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 328 Also wroth as þe wynde Wex Mede in a while. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13091 And he [was] wrothe as the wynde to his wale ene. 14.. *Erthe upon Erthe* 33/48 Erthe is as sone wroth as is the wynde. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 770 Golograse.., Wod wraith as the wynd, his handis can wryng.

† **4.** Of animals: Of a violent or fierce nature; irritated, enraged. *Obs.*

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1548 Se deopa sceaþ..aleð hy mid þy ealdan liþe.., wraþum wyrmum. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1043 Þe vle wes wrob, to cheste rad, Mid þisse worde hire eyen abraid. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1676 Þou..on mor most abide..With wrobe wolfes to won. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Peter*) 523 Þan wes þe hound na thing wrath, Na schup to do na man schath. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 738 As wrath as a wrape. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xii. 17 The dragon was wroth with the woman.

b. *transf.* Of the wind, sea, etc.: Moved to a state of turmoil or commotion; violent, stormy.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 262 Euer was ilyche loud þe lot of þe wyndes, & euer wrober þe water, & wodder þe stremes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 525 Wrobe wynde of þe welkyn wrastelex with þe sunne. 13.., etc. [see 3 b]. 1486 AUDELAY *Poems* 47 Wry not fro Godis word as the wroth wynd. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 19 When the wroth Western wind does reaue their locks. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* V. 661 The wroth sea's waves are edged With foam. 1852 C. B. MANSFIELD *Paraguay*, etc. (1856) 123 It rained heavily...So I was wroth, and the weather too. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1649 The most holy heart of the deep sea, Late wroth, now full of quiet.

† **5.** Bad, evil; grievous, perverse. *Obs.*

In later use in *to wrothe hele, -hails* (see WROTHER-HEAL).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 101 Ic minum fotum fæcne siðas, þa wraþan wezas, weredæ ȝeorne. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* I. (1883) 273 Hu læne and hu lyðre þis lif is,..hu tealt and hu wrað. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 57 Weila as þu were iboren wrecche o wraðe [*v. r.* wraðer] time. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 171 Þe wrecches þet ha seh..wraðe werkes wurchen. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 115 Þenne beoþ his wene ful wrobe isene. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3019 To wrobe hele al þis lond was he so milde þo. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 132 To wrothe hele that he was bore. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7872 That was him to wrothe-haile; For thei of Grece opon him throng.

† **6.** Displeased, grieved; sorrowful, sad. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 4528 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder hab vnderstonde þe lettre þat com from darries sonde. Wrob he was, & hadde pyte. 13. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 70 Ladies lazed ful loude, þo þay lost haden, And he þat wan was not wrothe. *c* 1450 *Ludus Coventrie* 389 Lombe of love with-owt loth, I fynde þe not, myn hert is wroth.

† **b.** Fearful, apprehensive, afraid. *Obs. rare*[1].

13.. *K. Alis.* 544 (Laud MS.), Vche of hem so bycom wroob; For a dragon þer com in fleen.

† **Wroth,** *v. Obs.* Also 1 wraðian, 5 wrothyn, wrothe. [OE. *wrðian* (= OS. *wrðian*, ON. **wreiða, reiða*, refl. *reiðask* (Norw. *vreidast*, MSw. *vrepas*, Sw. *vredgas*, Da. *vredes*) to get angry, f. *wrāð* WROTH *a.* Cf. *awroth* (s.v. AWRATH), WRATH, WRETHE *vbs.*]

1. *intr.* To become wrathful or angry; to manifest anger.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark x. 41 Da tenu ongunnun wraðiga of iacobe & iohanne. 14.. *Wars Alex.* 2593 (Dubl. MS.), Sitt wee hys baratours abaist & þen þe bern wrothed. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2196 Lo, sir kyng, hold this,..or ellis wroth we anon. *c* 1478 *Partenay* 2254 Again melusine wrothed he ful sore.

2. *trans.* To make wroth or angry; to enrage.

c 1450 *Myrk's Festial* I. 66 Adam loued hyr and wold not nr. 1499 *Pynson's Pars.* (Pynson), Wrothyn or maken wrothe, *Irrito.* 1621 FLORIO, *Adirare*, to anger, to wrath.

b. *refl.*

c 1225 *Seven Sages* (F) 1780 Bot thau he wrothe hym never so sore, For sothe I nylle prove hym no [illegible]

Wroth, obs. var. *wrought*, pa. pple. of WORK *v.*

Wrothe, obs. metathetic var. *wert*, WART *sb.*

† **Wrothe,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: α. 1 wraðe, 3 wraþe, 5 wrath. β. 3 wroðe, 3–4 wrope, 4 wrothe, wroth. [OE. *wrðe, f. wrāð* WROTH *a.*]

1. Wrathfully, angrily, severely; = WROTHLY *adv.* 1.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii, 14 Ondsuarede ða ðæs folces aldormon wraðe [*Rushw.* wraðe]. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 638 Eow se waldend wraðe biseneð. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* (C.) 972 Þu canst þolie wrope & stronge. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 144/209 Þat folk worþ eft wrobe i-spild, þe nule to hire [*sc.* true love] turne. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 265 Was neuer in þam both [*sc.* Wales and Scotland] terme set ne stounde, þat þei [ne] discorded wroth. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 824 Heo ..beot hire bobe eouele and wrob. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9217 The Sowdon wrothe answerd agayn. *Ibid.* 9249 The lord he smote than so wrothe That sheldе to-rofe.

2. Evilly; badly; ill; = WROTHLY *adv.* 2.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i, He þa ȝebat swiðe yfele ȝelæste, & swiðe wraðe ȝeendode mid manezum mane. *a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lvii. 2 Eft ȝe on beortan hozedon inwit, worhton wraðe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Þese þreo þing noteð ech man on two wise, wel, and wroðe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1360 Wymmon may pleye vnder cloþe hweþer heo wile wel þe wrobe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 729 Ver þou art mi doȝter..I loued þe one; þou ȝelst nou my loue wrobe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 20 Þet þou hest oft alþes euele and wrope yloked hire festes. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 73 He clothed him and fedde hym yuel and eke wrothe.

3. Sorrowfully; sadly; = WROTHLY *adv.* 3.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* (J.) 423 A wintre þu singest wrobe & yomere. *c* 1275 *Simeons Bewaru* 96 in *O. E. Misc.* 75 Per-fore heo schule siche And in halle amyche Acoryen hit ful wrabe.

† **Wrother-heal,** *sb.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3 wraðer-, 3–4 wreþer-, 3 wroðer-, 3–5 wrother-hele (5 wrothir-, wrothher-); also 3 -heale, 4 -hale, -haylle, 4–5 -hail(e, -hayl. [= OE. *(*tō*) *wrðre hǽle* (*hǽlu, -o*): see WROTH *a.* and HEAL *sb.* 2 b (HELE, HAIL *sb.*[2], HALE *sb.*[1]). Cf. GODER-HEAL.]

A. *sb.* **a.** *To wrother heal* (*hele*, also *hail, hale*), with evil fate or fortune; with or to misfortune, injury, calamity, or destruction.

c 1205 LAY. 29556 Þer heo iwurðen to, to wraðere hele. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 108 Go ut ase dude Dina,..to wrother hele. *c* 1275 *xi Pains of Hell* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 148 To wrobere hele he wes ibore. *c* 1305 *Pilate* 187 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 116 He swor his more oþ anon þat he to wrobere hele per com. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 120 For to wrotherhele was he wrouȝte þat neuere was ioye shaped. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 209 Alas! it tourned to wroth-her-heyle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21923 (Trin.), To wroberhele he ȝaf vs wit.

b. With dative (noun or pronoun) of person, etc.

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 10 Ah crist to wurðmunt, ant him to wraðerheale, þe rode taken arudde hire readliche. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 43 Þe ich font & habbe ifolhet me to wraðer heale. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7282 So þat harald was king to wroberhele þe kinedom. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 695 What raue þe vayle, þat in yhour temple hang? vs all to wrotherhail. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 20 Out of wrong heo wox to wrobere hele inouye. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4260 He sayled in with a feble sayl And þat was him to wrotherhayl.

c. With genitive pronoun. *rare*[1].

c 1205 LAY. 490 Mid þrote he spilede: To wrober heore hele habbeð heo such werc idon.

B. *adv.* Unfortunately; disastrously.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16477 Ful wrather-hall to min bihoue haf i tan þis mone. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 109 Wrober hele was Iudas born, For þurw þat sinne he was lorn. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 208 Wrober hele come þou her, I rede þou ȝeld op þi brond. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1759 Þou sekis fraward Sichim þi-selfe wrothir-halle.

Wrothful, *a. Obs.* or *arch.* [var. of WRATHFUL *a.*, after WROTH *sb.* or *a.*]

An app. early example in R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 37 is prob. an error for *wrathful* or *wrethful.*

1. Of persons: Full of wrath; angry; = WRATHFUL *a.* 1.

c 1300 *Commmycacyon* (W. de W.) C], Alas why haue I wrothfull ben? 1535 COVERDALE *Nahum* I. 2 A taker of vengeaunce is ye Lorde, and wrothfull. 1546 *Gager's Progn.* d ij b, The warrier & wrothful Mars, Lord of this yere. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 34 The knight yet wrothfull for his late disgrace,..him..sore smote. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* V. vi, Wrothful at such arraignment foul, Dark lower'd the clansman's sable scowl.

b. Prone to wrath.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* vii. 8 His men..are stronge and of a wrothfull stomack.

2. Proceeding or arising from wrath; characterised by or expressive of anger.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxviii. 24 Let thy wrothfull displeasure take holde of them. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 165 b, His irefull hart straight braided out wrothful wordes of wrake and reuenge.

Hence **Wro·thfully** *adv.*, **Wro·thfulness.**

a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) P ij, He stryueth and quakyth *wrothfully. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxiii. 3 When they were so wrothfully displeased at vs. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 16 But..(quoth he halfe wrothfully) Where is the bootie? 1855 THORPE tr. *Beowulf* 6126 Then was the quarrel wrothfully avenged. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* x. 22 Pryde was not made for man, nether *wrothfulness for mens children.

† **Wro·thly,** *a. Obs.* In 4 wrathli. [repr. OE. *wrðlic*, f. *wrāð* WROTH *a.*] Angry, violent.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3462 Wit wrathli [*Gött.* wrethly] wrastes alper writh.

† **Wro·thly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: α. 1 wraðlice, 3 wraðlicne, *Orm.* wraþelis, 4 wrathli, -ly, β

Sr. **wraithly**. *β.* 3 **wroð-, wroðeliche**, 4 **wropeliche, -lich, wroplich, wrepli, -ly**, 4–5 **wropely, wrothely**, 5 **wroothly**. [OE. *wrāðlīce* (= MLG. *wretliken*, MDu. *wredelick*, Du. *-lijk*), f. *wrāð* WROTH *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a wrathful, bitter, or cruel manner; wrathfully, angrily, furiously.

a. Beowulf 3062 Þa sio ræhð rewearð rewrecen wraðlice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15832 3iff þatt Crist swa wraþeliȝ Draf menn ..Ut off þatt temmple. *c* 1205 LAY. 7379 Cezar lash þis writ, and he hit wraðliche bi-heold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3058 Quen he of his cuming herd Ful wrathli gains him he ferd. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* l. 3 It is wib swa mykil delaynge & swa wrathly, þat it is noght worth þat þai doe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 303 Forton..turnyt hyr bak one hym wrathly. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 237 Wallace, ..Sumpart amowet, wraithly till it..went. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 160 Wondirly wraithly he wroght, and all as of were.

β. c 1205 LAY. 485 Þe king nom þat writ on hond & he hit wroðliche bi-heold. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1166 The leuedi loked opon him tho Wrothlich. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 132 Þay wakened wel þe wropeloker, for wropely he cleped. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 68 Wrobliche he wrong his fust. 1481 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 151 He wroothly wente out of hir compaignie. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 9 Oure Lord..shoke thre speres wrothly.

2. Badly; ill. *rare.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Man hit noteð wroðeliche, þe mid zepshipe bicherð his emcristen. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 33 (Cott. MS.), 3if þu art unwurðliche & wraðeliche ilatet.

3. Sadly; sorrowfully. *rare*—1.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. prose I. (1868) 7 Þus þis compaygnie of muses I-blamed casten wropely [L. *maestior*] þe chere adounward to þe erþe.

Wroth money. *local.* [variant of WRATH MONEY.] (See quots.)

1730 THOMAS *Dugdale's Warwick.* I. 4/2 A certain rent due unto the Lord of this Hundred [of Knightlow], called Wroth money, or Warth money,..probably the same with Ward penny. 1864 CHAMBERS *Bk. of Days* II. 571/2 The payment..of Wroth or Ward money for protection, and probably also in lieu of military service. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Nov. 5/3 The [annual] custom of paying 'wroth money'..at Knightlow Cross.

So **Wroth silver** (also **Wroth penny**). *local.*

1864 CHAMBERS *Bk. of Days* II. 571/2 The payment of this Wroth Silver. 1893 in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. IV. 497 The Duke of Buccleuch..observed..the curious custom of collecting.. 'Wroth Silver', or 'Wroth Penny', from various parishes. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Nov. 10/1 The Duke..demands 'wroth silver'..from some thirty parishes, and the nominal amounts are .. placed in a stone trough on Knightlow Hill. 1900 *Ibid.* 12 Nov. 10/1 The Duke['s] ..annual collection of 'Wroth silver'..is a curious old custom, carried on for centuries, and observed each year, on November 11.

† **Wro·thsome**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. WROTH *a.* + -SOME.] = WROTHFUL *a.* 1.

c 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1203 Thou hast bene so waywarde, so wranglyng, and so wrothsome.

Wrothy (rɒ·þi, rɒ·þi), *a.* [f. WROTH *a.* + -Y 1. Cf. MDu. *wredich* (Du. *wredig*) cruel.] Wrathful, angry.

In 19th c., revived under the influence of WRATHY *a.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 157 Mowrnynge and wrothi thow shalte reme. *Ibid.* 209 Tho men..bene wrothy and hugely angry. 14.. *Wheatley MS.* (1921) 28 In my flesche ther is no hele In presence of thi worthi [*bread* wrothi] face [L. *a facie tre tue*]. 1839 LEVER *H. Lorrequer* v, A more wrothy gentleman..it having rarely been my evil fortune to forgather with. 1869 TROLLOPE *Vicar Bullhampton* xvii, Gilmore..was waxing wrothy. 1901 RODKINSON *Talmud* VIII. p. xiii, Ezra was wrothy that the Torah should be given through him.

Hence **Wro·thily** *adv.*; **Wro·thiness**.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 227 A grete fleshy shorte neke tokenyth wrothynesse like as a bull is. 1898 N. MUNRO *Splendid* XXV. 257 [He] would ruffle up wrothily with blame for my harping on that incident.

Wrotte, obs. var. WART *sb.*

Wrough, *interj. rare*—1. [Imitative.] Used to represent the snort or grunt of a hog or pig.

1589 [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrat* F j b, A hogge..lifts vp his snoute into the ayre, and cryes wrough, wrough.

† **Wrought**, *sb. Obs. rare.* In 3 **wrohte**, 4 **w(h)rouhte**. [Early ME. var. of *wruhte* (OE. *wryhta*), WRIGHT *sb.*1] = WRIGHT *sb.*1 1, 1 b.

c 1275 LAY. 16969 Wrohtes, þat mid axe couþen weorche. *Ibid.* 21134 Wigar þe wittye wrohte. *a* 1333 W. HERKERET in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 22 Holy wrouhte of sterres bryht. *Ibid.* 27 Louerd god almyhti, Whrouhte of alle þinge.

Wrought (rɔ̄t), *ppl. a.* Forms: 3–4 **wroȝt**, 5–6 **wroght**, 5– **wrought** (6 *arch.* **wroughten**), 5 **wrout**, 7 **wrote**. [ME. *wroȝt*, var. *worht*, pa. pple. of *wirchen*, *wurchen*: see WORK *v.*] Worked into shape (or condition).

Freq. as the second element of combs., as *fine-*, *finely-*, *gold-*, *hammer-*, *hand-*, *hard-*, *high-*, *highly-*, *machine-*, *thick-*, *thin-*, *well-wrought*: see these words, and cf. IN-, FOR-, OVER-, UNWROUGHT *ppl. adjs.*

I. †1. Created; shaped, moulded. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2606 Teremuth..bad it ben to hire broȝt, And sa3 þis child wol faire wroȝt. *c* 1400 [see WELL-WROUGHT *ppl. a.* 1]. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 126 God truly is infinit of gretnes,..of all wroght kyndes vnconsauyd.

b. That is made or constructed by means of labour or art; fashioned, formed.

Cf. OE. *hand-worht*, = mod.E. 'hand-wrought'.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1381 With a wonder wroȝt walle wruxeled ful hize. 1388, *c* 1400, etc. [see WELL-WROUGHT *ppl. a.* 1]. 1604 in *Archæol.* (1806) XV. 162, 3 pare of white boote hose. 1662 R. READ *Wecker's Secr. Art* 220 Lay with every bed of your wrought and drawn Glass [illegible] of the said pieces of Glass. 1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 289 A rich curious-wrought gold chain. 1696 DERHAM *Clock-maker* 4 The wrought piece which covers the Balance..is the Cock. 1700–1 *Act* 12–13 *William* c. 4 § 1 For want of Assayers.. to assay and touch their wrought Plate. 1739 *Act* 12 *Geo. II*, c. 26 § 6 Any wrought Seal or Seals with Cornelian or other Stones set therein. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 165 After them appear'd..a fair wrought car. 1850 ROSSETTI *Blessed Damozel* ii, Her robe..No wrought flowers did adorn. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* 207 Most elegantly wrought earthen vases. 1890 YOUNG *Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* 506 Handsomely chased and wrought silver garlands.

c. Shaped, fashioned, or finished from the rough or crude material; cut.

1560 BIBLE (Bishops') *Numb.* xxxi. 51 Moses & Eleazar.. toke the golde of them, and all wroght iewels. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 134 To him be the wroughten mazer alone. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Chron.* xxii. 2 Hee set masons to hew wrought stones. 1632 BENLOWES *Theoph.* III. xxvi, Her lips rock-rubies, and her veins wrought sapphires show. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 623 The water..mimick'd the wrought oaken beams. 1842 SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 355 The country exports..the marble of Carrara, both wrought and unwrought. 1854 S. G. MORTON *Types Mankind* 357 Large quantities of wrought bones, human and animal.

† 2. Artificial; specially prepared. *Obs.*

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Govt. Lordsh.* 83 He sholde..caste vp-on his heued wroght waters attempred. *Ibid.* 85 Thre Rotes of wroght hony. [tr. L. *artificialis.*]

3. a. Of textile materials, esp. silk: Manufactured; spun. (Cf. RAW *a.* 2 a.)

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 506/1 Wrought Silke, throwen Ryband and Laces, falsely..wrought. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 21, All other maner of Sylkes, aswell wrought as rawe or unwrought. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 336 The riches of the Kingdome are especially silkes, wrought and unwrought. 1694 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 18) I. 37 Merionethshire..abounds with Sheep, Fish, Fowl, and wrought Cottons. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Silk*, The silks brought from Italy are partly wrought, and partly raw, and unwrought. 1842 HAYDN *Dict. Dates* 472 Wrought silk was brought from Persia to Greece 325 B.C.

b. Decorated or ornamented, as with needlework; elaborated, embellished, embroidered.

1458 *Lincoln Diocese Doc.* 67 [A] Wrought bordcloth cum j. parl towalles de eadem. 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 155 Item, j. large wrought Bordeclothe. 1552–3 in Feuillet[illegible]*s Edw. VI* (1914) 104 Purple wrought vellet. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xiii, A light taffeta garment, so cut, as the wrought smocke came through it in many places. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. iii, As a Millaners wife [concenls] her wrought stomacher with a smokie lawne. 1599—*Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. iv, A piece of my wrought shirt. 1614 HOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 50 A veary fair wrought purse. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1682) 609 A curious wrought Tapestry. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2152/4 A green wrought Sattin Ribon. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 91 P 3 My Mistress presented me with a Wrought Nightcap. 1711 *Hermit* 25 Aug. 2/1 The old Tapestry Hangings and Wrought Bed [must be] pulled down. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* II. xix, A wrought Spanish baldric. *c* 1816 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* vii. 45 [She] had on a wrought muslin frock. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xi, Beds..with wrought old English hangings crusted with thick work. 1851 [see WRISTLET 2].

transf. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 310 A third sort of Melons..are wrought or embroider'd, having amidst the embroidery red, yellow, and green spots.

c. Of leather, etc.: Prepared by dressing; dressed.

1542 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 454 Quhat craftisman that braks the samyn [act], the rest of his wrought ledder to be escheitt. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 130/1 *Linum factum*,..wrought or hitchild flax.

d. Of articles: Made, manufactured, or prepared for use or commerce.

c 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1914) 518 Pilchars and Red herringe, wrought Lime. 1584–5 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 16 § 1 Any Artificer using to work Leather into wrought Wares. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Sept. 1637, Some habits of curiously-colour'd and wrought feathers. 1757 *Rest. Importation Bar Iron* 19 The Americans..would..take more wrought Goods from the British Manufacturers. 1803 MALTHUS *Popul.* III. 459 The whole value of the wrought commodity. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 444 Wrought rosin, or shoemaker's rosin. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 865 The traders.. purchase the wrought articles from the heads of the lapidary workmen.

4. a. Of metals: Beaten out or shaped with the hammer or other tools.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xliv. 13 Hir clothinge is of wrought golde. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Argentum factum*,..wrought siluer, as plate, coyne, &c. 1687 MISGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Ouvré*, Wrought Silver,..wrought Brass. 1696–7 *Act* 8–9 *William III*, c. 34 § 1 Every Hundred weight of Tin wrought commonly called Pewter. 1717 BERKELEY *Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 555 Gold and silver, wrought and unwrought, found along the side of the little sea. 1819 SHELLEY *Fragm., Tale Untold* 3 Empty cups of wrought and daedal gold. 1885 *Mag. Art* Sept. 459/1 A circular plate of thin wrought bronze.

Comb. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 111/2 A wrought-gold bracelet.

b. *Wrought iron*, slag-bearing malleable iron (see IRON *sb.* 1 and MALLEABLE *a.* 1).

1703 *Act* 2–3 *Anne* c. 18 § 12 Wares made of Wrought Iron. 1747 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. II. 371 Cannon..cast so soft as to bear Turning like wrought Iron. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 1/2 The rails are of wrought-iron,..fixed in cast-iron chairs. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Mining. Dict.* 473/2 Wrought iron is valuable as a gun material. 1882 [see IRON *sb.*1 2 a].

Comb. 1809 W. ELLIS *Polyn. Res.* II. 298 A wrought-iron nail..four inches long. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Wrought-iron Furnace*,..[a] puddling-furnace. 1889 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* xi, Great old wrought-iron gates.

c. Of metal-work: Made by hammering or hand-work (in contrast to *cast*).

1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xii, His learned distinctions between wrought scissors and those of cast-steel. 1810 in Ure *Dict. Arts* (1839) 675 Cut nails are full as good as wrought nails. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* II. § 20 Ornaments..of cast-iron..are always distinguishable, at a glance, from wrought and hammered work. 1883 W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Worcs.* 2 The wrought work of ploughs and..blacksmiths' work of all kinds.

† 5. *transf.* Worked up; rough; agitated. *Obs.*

1588 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 33 The wind still continuyng..,and the seas sore wrought. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 368 The billowes of a wrought sea. 1604, 1702 [see HIGH-WROUGHT *a.* 1].

6. a. Of coal: Hewn from the bed or seam; won.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 28 The Horse Engin.. serves..to draw up the Wrought Coals. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 295 *Wrought coal*, etc., worked or *gotten.*

b. Dug; moved by digging, etc.

1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 229/1 As the shelving banks close in there is a small of the wrought earth.

7. Of animals: Employed in labour; worked.

1785 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Ox*, Wrought Oxen in the Seasons they are put to labour, ought to be fed with Care.

II. With adverbs. 8. *Wrought-off*, worked off; printed.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. P 7 He uses one of the Wrought-off Forms. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 409 Then we impose from wrought-off Forms. 1838 TIMPERLEY *Printers' Man.* 214 Wrought-off heaps [of paper].

9. *Wrought-up*, stirred up; excited or stimulated; enlivened.

1810 CRABBE *Borough* XV. 67 He knew..How to make all the passions his allies, And..To watch the wrought-up heart, and conquer by surprise. 1823 MRS. HEMANS *Siege of Valencia* I, The deep..feelings wakening at their voice, Claim all the wrought-up spirit to themselves. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* III. xi, Excited as I had been by my painful and wrought-up interest in his recital.

Wrought, pa. t. and pa. pple. of WORK *v.*

Wrought(e, erron. ff. *rought*, obs. pa. t. of REACH *v.*1 **Wroughte**, var. WROOT *sb. Obs.*

Wrouȝt(e, Wrouht(e, Wrout, etc.: see WORK *v.*

Wrou·ghter. *Cant.* (See quot.)

1870 B. HEMYNG *Out of the Ring* 31 The Welshers' Vocabulary... *Broad pitcher*, a man playing the three cards. *Wroughter*, the man who plays them. *Ibid.* 33, 35.

Wrout, *v.* Now *dial.* [var. of WROOT *v.*: cf. ROUT *v.*3] *intr.* = WROOT *v.* 1.

1530 in *Ancestor* XI. (1904) 183 Crest a boore silver wrouting in a bushe of nettelles vert. 1530 PALSGR. 786/1, I wroote, or wroute, as a swyne dothe, *je fouille du museau.* 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 355 Ledd with th' affection, th' onlie Springe and Roote, that all godlie Goverment clerelie wroutethe owte. 1624 SANDERSON *Two Serm.* (1628) 46 Like Swine.., we grouze vp the ake-cornes, and..lie wrouting & thrusting our noses in the earth for more. 1825–63 in dial. glossaries (N. Cy., Nhp., Dorset) s.v.

Wrow(e, obs. varr. WRAW *a.*

Wrox (rɒks), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 7 **wroxe**, 9 *dial.* **rox.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* To cause to decay or rot.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improver* vi. 34 So cut the Turfe, that the Soard may have all the Winters frost to wroxe, and moulder it. *Ibid.* xx. 119 For your Horse Dung..let it be but well Wroxed or Roten.

2. *intr.* To decay, rot. *dial.*

1847 HALLIWELL, *Wrox*, to begin to decay. *Warw.* 1854–1890 in dial. glossaries (Nhp., Leics., Warw., Glouc.) s.v. *Rox.*

Wroye(r, varr. WRAY *v.*1, WRAYER *Obs.*

† **Wruck**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [Of obscure relationship. Cf. RUCK *v.*3] *trans.* To throw *up* on shore; to cast ashore.

? *a* 1600 *Arthur & King of Cornwall* 187 (Percy Fol. MS.), One litle booke He found..at the sea-side, Wrucked upp in a floode.

Wruȝen, wruhen, obs. pa. t. pl. of WRY *v.*1

Wruhte, obs. f. WRIGHT *sb.*1

† **Wrung**, *sb. Obs.*—1 [f. *wrung*, pa. pple. of WRING *v.*] An affection in horses caused by straining of the withers.

1607 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* C 6 b, The Blood-shot, the Wrung in the Withers, the straine.

Wrung: see RUNG *sb.*, WRING *v.*, WRONG.

Wrung (rʌŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 4–5 **wrongun, -en**, 5 **wronge**, 6 **wrong**. [pa. pple. of WRING *v.*]

1. Subjected to wringing, twisting, or squeezing; pressed, squeezed.

1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xxiv. 10 Balac wrooth ayen Balaam, with wrongun hoondis seith [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 51 The handes of the sayd Hun were wrong in the wristes, wherby we perceyued that his handes had been bounde. 1611 FLORIO, *Torcifecciolo*, the dregges of wrung Grapes. 1678 RYMER *Trag. Last Age* 82 The Nurse with wrung hands lies at Phedra's feet.

b. *transf.* Of fabrics: (see quot. 1904).

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 March 2/2 An overdress of green wrung chiffon. 1904 *County Gentleman* 25 June 1966/3 Wrung muslin is the smartest fabric for tea-gowns..[It] looks as if it had been washed and had been wrung through the hands.

† 2. Of a towel. *Obs.*—1

Meaning not clear; appr. opposed to *plain.*

1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 155, ij schorte Wronge Towellys. It[em], ij longe Playne Towellys.

3. That has suffered or undergone distress, grief, or pain; racked, distressed.

1730 THOMSON *Winter* (ed. 2) 289 The tender anguish nature

shoots Thro' the wrung bosom of the dying man. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* III. 365 Death had..taken thy wrung spirit home. 1842 James *Brigand* xxv, The refuge of many a wrung and broken heart.

b. Marked by distress, worry, or pain.

1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib. Troub.* III. xix, His face ..wore a wrung expression. 1882 *Mrs. Rowen's Temptation* II. 188 Her nervous and wrung appearance.

Hence **Wru'ngness.**

a 1873 J. Hinton in Hopkins *Life & Lett.* (1878) 273 There are two things awry;..the acting for self (a distinct tension and wrungness); and [etc.].

† **Wrung-head,** erron. f. Rung-head. *Obs.*

1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 165 *Wrung-heads*, that part between the Floor-timber Head and second Foot-hook Heel, which, if a Ship lies on the Ground, bears the greatest Strain. [Hence in *Rees' Cycl.*, Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, etc.]

† **Wrung-staff,** obs. var. Wring-staff.

1846 Young *Naut. Dict.* 372 Wrain-Staff, Wrung-Staff.

Wrusum, Wrutt, obs. varr. Worsum, Wroot *v.*

† **Wru'xled,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare.* [Obscure: relationship to Wrixle *v.* is not clear.]

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1381 A wonder wro3t walle wruxeled ful hi3e. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2191 Wel hisamez þe wy3e wruxled in grene Dele here his deuocioun.

Wry (rəi), *sb.* Also 5–6 **wrye.** [f. Wry *v.*[2] or *a.*]

† 1. *On* or *upon wry*, = Awry *adv. Sc. Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 705 Thair bemys strekit air, Owthir all evin, or on wry. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxiii, To the colde stone my hede on wrye I laid. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 175 (Maitland Fol. MS.), With hingit luik ay wallowand vpone wry. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 482 Scho ..turnis hir face and luikis vpoune wry.

2. A twisting or tortuous movement.

1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* VII. xxii. 674 The bitch being much lesse than the dogge..may haue some aduantage.., and so in turnes, slips, and wries, may get much ground. 1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* v. xiii, The Sea flows and ebbs with crooked wry.

3. Distortion caused by refraction. *rare*[−1].

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* vii, You make full sure to prog him [*sc.* a loach] well, in spite of the wry of the water.

Wry (rəi), *a.* and *adv.* Also 6 **wrye,** 6–7 **wrie, 6 wrey.** [f. Wry *v.*[2] Cf. prec. and Awry *adv.* and *a.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Of the features, neck, etc.: Abnormally deflected, bent, or turned to one side; in a contorted state or form; distorted.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xi. 4 b/2 Henry Erle of Lancastre with the wrye necke, called Torte colle. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1162 For they their members lakked, fote and hand, With visage wry and blind. 1542 Elyot, *Mirionet*, men hauynge wry mouthes. *a* 1613 Overbury *Characters, Flatterer*, Hee will halt or weare a wrie necke. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Horace, Art Poet.* 52 With faire black eyes and haire, and a wry nose. 1663 *Unfort. Usurper* I. iii. 6 In wry-neck'd Nero's Court, a wry-neck was the mode. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4097/4 He likewise cures Hair Lips and Wry Necks. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 138 Some of the disqualifications for priest's orders were..wry-noses [etc.]. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* XXXVIII. s.v., A remedy for wry-necks. 1860 A. Leighton *Trad. Scot. Life* 224 The round cheek and wry lip, betokening his love of fun. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* i, Their dreadful stare could dart cramp, or rickets, or a wry mouth at any boy.

b. Temporarily twisted, contorted, or writhed by reason or in manifestation of disrelish, disgust, or the like. Freq. in the phr. *to make* (*draw, pull*) *a wry face* or *mouth* (*wry faces* or *mouths*).

1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Eunuch* IV. iv, Howe the hangman makes a wrie mouth. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, The bitter bob in wit; the Reuerse in face or wry-mouth. 1611 [see Wry-faced *a.*]. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 208 Causing..a certain Buffoon..to make wry-faces and shew a thousand postures. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* (1708) Pref., Saints..with screw'd Faces and wry Mouths. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 June, Flap your hand, and make wry mouths yourself. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. x, With a wry face..[he] read aloud, as follows. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. I, [He] made a wry face, and returned it. 1763 [see Wriggling *ppl. a.* 2]. 1802 Beddoes *Hygëia* III. 55 Hardly daring to draw a wry face at any thing offered them. 1839 Dickens *Nicholeby* viii, Making a variety of wry mouths indicative of anything but satisfaction. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. i, Physic to be quickly swallowed with wry face. 1884 Mrs. C. Praed *Zéro* xiii, Each guest drank, made a wry face.

c. Of a smile, etc.: Made with a twisting of the features expressing dislike or distaste; 'twisted'.

1823 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxvi, He only shook his head with a wry smile and declined a verbal answer. 1899 E. W. Hornung *Dead Men* xviii, He turned to me with a wry smile.

2. That has undergone twisting, contortion, or deflexion; wrung out of shape; twisted, crooked, bent.

1552 Huloet, Wrye, or disfourmed, or out of fashion, *distortus*. 1562 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 6 b, The membre becommeth lame and wrye. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* viii. (1596) 113 Such..men..take dislike at any one wry plait of their garment. *a* 1613 Overbury *Characters* Wks. (1890) 90 Her wrie little finger bewraies carving. 1622 R. Preston *Godly Man's Inquis.* 47 Peter was shent for walking with a wry foote to the Gospell. 1751 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* II. xiii. 241 A wry Plait in the Sleeve of his Shirt. 1832 *London Phil. Mag.* Feb. 133 The two pairs of planes, into which the wry quadrilateral was divisible. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* (1881) 79 The timbers of their huts lean to an upright in wry splinters.

transf. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 28 For Age and Winter accord full nie, This chill, that cold; this crooked wry. 1776 Da Costa *Elem. Conchol.* 211 The gutter or beak..bends or falls on the back, in a wry manner. 1896 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Oct. 5/1 Their chanting in church is so wry that it makes you start.

b. Deflected from a straight course; inclined or turned to one side. Also in fig. context. *Wry look*, one expressive of displeasure or dislike. So *wry twist* (of the features).

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xviii. 330, I take to witnesse the happiest Courtiers that are, whether one wrye looke of their Prince do not sting them more at the heart, than [etc.]. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 712 As Tavy..among the woods doth wander, Losing himselfe in many a wry meander. 1615–6 Bois *Wks.* (1630) 183 If he run in wrie-wayes and bye-wayes, the more his labour. 1729 Atterbury *Serm.* (1734) II. 77 Every wry Step, by which he imagines himself to have declined from the Path of Duty. 1748 Cowper *Verses written at Bath* 28 Flatt'ning the stubborn clod, till cruel time,..on a wry step, Sever'd the strict cohesion. 1785 Johnson, *Contortion*,..twist; wry motion; flexure. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* I. xxx, Here he..said to the stranger with his wryest twist upon him, 'Your commands'. 1864 C. Geikie *Life in Woods* v. 75 My eldest brother..had cast many wry looks at the thick logs. 1872 Gibbon *For the King* xxii, His features gave a wry twist.

fig. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* Wks. 1912 II. 226 Sometimes to her newes of my selfe to tell I go about, but then is all my best Wry words, and stam'ring, or els doltishe dombe.

3. Of words, thoughts, etc.: Contrary to that which is right, fitting, or just; aberrant, wrong; cross, ill-natured.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, He's one, I would not haue a wry thought darted against. 1642–8 Milton *Divorce* II. iii, Thus were [they]..wont to thinke, without any wry thoughts cast upon divine governance. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* VIII. v. (1733) 220 All this together, might have aton'd for a wry word or two. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. iv, Which strange combination of ideas..produced more wry actions than all other sources of prejudice. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xv, Art thou not a hasty cocomb, to pick up a wry word so wrathfully? 1856 G. H. Boker *Betrothal* I. i, Why this argument? I have heard ten thousand,..yet never Knew one wry notion straightened by them all. 1886 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxiii. Introd., In this psalm there is no wry word.

† b. Of persons: Perverse, cross. *Obs.*[−1]

1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 190 With pure, thy self-thou-pure-wilt-show; And with the froward, wilt-be-wry.

c. Wrested; perverted; distorted.

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 432 He was..Next Rectifier of wry Law. *a* 1732 Atterbury (J.), He mangles and puts a wry sense upon protestant writers. 1896 Mrs. Caffyn *Quaker Grandmother* 290 Poor boy, he meant, what seemed to his wry mind, honestly towards you!

4. Marked or characterized by perversion, unfairness, or injustice.

1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* I. i, My lordes, be playne, without all wrie respect Or poysonous craft to speake in pleasyng wise. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* IV. pr. v. 89 When cheefely geayle, lawe & other tormentes..be turnd in wry sorte, & wickedest payne doo presse good men. 1851 Gladstone *Gleanings* (1879) VI. xlii. 29 By influence Individuals of a class will be powerful here and there, under any system, however cross and wry.

B. *adv.* In an oblique manner, course, or direction; awry.

Wry (rəi), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 *Inf.* (and *Pres. stem*). 1 wrēon, 3 wrīen, 3 wrēne, 3 wrēn, 1 wryon, 3 wri(h)en, 4 wryen, 3 wrēne, wryne, wryyn; 3 wrede, wrihe, 4 wrih-, 4–5 wrye, wrie, wri, 4–9 wry. *Pa. t.* 1 wrah, wrah, 3 wre3e, 3–4 wreih, 4 wreyh, wreighe, wreygh, wred, wrey, wray; *pl.* 1 wrigon, wrugon, 2–3 wrugen, 3 wruhen, 3 wrigen, wrien, 4 wrogen, wreghen. *Pa. pple.* 1 wrigen, wrogen, 4 wrien, wryen, wrin; 3 iwrigen, 3–4 i-, 4 ywrien, y-wryen; 3–5 i-, 4–5 ywrie, ywry(e, 3 iwre3e, 4 ywry3e, 4–5 ywrie; 4 wrige, 4–5 wrye, 5 wrie; 3–4 wreon, 4 wreigen, 3 wre3e, 4 y-, iwre3e; 4–5 wreygh, wreighe, wreye. *Weak pa. t.* and *pple.* 4–5 wryed, wried, 4 wryde, 6 wride. [OE. *wrīon* (pa. t. *wrāh, wrāh*, pl. *wrigon, wrugon*, pa. pple. *-n, wrogen*), *wrīon*, **wrīhan* (ONorthumb. ī), = NFris. *wreye*, OHG. **rīhan* (in *intrīhan, an*, 'revelare'). Cf. Bewry *v.*[1], Overwry *v.*, Unwry *v.*]

† 1. *trans.* To lay, place, or spread a cover over (something); to overlay with some covering; to cover up or over. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 65 Ongunnun summe ehegespitta..hine &..wriȝa onsione his. *c* 1205 Lay. 27859 Þe while he wurchen lette..ane cheste longe And wreon heo al mid golde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 58 Uor þi was ihoten a Godes half..þet put were euer iwrien. *c* 1275 Lay. 7781 Þe toppe [of a tower] mihte wreie on cniht mid his cope. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 56 Ther is neither busk nor hay In May that it nyl shrouded bene And it with newe leues wrene. *c* 1386 — *Kn.'s T.* 2046 The maister strete That sprad was al with blak and wonder hye Right of the same is the strete ywrye. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 348 With marbil or with tile thy floryng wrie. *Ibid.* XIII. 47 The vessel fild be closid clene or wrie. 1499 *Prompt. Parv.* (Pynson) t b/2, Wryyn or hyllyn, *tego*. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wry*, to cover close.

fig. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1686 Þe feend,..with many a circumstaunce Ful sly, him castiþ þe wrappe in & wrye.

b. To cover or rake up (a fire) so as to keep it alive. (Cf. Rake *v.*[1] 5.) Now *dial.*

Cf. Ovid *Met.* IV. 64 'Quoque magis tegitur, tanto magis aestuat ignis'; also Fr. 'Le feu plus couvert est le plus ardant' (Cotgr. s.v. *Feu*).

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 539 Wel þe hottere ben þe gledes rede, That men hym wrien with asshe pale and dede. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 735 *Thisbe*, As wry the glede & hettere is the fyr; Forbede a loue and it is ten so wod. *a* 1825 in Rye *E. Angl. Gloss.* 251.

† 2. To cover (a person) with a garment (or armour); to clothe, attire. Also *refl.* Occas. in fig. context. *Obs.*

a 901 Ælfred in Thorpe *Laws* I. 52 Gif mon nabbe buton anfeald hrægl hine mid to wreonne oþþe to werianne. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 36 Ic was..nacod & gie cleodon *uel* gie wrigon meh. *a* 1000 *Genesis* 1370 Þæt he ne mihte.. hine handum self mid hrægle wryon. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2246 Two hondred knistes al so, Wel ywrie wiþ þe atyl. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1148 Wrye me with sum clope. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 380 Swych loue of frendes regneth al þis town, And wre yow in þat mantel ..... *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 1201 *Dido*, Dido al in gold & parre wrye. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6684 Of his hondwerk woide he gete Clothes to wryne hym.

† b. To put trappings or armour on (a horse); to caparison, trap, harness. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1281 Mid vif hondred hors iwrie ..Þe erl of kent was in a wode him vor to awreke. *Ibid.* 5032, 4076, 4096, etc. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3761 Beues..sez þe strete ful aboute Of stedes wrien [*v.r.* ytrapped] and armes brist. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2606 (Laud MS.), Þer men miȝten quyk yseen Many hors wiþ trappen wryen. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C.) 4145+13 Pauze þat hors were with yren wrye Syr Befyse smote clene a way.

† 3. To cover (a thing, or person) so as to protect, keep warm, or conceal. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Genesis* 2170 Ic þe..wiþ weana gehwam wreo & scylde folmum minum. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xxvi(i). 12 Mec [= a book] siþþan wrah hasle5 hleobordum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 Þes fikelares mester is to wrien, & to hellen þet gong þurl. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 279 Alle gate þu hafdes hwer þu mihtes wrihe þine banes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 66 Þe þornbog þet ys al ywryȝe myd prikyinde eles. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 627 She is the monstree heed ywryen, As filth over ystrowed with floures. *c* 1386 — *Somp. T.* 219 Though I him wrye a-nyght and make hym warm. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XIII. 34 From the wynd ham wrie With

[illegible] *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 66 3ef þu wel wrist to under [illegible] wengen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2786 With targes, and hurd- [illegible] Theo [illegible] heom wryed als the wise. *c* 1330 *Amis*

[illegible] wel warm aplight, With clothes. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* [illegible] I haue..wel leuer..wrie me in my foxerie Vnder a cope of paperlardie. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 265 He leyd hym in his bed, ..he wryed hym. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 175 Wyth hir mantyl he [*sc.* a child] dede hym wrye.

absol. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 140 Þe chylderyn of mannys gettyng vnder þi weengye, god, wryng, in hope schul be gyed.

† b. To conceal or hide (a matter, etc.); to keep secret or unrevealed. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Genesis* 876 For hwon wast þu wean & wribat aceeame. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 160 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Al scal þer bon þanne unwrien, þet men wruȝen her and helen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 Mid his preisunge [he] hele5 & wrih5 mon his [illegible] *a* 1275 *Ibid.* 420 (MS. Cott. Cleop.), Wriheu ha sehal hire scheome, as sunfule Eue dohter. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 928 God..nom of hire his monhede Þerw wheon he wrey his [illegible] lhade. 1340 *Ayenb.* 62 Huanne þe bloedere.. excuseþ and wryeþ þe kueades and þe sennes of ham. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1634 God, to whom þer nys no cause y-wrye. [illegible] T. Usk *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) I. 106 He

That never wry shes sail. 1721 Bailey, *Wry*,..on one side, not straight. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* 169 It's not very pleasant, when things all go wry.

C. *Comb.*, as *wry-eyed, -guided, -legged, -looked, -toothed*; *wry-blown*; *wry-set.*

1593 in Tyler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 212 A seduced king, ..and wry-guided kingdom. 1620 *Withals' Dict.* 286/2 That is crooke-footed, or wry-legged. 1624 F. T. *Case is Altered* C ij b, There was an old man,..stumpe-footed, wry-bodied, gagge-toothed, slandering-tongue. 1648 J. Quarles *Fons Lachrym.* 34 There is no..wry-look'd enemy T'upbraid thy actions. 1845 Youatt *Dog* iv. 103 A small breed of wry-legged terriers. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 382 The wry-eyed, spectacled schoolmaster. 1883 Stallybrass tr. *Grimm's Teutonic Myth.* III. 1075 Wry-toothed..beldame. 1897 H. N. Howard *Footsteps Proserpine* 16 The sea-brine beats on the wry-blown toft. 1905 A. T. Sheppard *Red Cravat* II. vii. 120 Their outlines..of twisted chimneys, wry-set doors.

b. Special combs.: **wry-bill,** the wry-billed plover (*Anarhynchus frontalis*), native to New Zealand; **wry-billed** *a.*, having a bill deflected to one side (see prec.); † **wry-neb,** a curvirostral fossil animal; † **wry-stroke** *fig.* (see quot.); **wry-tail,** a deformity in poultry, characterized by deflexion of the tail to one side.

1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 1033 *Wry-bill, *Anarhynchus frontalis*, [is] one of the most singular birds known, peculiar to New Zealand. 1873 Sm. W. L. Bullen *Birds N. Z.* 216 *Anarhynchus frontalis*, *Wry-billed Plover.

Curvirostra, the *Wry-neb. 1893 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VI. vi. § 4 A Prior without a Posterior having none..after him to succeed in his place. We behold him only as the *wry-stroak

L. Wright *Illustr. Bk. Poultry* 201 *Wry-tail..is in many cases owing to spinal causes, and in all such should be ruthlessly stamped out.

Wry (rəi), *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 *Inf.* (and *Pres. stem*).

wryeth moche venim with moche welth. 1412–20 Lydg.

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a 1300 *Ragman Roll* 257 (MS. Bodl. 638, fol. 217 b), Though they her malice iswarde heuyr & wrye.

refl. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 329 And ay of loues seruantz euery while, Hym-self to wre, at hem he gan to smyle.

† **c.** To disguise (a person). *Obs. rare*—1.

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* v. 61 b, The Gods..were faine themselues to hide In forged shapes. .. Ione the Prince of Gods was wride In shape of Ram.

† **4.** Of things: To serve as a covering to (a person or thing); to be spread or extended over.

a 1000 *Genesis* 1386 Flod ealle wreah..hea beorgas. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 242 Sio ælmen bið þeccende & wreonde þa wambe & þa innoforan. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 95 De faste hope haſð hire stede up an heih, for ði hie is rof and wriðð alle ðe hire bieð beneðen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 Þe rinde, þet wrih [*v.r.* wrið] hit, þet is þe treouwes warde. *Ibid.* 390 Þis scheld þet wreih his Godhed was his leoue licome. 1340 *Ayenb.* 167 Vor þet is þe sseeld of gold..þet him wrizþ of eche half ase mayþ þe sauter. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 143 In.. Februarye..Whan frost & cold þe erthe doth wrye. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 581 Even as the bed..that is so narrow, that it will not wry them warme.

† **b.** To cover or stretch over (an expanse of ground). *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 3702 Weoren þa hulles and þa dæles iwrizen mid þan dæden. *Ibid.* 17349 Þa Irisce fullen & wrizen al þa feldes. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4049 Of Sarrazins .. was wrin al þe feld. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1764 (Kölbing), To Winchester þai gun spede Wiþ so michel pople of men, þat þai wrezen doun & den. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1992 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder þi foo..Liggeþ now, wiþ swiche preye, þat he wrizeþ [*v.r.* wrieth] al þe contreye.

Wry (rəi), *v.*[2] Forms: 1 **wrizian**, 3–5 **wrien**, 4–5 **wryen** (5 **wryn**), 4–7 **wrie**, 4–6 **wrye**, 5– **wry**; 5 **wrey**(e, *Sc.* 6 **vrey** (8 **wray**), 9 **wree**. [OE. *wrīgian* to strive, move or go forward, tend, wend (= OFris. *wrigia* to bend, stoop), perh. related to LG. *wriggen* (see Wrig *v.*, and cf. Bewry *v.*[2]).]

I. *intr.* † **1. a.** To move, proceed, or go; to turn, wend. (Only OE.) *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxv. § 1 Þeah þu teo hwelene boh ofdune to þære eorðan..swa þu hine alætst, swa sprincð he up & wriaþ wið his gecyndes. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xxi[i]. 5 Hlaford min [= master of the plough] on woh fareð, weard mæ steorte, wrigaþ on wonge.

† **b.** To have a particular or specified tendency, disposition, or inclination; to incline. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxv. § 1 Swa deð selc geceaft; wriaþ wið his gecyndes. *c* 1250 *Will & Wit* 7 in *O. E. Misc.* 192 Hwenne so wil to wene wrieð. 13.. *Erthe upon Erthe* 48 Wanne .. eorþe toward eorþe þorw couеytise wryeþ. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xxx. 78 He wylle cheuyse hym suche counceylle as he troweth wylle wryen to his purpoos. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. (1869) 114 For j wole þat þe tale be turned ooþer weys, ..þat it turne.. wryinge to my wurshipes. 1549 Coverdale *Erasm. Par. James* v. 39 b, The fore tokens of a mynde that wryeth downe vnto desperacyon. 1582 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 23, I mean those, who though sprinkled with some imperfections, yet wrie rather to the good, then the euill.

† **2.** Of persons: To move or go, to swerve or turn, *aside*, *away*, or *awayward*. Also in fig. context.

c 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 48 Þat feyre..wrieþ awey as hue were wroht. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 97 With hir heed sche wryed fast awey. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 18 To the worchip of this world thai wryn fro me away. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 112 3et 3e wryeth away and grucched to come to me. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 176 Than the kyng wryed away fro hym, and commaunded to sende for ye hangman. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1162/1 Of wickednes thei wrie awaye and..turne to theyr fleshe for helpe.

† **b.** In similar use without adverb. *Obs.*

c 1400 *St Pol. Poems* 26 3if she grucche wiþ þe to rage, And alway fro the wole wrye. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 1332 The steward saw that, and did wry, And drew him som dele aside. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 7 That wrecche may not wrye fro my wrekis. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) S iij, He that clymeth ouer hye May happe somtyme to wrye. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* III. 56 Paris wried at last, and so the blowe did shunne. 1596 Davies *Orchestra* lxiii, As when a Nimph..Leadeth a daunce.., she wries to euery hand And euery way doth crosse the fertile plaine. 1621 Sanderson *Serm. ad Pop.* iv. P 3 Like a young unbroken thing that hath metal, and is free, but is ever wrying the wrong way.

fig. 1582 T. Howell *Deuises* G ij b, How fayned friends do fayle, If fate doe wrye. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* I. met. i. 2 O with how defe eare she from wretched wries.

† **c.** *fig.* To deviate or swerve from the right or proper course; to go wrong, to err. Also with advs., as *amiss*, *aside*. *Obs.*

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 627 An ydole of false purtraiture is she, for she woll sone wrien [*v.r.* varien]. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* II. 84 þat no manere mede shulde make him wrye, For to trien a trouthe be-twynne two sidis. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 47 He .. wrys away fro Godys word to his wyckydnes. *Ibid.* 50 Wry not fro Godis word. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* Pref. c v, If ye..wilfully wrye so far from hys truth. *a* 1557 Mrs. M. Basset tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1365/2 Yf we of oure owne frowardnes wrye not a contrary way, but be readye.. to folowe hys most blessed will. 1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 40 How much a man the greater is, By his Offence that wries amisse. 1621 Sharp. *Cymb.* v. i. 5 How many Must murther Wiues much better then themselues For wrying but a little? 1632 Sanderson *Serm.* II. 27 By wrying aside in some one or a few particulars, he may..offend the Lord. 1634 *Ibid.* I. 63 These wry too much on the right hand, ascribing to the holy scripture such a kind of perfection as it cannot have.

† **3.** Of things: To turn aside or obliquely; to undergo deflexion, twisting, or bending; to bend, wind; to turn from side to side.

a 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 906 Þe sonne Gan..downward for to wrye. *c* 1420 *Berryn* 2792 Then shalt þowe se an entre, .. Thouse it be streyt to-fore, .. It growith more & more, & as a dentour wriytha. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 347 Thi somer hous northest & west let wrie. *c* 1450 *Ludus Coventrie* 229 Þe patthe be-twyn bothyn þat may not wry Schal be hope and drede to walke in perfectly. 1553 M. Wood tr. *Gardiner's True Obedience* 49 b, The decaied partes of their power (whose building..hath wried on the one side long ago). 1565 B. Googe tr. *Pallingenius' Zodiac* VII. Y v b, Perchaunce..The liuely spirite enclosde ..doth wrye as best it may, And striuing long through passage smal doth get at length away. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* v. xii, The first [part of the brain] with divers crooks and turnings wries.

† **b.** Of a horse: To hold the head or neck to one side. *Obs.*—1

1620 Markham *Masterp.* I. xxxvi. 70 Holding his necke awry;..The cure is to let him bloud..on the contrary side to that way he wryeth.

4. To contort the limbs, features, etc., as from pain or agony; to wriggle; to undergo twisting or turning; = Writhe *v.*[1] 10 b.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 660 He was wraþful i-wrouht & wried in angur. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 338/381 On þe hed ponne [him] hard, þat he go wryinge þenneward. *Ibid.* 477/46 Þe ffisch..wroþly wrieþ on þe Crok. 1493 *Festyvall, Four Sermons* 21/2 As a galled horse that is touched on the sore wyncheth & wryeth. 1580 Blundevil *Art of Riding* III. xxii. 50 b, How to correct that Horse, which will mowe or wrie with his mouth. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Reland Furious* VI, *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 54 Scho schrinks, Scho vreyis, Scho vips for vo. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* III. i, She..wryes, and wriggles, As though she had the Itch. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 34 He saw the wretchit men Wreein' and wreethin' wi' the pain. 1893 *National Observer* 30 Dec. 165/2 His mouth kept wrying from side to side.

II. *trans.* † **5.** To deflect or divert (a person or thing) from some course or in some direction; to cause to turn aside, away, or back. Also *refl.* *Obs.*

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torquent]. *Ibid.* XL xiv. 50 Latynis all thar ene about did wry [L. *convertere*]. 1555 Phaer *Æneid* II. 65 His tacle to the left hand set, and sterne to left hand wried. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 88 Right so to thee same boord thee maysters al wrye the vessels.

fig. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1675 In *Macro Plays* 127, I wyl me wryen ffro wyckyd wreche. 1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* O ij, If he [*sc.* a prince] wrie himselfe never so little from that becometh hym. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xviii, Our mindes..from the right line of vertue, are wryed to these crooked shifts. 1620 [G. Bryddes] *Horæ Subs.* 148 Let not the parties ielousie..wrest or wry his iudgement in the least degree to preiudice. 1635 Pemble *Wks.* 6 Ambition and tyrannie in Churchmen wryed their thoughts..to the advancement of their owne greatnesse. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Deut.* xxxiii. 9 Not to be wryed or biassed by respect to carnal friends, is a high..point of self-denial.

† **b.** To avert (the head, face, etc.); to turn aside or *away*. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) I. xv. 11 Hit sytteth the nought to wrye awey thy face. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1413 She gan ay hir hede to wrye. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 776 Sum-what þy face from hyre þou wry. 1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 70/1 The duke..wried hys hed an other way. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 35 He wryit his face away and his visage. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* III. 55 Hector from his helmet then his countnance hauing wried, .. the lots did turne. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xix. § 22 Buckingham ..wried his face another way. 1655 J. Cotgrave *Wits Interpr.* (1662) 276 When [he was] pressing for a kiss her head she wried.

† **c.** To change or alter (one's course). *Obs.*—1

1598 Q. Eliz. *Plutarch* I. 23 His course..wryed was to east, the sons arising place.

† **6.** To curve, inflect, bend. *Obs.*—1

c 1450 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 122 The rayn bowe iwryyd schalle be.

7. To twist or turn (the body, neck, etc.) round or about; to contort, wring, wrench; to writhe. Also with advs., as † *a-doyle*.

c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nu*
doyle as hit were a dawe.
1598 Q. Eliz. *Plutarch*
turning nek in casting on her Looks. 1607 Markham *Caval.* I. (1617) 39 If you see her wrie her taile. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. (1674) 132 Wrying his

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1788 *F.*
be blooded in his Neck-Vein..on the contrary Side to the Way he wryes his Neck. 1800 Lamb *Let.* in *Final Mem.* vi. 51 Without much wrying my neck I can see the white sails.

b. To twist out of shape, form, or relationship; to give a twist to; to pull, contort, make wry. Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxii. viii, [My] loosed bones quite out of joynt be wried. 1594 Daniel *Cleopatra* v. ii, In her sinking downe shee wryes The Diadem which..shee wore. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 282 The heat..wrieth the proportion of the face. 1685 J. Spencer *Prodigies* 254 They are a Nose of Wax which may be wry'd to what figure.. Fancy shall impose upon them. 1679 Hobbes *Behemoth* (1840) 217 They are, for the most part, Latin and Greek words, wryed a little at the point, towards the native language. 1686 G. Stuart *Voco-ver. Disc.* 41 The Todd will ..wry about the Neck o' th' Cock. 1727 Swift *God's Revenge agst. Punning*, The Lord mercifully spared his neck, but as a mark of reprobation wryed his nose. 1842 Browning *In a Gondola* 47 Guests by hundreds—not one caring If the dear host's neck were wried. 1885 Bailey *Mystic*, etc. 69 Some Titanian arm, Whose elbow, jogged by earthquakes, wryed the pole. 1861 Swinburne *Queen-Mother* I. i, I know him by the setting of his neck, The mask is wried there. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* II. iv. 78, I put on those arms which he..From the dead body had begun to wry.

† **c.** *fig.* To wrest the meaning of; = Writhe *v.*[1] 7. *Obs.*

1582 Fisher *Sermon agst. Luther* iv. D v, Men of fell wyttes..[who] had the propre faȝth to wrye & to torcasse the scryptures. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xiii. 59 b, False Apostles..whyche wresteth and wryeth by subtyll interpretacion, the heauenly doctrine after their lustes. 1564 *Brief Exam.* *** ij, You do wrye this place from his naturall sense. 1631 R. Byfield *Doctr. Sabb.* 156 This Alleager..wryeth the sense. 1649 Br. Reynolds *Hosea* vii. 136 Take heed of wresting and wrying that to the corrupt fancies of our owne evill hearts.

† **d.** To pervert. *Obs.*

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* xlvii, Alas, are counsels wryed to catch the goode. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 754 The thingis I said, gif þow wald now deny, Weining to wry þe veritie with wylis. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. vi, Publique defences neglected; and in summe..all awrie, and (which wried it to the most wrie course of all) witte abused. 1620 E. Blount *Horæ Subs.* 148 Let not the parties ielousie.. wrest or wry his iudgement in the least degree to preiudice.

e. *poet.* To distort the judgement of; to warp.

1861 Swinburne *Queen-Mother* I. ii, *Hen.* This fool is wried with wine. *Mar.* French air hath nipped his brains.

f. *poet.* To turn, change, or alter (a colour).

1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., At Eleusis* 182 Ill slant eyes interpret the straight sun, But in their scope its white is wried to black.

† **8.** *absol.* = Wring *v.* 4 c. *Obs. rare*—1.

14.. *Chaucer's Merch. T.* 342 (Petw. MS.), But I woote best wher wrieþ my shoo.

9. To twist or distort (the face or mouth), esp. so as to manifest disgust or distaste; = Writhe *v.* 5 b. Also *refl.*

a 1510 Douglas *K. Hart* II. 96 Her face scho wryit about for propir teyne. 1552 Huloet, Wryinge the mouth in waye of derision, *valgulatio*. ? 1554 Coverdale *Hope of Faithful* (1574) 150 Though ye wry your mouthes at it. 1633 Br. Hall *Hard Texts* 173 Winking with their eyes and wrying their faces at me. 1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 81 He wry'd his mouth, and knit his brows. 1691 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academia* 56 He dare not wry his Mouth to laugh. *a* 1779 D. Graham *Writ.* (1883) II. 92, I made my eyes to roll, and wrayed my face in a frightful manner. 1847 Heavysege *Saul* (1869) 291 Bitter is bitter, though the lips be not Allowed to wry themselves thereat. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Dec. 650/1 The tonics..were bitter enough to wry the palate. 1898 M. Hewlett *Forest Lovers* xv, She wried her mouth to a smile.

† **10.** To roll, wrap, or wind *up*. *Obs.*—1

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 128, I take the seed..to be a cluster of bubbles wryed up snug.

Wry, etc., vars. Wray *v.*[1] *Obs.* **Wryoche**(d, **Wryche**, etc., obs. ff. Wretch(ed. **Wryed**, var. Wried *ppl. a.* **Wryer**, var. Wrayer *Obs.*

Wry-faced, *a.* (Stress variable.) [f. Wry *a.* 2.] Having the face out of line with the neck and chest; also, that has or makes a wry face.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 14 Antiphilus made a very noble one [*i.e.* picture of a satyr] in a Panthers skin, calling it *Aposcopon*, that is, Wri-faced. 1611 Cotgr., *Caravirée*, a wry-mouthed, or wry-faced wench; or one that often makes wry mouthes, or ill fauoured wry faces. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1990/4 One of the Robbers was..Wrifaced and Pock-broken. 1803 Fessenden *Poet. Petit.* 87 Each wry-fac'd rogue, and dirty trollop. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xvii, You snivelling, wry-faced, puny villain. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Feb. 9/3 A slim, wry-faced man.

transf. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 83 What a wry faced contradiction is here?

Wryghe, obs. variant of Wray *v.*[1]

Wrygh(e, obs. forms of Wright *sb.*, Write *v.*

Wry-ing, *vbl. sb.*[1] *dial.* [f. Wry *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] (See quot.)

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wrying*, covering, of bedclothes, &c., not of apparel.

Wrying (rəi-in), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Wry *v.*[2] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of twisting, wringing, or writhing; an instance of this.

1580 Blundevil *Horsemanship, Diseases* clix. 68 b, The taint being made somwhat full, with continuall turning and wrieng of it. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xiv, A certaine wrying I had of my necke. *c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 42 The motion and wryinge of his mouth. 1611 Cotgr., *Tortusement*, a crooking,..wrying, writhing. 1888 G. Gissing *Life's Morning* III. xx. 261 [spoke] with a little wrying of the lips.

† **2.** The action of wresting or perverting. *Obs.*

1580 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 20 We allegeit na thing.. bot sincerlie the expres Word of God, but wrysting, wrying, gloissing, or cloking. *a* 1598 Rollock *Passion* xxv. (1616) 237 We must not thinke, Brethren, that this is any wrying and wresting of the old Scripture.

† **3.** The action of deviating or turning from a course, etc.; straying. *Obs.*

1592 Babington *Notes on Gen.* iii. 20 Wryings and turnings from the matter will not serue, missings and shiftings before hym were neuer currant. 1604 — *Notes on Exod.* iii. § 18 How hard it is to leaue a wonted wrying from the right way.

Wry-ingly, *adv. rare.* [f. *wrying*, pres. ppl. of Wry *v.*[2]] In a twisting or writhing manner.

1611 Cotgr., *Tortusement*, wryly,..crookingly, wryingly. *Ibid.*, *Tortueusement*,..wryingly.

Wryly (rəi·li), *adv.* Also 6–7 wrily. [f. WRY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a wry, oblique, or distorted manner.
Frequent in recent use.
1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, ...wrily, crookedly. 1611 COTGR., *Obliquement*, obliquely, wrily. 1706 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* s.v. *Contorte*. 1848 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 16/2 Most of these..have chewed upon it harshly and wryly. 1893 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 18 March 164/2 Mr. Jones smiled wryly.

Wry-mouth (rəi·mouþ). [f. WRY *a.* 1. 1 b + MOUTH *sb.*]
†1. (See quot. 1859.) *Obs.*
1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 89 The gall of a wild Cat is very good against the wry mouth. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1683 *Torture*, ..formerly used for *Spasmus*, chiefly of a part, as of the face or the mouth; wry-mouth.
2. a. *attrib.* = WRY-MOUTHED *a.* 1. Also *ellipt.*
1632 BENLOWES *Theoph.* VIII. lxxxiv, No wry-mouth squint-ey'd scoff can stay Their swift progression. 1655 GAYTON *Bacnal's Ghost* 3 Thick Ling and wry mouth Plaise. 1881 E. P. HOOD *Christmas Evans* iv. 120 Of wry-mouth fiends a wrathful brood.
b. One who has a distorted mouth.
1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 326/1 [It] had fallen into disuse since the death of Boleslav the Wry-mouth.
3. *U. S.* a. One or other fish belonging to the genus *Cryptacanthodes* of blennioid fishes, and native to the north-western Atlantic. b. The electric ray or torpedo (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).
1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 60 *Cryptacanthodes maculatus*, Storer, Spotted Wry-mouth. 1890 *Science* April 212/1 The sea-raven, the rock-eel, and the wry-mouth, which inhabit these brilliant groves, are all colored to match their surroundings.

Wry-mouthed, *a.* (Stress variable.) [f. WRY *a.* 1. Cf. prec.]
1. Having a wry mouth.
1552 HULOET, Wrye mouthed men, *miriones*. 1604 F. T. *Case is Altered* C ij b, There was an old man..bleer-eied, wry-mouthed, botle nosed, lame-legged. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* A 6 b, They..wrie-mouth'd Plaice..did eate. 1618 FLETCHER *Women Pleased* III. ii, A pack of wry-mouth'd mackrel Ladies. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 152 Looking asquint, wry-mouth'd, wry-neck'd. 1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 210 *Buccina Recurvirostra*, ..Wry-mouthed Whelks. 1870 ROSSETTI *Poems, Guido Cavalcanti* xxii, That wry-mouthed minx.
fig. 1614 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Nipping Abuses* L 4, The wri-mouth'd Crittick. 1620 QUARLES *Jonah* 1487 Daring Presumption, wry-mouth'd Derision, Damned Apostacie.
2. Marked or characterized by contortion of the mouth. Also *transf.*
1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* iii. 21 What flout, what wry-mouth'd scoffe,..Hath scap'd the furie of my Foemans tongue To doe my simple Innocencie wrong? 1635 — *Embl.* v. v. 34 What soul would not be proud Of wry-mouth'd scorns? *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIII. CCXXVIII, What wry-mouth'd play They us'd, their gentle Savior to flout. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 145 A shaggy Tap'stry,..Instructive work! whose wry-mouth'd portraiture Display'd the fates her confessors endure. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 59 Lifting up her rolling eyes,..with a wry-mouthed earnestness.

Wryneck (rəi·nek). Also WRY-NECK. [f. WRY *a.* 1 + NECK *sb.*]
1. One or other species of the genus *Iynx* of small migratory scansorial picoid birds; esp. the common species, *Iynx torquilla*, distinguished by its habit of writhing the neck and head.

Museum, Anat. Stomach viii. 38 A Young Wryneck..hath no Crop, and but a small Gulet. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 402 *Iynx*, the wry-neck,..has a very singular way of twisting it's head about, and bending it's neck; it thence obtained..the name..of the Wry-neck. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 181 The Wryneck we believe to be a bird of passage. ..It takes its name from a manner it has of turning its head back to the shoulders. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IX. (1826) I. 288 The wryneck and the woodpeckers..live entirely upon insects. 1839–43 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* II. 152 As the Wryneck makes its appearance here about the same time as the Cuckoo, it has..acquired the names of Cuckoo's Mate, and Cuckoo's Maid. 1888 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 652/2 The *Picidæ* [include]..at least three Sub-families. ..The Woodpeckers proper, .. the Piculets, .. and the Wrynecks.
†b. An infusorian (see quot.). *Obs.*—1
1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 149 The *Volvox torquilla*, or wry-neck.
2. a. One who has a wry neck.
Earlier versions of quot. 1879 have the form *wrynot*.
1607 R. [CAREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 300 They learne..to looke downe to the ground, to counterfet wry-necks. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 172 Of them is the Proverb, Never trust a wry Neck. 1656 FLECKNOE *Diarium* 8 And wry-neck they would ask with laughter, What newes 'twas he was hearkning after? 1879 W. HENDERSON *Folk-Lore N. C.* vii. 254 He caps Wryneck, and Wryneck caps the Dule [= Devil].
b. *attrib.* = WRY-NECKED *a.* 2.
1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 129 The wryneckte Earle of Lancaster. 1618 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) To Rdr., Th'art no wri-neck critick. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 655/2 A son..known as Henry Tort-Col or Wryneck...This Henry Wryneck died in 1361.
†c. *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—0.
1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T., Wry Neck Day*, hanging day.
3. *Path.* A deformity characterised by contortion of the neck and face, and lateral inclination of the head; stiff-neck; = TORTICOLLIS.
1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Wry-Necked*, If the Wry-neck proceeds from a contraction of one of the mastoide muscles. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 324 This species, therefore, offers us the three following varieties:.. Natural wry-neck...Spastic wry-neck...Atonic wry-neck. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1884) II. 345 Wry-neck is an example of this affection [*sc.* rigid atrophy] due to a contracted sterno-mastoid muscle. 1882 W. RIVINGTON in *Brain* IV. 257 The ordinary form of spasmodic wry-neck.
b. (See quot.) *rare*—0.
1819 REES *Cycl., Wry-neck*, a disease of the ... kind in sheep, in which the head is drawn [illegible] y to one side. [Hence in WEBSTER (1828–32), and later Dicts.]

Wry-necked, *a.* (Stress variable.) [f. WRY *a.* 1. Cf. prec.]
1. Having a wry or crooked neck.
1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. v. 30 The vile squealing of the wry-neckt Fife. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Nutley Abbey*, A squeaking fiddle and 'wry-neck'd fife'. 1870 ENGEL *Catal. Mus. Instr.* 62 The wry-necked Fife...The Italians call it *cornetto curvo*.
2. Of persons or animals: Affected with distortion of the neck; having wryneck.
1608 DEKKER *Dead Term* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 39 That aged and reuerend (but wry-necked) sonne of thine. 1653 [see WRY-MOUTHED *a.* 2]. *a* 1679 J. WARD *Diary* (1839) 273 Some ... a wry neckt from the womb. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. Pref. A 4 Great Alexander..(being blind) did love that Wry-neck'd Fool. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Wry-Necked*, a term applied to persons affected with a distortion of the neck. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 608 It is almost impossible to bring the head of a wry-necked lamb into the passage of the womb. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. v, She preferred the wry-necked lambs.
fig. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* III. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, This same wryneckt death..still spoyles all drinkinge, 'tis a thinge I never coold indure. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 20 All the squint-ey'd, wry-necked, and brasen-faced Errors that are or ever were of that litter.
Hence **Wry-ne·ckedness**. *rare*—1.
1882 TAIT in *Nature* XXV. 90 The wry-neckedness of the protecting shell.

Wryness (rəi·nés). Also 6 wrines, 7 -ness(e, **wryneese**. [f. WRY *a.* + -NESS.]
1. The fact or condition of being wry or distorted; distortion, twisting.
1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Tortedad*, crookednes, wrines, *obliquitas*. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 107 The waight of a groate thereof..helpeth the conuulsion and wryneese of the mouth. 1616 DONNE *Serm.* Wks. 1839 V. 463 This is (*tortuositas serpentis*) the Wryness, the Knottiness, the Entangling of the Serpent. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxi. 256 A perversive Wriness and Convulsion of the Muscles. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 35 A large Garden would..be less pleasing..if it had..some visible wriness to disfigure it. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 4 A bitter taste produces wryness and contortion of the mouth. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxvi, The wryness of his face and the uneasiness of his limbs. 1898 MEREDITH *Later Alexandrian* Poems I. 200 An inspiration caught from dubious hues, Filled him, and mystic wrynesses he chased.
2. *fig.* Deviation from what is regular or normal; obliquity, wrongness.
1633 AMES *Agst. Cerem.* II. 498 Notwithstanding all this weaknesse, and wrinesse of these instances, the Rej. doth so triumph in them. 1648 W. MOUNTAGUE *Devout Ess.* I. xii. 143 An exploring the rectitude or wryenesse of their behaviours in this particular. 1906 HARDY *Dynasts* II. IV. v, The wryness of the times.

Wrypick, erron. f. RYEPECK.
1881 G. D. LESLIE *Our River* 119 The boat is moored by short stout wrypicks. [*Ibid.* 230 A couple of ripicks.]

Wrytche, obs. var. WRETCH *sb.* **Wrythe**, var. WRETHE *sb. Obs.*; obs. f. WRITHE *v.*

Wu, Wuas, obs. varr. HOW *adv.*, WHOSE.

Wucche, var. WHITCH *Obs.* **Wuch(e**, obs. varr. WHICH.

Wud, obs. or dial. f. *would*, pa. t. of WILL *v.*1 **Wud(d, wude**, obs. or Sc. and dial. ff. WOOD *sb.*1 and *a.* **Wuddie, -y, Wuddle**, var. WIDDY, WIDDLE. **Wuds**, obs. f. WOOTZ. **Wueke**, ME. var. WICK *sb.*1

Wuff (wʊf), *sb.* [Echoic. Cf. WOOF *sb.*2, WOUGH *sb.*, and next.] A low, suppressed bark of a dog.
1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* s.v. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ii, The 'wuff-wuff' of one or other of the dogs breaking the silence.

Wuff (wʊf), *v.* [Echoic. Cf. WAFF *v.*, WOOF *v.*] *intr.* To bark in a low, suppressed manner.
1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* v. (1900) 143 That dog, now growling and 'wuffing' in his dreams.

Wugg (wʊg), *v. south. dial.* [dial. *wug, wugg, wo(a)g*, etc., a call to a horse.] *intr.* Of a horse: To move forward; to go on.
1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* lv, Wugg then, Dobbin! Wun'not go home to-night? 1882 — *Christowell* iii, No man as ever I see yet..hath received the power to make Teddy wugg, when a' hath his nosebag on.

Wuke, Wulo(h, obs. ff. WEEK *sb.*, WHICH.

Wulde, obs. Sc. form of WILD *a.*

†**Wulder**. *Obs.* Also 1 **wuldor, -ur, -er**, 3 *Orm.* **wulderr**. [OE. *wuldor, -ur, -er*, a derivative (with *r* suffix) from the stem of Goth. *wulþus*.] Glory; honour.
c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xx. 6 Micel is wuldur his in hælu þinre. *c* 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxx. § 2 Is þæt unperisenlic wuldor þisse worulde & suffic. læs. *a* 1200 *Fragm. Ælfric's Gramm.*, etc. (1838) 7 Þin wuldre was þin God, & þin waldor. *c* 1200 *ORMIN* 3379 Þi þrihhtin upp inn heofhenn ford Wurrþminnt & lofl & wulldrenn. *Ibid.* 7630 Crist..gerrkedd læs..till þiss Judewisshe folle Wurrþskipedt ssho wulldrenn.

Wulderne, var. WILDERNE *Obs.* **Wulle**, obs. f. WHILE, WILL. **Wulf**, obs. f. WOLF.

Wulfenite (wu·lfənəit). *Min.* [a. G. *wulfenit* (1845), f. the name F. X. von *Wulfen* (1728–1805), Austrian scientist, + -ITE 1 2 b.] 'Molybdate of lead, found in brilliant crystals' (Chester).
1849 J. NICOL *Man. Min.* 383 Wulfenite, *Haidinger*; Molybdate of Lead, *Phillips* [etc.]. 1858 GAGE & LEFTWICH *Man. Min.* 421 Wulfenite..decrepitates when heated. 1882 *Science* I. 609/1 The red varieties of wulfenite.

Wull, obs. f. WOOL *sb.*; Sc. var. WILL *sb.* and *v.* **Wullcat**, Sc. var. WILD CAT. **Wullee**, var. WELL. **Wullen**, obs. f. WOOLLEN *a.* **Wulpere**, var. VOLUPER *Obs.* **Wult**, Sc. var. VULT *Obs.* **Wultre**, obs. f. VULTURE.

†**Wumme**, *int. Obs.* Also 2 wumè (3 wummen). [App. repr. OE. *wá mé*, f. *wá* WOE *int.* 5 + *mé* ME *pers. pron.* For the vowel cf. *mummer* s.v. NO MORE.] Woe is me!
c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Wume [L. *heu michi*] nu þet min utbiwiste is her swa longe ituped. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 13 Wumme lefdi qð he þa: wa is me mine liues. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Wummen [*v.r.* wumme] wo is me, he seið, þe holi

...ummera, var. WOOMERA. **Wummle**, dial. f. WIMBLE *sb.* **Wummon**, obs. f. WOMAN *sb.* **Wun, Wun', Wund**, Sc. varr. WIN *v.*, WIND *sb.* **Wunde**, obs. f. WOUND *sb.* **Wunder**, obs. f. WONDER *sb.* and *v.* **Wunderelle**, var. WONDERREL *Obs.* **Wundi**, var. WINDI *a. Obs.* **Wune**: see WONE *sb.*1 and *v.*1 **Wunna**, *Sc.* = 'will not': see WILL *v.*1 A. 6 b β. **Wunner**, obs. f. ONER *sb.* 1; Sc. f. WONDER.

†**Wu·nsele**. *Obs.* [f. *wunu*, WON *v.* + SELE.] A dwelling-place.
c 1205 LAY. 13703 Þa wunede ich on bure, on wunsele mine. *Ibid.* 17602 Her wit scullen..biwinnen his wunseles.

Wunsome, -sum, obs. or north. dial. forms of WINSOME *a.* **Wunt**, dial. f. WANT *sb.*1 (mole). **Wunt(e**, etc.: see WONT. **Wuo, ME.** var. WOE. **Wuord**, obs. form of WORD *sb.*

Wup (wʊp), *v. Sc.* Forms: 6 woup, wowp (wolp, wewp); 9 wop, wup (oup, oop). [Of obscure origin. Cf. WOOP *sb.* and WHIP *v.* 19.]
1. *trans.* To bind (something) round with cord, thread, etc.
1512–3 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 464 Smale towis to wowp the Margrettis mast with. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 360 Two barrell cordis..to woup brokin stokis and quheillis. *a* 1586 *Dunbar's Goldin Targe* 62 (Maitland Fol. MS.), Tressis cleir wouppit [*v.r.* wyplt] with goldin threidis. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S. P.* Gloss. *Oop, Oup*, to join by hooping. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Oop, Wup*, ..to bind with a thread or cord; to splice.
2. a. To unite or join (thread, yarn, etc.). b. To secure or fasten by tying.
1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lv, A hank (of yarn), but not a haill ane—the full years o' three score and ten, but thrice broken, and thrice to oop. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* I, Tak the aul' pleuch ryn [=rein] there, and wup it ticht atween the stays.

Wur-, var. (esp. ME.) spelling of WOR-. **Wurble**, dial. var. WARBLE *sb.*2 **Wurch(an**, obs. ff. WORK *v.* **Wurd**, obs. form of WORD. **Wurdle**, obs. f. *wordle*, WORTLE. **Wurhte**, obs. var. WRIGHT *sb.*1

Wurley (wɜ·rli). *Austr.* Also 9 worley, worlie. [Native word 'from the language of the Adelaide tribe' (G. Taplin *Native Tribes S. Australia* 12).] An aboriginal's hut. Also *attrib.*
1847 G. F. ANGAS *Savage Life* I. 109 Two men..approached one of the *wurlies*. 1848 G. B. WILKINSON *S. Australia* 323 The men break down branches of trees and strip bark to make themselves a worley or shelter. 1857 Mrs. DALY *Digging* etc. *S. Australia* 32 The body of an unfortunate Chinaman was found half-roasted on a wurley fire. *Ibid.* 67 They lived in wurleys...These miserable substitutes for houses are 'lean-to's', made of sheets of bark propped up by saplings.

Wurlyou, obs. Sc. form of WIRLING.

Wurne, var. WARN *v.*2 *Obs.*

†**Wurp**. *Obs. rare.* In 1 wyrp, werp, 3 wrp. [OE. *wyrp* (= LG. *wurp*, MLG. and (M)Du. *worp*, a cast, throw, OHG. *wurf, wurpi*, MHG., G. *wurf*), f. the weak grade of *weorp-* WARP *v.*] A (stone's) throw. Also *fig.* in *eie wurp*, a glance of the eye.
c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 41 He gefearrad was from him sua micle woerp *oel* wyrp is stanes [*Rushw.* wyrp stanes is; *Agr. Gosp.* anes stanes wyrp; *Hatton Gosp.* werp]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Danid..þurh on eie wurp to one ... mon..lette vt his heorte. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 558 in *O. E. Misc.* 42 Iesus from heom iwende þe wrp of o *i*

Wurrow, Wurry, obs. varr. WORRY *v.* **Wurset, -it**, Sc. ff. WORSTED *sb.* **Wurst**, obs. f. VERSE, WORSE *a.*; dial. f. WRIER. **Wurtsum**, var. WORSUM *Obs.*

Würtemberg siphon. (See quots.)
1829 *Nat. Philos., Pneumatics* vi. 49 (L.U.K.), A syphon, in which the extremities of the legs are turned upwards, called the Wirtemburg syphon. 1850 OGILVIE s.v. *Siphon*, *Würtemberg siphon*, ..a ... with both legs equal [etc.].

Wurtewale, obs. var. WARTWALE.

c 1450 Merlin *Wks.* 138 Nayiys the-qwyche..that..hath no wurtewalys..be most repreuabyl.

† Wurthe, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 wierðe, wyrðe, wyrþe, wierðe, 1–4 wurðe, wurþe (3 wrþe), 3–4 worþe. [OE. *wierðe, wyrðe*, etc., a derivative from *weorþ* Worth *sb.*[1] or *a.* In OE. and early southern ME. texts distinguishable from Worth *a.*, but subsequently merged with it.]

1. Worthy. (Freq. const. with inf.)

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiii. 297 He..bit ðære tide hwonne he ðas wierðe sie ðæt he hine besuican mote. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Þa hræowras beoþ syþþan domes wyrþe. *c* 1200 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 11 He ys strengra þonne ic, ðes gescy ne eom ic wyrþe to beranne. *a* 1225 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1046, Behet man him þæt he moste wurðe beon ælc ðæra þinga þe he mæ ahte. *a* 1300 *Vices & Virtues* 59 Ic am wel wurðe ðat and more to þollen. *c* 1205 Lay. 13443 Swa þat heo al speken..þat Uortiger weoren wurðe to walden þas þeode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 38 Zif ich nam wurðe for to beon iblecsed. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 320 in *O.E. Misc.* 46 Alle hi onswerede, he is wrþe to beo ded. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 890 Þe stude..me cluþeþ..after him, vor he was so worþe man. *Ibid.* 3466 Wel aȝte þat be a wurþe stude waane þer such sepulture ya. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 741 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 301 Afterward, ase he was wurthe,..An abbot him remue wolde.

2. Deserved, merited.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 We moten þauh don him wo, ase hit is ofte wel wurðe.

Wurtscipe, etc., obs. ff. Worship.

Wurtzite (wɜ·tsəit). *Min.* [f. the name Prof. C. A. *Wurtz*, a French chemist (1817–84), + -ite[1] 2 b.] 'Zinc sulphide, crystallizing in the hexagonal system' (Chester).

1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 60 Wurtzite and sphalerite are the same compound under distinct crystalline forms. 1897 L. Fletcher *Introd. Study Min.* 82 Wurtzite is interesting as crystallising in the Rhombohedral system.

Wuruhte, obs. var. Wright *sb.*[1]

Wurmel, short for Mangel-wurzel.

1888 *Encycl. Dict.* 1898 Jerome *Second Thoughts* 305 An atmosphere of wurzels was the thing that somehow he [*sc.* a farmer] suggested.

Wus, obs. var. Ooze *sb.*[1] **Wusbard,** dial. f. *wheat's bird* Wheat *sb.* 3. **Wusche, wuss, wuss(e)he:** see Wish. **Wusse,** var. Wis *adv. Obs.* **Wust(e,** obs. pa. t. of Wit *v.*[1]

Wut, dial. variant of Oat

1818 Wilbraham *Chesh. Gloss.* 32 *Wuts*,..oats. 1862– in various dial. glossaries, etc. (Yks. to Devon). 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estate* i. 8, I met Hilary..and listened to a long tirade which he delivered against 'wuts'.

Wute(þ, etc.: see Wit *v.*[1]

Wuther, var. Whither *sb.* and *v. dial.*

1847 E. Brontë (*title*), Wuthering Heights. 1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xvi, The 'wuther' of wind amongst trees. 1877 Jessie Fothergill *First Violin* vi. 1, The wind wuthered wearily.

Wutter, var. Witter *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2] **Wuxeer(at,** vars. Wazir(ate. **Wuxsent,** Sc. var. Wizened *a.*

Wy, northern var. Quey; obs. f. Weigh, Why. **Wy-,** freq. ME. variant of Wi-. **Wyage, wyayge,** obs. vars. Voiage *sb.*

Wyandotte (wəi·ăndɒt). [f. the name of a tribe of N. Amer. Indians.] One of a handsome breed of medium-sized domestic fowls. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Bazaar* 13 Sept. 366/1 Wyandottes. Wanted a few early pullets, pure bred. 1897 K. de la Bere *Poultry Guide* 1. 21 He has..reared 1,000 head of Black Minorcas,.. and Wyandottes. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 2/2 Time was when the world knew no Wyandotte fowl at all; but the ingenuity of the fancier has now given it White, Silver,.. Partridge, Silver-pencilled, and Blue-laced Wyandottes.

Wyandoure, Sc. var. Viander[1] *Obs.* **Wyc,** obs. f. Wick *a.* **Wycch(e,** obs. ff. Which, Witch. **Wyce,** obs. f. Vice *sb.*[1], *v.*[2], Voice; obs. Sc. var. Wise *a.* **Wych(e:** see Which, Whitch, Wich, Witch *sb.*

Wych elm, witch elm (witʃelm). Forms: *α.* 7 weech, 7–8 wich, 7–9 witch elm. *β.* 8– wych elm. (Also hyphened.) [f. Witch *sb.*[3] + Elm. Cf. the slightly earlier *witchen elm.*] A species of elm, *Ulmus montana*, having broader leaves and more spreading branches than the Common elm; the witch hazel or Scots elm; also, the wood of this.

α. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 473 A Clone of a Weech-Elme, grafted vpon the Stocke of an Ordinary Elme, will put forth Leaues, almost as broad as the Brimme of ones Hat. 1633 T. Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* 1482 *Vlmus folio glabro*, Witch Elme, or smooth leaued Elme. *a* 1691 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts.* (1847) 54 Wich-hazells, as we call them in Wilts (in some counties wich-elmes). 1725 Addison *Drummer* ii. 1, There's a good deal of Virtue in that [Conjurer's] Wand —I fancy 'tis made out of Witch-Elm. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 215, I here write of..the common Elm, and the witch Elm. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. Introd. 2 The witch-elm that shades Saint Fillan's spring. 1830 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxxvii, Witch-elms that counterchange the floor Of this flat lawn with dusk and bright.

β. 1769 Barrington in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 34 The Wych (or broad-leaved) elm. 1778 Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* I. 152 The variety with a smooth bark and leaf, commonly called the Wych-Elm. 1845 Faber *Rosary*, etc. 86 Many a bay, By ..a drooping wychelm fanned. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1189 Forked branches of Wych Elm..were used as divining-rods. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 317 The Wych elm is a hardy tree, of rapid growth.

b. *attrib.*, as *wych-elm faggot, foliage, tree.*

1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 28 To fill up the drains with witch-elm faggots. 1868 Lytton *Str. Story* II. 11 In this yard there stood an old wych-elm tree. 1897 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 8/3 Bunches of wych-elm foliage.

Wych(e)sale, obs. vars. Vouchsafe. **Wycht,** obs. Sc. f. Wight *a.* **Wycke,** obs. var. Week *sb.*

† Wycliffan. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. as next + -an.] A Wycliffite.

1400 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 92 He is callid an heretike that heresies sowith, as Arians, Wyclyfanes, Sabellyanes, and other.

Wycliffian, -ifian (wiklifiăn), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms: (see quots.). [ad. med.L. *Wyclyvian-us*, or directly f. *Wycliffe, -clif*, etc.: see Wycliffite.]

† A. *sb.* = Wycliffite *sb. Obs.*

[*c* 1400 *Knighton's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 184 Sicque a vulgo Wyclyff discipuli et Wyclyviani sive Lollardi vocati sunt. *Ibid.* 312 Idem archiepiscopus firmavit sententiam excommunicationis super Lollardos sive Wyclyvianos.] 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 965/2 Chaucer..semeth to bee a right Wicleuian. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 100 It had been easily answered, in that poynt, by the Wickleuians. 1654 H. Turberville *Man. Controv.* 47 Let him not cite the Wicklefians, for they held, That [etc.]. 1727 Earbery *Prof. Varillas' Pretended Reformers* p. vi, Our new Allies the Lutherans, Calvinists, and Wicklifians.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to, characterizing the teaching of, Wycliffe or his followers.

1720 Lewis *Life Wyclif* 214 The Wicliffian Superstition which obliges the Ministers of the Church to be Beggars. 1889 *Q. Rev.* April 510 Some of the sentiments are exclusively Wi...

Hence **† Wycliffianism,** = next. *Obs.*[−1]

1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. 90 That Principle of Wickleffianism,..which the Jesuites themselves so loudly hoot at.

Wycliffism, -ifism (wi·klifiz'm). *Church Hist.* Forms: (see quots.). [f. as next + -ism.] The religious doctrines or tenets advocated or propagated by Wycliffe, or held by his followers.

1673 in S. Knight *Life J. Colet* (1724) 267 To prevent the Growth of Wicklivism. 1732 Neal *Hist. Purit.* I. 4 Urban ..writ to young King Richard II,..to put a stop to the progress of Wickliffism. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 145 Wickliffism took shelter in Wales, when it was persecuted in England. 1814 W. Wilson *Hist. Dissent. Churches* IV. 487 He passed a law, making the profession of Wickliffism a capital offence. 1861 Goldw. Smith *Inaugural Lect.* 37 England..has not been the parent of great religious movements, excepting Wycliffism. 1884 *Brit. & For. Evang. Rev.* Oct. 620 John Stokes pronounced Hus's doctrines to be pure Wycliffism.

Wycliffist, -ifist (wi·klifist), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms: (see quots.). [f. as next + -ist. Cf. med.L. *Wiclefistæ* (Du Cange).]

A. *sb.* = Wycliffite *sb.* ? *Obs.*

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. iii. 501 The sect of Wiclifistis, whiche aȝens the vij. principal gouernaunclis..rehercid bi the proces of this present book holden [etc.]. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 244 A Frere Augustyn..felle in the secte of Wiclefistis. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 352/2 In Boheme the Hussites, in England the wicliffystes. 1565 Shacklock tr. *Hosius* 14 Whiche couet rather to be counted Carolstadians then Lutherans & other new Wicleffistes. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 807 Frater Robertus Rose ..writ much, yet neuer offended the VVickleuists. 1655 Fuller *Hist. Cambr.* 57 John Bromiard..came to Cambridge,..sent thither..to ferret out the Wicklivists. 1673 Hickman *Hist. Quinquart.* 443 Wickliffists did maugre all the malice of their Adversaries increase. 1726 in M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 27 The Wicklefists and Waldenians were against Episcopacy as being against the Pope. 1728 Lowth *Life William of Wykeham* 207 The Wickliffists were persecuted and dispersed. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* s.v. *Wicliff*, An account of his distinguishing tenets, and those of his followers,..Wickliffists and Lollards.

transf. 1679 Oldham *Sat. Jesuits* iii. (1681) 65 The dangerous Works of that old Lollard, Paul; That arrant Wickliffist.

B. *adj.* = Wycliffite *a.*

1725 Lewis *Life Pecock* (1744) 320 In much the same manner does the bishop recommend these books to the Wiclifist laity.

Wycliffite, -ifite (wi·klifəit), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms: 6 *Sc.* Wicleift, 7 Wicklif- (7–8 -lev-), 8 Wicliv-, 8–9 Wicliff- (9 Wiclif-, Wiklif-), Wickliff-, 9 Wycliff-, Wycliffite. [ad. med. or early mod. L. *Wiclefita*, etc., f. the name of John *Wycliffe* or *Wyclif* (*c* 1320–1384; also spelt *Wiclif*, etc.), English theologian, writer, and religious reformer, + -ite[1] 1 b.]

A. *sb.* One who held or propagated the religious tenets or doctrines of Wycliffe; a follower of Wycliffe; = Wycliffian, Wycliffist *sbs.*

1580 J. Hay in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 54 Heresies, of the Albigenses, Waldenses, Wiclefits, Husaits. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Wicklivites*, the followers of Wicklif. 1684 S. G. *Anglorum Spec.* 796 Eleanor Cobham was persecuted for being a Wicklevite. 1720 Lewis *Life Wyclif* 108 A most effectual Way to ruine the poor Wicliffites. 1778 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 390 The Wickliffites entirely grounded their ideas..on scriptural proofs. 1813 T. D. Whitaker *Visio P. Pl.* p. xviii, That he..taught almost all the fundamental doctrines of Christianity has no tendency to prove him a Wicklifite or Lollard. 1830 Forshall & Madden *Holy Bible* I. p. xxxiii. *note*, The Wycliffites..were not backward to defend their right to have the Scriptures in their own language. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Gleam.* Ser. ii. 37 [Bishop] Richard Fleming had also been a Wiklifite.

B. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to, written or made by, Wycliffe or his followers.

1843 Way *Prompt. Parv.* 316 *note*, In the earlier Wicliffite version. 1880 F. D. Matthew *Wyclif's Wks.* p. xxviii, That he really held Wyclifite opinions. 1884 J. R. Thomas *Life Wiclif* 86/1 The Wicliffite tenets spread most rapidly. 1896 Skeat in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 219 A diligent student of Wycliffite literature.

2. Of persons: That is a follower of Wycliffe; holding, advocating, or propagating the religious views of Wycliffe and his school.

1873 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 450 The Wycliffite or Lollard preachers had raised a cry against the clergy. 1880 F. D. Matthew *Wyclif's Wks.* p. xxix. (*heading*), Wyclifite Party crushed.

† Wycliffise, *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 Wioclifise. [f. as prec. + -ize.] *intr.* To espouse or advocate the views of Wycliffe (esp. as to Church property).

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* vi. 302 The Lay Parliament,.. which did wholly Wiccliffise, kept in the twelfth year of King Henry the fourth.

Wy·cliffry, -fry. [f. as prec. + -ry. Cf. Lollardry.] = Wycliffism.

1896 J. H. Wylie *Hist. Eng. Hen. IV*, III. 457 The very treatise on the Church..[by] Hus, is nothing but Wiclifry transplanted word for word into Bohemia. 1900 — *Council Constance* 147 Wenzel gave no support to Wyclifry.

Wycre, obs. f. Wicker. **Wydder(e,** obs. ff. *wider* (see Wide), Whither *adv.* **Wyddie,** obs. f. Widdy. **Wyddo, -ow(e, Wydew,** etc., obs. ff. Widow, etc. **Wyd(e,** obs. ff. Wide *adv.* **† Wyde.** *Obs.*[−1] A variety of apple-tree.

1525 Fitzherbert *Husb.* 42 Dyuers apple trees that haue knottes in the bowes, as casses or wydes, and suche other that wyll growe on slauynges.

Wyder, obs f. Whither *adv.* **Wydraught,** etc., obs. ff. Withdraught. **Wydue,** etc., obs. ff. Widow *sb.*[1] **Wydur, -yr,** obs. ff. Whither *adv.*

† Wye[1]. Latterly *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 wiza, 4 wize, wihe (whi, whie, whiz) wyȝe, wy3 (wiȝh), wiez, 5 wiȝ, 4–5 wyghe, 4–6 wye, 4–5, 6 *Sc.* wy, 4, 6 wie. *β.* 4 weiz, weiȝh, weih (wehy), 4–5 weiȝe, weie (4 waie), weye, 5 wey, wegh (whegh, whe), we, 5–6 wee. [OE. *wiga*, f. the weak grade of the stem repr. by *wīg* Wi *sb.* Cf. OHG. *widerwigo* 'rebellis', and *Wigo* as a proper name.]

In OE. chiefly, and in later use only, in poetic use.

1. One who fights; a fighting man; a warrior or soldier.

a. *Beowulf* 629 He þæt ful ȝeþeah, wælreow wiza, æt Wealhþeon. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* i. xv. (1890) 30 And hi þa sona hider sendon maran sciphere strengran wiȝhena. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 210 Swa hi bylde forð bearn Ælfrices, wiza wintrum ȝeong. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 581 Syþen þe brawden bryne of bryȝt stel rynges Vmbeweued þat wyȝ vpon wlonk stuffe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3787 William & his wiȝes were armed wel sone. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 56 [He] wente in-to Wales with his wyes alle. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 499 The wyis quhar the wicht went war in wa wellit. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 505 With mony wy that worthie war and wycht, [he] Appeirit thair richt sone. 15.. [see *β*].

β. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1030 (Ashm. MS.), Bot wees wiȝtly with-in þe wallis ascendid, Freschely fendid of. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1212 Mony woundit we from his weppont paste. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* liv. (Douce MS.), Þe wees, þat werene wounded so wobely... Surgenes sone saued. 1515 *Scottish Field* 493 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), A yong knight, ..Sir William Warkehoppe..was the wees [*Percy MS.* wyes] name. *Ibid.* 637 Now is this fuirse feilde foughten to an ende; Many a wee wanted his horse, and wandered home on fote.

2. A noble, vigorous man; hence *gen.*, a man, a person.

In very freq. use from *c* 1340 to *c* 1420, esp. in *α*-form.

α. *a* 900 *Andreas* 1711 (Gr.), Hie ða ȝebrohton æt hrimes næsse on wæȝhele wiȝan unsiawne. *a* 1000 *Menologium* 160 Se þe fæȝere in mid wætere oferwearp wuldres cynebearn, wiga weorðlice. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 579 Þen alle þe wyȝez in þe worlde myȝt wyanne By þe way of ryȝt to aske dome. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 371 Wis holde ȝe no whi but ȝif he wel conne Faire tempren his tounge. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 98 Went neuere wy in this worlde thorw that wildernesse, That he ne was robbed. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1628 In þe same wedes, For all þis werld as þis wy wendes now attyred. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxix, Scho was the worthiliest wyghte, þat any wy myghte welde. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lion & Mouse* xxxii, Thair is na wy that will my harmis wreik. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxx. 50, I awoik as wy that wes in weir. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. xi. 19 Sone slaid scho down wnsene of ony wy. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 739 Sen ye ar pleisit to pleise ane vthir wy.

β. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 17 Þanne weies of worschipe, wittie & quainte, Wiþ his lettres he let to þe lud sende. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 281 'Sertes,' þan seide þemperour,..'I am þat ilk weiȝh'; 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 374 'Holy writt,' quod that weye, 'wisseth men to suffre'. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 134 He passis his way, Vn-wetandly to any wee. *Ibid.* 383 His liknes he changis, Worthis agayn to a wee, fra a worme turnys.

b. Used as a form of address.

Alex. 2302 Welcom we [*Dubl.* wye], at all þe werd sall wyn with þi handis. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 57 Sen thy will is to wend, wy, now in weir, Lake that wisly thow wirk. 1515 *Scottish Field* 257 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), I will wynde you to wrake, wees, I you heete.

c. Without article. (Cf. Man *sb.*[1] 2.)

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2039, I am wyse at ȝour wylle to worch youre heat. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 337 Hadde neuere wye witte to worche þe leste. 1399 — *Rich. Redeles*

m. 28b Pis wari in welth with wy vppon erthe Myzte not longe dure. *c* 1580 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) x. 51 Thair is nocht wie Can estimie My sorrow.

d. Applied to the Deity. *rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2442 Pe wyze hit yow paide Þat vp-haldes Þe heuen and on hyȝ sittez. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* iii. 39 Be the wy that all the warld wrocht.

3. *transf.* A woman; a lady. *rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2356 Thou shalt haue riches more Rife ..Þan any lady in al land, ..And more likandly lyf..as a wee noble. *c* 1580 A. Scott *Poems* xxxi. 34, I lufe Þe wy Will nocht apply, Nor grant to gife me grace agane.

Wye[2] (wəi). *techn.* (See quots. and cf. Y 3.)

1867 Davies & Peck *Math. Dict., Wyes*, the supports of the telescope in the theodolite and level. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Wye*, a Y or crotch. Used in many ways as a temporary shore or brace. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-mining* 295 *Wye* (C(umb.)), the beam-end connection above the pump-rods of a winding and pumping engine.

Wye, north. dial. var. Quey; obs. var. Weigh *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] **Wye byt**, var. Way-bit *Obs.* **Wyefie**, var. Weved *Obs.* **Wyefe**, obs. f. Wife. **Wyel**, **Wyelde**, **Wyeldeware**, **Wyele**, **Wyelfoyle**, **Wyell**, obs. ff. Whelk, Wield, Wild-fowl, Wildware, Weel[2], Wile. **Wyer**, obs. f. Weir, Wire *sb.* and *v.* **Wyes**, **wyese**, etc., obs. forms of Wise *sb.* and *a.* **Wyet**, **Wyete**, **Wyeued**, **Wyeve**, **Wyeygt**, obs. ff. White *a.*, Wit *v.*[1], Weved, Weave *v.*, Weight *sb.*[2] **Wyf**, **wyfe**, **wyff(e**, obs. ff. Wife *sb.* **Wyfyne**, Sc. var. Wiven *a. Obs.* **Wygeon**, **Wyghe**, obs. ff. Widgeon, With *prep.*, Wye[1], **Wyghte**, obs. f. Weight *sb.*[1], White *a.* **Wyjtsaue**, obs. var. Vouchsafe *v.* **Wygorusly**, obs. Sc. f. Vigorously *adv.* **Wyhee**, var. Wehee *v.* **Wyhylle**, obs. f. Wile *sb.* **Wylce**, obs. Sc. f. Wise *a.* **Wyif**, obs. f. Wife. **Wyill**, obs. Sc. f. Wile. **Wyir**, Sc. var. Vire *sb.*[1] *Obs.* **Wyis**, etc., obs. Sc. ff. Wise. **Wyk(e**: see Week *sb.*, Wick, and Wiken *Obs.*

†**Wyke**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* (Of obscure origin and meaning: not obviously connected with OE. *wícan*.)

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxix. 87 Ofte when y syke, with care y am thourh-soht, When y wake y wyke, of serewe is al mi thoht.

†**Wyke**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [ad. MDu. *wijcken* (Du. *wijken*) to give way, depart, etc.] *intr.* To give way, to withdraw.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 67 In nede alwey [I] haue byden by yow where other beestis haue wyked and goon theyr way [Du. *ontweechen*]. *Ibid.* 71 It is better that we wyke [Du. *wijchen*] and departe, than we sholde..fyghte with hym.

Wyked, obs. form of Wicked *a.*

†**Wykeha·mic**, *a. Obs.*[—1] In 8 Wickhamick. [See Wykehamist and -ic.] = Wykehamical *a.* 1.

a 1721 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 69 Thus from the two Wickhamick Springs shall rise Diffusive streams the Church to fertilise.

Wykehamical (wike·mikăl), *a.* Also 8–9 Wiccam-, 9 Wyccohamical. [f. as prec. + -al. The form *Wiccamical* is ad. mod.L. *Wiccamic-us.*]

1. Of or pertaining to Winchester College, or the pupils or staff of this; = Wykehamist *a.*

1758 C. Golding *Def. Cond. Warden Winchester Coll.* 38 He hath given the Electors Liberty to take a Person..from within the Wykehamical Societies. 1791 Huddesford *Salmag.* 101 William of Wickham, a Song for the Wiccamical Anniversary. 1830 W. L. Bowles *Life Ken* I. 18 Dulce Domum, the old Wykehamical song. *Ibid.* 23 The great object of Wykehamical hopes, New College. 1878 H. C. Adams *Wykehamica* xxii. 397 In Wykehamical phrase, the *nanum* 26 Jan. 105/3 If we were asked to select the typical Wykehamical epitaph.

2. That is or has been a pupil of, or connected with, Winchester College.

1844 R. Palmer in *Mem.* (1896) I. 364, I printed them for private and anonymous circulation among my Wykehamical friends. 1878 H. C. Adams *Wykehamica* xvii. 320 This oath is one of the things which the Wykehamical body ought to have abolished long ago. 1903 Fearon in C. E. Osborne *Fr. Dolling* ix, He was rapidly adopted within the Wykehamical family, and was what the school would have called 'a most patriotic Wykehamist'.

Hence **Wykeha·mically** *adv.*

1878 H. C. Adams *Wykehamica* xxiii. 418 *Chouse*, 'a shame'..Here the word has been Wykehamically diverted from its original meaning, viz. 'to cheat'.

Wykehamist (wi·kămist), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 Wykhamist, Wiccamist. [ad. mod.L. *Wykehamista* (16th c.), f. the name William of *Wykeham* (1324–1404), Bishop of Winchester, and founder of Winchester College (1382) and New College, Oxford (1379).]

A. *sb.* One who is or has been a pupil at Winchester College.

1758 C. Golding *Def. Cond.* 51 Lest any Wykhamist should be offended. 1773 *Hist. & Antiq. Winchester* I. 147 Andrew Phillips..shared the piety and doctrine of the Wiccamists. 1782 J. Nichols *Sel. Collect. Poems* VIII. 75 Young Gibber, being likewise a Wykehamist, called on Dr. Ridley. 1860 Walcott *Cathedrals* 251 That most characteristic gathering of Wykehamists old and young. 1885 *Athenæum* 4 July 24/3 The governors of Harrow have successively appointed the most learned and single-minded of Wykehamists. 1903 [see Wykehamical *a.* 2].

B. *adj.* = Wykehamical *a.* 1.

1864 (*title*), Wykehamist Meeting. The anniversary festival will be holden..May 17, 1865. 1867 Aug. G. Drane *Chr. Schools* II. vii. 260 The Wykehamist Colleges..opened the way to other foundations of a similar description. 1892 *Athenæum* 24 Feb. 212/1 It may reasonably be hoped that this is not Wykehamist Greek.

Wyker, **-ir**, **Wykker**, **Wykur**, etc., obs. ff. Wicker. **Wyket(t**, **Wykket(t**, obs. ff. Wicket. **Wykit**, **Wykked**, **-id**, etc., obs. ff. Wicked *a.* **Wykke**, obs. f. Wick *a.* **Wyl**, obs. f. Vile *a.*, While *sb.*, Will, Will *sb.* **Wylage**, obs. f. Village *sb.* **Wylanlyche**, obs. f. Villainly *adv.* **Wyld(e**, obs. ff. Weald, Wild. **Wylde**, obs. f. Wield. **Wyldren**, var. Wildern. **Wyldrenes(se**, obs. ff. Wilderness. **Wyldyng**, obs. var. Wielding *ppl. a.* **Wyle**, obs. Sc. f. Vile; var. Wale *v.*[1]; obs. f. Weel[2], Wheel, While, Wile. **Wyled**, **Wylem**, obs. ff. Wild, Whilom.

Wylecoat (wəi·likōt, -kŏt). *Sc.* (and *north.*). Forms: 5–6, 9 wyle-, 6 vyle-, vile-, wile-, wele-; 5–7 wyly-, 6 vily-, veli-, 6–7 weyli- (8 weily-), 6– wylie-, 8– wylicoat (9 wili-, wilie-); 7 wylli(e)-, 9 willy-, willey-, welli-; 7 waly-, vali-, 7, 9 walli-, 9 walacoat; also 5 -coyt, 5–8 -coat, 5–7 -cott, -cote, -coit, 5, 7– -coat. (Occas. as two words, or with hyphen.) [Of obscure origin: the forms of the second element agree throughout with those of Coat *sb.*, but the first has not been identified, and may be an alteration of some foreign term.]

1. An under-waistcoat, in earlier use esp. one worn under a doublet; an under-vest, woollen or flannel under-garment. ? *Obs.*

In latest quots. applied to some kind of outer garment.

1478 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 83/1 A doublat of Bukkessy with a wyle cot of quhit in it. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 295, v quarteris of Inglis quhit, to be the King ane wyly coit. 1505 *Ibid.* III. 109 For ane wyly cote undir his cote,..v s. vj d. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. Prol. 90 In double garmont cled and wyly coyt. 1561 in *Inv. de La Reyne Descosse* (Bann. Cl.) 23 Foure wylie coittis of quhite lambskynnis. 1648 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 279 To delywer to James Walker ane wyllicote worthe thrie poundis four shillingis. 1786 Burns *To a Louse* vi, I wad na been surpris'd to spy You on..some bit duddie boy On 's wyliecoat. 1820 Scott *Abbot* i, A hardy little boy..did not hesitate a moment to strip off his *wylie-coat*, [and] plunge into the water. 1823 *Mirror* I. 285/2 A wallicoat of white drugget, deep blue inexpressibles.

Prov. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 107 We can shape their wylie-coat, but no their wierd.

2. An under-petticoat.

Arch.

Gordoun. *a* 1586 Sir R. Maitland in *M. Quarto MS.* (S.T.S.) 2 Sumtyme thay will beir vp their goun, to schaw thair wylicot hingand doun. 1604 *Compt Bk. D. Wedderburne* (S.H.S.) 45 Ane narrow pece quhyt clayth..to be my lassis weylecottis. 1686 G. Stuart *Yoco-ser. Disc.* 32 The Sisters skewed their Wylycoats. 1725 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. xxii, The bride she made a fen, To sit in wylicoat nae braw. *a* 1793 *Cock-laird* in *Orpheus Caled.* 26, I man' ha'e a Silk Hood,..wylie coat, And a Silk snood. 1797 Pinkerton *Hist. Scot.* I. 154 The kirtle, or close gown, was rarely accompanied..with the wylicot or under petticot. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxii. 235 We are a pack o' silly craiture. A' thing that wears wilky-coats; no yin muckle to better anither [1898 — *Grey Man* iii. 23 Nell Kennedy with her wylicoats kilted.

Prov. 1721 Kelly *Scot. Prov.* 54 A Wife knows enough, who knows the good Man's Breeks from Weilycoat.

b. A feminine (or esp. in later use, a child's) night-dress.

c 1634 in C. K. Sharpe *Pref. to Law's Mem.* (1818) p. lviii, She was seen..standing bare-legged and in hir sark valicot ..conferring with the devill. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1851) II. 233 Scho gettis wp out of hir naiked bed in hir night wailycot, bairfut and bairleg. 1894–9 in Northumb. and Cumb. glossaries.

Wylk(e, **Wyll**, obs. ff. Which, Weel[2]. **Wyll**, **Wylle**, obs. ff. While, Wile. **Wyllanye**, **Wylly**, **Wylst**, obs. ff. Villainy, Wily, Whilst. **Wylt**, obs. f. Quilt *sb.* **Wyly(e**, **Wylys**, obs. ff. Wily, Whiles.

†**Wymalve.** *Obs. rare.* [Also 3 ymalue. [a. AF. *wimave*, *widmalve* (12th c.), = OF. *vi-*, *vis-mauve*, *vismalve*, etc. (F. *guimauve*):—pop.L. **viscomalva*, for **hibiscomalva*: see Hibiscus and Mallow.] = Wymote. (Cf. Vimaue.)

c 1265 *Voc. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556 *Althea*, i. ymalue, i. holihoc. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 22/2 *Bismalua*, *alia malua*, *altea idem*,..*anglice*, wymalue *uel* marshmalwe.

Wyme, obs. form of Wame.

Wymmen, obs. pl. form of Woman.

Wymote (wəi·mōt). Now *local.* Also 9 wymote, wimot(e. [Unexplained var. of Wymalve.] The marsh-mallow, *Althæa officinalis.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl. Wymot is *Ibiscus.* 1665 Lovell *Herbal* (ed. 2) 479 Wymot, see Marsh mallow. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 622 Marsh Mallow. Wymote. [Found in] salt marshes and banks of rivers. 1820 *S. W. Gaay Brit. Plants* II. 639 *Althæa officinalis.* Shop marsh-mallow..Wymote. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 482 *Wimote*,..common Marsh Mallow.

Wyn, obs. f. Ween *v.*, Win *v.* **Wynakar**, **-ir**, obs. Sc. f. Vinegar. **Wynbeme**, obs. f. Winderam. **Wyncouth**, **Wyncus**, obs. Sc. ff. Uncouth, Vanquish. **Wynd**, obs. f. Wind.

Wynd (weind). Chiefly *Sc.* (and *north. dial.*). Also 5, 8 wynde (6 vynd, wyne, 9 *north. dial.* wynnd), 5 winde, 8–9 wind (9 weind). [App. f. the stem of Wind *v.*[1] (cf. OE. *gewind* winding ascent, spiral, etc.); the long vowel indicates an OE. disyllabic form **winde* or **wynde*.]

1. A narrow street or passage turning off from a main thoroughfare; a narrow cross-street; a lane or alley: **a.** In Scotland (and northern England.)

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxvii. 4490 Pal til Edynburgh halde Þe way, And at Þe Freyr Wynde enteryt Þai. 1439 *Charters, etc. of Edinb.* (1871) 64 The comon venale callit Sanct Leonardis wynde. 1506 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 617/1 Le Nudryis Vynd infra burgum de Edinburgh. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 174 Seing a possest persone with the deuill .. rinn throuch gaitis, houses, closs, wynes, straits and streits frille. 1612 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 336 Bonnetts maid in Leith wynd. 1698 Sibbald *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 A house neer to the head of Blackfriers Wynd. 1727 De Foe *Tour Gt. Brit.* III. 30 Those Side Lanes which they call Wynds. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 28 Being in my retreat to pass through a long narrow wynde or alley,..a guide was assigned me. 1782 Sir J. Sinclair *Observ. Scot. Dial.* 165 Many narrow lanes, leading..down the sides of the hills; which lanes, from their being generally winding, .. are called *winds*. 1822 Scott *Nigel* ii, A sma' house at the fit of ane of the wynds. 1860 Sir J. B. Burke *Vicissi. Families* Ser. II. 153 The site of Appleby is exceedingly beautiful.. From this main street are narrow lanes, called *weinds*, jutting out towards the river Eden. 1886 Masson *Edinb. Sketches* (1890) 11 A multiplicity of narrow foot-passages called closes, with a few wider and more street-like cuttings called wynds.

b. Applied to similar lanes, etc., in other parts.

1863 Sir R. Alcock *Capital of Tycoon* I. 255 Black-toothed women..rush down the wynds and passages [in Yeddo] which lead to the great thoroughfare. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* II, Fresh from the cities of the Old World, and the short and stunted figures..which crowd our alleys and back wynds. 1894 Wenyan *Man in Black* viii. 168 The priest passed unharmed through the lowest wynds of Paris.

c. Without article.

1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* VI. xxi, From lane and wynd the sounds of gladness peal. 1826 W. E. Aytoun *Bothwell* 145 That cry..rung through street, and pealed through wynd.

2. *attrib.*, as *wynd house*; **wynd head**, the higher end of a narrow street.

1530 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 34 Fra the Wyndheid of Glasgw to the Grayfreris. 1668 J. Nicoll *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 443 [He] errectit ane staige betwixt Niddries and Black Friers wynd head. 1888 Barrie *When a Man's Single* i, The windows of the wynd houses.

Wyndak, **-ok**, obs. ff. Winnock *Sc.* **Wynde**, **Wyndel**, **-ille**, etc., obs. ff. Wind, Windle *sb.*[1]

Wyndi, var. Oundy *Obs.* (Cf. Undy.)

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-arm.* b v, The secunde [coat-armour] is calde wyndi, that is to say whan the felde is made like wawis of oon colloure or of diuerse colouris.

Wyndlas(e, **-lasse**, etc., obs. ff. Windlass.

†**Wyndre**, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *guingnier*, *guignier*, etc., to deck, trick out.] *trans.* To tsim, deck, or embellish (oneself, the brows, etc.).

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1018–1020 Fetys she was..; No wyntred [*sic*] browis had she [F. *ne fu pardee ne guignie*] Ne popped hir for it neded nought To wyndre hir [F. *de cest tiser*] or to peynte hir ought.

Wyndyrtak, **Wyne-ȝarde**, **-yaird**, obs. Sc. ff. Undertake *v.*, Vineyard. **Wynfall**, obs. f. Windfall.

†**Wyning.** *Obs.* Also 3 wynyng; 4 *pl.* wyn(e)wes, wynwys. [repr. OE. *winning* 'leg-band', of obscure formation.

For the later plural forms cf. *fenewes*, for the earlier *fenegas*, var. of *feningas*, pl. of *fening* Penny.]

A small strong rope for tying a sail; = Gasket 1.

1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/8 m. 13 Et iiij.s. in xij. duodenis de Wyninges emptis..ad velum. 1296 *Ibid.* 5/20 m. 5 In filo empto ad velum et vna pecia de Wynyng emptis de eodem. 1304 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 12/6 m. 3 In .ij. vellis, et Wynwes, et minutis cordellis. 1336 *Ibid.* 19/32 m. 5 Computat., in CC. xx. vlnis de Beluere emptis pro Wynewes inde faciendis ad dictum velum cum eisdem ligandum. 1422 in *For. Acc. 3 Hen. VI*, G/2 In..sepo Towe Wynwys et aliis diuersis ferramentis.

Wynk(e, obs. ff. Wing, Wink. **Wynland**, obs. Sc. pr. pple. of Windle *v.*[1] **Wynlas**, **-ase**, **-asse**, obs. ff. Windlass.

Wynn. (See quot.)

1863 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Wynn*, a kind of timber truck or carriage. [1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *ynd*, a truck or low carriage.]

Wynscott, obs. Sc. f. Wainscot. **Wyntermyte**: see Vitremite. **Wynwes**, pl.: see Wyning. **Wyolence**, **-ent**, obs. Sc. ff. Violence, Violent. **Wyolet**, obs. f. Violet.

Wype (wəip). Now *dial.* Also 7, 9 wipe. [Of doubtful etymology; perh. echoic, from its call. Cf. (M)Sw. and Norw. *vipa*, Sw. *tofsvipa*, Da. *vibe*, also Pewewerp, Pewwerp.] The lapwing.

c 1398 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 165 [La vanele e la pounsot: *glose*] a wype and waschere. *c* 1440 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 640 *Hec vpupa*, wype. 1512 in *Eart Northumb. Housek. Bk.* (1770) 104 It is thought goode that Wypes

be hade for my Lordes own Mees onely. 1g.. *Parth. Byrdes* 305 Thowgh thou be hasty, as the wype, And thy federe, flyght rype. 1579 HARK *Newes out of Powles* D ij b, Right Plouer, Snype, and Woodcock fine with Curlew, Wype and Rayle. 1804 J. MACKINNON *Messinghame* (1881) 18 Plover are here called Wipes, or Pywipes. 1895 *E. Anglt. Gloss.* s.v. *Wype*,..the lapwing or plover.

Wyp(p)e, obs. ff. WHIP. **Wyppit, wypt**, obs. pa. t. and ppls. of WIPE *v.* **Wyr**, Sc. var. VIRE *sb.*[1] *Obs.* **Wyrall**, obs. f. VIRL. **Wyroh**, obs. var. WORK *v.*

Wyrokyn, wyrkyn, obs. ff. FIRKIN.

1480 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 54 Yowr ij wyrkyns whon of samon and the tothyr of tony. *Ibid.* 177 A wyrckyn with gonstonys.

Wyrd(e, obs. variant of WEIRD *sb.* **Wyre**, Sc. var. VIRE *v.*[1] *Obs.* **Wyrfolk**, obs. variant of WORKFOLK. **Wyrgyne**, obs. Sc. f. VIRGIN. **Wyrie, wyry(e**, etc., obs. vars. WORRY *v.* **Wyris laud**: see URE *sb.*[4] **Wyrk, Wyrle, Wyrne, Wyros(u)nce**, etc., obs. ff. WORK *v.*, WHIRL *v.*, QUERN, WERGWANGE. **Wyrok**, Sc. var. WIRROCK. **Wyrstylle**, obs. f. WARSLE *v.* **Wyrt**, obs. Sc. f. WEIT *sb.* **Wys**: see BE *v.* A. 6, VICE *sb.*, VISE *v.*, WIS, WISE. **Wysage**, obs. Sc. f. VISAGE. **Wysar**, etc., obs. ff. VISOR, WIZARD *sb.* **Wyse**, var. VISE *v. Obs.*; obs. f. WISE. **Wysh**, var. WIS *v.*[1] *Obs.* **Wysk**, obs. Sc. var. WHISK *sb.* **Wysle**, var. WIZLE *dial.* **Wysment**, Sc. var. VISHMENT *Obs.* **Wysnit, -yt**, obs. Sc. ff. WIZENED *a.* **Wyson**, Sc. or north. f. WEASAND. **Wyss(e**, etc.. vars. WIS *adv.* and *v.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. ff. WISE. **Wyssel**, obs. f. WHISTLE *v.* **Wyssche**, etc., obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.* **Wyssheue**, obs. f. CUSHION *sb.* **Wyst(e**, obs. pa. t. and ppl. of WIT *v.*[1]

Wyste, southern ME. var. FIST *sb.*[1]

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 156 The bonde..that nowe in leynthe othyre in Palme hym streythyth, agayn into a wyste hym closyth.

Wystel, Wystyll: see WHISTLE, WISSEL.

Wyt, obs. f. WHIT, WHITE, WIGHT, WIT.

Wytale, Wytch(e, obs. ff. VICTUAL, WITCH.

Wytch(e, obs. ff. WHITCH (a chest).

1458–9 *Will A. Cole* (Somerset Ho.), A wythe in the universite of Oxforde called Cista Antiqua universitatis.

Wyte, obs. f. WHITE, WIGHT, WIT; var. WITE. **Wytel(e**, obs. ff. WHITTLE *sb.*[1] **Wytenge**, obs. f. WHITING *sb.* **Wytenomfa**, var. WEDNESDAY *Sc. Obs.* **Wyte-, Wythaave**, obs. vars. VOUCHSAFE *v.* **Wyth(e**, obs. ff. WEITH, WIGHT, WITH, WITHE. **Wythen(n)e**, vars. WHETHER *Obs.* **Wyther, -yr(e**, obs. Sc. ff. OTHER. **Wyth-sounday**, obs. form of WHIT SUNDAY. **Wytht(e**, obs. ff. WEITH, WIGHT. **Wyby**, contr. f. *with thi*: see WITH *prep.* 6. **Wytsaffe, -saue**, etc., obs. vars. VOUCHSAFE *v.* **Wytson(e**, obs. ff. WHITSUN. **Wytstare**, obs. f. WHITSTER. **Wyttail(e**, obs. vars. VICTUAL. **Wytt(e**, obs. ff. WEIGHT *sb.*, WHITE, WIT *sb.* and *v.* **Wytyng**, obs. f. WHITING *vbl. sb.* **Wyue, wyve**, obs. ff. WIFE *sb.*, WIVE *v.* **Wyvel**, etc., obs. ff. WEEVIL. **Wyver**, obs. Sc. var. WEAVER[1].

† **Wyver.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 guiure, 5 gwyuer (gwuer), 4–5 wiuere, 5 wiver, 6–7 wiuer; 4–5 wyuere, 5–7 wyuer, 7 wyver. [a. OF. *wyvre, wivre, guivre* (F. *guivre, givre*), etc., vars. *vivre* serpent: see VIVER[2].]

1. A viper. Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3609 (Laud MS.), Addres, guiures, & dragouns, Wolden þis folk.. Envenymen & abite. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1010 Ialousye..þat wikkede wyuere. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 34 Wherfore..ye ne ought..accompte thilke thing [*sc.* jealousy] among these other welked wivers and venomous serpentes, as envy, mistrust, and yvel speche. *c* 1400 *Partonope* 7079 Now is he allone in þe wildernesse Amonge wyuerse and serpentes. *Ibid.* 7254 Maruk shewed hir grete lyons,..Dragons, Wyuers, and eke serpentes.

2. *Her.* = WYVERN 1.

1599 TYMME *Animado.* (1875) 42 A Wyuer is a kynde of serpent of good Bulke, not vnlyke vnto a dragon, of whose kinde he is, a thinge well knowen vnto the Heroldes, vsinge the same for armes, and crestes, & supporters. *Ibid.* 42 The erle of Kent bearethe a wiuer for his Creste and supporters; the erle of Penbroke, a wiuer vert for his Creste. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 893 A wiuer volant. *Ibid.* 894 A Wyuer being the Armes of Hugh Brent Esquire. 1638 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Wyver*, the name of an Animal, little known otherwise than as it is depicted in Blazonry.

3. *Wyver-fish*, some chimerical fish. *nonce-use.*

1587 MASSINGER *Parliam* IV. 133 Upon that he [*sc.* the Demon] shot out his wings, that were like the fins of the wyver-fish, sharpened in venemous points.

Wyvern (wai·vəm). Also 7 wiu-, wiverne, 8–9 wivern (8 wefforne). [f. prec., with excrescent *-n* (see note on RUTTIER[1]).]

1. *Her.* A representation of a chimerical animal imagined as a winged dragon with two feet like those of an eagle, and a serpent-like, barbed tail.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxvi. 182 So doth the Wiuerne partake of a Fowle in the Wings and Legs,..and doth resemble a Serpent in the Talle. 1682 J. GIBBON *Introd. ad Lat. Blasoniam* 123 I his Dragon hath but two Legs, and so

3605/2 A Wivern volant Bendways Sable. *Ibid.*, A Wyvern with a human Face. 1822 GAGE *Hengrave* 38 A squirrel..impaling a coat argent, on a chevron, between three wyvern's heads. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* x. 68 Two Wyverns also support the shield of the Duke of Rutland. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 200 The wings of the Dragon..and Wyvern are always represented as addorsed. *attrib.* 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 214/1 He beareth Vert, ..a Wivern-Wolf. *Ibid.*, He beareth Azure, a Wivern-Serpent, Or.

b. An image or figure of this monster.

1863 *Chr. Remembrancer* Oct. 436 The name of S. Romanus ..is still dear to the boys and girls of Norman villages by sundry processions of dragons, wyverns,..made of combustibles. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 17 Sir Aylmer Aylmer, that almighty man..Whose blazing wyvern weathercock'd the spire. *Ibid.* 516 The manorial lord..Burst his own wyvern on the seal, and read..a letter from his child.

2. Such a monster conceived as having a real existence.

? *a* 1700 in Surtees *Hist. Durham* (1823) III. 243 Sir John Conyers, Knt., slew y[t] monstrous and poysonous vermine or wyverne, an aske or werme, wh[ich] overthrew and devoured many people in fight. 1820 SURTEES *Ibid.* II. 172 [He] goes forth to slay wolf, bear, or wivern. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* II. 454 Lakes which..Blaze like a wyvern flying round the sun. 1869 *Tales fr. Blackwood* XV. 74 As if she had been a Wyvern or a Gorgon.

Wyvoll, Wyvyl, obs. ff. WEEVIL. **Wywe**, obs. f. WEAVE *v.* **Wywere**, obs. var. VIVER[1]. **Wyyfe, Wy3ffe**, obs. ff. WIFE. **Wyys**, obs. f. WISE *a.* **Wyzen**, Sc. or north. f. WEASAND.

X.

X (eks), pl. X's, *Xs* (e·ksɛz), the twenty-fourth letter of the modern and the twenty-first of the ancient Roman alphabet, corresponding in form and position to the Greek Χ. The early Greek forms + X represented the aspirated voiceless velar (kh) in the Ionian alphabet, and (ks) in the Chalcidian alphabet. (In the former, (ks) was denoted by Ξ, in the latter, (kh) was denoted by Ψ.) X was adopted by the Latins with the value (ks) from the Greek alphabet introduced into Italy. The ancient Roman name of the letter was *ix*, which is that given by Ælfric in his Grammar (*c* 1000).

Words having initial *x* (pronounced as *z*) in English are nearly all of Greek origin; a few, as *xebec*, *Xeres*, have *x* representing early Sp. *x* (now *j*). In OE. *x* was used medially and finally as a variant spelling of *cs* (whether original or standing for *sc*), e.g. *æx*, *eax* = *æcus*, *acus*, *æsc* AXE, *áxian* = *ácsian*, *áscian* to ASK, *fixas*, pl. of *fisc* FISH, *fixian* = *fiscian* to FISH, *waxan* = *wascan* to WASH. Other variants are *cx*, *kx*, *xs*, *cxs*, *hxs*, as *mœohx*, *micxen* MIXEN, *æxsan* ASHES. Similar spellings occur in the Cotton MS. of Cursor Mundi, e.g. *flexs*(*s* flesh, *wexs* wash, *fixses* fishes; the same MS. has the unexplained spellings *fux*(*o*)*l*, *foux*(*s*)*l*, etc. of FOWL *sb.* In East Anglian texts of the 14th to the 16th century *x* is frequently written for initial *sc*, *sch* in *xal* shall, *xuld* should; *xsal* also is found in the Paston Letters; instances of other words so written are only occasional, e.g. *xad* shed (pa. pple.), *xowyn* shove, *xuldrys* shoulders. Initial *x* stands for *sh* (or *s*) in early forms of some oriental words, as *xerif* SHEREEF (after early Sp. *xerife*), *xaraffe*, *-aff* SARAF, and *Xinto* SHINTO. Other temporary uses of *x*, but with its normal value (ks), are found in the once general *axes*, *axis* ACCESS, *hunx* HUNKS, and the less common *exelent* EXCELLENT, *exite* EXCITE; on the other hand *pox* = *pocks* has become permanent, and *sox* has been adopted in the hosiery trade as a convenient shortening of *socks*.

1705 WELLS *Kipps* ii. § 1 He would have considered himself the laughing stock of Wood Street if he had chanced to spell *socks* in any way but 'sox'.

The phonetic values of *x* in English are three, of which the commonest is (ks), as in *axis* (æ·ksis), *buxom* (bʊ·ksəm), *doxology* (dɒksɒ·lŏdʒi), *excuse* (ekskiū·z), *expense* (ekspe·ns), *oxen* (ɒ·ks'n), *proximity* (prɒksi·mĭti), *tax* (tæks). The pronunciation of the prefix *ex-* followed by a vowel or *h* varies according as it bears the stress or not, the general rule being that *e·x—* = (eks) and *ex—·* = (ɛgz), as *exile* (e·kseil), *exact* (ɛgzæ·kt), *exhort* (ɛgzɔ·ĭt); but there is considerable variety in individual words and individual usage: see EX-*prefix*1 1 note. The same general principle governs the pronunciation of *anxious* (æ·ŋkʃəs), *anxiety* (æŋgzai·ĕti), *luxury* (lʊ·kshĭri, lʊ·kʃəri), *luxurious* (lʊgziū·riəs, lʊgzhū·riəs), *Alexander* (ælĕgzɑ·ndəɹ), *Alexandrine* (ælĕgzɑ·ndrin); but here also individual usage varies. The third value (z), arising from a reduction of (gz), is given in all cases to initial *x*, as *Xerxes* (zɔ·ɹksiz); this value is shown in many instances in the 17th and 18th centuries by the spelling with *z*, as *Zanthian*, *uebeck*, *Zeres*, and instances are not uncommon in the 19th century of *xantho-* and *xylo-* for *xantho-* and *xylo-*; early examples are *Zanctus* Xanthus (Lydg. *Troy Bk.* II. 731 rubric, 15th cent.), *zyphe* XIPH (1572). Cf. *Santippa* Xanthippe (Chaucer), *Cerses* Xerxes (Wyntoun *Chron.*, S.T.S., III. 54). A similar reduction of *x* took place in French:

x, if he be the fyrste letter of a worde, as *xenotrophe*, [se *xenotrophe*, is also a greke ... i. xxv.)

I. 1. The letter or its sound.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z.) 6, *x* ana ongynð of þam stafe *s* æfter uðwitena tæcinga. 1570 PALSGR. 38 Note that *x* shall never be sounded in frenche lyke as he is in latyn, or as we wolde do in our tonge, in no wyse, but lyke an *s*. *c* 1600 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 12 The top of the tongue stryking on the inward teeth formes d, l, n, r, s, t, and z. The midle tongue stryking on the rouf of the mouth formes the rest, c, g, k, j, q, and x. 1636 B. JONSON *Engl. Gram.* I. iv, X is rather an abbreviation, or way of writing with us, then a Letter;..It begins no word with us, that I know, but ends ... pression. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Lord of Thoulouse* xxi, His cap, and his queer cloak all X's and Izzards. *a* 1849 POE *Tales, X-ing a Paragrab*, When the exigency does occur, it almost always happens that *x* is adopted as a substitute for the letter deficient. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. (ed. 3) 360 Az., on a cross arg. the letter X sa. 1878 W. J. CHIPPS *Old Engl. Plate* 110 Much of the old.. plate of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries that is still to be found in the counties of Devon and Cornwall bears the old Exeter mark, which was a large Roman capital letter X crowned.

b. The letter considered with regard to its shape: chiefly *attrib.* and *Comb.* Hence identified with a cross. *X's and O's*: the game of noughts and crosses.

1545 ELYOT, *Decussis*..is also a fourme in any thynge representynge the letter X, whiche parted in the myddell maketh an other figure called *Quincunx*, V. 1769 in C. Welsh *Bookseller of Last Cent.* 354 Those [books] with an X. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 28 July 2/1 Chairs in sets..with W tableau and X backs. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 876 The said pin traverses the X groove from side to side. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 176/1 Suppose a cross like an X or V to be cut out of brass-plate. 1861 HAGEN *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 213 An *x*-shaped spot. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xii, The boy leaped the new X fence very cleverly. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 402, I will write your name..on the paper..and you must make an 'x' behind your name. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 92 It wasna playing at x's and o's to be steering for that crossbones of a Dutchman. 1899 JESSE L. WILLIAMS *Stolen Story*, etc. 54 Billy, reaching the end of the page, made a double X mark to show that it was the end of the story. 1911 P. BRIDGES *Green Wave of Destiny* xiv. 211 There was just room between the humps for two narrow sacks placed X-wise.

c. Used like other letters of the alphabet to denote serial order, as in the signatures of the sheets of a book, the batteries of the Royal Horse Artillery, etc.

II. Symbolic uses.

2. The Roman numeral symbol for ten (or † tenth); so XX = twenty (in early use also for 'score', as iij^{xx} = 'three score', 60; also occas. xx^{ti} = L. *viginti*), XXX, occas. xxx^{ty} = thirty, etc.

c 1000 *O. E. Chron.* an. 409 (Parker MS.) Þæt wæs embe xi. hund wintra & x. wintra þes þe heo getimbred was. *a* 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. (1850) I. 17 There weren not left ..no but v. hundrid horsmen, and x. charis, and x. thousind of footmen. 1486 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 72 Þour x. comawndmentis ȝe most con. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacyon* ... s. in hys ... 9 For j. m. jᵒ iiij^{xx} maryners. 1481–90 *Ibid.* 451 The nombir of the horse ys vij^{xx} iij. 1488 *Henry's Wallace* v. 909 Xxx^{ty} with him off nobill men at wage. 1489 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 350 Wretyn at London, the x. day of Februar. 1535 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 126 To my valentyn Agnes Illyon x s. 1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 53 Frome London the xth daye of Apryll. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. ii, If my watch keep faire decorum, Three quarters have neere past the figure X. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* 241 Pope Leo the Xs time.

†b. *X^{r}*: abbreviation of *December*. *Obs.*

1624 SIR W. ASTON in Goodman *Court Jas. I* (1839) II. 369 Madrid, 24 of X^{r} 1624.

c. *X*: a ten-dollar note. *XX*: a twenty-dollar note. *U. S. colloq.*

1837 *Knickerbocker Mag.* IX. 96 My wallet..distended with V's and X's to its utmost capacity. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* xx, The Custom-House officials..who know the green side of a XX.

3. In *Algebra* and *Higher Mathematics* used as the symbol for an unknown or variable quantity (or for the first of such quantities, the others being denoted by *y*, *z*, etc.); *spec.* in analytical geometry, the sign for an abscissa, or quantity measured along the principal axis of co-ordinates (hence called the *axis of* x). Hence allusively for something unknown or undetermined (also *attrib.* and in *Comb.*). See also X RAYS.

The introduction of *x*, *y*, *z* as symbols of unknown quantities is due to Descartes (*Géométrie*, 1637), who, in order to provide symbols of unknowns corresponding to the symbols *a*, *b*, *c* of knowns, took the last letter of the alphabet, *z*, for the first unknown and proceeded backwards to *y* and *x* for the second and third respectively. There is no evidence in support of the hypothesis that *x* is derived altimately from the mediæval transliteration *xei* of ⟨ *shei* 'thing', used by the Arabs to denote the unknown quantity, or from the compendium for L. *res* 'thing' or *radix* 'root' (resembling a loosely-written *x*), used by mediæval mathematicians.

1660 J. MOORE *Arith.* II. I. § 19. 26 (*Algebra*) Note always the given quantities or numbers with Consonants, and those which are sought with Vowels, or else the given quantities with the former letters in the Alphabet, and the sought with the last sort of letters, as *z y x*, &c. lest you make a confusion in your work. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* IV. iii. (1713) 380 Let *y* = *AS* the Abscissa, and *z* = *SP*, put *x* = *As* the Distance between the two Semi-ordinates; which we suppose to be infinitely near each other. 1728 E. STONE *New Math. Dict.* s.v. *Conoid*, If *a* be equal to the Transverse Axis of the Hyperbola, generating a Conoid, and *x* be the Heighth of the Conoid, or the Abscisa of the Hyperbola. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 269 The equation of any curve, is an algebraic expression, which denotes the relation betwixt the ordinate and abscissa; the abscissa being equal to *x*, and the ordinate equal to *y*. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 175/2 (*Kant*) What is that unknown principle (= X) on which the understanding relies, when of the subject A it finds a foreign predicate B, and believes itself justified in asserting their necessary connexion? 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 89 The *x* of the Egyptian equation being pretty obviously the Egyptian people. 1898 W. T. STEAD in *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/4 What manner of man is its author? He is the X in the equation. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* ii. 15 Research in the X-region is not a new thing under the sun. 1903 GREENOUGH & KITTREDGE *Words* v. 53 To make fun of the x's and y's of the algebraist. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 May 4/3 There is 'a wholesome distrust,' says Professor Ewing, 'of what may be called *x*-chasing.

b. Hence used *attrib.* as an indeterminate numeral adj. = 'an unknown number of..' Chiefly *humorous*.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, The black porker's killed—weighed *x* stone. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 965 In the union of egg and sperm we witness the joining together of but two sets of characters and not that of 'x' sets derived from as many ancestors.

c. Put for a person's name when unknown or left undetermined. Also X. Y. (See also 5.)

1797 in *Corr. Pinckney, Marshall & Gerry* (1798) 36 We have promised Messrs. X. and Y. that their names shall in no event be made public. 1798 *Ibid.* 83 The names designated by the letters W. X. Y. Z. in the following copies of letters from the Envoys of the United States to the French Republic. 1820 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 125 As to Mr. *x*, I borrow, on this occasion for his use, one of the names employed by mathematicians for the designation of their unknown quantities. 1848 THACKERAY *Ballads of Policeman X, Bow Street* ad fin., Pleaceman X 54. *Ibid., Three Christmas Waits* 1 My name is Pleaceman X. 1883 LYTTON *My Novel* XII. iv, The house-steward..was in fact the veritable XY of the *Times* [newspaper], for whom Dick Avenel had been mistaken. 1887 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xii, The son of P. Q...whom we would call X. Y. 1873 H. DRUMMOND *New Evangelism* etc. (1899) 109 X won't be preached to along with Y and Z and Q; that won't do X any good, for he thinks it is all meant for Y, Z, and Q. 1899 O. SEAMAN *In Cap & Bells* (1900) 47 For terror of the Law and him that waits Outside, the unknown X, to hale us hence. 1902 ELINOR GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 70 You feel obliged to ask the X's, the Y's, and the Z's from duty, and so you do...This is the kind of assortment that arrives: Papa X, Mamma X, and two girl X's; Papa Y, Mamma Y, and Master and Miss Y; Papa Z, Mamma Z, Aunt Z, and Mdlle. Z—such a party!

d. In wireless telegraphy (also in comb. *x-stopper*): see quot.

1906 J. A. FLEMING *Princ. Electric Wave Telegr.* ix. 612 The electric discharges due to atmospheric electricity create electromagnetic waves of an irregular type, which interfere with wireless telegraphy by causing irregular signals. These are technically termed X's...Means have been devised for sifting out the waves due to these irregular atmospheric disturbances...One of these devices, due to Mr. Marconi, has received the name of an X-stopper.

4. In designations of brands of ale, stout, or porter, XX or double X denotes a medium quality, XXX or treble X the strongest quality. Also in the marking of qualities of tin-plate.

1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 21 A lover of the best London porter and double XX. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 47 His best double X. 1839 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Dunstan*, Keep clear of Broomsticks, Old Nick, and three XXX's. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1854 The following Table shows the several sizes of tin plates [and] the marks by which they are distinguished..Common, No. 1..C. 1..Two crosses, 1..XX. 1. Three crosses, 1..XXX. 1. Four crosses, 1..XXXX. 1. 1884 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* ix. (1901) 75 'And you musicians', turning to the promenade band, who were hard at work with some XX, 'be getting your instruments ready.' 1896 GEO. ELIOT *Esa.* (1884) 87 Barclay's treble X. 1886 A. G. MURPOCK *Sc. Readings* Ser. I. 98 The XXX stout was brought in.

5. XYZ: used to denote some thing or person unknown or undetermined (cf. 3).

1808 COLERIDGE *Lett. to Y. P. Estlin* (1884) 109, I use it rather as an X Y Z, an unknown quantity. 1823 BYRON *Let.* 23 Nov., Who, 1832 II. 269 Junius was X. Y. Z., Esq. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Ess. Faith* in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 426 [This] determines whether X Y Z be a thing or a person. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* ii, Among the sham agents must be classed the 'Professors,' or 'X.Y.Z.'s.'

III. Abbreviations.

6. In writing the name CHRIST, esp. in abbreviated form, X or x represents the first letter (kai) of Gr. ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ *khristos*, and ΧΡ or χρ the first two letters (kai rō). Hence in early times Xp̄, in modern times Xt, Xt, and X, are used as abbreviations of the syllable *Christ*, alone or in derivatives; thus †Xpen, Xpn = CHRISTEN, †Xpenned = CHRISTENED; †Xpian, Xtian(ity) = CHRISTIAN(ITY); XMAS (*Xstmas*, *Xtmas*) = CHRISTMAS.

†Xpe stands for XPC contracted form of ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ; cf. IHS.

a 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1021 On Xpes messe uhtan. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 337 In þis word Vix ben but þree lettris, V, and I, and X. And V bitokeneþ fyve; I bitokeneþ Jesus; and X bitokeneþ Crist. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19951 Xpe þi sone, þat in þis world alighte, Vp on þe croe to suffre his passioun. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 280/1 The most famous, blessed and Xpen Prince. *Ibid.* 336/1 Any Kyng or Prynce in England Xpenned. 1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *V*, The long mistaking of this woorde Xpe, standing for Chrs by abbreuiation which for lacke of knowledge in the greeke they tooke for x, p, and s, and so likewise Xpofer. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betraying of Christ* (Hunter. Cl.) 25 Xpian the outward, inward, not at all. 1634 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 33 Such right .. as your Xtianity, place, and function joyntly require. 1685-6 MS. in *Bk. Com. Pr. 1662* (Bodl.), My first child..Xstened on thursday the 28 of the same month. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Milton* (MS. Aubrey 8. lf. 63), He was so faire, that they called him the lady of Xts coll. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 235 This Note I took out of a Book of Mr. Urry of Xt. Church. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc. s.v., Xmas. for Christmas, Xpher. for Christopher, &c.

7. Put for the initial syllable *ex-* of a word, or as an abbreviation for a word beginning with *ex-*. *X's* (slang): expenses. Also, in Stock Exchange quotations, *xd* = ex dividend, etc.

1838 MANNING *Let.* in Purcell *Life* (1896) I. xi. 230 All the 'Xs', I fear, .. would go out. [*Note.* 'X's and Peculiars' were the nicknames given by the Tractarians to the Evangelicals ..who called themselves Christians *par excellence*.] *Ibid.*, He writes as tenderly as if he thought you a serious 'X'. *a* 1849 POE *Tales, X-ing a Paragrab*, One gentleman thought the whole an X-ellent joke. 1888 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 2/1 New York Central Railway 92½ 92⅝ xd. 1894 LOUISE J. MILN *Strolling Players East* xv. 132, I think we might clear our X.'s.. Perhaps I should explain that 'X.'s' means expenses. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 197/2 Canonists have continued to refer to the decretals of Gregory IX by the abbreviation X (*Extra*, i. e. *extra Decretum*).

8. *Chem.* = XENON.

Hence **X** *v. trans.*, to supply with x's in place of types that are wanting.

a 1849 POE *Tales, X-ing a Paragrab*, I shall have to *x* this ere paragrab', said he to himself, as he read it over... So *x* it he did, unflinchingly, and to press it went *x-ed*.

Xa, Xabandar, obs. ff. SHAH, SHABUNDER.

Xal, xall(e, obs. ff. SHALL.

Xanthæmatin to **Xanthelene:** see XANTHO-.

Xanthate (zæ·nþeit). *Chem.* [f. XANTHIC + -ATE 4.] a. A salt of xanthic (sulphocarbethylic) acid. b. A compound of xanthic oxide (xanthine) with an alkali.

1832 [see XANTHIC 1 b]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 498 Xanthate of sodium forms yellow needles. *Ibid.* 499 Xanthate of Antimony, forms large, lemon-yellow, triclinic crystals...Xanthate of Bismuth..crystallises in shining golden-yellow laminæ. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 79 [Xanthine] combines with the alkalies, ..forming xanthates.

Xanthein (zæ·nþi,in). *Chem.* Also -ine. [ad. F. *xanthéine* (Frémy & Cloez, 1854), arbitrarily f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow, to distinguish it from *xanthine* XANTHIN (1 b).] That part of the yellow colouring-matter of flowers which is soluble in water: cf. XANTHIN 1 b.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 546 The yellow substance which is soluble in water is termed xantheine: it..may be obtained from the yellow dahlia. 1864 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XVI. 513 Yellow of Flowers...The insoluble substance, called Xanthin by Frémy & Cloez, appears to correspond with Marquart's anthoxanthin; their Xanthein, soluble in water, with Marquart's colourless extractive matter.

‖ **Xanthelasma** (zæn,þile·zmă). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *ἔλασμα* metal plate.] = XANTHOMA. Also *attrib.* Hence **Xanthela·smic** *a.* = XANTHOMATOUS; ‖ **Xanthelasmoides** [see -OID], a disease resembling xanthelasma, which leaves yellowish or brownish patches on the skin; also called *vitiligoidea*.

1867 W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) xxiv. 773 Epithelial hypertrophy..to which from its colour and laminated appearance we have given the name of xanthelasma. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* XI. No. 41. 10 There is none of the characteristic xanthelasma leather. *Ibid.* 18 She..had xanthelasma spots on the eyelids. *Ibid.* 2 The xanthelasmic [form of jaundice]. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Xanthelasmoidea. 1903 *Lancet* 30 May 1521/2 If further investigation should prove that in xanthelasmoidea the coagulability is high it will thus be more decisively separated from the urticarias.

Xanthian (zæ·nþiăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **Xanthian.** [f. *Xanthus* (see def.) + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to (or an inhabitant of) Xanthus, an ancient town in Asia Minor; *spec.* of a collection of marbles discovered near it.

1685 COTTON *Montaigne* I. xl. (1711) I. 363 The Zanthians, who being besieg'd..precipitated themselves..into such a furious Appetite of dying,..that Brutus had much ado to save but a very small number. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 662 Ere yet the Food Of Troy they taste, or drink the Xanthian Flood. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* IV. 244 (*Alexander*) A spring in Lycia near the city of the Xanthians. 1842 SIR C. FELLOWS (*title*) The Xanthian Marbles, their acquisition and transmission to England.

Xanthic (zæ·nþik), *a.* [ad. F. *xanthique*, f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow: see -IC.]

1. *Chem.* Epithet of certain compounds which produce substances of a yellow colour, or of bodies connected with these. a. *Xanthic oxide*, the original name of XANTHINE; so *xanthic calculus*, a urinary calculus containing xanthine.

1817 MARCET *Exp. Chem. Hist. Calculous Disorders* iv. 99 If the potash be added to the pure xanthic substance,..no change of colour takes place. The residue of the solution of xanthic oxyd in water produces the yellow substance, when treated with nitric acid. *Ibid.* 101 Xanthic oxyd. *Ibid.* 102 In burning, it emitted an animal smell, which did not at all resemble that of the lithic, cystic, or xanthic calculus. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 642 Xanthic or Uric Oxide ($C_{10}H_4N_4O_4$) was discovered by Dr. Marcet as the principal constituent of a very rare variety of urinary calculus. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1879) II. 84 Calculi of uric acid and the urates, with their modifications the oxalates, xanthic and cystic oxide.

b. *Xanthic acid*, a complex acid containing sulphur and carbon, also called sulphocarbethylic or ethyldisulphocarbonic acid ($C_3H_6OS_2$), many of whose salts (*xanthates*) are yellow. So *xanthic ether*, etc.

1851 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 176 Xanthic acid is

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name of xanthic oil. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 146 Xanthic or Sulphocarbethylic Acid. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 498 Ethyldisulphocarbonic or Xanthic Acid..is a colourless oil, heavier than water,..its taste is acid, astringent, and bitter. *Ibid.* 500 Ethylic Disulphocarbonate or Xanthate, Xanthic Ether, $C^2H^{10}OS^2$..has a pale-yellow colour, a sweetish taste.

2. *Bot.* De Candolle's name for a series or class of colours in flowers, of which the type is yellow: opp. to *cyanic*.

1843 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) IV. 34 A most uncommon combination of colours—cyanic and xanthic tints in one and the same flower. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 454.

Xanthide (zæ·nþoid). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -IDE.] a. A compound of xanthogen (XANTHOGEN 1). b. A salt of xanthydric (persulphocyanic) acid.

1883 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) II. 667 The oxides of common metals (copper, lead, mercury, &c.) decompose it [*sc.* hydroxanthic acid] by giving up their oxygen to the hydrogen of the acid, and the xanthogene unites with the metal, forming xanthides. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthides*, syn. with *Persulphocyanates*.

Xanthin (zæ·nþin). *Chem.* Also **xanthine,** (**santhin**). [ad. F. *xanthine* or G. *xanthin*, f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow: see -IN 1.]

1. a. A yellow colouring-matter obtained from madder.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 387 Madder, according to Kuhlmann, contains two colouring matters, one, whi

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Dict. Arts, etc. 1389 *Xanthine*, is the name given by Kuhlmann to the yellow dyeing-matter contained in madder. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 421/1 Other principles may be extracted from madder, such as purpurine, alizarine, xanthine.

b. That part of the yellow colouring-matter of flowers which is insoluble in water: cf. XANTHEIN. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 546. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050.

2. (See quot.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthin*, ..applied..3. By Couerbe to a gaseous product of the decomposition of xanthates, to which he assigned the formula $C^2H^2S^2O^8$.

3. *attrib.* **Xanthin-spar,** yellow lead-spar or WULFENITE.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052.

Xanthine (zæ·nþoin). Also **-in.** *Chem.* [ad. F. *xanthine*, f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow: see -INE 5.] A substance ($C_5H_4N_4O_2$) allied to uric acid, found in various organs and secretions of the animal body; originally called *xanthic oxide* (see XANTHIC 1 a), from its forming a lemon-yellow compound with nitric acid.

1857 G. BIRD *Urin. Deposits* (ed. 3) 46 This interesting body..bears so close a resemblance to xanthine or uric oxide, that Scherer has named it hypoxanthine. 1861 H. BENCE JONES in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XV. 78 (*heading*) On a Deposit of Crystallized Xanthin in Human Urine. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 582 The liver contained..leucin, tyrosin, and xanthin. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 78 Xanthine may be extracted from muscular tissue in the same way as the sarkine.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthine*..was discovered by Marcet in a urinary calculus weighing only 8 grains. Liebig and Wöhler afterwards found it in a larger calculus weighing between 18 and 20 grammes; these are the only known examples of xanthine calculi. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 93 Dr. Bence Jones has recorded an interesting case of xanthin gravel occurring in a lad aged nine and a half years. 1883 *Science* 23 Feb. 75/2 By heating xanthine-silver [= the silver-compound of xanthine] with methyl iodide, a methyl group was introduced. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 123 Convulsive seizures,..produced by the action of the poisonous xanthin bodies on the nerve centres. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Mar. 338/1 So called food reformers..bandy about their catchwords—flesh-forming,..xanthin-forming and the like.

Hence **Xa·nthinu·ria** (see quots.).

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1051 *Xanthinine*. $C^4H^3N^3O^2$. ..A base produced..by heating thionurate of ammonium to 200°...On boiling the resulting mass with water, the xanthinine remains as a yellow powder. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xanthinuria*, passage of xanthin in the urine.

Xanthippe: see XANTIPPE.

Xanthitane (zæ·nþitein). *Min.* [f. next + -ANE.] A mineral produced by alteration or decomposition of sphene or titanite: see quot.

1856 C. U. SHEPARD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXII. 96 *Xanthitane*. In hollow crystals with the form of sphene, and pulverulent. Color pale yellowish white...It is found in a decomposing feldspar,..and probably proceeds from the decomposition of sphene.

Xanthite (zæ·nþoit). *Min.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -ITE 1.] A variety of vesuvianite or idocrase, occurring in yellowish crystals.

1828 THOMSON *Ann. Lyc. N. Hist. N. Y.* III. 44 (Dana). 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 615/1 *Xanthite* consists of a congeries of small rounded grains,..not larger than small grains of sand. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* iv. § 1. 364.

Xantho- (zæ·nþo), before a vowel **xanth-**, repr. Gr. *ξανθο-*, combining form of *ξανθός* yellow; occurring as the first element in various compounds and derivatives, chiefly terms of chemistry, mineralogy, and pathology; the more important of these are given in their alphabetical places.

(Sometimes also erroneously *Zantho-*: see X.)

1. *Chem.* In names of, or adjectives relating to, various compounds: (*a*) of a yellow colour, as *xanthæ·matin*, *xa·nthaline*, *xa·nthoco·balt*, *-co·baltic*, *xanthocre·atine* (*-crea·tinine*), *xa·nthophane* [Gr. *φαν-*, stem of *φαίνειν* to cause to appear], *xanthopi·crin* (*-pi·crite*) [Gr. *πικρός* bitter], *xanthopro·tein*, *xantho·psin* [Gr. *ὄψις* sight], *xanthopu·ccine* [PUCCOON], *xanthopu·rpurin*, *xanthorha·mnin*; *xanthophe·nic*, *xanthoprote·ic*, *xantho·ta·nnic*, *xanthy·dric* [Gr. *ὕδωρ* water] adjs.; (*b*) derived from or related to xanthic acid (XANTHIC 1 b), as *xa·nthamide*, *xa·nthan·in*, *xa·nthelene*; *xanthe·ic*, *xa nthomethy·lic* adjs.; (*c*) derived from or related to xanthydric acid, as *xa·nthane* (*-an*): see quots.

1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Xanthæmatin*.. Term by Brett and Bird for a yellow, bitter substance found by dissolving hematin in weak nitric acid. 1893 *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* 25 Mar. 793/2 **Xanthaline*—A New Opium Alkaloid ($C_{37}H_{36}N_2O_9$). 1855 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Chem.* IX. 276 **Xanthamide*. $C^4NH^7S^2O^2$. *Ibid.* 277 Xanthamide exposed in a distillatory apparatus to a gradually increasing temperature is resolved into mercaptan and cyanuric acid. 1868 — *Dict. Chem.* V. 1049 **Xanthan*, Berzelius's name for the group Cy^2S^2, regarded as the radicle of persulphocyanic or xanthydric acid. *Ibid.*, **Xantharin*, or *Xanthil*, an oily fetid compound, $C^4H^{10}O^2$, supposed by Couerbe..to be produced by the dry distillation of xanthic ether. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 614/2 When xanthate of potash is subjected to distillation a limpid yellow coloured fluid comes over, which Zeise has called **xanthelic oil*. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1049 **Xanthelene*. Zeise gave this name to an oil..produced..by precipitating potassic ethylsulphocarbonate with a cupric salt. 1856 GIBBS & GENTH *Res. Ammonia-cobalt Bases* in *Smithsonian Contrib. Knowl.* (1857) IX. v. 48 The salts of **Xanthocobalt*. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 1054 **Xantho-cobaltic Salts*. 1892 *Cent. Dict.*, **Xanthocreatine*. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7), *Xanthocreatin*, xanthocreatinin. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 85 **Xanthocreatinine* $C^8H^{10}N^4O$.. closely resembles kreatinine...It shows in pellets of sul-

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bules. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 315 Hypoxanthin and xanthoglobulin were also found. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 501 Methyl-disulphocarbonic Acid ($CH^3)HCOS^2$. **Xantho-methylic Acid* ..Methylic Disulphocarbonate, $C^3H^6OS^2$. ..Xanthomethylic Ether. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xanthophane*, an orange-yellow pigment obtained from the retina. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 **Xanthophenic acid*. A yellow colouring-matter,..produced..by heating phenol or cresol with arsenic acid...The **xanthophenates* dye silk and wool red, of various shades. 1892 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 301 **Xanthopicrine* is a bitter crystalline substance from the bark of *Xanthoxylum Clava Herculis*. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1053 *Xanthopicrin*, *Xanthopicrite*. These names were given..to a yellow colouring-matter from the bark of *Xanthoxylon caribæum*, since shown..to be identical with berberine. 1892 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 710 **Xanthopicrite*..was detected by Chevaller and Pelletan [1826], in the bark of the *Xanthoxylon carybæum*...It has..a very bitter and astringent taste. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 164/1 The alkaline **xanthoproteates*. 1843 T. THOMSON *Chem. Anim. Bodies* 178 *Xantho-proteic Acid*. This name [*Xantho-proteinsäure*] has been given by Mulder [1838] to a yellow coloured acid, obtained first by Fourcroy, by treating fibrin or albumen with nitric acid. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 130 Heated with strong nitric acid pepsin does not give the xantho-proteic reaction; hence it would appear that pepsin is not an albuminoid substance. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 601 The normal gland extract gave a positive result with the xantho-proteic test. 1889 COLLYER (Annandale), **Xanthoprotetic*, a yellow acid substance formed by the action of nitric acid upon fibrine. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xanthophain*,

yellow pigment of the retina. 1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Xanthopsin*, visual purple partially discolored or bleached by light; visual yellow. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xanthopuccine*, name proposed by Lerchen (1876) for an alkaloid found in hydrastis. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* II. 588 *Purpureoxanthin* (or **Xanthopurpurin*).. is formed from purpurin by reduction with stannous chloride in alkaline solution. 1843 KANE in *Lond., Edinb., & Dubl. Philos. Mag.* July 3 The dark-coloured [Persian] berries.. give out to boiling water an olive-yellow material, to which ..I give the name of **xanthorhamnine*. 1866 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XV. 533 *Xanthotannic Acid. Obtained from elm-leaves reddened in the autumn. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 **Xanthydric acid.* Syn. with *Persulphocyanic Acid* [obtained as 'a pale yellow crystalline powder'; *ibid.* IV. 378].

2. In various compounds. **Xantha·rsenite** *Min.*, a mineral allied to chondrarsenite, occurring in sulphur-yellow masses. **Xanthocar·pous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], having yellow fruit. **Xanthocosmic** (-kɒ·smik) *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. *κόσμη* hair], yellow-haired. **Xa·nthocone** (-kon), **Xantho·conite** *Min.* [G. *xanthokon* (Breithaupt, 1840), f. Gr. *κόνις* dust], an arseniosulphide of silver, of a dull red or brown colour, yellow when pulverized. **Xanthocy·anopsy, Xanthocya·nopy** (-kyan-) *Path.* [Gr. *κύανος* blue + *ὄψις, ὀπή* sight], a form of colour-blindness in which yellow and blue are the only colours discerned. ‖ **Xanthoder·ma, -der·mia** *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *δέρμα* skin], yellowness of the skin. **Xa·nthodont, Xanthodo·ntous** *adjs. Zool.* [Gr. *ὀδούς, ὀδοντ-* tooth], having yellow teeth, as certain rodents. **Xantho·meter** [-METER], an instrument for determining the colour of sea or lake water by comparison with a scale of different-coloured solutions. ‖ **Xanthopa·thia, Xantho·pathy** *Path.* [Gr. *-πάθεια* -PATHY] = *xanthoderma*. ‖ **Xantho·psia, Xa·nthopsy** *Path.* [Gr. *ὄψις* appearance, sight], an affection of the eyes in which objects appear yellow; yellow vision. **Xantho·rthite** *Min.*, a yellow variety of orthite. **Xanthosi·derite** *Min.* [Gr. *σίδηρος* iron], a native hydrated oxide of iron, occurring in needle-shaped or fibrous crystals, or as an ochre, of a yellow, brown, or reddish colour. **Xanthospe·rmous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. *σπέρμα* seed], having yellow seeds.

1892 DANA *Syst. Min.* 796 *Xantharsenite... Occurs with hausmannite,..in crystalline limestone. 1866 MAYNE *Med.*

haired races. 1846 WORCESTER, *Xanthocon (citing DANA). 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthocone*... A silver-ore from the Himmelfürst mine, near Freiberg in Saxony. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 108 **Xanthoconite*... Color dull-red to clove-brown; crystals orange-yellow on the edges by transmitted light. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Xanthocyanopsy. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xanthokyanopy. 1867 W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 *Xanthoderma represents the yellow complexion of certain of the races of mankind. 1900 *Lancet* 11 Aug. 414/1 The mucous membranes were not coloured and the urine..never showed a trace of bile pigment. This was in favour of the diagnosis of *xanthodermia. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Xanthodont. 1866 MAYNE *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436 *Xanthodontous. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 April 8/3 When the Queen visited the Antarctic exploration ship *Discovery* she was particularly interested in Forel's *xanthometer. 1867 W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 *Xanthopathia, or yellow discoloration of the skin, consists in the deposit in the cells of the rete mucosum of a yellow colouring principle. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), **Xanthopsia*, yellow vision,—as sometimes occurs in jaundice. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 603 A very curious symptom caused by zantonin..is xanthopsia. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 287 *Xanthorthite, of Hermann,..is apparently an altered variety [of orthite]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 **Xanthosiderite.* A hydrated ferric oxide. 1866 MAYNE *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436/2 *Xanthospermous.

‖ **Xanthochroi** (zæn|ɒ·krō,ɔi, -ðu·kroi), *sb. pl. Anthropology.* [mod.L. (Huxley), app. meant as a transliteration of an assumed Gr. **ξάνθωχροι*, f. *ξανθός* yellow + *ὠχρός* pale (the regular L. form of which would be **xanthŏchri*); by later writers and in Dicts. taken as *xanthŏchroi* (sing. *-chrous*), ad. Gr. *ξανθόχροος*, f. *ξανθός* yellow + *χρόα* skin: cf. MELANOCHROI.] In Huxley's classification of the varieties of mankind: A subdivision of the *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired class, having yellow or light-coloured hair and pale complexion.

1866 [see XANTHOMELANOI]. 1875 TYLOR in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 113/2 The Xanthochroi, or fair whites..are the prevalent inhabitants of Northern Europe.

Hence **Xanthochroic** (-krō,u·ik), **Xanthochroid** (-ðu·kroid), **Xanthochrooid** (-ɒ·krō,ɔid), **Xanthochrous** (-ðu·krəs) *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or having the characters of the *Xanthochroi*. So ‖ **Xanthochroia** (-kroi·ă) [mod.L. f. Gr. *χροιά* = *χρόα* skin], yellow discoloration of the skin from change in the pigment; **Xanthochroism** (-ɒ·krō,iz'm), *Ornith.*, abnormal replacement of another colour by yellow in the plumage of certain birds.

1867 W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 693 Xanthopathia. Syn. Xanthoderma; *xanthochroia. 1870 HUXLEY in *Contemp. Rev.* July 315 The *Xanthochroic area. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. i. 208 The xanthochroic group: pale skin, blue eyes, and abundant fair hair. 1869 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* xii. (1869) 378 [The] *Xanthochroid [group]. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 421 There seems to be a certain correlation of colours in most cases of Heterochrosis:..green feathers exhibit *xanthochroism. 1909 *Cent. Dict. Suppl.*, **Xanthochroïd*, same as *Xanthochroic*. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Xanthochroous. 1869 *Xanthochrous [see MELANOCHROUS]. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 230 Great stature and a xanthochrous complexion were..the characteristics of the Celt or German.

Xanthogen (zæn·ɒdʒen). *Chem.* [f. XANTHO- + -GEN, after G. *xanthogensäure* (Zeise, 1822).]

1. The hypothetical radical of xanthic acid. Also *attrib.*

1834 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) II. 665 This new acid contains sulphur, carbon, and hydrogen, the two first of which probably form a compound base, analogous to cyanogen... To the base, Mr. Zeise..has given the name of *xanthogene*..on account of the yellow colour of its compounds. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthogen-oil.* Zeise's name for an oily product formed by the dry distillation of potassic xanthate.

2. A substance supposed to be contained in flowers: see quot.

1864 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 668 According to Filhol, nearly all flowers contain a substance which forms colourless solutions with acids, and acquires a fine yellow colour when treated with alkalis: this substance was designated by Marquart as resin of flowers, and by Hope..as xanthogen, which name is also retained by Filhol. He describes it as solid, of a light yellow colour,..soluble in water, alcohol, and ether.

Xantholiniform (zæn|ɒli·nifɔ̄m), *a. Entom.* [f. mod.L. *Xantholinus* (f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow, with ending of *Staphylinus*, an allied genus) + -(1)FORM.] Resembling in form the beetles of the genus *Xantholinus*.

1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 250 *Pl[illonthus] procerulus*.. Narrow, elongate, sub-parallel, xantholiniform.

‖ **Xanthoma** (zæn|ðu·mă). *Path.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *-ωμα* (cf. *sarcoma*).] An affection of the skin, characterized by the growth of yellowish patches or tubercles. Also *attrib.* Hence **Xanthomatous** (-ðu·mătəs) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of xanthoma.

1876 DUNRING *Dis. Skin* 410 Xanthoma is a connective-tissue new growth, characterized by the formation of yellowish, circumscribed, irregularly shaped,..non-indurated patches or tubercles. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 484 The chamois-leather-like patches may simulate xanthoma. *Ibid.* 896 The so-called 'xanthoma cell' is..a fragmented muscle fibre in a state of granulo-fatty degeneration. 1914 *Lancet* 13 June 1697/1 Xanthomatous nodules in the liver.

‖ **Xanthomelanoi** (zæn|ɒme·lănoi), *sb. pl. Anthropology.* [mod.L. (Huxley), transliteration (instead of the regular L. form **xanthomelanī*) of an assumed Gr. **ξανθομέλανοι*, f. *ξανθός* yellow + *μέλας, μελαν-* black: cf. MELANOI and XANTHOCHROI. (On the analogy of the other terms, the word should have been *Melanoxanthoi*, the first element referring to the hair, the second to the skin.)] In Huxley's classification of the varieties of mankind: A subdivision of the *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired class, having black hair and yellow, brown, or olive complexion. Hence **Xanthome·lanous** (-əs) *a.*, belonging to or having the characters of the *Xanthomelanoi*.

1865 HUXLEY *Crit. & Addr.* (1873) 153 The 'xanthomelanous,' with black hair and yellow, brown, or olive skins. 1866 — *Laing's Prehist. Rem. Caithn.* 132 The *Leiotrichi* may be best subdivided, according to their complexion, into *Xanthochroi*, *Melanochroi*, *Xanthomelanoi*, and *Melanoi*.

Xanthone (zæ·nθoun). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -ONE.] A compound which forms the basis of various natural colouring matters.

1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 867 *Xanthone* is Diphenylene ketone oxide.

Xanthophyll (zæ·nθofil). *Chem.* [ad. F. *xanthophylle* (Berzelius), f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *φύλλον* leaf.] The yellow colouring-matter of leaves in autumn, a constituent or derivative of chlorophyll; also called *phylloxanthin*.

1838 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* 334. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthophyll*... Nothing certain is known respecting its composition, or of the manner in which it is formed from chlorophyll. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 46/2 When the life of the leaf is destroyed by frost or drought, the chlorophyll is rapidly changed to xanthophyll.

Xanthophyllite (zæn|ɒfi·lɔit). *Min.* [ad. G. *xanthophyllit* (G. Rose, 1840), f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *φύλλον* leaf + -ITE[1] 2 b.] A micaceous mineral, a species of seybertite, occurring in yellowish crusts or implanted globules in talcose schist.

1844 DANA *Min.* (1862) 249.

‖ **Xanthorrhœa** (zæn|ɒrī·ă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *ῥοία* flowing, flow.]

1. *Bot.* A genus of Australian liliaceous plants, some species of which (called Grass-trees or Grass Gum-trees) yield a yellow resin.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 Xanthorrhœa resin.

2. *Path.* A morbid affection resembling leucorrhœa (see quot.).

1892 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 1037/2 There is..more or less leucorrhœa, or xanthorrhœa, as it should rather be called, in the discharge is yellow, not white.

‖ **Xanthosis** (zæn|ɒ·sis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow: see -OSIS.] (See quots.)

1897 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Xanthosis*, a term applied to the yellow discolouration often observed in cancerous tumours. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xanthosis*, formation of a yellow skin or pigment.

Xanthous (zæ·nθəs), *a. Ethnology.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -OUS.] Applied to those races, or that type, of mankind characterized by yellow or yellowish hair and light complexion; fair, blond. Also said of the hair, complexion, etc. Opp. to MELANIC 1, MELANOUS.

1890 T. PRICE *Ess. Physiogn. & Physiol. Inhab. Brit.* 3 It is true that the Greek and Roman writers do describe the various barbarous tribes of Europe,..representing some to be of the fair, or, as it has been styled, Xanthous complexion; others of the dark, or Melanic. 1834 *Nat. Philos., Phys. Geog.* 64/1 (U.K.S.) Men of the xanthous variety of colour are known to spring up among the negroes in Africa. 1876 W. F. SKENE *Celtic Scot.* I. i. ii. 126 The Caledonii.. were larger in body,..and less xanthous. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 35 The xanthous type with chestnut, red, or fair hair.

‖ **Xanthoxylon** (zæn|ɒ·ksilɔn). *Bot.* Also 8 xanthoxylon, -um. [mod.L. *Xanthoxylon, -um* (by Linnæus spelt *Zanthoxylum*), f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *ξύλον* wood.] A large and widely distributed genus of trees and shrubs of the N. O. *Rutaceæ* (type of the suborder *Xanthoxyleæ*, sometimes reckoned as an order *Xanthoxylaceæ*), yielding various products, esp. pungent and aromatic drugs and condiments; it includes the N. American Prickly Ash or Toothache-tree (*X. americanum* and *fraxineum*), the Chinese or Japanese Pepper (*X. piperitum*), the Prickly or W. Indian Yellow-wood (*X. Clava-Herculis*), etc. Hence **Xantho·xyl**, a plant of this genus, or of the order or suborder of which it is the type; **Xanthoxylaceous** (-ī·lʃəs), **Xanthoxyleous** (-ī·lĭəs) *adjs.*, belonging to the *Xanthoxylaceæ* or *Xanthoxyleæ* (see above); **Xantho·xylene** (-in) *Chem.*, an aromatic volatile oil obtained from the fruit of *Xanthoxylon piperitum*; **Xantho·xylin** (-in) *Chem.*, (*a*) a crystalline resin or camphor obtained from an oil distilled from the seeds of *X. piperitum*; (*b*) a crystallizable bitter principle contained in the bark of *X. Clava-Herculis* and other species; **Xanthoxy·loïn**, a neutral principle obtained from the bark of *X. americanum*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 473 Several *Xanthoxyls have in their habit, and especially in their foliage, a marked resemblance to the Ash. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 679 The Xanthoxyl Family of the Rutal alliance. 1828 TR. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 213 *note*, Among *xanthoxylaceous plants, the Cuspare of Angostura, known in America under the name of Orinoco bark. 1857 STENHOUSE in *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* July 50 The pure hydrocarbon, to which I propose to give the name of *Xanthoxylene, is colourless, [etc.]. *Note*, The pleasant aromatic odour of Japanese pepper is due to Xanthoxylene. 1832 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 131 Several *Xanthoxyleous plants have.., a marked resemblance to the Ash. 1844 STENHOUSE in *Lond., Edin., & Dubl. Philos. Mag.* Jan. 28 The crystals of *xanthoxyline belong to the oblique system. 1765 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 21 Dec. in Stork *Acc. E. Florida* (1766) 3 Some curious shrubs..we had never seen before,..large *xanthoxylum, and purple-berried bay. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 32 A Negro woman, who had been affected for many years with several large phagedenic ulcers..was put under my care. I commenced the use of the Zanthoxylon, by bathing the sores with the decoction. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 *Xanthoxylon*. The bark of *X. caribæum*..or *X. Clava Herculis*..used in the Antilles as a febrifuge.

‖ **Xantippe** (zænti·pi). Also 7 **Zentippe, Zantippe.** [Properly *Xanthippe*, Gr. Ξανθίππη.] The name of the wife of Socrates; hence *allusively*, an ill-tempered woman or wife, a shrew, a scold (with pl. *Xantippes*).

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 72 As curst and shrow'd As Socrates Zentippe [*1st Fol., Qo.*; *2nd–4th Fol.* Zantippe, *mod. edd.* Xanthippe]. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 262 Richard Hooker..married a clownish silly Woman and withal a meer Xantippe. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, An errant Vixen of a Wife...By this *Xantippe* he had two Sons. 1839 *Habits of Gd. Society* xiii. 339 For the time being the worst of Xantippes must turn into an angel of amiability if she gives a ball.

Xaraf, -affe, -off, obs. ff. SARAF.

1626 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 296 We lye at the mercy of the xarofis or exchangers of moula. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 93 In the presence of the Xaraf, or Money-changers.

Xebec (zī·bek; *also* zī·be·k). Also 8–9 **-eck, -eque, -eoque**; β. 8–9 **sebec(k, 9 sebeoque.** See also CHEBEC. [Altered form of CHEBEC (F. *chebec*) after Sp. *xabeque*, now *jabeque*.] A small three-masted (originally two-masted) vessel, commonly lateen-rigged but with some square sails, used in the Mediterranean, formerly as a ship of war, now as a merchant-ship.

1756 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 409/2 Capt. Fortunatus Wright, of Liverpool, in the *King George* privateer off Leghorn, engaged a xebeck which had 180 men on board. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 248/2 An Algerine xebeque of 20 guns..was driven on shore near Penzance. 1760 MORE in *Phil. Trans.*

LII. 430 There came a Spanish xebeck from the West,..and ..was becalmed. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v., The sails of the xebec are in general similar to those of the polacre, but the hull is extremely different...The extremity of the stern..projects further behind the counter and buttock than that of any European ship. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 237 *Xebec.* A small vessel with three masts, navigated in the mediterranean. The fore and main-masts are called block-masts, being short...The misen-mast is fitted with a topmast, &c.,..and..has been lately added, to keep them better to the wind...The fore-mast rakes much forward. 1816 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 233/2 A large Tunisian xebeck..putting out two boats, gave a general chase. *a* 1829 I. TAYLOR *Ship* v (1846) 118 The xebec very much resembles the galley in shape..., in its triangular sails and low masts. It is the corsair of the Algerines,..and mounts from sixteen to twenty-four guns. 1832 KIPPING *Sailmaking* (ed. 2) 158 The Spanish xebec has in general a lateen fore, with a square main-sail and mizen. 1884 Miss C. F. WOOLSON in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 368/2 The coasting xebecs.

b. 1769 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 164/1 A large Algerine zebeck, of 30 guns and 300 men. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xix, A three-masted zebecque. 1844 HOOD *The Key* iv, The last Zebeck that came And moor'd within the Mole.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1780 CAPT. KNOWLES in *Naval Chron.* II. 518 Two Spanish Xebec Ships, polacre rigged. 1801 LD. COCHRANE *ibid.* VI. 151 A Spanish xebeck frigate, of 32 guns. 1812 *Examiner* 4 May 280/2 A French xebeck-rigged privateer, of two guns.

Xel, obs. form of SHALL *v.*

1409 in *Calr. Pat. Rolls 8 Hen. VI.* 30 A comon assemble which xel ben ordeyned be the mair.

Xeme (zĭm). *Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Xema* (Leach, 1819), an arbitrarily formed word.] A bird of the genus *Xema*; a fork-tailed gull.

1836 EYTON *Rarer Brit. Birds* 64 Sabine's Xeme...was first observed by Captain Sabine in Greenland.

Xenacanthine, Xenarthral: see XENO-.

†**Xenagogue** (zĕ·nägŏg). *Obs.* In 7 **xen-**. [ad. Gr. *ξεναγωγός*, f. *ξένος* stranger + *-αγωγός* leading.] One who conducts strangers; a guide. So †**Xenagogy**, conduction of strangers: used as the title of a guide-book.

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 386 The places, whereof I ment to make note in this my Xenagogie and perambulation of Kent. 1583 in Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) p. lxii, The Xenogogie of Bedfordshire. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 136 They are generally excellent Zenagogues or guides through their Countrie.

Xenelasy (zĕnĭlăsi). *Gr. Hist.* [ad. Gr. *ξενηλασία*, f. *ξενηλατεῖν*, f. *ξένος* foreigner + *ἐλα-* (*ἐλαύνειν*) to drive away.] A measure at Sparta for expulsion of foreigners.

1846 GROTE *Greece* II. vi. II. 515 Nor were strangers permitted to stay at Sparta; they came thither it seems, by a sort of sufferance, but the uncourteous process called xenêlasy was always available to remove them.

‖**Xenia** (zī·niă). *Bot.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ξενία* state or relation of a guest, f. *ξένος* guest: see -IA 1.] A supposed direct action or influence of foreign pollen upon the seed or fruit which is pollinated.

1899 *Nat. Sci.* May 393 *Xenia*..., the direct action of the male element on the mother-plant, is an extremely hypothetical theory. 1901 *Nature* 12 Dec. 126/2 Xenia is the name given to the results of the crossing of the plant by a foreign pollen, exhibited in some peculiarity which appears in the seed itself.

Xenia, pl. of XENIUM.

Xenial (zī·niăl), *a. Gr. Antiq.* [f. Gr. *ξενία* XENIA + -AL.] Of the nature of, or pertaining to, the relation between host and guest: applied to a friendly relation between two persons of different countries, or between a person and a foreign country. So **Xenian** *a.* (in quot. 1834 rendering Gr. *ξένιος*, a title of Zeus as protector of the rights of hospitality).

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 533 The holy customs of the Xenian Jove. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* I. 220 The Taphians,..from the xenial relation of their Lord Mentes to Ulysses, must in all likelihood have lived in the neighbourhood of Ithaca. 1869 — *Juv. Mundi* iii. 87 Demeter Tasides..is represented..as being in xenial relations with Egypt.

‖**Xenium** (zī·niŏm); usually in pl. **xenia**. [L., ad. Gr. *ξένιον*, prop. neut. of *ξένιος* adj. pertaining to a guest, f. *ξένος* guest, stranger.] **a.** In *Gr.* and *Rom. Antiq.*, a present (esp. of table delicacies) given to a guest or stranger; *transf.*, in mediæval usage, an offering made (sometimes compulsorily) by subjects to their prince on the occasion of his passing through their estates; also extended to other kinds of offerings (see quots.).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xenia*, Presents bestowed by the Greeks to their Friends, Guests, or Strangers...In our old Records, it is taken for such Presents or Gifts as us'd to be made to Princes, or to the Governours of Provinces. 1772 [S. DENNE] *Hist. Rochester* 106 That there be reserved to me..out of the estates which I have assigned for the maintenance of the monks, such a xenium [orig. *xenium*] as is here specified. 1865 STUBBS *Chron. & Mem. Rich. I* (Rolls) II. Introd. p. xxx, The xenia, or Easter and Christmas offerings from [the monks'] manors, which were settled on the cellarer for the use of the sick and strangers.

b. (See quots.)

1791 NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius' Archit.* VI. x. 145 The pictures representing the sending of gifts to strangers are by the painters called *xenia*. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Xenia*. ..Pictures of still-life, fruit, fish, &c., many of which have been found as decorations on the walls of houses in Pompeii.

Xenization (zenəizĕ·ʃən). *rare*—1. [f. Gr. *ξενίζειν*, trans. to entertain strangers, intr. to be a stranger, f. *ξένος* stranger: see -IZE and -ATION.] The fact of sojourning as a stranger.

1828 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 232 The xenization of Abraham's seed in a foreign land.

Xeno- (*zeno*), before a vowel **xen-**, repr. Gr. *ξενο-*, *ξεν-*, combining form of *ξένος* a guest, stranger, foreigner, adj. foreign, strange; used in various scientific and other terms; for those not found here, see their alphabetical places. **Xenacanthine** (-ăkse·nþain) *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Xenacanthini* pl., f. Gr. *ἄκανθα* spine], *a.* belonging to the extinct order *Xenacanthini* of selachian fishes, with long slender spines; *sb.* a fish of this order. **Xenarthral** *a. Zool.* [Gr. *ἄρθρον* joint], having peculiar accessory articulations in the vertebræ, as the American edentates. **Xenobiosis** (-bəi,o·u·sis) *Zool.* [Gr. *βίωσις* manner of life], a form of symbiosis among ants in which two colonies of different species live together on friendly terms without rearing their broods in common. **Xe·noderm** *Zool.* [mod.L. *Xenoderma*, f. Gr. *δέρμα* skin], a snake of the genus *Xenoderma* or sub-family *Xenodermatinæ* (mod. Dicts.). **Xeno·gamy** *Bot.* [Gr. *γάμος* marriage], fertilization by pollen from another plant of the same species; cross-fertilization. **Xenogenesis** (-dʒe·nĭsis) *Biol.* [GENESIS], (supposed) production of offspring permanently unlike the parent (cf. HETEROGENESIS 3); so **Xenogene·tic, Xenoge·nic** *adjs.*, pertaining to or of the nature of xenogenesis; **Xenogeny** (zenɒ·dʒĭni), xenogenesis. **Xeno·genous** *a. Path.* (see quot.). **Xenolite** *Min.* [-LITE], a silicate of aluminium, allied to fibrolite. **Xenomania** (-mē·niă), a mania or insane fancy for foreigners, or for something foreign; hence **Xenoma·niac**, a person affected with 'xenomania'. **Xenomorphic** (-mɒ·ɪfik) *a. Geol.* [Gr. *μορφή* form], applied to mineral constituents of a rock having a form different from the normal in consequence of the pressure of other constituents. **Xenopa·rasite, Xenopa·rasitism** *Biol.* (see quot.). **Xenophilism** (-ɒ·fĭliz'm) *nonce-wd.* [Gr. *φίλος* loving, friendly], love of foreigners or of something foreign. **Xenophoby** (zenɒ·fŏbi) *nonce-wd.* [Gr. *φόβος* fear], fear of foreign persons or things; so **Xenophobic** (zenɒfo·bik) *a.* characterized by this. **Xenophoran** (-ɒ·fŏrăn) *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xenophora*, f. Gr. *-φορος* carrying], belonging or allied to the genus *Xenophora* (carrier-shells) of gastropod molluscs, distinguished by the habit of cementing stones and other foreign bodies to their shells. **Xenopterygian** (-ptĕri·dʒiăn), *Zool.* [Gr. *πτέρυξ* wing, fin], *a.* belonging to the suborder *Xenopterygii* of fishes, with spineless fins, scaleless skin, and a complex sucking-disk between the ventral fins; *sb.* a fish of this suborder. **Xenurine** (ze·niurəin), *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xenurus*, f. Gr. *οὐρά* tail], *a.* belonging to the genus *Xenurus* of armadillos, having the tail nearly naked; *sb.* an armadillo of this genus, a kabassou.

1885 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 66 The geographical distribution of the Edentates...To America belong the *xenarthral or many-jointed forms. 1901 W. M. WHEELER in *Amer. Naturalist* July 535 *Xenobiosis...The best-known guest ant is the European *Formicoxenus nitidulus*. 1877 DARWIN *Lett.* (1903) II. 413 Some such terms as autogamy, *xenogamy, etc. 1870 HUXLEY *Pres. Addr. Brit. Assoc., Rep.* p. lxxvii, The term Heterogenesis..has..been used in a different sense, and M. Milne-Edwards has therefore substituted for it **Xenogenesis*. *Ibid.* p. lxxxv, The analogy of pathological modification..is in favour of the *xenogenetic origin of microzymes. 1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), **Xenogenous*, caused by a foreign body, or originating outside the organism. 1913 *Ibid.* (ed. 7) *adds* 2. Formed or developed in the host: a term applied to toxins formed by the action of stimuli on the cells of the host. 1844 DANA *Min.* (1868) 374 *Xenolite..resembles fibrolite..excepting in the high specific gravity. 1879 K. HILLEBRAND in *19th Cent.* Oct. 626 Germany received the first caresses of this strange *xenomania from the hands of youthful Carlyle and old Coleridge. 1897 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iv. 136 No writer of the period has such a command of pure English, unadulterated by xenomania and unweakened by purism, as Daniel. 1879 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 5/1 Are we all *Xenomaniacs? 1891 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Feb. 168/2 Sir Arthur Sullivan was never the least bit of a *xenomaniac*. 1888 HATCH in Teall *Brit. Petrography* Gloss. 423 *Allotriomorphic*, a term applied by Rosenbusch..in contradistinction to idiomorphic. It is synonymous with *xenomorphic. 1908 E. S. SALMON in *Ann. Bot.* Jan. 127 To describe cases where a form of a Fungus which is specialised to certain host-plants..proves able to infect injured parts of a strange host, I propose the terms *xenoparasite and *xenoparasitism. 1912 W. SICKERT in *English Review* Apr. 247 Lest the writer be accused of *Xenophilism. 1912 *Nation* 11 May 214/1 The popular attitude with regard to external politics is one of crude and *xenophobic Imperialism. 1909 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 325/3 Those whose sense of justice..is not impaired by prejudice or *'xenophoby'. 1898 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* June 308 No Stromboid, Naticoid, or *Xenophoran molluscs have been found hitherto in any fresh water that is known. 1889 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 30 The Kabassous, or *Xenurines, have the third as well as the fourth and fifth metacarpals abbreviated and broad.

†**Xenodo·chial**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Gr. *ξενοδοχία* (XENODOCHY 2) + -AL.] Given to receiving strangers; hospitable.

1726 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 402 The Insuperable Aversion, that those three Xenodochial Prelates seem'd always to exert against the French Nation. *Ibid.* 404.

‖**Xenodochium** (zenŏdɒ·kiŏm). Also **-ion, -eum**. Pl. **-a**. [Late L. *xenodochium, -ium*, ad. late Gr. *ξενοδοχεῖον*, f. *ξένος* stranger + *δέχεσθαι* to receive.] A house of reception for strangers and pilgrims; a hostel, guest-house, esp. in a monastery.

1612 CORYAT in Purchas *Pilgrimes* (1625) II. 1829 In Constantinople, Peru, and Galata, there are..Karabassaries or *Xenodochia* foure hundred and eighteen. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* I. vii. 246 [A] spital..was an house of entertainment for poor travellers or pilgrims..this [*sc.* spital of St. Catherine] was a *Xenodochium* of that kind. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* II. xiii. 18 Many have supposed that the xenodochium, or hospitium, for the reception of strangers was placed in this division of the mansion. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. vi. 246 Within the precincts of the monastery stood an edifice, distinguished by the Greek name of *Xenodochium*, in which a certain number of paupers received their daily support, and which was gratuitously opened to every traveller who solicited relief. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* II. vi. 263 Long before the era of persecution had closed, the hospital and the Xenodochion, or refuge for strangers, was known among the Christians.

†**Xenodochy** 1. *Obs. rare*—1. [Anglicized form of prec.] = prec.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 121 Ther was at York an auncyent and welthy xenodochye that ys to say, an hospytall..wher powre and nedye people wer enterteynyd.

†**Xenodochy** 2. *Obs. rare*—1. In 7 **xenodechie, xenodochie**. [ad. Gr. *ξενοδοχία*: cf. XENODOCHIUM.] Entertainment of strangers; hospitality.

1623 COCKERAM, *Xenodechie*, hospitality. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 181 Sincere and religious people descryed by their charity and humility..by their Zenodochie or hospitality.

Xenon (ze·nɒn). *Chem.* [ad. Gr. *ξένον*, neut. of *ξένος* strange.] A heavy inert gaseous element present in minute quantity in the atmosphere, discovered by Sir William Ramsay in 1898. Symbol Xe or X.

1898 RAMSAY & TRAVERS in *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Bristol* 830 The last fractions of liquefied argon show the presence of three new gases. These are krypton..metargon..and a still heavier gas,..which we propose to name 'xenon'.

Xenophontean, -ian (zenŏfɒ·ntiăn), *a.* [f. Gr. *Ξενοφῶν, -ῶντος* Xenophon, name of an ancient Greek historian and biographer (*c* 444-354 B.C.) + -EAN, -IAN.] Pertaining to, characteristic of, described by, or resembling (that of) Xenophon.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 99 M. Thomas Blundeuil,..whose painefull, and skillfull bookes of Horsemanship, deserue also to be registred in the Catalogue of Xenophontian woorkes. 1834 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 127 In all European services there is a class of officers who might not unaptly be termed Xenophonteans; men..zealous to know the most that is possible, for the sake of acting under its guidance. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 338 The Apology appears to combine the common characteristics both of the Xenophontean and Platonic Socrates.

So **Xenopho·ntic** *a.*

1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 27 What..authority the poet had for engaging his Socrates in these ridiculous speculations, it is now impossible to ascertain; but..the Platonic, and even the Xenophontic, Socrates is sometimes almost as absurd. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 15 Aug., Colonel Fremantle, in one of the most Xenophontic little books that has seen the light within these latter days, tells us [etc.]. 1882 A. S. WALPOLE *Xenophon's Anab.* I. (1900) p. x, A Greek of Xenophontic age. 1904 *Times* 27 Aug. 10/1 A mere Xenophontic record of the length of stages in a journey.

Xenotime (ze·nŏtəim). *Min.* [Named (in Fr.) by Beudant, 1832, as if f. Gr. *ξένος* strange + *τιμή* honour, but app. in error for **xenotime*, f. Gr. *κενός* empty, vain: see quot. below.] A native phosphate of yttrium.

1844 DANA *Min.* (1868) 528 Xenotime...Lustre resinous Color yellowish-brown, reddish-brown, hair-brown, flesh-red, grayish-white [etc.]...Beudant named the species *xenotime* (apparently from *ξενός*, stranger to, and *τιμή*, honor), but in the next line gives the derivation '*κενος*, vain, et *τιμή*, honneur', as if the word were *kenotime*, and adds.. that this name is intended to recall the fact that the mineral was erroneously supposed by Berzelius..to contain a new metal. 1907 *Athenæum* 20 Apr. 479/1 M. Jean Becquerel ..has been engaged in magneto-optical researches...Most of his experiments have been made with crystals of xenotime (a magnetic phosphate of yttrium).

Xeque, var. (Pg. spelling) of SENEKE.

Xerafeen, -in, var. SERAPHIN *Obs.*

‖**Xeranthemum** (zi·ræ·nþ/mŏm). *Bot.* [mod. L. (Tournefort, 1700), f. Gr. *ξηρός* dry + *ἄνθεμον* blossom.] A plant of a genus of composites of the Mediterranean region, having flower-heads with dry chaffy bracts of a purplish or whitish colour; the genus itself; one kind of the plants commonly called *everlasting* or *immortelle*.

1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 385 Seeds of Jacea's,..Xeranthemums,.. and sweet Sultan. 1752 HILL *Hist. Plants* 574 The longleaved xeranthemum with paleaceous

receptacles. It is a native of Germany and France; the flowers retain their beauty many years. 1706 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 116 Virginia and English tobacco, Indian corn, xeranthemum, ten-week's stocks.

Xeraphen, -phin, var. Seraphin *Obs.*

‖ **Xerasia** (zĭərēʻziă). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *ξηρασία* dryness, also in sense below (Galen).] A disease of the hair characterized by excessive dryness.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Xerasia*, a fault in the Hairs when they appear like Down, as it were sprinkled with Dust. 1896 tr. *Balzac's César Birotteau* 152 To prevent xerasia and baldness.

Xeres (zēʻrēs, zĭəʻrēz). Also 7 **Xeres.** Name of a town in Andalusia, famous for its wine; in full, *Xeres sack, wine* = Sherris (*sack*), Sherry *sb.*1 1.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Bristol* (1662) III. 34 *Bristol Milk*...This Metaphorical Milk, whereby Xeres or Sherry-Sack is intended. 1668 Merret in Charleton *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 233 Most of the Canary is made with Malago and Zeres Sack. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 26 The xeres and port Are of the right sort. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* I, Do you like the wine of Oporto, or the wine of Xeres? 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* II. xvi. 13 So many skins of Xeres wine.

Xeriff (zēʻrif, zĭəʻrif), var. of *sheriff*: see Sherifi.

1690 Dryden *Don Sebastian* I. i, I ask Six Hundred Xeriffs for him [*sc.* a horse]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Xeriff*, a former gold coin, current in Egypt and Turkey, for about 9*s.* 6*d.* Another name for the ducat in Morocco.

Xeriff, obs. form of Shereef.

Xero- (zĭəʻrō), before a vowel **xer-**, repr. Gr. *ξηρο-*, *ξηρ-*, combining form of *ξηρός* dry, occurring in several scientific and technical terms. ‖ **Xeroderma, -dermia,** *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *δέρμα* skin], one of several diseases characterized by excessive dryness of the skin; hence **Xeroderma·tic, -dermatous, -dēʻrmic** *adjs.*, pertaining to or characteristic of xeroderma. **Xēʻroform** *Med.* [after *chloroform*]: see quot. **Xerophilous** (-ρʻfilәs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. *-φιλος* loving], adapted to a dry climate or habitat, or to conditions of scanty available moisture; so **Xerophil(e** (zĭəʻrofil), *sb.* a xerophilous plant; **Xero phily,** the condition or character of being xerophilous. **Xerophyte** (-fəit), *Bot.* [Gr. *φυτόν* plant], a xerophilous plant (see above); so **Xerophytic** (-fi·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or having the character of a xerophyte, xerophilous; **Xero·phytism,** xerophytic character, xerophily. ‖ **Xerostomia** (-stōʻmiă), *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *στόμα* mouth], dryness of the mouth from insufficient secretion of saliva. **Xerothēʻrmic** *a.* [Gr. *θερμός* hot], dry and hot.

1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), **Xeroderma*, diminution of secretion of the sebaceous glands. 1864 W. T. Fox *Skin Dis.* viii. 222 True xeroderma is in reality the early stage of ichthyosis, a true epithelial disease. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 786 [*Lichen pilaris*] is only a part of a general xeroderma. 1913 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7), *Xerodermatic. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 851 The skin is dry and thin but not *xerodermatous. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Xerodermia*, same as Xeroderma. 1899 [see Xerosis]. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 92 Minute white, gray, or red scaly *xerodermic prominences, having a hair in the centre. 1901 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), **Xeroform*, a yellow neutral powder derived from tribromphenol and bismuth, ($C_6H_2Br_3O)_2BiOH + Bi_2O_3$; useful in the treatment of wounds, abscesses, etc., and as an intestinal antiseptic. 1884 *Trans. Victoria Inst.* 38 *Xerophiles—plants such as pertain to very dry climates. 1883 J. G. Baker *N. Yorksh.* xxii. 316 The *Xerophilous and Maritime species [of mosses] are very few in number. 1893 *Athenæum* 3 Dec. 774/3 A paper...by the Rev. G. Henslow 'On the Origin of Plant Structures by Self-adaptation to the Environment, exemplified by Desert and Xerophilous Plants.' 1904 *Science* 3 June 866/2 The causes of *xerophily in bog plants. 1897 Willis *Flower. Pl. & Ferns* I. 178 In countries with long dry seasons [etc.] ..., the plants...agree in having a lower rate of transpiration than plants living where there is plenty of available water. Plants of this kind are termed **xerophytes*. 1906 G. Henslow in *19th Cent.* Nov. 801 *E[uphorbia] Paralias* is a xerophyte with coriaceous leaves, because it has adapted itself to a maritime situation in England. 1897 Willis *Flower. Pl. & Ferns* I. 185 No plants...can be regular epiphytes unless they possess well-marked *xerophytic characters, including as a rule the capacity for water-storage. 1900 *Nature* 13 Dec. 150/2 Every one is aware how extremely intolerant of moisture are the cacti and some other xerophytic plants. *Ibid.* 15 Nov. 53/2 The stomatal grooves on the lower surface of the leaf [of *Lepidodendron*] suggest a xerophytic adaptation. Indications of *xerophytism are afforded by other anatomical characters in certain Palæozoic types. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xerostomia*, dryness of the mouth. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 310 The salivary and buccal secretions may be totally arrested as in cases of xerostomia. 1904 *Bot. Gaz.* Apr. 312 (Cent. D. Suppl.) Jerosch holds that an interglacial *xerothermic or steppe period has been proved by the facts of plant geography, paleontology, and geology.

‖ **Xeroma** (zĭərōʻmă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *ξηρός* dry, after *sarcoma*, etc.] Abnormal dryness of some part from lack of fluid secretion; *spec.* = Xerophthalmia. Hence **Xero·matous** *a.*, of the nature of or affected with xeroma.

1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xeroma*, xerophthalmia...*Xeroma, lachrymal*, suppression of the lachrymal secretion. 1850 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, Xeromatous. 1873 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 876 The cornea passes into

Xerophagy (zĭərǫʻfădʒi). Also 7 **-fag-.** [ad. Gr. *ξηροφαγία*: see Xero- and -phagy.] The eating of dry food, esp. as a form of fasting practised in the early church.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Xerophagy*...the eating dry meats. 1671 F. S. tr. *Daille's Serm. Catechumens* II. 2 The stations, the xerofagies, and other disciplines of the Montanists. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 137 In the Week which precedes the Feast of Easter, the Fast was more rigorous, and in some Places they eat nothing but dry'd things; which they call'd Xerophagy. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 558/2 (*Lent*) Some kept the fast of extraordinary strictness known as xerophagy for one day. 1889 Farrar *Lives Fathers* I. v. 190 *note*, As for xerophagies, says Tertullian, they charge them with being a novel title for a pretended duty.

‖ **Xerophthalmia** (zĭərǫfθæʻlmiă). *Path.* Also formerly anglicized as **xerophthalmy, -ie.** [L., ad. Gr. *ξηροφθαλμία*, f. *ξηρός* dry + *ὀφθαλμία* Ophthalmia.] An ophthalmia without discharge; inflammation of the conjunctiva of the eye with abnormal dryness and corrugation.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Xerophthalmy*...soarness or bleardness of the Eyes, when they neither swell, nor run. 1658 Phillips, Xerophthalmie. [1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Xerophthalmia*, a dry Bleardness or Blood-shot of the Eyes.] 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 885 (*heading*) Cuticular conjunctivitis or xerophthalmia.

‖ **Xerosis** (zĭərōʻsis). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *ξήρωσις*, f. *ξηρός* dry: see -osis.] = Xeroma; spec. = *xeroderma* (see Xero-). Also *attrib.*

1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xerosis*, a drying, dryness. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 661 To the milder forms [of ichthyosis] the names *xerodermia* and *xerosis* are frequently applied. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Mar. 622/2 Xerosis bacilli were present.

So **Xerotic** (zĭərǫʻtik) *a.* [see -otic], affected with xerosis: **Xerotine** (zĭəʻrətəin) *a.*, in *xerotine siccative*, trade-name of a substance used for drying ships' bottoms.

1888 *Standard* 14 Jan. 5/8 We have had a terrible explosion of xerotine siccative on board here. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xerotic*, dry. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 3/1 The sad loss of H.M.S. *Dotterel*..., presumably from the effects of an explosion of Xerotine Siccative, supplied as patent driers. 1901 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Xerotic*, characterized by xerosis, or dryness.

† **Xesturgy.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. Gr. *ξεστουργία*, f. *ξεστός*, vbl. adj. f. *ξέειν* to polish: see -urgy.] The process of polishing.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 48 Diuers coulered stones.. so glistering and seuerly set of a diligent Xesturgie [orig. *xesturgia*].

Xil-: see Xyl-.

† **Xilinous,** *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. L. *xilinus*, *xylinus* (Pliny), a. Gr. *ξύλινος*, f. *ξύλον* cotton-tree: see -ous.] Of cotton.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, Xilinous.

Xinto, etc., obs. ff. Shinto, etc.

1776 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 108 The sect of Xinto...The Xinto sect...The deity of the Xintoists [orig. *Sintos, Sintoistes*].

† **Xiph.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **syphe.** [ad. L. *xiphias*: see next.] The swordfish, *Xiphias gladius.*

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 66 The fielde is of the Jacinthe, a pyle in pointe d'Ermyne, betwene two Zyphes hariante, Luna. This is a fishe whiche is named a sworde fishe.

Xiphias (zĭʻfiăs). Also 9 *erron.* **xy-.** [L., a. Gr. *ξιφίας*, f. *ξίφος* sword.]

1. A swordfish, esp. *X. gladius*; in mod. *Zool.*, the genus of fishes of which this is the common species, characterized by having the upper jaw prolonged into a sword-like weapon.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II 492 Having..dissected the head of a *Xiphias* or Sword-fish. 1763 C. Smart *Song to David* lxxv, Strong through the turbulent profound Shoots xiphias to his aim. 1860 Wraxall *Life in Sea* v. 108 The heel of an East Indiaman was once bored by a twenty-foot Xyphias so violently, that the sword went in up to the root, and the fish was killed by the force of the blow.

2. *Astron.* A southern constellation, also called Dorado or the Sword-fish.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Constellation.* 1771 [see Sword-fish 2].

Hence **Xiphiad** (zĭʻfiæd), a fish of the family *Xiphiidæ.*

1839-62 Sir J. Richardson, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 137 Xiphiads or Sword-fishes.

Xiphioid (zĭʻfiǫid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. prec. + -oid.] A. *adj.* Resembling or allied to the genus *Xiphias*; belonging to or having the characters of the family *Xiphiidæ.* b. *sb.* A xiphioid fish.

1852 Mantell *Petrifactions* v. § 1. 416 Cycloid Order... Xiphioids. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, Xiphioid, *a.* and *n.*

‖ **Xiphiplastron** (zĭfiplæʻstrǫn). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. **-a.** Also (more correctly) **xipho-.** [mod. L., properly *xiphoplastron*, f. Gr. *ξίφος* sword + Plastron.] Each of the fourth or hindmost pair of lateral plates in the plastron of a turtle. Hence **Xiphipla·stral** *a.*, pertaining to or constituting a xiphiplastron; *sb.* a xiphiplastral plate, a xiphiplastron.

1872 Huxley *Anat. Vert.* v. 200 In the Turtle the plastron consists of nine pieces...the fourth [...pubis and the ischium] may be anchylosed to the x... plastral. 1889 Lydekker in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* 2 Aug. 322 The imperfect left xiphiplastral [of a Chelonian].

Xiphisternal (zĭfistəʻrnăl), *a.* and *sb. Anat.* and *Zool.* Also (more correctly) **xipho-.** [f. *xiphi-* for *xipho-*, Gr. *ξίφος* sword + Sternum + -al.] A. *adj.* Belonging to or constituting the xiphisternum (see below). b. *sb.* A xiphisternal part or appendage. So ‖ **Xiphisternum** (xipho-), the posterior division of the sternum, in some animals osseous and in others cartilaginous, in man constituting the xiphoid or ensiform cartilage; also sometimes applied to the Xiphiplastron of a turtle.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 284/1 The posterior cartilaginous appendages [of the sternum in birds] be [*sc.* Geoffroy St. Hilaire] terms xiphi-sternals. 1839-47 *Ibid.* III. 838/1 The posterior [of the two pairs of elements of the 'sternum', i.e. plastron, of *Chelonia*] are fitly denominated the xiphosternal pieces. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 15 The posterior or xiphisternal end of the sternum. 1892 H. A. Nicholson *Palæont.* 399 The xiphisternum is the 'xiphoid cartilage' of human anatomy. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 362 The sternum [in *Mammalia*]...is divisible into three regions—a præsternum or manubrium sterni...; a mesosternum ...; and a xiphisternum, sometimes cartilaginous, sometimes ossified. *Ibid.* 384 [The] bilateral origin [of the sternum in some *Lacertilia*] is evidenced...by the prolongation backwards...of two xiphisternal horns.

Xiphocostal (zĭfǫkǫʻstăl), *a. Anat.* [f. Gr. *ξίφος* sword + Costal.] Pertaining to or connected with the xiphoid cartilage and the ribs.

1899 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Xiphodyme (zĭʻfǫdəim). [ad. mod.L. *xiphodymus*, contr. f. *xiphodidymus*, f. Gr. *ξίφος* sword + *δίδυμος* twin.] = Xiphopagus.

1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 404 A Monstrosity of the Genus Xiphodyme.

Xiphoid (zĭʻfoid), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* Also *erron.* 8-9 **xyphoid,** 9 **xiphoids.** [ad. mod.L. *xiphoidēs*, a. Gr. *ξιφοειδής*, f. *ξίφος* sword + *εἶδος* form: see -oid.] Sword-shaped, ensiform: a descriptive epithet of the cartilaginous or bony process at the lower or posterior end of the sternum in man and other animals (also called Xiphisternum), and of a projecting bone at the back of the head in the cormorants and related birds (also called *occipital style*).

1746 Glass *Dropsy* in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 338 We found the Circumference of her Abdomen to be just six Feet four Inches, and from the Xyphoid Cartilage to the Os Pubis it measur'd four Feet and half an Inch. 1782 A. Monro *Anat.* 172 The outer surface of the xiphoid bone. 1800 Home in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 351 In the Hystrix, there is a xiphoid cartilage. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 201/2 [The sternum] is connected...with a xyphoid appendix. 1848 [illegible] very thin, ligamentous fasciculus, which passes from the cartilage...of the 7th rib to the anterior surface of the xiphoid cartilage. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 35 The narrow lower end [of the sternum], which projects freely and remains cartilaginous till late in life, is called the xiphoid process. *Ibid.* 65 In Frogs and Toads we have a middle and xiphoid sternum.

So **Xiphoi·dal, Xiphoi·dian, Xiphoi·dean** *adjs.*

1633 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 276 The brest..extended from the throat to the Diaphragma or Cartilagian Xipholdan muscle or Midriff, which is round, lying overthwart the lower part of the brest, separating the heart and lights from the stomach. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1345/2 Xiphoidian. 1904 *Amer. Nat.* Jan. 20 (Osteology of Pygopodes) A pair of flaring external xiphoidal processes, which curve outwards, then inwards.

Xiphonite (zĭʻfǫnəit). *Min.* [Named from *Xiphonia*, an ancient city in Sicily, where found: see -ite 1.] A variety of amphibole, occurring in minute light yellow crystals in cavities of a volcanic rock.

1850 Dana *Syst. Min.* App. 2, 3 Xiphonite is a name given by G. Platania...to a variety occurring in minute crystals with hematite in cavities of a slag-like rock.

‖ **Xiphopagus** (zĭfǫʻpăgŭs). Pl. **-gi** (-dʒəi). [mod.L., f. Gr. *ξίφος* sword (here referring to the xiphoid cartilage) + *πάγος* something firmly fixed or set (: *πηγνύναι* to fix).] A twin monster united by a band extending downwards from the xiphoid cartilage, as in the case of the Siamese twins. Hence **Xiphopagic** (zĭfǫpæʻdʒik), **Xiphopagous** (zĭfǫʻpăgǫs) *adjs.*, constituting a xiphopagus.

1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xiphopagus* [sic]. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Xiphopagus. 1894 Bateson *Variation* 560 *note*, The relative position of xiphopagous twins may result simply from the way in which they happen to be laid by the mother or the midwife. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 6 Apr. 874/2 A new case of xiphopagous twins in two Chinese boys...who are united by a bridge running from the xiphoid cartilage to the umbilicus. 1902 *Lancet* 23 July 208/1 A Case of Xiphopagus or Double Monster. 1902 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 685 (Cent. D., Suppl.) Xiphopagic.

Xiphosuran (zĭfǫsiūʻrăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xiphosūra* pl. (irreg. f. Gr. *ξίφος* sword + *οὐρά* tail, instead of the correct form *Xiphūra*) + -an.] A. *adj.* Belonging to the order *Xiphosura* of *Arachnida*, including the king-crab (*Limulus*)

with a long sharp telson, and the extinct genus *Belinurus*. b. *sb.* An arachnid of this order. So **Xiphosure** (= b); **Xiphosurous, Xiphurous** *adjs.* (= a).

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 460/1 Latreille..admitted into the class *Crustacea* 12 orders, viz., the Decapoda,..the Xyphosures [*sic*], and the Siphonostomes. 1879 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* (ed. 2) I. xviii. 385 In the Devonian no certain traces of Xiphosurans have yet been detected, but several types occur in the Carboniferous. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 528 A Xiphosuran is found in the upper Silurian.

Xmas, common abbreviation in writing of CHRISTMAS: see X 6. Also **Xmassing.**

1581 in E. Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 145 From X'temmas next following. *c* 1755 in B. Ward *Hist. St. Edmund's Coll.* (1893) 303 In ye Xmas and Whitsuntide Vacations. 1799 COLERIDGE *Lett. to Southey* 24 Dec., My Xstmas Carol is a quaint performance. 1802 — *Let. to Southey* 31 Dec., On Xmas Day I breakfasted with Davy. 1875 S. G. THOMAS in R. W. Burnie *Mem. & Lett.* (1891) 55 We are not going to have any Xmas festivities or visitors of any kind. 1884 *Punch* 6 Dec. 268/1 He's beginning Xmassing already.

‖ **Xoanon** (zō·ănŏn). Pl. **xoana** (-ă). *Gr. Antiq.* [Gr. *ξόανον*, related to *ξέειν* to scrape, carve.] A primitive rudely carved image or statue (originally wooden), esp. of a deity.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xoana*, graven Images, Statues carv'd out of Wood or Stone. 1883 *Daily News* 10 May 5/2 This particular xoanon, if we may use that expression in lieu of 'idol'. 1893 W. M. RAMSAY *Church in Roman Empire* vii. 125 The primitive *xoana* of the nursing-mother (Artemis at Ephesus).

Xonotlite (zŏnǫ·tlăit). *Min.* Also **xonaltite.** [First in erron. form *xonaltite*; named (in Ger., *xonaltit*, afterwards *xonotlit*) by Rammelsberg, 1866, 1875, from *Xonotla*, a village in Puebla, Mexico, where found: see -ITE 1.] A hard massive hydrated silicate of calcium.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 397 Xonaltite...Color white to bluish-gray...Occurs at Tetela de Xonalta, Mexico, in concentric layers, with apophyllite and bustamite. 1879 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1128 *Xonaltite.* A hydrated calcium silicate, found at Tetela de Xonatla in Mexico. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 420/2 Xonotlite.

Xowyn, obs. form of SHOVE *v.*

X rays (eks rēz), *sb. pl.* (Also with hyphen.) [tr. Ger. *x-strahlen*, the name given by Röntgen to the rays in question, expressing the fact that their essential nature is unknown: cf. X 3.] A form of radiation discovered by Prof. W. C. Röntgen of Würzburg in 1895, capable of passing in various degrees through many substances impervious to light, and of affecting a sensitized plate and thus producing shadow-photographs of objects inclosed within opaque receptacles or bodies, e.g. of the bones, or a bullet or other foreign body, within the flesh of a living person or animal; they also produce fluorescence, phosphorescence, and electrical effects, and have a curative operation in certain skin diseases; much used in recent surgical and medical practice. Also called *Röntgen rays* (see RAY *sb.*1 1).

1896 *Nature* 23 Jan. 274/1 (Röntgen in *Sitzungsberichte der Würzburger Phys.-Med. Gesellschaft* 1896, 133 tr. by A. Stanton) A piece of sheet aluminium, 13 mm. thick.. allowed the X-rays (as I will call the rays for the sake of brevity) to pass, but greatly reduced the fluorescence. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 362 Skiagraphs taken by means of the X Röntgen rays. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 408 The application of the X rays to the diagnosis of internal aneurisms. *Ibid.* VIII. 727 The injury produced by the X rays of Röntgen.

b. *attrib* and *Comb.* (in sing. form *X-ray*).

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 2/3 Radiations which have the X-ray-like property of passing through so-called opaque substances. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 408 Aneurysms of the thoracic aorta can sometimes be detected earlier by X ray examination. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 8/3 Another X-ray photograph..of a girl's wrist and hand, showing the thickening of the bone brought on by rheumatism. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 June 1/5 Dr. Hall Edwards, whose heroic fight against the inroads of X ray dermatitis has been compassionately followed by the King and public.

Hence **X-ray** (eksrē·) *v., trans.* to examine or treat with X rays. So **X-radia·tion.**

1900 *Lancet* 17 Feb. 488/2 The patient's chest had been x-rayed, but the position of the bullet could not be localised. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 894/2 The child was *x* rayed, and a large nail was seen. 1913 E. RUTHERFORD in *Nature* 9 Sept. 33/2 To examine the quantity and quality of the X-radiation scattered from crystals at different angles.

X(e)tmas: see XMAS.

Xul, xuld(e, xwld: see SHALL *v.*

†Xylaloe(s, xyloaloe(s. *Obs.* Forms: 6 **xiloaloes,** 6 (8) **xyloaloe,** 7 **xylaloës,** 7–8 (in Dicts.) **xyloaloes.** [a. late Gr. *ξυλαλόη*, f. *ξύλον* wood + *ἀλόη* ALOE. Cf. obs. F. *xilaloë* (Cotgr.).] = LIGN-ALOES, ALOE 1. Also *attrib.*

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 114 Wasshe them..with wyne, in the whiche is..soden myntes, roses, violettes, and xiloaloes. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 71/2 Take Xyloaloe woode j. G. *Ibid.* 11/2 Suger of Candy, xyloaloe, Cloves, Ginger. 1682 MORRISON tr. *Struys' Voy.* i. vi. 38 An Ointment made of Xylaloës, or, wood of Aloës.

Xylan (zăi·læn). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + -AN.] A gelatinous compound contained in wood, also called *tree-gum, wood-gum.*

1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 868/1.

Xylate (zăi·lĕt). *Chem.* [f. XYL-IC + -ATE 4.] A salt of xylic acid.

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 818. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1130 Calcium salts, which may be separated by their different solubility in water, the xylate being more soluble than the paraxylate.

Xylem (zăi·lem). *Bot.* [mod. (Nägeli in Ger.) f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood: cf. PHLOEM.] Collective name for the cells, vessels, and fibres forming the harder portion of the fibrovascular tissue; the wood, as a tissue of the plant-body. Also *attrib.*

1873 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 94 The different forms of tissue of a differentiated fibro-vascular bundle may be classified into two groups, which Nägeli calls the *Phloëm*- (Bast) and *Xylem*- (Wood) portion of the bundle...The xylem-portion of the fibro-vascular bundle has mostly a strong tendency to thicken its cell-forms. *Ibid.* 95 These horizontal elements..may be..designated as rays; within the xylem they are called xylem-rays, within the phloëm, phloëm-rays. 1894 D. H. SCOTT *Struct. Bot.* 1. *Flowering Pl.* 56 The woody character of the cell-walls of the xylem is due to the presence of a substance called lignine.

Xylene (zăi·lĭn). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + -ENE.] A mixture of three isomeric hydrocarbons having the formula $C_8H_{10} = C_6H_4(CH_3)_2$, obtained as a volatile colourless liquid from wood-spirit or coal-naphtha; any one of these three hydrocarbons: systematically named *dimethylbenzene.* Also *attrib.* (Also called XYLOL, q.v.)

1852 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 184 Xylol or Xylene. 1859 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XIII. 116 Xylene series... Primary Nucleus $C^{16}H^{10}$. Xylol $C^{16}H^{10}$. 1888 RENSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 241 Coal-tar xylene consists of three isomeric hydrocarbons..known as *ortho-xylene, meta-xylene,* and *para-xylene.*

Hence **Xyle·nic** *a.*, **Xylenol** (zăi·lĭnǫl), **Xy·lenyl, Xyleny·lamine:** see quots.

1888 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 *Xylenyl.* Syn. with *Xylyl. Ibid., Xylenylamine.* Syn. with *Xylidine.* 1872 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* New Ser. X. 482 Liquid Xylenol is a colourless, highly refracting fluid, smelling strongly of phenol. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 798 Xylenol is produced by fusing the potassium salt of xylyl sulphurous acid with potassium hydrate. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1128 *Xylenol.* $C_8H_{10}O = C_6H_3(CH_3)_2OH$. Dimethyl-phenol, Xenol, Xylylic phenol. *Ibid.* 1129 Solid xylenol dissolves abundantly in alcohol and ether...Liquid xylenol is colourless and strongly refractive. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 871/2 *Xylanic alcohol* is tolyl-carbinol.

Xylic (zăi·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. XYL-ENE + -IC.] *Xylic acid*: dimethylbenzoic acid, $C_9H_{10}O_2$, also called XYLYLIC *acid* (see quots.).

1872 [see XYLIDIC]. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 817 Xylic and Paraxylic..acid. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1129 *Xylic* or *xylylic acid.* $C^9H^{10}O^2 = C^6H^3(CH^3)^2.CO^2H$. Two modifications of this acid, distinguished as *xylic* and *paraxylic*, are formed, together with xylidic acid..by oxidising pseudocumene..with dilute nitric acid..at the boiling heat.

Xylidic (zăilī·dik), *a. Chem.* [f. XYL-IC + -ID 4 + -IC.] *Xylidic acid*: either of two isomeric substances obtained by the oxidation of xylic and paraxylic acids: see quot. Hence **Xylidate** (zăi·lidĕt) [-ATE 4], a salt of xylidic acid.

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl. 1130 *Xylidic acid.* $C^9H^8O^4$. ..This bibasic acid..is formed..by the oxidation of xylic or paraxylic acid. *Ibid., Calcium xylidate,* $C^9H^6O^4Ca$, forms indistinct white scales, very soluble in water.

Xylidine (zăi·lidăin). *Chem.* [f. XYL-ENE or XYL-IC + -ID 4 + -INE 5.] a. An amine-derivative of xylene, homologous with aniline, occurring in several isomeric modifications having the formula $C_6H_3(CH_3)_2NH_2$; used in the preparation of artificial dyes. Called also **Xyli·damine.** b. = XYLOIDIN.

1850 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 184 Mononitroxylol, when dissolved in alcohol, and treated with hydrosulphate of ammonia, yields a base analogous to toluidine; it may be called *Xylidina.* 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 Xylidine is a colourless liquid, heavier than water.

Xylite (zăi·lăit). [ad. G. *xylit*, f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood: see -ITE 1.]

1. *Chem.* A volatile liquid obtained from wood-spirit, also called LIGNONE. Also *attrib.*

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 634/2 With acids xylite..gives rise to xylitic acid, xylite naphtha, xylite resin, and xylite oil. 1859 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* IX. 48 Xylite-oil. $C^{18}H^9O$. Produced by the action of oil of vitriol, hydrate of potash, or potassium on lignone.

2. *Min.* An impure silicate of iron, occurring in brown fibrous masses resembling asbestos or 'mountain wood'.

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 460 Hisingerite is another silicate of iron, and with it are associated..Stilpnomelane, Chloropal,..Xylite. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 *Xylite.* This name is given by Hermann..to a mineral ..forming finely fibrous masses resembling mountain-wood.

Hence **Xylitic** (zăilī·tik) *a. Chem.*, applied to compounds derived from xylite (sense 1): see quots.

1843 [see sense 1 above]. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 393 An excess of potash causes the formation of three products: xylitic naphtha, $C_{12}H_{10}O_2$; xylitic oil, $C_{12}H_9O$; and xylitic resin, C_9H_6O.

Xylo- (zăi·lo, before a vowel **xyl-,** repr. Gr. *ξυλο-, ξυλ-,* comb. form of *ξύλον* wood: the first element of various scientific and technical words, the more important of which see in their alphabetical places. **Xylochlore** (-klōəɹ) *Min.* [ad. G. *xylochlor* (von Waltershausen, 1853), f. Gr. *χλωρός* green], an altered form of apophyllite, found in olive-green crystals in a fossil tree-stem in a volcanic rock in Iceland. **Xylochlo·ric** (-klōə·rĭc) *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *xylochlorique, -chlorique,* f. Gr. *χλωρός* = *χλωρός* green], in *x. acid*: see quots. **Xylochrome** (-krōum) *Chem.* [Gr. *χρῶμα* colour], a colouring matter produced by chemical alteration of decayed wood. **Xylocopid** (zăilǫ·kŏpid), *a. Entom.* [mod.L. *Xylocopa*; Gr. *-κοπος* cutting, -ID 3], belonging or related to the genus *Xylocopa*, comprising the carpenter-bees. **Xylocryptite** (-krĭ·ptăit) *Min.* [Gr. *κρυπτός* hidden: see -ITE 1]: see quots. **Xylolite,** *Min.* [-LITE]: see quot. **Xylophilan** (-fĭlăn) *Entom.* [Gr. *φίλος* loving: cf. -PHIL], *a.* belonging to the group *Xylophili* of beetles, which live in decayed wood; *sb.* a beetle of this group; so **Xylo·philous** *a.*, living or growing in or on wood, as an insect or a fungus. **Xylo·polist** *rare*—0 [Gr. *πωλοπώλης*], a timber-merchant. **Xylopyrography** (-păirǫ·grăfi) [Gr. *πῦρ* fire, -GRAPHY] = POKER-WORK. **Xyloretin** (-rĭ·tĭn), **-retinite** (-re·tĭnəit) *Chem.* [G. *xyloretin* (Forchhammer, 1840), Gr. *ῥητίνη* resin], a white crystalline resin obtained from fossil pine-wood. ‖ **Xylostro·ma** *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *στρῶμα* something spread out, a bed, coverlet], the mycelium of certain polyporoid fungi (originally supposed a distinct genus) which forms a dense leathery sheet on the surface of wood; hence **Xylostro·matoid** *a.* [-OID], resembling a xylostroma. **Xylotherapy** (-þe·răpi) *Med.* [Gr. *θεραπεία* healing], the use of certain kinds of wood in the cure of disease (see quot.). **Xy·lotile** (-təil), **-til** (-til) *Min.* [G. *xylotil*; Gr. *τίλος* down, fine hair], a mineral allied to (or a variety of) asbestos, also called *mountain-wood.* **Xylotomous** (-ǫ·tŏməs) *a.* [Gr. *-τομος* cutting], that cuts or pierces wood, as an insect. **Xylotypographic** (-təipegræ·fik) *a.* [TYPOGRAPHIC], printed from wooden blocks or types.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 **Xylochlore*...Kenngott ..has shown that it is an altered form of apophyllite. 1868 — tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XV. 534 *Xylochloric acid. $C^{30}H^{36}O^{34}$?..A green colouring matter, which sometimes forms on decayed pieces of wood. 1868 — *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylochloeric acid*, a term applied by Fordos..to the green colouring-matter of decayed wood, which may be extracted by chloroform. 1898 H. C. PORTER tr. *Strasburger's Text-Bk. Bot.* 124 The tannins impart to the dead wood a distinct colour, often very characteristic, especially when it has been transformed into wood dyes, or so-called **xylochrome.* 1904 *Athenæum* 24 Dec. 881/1 A photograph.. showing the **Xylocopid* model and its Asilid mimic. 1820 *Q. Jrnl. Sci. Lit. & Arts* VIII. 352 It may be named provisionally **Xylocryptite*, expressive of its being hidden in fossil wood. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylocryptite*, asbestos. 1848 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Xylophilans*,..the name of a tribe of beetles, consisting of those which live on decayed wood. 1860 MAYNE *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2), *Xylophilous* ..growing upon, or living in decayed wood; **xylophilous.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Xylopolist*..a Woodmonger. 1890 OGILVIE, **Xylopyrography.* 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 May 6/1 [Baron Auer's] father was..an inventor in typography and xylopyrography. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 417 Tekoretine, Phylloretine, **Xyloretine*, and Boloretine, are the names of four resinous compounds, found in the peat of Denmark, on the remains of pine-trees. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 743 **Xyloretinite* was derived by Forchhammer through the action of alcohol on fossil pine-wood from the marshes of Holtegaard in Denmark. 1871 COOKE *Handbk. Brit. Fungi* I. 282 Polyporus vitreus...'Glassy Polyporus.' ..Distinguished by its distinct **xylostromatoid* sub-stratum, which separates easily from the matrix. 1880 *Boston Jrnl. Chem.* Dec. 144 At a recent meeting of the Société de Thérapeutique M. Dujardin-Beaumetz read for M. Jourdan's a note on the æsthesiogenic properties of certain woods applied to the skin, which he calls **xylotherapy*. M. Jourdan's has applied plates of wood to the insensible skin, and as with plates of metal, magnets,..and blisters has obtained a return of sensibility. 1864 WEBSTER, 'Xylotile. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 406 Xylotile..is probably only an altered asbestus. It occurs delicately fibrous;..wood-brown, light or dark, and also green in color. 1872 W. SKEEN *Early Typogr.* 417 The **xylotypographic* text.

‖ **Xylobalsamum** (zăilobe·lsăməm). Also 7 in anglicized form **xylobalsame.** [L. (Pliny), ad. Gr. *ξυλοβάλσαμον*: see XYLO- and BALSAM, BALM. Cf. F. *xylobalsame*, † *xilo-* (Cotgr.).] The fragrant wood of the tree *Balsamodendron gileadense*, which yields the resin called OPOBALSAMUM or Balm of Gilead.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xviii. (Bodl. MS.) ff. 194 b/2 Balsamum is a tree..liche to a vyne..þe tre hatte Balsamum and þe stokke Xilobalsamum and the frute and þe sede Carpobalsamum and iuse Opobalsamum.] 1626 BULLOKAR *Engl. Expos., Xylobalsamum*, a sweet wood out of which balme droppeth. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Xylobalsamum*, a Name which Naturalists, &c. give to the Wood of the Tree which yields that precious Gum known to the Latins by the Name of *Opo-Balsamum*, and among us

by the Name of *Balm of Gilead*...The *Xylo-balsamum* is reputed good to strengthen the Brain, and Stomach. 1668 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylobalsamum*, the commercial name of the odoriferous wood of *Amyris gileadensis*, which yields Mecca balsam.

†Xyloca·ssia. *Obs.* Also 6 xilo-. [late L., ad. Gr. *ξυλοκασ(σ)ία* (Dioscorides): see XYLO- and CASSIA.] = CASSIA[1] 1 (cf. 1 b).

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 284 Precious marchaundies were brought from the redde sea and India,...Cinamome. Longe pepper. Whyte pepper. Cloues...Cassia...Xilocassia... Xilocinamome, [etc.]. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 178 In the Groves about Carwar grows *Cassia Lignum*, *Xylo-Cassia*, or Bastard Cinamon.

†Xyloci·nnamon. *Obs.* In 6 xilocinamome. [ad. Gr. *ξυλοκιννάμωμον* (Dioscorides), L. *xylocinnamōmum* (Pliny): see XYLO- and CINNAMON.] Cinnamon-wood.

1555 Xilocinamome [see XYLOCASSIA]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xylocinnamon*, or *Xylocinnamomon*, the Wood of the Cinnamon-Tree.

Xylograph (zəi·lŏgrɑf), *sb.* Also xylo-. [The earliest words of the group are *xylography*, *xylographic*, *-ical*, ad. F. *xylographie* (18th cent.), *xylographique*: see XYLO- and -GRAPHY, -GRAPHIC.] A wood-engraving (i. e. either an engraving on wood, or an impression from one), esp. one of the early period. Hence **Xy·lograph** *v. trans.*, to execute from a wood-engraving. So **Xylographer** (-ŏ·grăfəɹ), **Xylo·graphist**, a wood-engraver, esp. of the early period; **Xylographic** (-græ·fik), **-ical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or executed by wood-engraving; **Xylogra·phically** *adv.*, by the method of wood-engraving; **Xylography** (-ŏ·grăfi), wood-engraving, esp. of the early period or of a primitive kind; also, more widely, printing from wood blocks as distinct from type.

1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* Pref. p. xiii, The account which gives the honor of the invention of Xylography to the Card-makers. *Ibid.* 176 The covers of books have of late been a fertile source of typographical and xylographical discoveries. *Ibid.* 205 Whether the xylographic art took its rise in Italy or Germany, cannot so clearly..be proved. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 264 Many past and present 'Xylographers' (or wood-cutters) could do infinitely better. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 60 Printing, or rather xylography, is said to have been invented about the beginning of the tenth century. 1855 tr. *Wedl's Rudim. Pathol. Histol.* (Sydenham

xylographers. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Dec. 738/1, The forthcoming edition of the New Testament, illustrated with all the powers of modern xylography. 1864 *Ibid.* 17 Dec. 758 The Brothers Dalziel are the xylographists, if there is such a word. 1864 WEBSTER, *Xylograph*, an engraving on wood, or the impression from such an engraving. 1878 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIII. 6 Worked in red, blue and yellow, just as if they were the three colors of a xylograph. 1881 *Athenæum* 3 Sept. 310/2 The woodcuts, if..coarse from a xylographic point of view, are admirably characteristic. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* VIII. II. 221 The runes were essentially a xylographic script. 1887 HESSELS *Haarlem* XV. 53 Xylographic Donatuses. *Ibid.* XVIII. 77 The *Doctrinales* ..were not printed typographically but from wooden blocks (xylographically). 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 31 Mar. 249/2 We have received from Tokio, Japan, a copy of a handsome xylographed life-sized picture of Commodore Matthew C. Perry. *Ibid.*, The xylographic picture is a good specimen of popular art. 1905 E. CANDLER *Unveiling of Lhasa* iv. 67 Xylograph editions of the Lamaist scriptures and lives of the saints.

Xyloidin (zəiloi·din, *formerly* zəilō·idin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [ad. F. *xyloïdine* (Braconnot), f. Gr. *ξυλοειδής*, f. *ξύλον* wood: see -OID and -IN[1].] An explosive substance, $C_6H_9(NO_2)O_5$, allied to pyroxylin, obtained by treating starch or vegetable fibre with nitric acid.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 664 *note*, M. Braconnot, by digesting saw-dust of wood, or potatoe starch, in concentrated nitric acid, obtained a mucilaginous solution. ..Water coagulated it, and separated a white caseous substance, to which he has given the name of *xyloidin*. 1850 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 3) 388 Both xyloidine and pyroxyline appear to be substitution-compounds, in which the elements of nitrous acid replace, to a certain extent, those of water in starch and lignine. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 Xyloidin is a white, inodorous, and tasteless powder... Xyloidin when struck decomposes with detonation, but not so violently as gun-cotton.

Xylol (zəi·lŏl). *Chem.* Also -ole. [f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + -OL.] = XYLENE. Also *attrib.*

1892 [see XYLENE]. 1896 WARREN DE LA RUE & H. MILLER in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* VIII. 225 The Burmese naphtha products contain the corresponding hydrocarbons, namely,—Benzol..$C_{12}H_6$. Toluol..$C_{14}H_8$. Xylol..$C_{16}H_{10}$. Cumol.. $C_{18}H_{12}$. 1899 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 5 Xylol is the best solvent of Canada balsam for such hermetical sealing. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 4 The section is to be dried with fine filter paper,..clarified with xylol, and mounted in xylol balsam.

Xylonite (zəi·lŏnəit). Also xylo- (see X). [Early form *xyloïnite*, irreg. f. XYLOIDIN + -ITE[1], afterwards assimilated to Gr. *ξύλον* wood.] Another name for CELLULOID.

The invention originated with Alexander Sparkes, and was afterwards worked out by Daniel Spill (*Engl. Mechanic* XXIX. 93/1), who patented it 1867-75. An American company formed in 1881-2 adopted the form *xylonite*.

1869 The Xylonite Company Limited [incorporated 19 May]. 1870 *Provis. Specif. Patent* No. 787 In the production of those products which are similar to or such as are known as xyloinite or such compounds as contain xyloidine or soluble gun cotton. 1885 *Reader* 7 Mar. 455 Zylonite is the trade name of a substance that imitates amber, shell or ivory. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Dec. 3/2 The imitation ivory produced by the Xylonite Company, at their manufactory at Manningtree, in Suffolk. 1892 ELEANOR ROWE *Chip Carving* (1893) 52 Paper-knives, hairpin boxes, and various other small articles..made in Xylonite look remarkably well when carved.

Xylophagous (zəilŏ·făgəs), *a. Zool.* Also 9 *erron.* xylo-, xilo-. [f. mod.L. *xylophagus*, f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + *-φαγος* eating: see -OUS. Cf. F. *xylophage*.] Feeding upon wood, as an insect larva, or boring into and destroying wood, as a mollusc or crustacean. So **Xylo·phagan**, *a.* belonging to the *Xylophagi* or *Xylophagi*, names in different classifications for various groups of insects whose larvæ devour wood; *sb.* an insect belonging to one of these groups; **Xylophage** (zəi·lŏfeidʒ), a wood-eating insect.

a coarse fibre, soon attacked by *xylophages. 1739 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 279 This *Xylophagous Worm. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 704/1 The..xilophagous Conchifera. 1836-9 *Ibid.* II. 862/1 The..Xylophagous insects of this tribe..are exceedingly destructive. 1864 OWEN *Power of God* 16 Tree-destroying Xylophagous larvæ.

Xylophone (zəi·lŏfōun). Also xylo- (see X). [f. Gr. *ξύλον* (see XYLO-) + *φωνή* voice, sound.] A musical instrument consisting of a graduated series of flat wooden bars, played by striking with a small hammer or by rubbing with rosined gloves.

1866 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 470/3 A prodigy..who does wonderful things with little drumsticks on a machine of wooden keys, called the 'xylophone', almost five octaves in compass. 1890 HALLETT *1,000 Miles in Shan States* 322 A native xylophone made of eighteen sonorous strips of hard wood fastened side by side by strings and suspended over a boat-shaped sounding board. 1892 R. L. GARNER *Speech Monkeys* xiii. 135 Drawing a mallet rapidly across the keyboard of a xylophone.

Hence **Xylophonic** (-fŏ·nik) *a.*, of, pertaining to, or resembling that of a xylophone.

1899 MARY KINGSLEY *W. African Stud.* lii. 65 Many African instruments are..sweet..notably the xylophonic family. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 10/2 Two swarthy bare-armed blacksmiths who extract xylophonic music from a couple of cart-wheels.

Xylophory (zəilŏ·fŏri). *rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. *ξυλοφορία* wood-carrying, f. *ξύλον* wood + *-φορος* carrying (: *φέρειν* to carry).] Wood-carrying. *Festival of xylophory* (Gr. *ξυλοφόρια ἑορτή*, Josephus), applied to the Feast of Tabernacles.

1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Jewish War* II. xvii. § 6 The next day was the festival of Xylophory, upon which the custom was for every one to bring wood for the altar.

Xylose (zəi·lōus). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + -OSE[2].] A colourless carbohydrate, $C_5H_{10}O_5$, obtained by the action of sulphuric acid on xylan; also called *wood-sugar*.

1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 538/2. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 334 [Pentose], in the form of arabinose, rhamnose and xylose, has been identified in the urine.

Xylostein (zəilŏ·stĭin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Xylosteum* (f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + *ὀστέον* bone) + -IN[1].] A poisonous bitter substance found in the berries of the fly-honeysuckle, *Lonicera Xylosteum*.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1061. 1871 — tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XVI. 102.

Xylyl (zəi·lil). *Chem.* [f. XYL-INE + -YL.] The hypothetical radical (C_8H_9) of xylene and its derivatives. Hence **Xylylamine**, **Xy·lylene**, **†Xylylea** (= *xylylamine*), **Xyly·lic** *a.*, etc.: see quots.

1868 MILLER *Elem. Ch.* $C_{16}H_{10}$. Nitroxylol, $C_{16}H_9$ *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) [illegible] has been observed by [illegible] *Chem.* V. 1061 *Xylyl.* C^8H^9. A monatomic radicle, homologous with phenyl and tolyl, which may be supposed to exist in xylene..and its derivatives. *Ibid.*, *Xylylamine* ..a base..(not yet obtained), related to benzylamine..as xylidine..to toluidine. *Ibid.*, *Xylylene.* C^8H^8. A diatomic radicle related to xylyl, C^8H^9, in the same way as ethylene to ethyl. *Ibid.* 1062 *Xylylic acid.* $C^9H^{10}O^3 = C^8H^8(CH^3)^2.CO^2H$...homologous with benzoic and toluic acids. *Ibid.*, *Xylylic acetate*, *chloride*, &c. Syn. with *Toluylic Acetate*, *Chloride*, &c.

Xyrid (zəi·rid). *Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Xyrid-*, *Xyris*, ad. Gr. *ξυρίς* a species of iris, f. *ξυρόν* razor, so called from the sharp-edged leaves.] A plant belonging to the *Xyridaceæ*, an order of monocotyledons typified by the genus *Xyris*, comprising sedge-like herbs having flowers with three coloured petals like those of Spiderworts; chiefly tropical and North American. So **Xyridal** (zi·ridăl) *a.*, belonging to the alliance *Xyridales* in Lindley's classification, comprising the *Xyridaceæ* and allied orders; *sb.* a plant belonging to this alliance; **Xyridaceous** (zirid^{i}·ʃəs) *a.*, belonging to the *Xyridaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 186 [The] nearest relationship [of *Philydraceæ*]..is plainly with Xyrids and Spiderworts. *Ibid.* 185 Alliance XIV. *Xyridales.*—The Xyridal Alliance.. Natural Orders of Xyridals. *Philydraceæ. Xyridaceæ. Commelynaceæ. Mayacæ. Ibid.* 187 *Xyrnaceæ.*—Xyrids.

Xyst: see XYSTUS.

Xystarch (zi·stɑɹk). *Gr. Antiq. rare*—[o]. [ad. Gr. *ξυστάρχης*, f. *ξυστός* XYSTUS + *ἄρχειν* to rule.] (See quot.)

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Xystarch*..an Athenian officer who presided over the gymnastic exercises of the Xystus.

‖ Xyster (zi·stəɹ). *Surg.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *ξυστήρ*, f. *ξύειν* to scrape.] An instrument for scraping bones.

[1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*] 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 429/1 Raspatorium, Rasping hookes]. Scraping Instruments to shave and scrape filthy and scaly bones. Its called also Xyster.

‖ Xyston (zi·stŏn). *Gr. Antiq.* [a. Gr. *ξυστόν* the polished shaft of a spear, hence a spear, neut. of *ξυστός* scraped, polished, f. *ξύειν* to scrape, polish.] (See quot., and cf. SARISSA.)

1846 GROTE *Greece* II. xcii. XII. 77 The regiments of cavalry called Sarissophori or Lancers..carrying a long lance, and distinguished from the heavier cavalry..who carried the xyston or short pike.

‖ Xystus (zi·stŏs). Pl. **xysti** (-əi). Also 7 xystus, pl. **xisti**; 8-9 **xystos**, 9 **xystos**; 8-9 **xystum**, pl. **xysta** (7 *erron.* **xystas**). Also in anglicized form **xyst**. [L. *xystus* masc., also *xystum* neut., ad. Gr. *ξυστός*, prop. sb. use of the masc. of *ξυστός* adj.: see prec.] Among the ancient Greeks, a long covered portico or court used for athletic exercises; among the ancient Romans, an open colonnade, or walk planted with trees, used for recreation and conversation; hence occas. allusively.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 132 Those large Xystas, Porticos, Atrias and Vestibula of the Greeks and Romans. 1696 — *Lett. to Wotton* 28 Oct., Spacious plots of ground.. built about with porticos, xisti, & noble ranges of pillars. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Zystus*, was a Place where the Wrestlers exercis'd. 1706 *Ibid.* (ed. Kersey), *Xystos*, a large Portico or Gallery, where the Greek Wrestlers us'd to practise in Winter-time. *Ibid.*, *Xystus* or *Xystum* (among the Romans) an open Walking-Place..; also a Knot-Garden. 1721 (*title*) The Architecture of A. Palladio..containing A short Treatise of the Five Orders..also The different Construction of Private and Publick Houses, High-ways, Bridges, Market-places, Xystes, and Temples...Revised..By Giacomo Leoni. 1763 SMOLLETT *Trav.* XXX. (1766) II. 102 The *Xystus*, which were shady walks between two porticos. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 296 Zystos; among the antients, a portico or aile of unusual length, commonly appropriated to gymnastic exercises. 1856 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* xiv. (1913) II. 405 [I] directed the workmen to set creepers in my xystus. 1872 FARRAR *Wilm. Hist.* vi. 98 Philosophers who aired their elegant doubts in the shady xystus.

Y.

Y (wɑi), pl. Y's, Ys (wɑiz), the twenty-fifth letter of the modern and twenty-third of the ancient Roman alphabet, representing ultimately Υ, υ (u psilon) of the Greek alphabet, a differentiated form of the primitive V which has given also U and V. It was adopted first in the Latin alphabet in the form V to express (u) and (w), and was later (after B. C. 100) readopted in the form Y to represent the Υ of borrowed Greek words.

The name of the letter in the Romanic languages, 'Greek i' (e. g. F. *i grec*, Sp. *i griega*), and the Ger. name *ipsilon*, It. *ipsilon*, *-onne* (†*yssilonne*), and Pg. *ypsilon*, preserve the fact of its Greek origin. The English name *wy* (wɑi) is of obscure origin.

The earliest available English evidence is in the MS. of the Ormulum, col. 109 (l. 4320), where pi is written, app. in the first hand (*c* 1200), over *y*, the fifth letter of the name IESOYS. Nothing certain is known about the historical relationship of the English name to the name vi or ui attributed to 'the Greek y' in the grammatical treatise (*a* 1150) contained in the Edda, or to the *ui* or *gui* of some OF. systems. Gawin Douglas rhymes Y with *sky* (see quot. 1513 in sense 2 below); other early references to the name are:—

1573 Baret *Alv.*, Y hath bene taken for a greeke vowel among our latin Grammarians a great while, which me thinke if we marke well we shall finde to be rather a diphthong: for it appeareth to be compounded of u and i, which both spelled togither soundeth as we write Wy. 1580 Bullokar *Amendm. Orthogr.* 8 The olde name of 1y: (which is wy).

(1) The letter of which our *y* is the direct representative occurs from the earliest times in OE. script to express the *i*-mutation of *u*. It had various forms ranging from those resembling the Greek *u psilon*, in which the tops of the limbs turn outwards in opposite directions, to those in which both limbs turn in the same direction, whether to the right (forming an F like character) or to the left. This last type with the right shank continued leftwards below the line was the form that prevailed in ME. script, and which, with the top closed (ꝯ), became identical with the debased forms of þ: see (3) below. Most forms of the OE. *y* in the earliest manuscripts are written with a superposed dot, which is also a feature of the *y* in contemporary manuscripts of Latin texts. The dot fell out of use towards the end of the eighth century, but was revived towards the end of the tenth. The dotted *y* continued throughout the ME. period, and was carried into some of the early founts of type (e. g. in *The Book of St. Albans* of 1486 the dotted *y* is employed in the larger, but not in the smaller type).

In later (West-Saxon) OE., *y* was written alternatively for *i*, e. g. as representing older *ie*, as in *cyle*, *ongylan*, *yld*, for *ciele*, *ongielan*, *ield*; and, as its function of expressing rounded *i* (ü, ū) was usurped by *u* in imitation of French usage, it became ultimately a possible substitute for vocalic *i* in any position. This use had become established by the middle of the 13th century, and, thenceforward, with the deterioration of script, *y* came to serve as a convenient means of breaking up an ambiguous series of minims produced by a succession of *i*, *u*, *n*, *m*, as *nym*, *myn*, *ynumen*, *unymete*, for *nim*, *min*, *inumen*, *unimete*. This free use of *y* was continued through the ME. period, and the tradition lasted for a long period after the introduction of printing; but *i* was gradually restored to its place, the resulting orthographic convention being that *y* is retained: (i) for final *i*-sounds, as in *fly*, *family*, *daily*, *destroy* (formerly spelt also *flie* and *flye*, *familie* and *familye*, etc.), only alien words being spelt with final *i*; (ii) in Greek words, representing *υ*, as in *hymn*; (iii) before *i*, in inflexional forms of verbs ending in *y* or *ie*, as *flying*, *lying*, *tying*, not *fliing*, etc.; (iv) in the plural of nouns ending in *y* preceded by another written vowel, as *boy boys*, *ray rays*, *alley alleys*, *money moneys* (but *monies* is still common, and *vallies*, *monkies*, etc. were equally so until recently). Particular usages, not falling under these categories, are the use of *y* to distinguish *dye* from *die*, and the fluctuation between *flyer* and *flier*, *tyre* and *tire*, *gipsy* and *gypsy*, *tiro* and *tyro*, *siphon* and *syphon*, *cipher* and *cypher*, *silva* and *sylva* (see each word for the special circumstances).

In some texts *y* is found substituted for *i* = French *j* (dʒ); e. g. in Shoreham's Poems *manyour* is written for *maniour* = manger, in Ayenbite *yyoyned* for *yioyned* joined, in the Camb. MS. of the 15th century version of Guy of Warwick occur *yoye*, *yolye*, *yelowes*, *havbenyoure*, *seyourned* = joy, jolly, jealous, harbinger, sojourned.

(2) About the middle of the 13th century *y* began to be used to represent the voiced palatal spirant (y), taking the place of the character ȝ (called Yogh, q.v.) in one of its values. ȝ is a loosely written form of OE. g, which had become appropriated in early ME. script to the guttural and palatal spirants, while the continental *g* was appropriated to the voiced guttural and palatal stops (though in some MSS. *g* stands for all these sounds: cf. G). The practice of contemporary scribes varied considerably, some restricting *y* to its vocalic use, others using it freely for both consonant and vowel. Northern scribes of the 14th and 15th centuries often write *yh* for *y* initially, as *yhit*, *yheyt* yet, *yher* year, *yhoung* young.

In many late ME. scripts ȝ became identical in form with *z*, and it was retained by Scottish printers in this form; e. g. printed *zer*, *fenzeit*, *Dalziel*, represent *yer* year, *fenyeit* feigned, *Dalyiel*: see further s.v. Z.

(3) Another value of *y* arises from the assimilation of *y* and *þ*, the runic *thorn* (see Th), which had become indistinguishable from each other in some MSS. of the early 14th century (e. g. the Cotton MS. of Cursor Mundi). After 1400 *þ* fell more and more out of use, and in some scripts was represented only by the *y*-form in the compendia *yᵉ*, *yᵗ* or *yᵃᵗ*, *yᵈᵉ*, *yᵐ*, *yⁿ* = the, that, they, them, thou, and the like, many of which continued to be extensively employed in manuscript in the 17th and 18th centuries. Two of these, *yᵉ* or *ȳ*, *yᵗ* or *ȳ*, were retained in printers' types during the 15th and 16th centuries, but often with a form of *y* somewhat different from that used in other positions. (In Sir John Cheke's translation of the New Testament, a dotted *y* stands for *th*.) In manuscript (e. g. in letter-writing) *yᵗ* lasted well into the 19th century. It is still often used pseudo-archaically, jocularly, or vulgarly (pronounced as *ye*), e. g. in Lewis Carroll's 'Ye Carpette Knyghte', and in shop-signs like 'Yᵉ Olde Booke Shoppe'.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 17033–4 (MS. Cott. Vesp. A III, lf. 94 b) And es naman yᵗ es in akil yat agh sai her again. 14.. *Agincourt Song* (Pepys MS.), Pat tounn he wan and mad a fray Yat fraunce xal rewe tyl domysday. *c* 1500 *Prompt. Parv.* (Middle Hill MS.) *note*[1], Yanne or thann, ..Yowtyng or thowtyng. *Ibid.* (MS. note in Brit. Mus. Copy of Pynson's ed.), All these Y. stande for Th. accordinge as the Saxon caracte was in this sorte þ. 1508 *Chapman & Myllar Prints* (S. T. S. 1918) 171 Thou ryall king all yis auld reull yi realme. 1582 Sir W. Pickering *Let. to Sir W. Cecil* in *Nat. MSS.* II. 1, At pares yᵉ 27 of octobre. 1665 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 62 Without any interuption yrupon. *Ibid.* 63 It may be clearlie answered yrto. 1688 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 292 Bo[reatton] where Mr Paget yᵉⁿ was. 1703 J. Rogers in *Mrs. E. Montagu's Corr.* (1906) I. 145, I had notice by my Mother yt you had ordered me £40. 1741 Dk. Portland *ibid.* 76, I am to inform you yt ye Duchess continues as well as can be, and ye Babe too. 1745 Mrs. Robinson *ibid.* 223 [He] told yᵐ yt ye French was landing in the Marsh.

Pronunciation. The vocalic sounds now normally expressed by *y* are:—

1. I, as in hymn (him), synonymy (sinǒ·nimi), silly (si·li); in unstressed syllables there is more or less reduction or obscuration.
2. ɔi, as in my (mɔi), deny (dĭnɔi·).
3. əiə, as in lyre (ləiəɹ).
4. ə, as in myrtle (mə·tˈl).
5. ə, as in satyr (sæ·təɹ).

With *a*, *e*, *o*, *u*, it forms combinations having special values:—*ay* (final) = *ɛi*, as in *lay* (lɛi), *essay* (ĕ·sɛi), = ɔi in *aye* (ɔi); = *ĭ* in *quay* (kĭ), = e in *says* (sez); *ey* = *ĕi*, as in *obey* (obĕi·), *convey* (kŏnvĕi·), = i, as in *alley* (æ·li), *honey* (hʌ·ni), = ɔi in *eye* (ɔi) and its derivatives, = ĕə in *eyre* (ĕəɹ); *oy* = ɔi, as in *boy* (bɔi), *annoy* (ănɔi·); *wy* (rare) = ɔi in *buy* (bɔi).

The consonantal sound expressed by *y* is denoted in this Dictionary by (y), as *yew*, *you* (yū).

1. The letter or its sound.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ii. (Z.) 5 To ðisum [*a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u*] is ġenumen se grecisca *y* for intinga ġreciscra namena, and se ylca *y* is on engliscum ġewritum swiðe ġewunelic. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 79/1 Quere plura vocabula similem istis habencia in S literâ, ubi I vel Y sequitur hanc literam s immediate. [*c* 1465 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 8 A. .3. for yorke.] 1521 Barclay *Introd. Fr.* B ij b, But specyally y: muste be wryten for I, in yᵉ ende of englysshe wordes, and whan n: m, or u, is wryten before, or behynde it. 1530 Palsgr. 16 The writtynge of *i* and *y* in any frenche worde, eyther alone or as part of a diphthong, causeth no difference in sounde. 1599 in *Promp. Parv.* (Camden) 536 *note*, All these wordes of ȝ we pronounce with Y at this daye, and some of these ȝ here vsed haue that place of G in oure spekinge and writinge at this daye. 1636 B. Jonson *Eng. Gram.* I. iii, Y is also mere vowelish in our tongue, and hath only the power of an *i*, even where it obtains the seat of a consonant. 1693 Dryden *Disc. Satire* Ess. (1900) II. 67 [Satire] ought to be with *i*, and not with *y*, to distinguish its true derivation from *satura*, not from *satyrus*. 1735 Johnson *Dict., Gram.* 8 b, It may be observed of *y* as of *w*, that it follows a vowel without any hiatus, as *rosy youth*. 1785 Pinkerton *Lett. Lit.* xxxiv. 243 [Ending] in *y* we have no less than 4000 words, about an eighth of our language; our words amounting to about 35,000. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxii, Tails of *ys* and *gs*. 1874 'Max Adeler' *Out of Hurly-burly* ix. (Rtldg.) 121 The Smith that spells without a y is not the Smith for me I

b. Used for the Greek letter Υ (*u psilon*), esp. as a Pythagorean symbol: see quots.

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* II. xv. (MS. Bodl. 263) lf. 117/a Pithagorus..Fond first out y a figur to discerne The liff heer short and liff that is eterne. 1587 Greene *Tritam. Love* Wks. (Grosart) III. 96 Did not Pythagoras compare vertue to the letter Y, which is small at the foot but broad at the top: meaning that to obtaine vertue is verie painefull, but the possession thereof passing pleasant? 1616 Holyday *Persius* III. 119 The Samian letter Y Whose spreading branches teach Philosophie, Hath marked out..The high-rear'd right-hand path, wherein to walke. 1693 Dryden *Persius* iii. (1697) 443 Where the Samian Y directs thy Steps to run, To Virtue's narrow Steep, and Broad-way Vice to shun. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 272/1 The other two divaricate, like the branches of the greek Y.

2. The letter considered with regard to its shape; a figure or marking of this shape. Also Comb. *Y-shaped* adj.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 120 Palamedes byrdis crouping in the sky, Fleand on randoune schapin lik ane Y. 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 871, I hear the Crane (if I mistake not) cry: Who in the Clouds forming the forkéd Y, ..Instructeth Souldiers in the Art of War. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 265 The centre of the town is a pretty expansion, in the form of the Roman Y. 1849 Rock *Ch. Fathers* I. v. 324 *note*, A rich orphrey..dividing itself a little way below the neck, takes the shape of the letter Y, and passes, in that form, over the shoulders. 1861 Hagen *Syn. Neuroptera N. Amer.* 214 Between the antennæ is a black Y. 1874 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 511 The bucket is then lowered into the Y-shaped rests. 1907 C. C. Brown *China* xvi. 233 A Y-shaped divining rod.

3. A contrivance or piece of apparatus in the form of the letter Y; *esp.* a forked support for a telescope, theodolite, or piece of mechanism. Also *attrib.*, as *Y axis*, *bearing*, *piece*; **Y branch**, a piece of piping with a branch at an acute angle to the main (cf. *T branch*, T 3 b); **Y cross**, (*a*) a cross in the form of the letter Y, often used as an ornamental device on ecclesiastical vestments; (*b*) a piece of piping consisting of three branches diverging at acute angles; **Y level**, the common spirit-level, used with a telescope or theodolite resting on Y's (also written *wye-level*, q. v.); **Y track**, a short track on a railway at right angles to the main track and connected with it by two switches in opposite directions, used for reversing an engine or car. Also in names of natural structures, as *Y cartilage*, *ligament*: see quot. 1890.

1788 Wollaston in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 137 The four pillars..carry the Ys for the pivots of the transit. 1803 Mudge *ibid.* XCIII. 407 The telescope was then quickly taken out of the Ys. 1838 P. Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXV. 304 There are two constructions [of levels] that are commonly adopted, viz. the Y level and Troughton's level. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts* s. v. *Beighton's Hand Gear*, The Y piece, as it is called, G, bearing the moveable weight F. 1864 Webster, *Y*, ..s. (Railways.) A portion of track con-

sisting of two converging tracks connected by a cross-track. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Journal*,..the bearing part of a shaft, upon which it rests on its Y's or bearings. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 866/1 A wire, the axis of which coincides with the Y-axis. 1898 LOCKYER *Star-gazing* 314 The Y bearings of a theodolite. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Y Branch*, a branch with a divergent stem. *Y Cross*, a pipe with two divergent stems. 1886 CUMMING *Electricity* (1887) 40 A mounted telescope..swinging on two Y pieces. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Y cartilage*, the triradiate piece of true cartilage which, before puberty, unites the three portions of the hip-bone at the bottom of the acetabulum. *Y ligament*, ilio-femoral ligament.

b. Collectors' name for various moths of the genus *Plusia*, having markings more or less resembling the letter Y.

1775 M. HARRIS *Engl. Lepid.* 59 Y moth..Brown, having a mark in the middle of the wing like the letter Y. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 93 The Golden Y (*P. Iota*) ..frequents woody places. *Ibid.*, The Yorkshire Y (*P. interrogationis*). *Ibid.* 94 The Essex Y (*P. circumflexa*). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 778 The Gamma or Y-moth, *Plusia gamma*. 1848 JAS. HAMILTON in W. Arnot *Life* vi. (1870) 289 The first capture was her favourite Golden Y-moth. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 490/1 Young missel-thrushes.. searching for the larvæ of the silver Y.

4. *Math.* Used to denote the second of a set of unknown or variable quantities (the first being denoted by *x*); *spec.* in Analytical Geometry, the symbol for an ordinate, or quantity measured in the direction of the second axis of co-ordinates (hence called *the axis of y*).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Conic Sections*, If the *Latus Rectum* of any Diameter, as DK, be *y*; then, as the Diameter DK is to its conjugate $\beta\gamma$, or its equal $\omega\nu$; so that Conjugate $\beta\gamma$, or that Tangent $\omega\nu$ is to *y*. 1903 [see X 3].

5. Used in abstract reasoning for the name of a person or thing (usually in connexion with X). Also *Y. Z.*, used as the initials of a person remaining anonymous.

1763 *Museum Rust.* IV. 83, I am, Gentlemen, Yours, &c. Y. Z. 1867 SIR S. NORTHCOTE in A. Lang *Life, Lett.*, etc. (1890) I. ix. 293 The success of A. and B. will tempt Y. and Q. to enter upon the same field. 1873 [see X 3 c].

6. Used to denote position in a series, as of the batteries of the Royal Horse Artillery.

7. Abbreviations. y. = year(s). Y = Yttrium (*Chem.*). Y.C. (see quot. 1883). Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A. = Young Men's (Women's) Christian Association.

1880 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 293 Hee is now 23 y. old. 1881 *Y.M.C.A. Monthly Notes* Sept. 138/1 Pasteur Cook (Paris) said the Y.M.C.As. were differently conducted in England to what they were in France. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Y. C.*, an abbreviation for yellow candle tallow. 1887 (*title*) Y.W.C.A. Monthly Journal. 1902 *Oxf. Times* 16 Mar. 12/1 A squad of eight Y.M.C.A. men..gave a gymnastic display.

Y, obs. form of EYE, I *pron.*, IN *prep.*

Y- *prefix* (1 ȝi-, 3e-, 3æ-, 3ie-, 3y-, 1-2 ie-, 2-3 3e-, 2-5 i-, hi-, 4-7 *dial.* e-, 3- now *dial.* a-, now *arch.* y-) represents OE. *ge-*, earlier (and Northumb.) *gi-*, = OFris. *gi-*, *ge-*, *ie-*, *e-*, *a-*, OS. *gi-*, *ge-*, *i-*, MLG., MDu. *ge-*, *ghe-*, locally *i-*, *y-*, *e-*, (LG., Du. *ge-*), OHG. *ga-*, *ka-*, *gi-*, *ki-*, *ge-*, (MHG., G. *ge-*, dial. *je-*, also *gi-*, *ga-*), Goth. *ga-* = OTeut. **ga-*. The parallelism of formation and meaning exemplified by such forms as L. *cōmūnis* and Goth. *gamains*, OE. *gemǽne* common, I-MENE, L. *convenīre* and Goth. *gaqiman* to assemble, L. *conticēre* and Goth. *gaþahan* to be silent, L. *commemini* and Goth. *gamunan*, OE. *gemunan* to remember, L. *conferre* and Goth. *gabairan* to compare, has suggested the probability of the etymological identity of Teut. *ga-* with L. *co-*, *com-*, and some scholars have accepted this on the assumption that Verner's law operated in some instances of initial consonants. (L. *com-* is normally represented by *ham-* in OFrank. *hamēdii*, synonymous with OHG. *geido*, MHG. *geide* conspirator.)

The original form *ga-* is the only one found in Gothic (e. g. *galeiks* YLIKE); it was preserved also in OHG. (e. g. *galīh*), continued in MHG., and survives in a few words in some German dialects. The weakened (unstressed) form *gi-* was the prevailing one in OHG. and OS. and is the earliest form recorded in OFris. and OE., but it was early reduced to *ge-* in the whole of the Low German and High German area. In Scandinavian the prefix had disappeared entirely in prehistoric times as a living element, but relics of it remained in ON. *gilkr* YLIKE, *gnógr* ENOUGH, *greiðr* GRAITH *a.* (cf. READY).

The phonetic changes of OE. *ge-*, resulting in its complete disappearance in modern English as a living formative except in certain dialects, are in general paralleled in most of the LG. (as opposed to the HG.) dialects. While in HG. the vowel of the prefix not uncommonly underwent syncopation, which has become permanent (to the obscuration of the origin) in certain words, as G. *gleich* (OHG. *ga-*, *gi-*, *galīh*) like (YLIKE), *gnade* (OHG. *ginâda*, OS. *ginâtha*, *nâtha*, Du. *genade*, ON. *náð*), in LG. dialects, on the other hand, there was a tendency for the consonant to fall, leaving *i-* or *e-*, in some dialects *a-*; e. g. OS. *unimetes* 'aliquid incommodum', MLG. *ilēlene*, pa. pples. of *lēlen* to permit, *medeselle* (cf. G. *mitgesell*) companion, *enaugh* enough, *eschein* (cf. G. *geschehen*) happened, MDu. *idaen* done, *idragen* drawn, *yslagen* slain, Du. dial. *ivallig* weak, OFris. *idein* done, *islein* slain, *onebunden* unbound, *enôch*, *anôch* enough, *unaborn* unborn, *ofeslain*, *ofaslain* killed off, EFris. *unikaimed* unkempt, NFris. *-enogh* (in comp.) enough. Complete suppression of the prefix takes place in certain cases, as in MLG. *to lîke* (cf. G. *zugleich*) immediately, LG. *lîk* like, *naug* enough, *schein* happened, OFris. *bedda*, *stîth* companion, *fadera* godfather, *selscip* society, WFris. *nôch* adv. (beside *genôch* adj.-pron.), NFris. *nogh* enough; the suppression of the prefix is normal in pa. pples.; in words of other classes, it survives sporadically or has been revived through Du. or HG. influence.

The like developments of OE. *ge-* are traceable in the history of several words in which its identity and force have long ceased to be recognized, or from which all traces of the prefix have been obliterated: e. g. OE. *geforðian*, ME. *iforð(i)e*, *aforth*, AFFORD *v.*, OE. *gewær*, ME. *iwar(e*, *awar(e*, AWARE *a.*, OE. *gelīc(e*, ME. YLIKE, ALIKE, LIKE *a.* and *adv.*, OE. *gemang*, *ongemang*, ME. YMONG, AMONG, MONG, OE. *genōh*, ME. *inoȝ*, *anoȝ*, ENOUGH, 'nuff, OE. *handgeweorc* HANDIWORK (whence, by analogy, HANDICRAFT), OE. *ǽghwæðer* EITHER. For further examples of the complete disappearance of the prefix see below.

The general facts of the history and survival of OE. *ge-*, of which some details are given below, are :—In positions where it was still recognizable as a prefix, it had left few traces in northern English by 1200; its disappearance in the north was assisted by the absence of the prefix in ON. Substantival, adjectival, and verbal forms (other than pa. pples.) continued, not later than the end of the 14th century, only in southern and west-midland dialects. The pa. pple. was regularly formed with the prefix in southern ME. till about the middle of the 15th century, and its use in the form *a-* survives in south-western dialects to the present day. Pa. pples. so formed were a prominent feature of the archaistic language of Spenser and his imitators, and a few of them, the most notable of which is YCLEPT, persist as conventional archaisms of poetry.

In OE. and ME. the prefix was written either continuously with the body of the word of which it formed a part, or disjoined from it by a full or a half space; in the archaistic usage of the 16th and 17th centuries the general practice was to print the compound as one word, without hyphen. In this Dictionary established and well-known forms such as *yclad*, *yclept*, are printed without hyphen, but in other instances the convenience of the reader has been consulted, where occasion arises, in the avoidance of unhyphened forms where these would not suggest the nature of the word-formation.

Compounds of the prefix spelt with *y-* are entered in their alphabetical place, whether as full articles or as cross-references. Compounds which did not come down late enough for the spelling *y-* to have become established with them have been entered in their place in the letter I: see I-[1]. The choice of *y-* (and not *i-*) by Spenser and other archaists was determined by the prevalence of that form in the texts upon which he modelled his language. There are a few instances of the general survival of the *i-* form till a late date, e. g. I-THEE *v.*; the retention of *i-* in IWIS is due to the false etymologizing of it as *I wis*.

The original (physical) signification of the prefix, 'with', 'together', without admixture of transferred meaning, persists in some OE. words, such as *gedræg* lit. that which is drawn together, band, multitude (cf. Goth. *gadragan* to heap up or together), *gelæþian* to summon together, invite (cf. Goth. *galaþôn* συγκαλεῖν), *gerunnen* 'run together', coagulated (cf. Goth. *garinnan* to come together), *gesiðodan* 'conjungere', to join together, connect; but for the most part its meaning in OE. compounds falls under one or other of the following categories, which are arranged in the probable order of their development in primitive Germanic: the notion of physical accompaniment or conjunction passing into that of (1) association in life, occupation, etc., and hence, of suitability or appropriateness, and (2) collectivity, the final stage being (3) a perfective or intensive notion evolved in some measure from each of the others.

1. The associative meaning is exemplified by two classes of words in OE.:

a. Designations of persons associated or related by birth, family, or status, such as *gebēdda* (I-BEDDE) 'one who shares a bed with another', bedfellow, consort, f. *bedd* bed, *gefēra* (YFERE, FERE *sb.*[1]) 'one who goes with another' (*faran* to go), companion, *gehâda* 'one of the same order as another', fellow-minister, f. *hâd* condition, order, *gesīþ* (cf. Goth. *gasinþja*, OS. *gistō*, OHG. *gisind*) 'one who shares a voyage with another', companion, f. *sīþ* journey.

b. Adjectives and allied substantives denoting quality or condition, in which the purely associative sense readily passes into that of appropriateness, convenience, or similarity, such as *gecynd* (I-CUNDE *sb.*) nature, *gecynde* (I-CUNDE *a.*) natural, *gedēfe* (cf. Goth. *gadôbs*) becoming, fit, *gemæc* well-matched, *gemæcca* companion, mate, MATCH *sb.*[1], *gemeca* mate, MAKE *sb.*[1], *gelīc* lit. related in form to, of the same form as, LIKE *a.*, YLIKE, *gelīca* an equal, *gemet* sb., measure, proper measure, proportion, moderation, *gemet* adj., *gemēte* lit. of suitable measure, fit, proper, MEET *a.*, *gerǽde* lit. suitably prepared (see I-REDE, I-REDY and READY *a.*), *gesīþ* related, I-SIB(BE, *geswǽge* harmonious, *getrēowe* holding faith with, TRUE.

2. Compounds in which *mutual* relation is implied form a link between the associative and the collective uses, e. g. OE. *gefán*, *gefēond* (I-FEOND) enemies, *gefrēond* (I-FREOND) friends, *gebrōðor* (I-BROTHEREN) brothers, *gesweostor* sisters, *gemāgas* kinsmen, *gescý* pair of shoes. The number of OE. words of purely collective meaning is not large; examples are *gebæcu* back parts, *gefylce* army, troop, *gemǽre*, pl. *gemǽru* limits, boundary, *getimbru* pl. building, edifice, *gewǽde* clothing, I-WEDE, *gewider*, pl. *gewidru* weather (esp. as good or bad), storm cf. (G. *gewitter*).

b. What is probably to be regarded as a particular development of the collective sense appears in the OE. generalizing pronouns and corresponding adverbs, *gǽlċ* every or each one (cf. I-WHAT), *gehwilc* each or every one, ME. *i(l)ch*, ILK, *gehwā* somehow or other, *gehwǽr* everywhere, YWHERE, *gehwider* in any or every direction. Some of them were reinforced by the prefixing of *ā* ever, e. g. *ǽghwā* each or every one, *ǽghwæþer* each of two, both, EITHER, *ǽghwelc*, ME. *euch* (see EACH).

3. The perfective or intensive sense is found in the following classes of words:

a. Substantives denoting the result of an action, a stage in a process, or a particular state, as OE. *gemōt* meeting, MOOT *sb.*[1], *gemynd* (cf. L. *commemini*) memory, remembrance, MIND *sb.*[1], *gesīhþ* relationship, *gesihþ* I-SIGHT, SIGHT, *geswell* swelling, SWELL *sb.*, *geweorc* working, what is done or built, fortification, WORK *sb.*, *gewitnes* testimony, I-WITNESS, WITNESS *sb.*, *gewrit* what is written, writing, I-WRIT, WRIT.

b. Adjectives denoting a state, as *geclǽne* pure, *gehāl* WHOLE, *gesund* uninjured, SOUND *a.*

c. Verbs which denote achievement of a result, the attainment of a stage in a process, or a special limitation of the general sense of the simple verb. The force of the prefix is clearly recognizable in examples like OE. *geetan* to eat up, consume, 'comedere', *gestīgan* to mount up, 'conscendere', and esp. in such pairs as *ærnan* to run, *gearnan* to gain by running, *ascian*. *frignan* to ask, *gescian*, *gefrignan* to learn, *beran* to carry, *geberan* to bring forth, *faran* to go, *gefaran* to depart this life, die, to get by going, occupy, *rǽcan* to stretch forth, offer, *gerǽcan* to reach, obtain, *rīdan* to ride, *gerīdan* to reach as by riding, get into one's power, *weorþan* to become, be, *geweorþan* impers. to be agreed, *gān* to go, *gegān* to attain to, get, occupy, *winnan* to fight, strive, *gewinnan* to win. But in many instances no difference of meaning is discernible between the simplex and the compound, e. g. *beorgan*, *gebeorgan* to protect, *hātan*, *gehātan* to call, name, command, promise, *limpan*, *gelimpan* to happen, *secgan*, *gesecgan* to say, tell. There are also some causative compounds, as *gebētan* to make good, improve, BETE *v.*, *geforðian* to further (see AFFORD), *gehefigian* to make heavy. Of such verbs many did not survive except in their pa. pples. into the ME. period; others survived only till about 1300, and that in southern areas; a certain

number, such as *gehieran* YEER, *geseon* YEER, continued in use in present and past tenses till 1400 or later; very few lasted till 1500 or beyond. But from the middle of the 16th century onwards archaizing poets created (orig. after pa. ppl. forms) new formations in which the prefix was meaningless. Such are *yclepe* (after *yclept*), *yglaunst*, and *yshrilled* (Spenser), *ycharm'd*, *ysprout* (Robinson's *Mary Magdalene*), *ysteer* (Gosson), *ydrop* (Henry More); there are also pres. pples. like Sackville's *ycausing* and Milton's *star-ypointing*.

4. The use of perfective or completive *ge-* had its most extensive development in the formation of pa. ppples., a function common to the Low German and High German groups but not found in Gothic and Scandinavian. The prefix could be employed with any uncompounded verb, but the verbs corresp. to OE. *bringan* to bring, *cuman* to come, *findan* to find, *weorþan* to become, did not normally take it.

In OE. and in ME. (where the prefix continued in full use) it is often impossible to determine whether a particular pa. pple. with *ge-* (*i-*, *y-*) belongs to a simple verb or to its compound with *ge-*.

In OE. the prefix was employed in forms derived from Latin, as *geplantod* = *plantatus*. Similarly in ME. it was freely employed with verbs of French origin, as *ybaptised*, *yblamed*, *ycircumcysed*, *iclosed*, *igranted*, *ikupled*, *ymartred*, *yoccupied*, *ipaied*, *i-passed*, *irobbet*, *isturbed*, *isued*, *isustened*, *iwarised*. Early loanwords from Scandinavian also took it, as *itaken* (12th cent.).

It came down into ME. as a peculiar characteristic of the language of the south and west-midland regions, and examples are consequently abundant in such texts as (in the 13th cent.) Layamon's Brut, the texts of 'the Katherine group', Owl and Nightingale, Robert of Gloucester, (in the 14th cent.) Ayenbite, Shoreham's poems, Piers Plowman, Trevisa's works, Sir Ferumbras, (in the 15th cent.) Yonge's translation (Anglo-Irish) of Secreta Secretorum and the anonymous Two Cookery Books (E. E. T. S.); its frequency in Lydgate is presumably due to metrical exigencies and to imitation of Chaucer, in whom it is fairly common, whereas it is almost entirely absent from the works of Gower. In the 16th century it was adopted as an archaistic feature from Chaucer and Lydgate by many poetical writers, among whom are Phaer, Sylvester, Arthur Hall, and, above all, Spenser. In the 17th cent. Henry More is a prominent user of these pa. ppples., and in the 18th cent. Thomson and other Spenserians have many examples. Some of the most commonly occurring words are *yhent*, *ybound*, *ybrought*, *yclad*, *yclept*, *ydight*, *ydrad*, *ypent*, *ypight*, *ywrought*.

In modern dialects its use in the form *a* (ə) extends over a triangular area of which the angles lie in Worcestershire, Surrey, and Cornwall; it is found also in Pembrokeshire and Wexford. Modern examples of dialectal usage are :—

1568 HOWELL *Arbor of Amitie* 36 b, In husbandry, icham truely, ycounted to excell. 1603 *London Prodigal* IV. i. E 3 b, Such a lerripoope as thick ych was nere a sarued. *c* 1640 JOHN SMYTH *Descr. Hundr. Berkeley* (1885) 23 A native hundreder, beinge asked where hee was borne, answereth, where shu'd y bee y bore, but at Berkeley hurns, And there, begis, each was y bore. Or thus, Each was 'ge-boren at Berkeley hurns. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 326 Tha hast a creem'd ma Yearms, and a most a bost ma Neck. 1863 BARNES *Dorset Dial.* 27, I shall've a-meäde. *Ibid.* Gloss., *A-set*, set, or planted. 1886 *W. Som. Word-bk.*, *Adood*, done.

5. In OE. *ge-* was used in the formation of adjs. from substantival stems to express the possession of, or being provided with, something, as *gefeax* having hair (of a certain colour), *geheort* courageous, *gestence* odorous, *gewurms* purulent (f. *wurms* corruption; cf. Goth. *gascōhs* shod), but esp. with the ppl. ending *-od*, *-ed*, as *gefeaxod* (beside *gefeaxen*) having hair, *gehelmod*, *gehilmed* helmeted, *gehyrnd* horned, *gesparod* armed with a spear. The number of the latter was added to in ME., e. g. *yhonchyd* humped, (*wel*) *ycheryd* well-favoured, *ifetered* (cf. OE. *gefeðerian*), *ileaded*, *ifetered*, *ypawylyound*, *iteiled*, (*old*) *i-yeerid*; in some instances the forms with the prefix are the more original forms of such adjs.: see e. g. FEATHERED, LEADED, LEATHERED, TAILED, YEARED. A few compounds of this class were coined by archaists of the 16th century; e. g. *yerusted* (A. Hall, 1581).

-y *suffix*[1] (Forms: 1 *-ig*, 2–5 *-i*, 4–6 *-ye*, 4–7 *-ie*, 4– *-y*, 6– now only in certain cases *-ey*), descending from the OE. adj. suffix *-ig*, which represents under a common form two OTeut. suffixes **-ĭga-*, *-aga-*, still distinguishable in OE. by the presence or absence respectively of mutation of the stem vowel of the sb. to which it is added, e. g. *mōdig* MOODY :— **mōdaga-*, f. **mōda-* MOOD *sb.*[1], *mihtig* MIGHTY :— **mahtiga-*, f. **mahtis* MIGHT, *stānig* STONY beside *stānig*, *þurstig* beside *þyrstig* THIRSTY.

OTeut. **-ĭga-*, *-aga-* are differentiated forms of Indo-eur. *-qo-* (Skr. *-ka-*, Gr. *-κο-*, L. *-cu-*) arising from application of the suffix to *i-* and *a-* stems respectively. In other Teut. languages the following forms are found: OFris. *-ig*, OS. *-ig* (MDu. *-ich*, Du. *-ig*), OHG. *-ig* (MHG. *-ic*, *-ec*, G. *-ig*), ON. *-igr*, Goth. *-eigs*, *-ags*; OS. *-ag*, OHG. *-ag*, *-ah*, ON. *-agr*, Goth. *-ags*, *-ahs*; also OHG. *-uh*, ON. *-ugr*, Goth. *-ugs*.

When the suffix is appended to a sb. ending in *y*, the convention of modern spelling requires it to be spelt *-ey*, as in *clayey*, *skyey*, *wheyey*. When the sb. ends in *-e* preceded by a vowel, the *e* is retained, as *bluey*, *gluey*; in other cases there may be variation, as *homey*, *homy*, *liney*, *liny*, *nosey*, *nosy*.

1. The general sense of this suffix is 'having the qualities of' or 'full of' that which is denoted by the sb. to which it is added, as *icy* = (1) of the nature of, having the appearance, hardness, coldness, slipperiness, transparency, etc. of ice; (2) full of or covered with ice. In OE. there was a very large number of such adjs., many of which have a continuous history from the earliest times to the present day; in the case of some, however, e. g. *clayey*, *icy*, *rainy*, *wintry*, there is a significant gap in the evidence, which suggests that they may have dropped out of use and have been formed afresh later. There are some noteworthy instances of new formations in late OE., e. g. *dohtig* DOUGHTY replacing *dyhtig*, *dūstig* DUSTY, *snāwig* SNOWY replacing *snāwlic*. To several OE. adjs. in *-ig* there were parallel formations in *-iht*, as *īsig*, *īsiht* icy, *sandig*, *sandiht* sandy, *þornig*, *þorniht* and *þyrniht* thorny; the disappearance of this latter suffix left freer scope of development for the forms in *-ig*.

In ME. the number of these derivatives does not seem to have been at first greatly increased; the following fresh coinages are exemplified first from texts before 1300, *dready*, *fiery*, *frighty*, *hairy* (cf. OE. *hæriht*), *happy*, *needy*, *sleepy* (but cf. OE. *unslēpig*), *tidy* (*c* 1250 = in good condition); there are occasional parasynthetic compounds, as *sort-lessi* short-lived. The addition of the suffix to non-native sbs. is at least as early as the 13th cent., e. g. *savoury* in the Ancren Riwle. The fourteenth cent., esp. the later half, was prolific in new formations; to this period belong *angry*, *bushy*, *earthy*, *fatty*, *flowery*, *heady*, *hearty*, *milky*, *miry*, *mouldy*, *mucky*, *naughty*, *smoky*, *sweaty*, and many more. The sixteenth cent. was also a prolific period; to it belong, e. g., *cottony*, *frothy*, *dirty*, *healthy*, *leafy* (but *leavy* is 15th cent.), *mealy*, *saucy*, *sugary*, *viny*, *woolly*, *yeasty*. Others, such as *bulky*, *measly*, *noisy* (Dryden), *peppery*, *racy*, *skyey* are recorded first from the 17th cent.

Later new derivatives tend in a large measure to be colloquial, undignified, or trivial, as *bumpy*, *dumpy*, *flighty*, *hammy*, *liney*, *loopy*, *lumpy*, *lungy*, *messy*, *oniony*, *tracy*, *verminy*, *vipery*; some are from verbs, as *dangly*. Contextually, the application of the adj. may be narrowed in any direction, as *mousy* = (1) resembling a mouse, (2) quiet as a mouse, or (3) infested with mice. A sense 'addicted to' (cf. 3), as in *booky*, *doggy*, *horsy*, is of modern growth.

1850 THACKERAY *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. 1900 VI. 163 Grizzel had brought me an oniony knife to cut the bread. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* ii, Bedsteads and washstands and bureaus—the very things that made up-stairs look so very bedroomy. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* xi. 144 Fretwork brackets and crystal dangly things.

2. In the 15th cent., if not earlier, certain monosyllabic adjs. were extended by means of this suffix, app. with the design of giving them a more adjectival appearance, e. g. *hugy* f. *huge*, *leany* f. *lean*. The majority of such words arose in the 16th and 17th cent.; examples are: *bleaky*, *chilly*, *cooly*, *dusky*, *fainty*, *haughty*, *heavy*, *lanky*, *paly* adj.[1], *plumpy*, *slighty*, *slippery*, *stouty*, *swarty*, *thicky*, *vasty*. In this application the suffix has not infrequently come to express much the same notion as *-ish*; this is particularly so with colour-epithets, as *blacky*, *yellowy*, and esp. when these are used quasi-advb., as *greeny-blue*, *bluey-green*, *reddy-brown*.

3. As early as the 13th c. this suffix began to be used with verb-stems to express the meaning 'inclined or apt to' do something, or 'giving occasion to' a certain action; in the Ancren Riwle alone we have *slibbri*, *slidderi*, *sluggi*, *slummi*. Chaucer has *sleepy* = soporific. In the 16th cent. arose *cheky*, *drowsy*, *skippy*, *sticky*; later we find *blowy*, *clingy*, *floaty*, *quavery*, *rollicky*. The immediate etymon of such adjs. cannot always be ascertained.

4. From the early years of the 19th cent. the suffix has been used still more freely in nonce-words designed to connote such characteristics of a person or thing as call for condemnation, ridicule, or contempt; hence such adjs. as *beery*, *catty*, *churchy*, *jumpy*, *newspapery*, *piggy*, *tinny*.

-y *suffix*[2] (1–3 *-ian*, *-igan*, *-ia*, 2–4 *-ien*, *-ie*, 3 *-igen*, *-egen*, *-ye(n*, *-in*, 3–4 *-i*, 4–5 *-ey*, 8 *-ee*, 3– *-y*) represents OE. infin. ending *-ian* of the 2nd class of weak verbs (having pa. t. in *-ode* and pa. pple. in *-od*), corresp. to OFris. *-ia*, OS. *-bian*, *-ōn*, (MLG., MDu. *-ēn*), OHG. *-ōn* (MHG., G. *-ēn*), Goth. *-ōn* :— OTeut. **-ōjan*. This class of verbs is denominative; e. g. OE. *sealfian* to anoint :— **salbōjan*, f. **salbō* ointment, salve, *hearpian* to harp, f. *hearp* harp, and contains many intrans. verbs derived from adjs., e. g. *cōlian* to be cool (= OS. *cōlōn*) :— **kōlōjan*, f. **kōlus* cool, *nearwian* to be narrow, f. *nearu* narrow; it was swelled in prehistoric OE. by the passing over to it of many verbs that orig. belonged to the *-ējan* class, as *hātian* :— **hātōjan*, *-ējan* to hate (cf. OHG. *haʒʒōn* beside *haʒʒēn*). Adoptions of foreign verbs were regularly taken into this class, e. g. OE. *fersian* to versify, (*ge*)*temprian* to moderate, *offrian* to sacrifice.

By the 13th century this suffix had become restricted to the southern and western districts of England, and in the course of the century became generalized in those parts as the infin. ending of all verbs of whatever origin. The following are some examples of the extension of its use: in verbs orig. belonging to other conjugations, *brukien* (OE. *brūcan*) to enjoy, *nemni* (OE. *nemnan*) to name (Layamon); in new derivatives on native stems, *chapfari* to chaffer (Ayenbite), *grundien* to sink (Layamon), *knihti* to knight (King Horn); in verbs from Scandinavian, *lastin* (ON. *lasta*) to blame, *trosti* (Ayenbite); in verbs from French, not only those in *-ier*, *-ir*, *-ire* (the similarity of which to the ME. suffix would naturally suggest adoption into the *-ien* conjugation), *boili* (OF. *boillir*) to boil, *consenti* (OF. *consentir*), *herberȝi* (OF. *herbergier*) to harbour, *saisi* (OF. *saisir*) to seize, *trety* (OF. *traitier*) to treat—including those of the *-iss-* conjugation, *norisi*, *norischei* (OF. *noriss-*) to nourish, *perissy* (OF. *periss-*) to perish —but many also of other classes, *anuri* (OF. *anourer*) to worship, *fausie* (OF. *fauser*) to fail, *granti* (AF. *graunter*) to grant, *ioyni* (OF. *ioign-*) to join, *tempti* (OF. *tempter*) to tempt (these forms occur in various texts from Layamon to Ayenbite).

This suffix has been in continuous use in the south-west until the present day, when it is the regular infin. ending of verbs when used intrans. in the counties of Somerset, Devon, and Dorset. Examples and illustrations since 1400 are :—

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 7 Gadere alle þe kreme in þe clothe, an let hongy on an pyn. *Ibid.* 32 Take Porke or Beef, wheþer þe lykey. 1484 *Vatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 115 To costs to rydy for the Chals that waste ystole xij^{d}. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 143 Thee wut ruckee, and squattee, and doattee in the Chimley Coander lick an Axwaddle. 1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 7 Another peculiarity is that of attaching to many of the common verbs in the infinitive mode, as well as to some other parts of different conjugations, the letter *y*. Thus it is very common to say *I can't sewy*, *I can't nursy*, *he can't reapy*, *he can't sowy*; as well as *to sewy*, *to nursy*, *to reapy*, *to sowy*, &c. but never, I think, without an auxiliary verb, or the sign of the infinitive *to*. 1863 BARNES *Dorset Dial.* 28 The truth is, that in the Dorset the verb takes *y* only when it is absolute, and never with an accusative case. We may say, 'Can ye sewy?' but never 'Will ye sewy up theäse sëam?' 'Will ye sew up theäse sëam?' would be good Dorset. Belonging to this use of the free infinitive *y*-ended verbs, is another kindred one, the showing of a repetition or habit of the action, as 'How the dog do jumpy,' i. e. keep jumping. 'The child do like to whippy,' amuse himself with whipping. 'Idle chap, He'll do nothen but vishy, (spend his time in fishing,) if you do leäve en alwone.' 'He do markety,' He attends market.

-y *suffix*[3] (also 3–7 *-ie*, 4–6 *-ye*) represents ultimately, through F. *-ie*, Com. Romanic *-ia* = L. *-ĭa*, which comprised under one graphic form the Greek suffixes *-ία* and *-εια*, as in L. *mania* = Gr. *μανία*, whence F. *manie*, ME. MANIE, L. *sympathia* = Gr. *συμπάθεια*, whence F. *sympathie*, Eng. SYMPATHY. Romanic *-ia* displaced L. *-tĭa* and became a living formative for abstract nouns of quality or condition; e. g. in OF. from *cortois* (COURTEOUS) was formed *cortoisie* COURTESY, from *fol* (FOOL), *folie* FOLLY, from *gelos* (JEALOUS), *gelosie* JEALOUSY, and the like. When learned adoptions were made of L. nouns in *-tĭa*, this suffix was also represented by *-ie*, and so assimilated to *-ia*; e. g. F. *furie* FURY, ad. L. *furia* (whence also organic

OF. *fuire*). In AF. preference was given to such forms as these over popular or semi-popular forms, e.g. AF. *accidie, gloria, estoria, victorie* = central F. *accide, gloire, estoire, victoire*, L. or med.L. *accĭdia, glōria, historia* (Gr. *ἱστορία*), *victōria*; it is the AF. forms of such words that were adopted into English (see ACCIDIA, GLORY, STORY, VICTORY).

There were various new formations in late or med.L., in Romanic, or in individual Romance languages; examples are Romanic **librāria* LIBRARY, **poesia* (for *poesis*) POESY, OF. *navie* NAVY.

This suffix has never been in English a prolific formative, but from time to time new coinages have been made, e.g. in the 14th cent. *baggerie* BEGGARY and in the 16th COOPERY (= cooper's work or ware), f. *beggar* and *cooper*, both doubtless furthered by the prevalence of the suffix -ERY. Nonce-words like *orphany* and *tenanty* are of doubtful status, but the correspondence of adjs. in *-ic* and *-ous* to sbs. in *-y* has made possible in modern times the formation after Gr. types of such words as *brachycephaly, gymnospermy, synchrony, syntony* from *brachycephalic, gymnospermous, synchronous, syntonic*. The domain of the suffix is much enlarged by its constituting the final element of many compound suffixes, which receive separate treatment in this Dictionary in their alphabetical places; e.g. -ACY, -CY, -ERY, -GRAPHY, -LATRY, -LOGY, -MACHY, -PATHY, -PHAGY, -PHILY, -RY, -TOMY, -TONY.

Many important sbs. having this suffix appear as English adoptions of French words in the 13th century, as *barony, blasphemy, company, courtesy, felony, folly, jealousy, litany, story, villainy*; others, such as *comedy* and *tragedy, fury, glory, harmony, honesty, library, melancholy, memory, misery, navy, victory* date from the 14th century; in the 15th and 16th centuries another series of borrowings from French or from Latin appears, such as *family, industry, irony, liturgy, modesty*.

The majority denote a state, condition, or quality; others denote an activity or a result of it, as *blasphemy, felony, fury, harmony, history, liturgy, memory, phantasy, poesy, victory*. From either signification a definitely concrete meaning may be readily developed, which is found in *barony* (= baronial domain, body of barons), *company, family, library, navy, sacristy*, etc. The concrete application is abundantly illustrated also by names of countries, as †*Armony* (Armenia), *Italy*, †*Syrie* (Syria), *Brittany*; cf. -IA *suffix*[1].

-y *suffix*[4], representing, first through AF. forms in *-ie*, later by direct adaptation, L. *-ium*, which was added to verbal roots (primarily *i-* and *e-*stems) to denote an act, as in *beneficium* well-doing, good action, f. *benefĭcĕre* to do good, *colloquium* conference, conversation, f. *colloquī* to speak with, *gaudium* joy, f. *gaudēre* to rejoice, *suspīrium* sigh, f. *suspīrāre* to sigh. The earliest derivatives of this formation that were introduced into English are *remedy* (Ancren Riwle), through AF. *remedie*, from L. *remedium*, and †*sacrilegy* (early 14th c.), from AF. **sacrilegie* or L. *sacrilegium*. To both of these there are parallel forms, †*remede* and *sacrilege*, derived from continental Fr. forms *remede* and *sacrilege*; there are several similar pairs, of which the shorter form represents a continental Fr. form, the longer the corresponding AF. form or the orig. Latin, viz. †*augure*[1] and *augury, benefice* and †*beneficie* (rare), †*colloque* and *colloquy, empire* (F. *empire*) and †*empery* (AF. *emperie*, L. *imperium*), *homicide* sb.[2] and †*homicidie* (rare), †*perjure* sb.[2] (rare) and *perjury*, †*subside* (*c* 1450–1553) and *subsidy*; †*ingeny* 'mind', 'intellect' has its etymological doublet in *engine* 'native talent, genius, ingenuity, mechanical contrivance'. Most of these words, together with *obloquy*, came into the language before 1500. †*Relevy* sb.[1] (med. L. *relevium*) and *suspiry* (L. *suspirium*) are rarities; *gaudy*, though partly from L. *gaudium*, is prob. of mixed origin; the derivation of *larceny* is somewhat obscure. *Horology*[1] (beside *horologe*) and *mystery*[1] are derived, through the medium of L. *-ium*, from Greek forms having the cognate termination *-ον*.

This cannot be said to have been at any time a living suffix in Eng., but there appears to have been reminiscence of its function, combined with the false analogy of words in -RY, in the coining of a few nouns from verbs ending in an *r*-sound, viz. *enquery* (*c* 1440), *inquery, inquiry* (16th c.), f. *enquere, inquire, expiry* (from 1752) f. *expire*, and a rare *transpiry* f. *transpire*. *Entreaty* (16th c.)

-y *suffix*[5], representing AF., OF. *-e, -ee*, mod.F. *-é, -ée* :— L. *-ātu-, -āta-* (see -ATE[1], -ATE[3]).

a. In sbs. = -ATE[1], as in (i) COUNTY[1], OF. *comte*, F. *comté*, L. *comitātus*, f. *comit-, comes* count, DUCHY, F. *duché*, L. *ducātus*, f. *duc-, dux* duke, TREATY, F. *traité*, L. *tractātus*, f. *tractāre* to treat, (ii) ARMY, F. *armée*, Romanic **armāta* armed force, f. *armāre* to arm, DELIVERY, AF. *delivree*, ppl. sb. f. *delivrer* to deliver, ENTRY, F. *entrée*, Romanic **intrāta*, f. *intrāre* to enter.

This suffix is represented under other forms in certain words, e.g. *assignee, committee, refugee* (F. *assigné, commis, refugié*), *attorney* (OF. *aterné*), *alley, journey, valley* (F. *allée, journée, vallée*).

b. In adjs. = -ATE[2], as in *easy*, OF. *aisié* (F. *aisé*), f. *aisier* to ease. There are few general adjs. of this kind, but there is a considerable number of heraldic descriptive terms having this termination, the earliest example of which is *jerowndé* (14th cent.), *gerundi* (1486), GYRONNY, a. OF. *geroné, gironné*, f. *giron* GYRON. Early adoptions of this class have the ending *-e*, later *-ee*, and (as early as the Book of St. Albans, 1486) often *-i*, later *-y*. With some, *-y* has become the regular form, as *barry, bendy, fretty, fusilly, gyronny, lozengy, nowy, paly* adj.[2], *sarcelly*; others are found commonly with either *-é, -ée, -ee*, or *-y*, as *botoné(e, -y, checky, chequee, nébulé, -y, tenné, -y, undé(e, undy*; others, of more modern introduction, usually retain the French spelling, as *coupé, dancetté(e* (cf. † *dancy*), *écartelé, renversé, semée*; some have been anglicized with the native ppl. suffix, either temporarily or permanently, as †*besantid* (= *besanty*), *escarteled, paled* ppl. adj.[1], *resarcelled, sarcelled*. In *wavy* (after *undy*) we have a rare instance of an analogical use of the suffix with a sb. of native origin.

-y *suffix*[6], **-ie** (also 7–8 *-ee*, 7– *-ey*), used to form pet names and familiar diminutives. The forms *-y* and *-ie* are now almost equally common in proper names as such, but in a few instances one or other spelling is preferred, as *Annie, Betty, Sally* (rather than *Anny, Bettie, Sallie*); in the transferred applications of these, as *jemmy, tommy, dicky*, and the like, *-y* prevails; in general hypocoristic forms *-ie* is the favourite spelling after Scottish usage, as *dearie, mousie*. The use of *-ey* is subject to the same rules as for -Y *suffix*[1].

The use of this suffix in pet forms of proper names is found in Sc. as early as 1400; and in the 15th and 16th centuries instances become frequent; examples are *Cryste, Cristi* (f. *Cristin, Cristian*), *Pery* (f. *Pere* Peter), *Sandy* (f. *Sandre* for *Alisandre* Alexander), *Jamy* (f. *James*), *Michy* (f. *Michel*), *Richy* (f. *Richard*), *Roby* (f. *Robert*), *Edi* (f. *Ede, Ade* Adam), *Anny* (f. *Anne*), *Bessy* (f. *Elizabeth*). Such names were prob. modelled orig. upon forms like *Davy, Mathy* (= OF. *Davi, Mathé*), which have the appearance of being pet forms of *David, Mathou*. (Many have survived in Sc. surnames, as *Christie, Eadie, Pirrie, Ritchie, Christison, Mathieson, Robison; Davy* occurs as a surname in English use in the early 14th cent.)

The formation was greatly extended in Scottish and English use; whence *Annie*, BILLY, *Carrie* (f. *Caroline*), CHARLIE or CHARLEY, *Fanny* (f. *Frances*), JACKY, JENNY, JIMMY, JOHNNY, NANNY, *Nellie* (f. *Ellen*), PATTY, *Reggie* (f. *Reginald*), TOMMY, *Willie*. Many female names have corresponding forms in Du. names with the suffix *-je*, as in *huisje* little house, f. *huis* HOUSE *sb.*[1]; e.g. *Betty, Elsie, Hetty, Katy, Lottie, Matty, Sally* correspond to Du. *Betje, Elsje, Jetje, Kaatje, Lotje, Matje, Sellie*; but there is no evidence of historical contact.

The earliest recorded instances of the use of such proper names as appellatives are Scottish and belong to the beginning of the 16th century: viz. *Lowrie* (f. *Lowrens* Laurence) used for 'fox'; *Katy* and *Kitty* (f. *Katherine*), with the meaning 'lass, wench', tending to a specifically depreciatory sense, 'wanton, loose woman', which senses belong also to the 18th century *Molly* and *Nanny* (as in *Nanny-house* brothel); a few female names, viz. *Molly* and (dialectally) *Peggy*, have been used to designate an effeminate type of man.

The application of the female names to birds dates, according to our evidence, from the close of the 16th century; the wren is designated by *Kitty* and (more commonly) *Jenny*; in 1616 Ben Jonson calls a parrot *Polly*; in modern dialects *Peggy* is applied to various warblers and the pied wagtail, and *Betty* to the hedge-sparrow. Then, in the course of the 17th century, these names to be applied to

trivances, among which machines for spinning processes and the burglar's jemmy are prominent. This transference of application is illustrated by *Betty* (a burglar's jemmy, 1700), *Jenny* (in SPINNING-JENNY, 1783), *Jinny* (a stationary engine at a mine), *Peggy* (a washing-tub dolly, in various dialects).

Among male names the following are typical: *Johnny* is used for fellow, chap, *Jemmy* for the burglar's weapon, *Billy* for a roving machine; *Bobby, Charley, Dicky, Geordie, Jacky, Jockey, Tommy* exhibit a great variety of modes of application.

The first known instance of the application of the suffix to a common noun is LADDIE which appears in 1546 in the form *laddy*, used by John Bale; but there is no evidence until the 18th century of the generalization of *-y* for pet diminutives. Early instances are *dummie* (1595), *grannie* (1663), *dearie* (1681), *mousie* (1693, Sc.); *laddie, lassie*, and *sweetie* were used by Allan Ramsay, and these, with Burns's *birdie* and *mousie*, helped to popularize such formations in English generally; hence the appearance in the late 18th and early 19th century of *cooky, doggie, froggy, mannie, slavey*. In *blacky* and *darky* = 'nigger' there remains something of the status of a proper name; cf. *Fatty* as a nickname. *Bookie* for *bookmaker* is a formation of a rare type; cf. *nighty* for *nightdress*.

1885 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Apr. 509/2 No rowdy ring, but a few quiet and well-known 'bookies', who were ready enough to lay the odds to a modest fiver.

There are two words that are generally held to contain this suffix, viz. *baby* (late 14th c.) and *puppy* (late 15th c.). With *baby* may perhaps be coupled *daddy* and *mammy*, although the evidence for these is not earlier than the 16th century; the pairs *babe* and *baby, dad* and *daddy, mam* and *mammy*, may have resulted from different phonetic reductions of original reduplicated forms **baba* (cf. BABAN), **dada*, **mama*. The source of *puppy* (spelt *popi* in the Bk. St. Albans) is doubtful; *pup* is a back-formation from it.

Ya: see ONE, YAH, YE, YEA, YOU.

Yabber (yæ·bəi), *sb. Australia.* ['It is pronounced by the aborigines *yabba*, without a final *r*. *Ya* is an aboriginal stem, meaning to speak' (Morris *Austral Eng.*).] Speech, language, talk: applied to the speech of the Australian aborigines. So **Yabber** *v.* (*intr.* and *trans.*), to talk, esp. in an aboriginal Australian language.

1874 BEVERIDGE *Lost Life* III. 37, I marked Much yabber that I did not know. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Austral. Life* 19 They yabbered unsuspiciously to each other. *Ibid.* 28 Longing to fire a volley of Black's yabber across a London dinner-table. 1887 FARRELL *How He Died* 126 He's yabbering some sort of stuff in his sleep. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* XXVII, They could speak a little Spanish and French, and got on with them. But Jim and I could only stare and stand open-mouthed..while they'd yabber away quite comfortable.

Yabble, Sc. var. GABBLE *sb.* and *v.*; hence **Yabbler** = GABBLER. (Cf. *yab, yabber* = GAB, GABBER.)

1808 JAMIESON, To *yabble*, *v. n.*, to gabble, Fife. 1829 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 204 And than sic skellochin' and shout,..Was never sic a yabble! 1872 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* XI, There was a general..clustering about him..as Samie 'yabbled' out the particulars. 1901 LAWSON *Rem. n. Dollar Acad.* 48 An outpost of these cacklers and yablers sounded the alarm.

‖ Yaboo (yabū'). Also 8 yabou, 9 yabu. [Hindustani = Persian یابو *yābū*.] One of a breed of large ponies or small stout horses in Afghanistan, Persia, and adjacent countries.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. XIV. VII. 367 *note*, There are in the highland country of Kandahar and Cabul a small kind of horses called yabous, which are very serviceable. 1832 *Lit. Souvenir* 153 What in England would have been termed a capital punch pony,—in Persia, a good stout yaboo. 1880 in Ld. Roberts *41 Years in India* lxi. (1897) II. 353 Yabus 1,592, mules and ponies 5,026.

‖ Yacca (yæ·kă). [Native name.] A West Indian evergreen tree, of either of two species of *Podocarpus* (*P. coriacea* and *P. Purdieana*, N. O. *Taxaceæ*), or its wood, used in cabinet-work, etc. Also *attrib.*

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 109 Yacca Wood, or Yacher, from Jamaica, is sent in short crooked pieces like roots. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yacca tree, *Podocarpus coriacea*. 1890 H. THOMAS *Untrodden Jamaica* 10 A gate composed of closely set pales of Yacca.

Yacht (yɒt), *sb.* Forms: 6 yeagh, 7 yeath, yolke†, yaugh, yaught, yought, y(e)aught, (*Sc.* s(e)aught, with *s* for *y*), yaucht, jacht, yach, (yeath), yat, yott, 7–9 yatch, yatch (*pl.* 7–8 yatchs, 8 yatches), 7– yacht. [ad. early mod. Du. *jaghte* (now *jacht*) = *jaghtschip* (lit. ship for chasing), light sailing vessel, fast piratical ship, f. *jag(h)t* hunting, chase (= G. *jagd*), f. *jagen* to

hunt, chase (see *-t suffix*[3] a). Owing to the presence in the Du. word of the unfamiliar guttural spirant denoted by *g(h)*, the English spellings have been various and erratic; how far they represent varieties of pronunciation it is difficult to say. That a pronunciation (yɒtʃ) or (yatʃ), denoted by *yatch*, once existed seems to be indicated by the plural *yatches*; it may have been suggested by *catch, ketch*.

The word has been adopted in many European languages: F. *yacht* (yak), G. *jacht-, yacht(schiff)*, Da. *jagt*, MSw. *jacht* (15thc.), Icel., Sw. *jakt*, Sp. *yacte, yate, yac*, Pg. *hiate*, Russ. ЯХТА.]

A light fast-sailing ship, in early use esp. for the conveyance of royal or other important persons; later, a vessel, usually light and comparatively small, propelled by motive power other than oars, and used for pleasure excursions, cruising, etc., and now esp. one built and rigged for racing.

1557 *Voy. Stephan Burrough* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 294 A barke which was of Dronton, and three or foure Norway yeaghes, belonging to Northberne. 1613 PHINEAS PETT *Autobiogr.* (Navy Rec. Soc. 1918) 109 [We anchored thwart of Sluis, where came on board us with his] yoathes (the Prince of Orange). 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 118, I esteemed he came to spie...whether our shipp and the Duch yaught staid for to take the Amacon shipp. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 303 This smalle shippe or yolke is mostly ladne with pepper. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 40 The Emperour (who yet had never greater vessell than a Punt or Yaugh upon the Danuby). 1645 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* XLVIII. 129 Paid for tow and nails used aboute my Lords Yought at Pemsle. *Ibid.*, To unrig my Lord's Yaught. 1660 SIR W. LOWER *Voy. Chas. II*, 12 Jachts or pinnaces. 1664 in *Mathl. Club Misc.* (1840) II. 518 To the sailors whair his Lordship breakfast in the Zeaught 001 10 00. To the sailleris of the Zaught at Owlage 003 12 00. 1666 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 20 Gunner of his Majestie's vessell the Mary yaucht. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Justif. War Neth.* 5 They who had struck their Flags...unto a Ketch of two Guns in the time of Cromwel, refuse to do it unto a Yacht of his Majesties. 1678 R. FERRIER *Jrnl.* 25 in *Camden Misc.* (1895) IX. A fair small River which ye King has there cut to take his pleasure on, there being severall yotts. 1680 ALSOP *Mischief Impos.* vi. 36 A...Man of War as big as a 2 or 3 Yatcha. 1688 in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 759 About 20 small smacks and yats in the Downs. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Oct. 1661, I sailed this morning with his Majesty in one of his Yatchts (or pleasure boats), vessels not known among us till the Dutch East India Company presented that curious piece to the King. 1720 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Yatches*, are Vessels with one Deck carrying from 4 to 12 Guns, with from 20 to 40 Men; and are of Burden from 30 to 160 Tun. 1766 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 137/1 Admiral Keppel set out for Harwich, to take the command of the yatchs intended to carry over her R. Highness the Princess Carolina Matilda to Holland. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v., The royal yachts are commonly rigged as ketches, except the principal one reserved for the sovereign, which is equipped with three masts like a ship. 1790 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Mary Berry* 10 July, The river was covered with little yatches and boats. 1811 *Self Instructor* 587 The Dutch yatchts are chiefly used on their rivers and canals. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xxiii. 600 A yacht now with every luxury of life can circumnavigate the globe.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yacht-berth, -builder, -building, -club, -race, -racing, -sailing, -sailor, -squadron*.

1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* (1852) 46 Insensible to the perils of any uneasy *yacht-berth. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 193 The Swedes are skilful *yacht-builders. *Ibid.* 217 The progressive improvement in *yacht-building during the last twenty years. 1837 in *Yachting* (Badm. Libr.) II. 12 That the Commodore be requested to seek an...audience with Her Majesty, with a view to the continuance of the Royal Cup to be presented to the *Yacht Club at Cowes. 1867 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 272 The American *yacht race is the last sensation. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 196 We do not mean to say that *yacht-racing has wholly escaped those sharp practices. 1833 W. H. MAXWELL *Field Bk.* Introd., *Yacht-sailing has been slightly noticed. 1846 MARRYAT *Yachts and Yacht Bldg.* Introd. p. ix, The designer [of a yacht] should...be...an experienced *yacht sailor. *Ibid.* 74 For many years after the establishment of the Royal *Yacht Squadron.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Ya·chtdom, Ya·chtery**, yachts collectively; **Ya·chtian, Ya·chtist**, a yachtsman; **Ya·chtling**, a little yacht; **Ya·chty**, *a.*, pertaining to or characteristic of a yacht.

1901 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Jan. 1/3 A yacht for her Majesty that would eclipse all examples in modern *yachtdom for luxurious comfort and sea-going qualities. 1862 J. G. FRANCIS *Beach Rambles* 60 The flower of the *yachtery of England. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 419 The assembled Thames *yachtians. 1898 *Nat. Observer* 21 Sept. 542 They went the way all *yachtists go. 1872 *Daily News* 21 Aug., The tiny *yachtlings (the largest of them measures but 20 tons, the smallest but four or five). 1892 *Field* 27 Feb. 279/2 The latest craft on the stocks—though of size that might be called '*yachty'—is..thoroughly of the canoe family.

Yacht (yɒt), *v.* [f. prec. sb., or back-formation from YACHTING *sb.*] *intr.* To make a trip in a yacht. (Chiefly in gerund or pres. pple.)

1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xix, We must swear that it is a party of pleasure, and that we are gentlemen yachting. 1838 S. WILBERFORCE *Sk. Missions* (1874) 243 Sir James Brooke...not content with yachting it about amidst orange flowering groves...conceived a great work amongst the Malay race. 1863 SPEKE *Jrnl.* 260 Sometimes the king spends a fortnight yachting. 1869 *Nation* (N.Y.) 3 Jun. 1/2 The only one of the owners who *yachted* as well as raced, by being on board his own craft.

Yachter (yɒ·tər). [f. YACHT *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1].] One who makes a trip in a yacht; a yachtsman.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 341 Several East India ships...with such saucy rigging that would have made the Yachters raving in envy. 1892 *Daily News* 22 Mar. 5/4 When in Bombay he was an enthusiastic yachter.

Yachting (yɒ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YACHT *sb.* or *v.* + -ING[1].] The action, practice, or amusement of cruising in a yacht; the art of navigating a yacht.

1836 MARRYAT *Three Cutters* i, Of all amusements, give me yachting. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xxix. 279 He...never missed a season's yachting with them.

attrib. 1850 OGILVIE s. v., A yachting voyage. 1868 A. K. H. BOYD *Last. Mid. Age* 327 We had a pleasant yachting excursion. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 465/2 Invited to a yachting party. 1887 *Times* 27 Aug. 9 A sad yachting disaster occurred at Ilfracombe.

So **Ya·chting** *ppl. a.*, that sails in a yacht; addicted to yachting.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxix, Yachting men from Southampton. 1860 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 138 The yachting world is very variously composed.

Yachtman (yɒ·tmăn). Now *rare*. Pl. **-men**. [f. YACHT *sb.* + MAN *sb.*[1]] = YACHTSMAN.

1820 *Examiner* No. 662. 807/1 The Royal Yachtman. 1846 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 460/2 A variety of sails called flying-jibs, &c., which vary with every yachtman's fancy. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 203 First-class yachtmen from Harwich.

Yachtsman (yɒ·tsmăn). Pl. **-men**. [f. gen. of YACHT *sb.* + MAN *sb.*[1]] A man who owns, manages, or sails in a yacht; a man addicted to yachting.

1820 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 138 It...requires a combination of those attributes which distinguish the modern Briton to make a great racing-man or a genuine yachtsman. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 219 Nine out of ten yachtsmen build or buy their vessels in the dark.

Hence **Ya·chtsmanship**, the practice or skill of a yachtsman.

1862 VANDERDECKEN (*title*) The Yacht Sailor; a treatise on Practical Yachtsmanship. 1886 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Sept. 4/2 The partisans of English yachtsmanship.

So **Yachtswoman** (yɒ·tswumăn).

1888 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 294/1 The Sea-Eagle...is much exposed to the attacks of marauding yachtsmen and yachtswomen. 1906 *Daily Tel.* 29 Jan. 9/6 A well-known American yachtswoman.

Yack (yæk). A syllable imitative of a snapping sound; hence as vb.

1861 MEREDITH *Evan Harrington* xli, Tom...with a sound translated by 'yack', sent his leg out a long way. 1873 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 328 He opens his beak, and yacks like the young jackdaw.

Yack, var. YERK, to beat; dial. f. OAK.

Yad, obs. pa. t. of GO.

1424 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 23 The Sheriffs...yadden up to the West Derby fen. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1193 His squiers habite he had, Whan he to the deyse yad.

Yad, var. YAUD *Sc.* and *north. dial.*, mare.

Yadder, var. EDDER: see YEDDER *sb.* and *v.*

Yae, Sc. dial. var. AE *a.*, one, only. Hence **Yaefauldness**, 'onefoldness', simplicity.

a 1772 *Bonny Hind* viii. in Child *Ballads* (1884) I. 446/2 I'm Lord Randal's yae daughter, He has nae mair nor me. 1864 J. BROWN *Jeems* 8 His absolute downrightness and yaefauldness.

Yaf, yafe, obs. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

Yaff (yæf), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Echoic: cf. YAFFLE *v.* and WAFF.] *intr.* To bark, yelp; also, to prate, nag. Hence **Ya·ffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Yaff** *sb.*, a bark or yelp.

1609 *Ravenscroft's Deuteromelia* 21 With all the hounds at her tail! With 'yeaffe a yaffe! yeaffe a yaffe!' 1808 JAMIESON, To *Yaff*, ...1. To bark,...to yelp,...2. To prate, to talk pertly. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* i, Will ye no let me hear what the man wants, wi' your yaffing? 1844 G. J. PENNINGTON *Pronunc. Gk.* 22 A yaffing cur. 1910 G. J. LAURIE in *Poets of Ayrshire* 203 He'll row for fun amang the snaw And syne yaff at the moon.

Yaffe, obs. pa. t. of GIVE.

Yaffingale (yæ·fiŋgēl). *s.* and *s.w. dial.* Also 7 yippingale, 9 **yelpingal, yappingal**(e. [f. various echoic syllables with termination modelled on *nightingale*.] The green woodpecker; = YAFFLE *sb.*[1]

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* vii. § 5. H 5 b, The woodpecker or yippingale. 1820 [see YAFFLE *sb.*[1]]. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 35 Mr. Matthew Arnold has very justly praised Maurice de Guérin for speaking of the woodpecker's laugh. But the west-country peasant ages ago called it the 'yaffingale', that is, the laugh-singer. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* i, The tap of the yaffingale. 1871 ——— *Tourn.* 696 The garnet-headed yaffingale. ——— *Berksh. Gloss., Yelpingal*, the woodpecker. 1906 G. A. B. DEWAR *Fairy Year* 198 The statement of the gamekeeper that he had seen a 'black yappingal'.

Yaffle (yæ·f'l), *sb.*[1] *dial.* Also **-el, -il**. [Echoic of the laughing cry of the bird: cf. YAFFLE *v.* (See also HICKWALL.)] The green woodpecker.

1792 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Desmond* I. 173, I remember the cry of the wood-peckers, or yaffils, as we call them in that country [*sc.* Kent]. 1820 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1831) 385 Green Woodpecker...Yappingale. Yaffle or Yaffler. 1846 KINGSLEY *South Wind* ii. Poems (1889) 209 O blessed yaffil, laughing loud! 1893 D. JORDAN & JEAN A. OWEN *Forest Tythes* 126 On their grey trunks the yaffils shine about, yells, laughs, and yikes to his heart's content.

Yaffle, *sb.*[2] *dial.* [f. YAFFLE *v.*] A bark, a yelp.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 662 My faithful dog...sent up a loud 'yaffle'. 1856 AIRD *Winter Day* Poet. Wks. 190 The petulant yaffle of the cottage cur.

Yaffle, *v. dial.* [Echoic.] *intr.* a. To bark sharply, as a dog; to yelp. (Cf. YAFF *v.*) b. To talk indistinctly, to mumble. c. Of a woodpecker: To utter its characteristic cry. (Cf. YAFFLE *sb.*[1], YAFFLER.) Hence **Ya·ffling** *ppl. a.*

1847 HALLIWELL, *Yaffle*,...to bark. Same as *Yaff*. 1848 A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Words, Yaffle*, to yelp, or bark like a little dog...A yaffling little cur. 1875 *Anderida* xvi. II. 26 Then came three or four sounding taps from a woodpecker's beak, and a yaffling laugh as he flew away. 1887 *L'pool Daily Post* 12 Aug. 4/5 Yaffling little pet dogs.

Yaffler (yæ·flər). *dial.* [f. YAFFLE *v.* + -ER[1].] The green woodpecker: = YAFFLE *sb.*[1]

1820 [see YAFFLE *sb.*[1]]. 1840 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* III. 91 *Picus viridis*. The Green Woodpecker...Yaffler. Yappingale. 1863 J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 70 Ta'n't a yaffler's [nest]; it's a black and white woodpecker's. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Feb. 269/2, I thought that would touch you, woodpecker! Ha, ha, ha—who's the yaffler now?

†**Y-aforsayde** [Y- 4], aforesaid. 1482 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 147 And as y-aforsayde thes bene the foure cardynall vertues.

Yager (yā·gəɹ). Anglicized spelling of G. *jäger, jaeger*: see JÄGER 1, 2.

1804 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 424/2 The light companies and yagers were sent out and skirmished. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* xv, All hail, M. P...At whose command 'grim women' throng in crowds..With 'small gray men', 'wild yagers', and what not. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* III. xxi, And first the wild Moravian yagers pass. 1822 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 562/1 The 8th Uhlans, and the 10th regiments of foot Yagers: both Poles, are nearly cut up. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. lvii. 176 He [*sc.* the landgrave] bargained to supply four hundred Hessian yagers, armed with rifled guns.

b. A rifle. *U. S.*

1840 C. F. HOFFMAN *Greyslaer* I. i, He instantly brought his yager to his shoulder. 1848 H. W. HERBERT *Field Sports U. S.* II. 254 Throughout the South and South-West,...the *yager*, as it is called, or short-barrelled, large-bored piece, is universally preferred.

Yager, yagger, var. JAGGER[3].

Yagger, var. JAGGER[2] *dial.*, pedlar.

1822 SCOTT *Pirate* v, I would take the lad for a yagger, but he has rather ower good havings, and has no pack.

Yaguarondi, -undi, var. JAGUARONDI.

Yah (yā), *int.*[1] (and *sb.*). Also **ya, yar**. [Echoic.] An exclamation of disgust, aversion, or malicious defiance. Also a vague or meaningless exclamation used by or attributed to negroes.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Rebuilding* v, While shout and scoff, Ya! ya! off! off! Like thunderbolt on Surya's ear-drum fell. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxii, 'A very excellent lodger, sir. I hope we may not lose him.' 'Yah!' cried the dwarf. 'Never thinking of anybody but yourself.' 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iv, He turned to bay..and bit the professor's finger till it bled. 'Oh! ah! yah!' cried he. *Ibid.* v, 'Yar!'..'you little meddlesome wretch.' 1865 READE *Hard Cash* xi, 'What him mean? what him mean? Yah! yah!' 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxxvi, Gerrard, with a 'yah!' of repulsion, dropped the thing. 1890 HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* 299 'Yah!' the old man shouted. 'Do you suppose we are going to give in to five men?'

Hence **Yah** *v. intr.*, to shout 'yah!' *nonce-wd.*

1904 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Jan. 102 Yahing at Russia and cheering the 'brave little Japs'.

Yah, *int.*[2] Repeated, *yah! yah!*, denoting a perverted or affected pronunciation of 'hear! hear!'

1886 H. W. LUCY *Diary Gladstone Parlt.* 349 There are cheers of various kinds. There is Mr. Alderman Fowler's deep-chested 'Yah, yah, yah!' 1887 *Punch* 21 Mar. 132/1, I used to call out Yah! yah! as I do in House of Commons.

Yah (yā, ya), *adv.* Dialectal for 'yea' or 'yes'; or in representations of Ger. or Du. speech. Cf. the earlier YAW *adv.*

1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* iv, 'Yah! yah! hold a light', put in one of the Boers. 1899 *Daily News* 5 Apr. 5/1 'Yah,' which the rustics of the Peak frequently use for 'Yea,' and which they employed exclusively thirty years ago. 1905 *Ibid.* 23 May 4/7 America..has two substitutes for 'yes.' One of them is 'yep' and the other is 'yah.'

Yahoo (yahū'), *sb.* A name invented by Swift in *Gulliver's Travels* for an imaginary race of brutes having the form of men; hence *transf.* and *allusively*, a human being of a degraded or bestial type. (Cf. HOUYHNHNM.)

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ii, The Fore-feet of the Yahoo differed from my Hands in nothing else, but the Length of the Nails, the Coarseness and Brownness of the Palms, and the Hairiness on the Backs. 1764 REID *Inquiry* I. § 5. 28 At the expence of disgracing reason and human nature, and making mankind yahoos. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* IV. x, To see a noble creature start...at the passionate exclamation of a mere Yahoo of a stable-boy. 1829 MACAULAY *Mill on Govt.* Misc. Writ. (1868) 143/1 Because civilised men, pursuing their own happiness in a social state, are not Yahoos fighting for carrion. 1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* lv, 'And what sort of fellow is he?..a Yahoo, I suppose?' 'Not at all; he is..a perfect gentleman.' 1904 ASHBEE *Last Rec. Cotswold Community* p. xxiii, To have..the pleasant valleys of Salisbury and Weston tramped by armed bands of Birmingham yahoos.

attrib. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. iv, I told him, we had ——— Numbers (of Houyhnhnms)..[that] Ya——— were employed to rub their Skins smooth (etc.). 1733 *Ibid.*, *Let. to Sympson*, I must..confess, that..some Corruptions

of my Yahoo Nature have revived in me. 1772 WARTON *Newmarket* 192 That hated animal, a Yahoo-Squire. 1888 F. HARRISON in *Forts. Rev.* Nov. 681 Pessimist pictures of human destiny and Ya-hoo theories of human life.

Hence (*nonce-uses.*) **Yahoo'** *v. intr.*, to behave like a yahoo; **Yahoo'dom**, the realm of yahoos, yahoos collectively; **Yahoo'ish** *a.*, resembling or characteristic of a yahoo; **Yahoo'ism**, style or quality characteristic or suggestive of a yahoo.

1888 YEATS *Rock Ahead* III. v, A dam low-bred lot, 'yahoo'in' all over the place. 1906 *Sun* (N. Y.) 17 Aug. 4/1 One dictum in a Judge's mouth can..unleash all 'Yahoodom. 1885 MASSON *Carlyle* I. 37 The infrahuman, the 'Yahoolsh, the diabolic. 1862 ROSSETTI in *Fraser's Mag.* July 70 Those '°yahooisms' are degrading in art. 1902 *Speaker* 5 Jan. 374/1 In the '*Scotsman*' we have Yahooism militant.

Yahveh, -vism, etc., **-weh**, etc.: see JEHOVAH, JAHVISM. **Yai**, graphic variant of *jai*, obs. f. THEY: see TH and Y. **Yaid, 3aid**, var. YAUD. **Yaik, 3aik**, obs. Sc. ff. ACHE *v.* **Yailing**, variant of YILING.

† **Yain**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 gigegnian, 3 ageine, [illegible]

against (see AGAIN *adv.*).]

1. *trans.* To meet, encounter, oppose.

a 1000 *Kit. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 45/23 [*Justitia*] *obviabit illi quasi mater honorificata*, [soðfæstnis] gigegnað him swoelce moder arwyrðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 17854 He..ageineden þere uerde þe icumen wes to urde. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 845 Abid abid me shal þe 3ene [*v. r.* yene]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1724 Loude he was 3ayned, with 3arande speche.

2. *intr.* To avail: = GAIN *v.*[1] 1.

c 1325 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 661 For heer but 3if we make vs euene, þer may no miht ne 3iftes 3eyne.

Yair, yare (yēə(r)). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 2-3 ihar, yhar, 3 yhare, (yere), 3-9 yare, 4 yar, 4-6 yaire, 5 3ar, 6-9 yair, 9 yaar. [OE. *gear, ger*, recorded in comb. *mylengear, -ger* 'mill-yair'.] An inclosure extending into a tide-way in a river or on the sea-shore, for catching fish; a fishgarth.

1178-1219 *Chartulary of Abbey of Lindores* (S.H.S.) 22 Omnes piscarias in they .. preter vnam piscariam meam, scilicet, vnam iharam ad colcrike. *c* 1200 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 15 Piscarias meas de Benton in Tyna, &c. Hames yhare et Burnemuth yare. 1369 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1814) 66/1 Cum piscariis infra aquas de Northesk, et Suthesk, in croin, yaris, et Rethibus. 1408 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 53 In cccc sperlyngces de nostro 3ar, ij s. 1512 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XIII. 443 *note*, With all woddis, forestis, wateris, lowis, yairis and fischingis thaireof bath in freech watir and in salt. 1580 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 553 The demolescheing and doun casting of the cruvis and yairis on the watter of Forth. *c* 1680 *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) III. 211 Some of them [*sc.* herrings]..are taken in the Yairs. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* I. 282 There are a good number of salmon caught on the sea coast [Kilconquhar] .. by means of yaires, or small inclosures, built in a curve or semicircular form near the shore. At high water the salmon comes within these yaires, and at low water is easily taken. 1793 *Ibid.* VIII. 597 They erect what are called *yares*, a sort of scaffold projecting into the water; upon which they build little huts..; from these scaffolds they let down..their nets. 1883 *Standard* 10 May 3/6 He ..destroyed a yare in which they often caught a number of herrings.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **yair-fishing**, fishing by means of yairs; **yair-net**, a long net fixed by poles and extending into a river so as to form a yair.

1796 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVII. 217 The Zair or Yair Fishings, so productive in this parish [*sc.* Cardross]. 1805 *Stats v. Leslie of Powis* 109 (Jam.) The yare-net is about thirty-six fathoms in length, and about two and one-half fathoms in depth. *Ibid.* 356 The..yare nets extend at least three fourths across the channel of the river.

Yair, graphic variant of *þair*, obs. f. THEIR, THERE: so **yairfor, yairof**, etc., obs. Sc. ff. THEREFORE, THEREOF, etc. **Yait(t**: see GATE *sb.*[1]

Yak (yæk, yāk). [Tibetan *gyag* (Jäschke).] A bovine animal (*Poephagus grunniens*), found wild and domesticated in Tibet and other high regions of central Asia, having the body and tail covered with long silky hair, which is made into various fabrics; the tails are used for decoration, and in India as fly-flappers (see CHOWRY).

1799 S. TURNER *Embassy Tibet* (1800) 286 The black chowry-tailed cattle..the Yak of Tartary. 1820 TORRENS *Trans. Tartary* etc. 125 The oxen mostly used in Ladak are hybrids between the yâk and the common cow. 1895 DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 246, I remounted my yak. 1903 *Athenæum* 2 Aug. 163/2 Only in the valleys does scanty scrub give sustenance to the yaks, on whose services the travellers depended.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yak corps, -hair, -tail*; **yak lace**, a heavy kind of lace made from the hair of the yak.

1904 *Times* 28 Jan. 5/6 The transport difficulties are still enormous, though the °Yak Corps is working well. 1905 E. CANDLER *Unrolling of Lhasa* XIV. 268 A heavy curtain of °yak-hair hangs above the entrance-gate. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 525 °*Yak Lace*..is a coarse Pillow Lace, made in Buckinghamshire and Northampton. ..The material used is from the fine wool of the Yak. 1902 *Q. Rev.* July 40 Strange gifts from the East..°yak-tails and peacock feathers.

Yak, obs. Sc. f. ACHE *v.*; dial. f. OAK.

‖ **Yakamik** (yæ'kămik). Native name of a South American bird allied to the cranes, *Psophia crepitans*, also called Trumpeter, domesticated by the Indians. In recent Dicts.

Yakmak, erron. form of YASHMAK.

Yald, obs. f. OLD *a.*, YAUD; var. YAULD *a.*; Sc. pa. t. of YIELD *v.*

Yaldran, -drin, var. YOLDRING.

Yale (yēl). Also 5 gaill, gale, 6 jall, 7 yeale. [ad. L. *gall* (Pliny *Nat. Hist.*).] A fabulous beast with horns and tusks, perhaps the two-horned rhinoceros; used *Her.* (see quot. 1910).

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. ix. 754 In to þat lande [*sc.* India] þai say suilde be Ane oþer best, callyt Eale [*v. r.* Ane oþir beist is callit Gaill Into þat land forouttin faill], þat is lik al til a hors..And has a gret tusk as a bare..And in his hewide ar hornys twa. 1536 in *Archæologia* (1910) LXII. 311 Paid to Ric. Rydge..for lyke cuttyng carvyng..and makyng of..and jall and Iunecorne a dragon, a lyan a greyhonde [etc.] [1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xxi. I. 206] *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 264 The Ethiopian yeale hath two hornes of a cubit longe. 1910 *Archæologia* 313 The jall or yale..is a rare and strange animal partaking of the nature of the heraldic antelope, that is to say, wearing horns and a large pair of projecting tusks..and he is silver bezanty, that is, white with yellow spots. He is one of the supporters of the Dukes of Somerset. *Ibid.* 314 *note*, The yale occurs as one of the supporters of the arms of the Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII.

Yale, yall, obs. forms of ALE, YAWL.

Yallooh, Yal(l)ow, Yalp: see YELLOCH, YELLOW, YAWP. **Yalt**, obs. pa. t. of YIELD *v.*

Yam[1] (yæm). Forms: [6 nname, inany, ignane, iniamo, 6-7 inamia, 6-8 igname, 7 ignaman, ighname, iniamu, 7-8 inhame], 7 yeam(e, yawm, yaum, jamoo, 7-8 yame, 8 jamme, jamb, guam (?), yamm, 7- yam. [a. Pg. *inhame* (Clusius 1567) or Sp. *iname* (Scaliger 1557), *iñame*, †*name*, whence F. *igname* (Thevet 1575); the ultimate origin is uncertain.

The foll. quots. contain unanglicized forms:—

1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy. E. Indies* 18 A fruite called Inany [It. *Ignami*]:..lyke to our Turnops, but is verye sweete and good to eate. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* Comm. xl. 342 These people [*sc.* of the Philippine Islands] do more esteeme yron than siluer or golde, and gaue for it fruites nnames [Sp. *Names*] patatas, fish. 1598 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. ii. 129 Their bread is a kind of roots, they call it *Inamia*, and when it is well sodden I would leaue our bread to eat of it. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* I. lv. 99/2 Iniamos were this yeare brought hether out of Guinea, as bigge as a mans legge. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Descr. Places 52 They haue good sustenance also by meanes of a root, called there Ignname, but in the west Indies Batata. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* xv. xxix. 1383 This manner of planting this Inhame sauoureth something of that of the Manihot or Iucca, wherof the Cassavi is made. 1665 *Golden Coast* 65 The Battatas are ..in form almost like Iniamus. 1703 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1460 A sort of Inhame *vulgo* Yam or Potatoe. 1759 tr. *Adanson's Voy. Senegal* 165 The roots of manioc, igname [Fr.], and batatee multiply greatly in open places.]

1. The starchy tuberous root of various species of *Dioscorea*, largely cultivated for food in tropical and subtropical countries, where it takes the place of the potato; also, any plant of the genus *Dioscorea* (or, by extension, of the N. O. *Dioscoreaceæ*), comprising twining herbs or shrubs with spikes of small inconspicuous flowers.

With defining words, applied to various species of *Dioscorea*, and to plants of other genera in some way resembling these. **Chinese** or **Japanese Yam**, *D. Batatas*. **Coco** or **Koko Yam** = Cocco, KOKO. **Common Yam**, *D. sativa*. **Granada** or **Guinea Yam**, *D. bulbifera*. **Indian Yam**, *D. trifida*. **Long Yam**, of Australia, *D. transversa*. **Native Yam**, a name for Australian species of *Ipomœa* (N.O. *Convolvulaceæ*) with edible tubers. **Red, White, Negro Country**, or **Winged Yam**, *Dioscorea alata*. **Round Yam**, (*a*) a species of yam with a round tuber; (*b*) the Burdekin Vine of Australia, *Vitis* (*Cissus*) *opaca*, with an edible tuberous root. **Wild Yam**, *Dioscorea villosa* of N. America, the root of which is used medicinally, also called *colic-root*; also applied to two W. Indian climbing shrubs, *Rajania glaucescens* (N.O. *Dioscoreaceæ*) and *Cissus sicyoides* (N.O. *Vitaceæ*); also to an Australian parasitic orchid (*Gastrodia sesamoides*) with edible roots, called *native potato* in Tasmania.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 94 Planting provisions of Corn, Yeams, Bonavista, Cassavie. 1699 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 483 To procure..planton rootes, cassada-sticks, large jamooes, potatoes and bonavist [in Cape Verde Is.]. 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 16 Plentifull produce of Sugar-Canes, Tobacco, Cotten, Maiz.., Potato's, Yames [*printed* Yarnes]. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 12 Yams, Potatoes and Plantains served us for Bread. 1699 WAFER *Voy.* 102 Yams, of which they have two sorts, a White and a Purple. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* I. 7 Jammes [orig. *F. jammes*]. *Ibid.* II. 26 Jambs, Potatoes, and other Fruits. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* XIV. (1840) 236 Guams, potatoes. 1729 *Dampier's Voy.* III. 160 *Round Yam.* From the Root which is white raw, but when boyl'd red... *White Yam.* Its Root being of that Colour, the Leaves single and cordated. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 360 The Wild Yam. This plant grows wild in the island woods of Jamaica. *Ibid.* 359 The Negro Yam. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 278 The yams, so important a food in all tropical countries, because of their large, fleshy, mucilaginous, sweetish tubers. 1856 HOOD *Veg. Kingd.* 718 The Chinese Yam (*D. Batatas*), recently introduced to this [illegible] as a substitute for the potatoe. 1864 GRISEBACH *W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yams, Indian, *Dioscorea trifida*... white, *Dioscorea alata*. Yams, wild, *Cissus sicyoides* and *Rajania glaucescens*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 422 Yams vary greatly in size and colour..; many attain a length of two or three feet, and weigh from 30 to 40 lbs.; some are white, others purplish throughout, while some have a purple skin with whitish flesh, and others are pink, or even black. 1867 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 433 White Bockra or Winged Yam (*Dioscorea alata*, L.).—Square-stemmed climbing plant. The roots of this species afford a much more delicate..food than those of *D. sativa*. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Native Pl. Austral.* 67 *Vitis opaca*,..Round Yam.

2. Applied to † (*a*) the mangrove, of which some species have an edible fruit; (*b*) varieties of the common potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), cultivated in Scotland; (*c*) a variety of the sweet potato (*Batatas edulis*), largely eaten by negroes in America.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* App., *Yams*,..a name sometimes used for the *rhizophora* of Linnæus. *c* 1775 T. L. *Yankee Doodle* (song) ii in *N. & Q.* 21st Ser. V. 87 Farewell all de yams, and farewell de salt fish. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 84 To give them [*sc.* horses]..a considerable quantity daily of potatoes, especially of the coarse sort, called yams. 1815 *Pennecuik's Wks.* 78 *note*, There is a demand for the large coarse varieties of potatoe, improperly called yams. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 30 The varieties raised exclusively for cattle are the common yam, red yam, and ox-noble. 1866 WHITTIER *At Port Royal, Song of the Negro Boatmen*, De yam will grow, de cotton blow, We'll hab de rice an' corn. 1892 *Kilmarnock Standard* 30 July 5/5 The Negro likes his yam.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yam-hill, -root*; **yam-bean**, either of two species of leguminous plants, *Pachyrrhizus* (*Dolichos*) *tuberosus* and *angulatus*, cultivated in the tropics for their pods and tubers, both of which are edible; **yam potato** = sense 2 (*b*); **yam-stick**, a long stick sharpened at the end, used by Australian natives for digging and as a weapon; **yam-stock**, a nickname for an inhabitant of St. Helena; **yam-vine**, (*a*) a species of yam (*Dioscorea bulbifera*); (*b*) the 'vine' or climbing stem of the yam-plant.

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 °Yam-bean, *Dolichos*

III. 228 Even the races that we still call savage..vindicate their faculty by the skill with which they make their °yam-cloths. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* III. 83 A °Yam-hill—i. e. a bank of mould prepared for the purpose of growing yams. 1821 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 324 The °yam potatoe. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 8 2085 The juice of °yam-roots fresh is acrid. 1861 BP. MACKENZIE in H. Goodwin *Mem.* (1864) 349 Huge yam-roots, some weighing fifty pounds. 1863 M. K. BEVERIDGE *Gatherings* 27 One leg's thin as Lizzie's °yam-stick. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* I. ii, The blonds of the Baltic, the brunettes of the Mediterranean,..and the fair °yam-stocks of St. Helena. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 89 The *dioscorea bulbifera*, or °yam vine. 1894 B. THOMSON *S. Sea Yarns* 186, I should soon..see the green yam-vines.

† **Yam**[2]. *Obs. rare.* [a. Russ. ямъ *yam* posting stage or house, Pers. یام *yām* post-horse.] A posting house.

1569 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales*, etc. (1587) 147 b, If riding poast vpon a trotting Nagge. If homely yammes, in stead of Innes at night [etc.].

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 236/2 Each night they reached a yam, and each week a city.

Yam(e, graphic var. *þam(e*, THEM: see Y (3).

Yamboo, var. of (or error for) *jamboo*, JAMBO.

1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. 302 The yamboos, (*eugenia*,) a cooling watery fruit, of the size of pears.

Yamen, Yamf: see YAMUN, YAMPH.

Yammer (yæ'mər), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms:

lamentation, a wail; a loud outcry, shout, yell; lamentation, complaint, querulous utterance.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIII. 120 The air was dirkit with the fowlis, That come with yawmeris and with yowlis. 1592 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6000 Than sall those Creaturis forlorne Warie the hour that thay wer borne, With mony yamer, yewt, and yell. 1792 A. WILSON *Watty & Meg* XXXIX, While the weans, wi' mornfu' yammer, Round their sabbin mother flew. 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* IX, Gin ye dinna tak' tent to yersel'..wi' yer eternal yammer o' 'Peats, Jock Gordon' an' 'Water, Jock Gordon', ye'll maybes find yersel' whaur Jock Gordon 'll no be there to serve ye.

Yammer (yæ'mər), *v. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5, 8 yamer, 6 3ammer, -er, 3almer, 7 yalmer, -ur, 8 yommer, 8-9 yaumer, 9 yaummer, yawmer, yammar, 6, 9 yammer. [Alteration of ME. *jomer*, YOMER, after MDu., MLG. *jammeren*.]

1. *intr.* To lament, mourn; to utter cries of lamentation or distress, to wail; to whine, whimper.

[*c* 1400 *Antwre Arth.* ix, Hit paulut, hit 3amurt, lyke a woman.] 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xix. (Arb.) 47 He..fayned as he had wepte, right as he hadde yamerde in his herte. 1609 *Proph. of Waldhave* (Bannatyne) 29 Thou shalt yalmur and yell: that al York shal it heare. 1818 Miss FERRIER *Marriage* xviii, It [*sc.* the child] does yammer constantly —— SCOTT *Monast.* iv, The White Maiden of Avenel..is aye seen to yammer and wail before ony o' that family dies. 1881 WAUGH *Birtle Carter's Tale* 27 To see poor wortchin folk's little bits o' childher yammerin' for a bite o' meight—when there's noan for 'em.

b. To murmur, complain, grumble; also *trans.* to say in a complaining or querulous tone.

1786 *Hav'st Rig* cii, They ever and anon stand still, And yamour sair; 'We're sure we do our day fulfil, And meikle mair.' *c* 1826 Hogg in *J. Wilson's Noctes Ambr.* (1853) I. 224 There's some souls 'll yammer and cheep If a win'le-straw lie in their way. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads, Tomlinson* 77 Then Tomlinson he gripped the bars and yammered, 'Let me in —'. 1894 Crockett *Mad Sir Uchtred* ix, 'They chase us, Belus,' he yammered.

2. To make a loud unpleasant noise or outcry; to howl, yell; to roar, shout.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. i. 38 Greit figuris of wolfis... Youland and yammerand grisllie for to heyr. *c* 1590 *Clariodus* I. 738 (Maitland) 94 The cairfull echo yalmering to the sky. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 123 Hoy, hurson, to hell,.. Where deuils in their den dois yammer and yell. 1603 *Proph. of Waldhaus* (Bannatyne) 97 He yelped, he yalmered, and youled loude. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xx, Like fiends yammering and girning when Hell wins a soul.

3. To long, yearn, crave.

1703 [see below]. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Robbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1775) 51 Boh I yammer t'hear heaw things turn'd eawt. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxiii, When a' thae things are yammerin' to get haud o' ye.

Hence **Ya·mmering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 240 Terribil spraichis of yammering pepill in the deidthraw. 1703 J. Dunton *Life & Errors* 247 Mr. Ames..had always some Yammerings upon him after Learning and the Muses. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* IV. 191 A sucking weanie..to its yamering fa's again. 1827 Stagg *Poems* 21 Our wee yen's yammerin' noise. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 486 Suppressed, discontented, yawmering..whiggism. 1870 Miss Broughton *Red as Rose* viii, The yammering of the baby. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxiii, 'Na, na', he cried, in the strange yammering speech of the creature.

Yampee. = Yam[1].

1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.*

Yamph (yamf), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **yamf.** [Echoic.] *intr.* To bark, as a dog, esp. a small dog; to yelp. Hence **Ya·mphing** *ppl. a.*

1728 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xix, The hale town tykes yamph loud. 1728 — *Hackney Scribblers* xii, Nae mastive minds a yamphing cur. 1818 W. Muir *Poems* 33 Has wylie Reynard come thy way, Or peace-disturbing yamphing Tray. 1844 M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table-bk., Legend.* II. 136 The yamphin thing [*sc.* a dog] dee't the neist day.

Hence **Yamph** *sb.*, a bark, a yelp.

1818-33 *Whistle-Binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. III. 69 She kend wha it was by the yamph o' his tyke.

‖ **Yamstchik** (yæ·mstʃik). Also 8 **yamsheek,** 9 **yems(t)chick, -schik, yamshik.** [Russ. ямщикъ, f. ямъ Yam[2].] The driver of a post-horse.

1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xli. 56 It was so worded as to signify either post-horses or *yamsheeks.* [1833 R. Pinkerton *Russia* 21 The peasantry..furnish the horses, and each drives his own. They are called *yamstchiki.*] 1835 *Englishw. in Russia* 40 The yell of the yemstchick inciting his team to greater speed. 1856 'H. S. Merriman' *Sowers* xxiv, Paul..driving with both hands and extended arms, after the manner of Russian yemschiks. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 15/1 Parties..of *yamshiks*—a special organization of Old Russia entrusted with the maintenance of horses for postal communication.

‖ **Yamun, yamen** (yā·mən). Also **-oun, -ên.** [Chinese *ya* tent or pavilion of a general, official residence, office + *mun* gate.] The office or official residence of a Chinese mandarin; hence, any department of the Chinese public service, as the *tsung li yamun* or Chinese 'foreign office', established in 1860.

1827 H. E. Lloyd *Timkowski's Trav.* III. I. 111 The tribunal (called the yamoun) is the supreme court of the country of the Kalkas: it has the civil and military jurisdiction, and administers justice: sentence is past according to the printed code of laws. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 45 He saw pagodas, and yamuns. 1883 *Sunday Mag.* 632 The yamun or official residence of the county magistrate. 1891 *Daily News* 28 July 5/1 He..made a run for the official yamen, but was overtaken..and murdered 1907 *Times* 30 May 5/2 The intention is to attack every yamên and to exterminate all the officials.

Yan, Yance, north. dial. ff. One, Once.

Yande, obs. form of Yond.

Yane, north. dial. f. One; obs. f. Yawn.

Yanglour, obs. form of Jangler.

Yanisari: see Janisary.

Yank (yæŋk), *sb.*[1] *dial.* and *U. S.* [f. Yank *v.*] a. *Sc.* A sudden sharp blow or stroke. b. *U. S.* A sudden vigorous pull, a jerk.

1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xiv. II. 28, I took up my neive an' gae him a yank on the haffat. 1888 Gunter *Mr. Potter* viii. 100 Her brother giving her a masculine yank [from the gondola], and jumping her upon the steps. 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of the Sea* xviii. 447 He gave the twine a yank.

Yank, *sb.*[2] (*a.*) Colloq. abbreviation of Yankee.

1778 *Conquerors* 14 Give me five hundred brave and chosen men, I'll drive the Yanks from north to south again. 1834 R. H. Froude in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 77 The Yank edition of the 'Christian Year'. 1872 Schele de Vere *Amer.* 23 During the war *the Yanks* became the universal designation of Federal soldiers in the Confederacy, even as they were called *Rebs*—not Rebels—by Northern men. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 35 As clever at a trick as a Yank.

Comb. **Yankland** *nonce-wd.*, the land of the Yankees, America.

1834 R. H. Froude in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 37 When I shall go to Yankland I do not know.

Yank (yæŋk), *v. dial.* and *U. S.* [Origin unknown.]

1. *trans.* To pull with a sudden vigorous movement; to jerk or twitch vigorously.

1848 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, To *Yank*, to twitch or jerk powerfully; a term used in New England. 1854 *Spirit of the Times* (N. Y.) (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), Afore you could say Sam Patch, them hogs were yanked aout of the lot, kilt and scraped. 1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* viii. 143 How angry it has made me to have a nervous know-nothing catch me by the arm and yank me down, for fear a duck that he happened to catch sight of half a mile off would see me and take alarm. 1906 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Jan. 39 Yanking up fence-posts that were wanted in a hurry.

absol. 1887 *Visit to Nantucket* (Schele de Vere 649) He yanked and yanked, but the sapling wouldn't come, and thar he was caught in his own trap. 1884 *Bath Herald* 11 Oct. 6/2 When a woman has a new pair of shoes sent home she..never shoves her toes into them, and yanks and hauls until she is red in the face.

b. *transf.*

1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* XXVI, Yank them both to bed. 1901 F. Hume *Golden Wang-ho* xiii, I'd have yanked Jinfou to the police-station straight away.

2. *intr.* To pull or jerk vigorously; *fig.* to be vigorously active.

1820 Ainslie *Land of Burns* 1 They went not forth like gaugers, A yanking on their cloots. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., She yanked on at the work. 1912 Masefield *Dauber* III. ii, The staysails flogged, the tackle yanked and shook.

Hence **Yanking** *ppl. a.*, (*a*) active, 'pushing' (*Sc.*); (*b*) jerking, twitching.

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* ii, I canna bide their yanking way of knapping English at every word. 1876 Mrs. Whitney *Sights & Insights* XXIX, Poor Emery Ann had had a yanking old horse, and a wretchedly uncomfortable saddle.

Yankee (yæ·ŋki), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8–9 **Yankey, Yanky,** *pl.* **Yankies.** [Source unascertained.

The two earliest statements as to its origin were published in 1789: Thomas Anburey, a British officer who served under Burgoyne in the War of Independence, in his *Travels* II. 50 derives *Yankee* from Cherokee *eankke* slave, coward, which he says was applied to the inhabitants of New England by the Virginians for not assisting them in a war with the Cherokees; William Gordon in *Hist. Amer. War* states that it was a favourite word with farmer Jonathan Hastings of Cambridge, Mass., *c* 1713, who used it in the sense of 'excellent'. Appearing next in order of date (1822) is the statement which has been most widely accepted, viz. that the word has been evolved from North American Indian corruptions of the word *English* through *Yengees* to *Yankees* (Hakewelder, *Indian Nations* iii. ed. 1876, p. 77); cf. Yengee.

Perhaps the most plausible conjecture is that it comes from Du. *Janke*, dim. of *Jan* John, applied as a derisive nickname by either Dutch or English in the New England states (J. N. A. Thierry, 1838, in *Life of Tichnor*, 1876, II. vii. 124). The existence of *Yank(e)y, Yankee*, as a surname or nickname (often with Dutch associations) is vouched for by the following references:

1683 *Cal. St. Papers, Colon. Ser.* (1898) 457 They [*sc.* pirates] sailed from Bonaco..; chief commanders, Vanhorn, Laurens, and Yankey Duch. 1684 *Ibid.* 733 A sloop..unlawfully seized by Captain Yankey. 1687 *Ibid.* (1899) 456 Captains John Williams (Yankey) and Jacob Everson (Jacob). 1687–8 *MSS. Earl of Dartmouth* in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 136 The pirates Yanky and Jacoba. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. iii. 38. 1725 *Inventory of W. Marr of Carolina* in *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. X. 467 Item one negroe man named Yankee to be sold.

Cf. also 'Dutch yanky' s.v. Yanky.]

A. *sb.*

1. a. *U. S.* A nickname for a native or inhabitant of New England, or, more widely, of the northern States generally; during the War of Secession applied by the Confederates to the soldiers of the Federal army.

1765 *Oppression, a Poem by an American* (with notes by a North Briton) 17 From meanness first this Portsmouth Yankey rose. *Note*, 'Portsmouth Yankey', It seems, our hero being a New-Englander by birth, has a right to the epithet of Yankey; a name of derision, I have been informed, given by the Southern people on the Continent, to those of New-England: what meaning there is in the word, I never could learn. 1775 J. Trumbull *M'Fingal* I. 1 When Yankies, skill'd in martial rule, First put the British troops to school. *Editor's note*, Yankies—a term formerly of derision, but now merely of distinction, given to the people of the four eastern States. 1775 *Penna Gazette* 10 May in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VI. 57/1 They [*sc.* the British troops] were roughly handled by the Yankees, a term of reproach for the New Englanders, when applied by the regulars. 1778 *Muse's Mirrour* I. 220 O My Yankee, my Yankee, And O my Yankee, my sweet-ee, And was its nurse North asham'd Because such a bantling hath beat-ee? 1817 M. Birkbeck *Notes Journ. Amer.* (1818) 29 The enterprising people [at Richmond, Virginia] are mostly strangers; Scotch, Irish, and especially New England men, or Yankees, as they are called. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. I. 13 He was a Yankee, the very character of whom is, that he can 'turn his hand', as he says, 'to any thing'. 1891 Duncan *Amer. Girl in London* 23 The Yankees are the New Englanders,..the name would once have been taken as an insult by a Southerner.

b. By English writers and speakers commonly applied to a native or inhabitant of the United States generally; an American.

Applied occas. to a ship (cf. *Frenchman*, etc.).

c 1794 Nelson *Let. to Locker* in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 302, I..am determined not to suffer the Yankies to come where the ship is. 1796 T. Twining *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 68 Their wit was particularly directed against a 'Yankee' who was one of the company. We apply this designation as a term of ridicule or reproach to the inhabitants of all parts of the United States indiscriminately; but the Americans confine its application to their countrymen of the Northern or New England States. 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* III. 12 If thou marriedst the heiress, thou must give up thy little American, thy fascinating yankey. 1838 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. ix, I'll be d——d, said he, if ever I saw a Yankee that didn't bolt his food whole like a Boa Constrictor. 1851 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIX. 409/2 When we next saw the Yankee [*sc.* a frigate], there we were coming right down upon him over the breast of the sea. 1887 'Edna Lyall' *Knight-Errant* xvii, I really am Italian, though Signor Sardoni will call me a little Yankee.

2. [ellipt. use of the adj.] The Yankee language, the dialect of New England; *loosely*, American English generally.

1824 J. Gilchrist *Etymol. Interpr.* 8 The naked savages of Indiana already speak a corrupt English (or Yankee). 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. I, You did not come from Halifax, I presume, sir, did you? in a dialect too rich to be mistaken as genuine Yankee. 1840 — *Letter Bag* iii. 34 Coarse jokes in English, German, French, and Yankee.

3. Whisky sweetened with molasses. *local U. S. colloq.*

1804 Fessenden *Orig. Poems* 97 Call on me when you come this way, And take a dram of Yankee.

4. *pl. Stock Exchange slang.* American stocks or securities.

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Sept. 12/1 There was great excitement in the American market yesterday, and the bulls are cherishing the hope that there is to be a sustained boom in 'Yankees'. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 13 Mar. 2/7 Yankees finished higher on the lead from Wall Street.

5. A name for various special tools of American origin, or of ingenious design. (Cf. *Yankee notions* in C.)

1909 *Cent. Dict.* Supp.

B. *adj.* That is a Yankee; pertaining to or characteristic of Yankees (often with connotation of cleverness, cunning, or cold calculation); *loosely*, belonging to the United States, American.

1781 A. Bell in Southey *Life* (1844) I. 37 The whole coast infested with Yanky privateers. 1784 Abigail Adams *Lett.* (1848) 161 We have curtains, it is true, and we only in part undress, about as much as the Yankee bundlers. 1822 Cobbett *Weekly Reg.* 9 Mar. 633, I was on board a little Yankee sloop in the Bay of Funday. 1828 (*title*) The Yankee and Boston Literary Gazette. 1829 Marryat *Frank Mildmay* xx, I will show you a Yankee trick. 1886 Froude *Oceana* 357 California with its gold and its cornfields,..its 'heathen Chinese' and its Yankee millionaires, was a land of romance.

b. Used of or in reference to the language or dialect: cf. A. 2.

w 1844 Whittier *Charms & Fairy Faith* Pr. Wks. 1880 II. 239 A sort of Yankee-Irish dialect. 1866 Lowell *Biglow P.* Introd., Wks. 1890 II. 170 Of Yankee preterites I find *rizze* and *rize* for *rose* in Beaumont and Fletcher, Middleton and Dryden.

C. *Comb.*, etc. a. *gen.*, as *Yankee-like, -looking.*

1799 *Aurora* (Phila.) 30 Sept. (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) Faith, 'twill be Yankee like, and plagued funny. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xvii, I heard him ax the groom who that are Yankee lookin feller was.

b. Special combinations and collocations. **Yankee gang,** name in Canada for a special arrangement of gang-saws (see quot.); **Yankeeland,** the land of Yankees, New England; *loosely*, the United States; **Yankee notions** [Notion 9 b], small wares or useful articles made in New England or the northern States; **Yankee State,** a nickname for Ohio.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Yankee Gang*, an arrangement in a saw-mill (Canada)...It consists of two sets of gang-saws, having parallel ways...One is the *slabbing-gang*, and reduces the log to a balk and slab-boards. The balk is then shifted to the *stock-gang*, which rips it into lumber. 1803 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* VI. 350 More wit from 'Yankeeland. 1837 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* 13 July (1883) 57 It sounds strangely to hear children bargaining in French on the borders of Yankee-land. 1839 *Mass. Spy* 8 Sept. (Thornton), I come here to retail My 'Yankee notions,—cheese, wit, verse, codfishes, Cider, et cetera. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* xxii. II. 298 The tallow, corn, cotton, hams, hides, and so forths, which we had got, in exchange for a load of Yankee notions. 1889 *Century Mag.* May 82/1, I saw the American tin-ware, lanterns, and 'Yankee notions'. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 125/1 Ohio was called 'the 'Yankee State'.

Hence **Yankee** *v.* (*rare*—[1]), *trans.* to deal cunningly with like a Yankee, to cheat; **Ya·nkeedom,** the realm or country of Yankees, the United States of America; Yankees as a body; **Ya·nkeeness,** a depreciatory term for an American woman; **Ya·nkeefied** (-fəid) *ppl. a.*, made or become like a Yankee; characteristic of a Yankee; **Ya·nkeeish** *a.*, resembling a Yankee (whence **Ya·nkeeishly** *adv.*, like a Yankee); **Ya·nkeeism,** Yankee character or style; a Yankee characteristic or idiom; **Ya·nkeeize** *v.*, *trans.* to make Yankeeish, give a Yankee character to.

1827 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 683 [They] are considered capable of '"Yankeeing" the more simple-minded Canadians. 1851 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 417/1 He ought to take steamer direct for "Yankeedom!..they'd make him President at once! 1850 Miss Broughton *Alas!* I. viii, Yankeedom and Cockneydom, rushing hand in hand through all earth's sacredness. 1892 *Q. Rev.* Mar. 297 The "Yankeeness who urge the convenience of a manly garb. 1846 Jas. Taylor *Upper Canada* 47 Some of the Canadians indulge in the "Yankeefied habit of bolting down their victuals. 1899

Voice (N. Y.) 14 Jan. 8 Japan is getting Yankeefied in more ways than one. 1885 DE QUINCEY in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) II. xviii. 112 Waal, now, to speak *Yankeeishly*, I calculate your dander is rising. 1880 *Eclectic Rev.* Apr. 359 The term *snowall*, when first brought up, was ridiculed as a *Yankee-ism. 1896 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 653 Guilty of all those Yankeeisms which distinguish the lout from the gentleman. 1865 VINCT. MILTON & W. B. CHEADLE *N.-W. Pass. by Land* ii. (1867) 18 Irish or German Yankees!..out-Herodling Herod in Yankeeism. 1864 *Guardian* 20 Apr. 386 We begin to fear that England is becoming *Yankeefied. 1877 SIR F. ELLIOT in Dowden *Corr. Sir H. Taylor* 377 The most certain of political tendencies in England is what..I will call the Yankeeising tendency. 1880 H. E. SCUDDER *Noah Webster* viii. 269 Hawthorne, Yankeeizing the Greek myths, and finding all Rome but the background for his Puritan maiden, was asserting that new discovery of Europe by America.

Yankee Doodle (yæ·ŋki dū·d'l). [Origin uncertain.

The tune is said to have been composed in 1755 by Dr. Shuckburgh, a surgeon in Lord Amherst's army, in derision of the provincial troops (*Hist. & Misc. Coll. New Hampsh.* 1824, III. 217–18.)

1. The title of a popular air of the United States of America, considered to be characteristically national.

1768 *Jrnl. of the Times* (Boston) 29 Sept. in Lossing *Pict. Field-Bk. Revol.* (1851) I. 480 Those passing in boats observed great rejoicings, and that the Yankee Doodle Song was the capital piece in the band of music. 1775 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 22 July 317/2 General Gage's troops are much dispirited;..and..disposed to leave off dancing any more to the tune of Yankey Doodle. *c* 1775 T. L. *Yankee Doodle; or the Negroe's farewell to America* (song) in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. V. 87 Yankee doodle, yankee doodle dandy, I vow, Yankee doodle, yankee doodle, bow wow wow. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xvii, He..walked off, a whistlin Yankee Doodle to himself.

2. A Yankee. Also *attrib.*

a 1807 J. SKINNER *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 78 Syne after him cam Yankie Doodle, Frae hyne ayont the muckle water. 1814 MOORE *Parody of Letter* 48, I might have withheld these political noodles From knocking their heads against hot Yankee Doodles. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* xxiii. II. 319 One of your yankee doodle invitations, that,—happy to see you *another* time. 1830 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 5 Sept. (1890) II. 351 We have had..Yankees male and female, and a Yankee-Doodle-Dandy into the bargain, a smart young Virginia man.

Hence **Yankeedoo·dledom, Yankeedoo·dleism,** = YANKEEDOM, YANKEEISM (above).

1861 *Death of Lincoln Despotism* (Bartlett), And hold them Abe Lincoln, and all his Northern scum, Shall own our independence of *Yankee Doodledom. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 468 The man's whole life..was a long series of Frenchified *Yankeedoodleisms.

Yankeese (yæŋkī·z). *nonce-wd.* [f. YANKEE + -ESE.] American English.

1883 'OUIDA' *Frescoes, Ai Camaldoli* 119 They..feel like two tame 'possums sitting on a gumtree. Now don't say I can't talk Yankeese!

Yanker (yæ·ŋkəɹ). ? *Obs.* [f. YANK *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. *Sc.* = YANK *sb*1 a; *fig.* a big or 'thumping' lie.

1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* xii. I. 330 'Ay, billy, that is a yanker!' said Tam aside. 'When ane is gaun to tell a lie, there's naething like telling a plumper at ance.'

2. (See quot., but perh. an error for JANKER.)

1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 46 § 89 If..any person..shall drive any four-wheeled cart, commonly called a wood yanker without a person in charge of each pair of wheels.

†**Ya·nky.** *Obs. rare.* [Of doubtful status, origin, and meaning. Perh. Du. *Janke*, applied orig. to a particular ship, and so identical with YANKEE (q.v.). The following examples of *Yankee* in the proper names of ships may be compared:—

1776 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 55 They were in the Yankee Hero. 1813 *Examiner* 21 Jan. 22/1 The Yankee, American schooner privateer.]

1760–1 SMOLLETT *Launcelot Greaves* iii. Proceed with thy story in a direct course, without yawing like a Dutch yanky. 1904 P. FOUNTAIN *Great North-West* xvii. 195 A yanki is a small kind of galiot, and the Dutch fur-traders used craft of this kind to ascend the rivers in search of their Indian customers.

Yanolite (yæ·nolәit). *Min.* [a. F. *yanolithe*, ? f. Gr. *ἰανθος* violet: see -LITE.] = AXINITE.

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 438 *Axinite*, Thumite, Yanolite. In violet crystals, remarkable as one of the few representative forms of the unsymmetrical oblique prism. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 299.

Yaoor, var. GIAOUR.

‖ **Yaourt** (ya·uɹt). Also yao(o)rt, you(a)rt. [Turkish يوغورت *yōghurt* (with quiescent *gh*)] YOGURT.] A fermented liquor made by the Turks from milk.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) I. vii. 137 Once on a fast-day eating some nice Yaoort. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvii. 250 The 'youart', or curds and whey, which is the principal delicacy to be found amongst the wandering tribes. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Yaourt*, a fermented liquor or milk-beer, similar to koumis. 1887 T. STEVENS *Around World on Bicycle* xviii. 407 The *yaort* bowl contains one solitary wooden spoon.

Yap (yæp), *sb.* [Echoic. Cf. YAWP.]

1. A dog that yaps; a yelping cur. Now *dial.*

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* I. 4 Those bawling yappes, that barke rather of fashion, then fiercenes. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccixxiv. 248 'Tis a Common Thing upon the Passing of a Strange Dog through a Town, to have a Hundred Curs Bawling at his Breech, and Every Yap gets a Snap at him. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia.*

2. A sound expressible by the syllable 'yap'; a short sharp bark or cry.

1826 LAMB *Ess., Pop. Fallacies* xiii, But *yap, yap, yap!*—what is this confounded cur? 1864 *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct., A small dog,..giving a quick series of sharp low barks, or yaps. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 258 A weasel rushes past..He utters a strange startled 'yap'. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* July 328 The sub. gave a little yap of joy.

Yap, yaup (yap, yɒ̄p), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–6 3ape, 5 3op(e, 5–6 3aip(e, 6 yaip, 8–9 yap, 9 yaup. [Northern ME. *3ape*, with rare southern var. *3ep*, representing *geap*, alteration of OE. *ġeap* YEPE by conversion of the falling into a rising diphthong.]

1. Clever, cunning; shrewd, astute; nimble, active: = YEPE 1.

13.. *Northern Passion* (H.) 1944 3e haue 3ape men him forto 3eme. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 9019 (Fairf.) Haue he bene be-fore neuer sa 3ape [*Cotton* yepe] Fra þen I telle him for a nape. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 318 Of þar ydolis þe bischope, Aristodemus, þat was 3ape, Raisit a gret sedicione In þe puple of þat towne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6642 A 3op knyght & a 3onge. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1651 Bvt, confessour, be wys and 3op, And sende forth þese to þe byschop. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 628 The 3aip 3eman to the 3et is gane. *a* 1508 DUNBAR *Twa Maryit Wemen* 79 Ane grume,..3aip, and 3ing. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 100 (Bann. MS.) A yaip yung man,..Lowrd of a schot. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Yap*, apt, quick. 1892 'H. HALIBURTON' *Ochil Idylls* 40 I'm juist as yap an' yauld As e'er was youth.

†**2.** Eager or ready, esp. *to do* something. *Obs.*

[illegible]

Ineis XII. li. 88 The bysy knaipis and verlettis of his stabill About thame stud, full 3aip and seruyabill. 1728 RAMSAY *Daft Bargain* 11 [He] seem'd right yap His mealtith quickly up to gawp.

3. Eager or ready to eat, hungry.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* I. 20 Right yape she yoked to the pleasing feast. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Rising of Session* Poems (1845) 29 The farmers' sons, as yap as sparrows. 1832 CARRICK in *Whistle-Binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. I. (1839) 74 Like leeches when yaup. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* ii, Gi'e the bairns a bit piece,..the like o' them's aye yap.

Yap, *v.* Also yap-yap. [Echoic. Cf. YAWP.]

1. *intr.* To bark sharply, as a small dog; to yelp.

1668 [see *yapping* vbl. sb.]. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia.* 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i, Up come the hounds.. yelping, yapping, puffing, and blowing. 1865 ANNE MANNING *Belforest* II. 100 A little dog that..yap-yapped at every visitor. 1901 MEREDITH *Poems, Forest Hist.* xvii, Where long forlorn the lone dog whines and yaps.

2. *transf.* To speak snappishly.

1864 'ANNIE THOMAS' *D. Donne* III. 204 Dora was not one of the women who yap and scream in wrath or excitement. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 130 Ortheris yapped indignantly.

Hence **Ya·pping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Ya·pper,** a dog or person that yaps.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 499 Some dozen *yappers and yellers of all shapes and breeds. 1901 *Longm. Mag.* May 46 His enemies said 'Job wer' a proper yapper'. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 243 A Voice not unlike the *yapping of a foysting Cur. 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* ix, The shrill yapping of the hounds. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Mar. 214 There was some rather feeble yap yapping at the Peers. 1865 ANNE MANNING *Belforest* I. 265 Every little *yap-yapping dog. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-sea Fruit* XXV, Half a dozen little yapping dogs..assailed me.

Ya·ply, *adv.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–5 3ap(e)ly, 5 yappely, 3opely, 8–9 yaply. [f. YAP *a.* + -LY 2.] Actively, nimbly; readily, eagerly; in mod. Sc. hungrily. So **Ya·pness,** hunger.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 228 To the 3ate 3aply þei 3eoden wel 3are. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1674 A soueryn aw forto be-hald 3apli vnto 3ong & ald. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1393 (Dubl. MS.), And þai 3opely ayayn 3eldyn þaim swythe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 231 We muste yappely wende in at þis yate. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 68 Unto their supper they right yaply fa'. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* iv, My yapness and stiff appetite.

Yapock (yæ·pɒk). Also yapok, yapaoh. [f. *Oyapok*, name of a river between French Guiana and Brazil, spelt earlier *Wiapoco* (Harcourt *Voy. Guiana*, 1613).] The South American water-opossum, *Chironectes variegatus*, having webbed toes.

1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* III. 35 There are..Yapocks of a smaller size..Found on the banks of the Yapock river of Guyana. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 103 The Yapach..frequents the rivers of Guiana. 1892 J. A. THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* 569 The aquatic Yapock (*Chironectes*) ..feeds on fish and smaller water animals.

Yapon, yaupon (yɒ̄·pɒn). Also 8 yaupan, yopon, yappon. [North Carolina.] An evergreen shrub or small tree (*Ilex Cassine* or *vomitoria*), allied to the holly, growing in Texas and Southern U. S.; a decoction of the leaves (*yapon tea*) is used as an emetic and purgative. Also called *Appalachian* or *Carolina tea.*

a 1718 LAWSON *Hist. Carolina* (1714) 91 *Yaupon*, call'd by the South Carolina Indians *cassena*, is a bush that grows chiefly on the sand banks and islands. 1723 J. BRICKELL *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1737) 319 They drink great quantities of yaupan tea. 1778 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 361 The Yopon, or Cusweena. 1784 ASHE-CHEROKEE *Arr.* in *Gent. Assist.* 40 Yaupon tree. 1884 G. P. LATIMER *Trees* ii, 53 That kind of holly known in the region [N. Carolina coast] as yaupon.

Yapp (yæp). [Name of a London bookseller to whose order this style of binding was first made, about 1860 (*N. & Q.* 9th Ser., 1890, IV. 256).] Name for a style of bookbinding in limp leather with overlapping edges or flaps. Hence **Yapped** (yæpt) *a.*, made in this style.

1882 *Publishers' Circular* 15 Feb. 163 Bagster's Bibles. In Sheep Yapped, with Elastic Band. 1883 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VII. 313 *Yapp*, as applied to binding, is the name of the binder [*sic*] who originally employed the style now so known. 1889 *Rep. Artisans Paris Univ. Exhib.* 31 Bagster & Co. have a good variety of work in the Bible line, especially their india-rubber kid-lined Yapps. 1894 *Guardian* 31 Oct. 1712 An ingenious method of appending markers to Bibles with yapped or overlapping bindings. 1910 *Athenæum* 26 Feb. 239/1 In velvet persian, yapp edges, boxed.

Yappet (yæ·pet), *v.* [frequent. f. YAP *v.*: see -ET.] *intr.* = YAP *v.* 1. Hence **Ya·ppeting** *ppl. a.*

1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 235 It is a little Tutty-nos'd yappeting Sprite; the Good Old Cause's Lap-Dog. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* xix. I. 290 The likeness he was pleased to discover between my poor self and a yappeting suburban poodle.

Yar(r, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 3ar(r)en, 7 yarre. [Imitative. Cf. ARE *v.*2, GARRE *v.*, YIRR.] *intr.* To snarl or growl, as or like a dog. Hence **Ya·rrer; Ya·rring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1505, & he 3arande hym 3elde. *Ibid.* 1724 Loude he was 3ayned, with 3arande speche. 1611 COTGR., *S'entregratter*, to whurre, yarre, grumble, one at another. *Ibid.*, *Gronderie*,..whurling, yarring. *Ibid.*, *Grondeur*,..a whurrer, or yarrer. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxii. 153 When he saw that all the dogs were flocking about her, yarring at the retardment of their accesse to her. 1768 BEATTIE *To Mr. A. Ross* in *Helenore* (1812) 132 In little times, when faes are yarring.

Yar, obs. or dial. f. EARTH, ERE, THEIR, YAIR, YOUR; var. YAH *int.*1

†**Ya·rage.** *Naut. Obs.* [? f. YARE *a.* or *v.* + -AGE.] The power of moving or being managed at sea.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 997 They were light of yarage: armed and furnished with water-men as many as they needed. *Ibid.* 999 The gallies of the enemies, the which were heaule of yarage, both for their bignes, as also for lacke of watermen to row them.

Yarak (yæ·ræk). *Falconry.* [? Pers. يارکی *yārakī* power, strength, ability.] *In yarak*: (of a hawk) in proper condition for hunting.

1855 SALVIN & BRODRICK *Falc. Brit. Isles* 105 The Goshawk..will not work at all unless in good temper and proper flying order, termed in the East '*yarak*'. *Ibid.* 108 It requires about ten days to get this Hawk into '*yarak*'. 1900 MICHELL *Hawking* xii. 162 Unless the hawk was in first-rate condition,—in what is called 'screaming yarak'. 1901 KIPLING *Kim* x, He's in yarak Plumed to the very point.

Yarb, dial. form of HERB.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* v. (1871) 83 Stultiloquent yarb-monger. 1847 THOREAU *Let.* in *Atlantic Monthly* (1892) June 736, I hope he got 'yarbs' enough to satisfy him. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* lv, Some skill in 'yarbs', as she called her simples.

Yarborough (yā·ɹbŭrə). *Cards.* [Said to be so called because a certain Earl of Yarborough used to bet 1,000 to 1 against the occurrence of such a hand.] In whist and bridge, a hand which contains no card above a nine.

1900 J. DOE *Bridge Man.* 35 If he has a Yarborough, you will lose the game. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 809/2, I have held yarboroughs and been doubled and roughed all the evening.

Yard (yāɹd), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 ȝeard, 4–5 ȝerd(e, 4–6 ȝard(e, yerde, 4–8 yerd, 4–9 yaird, (4 ȝherd, 5 ȝeard, ȝord, yorde, 6 ȝharde, 7 yeardе, 8 *Sc.* yeard), 5–6 ȝaird, 6–7 yarde, 3– yard. [OE. *ġeard* str. masc. fence, dwelling, house, region = OS. *gard* enclosure, field, dwelling, MDu., Du. *gaard* garden, OHG. *gart* circle, ring, ON. *garðr* GARTH, (Sw. *gård* yard, Da. *gard* yard, farm), Goth. *gards* house, with corresp. wk. forms OFris. *garda* garden, OS. *gardo*, OHG. *garto* (MHG. *garte*, G. *garten*) garden, Goth. *garda* enclosure, stall. (OE. *geard* is the second element of *middan-geard* MIDDENERD, *ortgeard* ORCHARD, *wingeard* WINYARD.)

The ulterior relations of these words are uncertain. Close affinity of sense is exhibited by the words derived from the Teut. root *gerd-*: *gard-*: *gurd-*, represented by GIRD *v.*1 (OE. *gyrdan*, OHG. *gurten*, ON. *gyrða*) and GIRTH *sb.*1 (ON. *girð*, Goth. *gaírda*), and those derived from an Indo-European root *ghorto-*, viz. Gr. χόρτος farm-yard, feeding-place, food, fodder, L. *hortus* garden, *co-hors* enclosure, yard, pen for cattle and poultry, COHORT, COURT, OIr. *gort* cornfield; but there are phonological difficulties in the way of equating both groups of words. (OSl. *gradŭ* enclosure, town, Russ. ГРАДЪ, ГОРОДЪ town, as in *Petrograd*, *Novgorod*, Lith. *gardas* hurdle, fold, are prob. borrowed from Teutonic.)

The general signification of the word is 'enclosure', the particular character of which is usually to be inferred from the context; the simple word is thus often felt to be short for a specific compound of it (see references in the various senses).]

1. A comparatively small uncultivated area attached to a house or other building or enclosed

by it; *esp.* such an area surrounded by walls or buildings within the precincts of a house, castle, inn, etc. Cf. *back-yard, castle yard, chapel yard,* COURTYARD, *inn-yard, palace yard, stable-yard.*

In OE. used in sing. and pl. = dwelling, house, home, the 'courts of heaven'; also, region, tract (cf. *middangeard* MIDDENERD).

Beowulf 2459 Nis þær hearpan swez, gomen in geardum. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 740 (Gr.) Wit..forleton on heofonrice heahgetimbro, godhca geardas. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 763 (Gr.) Swa noðfæstra sawla motun in ecne geard up gestigan roderа rice. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Epiphanie*) 572 To þe tempil men cane draw; & of it til in þe 3arde I wes cummyne, I ne spard. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 108) 302 Alex ..Is dweld in his fader 3eard As a pore man. 1594 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 10 A litile howse with a yerde. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 100, I kepe doggis..in my yarde. 1565 in Hay Fleming *Reform. Scotl.* (1910) 613 Part of ane yard within the abbay place of Sanctandrois. *a* 1637 SIR J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scot.* Hist. Wks. 1825 II. 72 He was brought vpone a scaffold in the parliament yaird. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 P 1 As I was walking..in the great Yard that belongs to my Friend's Country-House. *a* 1790 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. II. 96 The steeple-house yard. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXV, I wandered from one quadrangle of old-fashioned buildings to another, and from thence to the College-yards, or walking ground. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* v. Iv, Four horses, that had been only four-teen miles, had just re-entered the yard. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* v, An old cathedral yard. *Ibid.* viii, A long row of small houses fronting on the street, and opening at the back upon a common yard. 1908 [MRS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 20 The small yard between the stables.

b. *spec.* †(*a*) The 'ground' of a playhouse, orig. an inn-yard; (*b*) *Sc. pl.* a school playground; (*c*) = COURT *sb.*1 3 (esp. in proper names, as *Carter's Yard, Thompson's Yard* in Oxford).

1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* vi. 89 Neither are you to be hunted from thence though the Scar-crowes in the yard, hoot at you. 1818 SCOTT *Antiquary.* in *Lockhart* (1839) I. 41, I made a brighter figure in the yards than in the class. 1823 — *Guy M.* Ii, Half the youthful mob of 'the yards' used to assemble..to see Dominie Sampson..descend the stairs from the Greek class. 1852 in Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 211/1 Every Street, Lane, Square, Yard, Court, Alley, Passage, and Place..are to be thus cleansed.

c. Contextually = CHURCHYARD, GRAVE-YARD.

[1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 145 Not farre thence is a yard vsed for common buriall, called the holy field, vulgarly *Campo Santo.*] 1792 BURNS *There'll never be peace* Ii, And now I greet round their green beds in the yerd. 1896 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. xi. 217 The road he had taken brought him at length to the church, through the yard of which it led. 1898 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. xxii, The little..church, its yard shaded with trees.

d. An inclosure attached to a prison, in which the prisoners take exercise. *Liberty of the yard* (U. S.): see quot. 1828–32.

1777 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* iii. 74 Why were not the walls of the yards repaired in time, that prisoners might with safety be allowed the proper use of them? 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v. *Yard, Liberty of the yard,* is a liberty granted to persons imprisoned for debt, of walking in the yard, or within any other limits prescribed by law. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 438/1 This person..took me into the yard and stripped me.

e. *The Yard,* short for 'Scotland Yard', the chief London police office.

1888 GUNTER *Mr. Potter* xviii. 221 They're tired of paying your old master's salary up at the Yard. 1904 SWENEY *At Scotland Yard* Ii, W. E. Monro..was one of the greatest public servants who ever worked at the Yard.

2. An inclosure forming a pen for cattle or poultry, a storing place for hay, or the like, belonging to a farm-house or surrounded by farm-buildings, or one in which a barn or similar building stands. (Cf. *barn-yard,* FARM-YARD, *poultry-yard.*)

c 1300 *Havelok* 702 þe hennes of þe yerd. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 27 A yeerd she hadde enclosed al aboute With stikkes and a dryve dych with-oute In which she hadde a Cok. *Ibid.* 277 Oon of hem was logged in a stalle Fer in a yeerd with Oxen of the plough. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* v. (Arb.) 20, I [*sc.* chanteclear] had viij fayr sones and seuen fayr doughters whiche..wente in a yerde whiche was walled round a boute. 1552 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 218 To Jhon Collin,...one lode of heye in my yarde. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 58 All maner of strawe that is scattered in yard. 1648 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. XXV. 175 One of the Lyons leaped downe into a neighbours yard, where nothing regarding the crowing or noise of the Cocks, hee eat them up. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 766 His wanton Kids..Fight harmless Battels in his homely Yard. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. viii, A vast herd of cows in a rich farmer's yard. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XV, A thriving farm with sleepy cows lying about the yard.

3. A piece of inclosed ground of moderate size, often adjoining a house and covered with grass or planted with trees; a garden. Now *dial.,* a kitchen- or cottage-garden (cf. DOOR-YARD, KAIL-YARD).

See also *grass-yard,* GREEN-YARD.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1027 Paradis..es a yard cald o delites Wit all maner o suet spices. *Ibid.* 12522 He sent him to þe yerd..For to gedir þam sum cale. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 30 And after Phillis Philliberd This tre was cleped in the yerd. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm) I. 255 3ardes for herbys ande for virgerys. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXVII. 111 (Add. MS.), He had a faire yerde [*Harl. MS.* gardin], that he mekell loved. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3erd, or 3orde.., *ortus.* 1477 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 201 *note,* Oure landis of Auld Lindoris with the brewlandis cotagiis and yairdis therof. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. lvi, Aqua vite..maid..of sic naturall herbis as grew in thair awin yardis. 1589 R. BRUCE *Serm.* v. (1590) T 2 b, Quhat-Christ suffered for thame in the 3arde [*sc.* Gethsemane], and on the crosse. 1728 in *Nabnus Poerage Enid.* (1874) 33 Houses bigginga yairds orchyairds. 1790 BURNS *Auld Rob Morris* Iii, My daddie has nought but a cot-house and yard. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* Ix, Any of her apple-trees or cabbages which she had left rooted in the 'yard' at Woodend. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Yard,* the garden belonging to a cottage or ordinary messuage. 1889 MARY E. WILKINS *Far Away Melody* etc. (1891) 21 Four .. old apple-trees, which stood promiscuously about the yard back of the Cottage.

4. An inclosure set apart for the growing, rearing, breeding, or storing of something or the carrying on of some work or business. Cf. *brickyard,* DOCKYARD, *dung-yard, hemp-yard,* ORCHARD (OE. *ortgeard*), SHIPYARD, *tan-yard,* VINEYARD, †*win-yard* (OE. *wingeard*).

1378 [see *hemp-yard,* HEMP *sb.* 6 b]. 1520 *Perth Hammermen Bk.* (1889) 15 Resauit fra John Kynloch of this yeres excresses of the yairds. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xvi. 7/2 Great leuers..the whiche they founde in a carpenters yarde. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. 16 § 7 Before the said Boate..bee launched out of the Yarde or Grounde wherin the same Boate..shall fortune to bee made. *a* 1620 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 23 He hath a little yard, gravelled fit for wrestling. 1696 *Cal. St. Pap., Dom.* 282 The porter, master-caulker and 'teamer' of Deptford Yard. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 200 A ship-carpenter in the yard at Portsmouth. 1803 PERING in *Naval Chron.* XV. 61 The yard is paid quarterly. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, River,* What can be more amusing than Searle's yard on a fine Sunday morning? 1837 — *Pickw.* Ii, 'What's Mr. Smithie?' inquired Mr. Tracy Tupman. 'Something in the yard [= the Dockyard]', replied the stranger. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 191 Eggs from the Yards of Mr. Punchard. 1873 G. S. BADEN-POWELL *New Homes* 194 The 'yards'.. are usually situated near the head station. 1891 W. K. BROOKS *Oyster* 131 Around each claire is built a levee or dirt wall called a yard...This yard retains the water filling the basin.

b. The piece of ground adjacent to a railway station or terminus, used for making up trains, storing rolling-stock, etc.; also an inclosure in which cabs, trams, etc. are kept when not in use.

1827 [see *wagon-yard,* WAGON *sb.* 12]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* Ii, A..young man,..emerging suddenly from the coach yard. 1894 *Daily News* 18 May 5/4 Yesterday his cabs were still in the yard. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Jan. 7/3 The yard foreman knows the capacity of each of the engines he sends out from his yard.

5. *U. S.* and *Canada.* An area in which moose and deer congregate, esp. during the winter months.

1829 HALIBURTON *Nova-Scotia* II. ix. 302 In winter they [*sc.* moose] form herds, and when the snow is deep, they describe a circle, and press the snow with their feet, until it becomes hard, which is called by hunters a yard, or pen. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes without H.* 614 So confident is the Elk in the security of the 'yard', that it can scarcely ever be induced to leave its snowy fortification. 1884 *Science* 28 Mar. 394/1 Immense yards, containing hundreds of deer, existed along the various tributaries [of the Ottawa]. 1903 *Longman's Mag.* July 248 [They] never failed to destroy a 'yard' to the last fawn.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (*a*) in sense 1, as *yard door, gate, wall*; **yard-dog,** a watchdog kept in the yard of a house or dwelling; (*b*) in sense 2, as *yard-bar, -dung, -liquor, -pond, -room*; †(*c*) in sense 3, (*Sc.* and *U. S.*), as *yard door, end, house, tack*; †**yard-dike,** a garden wall; **yard-grass,** a low annual grass, *Eleusine indica,* common in 'yards' about houses in parts of U. S. A.; also *Cynodon Dactylon*; (*d*) in sense 4, 4 b, esp. relating to dockyards, ship-yards, cab yards, or railway yards, as *yard clerk, craft, -keeper, -lighter, -master*; **yard-money,** fees payable by hirers of cabs from cab-owners to stablemen, etc. on returning them to the yard.

(*a*) 1580 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 358 To mak and hang a yard dor at the nether end of the turrit at the bridg. 1795 HAIGHTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 197, I kept this animal nineteen months, during the greatest part of which he performed the office of a yard dog. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd. (*instr.*), Trusty, the yard-dog. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Yrs. Ago* iii, Lofty garden and yard walls of grey stone. 1865 — *Herew.* xix, Let me and my serving-man go free out of thy yard gate. 1905 A. C. BENSON *Thread of Gold* ii, A big black yard-dog. 1908 [MRS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 29 Near the yard doors.

(*b*) 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 119 Some barnroome haue little, and yardroome as much. 1764 *Museum Rusticum* II. 1. 3 When I make use of yard dung, I take care it is very rotten. 1778 [W. MARSHALL.] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 23 It is better management to prevent, than either to waste or cart-out a superfluity of Yard-liquor. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 20 While ducks and geese..Plunge in the yard-pond brimming o'er. 1859 MRS. WHITNEY *Hitherto* xi, The lowing of cattle at their yard-bars.

(*c*) 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 189 He sal put bath husband tak and 3ard tak til al possibil polyci. 1505 *Ibid.* 260 Biggind of gud 3erd hous, sufficiand chawmeris and stabulis to resaue and herbry..xij or xvj hors. 1532 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 57 The radesenyng and lowsing of twa riggis of land, lyand at his yard end. 1595 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 132/2 Up the saidis Alesteris eist yaird-dyk to the mairch of Galdwalmoir. 1692 *Jedburgh Counc. Rec.* 19 Mar. (MS.), For his wrongous.. awaytakeing of certaine stones out of the minister's yeard dyke at his awn hand. 1699 A. HENRY *Trav.* 79 Behind the yard-door of my own house,.. there was a low fence. 1822 J. WOODS *Two Yrs.' Resid. Illinois* 199 Yard-grass comes on land that has been much trodden; it is some-thing like cock's-foot-grass, except the seed. 1848 SCHOMBURGK *Hist. Barbadoes* 586 *Cynodon dactylon.* Devil's Grass. Bahama, or Yard Grass. 1907 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* IV. xvi. 292 A minister's yard dyke, or garden wall, was overthrown.

(*d*) *a* 1649 PETTY in *Archæologia* (1796) XII. 266 Those businesses, which were put out by the great to divers yard-keepers. 1737 *J. Chamberlayne's St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 33) II. 87 Yard-keeper and Fire-maker. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 304 Six Gun-vessels and Yard-lighters. 1861 (16 Apr.) in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1904) II. 29 Pensions.. granted to the Riggers employed in Your Majesty's Dock-yards, and the Seamen belonging to the Yard Craft. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Yard Clerk,* one who has the overlooking of the yard of a brewery, builder, etc. 1884 *Bath Jrnl.* 26 July 7/3 On returning to the yard at night he has to stump up ten shillings more, plus a mysterious fee of two shillings called 'yard money'. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 9 Apr. 3/4 [A] yardmaster at Brattleboro' had one leg cut off by a switching train. 1892 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 93 The brakesman was standing by to couple the cars that the yard engine was backing down on to the rest of the train. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 67 The ordinary yard-handling of, say, an army corps.

Yard (yārd), *sb.*2 Forms: 1 gyrd, gerd, (gerd), 1–2 gird, 3–6 gyrd(e, yerd(e, 4–5 garde, 4–7 yarde, (3 3erde, 3eord, yeorde, yherde, 4 3ierd(e, 3eird, yeird, 3eerde, 3urde, 5 3eearde, 3herde, yeerde, yerede, 6 yerdde), 5–7 yeard(e, (9 *Sc.* yaird), 5– yard. [OE. **gierd, gyrd, gird,* Angl. *gerd* = OFris. *zerde* (EFris. *jard*), OS. *-gerda* (in *segalgerda* SAILYARD), MLG. *gerde,* MDu. *gherde, garde,* Du. *garde, gard,* OHG. **gartja, gurdea, gerta,* MHG., G. *gerte,* generally taken to represent OTeut. **gazdjō,* deriv. of **gazdas* (whence OE. *geard*?, MLG. *gaert,* OHG. *gart,* ON. *gaddr* GAD *sb.*1, Goth. *gazds* prickle), prob. related to L. *hasta* (:— **ghazdhā*) spear, OIr. *gat* rod.

Some, however, regard the *r* in this word as original and connect it with OSl. *hrŭdi,* Russ. жердь thin pole.]

†**1.** A straight slender shoot or branch of a tree; a twig, stick. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 7 Yerd..from uinde styrende [*arundinem uento agitatum*]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 8 Seo drize zyrd, þe nan on eorðan aplantod,..and swa-ðeah greow. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 510 A gret ok he wolde braide adoun as it a smal 3erd were. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. ii. (1868) 68 þe 3erde of a tree þat is haled adoun by myȝty streng þe bowip redely þe croppe adoun. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5614 (Trin.) A cofur of 3erdes dud sbe be wrouȝt. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 30 Thay arered a dyche, & a feble castel vpon, of 3ardes and turues. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 221 A branche of palme of paradyse of þe whecbe þe 3eearde was grene as gresse.

†**b.** *fig.* in reference to Isaiah xi. 1: cf. ROD *sb.*1 1 b. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 217 An 3erd sal spruten of iesse more. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 57/169 Heil þou 3erde of Iesse. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 212 Jou seydest a 3erd schulde sprynge Oute of þe rote of Ientill Iesse. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 178.

†**c.** In reference to taking or surrendering land, esp. in phr. *by the yard* (law-Fr. *per le virge*): see quots. and cf. ROD *sb.*1 1 c. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 13 b, There be other tenantes by copy of court role, and is called tenauntes per le virge .i. by the yerde. And they be called so bycause whan they wolde surrendre their tenementes in to the lordes handes to the vse of another, they shall haue a lytell yeirde in his hande by custome of the courte, and that he shall delyuer vnto the stewarde. 1539 *Bk. Presidentes* 48 b, How the copy should be made of landes holden by the yarde.

†**d.** Used typically of a thing of no value.

c 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 9660 He 3eues of hem not a 3erd.

†**2.** A staff or stick carried in the hand as a walking-stick, or by a shepherd or herdsman. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. x. 10 Nabbe ge gold..ne codd on wege ne twa tunecan ne ge-scy ne gyrde [*Lindisf.* gerd; *Rushw.* ierde]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* xvii. 10 Ber Aarones girde in to þam getelde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Exod.* 2987 He smot wið ðat 3erde on ðe lond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5894 þan tok aaron his ilk yeird, And on þe flore he kest it don. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 141 þe heerdes 3erde. *a* 1450 *Kut. de la Tour* lxxv, The yerde wherewith Moyses departed the see. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* (facs.) B v, For horse take Moyses yearde, There is no better charme.

†**b.** (Also *Golden Yard*; cf. *yard-band* in sense 12, and *ell-wand.*) The Belt of Orion. *Obs.*

1551 [see GOLDEN *a.* 20]. 1652 *Loves of Hero & Leander* (1653) 83 The Yard, Orion, and Charles Wain.

†**3.** A stick or rod used as an instrument for administering strokes by way of punishment or otherwise. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 290 Genim ane 3irde, sleah on þast bæc þonne bið þæt horn hal. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 243 þu ahst to habben..Stede and twel sporen and ane smearte 3erd. *c* 1205 LAY. 20318 Ofte me hine smæt mid smærte 3erden [*c* 1275 3erdes]. *a* 1250 *Trin. Ælfred* 451 in *O. E. Misc.* 130 þe mon þe spareþ 3eorde and 3onge childe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 777 Hit [*sc.* a horse]..þolep bobe 3erd & spure. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1407 Trist ith wele that I Wole be her champioun with spore and yerd. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 537 3if þi child be not a-fert, 3if him i-noun of þe 3erd. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* (1554) Prol. XXVII, His yard of castigacion. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 He made hys confessour bete hym wyth a 3arde apon þe backe al bare, as a chyld 3a beteu yn scole. *c* 1480 *Mirrour Saluacioun* (1888) 5 The payens bett him with scourgis & with scharp 3erdis eke.

†**b.** *fig.* A means or instrument of punishment; hence, punishment, chastisement. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 þench þet þet hweose euer hermeð þe.. þench þet he is Godes 3erd, & tet God tet þe mid him. *Ibid.* 324 Ase ofte ase þe hund of helle hecchet al god from þe, amit him anonrihte mid te 3erde of tunge schrihe. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 95 Qwo-so make any noyse..and þe den

commande him to ben stille, and he ne wil neuth, seal taken him þe yerde. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* I. xxii. (1859) 24 Tretyng with yerd of loue, and discipline. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. ii. 424 He thretened hem that he wolde come to hem in yerde, that is to seie, in peyne. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 363 I shall.. meekly take her chastisement and yerd.

†**4.** A wand, rod, or staff carried as a symbol of office, authority, etc.; hence in fig. phr. *under the yard*, under (the) rule or discipline (of). *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 22480 He bar on his honde ænne mucle 3eord of golde. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 382 in *O. E. Misc.* 48 Seþþe bi nomen a red clob and duden him a-bute And one yerd on his hond. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 142 Diocician the maistres herde, He strok his berd, and schok his yerde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's Prol.* 22 Hoost quod he I am vnder youre yerde Ye han of vs as now the gouernance. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 813 þen was him geuyn vp þe 3erde & 3olden þe rewme. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3erde, borne a-forne a worthyman. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* ccxxii. iv, Compleynynes..Refourmed were well vnder his yard egall.

5. *Naut.* A wooden (or steel) spar, comparatively long and slender, slung at its centre from, and forward of, a mast and serving to support and extend a square sail which is bent to it.

(See also Jackyard, Mizen-yard, Sailyard, Topgallant-*yard*.)

c 725–*c* 1440 [see Sailyard 1]. 1336–7 [see Yard-rope]. 1465 *Manw. & Housek. Exp.* (Roxb.) 199 My mastyr paid for the yerde [of the said ship]. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xli. xvii, At last with striuing, yard and all was torne, And part therof into the sea was borne. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* III. xii. 90 Some [ships] lost their Masts, some their Sayles blowne from their Yards. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 19 We put abroad all the sayle that was at yards. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 21 The Sails were almost alwaya splitting and blowing from the Yards. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xii, Fain to strike the galley's yard, And take them to the oar. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* I, Fog lying out on the yards, and hovering in the rigging of great ships. 1858 Morris *Earthly Par.* Prol. (1870) I. 26 We saw the yards swing creaking round the mast.

†**6.** A straight rod or bar used in various connexions (see quots.). *Obs.*

a 1400 Botoner *Itin.* (1778) 260 The yerdys called sparres of the halle ryalte. 1538 Elyot, *Radius*,..a rodde or yerde, that Geometricians haue to describe lynes. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc., Navig.* xii. (1597) 322 b, In vsing M. Hoods staffe they shall..need..onely to marke vpon what degree of the yarde the shadow of the Vane streeketh.

†**7.** A measuring-rod; *spec.* a measuring-rod or -stick of the length of three feet; a yard-measure.

See also Cloth-yard, *ell-yard* (Ell 1 3), Metkyard (OE. *metegyrd*), *tailor's yard* (Tailor *sb.* 6 b)

c 1000–1050 *Instit. Pol.* xii. [vii.] (Liebermann 478) And riht is, þæt ne beo æniz metegyrd [*Quadripartitus* mensuralis uirga] lengre þonne oðer. *c* 1430 Met yerde [see Metkyard]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3erde, metwande, *vlna*. 1557 North *Guevara's Diall Princes* Gen. Prol. A ij, By the yarde the marchaunte measureth al his wnr. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Bocalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. x. (1674) 13 He had a very just yard at home. *a* 1658 Cleveland *London Lady* 81 The Heroes of the Yard have shut Their Shops. 1721 Arbuthnot *John Bull* III. v, If they offered to come into the warehouse, then strait went the yard slap over their noddle. 1753 Johnson *Rambler* No. 116 P 7, I was..bound to a haberdasher... I learned in a few weeks to handle a yard with great dexterity.

8. A unit of linear measure equal to 16½ feet or 5½ yards (but varying locally); a rod, pole, or perch. Now *local*.

Sometimes spec. distinguished as *land-yard*.

900 in Earle *Land-Charters* (1888) 351, xvi. 3yrda gaultininga. 901–9 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Ævi Sax.* (1865) 156 Dees landes be suðan ðære ciricau..xxiiii. gerda on lange & on bræde ðar hit bradest is fif geurda, & ðær hit unbradost is anne geurde. 12.. *Textus Roffensis* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 659 To wercene þa land peran &, þreo 3yrda to billinge [*L. tres virgatas planeas ponere*]. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1449 Her vnder is a 3erde depe A water. 1828 [see *land-yard*, Land *sb.* 12]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* s. v., As a linear measure, the yard varies considerably in different parts of the kingdom; at Hertford the land-yard is 3 feet; at Saltash, 16½ feet; at Falmouth and Bridgend 18 feet; and at Downpatrick, 21 feet. 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-bk., Yard*, a measure of five and a half yards (16½ feet) both long and square, *i. e.* the same as a rod, pole, or perch.

9. A measure of length (the standard unit of English long measure) equal to three feet or thirty-six inches. (See quot. 1867.) Also the corresponding measure of area (*square yard* = 9 square feet) or of solidity (*cubic yard* = 27 cubic feet).

The earlier standard was the ell = 45 inches (*ulna* in Stat. de Pistoribus, 13th cent.); this was succeeded by the *verga* (1353 Act 27 Edw. III, stat. 2, c. 10), of which *yard* is the English equivalent.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 214 Thanne drowe I me amonges draperes my donet to lerne,..Amonge þe riche rayes I rendred a lessoun, To broshe hem with a pak-nedle..And put hem in a presse and pynned hem þerinne, Tyl ten 3erdes or twelue hadde tolled out threttene. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 64 For v 3erdis and a half of grene bokeram iij*s.* iij*d.* 1426–7 *Ibid.* 32 An Awlter cloth..conteynyng in lengthe iij yardes di. 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 152 A gowne of vi brode yardes at vj*s* the yard xxxvj*s.* 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 46, I am in the waste two yards about. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Weeches Observ.* E 4 b, I bought..a yard and halfe of pudding for fiue pence. 1683 Gadbury *Counsel* 78 One hundred of Lathes will cover six yards of seeling, and lathing is worth six pence the yard. 1760–72 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Painting* (1786) IV. 43 Sir James could obtain but 40*s.* a yard square for the cupola of St. Paul's. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* vii, Sir Cook, let me have half a yard or so of broiled beef. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Seven Dials*, When penny magazines shall have superseded penny yards of song. 1848 — *Dombey* xxxv, Mrs. Perch..has made the tour of the establishment, and priced the silks and damasks by the yard. 1867 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 407 The British standard of length is the Imperial Yard, defined as the distance between two marks on a certain metallic bar, preserved in the Tower of London, when the whole has a temperature of 60° Fahrenheit. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 615/1 The railway line..was perfectly straight for a distance of over 700 yards.

fig. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* lv. 27–31 We imagine God to be lyke our selues, & we measure him by our owne yard. *a* 1626 Bacon (J.), A peer, a counsellor, and a judge are not to be measured by the common yard.

b. Vaguely, hyperbolically, or fig.; phr. *by the yard*, at great length, without end.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 192 Hir yelow heer was broyded in a tresse Bihynde hir bak a yerde long. 1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 19 His beard a foot before him, and his hair A yard behind. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 209 Latinisms,—yard-and-half-long words. 1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green*, I. viii, Spit us out a yard or two more, Gig-lamps. 1869 'Mat Bradwood' *The O. V. H.* v, He..could talk by the yard of what little he did know. 1881 H. James Jun. *Portrait of Lady* xlii, He had a face a yard long; I wondered what ailed him. 1900 Elinor Glyn *Visits Elinabeth* (1906) 117, I danced it with some idiot who almost at once let yards and yards of my gauze frills get torn.

c. Phr. *Yard of ale*, etc., a deep slender glass for liquor, or the amount of liquor contained in it. *Yard of clay* (*clay yard*), a long clay tobacco-pipe. *Yard of satin* (slang), a glass of gin (see Satin *sb.* 4). *Yard of tin*, a coachman's horn.

[1828 W. T. Moncrieff *Tom & Jerry* III. vi, *Log*, The haberdasher is..the spirit-merchant,..and tape the commodity he deals in..white is Max, and red is Cognac. *Jer-ry*. Then give me a yard and a half of red.] 1842 *Punch* II. 23 His Highness condescendingly indulged in a pot of half-and-half and a yard of clay. 1866 *Lond. Misc.* 19 May 235/2 The stolidity of a mynheer smoking his clay yard. 1872 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. X. 49 At the annual Vinia, or feast, of the mock corporation of Hanley (Staffordshire), the initiation of each member, in 1783, consisted in his swearing fealty to the body, and drinking a yard of wine—i. e., a pint of port or sherry out of a glass one yard in length. 1899 *Ibid.* 9th Ser. III. 97/1 The (disused and probably illegal) 'yard' of ale. This is a measure a yard long, holding, I should fancy, more than a pint. 1902 *Tatler* 8 Jan. 52 A 'Yard of Ale' Glass. It is 38 in. high and contains two pints of ale. 1903 C. G. Harper *Stage-Coach & Mail* I. xii. 279 That instrument [*sc.* the key-bugle] came over from Germany in 1818, and for a time pretty thoroughly displaced the old 'yard of tin' the earlier guards had blown so lustily.

d. In Building: *Yard of lime, mortar, stone*, etc.: see quots.

1841 Laxton *Builder's Price Bk.* 9, 27 cubic feet, or 1 cubic yard, contains 21 striked bushels, which is considered a single load. *Ibid.* 12 A rod of brickwork requires 1½ cubic yard of chalk lime, and 3 single loads or yards of drift. 1881 *Dict. Archit.* VI. 84/2 A standard perch being taken as 21 ft. (or 16½ ft.) long, 18 ins. high, and 12 ins. thick. This is about 'a yard of stone', or a ton, or horse load. 1892 *Ibid.* VIII, *Yard of Lime*; or load. In 1750 it was equal to 30 or 32 bushels.

10. a. In full *yard of land* (OE. *gyrd landes* = L. *virgata terræ*): An area of land of varying extent according to the locality, but most freq. 30 acres: commonly taken as = a fourth of a hide. See also Yardland.

688–95 *Laws Ine* cxl. (Liebermann), Gif mon gebingað 3yrde landes [*Quadripartitus* uirgata terre] oþþe mare to rædenne & 3eered, 3if se hlaford him wile þ set land ærnran to weorce & to 3afole, ne þearf he him onfon, 3if he him nan bot ne sæ̃. & þolie þara æcra. 927 in Earle *Land-Charters* (1888) 322 Þis synd þære anre 3yrde landgemæro æt æschyrste þe gebyrað into þære hyde æt toppeshamme. 978–992 *Charter of Oswald* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 163 Landes sumne dæl ðæt syndon .iii. hida æt Bradingcotan and an 3yrd æt Genenofre. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1085 (Laud MS.) Swa swyðe nearwelice he hit lett ut asprynan, þæt nass an gelpis hide ne an gyrde landes..þæt nære 3esæt on his 3ewrite. 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 44, iiij acres makithe a yerde of lounde and v yerdis makithe a hyde off lande. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 559 A Charter..confermynge to ser Iohn Trillawe..and to Edmond Mabaunke, v. mesis, viij. yerdis of lond. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 307 Seased..of and in a messe half a yard of land a closse called Grymes closse..in thyngdon. 1567 in F. J. Baigent *Rec. Crondal* (1891) 163 One yarde of customary lande,..graunted to and with the said messuage or messuages. 1628 *Crt.-roll Gt. Waltham Manor*, Ad tres rodas prati, parcellam de Alixaunder's yardland,..et ad unam croftam terre..parcell. unius virgate terre vocat. Alisaunder's yarde.

b. An area of land of the extent of a quarter of an acre, being, theoretically, a strip of land bounded by a 'yard' (sense 8) and a furlong, i. e. 5½ × 220 yards; a rood.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 990, v. acris and a yerd of his arable lond. 1613 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, One acre of land and iij yeardes & viij pearches. 1726 in W. Wing *Ann. Steeple Aston* (1873) 54 Fourth part of an acre of meadow ground, called a yerd. 1893 Mrs. B. Stapleton *Three Oxf. Parishes* 309 A yard is a fourth part of a lot.. An acre is a lot.

†**11.** The virile member, penis; also = Phallus 1. (So L. *virga*.) *Obs.*

1379 *Gloue. Cath. MS.* 10 No. 1, fol. 1, col. 3, fo. 5 [The urine] passith out by the 3erde. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xvii. 12 3e shulen circumsidde the flehs of the forthermore parti of youre 3erde. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 90, I hane oft tymes seen pulsis greous for to ayalle in þe cancre of a manncs 3erde. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v, ii. 676. 1607 Markham *Caval.* 5 (1617) 93 You must haue care that your Stallions yarde be all of one colour. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* vi, iv. 479 This yard, which they called *Phallus*, was vsually made of Figge-tree. 1638 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 420 A monstrous child..It hath three yards and he makes use of them all at once. 1748 tr. *Vegetius Remains' Distemp. Horses* 87 His Yard drops Matter. 1884 J. Payne *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 30 Aboulhusn..abode naked, with his yard and his arse exposed.

transf. 1683 Snape *Anat. Horse* III. v. (1686) 114 It [sc. the pineal gland] is also called the Yard or Prick of the Brain..because it resembleth a Man's Yard.

†b. = *pintle-fish* (see Pintle 3). *Obs.*

1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xviii. 174 *Cobbidenus*, Yards or shamefishes..Gesner..saith that the French men call this fish the Asses-prick, and Dr Wotton termeth it grisly the Pintle fish. 1668 Lovell *Hist. Anim.* 230.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as (sense 5) *yard-mast, -tackle*; (sense 9) *yard-band, -glass, -length, -rule, -stick*; *yard-broad, -deep, -long, -square, -thick, -wide* adjs.; (sense 11) *yard-ball, -mattering, -syringe*; *yard-fallen* adj.; **yard-coal, yard-seam**, a seam of coal a yard thick; †**yard-fell**, the foreskin; **yard-work** = Yardage[2] 1. Also Yard-arm, -Measure, -rope, -wand.

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* Descr. 63, 'Yard-bals or Bals hung 'twixt the flesh and skin. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, '*Yard-band*, a rod of a yard in length. 'The Ladies yard-band', the belt of Orion. 1922 *Act 10 Anne* c. 18 § 104 All such Callicoes..which shall be within One Eighth Part of a Yard of 'Yard broad..shall pay as Yard broad. 1825 J. Phillips *Elan Geol.* 188 'Yard coal. 3 feet. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v., '*Yard-fallen*, a term..to express a malady to which horses are sometimes subject, which is the hanging down of the penis from its sheath..the creature not being able to draw it up again. 1388 Wyclif *Ier.* iv. 4 'Yerde felles. 1888 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. V. 436/2 The expense of 7*s.* 6*d.* was not his main reason for the non-replacement of the absent 'yard-glass. 1843 J. Ward *Borough Stobs-upon-Trent* 367 The drinking off a 'yard-length-glass of ale at a single draught. *a* 1721 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. II. 52 In Ewen Bows they 'Yard long Arrows shot. 1798 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 276 A rope of yard-long words. 1822 Scott *Nigel* I, A nod of his yard-long visage. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1892) 171 A yard-long dog-fish was dropped into..the boat. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 1000 They sawe the threescore shippes of Cleopatra busie about their 'yard-masts, and hoysing saile to flie. 1708 Kersey, '*Yard-mattering*, a Distemper in Horses. *Times* 21 Jan., Strong active relays of pitmen and miners can soon clear the shaft from the 'yard-seam. 1799 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* III. 388 Their 'yard-square towels. 1828–32 Webster, 'Yard-stick. 1844 Emerson *Lect., Yng. American* Wks. (Bohn) II. 293 It has great value as a sort of yard-stick, and surveyor's line. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 507 Senator Huerman was content to measure the Bland Bill with the yard-stick of the constitutional lawyer. 1883 Greenley *Gloss. Coal-mining*, '*Yard-stick*, an ash walking-stick, 3 feet in length..which a manager or underviewer carries with him in the pit, with which he roughly measures any lengths of work done..and with which he chastises unruly

Sm

to the fore and main yards..whereby..the boats..are hoisted in and out. 1901 K. Stewart *By Allan Water* I. 2 'Yard-thick walls bear testimony to its own great age. 1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 407, 1 piece 'yard-wide quilt. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xv. (ed. 3) 139 The practice, in retail linen-drapers' shops, of calling certain articles *yard-wide*, when the real width is, perhaps, only seven-eighths or three-quarters. 1865 Brierley *Irkdale* I. 9 Newspapers in his 'yardwide days', as he would term the period of his earliest acquaintance with manhood. 1892 *Lady* 27 Aug. 173/2 The yard-wide tweed usually sold for trousers. 1883 Greenley *Gloss. Coal-mining*, '*Yard Work*, ..synonymous with yardage.

Yard, *v.*[1] *Colonial* and *U. S.* [f. Yard *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To inclose (cattle, etc.) in a yard. Also with *up*.

1828–32 Webster, *Yard*, *v. t.*, to confine cattle to the yard; as, to *yard* cows. (A farmer's word.) 1840 Burt. *Farmer's Comp.* 68 The cattle should be kept constantly yarded in winter. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 201 An old Creeper hen that had been yarded with the Chittagong rooster. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, Well, lad, suppose we yard these rams? 1865 [see Round *v.*[2] 5 f]. 1885 Finch-Hatton *Advance Australia* I 83 Seven or eight men were yarding up a mob of cattle.

b. To store up (wood) in a yard.

1870 *Lumberman's Gaz.* Jan. 12 The logs which have been yarded or piled up in the woods. 1903 *Windsor Mag.* Sept. 405/2 They [*sc.* beavers] commence to build their houses and yard-up wood for the winter in September.

c. To shoot deer in their yards.

a 1891 *Tribune Bk. Sports* 432 (Cent. D.) 'Pot-hunters' have other methods of shooting the Adirondack deer, such as yarding and establishing salt licks.

2. *intr.* Of moose, etc.: To resort to winter quarters (see Yard *sb.*[1] 5). Also with *up*.

1832 H. W. Herbert *Field Sports* (ed. 4) II. 299 Here it [*sc.* the moose] still breeds, and yards in winter. 1874 W. Stanek *Genet. Emigrant* I. 293 The caribou do not yard. They winter lit out on the bogs. 1894 *Century Mag.* Jan. 334 They do not..yard up until the deep snow comes.

Yard, *v.*[2] [f. Yard *sb.*[2] In sense 1 used to render Manx *slattys*, f. *slat* rod, wand of authority.]

1. *trans.* In the Isle of Man, to summon for hiring: used of the hiring of servants by the coroner of a sheading on behalf of those entitled to a prior claim for their services at a low wage.

1668 in M. A. Mills *Stat. Laws I. of Man* (1821) 126 That the Coroners of this Isle, who..by Statute have had the Benefit of yarding of three Servants within their Sheading, ..shall for the future have but the Benefit of one yarded Servant. 1667 *Ibid.* 138 The Wages mentioned in the said Statute was only intended for such Servants as were made

by Jurys and Yarding. 1726–31 WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1868) 39 If any man or maid-servant be esteemed extraordinary in their way, either he [*sc.* the lord's steward], the Governour, or the two Deempsters have the power to oblige such a servant to live with them for the space of a year, and receive no more than six shillings for their service during the said time. This they call yarding. *Ibid.*, All servants who have any apprehensions of being yarded. 1822 *Denham Tracts* I. 199 The old privilege of yarding, given by ancient customary law to the Lords, Deemsters, and Chief Officers in the island.

2. To furnish with sailyards.

1676 T. MILLER *Medellist* Index, In the second Page is shewed a Rule for Masting and Yarding. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4117/4 Easy Directions to Build, Rigg, Yard, and Mast any Ship.

Yardage[1] (yā·rdédʒ). [f. YARD *sb.*[1] + -AGE.] The use of or charge for a yard in which commodities are stored, cattle inclosed, or the like.

1889 *Baltimore Sun* in *Public Opinion* 16 Feb., The object of the company..is to regulate the price of pig-iron by holding it in stock in yards leased by the company at the furnaces...Each furnace is to turn over all its product to the company,..the furnace-master paying the company yardage at the rate of 25 cents per ton.

Yardage[2]. [f. YARD *sb.*[2] + -AGE.]

1. The cutting of coal at a fixed rate per yard.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 8 The amount for yardage..includes powder, fuse, and candles furnished by contractors and paid for as labor. 1887 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Dec. 5/2 The men employed at the..Colliery..have struck for an advance of wages of 10 per cent. They also demand an extra 25 per cent. on yardage.

2. The aggregate number of yards; amount estimated in yards.

1900 *Referee* 23 Sept. 1 (Cass. Suppl.) That the courses as measured from end were as represented in yardage. 1906 *Daily News* 3 Feb. 8 The yardage of linen goods exported in 1905 was the largest in any year during the last twenty.

Yard-arm, *sb. Naut.* Also 6 **yardes-**, 7 **yards-**, 7–8 **yard's-**. [f. YARD *sb.*[2] 5 + ARM *sb.*[1] 8 a.] Either of the two ends of a yard; *esp.* that part of either end which is outside the sheave-hole. Often used for the yard as a whole.

1513, etc. [see b]. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Sept., It being a place just wide enough, and not so much hardly, for ships to go through to it, the yard-armes sticking in the very rocks. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 506/2 So near as to be almost on board each other, our yard-arms very near touching here. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* vi, Aloft there! lie out, you Perkins, and reeve a whip on the starboard yard-arm. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 609 The vast wood of masts and yardarms below London Bridge.

b. In reference to hanging or ducking a person from the extremity of a yard as a punishment.

1553 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 266 For pickerie ducked at the yardes arme, and so discharged. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. x. 44 b, [He had] three stroppadoes at the yardes arme of the gally. 1587 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* B 7, They are duck'd from the yeard arme of State, into the deep sea of disgrace. 1746 *Brit. Mag.* 48, I..shall go near to complement you with the Ceremony of the Yard-arm. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* IV. xi. (1803) IV. 235 He ordered the two Turks..to be hanged at the yard's arm. 1870 THORNBURY *Tour rd. Eng.* I. lx. 188 It was the time of hard fighting,..and frequent stringing up at the yard-arm. 1887 *Times* 12 Aug. 13/2 The improbability of seeing them..in their proper place at the yard-arm of one of Her Majesty's ships.

c. advb. phr. *yard-arm and* (or *to*) *yard-arm*, said of two ships so near to one another that their yard-arms touch or cross. Also *yard-arm to* or *with* (another ship).

1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 60/1 The Saphire and Success..bore in among them, laying yard-arm to yard-arm with the Admiral and Vice-Admiral. 1697 *Ibid.* 3288/2 They lay Yards-Arm and Yards-Arm for 5 Glasses. 1739 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 62/1 The second lieutenant then came upon deck, and fought the ship bravely, yard-arm and yard-arm. 1781 *Log of Albemarle* 30 Oct. in NICOLAS *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. iii, Finding the Albemarle yard-arm with them they submitted. 1867 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of S.* xlvii, The old English (and French) method of laying himself yardarm to the enemy, and boarding him suddenly. 1887 BESANT *The World went* etc. vi, An engagement, yard-arm to yard-arm, with a Frenchman.

transf. 1802 THORNBURY *Turner* I. xvi. 299 To leave it [*sc.* a picture by Turner] to the nation on condition of its being hung yard-arm and yard-arm with Claude.

d. *attrib.*

c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 18 The goose neck or yard arm iron. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Yard-arm cleats*, wooden wedges fixed on the yards at those points where they support the lifts and braces. *Ibid., Yard-arm piece*, an octagonal piece of timber supplied to replace a yard-arm if shot away. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 68 The yard-arm men get hold of the head-earrings.

Hence **Yard-arm** *v. nonce-wd.* (*a*) *yard-arm and yard-arm* (*intr.*), to be yard-arm and yard-arm; (*b*) *trans.* to hang (a person) from the yard-arm.

1840 THACKERAY *George Cruikshank* Wks. 1900 XIII. 312 They are yard-arm and yard-arming, athwart-hawsing, marlinspiking,..as honest seamen invariably do, in novels. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* (U. S.) XXVI. 409/2, I wish to God you'd been yard armed ten years back!

Ya·rded, *ppl. a.* [f. YARD *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2] + -ED.]

1. Furnished with a yard or yards.

1634 T. W[EAVER] *Songs & Poems of Love & Drollery* 42 How you are yarded both in flesh and Land Is all on which they stand.

2. (See YARD *v.*[2] 1.)

† **Ya·rdel.** *Obs. rare.* A yard-measure.

1804 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 492, I am glad you..disdain measuring lines like linen by a yardel.

† **Yardhove.** *Obs.* In 5 **yerdhoue.** [f. YARD *sb.*[1] + HOVE *sb.*[1] *Cf.* TUNHOOF.] prob. Ground Ivy (*Nepeta Glechoma*).

c 1430 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 221 *Herbe pro balneis.* Tak yerdhoue [etc.]. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 991 The makyng of a bathe medicinable. Holy hokke & yardebok [? *error for* yardehof].

Ya·rding, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. YARD *v.*[1] + -ING 1.]

1. *concr.* (See quot.) *U. S.*

1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 315 *Summer yarding*, stuff carted into the yard, and trodden by the cattle, for manure.

2. Storage in a yard.

1865 GRANDY *Timber Importer's Guide* 129 Market value of bricks,..allowing for..expenses of yarding, &c. 1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 149/2 The freight and yarding charges.

3. (See YARD *v.*[1] 1.) *Colonial.*

1898 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Rem. Canvas Town* 97 The same process of yarding-up, catching, and cropping proceeds.

Yarding, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see YARD *v.*[2]

Yardland (yā·rdlænd). Forms: see YARD *sb.*[2] and LAND *sb.*; also 5 *Sc.* **yertland.** [= *yard of land*, OE. *gyrd landes*: see YARD *sb.*[2] 10 a.]

1. = YARD *sb.*[2] 10 a.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 205 [She] 3af & confermyd þe same 3erdelonde þat reynolde of halso 3af to mynchons of Godestow. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 619 *Virgata*, a yerdlond. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 526/2 A Mese, a Yerdland, 112 Acres of Medowe. 1496 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 492/1 Aliam peciam terre prope australem partem dicti tenementi inter le yertland ejusdem et terram quond. dicti Nich. 1527 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 263, I bequeth to Robert my sone fforethers hous with the yarde londe. 1587 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 17 John Selby..was seased of a Mese a close and di. yeerd land with thappourtenaunces. 1588 in Phillipps *Wills* (*c* 1830) 199 A hous with on yeardland, lyging in Blokilley. 1588 *Stamford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* Apr. (1888) 172 Rec. of parisheoners by the yard lands towards the bell. 1592–3 *Act 35 Eliz.* c. 7 § 8 Everie person havinge One Yarde Lande or more in his Possession lying w^th^in the sayde Fyve Miles [of Oxford]. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 97 How are the tenants stinted, whether by the yard-land, plow-land, oxegang, acres or rent. 1624 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 15) I. 17, 30 acres ordinarily make a yard-land. 1718 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5487/4 A Messuage, Close, and half a Yard Land. 1720 KENNETT *Monitions & Advices* 11. 55 The same worthy Benefactor gave another half yard Land unto the poor People of the Parish of Blaxley. 1740 in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. I. 244/2 The said Mr. Cooper hath lett to the said John Weston..part of an Estate in Huggle-cote, in the name of one Yard Land with Common for the said Yard Land. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 14 The tenantry yard-lands (or customary tenements) which are still subject to rights of common. *Ibid.* 15 There are many instances where a yard-land of about £20 per annum, contains about two acres of meadow land, eighteen acres of arable..., and a right on the common fields..for perhaps forty sheep. 1883 SEEBOHM *Engl. Vill. Comm.* v. 164 The yard-land was the normal holding of the *gebur* or *villanus*.

2. Incorrectly used for YARD *sb.*[2] 10 b.

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* K vij, A rodde of lande, whiche some call a roode, some a yarde londe. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 67 A Rood is somtime called..a Yardland, but..very corruptly, for a Yardland containeth much more than an Acre.

Yardman[1] (yā·rdmæn). [YARD *sb.*[1]] A man who has charge of, or is employed in, a yard, e. g. a farm-yard, builder's yard, stable-yard, railway-yard, etc.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Yard-man*, the hind who has the particular care of the farm-yard, and of the cattle fed there. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yard-man*, a manager or overlooker in a builder's yard. 1864 *Social Sci. Rev.* 406 The payment of washers, ostlers, and harness cleaners who are all classed together as yard-men is ordinarily divided between the cab-owners and the drivers. 1876 *Belfast Newsletter* 22 Nov. 3/3 Yardman wanted..in the neighbourhood of Belfast; would be required to clean boots, &c., and make himself generally useful. 1903 *Hull & East Yorksh. Times* 28 Feb. 1/2 Yardman Wanted,..must be good milker.

Ya·rdman[2]. *Naut.* [YARD *sb.*[2]] In *royal yardman, upper yardman*, etc., a sailor occupied on the royal yards, the upper yards, etc.

1886 ALBERT VICTOR & GEORGE *Cruise H.M.S. Bacchante* I. 351 He was a smart royal yardman. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 27 June 815/1 An unfortunate upper yardman made some blunder aloft.

Ya·rd-mea·sure. [f. YARD *sb.*[2] + MEASURE *sb.*] A rod, bar, or tape for measuring by the yard (but not necessarily restricted to that length).

1832–4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* (1838) 192 A silk yard-measure in a walnut-shell. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* ii, I..looked..at the little bit of wax-candle she kept for her thread—..at the little house with a thatched roof, where the yard-measure lived; at her work-box with a sliding lid.

Ya·rd-rope. *Naut.* [f. YARD *sb.*[2] + ROPE *sb.*[1]]

† a. (*pl.*) The permanent rigging of a yard.

1336–7 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 4 (P.R O.) In vilj. petris cord' de canabo .pro duobus yerderopes inde faciendis. 1356 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III*, m. 34/2, xlvij. trusseropes, xxv. yarderopes, xiiij. Wyndyngropes, ij. Cranelynes. 1420 in *For. Acc. 3 Hen. VI*, I, De..ij Tripgetropes ij. Trusses pro 3erdrope. 1487 *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 68 Yerd ropes for the top.

b. (See quot. 1867.)

1850 J. S. CARDEN *Curtail'd Mem.* iii. (1912) 89 The intended Victim was on the Forecastle, the Yard Rope from the Fore Yard rove round his neck, The Yard Rope Man'd. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Yard-rope*,..that by which a yard is hoisted for crossing, or sent down. Also, rove for

Yardsman (yā·rdzmæn). [f. gen. of YARD *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]] = YARDMAN 1.

1872 *Daily News* 1 Aug., The Guardians of Mile-End Old Town require, for their industrial schools,..a..man..as Yardsman. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 79/2 The servant was *bonâ fide* employed by the defendant as yardsman and labourer. 1888 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 5/4 A yardsman who saw the approaching train shouted to the guard.

So **Ya·rdswoman.**

1817 in A. J. C. Hare *The Gurneys of Earlham* (1895) I. 282, I was conducted by..the newly appointed yards-woman, to the door of a ward. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 1/6 Holborn Union...The Guardians of the above Union require a Girls' Yardswoman at the Schools, Mitcham, Surrey.

Yard-wand. [f. YARD *sb.*[2] + WAND *sb.*] A three-foot rod for measuring. Also *fig.*

14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 61, j yerde waande, and weghttes. 1586 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 321 The yerdwand was not a lawfull yerdwand. 1624 CORNWALLIS in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 165 Whom [*sc.* his daughter] had he measured by the yard-wand of the world he might perhaps have bestowed upon one of the greatest Monarchs in Christendom. 1652 CLEVELAND *Poems* 26 And were't not pity But both should serve the yardwand of the city? 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 453 He is sure to be..a mere yard-wand of Nature, and marked with as much brass as the implement he uses to measure frippery with. 1850 DENISON *Cloch & Watch-m.* 7 If all our yard-wands and other measures were burnt. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. i. xiii, That the smooth-faced snubnosed rogue would leap from his counter and till, And strike, if he could, were it but with his cheating yardwand, home.

Yare (yēəɹ), *a. arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 **ʒearo, ʒearu, ʒearwe, -ow-, -uw-**, 2–3 **ʒaru**, 3 **ʒareou, -ew, -ue, -ow, ʒearwe, ʒaru, -ew, ʒeruh**, *pl.* **ʒarre**, 3–4 **ʒar**, 3–5 **ʒare**, 4 **yarwe, ʒeare**, *Sc.* **ʒair, yhar**, (4–5 **yore, ʒere, yere**), 5 **yar, youre**, 6 *Sc.* **ʒor(e, ʒoir, yoir**, 3– **yare.** [OE. *gearu, -o*, = OS. *garu*, MDu. **gare* (Du. *gaar* done, dressed), OHG. *garo, garaw-* ready, prepared, complete (MHG. *gâre, gær, gar(e)w-*), ON. *gorr* ready made, prompt, skilled (see GARE *a.*); prob. a compound of O Teut. **ga-* Y- prefix and **arw-*, represented by OE. *earu* ready (? in Exodus 339 for MS. *gearu*), OS. *aru* (MS. pl. *aroa*) ready (for reaping), ON. *orr* ready, liberal-handed, in neut. *ort* advb. quite, OE. *earwunga*, (late Northumb.) *arwunge* gratis, freely, and perhaps Goth. *arwjô*, OHG. *arawûn* in vain.]

1. Ready, prepared. a. of persons: const. *to* with sb. or inf.

Beowulf 211 (Gr.) Beornas ʒearwe on stefn stigon. *c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxvi. § 6 Ic hæbbe nu ongiten þæt ðu eart ʒearo to ongitanne minra lara. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 234 (Gr.) He was..ʒearo ʒuðe. *c* 1205 LAY. 9457 Weoren alle þa cnihtes ʒærewe [*c* 1275 ʒar] to þon filite. *Ibid.* 22278 We beoð alle ʒarewe [*c* 1275 ʒarue] To ganne & to ride. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2334 Ich am ʒarow to al þe wa þet tu const me ʒarkin. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* 132 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 197 ʒif he is to bote ʒeruh and bit þe uorʒiuenesse. 13.. *Coer de L.* 343 Sytlle he hovyd and bode yore; To them he thought to ryde more. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 346 On athir syd thus war thai ylkar, And thai assemble all redy war. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* vii. 30 To offyr loke þat ye be yore [*rime* nomore]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 704, I am redy and yare, go we in fere To that bright. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 143 And so the second may be yare and ready, to take his cue and turne of the former. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 61, I hope, if you haue occasion to vse me for your owne turne, you shall finde me yare.

b. of things; in later use, (of implements) ready for use.

7783 þe tur wes al ʒaru. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 His merci is hire euer ʒeruh. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 378 ʒif hundes urneþ to him ward He..hokeþ paþes aviþe narewe & hauek mid him his blenches ʒarewe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 895 Mi dere gode damisele my deþ is al ʒare. *Ibid.* 2729 þe werwolf waited wiʒtly which schip was ʒarest, to fare forþ at þat flod. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 90 Afterward came his brother..And seide to gamelyn is oure mete ʒare? *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 59 To see that..everie souldier [should have] his furniture as yare and fine as might be. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Grom.* viii. 35 The Corporall is to..see..the souldiers..keepe their armes cleane, neat, and yare. 1632 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* (ed. 4) I. xi. 78 You shall obserue that all your Tooles, Lines, or Implements be (as the Sea-man sayth) yare, fit, and ready. 1799 SCOTT *Covenanter's Fate* xxxiii, At each pommel there, for battle yare, A Jedwood axe was slung. 1808 — *Marmion* I. ix, The gunner held his linstock yare.

c. *To make yare*: to make ready, get ready, prepare (also *refl.*).

c 1290 *Beket* 821 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 Þare-fore make þe ʒare i-nov þine a-counte to ʒelde. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1185 The knyght it takes withouten let, Dyghtes hym, and made hym yare. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2270 *Philomela*, This Therius let make hise shepis ʒare And in-to grece hymself is forth I-fare. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 221, I shall found to make me yare. 1865 TOM TAYLOR *Ball. of Brittany, Bran* II, To-night make me a good ship yare.

2. Alert, nimble, active, brisk, quick.

13.. *Coer de L.* 6751 The Sarasynes fledde..; In there herte they were soo yarwe, Alle here yates they thought too sarwe. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 114 Thys legat was youre aboute, pees to make betwene the kynge & John. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 18 in *Macro Plays* 77 God hym ʒeuyth to anngelis Ful ʒep & ful ʒare. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 131 A halter'd necke, which do's the Hangman thanke, For being yare about him. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid.*

Yng. Seamen 18 Be yare at the helme. 1698 VANBRUGH *Short Vind* 27, I believe, had the Obscenity he has routed up here, been buried as deep in his Church-yard, the Yarest Boar in his Parish wou'd hardly have tost up his Snout at it. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 12 It's the Trick of a Hound to be yare at Hares only. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 253 Like a right yare steersman. 1869 *Athenæum* 28 Aug. 284/2 *Yare*, which is still current in Norfolk, and is pronounced yar, = brisk, active, lively.

b. Of a ship: Moving lightly and easily; answering readily to the helm; easily manageable.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 237 The wynd was good, the Schip was yare. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 231 The Persian gallies, being high cargged, heauy, and not yare of steredge. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vii. 39 Their shippes are yare, yours heauy. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 224 Our Ship..Is tyte, and yare. *a* 1642 Sir W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 357/1 She is Roomsom for her Men, and yare to run too and again in. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 749 Caesars ships being more yare, and ready for any needs of service. 1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 177 Vluzzali..commanded 25 of his yarer gallies..to assault our right Wing.

3. *Comb.*, as *yare-handed*; †**yare-witel**, quick-witted.

[*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. ii, Se geonga wæs geworden hale lichaman..& gearowyrde on gesprǽce.] *c* 1205 LAY. 3028 Heo was alre ȝungest Of soðe ȝar witelest. *Ibid.* 3639 Þa cnihtes weoren wise & ful ȝere witele. 1728 W. BETAGH *Voy. rd. World* 26 Don Pedro..took care however to be very officious or yare handed (as we say) with his present.

Yare, *adv. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeara, ȝeare, ȝearo, ȝere, 2–4 ȝeare, 3 ȝære, 3–5 ȝare, 4 ȝaire, ȝhare, ȝar, yaar(e, yarre, 4–5 yhare, (4–6 ȝore, 5 yore, yere), 5–6 *Sc.* ȝair, (6 ȝoir, ȝor), 4–7 (9 *arch.*) yare. [OE. *geara*, *-o*, *-e*, also *gear(e)we*, *-uwe*, corresp. to OS. *garo* (Du. *gaar*), OHG. *garo*, also *garawo* (MHG. *gare*, *gar*, also *garwe*, G. *gar*) completely, quite, ON. *g(j)orva*, *gerva* quite, clearly, plainly; adv. of *gearu*, etc.: see YARE *a.*]

†1. Quickly, without delay, promptly, immediately, soon. (Often used vaguely, esp. in *full yare*, as a riming tag.) *Obs.*

ni3es gor

a 1300 *K. Horn* 407 (Cambr. MS.) Apelbrus..tolde him ful ȝare Hu he hadde i-fare. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2837 'Haste,' he said, 'þan þeder ȝaar, For i do noght til þou come þar'. *Ibid.* 5225 Þan was Iacob busked yare, Wit al þe gynge þat wit him ware. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 696 And by the mole thai passyt ȝar, And entryt sone in-to the rase. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 1320 The emperoure of Rome was there, The kynges of Pervens and of Calabere yare, And other two or thre. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3536 The ermyte Answeryd swythe yare. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (C.) 5944 And

has set wp in memor. *Ibid.* II. xi. 21 Send we thi help als ȝoir, And conferme all thir takinnis sene befoir.

† b. Nimbly, briskly. *Obs. rare.*

1628 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Merrie Wherrie-Ferry-Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 8/1 Though it [*sc.* a tongue] continuall toyl'd, And went as yare, as if it had bin Oyl'd.

c. As exclamation: = Quick! esp. in nautical use. *arch.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 286 Yare, yare, good Iras; quicke: Me thinkes I heare Anthony call. 1610 — *Temp.* I. i. 7 Cheerely, cheerely my harts: yare, yare: Take in the toppe-sale. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* III. vii. 204 Yare, yare! Lord sauff us! Here they come! What's to be our fate? Keep close for a wee while. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* IX. 241 Yare!—for the ebb runs strongly towards the sea.

†2. Well, thoroughly; (often with *know*, etc.) certainly, plainly, without doubt. (Often used vaguely as in 1.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 2656 (Gr.) Ic wat ȝeare þæt næron ealdgewyrht þæt [etc.]. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 109 God of gode ȝearo scænned sunu soþan fæder. *a* 1000 *Boeth Metr.* ix. 9 He het him to gamene ȝeara forbærnan Romana burig. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xx. 6 Hi wiston ȝere þæt iohannes wæs witega. *c* 1205 LAY. 18816 Ah ful ȝare ich hit wiste. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 834 Þe þryde tyme is þer-to ful mete In apokalypce wryten ful ȝare. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 4866 (Trin.) Gode men, he seide, ȝe shal fare, But of oure kyng I warn ȝou ȝare. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 641 Se that thow leiv thame not, bot ȝeme thame full ȝair. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 97 Now quha was blyth bot Menestheus, full ȝore?

†**Yare**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝearwian, 3 ȝ(e)arwen, ȝ'erwen, ȝarewen, 3–5 ȝare, 4 ȝhare, yare. [OE. *gearwian*, f. *gearu* YARE *a.*

Cf. OE. *gierwan*, OS. *garuwian*, *garuwenn*, MDu. *gherwen*, *garwen*, *gerwen*, OHG. *garawen* (MHG., G. *gerben*, *gärben*), ON. *ger(v)a*, *gjer(v)a*, *gøra* (see GAR *v.*).]

trans. To make or get ready, to prepare.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. ¶ 13 Se hata sumor dryȝð & ȝearwað sæd & bleda. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke i. 76 Þu ȝæst beforan drihtnes ansyne his weȝas ȝearwian. *c* 1205 LAY. 220 He makede ane heȝe burh..Þa burh wes wel ȝarwed [*c* 1275 ȝarket]. *Ibid.* 29834 Bruchinal..ȝarewede his ferde. *a* 1300 *St. Gregory* 1178 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 71 Whan þe nyȝt was al a gone a bote þe fissehere he gan ȝare. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 58 Þe kyng ȝared his folk, on haste alle þat he myght.

refl. c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 25 Hu ge eowic ȝearwiȝe. *c* 1205 LAY. 7473 ȝarewieð eow to fihte. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 90 He ȝared him to bataile. *a* —— *Alexander* 4866 Þan ȝaris he him ȝapely & a-ȝayne tarnes.

Yare, var. YAIR; obs. f. YORE.

Yare, y'are, abbreviation of *ye are*.

1627 HEYWOOD *Fayre Mayde Exch.* I 3 b, Welcome M. Golding yare very welcome sir.

Yarely (yēˑəli), *adv. arch.* Forms: 5 ȝarely, ȝarle, -ly, 6 yeerlie, 7–9 yarely. [OE. *gearolice*: see YARE *a.* and -LY 2, and cf. OS. *garolîko*, OHG. *garalîhho* (MHG. *garlîche*).] Quickly, promptly; nimbly, briskly; †diligently; = YARE *adv.* in various senses.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 288 Ic þæt ȝearolice engiten hæbbe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1035 Outhire macches ȝow maynly þerto..Or ȝefes ȝarely vp þe ȝerde & ȝeld me þe cite. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 144 Actes iawles to doo without feare, how yeerlie togither they band. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 216 The Silken Tackle, Swell with the touches of those Flower-soft hands, That yarely frame the office. 1610 — *Temp.* I. i. 4 Fall too't, yarely, or we run our selues a ground. 1627 J. SMITH in J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* A 8, This new Fleete runnes ouer Seas and Lands, And 'a now so victua'ld, rigd and yarely plyes. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* v. i. (1671) 77 Come yarely my mates, every man to his share of the burthen. *a* 1682 T. RAYMOND *Autobiog.* (Camden 1917) 89 In London great out-cryes about this tyme [*c* 1631] against shom [*sic*] whoe they called Arminyians as if shom of that opinion intended yarely to introduce Poperie. 1812 W. TENNANT *Auster F.* IV. lx, Till ..The younker Curtius..Down headlong yarely gallop'd, horse and all. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 186 The Count ..kept plunging, yarely, through the ranks. [1827 LD. TENNYSON *Tennyson* II. 133 *note*, He revived many fine old words which had fallen into disuse: and I heard him regret that he had never employed the word 'yarely'.]

‖ **Yari-yari** (yäˑriˌyäˑri). [Native name.] Name in Guiana for the wood of *Duguetia quitarensis*, also called *lance-wood*.

1858 HOOD *Veg. Kingd.* 87. 1866 *List* in Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 144 A piece of tough wood from the Yari-yari tree.

†**Yark**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝearcian, 2 ȝearceon, ȝeirke, 2–5 ȝarke, 3 ȝarrkenn (*Orm.*), ȝearkien, ȝarki, -i(e)n, ȝærek-, ȝarekien, ȝerke, 4 yark. [OE. *gearcian*, f. *gearu* YARE *a.* with factitive suffix as in *ieldcian* to delay, f. *ald* old.] *trans.* (and *refl.*) To make ready, prepare.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xix. 3 He þa ȝearcode him ȝereord and hiz æton. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1091 (Laud MS.) Þa ȝearcode he his fare & to Englelande com. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 He haueð us iȝarket þa ecche blisse ȝif we wulleð hit iernien in heuene riche. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9131 Forr þatt he wollde ȝarrkenn hemm Onnȝæness Cristess come. *c* 1205 LAY. 23275 ȝarkieð hi þan fiode Mine scipen gode. *a* 1225 (see YARE *a.* 1). *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8856 Was neuer man born þat cuth wirc Ne yark aulik a-noþer kirc. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 80 He þat ȝiueth, ȝeldeth and ȝarketh hym to reste. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 882 He forȝet not, but ȝepely ȝarkit hym ȝerfore. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6070 His men he ȝarked Euerychon vnto that fyght. 1708 KERSEY, To *Yark*, (N[orth] C[ountry]) to prepare.

b. To put in a position; to set, place. *Yark to*, to shut; *yark up*, to open. Also *fig.*, *pass.* and *instr.*, to pass *into* a state.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 820 Þay ȝolden hym þe brode ȝate, ȝarked vp wyde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 414 Yong men ȝepely yarke into Elde. *Ibid.* 5595 Now is ȝepely a yere yarket to end. *Ibid.* 6081 For to ȝarpe [*sic*] vp the ȝate he ȝepely comaund. *Ibid.* 10738 Þal ȝarkit to þe yatis ȝepely onon. *Ibid.* 11265 Þai kepyn the cloyse of this clene burgh, With ȝep men at þe yatis ȝarkit full þik.

c. To ordain, decree, appoint; to grant, bestow.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8982 Hard it es, þe wird o sin þat yarked was til adam kin! 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 758 ȝif þou ȝernes hit, ȝet ȝark I hem grace. *a* 1400 *Emare* 309 Such sorow was here ȝarked ȝore.

Hence † **Ya'rking** *vbl. sb.*, preparation.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) second ix. 20 [x. 17] ȝearcunge heortan [Vulg. *preparationem cordis*]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10800 Itt [*sc.* John's baptism] wass ȝarrkinng ȝæn fullubht þatt Crist sellf shollde settenn.

Yark: see YERK.

‖ **Yarke, -kee** (yäˑrki). [Native name.] A South American monkey of the genus *Pithecia*, esp. the white-headed saki, *P. leucocephala*.

1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 48 *Simia pithecia*, L. (The Yarke.) Blackish; circumference of the face whitish. 1855 DALTON *Brit. Guiana* II. 449 The yarkee is the name given by some to the white-faced Saki.

† **Ya'rken**, *v. Obs.* [f. YARK *v.* + -EN 5.] *trans.* To prepare.

c 1205 LAY. 7384 Leteð ȝarkni [*c* 1275 ȝarki] mine scipen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3240 Hold up din ȝerde to ðe se And del it so on sundri del, Dat ȝu ben ȝarknede weines wel. 14.. *Chaucer's Rom. Rose* (MS.) 716 Layes of loue ful wel sownyng They songen in their ȝarkonyng [*ed. Thynne* 1532 iargoning; Fr. *en lor serventois*, v. r. *en son patois*].

Yarl: see JARL.

Yarly, obs. Sc. form of EARLY *adv.*

Yarm (yām), *sb.* Now *dial.* [Goes with next.] A discordant outcry; a scream, yell.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 972 Such a ȝomerly ȝarm of ȝellyng þer rysed. 1898 *Shetl. News* 26 Mar. (E.D.D.) Da yarms an' spittin' o' da cat.

Yarm (yām), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 4 ȝerme, 9 yerm, yirm. [OE. **giermian*, *gyrman*.] *intr.* To utter a discordant or mournful cry; to scream, yell, howl; to wail.

c 1200 *Lambeth Ps.* xxxvii. 9 Ic ȝyrmde for ȝeomrunge heortan minre. 13.. *S. Cristofer* 119 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 436 Þe feonde ȝygann to crye & ȝarme. ¶ *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3911 Thas che ȝermys and ȝellis at ȝorke in hir chambire. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4745 Vmquile he noyes as a nowte as a nox quen he lawes, ȝarmand & ȝarand.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 178 In hels ablaze: Where they may yaule and yarme til that they burst. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Curse ye Meroz* 26 A Holder-forth may Yawle and Yarne [*sic*]..till his Lungs..also. 1808 JAMIESON, *To yirm*, to whine, to complain; also, to ask in a querulous tone; implying the idea of continuation. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yarm*, *Yawm*, to shriek or yell. *a* 1835 HOGG *Mistrels Warning* xxii, They yermit and fiaitte a summer's day.

† **Y-armed**, *pa. pple.* [Y- 4, ARM *v.*] Armed. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4322 Eight hundred salpes..Vol of saracens yarmed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Godes knyȝtes, þet þe holy gost heþ y-dobbed and y-armed. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6976 He nas yarmed nother lym ne lyth. 1496 LYDG. *Dis Guil. Pilgr.* 7810 Hys handys wern yarmyd wel.

Yarmouth (yäˑməþ). Name of a fishing town on the coast of Norfolk: used *attrib.* in *Yarmouth bloater* (also *transf.* a native of Yarmouth), † *capon*, †*coach* (see quots.), *herring*. Hence **Yarmouthian** (yaːmuˑþiăn), *a.* belonging to Yarmouth; *sb.* an inhabitant of Yarmouth.

1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way* 13 The Hollanders be very welcome guests vnto the Yermothian Herring-buyers. *Ibid.* 26 These Hollanders be Hosted with the Layestof men, as they be with the Yermothians. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) II. 248 A Yarmouth Capon. That is a red-herring. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Yarmouth-Coach*, a sorry low Cart to ride on, drawn by one Horse. *Yarmouth Pie*, made of Herrings, highly Spic'd, and Presented by the City of Norwich (upon the forfeiture of their Charter) annually to the King. 1732 *MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 153 These machines, which now in merriment are called Yarmouth coaches... They are something of the nature of a sledge, as at Bristol, with one horse. 1832 Yarmouth bloaters (see BLOATER). 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* iii, Peggotty said.. that..she was proud to call herself a Yarmouth Bloater. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Yarmouth herring-boat*, a clincher-built vessel with lug-sails, similar to the drift or mackerel boats.

Yarn (yān), *sb.* Forms: ȝearn, 4 ȝern, iern, yaarn, 4–6 yern(e, 5 ȝarn(e, ȝieren, yeern, 5–7 yarne, 6 yaren, yarone, yeryn, yorne, 6–7 yearne, 7 yearn, 5– yarn. [OE. *gearn* str. n. = WFris. *jern*, NFris. *jaarn*, *jaarn*, MDu. *gaern*, *gar(e)n* (Du. *garen*), OHG., MHG., G. *garn* yarn, †net, ON. (Sw., Da.) *garn* (whence GARN *sb.*); app. f. the root represented also by **garnō* in ON. *gorn*, pl. *garnar* guts, and **garnjo-* in OE. *micgarn*, OS. *midgarni*, OHG. *mittigarni* MIDGERN (= entrail-fat, suet), and related (outside Teutonic) to Lith. *ìdrna* intestine, L. *hariolus* soothsayer, *haruspex* one who divined the future from an inspection of the entrails of victims, Gr. χορδή intestine (CHORD). (Cf., moreover, Skr. *hirā* vein, L. *hīra* empty gut, *hillæ*:— **hirl-* smaller intestines.)]

1. Originally, spun fibre, as of cotton, silk, wool, flax; now, usually, fibre spun and prepared for use in weaving, knitting, the manufacture of sewing-thread, etc.

Also with qualification, as *cotton*, *linen*, *woollen yarn*.

c 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 238/27 *Filatum*, ȝearn. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* Ibid. 187/30 *Glomus*, unwunden ȝearn. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 A klewe of yarn. *Ibid.*, Do my yaarn on the reel. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 353/1 Tout maner de ȝern. 1392 in W. Hudson *Leet Jurisd. Norwich* (1890) 75, x hespys de Irlond-yern pretii iiij*l.* d. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46 Item dimidium þe ȝieren and wolle that is in this house. 1532–3 *Act 3 Hen. VIII.* c. 6 § 1 The carder and Spynner to delyver agayn to the same Clothier yerne of the same Woll. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VII. 47 Good Marchandis at Lyrpole, and moch Yrisch Yarn that Manchester Men do by ther. 1552–3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Stafford* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 6 On cope of whitte & blewe yorne. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. iii. 93 You would be another Penelope: yet they say, all the yearne she spun in Vlisses absence, did but fill Athica full of Mothes. 1748 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 28 We had about eighty Score of Yarn stole out of garth. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 53 Well-tann'd hides,..With here and there a tuft of crimson yarn..in the cushion fixt. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 707 The manufacturers obtain the finer sorts of yarn chiefly from Yorkshire and Ireland. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii, A long stocking of mixed blue and white yarn.

fig. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 84 The webbe of our life, is of a mingled yarne, good and ill together. 1852–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1862 IX. 32 In the mingled yarn of human life.

transf. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 56 Eggs, from which emerge..bodies enveloped in a soft plush of grey yarn.

b. *collect. sing.* put for fishermen's nets. *dial.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xvii. 20, I wil cast my net aboute him, and catch him in my yarne. — *Hab.* I. 15 They take vp all with their angle, they catch it in their net, & gather it in their yarne [Luther *Garn*]. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Yarn*, 'Take the yarn', said of herrings when they strike the net.

c. In *Rope-making*, one of the threads of which a strand of rope is composed (= ROPE-YARN 1), or these threads collectively.

1627 [see SPUN-YARN 2]. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 59 *Yarn*, called twenty-five, twenty, and eighteen thread yarn, differs only in the fineness; the twenty-five being finer than the twenty. 1831–2 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 753 The first part of the process of rope-making is that of spinning the yarn or threads. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 28, 18-yarn spunyarn. *Ibid.* 51 If it is for boltrope 3 inches in circumference, each strand will have 30 yarns.

2. *To spin a yarn* (*fig.*, orig. *Naut. slang*), to tell

a story (usually a long one); also, 'to pitch a tale'. Hence *yarn* = a (long) story or tale: sometimes implying one of a marvellous or incredible kind; also, a mere tale. *colloq.*

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., *Yarning or spinning a yarn*, signifying to relate their various adventures, exploits, and escapes to each other. 1835 Marryat *Jacob Faithful* ix, Come, spin us a good yarn, father. 1835 — *Pacha of Many T.* xvii, 'You must tell lies, and you will have gold.' 'Tell lies! that is, spin a yarn; well, I can do that.' 1837–42 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. vi. 97 Like uncle Parker,.. I am a spinner of long yarns. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 162 Catch them spinning any of their yarns to me. 1897 Hall Caine in *Humanitarian* XI. 234 What I mean is that without motive a story is not a novel, but only a yarn. 1903 *Dublin Rev.* July 131 All further developments of these traditions were mere 'yarns'.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *yarn ball, hose, -man, rope, scales, spindle, stockings, thread, twine; yarn-buyer, -factoring, -jobber, manufacture, -manufacturer, -seller*; (sense 2) *yarn-slinger, -teller*; **yarn-clue**, a ball of yarn; **yarn-croft** *Obs.* exc. *dial.*, a rope-yard; **yarn-dyed** *a.*, dyed while in the state of yarn or thread; **yarn-frame, -guide** (see quots.); **yarn-house**, a building in which yarns are stored; **yarn-reel** (see quot.); **yarn-roll** = Yarn-beam.

For other names of apparatus used in yarn manufacture see Knight's *Dict. Mech.*

1583 Hiorne *Jumins' Nomencl.* 203/2 *Pila paganica*,..a ball stuff with soft wooll or haire, and vsed to be tossed from hand to hand: a tossing ball: a *yarne ball. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 11 The angle-sighted *yarn-buyer. 1822 Scott *Monast.* xxxiii. (*Old Play*), Like to the *yarn-clew of the drowsy knitter, Dragg'd by the frolic kitten through the cabin. 1634–5 Berkeley *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 11 A dainty quay here is, and many *yarne-crofts here about. 1885 Hummel *Dyeing Textile Fabrics* 289 If in any dyed woollen fabric..the dyeing took place while it was in the state of thread or yarn, it is said to be *yarn-dyed. 1841 Lever *O'Malley* xxviii, A race of linen-weaving, Presbyterian-*yarn factoring fellows. 1832–3 P. Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 755/1 The yarn reels were placed individually in a stationary frame at the head of the rope-ground; and it appears that the register was to be conveyed onwards towards the *yarn frame, as the strand was twisted by the hook of a sledge, at the end where the process commenced, until the whole strand was made. *Ibid.* 756/2 The *yarn guide, or perforated plate, through which the rope yarns pass individually to concentre at the press block. 1578 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) II. 144 Eyght small women chyldren spinnyng worsted yarne, and..as many knittyng of worsted *yarne hose. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 60 After yarn is tarred, it is laid in the *yarn-house ..to harden. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5878/8 William Hill,.. *Yarne-jobber. 1627 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 168 Goodman Howes, of Bury, *yarneman. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 664/2 The whole operations in *yarn manufacture comprise (1) heckling, (2) preparing, and (3) spinning. 1783 *Specif. Patent* No. 1365. 1 Thomas Baker, of Derby..*Yarn Manufacturer. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 88 A *Yarn-reel is a circular board, nailed in the middle to a piece of oak,.. 16 inches long, and is used to wind spun-yarn on. 1832 G. R. Porter *Silk Manuf.* III. iii. 215 A weight..suspended over the *yarn-roll to produce..the requisite tension of the threads of the warp. 1534 in F. W. Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 49 A *yerynrope. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxi, The *yarn scales in the weigh-house. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4188/4 Richard Corbett, of Spittle-fields, *Yarn-seller. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang*, *Yarn-slinger*, one who writes tales in newspapers. 1820 W. Tooke tr. *Lucian* I. 736 She drawe the *yarn-spindle from her bosom. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4036/8 Blue *Yarn Stockings. 1865 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* II. 219 Knitting coarse yarn stockings. 1892 *Tablet* 7 Nov. 742 The most confirmed American *yarn-teller. 1833 J. Rennie *Alph. Angling* Pref. p. xiii, My *'yarn thread' was strong enough to twitch out the trout to the green bank where I stood. *c* 1600 J. Keymer *Dutch Fishing* (1664) 7 To make Cables and Cordage, likewise *Yarn Twine, and Thred for the makeing of Nets and Lines.

Yarn (yām), *v. colloq.* [f. prec. (sense 2).] *intr.* To 'spin a yarn', tell a story. Hence **Ya·rning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1812 [see Yarn *sb.* 2]. 1849 Cuppies *Green Hand* I, Somehow or another I was al'ays a yarning sort of a customer. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, The head man of that there gang is ..a-sitting yarning with your boss. 1880 *19th Cent.* No. 38. 655 So we talked and yarned till I grew sleepy and dosed off. 1888 W. Clark Russell *Death Ship* vii, We speedily fell to yarning.

Yarn: see Earn *v.*[1], Yearn *v.*, Yern.

Yarn-beam. *Weaving.* [Cf. G. *garnbaum.*] The roller on which the yarn is wound.

1398 Florio, *Subbio*,..the roule whereon the weauer rouleth vp his web or worke, called a yarne-beame. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 835/2 The cane-roll or yarn-beam, on which the warp is rolled when put into the loom. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* i. 40 The yarn-beam is capable of revolving on its axis.

Hence **Yarn-beaming** *a.*

1874 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Yarn-beaming Machine*, a machine for winding the warp-yarn on to the beam.

†**Yarn-chopper.** *Obs.* [f. Yarn *sb.* + Chopper [2].] A dealer in yarn.

Also in various corrupt forms in Law Dicts., etc.: see Journ-chopper.

1429 *Act 8 Hen. VI*, c. 5 Les regratours du file appelles Yernchoppers.

†**Yarndle.** *dial. Obs.* Shortened form of Yarnwindle.

1682 Martindale *Country-Surv.-Bk.* x. 69 Those things which here in Cheshire we call Yarndles, being used by Country Housewives in winding of their Yarn.

Yarned (yāmd), *a.* [f. Yarn *sb.* + -ed [2].] Furnished with yarn.

1543 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. ii. 16 Five spindles yarnd.

†**Yarnen,** *a. Obs.* [f. Yarn *sb.* + -en [4].] Made of yarn.

1588 Turberv. *Trag. T., Epit.* etc. (1587) 190 b, A paire of yornen [*v.r.* yarnen] stockes to keepe the cold away.

Ya·rnets, -its. *Sc.* [Of obscure formation.] = Yarnwindle.

1808 Jamieson, *Yarnets*, an instrument for winding yarn. 1842 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. iv. 94 The auld yarn wan ta'en awa', To the yarnits niest, to lay an' twist.

Yarn-spinner. [f. Yarn *sb.* + Spinner.]

1. A workman who spins yarn.

1813 *Examiner* 1 Mar. 137/2 T. Kemp, Knaresborough, yarn-spinner. 1895 *Daily News* 10 May 9/3 Yarn spinners are..very busy on old orders.

2. One who 'spins a yarn'; a story-teller. *colloq.*

1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* xxvi, 'Captain Vorse, we want a yarn—a real sailor's yarn!'..'Oh, I'm no yarn-spinner', said the young captain, evasively. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 303/2 The story was 'improved' by the marine yarn-spinners of that port.

So **Ya·rn-spinning.**

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yarn-spinning*, a figurative expression for telling a story. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 731/1 These inventions are at the foundation of all modern systems of yarn-spinning.

Yar-nut, north. dial. var. *ernut*, Earth-nut. (Cf. Gernut, Jurnut.)

1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Yar-nut*, earth nut, or pig-nut. 1908 [Miss Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 230 The earth-nut, or 'Yar nut'.

Ya·rnwind. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 **yarewind.** [OE. *gearnwinde* (= WFris. *jernwine*, NFris. *juarnwinj*, Flem. *garenwinde*, MHG., G. *garnwinde*, Icel. *garnvinda* skein of yarn), f. *gearn* Yarn *sb.* + **winde* = OHG. *winta* (G. *winde*) winder. Cf. Garnwin.] = Yarnwindle.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) R 168 *Repomile*, gearnuuinde. *c* 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 813/11 *Conductum*, gearnwinde. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Yarewinds* (yaa·r'winz)..a machine for holding yarn intended to be made into skeins or wound into balls.. The yarewinds consisted of a reel and stand. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Yarnwinds* [Shetland, Caithness].

Yarn-winder. Also 5 **yernwynder.** [In ME. an alteration of OE. *gearnwinde* or of Yarnwindle by association with *winder* (cf. Du. *garenwinder*); in mod.E. f. Yarn *sb.* + Winder.] An apparatus for winding yarn, as a yarn-reel or a yarn-spooler.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 564/31 *Appendium*,..a yernwynder, or a reel. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, Yarn-winder.

Yarnwindle (yā·rnwindl'l). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 **yar-, ȝarewyndel**, 5 **ȝarn(e wyndel, ȝarwyndyl(l, yerwyndylle**, 6 **yarne wyndell**, 9 **yarn-windle**, *Sc.* **yarn-winle.** Also Yarndle, Yarringle. [f. Yarn *sb.* + *-windle*, instrumental formation on Wind *v.*[1] (see -le [1]); cf. Yarnwind.] An appliance for winding a skein of yarn into a ball: = Garnwindle.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 A yarwyndel. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 547 *Serence lussel et wyndylleblad.* 1530 Palsgr. 291/1 Yarne wyndell, *tornette.* 1611 Cotgr., *Devidoir*, a paire of blades, or yarnwindles. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxii, Nae man willingly wad cut short his thread of life before the end o' his pirn was fairly measured off on the yarn-winles. 1821 — *Pirate* v, Speak her fair and canny, or we will have a ravelled hasp on the yarn-windles!

Yarpha (yā·rfă). *Sc. dial.* Also **yarff** (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [ON. *jarfi* (*jarva-*) gravel.] A peat-bog; peat combined with clay or sand.

1805 G. Barry *Orkney* 2 I. 10 *Yarpha*, or bog soil, whose characteristic is a black colour connected with the power of retaining moisture. *Ibid.*, In those places that are most elevated, the *yarpha* soil is most frequent. 1808 Jamieson, *Yarpha*, s. Peat full of fibres and roots, *Orkney.* 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxxv, The poor *yarph-i*, as the benighted creatures here call their peat-bogs.

Yarr (yār), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Cf. NFris. (Föhr) *jïr* spurrey.] The corn-spurrey, *Spergula arvensis.*

1775 *Essays Agric.* 435 Farmers in Scotland will take notice that this [*sc.* yarrow] is not the plant known among them by the name of *Yarr*, spurrey, *Spergula.* 1812 Souter *Agric. Banff* App. 46 Those lesser weeds that go under the common appellation of skellach, gule, yarr, &c. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 390 S[pergula] arvensis is a common weed in sandy soils, in Scotland called yarr.

Yarr, *v.*: see Yar.

‖ **Yarran** (yæ·rān). *Australia.* [Native name.] Name for several Australian species of *Acacia.*

1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* xlvi, We stopped inside a yarran scrub.

†**Yarringle.** *Obs.* Also 7 **yarwingle.** Corrupt form of *yarwindle*, Yarnwindle.

Cf. *garwyngyll* in ed. 1499 of *Promp. Parv.* (Camd. 188/1).

1611 Cotgr., *Tournette*, a Rice, or Yarwingle to wind yarne on. 1687 *Mother Shipton* 7 A pair of Yarwingles, made in the form of a Cross. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 267/2 A Pair of Yarringles with its Pins, set upon its Stock. ..This Instrument is also of great use with Housewives, by the help whereof Yarn Skippins or Hanks is wound... Some term these a Pair of Yarringles or Yarringle Blades.

Yarrow (yæ·rŏu), *sb.* Forms: 1 **gear(e)we, 5 ȝarwe, ȝarow(e, 5–6 yarowe, yarrowe, 6– yarrow.** [OE. *gearwe* = Du. *gerw* (:—**garwe*), OHG. *gar(a)wa* (G. *garbe*), of uncertain etym.] The common name of the herb *Achillea Millefolium* (N. O. *Compositæ*), also called Milfoil and Nose-bleed, frequent on roadsides, dry meadows, and waste ground, with tough greyish stem, finely-divided bipinnate leaves, and close flat clusters of flower-heads of a somewhat dull white, often varying to pink or crimson; sometimes used medicinally as a tonic. Also extended to other species of *Achillea*. **b.** Applied with defining words to plants of other genera. **Soldier's Yarrow**, *Stratiotes aloides.* **Water Yarrow**, a name for various water plants with finely divided leaves, as *Ranunculus aquatilis, Hottonia palustris*, and the genus *Myriophyllum.* (Cf. Milfoil 2.)

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) M 204 *Mirifille*, gearwe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 354 Wyl on meolcum þa readan gearwan. *c* 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 297/32 *Millefolium*, gearewe. *a* 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* Millefoly or neweblod or ȝarwe. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 721/26 *Hec millefolium*, ȝarow. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 ȝarowe, myllefoyle, herbe for nese bleders. 1503 Dunbar *Thistle & Rose* 83 Full craftely conjurit scho the Yarrow. 1546 Langley tr. *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. xvii. 32 b, Mercurie founde the vse of Moly, Achilles Yarowe, Esculapius, Panace. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ci. 142 Water Milfoyle or Yearrow. *Ibid.* 143 Knights Milfoyle: sculdiers Yerrow. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxxvi. 678 Water Milfoile, or water Yarrow, hath long and large leaues. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 203 The Yarrow, where-with all he stops the wound-made gore. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* Table Hard Wds., *Yarrow*, is an herb also called the water-Violet, and growes in Lakes, or marrish grounds. 1784 J. Twamley *Dairying Exempl.* 91, I take yarrow to be an ill favoured Plant for Cheese where it prevails much in Land. 1789 J. Pilkington *View Derbysh.* I. viii. 348 *Hottonia palustris.* Water Violet. Water Yarrow. 1866 Mrs. Riddell *Race for Wealth* xxiii, A lawn in which I have gathered yarrow.

†**Ya·rrow,** *a. dial. Obs.* [dial. var. Argh (OE. *earg*); cf. Sussex *yar* (W. D. Cooper *Sussex Gloss.* 1853).] (See quot.)

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Yarrow*, fearefull, faint-hearted.

Yarrum (yæ·rəm). *Thieves' Cant.* Also 6 **yaram, 6–7 yarum.** [?] Milk.

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 83 Yaram [*v.r.* yarum], mylke. 1608 Dekker *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* i, If we mawnd Pannam, lap, or Ruff-peck, Or poplars of yarum. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* II. (1652) F 3, Here's Pannum and Lap, and good Poplars of Yarrum. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Yarth(e, obs. or dial. ff. Earth.

a 1500 *Cov. Corp. Christi Pl.* 36/79 Apon the yarthe. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 120/1 The yarthing Hooke, or forke is an Instrument of Husbandry as well as warre. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Yarth*, earth.

Ya·rwhelp. *local.* Also 6 **yarewhelp, 7 yarewhelp, yarwell, 7–9 yarwip, 8 yarwhelph, 8–9 yarwhip.** [? Imitative of the goat-like cry of the godwit; cf. Yar *v.*] The bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica* or *rufa*) and the black-tailed godwit (*L. ægocephala* or *melanura*).

1577 in *Archæologia* (1821) XIX. 289 Yerwhelps ij.. ijs. 1579 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xiv. 26 The flesh of ..Towin, Yarwhelpe, Plover, Wodcocke. 1634 in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. xiii, Yarwell 1 dozen and 12 oz 14 oz. 1668 Sir T. Browne *Let. to Dr. Merrett* 29 Dec., A Yarwhelp, Barker, or Latrator a marsh bird about the bigneasse of a Godwitt. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 292 The Godwit, called in some places the Yarwhelp, or Yarwip. 1744 *Ant. & Pres. St. Co. Down* xviii. 227 The Yarwhelp or Yarwip, is something like a Wood-cock.

Yarwingle, -wyndel: see Yarringle, Yarnwindle.

‖ **Yashmak** (yæ·ʃmæk). Also **-mack, -mac, yasmak, yashmak** (*erron.* **yakmak, yaknack**). [Arab. يشماق *yashmaq.*] The double veil concealing the part of the face below the eyes, worn by Mohammedan women in public.

1844 Kinglake *Eothen* iii. 47 *note*, The yashmak..is not a mere, semi-transparent veil, but rather a good substantial petticoat applied to the face. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xviii, We let their bodies go abroad liberally enough, with smiles and ringlets and pink bonnets to disguise them instead of veils and yakmaks. 1889 *Times* 25 May 10 A Turkish lady is shocked if a strange man sees her without a yashmak. 1895 P. Hemingway *Out of Egypt* II. 167, I gave her [*sc.* an old Arab woman] a cigarette, and she consented to accept a light from me, raising her yashmak for a moment.

Hence **Ya·shmaked** *a.*, wearing a yashmak.

1904 Oxenham *Weaver of Webs* xiii, The simple pleasure of exciting the envious admiration of their yashmaked and unemancipated sisters.

Yask *sb.* and *v.*, local variant of *yesk*, Yex.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Baailler*, to gape, ..e, to yawne. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Yask*, a term used to express the sound made by a violent effort to get quit of something in the throat.

†**Yasked** [Y- 4], asked. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 294, I haue .. hym .. yasked Where he were god. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7048 Thow shuldest.. Fynt yaxyd A Bordoun.

Yaspen, yaspin: see Yerpen.

†**Yasured** [Y- 4], assured. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 14/36 *Bien asseuré*, Bliyew yasured.

Yat: see GATE *sb.*[1], THAT, YACHT.

Yataghan (yæ·tăgæn). Also **yatagan**; ATAGHAN. [Turkish يطغان *yātāghan*.] A sword of Mohammedan countries, having a handle without a guard and often a double-curved blade.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) I. iii. 52, I began hacking and hewing with my yatagan. 1839 *Gamekeeper's Dream* I. 144 With our flowing garments, our turbans, and our yataghans, we conquered Asia under the standard of the Prophet. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* May 566/1 The curved Arab yataghans with an outside edge. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelist* 125 A Circassian..flourishing..a formidable looking yataghan.

Yatch, yatcht, obs. ff. YACHT.

Yate (yēt), *sb.* Also **yeit.** [Native name.] Either of two species of gum-tree, *Eucalyptus cornuta* and *E. occidentalis* (flat-topped yate), of south-western Australia, yielding a tough wood; also the wood itself.

1880 VON MUELLER *Select Extra-trop. Plants* 110. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Yate-tree, or Yeit-tree, *Eucalyptus cornuta*. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Nov. 12/1 The extraordinary properties of yate, believed to be the strongest of all known woods.

† Yate, *v. Obs.* Forms: 2 ȝeatan, ȝætan, ȝetan, ietan, (*Orm.*) ȝatenn, 3–4 ȝette, ȝet, 4 ȝete, yete, *north.* ȝiate, 4–5 *north.* ȝate, yate, 5 ȝote. *Pa. t.* 2 ȝeatte, ȝætte, ȝeotte, iette, iette, 2–3 ȝatte, 3 ȝet(te, 4 yatt(e, ȝat(e, yeitt; 3 ȝet(t)ed,e. *Pa. pple.* 2 (*Orm.*) ȝatedd, 3 ȝetted. [late OE. *ǧéatan* (Peterborough Chron.), f. *ǧé* YEA, app. after ON. *játa*, also *játta* to assent, acknowledge, confess, promise, grant (cf. OHG. *gijâhan*, MHG. *jâhen* to assent); for the formation cf. ON. *neita* NAIT *v.*[2] to refuse.

The northern form *yate* is directly from or influenced by ON. The west-midland present *yette* is prob. due to the pa. t. *yette*.]

1. *trans.* To grant, bestow, concede. Also *absol.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Ic Uitalianus papa ȝeate þe Wulhfere cyning & Deusdedit arcebiscop & Saxulf abbod ealle þe þing þe ge ȝeornon. *Ibid.* 675 Ic ȝiette þæs ilce curs..Ic Adrianus legat hit iete. *Ibid.* 1066 Se æðeling hit him ȝeatte þa blipolice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 154 Godd Allwealdennd hafeþþ herrd & ȝatedd tine benesa. *c* 1205 LAY. 10994, & al ich þe ȝette Swa þu hit ȝirnest. *Ibid.* 14267 Þe king him ȝette swa Hengest hit wolde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 ȝif þu driuest us heonene, do us iðeos awin her, & he ȝettede ham. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2402 He ȝettede hire & ȝef bliðeliche leaue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8414 And curtaisli, wit-vten hone, He yatte hir freli al hir bone. *Ibid.* 22413 Fourti dais he sal tham yate þat fallen ar ute of þair state..Þat þai mai þam wit penance bete. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 776 'Now bone hostel', cope þe burne, 'I be-seche yow ȝette!' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 201 God ȝate (*K.* Godȝote, *H.* Goodȝoth, *P.* Godwolde), *utinam*.

2. To acknowledge, confess.

c 1200 ORMIN 9819 Ne wolldenn þeȝȝ nohht cnawenn Ne ȝatenn þatt teȝȝ wærenn ohht Sinnfulle onn anig wise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26946 Þou he yeitt [*Fairf.* ȝeted] his wicked-hede It moght him to no nerci kede. *Ibid.* 27428 A man him cums al for to scriue..And yetas..þat he es fallen in miskenyng.

3. To provide, give, offer.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 558 Frende no wrang I wyl þe ȝete. *a* 1420 *Cursor M.* 29047 (Cotton Galba) Als oure lord crist at þe last Gat vs ensaumple forto fast.

1788 *Voc. Forth & Bargie* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Ya'a*, give.

Hence **† Yating** (ȝettung) *vbl. sb.*, granting, consent.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 On is ful wil uorte don þet fulõe, mid skilles ȝettunge.

Yate: see GATE *sb.*[1], YET.

Yatte, obs. form of GATE *sb.*[1]

Yaught, obs. form of YACHT.

Yaud (yōd, yād). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4–6 ȝald, 6 ȝad, ȝaid, 6–7 yawde, 6–9 yawd, 8 yade, 8–9 yad, yode, 8– yaud. [a. ON. *jalda* (Sw. dial. *jälda*). poet. word for 'mare'.]

1. A mare: usually applied to an old mare; also *loosely* to an old or worn-out horse (associated with JADE).

1500–20 DUNBAR *Petit. of Gray Horse* Poems lxi. *refrain*, Schir, lett it nevir in toun be tald, That I sould be ane ȝuillis ȝald! 1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* iv. i. (1652) K j b, Your Yawdes may take cold, and never be good after it. 1705 *Queen Anne; or, the Auld Grey Mare* iv. in *Jacobite Songs & Ball.* (1887) 57 And they has seized the yaud And tied her head and heel. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 326 She's have a Yode to ride out; She's neither drive the Swine, nor the Plough. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8, I have three owsen in a plough Twa good ga'en yads and gear enough. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, Landlord, get us our breakfast, and see an' get the yauds fed. 1866 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Joshua Lorton* II. 294 [They] sneered at her as the 'grey yaud wha'd be better rode wi' martingal nor snaffle'.

b. *Comb.*, as *yaud-stealer*; **† yaud-swiver,** one who commits buggery with a mare.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 246 Muttoun dryver, girnall ryver, ȝadswyvar, fowll fell the. *c* 1580 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 60 And yett Ednam shuld still be his father yawd steiller.

c. *attrib.* or *adj.* Of a horse: Worn out.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Petit. of Gray Horse* 25 Poems lxi, Suppois I war ane ald ȝaid aver, Schott furth our clewch to pull the clever.

† 2. A strumpet, whore. *Comb.* ȝaldson, the 'son of a whore'; a term of abuse (cf. *whoreson*).

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3809 ȝondire to ȝone ȝaldsones he þat ȝeldes hyme ever,..He he neuer mo sawde. 1543 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 41 You leid that said Annapill Grahame wes ane freris get and freris yawde.

Yaue, obs. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

Yauger, variant of JAEGER[2].

1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* V. 390 The fishing fleet was often attended by certain vessels, called *yaugers*, that carried salt, casks, and victuals, to barter with the busses for their herrings.

Yaugh, yaught, obs. ff. YACHT.

Yaul: see YAULD, YAWL.

Yauld, yald (yōld), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8 yawl, 9 yaul. [Origin unknown.] Active, sprightly, nimble; strong, vigorous.

1786 *Hard'st Rig* viii, A bang O' Highlanders, a fendy rout, Baith yawl and strang. 1787 BURNS *Let. to W. Nicol* 1 June, She's a yauld, poutherie Girran. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xliv, There's mony yauld chiels amang thae volunteers. 1873 D. MACLAGAN *Heather* lii. in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. III. (1881) 177 Though somethin' auld An' no sae yauld.

Yauld, Yaulew, Yaulpe, Yaumer, -our: see YIELD, YELLOW, YAWP, YAMMER.

Yaup: see YAP *a.*, YAWP.

Yaupish, yawpish, *a. Sc.* [f. *yaup*, YAP *a.* + -ISH[1].] Hungry.

1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons, Spring* 31 Take thou thy way To where the lusty tenant o' the floods Has, yaupish, ta'en his stan' in quest of food. 1835 D. WEBSTER *Paisley Fair* in *Harp of Renfrewshire* Ser. II. (1873) 153 I'm e'en growing yawpish, We maun hae some buns and some ale.

Yaupon, var. YAPON.

‖ Yava (yā·vă). Variant of KAVA; cf. AVA.

1804 *Ann. Rev.* II. 196/1 The eyes of the great yavva drinkers are much blood-shot. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 641 It [sc. *Bucnemia tropica*] is also indigenous to the Polynesian isles, where it takes the name of yava-skin, as being supposed to originate from drinking the heating beverage called yava.

Yave, obs. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

Yaw (yō), *sb.*[1] *Naut.* Also 7 yawe, yogh. [Related to YAW *v.*[1]] An act of yawing; a movement of deviation from the direct course, as from bad steering.

1546 GARDINER *Declar. Joye* 91 Lyke a shyppe without anker holde or rother, ye wander as the variable wynde tosseth you, and so make yawes in and oute, without any right course. † 1565 SIR J. HAWKINS *2nd Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 9 To make three yawes, and strike the Myson three times. 1667 (Nov. 5) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 77, Made a yogh. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1, I crouded Sail to Leeward to him,..making a little Yaw sometimes to shew my French Ensign. 1725 H. DE SAUMAREZ in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 495 It cannot be expected but that a Ship before the Wind will deviate from her true Course, sometimes one Way, sometimes another, in her Yaws and Sheers. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 254 *note*, The boat took a sudden yaw or sheer, which canted me overboard. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, Another wide yaw and a come-to snapped the guys. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iii. (ed. 2) 59 If under steam, a slight yaw with the helm will serve to show the direction you intend to take.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*: cf. YAW *v.*[1] 2.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 34 Now and then we make yawes agaynste our wills. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. v, 'Tis strong, strong Wine: O the yaws that she'll make! 1870 READE *Put yourself in his Place* III. 163 Putting her left hand to his breast, she gave a great yaw, and then a forward rush with her mighty loins. 1885 STEVENSON *Prince Otto* I. iv, He gave a beery yaw in the ...

c. *Comb.* **yaw-sighted** *a.* (*Naut. slang*), cross-eyed, squinting.

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pichle* (1779) I. vi. 45 A yaw-sighted bitch. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Yaw, *sb.*[2] [Back-formation from YAWS apprehended as a plural.] Each of the excrescences or spots of eruption in yaws.

1744 *Med. Essays Soc. Edinb.* V. II. 793 Sometimes after all the other Yaws are fallen off..there remains one large Yaw, high knobbed, red and moist; this is commonly called the Master-yaw. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 732/2 Hairs at the seat of a yaw turn white. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxvii. 427 The crust which caps and encloses an uninjured yaw is yellowish.

b. Used as attrib. form of YAWS, as *yaw matter, taint, tubercle*; **yaw-house,** a hospital for persons affected with yaws; **yaw-weed,** a shrubby plant, *Morinda Royoc* (N. O. *Cinchonaceæ*), used in the West Indies as a remedy for yaws.

1679 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* 122 The..long Guinny Worms, arising from the Yaw teint found..in the Children..of the Blacks. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 272 The revolting scene of a yaw-house. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 433 *note*, The time that elapses between the inoculation with yaw matter and the first appearance of a yaw tubercle. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yaw-weed, *Morinda Royoc.*

Yaw, *v.*[1] [Of obscure origin.

ON. *jaga* to move to and fro as a deer on its hinges, has been compared.]

1. *Naut. intr.* Of a vessel: To deviate temporarily from the straight course, as through faulty or unsteady steering; to turn to one side or from side to side in her course.

1588 (see YAWING *vbl. sb.*). 1612 DEKKER *If it be not Good* Wks. 1873 III. 298 I spie two Shippes yonder, that yaw too and egen. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Essex, She had yawed to leeward. 1769 *Jenner's Chron.* 5–8 Aug. 4/2, I..see the Ship yaw as if there was not ... aboard. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xiii, The frigate yawed to with all her sails set. 1883 KINGMAN *Shipmate & Shellbacks* 54 The barque yawed as far as the hawser would allow.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To deviate, go out of course, go or move unsteadily. (Often with direct allusion to sense 1.)

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XII. vii. (1886) 183 The dais delaied by length of night which made both daie and night to yawe. 1604 SHAKS. *Haml.* v. ii. 120 (Qo. 2) To dauble him inuenterially, would dosse th' arithmaticke of memory, and yet but yaw neither in respect of his quick sailes. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xvi, I shot ahead, and yawed a little—caught a peep at her through her veil. 1856 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 80 The rider yawed in his saddle as a boat..yaws on a cross-sea swell.

3. *trans.* To cause to yaw (*lit.* and *fig.*); to move (something) unsteadily from side to side.

1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 201 The Ship of State was, as the Seamen phrase it, yawed to and fro. 1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* XXXVII. III. 48 Owing to the unskilfulness of her pilots, she was so *yawed* about, that it was quite uncertain when she would be moored in a safe port. 1827 HOOD *Sailor's Apol. for Bow-legs* 41 [She] yaw'd her head about all sorts of ways. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* iv. (1849) 168 The man at the wheel..neglecting his helm, 'yaws' the ship about sadly.

Yaw, *v.*[2] *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To be wide open; to yawn.

1596 LODGE *Wits' Miseries* 71 His browes bent, his hand shaking, his nostrils yawing. *Ibid.* 103 A fellow stretching himselfe at his window, yawing, and starting.

Yaw, *adv.* [Used in representations of Ger. and Du. speech; cf. YAH *adv.*] Yes.

1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* I. i, *Steph.* Boy! *Boy.* Yaw, yaw, here Master. 1697 VANBRUGH *and P. Æsop* II. iii, *Æsop* Have you then a mind to a Wife, Sir? *Bear.* Yaw myn Heer. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiv, [Dirk Hatteraick loq.] Wetter and donner! yaw—What do you take me for?

Yaw, *int.* An affected exclamation. Also as vb. (cf. YAW-HAW, YAW-YAW).

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 277 He will yaw a parcel of nonsense about jukes and lords. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 94 Yawning and muttering, 'Reynolds is an humorist, not a wit—yaw! yaw! I am a wit!'

Yaw, local form of HEW *v.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clouts* 1206 Ye prechers shall be yawde; And some shall be sawde. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Yaw*, ..to hew. *West.*

Yawd(e, var. YAUD, mare. **Yawe,** obs. f. *gave*, pa. t. of GIVE *v.* **Yawer,** var. YURE, *dial.*, udder. **Yawey,** var. YAWY.

Yawger, var. JAGGER[2].

Yaw-haw (yō·hō·), *v.* [Echoic.] *intr.* To laugh rudely or noisily. Hence **Yaw-haw** *sb.*, a loud or rude laugh; **Yaw-hawing** *ppl. a.*

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xix, I had to pucker up my mouth..to keep from yawhawin in her face. 1902 H. MACFALL in *English Rev.* Jan. 334 A booth at a fair, a place set up but to tickle the country-bumpkins into yaw-haws.

Yaw-haw. Intended to represent an affected pronunciation characterized by loose articulation in which open vowel sounds predominate. Hence attrib., as sb. (= affected person) and vb. (cf. YAW *int.* and *v.*, YAW-YAW *v.*).

1867 E. B. RAMSAY *Art of Reading* 9 All reading where sounding the vowels predominates is indistinct. At Cambridge, in my time, it used to be called a 'yaw-haw' reading. 1876 J. GRANT *One of the '600'* vii, That yaw-hawing donkey, Berkeley.

Yawing (yō·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YAW *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb YAW; temporary deviation of a vessel from her course; unsteady movement from side to side; also *fig.*

1588 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 253 Be hir tumbling and yeawing, the mast schouk sa louse, that Mr. Robert..haid mikle ado to fasten the sam. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ix. 38 He that keepes the Ship most from yawing doth commonly vse the lest motion with the Helme. 1793 NELSON 22 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 335 The Chase..by yawing, which her superiority in sailing enabled her to do, gave us many broadsides. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* lii, There is a great yawing of mouths and.. renewed inquiries for fords. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 293 The language has such a fatal genius for going stern-foremost, for yawing.

So **Ya·wing** *ppl. a.*, that yaws (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1835 WHATELY in *Life* (1866) I. 302 Another [evil] will be a sort of unsteady yawing course of the state-ship. 1850 'H. HIEOVER' *Pract. Horsemanship* v. 92 A more yawing, pully-hauly brute I had scarcely ever ridden.

Yawl (yōl), *sb.*[1] Forms: 7 yaule, yale, 7–8 yall, yaul, 8 yawle, (youghall), 8–9 yole, yoal, yoll, 7– yawl. [app. ad. M.LG. *jolle* (LG. *jolle, jölle, jelle*), or Du. *jol* (17th c.) explained by Sewel, 1708, as 'a Jutland boat', whence dim. *jolleken* (1660, Hexham), cf. Sw. *julle*, Da. *jolle*; of unknown origin. F. *yole*, † *iol(e*, It. *jolo*, Russ. ... are from Germanic.]

1. A ship's boat resembling a pinnace, but somewhat smaller, usually with four or six oars.

1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 191 Next morning our Captain and I..went on shore in the yale betimes. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2054/3 The *Larks* Boat being Commanded by Captain Leightons Brother, the *Bonaventures* Pinnace by Mr. Harrises accompanied with Mr.

Littleton, and the Yaule by Mr. Brisbane. 1687 W. Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 240 Capt. Milborne, perceiving ye Hazard, came off in his Yall to our assistance. 1748 Woodrooffe in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvii. 76 We had..a long-boat of five tuns, and a yaul, each with six oars. 1778 Dalrymple in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 397 Hove the ship to, and sent jolly boat and yawl in search of him. 1778 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 4 June 280/2 A small Youghall belonging to some vessel. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxiii, The launch, yawl, first and second cutters, were the boats appointed for the expedition. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Yawl*..In the British navy it is the fifth boat in point of size; the others being the launch, long-boat, barge, and pinnace.

2. A small sailing-boat of the cutter class, with a jigger.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1898/4 Some Deal men have tried to go off to her in one of our Yaules. 1692 *Ibid.* No. 2808/4 A Deale built Yawl with 6 Oars. 1713 *Order in Council* 13 Sept. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5135/1 There came on Board the said Bark Seven Men in a Deal-Yawl. 1798 Cruttwell *Gazetteer* (1808) III. s. v. *Orkney*, The inhabitants..sail from island to island in small boats, called yoals. 1873 *Daily News* 22 Aug., The Pantomime takes the schooners' prize, the Oimara that for cutters, and the Florinda for yawls.

3. A small kind of fishing-boat.

1670 J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Revis'd* 254 The Commodities of Shotland which the Inhabitants do for the most part Trade withal is Ling and Cod, which they take with Hooks and Lines in small Boats, called Yalls, about the bigness of Gravesend Oars. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* III. (1858) 42 All sorts of barques and carvels, from the fishing yawl to the frigate. 1865 *Leeds Mercury* 22 Feb., Three more of the fishing yawls being missing.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1865 *Guardian* 17 May 478 A yawl-boat was landed bottom up from the hurricane-deck upon the hands of those below. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* xvi, His little yawl-rigged yacht. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* VI. i, Pete began to think of buying a Dandie, which being smaller than a Nickey, and of yawl rig, he could sail of himself.

Yawl (yôl), *sb.*2. [f. Yawl *v.*1] An act of 'yawling'; a shout, yell.

1728 Fielding *Love in several Masques* IV. ii, To me, the Turkish Yawl at an On-set, the Irish Howl at a Funeral, or the Indian Exclamation at an Eclipse, are all soft Musick to that single Noise.

Yawl (yôl), *v.*1 Now *dial.* Forms: 4–5 3aule, 4, 7–8 yall, 6 yalle, 6–7 yaule, yawle, 7–8 yaul, 8–9 yole, 7– yawl. [Parallel to Yowl, with alternation of vowel designed to express a variety of the sound echoed. Cf. LG. *jauseln* (of cats).]

1. *intr.* **a.** To cry out loudly from pain, grief, or distress: also said of the howling of dogs, the 'wauling' of cats, the screaming of peacocks.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1453 He hurtes of þe houndes, & þay Ful 3omerly 3aule & 3elle. *c* 1305 *Flowmas's Tale* 386 To catche catell as covytous As hound, that for hunger woll yall [*rime* fall]. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* ix, Hit 3aulut, hit 3amurt, lyke a woman. *Ibid.* vii. (Douce MS.) There come a lede of þe lawe..3auland and 3omerand, with many loude 3elles. 1625 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 178 In heis ablase: Where they may yaule and yarme til that they burst. 1681 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Beggar* B iv, I (like many other froward boyes) Would yaule, and baule, and make a wawling noyse. 1682 Hickeringill *Sin Man-Catching* 1. 16 The little Peacocks shreame out and yawle amain, pluming themselves. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., The cry of a peacock is an excellent instance of yawling. 1833 Tennyson *Goose* ix, Then yelp'd the cur, and yawl'd the cat. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Shirl.* II. 193 Give a look to that bairn, it yawls sorely.

b. To call aloud, shout, bawl, scream, vociferate.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 288 Cato right eagrely yallying at Pompeius. 1620 Quarles *Feast for Wormes* iii. D ij b, The hapiesse Pylot..mainly calls; Calls *Ionah, Ionah*; and yet lowder yawles. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 405 They all ran skreaming and yawling away. 1808 Jamieson, *To Yaul*, to yell.

transf. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. i, My gutts they yawle crawle and all my belly rumbleth.

2. *trans.* **a.** (with *simple obj.* or *obj. cl.*) To shout out, utter with shouting.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 172 b, Thei..whiche yalle and rore, that learnyng..is vtterly nothyng auailable to the gouernaunce..of a commenweale. 1623 Wither *Abuses Stript* II. iii. Q vj b, Such as haue yauld Ergo in the schooles. *Ibid., Scourge* V ij b, The nimble Tapster..Still yalling, *here, anon sir, by and by.* 1679 *Pol. Ball.* (1860) I. 220 They baul and they yaul aloud thro' the whole town The rights to succession and claims to the Crown. 1899 *Habits of Gd. Society* v. (new ed.) 217 A man..should never yawl out the namby-pamby ballads beloved of young ladies.

b. (with *compl.*) To bring into a specified state by 'yawling'.

a 1627 Middleton *Widow* II. i, Ile make 'em yaul one an other deaf, but Ile have thee.

Hence **Yaw·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* I. i. A ij, The deuill stoppe that same yallyng throte..Somwhiles. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 928 Nigh breathlesse all, with their confus'd yawling. 1619 *Pasquil's Palin.* (1877) 146 Young Beagles..Whose yawling throats will never let him sleepe. 1715 *C'tess D'Aunoy's Wks.* 454 The hideous Outcries that he made, and his continual Yauling. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 32 A Wife, That makes him weary of his Life With Scolding, yoleing in the House.

Yawl, *v.*2 *nonce-wd.* [f. Yawl *sb.*1] *trans.* To convey in a yawl.

1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* xxiv, When we got to the village, they yawled us ashore.

Yawl, var. Yauld *a.*

Yawler1 (yô·lər). *rare*—0. [f. Yawl *v.*1 + -er1 2.] One who 'yawls' or howls.

1621 Cotgr., *Glattisseur*, a barker; bawler, yawler.

Yawler2 (yô·lər). Also yoler. [f. Yawl *sb.*1 + -er1 1.] A sailor who rows or sails in a yawl; one of the crew of a yawl.

1823 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xviii, Pipe away the yawlers, boatswain's mate. 1867 *Engineer* 27 Sept. 283/3 'Yolers'.

Yawling. *local.* Also 8 yaulin. A young herring.

1758 *Descr. Thames* 227 A young Herring is by some termed a Yaulin. 1879 T. Satchell *Index Gloss. Fish Names* (E.D.S.) 8 *Clupea Harengus*, .. Yarmouth-capon, Yawlings, Whitebait, White-Herring.

Yawlsman (yô·lzmĕn). *rare*—1. [f. *yawl's*, gen. of Yawl *sb.*1 + Man *sb.*1] = Yawler2.

1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 25 Aug. 513/2 The bluff yawlsman riding to his nets far out at sea.

Yawmer, var. Yammer *v.*

Yawn (yôn), *sb.* [f. Yawn *v.*]

1. Something that yawns; a gaping opening or entrance; *esp.* a chasm, abyss.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. iii. Wks. 1856 I. 111 Now gapes the graves, and through their yawnes let loose Imprison'd spirits to revisit earth. 1755 Amory *Mem.* (1766) II. 56 The billows that were all in wild uproar, and then came down into the dreadful yawn. 1820 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 22 (1822) I. 170 Trust not the tempting yawn of stable-yard or gateway. *a* 1821 Keats *Hyperion* I. 120 Spaces of fire, and all the yawn of hell. 1894 *Idler* Sept. 234 The stubborn, wonderful old piece of timber-frame was picked out of the yawn of the hatch in splinters.

2. The or an act of yawning: **a.** Gaping or opening wide.

1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* II. v, Sure, 'tis the Friendly Yawn of Death for me. 1705 Addison *Italy* 248 And sometimes with a mighty Yawn, 'tis said, Opens a dismal Passage to the Dead.

b. Involuntary opening of the mouth, as from drowsiness.

1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 96 After..a few hearty Yawns, he crawls up upon Deck. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 320 P 5 Our Salutation at Entrance is a Yawn and a Stretch. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 343 She..heard thy everlasting yawn confess The Pains and Penalties of Idleness. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* I. iii, A life of nods and yawns.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Yaw·nful** *a.*, **Yaw·nish** *a.*, **Yaw·nless** *a.*, **Yaw·nsome** *a.*, **Yaw·nsomely** *adv.*

1855 Anne Manning *Old Chelsea Bun-Ho.* ix. 156, I awoke..chilly and yawnish. 1878 J. Thomson *Plenip. Key* 26 His mouth and arms stretched yawnful. 1881 J. M. Brown *Student Life* 4 A yawnless languor. 1898 *Blackw.* yawnsomely dull debate.

Yawn (yôn), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 ginian, gyn-, gionian, geon-, ieon-, genian, 3 3eon(i)e, 3onie, 3–4 3one, yone, 3–5 3eone, 3ene, yene, 4 3yne, 6 yeane. *β.* 4–5 3ane, 4–6 yane. *γ.* 6–7 yawne, 6–8 yaun, 6– yawn. [OE. *ginian, geonian* = OHG. *ginôn, -ên* (MHG. *ginen*), MDu. *gênen* to gape, yawn, related to the synonymous OE. *gânian* Gane *v.* (q.v.), OHG. *guinôn*, and OE. *glnan*, ON. *gina*. The vocalism of the present form of this word is difficult to account for. The normal representatives of the OE. and early ME. forms (*jene, jone*) would be **yeen* and **yoan*. Later ME. *yane* prob. arose through regional contact with Gane *v.* The 16th cent. *yaun, yawn*, may have been the result of special local development of *yane* or *yone*.]

†**1.** *intr.* To open the mouth wide voluntarily, esp. in order to swallow or devour something; in early use often, to have the mouth wide open; to gape. Said also of the mouth. *Obs.*

a. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 24 *Battat*, geonath. *Ibid.* G 4 *Garrit*, gionat. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 50 Bewyl twy dæl on wætre geot on bollan & geona ymb. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxi. 11 [xxii. 13] Hi todydon heora mu3 ongean me, swa swa leo, þonne he geonað. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 2409 (Napier 65) *Hiulco, i. aperto*, ieoniendum. *rostro, i. ore*, bile. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 240 3if þu iseie..3eonien wide uppon þe, þene deouel of helle. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 892 þat me ne chide wit þe gidie Ne wit þan ofne me ne 3onie. *a* 1290 *S. Eustace* 136 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 214 A wilde lioun..kipt his 3onge sone anon, On him he 3enede wide. 13 . *Sir Beues* (A.) 2763 3enande & [illegible]s on him so, Ase he wolde him swolwe þo. 13.. *K. Alis.* 485 (Linc. Inn MS.) Him þouȝte a goshauk wiþ gret flyȝt Setliþ on his herberyng And 3eniþ [*Laud MS.* 3yneþ] and sprad abrod his wyngyn. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 1583 (Linc. Inn MS.) His mouþ and þrote 3onede wide. 14.. *Ibid.* 1117 (Douce MS.) And wiþ his mouþ he 3enede wyde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 200 Then anon come..a gret horryble dragon and 3eonet [*v.r.* 3anyng] on her.

β. 13.. *Coer de L.* 276 Upon hys crest a raven stode, That yaned as he wer wode. 1382 Wyclif *2 Macc.* vi. 18 Eleasarus..3anynge [*v.r.* 3onyng] with open mouth, was compellid for to ete swynys flesh. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XII. x. (Tollem. MS.), Þe rauen biholdeþ þe mouþe of hire bridde, whan þey 3aneþ. *Ibid.* XVI. vi, [Auripigmentum] helpeþ tisik .. if þey 3aneþ þeron and takeþ þe smoke þerof. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 151 Multitudes of Crocodiles lyinge in the sande, and yanyng to take the heate of the soonne.

γ. 1568 Hacket tr. *Thevet's New found World* xx. 32 This fish is named Marsouin,..he hath..on the heade a certayne cundite or opening, by the which he yawneth or puffeth, euen as the Whale [orig. *Fr. pour lequel il respire ainsi que la baleine*]. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 970 The crocodiles..yawne and offer there teeth unto them to be picked and cleansed with there hands.

2. To lie, stand, or be wide open, as a chasm, abyss, or the like; to have or form a wide opening, gap, or chasm.

Mirk's Festial 4 Vndyr hym helle 3eonyng, and galpyng, and spyttyng fyre.

γ. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 14 The gashes That bloodily did yawne vpon his face. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VI. 730 Wide yawns the gap; connexion is no more. 1795 Cowper *Needless Alarm* 14 And where the land slopes to its wat'ry bourn, Wide yawns a gulph beside a ragged thorn. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxxi, As sudden ruin yawned around. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxxiii, A private staircase which yawned in the floor to admit their descent. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 241 The beach yawning some thirty feet below. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xxi. 648 Here yawns a great pit half full of débris. 1890 W. Clark Russell *Ocean Trag.* II, It was the Isle of Wight, and the shore on either hand went yawning to it till it looked a day's sail away.

fig. 1580 Spenser *Let. to Harvey* H.'s Wks. (Grosart) I. 35 The onely, or chiefest hardnesse,..is in the Accente: whyche sometime gapeth, and as it were yawneth ill-fauouredly.

†**3.** *To yawn after* or *for*, to be eager to obtain, to long for. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1403 Þe gost..3eoneþ after more & more An lutel reh þ of milce & ore. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 283 After he hath caught that within his clawes, after which he was euer yawning. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. iv. § 3 The chiefest thing which lay reformers yawne for is, that the Clergie may..be Apostolicall.

4. To make involuntarily a prolonged inspiration with the mouth wide open and the lower jaw much depressed, as from drowsiness or fatigue.

a. 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxiv. 93 Suche a man yeneth often, and hath sumtime disese in his eyen. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* cxlviii. 54 The pacient wyll be colde and oft yeane or gape, yf this feuer be putryfied. 1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* VI. ii. 102 Had he heard the Female Fathers grone, Yeaning in mids of her procession.

β. c 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 56 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 38 Lauze þou not to loude, ne 3ane þou not to wide. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Kummyng* 331 She began to yane and gaspy. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* viii. 78 [He] wil stande gapyng & yanyng whan he should geue eare as though he wer more then half in slepe. 1557 Edgeworth *Serm.* 261 He yaned seuen tymes, and opened his eyes, reuiued, and liued. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 19/7 To Gane, yane, *oscitare*.

γ. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Thess.* 7 Those that yawne and slumbre in naughtinesse, are occupied in darknesse of the soule. 1622 Gataker *Spirituall Watch* (ed. 2) 67 The very sight of those that yawne is wont to set others also on yawning. 1721 Bolingbroke in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 41 You shall be forced to read it out, though you yawn from the first to the last page. 1836 J. H. Barrow *Mirr. Parl.* I. 818/1 Mr. O'Connell here yawned so loudly as to interrupt the Honourable Member. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. iii, It must be owned that the audience yawned through the play; and that it perished on the third night. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* II, I thought I should have yawned till I broke my neck.

b. To open the mouth wide from surprise or the like; to gape. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* V. ii. 101 Me thinkes, it should be now a huge Eclipse Of Sunne, and Moone; and that th'affrighted Globe Did yawne at Alteration. 1607 — *Cor.* III. ii. 11 To shew bare heads In Congregations, to yawne, be still, and wonder [etc.]. 1887 F. T. Havergal *Heref. Gloss., Yarning*, = staring. 'Stand *yarning* there'. E.

c. *trans.* To say or utter with a yawn or with wide-open mouth. Also with cognate object.

1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* I. 394 Scorning the wound he [*sc.* the lion] yawns a dreadful roar. 1828 Macaulay *Poems, Political Georgics* 30 Let all in bulky majesty appear, Roll the dull eye, and yawn th'unmeaning cheer. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* III. ii, 'It wouldn't be bad', he yawned at one time, 'to give the waiter five shillings, and throw him.' 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 243 One immense fellow.. yawns a yawn a yard wide.

d. To bring into some position or condition by, or to the accompaniment of, yawning; also *occas.*, to pass through in a lethargic manner.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* III. 336 For what live ever here?.. To surfeit on the same, And yawn our joys? *Ibid.* VIII. 614 No man e'er found a happy life by chance; Or yawn'd it into being, with a wish. 1817 Lady Morgan *France* II. (1818) I. 247 The *Dalut tamas* of *haut ton*, who yawn away their existence in the assemblies of London. 1880 *Daily News* 29 Oct. 6/2 He literally yawned us out of the room. *a* 1903 'H. S. Merriman' *Last Hope* I, He..politely yawned that reminiscent fish-curer into silence.

5. *intr.* To open wide as a mouth; to form a chasm; to gape, part asunder.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* V. iii. 19 Graues yawne and yeelde your dead. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 875 Hell at last Yawning receivd them whole, and on them clos'd. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Feb. 1645, The sea retiring neere 200 paces, and yawning on the sudaine, it continued to vomit forth flames and fiery stones. 1713 Young *Last Day* I. 87 The valleys [shall] yawn, the troubled ocean roar. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xii, If the earth yawned and gave up a demon. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lvi, When the silent tomb shall yawn, Captain Gills, I shall be ready for burial; not before. 1892 Tennyson *Ode Wellington* 269 The black earth yawns: the mortal disappears; Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

6. *trans.* To cause to open wide

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xxxiv. [xxxv.] 21 Thei 3eneden [*v.r.* maden large, *Vulg.* dilataverunt] their mouth upon me.

a 1633 G. Daniel *Idyll.* II. 31 The monstrous Whale (wch Rules The Ocean, wth his Breath, and Yawnes the Brine As its Recesse). 1798 Southey *Grandmother's Tale* 85 She stood beside the murderer's bed, and yawn'd Her ghastly wound.

7. To make, produce, or afford by opening wide. 1603 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 1220 The groaning Earth..Tearing her rocks, untill she Yawn a way To let it out, and to let-in the Day. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lxiii, None felt stern Nature..yawning forth a grave for those who lay Upon their bucklers for a winding-sheet. 1821 — *Sardanap.* II. i. 422 The realm itself, in all its wide extension, Yawns dungeons at each step for thee and me. 1907 *Smart Set* Mar. 41/2 The prison doors were yawning a welcome for the runaways.

8. *Comb.* **yawn-mouthed** *a.*, yawning, gaping. 1881 Chr. Rossetti *Prince's Progr.* xxix, Out it [*sc.* a light] flashed from a yawn-mouthed cave, Like a red-hot eye from a grave.

Yawner (yǭ·nəɹ). [f. Yawn *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who yawns, as from drowsiness. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* 1, *C'est un Bastilleur perpetual*, he is an everlasting Yawner. 1818 Bentham *Ch. Engl.* 130 To procure upon an average half a dozen voluntary yawners, in addition to the compulsory ones. 1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 9 Sept. 5/5 The yawner ..is not being intentionally rude, but is exercising muscles which have been for a long time inactive.

2. Something that yawns; a wide ditch. 1832 *Egan's Bk. Sports* 220/2 Sir Francis Burdett, sitting erect upon Sampson, and putting his head straight at a yawner. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* vii. 186 *Sporting Mag.* June 511 In clearing a yawner The King of the Valley covered the extraordinary space of 31 feet.

Yawning (yǭ·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yawn *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Yawn.

1. The action of opening the mouth wide, esp. involuntarily from drowsiness. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 23 *Barritus*, genung. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 412/5 *Garrulitas*, geonung. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/1 Ȝanynge, or gapynge wythe the mowthe.., *hiatus*. 1552a Huloet, Yauninge, *oscedo*. 1582 Mulcaster *Positions* xv. 69 Those..that be cumbred with much gaping & yawning. 1609 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 353 Yawning in trauaile to women is mortall. 1707 Prior *Sat. Poets* 200 Your Yawning prompts me to give o'er. 1755 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. 774/1 Near to this, is a large handsome Monument, erected to the Memory of James Cooper of this Parish, Gent. remarkable for his loud Yawning during the Time of Divine Service. 1838 W. C. Harris *Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 13 [They] were very slow in taking the hint conveyed by his violent yawnings, that he was anxious to retire to rest. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 98 Abnormal visceral or reflex movements such as paroxysmal hurry of the heart, or of respiration—sneezings, yawnings, or hiccoughings.

† **2.** Longing *after* (something). *Obs.* 1634 Rainbow *Labour* (1635) 33 Ambitious yawning after outward dignitie and honour.

3. The action of opening wide. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 7 The yawning of a seam [in a boat].

Yawning (yǭ·niŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Yawn *v.* + -ing 2.] That yawns.

1. That opens the mouth wide, esp. in order to swallow or devour something; chiefly *transf.* of the mouth, wide open. *c* 890 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 156 He gemette on þam wege standan sumne draʒan onʒæn hine mid ʒeniendum [*v.r.* ʒinlendum] muþe, *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Ne blowe ȝe hire nout ut mid maðelinde muðe, ne mid ȝeonlinde tuteles. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4117 A lyoun þai seye cominde þo,..Wiþ ȝenende [14..*Caius MS.* yanyng] mouþe, & werl he was. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5852 An horrible serpent.. With a yanyng throte gain hym gan Auaunce. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 187 As thoughe they wolde with yanynge mouthes haue torne in sunder the bealy of the mannes Image. 1593 Shake. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 73 Now will I dam vp this thy yawning mouth, For swallowing the Treasure of the Realme. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* B iv b, His eies well dried, would make good Tennis-balls,..his yawning mouth would serue for a Conniborrow. 1693 Congreve in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 289 Large yawning Panthers.

2. Opening, or open wide, as the earth, a chasm, abyss, etc. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* Contents III. iii, Hu Marcus Curtius besceat on þa ʒenlʒendan [*v.r.* ȝyniendan] eorþan. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxi. [xix.] (1890) 322 For openre wunde & ȝeoniendre. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xi. 35 He..Vpon his crested scalpe so sore did smite, That to the scull a yawning wound it made. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 635 Both Sin, and Death, and yawning Grave. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 172 Cards, with what rapture, and the polish'd die, The yawning chasm of indolence supply! 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* xxiv. I. 420 Many houses were swallowed up by the yawning earth, which closed immediately over them. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxv. 363 Strains which, having once rent the ice, tend subsequently to..produce yawning crevasses. 1884 Gilmour *Mongols* 87 A lofty pass..surrounded with yawning precipices.

3. That yawns from weariness; *transf.* characterized by or producing yawning, drowsy, sleepy. 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 58 The stretching armes, yᵉ yauning breath, which I to bedward use. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 204 The sad-ey'd Iustice..Deliuering ore to Executors pale The lazie yawning Drone. 1605 — *Macb.* III. ii. 43 The shard-borne Beetle, with his drowsie hums, Hath rung Nights yawning Peale. 1627 Hieron *Wks.* II. 108 Many formall, idle, and (as I may call them) yawning requests for mercy. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 122 It is impossible to prevent them, any more than we can..refuse to yawn when I see a yawning sleepy person. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 204 Everyone sees that the yawning husband, and the vapourish wife, are truly insupportable to one another. 1764 Wilkes *Corr.* (1805) II. 96 The account of the character of *Mr.* Legge is the most yawning pamphlet I ever read. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* xv, Here am I..ready to fight, if this yawning fit will give me leave. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxx, The yawning, shaking, peevish figure of the mother.

Hence **Yawningly** *adv.* 1629 Br. Hall *Hypocrite* Wks. 1634 II. 361 Leaning upon your idle elbow yawningly. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII. 17 The caliph received..yawningly the countless homages. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. x, She looks out yawningly towards her friend, the sea.

Yawny (yǭ·ni). *a.* Also **yawney.** [f. Yawn *sb.* or *v.* + -y 1.] Characterized by yawns or (much) yawning; inclined to, or provocative of, yawning. 1805 [implied in *yawniness*]. 1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb. 74/2 His laugh relaxed into a yawny simper. 1830 *Ibid.* 410/2 His Discourses are..what our departed friend Nollekens would have described as 'yawney'—that is, somewhat heavy. 1888 Meredith *Let. to Miss Meredith* 5 Jan., Bruny and Koby in Lapiniland last night, very yawny to-day.

Hence **Yawniness.** 1809 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) II. 115 The old yawniness comes on at times. 1898 Shiel *Yellow Danger* 176 The day has that very-early-morning grayness for which one can find no adjective to express its utter yawniness.

Yawp, yaup (yǭp), *sb.* Also **yop.** [f. next.] A harsh, hoarse, or querulous cry, esp. of a bird. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl., Yawp*, the cry of a sickly bird; or one in distress. 1879 Black *Macleod of D.* ix, The eagle raised its great wings, and..flapped them.. while it uttered a succession of shrill yawps. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Aug. 207/2 He can only tell us how bad he is by hideous grimaces and inarticulate yawps.

b. *fig.* Applied in contempt to speech or utterance likened to this. 1844 'Jonathan Slick' *High Life N. York* I. 114 He looked round as if he wanted to say something..; but I told him to go ahead and hold his yop. 1888 Stevenson *Fam. Stud.* 93 When Mr. Spencer found his Synthetic Philosophy reverberated from the other shores of the Atlantic in the 'barbaric yawp' of Whitman.

Yawp, yaup (yǭp), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* Also 4 ȝolp, 6 yaulpe, yolp(e, 6–7 yalp, 7, 9 yope. [Echoic. Cf. Yap *v.* and Yelp *v.*]

1. *intr.* To shout or exclaim hoarsely; to yelp, as a dog; to cry harshly or querulously, as a bird. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 846 What! þay ȝeȝed & ȝolped of ȝestande sorȝe. *a* 1560 Phaer *Æneid* IX. (1562) Ee ij b, Thereupon men shout, yᵉ hye heauen yalping yells. 1573 Baret *Alv.* Y 3 To Yaulpe and barke like a dogge, and a foxe, *gannio*. 1580 Fulke *Retentive* 51 They like impudent dogges yolpe & barke against vs. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 114 To stop their adversaries mouthes, alwayes yolping and crying with hatefull sounds. 1603 Jonson *Golden Trade* 145 The Lyon..remaines feeding..whilest his small seruant [*sc.* the Jackal] stands barking, and yalping by. 1634–1787 [implied in *yauper* (*yoper*), *yauping*: see below]. 1808 Sibbald *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Yaup*, .. more commonly denotes the incessant crying of birds. 1880 *Spec. Westmoreland Dial.* II. 52 (E.D.D.) We yoped an' shoot't ta egg folk on. 1885 *Letts's Housek. Mag.* 620/2 'That's it!' yawped Mr. Spoopendyke. 'You've been thinking again!' 1915 *Daily Mail* 22 Mar. 4/5 The Press of the Fatherland yelped and yawped at America's heels.

2. *trans.* To utter with a strident or harsh voice. 1567 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* II. 161 b, To pacify this im-

3. *intr.* To gape. *dial.* (Cf. Gaup *v.*) 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxxi, They stand starin and yawpin, all eyes and mouth. 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Jan. 7 'Sue! Wot yer yawpin' at thar?'

Hence **Yawping, yauping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Yawper, yauper** (**yoper**), one that yawps. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 31 The older dogges.. cease from yolping. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 214 The apostacie of the sands from the yalping world

i. 43 Thou art so earnest still to follow Yopers, that make so much haste to devour a simple Hare. 1767 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* (1790), *Yaaping*, crying in despair, lamenting. Applied to chickens lamenting the absence of their parent hen.

ing of the seabirds. 1899 Jesse L. Williams *Stolen Story* etc. 206 When the time came,..a goodly number of these same yawping lads went to the front to get shot at.

Yaws (yǭz). [Origin uncertain; identity with Pian has been suggested (*N. & Q.* Ser. x. I. 5).] A contagious disease affecting negroes, characterized by raspberry-like excrescences or tubercles on the skin; also called *frambœsia*. Also *attrib.* 1679 Trapham *Disc. Health Jamaica* ix. 113 Both which quarters of the world [*sc.* American and African deserts] bring forth the monstrous Yaws as a proper Stock to engraft a new clon of Disease. 1739 Huxham in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 667 He had frequent impure Conversation with some of the Negro Hussies (who probably laboured under the worst Species of Pox, called the Yaws). 1766 Hillary *Air of Barbadoes* 346 Whether it be the *Yaws* or a sort of itch which the Negroes call in their language *Crawcraw*. 1804 Southey in C. C. Southey *Life* (1849) II. 257 The yellow fever will not take root in a negro, nor the yaws in a white man. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 302 Paulet, who inoculated healthy negroes with yaws-fluid. *Ibid.* 306 Syphilis never lurches, yaws nearly always does. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxvii. 430 Yaws virus applied to a pre-existing ulcer may..cause it to fungate like an ordinary yaw.

Yawy (yǭ·i), *a.* Also **yawey.** [f. Yaw(s, Yaw *sb.*² + -y 1.] Affected with or characteristic of yaws. 1679 Trapham *Disc. Health Jamaica* ix. 119 The Yawy Patients. 1744 *Med. Essays Soc. Edinb.* V. II. 794 The Yawy Matter. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 732/2 If the yawey matter finds access to a pre-existing sore or ulcer.

Yaw-yaw (yǭ·yǭ·), *v.* [Cf. Yaw *int.*] *intr.* **a.** To say 'yaw! yaw!'; to talk affectedly. **b.** To utter inarticulate cries resembling the syllables 'yaw, yaw'. Hence **Yawyawdom** (*nonce-wd.*), an affected expression. 1894 Dickens *Hard T.* II. ii, They liked fine gentlemen... They became exhausted in imitation of them; and they yaw-yawed in their speech like them. 1896 — in R. C. Lehmann *C. D. as Editor* (1912) 319 The word 'shindy', or any similar yaw-yawdom. 1883 Hornaday *2 Yrs. in Jungle* vi. 63 The jackals..broke out into a perfect concert of agonised yelping and yaw-yawing.

Yawyn, obs. 3 pl. pa. t. of Give *v.*

Yax(e, dial. ff. Axe. 1304 in *Archæologia* (1846) XXXI. 208, ij. yaxronges weyeng iiij li. et di. 1808 Jamieson, *Yaxe*, an axe, Buchan.

Yaxyd : see Yasked.

Yay, obs. graphic variant of *jay*, They.

† **Ybake(n** [Y- 4] baked. 1340 *Ayenb.* 218 Bread tuiles ybake. 1377 — *P. Pl.* B. vi. 184 Benes and bren ybaken togid[er]e. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 54 Tyl it be y-baken y-now. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. xi. 47 The schaft ..and weill ybaik [orig. *solidum nodis et robore coctæ*]. **Ybanyssched,** banished. *c* 1385 [see Banish *v.* 2c]. *c* 1400 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 510 Somme of hem were slayn..and somme y-banyssched. **Ybaptised.** 1297 [see Baptise *v.* 1]. **Ybarnd** : see Yrrent. **Ybarred,** barred. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 162 In an hous al bisshette & her dore ybarred. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xix. v. 780 That wyndowe was y barryd with yron. **Ybathed.** *c* 1300 [see Bathe *v.* 3]. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 815 With here salte terys Here brest here face y-bathed was ful wete. **Ybatrid.** *c* 1380 [see Batter *v.*¹ 2 b]. **Ybe, yben(e, yby,** earlier *ȝebeon, ib(e)on, ibi*, etc. (see Be *v.* A. 8). 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5729 Sein swithin..þat longe adde vnder erþe ybe. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1203 Sche..sleiȝest had y bene. 1340 *Ayenb.* 229 Ane cite huer he hedde y-by at ane bredale. *a* 1500 *Flower and Leaf* 375 The grete affray That they in greene without had in ybe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. i. 73 The quhilk Acetes had tofor ybe Squyer to kyng Evander. **Ybedded** [Y- 5], provided with beds. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 498 Yuel yclothed [þei] ȝeden, Badly ybedded. **Ybede** [Y- 4, Bid *v.*] asked for. 1340 *Ayenb.* 217 Huanne god heþ y-yeue to man þet he him heþ ybede. **Ybegunne,** begun. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 147 The batelle ybegunne, men of Persides..fledde. **Ybeld** : see Ybuld. **Ybenched** [Y- 5], furnished with benches. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 205 An halle ..Wiþ brode bordes aboute y-benched wel clene. **Ybent,** bent. *c* 1330 [see Bent *ppl. a.* 2]. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 214 Grette browis y-bente. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 110 Cupide the king, wyth bow in hand ybent. 1579 Hake *News out of Powles* (1872) G iij b, That Broking trade might practizd be by men so well ȝbent. 1593 *Locrine* I. Prol. 9 A dreadfull Archer with his bow ybent. **Yber,** pa. t. of I-bere *v.*¹ **Yberyit,** obs. Sc. pa. pple. of Bury *v.*: see Yburied. **Ybet(te** [Bete *v.*], amended; improved; kindled. *c* 1000 [see Bete *v.* 1]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. iv. 93 Bettere is þat bote bale adoun brynge, þan bale be ybette & bote neuere be bettere. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 235 Anoon a fyer ther was y-beet [*rime* y-set]. 1502 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 14 Vapours hote, richt fresche, and weill ybet. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 19 And to his side a sworde he girt, with golden nayles ybet. **Ybete** *v.* [Y- 3 c], to beat. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* CXVI, My teris..That ȝe se on the ground so fast ybete. **Ybete(n** [Beat *v.*¹], beaten. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1318 An ymage..Y-beten al with gold fyne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 236 Behoueþ þet he by ybeate and y-weste. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1122 *Dido*, Ne coupe of gold with floreynys newe I-bete [*v.rr.* ybet, ybete, ybette]. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 609 And Arthour (was) y-bete wyþ wounde. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2017 Nowe must ye be storm ybeten with showres and raynes. **Ybite,** bitten. *c* 1460 *Sians Puer ad Mensam* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 157 Off brede y-bite no soppis that thu make. **Yblamed,** blamed. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 287 Who-so seyth hem sothes is sonnest yblamed. **Yblaunchyd,** blanched. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 31 Draw vppe a brifti Mylke of Almaundys y-blaunchyd. **Ybleft,** var. Ybleued.

† **Yblent,** *pa. pple.*¹ *Obs.* Also 4 yblend. [Y- 4, Blend *v.*¹] Blinded; dazed; 'clouded'. *a* 1225–1250 iblend, iblent [see Blend *v.*¹]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 201 Huo þet is beuield mid þo lac he is riȝtuolliche yblent. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 437 þat was i-blend wiþ [*MS.* ȝ yblend be] þe chaungynge of hap of mankynde [orig. *hoc obnubilavit sortis humanæ varietas*]. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3659 Shippes..With her songe so fonned bee, So suppryssed, and y-blent. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxiv, All my body so li hath ouerwent, That of my sicht the vertew hale Iblent. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 3 The eye of reason was with rage yblent. 1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) 60 Beeing all with cares yblent, When he thought on yeeres mispent.

Yblent, *pa. pple.*² *Obs.* or *arch.* [Y- 4, Blend *v.*²] Blended, mingled; confused, blurred. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10978 Thys Rud entendement Ys wyth Rudnesse so yblent, That dyamount,..ys noon.. So indurat..As he. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 108 When I observe their Light and Heat yblent. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. II. lvi, He was bent To keep the credit which he then had got, As he conceiv'd: for it had been yblent. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. iv, All these sounds yblent inclined all to sleep.

† **Yblessed, yblest,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Also 1 ȝebletsed, 2 iblecced, -sced (see Bless *v.*), 4 ybli(s)ced, etc. [Y- 4.] Blessed, blest. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6085 Yblessed be þe moder wombe þat him to ȝ mne bere. ?a. *Cursor M.* 23081 (Edinb.) Yblced folk. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 13 Bisshopes

yblessed, 3ff þey han as þei shulden. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxi. 148 Than was the worlde y-blessyd whan wyse men regnyd. 1593 Greene *Maiden's Dr.* xxxiv, Bausis and Philemon were ibliest For feasting Iupiter in strangers stead.

†**Yblesed**, pa. pple. of Bellave, to remain. 1340 *Ayenb.* 275 þe ilke þet is yblesed ine hyse he seal him loki chastliche. **Yblowe**, **yblown**, blown. 1377, *c* 1384 (see Blow *v.*¹ 13, 17 c). 14.. *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 245 Ther is a bitter blast yblowe. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. 2. II. ix, Lest we..be yblown about with wanton wind. **Yblynd(ed**, blinded, blindfolded. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 497 Yblynd wiþ þe blasynge of þe smowe. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3681 Entendement Ys with Ire yblynded so. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxx. 113 The handes ybounde & the eyen yblynded. **Yblyndfalled**: see Blindfold *v.* *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3011 Gy of Borgoyngne þar afond y-blyndfallad, and by-bounde. **Ybode(n**, proclaimed, bidden, prayed. *a* 925 *Laws of Æthelstan* II. c. 20 Gif..hit beo seofon nihtum ær ȝeboden ær fæt ȝemot sy. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 Þurh festing and þurh wacunge and ec þurh ibodenes biddunge. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 498 Of mani noble he nam ȝeme, þat he hadde y-boden fiem. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 111 Þre dayes fastynge y-bode for þat. **Yboffeted**, buffeted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 261 þe nyȝt in whiche Crist was..i-buffeted (*v.r.* yboffated). **Ybonchyd**, = Bunched, humped. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18799 The bo[n]ch..with whiche this folke relygious bene yboncchyd. **Ybontyd** [Bunt *v.*²], sifted. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 Take Almaunde mylke, & y-bontyd flour. **Ybord** *v. pseudo-arch.* [see Y- 3 and Aboard *v.* 2], to accost. 1768 Downman *Land of Muses* xx, Them Alma gracefully y-bording. **Yborȝe** [Y- 4, Bergh], saved; hence **Yborȝing**, *vbl. sb.*, salvation. 1340 *Ayenb.* 121 Vor teo þinges is þe man yborȝe, be þe be-uliynge of kreasde and do þet guode. *Ibid.* 201 þet his holy saule.. miȝte ysy and knawe god, and al þet him is niede and guod to his yborȝinge.

†**Yborn**, *pa. pple. Obs.* (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 1 ȝeboren, 2–3 iboren, 4–5 yboren, i-borne, 4–6 yborne, ybore, (6 ybor), 4–8 y-born. [OE. *geboren*, pa. pple. of OE. *geberan* I-bere *v.*¹, *beran* Bear *v.*¹]

1. Born.

Beowulf 1703 Þæt ȝes eorl wære ȝeboren betera. *O. E. Chron.* an. 853 (Parker MS.) Iternon Hraþe was ȝeboren in þere earce. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 20 Þeos wes his eames iborene. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5084 Alsone i that childe y-borne is. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxi. 120 He is the sloweste mon that ever wes y-boren. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7780 Ywain bastard yborn.. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) 286 Wommen maken gret Sorwe, whan hire Children ben y born. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. Prol. 58 No so the Son of hys kynd is ybor, That he a part hes tharof, and na 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 270 Woe be to that Priest ne That will not cleanly weed his corne. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. III. xxxiii, Or was he to continuall pain of ..? 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. lxi, Heirs of ..nity! yborn to rise Through endless states of being. 1795 Mendez *Sqr. Dames* II. xxix. In Dodsley *Coll. P.* IV. 230 A young swain on Shannon's banks yborn.

2. Borne.

c 705 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E 390 *Expositio*, ȝeborone. 12.. *O. E. Chron.* an. 3 (MS. F) Þæt cild Crist weard ȝeboren æȝean of Egiptan. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3442 After þat he was in þe hors bere ybore. *c* 1325 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 70 He hath robbed Engelond, the mores, ant the fenne, The gold, ant the selver, ant y-boren henne. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2810 Þe obre relyues..þat þou hast away yborn. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 319 Whanne þei haveþ y-bore doun here enemyes. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III. I. XXV, Fair clustred buildings..with high spires to heaven yborn.

†**Yborned**, **Yborneshed**: see Yrenne, Yburnuscht. **Yborwed** [Y- 4, Borrow *v.*¹], 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XV. Fonde þei þat Freres wolde forsake her almesses, And hem bere it þere it was yborwed. **Yboasted**, boasted. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 59 Hope cam hippyng after þat hadde so yboasted. **Ybought**, pa. t. of I-bye, to buy. 1446 ? Lydg. *Nightingale Poems* I. 396 This blessid lord þat..Vpon a crosse oure soules dere y-bought. **Y-bought**, **-oht**, **-oȝt**, pa. pple. of Buy *v.* or I-bye *v.* *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (L.) 182 For my dep wes monkune yboht.

†**Ybound**, *pa. pple. Obs.* (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 1 ȝebunden, 4–6 ybounde(n, 6 ibund, 4–8 ybound. [pa. pple. of OE. *gebindan* I-binde, *bindan* Bind.] Bound.

Beowulf 871 Cynincges þegn..word oþer fand soðe ȝebunden. *Ibid.* 1531 Wundenmal wrættum ȝebunden. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5863 ȝond man ledeþ Leodegan Ybounden toward king Rion. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2861, I toforn hadde nat seyn Som other folk ybounde so. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol. 40 The God absufe, from his hie maieste, With the ibund, law in a maid did lycht. 1563 [see Bind *v.* I c]. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Dancer. Plat.* viii, The low Cusp's a figure circular, Whose compasse is ybound, but centre's every where. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* Prol. 84 Thy joyous Madrigals twice three, With Preface meet, and Notes profound, Imprinted fair, and well y-bound.

†**Ybowed** [Y- 4, Bow *v.*¹], influenced. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 451 [He] was ybowed vor favour [*origin. inflexus favoribus*]. **Ybowne**, *pseudo-arch.* [Y-, *bownie*, Bound *ppl. a.*¹], about to go or start. *c* 1572 Gascoigne *Posies, Fruites Warre* cxl, A daye before he was from thence ybowne. **Yboylid**, boiled. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Hony y-boylid hote. **Ybrad** [Breed *v.*¹, to roast], tortured as with fire. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 39 The care that icham yn y-brad, y wyte a wyf. **Ybraid** [Braid *v.*²], pounded. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 A pece of Milwelle..y-braid with-al.

†**Ybrent**, *pa. pple. Obs.* (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 3–4 ibrend(e, 4–5 ybrend, -te, 6 ybrint, 4– ybrent; 3–4 ybarn(e)d, 4 ybernde, 5 y-borned. [See Y- 4 and Burn *v.*¹] Burnt; *occas.* burnished.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2890 Þe king vortiger was ybarnd to doust wiþinne. *c* 1320 *Prov. Hending* xiii. in *Anglia* IV. 299 So þe child þat drawe þ is heued..fro þe brond þat is ennes ibrend. *c* 1325 *St. Katherine* 148 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 90 In þe fur me hem caste þo hi hadde longe ibrend. 1340 *Ayenb.* 116 Þe ybarnde aer dret. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 432 Y-brent wyth hete. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Life Our Lady* xlix. (1484) g viij, With golde of feyth fayr bright y borned. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. I. 7 Ybrint in smoke of flambis. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ix. 53 And heauenly lampes were halfendeale ybrent. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* I. I. xvii, The proud Phaeton, Who clomb the fiery car and was ybrent. 1767 Mickle *Concub.* I. xxviii, With feverish Thirste ybrent. *Ibid.* II. liii, The ragged Walls with Lightning seemd ybrent.

†**Ybroached**: see Broach *v.*¹ 2. **Ybroke**: see Break *v.* and I-broke. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4985 Þe fourme of pes was vaste ymad..þat ne miȝte nogt wel be ybroke. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 143 Through a feyth y-broke. **Y-brought**, brought. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2303 Rowen ..among hom ybrogt was. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) viii, Holy cherche Is mych ibrowt adoun. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 586 Ȝe were..y-brouht forþ & bred of þat modur. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxix. 107 The kynge of polonye, that sawe..his standarde ybrought to the grounde. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Dancer. Plat.* ii, As men ybrought Into some spacious room. **Ybroylid**, broiled. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 47 Porke y-broylid. **Ybuld**, **-beld**, etc. [Y- 4, Build *v.*], built. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1331 Ne sawe þay neuere by-fore þat a place so faire ybuld. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 172 A woon wonderlie well ybeld. *c* 1400 in *26 Pol. Poems* xxvi. 195 Wkhyn y-bylde halles and bowres. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 201 The tempill y-buylid. [For form cf. *bylled*, quot. *c* 1400 s.v. Build *v.* 2.] **Ybulled** [Bull *v.*²], issued a bull against. *c* 1400 *Langland's P. Pl.* A. v. 77 (MS. H) [Ichane] y-bulled hem to þe lord to make hem lese siluer. **Yburied**, **-bir-**, **-ber-** [Y- 4, Bury *v.*], buried. *c* 1250 [see Bury *v.* 1]. 1297 [see Fall *v.* 33 b]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 45 He ..was i-slawe and y-buried þere. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. v. 28 With wyne and sleip yberyit and at rest. **Yburnuscht**, **yburnusched**, burnished. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3622 Wel y-burnuscht fair & bryght. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3587 Sherpe swerdes y-bornschad brizte.

Yburpananseca: see Byrthynsak.

†**Ycalled**[1], **-yd**, **ycalde** [Y- 4], called. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 32 Panne am I conscience ycalde. 14.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 812 A woman þat heleine was icluped [*MS. B* ycallyde, y ycallyd]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2904 To-forn or he had makyd man,..He was ycallyd but God only. **Ycalled**[2] [Y- 5, Caul *sb.*¹], wearing a 'caul'. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 223 In riche robes rathest he walketh, Ycalled and ycrimilled. **Ycapred**, capered. *c* 1634 Cartwright *Ordinary* III. i, Huh, huh, huh, so; ycapred very wele. **Ycarked**, **ykarked**, loaded, burdened. 1340 [see Care *v.* 1]. **Ycarped**, talked. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 296 If þei couth han ycarped by cryst. **Ycast**. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5122 Þe englisse þo & saxons..castles bigonne bulde..þat hii adde er ycast adoun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 108 Huanne..he heþ alle his uelþes ykest out. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxx. 111 They were..y-caste from the realme of Tourmaday. **Ycaught**, **yca(u)ȝt**. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4372 Hii wende wel hor owe sleuþe on ȝou abbe yca3t. *c* 1570 icaught [see Catch *v.* 32]. **Ycausing** *pr. pple.* [Y- 3 c], causing. 1583 Sackville *Mirr. Mag., Compl. Henry Dk. Buckhm.* xlix, The Tyrant kyng.. Saunce earthly gylt ycausing both be slayne.

Ycch(e, Yce, obs. forms of Itch, Ice.

Ycclipped, obs. form of Yclept.

†**Ycesed** [Y- 4, Cease], appeased, quieted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 255 Whanne þe Babilons were i-cesed [*MS.* y ycesed].

Ych(e, obs. ff. Each, I *pron.*, Itch *v.*¹

†**Ychaft(ed**, warmed. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 248 That syde is moste colde and moste nedyth to be ychaft. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 893 His stomachere welle y-chafed to kepe hym fro harme. **Ychained**. *c* 1393 [see Chain *v.* 2 b]. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xvi, Those ychain'd in sleep. **Ychanged**. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3325 Þis art was al cleene ydo þat ychanged hii were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 242 Hi wes ychonged in-to an ymage of zalt. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 172 The herte y-changed fro ayse to myseyse. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* III. App. xxv, The bare bones ..First into liquour melt to air ychanged been. **Ycharged**, charged, laden. *a* 1225 icharged [see Charge *v.* 4]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2504 Ycharged mid gode knistes aiþes eiztetene. 1340 *Ayenb.* 260 þet youre herten ne by..y-charged of glotounie. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 230 Ich man y-charchid to schoppe at his crowne. *c* 1485 *Engl. Conq. Ired.* 22 O shippe..y-charget with whet. *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 224 And though with Indian stones..Ycharged were thy backe. **Ycharm** *v.* (*pseudo-arch.*) [Y- 3], to charm. *c* 1620 T. Robinson *Mary Magd.* 1438 Seu'n sprights, with thunder hee ycharm'd from out my brest. **Ychased**, **-ced**. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 303 Þere Lotharius fliȝ and was i-chasede [*MS. B* ychaced]. *c* 1460 [see Chase *v.*¹ 2 c].

Yche, var. Eche *v.* *Obs.* to augment, increase.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IV. vii. (Tollem. MS.), [Blood] is..more acharpe for þe ychynge of hete.

†**Ycheckt**, checked. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. III. xxviii, It would project Dark powerfull beams, that solar life ycheckt.., all things would die.

Ychele, var. Ickle, icicle.

Ycheon, obs. f. *each one*: see Each B. 1 c.

†**Ycheryd** [Y- 5] (well) favoured. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 5373 Wel y-cheryd of lokyng. **Ychesyled**. 1509 [see Chisel *v.*¹ 1]. **Ychesmed** [Chevy *v.* 5], done homage. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1506a Ȝit y ne may Leten oure forfadres lay, þat we longe on hane y-leued, & til oure Gedes þer-inne y-cheued. **Ychid**, chidden. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 33 Þere Dunston was strongliche despised and i-ched [*v.rr.* y-chidde, y-chyd].

Ychon(e, obs. ff. *each one*: see Each B. 1 c.

†**Ychoppid** [Y- 4], chopped. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 46 A litel sode Porke or vele y-choppid. **Ychosen**(n [Y- 4, Choose, I-chosen], chosen. (Cf. Ycore.) 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2419 Ychose we beþ þez to. 1340 *Ayenb.* 68 Þe beli geet..makeþ his ychoesene zinge..þe:

tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 349 He was lawfullich

Ycle, obs. ff. Icicle, Icy.

Yclad (iklæ·d), *pa. pple. arch.* (since 16th c.). Also 4–5 ycladdе, yclodde, (also 7) iclad, 6 yclaadd. [See Y- 4 and Clad.] Clothed (*lit.* and *fig.*).

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 2843 Mark y clad in palle. ? *a* 1386 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 470 Al to seide..Is ony pouere man wel fadde Or wel arraied or [y]cladde. *c* 1386 — *Miller's T.* 234 Yclad [*v.rr.* iclad, y-cladde] he was..Al in a kirtel of a lyght waget. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 363 Iff a man se an other naked he shalle have mo sekernes of hym thanne iff he se hym yclad. *c* 1474 Caxton *Recuyell* (1894) 615 A place veyde, where the mayneers..putte the body of hector ..y cladde in his beste garementes and robes. 1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 97 My carefull corpe yclad with heauinesse. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Ff ij, All yclad in greene..he paced forward to the parke. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 29 An aged Sire, in long blacke weedes yclad. 1593 Shake. *2 Hen. VI*, I. i. 33 Her words yclad with wisedomes Maiesty. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 30 In pure white clothes iclad. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* ii. (1871) 30 Ignorance in his scarlet robe yclad. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* xix. 371 Yclad in Armour shining like the Sun. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. x, Yclad in steel, and bright with burnish'd mail. 1751 R. Lloyd *Progr. Envy* xv, In flowing sable stole she was yclad. 1822 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. liv, Spring yclad in grassy dye.

†**Yclanned**, **yclenned**, pa. pple. of Cleanse, Yclense. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 In þe font..we iclensed weren. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1012 Þors graces of þe londe Idronke hii beþ iclanesed some. 1340 *Ayenb.* 74 Þe fornayse huerinne bernep þe zaules al-huet hi byeþ yclensed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 337 Whete cornes beeþ þere ful amal, vnneþe i-clanned wiþ manis hond.

Yclcap'd, obs. form of Yclept.

†**Yclense**, *v.* [Y- 3 c, Cleanse.] To cleanse. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 We sceolan..ure heortan ȝeclænsian from ofrum ȝedohtum. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 760 Her kynde were more to y-clense diches.

†**Yclepe** (iklī·p), *v. Obs.* Also 6 ycleepe. [OE. *geclipian*, *gecleopian* to call (in various senses): see Y- 3 c and Clepe *v.* Spenser's *ycleepe* is a new back-formation on Yclept. In quot. 1901 'ycleping' is an error for 'clipping' (Clip *v.*¹).] *trans.* To call by name, name.

c 950, *c* 1100 [see Yclept]. 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 65 Himselfe he did ycleepe, The shepheard of the Ocean by name. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 8/2 The old Saxon custom of 'ycleping', or naming, the Church has just been revived at Painswick, in the Cotswolds.

Yclept (iklē·pt), **ycleped** (iklī·pt, *poet.* iklī·pĕd), *pa.pple. arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeclypod, *Northumb.* ȝiolíop(p)ad, 2 ȝecleped, iclipet, 2–3 iclepet, i-, ycluped, 4 yclepud, 4–5 icleped, yclepid, 5 iclepyd, 6 iclipped, iclipt, ycliped, ycclipped, ycleapt, -ed, *Sc.* yclepit, 6–7 yclipt, 7 i-, ycleeped, ycleep'd, ycleap'd, yclipped, ecleaped, eclip't, 8 yclyped, 4– ycleped (7–9 yclep'd), 8– yclept. [OE. *geclypod*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*clypian*, (*ge*)*clipian* Clepe, Yclepe: see Y- 4. Adopted by Gawin Douglas from his ME. models, and much affected as a literary archaism by Elizabethan and subsequent poets; in less dignified writing often used for the sake of quaintness or with serio-comic intention.] Called (so-and-so), named, styled.

c 950 *Durham Ritual* (Surtees) 60 *Dignus vocari apostolus*, wyrðe þættе ic se ȝiclíopad erendwraca. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1057 (MS. D.) [Eadmund] Irensid wæs ȝeclypod for his snellecipe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Heo weren iclipet synagoge al swa is nu iclepet al cristen folc. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 Ðurh ane oðre sunne þe is ȝecleped inobedliencia. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 5 Syon was sum hwile iclepet þe hehe tur of Jerusalem. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 120 Al þis was ȝwile iclyped [*v.rr.* ycleped, icleped, clepud, callyde, callyd] þe march of walis. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5560 Her ost was ycleped Blaire. 1340 *Ayenb.* 28 A vice þet is y-cleped ine clergie ingratitude. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 121 & braunde was þat bold qnene of burnes y-clepud. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 43 Make round-lyke Fretourys..þat ben y-clepid Ragons. *c* 1440 *Stac. Rawn* 674 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 166 A lytylle chapelle yeet there is, I-clepyd 'titulus pasteris'. 1549 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* iii. (1555) C j b, They pyped a daunce I clipped, amour de la haulte piesaunce. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. ii. 23 The king thaisof yclepit Anyus. 1582 Howell *Devises* (1879) 244 By name yclipt Endimion. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* I. i. 242 Now for the ground Which? which I meane I walkt vpon, it is yclipped, Thy Parke. 1590 *Soliman & Pers.* v. iii. 74 That frauchful squire of Ithaca, iclipt Vlisses. 1598 Tofte *Alba* III. G v, Loues Labor Lost, I once did see a Play, Ycleped so. 1611 Cotgr., *Nommé*..named, called, clesped, ecleaped. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* ii. (1871) 22 The dreadfull beast, yclepid crocodile. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 12 But com thou Goddes fair and free, In Heav'n ycleep'd Euphrosyne. 1638 Heywood *Wise Wom.* II. i, *Sam.* Is thy name Taber? *Tab.* I am so eclip't Sir. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 904 A valiant Mamaluke, In Foreign Land yclep'd (Sir Samuel Luke). 1664 *Ibid.* II. i. 46 A tall long-sided dame (But wondrous light) ycleped Fame. 1727 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Bristol* 1 Apr., Attending damsels yclep'd maids of honour. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Poetry Prof.* Wks. 1774 I. 32 Tho' not one wit bestrides the back Of useful drudge, ycleped hack. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise of Chimney-Sweepers*, The sweet wood yclept sassafras. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xi, The old and tenantless dwelling yclept Fieldhead. 1877 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) I. 269 It [a yclept 'redistribution of seats'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 9/2 The Associated South London Extended Gold Mines Corporation, Limited, ycl pt in the market Sads.

Pirog. predicated of the name. 1693 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Cert. Trans. Uncert. Journ.* 17 The name of *Wheat ears*, on them is yclasp'd, Because they when wheat is yearly reap'd.

†**Yclepte, Yclipt** [Y- 4], pa. pples. of Clip *v.*[1], Clitch *v.* **Yeleyed**, stopped with clay. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 438 Another list ycleyed hem to se. **Yclinge** *v.* (*pseudo-arch.*) [Y- 3 c], to cling. *c* 1620 T. Robinson *Mary Magd.* 370 Yet to ye bancket his tender rootes yclinge. **Y-clive**[1], obs. pa. pple. of *clive*, Cleave *v.*[2] *a* 1325 *Maudelain* 323 in Horstm *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 166 So michel pain is in hir yclive, 3ete ich wene wele þat sche live. **Yclive**[2], pa. pple of Clive *v.*, to climb. **Yclomben**, climbed. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince.* 904 Þou þat yclomben art in hy honoures. **Yclosed**, closed. 1377, *c* 1420 [see Close *v.* 1 b, 3]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 And so nozt y-closyd, serue forth. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* III. App. xviii, The ghosts Of men decast'd..in sleep yclos'd. **Yclothed**, clothed 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 39 Noble men yclo[th]ed in ermine. *a* 1400 *Adam Davy* 140 3 kyng stood, yclobed al in rede. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 To haue fed me..and 3eue me dryngke, yclobet me. **Yclouted**, patched. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 61, I shal..cast on me my clothes yclouted and hole. **Yclove**, obs. pa. pple. of Cleave *v.*[1] (3 8). **Yclyketed**, latched. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. VIII. 266 Þe dore..Y-keyed and yclyketed.

Yclyped, obs. form of Yclept.

†**Yclypyd** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of Clip *v.*[2] 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5012 Yclypyd & yshaue Vp-on your hedys. **Y-colded**, made cold, cooled. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 80 And þe potte y-colded, be it opned. **Ycoled**, obs. pa. pple of Cull *v.*[1] 13.. *K. Alis.* 2686 Foure thousand knyghtis,..Y-coled alle for the nones. **Y-colo(u)rid**, coloured. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 230 Eyen y-colorid like rede wyne. **Ycome(n, come.** 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4249 Þo king arþures men ycome were echon. 1340 *Ayenb.* 262 Þis boc is ycome to þe ende. 1425 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3617 Now ye ben ykome ageyn. **Ycompaced.** 1297 (see Compass *v.*[1] 2). **Ycomparisoned.** 1340 [see Comparison *v.* 1]. **Yconceyued.** 1340 [see Conceive *v.* 7]. **Yconfirmed.** 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4882 Poru hard oþ & god ostage yconfermed was al þis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 106 Þi beleaue by y-confermed ine ous. **Yconfortid**, comforted. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 247 The kyndly hette shal be y-confortid. **Yconfounded.** 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8419 Al clene þe asrewen were confounded [*MS. a* yconfounded]. **Ycongeyed**, pa. pple. of Congee *v.*, to permit. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 259 Whan eny man is i-congyed [*MS. γ* ycongeyed] here to commence in eny faculte [etc.].

Yconomie, Yconomus (-imus), obs. ff. Economy, Œconomus.

†**Yconquest** [see Y- 4 and Conquest *pa. pple.*], acquired. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. ii. 50 Rewardis..Yconquest in this batall Laurentane. **Yconsayled**, counselled. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 509 *note*, As Edricius hadde yconsayled while a was alyve. **Ycontined, -contyened**, contained. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Zome byeþ y-contined ope þan þet byeþ yzed. *Ibid.* 118 [see Contain *v.* 2]. **Yconyd**, pa. pple. of Coin *v.*[1] **Y-coped** [Y- 5] *a*, early form of Coped *a.*, wearing a cope. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 342, I knewe such one..Come in þus ycoped at a courte.

†**Yco're**, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 gecoren, 2–3 icoren, 3–4 icore, 4 i-, ycorn, 3–5 ycore. [OE. *gecoren*, pa. pple. of *cēosan* to Choose, *gecēosan* I-cheose.] Chosen; often predicative and as adj., elect; 'choice', fair, comely (cf. the uses of *corn* s.v. Choose *v.* A. 6 a); hence in ME. used as a meaningless tag often riming with *before*; *absol.* elect one, the elect.

Beowulf 206 He hæfde cempan gecorone. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 299 Wiþ þa gecoreman Cristes þegnas. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xviii, Honorius..to biscoope 3ecoren wæs. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2818 Abraham..drihtne gecoren. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxi. 18 [cxxxii. 17] Ic..fægre gearuwe byrnende blac-ern bere for minum cristе gecorenum [orig. *christo meo*]. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Nu ic þe bidde for þine kinedome..and for alle þine halezen and ec þine icorene. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 104 Hwi boð fole ilepede and swa lut icorene. *c* 1220 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Hwat is þis þe astihð alse dai rieme, fair alse mone, icoren [orig. *electa*, Song of Songs vi. 10] alse sunne? *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (L.) 244 Let vs neuer be forloren for no sunne, crist ycoren. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 579 Of wel heighe kin y-corn. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 544 [The child] as a roonde of flesche icore In chaumbre lay hire bifore, Withouten blod or bon. *Cœur de L.* 146 With a coron off gold i-corn. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 978 Þe kiddeste y-core þat corone weldus! *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 766 Charlis kyng þe beste knyzt y-core þat is owar now lyuyng. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 789 Edgar..To þe kyudam of Englonde was y-core.

†**Ycoroned**: see Ycrowned. **Ycorumped** [Y- 4], pa. pple. of Corrump *v.*, to corrupt. **Ycorve(n**, carved. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4840 He wel adoun as a gret ok þat hine þe ykorue wer. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 173 A woon wonderlie well y-bald, Wiþ arches on euerichе half & belliche y-corven. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Rasonys y-corven. **Ycoryd**, cored. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 46 Take perys y-coryd. **Ycounted.** 1388 [see Y- 4]. **Ycouped**, pa. pple. of Coup *v.*[2], to cut. **Ycoupled.** 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 3if a 3ong sheep..schal be y-coupled and y-3oked to a wylde bole. **Ycovered** (see also *yhevered*), covered. 1742 Shenstone *Schoolmistr.* xxxiii, Apples with cabbage-net y-cover'd o'er. **Ycraul** *v.* [Y- 3 c], to crawl. 1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 73 Vile man from vilest durt on earth ycrauld. **Ycrested** *a.* [Y- 5], crested. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* V. 97 A heauie helmet..with cresta ycrested three. **Ycrimilled**, pa. pple. of Crimil *v.* **Yeristened**, christened. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 37 Sche was y-cristened and i-cleped Eugenius, and i-made monk. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 265 Men fyndeþ þat makamede was a man ycrystned. **Ycrost**, crossed. 1603 J. Davies *Microcosmos* 243 For, Crownes are richly blest, with Peace y-crost. **Ycrowned, -core(u)ned, -cronet**, crowned. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3034 In þe ober half þe quene was of archebissopes al so Ysed & ycrouned ek as riȝt was nor to do. 1340 *Ayenb.* 267 Ich y-seȝ..þe þeaunemarlе ueiaȝrede of þe holy martires mid blisse and worþsipe y-corouned. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 72 Þou schalt be y-crowned bisshop at Rome. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 199 Than he hym bethoght of the tyme noble that he demenyd in Ierusalem, ther as he was kynge y-cronet. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III. III. xiii, With fair flowres from unknown root ycrowned. **Ycullid**, obs. pa. pple. of Kill *v.* 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. I. 199 Thauh we hadde ycullid þe cauȝe þat sholde þer come anoþer. **Ycus(e)ed**, obs. pa. pple. of Kiss *v.* **Ycustumet**, pa. pple. of Custom *v.* (sense 2). 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 247 Afteyr the tyme of the yere and the houre of the day y-custumet or vset. **Ycutte** (see also *yhyt*, etc.), cut. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 51 Datys y cutte in iij. or iiij.

Ycy, Yd, obs. forms of Icy, Ir.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 78 To fulfyll yd in word and dede.

†**Ydad, a minced oath**: cf. Edad.

c 1680 Hickeringill *Hist. Whiggism* I. Wks. 1716 I. 42 Ydad, I think I am just of that Opinion myself.

†**Ydamned, -dampned**, obs. pa. pple. of Damn *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 78 Vor manye þiloȝes oþer of greate clierkes and of kynges and of emperours..byeþ ydampned ine helle. *c* 1395 *Prioresse's Tale* 1243 Thou shalt be..clene y-dampned into hell. *c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8670 He was þere idemd [*MS. C* ydampned] to þe pine of helle stronge.

Ydan(t, obs. ff. Eident, ident *Sc.*, diligent.

†**Ydarted** [Y- 4], pierced as with a dart. *c* 1374 (see Dart *v.* 1). *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6878 With wo they be throgh-out y-darted. **Ydaunted**, overcome. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* V. 80 Chromius eke fel deade in fielde y-daunted by his might.

Ydder, obs. form of Udder.

†**Ydead, ydede** [Y- 4], dead. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 169 Þis 3ere Levyngus þe bisshop of Wor estre y-dede. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. I. v, Old Adam.. Under some senseless sod with sleap ydead. **Ydee, ydene** (OE. *gedēn, gedēn*, pa. pple. of Do *v.*, I-do *v.*) done. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 1266 Synne..ær ȝedenra. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 890 When þe masse was alle y-dee. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 28 That thou ne hast y-dene troght some grete lette, hastyly be about to do.

Ydel, obs. form of Idle, Idol.

†**Ydel(e)d** [Y- 4, Deal *v.*], divided. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 542 Þis lond was þo ideled [*MS. a* ydeld *β*, *γ* yueldе] a þre. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 107 Þese tweie kyngdoms were..y-deled bytwene tweye kynges. †**Y-dem(e)d** [Y- 4, Dem *v.*], judged, condemned. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 75 He is idemd to eche wowe on helle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6381 Þin owe mouþ þe aþ ydemd. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 909 We faiþful folk..Ben y-demed to do dedus of rihte. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 289 His dwellinge [was] ydemed a bowe-drawte ffrom hem.

†**Ydemptifically**, *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [app. ad. med.L. **identificē*, adv. of **identificus* Identific.] With actual identity.

1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 461 Criste is not in that sacramente ydemptifically, veryly and really in his propre presence corporealle.

Ydenly, obs. form of Idently *adv. Sc.*

Ydeot(e, obs. form of Idiot.

†**Ydept** [Y- 4], dipped. 1340 *Ayenb.* 106 Y-dept ine blod. **Y-det** [Y- 4, Dit *v.*], stopped, closed. *a* 1340 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 30 Hwan Banockesbourne is y-det mid mannis bonis. **Y-dicyd** [Y- 4], cut into dice. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Hard Wastel y-dicyd.

†**Ydi·ght**, *pa. pple. Obs.* (after 1500 *arch.*) [Y- 4, Dight *v.*] Prepared, furnished, dressed.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5581 Þe welisse ver in engelond vorte he it adde ydiȝt. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 811 Her dortour y-diȝte wiþ dores ful stronge. *c* 1510 *Lytell Gesta R. Hode* VII, Full hastly was theyr dyner I dyght. 1522 *World & Child* A j b, Stretes and strondes full strongely ydyght. 1579 Fulke *Refut. Rastell* 722 The Aultars bright, that were rounde ydight.

Ydil(l, -illy, Ydiome, Ydiot(e, obs. ff. Idle *a.*, Idly *adv.*, Idiom, Idiot.

†**Ydo(n** [Y- 4, Do *v.*, I-do *v.*], done, put. *Wel idon* (cf. MHG. *wol getân*): excellent. 1123, etc. [see Do *v.* A. 8]. *c* 1205 Lay. 910 Membricius, þet wes a riche mon, þe wes swiðe wel idon [Wace *saives hom*]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9535 Wircestere was þus ibarnd and oþer harm ido. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 312 A þral..To strong prison was i-don. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 71 What hast y-doo, sire bisshop? 1392 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 3 þat þ° hows be ysold, and þ° Almes yi-do in þ° worst 3ere. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17310 Thys meschefe..Ys ydon and wrought by me. **Ydobbed**: see *Ydubbed*. **Ydodded**, shorn. *a* 1400 *N. T.* (Pauses) 1 Cor. xi. 6 3if it be foul for a womman to ben y-dodded oþer balled. **Ydolve** [Delve *v.*], undermined; buried. *Ayenb.* 263 Vor huych hord þet ilke zelue hous ne by ine healyche he wakeþ. 1480–40 Lydg. *Bochas* IV. ii. (1554) 20a She was yrlolue lowe. **Ydoubled, -dobbled**, doubled. 1340 *Ayenb.* 230 Yef þou me beualst aye mi wyl, my chasthede hit asel by me ydobbled. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 275 With deyntes y-doublid and daunsinge to pipis. **Ydought** [Dow *v.*[1]], grown strong. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5006 Tho the kyng was hool, and wel y-dought.

Ydous, obs. form of Hideous.

†**Ydout** *v.* [Y- 3 c], to fear. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6328 Ech prince & ech lond ydouted hom tuo. **Ydouted** [Y- 4], feared. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* I. 42 With diamauntis derne y-doutid of all. **Ydrad(de**: see Dread *v.*, Ydred. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. ii, O happy man that full perswasion had Of this! if right at home, nought of him were ydrad. **Ydrawe** *v.* [Y- 3 c], to draw. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3037 A cause evydent That thow mayst wel.. The sword ydrawe. **Ydrawe, ydrawe**, *pa. pple.* [Y- 4], drawn. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5905 Þou art mid vnriȝt her to ydrawe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 133 He was villiche y-drazе ase a þyef. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 218 Ese was of adam and out of hym ydrawe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 26 Take gode mylke of Almaundys y-drawe with wyne.

Ydre: see Hydre.

†**Ydred** (also *ydradde, ydrad, ydraded*), pa. pple of Dread *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 204 He ze ald and ydradе and ydred and yworþsiped and yloued. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 237 Wyrchippyd, yloyld, and ydreddyd. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. IV. 55 Abuf the hevin ydred and starrik sky. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 2 Yet nothing did he dread, but euer was ydrad. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict. Heaven* I. xl, Euery one shakes his ydraded speare. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. I. II. xix, Mans awfull majesty of every beast ydred. **Ydreamed**, dreamt. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 49 Whaþer I have i-mette [Caxton hath y-dremed] þis tale or nouȝt. **Ydrenched**, drenched. 1560 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 285 And how the fields ydrenched were with bloud. **Ydressid, ydrest**, prepared, equipped, adorned. *c* 1386 i-dressed [see Dress *v.* 3]. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 165 Ancone aftyr the Iue Saw that he was wel ydressid. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 21 Make a dragge of powder Gyngere,..an caste þer-on When it is y-dressid. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. III. lvi, Their face with love and vigour was ydrest. **Ydreyght**, obs. pa. pple. of Draw *v.* **Ydreynt** (Drench *v.*), drowned. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14464 Swych wynsyng..Made hym that he was atteynt And myddes off the see ydreynt. **Ydrife, ydrive**, driven. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4803 Þe bruttons were ydriue [*a. v.* ydrife] al in to west walis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 109 He hadde wiþ his prayers y-dryue away addres and cokedrilles from þe Egyptians.

Ydromancy, Ydromel, obs. ff. Hydromancy, Hydromel.

†**Ydronke(n, -drunke**, drunk. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 476 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 131 Werse þe biwo on euen yuele haued y-dronken. 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Ich ne seȝ by an eyȝe al-huet ich habbe ydronke. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 281 Til I haue dyned bi þis day and ydronke bothe. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 75 Mida..was aleyne þro the bloode of a bulle ydrunke. **Ydrop** *v.* [Y- 3 c], to drop. *a* 1718 Parnell *Fairy Tale* 171 And down ydrops the knight.

Ydropesey, -ie, etc., **Ydropike, Ydrosacre**, obs. ff. Hydropsy, Hydropic, Hydrosacre.

†**Ydrowned** [Y- 4], drowned. 1603 J. Davies *Microcosmos* Pref. 23 In Teares ydrownd. **Ydubbed**, dubbed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Godes knyztes þet þe holy gost heþ y-dobbed. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 363 Tyll degon and dobyn.. were y-dubbid of a duke ffor her while domes.

Ydul, Ydy, obs. ff. Idle *a.*, Eddy.

†**Ydyned** [Y- 4], dined. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 303 Er ich haue y-dyned by þys day and y-dronke bope! **Ydyt** [Dit *v.*], closed, shut up. 1393 *R. Brunne Handl. Synne* 3186 Wyþ hys hede [he haþ] my mouþ y-dyt. *c* 1440 *Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 242 A pytte, þere seuen hungri lyouns weren þereinne all ydytte.

Ye (*yĕ, yē*), *pers. pron. 2nd pers. nom.* (*obj.*), *pl.* (*sing.*). Forms: see below. [OE. *ge*, stressed *gē, gie*, corresp. to OFris. *jī*, OS. *gi, gē*, (MLG., MDu. *ghi, -ī*, LG., Du. *gij*), OHG., MHG. *ir* (G. *ihr*), ON. *ér* (:— **jēr*), Sw., Da. *i*: analogically modified forms (after the 1st pers. pl. pron., e. g. OE. *ge* after *we*, ON. *ér* after *vér*, HG. *ir* after *wir*) of OTeut. **jūs*, unaccented **jus*, represented by Goth. *jus*, f. root *ju-* with pl. ending *-s* (cf. Zend *yūš*, Lith. *jūs*, and Skr. *yū-yam*).

For the declension of the and pers. pron. in OE. and ME. see Thou.

In the earliest periods of English *ye* was restricted to the nom. pl. In the 13th c. it came to be used as a nom. sing. ='thou', first as a respectful form addressed to a superior. This use survives in modern dialects, esp. (in the form *ee*) in interrog. and imperative formulæ (e.g. *Dee* = 'do ye'), but also in objective uses = 'thee' (e. g. *Oi tell ee*). When *you* had usurped the place of *ye* as a nom., *ye* came to be used (in the 15th c.), vice versa, as an objective sing. and pl. (= 'thee' and 'you').]

Now (in all uses) only *dial.*, *arch.*, or *poet.*; in ordinary use replaced by You.

A. Illustration of Forms:

1 ge, 3ie, 3ee, 2–3 3ie, (gie, ge), 2–5 (6–8 *Sc.* printed *ze*) 3e, 4–5 3ee, *north.* yhe, 4–6 *north.* 3he, 4–7 yee (3 3je, hye, 4 i3e, iye, (i)he, 7, 9 *dial.* yea), 3– ye.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 13 Ȝee sint salt eorðe. *Ibid.* Luke xvi. 15 Ȝie sindon ða ðe ȝie soð-fæstiȝed iuih forе monnum. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 Þenche þie aeiс word of him swete. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 Ȝe ne beoð ne alesde of deofles anwalde mid golde ne mid seolure. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Nu ȝie habbeð iherd þes wimmanes name. *c* 1200 Ormin 1118 Hu ȝe mujhenn lakenn Godd. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Hye habbet to gode i-offred of yure selure. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 320 ibid. 82 To day ye schulle myd blysse To heueryche wende. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9360 Louerdinges þe wute wel þat [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 411 (Cott.) Als yee herd me nesen. *Ibid.* 19094 (Edin.) His sone..Gie..demid als ge selmin wate. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 1205 Wende we to þaime, if yhe [*v.r.* 3he] rede. 13.. *Northern Passion* 157 He seid wol iye yeue me mede? 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 68 Als yhe sal here aftirward sone. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxii. 29 3ee erren, nether knowynge the scripturis. 14.. *Northern Passion* II. 172/306 Me þenkeþ he saide ihe habbet wrong. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* v. 38 Drink with my Guddame, as ȝe ga by. 1510 *Reg. Privy Seal Scott.* I. 314/1 Wit ȝhe us to have made..oure lovit Alexander Andersoun..settar and sear of all skynnys. 1611 *Bible Gen.* iii. 5 Yee shall bee as Gods. 1699 Mure *Ps.* cxlviii. 9 Yea mountaines and yea hills. 1883 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing y^t the last proposition should stand so as it is. 1878 *Cumbld. Glean., Yea's*, you shall.

b. In combination, proclitically or enclitically, with other words, as: †*3et* = ye it, *yare* = ye are, *y'have*; *d'ee, dee* = do ye, *hark'ee, harkee.* Now *dial.*

c 1200 Ormin 9006 Lac þiff 3et wilenn folkhenn. 1622, 1625 [see Dee]. 1692 Knevet *Rhodon & Iris* V. vi. 1 3, An ample restitution. Of what y'have tane from her. 1830 Brooke *Northern Lass* I. ii, If I interrupt you, hang me. Dee hear? 1830 Foss *Pork. Warbeck* II. i, Madam, yare passionate. 1708, etc. harkee, hark'ee (see Hark *v.* 2 c). 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 485 No, ee thankee, Cosen

Magery. 1773 Sheridan *St. Patr. Day* i. i, There's a discipline, look'ee in all things. *Ibid.*, Hark'ee, lads, I must have no grumbling.

Cf. the rimes in the following:—a 1721 Prior *Cupid Mistaken* 14 Indeed, Mamma, I did not know Ye!..I took You for your Likeness, Cloe. 1774 Goldsm. *Retaliation* 136 Then what was his failing? come tell it, and burn ye. He was—could he help it?—a special attorney.

B. Uses.

1. The pronoun used (as the plural of Thou) in addressing a number of persons (or, rhetorically, of things), in the nominative (or vocative).

Beowulf 937 Hwæt syndon ge searohæbbendra? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 5 þonne ge eow gebiddon, ne beo ge swylce licetseras. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ze habde wilche laȝe weren er crist wes iboren. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 19 Zie ße berð iwant fram me. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 104 Wolde ye, mi leode, luston eure louerde, he ou wolde wyssye wisliche þinges. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 142 Helle ȝates, y com ȝou to, Now ich wil þat ȝe vndo. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 37 Thus be yee parted nou atuo. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 1 Good men and woymen, þys day, as ȝe knowen well, ye cleped Sonenday yn þe Aduent. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lxxx. 555 My fayre felawes wete ye wel that I will torne vnto kynge Arthurs party. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 32 Cum Garnyche, cum Godfrey, with as many as ȝe may. 1612 Shake. *Temp.* v. i. 34 Ye, that on the sands with printlesse foote Doe chase the ebbing-Neptune..and you, whose pastime Is to make midnight-Mushrumps. 1662 *Bk. Com. Pr., Comm., Conf.*, Ye [*1st Pr. Bk.* 1549 You] that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins. 1781 Sir J. Banks in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 7 Shew the World that ye still are as ye always have been, worthy the Patronage of your King! 1798 Wordsw. *We are Seven* vii, Yet ye are seven!—I pray you tell, Sweet Maid, how this may be. 1833 Tennyson *Death of Old Year* i, Toll ye the church-bell sad and slow. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 95 The King answered, Ye know not the reason wherefore I would kill the sage. 1901 Bridges *Matres Dolorosæ*, They rode to war as if to the hunt, But ye sit home, ye bore the brunt.

†b. In apposition with *self* (*ye self, selven* = yourselves): see Self A. 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6786 (Cott.) To cumlinges do yee right na suike, For quilum war yee seluen alike. *Ibid.* 14691 Bot ..if yee self will be blind. 1388 Wyclif *1 Pet.* ii. 5 And ȝe silf as quyk stoonys be ȝe aboue bildid in to spiritual housis.

c. In apposition with and preceding a sb. (or adj. used *absol.*) in the vocative.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 62 Ze Legistres and lawyers ȝe witen wher I lyȝe. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 1809 Ye sustren nyne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 333 Ze riche, ȝe robeth and fedeth Hem þat han as ȝe han. 1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 84 Ye brainsycke fooles, Ye boddy peckes, Ye doddye poulles, ye huddes. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, iii. ii. 88 Looke not to the ground, Ye Fauorites of a King. 1681 Baxter *Hymn*, Ye holy Angels bright, Which stand before God's Throne. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* viii. 634 That Blood, those Murthers, O ye Gods replace On his own Head. 1730 Thomson *A Hymn* 76 Ye woodlands all, awake. 1803–6 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immort.* lv, Ye blessed creatures, I have heard the call Ye to each other make.

2. Used instead of *thou* in addressing a single person (originally as a mark of respect or deference, later generally: cf. Thou, You).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1341 Sire emperour quaþ þe erl þo, ne be ȝe no so bolde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8721 'Lauerd', sco said, 'god it witschild þat þou britten sua mi child. Yee giue him all til hir allan, Me es it leuer þan he be slan'. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 47 Ma dame, if ye wolde have rowthe. 1412 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 My Lord..I knowe wele that ye be of such birth estate and myghte that [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 15 Moder,..be not dismayed, for ye shull neuer be luged to deth for my cause. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 549 (Winch.) ȝetyng, with worshyp seyng ȝe not þu, *vocacio*. 1482 Caxton *Reynard* xxi. (Arb.) 51 Saye that ye your self haue made the lettre. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 336 Good lord, ye created & made our fader Adam. 1516 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 36/2 We with oure lauthfull service thankis ȝoure grace of the grete Regarde ȝe Beir to the welll..of our kingis gracis person. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. viii. 26 The royall Virgin..him thus bespake..How shall I quite the paines, ye suffer for my sake? 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* i. ii. 49 *Iul*[*ietta*]. Will ye be gon? *Lu*[*cetta*]. That you may ruminate. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Eagle & Robin* 45 Ze sing sae dull and ruch, Ze haif deivt our luge. 1786 Burns *To a Louse* 19 Now haud you there, ye're out o' sight. 1866 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Lizzie Lorton* III. 159 Ye've dune summut ye're sorry for. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1142 'Damsel', he said, 'ye be not all to blame'. 1873 *Oxfordshire Gloss., Ee*..is a more refined word than *thee*...'Who did ee see up strit?'..*Ee* is used to a superior, and not *thee*. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* i. iii, Be ye a-cold, Christian?

b. In apposition with and preceding a sb. in the vocative.

a 1596 *Sir T. More* i. i. 11 Compell me, ye dogges face! 1599 Chapman *Hum. dayes Myrth* Plays 1873 I. 69 O ye impudent gossip. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxix, Ye donnered auld runt.

3. Used as objective (accusative or dative) instead of *you* (in plural or singular sense).

c 1440 Pecock *Repr.* I. xvi. 86 Y preie ȝe seie ȝe to me [etc.]. 1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 263 We leaue ye here behynde. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* iv. iv, For this will Dido tye ye full of knots,..Ye shall no more offend the Carthage Queene. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* i. i. 110 He is in a good forwardnesse, I tell ye, if all hit right. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 181 As I haue made ye one Lords, one remaine: So I grow stronger, you more Honour gaine. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* lv. 73 This no Protestant will grant yee. *c* 1630 Milton *Sonn., On new Forcers Conc.*, To..ride us with a classic Hierarchy Taught ye by meer A. S. and Rotherford. 1669 — *P. L.* II. 840, I..shall..bring ye to the place. 1721 Ramsay *Richy & Sandy* 18 I'll hear ye Company for Year and Day. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxii, There's saxpence t' ye to buy half a mutchkin. 1820 Byron *Mer. Ful.* v. i. 198 Was not the place of Doge sufficient for ye? 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., 2nd Sunday Advent* vi, Ye, who your Lord's commission bear, His way of mercy to prepare; Angels He calls ye. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxxii, 'Go thy ways with him, sir,' cried the sexton, 'and Heaven be with ye both!' 1847 Halliwell *Dict.* (1889) I. p. xiv/1 I'd soon yarn sum munney, I warrant ye. 1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus* 127 The morrow's sun shall light ye homeward both.

†b. Used redundantly ('ethical dative'). *Obs.*

1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 6 He comes ye laden forsooth, with Letters of Recommendations. 1708 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 471 He cannot make a handsome bow, nor run ye off an elegant period.

Hence †**Ye** *v.*, to use 'ye' instead of 'thou' in addressing a single person: cf. Thou *v.*, Yeet *v.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/1 To ȝe, *vosare in pluralli numero vos vestrum vel tibi.* 1500 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 (W. de W.) Yeyn or sey ye, *vose.*

†**Ye**, *conj.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝe, 2–3 ȝe, 3 *Orm.* ȝa. [OE. *ge*, corresp. in use to OS. *gi*, *gi'e*, *gia*, and *ja*, OHG. *ja* and *jauh*, *joh*, *jouh* (MHG. *ja*, *joch*, *jouch*), Goth. *jah*.] And; also, too. *ȝe*...*ȝe* (or *and*): both...and; as well...as.

Beowulf 1864 Ze wið feond ge wið freond. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 847 þonne herȝa fruma æþelinga ord eallum demeð leofum ge laðum lean æfter ryhte. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 835 [He] þær ȝefliemde ge þa Walas ge þa Deniscan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 304 Her sint tacn ahæardodre lifre ge on þam læppum & healocum & filmenum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Deos sunne fordeð eiðer ge saule ge lichoma. *c* 1200 Ormin 846 He turrnde mikell folle till Godd ȝa læwedd folle, ȝa læredd.

Ye, obs. dial. form of Give *v.*

1768 *Voc. Forth & Bargie* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *V'oure*, give over, cease.

Ye: see Eye, Yea; graphic var. The, Thee, cf. Y (3).

Yea (yē), *adv.* (*sb.*) Now *dial.* and *arch.* Forms: α. 1 ȝea, ȝee, ȝe, 2–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝe, 4–5 ȝhe, 4–6 ȝee, ye, 4–7 yee, 5 yhe, 6 je. β. 1 ȝea, 1–2 ia, 3–5 ȝea, (also 6 *Sc.*) ȝa, 4 yaa, iaa, ȝia, ȝai, 4–5 ȝaa, ȝha, ya, yai, 5 yha, yae, 5– yea; 4 ȝo, ioo, ȝoo, 5 yoe, 5–7 yoo. γ. 3 ȝei, yai, 4–5 ȝey, 5 yei, ȝeyȝe. δ. 1 ȝiee, ȝi, 4 yie, 5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝie, 8 *dial.* yoy, 9 *dial.* yi, yigh. ε. 3 ȝeoi, ȝui, 5 ȝoye. [An affirmative particle having forms corresponding more or less exactly in all the other Teutonic languages: OFris. *gē*, *jē*, OS. *jā*, (M)LG. *jā*, (M)Du., OHG., MHG. *ja*, *jā*, (G. *ja*), ON. *jā*, Goth. *ja*, *jai*, all derivable ultimately from a primitive Teut. **ja*, *je*, which has undergone modification in different directions as the result of sentence stress or emotional emphasis.

OE. (WS.) *gēa* combined with the corresp. Anglian *gē* to produce the ME. type *ȝe(e*, *ye(e*; the Northumb. development of the Anglian form, *gle*, *gl* (cf. Northumb. **sclep*, *sclp* = WS. *scēap* Sheep), gave a ME. type *ȝie*, continued in mod. north. dial. in *yi*, *yigh*, *yoi*. In later WS. the falling diphthong of *gēa* became a rising one, *ged*, *id*, whence arose southern *ȝo* and northern *ȝa* (but cf. ON. *jā*). In other respects the phonology of the English forms is obscure. The modern standard spelling *yea* and pronunciation (yē) show arrested development of the vowel, but the pronunciation (*yi*) is current locally. ME. *ȝei*, *ȝey*, *ȝeyȝe* seem to point back to a doubled form **ȝēȝe*. The ε-forms *ȝui*, *ȝoi* constitute a distinct southern type, with possibly a modern representative in Hampshire *yigh*.]

A word used to express affirmation or assent: now ordinarily replaced by Yes.

1. As simple affirmative, in answer to a question not involving a negative: = Yes 1.

For the distinction formerly observed between *yea* and *yes*, see Nay *adv.*1 1 and Yes 1.

In ME. *ȝe* is sometimes accompanied by a pronoun repeating the pronominal subj. of the question (see quots. from *Ancren Riwle*, *a* 1225, and cf. the first quot. from the same text in 1c).

731 Bæda *Hist. Eccl.* v. ii, 'Dicito,' inquiens, 'aliquod verbum, dicito Gē [*OE. transl.* (c 900) cweð nu ȝea],' quod est, lingua Anglorum, verbum adfirmandi et consentiendi, id est, etiam. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xxi. 15 þa cwæð se hælend..Simon iohannis lufast þu me swiðor þænne ðas; He cwæð to him, ȝea [*Lind.* & *Rushw.* ȝee] drihten þu wast þæt ic þe lufiże. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxvii 24 Eart þu Esau min sunu? And he cwæð: Ia leof, ic hit eom. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Is hit god for to hiheren godes weordes and heom athalden? ȝe sulíwis. *c* 1200 Ormin 4452 Maȝȝ anig mann slan oþerr mann & cwellenn himm wiþþ herrte? ȝa full wel seȝȝþ þatt Latin boc. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Hwæt godd heiestu ant hersumest? Ich hefe qð he godd feder...ȝe [see sense 4] qð he lude, leuestu ant luuest him þe reowðfulliche deide..on rode? Yai quoð heo. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Is hit nu so ouer vuel þor te toten utward? ȝe hit. *Ibid.* 408 Mei ich preosnen ou þis? ȝe ich sikerliche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 772 'And wenis þou þat it be sua Sum he has said yow?' 'certes, ya!' *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 598 ȝhe ne answerede nai ne ȝo. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 268 'What? sone', seide þe couherde 'seldestow i was here?' 'ȝa, sire, sertes', seide þe child. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2575 'Wolleþ ȝe ȝou defende ouþer ȝe wolleþ flen?' 'ȝea, so god me mende.' *c* 1440 *Avow. Arth.* xxiv, Gauan aasshes, 'Is hit soe?' To tother knyȝt grauntus, ȝoe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 294 His moder..Askyd medeyn if she hadde done wele And she seid yea. *a* 1450 Mvnc *Pur. Pr.* 69 Beleevest thowe fully alle the pryncipalle articles of the Feithe..? The Silke par- — answeretht, Yea. *a* 1466 Gascoigne *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 165 'Yf ye holde you plesyd..say you nowe, ye!'..And thenne alle the peeplie — with oo voyce, 'Ye! ye!' *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. — At him he sperȝt, all Scottis gyff thai be. Wallace said ȝa'. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2843 'Madem, if she remembir, so it was The red knycht..That wencust al'...'ȝha,' quod the quen, 'rycht well remembir I'. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlii. 15, I said, 'Is this ȝour gouirnance, To tak men for thair luking heir?' Bewty sayis, '3a, schir'. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xiii. 51 Jesus sayde vnto them; haue ye vnderstonde all these thynges: they sayde, ye syr. *a* 1552 Udall *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 46 *R. Royster.* Trowest thou so? *M. Mery.* Ye plain. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 8 *Rich.* Barkloughly Castle call you this at hand? *Au.* Yea, my Lord. 1600 *Contention betw. Liberalitie & Prodigalitie* II. iii. (Malone Soc.) 345 *Van.*..What, still so hastily? *Ten.* Yoo by giese, sir, tis high time. 1681 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 30 He asked whether our countrey had warres? I answered him yea. 1796 Pegge *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 86 *Yey*, yea, from *yea* or *ay* rather than *yes*. 1850 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 688 'Look on it, child, and tell me if ye know it.' And Enid..answer'd, 'Yea, I know it'. 1865 'Artemus Ward' *His Bk., Shakers*, When we broke up, sez I, 'my pretty dears, ear I go you hav no objections, hav you, to a innersent kiss at partin?' 'Yay,' thay sed. 1900 K. D. Wiggin *Susanna & Sue* i. 13 [Shaker Eldress log.] 'Yee, yee! I remember well!' [*Footnote* Yea is always thus pronounced among the Shakers.]

b. Expressing assent to a statement, command, etc.: = Yes 3. (See also 4.)

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 96 *M.* And manige fedaþ þa getemodon ofer sumor þæt eft hig habban ȝearuwe. *A.* Ȝea swa hiz doþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1246 'Sun,' he said, 'þou most now ga To paradis þat i com fra.'..'Yai, sir, wist i wyderward þat tat vncuth contre ware.' *a* 1330 *Otuel* 303 'Eusle mote he þriue & þe, þat ferst failleþ of me & te.' 'Ȝe leue ȝa,' quaþ otuwel þo. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 170, 'I trouwe þat beo þi sone' bi Iosaphe he seide. 'Ȝe, sire, so he is. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince.* 2079 'Ye shul vnto me swere þe lawes kepe til I agayn come,'..to which þei gan answere, 'Ȝee, yee, man, yee!' 1535 Coverdale *Josh.* xxiv. 22 Ye are witnesses ouer youre selues, that ye haue chosen you the Lorde, to serue him. And they sayde: Yea. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* II. ii. 3 *Ioh.* It is so, the Count Claudio shal marry the daughter of Leonato. *Bora.* Yea my Lord, but I can crosse it. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 737 'Then, Enid, shall you ride Behind me.' 'Yea,' said Enid, 'let us go'

c. Rarely in answer to a negative question (*obs.*: = Yes 2 a), or in contradiction of a negative statement (now *dial.*: = Yes 2 b).

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 *M.* Ne canst þu huntian buton mid nettum? *V.* Ȝea butan nettum huntian ic mæg. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 334 Nis nout, cweð he, God so grim ase ȝe him uore makieð. No, he seið, Dauid, ȝuilhe [*MS. T.* ȝeol he, *MS. C.* ȝeilhe], and seið þenne hwareuore. *Ibid.* 392 Ne muhte he mid lesse gref habben ared us? ȝe siker [*v.rr.* ȝuse I wis, ȝes I wis], ful lihtliche. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xvii. 23 Thei..seiden to hym, ȝoure maister payeth nat tribute? And he seith, ȝhe [1388 ȝhis]. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxviii, Quhare[un]to lyve I langer? Wofullest wicht, and subiect vnto peyne; Of peyne? no: god wote, ȝa. 1876 Waugh *Chimney Corner* (1879) 149 'This is th' house isn't it, Matty?' 'Yigh. We're just i' time.' 1886 Cunliffe *Gloss. Rochdale-w.-Rossendale Wds. & Phr., Yi*..is..a negative [answer] to a statement, as, 'You have not been at home to-day,' to which 'yi' means that the statement made is untrue.

d. *To say yea*: to answer in the affirmative; hence, to give assent.

c 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1067 Se kyng befealh [illegible] ..oiþer ȝie or nay. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3164 They prayd them to say In all this mater playnly ye or nay. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* i. Prol. 93 Nocht fullie grantand, nor anis sayand ȝa. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 128 A folkemot was an assembly of people to say yea or nay to that which should be declared vnto them. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing yᵗ the last proposition should stand so as it is, see yea.

†e. Standing for an affirmative dependent clause after a verb of saying or believing: = Yes 5. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 772 (Fairf.) And wenis þou þat hit is aqua? Certis, ho sayde I traw ya [*v.rr.* ȝa, ȝo]. 1397 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 379/1, I trowe rather ȝe than nay. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 511 Alas, doo they not remembre me. I byleve better ye than nay. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 263 Yf they swere ye they are your enemyes and to the contrary, yf they swere that noo.

†f. *Yea or no*, after *whether*, in an alternative dependent question = 'whether . . or not'. So in an alternative dependent clause, as *would I yea or no* = 'whether I would or not'. *Obs.*

1515 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 93 To the Interrogatory Whether thei had this by the Comen assent ye or noo [etc.]. *c* 1540 *B. N. C.* (Oxf.) *Munim.* 27. 112 (MS.) Whether J. S. was cosyn and heire of [A. B.], ye or naye, he knoweth not. 1577 Breton *Floorish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 7/1 Would I ye or no, I learnd some of his raging rules. 1630 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. iv. (1913) 313 In that time I shall tell thee whether I shall make them yea or no. 1707 Dr Fox *Hist. Appar.* lv. (1840) 30 Whether they really do converse familiarly with us, yea or no?

†2. Used as an ordinary adverb directly qualifying a clause or word: Even; truly, verily. *Obs.*

In the Lindisfarne and Rushworth glosses on the Gospels it freq. renders L. *etiam*, *jam* = *adhuc*, *vitoudlice*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiii. 22 *Ad seducendos si potest fieri etiam electos*, to gesnicanne gif mage woss ȝæ ȝa gecorenno. *Ibid.* John xvi. 32 *Ecce uenit hora et iam uenit*, beono cuoma ȝis tid ȝeo cuom [*marg.* ȝi nu cummen;

Rushw. & ye comon]. *c* 1250 *Hymns* in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 I herd ye beo þin holi nome in heouene & in eorþe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13030 Þou liuues hir yaa again þi liue. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 129 Þe kyng..forbeed þat any schulde selle hym woode ne [L. *etiam*] forto seþe his mete and vitailles wiþ. 1388 Wyclif *Prov.* xiv. 20 A pore man schal be hateful, yhe [Vulg. *etiam*], to his neiȝbore. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 805 in *Macro Plays* 64 Schulde we leve þis lyue, ya whowe, We may a-mende wen we be sage. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* III. 58 Helene..did him earnestly behold, and swelling yea with wrath [etc.].

3. Used to introduce a statement, phrase, or word, stronger or more emphatic than that immediately preceding: = 'indeed'; 'and more': = Yes 4.

Often practically coinciding with Nay *adv.*1 5, which however properly expresses the contrast in degree between the statements, etc., whereas *yea* expresses their identity in substance.

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 185 He openeþ awa þe moder hire earmes hire leoue child for to cluppen, ȝe soþes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4797 Seint patric was here monek & suþþe abbot þer ȝe ar seint austin come mo þen an hundred yer. 13.. *Cursor M.* 19752 (Edin.) He fande a man unfere In parlede gia ayte ȝier. 13.. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 261 Þou þeng wel on þese þinges yie, wat tou art, & wat tou were. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 153 Þai .. Ioy mad, ȝey, mare þan ma nemmyt be. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Whs.* (1880) 10 Þei seyn þat an heþene philosofre.. is wittiere and trewere þan almyȝti god, ȝe þat god is fals and a fole. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxlix. 565, I had rather haue lost .iiii. of my best cityes, ye and all my countre..destroyed. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 38 Gif we be the barnis of God thane ar we aluua heritours, ȝai heritours of God. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 How wantonly, yea, and how willingly haue we abused our golden time. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 3 As that the true Christian Religion was planted heere most auntiently by Ioseph of Arimathia,..yea by saint Peter, and saint Paul. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 14 We see, not onelie in our idiom, but in the latin alsoe, one symbol to have sundrie soundes, ya, and that in one word; as lego, legis. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 117 Regents and Potentates, and Kings, yea gods, Of many a pleasant Realm. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* Pref. 3, I did not always particularly quote the place of my author..; yea sometimes I did not so much as set down my author at all. 1786 Wesley *Jrnl.* 3 May, Some of them use improper, yea, indecent, expressions in prayer. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* II. 130 Those Pyramids shall fall! Yea! not a stone shall stand to tell The spot whereon they stood! 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 704, I..kept it for a sweet surprise at morn. Yea, truly is it not a sweet surprise?

4. Introducing a question or remark in reply to a statement, etc., expressing either vague assent or (more commonly) opposition or objection: = 'Indeed?'; 'Well', 'well then'.

a 1225 [see sense 1]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 25 Nu þu art iwedded, & of se heh se lahe iliht..ȝei nu, hwat frut, & for hwuch þing meast hit is? 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 33 'ȝee, recche þe neuere,' quod recchelesnes. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3357 'Þis childe rose vp, and alyue he ys'..'ȝe', quod þe kyng, 'he nasnot dede þo, y-wys.' 'ȝeyse, for god', quod þe knyȝt, 'dede he was & his body golde.' 'ȝoye, aire', quod þe archebisshop..., 'Mony grette meracle þis mayden has do.' 'ȝe, ayre archebysshop, holde þou þy clappe! For y ȝeue no by-leue þerto.' *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 376 'Hald ȝow fra the Court, for ocht that may be; ȝone man that thow outrayd Is not sa simpill as he said..' 'ȝea, Dame, haue nane dreid of my lyfe to day.' *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 942 *Fan*...They fell a chydynge With Crafty Conuayaunce. *Con. Ab.* Ye, dyd they so? 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* iii. 1 The serpent..sayde vnto the woman: Yee, hath God sayde in dede: Ye shall not eate of all maner trees in the garden? 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 411 *Rob.* Come, recreant...*Dem.* Yea, art thou there? 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 326 (Qo.) Yea, is it come to this? 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 128 'Yonder comes a knight..'Yea, but one? Wait here, and when he passes fall upon him.

† **b.** As a mere introductory interjection, emphasizing the statement following. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1626 Kynge Arthur than loude spake A-monge hys knyghtis to the quene: 'Ȝa, yonder is launcelot du lake, Yiff I hym euyr with syght haue sene.'

B. as *sb.*

1. An utterance of the word 'yea'; an affirmative reply or statement; an expression of assent. (Usually opposed to *nay* or *no*: see also 3.)

1288 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 53 Credendi..per suur vel suum ya. *a* 1400 *Cristene-mon & Jew* 125 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 488 Oþer a nay, or A ȝa? Soone tel þou me swa. *c* 1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* 574 (Bann. MS.) Thingis..Till ȝe or na quhilk ar indefferent. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xv. 36 Sum micht haif ȝe, with littill cure, That hes oft nay, with grit labour. 1534 Tindale *James* v. 12 Sweare not...Let youre yea be ye, and youre naye naye. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 230 Take pitie of him which attendeth life or death of your yea or nay. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 413 My woing minde shall be expreat In russet yeas, and honest kersie noes. 1622 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 538 Their No should be as welcome unto him as their Yea. 1714 tr. *Joutel's Jrnl. Voy. Mexico* (1919) 34 We observ'd that their Yea consisted in a Cry, fetch'd from the Bottom of the Throat. 1822 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 Their nay is the yea of truth, and its best test. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* xxxiii. (1862) 473 Not seldom He gives even in the very act of seeming to deny; his Nay proving indeed a veiled Yea.

b. More vaguely: Affirmation, assurance, certainty, absolute truth; a positive statement or principle.

1382 Wyclif *2 Cor.* I. 18 For oure word the which was at ȝou, ther is not in it is [*v.rr.* yea, ȝhe] and nay [Vulg. *est et non*], but in it is is, that is, treuthe. 1526 Tindale *2 Cor.* i. 19–20 Geddis sonne Jesus Christ..was not ye and naye: but in hym it was ye. For all the promises of God, in hym are ye [1881 *R. V.* in him is yea. For how many soever be the promises of God, in him is the yea]: and are in hym Amen. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. ix, Love God. This is the Everlasting Yea, wherein all contradiction is solved.

2. An affirmative vote; a person who votes in the affirmative: usually *pl.*, opposed to *nays* (or *noes*).

Still in use in the U. S. Congress. Cf. Aye.

1647 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 58 After a short debate.. the House was divided. The yeas went forth. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) 203 'Twas carried in ye Affirmative Yeas 141, Noes 71. 1721 Hatsell *Prec. Proc. Ho. Comm.* (1796) II. 206 *note*, If this question for adjournment takes place before four o'clock in the afternoon, and there is a division upon it, the Yeas go forth; if after four o'clock, the Noes. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 29 Jan. 3/2, 197 Members present—Yeas 101. 1838 *Congr. Globe* 24 Dec. 33/1 Mr. Tillinghast asked for the yeas and nays, which were ordered. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* xliii. I. 176 If one fifth of a quorum demand a call of yeas and nays, this is taken.

3. *Yea and nay* (or *no*): positive and negative statement (or command); affirmation and denial (or injunction and prohibition); sometimes, alternate affirmation and denial, vacillating statement, shilly-shallying. Also *attrib.* (see C. below).

1382 Wyclif *2 Cor.* I. 17 Is and not, or ȝhe and nay. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 207 He folwede þe kynges wille and his ȝee [*v.r.* ȝhe] and nay in al manere wise. 1526 Tindale *2 Cor.* i. 18 Oure preachynge vnto you, was not ye and naye. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Declar. Names b 4, To flatter hym, and holde him vp with ye and nay. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* I. iv. 99 The very yea, & the no is, ye French Doctor my Master [etc.]. 1720 Prior *Conversation* 34 These two went on, With yea and nay, and pro and con. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II. i. 27 There had been a good deal of dealers' yea and nay about it. 1913 H. Brown *Our Renaissance* ii. (1918) 56 Beyond yea or nay he inspired the greatest of all philosophers.

b. *By yea and nay* (or *no*): a formula of asseveration in the form of, and substituted for, an oath (cf. Matt. v. 34–37). ? *Obs.*

1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* I. i. 54 *Longa.* You swore to that Berowne, and to the rest. *Berow.* By yea and nay sir, than I swore in iest. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. i. 88. [1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* I. (1652) C 3, By yea-cock and nay-cock The Fields will afford us a Hedge or a Hay-cock.] 1662 W. N. etc. *Merry Drollery* I. 2 b, He swore by yea and nay He would have no denial. 1688 Mrs. Behn *False Count* Prol. A ij b, By Yea and Nay, shee'll throw her self on you. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v., 'By fair yea and nay,' by a solemn affirmation. *a* 1839 Praed *Charades & Enigmas* xvii, But still the Lady shook her head, And swore by yea and nay.

C. *Comb.* **Yea-and-nay** *a.* [attrib. use of phrase: see B. 3], (*a*) whose 'communication' is 'yen, yea, nay, nay'; spec. † *yea-and-nay man*, a quaker; (*b*) of indefinite or indeterminate character, 'neither one thing nor another', ambiguous; (*c*) disposed to assent or deny indifferently or according to expediency; hesitating, vacillating, undecided; also *sb.* a Quaker; hence *yea-and-nayish* adj. (*nonce-wd.*) in sense (*b*); **yea-forsooth** *a.*, addicted to saying 'yea forsooth' in the way of superficial assent; **yea-nay** *a.* = *yea-and-nay*; **yea-say** *v.* [after Nay-say *v.*], *intr.* to say 'yea', to assent; *trans.* to assent to; **yea-word**, a word of assent.

1656 Flecknoe *Diarium* 35 Above all of your *yea and nay Man, take especial heed I pray. 1678 (*title*) A Yea and Nay Almanack for the people call'd Quakers. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Yea and Nay-Men*, Quakers. 1775 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* Jan. (1889) II. 9 He was a *yea and nay* man not worth remembering. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 81 One of your water-gruel, yea-and-nay good boys. 1807 *Antid. Miseries Hum. Life* 4 They were Yeas and Nays. 'What's that?' said I... 'O quack, quack I suppose', said the squire. 1828 L. Hunt *Ld. Byron* etc. I. 309 Shelley..had only to become a yea and nay man in the House of Commons, to be one of the richest men in Sussex. 1865 Anne Manning *Belforest* I. 200, I hate yea-and-nay persons that don't care, and leave it to you. 1900 M. Hewlett (*title*) The Life and Death of Richard Yea-and-Nay. 1777 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* July (1889) II. 202 Our Journey proved very *yea and nayish. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 41 A Rascally-*yea-forsooth-knaue, to beare a Gentleman in hand, and then stand vpon Security. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* iii, The executor was an infirm *yea-nay old gentleman. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* viii. II. (1860) II. 279 *note*[1], It was indeed no time for compliment—for hesitant, yea-nay utterance upon the question. 1873 Morris *Æneids* vii. 615 Whom all men follow straight, The while their brazen *yea-saying the griding trumpets blare. *Ibid.* xii. 841 And yea-saying she bowed. 1887 — *Odyss.* xiii. 47 So he spake; and all yea-said him and bade the thing to be. *a* 1861 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* (1864) III. 82 Nor did any bashfulness real or conventional, delay his *yea-word.

Yea, *v.* [f. prec.] *intr.* (or with *it*): To say 'yea'; to reply affirmatively: opp. to Nay *v.* 2 b.

1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* VI. i. 82 No more smell-feast Vitellio.. loues him in his maw, loaths in his heart, Yet soothes, and yeas, and Nayes on eyther part. 1657 J. Goodwin *Triers Tried* 6 Such as will swallow their camels, and yea it, and nay it, with them from the one end of their faith unto the other. 1679 *Establ. Test* 93 A..Jesuit..can thou and thee, and yea and nay, as well as the best of them [*sc.* Quakers].

Yead, obs. form of Eyed.

1598 Q. Eliz. *Plutarch* 134 Thre yead men.

Yead, dial. form of Head *sb.*

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E. D. S.) 97 Chell make thy Yead addle. 1864 Tennyson *North. Farmer* v, A bummin' away lolke a buzzard-clock ower my yeäd.

Yead(e, obs. pa. t. of Go: see Yode.

Yeaf, obs. pa. t. of Give. **Yeaghe,** obs. f. Yacht. **Yeal,** dial. form of Ale. **Yeald:** see Guild, Old, Yeld, Yield.

Yealdon, var. Elding[1], fuel.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, Take awa yealdon, take awa low.

Yeale, obs. form of Eel.

a 1625 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1915) 25 Some of the yeales being worth 12*s.* a peece.

Yeale, obs. form of Yale.

Yea·ling. *Sc.* Also 8 yeldin, 9 yeildin, yeelin', eelin. [? For **even eilding*, one of *even eild* (Eld *sb.*) or equal age with another. Cf. *evineld, evin eild* = contemporary in Douglas *Æn.* III. xii. 42.] A contemporary in age. Also *attrib.*

1728 Ramsay *Phœnix and Ont* vi, You, a Species by your self, Near Eeldins with the Sun your God. 1787 Burns *Brigs of Ayr* 230 My dear-remember'd, ancient yealings. 1804 Couper *Macquidrochiana* I. xvi, His bonny, various, yeelin' frien's. 1808 Jamieson, *Yeildins, Yealings.*

Yealk, obs. form of Yolk.

Yeallow, yealow, obs. ff. Yellow.

Yealte, obs. var. Yelt.

† **Yean,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 ȝeeene, ȝe(e)ne, yene, e(e)ne, yn. [app. f. next.] A young lamb, yeanling.

1408 *Wycl. Bible* Ps. cxliii. 13 (MS. Fairf. 2) Þe sheep of hem ben wiþ ȝeeene (*v.rr.* ȝene, ȝeene, ene, eene, yn). *Ibid.* Isa. xl. 11 He shal bere sheep wiþ eene eþer wiþ lombe (*v.rr.* yene, ene).

a 1650 in J. E. T. Rogers *Hist. Agriculture & Prices* (1887) V. 341 [Besides the general names of sheep, ewes, rams, wethers or muttons, and lambs, I find tups, tegs, yeans,.. crones and hoggs].

Yean (yēn), *v.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 4 ȝene, 6 yene, 6–7 yeane, 6– yean. [? OE. **gēdanian*, related to *gēdan* 'feta' pregnant: see Y- and Ean *v.*]

1. *trans.* Of a ewe: To bring forth (a lamb); also said of goats and occas. other beasts.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 303 Alle þe spiekked lambrine and kedes þat schulden be I-ȝened. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 368 A lambe was yenyd, hauynge .ii. perfyte bodyes. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 37 An ewe goth with lambe .xx. wekes, and shall yeane her lambe in the .xxi. weke. 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 319 There is a riuer in Asayria..which causeth the sheepe that drinke thereof to yeane blacke lambes. 1644 Quarles *Sheph. Orac.* vii, They'l conspire To yeane their jolly lambs within thy cot. 1739 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* 32 The ewes yean the polled lamb with the least danger. 1800 Wordsw. *Pet Lamb* 39 The dam that did thee yean Upon the mountain-tops. 1806 Southey in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 51 To record the day and hour when a sheep died, a lamb was yeaned, or one of the flock stolen. 1866 Trench *Poems, Vis. Tusculum* 15 Watching the white goats..their young Tending, new yeaned. 1872 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 154 What grim lioness yeaned thee, aneath what rock's desolation?

b. *fig.* To produce, give birth to.

1598 Marston *Sco. of Villanie* VI. 39 Yon's one hath yean'd a fearefull prodigie. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Wood Notes* II, Tranchant time behoves to hurry All to yean and all to bury.

2. *intr.* To bring forth young, as a sheep.

1548 Elyot, *Adasia*, an olde yewe, whiche hath lately yeaned or had a lambe. 1565 Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 99 Like an ewe when she is yeaning and wringeth for deliuerance. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 73 Eawes readie to yeane craues ground rid cleane. 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* IV. 478 The time when mountain Goats and Hinds Do yean and calve. *a* 1662 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 82 To see a woman calve, or a cow yean. 1794 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 17 By the time all the ewes have yeaned. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* vi. I. 212 The ewes yean twice a year. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. I. 232 The ewes yean in a yard or standing pen. 1879 Butcher & Lang *Odyssey* 51 The ewes yean thrice within the full circle of a year.

Hence **Yeaned** *ppl. a.*, **Yea·ning** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

1567–1849 [see New-yeaned *ppl. a.*]. 1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 253 His eawes to haue good yeaning. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 139 The shepeheard must be as careful as a midwife in the yeaning time. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 238 Within thirteen months she brought 7 Lambs at three yeanings. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 752 The yeaning Ewes prevent the springing Year. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 309 The she bear takes an old large hollow tree for her yeaning winter-house. 1776 *Complete Gramer* (ed. 4) xxvi. 144 It is necessary she [*sc.* a ewe] should at her yeaning have the benefit of springing grass. 1866 Copley *Agric.* IX. xvi. 487 Late yeaned lambs..are generally delicate.

Yean(e, obs. forms of Yawn.

Yeane-sherre, obs. form of Janizary.

1704 J. Pitts *Acc. Mohammetans* vii. 73 They are all *Yeane-Sherres*, or *Janisaries*, i. e. Soldiers.

Yeanling (yē·nliŋ). *arch.* [f. Yean *v.* + -ling. Cf. Eanling.] A young lamb or kid. Also *fig.*

1637 B. Jonson *Sad Shepherd* I. ii, When to their store They add the poor man's yeanling. 1644 Quarles *Sheph. Orac.* I, One of my weaker yeanlings hapt to stray. 1792 Cowper *Odyss.* IX. 283 As he milked his ewes..All in their turns, her yeanling [he] gave to each. 1862 Mrs. Norton *Lady of La Garaye* IV. 411 Still to the schools the ancient chiming clock Calls the poor yeanlings of a simple flock. 1869 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 207 Take the young ones to the test, Left in yeanlings' penfolds pent.

b. appositive or as *adj.* That is a yeanling; young or new-born: esp. of a lamb. Also *fig.*

1698 *Topsell's Four-f. Beasts* 495 The common Epithets expressing the nature of this Beast [*sc.* the lamb] are these, rough, yeanling (*id.* 1607 yearling), weak, unripe, sucking, tender. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 434 The flesh of Lambs or yeanling Kids. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 2. xiv, The yeanling kids and cooing turtles. 1812 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 239 To surround

himself with ushers, proportioned to the number of boys, and more advanced in acquirement than these yeanling monitors. *a* 1873 R. BUCHANAN *Man and Shadow* i. Poet. Wks. 1874 III. 61 By the yeanling Lambkin's side.

Yeant, obs. f. GIANT: see Y (1) *note*.

a 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 233 Ther dwellyth a yeaunt in a foreste. *Ibid.* 301 He come where the yeant was.

Year (yī·ə). Forms: 1 ġear, ġer, (ear, ar), 2–5 ȝear, 2–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝer, (3 ȝeor, ȝeer, ȝar, hier, 3–4 ȝier, 4 ȝiare), 3–6 yer, (4 yerr, yeier, yeire, ȝher, *Sc.* ȝheir), 4–5 ȝeer, (yher, yhere), 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝere, yeir, 4–7 yere, yeer, 5 ȝeere, (ȝeyre, heire, heyre, here, ȝhere, eer, *Sc.* yheir, ȝhir, 5–6 yeyr), 5–7 yeere, 5–6 *Sc.* ȝeir (6–8 eeir), 6–7 yeare, (*Sc.* eare, 7 *Sc.* ear), 6– year. [OE. (WS.) *ġear* str. n., also masc., (Anglian) *ġēr*, = OFris. *jār*, *jēr* (NFris. *jēar*, *jēr*, EFris. *jēr*, *ēr*, WFris. *jier*), OS. *jār*, *gēr*, MLG. *jār*, MDu. *jaer* (LG., Du. *jaar*), OHG., MHG. *jār* (G. *jahr*), ON. *ár* (Sw. *år*, Da. *aar*), Goth. *jēr* :— **jērom*, cognate with Zend *yāre* year, Gr. ὥρος year, ὥρα time of year, season, year, time of day, OSl. *jarŭ* spring (Russ., Pol., etc. *jar* spring, Serb. summer); cf. also L. *hornus* of this year (:— **ho-jōrinus*). The normal OE. (flexionless) pl. *ġēar* is represented still in dialectal usage; for illustration of the history see I *β*.]

1. The time occupied by the sun in its apparent passage through the signs of the zodiac, *i.e.* (according to modern astronomy) the period of the earth's revolution round the sun, forming a natural unit of time (nearly = 365¼ days); hence, a space of time approximately equal to this in any conventional practical reckoning (considered with respect to its length, without reference to its limits: cf. 3).

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* lili. (Schröer 1885) 85 To ȝeares ġince twegen ȝebroðra into cumena ciesnan gan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 204 Hyt bynnan healfon ȝeare ealne þone wætan ut atyhþ. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 53 Nu a3e we..læten alse fele dayes, alse hie diden ȝeres...þat we ne singeð þe bliselliche songes. *c* 1205 LAY. 217 Auscanius heold þis drihliche lond Daiȝes & ȝeres. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 33 Twelf Monþe it was þare-afterward and half ȝer and more. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4703 Be þe thrid yeir was gan, Vnnethes was þer leist lat an. 1360 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 43 Þou schalt ȝelden hit a-ȝeyn at one ȝeeres ende. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 463) 58 More he lerned in on ȝer þan any of his oþer fere dide in ȝares tene. 1408 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 80 Competent saleri for an hole here. 1436–70 *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 27/2 Landis..quhilkis our predecessoris hes fosyt..ij hundreth ȝeirys befor thir days. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXX. 38 Gif evir my fortoun wes to be a frer, The dait thairof is past full mony a ȝeir. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 13, I that I doe, and haue done any time these three hundred yeares. 1637 *Decree Star Chamb.* x. in *Milton's Areop.* (Arb.) 14 No Haberdasher of small wares,..not hauing beene seuen yeeres apprentice to the trade. 1728–29 SWIFT *Stella's Birthday* Wks. 1841 I. 682/2 Stella this day is thirty-four (We shan't dispute a year or more). 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* vi, A family of four hundred years' standing. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xviii, A gentleman..within a year or two on either side of thirty. 1884 GOLDWIN SMITH in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 533 The idea that the United States are disposed to aggress upon Canada cannot survive a year's intercourse with their people.

β. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) Pref. 4 Þa feng Æþelbryht his broþur to, & heold .v. ġear. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 20 An wif þe þolode blod-ryne twelf ġear. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 143 Þris hier and six monepes. *c* 1205 LAY. 3789 Ale þe twa ȝere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 Efter ueole ȝer. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 741 An hundreth and twenti yhere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 588 And thre yeer in this wise his lif he ladde. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xi. 56 Poul was slain bifore the tyme of this exile bi almost xxxti. ȝeer. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 118 b, A thynge done peraduenture a dosyn yere before. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 121 Mony ȝeir. 1553 BRCON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 200 He had burned in Purgatorye a greate number of yeare. 1600 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* I. i. 183 He will last you some eight yeare, or nine yeare. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. p. lxxxv, Sir Henry Spelman..used it lxxx Vear since. 1702 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 101 The Curé is now stone blinde, & has been this 4 year. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXXIX, At last they didna 'gree at a' for twa or three year.

b. Following and qualifying a date: = a year before or after . . .; †*was a year*, a year ago. More commonly expressed by *twelvemonth* (TWELVEMONTH 1 b).

1533 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 362 That..your pleasure maye be to suffer It to bere date from Mydsomer Was a yere. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emp.* in *Hist. Iustine* L 1 5, The Emperor..tooke him prisoner vppon the same day twentye yeares, after that his father was takan prisoner by Charles the fift. *a* 1873 WILBERFORCE *Ch. & Emp.* (1874) I On the day year on which he had received our Lord's servants into his house. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* XXXV, I should not be surprised..if he were to change his name again before this time year.

c. In reference to the duration of some (usually painful) experience, as the sufferings of purgatory (always in reference to *years of pardon*), a term of imprisonment, etc. (Usually *pl.* with numeral.)

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 62 Vuele god us brise8,..oðer þurh ort qualm oðer þurh smerte ȝier [cf. G. *schmerzensjahr*]. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 221 And so myȝt pardoun be gotun to sey yche day a lady sawter ȝhe ten þowsand ȝer in on yere. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 8 Þeweti þowsand ȝer of pardoun. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 271 'Goodys curse have he for it', sayd Charlemagne, 'and an evyll yere.'

1833 GAU *Richt Way* 5 Sa mony thousand ȝeris of pardone powers and remissions of sinn and payne. 1874 W. S. GILBERT *Charity* II, *Mr. S.*...There is nothing to connect me with that matter...*Ruth.* Nothing?..I've writin' of yours which is fourteen year [*i.e.* penal servitude], if it's a day. 1901 *Scotsman* 27 Feb. 11/1 The woman also told him that ..if he was not careful she could get him fifteen years.

d. *pl.* with numeral, expressing a person's age. (Cf. 5.)

More usually either followed by *of age* or *old*, or omitted by ellipsis; e. g. 'a man fifty years of age', or 'fifty years old', or 'a man of fifty'. For obs. variants of expression see quots.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21315 O gode haliman .. O sex scor yeire, hight symeon. 23.., etc. [see OLD *a.* 4 b]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 83 Whan [Crist] was twelfe ȝeer olde. 1382 — *Matt.* ii. 16 Alle the children,..fro two ȝeer age and with ynne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 177, I wol no womman thirtty yeer of age. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 148 The yongest of hem hadde of age Fourtiene yer. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12386 (Trin.) Ihesu was þat tyme þore Of eigte yeer olde & more. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 15 It semed ij yere age or more. *c* 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 37 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 112 When the child was xij yere and more. 1583 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 67 Put theym bothe in one pasture, tyll they be foure or fyue yere olde. 1590 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 14 Ane woundit man, of aucht and threttie ȝeiris. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 73 At seauenteene yeeres, many their fortunes seeke But at fourescore, it is too late a weeke. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Table* 62 b, The heire of ane Soccoman is of perfite age, quhen he is passed fivetene yeares. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 32 Wine, that aged was eleven year. 1695 SIBBALD *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 Four children..who died all before they were full four yeer old. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 544 A nurse of ninety years.

e. In special or idiomatic genitive or attrib. uses, qualified by *a* or a numeral.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xlix. (Z.) 287 *Anniculus*, anes ġeares cild oððe lamb. 1451, 1552 [see DAY *sb.* 11]. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 8 The dyvvysyon..dured in Fraunce continuelly by .xj. yeerday. 1599 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) Civ, My enmy straunged but for a ten yeares daye. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1623) D iij, The Bee is but a yeares Bird, with some aduantage. 1635 in Foster *Crt. Min. E. Ind. Comp.* (1907) 67 [At 41 per hundred at] a yeares day of payment. 1654 CROMWELL *Sp.* 12 Sept., A people that have been unhinged this twelve-years day, and are unhinged still. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 181 She..is classed in Lloyd's Register as an eight years' ship.

2. a. With qualifying words, denoting periods differing in length according to the manner in which they are computed in some scientific or conventional reckoning.

Anomalistic, astronomical, canicular, civil, embolismic, equinoctial, Gregorian, Julian, lunar, lunisolar, natural, sidereal, solar, Sothic, tropical, vague (etc.) *year*: see the adjs.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 316 Þæs ġeares dagas þe ġetelwise witan nemniað on lyden solaris annus, & on englisc þære sunnan ġear. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 79 For the Romaines at the beginning had but 10. moneths in the yere: as some of the barbarous people make but three moneths for their yere. 1[illegible] JULIAN]. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. I. xiii. (1597) 171 [illegible]e Egyptian yeare containeth the iust number of 365. dayes. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Period, Victorian Period*, an Interval of 532 Julian Years. 1757 J. FERGUSON *Astron.* (ed. 2) xxi. § 408 The Solar or Tropical Year, which contains 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 57 seconds; and is the only proper or natural year, because it always keeps the same seasons to the same months. 1841 WILKINSON *Manu. & Cust. Anc. Egypt.* xi. Ser. II. I. 17 The sacred was the same as the solar or vague year. 1860 R. S. POOLE in W. Smith *Dict. Bible* I. 505/1 There appear to have been at least three years in use with the Egyptians before the Roman domination, the Vague Year, the Tropical Year, and the Sothic Year.

b. *transf.* Applied to a very long period or cycle (in chronology or mythology, or vaguely in poetic use).

Cynic year: see CYNIC *a.* 3. *Great year* (Gr. μέγας ἐνιαυτός), the period (variously reckoned) after which all the heavenly bodies were supposed to return to their original positions, also called *Platonic year* (see PLATONIC *a.* 3 b); also occas. used of certain cycles in modern chronology.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxi. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 86/1 Chaunging of roundenes and cercles of sterres..þe chaungeing of hem falleþ in euerich xxxvj. M. ȝeere. And þis þe greete ȝere þat is the laste of alle þinges. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xi. 123 b, With the life of this bird [*sc.* the phœnix], the reuolution of the great yere is made, which diuers..say to consist, not in 540. yeres, but in 12960. yeres. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XXVI. (1592) 402 If they had lined lesse than Sixe hundred yeares, their obseruations had bene in vaine, because the great yeare continueth so long. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. I. XXXVII. (1597) 170 It is called of some the yeare of the worlde, and of some the great yeare of Plato, which contayneth according to Alphonsus, 49000. yeares..yet some affirme that the perfect yeare of the worlde contayneth but 36000 yeares. 1666 S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 91, I will engage you shall never be one of their Disciples, though you should study them [*sc.* Platonists] to the revolution of their Great Year. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 583 On such day As Heav'ns great Year brings forth. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* I. iii. § 9 Unless they had lived six hundred years: for the Great Year is completed in that interval. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 116 The 'great year,' or geological cycle. 1872 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 89 Five thousand angelic years, which are five hundred and eighty-six millions of the years of men. 1893 HUXLEY *Romanes Lect.* 36 The suggestion that the power and the intelligence of man can ever arrest the procession of the great year.

c. The period of revolution of any planet round the sun (*planetary year*).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Times wherein Jupiter, Saturn, the Sun, Moon, &c. finish their Revolutions..are respectively call'd the Years of Jupiter, and Saturn, [etc.].

1870 E. F. BURR *Eccs Cœlum* iv. 104 Neptunian calendar, it is only thirty-a creation of Adam.

3. A space of time, of the length stated in sense 1, with fixed limits. a. *esp.* Such a space of time as reckoned in a calendar and denoted by a number in a particular era: commonly divided into twelve calendar months, in the ordinary (Roman) calendar beginning with January and ending with December, and consisting of 365 (or 366) days: see CALENDAR 1. (Distinctively called the *civil year*.)

Year of Christ, †*of God* (Sc.), *of our Lord* (LORD *sb.* 7 b), *of grace* (GRACE *sb.* 12), †*of salvation* (SALVATION 1 c), a particular year of the Christian era (denoted by a number following).

(Formerly also in *pl.* with numeral, denoting a particular year of an era.)

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 41 His magas ferdon ælce ȝere to hierusalem. *c* 1132 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132 Ðis ȝear com Henri king to þis land. *c* 1205 LAY. 7220 He makede þane kaland þe dihteð þane moneð & þe ȝer. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 101 Þat oþer ȝer a faukun bredde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 150 Two geuelengðhes timen her, And two solstices in ðe ȝer. 1357 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (1879) 118 The sacrement of the auter..whilk ilk man and woman..aught forto resceyve anes in the yhere. 1396 in *Scott. Antiq.* (1900) XIV. 217 The secvnde day of May the yher of our lorde MCCC neynty and sex. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 32 Be the yheris of cryst comyn and gone, Fully nynty ande nyne. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 19 The ȝeir of God Ane M.V.C.LVI. 1584 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 64 The lettre from Richard Hutton written in September without yere. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 297 Stalions are to be seperated from Mares al the yeare long, except at the time of procreation. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Learned Tracts* (1649) 164 The Christians did not use to reckon by the years of Christ, until the 532 of the Incarnation. *Ibid.* 165 That the first year Dionysian of Christ ought to bee reckoned the third. 1647 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 4 In the yeer of the Salvation of all mankinde, three hundred thirty and nine. *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 335 [They] were al by holy obedience sent to Paris in the yeare 1652. 1788 COWPER *Stanzas Bill of Mortality* 2 Could I..as sure presage To whom the rising year shall prove the last. 1828 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXVI, The Highlands hae been keepit quiet since the year aughty-nine—that was Killiecrankie year. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 36 Dr. Paull..more than once gives the day and the month, without remembering to add the year of an event.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 Abowte þe yeris of our Lord cccc vj. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 1 The ferd day of the moneth of August, the ȝere of God etc. lxxiij ȝeris.

b. Such a space of time, with limits not necessarily coinciding with those of the civil year, forming a division of a period (or the whole period) of office, study, or other occupation, or of a person's lifetime (in these cases commonly with ordinal numeral, often with possessive noun or pronoun), or taken between definite dates for some special purpose, e. g. taxation, payment of dividends, agricultural operations, etc.

c 1000 *Lambeth P's.* XXX. 11 Lif min and ȝeares mine. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9503, & ta wass Kayfasess ȝer þe fifte ȝer bigunnenn. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 43 Þe fif & þrittuðe ȝer of his [*sc.* Maxence's] rixlinge. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) I. 20 In his elleuent ȝere com folk, þat misleued. *c* 1405 *Cursor M.* 3693 (Trin.) His ȝeres passed & seuen dayes Rachel he weddide þe story sayes. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 138 Þe v. yer of þe reine of kinge Edwarde. 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 162 Suche greate charges as they [*sc.* sheriffs]..must bere by Reason of the same Office after their yer Ended. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. i, Which I'll perform..not for my year, But for my life. 1626 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 34 There in your English Colledge,..he liued and heard his course of philosophie and almost two yeares of school diuinitie. 1631 MILTON *Sonn.* vii. 2 How soon hath Time..Stoln on his wing my three and twentith yeer! 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) 61 His living in obscurity from His twelfth to His thirtieth yeere. 1848 E. S. CREASY *Eton Coll.* 42 The relative positions which the boys of each year had occupied in the school. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* iii. (1876) 68 At the following Christmas examination he was the first of his year.

c. Such a space of time as arranged for religious observance in the Christian Church, with special seasons and holy days, beginning with Advent (but, formerly or locally, with other periods).

a 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* (1850) IV. 683 The lessouns, pistlis, and gospels, that ben rad in the chirche al the ȝeer. 1627 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* 106 We begin..our Ecclesiastical year (as to some accounts, though not as to the order of our service) with the glorious Annunciation of his Birth by angelical message. 1827 KEBLE (*title*) The Christian Year; Thoughts in Verse for the Sundays and Holydays throughout the year. 1875 *W. Smith's Dict. Chr. Antiq.* I. 83/1 The first Sunday in Advent was not always the of the liturgical year. .. The *Antiphonarius* of begins 1 Advent, and the *Liber Responsalis* l. But the earlier practice was to begin the year with the month of March, as being that in which our Lord was crucified (March 25).

4. As the period of the seasons, and of the growth of crops and vegetation in general; hence *poet.* connoting the phenomena of growth and decay.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 222 Myn herte and alle my lymes bean as grene As laurer thurgh the yeer is for to sene. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 89 Take Strawberys, & waysshe hem in tyme of ȝere in gode red wyn. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 99 Make hillocks of molehils, in field thorough out, and so so remaine, till the yeere go about. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 5 Shatter your leaves before the mellowing year. 1726–46 THOMSON *Spring* 18 As yet the trembling year is

unconfirmed, And Winter oft at eve resumes the ——— 1781 Cowper *Hermitage* 24 Vines, olive-, herbage, forests disappear, And all the charms of a Sicilian year. 1850 Tennyson *Day Dream, Sleeping Palace* i, The varying year with blade and sheaf Clothes and reclothes the happy plains.

b. *transf.* A year's produce. (A literalism.)

1382 Wyclif *Joel* ii. 25, Y shal ȝelde to you the ȝeris whom the locust eete.

c. Each of the annual rings in the wood of a tree. *rare.*

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 163 The Circles, or (as they are commonly call'd) Years, are closest.

5. *pl.* Age (of a person).

Years of discretion: see Discretion 6 b.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2181 Ȝearum frod. *c* 1200 Orrm 10885 Himm birrþ been fullwaxenn mann, & shadd fra childess ȝerres. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 5 Ȝunge mon of ȝeres. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12759 He was yong & yepe, of yeris but iyte. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1431 Euery gilt .. Done fro me he passith the ȝeris of Innocens. *a* 1529 Skelton *Death K. Edw. IV* 37, I se wyll, they leve that doble my ȝeris. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 231, I my selfe learned it of one of no small credite, of great yeares. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heeyra* v. i, I am of that yeares now that it were no reason to remit mine offence. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 39 When she was of yeares fitt for marriage. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* II. ii, Ere they be thought at yeares to welcome misery! 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* Medit. xvi, Dayes, produced to decrepit yeeres. Fild with experience, and grizly haires. *c* 1652 Milton *Sonn. to Sir H. Vane* 1 Vane, young in yeares, but in sage counsell old. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 1 Ever since I came to years, that I could tell my own inclinations. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII. xiii, You may change your Opinion, if you live to my Years. .. Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xiii, That Madame ...eron, at her years, should elect a second husband, was ridiculous. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 594 William, still a boy in years but a man in conduct and counsel.

b. Full or mature age (esp. in phr. *into* or *to years*, *of years*); old age (esp. in phr. *in years* = old, aged). Now *arch.* or *poet.*

Stricken, struck, strucken in years: see the pa. pples.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Feb., Emblem, Men of yeares haue no feare of god at al. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 130 It is better for a man to chuse a young wife, then one in yeares. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 66 Till my infant-fortune comes to yeares. 1605 *First Pt. Jeronimo* I. iii, Had not your reuerend yeares beene present heere, I should haue ponyarded the Villaynes bowels. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 390 If the horse be of yeeres. 1623 Cockeram II, *Under Yeeres*, Minoritie, Nonage. 1633 Laud in *Strafford's Lett.* (1739) I. 111, I am in Years, and have had a troublesome Life. 1784 A. Collins *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 85 As they grew into Years. 1773 Burney *Pres. St. Mus. Germany* (1775) I. 329 Wagenseil is rather in years. 1813 Scott *Triermain* I. viii, The Man of Years mused long and deep. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* III. 284 He was slipping into years apace, And years make men restless.

6. *pl.* (more or less vaguely): Age, period, times; with *poss. pron.* time or period of life.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 Ihe uorme ȝeres [of monastic life] nis hit bute bal-pleouwe. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 215 Fram þe ȝoupe of my ȝer ȝerned ich haue Of wide werkus to write. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxviii. 15, I shal eft thenke to thes alle my ȝeres, in the bitternesse of my soule. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. xii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 379/1 The lord of lordis, lord of longest yeeris. *a* 1542 Wyatt *Penit. Ps.* CII. xxiii, Take me not Lord away In myddes off my yeres. 1659 H. Plumpton in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Wishing that all your yeares yet to come may passe over with mirth and jollityes. 1719 Watts *Ps.* XC, Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 98 Those who know any thing of the state of painting in this country of late years. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 8. 430 The last years of Elizabeth's reign were years of splendour and triumph abroad.

b. In emphatic or hyperbolical use, chiefly in *pl.*: A very long time. (Cf. Age *sb.* 10 b.)

1692 Dryden *Cleomenes* I. i, Where hast thou been this long long year of hours? *c* 1750 J. Goff in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 69 Dr Betty, I think every Day Absent from thee, Years. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. i, At certain periods of life we live years of emotion in a few weeks. 1853 M. Arnold *Scholar Gipsy* v, Once, years after, in the country lanes, Two scholars whom at college erst he knew Met him.

7. Phrases. (See also senses 2, 3, 5.)

A year, formerly also *ȝere, ayer, a-year* [A *adj.*[2] 4, *prep.*[1] 8 b]: every year, yearly, *per annum*. †**By (the) year** [By *prep.* 24 c]: in the same sense; rarely †*by years*. Also *by the year*, from year to year (as a tenancy, etc.). **Year after year** [After *prep.*[1] 6], **year by year** [By *prep.* 25 c], **from year to year** [From *prep.* 3 b]: through a succession of years, either continuously or at some particular time in each year; every year successively. (Hence *year-to-year* adj. phr., occurring or done from year to year.) Also †*for year and year*. †*From x year to x year*, x *year and* x *year*: every x years. †*Year, year, and year*: on a stated occasion every year in succession. **Year in (and) year out** [In *adv.* 2]: as each year begins and until it ends; continually throughout the year (and through successive years).

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1133 Þar treon schulleþ a ȝer blowe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxi. (Tollem. MS.), The figs tre..beriþ fruite þries or fowre sipes a ȝere. 1425 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 417 Paid..the mairalte dew ffor the ground in the Grocerie' Hall, ..ȝurchased ayeer.. xl lb. 1573–80 Tusser *Hush.* (1878) 28 Christmas comes but once a yeere. *a* 1592 Wheatly *Wks.* (1892) VIII. 327 Every worn-out Preacher shall receive..at least ten pounds a-year. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 291 Every man who had fifty pounds a year derived from land. 1861 Beckingham *Brit.* ... vi. (1866) 84 He pays £10 a-year to the owner.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10018 Þai haiud alle þe feeste dere þa þines war wonto hais bi yere. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 59, ij nattes by þe ȝer' to be layd coverit. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. v. (MS. Bodl. 263) 20/2 She..taughte ther laboreris To sowe ther greyn & multeplie bi yeris. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xvii. 29 A ladi..that might spende more thanne fyue hundred pounde bi yeere. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* III. viii. 126 b, If such lande be worth xl.s a by yere. 1640 Habington *Edw. IV* 95 The reward of a hundred pound by the yeare during life. 1797 [see By *prep.* 24 c].

1611 *Bible* 2 Sam. xxi. 1 There was a famine..three yeeres, yeere after yeere. 1830 Tennyson *Day Dream, Sleeping Beauty* i, Year after year unto her feet..The maiden's jet-black hair has grown.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 132 Þe almes of þise bischoppes of so old synne is gedren for a certeyn rente ȝer bi ȝer in lecherie to lige. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxiv. 82 In euery countre ben certeyne officers yere by yere chaunged for the more ayker nes. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Kings x. 25 [They] brought hym euery man his present, vesselles of syluer [etc.] yere by yere. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl. s/v Annales*, ..Chronicles: records of matters done yeare by yeare. 1793 Cowper *A Tale* 77 Be it your fortune, year by year, The same resource to prove. 1885 Sir H. Cotton in *Law Rep.* 30 Chanc. Div. 22 The accounts were delivered year by year to Mr. Norton.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 62 Fro ȝer to ȝer, fro seuene ȝer to seuene ȝer. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 175 Now wolle ye here how they in Cotteswolde Were wonte to borowe, or they schulde be solde, Here wolle gode, as for yere and yere [*v. r.* fro yere to yere]. *Ibid.* 176 Ffor yere and yere they schulde make paymente, And some tyme als too yere and too yere. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 20 There as thou hast deyllyd from heyre to ȝere. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Sam. ii. 19 Hys mother made hym a lytle coate, and brought it to him from yere to yere. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Leyo le Key* 68 From three yeares to three. *c* 1630 Milton *Sonn.* i. 11 As thou from yeer to yeer hast sung too late For my relief. 1635 in Foster *Crt. Min. E. India Comp.* (1907) 89 At yeares, yeare, and yeare from the first of March next. *Ibid.* 93 Yeare, yeare and yeare, upon rebate. 1838 H. H. White *Watkins' Princ. Conveyancing* ii. (ed. 8) 28 *note*, A tenancy from year to year. 1845 A. Polson in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 829/1 An estate from year to year may arise not only from express stipulation, but even from that general letting heretofore held to constitute an estate at will. 1853 I. Taylor *Restor. Belief* (1856) 218 A year-to-year reading of the Gospels. 1870 Huxley *Lay Serm.* etc. (1877) 251 That the energy radiated from year to year was supplied from year to year.

1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xv, You 1 other girls having splendid times, while you grind, grind, year in and year out. 1883 Mrs. Riddell *Senior Partner* III. 135 At Mr. M'Cullagh's the same faces greeted customers year in year out.

b. Law. (*a*) *Year and day*, a period constituting a term for certain purposes, in order to ensure the completion of a full year. *Year, day, and waste*, a prerogative whereby the sovereign was entitled to the profits for a year and a day of a tenement held by a person attainted of petty treason or felony, with the right of wasting the tenement: finally abolished in 1870.

Cf. M Du. *jaer en dagh*, a year and six months (and, locally, three days).

c 1450 *Merlin* xxxiii. 682, I shall seche hym a yere and a day, but with-ynne that space I may knowe trewe tidinges. 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 274/2 In cass the Maire, Constables, and Felawship aforesaid, commence not their accion..within the yer and day next after thoffence. 1514 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 90 Vnder the pane of banyssing of the toune for ȝer and day. 1548 Staunford *Kinges Prerog.* xvi. (1567) 49 b, If the husband be atteinted of felonie the kinge shall haue the yeare, daye and waste of the lands of the wife. 1659 Hicks tr. *Plowden's Abridgm. Comm.* 212 So by the custom of many Mannors, one shall lose Copyhold if he claims it not within a year and day after the death of his ancestor. *a* 1768 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* I. vi. § 42. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxv, When we are handfasted,..we are man and wife for a year and day; that space gone by, each may choose another mate. 1913 *Act 3 & 4 Geo. V.* c. 20 § 103 When the sequestration is dated within year and day of any effectual adjudication.

(*b*) *Years and terms*, in full *books of years and terms*, the year-books.

1528 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 239/1 In the yeres and termes called Hunnes case. 1883 *Wharton's Law Lex.*, Year-books, or Books of years and terms.

See also Goodyear, New-year, To-year.

8. *Comb.*, as *year-end, -spinner; year-born, -counted, -marked* adjs.; **year-bird**, a name for *Rhyticeros plicatus*, a bird of the Malay archipelago, having a very large beak with a wrinkled growth on the top, which was believed to develop a fresh wrinkle every year; **year-count**, among the N. American Indians, a series of figures each symbolizing the chief event of a year, usually painted on hide, and forming a record or chronicle (also called *winter-count*); **year-ring**, each of the rings formed by successive years' growth in the wood of a tree; † **year-tack**, a lease for a year. See also Year-book, etc.

1873 *Cassell's Bk. Birds* III. 137 The plumage of the 'Year Bird is principally black. *a* 1882 Rossetti *Soothsay* i, Let no man ask thee of anything Not 'yearborn between Spring and Spring. *a* 1896 D. G. Benton in Keane *Ethnol.* (1896) 218 There is absolutely no similarity between the Tibetan calendar and the primitive form of the American, which was not intended as a 'year-count, but as a ritual and formulary. 1896 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xliii, My own small 'year-counted existence. 1899 Hartley *Yarkah. Ditties* Ser. II. 226 A nice little bit to fall back on i' th' Savings bank at th' 'year end. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 6/3 The year-end combating results. 1893 Mrs. Warfield *Other Girls* xxiii, Old and 'year-marked faces. 1894 Rowalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 38 The original form and structure of wood..are retained by the charcoal left by each, so that 'year-rings and cells may be distinguished in wood-charcoal. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 312 One [language]..becomming old, Is cradle-trooncl'd: another warreth bold With the 'year-spinners. 1550 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1870) IV. 57 James Gudsape sall haif ane 'yeyrtak for the yeyr that he has gawin our to hyme.

Year, obs. f. Ear; *year whayle* = Erewhile.

a 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, I. Induct., What were those Puppits that hopt and skipt about me year whayle?

Year-book (yɪə·bʊk). [Cf. MLG. *jârbôk*, MDu. *jaerboeck* (Du. *jaarboek*), OHG. *jârpuoch* (G. *jahrbuch*), etc.]

1. *pl.* The books of reports of cases in the English law-courts published annually during several periods from the reign of Edward II to that of Henry VIII.

1588 Fraunce *Lawiers Logike* I. xvii. 61 b, Uncoherent cases in yeare-bookes. 1639 Sanderson *Serm.* (1657) II. ix. 189 The Reports and year-books of our Common Law. 1688 Sir E. Herbert *Acc. Auth. Hales's Case* in Plowden, who.. is as little like to be mistaken in the sense of the Year-books as any Reporter we have. 1796 Seward *Anecd.* IV. 302 [Ld. Mansfield] said, that, when he was young, few persons would confess they had not read a considerable part, at least, of the Year Books. 1824 J. Johnson *Typographia* I. 432 It has been supposed that Pynson printed above forty year-books.

2. A book published annually and containing information for the year, e. g. in connexion with a society or religious denomination; an annual.

1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 261 P 4 The following Fragment out of much more which is written in my Year-Book. 1859 Timbs (*title*) The Year-book of Facts in Science and Art: exhibiting the most important discoveries and improvements of the past year. 1847 (*title*) The Congregational Year Book, for 1846. 1898 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Year-book*, an annual; a book of law cases; a turf register. 1883 (*title*) The official Year-book of the Church of England.

3. A book of information about the various days and seasons of the year, as Hone's Year-Book (1829).

Yeard, ȝeard, Sc. forms of Earth.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 35 Out of the ȝeard we cutt peates and turfes. *a* 1763 *Burd Ellen* xi. in Child *Ballads* III. 88/1 A yeard-fast stane.

Yeard, obs. form of Yard.

Year-day. Forms: see Year and Day; also **year's day** (*yeeres dai*, etc.). [In OE. *ȝéares dæg* = OFris. *ierisdei*, MDu. *jaersdagh*, OHG. *jâr(s)tac* (MHG. *jarstag*, G. *jahrstag*).]

† 1. (*year's day.*) The first day of the year, New Year's Day. *Obs.* (Cf. F. *jour de l'an.*)

a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1096 To ȝeares dæge. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 275 [Christ] hadde of þe firste ȝere of his burþe but seuene dayes from þe nativite to ȝeresday.

2. A day observed every year in commemoration of a person or event, an anniversary; *esp.* a day on which requiem services were held every year in commemoration of a deceased person: cf. Obit 2 b and Year's mind. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 171 To every godd..Thei made a temple forth withal, And ech of hem his yeares dai Astituted hadde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 ȝerday, *anniversarius*. 1448 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 282 We haue ordeyned..for to kepe the ȝeresday of Jon lyster of Cambrygge ȝerely. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 275 How be it the fyrst dirige may be differred,..ȝet the xxx^ti^ day and ȝeres day schal neuer be differed. 1526 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 170 That the sayd feoffers..yerely kepe up the aforsayd tyme my yeresday for my soule. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 584 The very daies on the which the women celebrated the feast and yeresday of Adonis death.

3. *pl.* Days of the year.

1897–8 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* p. xliii. (Cent. Dict. Suppl.) A simple observation on the setting sun behind a distant sierra, which would in itself permit a count of year-days, if not the recognition of the bisextile.

Yeard-hunger: see Yerd-hunger.

Yeare, obs. form of Ear, Year.

Yeared (yɪəd, *poet.* yɪə·rĕd), *a.* or *pa. pple.* Also 5 i-yeerid. [f. Year + -ed.]

1. † That has lived or lasted a given number of years; so many years of age, or of so many years' standing: as *old i-yearid* = of old standing; *twice yeared* = that has lasted two years; *yeared to thirty* = thirty years of age (*obs.*). Also without qualification, That has lasted many years (*poet.*).

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince.* 2856 Þou of þe peyne seel art old I-yeerid. 1589 Burghley in Nicolas *Mem. Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 323 His [*sc.* Oxford's] fall in her Court, which is now twice yeared. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* I. i, Year'd but to thirty. 1898 Bailey *Festus* (1852) 282 White with all yeared snows and radiant rime.

2. Phr. *yeared and dayed*, said of property left unclaimed for a year and a day, after which time the original owner's claim lapsed: see Year 7 b (a).

1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* xv. 28 b, They maye..cause theym as streyes and put them in sauegarde to the lordes vse tyll they be yered and dayed. 1599 *Admiralty Crt. Examinations* 19 No. 105 There was driuen..vpon my libertie of Alverstoke..a certaine shipp..wheare she being yeered and daied according to the law of Oleron hath ever

Yearethlye, obs. form of Earthly.

1593 *Resolves* II. i. 2 What yearethlye things is permanent or stable?

Yearful (yī·əful), *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. YEAR + -FUL 2.] As much as fills a year.

1889 H. M. STANLEY in *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/4 Over a yearful of stirring events.

†**Yearing,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: see YEAR; also 6 yeoryng. [f. YEAR + -ING 3.]

A. *sb.* = YEARLING A. 1; also with numeral, as *three yearing*, an animal three years old.

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 8 Jabel departed the flokkis of scheep fro the flokkis of goot..aftir here age 3eringis be bem selve, and elder be bem selve. 1586 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 131, ij coulte foles, not yearingers [*sic*]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 122 The french haue no proper name for this beast that I can learn vntil he be a three yearing, and then they call him (*vn Gobler*). 1611 COTGR., *Berrat*, a yearing. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 120 The yearinges weare large, and the two yeares little.

B. *adj.* = YEARLING B. 1.

1451 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 51 A 3eryng calf. 1516 in *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1876) App. 506/2 A 3eoryng boloke. 1538 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 81, ij yeringe foolles.

Yeark, obs. form of YERK.

Yearlily, error in mod. Dicts. for *yearely*, YEARLY *adv.*

Yearling (yī·əliŋ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: see YEAR; also 6 erlynge. [f. YEAR + -LING 1. Cf. early mod. Du. *jaerlingh*, G. *jährling*.]

A. *sb.* 1. An animal a year old, or in its second year (esp. a sheep, calf, or foal; also applied to certain birds and fishes; rarely to a child).

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 354, *x.* yerlynges. 1532 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 247, I bequeth to Jane Hay a yereling, that is to say, a cowe heifer. 1541 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 53 One heyffer coue Erlynge & xj Shepe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 43 b, In the next [pasture] are my young breede, Yeerelinges, and Twoyeerelinges. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* I. (1617) 66 To seperate your horse-colts from your Mare Colts,..and your yearelings from your two yeares olde. 1647 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 108 The parr of Tweed.. descend to the sea in the shape of smolts, as yearlings. 1847 *Bewick's Brit. Birds* I. 11 *note*, The female yearling is termed a red Falcon, the male a red Tiercel. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 463 The cows, on the other hand, as well as the yearlings and two-year-olds, are generally fattest in June. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xi, Alfred..is a little more than a yearlin', and of course he'll snuffle.

b. *transf.* The fleece of a yearling sheep.

1888 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen Manuf.* I. 7 The second clip, which is somewhat thicker in fibre [than 'lambs'], and both longer and stronger in staple, is styled 'yearlings'.

2. A plant a year old; *spec.* applied to hops of the previous year's growth.

1849 *Florist* 247 Matthew's Juno, large and full, lavender, purple-edge, noticed by us as a yearling last season. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Oct. 12/1 Messrs. Woolloton and Son state that 'brewers hold exceptionally large stocks of yearlings'. 1902 *Times* 29 Sept. 8/5 Yearlings are in good request at 70s. to 100s.

B. *adj.* 1. Of an animal (rarely of a child): A year old; in its second year.

1398 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* F], The fleshe of..yerelynge wethers..is conuenient inoughe to eate. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 585 Yearly, the Jews a Yearling Lamb must slay. *a* 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Tracts* i. (1683) 80 So many thousand male unblemished yearling lambs. 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 246, I order'd Friday to take a yearling Goat. 1729 SWIFT *Modest Proposal* 13 A well grown, fat Yearling Child. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* I. 244 Even like a yearling child, a fosterer's care. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* Oct. 240 The yearling filly by him [*sc.* Rataplan], out of Musjid's dam. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 148 Kips—the skins of small or yearling cattle, exceeding the size of the calf skins.

b. Of plants or seeds, esp. of hops: Of the previous year's growth.

1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 246 Cuttings, or yearling plants, for hedge-planting. 1888 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 2/6 Yearling and old hops are at present quite neglected. 1892 *Ibid.* 11 Oct. 6/4 Yearling red cloverseed.

2. Of a year's standing that has been such for a year.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I, As yearling brides provide lace caps, and work rich clothes, for the expected darling.

Year-long, *a.* [f. YEAR + LONG *a.* Cf. OE. *ġearlanges* adv. for a year, MHG. *jârlanc*, (G. *jahrelang*), ON. *árlangt* (as adv.)] Of the length of a year; lasting for a year, or throughout the year; often, lasting for years in succession, (sometimes) age-long.

1813 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. Poole* (1895) 612 The year-long difference [*viz.* Feb. 1812–13] between me and Wordsworth. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 319 Thee..From year-long poring on thy pictured eyes, Ere seen I loved. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 1. 16 No Greenland winter waits us there, No year-long night. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 44 Her legislative ..ably..did good service to her fame at the time, but the year-long farce soon lost its plausibility. 1886 W. WALLACE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 453/1 The yearlong alliance between philosophy and theology.

b. *hyperbolically.* Seeming as long as a year.

1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 90 Through year-long hours of hope and woe She sits and waits.

So **Yea·rs-long** *a.* (*rare*—1), lasting for several or many years.

1887 HARDY *Woodlanders* I. xiii. 235 The years-long regard that she had had for him.

Yearly (yī·əli), *a.* (*sb.*) [OE. *ġearlic* = OFris. *ier(a)lik*, MLG. *jârlik*, *jaerlije*, OHG. *jârlîch* (MHG. *jaerlich*, G. *jährlich*), ON. *árligr*: see YEAR and -LY 1.]

†1. Of the year; belonging or relating to a year. *Obs. rare.*

c 1000 *Hexameron of St. Basil* (1849) 12 Næron nane tida on ðam ġearlican ȝetæle ær ðam ðe se sumlihtiga sceyppend ȝesceop ða tunglan to ġearlicum tidum. 1587 *Order of Hospitalls* F v b, Yow shall kepe an Yerely-Booke for Collections, Legacies and Benevolences. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* To Rdr., The naturall Philosophers may obserue ..the varietie of heauenly influence, of the yearely seasons. *c* 1811 in *Rep. Comm. Publ. Rec. Irel.* (1815) 104 The Recognizances..are regularly arranged in yearly bundles according to their Receipts.

2. Done, made, observed, happening, coming, produced, etc. every year or once a year; annual.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 618 *Annua*, ġerlice. 925–36 *Laws of Æthelstan* Prol., Ic ðæs libbendes yrfes, ic ðæs ġearlices westmes. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xi. 216 The ȝierly celebratioun of the Paschē day. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 81 The yearely course that brings this day about. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* v. 77 And yearly Games may spread the Gods renown. *a* 1721 PRIOR *New-Year's Gift to Phyllis* i, The circling months begin this day, To run their yearly ring. 1847 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* xii. 470 In some of the fossil-trees these yearly rings are of great breadth. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 85 An officer, who provided them with daily food and with a yearly change of raiment.

b. esp. of payments, charges, revenue.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2406 Þai..ȝerely tribute him to geue ȝapely him betis. 1452 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 61 To whome I haue granted any fees, annuetes, yerely rentis, or fermes. 1524 *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII*, c. 3 § 8 Landes and tenementes to the yerely value of xx. s. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 315 Fiue hundred poore I haue in yeerely pay. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 318 Having received an yearely pension of Lewis the eleaventh. 1712 HUGHES *Spect.* No. 326 P 6 The yearly Rent which gives the Value to the Estate. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Theseus* II. 237 O people and King of Athens, where is your yearly tribute?

c. Engaged or hired by the year.

[1621 *Bible* Lev. xxv. 53 As a yerely hired seruant shall he be with him.] 1891 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 2/6 Wages had gone up 5*l.* a year for yearly men.

Yearly (yī·əli), *adv.* [OE. *ġearlice* = MLG. *jârlik*, OHG. *jârlich*, ON. *árliga*, etc.: see YEAR and -LY 2.] Every year, once a year, year by year, annually.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 347/9 *Annuatim*, ġearlice. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1079 Þat man syne ȝerly can hym seke..Ilke ȝere..fra quhare he duelt in Ingland. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 58 Þe gernare þat kepis ȝerely þe whete þat es rede with-owte and white with-in. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 47 A feld yerly tyllyd, or ellys euyry othyr yere. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* v. (1885) 119 Such as wolde haue ben feyner of a c. li in hand, than of xl. li worth lande yerely. 1500 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 68/1 To haf merkatis and fairis in the said burgh ȝerle, with a merkat cors. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 31, I thought one might haue had a farme or a lease for a reasonable rent yeerely. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 177 There is a Caravan that yearly in Lent goes from Caire to Jerusalem. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 536 He gave yearly great sums in charity. 1830 A. CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Painters* II. 176 The demand for his works lessened yearly. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 63 It was agreed that Sunderland should receive this sum yearly.

Yearly, dial. form of EARLY.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) IV. 209 A monstrous pretty garden, Miss!..I am up yearly and late at it myself.

†**Yearman.** *Obs.* In 5 yerman. [f. YEAR + MAN *sb.*1] A man hired by the year. (Cf. YEARSMAN.)

1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 210 My Lord toke the stward to pay the yermen for wages as folew.

Year-mind: see YEAR'S MIND.

Yearn (yārn), *sb.* [f. next.] A yearning.

a 1797 MRS. M. W. GODWIN *Wks.* (1798) III. xliv. 134, I feel my fate united to yours by..the yearns of..a true, unsophisticated heart. 1853 KINGSLEY *Misc., Shelley & Byron* (1859) I. 307 In one mighty yearn after that beauty from which he is debarred, [Keats] breaks his young heart, and dies. 1868 'ARTEMUS WARD' *His Bk.* (1865) 35 'Hast thou not yearned for me?' she yelled. 'Not a yearn!' I bellered. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. v. 106 The rounds of her canvas whitened into marble hardness with the yearn and lean of the distended cloths.

Yearn (yārn), *v.*1 Forms: 1 ġiorna, ġeornan, ġiernan, ġirnan, ġyrnan, 2–4 ȝierne, ierne, 2–5 ȝerne, 3 ȝirn(e, (*Orm.*) ȝeornenn, 3–4 ȝorn(e 3–6 ȝern, 4 ȝiern, yhern(e, ȝharn(e, ȝaren, 4–5 ȝyrn(e, 4–6 ȝarn(e, yarne, 4–7 yerne, 4–8 yern, 5 yurn, herne, 6 yo(u)rn, *Sc.* ȝairne, yairne, 6–7 yearne, 6– yearn. [OE., Northumb. *ġiorna*, Mercian *ġeornan*, WS. *ġiernan*, corresp. to OS. *girnean*, *gernean*, ON. *girna* (see GREEN *v.*2), Goth. *gairnjan*, related to OE. *ġeorn*, Goth. *-gairns*: see YERN *a.* and YERE *v.*]

I. †1. *trans.* To desire earnestly; to experience a strong desire or longing for. a. with simple obj.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xv, Ne diorwyrðra hræfla hi ne ġirndan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 71 Hwi ġyrf ġewitnesse? *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1067 Đa ġeġann se cyngc Malcholom ġyrnan his sweo-tor him to wife. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 Dære ðinge ðe on ðesse worlde waren he ne ȝernde. *c* 1205 LAY. 17795 Cnihtes feollen a-dun & ȝirnden heore dæðes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 102 Muche word is of ou hu..þe beoð ver godleic & for unpeleic hyernad of monie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23458 Fair Iuels..men yerns oft. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 152 Þis man wole no þyng yerne But youre honour. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 485 Mor we suld ȝern hele of saule þan of bodi. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1407 For þat þou art brent With couetyse now,..þou yernest soules cure. *a* 1450 *Rattis Raving* 3790 At E nocht seis, hart nocht ȝarnis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxi. 19 We ȝerne thy presens, bot oft thow hes refusit Till cum we till. 1568 LAUDER *Godlie Tractate* 607 That death ȝe ȝairne, it sall fast frome ȝow fle.

†b. with obj. clause. *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 331 Hwile ðe he ġiernð ðæt he his weolan lece. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 8 Ne ġyrne ȝe þæt eow man ȝareowas nemne. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Lest eny reve me my make, ychabbe y-ȝirned ȝore. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1801 (Gött.) þai ȝernid þan, þa caitifes madd, þat þai had ben wid noe stadd. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 423, I ȝarne þe Of corse to here þe priwete. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. ii. 860 Octoviane ȝarnyt hym to be His ayr.

2. *intr.* To have a strong desire or longing; to long. a. Const. inf. with († or without) *to*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 Þa halgan..nabt ne.. ġyrndon to hæbbenne. *c* 1000 *Pœnitentiale Ecgberti* i. § 10 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 176 Ġif se man. ġyrneð Cristes lichaman to underfonne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3578 Crist wass æfre swillc to sen.. þatt gode ȝeorrndenn himm to sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1 Man yhernes rimes for to here. *Ibid.* 6479 Þi neghbur wijf ȝerne noght at haue. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6705 For hungre þai sal yherne it ete. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 238 The kynryk ȝharn I nocht to have. *a* 1395 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) i. xvi, Ȝit shalt thou ȝerne..for to come as nere as þou mayst to þat state. *a* 1568 *Wowing of Jok and Jynny* 9 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 387, I yern full fane To..sit down by yow. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* II. iv, I must do that my heart-strings yern to do. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 148 P 3 My rushing Heart, that..yearns to tell you all its Achings. 1808 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. xiii, A female tenderness which yearn'd, As with maternal love, to cherish him. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lv, The child yearned to be out of doors. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. iv. 38 He had a daughter whom he yearned to hail as queen.

b. Const. *after*, *for*, † *to*, *towards*. Also *absol.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. xxviii, He ofslog Proculus & Bonorum, þa ġiorndon eac æfter þæm onwalde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll Hom.* 27 Þe goufrihte..ne ȝiernеð to none þinge bute after godes wille. *Ibid.* 183 Þus wareð þe sowle þe licame, for þat hit haueð þarafter ierned. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 8 He bizet et te keiser þat he him ȝettede reue to beonne as þat he ȝirnd hefde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 55 Þe þridde boȝ of þise zenne is to uerliche yerne to þe mete ase deþ þe hond. 1387 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 560 Tham that ledis thair lifs als thaire flesch yhernes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2937 Yonge men & yeuerus..yurnes to gaumes. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 750 Thay pepill..That..ȝarnis for fude with sa greit zeill. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) IV. 503 His Maw began to yern again after some of the Figs. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 367 His heart yearned after the damsel who was to inherit these domains. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 266 Yearn'd after by the wisest of the wise. 1870 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 440, I yearn for the country again.

transf. 1638 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 213 Sacriledge is one of the most detestable sinnes, after which Gods curse yearneth, til he be revenged.

†3. *trans.* To express a wish or desire for (an object); to ask for, request. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 46 *Mendicans*, giornade [*Rushw.* giornde]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xi. 24 Swa hwæt swa ȝe ġyrnende biddað ġelyfað þæt ȝe hit onfoð. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 636 Þa ġeornde seo abbe þet he scolde him tybian þat he æt him ġeornde. *Ibid.* 777 He ġeornde at se kyning þet he scolde for his luuen freon his ane mynstre Wolingas het. *Ibid.* 1011 Se cyng & his witan..ġeorndon friðes. *c* 1205 LAY. 989 ȝirne we to þane kinge ȝeuen suiðe gode. *Ibid.* 8250 King Androgeus ȝeorneð þi grið. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2490 Lauerd, ..ȝette me þet ich ȝirne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Þe uerþe boȝ of auarice is ac-ynge, þet is, to ȝerne opo obre mid wrong. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 67 ȝernes now of my ȝift þat ȝou leue were, & what it be þat þe bidde ȝour bonus i graunte.

†4. *intr.* Of hounds: To cry out eagerly, give tongue. Also *trans.* to give tongue after. *Obs.*

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1409 The howndes began to yerne and to quest. *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Weather* (Brandl) 276 That after our houndes ȝournynge so merily,..In herynge we may folow. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxv. 181 You muste holde your yong Terryers euery one of them at a sundrie hole of some angle or mouth of the earth, that they may herken and heare theyr fellowes yearne. *Ibid.* lxvi. 185 When they percieue the Terryers beginne to yearne them. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* I. (1677) 18 When Beagles bark and cry at their Prey, we say, they Yearn.

†b. *transf. Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 100 Nymphs in mountayns high typ doe squeak, hullelo, yearning. 1589 G. DANIEL *Eccius.* xxii. 4 He shall be soiled in the vneavory Slime From Dunghills gather'd; all Men yerne at him. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Curse ȝe Meros* 26 A Holder-forth may yawl and yerne, snivle and whine, thump and bawl.

5. a. *intr.* To give a sound suggestive of strong desire; to express yearning or strong desire; also *trans.* to utter in emotional voice.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* I. 40 Yearns the deep talk, the ready laugh ascends. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* vii, The music, yearning like a God in pain. 1856 DICKENS *Household Words* 3 May 368/2 While the organ was yearning its last, and the great throng was pushing to the doors. 1894 LE GALLIENNE *Prose Fancies* 22 The kind of voice..in which Socialist actresses yearn out passages from 'The Cenci'.

b. To have an appearance as of longing.

1870 ROSSETTI *Burden of Nineveh* ix, The faces of thy ministers Yearned pale with bitter ecstasy. 1871 SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Tenebrae* 92 The blossom of man from his tomb Yearns open. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. v. 93 The jibs yearning from their sheets cant as

II. 6. *intr.* To be deeply moved; to be moved

with compassion; to have tender feelings; †to mourn, grieve. In first quot. app. *trans.* to have compassion upon.

1300–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 22 3erne we, guberne, wirgin matern. *a* 1533 FRITH *Another Bk. agst. Rastell* ii. B iv, The..slender reasons that those ii. wytted men, syr Thomas More and my lorde of Rochestre had brought to confyrme purgatory made my harte to yerne. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Kings iii. 26 Her bowelles yerned vpon her sonne. 1562 COOPER *Answ. Priv. Masse* (1850) 56 Any christian heart may rather yearn and lament to remember so ungodly profanation of the holy sacrament. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. x. (1877) I. 217 To raise pitifull and odious sores, and mooue the goers by such places where they lie, to yerne at their miserie. 1602 DAVISON *Rhapsody* (1611) 30 They in their bleating voice did seeme to yearne. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ci, The horror of Imaginary Death Strikes deep wᵗʰ flesh; and all Mortalitye Yernes at a Change. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* (1901) 21 It would make any ones heart yern within him, that has any man's blood in him. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 123 ₱ 5, I have left your Mother in the next Room. Her Heart yearns towards you. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xliii, With her gentle nature yearning to them both, feeling the misery of both. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxii. (1878) 406 My heart was yearning over her.

†b. To be reluctant *to do* something. *Obs. rare.*

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 53 [He] committed such excesse of crueltie, that the most barbarous heathen in the world would haue yearned to doe.

†7. *trans.* To cause to mourn; to move to compassion. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. v. 76 O how it yern'd my heart, when I beheld..That horse. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. v. 45 She laments Sir for it, that it would yern your heart to see it. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 94 Who..torture them, in that manner, that it yerns a mans bowels to observe!

Hence **Yearned** *ppl. a.*; also **Yea·rner**, one who yearns.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 724 Lofare of vertu & dyppysare Of þe warld, of hewine 3arnar. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* xlii, That his long yearn'd life Were quite out-spun. 1838 S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 82 What if that vow Thy Father's yearn'd heart, all impatiently, Hath quench'd in its embrace. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 10/1 The yearned-for visitor. 1915 A. BENNETT *Over There* 186 The yearners after Calais did themselves no good by exterminating fine architecture and breaking up innocent homes, but they did experience the relief of smashing something.

Yearn (yɔːn), *v.*[2] Chiefly *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4 **yern**, 6 *Sc.* **yyrne**, 8– **yirn**, 7– **yearn**. [Probably dial. variant of EARN *v.*[2], with initial *y*-glide; cf. YEARTH, etc. Continuity with OE. *geyrnan* (pa. pple. *geurnen*) is improbable.]

a. *intr.* To coagulate, curdle. b. *trans.* To curdle (milk), esp. for making into cheese; to make (cheese) of curdled milk. Hence **Yearned** *ppl. a.*

1371–3 [implied in YEARNING *vbl. sb.*[2]]. *a* 1568 *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* xi. (Bann. MS.) He het the milk our hett, And sorrow spark of it wald yyrne. 1635 D. DICKSON *Pract. Wks.* (1845) I. 33 The making of cheese of yearned milk. ?17.. *Gaberlunyie Man* vi. in *Songs of Scotl.* (1862) 177 The kirn's to kirn, and milk to yirne. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xxxix, His honour the Duke will accept ane of our Dunlop cheeses, and it sall be my faut if a better was ever yearned in Lowden. 1865 'SARAH TYTLER' *Days of Yore* II. 219 Mrs. Hoy was salting Elspa's butter, and 'yearning' her cheese. 1868 R. L. STEVENSON in *Scribner's Mag.* (1899) XXV. 36/2 Curds called 'yearned milk' hereaway.

Yearn (yaːn(e, yern(e), *v.*[3], obs. or dial. f. EARN *v.*[1]

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Þat he eorðlic man sceolde 3eðeon, and 3earnian mid admodnisse þet wuniunge on hefen rice. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 367 Thy-self art never like to yern.. her mercy. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* xxxvi, Beware they threshe clene, though the lesser they yarne. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. i. 40 Put away proud looke, and vsage sterne, The which shal nought to you but foule dishonor yearne. ?*c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* II. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 189 Those worthye deeds Whereby y'ave yearn'd all wellcome. 1626 *Essex Archdeaconries, Depos. Bk.* 27 June lf. 77 (MS.) He sayd that he was ever yearning of money. 1851 MAYHEW *Loud. Labour* I. 359/2 She..told me, I must look out and *yearn* my own living.

Yearn, obs. Sc. f. ERNE, eagle.

1790 BURNS *Elegy on Capt. M— H—* iii, Ye cliffs, the haunts of sailing yearns.

Yearn(e, obs. ff. YARN.

†**Yearnandlike**, *a. Obs. rare.* In quots. yorn-, yhern-. [f. YEARNING *ppl. a.* + -LIKE, rendering L. *desiderabilis.*] Desirable.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xviii. 11 [xix. 10] Yornand-like over þe golde. *Ibid.* cv. 23 [cvi. 24] And for noghte þai had þe land þat yhernandlike was in þar hand.

Yearnful (yɔːrnfŭl), *a.* [In sense 1 OE. *geornfull*, f. *georn* YERN *a.*; in senses 2 and 3 f. YEARN *v.*[1]: see -FUL 1.]

†1. Eagerly desirous, anxious, solicitous. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxii. § 2 Ðu ær sædest þæt þu swiðe geornfull wære hit to gehyranne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 41 Martha martha 3eornfull þu eart & embe fela þinga gedrefed. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1631 Þeo 3eornfull Crist to cwemenn. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 100 in *O. E. Misc.* 144 We schulde abute cristes lay Þeon yeornfulle & clybbe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalen*) 780, & scho sa 3arnfull wes þar-til, þat scho til wildirnes has socht, & fand a derne sted, was wrocht In til a crage of angil wark.

2. Mournful, sorrowful.

a 1586 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) D j, Oh Musicke,..lend me thy yernfull tunes, to vtter my sorow. 1589 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* T j, So out of thy stonye hearte maye yet flowre suche water, as may wash and purge my yearnfull woundes. 1591 GREENE *Maidens Dr.* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 303 She wet his visage with a yearnfull streame. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. xi. 582 *Ala, Ala*, was their yernfull note. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in a Boat* xix, The wild yearnful melody.

†3. Full of compassion. *Obs.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* IX. xlvi, His yearnfull heart pitying that wretched sight.

Hence **Yea·rnfully** *adv.*; †**Yea·rnfulness**, eagerness, diligence.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiv. § 3 Sume tiliað mid micelre geornfulnesse wifa. *c* 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* iv. (Schröer 1885) 17 Þæs ecean lifes he sceal mid ealre geornfulnesse girnan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11181 Swa þatt himm birrþ fra þeþennforþ Wiþþ mikell 3eornfullnesse...To-follȝhenn Godess lahheboc. *a* 1884 WALT WHITMAN *After the Sea-Ship* 9 Larger and smaller waves in the spread of the ocean yearnfully flowing.

Yearning (yɔːrnin), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. YEARN *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of YEARN *v.*[1]; intense longing or desire *after*, *for*, † *of*, *to*, or *to do* something; an instance of this.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* v. 45 Mid ðære gierninge [*v. r.* 3irninge] ðara smeaunga Godes wisdomes anes. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xi. (1889) 30 Se na wiðsæcð middanearde þam eorðlicre æhte 3egladað 3yrninc [L. *ambitio*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 His þurst nis nout buten 3irnunge of ure soule hele. *Ibid.* 130 Þuruh 3irnunge of heorte to heouenliche þinges. 13.. *Cursor M.* 10513 (Gött) Þi 3erning gode and þi prayere, Es comyn now to goddes ere. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1127–8 Outher yhernyng of þe flesshe of man, Or yhernyng of eghe,..Or pride of lyfe. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 507 A urangwise wilnyng Or yernyng to hafe any kyns gode that us augh noght. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 742 Thai, to fullfill hys 3arnyng, Become his men euirilkane. *a* 1395 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxi, The yernyng of thyn herte to Jhesu. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 3arnynge, or 3ernynge, or desyrynge, *desiderium, optacio, exoptacio*. *a* 1450 *Ratis Raving* 975 It makis the knawleginge, And ledis the at thi 3arnynge Fra place to place, quhar þow wald be. 1821 BYRON *Cain* III. i, Such melancholy yearnings o'er the past. 1836 KINGSLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1878) I. 33 Her restless yearnings after future things. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Mr. Peters's Story*, A strong disposition to doze, And a yearning to seek 'horizontal repose'. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xliii, Her doubts and fears between the two; the yearning of her innocent breast to both. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxvi, Less yearning for the friendship fled. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* i. 24 That Being to Whom the highest yearnings of his inmost self constantly point.

b. *transf.* (contextually) An object of intense desire.

c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 23 Take to þee al myn entente þat þou be to me myn 3erninge. 1869 MOZLEY *Univ. Serms.* ii. (1876) 40 The great yearning of prophecy was the total destruction of idolatry.

†2. The baying of hounds. Also *transf. Obs.*

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xviii, If they wold use but a fewe nombre of hounder, onely to harborowe, or rouse, the game, and by their yorning to gyue knowlege whiche way it fleeth. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxv. 181 When they beginne to baye, (whiche in the earth is called Yearnyng). 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 53 Thee skrich rings mounting, increast is the horror of armoure, From sleepe I broad waked,..And to the shril yerning with tentiue greedines harckned.

3. The state of being moved with compassion.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xi. 247 Amongst all other vices, there is none I hate moore, than crueltie...But it is with such an yearning [*F. mollesse*] and faint-hartednes, that if I see but a chickins necke pulld off,..I cannot choose but grieve. *c* 1625 BP. HALL *St. Paul's Combat* I. Wks. 1634 II. 441 Of pitty and yearning of bowels. 1647 S. M[OORE] (*title*) The Yernings of Christs bowels towards his languishing Friends. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) 134 All that inward Feeling and Yerning of the Heart and Soul at a pitiful Object.

4. *attrib.* †**yearning-meat**, the meat for which one yearns.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3684 'Fader', he said, 'alȝt vp and ete, I ha brogȝt þi 3erning mete.'

Yearning (yɔːrnin), *vbl. sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *n. dial.* [f. YEARN *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] Rennet. Also *attrib.*

1371–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 577 Pro yernyng et Chesecloutes emp. pro vaccaria. 1581–2 *Inv. in* Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 172 Yerens [? yernens], oitemeell, and onions 13*s.* 4*d.* 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. App., *Earning*, or *Yearning*, a name used in several parts of the kingdom for rennet. 1788 W. MARSHALL *E. Yorksh.* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Cheslip-skin*, the calf's bag, used in making yerning. *c* 1880 [see EARNING *vbl. sb.*[2] 2]. 1885 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., A plant used in North Tindale to curdle milk for cheese is called yerning grass. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., The yirnin is the maw or stomach of the calf.

Yearning, obs. var. EARNING *vbl. sb.*[1] (1 b).

1582 B. RICH *Farew.* E j, With her yearnynges to helpe to releue hym.

Yearning (yɔːrnin), *ppl. a.* [f. YEARN *v.*[1] + -ING [2].]

1. That yearns; characterized by longing desire or compassion.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* cccx, Those yearning cryes, that from the Caridge came. 1632 BENLOWES *Theoph.* IV. lxxiii, This Devota breathe out yerning Cries. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Two Oxf. Schol.* Wks. 1730 I. 10 Some tenderhearted virgin ..who with yearning bowels will offer me her best assistance. 1819 KEATS *Fall of Hyperion* I. 30 Appetite More yearning than on Earth I ever felt. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xlv, The two pale faces..; one with a wild hard despair in it, the other full of sad, yearning love. 1873 E. E. HALE *In His Name* viii, As if the Holy Spirit had sent the immediate answer to his yearning prayer. 1892 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* iv, A full-rigged ship.. with yearning canvas and ocean-worn sides.

transf. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Anactoria* 228 By the yearning in my veins I know The yearning sound of waters.

†b. *Yearning mood*: optative mood. *Obs.*

1522 VAUS *Rudim. Gram.* Bbij (Jam.), *Optative mode*, yarnand mode.

†2. Of hounds: see YEARN *v.*[1] 4. *Obs.*

1706 J. PHILIPS *Cerealia* 190 As the tall stag..quits his lair, And flies the yearning pack which close pursue.

Hence **Yea·rningly** *adv.*

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 402 She felt yearningly enough for both. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 197 The geranium growing in the cottage window yearningly stretches out its tender leaves..to the smiling sunshine. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. iii, He looked at it lovingly, fondly, yearningly.

Yearnling (yɔːrnlin), *nonce-wd.* [f. YEARN *v.*[1] + -LING.] A young child over which one yearns.

1829 LAMB *Let. to Procter* 29 June, She visited a poor man's cottage that had a pretty baby (O the yearnling!).

Year-old, *a.* and *sb.*

A. *adj.* A year old; of the age of one year.

1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gardener* (1803) 85 Young shoots rising in the spring from the year-old plants. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iv, Was it not Wat the Devil who drove all the year-old hogs off the braes of Lanthorn-side? 1883 GUSTAFSON in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 894/2 The little year-old Edgar..was very sick.

B. *sb.* A beast a year old, a yearling.

1539 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 114, xj ky & iiij quyes iiij yer olde iiij ij yere olde. 1583 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 82 Eight younge cattell, yeare-oldes, and tuantays. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist* (1824) I. xlv. 381 None but the year olds remain together. 1826 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, To see if him and me can gree about the luckpenny I am to gie him for his year-aukls. *c* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 17 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The 3 year-olds are kept in the field all winter.

Year's day: see YEAR-DAY.

Yearsman (yɪəːzmăn). *local.* [f. *year's*, gen. of YEAR + MAN *sb.*[1]] A labourer hired by the year.

1891 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 3/6 Our labourers are divided into two classes: the day labourer and the yearsman.

Year's mind, yea·r-mind. [OE. *gearesmynd*: see YEAR *sb.* and MIND *sb.*[1] 5 b.] The commemoration of a deceased person by the celebration of requiem services a year after, or every year on the anniversary of, his death or funeral; a yearly obit. Cf. *twelvemonth's*, MONTH'S MIND.

a. *a* 1100 in Napier *Contrib. OE. Lexicogr.* (1906) 28 Dis is seo caritas þe Baldwine abbod hæfð 3eunnon his 3ebrodrum for Eadwardes sawle, þæs godan kynges, þæt is healf pund æt his 3earesmynde to fisce. 1469 *Will of K. Partrich of Sudbury, Suff.* 5 Dec. (P.C.C., 1 dogett), vs. yerely to the keping of a yer minde for my soule. 1579 *tr.* NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1104 For keeping of a yeare minde and for making feastfull dayes In honour of that worthy wight. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xv. (1592) 229 Hee commaunded an Anniuersarie or Yeere-minde to be kept in remembrance of him. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 19 b, Augustus had in mirth giuen him the name of *Founder*, he was so reputed, and his yeares-mind after his death solemnized accordingly.

β. 1408 *L. E. Wills* (1882) 13 That..hys Executours..haue ..rewlyng of my obytis, that ys for to sayn, my 3erys mynde, xx wyntar Af[t]er my decese. *c* 1440 *Prymer* 36 Graunte þou to þe soule of þi seruaunt, whos 3eris mynde we maken to dai, a seete of refreschinge blisse. 1540 SIR R. ELYOT *Will* in T. Elyot *Gov.* (1883) App. A, The prest executing the service at myn enteryng, moneth mynde, and yeres mynde. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* Gen. Somme aiij, For his fathers honoure he deuised games of actiuitie, and set-foorthe his Obite or yeres mynde, with greate solempnitie. 1561 VERON *Hunt. Purgat.* 25 The moneth myndes and yeares minds other wyse called Anniversaries. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* I. vii. II. 350 No others' names were read out but of those whose anniversary or year's mind fell upon that very Sunday or festival. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 7/3 The 'Year's Mind' of her late Majesty Queen Victoria was celebrated at St. Matthew's, Westminster, this morning.

Yearth, etc., obs. or dial. ff. EARTH *sb.*[1], etc

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 49 An yearthen potte. 1561 *Plowman's T.* in *Chaucer's Wks.* 93 b/2 That taketh maistrie In his name Ghostly, and for yearthly good. *c* 1581 LONGE *Repl. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Shaks. Soc.) 6 To make a yearthly creature to beare the person of the Creator. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* III. i. 5 Drie the Vitrioll in a yearthen pan. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 261/2 *Yearthing*, put Earth about [the kiln]. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Yearthen*, earthen.

Yeast (yīst), *sb.* Forms: 1 **gist**, **gyst**, 5 **3est(e**, **3eest**, **yeest**, 6–9 **yest**, 7 **eyst** (?), 8–9 *dial.* **east**, 9 *dial.* **yist**, 7– **yeast**. [OE. (late WS.) *gist*, Anglian **gest*, corresp. to MLG. *gest* dregs, dirt, MDu. *ghist*, Du. *gist*, *gest* yeast, MHG. *jest*, *gest*, *gist* (G. *gischt*, *gischt*) yeast, froth, ON. *jastr* yeast, related to OHG. *jesan*, *gesan* (MHG. *jesen*, *gesen*, *gern*, G. *gähren* to ferment), the causative OHG. *jerian*, *gerian* to cause to ferment, and ON. *gerð* yeast. The underlying base *jes-* is found also in Skr. *yás(y)ati* to seethe, boil, *práyastas* bubbling over, Zend *yah-* to boil (intr.), Alb. *fet bukën* I knead bread, Gr. ζέω I boil, ζεστός boiled, W. *ids* seething.]

1. A yellowish substance produced as a froth or as a sediment during the alcoholic fermentation of malt worts and other saccharine fluids, and used in the manufacture of beer and to leaven bread.

Modern science distinguishes two kinds of yeast, *surface* or *top yeast* (G. *oberhefe*) and *under*, *sediment*, or *bottom*

yeast (G. *unterhefe*), the former propagated by buds, the latter by spores, of the fungus *Saccharomyces cerevisiæ*. The yeast of beer is used medicinally as an antiseptic and stimulant in low fevers, and as an application to ulcers.

c ____ *Sax. Leechd.* II. 266 Læt þonne hwon gestandan, do of þa gatelican, do þonne niwne zist. 1530 PALSGR. 291/1 Yest or barme for ale, *levayne*. 1591 A. W. *Bk. Cookrye* 8 Put into your broth a spoonfull of yest. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* v. xxiii. 725 They renewe the force and strength of the yeast or leuen euerie hower with beere already made, so long as till the said leuen or yeast become strong inough of it selfe. 1612 *Howsh. Bks. Howard of Naworth* (Surtees) 41 To Harry Raker to bestow in eyst v^d. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 119 When Yeast, and outward means do fail, And have no pow'r to work on Ale. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* viii. (1672) 19 Those sharp acorbutick dregs imitating the nature of yist. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 214 Yeast..consists of a great Quantity of subtile and spirituous Particles, wrapped up in such as are viscid. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 192 An instance of a young gentleman in the last stage of typhus fever, being cured by the use of yeast. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 34 Sugar by presence of yest [is made to resolve itself] into alcohol and carbonic acid. 1858 LEWES *Sea-side Studies* 314 There are two kinds of yeast, or rather two forms of the same plant. The one is called 'surface' yeast, the other 'sediment' yeast. The former requires a temperature of 70° to 80° Fahrenheit; the latter 32° to 45°. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 209 The porous texture of bread is due to the presence of bubbles of gas evolved by the fermentation of the yeast.

b. With qualifying word, as *beer-yeast*; applied esp. to common yeast drained, pressed dry, and made into a cake in order to be kept for a time: see quots. and cf. *yeast-cake*, *-powder* (4).

[1762 T. HENRY *Acc. Method Pres. Water*, etc. 26 The Process for making artificial Yeast. Boil flour and water together to the consistence of treacle ..In about two days, such a degree of fermentation will have taken place, as to give the mixture the appearance of yeast.] 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s.v., German yeast is now imported to a considerable extent in a dried form from the Continent. 1876 *Chambers's Encycl.* s.v. *Yeast*, Patent Yeast is exactly similar [to German Yeast], but is raised from a wort made purposely from malt and hops. Artificial Yeast is a dough of wheat or other flour, mixed with a small quantity of common yeast, and made into small cakes, which are dried. 1879 WEBSTER Suppl., *Press-yeast*, the yeasty froth from the surface of a fermenting fluid, washed and pressed into cakes for bakers' use. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 July 3/3 Patent ist is either made by the baker himself or is bought from i yeast merchant. It..leaves an unpleasant smell and

c. *fig.* = LEAVEN *sb.* 2 a.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 35 Though liberty has no relation to party.., there is yet a kind of yest observable in its nature, which may be necessary to the fermentation and working up of virtue. 1818 KEATS *Let.* Wks. 1889 III. 105 The best of men have but a portion of good in them—a kind of spiritual yeast in their frames, which creates the ferment of existence. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* vi. iv. I. 324 The Plantagenet yeast being strong within his sons.

d. *Path.* A fungus of the genus *Saccharomyces* present in certain skin-diseases.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 760 The common saccharomyces or yeast of the scalp.

†2. The froth or 'head' of new or fermenting beer. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 10 Þan take 3est of New ale an caste þer-to. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3eest, berme, *spuma*. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 841 Let not the Head, or Yest work over at the bungs. 1726 GAY *Trivia* II. 290 When drays bound high, they never cross behind, When bubbling yest is blown by gusts of wind.

3. *transf.* Foam or froth, as of troubled water.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 94 The Shippe boarding the Moone with her maine Mast, and anon swallowed with yest and froth. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxi, They melt into thy yeast of waves. 1864 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 311 The dim headlands of new empires which are already looming darkly up out of the yeast of stormy waves.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yeast-ash*, *-cell*, *-culture*, *dumpling*, *-fungus*, *-germ*, *-poultice*, *-scum*; *yeast-like* adj. and adv.; **yeast-beer**, new beer with which a small quantity of fermenting wort has been mixed to make it 'work'; **yeast-bitten** *a.* (see quot.); **yeast-budding**, a direct budding or germination of spores from other spores as occurring in *Saccharomyces* and other fungi; **yeast-cake** (see 1 b); †**yeast-fat**, a fermenting-vat; **yeast-plant**, any plant of the genus *Saccharomyces*, esp. *S. cerevisiæ*, which produces fermentation in saccharine fluids; **yeast-powder**, the powder of dried yeast (cf. 1 b), also (*U.S.*) baking-powder.

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 6 Pasteur himself used actual "yeast ash. 1889 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 54/2 (L. U. K.) The gas being too weak to buoy up the now close head of the tun, the yeast might partially or wholly subside, and the ale would become "*yeast-bitten*; it would receive that disagreeable taste which the head had acquired by too long exposure to the atmospheric air. 1898 PORTER tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 350 Such a method of multiplication of conidia by budding is termed "yeast budding, and the conidia are termed yeast conidia. 1778 SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Let. to Admiralty* 4, I put in the Wort-cake and "Yeast-cake at his sight. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 101/2 The importance of "yeast-cells in the phenomena of fermentation. 1899 CAGNY tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 200 Yeast-cells (Saccharomycetes) are the commonest form of parasite in the intestinal discharges. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 490 Protein or dead cultures of bacteria, filtered "yeast-cultures. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 112 "East Dumplings. First make a light Dough..with Flour, Water, Salt, and Yeast. 1367 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. lxxviii, ½ "yestefast. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 86 The several fermentation or "yeast-fungi. 1889 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 395 The fermentation occurs only in presence of the "yeast germs. 1888 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1889) 277 The.. "yeast-like appearance of the decomposing brood. 1889 HENFREY *Bot.* § 813 What is called the '"Yeast-plant' consists of a particular form of the vegetative structure (*mycelium*) of a Fungus. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xii. 257 The brewer deliberately sows the yeast-plant. 1880 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Cataplasma Fermenti*,..the "yeast poultice, for sloughing and mortification; flour mixed with yeast and heated till it rise. 1778 SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Let. to Admiralty* 2 Wort-cake and "Yeast-powder made at the King's breweries. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 602/2 After ten to fourteen days the "yeast-scum on the surface disappears.

Yeast (yīst), *v. rare.* [f. prec.] *intr.* (also *refl.*) To ferment; to be covered with froth, as agitated water. Also *fig.* Hence **Yeasting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1819 KEATS *Otho* III. ii, To thee only I appeal, Not to thy noble son, whose yeasting youth Will clear itself, and crystal turn again. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* I. ix. 113 (Like dough before the fire) every well belaboured [bed] tick was left to yeast itself awhile. 1891 C. DAWSON *Avonmore* II. 35 Racing seas, with their yeasting waves. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 14 June 1463 The presence of purin bodies in beers is probably due to the yeasting and processes of manufacture.

Yeast, obs. form of EAST.

Yeasty (yī·sti), *a.* Also 7–9 **yesty**. [f. YEAST *sb.* + -Y¹.]

1. Of, pertaining to, full of, covered with, like or resembling yeast.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingdon* D j, His beard, Thats glewed together with his slauering droppes, Of yeasty ale. 1600 MARSTON, etc. *Jack Drums Entert.* I. (1601) A iij, Each..yeastie bowzing bench. 1600 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* Ind., Wks. 1856 I. 5 As slovenly as the yeasty breast of an ale-knight. 1676 COTTON *Walton's Angler* II. viii. 75 We have then [*sc.* in June] another Dunne, call'd the Barm-flie, from it's yesty colour. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 25 That Yeasty quality that most Ale in Cities, especially in London, is subject unto. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 84 He fell into Drinking such Quantities of their yeasty Ale, as made him distracted. 1836 [see *yeastiness* below]. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* ii. (1856) 15 From foaming whiteness it melted into yesty green.

transf. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvi. 39 The Arterial, fermentative, or leavening, and yeasty Blood.

2. *fig.* with various connotations: 'Swelling', 'orking'; light and superficial, 'frothy'.

1598 R. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 36 Like a Swartrutters hose his puffe thoughts swell With yeastie ambition. 1602 SHAK. *Ham.* v. ii. 199 He..only got the tune of the time, and outward habite of encounter, a kinde of yesty collection, which carries them through & through the most fond and winnowed opinions. 1627 DRAYTON *Moon-calf* in *Agincourt* etc. 161 Knowledge with him is idle, if it straine Aboue the compasse of his yestie braine. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* IV. i, Byron's mind was like his own ocean, sublime in its yesty madness. 1904 *Athenæum* 2 Apr. 423/2 Burying his thought in a yeasty mass of adjectives.

3. *transf.* Foamy, frothy, like troubled water.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. i. 53 Though the yesty Waues Confound and swallow Nauigation vp. 1798 *Poetry of Anti-Jacobin* No. 36. 236 And Whitbread wallowing in the yeasty main. 1800 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxi. (1819) 331 The yesty waves which confound the heaven and the sea. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* IV. 472 Far up the beach, the yesty sea-foam roll'd. 1820 BYRON *Juan* III. lviii, The ocean when its yeasty war is waging is awful. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 234 We were over the bar and in smooth water, only the yeasty flakes of the spent breakers following us.

Hence **Yeastily** *adv.*, **Yeastiness**.

1778 H. BROOKE *Antony & Cl.* IV. iv, I know not why of late This yestiness of temper comes upon me. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 405/1 It [*sc.* creamy scum] however rises again, becomes yesty, the bladders enlarge in size, the yestiness increases, and, when ready for cleansing, it has a vigorous, rich, yesty brown and bladdery head. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. viii. 162 The pale blue brine that melted yeastily from her metalled forefoot.

Yeat, obs. Anglo-Irish f. GET *v.*

1584 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 415 If the creditore can not yeat the owner nor his attorney.

Yeat(e: see GATE *sb.*¹, YET.

Yeather, var. EDDER: see YEDDER *sb.* and *v.*

Yeaught, obs. form of YACHT.

Yeauman, obs. form of YEOMAN.

Yeaunt, obs. form of GIANT: see YEANT.

Yeave, obs. form of EWE *sb.*¹

Yeaven, obs. pa. pple. of GIVE *v.*

1592 *B. N. C.* (Oxf.) *Muniments* 18, 73 (MS.).

Yeax, **Yeck**, obs. ff. YEX, ITCH *v.*¹

Yed (yed), *sb.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 1 gied(d,ged(d, gid(d, gyd(d, 3 ged, 8– yed. [OE. *giedd*: see next.]

†1. A song, poem, speech, tale, riddle. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1160 Leoð wæs asungen, gleomannes gyd. *Ibid.* 1723 Ic his gid be þe awrec. *c* 1205 LAY. 25853 Heo..hire geddes [*later version* wordes] sæide 3eomere stefne.

b. A lib, an exaggerated tale (Jam.). *Sc.*

2. Contention, wrangling; strife.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* ii, [The soldier] Wha now to youngsters leaves the yed, To 'tend his fauld. 1808, etc. [see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*].

Yed (yed), *v.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 1 gieddian, geddran, giddian, gyddian, 3–4 3edde, 3–5 3ede, 6 yedde, 8– yed. [OE. *giddian*, f. *giedd* (see prec.), ? f. root *gad-* to put together, as in GATHER, TOGETHER. For the development of sense 2 cf. OE. *giddium wrixlan* to dispute, and the use of the vb. in Daniel 728.]

1. *intr.* To sing, recite, talk, discourse.

c 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xii. 26 Þa ongan se Wisdom gliwian & 3eodude þus. *Ibid.* xxxi. 72 Þa ongan he eft giddian & þus singende cwæð. *c* 1205 LAY. 21409 Arður..þus 3eddian agon [*later version* þus word maide] Mid gomenfulle worden. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 138 Prechet in þin harpe þer þou art Muris at þi mete whoo me bidde þe 3edde. *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 815 They noldem no langer with hym 3ede, Ne suffry langer lygge in bede.

b. To lib, exaggerate a tale (Jam.). *Sc.*

2. To contend, wrangle.

1550 LEVINS *Manip.* 48/35 To Yedde, chide, *jurgare*. 1721 RAMSAY *Poems* I. 398 Gloss., *Yed*, to contend, wrangle. Contention, Wrangling.

Yed, yedd(e, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

Yedder (ye·dəɹ), *sb. north. dial.* Forms: 5 3edd-, yeddyr, 6 3edder, 7–9 yeather, 8–9 yether, 9 yadder, 6– **yedder**. [Variant of EDDER *sb.*]

1. An osier, or rod of pliant wood, used for binding a hedge. Also *attrib.*

1512–13 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 106 Pro cariag. xij plaustrat. lez thornes, 3edders, et ryses ad prædict. sepes. 17.. [see STRUT *sb.*² 1 b]. 1692 RAY *N. C. Words* 152 A yeather, *vimen*. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. iv. 10 Yethers (as binders of hay-rel or willow are here [*sc.* Yorks.] called). 1779 CHARLTON *Hist. Whitby* 96 A certain stake and yether hedge. 1809 J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 156 Great abundance of fine osiers will be thus produced, but a few of the strongest shoots should be left on each stake, for other stakes and poles and yeathers. 1832 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. II. 881 Farmers find posts and rails cheaper ..than the old system of 'stake and vice'. *Footnote.* Called ..in some parts..'stower and yedder'. 1876 *W hitby Gloss.*, *Yethers*, osiers and similar flexibilities.

2. The mark of a blow or stripe, or that made by tight binding; a weal. Also, a smart blow.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 286 He. grapyd his bakk, & it was passand sare & full of yeddyrs & wowndis as he had bene betyn. 1483 *Cath Angl.* 406/1 A 3eddyr, *livor, vibex*. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccles.* XXVIII. 17 The stroke of ye rod maketh 3edders. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S. P.* IV. Gloss., *Yether*, the mark left by tight binding, as with a small cord. 1825 JAMIESON, *Yether*,..a severe blow, Upp. Clyde. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Yether*, a discolouration of the skin caused by a blow.

Hence **Yedder** *v.* (see quots.).

[1523 edderinges: see EDDER. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 152 Eathering of hedges being binding the tops of them with small sticks as it were wooven on the stakes.] 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* etc. II. 131, I has heard o' some o' them that fought the deil,. yethered him and yerked him till he coudna mou' another curse. 1825 JAMIESON, To *Yether*,..to bind firmly, Roxb. 1829 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1381 Yadder them with your yadders, and .. stake them on each side, with street stowers. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Yedder* or *Yether*, to interweave or connect with pliable twigs or osiers a row of upright sticks or stobs in hedge work. 1876 *Ibid.*, *Yether*, v. to interweave with twigs, as in basket-making. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Yether*, v. to lash with a whip.

†**Yedding**, *vbl. sb.* [OE. *giedding*, f. *gieddian*, YED *v.* + -ING¹.] A song; a speech, discourse; *spec.* a 'gest' or romance in verse.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 3 *Et ait ad illos parabolam istam*, & cuoeð to ræm 3eddung ðisa. *a* 1350 in *Thornton Rom.* (Camden) 261 3eddyngis, japis, and folies. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Cant. T. Prol.* 237 Wel koude he synge and pleyen on a rote Of yeddynges he bar outrely the pris. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1421 And evere Myldore sche sete Harpyng notus ful swet..Songe 3eddyngus above. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 3eddynge, or geest, *idem quod* geest (or rowmamnce).

†**Yede**, *v. Obs.* Also 6 yead, 6–7 yeed(e, 7 yed. [A pseudo-archaism of 16th cent. poets and their imitators; *yede*, pa. t. of GO (see YODE) used erron. as an infin.] *intr.* To go, proceed.

1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xxx, Yeding forth, anone An horrible lothly lake we might discerne. *a* 1578 DRANT (Webster) Years yead away, and faces fair deflower. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 145 They wander at wil, and stray at pleasure, And to theyr foldes yead at their owne leasure. 1590 — *F. Q.* I. xi. 5 Then bad the knight his Lady yede aloofe. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 116 Downeuet.. (perhaps so called) of downe yeeding, as hauing a steep hill. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* V. 174 Yet she, poore soule, was sore adread Into the horrid cell to yed. 1633 FISHER *Fuimus Troes* III. ix, Vnneath thilke borrells May well ne yede, ne stand. 1768 DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* xii, Early the morn we will forth yede yfere.

Yede, 3ede, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

†**Ye·derly**, *a. Obs.* In 4 3ederly, 5 3edirly. [Origin unknown.] Quick; frequent. Hence †**Ye·derly** *adv.*, quickly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 463 He..sone 3ederly for-3ete 3ister-day steuen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1215, I 3elde me 3ederly, & 3eze after grace. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5040 So did his princes..for pete of him-selfe, With 3edire 3oskingis & 3erre 3ett out to grete.

Yee, obs. f. EYE, YE, YEA.

Yeed(e, 3eed(e, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

Yee-ho: see YO *int.*

Yeel(e, obs. form of EEL.

Yeelaman, variant of HIELAMAN, shield of Australian aborigines.

1860 KENDALL *Poems* 19 Yeelamans splinter and boomerangs

Yeeld, etc., obs. form of GUILD, YIELD, etc.

Yeelde, obs. pa. t. of AIL *v.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 66 The duke knewe wel what she yeelde.

Yeen, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*¹

Yeender. *north. dial.* Forms: 7 earnder,

eender, 7–9 yeender, 7, 9 yender; also 8–9 **yeandurth**. [Representing OE. *ðr undern* 'mane' (*Ælfric Lev.* vi. 20) = OFris. *tr unden* in the forenoon, NFris. (Sylt) *trönner, trner* forenoon, MDu. *eronderen* (*broot*) 12 o'clock meal (cf. early Flem. *eronderen* 'meridiari', Kilian): see ERE *prep.* and UNDERN.] The forenoon.

a.. *Ancrene Wisse* in J. Hall *Early M.E.* (1920) 74 Cumeð to ham to þe þurl earunder & ouerunder eanes oðer twien. *c* 1662 KYNDER *Hist. Darby*, § 7 But these and ye Moorelanders add three more [meales], ye bitt in the morning, ye Anders-meate, and yenders meate, and soe make up seaven. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 55 The *Yeender* or *Eender*, the Forenoon, *Derbysh.* 1684 G. M[ERITON] *Yorkshire Dial.* 195 (E.D.S.) It comes ith Earnder, Wife, or else by Neaun. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), *The Yeander* or *Earnder*, the forenoon. Hallifax, in Yorkshire. *c* 1746 J. COLLINS (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1770) 25 Sed I, I'r there last Oandurth, on he'd leet o aneth' Yeandurth ofore. 1825 J. DAVIES *Races Lanc.* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 236 The equivalent of the Lanc. 'oandurth' [afternoon] and 'yeandurth', forenoon.

Yeep (yeep), var. YEPE *a.* **Yeepsen**: see YEPSEN. **Yeer, yeere**, obs. ff. ERE, YEAR. **Yeerde**, obs. f. YARD *sb.*[2] **Yees**: see YEZ. **Yees(y, yeesy**, obs. ff. EASE, EASY.

† Yeet, *v. Obs.* In 5 **3eetyn, 3et-, 3yt-**. [f. YE *pron.* + *-t*, as in THOWT. Cf. MHG. *ir(e)sen*, med.L. *vosare, vobissare, vositare, vobissitare*, and YE *v.*] To use the pronoun *ye* in addressing a person. Hence **† Yeeting** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3eetyn, or sey 3ee (*P.* 3etyn or sey 3e with worship), *veso*. *Ibid.* 538/1 3ytynge, wythe wurchyp seyynge 3e, and not thow (*K.* 3etynge), *vosacio*.

Yeet, 3eet: see YET *v.*, to melt, cast. **Yeewk**, obs. form of YUKE *sb.*, itch. **Yef(e**: see GIVE, IF. **Yeff(e**: see GIFT, GIVE, IF. **Yeffell**, obs. f. EVIL *adv.* **Yeffor**, obs. form of EVER *adv.* **Yef(f)t(e**, obs. ff. GIFT.

Yegg (yeg). *U.S.* [Said to be the surname of a certain American burglar and safe-breaker.] A burglar or safe-breaker. So **Ye'ggman**.

tective Sergeants..captured on the Bowery three men who, they say, are among the most successful 'yeggmen', or safe-crackers, in the business. 1906 A. STRINGER *Wire Tappers* 100 'Now, nitro-glycerine I object to, it's so abominably crude.'..'And so odiously criminal!' she interpolated. 'Precisely. We're not exactly yeggmen yet.'

† Yegged [Y- 5] edged. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5542 Þat suerd..Yegged it is in þe on half & in þe oþer noȝt.

Ye-ho: see YOHO *int.*

† Yei, *sb. Obs.* [f. YEIE *v.*] A cry, wail.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Mid tisse schulen þe uorlorene worpen a swuch 3eor [*MS. T.* 3ur, *MS. C.* 3ei] þet heouene & eorðe inuwen beoðe grisliche agrisen.

Yei, obs. form of EYE *sb.*[1]

1553 *Respublica* II. ii, I praie god she bee blynde: I am hault afraide leste she have an yei behynde.

Yei, obs. graphic variant of THEY.

Yeid(e, 3eid(e, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

† Yeie, *v. Obs.* Forms: 2–3 **3eiȝe**, 3–4 **3eie, yeie**. 4 **3eye, 3yȝe, yeye**. [OE. **ȝiegan*, **ȝégan* = WFris. *geije* to cry out, ON. *geyja* to bark, to blaspheme:— **gaujan*, f. **gau* (cf. ON. *-gá* barking, blasphemy, as in *guðgá*).

Prob related forms with *-t-* suffix are Du. *guiten* to bark, scold, G. dial. *gauzen, gäuzen* to yelp, scold, ON. *gauta* to boast, prate.]

1. *intr.* To cry out, shout.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Summe þer wepeð..and swiðe reowliche ilome 3eiȝeð. *c* 1205 LAY. 27750 Þa 3eiden lude Alle Rom-leode. *Ibid.* 29563 Heo..seoððe 3eiden him on Mid geomerliche stanen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 162 Ifont ter swiðe feole 3einde & 3urinde. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 44 Þeo like

2. *trans.* To utter in a loud voice; to call out; to announce for sale in a loud voice, to 'cry'.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Þe wreche þeoddare more noise he makeð to 3eien his sope, þen a riche mercer al his deorewurðe ware. *Ibid.* 126 For þi we 3eieð to him iðe Paternoster, 'Et dimitte nobis debita nostra'. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1265 Þes keiser..wodelliche 3eide: Hwet nu, unwreste men.

3. To ask for, as with a loud voice.

c 1300 *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 358 How Mercy here aistur heore herte 3y3th. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 67 Syþen riche forth runnen to reche honde-selle, 3eȝed 3ares 3iftes on hi3.

Yeild (3eild), obs. Sc. f. ELD *sb.*[2], age.

1513 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 278/2 Dispensand wt his aige quhat 3eild þat euir he be of.

Yeild, 3eild, obs. forms of YELD, YIELD.

Yeinder, obs. f. YONDER. **Yeir(e**, obs. ff. YEAR.

Yeird (3eird), obs. Sc. and north. dial. f. EARTH.

1533 GAU *Richt Way* 41 He sufert onder poncio pilat to be crucifeit to de and to be seirdit. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 482 Thair to tak sasine thairof..be deliverance of seird and stane.

Yeirne, obs. form of IRON. **Yeisk** (yeisk), Sc. f. *yesk*: see YEK. **Yeistrein**, obs. f. YESTREEN. **Yeit**, obs. Sc. f. YET. **Yek**, dial. form of OAK.

1300 *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 1541 The loude cry and 3eiyng That heo wolleth with loude stevyn 3evyn. 13.. *Northern Passion* (G1) 139 Men ne schulle noth yeye þos longe. 13.. [see YEDERLY].

† Yeke, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **3ȝoc**, 2 **3ȝec, 3oc, 1ac, 1oc**, 4–5 **3eke, yeke**. [OE. *ȝéac* cuckoo = MLG. *gök* simpleton, MDu. *goec*, OHG., MHG. *gouk, gouch* cuckoo, bastard, fool, (G. *gauch* provincial name of cuckoo, etc., simpleton, gawk), ON. *gaukr* cuckoo (whence Sc. GOWK); perhaps f. *gau-* as in **gaujan* (see YEIE *v.*).] The cuckoo. Also in comb. (with gen.) **† Yekesterne** [TARRE[1]] = CUCKOO-PINT.

With OE. *ȝéaces stéort* 'cuckoo's sorrel' cf. ME. *geukes sures* glossing *Alleluia* in MS. Rawl. C. 607 lf. 1 b.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 131 *Accitulium*, ȝeces sure [*Epinal* ȝeacses; *Erfurt* ȝecaes]. *Ibid.* C 121 *Calceculium*, leces surae [*Erfurt* laces sura]. *Ibid.* G 87 *Grumatrix*, ȝeac. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 716 ȝeacas ȝear budon. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 24 *Iarus, barba aaron, pes vituli*, .. i. ȝekesterne. 14 . *MS. Porkington* lf. 59 (Halliw.) Whene the ȝeke gynnys to synge, Thenne the schrewe begynnys to sprynge. 14.. *MS. Rawl. C. 506*, lf. 249 b, *Iarus aaron*, ȝeksters, gauk pyntill.

Yeke (3eke), obs. f. EKE *v.*, *adv.*, ITCH *sb.*, *v.*[1]

† Yekth. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **ȝiecðe, ȝicðe, ȝihðe, ȝyhðe, 3 ȝeoðe, ȝeohðe**, 5 **ȝykthe, yeketh, ȝeght, ȝight**. [OE. *ȝiecðe* = OHG. *jukido* (MHG. *jukede*) :— OTeut. **jukiþon-*, f. *juk-*: see ITCH *v.*[1] (The suffix occurs in other names of physical disorders, as *clęwþa* itch, *spdowþa* vomit.)] Itching, itch.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 70 Se ȝicða [*Hatt.* ȝiecða] bið swiðe unsar, & se cleweða bið swiðe row. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 252 Þes læcedom deah ge wiþ hriefðo & ȝicþan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 86 Unaberendlic ȝyhða ofereode ealne ðone lichaman. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Þat bearninde ȝecðe [*v.r.* ȝeohðe] of þat licomliche lust. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 538/2 3ykynge, or 3ykth'e [1499 *P.* ȝekyn or yeketh], *pruritus*. 14.. *Medulla Gram.* (Rawl. MS.), *Prurigo*, a scabbe a ȝeght. 14.. *Medulla* (Cant. Cath. MS.), *Pruritus*, ȝight.

Yelamber, -bre: see YELLOW-HAMMER.

Yeld (yeld), *a.* (*sb.*) *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 **ȝelde**, 5– **yeld**, 6 **ȝeld, ȝeild, ȝeald**, 6–9 **yeild, yeeld**, 7 **yeell**, 8–9 **yell, yeald**, 9 **yield, yeal, yeel, yill**. See also EILD. [late OE. **ȝielde, gelde* (in glosses), corresp. to MLG. *galt*, OHG., MHG. *galt* (MG. *gelde, gelle*, G. *gelt*), ON. *geldr* (MSw. *galder*, etc.): cf. GELD *a.* and *v.*[1]]

1. Of an animal: Barren; that has missed having her young, or is not old enough to bear.

a 1100 *Agr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 226/22 *Effeta*, ȝelde. *Ibid.* 394/26. 1411 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 158, ix ȝeldbestis videlicet iiij vaccæ j stot ij quioks, ij stirketts. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 32 Enee hym self..to the, Proserpyne, A ȝeld kow all to trynschit. 1538 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* II. 386/2, xl ȝeild scheip. *a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (1641) No. 47 A yeeld sow was never good to gryces. 1726 *Fleming's Fulfilling Script.* (ed. 5) Table Scots Phr., *Yeald*, barren or dry. 1808 JAMIESON, *Yeld*,..3. Applied to cattle or sheep that are too young to bear, Dumfr. 1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 79 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Vill gimmers. *Ibid.* 81 The yell ewes being all sorted off the herding a few days before the lambing begins. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 38 If she has never been put to the ram she gets the name of *yeld-gimmer*. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 560/2 To shoot the yeld hinds on the 15th of October. 1897 *Badminton Mag.* Apr. 474 We have got altogether four bucks and a good yeld doe.

b. Of birds: In a single state, unmated. *Sc.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 388 Birdis clekkit as tha war wont till do,..No nestis maid bot all that tyme war ȝeild. 1809 EDMONSTON *Zetl. Isl.* II. 280 [They] not paring, are called yield kittiwakes.

2. Of cattle: Not yielding milk, from being in calf or from age; 'dry'. Also of a nurse.

1670 *Contract* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1896) XXX. 20 Too tydie kay & four yeell kay. 1785 BURNS *Addr. to Deil* x, An' dawtet, twal-pint Hawkie's gane As yell's the Bill. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IX. 317 The yell cattle vary in numbers according to the seasons of the year. 1808 JAMIESON, *Yeld, Yeald, Yell, Eild*..A cow, although with calf, is said to *gang yeld*, when her milk dries up. A yeld nurse signifies a dry nurse. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, A wild farm in Northumberland, well stocked with milk-cows, yeald beasts, and sheep. 1864 A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edin.* (1886) 8 'And wha will pay for the wet nurse?' said I, 'for ye ken I am as dry as a yeld crummie.'

3. Applied to inanimate objects that are sterile, unproductive, etc. (see quots.).

1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 42 Any thing is better than the Yell Kail. An Apology for having little, or bad, Fleshmeat. *Ibid. foot-n.*, Yell is properly what gives no Milk, here it signifies boil'd without Meat, or having no Butter. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Yell*, A rock is said to be yell when it will not quarry but with gunpowder; a field is said to be yell when nothing will grow on it. 1825 JAMIESON, *Yeld*..8. Bleak, cold; applied to the weather, as denoting that it has no tendency to fruitfulness, or that it threatens sterility.

B. *sb.* A barren cow or ewe; a hind that is not pregnant.

1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 727. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Yeld*..a female deer not pregnant.

Hence **Yeld** (yell) *v. trans.*, to make 'yell', keep from breeding.

1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 81 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, That..those least fit for breeding be yelled off for sale. *Ibid.*, The contrivance of yelling or breeching a certain number of ewes in each herding.

Yeld, obs. form of KID *sb.*[2], age.

a 1529 SKELTON *Death Edw. IV*, 86 Of no great yeld.

Yeld(e, 3eld(e), var. *ilde*, obs. form of ASHLAR.

1527 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* lf. 6 b, For mendynge of lede over the new chapell and over the ȝelde ou the same syde. 1535 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 82 In makyn and byldyn of the new yeld in the ch[urch] of H[remsfelde], xls.

Yeld(e, obs. form of GUILD, YIELD.

Yelden, variant of YOLDEN.

Yelderin, -drin(g, var. YOLDRING.

Yele, var. AIL *sb.*[2], EWN.

1320 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* C iv, *Ariete*, the yele.

Yele, obs. form of AISLE.

1498 *Churchw. Acc., Pilton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 66 For takyng downe off the nort wyndow yn our lady yele. *c* 1860 *Inscr. Northam Church, Devon* in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. I. 463/1 This Yele was made Anno 1393.

Yele (3ele): see EEL, HEAL *sb.*

Y-eled [Y- 4, ELE *v.*[1]] anointed. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5331 He was king of engelond..þat verst þus yeled was of þe pope of rome. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 225 He was i-led [*MS.* y yeeled] and anoynt and i-housled.

Yeled, obs. form of EYELID.

14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 600/2 *Palpebra*, an yeled.

Yeleinge, var. YILING.

Yelek (ye·lek). Also **Jelick**. [Turk. جلیک *yelek*.] A long vest worn by Turkish women.

1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt.* I. i. 49 Over the shirt and shintiyan is worn a long vest (called *yelek*),..the yelek is cut in such a manner as to leave half of the bosom uncovered, except by the shirt; but many ladies have it made more ample at that part; and, according to the most approved fashion, it should be of a sufficient length to reach to the ground. 1865 W. HEPWORTH *Holy Land* II. 49 The yelek, a vest, is worn by these ladies open at the front.

Yeles, obs. form of EYELESS.

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* IV. met. vii. 100 Polesemus..with his yeles bed.

Yelf, obs. variant of YELVE.

Yelfat, obs. f. *ale-fat, -vat* (ALE II).

Yeliche, obs. form of YLIKE.

Yelk: see YOLK.

Yell (yel), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **3ell**, 5 **3elle, yelle**, 6–7 **yel**, 6– **yell**. [Earlier *ȝel* (LAY. 17799); f. YELL *v.*] An act of yelling; a sharp loud outcry, such as is described s.v. YELL *v.* 1.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 659 Þan al þe prestis gef a ȝell, As þai had bene fendis of hell. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* vii, 3auland ful 3amerly, with mony loude 3elles. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 122 One woman chiding maketh greater yell Than should an hundred pyes in one cage. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 79 Than cryit my bairnis with mony ȝout and ȝell. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 75 *Rodo.*..He call aloud. *Iago.* Doe, with like timerous accent, and dire yell, As when (by Night and Negligence) the Fire Is apied in populus Cities. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 25 P 7 The yell of inarticulate distress. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 400 The patient ox, with stripes and yells Driv'n to the slaughter. 1816 BYRON *Siege of Corinth* xxviii, Fearfully the yell arose Of his followers, and his foes; These in joy, in fury those. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* V, Janet gave three skips on the floor, and uttered as many short shrill yells of joy. 1841 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* xix, Once or twice the Indian yell was given. 1850 PRESCOTT *Peru* II. 212 Closely followed by the victorious enemy, who celebrated their success with songs or rather yells of triumph. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. i. x, The vitriol madness flushes up In the ruffian's head, Till the filthy by-lane rings to the yell of the trampled wife.

b. Of animals.

1579 SPENSER *Shepk. Cal.* Aug. 178 As my cryes..You heare all night,..so let your yrksome yells augment. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 688 Sometime he [*sc.* a hare] runnes..where earth-deluing Conies keepe, To stop the loud pursuers [*sc.* hounds] in their yell. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 550 The loud yell of watry Wolves to hear. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 26 Marmots..with yells of terror scattered themselves among the rocks. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 45 The terrific yells of that cursed biped [*sc.* a peacock].

c. An outcry in writing, e.g. in a newspaper.

1833 BP. WILBERFORCE in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. v. 210 Once let such a course be begun, and though the yell of 'The Record' will be with you, it will be impossible to halt there. 1887 *Spectator* 4 June 758/1 This, from the 'United Irishman', is of course a mere yell, not to be taken seriously.

d. A cry consisting of a set of words or syllables shouted on certain occasions, as by American college students.

18.. *St. Nicholas* XVII. 837 (Cent. Dict.) The young men..are giving the mountain calls or yells—cries adopted according to the well-known college custom. 1913 *Spectator* 8 Mar. 386/1 The undergraduates of Princeton and Virginia University..acclaimed their academic head..with their characteristic college yells.

Yell (yel), *v.* Forms: 1 **ȝellan, ȝiellan, ȝillan, ȝyllan**, 3 **3eolle**, 3–5 **ȝelle**, 4 **ȝel, ȝele, yhelle, ȝolle, ȝulle**, 4–6 **yel, yelle**, 5 **3helle**, 6 *Sc.* **3ell**, 5– **yell**. *Pa. t. str.* 1 **ȝeal**, *pl.* **gullon**, 3 **yal**, *pl.* **gullen, ȝulle(n, ȝollen**, 3–5 **3al**: *wk.* 4–5 **3elled**, 5 **ȝellede, yellid, -yd**, 6 **yeld**, *Sc.* **3eld**, 6– **yelled**. [OE. (Anglian) *gellan*, (WS.) *giellan, gyllan, gillan* str. vb., pa. t. *geal*, pl. *gullon* = MLG. *gellen, gillen* wk., MDu. *gellen* str. (Du. *gillen*), OHG. *gellan* str. (MHG., G. wk. *gellen*), ON. *gjalla*, pa. t. *gall* (Sw. *galla*, Norw. *gialla*); f. *gel-*, extended form of *gal-*: *gal-*, whence OE. *galan* to sing, GALE *v.*[1], *-gale* in *mihtegale* NIGHT(IN)GALE, ON. *-gal* in *hanagal* cockerow, OS., (M)Du., OHG. *galm* outcry.]

1. *intr.* To utter a loud strident cry, esp. from

some strong and sudden emotion, as rage, horror, or agony.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2040 Þer me mahte iheren þe heaðene hundes ȝellen & ȝeien & ȝuren. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 3/87 Þo cam þe deouel ȝeollinde forth. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 383 *Ibid.* 235 Huy weopen aut ȝollen [*Harl. MS.* ȝulle] faste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4239 So grisliche ȝal [*v.rr.* ȝolled, ȝelled] þat sarewe þo. *c* 1305 *St. Katherine* 241 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 96 þo gan þempernur for wraþþe loude ȝulle and rore. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 569 They yelleden as fendes doon in helle. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 422 Thei cryed alle 'nowelle' as high as thei myght yelle. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 176 Women are saied to chatter, churles to grunt, boies to whine, & youngmen to yel. 1575 Laneham *Lett.* G iv b, Knights stampt, Squiers startld as steeds in a stoour Yeemen & Pagez yeald oout in the hall. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 483 Infernal Ghosts, and Hellish Furies, round Environ'd thee, some howl'd, some yell'd, some shriek'd. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* v, She yelled out on seeing him as if an adder had stung her. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* xii. 93 They whooped and yelled in the Indian style. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* v. i. 229 When all was lost, he yell'd, And bit his shield, and dash'd it on the ground.

fig. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v. v. Wks. 1856 I. 141 Murder for murder, blood for blood, doth yell I

b. Of certain birds and beasts: To emit a loud cry, either as their natural utterance or when hurt or from rage.

a 1000 *Finnsburg* 6 Fuzelas singað, gylleð græghama. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xxv. 3 Ic eom wunderlicu wiht,..hwilum grædе swa gos, hwilum ȝielle swa hafoc. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 112 Þe faucun was wroþ wit his bridde & lude ȝal & sterne chidde. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1453 He hurtes of þe hounder, & þay Ful ȝomerly ȝaule & ȝelle. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. xxiv. 2116 Alkyn best..ȝhellande ran as þai war wode Til woddis and til wildirnes. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 500 She yelled lyke a calfe. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Jer. ii. 15 The lyons roared vpon him & yelled. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 60 The Dogges did yell. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xi. 37 The cruell wound enraged him so sore, That loud he [*sc.* the dragon] yelled for exceeding paine. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. iii, Yell'd on the view the opening pack;..A hundred dogs bay'd deep and strong. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 408 Innumerable hyenas,.. fighting, running, and yelling like demons.

†**c.** Applied to loud singing or chanting.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 395 Nero..gan to ȝelle [*v. r.* ȝolle] and songe þe gestes of Troye. 1395 Purvey *Remonstr.* (1851) 28 What wisdom is this to hiren hem so dere to yellen in chirchis and abbeies.

†**d.** *trans.* To protrude (the tongue) in uttering a yell. *Obs.*

1480 *Robt. Devyll* 229 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* 1864 I. 228 Behynde them wouldе he steale, And geve them a sowce..To cause some to yell out theyr tongues longe.

e. To urge *on* by yelling.

1868 G. Meredith *Poems, Orchard & Heath* lx, They raced; their brothers yelled them on.

†**2.** *intr.* Of an inanimate thing: To make a strident or crashing noise. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Riddles* xxxiii 4 Ic seah searo hweorfan, grindan wlʒ greote, ȝiellende faran. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 127 Guðsearo gullon, garas hrysedon. *c* 1205 Lay. 9707 Helmes þer gullen [*c* 1275 ȝollen]. *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 302 The water wille ȝelle als hit ware wode And bicome on hire so red so blod. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xiv. x. 654 Soo she wente with the wynde rorynge and yellynge that it semed alle the water brent after her. 1560 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* v. (1561) M iij b, Black storms he sends with thondres rore he makes the skies to yel. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* F 2. Let..sounding musicke yell Through hils, through dales.

3. *trans.* To utter with a yell. Also *transf.*

[*a* 1000 *Seafarer* 24 Ful oft þæt earn bixeal urigfeþra.] 13 . *Gosp. Nicodemus* (A.) 1796 Howe þai lay in droupand drede And non so ȝhepe a worde to ȝelle. 1370–80 *Visions of St. Paul* 275 in *O. E. Misc.* 230 Þei ȝelleden wiþ lodly cry, 'Poul, Michael, on vs ha merci.' *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 5 Þay styntyn neuer to cry and ȝelle: 'Woo ys hym þat þedyr schall goo.' 1577 Whetstone *Gascoigne* xxvi, The Nightingale,..When she might mourn, her sweetest layes doth yel. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* IV. iii. 7 It [*sc.* heaven] resounds As if it felt with Scotland, and yell'd out Like Syllable of Dolour. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 540 He tumbled down, and as he fell, Did Murther, murther, murther yell. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fremy's Amusem.* 91 Another Son of a Whore yells louder than Homer's Stentor, Two a Groat. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. i, Clamorous war-pipes yell'd the gathering sound. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxxi, Yelling their uncouth dirge, long daunced the kirtled clan. 1852 Miss Yonge *Cameos* I. xxviii. 230 Otho..fled.., hunted by the students, all yelling abuse.

Hence **Yelled** (yeld) *ppl. a.*; **Ye'ller**, one who yells.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 499 Some dozen yappers and yellers of all shapes and breeds. 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* xxiii, At the yelled words of command the soldiers sprang forward. 1900 *Lancet* 3 Mar. 637/2 To prosecute a newspaper yeller for obtaining money under false pretences.

Yell, obs. form of Aisle.

1503–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 252 Þe gret vynddow vythe þe Trenyte in the sovthe yell. 1540 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 230 Within yᵉ churche of saynte peter..in yᵉ myddell yell.

Yell, local variant of Heald.

1883 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Yells*, In weaving, guides for the warp-threads.

Yell, obs. or dial. f. Ale, Evil, Hale *a.*, Yeld.

Yelld, var. *ilde*, obs. form of Isle.

1612 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, St. Larances in the yelld of Teneth.

Yelling (ye·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yell *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Yell; *esp.* the uttering of a sharp loud cry of rage, agony, etc.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1643 An mid ȝullinge [*Jesus MS.* yollinge] & mid igrede. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 493 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 233 ȝeot heo i-heorden heore ȝeollinge [*Harl. MS.* ȝullinge]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 972 Such a ȝomerly ȝarm of ȝellyng þer ryzed. 1395 Purvey *Remonstr.* (1851) 118 Hou abhominable is the ioynid preiere othir hidous yellinge of siche prelatis. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 240 Þes fendes madyn a ȝellyng and a cryyng, þat any myght be agast for to here hit. 1526 Lauder *Tractate of Kyngis* 92 With gretyng, raryng, and with ȝellyng. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* v. v. 936/1 Often times the Singers striue among themselues for the excellencie of voyces, whereby it commeth to passe that the whole Churche ringeth with an hoarse kinde of yellinge. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 124 When after goes the cry with yellings lowd and deepe That all the forrest rings. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxix. (1663) 281 The dreadfull yelling of six thousand Elephants. 1666 Spurstowe *Spir. Chym.* 131 Cries..that are like the yellings of the damned. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. xxvi. 78 The cursed Yellings of you both made me not myself. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxvii, The yelling and screaming of the children. 1818 — *Br. Lamm.* ix, The impatient yelling of the hounds. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* xlii. 18 Swell your voices in higher harsher yellings.

Ye·lling, *ppl. a.* [f. Yell *v.* + -ing 2.] That yells; that utters a loud strident cry or noise.

c 1000 *Widsiþ* 128 (Gr.) Ful oft of þam heape hwinende fleaʒ ȝiellende ƿar on gronie þeode. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 52 Hy ȝyllende garas sendan. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 31 A piteous yelling voyce. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 795 These yelling Monsters that with ceasless cry Surround me. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1681 The lonely tower.. whose mournful chambers hold..the yelling ghost. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* vi, The disordered and yelling group. 1879 *Daily News* 1 Mar. leading art., To force their horses through the ring of yelling savages. 1899 Somerville & Ross *Irish R. M.* 179 The tall old house quivered, and the yelling wind drove against it.

b. Characterized by or filled with yells.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 489 He manegum ȝeaceod ȝyllende ȝryre. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* v. 12 Not with vncomly yellyng noyses, as madde drounken men are vsed to doos. 1595 *Locrine* I. Prol. 4 A Mightie Lion, ruler of the woods,..With yelling clamors shaking all the earth.

1697 [illegible]
yellin
1906
was one wild, yelling confusion.

Yelling, variant of Yiling *Obs.*

Yellm, obs. form of Yelm *v.*

Yelloch (ye·lɔχ), *sb. Sc.* Forms: 6 ȝellooh, ȝallooh, 7 yellough, 9 yill-, yelloch. [app. f. Yell with symbolic ending: cf. *belloch*, *skelloch*.] A yell.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. xiv. 100 With a ȝelloch [*v. r.* ȝalloch] and cairfull womentyng. 1697 Cleland *Poems* 17 His brains with shouts and yelloughs tumbled. 1824 Scott *Red-gauntlet* Let. xi, Sir Robert gied a yelloch that garr'd the castle rock. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*

Yelloch (ye·lɔχ), *v. Sc.* Also 8 yellowoh, 9 yello. [f. prec.] *intr.* To yell; *trans.* to utter with a yell. Hence **Ye·llooching** *vbl. sb.*

1773 Fergusson *Hallowfair* viii, Than there's sic yellowchin and din, Wi' wives and wee-anes gablin. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxx, An auld useless carline, called Tronda Dronsdaughter,..yelloched and skirled.

Yellow (ye·lou), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: α. 1 ȝelu, -o, ȝeolu, ȝeolo, ȝiolu, ȝeolw-, -uw-, -ew-, 2 ȝeoluw, ȝeolew, ȝeluw, 3 ȝeolu(h, ȝelew, 4 ȝelew(e, ȝelugh(e, ȝelogh, ȝelow3, ȝel3, ȝelw, (ȝealwe), 4–5 ȝelwe, yelwe, ȝelou, ȝelow(e, 5 yelu, (ȝelhw(e, ȝelhew(e), 5–6 ȝellow, yelow(e, (6 ȝello, yelloo, yealow(e), 6–7 yellowe, (yealow), 6– yellow (9 *dial.* and *vulgar* yeller). β. 2 ȝolewe, 4 ȝolȝe, yolwe, ȝolow, 5 yolgh, yolow, 5–6 yolowe, 6 yollow(e, yolo, 9 *dial.* yollo(w. γ. (chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) 4–5 ȝalou, 4–6 ȝalow, yalow, 5 ȝalowe, yalowe, ȝalwe, (ȝalo, yhalou), 5–7 ȝallow, 6 ȝallou, yallowe, (ȝallo, yalley), 7–9 *dial.* and *vulgar* yallow, (9 esp. *U.S.*, yaller, yallah). δ. 4 yaulew, 6 yewlow, ewlow, yeolow, youlowe, jowllo. [OE. *geolu*, *-o* = OS. *gelo*, (M)LG. *gel*, MDu. *gel(e)u*, *geluw*, *geel* (Du. *geel*, Flem. *geluw*, *geelw*, *gilw*), OHG. *gelo*, (MHG. *gel*, *gelw-*, G. *gelb*) :— OTeut. **gelwa-* :— Indo-eur. **ghelwo-* (cf. L. *helvus* greyish yellow, Lith. *žalvas* greenish).

For other derivatives of the Indo-eur. *ghel-* : *ghl-*, see Gall *sb.*¹, Gold ¹, and cf. also L. *holus* vegetable, OIr. *gel* white, OSl. *selije* cabbage, *selenŭ* green, Skr. *hári-*, Zend *zaranya-*, Pers. *zar* gold, ON. *gulr* yellow.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of the colour of gold, butter, the yolk of an egg, various flowers, and other objects; constituting one (the most luminous) of the primary colours, occurring in the spectrum between green and orange.

a. Beowulf 2610 Hond rond gefeng, ȝeolwe linde. *c* 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 242 *Crocus*, ȝelu. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 876 *Crocus*, ȝelo. *Ibid.* F 219 *Flabum*, ȝeolu. *a* 900 *Leiden Riddle* 10 Uyrmas mec ni auefun uyrdi cræftum, ða ni ȝoelu godueb ȝeatum fraetuath. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Blake tadden..ȝeluwe froggen and crabben. *Ibid.* 53 Alswa doð monie of þas wimmen heo .clabeð heom mid ȝeoluwe clabe. *c* 1290 *St. Eustace* 182 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 398 With red heued, ȝeolu and crips. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3978 Þe ye þat ys ful of Iawnes, Alle þenkeþ hym ȝelogh yn hys auys. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3881 Wyþ eyene graye, and browes bent, And ȝealwe traces. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 675 This Pardoner hadde heer as yelow as wex (*v.rr.* ȝelw, ȝelowe, ȝalowe). 1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 27 Also j ȝelow cope of selk. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 ȝelhwe of colure (*K., H.* ȝelwe, *S.* ȝelhew, *P.* ȝelowe colowre). 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 14 Red otes are the beste otes, and whan they be threshed, they be yelowe in the husheil. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. v. 166 Remember who commended thy yellow stockings, and wish'd to see thee euer crosse garter'd. 1612 — *Temp.* I. ii. 376 Come vnto these yellow sands. 1630 Milton *On May Morning* 4 The yellow Cowslip, and the pale Primrose. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 302 King-cups in the yellow mead. 1855 Ht. Martineau *Autobiog.* (1877) I. 363 Yellow as a guinea. 1860 Fitz-Roy in *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 342 A bright yellow sky at sunset presages wind.

β. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þe ȝolewe frogge. 1382 Wyclif *Gen. xxx.* 32 Seuer alle þi speckid sheep, and with speckyd fleez, and what euere ȝolow. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 292 Hir hed was ȝolow as wyre Of gold fyned wi fyre. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 579 Ek best are henni blake, & worst ar white And good ar yolgh. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 107 The sparver of buckeram yolowe and rede. 1571 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 146 One maske was yolowe. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, 506 As yollo as a daffodowndilly. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Yollow*, yellow.

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 23 Quhen for elde..his teeth waxis ȝalou with-al. 1397 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 117, j cooperiorium cum rosis ȝalow. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) vii. 48 His Nekke is ȝalowe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 425/2 ȝalowe, *aureus*. 1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Glaucus*, ȝalo or yine graye. 1538 Coverdale *Jer. x.* 9 Clothed with yalow sylke and scarlet. 1546 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 239 Too yalley coverlettes. 16.. Sir W. Mure *Sonn. to Margarit* IX. 10 Yallow curls of gold. 1863 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 101 'Do you remember the lilies at Stanlake?'..'Acres on 'em,..Yallah ones as well.'

δ. 13.. *Sawyn Sag.* (W.) 477 Here yaulew here Out of the tresses sche hit tere. 1513 *Inv.* in *Archæologia* LXVI. 343 A pece of youlowe lawne. 1542 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 80, iij old ewlow quishens. 1550 *Ibid.* II. 103 A yewlow coverlet. 1592 Spenser *Ruins of Time* 10 Rending her yeolow locks.

b. Of the complexion in age or disease; also as the colour of faded leaves, ripe corn, old discoloured paper, etc.; hence *allusively*.

The phrase in quot. 1605 has been freq. echoed.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 106 Wiþ þære ȝeolwan adle hune bi-ceop wyrt..menge þa togædere. *Ibid.* 348 Ȝif him biþ selfoȝoþa him beoþ þa eaȝan ȝeolwe þær hi reade beon sceoldon. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 310 Sorowe, thought, and greet distresse,..Made hir ful yelwe [*MS.* yolare]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 951 Bot vn-lyke on to loke þo ladyes were, For if þe ȝonge was ȝep, ȝolȝe was þat oþer. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 222 Yolow colours in the face meddelite with palnesse. 1590 Greene *Never too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 225 The riping corne growes yeolow in the stalke. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 204 Haue you not a moist eye? a dry hand? a yellow cheeke? a white beard? *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* civ. 5 Three Winters colde, Haue from the forrests shooke three summers pride, Three beautious springs to yellow Autumne turn'd. 1605 — *Macb.* V. iii. 23 My way of life Is falne into the Seare, the yellow Leafe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 435 The green Eare, and the yellow Sheaf. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 1322 When Autumn's yellow lustre gilds the world. 1817 Byron *Beppo* xcii, No, I never Saw a man grown so yellow! How's your liver? 1824 — ''Tis time this heart' ii, My days are in the yellow leaf. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, 'The Misses Crumpton' were..very upright, and very yellow. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Shakespeare* Wks. (Bohn) I. 358 They [*sc.* the Shakespeare Society] have left..no file of old yellow accounts to decompose..to discover whether the boy Shakespeare poached. 1849 James *Woodman* vii, The yellow autumn time of the year.

†**c.** With allusion to the use of yellow starch (coloured with saffron). *Obs.*

1614 Tomkis *Albumazar* II. i. (1615) D j, Trincalo, what price beare's wheate, and Saffron, that your band's so stiffe and yellow? 1626 B. Jonson *Devil is an Ass* I. i, Car-men Are got into the yellow starch. 1629 Rich *Irish Hubbub* 4 Yellow bands are become so common, to euery young giddy-headed Gallant, and light-heel'd Mistresse, that me thinks a man should not hardly be hanged without a yellow band, a fashion so much in vse with the vaine fantasticke fooles of this age. *a* 1626 Middleton *Widow* v. i, That Suit..will disgrace my Masters fashion for ever, and make it as hatefull as yellow bands. *c* 1648 [see Starch *sb.* 2].

d. Having a naturally yellow skin or complexion, as the people of the Mongolian races; hence = Mongolian 2, Mongoloid 1. (Also applied in *U. S.* to mulattos or dark quadroons.)

In recent use also *transf.* in *yellow peril* and similar phrases, denoting a supposed danger of a destructive invasion of Europe by Asiatic peoples.

1834 [see Mongolian *a.* 2]. 1865 *Amer. Song*, 'Chow up Sam' i, I lov'd a dark-eyed yellow girl, And thought that she lov'd me. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 5 The 'yellow agony', as the Chinese, the best market gardeners in the world, are called. 1900 *Daily News* 21 July 3/5 The 'yellow peril' in its most serious form. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 851/1 Mongolic or Yellow Man prevails over the vast area lying east of a line drawn from Lapland to Siam.

e. Applied to naval captains retired as rear admirals in H. M. Fleet without being attached to a particular squadron (red, white, or blue). (Cf. Yellow *v.*¹ 2 c.)

1768 *Parl. Hist.* XXVII. 88 An establishment planned in 1747, for the maintenance and support of such officers as were passed by in a promotion of captains to flags, and this was the first (as it was commonly called) of Yellow admls. 1824 De Quincey *War* Wks. 1862 IV. 264 That's a sort of plagiarism from Themistocles...I have as good a right to the words..as that most classical of yellow admirals. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-admiral*, a retired post-captain, who, not having served his time in that rank, is not entitled to his promotion to the active flag. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 July 1/2 For the remainder of those in the senior rank there is..a prospect of their attaining the rank of flag officer with the 'yellow' attachment.

2. *transf.* Dressed in yellow.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, The yellow postillion was cracking his whip gently.

† 2. *fig.* Affected with jealousy, jealous. (Cf. JAUNDICED 3.) Also in allusive phrases, as *to wear yellow hose* = to be jealous. *Obs.*

1600 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master Constable* v. ii, Ha, ha, ha; by my ventoy (yellow Lady) you take your marke improper. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Ho* i. Wks. 1873 III. 14 Jealous men are eyther Knaues or Coxcombes, bee you neither: you weare yellow hose without cause. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* III. i, If my Lord Bee now growne yellow. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* (1900) 47 Your yellow humour interprets this to be too much familiarity. *c* 1680 *Roxb. Ball.* (1874) II. 61 Why, therefore, Shouldst thou deplore, Or weare stockings that are yellow? *c* 1680 *Man's Felicity* xiii, My Wife will wear no yellow hose. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Yellow*, jealous; a jealous husband is called a *yellow gloak*. 1828 AIDÉ *Rita* xvi, Well, the filly's cut you out, Rita; won in a canter, you see! You've got to wear the yellow shoes, and all your own fault.

3. (orig. *U. S.*) Applied to newspapers (or writers of newspaper articles) of a recklessly or unscrupulously sensational character.

A use derived from the appearance in 1895 of a number of the *New York World* in which a child in a yellow dress ('The Yellow Kid') was the central figure of the cartoon, this being an experiment in colour-printing designed to attract purchasers.

1898 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 7/2 The yellow Press is for a war with Spain, at all costs. 1898 ELIZ. L. BANKS in *19th Cent.* Aug. 328 All American journalism is not 'yellow', though all strictly 'up-to-date' yellow journalism is American! *Ibid.* 332 Its [sc. *New York Journal*] Sunday editions, with its 'yellow kids' and 'blackberry blossoms' and various other 'spacial features'. 1900 — *Newspaper Girl* xviii, The very first thing I was asked to do in the line of 'yellow' work was to walk along Broadway at midnight and 'allow' myself to be arrested. 1906 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Nov. 714 The President of the United States sent his Secretary of State to New York to throw the whole weight of Mr. Roosevelt's..authority and influence against the 'yellow' candidate [sc. Hearst].

B. *sb.*

1. The colour described in YELLOW *a.* 1, or a shade, pigment, fabric, or stuff of this colour.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3446 Ȝelugh vnder Ȝelugh þey hyde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 82 His colour was bitwixe yelow [*v. r.* Ȝelw] and reed. 1396–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 214 [Hangings] cum avibus de yalow. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5462 All hor colouris to ken were of clene yalow. *c* 1450 in *Mastl. Club Misc.* III. 199 Courtenes of singill worsat palyt of red and grein and yhalou. *c* 1532 in E. LAW *Hampton Crt. Palace* (1885) 363 For 4000 flemyshe pavyng tyll of grene and jowllo. 1541 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 135 A crose of yolowe opone his brest. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 227 Quene Anne ware yelowe for the mournyng. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 133 b, The sicknesse of the Gall..is also discerned by the browne yellowes vnder the vpper lippe. 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* B 3 b, Wks. (Grosart) VI. 94 To weare the blacke and yellow [*rime* followe]. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* I. iv, Wee doe beare for our Coat Yellow, or Or, checker'd Azure, and Gules. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII* Prol. 16 A long Motley Coate, garded with Yellow. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 3) § 54, I doe not like these reds, and blewes, and yellowes, amongst these plaine stalkes and eares. *c* 1668 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 275 Ribband knots for her head of sky collor, or yallow. 1725 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 10. 60 When he appear'd in Yellow, his Great Men hid themselves in Corners. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 58 The narrow lane bordered with elms, whose fallen leaves have made the road one yellow. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 224 The ochres are the most permanent yellows. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* vii, His complexion is too dark for yellows. Yellows don't suit him.

b. With qualifying words, denoting different shades of the colour, as *brass-, bronze-, canary-, gold-, Isabella-, lemon-, primrose-, rust-, straw-, sulphur-* (etc.) *yellow*, or various pigments and dyes, as *aniline y., Chinese y., cobalt y., imperial y., Indian y., King's y., Mars y., Naples y., strontian y.*, etc., for which see the first element.

1552 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 23 Tway elnis franche ȝallow to lyne the said cote. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 89 Isabella yellow. 1805–27 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 69 Brass-yellow, gold-yellow, and bronze-yellow. 1832–3 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 539/1 A yellow termed rust yellow is made with acetate of iron thickened with gum for light yellows. 1899 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 5/1 Martius's yellow. This substance has many an alias, some alluring, some otherwise, golden yellow, Manchester yellow, saffron yellow, nap[h]thalene yellow.

†c. *allusively*, as the colour attributed to jealousy: cf. A. 2. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 107 If thou hast The ordering of the Mind too, mongst all Colours No Yellow in't.

2. Denoting various objects of a yellow colour, as the yolk of an egg, the stigmas of the saffron crocus (quot. 1587), a yellow carriage (quot. 1833), or any yellow substance, as sulphur (quot. 1649), old faded paper; also *elliptical* for a yellow variety of any flower, fruit, root, etc.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* 429 *Fitillum* [Erfurt *vitellus*], uxergeolu. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 22 Genim egges þæt geoluwe & meng lythwon wiþ hunig. *Ibid.* 130 Banwyrt do on sure ætsan & on hunig ꝥres geola, meng tosomne, smire mid. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. viii. 232/2 in *Holinshed*, In sweete floure [of saffron] we finde commonlie three chiues, and three yellowes. 1649 *Woodstock Scuffle* xxiv, The men were frighted, and did smell O' th' yellow. 1738 DESSING *Cat. Stirp.* 149 *Napus sylvestris*..the Country People here call them the *Yellows*. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* II. vii, The arrival..of Lady Frances Sheringham herself and her maid, in a 'yellow and two'. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 14 The yellows [*sc.* turnips] then follow, and last for about a months. *a* 1845 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) I. 373 To make this condiment, your poet begs The pounded yellow of two hard-boil'd eggs. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xvi, As he [*sc.* the aged nigger] sat..leering out of the yellows of his eyes. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 43 Yellows or swedes.

b. A particular yellow species or variety of bird, butterfly (= SULPHUR § a), or moth.

1816 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IX. II. 464 [American Gold-finches] are called York Yellows. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 515 Tumblers, Blues, Blacks, Silver, Yellows. 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Variety* 51 Our English Clouded Yellows. 1896 W. F. KIRBY *Handbk. Order Lepidopt.* II. 214 Both our Clouded Yellows are very rare in Scandinavia.

3. A person of one of the yellow races (see A. 1 d); a Mongolian. Only *pl.* (Cf. *black, white.*)

1808 C. SCHULTZ Jr. *Trav.* (1810) II. 198 In attending to the amusements of the whites, the yellows, and the blacks, I had almost forgotten to mention the reds. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* July 30 The 'whites' have made a complete surrender to the 'yellows'. 1902 *19th Cent.* May 837 If they [*sc.* Japanese] are to colonise at all they must colonise among the yellows and the blacks.

4. As the colour of a party badge; hence *transf.* an adherent of a party whose colour is yellow.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 339/2 The blues being in the old interest, and the yellows in the new. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* II, He would not vote yellow. 1881 [see BLUE *sb.* 8].

5. A 'yellow' journal or writer: see A. 3.

1898 *Daily News* 27 July 5/7 This deliberate attempt to stir up animosities..is worthy of 'the yellows' at their worst. 1902 *Scribner's Mag.* Apr. 408/2 The killing at the Vulcan Shops made the yellows froth head-lines.

*** For specialized uses of the plural in singular sense, see YELLOWS.

C. Collocations and Combinations.

1. Special collocations. a. In names of species or varieties of animals distinguished by their yellow colour or colouring: as *yellow ant, baboon, bass, bittern, boa, chatterer, fly, fly-catcher, grosbeak, perch, redpoll, tanager, underwing, wagtail, warbler, weasel, woodpecker, yite*, for which see the sbs.; also **yellow dog**, (*a*) (see quot. *c* 1770); (*b*) *U. S. colloq.* (see quot. 1860); **Yellow Sally**, name for a species of stone-fly used as a bait by anglers; see also YELLOW-BIRD, YELLOW-FISH, YELLOW-HAMMER. b. In names of plants distinguished by having flowers (or sometimes fruit, wood, etc.) of a yellow colour: as *yellow archangel, balsam, bedstraw, bugle, camomile, centaury, cress, crocus, daffodil, dead-nettle, fir, flag, gentian, gilliflower, gold* (GOLD 2), *gowan, jasmine, loosestrife, medick, ox-eye, pearmain, pimpernel, pine, poplar, poppy, rattle, rocket, rose, sedge, succory, sultan, thistle, vetch, vetchling, water-cress, water-lily*, for which see the sbs.; also **yellow-weed**, (*a*) *dial.* dyer's-weed, *Reseda Luteola*; (*b*) common ragwort, *Senecio Jacobæa*; (*c*) in *U. S.* a name for some species of golden-rod (*Solidago*); **yellow-wort**, a gentianaceous plant, *Chlora perfoliata*, having bright yellow flowers and yielding a yellow dye; yellow centaury. c. In names of minerals, and of chemical or other products, of a yellow colour: as *yellow arsenic, copper, copperas, corallin, jasper, lake* (LAKE *sb.*6 3), *ochre, orpiment, quartz, sandalwood, sanders, ultramarine, wash, wax*, for which see the sbs.; also **yellow bark**, any variety of Peruvian bark of a yellow colour, as Calisaya bark; **yellow berries**, the fruit of *Rhamnus infectorius* and other species, yielding a yellow dye; also called *Persian berries*; **yellow deal**, the wood of the Scotch fir, *Pinus sylvestris*; **yellow earth**, † (*a*) a generic term for minerals or 'earths' of a yellow colour; (*b*) a yellowish clay, coloured by iron, used as a pigment; a variety of bole; **yellow metal**, an alloy of two parts of copper and one of zinc, used for sheathing vessels; **yellow ore**, yellow copper ore, copper pyrites (see COPPER *sb.*1 12); **yellow share**, ? *sb.* or *a.* (? *obs.*) [cf. REDSHIRE, -SHARE], a name or epithet for a brittle or friable iron ore (see quot.); **yellow soap**, a common soap made of tallow, rosin, and soda; hence **yellow-soap** *v. trans.* (*nonce-wd.*), to wash or rub with yellow soap; **yellow ware**, yellow earthenware or stoneware; **yellow wove** (see quot.). d. In names of diseases characterized by yellowness of the skin, or of some tissue, secretion, etc.: as *yellow jaundice* (see JAUNDICE), *softening, typhus*; (absolute) **yellow atrophy**, 'atrophy and yellow discoloration of the liver with jaundice' (Dorland s.v. *Atrophy*); † **yellow evil**, jaundice, or (app.) some epidemic disease of which jaundice was a symptom; **yellow gum**, jaundice in infants, characterized by yellowness of the gums; **Yellow Jack, yellow jack**, a slang name for yellow fever; **yellow plague** = *yellow evil*; **yellow sickness**, (*a*) = prec.; (*b*) a disease of hyacinth-plants (see quot. 1887); † **yellow soughs** [SOUGHT *sb.*], jaundice: see also YELLOW FEVER. e. Miscellaneous: **yellow admiral** (see A. 1 e); **yellow cartilage** *Anat.*, cartilage containing *yellow fibres*, elastic cartilage; **yellow cell** *Biol.*, one of the small yellow bodies found in many radiolarians, now held to be symbiotic algæ; **yellow dirt**, a contemptuous appellation for gold; **yellow fibre** *Anat.*, one of the elastic fibres of a yellow colour occurring in certain tissues (so **yellow fibrous tissue** = *yellow tissue*); **yellow flag**, a flag of a yellow colour displayed on board ship, formerly as a signal of capital punishment, now as a signal of infectious disease or of quarantine, and hoisted in war time on hospitals, etc., **Yellow George** (see GEORGE 4 b); **yellow-man**, † (*a*) a yellow silk handkerchief (*slang*); (*b*) a man of the 'yellow' or Mongolian race (see A. 1 d); **yellow peril** (see A. 1 d); **yellow press** (see A. 3); **yellow rain** = *sulphur rain* (see SULPHUR *sb.* 8); **yellow spot** *Anat.*, a yellowish circular depression in the middle of the retina, being the region of most distinct vision; **yellow stick** (see quots.); **yellow tissue** *Anat.*, tissue containing *yellow fibres*, elastic tissue. See also YELLOW-BOY.

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 310 Piso speaks of yellow *ants called *Cupid* inhabiting Brasil. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes without H.* vii. (1868) 129 The common Yellow Ant (*Formica flava*) so abundant in marshes and gardens. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 204 The yellow *atrophy is distinguished by a deep yellow colour; imbibition of the whole tissue of the organ with bile [etc.]. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 960 Yellow *bark. 1837, 1879 [see CALISAYA]. 1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 802 The yellow bark is the most employed, and most highly esteemed in this country. It is the bark of the *cinchona cordifolia* of Mutis. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 93 Another species which closely resembles the Striped Bass is the *Morone interrupta*, generally known as the Yellow *Bass. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 13 The Yellow *Berry is the Fruit of a Shrub which Authors call Licium. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 46 Yellow Berries are the fruit of a species of Lycium, growing plentifully in different parts of France...It is much used by the Dyers and Painters. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 276 Yellow *Bunting..; the crown of the head is of a pleasant pale yellow. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 14 The second [kind of Camomile] is called in greke chrysanthemon..It maye be called in englishe yealowe *camomyle. 1880 *Garden* 29 July 85/2 The Yellow Camomile..seems to be almost unknown. 1879 tr. *Semper's Anim. Life* 74 Most of the Radiolaria..bear in their body certain..particles known as the yellow *cells. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 140 Yellow *Copper Ore. Copper Pyrites. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 488/1 Yellow copper is more brittle, stiffer, and less malleable [than the red]. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 35 Plenie maketh mention of a kynde called Narcissus herbaceus, whiche is after my iudgement our yealowe *daffodyl. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Trellis*, Trellises..being generally made of regularly cut yellow-deal, or oak. 1753 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 42 Convenience stamped an imaginary Value upon yellow *Dirt. 1794 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Wand. Warwick* 152 While you hesitate about receiving from me a little yellow dirt, for which I have no use. *c* 1770 T. FAIRFAX *Compl. Sportsman* 97 Yellow *dogs, are those which have red hairs, inclining to brown. 1840 *Daily Pennant* (St. Louis) Apr. 20 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) One of those interesting animals, a yellow dog, with a bullet-hole through his breast. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* iii, A 'yallah dog' is a large canine brute, of a dingy old-flannel colour, of no particular breed except his own. 1895 BRET HARTE *Clarence* III. iii, In Illinois we wouldn't hang a yellow dog on that evidence. 1552 HULOET, Yellow *earth founde in the mynes of golde or syluer, *sandaracha*. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 38/2 Yellow earth, as Durry, Yellow Occar, Sand. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 194 This yellow earth differs from ochres only in containing a greater proportion of argill. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 425/1 Bole..Stolpenite, Rock Soap, Plinthite, Yellow Earth or Fellnite, Fetbol, and Ochran are varieties. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 113 Afterward sel a pestilence in to al Wales of þe ȝelowe *ȝuel þat is i-cleped þe iaundys. 1400 [see JAUNDICE 1 8]. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 61 Yellow *Fir, called Dram,.. is the best sort of Fir for flooring. 1882 *Garden* 30 Sept. 301/3 The principal tree in these forests is the yellow Fir. 1783 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 213/2 The other three were hanged ..a yellow *flag was flying from each ship during the execution. 1805 *Act* 45 *Geo. III*, c. 10 § 14 If the said ship.. have a clean bill of health, a large yellow flag of six breadths of bunting at the main-topmast head. 1836 MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backwoods of Canada* 19 [Our ship bears] the melancholy symbol of disease, the yellow flag. 1863 *Ann. Reg., For. Hist.* 326 The yellow flag, ordinarily held so sacred in modern war, has..been but the mark for the hottest and most deadly fire. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Yellow flag*, the signal of quarantine. 1780 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. Index 243 The great Yellow *Fly with black Spots. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 May 2/1 A banded yellow-fly. *c* 1586 Yelewe *goolden [see GOLD 2 2]. 1609 B. JONSON *Pan's Anniv.* Wks. (1641) I. 129 Gladdest myrtle for these postes to weare..star'd with yellow-golds, and Meadowes Queene. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 139 Yellow *Grosbeak..head, neck, breast, belly, and vent, yellow..Inhabits Asia. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 26 Nurses have usually accounted the yellowness that appears about the third day after birth, if unusually deep (termed by some the yellow *gum) as the true jaundice. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Rochf.* xxxiii, Misgivings about Yellow *Jack. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* iv, Have seen three choleras, two army fevers, and yellow-jack without end. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 1, I knew a good deal..

of South East America, and remembered that Yellow Jack was endemic. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) IX. 27 A prime yellow-*man round his squeeze. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* s. v., John Gully introduced the yellowman. 1828 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 1/2 Convinced free-traders from the Colonies..draw the line at the free invasion of the Yellow-man. 1847 in W. M. Williams *Anm. Founders' Co.* (1867) 103 Wayghtes of Brass..shall not..be..made of any worse Brass than Yellow *Mettell. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 284 A ship fastened with yellow metal ought not to be put under the head of 'copper fastened'. 1878 Ure *Dict. Arts* IV, Yellow-metal sheathing. 1481–90 Yelu *okyr [see Ochre *sb.* 1]. 1599 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 384 For too pounde of yellow Oker for the said sealing iiij*d*. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 185 Take yellow ochre, neal it well, and it will turn to a brown red. 1899 Cagney tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) 143 The expectoration, which was of a yellow-ochre tint. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 301 The ulcer was dressed with yellow *ointment. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Yellow-ore*..Chalcopyrite. 1819 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 108 A pestilence of the most fatal description (it was called the yellow *plague) depopulated the island. 1887 [see Plague *sb.* 3 b]. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Rain, Sulphur-rain* or *yellow *rain* is a similar precipitation of the pollen of fir-trees, etc. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 5 Mar. 5/2 The phenomenon of 'yellow rain' was observed at some of the southern .. stations. 1835 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1839) 105 The delicate lemon-coloured 'Yellow *Sally' (Chrysoperla viridis). 1867 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* vi. (1880) 231 The Yellow Sally..has.. a high character with some anglers. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 160 The first and meanest whereof [*sc.* Iron Ore], they call yellow *share an ill sort that runs all to dirt and is good for nothing..this sort some others are please'd to call Red-share. 1747 Carte *Hist. Eng.* I. 214 *note*, The yellow *sickness, a pestilential distemper which is mentioned by abundance of ancient writers, as laying Wales almost desolate. 1807 *Edin. Highl. Soc.* III. 437 *note*, Yellows,..Yellow sickness, or Jaundice. 1887 Garnsey & Balfour tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 482 A disease in the hyacinth known in Holland as the yellow sickness, the characteristic symptom of which is the presence of yellow slimy masses of Bacteria in the vessels. 1823 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 95/1 *Soap, Yellow, 104*s. Mottled 114*s*. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxv, Applying plenty of yellow soap to the towel, and rubbing away, till his face shone again. 1838 — *Sk. Bos, Parish* vi, The children were yellow-*soaped and flannelled, and towelled, till their faces shone again. 1845 Yellow *softening [see Softening *vbl. sb.* 2 b]. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 42 Yellow Softening..,in which, from the fine state of division and close aggregation of the fatty particles, a dead yellowish-white colour is imparted to the softened tissue. 24.. 2alow *sount [see Sought *sb.*]. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ii. 6 The infusion..cureth the Iaundise or Yealowsought. 1869 Huxley *Physiol.* ix. (ed. 3) 241 Exactly opposite the middle of the posterior wall, it [*sc.* the retina] presents a slight circular depression of a yellowish hue, the *macula lutea*, or yellow *spot. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 730 Ophthalmoscopic examination reveals a peculiar..appearance in the region of each yellow spot. 1861 Macleod *Devot. to B. V. M. in N. Amer.* 342 *note*, Hebridean Protestants.. are..called Protestants of the Yellow *Stick. 1880 W. G. Blaikie *Life Livingstone* i. 3 A tradition that the people of the Island [Ulva] were converted from being Roman Catholics 'by the laird coming round with a man having a yellow staff,..the new religion went long afterwards.. by the name of the religion of the yellow stick'. 1876 Quain *Anat.* (ed. 8) II. 67 Yellow or Elastic *Tissue. 1882–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 585 *Typhus icterodes* or yellow *typhus. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* lxiii, A comfortless sort of dressing-room,..where I found a yellow-*ware jug and basin. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Yellow *weed, *Reseda*. 1853 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Borders* 111 *Senecio] *Jacobæa*. Ragwort: Yellow-weed. 1884 Miller *Plant-n., Reseda Luteola* .. Dyer's-Rocket, Dyer's-weed, Dyer's Yellow-weed,..Yellow-weed. 1789 Pilkington *View Derbysh.* I. 384 *Chlora perfoliata*, perforated [*sic*] *Yellow-Wort. 1839 *Stationers' Handbk.* 12 In woven papers may be mentioned *Blue Wove*—that is, a paper of woven texture, but blue in colour; then comes another, which, although in point of fact white, or an extremely pale cast of blue, is termed *Yellow *Wove*.

2. Combinations. **a.** Qualifying other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour (= yellowish, inclining to or tinged with yellow): as *yellow-black, -brown, -dun, -green, -grey, -olive, -red, -white*; also occas. other adjs., as *yellow-ripe*.

In OE. expressed by *geolu* in comb. or by the adv. *geolwe*, as *geolurēad, geolwe rēad*.

1841 Clough *Poems, Songs of Autumn* 5 My gay green leaves are *yellow-black, Upon the dank autumnal floor. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 177 Pileus *yellow brown. 1829 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 109 The rich yellow-brown of the oaks. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* 59 The horse which is milke white, *yellow-dunne, sanded or pie-bald. 1832 Lytton *Eugene Aram* I. ix, He..drew up his line, and replaced the contamned beauty of the violet-fly with the novel attractions of the yellow-dun. 1837 Kirkbride *Northern Angler* 32 The Yellow Dun..makes its appearance on the northern rivers some time in May. 1768 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 17 Aug., The *yellow-green of the whole upper part of the body is more vivid. 1826 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IX. II. 404 Upper part of the back and scapulars yellow-green. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 269 The broad descending surfaces of yellow-green oak. 1811 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 466 *Yellow-olive Parrakeet. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 437/20 *Lutea*, bast *giolureade. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xiv. (Tollem. MS.), Yf þey ben browne in coloure, oþer citryn [oþer]wyse[þe]de. 1819 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XI. II. 324 The breast is yellow-red.

in Wr.-Wülcker 163/21 *Gilvus*, *geolohwit. 1591 Sylv——. *Du Bartas* I. i. 337 A Hen that fain would hatch a Brood.. Sits close thereon, and with her lively heat, Of yellow-white bals, doth live birds beget. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xli, That yellow-white plant, which grows on an old oak in the wood. 1898 *Ellis & her German* (155 Coral-pink petals, paling..to a yellow-white.

b. Parasynthetic and instrumental combs. (many of which are used in the names of species or varieties of animals or plants): as *yellow-backed, -banded, -barked, -barred, -bellied, -billed, -blossomed, -bodied, -breasted, -browed, -cheeked, -chinned, -coloured, -covered, -crested, -crowned, -faced, -finned, -flagged, -flashed, -flowered, -flowering, -footed, -fringed, -fronted, -girted, -gloved, -haired, -headed, -hilted, -horned, -jerkined, -leaved, -legged, -lit, -locked, -lustred, -maned, -marked, -painted, -pinioned, -ringed, -ringleted, -robed, -rumped, -sealed, -shafted, -shanked, -shouldered, -skinned, -shirted, -spotted, -sprinkled, -stained, -tailed, -throated, -tinged, -tinging, -toed, -tressed, -vented, -wamed* (Sc. = -bellied), *-washed, -winged*, etc., adjs. Also Yellow-haired.

1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 440 *Yellow-backed Warbler. 1874 *Baily's Mag.* Jan. 346 One or two yellow-backed railway novels. 1833 Tennyson *Eleanore* 22 The *yellow-banded bees. 1611 Cotgr., *Sauſx vitelline*,..*yellow-barked Willow. 1844 Loudon *Green-house Comp.* I. 68 Yellow-barked shoots and leaves. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 174 The *Yellow-barred Iron..occurs in woods. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 328 The *yellow-beaked, American Owl. 1769 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* x. 60 The Male is grey, the Female *yellow-bellied. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 42 Yellow-bellied Thrush..the under parts of the body of a pale rusty yellow. 1822 — *Gen. Hist. Birds* II. 332 *Yellow-billed Horn-bill. 1899 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* I. vi, Turning even the muddy water.. into a mirror for the yellow-billed ducks. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 292 The *yellow-blossom'd vale. 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 31 The delicate yellow-blossomed acacia. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 30 The black and *yellow-bodied Œstrus. 1868–8 Wood *Homes without H.* vi. 139 To see the yellow-bodied Wasp..dart into the dark mass. 1730 Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 432 The *Yellow-breasted Chat. 1776 Brown *Illustr. Zool.* 80 The yellow-breasted Fly-catcher. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 313 The yellow-breasted martin was still pursued in Cranbourne Chase for his fur. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 459 *Yellow-browed Warbler. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 419/1 White petaled, *yellow-centred flowers. 1765 Lavard in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 13 A rusty *yellow-colored crust covering the stalactites. 1776 Brown *Illustr. Zool.* 24 The *Yellow-crested Woodpecker. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets* 127 A flock of yellow-crested cockatoos. 1776 Brown *Illustr. Zool.* 50 *Yellow crowned Thrush. 1827 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. 623 Yellow-crowned Warbler. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 322 The *yellow-eyed Owl. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 187 *Xyris..carolinians* (yellow-eyed grass). 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 27 In praise of Lady Swin-snout, his *yeolow-fac'd Mistres. 1758 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 49 The Yellow-faced Parrakeet. 1811 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 445 Yellow-faced Parrakeet. 1804 *Ibid.* V. 176 *Yellow-finned Herring. 1868 J. E. Ollivant tr. *P. Kollonitz's Cri. Mexico* 16 The *yellow-flagged boat of the quarantine. 1888–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Dec. 12 The *yellow-fleeced flocks. 1849 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 85 Another disease attacks *yellow-fleshed peaches far more than those with other coloured flesh. 1781 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 239 The Toad Flax of Valentia is *yellow-Flowered. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 270 A yellow-flowered Sea-Lavender is a rarity. 1888 J. & E. R. Pennell *Sent. Journ.* 11 Across the yellow flowered sand-dunes. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man* 213 The *yellow flowering pea. 1894 Lydekker *Marsupialia* 172 *Yellow-footed Pouched Mouse, *Phascologale flavipes*. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 221 The *Yellow-fringed White [Moth] (*Notodophus*] *flavicilintus*). 1781 Pennant *Gen. Birds* 62 *Yellow-fronted Honey-Sucker. 1783 La-—————————— IV. 461 Yellow-fronted Warbler. The forehead and crown are of a bright yellow. 1901 *Nature* 19 Sept. 523/2 A Yellow-fronted Amazon (*Chrysotis ochrocephala*) from Guiana. 1880 *Daily News* 16 Aug. 6/5 The.. *yellow-funnelled White Star liner steams slowly in. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 253 *Yellow girted bees. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* II. 10 June, let. i, It was the singularity in S——'s conduct that reconciled him to the *yellow-gloved philosopher. 1743 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* 44 The *Yellow-headed Linnet. This Bird being of kin to Linnets or Canary-Birds, I choose to call it by this Name. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 401 Yellow-headed Wagtail. 1787 Hawkins *Life of Johnson* 233 A long *yellow-hilted sword. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 83 The *Yellow-horned [Moth] (*Clerophacha*] *flavicornis*)..antennæ yellow. 1880 Motley *Netherl.* ii. I. 35 Battling..breast to breast with the *yellow-jerkined pikemen of Spain and Italy. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Purslane*, The red or *yellow leaved, commonly called golden purslane. 1844 Longf. *Autumn* 20 Maple yellow-leaved. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 340 The *yellow-legged Falco. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. viii, A..bystander, *yellow-legginged and purple-faced. 1877 Black *Green Past.* vi, Asleep in the hushed *yellow-lit room. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* x. 786 Camers the *yellow Lock'd. 1878 Longf. *Kéramos* 182 A ground of deepest blue With *yellow-lustred stars o'erlaid. 1869 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 426 He was only a *yellow-maned one [*sc.* lion]. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 337 *Yellow-necked Flycatcher. 1861 W. F. Collier *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 204 Those *yellow-painted wooden caravans. 1733 Somerville *Chase* I. 243 His glossy Skin, or *Yellow-py'd, or blue. 1824 Hemot in *Mem.* (1822) App. III. 98 My *yellow-pointed diamond-ring. 1880 A. H. Swinton *Insect Variety* 94 The groups of *Yellow-ringed Gnats. 1854 Tennyson *Beadicea* 55 Thither at their will they haled the *yellow-ringleted Britoness. 1889 S. Langdon *Appeal to Serpent* iii. 30 A long procession of *yellow-robed..monks. 1758 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 97 The *Yellow-rumped Fly-catcher. 1826–33 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) I. 280 Yellow-rumped Warbler.—Sylvia Coronata. 1841 *Yellow-sealed [see *yellow-seal* in c]. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xl, My *yellow-sealed wine, which costs me ten shillings a bottle. 1820 Latham *Gen. *Hist. Birds* III. 410 *Yellow-shafted Woodpecker;..tail dusky yellow, with black spots, and yellow shafts. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 248 A *yellow-skinned chicken makes the most delicate roast. 1629 Mark Twain' *Innoc. Abr.* vii. 43 The tall *yellow-spiouched hills. 1828 Latham *Index Gen. Hist. Birds* III, Woodpecker, *yellow spotted. 1822 Mrs. Gaskell *Cranford* xiii, The yellow-spotted lilac gow.. 1829 Rich *Irish Hubub* 4 A *yellow-starchit band about his necke. 1758 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 101 The *Yellow-tailed Fly-catcher. 1823 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds* VI. 232 Yellow-tailed Warbler. *a* 1749 M. Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1754) I. 62 The *yellow-throated creeper. 1850 Tennyson *Elaine* 12 Yellow-throated nestling in the nest. 1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 174 In their *yellow-tinged lookin blankets. 1726–46 Thomson *Spring* 1028 The *yellow-tinging Plague Internal Vision tainta. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* II. iv, Amber tresst [*v. r.* *Yellow tresst] is she. 1838 *Wilson's Tales of Borders* IV. 176 He can..lurk in the green moss like the *yellow-wamed ask. 1850 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* xxxvi, Those immense seven-storied, *yellow-washed bovels. 1764 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* III. 239 The *Yellow-winged Pye. 1808–13 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) II. 259 Yellow-Winged Sparrow..inhabits the lower parts of New York and Pennsylvania. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xviii, The yellow-winged Angel [of Death].

c. Forming sbs. (or adjs.), the names (or descriptive epithets) of animals and other objects, in which *yellow* qualifies the name of some part or distinctive feature: **yellow-back**, (*a*) some kind of fish (see quot. 1796); (*b*) a cheap yellow-backed (esp. French) novel; **yellow-beak** = **Bejan**; **yellow-bill**, name for various birds with a yellow bill or yellow coloration on the bill, as the American scoter, *Œdemia americana*; **yellow-cup**, a buttercup; **yellow-fin**, name for various fishes with yellow fins or yellow coloration on the fins (see quots.); **yellow-foot** *a.* (Sc. -fit), yellow-footed; **yellow-head**, (*a*) an African plant of the genus *Helichrysum* having brilliant yellow flowers; (*b*) a species of moth (see quot. 1832); (*c*) the American yellow-headed blackbird, *Xanthocephalus icterocephalus*; **yellow-jacket**, (*a*) *U.S. colloq.*, name for a wasp or hornet; (*b*) name for various species of *Eucalyptus* with yellowish bark (Morris *Austral Eng.*); **yellow-leg, -legs**, a bird with yellow legs, esp. either of two N. American sandpipers, *Totanus flavipes* and *T. melanoleucus*; **yellow-line**, collectors' name for species of moths of the genus *Orthosia* (see quots.); **yellow-neb** = *yellow-beak*, **Bejan**; **yellow-pate**, the yellow-hammer; **yellow-poll** (**warbler**), the summer warbler of N. America, *Dendræca æstiva*; **yellow-rump** (**warbler**), *Dendræca coronata*, also called *yellow-crowned warbler* or *myrtle bird*; also *D. maculosa*; **yellow-seal** (*nonce-use*), wine in bottles bearing a yellow seal; **yellowseed**, a name for *Lepidium campestre*, also called *mithridate mustard* or *m. pepperwort*; **yellow-shank, -shanks** = *yellow-legs*; **yellow-shell**, collectors' name for a species of moth (see quot.); **yellow-skin**, one of a race of men having a yellow skin or complexion (see A. 1 d); **yellow-spot**, collectors' name for a species of skipper (butterfly), *Polites peckius*, having a yellow spot on each hind wing; also (*yellow-spot unicorn hawk*) for a species of hawk-moth, *Sphinx quinque-maculatus*; **yellow-throat**, any species of warbler of the N. American genus *Geothlypis*, esp. *G. trichas*, the Maryland yellow-throat; **yellow-top**, (*a*) a N. American species of reed-grass, *Calamagrostis hyperborea Americana*, valued for hay; (*b*) the early golden-rod, *Solidago juncea*, common in eastern N. America; (*c*) a variety of turnip, having the top of the root of a yellow colour. See also **Yellow-belly, Yellow-boot, Yellowtail, Yellow-wood.**

1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xxix. 368 The fisher-men having caught a quantity of large fish, I discovered one among them..the *yellow-back,..thus called from its colour, which almost resembles that of a lemon. 1890 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 443 A well-thumbed 'Yellow-back'. 1865 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* xxxiv, The speaker kindled with wrath at the presumption of the *yellow-beaks. 1888 [see Bejan]. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 321 Yonder flouts by a flock of Parrots with a most abominable combination of harsh screams. It is the *Yellow-bill. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 251 A bed of daisies and *yellow-cups. 1818 Hood *Brownie of Bodsbeck*, etc. II. 167 At length a *yellowfin rose...'I wish your honour had hookit that ane.' 1885 Jamieson, *Yellowfin*, a species of trout, so named from the colour of its fins..; apparently the same with the *Fiunoc or *Fiunor. 1845 Gosse *Ocean* iv. (1849) 206 The Yellow-fin (*Sparus cynagris*, Linn.), which has its body marked with longitudinal bands of delicate pink and yellow alternately. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 111 About Cape Cod they [*sc.* squeteague] are called 'Drummers'; about Buzzard's Bay and in the vicinity the largest are known as 'Yellow-fins'. 1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 *Yellow fingers, *Strumbus lambis*. *c* 1780 *Johnstone Hey & Yng. Caldwell* xxiv. in Child *Ballads* IV. 293 'Nut-brown was his hawk', they said, 'And *yellow-fit was his hound'. 1752 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 439 Narrow-leaved Cape *yellow Heads [*Elichrysum Africanum*, Ray]. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 210 The Yellow Head (*Perronea*] *flavi-frontella*)..the head tawny. 1897 *Yearbk. U.S. Dept.*

Agric. 351 In complaints made against the redwing the yellowhead is frequently included as equally guilty. 1888 dig up '*yellow- Howells *Land-* lute

LXII. 410 This bird is called a *yellow leg at Albany fort. 1834 *Poultry Chron.* II. 129 A pen of Brahmas—one peacomb, two single-combs, one white-legs, two yellow-legs. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 70/2 The winter yellowlegs were less numerous. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 59 The *Yellow Line (*Orthosia flavilinea*)..Wings..brownish;

Scot. 18th Cent. xii. II. 196 These first year's students were popularly called '*yellow-nebs'. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 75 The *Yellow-pate, which though she hurt the bloomings tree Yet scarce had any bird a finer pype than shee. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 515 *Yellow-Poll. Rather less than the Pettichaps:..This species is found in America,..but its chief residence is in Guiana. 1785 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 400 Yellow-poll Warbler...Inhabits Canada. 1790 Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 433 *Parus uropygio luteo*, the *yellow Rump. 1784 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 400 Yellow-rump Warbler. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* vii, 'Get some of that yellow-sealed wine, Tiggins,' says the captain...I must say I liked the *yellow-seal much better than aunt Horggarty's Rosolio. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 161 *Lepidium*] *campestre* ..'Yellow Seed. 1785 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 468 *Yellow-shanks Snipe. With a slender black bill. 1835 Audubon *Ornith. Biog.* III. 573 The Yellowshank is much more abundant..to the westward of the Alleghany Mountains than along our Atlantic coast. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 128 The *Yellow Shell (*C[aniptogramma] bilineata*). 1851 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* xiii. (1853) 89, I was in hopes we'd have a brush with the *yellow-skins. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 289 Russia has ever regarded herself as the dear friend of the nations who are now contemptuously nick-named 'yellowskins'. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 24 The *Yellow-spot Unicorn Hawk (*Sphinx quinque Maculatus*). 1702 Petiver *Gazophyl.* i. 6 *Avis Marylandica gutture luteo.* The Mary-Land *Yellow-Throat. 1846 Worcester, *Yellow-Top*, a species of grass; called also white-top. *Farm. Ency.*

Ye·llow, *v.*[1] [f. Yellow *a.*]

1. *intr.* To become yellow, turn yellow.

a 1030 *Liber Scintill.* xxviii. (1889) 105 Na beheald þu win þænne hit geoluwað [L. *flavescit*].

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 237 Ash or maple 'neath thy colour yellows. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xxxviii, The peak [of the temple] is yellowing downward [in the sunlight]. 1868 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. II. 425 In one part of the field the oats 'yellow off'. 1888 Rider Haggard *Col. Quaritch* xxi, Their foliage yellowing to its fall, rose the giant oaks. 1902 Cutcliffe Hyne *Thompson's Progr.* vii. 184 When the wick yellowed out into flame.

2. *trans.* To make or render yellow; to impart a yellow colour to.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 457 Her fiery poyson, yellowing all without. *c* 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* xvii, My papers (yellowed with their age). 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xxxi. 6 The swelling Grain, That yellows o'er Sardinia's Plain. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* v. 560 While the morning light Was yellowing the hill tops. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* v, The vellum is yellowed in these thirteen years. 1885 Meredith *Diana* iv, On that fine spring morning, when..cowslips yellowed the meadow-flats. 1907 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 25 Some modern lenses..become..yellowed by exposure to strong light.

b *spec.* in pin-mannfacture: see quot.

1839 Ure *Dict Arts* etc. 956 *Yellowing or cleaning the pins*, is effected by boiling them for half an hour in sour beer, wine lees, or solution of tartar.

c. *Naut. colloq.* To make a 'yellow admiral' of (see Yellow *a.* 1 e). Also *transf.* to retire (a person).

1747 in Mahan *Types Naval Off.* (1902) 85 'I will not have Hawke "yellowed" ' [was the royal fiat]. 1880 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 171 He..gave a droll description of himself as old and fairly yellowed out of the service. 1867 [see Yellowing *vbl. sb.*[1]].

†**Yellow**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [app. extension of Yell *v.* on the analogy of Bell *v.*[4], Bellow *v.* Cf. Yellock.] *intr.* To yelp; to bellow. Hence **Yellowing** *vbl. sb.*[2] and *ppl. a.*[2]

1600 Shake. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 30 (Qo.) Whilst the babling Eccho mocks the hounds,..Let us sit downe and marke theyr yellowing [*Folios* yelping] noyse. 1609 Marbe tr. *Fonseca's Dev. Contemp.* 244 Roaring and yellowing like so many mad Bulls. 1632 Loveday tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* II. 124 Running about the Camp with horrible yellowings.

Yellow-ammer: see Yellow-hammer.

Ye·llow-belly.

1. A name for a frog.

1825 *Houlston Tracts* I. No. 28. 4 The Frenchman's soupe-maigre and ficasseed yellow-bellies. 18 . *Nursery Rime*, Yellow-belly, yellow-belly, come and have a swim.

b. A native of the fens (in humorous allusion to a frog).

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Yellow Belly*, a native of the Fens of Lincolnshire: an allusion to the eels caught there. 1846 J. Keegan *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 362, I would rather dig my daughter's grave..than see her tied to Lanty Wolfe, or any other yellow belly of the County Wexford. 1847 Halliwell, *Yellow-belly*, a person born in the fens of Lincolnshire. *Linc.*

2. A kind of tortoise, or the tortoiseshell obtained from it.

1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 127 *note*, The Yellow Belly, which plates are very thin and yellow. 1903 *Times* 15 Sept. 11/5 Tortoiseshell,..yellowbelly about 5*s.* dearer.

3. (See quots.)

1850 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* I. ii. 22 I've a mighty puncheon, as the Frenchmen say, to hev a creek at them yeller-bellies. *Feats.* Yellow bellies—a name given by Western hunters and soldiers of the U.S.A. to the Mexicans. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-belly*, a name given..occasionally to half-castes, &c.

4. Name for various fishes having the under parts yellow (see quots.).

1890 *Science* 28 Feb. 141/2 A sole (*Pelotherasphus novæ-zealandiæ*) and a sole-like flounder (*Rhombosoleus leporinus*), commonly known as 'yellow-belly', are also frequently caught. 1896 Jordan & Evermann *Fishes N. Amer.* 1001 *Lepomis Auritus*...Yellow Belly; Redbreast Bream. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng., Yellow-belly.* In New South Wales, the name is given to a fresh-water fish, *Ctenolates auratus*; called also Golden-Perch...In Dunedin especially, and New Zealand generally, it is a large flounder, also called Lemon-Sole [*Ammotretis guntheri*]. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss., Yalla belly*, a young salmon-trout returning from the sea.

Yellow-bird (ye low-b5ɪd). Name for several birds having yellow plumage; now *esp.* the North American goldfinch or thistle-bird, *Chrysomitris* (*Spinus, Carduelis*) *tristis*, and the North American summer warbler (distinctively called *summer yellowbird*), *Dendræca æstiva.*

a 1705 Ray *Syn. Avium* (1713) 80 *Regulus non cristatus Aldrovandi*]. The small Yellow-Bird. 1738 Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 19 The yellow Bird, from Bengall...This Bird was about the bigness of a Fieldfare. 1792 W. Bartram *Trav. N. & S. Carolina* 290 *Parus*] *luteus*; the summer yellow bird. 1860 S. F. Baird, etc. *Birds N. Amer.* 421 *Chrysomitris Tristis.* Yellow Bird; Thistle Bird. 1884 E. P. Roe in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 617/2 The American gold-finch, or yellow-bird. 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 1056 Yellowbird is the North-American Siskin..and perhaps more than one of the *Muscicapidæ*. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 495/2 The summer yellow-bird, which pushes its hardy spring flight beyond the Arctic circle.

Yellow-bottle.

1. [cf. Bluebottle 1, Bottle *sb.*[4]] The marigold (*obs.*); also the corn-marigold (*dial.*).

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 112 *Menelaca*, gall. goundo, anglice yellebotel [*v.r.* yelebothel]. 1847 Halliwell, *Yellow-bottle*, corn marigold. *Kent.*

2. *nonce-use* [after Bluebottle 3]. (See quot.)

1898 Morris *Austral Eng., Korrumburra*, aboriginal name for the common blow-fly, which in Australia is a yellow-bottle, not a blue-bottle.

Ye·llow-boy. *slang.* ? *Obs.* (Also as two words.) A gold coin; a guinea or sovereign.

1662 J. Wilson *Cheats* I. i, Do they cry Chink in thy Pocket?—How many yellow Boyes (Rogue) How many yellow Boyes? 1663 Dryden *Wild Gallant* III. i, If one could see the yellow boyes peeping underneath the brims now. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 189, I have.. in my Pocket brave Yellow-Boys, to pay for a Coat of Arms. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. vi, Yellow-boys to fee counsel, hire witnesses, and bribe juries. 1838 Jas. Grant *Sk. Lond.* 182 If you don't fork out the yellow boys (sovereigns) presently, I'll send a ball through your carcass. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlii, The delight of picking up the money—the bright, shining yellow-boys.

Yellowed (ye·lod), *ppl. a.* [f. Yellow *a.* or *v.*[1] + -ed.] Made yellow.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 108 (Napier 4/2) *Crocata*, þa gexeolewedan. 1844 *Examiner* 307/1 A sun-yellowed river softly flows. 1851 Robertson in S. A. Brooke *Life & Lett.* (1865) II. 73 That peculiar watery shine cast on the yellowed leaves. 1908 R.C. Bayley *Compl. Photogr.* 114 A yellowed lens.

Yellow fever.

1. A highly fatal infectious febrile disease of hot climates, characterized by vomiting, constipation, fatty degeneration of the liver, jaundice, etc.

1748 J. Lining in *Ess. Phys. & Lit.* (1756) II. 370 That fever, which continues two or three days, and terminates without any critical discharge,..and which is soon succeeded with an icteritious colour in the white of the eyes and the skin, vomiting, hæmorrhages, &c...is called in America, the yellow fever. 1758 *Let. to Mayor of*——47 Seamen seized by the yellow Fever in the West Indies. 1805 Southey *Let. to John May* 16 Mar. in *Life* (1849) I. 156 He had had the yellow fever three times, and..still bore strong vestiges of it in his complexion. 1877 F. T. Roberts *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 204 Most authorities hold that true yellow-fever is of the continued type. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* vii. 138 Inoculations by the bites of mosquitoes previously fed on yellow fever patients. 1898 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Oct. 300 When a sufficient altitude is reached, the yellow fever zone is left behind.

2. In various allusive uses, chiefly humorous.

1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 582 After this we got the yellow fever, and the clear buff and silver cinnamon fever. We did not care for a thing except speckless colour. *c* 1896 *Denham Tracts* (1892) I. 336 When the 'Runch' is in bloom the appearance is called 'the Yellow Fever'. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow fever*, a cant term for drunkenness at Greenwich Hospital; the sailors when punished ring a parti coloured coat, in which yellow predominates. 1884 *Illustr. Sydney News* 26 Aug. 5/3 He said I had the yellow fever [*i.e.* for gold], and was to go to the diggings to get cured.

Ye·llow-fish. Name for several fishes with yellow coloration; now *esp.* a species of rock-trout, *Pleurogrammus* (*Hexagrammus*) *monopterygius*, of the coast of Alaska, olive on the back and yellowish below.

1734 Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 317 *Turdus caudæ convexæ.* The Yellow-Fish. *a* 1749 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina*, etc. (1754) II. 10 The Yellow Fish. Some of these Fish were a foot in length: this had small thin scales of a reddish yellow colour. 1776 Pennant *Philos. Brit. Zool.* 944 *Yellow-fish, Labrus fulvus.* 1883 Goode *Fishes* 270 The 'Yellow-fish', 'Gulped Fish', or 'Mackerel', *Pleurogrammus monopterygius.*

Yellow-haired (-hēəd: stress variable), *a.* Having yellow (flaxen, auburn, or golden) hair.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Blond*, yellow haired. 1592 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2569/4 Edmond Barber, aged about 30, Yellow Hair'd. 1721 Ramsay *Content* 208 A tall yellow-hair'd young pensive swain. 1822 Byron *CA. Har.* ii. lxxii, Let the yellow-hair'd Giaours view his horsetail with dread. 1848 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* 156 The Britons are taller than the Gauls, and less yellow-haired. 1887 Hall Caine *Son of Hagar* I. ii, The yellow-haired elderly gentleman with the perpetual smile.

Yellow-ham. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (yellow an-). = next, q.v.

1544 Turner *Avium Præsiq.* F 4, Χλίωρος, luteus sive lutea, Anglicè a yelow ham, a yowlryng. Germanicè gun 1687 C. Beck *Univ. Char.* M 4 b, The yellow-bird. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Yellow an-bird*, the yellow-ammer [Kent].

Ye·llow-ha·mmer, -a·mmer. Forms: 6 yelambre, 7 yelamber, yellow-hamer, 7, 9 *dial.* -amber, 9 -ammer, *dial.* -ommer, -omber, -homber, 6– yellow-hammer. [In the earliest recorded form, *yelambre*, app. representing OE. **geolo-amore* = *geolo* Yellow + *amore* 'scorellus' (unidentified), corresp. to OHG. *amero* (MHG. *amer*, G. *ammer*), of which there are various cognate or derivative forms, viz. OE. *ouer*, *emer*, *emmer*, 'scorellus', OHG. *amerinc*, MHG. *gold(en)emer*, G. *emmerling*, † *emmering*, *emmeritze*, † *embritze* (whence mod.L. *emberiza*), LG. *geelmarken* (dim., with *geel* 'yellow' prefixed). Besides these forms there is a type represented by OE. *clodhamor* (coupled with *feldeware*) 'scorellus', of doubtful formation (? corruption of **goldhamer*) and MHG. *hamere*, *gelthamere* 'amarellus'. The origin and identity of *hamer*, *-ere* are uncertain; but connexion with or assimilation to OE. *-hama*, OHG. *-hamo* covering, skin, feathers (see Hame[1]) seems probable, and the form Yellow-ham, which may go back to an Old type **geolo-hama* the yellow-feathered bird, gives support to the hypothesis.

Both forms *-hammer* and *-ammer* are historically justifiable; Yarrell's proposed rejection of *-hammer* (see *British Birds*, 1843. I. 446) is based on insufficient evidence.

The bird has many local names into which the word; or *gold* enters, viz. Yowling (Yorlin), Yoldring, Yowley, *yellow bunting*, *yellow yite*, *gold spink*, *gold finch*. Cf. (in addition to the —— given above) M.LG. *gelgerste*, *gerste*, Du. *geelgors*, LG. *grigaus*, *-gös*, G. *gelbling*, *gelbammer*, *goldfink*, MHG. *gollhanz*, *gol(d)ammer*, G. dial. *golmer*, Sw. *gulsparf*, dial. *golsplink*, Norw. dial. *gulspitska*, *gulspors*, *gulskur*, Du. *geelgorst*.]

1. A species of bunting, *Emberiza citrinella*, common in Britain and Europe generally, having the head, throat, and under parts of a bright yellow.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 5/2 A yelambre, *luteus*, *vel lutea*. 1587 Harrison *England* III. ii. 203/2 in *Holinshed*, Washtailes, cherlecrackers, yellowhamers, sellasses. 1598 Florio, *Spainarda*, a birde called a yellow hammer, or yowling. 1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 43 The songsters, living on seeds; the Yelamber of Poppies; the Linnet, of flax. 1674 Ray *Coll. Words, Engl. Borrs* 88 The Yellow-hammer, or amber, *Emberiza flava*, Gesn. 1763 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 59 Contents of a pye lately made at Lowther-hall, in Westmoreland,..forty-six yellow-hammers. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 377 Flights of yellow-hammers..enliven the fields. 1825 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxx, These same beggarly croakers, that be only fit to be turned into yellow-hammers...and sit on a tor all day, and cry 'Very little bit of bread, and no chee-e-ese!' 1898 F. C. Gould in *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 2/1 Chaffinches and yellow-ammers give flashes of colour as they pass the glades.

b. *U.S.* The golden-winged woodpecker, *Colaptes auratus.*

Also locally in England, the skylark, the yellow wagtail, and the chaffinch.

1837 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 31 A 'yellow-hammer'; as they called the pigeon-woodpecker. 1874 Baird, Brewer, & Ridgway *N. Amer. Birds* II. 381 This bird [*sc. Colaptes Mexicanus*], in some parts of California, is known as the Yellow-Hammer, a name given in some parts of New England to the *Colaptes auratus.*

† 2. *fig.* Applied in contempt to a person, esp. a jealous husband (cf. Yellow *a.* 2). *Obs.*

1600 Middleton *Blurt, Master-Constable* III. i. D 3 b, Heere's a Yellow-hammer flew to me with thy water, and I cast it, and finde, that his Mistris being given to this newe falling-sicknesse, will cure thee. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* II. i, Bowyer a Captayne? a Capon,..a red beard Sprat, a Yellow-hammer, a bow case. 1620 Middleton & Rowley *Courtly Masque* D 2, Much of the complexion Of high Shrove-Tuesday Batter, yellow-hammer. 1694 ? Rowley *Noble Soldier* II. i, You yellow hammer.

† 3. A gold coin. *Obs. slang.*

1626 Middleton *Mayor Quinb.* II. i, *Sym.*...Now by this light a nest of Yellow Hammers!..He undertake, Sir, you shall have All the skins in our Parish at this price. 1633 Shirley *Bird in a Cage* II. i, Is that he that has gold enough? would I had some of his yellow hammers.

4. A nickname for a charity boy in yellow breeches.

1861 *City Press* May, In Wornall's school, founded in 1689, for poor boys born in Cripplegate, the coat is still red; the orange breeches, shoes, and hose of orange, which secured the boys the *sobriquet* of 'yellow hammers' have been discontinued.

Ye·llowing, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Yellow *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of imparting a yellow colour.

1612 Cotgr., *Jaunissure*, ...a yellowing, or making yellow. 1622 T. Stoughton *Chr. Sacrif.* xii. 166 Thrift...is pleaded for this yellowing of linnen as the which being so yellowed needeth not so much washing. 1838 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Yellowing*, a manufacturing term for cleaning pins. 1849 A. Smith in *Macm. Mag.* I. 125 The slow yellowing of wheaten plains. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Yellowing*, the passing over of captains at a flag promotion. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photog.* XLI. 25 There would be no yellowing if the paper was good.

So **Ye·llowing** *ppl. a.*

1757 Dyer *Fleece* IV. 376 The op'ning vallies, and the yellowing plains. 1840 Browning *Sordello* I. 452 The noisy flock of thievish birds at work Among the yellowing vineyards. 1842 Tennyson *Launcelot & Guinev.* ii, In curves the yellowing river ran. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Painting* 208 The yellowing tendency of oils on blue. 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* viii, The old piano with the yellowing keys.

Yellowing *vbl. sb.*[2]: see Yellow *v.*[2]

Yellowish (ye·lŏuiʃ), *a.* Forms: see Yellow *a.* [f. Yellow *a.* + -ish[1].] Somewhat yellow; of a colour inclining or approaching to yellow; having a tinge of yellow.

1379 *Gloue. Cath. MS. 19* No. I. f. lv. lf. 11 It ys evirmare whityssh or 3olowysh. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiii. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Nowe he [*sc.* the sea] is whitissche and 3elowissche now white & clere. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 184 The Badgerd whelpes haue theyr nose, their throte and their eares yellowyshe. 1620 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xii. 111 Linseede oyle will turne yeallowish. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 188 Yellowish monkey with a black face. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., His clean silk stockings, washed till their tint had become yellowish. 1884 A. Lang in *Century Mag.* Jan. 323/1 The London houses of dirty, yellowish brick.

b. Qualifying adjs. or sbs. of colour.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 68 They paint their nailes with a yellowish red. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2411/4 A yellowish bay Stone-horse. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 499 The yellowish-grey Fringilla. 1826 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IX. II. 310 Yellowish-green Gros-beak. 1843 Portlock *Geol.* 214 Mlemite of a rich yellowish-green. 1888 *Garden* 12 Aug. 145/3 Lovely yellow or yellowish scarlet tints.

c. *Comb.*

1693 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 238 A yellowish coloured fat Earth. 1705 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Goose*, A goose ..if yellowish footed and bill'd, [is] young. 1840 G. V. Ellis *Anat.* 41 A thin, yellowish-looking band.

Hence † **Ye·llowish** *v.*, to turn yellowish; **Ye·llowishness**, yellowish colour or tinge.

1590 Barrough *Meth. Phisick* III. xxvi. (1639) 146 His tongue is *yellowished. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* lxxiii, An uryne that is yelow lyke the *yelowyshenes of an horne of a lanterne that is bryght. 1657 W. Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 196 A certain dark and obscure yellowishness [in a picture]. 1663 Boyle *Exp. Hist. Colours* III. xxviii, Bruis'd Madder..being drench'd with the like Alcalizate Solution, exchang'd..its Yellowishness for a Redness.

Yellowly (ye·lŏuli), *adv. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ly[2].] With a yellow colour or light.

1612 Cotgr., *Jaulnement*, yellowly. 1796 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* I. 404 Whether thy fair locks Yellowly curl in the clouds of the morning, or red in the West wave Quivering dip. 1833 Tennyson *Hesperides* iv, When the full-faced sunset yellowly Stays on the flowering arch of the bough. 1886 Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* xiii, The evening sun seemed to shine more yellowly.

Yellowness (ye·lŏunės). Forms: see Yellow *a.* [f. as prec. + -ness.]

1. The quality or state of being yellow; yellow colour.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. vi. (Bodl MS.), Aristotel seith 3elowne3 of y3en is meuynge of feblenes. *a* 1400 Chaucer *Purse* 12 That I...may..see your colour lyke the sonne bryght That of yelownesse hadde neuere pere. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 548 3elhewnesse, *glaucedo*. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3887 Adieu, my lady, with heres yowlownesse! *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. Wks. 1724 II. 739 A dark yellowness dying his Skin. 1663 Dryden *Rival Ladies* III. i, Like the Sun (ev'n while Eclips'd) she casts A Yellowness upon all other Faces. 1765 Delaval in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 27 *note m*, The Hyacinth is a stone...which is red with a certain yellowness. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* viii. Doctors will tell you that the drinking of milk gives yellowness to the complexion. 1889 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 30 Nov 760/2 There is a solidity and yellowness about Jupiter's light.

† 2. *fig.* Jealousy: see Yellow *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 111, I will incense Ford to deale with poyson: I will possesse him with yellownesse. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. 1 ii. (1651) 606 The undiscreet carriage of some..gallant...may..if he be inclined to yellowness, colour him quite.

Yellowplush. Plush of a yellow colour, as worn by footmen; hence *transf.* as a humorous appellation for a footman.

[1837 Thackeray (*title*) The Yellowplush Correspondence.] 1841 — *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* ii, A great powdered fellow in yellowplush breeches. 1842 *Punch* III. 133 He fetched the dishes, drew the corks and performed all the duties of His Majesty's yellowplush.

Yellow-rattle: see Rattle *sb.*[1] 3 a.

Ye·llow-root. (Also as two words.) Name for two N. American ranunculaceous plants, the one a herb, *Hydrastis canadensis*, of Canada and Northern U.S. (*Canadian yellow-root, goldenseal*, or *yellow puccoon*), the other a sub-shrub, *Xanthorrhiza apiifolia*, of Southern U.S. (*shrub yellow-root*), or for their roots, which yield yellow dyes, and are used in medicine as tonics.

1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 Yellow root, *Hydrastis canadensis*. 1814 Pursh *Plants N. Amer.* Ind. 712 Yellow Root, *Zanthorrhiza*. 1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* 13 *Xanthorhiza*. Shrub Yellow-root. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 603 Yellow Puccoon, Orange root, or Canadian Yellow root. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 781 Yellow Root is an article of the United States Pharmacopœia.

Yellows (ye·lŏuz). [Plural of Yellow *sb.*, used in specific senses.]

I. 1. Jaundice, chiefly in horses and cattle.

1581 *Norwich Depos.* (1905) 65 The horse had a disease running through him which was called the yellows. 1588 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 454/1 *Argnatus*,..that hath the yellowes, or the launders. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 54 His horse..raied with the Yellowes. 1607 *Merry Devil Edmonton* v. ii. 16 If I doe not indite him at the next assisses for Burglary, let me die of the yellowes. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 147 For a Horse that is troubled with the Yellowes, you shall first let him bloud. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 220 This is apt to gripe them, and bring on the Yellows. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Linc.* 377 They lose many lambs of the yellows, from August to the middle of September. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 1133 The Yellows, which is a disease to which cows are very subject. 1871 Napheys *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. ix. 995 Jaundice is also known under the name of the yellows.

† 2. *fig.* Jealousy: see Yellow *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1601 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo.) V. i, You haue a spice of the yealous yet both of you, (in your hose I meane). 1638 Ford *Fancies* II. ii, *Troy*. Yet is this Batchelor miracle not free From the epidemical head-ach. *Liv.* The Yellowes. *Troy.* Huge jealous fits. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* Fij, Alwayes frolick, free from yellows.

3. a. A disease of wheat: see quots. 1771, 1815.

b. A disease of peach-trees, in which many sterile shoots are produced and the leaves turn yellow (= *peach-yellows*: see Peach *sb.*[1] 6).

1772 Gullet in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 350 What the farmers call the yellows in wheat,..occasioned by a small yellow fly with blue wings, about the size of a gnat. 1823 *Farmer's Mag.* 385 The yellows in wheat is a small grub that eats the corn out of the ear before it is ripe. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* I. 111 'Fore they think on 't they will sprout (Like a peach thet's got the yellers), With the meanness bustin' out. 1897 L. H. Bailey *Fruit-growing* 45 In New York the failure [of peach-growing] is often attributed to yellows.

II. 4. Name for certain plants yielding a yellow dye, as *Genista tinctoria* and *Reseda Luteola*; also *dial.* for certain plants with yellow flowers, as the wild mustard, *Sinapis arvensis*, and the wild cabbage, *Brassica campestris*.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxiii. v. II. 471 An hearb called likewise Lutea, *marg.*, Some take it to be weld or yellows. 1638 Ford *Fancies* v. ii, Burnish my forehead with the juyce of yellowes. 1790 W. Marshall *Rural Econ. Midl. Co.* (1796) II. Gloss. (E.D.S.), Yellows, dyers' broom.

5. A miner's term for yellow copper ore occurring in tin mines.

1839 R. Hunt *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 122 Several tin mines were abandoned when the miners came to the 'yellows'; this was the yellow copper ore, and their saying was that the 'yellows cut out the tin'.

Yellowtail (ye·lŏutēl), *sb.* (*a.*) A name (or epithet = *yellow-tailed*) for various animals with yellow tails or yellow coloration on the tail.

† 1. A kind of earthworm: cf. Gilt-tail. *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 307 Othersome againe are yellow onely about the tayle: Whereuppon they haue purchased the name of Yellow-tayles. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 210/2 The Ascarides, or lesser Earth-worm,..Some are yellow, called Yellow-Tails, or Golden Tails.

2. Name for various fishes, chiefly of N. America, Australia, and New Zealand, as various species of *Seriola, Caranx*, and *Latris*, and many others.

1709 *Dampier's Voy.* III. ii. 143 The Sea and Rivers [New Guinea] have plenty of Fish;..we catch'd but few, and these were Cavallies, Yellow-tails and Whip-rays. 1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 Yellow tail, (*a*) *Perca punctata*. (*b*) *Scomber*. 1838 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 370/2 *S[cicena] Xanthurus*]..Yellow-tailed Smooth-mouth. .. Found on the Carolina coast, where it is called the Yellow-tail. 1847 J. C. Ross *Voy. Antarctic Reg.* II. 117 A kind of mackarel, called yellow tail, and sometimes cavallo. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Yellow-tail*, a well-known tropical fish often in company with whip-rays; it is about 4 feet long, with a great head, large eyes, and many fins. *Leiostomus*. 1875 Mellish *St. Helena* 106 *Scriola lalandii*, ..The Yellow Tail of St. Helena is obtained also in the Atlantic, at Japan and Australia. 1888 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Fish* (1892) xvi. 45 The yellow-tail rockfish (*Sebastichthys flavidus*). 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 99 The 'Sailor's chrysurus, known as 'Silver Perch' on the coast of New Jersey. *Ibid.* 386 In North Carolina..the names 'Yellow-tail' and 'Yellow-tail Shad' [for the Menhaden] are occasionally heard. 1897 Beatrice Harraden in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 179 The yellow-tail is rather like a solid beefsteak of coarse fibre. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.*

3. (Also *yellow-tail warbler.*) The female or young male of the American Redstart.

1775 Dalrymple in *Phil. Trans.* (1779) LXVIII. 410 Many yellow tails. 1785 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 406 Yellow tail Warbler. With an ash-colored crown:..Takes ..off Hispaniola, at sea.

4. Collectors' name for a species of moth, also called *gold-tail* (see Gold[1] 10).

1749 E. Wilmer *Eng. Moths*, etc. 28 The Yellow-tail Moth ..may be found sticking against the Barks of the Trees in Parks. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* ii. (1818) I. 30 The yellow-tail moth (*Bombyx chrysorrhœa*, F.).

Yellow-wood (ye·lŏuwud). Name for various trees and shrubs having yellow wood, or for the wood of any of these.

Some furnish yellow dyes, as *Maclura tinctoria* (Fustic) of the W. Indies and S. America, and the N. American *M. aurantiaca* (Osage Orange), *Cladrastis tinctoria* (American or Kentucky Y.), and *Xanthorrhiza apiifolia* (Shrub Yellow-root); others are used for ornamental purposes, as species of *Flindersia* (White Teak) of Queensland and *Rhus rhodanthema* of New South Wales (both called Light Y.), *Podocarpus Thunbergii* (Cape Y.) of S. Africa, and *Chloroxylon Swietenia* (Satin-wood) of the E. Indies; others as timber or for other —, as *Schaefferia frutescens* of Florida, *Podocarpus elongata* (Natal Y.) and *P. prunoides* (Bastard Y.) of S. Africa, *P. latifolia* of the E. Indies, and *Xanthoxylon Clava-Herculis* and other species (Prickly Y.) of the W. Indies.

1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribbee Isles* 43 The Island of S. Croix is the most famous of all the Islands for its abundance in rare and precious Trees. There is one very much esteem'd for its usefulness in Dying: It is called the Yellow-wood from its colour. 1756 *Petiveriana* I. 243 Prickley Yellow wood. 1758 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 465 1lk cwt. brown Brisiell wood, sweet wood, yellow wood or fustic 8d. 1812 Brackenridge *Views Louisiana* (1814) 59 One very beautiful [forest tree], *bois jaune*, or yellow wood: by some called the mock orange. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 122 Oxleya xanthoxyla, a large tree, is the Yellow-wood of New South Wales. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vi. 219 A tree greatly resembling the cedar in its external aspect, ..termed .. geelhout, or yellow-wood (*taxus elongata*). 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 199 Yellow wood (*Cladrastis tinctoria*) is a western tree. 1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 527 *Fustic*, or *Yellow Wood*. The old fustic of the English dyer. It is the wood of the *Morus tinctoria*. 1888 E. E. Money *Dutch Maiden* 238 The tree, a huge yellow-wood, stood at the edge of the bush.

Yellowy (ye·lŏui), *a.* [f. Yellow *a.* + -y[1] 2.] Having a yellow tinge; yellowish.

1667 E. King in *Phil. Trans.* II. 426 The head, with two little yellowy specks where the Eyes are design'd. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* II. ii, A little kerchief of cobweb muslin and ancient yellowy lace. 1883 J. Parker *Tyne Chylde* 107 They took their tumblers and looked at each other across the yellowy foam.

Yelm (yelm), *sb.* Now *dial.* [OE. *gielm, gelm, gilm, gylm.*] In OE., a handful, bundle, sheaf, as of reaped corn; in mod. *dial.* use, a bundle of straw laid straight for thatching (see Yelm *v.*): = Helm *sb.*[3] 1.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxvii. 7 Eowre gilmas stodon ymbutan and abuzon to minum sceafe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 120 Genim grene mintan 3emne 3elm. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* *Eng.* ..and lay it upon little yelmes, or two or three handfuls together till it be dry. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Yelm, s.*[1] a portion of straw laid for that purpose [*viz.* thatching]; or as much as can be conveniently carried under the arm for any purpose. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 124 [The thatcher] is attended by a man to carry up the 'yelms'.

Yelm (yelm), *v. dial.* Also 6 yellm, 8 yealm, 9 yalm, yolm. [f. prec.] *trans.* and *intr.* To separate and select straw and lay it in order for thatching: = Helm *v.*[3] Hence **Ye·lming** *vbl. sb.*, the action of the verb; also *concr.* = prec.

1582 *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* (1888) Apr. 172 For a yellmyng of straw xij[d]. 1589 in H. Hall *Soc. Elis. Age* (1886) 203 A woman 'yelming' 14 days, v[s.] 6[d]. 1601 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 67 Pd for strawe, v*s.* Pd for yelmyng, x*d.* Pd to the thatcher and fixer, iiij*s.* ij*d.* 1689 *Ibid.* 72 Pd to Gryces wife for yelming strawe for her house, xvij*d.* 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xvii. 79 Thatching per square, yelming and serving included, 2*s.* 6*d.* 1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc* XI. ii. 400 Cornes's new chaff cutter dispenses with the women yelming. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 124 Two or three women are busy yelming, *i.e.* separating the straw, selecting the largest, and laying it level and parallel, damping it with water, and preparing it for the yokes. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Yolm* or *Yalm*..(Stow-on-Wold).

Hence **Ye·lmer**, one who lays out yelms.

1808 Batchelor *Agric. Bedford* 109 These [two men], together with the four yelmers and servers, cost about 20*s.* per day.

Yelow, 3elow, etc., obs. ff. Yellow.

Yelowse, obs. form of Jealous.

14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb. MS.) 802 Thou woldest be so yelowse And of me so amerowse.

Yelp (yelp), *sb.* Forms: 1 gielp, gelp, gilp, gylp, 2–6 yelp(e, (3 3ealp, 3elp, 3eolp, *Orm.* 3ellp), 5– yelp. [OE. *gielp*, etc. vainglory, pride = OS. *gelp* defiant or arrogant speech, OHG., MHG. *gelph, gelf* loud crying, outcry, cheerfulness, exuberance, ON. *gjalp* ? boasting, noise of the sea: see next.]

I. † 1. Boasting, vainglorious speaking. *Idle yelp*, vain boasting. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2321 Gif ic wiste hu wið ðam aglæcean elles meahte gylpe wiðgripan. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xix. § 1 Hwæt forstent eow þonne se gilp? *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xvii. (1890) 206 Næfde he on him næðer ne yrre ne oferhyd ne zytsunge, ne idel zylp him on ne ricsade. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 220 Se seofoða heafod-leahter is 3ehaten idel-wuldor, þæt is zylp. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 (He) deð for 3elpe mare þenne for godes luue 3if he swinst delan wule. *c* 1200 Orrm 4902 Þiss mahhte..cwennkeþþ i þin herrte All rosinng & all idell 3ellp. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 865 Ha beoð ful of idel 3elp. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9836 Of gret los might he make his 3elpe. *a* 1400–*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 321 Without any 3elp, At my myght shall I help. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 1760 Off her goddis myst made thei 3elp.

† b. An object of boasting. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Cast. Love* 1364 Þis is vre child and vre help, Vre strengþe and vre 3elp.

II. 2. A cry characteristic of dogs and some other animals, resembling a bark but distinguished from it by being sharp and shrill.

1560-80 Dunbar *Poems* xxxii. 19 He [*sc.* a tod] braisit hir [*sc.* a lamb's] bony body sweit,..Syne schuk his taill, with quhinge and 3elp. 1582 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* i. iii, This laithlie fiude..In quhome the fiech 3elland as eliuis schoutit, [Thair 3elpis wilde my heiring all fordeifit. *a* 1667 Middleton *Witch* iii. iii, No howles of woolves, no yelpes of hounds. 1681 Crowne *Hen. VI*, i. ii. 14, I..hear the Howles of Wolves, and Yelpes of Foxes. 1682 Flavel *Fear* 1 Some are as timorous as hares and start at every sound or yelp of a dog. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* ix. xviii, The dogs, with eager yelp, Are struggling to be free. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Mar., After hearing a yelp here, and a howl there, tow, row, yow, yow, yow! bursts out. 1848 'F. Forester' *Field Sports* II. 325 A sort of pipe or call by which the cry or yelp, as it is termed, of the female [*sc.* the wild turkey-hen] may be simulated. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 45 The dog With inward yelp and restless forefoot plies His function of the woodland. 1886 J. K. Jerome *Idle Thoughts* 129 The watch-dog..wakes with a yelp of gladness to greet a caressing hand.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 89 If slavery be thus fatally contagious, how is it that we hear the loudest yelps for liberty among the drivers of negroes? 1845 Croker *Fairy Leg. Irel.* i. 48 The whinge, and the yelp, and the screech, and the yowl, was never out of his mouth. 1866 Ballantyne *Shifting Winds* xxiv, The [engine] driver vented his impatience..by causing the whistle to give three sharp yelps. 1888 Runciman *Skippers & Shellbacks* 241 The yelp of a Norwegian seaman who was hauling on a rope.

c. The syllable *yelp* used imitatively.

1831-4 R. S. Surtees *Jorrocks's Jaunts* i. (1838) 10 'Yelp, yelp, yelp,' how! the hounds. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 299 Yelp! yelp! yelp! passed from mouth to mouth. There was a sudden dispersal.

Yelp (yelp), *v.* Forms: 1 gielpan, 3elpan, 3ilpan, 3ylpan, 2-5 3elpe, 4-7 yelpe, (3 3ælpe, 3eolp, 3eilp, 3ulp, *Orm.* 3ellpenn, 4 3ilpe, 5 yilp, 7 yealp), 3- yelp. *Pa. t.* 1 3ealp, *pl.* 3ulpon, 3 3(e)alp, yelp, *pl.* 3ulpe, 4 yalp; 4 3olped, 6 yalpid, *Sc.* 3elpit, 4-yelped. *Pa. pple.* 1 3olpen, 4 y-yolpe; 4- yelped. [OE. *gielpan*, etc., = MHG. *gelfen* :— **galpjan*, f. root represented by OS. *galpôn* to cry aloud, boast, LG. *galpen* to cronk, MG. *galpen* to bark, yelp, MHG. *galf*, MG. *galp* loud cry, barking, Sw. dial. *galpa* to cry (of certain birds). Cf. Galp, Gaup, *yalp*, Yawp.]

I. †1. *intr.* To boast, speak vaingloriously. Const. *of* (= OE. gen.). *Obs.*

Beowulf 2383 Hreðsigora ne 3ealp goldwine 3eata. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xiv. § 1 Ʒif þu 3ilpan wille, 3ilp Godes. *a* 1000 *Daniel* 714 Ða wearð blidemod burga aldor, 3ealp 3ramlice 3ode on andan. *c* 1200 Ormin 2042 Þuss mihhte 3ho full modi3liȝ Off hire sinne 3ellpenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 128 [Heo] gelstreð, ase þe uox deð, & 3elpeð of hore god. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1209 Þu 3eolpest of scolliche wisdome, þu nustest wanene he þe come. 1340 *Ayenb.* 208 Þe fariseu þet yelp ine his benes and onworhede þane pubblycan. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 694 Ne schaltou by þat tyme nobyng 3ilpe of þy doynge here. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Kn.'s T.* 1380, I kepe noght of armes for to yelpe, Ne I ne axe nat to-morwe to have victorie. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2865 In *Macro Plays* 162 Sum bote of bale þou me brewe, þat I may of þee 3elpe.

†b. *refl.* in same sense. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 79 Huanne hi ham yelpeþ oþer hi ham prodeb. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 97 He hath trewly supposed That he him may of nothing yelpe, Bot if [etc.].

†c. Const. clause. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xiv. § 1 Hwæðer þu dyrre 3ilpan þæt hiora fæȝernes þin sie? *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xvi. (1883) 99 Þa wende he þæt hit godes 3ecen wære; and se deofles man 3ealp þæt he eac swa wære. *c* 1205 Lay. 26835 Þu 3ulpe biforen þan kaisere þat þu me woldest a-quellen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 971 Ac 3et þu 3elpst of þine songe þat þu canst 3olle wiȝe & stronge. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 330 in *O. E. Misc.* 46 He yelp to-vore vs alle þat he is vre king. *c* 1400 *Death of Robin Lyth* 82 in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1877) 74 Now xalt thu never yelpe, Wrennok, At ale ne at wyn, That thu hast slawe goode Robyn. *c* 1420 *Chron.*

II. †2. To lift up one's voice; to cry aloud; to sing loud or on a high note. *Obs.*

Cf. the OE. sense (with gen.) 'to applaud, praise'.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4697 Gude fadir,..To þe we crye and 3elpe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 422 Brek oute youre voce, let se as ye yelp. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The lyntquhit sang cuntirpoint quhen the ossil 3elpit.

†b. *trans.* To call out, utter. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13320 And he myȝt not him self helpe; His sorwe coude he to no man yelpe.

3. *intr.* To utter a yelp or yelps: said of dogs and related animals, and certain birds (see quots.).

1553 M. Wood tr. *Gardiner's True Obed.* To Rdr. A v, A rash bethlem brained hound,..rushing he careth not which wai, so he be yelpyng. 1593 Peele *Hon. Garter* C 3 b, Enuy will bite, or snarle and barke at least, As dogs against the Moone that yelpe in vayne. 1596 W. Smith *Chloris* xiii, A lust-led Satyre hauing hir in chace Which after hir, about the fields did yelpe. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 134/2 A Dog Barketh, & Baugheth, being smitten Yelpeth. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 32 Oft does he make the pour Tars yelp and run about, like Dogs in a Church, under the Correction of a Sexton. 1708 Dunham in *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 124 April 1, the Lynx first yelped here. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 149 ¶ 5 Compassion once obliged me to..chide off a dog that yelped at his heels. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1879) 135 The jaguar, when wandering about at night, is much tormented by the foxes yelping as they follow him. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vii. 196 Let the wild Lean-headed Eagles yelp alone. 1848 in 'F. Forester' *Field Sports* II. 326 The gobblers continued yelping in answer to the female, which all this time remained on the fence. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii. xi, A scholastic huntsman glad for the field, with his fresh pack yelping and barking around him. 1879 J. Burroughs *Locusts & Wild H.* (1884) 56 [The fledgling] left the nest and clung to the..tree, and yelped and [illegible] for an hour.

fig. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphred.* G iv b, To V[illegible] well he hies whose wante of bloud doth yelpe. 1885 Tennyson *Balin & Balan* 314 That chain'd rage, which ever yelpt within.

4. *fig.* To complain, whine.

1708 Hearne *Collect.* 16 Sept. (O.H.S.) I. 288 'Twill make ye Whig Pamphlettiers yelp. 1792 Alex. Wilson *Watty & Meg* x, Night and day she's ever yelpin, Wi' the weans she ne'er can gree. 1801 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) III. 469 The nominations have accordingly furnished something to yelp on. 1882 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* II. xx. 167, I might, if I pleased, yelp and cry for my lord and his precious friend, Sir Miles Lackington.

5. *trans.* a. To utter with a loud cry; to express by yelping or in a yelping tone.

a 1684 W. Price in C. Wase *Gratius' Cyneget.* Illustr. 70 There lurks the pride o' th' woods, the Lyon fell, At whose decease our troops [of hounds] shall yelpe a knell. *a* 1704 T. Brown tr. *Prestey's Amusem.* iii. (1709) 17 Another Son of a Whore yelps [*ed.* 1700 yells] louder than Homer's Stentor, Two a groat, and Four for Six-pence Mackerel. 1828 *Examiner* 98/1 Lord Ellenborough 'gave tongue' on Monday, and yelped an explanation most melodiously. 1865 Parkman *Champlain* x. (1875) 311 On their arrival, they..yelped consternation at the sharp explosion of the arquebuse.

b. To bring into some condition by yelping.

1711 Budgell *Spect.* No. 116 ¶ 6 A raw Dog..might have yelped his Heart out, without being taken notice of.

Yelper (ye·lpəɹ). [f. Yelp *v.* + -er 1.]

†1. A boaster. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 22 Þe yelpere is þe cockou þet ne kan naȝt zinge bote of him-zelue.

2. An animal that yelps or gives a sharp shrill cry; also, a person who 'yelps', etc.

a. A dog that yelps, a whelp. b. The avocet. *local.* c. A young partridge. d. A redshank. e. A 'call' used by sportsmen to imitate the 'yelp' of the wild turkey-hen. f. *slang.* A town-crier. g. *slang.* A wild beast.

[illegible] 1825 [implied in 3]. 1847 Halliwell, *Yelper*, a [illegible] a whelp. 1850 Dobell *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. 41 But let one miscreant yelper howl, and mark How all the pack gives tongue. 1886 H. F. Lester *Under Two Fig Trees* ii, I was strolling..through the establishment [*sc.* a dog's home], looking into one cage of yelpers after another. b. 1770 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* IV. 69 [Avosettas] are found in considerable numbers during the breeding season, near Fosadyke Wash, in Lincolnshire, called there Yelpers. *c* 1818 *Britton's Lincolnshire* 725. c. 1820 W. B. Daniel *Rur. Sports* II. 518 Vos teneri *Yelperi*, vos grandævique parentes. d. 1832 D. Jordan *Within an Hour of London T.* ix, The 'cussed' redshank or pool-snipe was dubbed the red-legged [illegible] *Water-Birds* 196 The yelper has a strong, rapid, and often irregular flight and a loud cry. e. 1884 *Sport with Gun and Rod* II. 762 We now take our yelper, and give a few sharp yelps; he [*sc.* a wild turkey] hears the call. f. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Yelper*, a Town-Cryer; also, one subject to complain. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* 197 *Yelper*, a town-crier. Also, a discontented cove, who is forward to complain of his woes, and the imaginary evils of life. g. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T., Yelpers*, wild beasts.

3. Applied contemptuously to a speaker or writer, whose utterance is compared to a dog's yelp.

1673 S. Parker *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 268 He will never take any notice of such a despicable yelper as you, unless with a Dog-whip. 1703 T. Baker *Tunbridge Walks* III. 31 Now shall I be ask'd, a thousand more Whimsical Cross Questions, than a Bashful Witness, by an Impudent Yelper at the Old-Bayley. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 61 When they reflect on thy strength, and think of their own petty yelpers. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 467 A pretty pack of yelpers they are, to be sure, that the Whigs *hound* at the Chancellor. 1827 Scott *Diary* 10 Aug. in *Lockhart*, In the house of commons he [*sc.* Canning] was the terror of that species of orators called the Yelpers. 1873 J. Greenwood *In Strange Company* 282 The other merciless howlers and yelpers.

Yelping (ye·lpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yelp *v.* + -ing 1.]

†1. Boasting, proud or pompous talk. *Obs.*

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xliii. (1889) 144 *Pro tola inani* ȝ for ylfre idelre ylpincge. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 12 Ne haue þu þines drihtenes nome in nane sða ne.. in nane idel 3elpunge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 A derne 3elpunge & huntinge efter hereword of more holinesse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4266 Quintylian..ansuerede..þat bote 3elpinge [*v.r.* 3ulpynge] & bost mid brutons nobing nas. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 492 He 3erned 3elpyng to here. 1340 *Ayenb.* 59 In þise boye byeþ vif leaues, þet byeþ vif maneres of yelpinges. *c* 1400 T. Chester *Launfal* 762 Why madest thou swyche yelpyng? That thy lemmannes lodlokest mayde Was fayrer than my wyf, thou seyde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 3elpynge, or boostynge, *jactancia*.

2. The utterance of a sharp shrill cry. a. Of dogs or birds.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 881 The timorous yelping of the hounds. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* vii. ix, The poor little animal, forgotten by its mistress,..was now discovered by its yelping. 1829-30 Colquhoun *Friend* (1837) II. i. 24 Like children we ran away from the yelping of a cur. 1847 *Bewick's Brit. Birds* I. 7 [Eagles] often soar out of the reach of human sight: and notwithstanding the immense distance, their cry is still heard, and then resembles the yelping of a dog. 1868 Bates *Nat. Amazons* ii. (1864) 33 We often heard the shrill yelping of the toucans.

b. Of persons. Also *fig.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* ix. 393 A with such yelping, howling, shouting, and clapping of hands [etc.]. 1834 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* (1880) II. 376 The yelping against Prince Albert is a mere way of filling up the time. 1894 *Forum* (N. Y.) Aug. 643 The incessant snarling and yelping of demagogues at capitalists.

Yelping (ye·lpiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Yelp *v.* + -ing 2.] That yelps; given to or characterized by yelping.

1592 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, iv. ii. 47 A little Heard of Englands timorous Deere, Mas'd with a yelping kennell of French Curres. 1603 — *Tit. A.* ii. iii. 20 Let vs sit downe, and marke their [*sc.* the hounds'] yelping (*Qq.* 3 ellowing] noyse. 1664 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 228 A little yealping Dogg. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* iv. i, The Tradesmen..began to surround Lewis like so many yelping curs about a great boar. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Rip van Winkle* 35 At the least flourish of a broomstick or ladle, he would fly to the door with yelping precipitation. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* ii, Kit m..a crouching cur to those that feed and coax him, and a barking yelping dog to all besides. 1848 in 'F. Forester' *Field Sports* II. 326, I heard the yelping notes of some gobblers. 1906 Alice Werner *Natives Brit. Central Africa* viii. 188 The miserable, yelping mongrels which infest the villages.

transf. and *fig.* 1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman Hater* i ii, The very comfort of whose presence shuts The monster hunger from your yelping guts. 1607 Lever *Crucifixe* xx, And like the hunted deere. Of our loud yelping sinnes, we stand in feere. 1787 Hawkins *Life of Johnson* 100 The deep-mouthed rancour of Pulteney, and the yelping pertinacity of Pitt. 1871 B'ness Burdett in Hare *Life* (1879) II. viii. 416 The yelping, barking crowds in Trafalgar Square.

Yelpingal: see Yaffingale.

Yelt (yelt). *dial.* Forms: 1 gilte, 5 yelte, 7 yealte, (8 ilt, 8-9 elt, 9 hilt), 6- yelt. [late OE. *gilte*, **gielte* = MLG. *gelte* spayed sow :— **galtjôn-*: see Galt, Gilt *sb.*2] A young sow.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 119/25 *Suilla, uel sucula*, gilte. 14.. *Voc.* ibid. 614/30 *Sullus, i. parua sus*, a yelte. 1562 Withals *Dict.* 17 b/1 A yelt or yonge sow, [illegible] D.S.) 409 Es must ha' wone that es can treat.. to mr tha lit and tha Barra. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* s.v. *Elt*, Elt, or lit, is also a spayed sow. Exm. 1903 *E. Anglf. Daily Times* 24 Aug. 3/7 Some grand young Boars and Yelts for sale at moderate prices.

Yelt(e, 3elt(e: see Yield *v.*

Yelting (ye·ltiŋ). A name for fishes of the genus *Lutianus*.

1873 T. Gill *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 28 *Lutjanus caxis*. .. Yelting, glass-eyed snapper. 1896 Goode *Fishes of Bermudas* 55.

Yelu, etc., obs. ff. Yellow.

Yelve (yelv), *sb. dial.* Also 7 yelf, 9 yilve. [Metathetic f. ME. *yevel* :— OE. *geafel* fork, more directly represented by dial. *yevril*, Evil *sb.*3, in use along the Celtic border from Cheshire to Cornwall] A dung- or garden-fork. Hence **Yelve** *v.*, to use a yelve.

[*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 430 Hi..hine ufan mid isenum geafium ðydon. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 241/36 *Forcelle*, 3æfle, *dicitur quod frumenta colluntur, i. commouentur*. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 263 He sceal fela tola..habban ..berwan, besman, race, 3eafle. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxx[ii]. (Tollem. MS.), Hey..is houe, turnid and wendis with pikes, 3eueles [*ed.* 1495 forkees] and rakes.] 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 173/2 Yelf or Yelve, an Iron with three fork ends, by which Dung is taken from the Beast, and the house made clean. *Ibid.* III. 337/1 A Yelve Iron with two Ends. *Ibid.*, With the same Forke or Yelve, (or Evill, as some call it). 1817 Wilbraham *Gloss. Cheshire* (1818) 32 *Yelve*, to dig chiefly with the yelve. 1841 Hartshorne *Salopia Antiqua* 622 *Yilve*, a dung fork, an *evil*, as we more commonly call it. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk., Yelve*..a garden-fork. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Yelve*, a potato fork... *Yelve*, *v.* to dig, chiefly with the yelve.

Yelvean, early variant of Elvan.

a 1708 Lhwyd in Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I. 1. 201 A sort of Yelvean Stone, and Earth, mixed together, down to the Load. [Cf. *ibid.* 208 A dun Stone which the Miners call Elvean Stone.]

Yelver, obs. form of Elver.

1653 Walton *Angler* xiii. (1661) 189 In Severn, (where they [*sc.* young eels] are call'd Yelvers).

3elwe, 3elwe, etc., obs. ff. Yellow.

Yelyng, variant of Yiling *Obs.*

Yem: see Eme, Yeme.

Yeman, obs. form of Yeoman.

†**Yeme**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 gieme, 3yme, 2-5 3eme, 3-5 yeme, 4 yem, 3eeme, 5 yeeme, eme. [OE. *gieme* fem. (also *gieman*), f. OTeut. *gaum-*: see next. Cf. OS. *gôma* fem., attention, entertaining, feast, banquet, OHG. *gouma* (MHG. *goume*) fem., observation, feasting. opulence, ON. *gaumr* masc., *gaum* fem., care (see Gome 2).] Care, heed, attention. *In yeme*, in one's care, in charge.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. xix. 134 Hie þæs wealles nane 3ieman ne dydon. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* v. 44 Ʒif we honne habbað swa micle sorge & swa micle 3ieman ura selfra. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 He is iset to þon þet he scal ouerscawian mid his 3eme þa lawedan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Wiðuten 3eme of beorte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7015 (Cott.) Tene yeir had he þe folk in yeme [*other MSS.* to 3eme].

b. In ME. almost always in phr. *to nim* or *take yeme*: to take note, notice, observe; to give heed, attend; to heed, care; to take heed, take care, be careful (corresponding to various senses of Yeme *v.*).

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Nimað 3eme an..hwilche life he us

ȝefeð. *Ibid.* 75 Nemeð nu ȝeme þerto, and ic ou wile seggen word efter word. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 77 Þe þeuenliche leche seinte poul nimeð ȝeme of ure saule sicknesse. *Ancr. R.* 78 Nimeð ȝeme hu wel he seiþ. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 649 We nimeþ ȝeme of manne bure An after þan we makeþ ure. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1942 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 162 Holi churche..þat geth al-meast noupe to grounde bote god nime ȝeme þer-to. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17536 For goddes luue tas yeme Quat yee mil. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7413 (Linc. Inn MS.) Pors gan abak renne And nom þiderward ȝeme And loked toward heore crye. 1340 *Ayenb.* 54 Nim ȝeme of þe guodes þet þou dest oþer miȝt do. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 14 Þe Neodi and þe Nakede nym ȝeeme hou þei liggen. 1421 HOCCLEVE *Lerne to Dye* 522 They..list take no yeeme Vn-to the ende which mighte hem profyte. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 12 He that sayth he lovys his Lord, on hym take good eme. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7085 Had she kept furth hir way, He wold of hir haue take no yeme. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 582 ȝit biddes he to þaim take ȝeme.

† Yeme, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝieman, ȝiman, ȝyman, ȝeman, 2–6 ȝeme, 3 ȝeome, 3–4 ȝiem(e, 3–6 ȝime, 4 ȝheme, ȝheyme, yeeme, yem, 4–5 yheme, 4–6 yeme, 5 ȝem, ȝyme, 6 ȝym. [OE. *ȝieman* = OS. *gômean* to care for, guard, entertain (guests), OHG. *goumjan, goumôn* (MHG. *goumen*) to give heed to, observe, feast, ON. *geyma* to heed, watch (Sw. *gömma* to keep, hide, Da. *gjemme* to keep, guard, save), Goth. *gaumjan* to perceive, observe, f. OTeut. *gaum-*, whence also the forms s.v. prec.; the ultimate origin is disputed. In OE. constructed with a genitive of the object, which was succeeded in ME. by *of*, and ultimately by a simple object.]

1. To care for, take notice of, consider.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xv. § 1 Ne ȝemdon hie nanes fyrenlustes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 Hie..nystan ne ne ȝemdon hwonne hie þæt sceall ansrixetan sceoldan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *De Vet. Test.* Pref. (Gr.) 3/16 He ætes ne ȝimde. *c* 1205 LAY. 9168 Bruttes her of ȝemden & noht hit ne forȝeten.

b. To give heed or attention to, attend to, look after; to take heed, take care (*to do* something).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 160 Swiðe ȝeomlice ȝiemað þæt hie ða eorðlican heortan ȝelæreen. *c* 1205 LAY. 12581 For þa arewen ne mihte þa Bruttes ȝemen nanes fihtes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Heo went in hire þuhte ofte swuche wordes, hwon heo schulde oðerhwat ȝeorneliche ȝemen *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 66 Euer for to ȝeme in ȝoule and elde, To be buxsome in boure and hall. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2819 All othir thinges he ȝemed þat to a bischope degre semed.

c. *intr.* To attend; to look attentively *upon*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 (MS. C.) Of ower kneolunge, hwenne ze ssulen ȝemen, ear mete & efter [etc.]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17297 (Göt.) Al þai hidd þaim-self to ȝeme. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Creed* 159 Y ȝemede vpon þat house & ȝerne þeron loked.

2. To take care of, keep; to have charge of, have in keeping; to guard, protect, preserve from injury.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1546 Se deopa seað..ȝiemeð ȝesta. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* iii. 38 Moises and Aaron and hiira bearn ȝimdon þæs temples on middan Israhela folce. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Þa men þe beoð in þe castel and him ȝemeð. *Ibid.* 115 He scal witche cleft aleggan and wiȝelunge ne ȝeman. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5585 Himm ȝeowebb þatt he nohht ne maȝȝ Himm ȝemenn all ȝa sinne. *c* 1205 LAY. 369 Children & hinen þa ure nete sculen ȝemen. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 448 Nis þer nout in world bi-lened þat nis demeð.. But eiȝte soulen þi weren i ȝemed In þe schup. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 968 In a tour þai han hir do, þat noman miȝt hir com to, Bot an eld midwiif, þat schuld ȝemen hir lif. 13.. *Gaȝ. Nicod* (G.) 468 His lare be þine nigaste, And his pese might þe ȝeme. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 443 The seuent vertu..is methe..That..yhemes us fro yernynges of worldely godes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 230 Ȝhemen, swanys, and poverail, That in the parc to ȝheyme vittale War left. *a* 1400 *Leges Burgorum* c. 57 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 344/2 He sal be lede to þe house of þe kyngis seriand..and þar he sal be yheityt fra his chalangeouris. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8054 He hurlet thurgh the helme, þat the hed ȝemed. *Ibid.* 10791 The ȝates to ȝeme he ȝepely comaundit. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 132 The said secretar, that the sele ȝemyt. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXVIII. 39 Dispuit of the tresur that he ȝemit. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 97 Poliphemus, ȝynmand his beistis rowch *Ibid.* VII. x. 23 [He] heyrdis wyde, As storoure to the king, did kep and ȝeme *a* 1568 W. BROWN *Lett. Gold* in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter Cl.) 141 Ye men of kirk, that cure hes tane Of sawlis for to wetsche [*v.r* ȝeme] and keip.

absol. a 1300 *Sarmun* xviii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 3 Hi nul noȝt spene bot ȝime in store *a* 1400 *Str Perc.* 1136 He lette mene many ane...Be the ȝates ȝemande.

3. To have the command or oversight of; to rule, govern, manage, control.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* i. 18 Þæt hig..ȝimdon þæs dæȝes and þære nihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9542 On na manere Noght he in þes his kingrik yeme. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 89 The cheuyreyns..Weren all to yonge of ȝeris to yeme swyche a rewme. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1185 My landes for-to lede and yeme. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1092 Vs aw to ȝem our iong And spek not bot we be requerde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3338 The ȝeptur & the solle sithyn haue I ȝemyt.

4. To keep, observe (a command, festival, etc.).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* xxvi. 42 Ic ȝyme min wedd. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom* 11 Þe þriddde godes heste..Wite ȝe þet ȝe ȝemen þenne halie sunnedei. *a* 1300 *Ten Commandm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 200 Þe halidayes þu shalt ȝieme [*or.* þieme; *rime* queme] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16690 Ful wel þis lagh sal he yeme. 13.. *Ibid.* 9980 (Göt.) Euer scho lyues in maydenhede, þat scho hir ches þe first day, Scho ȝemed it in mekenes ay 1389 in Sir W. Fraser *Wemyss of Wemyss* (1888) II. 24 Til there thyngys al and syndry lefily and fermly to be fulfyllyt and yhemmyt hath the partys. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 In þe whilk er many gude Cristen men, ȝemaund þe same rytes..þat we vsen. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 869, I am feed leat þou..for youernes for-yete þat þe yeme should. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 304 in *Babees Bk.*, With freres on pilgramage yf þat þou go, þat þei wille yyme, wilne þou also.

† Yemeles, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝieme-, ȝime-, ȝymeleas, 2–3 ȝemeles, 3 ȝemeleas. [OE. *ȝiemeléas*, f. *ȝieme* YEME *sb.* + *-léas* -LESS.] Careless, heedless, negligent. Hence **† Yemelesliche** *adv.* [OE. *ȝiemeléaslice*: see -LY²], carelessly, heedlessly; **† Yemelesship** [-SHIP], **† Yemelest** [OE. *ȝiemeléast*: see -T⁵], heedlessness, negligence.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 164 Ond swa hwelc swa mid ðæm Godes andan bið onæled, ne bið he for ȝiemeliste [*Hatton MS.* ȝiemeleste] ȝehiened. *Ibid.* xlii. 305 Dæm unbealdum is to cyðanne hu ȝiemelease hie bioð ȝonne hie hie selfe to swiðe forsioð. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 84 Þara stowa sum ræþe rotaþ ȝif hire mon ȝimeleaslice tilað. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 ȝif þe king bið unrihtwis and ȝif þe biscop bið ȝemeles. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5913 Þatt tezz ne falle nohht i gillt þurrh ȝure ȝemeleȝe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Hwo se ȝemeleasliche witeð hire uttre eien. *Ibid.* 172 ȝif heo wit ham vuele, & let ham þuruh ȝemeleaste etfleon hire seruise. *Ibid.* 202 ȝemeleaschipe, oðer to siggen, oðer to don,..oðer miswiten ei þing þet heo hauen to witene. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 205 ȝemeleas and unlusti

† Yemelich, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. YEME *sb.* + *-lich*, -LY¹.] Full of care, anxious.

c 1205 LAY. 3356 Þai ȝededе þe king Mid ȝemeliche worden.

† Yemer. *Obs.* [f. YEME *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. ON. *geymari* keeper.] A keeper, guardian; a ruler.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 831 ȝif tristrem be now aleyn, Yuel ȝemers er we. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 123 Thow sall tak Ferrand my palfray..And gyff his ȝhemar ought gruchys, Luk that thow tak him magre his. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2244 So þat in godes hows may be A gude ȝemer of godes mengе. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (Turnbull) 830, Y was thi yemer evon and moron Seythan thou was of thi moder boron. 1488 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 94 My emer & I be agreed that I schold have xl li.

Yemer, ȝemer, variant of YOMER.

† Yeming, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. YEME *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb YEME; care, keeping, protection, charge.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2783 Hic am god ðe in min ȝeming nam Iacob, ysaac, and abraham. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16694 Foi-vl es skil þir dais thre Yeming on him yee lai. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2034 He..proferd him al his þing To ben vnder his ȝemeing. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lviii. 38 Suilk yeming sal sho haue, þat te saule be turnid to god allemihtye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xliii. 46 Mankynde was thyne whome þu be-kende And toke me to þi ȝemyng right.

Y-emptid, ME. pa. pple. of EMPTY *v.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4435 Whan þat þe peple ..Hir purs y-emptid haue.

Yemschi(o)k, yemstchick, variants of YAMSTCHIK.

† Yemsel. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 3 ȝemsale, 4 ȝemsel, -sele, -sale, -seill, -schele, ȝeymseill, ȝeemsell, ȝhemsall, -sell, yhemsale, 4–5 ȝemsall, 5 ȝhemsayl, yhemselle. [ad. ON. *geymsla* (f. *geyma* YEME *v.* + *-sla* = OE. *-els*), with assimilation to the native *ȝeme* YEME *v.*] Keeping, care, charge, custody.

c 1200 ORMIN 5005 Ne segge icc þe nohht tatt te birrþ..All all se mikell ȝemsle, þwerrt ut onn ihwillc oþerr mann Alls o þe sellfenn leggenn. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 602 Þe quhilk gaff þame ine ȝemsale Of iwa knychtis, þat war fell. *Ibid.* xii. (*Mathias*) 245 Cryste gef it hyme ay in ȝemsele, þo he wes thefe & ay wald steyle. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 329, I trow he sall..Do his dewour, and virk so weill, That hym sall neyd no mair ȝeymseill [*MS. E.* ȝemseill]. *a* 1400 *Leges Burgorum* c 3 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 333/2 Bot gif..he [*sc.* ane uplandis man] war in þe kyngis oste or in yhemsale of þe kyngis castell. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. XXVI. 4352 Keparis, þat it [*sc.* a castle] in ȝhemsayl [*v.r.* ȝemsall] hade.

‖ Yen (yen). [Japanese, ad. Chinese *yüan* round, round thing, circle, dollar.] A Japanese coin, of gold or silver, representing the monetary unit of Japan since 1871, formerly of about the value of the United States dollar, now of about 2 shillings. Also *collect.* as *pl.*

1875 JEVONS *Money* xii. 147 Even Japan has imitated European nations, and introduced a gold coinage of twenty, ten, five, two, and one-yen pieces, the yen being only three per mille less in value than the American gold dollar. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* ix. 316 The Yen is divided into 100 Sen, and the Sen into 10 Rin. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Yen*, a name for the dollar in Japan, in former years worth 3*s.* 9*d.*, but now only about 3*s.* 2*d.* 1904 *Times* 16 Jan. 11/3 Japan has specie to the unprecedented amount of 113 million yen, or £11,300,000.

Yen, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*; Sc. and north. dial. f. ONE; dial. f. YON; graphic var. *Jen* THAN, THEN.

Yence, Sc. and north. dial. f. ONCE.

Yench, obs. form of INCH *sb.*¹

1493 [see THICK *a.* 2].

† Yend, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeendian, 2–3 (ȝ)ienden, 5 ȝynde. [OE. *ȝeendian*: see Y- ȝ c and END *v.* For the form in quot. *c* 1430 cf. END *sb.* etym. note.] *trans.* To end.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 20 Ic beo mid eow ealle dagas oð worulde ȝe-endunge. *Ibid.* Luke xiv. 30 Hwæt þes man agan timlæian & ne mihte hit ȝe-endian. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Iwilch mon bið iboran mid muchele sara and mid muchele sorȝe his lif ȝendað. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 217 He is ende buton ælcere ȝiendunge. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 12 The multytude that was comynge Of here chyldryn after here ȝyndynge.

Yend, obs. or dial. var. YOND. **Yend(e, ȝend(e**, obs. ff. END *sb.* and *v.* **Yende**, obs. f. IND. **Yended**, obs. pa. pple. of END *v.* **Yender**: see YERDER, YONDER. **Yene**, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*; obs. f. YAWN *v.* **Yenesherre**, obs. form of JANIZARY. **Yeng, ȝong**, obs. ff. YOUNG.

Yengees (yeⁿgīz), also *-eese*, *pl.*, whence **Yengee** (yeⁿgī) *sing.*, stated to be a N. American Indian corruption of *English*, applied to the people of New England. (Cf. YANKEE.)

1819 HACKEWELDER *Ind. Nations* iii. (1876) 77 When the Yengeese arrived at Machtitschwanne, they looked about everywhere for good spots of land. *Ibid.* xiii. 143 *Yengees.* This name they [*sc.* the Chippeways and some other nations] now exclusively applied to the people of New England... They say they know the *Yengees*, and can distinguish them by their dress and personal appearance... The proper English they call *Saggenash.* 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* XXIX, 'What art thou?' 'A woman; one of a hated race, if thou wilt—a Yengee.' *Ibid.*, It is a red-skin in the pay of the Yengeese. 1834 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 40 A scalp or twain from the Yengees torn.

Yenite (yī·nait). *Min.* [ad. F. *yénite* (Lelièvre, *Jrnl. des Mines*, 1807), f. *Jena* + -ITE¹: see quot. 1868.] A former synonym of ILVAITE.

1816 P. CLEAVELAND *Min.* (1822) I. 394 Before the blowpipe the Yenite is easily fusible into a dull, opaque, black globule. 1868 DANA *Min.* 297 Named *Ilvaite* from the Latin name of the island (Elba) on which it was found; *Lievrite* after its discoverer [Lelièvre]; *Yenite* (should have been Jenite) in commemoration of the battle of Jena, in 1806. The Germans, and later the French, have rightly rejected the name *yenite*, on the ground that commemorations of political hostility or triumph are opposed to the spirit of science.

Yenne, obs. form of EVEN *sb.*¹

1478–9 *Stonor Lett.* (Roy. Hist. Soc.) II. 72 Payd for a cope for the caponys on candelmas yenne, vi.d.

Yenough, obs. form of ENOUGH.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 9 b, And suche as I found sounde, I thought yenough for me to keepe the reparations.

Yent (ȝent), var. *yend*, YOND *Obs.*

Yentred, ME. pa. pple. of ENTER *v.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* x. 375 Þat I man made was and my name yentred In þe legende of lyf louge er I were.

Yentyll, obs. form of GENTLE *a.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* viii. 30 It neuer commyth of a yentyll courage of any knyght to assayle any person without armure.

Yeo, *sb.*¹ *local* (*south-west*). [repr. OE. **ēa*, **īa* for *ēa* stream, river: see Æ *sb.*¹, EA, and cf. AA.] A stream or drain (in mining).

[In the following 16th cent. quots. the forms *yew*, *yo* are of doubtful identity; the river-name *Yeo* (OE. *Æowan* in oblique cases) may be intended:

1521 *Patton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 139 In expemes for dyking yᵉ new yew...xxiijs. iiij*d.* 1543 *Ibid.* 157 Payd for mowyng the yew...iijs. iiij*d.* 1558 *Ibid.* 170 Fo Dychinge..the parishe woorke in yᵉ Yo...xvjˢ and xij*d.*]

1725 PEARCE *Lawn Stannaries* Introd. p. xiii, Every Work may lawfully bring their Water from the River, which the Tinners (in Cornwall and Devon) commonly call the *Yeo*, without Denial or Contention. *Ibid.*, Then they go [to] the *Yeo*, or River, and fetch home the Water which serves this Work. 1873 *Q. Rev.* CXXXV. 157 'Girts' or 'gulphs' are names given by the moormen [of Dartmoor] to the long, and sometimes deep, excavations seaming the hill-sides, down which the miners led their stream, generally known as the 'yeo'. 1873 WILLIAMS & JONES *Gloss. Som.*, *Yeo*, main drain of a level.

Yeo (yō), *sb.*² Colloq. abbrev. of YEOMAN; commonly in *pl.* = YEOMANRY 3.

[1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 23) 534 M. Alford *Yeo.*] 1831 LOVER *Leg. Irel., Paddy the Piper* 150 If the Husbians or the Yeo's ketches you. 1898 K. TYNAN in *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Oct. 2/1 The yeos at Rathdrum had information that a house..was to be robbed.

Yeo, dial. form of EWE; also in comb. *yeo-necked* = EWE-NECKED.

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 220 Tha cortst tha natted Yeo now-teert,..laping o'er the Voanna Lock. 1878 G. MURRAY *Russians of To-day* 15 Mounted upon yeo-necked galloways.

Yeofaile, obs. form of JEOPAIL.

Yeo-(heave-)ho: see YO-HEAVE-HO, YOHO.

Yeolke, Yeolow, obs. ff. YOLK, YELLOW.

Yeoman (yōu·măn). Pl. **yeomen** (yōu·mĕn). Forms: *a.* 4–5 ȝoman, ȝhoman, (4 ȝhuman, ȝouman), 4–7 yoman, 5 ȝoman(n)e, ȝomon, yomon, (yhoman), ȝuman, 6–7 yoeman. *β.* 4–6 ȝeman, (4 ȝheman), 5–7 yeman, (5 ȝemman, yemon, 6 ȝeaman, *Sc.* ȝieman, 8 ye'man). *γ.* 4–5 ȝiman, ȝyman, (4 ȝymman, 5 ȝimman, ȝymanne). *δ.* 5– yeoman, (7–8 *Sc.* seoman). [ME. (14th cent.) *ȝoman, ȝuman, ȝeman, ȝiman*, prob. reduced forms of *ȝong-, ȝung-, ȝang-, ȝingman*: see YOUNGMAN, which is itself used as a designation of an attendant or servant (cf. sense 1 below), while a 12th cent. *ȝongerman* is given in Pseudo-Cnut de Foresta § 2 as a synonym of *tunsȝegnes* 'mediocres homines' (cf. sense 4), who were intermediate between the *ȝegnes* 'liberales homines' and the *tunmen* 'villani' (cf. also OE. *ȝingra* vassal, follower of a prince, etc.).

The *mm* found in some forms (*ȝemman, ȝimman*) may be

a survival of the *nave of yongmen*. Cf. MSw. Da. *jomfru*, Icel. *jomfrú* (after LG. *jumfer*), and Da. *jufrouw* beside *jomfrouw* young lady.

The pronunciation (yʊmăn) is evidenced as late as the time of Swift (see quot. 1706 in 4 β and cf. 1687 in 4 δ).

If this word is ultimately identical with *youngman*, the derivation has possibly a remarkable parallel in s. w. dial. *yeomath, yeemath, yemmath, youmath, yammath* = aftermath, which is app. for **young math* = late mowing.]

I. 1. A servant or attendant in a royal or noble household, usually of a superior grade, ranking between a sergeant (SERGEANT *sb.* 7) and a groom (GROOM *sb.*[1] 4) or between a squire and a page.

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 835 (Laud MS.), To 3oman page & 3oglers. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 213 (MS. R.) Emperoures..han 3oumen [C. IV. 271 3emen, *v.rr.* 3omen, 3immen, 3emmen, 3onge men] to 3ernen and to ride. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2628 He [sc. Arthur] made me 3omane at 3ole, and gafe me gret gyftes, And c. pounde, and a horse, and harnayse fulle ryche. 14.. in *Monum. Franciscc.* (Rolls) 583 Commaunde 3e that 3oure gentilmen yomen and other dayly here and were there robis in 3oure presence. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4538 Knyȝt, squiere, 3omon & page. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 157/2 Yomen of the moste honourable Houshold of the Kyng. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IV. 123 Came there a yoman that sayd to the duchesse..the meete is redy. *c* 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 254 To day bote, to morowe outragyous colde; To day a yoman, to morowe made of page. 1593 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 155, I gyve unto everye one of my yomen suche as are my howseholde servants over and besyds theire wages XX^s a peece.

β. 1345–8 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 9 The Kinges archers, vinteners, yemen of offices in the Kinges howse. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 235 Quhill I liff, and may haf mycht To lede a 3heman or a swane. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 388 A bauld squier, with him gud 3emen twa. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. iii. 845 The kyng callyd vpon hys knyghtes squyers and yemen. 1584 WHETSTONE *Mirr. Mag., Cities* 15 b, Were this a lawe in England, I feare mee..we shuld haue more Gentlemen bondmen, then Yemen trustie seruantes.

δ. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 19 Our sovereyn lordes household is now discharged..of the Court of Marshalsy, and all his clerkes and yeomen. 1561 *Old Chaque-Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 1 Mr. Paternoster was sworne gent' the 24th of Marche, and Jones, Gospeller, and Thos. Rawlins, Yeoman. 1572 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* vii. 14 Saule..had many yeomen at hand, that wold gladly have employed their labour too destroye David. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* III. D4, Come Sergeant Ambush, come yeoman Clutch, yons the Tauerne, the Gentleman will come out presently. 1713 SWIFT *On Himself* 35 The waiters stand in ranks; the yeoman cry, Make room; as if a duke were passing by. 1814 SCOTT *L.d. of Isles* I. xxix, Where squire and yeoman, page and groom, Plied their loud revelry. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 497 The folly.. became in other fields A mockery to the yeomen over ale, And laughter to their lords.

b. An attendant or assistant to an official, etc.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 535 Gos to my vyne, 3emen 3onge, & wyrkes & dos þat at 3e monn. 1383 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 278/2 Gentz de Mestere, d'Artifice & d'Office, appellez Yomen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 101 A Yeman [*v.rr.* 3eman, 3oman] hadde he, and seruants namo. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 124 Lyuery for his yemen and other baser officers. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 84 Robyn Hood had at his rule and commaundement an hundreth tall yomen. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 4 *Hostesse.* Mr. Fang, haue you entred the Action? *Fang.* It is entr'd. *Hostesse.* Wher's your Yeoman? Is it a lusty yeoman? 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* C 8, Nimble tongu'd Pettifoggers, greedy Seriants, hungry Yeomen, deuouring Catchpoles. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 47 Eighteen serjeants at mace, and every serjeant hath his yeoman. 1861 *Times* 26 July, The senior Sheriff's yeoman read Her Majesty's writ, authorizing the Sheriffs to proceed to the election of 'a fit and discreet citizen' to serve in Parliament. 1897 J. D. WALKER in *Rec. Lincoln's Inn* I. Pref. 7 A Bencher in 1442 was entitled as of right to have a yeoman (*valettus*) boarded in the Inn at a charge of 14*d.* per week.

c. *Yeoman's service* (also *yeoman service*): good, efficient, or useful service, such as is rendered by a faithful servant of good standing.

[*a* 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* lxxx, It were greate shame sayd Robyn A knyght a lone to ryde, Without squyer yeman or page,..I shall the lene lytyll Johan my man,..In a yemans stede he may the stande, Yf thou gree nede haue.] 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 36, I once did hold it..A bauenesse to write faire;..but Sir now, It did me Yeomans seruice. 1623 HOBY *Counter-snarle* 75 You may doe the Pope yeoman seruice indeede. 1807 SCOTT 11 Aug. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) I. iii. 77 This [law] has done me yeoman's service in the hour of necessity. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I, These stalwart sons of the Browns have done yeomen's work. 1858 DE QUINCEY *Language* Wks. 1890 X. 247 The word *ignore*..has now assumed [a general meaning], with little offence to good taste, and with yeoman service to the intellect. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 29 Nov. 84 The.. Society has done yeoman's service during the ten years of its existence.

2. With *of* (or *for*) followed by a word indicating the particular department or function, in the titles of various officials, esp. of a royal or noble household, as *yeoman of the bottles, of the buttery, of the cellar, of the chamber, of the crown, of the ewery, of the horse(s, for the household, of the larder, for the mouth* (MOUTH *sb.* 2 d), *of the revels, of the robes, of the stable, of the stirrup, of the tents, of the wardrobe*; so *yeoman of the channel* (an official of the Corporation of London: see CHANNEL *sb.*[1] 3 a). Hence in humorous allusion, as *yeoman of the collar*, a prisoner with an iron band round his neck (COLLAR *sb.* 5); *yeoman of the cord, of the halter*, a hangman, or hangman's assistant.

1488 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 18 Richard Clerk, Yeoman of the †Armurie. *Ibid.*, Henri Est, Yeoman of the †Beddes. *Ibid.* 19 William Wytnall, Yeoman for the †botelles. 1492 *Murther John Ld. Bourgh* A 4 b, One John Powell yeoman of the bottels. 1532 in Butt *Foxe's Archery* (1887) 141 Yeoman of the Kinges †bowes. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 97/2 Richard Forster, Yoman of the †Botry of oure Household. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* 270 Yoman of the †seller and ewery. 1345–8 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 4 Yeomen of the Kinges †chamber. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 62 Thre yomen of his chambre. 1438 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 210 The yomes of my lordys chambre. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xliii. (ed. 22) 688 Yeoman of the †Channel. 1647 HAWARD *Crowns Rev.* 33 Yeoman of the Stirrup..Yeoman of the Male..Yeoman of the †close Carte. 1530 *Hick-scorner* (Manly) 239 *Frewyll.* Syr, laye you beneath, or vn hye on the soller? *Imag.* Nay, wyys, amonge the thyckest of yemen of the †coller. *c* 1640 J. DAY *Peregr. Schol.* xvii. (1881) 72 A kinsman of myne that is grome of the ladder and yeoman of the †corde. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 290/2 Yoman of the †Coroune, and Usher of oure Chambre. 1498 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 5 William Frost oon of your Yomons of the Crowne. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 294/1 Watkyn Bedell, Yoman of oure †Ewre. 1455 in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 20 John Canne, Yomen for the †halle. 1800 J. T. SMITH *Bk. for Rainy Day* (1861) 169 A most diabolical-looking little wretch, denominated 'the Yeoman of the †Halter', Jack Ketch's head man. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 23, 2 Yoman of †Horse. 1530 PALSGR. 291/1 Yeman of the horse, *palfrenier.* 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 320 The yomen of his horses. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 510/2 *Promus*,.. a butler: a yeoman of the †larder. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 20 William Pratte, Yoman for the King's †mouth. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. v, Yoman for the mouthe with the kynge. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Yeoman of the Month*, an Officer belonging to his Majestie's Pantry. 1345–8 in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 4 Yeomen of the †offices. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 111 John howlte yeman of the †Revelles. 1488 in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 17 John Slytherst, Yoman of the †Robes. 1552 HULOET, Yoman or master of the robes, *vestiarius.* 1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Acatery*, A Yeoman of the †Salt-Stores. 1630 in *Archæologia* V. 435 The Saucery House, conteyning foure little roomes used by the yeomen of the †sauces. 1455 in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 21 Roger Sutton, Yoman for the †sething place. *Ibid.* 23, 11 Yomen and Gromes of the †Stable. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 55 The Hensmen and 3omen of the stublis for the King and the Quene. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 325 The king callit on ane 3emen of the stabill and desyrit ane of his abulljementis. 1526, 1538, 1647, 1692 Yeoman of the †stirrup [see STIRRUP *sb.* 1 d]. 1455 in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 18 Yoman of the †Stoole. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 111 Yeman of the †Tentes. 1679–88 *Moneys Secr. Serv. Chas. II & Jas. II* (Camden) 135 To Thomas Howard, yeoman of the tents and toyles, for his charge in removing the toyles and waggons. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 151 The yomen of the †wardropes of noble men. 1602 SHAKS. *Troil. N.* II. v. 45 The Lady of the Strachy, married the yeoman of the wardrob.

b. *Yeoman of the Guard*: a member of the body-guard of the sovereign of England (first appointed at the accession of Henry VII, and originally archers). Also *Extraordinary Yeoman*: see BEEFEATER 2.

1485 in Hennell *Hist. Yeom. Gd.* (1904) 93 Oure humble and feithful subgiet William Browne yoman of oure garde. 1509–10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII*, c. 14 A Yoman of the Crowne or of the Kynges garde. 1519–20 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 307 Ress' for the Buryall of a yoman of the Gard þat dyed at þe Swan..ij s. 1552 in Hennell *Hist. Yeom. Gd.* (1904) 292 The Garde, 1552...Ordinarie Yeomen in number cc... Extraordinarie Yeomen in number cc & vli. 1573 *Ibid.* 293 Raulf Colborne an extraordinarye yeoman. 1613 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Watermen's Suit* Wks. 1630 I. 175 Gentlemen of the priuy Chamber, or Yeomen of the Gard at least. 1647 HAWARD *Crowns Rev.* 19 Captaine of the Guard..Ordinary Yeomen of the Guard, 200.. 50 Extraordinary. 1675 in *Vernay Mem.* (1907) II. 305 A Ld Chamberlain was never before turned out for striking a yeoman of the guard. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 209 P 2 The vast jetting Coat and small Bonnet, which was the Habit in Harry the Seventh's Time, is kept on in the Yeomen of the Guard. 1745 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 202, I can eat more buttered roll in a morning than a great girl at a boarding school, and more beef at dinner than a yeoman of the Guards. 1904 HENNELL *Hist. Yeom. Gd.* 62 In the Yeomen of the Guard the yeomen are all non-commissioned officers, sergeants or sergeant-majors.

c. In the British and U.S. navies, an inferior officer who has charge of the stores in a particular department: with *of* or possessive, as *yeoman of the powder-room, of the sheets* (now abolished), *y. of the signals, of the store-room, boatswain's y., engineer's y., paymaster's y., ship's y.*

[*c* 1420 *Beryn* 2997 Why goon the 3emen to bote, Ankirs to hale?] 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 46 A Gunner.. must be careful in making Choice of a sober honest Man, for the Yeoman of the Powder. 1698 in *MSS. Ho. Lords* (N.S.) III. (1903) 346 The gunner and the yeoman ordered him to assist them. 1708 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3815/2 Yeomen of the Sheets..Yeomen of the Powder Room. 1826 in *Ord. Council Naval Services* (1866) I. 300 We further submit to your Royal Highness to be pleased to sanction the abolition of the following obsolete or unnecessary ratings:—Yeoman of the Powder Room, — of the Sheets. 1833 *Ibid.* 511 Yeoman of the Store Rooms. 1840 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. xxx. 134 The ship's yeoman's store-room. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 234 The boatswain's yeoman. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 28 The chief petty officer, who is entitled chief yeoman of the signals.

3. Used appositively in the titles of various attendants and officials, as *yeoman bedel*, †*brewer, cook, farrier* (†*farrer*), †*feuterer*, †*furner*, †*garnetter, gunner*, †*herbergeour* (HARBINGER), *porter, pricker* (PRICKER 3), *purveyor, usher, waiter*, etc.: see also these words.

1642 "Yeoman-beddle [see BEADLE 3 a]. 1892 'C. DIXON' *Verdant Green* I. vii, The Vice-Chancellor, with his Esquire and Yeoman-bedels. 1883 in *Archæologia* XII. 339 The ..sc. Servauntes..John Thorowgood and Jeffrey Perrens, "yeomen brevers. 1490 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 193/1 To Thomas Cateby, "Yeman Cooke for oure mouth. 1464 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI. 213 Robert Pilchard "yeman ferrour. 1488 [see FERRER 3]. 1647 [see FARRER *sb.* 3]. 1599 "Yeoman fheuterer [see FEWTERER]. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* v. i, If you will bee An honest yeoman pheuterer, feed vs first, And walke vs after. 1692 B. *Discalliminium* 30 The rest of the Subjects [shall be] Yeomen-futerers and Goldfinders. 1553 in *Archæologia* XII. 357 The Countinge howse. Servants.. Raulfe Englishe, "yeman furnator.. Robert Style, yeoman garnator. 1488 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 19 William Peye, "Yoman Fourner. 1454 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI. 213 Thomas Wente, "yoman garnetter. 1553 in *Archæologia* XII. 357 Robarte Style, yeoman garnator. 1647 HAWARD *Crowns Rev.* 33 Three Yeomen granators: Fee a peice per diem 9 d. 1490 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 198/1 The office of "Yoman Gonner of oure Cites and Castell of Westchestre. *Ibid.* 193/1 Oure servaunt John Ripon, one of oure "Yomen Herbergeours. 1642 *Doc. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 342 His Ma^te gent' & yeomen Harbingers. 1488 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 21, 1 "Yoman Herde. *Ibid.* 19 John Swyllyngton, "Yoman Messenger. *Ibid.*, William Brynklowe, "Yoman Puymenbaker. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. ix. 196 He fond a "yoman porter kepyng ther many keyes. 1580 in J. Scott *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 449 The yeoman porters at any of the gates of this towne. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 22) 628 Yeoman Porter for Oil and Candle for the Gate. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 347 The yeoman porter goes to the governor's house for the keys. 1488, 1602 "Yeoman powder-beater [see POWDER *sb.*[1] 5 b]. 1588, 1760, 1892 "Yeoman pricker [see PRICKER 3]. *c* 1767 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* vi, I saw myself one of the yeomen-prickers single out a stag from the herd. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, Were you to put in for it, I would warrant you were made one of the Abbot's yeomen-prickers. 1454 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI. 213 Richard Walgrave and John Glover "yomen purveours. 1647 HAWARD *Crowns Rev.* 33 Foure Yeomen Purveiours: Fee a peice per diem 9 d. 1488 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 28 Stephen Coote, "Yoman Skynner. *Ibid.*, John Marchall, "Yoman Surgeon. *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 519 in *Babees Bk.* 316 "3omon vsher be-fore þe dore, In vttur chamlur lies on þe flore. 1614 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 319 To the Yeoman Vsher's grooms and pages.. xls. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxiv. 192 The Yeomen Ushers of Devotion. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 22) 555 Mr. Ric. Pearson, Yeoman Usher. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 152 There was..as many good housholdes kept, and as many "yomenne wayters therin as be nowe. 1526 *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 132 The yeoman ushers and yeoman wayters for that day. 1573 in Hennell *Hist. Yeom. Gd.* (1904) 293 The "yeomen warders of our Tower of London.

II. 4. A man holding a small landed estate; a freeholder under the rank of a gentleman; hence *vaguely*, a commoner or countryman of respectable standing, *esp.* one who cultivates his own land.

a. 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 All the Knyghtes and Esquiers and Yomen that hnd ledynge of men. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xi. 1825 3homen and gentil men alsua. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xiv. 371 Whether he be knyȝt, squyer, gentilman, 3oman, or louȝer. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvii. (1885) 151 A c.s. of fee or rente, wich is a feyre lyuynge for a yoman. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 1 And othere of gentylmen and yomeme he made knyghtes and squyres, as thei hade deserved. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 40 My father was a Yoman, and had no landes of his owne, onlye he had a farme of iiii. or iiii. pound by yere at the vtterinost...He had walke for a hundred shepe, and my mother mylked xxx. kyne. 1642 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1692) III. I. 680 Though many of the Chief Gentry of those Counties were for paying Obedience to his Majestie's Commission of Array, yet the Free-holders and Yoemen being generally of the other side,..they were crush'd. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 39 The sufferings of the Yeomen, Farmers, and other poor Countrymen.

β. 1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 288 Arlaton Hussher, merchant..and Harry White, yeman. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d iv, Ther is a Goshawke, and that hauke is for a yeman. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIX. 25 Honest 3emen in every toun War went to weir baith reid and broun. 1542–3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 26 [70] Twoo substancial Gentlemen or Yeomen to be chief Constables of the Hundred wherin they inhabyte. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 22 The honorable wyl abhore them, The worshipfull wyll reiecte them, The yemen wyll sharpely tawnte them, The Husband men vtterly defye them, The laborying men bluntly chyde them. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 283 Money wther gentillmen and 3emenis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 36 3emen and housbandmen thair sal 3e sie gang weil arrayed. 1706 SWIFT *Baucis & Phil.* 19 A good old honest ye'man, Call'd in the neighbourhood Philemon.

γ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 171 Perfore hit is þat a 3eman [*v.r.* 3ymman; L. *vernaculus*] arraiep hym as a squyer, a squyer as a knyȝt, a knyȝt as a duke and a duke as a kyng.

δ. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* I. xxiii. (1584) 30, I call him a yeoman whom our Lawes doe call *Legalem hominem*,..which is a freeman borne English, and may dispend of his owne free lande in yerely reuenue to the summe of xl. s. sterling. *Ibid.* 32 Yeoman: which worde now signifieth among vs, a man well at ease and hauing honestlie to liue, and yet not a gentleman. 1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iv. 86 His Grandfather was Lyonel Duke of Clarence, ..Spring Crestlesse Yeomen from so deepe a Root? 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 4 To be peyit be the tennants and yeomanes. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 4 The other party..persuading the substantial yeomen and freeholders that at least two parts of their estates would.. be taken from them. 1687 in *Third Coll. Poems* (1689) 82 The Admiral may now turn common Seaman, Or Fes—s like; from Court to Country Yeoman. 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 285, I knew it yeoman, who..To the great city drove, from Devon's pleas His num'rous lowing herd. 1820 SHELLEY *Devil's Walk* xix, The wealthy yeomen, as he wanders His fertile fields among, And on his thriving cattle ponders. 1819 SCOTT *Guy M.* Note B, An old and sturdy yeoman

belonging to the Scottish side,..well known by his soubriquet of Fighting Charlie of Liddesdale. 1862 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* I. iii, The fall of prices had not yet come to carry the race of small squires and yeomen down that road to ruin. *transf.* and *fig.* a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. iv. (1912) 167 The first might seeme the Lords, the second the Gentlemen, and the last the Yeomen of dogges. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* xx. iii, Turning to a Lapland yeoman. 1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 32 Never..since yeoman Cain killed nomad Abel. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* ii. 14 The grandsons of the yeomen who had held at bay Pyrrhus and Hannibal sold their farms and went away.

† b. Used as a term of disparagement. *rare*—1.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 328 Thenne þe Emperour turnyd to his brothir, and saide, 'þou 3oman, what soory wrecchidnesse is in þe?'

† c. Applied to the pawns at chess. *Obs. rare.*

1563–84 FITZHERB. *Husb.* Prol., That boke [*sc.* of chess] is deuyded in vi. degrees,..the kynge, the quene, the byshops, the knightes, the iudges, and the yomenne.

5. A man of the standing or rank described in 4 serving as a (foot) soldier. Now *Hist.* or *arch.* exc. as in b.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 101 Schir Richard of Clare.. Send wicht 3homen that veill couth schut To bikkir the reirward apon fut. a 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 932 Thus in your warres shall you ryde, With syxe good yemen by your syde. a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* I. xxiii. (1589) 42 The gentlemen of Fraunce and the yeomen of England are renowned, because in battle of horsemen Fraunce was many times too good for vs, as we againe alway for them on foote. And Gentlemen for the most part be men at armes and horsemen, and yeomen commonly on foote. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. i. 25 And you good Yeomen, Whose Lyms were made in England; shew vs here The mettell of your Pasture. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 89 Our Armies in those times.. Of our tall Yeomen were, and foot-men for the most. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xxix, Two hundred yeomen on that morn The castle left, and none return.

b. *spec.* A member of the (Imperial) Yeomanry: see YEOMANRY 3.

1798 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 429 Two of the yeomen of Lord Ely's corps .. were hanged.., being condemned by a Courtmartial. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 93 It being reported that a poor old woman had been killed by the carelessness of the yeomen, the crowd began to follow the cavalry. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Mar. (1891) 558, I am one of the oldest, if not the very oldest Yeoman in Scotland, and have seen the rise, progress, and now the fall of this very constitutional part of the national force. 1912 L. TRACY *Mirabel's Isl.* iv (1913) 65 'Were you in a Highland regiment?' 'No. I was a mere worm, an Imperial Yeoman.'

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.*, as *yeoman class, rank, throng*; appositive (see also 3), as *yeoman farmer, gentleman, man, proprietor, servant, soldier, †sprat, volunteer*; **†yeoman ale, †yeoman bread** (also *yeoman's bread*), names for second qualities of ale or bread; **yeoman service** (see I c).

1532 *Cartular. Abb. de Rievalls* (Surtees) 355 Of *yoman ale of the great fatt, v gallons 1430 *Charters Selby Abbey, York* (B M. Add. Ch. 43849), 8 panes secundarios vocatos *yhomanbreed. 1552 HULOET, Bread called Yomens bread, *domesticus panis*. 1622 VENNER *Via Recta* i. 18 *Secundarium* is that part of the meale, whereof yeomanbread is made, which some call second bread. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* i, The new-comer's costume was that of the *yeoman class. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* § 803 After the economical changes which marked the early years of the fifteenth century, the yeoman class was strengthened by the additi on of the body of tenant farmers. 1881 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 17 Those only who rent.. are, properly speaking, farmers. Those who till their own land are yeomen; and, when I was a boy, it was the common practice to call the former farmers and the latter *yeomen-farmers. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 225 *heading*, How the *3heinen men and the power man maid of schetis the maner of baneris. 1482 *Acts Parl. Scot., Jas. III* (1814) II. 139/2 For the slaying..of ony tratour..cummyn of gentill blude, thare salbe payit xx li And for a 3eman man x li. a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 98 Witht sindrie wther gentillmen and money 3eamen men of commons. 1593 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 18/2 The panis and vnlawes of lawborrous..salbe for euery erll or lord Tua thowsand pund..and for euerie 3eman man Ane hundreth ma kis. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* III. iii. 83 A small *yeoman proprietor cultivates his own land. 1882 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 5 A family like Turner's, that produced a small tradesman, a bank-clerk, and a solicitor, must have at least been of as good *yeoman rank as Shakspeare's. 1498 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 375 To every of my servants *y* callid 'yemen servants, *6s. 8d.* 1880 HARDY *Trumpet-Major* v, No impossible contingency with the *yeoman-soldier. 1628 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. i, She tooke vs, tis true, from the gallowes, yet I hope she will not barre *yeomen sprats to haue their swinge. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. xxvi, And on the tale the *yeoman-throng Had made a comment sage and long. 1809 in C. W. Thompson *Rec. Dorset Yeomanry* (1894) 87 Report of the Dorset *Yeomen Volunteers.

b. *Comb.*, as *yeoman-like* adj., *yeoman wise* adv.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 90 They could neither speak with nor make one another, (if I may word it so much Yeomanwise). 1688 H. MORE in *Glanvill's Sadducismus, Contin. Coll.* 38 A proper Yeoman-like Man. 1828 tr. *Manasseh's Betrothed Lovers* Pref. p viii, His bold, and honest, and yeoman-like bearing.

Hence **Yeomaness** = YEOWOMAN; **Yeomanhood**, the position or station of a yeoman.

1623 WODROPHE *Marrowe Fr. Tongue* 211/2 *Yeomaneese, good wife, haue you no fresh egges? *Ibid.* 283/2 Valiant like the yeomenesses [orig. *Payesantes*] of Lombardie. 1889 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Engl. Lit.* (1890) 6 They had apparently lost even the dignity of *yeomanhood.

Yeomanly (yōu mănli), *a.* [f. YEOMAN + -LY 1.]

1. Having the rank, or the character, of a yeoman.

1576 A. HALL *Acc. Quarrel w. Mallerie* etc., Misc. Antiq. Angl. (1816) I. 97 A yeomanly man. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xv. (1594) H 6 b, I warrant you bees as yeomanly a man, as you shall see, marke you maisters, beeres a plaine honest man, without wait or garde. 1621 DONNE *Serm., 1 Cor.* xv. 26 (1640) 148 Who will undertake to sift those dusts again, and to pronounce, This is the Patrician, this is the noble flowre, and this the yeomanly, this the Plebeian bran? 1680 AUBREY in *Lett. Emin. Persons* (1813) III. 530 His father was an yeomanly man. 1833 RAINE in *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 36 *note*, The Fells were and are still a clan of yeomanly gentry in the neighbourhood of Ulverston.

2. Pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a yeoman; (*a*) sturdy; (*b*) homely.

c 1626 DONNE *Serm., Ps. xxxviii.* 4 (1649) 181 Hee will come to think it..a sordid, a yeomanly thing, still to be plowing, and weeding, and worming a conscience. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. 28 A homely and Yeomanly Religion. 1673 S. PARKER *Reproof Rch. Transp.* 30 It is but a blunt and Yeomanly jest. 1827 *Blackw. Mag* XXII. 596 Merry Shrovetide, with its rustic feast, and yeomanly feats. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. *Going to Races*, One of a fine yeomanly spirit, not ashamed of his station,..sowing his own corn, driving his own team, and occasionally ploughing his own land. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 126 There was something in Jeff's figure..of a yeomanly vigour.

Yeomanly, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In the manner of or befitting a yeoman; like a yeoman; doughtily, handsomely.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 106 Wel koude he dresse his takel yemanly [*v.rr.* 3emanly, 3imanly, 3emonlie]. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, 'Do the false yeomen give way?' 'No!'.. 'they bear themselves right yeomanly.' 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* ix, 'Right yeomanly done', cried Robin Hood.

Yeomanry (yōu mănri). Forms: see YEOMAN; also 5 **yemandry, yomandrye**, 6–7 **yeomandrie, -dry**, (7–8 **-try**). [f. YEOMAN + -RY.]

I. 1. The body of yeomen or small landed proprietors, yeomen collectively; † a company of yeomen.

nombre of his knyghtes were comonli of his retenew.. were ccc .xlij. thou.and wythout yomanrye and other men necessary to his warres 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 79 Yf the yeomanry of England were not, in tyme of warre we schold be in schrode case. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 40 Suche procedynges..do intend plainly, to make the yomanry slauery and the Cleargye shauery. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* Ded. (1617) A j, The three great Columbes of this Empire: the Nobilitie, the Gentrie, and Yeomanrie of Great Brittaine. 1692 R. MEEKE *Diary* 2 Sept. 54 My father was born in a very mean house: my mother in a comely hall. .I am a branch of Yeomanry by the father, of gentility by my mother. 1693 *Humours Town* 103 The Yeomandry trudge on honestly in their several Vocations. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* x. 184 The Clergy, and Gentry, and Yeomantry of this Land. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III 67 The free yeomanry, and the youth of the towns, have an eye for the right, and a heart for the true. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xiii. (1876) 171 A hardy and prosperous yeomanry, who either purchased the land in parcels, or bargained to work it with their own capital.

b. The general body of freemen of a livery company. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1497 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 50 The yemenry of this yor worshipfull fellishipe of this craffte of Iermongers. 1532 *Ibid.* 54 The .wardens of the yemanry of Iremongeres. 1578 in *East Anglian* June (1910) 175 [Provision is made for two] banketts [to friends and to the] companye of yeomanrye. 1637 *Decree Star Chamb. conc. Printing* § 19 Euery Master-printer of the Yeomanry of the Company may haue one Apprentice.

† 2. a. A company of yeomen or attendants. b. The yeomen of the guard. *Obs. rare.*

16.. *Robin Hood & Beggar* xxxi. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 157/2 And Robin took these brethren good To be of his yeomandrie. 1673 MARVELL in *Coll. Poems* 254 [It is] Dishonourable to the Nation He should have any other Guards but the Yeomanry.

3. A volunteer cavalry force in the British army, originally formed at the time of the French revolution, and consisting chiefly of men of the yeomanry class or status; first embodied in 1794 (Act 34 Geo. III, c. 31).

The full designation was *The Yeomanry Cavalry*, but is now (since 1908) *The Yeomanry*. In 1899 the formation of a new corps was provided for, entitled *The Imperial Yeomanry*, recruited for service in the South African War (1899–1902) from the yeomanry, the volunteers, and civilians; this title was subsequently extended to the original yeomanry, and was retained until 1908.

1794, 1798 [see sense 6]. *c* 1800 A. YOUNG in *Autobiog.* (1898) 206, I sat at dinner by a gentleman of great property, captain of a troop of yeomanry. 1802 *Act 42 Geo. III*, c. 66 (*title*) An Act to enable his Majesty to avail himself of the Offers of certain Yeomanry and Volunteer Corps to continue their Services. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Mar. (1891) 558, I dined at the Club of the Selkirkshire yeomanry, now disbanded. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 139 The management of the militia, yeomanry, and other domestic forces, is regulated by various statutes. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd. 10 Their notion of Reform was a confused combination of rick-burners, trades-unions, Nottingham riots, and in general whatever required the calling-out of the yeomanry. 1899 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 8/3 No mounted corps from this country will be accepted for service in South Africa except as part of the Imperial Yeomanry.

II. † 4. The condition of a yeoman; yeomanhood. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 89 For Symkyn wolde no wyf, as he sayde, But if she were wel ynorissed and a mayde, To saven his estaat of yomanrye [*v. r.* yemanrye]. 1621 COTGR., *Roture*, yeomanrie; the estate, condition, or calling of such as are not of gentile bloud. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 25 They, of all England, most to ancient customes cleaue, Their Yeomanry and still endeauoured to vphold.

† 5. Something pertaining to or characteristic of a yeoman. a. Speech befitting a (good) yeoman, homely or honest speech. b. Yeoman's dress. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Robin Hood & Potter* xxiii. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 110/2 'Be my trowet, thow seys soyt', seyde Roben, 'Thow seys god yemenrey.' 1598 *Arden of Feversham* IV. ii. 38 *Fran.* And, sirra, as we go, let vs haue som more of your bolde yeomandry. *Fer.* Nay, by my troth, sir, but flat knauery. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. i, Husbanding it in workday yeomanrie.

III. 6. *attrib.*, as *yeomanry cavalry* (= 3), *corps, cut, dress, family, horse, man, officer.*

1794 in Q. L. *Yeom. Cav. Worc.* (1914) 3 The proposed Corps of *Yeomanry Cavalry for the County of Worcester. 1798 *Act* 38 *Geo. III*, c. 52 (*title*), An Act for authorising the billetting such Troops of Yeomanry Cavalry as may be desirous of assembling for the Purpose of being trained together. 1824 M'WATT (*title*) Letters to Officers and Privates of the Berwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry. 1886 H. GRAHAM (*title*) Annals of the Yeomanry Cavalry of Wiltshire, a History of the Prince of Wales' Own Royal Regiment. *c* 1800 A. YOUNG in *Autobiog.* (1898) 206 The undisputed origin of all the *yeomanry corps in the kingdom. 1826 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, With a saddle of the *yeomanry cut, and a double-bitted military bridle. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* xviii, How handsome he looks in his *yeomanry dress. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 315/2 The horses employed on *yeomanry duty. 1885 J. GILLOW *Lit. & Biog. Hist. Eng. Cath.* II. 47 The Dennetts, a Lancashire *yeomanry family. 1833 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 426 The landlords..have martial law in their view before they will give up the Corn Laws; they fat their *yeomanry horses for that very chase. 1884 JEFFERIES *Life of Fields* 132 There are *yeomanry-men still living who remember how they rode about at night after the rioters. 1902 VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-Stealers* ix, The *yeomanry officer who had been present at the riot.

Yeopardie, obs. f. JEOPARDY: see Y (1) *note*.

1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 81 Withowt great yeopardie of my life.

Yeorling, var. YORLING *dial.*, yellow-hammer.

Yeorned, ME. pa. pple. of RUN *v.*

Yeoven, obs. pa. pple. of GIVE *v.*

1551–2 in Aungier *Syon Mon.* (1840) 94 Yeoven under our signet at our pallaice of Westminster. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. xvi. 107 Yeouen at Ightham aforesaid vnder my seale. 1780 *B. N. C.* (Oxf.) *Munim.* 40. 35 (MS.) Yeoven.

Yeowe, obs. f. EWE.

1547–8 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 32 Six yeowe shepe.

Yeowoman (yōu·wumăn). Pl. **yeowomen** (-wimĕn). [After YEOMAN.] A woman having the rank or position of a yeoman.

1852 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 58 With a young yeowoman called Miss Brook he sang 'All's Well'. 1892 TENNYSON *Foresters* III, *Robin.* Nay, no Earl am I. I am English yeoman. *Marian.* Then I am yeo-woman. O the clumsy word!

Yeox(e, var. YEX *Obs.*

Yep, *int.* (? yeap.) A call to urge on a horse.

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. i. (1692) 15 To your paces villain, amble, trot, and gallop!—Quick about there.—Yeap. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Yap* I a word of command to horses.

Yep, dial. (esp. U.S.) pron. of YES; cf. *nope*.

1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* x. 222 'Like Lorry Tuck?' Harvey put in. 'Yep.' 1905 [see YAH *adv.*].

† **Yepe**, *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeap, (ȝep), 3 ȝeap, ȝæp, ȝiap, ȝiep, 3–5 ȝep, (4 ȝhepe, ȝeep, yepe, 6 epe). 4–5 ȝepe, yepe. See also YAP *a.* [OE. *ġeap* open, wide, spacious, curved, crooked, vaulted, crafty, astute; repr. OTeut. root *gaup-*, and prob. related to ON. *gaupn* hollow made by both hands held together, hollow of the foot, two-hands-ful, etc. (cf. *geypna* to encompass): see GOWPEN and YEPSEN.]

1. Cunning, crafty, sly, wily.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 1 Seo nædðre wæs ȝeappre þonne ealle þa oðre nytenu. *c* 1000 *Life St. Neot* in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 14 An fox þe is ȝeapest ealra deora. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 280 Þe ȝeape wrattlare nimeð ȝeme hwat turn his fere ne cunne nout, þet he mid wrattleð. *Ibid.* 362 Þeos ȝeape children þet habbeð riche uederes, .. tetereð hore clooðes forto habben neowe.

2. Prudent, wise, sagacious, shrewd, astute.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 184 Cild scenned wis, milde, ȝeap, ȝesællig. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Beð ȝiepe, and waire, and wakieð. *c* 1205 LAY. 7381 Julius Cæsar He wes ȝep and swuðe l-wær. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5370 A wis man es þi sun Ioseph, In al egypti es nan sa yepr [*MS. Gött.* ȝep]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3812 That we sende oure Messager, Wise and ȝepe. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* iv. 724 Iohn, your cosyn, most virtuus & ȝepe.

3. Active, nimble, brisk, alert; bold, daring.

c 1205 LAY. 21503 Cheorles ful ȝepe Mid clubben ȝwiðe grete. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3983 Gij to aseylen þai wer ȝep. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 88 Messeger, be ȝep and snel. 13.. *Gest. Nicod.* (A.) 1796 Þai lay in droupand drede And non so ȝhepe a worde to ȝelle. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 17 Þow art ȝonge and ȝepe and hast ȝeres ynowe. Forte lyue longe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11265 Þai kepyn the cloyse of this clene burgh, With ȝep men at þe yatis ȝarkit full þik. *c* 1515 *Scottish Field* 491 (Chetham Misc. II.) And of Yorkshire a yong knight, that epe was of deedes.

B. *absol.* as *sb.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Kumeð þe eoue (*MS. T.* oumes to ȝeape) anonriht & reueð hire hire eiren. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 796 For aungels hit were, & þat þe ȝep vader-ȝede þat

in þe yate sytte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13031 With-in a yere.. þat yepe was with child.

Hence † **Yephede** [-HEAD], † **Yeplesse** [-LAIK], † **Yepship** [-SHIP], cunning; astuteness, sagacity.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* lx. 16 Eall heora ȝeapscipe wearð ameldod Israhela bearnum. *c* 1000 ORMIN 2523 Þho wass, wiss to fulle soþ, All full .. Off soþ clænl[illegible] lerrc. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Þe apostel..munezeð us to þrie þinges, On is ȝiepschipe, þat oðer is wakienge, þe þridde is bede. *Ibid.* 195 He notede þe naddre ȝiapshipe. *c* 1205 LAY. 2760 Heo ferden mid ȝeapscipe & mid wisdome. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 683 (Jesus MS.) Þanne erest cumeþ his yephede Hwenne hit is alremest on drede.

† **Yeply**, *adv. Obs.* [OE. *ȝéaplice*: see YEPE *a.* and -LY².]

1. Cunningly, craftily; shrewdly, sagaciously.

a 900 *Kent. Gl.* xxi, *Procaciter*, ȝeaplice. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 80 Þa betealde he [*sc.* Herod] hine swiðe ȝeaplice, swa swa he wæs snotorwyrde. *c* 1035 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 313 Hiz eac tosceadaþ þæt stæfgefeg on þrym wisan ȝeaplice swyðe.

2. Quickly, briskly; promptly, without delay.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 198 Fele þryuande þonkkes he þrat hom to haue, & þay ȝelden hym ayayn ȝeply þat lik. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3346 [He] ȝerne opened þe ȝates & ȝepli out rides. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 328 Þanne he ȝerneþ in-to þouht and ȝepliche he secheþ Pruyde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6081 For to ȝarke vp the ȝate, he ȝepely comaund. *c* 1430 *Pistill of Susan* 118 (Cott. MS.) Þus þe ȝonge ȝepply ȝede in here ȝerde.

Yepsen (yĕ·psn). *dial.* ? *Obs.* Forms: 4 ȝypsun, -on, yepsene, yespen, 5 ȝespyn, yespon, ȝespe, (? ȝelspe, ȝelpe), 7 yeaspen, yaspen, yaspin, yeapsond, 7–9 yeepsen, 8 yepsond, eapns, espin, 8–9 yepsintle, 9 ipson. [ME. *ȝespon, ȝyspon, yepsen*, prob. :— unrecorded OE. **giepsen*, **giespen*, corresp. to MLG. *gespe, gepse, (göpse)*, LG. *gepse, geps, göpse, göps* (G. *gäspe*).

Various other formations are found in LG. dialects, e. g. *göppsche, göpshe, göppelsche, -she*; also early Flem. *gaspe, gaps*, Du. dial. *gapsle*, LG. *göpshe, göppelshe, -she*.

Affinity of sense suggests derivation from the Teut. stem *gasp-* appearing in OHG. **gespana* (in dat. pl. *cespanôm*), MHG. *gespen*, later and dial. *gaspf*, ON. *geispn* (whence GOWPEN). In the present state of the evidence it is impossible to determine the relationship of these forms and of Lith. *kiáuptis* = as much as can be seized with two or three fingers, a small handful or armful.]

The two hands placed together so as to form a bowl-shaped cavity; as much as can be held in this; = GOWPEN 1.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 147 Deus meyns ensemble, vodes ou pleyns, Sount apelés les galeyns [*gloss* yep-ene; *v.rr.* yespone, ȝespyns, ȝyspun, goupynes] ..Cent galeynes [*gloss* yespen; *v.r.* ȝyspones]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xii. 561 A yespon al to grounde Of cyner. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 ȝelspe, handfulle (*K., H.* ȝespe, *S.* ȝelpe, *P.* ȝespyn), *vola.* 1611 COTGR., *Iointée*, .. in some countries of England it is called a yeaspen, in others a goppenful of. 1668 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyor* 109 Out of every hors-footing,..I could take up whole yeapsonds [of wild oats] that were never the worse for the fire. 1674 GOULDMAN *Dict.* I. (1669), A yaspin or handful, *vola.* 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 80 A *Yaspen* or *Yeapsen*: in Essex signifies as much as can be taken up in both hands joyn'd together. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.) *Eapns, sb.* 'an eapns', hands full. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1775) 59 There wou'd not I ha com'n for a Yepsintle a Ginneya. 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) *Espin, sb.* a handful of anything. 1892 C. T. MARTIN *Rec. Interpr.* 256 'A little ipson', in Somerset, is a double handful.

Yer, obs. f. ERE, IRE, YEAR; obs. graphic var. THEIR, THERE; dial. or vulgar f. YOU, YOUR.

-yer, *suffix*, old variant of -IER, now used after *w* or a vowel, as *bowyer, great oneyer, lawyer, sawyer, stuccoyer* (s.v. STUCCOER).

Yerabyll, var. EARABLE *a. Obs.*, ploughable.

1517 *Domesday Inclos.* (1897) I. 220, viij acars of yerabyll lond in Wygbarow.

Yerb, obs. or dial. f. HERB.

‖ **Yerba**, *in full* **yerba-maté** (yĕ·rbă mæ·te). Also **yerva**. [Sp. *yerba* herb + *mate* MATÉ.] = MATÉ 2 a, b.

1818 *Amer. State Papers, For. Relat.* (1834) IV. 279 The yerba is used in decoction, like the tea of China. 1843 *Chem. Gaz.* 1 Mar. 233 Yerba Maté, or Paraguay Tea. 1855 J. F. W. JOHNSTON *Chem. Common Life* vii. I. 184 A kind of arch..upon which the Yerba branches are placed. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, Yerva-mate. 1901 H. HESKETH PRICHARD *Thro' Heart of Patagonia* xii. 177 He seemed to have no provisions, only a bag of *yerba*.

Hence **Yerbal** (yaɹbă·l) [Sp. *yerbal*], a grove or plantation of yerba.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yerbal*, a forest or wild grove of the *Ilex Paraguayensis*, the holly from the leaves of which the Paraguay tea is obtained. 1883 [see MATÉ 2 c].

Yerbua, obs. form of JERBOA.

‖ **Yercum** (yə·ɹkŭm). [Tamil.] An East Indian shrub, *Calotropis gigantea* (N. O. *Asclepiadaceæ*), or the fibre obtained from its bark; also the allied species *C. procera*; both used medicinally.

1826 [see MUDAR]. 1858 LINDLEY *Flora Med.* ‖ 1144. 540 Under the names of Madar, Mudar, Akum, and Yercund, the root and bark..are used as..purgatives.

† **Yerd**, *v. Obs.* *rare*—¹. [f. *yerd*, YARD *sb.*²; cf. OHG. *gerten, hertin* to drive with a stick.] *trans.* To beat with a rod.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* (1862) 6 Hwil me yerdede hire.

Yerd, ȝerd, etc.: see YARD, YIRD.

Yerde, var. ERDE *v.*, to dwell.

c 1515 *Scottish Field* 648 (Chetham Misc. II.) His ancestors of long tyme, have yerded there long.

Yerd-hunger. *Sc.* 'Earth-hunger': (*a*) voracious desire for land (cf. *eard-hunger* in Scott *Nigel* ix); (*b*) see quot. 1825. So **Yerd-hungry** *a.* See also YIRD.

1822 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1839) VII. 155 About the land, I have no doubt your Lordship is quite right, but I have something of what is called the *yeard hunger*. 1825 JAMIESON, *Yerd-hunger*..s. That keen desire of food, which is sometimes manifested by persons before death... 2. Voraciousness; the term being used in a general sense. *Ibid., Yerd-hungry*,..voraciously hungry.

† **Yere**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3–4 ȝere, 4 ȝeore; 3 *pa. t.* ȝerde, ȝirde, ȝurde. [ME. *yere*, representing an OE. **gerian* = OFris. *geria, ieria*, OS. *gerôn* (MLG. *geren*), OHG. *gerôn, -ên, -ôn* (MHG. *geren, gern, be-gern*, G. *begehren*) to desire, related to OHG., MHG. *ger*, ON. *gerr* greedy (cf. OHG. *girî*, G. *gier* desire, OHG. *girig*, G. *gierig* desirous, covetous, etc.); f. Teut. *ger-*, whence also YERN *a.*, YEARN *v.*

With Teut. *ger-* :—Indo-eur. *gher-* (: *ghor-* : *ghr-*) to long, desire, have pleasure, are prob. allied Skr. *háryati* finds pleasure, *hárlate* rejoices, Zend *zara-* striving, goal, χαίρω, χαρῆναι to rejoice, χάρις favour, grace, L. *horiri, horitâri, hortâri* to cheer, exhort.]

trans. To desire, long or yearn for; to express a desire for, request.

c 1205 LAY. 4790 Belin king him ȝette þat forward þat he ȝerde [*c* 1275 ȝornde]. *Ibid.* 5515 Heo forȝeten here ȝiales & þat grið þat heo ȝurden [*c* 1275 ȝeornden]. *Ibid.* 11514 Al swa þe king ȝirde Mauric hit him ȝette. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28082 Þat es to be here ai ȝerand þat ilk liue is ai lastand. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 33 Measure is Medicine þauh þou muche ȝeore.

Hence † **Yering** *vbl. sb.*, desire, longing; request.

13.. *Ball. on Scottish Wars* xx. (Ritson), Al my yering he me tald, And yatid me, als we went bi waye. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27930 (Cott. Galba) Fole couaitise and fole ȝering.

Yere, obs. f. EAR, ERE, HEAR, HEIR, YEAR; Sc. and dial. f. YOUR.

† **Yeresgift, -ȝift**. *Obs.* = next.

14.. [see next]. *c* 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* vii. in *Anglia* X. 386/24 In ij daye begynneþ þe ȝeere, and..þey þat ben knytte to-gedir by love specyalle vsen to ȝeve eche obere ȝeerys-ȝiftis. 1545 in *Shropsh. Par. Doc.* (1903) 79 For or. ladys yeres gyft.

† **Yeresyeve**. *Obs.* Forms: 2 ȝiereȝieve, 3 ȝhersheve, ȝeresiue, 3–4 ȝeres-, yereȝyve, -ȝiue, -ȝeue, -yeve, 5 ȝereseffe. [f. *yeres*, gen. of YEAR *sb.* + *ȝive, ȝeue* GIVE *sb.*¹] A gift customarily given or exacted at the New Year, or at the beginning of a year of office.

1194 *Charter Rich. I* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1816) I. 52/2 Concessimus, quod sint quieti de bridtol, & de childwite, & de ȝiereȝieve. 1201 *Charter Cambr.* in *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 83/2 Quod omnes burgenses de Cantebruge sint quieti de ȝhersheve et de scothale. 1231 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 230 [so a. which were paid yearly to the constable of Bristoll from the land of Mangode-feld by way of] ȝeresiue. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 34 Wolde neuer kyng ne kniht ne Canoun of Seynt poules ȝeuen hem to heore ȝeres-ȝiue þe value of a grote! 1377 *Ibid.* B. iii. 99 Hem þat desireth ȝiftes or ȝeresȝyues [*MS. R.* (14..) ȝeresiftes] bi-cause of here offices. *Ibid.* viii. 52 He ȝaf þe to ȝeresȝyue to ȝeme wel þi-selue. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 548 (Winch.), ȝereseffe, *encennium*. [1783 BOHUN *Priv. Lond.* (ed. 3) 35 *Jeresgive*, is a Toll or Fine, taken by the King's Officers, on a Person's entring into an Office; or rather, a . Bribe, given to them to connive at Extortion, or other Offence in him that gives it.]

Yerfull, obs. form of IREFUL.

York (yŏ·ɹk), **yark** (yä·ɹk), *sb.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. YERK *v.*]

1. A smart blow or stroke, as of a whip or rod, or of a heavy body falling; a lash; also, the sound of such a blow; the crack of a whip; a thud.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* iv. (Percy Soc.) 18 And in her hande a strong knotted whippe; At every yarke she made hym for to skyppe. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Crepitus plagarum*..a yerke, or girke. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxiv. 143/2 As soone as the wicked feele but one yirke of the rod with Gods hand. 1593 CHURCHYARD *Challenge, Murton's Trag.* xcix, No wisdomes lore, nor men of noble fame, Can scape thy scourge, it glues so sore a yarke. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 35 They gaue mee the yarke with the spurre. 1658 FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 56 (1713) II. 99 Our Province is to lash a rout of wanton and disloyal People; and if any will be outermost, and so get a York that makes 'em smart, let them hereafter learn to hide themselves in the Crowd. *a* 1807 J. SKINNER *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 47 Wi' a yawfu' yark,..He derfly dang the bark Frae's shins that day. 1826 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* etc. 80 The blacksmith's hammer, yark for yark, We hear us langer bangin'. 1880 RAMSAY *Remin.* (ed. 7) Pref. p. xxiii, Clinching every decision with the 'yerk' of a spadeful of earth on the grave's brink. 1871 J. MILNE *Sel. Poems & Songs* 89 It flew oure the houses like a lark An doun on the fouk's taes fell wi' a yark.

fig. 1658 FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 82 (1713) II. 249 More out of dread of a Yerk from Heraclitus, than of all the Penalties in the Statute-Book. 1689 *Answ. Desertion Disc. in 11th Coll. Papers rel. Pres. Junctures of Affairs* 5 To call the Breach of the Original Contract pretended, and a Popular Flourish, but a yerk of Malitious Reflection.

† b. *fig.* An impulse, eager desire. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 308 Clodius did much delight to goe on hunting, & had a fine yeark to kill the Bore & other vnnerie in the mountaines.

2. The act of lashing out with the heels, as a horse; a kick; a sudden or abrupt movement, a jerk, twitch.

1582 A. HALL *Iliad* vi. 120 The horse, That..With angry frisks and yarks behinde, his head doth cast aloft. 1628 M. BARET *Hippon.* I. 9 There is no foale..but will both leap,.. turne loftily, fetch such yarks behind, that it is very delightfull to behold. 1643 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (ed. 3) I. ii. 26 With your rod giue him a good ierke vnder the belly..when you please to giue the ierke, he will then giue the yerke. 1679 SHADWELL *Tyrne Widow* iv. 56 Let's fight here; I would have my Mistress see how I put in my Pass, and what a yerk I give it. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* iv. xii. 291 Twenty thousand of them..battering the Warriors Faces into Mummy, by terrible Yerks from their hinder Hoofs. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* III. 337 He..attacked the couple with his heels, prostrate as they were, yerk for yerk, indiscriminately.

b. A jerking or twitching sensation. ? *Obs.*

1826 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* ix. (ed. 3) 195 The yerk, or throe, in the throat, that follows your last bumper of port. 1832 *Examiner* 290/1 The yerk of the third bottle of hot nastiness [*sc.* port].

York (yŏ·ɹk), **yark** (yä·ɹk), *v.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5–7 **yarke**, 5–9 **yerk**, 6–7 **yerke, yeark**(e, 6–9 **yark, yirk**, 9 (*U. S.*) **yawk**. [ME. *yerk* (15th cent.), appearing first as a technical term of bootmaking. Of obscure origin, but prob. in part phonetically symbolic; cf. the largely synonymous *jerk, firk*.]

1. To draw stitches tight, to twitch, as a shoemaker in sewing (*trans.* with the leather, etc. as obj., or *intr.*); also, to bind tightly with cords.

c 1430 *York Mem. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 194 Pro sutura xij parium sotularium yerkyd ad manum, iiij d. 1600 DEKKER *Shoomakers Hol.* (1620) D 3, *Lyre.* Yarke and seame, yarke and seame. *Firke.* For yarking & seaming let me alone & I come toot. 1630 *Tincker of Turvey* 27 His Wife sitting by him when hee was yerking of his shooes. 1809 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* (1894) NOTE xlviii, 'Sutor Watt, ye cannot sew your boots; the heels *risp*, and the seams *rive*.'—'If I cannot sew,' retorted Tinlinn, discharging a shaft, which nailed the captain's thigh to his saddle,—'If I cannot sew, I can yerk.' 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* I. iii. lxiv, And they yerkit his limbs with twine. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* lii, His hands and feet are yerked as tight as cords can be drawn. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* II. vii. 269 Eight horses, ..every one with its head yerked to the tail of the one before him. 1825 [see *yerking* below].

2. *trans.* To strike smartly, esp. with a rod or whip; to beat, flog, lash; to drive with a whip.

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 484 A carter..That with his whyp his mares was wonte to yarke. 1535 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* vi. 54 Like as the carter or foore man yerketh his horsse with the whyp. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 44 That same foole ..Was Scorne, who hauing in his hand a whip, Her therewith yirks. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 5 Nine, or ten times I had thought t'haue yerk'd him here vnder the Ribbes. 1631 J. DONE *Polydoron* (1650) 211 When I observe a cruell Carter yerke and slash but a poore over-toyld lade. 1703 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Love's Contriv.* iv. I. 45 I'll yerk the sullen Devil out of you. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Leith Races* Poems (1845) 34 Their skins are gaily yarkit And peel'd thir days. 1824 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v., Aw'l yark yah, yah dirty bastard yah. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 550 We should yerk the yokel of a Yankee with the knout.

b. To smack or crack (a whip); also *intr.* of the whip, to crack.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F ij b, When ich was a lusty fellow, and could yarke a whip trimly. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxii. (1632) 48 He would..make a whip to yarke and lash, as cunningly as any Carter in France. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* II. 9 Euery man drew forth his whip, and began to yerke the same.

c. *intr.* To strike, deal blows.

1813 G. BRATTIE *John O'Arnha* (1826) 30 He swat and yarkit wi' his hammer.

3. *fig.* To beat, lash, flagellate (as with sharp words or treatment); hence, to stir up, excite.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 10 Arrius will shake the Church: Macchiauell will yerke the Commonwealth. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* III. (1608) E 2, If it hit, and that I yearke my familist out of the Spirit. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* C 5, I with my Pen doe meane to yerke and ferke ye. 1786 BURNS *To J. S——* iv, My fancy yerket up sublime Wi' hasty summon. 1797 T. POOLE in Mrs. H. Sandford *T. P & Friends* (1888) I. 221 The weight of government, which our ministry has cause[d] to touch and yark every individual where he never felt it before. 1819 KEATS *Otho* III. ii, Ayr, Satan! does that yerk ye? 1828 JAMIESON, *To Yerk, Yark*, figuratively applied to the rays of the sun, when they beat powerfully on any object. 1874 OUTRAM *Anomaly* vi, In vain he yerked his souple head, To find an ambiguity.

b. *intr.* To gird or carp *at*.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 392 Almost in every Paragraph, either he yerketh at his neighbours credit, or commendeth his owne chickens. 1826 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 124 Onything's mair preferable than yerk yerkin at every thing said by a wiser man than yoursel.

4. *trans.* To pull, push, or throw with a sudden movement; to jerk.

1568 J. FEN tr. *Osorius' Confut. Haddon* I. 7 b, When you are pricked and yearked foorth with the goades of your owne madnes. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 65 He that yerks old angells out apace. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* D 3 b, But when I yerkt them [*i.e.* dice] forth, away they ranne like Irish Lackeys. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 83 When a great sea comes to yerk up the ship. 1760 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Yark*, to push or strike. 1822 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 236 A gray beaver..yerked a little on one side. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bibbery Thurland* I. xiv. 258 He..seized the parson by the chin and ears and yerked him upwards several times. 1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. xiii, I'd larn him how..to

yawk the reins with both hands. 1881 *Stamford Mercury* 27 Sept., He saw him knocking and yarking the horse about and swearing at it. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s.v., He yerkit to the yett wi' a bang. 1904 *Dundee Adv.* 2 Dec. 7 If any person went and asked a civil question he might get a besom 'yarked' at his head.

b. To utter spasmodically, 'jerk *out*' (words); to start, strike up (a song, etc.).

1604 Middleton *Fr. Hubburd's T.* C 3, He began to speake to the richest of our number, euer and anon, yerking out the word Fines. 1719 Ramsay *To Arbuckle* 14 Yerking those words out which lye nearest. 1818 G. Beattie *John O'Arnha* (1826) 57 A' the devils in a ring Yarkit up the Highland fling. 1892 Lumsden *Sheep-head & Trotters* 287 Yerk us aff a sang belyve.

† c. To 'get *up*' or compose rapidly or hastily, to 'dash off'. *Obs.*

1592 Nashe *Strange Newes* E 4 b, In a night & a day would he haue yarkt vp a Pamphlet as well as in seauen yeare. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 88 You are able to shape your aduersary an answere, and yerke vp a booke in a night.

5. To move (some part of the body) with a jerk or twitch; *esp.* to lash out with (the legs), as a horse.

1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 83 [Wounded steeds] with wilde rage Yerke out their armed heeles at their dead masters. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* II. (1617) 171 You shall obserue that when he yarketh, he yark out his hinder feete euen and close together. 1623 — *Cheap Husb.* (ed. 3) I. ii. 17 When a horse yerketh out his nose. 1651 *Loves of Hero & Leander* (1653) 16 Leander now turns on his back, He yerks out legs and lets arme slack. 1726 *Dict. Rusticum* (ed. 3) s.v. *Capriole*, The Goat-leap, when a horse at the full height of his Leap, yerks or strikes out his hind legs. 1822 Scott *Betrothed* xiii, Mahound yerked out his hoofs. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s.v., T'horse yarkd out baath his hinder fit.

b. *intr.* To lash or strike *out* with the heels, to kick.

1565 [see *yerking* below]. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 190 The sooner that poore beast is strucke the sooner doth he yerke. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 719 The horse.. would let no man get vp on his backe,..but would yerke out at them. 1588 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 158 b, He [*sc.* the horse] .chaufeth & champeth vpon the bridle, cosmeth a lout, yerketh out with his heeles behinde. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *S'agremper*, He would yearke out behind. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. viii. 36 He fell a Trotting, and Winsing, and Yerking.

transf. 1620 Fletcher *Sea-Voy.* I. i, How she [*sc.* a ship] kicks and yerks.

6. *intr.* To spring or rise suddenly: esp. of animals.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* vi. 54 So doth the Salmon vaut: And if at first he faile, his second summersaut Hee instantlie assailes, and from his nimble ring Still yerking [etc.]. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Yark*, to rise hastily. 'He yarks up i' th' smert of a cat [= instantly]. 1892 *Mem. Dean Hole* xvi. (1893) 193 It [*sc.* a snipe] yarked up, and screeted, and I nipped round, and blazed. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, We saw the wee flag yark up to the maist-heid.

b. *fig.* To engage eagerly in some proceeding, to 'pitch *into*'.

1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 103 Thoughts are free, tho' I mayna sae mickle I can yerk at the thinking. 1807 J. Stagg *Poems* 52 Some teymes I'm winter neeghts, when dark We'd into th' Ladies Di'rys yark. 1892 Lumsden *Sheep-head & Trotters* 181 We hae a lang tramp to yerk till in the morning. *Ibid.* 257 Now Dominie, yerk in.

Hence **Yerking**, **yarking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (in various senses: see above and quots.).

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Excussores equi*, flingyng and yerkyng horses. 1587 Fleming in Holinshed *Chron.* III. 819 The fox..not able to beare the yerking of his [*sc.* the lion's] taile, or a pelt of his paw. 1589 — *Virg. Georg.* III. 348 Seest thou not that neither bit and bridle .Nor cruell yerkings,.. do stop or stay Horsses from mares. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 11 And what comparable to this spowte of yarking eloquence? 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* Proem., Quake guzzell dogs,..Skud from the lashes of my yerking rime. 1605 *Play Stucley* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 254 We'll spur your Iennet Until with yarking she do breake her girths. 1624 Gee *Foot out of Snare* App. 114 A song of the same smart-yerking tune. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horseman.* 2 The horse..never gave over flinging, yarking, plunging, and bownding. 1689 T. Plunket *Char. Cl. Comm.* 47 Are all the yerking Muses fallen asleep? 1787 W. Taylor *Sc. Poems* 127 Mornin clocks an' yarkin hammers Reviv'd us by their tunefu' yammers. 1825 Jamieson, *Yerkin*, the seam by which the hinder part of the upper leather of a shoe is joined to the forepart, Berwicks., Dumfr. 1892 Lumsden *Sheep-head & Trotters* 286 Hootsman..proposed that Rob Clarty..should give us some of his ruels ..for the yerking off of which Rob..is..a famous hand.

Yerk, obs. form of Irk.

Yerker. [f. Yerk *v.* + -er 1.] a. One who yerks; a kicker; a flogger. b. 'A sudden and very severe blow' (Jam. 1825).

1664 Gouldman *Dict.* I. (1669), A yerker out, *sternax*. 1678 Littleton *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, A yerker or whipster, *plagosus Orbilius*.

Yerl, yerle, obs. or Sc. ff. Earl.

Yerle, -ly, obs. ff. Early, Yearly.

Yerm, variant of Yarm *v.*

† **Yern**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 georn, 3 georn, 3–5 3ern, (4 3arn, yerin), 4–5 3erne, yerne, 5 yarne, yherne, 6 yorne, yearne, (9 *dial.* jern). [OE. *georn* = OS. *gern*, OHG. *gern*, *kern* (MHG. *gern*, G. *-gern*), ON. *gjarn*, Goth. *-gairns* (in *seinagairns* selfish, *faihugairns* covetous), also OS. *-gerni* (MLG. *gerne*), OHG. **gerni*, *kerni* (MHG. *-gerne*); f. Teut. *ger-*: see Yere *v.* and cf. Yeaun *v.*]

1. Eager, earnestly or keenly desirous; also, greedy, covetous.

c 893 *Ælfred Oros.* III. viii. 120 For þæm þe mycler þara folca was þæs gefeohtes georn. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 Ne sceal he eac beon to 3eorn deadra manna feoa. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1051 Ic eom ufes fus..edleanan 3eorn. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 236 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 175 Þa þe weren swa lese þet me hom ne mihte ileuen Med-ierne domes men & wrongwise reuen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 14638 (Gött.) Þat 3e war sarf 3arn haue i bene. *c* 1405 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. x. 852 To fecht wiþ him þai wer full 3arne [*v.r.* yherne]. [1905 *Engl. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Yearn*, In phr. *to be yern on a thing*, to be bent on it. Shr., Mtg. I'm yern on this or that.]

b. Earnestly occupied or engaged, busy (*about* something).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8205 (Cott.) O þaa wandes grett losc þai made, Þe king abute þaim was ful gern [*v.rr.* 3ernde]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 147 Þer was a tonne of bras..into þe whelle tonne he was put and closyd þeryn, and fure made vndyr hote, and so þei weren 3erne about for þat Seynt Ion schuld haue ben brent þeryn.

2. Swift, rapid; brisk, lively; nimble, active.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23588 (Edinb.) Sun and mon, and water and stern, þat rinnes now wit ras sa yerin. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 71 But of hir song, it was as loude and yerne As any swalwe sittynge on a berne. *c* 1515 *Scottish Field* 571 (Chetham Misc. II.) Yorkshippe [*sic*] like yorne [*v.r.* (Percy MS.) yearne] men, egarly they foughten!

† **Yern**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 3elernan, 3eyrnan, *Nth.* 3elorna, 3–4 3urne, 3irne, 4–5 3erne, yerne. *Pa. t. a.* (*str.*) 1 3earn, (3arn, 3eharn), 3iarn, *pl.* 3eurnon, 3e-uurnun, 3iurnun, 3–4 3orn, 4 yorn, 3orne, yorne, yourne, 3arn, yarn, 5 yarne, yurne; *β.* (*wk.*) 1 *pl.* 3eesrndon, 4 yerned. *Pa. pple.* 1 3eurnen (see Yearn *v.*2 etym.); 4 y3arned. [OE. *geiernan*, *geærnan*: see Y- *prefix* 3 c and Run *v.* For the specific sense 'to curdle' see Yearn *v.*2]

1. *intr.* = Run *v.* 1, 4, 5.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. vi. (1890) 400 Þa 3earndon hio sume ðrage, & eft hwurfon. *c* 900 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* xii. (1900) 88, & þa him gangendum in þam wege him onzen 3eurnon [*v.r.* urnon] þer ærendracan. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 749 (Land 108), To boure he gan 3erne. 13.. *K. Alis.* 565 (Laud MS.), Of wilde beestes com a grete pray, 3erned þoruzout þe contray. *Ibid.* 2699 Forthe [he] is wiþ þat 3arned [*rime* forbarnd: *v.r.* yrounc, *rime* brenne]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 881 Bot þat þe 3onge men, so 3epe, 3ornen þer-oute. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 213 (MS. R.) Emperoures..þurȝ ȝiftes han 3oumen to 3erneп [*v.r.* renne] and to ride. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 561 The maryners..yorne awey, with good wylle, Well hastyly. *Ibid.* 965 Vpon a stede he gan yerne With sper and scheld. *c* 1400 *St. Jer. 15 Tokens* 45 Þe deuelen willen come 3ernend & speten fire & blast. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 74 He saw a mych flote of wylde swyne yernynge vp-on hugh & moryce. *Ibid.* 82 He yarne to anellych for to socur hym.

b. = Run *v.* 9.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 298 Þes circul ys todæled ontwelf, & seo sunne 3eyrnð þas twelf fætu binnan .xii. mondum. *Ibid.* 320 Saturnus ys se ytemesta þe 3eyrnð his ryne binnan þrittigum wintrum. 1340 *Ayenb.* 84 Stedeuest and lestinde ase þe zonne, þet alneway yeirnþ and ne is neure wery. *Ibid.* 141 [see *yerning* below].

2. = Run *v.* 20.

1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Vor hit behoueþ þet zuich wyn yerne by þe teppe, nase þer is ine þe tonne. ' 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 376 (MS. B) Water..Eyerlich 3ernynge out of mennes eyen. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 105 Þe streem of Egipte þat 3erneþ westward in to þe grete see. *a* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8671 (MS. C) Þe blod 3orn to grounde.

3. *fig.* = Run *v.* 27, 29, 31.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxviii[i]. (1890) 366 Þa 3eorn ðær sona upp 3enihtsumlic yrȝ & wæstm. *c* 900 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* xxi. (1900) 147 Swa hwæt swa þe on mod 3eurne [orig. *gridiguid animo occurrit*], 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 529 Þenne al ryper & rotez þat ros vpon fyrst, & þus 3irnes þe 3ere in 3isterdayez mony. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 59, I forȝat 3outhe and 3arn [*v.rr.* yarne, 3erne: 1393 3orn(e, 3arn] in-to elde. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XIX. 165 Enuye and vuel will 3orn in þe lewes.

Hence † **Yerning** *vbl. sb.*, running, course; *ppl. a.*, running; also † **Yerner**, a runner.

1340 *Ayenb.* 141 Þe sterre þet hatte saturne,..þet asemoche yernþ in onelepi daye mid þe firmament..ase he deþ ine þrittí yer ine his oȝene sercle and ine his oȝene yerninge. *Ibid.* 253 Þe melle wyþoute schrue þet alne-way went be þe yernynge of þe wetere. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 13 þanne þa province was swiþe destourbed by remynge of [*MS.* y 3urnyng and] reses of straungers. *a* 1400 *Prayer & Compl. Ploughman* (1531) F ii, Thou ne madest none suche shepherdes ne kepers of thy schepe, that weren yerners aboute countreya. *a* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8288 (MS. C) Þe 3urnende water was of hor blod al red. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 94 Bytwene twe perylle:—on on halue, þe wode-yernynge waiȝe so grysly; on other halue, hys fomen.

Yern(e, obs. ff. Earn *v.*1, Iron, Yarn, Yearn.

Yern-bliter, var. Earn-bleater, snipe.

1755 R. Forbes *Jrnl. from London* in *Ajax his Sp.* 35 Afore the levrick or yern-bliter began to sing.

† **Yerne**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 3eorne, 3yrne, 2–4 3eorne, 2–5 3orne, 2–6 3erne, 3 (*Orm.*) 3errne, 4 3ern, 3iern(e, 4–5 yerne, 3urne, 3arne, 4–6 yern, 3arn, 5 3yrne, yorne, yurne, yarn, 6 yarne. [OE. *georne* = OFris. *gerne*, *jerne* (Fris. *jearne*), OS. *gerno* (MDu. *gherne*, *geerne*, Du. *gaarne*), OHG. *gerno* (MHG. *gerne*, G. *gern*), ON. *gjarna* (Sw. *gerna*, *gärna*, Da. *gerne*); adv. of OE. *georn*, etc.: see Yern *a.*]

1. Eagerly, earnestly, diligently, zealously, heartily.

Beowulf 2209 Hordweard sohte georne after grunde. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1083 Þa wreccan mæbemas..gyrne cheopedon to Gode his mildse biddende. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us þenne neod..3erne biddan ure milcionde drihten þet [etc.]. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 49 Þider 3e sculen 3orne drazen. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men..wisten 3erne after ure lauerd hesu cristes tocume. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 101 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 108 Þe mon þe on his youþþe 3eorne 3eornep wit and wisdom. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 94 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 220, & bede 3ume oure louerdes grace þulke veyage to do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2789 (Cott.) 3ern [*Fairf.* 3orne] on þaim he cried merci! 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 547 The king then at thaim speryt 3arne, How thai..had farne. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 463) 35 Boþe be day, & be nyght, 3erne þei þonked our dright, & Seinte Marie. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6719 Thanne may he go abegging yerne Til he somme maner crafte kan lerne. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 727 Seynt Dunstone heyȝede hym fulle faste And 3yrne to god for hym he bedde. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 92 He..besoght ful 3orne þat he most allyaunce haue to har kynrede. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 447 Mynge hit yurne 3yl euery part vntyl on body turne. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. vii. 83 The blak swarm our the feildis walkis 3arn, Turnand throw the gers thar pray to hiddillis dern. *Ibid.* VI. vii. 44 The hiddillis held thai and the roddis darn, A myrrtre wod about thaim lowkit 3arn.

b. Willingly, gladly, 'fain'; *occas.* wilfully.

c 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* vii. § 2 Þonne scealt þu 3eorne 3ebolian 3ehwæt þæs þe to heora þenungum..belimpet. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Sif þu 3ierne waxest on godnesse,.. after þing þe þe beð bihese. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1526 3e, þat ar so cortays & coynt of your hetes, Oghe to a 3onke þynk 3ern to schewe, & teche sum tokenez of trweluf crafteз. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 12 And I trespase agens the 3erne. *a* 1508 Dunbar *Two Married Women* 129 He trowis that 3oung folk I 3erne 3uild.

c. Thoroughly, well.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxix. 3 He wiste ful 3eorne þæt god hine lufode. 12.. *Moral Ode* 346 (Egerton MS.) Þat buð ða þe heom sculdeð 3eorne, wid elche un-ȝeawe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1588 Hire luste swiče 3eorne speoken mit te meiden. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 199 Þu hit wost ful 3eorne þet þe deouel hateð me.

2. a. Quickly, swiftly, rapidly, fast, briskly, at a great rate.

a 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* II. (1883) 18 Hit to ðam dome nu 3eorne nealæcð. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 498 A 3ere 3ernes ful 3erne, & 3eldez neuer lyke. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 70 Myne handes and my tonge goon so yerne That it is ioye to se my bisynesse. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* XXIII. 159 Sleuthe wax wonder 3erne and sone was of age. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 174 The mayster may his prentes so enforme, That hys hure may crese ful 3urne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 3arne, hastyly (*P.* 3urne or fast), *festinanter*. 1443–9 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 12 There he lyted and knokkyd on the gate, and we folwyd as 3arn as we myth. 1493 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) IX. viii. 358/1 Bere he his sayle neuer soo hyghe, & go he neuer soo yerne. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1299 There nis no swallow swift..ne half so 3ern can fly.

b. Quickly, without delay, immediately, directly, soon. Also *as yerne* (see As A. 5 c).

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3065 Hennes 3ern þou fle Out of sizt mine. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1252 3eld þe to me 3eply or 3erne þou schalt dete. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 376 Achilles with his spere Myn herte cleue,..yf I late or yerne Wolde it by-wreye. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* II. 402 Wyth that he sprack to me so yerne And seyde. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 12 3if 3e be gylty, be sory in herte,..and 3erne, wyth full sorwe of herte, beeth schreuyn. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* CIX. vi, And then the kyng made hym byshop as yerne Of Winchester.

† **Yernly**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 3eornlice, 2–3 3eornliche, 3 3eorneliche, 3ernliche, 3iernliche, 3ornliche, 4 3ernely; *comp.* 3 3crenluker, 3eorneluker, 4 3ernloker; *sup.* 2 3eornlucost. [OE. *geornlice* = OHG. *gernlihho* = ON. *giarnliga*: see Yern *a.* and -ly 2.] = prec. 1.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 38 *Obnixe*, 3eornlice. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. iii. (1890) 268 He..3eornlice in his 3ebedе hleoðrade. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. II. 8 Farað & axiað 3eornlice be þam cilde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Þe feorðe unþeu is þet þe riche mon..bihude his sayle neuer soo hyȝhe, & 3eornliche halde hit. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Men bien swo wiðerfulle þat, swo he 3eornluker clepeð hem to him, swo hie wiðere turneð froward him. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 100 Hercneð nu 3eornliche, mine leoue sustren. *c* 1275 Lay. 15593 Hii.. 3ornliche luste Of þes vncouþe tale. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 593 Nas her 3ong mon ne old þat 3ernloker wrouste. *a* 1400 *Kelig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 55 Damsele Discrecyone..sall..3ernely luke þat all go wele.

† **Yerr**, *sb. Obs.* In 3 3eor, 3ur, 4–5 3erre. [f. next.] A loud or harsh cry, yell, howl.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Mid tine schulen þe uorlovene worpen a swuch 3eor [*MS. T.* 3ur, *MS. C.* 3ei] þet heouene & eorðe muwen beoðe grisliche agrisen. *a* 1225 *Juliana* (Bodl. MS.) 51 [He] bigon swa te 3urren þat monie weren awundret hwet tet 3ur were. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5049 So did his princes..With 3edire 3onkingis & 3erre 3ett out to grete.

† **Yerr**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 3yrran, 3 3eorre, 3ure (*pa. t. pl.* 3urren), 4–5 3ere. [OE. **gierran*, *3yrran* str. vb., f. echoic stem *gur-*: cf. Garre, Yar(e, etc.] *intr.* To make a harsh noise, creak, roar, rattle; to cry out loudly, yell, howl.

a 1000 *Andreas* 374 Strengas 3urron. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* (1900) 194/13 *Garrio*, ic [*sc.* a file] 3yrre. *c* 1205 Lay. 28358 3urren þa stanes Mid þan blod-stremes. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2041 Þer me mahte iheren þe heaðene huudes 3ellen & 3eien & 3urren. *a* 1225 *Juliana* (Royal MS.) 50 Monie weren awundret hwet te 3uring mahte beon. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 305 in *O. E. Misc.* 83 He yeorreþ & heo gredeþ, þe feondes heom forþ ledeþ. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4745 Vnquite he noys as a nowte as a nox queen he lawes, 3arnand & 3erand a 3eten him semed.

Yersel, Sc. form of Yourself.

Yerst, Yesutendai, obs. ff. East, Yesterday.

† **Yert.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; combines the symbolic elements, initially of *yerk*, finally

of *blurt, flirt, spirt, squirt.*] = YERK *sb.* 1.

point, name of some game (cf. *blow-point* s.v. BLOW- 3).

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXI. (1555) T ij, At every yerte she made godfrey to skyppe. 1659 *Lady Alimony* II. v, All his games..Are yert-point, ninepins, job-nut, or span-counter.

Yerth, obs. form of EARTH.

Yerve: see HERBA, YERBA.

Yes, *sb.*1 *dial.* Also 8 **yesse**, 9 **yis**, **yeah**. [Variant of EASE, prob. the same word as EEL, OE. *ǽs* food, bait.] The earthworm.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Yesse*, an earth-worm, particularly those called dew-worms. W. *c* 1820 *Quadrell's Sayings* (1888) 33 Yeshes..are large worms which they make use of as baits..to catch eels. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Yes.* 1863 BARNES *Dorset Gloss., Yis.*

Yes (yes), *adv.* (*sb.*2) Forms: *a.* 1 **ġese**, 3–4 **ȝes**, 4–5 **ȝeis**, (5 **yhes**, **ȝeyese**, **yesse**, 9 *dial.* **ees**), 5– **yes**. *β.* 1 **ȝise**, 2–4 **ȝise**, (4 **yijs**), 4–5 **ȝhis**, **ȝys**, 4–6 **ȝis**, 4–6 (9 *dial.*) **yis**, (5 **yhis**, **yys**, **ȝisse**, 6 **yisse**, 6–7 **is**, 9 *dial.* **iss**). *γ.* 1 **ȝese**, 3 **ȝuse**, 4 **ȝhus**, **yus**, 4–5 **ȝus**, (5 **ȝeus**). [An affirmative word confined to English: OE. *ġese, ġise, ġýst*, the forms of which point to early WS. **ġiese* :— **ġeast*, prob. f *ġéa* YEA + *sī* 3 sing. pres. subj. of *bēon* to be; a similar formation is seen in *nese* (Northumb. *næse, næsi*), prob. f. *ne* NE *adv.* + *sī* (as above).

The acceptance of this derivation necessitates the assumption that *ġese* was orig. applicable as an answer to a particular class of question, which is intrinsically not improbable. The suggested derivation from **ġea swā* 'yea, so' is phonologically inadequate.

The pronunciation (yis), still widespread in dialects, was formerly current in polite speech and is recorded as such in Walker's *Pronouncing Dict.*]

A word used to express an affirmative reply to a question, statement, command, etc.

1. In answer to a question not involving a negative; standing for the affirmative sentence corresponding to the interrogative one constituting the question: = 'It is so.' Phr. *To say yes*: to assent, comply; *spec.* to accept a proposal of marriage.

Formerly usually more emphatic than *yea* or *ay*; in later use taking the place of these as the ordinary affirmative particle: cf. 2 below.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 14 Hwi I wolde God swa lytles þinges him forwyrnan..? Xyse; hu mihte Adam tocnawan (etc.). *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 31 Hwat seist þu, Dauiδ? Haſst þu anize sikernesse heroſ?..' ȝise,' [he] seiδ,' bieδ all siker of godes behate.' 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 470 (MS. E.) The kyng ..speit..Gif ony man couth tell tithand Of any strange man in that land. 'ȝhis [*v.r.* ȝai]', said a woman, 'schir, perfay, Of strange men I can ȝow say'. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 341 Panne þe kyng com, and þe pope axede of hym gif he hadde i-holde his oth...þe kyng.. seide 'ȝis al at þe fulle'. *Ibi d.* VIII. 313 Of þis erle..is ofte greet stryf.., wheher he schulde be accounted for [*v.r.* among] seyntes oþer none. Some seyn ȝis..Oþer seien þe contrarie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 ȝys, *ita, etiam.* 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXIV. ix, Haue you hym sene in any time before? Yes yes quod she. 1583 HOLLYBAND *Campo di Flor* 227 Hast thou found thy Tuculans questions? Is, so evill favoured that I knew them not. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iii. 25 *Duk.* Lone you the man that wrong'd you? *Isa.* Yes, as I loue the woman that wrong'd him. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 584, *a. Bro.*..Is this the confidence You gave me Brother? *Eld. Bro.* Yes, and keep it still. 1747 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 28 July, Bergen-op-zoom still holds out, and is the first place that has not said yes, the moment the French asked it the question. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. Introd. 45 Will spring return,..And blossoms clothe the hawthorn spray? Yes, prattlers, yes; the daisy's flower Again shall paint your summer bower. 1866 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Lizzie Lorton* xvi, 'Is it a nice clean place?' asked Aunt Harriet. ..'Yis I yis I clean enough!' said Isaac. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv. (1885) 221 She'd never say 'Yes' to a man she didn't care for. 1917 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Pol. & Pers.* IV. x. 364 Is it wise to be prepared for this evil? Until the dream of a universal..disarmament is realized, surely yes.

b. *Yes and No*: a round game (see quots.).

1843 DICKENS *Chr. Carol* iii, It was a Game called Yes and No, where Scrooge's nephew had to think of something, and the rest must find out what; he only answering to their questions yes or no, as the case was. 1854 *Round Games* (ed. 2) 112 Yes and No. This game was formerly called *Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral.* A player was sent out of the room, and a word (or rather thing) thought of. The player was called in, and proceeded to ask certain members of the company to which of the three kingdoms—*animal, vegetable*, or *mineral*—the object in question belonged... He then proceeded to ask other questions, to which the players were only compelled to answer 'Yes' or 'No'.

2. a. In answer to a question involving a negative.

Formerly regularly used thus (and as in b) in distinction from *yea* (see YEA 1); the distinction became obsolete soon after 1600, and since then *yes* has been the ordinary affirmative particle in reply to any question positive or negative, and *yea* has become archaic. The distinction was still observed in the Bible of 1611, in which *yea* occurs four times (all in N. T.), always after a negative question or statement; the Revisers of 1881, apparently in ignorance of the usage, have altered it in all these instances to *yes*.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 4 Wenst þu þæt se godcunda anweald ne mihte afyrran þone anwealdan þam unrihtwisan kasere, ..gif he wolde? Xise, la, ȝese; ic wat þæt he mihte, gif he wolde. *Ibid.* XXXIV. § 6 Þu cwæδ be; Ne sæde ic þe nǽr þæt sio ȝesælδ good were? Xyse, cwæδ ic, ȝa þu þæt ..þæt hio best hæbste good were. *c* 1200 *Ayenb.* 144 Matt. xvii. 25 Eower lareow.. xyit he gafol? Þa cwæδ he: Ȝyse, he deδ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 392 Ne mahte he mid leasse gref haldren teod us? Ȝe [*MS. T.* yese I wis, *MS. C.* ȝus I wis]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3008 (Cott.) 'How sua, es þar na moþer king?' 'Yus [*Gött.* ȝeis], bot he dus sakins thing.' *c* 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* VII. 499 Nys þys god leye? ȝea, y-wys, god leye hys. 13.. *Cursor M.* 9561 (Gött.) 'Ne sal þai all þer-fore liue?' 'Yis,' said ver inuesd. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 84 Trow ye nocht than that thai Sall vencust in thair bertis be? Ȝhus, sall thai. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) IV. xx. 66 Myn hertes greef, mote I not wepe? O yis. *c* 1440 *Merlin* III. 54 'Haue ye no mynde of the saraȝins..?' And thei seide, 'Yesse, full wele.' *c* 1440 *Cov. Myst.* XXX. (Shaks. Soc.) 296 Thynk þe not he is worthy to dey? *Et clamabant omnes.* 'ȝys I ȝys I ȝys I alle we seye he is worthy to dey, ȝa I ȝa I ȝa I' 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 997/1 Wold not the iudges trow you gesse them yᵉ hearing; yea yes I dout not. 1548 JOVE *Exp. Dan.* iii. 38 b, Did we not cast thre men bownde into the fyer? which answerd, yisse trwly oh kynge. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 128 *Val.* What means your Ladiship? Doe you not like it? *Sil.* Yes, yes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 255 Was not the hand of the Almighty..able also, to drowne their..plaines with water? Yes and doubtlesse yes. 1646 VAUGHAN *Jnv. Sat. x.* 485 But thy spruce boy must touch no other face Then a Patrician? Is of any race So they be rich. 1779 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 308 *B.* 'Is not the Giant's Causeway worth seeing?'—*J.* 'Worth seeing, yes; but not worth going to see.' 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xvi, 'You never can have walked, my dear?' 'Yes, I have.' 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* XXVII, 'I like to be always making acquaintances, don't you?' 'Lord, yes!'

b. In contradiction of or opposition to a negative statement expressed or implied, or a negative command or request.

Now usually accompanied by a short asseverative phrase echoing the preceding statement; e. g. in quot. 1611, mod. colloq. usage would require *Yes, it was.*

c 1205 LAY. 17208 Þa andswarede þe king; Merlin þu sæist sellic þing Þe nauere nan iboren mon Ne nanie heom bringgen þonne..Hu mihte ich heom þenne Heom bringen þeonne? Þa andswerede Merlin þun k nge.. ȝuse, ȝuse laueri king. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1240 (Gött.) 'Sun,' he said, 'þe bus ga To paradis þat I cam fra...' 'Ja, sir, wist I quebirward..' 'Ȝeis,' he said, 'I sal þe tell and say, Hugat þu sal ta þi right way.' *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 1567 'Ȝe, wist y þat,' seide william 'witterly to speke, Of alle harmes were ich hol.'..'Ȝis, be marie,' seide meliors 'misdrede þow neuer.' *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 5066 (Fairf.) We ar nost of a kithe saide he, ȝus þat salle I shew to þe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4659 Knowest hym ought? *Lamasnt.* Yhe, dame, parde. *Kaisoun.* Nay, nay. *Lamasnt.* Yhis, I. *c* 1420 [see YEA 4]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 252 Then..þe Iewe..snyde hit was not soo. 'ȝeus' quod þe cristyn man. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xx. 66 How sholdest thou knowe it, for thow arte not so old of yeres to knowe my fader, yes sayd Merlyn I knowe it better than ye or ony man lyuynge. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5052 We neuer saw thyne excellence Subdewit to sic Indigence. ȝis, sall he [*sc.* Christ] say, .. Quhen euer ȝe did ressaue the pure. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 49 *Isab.* Must he needs die? *Ang.* Malden, no remedie. *Isab.* Yes: I doe thinke that you might pardon him. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. iv. 52 *Post.*..My Quarrell was not altogether slight. *French.* Faith yes, to be put to the arbiterment of Swords. 1779 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 304 *Boswell.* 'You did not know what you were undertaking.' *Johnson.* 'Yes, Sir, I knew very well what I was undertaking.' 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, 'But it's not in the way, Charley.' 'Yes, it is,' said the boy, petulantly. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* XXVII, 'I do not know he ever preached there.' 'Oh, yes, he did.'

3. a. Expressing assent to a command, request, proposal, or summons.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4341 'Lauedi', he said, 'com to þi mete.' 'Yus,' sco said. *Ibid.* 7363 'Þat childs nam yee will me scau.' 'Yijs', he said, 'i sal þe ken To knau him a-mang oþer men.' *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 436 He bede hem pens mo..ȝif þai wald wiþ him go..'Ȝis' þai sworen þo. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 753, I telle hyt the vp a condicion That thou shalt hooly..Doo thyn entent to herkene hitte. Yis syr. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 440 in *Macro Plays* 90 Now go we forth..& bere þee manly euere a-mong ..*Humanum genus.* Ȝys, & elly3 haue þou my necke. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xv. 93 Hast thow slayn my broder, thow shalt dye therfor or thou departe, wel said balen do it your self, yis sayde kyng pellam, ther shall no man haue ado with the, but my self. 1728 DR FOE *Street Robb. Consid.* 15 Prithee call him, Child, said he, to me,..Yes, Sir, said I. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, 'Joe!' 'Yes, sir.' 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* iii. § 82 Nay, but you will take Christinn ornament—purest mediæval Christian—thirteenth century! Yes: and do you suppose you will find the Christian less human? 1898 G. B. SHAW *Mrs. Warren's Prof.* I, *The Clergyman* (calling). Frank! *Frank*...Yes, gov'nor.

b. Expressing assent to a statement or implication.

a 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 5079 'Be his knyȝtis as kene as me þis cornes shewis, All þe werd war to walke his wrothe to with-stand.'..'Ȝis, he ledis bot a lite, lord, with ȝoure lefe ..Bot mare fersere in feld fell neuire of modire.' 1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* IV. vi, *Syr.* I heare she is ranne mad. *Aur.* Ie. 1723 C. WALKER *Mem. Sally Salisb.* 26 She would bring out a Word something like Abdication, in this manner, Yes, yes, Abdillication was of great use to you, &c. 1732 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 5 Yes, you despise the man to books confin'd, Who from his study rails at human kind. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 77 *Henry.* This is not the way, Mamma; it leads behind those trees that grow Close to the little river. *Helen.* Yes: I know: I was bewildered. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiv, 'They must have been very nice men, both of 'em.'..'Yes, they were,..very nice men indeed!' 1898 'MERIDIAN' *Ridden's Corner* vii. 74 The exquisite sense of humour had also slightly evaporated. People said, 'Oh yes, very funny,' than which nothing is more fatal to humour. *Ibid.* viii. 82 'But we were talking of Mr. Cornish.' 'Yes', answered Dorothy...'Yes; but I must not talk any longer or I shall be late.'

c. Expressing concessive assent (sometimes sarcastically), and introducing an objection: often repeated in sign of impatience.

1596 SHAKS. *Hamlet V.* i. iii. 34 *Iam.*..May I speake with Anthonio? *Bass.* If it please you to dine with vs. *Iam.* Yes, to smell porke. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxii, 'Miss Ophelia has taught Topsy to read', continued Eva. 'Yes, and you see how much good it does.' 1865 'L. CARROLL' *Alice's Adv. in Wonderland* vii, 'It was the *best* butter.'..'Yes, but some crumbs must have got in as well.' 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* XXV, One morning I said:—'There is an American party.' Harris said,—'Yes, but name the State.'

d. (Usually interrogative.) Expressing provisional assent, with desire for further information or statement; hence as an inquiry addressed to a person waiting in silence (= 'what is it?' 'what do you want?'); also as a mere expression of interest (= 'indeed?' 'is it so?').

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iv, If you are an Englishman, he expects that that railroad is pretty much like an English railroad. If you say 'No', he says 'Yes?' (interrogatively) and asks in what respect they differ. You enumerate the heads of difference one by one, and he says 'Yes?' (still interrogatively) to each. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* i, My landlady's daughter...Tender-eyed blonde. Long ringlets...Says 'Yes?' when you tell her anything. *Ibid.* 'I was only giving some hints on the fine arts.' 'Yes?' 1898 *Punch* 16 Apr. 173/1 After a few moments I was joined by a gentleman...'Yes?' he said, in a tone of interrogation.

4. Used to emphasize or strengthen the speaker's own preceding statement: = YEA 3.

In first quot. perh. used as an ordinary intensive adverb: = YEA 2.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 108 Surely I thinke you haue charmes, la: yes in truth. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. ii. 176, I say, take heed; Yes, heartily beseech you. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxii, 'Ah, Madam', cried her mother, 'this is but a poor place you are come to after so much finery...Yes, Miss Livy, your poor father and I have suffered very much of late.' 1810 CRABBE *Borough* XXII. 72 His father's love he scorn'd,..But surely drunk, wept sorely when he died. Yes! then he wept. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* iv, 'The race of Dermid, whose children murdered—yes', she added, with a wild shriek, 'murdered your mother's fathers.' 1865 MEREDITH *Vittoria* iv, 'He rendered payment for it', said Agostino. 'He perished; yes! as we shake dust to the winds.' 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Beetle's Childr.* ii, He was living a month ago, and drunk enough to knock me down. Yes, *me*..*me* with a babe of a month old.

†5. In construction after a verb of thinking, etc., standing for a clause expressing affirmation or assent: = YEA 1 e. *Obs.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* ix. 24 Then Huon..demandyd yf he myght ryde or not, 'brother' quod Gerarde 'I thynke yes.' 1634 CAINE *Access. Separ.* v. 218 His wordes import positively *no*, but we are sure *yes*. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. xv, Thou shalt not disobey them. It were better for thee not. Better a hundred deaths than yes.

¶ *O yes* (formula introducing a crier's announcement): see OYEZ.

B. as *sb.* (Pl. *yes's, yeses.*) An utterance of the word 'yes'; an affirmative reply, or expression of assent: often opposed to *no*.

[*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlii. 308 Wene ge ðæt ænðer sie mid me ge ȝise ge nese?] 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 P 4 Her innocent forsooths, yes's, and't please you's ..moved the good old Lady to..hire her for her own Maid. 1775 SHERIDAN in *Sheridaniana* (1826) 62 No pearly teeth rejoice my view, Unless a 'yes' displays their hue. 1809 SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. xvii. 89 Madoc smiling on the Maid,.. lightly gave the yes. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 898 Striving their ghastly malady to cheer, By thinking it a thing of yes and no, That housewives talk of. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby Genteel Story* v, Dear yeses and noes, how beautiful you are when gently whispered by pretty lips! 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xvii. 9 Roses are her cheeks, And a rose her mouth When the happy Yes Falters from her lips. 1866 MEREDITH *Vittoria* II, 'Said yes!' he remarked. 'He might say no, for a diversion. He has yeses enough in his pay to earn a Cardinal's hat.' 1879 L. HOFFMANN *Drawing-r. Amusem.* ii. 41 The 'Twenty Questions'...He is limited to twenty questions, which, with one exception, must be of such a character as to be answered by a simple 'Yes' or 'No'.

Hence **Yes** *v. intr.*, to say 'yes'; to assent: opp. to No *v.* (see after No *adv.*3 and *sb.*).

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 271 Thy hat low dangling from thy better hand, *Yes*-ing and *No*-ing to the great man's will. 1891 J. K. STEPHEN *Quo Musa Tendis?* 56, I don't know what we talked about; I smiled; the same old smile: I 'yes'd' and 'no'd' and 'really'd', till I thought he must discover That I was listening to the band.

Yes, obs. pl. of EYE; obs. f. ICE.

Ye'se = *ye shall*: see SHALL A. 5.

Yesk: see YEX.

Yesse, obs. f. YES *sb.* and *adv.*

‖**Yesso.** *Obs.* [Sp. *yeso* GYPSUM.] = GESSO.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (ed. xiv. (1535) 149 Ye made my figure with fete of straw, my legges of ambre,..the heed of yesso. 1619 *Fanquil's Palin.* 148, With Yesso they him purge, with Lime they choake him.

b. Applied to a kind of plaster which is trodden with grapes in the making of wine in Spain.

1875 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* 932.

Yest, slang abbreviation of YESTERDAY.

1705 *New Cant. Dict., Yest*, a Diminutive of *Yesterday*.

Yest, etc., obs. f. YEAST, etc.

Yeste, obs. graphic variant of *ieste*. GENT *sb.*1

13.. *Octavian* 279 (MS. Ff. ii. 38. If. 84) In yeste as we rede. 13.. *Sir Firumb.* 3693 (ibid. If. 121 b) Now begynnyth a yeste ageyn Of King Quore & Armyn.

Yesterneven, var. YESTERNEVEN *Obs.*

Yester (ye·stəɹ), *n., adv., sb.* [The first element of *yesterday, yesterevve*, etc., used as a separate word. Cf. next.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to yesterday. *poet.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron., Descr. Scot.* lx. 12/1 We haue such plenty of fishe,..that although Millions..of them be taken on the one day, yet on the next their losse wil so be supplied with new store, that nothing shal be missing by reason of the yesterfang. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* II. i. (1692) D 2 b, To love an Enemy,..whom yester Sun beheld, Must'ring her Charms. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 881 When the glimm'ring ray Of yester dawn disclos'd the tender day. 1737 GLOVER *Leonidas* VII. 31 Opposition more tremendous still And ruinous, than yester sun beheld. 1848 LYTTON *K. Arthur* XI. cxliv, Thro' paths his yester steps had fail'd to find. 1889 *Universal Rev.* Nov. 427 There all day long my yester journey was.

†**B.** *adv.* Yesterday. *Obs.*

1647 in *Essex Rev.* (1908) XVII. 134 Sir thomas farfax yester dined at the Tower. 1683 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 6 The other took his advertisement so ill that they were like to have fallen by the ears yester. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) Suppl., All the day yester.

†**C.** *sb.* Yesterday. Also *transf. Obs.*

a 1701 SEDLEY *Virg. Past.* vi. Wks. 1776 I. 307 With fumes of yester's wine the god was doz'd. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 390 (*Printer*), Ornamental printing—the last thing of yester's date.

Yester-, in comb. or as prefix = immediately preceding the present, last, in YESTEREVE, etc., after YESTERDAY, YESTERNIGHT; e. g. *yester-afternoon, -age, -noon, -week.* See also YESTER-YEAR.

1806 COLERIDGE *Let. to D. Stuart* 18 Aug., I..have found myself so unusually better ever since I leaped on land *yester-afternoon. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 97 A post of the first order..puts the life-blood of an equal interest into Hebrew forms or Greek, mediæval or modern, yesterday or *yesterage. 1895 HYDE CLARKE *Dict.*, *Yesternoon. 1872 M. COLLINS in Frances Collins *M. C., Lett.* etc., (1877) I. 106, I saw some swallows yesternoon at the parsonage. 1839 MRS. BROWNING *Kom. Page* xii, The lady Abbess dead before it, And the chanting nuns whom *yesterweek Her voice did charge and bless.

Yesterday (ye·stədɛ, -di), *adv., sb.*, and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 ȝeostran-, ȝystran-, ȝiostor-, ȝestor dæȝ, 3–6 ȝistor- (3 yhistre-, 4 ȝester-, ȝistir(e-, ȝystir-, ȝystyre-, ȝhister-, yhister-, ȝhystir-, ȝuster-, 5 ȝistur-, ȝystyr-, ȝyster-, ȝustir-, 6 ȝeister-, yister-, -ir-, 9 *dial.* yisser-), 4–yesterday. *B.* 1 ȝyrstan-, ȝierstandæȝ, 3 ȝersten-, ȝurster-, ȝursten-, ȝorsten-, ȝorstnen-, 4 ȝursday, 5 ȝurston-, yerstenday; 4 ȝistal, -av, 8 ye(r)stel. (Also 1–6 occas. as two words.) [OE. *geostran, gystran dæg*, Lindisf. Gosp. *gioster doeg*, Rushw. Gosp. *gestor dæge*, also with metathesis (WS.) *giertan, gyrstan dæg.* The only known parallel to this collocation is Goth. *gistradagis* αὔριον, to-morrow; in OE., the simple *giestron* is found only once, but in the other languages the simple word is regularly used alone in the sense of 'yesterday': OFris. **sester, *iers(t)ne* (NFris., WFris. *jister*, EFris. *jursen, jersten*), MLG. *gisteren, -ern(e*, (LG. *gistern, gilster(n)*, MDu. *ghisteren, ghister* (Du. *gisteren*, also *dag van gister*), OHG. *gestaron, gest(e)ron* (MHG. *gestern, gester*, G. *gestern*). The word has the form (with and without inflexional *-n*) of a comparative **ghistr-, ghjestr-* (cf. L. *hester-nus* of yesterday) of an Indo-eur. **ghjes* represented outside Teutonic by Skr. *hyás*, Gr. χθές, Alb. *dje*, L. *heri* yesterday (ON. *í gær* yesterday, to-morrow, shows a variant with long vowel).

The twofold meaning exhibited in the above forms and in OHG. *ïgestern* day before yesterday, day after to-morrow, indicates that the original application of the word was to a day preceding or following the present. The following apparent example of the English word with the meaning 'to-morrow' is isolated:—

1533 MORE *Apol.* 201, I geue them all playn peremptory warnynge now, that they dreue yt of no lenger. For yf they tarye tyll yesterday..I purpose to purchace suche a proteccyon for them [etc.].

A. *adv.* **1.** On the day immediately preceding the present day. Also, in reported speech, on the day last past, the day before.

† *Ere yesterday*: the day before yesterday.

a. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 52 *Heri*, ȝiostor dœȝ (*Rushw.* ȝestor dæȝe, *Ags. Gosp.* ȝyrstan dæȝ, *Hatton* ȝystendaiȝ). *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2732 We witen wel quat is bi-tid, Quuow ȝister-dai was slaȝen and hid. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 330 Þou toldest me ȝusterday. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 124 Wnfayr thingis may fall, perfay, Als weill to-morn as ȝhisterday. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1632 ȝester day,..as we ryde forþ ryȝtes, Wiþ seuen glotouns mette we. *c* 1450 *Northern Passion* 160/404 ȝistirday were þai redis thre, Now are thay closed in to a tre. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lv. 131 As it was ȝisterday and þe oþir day. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxxi. 2 Iacob beheilde Labans countenaunce, & beholde, it was not towarde him as yesterdaye and yerstendaye. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 76 Mr George answerit and said,..wald they send to him the honest and godlie man that maid the sermone ȝeisterday, he wald oppin his mynd into him. 1585 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* (1861) Ep. Ded 1 For hereby, this present time behouldeth the accidentes of former times, as if they had bin done but yesterdaie. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 123 But yesterday, the word of Cæsar might Haue stood against the World: Now lies he there, And none so poore to do him reuerence. 1675 LD. CONWAY in *Essex Papers* (Camden 1913) II The Debate there was yesterday and to day in the House of Commons. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* XI, He was well, had left them all well at Mansfield, and was to dine, as yesterday, with the Frasers. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 82 As tho' 'twere yesterday, as tho' it were The hour just flown. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 30 Children dear, was it yesterday We heard the sweet bells over the bay? 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 212 All evidence of the deep track which they had formed yesterday having been swept away.

β. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XXXI. 5 Ic geseo on eowres fæder ȝewum, ȝæt he nys swa wel wiþ me ȝeworht, swa he wæs ȝyrstan dæȝ and þis æran dæȝ. *c* 1000 — *Saints' Lives* XXIII. 468 And bi..e us swa ȝeah rumlicor to-dæȝ be hlafe þonne ðu ȝebohtest ȝyrstan dæȝ. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 418/9 *Herne* (sic), ȝierstandæȝe. *c* 1205 LAY. 17063 ȝurstendæi [*c* 1275 ȝorstendai] ær none Ich wuste þat ȝe comen. *c* 1290 *S. Dominic* 198 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 883 Þes frere cam ȝurseterday to toune. 1455 *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 326 Yerstenday we wrote our lettres of our entent to..the Archebyshop of Caunterburye. 1788 *Voc. Forth & Bargie* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Yerstai*, yesterday; *our yestel*, the day before yesterday.

2. *transf.* A short time ago; only lately; the other day; now esp. in prov. phr. *I was not born yesterday*, etc.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 15 Anoþer seide, 'ȝisterday [*MS.* y ȝurstonday] he hadde þe peple at his hestes, and now þe peple hab hym at here hestes.' *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3304 (Ashm. MS.), I, þat was ȝustirday so ȝape & ȝemed all þe werld, To day am dreuyn all to dust. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* 153 b, From the kechyn to the quere and so to a state One yester day a courter is nowe a prest become. 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 116 Naked from the Womb We yesterday came forth; that in the Tomb Naked again We must To-morrow lye. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 264 Edinburgh..outstripped in population daily by towns that yesterday were hamlets. 1860 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xii, It is needless for me to observe that Mr. Sawyer was one of those individuals who are described in common parlance as not having been 'born yesterday'. 1895 SNAITH *Mistr. Dor. Marvin* xlviii, 'I wasn't born yesterday', he returned sweetly; 'methinks I am rather old in the tooth.'

B. *sb.* **1.** The day next before the present; also *pl.* past days (often in echoes of quot. 1605).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxix. [xc.] 4 Þusend wintra biȝ þon anlicast, swa ȝeostran dæȝ ȝegan wære [*a* 1300 *E. E. Ps.* Als yhistre-dai þat forth-yhed here]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 463 He..sone ȝederly for-ȝete ȝister-day steuen. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 145 Who þat foloweþ þe Medes, he schal haue þe trauaille of ȝister day [*MS.* y ȝuraday]. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* II. 252 My yesterdayes araye was to please my housbande. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 74 Well well (quoth she) what euer ye now saie, It is to late to call again yesterdaie. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* V. v. 22 And all our yesterdayes, haue lighted Fooles The way to dusty death. 1627 DONNE *Serm., John xiv.* 26 (1640) 285 Not for your yester-dayes, not for your yesternights sins. 1770 FARR in *Earl Malmesbury's Lett.* (1870) I. 425 The wind blowing very hard at east all that day, and still more so in the night and on yesterday. 1809 BYRON in Dallas *Corr. of B.* (1825) I. 39 Did you receive my yesterday's note? 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxiii, More of the youth I cannot say, Our captive but since yesterday. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* xviii. II. 144 The Junta, he said, had commenced their sittings on the yesterday. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxv, The same..gentleman he had seen yesterday, and many yesterdays before. 1899 FAIRBAIRN *Catholicism* I. § 5. 34 They tried to enrich the church of to-day with the wealth of all her yesterdays.

2. *transf.* Time not long past.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* viii. 9 (MS. Douce 369), Wee ben as ȝistal born, and wee han vnkunnyng. — *Isa.* xxx. 33 Greipid is fornoþe fro ȝistal tofeth. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 261 It ffallith as well to ffodis of xxiiij ȝeris, Or yonge men of yistirday to ȝeue good redis. As be cometh a kow to hoppe in a cage! 1555 PHILPOT in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 2012/2 We are but yesterdayes children,..& our dayes are lyke a shadow. 1570 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 125/1 Thy crucified Christe is but an yesterdayes God, the gods of yᵉ Gentiles are of most antiquitie. 1653 ASHWELL *Fides Apost.* 85 Praxeas a fellow of yesterday. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 187 By a revolution in the state, the fawning sycophant of yesterday, is converted into the austere critic of the present hour. 1863 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xli, Their skin deep yesterday's civilisation. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* II. xviii. 311 As compared with Christian Theology, science as it is now urged upon us is but of yesterday. 1897 KIPLING *Recessional* 15 Lo, all our pomp of yesterday Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!

3. *attrib.* with times of the day: *yesterday afternoon, evening, morning, night, noon.* The combination is used both as *sb.* and as *adv.* Cf. YESTER-.

1654–5 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 26 Yesterday night came letters from Collonell Hacker. 1711 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4809/2 The Bridge was finished Yesterday-Morning. 1788 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. vi, She enquired how long he had left Suffolk? 'But yesterday noon, ma'am', he answered. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xi, Yesterday morning, when a letter was received from Mr. Wardle.

C. as *adj.* Belonging to yesterday or the immediate past; very recent. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1533 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 78 b, A late and an yesterday byrde, hatched and brought forthe of many Popes. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 163 An yesterday conceit of the English Anabaptists. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. III. 51 You may ere long, lay down your Novelties, and the yesterday fashions of your new Brotherhood. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 41 His Judgment dictated, that Yesterday Writers are most proper for Matters of Antiquity. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 189 The covenant of reconciliation..was but a yesterday covenant.., in comparison of this covenant of redemption..which was from eternity.

Hence **Yesterdayness** (*nonce-wd.*), the distinctive quality of being yesterday or of belonging to the recent past.

1899 *Bookman* Nov. 235 Yesterday, as such and in its essential yesterdayness, has no objective existence. 1909 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 June 200/2 That disquieting sense of ..that have ly severally seen the light. that attaches to most collections of essays

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Yestereve (yestəri·v), *adv.* (*sb.*) Chiefly *poet.* [f. YESTER- + EVE *sb.*] = YESTER-EVENING.

1603 B. JONSON *Entertainm. at Althrope* Wks. (1616) 873 In hope that you would come here Yester-eue the lady Summer, Shee inuited to a banquet. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* I, Who..jealous is of me, That yester-eve I lighted them, along the dewy green. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* II. (1874) 271, I marked thee here all yestereve Lurking about my home. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet Let.* xiv. (1883) 204 No longer ago than yester-eve. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 702 And yester-eve I would not tell you of it, But kept it for a sweet surprise at morn. 1864 W. C. BRYANT *Italy* 39 Slaves but yester-eve were they —Freemen with the dawning day.

Yester-even (yestər,i·v'n), **yestere'en**, *adv.* and *sb. arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 5 ȝistir-, ȝister-, ȝistur-, yster-, 5– yester-: see EVEN *sb.* [f. YESTER- + EVEN *sb.* Cf. YESTREEN.]

A. *adv.* = YESTER-EVENING *adv.*

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xlii, ȝistur euyn I the king hitte, To cumme to my niete. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 10095 (Univ. Coll. MS.) These twyn that yster even full late Caught the last stroke. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 172 Yester even ye sente for vs, and I am now come. ?1452 *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 247 My doughter your wyf told me yester even the man that suyth him will not stonde to your awarde.

1822 BYRON *Werner* III. iv, The myrmidons..who were Dogging him yester-even. 1840 TALFOURD *Glencoe* II. i, He has not return'd Since, yestere'en, he left us. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 313, I had yester-even a presentiment I should die before I got back. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* X, 'When was your last spasm?' 'No longer agone than yesteren, ma'am.' 1880 EMMA MARSHALL *Troub. Times* 295, I did stop yestereven when, in a rage, I was going to strike Lily, for breaking the toy gun James Ellis bought for me.

B. *sb.* = YESTER-EVENING *sb.*

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XXXI, To endure the cruel disappointment of yester even. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* IV. iv, Thy swininishness of yestereven.

attrib. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 203 Let vs returne then vnto our yester euen lecture.

Yester-evening (yestər,i·vnin), *adv.* and *sb. arch.* [f. YESTER- + EVENING *sb.*]

A. *adv.* Yesterday evening.

1715 ROWE *Lady Jane Gray* III. i, This Morn a trusty Spy, Has brought me Word that yester Evening late,..Your Friends were marry'd. *a* 1774 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1777) III. IV. XXVI. 46 If he be asked why he..play'd at cards yesterevening, to answer, For the glory of God would be untrue, or if true would be a profanation of his name. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xvii, I had taken my post yester-even in the half-furnished apartment. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* VII, Yester-evening I left Monmouth's camp.

B. *sb.* The evening of yesterday.

1796 COLERIDGE *Dest. Nations* 235 Late on the yesterevening. 1808 — *Let. to F. Jeffrey* 20 July, The Review was sent, addressed to you, by the post of yester-evening. 1822 BYRON *Werner* II. ii, Me! whom he ne'er saw Till yester' evening. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 209 Yester-evening's sunset.

Yesterfang (FANG *sb.* 2): see YESTER *a.*

Yestermorn (yestəmɔ·ɹn), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. YESTER- + MORN *sb.*] Yesterday morning.

1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* II. i, From yester Morn till Even. *a* 1769 FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 813 Ah! how unlike what yester-morn enjoy'd! *c* 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* XIII, Each lady dated her intelligence [of the accident] from the same hour of yestermorn. 1846 TENNYSON *Golden Year* 21 But if you care indeed to listen, hear These measured words, my work of yestermorn. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 808/1 The lover wrote yestermorn, making light of the story. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Song of Banjo* 90 To the tune of yestermorn I set the truth.

Yester-mo·rning, *adv.* and *sb. arch.* and *dial.* [f. YESTER- + MORNING *sb.*] = prec.

1654–5 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 26, 300..Cavalieres tooke yestermorning..Judge Rolls out of his bed. 1764 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* V, My Lady Matilda told me but yester-morning that her Highness Hippolita knows something. 1775 MRS. THRALE *Let. to Johnson* 24 June, So yestermorning, a flag flying from some conspicuous steeple in Westminster gave notice of the approaching festival. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XI, Those expressions, which were yester-morning accounted but a light offence. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* IX, He dropped down dead in Oxford Road yester morning. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* VI, There was the Squire o' Milton over here yester morning. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* I. i, Even so late as yester-morning, I was like a beggarman by the wayside.

Yestern (ye·stəɹn), *a.* and *adv. dial.* or *arch.* [? f. YESTER after adjs. in *-ern*, as *eastern.*]

a. adj. Of yesterday. *b. adv.* Yesterday.

[*a* 1000 *Riddles* xli. 44 Ic ȝiestron wæs ȝeong acenned.] 1860 WORCESTER cites *Wright.* 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Yesthern*, W., yesterday. 1892 LD. HOUGHTON *Stray Verses* 85, I linger on the oaken bridge Fine-filigreed with yestern snow.

†**Yesterneve(n**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝyrstanæfen, 4 yesteneuen, ȝister-neue. [OE.: f. *ȝyrstan* (see YESTERDAY) + *æfen* EVEN *sb.*] Yesterday evening.

c 900 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 22 Ȝyrstanæfen [*v.r.* ȝyrstanæfnine] me ȝelamp, þæt ic unȝewealdes mtsporn æt anum foiscamele. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXIII. 469 Forþon þe þa hlafas wæron swiðe eaðelice þe us ȝyrstan æfen comon. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 We hedde guod wyn yesteneuen and guode metes. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2160, I sal a selkoube sitt mi-self ȝister-neue.

Yesternight (yestəmsi·t), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: 1 ȝystran-, 3–7 yister-, 4 ȝistir-, ȝuster-, ȝerstene-, 4–6 ȝester-, ȝister-, 5 ȝistyr-, yistre-, ȝustir-, 6 yeaster-, 5– yester-.

[OE. : f. *gystran* (see YESTERDAY) + *niht* NIGHT *sb.*] **A.** *adv.* On the night of yesterday, last night.

In early use not necessarily restricted to the night.

Beowulf 1334 Heo þa famhðe wrnc, þe hu gystran niht Grendel gewaldest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15988 Ne sal he i—— vp-rise oft,..Ar sal þis cok vp-rise Was skald yisternight (*other texts* yister-, yuster-). 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3088 Wel þe grete þat liche knizt, þat sopede wiþ þe yerstene nizt. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 221 (MS. Cg. 4. 27) Where ben hire armys & hire eyen clere þat 3isteyr nyzt þis tyme with me were? *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 148 3ester nelte wan we had fizt 3onder out on þe playne. *a* 1450 *Paston Lett.* (1787) I. 97 And now yistre nyght my Lord Welles come to Boston with liij^xx horses. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxviii. 1 My heid did 3ak 3esternicht. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 32 Toward night ye-ternight..we came thyther. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Supposes* II. i, Yesternight in the evening I walked out, and founde Pasiphilo. 1628 SAVILE in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 123 Sir Th. Bodley .. died yesternight between 5 and 6 of the clock after noon. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 1 Aug., I forgot that the post went out yesternight, I therefore put this by the by-post. 1808 SOUTHEY *Let. to T. N. White* 9 Jan., I have received two letters, both from persons whom I have never seen, one yesternight, and the other this evening. 1814 CARY *Dante, Inf.* xx. 125 Yesternight The moon was round. 1818 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xviii, His beautiful daughter was a bride yesternight—this morning the Fair Maid of Perth is a widow before she has been a wife! 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* xii, After our bad time with him yesternight, I mean to have some sleep.

B. *sb.* The night last past.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. iii. 54 Mnestheus..Quham the renowne of this 3istir nycht,.. Full prowd maid in hys curage our the laif. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. xviii. 46 Excessiue affection it was towarde mee,..which bred..yesternights trouble. *a* 1632 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 83 To know.. whether you suffered anie thing, or no, by the ill accident of yester-night. 1700 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 5 Thow wilt by this time have mine of yesternight. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. iv, She had dreams all yesternight Of her own betrothed knight. 1812 — *Let. to W. Wordsworth* 7 Dec., They reminded me of my words the very yester-night. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 9 Flinging the gloom of yesternight On the white day. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i, I have slept so well and sweet since yesternight.

Yester-year. [Coined by D. G. Rossetti to render F. *antan* (:— L. *ante annum*) in François Villon's *Grand Testament, Ball.* I.] Last year.

1870 ROSSETTI *Three Transl. fr. Villon* 1, But where are the snows of yester-year? 1872 R. BUCHANAN in *St. Paul's Mag.* Apr. 88 No crime of yesterday or yesteryear. 1888 Mrs. H. WARD *Robt. Elsmere* xxvi, Where had the crude pretty child of yester-year departed to? 1893 *Daily Chron.* 13 Sept. 3/1 The vogue of 'Ernest Maltravers' has gone with the snows of yesteryear.

Yestewarde, obs. f. EASTWARD.

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 36 Thenne went we yestewarde.

Yestreen (yestrĭn), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *poet.* Forms: α. 4 3histrewyn, 3ystrewine, 5 yistrevyn, 3istreuen. β. 6 3estrene, 3istrene, y3strene, yeistrein, 8– yestreen. γ. *corruptly.* 6 the strene, 8 the straine, 9 the streen, the-streen. [MSc. *3ystrewin* = *3ystir* (see YESTERDAY) + *ewin* EVEN *sb.*, in the 16th c. contracted to *3istrene*, later *yestreen* (18th cent.), in which form it was taken up by English writers.] **A.** *adv.* On the evening of yesterday; yesterdav evening.

α. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*vii Sleepers*) 229 3ystrewine wele lat. *a* 1400 *Northern Passion* 1489 3histrewyn when þe day was gane. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 245 Yone gude liberall monke, your hostley, servid me yistrevyn at my supper wurthelie. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7426 3istreuen he was in his awen stead.

β. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xi. 72 In my sleip 3estrene. 1583 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 422/2 Twa missives, the ane..quhilk he resauit yaistrein. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xli. 1 So suete a kis 3istrene fra thee I reft. 1721 RAMSAY *Bessy Bell & Mary Gray* I, Bessy Bell I loo'd yestreen. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xv, I mind't as weel's yestreen. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* vii, I did feel a rheumatize in my backspauld yestreen. 1837 LOWELL *Let. to G. B. Loring* 23 Aug., An' 'twas but late yestreen I met her And—ah! those een! 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* iii, He was tired yestreen, and he's the better o' a rest this morning.

γ. 1587 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 129/88 That which long tyme past before or present is in sight, which was the strene, or yit tomorrow. 1721 *Sir Eger, Sir Grahame, & Sir Gray-Steel* 1753 The streen to chamber I him led. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 134 The merligoes are yet before your e'en And paint to you the sight ye've seen the strene. ? *a* 1800 *Fair Ellen* xxiv. in Child *Ballads* (1894) V. 221/2, I dreamed a dream san the-straine. 1873 [D. BUCHAN] *Leg. North* 29 Quo he, 'Guidwife! I had a thocht theestreen'.

B. *sb.* The evening of yesterday.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, When the sea was working like barm wi' yestreen's wind. 1881 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) II. 75, I spent yestreen at the Crystal Palace.

Yet, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 3eotan, 2–4 3eote(n, 3 yeote, (*Orm.*) 3eteonn, 3–5 yhet, 3–6 3et, 4 yete, 3het, 3it, 4–5 3ete, 3eete, 3ute, 5 3ett(e, 3ut, 5–7 yet, 6 yette, 7 yeat, 9 yett, yat. *Pa. t. a.* 1 3eat, 3et, *pl.* 3uton, 3 3eat, yhet, *pl.* 3eoten, 3–4 3ette, 4 3ete, yeet, yeyt, 4–6 3et, 5 yette, 6 yet. *β.* 3 yhette, 4 yet, 3ot, 5 3ote. *γ.* 2 3ettede, 4 3etede, -id(e, 3eetide, 4–5 3etid(e. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 3eten, 3 yheten, -in (*Orm.* 3eteonn), yhuttenn, yetten, 3eoten, 13otten, 3–4 13ote, 4 3eten, 3eeten, 3ete, y3ete, 4–6 yeten, 5 y3ette, 3ut, yet, 6 13eotun. *β.* 4–5 yeten, 3ette, (4 3itte), 5 3eoten, 5–6 3ett, 6 *Sc.* 3et, 3it, 3yt. *γ.* 5 3etted, -yd. [Com. Teut. str. vb. = to pour, to melt metal, pour out, flow: OE. *gēotan*, pa. t. *gēat, guton*, pa. pple. *goten*, = OFris. *giata, sata*, (NFris. *jit*, WFris. *jiette*, EFris. *jête*), (M)LG. *guten*, (M)Du. *gieten*, OHG. *giozan* (MHG. *giezen*, G. *giessen*), ON. *gjōta* only in senses, to drop one's young, twinkle with the eyes, Goth. *giutan*; f. Teut. *geut-* (: *gaut-* : *gut-*) :— *ghəud-* (: *ghəud-* : *ghud-*), whence L. *fūd-* in *fundĕre*, pa. t. *fūdī* to pour. For other derivatives and cognates, see GOTE *sb.*, GUSH *v.*, GUT *sb.* The simpler form of the root (*ghəu-*) is found in Gr. χέFω I pour, χεῦμα pouring, Skr. *hu, juhōti* to pour in sacrifice. (Compounds are BIGETEN, INTET, OUTYET.)]

1. *trans.* To pour. Also *absol.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* viii. 24 He 3et þæt blod uppan þæt weofod. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 98 3eot on fæt, þonne hio genoh hicce sie. *Ibid.* III. 246 Aquarius, þæt is..se þe water 3yt. *c* 1205 LAY. 10771 Six amppullen fulle Heo 3eoten i þan welle. *Ibid.* 29253 Þer bliforen he gon 3eoten Draf and chaf and aten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9805 And oyel he yeett apon þat stan And made to godd a voo onan. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg.* of a 3olk of an ey. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2789 With þis haly water he yode To þe seke man for his gode. In his mouthe he 3ettid thryse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 To 3ett be twene, *interfundere*. *a* 1500 BOLLARD in Arnolde *Chron.* (1502) 64/1 Than thou most moyst them twyes or thries in the day not yeting [*v.r.* 3itteng] but dewyng or springling. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 37 The fat olie did he 3et and peir Apoun the entraillis, to mak thaim birn cleir. 1666 *Despaut. Gram.* F ij, (Jam.) *Fundo*, to yet, or power forth. *Ibid.* G j, *Fundo*.., to yeat forth. 1866 EDMONDSTON *Gloss. Shetland & Orkney, Yat*, to pour in large quantity, S.

b. To shed (tears or blood; also light).

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 173 Ic tearas sceal 3eotan 3eomormod. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. vi. (1890) 114 Ond þa ærest longe nihtes in halxum 3ebedum [he] wæs, & his tearas 3eat. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Þu scalt..3eoten þine teres swiðe sariliche. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1773 Þatt blod tacnede Cristes blod þatt 3otenn wass o rode. *c* 1275 LAY. 19142 Þar was mochel blod i3ote. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxviii[i]. 3 Þai yhotten blode, als watre strem, In vmgange of Ierusalem. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. vii. (1868) 29 Þe sterres couered wiþ blak cloudes ne mowen geten a doun no lyzt. 1502 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 47 Phebus furth 3et depured bemis cleir. 1513 — *Æneis* III. v. 121 And with lang sobbis furth 3ettand teris in vane.

Const. *inf.* *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3049 So did his princes.. With 3edire 3oskingis & 3erre 3ett out to grete.

c. To pour forth or cause to flow in a flood. *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xii. 36 Thar wes na strenth of valeant men to waill, Nor large fludis on 3et that mycht avail. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. ii. (S. T. S.) I. 17 This Ryver be divyne purviance was 3ett furth with large flude abone þe brayis. 1536 — *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xlvii, The see, be contrarius stremes, makis collision; sum times yettand out the tid, and sum times swelleand and soukand it in agane.

d. *fig.* To pour, shed, infuse. Often rendering L. *fundere* and its compounds in mere literalisms.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxix. 282 Sio sleawð gliett sleep on ðone monnan. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1206 Þy læs þæt wundredan weras & idesa & on 3eaõ 3utan. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Þe holi goste þet þu..sendest þine deorewurðe deciples and 3ettedest to þeo þet rith luuieð þe. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliv. 3 [xlv. 2] Yhotin es hap in þi lippes twai [Vulg. *diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis*]. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* I. 151 Heuene holde hit [*sc.* love] ne myzte so heuy hit semede, Til hit hadde on erthe 3oten [*v.r.* I-3otun, 3eten] hym-selue. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacionis* (Roxb.) 20 For in hir moders wombe whils this virgine was shette On hire the haly Gast his speciell blissing yette. 1500 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxx. (1893) 221 For all carnall loue yet into my soule the loue of thyne holy name. 1509 BARCLAY *Skyp of Folys* 219 Some with a fals herte,.. Into his lordes erys yetyth secretly Lyes venomous. 1563 WINJET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* v. Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 21 A certane mist wes 3et vpon the myndis of al the Bischopes of the Latin toung.

e. *transf.* To pour fluid into (a cavity).

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sagis* (Bann. Cl.) 157 Thay 3et his mouth full of het meltit gold.

2. *intr.* To gush forth or flow in a stream, as water, tears, blood.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 1132 Hat heafodwylm ofer hleor 3oten. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1029 He hate let torn þollande tearas 3eotan. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 17 Me nom hire & dude swa þat hit [*sc.* blood] 3eat adun of þe 3erden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 582 Reyn 3ette dun on euerilk stede. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12941 For so faste doun the water 3et, That thei were alle thorow wet. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7811 Teris oute of þaire eyen 3ote. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. iii. (S. T. S.) II. 132 The teris for blyithnes..3et fra þe one of faderis.

3. *trans.* To form (an object) by running molten metal into a mould; to found; = CAST *v.* 51.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxiv. [cxxxv.] 15 Gold and seolfor, þe her 3eotaõ menn, and mid heora folmum fægere wyrceaõ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* ix. 12 Hig 3uton him 3emænne god. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17418 Drihhtinn..badd he sholde mellterm brasc & 3etenn himm a neddre. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 38 Ich makede nabugodonosor..i—— *c* 1300 in *T. North's Engl. Bells* (1883) 8 I[——bell] IOH: ME: YEYT. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xliv. 10 Who formede God, and a grauun thing 3etede, to no thing profitable? 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 283 Þis picher hat 3it [*v.r.* 3ate] Dunstan. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. v. 263 Ya wold—— m, or 3ut. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) does He made it [*sc.* a bell] to be 3ete. *Cath. Angl.* 1890 *Treat. Scot.* VI. 204 To Paris and the hill of the workmen 3ettand the gunnis in the castell.

b. To form (metal) into a shape, by pouring it when melted into a mould; = CAST *v.* 52.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 233 And wonderliche by craft of 3etynge þat bras is i-3ote. *c* 1440 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. v. 232 (Edin. MS.) To wirk metaill, Yrne and steill, leid and tyn, To 3et [*v.r.* 3ett] or bet or graif þar in. *c* 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* 538/1 (MS. K.) 3etyn metaill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 94 Sum gouskis quhill the glas pyrn grow full of gold 3it. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. viii. (1883) I. 48 A commune painter or kerueer,..stained or embrued with soundry colours, ..or perfumed with tedious sauours of the metalles by him yeten. 1580 HULOET, Yet, or caste mettall, *fundo*.

4. To melt down (metal). Also *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* lx. 7 Lo! I shall 3eete and preue them, 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Vessel, croyses, and chalys were y-take, and golde i-chaue of seyntes schrynes and i-3ote. 1530 LEVINS *Manip.* 86/16 To Yette metal, *fundere, liquefacere*.

5. To set or fasten (as iron in stone) by of molten lead. Hence, to fix firmly.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 185 Þe stakes we i-schape as a manis þigh, and i-3ote aboute wiþ leed. 1454–5 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 300 Item for vj greit cruks fra Johne Alhanny,..Item for ane stane of leid to yet thame with,..viij^s. 1828 JAMIESON, To *yett*, v. *a.*, to fasten in the firmest manner, to rivet, Loth.

Hence **Yet,** **Ye-tted** *ppl. a.*, poured; molten, cast; **Ye-tting** *vbl. sb.*, casting, founding.

1387 3etynge [see 3 b]. *c* 1440 *Mirour Saluacionis* (Roxb.) 5 The mawmettiers vnto ye 3ette [*printed* 3erte] calf of gold prefigured thes thinges. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 3ettyd, *fusilis*. 1504–5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 294 Item, for lede to 3et the pullais and the pais, and for 3etting of thaim,..ij s. viij d. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xi. 12 As violent as euyr the 3et doun rane Furth of the west dois smyte apon the wald.

Yet (yet), *adv.* (*adj.*) and *conj.* Forms: α. 1 3iet, 3it, 3ieta, 2–4 3iete, 2–5 (6–7 *Sc.*) 3it, 3–4 3iet, 3ite, 3–5 3yt, 3itte, 3–6 yitte, 4 yiet, (yth, 3hyt, yhitte, 4–5 3hit, yhit), 4–6 3itt, (3hitt), 4–7 yitt, (5 ihit, yt), 5–6 3ytt, 4–6, 7–8 *Sc.*, 9 *dial.* yit. *β.* 1 3et, 3eta, 2 3eat, 3et, 3ett, 2–5 3et, 3ette, (2 3eiet, 3 3ete, 3eht, hyet), 3–4 yete, 3–5 3ete, 4 3eitt, yeitt, 3eite, (3ate, ihet, *Sc.* 3eyt, yhet(e, yheit, yheyt(e), 4, 5–6 *Sc.* 3eit, 4–6 yeit, 4–7 yett, 5 3eet, 3att, 5–6 yette, 6 yeat, (yate, 9 *dial.* yeet), 3– yet. *γ.* 1 *Northumb.* 3eot, 3 3eot, 3ot. *δ.* 1–2 3yt, 2–5 3ut, 3 3uet, 3uyt, (3u3t), 3–4 3uit, 3ute, 4 yute, 3utte, 5 3utt, 3uite, yut. [OE. *gīet* and *gieta*, corresp. to OFris. *ieta, eta, ita* (WFris. *yette*, NFris. *jit*); of obscure origin. (The synonymous OE. (Anglian) *gēn, gēna* show the same parallelism of formation.)

The meanings of *yet* are generally expressed in the Teut. langs. outside the Anglo-Frisian group by **nōh* (OS., OHG. *noh*; but in Goth. *nauh* is an interrog. particle) :—Indo-eur. **nu-ge* and now.]

I. 1. In addition, or in continuation; besides, also; further, furthermore, moreover; with a numeral or the like = 'more', as *yet a, yet one* = 'another', 'one more' (= F. *encore un, G. noch ein*). *Obs.* or *arch.* (now chiefly with *again* or *once more*: cf. d below).

For the use with words denoting time see 3 c.

Beowulf 47 Þa gyt him ætsomne sezen gyldenne. *c* 900 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* iv. (1900) 42 Þa þing, þe ic her to gita gebrode [L. *ea quæ subjunxi*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 16 Gyt he þe ne gehyrð, nim þonne gyt ænne oððe twegen to þe. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 3et cweð ure lauerd to moyses. 3if se preost forsihð fram me ower heortan [etc.]. *Ibid.* 41 3ette he him sceawede ane welle of fure. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 70 A meiden..feier & freolich o wlite & o westum ah 3et, þet is mare wurð, stedelfest wiðinnen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Auh westu hwat me deð 3et [*MS. T.* 3eddes]? *MS. C.* 3addeð]? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 309 3et þu me seist of oþer þinge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 287 Man þou art iwis To winne 3yt [*v.r.* 3uyt] a kingdom wel betere þan min is. *c* 1320 *Will. Palerne* 186 Þe herde & his hende wif þat bold barn wiþ his bowe..fedde, & 3it hadde fele felawes in þe forest. 1378 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 230/2 3ut after he gat pretty sones mo, And pretty dowgres and two. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 87 Alesna ane othir 3it resoun is [etc.]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 90 Yit, shrew, yit, pull on a thraw! 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 219 Wages of maryners..lxij^li viij^s. Vitaylle..viij^li xv^s. Yet Wages of maryners..iiij^li x^s x^d. 1534 MORE *Answ. Poys. Bk.* I. xiii. 54 b, They that call it brede declare yet that in dede it is not brede but the body of Chryste. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iii, Stay let mé obserue this portent yet. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 1 Yet once more, O ye Laurels..I come to pluck your Berries. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 7 Notwithstanding yet these expences at home, he brought up his children well. 1660 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 17 There is yet brought in an Act in which of all others your corporation is the least concerned. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Ded., I had a very early Ambition to recommend my self to Your Lordship's Patronage, which yet encreas'd in me as I Travell'd through the Countries. 1821 WORDSW. *On Dog. Sir W. Scott* 7 While Tweed, best pleased in chanting a blithe strain, Saddens his voice again, and yet again. 1873 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 273 Yet once more, fair friend. 1898 PETRIE *Egypt. Tales* Ser. I. 73 The Sekhti came yet, and yet again, even unto the ninth time.

b. Used to strengthen a comparative: now more commonly expressed by EVEN (*adv.* 9 c) or STILL (*adv.* 5 c). †Also formerly with a superlative (= VERY *adv.* 3 c) or an ordinal numeral.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Ac wit sculon þeah 3iet diopliocr ymb 3eat bion.. *a* 1000 *Judith* 182 Þa ða monna a ðurftra 3efremede,..& þæt swyðor 3yt yfum wolde. *a* 1122

O. E. Chron. (Laud MS.) an. 1087 He..dyde ȝit ealra wærst. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Leuian we ure driftten, for þon þe he luuede us er we hine..ȝit we sculen mære, we sculan luuian ure nehstan. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 6 Broþerr min i Godess hus, ȝet o þe þridde wise. *Ibid.* 780, & Godess enngell sæȝde þærr Off Sannt Johan ȝet mære. *c* 1275 LAY. 28538 Sixti þousend manne And mo þousendes ȝite. *a* 1300 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 49 Ma manasinges ȝit haue þai maked. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 132 Alpheus..is the twelfthe sterre yit. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 299 þe forti degre ȝit es þair ale Of sum þat er in order fale. *c* 1424 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. ix. 1044 þis kynge mony sonnys hade, Off ane of þa ȝhit mast he made. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 112 Thairfoir ye fand thame prickis vnto your ene, And, ȝif ye spair thame, yit sall find thame moir. 1626 GOUGE *Dign. Chth.* § 5, I purpose to dive yet more deeply into the depth of my Text. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 2 Being able to include as great a variety of parts..in the yet smallest Discernable Point, as in those vaster bodies such as the Earth, Sun, or Planets. 1784 RAMSAY *Vision* x, That's yit worse. 1786 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. v, Which can only awaken painful recollections, or give rise to yet more painful new anxieties. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxiv, The thought..gave a yet deeper colour of carnation to her complexion. 1847 H. MELVILLE *Omoo* lxvii, My sandals were worse yet. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* x. (1891) 121 'And you're quite sure..that you really like me,' 'Yes, I'm quite sure,' said he, holding her yet more closely to him.

c. Used for emphasis after *nor* (†*na*, *ne*, *neither*): *nor yet* = and also not. †Also formerly after *or*: *or yet* = or else, or even (cf. e below).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12811 Neþer am i crist ne ȝeitt hell. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* lii. (*Andreas*) 3 In word, in thocht, or yhet in dede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1084 Nat was forȝeten, the porter ydelnesse Ne Narcisus..Ne yet the folie of kyng Salomon. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 98 All thai quhilk haiti‹ the cruel tirrantis dedis, Or ȝit his fellown violence nair dredis. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxiii. 15, I..founde noo faute in this man..No nor yett Herode. 1582 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1888) 152 Neither he, ne yet his parentes, can forsake their prince. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* g vij, Quhatsoeuer do proceid ather from the hail body thairof, ather yeit ony particular membre of the same. 1684 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. iv. 68 Such an excretion of bloud, which cometh thus to passe by reason of the looseneese..of the mouthes of the small veines, or yet of the thinneese of bloud. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 121 Yit the samine can neth be concelled..Neither sit can the men of God..dissemble the samine. *c* 1639 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 35 He does not reken the samen nether yett his owne charges. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 88, I never handled rope, Nor held a tiller, nor yet mean to do.

†d. Denoting repetition of an act: Again. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1197 Bad him [*sc.* Adam] thoru an angel steuen, þat he suld wit his wijf yete mete. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2687 *Hypermnestra*, She rist ȝit vp, & stakerith her & ther. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3163 First wrate I to þour worthines, ȝit write I þe same. 1432 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 19 Unum fiatt pece cum scriptura in coopperculo Drynk and syll ȝytt. 1564–5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 316 To charge the said Gilbert..yit as of befoir, to bring the saidis Urchid Makdowell and Patrik Makdowell.

†e. Emphasizing an extreme case: = EVEN *adv.* 9. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11575 Ar he self wald..To ded it moght naman him bring, And not yeitt þan þat he ne suld rise, Al at his aun deuise. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xiv. 26 If ony..hatith not his..britheren, and doustris, ȝit forsoth and his lyf [*and vers.* and ȝit his owne lijf]. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2248 All landys northe and southe Off thys warre the word spronge, And yit at Rome it was full couthe.

II. Senses relating to time.

2. Implying continuance from a previous time up to and at the present (or some stated) time: Now as until now (or then as until then): = STILL *adv.* 4 a. Often also implying contrast to a future or subsequent state more emphatically expressed by *as yet* (7 a): cf. c below, and STILL *adv.* 4 b. *arch.* or *dial.* exc. in negative context: see esp. (*b*).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* Pref. 5 Her mon mæg ȝiet ȝesion hiora swaðe. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 231 Nu ȝit þry dagas to læfe syndon. *a* 1000 *Harrow. Hell* 73 (Gr.) A ic þæt heold nu ȝiet. *a* 1121 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 449 Þæt cyn on West Sexum þe man ȝit hæt Iutna cyn. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xv. 16 And synd ȝe ȝeot buton andȝytte? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Al to fele swiche men bien ȝet þe ne wilen noht here sinnes forletan. *c* 1205 LAY. 28636 Bruttes ileueð ȝete þat he bon on liue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1374 Saint Ionas de lateran..þat stont ȝute & heued churche of al cristendom is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 706 For of þat ilk appel bitt þair sunu tethe ar eggeid ȝitt. *a* 1378 *Joseph Arim.* 334 Þat I tolde þe þo I telle þe ȝitte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1628 Somur qwenes, and qwaintans, & oþer qwaint gammes, There foundyn was first, & ȝet ben forthe haunted. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 306 Þat he had sene before in spirit, he helde it all pryue ȝyt. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 309 Robert hunte bayly‹..did take and kepe and yeat kepeth a cowe of your said oratours. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 11 It wer as great commoditee to theim bothe, as for yet a while too bee in the custody of their mother. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius'* Transition *Gareth & Lynette* 79 A yet-warm corpse, and unbeliable. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* iv. 81 No students of history can fail to observe that even yet very few nations in the world are fit for diffused political privileges. 1888[cf] J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Childr.* v, You know you look ill yet, very ill.

(*b*) With negative pples. and adjs.: cf. *not yet* (4).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvii(i). 6 The children which were yet vnborne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 782 Four fair Heifars yet in Yoke untry'd. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 282 The ravishing Discovery of that which is yet unattainable. 1708 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., Till you have finish'd these that are yet unprinted. 1725 — *Odyss.* v. 382 Then shook the Heroe,.., And question'd thus his yet-unconquer'd mind. 1839 KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 19 The swampy patches of yet unreclaimed forest. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 378 The yet-unblazon'd shield. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 544 The children in their yet undeveloped strength, the very old in their yet sustained weakness.

†b. Qualified by a negative, implying discontinuance before the present time: *not yet* = no longer. *Obs. rare.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1038 Ne þearft ðu þe ondrædan..nu ȝiet. 1530 PALSGR. 506/2, I darrayne (Lydgat)...This worde is nat yet admytted in our comen spetche. *Ibid.* 598/2, I kydde (Lydgate), I knowe..This terme is nat yet in use.

c. Followed by an infinitive referring to the future, and thus implying incompleteness (e. g. *yet to be done*, implying 'not hitherto done'; *I have yet to learn*, implying 'I have not hitherto learnt'). Cf. also 5.

1699 PLUMPTRE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Wishing that all your yeares yet to come may passe over with mirth and jollityes. 1736 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 188 He has three years of study yet to come. 1848 LUSHINGTON in *Notes of Cases* VI. 11, I have yet to learn that..those on board the steam-tug had a right to..overrule the order of the pilot. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 564 The earl..had prepared himself for what was yet to be endured. 1885 SIR J. BACON in *Law Times Rep.* (N. S.) LII. 569/2 None of them had been completely finished, the painting and papering being yet to be

3. Referring to the period preceding the present or some stated time, without necessarily implying continuance: Up to this (or that) time, till now (or till then), hitherto, thus far; with a superlative, or *only*, etc. = at any time up to the present. Usually implying expectation of possible change, more fully expressed (as in 2) by *as yet* (7 a).

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 101 Ȝyt [*adhuc*] þeahhwæþere deopliȝor mid us þu smeaȝast þonne yld ure onfon mæȝe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 þis dæi is..þe formeste del þet eauer ȝiete was iseȝen buuen eorðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9321 'Ful littel se we yeitt', coth þai, 'Of al þat euer we her þai sai.' *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 10078 (Laud) Now blessid be that byrd of grace The worthiest that euyr yet was. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 80 Na, thank me not oulr airlis, for dreid that we thrap, For I haue seruit the ȝit of lytill thing to ruse. 1539 CRANMER *Let. to Cromwell* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 388 The state of things standing as they do at this present, so far as yet I do know. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ii. 5 A slender slip, that scarse did see Yet seuenteene yeares. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxvi. § 4 When we say a Man is Young, we mean, that his Age is yet but a small part of that which usually Men attain to. 1761 WARBURTON in *W. & Hurd's Lett.* (1809) 335, I have yet printed off but 72 pages. 1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlviii, This is the queerest thing yet! 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. viii. 472 The most important event that ... it occurred in the history of French civilization. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Life of Miss Mitford* I. x. 147 'Blanch' is to consist of five thousand lines, and only eleven hundred are yet written.

b. By this (or that) time, so soon as this: chiefly in questions, direct or indirect, to which the negative answer would be *not yet* (4): nearly = 'already', but not expressing surprise as that word would in a question.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 541 Hu þinch þe, artu ȝut inume, Artu mid riȝte ouercume? *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1876 (Fairf.) How sal we of þes waters wete, Quelper þai be fully fallyn ȝete? *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 186 It waxes clere abouts..Loke þare owte, Yf þat þe water wane ought ȝitt. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. iii. 61 Haue you enquir'd yet who pick'd my Pocket? 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. v, I am glad you have found your tongue yet. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxiii, 'Have you yet done?' said the Duke to the herald. 'One word more,' answered Rouge Sanglier. 1916 D. HANKEY *Student in Arms* (1917) 52 *Potentate*... Has a counter-attack been launched yet? *General.* Not yet, Sire.

c. With *ere*, *before*, etc. indicating the ultimate occurrence of something after an interval of time: before *ere*, etc., nearly = 'already'; after *ere*, etc., nearly = 'at length' (cf. 5 a). Now only in *ere yet* (arch.).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1122 To bed ȝet er þay ȝede, Recorded couenauntes ofte. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 196 ȝit or ewyn enterit come that bur office, Obeyand thir bischoppis, and bydand tham by. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* I. i. 92 Meanewhile prepare our breakfast,..For yet ere noone wele take horse and away. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 80 Before I departed yet I left her with child of a son. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 70 Ere yet from Orleans to the war we went. 1808 SCOTT *Death Laird's Jock* P 13 Ere yet the fight began, the old men gazed on their chief. 1866 SPURGEON *Hymns*, *'Sweetly the holy hymn'* ii, Ere yet the sun the day renews, O Lord, Thy spirit send.

†d. At some time in the past; 'once'; previously, before, already. *Obs.*

Beowulf 936 Alwalda þec gode forȝylde, swa he nu ȝyt dyde! *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 367 þe werld i call wit min entent þe mater of he four elementz, þat yeit was tan o forme-makchapen. *Ibid.* 2198 Ur lord had sghuld yete A child to

day. 1900 *Stanley's Hist. Philos., Life* a j, While he continued yet in the University. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 264. P 3 While her Beauty was yet in all its Height and Bloom. 1736 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 187 This man was from Nidsdale, and had been out of the country since he was ten years old, but he spoke the language pretty well yet. 1800 WORDSW. *To the Cuckoo* iv, Even yet thou art to me No bird, but an invisible thing. 1890 ERWATER *Sheff. Dial.* ii. 22 Dusta work at flat backs yit, as thahs been used to do? 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vii, Earnest as the father was in watching the yet-living, he had eyes and ears for all that concerned the dead. 1850 I say, I never durst, nor yet dare contemn. 1708 ADDISON *Pres. St. War* 3 This Kingdom was never yet engag'd in a War of so great consequence. 1776 GIBBON *Let. to Holroyd* 28 Jan., Quebec is not yet taken. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 175 A body of representatives was returned, such as England had never yet seen. *Ibid.* iv. 447 As to Halifax, Ormond, and Guildford, he determined not yet to dismiss them. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 In the reign of James I,..when the world of fashion had not yet migrated wholly to the west-end.

b. With negative following. (Cf. G. *noch nicht.*) *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. when preceded by *even*, or *as* (7 a).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vii. 6 Ȝyt ne com min tid. *c* 1205 LAY. 20571 Ah he heo þa ȝæte [*c* 1275 ȝet] Nefde noht biwunnen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3558 'Louerd, merci!' quad moyses, 'ȝet ne let hem noȝt helpe-les.' *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5904 þe king hert wex herd as bras, 'þe folk', he said, 'yeitt sal noght pas.' 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VIII. 108 Ac ȝete sauoureth me nouȝt þi seggyng. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 302 And ȝet was not the erl of Arundel and his retenew com hom. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 37 ȝit neuer did sho se his maik in France. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 204 My Conscience, which I then did feele full sicke, and yet not well. 1842 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 423 Such confession was yet never extorted from some of you. 1847 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* iv, I leave you to comfort and certainty, which you have yet never known. 1850 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) VI. 127 Even yet not quite finished.

5. In reference to future time (see also 2 c, 3 c).

a. At some time in the future (usually implying 'though not hitherto'); hereafter; at length, ultimately, before all is over; often with mixture of sense 9 ('after all').

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxv. 245 ȝiet [*v. r.* ȝit] cymð se micla..Godes dæȝ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* iv. 47 On ealra eorþlicra ȝebedrædenne þe Cristene wæron, oþþe ȝyt syn. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 32 Vor þer scholde ȝut a mon dele on þulke tre. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 90 þe Britons supposen þat he [*sc.* Arthur] Leueþ in a-nopere lande, and þat he shal come ȝit and conquere al Britaigne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 87 Abowne ȝhit sall I be beeldand, On heȝhte in þe hyeste of hewuen. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xlii. 7 [5] Put thy trust in God, for I wil *yet* geue him thankes for yᵉ helpe of his countenaunce. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xvii. iv, [1] pray that still you guide my way, Least yet I slipp, or goe astray. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xliv, He sees that he may yet be happy, and wishes the hour was come. 1842 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* III. ad fin. (Song), You'll love me yet!—and I can tarry Your love's protracted growing. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 524 Their chief employment is to talk of what they once were, and of what they may yet be. 1902 VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-stealers* viii, 'You couldn't be safer, not if you was in Hereford jail itself.'..'That's where I may be yet,' he said.

b. With reference to the immediate future: (*a*) Even now (though not till now): often with mixture of sense 9 ('after all'); sometimes implying 'while there is still time' (cf. sense 2).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 628 Ȝif ȝiet..læst mina lara, þonne ælfe ic him þæs leohtes ȝenoȝ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 231 And of paynis hard and fell, He tald þam, þat he schaw in hell, And sad: 'wrochis, mend ȝow ȝeit!' *Ibid.* I. (*Katerine*) 921 Lewe þine errour,..& ask forgifnes of þi syne, Yheit myght þu sauchtyng with hym wine. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 218 To hevyne blys yhit may he ryse, Thurghe helpe of Marie. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3367 Son gose I bad ȝow is nost etyn...I bid ȝow þat ȝe take it ȝit. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Wolfully arsid* 43 Wka. 1843 I. 142 Cum ȝytt, and thou schalt fynde Myne endlys mercy and grace. 1689 *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 77/1 þat if he will yett delyver up the Bass & prisoners þerin he should have his bygone arrears to himself & garrisone. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* ii. 850 Bethink ye yet of death, and misery, And dull despair, before ye arm to go. 1899 WARREN *Pilgrim & Willow* xiv. 197 Time enough yet? No, there isn't time enough yet.

†(*b*) Not later than (a specified time). (Cf. 3 b, c.) *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 323 For ȝef he don ðad god for-bead, Þat sal hem bringen to ðo dead, And sal ȝet ðis ilke dai *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13587 þou sal þam se yeitt to night Do me ful gret spite. *a* 1366 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 129 Inglis men sall ȝit to þere Knok þi palet or þ...

c. From this (or some stated or implied) time

onwards; henceforth (or thenceforth). Chiefly, now only, contextually with words denoting time, the sense being then strictly 1 ('further, more'); with a negative, nearly coinciding with 4; often replaceable by 'to come'.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* viii. 10 He abad þa git oðre seofon dagas and asende ut eft culfran. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19290 Bot ar he wild him fulli esas, For yelit a quille he wild a-bide. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* i. 15 He schal be fulfillid of the Hooly Goost yit of his modir wombe. — *John* vii. 33 Yit a litel tyme I am with 30u, and I go to the fadir, that sente me. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3367 He leyze in þe vrthe yet þrettene 3ere & more. 1535 COVERDALE *Jonah* iii. 4 There are yet xl. dayes, and then shal Ninive be ouerthrowen. 1668 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 36 It was so hott that all men said in a moneth yet meate could not take salt. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara* 5 O merchants, tarry yet a day Here in Bokhara.

†6. ME. *þe yet* [OE. *þá gíet* then yet, when yet: see THO *adv.* 1, 2]: a. Still (= 2); also, while still, when as yet. *Obs.*

2 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 921 Þa after þam þa [illegible] herfestes 3egadorode micel here hine of East [illegible]lum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xv. 20 Þa 3yt [*Lindisf.* þa he was feorr, his fæder he hyne 3esæah. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1106 Feawa oðre of þam heafod-mannan þe mid þam eorle of Normandige þe 3yt heoldan. [illegible]lissere weorlde, 5 LAY. 7079 lond hehte 1290 *St. Dunstan* 2 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 19 Miracle ore louerd dude for him þe 3uyt he was un-bore.

†b. with negative: = 4. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 103 Ne was her þa 3iet nymþe heolstersceado wiht 3eworden. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* l. 1296 (Napier 35/2) *Nondum*, na þa 3yt næs. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1433 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 147 Ake he ne scholde nouȝt þe 3eot to engelonde wende. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 750 Of herte was he hol & sound, & pleynede him þe 3ute no þyng.

7. *As yet* [AS B. 34 a]: a. Hitherto, up to this time, = 3; with a negative = 4; implying expectation or recognized possibility of coming change.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* ii. 92 Thow demest of thy selfe amys, For Ioues ys not ther aboute. To make of the as yet a sterre. *c* 1386 — *Franklt. T.* 849, I failled neuere of my [illegible] Bruges som. 1592 Q. ELIZ. in *Archæologia* XIX. 12 If your long expected and never had as yet answer had not lingard. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* iv. i. 1 The Sun had as yet but approach'd the East, and my Body as yet lay moveless in the Bed. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 68 Thou hast heard what the Captains have said, but as yet thou shuttest thy Gates. 1708 ADDISON *Pres. St. War* 19 That War continued Nine Years, and this hath as yet lasted but Six. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxix, 'No,' answered the Astrologer, 'the End is not as yet.' 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, She had never..met a professional ladies' man as yet. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 171 As yet the Duke professed himself a member of the Anglican Church. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiv, Half-grown as yet, a child, and vain. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* vii. 226 But there were..extensions of this practice as yet but little noticed.

†b. Without implied expectation of change: Still, even now or then, to this day, = 2. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* f iv b, As yet they kepe and hold that custome. 1530 PALSGR. 509/2 As for *polu*, defyled, thoughe he be used of Johan le Mayre, there is no verbe used in this sence in the frenche tonge as yet. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 111. vi. 38 The meate as yet rawe, was snatched from the coales. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 33 The foundations..are there as yet apparant. 1612 *Bible* Exod. ix. 17 As yet exaltest thou thy selfe against my people, that thou wilt not let them goe? 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 321 Ægypt was made a Province of the Turkish Empire, and so continueth as yet. 1652 [see As B. 34 a].

8. as *adj.* in sense 2 or 3: That is still or as yet such; still continuing or subsisting. (Cf. NOW 16, STILL *adv.* 4 a ¶, THEN 9 b.)

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 356 Let, with her staffe, my yet-Youth govern well..the Flock of Israel. 1629 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* 83 That the yet aliens in euery quarter of the World may bee wonne by the example of dispersed Saints. *c* 1634 STRAFFORD in Browning *Life* (1892) 117 The certainty of your lordship's yet abode at West-Chester. 1653 *Cloria & Narcissus* 181 Her yet safety. 1817 KEATINGE *Trav.* II. 269 He was one of the numerous party of yet walkers in the world. 1874 KEY *Lang.* i. 7 In the yet non-existence of language.

III. 9. as *conj. adv.* or *conj.* (developed from I), introducing an additional fact or circumstance which is adverse to, or the contrary of what would naturally be expected from, that just mentioned: In spite of that, for all that, nevertheless, notwithstanding. Sometimes strengthened by *nevertheless*, etc. Often correlative to *though*, etc.

More emphatically adversative than BUT *conj.* 24, and freer in construction; formerly sometimes placed after, and still sometimes in the midst of, its clause; *and* or *but* may precede *yet*. Nearly equivalent to STILL *adv.* 6 b; but *still* indicates mainly that the fact or condition remains unaltered by the adverse one; *yet* usually expresses some degree of surprise at it as something unexpected.

[*a* 1205 LAY. 28112 3if hit weore ilimpe..þat Modred..hafde þine quene inamne..þa þet þu mihtest þe awreken Wurðliche mid wepnen.] *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 905 So bo hit euer is unker alþe þat þu bo aori & ich bliþe; 3ut þu alsheist wi ich ne fare laie oþer londe & singe þare. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3344 Þe kennel was ynome & þat folc to sprad þere. [illegible] al þe lyd hii ne founde nouȝt þe king þere. [illegible] 1 robard al is lif & 3ut ich vnder- [illegible] 1 abbe ffee king of þa heli londe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 786 (Gött.) Þis beting was..ful mekil, Bot 3eit it was bath fals and fikil. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 185 Thoug we culled þe catte, 3ut sholde þer come another To crachy vs. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 140 He hath ynowh and yit him nedeth. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 3 And make þo flessche to seme, I wys, As hit were raw, and 3yt hit nys. *c* 1430 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. F.) 249, I haw done ..Synnes diuers,..And 3ut art thu redi..To graunt me ay for3efnesse. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 95 Suppose thi birny be bright, as bachiler suld ben, Yhit ar thi latis vnlusum. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. vii. 809 Oftymes we doo many thynges that we wene it be for the best & yet peraduenture hit torneth to the werst. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 81 Al-be-hit I.., can noght peynt my boke as other be, Vnder youre supporte yut aunter wyl me. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* i. iii. (1552) 5 Plenty of flesh..knitting to geather the muskles: not so yet, but that neuerthelesse they haue theyr free motion. 1596 SPENSER *Prothalamion* 117 As he would speake, but that he lackt a tong Yeat did by signes his glad affection show. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* 26 Though his belief be true, yet the very truth he holds, becomes his heresie. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 188 Auspicious Prince, in Arms a mighty Name, But yet whose Actions far transcend your Fame. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 28 Some fleeting good, that..Allures from far, yet, as I follow, flies. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* iv, The splendid yet useless imagery. 1832 — *Ct. Rob.* xxiv, Although they did not all agree on the precise cause of danger, it was yet generally allowed that something of a dreadful kind was impending. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 13 The style of Bede, if not elegant Latin, is yet correct, sufficiently classical.

†b. *Yet* (*that*), notwithstanding that, although.

c 1300 *Cast. Love* 1422 In whonhope and doute heo weoren vchon, 3it heo seȝen him alyue a lyues-mon. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12219 (Trin.) And 3it þou wenest makeles to be þat noon in lore shulde teche þe, I con þe teche þat þou not can. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) M ij, Contente you than, for yette that me strenghste be litell, the desiere is grete.

Yet(e, 3et(e, obs. ff. GATE *sb.*[1]

†Yete(n, *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 3eeten, 3 i3eten, (iheote), 3–4 i3et(t)e, y3ete, iete(n, 4 y-yete, i-eete, 4–5 yete(n, 5 yheete. [OE. *geeten*, pa. pple. of *etan* and *geetan* to EAT.] Eaten.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxi. 54 Þa hiȝ 3eeten hæfdon, hig wunedon þær. *c* 1205 LAY. 6691 Þæm heo hæfden wel ieeten [*c* 1275 iheote] and seoðden idrunken. *Ibid.* 31773 *Ær* þe ulse i-eten weore. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 309 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 228 Heo a-risen op and wenden to churche þo heo hadden yȝete. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3127 Þo þal hadde yeten alle, Heiȝe & lowe in þe halle. 1340 *Ayenb.* 13 Efter his arizinge, huanne he hedde y-yete mid his deciples. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 511 Thei..hadde nouȝt y-ete ne dronke nother y-slepe. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxxi. (1495) 2 iv b/a A lambe was offryd rosted and yeten. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6849 Whan they be fumous, ful off heete, And han yheete & dronke at large.

†Yeter, yetter. *Obs.* Forms: 1 3eotere, 3–4 3eter, 4 3eoter, 3eetere, 5 3etare, 6 3ettare, yetter. See also YOTER. [f. YET *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. MSw. *giutare* 'fictor'.] A caster of metal; a founder. Also in comb. *bellyeter.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. xii. 54 Þa þæt þa onhæt was, & eall 3eðon swa se 3eotere þæm æðelinge ær behet. 1298 in Stow *Surv.* (1908) II. 290 Belȝeterslane. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6735 (Laud MS.) A queynt man, & metal 3eters [*v.r.* 3eoter]. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* li. 17 Confoundid is eche 3eetere [1388 wellere] in grauen thing; for fals is his 3eting. *c* 1440 Bellȝetare [see BELL *sb.*[1] 12]. 1512 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 360/2 Robert Borthuik, 3ettare of the kingis gunnys. 1552 HULOET, Karuer or yetter of Images, *statuarius.*

Yether, var. EDDER: see YEDDER *sb.* and *v.*

†Yeting, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. YET *v.* + -ING[1]. Cf. YOTING.]

1. Casting of metal or a metal object.

other lyke, *fusio.* *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ii. 138 Forwhi in kinde of ymagis no difference the grauyng makith fro the 3utting, or the 3utting fro the grauyng. 1453–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 191 Pro uno novo axiltre cum 3attynges et factura, xxij*s.* iij*d.* 1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 65 For the mending and theking of a hous in thare place that was revin at the 3etting of the gwn, viij li.

2. Pouring down, forth, etc.; shedding.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8175 Now is..yomeryng for-yeton, & yettyng of teres. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 36 Aftir þe 3ettyng in of tapaimel wiþ þe forseid poudre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 A 3ettynge jn, *infusio.* A 3ettynge oute, *effusio.*

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yeting-place*, *-vessel.*

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxvii. 21 What maner wise siluer is preued in the 3eting ves 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 A 3ettynge place, *fusorium.*

Yetling (ye·tlin), *sb.* and *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also 4–5 3et(t)lyng, 5 3ettlyne, yetteling, 5–6 yetlyn(g, -line, 6 3et-, yaitling, 8 yetlen, (ate-lin), 8–9 yet(t)lin, yetland, 9 yetlan, yettling. [f. YET *v.* + -LING[1].]

A. *sb.* 1. A pot or boiler, usually of cast iron; esp. one with a bow-handle and three feet.

1378–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 588 In factura unius yetling. 1472 *Ibid.* 246, ij 3etlynges eneu. 1539 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 283 One yaitling of brasse. 1564 *Ibid.* 293 First a pan wth eares vt—ij yetlinges iiij*li.* 1702 in *Northumbld. Gloss.* (1892) 76 Itm. an atelin in the Abbey great kitchen. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Yetling*, a small iron boiler. N. 1825 CORVAN, etc. *Tynesides Songs* 9 A kyel pot an a yetlin fell a-top iv his head. 1890 RAINE *Handbk. York Mus.* 273 A fine..camp-kettle or yetling, 16½ in. high by 12 in. diameter, with three tall legs ending in claws.

2. Applied to various articles made of cast iron; †(*a*) a small cannon; (*b*) a 'girdle' on which cakes are baked; (*c*) a ball used in bowls.

1586 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* XI. 328 Twa [illegible] moyanis of found and ane grit 3etling of lrne. 1 *Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 52 The townis 3etlingis [illegible] the kirk of feild steipill, with thair fourniture. 18[illegible] STON *Shetland & Orkney Gloss.* 147 *Yettlin*, a girdle on which cakes are baked. 1868 GOUDIE *Sumin. & Wint. in Orkneys* ix. 354 Flat stones which served the purpose of yettlins, or girdles for firing cakes and scones. 1894 *Pall Mall News* 19 Jan. 7 The 'yettling' measures some seven inches in circumference, and its regulation weight is from twenty two to twenty four ounces.

3. Cast iron.

1777 W. NIMMO *Stirlingsh.* xlii. 309 It [sc. the pint jug] is made of a sort of yetlin, and appears to be very old. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* VIII. ii. 413 The Stirling jug..is made of a kind of brass or yettlin. 1883 J. MARTIN *Remin. Old Haddington* 384 The land was as hard as 'yetlan' and would soon kill them and their horses.

B. *adj.* Made of cast iron; (of iron) cast.

1498–9 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 394, j yetlyng pan et iiij laddels de auricalco. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 382 Two yetling pans viij*s.* 1578 in *Inv. Royal Wardr.* (1815) 253 Ane demy culvering of yetline yron. 1703 *Howath. Bk. Lady G. Baillie* (1911) 170 A little yetlin kettle. 1798 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 167 The ploughs..have a cast yetland mould-board. 1896 M. MACKINTOSH *Cottager's Dau.* 190 My heart..As hard as ony yetlin floor Or whunstane rock.

Yett, 3ett, Sc. ff. GATE *sb.*[1]

Yette (3ette), var. YATE *v. Obs.*

Yetter: see YETER.

Yeue, obs. form of EWE *sb.*[1]

Yeugh, Yeuk, Yeule: see YEW, YUKE, YULE.

Yeve, 3eve, etc.: see GIVE, etc.

Yeve, obs. f. EVE *sb.*[1], DE.

Yevel (3evel), yevill, etc., obs. ff. EVIL, etc.

Yeven (3even), -yn, obs. ff. EVEN *sb.*

Ye·ver, *a. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 1 3ifre, 3yfre, 3ifer-, 2 3ifer, (*Orm.*) 3iferr, 2–4 3iuer, 3 3ifre, 3iure, 3efere, yuer, 5 3euer, yeuer, 3yuer, youre, 9 *Sc.* aiver. [OE. *gífre*, corresp. to ON. *gífr* (found only in pl. witches, fiends), whence *gífrliga* savagely, in mod.Icel. exorbitantly, *gífrligr* in mod.Icel. immoderate, exorbitant. The Icel. form is represented by north. Engl. *givour* 'greedy', *giverous* (see YEVEROUS).]

1. Greedy, covetous.

Beowulf 1277 And his modor þa 3yt 3ifre and galgmod 3egan wolde sorhfulne sið. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Tantulus se cyning ðe on Sisse worulde ungemetlice 3ifre wæs. *c* 1205 LAY. 7337 Þu sulf sert swiðe gripel þine gumen sunden 3efere [*c* 1275 3ifre]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Þe 3iure glutun is þes feondes mancipie.

2. Eager, quick, prompt.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3955 Polidamas þe pert..was..Full 3euer and 3epe, and a yong knight. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 114 Thys legat was youre [*v.r.* besy] about, pees to make betwene the kynge & Iohn. 1847 J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 94 Forbye the body's clean an' aiver, Wi' little blust, he's doonright clever.

Hence **Ye·verly** *adv.*, greedily; quickly; **Ye·verness,** greediness, gluttony; eagerness, impetuosity.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Him ðær ðæt lice ylfe ylfede ðære 3ifernesse. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. ix. (1890) 178 Ongon 3iferlice þæt gærs etan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Þurh heora 3ifernesse & oferhyrde. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* l. 766 (Napier 22/1) *Pertinacitor*, *i. immoderabiliter*, 3yfer-lice. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Horedomes and 3ifernesse and druncnesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 240 Ne beo hit neuer so bitter, ne iuele6 heo hit neuer; auh gulche6 in 3iuerliche, & ne nime6 neuer 3eme. *Ibid.* 286 Golnesse cume6 of 3iuerness & of flesches elne. *c* 1250 *Lutel Soth Serm.* 21 in *O. E. Misc.* 186 To 3iuernesse and prude none neode be nedde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 543, I haue pittye of your person & your pert face, And 3euernes of 30wthe. *Ibid.* 869, I am ferd lest þou..for 3euernes for-3ete þat þe 3eme shuld. *Ibid.* 13032 With-in a yere, full yeuerly, þat yepe was with child.

†Ye·verous, *a. Obs.* Forms: 5 3yueris, -us, 3euerus, 3eferous. [f. YEVER + -OUS. The north. form *giverous* (see YEVER etym.) is found from 17th c. = 'greedy, avaricious' (1677 Nicolson in Ray *Coll. Words* (1691) 141).] Eager, impetuous.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 357 So 3onge and so yepe, 3yueris of wille. *Ibid.* 1242 3yueris of hert. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 3eferous, *ambrosinus.*

Yevery (ye·vəri), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6, 9 yevery, 8 aevery, 9 yeovery, e(e)very, aiverie. [f. YEVER *a.* + -Y[1].] Greedy, voracious.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 272 Utheris, quhilkis war mair yevery and tume. 17.. *Dick o the Cow* xxv. in Child *Ballads* (1889) III. 465 The lads, that hungry and aevery was. 1825 JAMIESON, *Aiverie*, adj., very hungry, Roxb.; a term nearly obsolete. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Yaverey*, hungry. *Northumb.*

Hence **Ye·verisome** *a.*, ravenously [illegible] 1825 JAMIESON, *Yeverisome*, having an appetite craving. Dumfr.

Yew (yū), *sb.* Forms: 1 iuu, iw, eow, eoh, 4–7 ewe, 4–8 ew, (4 w, hw, hue, 5 how, un, uv, new), 5–6 u, 5–7 eu, 6 yeue, yue, yow(e, iewe, eughe, u(g)he, 6–7 ewgh, 6–8 ugh, yeugh, eugh, 7 yugh, yewgh, eue, 6– yew. Also 6 yeiwe, 6–7 veve, 7– view, etc.: see VEW. [OE. *iw*, *íow*, late *íoh*, str. masc., corresp., with consonant-alternation and variation of gender, to OS. *íh*, pl. *íchas*, MLG., MDu. *îwe*, *îuwe*, *iuwe*, OHG. *îwa*, *îuwi* str. masc., *îuwa* wk. fem., *îga* str. fem. (MHG. *îwe*, *îbe*, G. *eibe*, Swiss dial. *ìche*, *ìge*),

ON. *ýr* (chiefly, bow) :— OTeut. **ihwaz*, **igwaz*, **ihwō*, **igwō*. (F. *if* Sp. *iva*, med.L. *ivus*, are from Germanic; (M)Du. *iif* is ad. F. *if*.)

Related obscurely to the Germanic forms are: OIr. *ae*, W. *yaern*, Cornish *Aberin*, Breton *iven*, going back to OCeltic **ivos*; Lith. *jëvas*, Lett. *ëwa* black alder (OPruss. *iewis*, Lett. *iew* yew, are from MLG.; OSl. (Russ., Serb.) *iva* willow.]

1. A tree of the genus *Taxus* (N. O. *Coniferæ*) widely distributed in the North Temperate Zone, esp. *T. baccata*, the common yew of Europe and Asia, having heavy elastic wood and dense dark-green foliage; often planted in churchyards, and regarded as symbolic of sadness.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 15 *Taxus*, ieu. 985 *Charter of Æthelred* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 218 Of wæmhyrste on done ealdan iw; donone of don iwe to Lullan setle. *a* 1000 *Riddles* lvi. 9 Þær wæs hlin & ac & se hearda iw & se fealwa bolen. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 139/14 *Ornus*, eow. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 82/2 *Eye*, w'[*Arundel MS.*, *if*, ew]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 667 Hw, rosetre and hawetre. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2065 Mapul, thorn, beech, hasel, Ew, whippeltre. *a* 1400 *Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 7 *Taxus*, ewe. 1535 in E. Law *Hampton Crt. Pal.* (1885) 372 Treys of Yow, Sypers, Genaper, and Bayes. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 130 The berries of the Italian Ughe. 1587 Marcall *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 36 Yeugh is euill for cattell to eate. 1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 107 They told me they would binde me heere, Vnto the body of a dismall yew. 1612 Webster *White Devil* I. ii. 262 Under that Eu, As I sat sadly leaning on a grave. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 555 Iuniper; Cipresse Trees; Eugh. 1663 Cowley *Verses on Sev. Occas., Complaint* 4 Beneath a Bow'r for sorrow made,..Of the black Yew's unlucky green. 1699 Garth *Dispens.* II. 22 Beneath the gloomy Covert of an Eugh. 1706 Hearne *Coll.* (O.H.S.) I. 223 Robinson..pull'd up some of ye Ews. 1725 *Ibid.* V. 39 Some say that tis to be planted with Ugh, dwarf Ughs. 1780 Johnson *Rambler* No. 44, I threw myself beneath a blasted yeugh. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 478 Ews 6 [feet in circumference]. 1871 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 247 The wood of the Yew is said never to be attacked by insects.

b. The wood of this tree, esp. as the material of bows.

a 1400 *King & Hermit* 299 Wyth a bow of hue full strong And arowys knyte in a thong. 1384 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 177 A bowe of u. 1530 Palsgr. 234/1 Iewe wode to make bowes, *Ayf.* *Ibid.* 291/2 Yowe to make bowes of, *Ayf.* 1548 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 113 Ewe of all other thynges, is that, wherof perfite shootyng woulde haue a bowe made. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 9 The Eugh obedient to the benders will. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 127 Their Bowes Of double fatall Eugh. 1619 Drayton *Odes* xvii. 73 With Spanish Ewgh so strong, Arrowes a Clothyard long. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 28 Apr. 1680, One roome parquetted with yew, which I lik'd well. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* III. xx, My bow of yew to a hasel wand. 1899 E. J. Chapman *Drama of Two Lives, Snake-Witch* 32 The chevron bands that edg'd the floor All shapely set in oak and yew.

c. Branches or sprigs of the tree, esp. as symbols of sadness.

c 1420 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 349 Two bysoms made of boxe and ewe. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* (MS. Claud. A. II. lf. 32), We have non olyfe þat beruth grene leves, we takon in stede of hit hew and palmes wyth, and beruth abowte on procession. 1547 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 29 Yeve and candelles at Ester to hange in the churche. 1602 Shake. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 56 My shrowd of white, stuck all with Ew; A fresh garland about my hat: Remember me to my Lady, tell her my purpose. 1611 Cotgr., *Ifeuil*, pall with tears, not dew!

¶ **d.** Applied to some flowering plants.

1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* Pref. b 2, The flowers of plants having the resemblance of Butterflies..; as our English Gandergoose, the flower of Beans, Woodbine, Ew, and Ragwort. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 241 The thin leaved heath, that bears a Berry, which some call ground Ewe.

2. A bow made of the wood of the yew.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handicrafts* 490 Through a Forrest Tubal (with his Yew And ready quiver) did a Boar pursue. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 854 At the full stretch of both his Hands, he drew, And almost join'd the Horns of the tough Eugh. *a* 1718 Prior *Henry & Emma* 345 To send the Arrow from the twanging Yew. 1728 Ramsay *Archers diverting themselves* 13 To see them draw the bended yew. 1817 Scott *Harold* II. iii, When from Wulfstane's bended yew Sprung forth the grey-goose shaft.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yew-berry*, *-bough*, *-flat*, *-hedge*, *-leaf*, *-stock*, *-wood*; made of yew-wood, as *yew-bow*, *-panel*; *yew-besprinkled*, *-crested*, *-hedged*, *-leaved*, *-roofed* adjs. See also Yew-tree.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 350 Do him þis to bacedome.. *sceowberge..ofgeot mid ealab. 1768 G. White *Selborne*, *To Pennant* 8 Oct., The ousel..fed on yew-berries. 1820 Keats *Melancholy* I, Make not your rosary of yew-berries. 1832 G. Meredith *Love in the Valley* vii, Threading it with colour, like yewberries the yew. 1858 Mossin *Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 1479 The feat Of the long *yew-besprinkled hill. 1867 — *Yazoo* VII. 137 She..to a *yew-bough made the boat's head fast. 1398 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 123 A dozyn of *ewe bowes. [1620 *Inv.* (Notting) in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VI. 10/1 Foure Spanishe viewe bowe 1727 Somerville *Yeoman of Kent* 9 Bow-men..Whose go yew-bows, and sinews strong, Drew arrows of a cloth-yard long. 1860 Longf. *Wayside Inn*, *K. Olaf* XX. I, From his yew-bow, tipped with silver, Flew the arrows fast. 1824 Scott *Flora Macleor's Song* xi, The *y[ew] bonnet o'er tresses of grey! *a* 1763 Shenstone *Ess. Men & Mann.* Wks. 1777 II. 116 Lord D—'s high shorn *yew-edges. 1777 Mrs. Thrale *Let. to Johnson* 28 Sept., A spirit of innovation has however reached even these at last...A yew hedge, or an eugh hedge if you will. 1832 Miss Mitford *Village* II. v. *Christmas Amusem.* 105 From the [illegible] 1832 Scott *Doom of Devorgoil* I. i, [illegible] hedged garden. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 82/1 He beareth Argent, a *Yew leaf slipped. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Abies*, The Silver, or *Yew-leav'd Firr Tree. 1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem.* I. 680 Yew-leaved Feathermoss. *a* 1691 Aubrey *Wilts* (Royal Soc. MS.) 263 (Halliw.) With box and *ewgh pannells of about six inches square. 1827 A. de Vere in Ld. Tennyson *Tennyson* I. xiii. 293 The *yew-roofed cloister of Muckross. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 118 An *Ew stok, *taxus*. 1613 *Holmesfield Crt. Rolls* in *Sheffield Gloss.* (1888) Addenda s.v. *Ewe forth*, *Ewe Wood. 1830 Tennyson *Oriana* 19 In the yew-wood black as night.

† **Yew**, *v. local. Obs.* Also yaw. (See quots.)

1748 W. Brownrigg *Art of Making Common Salt* II. iv. 231 At the Lemington works..They boil the brine violently till a thin skin of salt appears on its surface. [*Note*] They say then that the brine begins to yew. 1828–32 Webster, *Yew*, To rise in blisters, breaking in white froth, as cane juice in the sugar works...West Indies. *Ibid.*, *Yew*, to rise, as scum on the brine in boiling at the salt works.

Yew(e: see Ewe *sb.*[1], Give, Yeo *sb.*[1], You, Yule.

Yewar, -er, obs. forms of Ewer [2].

1538 Elyot, *Gutturnium*, a lauer, or yewer [1552 Huloet, yewar]. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* xvii. 44 A certein yewer ye which had a high foot.

Yewel, obs. form of Jewel.

Yewen (yū·ĕn), *a.* Now *rare* or *arch.* Also 6 **ewghen, eughen**, 6–8 **ewen**, 7 **yeughen**. [f. Yew *sb.* + -en [4]. Cf. MHG. *twin*, G. *eiben*.] Made of the wood of the yew; consisting of yew-trees.

1563 *Norwich Depos.* (1905) 77 A ewen bow. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xi. 19 So farre as Ewghen bow a shaft may send. 1591 — *M. Hubberd* 747 His stiffe armes to stretch with Eughen bowe. 1654 C. Ware *Gratius' Cynaget.* Pref. b 3 b, A round hoop of yeughen wood made of boughs. *a* 1700 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 262 As warlike Archers bend long ewen Bows. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* xxiv, In spite of their laws and their proclamations to keep up the yewen bow. 1884 E. V. Boyle *Days & Hours in Garden* vi. 89 The square-topped Yewen hedge.

Yewer: see Yure.

Yewisse, Yewl, Yewlow, Yewre, Yewrie: see Iwis, Yule, Yellow, Ewer [1], Ewery.

Yew-tree (yū·trī). = Yew *sb.* 1.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxl. (1495) V j/1 An Ewe tree..is a tree with venim & poyson. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 646/13 *Hec taxus*, hawtre [*sic*], newtre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 507/2 V tree (*K.* uv tre), *taxus*. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Taxus*, an Vhe tre. 1593 in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. (1852) VI. 64/1 Item. for leadinge of earthe to ye benche about the yewe tree,..ij^s. iiij^d. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 554 The rotten part of Eue-tree. 1612 Webster *White Devil* I. ii. 261 Into a church-yard, where a goodly Eu tree Spred her large roote in ground. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Surrey* (1718) III. 46 In this Church-Yard is an Ew-Tree, ten Yards in Compass. 1750 Gray *Elegy* iv, Beneath those rugged elms, that yew-tree's shade, Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap. 1824 Scott *Ld. of Isles* v. xix, The yew-tree lent its shadow dark. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 732 An ancient evergreen, A yewtree.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 52/1 He beareth Argent, a Yew Tree Branch Fructed. 1845 R. S. Surtees *Hillingdon Hall* x. 145 A massive yew-tree-lined walk. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* Introd. 4 Its untidy kitchen-garden and cone-shaped yew-tree arbour. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 218/2 The poisonous nature of yew-tree leaves.

Hence **Yew-tree'd** *a.*, planted with yew-trees.

1872 Mrs. A. Gatty *Bk. Sun-dials* Introd. p. xxii, The quaint yew-tree'd garden.

Yewys, obs. form of Iwis.

Yex (yeks), **yesk** (yesk), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 1 ȝesca, ȝesce, ȝescea, ȝeocsa, ȝeohsa, ȝihsa, 4–6 yexe, 5–7 yexe, 6 yeax, yeake, 6–7 yeox(e, 7 yex, yox, 7, 9 *Sc.* yesk, 9 yisk, yucks, yeux, yokes. [OE. *gesca*, *geocsa*, **gicsa* (*gihsa*), related to next.] An act of yexing; † a sob (*obs.*); a hiccup or the hiccups.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 938 *Singultus*, lesca. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 72 *Tentigo*, ȝesca. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* II. 5 Me þios siccetung hafað agmled, ðes ȝeocsa. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 60 Þam monnum þe for fylle ȝihsa slihð. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ix. (Tollem. MS.), To abate þe ȝoxe [*cf.* 1495 yexe] þat come[þ of fulnesse. 1530 Palsgr. 291/1 Yeske that cometh of the stomake, *sanglont.* 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* CCCXXV, It is named the yexe or the hicket, and of some the dronken mans cough. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scot.* Pref. c vj b *marg.*, [They] w^t a yoxe, do soon dye. 1565 Harding *Answ. Jewel* II. 138 The yeax and vomite followed. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. lxxiv. 246 Two or three branches of Myntes..do swage and appease the Hicquet or yeoxe. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XXVIII. XX. II. 342 They shall find a remedie for the yox. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* XXX. ix. 392 The yex that often shooke his flankes and small guts. 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Goose* Wks. (1630) I. 210/2 One staggering there hath got the drunken yox. 1808 Jamieson, *Yeisk*, *Yesh*, *s.*, a single affection of hiccup, S. as, He gae a great yesk, S. B. *eesh*, id. 1818 Todd, *Yux*..sometimes pronounced *yex*, and *yex*, or *yohes*.., the hiccough. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 266 Drink ..Which cures the yisk and waterbrash. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Yeux*, a hiccup. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v. *Yucks*, Why Tommy, you've a-got the yucks —drink some cold water.

Yex, yesk, *v.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 ȝiocsian, ȝeoxian, 3–4 ȝoxe, 4–6 yoxe, 4–7 yexe, 5 ȝexe, 6 yeax, youx, yowx, 6– yex, 9 *dial.* yox, yooks, yeux; α[2]. 5–6 yeske, 6 yeask, 6– yesk; α[3]. 4–5 ȝoske, 5 yoske. β[1]. 1 ȝiscian, 5 yiske, ȝyske, 5–6 ȝisk, ȝeisk, 9 yisk; β[2]. 5 ȝyxe. [OE. *ȝeocsian*, *ȝiscian*, corresp. to OHG. *guckôn*, *gerguchôn* 'oscitare': of imitative origin.]

† **1.** *intr.* To sob. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* II. § 1 Ac hi nu gisclende ofgeradra worda misso. *c* 1050 [see *c* 1250 *Babet* 1536 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 150 And s[o] wopinde he wende forth, he ȝeomede and sihte wel ofte. 13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 312 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 312 Þe bysshop ..hade no [illegible] to speke, so sparly he ȝoskyd. 1388 Wyclif *2 Kings* iv. 35 The child ȝoxide [1382 brethed] seuene sithis. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 89 And agayn he seid dy, he began at yiske. 1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) A iv, *Singultio*, to yeske or to sob. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XVIII. XXXV. I. 624 Ravens crying one to another as if they sobbed or yexed therewith. 1629 Gaule *Holy Madn.* 283 What thinkst thou of the Body, that yelpes and yexes, at any small push?

2. To hiccup.

a 1400 *Arund. MS.* 42 lf. 28 b in *Promp. Parv.* 539 *note*, Anet..the sed coct, and al hot put to þe nostrelle, soffreth nost to galpyn, ne to rospyn, ne to ȝeksyn. 1432–50, etc. [see Yexing]. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 298 Be yoxinge, ne bolkynge, ne gronynge. 1530 Palsgr. 786/2 Whan he yeaketh next, tell hym some straunge newes, and he shall leave it. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1545) X vij, It chanceth oftentymes that a chylde yeaseth out of measure. Wherfore it is expedyent to make the stomake eygre afore it be fed. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxi. 90 He.. yawned, spitted, coughed, yexed. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* To *Yex*, is that we do, when [illegible] up. 1721 Ramsay *On Maggy Johnstoun* vi, We did baith glow'r and gaunt,..yeak, and maunt. 1804 Couper *Poetry* II. 290 Weel like ye, yeaskin', to be there, Though morn's a head-ach.

3. *trans.* To belch forth. Also *intr.* to belch; to hawk; to expectorate.

c 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 231 (Ellesm.) He yexeth [*v. rr.* ȝeskep, ȝoxeth] and he speketh thurgh the nose As he were on the quakke or on the pose. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. ix. 82 His nek fourth of the cave He straucht, fordrunkin,..Bukkis furth and ȝiskis of ȝoustir mony streme. *Ibid.* VIII. iv. 36 At his mouth..His faderis reky flamb furth ȝiskit he. *Ibid.* 154 A laithly smok he ȝiskis blak as hell. *a* 1585 Lyndesay in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 321/1441 Scho puft and yiskit with sic riftis, That verry dirt come furth with driftis. 1560 Phaer *Æneid* IX. (1562) D iv, He their maisters head w^t sword ofchopt, & left his tronke furth yexing belching blood. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* V. 58 He ..Beheld him yeaking forth his ghost. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 154 It gart'd him yeak his drammach. 1880 *W. Worc. Gloss.*, *Yax*, *v.* to cough, or spit up. 1893 *S. E. Worc. Gloss.*, *Yaux*, *v.* to cough, or expectorate. 'I don't want no bacca smokers in my kitchen, yauxin' an' spettin'[illegible]

Hence **Ye·xer**, one who yexes.

1611 Cotgr., *Songleteur*, one that hath the hickocke; a yexer.

† **Ye·xen**, *v. Obs.* In 5 ȝyksen, ȝoaken. [f. Yex *v.* + -en [5].] = Yex *v.*

14.. *Chaucer's Reeve's T.* 231 (Camb. MS.) He ȝyksneth & spekyth þourw þe nose. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 108 They chyuered for colde as cheuerynge chyldren, They ȝoskened, & cryde out & þat a man herde.

† **Yexiled** [Y- 4] exiled. 1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Men and wyfmen and children deserited and y-exiled.

Yexing, yesking, *vbl. sb.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see Yex, yesk *v.* [OE. *geocsung*, *geoxung* = OHG. *gegisungs*: see Yex, yesk *v.* and -ing [1].] The action of the vb. Yex; † sobbing (*obs.*); (most freq.) hiccuping.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 403/12 *In singultum*, in sicettunge and ȝeoxunge. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* Ibid. 179/4 *Singultus*, ȝeocsung. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 801 Mid ȝoxinge & gret wop þus he bigan is mone. 1382 Wyclif *Lam.* iii. 56 Ne turne thou awei thin ere fro my sobbing [*v.r.* ȝoxyng] and cries. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 6 Any maner disese outward, in sobbing maner, sheweth sorowful yexinge fram within. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xlvi. (1495) q vj b, Yoxynge is the sowne in the nose of vyolent meuynge of ye stomak. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5048 So did his princes..With ȝedire ȝoskingis & ȝerre ȝett out to grete. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 389 Perescheȝenge moche peple in yoskenge or nesynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 539/2 ȝyxynge, *singultus*. *a* 1470 Tiptoft *Orat. C. Flaminius* (Caxton 1481) fiv, He in his drunkenesse with his stombling yoxing & prating. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 A ȝiskynge, *singultus*. 1512 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) A v, *Oscedo*, yeskynge. 1530 Palsgr. 291/2 Yexing, *hocquet*. 1543 Traheron tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* III. ix. 96 b/2 Great apostemations..whyche cause rigours, fevers, [illegible] youxinge. 1544 Phaer *Regim.* [illegible] he vertue expulsiue of [illegible] 9 b, It healeth also the hitchcock or yiskinge. 1589 R. Andrson tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. I. 35 To remedie the yexings of the stomacke and vomitings. 1600 Darrell *True Narr.* 6 A bygg blacke catt.. threwe her backward taking from her the vse both of her eyes and handes, which with yeasking were euer loosed. 1623 Bp. Andrewes *96 Serm., Epi. iv.* 90 (1629) 652 The upbrayding or yexing of the heart (as Abigail excellently termeth it). 1684 Robt. Jonnson *Eucholog. Med.* III. iv. 152 [The Hicket] is called in English a sobbing or yexing. 1887 F. T. Havergal *Heref. Wds.* 38 He suffers so from yocksing. 1887 *Jamieson's Dict., Suppl.* s.v. *Yeterie*, A yeurie yisking.

Yeyed, † = *yehed*, pa. pple. of Eathe *v.*, to ease.

c 1425 *Abraham's Sacr.* 334 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* [illegible] A! Lord, I thanke The of Thy gret grace, Now am [illegible] on dyuers wyse.

Yeyn-, ȝeyn-: see Gain-.

Yeyr, obs. Sc. form of Year.

Yeyrd, Yeyre, obs. Sc. form of Earth, Air.

1533 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1879) IV. 60 Jhon Muir..gaif steet, be yeyrd and stane, of ane bak tenement. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* 37/126 When the sun and the stare In the yeyre togeythur warre.

Yex. *Anglo-Irish.* Also **yeas, yis.** [f. Ye with plural inflexion *s.*] Yon (said to more than one).

1804 Maria Edgeworth *Ennui* vi, Mind the big hole in the middle of the bridge, God bless *yeas*! 1828 T. C. Croker

Fairy Leg. S. Inst. II. 220 'Boys', says she, 'I hope you have made a good dinner.'

Yezidi, -dee (yē·zĭdi). Also Yeze(e)dee, Izedi, Ezeidee. [Of disputed origin.] One of a religious sect found in Kurdistan, Armenia, and the Caucasus, which, while believing in a Supreme God, regards the Devil with reverential fear.

1828 KINNEIR *Journ. Asia Minor* 414 The Zezidees live in enmity with the Christians. 1829 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1880) III. 124 The strangers were Yezidees. 1842 J. B. FRASER *Mesop. & Assyria* xiv. 328 The Yezidee religion appears to be a compound of many others strangely jumbled together. 1848 LAYARD (*title*) Nineveh and its Remains: with an Account of..the Yezidis, or Devil-Worshippers. 1852 BADGER *Nestor.* I. x. 122, I think it cannot be doubted that the term 'Yezeedee' is derived from Yezd, one of the titles applied by the ancient Persians to the Supreme Being. 1872 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xvii. 299 The Izedis or Yezidis, the so-called Devil-worshippers.

Yezzy, dial. form of EASY.

1896 AUG. J. C. HARE *Story of my Life* I. iii. 178 The old Cheshire proverb—'Bout's bare but it's yezzy.'

Yf, obs. form of GIVE *v.*, IF.

† Yfaȝe, *adv. Obs.* Also 4 ifaie. [repr. OE. *gefægen* adj.: see Y- and FAIN *a.* (southern ME. *faȝe*).] Fain, gladly.

a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 199 In *Rel. Ant.* II. 276 'Wolton', quod the vox, 'arsit ounderfonge, Tel thine sunnen on and on, That ther bileve never on.' 'Sone', quad the wolf, 'wel I-faie.' *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 186a Ne forþe þe moder þet hyt beer, Ne woldest þou nase y-faȝe.

† Yfailed, yfayl(l)ed [Y- 4], failed. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM I. 56 Yf þou nelt nauȝt climme þor, Of heuene þou hest yfayled. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 202 Trewth is i-faillid with fremid and sibbe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 Alle guodes byeþ ous yfayled. *c* 1394 I-failed [see FAIL *v.* 12 b]. **Yfaired, yuayred** [FAIR *v.*], made clean or pure. 1340 *Ayenb.* 207 Þane gost of wysdom, be huam bi we zuo ycleansed ase gold and yuayred of alle uelþe. *Ibid.* 200.

Y'faith, in faith: see FAITH *sb.* 12 b.

15.. *Chevy Chase* II. 124 'Such A-nothar captayn skotland within', he sayd, 'ye-feth shuld neuer be.' *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. ii. 152 Yfaith, yfaith, they are too shurt for me. 1607 Y'faith [see FAITH *sb.* 12 b]. 1619 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xiii. 108 Yfaith her Queeneship little Rest should take.

† Y-falle, *v. Obs.* Also 4 yualle. [OE. *gefeallan* = OHG. *gifallan*: see Y- 3 c and FALL *v.*] *intr.* To fall; to befall.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Þonne gefeallaþ ealle deofolzyld. 1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Huet cas yualle. *Ibid.* 48 Hit yualþ oþerhuyl desertesoun of eyr and ualse mariages.

† Yfalle(n, *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝefeallen, 6 ifalle(n, ifalle(n, 4 yvalle, yfall, 4–5 yfalle(n, 3 yfalne. [OE. *gefeallen*, pa. pple. of *feallan* to FALL, *gefeallan* (see prec.).] Fallen; also *fig.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Seo heofon bið ȝefeallen æt hæm feower endum middangeardes. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxlviii. 8 Fyr, forst, hæzel, and ȝefeallen snaw. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 58 Heo schulen ȝelden þet beast þet is þer inne ivallen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 514 Vor hwanne he hauep ido his dede Ifalle his boldhede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1537 Þe king..let bulde vp grete tounes þat were ney adoun ivalle [*MS.* ȝ yfalle]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Hou ofte he heþ yualle into zenne. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 179 Men yfalle in myschef. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 160 Many a word yfalne shall eft arise.

Yfalt, ME. pa. pple. of FOLD *v.*[1]

Yfare, var. I-FARE *v. Obs.*

1593 *Jack Straw* II. C iv, So did they all yfare like franticke men.

† Yfare(n [Y- 4, FARE *v.*[1]; cf. I-FARE *v.*], gone; travelled; dealt *with.* 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 894 Þa he þær to ȝefaren was, þa eodon hie to hiora scipum. *c* 1205 LAY. 4690 Nes hit buten feower wiken þat þas kinge ifaren [*c* 1275 I-vare] weoren, cam Brennes riden. *Ibid.* 26425 Þa þa wes al iuare, þa wes Brennes kaisere. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 400 Ho..wes aferd þat hire answare Ne wrþe nouht arliht ivare [*v. r.* ifare]. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 577 Whan þat he seyde so, That Troylus was out of town y-fare. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 385 He was piled and ȝrobbed, and fare [*MS.* ȝ yvare] wip as it were a þeef. 1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VII. 515 The cuntray was foule yfare with. **Yfarsyd** [FARCE *v.*], stuffed. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Pygge y-farsyd. **Yfast, yvast** [FAST *v.*[2]], fasted. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 105 Ðære nihte þe hie þæt fæsten ȝefæst hæfdon. *c* 1275 yuast [see FAST *v.*[2] 3]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2419 (Laud MS.) As a wolf, þat fele dawes had yfast. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2822 Gyoun þanne was teynt & paal so longe he hadde yuaste. **Yfastened**, set fast, fixed, fastened. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvii[i]. 7 Swa weax melteð, gif hit byð wearmum neah fyre ȝefæstnad. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Zuo yuestned ine þe loue and adryngt in þe zuetnesse of god. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 30 Þan take a dyshe y-fastenyd on þe palys ende. **Yfebled**, enfeebled. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 363 Engliusshe men..were moche I-febled [*MSS. B and* y yfebled].

† Yfed, *pa. pple. Obs.* [OE. *gefēd*, pa. pple. of *fēdan* FEED *v.*] Fed.

a 1200 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 3753 (Napier 100/1) *Helusculis nascerentur*, ..ofestum were ȝefed. *c* 1205 LAY. 13573 He us haueð wel iued. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 Wher he were ythe mone boren ant y-fed. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 251 Reallliche i-cloþed and likyngliche I-fedde [*MS.* ȝ yved]. *c* 1450 *Crt. of Love* 975 In wofull hour I got was, welaway! In wofull hour fostred and y-fed. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* c, Where all take life,..And then renew'd with pleasure be yfed. 1708 POST *Dunc.* III. 288 On parchment scraps y-fed.

Yfel(l, obs. ff. EVIL.

† Yfele, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝefelan, 3–4 ifele, 3 ivele, 3–4 yvele, 4 yfele, 7 yfeele. [OE. *gefēlan*: see Y- 3 c and FEEL *v.*] To feel.

c 893 [see FEEL *v.* *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwi ne iuele ich þe imine breoste so sweote ase þu ert? *c* 1325 *Judas Isc.* 28 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 107 Swiþe heo gan iwite And yfele þat he was mid childe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 13 Þe same merk and tokene þat he hadde i-felt [*MS.* y yveld] in his soule he bare alwey after i-sene. *c* 1634 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* III. i. (1652) 36, I no where heart yfeele, but on mine head.

† Yfell, *v. Obs.* Also 3–4 yvelle. [OE. *fyllan*, *-fiellan*: see Y- 3 c and FELL *v.*] *trans.* strike down, fell. Also **Yfelled** *pa. pple.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. vi. § 7 Þa hio [*sc.* seo nædre] ȝefylled wæs. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Ða wolde he Sanctus Martinus..fæst gyld abrecan & ȝefyllan. *c* 1205 LAY. 14838 We heom habbeoð iflemed..& mid wepnen ifelled. *a* 1300

† Yfere, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝefera, 2–3 ifere, ivere, 3 iuere, iuare, ifere, ifeire, yfere. *Pl.* 1 ȝeferan, 2 ȝeferen, 2–3 iferen, 2–4 ifere, iuere, 3–4 yfere, yuere, 3 iveres. [OE. *ȝefēra*, f. ge- Y- 1 a + *fār-*, mutated f. *fōr-*: *faran* to go.] A companion, mate, fellow, associate.

c 870 *Codex Aureus Incer.*, Ic Aelfred aldormon & Werburg min ȝefera. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 12 Þæt wif, þæt þu me forȝeafe to ȝeferan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 229 In helle his hunger and þurst, twa uuele iuere. *c* 1205 LAY. 26022 Arður hine teh Bi-siden his iferen [*c* 1275 ivares]. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 48 Englene ifere ant arcanglene freond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5094 Vor suan..adde euere is yuere, Þre velawes þat neyh him were. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 235 Hom rod Aylmer þe kyng, Ant horn wiþ him..Ant alle his yfere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6906 (Laud MS.) Þoo wepe þe kyng & hise yfere.

† Yfere, *adv. Obs.* (from 6 to 8 *arch.*) Forms: 3–4 ifere, yvere, 4–8 yfere, 5 yfeere, yffere, 6 yfeere, yfeare, *Sc.* yfeir. *B.* 4 yferes, 6 *Sc.* yferis. [Origin uncertain. The available evidence favours on the whole the supposition that the adverb arose out of the predicative use of *ifere*, pl. of YFERE *sb.* 'companions, associates', hence 'associated' (see introductory quots. below); if this were so, the form *in fere* (from *c* 1330) arose from analysing *ifere* as *i*, IN *prep.* + FERE *sb.*[2] With the *B*-form cf. TOGETHERS, and see -S *suffix.*] In company; together. (Extensively used in ME. poetry as a riming tag; rare in prose.)

[*a* 1200 [see YFERE *sb.*]. *c* 1205 LAY. 27435 Twein kinges þere zuere weoren ifere. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 24750 Euere twein and tweyne and tweyne wenden i-vere [*earlier text* Æuer tweie and tweie tuhte to-somne ælc mid his honde heold his iuere]. *a* 1300 *S. Michael* in *Pop. Treat. Sci.* (1841) 136 Ther is turment strong Of wynd, of water, and of fur, and thaye threo were i-fere.]

a 1300 *XV Signa* 117 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 11 Al þe see sal draw ifere as a walle to stond up riȝt. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (B. M. MS.) 859 Cryst of heuene..Amonge þe apostles sone he lyȝt, And gret hem alle yfere. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2267 In caue þei lyen, & slepen samen y-fere. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (A.) 751 And þai for skorne sayd alle yfere. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1116 With þat þey wente arm in arm y fere [*v. rr.* in fere, yfere] In to þe gardeyn from þe chaumbre doun. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2269 We buþ knyȝtes alle y-vere y-born in douce fraunce. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xvii. 190 What soule is syk, lay þat herbe aboue, Hit makeþ hool al y-fere. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2295 And whan I herde al thys yfere, I wex abayssched in my chere. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 28 Þan take Pepyr, an Safroun, an Brede, y-grounde y-fere. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 147 Syne folowit all hir damesellis yfere. 1566 DRANT *Horaces Sat.* I. A ij b, They feede and feele the fruit of that, which once they gott yfeare. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* S ij, As little loy I feare, should we feele yfere, as did the two vnsensible pictures. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 1 O goodly golden chaine, wherewith yfere The vertues linked are in louely wize. 1600 *England's Helicon* F j b, Harpalus and eke Corin were Heard-men both yfere. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. lxxv, Then let's all go yfere. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxxv, And much they moralis'd as thus yfere they yode. 1768 DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* lv, There passed by the sister Graces bright,..Benevolence and Gratitude y-fere.

β. †*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* I. xxii. (1780) 20 Take brede and þe self broth and drawe it up yferes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 25 Baith matrouns, and thair husbandis, all yferis.

Yfern: see FERN *a.* and *adv. Obs.*

Yferre, pseudo-arch. f. AFAR adv.

c 1634 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* v. iv. (1651) 84, I do not reche One bean for all. This Buss is a blive guerdon. Hence Carlishnesse yferre.

† Yfet, *pa. pple. Obs.* Also 1 ȝefætt, 2–4 ifet, 3 ifat, 3–4 yuet, 4 y-feet. [OE. *ȝefett*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*fetian*: see Y- 4 and FET *v.*] Brought, carried, fetched; acquired.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. vi. § 8 Amilcor, se wæs of Sicilium him to fultume ȝefett. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 And wunie ine þet clenesse þet he hauեð et his fulluhte ifet. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1296 Fif siðe tene, icudde & icorene & of feorrene ifat. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3721 Þe monekes out of abendone verst were þuder yuet. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1624 Þe castel was mad & set, & þer godes þerto yfet. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 237 Florance was dyder y-feet. 1588 PHAER *Æneid.* I. (1558) C j b, Giftes with him he had to bring from Troy destroyed yfet.

† Yfettered [Y- 4], fettered. *a* 1225 *Riddles* III. 4 Þe weron ȝenumne nearwum bendum, ȝefeterade fæste to-..... *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Heo liggeð mid hwa beale ..... 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 218 Yfetered were ys legges under his horse wombe. *c* 1450 [see FETTER *v.*[1] 1]. **Yfettered, Yfayned**, ME. pa. pples. of FEATHER, FEIGN.

Yff, obs. form of IF.

Yff, yffen, obs. ff. *give, given*: see GIVE *v.*

c 1425 *Torr. Portugal* 2209 God, that dyd vppon the Rode, Yff grace, that she mete with good! 1484 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 319 Of which 2 xl. was yffen to theym agayn.

† Yffilled, *pa. pple. Obs.* [OE. *gefylled*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*fyllan*: see Y- 4 and FILL *v.*] Filled; ..filled.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. liii. (1890) 366 Þæt wæs swa nobilice mid dæd ȝefylled, swa him to cweden was. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Þa hit was ifullet þet ymias þe prophete iwitegede. *c* 1205 LAY. 6942 Þis lond wes on grisse and ifulled mid gode. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1072 Wonder it is..of þi noble prentrise Þat is so noble anerþe iwolt wiþ so vil cunsetise. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 337 Lanfranc hadde y-fylled [*MS.* y yvulled] his witt wiþ al vertues. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 242 Whan a man sittyth atte mette he sholde wythdrawe his honde after that he be y-fillit. 1652 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. IV. xxiv, So all things he yfild with their wish'd good.

† Yfind, *v. Obs.* [OE. *gefindan*: see Y- 3 c and FIND *v.*] To find.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 28 *Inuenit unum de conseruis suis*, ..gefand enne of ufne-ðeȝnum. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 243 (Trin. Coll. MS.) His seche6 reste þar non nis ac his hies ne muȝen ifinden. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5779 Ver he sende þe kinge word þat he ne miȝte namo vinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Þou gest in-to helle huer þou sselt yuinde ver and berneton. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 405 Ethelwoldus..destroyede al þat he myȝte fynde [*MS.* y yvynde] anon to Crekanforde. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 537 Famous Argus, þat..first þat art y-founde.

† Yfixed [Y- 4], fixed. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xviii, This Hand in Mouth y-fix'd, that rends his Hair. **Yflawe, ivlazen** [FLAY *v.*], flayed. *c* 1205 LAY. 27377 Heo scullen beon islazene, and summe quic iulazene. 13.. *K. Alis.* 894 (Laud MS.) Þou shalt ben..quyk of þine hyde y-flawe. **Yfled** [FLEE *v.*], fled. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 661 The swyfte fame..was þorugh-out Troye y-fled with preste wynges. **Yflemed, yvlemd** [FLEME *v.*], put to flight; exiled. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. xxxiv. § 4 He ȝefeahte wiþ Gotan, & ȝeflemed wearð. *c* 1205 LAY. 7638 Mu he wes mid his ferde i-flæmde of þissen earde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3609 Vor a traytour of is lond lof was is name Yflemd was out of engelond. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Þe oþre byeþ, þe ualse yulemde, þet viyeþ. **Yflesshide** [Y- 5], see FLESHED 2. **Yflet** [FLEET *v.*], removed. 1430 *Hymnus Virg.* (1867) 20 Þanne foond y me ful fer y-flet Al from god in malaste. **Yfloured** [Y- 5], having flowers. 1340 *Ayenb.* 136 He is ase þe smale uleze þet makeþ þet hony..and sekþ þe ualdes yfloured. **Yflowe(n**, **iflowe, yvlowe**, etc. [FLEE *v.*], fled. *c* 1205 LAY. 5953 Alle þe flæmen þe iflowe buð of Rome. *Ibid.* 21463 Nu is Childric iulowen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4486 (Linc. Inn MS.) Darie þe kyng is yflowe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 225 Marcus Antonius was iflowe [*v. rr.* yflowe, fledde]. **Yflowe(n**, **yflone** (FLY *v.*[1]), flown. ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 140 Se earn on ðam ofre ȝemet, mid ðicce ȝefloȝen, þone he ðærrihte ȝefeng. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 672 He let him makie wengen..& þo he was iflowe [*v. r.* yflowe] an hei [etc.]. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. IV. xxxvii, They'll all be gone In a short time, like Bats and Owls yflone At dayes approch. **Yflo-wn** [FLOW *v.*], overflowed. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 379 The land of Tyre with seas yflown. **Yfoȝte, yfouȝte(n** (FIGHT *v.*], fought. 688–95 *Laws Ine* vi. (Liebermann), Þeah hit sie on middum felda ȝefohten. *c* 1205 LAY. 25693 We habbeð wiþ him iuohten. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9923 On hors keusred Cleodalis, þat al so wele yfouȝten, cert. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 229 Þe tweie breþeren eorles .. hadde stalworthliche i-fouȝte [*MS.* y yvouȝte]. **Yfoiled**, ME. pa. pple. of FOIL *v.*[1] ...o(n [FOLD *v.*[1]], folded; closed. *c* 1... *Ags. Gosp.* John ...k þæt swat-lin..onsundron ȝefealden on anre stowe. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2454 Vnder þo stones beþ depe in mold Tc dragoons fast yfold. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5706 Þe Amerel..gurde hym with ys fuste y-volde. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 253 The Roman..helde his honde y-folden to geder. **Yfolewed, yfollid**; see YFULLED. **Yfolȝed, yfol(o)wed**, followed. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Se gode man þe godes lufe haþ ȝefol *Ayenb.* 99 Þis uerste word..yef hit is wel onders yuolȝed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 39 Falsenesse haued yfolwed þe al þis fyfty wyntre. **Yfonded** [FAND, FOND *v.*], attempted, tried, tested, tempted. *Ecclus* (] 3901 Ðæt hæfde ȝumena sum ..... ȝefanded. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 A þet he hine hauեð al ifonded to his wille þurhut. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Holi men wuteð wel þet habbeð hit iuonded. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2245 My broþer þat god knist is..& wel yfonded in armes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 127 We wylleþ wel þet we by yuonded. **Yfong** [FANG *v.*[1]], taken, seized, received. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xliv. 4 Aris and far æfter þisum mannum, and þeonne þu hig ȝefangen hæbbe [etc.]. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 460 in *O. E. Misc.* 30 We after vre gultes mede habbeþ yfonge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6600 At rome he was vaire auonge [*MS.* ȝ yfonge] & ascoled al so. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 337 He..deide þe ȝere after he hadde i-fonge [*MS.* y yvonge] þe fey of holy chirche oon and twenty. **Yforged**, forged. *c* 1... [see FORGED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7073 Whan they..Ben yforged off malys. **Yfo(u)rmed**, formed, informed. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3179 Yfourmed [*v. r.* yformed] as a dragon as red ase fur. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 451 Make no comparyson To creature y-formed here by kynde. 1422 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 43 Jak, thi formur is a fole, that thus thee hath yfourmed. *c* 1422 [see FORM *v.*[1] 3]. **Yfost(e)red**, fostered. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* ...þet hire forðfederen hefden ifostred. *c* 1325 *Lai le ...ins* 389 In a covent y-fostered to be. *c* 1386 CH *Reeve's T.* 26 She was yfostred in a Nonnerye. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2633 That wisdam and philosophie Yfostred ben with rychesse.

† Yfound, *pa. pple. Obs.* [Y- 4.] Found.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xi. (Schipper) 238/1 Þa his han ȝefunden & ȝemeted wæron & to þere cyricean ȝelæded. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Oðer he heo wat Surh þet he hes dude him seolf, oðer he heo haſð i-seond, oðer haſð ifunden on boke. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 703 Þe Nihtegale .. hedde oniwere god ifunde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 333 Afterward his body and þe body of his wif Gwenvere were I-founde [*MS.* y yvounde]. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 260, I haue y-founde a man after myn herte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. vii. 690 Ye be wel y fownde said sir

Born. 1320 *World & Child* A v b, So fell a fyghter in a felde was there neuer yfounde.

†**Yfounded** [Y- 4, FOUND *v.*[2]], founded, *c* 1290, etc. I-founded [see FOUND *v.*[2]]. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 265 It is not vnknowen..That rewlers of rewmes..Were not yfoundid..To lese al at likynge. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 394 He schal thenne be chasted after the lawe That was y-founded by olde dawe. **Yfracled, yfreklet**: see FRECKLED *ppl. a.* 2. **Yfra(u)ght, fraught.** *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 858 My schip is wel ney with dispeir y-fraght. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* 363 Such as have their stables ful yfraught, With pampred Jades. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handicrafts* 108 The Trees with thousand fruits yfraught. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* XIV. As if this empty space with bodies were yfraught. **Yfraught** [cf. FREIGHT *pa. pple.*], freighted. 1581 B. GOOGE *Palingenius' Zodiac Life* Bk. to Rdr., Momus there doth ryde at flote, with scornefull tonges yfraught. **Yfrede** *v.* [Y- 3 c], to feel, perceive, experience. *c* 888, etc. [see FREDE *v.*]. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 316 in *O. E. Misc.* 82 To day ye schulep y-frede And vnder-fo lupre mede. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM I. 170 Þat we ne mowe hyt nauȝt ise, Ne for þe ine bodie iuede. **Yfree** *v.* [Y- 3 c], to free. 688–95 *Laws Ine* lxxiv. (Liebermann), Þonne mot hine se hlaford ȝefreogean. *a* 1000 *Paternoster* ii. 31 Wiȝ yfele ȝefreo us. *c* 1205 LAY. 475 Heo biddeð þe mid freonscipe, þat þu heom ifreole. 1340 *Ayenb.* 86 Þe guodemen in þise wordle, þet god hep yvryd be grace..uram þe þraldome of þe dyeule. *c* 1425 [see FREE *v.* 2]. **Yfrendg'de** [Y- 4], fringed. 1394 CAREW *Tasso* I. xiv, He puts on siluer wings, yfrendg'de with gold. **Yfreted**[1] [FRET *v.*[1]], eaten, worn away or into holes. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 19 *Ubi aerugo et tinea demolitur*, huer rust & mohða ȝfreten biđ. *c* 1275, *a* 1377 [see FRET *v.*[1] 2, 3]. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 201 That his fiels be al i-frette. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 58 Þe substance of þe veyne yfreted may nogt be souded with-out disese. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17468 Conswmyd, and yffret a-way. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* 2 b, Thy prisoners, Whose chaines hath through his hart yfreat. **Yfret(ed**[2] [FRET *v.*[2]], furnished, studded. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 588, I sawh ther cordys rovnd & long, Al yffret with knottys strong. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 725 His necke in many a ruge Yfretted grete. **Yfretised**, pa. pple. of FRETISEN, FRETTISE *v.*[3] *Obs.* **Yfrore** [FREEZE *v.*], frozen. *c* 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 181 in *O. E. Misc.* 152 Summe beoþ fur-brend, and summe ifrore. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5334 More vor þe harde vorst þat þat water yurore is. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 497 Þe emperesse..scapede awey over Temse, þat was i-frore [*MS.* ß yfrore] and heled wiþ snowe. *c* 1405 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 20 A craggy roche, Like ise ifrore. **Yfrote, ME.** pa. pple. of FROT *v.* **Yfrounct** [FROUNCE *v.*], wrinkled. *c* 1634 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* v. iv. (1651) 84 His Visage foul, yfrounct with glowing eyn. **Yfrulted, Yfry(e)d, ME.** pa. ppies. of FRUIT *v.*, FRY *v.*[1]

Yft(e, obs. forms of GIFT.

1452 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxi. 173 A wyse and a worthy man þat lowid not yftis to rescewe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 177 Þe yfte þat Raf þe sone of wayfere & hys heyrys made. 1486 *Churchw. Acc., Crescombe* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 15 John a Dene owth for the yfte of hys syster iij selver sponys ..xxs.

†**Yfuled, yvyled** [Y- 4, FILE *v.*[2]], rendered foul. *a* 1100 *Alfhelm Gloss.* t. 653 (Napier 19/1) *Foedatos*, gefyledе. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Ich habbe..mid flesches fulðe ifuled me. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8071 Wanne he þi mouþ cusste þat so villiche isoiled [*MS. B* yuyled] is. **Yfulled, yfolled** [FULL *v.*[1]], baptized. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lviii. 443 Doð arest hreowsunge, & weorðað siððan gefullwade. *c* 1178—1207 ifulwed, ifulhet, yuolled [see FULL *v.*[1]]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 257 Þere he was i-cristned [*MS.* yfulled, yvolled] of pope Sergius. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) 47/16 To byleuen in Crist, & ben y-folewed. **Yfurred**, furred. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5300 (Laud MS.) Twoo þik mantels, yfurred wiþ grys. 13.. *Coer de L.* 6526 A robe i-furryd with blaun and nere. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 A clobe..þat was of fyne scarlad, well yfurred wyth grys. **Yfurthered**, furthered. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* xlvii, The trewe man Was put abakke, wher-as the falsheda Y-furthered was. **Yfycched** [FICCHE *v.*], fixed. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 856 That after-clap, in my mynde so deepe Y-fycched is. **Yfyned** [FINE *v.*[1]], refined. 14.. LYDG. *Beware Doubleness* 99 O ye women, which been enclyned..To been as pure as gold y-fyned. **Yfyred, ME.** pa. pple. of FIRE *v.*[1]

†**Ygad(e)red, ygedred** [Y- 4], gathered. *c* 891–*c* 1275 [see GATHER *v.*]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4527 In is ost þo hii were ygadered in þis cas. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 189 Þouȝ þe tax of ten ȝer were trewly y-gadered. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxxix. 144 So grete a tresoure was ther wyth-in the paleys, ygadred by the kyng. **Ygalled** = GALLED *ppl. a.*[2] 2. 1748 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xviii, See I to their Seats all hie with merry Glee,..All, but the Wight of Bum y-galled. **Ygan, ME.** pa. pple. of Go *v.* **Ygathering**, *pr. pple.* [Y- 3 c] cf. *yeasuring*], gathering. 1886 J. B. ROSS *Ovid's Met.* 163 Rustics there, ygathering osiers. **Ygased**, arch. pa. pple. of GAZE *v.* 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxi, He that unawares had there ygazed. **Ygazing**, *pr. pple.* [Y- 3 c], gazing. 1748 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xiii, Thilk Wight that has y-gazing been. **Ygelt, Ygerdonyd, ME.** pa. ppies. of GILD *v.*[1], GUERDON *v.* **Ygerd, ygert**: see YOURD. **Ygete**, got. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 295 Þwat man þe child asolde be þat he adde bi gete [*MS. B* v gete]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 61 Whan he hadde y-gete his axynge. **Ygeve**: see GIVE *v.*

‖ **Yggdrasil** (i-gdrāsil). *Myth.* Forms: 8 Y-drasil, 9 Ig-, Y(g)gdrasil. [ON. *yg(g)drasill*, also *askr yg(g)drasils* lit. ash-tree of *Yggdrasil* (? f. *Yggr* name of Odin + *drasill* horse; but the formation is obscure).] In Scandinavian mythology, the great tree whose branches and roots extend through the universe. Also *allusively*.

1770 tr. *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* II. Fab. viii. 49 Gangler demanded: Which is the capital of the Gods, or the sacred city: Har answers, It is under the Ash Ydrasil; where the Gods assemble every day, and administer justice. 1820 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. 165 The Tree Igdrasil, that has its roots down in the Kingdoms of Hela and Death, and whose boughs overspread the highest Heaven! 1865 W. H. GILLESPIE *Argt. Mor. Attrib. God* 51 It [*sc.* Love] is, in fact, the mundane Yggdrasil. 1865 LOWELL *Thoreau* Wks. 1890 I. 361 The nameless eagle of the tree Ygdrasil. 1876 EMERSON in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 413 You say: 'Cut away; my tree is Ygdrasil—the tree of life.'

Yghe, yȝe, obs. forms of EYE *sb.*[1]

†**Ygiled, ygyled** [Y- 4, GUILE *v.*], beguiled. 1340 *Ayenb.* 184 Loke þane man þet he ne by be none sleȝþe of þe kueade y-gyled. *Ibid.* 236 Hi byeþ ofte y-giled. **Ygilt**[1] [GUILT *v.*], sinned, offended. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 219 Noþer for noblete of þe persone þat hadde agult [*MS.* ß ygilt]. **Ygilt**[2] = GILT *ppl. a.* 1434 [see GILT *ppl. a.* 1 b]. 1589 NASHE *Martin's Months Minde* Wks. (Grosart) I. 196 My hope once was my old shooes should be sticht, My thumbes ygilt, that were before bepitcht. **Ygladed** [GLAD *v.*], made glad. *c* 950 [see GLAD *v.* 1]. *c* 1205 LAY. 19587 Þa was Vðer bliðe & igladed swuðe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 830 Þanne was þat menskful meliors muchel y-gladed. **Yglased**, ME. pa. pple. of GLAZE *v.*[1] **Yglent** (GLENT *v.*], made radiant. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 65 Gaude Maria, yglent with grace! **Yglewed, Yglosed**, etc., ME. pa. ppies. of GLUE, GLOZE *v.*[1], etc. **Ygloved** [Y- 5, GLOVE *sb.*], gloved. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6542 Agamenon on syde housed, With gode Armes and wel y-gloued.

†**Ygo**, *adv. Obs.* Also 6 ygone, 6, 8 ygoe. [Spenserian pseudo-arch. form of AGO *adv.*] Ago; formerly. *Late ygo*: recently.

[1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6276 Yt ys not yet ygon ful yore..Whan thow doutest the off thys bred.] 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 62 And great Augustus long ygoe is dead. 1590 — *F. Q.* II. i. 2 Whom his victorious hands did earst restore To natiue crowne and kingdome late ygoe. 1596 *Ibid.* IV. xi. 39 And following Dee, which Britons long ygone Did call diuine, that doth by Chester tend. 1767 MICKLE *Concuh.* I. xliii, And what ygoe the Place of Herbs had bene, Is now a Turnip Fielde. 1768 DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* lx, Her heart had long y-go transmewed bin to stone.

†**Ygo(e, ME.** pa. pple. of Go *v.* **Ygolped, ME.** pa. pple. of GULP *v.* **Ygon(e, ygoon, yguo, ME.** pa. ppies. of Go *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 142 He is y-guo into þe hole of þe roche ase þe colure ine his colurehous. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 788 Another with a diche aboute ygoon is. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. xliii, But when from Aptery we were ygone. **Ygot(en**[Y- 4, GET *v.*], got. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxlv. (1869) 74 Litel is wooth thing ygoten if after the getinge it ne be kept. **Ygovernet**, governed. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 207 By Iustice is al the worlde y-gouernet. **Ygraced, ME.** pa. pple. of GRACE *v.* **Ygrad, ygred, ME.** pa. ppies. of GREDE *v. Obs.* **Y-graithed, ygreithed** [GRAITH *v.*], prepared, equipped. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1993 Þis pinfule gin wes..se grisliche igreiðet. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7536 (Laud MS.) Ygreiþed ben his foure þousynde. *c* 1480 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 225 When he is so y-graithed..Þen shalle ye open hym thus. **Y-**

hym he took no procuracies þat hym were y-graunted. 1456 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 292 Had and ygrawnt by the fellyat of the sayd comynes. **Ygratyd**, grated. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 15 Brede y-gratyd.

† **Ygrave(n, ygraved**, *pa. pple. Obs.* [See Y- 4 and GRAVE *v.*] Buried; graven, engraved.

c 1205 LAY. 21133 Ænne sceld deore..þer wes innen igrauen [*c* 1275 igraued] mid rede golde stauen. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 164 By a caue That was vnder a rocke ygraue. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 379 A cros i-grave in þe pavement of marbilston. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1798 But be als dep in to the erd y-grave. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) T j, And in the hart it is so diepe ygrave. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* III. lxxiii, Where after was ygrau'd: Here lyes Dudon.

† **Ygret, ME.** pa. pple. of GREET *v.*[1] **Ygreved, ygrewid**, grieved. 13.. *K. Alis.* 841 (Linc. Inn MS.) A kyng þer was ..Þat had ygreued muchul his kynne. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 241 Sone he shal be seke and his body y-grewid.

Ygromony, obs. form of AGRIMONY.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 786/12 *Hec igromonia*, a ygromony.

† **Ygronde, ygrounde**(n [Y- 4, GRIND *v.*[1]], ground. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 131/2 *Commolitus*, gegrunde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 171 To Abate þe Barli bred and þe Benes I-grounde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kni.'s T.* 1691 A sharpe ygrounde spere. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 13 Temper vp þine Almaundys þat þou hast y-grounde. **Ygrope, ME.** pa. pple. of GROPE *v.* **Yground**[ed [GROUND *v.*], grounded. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 921 So frendly and so wel ygrounded, Vpon al reason so wel yfounded. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3942 Knowyng that ..hyr compleynte..Was ygrounded on folye. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 191 Without kynge Y-groundit be In Goddis wourd of verytie [etc.]. **Ygrowe**(n [GROW *v.*], grown. *c* 900 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* III. xiii. (1900) 208 Swa fæste his heafod wæs gegrowen to ðam lichaman, swylce hit næfre of acorfen nære. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6491 (Laud MS.) Þer hij founde Wymmen growen out of þe grounde. ..Somme weren to þe nauel ygrowe; .. And summe weren ygrowe al out. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 53 This wenche thikke and wel ygrowen was.

Yguana, obs. form of IGUANA.

† **Yguld, -t, ygyld, -t, ME.** pa. ppies. of GILD *v.*[1] **Ygulpid, ME.** pa. pple. of GULP *v.* **Ygurd, -t** [GIRD *v.*[1]], girt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 236 Y-gert aboue mid bulte linene gerdles. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 403 Þey slepeþ i-cloþed and i-gerd [*MS.* ß y-gurde]. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 604/30 *Precinctus*, ygurd. **Ygyved**, fettered. *c* 1290 i-gwíued [see GYVE *v.*]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 145 Sabar þat flipe out of prisoun [*added in MS.* y ygyued]. **Yha, yhe**, obs. forms of YEA.

† **Yhabited** [Y- 5, HABIT *sb.*], clothed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 285 Y-habited as an hermyte an ordre by hymselue. **Yhacked** [Y- 4], hacked. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 298 His heaued is ihacked of. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 9 His herte was i-bakked [*MS.* y y-bakket] to smal gobettes. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 55 Porke y-cope, & smale y-hackyd. **Yhad(de, ME.** pa. pple. of HAVE *v.* **Yhaded, yheded** [HADE, HEDE *v.*[1]], consecrated, ordained. *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 625 Her Paulinus fram Justo þam arcebiscop was gehadod Northymbrum to biscepe. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Ihadede man he muneȝeð wel to lernne ilewede men. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1177 Hwat queþ heo ertu ihoded? 1340 *Ayenb.* 49 Clerkes y-hoded. *c* 1425 I-hode [see HOOD]. **Yhaht, ME.** pa. pple. of HATCH *v.*[1]

Yhald, obs. pa. t. of YIELD *v.*

† **Yhalde**(n, ME. pa. pple. of HOLD *v.* **Yhalewed, yhal(e)wed** [Y- 4, HALLOW *v.*[1]], hallowed. *c* 900, etc. [see HALLOW *v.*[1], HALLOWED]. *c* 1205 LAY. 29443 Na chirche þer nes ihaleȝed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 40 Þe y-halȝede stedes þet byeþ apropred to guodes seruise. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 13 Þe temple was I-halowed [*MS.* y yhalwed]. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Life Our Lad*' In al the erthe y halowed and y holde.

Yhalou, obs. form of YELLOW.

† **Yhamled**, ME. pa. pple. of HAMBLE *v.* **Yhandled** [Y- 4, HANDLE *v.*[1], I-HANDLE], handled. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 51 Neauer adet tis dei nes ich þus ihondlet. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xi. (Skeat) I. 201 Is vertue the hye way to this knot that long we have y-handled? **Yhanted** [HAUNT *v.*], practised. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 988 Ne we sitte in no sete þere sinne is y-hanted.

Yhar(e, obs. ff. YAIR, YARE, fishgarth.

† **Yharded** [Y- 4, HARD *v.*], hardened. 1297 R. GLOUC. (1724) 352 Þe folkes herte ys So yharded [*v.r.* iharded]. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. v. (1868) 133 Þe weyste of þe snowe yhardid by þe colde. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 52 Whan he is a lytel y-hardid in þe ouen. **Yharmed**[1], var. Y-ARMED, armed. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2623 Þre hondred busonde men mid him yharmed he nom. **Yharmed**[2], harmed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 238 Vor yef hi byeþ queade hi scolle by þe more y-harmed þanne þe oþre. **Yharneysed, Yhasped, Yhat, ME.** pa. ppies. of HARNESS *v.*, HASP *v.*, HEAT *v.*

Yhat (3hat), yhate, obs. ff. GATE *sb.*[1]

† **Yhate**(n: see YHOTE. **Yhated**, hated. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2254 Wiþ gret poer..Of scottes & of picars..Þat euere abbeþ þis lond yhated. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 99 Is moste yhated vp erthe of hem þat beth in beuene. **Yhatered, ME.** pa. pple. of HATER *v.*, to clothe. **Yhaved**, had. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 434 We nedde y-haued ryȝt no profyt Ine heuene a-boue.

Yhe, obs. f. EYE, YE, YEA. **Yhed (3hed(e), obs.** pa. t. of Go: see YODE. **Yhed(de**, var. of YHID. **Yheedid, -yd**: see HEADED.

Yhefyr, obs. form of HEIFER.

1446 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 85 It. of J. Meke vor a yhefyr..iij *s.*

Yheid (3heid(e), obs. pa. t. of Go: see YODE. **Yheir, Yheit, obs.** ff. YEAR, YET, GATE *sb.*[1]

Yheld(e, obs. ff. YIELD *v.*

† **Yheled**[1] [Y- 4] *pa. pple.*, healed. *c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* IV. lii. (Schipper) 366 & þa on morgenne gehælede gewitte aras & ut eode. *c* 1175, *c* 1200 [see HEAL *v.*[1] 1, 3 b]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 96 A wounde yheled. **Yheled**[2] [HELE *v.*[2]], covered, concealed. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XXIX. 2 Se pitt was ȝeheled mid anum stane. 1297 R. GLOUC. (1724) 305 Myd blod þe erþe was yheled. 13.. *K. Alis.* 278 Þeo lady lyȝt on hire bedde Yheoled [*MS. Laud* yhiled] wel wiþ selkyn webbe. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 212 An herne at þe halle ende, Well homelich yhelid. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Straw on pouder Canelle y-now, þat þe stekys be al y-helid þer-wyth. **Yheled**[3], var. Y-ELED, anointed. *c* 1275 Iheled [see ELE *v.*[1]]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7243 King alfred þe kunde more þat uarst was yeled [*MS. B* yheled] at rome.

Yhelle, obs. form of YELL *v.* **Yheme**, etc., var. YEME, etc. **Yhen**, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*[1]

† **Yhende**, *a.* and *adv.* [OE. *gehende*: see Y- 2 b and HEND(E), near, at hand. *c* 892, *c* 1000 [see HEND *a.* 1, 2 and *adv.* 1]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1263 þer hi wel vnderstonde scholde þat sum vnsel heom is ihende. 1340 *Ayenb.* 212 Þer hiep oþre þet gredeþ hare benes ruo ihoude þet þo þet byeþ y-hende byeþ desatorbed. **Yhent** [Y- 4, HENT *v.*], caught. 1297 [see HENT *v.* 1]. 14.. *St. Jeremie's 15 Tokens* 96 Miȝth þat hym haue yhent fast by þe crovne. **Yheped**, heaped. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 334 Yf they mende not, yheped se Askis or flood grauel aboute her roote.

Yher(e, obs. forms of YEAR.

† **Yherber(e)3ed, yherborwed** [Y- 4], harboured. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Seuen awergede gostes ware on hire yeberbereȝede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Ine suo poure house y-herberȝed. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 235 Ich was yherborwed with an hep of chapmen.

Yherde, early var. of YIRD *Sc.*, earth.

† **Yherdling.** *Obs.* The holder of a yardland.

1[2].. *Cartulary of Battle* in Vinogradoff *Villainage in Eng.* (1892) 198 *note*, Yherdlinges..custumarii [cf. *Ibid.*, Majores Erdlinges acil. virgarii Halferdlinges (majores cottarii) Minores cottarii].

† **Yhere**, *a. Obs. rare.* [repr. OE. **gehlere*, f. *gehleran*: see next. Cf. MHG. *gehœre.*] Obedient.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 732 Þeȝ he ne be nauȝt yhere, Ac wykke.

† **Yhere**, *v. Obs.* Forms: see Y- and HEAR *v.* [OE. *gehleran*, etc. = OS. *gihôrian*, MLG., MDu. *gehoren*, OHG. *gahôrjan* (MHG. *gehœren*, G. *gehören* with special sense-development, to belong), Goth. *gahausjan*: see Y- 3 c and HEAR *v.* (The instances of the pa. pple. may belong to the simplex or the compound.)] To hear.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lx. 38 [lx. 37] Lustes heortan hearu geherde eare min. *Ibid.* lv. 5 [lv. 2] Geher god zebed mia & ne forseh ðu boene mine. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 15 Zyf he þe zehyrð, þu zestalbelast þinne brobor. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXXIII. 201 Zehyredum þysum wordum hi ongunnon eallu *v* *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Se iherden er on þe godspel nu [*misc.*]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 243 Nu zie habbeð iherd þes wimmenes name. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3440 Ac suiþe hii woune al clene out as ȝe muȝe after yhure. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 9 Par auenture ȝe haue nost iherde How oure ladi went out of þis

1340 *Ayenb.* 263 Nou broþren and sostren y-hyred ... 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 355 þe tuge swoor þat he hadde i-herde [*MS.* γ yhurd] suche tales of Zanocrates his mouth. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. v. 157 Loue.. eryed vp-on conscience, þe kynge hit myghte yhure. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 235 Who-so hath a smale neke, he sholde haue a swete voyce and wel y-harde.

Yhere (ȝhere), obs. form of Ear *sb.*[1]

†**Yher(i)ed, yher(y)ed** [Y- 4, Herry *v.*], praised. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 107 þet ure drihten beo eure ihered on ure godan weorcan. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 52 A betere burde never nes y-heryed with the heste. *c* 1450 *Cri. of Love* 592 Venus,..Goddes eterne, thy name y-heried is!

Yhern(e: see Yearn *v.*[1], Yern *a.*

†**Yhert** [Y- 4, Hard *v.*], hardened. 1340 *Ayenb.* 29 Huanne man is y-hert ine his kueadnesse þet me ne may him wende.

Yheryd [Ear *v.*[1]], ploughed. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5398 That erthe..Wher as sowe was thys greyn, Was nat .. yheryd neueradel. **Yhery3ed** [Harry *v.*], ravaged. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 140 Hys husbondus that yaf rent Was y-hery3ed dounryght.

Yhes, obs. form of Yes.

Yhet: see Gate *sb.*[1], Have, Yet.

†**Yhevid** [Y- 4, Heavy *v.*; cf. I-heve3ed], grieved. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 52 Sith my two doughters haue thus yhevid me, sothely I shal preve the thrid. **Yhewe(d**, hewn. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xv. 46 *Excisum de petra*, ..ȝeheawen of carre *vel* stane. 12.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 545/36 *Lignum*, iheawen treow. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 283 þat tyme the woodes in Wales were i-hewe [*MS.* γ yheuwe] adoun. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. xi. (1558) 6 b, Vnto the death was wounded and yhewe.

Yheyt(e, obs. forms of Yet *adv.*

†**Yhid(de, yhud(de, yhyd(de**, etc. [Y- 4, Hide *v.*[1], I-hede], hidden. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxv. § 1 Þon finț he þær þa ryhtwisnesse gehydde mid þæs lichoman hæfignesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 146 Hester, on Ebrewish, þet is Ihud, an English. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5099 Wanne þe relikes of halwen yfounde were & ykud þat vor drede of saxons er wide were yhud. *a* 1300 *Sarmun* xi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 2 Þer nis no þing a-boute þe bone to ȝeme þat was ihuddid here. 1340 *Ayenb.* 109 Godes riche is ase on tresor in þe uelde yhed. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 175 Some..slepte vpright her heed yhed. *c* 1374 [see Hide *v.*[1] 4]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 431 Iosephus was i-founde y-hid among useles. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 487 By nyght, and vndir cloude yhid the mone.

Yhifte, obs. form of Gift *sb.*

a 1300 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 36 Of all yhiftes þat gode yevith to man.

†**Yhight**, ME. pa. pple. of Hight *v.*[1] **Yhillid** [Y- 4, Hild *v.*], flayed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 167 [He] made hym be i-hylde [*MSS.* β, γ y-huld] al quyk. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 167 Wherfor this kynge comandid that he were y-hillid.

Yhis, etc., obs. ff. Yes, etc. **Yhit(te**, obs. ff. Yet *adv.* **Yhode**, obs. pa. t. of Go: see Yode. **Yhoded**: see Yhaded. **Yholde(n**, obs. pa. ppples. of Hold *v.*, Yield *v.* **Yhole**, pa. pple. of Hele *v.*[1], to conceal.

†**Yhole**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝehal, 3 ihal, 3–4 ihol, 4 yhol, 4–5 yhole. [OE. *ġehāl*: see Y- 3 b and Whole *a.*] Whole, sound.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 154 Ða ȝemette he þæt fæt..swa ȝehal þæt ðær nan cinu on næs ȝesewen. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 354 Wyrc swa hit man ȝehal forswelȝan mæge. *a* 1205 Lay. 821 Al ihal & al isund. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Hope halt þe heorte i hol. 1340 *Ayenb.* 228 Huo þet is yhol of bodie and uoul ine herte is ase þe berieles yhuited. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Þen take figys, an kerue hem a-to, or Roysonys y-hole.

Hence †**Yholliche**, wholly; †**Yholnesse**, †**Yholschipe**, wholeness.

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 203 Moder of swich sune wiȝ iholschipe of meiden. *c* 1315 Shoreham III. 223 Þarefore do þe al y-holliche þat day [*sc.* mass-day] to holy þynge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 127 Þe loue of þe herte huerby he him yefþ y-holliche and wyþoute corrupcion to þet ha loueþ. *Ibid.* 230 Yholnesse and clennesse of bodye þet is to zigge þet þet body by y-hol wyþoute uelþe of lecherie. *a* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 362 ȝif þ[t] þe axkere bryngeþ skore oþer wryt, and aske þe berynge y-holecheche [*etc.*].

Yholk, obs. form of Yolk.

†**Yholpe(n** [Y- 4, Help *v.*], helped. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O E. Hom.* I. 191 Þu me hauest iholpen aneole kunne wise. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8358 Ich hom abbe quaþ vr louerd iholpe [*v. rr.* yholpe, yholpen] er ywis. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 60 How he with Moyses maundement hadde many men y-holpe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5505 Socoured ofte And most I hope [*Thynne's ed.* yholpe] in all her neede.

Yhon(e, Yhong, obs. ff. Yon, Young.

†**Yhonge, -ed** [Y- 4, Hang *v.*], hung, hanged. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 38 Wintres & sumeres wudu biȝ ȝelice bledum ȝehongen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1136 If þu art þar ouer ihonge þi lif is euer luþer and qued. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2612 The thre theues were knightes, That were i-honged. 1340 *Ayenb.* 241 Al alsuo ase þe wordle him hild uor uyl and uor wlatuol, ase me deþ enne y-honged. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 34 Þe legges y-raised vp and wiþ a towal y-hungen.

†**Yhorsed**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *ġehorsed*: see Y- 5.] Horsed; on horseback.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. ix. § 1 On his feȝehere wæron xxxii M. & þæs ȝehorsedan fifte healf M. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1010 Þa Denisecan..þær wurdon ȝehorsode. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1050 Alle on stalworþ stedes stoutliche i-horsed. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 801 Y-horced & y-armed. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxvii. 102 Yf wele yhorsed I had not ben I shulde neuer haue escaped.

†**Yho(u)sled** [Y- 4], houselled, communicated. *a* 1200 in *Anglia* XIII. 485/869 Þænne hi beoþ ȝehuslude, *dum communicantur.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 73 He ..was i-housled [*MS.* γ y-housled] to fore al þe people in an Estenday. **Yhote(n** [Hight *v.*[1]], called; commanded; promised; hidden, etc. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* ii. 11 Þæt land, þe ys ȝehaten Euilath. 1154, etc. [see Hight *v.*[1] A. 2, B. 1]. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 Þe fuwer wateres þa þe her ȝeo3 ihaten us on to weschen. *c* 1200 Orrin 3360, I Davi3þ kingenes chesstre, þatt las ȝehatenn Ba3þlæemm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2416 Siðen ðor was mad on scitd, Ðe was y-oten Ramesd. 1340 *Ayenb.* 129 Þise graces byeþ yhote yefþes uor þri skeles. *c* 1400 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 521 The emperour had y-hote his servauntes that thei schuld go after hym privyliche. 24.. *R. Sol. Bk. Wisd.* 136 Þe widewe son died, he was yhote Ionas.

Yhoten, var. Eten *Obs.*, giant.

Yhou, Yhour(e, Yhouth(e, obs. ff. You, Your, Youth.

†**Yhove** [Y- 4, Heave *v.*], heaved. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 453 Y-meoved and y-hove ler out of oon place into anoþer.

Yhow, Yhownge, Yhowthe, obs. ff. You, Young, Youth.

Yhowted, ME. pa. pple. of Hoot *v.*

Yhte, rare var. of ME. *ehte*: see Aught *sb.*[1]

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 378 This Priamus hadde in his yhte A wif, and Hecuba sche hyhte.

Yhu, ȝhu, obs. forms of You.

Yhude, ME. variant of Yode.

†**Yhugged** [Y- 4], hugged. 1614 J. Davies *Eclogue* 188, I ne wot, on mould what feater skill Can bee yhugg'd in Lordings pectorall. **Yhuited** [White *v.*], whitened. 1340 *Ayenb.* 178 Line cloþ þet is y-huyted be ofte wessinge. *Ibid.* 228 Þe berieles yhuited þet is uayr wyþ-oute and wyþ-inne uol of stench. **Yhuld**: see Yhilled.

Yhule, Yhung, obs. ff. Yule, Young.

†**Yhungen**: see Yhonge. **Yhuntid** [Y- 4], hunted. 1393 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 228 He was halowid and y-huntid and y-hidre trusse. **Yhu(y)red, yhyred**, hired. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 115/21 *Locatio*, behyring, *uel* ȝehyred feoh. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 51 An oost þat was i-hered [*MS.* γ yhuyred] out of Grecia. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 336 Bote he be heyliche yhyred elles wol he chide. **Yhurt(e**, ME. pa. pple. of Hurt *v.* **Yhy(e)alde**, ME. (Kentish) pa. pple. of Hold *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Zuich wrepe longe yhyealde and byucalde ine herte. **Yhy3ed** [Y- 4, Hie *v.*], hastened. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Pauca) 1 Thess. ii. 17 We..haſeþ muche y-hy3ed to sen zoure vysage. **Yhyled** [Hill *v.*[1]], covered. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 193 þat cloister..All y-hyled wiþ leed lowe to þe stones.

Yi, graphic var. *pi*, Thy; dial. f. Yea.

Yid (yid). *slang.* [Back-formation f. next.] A Jew who speaks Yiddish.

a 1890 *Sporting Times* (Leland), I might, if I had poached upon the province of the Pitcher, Have devoted just a verse or two to love among the Yids.

Yiddish (yi·diʃ), *sb.* (*a.*) [Anglicization of G. *jüdisch* (yü·diʃ) Jewish; the full German name is *jüdisch deutsch* 'Jewish-German'. The English word has been adopted in German as *jiddisch*.] The language used by Jews in Europe and America, consisting mainly of German (orig. from the Middle Rhine area) with admixture (according to local or individual usage) of Balto-Slavic or Hebrew words, and printed in Hebrew characters.

1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. vii, [German immigrants] tell me their wants in their own language, which is generally Yiddish. 1890 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 496/2 There were at ... or Polish or Yiddish. 1900 C. Russell *Jew in London* ii. 18 The Yiddish-speaking community.

adj. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxviii, A large importation of Polish Jews who were making a little Yiddish Poland for themselves up a court. 1890 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 496/2 Martin Luther compiled a dictionary of *Rotwälsch*..used by the thieves of his time, in which half the words are Hebrew, derived from the receivers of stolen goods and their Yiddish dialect.

So **Yi·ddisher** [G. *Jüdischer*], a Jew who speaks Yiddish.

1890 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang.*

Yie, obs. form of Eye, Yea.

Yieft, ȝiefte, obs. ff. Gift *sb.*

Yield (yēld), *sb.* Forms: 1 ȝeld, ȝield, ȝild, ȝyld, ȝeold, 2 ȝmild, 2–3 ȝield, 2–5 ȝeld, 4 eild, yilde, 4–5 ȝeild, yeild, 4–6 yeld, 5 ȝelde, yelde, 6 yalde, 6–7 yeeld(e, 6– yield. [In senses 1–3 OE. *ġield*, etc., str. neut. (cf. Guild etym.) = OFris. *geld*, *ield* (Fris. *jild*, *jil*), OS. *geld* (senses as in OE.), MLG., MDu. *gelt* payment, money (Du. *geld* money), OHG., MHG. *gelt* (senses as in OE.), (G. *geld* money), ON. *gjald* (Sw. *gäld*, Da. *gjeld*), Goth. *gild* tax: f. stem of **geldan* (see next). In senses 4–6 directly f. Yield *v.*]

†1. Payment; a sum of money paid or exacted, as a tribute, tax, etc.: *spec.* = Geld *sb. Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark Introd. 4 *De reddendo cæsarie tributo*, of ȝyld us ceseres ȝeseleane. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1013 Bead þa Swæzen full ȝild & metsunga to his here þone winter. *Ibid.* 1087 Ælc unrilt ȝeold he forbead. *a* 1154 *Ibid.* 1137 Hi leiden ȝmildes on þa tunes. *c* 1200 Orrin 10170 Þeȝȝ haffdenn wiltenn off þe king To sammnenn hiss ȝeldess. *c* 1205 Lay. 7194 Romleode..þe.. ne durften bider liȝen Arlen king of þissen londe þat he þefue ȝeld in to Rome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27831 Strenth, þat lauerding agh to meild, þat o pair men tas wrangwis yeild. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7099 (Linc. Inn MS.) ȝef þow wold aske suche a ȝeld Com apd hasse hit in þe feld. 1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 4 It is accordit þ[t] a ȝelde be raisit þ[t] is to say xlid of ilk pvnde. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 392 That the lady.. shold hold and haue..all yelde and all quarels and smaccioge the and quyte. 1494 *Burgh Rec. Aztin.* (1884) I. 67 And this ȝeild to be gaddarit yeirly anes in the yair. 1521 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 329 Euery mannys wief, after the deth of hur husbond, beyng a taillor, shall kepe as many servauntes as they wille,..so she bere scotte and lotte, yeve and yelde, wt the occupacion. 1588 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 The constablye of Sharpelles for a yalde vij[d].

†b. Payment for loss or injury, compensation. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Laws of Ethelbert* xxviii, Gif man inne feoh gesleahe se man III ȝelde ȝebete. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 58 Strong ȝeld is her mid ... *c* 1300 *Priests of Peblis* in Pinkerton *Scot. P.* (1792) I. 29 Upon the day of Dome, For mans body thair to give ane yeild.

†2. The offering of sacrifice to a deity; worship. *Obs.*

a 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 146 Þu goda unas ȝield forbogdest. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 212 Þis ilke ȝeld, þet tu dest to deouelen.

†3. Reward, recompense; retribution. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 43 (Trin. Coll. MS.) He deð his alhte an siker stede þe hit sent to heuariche, þar ne þarf he habben care of here ne of ȝielde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 376 Þe polemode þolie bitter one hwule uor he schal sone.. habben ȝeld of blisse.

4. The action of yielding crops or other products, production; that which is produced, produce; *esp.* amount of produce.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 216 Eek hillis yeld is Wel gretter grayn and fewer, then in feeld is. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 69 Beyng in some yeres, or in sundrye countreys, thynne wheete, or thycke husked, or bettyr and heavyer of yelde, some tyme whiter flower or browner. 1543 Grafton *Contn. Harding* 137 After haruest for so muche as wheat..was of so smal yelde, it was solde for .xii.s. and .xiii.s. iiii.d. a quarter. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 126 The yong plants ought daily to be plucked vp from the old, for feare of hindring the yeeld of the old. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 17 b, To knowe the nature of euery grounde, Iscomachus in Xenophon, dooth wyll you to marke wel the plantes and the yeeld of the Countrey. 1611 R. Fenton *Unurie* 11. xiii. 91 That increase which God gaue by the yeeld of the earth and liuing creatures. 1773 Burke *Lett., to Marq. Rockingham* (1844) I. 445 The wheat was large in show upon the ground, but the yield in flour is not extraordinary. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Linc.* 213 His yield 12 guineas an acre. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 132 The coking lasts about twenty-four hours, and the yield of coke in the ovens averages 67 per cent. 1863 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* III. xv. 489 Since the year 1850, the average of the yield of gold in Australia has been 20,000,000 *l.* 1868 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 382 He had a farm just outside the town on the yield of which he lived. 1893 Traill *Soc. Eng.* Introd. p. xlviii, Their earliest trade..is, in the surface products of the earth—in corn or wine, in the yields of the olive-grove or the orchard.

b. The amount obtained from some financial transaction, impost, etc. (e. g. of interest from an investment, of revenue from a tax).

1877 R. Giffen *Stock Exch. Securities* 152 The higher the yield of a security. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Sept. 5/1 A tax..which, moreover, is considerably reduced in its yield by the cost of collection. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 13/4 The present value of the three Central London stocks..affords a yield of over 5 per cent.

†5. The action of yielding or giving in; surrender, submission. *Obs. rare.*

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 193 Their consent, yeeld and concurrence. *Ibid.* 351 No such yeelde, as the Iesuiticall faction report we haue made.

6. The action of yielding or giving way, as under pressure or tension.

1889 *Telegr. Jrnl. & Electr. Rev.* 20 Dec. 707/1 It was concluded that the increase of [elastic resistance] during 'yield' is the same for all the specimens.

Yield (yēld), *v.* Forms: see below. [Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE. (WS.) *ġieldan*, (Angl. & Kent.) *ġeldan*, pa. t. *ġeald*, *guldon*, pa. pple. *golden* = OFris. *gelda*, *ielda* (WFris. *jilde*, EFris. *jilde*, NFris. *jill*), OS. *geldan*, MDu. *g(h)elden* (Du. *gelden*), OHG. *geltan*, (MHG., G. *gelten*), ON. *gjalda*, Goth. **gildan* (in compounds *fragildan*, *usgildan* to compensate) :— OTeut. **geldan*, of which the ultimate relations are uncertain.

This verb has had a remarkable sense-development in English owing to its having been used as an equivalent of L. *reddere* and F. *rendre*, or their compounds. In some of the related languages the word has shown tendencies to develop in the same directions, but the only generally surviving use on the Continent are 'to be worth, to be valid, to concern, apply to', which are not represented at all in the English word.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Infinitive and Present Stem.* a. 1 ȝieldan, ȝeldan, 2–5 ȝelde(n, 3–7 yeld, 4 ȝielde, ȝeilde, yelde, yeilde, (also 8 *Sc.*) ȝield, 4–5 ȝeilde, (also 7 *Sc.*) ȝeeld(e, 4–6 ȝeld, yelde, 4–7 yeild, 4–7 yeeld, 5 ȝheylde, eylde, elde, 5–7 yeeld(e, 6 ealde, 6–7 yeald, 7 yielde, eyld, 4, 6– yield.

c 825–1300 [see B. 1–7]. *c* 1200 Orrin 19993 Whanne & hu He wollde hiss dere kemmpe Hiss mede ȝeldenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3. 61. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6369 Icholle wel ȝin a ȝelde. 13.. *Cursor M.* 210 (Cott.) Scho sal ȝam ȝeld a hundreth fald. *Ibid.* 260 Traistli acuntes sal we yeild. *Ibid.* 28738 Resun to yeild well better is O merci ȝam of cruelnes. 13.. *Ibid.* 29472 (Edinb.) To þe thesu ȝield I migrate. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5303 Acount to yhelde of þair kepyng. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 33 To ȝeld or restore Strewilling. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.*, xlii. 22 And ther is not that seie, ȝeeld. *c* 1440 *Sqr Gawr.* (Roxb.) 970 Dareł fast he beheldes, And seid, 'Sir, crist you ȝelde Of this cumyng.' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.*

§37/1 3eelde þe goost, or deyyn. *a* 1483 Elde [see B. 10 a]. *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 169 The high father of heaven I praie To eylde your good deed to daie. 1536 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* li. 1, I wil yelde prayse vnto thy name. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 196 b, Twoo so inuincible nacions, which neuer would yeild or bowe. 1572 Yeald [see B. 17 b]. 1598 SIR T. NORREYS in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 16 His purpose is not to enjde the possesion. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vi. 13 How you shall bid God-eyld vs for your paines. 1621 MURE *Misc. Poems* I. 25 3eeld to his powar. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. xix, That light Orb of air..must yielden evermore To phansies beck. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* Pref. P 2 b To yeeld him an intire Body of necessary Theology. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Some of the Contents* II, He to best poets skairslie zields in ocht.

β. 1 gildan, gyldan, 3–5 3ulde(n, 4–5 3ild(e, 3yld(e, 4–6 yild(e, 6 ild, ylde (in *God dild*, etc.). *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxii. 4 Gif man cucu finde, þæt he stæl..gilde be twifealdon. *a* 1122 [see B. 1]. *c* 1205 3ulden [see B. 1]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28833 þe power man es like þe ild, þat corn plentes is wont to yild. *c* 1305 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 58 An hezere Justise þat þe schal þe trecherie 3ulde. 1389 3yld [see B. 2]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 80 3ild vp þi rewme. 1493 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 550 Due therfor paying, gyffyng, or 3ilding. 1575 God dylde [see B. 7]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 3 That stubborne fort to yilde. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 138 God dild you.

γ. *Sc.* 5 3auld, 5–6 3ald, yald.

c 1450 *St. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 142 þat criste, .can vs kene God fore ewil to 3ald almene. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* x. 824 He suld the castell 3eld [*MS. E.* 3auld] quytly. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 553 He bidis yow your londe Ye yald hyme our. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. x. 136 He weltis our, and 3aldis vp the breith.

δ. 5 yoldo.

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 403 Yolde youe here to me. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 55 Cownsaylenge theyme to yolde vp the cite. *a* 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* P 1 (1870), So that they wold knowlege hym as theyre souuerayn: and yarely yold hym a lytyll trybute.

b. *Pres. Ind.* (contracted forms) *2nd sing.* 1 3ielst, 3iltst, 3ilst, 3yltst, 3–4 3elst, yelst. *3rd sing.* 1 3ielt, 3ilt, 3ylt, 2 3eelt, 3 3ilt, 3eldþ, 3–5 3elt, 4–5 yelt, β yalto.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 7 Ælmihtig God .. 3ilt ælcum after his gewyrhtum. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 Elc 3eelt after his 3earnunge. *c* 1205 LAY. 21071 Nu he me 3ilt[*c* 1275 3elt] mede For mire god dede. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 Hweoo is alker of sukure..& 3elt tauh up his kastel to his wiðerwinne. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 120 Ac saropssire 3eldþ haluendel to þulke bissopriche iwis. *Ibid.* 709 Þou 3elst nou my loue wrope. 1340 *Ayenb.* 18 He..þet..yelt him kuead uor guod. *Ibid.* 38 Vor yef þe vinst and nazt ne yelst, þou hit stelst. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4904 He chaungith purpos and entente And yalte lito somme couente.

2. *Pa. t. a.* 1 3eald, 3 3eald, 3–4 3iald, 3eld, 3–5 3elde, 4 eild, 3ilde, (also 6 *Sc.*) 3eild, 4–5 yeld, 4–6 yelde, 5 3ylde, 3oelde, 6 *Sc.* yeild, 7 *Sc.* yeeld.

972 [see B. 5]. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Ich 3eald þat ich noht ne nam. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 128 Ah se sone ha 3ealde ham swucche 3einceleppes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9218 He ..3eld him is godnesse þat he dude him. 13.. *Cursor M.* 9484 (Cott.) Sathanas .. To wais seruis straitt he him eild. 13.. *Ibid.* 6398 (Gött.) Þat 3eild him ay ful littel thanc. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 95 þe kyng Iecoulas..3ilde hym ..to Nabugodonosor. 14.. *Sir Beues* 4306 (Pynson) And both in armes yeld vp the gaste. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1024 3it Hope and Curage wan the field, Thocht Dreid and Danger nevir 3eild. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 418, I yeeld to the Noble mans counsell, and giuing him all dutifull thankes, he sent a guide with mee.

b. *2nd sing.* 1 3ulde, 3 3ulde; *3rd sing.* 4 3uld(e. *pl.* 1 3uldon, -an, 3–4 3ulde(n, 4 3uld.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2419 Duxuðum wlance drihtne guldon god mid gnyrne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cv. 26 [cvi. 36] Sceuocgyldum swyþe 3uldan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 406 Þu 3ulde þet tu ouhtest. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 953 Al þe feldes þo wern y-fuld of dede..Saue an wewe þat leye & 3ulde & abide hure dejes stounde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 77 He 3olde [*MS.* γ a 3uld] vp þe goost. *Ibid.* 95 (MS. γ) Þeos þat 3uld [*v.r.* 3ilde] ham wylfolych [orig. *isti qui sponte se dederunt*]. *Ibid.* 269 Whan þe men of þe citee sigh þat þey 3elde hem self [*MS.* y hy 3ulde ham syl[.

β. 3–5 3old, 3olde, yolde, 4 youlde, 4–5 3oulde, 4–6 yold.

In the earliest quots. a variant of *3elde*: see α b.

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 61 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Vor alle þe gode þat he heom dude, hi yolde him luþre mede. *c* 1290 *Beket* 819 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 And þov ne 3olde me þar-of none a-countes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3847 & to þe king arthure hom 3olde ech man þat was wyn. *Ibid.* 11800 þe castel of pennessie heo 3olde vp þe kinge. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 307 For hauke aliuer he 3old. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 304 Hur 3ates 3eede þei too & youlden hem soone. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 562 þe kyng of Denmarke 3olde hym anonne þo. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 187 But afterward alle went bak, and 3old hem to the Kyng. *c* 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* P 10 (1870), There he kneled downe and yold thankynges..unto God. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 25 To her yold the flames.

γ. Chiefly *north.* 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) 3ald, 3alde, (also 6, 9 *Sc.*) yald, (4 3ialde, yalld, yhald); 4–5 yauld, 5 3auld, 3aulde.

13.. *Cursor M.* 2208 (Cott.) Lelli yald he him his teind. 13.. *Ibid.* 19704 (Edinb.) He hir raisid..And 3ialde hir quic up for þaim alle. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 390 To crist his bodi he 3ald. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 3661 þe kinges sone of spayne..to hire 3alde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 320 Syne 3ald the castell to the king. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 496 He..3auld þe spryt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6499 He gird to be ground, & be goat yalde. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* LXXX, Whanne it plesed vnto God, he yalde ayen the sight vnto this good man. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. ix. 58 The gaist he 3ald with habundance of blude. 1522 3ald [see B. 14 c]. 1829 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 168 The kirk-yard's coffins yald and broke.

δ. 4 3alt, 3alte, yalt; 4 3elt(e, 5 yelte, yilt.

c 1320 *Sowdone of Babylone* in *Leg. Cath.* (1840) 200 He .. 3elt hem her seruise With wel michel wouȝ. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 907 & wele he 3alt him his while. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 261 Durst non ogain him kibe, Bot 3alt him tour & toun. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 214 Why þat one thef on þe crosse creaunt hym 3elt. *Ibid.* XVIII. 200 3owre champioun chiualer ..3elt [*v. rr.* 3elte, yelde, yilt] hym recreaunt. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. XXV. (1869) 150 Whan I sigh that he hadde don euele, he yelte ayen the pens.

ε. 4 3eldid, yhelded, 3eilded, 4–5 3eldede, yeldid, 5 3eldide, yeldyd, yeildyd, yyldyd, 5–6 yelded, 6 yealded, *Sc.* 3eildit, yeldit, 6–7 yeelded, 7–8 yeilded, 7– yielded.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* VII. 4 *If* I 3eldid ill til 3eldand til me ill for good. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 2072 He yhelded þe gast to God and dyghed. 13.. *Cursor M.* 696 (Gött.) Alkines thing in diuers wise 3eilded to Adam þair seruise. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XII. 336 Whose wombe that yeildyd fresh and fayr. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 60 They opend the yates and yelded them vnto hym. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 408 He..held wpe his handis to god and 3eildit the spreit. 1612 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 297 He yeelded vnto nature, and ended his life. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 241 The Mountaine..of it selfe .. yeelded many wilde but pleasant fruits. *a* 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 30 The King Yeilded. 1874 [see B. 10 b].

ζ. 5 yoldede.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 269 The citesynnes..yoldede the cite.

8. *Pa. pple.* α. 1 golden, 4 y3olden, 3oldine, -un, yoldon, -un, 4–5 3olden, -yn, (yholden), 4–6 yolden, -in, -yn, 5 y-yolden, (3oldyne, 3holden), 5 (6 *Sc.*) 3oldin; 5 3oulden, 6 youlden, *Sc.* 3owdin, yowdin, 9 *Sc.* yowden.

a 900 *Kent. Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 67/9 *Et..retributetur*, and biȝ golden. *a* 1000 [see B. 6]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23198 (Edinb.) Þar sal be yoldin him his hire. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1378 Ful luel ichaue y-golden it þe. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxiv. 1 Body and saule, sall be 3olden till þe in Ierusalem. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 804 He set ane sege thar-to stoutly, And lay thair quhill it 3oldyn was. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4356 Curtesie certeyn dide he me So mych that may not yolden be. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 492 þe town of Melun was yholden to þe Kynge. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 67 b/1 Our lord hath yolden the malyce of Nabal on his owen heed. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. iii. 9 Quhy mycht I nocht on fieldis of Troy haue deid, And by thi richt hand 3owdin furth my spreit? 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 151 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 287 For hir saik he wes nocht yoldin. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* III. 25 b, All the Cities..that had bene 3oulden vnto hym. 1836 youden [see YOLDEN 2].

β. 3–5 i3olde, y3olde, yolde, 4 i3oulde, hy3olde, i3ulde, y3ulde, 4–5 y-yolde, 3ulde, 4–6 3olde, 5 i-yolde; 5 3old, 5–6 yold.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9223 Ar þe castel him were i3olde. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 809 To hire he hab i3olde Twenti pond of ride golde. 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 346 Wheþer nat euyl be 3uilde for gode. 1340 *Ayenb.* 73 Hou uirtues and guode dedes byeþ heȝliche yolde. *Ibid.* 163 Þis dette ne may by uolliche y-yolde. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2220 With-out assaut þe castel were y-golde. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* LXXXVIII, Whanne they shalle be yolde ayenne an hundred folde more. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 380 She aȝeine to hyme haith answer 3olde. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 30 To reape the ripened fruits the which the earth had yold.

γ. 5 3(h)eldyn, 5–6 yelden(e, 6 -yn, yeelden.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. ii. 276 þat he Sulde bundyn and syne 3eldyn [*v. r.* 3oldin] be. 1472 yelden [see B. 8]. 1536 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 14 This yere..was the towne of Rome yeldens to the emperor. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 80 Thinke..what thou hast yelden to him againe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 95 Klaius..who lately yeelden was To beare the bonds which time nor wit could breake.

δ. 4 iyelt, i3ilde, 5 y3eld, yelde, 5, 7 yeld, 6 yeeld.

13.. *Sevyn Sages* (W.) 1698 Oure gode dede schal ben iuel i-yelt. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 485 Forto he hadde i-silde hym þe castel of Newerk. 1401 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 14 [He] hadd y3eld op the Castell of Kermerdyn. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4781 Townys and Castelys are yelde to his hand. 1576 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* I. v. iii, Who (wonne by loue) hast yeeld the spoyle of thy virginitie. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 24 Marlborough was..treacherously yeld to Castlhauen the 9th of May.

ε. 5 i3olded, 3oldid, yeldyde, 5–6 yelded, 6–7 yeelded, 7– yielded.

c 1460 *Osney Reg.* 128, j.d. 3erely to be i-3elded to me and to my heyres. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 304, I have yelded you agen that ye lended me right now. 1540 yelded [see B. 9]. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* V. ii, Who fearing to be yelded fled before. 1632 HOSKINS *Leviath.* III. XXXVI. 230 Before hee yeeld them obedience; unlesse he have yeelded it them already. 1675 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 363, I should never have yielded to injustice from any fear of death.

ζ. 5 yolded, -yd.

1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 85 And ther they were yolded all the hundret schyppys to go with me in what port that me lust. *a* 1466 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 215 The towne whythe grete sawte was yeldyd and wonne.

B. Signification.

I. To pay, repay, requite.

†1. *trans.* To give in payment, render as due, pay (money, a debt, tribute, tax, etc.). *Obs.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. § 1 þæt him leofre were wið hiene to feohtanne þonne gafol to 3ieldanne. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 30 *Donec reddederit debitum*, wið he gulde þæt scyld. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1014 Se cyning het 3yldan þam here þe on Grenewic læg 21[*xxl*, þusend punda. *c* 1205 LAY. 7372 Þu ahtest me to 3ulden [*c* 1275 3ilde] 3ænel of þine londe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 404 Iðen euesilð, hwon me 3elt wero-men bore deles hure. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1985 And 3eilden til your creatur þe tend part o your laboure. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3219 Today ich 3eld 3our rentes Wiþ hard woundes & deþ dentes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 104 Þis citee 3eldes 3erely to þe Grete Caan..l. thousand comacyes of florenes of gold. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 328 Symon Holle held j. Cotage, vj. acris of bond-lond, and sholde 3elde by the 3ere iij. shillings at two termes of the 3ere in even porcions. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, *c.* 19 § 1 By the service of a redde rose..to the same late Kyng and his heires for all maner services to be yolden. 1583 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 23 To performe their bargaines, to stand to their promises, & yelde their debtes. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* iv. § 2. 21 b, The killing of them [*sc.* foxes] is a breach of the kings Royal free Chase, and for that the offender shall yeelde a recompence. 1632 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare C.* II. xi. 272 Glocester yielded [orig. *reddebat*] XXXVI Dicres of Iron and c. iron rods fitted to make nails for the Kings shipe.

2. To give as due or of right, or as demanded or required; to render (service, obedience, account, reward, thanks, etc.). Now somewhat *arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii[ii]. 17 Gif þinum esne gode dæde. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5214 Lef faderr, 3eld me nu Forr all min swinne rihht mede. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 þenchеð anon þet he is ower uederes 3erde, & þet he wule 3elden him 3erde seruise. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1248 Ich am her,..mid alle mine hirdmen, to 3elden reisun for ham. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7420 (Laud MS.), 3eldeþ me homage alle. 13.. *Cursor M.* 462 (Gött.) Qui suld i him seruise 3eilde? All sal be at mine aun weilde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 175 þer dede schullen a-ryseп,..and a-Countes 3elden How þou laddest þi lyf. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 3 Which wardeins schul gadere þe qwarterage .. and trewelich 3yld here acompt þerof. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 49 With ioye y wente hoome 3eldand to oure creatour gret þankynges. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. xix. 717 They yelded hym honour and good aduenture. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 49 They shal yeld an acnompt for it one day. 1588 J. UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 33 And so we her subiects should yeeld continual thanks vnto her highnesse. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 170 Seeing we haue beene reserued to yield these funerall speeches to our brother and sister. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* XXXVIII, That he might be moved to let go his right to punish us, and we not moved to be careless in yielding him the rest of his right which he hath to our.. obedience. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* XV, What token canst thou give me, that we should yield credence to thee? 1832 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* II. ii, Yield him obedience in lawful things. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XXXVI, We yield all blessing to the name Of Him that made them current coin.

†b. To perform (a promise), pay (a vow). *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlix. [l.] 14 Yeld ðæm hestan ȝehat ðin. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 665, I schal..3elde þat I hyȝt. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xix. 21 Thei shul vouwe vouwes to the Lord, and 3eelde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. ix. [xiii.], Þei 3olden vp here avowes. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 110 3elde þy hetynges.

†c. To give thanks to. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* X. 53 Nowe awe I gretely god to yeelde, That so walde telle me his entente.

†3. To pay for loss of or injury to (something); to make compensation for (loss or injury); to make up for, make good. (Also *absol.*) *Obs.*

a 900 *Laws of Ælfred* Introd. xxii, Gif hwa adelfe wæterpyt..& hine eft ne betyne, ȝelde swelc neat swelc ðær on befealle. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxii. 6 Gif fyr bærne muȝan oððe standende æceras, ȝylde þone byrst þe ræt fyr ontende. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Þah ic hefde al þet ic efre bi3et, ne mahtic 3elden swa muchel swa ic habbe idon to herme. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 58 Heo schulen 3elden þat best þat is þer inne ivallen. *Ibid.*, Heo is gulti of þe bestes deaðe..& schal..3elden þe bestes lure. 1340 *Ayenb.* 31 Uor hi ne moȝe amendi ne yelde þe harmes þet hi habbeþ ydo, and hit behouep yelde oþer hongy.

†4. To pay back, repay; to give back, restore. (In later use mostly with *again*.) *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* liv. 425 Wenstu..hwæðer he hine mid ðy ȝehealdan mæȝe ðæt he him nauht mare on ne nime, ne ðæt ne ȝielde ðæt he ær nam? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 3if þu mare spenest of þine, hwan ic aȝen cherre, al ic þe ȝelde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 302 Schrift 3elt eft al þet god þet we hefden uorloren. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 2708 So ȝeply was ȝarked & ȝolden his state. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 236 And 3it I-chulle ȝelden aȝeyn 3if I so muche haue. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27867 (Cott. Galba) Till wrang tane thing be ȝolden ogayne. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* LXXX, And whanne it plesed vnto God, he yalde ayen the sight vnto this good man. 1480–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 205 So peace that was loste by Adams synne, he restored & yelded ageyne. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. XXI. 219 He ought to be yolden ageyn to his frendes. 1552 HULOET, Yeld, ostesones a thinge receiued, or taken,..mony borowed or suche like.

†5. To give (something) in return for something received; to render, return (a benefit or injury, etc.); const. *for*. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 203 Ne he nænigne man unrihtlice forðemde, ne nænigum yfel wiþ yfele ȝeald. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ne scalt þu ȝelden vuel oȝein uuel nuða. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Ase þe apostle lereð, ne ȝelde neuer vuel uor god. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4424 For þi leute and þi trulihade Ful luel es yolden þe þi mede! 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 207 Yvele for my goodnesse arn manyfolde to me yolden. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 292 It with kinde nevere stod A man to yelden evil for good. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. x, Euyll folk..for the good done to them, they yeld ageyne euyll. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* VII. iv, If I wrought not for his freedom's sake, Who causeless now yeeldes me a hatefull hart: Then let my foe chase me.

b. To return (an answer, a greeting, or the like). Now only (with admixture of 10 b or 14), to vouchsafe (an assent) *to*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 He..þe sit & spaken touward him, & þeh him word ȝeuin word. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9166 And þair hailsing þai til him tald, Ful hendell to þem he yald. *c* 1330 *Sir Tristr.* 1987 Brangwain answere 3olde. *c* 1330 *Palerne* 234 In hast þanspeetour handely his gretyng

ȝeldes. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 924 And euer to his asking ane answer he ȝald. 1502 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. xix. Venus again ȝald thame thair salusing. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Than yf we be touched with a sharpe worde, we shal ȝelde a benigne & gentyll answere. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 6 Leaue me your snatches, and yeeld mee a direct answere. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xvi, As he yielded to this suggestion a ready and rapturous assent, they all rose. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 111 To this Protagoras yields a reluctant assent.

†6. To give something in return for, make return for, pay for, repay; to reward, recompense, requite (an action, etc., in good or bad sense; often with dative of person). Often in phr. *God yield it you*: cf. 7 a. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 413 Þonne he me na on leofran tid leanum ne meahte Mine ȝife ȝyldan. *Ibid.* 1102 Min sceal swiðor mid grimme gryre ȝolden wurðan fyll & feorh-cwealm, þonne ic forð scio. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 For þanne he wile ȝere ȝelden elch man his hwile mid swilch mede swo he ernede here. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6239 Þatt heore da33hammlike swinnc Beo da33hammlike hemm ȝoldenn. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 Clepe þo werkmen and ȝeld hem here trauail. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4096 'Sir', þai said, 'godd ȝeild [*v.rr.* ȝilde, ȝeild, ȝelde] it yow'. *a* 1300 *Assumpt. Virg.* (Camb. MS.) 249 Thu hast made me ofte glad; Thu has done as my sone bad, My soffe shal it ȝelde to the. 13.. *K. Alis.* 230 (Laud MS.) He..þinkeþ ȝelde his iniquite. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9241 He hadde iuel ȝolden þe kisseinge þat Gvenour him ȝaf at his arminge. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 319 þat god for his grete miȝt al here god hem ȝeld. ? 1370 *Robt. Clyde* 128 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 274 The portar ȝalde hym hys travayle, He smote hym a3ayne withowten fayle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7941 The dethe of þat doughty shalbe dere ȝolden With the blode of þi body. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 368 If..thou thenke as thou seyst, god ȝelde it thee. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxxviii, Suche good dedes, it is noble thinge to be do, and to vse, whanne they shall be ȝolde ayenne an hundred folde more. 1530 PALSGR. 786/1 Where I can nat, God ȝelde it you.

absol. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* CXXXVI(I). 8 The Lord shal ȝelde for me.

7. With personal object (orig. dative; sometimes with *to*). To reward, remunerate, recompense, repay. a. in good or neutral sense: esp. (in later use only) in phr. *God yield* (*you* etc.), also corruptly *God eyld..*, *God dild..*, etc. (see GOD 8), from *c* 1400 to *c* 1600 a common expression of gratitude or goodwill. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

Beowulf 1184 Wene ic þæt he mid gode ȝyldan wille uncran eaferan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 183 Se ilca Drihten..us þonne wile..æghwylcum anum men ȝyldan & leanigean after his sylfes weorcum. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 He..elc ȝeelt efter his ȝearnunge. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2581 God it ȝeald ðese wifes wel, On hom, on haȝte, eddi sel! *c* 1300 *Havelok* 803 God ȝelde him þer i ne may, þat haueth me fed to þis day! *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1547 But loueliche lemman oure lord mot þe ȝeld þat þi worþi wille was to come to me nouþe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1680 A MI in this town Wold do hym worshipp..God hem ȝeld! so have þey offt or nowe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxlvii. (1869) 75 Whan þei weren trussed, grace dieu, god ȝilde hire wel, goodliche spak to me. 1454 *Paston Lett.* (1904) II. 332 Suster, God ȝelde ȝow for ȝowre labore fore me, for gaderyng of my mony. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiii. 495 'Gramercy, sir', sayd the duke rycharde, 'and god ȝelde you!' 1575 *Gammer Gurton* v. ii, *Baily.* God blesse you gammer Gurton. *Gamer.* God dylde you master mine. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 42 How do ye, pretty Lady? *Ophelia.* Well, God dil'd you. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* IV. ii. 33 Tend me to night two houres, I aske no more, And the Gods yeeld you for't. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* v. *ad fin.*, Marry God dild him. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 18 Heaven yield her for it.

†b. in bad sense: To take vengeance on, 'pay out'. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 318 Al þat hab me fader islawe,..Ich schel hem ȝilden [14.. *MS. M.* I shall be vengid]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 43 Myn is þe veniaunce, and I schal ȝelde hem in tyme. 1382 — *Ps.* xl. 11 [xli. 10] Thou..Lord ..ȝeeu rere me, and I shal ȝelde to them.

II. To give or put forth, produce, furnish, exhibit.

8. To give forth from its own substance by a natural process, or in return for cultivation or labour; to produce, bear, generate (fruit, seed, vegetation, minerals, etc.); to put forth (a bud, shoot, etc.); †to bring forth, give birth to, bear (offspring). Now chiefly *arch.* or *poet.*

In first quot. with partitive object.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4720 Þof men ouer all has saun fellda, O corn es þar noght an þat yellda. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 31 She this day hath rendred & ȝelden þe fruyt of her wombe a sone and a doughter. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 31 For want of seede, land yeeldeth weede. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 39 b, The Female [hemp] ..dooth yeelde a white flowre. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xv. 90 b/2 in *Holinshed*, Till they..spread or yeld their rootes down right into the soyle about them. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 107 Inuirious Waspes, to feede on such sweet hony, And kill the Bees that yeelde it, with your stings. 1608 — *Per.* V. iii. 48 Thy burden at the Sea, and call'd Marina, for she was yeelded there. 1611 *Bible* Gen. i. 29 Every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yeelding seed. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII. xl. 595 The soile yeeldeth Cloues, Ginger, and Siluer. 1631 BP. HALL *Soliloquies* xvi, If I look into my orchard I see the well grafted scions yield, first a tender bud. 1672 GREW *Idea Philos. Hist. Pl.* §43 Turpentine, which, in Distillation, yieldeth Oyl and Water, both limpid. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 482 The salacious Goat manureas more; And twice as largely yields her milky Store. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 85 Trees growing in low and shady places do not yield so good tar. 1832 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1860) III. § 3. 194 They all combine with the elements of water and yield one of the acids homologous with formic acid. 1839 E. FITZGERALD *Omar* V, But still the Vine her ancient Ruby yields. *Ag.* 1887 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 262 This minde of ours doth also yeeldfoorth words. *Ibid.* 267 Whan did euer pureneese yeeldfoorth corruption?

b. To furnish (a produce of so much). Also with *up*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19329 Þan quen it [*sc.* wheat] scorn was, weil it yalld A hundret o þair mettes tald. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. xiii. 38/1 in *Holinshed*, Eche acre of Whete.. will yeeld commonly twentie bushelles. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 30 b, The other kinde [of oats] is lyghter ..and yeeldeth but little flowre. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 4 Inclosed Lands in many places doth yelld half as much, or as much more, as Lands in common fields. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brierly Creek* iii. 63 The farmer makes his land yield double by good tillage. 1888 P. STRUTT in *Hamilist* Sept. 392, I have seen a barrowful of crushed quartz-rock yield up at last..a little spoonful of gold.

c. To produce as a result; to give as a mathematical product. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Arts* L vij, I multiply the first numbre 3 into ye second 40000, and it yeldeth 120000. 1593 FALE *Horologiogr.* 31 The quotient Sine shall yeeld an arke, whose Complement shall be named the Complement repeated. 1876 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 26 Wherever two or more independent and equally worthy sources of information appear to yield up inconsistent results.

d. *absol.* To bear produce; to be productive or fertile. †Hence, to turn out (in a certain way).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5696 Þe erþe ȝeld betere & þet weder was murgore bi is daye..þan me er yzaye. *c* 1300 *Prov. Hendyng* in *Sal. & Sat.* (1848) 277 Lyht chep lubere ȝoldes, quoþ Hendyng. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 498 A ȝere ȝernes ful ȝerne, & ȝeldes neuer lyke. *c* 1386 [see YIELDING *vbl. sb.* 4]. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. v. 316 He couythe weil bathe ken and se Qwhat lande suide ȝhelde or fertile be. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* x. 30 Sara was vncertan thanne That euere oure seede shulde sagates ȝelde. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 10 If the grounde be good, putte the more beanes to the pease, and the better shall they yelde. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 14 A good Myne that doth hold out, and yield plentifully. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 38 It makes corn to yield well. 1846 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1132/1 Spalding's Prolific Red Wheat.. yields remarkably well, and weighs well in the bushel.

†9. (with compl.) To render, make, cause to be; also occas. to make, cause (*to do* something).

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cli. (1869) 76, I haue a stoon þat to þe folk, whan I wole, yelt inuisible. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 733 in *Macro Plays* 27 My inwarde afflixcyon ȝeldyth me tedyouse wn-to yowur presens. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. D iv, What? is not he yelded quiete (with these wordes)? 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 83 For doubt that this our forwardnesse may yeelde vs both to die. *Ibid.* VIII. 135 This threat and surly speech doth yeelde the Gods amasde and dum. 1609 *J. Raimolde's Def. Judgm.* Pref. A ij b, That..holy man, whose learning..and pietie..may perhaps yeeld him more admirable to posteretie. 1674 *J. Campion's Art Descant* II. 35 Example will yield it more plain.

10. To give, in various senses. †a. To deliver, hand over, present, offer. Also with *up*. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8743 (Cott.) Me think..þe child be nawight don to ded, Bot he be ȝoldon to yond wijf. 13.. *Ibid.* 10250 (Göt.) Ilkan to þe temple broght Sere ȝiftes.. All þair ȝiftes þai ȝeld vp þar. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 67 Syþen riche forth runnen to reche honde-selle, ȝeyed ȝeres ȝiftes on hiȝ, ȝelde hem bi hond. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* XXVII. 24 A croune shal be ȝolde [*late vers.* ȝouun] to thee. *a* 1483 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 316 þt euery prentes..shall elde a brekefast to the forsaȝde M. and Wardons. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* V. i. 7 Our soule Cannot but yeeld you forth to publique thankes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. i. 90 Where the holy Trinitie did first yeeld it selfe in sensible apparition to the world. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 212 No furious God bestorms our soil and skies, Nor yield our hands the bloody sacrifice.

b. To give as a favour, or as an act of grace; to grant, accord, allow, let (one) have, bestow.

a 1225 *Juliana* 72 Schendeð hire nuðen ant ȝeldeð hire ȝarew borh. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1066 (Cambr. MS.) King þe wise, ȝeld me mi seruise. Rymenhild help me winne. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxx, Afterwarde God ȝelde her that she had deseruid. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 48 God is..bountifull, yelding unto every man that is industrious the open way to knowledge. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 35 Yeeld pytye, graunt mercy. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXL. lv, Yeeld, O Lord, that ev'n the head of those That me enclose, Of this their hott pursute May tast the frute. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 17 To yield him loue she doth deny. 1624 SIR J. DAVIES *Ps.* lii. 4 Wks. (Grosart) I. 365 His God to him not safety yelldes nor aid.

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was my mother brought To yield consent to my desire. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 6. 89 The King yielded the citizens the right of justice. 1888–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* May xxiv, His name she never learn'd, Nor was his image yielded to her sight.

†c. To exercise, exert (a function, force, etc.); to deliver, deal (blows), to give (battle); to execute, inflict (a sentence, vengeance). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5872 And taron sett he men at ask Of ilk dai to yelld þair task. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM VII. 893 God þe fader hys leue sone Engeendrede out of alle wone,..Ac man haþ certayn tyme of ekke Wanne he may engendrure ȝelde. 13.. *Sowdn Sag.* (W.) 2932 Thries misdede this woumman hald, And thre vengbaunces he hire yald. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5708 þe seiȝoup a-nuntes þat þei numen ȝelde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3206 He..Bid bunke him eft to þe bent vp-bataill to ȝeld. *a* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2177 Ache heuene on his bent wise batell to ȝelde. *c* 1425 *Trav. Portugal* 2372 Smert boffettes thorn they ȝeld. 1581 GOOGE tr. *Pallic. genius' Zodiac* v. Ov, Of custome long in nature bred and yeldes her force alway To vse that long time hath bene kept. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 3 The rancor enseeth not, til they do yeeld their vengeance due. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 118 b, Christ..doth encourage them..which do yeld their endeuour..to performe ye rule of the Gospell.

11. To give forth, emit, discharge; to utter. Also *absol. Obs.* exc. as represented by weakened uses of other senses, as 8, 14.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lvi. 481 And the tombe owt blood gan ȝelde. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 4354 Scho riftit, routit, and maid sic stends, Scho ȝeild, and ȝaid ay baith the ends. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* v. (1888) 44 It causeth the stomacke to yeld from him that is within him. 1552 HULOET, Yeld forth licoure, or moystnes, *extrudo*. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 72 They cries and clamors yeeld. 1592–3 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 600 Ne is there shepheard..That dare..Blaspheme his powre, or termes vnworthie yield. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 22 So we finde that Violets..yeeld a pleasing Sent. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gipsy* lii, Air-swept lindens yield Their scent. 1870 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1344 The huge pavilion slowly yielded up..that which housed therein.

†12. To give, render, state, declare, deliver, communicate (speech, or something expressible in speech, as a reason, etc.). *Obs.*

a 1350 *St. Swetus* 109 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 107 Decius Cesar..Demed þam al thre to ded. And when þe dome was ȝolden swa, þan answerd þe dekins twa [etc.]. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Tim.* vi. 13 Crist Jhesu, that ȝelde a witnessing vndir Pilat of Pounce. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* Lat þi semblance be sadd quen þou þi saȝe ȝildis. SANDYS *Serm.* i. § 24 We haue no other reason to yeeld for our dooing, but onely this. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *C. Eng.* (1633) 230 The order of proceeding to judgment is by assent of voyces and open yeelding their mind in court. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 104 b, Yeldyng the same in the Latine toung almost, which Basile before him dyd expresse most manifestly in the Greeke toung. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. i. 10 The reasons of our state I cannot yeelde. 1606 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. i. B 3, Hast thou yeelded vp our fixt decree Vnto the Genoan Embassadour? *Ibid.* IV. G 4, She were no woman, if shee could not yeelde strange language. 1607 ROWLANDS *Diogines Lanthorne* E 3 b, Morrow (quoth he) Philosopher, I yeild thee time of day. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* 43 What reason can you yeeld for this?

†b. To report as being so-and-so: = DELIVER *v.*[1] 11 c. *Obs., rare*—[1].

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 28 Anthony's dead. If thou say so Villaine, thou kil'st thy Mistris. But well and free, if thou so yeild him, there is Gold.

13. To give so as to supply a need or serve a purpose; to give or provide for use, furnish, afford.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 226 b, They could none otherwise do, but..yelde & geue hym a reasonable reward. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 28 b, He made a goodly librarie, whiche yelded certen notable bookes afterwardes. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 399/2 *Castellum*,..a conduit built with cocks and spowts to yeeld water. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XVIII. iv, The cherubins their backs, the winds did yeild their wings To beare his sacred flight. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 1 Navigable rivers, which yeelde safe havens and roads. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 594 That there is such a beast in the world, both Pliny..and others, doe yeeld erefrigable testimony. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 103 This County also yeilds good store of Honey. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* (ed. 7) II. 108 Making each several string yield a clear sound. 1782 COWPER *Retirem.* 326 Man is an harp whose chords elude the sight, Each yielding harmony, disposd aright. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 128 The narrow valley..being watered by a running stream, yielded fresh pasturage. 1860 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. v. § 57 (1875) 285 A ball fastened to the end of an india-rubber string yields a clear idea of the correlation between perceptible activity and latent activity. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 251 Two flints struck together yielded fire.

b. To give rise to, cause, occasion (a state or feeling). Now *rare*.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steels Glas* 709 But if it..might empaire, offende, or yeld anoy Unto the state. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 15 Yeelding the Greekes a thorough feare, the Troyans courage hie. 1628 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* B 3, We made a field-bed in the field, Which sleepe, and rest, and much content did yeeld. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 448 The English Fleete..comming, yeelded no small feare to the affrighted Towne. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 120 [He] Yields Diversion to the gaping Throng. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 49. 400 Curved forms and winding movements yield of themselves a certain satisfaction through the muscular sensibility of the eye.

c. To furnish or produce as profit, bring in.

1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 74 Good cow & good ground Yeelds yeerely a p[illegible] 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* V. iv, I frotted a Jerkin, for a new-reuenu'd gentleman, yeelded me threescore crownes, but this morning. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 114 Rockes yeldinge small profittes. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 96, I..pleased my self with the thoughts of what it would yeild me among the Chineeses, and the English. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xii, I have sold the things. They have not yielded quite as much as they might have done. 1895 *Manch. Guardian* 14 Oct. 5/3 It has cost altogether R.s. 875,000, and will yield a revenue to the Government of R.s. 30,000.

†d. To present to view, exhibit. *Obs.*

1620 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xvi. 206 The valley yeelding so goodly a prospect, as I neuer beheld a better. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 July 1654, The stables are well order'd and yeild a gracefull front. 1708 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 69 We had a clear view of Staten land, which yields a most uncomfortable landskip.

III. To surrender, give way, submit.

14. To hand over, give up, relinquish possession of, surrender, resign. *arch.* or *poet.* (*a*) in material sense, esp. of surrendering a military position or forces to an enemy.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3526 þat hil seolde him þe castel

…r he wib strenghe him nome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7184 Iuus was þan þair vader-ine, Sampson bunden þai yald …r dute. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2727 Do nu wel with-uten flit, Yeld hire þe lond. *c*1386 Chaucer *Wife's T.* 56 And suretee wol I han er þat thou pace Thy body for to yelden in this place. 1482 Caxton *Chron.* (Rolls) 261 Had he not come, the cyte had be yeldyn. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1032 Gif thou lufis thi life,..Yeld me thi …t brand, burnist as bene. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 345 Deulbere, thy spere of were, but feir, thou yelde. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxxviii. 158 The shippe beeing yeelded, our men did enter the same. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 233 The besieged did yeeld the place to the Queene. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 151 We soon made him yield his Prize to engage with us. 1890 Tennyson *In Mem.* xc, The hard heir strides about their lands, And will not yield them for a day.

(*b*) in immaterial sense.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10602 þai yald hir [sc. the child Mary] to þe temple þan. 1486 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 54 Yelding his title and his crowne unto the king. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2096/2 [Queen Mary] who beyng long sicke before, vpon the sayd xvii. day of Nouember,..yelded her life to nature. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1595) 28, I was content to yeeld my interest for eleuen hundred and three score poundes. 1611 *Bible* Rom. vi. 13 Neither yeeld yee your members as instruments of vnrighteousnes vnto sinne. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov.* Bj, We ..Were glad to yeeld the honour of the day … 1656 Bramhall *Replic.* App. 34 He is well contented to pass by them all in silence, which is as much as yeeld the Cause. 1748 Gray *Alliance* 53 The prostrate South to the Destroyer yields Her boasted Titles. 1820 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester* xvii, It will be imagined that I yield my opinions from meanness of spirit. 1833 Newman *Arians* iv. i. 312 The timid Constantius, yielding to fear what he denied to justice. 1838 James *Robber* vii, You have yielded your heart and your happiness to one of whose..family you know nothing.

†(*c*) To give up, resign (mentally). *Obs. rare.*

1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) 17 Those two men that we left the day before did not come to us till we were in the North Seas, so we yielded them also for lost.

(*d*) To relinquish, surrender (a position of advantage or point of superiority).

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 15 Each to other yeeldeth land. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Bathing in River* iii, And still old Lovers yield the place to new. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 3 June 1666, [This] put new courage into our Fleete, now in a manner yielding ground. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I. viii. 69 Grief does not easily yield its place to joy. 1821 Mrs. Browning *Cass Guidi Wind.* I. 1074 Living heroes who will scorn to yield A hair's-breadth even. 1864 *Congressional Globe* 3 Mar. 934/2 *Mr. Schenck*, I ask the gentleman from Vermont to yield to me for about five minutes. *Mr. Morrill.* I will yield the gentleman ten minutes of my time. 1869 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 268 The finest of Coleridge's Odes is beyond all doubt the 'Ode to France'...It were profitless now to discuss whether it should take or yield precedence when weighed with the 'Ode to Liberty'.

b. with *up*; rarely with *over*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 266 Preates þat ȝe wulle5 ȝelden up þene castel bute ȝif he sende ou þe soure help. *c* 1290 *St. Lucy* 83 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 203 Ich ȝelde him op al mi bodi. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1256 He ȝald vp his sword to saue þanne his liue. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1140 Or he ȝode þai ȝolde hym vp þe realm. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 258 He tolde them..that onlesse thei wouldе yelde vp the toune..he would put them to the sword. 1600 *Old Cheque-Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 5 Edward Pearce yealded up his place for the Mastership of the children of Poules. 1611 *Bible* 1 Macc. x. 32, I yeeld vp my authoritie ouer it. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* iv. xxix, The ring which bound the faith he swore, By Edith freely yielded o'er. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ix, He had kindly yielded up to us his wife's own little parlour. 1852 — *Bleak Ho.* xvi, Sir Leicester yields up his family legs to the family disorder [sc. gout].

c. *To yield* (*up*) *the ghost* (*soul, breath, life, spirit*): to 'give up the ghost', die, expire. *arch.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 211 He was neiȝ ope þe pointe þene gost op to ȝelde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 209 How our leuedi endid and yald Hir self saul. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13262 þey fond hym sone, ȝeldyng þe gast. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2194 Whan with honour vp yolden is his breeth. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 333 He bowethe hym down & ȝeldethe vp þe lyfe. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2088 The bateil was richt crewell to behold, Of knychtis wich that haith there lyvis ȝolde. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4000 Thay,..For extreme hunger, ȝald the spreit. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 303 Canutus the Hardie..who there amid his cups yeelded up his vitall breath. 1611 *Bible* Gen. xlix. 33 He..yeelded vp the ghost, and was gathered vnto his people. 1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* C 4, The Horse proued himselfe a mortall beast, yeelding his breath into the ayre. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Romaunt of Page* xviii, Out upon the traitor's corse Was yielded the true spirit. *a* 1845 Hood *Fall of Deer* 35 Nor like a Craven yeeld his Breath.

d. *refl.* and †*pass.* To be dedicated or devoted *to*; to give oneself up or be addicted *to*.

1 *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 429 As she were, for the love of God, Yolden to religioun. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 317 In blake clothes thei hem clothe,..And yolde hem to religion. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 931 Y ware ȝolde euermore to be your knyght. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 124 Eleazar...was gone and yeelded to prophane ceremonies. 1829 Scott *Talism.* iv, All the extravagances which strong affection suggests and vindicates to those who yield themselves up to it. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiii, I..yielded myself for a little while to the interest of the scene.

16. *refl.* To give oneself up, surrender, submit, as to a conqueror (now *rare*; superseded by 16). Also with *up*.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5447 þe maystres of þe lond ȝelde hom to hom echon [*v. rr.* ȝulde, ȝoulde, ȝeldede, ȝeldeȝ]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23769 Hardili es he cuward,..þat ȝeldes him ar he be soght. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2213, I ȝelde me yederly, & ȝeue after grace. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccxvii. 219 Anone he & his company comen to the Gentil Knyght..& saiden 'ȝelde þe, traitour! ȝelde þe!' 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* viii. xxii. 306 Rather shalle he slee me than I shal yelde me as retreaunt. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 237 Quhen deith cummis thair is na vther grace, Bot ȝeild the than, for doutles thow mon die. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 10 Vnlesse thou yeeld thee as a Prisoner. 1612 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xix. 724/1 The sight of vs their annointed Soueraign shall..cause them..submissiuely to yeeld themselues to our mercy. 1642 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Life Henry Walker* A 3 b, Others would have him come on Land and yeeld himselfe. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 243 Genoua also was constrained to yield it self, and shake off the French yoke. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VII. 343 Indeed I love thee: come, Yield thyself up.

with *compl.* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 193 He ȝelte [*v. rr.* yald, ȝelde, yelde, ȝalte, ȝald] hym creaunt to cryst on þe crosse & knewleched hym guilty. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 335 My intencion is thither to goo and to yeld my self there hermyte. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidanus's Comm.* 284 b, I yelde my self prisoner to you saith he. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. iii. xxxi. (1655) 157 My Don will..yeeld himself his prisoner. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xii. 54 To those that have yeelded themselves subjects. 1820 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Prussian Vase*, He..yielded himself up a prisoner. 1823 Scott *Rokeby* IV. xvi, He..yielded him an easy prey To those who led the Knight away.

const. *inf.* 1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 1 b, [They] will (with humility) yeeld themselues to heare and learne by their experiences.

16. *intr.* To give oneself up, surrender, submit (as overcome in fight). Also with *up* (*obs. rare*).

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3451 Seuen knistes..to hem ward gun priken..& bad hem ȝeld. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 461 Sir knyght, thow art take: ȝelde thow to me. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xvi. lxx, It [sc. a castle] must ȝelde vp, or els be wonne at length. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. ii. 37 England shall couch downe in feare, and yeeld. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 28 The rebells therewith weere so terrified, that they forthwith yeelded. 1672 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 400 The whole Province of Utrecht is yielding up. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 270 There needed very few Arguments to perswade a single Man to yield, when he saw five Men upon him, and his Comrade knock'd down. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xvii. 16 Yield. Leave the body and these gory spoils.

†with *compl.* *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II. 77 [They] brought ..A yongman, bound his handes behinde his back Whoe willingly had yelden prisoner.

b. In wider sense: To give way, be subjected, submit (cf. 17); *occas.* to break down, succumb.

1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* Ep. Ded., Shall I yelde to mysery as a just plague apointed for my portion? 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* IV. ii. 366 The worldly griefe is the sorrowe of such men..as yeeld vnder the burthen of sorrowe. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, v. ii. 11 Thus yeelds the Cedar to the Axes edge. 1640 G. Sandys *Christ's Passion* I. 184 Not yeelding to the charmes of Sleep. *a* 1721 Prior *Turtle & Sparrow* 86 Sorrow shou'd to Prudence yield. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 25 Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* VI. xxiii, The night has yielded to the morn. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xliv, The child..soon yielded to the drowsiness that came upon her. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civilis.* (1873) III. v. 355 Theory should yield to fact, and not fact to theory. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 17 The night was yielding, and the dawn came up in a thin white mist.

†c. *pa. pple.* in *refl.* or *intr.* sense = that has surrendered. Hence in *pass.* sense = forced to surrender, subdued. *Obs.* Cf. Yielded, -en, Yolden.

In first quot. with mixed constr.

a 1330 *Otuel* 862 Hit where aschame..To salen a man þat ȝolden him is. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1211 Now yeldeth yow, for oþer bote is noon. To þat Criseyde answered þus a-noon, Ne hadde I er now, my swete herte dere, Ben ȝolden, y-wys I were now not here. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. vii. (Skeat) I. 30 Although the party be yolden, he may with wordes saye his quarel is trewe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1899 þe erthe at to myne enpire enterely bees ȝolden. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xi. 228 Whan ye see me beten or ȝolden as recreaunt. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* IV. xii. (S.T.S.) II. 91 þe Inemyis kest away þare wappynnys and war ȝoldin presoneris. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II. 827 Like as the elm..doth bend his top, Till yold with strokes..with ruin it doth fall. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xxxvi. 7, I ȝoldin am, and ȝit am stryving still. *a* 1600 — *Misc. Poems* xxi. 12 To prove on me thy pith,..That ȝoldin am in will.

†d. To give place, give way *to*. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxvii. 201 In some partes one element ends and another beginnes, yeelding by degrees one vnto another. 1611 Mure *Misc. Poems* ii. 42, I yeild to the, more worthie thame nor I.

e. To be inferior *to*. Now *rare*.

[1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxvi. 281 But as touching almonds and other fruites, all trees must yeelde to the almonds of Chachapoyas.] 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 18 The City [of Nuremberg]..may perhaps yield to Augsburg in treasure and riches. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. vi, Their mutton yields to ours, but their beef is excellent. 1846 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) II. 74 Demerara yields to no country in the world in her birds. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* I. iv. 187 The vast plain on which it stands, although exceedingly fine, yields in..fertility and..beauty..to the delightful country surrounding the..city of Bohoo.

17. To give way *to* persuasion, entreaty, or the like; to cease to oppose or object; to submit, comply, consent. Also with *up* (*obs. rare*).

1 *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) vii. 647 Turne to thie fellowes and kis I I yeald, for in my youth we haue bene fellowes, I wis. 1532 Elyot *Gov.* III. xviii. (1883) II. 315 Ther lacked litle that the yonge man was nat vainquished; and that the fleashe yelded nat to the seruice of Venus. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. Q iv b, He wouldе neuer yelde at the perswasion of many Scholars. 1583 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 43 Yealdinge to the froward importunities of the Donatists. 1589 Hakluyt *Voy.* To Rdr. ¶ 6, I haue yeelded vnto those my freindes which pressed me in the matter. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 405 You presse [me] farre, and therefore I will yeeld. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Armin.* 2 We will forthwith yeeld up to them without any …) dispute. 1672 Milton *P. R.* II. 409 Thy temperance.. For no allurement yields to appetite. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* X. iii, He..yielded to the dissuasions of his friend from searching any farther after her that night. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxvi, As soon as they had yielded to my arguments. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 5. 526 The danger at last forced the King to yield to the Scotch demands.

†b. with *inf.* or *clause*, or with *to* and sb.: To submit, consent, agree (*to do* something, *that* something should be done, or *to* something proposed).

1572 in *13th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 23 If such reasons shall not move him for to yeald to departe. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxi. § 7 To..graunt that what their fancie will not yeelde to like, their iudgement cannot with reason condemne. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* I. xvi. 31 The Rentins..no way yeelding that the mouth of the lake Velinus should be dammed vp. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. xii. 329 As this was preparing, and every one yeelded to this treatie of peace [etc.]. 1628 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 245 Which newes so soon as the French heard, their courage came downe, and they yielded to be gone the next tyde. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 248 To short absence I could yeild, For solitude somtimes is best societie. *Ibid.* 902 How hast thou yeelded to transgress The strict forbiddance? *a* 1763 Shenstone *Elegies* vii. 55 Should some patron yield my stores to bless. 1799 Jane West *Tale of Times* xxxiii, Nor can I yield to sully my integrity by basely framing a forged accusation. 1824 — *Alicia de Lucy* IV. 265 He yielded to ask for mercy, but he yielded without hope of success.

18. *trans.* †a. With compl. adj. or adj. phr.: To acknowledge or admit that a person or thing is so-and-so. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28077 Til our lauerd crist and þe, M. gastli fader, yeild i me Plighti for my syn o pride. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 374, I, glotoun,..gylti me ȝelde, þat I haue trespassed with my tonge. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) x. 120 ȝeldynge him self gylty, and cryenge him mercy. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 87 Yeldyng vs gylty not for the thanke of man but *Coram domino*. 1592 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iv. 42 Till you conclude, that he vpon whose side The fewest Roses are cropt from the Tree, Shall yeeld the other in the right opinion. 1630 W. Freake *Doctr. Jesuits* 17 Which thing, if I shall yeeld unto you as lawfully done [etc.]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 526, I yeild it just, said Adam, and submit. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. iv. P 19, I shall be thought to have out-run my subject...Yet I cannot yield it wholly impertinent. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* I. i, He yields his Arms unjust if he withdraws. 1744 Eliza Haywood *Female Spect.* VIII. (1748) II. 65, I knocked under, in token of yielding myself in the wrong.

†b. With clause or acc. and inf.: To concede or admit that a thing is so. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ix. 38 Pensiue I yeeld I am, and sad in mind. 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* II. i, I must yeeld,.. I did..Make such a frivall promise. 1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 242 The Apostle Paul 2 Cor. ii. 6 is content to yeeld his accusers, that, he was 'rude in speech'. 1633 Br. Hall *Hard Texts* 1 Cor. vii. 40, I thinke that I also shall be yeelded to have the Spirit of God. 1692 Locke *3rd Let. Toleration* iv. 114, I will yield my self to have mistaken you. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Lives, Suckling* (1898) II. 241 Sir John Digby..yielded to be the best swordsman of his time. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* v. i, 'Tis hard for Souls like mine..to yield they have done amiss.

c. With simple obj., with or without dative of the person: To grant, allow, concede the fact, validity, or cogency of. Now *rare* (and associated with 14).

1572 Campion *Hist. Irel.* vii. (1633) 20 The honourable Historian Titus Livius, yeeldeth certaine priuiledge to antiquitie. 1612 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 422, I yeeld all this. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 22 This idle o3..in wordes ending in c..as peace, face..these I yeld because I ken noe other ways to help this necessitie. 1632 Brome *Queenes Exch.* I. i, Tis true, the King Osrlick..may be thought fit To be endow'd with all you seem to yeild him. 1713 Swift *Cadenus & Vanessa* 265 And Pallas, if she broke the laws, Must yield her foe the stronger cause. 1723 Steele *Englishman* No. 55. 354 All which wise Men mean was yielded on both sides by our Lawyers. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 63 The point appears to have been yielded.

†19. *refl.* To betake oneself (cf. F. *se rendre*); hence *yield-you* as a nonce-rendering of *rendez-vous*.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14225 [Guenevere] ȝald hure til þat nonneryе. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4904 He..ȝalte [him] into somme couente. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVII. xxiii. 724 Sire Percyual yelded hym to an hermytage oute of the cyte. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 295 He tooke his leaue of hir, and went out..into a narrowe by lane, where from thenceforth euer after the (yeeld you) was giuen him.

20. *intr.* To give way under some natural or mechanical force, so as to collapse, stretch, bend, crack, etc. Const. *to* (the force, pressure, etc.).

1552 Huloet, Yeld againe as dankysh, *contabesco.* 1577 [see Yielding *ppl. a.* 4]. *c* 1580 Lodge *Reply Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Hunter. Cl.) 26 Looke for wonders where mustke worketh,.. the bowels of the earth yeld where the instrument soundeth. 1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) F j, As there is a Topace that will yeeld to euery stamp, so there is an Emerald that will yeeld to no impression. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 2 [The sea] doth not..seeme to yeld to the lande in anye parte. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 64 The same stone moste miraculouslie being pulled, would yield like a bowe. 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* 2. 98 After Raine,..the Ground yields and sinks so much, that [etc.]. 1830 R. Knox *Blizland's Anat.* 196 If they [sc. the arteries] be distended in the longitudinal direction, they yield and elongate. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xiv. 96 The snow yielded, he fell, and slid swiftly downwards. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal M.* s. v., Pillars of coal are said to yield when they … to give way or crush.

b. To submit *to* some physical action or agent (pressure, friction, heat, etc.) so as to be [illegible] by it.

1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 37 He distinguishes those that yield to the file, as the white copper ore, hæmatites, etc. 1827–38 N. P. Willis *Idleness* 49 When the frost has yielded to the sun. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxi, The door yielded to the pressure. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 238/1 Ophthalmia arising..from blows, generally yields to bleeding. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* Pref. (1870) p. vii, The mountain must yield to the action of cold and heat. 1908 H. Wales *Old Alleg.* xvii. 292, I was surprised that you didn't yield to brandy.

†21. To decline, turn aside, be deflected *from* a path or course: *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* 15 [Setters] attend diligently vpon theyr Master,..inclining to the right hand, or yealding toward the left. 1631 Markham *Cheap Husb.* (ed. 6) I. ii. 88 Ease your hand, and draw it vp againe, letting it come and goe till hee yeeld and goe backeward. 1806 *Simple Narrative* I. 21 Without yielding, in the smallest degree, from the resolution she had formed.

IV. 22. *Comb.*: **yield-capacity**, capacity of yielding or producing; **yield-point**, the 'point' or precise amount of tensile force at which a particular body or material begins to yield or give way, i. e. to undergo elongation or deformation.

1889 *Nature* 12 Dec. 122 To assess the yield-capacity of any locality stocked with Scotch pine. 1889 *Telegr. Jrnl. & Electr. Rev.* 20 Dec. 707/1 The question of discontinuity of the curves about the 'yield point' was next discussed.

Yieldable (yī·ldăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Yield *v.* + -able.] †a. Having the quality of yielding, productive *of.* †b. Disposed to yield, submissive. c. That can be yielded. *rare*—⁰ (mod. Dicts.). Hence **Yie·ldableness** (in quot., †submissiveness).

1577 Harrison *England* I. viii. 17 b, In *Holinshed*, If..the soyle [were] yeeldable of woode. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertue's Commw.* (1878) 19 She is euer readie to dwel where she findeth the heart yeeldable to honestie. 1645 Br. Hall *Three Treat., Peace-maker* § 13 The fourth disposition for Peace, a yeeldablenesse upon sight of clearer Truths.

†**Yie·ldance.** *Obs.* [f. Yield *v.* + -ance. (A favourite word with Bp. Joseph Hall.)] The action of yielding, in various senses.

1. Surrender, submission, compliance.

1610 Br. Hall *Apol. Brownists* 2 The spirits of these men are too-well knowne, to admit any expectation of yeeldance. 1633 — *Hard Texts* Rom. vii. 8 Had not the law strictly restrained us from the yeildance unto sinne. 1657 Trapp *Comm. Job* ix. 14, 87 Seeking to disarm his indignation by an humble yeildance. *a* 1726 South *Serm., Gal.* ii. 5 (1727) V. 490 For if the things under Debate be given up to the Adversary, it must be upon one of these two Accounts; either, 1. That the Persons who thus yield them up, judge them unfit to be retained. Or, 2. That they find themselves unable to retain them; one or both of these must of necessity be implied in such a Yieldance.

b. Granting, allowance.

a 1656 Br. Hall *Specialities Life* Rem. Wks. (1660) 23 If..I might draw him to a willing yieldance of that parcell of my due maintenance, which was kept back from my not over-deserving predecessor.

2. Production, yield.

a 1656 Br. Hall *Serm., Ps. cvii. 34* Wks. 1662 III. 197 How should the corn, wine, oyl, be had without the yieldance of the earth? 1668 Steele *Husbandman's Calling* vii. 183 When it [*sc.* harvest] comes, sometimes the poor yieldance of it utterly disappoints him.

Yielded (yī·ldĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Yield *v.* + -ed 1.] Surrendered, given up, granted, etc.: see the verb.

1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* iv. lxxx. 231 A dishonoured captiue, and yeelded person. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. ii. 107 Haue I not heere the best Cards for the game..? And shall I now giue ore the yeelded Set? 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xii. 2359 Against a yielded Man, 'tis mean ignoble Strife. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* iii. xix, The rushing flow, the flowing roar, Filling his yielded faculties. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* i. xxxiv, He sought her yielded hand to clasp. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par., Watching of Falcon* (1870) I. 382 And yielded towns were set aflame. 1895 W. Watson *Odes* etc. 33 O yielded lips, O captive breast!

†**Yielden,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [pa. pple. of Yield *v.* (A. 3 γ). Cf. Yolden.] = prec.

a 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (1557) Hij b, The fierce lyon will hurt no yelden thinges. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneis* ii. 196 Ye sacred bandes I wore as yelden hoste. 1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* ii. ii, Shall I abide, .. And holde my yelden throate to traitours knife?

Yielder (yī·ldəɹ). Forms: see Yield *v.* [f. Yield *v.* + -er 1.] One who or that which yields.

†1. One who has to pay, i. e. owes, something; a debtor. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 163 He ne is nazt riztuol, bet ne yzizþ nazt ine his herte,..and onderstant, bet he is yeldere, and a-yens god of treuþe, toppe alle þing. *Ibid.* 262 [see Yielding *vbl. sb.* 1].

†2. A rewarder. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Judith* Prol., Ȝeldere of hir chastite. 1388 — *Eccles.* xxxv. 13 For whi the Lord is a ȝeldere [1382 ȝeldende], and he schal ȝelde seuene fold so myche to thee.

3. One who gives something up, or gives in; a surrenderer (also with *up*); one who concedes.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 90 For briars and thornes at their apparell snatch, Some sleeues, some hats, from yeelders all things catch. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, iv. ii. 129 The Block of Death, Transsons true Bed, and yeelder vp of breath. 1598 — *1 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 12 (Qo. 2), I was not borne a yeelder thou proud Scot. 1899 *Daily News* 25 May 5/6 In the hope that they might get concessions from this universal

that produces or furnishes, a producer; now esp. with qualifying word referring to the amount or quality of the produce.

1723 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 198 A sort [of wheat]..that..is a great Yielder to the Barn. 1881 W. Barnes in *Macm. Mag.* June 132 Nature's yielders of good. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Dec. 2/3 The quality of the good milker's milk is better than that produced by the small yielder.

Yieldiness: see Yieldy.

Yielding (yī·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yield *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Yield.

†1. Payment; *transf.* obligation to pay, debt.

1340 *Ayenb.* 115 Ich am mochel ine dette ayen þe..and..ich ne habbe huer-of maki þe yeldinge. *Ibid.* 262 Uorlet ous oure yeldinges, ase and we uorletiþ oure yelderes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 423 Þis is..bat ȝilding of dette bi mannus lawe.

2. The giving of something as due, or as a favour; rendering; bestowal.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7846 Yheldyng of mede for ilk gud dede. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cii[i]. 2 And wile þou not forȝete alle the ȝeldingus of hym.

†3. Repayment, reward, recompense, retribution.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xciii[i]. 2 Ȝelde ȝeldynge til proude. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lxvi. 6 Vois of the Lord ȝeldende ȝelding to his enemys. 1382 — *Luke* iv. 19 He sente me..to preche the ȝeer of the Lord plesaunt, and the day of ȝeldynge. 1388 — *Ps.* cxxx. 3 [cxxxi. 2] As a child wenyde on his modir, so ȝelding be in my soule. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 Ȝeldynge, *reddicio.* 1530 Palsgr. 291/1 Yeldeng, *retribution.*

4. Production of crops or the like; produce.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 598 Wel wiste he by the droghte and by the reyn The yeldynge of his seed and of his greyn. 1547–8 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 32 A tenement in Pytmyster..the yelding wherof John Forde..solde unto William Voysey..for xij. li. sterling. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 127/2 Speculating as to the profit of this year's yielding.

5. Giving *up*, giving in, surrender, submission.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. xxv. 3833 Syn of þe ȝeldyn [*v. r.* ȝelding] tretyt þai, þat gif þai be a certane day War noucht reskewit..þai suld gif vp þe towne. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 837 'Ȝarne efter ȝeilding,' on ilk syde thay call. [illegible] en Soc.) 112 [illegible] ieryng of a [illegible] them whom shall please her. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* I. 427 Eche part with an hundred Knightes and Esquiers,..to fight and combate to the yeldyng. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* R iv, But this, nor anye thinge coulde enforce him to relinquish his suite, sauing the yelding of her battered brest. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 25 What merit's in that reason which denies The yeelding of her vp? 1632 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 769 At the battaile, and yeelding vp of Mont de dier. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* II. 214 A Sacrifice and mutual yielding of Natures one to another. 1818 Keats *Endym.* i. 411 She..breath'd a sister's sorrow to persuade A yielding up. 1885 *Athenæum* 17 Oct. 499/2 More or less cowardly yieldings to panic and sedition.

b. Giving way, as to persuasion or the like; compliance, concession, consent.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* i. i. 118 How well this yeelding rescues thee from shame. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* ii. ii. 105 Therefore pardon me, And not impute this yeelding to light Loue. 1611 *Bible* Eccl. x. 4 Yeelding pacifieth great offences. 1634 Canne *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 108 Their bare presence argues their approbation and yielding in show to ceremonies. *a* 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 22 (1702) I. 12 His Yeilding to the violent passion. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* iv. vi, He..imputed her yielding, to the ungovernable force of her love towards him. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xv, I can see no limit to the yielding, and bending of his mind when it is worked upon by the idea of power. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* II. vii. 130 Nothing was to be gained by yielding in minor points.

6. Giving way, as to pressure or other physical force.

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 42 It is..shrunk,..which is caused by the yielding a little of the hardened Skin to a Contraction. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 7 The softness or yielding of the Paper, Tympan, and Blankets. 1688 Boyle *Final Causes* iv. 176 The Yielding of the Flexible Branch or Twigs whereto the Nest is fastened. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 10 There will be a gradual yielding of its mass under the pressure.

Yielding, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That yields, in various senses.

†1. Owing, indebted: cf. Yielder 1, Yielding *vbl. sb.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 169 Asemoche ase he is wor þ betere þanne ich, suo moche ich am yeldinde be rizte riztuolneesse.

2. Bearing produce, productive, fertile. ? *Obs.*

1523 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* i. (1556) 59 b, Nothing is better than grounditilth and trimmyng, nothing yeeldinger, nothing sweeter, nothing meeter for a freeborne man. 1598 Yong *Diana* 441 The fertilitie of the yeelding soyle. 1777 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 45 *note*, In a yielding Year, a Jag of equal size to those alluded to will afford from two Quarters to twenty Bushels of Wheat.

3. Giving in, surrendering, submitting; disposed to submit, submissive, compliant, unresisting.

1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 44 As the Hunter who pleasureth not to take the yeilding pray, thou shunnest me. B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* iv. v, I am easily to any good Impressions. 1698 [Ferguson] *View* [illegible] *stick* 5 To become Guilty of the Little and mean Vanity of Attacking a yielding as well as a Routed Enemy. 1742–a Gray *Agrippina* 197 With fond reluctance, yielding modesty. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xi. iii, Sophia, who was yielding to an excess,..at last gave way. 1820 Scott *Glenfinlas* xvii, Fair woman's yielding kiss. 1821 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 75 You may press her yielding hand. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxiv, There are yielding [illegible] lives of the sternest and hardest men.

4. Giving way to pressure or other physical force; not stiff or rigid; taking impression, bending, collapsing, etc.

[illegible] harde be made, as yeldyng Butter softe? 1590 Sylvester *F. Q.* III. xi. 25 A thunder bolt Pierceth the yielding ayre. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrimage* viii. iii. 618 Neither can the hard-hearted Rockes breake these yeelding Vessells. 1649 T. ap Grey *Compl. Herman.* 313 By some fall upon yeelding or slippery ground. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ii. 66 His forged Spear .. Pierc'd through the yielding Planks of jointed Wood. *a* 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1809) 132 The cannon ball breaks down a stone wall, while the yielding packs of wool take away its force. 1829 Keble *Chr. Y., Prayers at Sea*, Beneath the shadowy clouds The yielding waters darken in the breeze. 1850 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 258 The shafts of all the long bones being so soft and yielding that the mere weight of the limbs is sufficient to produce their distortion.

Hence **Yie·ldingly** *adv.*, **Yie·ldingness** (see senses 3 and 4 above).

1580 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Four Serm. Song Roech.* (1574) Ep., You see him sometyme †yeldingly stretch out, sometyme struglingly throw his weakened legges. 1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* viii. xlii. 28 As Mayds that [illegible] lou'd and yeeldingly resist. 1822 Moore *Loves of Angels* Introd. 53 A Spirit of light mould, that took The prints of earth most yieldingly. 1826 Lytton *Str. Story* lxxxvi, Like the clouds that are yieldingly pierced by the light of the evening star. 1867 Herron *Wks.* I. 282 This readi[illegible] and †yeeldingneese of the inward man. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) II. xlii. 222 A degree of complacence, yieldingness, and sweetness, beyond what we look for in men. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* viii. 124 The [illegible] yieldingness of the bones.

†**Yie·ldless,** *a. post. Obs. rare.* [f. Yield *v.* + -less.] Unyielding; not surrendering.

1631 Davenant *Gondibert* iii. ii. civ, A Fort so yeildless, that it fears to treat. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* iii. i, Undaunted, yieldless, firm.

Yieldy (yī·ldi), *a. rare.* [f. Yield *sb.* or *v.* + -y 1.] a. Productive, fertile. *Obs.* b. Having the quality of yielding or giving way physically. Hence **Yie·ldiness.**

1598 Chapman *Iliad* v. [ix.] 98 Of the most fat and yeeldie soile. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 42 Themselves containing nothing of the noble metals, yet mixed with other ores..prove yeldy. 1827 Mayne Reid *War-Trail* xlii, A ..serpentine yieldiness of movement.

Yien, Yiet, Yif(f, Yift, Yigh: see Eye *sb.*1, Yet, Give, If, Gift, Yea.

Yight, obs. form of Ought *v.* (q.v., 6 b γ.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 321 (Egerton MS.) He þat.. hath despite to doon þat hym yight to do.

Yijs, obs. form of Yes.

Yike (yoik), *sb.* An imitation of the cry of the woodpecker. So **Yike** *v.*

1889 D. Jordan & Jean A. Owen *Woodland, Moor*, etc. 38 The yikeing laugh of the green woodpecker. 1891 — *Within an Hour London T.* xi, [The green woodpecker] making the woods ring with his maniacal yikes! 1892 — *Forest Tithes* (1893) 126 The yaffle shins about, yells, laughs, and yikes to his heart's content.

Yild(e, Yilde(, obs. ff. Guild, Yield.

†**Yile,** obs. var. Gyle. Ȝeeltonne for †*yile-tun* = *gyle-tun*, Gyle-fat.

c 1425 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) I. 43 Item ij ȝeeltonnys, ij mashfattes..pro cervisia.

Yile, obs. Sc. form of Isle.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 389 The Yile of Rose.

†**Yiling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Forms: 5 yelyng, 5–6 yilyng(e, 6 yailinge, yeleinge, 7 yelling. Variant of Gyling *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Inv.* in *Camden Misc.* (1893) IX. p. xviii, Unum yllyngfatta. 1488–9 *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1911) 492, iiij. yi[illegible] tubbys. 1598 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 24 On [illegible] toobe and on saltynge toobe. 1872 *Ibid.* 64 One brewinge keare and a troghe for ye same, ijs. A yailinge keare, xijd. 1588 *Ibid.* (1861) III. 137 One yeleinge combe vs. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 310/2 The Yelling Comb or Tub is that Vessel into which the Wort is put to Work with the Yeast, or Bearm.

Yill (yil), *sb.* Scotch variant of Ale.

Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* iii, The Clachan yill [illegible] made me canty. ?a 1800 *Bonnie Earl o' Murry* in Child *Ballads* (1889) III. 449/2 Her bread it's to bake, Her yill is to brew. 1816 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xii, If they offer ye a drink o' yill, or a cup o' wine. 1889 Runciman *Skippers & Shellbacks* 98 The guests in the sanded kitchen were content with twopenny bottles of 'yill'.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yill-caup* [Cap *sb.*8 -*house*, -*maker*, -*making*, -*seller*, -*selling*, [illegible] (see also Eng. Dial. Dict.).

[illegible] Burns *Holy Fair* xviii, The Change-house fills, Wi' yill-caup Commentators. 1789 D. Davidson *Seasons* 23 [illegible] wi' sooty skins, an' yill-cap een. 1790 Jas. Fisher *Poems* 59 Ye're welcome neighbour yill wives here.

Hence **Yill** *v. trans.*, to entertain with ale.

1808 Jamieson, To *Yill*, *v. a.*, to entertain with ale, a term commonly used by the vulgar..to denote one special mode in which a lover entertains his Dulcinea at a fair or market. 1820 Scrivin *Notandums* ii. 22 He forgot..to bid Maggie..to the yuillin'.

Yill, Yilt, Yin, Yinder, Ying (ying): see Yeld *a.*, Yield *v.*, One, You, Yonder, Young.

Yio, var. Hio *Obs.*, [illegible]

13.. *Northern Ps.* [illegible] 204 In holy wrytte of hem men rede, þat schal [*v. r.* yio] hade demen synfulle dede.

Yioyned, ME. pa. pple. of Join *v.*1

Yip (yip), *v. Obs.* or *dial.* In 5 **3yppe, 3ippe, 3epe.** [Echoic.] *intr.* To cheep, as a young bird.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/2 Pypyn, or 3yppe, as henn byrdys (*K.*, *H.* 3ippyn, as bryddys, *P.* 3epyn). *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Yip, v.* to chirp like a newly hatched chicken, or other very young bird.

Yir, graphic var. *þir* THIR, these.
1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 299 Thairfor, yir plaigis wald yai eschew.

Yirb, Sc. and n. dial. f. HERB.

Yird (also 4 **3erd(e, 4, 8–9 yerd, 5 yherde, 6 3ird**). Sc. and north. f. EARTH *sb.*, and *v.* (to bury).
c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 68 Ihesu,..þat in þis 3erd com fra bewine. 1433 *Deeds rel. Orkney* vi, Aisiamentis.. as weill under yherde as boufe yherde. 1550 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 74 All..pertenens quhatsumeuir.. als weill vnder the 3ird as abouf. 1562 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* XI. 214 To David Ellis for 3erding of Johnne Gordounis..xx s. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 221 They fand yirdit in the yaird of Drum ane trunk full of silver plait. 1785 BURNS *Jolly Beggars* Recit. I. When lyart leaves bestrew the yird. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Yird-fasts*, The cauld yird, the grave. 1829 JAMIESON s. v., '*Fairly yirdit*', dead and buried. 1851 *Cumbld. Gloss., Yerd*, a fox-earth. 1880 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 311 The 'Yirding of a live Cock' to cure epilepsy. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxiv, To afford yirds and secret caves for our Solway smugglers.

b. *Comb.*: esp. in *yirdfast* = EARTHFAST (cf. ON. *jarðfastr*). See also YERD-HUNGER.
1548 *Aberd. Reg.* XIX. (Jam.) Tuelf pennis Scottis of yerd-siluer. 1785 *Poems in Buchan Dial.* 6 Whare now thy groans in dowy dens The yerd-fast stanes do thirle. 1808 JAMIESON, *Yirdin*, thunder (see EARTH-DIN). 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 568 A penetrating and even suffocating yird-drift. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl., Yird-fasts*, large stones sticking in the yird, or earth, that the plough cannot move. 1829 JAMIESON, *Yird-drift*, snow, not in the act of falling, but lifted up from the ground, and driven by the wind, after it has lain for some time.

Yire, Yirk, Yirm, Yirn: see IRE, YERK, YARM, IRON.

Yirr (yer), *v. Sc.* [Possibly repr. OE. *gyrran*, **girran* (see YERR), but probably an independent echoic formation.] *intr.* To snarl, growl. So **Yirr** *sb.*, a snarl, growl.
1786 BURNS *Ep. to Maj. Logan* ii, When idly gouvan whyles we saunter; Yhr[fancy barks. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 63 The watch-dogs yirr'd and yowl'd wi' fright. 1825 JAMIESON, *Yirr*, the growl of a dog. 1890 SERVICE *Notandums* xix. 125 If ony whilliywha o' an Englisher should yirr and mak a kilfudyoch aboot the words he doesna ken.

Yirth, Sc. form of EARTH.

Yis, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*[1]
c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 11 Beholdyng ..thynges to cumme..with the yis of his soule.

Yis: see THIS, YES.

Yisce, variant of YISSE.

Yise, obs. f. ICE, YES.

†Yisel. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **gisel,** 2 **3ysel,** 3 **3isel, 3eesel.** [OE. *gisel* = OHG. *gîsal* (MHG. *gîsel*, G. *geisel*), ON. *gísl* (Sw. *gisslan*, Da. *gidsel, gissel*) GISEL; cf. OIr. *giall.*] A hostage.
c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. vii. § 2 Philippus þa he cniht wæs, wæs Thebanum to gisle geseald. *c* 1205 LAY. 21103 Bringeð her þa 3eesles Biforen ure cnihtes. *Ibid.* 22790 He wes læfen Arður To halden to 3isle.

Yisk, Sc. f. *yesk*, YEK.

†Yisse, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **gitsian, gietsian, gidsian,** 2–3 **3itsen,** 2–4 **3issen,** (2 **3itcen,** 3 **3iscen, 3yscen, 3escen, 3ietcen, 3etsen,** 4 **yisse**; in vbl. sb. 3 **3ittsunng, yssyng,** 4 **ioinge**). [OE. *gîtsian, gîdsian* = OHG. **gîtisôn* (MHG. *gîtsen, gîtsen*, G. *geizen*), f. Teut. *gîd-*, whence also OHG. *hîti* (MHG. *gît*, G. *geiz*) covetousness, OHG. *hîtac* (MHG. *gîtec*, G. *geizig*) covetous; ultimately related to Lith. *geidžiu* to covet, Lettish *gaida* desire, OSl. *židati* to expect.] *trans.* (in OE. const. gen. or dat.) and *intr.* To covet. Hence **Yisser,** a covetous person; **Yissing** *vbl. sb.*, coveting, covetousness.
Beowulf 1749 (He) ȝytsaȝ grombydig. *c* 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 82 *Appetitus*, ȝitsung [*Corpus Gloss.* ȝidsung]. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiii. § 1 Sio ȝitsung ȝeðeð heore ȝitseras laðe. *Ibid.* xxvi. § 2 Ælc bit þæs reaflaces þe him on ȝenumen bliþ, oððe eft oðres ȝitsaþ. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xli. 298 (Cotton MS.) Hu ȝewitende ða þing sint þe hie ȝidsiaþ [*v. r.* ȝietsiaþ]. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 He wat wel þat manige man bieð sa ful of ȝescung. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 271 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Þo þe waren ȝistcores of þis worldes aihte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4560 Þæn ȝittsunng & ȝredilæȝc. *c* 1205 LAY. 3332 Þe kinges beoð ȝunge Of ahte ȝissinges. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 Al so ȝiscoð a ȝissare [*v. r.* ȝiscere] þet moni þusunt muhten bifluttен. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3515 Ne ȝisce ðu noȝt ðin nestes ðing, Hus, ne aȝte, ne wif, in ðin ȝiscing. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 35 in *O.E. Misc.* 38 Mid yuernesse and

(1902) 251 ȝissinges and glosinge and falship beon riue. *Ibid.* 269 Worldes yiscyng Me haueth schent.

Yisse, ȝ-, obs. ff. YES. **Yist,** dial. f. YEAST *sb.*

Yistai, -ay (ȝistai, -ay), contr. ff. YESTERDAY.

Yister-, ȝister-, etc., obs. or dial. ff. YESTER-.

†Yit, *and pers. pron. dual nom. Obs.* Forms: 1 **git, gyt,** 2–3 **3it, 3 3et,** (*Orm.*) **3itt.** [OE. *gît* = OFris. **jît* (NFris. *jat, jat*, Sylt *at*), OS. *gî*, ON. (MSw.) *it*; f. unstressed form of YE with an obscure dental element.] Ye two, both of you.
Beowulf 508 Dær ȝit for wlence wada cunnedon. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 187 Lyt ȝit þurhwuniaþ on incre anwilnesse. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 22 Lyt nyton hwæt ȝyt biddaþ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Hwi iwearð hinc swa þet ȝit dursten fondian godes? *c* 1200 ORMIN 4498 Butt iff ȝitt muþenn betenn itt Onn anig kinne wise. *c* 1205 LAY. 5060 Ne beon ȝit [*c* 1275 ȝe] bute tweien, mine sunen ȝit [*c* 1275 ȝeo] beoð beiene.

Yit(e, ȝit(e, obs. ff. YET.

Yite (yəit). *dial.* Also **yeite, yoit.** [Obscure.] The yellow-hammer, *Emberiza citrinella.*
1818 P. FORBES *Poems* 204 (E.D.D.) Herryin' lintties, yites an' kays. 1830 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1856 III. 4 Lark, lintie, yellow-yite,..shilfa, and goldfinch. 1886 BARRIE *Auld Licht Idylls* ii. 54, I have known a black-fishing expedition stopped because a 'yellow yite', or yellowhammer, hovered round the gang when they were setting out.

†Yiug(g)ed [Y- 4], judged. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7082 Þo was it ilugged þat he scolde be..Hardi knizt. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM v. 101 Y-luged by þe lawe To by stend wyþ stone. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 45 Geta was I-luged [*MS.* y y-juget] for a comoun enemy.

Yive, ȝive, obs. ff. GIVE, IF.

Yk, obs. form of I *pers. pron.*

Ykeld, Ykend, Ykened, ME. pa. pples. of KILL, KEN *v.*[2], KENE.

†Ykept [Y- 4, KEPE, I-KEPE *vbs.*], kept. 13.. *Sowyn Sag.* 460 To the ich have i-kept mi maidenhod. *c* 1380 *Sir*

tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxix. 246 Als longe as the natural heitte duryth ..the helth of man shal be y-keppit. 1393 [see KEEP *v.* 14].

Ykest: see CAST *v.*, YCAST.

†Ykeuered [Y- 4, COVER *v.*[1]], covered. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 138 Vnder godes secre seel here synnes ben ykeuered. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 45, I ȝeue to Iohn Forster my godsonne a becure of seluer y-keueryd.

†Ykid, *pa. ppls.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **ȝecyd,** 2 **ȝekyd,** 3 **ikud(d,** 3–4 **ioud(de,** 3–5 **ykud,** 4–5 **ykid(de, ykyd,** 5 **ykyde,** (4 **ykudde, youd, ikid, yked, ikedde**). [OE. *ȝecýd*, contracted pa. pple. of *cýþan, ȝecýþan*: see KID *ppl. a.* and KITHE *v.*] Made known; hence, well known, renowned: sometimes (like YCORE) a vague epithet of commendation.
a 1200 in *Leg. Rood* (1871) 3 Þa wearð hit sona þam mæran constantine þam kasere ȝecyd. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1093 Se cyng..wæs ofer eall dead ȝekyd. *c* 1205 LAY. 24672 Þat nan lauerd taken nolde..Næuer nænne cniht,..Bute he icostned weoren Þrie inne compe, & his oht-scipen icudde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1295 Italde bi tale, fif siðe tene, icudde & icorene. *Ibid.* 1933 O icudd keiser! *c* 1250 SHOREHAM I. 633 Bote wanne þer hys o þyng yked, An oþer to onderstonde þerinne. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3359 (Linc. Inn MS.) Y say Darie..þat he was god knyȝt y kud. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 64 Þe king cortais i-kid cofliche saide. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 140 Bote he beo A Cokewold I-kore [*MS. H.* ykyd] cut of boþe myn Eres! *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4344 Y schal..haue wyþ me of ȝour knyȝtes .V. hundred gode y-kudde. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 196 A confessour ykud (*MSS. M., T.* i-kid) that counteþ nat a ruyshe Fere, ne famyne, ne false menne tonges. 14.. *K. Sol. Bk. Wisd.* 78 Wisdom yheled, litel is worþ oiþer treuþ ihyd; Bot boþe þai wexen swiþe ȝif þai ben y-kyd.

†Ykitt, ykut, ykutted, ykyt [Y- 4], cut. *c* 1300, *c* 1330 [see CUT *v.* 1, 7]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 391 He made alle þe hedes and lymes of mawmettes i-kut [*MS.* y ykitt] of. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 69 Smal y-kutted. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 55 Taylid Datys y-kyt a-long. **Yknet**(t, **yknit, yknyt,** knit. 13.. *Leg. Greg.* 481 Þe ropes wer fast yknett. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 134 While þat I weue..to þe resouns yknyt by ordre. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4924 Whan thys lettrys [*sc.* P, A, X] ben yknet,..Parfyt pes they sygnyfye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 134/2 Felowys, y-knytte to-gedyr in wykydnesse, *complices.*

†Yknow, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **ȝecnawan,** 2 **ȝeonowen, iknə(u)wen,** 2–3 **icnawe(n,** 3 **i-cnowe(n,** 3–4 **iknowe(n,** 3–5 **yknowe(n,** 4 **y-knawe(n, yknaue(n,** 5 **iknow.** *Pa. t.* 1 **ȝeoneow,** 2–3 **icnew,** 2 **ȝecnew, ȝicneow(e,** 3–4 **iknewe, ikneu.** *Pa. ppls.* 1 **ȝecnawen,** 2–3 **icnawe(n,** 2 **ȝeconowe,** 3 **icnowe(n, iknowe,** 4 **yknawe, yknowe(n, ycnowen,** 5 **yknow.** [OE. *ȝecnâwan*: see Y- 3 c and KNOW *v.*] To know (in various senses); to acknowledge.
971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 He wæs..of cilda muþe ȝecnawen & weorþad. *a* 1000, etc. (see KNOW *v.* 1, 11, etc.). *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Betre hit is þat mon ne iknawe noht þe wel to godalmihtin þe he hine icnawe and seoddе hine for-hoȝe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Ða biȝohte heo on hire lifiode and ȝe-cnew þat hie was laȝ gode. *c* 1205 LAY. 24803 ȝif þu wult icnawen þat he is king ouer þe. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 203 Ich icnowe me gulti and creie þe leafli merci. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. H. 122 Ich ne dar þat þe folc yhure þat ich yknowe þe. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 36 For him þat con not i-knowen Nouþer French ne Latyn. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9049 Herui Riuel þis iknewe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 104 He is þe eldeste and þe meste yknawe and þe meste beloued. *Ibid.* 201 Zuo þat he ne may y-knawe his sceppere. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 295 In her yknesse ---- lorde ofte hath ben y-knowe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 203 A lewed goost, þat koube not y-knowe þe cause..of verray martirdom. *c* [illegible] ben clerkes y-cnowen cunnynge
Secr. Secr. 223 Whath awayiyth [illegible] and cunnynge, and how thay byth y-know. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6737 If ye can me tech How I may I-know him.

b. To make known; = KNOW *v.* 13.

a 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Col. i. 27 To whom God wolde y-knowe þe richesse of þe blisse of þis sacrement.

†Ykorven: see YCORVEN(E. **Ykowerya,** ME. pa. pple. of COVER *v.*[1] †1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 77 To send hym worde wher to [= whether the] Mylle of Ermyngton schall be y-koweryn with stone or strawe. **Ykoyned** [Y- 4, COIN *v.*[1]], coined. 1423 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 256/2 Silver is ..no better..thenne xxxii *s.* the seid pound of troie ykoyned. **Ykremyd** [CRIM *v.*], crumbled. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 A fewe ȝolkys of hard Eyroun y-kremyd þer-on. **Ykunenct:** see YQUENCT. **Ykynde** [Y- 5, KIN *sb.*[1]], of (high) kin or lineage. 1420 *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 273 The whiche partyes bothe beth weel ykynde and of gret allyaunce. **Ykyt:** see YKITT.

Yl, obs. form of ILL, ISLE.

-yl (il), formerly occas. **-ule,** a terminal element of chemical terms, ad. F. *-yle* (also *-ule*), f. Gr. ὕλη wood, matter, substance (see HYLE), used for 'chemical principle, radical'. It was introduced by Wöhler and Liebig (*Ann. de Chimie*, 1832, LI. 286), and first used by them in the term *benzoyle*; other early names were *ethyle* (*ethule*), *diayle* (Berzelius), *dadyle, peucyle, citronyle, citryle* (Blanchet and Sell). Some fifteen in anglicized form, including *acetyl, amyl, cinnamyl, glycoryl, salicyl*, appear in the *Elements of Chemistry* by T. Graham, 1842, who also invented the general term *basyle* for a body which unites with oxygen to form a base. *Methyl* is peculiar in being a back-formation from *methylene.*
-yl is used in forming the names of radicals compounded of two or three elements in various atomic proportions, which behave in combination like simple elements and are the constant bases of series of compounds (though they may not be themselves obtainable in a free state). Thus *carbonyl* CO, *hydroxyl* HO, *sulphuryl* SO_2, are compounds of carbon, hydrogen, and sulphur respectively. The greater number are compounds of carbon and hydrogen, either alone, as *amyl, ethyl, deutyl, tritryl*, or with oxygen, as *acetyl, lactyl.*

Ylacay, obs. Sc. var. LACKEY.
1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 342 Item, to ane Franche ylacay,..xiiij s.

†Ylacet [Y- 4, LACE *v.*], laced. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 52 Þay..turneden toward weystoid by Odroon, wyth baners y-lacet. **Ylad**(d [LEAD *v.*[1]], led, conveyed, carried. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2424 Mercurius us aþ ylad in to þin londe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 99 Numerianus was y-lad in a liter. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) ii. 13 Oure Lord Jesu, in that Nyghte that he was taken, he was y lad in to a Gardyn. 14.. *K. Sol. Bk. Wisd.* 211 Þo Ely in þis fair cart to heuen was ylad, Elisee his felawe was sory. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9772 The maryner..Ledeth the shyp,..And ys hym sylf ylad also. **Ylaft**(e: see YLEFT. **Ylaht** [LATCH *v.*[1], I-LECCHE], seized, caught. *c* 1306 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 214 The Bisshop of Glascou ychot he was y-laht. **Ylaid, ylayd, yleid, yleyd,** ME. pa. pple. of LAY *v.*[1] 12.. *Moral Ode* vi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 82 Al to muchel ic habbe i-spend, to litel y-leid an horde. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (B. M. MS.) 842 It was in þe tumbe ylaide *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2427 Þe clobes þat wern on hure bed ilaid. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5415 Ther was no chaff ysene, And the strawh yleyd a-syde. **Ylakked** [LACK *v.*[1]], blamed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 82 That is Mede þe Mayde..hath noyed me ful oft, And ylakked my lemman.

Yland(e, obs. forms of ISLAND.

Ylang-ylang (ɪlæŋ ɪlæŋ). Also **yhlang-, i(h)lang-.** [Tagalog *dlang-dlang.*] An anonaceous tree (*Canangium odoratum*) of Malaysia, the Philippines, etc., with fragrant greenish-yellow flowers from which a perfume is distilled; hence, the perfume itself.
1876 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* I. 243 Oxidation of Essential Oils. ..*Citronella* and *yhlang yhlang* developed no hydrogen peroxide. 1881 *Ibid.* XL. 916 Cananga Oil..This oil, also known as Hang-lang or Alanguilan oil. 1882 *Englishman* (Calcutta) 2 Dec. 4/5 Atkinson's Perfumery. Ess. Ylang Ylang, Frangipanne. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n., Canangа odorata*, Ilang-Ilang-tree.
Hence **Yla·ngol** *Chem.* (See quot.)
1895 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXVIII. I. 243 *Ylangol*, $C_{15}H_{12}O$, the isomeride of geraniol.

†Yla·st, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1–5 **gelæstan,** etc. as in LAST *v.*[1]; also 3–4 **ylaste, yleste.** *Pa. t.* 1 **gelæste,** 2 **ȝelæst,** 3–4 **ilast(e, ilest(e,** 3–5 **ylast(e.** *Pa. ppls.* 1 **gelæst, gelæsted,** 2 **ȝelæst,** 3 **ilæst, ilast,** 4 **ylast(ed.** [OE. *gelǽstan*: see Y- 3 c and LAST *v.*[1]]
1. *trans.* To carry out, perform: = LAST *v.*[1] 1 b.
Beowulf 524 Beot eal wið þe sunu Beanstanes soðe ȝelæste. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 4 Ic eac nauht ne tweoge ðæt ðu hit mæȝe ȝelæstan. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2762 He..hæfde wordbeot leofum ȝelæsted. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1012 Ða þet gafol ȝelæst wæs. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 242 Þa þe gode biheten heste and nolden hit ilæste. *c* 1205 LAY. 32109 ȝif þu mihst under criste þis forward me ilæste.
2. *intr.* To last, continue, endure: = LAST *v.*[1] 2.
a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* vii. 29 Ne mæȝ hæleþa gehwæm hus on munte lange ȝelæstan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 187 Wa is mine saule þet ml lif þus longe ilæst. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 251 Letitia sempiterna, þat is ilestande liht. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 387 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Alle worldwyhte schulle bi-cumen to nouhte,..And vre owe lif lutel hwile ilæste. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 208 Þe bataile of troye þat last vale zer. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 191 [pow] wendest þat wyntre wolde han y-lasted euere. *c* 1400 *St. Jer. 15 Tokens*

3e Lenere had his owen moder in halle pyne to be, Al þe while þe dom ylast, þan her sones face to see.

b. To stretch, extend; = LAST *v.*[1] 4.

a 1178 *Cott. Hom.* 231 His land ȝelast wide and side.

†**Ylat:** see YLET. **Ylaenyt, ME.** pa. pples. of LEAVEN *v.* 1422 (see LEAVEN *v.* 1). **Ylaȝte, ylaȝthe, ME.** pa. pples. of LATCH *v.*[1], I-LECCHE. **Ylay(e, ylaie, yleighe, yleiȝe, yleine, yleye(n, yly, ME.** pa. pple. of LIE *v.*[1] 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3729 He sein swithin..þat longe adde vnder erþe ybe [*v.r.* yleye] verst broȝte in to aeryne. 13.. *K. Alis.* 908 (Linc. Inn MS.) A god..þat haþ ylaye by þe quene. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 82 As a leke hadde yleye longe in þe sonne. *c* 1420 MAUNDEV. xiii. [ix.], ȝif here fader had not ben dronken he hadde not yleye with hem.

Ylde, obs. by-form of ISLE.

Yle: see AIL *sb.*[2], AISLE, HYLE, ILL, ISLE.

†**Yleave.** *Obs.* [OE. *geléaf*: see Y- 3 a, LEAVE *sb.*] Permission; leave.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* l. (1889) 165 *Iniquorum potestas super te ex dei datur licentia*, unrihtwisra miht ofer þe of godes ȝe ȝeseald ȝeleaf. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1043 Be þes cynges ȝelæfan. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM I. 1269 ȝef eny oþer hyt doþ, Nys hyt ordre, ac ileaue. 1340 *Ayenb.* 50 God yaf yleaue þe dyeulen to guo in to þe ssuyn. *Ibid.* 122 At his yleaue nymynge.

Yleohyd, ME. pa. pple. of LEACH *v.*[1]

†**Yleft, ylaft,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝelæfed, 3 ileaued, ileued, 4 yleued, -yd, 4–5 yleft(e, ylafte, 7 ylaft. [OE. *geléfed*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*léfan*: see Y- 4 and LEAVE *v.*[1]] Left.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 37 *Et quod superfuit de fragmentis*, & þ ȝelæfed wæs of screadungum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Oure large relef þet we habbeð ileaued. *c* 1275 LAY. 28583 Þo nas þar na more ileued in þan fihte.. bote Arthur þe king. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6722 He was al one of þe tem bileued [*v.r.* yleft] there. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3349 þe Assege þanne þay y-lafte. *Ibid.* 5121 Tho was þe assaut y-leuyd clene. 1405 in *Royal & Hist. Lett. Hen. IV* (Rolls) 158, I have nought ylafte with me over two men. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxiv. 240 Yf anythynge be y-lefte in the stomake. *c* 1634 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii. (1651) 25 None pleasaunce is me ylaft.

†**Yleid, Yleie, yleighe, yleine,** etc.: see YLAID, YLAY(E.

Yleid, yleint, pa. pples. of LEND *v.*[1] and *v.*[2] *a* 1320 (see LEND *v.*[1] 2]. 13.. *Legg. Cruc.* 259 þat day was hem no race ylent. 1340 *Ayenb.* 19 þe greate guodes þet god ham ieþ ylend. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. 11 iv, The hearing never knew the verdant peint Of springs gay mantle, nor heavens light ylent That must discover all that goodly pride. *Ibid.* IV. xxii, Their life ylent And subtill being quite away are flone. **Ylengd,** pa. pple. of LENG *v.*

†**Yleof,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeleof, 3 *pl.* yleoue, iloue. [OE. *geléof* = MHG. *geliep* (also as sb. pl.): see *ge-* Y- 1 b, 2 and *léof* LIEF.] Mutually loving or beloved; *sb. pl.* a pair of lovers.

a 1200 *Confess. Ecgberti* xxviii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 252 On þære siftan cneorysse ȝeleofe men hiȝ moton ȝesamnigan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Haupt's *Zeitschr.* (1853) IX. 462 *Contubernali sodalitate*...mid ȝeleofre ferrædene. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1047 þar two yleoue [*Cott.* ilove] in one bedde Liggeþ iclupt & wel bihedde.

†**Ylepe, ylope** [Y- 4, LEAP *v.*], leapt. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4626 Many wer ouer y-lepe. *Ibid.* 5059 þe tour þay hauede y-take þo Nadde duk Naymes y-lope hem to.

†**Ylere,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gelǽran*: see Y- 3 c and LERE *v.*] To teach; to learn.

Beowulf 3079 Ne meahton we ȝelæran leofne þeoden.. ræd snigne. *c* 1250 *Behet* 216 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 112 Seli child is sone I-lered. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 12 þat ye mowen nou y-here, And þe tale ye mowen y-lere. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 128 Thus þorw my lore beþ men ylered.

†**Ylered,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [OE. *gelǽred*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*lǽran*: see prec.] = LERED, learned.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 8 Uncuð hu longe þær swæ ȝelærede biscopas sien. 12.. *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.* (1838) 6 Ilærede men. *c* 1205 LAY. 21858 Preo biscopes wise, a boke wel ilæred. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Sum is so wel ilered, oðer se wis iworded. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 213 My deuore to shewen, And conformen fauntekynes and other folke ylered. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 1994 And eke in armes full wele ylered.

†**Ylerned** [Y- 4] learnt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 70 Non wel libbe ne sseł conne þet to sterue ylyerned ne heþ. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 10 Ich heilede hem hendeli as Ich hedde I-lecrned [*C-text* hadde ylerned]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 219 þat þey hadde I-lerned [*MS.* y ylurned] of here sovereynes to meyntene fredom.

Yleslipe, ylespile, var. *ilespil*: see under IL, ILE. **Ylessed,** ME. pa. pple. of LESS *v.*

Ylet, obs. form of EYELET.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 598/39 *Ocellubus*, an ylet.

†**Ylet**[1], **ylat,** earlier *geléten, ileten, ilæt(n* [Y- 4, LET *v.*[1]] let, allowed, left, etc. 13.. *K. Alis.* 8414 (Linc. Inn MS.) Þer was..mony a veyne ylat blode. 1340 *Ayenb.* 115 Þe guodes þet ich habbe uoryete and ylete to done. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 109 He was I-closed wiþ ynne þe citee, and y-let out by a roop over þe wal. **Ylet**[2], **ylettyd,** earlier *gelet(t, ilet* [LET *v.*[2]], hindered. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1776 (Linc. Inn MS.) Ac he was y-lat by þe way. *Ibid.* 3521 Þer þay weoren foully ylet, þe gates weoren ageyns him schoet. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxi. 174 He was moche y-lettyd by an hugy ryuer. **Ylettert, ylettred,** early var. of LETTERED. 1393 y-lettrede [see LETTERED *ppl. a.*]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 141 Well I-lettred [*MS.* y ylettert].

†**Yleve,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeleafa, 2 ȝeli(e)afe, ileafe, ileave, 2–3 ileve, 3 ȝeleafe, ilafe. [OE. *geléafa*: see LEVE *sb.*] Belief, faith.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Nu þu ȝone ȝeleafan hæfst. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 þæt we sulen..habben ȝodne ileafe to ure drihten. *Ibid.* 73 Þæt an is rihte ileue, þæt oðer fallsshæ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 243 Þurh rihte ȝeleafe, and ilfade. *c* 1225 LAY. 2974 Swa helpe me Apollin, for min ilafe is al on him.

†**Yleve,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeliefan, ȝelyfan, ȝelefan, 2 ȝelifen, ȝelyfan, ileafen, 2–5 ileve(n, 3 ilæiven, ilæfen, iluven, 3–4 ileb(n, yleb(n, ileove(n, 4 ileave, ileeve, ilyve, yleve, ylif. [OE. *gelíefan* = OS. *gilôbjan* (MDu. *ghelooven*, Du. *gelooven*), OHG. *gilouben* (MHG. *gelouben*, *gloube*, *glôuben*, early mod.G. *glauben*, G. *glauben*), Goth. *galaubjan*: f. Teut. *ga-* Y- + *laub-* dear (related to *loub-* LIEF and *lub-* LOVE).] To believe.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Ȝeliefst ðu þæt slo wyrd wealde þisse worulde? *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* XXVI. 99 Ða dysegan men þe ðysum drycræftum long ȝelyfdon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 Wenne ic ileue and wel ileue þæt no guit me forȝeuen bo. *c* 1205 LAY. 25000 Karic ileoueðe to soðe Seoluce monne lare. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 352 in *O. E. Misc.* 124 Ne ilef þu neuer þane mon þat is of feole speche. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4097 Þou ne dost not ase þe wys If þow y-lyuest sir Alorys. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 177 Men of þe contray aboute longe tyme berafter myȝte unneþe i-leve þat þat citee was i-take. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 267 I-leue þe wordis þat I seie.

Yleve: see YLIVE, to live.

Yleved, Yleyd, Yleye, Yliac: see YLEFT, YLAID, YLAY, ILIAC.

†**Ylight**(ed [Y- 4, LIGHT *v.*[2]], lighted. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxi. 237 The mecche of a candill whych is y-lyghtid. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 313 With candels ylight.

†**Ylike,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 ȝelic, 2 ȝelic(h), 2–5 ilich(e, ylych(e, 3–5 ylich(e, 4 ilechc, 4–5 yleche, ilyche. *β.* 2–5 ilik(e, 3–5 ilyke, 4 ylik, ilek, 4–5 ylyk(e, illike, ylike. [OE. *gelíc*: see Y- 1 b and LIKE *a.* Represented now by ALIKE, q. v.; see also INLIKE.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Like, similar (const. dat. or *to*).

a 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 549 Ic ær ne aiȝ snigz ne mette in woruldrice wiþ þe ȝelic. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xix. (1890) 322 [Se lichoma] wæs slæpendum men ȝelicra þonne deadum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Þe alde mon þe biȝ butan treowscipe biȝ ilíche þan treo þe bereð lef and bloaman and nane wæstmas ne bereð. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Ic scal bien ȝelich ðan heisten [orig. *ero similis altissimo*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Hwose haueð eni unðeau of þeo þet ich er nemde, oðer ham ilíche. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 792 Ȝe ben to þe helle-hond holliche I-like. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2336 A semede þe diuel ileche. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxii. 149 None afore the hath be y-lyke the, ne aftyre the shall come. *c* 1474 CAXTON *Recuyell* (1894) 321 A geant named Cerberus ynowh ylyke vnto pluto of condicions.

2. Of a number of things: Like one another; alike; equal. *Ever ylike*: always the same.

Beowulf 2164 Feower mearas..ȝelice. *c* 980–*c* 1060 *Laws of Æthelred* VI. lii. (Liebermann) 238 Se maxa & se unmaxa ne beoð na ȝelice, ne ne maxon na ȝelice byrþene ahebban. *a* 1240 *Orisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 203 þet nauȝ nouðer ende ne biginnunge þet is euer iliche wiðute stiriunge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 355 Þinges þat beeth I-liche [*MS.* y buþ ylyche] acorde þ to gidres. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 17 Than ben the daies & the nyhtes lllike of lenghthe in al the world. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 399 Thre waxe-candels he let make þen, Euery candelle y-leyche of weyȝt. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxiii. 151 Yestyrday he hadd frendys Speciall, but to-day he haue ham all y-lyke. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. xi. (1558) 103 Fortunes gyftes be nat aye ylyche.

3. Fitting, suitable. (Cf. LIKE *a.* 6 a.)

c 1205 LAY. 25117 Nusten heo an world-riche ræd þat heom weore ilike.

B. *sb.* **1.** (One's) like, equal, counterpart.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* XX. 37 Nan þing nis þin gelica. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 151 Ioh wes..swa godmon þet ure drihten.. seide þet under houene ne nan his ilike. *c* 1205 LAY. 25378 Nes þer na king his ilike. *c* 1303 *Judas* 66 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 109 Ech þing louep his iliche.

2. Outward appearance, likeness, semblance; *concr.* an image, 'likeness'.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1843 Crist..þurh his ahne engel i culurene iliche, fedde hire. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 136 Loke þet tu habbe his iliche, þet is þet crucifix. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 305 In hornes ilike þu schalt hure biswike. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM VII. 883 Ase mannes ylyche ymad of tre May nauȝt be al ase man may be..Ne godes ylyche, man, y-wys Ne may nauȝt be al ase god ys.

†**Ylike,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝelíce, 2 ȝelic(h)e, 3–5 iliche, yliche, 4–5 ilike, 4–7 ylike, etc. (cf. prec.); also 4 eliche, elike, elyke, 5 yeliche. [OE. *gelíce* = OS. *gilîco* (MDu. *gelijk*, Du. *gelijk*), OHG. *galîkho*, *g(i)lîcho* (MHG. *g(e)liche*, *g(e)lîch*, G. *gleich*), Goth. *galeikô*; f. prec.]

1. Similarly; likewise; alike; equally. *Ever ylike*: unceasingly, continuously.

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 119 Ne weoron þas ealle ȝelice lange. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. XX. 5 Eft he ut-eode embe þa sixtan & nigoþan tide & dyde þam swa ȝelice. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 66 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Africh man mid þat he haueð mai bugge haueriche þe þe more haueð and þe þe lasse boðe liche. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 152 Þat water of baþe is þat on þat euere is liliche hot. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 436 Al tymes ylyke. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1668 Til that the Thebane knyghtes boþe yliche Honured, were in to the paleys fet. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 39 The longitude of a clymat ys a lyne ymagined fro Est to west, illike distant by-twene them alle. *a* 1398 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. xxxiv, Who soo is euer ylyke wyse in knowyng of & ghostly thynges. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Chorle & Bird* 48 (Harl. 116) Of lengthe and brede yeliche square and

c 1405 CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 64 The floures and the gras | JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxx, Tantalus..That on | the well Water to draw with
bakket botemles. *c* 1460 | viii. 206 A bush I
se burnand full brycht, | leyfes ase greyn.

1466 *Bk. St. Albans* C vj b, Take Fennell Maryall and Kerele ilich moch.

2. Const. dative: In the same manner (as), like, as. Also with *as* (OE. *rsed*), as conj. or conj. adv.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* v. vii. § 2 Þe elpendes hyd wiðadrincan wætan, ȝelice & oþrum deð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 He him ȝehet his mæsse...ȝelice swa he ær þa þrowunge dyde. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 330 Wessben and wyuen Alle —— of men mercy and forȝeuenesse, And louye yliche hym-self. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 4 How failes it then, we no merrier bene, Yllike as others, girt in gawdy greene? *c* 1694 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii. (1652) 25 If I kissen, These thick stark bristles of mine beard will prieken Ylike the skin of Hound-fish.

†**Yli·ke,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gelícian* (cf. MDu. *ghelîken*, MHG. *gelîchen*, Goth. *galeikan*): see Y- 3 c and LIKE *v.*[1]] *trans.* To please.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* v. i, Ascian þonne Italie hiera agne londleode, hu him þa tida ȝelicoden. 1340 *Ayenb.* 109 Lese uader yiyky þe þet þe holy gost ous wille alyȝte þe hert.

†**Ylik(e)med** [Y- 4] likened. 1340 *Ayenb.* 234 No þing ne is weyrt to be ylykned to þe chaste herte. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 265 Ypocrisie is..ylikned in latyn to a loth-liche dounghep. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lviii. 228 They bene folis y-lykenyd to asnis. **Yli·kewise,** *adv.* = ALIKEWISE: cf. YLIKE *a.* 1460 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 305 And of fyaherys ylykewis for the fysch. **Ylin(e)ked** [Y- 4], linked. *a* 1568 SIR T. CHALLONER in Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* etc. 156/56 What ere thow be that thinges ylynked hast In leagne so olde. 1590 [see LINKED *ppl. a.*]. **Ylive** *v.* [Y- 3 c, LITHE *v.*[2]], to hearken, listen. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 2 Alle heo ben blybe þat to my song yiybe.

†**Ylive,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝelifan, 4 yleue; *pa. pple.* 1 ȝelifd, 3–4 ilyued, ylived, ylyued, 4 yleued. [OE. *gelibban, gelifian* (cf. OHG. *gilebon*): see Y- 3 c and LIVE *v.*[1]] To live.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke X. 28 *Hoc fac et vives*, ðis do þætte ðu ȝelifge. *c* 1000 in *Narrat. Angl.* (1862) 30 Fulne ende þines lifes þu hæfst ȝelifd. 1297, etc. Ylived, etc. [see LIVE *v.*[1]]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 93 Þet is guod lyf and yblyssed þet cristene ssolle yleue. *Ibid.* 130 Huanne þe man þenkþ.. ine huet trauail he heþ yleued. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 255 A goode fryday..a felon was ysaued That vnlawefulliche badde ylyued.

Ylk(e, Ylkan, Yll, obs. ff. ILK, ILKA, ILL.

Ylle, obs. form of AISLE, ILL, ISLE.

Yllischman, yllisman, obs. ff. ISLESMAN.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 29 Of grett oppressioun maid be the yllismen [*cf. infra* men of the yllis]. 1620 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* VIII. 625 What cours salbe takin with theise Yllischmen.

Yllond, obs. form of ISLAND.

Ylls, obs. form of ELSE.

1462 in *Yarrow & Wearmouth* (Surtees) 245 Y[t] he..apper be for ye said holy fader ye pope, or ylls ye wirschipfull doctour Bernardus Romia.

†**Ylog(g)ed** [Y- 4] lodged. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3132 (Laud MS.) Forto he com to þat plas, þer Alisaunder yloged was. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4001 Wel y-loged ther on pauyllouns. **Yloȝe, ylow(e,** ME. pa. pple. of LIE *v.*[2] **Yloged, ylowed** [Low *v.*[1]], subjected, humbled. 1340 *Ayenb.* 144 Hi ham byeþ suo moche yloged. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxx. 172 He ne holdyth hym not y-lowet ne vndyrfote of the dyssayses whyche he hathe escapid. **Yloke, ylokked,** ME. pa. pples. of LOCK *v.*[1] 13.. *K. Alis.* 2769 (Laud MS.) Ar þe ȝates weren yloke. 1393 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 44 With lewte and loue yloke to þi peeris. *c* 1400 *Troyius & Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 325 That the dores be fast y-loke and barred. *c* 1400 *y* lokked [see LOCK *v.*[1] 3]. **Yloked** [LOOK *v.*], looked, observed, etc. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 þe sabat, þet wes straytliche y-loked ine þe ȝalde laȝe.

†**Ylome,** *adv. Obs.* FORMS: 1 ȝelome, 2–5 ilome, 3 ȝelome, 3–5 ylome. [OE. *gelóme*, f. *ge-* Y- with an element of obscure origin: see LOOM *sb.*[1]] Frequently, often; phr. *oft and ylome.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1339 Se on wolcnum þæs oft ȝelome sndgiettacen magon sceawiȝan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Westmes þorð uuele wederas oft and ilome seal for-wurðan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Heald þin cunde, and þine ilcames lust kel hiene. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 595 Þar me mai þe ilomest finde, þar man worþeþ hore hihinde. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 321 A Lioun in a launde may lightlych driue Of hertes an holle herde, as happes ilome. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 69 Men speken of hym ylome In alle binges wibouten strif.

Ylond, obs. form of ISLAND.

†**Ylong,** obs. var. ALONG *a.*[1] (in sense 'depending *on*'). 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2711 Þe king eende at enchantors war on it were ylong. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXI. 61 My ioie ant eke my blisse on him is al y-long. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. XXX. 78 Yf it soo be that in his bede be founde ony defaute, hit wylle seme.. that hit is y long vppon his counceyl. **Ylope:** see YLEPE. **Yloren(n, ylorn(e,** ME. pa. pple. of LESE *v.*[1] to lose. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5133 Hii seolle þ 3ut kenery moche lond þat hii abbeþ y lore. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXXIX. 110 Al is dayes werk ther were y-loren. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 182 Oþer studies..That ben leide on louh erthe ylore as hit were. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 79 At euery hour a poynt is y-loore. **Ylosed, ylost(e,** ME. pa. pple. of LOSE *v.*[1] 13.. *K. Alis.* 4082 (Linc. Inn MS.) Daris haþ ylost his pray. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 461 Allas! my freendes, þis day I have y-lost. 1407 SCOGAN *Mor. Balads* 36 Tyme y-lost in youthe folily Greveth a wight goostly and bodily. **Ylousedˡ,** loosed, loosened. TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 151 þe skyn y-lousedˡ | *solute cute*]. **Ylousedˢ,** freed from lice. 1387 TREVISA *den* (Rolls) III. 353 þey hadde I-lowsed [*MS.* y ylousedˢ] her clopes. **Ylowed, ylowid,** ME. pa. pple. of LOVE *v.*[1] 13.. *Coer de L.* 2744 Friends, with the best That might be in any lond Y-loved. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* vii. 137 Wyrshippyd, ylowid, and ydreddyd. **Ylowe, Ylowed:** see YLOGE, YLOGED. **Ylugged,** lugged, pulled. 1393 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 336 He was lyghtliche y-laugte and y-luggyd of many. **Ylurned, ylyerned:** see YLERNED

Yly: see YLAV(E. **Ylych(e, ylyk(e**, var. YLIKE. **Ylyft(e**, lifted. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 9 þanne he was i-left [*MS.* y ylyft] an hije. **Ymaad, ymad(e**, obs. pa. pple. of MAKE *v.*[1] **Ymaced**, ME. pa. pple. of MAKE *v.*[1]

Ymadge, ymag(e, etc., obs. ff. IMAGE, etc

†**Ymake, ymaked**, ME. pa. pples. of MAKE *v.*[1] **Y-manered, ymanerit(e** [Y-5, MANNER *sb.*[1]], mannered. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 260 A mayde wel ymanered of good men yspronge. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lviii. 206 Tho that haue the flessche of the brestis lytill and dry bene litle-ymanerite. **Ymanned, -yd** [Y-4], manned. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 434 The toune of Orliaunce was..well ymannyd and vitaillid. **Ymaried**, married. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 19 Now worth þis Mede ymaried al to a manned schrewe. **Ymarisse(sh)ed**, pa. pple. of MARISSE *v.* **Ymarked, -yd**, ME. pa. pple. of MARK *v.* 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 346 (Zielke) A way [.. þat him was so hard Grace ymarked, And so vile deþ ymarked [1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xl. 199 Euery manes lyfe is y-markyd by kynde, how longe he shal mow doure. **Ymart(i)red, ymartyred**, ME. pa. pple. of MARTYR *v.* 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1819 Ymartred (*v. rr.* y martired, y martred] uor vre louerdes loue. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 10 þat þere Eustas..was y-martired. **Ymasked, Ymaymed**, ME. pa. pples. of MASK, MAIM.

Ymbar, obs. form of EMBER[2].

1550 *Acts Privy Council* (1891) III. 68 Holledales or fastinge dales as Lent, Ymbar dales, or any such lyke.

Ymbarge, obs. form of EMBARGE *v.*

1588 *MS. Tanner* 78, 52 They shall ymbarge or arrest the Duke of Florences Gallion.

Ymbassator, -bassutt, obs. var. AMBASSADOR, AMBASSADE.

1484 *Caly Papers* (Camden) 149 To goo as ymbassutt for the stappell to Dewke Phyllypp. 1543 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 45 The Frenche Ymbassator has not proponyt that matt[e] as yet.

Ymber, ymbre, obs. forms of EMBER[1], **Ymbir-, ymbre(n**, etc., obs. ff. EMBER[2].

Ymbolden, obs. f. EMBOLDEN, IMBOLDEN.

1622 W. ADAMS *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Yapton* (Hakl. Soc.) 31, I haue ymboldened my selfe to write these few lines.

Ymbrasour, obs. form of EMBRACER[2].

Ymbroder, obs. form of EMBROIDER.

1562-3 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1912) 37 A suyte of blewe velvet ymbrodered. 1638 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Furnitures* (1869) 2 Ymbrodering or hufling of guilded leather.

†**Ymed(e)led** [Y-4, MEDDLE *v.*], mixed. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 815 So worldly selynesse, y-medled is with many a bitternesse. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 177 Wyde wyndowes..Schynen wiþ schapen scheldes..Wiþ merkes of marchaunttes y-medled bytwene.

Ymedicable, Ymedyat, obs. ff. IMMEDICABLE, IMMEDIATE.

†**Ymeint**, pa. pple. (ME. and 7 *arch.*) of MENG *v.*, to mix. **Ymelked** [Y-4], milked. 13.. *St. Kenelm* 234 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 54 As ful heo wolde a morwe beo, þei heo were ymelked an eue.

Ymel(le: see IMELLE.

†**Ymelled, -yd** [MELLE *v.*[1]], mixed. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 469 þe elementes i-medled [*MS.* y ymelled] to gidres. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 28 Pouder Gyngere y-mellyd with Sugre. **Ymelt(ed**, ME. pa. pple. of MELT *v.*[1] 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 13 A stream of gold of nayles i-melt [*MS.* y ymelt]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. tede. **Ymende** [Y-3 c, *mende* MIND *v.*], to [see MIND *v.* 2 c]. **Ymene**: see I-MENE. , pple. of MING *v.* **Ymeng, ymeng(e)d**, pa. pples. of MENG *v.*, to mingle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2541 þo were among cristinemen þis paiens þus imengd [*v. r.* y menged]. *Ibid.* 3437 þus were in worre & in wo ymeng þe saxons..myd þe brutons. 1340 *Ayenb.* 196 Loke þet ydele blisse..ne by nazt y-mengd. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 3olkys of Eyroun y-mengyd with þe lus of haselle leuys. **Yment**, ME. pa. pple. of MEAN *v.*[1] **Ymered**, pa. pple. of MERE *v.*[1], to purify. **Ymesurid**, ME. f. MEASURED; *well y-mesurrid*, well-proportioned. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxix. 236 The hede well y-mesurid. **Ymet**[1], ME. pa. pple. of METE *v.*[2], to dream. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 335 þou hast y met of venysoun; þou mostest drynke a torn. *c* 1430 [see METE *v.*[2] 2]. **Ymet**[2], pa. pple. (ME. and 6–7 *arch.*) of MEET *v.* 1522 *World & Child* (facs.) C v b, Well ymet syr, well ymet. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. li, Last time we were together here ymet.

†**Ymete**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *gemétan*: see Y- 3 c and MEET *v.*] To meet, meet with, encounter.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. XXXI. 286 Mid þem þet hiene ȝemette an mon, þa he for from Actesiphonte þære byrig. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Iselle beoð efre þa mildheortan for þi heo imeteð þa mildheortnesse. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 67 in *O. E. Misc.* 86 To alle þat heo myhte iseon oþer y-mete. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1437 Him þouhte imete mid is ost ar he at hom were. *c* 1300 *Names of Havy* 1 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The mon that the bare i-met, Ne shal him nevere be the bet. *c* 1395 *St. Christopher* 37 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 60 þe maistre þat was firs ynoug com & ymette him anon.

†**Ymete(n**, ME. pa. pple. of METE *v.*[1], to measure. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2092 Fulliche ne is he nost now fram þe vl fet ymete in brede. **Ymeved, ymeoved, ymoved**, ME. pa. pple. of MOVE *v.* 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 301 þe Frenssche men..were i-meved [MS. y ymeoued] by likynge of þat wyn. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxiv. 189 Yf he thyn answere in dispite haue, neuer for that be thow ymeuet. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 243 To decide the maters ymovede. **Ymeynd, ymeynt** = YMEINT.

Ymgrame, error (in T. Wilson's *Rhet.* p. 37, edd. 1580, etc.) for *yngrame*, INGRAM.

Ymidde, ymydde, var. IMID *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pol. Poems* XI. 66 God may say, fem þere, folk I sayn To receyue me ymydde here breat. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7794 He..went forth his enmys y midde.

†**Yminne** *v.* [Y- 3 c, MIN *v.*[2]], to mention. *a* 1325 *Mauds. Latin* 479 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 189 Herdestow e in spelle ymiane Of a woman þat was in sinne? **Yminted**, pseudo-arch. pa. pple. of MINT *v.*[2] 1825 CLARE *Rural Muse* 10 Like gold yminted new. **Ymixt**, mixed. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* XXXIV. 38 Hir comelie cheeks of vive colour, Of rid and vbyt ymixt.

Ymnake, error for *ymnake*, INMAKE, inmate.

1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII.* c. 24 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 175 Euery person and persons..which in the haruest season, receiue..in his or their houses..any person or persons called ymnakes.

Ymne, etc., obs. forms of HYMN, etc.

†**Ymolt(en** = YMELT(EN. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Golde i-schaue of seyntes schrynes and i-3ote [*MS.* β y-molt]. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 31 Whiche y-molten and þe forseid pingis beyng hote. 1590 [see MELT *v.*[1] 8]. 1748 [see MELT *v.*[1] 11].

†**Ymo'ne**, *sb. Obs.* [OE. *gemǽne*: see MONE *sb.*[1], MENE, MEAN *a.*[1]]

1. Companionship, fellowship.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 1 Þonne were he mid his ȝesuna cynne..þonne he wæs on ðara ryhtwisena ȝemanan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 245 For ðan þe se helende underfeng þa sinfullan, and ham mid imone hafede. *c* 1205 LAY. 21308 Þeh þe wulf beon ane buten ælc imane [*c* 1275 one..imone]. *c* 1260 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 834 Sire, ischal al one Wiþute more ymone..Bringe hem þre to deþe.

2. Sexual intercourse.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 25 *rubric*, Ne ceorl hæfis wifes ȝemana. *c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 32 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Nabbe ich of wepmonne nones kunnes y-mone. *c* 1275 *Annunc. Virg.* 10 ibid. 100 Hw myhte hit iwurþe þat ich were myd childe, Monnes imone on me ne may nomon synde. *c* 1275 LAY. 25916 Ne mihte þat maide his imone [*c* 1205 mone] þolie. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM v. 28 Hy wyþ-oute mannes ymone In body,..To manne hyne broute.

3. A companion. (? A scribal error.)

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 530 He nolde gon is one, Athulf wes hys ymone [*Camb. MS.* mone].

†**Ymone**, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [Alteration of I-MENE *a.* and *adv.* after YMONE *sb.*]

A. *adj.* Common, shared by two or more.

1205 LAY. 978 3if we sceoteð to heora mæðe, þat bið ure imone dæð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6350 He..sede, hail þou be King one. So nis it nost, quaþ þe King, uor mi Kinedom is ymone.

B. *adv.* Together.

c 1300 *St. Brandan* 380 Anon so hi seȝe the monekes come, hi gonne to singe ymone. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 99 If þat on of hem ne dar him self wiþ me fiȝte al one Send hem boþe on þyn helf to fiȝte wiþ me ymone.

†**Ymong**, *sb. Obs.* [OE. *gemang*, f. *ge-* Y- 3 a + root *mang-* to mix, found in MENG *v.* Cf. next.] Mixture (OE. only); company, assembly.

1000 *Judith* 193 Berað..Scire helmas in sceaðena ȝemong. *c* 1205 LAY. 20868, & sloh þene king..Imong þissen imonge [*c* 1275 motinge].

†**Ymong**, *prep.* and *conj. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝemang, ȝemong, 2–3 imong, 3–7 ymong, 4 imang(e, 4–5 ymang(e, 4–6 ymonge; also 5 *Sc.* ymangis (after *amonges*, AMONGST). [OE. *gemang, gemong*, used beside *ongemang* AMONG *prep.*, which is f. *on* ON *prep.* + *gemang* company, YMONG *sb.*] **A.** *prep.* Among, in the midst of.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. iv, & þeah ȝemong þære heringe þyllica bismra on his selfe ræsdon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. x. 16 Nu ic eow sende swa sceap ȝemang [*Lindisf.* inmong, *Hatton* onmang] wulfas. *Ibid.* John xxi. 23 Deos spræc com ut ȝemang broþrum þæt se leorning-cniht ne swylt. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Hu derst þu mon þer on-ȝein underfon drihtenes fleis and his blod in þine licome imong þan unwreste sunne and ec imong þan deofle þe wuneð in him? *c* 1205 LAY. 13116 Þe þer æst..imong alle þan cnihten. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3429 If ymong .x. wurð oȝt mis-don. *Metr. Hom.* 48 In ig you wonand be isse. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 369 Y-monge þe pres. *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 368 In his mantille of skarlet rede Y-mange his golde he did his brede. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5646 Be takyns he aspyed þe theve ymang ilkane. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 53 Item to the batis that carijt our the King, the Quene, and the Courte, ymangis thaim,..xl. s. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 810 He goith ymong them in his hie curage. 1536 in J. Nicolson & R. Burn *Westmld. & Cumbld.* (1777) 613 *note*, Every on of the other iiii prysts to have vi d, and to have to drynke ymonge theym viii d. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul, Paraphr. Interpr. Answ. Apollo* 15, I Phœbus with my lovely locks ymong The midst of you shall sit.

b. *Her (þer)..ymong*: among or with them; herewith, therewith.

c 1205 LAY. 22708 Her wes ſiðelinge and song, her was harpinge imong. *Ibid.* 24194 Þer wes harepinge and song, þer weoren blisses imong. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1580 Heo wes hire seolf þer imong, ȝa hire þuhte.

B. *conj. Ymong þat*: while.

Cf. OE. *gemang þám*, meanwhile.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. I. § 9 Ȝemong þæm þe Pirrus wiþ Romane winnende wæs. *c* 1205 LAY. 18174 Imong þat he king was..Merlin him set-wende.

†**Ymor(r)ed**, ME. pa. pple. of MURDER *v.* 1297 [see MURDER *v.* 1 c]. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 242 And so is meny man ymor|red for hus money and goodes. **Ymortified**, of MORTIFY. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 45 A gret quantite y-mortified. **Ymoselyd**, of MUSSLE *v.*[1]

Y-moth: see Y 3 b.

Ymounted, pseudo-arch. pa. pple. of MOUNT *v.* 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. iii, Like to an almond tree ymounted high.

Ymovede: see YMEVED.

Ympes(c)he, obs. forms of IMPEACH.

Ymplisyply, obs. form of IMPLIABLY.

Ympn(e, obs. forms of HYMN.

Ympreint, var. IMPRENTE *v. Obs.*

Ymree, obs. form of EMBRY.

Ymston, var. ME. *ymston*: see GRESTONE.

a 1272 *Lond Rem* 175 in *O. E. Misc.* 98 Among alle oþre ymstone þes beoþ deorre in vyche place. *Ibid.* 178 Maydo al so ich þe tolde þe ymston of þi bur.

Ymulis, obs. Sc. form of EMULOUS.

†**Ymummyd**, ME. pa. pple. of MUM *v.* **Ymund, -munt**: see YMINT. **Ymunde**: see MIND *sb.*[1], *a.* **Y-mundified**, ME. pa. pple. of MUNDIFY *v.* *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 27 þe wounde ymundified if it be wele tretable.

†**Ymur.** *Obs.* [? a. dial. var. of OF. *umor* HUMOUR *sb.* (cf. Picard *himeur*, Walloon *imeure*).] ? Atmospheric moisture.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 897 All cold it became & the course ielde, Bothe of ymur & aire after I-wise. *Ibid.* 1575 The Stretis were streght & of a stronge brede, For ymur & aire opon in þe myddis.

†**Ymurdred**, arch. pa. pple. of MURDER *v.* 1582 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 95 Here dy thou shalt ymurdred by my hand. **Ymuwed**, ME. pa. pple. of MEW *v.*[1]

Ymyd(de, Ymyddes, -is, -ys, Ymydward, obs. var. AMID (cf. YMIDDE), AMIDST, AMIDWARD.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8769 The body..Was..set in a seate vnder, Ymydward the mayne towmbe.

†**Ymylded**, ME. pa. pple. of MILD *v.* **Ymynced, y-mynsyd**, ME. pa. pple. of MINCE *v.* *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 6 Oynons y-mynced. *Ibid.* 13 Oynonys y-mynsyd. **Ymyned**, ME. pa. pple. of MINE *v.* **Ymynt(e**: see YMINT. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4920+32 þe nyȝt þet he adde imund [*MS.* δ ymynte] vort abbe ywend a-morwe. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 576 Hadd y þat stronge strok y-take þou haddest to me ymynt. **Ymynused**, pa. pple. of MINISH *v.* *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Col. i. 21 Whan þe weren sumtyme y-alyened & y-mynused in wyt in efel werkes.

Yn, obs. f. IN *prep.* and *adv.*, INN *sb.*

Ynail(l)ed, Ynaniyd, ME. pa. pples. of NAIL *v.*, NAME *v.*[1] **Ynca**, obs. f. INCA. **Ynce**, obs. Sc. form of HENCE *adv.* **Ynch(e**, obs. ff. INCH. **Yncke, Ync(k)le, Ynclynge, Yncorne**, obs. ff. INK, INKLE, INKLING, INK-HORN. **Ynd(e**: see END *sb.*, HIND *sb.*[1], IND, INDE. **Yndeen, -ien, Yndewes**, obs. ff. INDIAN, INDIES. **Yndling**, var. INDLING, EYNDLING *Sc. Obs.*, jealous. **Yndoys**, var. *Yndes* (see IND 2). **Yndrest**, var. INNEREST *Obs.*, innermost. **Yne**, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*[1], obs. f. IN *prep.*

†**Ynem(p)ned**, pa. pple. of NEMN *v.*, to name. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) Appx. H. 10 After þe quene y nempned heo was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 66 Alle þise zennes þet we habbeþ byer ynemned. 1417 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 27 All my pourest tenaunttes..excepte ham þat I haue ynemned in þis bok.

†**Ynence, -ens, -entes**, *prep. Obs.* [var. ff. *enence, anentes* ANENT.] Towards; in relation to.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lx. 2 Ynence my selfe I sall be glad in þe. *Ibid.* x. 8 Euennes is sen in his knawynge, ynentes bath þe partis of goed and ill. *c* 1340 — *Prose Treat.* 8 Many are þat neuer haue halde þe ordyre of lufe ynesche [*read* ynence] þaire frendys sybbe or ffremede. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 26 Thurghe þis commandement es man ordaynede ynence God þe Fadire. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 40 Ynentes þe kirk of þe Sepulchre es þe citee maste wayke. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 106 Conferme my louynge in þe, ynens þis lew.

Yneuch(t, ynew(oht: see ENOUGH, ENOW.

Ynewe, obs. var. ANEW *adv.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 626, & þo by-gan ynewe fiȝt be-twene þis knyȝtes tweye.

†**Ynewed** [Y- 4, NEW *v.*], renewed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Ynewed and eft ycristned ine þe bloode of Iesu crist.

Yngde, obs. f. IND. **Ynge**, obs. f. HINGE, ING, YOUNG. **Ynjoin, ynion**, obs. ff. ONION.

Yngles, -is(se, etc., obs. ff. ENGLISH, INGLIS.

Yngynore, obs. form of ENGINEER.

Ynke, Ynkell, obs. forms of INK, INKLE.

Ynkirly, -urly, var. ENKERLY *adv. Obs.*

Ynkleth: see INKLETH.

Ynmast, -most, obs. forms of INMOST.

Ynn(e, Ynner: see IN, INN, INNE, INNER.

Ynnion, obs. form of ONION.

c 1380 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) July 519 Greate ynnions that be xij or xiiij ynches abowte.

Ynogh(e, ynoh(e, etc.: see ENOUGH, ENOW.

†**Ynombred**, ME. pa. pple. of NUMBER *v.* 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. x. 178 His armye..with the garneson of godard and saresyns of Southland ynombred lx M of good men of armes. **Ynome(n, ynume**, ME. pa. pple. of NIM *v.*, to take. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 43/206 So me deþ to þeoue þat schal beon ynume. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2452 Vor to be maistres of þis folc we be3 ychose & ynome. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4668 (Laud MS.), þe boweles weren ynomen oute. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2103 Erid Olyuer & his felawes þat Sarasyns habbeþ ynome. *c* 1450 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 83 Leyt salys fall, and has thar cours ȝ

Ynon, obs. form of ONION.

†**Ynorisched, -issed, Ynorsched**, ME. pa. pples. of NOURISH, NORSH. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1450 He spac englisc vor he was at reme inorssed [*MS. B.* ynorischod] biuore. 1340 *Ayenb.* 203 þe children þet weren y-norissed mid greate metes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 38 While he was a child y-norsched in þe kynges court of Fraunce. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9, 1..hanse ben cherely ynorysched.

Ynot = *y wat*, I do not know: see NOT *v.*[2]

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3628 þere he liþ yet to þis day as ynot so wuche deuse þe toun sulde þe of polet chirche fram glastingebury come. 13.., in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1877) 57 Ynot non so fresh flour, Aas ladies that beth bryght in bour.

Ynou(gh, ynew(gh, etc.: see ENOUGH, ENOW.

Ynoumbred, ME. pa. pple. of NUMBER *v.*

Ynpossybull, Ynpugne, obs. ff. IMPOSSIBLE, IMPUGN. **Yn sted, stude, styd,** obs. ff. INSTEAD.

Ynsyte, obs. form of INCITE.

†**Ynued** [Y- 4, Nov v.] harmed. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxx. 170 By this vertu Is the herte of a man I-Stabelid, in so myche that for no chaunce hit is not y-mued.

Ynug(h, Ynume(n: see ENOUGH, YNOME(N.

Ynuste = *y neuste*, I knew not: see NIST.

Yo (*yō*), *int.* (*sb.*) Forms: 5 30, 10, 3ow, 9 yo, yeo(h. An exclamation of incitement, warning, etc. (also repeated). In nautical use = YOHO. Occas. as sb. and in vbl. sb. *yo-yoing*.

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* vii. [*To hounde*], 3aw thar suche him no mare. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 450 in *Macro Plays* 17 *Mycheff.* How, New-gyse, Now-a-days! herke or I goo! When owur hedis wer to-gethere, I spake of 'si dedero'. *New-gyse.* 3o! go þi wey! we xall gaþer mony on-to. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* li. 25 Io furth, greyn-horne! and war oute, gryme! 1570 *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 191/1 The scene was quite chang'd, 'twas no more yo, yo-ho. 1806 PINCKARD *Tour W. Indies* III. 343 A string of negroes singing out in the sailors' cry—yeoh-yeoh, yeoh-yeoh, and hauling at a long rope. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ix, He was roused by a loud shouting of the post-boy on the leader. 'Yo—yo—yo—yo—yoe,' went the first boy. 'Yo—yo—yo—yoe!' went the second... And amidst the yo-yoing..the chaise stopped. 1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* xiii, Sundry boatmen, that with quick yeo's, Last it should *blow*,—were pulling up the *Rose*. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. ii, Yo there! Stand! I shall fire!

Yo, obs. f. YOU. **Yoak(e:** see OAK, YOKE, YOLK.

Yoaks, yoax (*yōks*), *int. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (yooks). A hunting cry; also as vb. (Cf. YOICKS.)

1778 GARRICK in *Monthly Rev.* (1779) LX. 59 'Squire Western, reeling, with October mellow, Tall, yo!—Boys!—Yoax—Criticks! hunt the fellow! 1808 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XXII. 129 He yoaksed in a whisper, he cheered in a whisper. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Yocks*, a call of encouragement to a dog hunting rabbits, &c. n. Yks.

Yoalk, obs. form of YOLK.

Yoberte, obs. form of JEOPARDY.

1539 *St. Pap. Hen. VIII* III. 161 Yn grat yoberte of lyff.

Yobliged, ME. pa. pple. of OBLIGE *v.*

Yochomdale, yookynggale, var. YOKINDALE.

Yook, yooke, obs. forms of YOKE.

Yod (*yɒd, yŏd*). [See JOD.] Name of the tenth (the smallest) letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

1735 LYONS *Scholars Instr.* (1757) 85 Those Verbs which have Vau Consonant, or Yod Consonant for the second Radical. 1769 PARKHURST *Grk. Eng. Lexicon N. T.* (1794) 385/2 An Iota, Jod, or Yod. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. ii. viii. 143 They remembered..what He had said about the permanence of every yod and horn of a letter in the Law.

†**Yode, yede,** *v. Obs.* Past tense of GO *v.* (= went, went away, proceeded, took his course). [12th cent. ME. (north-east midland) *ʒeode, ʒede* (*iede*), prob. altered form of OE., ME. *eode* (*ede, ede*), pa. t. of Go *v.*, by prothesis of *ʒ*-glide induced by the hiatus in such collocations as *he eode, we eoden*. Later, when the form *ʒode*, arising from the development of *eo* as a rising diphthong, became established, it would help to extend the currency of the form *ʒede* by analogical influence upon *ede*, the normal representative of *ēode* with a falling diphthong. A parallel development is furnished by ME. *York, Yerk*:—OE. *Eoforwīc* (see YORK). Moreover, the OE. compound form *gēēode*, pa. t. of *gegān* IGO *v.*, examples of which are here given with the meaning of the simple *ēode*, may have survived in localities where the prefix *ge-* = Y- persisted in ME., and so have furthered the spread of *ʒede* and *ʒode*.

Beowulf 1967 Hi siõ drugon, eine geeodon. *Ibid.* 2676 *Exilit*, ge-eode. *Ibid.* John x. 23 *Ambulabat*, ge-eade.]

Illustration of Forms.

α. 2–4 ʒeode (4 ʒiode).

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Hi..ʒeodon into þe mynstre. *c* 1260 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 401 He ʒeode in wel riȝte To Rymenhild þe briȝte. *c* 1275 LAY. 25331–2 Ofte hii ʒeode [*c* 1205 eoden] to reade, ofte hii ʒeode to roune. *c* 1305 *Judas* 31 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 108 Þe quene ʒeode adai and pleide bi þe stronde. 13.. *Cursor M.* 19990 (Edin.) Quen þai of Petir undirstode, His coming, sone gain him þai ʒiode. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 397 A lampe..in þat hevene..þat ʒede [*MS.* ȝ ʒeode] adoun westward as it were þe sonne. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 208 To the ȝate ȝaply þei ȝeoden [*v.rr.* ȝedyn, ȝede] wel ȝare. *c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8409 (MS. a) Þoru wham þe hebene men ȝeoden al to schonde.

β. 2 ȝede, ȝede, ȝede, 2–5 ȝede, 3–4 ȝiede, 4 ȝide, ȝed, yhed, *Sc.* ȝheid, 4–5 ȝeide, ȝhede, ȝeede, 4–6 yede, (also 9 *Sc.*) yede, 5 ȝeyde, ȝhed, *Sc.* ȝheide, 5–6 *Sc.* ȝeid, yeid, 5–6 (8 *Sc.*) yeed, 6 yheid, yead(e, 8 yee'd.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Syððon ȝeden heom to scipe, ferden heom to Elig. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137 Sume leden on sumes þe waren sum wile rice men. *Ibid.* Me dide cnotted strenges abuton here hæued & burythen to ðet it ȝæde to þe hærnes. *Ibid.* 1140 Scas fleh & læde on fote to Walingeford. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Dies iunge mann ȝiede a-vel seri. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1766 Ac bæsian & al is folc ȝede ssæsn to gronde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2086 Quen cayn had don þat dreri dede, Til his fader hamward he ȝeide. *Ibid.* 21093 He prechid þare wiþ fote he ȝide. *c* 1350 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14308 Þyse were þe lordes of meonn þat on Moddredes side ȝed doun. 1390 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 4851 þat day þat Loth yhed out of Sodome. 1340–70 *Alexander* 304 Hur gates ȝeede þei too & youlden hem soone. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 90 Bot othir wayis all ȝheid the gle. *Ibid.* 333 And till swyik thowtesnes he ȝeid, As the courss askis off ȝowtheid. *Acts Privy Council* III. 97 He yeed in ambassiate to..ye Kyng of Polayn. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 228 The day yeid doun. 1487 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 158, I had xx^li more wheyr of ȝeyde xiiij^li and mor for carryayge of wholl. 1508 DUNBAR *Kynd Kittok* 33 Because the wif ȝeid wrang. 1568 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* v. C viij, When you..yeade to Loualne there to heare the Latine Romishe wordes. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* IV. ii, My Gammer then she yeede, was now his neele again to bring. 1589 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 327 With this the word yeed through the toun. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Poems* iii. 29 That leddir..Quhairby the angels come and ȝeid From hevin to earth. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* I. 7 They Yeed hand in hand together. 1808 JAMIESON, *Yede* is still used in Angl[us] although almost obsolete.

β 2. 3–4 ȝet.

c 1275 LAY. 2647 Þis wes þe ereste king þat ȝet vt to reuing. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 297 Þane wes þe feynd wondir wa, þat placydas lewit hym sa & ȝet on crist.

γ. 3–5 ȝod, 4–5 yhode, (also 6 *Sc.*) ȝode, (also 7–8 *dial.*) yod, (4 ȝood, ȝodd, yoede, 5 ȝ-, yoode, 6 yood, *Sc.* ȝoid, 7 youd), 4–6 (6–9 *arch.*) yode.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2030 Sone ȝhe mai hire louerd sen, ȝhe ȝod him bitterlike a-ȝen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1806 He wist noght wyder-ward he ȝodd. *Ibid.* 6264 Þe see on alþer side þam stod Als walles tua, quilis þai for yod. 13.. *Ibid.* 24360 (Gött.) Þe nailes þat him fest on rode Thoru in hend and fete þai ȝode. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1246 A hundreth of hunteres..To tryston vewters ȝod. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 449 The fire ȝode owtt þat come þer nee. *c* 1400 [see Go *v.* B. 21 b]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 151 My frendis þat I fra yoode Are ouere flowen with floode. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 643 Him thoght oute of þe shipp he yhode. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xii. 82 Throw howsis and the citie quhar I ȝoid. 1524 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 244 Saing if he yode awaye she must neds do for her self. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clxii. 636 He issued out of the gate and yode towardes the tentes of his enemyes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 53 Such one, as that same mighty man of God, That blood-red billowes..disparted with his rod, Till that his army dry-foot through them yod. 1596 *Ibid.* IV. viii. 34 So forth they yode, and forward softly paced. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XX. xcii, An armed stead fast by the Soldan yood. 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 130 A lang youd I. *a* 1650 *Glasgerion* 46 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 250 He did not kisse that Ladygay when he came nor when he youd. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxxv, And much they moralis'd as thus yfere they yode. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. xxxi, In other pace than forth he yode, Returned Lord Marmion.

γ 2. 4 ȝot, yot.

..*E. E. Allit. P.* A. 10, I leste hyr in on erbere, þurȝ gresse to grounde hit fro me yot. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3690 A rideþ to Richard wyþ a spere,..& on þe scheld hym smot; þorȝ-out ys scheld..& iakke & loupoun, þorȝ-out al it ȝot.

δ. 4 ȝud, 4–5 yude, (yhude, ȝhude, 5 ȝhuyde), 4–6 ȝude, 7 *dial.* yud, 7–8 *dial.* yewd.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 560 Quhill throu the byrnels brist the blud, That till the erd doune stremand ȝud [*MS. Edin.* ȝhude]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 423 Þe kyng meked hym, and ȝeede [*MS.* γ ȝude] barfoot. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. v. 330 His brepir..Slew a kyde and in þe hlude Wet þe gowne þat he in ȝhuyde. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 563 in *Dunbar's Poems* 303 And throw the myre full smertly than he ȝude. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 35 *Yewd* or *Yod*: Went, *Yewing*: Going.

ε. ȝ yad.

1424 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 23 The Sheriffs ..yadden up to the West Derby fen. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2192 His squiers habite he had, Whan he to the deyse yad.

†**Yode,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Pseudo-archaic use of prec. as infin. or pres.; cf. YEDE *v.*] *intr.* To go.

1587 M. GROVE *Pelops & Hippod.* (1878) 42 Then foorth one yodeth fast And sayes [etc.].

Yode, var. YAUD, mare.

Yodel (*yō·dĕl*), *sb.* Also jodel, yodle, *errou.* jödel. [f. next.] A melody or musical phrase inarticulately sung with interchange of the ordinary and falsetto voice, as by Swiss and Tyrolese mountaineers. Also *transf.* any cry resembling this.

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxv, Fanny's little sisters were taught a particular cry or *jödel*, which they innocently whooped in the court. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 230, I heard singing and wild jodels about this dissipated city of Innsbrück. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 307/2 As he joined his own vibrant baritone to the Tyrolese song-music, his yodel drowned all other sounds. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* I. 22 The British milkman's yodel, 'Milk below!' *Comh.* 1874 Miss R. H. BUSK *Vall. Tirol* Pref. p. vi, Just as the shriek of the whistle overpowers the Jödel-call.

Yodel (*yō·dĕl*), *v.* Also youdle, yoddle, yodle, jodal, *errou.* jödel. [ad. G. *jodeln* (Bavarian dial. *jodlin, jolen*), properly, to utter the syllable *jo*.] *intr.* To sing or warble with interchange of the ordinary and falsetto voice, in the manner of Swiss and Tyrolese mountaineers. Also *transf.*

1838 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 266 Listening to three little peasant girls, all youdling to perfection in parts. 1841 in J. F. Campbell *Frost & Fire* (1865) I. 156 We went ..., and shouting to rouse the echoes. 1850 *The Initials* v, A loud gay voice was heard in the distance jodling. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold, Butterfly* xxv, The shepherds jodel in the valleys. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* I. 21 Our guides shout and jödel. 1890 LOWELL *Let. to Miss E. G. Norton* 7 Sept., The screech-owl..every night yodels mournfully about the house like a banshee.

b. *trans.* with the melody as object.

1899 LOWER *Mysterion* 211. iii, A single voice..was heard yodling forth a ballad. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Germany* xl. II. 92 From far away comes the refrain jodeled back to her.

Hence Yodel(l)ing (yoddling, jodel(l)ing) *vbl. sb.*; also **Yodel(l)er** (yodler, jodler), **Yodelist,** one who yodels.

1830 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 4 June, Anne wants me to go to hear the Tyrolese Minstrels, but..I cannot but think their yodelling..is a variation..upon the tones of a jackass. 1841 in J. F. Campbell *Frost & Fire* (1865) I. 153 We stepped out for our stone house, from which came yoddling and screaming and all sorts of noises. 1885 Mrs. C. PEARD *Head Stud.* xxviii, Clephane and Wyatt executed..an effective jodelling chorus. 1885 *Detroit Free Press* 7 Nov. (Cassell), The yodelist began to play once more. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 469/2 A Swiss yodeler.

Yoe, obs. form of JOY. **Yoede:** see YODE.

Yoelle, obs. form of JEWEL.

1536 in Archbold *Somerset. Relig. Houses* (1892) 62 The crosses, chalyeabes and other yoelles of the churches.

Yoeman, obs. form of YEOMAN.

Yoen, yoene, obs. forms of YON.

Yof, graphic var. *þof*, obs. f. THOUGH: see Y (3).

Yof, variant of YOUF.

Yoff, intended to imitate the grunt of a pig.

c 1630 *Song* ii. in De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) Notes 303 Yoffing, crying, youlling, yelling, Lyk ane citie swyne summonds out with an horne.

†**Y-offred** (earlier *ioffred*, OE. *geoffred*), offered, sacrificed. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 738 Of swiche beastus þat been of burnus yofreed. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 427 Þe bishop accuntede þis nombre by þe nombre of oxen þat were y-offred. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 169 The bowelles of a beste y-offrede.

‖**Yoga** (*yō·gă*). [Hind., Skr. *yoga* lit. union: see YOKE *sb.*] In Hindu religious philosophy, Union with the Supreme Spirit; a system of ascetic practice, abstract meditation, and mental concentration, used as a method of attaining this. Also *attrib.*

1820 W. WARD *View Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 225 Clear knowledge of spirit arises from yogŭ, or abstraction of mind. 1832 H. H. WILSON in *Asiatic Researches* XVII. 184 The Yoga, or Pátanjala school of philosophy. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 657/2 *Yoga*..chiefly consists in a continual meditation on the sacred monosyllable *Om*.., profound contemplation of the divine excellence, and various acts of self-denial. ..The *Yoga* is often practised for the purpose of obtaining the eight magical properties of power...In the Purán'as and other works, Yoga very often means magic. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 583 The *yoga* faculty, or the power of spiritual communion and absorption, is specially cl... for the Hindu race. 1886 'F. ANSTEY' *Fallen Idol* viii, A yogi performing his *japa* in the yoga posture.

Yogee: see YOGI.

Yogh (*yoȝ*). Also ȝok, ȝoch, etc. (see quots.). [See *Mod. Lang. Review* VII. (1911) 441 seqq., VII. (1912) 520–1.] The name of the ME. letter ȝ: see G, Y.

The use of L. *jugum* 'yoke' to designate this letter (see quot. *a* 1440) points to the prevalence of the English form ȝok.

c 1300 *MS. McClean 183*, lf. 114 b in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1912) VI. 442 ·Yoȝ·ȝ·[*examples*] ȝef·ȝus·ȝer·ȝender·drȝ·sclȝ·arȝ·marȝ. *a* 1400 *Maundeville's Travels* (Fr. text, MS. Brit. Mus. Harl. 4383, lf. 32) ibid. 444 Nous auons en nostre parleure en Engleterre deux lettres pluis qils nount en lour a b c, cest assauoir þ et ȝ, qi sont appeles thorn et yogh [*v.rr.* þogh, logh, ȝok]. 1410–20 *Ibid.* (Eng. text, MS. Cott. Tit. C. xvi, lf. 60 b) ibid. 445 þ & ȝ, the whiche ben clept þorn and ȝogh [*v.rr.* ȝoch, ȝoche, ȝoghe, ȝouh, yowh, yough, ȝouȝ, ȝowȝe, ȝow, ȝoux, youx]. 14.. *MS. Reg. 17, B. 1*, lf. 14 b, ibid. 442 Þe carect yogh, þat is to seie ȝ is figurid lijk a ȝed. [*a* 1440 THOMAS ELMHAM *Liber Metr. de Hen. V* ii. in *Mem. Henry V* (Rolls) 195 Præposita litera Anglica, scilicet ȝ quæ jugum sonat. *c* 1465: see Y 2].

Yogh, obs. form of YAW *sb.*[1]

Yoghourt, yoghurd, var. YOGURT.

‖**Yogi** (*yō·gi*). Forms: 7 ioggue, iogue, 7, 9 jogue, 8 jougie, joguey, 9 yoguee, yogue, yogee, yogi; yogin. [Hind. *yogī* (Skr. *yogi-n*), f. *yoga*: see YOGA.] An Indian devotee or ascetic who practises the system of YOGA, q.v.

1629 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* lvii. 543 The Indian Gymnosophists..offering violence to Nature in nakednesse, and strict absurd Niceties, wherein they are followed to this day by the Bramenes, Ioggues, and others. 1629 — *Pilgrimes* I. ii. 32 An Indian Iogue, a begging Frier of that Brameene Religion. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. 152 There is another Sort called *Yougies*, who..go naked, except a Bit of Cloth about their Loyns. 1734 *Cerem. & Relig. Customs Nat.* III. 480 The *Yoguis*, who affect to devote themselves to the most dreadful Torments, from a Principle of Pride and Fanaticism. 1820 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XIII. xvi, A band Of Yogues, as they roam'd the land Seeking a spouse for Jaga-Naut their God. 1823 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* III. 14 A Yogee, who lives under the tree on the skin of a tiger or leopard, which they are very fond of. 1844 HERER *Narr. Journ.* (1848) I. 233 A 'Yogi' (a religious mendicant). 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 401/1 Hence has arisen the saying, that the 'yogin' is exalted above the Vedas. 1844 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* VIII. iv. III. 335 He attained a height of abstraction from earthly things which might have been envied by an Indian Yogus. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xviii. 375 No wonder that..the Hindu yogi should bring on by fasting a state in which he can with bodily eyes behold the gods.

So **Yo·gism, Yo·geeism,** the system of yoga or of the yogis; **Yo·gist,** a yogi.

1881 SINNETT *Occ. World* 27 The ethereal yogeeism which is called *Raja yog*. 1882 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. III. 292 The Indian yogist (or fakeer) Haridas. 1893 A. LANG in *Daily News* 20 Apr. 5/1 He reckons about 50,000 believers in Yogism.

‖**Yogurt** (*yō·guət*). Forms: 7 yoghurd, yogourt, 9 yahourt, yaghourt, yogurd, yo-

ghourt, yooghort, yughard, -urt, yogurt, yohourth. See also YAOURT. [Turkish يوغورت *yoghurt*.] A sour fermented liquor made from milk, used in Turkey and other countries of the Levant.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* II. IX. xv. § 9. 1601 Neither doe they [*sc.* the Turks] eate much Milke, except it bee made sower, which they call *Yaghurd*. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 25 A kind of Butter-milk by them [*sc.* Turks] called *Yagourt*, which they drink. 1837 PARDOE *City of Sultan* (1838) III. vi. 83 The *yahourt*-merchant, with his.. trays covered with little brown clay basins, showing forth the creamy whiteness of his merchandize. 1883 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv* xviii. 216 We halted to..refresh ourselves with a draught of *yaghourt*. 1912 *Dundee Adv.* 2 Nov. 7 Servian yoghourt is well known.

Yo-hah, yohay, *int.* (*sb.*) An exclamation of pleasure among N. American Indians.

1751 J. BARTRAM *Observ. Trav. Pennsylv.* 22 They gave us the Yohay, a particular Indian expression of approbation. 1792 J. LONG *Voy. Ind. Interpr.* 56 These [gifts] were received with a full yo-hah.

Yo-heave-ho (yōʊ-hĭ-vhōʊ'), *int.* (*sb.*) Also **-oh, -o; yeo-heave-o', -yeo.** [See Yo *int.* and HEAVE HO.] An exclamation of sailors when hauling at a rope or a capstan, heaving an anchor up, etc. Hence **Yo-heave-hoing** *vbl. sb.*

1803 DIBDIN *Songs* II. 254 To the windlass let us go, With yo heave ho! 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv, Yo, heave ho! Heave and pawl! Heave hearty ho! 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Yeo-heave-yeoing*, the chant or noise made at the windlass and purchase-falls in a merchantman, to cheer and lighten labour, but not permitted in a man-of-war. 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Wks. 1890 IV. 102 He offers a striking contrast with Wordsworth, who has to go through with a great deal of *yo-heave-oh*ing before he gets under way. 1883 S. FERGUSON *Forging of Anchor* v, Our Anchor soon must change the lay of merry craftsmen here, For the Yeo-heave-o', and the Heave-away, and the sighing seaman's cheer.

Yohi·mbenine, Yohi·mbine. *Chem.* Also **-in.** [See def. and -INE⁵.] Names of two colourless alkaloids obtained from the bark and leaves of the *yohimbé*, a West African rubiaceous tree. Also **Yohi·mbic** *acid*.

1898 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXXIV. I. 679 An extract of the acid of the rind of the yohimbehe has been recommended as an aphrodisiac. Two substances named yohimbine and yohimbenine have been separated from it. *Ibid.*, Yohimbic acid, $C_{21}H_{24}O_5N_2$, is soluble.

Yoho (yōʊhōʊ'), *int.* Also as two words, or with hyphen; also 8 **yoa hoa, yoe-hoe,** 9 **yeo-ho, -hoy, ye(o) ho.** [See Yo *int.*, Ho *int.*¹ and 3.] An exclamation used to call attention: orig. in nautical use, hence generally; also sometimes used like YO-HEAVE-HO, q.v.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) II, *Hola-ho*, a cry which answers to yoe-hoe. *Ibid.* s.v. *O! d'en haut*, Yoe-hoe, aloft there! 1803 DIBDIN *Songs* III. 47 He can pull away, Cast off, belay, Aloft, alow, Avast, yo ho! 1825 L. HUNT *Redi's Bacchus in Tuscany* 153 The yeo-hoys on board a ship. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* II, Yo ho, my young un! whence and whither bound, my hearty? 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXXVI, Yoho, past hedges...Yoho, past donkey-chaises...Yoho, down the pebbly dip...Yoho! Yoho! 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* XIII, The very voices that ye-hoed..made delicious music to my ear. *Ibid.* XVIII, The pleasant ye-ho! of the sailors. *a* 1880 WEATHERLY *Song, Nancy Lee*, The sailor's wife the sailor's star shall be, Yeo ho! we go across the sea. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* I, Fifteen men on the Dead Man's Chest—Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum!

attrib. 1887 *Academy* 7 May 317/3 The despised bow-wow theory [Bow-wow 2 b] would, after all, have something in it. On the analogy of that famous nickname, one may, perhaps, venture to suggest the yo-ho theory as a convenient appellation for Noiré's view: yo-ho being..the *clamor concomitans* of sailors engaged in working a capstan. 1888 MAX MÜLLER *Nat. Relig.* xiv. (1889) 373 The *Pooh-pooh* theory, the *Bow-wow* theory, and the *Yo-heho* theory, completely fail to explain..how conceptual words arose.

Hence **Yoho'** *v., intr.* to shout 'yoho!' (whence **Yoho'ing** *vbl. sb.*); **Yoho'ic** *a., nonce-wd.* after *echoic* (cf. quot. 1887 above).

1772 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 191/1 The passengers bawling, the sailors yo-ho-ing. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XV, After two or three hours of constant labour at the windlass, heaving and 'Yo-ho!'-ing with all our might, we brought up an anchor. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* VII, Seamen are singing and yeohoing on board. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 128 Hark! the echoes are yeo-hoing Valiantly from vale and hill! 1888 MAX MÜLLER *Nat. Relig.* VIII. (1889) 211 The Yo-heoic theory [of language]. 1901 BESANT *L. of Lynn* VIII, The bargemen brought their..craft alon with many loud-sounding oaths and the yoboing wi which they can do nothing.

Yoi, *int.* † *Obs.* Also **yooi.** A huntsman's cry to encourage the hounds: cf. YOICKS.

1826 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XVII. 270 The word was given 'Yoi—hark on, hark'. 1831–4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* I. (1838) 10 'Yooi in there!' shouts Tom Hill, who has long hunted this crack pack. 1832 *Egan's Bk. Sports* 221/2 'Yooi, over he goes!' hollows the Squire. 1869 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Songs & Verses* 90 Yoi! wind him! and rouse him! By Jove, he's away.

Yoi, obs. form of JOY.

Yoicks (yoiks), *int.* Also 8–9 **yoics,** 9 **yoix, yooicks.** [Cf. YOAKS, YOI, and HOICKS, earlier *hoik* (1607), *hoic*, which is used similarly to, and appears to be a variant of, *hike, hyke*, as in *hike hallow, hyke a Bewmont* (see Turberville *Hunting* 31, 112, 175).] A call used in fox-hunting to urge on the hounds; also occas. *gen.* as an exclamation of excitement or exultation.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 657 The bold Fox-hunter, just come up to town, From 'Yoicks, hark forward', loves to seem a clown. 1777 T. SWIFT *Gamblers* 54 'Hark forward! Yoics!' with rough delight he hears. *c* 1800 *Arminger's Sportsman's Vocal Cabinet* (1830) 110 Old Juno, young Scentwell, bold Jowler, and Tray, Yoix! yoix! have compelled him to yield. 1831–4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* I. (1838) 11 The wood begins to resound with shouts of 'Yoicks True-bo-y, yoicks True-bo-y, yoicks push him up, yoicks wind him!' 1838 in *Morn. Chron.* 5 Nov. 7/1 The energetic 'view-hollos', and the hearty cheerful 'yoicks-tally ho'. 1875 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 3 Yoicks! tear him, my beauties! 1884 *Blackm. Mag.* May 642/1 With renewed spirits he jumped into a hansom, and gave the direction—..'Yoicks!' cried he to himself, 'I'm going it!'

yoicked his hounds into cover. 1854 — *Handley Cr.* XLVII. (1901) II. 63 The hounds dashed into cover, and master and man proceeded to 'yoicks' and crack their whips.

Yoike, obs. form of YOKE.

‖ **Yojan** (yōʊ-dʒăn), **yojana** (yōʊ-dʒănă). Also **-an, -unu.** *E. Indian.* [Hindi *yōjan*, Skr. *yōjana*, yoking, measure of distance (lit. that travelled at one time without unyoking), f. *yōga*: see YOKE *sb.*] A measure of distance, varying locally from about four to ten miles.

1784 W. CHAMBERS in *Asiatick Researches* (1788) I. 133 South of the Ganges two hundred Yojan. 1784 W. HASTINGS *ibid.* 259 That ancient city [*sc.* Audh] extended..over a line of ten Yojans, or about forty miles. 1800 W. WARD *View Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 315 The circumference of the earth is 5,059 yojūnūs. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Hist. Astron.* App. 122 (U.K.S.) The Brahmins suppose the Earth to be spherical: they suppose the diameter divided into 1600 equal parts called yojanas. 1883 E. ARNOLD *Ind. Idylls* 171 Who else Could in one day drive fivescore yojanas?

Yoke (yōʊk), *sb.* Forms: 1 ȝeoc, ȝioc, ioc, iuc, 2–3 ȝoc, 3 ȝeoc, ȝiok, (*Orm.*) ȝooc, 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝok, 4 ȝook, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝokke, ȝoke, (6–7 *Sc.*) ȝook, 4–6 (8–9 *dial.*) yok, 4–7 (8–9 *dial.*) yook, 5 ȝokk, youk(k)e, 5–7 yooke, 6 youck, yowoke, yowe, yoike, (*pl.* yoixe?), *Sc.* ȝoik, (ȝoilk), 6–7 yoake, (7 yolke, oak), 6–8 yoak, (8 yolk), 4– yoke. [Com. Teut. str. neuter: OE. *ȝeoc* = OS. *juc* (MLG. *juk*, MDu. *juc, joc*, LG., Du. *juk, jok*), OHG. *juh, joch*, (MHG., G. *joch*), ON. *ok* (Sw. *åka*, Da. *aag*), Goth. *juk*, corresp. to L. *jugum*, Gr. ζυγόν, W. *iau*, OSl. *igo*, Skr. *yugá-m* :— Indo-eur. **jugóm*.

The Indo-eur. series *jeug-*: *joug-*: *jug-* is represented also by OHG., MHG. *giuh, jiuch* yoke, 'yoke' of land (whence late OHG. *jûhhart*, MHG. *jûchert*, dial. G. *jauchert, juchert*), L. *jūgerum* measure of land, Gr. ζεῦγος yoke of beasts, couple; ON. *eykr* (:— Teut. **jaukiz*), Skr. *yōgya* beast of draught; Skr. *yuj*, Gr. ζευγνύναι, L. *jungere*, Lith. *jungiù* to yoke, couple, join, Skr. *yōga* union.

On the analogy of LOOK *sb.*¹ from OE. *loc*, the modern standard form would be *yock*, which survives in certain (chiefly north-midland) districts. Orthographic evidence for the lengthening of the stem vowel (which began first in the inflected forms) appears in the latter part of the 14th century.]

I. 1. A contrivance, used from ancient times, by which two animals, esp. oxen, are coupled together for drawing a plough or vehicle; usually consisting of a somewhat curved or hollowed piece of wood fitted with 'bows' or hoops at the ends which are passed round the animals' necks, and having a ring or hook attached to the middle to which is fastened a chain or trace extending backward by which the plough or vehicle is drawed.

In the yoke: with the oxen yoked up.

v. ȝok, ȝock] 1 stablist. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 169 *Les jugs*, the yokkes. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXXXII. 3 A wylde beste in þe ȝoke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 131 Hou that an Oxe his yock hath bore For thing that scholde him noght availe. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. XVI. 1615 He gert bestis vndyr ȝok [*v.r.* ȝoke] Tholl broddis sare and mony knok. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 To lerne to make his yokes, oxe-bowes, stooles, and all maner of plough-geare. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XXI. 5 The foole off an asse vsed to the yooke. 1534 in Weever *Wells Wills* (1890) 6 Ye plow and all belongyn therto, cheyns, yowgs and such other. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXXIX. 10 Canst thou bynde yᵉ yock aboute him in thy forowes? 1563 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 169 Four yoikes for oxen. 1593 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 121 Plowe harrowes Cheynes and Yockes to yt belonginge. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 263 In time the sauage Bull doth beare the yoake. 1642 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 232 Beasts that have bine used to the yooke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 227 Let 'em..never know The taming Yoak, or draw the crooked Plough. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 38 There, unrefusing, to the harness'd yoke They lend their shoulder and begin their toil. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 194 In England the custom is to attach the yoke round the neck by a hoop of alder, or of elm, fixed under it, which, passing through the yoke, is then fastened to the upper part with buttons, or pegs, upon the ends of the hoop, which is called a bow. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 207 It is a question, whether it is most advantageous to work oxen by the collar or harness single, or in double yoke. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xii, We were in the yoke soon after daybreak. 1860 TENNYSON *Tithonus* 40 The wild team Which love thee, yearning for thy yoke. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Yokes are required for bullock draught, and are used either for pole or trace.

b. A similar appliance anciently placed on the neck of a captive or conquered enemy; among the ancient Romans and others, a symbol of this consisting of two spears fixed upright in the ground with another on the top of them, under which vanquished enemies were compelled to pass.

a 1000 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 195/7 *Bola, arcus, uel* ȝeoc. *c* 1050 *Ibid.* 336/38 *Bogia*, iuc oðe swurcops. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xii. 101 Ve sal put ȝour cragis in ane ȝolk to be ane perpetual takyn that ȝe ar vencuit be va. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. XXVIII. 107 His..pleasure was, they should passe al under the yoke or gallowes. 1649 *Alcoran* 251 They shall have Oaks [*ed.* 1734 collars] upon their necks. 1720 OZELL tr. *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. IX. 93 Jugurtha grants the Romans Life and Liberty but upon Condition that they should pass under the Yoke. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* XXX. 209 His army was routed, and passed under the yoke.

c. A figure or representation of a yoke.

Stone yoke, an ancient Mexican carving representing a yoke, supposed to have been placed on the necks of victims when sacrificed.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 8 b, Garmentes..trauessed with cloth of gold, cut in Pomegranettes and yokes, strynged after the facion of Spaygne. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 335/2 He beareth Vert, a Yoke. 1899 *Smithsonian Rep.* 42 A beautiful example of the stone yoke, or ceremonial collar.

2. A wooden frame or collar fitted on the neck of a hog or other animal, to prevent it from breaking through or leaping over a hedge, fence, etc.

1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 Strong yoke for a hog. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 278 A *Yoak*,..an Instrument.. to put on Swine or other unruly Creatures, to keep them from running through Hedges. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., I have never seen a pig yoked, but yokes are still in common use for cattle and sheep; and I have, on one occasion at least, seen a number of hens all wearing yokes.

3. A frame fitted to the neck and shoulders of a person for carrying a pair of pails, baskets, etc.

c 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. iii. (1903) 383, I haue seene men ..carry the milke in two payles fastned to a wooden yoke before them. *c* 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033, A yoak of milk, two pailes. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 155 Whenever to rest she her buckets set down, She jinkled her yokes to and fro. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* I, The speaker, who had been carrying a pair of pails on a yoke, deposited them upon the edge of the pavement.

b. A part of a garment, made to fit the shoulders (or the hips), and supporting the depending parts, often of double thickness, of special material, or particularly ornamented.

1888 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 507 *Yokes.*— These are headings, or shaped bands, into which plaitings or gatherings of garments are sewn, and which are so cut as to fit either the shoulders or the hips, and from which the rest of the bodice, nightdress, dressing gown, or the skirt is to depend. 1891 *Truth* 10 Dec. 1240/2 The front [of a tea-gown] was all white satin,..with a yoke of gold and white embroidery. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 24 Jan. 8/4 The hip-yoke is a plain piece, sometimes, however, covered with embroidery, that is moulded to the figure below the waist.

4. Applied to various objects resembling the yoke of a plough.

e.g. † a ridge of hill connecting two peaks (after L. *jugum*), an arched convex frame, timber, bar, etc. (see quots.).

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* XXXVII. 24, I stezede vp the heiztus of mounteynes, ȝokes [*later vers.* ȝockis] of Liban. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. XXVIII. 130 Leuers of yron youkes for brygges to make with. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 84 The Uine keeper must often goe about his Uines, and set vp his proppes, and make euen his yokes. 1864 WEBSTER, *Yoke*...A frame or convex piece by which a bell is hung for ringing it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Yoke*...A branching coupling-section, connecting two pipes with a single one, as the hot and cold water pipes with a single pipe for a shower-bath. 1883 GRESLEY *Glass. Coal M., Yokes*, short sawn timbers placed across biats for steadying pump trees. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 248/1 The fidicula or lyre consisted of a resonant box, having a yoke (*jugum* or *transtillum*) instead of a neck. 1902 *Ibid.* (ed. 10) XXVII. 584/1 The yoke, which joins the [magnet] limbs together and conducts the flux between them.

b. *Naut.* A board or bar fixed transversely to the head of the rudder, and having two cords or ropes (*yoke-lines*) attached for steering: see also quots. 1627, 1769.

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301). 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea. Gram.* IX. 41 A yoke is when the Sea is so rough as that men cannot gouern the Helme with their hands, and then they sease a block to the Helme on each side at the end, and reeuing two fals thorow them like Gunners Tackles brings them to the ships side, and so some being at the one side of the Tackle, some at the other, they steare her with much more ease than they can with a single rope with a Double Turne about the Helme. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Yoke*, a name formerly given to the tiller, when communicating with two blocks or sheaves affixed to the inner end of the tiller. It is now applied to a small board or bar which crosses the upper end of a boat's rudder at right angles. 1792 *Trnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 364/1 Those Ships that have no Roundhouse, their Rudders should run up, and steer with a Yoke abaft the Rudder Head. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXIII, The bowman had charge of the boat-hook and painter, and the coxswain of the rudder, yoke, and stern-sheets.

II. 5. *transf.* A pair of animals, esp. oxen, that are or may be coupled by a yoke.

In this sense the plural after a numeral is often *yoke*.

888–95 *Laws of Ine* lx. (Liebermann) 116 Se ceorl se ðe hæfð oðres geoht [*v.r.* ȝeoc] ahyrod..agife calle. *c* 1000

Trin. Coll. Hom. 195 Half hundre ȝokes of oxen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 66, I haf ȝerned & ȝat ȝokkes of oxen. *c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 252 Fyfty ȝok of oxine. 1388 Coverdale *Job* xlii. 12 A M. yock oxen [1539 *Gt. Bible* a M. youck of oxen]. 1552 in Phillipps *Wills* (1830) 201, I wyll that Ihon my sun, and William my sun, shall have every of them..a yowcke of Oxyn. 1606 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 173 One yocke of draft oxen, viijli xiijs iiijd. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 18 A deep well whence they draw water, with a wheel turned round by a yoke of Bulls. 1776 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Worgins*, One of them required 9 yoke of oxen to draw it. 1879 Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* xix. 408 We..saw men plowing, sometimes with a camel, and oftener with a yoke of cattle.

†b. *gen.* A pair, couple. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 224 Þe pridde ȝok þat Poul forsendiþ, is chiding and envie. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 354 Þis first ȝock bigynniþ wiþ paciens. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 181 These that accuse him in his intent towards our wives, are a yoake of his discarded men.

6. One-fourth of a Suling, about 50 or 60 acres (cf. Oxgang as ¼ of a plough-land); hence, later, applied vaguely to small manors. (Cf. Yoklet.) *Kent.*

837 *Kent. Charters* 42 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 450, xvi gloc mrbelondes. *c* 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 424/2 *Iuger*, iuc. 1653 in Hasted *Hist. Kent* (1782) II. 585 [In the survey of Milton manor, taken anno 1653, there is mention made, as held of that manor, of the] yoke of Hamons atte Deane. [*Note*, Upon these hills, the smaller manors are frequently called *yokes*.] 1772 Shrubsole & Denne *Hist. Rock.* 44 The originals..mention certain persons by name, with the number of yokes and acres belonging to them. 1886 *Archæol. Cant.* XVI. 167 The yoke of Henwood or Hewitt..at the east end of the town [of Ashford] extended into Willesboro'.

7. A spell of work at the plough (cf. Yoking *vbl. sb.* 4). *local* (*Kent*).

1796 Boys *Agric. Kent* 157 An acre a day is the common yoke for eight or ten oxen in wet, heavy, land, where four horses would plough an acre and a quarter. 1805 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 183 When two yokes are made in a day, which is the usual practice of East Kent, the time of going to work is at six o'clock in the morning, returning home at ten; and then going out again at one, and returning at six.

III. 8. *fig.* or in fig. phr., denoting servitude, subjection, restraint, humiliation, oppression, etc.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xix. § 1 Æala, ofermodan, hwi ȝe wilnigen þæt ge underlutan mid eowrum swiran þæt deaðlice ȝeoc. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxix. 200 Ælc ðara þe sie under ðæm ȝeoke hlafordsciepes. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 29 Nimaþ min ȝeoc ofer eow. *c* 1000 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Se ðe..Cristes ȝoc wile beren, and forlat al ðe woreld. *c* 1200 Ormin 4045 Þatt tanne shollde itt lesedd ben Fra dæþess ȝocc. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 228 What kynne scruauntis ben vnder ȝook of seruage deme þei here lordis worþi alle manere honour or worschipe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 357 He brouȝte alle þe kynges þat were nyh hym under his ȝok. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. i. 420 What euer seruauntis ben vndir ȝok, deeme thei her lordis worthi al honour. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* 90 Þe ȝok of all þis birden was leid in his nek. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iv. 31 Tyl al them that hes refuuit the ȝoilk and the confessione of crist. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xli 68 This day thy haid is in the ȝock. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* I. i. 69 He circumscribed with his Sword, And brought to yoke the Enemies of Rome. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 610/2 Having quite shaken of theyr yoke, and broken the bandes of theyre obedience. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 719 It [*sc.* a castle] became a most grievous yoke unto the neighbour Inhabitants. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XI. xxxiv, Impudent Boldness! which can..make the Bond of Sweetness their pretence, To break all other yoaks. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 36 P2 Termagant Wives who make Wedlock a Yoke. 1756 Burke *Subl. & Beaut.* Introd., In tying us down to the disagreeable yoke of our reason. 1837 Howitt *Rur. Life* I. iv. (1862) 36 The weary yoke of business. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 400 The Restoration emancipated thousands of minds from a yoke which had become insupportable. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I. ii. 11 His province ..had never yet submitted to the Norman yoke.

b. With various other implications, as of connexion, co-operation, labour, etc.; in reference to marriage, combining the ideas of union or co-operation and subjection or restraint.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Cor.* vi. 14 Nyle ȝe lede ȝok [Vulg. *jugum ducere*] with vnfeithful men. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 818* (Dubl. MS.), He.. fair enformed þam of fight & feter of armes For ȝapest in hys awne yoke ȝarly to drawe. *c* 1403 Clanvowe *Cuckow & Night.* 140 Myn entent is neither for to dye, Ne, whyl I live, in loves yok to draw. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3992 ȝok of mariage. 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 158 Tyll..þat youkke of wedlokke ly in my nekke as hyt dose now in yours. - 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 228 We haue byn ioyned togyther with the yoke of holy matrimonie. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 23 Companions..Whose soules doe beare an equal yoke of loue. 1648 Fuller *Good Th. in Bad T.* 228 It is therefore some comfort that I draw in the same Yoak with my Neighbours. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IV. 22 Were I not resolv'd against the Yoke Of hapless Marriage. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* V. 188 If thou needs must bear the yoke, I wish it Gentle as freedom. 1885 Haggard *K. Sol. Mines* I, Well I had better come to the yoke [*i. e.* begin my task].

IV. 9. *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *yoke-bar*, *-bow*, *-gear*, *-peg*, *-pin*, *-ring*, *-work*; (sense 3) *yoke-shouldering* adj.; (sense 3 b) *yoke-bodice*, *-collar*, *front*, *piece*; **yoke-arbor** (see quot.); **yoke-band** (= Gr. ζυγόδεσμον), a band for fastening the yoke to the pole; †**yoke-bone**, the jugal or malar bone of the cheek, forming part of the zygomatic arch; †**yoke-devils** *sb. pl.* (*nonce-wd.*), companion devils; **yoke-elm**, a name for the hornbeam, from the wood being used for yokes, and the leaves resembling those of the elm; **yoke-horse** (= Gr. ζυγιος ἵππος), a horse yoked to another; **yoke-line** *Naut.*, each of the two cords or ropes attached to a yoke (sense 4 b) for steering; **yoke-skey** *S. Africa*, = **Skey** *sb.*[2]; **yoke-steed** = *yoke-horse*; **yoke-stick**, (*a*) = sense 1; (*b*) = sense 3; (*c*) a stick, or one of two crossed sticks, attached to an animal's neck (cf. sense 2); **yoke-strap**, **-thong** = *yoke-band*; **yoke-toed** *a.*, having the toes joined together in pairs, as scansorial birds; zygodactylous; **yoke-tree**, †(*a*) = *yoke-elm*; (*b*) the body or main part of a yoke.

1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Yoke-arbor*, a form of double journal-box for pulley-spindles, in which a curved branch extending from one bearing to the other on each side of the pulley serves to protect the belt from being chafed or otherwise injured. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 270/2 *Subiugium lorum*,..the yoke thong, or *yoke band. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 432 Then they brought out the yoke-band, nine cubits in length, along with the yoke. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 320 The *yoke-bars. are made of hard-wood. 1888 *Bow-Bells Weekly* 4 May 286/3 A serviceable navy serge *yoke bodice, with belt. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 755 The first paire of the vpper Lip..ariseth from the vtter seame of the lugall or *yoke-bone. 1634 T. Johnson tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* v. xi. (1678) 117 There is a cleft under the yoke-bone ascending into the orb of the eye. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) Int. 185 *Iungula*, *geocboga. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 73 If ye tie them as plow oxen be, with a sole and a with, which is made like a yoke bowe. 1891 Meredith *Horses of Achilles* 15 Poet. Wks. (1912) 560 All their lustrous manes..Right side and left of the yoke-ring tossed, to the breadth of the yoke-bow. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 Apr. 8/5 A *yoke collar of fine Irish lace. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 106 Treason, and murther, euer kept together, As two *yoake diuels sworne to eythers purpose. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. *Yoke-elm, *un Charme, sorte d'Arbre de bois dur.* 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. 261 The Gard'ner who has a fence of Yoke-Elms. 1768 T. Nugent *Trav. Germany* II. 89 A beech or elder, a yok-elm, an aspin and a crab. 1901 Levett-Yeats *Traitor's Way* x, We had reined up under a huge yoke-elm. 1888 *Bow-Bells Weekly* 4 May 286/3 Six chemises, made with pointed *yoke fronts. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1181 The *yoke-gear of this cart. 1837 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Clouds* I. i, Neither you, sir, nor your *yoke-horse,..shall eat my goods. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* xvi, The fat midshipman..watching me critically as I handled the *yokelines. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 269/1 *Radius*,.. the yoke sticke: the yoke pin or *yoke peg. 1885 *Letts's Housek. Mag.* 93/2 A *yoke piece of velveteen. 1819 Rees *Cycl.* XXXIX. s. v. *Yoking*, The *yoke-ring and ox-chain. 1891 [see *yoke-bow*]. 1895 K. Grahame *Golden Age* 42 The *yoke-shouldering village folk were wont to come to fill their clinking buckets. 1830 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* II, Passing through each end of the yoke, at distances of 18 inches from one another, are two parallel bars of tough wood about 18 inches in length; these are called *yoke-skeys. In spanning, the yoke is placed on the back of the neck of the ox, with one of these skeys on either side. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* 208 They termed the two next the pole *yoke-steeds. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 108 *Obicula*, *geocstecca. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 A *yoke styke, *fisticulus*. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* Prol., Ovr long time rumor'd Hogge .Is at length got loose, Leauing his seruile yoake-sticke to the goose. 1684 [Meriton] *Yorksh. Dial.* 100 (E.D.S. No. 76), Yoakes and Bowes and Gad and Yoak-sticks. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, *Yoke-stick*, the wooden shoulder-bar for carrying the milk pails by suspension... 'As crooked as a yoke-stick,' deformed. Also the wooden horseshoe-shaped collar with which oxen are yoked. 1837 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Knights* II. iii, May I die,.. And be cut into *yoke-straps and traces. 1585 *Yoke-thong [see *yoke-band*]. 1835 *Yoke-toed [see Zygodactylic]. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 199 The parrots..are yoke-toed. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 149 *Carpinus*,..a kind of tree, called in olde time the *yoke tree, the wood whereof was easie to be cleft. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 322 The draught-chains, hooked to the lever, and passed under the pulleys of the yoke-trees. 1890 Crawfurd *Round Cal. in Portugal* 32 One may see oxen and even cows—for they too do their share of *yoke-work—harnessed to the net.

Yoke (yōk), *v.* Forms: see the sb.; also 1 *pa. pple.* ȝeiukod, 3 *pa. t.* ȝeokede, ȝogede, 4 oak, *pa. pple.* y-ȝoket, y-ykyd, *Sc.* ȝakkit, 5 *pa. pple.* ȝeokyn, 6 *Sc.* ȝolk, *pa. pple.* iooked. [OE. *geocian*, f. *geoc* Yoke *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To put a yoke on (a pair of draught-animals, etc.); to couple with a yoke. Also with *up* (? *Colonial*).

a 1000 *Colleg. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 90 *Iunctis bobus*, ȝeiukodan oxan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 174 *Iungo*, ic iucige [*v. r.* ȝeocige]. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 251 Steeris well y-ykyd. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvi. 269 For o Griffoun there wil bere, fleynge to his Nest, a gret Hors or a Oxen ȝoked to gidere, as thei gon at the Plowghe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 902 ȝyuerly the ȝepe knight ȝokit hom beiyue, Pight hom into ploghe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 539/2 ȝokke beestys (*S.* ȝok, *P.* ȝockyn, *W.* yoken). 1530 Palsgr. 786/2 Yoke the oxen, for I wyll go to the plough this mornyng. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 166 It was cautioned in the Law not to yoake an Oxe, and an Asse together. 1726 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1735 V. II. 200, I shall..learn to consider my driver, the road I am in, and with whom I am yoked. 1775 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 98/2 The prisoners were all secured and yoked. 1899 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xviii, A bullock-driver yoking up his beast. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xi, A peasant's cart,..drawn by a small cow and a smaller donkey yoked together.

2. To attach (a draught-animal) *to* a plough or vehicle (orig. with a yoke); to 'put in', 'put to'.

c 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* lv. (*Jacobus*) 309, 332 Scho had bulis wilde and tha, þat scho nocht trewk myght ȝakkit be in ..And, ȝyf it happin þat hai Var ȝokit, auld ryn ȝe Trevisa *Barth. De P.* [illegible] ȝonge cowe þat is able to [illegible] drawe at plowȝ. *c* 1420 *Pride*

landa,..ne yokes noþer oxe ne horse in plughe ne in carte. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Festial* 211 Þe bulles mekely stodyn styll, tyll þay had ȝeokyn ham yn þe wayne. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* vi. 7 Take two mylke kyne,..and yocke them to ye cart. 1630 J. Nicoll *Diary* (Bann. Club) 12 The hangman rydand on ane hors befoir him yockit in that cairt. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 69 Produce the Plough, and yoke the sturdy Steer. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 199 Lions have been yoked to the chariots of conquerors. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xvii. 210 They yoked in their dogs in less than two minutes. 1871 C. Gibbon *For Lack of Gold* xvii, Four fresh horses which had been 'yoked' at Abbotskirk. 1880 'Ouida' *Maremma* II, Twice a year regularly she yoked her mule to her cart and drove into Grosseto.

b. with the plough or vehicle as object.

a 1568 *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* I. (Bann. MS.) He yokkit his plwch vpoun the plane. 1635 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. VI. 37 He yocked the cairt wherein Cokstouns chartour kist was caried away. 1638 A. Henderson *Serm., Ps. cxxxix. 3* (1867) 276 Without his license the plough cannot be yoked. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 433 These on their Horses vault, those yoke the Car. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Hame Content* 62 The chaise is yokit in a trice. 1869 Gibbon *Robin Gray* xxii, He said he would 'yoke the cart'. 1871 Ellis *Catullus* lv. 18 Rhesus' chariot yok'd to snowy coursers.

c. *gen.* To attach, put on or in (as a yoke).

c 1848 Keegan *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 470 The Scotchman.. 'yoked on' his war-pipes, and the..rafters..rang..with the martial strains of the Highland Fibroch. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxiv. (1856) 196 By the time I had yoked my neck in its serape.

3. To fasten a yoke round the neck of (a hog or other animal): see Yoke *sb.* 2.

1530 Palsgr. 786/2 You muste yoke your hogge, for he romneth thorowe every hedge. 1607 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 442 That all thinhabitants of this lordship yoke or ring their swine sufficiently. 1637 J. Watts *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. Ep. Rdr. c j b, So yoking and ringling the wild Boars amongst them..that they may not break through the hedges, or down the walls of the vineyard of the Lord. 1708 in *Hist. Anc. Chapel Stretford* (Chetham Soc.) II. 84 Wm. Moss for not yoaking and ringing his swine, *ss.* 1840 Colquitt in *Congr. Globe* Jan., App. 145/2 If they think it ..a duty..to yoke the geese to keep them from going in washing in violation of the Sabbath. 1886 [see Yoke *sb.* 2].

4. To suspend (a bell) on a yoke (see Yoke *sb.* 4, quot. 1864).

1701 in W. S. Banks *Walks Yorksh., Wakefield* etc. (1871) 44 John Hinchliff for yoaking ye bell 2 18 6.

5. *Mining.* To mark out (a claim) with 'yokings' (see Yoking *vbl. sb.* 6).

? 1556 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 96 All Grounds, as Crosses and Holes that be not stowed nor yoked lawfully. 1664 [see Stowce].

6. *trans.* To bring into or hold in subjection or servitude; to subjugate, oppress. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1325 *Old Age* iii. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 249 Y-ȝoket ic am of ---- wiþ last an luþer lore. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 325 The pore people they yoke With sommons and citacyons. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 300 b, Vntill thei wer yoked by the thirtie tyrannes, and after warde conquered and subdued by Philippus. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 185 With traditiounis of men we half thame ȝockit. 1592 Kyd *Sol. & Pers.* IV. i, All Rhodes is yoakt, and stoopes to Soliman. 1605 Camden *Rem.* (1637) 89 The Normans, who..would have yoaked the English under their tongue, as they did under their command. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lvii. (1739) 106 He was fain to yoke his lawless will under the grand Charter. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 307 Xerxes, the Libertie of Greece to yoke. 1671 — *Samson* 410 But foul effeminacy held me yok't Her Bond-slave. 1782 Cowper *Table T.* 258 As well be yok'd by despotism's hand, As dwell at large in Britain's charter'd land.

7. *fig.* To join, link, couple, connect, associate; † *occas.* to embrace.

c 1205 Lay. 18732 Heo ȝeokeden [*c* 1275 ȝogede] heore earmes & ȝarweden heom seoluan. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 121 Oak nouȝt me to gydere with synneras. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxiv. 89 Whiles that the sterres ben in theyr courses well yocked. *a* 1508 Dunbar *Twa Marlit Wemen* 220 [He] with a ȝoldin ȝerd, dois ȝolk me in armys. 1561 Winȝet *Bk. Questions* § 53 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 110 The matrimonie to be dissoluit, and the twa harlotis to be ȝokit vp in a prætendit band of matrimonie. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 319 The Earle of Angus and the Earle of Glencairneis was ȝokit togither. 1612 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 419 Oh then,..my Name Be yoak'd with his, that did betray the Best. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* I. 16 Let euery of vs be carefull to approoue our sincerities to God .. by yoking answerable practise to our profession. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* I. viii. 171 The two Rivers (as it were) yoked together goe along it. 1638 Farley *Moral Embl.* 2, Foure Elements in this my body are All yockt in one. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xiv, Sae mony royal boroughs yoked on end to end, like ropes of ingans. 1865 J. G. Holland *Plain Talks* ii. 67 Ambition, when yoked with genius. 1867 Dk. Argyll *Reign of Law* ii. 103 It often happens that some common law is yoked to extraordinary conditions. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxiv. 420 Cato was one of those better natured men whom revolution yokes so often with base companionship.

b. With reference to marriage: only in *pa. pple.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. i. 67 Thinke euery bearded fellow that's but yoak'd May draw with you. 1632 Sanderson *Serm.* 364 He that is yoaked with a wife must not put her away. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 455 P 2, I have the Honour to be yok'd to a young Lady. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VII. 340 My bride, My wife, my life. O we will walk this world, Yoked in all exercise of noble end.

c. To join or couple the ridges in ploughing.

1822 Souter *Agric. Banff* App. 82 We are directed to yoke awal and beat-root, that is to plow the ridges by pairs. *Ibid.*, We must take care not to yoke twice one way, otherwise it will impoverish the one half, and thicken the other too much. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 471 Another mode of ploughing land from the flat surface is *casting* or *yoking* or *coupling* the ridges.

8. *intr.* (*for refl.*) To join, associate oneself, be or become connected or linked. Now *rare*.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lv. 33 Keip 3ou fra harlattis nycht and day; Thay sall repent quha with thame 3ockis. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, v. ii, That galling grief and I may yoke in one. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 57 You must enquire your way, ..with a gentler spirit, Or neuer be so Noble as a Consull, Nor yoake with him for Tribune. 1851 TENNYSON *To the Queen* 10 The care That yokes with empire.

b. with reference to the married state.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 93 God forbid, that I should wish them seuer'd, Whom God hath ioyn'd together: I, and 'twere pittie, to sunder them, That yoake so well together. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife*, I. iv, *Alt.* Shee would faine marry. 2. *Lady*...Who would she yoke with?

9. *intr.* To join battle, engage (*with* an enemy); to engage in a contest or dispute; rarely *trans.* to engage in dispute with, attack. *Sc.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 333 Syne he and tha hes 3okkit sone togidder In plane battell. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 97 We sooner see goe to the hacke, the dull and fearful foke, Than hardie souldiors in the field, who wishe with foes to yoke. 1587 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xix. 12 3ok vhen we will, I hope to gar him 3eild. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 398 The orthodoxe and heterodoxe partie will yoke about it with all their strength. 1822 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1850) II. 360, I..yoked upon him, and posed him well with questions. 1901 N. MUNRO *Doom Castle* xv, She yoked himsel' on his lyling the lassie.

10. *trans.* To set (a person or thing) to work or service (usually consciously *fig.* from 2); *dial.* to urge to attack, set (a dog) *upon* a person.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 116 There's Vlysses, and old Nestor,..yoke you like draft-Oxen, and make you plough vp the warre. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. cxiv. 285 He hath yoked me to work, to wrestle with Christ's love. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 98 Bishops either will cause stone him, Or else yoak butcher dogs upon him. 1805 MACINDOE in Chambers *Pop. Hum. Scot. Poems* (1862) 152 To count, his man and Tam were yoket, Ten hunder thousand tatties. 1807 COLERIDGE *Let. to H. Coleridge* 3 Apr., Mere natural qualities..must not be deemed virtues until they are broken in and yoked to the plough of Reason. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* iii. 108 It is by wisdom and knowledge that the Forces of Nature..are yoked to service. 1910 W. R. NICOLL *Hound of Cloch* xv. 230 He yoked his great imagination to constant labour.

11. *intr.* To engage vigorously in some occupation; to set to work, set to; to put one's hands *to*; to set *on* a person. *Sc.*

1584 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 89 ['Oh!' said Angus, 'that I had here my white goss-hawk: we should then all] yoke [at once']. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. xciv. 243 O, if I could yoke in amongst the thick of angels and seraphims and now-glorified saints! 1685 PEDEN *Lett. to Prisoners* July, He is the easiest merchant ever the people of God yoked with. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 80 Right yapeshe yoked to the pleasing feast. 1816 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1850) II. 83, I yoked to the review of 'Jones'. 1818 *Ibid.* 444 In homely phrase..she *yoked* to the reading of the Bible upon that principle. 1823 MRS. E. LOGAN *St. Johnstons* lx, Wi' that they a' yoked to me, and hoisted me ower into the cobble. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Minding Terms* 74 To *Yoke*, to resume work. 1895 MARCHBANK *Coven. Annandale* xi, They yoked on the man as he was riding alang in his carriage.

Yoke: see YOLK, YUKE.

Yo·k(e)able, *a. rare.* [f. YOKE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being or adapted to be yoked. Hence **Yo·keableness** (in quot., readiness to be held in subjection, submissiveness).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 3okabylle, *jugalis*. 1621 COTGR., *Accouplable*, yoakeable. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 161 Yokeableness, or a pliableness and tractableness to be ordered

Yokeage (yōu·kédg). *U. S.* = ROKEAGE, q.v.

Yoked (yōukt, *poet.* yōu·kéd), *ppl. a.* [f. YOKE *v.* or *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Coupled by a yoke, as a pair of draught-animals; also, attached to a vehicle or plough, as a draught-animal.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 209 This goldin Cart..Four 3okkit steidis..throw the Spheiris drew. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* II. 119 He was nother horse ne mare, nor yet yokyd sow. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxi. 5 A foole of an looked ass. 1568 HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* 24 The yoked Oxe doth smell his strawie stall. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 42 The Septentrions call them *Triones*, that is yoked Oxen. 1716 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1893) II. 86 John Gregor cited for going with his yoked horse through the country on the Sabbath day. 1819 CHALMERS *Serm., Job ix. 30-33*, 124 The yoked and the tortured negro is compelled to yield to the whip of the overseer. 1901 FAIRBAIRN *Philos. Chr. Relig.* II. iv. 384 The yoked oxen plough the fields.

2. Connected, coupled, linked; in *Bot.* said of a

1851 T. WILSON *Logic* Kv, Yoked wordes whiche beyng derlued of one, are chaunged in the speakyng. 1867 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* (1814) 137 *Conjugatum*, conjugate, or yoked [leaf], consists of only a pair of *pinnæ* or leaflets, and is much the same as *binatum*. 1869 T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 70 It is said to be simply yoked, when one pair only of opposite leaflets, is supported on the common foot-stalk. ..Double-yoked—when there are two pairs, and so on.

3. Carried on a yoke, as a pail; furnished with a yoke, as a garment: see YOKE *sb.* 3, 3 b.

1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd. 6 At the well, clean and comely women carrying yoked buckets. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 133. 78/3 With an original trimming of diamanté on the yoked back and down the fronts.

Yoke-fellow (yōu·kfelou). [f. YOKE *sb.* + FELLOW *sb.*, transl. Gr. σύζυγος.]

1. A person 'yoked' or associated with another, esp. in some work or occupation; a fellow-worker; an associate or partner, esp. in a task.

1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iv. 3 Yee and I beseche the thy thfull yoke-fellowe, helpe the wemen which labored with me in the gospell. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* xli, He tolde me to, my youke-fellowe should dye. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 56 Yoke-fellowes in Armes, let vs to France. *a* 1689 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. iv. 61 We must not..be Yoke-fellows with them in their Religion. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 672, I know you cannot think me fit, To be th' Yoke-fellow of your Wit. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lvi, 'Mr. Corsand,' said Glossin to the other yoke-fellow of justice [after Shaks. *Lear* III. vi. 39], 'your most humble servant.' 1890 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* iv. I. 193 This was the second time that these reluctant yoke-fellows had been joined together in public office. 1908 *Ch. Times* 5 June 762/2 An able, Catholic-minded and devout Prince having for his yokefellow a resolute and saintly Primate.

b. Applied to things.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 411/1 Doctrine & an honest & godly life, are two yokfelows y^t cannot be sundred. 1670 MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* xv. 140 Unwilling is the Soul to move her yoak-fellow, farther then the enforcing Law of Nature..commands. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* 183 Those two sinful Yoke-fellows, the soul and the body. 1852 H. ROGERS *Essays* (1874) I. vii. 378 Unhappy mind!.. so strictly is it united to that mad yokefellow, Matter..that it can find a tongue only by its aid. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 211 The castle..still crowns the height as no unworthy yokefellow of its ecclesiastical neighbour.

2. *spec.* A person joined in marriage to another; a husband or wife, spouse.

? 1548 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 68 This fast..is good to be vsed..of such as be absent from their yockfelows, & prycked to fylthynes. 1629 WINTHROP *Let. to Wife in New Eng.* (1825) I. 366 It grieveth me much, that I want time and freedom of mind to discourse with thee (my faithful yokefellow). 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xxii, I have been a tender Husband, a tender Yoke-fellow. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 530 P 2 Those who have most distinguished themselves by railing at the sex in general, very often make an honourable amends, by choosing one of the most worthless persons of it for a companion and yoke-fellow. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxviii, Mrs. Bumble..did not want for spirit, as her yokefellow could abundantly testify. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* lv, Was it possible I had ever refused to be her yokefellow?

Hence **Yoke-fellowship**, association, partnership.

1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 57 We never heard that Godwin..slighted..the yoke-fellowship. 1826 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 113 The forced yoke-fellowship of slaves. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 108 They would..separate themselves from their incongruous yoke-fellowship with unbelief.

Yokel (yōu·k'l). Also **youkell**. [Of uncertain origin. Perh. a fig. application of dial. *yokel* (1) green woodpecker, (2) yellow-hammer.] A contemptuous term for a (stupid or ignorant) countryman or rustic; a country bumpkin.

1822 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Youkell*, a countryman or clown. 1830 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VI. 193 It was thought Redgreaves was a Yokel; but upon further scrutiny, it turned out that he was a Clerkenweller. 1823 'JON BEE' (*title*) A Dictionary of the Turf, ..useful..for Novices, Flats, and Yokels. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 222 A raw yokel [*note*, Countryman] was once complained of to me by a messmate of his, for robbing him of a dollar. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iv, Black legs.. invsigle silly yokels with greasy packs of cards in railroad cars. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxv, The yokel, being a yokel, was not good at the reading of facial expression.

attrib. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxvi, None of your steady-going, yokel coaches, but a swaggering, rakish, ..London coach. 1891 C. T. C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* ix, Maidservants..looked eagerly for their yokel sweethearts.

Hence **Yo·keldom**, yokels collectively; **Yo·kelish** *a.*, characteristic of a yokel.

1886 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Feb. 5/3 The chosen home of rural stupidity and yokeldom. 1893 *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* Nov. 236 A very good rural population, with somewhat yokelish notions.

Yokel, obs. var. of ICICLE, icicle.

Yokeless (yōu·klés), *a. rare.* [f. YOKE *sb.* + -LESS. Used as a rendering of L. *absque jugo* 'without yoke', the interpretation given by Jerome of Heb. *b'li-yoçal* BELIAL, as *b'li* without + *ōl* yoke.] Without a yoke; *fig.* not under subjection or restraint, unrestrained, dissolute.

1596 LODGE *Divel Conjured* (Hunter. Cl.) 21 He is likewise called Sathan, because an aduersary:..and Belial, because yoakles. 1641 TRAPP *Theol. Theol.* iv. 180 These Yokelesse Belialists snuffe at it as over-strict. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 464 Brainless fellows, light and empty, yokeless and masterless persons. 1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 104 Those men of Belial or, as the word signifies, yokeless ones.

Yo·ke-mate. Now *rare.* [f. YOKE *sb.* + MATE *sb.*[1]] = YOKE-FELLOW.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 276 [She] all to beat her yokemate with a washbutte. 1582 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1015 [1013] He had to his yoke mate one Helen. 1582 HANMER *Jesuites Banner* G 4 b, Neyther may they bee loyned as yokemates, to drawe in the vineyarde of the Church. 1684 J. S. *Presb. & Pleas. United* 10 Some were wont to yoke them together,..putting one of them yokemate with an Ox. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Ep. Ded., He is a worthy yokemate to his forementioned friend. 1776 G. CAMPBELL *Philos. Rhet.* II. 296 *note*, Such yokemates as these, *immortal mark, great captain, illustrious place*. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, Rebecca..trying to soothe her angry yoke-mate. 1887 GLADSTONE *Gleanz.* (1879) VI. 58 Inasmuch as St. Paul has declared that a Christian husband or wife married to an unbeliever is to suffer the unbelieving yokemate to depart.

So **Yo·ke-mating**, marriage.

1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xiv, On a future day of a perchance miserable yokemating.

Yoker (yōu·kəɹ). *rare.* [f. YOKE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who yokes.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 A 3oker, *iugator*. 1731 A. HILL *Advice to Poets* Ep. p. v, How little is it suspected, by Thousands,..that a Poet is no Yoker of Sounds, or idle Assayer of Syllables.

Yokewise (yōu·kwaiz), *adv. rare*[—1]. [f. YOKE *sb.* + -WISE.] In the manner or form of a yoke.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 128 In the stable, you must haue certayne stalles, or boordes, yokewyse set vp. [1884 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 9.]

†**Yokindale.** *Obs.* Also **yochomdale, youkyndall, yockynggale; youghendale; *Sc.* yopeindail, 3(e)op-, 3ewp-, yopindaill, -dale, -dall, yowpindail.** [ad. early LG. *jochimdaler*, var. of *joachimsdaler* (whence also early Da. *iochim-, iocumdaller, iochimsdaler, -dale*, and 16th c. F. *jocondal(l)e*) = G. *joachimstaler*, 'the coin of Joachimstal' (in Bohemia), the orig. name of the THALER: see DOLLAR. (The Sc. forms *yop-, yowp-* are prob. due to contamination with GOWPEN 'double-handful'.)] A silver coin of the 16th century varying in value from 15 to 20 shillings Scots.

1536 in *Diplom. Island.* (1910) IX. 758 Declaring iiij^xx ml. yochomdales to be ready at Bremne to be conveyed to Copmanhaven. 1542 *Aberd. Reg.* XVII. (Jam.), To deliuer Johnn Auchtquholly ane yopindaill, or than xv sh. Scottis thairfor. 1557 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 103 To John Teysdayll a yokindale of sylver. 1557 *Will of R. Peckworth* (Somerset Ho.), I geve to..my suster a youkyndall silver. 1558-9 in *N. & Q.* (1901) 9th Ser. VII. 288 Halfe yockynggale of silver. 1572 *Will of James Innes of rennie* (Jam.), Be Thomas Innes of Pethnik auchtene yowpindailles, pryce of the peice xx s. 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Pol. Plat* d iv, Paiyng their custome (a Youghendale vppon euery Laste) to the king of Denmarke.

Yoking (yōu·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YOKE *v.* + -ING[1].]

I. The action of YOKE *v.* in various senses.

1. The action of coupling draught-animals together with a yoke, or of attaching a draught-animal to a vehicle, etc.; also with *up*. Also *attrib.*, as *yoking-gear*.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Accouplement de bœufs*, a yoking of oxen. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1176 The yoking-geer of the shafts. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life in Queensland* I. iv. 39 They passed camp after camp of bullock-drags, the drivers and assistants all busy in yoking-up for the day.

b. *concr.* Harness. *U. S.*

1873 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 579 'Do your horses bear yokings?' asked Trick..'We have often used them for driving, but we have no harness,' was the answer.

†2. Subduing, subjugation. *Obs. rare.*

1604 HIERON *Wks.* (1634) I. 548 The yoking and hampering, and restraining of mans naturall disposition.

3. The action of engaging in a contest; attack, onset; contest; a spell, turn, or bout of any occupation. *Sc.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 277 Seuerus at the first 3oking [*orig.* congressu] slewe of Albion xx thousand. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. cxvii. 294 Three yokings laid him by. 1785 BURNS *Ep. to J. L—k* ii, At length we had a hearty yokin, At sang about. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* viii, Sitting amang the wat moss-hags for four hours at a yoking. 1822 CUPPLES *Mem. Mrs. Valentine* vi. 88 'A double yoking', as was the phrase for a service when two successive sermons were preached without any mid-day interval. 1883 J. MARTIN *Remin. Old Haddington* 203 One 'yoking' [of Sunday School attendance] might have been sufficient for young folk.

4. A spell of work at the plough, or with a cart, etc., done at a stretch, between the times of yoking and unyoking the beasts; *locally*, a day's ploughing, carting, etc.

1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 127 An acre was plowed at one yoking. 1787 BURNS *Answ. to Gudewife* i, When I..first could thresh the barn; Or haud a yokin at the plough. 1811 KEITH *Agric. Aberd.* 300 A pair of horses can plough an English acre in three journies, or yokings, of four hours each. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 124 The work-horses also go two journeys or yokings in the day. 1832 *Scoresby Farm Rep.* 4 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, It is very general to average full two acres per day,..with a pair of light horses in two yokings of five hours each. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 691 Colts.. will soon submit to work, and become harmless in the course of a few short yokings.

II. †5. A measure of land (see quot. 1888). *Obs.*

1587 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1893) 147 In plowyng of syx and twentye yockynge of land. 1888 *Shefield Gloss.* s.v., Broad 'lands' in a ploughed field sixteen yards in width are called *yockings*. They are only made in dry flat fields. The word yoking is also applied to two 'lands' or 'roods' lying side by side in a ploughed field, the united breadth of the two 'lands' being from sixteen to seventeen yards.

6. *Mining.* (*pl.*) Pieces of wood joined together in a 'grove' or pit to prevent the earth from falling; also used in conjunction with 'stows' or 'stowces' for marking out a claim.

1653 MANLOVE *Lead-Mines* 14 If that the Stowes be pinned and well wrought With yokings, sole-trees. 1694 [see Stowces]. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* T 3 b, In Sinking with Square Wood or Yokings. 1860 MAWE *Min. Derbysh. Gloss., Yokings*, pieces of wood a

Yo·king, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That yokes, in various se : see the verb.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 592 And on his neck her yoaking armes she throwes. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. xiii. 82 An improper and ill-yoking couple. 1645 — *Tetrach.* Matt. v. 32 What can be more..disparaging to the cov'nant of love.. then to bee made the yoaking pedagogue of new severities?

Yokle, obs. var. of ICKLE, icicle.

†Yoklet. *Obs.* Also joclet. [OE. *geoclet, ioclet, -let, -leta*, f. *geoc* YOKE *sb.* with obscure second element.] In Kent, A small manor. (Cf. YOKE *sb.* 6.)

893 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 455 *Medlam partem unius mansiuncule, id est* an geoclet. 811, 822 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 462, 476 Iocled, ioclet. 1704 *Dict. Rusticum, Joclet*, is a little Farm, or Maanor, called in some parts of Kent a Yoklet, as requiring but a small Yoke of Oxen to Till it.

Yokohama (*yōkohā·mă*). The name of a city in Japan, used as a specific epithet (see quots.); also as *sb.* (*ellipt.*).

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Yokohama Crape*, this is a very fine, close make of Crape, otherwise known as Canton Crape...The Yokohama is the costliest of all descriptions of Crape, and the most durable in wear. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 646/1 Long-tailed fowls, under the ..names of Yokohama or Phœnix fowls, or Shinotawaro fowls, are..varieties recently introduced from Japan. 1910 *Ibid.* (ed. 10) X. 827/2 A domesticated breed of jungle-fowl known as the 'Japanese long-tailed fowls' or as 'Yokohamas'.

Yökul, variant of JOKUL.

1818 E. HENDERSON *Iceland* I. p. viii, The most extensive of all the Icelandic Yökuls is that called Klofa Yökul.

Yoky (*yō·ki*), *a. rare.* Also 7 -ie. [f. YOKE *sb.* + -Y¹.] **a.** Having, or coupled by, a yoke; yoked. **b.** Consisting of or constituting a yoke.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* vi. Chorus, A chariot..Drawn by the strength of yoky dragons' necks. *c* 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVII. 382 Their manes..fell through the yokie sphere, Ruthfully rufl'd and defilde. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 62 Hoisinge theire thundringe instruments upon the unconstant wheeles of yokie beasts.

Yol, **3ol**, obs. forms of YULE.

Yold(e, **3old(e**: see YIELD *v.*, YULE.

Yolden, **yold**, *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: see YIELD *v.* A. 3. [pa. pple. of YIELD *v.*]

†1. Surrendered (as a prisoner); that has surrendered or submitted; hence, submissive. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 96 With lok doun cast & vmbele & 3oldyn chere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 539/2 3olde manne, yn werre, *daticius*. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. ix. 787, I wylle neuer aryse vntyll ye take me as yolden & recreaunt. *a* 1547 SURREY *Eccles.* iv. 107 The yolden goost His marcy doth requyre. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* v. 86 His promis keaping towards yᵉ yelden, his clemencie towardes prisoners.

2. Wearied, exhausted. *Sc.*

a 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maryit Wemen* 220 [He] with a 3oldin 3erd, dois 3olk me in armys. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 151 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 287 For hir saik he wes nocht yoldin. 1836 M. MACKINTOSH *Cottager's Daw.* 62 O deed quo' William I am youden now.

Yo·ldring, **ye·ldring**. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also youldring, yowdring, yoldrin, yaldrin, -an, yeld(e)rin, yieldrin. [Variant of YOWLRING.] (Also *yellow y.*) A yellow-hammer.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Yeld-ring*, a yellow-hammer. North. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Midges dance aboon the burn* ii, While weary yeldrins seem to wail Their little nestlings torn. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 37 Three yaldrin's eggs. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xvii, You heed me no more than a gose-hawk minds a yellow yoldring. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *A. Hagart's Housek.* v, The yellow yelderin builds in dry banks.

Yole, early var. of YAWL *v.*[1]

? *a* 1500 *Chester Plays* (Shaks. Soc.) xiii. 229 See, ffellowe, for colees soule! This freeke begines tó reme and yole.

Yole: see YAWL *sb.*[1], YULE.

Yolgh, **3olȝe**, obs. ff. YELLOW.

Yolk (*yōk*), **yelk** (yelk), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 1 geolca, geoloca, gioloca, 3 3eolke, 4 yholk(e, 4–5 3olke, 5 3olk, 7 yeolke, yolke, yowlk, yoalk(e, 8– *Sc.* yowk, (9 yoke), 7– yolk. *β.* 4–5 3elke, 4–7 yelke, 5 3elk, 7 yealk, 6– yelk. [OE. *geolca, geoleca, -oca*, f. *geolu* yellow.

The spelling *yelk* appears to have ceased to be frequent since the third quarter of the 19th century, but it is found in recent scientific and technical works. The pronunciation (yelk) survives locally; it is not clear during what period or to what extent it has been current in standard English.]

1. The yellow internal part of an egg, surrounded by the 'white' or albumen, and serving as nourishment for the young before it is hatched.

a. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* XX. 270 Þæm anlicost þe on æge bið gioloca onmiddan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 38 Hænne æges xcan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 40 Sceawa nu on anum hu þæt hwite ne bið gemenged to ðam geolcan. *c* 1250 *Eng. Leg.* 317 Ase þe ȝwyte of þe ȝeolke. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* An egge yholke. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xix (Bodl. MS.), þe chiken is ibred of þe white and ynorisched wiþ þe yolke. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 18 Take yolkes of ayren þat harde bene. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b vj b, Tempere it with clere wyne and with the yolke of an egge. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* II. ix. D 1 b, Seamen and thirty yowlks of Barbary hennes eggs. 1615 TOMKIS *Querulo* I. xiv. 67 The yeolke of the egge..in the true sulphur. 1886 *Third Add. to Palmer* 18 An Addle-egg with double Yoalk. *a* 1758 MRS. HARWOOD *New Present* (1772) 158 Beat up the yolks of three eggs. 1842 TENNYSON *Audley Court* 24 A pasty costly-made, Where quail and pigeon, lark and leveret lay,..with golden yolks Imbedded and injellied.

β. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 230 *Le meiel*, a yelke. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* I. iii. 53 Wiþinne þe wounde leie þe yelke of an ey. 1580 WHITTINGHAM *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 46 b, Oile of the yelkes of egges. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farme* VII. lxv. 895 Putting thereto the yelkes of two egs and a little saffron. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* II. i, Like to poch'd eggs That had the yelks suckt out. 1680 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxviii. (ed. 2) 150 That a Chicken is formed out of the yelk of the egge,.. the people still opinion. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* ... by the yelk of an egg become miscible in .. water. 1864 *Reader* 5 Nov. 572/2 The embryos of man [etc.] are nourished..by the mother's blood,..and those of birds by the yelk of the egg. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 39 The leather is..soaked in liquor made of the yelks of eggs.

b. in *Biol.* extended to the corresponding part in any animal ovum, which serves for the nutrition of the embryo (*nutritive* or *food-yolk*), and to the protoplasmic substance from which the embryo is developed (*formative* or *germ-yolk*): = VITELLUS 1.

1835–6 [see 5]. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 51 After impregnation, the germinal vesicle, which then subsides into the centre of the yolk, divides spontaneously into two. 1870 *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. ii. 28 Cephalopods, the embryo of which has a bag of yelk protruding from the mouth. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* viii. 201 The yolk..is more or less readily distinguished from what is often called the formative protoplasm. *c* 1900 E. RAY LANKESTER *Science fr. Easy Chair* xxii. 209 The 'yelk' of the bird's egg..corresponds to the black sphere of the frog's egg—the actual germ.

†c. *Bot.* = VITELLUS 2. *Obs. rare.*

1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* xix. (1814) 222 *Vitellus*, the Yolk, first named and fully illustrated by Gaertner.

†2. *fig.* Centre; innermost part, 'core' also, best part.

1587–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 198 Of loue (quod she) wol I nowe ensample make, aithen I knowe the heed knotte in that yelke.

1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way* 12 Then being the very heart of Summer, and the very yoalke of all the yeare. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Parishioners* 13 July, Christ hath the yolke and heart of my love. 1637 — *Let. to J. Kennedy* Lett. (1664) 187 Then Christ would .. conquer to himself a lodging in the inmost yolk of our heart. 1695 J. SAGE *Fund. Charter Presbyt.* Pref., Wks. 1844 I. 32 The true yolk of the mystery. *c* 1730 RAMBAY *To Duncan Forbes* iv, Chance gi'es them of gear the yowk, And better chiels the shell.

8. (Also *y. of egg.*) Name for a gastropod mollusc of the genus *Nerita*, from the appearance of its shell.

1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 945 *Yolk nerita*, nerita vitellus and albumen. 1818 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Yolk of Egg, *Nerita Vitellus*.

4. a. A rounded opaque or semi-opaque part occurring in window-glass; also, a pane of rough or thick glass. **b.** A hard or otherwise differentiated nodule in stone, rock, etc. *local.*

1808 JAMIESON s.v., Those round, opaque and radiated crystallizations, which are found in window-glass, in consequence of being too slowly cooled, are generally termed yolks in S[cotland]. 1811 *Acc. Game Curling* 3 Those whinstone nodules..called yolks, on account of their toughness. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Yolk*, a local name in the Forest of Dean for masses of rotten stone intervening in the grey stone. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 74 *Yolk coal*, or *Yolks*, free or soft coal. 1901 W. LAIDLAW *Poetry & Prose* 34 They [sc. windows] were of yolks of darkish green, Sae dim they didna need a screen.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in sense 1 b.

The most important are: *yolk-bag, -sac*, the sac or vesicle inclosing the yolk, esp. when attached to the umbilicus as an organ of nutrition; it is connected with the intestine of the embryo by the *yolk-duct* or *yolk-stalk*; *yolk-cleavage, -division, -segmentation*, the division of the (formative) yolk as the initial process in the development of the embryo; *yolk-membrane, -skin*, the delicate membrane surrounding the yolk of some ova.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 560/2 The point of attachment of the yolk-bag [in the Cephalopod], which is suspended from the head of the embryo. 1849–52 *Ibid.* IV. 1223/2 The central yolk-mass of the body. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* xl. 330 The yelk-globe, fastened by its twisted *chalaze*, is suspended in a glairy fluid (albumen). 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 46/1 The process of yolk-segmentation. *Ibid.* 51/2 The ovum of the frog..consists of the yolk-ball,..surrounded by a..layer of..albuminous matter. *Ibid.* [124/2] The germ-forming and yolk-forming portions. 1881 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Colent.* 25 Many ova are provided with an outer envelope, known as the yolk-sac or 'vitelline membrane'. *Ibid.*, After fecundation, the ovum exhibits a series of changes inaugurated by the process of 'segmentation' or yolk-division. *Ibid.* 282 After yolk-cleavage the embryo appears radely cylindrical in form. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 18 Special particles—yolk-granules—may appear in its protoplasm. *Ibid.* 53 Special glands, Yolk glands, are formed from the ovary. 1879 *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. x. 284 Connected with the central portion of the intestinal tube by a thin stalk, the yelk-duct. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 190 The comparatively large yelk-sac. 1889 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xxvii, The Gastrula is derived either by invagination or by differentiation of the yolk-cells. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvi. 530 The points to be attended to in the diagnosis of ova are size, shape, colour..the presence or otherwise of yolk spheres. 1900 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Feb. 7 The thin..yolk-stalk carrying the vitelline artery.

Yolk (*yōk*), *sb.*[2] Also yoak, yoke, yok, yelk. [OE. **eowoca* (whence *eowocig* YOLKY *a.*[1]), corresp. to Flem. *ieke* (*ieche* in Kilian; its comb. *Ie(c)hwoll* yolky wool), whence Sc. EIK. The spelling of the Eng. word has been influenced by association with YOLK *sb.*[1]] The greasy substance secreted by the sebaceous glands in the skin of a sheep, which serves to moisten and soften the wool. Also called *suint, wool-oil*, and (as a chemical substance) *lanolin*.

In the yolk: said of wool in its natural state, containing the yolk.

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 686 The paunch of a sucking pig being taken out and mingled with the yolke which sticketh to the inner parts of the skin. *Agric.* XXX. 73 The wool on the moor [*sc.* Dartmoor] 5 lb. on an average, in the yoak, that is unwashed. 1829 LUCCOCK *Nat. Wool* 82 The power of producing a copious supply of healthy and nutritious yolk is one of the most important qualities of wool-bearing animals. 1838 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yolk, Yelk*, a natural oily secretion or greasy substance in wool. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* viii. 265 The water is fouled by the grease, called the 'yok'. 1901 *Dundee Adv.* 17 May 5 [Wool] in 'the yoke'..was only fetching about 4½d. a lb.

attrib. 1808 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 343 Eight pounds of yoak wool to the fleece.

Yolk, *sb.*[3] *local.* Also yoak, yoke. [f. next.] Hiccup.

c 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 ff. 48 *Yoake*, hiccup. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Yoke.*

Yolk, yelk, *v. dial.* Also 7 yoke, yeke, 8– yook, yeek, etc. [app. alteration of *yex* (q. v.) with subsequent assimilation to *belk, belch* to belch. In mod. dials. *yolk, yoak, yock* are south-western and *yeck* is Sc.] *intr.* To hiccup; also, to utter a short cough, as a sheep. Hence **Yolking, yelking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a. 1585 *MS. Ashmole* 208 ff. 237 b, Whose vgly locks and yolkinge voice Did make all men a feard. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 414 Thirst, Yawning, Yolking, Casting, Shivering, Shaking. *c* 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 (E.D.D.) Applied to the short cough of a sheep, as the sheep yekes or yokes, or has a yeking or yoking.

β. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* H ij b, The same dronke in the maner aforesayd is good for the yelkyng, named Singultus. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 954 To yelke, *sanglouitir*. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* III. xi. (1596) 117 The meate being..so corrupted, causeth some to yelke. *Ibid.*, When yelking is caused of fulnesse, vomiting is the best remedie. 1633 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 191 A yelking which followeth vomiting.

Yolk, yolke, obs. forms of YOKE.

Yolked (*yōkt*), *a.* [f. YOLK *sb.*[1] + -ED 2.] Having or containing a yolk or yolks: chiefly in comb. as *double-, large-, two-yolked*.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 54/1 *Ouum geminum*,..a two yolked egge. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 66 Whited alike, and yellow yolked all. 1889 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 51/2 Animals..with the large-yolked ova. 1889 *Science Gossip* 118/1, I know that 'double-yolked' eggs are not uncommon. 1900 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Feb. 75 Small-yolked, holoblastic eggs.

Yolkiness (*yō·kinés*). [f. YOLKY *a.*[1] + -NESS.] Yolky quality or condition.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) 92 b, Coler prassine, lyke the colour of the herbe Prassion..is engendred of the yolkynes whan hit is burned: for burnyng causeth a yolky blackenes in the coler.

Yolkless (*yō·klés*), *a.* [f. YOLK *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Destitute of yolk; containing no yolk.

1897 *Brit. Birds, their Nests & Eggs* II. 263 Three full-sized eggs and one small yolkless one.

Yolky (*yō·ki*), *a.*[1] Also 6 yelky, 9 yoky. [f. YOLK *sb.*[1] + -Y¹.] Resembling or consisting of (egg) yolk; of or pertaining to yolk; full of or abounding in yolk.

1528 [see YOLKINESS]. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 9 Yelky choler, like to the yelkes of egges. 1596 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* 147 The seconde [melancholy] .. is compact and made of yealowe or yolkie Choler adusta. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 80 Vield's eggs was more yokier than their's was. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* May 11 Small round, highly refractive yolky particles were present in the egg protoplasm.

b. in reference to stone or other mineral: cf. YOLK *sb.*[1] 4 b. *Yolky-stone*, a local name for a kind of conglomerate.

1809 MUSHET in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 167 The fracture [of the bars] was gray, tore out a little in breaking, but was otherwise yolky and excessively dense. 1823 HEADRICK *Agric. Angus* 34 Beds of coarse pudding-stone, or gravel, or yolky-stone, as it is here called.

Yolky (*yō·ki*), *a.*[2] Also yoky. [OE. *eow(o)cig*, f. **eowoca* YOLK *sb.*[2]: see -Y¹ 1.] Containing 'yolk'; greasy with yolk, as unwashed wool.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 42 Ȝenim ele, do on mid eowcigre wulle. *Ibid.* 74 Mid eowcigre wulle. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Yoky-wool*, unwashed wool as it comes from the sheep's back. *Devon.* 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Yelk*, the grease of wool. Wool that is oily is said to be *yelky*. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 130 The fleece falls to pieces in a vexatious fashion on the table, especially if the sheep has been fed for the shambles, or is naturally very yolky.

† Yoll, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3–5 3olle, 4 3ol, 4–5 yolle. [Imitative. Cf. NFris. *jolli*, and for similar forms with vowel-variation YAWL *v.*[1], YOWL *v.*] *intr.* To cry aloud, howl; = YAWL *v.*[1] 1 a. Hence **† Yolling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 221 Þa schirchent & yollest to þine fere. *Ibid.* 1642 Myd yollinge [*v. r.* yalinge] & myd lyrede. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 44 Þo com þe deuel yollynge uorþ. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 230 *nede, Oule*,

[glossed] yolles. *c* 1386 Chal... *Kt.'s T.* 1814 The heraudes, that ful loude yolle and crie. ... *Autors Arth.* 86 (Thornton MS.) 3ollande 3amyrly, withe many lowde 3elle. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 81 b/1 Whan they had made thyr pyetous cryeng and yollyng.

Yolle, Yol(l)ow, obs. ff. Oil *sb.*[1], Yellow.

Yolp, *v. Obs.* or *dial.* Also **yollop.** = Gulp *v.* 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) D vij b, The pitchie burning pit..Shall yolpe them vp. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.*, *Yolp*, or *Yelp*, v. *a.*, var. pron. of 'gulp' and 'gulf'.

Yolp. The cry of hounds. Cf. Yawp *v.*, Youp. 1600 *Narcissus* (1893) 17 Then woe bee vnto little Watt, Yolp, yolp, yolp, yolp!

†**Yolster.** *Obs.* [perh. of Scand. origin (cf. Sw. (*h*)*jolster*, (*h*)*jelster*, (*h*)*ilster*, Norw. *ister*, ON. **jalstr*, *ilstri*, pointing to orig. **elustr-* and **elustrj-*); but possibly from an unrecorded OE. **solstr.*] Some kind of willow or osier.

1387 *Demise of site in Scaggisthorpe, Yorks.* (MS.), Omnes yolstres crescen[tes] super ripam de Ouse infra dominium de Scahylthorp. 1396 *Ibid.*, Yholstern. [See *Yorks. Deeds* (Yorks. Archæol. Soc.) II. 161.]

Yoly, obs. form of Jolly *a.*

Yoman, 3oman(n)e, obs. forms of Yeoman.

†**Yo·mer, 30·mer,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 3eomor, 3 3eo(u)mer, 3imer, 3-4 3omer, *Kentish* 3emer, yemer. [OE. *geómor* = OS., OHG. *jâmar*. A neut. sb. is represented by OFris. *idmer*, OHG. *jâmar*, also *âmar*, MHG. *jâmer* (G. *jammer*) sorrowful desire. (ME. *yémer* may partly reflect OE. *gâmrung*, *gémrung* of Vesp. Psalter.)] Sorrowful, wretched; grievous, doleful.

Beowulf 49 Him wæs 3eomor sefa. *a* 1000 *Husband's Message* 22 (Gr.) Siððan ðu gehyrde on hlipes oran galan 3eomorne 3sac on bearwe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 þe he þolede þe 3imere pine he makede ane reuliche meninge. *c* 1205 Lay. 16366 Þer wes þa Hengest cnihten alre 3eomerest. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2831 Twa hundret cnihtes,..þat 3euen anan up hare 3eomere bileaue. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Þo..þet þurch yemere werkes oþer þurch yemer i-wil liesed þo blisce of heuene. 1340 *Ayenb.* 215 Þer me sæel..do al out alle seculere niedes, yemere þoȝtes, and þenche an his sæeppere.

Hence † **Yo·merness** *Obs.*, wretchedness, misery. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Þo gode werkes þet is biter to þo yemernesse of ure fleesce.

†**Yo·mer, 30·mer,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 3eom(e)rian, 2–3 3eomer, 3 3eoumer, 5 3omer, yomer. [OE. *geómrian*, f. *geómor*: see prec. Cf. OHG. *jâmarôn*, MHG. *jâmern*, and Yammer *v.*] *Intr.* To murmur, complain; to lament, mourn. Hence † **Yomering** *vbl. sb.*

Beowulf 1118 Earme on eaxle ides gnornode, 3eomrode giddum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 113 For þære 3eomrunga þæs oþres deaþes. *c* 1000 in *Lat. Hymns A.-S. Ch.* (Surtees No. 23) 21 Bena 3eomrigende we asendaþ. *c* 1205 Lay. 23402 Gullen þa helmes 3eoumereden eorles. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Þat unrotes uuel, þat pine upo pine, þat wondrende 3eomerunge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1722 The Grekes..vs to grefe broght,..And te yow & also yours 3omeryng þer ryseð. *c* 1400 [see Yawl *v.*[1] 1 a].

†**Yo·mere, 30·mere,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Yomer *a.*] Sorrowfully, dolefully.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 415 A wintere þu singest wrobe and 3omere (*Jesus MS.* yomere), And eure þu art dumb a sumere.

†**Yo·merly, 30·merly,** *a. Obs.* Forms: see Yomer *a.* [OE. *geómorlic*, f. *geómor* Yomer *a.* + *-lic* -ly[1]. Cf. OHG. *jâmarlîh*, ON. *dmorlegr.*] = Yomer *a.*

Beowulf 2444 Bið 3eomorlic 3omelum ceorle to 3ebidanne, þæt his byre ride 3iong on galgan. *c* 1205 Lay. 29564 Heo.. seoððe 3eiden him on mid 3eomerliche stanen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 971 Such a 3omerly 3arm of 3ellyng þer ryseð.

†**Yo·merly, 30·merly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: see Yomer *a.*; also 5 3amyrly, 3amerly (but cf. Yammer *v.*). [OE. *geómorlice*, f. *geómor* Yomer *a.* + *-lice* -ly[2]. Cf. OHG. *jâmarlîcho.*] Sorrowfully, dolefully.

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 267 Se fugol..gille3 3eomorlice. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 His ofspring al þrowude on synne.. and 3emerliche pineden. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1453 He hurtes of þe houndes, & þay Ful 3omerly 3aule & 3elle. *c* 1400 *Autors Arth.* vii, 3auland ful 3amerly, with many loude 3elles.

Yommer, obs. f. Yammer *v.*

Yomon, 3omon, obs. forms of Yeoman.

Yon (yɒn), *dem. a.* and *pron.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: α. 1 3eon, 4 3ion, yoene, 3hone, yhon(e, 4–5 yone, 4–6 3one, (6, 8 *Sc.*) 3on, 5 yhonne, 6 yoen, (7–8 yon'), 4– yon. β. 5 3ene, (6 ien), 6, 9 *dial.* yen, 9 *dial.* yin. [OE. *geon* adj. (rare), corresp., with variation of vowel, to OFris. *ênа*, *gêna* (*ienn-*, *inn-*), WFris. *jinge*, OHG. *jenêr*, MHG. *jener*, also OHG., MHG. *enêr*, G. dial. *ener*(*r*, ON. *enn*, *inn*, *hinn*, def. art. (Sw., Da. *hin*), Goth. *jains* that. The Teut. bases underlying these forms, or other variants of them, are represented also in OHG. *ennân*, MHG. *enne*(*n* from there, hither, OHG. *en*(*n*)*ând*, MHG. *en*(*n*)*ent* yonder, G. dial. *jennetak*, *jennabend* yesterday, Goth. *jainar* there; Du. and LG. show forms with initial guttural, viz. MDu. *ghene*, *gone*, *gône* (Du. *gene*) that, LG. *gunnen* that, there, *gunsiet* yonder. Related forms outside Teut. are recognized in Skr. *ena-* 3rd pers. pron., *anêna*, *anayâ* (instr.), that (one), OSlav. *onŭ* he, Lith. *anàs* he. See also Yond, Yonder.

In OE. the only members of this family of words for which evidence is forthcoming are *geon* adj. and *geond*, *geondan* Yond prep. (? orig. adv. like Goth. *jaind*), together with *bigeonan* (*-ginon*, *-genan*) 'trans', *begeondan* (Northumb. *bigeanda*, *bigienda*) Beyond *adv.* and *prep.* From these the various parallel uses of *yon*, *yond*, and *yonder* have arisen through the extension to other members of applications originally appropriated to one of them.

The 17–18th cent. spelling of the word with an apostrophe (*yon'*) indicates that it was regarded as short for *yond.*]

A. *adj.*

1. A demonstrative word used in concord with a sb. to indicate a thing or person as (literally, or sometimes mentally) pointed out: cf. That *dem. adj.* 1. Formerly often, as still in some dialects, simply equivalent to *that* (*those*); but chiefly, and in later literary use almost always, referring to a visible object at a distance but within view: = 'that (those) . . . over there'.

α. c897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* lviii. 443 Aris, & gong to 3eonre byrg. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 634 Bot yhon tre cum

peyne liggen, Leyf hit neuere þat 3on [*v. rr.* 3eon, 3one, 3onde, ȝynen, 3eond] lyght bem a-lofte brynge. *a* 1400 *Northern Passion* 9/70, I wyll weynd to 3hone cyte. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27684 (Cott. Galba) 3one man ledes His life in praiers and almus dedes. *a* 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 498 3one selfe dragon forsothe I sa3e with myne egen. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7308 Knawes þou no3t 3one 3onge man? 15.. *Sowdge Sir Andrwge Barton* xxii. in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 70 'Fetch me yoen English doge,' he saide. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 168 And to yon' hill Follow our steps. *c* 1630 Milton *Sonn.* i, O Nightingale, that on yon bloomy Spray Warbl'st at eeve. *c* 1648 Howell *Lett.* (1890) I. i. 62 When we have gain'd yon Maiden City. 1658 Urquhart *Jewel* 189 Because of his being of this or this, or that, or yon, or of that other Religion. 1712 Pope *Vertumnus* 100 The fair fruit that on yon' branches glows. 1766 Goldsm. *Hermit* i, To where yon taper cheers the vale With hospitable ray. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, I mind aye the drink o' milk ye gae me yon day. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Tale of Tyne* i. 16, I must go somewhere away from yon great town. 1890 W. A. Wallace *Only a Sister?* xxix, There's a man in yon brake listening to what we're a-saying.

β. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 1765 in *Macro Plays* 129 All 3ene maydnys on 3one playn. *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt.* xxvii. 64 We remember yᵗ ien deceiver said, whil he was let alijv. I wil rijs again after lij dais. 1583 Melbancke *Philot.* Dd iij b, Seest thou not yen milke white pathe that crosse the welkin wendes? *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yin*, adj., yon.

2. *The yon*: the farther, the more distant: = Yond *a.*[1] 1, Yonder *a.* 1. *local.*

1700 *B. N. C.* (Oxf.) *Munim.* 33. 15 (MS.) The yon acre in Bindffield. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 384/1 We were told that Bill Ryder lived on the yon side of the mountain.

B. *pron.* (*sing.* or *pl.*) The adj. used *absol.*, usually denoting a visible object (or objects) pointed out, at a distance but within view: = 'that (*or* those) over there'; but sometimes simply = 'that' (or 'those'): cf. A. 1. Now only *Sc.* and *dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3358 (Cott.) Yon es mi lauerd ysaac, Yon es þi keiser sal be þin. 13.. *Ibid.* 15919 (Göttl.) 'Yoene,' he said, 'es ane of his þat wid vs es in band.' *Ibid.* 19700 (Edinb.) Na es no3t 3ion He þat we sa3 þis ender dai Gain name of Ihesu sua werral? 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiv. 280 3one ar gadering of the cuntre. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iii. 123 Yhonne is Wallace, that chaplt our presoune. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cruss.* 533 Quhat Lord is 3one (quod scho)? 1533 Bellenden *Livy* iv. ix. (S. T. S.) II. 79 3one is he þat has violate þe law of pepil. 1616 *Marlowe's Faustus* xi, What strange beast is yon, that thrusts his head out at window? 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 165 What place Is yon', and of what name, that stands alone? *a* 1704 T. Brown *Misc., Campaign* iii. Wks. 1711 IV. 143 Now, now we are there; yon's the General's Tent. 1822 Scott *Peveril* xl, Was yon the messenger? 1829 Marryat *Frank Mildmay* xix, 'D—n the dog that says yon of Jock Thompson,' replied the Caledonian. 1895 'Ian Maclaren' *Brier Bush, Highl. Mystic* i. 60 Yon were verra suitable words at the second table [i. e. at the Communion]. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, M'Andrews' Hymn* 108 Yon's strain, hard strain, o' head an' hand.

Yon, *dem. adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5–6 3one, 7 yonn, 7– yon. [See prec.] = Yond *adv.*, Yonder *adv.*

c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 706 In clais of clene gold, kythand 3one cleir. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2826 Who is he 3one? 1608 Middleton *Five Gallants* ii. iii, *Fulk.* Where sir? *Gold.* Peepe yon sir vnder. 1622 Wither *Philarete* B j b, Here, you might (through the water) see the land, Appeare,..Yonn, deeper was it. 1628 — *Brit. Rememb.* 116 b, Yonn lay a heape of skulls. 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 52 But..with thee bring, Him that yon soars on golden wing. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropsh. Lad* ix, And yon the gallows used to clank Fast by the four cross ways.

b. *Hither and yon*: hither and thither, this way and that. *dial.* Cf. Yonder *adv.* 1 c.

1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Hither and yon*, here and there, backwards and forwards. *North.* 1836 Galt in *Tait's Mag.* III. 33 She'swayed hither and yon, and was so coggly that I had fears of a catastrophe on the floor. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 379/2 The bass dashed hither and yon at the end of his tether, but all the time working up-stream and toward the rod.

†**Yon,** *prep. Obs.* In 3 3eon, 3en. [See Yon *a.*] = Yond *prep.* 1.

c 1205 Lay. 4401 To faren þeon þan eærde. *Ibid.* 6287 þat me mihte hine bi-halden wide 3eon þeon londe. *Ibid.* 6109 He seonde his sonde wide 3en his londe.

†**Yon,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. early Du. *gunnen*, now *gunnen*, to favour, vouchsafe.] *trans.* To wish. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxvii. (Arb.) 66 He nawe there many of his kynne standyng which yonned hym but lytyl good.

Yoncker, obs. form of Younker.

Yond (yɒnd), *a.*[1] and *pron. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: α. 3 yeonde, *Orm.* 3onnd, 3–4 (6 *Sc.*) 3ond, 4 3onde, 3und, yend, 5–6 yonde, (6 3ound, 7 yon'd, yond', yound'), 4– yond. [adj. use of Yond *adv.*, after Yon *a.* Cf. EFris. *junt*, MLG. *gint*, Du. *gindsch.*

The 17th cent. spelling of the word with an apostrophe (*yond'*) indicates that it was regarded as short for *yonder.*]

A. *adj.*

†**1.** Qualifying *half*, *side*, or the like (with or without *the* preceding): The farther, the more distant, 'the other'. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 10588 Þatt an wass o 3ond halff þe flumm & o þiss halff þatt oþerr. 1340 *Ayenb.* 256 Þis waye ne sæel hongi of þis half ne of yend half, aziþalf ne aleftalf. 13.. *Ball. on Scottish Wars* 91 (Ritson) On yonde-alf Humbre. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 191 Nane that was that tyme wonand On 3ond half Tweid durst weill apeir. 1405 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xv. lxxxii. (W. de W.) H iij, The next party therof beerith corne..The yonde [*Bodl. MS.* 3endre] party toward Mundia is occupied wᵗ beestis. 1553 *Douglas' Æneis* vi. v. 166 Vncallit on the 3ound bray waid thou be? 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 194 Beneficit men on the yond syde of the Month [æ. Grampians]. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 122 To this end Andro Bartayne saylet with a multitud of marineris to the 3ond syd. 1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* v. iii, To yond side o' th' riuer lies a wall.

2. = Yon *a.* 1.

Rarely preceded by *the*, as in quot. *c* 1380 (cf. Yonder *a.* 1 b).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8743 Me think sun, if yes rede, þe child be nawight don to ded, Bot he be yoldon to yond wijf. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5862 3ond men ledeþ Leodegan Ybounden toward king Rion. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3367 Fro þe 3ond pauyllons prykeþ a kny3t. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3160 And prise of þis prouynse are in yond proude yle. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 70 Lepe on horsbak and ryde on your way to mete yonde straungers. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 5 In a Countrie where there is a Prince, euerie man may well say, yondsame is the king, yondsame is the Prince. 1608 Shake. *Ham.* i. i. 36 When yond same Starre that's Westward from the Pole Had made his course. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Bonduca* iii. iii, The Roman is advanc'd from yound' hils brow. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* ii, But do you see yon'd Fellow? 1672 Dryden *Assignation* ii. ii, There's the Wall: Behind yond' Pane of it we'll set up the Ladder. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 67. 3/2 Yond Azure Roof. 1886 Brierley *Cast upon World* xiv, I'd rayther live at yond farmhouse than here.

B. *pron.* (the adj. used *absol.*) = Yon *pron.*

In early use preceded by *the.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 129 Iwis hit was ure oȝe broþer Þe 3ond [*Jesus MS.* þat yeonde] þat haved þat grete heued. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3058 Þe 3ond is þat semly and his selue make. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 780 Who is yonde that for the dothe call? 1601 Shake. *All's Well* iii. v. 85 Yonds that same knaue That leades him to these places. 1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* v. iii, Yond's the Cardinall's window. 1886 Brierley *Cast upon World* ii, Come, Tummy, let's goo,..I conno abide t' yer yond.

†**Yond,** *a.*[2] *Obs. pseudo-arch.* Spenserian word, with the sense 'furious, savage', due to misunderstanding of a passage containing Yond *a.*[1] or *adv.*, prob. the following:—

Beth egre as is a Tygre yond in Ynde (Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1143).

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. viii. 40 Like a Lion, which hath long time saught His robbed whelpes, and at the last them fond.., then weeteth wood and yond. *Ibid.* III. vii. 26 As Florimell fled from that Monster yond. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* I. lv, Those three brethren, Lombards fierce and yond [orig. *i tre fratei lombardi al chiaro mondo Invoti*].

Yond, *prep.* and *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 3eond, 3iond, 3eondan, 3and, 2–3 3eond, 3 3eont, 3uond, 3–4 3eonde, 3und, 3ont, 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) 3ond, 4–5 3onde, yonde, (5 yande, 6 *Sc.* 3ound), 6, 8–9 *Sc.* yont, (prep. only 8 *Sc.* 'yont, 8–9 'yond), 4– yond. β. 3–4 3end, 4 3ende, 3ent, yent, (3endis). [OE. *geond* prep., also *geondan* (cf. Beyond), corresp. to MLG. *gint*, *genten*, *jint* there, LG. *gunt*, *gunten*, early Flem. *ghins*, Du. *ginds*, Goth. *jaind*: see Yon *a.*] **A.** *prep.*

†**1.** Through, throughout, over, across. *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xviii. § 2 Þæt ze woldon eowerne naman tobræedan 3eond ealle eorþan. *a* 1000 *Gloria* 2 (Gr.) Sy þe wuldor & lof wide 3eopenod 3eond ealle þeoda. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xii. 43 He gæð 3eond drize stowa secende reste. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048 & com þa Eustatius fram 3eondan ses sona after þam biscop. *c* 1205 Lay. 28 Lazamon gon liðen wide 3ond þas leode. *Ibid.* 423 Wide 3end [*c* 1275 3eont] þane londe. 13.. *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1078 He sende þo by sonde, 3end al is londe, after knyhtes to fyhte. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1448 He.. sette tweyne and tweyne to gon 3ond al þe werld to prechen vchon. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 809 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 304 He was..Cleped yent this lond wide Edmound Irneneside.

2. On (or to) the farther side of, beyond. In later use *poet.*, or *Sc.* (chiefly in form *yont*); often written with apostrophe as if aphetic f. *beyond* or *eyont.*

1388 Wyclif *Ezek.* iv. 26 Thou schalt not haue possessioun bisende [*v.r.* 3endis] the flood [Vulg. *trans fluuium*].

1567 Drant *Horace*, *Ep.* I. xi. E ij, If these chaunge weather, not their wit, which yont the sea do run. 1579

Hare *Nouvs out of Powles* (1872) E iij b, Thou God of grace,..yond whome we can not rouse Or raunge aright. 1720 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 269 'Yond Seas I saw the Upstarts drifting. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, A' that's done In lika place beneath, or yont the moon. *c* 1730 — *Eclipse* iv, Imprudent men..Rax yont their reach. 1789 D. Davidson *Seasons* 38 The silent night..sinks 'yond the western main. 1866 'Sarah Tytler' *Days of Yore* IV. iv, She would have a hoard to fill Elspa's drawer 'yont the coast', *a* 1870 Riddell *Poet. Wks.* (1871) II. 317 Desperate deeds 'Yond ocean [they] had been doomed to dare.

B. *adv.* 1. = Yonder *adv.* 1.

c 1300 *St. Brandan* 1 Seint Brendan the holi man was gund of Irlande. *a* 1327 In *Rel. Ant.* I. 123 3ent ryd Maximon. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 941 The fairnesse of that lady þat I see Yond in the gardyn romen to and fro. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 263 Þesus as a gyaunt with a gyn comeþ 3onde [*v.rr.* 3ont, 3eonde, 3ende, 3ender]. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5827 Be-hold yande that hiduous montain. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. ii. (Arb.) 19 Who commeth forth yond from my swete hearte Custance? *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, II. ii, Yond comes the messenger of weale or woe. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 409 Say what thou see'st yond. 1639 Cokaine *Masque* Poems (1669) 124 Sweet youth! yon'd is your Father, kiss his hand. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* iii, Sit down yont there at the door. 1898 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 204 Young Tim away yond..Through brimble and underwood tears.

b. = Yonder *adv.* 1 b.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 36 Sittaþ her oþ þæt ic gange 3eond [*Lindisf.* 3ider; *Ags. Gosp.* & *Hatton* hiderȝeond]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 863 Goþ yond to a gret lord þat gayly is tyred. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 3065 (Fairf.) Lede him 3onde.

c. † *Here and yond*, here and there (*obs.*); *hither and yond* (now *Sc.*), hither and thither. Cf. Yon *adv.* b, Yonder *adv.* 1 c.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* v. xiii. [xii.] (1890) 428 Ða ahof ic mine eaxan upp & locade hider & 3eond. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3851 Her and 3und ðor he biried lin. 1821 Campbell *Lines on View from St. Leonards* 83 Moored as they cast the shadows of their masts In long array, or hither flit and yond Mysteriously.

2. At or to a distance; (far or farther) away. *Far yond*, in an extremely bad state, 'far gone'. In later use *Sc.*

13.. *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1261 Ich sede mony a myle, wel fer 3ent by weste [*Camb. MS.* Wel feor bi 3onde weste]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 9 Nor frawart Saturn .. Durst langar..appeir, Bot stall abak 3ond in his regioun far Behynd the circulat warld of Jupiter. *a* 1665 W. Guthrie *Serm.* (1709) 24 (Jam.) When he that reproves in the gate makes himself a prey, then they are far yond, when they refuse to return. 1721 Ramsay *Prosp. Plenty* 19 Sweet prolifick Plains..Stand yont; for Amphitrite claims our Sang. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxx, I'll be getting a wee yont amang the bents, so that I can see what way James goes.

Yonder (yǫ·ndəɹ), *adv.* and *a.* (*pron., sb.*) Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.*, or *dial.* Forms: α. 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) 3onder, -ir, (4 3ionder, 3undir, yunder, 5 3ondur, -yr, yondur), 5–6 yondre, (6 3ondar, *Sc.* 3ounder, 7 younder), 4– yonder; 4 yonþer, 6–7 yonther; 6, 9 *dial.* yander. β. 4 3ender, 5 -ir, -yr, yendre, yeinder, 5–6 yender, 7 *dial.* yeander, 9 *dial.* yinder. [ME. *3onder*, *3ender*, corresp. to OS. *gendra* adj. on this side, MLG. *ginder*, *gender*, LG. *gunter*, Du., WFris. *ginder*, Goth. *jaindrê* (cf. *hidrê* Hither): see Yon *a.*]

A. *adv.* 1. At or in that place; there: usually implying that the object spoken of is at some distance but within sight: Over there, away there.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9717 Þan asked þai quare was sarra. Abraham said, 'yonder wit-in'. *Ibid.* 3148 'Yonder vp,' he said, 'on yon fell Sal þou bren þi sun for me'. 13.. *Ibid.* 19899 (Edinb.) Lo! 3ionder þre Men..er sende to seke þe. 13.. *Ibid.* 14076 (Götț.) Þe stede es yonþer, lo! *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 402 Sum men seien þat he is 3undir at Rome. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 920 Whos is that faire child that stondeth yonder? 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxxii. 43/1, I wyll nat departe hens tyll I se what company is yander within the castell. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 163 Looke who comes yonder. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* I. (1652) C 2 b, I left the merry Griggs..in such a Hoigh younder! 1667 Davenant & Dryden *Tempest* IV. iii. (1670) 63 Mark her behaviour too, she's ti—— yonder with the serving-men. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* I But, as I live, yonder comes Moses. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, 'The limes', he assured us, 'were from his own little farm yonder-awa' (indicating the West Indies with a knowing shrug of his shoulders). 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* x, You sits yander fit to bust: but..ye never offers me none on't. 1876 Miss Braddon *J. Haggard's Dau.* x, To the white cottage yonder on the lower ground across the meadows.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1617 Þaz þe mater be merk þat merked is 3ender. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 138 Þis man is Jesus þat stondiþ 3endre on þe banke. *c* 1450 Lydg. *Lyfe Our Lady* lii. (MS. Ashm. 39), Loke vp yender & se the sercle of golde. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1438 Yender is þe lond of satyllye. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 55 *Yeander*, Yonder, *Vor. Dial.* *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yinder*, *adv.* yonder.

b. To that place; thither.

c 1300 *Havelok* 900 Go þu yunder, and sit þore. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3063 (Götț.) Lade him 3ender [*Cott.* yonder]. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 127 Lady, I goo yonder wythout. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxii. 5 As for me and the childe, we wyl go yonder.

c. In phr. *here and yonder*, *hither and yonder*: cf. Yon *adv.* b, Yond *adv.* 1 c.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 4891 As he rod among hem here & 3ender. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1346 Now have þe dyszppylles take þer passage to dyvers contreys her and 3endyr. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 922/2 Gangs of street paviors were seen and heard here, there, and yonder.

† 2. Farther. *Obs. rare.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 33 Som men þat Loogria ende þ at Homber, and strecche þ [*Caxton* ferther] northward.

B. *adj.* 1. With *the*. a. Farther, more distant, 'other': = Yon *a.* 2, Yond *a.*[1] 1.

13.. *Gen. & Gr. Knt.* 2440 Syn 3e be lorde of þe 3onder londe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 173 Þere is anoþer Pannonia þe 3onde þe wateres Meotides in þe 3onder Scythia. *Ibid.* 209 Þe hyder byggynneþ from þe pleynes and valeys of Pirenaies. .. Þe 3onder Spayne conteyneþ þe west partye anoon to þe see Gaditanus. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 343 The seyd brother schal se that ther be a lectron set in the 3endyr corner of the ambytus for redyng of the gospel towarde the este. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. v. 166 Vncallit, on the 3ondir bray wald thow be. 1609 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 51/2 Terras de Bruntskeath,..Over et Nethir Lagane,..Hither and Yonther Barscheuallia. 1890 Mrs. Hugh Fraser *Dipl. Wife in Japan* xxxv. II. 313 His dead name, the one by which his shadowy companions call him in the yonder world. 1909 Meredith *'The Years had worn their seasons' belt'* lx, O she was fair as a beech in May With the sun on the yonder side. 1910 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 64 Something on the yonder side of imagery.

b. = 2.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1188 Nece who hath arayed þus The yonder hous þat stant a-forn yeyn ye? *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 930 Olyuer my felaw ys take! y-seeþ þat 3onder company how þey him ledeþ away. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4018 The yonder man to shenden vs alle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1251 (Trin.) Towarde þe eest ende of þe 3ondur [*Cott., Fairf.* þis, *Gött.* þe] vale. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4727 Toward the ost of the yendre kinges Ne made I neuer lously lookinges. *c* 1480 Henryson *Paddock & Mouse* 77 That thow wald gyde me to 3one 3onder land [*Bann.* How thow wald gyd me to þe yondir land].

2. That is yonder; usually, and in later literary use always, implying that the thing spoken of is at some distance but within sight: cf. Yon *a.* 1.

a. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8837 We hade hertely no hope..Yonder toun for to take. *a* 1413 *Anturs of Arthur* (Ireland MS.) xlix, 3ondur byrnes [*Thornton MS.* 3one beryns] in batelle, that bidus on the bent. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 39 Hit almes forto 3eue 3ondyr pore man warmer clopes þen he haþe. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxxvii. h iij, It shuld be great honour for vs if we might delyuer out of daunger yonther two knyghtes. *a* 1533 — *Huon* xxiv. 70 Yonder company are fooles. 1590 Shaks. *Midt. N.* III. ii. 61 Yet you, the murtherer, looke as bright, as cleare, As yonder Venus, in her glimmering spheare. 1613 Jackson *Creed* IV. vi. § 7 This is profitable, That is pleasant, we shall not then say, but yonder other truly good and honest. 1671 Milton *Samson* 3 Yonder bank hath choice of Sun or shade. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 219 Near yonder thorn, that lifts its head on high. 1842 Tennyson *E. Gray* i, Sweet Emma Moreland of yonder town Met me walking on yonder way. 1850 — *In Mem.* xv, To-night the winds begin to rise And roar from yonder dropping day.

β. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2777 On yender towre on highe. † *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) iii. 52 Mother, my father after thee sende, And byddes thee into yeinder shippe wende. 1563 Googe *Eglogs* i. (Arb.) 32 The Hyllies..that ioyne to yender towne. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. v, Chaue tost and tumbled yender heap ouer and ouer againe.

† 3. (with *this* or *that*) Qualifying *day*, *night*: Lately past, 'other'. (Cf. Ender *a.*, Hinder *a.* 2, and Yondern.) *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 4561 (Trin.) Me þouȝte þat his 3onder [*v.r.* ander] nyȝt I coom in a medewe briȝt. *Ibid.* 13559 Art þou not he þat 3ondir day miȝtes not se? *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1205, I gabbyd on hym thys 3endyr day.

C. *pron.* (*sing.* or *pl.*: † also with *the*: absol. use of B. 1 b, 2): = Yon *pron.* Now *dial.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 4891 (Fairf.) 3onder ar theues we leimen wende. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 232 And þe 3ondur is my qwene betryce she hette. 1855 Browning *Grammarian's Funeral* 7 Look out if yonder be not day again Rimming the rock-row! 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Oct. 423/2 A closely-shaven curate, who was walking down a street clad in his cassock, was once horrified by hearing shouted across the road an inquiry whether 'yonder was a lad or a lass'.

D. as *sb.* (*nonce-use.*) Something beyond.

1888 Meredith *Hymn to Colour* vii, His touch is infinite and lends A yonder to all ends.

Hence **Yonderly** *a.*, *dial.*, 'distant', reserved, sullen; depressed, gloomy, melancholy; † **Yondermair** *adv. Sc.*, farther; † **Yondermest** *a. Sc.*, farthest, most distant (cf. Yondmost); † **Yonderward** *adv.* [cf. Du. *ginderwaarts*], in yonder or the other direction, thither; farther off; † **Yonderway**, by that way, in that manner.

1828 *Craven Gloss.*, **Yonderly*, grave, sullen, distant. I have not often heard this word. 1863 Waugh *Lanc. Songs* 28 Thae's looked very yonderly mony a day. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. xi. 48 Syne **3onder* mayr was schapin in the feild The dansand prestis, clepit Salii. 1808 Jamieson s.v. *Yound*, *Sit yontermert*, .. sit farther off. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. xii. 31 The **3ondermaist* [*v.r.* The soundermest] pepill, clepit Baktrania. *Ibid.* x. vi. 148 Non presis this syde, and now **3onderwart*. 1535 Coverdale *1 Sam.* xx. 37 The arowe lyeth yonderwarde before the. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 197/7 **Yonderway*, *illac*, *illo modo*.

† **Yonders**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. a. = Yonder *a.* 3. (Cf. *enders*, Ender *a.*) b. Next following.

c 1320 *Songs* (MS. Royal, App. 58) in *Anglia* XII. 265 This yonders nyght I herd a wyght most heuyly complayne. *a* 1690 *Sir Lambewell* 931 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* (1867) I. 152, I shall die this yenders night.

Yondmost, *a. Sc.* † *Obs.* Also 7 youmest. [f. Yond *a.* + -most.] Farthest, most distant; farthest advanced, extreme, utmost; also *absol.* (*the yondmost*) = the uttermost.

1608 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 286 It is maist necessar that ane bulwerk or butradge be bigit befoir the youmest piller of the said brig except ane. 1690 R. Baillie *Canterb. Self-convict.* 3 They..at last have wrought their youndmost myne to that perfection, that it is now readie to spring under our wals. 1692 Montrose in M. Napier *M. & Covenanters* (1838) II. 539 That then you should have..entered into a League and Covenant with them against the King, was the thing I judged my duty to oppose to the youndmost. *a* 1693 Birnie *Serm.* (1845) 468 A Christian assaulted with many temptations should unite his strength and try the youndmost. *a* 1698 Durham *Comm. Rev.* VI. vi. (1660) 360 Death and the Grave came as the youndmost step of temporall affliction. 1716 Wishart *Thinlogia* 393 Here the Mercy of God is gone to the Youndmost.

Yondsame: see Yond *a.*[1] 2.

† **Yondward**, *adv. Obs.* In 3 3eondward, 5 yondewarde. [f. Yond + -ward. Cf. (M)Du. *ginswaarts*, Goth. *jaindwaiþs*. Cf. Yonward.] In a direction away from the speaker; thither.

c 1205 Lay. 30781 Þe an hine putte hiderward and þe oðer hine putte 3eondward. 1485 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* II. iii. (1527) 59 b, Antypodes..theyr fete towarde ouren and theyr hede yondewarde [1387 Trevisa 3onward].

Yone, obs. form of Yon.

Yo-necked, corrupt or dial. f. Ewe-necked.

1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. ix, The nasty yo necked, cat hammed,..good for nothin brutes.

† **Y-oned** [OE. *geáned*: Y- 4, One *v.*], united. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 341 Ȝe moste commune wiþ us þat Ȝe be I-oned [*MS.* β yooned; γ y-oned] to Crist his lymes. *Ibid.* VII. App. 534 He helde..these blachopriches so ooned [*MS.* γ y-oned] with thre cuntrayes that longed therto.

† **Yong**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 *Northumb.* (hin)-iong, 3eong, 3 3ecng(e, (3oing?, 3eono-), 3–4 3ong(e. [OE. (Northumb.) *geong*, and in comp. *hinsiong* departure, *ingeong* entrance, *útgeong* exit, *ymbgeong* 'decursus, ambitus': of obscure origin; cf. next.] Going; gait; travelling, journey; course.

Ȝongdawes, Rogation Days: cf. Gang-days.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark I. 3 *Rectas facite semitas eius*, rehta doeð *uel* wyrcas *uðra vel* 3eongas his. *Ibid.* Luke ii. 44 *Uenerunt iter diei*, cuomon 3eong dæges. *c* 1205 Lay. 1298 Þeonene he ferden forð wel feole dawen 3ong. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 500 Earen buten herunge, honden buten felunge, fet buten 3onge. *Ibid.* 569 Ich..wule..wið kinewurðe 3eoues 3elden ow hehliche ower 3ong hider. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Uridawes and umbridawes and 3oling dawes [*v.rr.* 3ong dahes, 3eoncdahes]. *a* 1300 *Sayings of Bernard* 184 (MS. Laud 108) in Herrig's *Archiv* LII. 33 Þis ridingue and þis proute 3ong. *a* 1307 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 124 Nou nabbe y nout þat 3ong, þat speche, ne þat song.

*** Illustration of compounds (see etym. above).

a 900 *Bede's Death-song* in *O. E. Texts* 149 Aer his hinionge. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark Intiod. 4 Of uneal alice wlonga innȝeongas in ric godes. *Ibid.* Matt. xxii. 9 Ȝeongas forðon to utȝeong ðære wegana [*Rushw.* utgengum]. *c* 1205 Lay. 28370 Þa burhweren..warnden him inȝeong. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 Þurh eie ðurles deað hauseð hire inȝong into þe soule. *Ibid.* 206 To openen þet inȝong & leten in sunne. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 247 Forte sechen in 3ong abute þe wahes. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 878 Þorw þe faste þat he con in teo, And at þe out-3ong he lette faste beo.

† **Yong**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *Northumb.* 3eonga, 3 3unge, 3eonge, -3enge, -yenge [see Misyengn, to go astray], 3–4 3onge, 4–5 yonge, 5 3ynge; *pa. pple.* 3 -3eong, -e(n, -ed. [OE. (Northumb.) *geonga*, and in comp. *foregeonga* to go forward, *ingeonga* to enter, *útgeonga* to go out, **ymbgeonga* to surround (pa. t. *ymbéade*): cf. prec.] *intr.* To go.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 42 *Surgite eamus*, arisað ge we *uel* wutun 3eonga. *c* 1205 Lay. 8436 Eusiln i-seh enne gume 3ungen him bi-halfues. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 9061 Nas hit noht longe þat he ne com 3onge. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 216 Now Kyng Hobbe in the mures 3ongeth. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 313 Þenne þei wenden heore wei and to þe court 3ongen. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 641 And wrie hem fest, lest wynd therynto yonge. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 1851 Make þy clerk before þe 3ynge, To bere lyst, and belle ryngе.

*** Illustration of compounds (see etym. above; also ME. pa. pples. *a3eong(en)* passed, *bi3eonge* surrounded).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 23 Wlonc uneaðe inngeongas in ric heofna. *c* 1205 Lay. 9364 Þe an wes i3eonged [*MS.* -ed] þe scipen stoden a londe. *Ibid.* 23557 Þa feouwer wiken weoren a3onged [*c* 1275 agon]. *Ibid.* 23702 In þan mitlonde þe mid watere is bigeonge. *Ibid.* 26893 Þe alde king deȝede, his dazes weoren a3eongen. *Ibid.* 30552 Þa nihen dæzes weoren a3eong. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 824 Vp they goth vche as her seed is, And letuce in their leues vmbiyonge. *Ibid.* IV. 437 With seefroth other haue hem vmbiyonge.

Yong(e, **3ong(e**, etc., obs. ff. Young, etc.

† **Yongate**, *adv. Sc. Obs.* In 4 3ongat. [f. Yon *a.* + Gate *sb.*[2] 9 b.] In that way.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 271 It semys it likis the perfay, That he slayis 3ongat our mengȝe.

Yongfrow: see Yuffrouw.

Yongker, obs. form of Younker.

‖ **Yoni** (yǫ·ni). [Skr.] A figure or symbol of the female organ of generation as an object of veneration among the Hindus and others. Hence **Yo·nic** *a.*

1799 *Asiatick Researches* III. 363 The navel of Vishnu, by which they mean the *os tincæ*, is worshipped as one and the same with the sacred *yoni*. 1879 M. Macrae *Relig. Parall.* 87 The *yonic* or moon-worshippers of Chaldea..The yonic symbolism professed by their remote ancestors in Turkestan, who were ——— of the female principle. 1908 Wheatham in *Relig. & Psychol.*

II. 44 In nature-worship, all natural orifices were reverenced as representing the yoni of the mother-earth goddess.

Yonike, obs. form of IONIC *a.*[1]

1598 FLORIO, *Cartoccio*, .. a kinde of yonike worke in building.

Yonk, Yonker: see JUNK *sb.*[3], YOUNKER.

Yons (yonz), obs. form of ONCE *adv.*

c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 100 And he yons put him to folk of discelyne.

† **Yonsame** (in rustic speech), = *yon same*: see YON *a.* 1.

1585 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1567) 26 Vnder yonsame hill they were, and vnder yonsame hill Cham sure they are.

Yonside (yɒ̃nsəid), *sb.*, *adv.*, and *prep.* [The phrase *yon side* (YON *a.*, SIDE *sb.*[1]) taken as one word: cf. INSIDE, OUTSIDE. Cf. LG. *gunsiet, -syts*, G. *jenseits*.] **A.** *sb.* The farther side; the other side.

1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* v. 8 Crie out at Bethauen vpon the yonside of Ben Iamin. 1856 MEREDITH *Shaw. Shagpat, Well of Paravid* 156 The sun..sank on the yonside of the mountain. 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 1 June 600/2 Visions of the things of the 'yoneside' as his Lincolnshire flock love to term the hereafter.

B. *adv.* On the farther side (*of*).

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1361 Yonside, *ab illa regione.* 1878-9 LANIER *Street-Cries, How Love looked for Hell* 83 As I rode down, and the River was black, And yonside, lo! an endless wrack. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* II. 12 Yonside of Assaroe the swineherd found her.

C. *prep.* On the farther side of; beyond.

1856 MEREDITH *Shaw. Shagpat, Genie Karas* 147 A phial full of the waters of Paravid from the wells in the mountain yonside the desert.

† **Yonste.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. early Du. *gunst*, now *gunst* favour; cf. YON *v.*] Favour.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 14 Ye shal wel vnderstande the very yonste and good wyl that I bere to you ward.

Yont, var. YOND.

Yont(e, Yonture, obs. ff. JOINT *sb.*, JOINTURE.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 223 That haue..moore fleashe fro the Ioyntures vpwarde, than fro the yontures downwarde. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* I. 62 Whose yonts youe see are dryde, benumd and coulde.

Yonthe (yɒnþe), var. YOUNGTH *Obs.*, youth.

Yonther, obs. form of YONDER.

† **Yonward**, *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. YON + -WARD.] = YONDWARD.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 203 [Antipodes] here feet toward oure, and hire heed yonward.

Yoo, Yoof, Yook, Yool(e: see EWE *sb.*[1], YEA, YOUF *v.*, YUKE, YULE.

Yoolughan, var. ULLAGONE.

1819 [RENNIE] *St. Patrick* II. 118 I'll gar her set up her yoolughans there, the limmer, an I had ance an arrow.

Yoong, Yoonker, obs. ff. YOUNG, YOUNKER.

Yoop (yūp), *sb.* and *int.* Also youp. A word expressing the sound made by convulsive sobbing; also as an exclamation.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I, The hysterical yoops of Miss Swartz. 1854 — *Rose & Ring* xix, Mrs. Jenkins, giving a dreadful youp, fell down in a fit. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. vii, 'Yoop!' cried Wegg. 'You're there, are you?'

Yoore, Yoow, obs. forms of YORE, YOU.

Yop(e)indail(l, etc.: see YOKINDALE.

† **Y-opened** [Y- 4]. opened. 1297, etc. [see OPEN *v.*] *c* 1420 *Two Cookery-bks.* 114 Yopened & ywasshe clene.

Yopon, Yor (yor), **Yordan**, obs. ff. YAPON, YOUR, JORDAN.

† **Y-ordayned, -deined**, ME. pa. pple. of ORDAIN *v.*

Yore (yōə), *adv.* (*a.*) *arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeare, ȝara, iara, ȝeare, ȝearo, 3 ȝar, ȝeare, ȝaure, 3–5 ȝare, 3–6 yare, ȝore, 4 yar, 5 yoore, 6 ȝoir, youre, 4– yore. [OE. *ǥeāra*, also *ǥeāre*, *ǥeāro*, advb. formations of obscure origin.]

† **1.** A long time ago; of old; freq. strengthened by *full*; also in collocation with *ago*, *agone*. Phr. *it is (gone) yore* (*that . . .*): long ago. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2664 Swa ðu on ǥeoǥuðfeore ǥeara ǥecwæde. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xiii, ȝeare ic þæt onȝeat þæt ðæt nowiht wæs þæt we besodan. *Ibid.* III. xxii, Is se [*sc.* tun] be ðam wealle þe ȝearo Romane Breotone ealonde begyrdon twelf milium fram eastan. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 21 *Olim*, Iara. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* I. 1 Hit wæs ȝeara iu ǽrette Gotan eastan of Sciððia sceldas læddon. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 427/6 *Iam*, ȝeara, oþþe ȝeoȝara. *c* 1205 LAY. 4630 Þe king him ȝef Dalcan þe ȝare wes mi leouemon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 ȝare hit is þet ich wuste herof. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 653 Nis noȝt ȝore þat i ne com And fond hire wip hordom. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* Prol. 19 (Harl. 7334) Other tale certes can I noon But of a rym I lerned ȝore agoon. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 257 Sithen I wrastelede first it is gone ȝore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13968 Til a ȝer was full yore yarkit to end, And a halfe, er þat end happit to fare. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1008 All he[i]ris of oure ȝouthe es ȝare syne passid. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18 (Trin.) Woltou me sle herfore As þou didest þe [illegible] not ȝore? 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3696 And for that skyle gon ful yore, .. I callede the my paramour. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) xx. 27 He dyed on Rood, gone is not yore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. Pref. 3 ȝoir ago, in myne ondantit ȝowth. *c* 1532 WM *Introd. Pr.* in *Palsgr.* 907 Yare so, *aincois aisay.*

1618 CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Yore*, long agoe, before.

† **2.** In time past; formerly, before. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1180 Ich not ȝef þu were ȝaure preost, *c* 1300 *Will. Palerne* 1503 God..graunt ȝou loye, For þe worchipe þat ȝe han wrouȝt to me ȝore. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*off Sleperis*) 258 [He] lukyt vpe, & saw þare þe sammyne takine he saw yare. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7367 Thus seide I now, and haue seid yore. *c* 1420 *Cursor M.* 2631 (Laud) Abraham hast þou yore by cald, That name no lengger shalt þou hald. † *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) xxiv. 513 Doe as thou hast yore behight. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 174/34 Yore, before, *ante, prius.* 1574 *Mirr. Mag., Kimarus* xii, A iust rewarde, for so vniust a life, No worse a death, then I deserued yore.

† **3.** For a long time (past, or *rarely* to come).

c 1275 *Vices of Hell* 23 in *O. E. Misc.* 147 In helle ich habbe yare ibeo. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 169 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 63 The wolf hauseth hounger swithe gret, For he nedde yare i-ete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 12 Thus in delit he lyueth and hath doon yoore. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Chichemache & Bycorne* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1827) XII. 304 And thus ye stonde and haue don yore. 1522 *World & Child* Cj, In englonde haue I dwelled yore.

4. *Of yore*: **a.** In *advb.* use: Of old, in time long past, anciently, formerly. Also † *of yore ago(ne*, † *long yore*: long ago.

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 317 Werdes of Ebreu weren I-writen of yore. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 13 For that he say it nat of yore a-go. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xiv. (1554) 202 b/a She was the same that of yore agon, Unworthelye sate in Peters place. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 116 The sayncts Which han be dead of yore [*Gloss* long agoe]. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxvii, To shew faulse Art what beauty was of yore. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 23 Thee bright-hair'd Vesta long of yore, To solitary Saturn bore. 1784 COWPER I have defended the right of combination among the workmen, in hope that they would become wiser than of yore. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine's Gage* 19 Proud Cecil Castlemaine was yet prouder than of yore.

b. in *adj.* use: Belonging to time long past, ancient, former.

1598 *Mucedorus* IV. iii. 72 In time of yore. 1618 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 338 His Bishoprick of yore. *c* 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 514 Well sung sweet Ovid, in the days of yore. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* I. v. (1865) 134 This is altogether different from the village politics of yore. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 1 In days of yore how fortunately fared The Minstrel! 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 80 (*Rip van Winkle*) The quiet little Dutch inn of yore. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Philoct.* 1151 For now I hold not in my hands The mighty shafts of yore.

c. With other preps.: e. g. † *for yore* (obs.); *in yore* (pseudo-arch.). *rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 586 ȝet oþer þer werne..þat swange & swat for long ȝore. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4174 Hire mi sone is founde þat sche for ȝore saide was sonk in þe see. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* v. 863 In yore agone.

5. as *adj.* Of old time; ancient, former. *arch.* and *dial.* † *Yore while* (advb. phr.), some time ago. *Yore-day* is an echo of OE. *on ǥeārdagum*, ON. *í árdaga* in days of yore.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 322 Oure ȝore fader hit con myssegeme. *Ibid.* B. 842 ȝete vus out þose ȝong men þat ȝore-whyle here entred. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9959 So hatnet hir hert in his hegh loue, And all ȝomeryng for-yeton of hir yore dedes. 1866 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. p. v, Thousands of books and yore-day things.

Yore, ȝore: see EWER[2], ORE[1], YARE, YOUR.

Yores, dial. or obs. form of YOURS.

York (yōək), *sb.* [OE. *Eoforwīc*, later *Eofer-, Euerwīc*, ME. *Everwik*, also *Yerk* (Havelok), surviving in Lincolnshire dial. *Yorkshear*, and *York* (cf. ON. *c* 960 *Jorvik*, later *Jork*), ad. L. *Eboracum*, with addition of *wīc* dwelling.]

1. The name of the capital of Yorkshire; used attrib. in names of things originating from or peculiar to York or Yorkshire, as *York ham*, † *York robe*, *York tan*. **York paving**, paving with Yorkshire stone. **York pitch** (of a plane): see quot. 1875 and PITCH *sb.*[2] 24 g; hence **York-pitched** *a.* **York use** *Eccl.*: see USE *sb.*[1]

1794 WALDRON *Heigho for Husb.* III. i. 27 There's not a week goes over her head, but she [*sc.* the mistress] says to me..Maria, my dear, you may take that poloneese, or Yorkrobe, or pierrot, or whatever dress it happens to be. 1813 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxiv, While the sleek, well tied parcels of 'Men's Beavers' and 'York Tan' were..displaying on the counter. 1826 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. *My Godfather's Manœuvring*, [He] actually drew my York-tan gloves from my astonished hands, and substituted a pair of his own best white kid. 1853 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Digby Grand* x, The Major's York-tan gaiters. 1861 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* 87 York paving, per foot super..os. 8d. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 144 Knotted or cross-grained wood can [only] be planed..with a special tool, of which the iron is placed at a more obtuse angle... For deal and soft wood this is 45 degs., or common pitch; for mahogany and hard wood 50 degs., or York pitch. 1877 HELLYER *Plumber* vii. 54 The other compartment should be sealed over..with a piece of York stone. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 2/3 A ham is a 'York' ham if composed of English meat and prepared in Yorkshire or 'in contiguous counties or places'. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Apr. 110 The wood, being cut, is planed up and finished with a 'York-pitched' plane.

b. as predicative adj. connoting the character of a Yorkshireman: cf. YORKSHIRE 2.

1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* xxxix, Don't lose your time trying to humbug me, I'm 'York' too.

c. Short for *Yorkshire cabbage*.

1883 CORBETT *Rur. Rides* 26 July (1885) I. 210 They appear to be early Yorks, and look very well. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 102 Large patches of early yorks.

2. Pertaining to the royal house of York; *spec.* = YORKIST 1 b.

York penes, copper coins of the reign of Henry VI. *York and Lancaster rose* (see quots.); hence allusive use of *York and Lancaster* in quot. 1633.

14.. *Norwich Corporation Records* (Halliw.) Pens of topens fabricatis de aere vocatis brassenpens, secundum formam et similitudinem denar. vocat. Yorkpens. 1633 CLEVELAND *Upon Phillis walking* 26 Poems 22 And he that for their colour seeks, May find it vaulting in her cheeks, Where Roses mix: no civill war Between her York and Lancaster. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 60/2 The York and Landcaster Rose, is half white, half red in the leaves: but in Heraldry it is a white Rose, in a red Rose. 1789 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 4 Henry himself..had imbibed a violent antipathy to the York party. *Ibid.* 8 The retainers of the York family. 1837 RIVERS *Rose Amateur's G.* 12 The true York and Lancaster Rose is a Damask Rose.

3. One of the heralds of the College of Arms.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. vi, She's a wild-Irish borne! Sir, and a Hybride, That .. studies Vincent against Yorke. 1766 [see HERALD *sb.* 2 c].

4. = New York; in *York shilling*, (*a*) in U.S.A. 12½ cents, (*b*) in Canada sixpence.

1804 *Microscope* (Albany) 27 Mar. (Thornton *Dict. Amer.*), The bill amounted to the enormous sum of one York shilling for each gentleman. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *York shilling*, a name in Western Canada for the English sixpence.

York (yōək), *v. Cricket.* [Back-formation f. YORKER[2].] *trans.* To bowl (a batsman) out or strike (the wicket) with a yorker.

1888 A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) iii. 169 [W. G. Grace loq.] I'm never frightened of him; he is always trying to 'york' you, and bowls any amount of half-volleys. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 19 July 7/3 The ball that bowled Tunnicliffe started its flight a foot outside the off stump, at the finish it 'yorked' the middle stump.

Yorker[1] (yōəkəɹ). [f. YORK *sb.* + -ER[1].]

1. An inhabitant of York or Yorkshire; applied allusively (cf. YORKSHIRE 2).

1599 BUTTES *Diets Dry Dinner* Ep. Ded. A a j b, As for the Middle-sex or Londoner, I smell his Diet..Here is a Pipe of right Trinidado for him. The Yorkers they will bee content with bald Tabacodocko. What should I say? here is good Veale for the Essex-man. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 158 She was a right Yorker, being of that Countrey breed, and as full of dissimulation and hipocrisy as most of that Countrey. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr.* xiii. 232 The Yorkers contend that their organ is not only the greater, but also the finer organ of the two; whereas the Birminghamers assert, on the contrary, that theirs..plays vastly better. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 75 Here's Archer, and another Yorker with him—leastwise an Englisher I should say.

2. An inhabitant or a soldier of New York.

1776 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 229 We are told for truth that a regiment of Yorkers refused to quit the city. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. xxii. 587 Sir John Johnson and some part of his royal Yorkers. — *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 821/1 The settlers..hated..the Yorkers'.

Yorker[2] (yōəkəɹ). *Cricket.* [? Same word as prec.] (See quot. 1888.)

1870 *Sporting Mag.* Oct. 99 A fast Yorker is as disagreeable a first ball as an incoming batsman could receive. 1888 A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) iii. 133 The ordinary definition of a 'yorker' is a ball that pitches inside the crease, and this, no doubt, is correct so far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. It really should be, any ball that pitches directly underneath the bat. It is quite possible for a man to be bowled out with a 'yorker' when he is two or three yards out of his ground, if he misjudges the ball, and allows it to pitch directly beneath his bat, although the ball pitches as far from the crease as he is standing. The most deadly sort of 'yorker', however, is the one that pitches about three or four inches inside the c

Yorkish (yōəkiʃ), *a. rare.* [f. YORK *sb.* + -ISH[1].] = YORKIST 1 b.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 171 b, As the Iewes disdayned the company of the Samaritans, so the Lancastrians abhorred the familiaritie of Yorkysh lynage. 1634 FORD *Perkin Warbeck* I. i, Idolls of Yorkish malice. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiv, Does Burgundy prepare to..make common cause with this Yorkish host against King Louis of France? 1884 *Leisure Hour* Feb. 100/2 All colours being admissible except the Yorkish white.

Yorkist (yōəkist), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. YORK *sb.* (see below) + -IST.]

1. An adherent of the house of York, the English royal family which based its title on its descent from Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and Edmund, Duke of York (died 1402), the third and the fifth son of Edw. III; or one of the party (whose emblem was the White Rose) which supported this family in the Wars of the Roses.

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* Cv, Then high-resolued Hotspur, .. Join'd with the Yorkists, made a mutinie. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Hen. VI* (1653) 280 From whence Richard Beauchampe Bishop of Salisbury, is sent to offer the Yorkists a full and generall pardon. 1728–38 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) I. xii. 583/1 The King having advanced with design to give Battle, the Yorkists sent him a very submissive Letter. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiv, Offering with large sums of money to purchase England to the Yorkists. 1898 Miss MULOCK *John Halifax* v, The Vineyards had been a battle-field; and under the long wavy grass..slept many a Yorkist and Lancastrian.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1823 S. TURNER *Hist. Eng. III.* II. 321 The Christmas of 1469 seemed to have ended all hostilities between these two Yorkist parties. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 686 The Yorkist poems are numerous. There is one on the reconciliation of Henry and Duke Richard. 1884 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xx. (ed. 2) 339 The Yorkist Collar is formed of suns and roses.

2. A supporter of James, Duke of York (*c* 1680), in his claim to succeed to the crown on the death of his brother, Charles II.

1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 124 The former [party] are called by the latter, tories, tantivies, Yorkists, high-flown church men, &c. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* II. v. § 9 (1740) 321 It is easy to imagine how rampant these Procurators of Power, the Exclusioners, were..: Every where insulting and menacing the Loyallists...This Trade..naturally led to a common Use of slighting and opprobrious Words; such as Yorkist. [1838 KNIGHT *Pop. Hist. Eng.* IV. xxi. 350 The anti-exclusionists were first called Yorkists.]

3. An inhabitant of York: = YORKER[1] 1. *rare.*

1796 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 55 Once a Cockney and Yorkist maintain'd a dispute, Whether London or York was of oldest repute.

Yorkshire (*yɔ́·rkʃəɹ*). [f. YORK *sb.* + SHIRE 5.] The name of the largest of the northern counties of England.

1. *attrib.* Pertaining to or characteristic of Yorkshire.

1683 G. M[ERITON] (*title*) A York-shire Dialogue, in its pure Natural Dialect. 1685 DRYDEN *Sylvæ* Pref. a 6, Like a fair Shepherdess in her Country Russet, talking in a Yorkshire Tone. 1826 *Zool. Jrnl.* II. 555 An undescribed Fossil Animal from the Yorkshire Coal-field. 1859 *Househ. Words* 25 Jan. 148/2 His sullen, self-willed, local Yorkshire nature 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New Engl.* I. 32 Hampole's..'Pricke of Conscience'..is in the Yorkshire dialect.

b. Applied to things originating in or cultivated especially in Yorkshire, as *Yorkshire ale, cabbage, cord, drab, fog* (FOG *sb.*[1]), *fustian, gray, grit* (GRIT *sb.*[1] 2), *kidney* (potato), *pie, sanicle* (SANICLE 2), *shoe, stone, tyke* (TYKE 3), *white*(*s*; **Yorkshire bond, cement, light, maiden, mile** (see quots.); **Yorkshire pudding**, a batter-pudding baked under meat.

1683 G. MERITON (*title*) The Praise of *York-shire Ale. 1891 *Dict. Archit.*, **Yorkshire bond*, or flying, or garden wall, bond, is chiefly used in building garden walls, one brick thick; the face shows three or four stretchers to one header; or five courses of stretchers to one of headers. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 228 Cabbage seed..some early dwarf sorts, early *Yorkshire. 1891 *Dict. Archit.*, **Yorkshire cement*, the same as Mulgrave, Whitby, or Atkinson's cement. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 3 A pair of most voluminous unmentionables, of thick *Yorkshire cord. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 240 A driving coat of *Yorkshire drab. 1621 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 308 *Yorkshyre or Northern fusteanes. 1679 *Trials of T. White & Other Jesuits* 83 In Gray Cloaths, a Gray Coat like a Shepherds Coat, a *Yorkshire-Gray. 1891 *Dict. Archit.* s.v., *Yorkshire stone or Grit, is a name sometimes given to Bramley Fall stone; it is one of the most general of the sandstones sent to London, and is used for paving, copings, and other rough work. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* III. 144 There was a *Yorkshire ham, which had not suffered so deeply by the last night's onslaught. 1770 BRIDGES *Burlesque Transl. Homer* (1797) II. 319 A pastry-cook, That made good pigeon-pie of rook, Cut venison from *Yorkshire hogs. 1824 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 639 The red-nosed kidney and the white *Yorkshire kidney. 1891 *Dict. Archit.*, **Yorkshire light*, a term used in Lancashire, for a sliding sash. 1752 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 32/2 A Machine for washing of Linnen, called a *Yorkshire Maiden. 1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 44 Not caring to perform much more Than one good *Yorkshire Mile an Hour. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, **Yorkshear mile*, a long distance. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vii, A young servant girl brought in a *Yorkshire pie. 1894 *Garrett's Encycl. Pract. Cookery* II. 803/1 **Yorkshire Pis.* A pie under this name sold at Italian warehouses is nothing more than a [illegible]

1747 Mrs. GLASSE *Cookery* 69 A *Yorkshire Pudding. Take a Quart of Milk, four Eggs,..make it up into a thick Batter with Flour, like a Pancake Batter. 1832 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. v. 272 They feed me on roast-beef and Yorkshire pudding. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. vii. 140 At the bottom of all..lay about half an acre of sad and heavy Yorkshire pudding, like a leaden pancake. 1770 BRIDGES *Burlesque Transl. Homer* (1797) II. 30 One Tychius, who dwelt in Hyle, Where *Yorkshire shoes are made most velvety. 1569 in *Black Bks. Linc. Inn* (1897) I. 449 For vj fote of *Yorkeshere stone for basays of dorye.

2. Used allusively, esp. in reference to the †boorishness, cunning, sharpness, or trickery attributed to Yorkshire people. *To come* (or *put*) *Yorkshire on one*, to cheat, dupe, overreach him. *Yorkshire bite*, a sharp overreaching action or person. †Also in prov. phr. *a pair of Yorkshire sleeves in a goldsmith's shop*, said of anything worthless.

1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 36 If she lived now, she would shew as vild as a paire of Yorkeshire sleeves in a goldsmiths shop. 1684 A. HOLLAND *Contin. Inquis. Paper-Persec.* 85 England is all turn'd Yorkeshire, and the Age Extremely scottish, or too nicely sage. 1690 *Brief Disc. betw. Yorkshireman & Scottish-man* 1 *Yorks.* I am a Yorkshireman born and bred, I care not who knowes it; I hope true Yorkshire never denies his county. *Scot.* I thought you looked like a subtle blade. 1700 *Step to the Bath* 10, I ask'd what Countrey-Man my Landlord was? Answer was made full North; and Faith 'twas very Evident, for he had put the Yorkshire most Damnably upon us. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 53 He's more confident of his Way, than a Yorkshire Carrier. *c* 1747 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1770) Gloss., *Yorkshar*, Yorkshire; to put Yorkshire of a Man, is to trick, cheat, or deceive him. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 620/1, I flatter myself that this will turn out to be a Yorkshire bite, and [illegible] latter will be bit. 1796 HOLMAN *Abroad & at Home* [illegible]are-say, his Yorkshire simplicity will qualify him admirably for the profession! 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 124, I will not denominate your courting correspondent a Yorkshire bite, for he only snaps. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Yorkshear*, Yorkshire. When anything is done very sharp or clever, we say 'that's real Yorkshear'. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss., Yorkshire*, cajolery, blarney, attempt to hoodwink or deceive. 'Let's ha' none o' yur Yorkshire.'

3. *ellipt.* as the designation of a thick coarse cloth made in Yorkshire, a breed of canary, (*pl.*) soldiers of a Yorkshire regiment; also short for *Yorkshire dialect*, etc.

1726 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6444/5 Speaks Yorkshire. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VI. lxxxv. 390 Soldiers cloths, Yorkshires, and flannels. 1849 PATON *Highl. Adriatic* II. xvii. 215 The Hauaknecht and Stallknecht..speaking the broad dialect of the south-eastern provinces, a kind of Yorkshire to the classic language of the Schillers and Herders. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 7/1 Fifteen of the Yorkshire Light Infantry killed; two Sikhs and thirty-one Yorkshires wounded. 1898 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 3/3 Slim and sprightly Yorkshires..contrast strongly with the equally esteemed Lancashires of pale yellow plumage. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 7 Feb. 3/5 [Women] much prefer the graceful, stylish Yorkshire to the more rotund Norwich.

†**4.** = YORKIST b. *Obs.*

1643 BAKER *Chron., Hen. VI* (1653) 278 All the enemies of the Yorkshire Faction are assembled by the Queen at Greenwich. 1702 E. SPELMAN & LEMON *Hist. Civ. Wars* 125 The earl of Warwick..came over to England, in order to put himself at the head of the Yorkshire insurgents.

Hence **Yo·rkshiredom**, the character of a Yorkshireman; **Yo·rkshireism**, an action or expression characteristic of a Yorkshireman.

1849 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 356/2 Tim Matlock..who keeps his 'canny Yorkshire-dom' intact even on Jonathan's hunting-ground. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xviii, Mr. Hall's sincere friendly homily, with all its racy Yorkshireisms.

Yorkshireman (*yɔ́·rkʃəɹmĕn*). A man of Yorkshire.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 3 b, Betwene the Florentine and Uenetian is great diuersitee in speeche, as with vs betwene a Londoner and a Yorkeshyreman. 1650 [see YORKSHIRE *sb.*]. 1752 HUME *Ess., Bal. Trade* (1777) I. 332 A melancholy Yorkshireman. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* v. xvii, Yorkshiremen are stern of mood. 1820 — *Abbot* xvi, He was a bluff Yorkshireman. 1856 [H. H. HALL] *Post & Paddock* i, The Yorkshiremen generally direct their attention to quick returns.

Yo·rlin(g. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 7 yourling, 9 yorline, yeorling, yarlin, yerlin. [Variant of YOWLRING; cf. YOLDRING.] A yellow-hammer.

1679 LOVELL *Indic. Univ.* 32 A Yellow-hammer or Yourling. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 151 Should at his feet a scared yorlin bir. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake, Kilmeny* i, It was only to heire the yerline syng. 1861 ATKINSON *Brit. Birds' Eggs* 50, I used to hear in Berwickshire, that 'The Brock, the Toad, and the Yellow Yeorling, Get a drap o' the Deil's bluid ilka May morning.'

Yorn(e, yorn(e: see YARN, YERN, YERNE.

Yornyman, obs. form of JOURNEYMAN.

1553 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 806 For a yornyman or a Suffycyent servaunte not aboue vjd. a daye.

Yort(e, obs. or dial. (Lancs.) f. YARD *sb.*[1]

c 1515 *Exam. towchynge Cokeye Mere* 9 (Chetham Misc. II.) & so vnto Ryngley yorte.

Yort, Yorth, yorth, Yoske, yoske: see YOUBT, EARTH, YEX.

Yosted: see HOST *v.*[1]

Yostregere, obs. form of OSTREGER.

1563 in *N. & Q.* (1880) 7th Ser. VIII. 206 Here vnder lyeth Xp'ofor Walasto' who somtyme was..on of ye yostregere unto ye late kynges & quenes of famous memorye.

Yot(e, yot(e: see YET.

†**Yote**, *sb.* [f. next.] Casting (of a metal object).

1474-5 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 19 Brasse that remayned of the yote of the grete bell.

Yote, *v. dial.* Also 4 3(e)ote, *pa. pple.* **3otted**, 6 yout, *vbl. sb.* **yotting**, 6–7 yowt, yeot, 7 yoat. [Local (chiefly west and south-west) development of OE. *gēotan* YET *v.*]

1. *trans.* To pour.

a 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Acts ii. 18 Vpon my bondemaydens I schal ȝote oute of my spiritte in ȝoo dais. *Ibid.* 33 He has ȝotted downe his, þat ȝhe see and here. *Ibid.* x. 45 For in nacyons þo grace was ȝotted oute of þo Holygoste. 1878 [see 2].

2. To pour liquid upon; to soak.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIX. 760 My Fowles,..I. found feeding at their Trough, Their yoted wheate. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v., The brewer's grains must be well yoted, or whesed for the pigs. 1878 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. IX. 328 Workmen are said to 'yote in' metal to fix iron clamps or railings. The word 'yote' also signifies to water, to pour water on.

3. a. To cast in metal.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 77 Þis Gerebertus.. dede ȝote [*MS. B* ȝeote] an hede þat spak nouȝt but whanne me axede of hym.

b. To fasten in (a metal bar, a stone block, etc.) with lead; to 'lead in'.

1535 *MS. Rawl. D.* 777, lf. 85 Youtyng the hookes of the Kechyn Dores in to the stone Walles. 1572 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 287 White for his labore for the yoting of them 6d. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 111 [Selden's] grave was nine foot deep at least, the bottom pav'd with bricks and walled about two foot high, with grey marble coarsly polished, each piece being yoated (that is fastned with lead melted in) with iron champs. 1890 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 89/2 *Yote* or *Yeot*, a term used in Gloucestershire and Somersetshire for 'leading in' iron work to stone.

Hence **Yo·ting** *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*); also †**Yo·ter**, a caster of metal.

1475–80 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 367 Castyng 3 C lede to y^e^ ^yotere ex.^ 1543 *Will of Ric. Elyot* (Somerset Ho.) ^Yeotyng haste.^ 1534 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 176 John laiour a ^yottingston.^ 1597 in Phillipps *Wills* (*c* 1850) 49, I give and bequeath to my son..one yeoting stone. 1620 *Will of M. Reeve* (Somerset Ho.) Yeoting stone. 1638 *Will of M. Reeve* (Somerset Ho.) The yeoting stone, the mowstadella. 1590–3 *Will of B. Saunders* (Somerset Ho.) One broache and my plumpe and ^yottinge vate and garnett. 1620 *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1863) II. 111 In the well yarde. One yotinge vate and frame xxs. *c* 1630 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 176 *margin*, One ^yotinge vault in the house at Tolland. 1812 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1903) 131 A ^yoting vessalle of lede.

†**Yo·ten**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 4 ȝoten, -un, ȝetun, 4–6 yoten. [pa. ppl. of YET *v.*] Cast.

13.. *Coer de L.* 371 Hys mase..That was made of yoten bras. 1382 WYCLIF *Prol. Bible* iii. 4 Thei forsoken the feith ..of God, and onoureden ȝoten ȝalues. — *Exod.* xxxiv. 17 ȝotun goddis thow shalt not make to thee. 1555 WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* II. viii. M iv b, Some worship the sonne, some ye moone. Other, ymages of yoten metalle.

Yott, obs. form of YACHT.

You (*yū*, *yŭ*), *pers. pron., 2nd pers. obj.* (*nom.*), *pl.* (*sing.*). Forms: 1–3 eow, (1 ieow, iow, 2 ȝeau, heou, heow, how, ȝehw,) 2–3 eou, ȝeu, ȝew, 2–4 ou, hou, ȝu, 3 iou, eu, ew, heu, eo, oeu, howe, ȝeow, ȝuw, ov, 3–4 ow, owe, ȝiu, 3–5 eu, yu, (6 *Sc.*) ȝou, 4 iow, ȝue, ȝuu, ȝouȝ, yuu, youu, yhow, 4–5 ȝowe, ȝhow, ȝo, (6–7 *Sc.*) ȝow, 4–7 yow, 5 ȝoue, ȝewe, ȝhu, yowe, yoow, yw, yo, yewe, *Sc.* yhu, yhw, 5–6 youe, 6 iow, 7 yew, 4– you, (9 *dial. & vulgar* yah, yer, also YEZ). [OE. *ēow* acc. and dat. (also *ēowic*, Northumb. *iuih*, etc.) = OFris. *iuwe, iwe*, OS. *iu*, MDu., Du. *u*, OHG., MHG. *iu, eu*; deriving from earlier **iuw* :– OTeut. **iwwiz.* A parallel formation is represented by ON. *ýðr* (MSw. *iþer*) for **iðwiR*, ? **iƒwiR*, Goth. *iswis.*

Originally the accusative and dative plural of the second personal pronoun: see THOU for the declension of the 2nd pers. pron. in OE. and ME. Between 1300 and 1400 it began to be used also for the nominative YE, which it had replaced in general use by about 1600. During the 14th century it also appears as a substitute for the singular obj. THEE and nom. THOU, being originally used in token of respect in addressing a superior, but later also to an equal, and ultimately generally: cf. THOU 1. Thus *you* is now the general pronoun of the second person, nominative or objective, singular or plural.]

I. As plural, used in addressing a number of persons (or, rhetorically, of things).

1. *Objective.* a. as direct object of a verb.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 551 Eow þeos cwen labaþ, secgas, to salore. 1125 in *Anglia* VII. 1. 220 God ȝeau ȝehealde. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Unwraste man wat lacede ȝeu? *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Swa þet heo eow tintrazed and heow i-swenchet. *c* 1205 LAY. 4556 Ænere mare ich ȝeu leouie. *Ibid.* 5455 Leou wer here ic eow [*c* 1275 ȝou] abide. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 Wat dret yw, folk of litle bellaue? 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 53 To certefyen ȝ^e^ of godes and chateux. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 234, I come to leden on swiþe. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lviii, Butte, alle my men, I ȝo cummawunde, To serue him wele to fote and honde. 14.. *Northern Passion* II. 173 In heuene ich wole ȝo clobȝ & fede. 1450 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* V. 495 *note*, Oure will is and we charge yhw that [etc.]. 1482 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 504 Ryght trusty & wele-beloued, we grete yewe wele. 1567 *Gud. & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 15 To him I ȝow commit baith small and greit. 1607 TOMKIS *Lingua* IV. i, I will be Iudicium, the moderator betwixt you, and make you both friends. 1766 GOLDSM. *Elegy Death Mad Dog* i, Good people all, of every sort, Give ear unto my song; And if you find it wondrous short,—It cannot hold you long. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, Fair scenes of peace and sunshine..who has ever seen you, that has not a grateful memory of those scenes of friendly repose and beauty? 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* ii, The lost!.. Sinners!.. Ah! dear friends, does that mean you and me?

b. as indirect object.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxvi. 181 (Hatton MS.) Was ieow welegum. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 45 Soð ic ȝu segge [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Nu we sculen heow sceawen hwilc hit is heom for to heren. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 117 Ich wile ȝiu senden þe heuenliche fretfringe. *c* 1205 LAY. 26515 Hit is eo muchel scome þat ȝe wullen at-seoken. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 29 in *O. E. Misc.* 104 He ou wolde wy-seye wisliche þinges. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 115 Hit wes idon eu [*Cotton MS.* ov] a lope custe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10997 ȝuf we doþ ou wrong we sseal ou do riȝt? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 139 Sythen sal i tell yow [*v.r.* ȝaw, ȝou] Of iacob and of esau. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 567 ȝe habbeþ i herd, as ich ow tolde, For-whi God þe world maken wolde. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3560 Here haf I shewed yhow, on Inglys, Som syns þat Saynt Austyn specifys. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. v. 61, I graunte you leue, seyth what yow semyth eueryche in his parte. 1482 CAXTON *Godfrey* vi. 25, I shal shaw yow one exampel. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 89, I will ȝow giue Eternall lyfe. 1638 BROME *Antipodes* IV. vi, He give you halfe a dosen At the next Ale-house, to set all right. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 129, I tell you, that we have not made use of the barn. 1849 KINGSLEY *Good News of God* xiii, I preach to you a Spirit..who has given you all the life you have.

c. As object of a preposition.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 28 Cuðlice becymeþ in eow godes riice. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Betwuxe me and eow. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 149 Þeos fule onkunne..þa þe douel haueð in ow þeoht of sunne. *c* 1275 *Stanzaic Remarks* 171 in *O. E. Misc.* 82 Loke seyde god nuþe Hwat ich for eu ouþe. *c* 1290

St. Patrick 612 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 218 3if ich fram eov wende. *a* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 141 Helle 3ates, y com 3ou to, Now ich wil þat 3e vndo. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xviii. 39 It is a custom to 3ou, that I delyuer oon to 3ou in pask. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 1, I witnes bifor God Almi3ty, and alle trewe cristunmen and wommen, and 3owe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 464 And I in you, and ye in me. 1536 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 42 Longe to reigne over yow. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 32 Mark well! .. How Christis croce, is for 3ow meit. 1609 B. JONSON *Epicœne* v. iii, That it be not strange to you, I will tell you. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 130 The danger is as great from you to us, as from us to you. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* I, Here's an unbelieving Pagan for you, gentlemen! 1896 MRS. FORRESTER *Harlow's Ideal* etc. 46 You have killed me between you.

d. As *reflexive pron.* (*acc.* or *dat.*) Yourselves. *arch.* See also *yourself* s.v. SELF A. 2–4.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xv. 93 (Hatton MS.) Habba'þ 3e sealt on 3eow, & sibbe habbaþ betweoh 3ow [*Cott. MS.* eow]. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Wascheð ou and wonieð clene. *c* 1300 ORMIN 5273 Þatt iss min bodeword, tatt 3e 3uw lufenn swa, bitwenenn Rihht alls icc hafe lufedd 3uw. *c* 1205 LAY. 7473 3arewieð eow [*c* 1275 Greiþeþ ow] to fihte. *Ibid.* 26447 Cuihtes fareð eou a3ænin. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1403 Ne dredе 3e ow nawiht. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 106 Haldes ow stille. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 92 Haid 3e wmbethocht 3ow enkrely, Quhat perell to 3ow mycht apper. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3689 Demys 3ow na better in 3our doyng þan othir of þe same leuyng. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 103, I will nocht brek my brane, Suppois 3e sowld mischeif 3ow. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. i. 1 Hence: home you idle Creatures, get you home. 1611 *Bible* Isa. i. 16 Wash yee [*med. edd.* you], make you cleane. 1881 W. S. GILBERT *Patience* I, Now tell us, we pray you, Why thus you array you.

2. *Nominative*, replacing YE (sense 1).

In early use sometimes app. for emphasis, as opposed to *ye* unemphatic; but often beside *ye* as a mere alternative.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23160 (Gött.) Vnto mi blis haf 3ue na right. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7600 And, as yo [*sc.* Æneas and Hector] counsell in the cas, I comaund be done. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 b, What ye rede, se you practise it in lyfe and dede. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. v. 47 And if you salute your brethren only, what do you more? 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 47 *Mac.* Speake if you can: what are you? 1611 *Bible* Ruth i. 11 Turne againe, my daughters: Why will you goe with mee? 1637 *Sc. Bh. Com. Prayer, Publ. Bapt.* Exhort., Friends, you heare in this Gospel the words of our Saviour Christ. 1658 BENLOWES *Theoph.* VI. lxxiii, Pure, scientifick and illustrious Spirits You're. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 129 And do you assure us that you are all sound men? 1868 HELPS *Realmah* xiii, I declare you are all very unkind to me.

b. As *vocative*, chiefly in apposition with a sb. following.

1569 PRESTON *Cambyses* (*c* 1584) F 3, Farwell you Ladies of the Court. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 158 Heare me, you wrangling Pyrates, that fall out, In sharing that which you haue pill'd from me. 1658 COWAINE *Trappolin* v. v, You Lords of Florence, wise Machavil, and You Lord Barbarino, will you never come Out of this frenzie? 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* II. ii, And you, my daughters,..away to the appointed place of safety. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 37 You sirs, I said, what are you conspiring about? 1885 TENNYSON *The Fleet* i, You, you, if you shall fail to understand, What England is,..On you will come the curse of all the land.

3. In apposition with a sb., a numeral, *all*, *both*, in nominative or objective case.

c 1205 LAY. 3453, & 3if 3e þis nulleð, alle ich 3eow [*c* 1275 3ou] aquelle. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 2184 Loke now on aday And blod lat 3ou þre. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 65, I haue founde 3ou folk faiþful of speche. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lv. 506 Is þt the rule of yow arraunt knyghtes for to make a knyght to Iuste will he or nyll. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Phil.* i. 8, I longe after you all, from the very hart rote in Iesus Christ. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. i. 120 If you men durst not vndertake it, before God, we women would. 1612 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 69 You three From Milan did supplant good Prospero. *c* 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* iv. (1840) 61 You English gentlemen..are too forward in the wars. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlvi, If you law-gentlemen do these things on speculation. 1884 'EDNA LYALL' *We Two* xxi, You don't know how I love you all.

II. As singular, used in addressing one person (or thing); orig. as a mark of respect, later *gen.*

4. *Objective*, replacing the earlier THEE.

a. as direct object of a verb.

13.. *Benaventura's Medit.* 314 My wurschypful fadyr,.. Here my bone..For sorowe my soule haþ 3ow so3t. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 634 Madame,..nis it no sekenes bote þat so sore 3ou3 eiles, I schal þurth craft þat ich kan keuer 3ou i hope. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 58, I baseke you my souerayne, assente to my sawes. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 147 To mak you lord of your avne, me think it grete skill. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* Pref. (Arb.) 53, I will also wish 3ow (docile Reidar) that or ze cummer 3ow with reiding thir reulis [etc.]. 1587 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 138, I committ youse to the tuition of Jesu. 1630 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 463 If yew love your selfe, and those that love yew. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. iv, Your religion..serves you only for an excuse for your faults. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, It will afford me the greatest pleasure to know you, sir. 1848 A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Wds.* 109 You're a bigger fool, nur oi took yer to be. 1887 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 8 Aug. 83/2 When I say mammon, I don't mean idle dukes or greedy merchant-princes; my small adulterating shopkeeper I mean you!

b. as indirect object. (See also 7.)

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 23 No bowes now thar 3ow bende; Of blis 3e er all bare. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 643 Myn lord,..þis ringe, þat I yu present now, Me gafe a pilgram to gyf 3ow,..And bad I auld gyf it 3ov til, & thange 3ou of 3ore gud vyl. 1471 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 24, I can yw thanke ywyr lettyr that ye sente me. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2335 Nowe must I make you a lectuary softe. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 64 My Lord, ane taikin I 3ow plycht. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 114 The drawing of that whereof the copy is sent yow. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. viii, Let me tell you that. 1808 SCOTT *Wooder.* xviii, 'Hold, woman, hold!' said Alice Lee; 'the dog will not do you harm.'

c. as object of a preposition.

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 28 Owre men sall with 3ow mote. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1123 Lord,.. of þat land þat brocht haf I a man to 3ou as presonere. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2417 Me thouȝt þat assemely lady come me to ..& badde þat y chulde heyre & to 3ow go. *a* 1485 MARG. ANJOU *Let. to Abbot of St. Ost* (Camden) 124 Unto you that bene a member of chirche. 1488 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* XXV. 122 This owre ordinance made for yowe Thomas Raile nowe keper of þe said Brethernes locutorie. 15.. *Adam Bel* 47 In R[hath ben besette for DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's* [illegible] aple..I preparit and decoret vnto 3ow my Souerane. 1607 TOMKIS *Lingua* IV. i, Mendatio you offer mee great wrong to hold me, in good-faith I shall fall out with you. 1780 *Mirror* No. 97 'Quantity of syllables,' exclaimed the Captain, 'there is a modern education for you!' 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xx, I bought her, and I'll give her to you.

d. As *refl. pron.* (*acc.* or *dat.*). Yourself. *arch.*

c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 100 Thus he comforthede þe qwene.. 'At this gaste,' quod Sir Gaweayne, 'greue 3owe no more,' *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3470 Seynt Ede..sayde: syre kyng, drede 3ow nomore! *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 29 Y thought that ye wolde kepe you nere aboute hym. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 512 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 302 And neir the dur 3e hyd 3ow prevely. 1585 [see a]. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 18 Pray set it downe, and rest you..Pray now rest your selfe. 1712 [see GET v. 28 c]. 1884 W. S. GILBERT *Princ. Ida* III, Coward! get you hence.

5. *Nominative*, replacing THOU.

Always const. with pl. verb, exc. in the collocation *you was*, prevalent in 17th and 18th c., for which see BE v. 6 P.

For phr. such as *you bet*, *you know*, *you see*, see the verbs.

14.. *Guy W.* (Cambr. MS.) 4192 'Syr Gye,' he seyde,..' To morowe schall yow waddyd bee.' 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* VI. 657 (Edin. MS.) Bot the gret part to 3ow tuk 3e, That slew iiij of the fyve 3ow ane. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 380 Ouer the sayde byght, yow shall se a great gappe in the mountayne. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 53 You swore to that Berowne, and to the rest. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. ii. 194 Well, Maister Moore, you are a merie man. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 236 Yow shall, if yow finde it necessary, goe from Holland to France, and deliver to the Queen's Majtie this our letter. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 163 Well, Jacob, what do you stare at? Pray mind what you're upon. 1882 CLARK *Vill. Minstrel* I. 34 If yah set any store by one yah will! 1833 TENNYSON *Death of Old Year* ii, Old year, you must not go!..Old year, you shall not go.

b. As *vocative*, chiefly in apposition with a sb. following; in reproach or contempt often repeated after the sb. (cf. THOU 1 b).

c 1300 *Melusine* 182 My lord and you my lady, yf ye vouchasf it were tyme that we went thrugh the world at our auenture. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 288 Fie, fie, you counterfeit, you puppet, you. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. i, You asse you, d'ee call my Lord horse? 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* v. iii, You old Sot you, to be caught so sillily! 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* II, And you have but too well succeeded, you little hussy, you! 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* ix, You young hangdog, you! 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* II. 179 Walk a few yards ahead of me, and look out you for all that cross you! 1852 E. BURNE-JONES *Let.* 24 Jan. in *Mem.* (1904) I. 63 You scamp not to write before. 1919 CAPES *Skel. Key* xxi. 273 'I love you for trying, you dear,' he said.

III. Special uses.

6. Denoting any hearer or reader; hence as an indef. pers. pron.: One, any one.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 87 You shall sometime have one branch more gallant than his fellowes. 1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* I. iii, With this [perspicill] Ile read a leafe of that small Iliade..as plainly Twelue long miles off, as you see Pauls from Highgate. 1624 BACON *Ess., Atheism* (Arb.) 333 Nay more, you shall haue Atheists strive to get Disciples, as it fareth with other Sects. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4351/3 One Red Buby to the Eastward of you, as you pass this Chanel. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, A child.. began a squall that you might have heard from London Bridge to Chelsea. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* I. § 30 You can talk a mob into anything. 1870 *Good Words* 133/2 The slope [is] so rapid that you can scarcely find footing when once off the beaten road.

7. Used with no definite meaning as indirect object ('ethical dative'). Cf. ME 2 c. *arch.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 84, I will roare you as gently as any Sucking Doue; I will roare and 'twere any Nightingale. 1600 — *Ham.* v. i. 183 If he be not rotten before he die.., he will last you some eight yeare, or nine yeare. A Tanner will last you nine yeare. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* xii. 162 Vnto him..I doe..commend you: and rest you, Your very louing brother. 1874 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf.-P.* 388 Anti-social force that sweeps you down The world in one cascade of molecules.

† 8. As *possessive* = YOUR. *Obs.* or *dial. rare.*

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 272 You rather will quarrel with God for not fulfilling you wills. *Ibid.* 290 You make benefit thereof for you owne behoofe and content. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*

9. Qualified by a preceding adj.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* LXXVI. 9 Bound for the prize of (all to precious) you. 1895 MRS. FORRESTER *Too Late Repented* viii, 'Oh', muttered Ethel..'poor you, poor you!' 1904 F. WHITMAN *Tiger of Muscovy* xi. 95 How should poor little you deal with a maiden who dares to call the Tsar a bear?

10. As *sb.* a. The word as used in addressing a person or persons.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* IV, xix. (1890) 396 The Courtiers began to magnify him, and treat him in the plural number [illegible] to a Single Person,..with Testimonies of the most Persons in defence of the poor despised Quakers.

b. The person (or such a person as the one) addressed; the personality of the one addressed.

1720 DRYDEN *Fables* Post. Ded. 138 Or Heav'n..So lik'd the Frame, he would not work anew, To save the Charges of another You. 1724–5 SWIFT *Receipt to restore Stella's Youth* 38 If your flesh and blood be new, You'll be no more the former you. 1789 LAW *Serious C.* xix. 361, I don't mean that you have not bodies.., but that all that deserves to be called *you*, is nothing else but spirit. 1911 MARETT *Anthropol.* viii. 232 Though the language may seem to imply a 'you', he would mean, I believe, to impute to the flint just as much, or as little, of personality as we should mean to do when using similar language.

11. Phrasal combinations: **you-be-damned** *a.*, addicted to saying 'you be damned!'; contemptuously overbearing; hence *you-be-damnedness*; **you-know-what**, †**you-wot-what** *sb.*, used instead of the name of something which it is needless or undesirable to specify; also as *vb.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 145 As the doyng you wotte what. 1609 CAMDEN *Rem.* [illegible] to you know what. *a* 1845 HOOD *Tale of* [illegible] And down you go, in you know what. 1887 *Commerc. Trav. Mag.* II. 240 First give me, Marguerite, just a little drop of you know what. I'm quite husky. 1889 *Society in London* ix. 204 What I principally like about your Lord Hartington is his you-be-damnedness. 1892 KIPLING *Light that Failed* vi, He is such an aggressive, cocksure, you-be-damned fellow.

Hence **You** *v. trans.*, to address (a person) by the pronoun *you* (instead of *thou*); *intr.* with *it*, to use the pronoun *you* repeatedly. (Cf. THOU *v.*)

1564 BULLEYN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1573) 1 He [*sc.* a beggar] thowes not God, but you[s] hym. 1675 H. MORE in R. Ward *Life* (1710) 341 No Man will *You* God, but use the Pronoun *Thou* to him. 1676 BUNYAN *Strait Gate* 55 *I say unto you.* Had not the Lord Jesus designed by these words, to shew what an overthrow will one day be made among professors, he needed not to have *you'ed* it at this rate. 1848 A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Wds.* 109 Says I, 'Do yeaow mane to bully me?..Yeaow come here to bully me? So I yeaowed him out o' the field.

You, obs. f. EWE *sb.*[1]

1523–4 *Churchw. Acc., Croscombe* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 37 The whych you scheppes beth delyvered unto Hew Morganne.

You, graphic variant of *pou*, THOU.

Youden-drift, variant of EWDEN-DRIFT.

Youdith. *Sc.* [*f. youd*, obs. Sc. var. YOUTH + *-ith*, after *poortith*.] Youth.

1788 RAMSAY *Fair Assembly* xiv, Her Cheek, where Roses free from Stain, In Glows of Youdith beek. 1810 in Cromek's *Sel. Scot. Songs* II. 54 Sae lang's ye hae youdith.

Youdle, var. YODEL *v.*

Youf (yauf), *v. Sc.* Forms: 7 youph, yooff, 8–9 youf, yuff, 9 youff(e, yowf(f. [Echoic. Cf. YAFF.] *intr.* To bark, esp. in a suppressed manner.

1682 *Law Mem.* (1818) 224 His dogs..howling, yelling, and youphing. *Ibid.*, Howling and yoofing. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 6 My colley, Ringie, youf'd an yowl'd a' night. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 42 And, Cerberus, though but just whelped, Did stan' an' yuff. 1826 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 173 A' the collies began yelpin and youffin. 1842 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. III. *Last Laird o' the Auld Mint* viii, A kind yowffin bark.

So **Youf** *int.* (also reduplicated) and *sb.*

1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 18 Youf—youf—youf—go the terriers. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Youff*, the bark of a dog. *Youff* conveys the notion of a softer sound than *youp*.

Youf(f, Youft, variants of YOWF, YUFT.

Youghendale, youkyndall, var. YOKINDALE.

Yough fro, obs. form of YUFFROUW.

Yought, Youghten, Youghthe, yougth: see YACHT, YOUTH, YUFT.

Youhoge, obs. form of EWE-HOG.

1532 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 89 My sister-in-law Marg. Pinare a youhoge.

Youk, Youk(e, obs. ff. YOKE, YUKE. **Youl(e, youll, Youlan**: see OIL *sb.*[1], YOWL, YULAN.

Youlde, -en, obs. pa. t. and pple. of YIELD *v.*

Youle, obs. spelling of *you'll*, = *you will.*

1607 TOMKIS *Lingua* III. vi, Leaue iesting, youle put the fresh Actor out of countenance.

Youlowe, obs. form of YELLOW.

Youl(w)ring: see YOWLRING.

Yound (ȝ-), **-er**, obs. ff. YOND, YONDER.

Young (yŋ), *a.* (*sb.*). Forms: *a.* 1 ȝeong, ȝiong, ȝung, iung, 2 ȝung, 2–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝung, 3 ȝoung, 3–5 ȝeong(e, ȝonge, ȝunge, yung, (6 *Sc.*) ȝong, 3–7 yong, (4 ȝonke, ȝhoung, yhung), 4–5 yunge, 4–6 yonge, ȝoung(e, (5 yhonge, ȝoyng, 6 yowngе, yongue), 6–7 yoong, younge, 6– young. *β.* 1 ȝing, 3 ȝuing, 3–5 ȝinge, 4–5 [illegible]e, 4–6 ȝing, ying, (4 yyng, 5 yinge, e, ynge, yhyng). *γ.* 3 ȝenge, 3–5 ȝeng, (4 [illegible]), 4–5 yeng. See also YOUNGER, YOUNGEST.

junk (LG. *jung*), OHG., MHG. *junc* (G. *jung*), ON. *ungr* (Sw., Da. *ung*), Goth. *juggs* :— OTeut. **jiŋgus*, contraction of **juwungus* :— Indo-Eur. **juwn̥ĝós* (whence Skr. [illegible] youthful, young-ling, L. *juvencus* young bull, W. *ieuanc*, OIr. *óac*, *óc* young), f. **juwen-* (*jūn-*, *jun-*), which is

represented also by Skr. *yúvan-*, *yúvn-*, L. *juvenis*, comp. *júnior*, Lith. *jáunas*, OSl. *junŭ* young, L. *juventūs*, *juventa*, Olr. *ōitiu*, YOUTH.] **A.** *adj.*

1. That has lived a relatively short time; that is in the early stage of life or growth; youthful: opp. to OLD *a.* 1. **a.** of persons.

Not so young as (one) was (or *used to be*): getting old, advanced in years (*colloq.*, often *facular*).

a. Beowulf 13 Dæm eafera wæs æfter cenned geong in geardum. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 392 Nu synt gefreade þegnas mine, geonge guðrincas. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 2591 (Napier 70/2) *Lactantes, i. infantes*, lung cildra. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12112 Ȝiff þu..hafesst ȝet, tohh þu be ȝung, Ellderne-manness late. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 66 A meiden swiðe ȝung of ȝeres. *c* 1250 *S. Eng. Leg.* 7/209 On ouewarde he [=saiz a luyte ȝong child. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12460 Quen iesus com in-to þat scole, þof he was yong was he na fole. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 181 Hit is an vn-Coynely Couple be Cryst, as me þinkeþ, To ȝeuen a ȝong wenche to an old feble Mon. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 322 His air..his land sall weild, All be he neuir so ȝhoung of eild. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* iii, Wher ȝong damesellis be with chateryng tongis. *c* 1460 *Emare* 707 Up he toke that fayre ladye, And the yonge chylde her by. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 162 The nourcesis sitte seuerall alone with their yonge suckelinges. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 285 Phillip..died young before his Father. 1668 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 3 Who, like Augustus, young Was call'd to Empire and had govern'd long. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* XVI, He.. instructed the young boys in the games of hustle-cap, leap-frog, and chuck-farthing. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XII, Young in years but old in grief. 1852 Miss MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* VII, Judging such things by what they were when I was young. *Ibid.*, He is not so young as he used to be. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXXVII, George Hawker, it's many years since we met, and I'm not so young as I was. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* VI, Somehow the laugh had made her look young and pretty again.

b. a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 353 Ic up ahof eaforan ȝinge. *Ibid.* 464 Onȝit, guma ȝinga, godes heahmæȝen, nergendes naman. *c* 1250 [see YOUNG WOMAN 1]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3224 A sargiant..þat had ben als of his fostring, Ai siþen he was a barn ying. 13.. *Coer de L.* 924 Forleyn was his doughter yyng. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 195 That ageynys oo maydyn tendyr & ying Fyfty greth clerkys þou doost furth bryng. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 198 As soone as thei hem saugh, thei ne douted nothinge so small a peple that were so ynge. 1522 *World & Child* A ij b, I wyll the fynde whyle thou art yinge, So thou wylte be obedyent to my byddynge. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 188 In him I hope releif, Of ȝeiris thocht he be ȝing. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxiv. 2 Sueit thing, bening and ȝing.

γ. c 1205 LAY. 3123 He was a ȝenge king. 13.. *Cursor M.* 24030 (Gött.), þat wreche womman ȝeng [*rime* steng]. *c* 1400 [see YOUNG MAN 1]. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3305 Among the lordes old and yeng For gladnes of thes new tithing. *c* 1480 *Cursor M.* 10618 (Laud) There was no maide of none ospryng So holy of lyf old nor yeng. *c* 1490 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 591 He had sex childre ȝeng A lang tyne in his kepyng.

b. In collocations of specific meaning, as *young creature, young folk(s, young fry, young people, young person, young thing*: see the sbs. CREATURE 3, FOLK 3, 4, FRY[1] 4 b, PEOPLE 6 b, PERSON 2 c, THING[1] 10, and quots. below. *Young one*: †a young person; (usually with poss.) offspring, pl. *young ones*, offspring, progeny; = B. 2; also in colloq. form *young 'un* = YOUNGSTER. See also YOUNG LADY, YOUNG MAN, YOUNG WOMAN, and C. below.

Certain collocations, e.g. *young man, gentleman, woman, lady*, are colloq. used vocatively in addressing reproof or warning to persons of almost any age. See YOUNG MAN 1, quot. 1865, YOUNG WOMAN 1, quot. 1864.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6446 Awey sell ȝonge ȝinges. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1326 ȝe..Oghe to a ȝonke ȝynk ȝern to schewe, & teche sum tokenes of trweluf crafles. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xvi. 5 Thei goynge yn into the sepulcre syȝen a ȝong oon, hilid with a whit stoole. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 147 Ful seelde is, þat ȝong folk wyse been. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 349 A yong creature of ix yere of age, Dame Isabell. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 55 That the yonge peple shold not haue but on gowne or garment in the yere. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 3 Mony guyd men and vemen and specialie ȝung persons. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xi. 7 The cowe and the Bere shal fede together, and their yongones shal lye together. 1542 [see THING *sb.*[1] 10]. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 303 Dead though she be, she feeles her yong one kicke. 1605 — *Macb.* IV. ii. 11 The poore Wren.. will fight, Her yong ones in her Nest, against the Owle. 1653 W. HARVEY *Anat. Exerc.* xl. 53 The superficies of this Island (in the monethe of May and June) is almost covered quite over with Nests, Egges, and Young-Ones. 1693 *Humours Town* 118 If you want a Foil, as indeed 'tis generally the Care of you young Ones, now-a-days, to get one that's Ugly or Old. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 190 My Eyes, like most young Peoples, were perpetually at the Windows. 1753 SMOLLETT *Count Fathom* viii, Certain dangerous books, calculated to debauch the minds of young people. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxxi, The Baron, while he assumed the lower end of the table, insisted that Lady Emily should do the honours of the head, that they might, he said, set a meet example to the *young folk*. 1833 [see FOLK 3 b]. 1858 EGAN *Pilgr. Thames* x. 200 'Where's the kids?' 'Kids!' reiterated Mrs. Brindle, interrogatively. 'Yes, the young 'uns!' said Mrs. Rodger. 'Oh, the children!' 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xviii, Dinah would..tell all marauding 'young uns'..to keep out of the kitchen. 1852 Miss MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* x, The young couple were excellent listeners. 1859 LEIPCHILD *Cornwall* 282 'Young persons' have been defined to be males and females of from thirteen to eighteen years of age. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* III. iii, Well, young sir, we've been talking as we should want your pen and ink. 1876 Miss BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I, You beware o' that young 'un. He's bound to be your foe. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* I. iii, She could be properly described as a Young Girl, which is the general name for the workwoman in youth, but no one would think of calling her a young lady. 1918 *Act* 8 & 9 *Geo. V*, c. 39. § 48 The expression 'young person' means a person under eighteen years of age who is no longer a child.

(*b*) Such collocations may be used attrib. or as adj., may be converted into verbs, or may take a suffix; e.g. *young-girl* adj. (pertaining to a young girl), *young-master* vb. (to address or treat as a young master); *young-gentlemanly* adj. (pertaining to or characteristic of a young gentleman).

1823 *Sidney's Arcadia* II. xxix. (ed. 4) 210 Looking to haue bin yong-maistred among those great estates, as he was among his abusing vnderlings. 1854 THACKERAY *Leech's Pict.* Wks. 1900 XIII. 488 What fine young-gentlemanly wags they are. 1868 SILL *Hermitage* 1, A well-bred, fair, young-gentlemanly life. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* ix, She was absorbed in..her own young-girl dreams.

c. Used to distinguish the younger of two persons of the same name or title in a family (esp. a son from his father); equivalent to *junior*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Þe holy mayde sare þet zeþþe was yonge thobyes wyf. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 216 Scipio the ying. ? *a* 1462 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 55 Yn Abraham tyme, and in Balky tyme the yongge. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xviii. (S. T. S.) I. 101 ȝoung (*v. r.* ȝing] terquyne and þis feirs tullia war maryit togiddir. 1563–1693 [see MASTER *sb.*[1] 22]. 1572 in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1899) I. 23 For maring of ȝoung Quein Marie with Prince Edward. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 147 The chief leaders, Nathaniel Fynes and young Sir H. Vane. 1753 SMOLLETT *Count Fathom* xliii, Young Melvil..implicitly believed the story and protestations of Fathom. 1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* I, Young Ormond was the son of the friend of Sir Ulick O'Shane's youthful and warm-hearted days. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *A. Bay* xi, Lady Frances keeps her dower, and young Deering the estates for his life.

d. of animals (or their flesh as food).

Young fry: see FRY *sb.*[1] 4.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 23 *Uitulum saginatum*, ȝing oxo fætt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 201 Þe neddre bileued hire hude baften hire, and cumeð newe fel and hie wurð ȝung. 1390 in W. Hudson *Leet Jurisd. Norwich* (1892) 73 Capere yongfry in Regia Ripa et vendere hominibus de Crowmeer..pro bayte. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 54 Take kydes Fleyesche & ȝong porke. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 139 Of beestis and foules ȝynge,..a peyre. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 82 Thy colts for thy saddle geld young to be light. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 43 As soone goes the yong sheep to the pot as the olde. 1653 W. HARVEY *Anat. Exerc.* v. 20 Pullets or young Hens. *c* 1730 RAMBAY *Eagle & Robin* 23 A tunefull Robin trig and ȝung. 1803–6 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* iii, While the young lambs bound As to the tabor's sound. 1828 G. F. LYON *Jrnl. Mexico* I. 109 A steak which I cooked tasted so like well-fed young pork.

e. of plants, or their parts or products.

a 800 *Blickl. Glosses* in *O.E. Texts* 122 Þa ȝingan eletriow. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 3730 (Napier 99/2) Iungum wyrtuna ofstum. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1134 Þar tron shulle a ȝere blowe An ȝunge sedes springe & growe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1418 Þar ras o þam thre wandes yong. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 11 Do þer to sage and parsely ȝoyng. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 22 The rosis yong..War powderit brycht with hevinly beriall droppis. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 378 There is a man haunts the Forrest, that abuses our yong plants with caruing Rosalinde on their barkes. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 108 If it [*sc.* cross-grain] grew up young with the Trunk, then instead of a Knot you will find a Curling in the Stuff when it is wrought. 1716 'H. S. PHILOKEROS' *Yng. Gard. Director* 108 Young Onions. 1824 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 23 The sunny colouring of the young leaves. 1828 G. F. LYON *Jrnl. Mexico* II. 249 The cattle..make sad incursions amongst the young crops. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 29 The heart wood is..of a darker colour than the soft or young wood.

2. *transf.* Belonging or pertaining to a young person or persons, or to youth. **a.** with *age, days, years*, etc.: the age or time when one is young; youth. *Obs.* exc. in *young days*.

c 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (1888) 99 Gif he þet sylfe cild on iunre ylde is. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 2275 (Napier 61/2) Iunges cildhades. *Ibid.* 2843 (77/2) *Teneritudine*, lungan iuȝeþe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 492 This hanselle has Arthur of auenturus on fyrst, In ȝonge ȝer. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 53 Children in ȝonge age. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 131 Whan his ȝong dayes were go, he went to Rome. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 79 At these yong yeres of age. *c* 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 27 Than vp thow rasit to reule my Ring, In to my tender yeiris ȝing. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 77 Cuthburge..from her yong yeares sought to please Christ. 1852 Miss MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* XV, A remnant of my young days.

b. of bodily members, faculties, acts, etc.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1434 His ȝunge blod hit draȝeþ amis. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 251 He was wonder sory, and ful hertly wepte wiþ his ȝonge eyne. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 308 Ane ȝoung stomack..of groiss meittis..ma tak skayth and harme. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 204 Hauyng a yonge and a lusty courage,..he set on hys enemyes. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 47 By Loue, the yong, and tender wit is turn'd to folly. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xi, She made eyes at him, and directed her young smiles at him. 1876 Miss BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I, A homily, in which he held up to his son the picture of his young infirmities. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* ix. (1883) 66 A young eye beneath a grey eyebrow is a prettier thing than a grey head on young shoulders.

3. Having the characteristics of young persons, or of youth; youthful in bodily condition or mental disposition (with various connotations); *esp.* having the freshness or vigour of youth.

too yong in this. 1698 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* I. xxxii. 92 An old Abbatess, being decrepit, suddenly became young, her monthly courses return'd (etc.). 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to W. Montagu* 9 Dec., 'Tis a maxim with me to be young as long as one can. 1819 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Substance Lett.* (1820) I. 454 Napoleon's mother.., a very handsome, regular featured, princely personage, young of her age. 1824 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. *Lucy*, The affectation of age and wisdom, which contrast so oddly with his young unmeaning face. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* iii, Mr. Oresham was young for his age, and the doctor old. 1894 MAX PEMBERTON *Sea-Wolves* I, Why, man, she must be a hundred and four, and young at that.

4. That has newly or not long since entered upon some course of action, or having the character of such a one; newly or recently initiated; inexperienced, or having little experience; unpractised; 'raw'.

Also in Australian use, Newly arrived; that is a newcomer.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 2673 (Napier 48/1) Iungum, *nouitericis*, I. *nouellis* (*catholicæ fidei sectatoribus*). *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 4 Þah ich bo a wintre alde, to ȝung ich em on rede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 162 Nou yseȝ ane ȝongue boryels and ane newene knyȝt. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* vii, Quhich to declare my scole is ouer ȝong. 1496–7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 6 The seid fellishippe and Marchaunttes of London take of every English man or yonge merchaunte beyng there att his first commyng xx li. sterling. 1561 WINJET *Eh. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 101 Men in this vocatioun..suld nocht be ȝoung of leirning. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. iv. 144 We are yet but yong indeed. 1630 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 161 Its not with thee as with a yong Christian. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* IV. (1840) 67, I was but young at the work. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journey, Montriul*, The landlord supposing I was young in French. 1798 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) II. 77 We are still so young in the study of Nature. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXXI, 'Matey, what station are you on?' 'Maraganoa', says he. 'So', says I, 'you're rather young there, ain't you?' 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Young gentleman*, a general designation for midshipmen, whatever their age.

†**b.** *transf.* Characteristic of a young person, or of a beginner; showing inexperience; juvenile; immature; *occas.* childish, infantile. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Moral Ode* 10 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Fele idel word ich habbe ispeken seðen ich speken cuðe, And fele ȝeunge [*v. r.* ȝuinge] dade idon þe me ofþinked nuðe. 1623 COCKERAM II, *Young*, childish. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 9 To excuse his young Experience. 1728 J. HUGHES in *J. Duncombe's Lett.* (1773) I. 205 He has..inserted some trifles of mine which were very young performances.

5. Of a thing (concrete or abstract): That is in its early stage; lately begun, formed, introduced, or brought into use; not far advanced; recent, new.

In quot. 1402 applied to something resulting or 'springing' from something else, as compared to offspring (cf. 1 d).

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 103 And alle ilche ȝonge Impossibilitees folowen therof. 1538 ELYOT, *Mustus*..., newe, yonge, late made. 1583 *Respōblica* III. iii. 731 It ys but yong daies yet. 1589 UNDERDOWNE *Heliodorus* VII. 93 b, A little yonge yellowe bearde. 1877 HARRISON *England* II. ii. 1. 50 Oxford hath Oxfordshire onielie, a verie yoong iction, erected by king Henrie the eight. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 166 *Rom.* Is the day so young? *Ben.* But new strooke nine. 1631 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* (ed. 4) I. xiii. 89 Take the Kidney-Tallow of a Sheep, and as much young Cheese. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 64 While yet the Spring is young. *Ibid.* III. 750 Such are the Symptoms of the young Disease. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 113 To tun or put up their Drink young, as the Brewers call it, that is before it hath fermented too much. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXXVIII, It's a young country, but there's been muckle wickedness done in it. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* XVI, The water..spread with that young blue which never lives beyond the April. 1880 O. CRAWFURD *Portugal* 253 New port wine—the trade speak of it as *young* wine. 1884 BESANT *Dorothy Forster* XI, They..left the table when the night was yet young, and the bottle just beginning. 1886 CUMMING *Electr. treated Experim.* (1887) 63 It is..necessary, while the ship is young, to make a new correction for magnetism after each voyage. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* III, A..gabled house set by the walk-side among some brave young woods. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 15/6 [This] was a severe tax on a young concern not earning profits.

b. Applied to the moon in the early part of the lunar month, soon after 'new moon', when it appears as a crescent.

In quot. *c* 1386 applied to the sun at the season just after the vernal equinox.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 8 The yonge sonne Hath in the Ram his halfe cours yronne. 1813 [see *May moon*, MAY *sb.*[2] 3]. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 168 When the young moon is westering as now. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* III. 95 The dark azure vault, up which the thread-like crescent of the young moon was climbing.

c. *spec.* in nautical uses (see quots.).

1596 SIR W. SLINGSBY *Voy. Cadiz* (Navy Rec. Soc. XX.) 71 At six hours' end,..upon the opportunity of the young flood, the San Felipe, the San Matias, the San Audres, and the San Tomaso..were abandoned by the Spaniards. 1774 C. J. PHIPPS *Voy. N. Pole* 60 The pools of water in the middle of the pieces were frozen over with young ice. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* I. We..ran up the river with the young flood for about an hour. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XV. (1856) 109 The 'young', or as it is called by the whalers, the 'bay ice'. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Flood*, When the water begins to rise, it is called a young flood. *Ibid., Young wind*, the commencement of the land or sea

†**d.** *Young with child*: newly pregnant, in the early stage of pregnancy; also loosely used for 'pregnant' (app. by confusion of *with child* and *with young*). *Obs.*

1623–28 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1618) 287 Charles (King

of France] dying leaues his Wife young with childe. 1692 *French Yorksh. Spaw* viii. 78 When they have been very young with child. 1758 Mrs. Lennox *Henrietta* I. x, My mother, being young with child when my father died, miscarried. *a* 1800 T. Bellamy *Beggar Boy* (1801) III. 52 When my father was commanded on board, he left my mother young with child of me.

6 *fig.* Small, diminutive, miniature, not full-sized. Now *colloq.* and *jocular.*

1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 8 (1877) 60 We have in England great corne countres, groves, yongaprynges, great ryvers and swete brookes. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 173 It is best to bring from the Sea, little Rockes with the weedes and all vppon them, and to place them in the middest of your Ponds, and to make a young Sea of them. 1852 *Amer. Mag.* Nov. 90 I'll turn all the drawers inside out, wus than a young earthquake. 1864 Grace Greenwood *Haps & Mishaps* 10, I left Liverpool on an afternoon of unusual brightness, but plunged immediately into a young night, in the shape of the longest tunnel I ever passed through. 1885 Hornaday *Two Yrs. in Jungle* xvii. 190 Such a weapon is really a young cannon.

† b. Technically applied to a lens of low magnifying power. *Obs.*

1667 Pepys *Diary* 4 Nov., To Turlington, the great spectacle-maker,..who dissuades me from using old spectacles, but rather young ones. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. xii. § 22 To speak in the Language of the Glass-Grinders, of younger or older Spectacles.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. *absol.* in pl. sense (with def. art., or without art. in conjunction with *old*): Young people.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii[i]. 63 *Juuenes eorum comedit ignis*, zunge heara et fyr. *c* 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* ii, Æfre þa zeongan wurðian þa ealdan, & þa ealdan lufien þa zingran. *c* 1205 Lay. 28444 Þa zeonge and þa alde alle he aquealde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20495 Zong and ald and euerilkan All þar fell to slepe onan. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 122 And how that love among the yonge Began the hertes thanne awake. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 217 Therfor thou byd both old and ying, That ich man know me for his kyng. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 29 Cum zung and auld, baith man and wyfe, I will zow giue Eternall lyfe. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 218 He wooes both high and low, both rich and poor, both yong and old. 1621 *Bible* 2 Macc. v. 13 Thus there was killing of yong and old. 1832 [see Old *a.* 1]. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 207 P 2 Old Age, which is a Decay from that Vigour which the Young possess. 1770 [see Old *a.* 1]. 1827 Maria Edgeworth *Ormond* I, She saw herself surrounded by the young, the fair, and the gay. 1842-4 [see Old *a.* 1]. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* v, I have always lived with people older than myself,...so I do not feel it, though it is very nice to be with the young.

† b. *absol.* or as *sb. sing.* A young person, *esp.* a young woman or girl. *Obs.*

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 385 Ðu gionga, bio ðe unlæ to cliplanne & to læranne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 20 Þa cwæð se geonga, eall þiss ic geheold. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 137 (Cambr. MS.) 'Feren', quaþ he, 'zonge [*v.r.* zynge], Ihc telle zou tiþinge.' 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 951 Vn-lyke on to loke þo ladyes were, For if þe zonge was zep, solze was þat oþer. † 1402 in *Yorksh. Archæol. Jrnl.* (1909) XX. 43 Vlixes.. Brak hir his trowth, & toke another yhyng, Circes, to loue. *c* 1430 [see Yeply *a.*] 24.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 77 This goodly yong and fresche of face.

c. as *sb.* in *pl.* Young or newly initiated persons, new-comers, novices. *nonce-use.*

1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/2 Although the 'Olds' have been the pioneers of the movement, the 'Youngs' show an impatience with them at every meeting.

2. † a. A young one; esp. with *a* and *pl.* (chiefly in imitation of foreign idiom). *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10977 Til þat he be born, þat yung, Þan sal he do þe haue þe tung. *c* 1500 Andrew *Noble Lyfe* xxxvii. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 234 Halata is a beste that dothe on-naturall dedys, for whan she feleth her yonges quycke, or store in her body, than she drawyth them out & loketh vpon them. 1527 — *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* F ij b, A Scorpyon, whyche kylleth the yonges of the lyon with his venymous stynges. 1759 B. Stillingfleet tr. *Riberg's Econ. Nat.* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 90 The elephant scarcely produces one young in two years. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 612/1 It [*sc.* the great seal] breeds about the month of March, and brings forth a single young on the ice.

b. Young animals collectively in relation to the parent; young ones, offspring.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. xiii, The tree where vpon the egle and his yonge were in theyr nest. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxxiii[i]. 3 The sparow hath founde hir an house, & the swalowe a nest, where she maye laye hir yonge. — *Jer.* xvii. 11 The diecaatfull maketh a nest, but bringeth forth no yonge. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 863 So then he hath it when he cannot vse it, And leaues it to be maistred by his yong. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 223 Gif a Sou eit his yoUng, stane him. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 382 'Tis with this rage, the Mother Lion stung, Scours o're the Plain; regardless of her young. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* vii, The brinded lioness led forth her young. 1849 *Sh. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 63 The field mouse breeds twice in the year, producing from six to ten young at a time.

c. Phr. *With young* (also *in young*), of a female animal: Pregnant.

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxvii[i]. 72 The yowes greate with yonge. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, II. v. 35 So many Dayes, my Ewes haue beene with yong. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 241 Goats grow fat when they are with young. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. vii. 203 The cat goes with young fifty-six days. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 309 The breeding sow, when in young, and near farrowing, should be kept in good condition.

† 3. (*? ellipt.* for *young age*: see the adj. 2 a.) The time of life when one is young; youth. *rare.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) v. 90 In thi yonge lewe God to plese. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* End 60 In the strong Estate of Man, and the sweet Time of younge.

C. Special collocations and Combinations. (See also A. 1 b.)

1. a. With the names of countries or their inhabitants, in the designations of political parties chiefly composed of young men: as **Young England**, name assumed by a group of Tory politicians in the early part of the reign of Queen Victoria (hence *Young-Englander*, a member of this group; *Young-Englandism*, the principles of 'Young England'); **Young Europe**, a group of associations of republican agitators of various nations which arose after the July revolution (1830) in France, known severally as *Young France*, *Young Germany*, *Young Italy*, *Young Poland*; **Young Ireland**, a group of Irish agitators about 1840–50 (hence *Young-Irelander*, *Young-Irelandism*); **Young Turk**, a member of a party of Turkish agitators which brought about the revolution of 1908 (hence *Young Turkish* adj.). (Such phrases may also be used in a general sense, as *Young England* = the typical young Englishman, or the rising generation of Englishmen.)

1838 R. Monckton Milnes *Let. to C. J. MacCarthy* 13 Mar., I go on with small '*Young Englands' on Sunday evenings, which unfortunately excludes the more severe members—Acland, Gladstone, &c. 1843 *Times* 17 Aug. 5/2 It is not to defend 'Young England'..that we make these remarks. 1848 Kingsley *Yeast* vi, Young England or Peelite, this is all right and noble. 1850 *New Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) LVIII. 425 Now Master Young England I am afraid I have been rather angry with you. 1886 Kebbel *Hist. Toryism* v. 273 That distrust of Sir Robert Peel which alone made the Young England Party possible. 1887 in T. W. Reid *R. M. Milnes* (1890) I. 205 We may both rejoice that our two *young Englanders [*sc.* Milnes and Acland] have come out so well. 1848 Kingsley *Yeast* iii, She would have started as from a snake, from the issue..that Lancelot would fall in love, not with *Young Englandism, but with Argemone Lavington. 1840 T. Gordon tr. *W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* IV. 309 The coterie took the name of Young Germany (*das junge Deutschland*) only, however, as an emanation from *Young Europe. 1835 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 478/1 Germany had found in her political reformers a new school of literature and morals, as well as of civil rights... Under the appellation of '*young Germany', or 'young literature', aping the French..disregard of all authority,..they preached up their extravagant doctrines in corrupting publications. 1845 R. Monckton Milnes *Let. to C. J. MacCarthy* 26 Mar., *Young Ireland would separate from Rome to-morrow if they dared. 1884 *Dict. Eng. Hist.* 610/1 The 'Young Ireland' party..made a foolish attempt at rebellion in 1848. 1885 Moriarty in W. Ward *Life Newman* (1912) I. 361, I do not at all share .. in Dr. Cullen's distrust of those he calls *Young Irelanders. 1851 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 224 Rise and Progress of *Young-Irelandism. 1844 R. Monckton Milnes *Let. to C. J. MacCarthy* 1 July, Mazzini,..who has been organising a '*Young Italian' descent on Italy from Malta. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Sept. 7/6 As regards the *Young Turks, the Sultan hopes that Munir Bey will be able [illegible] 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 9/1 [illegible] 1912 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 463/2 The *Young Turkish party had long been preparing for the overthrow of the old régime.

b. In other special collocations, as *young* **Fustic**, *young* **Hyson**, *Young* **Pretender**, for which see the sbs.

2. *Comb.* a. Adverbial and predicative, as *young-born* (cf. 'new-born'), *-fed*, *-looking*, *-old* (old in years but young in condition or disposition), *-sprung* adjs. b. Parasynthetic, etc. as *young-bladed*, *-conscienced*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-winged*, † *-yeared* adjs.; † **young-blood**, a 'young-blooded' person, a young hothead; † **young-head**, a headstrong young man. Also **Young-eyed**, **Young-like**.

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* Ep. (1895) 5 This *yong bladed and newe shotte vp corne. 1630 Brathwait *Eng. Gentleman* 12 These *Young-bloods use rather, Catiline-like, to speake much, and doe little. 1674 *Edin. Rev.* July 60 The first-fruits of the *young-born eruptive power. 1652 Davenant *Gondibert* II. vii. xxx, She.. like *Young Conscience'd Casuists, thinks that sin, Which will by talk and practise lawfull seeme. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 1 Rejecting Old, *Young-Counsail'd rash Roboam Loseth Ten Tribes, which fall to Jeroboam. 1598 *Mucedorus* iv. i. 29 What..*young-fed humour moist within the braine? 1630 Brathwait *Eng. Gentleman* 12 It is intolerable for these *Young-heads to be opposed: they are deafe to reason. 1588 Fraunce in *Brit. Bibliogr.* (1812) II. 280 Owld dotinge graye beardes talke muche of Baralipton, whiles *young headed boyes beare awaye logike. 1868 Lynch *Rivulet* cl. vi, *Young-hearted, gay Summer shall fling Thy doubts away. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. *Mod. Ant.*, A man of seventy,..but wonderfully *young-looking and well-preserved. 1598 R. Ramsey *Boy Bp.'s Serm.* 14 in *Camden Misc.* (1875) VII, All yow that are no childer, but men, women, and *yonggolds, of years and discretion. 1630 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xiii. 274 Caleb was that young-old man, whose strength contradicted his years. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 2/1 A tall, ascetic-looking, young-old man. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* IV. i, All thy *young sprung griefes shall seeme but sparkes To the great fire of my calamities. 1706 Watts *Horæ Lyr.* II. xxxiii. 149 A generous Pair Of *young-wing'd Eaglets. 1596 R. Linche *Diella* F j b, This *young-year'd Hermit. 1599 — *Fount. Anc. Fiction* H ij, A carelesse crue of young-year'd Nimphs.

Younger (yu·ngəɹ), *a.* (*sb.*). Forms: 1 **gingra**, **ġyngre**, **ġeongra**, 3 **ȝeong(e)re**, **ȝengere**, **ȝ(e)ungær**, **ȝungre** (*Orm.* **ȝunngre**), **yungre**, **ȝongor(e**, 3–4 **ȝongere**, 3–5 **ȝungar**, (6 *Sc.*) **ȝonger**, 4 **yunger**, 4–6 **ȝongar**, *Sc.* **ȝongar(e**, 4–7 **yonger**, 5 **ȝongir(e**, **ȝungir**, **yungur**, 5–6 **yongur**, 6 *Sc.* **ȝoungar**, **youngar**, **yonngar(e**, 7 *Sc.* **ȝonnegar**, 6– **younger**. [*f.* Young *a.* + -er 3. (The normal mutated OE. comp. *gingra*, *gyngra* did not survive.)] The comparative degree of Young *a.*; opposed to Elder *a.*, Oldre.

1. In senses 1 and 3 of Young: Of less age; that has lived a shorter time; more youthful (in years, or *fig.* in disposition, etc.).

c 930–40 *Laws Æthelstan* VI. xii. § 1 Cwæð þa þæt him þuhte..þæt man nænne gingran mann ne sloge þonne xv wintre man. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) xxxvi. 26 [xxxvii. 25] Gyngra [*v.rr.* geongra, gongre] ic wæs, witandlice ic ealdode. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8753 Hit ne likede noþing wel Roberd courtehese þoru is ȝongores broþer so engelond to lese. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3493 Iacob hight þe yonger broþer. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 308 Fadra hire yonger Soster. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2474 Athils of all age eldire & ȝongire. 1583–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 23 The yonger and the grener that the grasse is, the softer and the sweter it wyll be. *c* 1600 G. Harvey *Marginalia* (1913) App. ii. 232 The younger sort takes much delight in Shakespeares Venus, & Adonia. *c* 1626 *Dicke of Devon.* IV. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1883) II. 62 All younger brothers Must sitt beneath the salt & take what dishes The elder shoves downe to them. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* I. xxxii. 52 They are proverbially said to have eaten a snake, who look younger than accustomed. 1728 Pope *Let. to Lady M. W. Montagu* 2 Sept., I shall look upon you as so many years younger than you was, so much nearer innocence. 1838 Lytton *Alice* IX. ii, Evelyn was younger than her years! 1844 R. Monckton Milnes *Let. to C. J. MacCarthy* 1 July, Sir F. Doyle is going to marry the younger Miss Wynn. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 484 The younger brother may not marry the elder brother's widows.

b. Used after a person's name for distinction from an older person of the same name; = Junior I. Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 2138 Iustine yungre. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 84 Alayne Romely þe yongur. 1529 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* 62/2 Umquhill Johnne Culquhone, eldar, and Johnne Culquhone, younger. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 163 Tobias the Elder lived to one hundred fifty and eight, the younger to one hundred twenty seven. 1684 *Procl.* in Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1722) II. App. 109 John Baxters elder and younger, Tenants to Robert Campbel. 1734 *Parish Reg. Forres* 23 Feb. (MS.), Witnesses Alexander Dunbar younger and Elder of Boath. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xli, Charles Hazlewood, younger of Hazlewood.

† c. *Youngerman*: see quot. and Yeoman etym. Cf. MLG. *jungerman*, newly elected judge or counsellor, newly admitted member of a guild.

† *c* 1185 *Pseudo-Cnut De Foresta* ii. (Liebermann) 620 Sintque sub quolibet horum [primariorum] quatuor ex mediocribus hominibus, quos Anglі læssþegenes nuncupant, Dani uero yongermen uocant.

2. *transf.* in sense 2 of Young: Belonging to the earlier part of life; earlier. Now only in *younger days.*

1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 707 Gude will schawin unto him in his younger aige. 1603 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 42 (Qo. 1) To shake all cares and busines of our state, Confirming them on yonger yeares. 1676 Glanvill *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* III. 52 They [*sc.* the Peripatetick Disputers] imployed their Younger Studies upon the Philosophy of Disputation. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. xvii. § 8 Whether in their chamber, parlour or study, in the younger or elder years of life. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* lxi, He had been an old votary of the turf in his younger days.

3. In senses 4 and 5 of Young: More lately initiated, begun, introduced, etc.; having less experience or practice; that is in an earlier stage; less advanced; later, more recent.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 122 Thou art young in yeares, I suppose: but younger in enterprise, I am assured. 1609 Bp. Hall *Disswas. Poperie* Wks. (1625) 614 If there be any point of our Religion yonger than the Patriarchs, and Prophets. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iii. § 10 We have made it evident, that these two great historians are younger even then the translation of the Bible into Greek. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Younger Regiment* or *Officer*, in Military Affairs, that Regiment is counted Youngest, which was last rais'd, and that Officer youngest, whose Commission is of the latest Date. 1794 J. Boys *Agric. Kent* 38 The second year after planting [hops], full size poles..are placed to the hills instead of the seconds, which are removed to younger grounds. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 340 Younger towns, towns which are rarely or never mentioned in our early history and which sent no representatives to our early parliaments. 1854 Murchison *Siluria* I. 23 The Silurian rocks of the Ural chain are succeeded by younger palæozoic deposits. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* II. 60 The younger the science, the smaller will be the amount of known facts. 1915 *Daily Tel.* 5 May 2/3 The directors decided not to commence tapping on the younger [rubber] fields.

b. *Younger hand* (in Card-playing): the second player in a two-handed game (opp. to *elder hand*, Elder *a.* 4).

1744 Hoyle *Piquet* iii. 28 If the younger hand has one Ace dealt him, what are the Odds of his taking in one or two of the three remaining Aces?

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. *absol.* (usually, now always, with def. art.) in *sing.* or *pl.* sense; One who is, or those who are, younger. (Most commonly contrasted with *elder.*)

OE. *gingra* (fem. *gingre*) spec. = follower, disciple, vassal.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. v. (1890) 160 Se bisceop, hatwih oþre here mannum to fyligeanne, þa ingwesenan hysene his gingrum forlet. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 292 Ne wille ic lang

his ȝeongra wurþan. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 326 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Ne muȝe we werien naðer ne wiþ þurst ne wiþ hunger ..þe elder ne þe ȝeunger. *c* 1205 LAY. 3927 Þe king hauede tweie sunen..þe ȝengere [*c* 1275 þe ȝeongre] hehte Poreus. *Ibid.* 9189 Wiðer wes þa mildere Aruiragun þe ȝungere [*c* 1275 ȝeongere]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Nenne mon ne letan heo in ne þe ȝungre ne speke mid none monne buten leaue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2934 Þe elder to þe yonger spak. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 383 He þat is gratter of ȝow, loke þat he be made as ȝongar in sympilnes. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 8 Wan þe synne of þe heldar man drawiþ not be his ensaumple þe hertis of þe ȝungar in to deþ. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* IX. 12 The elder shall serve the yonger. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 16 It is fit that the yonger obey the elder.

2. (In early use *absol.* without change in pl.; later as *sb.* with pl. in *-s*.) With preceding possessive: (A person's) inferior in age: = JUNIOR B. b. Now *rare*.

c 1200 ORMIN 13279 þatt uss birrþ follihenn bilþeilȝ þatt ure ȝunngre uss læreþþ, ȝiff þatt iss þatt hiss lare iss god. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) I. XXXVI. 78/1 Than begyn they moost to dote and to teche theyr yonger many folyes. 1543 [COVERDALE] *Old God* (1534) R j, Suche thinges do theyr yongers here. *a* 1540 in T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1807) 157 They shall diligently instruct their juniors and yongers. 1595 SOUTHWELL *Image of Death* 33 My youngers daily drop away, And can I think to 'scape alone? 1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 90 No false doctrine whatsoever can be admitted into the Church in any age, unless they of that age do unanimously conspire to deceive their children and yongers. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 22, I scarce can meet a monument, but holds My younger. 1836 *Going to Service* viii. 87 [Lady's maid loq.] It is very mortifying to be obliged to one's youngers. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1380 Answer'd Sir Gareth graciously to one Not many a moon his younger.

3. (As *sb.* with pl. in *-s*.) A younger person: = JUNIOR B. (Chiefly, in later use only, in *pl.*; commonly contrasted with *elder*.)

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. lv. 308 He muste nedis meene that he allowith oon to be grettist among hem, and that he in sum other maner louȝe him as a ȝonger. 1552 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 164 To the intent that the sage grauitie..of the elders should kepe the yongers from wanton licence. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. vi. 14 How like a yonger or a prodigall The skarfed barke puts from her natiue bay. 1658 OSBORN *Queen Eliz.* Ep. A 3 b, So have I a little wondred at Age, to finde it so tetchy, when Younger in years lay any claim to Knowledge. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 175 The two youngers [of the family] were also well placed. 1885 MOZLEY *Remin.* I. xxiv. 138 In 1823 all we youngers were at a small farmhouse between Filey and Scarborough. 1894 'EDNA LYALL' *To Right the Wrong* V, He himself was one of the despised youngers of the family.

C. *Comb.*, as *younger-born*; **younger-brotherish, -sisterish** *adjs.* (*nonce-wds.*), having the character of a younger brother or sister.

1530 PALSGR. 201/2 Yongar borne, *maisne*. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* LXV, His preference for the younger-born. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* V, She is painfully meek and younger-sisterish. 1885 WINGFIELD *Barb. Philpot* XII, To sell smiles to such a beggarly younger-brotherish runagate!

Hence **Youngerly** *a.* (*U. S. colloq.*), somewhat young (opp. to *elderly*); **Youngership** (*rare*), the condition of one who is younger, juniority.

1868 *Church Union* 11 Jan. (Cent. Dict.), The life-blood of Christendom flows in the veins of her "youngerly men. 1621 COTGR., *Iuvoigneric*, "youngership. 1898–9 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* p. CXIII, The captive is thus doomed to perpetual youngership, if the term may be permitted—that is, to perpetual servitude.

Youngest (yʊ·ngĕst), *a.* Forms: 1 ȝingest, ȝingest, ȝingst, 3 ȝeongeste, ȝengestte, ȝongest(e, -ist, -ost(e, 3–6 ȝungest(e, 4 ȝingest, yongeist, *Sc.* ȝongast, ȝungaste, 4–6 ȝongest, yongest, 5 ȝongust, 6 yoongest, 6– youngest. [f. YOUNG *a.* + -EST. (The normal mutated OE. form *gingest* did not survive.)] The superlative degree of YOUNG *a.*; opposed to ELDEST, OLDEST.

1. In sense 1 of YOUNG: Of least age. Also *absol.*

c 893 *Ælfred Oros.* I. iv. § 1 Ioseph, se þe gingst wæs hyra gebroðra. *c* 1205 LAY. 3460 Mi ȝengestte [*c* 1275 ȝeongeste] dohter. *Ibid.* 6955 Þe ȝungeste of þan breðeren. 13.. *Cursor M.* 7391 (Göt.) Quer es þin alder ȝingest son? 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 148 The yongest of hem hadde of age Fourtiene yer. 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 153 Your sone and lowly servant, John Paston, the yongest. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 301 When suche questions be asked, the yongest both of the spiritualitie and temporalitie say their opinions first. 1611 COTGR., *Quiconc*, ..the last, or youngest child one hath. 1846 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. *Walk through Vill.*, They are a fine family from the eldest to the youngest. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* xii, She and the youngest Miss Harper eyed one another uncomfortably. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 156 My guide,..with his strong right arm round the youngest of the party.

2. In senses 2 and 3 of YOUNG: Belonging to the earliest part of life, earliest; most youthful in character or aspect, freshest. *rare*.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXVIII. xi, Thou dost me fill, And hast from yongest yeares, With terrifying feares. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 42 While the early budders are just new, And run in mazes of the youngest hue About old forests.

3. In senses 4 and 5 of YOUNG: Most newly initiated, begun, introduced, etc.; latest, most recent.

Beowulf 2817 Þæt wæsham gemolan ȝingeste word breostgehygdum, þær he heal cure, hate heaðowylmas. *c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* xli. 300 Ure Alisend..he hiene ȝemedemade to þissne betweox ðæm ieostum & ðæm ȝingestum monnum. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXIX. ii, Not yongest thought in me doth grow,..But yet unutt'red thou dost know. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. ii. 117 Since Lotherne Adam till this youngest howre. 1797 NELSON 5 Apr. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 27 To go youngest into the Britannia.

b. *Youngest hand* (in Card-playing): the last player, or the last except the dealer (opp. to *eldest hand*, ELDEST 5).

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* 66 If the eldest and second hand pass the Ruff the youngest hath power to double it, and then it is to be plaid for the next deal. *Ibid.* 89 This being done, the eldest must shew how many Chalks he hath in his hand to set up, and after him the youngest. 1722 R. SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* (1734) 74 If the youngest Hand names his Trump without asking Leave.

4. *Comb.*, as *youngest-born*.

1596 MARKHAM *Poem of Poems* II. xi, Now with their [*sc.* the vines'] smallest grapes, times yongest borne Clustred in bunches like a countlesse broode. 1833 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 414 Music, the youngest-born of heaven's benevolence. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* VIII. iii, Our youngest-born affection is our darling and our idol.

Young-eyed (yʊ·ngīd), *a.* Having the bright or lively eyes of a young person; also *fig.*; *occas.* having a youthful vision. (In later use an echo of Shaks.)

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* V. i. 62 There's not the smallest orbe..But in his motion like an Angell sings, Still quiring to the young eyed Cherubins. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 749 To Troy the shining mischief came, Before her young-ey'd pleasures play. 1798 COLERIDGE *Death of Chatterton* XIV, And we..would round thee throng...And greet with smiles the young-eyed Poesy All deftly mask'd as hoar Antiquity. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. XLVI, Young-eyed Lewdness walks her midnight rounds. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 14 The grace of Fletcher and his young-eyed wit. 1908 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 575 The fantastic visions of a young-eyed people.

Youngfrow (joung-): see YUFFBOUW.

†Younghede. *Obs.* [f. YOUNG *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Youth (*abstr.* and *concr.*).

c 1275 *Moral Ode* 369 in *O. E. Misc.* 71 Þer is yonghede buten ealde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2195 Alle vre knistes & swaines & alle vre ȝonghede. *c* 1305 *St. Lucy* 21 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 102 To an hebene man Lucie was iwedded in ȝunghede. † *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 351 Elde..That shorter was a foot, ywis, Than she was wont in her yonghede.

Youngish (yʊ·ngĭʃ), *a.* [f. YOUNG *a.* + -ISH 1.] Somewhat young.

1667 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Apr., It is strange..that Mr. Weaver, ..who was..a youngish man, should be dead. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 282 P2 Our Father is a youngish Man. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii. (1891) 102 Judge Thornton,.. as good at sixty as he was at forty, with a youngish second wife. 1903 *Times* 18 Mar. 10/5 These senile parts generally appeal to young or youngish actors.

Youngker, obs. form of YOUNKER.

Youˑng la·dy.

1. A lady who is young; a young woman, usually unmarried, or a girl, of superior social position; formerly often used to connote the artificiality, primness, sentimentality, etc., attributed to young ladies.

This expression is now avoided in polite use, except among some old-fashioned speakers and jocularly. Various particular applications formerly existed; thus, from the 17th to the early 19th cent. a young woman or a girl waited upon by a maid-servant was called 'her young lady'; until late in the 19th cent. girls at boarding schools were spoken of and addressed as young ladies. At the present day, the term is freq. applied, with the intention of avoiding the supposed derogatory implication of *young woman*, to female shop assistants or clerks of good appearance and manners.

For the vocative use, see YOUNG *a.* 1 b.

†1402 QUIXLEY *Ball.* 160 in *Yorksh. Archæol. Jrnl.* (1908) XX. 44 The yhonge lady then prayed of beautee. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 201, I rede þat þer was an olde knythe and weddud a ȝung ladi. 1669 COKAINE *Choice Poems* 35 Ask but a Chamber-maid..what her young Lady doth. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* IV. vii. (1816) 128 It is a long time since I left her, and went to serve a young lady of fashion. *a* 1800 *The Governess* in Miss Yonge *Storehouse of Stories* (1870) 188 Two young ladies, Lady Caroline and Lady Fanny Delun...Lady Caroline was fourteen years of age,..Lady Fanny, who was one year younger than her sister, was rather little of her age. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. *Ellen*, A life, and freedom, and buoyancy, quite unusual in that artificial personage, a young lady. 1837 ELIZA FARRAR *Yng. Lady's Friend* I. 1 When they cease to attend school, and begin their career as young ladies. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XVI, The premises of Westgate House Establishment for Young Ladies. *Ibid.* XI, 'Good morning, my dear,' said the principal, addressing the young lady at the bar. 1842 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. IV. 93, I have been young lady enough to keep a journal. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXIII, 'Fetch him home', said Miss Ripper with authority, 'and say that my young lady's here.' 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* XII, 'A young lady, did you say, Collins?' 'Yes, my Lady.' 'Then you were very wrong Collins. You meant to say a young person.' 'Yes, my Lady—a young person, like a lady.' 1856 *Amy Carlton* 42 Miss Colman..pronounced the oracular words, 'Your lessons, young ladies, immediately'. 1886 (see YOUNG *a.* 1 b). 1900 *Oxford Times* 24 Dec. 1/2 Young Lady Wanted, with good experience, as Book-keeper.

attrib. 1784 BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 43 Amongst young-lady-correspondents especially, it is a sort of petty treason, to send blank paper to a friend. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 May 274/2 My young-lady friends, of from seventeen upwards. 1869 LE FANU *Guy Dev.* III. I. 42 Beatrix was in a young-lady reverie.

2. A female sweetheart; a fiancée, *vulgar*.

1898 G. B. SHAW *You Never Can Tell* IV, My wife was like your young lady: she was of a commanding .. disposition.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **young ladies collectively; Youngˑ-laˑdyfied** (-fid) *a.*, having acquired, or having, the style of a young lady; **Youngˑ-laˑdyhood**, the condition or status of a young lady; also *concr.* young ladies collectively; **Youngˑ-laˑdyish, Youngˑ-laˑdylike** *adjs.*, resembling or characteristic of a young lady; **Youngˑ-laˑdyism**, the style, or a phrase, characteristic of young ladies; **Youngˑ-laˑdyship**, the personality of a young lady.

prevails, each second name in the catalogue is a Lily or a Jessie or a Letitia. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aur. Floyd* VI, No stiff, embroidered, "young-ladyfied garment. 1883 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* IV, They had not arrived at perceiving that they were on the equal terms of "youngladyhood. 1898 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* XXXI, No bevy of Greshamsbury young ladies had fairly represented the Greshamsbury young-ladyhood if Mary Thorne was not there. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 12/1 It is not to be wondered at..that there should be something eminently "young ladyish in the clergyman's way of doing parochial business. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* I. IV, The Colonel. In fond enjoyment of their "young ladyishness. 1883 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* II, I am not fallen so low as the essence of "young-ladyism. 1832 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 12, I am sorry to say that I have a very "young-lady-like partiality to writing to those that I love. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* IV, To judge whether, young-lady-like, she had told his secret to all her female friends. 1892 BARRIE *Little Min.* IV, 'Has you ever looked on a lord?' 'No.' 'Or on an auld lord's "young leddyship? I have.'

Younglet (yʊ·nglĕt). *rare.* [f. YOUNG + -LET.] = YOUNGLING 1 b.

1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 240 E'en as an eagle drops a hare Brought for her callow younglets' fare. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* XXIII, The angular cows [grow] into..matrons..with younglets.

Youˑng-like, *a.* [f. YOUNG *a.* + -LIKE. Cf. YOUNGLY *a.*] Resembling, or having the nature of, one that is young; youthful in condition or character.

The old countess was too young-like for the other to be her daughter. 1876 BRET HARTE *Hoodlum Band* I, We used to call him little Weevils, he was so young-like.

Youngling (yʊ·nglĭŋ). *arch.* Forms: see YOUNG. [OE. *geongling* = OS. *iungling* (MLG., Du. *jongeling*, Du. *jongeling*), OHG., MHG. *jungeling* (G. *jüngling*), whence Icel. *unglingr*: see YOUNG and -LING.]

1. One who is young; a young person, young man or woman, youth or child, youngster.

c 900 WÆRFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 89/2 Us utgangendum com ongean sum iungling. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 2 Þa clypede se halend enne ȝeongling & sette on heora midden. *c* 1205 LAY. 28681 Siȝen toward hirede ȝeonglinges snelle. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 703 Floris was so fair ȝongling, And blauncheflur so ——ping. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 165 Dido..went oute of Phenicia wiþ a grete companye of ——lynges i-chose. *c* 1450 *Coventry Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 414 This pore yongling For whom we do singe By, by, lully, lullay. 1482 *Churchw. Acc., Croscombe* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 9 Comes ȝonglens and presents in Rich. Costrell's hands..vjs. viijd. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xiii. 155 O douchty ȝingling [Virg. *puer*]. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 345 He is but an yonglyng, A stalworthy stryplyng. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 95 This vertuous youngling..made hir hearing deafe vnto his sugred talke. 1620 QUARLES *Feast for Wormes* G 3, Like as a yongling that to schoole is set, (Scar.. weaned from his dandling mothers tet). 1779 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 16 Oct., You say nothing of the younglings; I hope they are not spoiled with the pleasures of Brighthelmston, a dangerous place, we were told, for children. 1837 HOOD in *Mem.* (1860) I. 280 Little Tom is a capital traveller,..our trouble was less than might have been expected with such a youngling. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* I. 65 The smooth-lipped youngling's kiss.

fig. 1822 J. JEBB *Corr.* (1834) II. 116 He recommended me to publish. England I have looked to as the proper sphere in which to bring my youngling out. 1880 W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* IX, A grassy vale..Where..a pure stream ran, as yet A youngling.

b. A young animal; the young or offspring of an animal.

c 1200 *Bestiary* 667 Danne remen he alle a ren,..For here mikle reming rennande cumeð a ȝungling. 1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 52 b, This druncke in lyke quantitie..expelleth the youngling dead. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. i. 219 Be like the fielde of Beares, When they defend their younglings in their Caues! 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. vi. 116 The parturition or very birth it selfe: wherein not only the Dam, but the younglings play their parts. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* I. III. (1773) 39 The linnet..was bringing out her younglings to their first imperfect flight. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* VII. 256 A spotless Youngling white as foam. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 487/1 If rain should come on,..the mother calls her younglings under her wings.

c. A young plant, sapling; a young shoot or blossom of a plant.

1589 MOUFFET *Epeonymus* 382 The younglinges or shootes of bramble. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 138 Each having a white wicker over brimm'd with April's tender younglings. *a* 1820 SHELLEY *Colliseum* Exs. (1840) I. 174 The shattered masses of precipitous ruin, overgrown with the younglings of the forest.

†2. A young scholar or student, a disciple; a

beginner, novice, tiro; one who is unpractised or inexperienced (usually with implication of actual youth). *Obs.*

a 1178 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Þa apostles and hare iunglengas. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 387 He seiþ þat Chadde was a ȝongelyng, and lerned the rule of monkes in Hibernia. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. N. T.* To Rdr. B vj b, Younglynges in the feith. 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 34 b, Whose weapons of fire..doo..terrifie..ȝonglings and nouices of warre. 1649 AMBROSE *Media* x. (1650) 277 Let our Lord Iesus his tender-heartedness in Spiritual younglings, teach us mercy. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 78 (1713) II. 226 From the Seminary there, a small Detachment was made of Younglings that were got as far as *Asserit A, vagat E.*

3. *attrib.* a. That is a 'youngling'; young, youthful; †inexperienced (*obs.*).

1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xviii. 3 Knowynge the voys of the ȝonglynge Leuyte. 1595 MARKHAM *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* Ep. Ded. A 2, Fier to my hart, & wings to my youngling Muse. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 15 The youngling Spiders (that were either hatching, or newly hatch'd). 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* xviii, The youngling Cottagers retire to rest. 1800 WORDSW. *Idle Sheph.-Boys* 6 The mountain raven's youngling brood. 1880 L. MORRIS *Ode of Life* 43 Since Artemis first trod the youngling earth.

b. Pertaining to or characteristic of a 'youngling'; juvenile, immature; in quot. *a* 1616, belonging to the production or rearing of young.

1582 T. WATSON *Cent. Love* To Rdr. A 4, Idle toyes proceedinge from a youngling frensie. 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 77 To thee (young youth) these youngling lines I write. *a* 1626 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at Sev. Weapons* II. i, You have built a Nest That will stand all storms,..and one day it may be The youngling season too, then I hope You'll ne'er fly out of sight.

†Youngly, *a. Obs.* [OE. *geonglic* = MDu. *jongelik*, OHG., MHG. *jungelîch*, ON. *unglige*: see YOUNG *a.* and -LY 1.] Young, youthful, juvenile (in years, in appearance or condition).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* lx. (Z.) 54 *Iuuenilis*, iunglic. *c* 1000 — *Hom.* II. 128 On ȝeonglicum ȝearum. *a* 1205 *Leg. Kath.* 344 A meiden ȝunglich of ȝeres. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 704 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 239 Þo cam to heom a ȝonglich man. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxviii[i]. 141 Yongelike am I, and hated for-þi. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 369 Beerdles with a yongly face. 1478 EARL RIVERS *Crystyne's Mor. Prov.* (1859) 9 b, A yongly man of chastisyng content Is signe of grace & of a good entent. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxxix. (1870) 300 A mery herte and mynde..causeth a man to lyue longe, and to loke yongly. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH in Strype *Life* (1698) App. 42 Look what Ladies and Gentlewomen be most fruitful, and have most Children, if they look not for their Age most youngly, best coloured, and be clearest from Diseases. 1634 (see INFANTRY 2).

Youngly (*yʊ*ŋli), *adv.* Now *rare.* [f. YOUNG *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In youth; when one is young; early in life.

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) P j, Euen in thy Swathebands out commission goeth To loose thy breath, that yet but yongly bloweth. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xi, That fresh bloud which yongly thou bestow'st. 1607 — *Cor.* II. iii. 244 How youngly he began to serue his Countrey. 1888 MEREDITH *Reading of Earth* I, Flowers of the clematis drip in beard, Slack from the fir-tree youngly climbed.

2. In the manner of a young person; youthfully, immaturely.

c 1530 MORE *Answ. Frith* Wks. 841/2 This point is as ye see well of thyn young man very younglye handeled. *a* 1556 *Sir T. More* IV. ii. 29 As tis the custome in this place The youngest should speake first, so, if I chaunce In this case to speake youngly, pardon me. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* Ded., About foureteene yeres agone (when myne experience was but youngly fortified).

Young man, †youngman. [Cf. NFris. *ongman* lad, fellow, Du. *jongmensch* young man, *jonkman* bachelor, G. *jungmann* deckhand, ordinary seaman, ON. *ungmenni* youths.]

1. A man who is young; one in early manhood.

For the vocative use, see YOUNG *a.* 1 b.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Rodberd..& Vlf.. oðloȝon & elles amyrdon manige lunge men. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Dies ȝunge mann ȝiede a-wei sari. *c* 1205 LAY. 376 A ȝung mon of þriti ȝeren. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 234 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 110 Ne scolde neuer yongmon howyen to swiþe þeih him his wyne wel ne lykie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18984 Yur suns and yur doghteres fre, And yur yongmen sighties se. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 437 Þou weore a ȝong mon in hi grete strengþe. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 59 ȝengmen. 1486 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 47 If this slaunderous report come to the eers of some yongmen of the blode that he is of. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 431 A ruleuse rout of yongmen..lie wallowed in their blood. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Youth & Age* (Arb.) 258 Yonge men in the Conduct..of accions embrace more then they can hold. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 278 When Young-men find themselves all of a sudden advanc'd to so great power, 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xiv, Abel has not been brought up like the run of young men. 1869 — *Mut. Fr.* III. vii, You had better provide yourself with another situation, young man.

Comb. 1851 T. WILSON *Logic* T j b, He went in freshe apparell, yong man like.

2. With special application or connotation. a. Various uses: see quots.

Quots. 1377 and *c* 1643 relate to Galway; cf. the following:—'In 1611, the "young men" obtained a charter from the corporation, instituting them a body politic of themselves...Their "captain" was privileged to sit next the sheriffs...They were also exempt from paying taxes; in consideration of which, they were bound to keep watch and ward' (Hardiman, *Hist. Galway* (1820) 212 *note*).

963–84 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 566 Þonne is ut Fareweahside .xvi. weore wurðe men, & .viii. lunge men. 1377 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 447 This indenture, made..betwixt William Halloran, yongman, and.. Edmond Firench. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eagl. Poesie* I. xxvi. (Arb.) 66 The skreeking and outcry of the young damosell [on the marriage night] feeling the first forces of her stiffe and rigorous young man. *c* 1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 493 The Captaine of the Youngmen. 1799 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 82 The first act of my command was to name Sidney Smith's First Lieutenant to the death-vacancy of Captain Miller. I have placed two of his young men in Gun-boats. 1898 *Phytologist* Jan. 320 The Windsor-street Young Men's Society. 1866 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 199 A Young Men's Mutual Improvement, and all the rest of it, Society. 1869 B. A. HEYWOOD *Voc. Tour Antipodes* 253 A Young Men's Christian Association Room.

†b. A man in the service of, or in attendance upon, a person of high rank or an official: = YEOMAN 1, 1 b. *Obs.*

Cf. also *youngerman* s.v. YOUNGER *a.* 2 c.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 207 Emperours..Þorw ȝiftes han ȝonge men to renne and to ride. [Cf. quot. 1377 s.v. YEOMAN 1.] 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 10 The ȝonge men entrynge founden hir deed, and thei baren out, and biriden to hir housbonde. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 793 He..seide to his ȝong men, dighteþ ȝow ȝare. 1530 PALSGR. 201/1 Yongman a servaunt, *valeton.* 1541–2 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 6 Any servantes comonly called yongemen [*orig.* Yeomen] or gromes.

c. A youth employed by a tradesman, etc.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 116 P 11 The term of *Young Man*, with which I was sometimes honoured, as I carried a parcel to the door of a coach, tortured my imagination. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* i, She discovers..that Mr. Todd's young man over the way is..taking down his master's shutters. 1887 G. R. SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* vi, While the grocer's young man was waiting inside for orders.

3. A lover, a male sweetheart; a fiancé. *vulgar.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 207/2 Treated to an ice by her young man—they seemed as if they were keeping company. 1887 G. R. SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* iv, And cook she shouted 'Murder!' too, and asked us..to spare his life, as it was only her young man.

Hence **Young-ma·nhood**, †(*a*) the valour befitting a young man (*obs.*); (*b*) the condition of being a young man, early manhood; **Young-ma·nish** *a.*, resembling, pertaining to, or characteristic of a young man (chiefly in a derogatory sense); hence **Young-ma·nishness.**

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* v. 234 Ther-as thay hath.. stowtly demenet ham-Selfe in grete ȝonge-man-hode. 1764 BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 19 Eight of the first years of my young-man-hood. 1875 SWINBURNE *Let. to E. C. Stedman* 21 Feb., One must jump from little-boyhood into young-manhood. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* iii, Father has talked so much of your girlish days and his ȝyoung mannish days. 1873 FURNIVALL in *Blogr.* (1911) p. liii, The boyish romanticism or the sharp ȝyoungmanishness of his [*sc.* Shakspere's] early plays.

Youngness (*yʊ*ŋnés). [f. YOUNG *a.* + -NESS.] The state or quality of being young; youthfulness: = YOUTH 1, 3 (but usually expressing the character or appearance of one who is young, rather than the mere fact of being young).

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* F j, Their drines is abated with the humidite of theyr yongnes. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxiii. 38 Will he my ȝongnes ȝit With mercy once remit, I trou to faill no more. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 28. 912 The Youngness and Newness of its Duration. *a* 1735 EARL HADDINGTON *Forest-Trees* (1756) 27 The youngness of the plants made them take root sooner than if they had been older. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. vii, How flushed and mighty as with the youngness of a god. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 694/1 The first cabin passengers ..exclaimed over his youngness and his good looks. 1919 CTESS VON ARNIM *Christ. & Col.* xxx. 394 Those cunning little bits of youngness, the Twinkler sisters.

†b. The time when one is young; the early period of life or existence: = YOUTH 2. *Obs.*

1510–20 *Compl. of them that ben to late maryed* (1862) 12 We twayne sholde have all our yongenesse..Passed in joye. 1579 KNEWSTUB *Confut.* 35 They let passe the childhood, or the yongnes of the holy vnderstanding, & grew vp..vnto the manly agednes of Christ.

Youngster (*yʊ*ŋstəɹ). Now chiefly *colloq.* Forms: see YOUNG; also 6–7 **yonckster, ounster.** [f. YOUNG *a.* + -STER, suggested by YOUNKER.]

1. A young person, *esp.* a young man, and, formerly, a lively or vigorous young fellow; †a novice. Now only as extension of sense 3 with connotation of inexperience or immaturity.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 83 Menaphon,..a man.. loued of the Nymphes, as the paragon of all their countrey youngsters. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 158. I am halfe in a iealosie hee is some fantasticall amorous yonckster, who to dishonor me hath hyr'd you to this stratagem. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. xxxviii, A youngster gent, With bever cockt. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 18, I cannot foresee any other Remedy, but that most of those University Youngsters must fall to the Parish. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Youngster*, an airy, brisk young Man; a raw or unexperienced Youth, a Novice. 1798 *Lit. Mem. Living Authors* I. 116 This..is adapted to youngsters rather than the higher classes of readers. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. *Hannah*, John Wilson has no rival,.. for the Robert Ellis, whom certain youngsters would fain exalt to a co-partnery of fame, is simply nobody. 1849 BROCKETT *N. C. Glass., Youngster*, a noviciate in any thing. 1886 OXENDEN *Our Church* II. 13 If, for instance, we wanted a Counsellor, we should not consult a mere youngster.

, *attrib.* 1629 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* 56 They called straight vnto him their youngster captain.

2. Familiarly applied to a boy or junior on board ship (*cf.* YOUNKER 2 b); also to a junior officer in the army or navy.

1628 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* B 4 b, At length a nimble yonckster gets him to the very top of the foremast. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Youngsters*, a familiar term to signify the junior officers of a troop or company. The word youngster is like-used in the navy. 1840 HAMILTON *Sing. Fam.* v. v, The shrill, squeaking voices of 'youngsters' in the tops. 1847 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 9 May 290/2 Nowhere the excitement more intense than in the midshipmen's berth, and on no one had the intelligence a more surprising effect than on Bobstay, our junior youngster.

3. A young person who is not of age; a child, *esp.* a boy. *colloq.*

1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VII. § 20 Appetite..which is elder Brother to Reason,..is sure..to take the advantage of drawing all to his own side: And Will..is but at best a Football or Top between those Youngsters who prove very unfortunately matched. 1788 COWPER *Pity for Poor Afr.* 21 A youngster at school, more sedate than the rest. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iv, 'Now for the cake,' said Mas'r George..; and with that the youngster flourished a large knife over the article in question. 1886 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. CXXVIII. 3 The wife is busy all over the house, but the youngsters are busiest at meal-times.

4. A young animal.

1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* XXXVII. (1851) 341 A youngster of a crocodile who had come out of the water. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 508 All the chickens hatched prior to the 22nd of May, dwindled away one by one, and scarcely left a single youngster from many clutches. 1873 *Daily's Mag.* Nov. 293 The rest of the youngsters [*sc.* young racehorses]..had gone away for change of air to Newmarket.

†Youngth. *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 ȝungþe, ȝonkþe, youngþe, -the, 4–5 ȝongþe, -the, yongthe, 4–6 yongth, 5 ȝungth(e, yongith, ȝonþ, 6–7 youngth. *β.* 4 ȝingþe, ȝyugheth, ȝirkthe. [f. YOUNG *a.* + -TH.]

1. The state of being young, or period of life

ȝingþe [*rime* strengþe]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 47 (Harl. MS.) [He] servid god in all the tyme of his yongith. 1532 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxii. (1883) II. 343, I haue knowen men of worshippe..whiche durynge their yongth haue dronken for the more parte water. 1590 SPENSER *Muiop.* 34 The fresh yong flie, in whom the kindly fire Of lustfull yougth began to kindle fast. 1602 DAVISON *Rhapsody* C 12, Ah Thenot, be not all thy teeth on edge, To see youngths folke to sport in pastimes gay? [After Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 9 Yougthes folke: see YOUTH 4.]

2. Young people collectively: = YOUTH 5.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* CXXI, The goddesse Venus, whiche hath grete power vpon yongthe. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. ✱✱vij, The vnbroken yougth not yet full rype for the serious preceptes of philosophie.

Hence **†Youngthed** *pa. pple.*, made young; **†Youngthly** *a.*, pertaining to youth, youthful.

c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* III. 126 Hys body is ✱ȝonthyd [*v.r.* yongthed], he þinketh hym-self ful lygth. 1602 DAVISON *Rhapsody* C 11 b, All for he feeles the heate of youngthly dayes.

Young woman.

1. A woman who is young; one in early womanhood.

For the vocative use, see YOUNG *a.* 1 b.

a 1100 *Vec.* in Wr.-Wülcker 310/9 *Puella*, maeden, oððe ȝeong wifman. *c* 1205 LAY. 261 Þeos ȝunge wiman [*c* 1275 ȝonge] Iwerð hire mid childe. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 4049 Þe ȝinge wimmen of ðin lond, Faiser on ai3te and soðe on hond. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiii. 206 A ȝong womman, which gate myche money to hir maistris. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eagl. Poesie* I. xxvi. (Arb.) 67 Such as had tasted the frutes of loue before, (we call them well experienced young women). 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* I. ii, You thought, miss! I don't know any business you have to think at all—thought does not become a young woman. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* vi, Let me tell you, young woman, it is hard on a man who has been at work all day to come home and find a dark house and nobody to speak to. 1887 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 774/2 Hannah More was still a young woman, and also remarkably young for her years.

2. A female sweetheart; a fiancée. *vulgar.*

1858 *Househ. Words* 27 Mar. 338/1 It was assumed that I had fallen in love, had made my offer, and had been accepted by my young woman and her family.

Hence **Young-wo·manhood**, the condition of being a young woman; young women as a class; **Young-wo·manly** *a.*, like a young woman.

1885 R. BUCHANAN *Matt.* iii, [Her change of costume] made her look several years older—in fact, quite young-womanly. 1892 *Athenæum* 20 Feb. 240/3 The Girton girl [is] treated as a distinct species of young-womanhood.

Younker (*yʊ*ŋkəɹ). Forms: 6 **yonckher, yongker, yonkar, yooncker, yoonker, yunker,** *Sc.* **ȝungker, ȝoungker, ȝounker, ȝonkier,** 6–7 **yonoker, *Sc.* ȝonker,** 7 **youngker,** 6, 9 **yunker,** 8 **younkier,** 6– **yonker, younker.** [ad. MDu. *jonckher, jongkheer, jonchere* (mod. Du. *jonker, jonkheer*) = *jonc* YOUNG + *here* lord, master (HER, HERR *sb.*). Cf. OFris. *jonker*, MHG. *junchêrre* (G. *junker*: see JUNKER).]

†1. A young nobleman or gentleman, a youth of high rank (orig. Dutch or German, hence generally). Cf. JUNKER. *Obs.*

1502 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 253 Also ye to younker [*sic*] Florens, and sai I recommand me to hem. *Ibid.* II. 363 The king made knightes of the Toyson at Myddelburgh..amonges whiche were my Lord Nassou, Don John Emanuel,..Younker Florens and Monsieur de la Layn. 1503

Douglas *Æneis* I. viii. 8 The queue Dido .. To temple commis with ane fair menyie Of lustie yonkeris walking hir about. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xii. (S. T. S.) I. 296 With þe patricians & nobil younkeris of þe ciete. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xiv. (1870) 160 The people of Hygh Almayne .. yf some of them can get a fox tale or two .. standyng vp ryght vpon theyr cappe, .. or that he maye haue .. any long feder on his cap, than he is called a 'yonker'. ? 1580 Coverdale *Tvvat. Death* III. lii, Some say (and specially our yonkers) mi mourning .. is, because my kinred .. peryabeth. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Wks. Observ.* F 2, A man is in almost as high promotion to bee a knaue in England, as a Knight in Germany, for there a Gentleman is called a Youngourr, and a Knight is but a Youngcure man. *c* 1648 Howell *Lett.* (1890) 301 There was a Parliament then at Rhensburgh, where all the Younkers met.

2. A young man generally, in early use *esp.* a gay or fashionable young man: = Youngster 1.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. vi. 29 How, say me, 3onkeris, saw 3e walkand heir, By aventure ony of my sisteres deir? ? 1580 Coverdale *Treat. Death* I. xii, Then were we forced to receiue & loue the gospel, which els here to fore might not come to such stout and loly yonkers. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. i. 636 Venus loued the younker Adonis better then the warrier Mars. 1596 H. Clapham *Briefe Bible* II. 152 The yonker Saul, consented to the death of Steuen. 1611 Chapman *May Day* IV. 60 How now? whom doe. I see? my daughter and a yonker together? 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* III. 59 When put to the university, the same course of initial studies will qualify the yonker for the one line or for the other. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* xlvii, He always encouraged one. A younker likes that. 1885 C. F. Holder *Marvels Anim. Life* 227 He was as wild a yonker as they make 'em.

† b. *spec.* A boy or junior seaman on board ship: cf. Youngster 2. *Obs.*

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 36 Two proper younkers sailers, and two painfull and able Dutchmen. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 44 To haue younkers in the top continually, is most conuenient. 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 6 The Younkers are the yong men called Fore-mast men, to take in the Topsayles, or Top and yeard; Furle, and Sling the maine Saile; Bousing or Trysing; and take their turne at Helme. 1786 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 160 To Lord Ducie say compliments; why has he never sent the younker? *a* 1818 Miss Ross in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 9 He .. served .. as a younker and midshipman.

3. A child: = Youngster 3.

1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 131 Two beares came out of the forrest, and tare in peeces two and fortie yonkers, which mocked Elisha. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Upon Paggat*, Paggat, a School-boy, got a Sword .. Who wo'd not think this Yonker fierce to fight? 1742 Blair *Grave* 461 Yet ne'er Yonker on the Green laughs louder. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxiv, Do you think the younker knows much of his own origin now? 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxii, Sit down by the fire, younker, and rest yourself. 1842 Tennyson *Walking to the Mail* 25 And there he caught the younker tickling trout. 1866 R. Chambers *Ess.* Ser. I. 157 A merry group of human younkers.

b. Of animals.

1866 Gosse *Summ. & Wint. in Orkneys* vii. 260 [276] Some old fellows thumping the yunkers with their finny paws while they tumbled headlong out of harm's way.

Hence (only with spelling *yonk-*) † **Youn·kerkin** [-kin], a little younker; † **Youn·kerly** *a.* [-ly 1], befitting or characteristic of a younker, juvenile; † **Youn·kery** (-eri) [-ry 3], younkers collectively.

a 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* Wks. 1843 I. 209 Those demy diuines, and Stolcall studiantes, and friscaioly "yonkerkyns. 1579 G. Harvey *Let. to Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 24 Youre Latine Farewell is a goodly braue "yonkerly peece of work. 1593 — *Pierce's Super.* 121 That yonkerly & presumptuous enterprise. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 23 We haue spent our selues thus vpon our "yonkerie, euen to that which would haue proued honest portions for them to haue liued all their life thorough.

Youp, yowp, *int., sb.,* and *v.* Variant of Yawp.

1808 Jamieson, *Youp*, a scream. 1835 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Youp* or *Yope*, to yelp. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 63 They [*sc.* hounds] contented themselves with dolefully *youping* as long as we continued in sight. 1881 Jefferies *Wood Magic* I. ii. 22 'Yowp, yow; wow-wow!' The yelling of Pan woke Bevis.

Youp, variant of Yoop.

Youph, obs. form of Youf.

Your (yūəɹ, *usually unemphatic* yŭɹ, yŏɹ), *poss. pron.* and *a.* Forms: 1 iower, *Northumb.* iuer, iwer, 1–3 eower, 2 euwer, 3uer, ower, 3 eouwer, eou(e)r, ee(o)uwer, eur, euwer, ewur, our, or, 3iuer, 3iwer, 3iuwer, 3–4 oure, 3(i)ur, 3–5 3ure, yure, (6 *Sc.*) 3oure, (6–8 *Sc.*) 3our, 4 hour, 3iuor, 3ouure, yur, yor, 4–5 3or, 3ore, 3owr(e, youre, 3hour(e, yhour(e, 5 yowr(e, yowyr, -ur, ywyr, yooure, iho(i)re, 5–6 yower, 6 iour, 9 *Sc.* yere, *dial.* yose, *dial.* and *vulgar* yer, 4–your. (For inflexional adj. forms see 2 a β.) [I. OE. *ôwer*, usually in partitive sense, the genitive of *gē* Ye *pron.*, corresponding to OFris. *iower*, OS. *iuwar*, *iwar*, OHG. *iuwēr* (MHG. *iuwer*, G. *euer*); cf. ON. *yðr*, Goth. *izwara*. II. OE. *ôwre*, *ôowru*, *ôower*, poss. adj., corresponding to OHG. *iuwar*, *iwar* (MHG. *iuwer*, *iuwr*, G. *euer*); cf. ON. *yð(v)arr*, Goth. *izwar*. The other langs. had a distinct formation for the adj.: OFris. *iowe*, OS. *i(u)wa* (MDu. *u*, inflected *uwe*, Du. *uw*).

On the pronunciation John Walker in his *Pronouncing Dict.* 1791, says: 'When the emphasis is upon this word, it is ' full and open like the noun *Ewer*; and *Your* letter I sat down to write *Mine*"; but when it is not emphatical it generally sinks into *yur*, exactly like the last syllable of *Lawyer*; as, "I had just answered *your* first letter as *your* last arrived." Here if we were to say, "I had just answered *your* first letter as *your* last arrived," with *your* sounded full and open like *Ewer*, as in the former sentance, every delicate ear would be offended.'

Since this was written, there has been a reaction in favour of less obscuration of the vowel.]

1. As genitive case of the 2nd personal pronoun.

† a. (*pl.*) in partitive sense: Of you. *Your aller*: see All D. 4. *Obs.*

Beowulf 248 Eower sum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 27 *Quis .. uestrum*, humlc .. iurre [*Rushw.* hwilc eower]. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Swa muchel þa wrediſa bid þe mare bi-twenen eow and eour eyþer sunetiȝ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3431 Ilc 3ure. 13.. *K. Horn*, 821 (Harl. MS.) 3ef oure þre sleh ure *Amis & Amil.* 852 Your noither it may forsake. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 162 Þat I be 3our aller broþer. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4146 Bote it be amended, .. 3our summe it schal abye. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxiii, I will that gude hope seruand to the be, 3oure alleris frend. [1556 Carelless in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 610, I wolde haue stryken iij. strokes the more for your two sakes.]

b. (*pl.* or *sing.*) in certain absolute constructions, as † *your* Alone, Sc. *your lane* (Lone *a.* 6 b), † *your* Unwitting: see these words.

2. As possessive pronoun and adjective of the 2nd person: Of or belonging to you, that you have.

This includes three uses: the possessive proper, as *your books, your hands, your friends*; the subjective, as *your attention, your promise*; and the objective with an agent-noun, or in any way involving the possessive idea, as *your persecutors, your benefit*. (For other objective uses see 4.) Cf. note s. v. His *poss. pron.* 2 a.

a. as possessive plural, referring to a number of persons addressed.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxx. 25 *Cor vestrum*, heorte eower. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 563 Bið eower blæd micel. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Se beoð Iesaid eower feonde to prisune. *Ibid.* 29 For godes luue beteð ower sunnen. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 For 3uer lieue saule. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1609 Ich eu wolde alle rede .. þat eur [*Cott.* ower) fihtlak lateþ beo. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10085 Inot nout, quaþ þe king, wat ower demande be. Commune rizt, quaþ pandulf, we eaneþ & nammore. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4844 Telis me Quat-kin man yur fader be. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 976 Blessede mote 3e alle be For 3oure preyers haþ saued me. 1370–80 *Visions of St. Paul* 313 in *O. E. Misc.* 231 Se weore lyzers al 3or lyf. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 701 Alias thou felle Mars, alias Iuno, Thus hath youre Ire oure kynrede al fordo. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 6 3our tables matrimonial þat wer mad be-twix 3ou and 3our husbandis at 3our weddyng. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 265 Your angel mouthis most mellifluate Our rude langage has clere illumynate. 1592 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iv. 26 In dumbe significants proclayme your thoughts. 1626 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* xl. 1 Gaise, eyes, on nocht quhich can content 3or sight. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 185 Let him your rubric and your feasts prescribe. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 66 The power .. of the house of commons .. is as a drop of water in the ocean, compared to that residing in a settled majority of your National Assembly. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxx, D'ye hear wha's coming to cow yer cracks? 1870 'Mark Twain' *Sk.* (1910) 97 The names rise up in your own memories at the mere suggestion.

β. OE. and ME. inflexional adj. forms: 1 eowre, -u (etc.), 2 (3)iure, 2–3 eo(u)were, eowre, 3 3(o)ure, (e)ore, ee(o)ure, oure, owre, woure.

Beowulf 2889 Syððan æðelingas Feorran gefricgean fleam eowerne. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvi. 98 Eft sona cirrað to eowrum ryhthæmde. *Ibid.* xxxii. 211 For eowerre fortruwodnesse. *Ibid.* lix. 451 Dios eowru leaf. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 Godes Gast eowres Fæder. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Þet geo hit write mid iure fingre. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 Al swa an hunl tiar felle upe 3iure hierte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 Beð wakiende and forleteð 3ure synne. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 33 in *O. E. Misc.* 104 Hw ye myhte worldes wrþsipes welde, and ek eure saule somnen to criste. *c* 1250 *Doomsday* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 166 Comeþ her mine freond oure [*c* 1275 eure] sunnes for to lete. *c* 1290 *St. Eustace* 28 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 303 Nim hire and ewvere twei sones. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 171 Mi douther þat shal be Yure leuedi after me.

b. as possessive singular, referring to one person addressed (originally as a mark of respect, later generally: cf. You II.): replacing Thy.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10310 3e mowe þretni ynou, Ower dede ne may be no wors þan ower word is. 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 469 To be fadyr of heuene she [*sc.* Our Lady] made þys mone: .. He [*sc.* Christ] ys so buxum to do youre wyl, þat he nat chargeþ hym self to spyl. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* I. 43 'Madame, mercy,' quod I 'me liketh wel youre wordes.' *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xxx. 83 Lauerd, for yure pite ye gete vs fra sinne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 214 Lord, wendis on your way. 1623 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 167 Sir, your Queen Desires your Visitation. 1668 Dryden *Ewen. Love* IV. iii, Take back your oathes and protestations .. take 'em .. for the use of your next Mistress. 1726 Gay in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 68, I gave your service to lady Harvey. 1800 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Prussian Vase*, Take your time to speak. We are in no hurry. 1884 'Edna Lyall' *We Two* I, You must be content with your own people.

c. In titles of honour substituted for *you* in addressing a person (or persons) of high rank, as *your Excellency, your Grace, your Highness, your Honour, your Lordship, your Majesty*: see the sbs.

c 1386 Chaucer *Compl. Pite* 59 Sheweth vn-to youre riallе excellence Youre servaunt, yif I durst me so calle, Hys mortal harme. 1429 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 349 Please it your full wyse discretions, to consider the matier. 1633 in *Hist. Sudbury* (1896) 125 To youre ryght Reverent lordshippe and fadarhed in God. *c* 1660 Gerbier *Pr. Buss.* xvi, In Royall-ising Henries Ashen With presence of your princely mightiness. 1820 B. Jonson *Portaster* III. i, Sir, your silkeneess Clearely mistakes Mecænas, and his house. 1698 Hakluyt *Voyages Oceana* (1628) 198 These are to certifie unto your Fatherhoods, that the said Votes of the People were so followeth. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 19 Your Mightiness has indeed guess'd at my Thoughts. *a* 1824 *Gomenga* II. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 219 My son wasn't grand enough for your Royal Highness-ship! 1825 *Housek. Words* III. 64/1 Never was there one of the cloth who addressed a fare otherwise than as 'Your Grace'.

d. Qualifying a sb. denoting the speaker or writer himself, esp. in the subscription of a letter: see also Servant *sb.* 4 d.

1418 Abp. Chichele in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 5 Wryten at Lambyth xvj day of Febr. 3our preest and bedeman H. C. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 186 By your John Pympe. *c* 1514 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 119 Yowr on whyl I lefe Mary. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) ix. 73 This woundit hairt, eweit hairt, reuaif, Quhilk is .. 3our fayfull hairt wt trew intent. 1621 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. ii. 47 So he wishes you all happinesse, that remaines loyall to his Vow, and your encreasing in Loue, Leonatus Posthumus. 1629 Sir F. Hubert *Hist. Edw. II.* Ep. Ded., And so .. I rest, not your Servant according to the new and fine, but false Phrase of the Time, but in honest old English, your loving Brother, and true Friend for euer. 1647 Char. I in *Antiquary* (1880) I. 97/1 Yor loving Father Charles R. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 352 She counts it as pleasant to converse with Historians, .. though now rotten, as with the finest perfumed Your-humble-Servant-Madam alive. 1722 Ramsay *Patie & Roger* 36 Yet may I please you, while I'm your Devoted Allan. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. vii. 3 Yet August roll'd away, And left your Loiterer here. 1837 Hood in *Mem.* (1860) I. 217 Your old Unitarian in love, T. H. 1848 Kingsley *Let.* in *Life* (1879) I. 146 Your own Daddy, Charles Kingsley.

† 3. *absol.* or as *pron.* (predicatively, or standing for *your* + sb.) = Yours. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* xi. 117 Nis þæt eower .. þæt ge witan þa þræce & þa tide þa þe Fæder gesette on his mihte. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 213 in *O. E. Misc.* 114 Lvsteþ ye me, leode; ower is þe neode, And ich eu wille lere wit and wisdom. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8174 Ne se 3e þat 3are hors beþ suiftore þan 3oure be? 13.. *K. Alis.* 2138 (Linc. Inn MS.) Y kepe nou3t bote honour, Al þe bygate schal beo 3our. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 695, I wol be youre in al that euere I may. *a* 1400 *Sgr. lowe Degre* 546 For ye are myne and I am your. ? *a* 1400 *Arthour* 286 Hys worthynesse, sur Emperour, Passeþ Muche alle 3owre. 1540 J. Heywood *Four P. P.* (Manly) 838 Helpe me to speke with my lorde and your. 1556 — *Spider & F.* lxxiv, I had woordes of thanke from the mouth of your. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Fair Maid* II. i, This affront of your.

4. As objective genitive, qualifying a noun of action or the like: Of you. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in certain phrases, as *in your despite.*

c 1178 *Pater Noster* 221 in *Lamb. Hom.* 67 Ower hating forȝefe 3e; þin sunful ofenling luue him for godes þing. 1482 Caxton *Reynard the Fox* xxxiv. (Arb.) 100 One .. whiche .. was your better and wyser. 1566 Wright *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 4 Quhidder sal we begin 3our commendation and louing at 3our haly lyfes, or at 3oure halthful doctrine, we ar doutsum. 1659 Fuller *Appeal, Let. to Dr. C. Burges*, Abler Men are undertaking your Confutation. 1662 Feltham *Lusoria* etc. 79 While I stay, you cannot want an Agent that will glory in your Imployment. 1690 Dryden *Don Sebastian* v. (1692) 102, I can hold my breath in your despight. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1892) I. cclii. 386, I have not yet heard from Lady Hervey upon your subject. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 136 [He] would be nearly distracted with joy at your sight. 1820 Mrs. Eliza Nathan *Langreath* III. 253, I hope our union will be the means of renewing your intimacy.

5. Used more or less vaguely of something which the person or persons addressed may be expected to possess, or have to do with in some way: cf. His *poss. pron.* 2 b.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 Alle cunne ower crede .. þeih ge alle nuten hwat hit biqueðe. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 55 To knaw the quantitie of sour lang or short fete in they lynes. 1680 Dryden & Lee *Œd. Guise* II. ii, Your Air, your Mien, .. Will kill at least your thousand in a Day. 1773 Mrs. Chapone *Improv. Mind* x. (1774) II. 183 The most ancient of all histories, you will read in your Bible. 1808 Syd. Smith *Lett. on Cath.* i, You (if you had lived in those times) would certainly have roasted your Catholic. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 23 Take up your Latin and Greek dictionaries, and find out the meaning of 'Spirit'.

b. Used with no definite meaning, or vaguely implying 'that you know of', corresponding to the 'ethical dative' *you* (You 7): often expressing contempt.

a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 32 Euen the wisest of your great beaters, do as oft punishe nature, as they do correcte faultes. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. i. 33 There is not a more fearefull wilde foule then your Lyon liuing. 1600 — *Ham.* v. i. 188 Your water is a sore Decayer of your horson dead body. 1620 B. Jonson *Alch.* IV. iv, Your Spanish Pauin is the best daunce. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. ix. § 3 That grave Awfulness, as in your best breed of Mastiffs. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* Epil. 28 Your Sal, and Harts-horn Drops, they deal not in. 1739 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* 19 A good hardy sort [of cows] are your Anglesey and Welsh. 1752 'G. Gambado' *Ann. Horsem.* xv. (1809) 122 Your Gentleman now-a-days, must have to his bridle two head stalls, and two reins. 1821 E. FitzGerald *Euphranor* 76 They *value* very well, which is enough for me.—I hate your accomplished women. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 90, I hate Your meek and milky girls that dare not kiss A burning passion, clinging to your lips.

6. As possessive of the indefinite pronoun (You 6): One's, any one's.

1. *Merry W.* II. i. 233 In these times you stand your Prance, Stoccado's, and I know not what. *Paston Lett.* (Maitland Club) I. 213 Here [*sc.* Ham-

over) these is no living without them [*sc.* curtains], one whole side of your house being glass. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 115 They may be well term'd discharging ones Duty with a good Grace, wearing your Fetters with no Inclination to Freedom. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind., Thoreau*, He wishes..to trump your suit and to *ruff* when you least expect it.

Yourn (yū·ən), *poss. pron. dial.* Also 4 3ouren, 9 your'n. [f. Your + *-n* as in Hern, Hisn, Ourn, q. v.] = Yours.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxiv. 16 Thanne we shulen 3yue and take togidere our dowgtris and 3ouren. 1829 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Yourn*, yours. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxiii, Sam..replied that his master was extremely well. 'Oh, I am so glad,' replied Mr. Trotter, 'is he here?' 'Is your'n?' asked Sam. 1858 *Household Words* 14 Sept. 298/1 Famous top-coat that o' your'n, sir.

Yours (yū·əz), *poss. pron.* Forms: 4 3ures, -is, 3urs, yurs, 4–6 3ouris, 4–7 youres, 5 3oures, -ys, 3owres, 3owres, yowres, youres, -is, yor(e)s, -ys, yowrs, 6 *Sc.* yowris, 8–9 your's, 8– yours. [f. Your + *-s* as in Hers, Ours, q. v.] The absolute form of Your, used when no sb. follows (originally, like *you* and *your*, referring to a number of persons, later also to a single person): That or those belonging to you.

1. Predicatively.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 497 All hale my land sall youris be. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2869 The felisheppe is youres that yender ye see. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xlv. 20 The goodes of all the lande of Egipte shalbe yours. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 543 If you'll a willing eare incline; What's mine is yours, and what is yours is mine. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* II. i, All this Nether-world Is yours, you command it, and doe sway it. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 31 Take all that an over-indulgent Monarch has enrich'd me with! these Jewels! these Bills must be yours! 1845 Maria Edgeworth *Harry & Lucy* (1858) 174 You should not meddle with them; they are not yours. 1845 Lady Dufferin *Irish Emigrant* 33 Yours was the good brave heart, Mary, That still kept hoping on.

†b. With *both*, *two*, etc. following. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2068 Drightin graunt þat it be sua, þat al þis werld be yurs tua. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 162 Moreover remember that boy which is yours both.

c. In the subscription of a letter (cf. Your 2 d): often qualified by an advb. phr., or an adv., as *faithfully*, *sincerely*, *truly* (see also these words). Hence *yours truly*, etc. humorously for 'I' or 'me', 'myself'.

?1430 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 30 Yowres, Will. Paston. 1438–9 *Priory of Coldingham* (Surtees) 109 Be 30'r3 in all thyng, David Home of Wederburn. 1516 Ld. Dacre in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 133 At Kirkoswald the xxiij. daye of Auguste Yowrs with hyes serves Thomas Dacre. 1582 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 77 Yours to death, and after death, Luke Kirbie. *c* 1680 *Let.* in Hickes *Sp. Popery* (1680) 73 Yours in the Lord, Subscribed, J. B. 1682 J. W. *Let. fr. New-Eng.* 9 end, Sir, I shall trouble you no more at present, onely that I am Yours, J. W. 1728 *Illustr. Modern* 19, I depend on your mighty Talent,..and on that Score, remain, Most Lovingly Yours. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* Ded., I am, most truly and faithfully your's, The Author. 1860 Sala *Baddington P.* xxvii, The verdict will be 'Guilty, my Lord,' against yours truly. *Ibid.*, It's ill..with yours obediently. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xx, And they were his faithfully, etc. 'Hang their "yours faithfully",' banged out Ernest.

d. = Your business or affair.

1841 Miall in *Nonconf.* I. 409 Be it your's to help him.

2. Standing (esp. in collocation with another possessive) for *your* + a sb. to be supplied from the context.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3061 Knauing of yours haue I nan. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2798 Leuedi, kristes ore, And youres! *c* 1450 *Merlin* lv. 68 The kynge that is my lorde and yowres. 1598 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 96 Let their beds Be made as soft as yours. *a* 1707 Prior *To the Lady Dursley* 13 With Virtue strong as Your's had Eve been arm'd. 1777 Boswell *Let. to Johnson* 29 Nov., I was, indeed, doubly uneasy;—on my own account and yours. 1847 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* v. vii, Such a father as yours. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xliv, 'Will you take a glass of wine?' 'You're wery good, sir,' replied Mr. Roker, accepting the proffered glass. 'Yours, sir.' 'Thank you,' said Mr. Pickwick. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* li, 'It shall [be done], sir,' said Sampson. 'Then give me your hand,' retorted Quilp. 'Sally, girl, yours.'

b. Those who belong to you; your family, kindred, or friends: chiefly in phr. *you and yours*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17340 It sal I wene On yow and youre bath be sene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1722 Bothe to me & to myne mykull vnright, And to yow & also yours 3omeryng for euer. *c* 1465 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 70 Almyty God have you in yr kepyng, and all yowrys. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxi. 212 You & al yours shal be ryche for euer. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* III. i. 91 Whose heauie hand Hath bow'd you to the Graue, and beggar'd Yours for euer. 1645 Chas. I in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 14 Some considerations hinder me from doing all I would towards you and yours. 1772 Mackenzie *Man of World* I. ii. (1773) 32, I had looked forward to some happy days, amidst a race of my Harriet's and yours. 1838 Hood in *Mem.* (1860) I. 313 And now, God bless you and yours. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VI. 282 Yourself and yours shall have Free adit.

c. That which belongs to you, your property.

1526 Tindale *2 Cor.* xii. 14, I seke not youres but you.

d. In epistolary (now chiefly commercial) correspondence: Your letter, the letter from you.

1536 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 77, I have youre of the last of April. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1890) 515, I had yours of the last week. 1755 Chatham *Lett. to Nephew* 15 Apr., Pardon an observation on style: 'I received yours' is vulgar and mercantile; 'your letter' is the way of writing. 1778 Challoner in E. H. Burton *Life* (1909) II. xxviii. 126 Yours with the enclosed draught for 50 l. came safe to hand. 1821 Byron *Let. to Moore* 3 May, Though I wrote to you on the 28th ultimo, I must acknowledge yours of this day.

3. Used instead of *your* before another possessive, etc. qualifying the same sb. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1534 Cranmer *Let. to Warden of All Souls' Coll.* Misc. Writ. (Parker Soc.) 279 So that by yours and their agreement I may obtain the next lease. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 254 Yours and my discharge. *a* 1634 Chapman *Rev. for Honour* III. i, Despight of yours and your Maids weak resistance. 1712 Addison *Let. to Swift* 11 Apr., I suppose you know, that I obeyed your's, and the Bishop of Clogher's commands. 1792 Burke *Let. to Member of Nat. Ass.* 66 This adaptation of contending parts, as it has not been in our's, so it can never be in your's, or in any country, the effect [etc.].

4. *Of yours*: see Of 44.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15409 If yee me oght of yurs gine. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 164 Ane knyght of youris. 1472 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 140 3e schuld borow of my brother Sir John, or of sum other frend of 3owers. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Cor. viii. 9 Lest..thys libertye of yours be an occasyon of falling. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* v. iii. 209 She hath that Ring of yours. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* Ded. p. iv, So near a Resemblance of Yours to the Young Prince. 1851 *Amer. Mag.* Dec. 116/2 This charming new sister of your's. 1894 W. E. Norris *St. Ann's* xxiv, That dictatorial Colonel of yours.

Yourself (yuəɹse·lf), *pron.* Forms: see Your and Self. [ME. *your self(e*, *your selven*, superseding earlier nom. *3e selfe*, and acc.-dat. *eow selve(n*, *you self*: see Self A. 2–4. The development of the sing. use through the honorific pl. use followed the precedent of Ye, You, Your.] The emphatic and reflexive pronoun corresponding to *you*.

I. In plural sense: now replaced by *yourselves*.

†1. *emphatic*, = Yourselves 1, 2. *Obs.*

c 1325 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 234 Þe sobe 3e may 3or self ise. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1095 Al þe nede & þe noy þat 3e now suffren By a-cent of 3our-self, 3e sain þat 3e dryen. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Whs.* (1880) 279 Þat..her-by schulde be.. worschipe to god & endeles good to 3ouwre self. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5036 All the wise how it was ye wetyn your selfe. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 195 Preistis, thole to preiche, Sen 3e 3our self can preiche na thing.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 780 (Göttt.) Als goddes suld 3ur seluen be. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxx, 3e most noue take 3our leue, For 3oure seluun knauyn the cace.

†2. *refl.* = Yourselves 4. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 16653 (Göttt.) Ne wepe 3e noght for me, Bot on 3ur childer and 3urself [*Cott.* 3owself]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lell.* 4 Wil 3e not sel wiþin 3or self we haue þe fadir Abraham. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 9 Do fore 3oure self ore 3e gone, Or mede of God get 3e none. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 9 Ye proude galants that thus your selfe disguise. 1572 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 391 Think you, that this way you among yourself shall escape?

β. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12843 But the noble Duke Nestor onon to hom said:..'Sendis fro youre-seluyn to your syde londis.' 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2730 Ye sholde alway your syluen shewe Wyth cheryssheyng ffyr of plesaunce.

II. In singular sense (originally as a honorific plural: cf. You II, Your 2 b): replacing Thyself.

* Emphatic. 3. In apposition with *ye* or *you* (usually as subj., less commonly as pred. or obj.), or after a verb in the imperative.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 350 Þa3 3e 3our-self be talenttyf to ... And ye *a* 1553

other but thou, it were a knaue." *M. Mery.* Ye are an other your selfe, sir. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. i. 154 Henceforth, carry your letters your selfe. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xiii, You are No longer yours, then you your selfe here liue. 1707 Freind *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 211 You will hardly believe your self, what this Letter informs you of. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VI. ii, Suppose she should have fixed on the very Person whom you yourself would wish. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxvii, I hope I may see you happily married yourself some of these days. 1861 Miss Yonge *Stokesley Secret* vi, 'Johnnie!—get sticks, I say.'..Johnnie uttered a gruff 'Get 'em yourself.' 1890 Burnand *Very Much Abr.* 103 You certainly gave me to understand you had been there yourself.

4. a. Used as simple subject, with the verb either in the pl. (as with *you*), or in the 3rd pers. sing. (*self* being taken as a sb.).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2489 Your seluyn sothely assayet hane before. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xviii. (Percy Soc.) 82 Your selfe hath caught it in so sure a net. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 82 Your owne selfe doe know, that both he and the rest were to me knowne before time. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. i. 78 Madam, your selfe is not exempt from this. 1662 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 47 Your selfe deny this elsewhere. 1642 'Smectymnuus' *Vind. Answ.* § 13. 120 But your selfe grants..that Timothy was not yet Bishop. *a* 1745 Swift *Verses, To a Lady* 126 Conversation is but carving; Carve for all, yourself is starving. 1799 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 150 Does the Presidt. and yourself wear them? *Mod.* (*vulgar*) How's yourself?

b. as predicate, or after *as* or *than*.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1849 She might haue bene mariede to more þen your selfe. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* III. v. 46 Is it your selfe? 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 31, I know nothing so valuable as your self. 1847 R. S. Surtees *Hawbuck Gr.* xii, 'Why, what a mess you're in, Beaney!'..'Am I?..I can't be much worse than yourself; look at your breeches!' 1896 Mary Beaumont *Joan Seaton* x, It's yourself, Sweetheart, it's yourself I think most of now.

c. as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition (or *tithe* adj. and adv.).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1548, I..euer-more wylle vaunt to your-seluen. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2327 Yff

your Allegiaunce, þat I, your lafe son, Be sent from your seluen. 1634 Peyton in *Documents agst. P.* (Camden) 34 This odious scandall..which I wish may not truly reflect upon your self. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* II. i, Spoke like ye'rsell, auld birky. 1766 *Gentl. Mag.* May 234/1 Good fortune befall Yourself, and the B-n-r-d family all. 1807 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 332 On a balance of their beauty and deformity, not one of them equals yourself or Southey. 1892 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* iv, What a strong friendship used to exist between Uncle Brian, yourself, and Anne Valery.

5. In pregnant sense: Your being or personality; also, your true self, you as you are in your natural or normal condition: cf. Self D. 1, 2.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 40 What euill starre On you hath frownd,..That of your selfe ye thus berobbed arre. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xiii, O that you were your selfe. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1741) I. ii. 5 For fear you should be brought to any thing..wicked, by being set so above yourself. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VI. v, 'Dear aunt, you frighten me out of my senses.' 'O, my dear,..you will soon come to yourself again.' 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* viii, 'Now you look like yourself', she said fondly.

** 6. Reflexive, as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition: taking the place of You 4 d.

13.. to your-seluen [see 3]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3799 To occupye your sylf alway. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 108 Least that by the doyng the contrary, you bring your selfe into such a pecke of troubles. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, Nor would I, you should melt away your selfe In flashing brav'ria. 1608 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 75 Good Madam keepe your selfe within your selfe. 1680 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* 127 'Twas well you bethought your self before you were in for good and all. 1727 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Mrs. S. C*— 1 Apr., I am going to tell you a thing that will make you wish yourself here. 1865 'L. Carroll' *Alice's Adv. in Wonderland* ix, Pray don't trouble yourself. 1882 'Edna Lyall' *Donovan* xix, You'll do for yourself one of these days.

*** 7. As indefinite pronoun (emphatic or reflexive): = Oneself: cf. You 6, Your 6.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. iii. 56 Here is a Table of Latitudes..and the way to calculate it your self. 1881 *Baily's Mag.* Apr. 97 Our friend learned that one of the secrets of their success was picking the line of country quickly yourself. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 May 207/2 The monkey..has a rule that everything which cannot be eaten must be used to scratch yourself with.

Yourselves (yuəɹse·lvz), *pron. pl.* Forms: see Your and Self. [f. prec., in the 16th cent., with pl. inflexion, like *ourselves*, *theirselves*, *themselves*, in order to provide an unambiguous form for the pl. use.] The emphatic and reflexive pronoun corresponding to *you* in plural sense: replacing the earlier *yourself* (see prec. 1, 2).

I. Emphatic.

1. In apposition with *ye* or *you* (as subj., pred., or obj.), expressed or implied.

1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxiii. 13 Ye youre selves goo nott in, nother [1611 yee neither goe in your selues, neither] suffre ye them that come to enter in. *c* 1530 Lyndesay *Monarche, Prag. Dauid* 312 It is 3our craft..3our selfis, in 3our Templis, for to teche. 1611 *Bible* Luke xiii. 28 When yee shall see..all the Prophets in the kingdome of God, and you your selues thrust out [1526 Tindale, and youre selves thrust oute a dores]. 1881 'Mark Twain' *Sp.* (1910) 24, I think I honor and appreciate your Pilgrim stock as much as you do yourselves, perhaps.

2. As simple subject (now *arch.* or *poet.*), predicate, or object.

1526 [see quot. 1611 in 1]. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 58 To manefest 3ourselfis quhat men 3e ar. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) 1 Thess. II. 1 For your selues know, brethren, our entrance vnto you, that it was not vaine. 1608 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 194 (Qo. 1) If you doe loue old men,..if your selues are old. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 110, I intend to carry you where your selves shall be Judges of his Conversation. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 3 Say great Patricians! (since yourselves inspire These wond'rous works). 1881 'Mark Twain' *Sp.* (1910) 20, I ask you to put yourselves in his place.

3. In pregnant sense: cf. prec. 5.

1728 Pope *Iliad* XIV. 428 Be still your selves, and we shall need no more.

II. 4. Reflexive, as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition: taking the place of You 1 d.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 71 b/2 It is his wyll that ye all shulde put your selfes into his pure wyll. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xvii. 3 Take hede to youre selves. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Matt. vi. 19 Laye not vp for your selues treasure vpon earth. 1582 Bhome *Novella* I. i, Not to wanton out your holy vowes Dancing your selfes to th' Devill. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 52 Respecting your forefathers, you would have been taught to respect yourselves. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, 'You ought to be ashamed of yourselves,' said the voice of Mr. Raddle. 1847 R. S. Surtees *Hawbuck Gr.* xvi, It is all very well for you to give yourselves airs among other girls.

Yourt (yūət). Forms: 8–9 jourt, 9 jurt, y(o)urte, yurte, yu(o)rt, yort, 8– yourt. [ad. Russ. юрта, through F. *yourte* or G. *jurte*.] A semi-subterranean dwelling or hut of the natives of northern and central Asia, usually formed of timber covered with earth or turf. Also *attrib.*

1784 Kino *Cook's Voy. Pacific* III. 9 May 1779, Natchekin is a very inconsiderable *ostrag*, having only one log-house, the residence of the *Toion*; five *balagans*, and one *jourt*. 1786 Coxe *Russ. Discov.* 239 Six or seven of these huts or yourts make a village. 1858 Anne Bowman *Yng. Exiles* xii. 134 They made no scruple to enter the warm, though unfriendly *yourts*. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 207 Stone knives..have been found in the high north-

east of Siberia, on the site of deserted yourts of modern date. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Furze Bloom* iii. 29 A Khan's yourte on the steppes of Central Asia.

Yourt, var. YAOURT.

Yous, youah, dial. contractions of *you shall*: see SHALL A. 5.

1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. v. B j, Youah beare the blame.

Youst, obs. form of JUST, JOUST *v.*[1]

Youster, *sb. north. dial.* Forms: 1 ȝelostr, ȝeolster, -or, 6 *Sc.* ȝoustir, 7 yowster, 9 youster. [OE. *geolster* (late also *gillister*) suppuration, pus, related to LG. *galster* mouldy spot in cheese, bacon, etc., whence Du. *galsterig* rank, rancid (cf. OE. *geolstrig* purulent, poisonous).] Fetid discharge from a wound; pus, sanies. Hence **Youster** *v.*, to fester; **Youstered** *pa. pple.* (see quot. 1894).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 709 *Suppuratio*, ȝelcstr. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 3585 (Napier 95/2) *Tabo, .i. sanie*, wyrmse, ȝeolstre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 72 The ȝoustir tharfra chirtand and blak blud. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words, Youster* [*printed* Yowster], to fester. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Youstered*, puffed or swollen in the cellular membranes of the skin.

Yout, variant of YOWT.

Youth (*yūþ*). Forms: 1 ȝeogup, ȝiogup, iugup, -oð, 1–2 ȝeogoþ, iuȝeþ, 2–3 ȝeoȝeð, ȝuheð, 3–5 ȝoup(e, 4–5 ȝowthe, youghthe, yhouth(e, 4–6 youthe, 4–5 (6–7 *Sc.*) ȝouth, (7 *Sc.*) yowthe, 5–6 ȝouthe, ȝowth, yought(e, yougth(e, (3 ȝuweð, -wuð, -ȝeð, ȝueþ, ȝoeþ, ȝieuð, youhþ, ȝuð, 4 ȝowep, ȝoughep, ȝuth, 5 ȝowith, yowith, yowuthe, ȝougeþe, ȝougthe, youþe, yupe, ȝouhetȝ, *Sc.* ȝowuthȝ, 5–6 vthe, 6 yowght, *Sc.* ȝow', 7 yewth), 5– youth. [OE. *geogup* = OS. *jugud* (MLG., MDu. *jôghet*, Du. *jeugd*), OHG. *jugund* (MHG. *jugent*, G. *jugend*) :— Com. W. Ger. **jugunþi-*, app. an alteration on the analogy of **dugunþ-* DOUTH of **juwunþi-* :— pre-Teut. **juwonti-* (cf. the parallel formation in L. *juventa*, Goth. *junda*). See YOUNG and -TH[1].]

1. The fact or state of being young; youngness. (Often blending with sense 2.)

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 2843 (Napier 77/1) *Teneritudine*, iungan iuȝeþe. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 975 On his dagum for his iuȝoðe, Godes wiþersacan Godes laxe bræcon. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1462 Nim ȝeme of þi ȝuheðe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 84 Seynge þe ȝoupe of þe childe. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* (1896) 68 Other tweyn of hys bretheren, (that throgh yought & foolrede hym folwed). *a* 1500 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Pl.* ii. 751 Thogh thatt my vthe frome me be worne. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxii. 65 They knewe well by the reason of his yought hunger opressyd hym more then it dyde to them of gretter age. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 195 By your authoritie, the people may be moved the rather to beleve the trewth, whareof many dowbtes be reassone of our yowght. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 148 Our youths, and wildenesse, shall no whit appeare, But all be buried in his Grauity. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 664 A Snake .renew'd in all the speckl'd Pride Of pompous Youth. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 122 Their free-behaviour are generally attributed to Youth and Gaiety. 1796 BURKE *Let. to Hussey* Dec., Corr. 1844 IV. 401 If I had youth and strength, I would go myself over to Ireland to work on that plan. 1803 BEDDOES in *Med. Jrnl.* X. 572 He has youth on his side, and it is odds but he gets over it [*sc.* a disease].

b. *fig.* Newness, novelty, recentness.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 224 If that the youth of my new interest here Have power to bid you welcome. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. iv. § 13 These opinions have youth in their countenance.

2. The time when one is young; the early part or period of life; more specifically, the period from puberty till the attainment of full growth, between childhood and adult age.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 206 Dære scame & dære scande þe ðu on iuguðe worhtes ic ȝedo ðæt ðu forgitst. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 21 Eall þis ic heold of minre geoguþe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 On his ȝuweðe he fleh fro folke to weste. *a* 1225 *Prov. Ælfred* 100 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 108 Þe mon þe on his youhþe yeorne leornep wit and wisdom. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10436 Alle þe ȝongest bachelers þat..were of ȝouþe. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 14 Women..þat leris no latyn in þar youth. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 63 Most fortunable chiftane, bothe in yhouth and eild. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* viii. 21 The ymaginacion of mans hert is euell, euen from the very youth of him [1611 from his youth]. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* IV. vii. (1816) 126/2 One of those old boys who had been great rakes in their youth. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 12 As soon as they begin to grow up and pass from infancy to youth. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* viii. 103 In the case of any kind of optical defect, it is a great advantage to begin the use of glasses in youth.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Early stage or period of existence.

1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 7 A Violet in the youth of Primy Nature. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 108 As the Bough grew in the youth of the Tree. 1738 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 14 One very bad [quality]..that often ruins part of its Crop, while in their youth. 1883 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 873/2 Lutheranism..covers a smaller area to-day than it did in its early youth.

3. A quality or condition characteristic of the young; e. g. youthful freshness or vigour; youthful wantonness, folly, or rashness; youthful appearance or aspect.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 65 Þær is geoguþ buton yðe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Þer eanl þeon..lyȝeð [*v.r.* geoguðe, ȝiuuðe] wiþ-uten elde. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* (
yhouthe be newed anl. 1390 GOWER *C*
preide hem alle..To grante Eeon his ferste youthe. 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 158 Tyll..þat youthe of wedlokke ly in my nekke..youth shall rene in me as hyt has done in you afore tyme. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 244 Now is loste our beaulte and our yougthe thorughe grete syane. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxxv. 140 b/2 Though..that youthe of wytte hane made hym to defye the kynge. *a* 1633 BRINSLO *Serm., John i. 5* Wks. (1723) 420/2 [The sun] puts a Youth upon the World. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 16 The Enervating of their Youth and Vigour. 1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* i, After she had purchased all of youth which age can purchase for money. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Rhapsody of Life's Progr.* viii, Oh, the soul keeps its youth! But the body faints sore.

4. Personified, or vaguely denoting any young person or persons (without article).

Here perhaps belongs *youthes folke* (Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 9), which was imitated by Davison (see YOUNGTH 1, quot. 1602).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 358, I sih wher lusty Youthe tho ..Stod with his route wel begon. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 69 They shall fynde fiele flawtis floure score and odde, That youghthe weneth alwey þat it be witte euere. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1032 ȝowith is recheles. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 93 Ful of corage is ȝouȝeþe in herte. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 39/1 Slipper youth [must be] vnderpropped with elder counsayle. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 124 We haue an olde prouerbe youth wil haue his course. 1675 BROOKE *Gold. Key* 27 Youth enclines to Wantonness and Prodigality. 1737 GRAY *Bard* 74 Youth on the prow, and Pleasure at the helm. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. i, Almost everything that is great has been done by youth.

5. Young people (or creatures) collectively; the young. (With or without *the*; now always construed as plural.)

Beowulf 66 Oð þæt seo ȝeogoð ȝeweox. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* Pref. 7 Eall sio ȝioguð ðe nu is on Angelcynne friora monna. *c* 1205 LAY. 15372, & inne Æstsaxe heore aðelestе ȝuȝeðe. *Ibid.* 19837 Beȝnt alre ȝeoȝeðe þa..a þan dæȝen weore Ærður iðaten. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 152 The yl and idul bryngyng vp of youth here in our cuntrey. *Ibid.* 156 To ouerse the educatyon of vthe. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxiii. (1888) 119 Youth from seuen till one and twenty, will abyde much exercising. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. Chorus 1 Now all the Youth of England are on fire. 1696 HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 204 The Elders could remember that they had been Youth. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 25 The insect youth are on the wing. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxxv, The unexpected death of some old lady Or gentleman..Who've made 'us youth' wait too—too long already For an estate. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. ii. 25 When there was peace at home, the youth sought opportunities of distinguishing..themselves in distant warfare. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 892/1 There was a native innocence in the New York youth of both sexes that was pleasing to our pride.

6. A young person; *esp.* a young man between boyhood and mature age; sometimes, esp. in earlier use, more widely (see quots.).

Formerly sometimes (and still in dialect or vulgar speech) pleonastically qualified by *young*.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2665 Bi ðat time ðat he was ȝuð, Wiȝ falȝered and strengthe kuð. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 230 He lift vp þe lach and leop ouer þe lake, þat ȝouthe. ?1580 W. HUNNIS (*title*) The Right Rule of Christian Chastitie; profitable to bee read of all godly and vertuous Youthes of both sexes. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Low C.* I. 32 b, Accompanied with a multitude of women, young youthes and children. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 40 He that hath a beard, is more then a youth: and he that hath no beard, is lesse then a man. 1603 TREWELL *Journ. Earl Nott.* 32 A youth of ten yeares of age. 1611 *Bible* Susanna 45 The Lord raised vp the holy spirit of a young youth, whose name was Daniel. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 95 The jocond rebecks sound To many a youth, and many a maid. 1687 [? W. PENN] *Reason. Toleration* 26 He ended his days a young Youth, in the 24th Year of his Age. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 263 W^m was in the eleventh Year of his Age, and y^t he was then a very hopefull Youth. 1774 tr. *Chesterfield's Lett.* Kal. May 1741, To-morrow..you will attain your ninth year; so that, for the future, I shall treat you as a youth. 1805 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 396/2 Two youths, one 14 and the other 8 years of age, sons of a poor man. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxii, The pot-boy, the muffin youth, and the baked-potato man. 1881 *19th Cent.* May 780 Before she was twenty she wrote verses like other youths.

b. (esp. *college youth.*) Applied technically to societies of bellringers. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1668 [STEDMAN] *Tintinnalogia* (1671) Ded., To the Noble Society of Colledge-Youths. 1826 SHIPWAY *Campanal.* p. xix, The Society of College Youths, in the summer of 1657, on a visit to Cambridge, were presented by Mr. Stedman with his peculiar production on five bells. 1829 T. BAILEY *Ann. Notts.* IV. 29 The bells at St. Peter's church re-cast this year;..The following are the inscriptions upon them: First, or Treble.—'I was given by the Society of Northern Youths, in 1672, and recast by the Sherwood Youths, in 1771.'

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *youth-slip, -state, -tide, -time; youth-bold, -consuming* adjs.; †**youth-grass**, †**youthwort**, names for sundew; †**youth-like** *a.*, resembling or having the character of youth, juvenile (cf. YOUTHLY *a.*); *adv.*, like a youth, or in the manner of youth; hence †*youthlikeness*; †**youth-master**, a master who teaches young people; **youth-potion**, a potion supposed to restore youth.

a 1628 SYLVESTER *Sonn. Mirac. Peace* xii, My †youth-thoughts. 1630 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* I. i, That †youth-consuming Miseria. 1584 COGAN *Haven* ..ccxxiv. 208 In Lankashire..the common people do †youth grease, and they think that it fatteth sheepe. ..SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. 318 When shee saw Priamus surcharged in armour. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* All such, whom either youthfull age, or ..s did fill with unlimited desires. 1549 ALONDER *Erasm. on Folly* C iij b, Women with their smoth cheekes, small voyces, and fine skinnes, doo euer shewe a certayne †youthlikenesse. 1550 HARINGTON tr. *Cicero's Bk. Friendship* (1562) 48 b, For so shall nurses and †youthmaisters chalenge muche frendshyp. 1576 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* liii, A sorceress..to mix †youth-potions for others. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 1220 'Tis better bear the †Youth-allips of a King..Then to fill all with Bloud-flouds of Debate. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* II. xiii. (1556) 82 Publius Rutilius †youthstate [orig. *adolescentiam*]. 1873 BRINNAH *Witch of Newl*, etc. 291 The seeds that in †youth-tide we sow. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 307 Their works, produced in the †youth-time of the human race. 1895 *Educat. Rev.* Sept. 190 Miss Cobbe regrets the banished grace of her mother's youthtime. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clv. 1366 Called in English Sunne deaw, *Ros Solis*, †Youth woort. 1598 R. CHESTER *Poems* (1914) 18 Youthwort faire Affections lower.

Hence **Youthen** (*yū·þ'n*) *v.* [-EN[5]], *trans.* to make youthful, impart a youthful appearance to; *intr.* to become youthful, acquire youthful qualities; **Youthless** *a.*, having no youth, lacking the ordinary characteristics of youth (whence **Youthlessness**); †**Youthness**, youth; **Youthship**, with poss. adj., used as a title (cf. *worship*); †**Youthsome** *a.*, youthful in disposition, juvenile.

1882 *Ewen. Star* (Philad.) 28 Apr., No dress †youthens a girl so much as white. 1916 C. H. SORLEY *Lett.* (1919) 140 You will always be forty to strangers perhaps: and youthen as you get to know them. 1906 MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xiii, A "youthless, over-developed girl of fifteen. 1909 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 17 June 225/2 It is his own letters..his cold "youthlessness..that are his enemy. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3221 þat he had don in his †youthnesse soo. 1906 A. & J. CASTLE *If Youth but knew* ii, Heaven knows..what awe hostess may not greet your †youthship tonight. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 31 Oct., I found him drinking and very jolly and †youthsome.

Youthful (*yū·þfŭl*), *a.* [f. YOUTH + -FUL.]

1. Having or characterized by youth; that is still young.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 14 The youthfull knight could not for ought be staide. 1592 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 52 In vnlawfull loue, A sinne prevailing much in youthfull men. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 77 This Prince being youthfull, cast behinde him all care of the Empire. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* III. 32 Is she not more than Painting can express, Or youthful Poets fancy, when they love? 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* xxiii. II. 37 A youthful princess, in the very sweetness and bloom of her years. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 129 Here we have..an unmistakable attack made by the youthful Socrates.

2. *transf.* Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or suitable for, youth or the young; juvenile.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. X iij, Alonso Carillo..hauynge committed certein youthfull partes that were of no great importance, was..caried to prison. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 111 Idlenesse is..ye sole maintenaunce of youthful [*later edd.* youthly] affection. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 160 The leane and slipper'd Pantaloone,.. His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide, For his shrunke shanke. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 26 Jest and youthful Jollity. 1723 C. WALKER *Mem. Sally Salisb.* 10 Dress and Dancing were the sole Youthful Delights of our Sally. ..appropriately attired for that purpose in a very youthful costume. 1901 JACOBS *Light Freights* 228 An ancient eye watched with almost youthful impatience the slow warming of a mug of beer on the hob.

3. *fig.* That is in its early stage, early, new; also, having the freshness or vigour of youth.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 28 O earth! I will befriend thee more with rain That shall distill from these two ancient ruines, Then youthfull April shall with all his showres In summers drought. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. vii. 34 The larger stature..of men in those youthfull times and age of the world. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* i. 24 Perfect Felicity, such as after millions of millions of Ages is still youthfull and flourishing. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 236 The youthfull bloom of rosy love. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 147 There may be a connexion between an extraordinary profusion of monocotyledonous plants and a youthful condition of the world. 1877 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 Oct. 11/1 A youthful and astringent Tinta, an aromatic Malmsey of fabulous value.

Hence **Youthfullity** (*nonce-wd.*), youthfulness; *pl.* youthful acts or follies.

1763 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 25 Aug., You see my impetuosity does not abate much: no, nor my youthfullity. 1764 — *Let. to C. Churchill* 27 Mar., You do not suspect me, I hope, of any youthfullities.

Youthfully (*yū·þfŭlli*), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a youthful manner; with the freshness, vigour, or other characteristic of youth; like a young person; in a juvenile style.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1888) 209 Let them.. defende that stoutly, which they haue begone youthfully. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Philosoph.* III. ii. 6 The face beyng washed therwith, it maketh it very faire, and preserueth it youthfully. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 195 If anything seemeth to be painted somewhat youthfully, it is esteemed to proceed out of a promising forwardnesse of our naturall inclinations. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 87 Youthfully impatient of all delay. 1808 HAM. MORE *Calebs* ix, Rather youthfully dress. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 5289 N. What the cloud has broken, sky laughs blue, Earth blesses youthfully!

Youthfulness (*yū·þfŭlnės*). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact or quality of being youthful; youthful condition or character.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* viii. 117 Should we rather graunt an euerlasting ignorance in man, than a kynd of youthfulnesse which hath learned things according to the growths thereof in ages? 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 139 He might either doe it out of youthfulnesse.. or out of want. 1727 ADDISON tr. *Ovid's Met.* III. Wks. 1726 I. 213 With all the purple youthfulness of face, That gently blushes in the wat'ry glass. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* i, Her very small and delicate frame imparted a peculiar youthfulness to her appearance. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xii. 124 A complexion almost dazzling in its youthfulness and brilliancy.

Youthhead (yū·þhed). Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 3 **3uðhede**, 4 **3ouþehede, -hed, 3outhhede, yhouthede, 3uthed**, 4–5 **3owthed(e, -eid, youthed(e**, 4–6 **3outhed(e, -eid**, 5 **yowthid, 3owthehede, youthead, (yu3hed)**, 5–6 **3owthheid, youtheid, yowthed**, 6 **3outhhed, 3houthhed, yowth(h)eid, 3eutheid, yutheid, 3owoht-heid, youtheid**, 6, 8 **3outhheid**, *arch.* 8 **youthhede**, 9 **-hed**, 9 **youth-head, youthhead** (*Sc.* **-heid**). [f. YOUTH + -HEAD.]

1. The state of youth, youngness: = YOUTH 1.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 55 Wu he newe8 his 3uðhede, hu he cume8 ut of elde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 862 Quhare hale bein ay but seknes, 3outhed but eld or wrechitnes. 1486 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 3 Till enforme 3our 3outhede of mony syndry knaulagis. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 67 3outhheid is without reasoun or ryme. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xvi. 50 Quha wald the rege of 3owtheid dant. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Some of the Contents* vi, Quhen eild and spyte takis place of 3outhheids flame. 1819 SCOTT *Let. to Cornet W. Scott* 3 Dec. in *Lockhart*, Mamma and the girls are quite well, and so is Master Charles, who is of course more magnificent, as being the only specimen of youthhead at home.

2. The time of youth, adolescence: = YOUTH 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3592 Quen þai it [*sc.* eld] haue þai are vnfayn, And wald ha youthed þan again. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiv. (*Lucas*) 3 In his 3outhede leyrit he In antyoche leche to be. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 317 (Harl. MS.) My lord god, þat hast y-kept me fro my 3owthede, kepe me now in þis hour. 1526 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 89 He was within youtheid and of mynor alge. 1582 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* k iv, All the lust men, florising in thair 3outhheid. 1798 H. MACNEILL *Scot. Muse* xiv, Year after year in youtheid's prime, Wander he will, 'frae clime to clime. 1824 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XVII. 27 The children, free In youthhead's happy season from all cares. 1826 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1856 I. 170 That never was Mr. North's character, even in lusty youth-head.

3. Youths collectively: = YOUTH 5.

1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 23, I lugeit the teching of the 3outhed in vertew and science, nixt efter the auctoritie with the ministeris of Iustice vnder it. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 535 Privatlie or publictlie to instruct the youtheid. 1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 123 They are ..guilty of having committed the education of 'the youthhead' of the country to men whom they consider disqualified.

Youthhood (yū·þhud). Now *rare* or *arch.* Forms: 1 **geoguþhad, geoguþhad**, 3 **3uweðhode**; 7–9 **youthood, youth-hood, youthhood.** [OE. *geoguþhād*, f. *geoguþ* YOUTH + *-hād* -HOOD; cf. OS. *jugudhēd*, MHG. *jugentheit*. In mod.E. a new formation.]

1. = YOUTH 1, 2, 3.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Swa þonne gelice bliþ þære menniscan geeynde þas lichoman, þonne se geoxoþ-had mærest blowe þ & fæ3erost bliþ. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* lxii. (1889) 189 Se þe estelice fram geoguðhade [L. *puericia*] fet þeow his þeærmfter hyne onxyt ofermodigne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 342 Of al þin elde, of childhode, of 3uweðehode.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* I. vi. 49 In this age of youthhood, (commonly called Adolescency). 1637 GILLESPIE *Engl. Pop. Corem.* II. iii. 17 From his youthood he was most observant of Ecclesiasticall Ceremonies. 1680 in Sprat *Relat. Wicked Contriv.* II. (1693) 64 It was a folly of Youth-hood. 1784 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 36 My Governess Philosophy, under whose Roof I spent my Youth-hood. *a* 1807 J. SKINNER *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 49 A gawsie gurk, wi' phiz o' yellow, In youthood's sappy bud. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. x, With the down of youthhood still on his chin. 1887 SMILES *Life & Lab.* 143 All new ideas are young, and originate for the most part in youth-hood.

b. *fig.* Early stage or period: = YOUTH 2 b.

1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. xii. 343 The native of a land where, in the youthhood of the Republic, a nation's independence had broke forth. 1880 W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* 101 And night and day its crystal heart doth yearn To wed its youthhood with the sea's old age.

2. *concr.* Young people collectively: = YOUTH 5.

1690 J. MACKENZIE *Siege London-Derry* 48 The Youthhood by a strange impulse ran in one Body and shut the Gates. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxviii. (1857) 412 The urchin who, in behalf of the outraged youthhood of the place, wore the white sheet on this interesting occasion.

Youthily, Youthiness: see after YOUTHY.

Youthless: see after YOUTH.

Youthly (yū·þli), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. YOUTH + -LY 1. In OE. *geoguþlic*; cf. OHG. *jugundlīh*.]

1. Pertaining to or characteristic of youth: = YOUTHFUL 2.

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. vi. (1890) 398 Ic ne wæs min mod fullfremedlice bewerzende þæm geoguðlicum unalefednessum.

a 1536 WYATT *Love's Arraignm.* v, Alwayes whetting my youthely desyer On the cruell whetstone tempered with fier. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* VIII. xii. 152 Two doughters,..which passed all other in..youthly excellence. 1590 SPENSER *Muiop.* 431 And all his youthly forces lilly spent. 1682 BURNET *Trav.* iii. (1687) 97 Pope Nicolas the IV. who had..a youthly and womanish face. 1807 SHELLEY *To Wm. Shelley* 14 To a blighting faith and a cause of crime They have bound them slaves in youthly prime.

2. Having youth or the characteristics of youth: = YOUTHFUL 1.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. Pref. 2 Faulting fooles and youthly heades. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 40 All that youthly rout. *a* 1629 HEROE *J. Bruen* XXXVII. (1641) 116 This Master Done being young and youthly. 1767 MICKLE *Concub.* I. XXXIII, While thus the Knight persewd the Shaddow Joy As youthly Spirits thoughtlesse led the Way. 1896 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 8 Nov. 302 Although still something too youthly in figure, [he] had a frame well knit.

So † **Youthly** *adv. Obs.* = YOUTHFULLY.

1542 PAYNELL *Conspir. Catil.* 1 b, With men of sadnesse he lyued soberly,..with youth youthely. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* VII. 231 Paris..youthly thus doth answere him. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. 590 His heunly moother amended His bush with trimming, his sight was youthlye bepurpled.

Youthness to Youthwort: see after YOUTH.

Youthy, *sb. Sc.* [f. YOUTH + -Y 6.] A youthful person.

1795 MACNEILL *Scotl. Scaith* I. xviii, The mair they crack'd, the mair ilk youthy Pray'd for drink to wash news down.

Youthy (yū·þi), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. YOUTH + -Y 1. 'A bad word' (J.).] Having or affecting the character of youth: usually connoting a youthful appearance or behaviour inconsistent with the person's years.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 296 P 5 Affecting a youthier Turn than is consistent with my Time of Day. 1819 SCOTT *Let. to J. Richardson* 28 Jan. in *Lockhart*, A withered beauty who persists in looking youthy. 1841 CAROLINE FOX *Mem. Old Friends* (1882) I. 231 When at college, Sterling had venerated and defended Shelley as a moralist as well as a poet, 'being rather youthy'.

Hence **Youthily** *adv.*, with the appearance of youth; **Youthiness**, youthfulness, juvenility.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 517 Bringing back with me..a sort of youthiness that lasted sometimes more than a fortnight. 1839 GALT *Demon of Dest.* 6 His bright eyes shone youthily.

Youward(s, in phr. *to youward(s*: see -WARD(S.

Yove, yoven, -yn, 3ove, etc., occas. **yoved**, obs. pa. t. and pple. of GIVE.

c 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 289 Y haue 3ouen my liif for þe. 13.. *Northern Passion* 230/1255 Ageyn oure lawe he haþ 3oue red. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 102 Unto thidoles yove and granted. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24360 Whan Iuges, for offence Han yoved hir sentence. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 945 in *Macro Plays* 66 My wyll was full yowe to syne. 1532 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 344 According to your high commawndment to me youyn yesterdaye. 1552 HULOET, Yoven or enclined to coustousenes or cruelty.e.

Yow (yau), *int.* [Imitative.]

a. An exclamation of vague meaning.

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 295 Yowe! þat schalke shuld not shamely be shente.

b. An imitation of the yelp or bark of a dog, or the miaow of a cat; also as *sb.* and *v.* (reduplicated *yow-yow*).

1820 *Edin. Mag.* May 458 *To yow*, to caterwaul. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Spectre Tapp.*, Yow!—yeough! —yeough!—yeough!—yow! yelled a hapless sufferer from beneath the table. 1839 *Ibid.*, *Cynotaph*, Cupid, of 'Yow-Yow'-ing memory. 1886 SIR T. SEATON *From Cadet to Col.* I. iv. 103 A mob of pretty dogs, yow-yowing musically after a poor little beast.

Yow(e, obs. ff. EWE *sb.*1; also *attrib.*

1489–60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 320 Pro emend. unius muri juxta le yowecote. 1521–2 *Churchw. Acc., Crescombe* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 36 Ed. Wynsor geve unto the chorch ij. yows the prisse iij*s*. iiij*d*. 1556 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1584, 208/2 Pastura *lie yow-flokkis* sive allarum ovium quarumcunque de Pawinshill.

Yow(e: see YOVE; obs. f. YEW, YOU.

Yowcke, yowg, obs. forms of YOKE.

Yowden-drift, variant of EWDEN-DRIFT, snow driven by the wind.

1823 G. BEATTIE *John O' Arnha'* (1826) 58 Choakin' thick as yowden drift.

Yowdin, 3owdin, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of YIELD *v.*: see YOLDEN.

Yowele, Yower, Yowese, obs. ff. JEWEL, EWER 2, YOUR, YURE, USE.

Yowf (youf), *sb. Sc.* Also **yowff, youf(f.** [Echoic.] A smart swingeing blow. Hence **Yowf** *v. trans.*, to strike with such a blow.

1721 RAMSAY *On Maggy Johnstoun* vii, Death wi' his rung rax'd her a yowff. *c* 1738 J. SKINNER *Christmas Ba'ing* ii, They yowff'd the ba' frae dyke to dyke. 1808 JAMIESON, *Youff, Youff*, a swinging blow, Loth.

Yowght, obs. Sc. form of YOUTH.

Yowie. *Sc.* [f. *yow*, EWE *sb.*1 + *-ie*, -Y 6.] A little ewe.

1783 BURNS *Death & Dying Wds. Poor Mailie* ix, An' niest my yowie, silly thing, Gude keep thee frae a tether string!

Yowith, obs. form of YOUTH.

Yowl (youl), *sb.* Also 5–6 **3owle**, 7 **youle**, 9 **youl.** [f. next.] An act of yowling; a prolonged loud cry, now esp. of a dog or cat.

c 1440 HOLLAND *Howlat* 53 He grat grysly grym, and gaif a gret 3owle. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 69 Pitt obscure, Quhair 3oulis ar hard with horreble stevin. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 96 He brake forth into such a Youle of laughing, that he was ready to burst. 1822 HOGG *Tales & Sk., Sheph. Cal.* i, A dog..gae two or three melancholy yowls. *a* 1877 JAS. BALLANTINE in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. III. (1881) 31 At your feet wi' kindly yowl, Whurra your wee cairy. 1917 P. MACGILL *Gt. Push* i, The cats raise their primordial, instinctive yowl.

Yowl (youl), *v.* Forms: 3 **3owele, 3uhele, yule**, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) **3oule, 3owle**, 5–6 **yowle**, 5–7 **youle**, 5, 7, 9 **youll**, 7, 9 **youl**, 9 **yowll**, 8– **yowl.** [ME. *3owle, 3oule, 3uhele, yule.* Cf. ME. *3aule*, YAWL *v.*1 and GOWL (ON. *gaula*).]

1. *intr.* To cry out loudly from pain, grief, or distress; also said of the howling of dogs and various wild animals, the 'wauling' of cats, and (formerly) of the hooting of owls, the cooing of doves.

a 1225, *a* 1250 [see YOWLING *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 102 Þe fendis furth can fare..3ouland and cryand in þe ayre. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 200 Whanne þei [*sc.* wolves] bigynnen to 3oule, þei turnen her snowte to bevene ward. *c* 1412 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) 66/60 A bolde hounde shulde neuer pleyne nor yowle, but if he were oute of þe reghtes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/2 To 3owle, *ululare*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. viii. 112 The nycht oule..was hard 3oule With langsum voce. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lviii. [lix.] 14 Let them go to & fro, & runne aboute the cite, youlinge like dogges. 1549 *Compl.*

Sandy 24 His dog its lane sat yowling on a brae. 1820 *Marmaiden of Clyde* vii. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 402 An' the wilcat yowl't through its dowie vowts. 1848 THACKERAY *Dr. Birch* (1849) 18 She is always croaking, scolding, bullying—yowling at the housemaids, snarling at Miss Raby [etc.]. 1860 SALA *Seven Sons* I. vii. 262 The Blenheim spaniel..yowled fractiously. 1896 BARING-GOULD *Broom-Squire* I, [The child] yowlin' enough to tear a fellow's nerves to pieces.

transf. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. viii. 84 The whole howsis 3owlit and resoundit For womenting of ladyis and wemen.

† **b.** Applied to loud singing or shouting. *Obs.*

1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1874) I. 297 Yowlynge with theyr folysshe songe and cry. *c* 1630 *Song* ii. in De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) Notes 383 Yoffing, crying, youlling, yelling, Lyk ane citie swyne summonds out with an horne.

2. *trans.* To express by yowling; to utter with a yowl.

1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. i. 13 The chained mastiff in the yard yowls his admiration. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. iv. 175 However fast the clergyman may gabble, or the choir-boys yowl, their psalms.

Yowle, obs. form of YULE.

Yow'ley. *north. dial.* [? f. YOWLRING + *-ey*, -Y 6.] A yellow-hammer.

1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 143 Yellow Bunting. Yellow Hammer, or Yellow Yowley. 1862 *Tynesside Songs* (1863) 56 They've a bunch ov hair upon their jaws Just like a yowley's nest.

Yowling (yau·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YOWL *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb YOWL; *esp.* the uttering of a prolonged wailing cry.

a 1225 *Juliana* 57 3e, quoð eleusius, haldest tu 3etten up o þi 3uhelunge? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 40 Me lurte bet speten þane singe Of þine fule 3oxelinge [*Jesus MS.* howelynge]. *Ibid.* 1643 Mid 3ulinge & mid igrede. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXVII. 38 With a greet 3owlyng [1388 3ellyng; Vulg. *ejulatu*] he wepte. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 179 He vanyssh̄id away with grete crying & yowlyng. 1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 165 3owtyng and 3owlyng we hard, with mony 3ell. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 466 The water..strangled and swallowed vp my breath from youling and groaning. 1720 *Acc. Last Distemper of Tom Whigg* I. 19 He..set all the Dogs in the Town a yowling. 1844 THACKERAY *White Squall* vi, Then the wind set up a howling, And the poodle dog a yowling. 1894 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Good Ship 'Mohock'* vii, The hoarse yowling of pulling and dragging sailors.

So **Yow'ling** *ppl. a.*, that yowls.

c 1590 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S. T. S.) I. 193/11 All thir cold nights..I wishe for day,..disturb'd with youling hounds. 1790 ALEX. WILSON *Callamphitres Elegy* Poet. Wks. (1846) 204 Wi' yowling clinch auld Jennock ran. 1843 THACKERAY *Men's Wives, Mr. & Mrs. Berry* ii, Her little yowling black-muzzled darling of a Fido. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Furze Bloom* iii. 33 Think what it 'ud be wi' two yowlin' females under one roof!

Yowlk, obs. form of YOLK.

Yowlring. *dial.* Also 6 **yowlo-, youlw-**, 6–7 **yowle-**, 9 **youlring, yo(u)rin, yowring.** See also YOLDRING, YORLIN(G. [f. *yowle*(*w*), YELLOW *a.* + RING *sb.*] A yellow-hammer.

1544 [see YELLOW-HAM]. 1592 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 70 Larkes and yowloringes. 1596 *Ibid.* 104 Sixtine sparrowes and youlwringes. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Yellow-yowring*, a yellow hammer.

Yowndrift, var. EWDEN-DRIFT, snow driven by the wind.

1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xviii. (1850) 265 I'll be lost, I'm feared, in the yowndrift.

Yownge, Yowp, Yowr(e, obs. forms of YOUNG, YOUP, YOUR, YURE.

Yowpindail: see YORINDALE.

Yowt (yout), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 6 **3owt, 3out(t, 9 yout(t, yowte**, 8– **yowt.** [f. next.] A yell, yelp.

1834 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6000 With mony 3amer, 3owt, and 3ell. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 189 Cerberus..Sall gar hir cry, with mony 3out and 3ell. *c* 1590 BUSSEL *Pass. Pilgr.* I. XXXVII. in Jas. Watson *Coll. Scots Poems* (1709) II. 33 And vther sum with 3outs and zells, Maist cairfully did cry. 1826 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 233 The sichts to see, the yowts to hear That stound upon mine

Yowt (yout), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 5 **3owt**, 6, 9 **yout**, 9 **yowt.** [Cf. Flem. *juyten* 'jubilare & vociferari & suare' (Kilian). Verbs of similar meaning and differing in form by the initial con-

sonant are *howt* (Hoot), Rout *vbs.*[2] and [3], Shout.] *Intr.* To yell, yelp, howl, bellow.

c 1480 Holland *Howlat* 108 To 3owt and to 3owle, As ane horrible Owle. 1508 [see Yowling *vbl. sb.*]. 1808 Jamieson s. v., A cow is said to yout, when she makes a noise. 1829 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 38 Yelpin' and youtin' in his face. 1848 A. B. Evans *Leicestersh. Wds.* s. v. *Yowt*, I yeard the dogs yowting.

Yowthe, yowuthe, obs. ff. Youth.

Yowx, yox(e (3oxe), obs. or dial. ff. Yex.

Yoy(e, 3oye: see Joy, Yea.

Yoyle, Yoylle, Yoyn, Yoyntor, Yoyste, obs. ff. Oil *sb.*[1], Yule, Join, Jointure, Joist *sb.*[1]

1557 in *Archæologia* I. 13 For wast of the paschall, and for holye yoyle 5*s.* 10*d.* 1585 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 149 In full recompence of her thirdes or yoyntor. 1536 *MS. Rawl. D.* 780 lf. 68 The flore with plates yoystes and other nedfull for the same.

†**Ypaid, ypay(e)d** [Y-4, Pay *v.*[1]], paid, pleased. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1842 Þat folc was þo of þis lond ypaid wel ynou. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 393 Be þe pecunie y-payed þauh parties chide. **Ypaised, Yparroked,** ME. pa. pples. of Pease *v.*, Parrock *v.* **Ypase** *v.* [Y- 3 *c*], to pass. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5606 (Laud MS.) A northhalf ne mowen 3ee nou3th ypasse For deserte & wilderneise. **Ypas(s)ed, ypast,** ME. pa. pple. of Pass *v.* 13.. *K. Alis.* 5460 (Laud MS.) Nov it is ypassed hy ne don þerof. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr.*

c 1394 194 Y-pained wiþ peyn 1486 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 331 For al the weyes & paament Wer ypavyd all off gold. **Ypavylounded,** ME. pa. pple. of Pavilion *v.* †**Ypaynt(ed, ypeint, ypeynt(ed,** ME. pa. pples. of Paint *v.*[1] *c* 1290 ypeint, 13.. y-paynted [see Paint *v.*[1] 1.]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 8 þis ymage that is thus y-paynt. **Y-pekyd:** see Ypiked. **Ypend,** obs. pa. pple. of Pen *v.*[1] 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 429 Though yet he seem in feeble flesh ypend.

†**Ypent,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [Y- 4.] = Pent *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1395 *Plowman's T.* 82 He nas nat alway in cloystre y-pent. *Ibid.* 939 Proude pendaunts at hir ars y-pent. 1579, 1728 [see Pent *pa. pple.* 1]. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. I. xxv, Those powers be all or more or lesse ypent In this grosse life. 1839 Kingsley *Poems, In Illum. Missal* 7 My love..Have I within this seely book y-pent.

†**Yperced, -sed** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of Pierce. **Yperished, yperis(s)ed,** etc., ME. pa. pple. of Perish *v.* 1297 [see Perish *v.* 2]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 189 Were þe mydde of myn houde ymaymed or yperished. **Ypeyred** [Pair *v.*[2]], impaired. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 225 What is amended and apeyred [*MS.* γ ypeyred]. **Ypicking,** *pr. pple.* [Y- 3 *c*], picking. 1698 *Choyce Drollery* 74 And as she romed here, and there, Y-

tow'r, Which hence thou seest high in the air y-pight. **Ypiked** [Pick *v.*[1]], picked. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 5422 Hys firste bowe..Is wroght..of yvory, Y-piked out ful craftyly. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 41 Pigis fete clene y-pekyd. **Ypined** [Pine *v.*], put to suffering or torment. 13 .. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 282 Jhesu Criat..y-boren of þan mayden Marie, y-pined under Ponce Pilate. 1340 *Ayenb.* 213 Hi scolle by more y-pined..ine þe o3re wordle.

†**Ypir.** *Obs.* [Flem. *Yper.*] app. Cloth of Ypres. 1517 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 57 Tua capis, ane of scarlet and ane uther of ypir.

†**Ypitched,** obs. pa. pples. of Pitch *v.* 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 71 His campe ypitched By Asope floud. **Ypitte,** ME. pa. pple. of Put *v.*[1] **Yplaied,** played. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7734 (Linc. Inn MS.) So longe þey hadde þus yplaied. **Ypleite, yplight** [Plight *v.*[2]], pleated. 1421 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xxii. 928 And from hire heed shee hath hir veil y-plight. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 209 Þi gowne y-pleite. **Yplet** [Plat *v.*], plaited. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. ii. 126 Hys..hayr,..Yplet ilk nycht on the warm broch of steill. **Ypleynted,** ME. pa. pple. of Plaint *v.* **Yplist, -ight, -yst, -yght,** ME. pa. pple. of Plight *v.*[1] **Yplonged,** plunged. *c* 1407 [see Plunge *v.* 2]. *a* 1565 Sir T. Challoner *Booth.* I. ii. in *Q. Eliz. Engl.* (1899) 151 The mynde yplonged in worldlye thoughte.

Ypocrafet, Ypocras, Ypocr(e)it, -cryte, -oricy, -orisy: see Apocryphate, Hippocras, Hypocrite, Hypocrisy.

Ypodeakon, var. *hypodeacon* (see Hypo- II).

Ypointing, in *star-ypointing*: see Star *sb.*[1] 20 and Y- 3 *c*.

Ypoquistid, -is, var. Hypocistis.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 63 Medicynes restrictyues bene þise:.. ypoquistid, gallez cupule.

†**Yporchased, ypurchasede** [Y- 4], purchased. 1340 *Ayenb.* 35 Þet hire uaderes..habbeþ yporchased be gauelinge. *c* 1425 y-purchasede [see Purchase *v.* 4 b]. **Yportreyd,** ME. pa. pple. of Portray *v.* **Yporveide, -veyid,** purveyed. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 7473 Þe normans were bo wel porueid [*MS. C.* wel yporueide].

Yposarca, obs. form of Hyposarca.

Ypotam(e, -tamos, etc., obs. ff. Hippopotamus.

†**Ypothecar, -gar.** ? obs. Sc. ff. Apothecary. 1509 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 125 Our familiar and daily seruitour Maister Stephane, ypothegar. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 377 (Thomas Davidson] ypothecar [and burgess of Edinburgh].

†**Ypoudred, -ide, ypouthered** [Y- 4, Powder *v.*[1]], powdered, sprinkled. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1397 Þe wyndowes were y-mad of iaspre..Ypoudred wyþ perree of polastre. 1398 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 4 A bed of tapicers werk..ypouthered with chapes and scochons. *c* 1403 Clanvowe *Cuckow & Night.* 63 The ground was grene, y-poudred with daisye. **Ypowred,** poured. *a* 1565 Sir T. Challoner *Booth.* II. ii. in *Q. Eliz. Engl.* (1899) 160 Of Grodes somoche ypowred owte, With never-stayed hande. **Ypoynet,** ME. pa. pple. of Poin *v.*

†**Ypoynt,** = *in point*: see Point *sb.*[1] D. 4 *f.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lx. 1 When he was in þe se ypoynt to perish.

†**Ypoynt** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of Point *v.*[1] **Ypraised, yprayesed, ypreised,** praised. *c* 1330 y-praised [see Praise *v.* 2]. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 172 He haue no cure that he be y-prayaid ne that otheris be blamyd. **Yprast, ypreost, ypresede,** ME. pa. pples. of Press *v.*[1] 13.. *K. Alis.* 2342 (Linc. Inn MS.) His hors he gaf to crest, þat was to grounde ypreost. **Ypreked, ypricked, yprykked,** pricked. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 85 Frenesyes, & foule yueles..Hadde yprykked and prayed polles of peple. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 371 He were priked (*MS.* γ ypreked] wiþ spores. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. lxvii, In soul ypricked deep. **Ypre(o)ved, yproved, yprowed,** etc., proved. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3058 Bote he were in armes wel yproued [*v.rr.* yprowed, ypreueds, ypreuyd]. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 134 They bathe vertue and Streynth of consaill y-prowide. 1522 *World & Child* A v, I am a prynce, perylous yprovyde. †**Yprimsined, yprimsened** [Y- 4], pa. pple. of Prime-sign. **Yprisoned,** prisoned. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxxviii, Any pore prisonere that was yprisoned for ani necessite of wronge. **Yprived, ypryved,** ME. pa. pple. of Prive *v.* **Yprocred, yprokered,** procured. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 215 Þe emperesse Eudoxia had i-procured [*MS.* β y-prokered] þe out puttynge of John. **Yprofred** [Proffer *v.*], offered. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 187 As sone as his king say þat sonde him yprofred.

Ypsiliform (ipsi·lifɔm), *a.* [f. Ypsilon + -(*i*)form.] Shaped like the Greek letter upsilon; Y-shaped. Cf. Hypsiloid.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 417/1 The T-shaped gradually passes into the 'ypsilliform' figure.

Ypsilon. *rare.* [So med. L., OF., etc.] = Upsilon.

1867 Salesbury in Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* 763 *marg.*, The englishe Scolers tongues be marueilously tormented in soundyng of the Greke *ypsilon* and yet atain not to the right sound.

†**Ypullished** [Y- 4], polished. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 63 Bryght y-pullished youre table knyve. **Ypult** [Y- 4, Pilt, pult *v.*], thrust. 1297 [see Pilt *v.* 1 a]. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 208 Ypult out of grace. **Ypunched, ypunsed, ypunyss(h)ed,** punished. 1340 [see Punish *v.* B. 1 b]. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 395 Where-fore we miht aftur Ben y-punched in paine. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2404 They..wer..ypunyssbed by that swerd. **Yput(te,** ME. pa. pple. of Put *v.*[1] 1377 [see Put *v.*[1] B. 27]. †1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 77 Y haue..y-putte yn iij seuryteys. **Ypuysoned,** poisoned. 138[illegible] Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 287 I-poysoned [*MS.* γ ypuys wyf. **Ypyȝt, Ypynned:** see Ypȝt(e, Pinned *a.*

†**Yquartred** [Y- 4], quartered. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 317 His bowels i-brent and y-quartred. **Yquayached,** ME. pa. pple. of Quash *v.* **Yqueme,** var. Iqueme *v.* **Yquenct, yqueynte,** ME. pa. pple. of Quench *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 Zenne of lecherie þet is yquenct mid uorberinge of mete. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 111 A light..Yf hit be founde yqueynte, ther is a veyne Of water nygh. **Yquit, yquyt(te,** ME. pa. pple. of Quit *v.*

Yr, obs. f. Her, *poss. pron.*, *3rd sing. fem.*, Ire; graphic var. *þr*, Their.

†**Yrad** [Y- 4, Rede *v.*[1]], counselled. 1297 [see Rede *v.*[1] 6 g]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4083 Gweneloun..hab y-rad the at oure deuys, As it wil best auayle. **Yrad(e, yredde** [Read *v.*], read. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5789 Þe bysschop..þat had..ouer y-rad Alle ys orysouns. **Yraft,** ME. pa. pple. of Reave *v.*[1] *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1934 Þe other relyques ryche wyche bov him hast y-raft. †**Yra3te, Yrapt,** obs. pa. pples. of Reach *v.*[1], Wrap *v.* **Yrare** [cf. Y- 3 b], pseudo-arch. f. Rare *a.*[1] 1742 Shenstone *Schoolmistr.* xvii, With sugar'd Cates she doth them greet, And Gingerbread y-rare.

†**Yrauissed, -isshid, yravesed** [Y- 4], ravished, carried away. 1340 *Ayenb.* 231 Hi wes y-rauissed of þe princes zone of þe cite. 1382 [see Ravish *v.* 1 b]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 9 He..i-was i-ravished [*MS.* γ yravesed] out of his body anon to þe holy si3t of aungles. **Yraunceouned, -soned,** ransomed.

†**Yravish** [Y- 3 *c*], pseudo-arch. f. Ravish. 1608 Shake. *Per.* III. Prol. 35 The sum of this, Brought hither to Pentapolis, Y-ravished [*so Malone*; *Q*1 Iranyshed] the regions round.

†**Yraylle** [Y- 3 *c*], variant of Rail *v.*[1], to arrange, and Rail *v.*[2], to flow. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 246 In ordre dresse hyt, & yraylle. *Ibid.* 4740 And doun therby hys blood yraylled.

†**Yrayn(e.** *Obs.* Also 1-, yreyn(e, -eine. [a. OF *iraine*, var. *araine* Arain. Cf. Irane.] A spider.

1382 Wyclif *Hosea* viii. 6 The calf of Samarie shal be into webbis of yreinus [1388 ireyns]. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xvi. (1869) 143, I do as the yrayne doth; for as longe as any blood..is in the flye, al she souketh it. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2646 All oure 3eris..Sall be thoght as an yrayn [Psalm xc. 9].

Yrchen, -on, -oun, var. Irchin.

Yre, var. (perh. erron.) of Eyre, in phr. (*wiþ*) *gret yre* = OF. *de grant erre* with great speed. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 1183 As þe scipes wiþ gret eir [*v.rr.* heir, yre, Ire] come toward londe. *Ibid.* 3824 Wiþ hard dunt & gret eir [*v.r.* yre] to gadere sone hii come.

Yre, obs. form of Ire, Iron *sb.*[1]

†**Yre(a)ued** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of Reave *v.*[1] **Yrebuked,** ill-used. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 160 A-fyrst sore and afyngred and foule yrebuked. **Yredliche, Yredy,** var. I-radlicne, I-redy. **Yregned,** reigned. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 73 Hyderto þou hast y-regned gloriousliche.

Yreis, obs. form of Irish. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5551 Þer were of deneys & of scottes aslawe & al so of yreis.

†**Yreke(n** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of Rede *v.*[2], to cover up. *c* 1386 yreke þese Rede *v.*[1] *c* 1634 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* II. ii, My fire yreken is in Ashes cold. **Yremuved,** ME. pa. pple. of Remue, to remove.

Yren(e, Yrenen, obs. ff. Iron *sb.*[1], *a.*, Irnen.

†**Yrent** [Y-4, Rend *v.*[1]], rent. *c* 1386 *Plowman's T.* 256 Those wollen..Christes membres all to-tere On rode as he wer newe y-rent. **Yrented:** see Rented *ppl. a.*[1]

Yreos, variant of Ireos *Obs.*

†**Yrerd** [Y- 4, Rear *v.*[1]], raised. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5790 Ar vre king þat we abbeþ nou adde yrerd so vale.

Yres(ahe, obs. forms of Irish.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 64 Of auncetry In yres kynges mast worthy. 1509 Barclay *Ships of Fooles* (1874) I. 21 Thoughe one know but the yrenshe game.

†**Yrest** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of Rest *v.*[1] 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3763 Him þoȝte he adde yrest ynou, no leng he nolde abyde. *c* 1330 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 1792 Al day he hadde y-rest. **Yrenced,** ME. pa. pple. of Reave *v.*[1] **enced,** reverenced. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 49 The ryche is yreuerenced by reson of his richesse. **Yrenested** [Revest *v.*[1]], robed. *c* 1290 [see Revest *v.*[1] 1]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 453 [He] sigh þe bisshop of Salisbury y-revested to doo þe solempnite of þat weddynge. **Yreuled,** ME. pa. pple. of Rule *v.* **Yride, Yrifled,** ME. pa. pples. of Ride *v.*, Rifle *v.*[1]

Yrin, Yringe, Yrios, Yrisch(e, -iss(h, etc., **Yrk:** see Iron, Eryngo, Ireos, Irish, Irk.

†**Yrle.** *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. north. dial. *urling, yurlin*, and *wurlin*, Wirling.] A dwarfish person.

1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 38 Wan-fukkit fumling, that natour maid ane yrle.

Yrmonger, obs. form of Ironmonger. 1297–8 *MS. Pipe Roll*, De Randulfo le yrmonger.

Yrn(e, Yrnen, obs. ff. Iron, Irnen.

Yrof, graphic var. *þrof*, Thereof.

1527 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 6 According to a dede yrof.

†**Yroked** [Y- 4], rocked. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 42 Old men that fore eld yroked weren yn her cradelys. **Yrold, yrollyd** [Roll *v.*[1]], rolled. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Y-rollyd with þin hond. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. I. xviii, Things fore our feet yrold.

Yron(e, obs. forms of Iron.

Yron, Yronge, Yronne(n, Yrosted, Yroted, ME. pa. pples. of Run *v.*, Ring *v.*[2], Roast *v.*, Root *v.*[1]

Yrous, -ows, etc., var. Ireous, etc.

Yrpe, obs. form of Earth *sb.*[1]

?*c* 1400 *Emare* 285 He felle down in sowenynge, To þe yrþe was he dyght.

Yrubde, Yruled, ME. pa. pples. of Rub *v.*[1], Rule *v.*

Yrun, yryn, obs. forms of Iron.

†**Yruyfled** [Y- 4, Rifle *v.*[1]], plundered. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 90 For wente neuere man þis way þat he ne was here rifled [*MS. I* y-ruyfled]. **Yrymed** [Rime *v.*[1]], rimed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 99 Uor he ne heþ none hede of longe ryote of tales y-uolyked ne y-rymed. **Yrynged:** see Ringed *ppl. a.* 2.

Yrysch, Yrysah(e, obs. forms of Irish.

†**Yryve** [Y- 3 *c*], variant of Rive *v.*[1] 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4814 Wych shal thorgh hyr herte blyve Sharper than any sword y-Ryve.

Ys, obs. f. His, Ice, *is* (see Be *v.*).

Ys, var. Es *pers. pron.*, them.

14.. *Stockholm Mad. MS.* I. 79 in *Anglia* XVIII. 297 Take rwe [&] heysele & meng ys with hony.

†**Ysackte** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of Sack *v.*[2] 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* V. 90 Their..Cltie spoild, ysackte, and pilled bare. **Ysacred(e, -yd,** ME. pa. pple. of Sacre *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 Anselyn fonge þe investiture, and was y-secrede. *c* 1407 [see Sacred *a.* 2]. **Ysaide,** ME. pa. pple. of Say *v.*[1] **Ysaluwed** [Salue *v.*], saluted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 101 þey emperoures þat were to fore hym were i-salwed [*MS.* γ y-saluwed] as iuges. **Ysam(m)e,** var. I-same *adv.*, together. *c* 1330 y-same [see I-same]. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 193 Bote Maydens and Maydens maccheþ ou ysamme. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VII. vii. 32 And in a bag all sorts of seeds ysame. **Ysamed,** pa. pple. of Sam *v.*[1] **Ysatled,** ME. pa. pple. of Settle *v.* **Ysaued(e, -id,** etc., saved. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5835 þat hente him by a bem and ysaued was. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 461 Who þat comeþ in þat helle schal nevere after be saved [*MS.* γ ysaved]. **Ysawed,** ME. pa. pple. of Show *v.* **Ysay,** pa. t. of Yeze. **Ysayd(e, Ysealded, Yscend,** ME. pa. pples. of Say *v.*[1], Scald *v.*, Shend *v.*[1]

Yscha, obs. Sc. form of Issue *sb.*

1532 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1897) IV. 43 G. B..has tane in prenteischip P. D..for the space of iyff yeiris, and to be fre at the yscha of the saydis fyff yeiris.

†**Yschad, Yschape(d, -en, -eschappit, Yschatred** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pples. of Shed *v.*[1], Shape *v.*, Scatter. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 647 Al so many as a man haþ membrye y-schape. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 41 The vmbrate treis..War portrait, and on the eirth yschappit Be goldin bemis viuificatiue.

Ysche, var. Ish *sb.*, *v.*[1], to issue.

Ysched(de, ME. pa. pple. of Shed *v.*[1]

Yscheill, var. Eschele *Obs.*, squadron. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 214 Ilk man in-till his awne yscheill.

†**Yschand(e, -ent, Yscha(o)t** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of Shend *v.*[1], Shut *v.* **Yschete,** ME. pa. pple. of Shit *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 441 Oon of þe Assiries aspied þat doynge by oon þat hadde yschete golde.

Yschew(e, yschey, obs. Sc. ff. Issue *sb.*

1498 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 137 To begin on Friday..and sa furth quhil the yschey of aire.

†**Yschewede, -owed, Yschod, Yschoded, Yschore, yschorn(e, Yschote(n, yschott(e** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of Show *v.*, Shoe *v.*, Shed *v.*[1], Shear *v.*, Shoot *v.* **Yschred(yd,** ME. pa. pples. of Shred *v.* *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Almaundys y-schredyd. *Ibid.* 49 Þan take Almaundys & Dates y-schred þer-to. **Yschrined,** shrined. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5730 Yseryned [*v.rr.* yschrined, yshryned] he was nyn hondred & on & sementiþe 3ere. **Yschrowd** [Shroud *v.*[1]], clothed. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. xv. 36 This procyus spulze..Quharwith, as said is, was this prelat yschrowd. **Yschryve(n,** ME. pa. pple. of Shrive *v.* *c* 1422 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince.* 180, I am yschryue So ny, þat o3er way ne se I noon.

Yschue, obs. form of Issue *sb.*

1383 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xi. 243 God seide ensample of suche sawes Ischue [*v. r.* yschue] That kynde folweþ kynde.

† **Yschutte** [Y- 4], shut. 1430–40 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 363 Fyndenge the 3ates yschutte. **Yseclayn**, ME. pa. ppls. of Slay *v.*[1] **Yscore** [Shear *v.*], shorn. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 273 [illegible]..was i-schore [*MS.* y yscore] monk at Bardeneye. **Yscote**, shot. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 411 He was i-schote [*MS.* y yscote] of oon Walter Tirel. **Yscredde** [Shred *v.*], shredded. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Oynonys smal y-scredde. **Yscryve**, shriven. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 345 He..was i-schryve [*MS.* y yscryve] and i-houseled.

Yse, obs. form of Ice *sb.*, Iron *sb.*[1]

Yse, variant of Ish, Is *v.*[1]

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. vi. (1869) 4 þanne I ysede me out of myn hous.

Ysed, obs. pa. pple. of Say *v.*[1]

† **Ysee**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *gesēon*: see Y- 3 c and See *v.*] *trans.* To see, behold.

[For early quots. see See *v.* and I-see.]

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3339 þe porter ysei is loserd come. *Ibid.* 5613 þe king bi huld aboute & þe traytour ysay. 1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Þet he ne may o3re manne guod yzy. *Ibid.* 130 He yzi3þ þane greate heap of his zennes. *Ibid.* 264 Me him sceaþ huo he ys, huannes he comþ, huet he heþ yseze. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 1228 Now dar y do seruice diligent to dyuers of dignyte, where for scantnes of connynge y durst no man y-se.

† **Ysegede** [Y- 4, Siege *v.*], besieged. 1430–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 377 For to socoure that cite y-segede. **Yseid(e**, ME. pa. pple. of Say *v.*[1] 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 [He] put of al þat was good y-seide to hym wiþ swellynge wreþþe. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1991 What I haue y-seid þe, naght forgete

Yseikele, obs. form of Icicle.

Ysel, obs. form of Isel, ashes, etc.

Ysell, variant of Eisell *Obs.*, vinegar.

1552 Huloet, Ysell, *acetum.*

† **Yselþe**, variant of I-selth, success. 12.. *Moral Ode* 8 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 22 Ic myhte habbe bet i-don hadde ic þer y-selþe. † **Ysemblid** [Y- 4, Semble *v.*[2]], likened. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xv. 186 To lowe-lyuynge men þe larke is resembled [*MS. S* y-semblid].

Ysen, obs. f. Iron *sb.*[1]; pa. pple. of See, Yse.

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121 Hys steward hadd a lettre y-sent. **Yserched, Yserued, ME.** pa. pples. of Search *v.*, Serve *v.*[1,2]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6365 Per nis non allue nou þat þe abbe yserued so. 1340 *Ayenb.* 115 Þine greate guodnesses.. huyche ich habbe kueadliche yvsed and þe kueadliche yserued.

Yse-schokkill, -s(c)hokle, obs. ff. Icicle.

† **Yseald, yseased** [Y- 4], seized. **Yseased**, ceased. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 389 þe monkes of Turon hadde al þe offrynge for to þe werre was i-seased [*MS.* y yseased]. **Yset, ysett(e, Ysetured, -et**, ME. pa. pples. of Set *v.*, Sever. **Ysewed**, ME. pa. pple. of Sew *v.*[1] *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 209 His kyrtel of clene whijt clenlyche y-sewed.

Yse-yokel, obs. form of Icicle.

† **Yseyd(e** [Y- 4], ME. pa. ppls. of Say *v.*[1] *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 102 On þe þrydde manere is holy Churche yseyd to be disposed. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 150 My wrytyng .. ys al yseyd vnder correcion. **Yseye, yseyne**, ME. pa. pple. of See *v.* **Yshad(e**, ME. pa. pple. of Shed *v.*[1] *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 172 in *26 Pol. Poems* 126 Ryght as the hardnesse of chese yshade. **Yshadewed**, shadowed, darkened. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 1082 Yshadewed is al my myroure. **Yshape**, ME. pa. pple. of Shape *v.* 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xvi. 301 To wroþer-hele was he wrouȝt þat neuere was ioye yshape. **Yshave**, ME. pa. pple. of Shave *v.* *c* 1386 Y-shaue [see Shave *v.* 3]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5012 Thogh ye now..Ben yclypyd & yshaue Vp-on your hedys euerychon. 1480 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Gold of seuentene shrynes y-shaue and molten. **Yshend** *v.* [Y- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. Shend *v.*[1] 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 139 Should it not yshend Your roundels fresh, to heares a doolefull verse Of Rosalend. **Yshent(e, Yshet** [Y- 4], ME. pa. ppls. of Shend *v.*[1], Shut *v.* **Yshewed, yshewed, -yd**, ME. pa. ppls. of Show *v.* 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xii. 34 When scripture þe skolde hadde þus wyt y-sheued. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5795 Yiff the valu off thys bred Were yshewyd. **Yshildred**: see Shouldered *Appl. a.* 1. **Yshogged**, ME. pa. pple. of Shog *v.* **Yshoned**, shunned. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xi. (Skeat) I. 10 These olde philosophers ..wenden that of pure nature..me might have y-shoned th'other livinges. **Yshood**, ME. pa. pple. of Shoe *v.*

Yshrad, ME. pa. pple. of Shred *v.* **Yshred, -id**, ME. pa. pple. of Shride *v.*[1] **Yshriuen, yshryue(n**, ME. pa. pple. of Shrive *v.* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 91, I wolde ben yshryue,..and I for shame durst. **Yshryued**, shrined. **Yshuldred**: see Shouldered *Appl. a.* 1. **Yshbe**, variant of I-sib. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 1931 Þef hy yshbe ine degres Ryzt wyþ-inne þe ferþe.

Ysicle, obs. form of Icicle.

† **Ysinwed** [Y- 4], sinned. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 176 þat pine he my socour there That y haue y-sinwed with myn here. **Ysiwed**, ME. pa. pple. of Sue *v.* **Yskaldyd**, scalded. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 88 Brede y-Skaldyd. **Yslaȝe, yslaⅈne, yslawen, yslayn(e**, obs. pa. ppls. of Slay *v.*[1] 13.. *Cœur de L.* 1788 That six and thirty they had y-slowe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 71 Gordianus ..was y-slawe of oon Philip. 1608 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 122 The dead body was a calfe yslaine. **Yslaked**, obs. pa. pple. of Slake *v.*[1] **Yslape, yslepe**, ME. pa. pple. of Sleep *v.*

Ysle, Yslelonde, obs. ff. Isle, Island.

† **Yslente** [Y- 4], pa. pple. of Slent *v.*[2] **Yslεynte**, ME. tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 133 [illegible] translate the realme of men of Babilon..in to Persia. **Ysliked, yslyked, Ysmacked, Ysmer(ed**, ME. pa. ppls. of Slick, Smack, Smear *vbs.* **Ysmete, ysmite, ysmyte(n**, ME. pa. pple. of Smite *v.* 1297, etc. [see Smite *v.*]. *c* 1400 *Pearl Midd* 117 in *26 Pol. Poems* 146 Nowe hathe age y-smyte [*v.r.* y-smete] me fro My secund fedez. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 55 Nym raw 3olkys of Eyroun, & melle hem a-mong chikonys y-smete. **Ysmoþed, -smothed**, ME. pa. pple. of Smooth *v.* **Ysmyttes** [Smit *v.*], infected. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 477 He was i-smetes [*MSS. β, δ* y ysmyttes] wiþ þe vice of pride.

Ysnes, obs. pl. of Iron *sb.*[1]

† **Ysnyt** [Y- 4], ME. pa. ppls. of Snite *v.* **Yso(c)ht** [Seek *v.*], sought. *c* 1326 *Ball. agst. Scots* 70 (Ritson), He bith y-soht out. 1568 *Hocclewe's Let. Cupid* 128 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 787 Every woman..is licht to get ..gife scho be weill ysocht [*v.r.* I-soght]. **Ysocoured, Ysocyed, Ysode(n, Ysoȝe, Ysoiled**, ME. pa. ppls. of Succour, Socie, Sestre, See and Yse, Soil *vbs.* **Ysojourned**, sojourned. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 91 Where when she had some yeeres ysojorned, .. A deepe Desire hir loving hart enflamde. **Ysome**: see I-som. † **Ysomned** [Y- 4, Somne *v.*[2]], summoned. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 151 He com at þe tyme as he was sommed [*MS.* y ysomned]. **Ysondred**, sundered. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1737 Of grete hertes..y aaky of 3ow an hundred, & clene maydens faire smal al-so manye y-sondred.

Ysondur: see Sunder *a.* and *adv.* B.

† **Ysonge** [Y-4, Sing *v.*[1]], sung. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 467 þe same day after þat he hadde I-songen [*MS.* β ysonge] masse.

Ysoop, ysop(e, obs. forms of Hyssop.

† **Yso(o)the(n** [Y- 4, Seethe *v.*], boiled. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 425 Ysothe [*v.rr.* ysoden, y-sothen, ysoothe] or ybake. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 31 Not wele y-soþen. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Take a tenche whan he is y-sothe.

Ysophage, -gus, var. Œsophage, -gus.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 253 Þou3 þat trache arterie be peersid or ellis ysophage.

† **Ysoȝt, ysout, ysou(g)ht** [Y- 4, Seek *v.*], sought. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 50, I seigh somme that seiden, had ysouȝt seyntes. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xvi. 734, I haue.the same y sought. **Ysound**, var. Isound. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. H. 52 Morbidus huld þis lond .Freliche wel on grip and his men y sounde. **Ysoupid** [Y- 4, Sup *v.*[1]], supped. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 55 Some had ysoupid with Symond ouere euen. **Ysow(e, ysow3, ysown(e**: see Swow, swown *pa. pple. Obs.* **Ysowe(n** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of Sow *v.*[1] **Ysowndir**, asunder: see Sunder *a.* and *adv.* B. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. iii. 59 Eneas navy skatterit fer ysowndir. **Ysowpit** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of Sowp *v.*[2]

† **Ysped(d(e, Yspeke**, ME. pa. ppls. of Speed *v.*, Speak *v.* **Yspend(ed, -dyth, yspent** [Spend *v.*[1]], spent. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 404 Hii þo adde yspend þat wyþynne was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 He hise heþ folliche yspended. 1408 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 15 That ther be yspendyth ..of my good,..Cs'. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 22 Our saile yards rotten, our masts ypent. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* III. App. lxxxvi, Grosse sperm ypent in Nuptiall bed. **Ysperde, ysper(r)ed(e, ysperyd** [Spear *v.*[1]], bolted, shut. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 162 In an hous al bishette & her dore ybarred [*v. rr.* ysperrede, ysperred]. **Yspewed, Yspild, -lt**, etc., **Yspited, Yspoke(n, -yn, Ysponne**, ME. pa. ppls. of Spew, Spill, Spit, Speak, Spin *vbs.* **Yspouse(d** [Spouse *v.*], espoused. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 13 þis mayde y spoused was of so riche blode. **Ysprad(de, yspre(a)d**, ME. pa. pple. of Spread *v.* 1297, etc. ysprad, yspred [see Spread *v.*]. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* V. (1871) 64 Who..Knewe..on which side of his bread The sweetnesse of the butter was yspread. **Yspraind, ysprengd(e, yspreynd**, etc., **Yspratelid**, ME. pa. ppls. of Sprenge *v.*, Spattle *v.*[1] **Ysprinkled**, pseudo-arch. f. *sprinkled*, pa. pple. of Sprinkle *v.*[1] 1867 Jean Ingelow *Song At. Christ's Resurr.* iv, Her star y-sprinkled gown. **Ysprong(e, -en, ysprung(e**, obs. pa. pple. of Spring *v.*[1] *a* 1300, etc. [see Spring *v.*[1]]. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. iii. The brats ysprong from Typhons loins. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. xxvi, From heaven this life ysprung, from hell thy glories vild! **Y-sprout** [Y- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. Sprout *v.*[1] *c* 1620 T. Robinson *Mary Magd.* 349 And farther in, ye laden vines ysprout. **Yspunne**, arch. pa. pple. of Spin *v.* 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* II. (1871) 27 His stockings of the coursest woole yspunne. **Yspuwed**, ME. pa. pple. of Spew *v.* **Y-squaryd**, squared. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7672 Yforgyd off malys, And ysquaryd by fals devys. **Yarive**, ME. pa. pple. of Shrive *v.*

Yss, Ysse-ikkle: see Ice, Ish, Is *v.*[1], Icicle.

Yssant, var. Issant = Insuant I.

1482 *Paston Lett.* III. 298 To be yssant or chargeabill oute or upon the seid tenement.

† **Yssape** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of Shape *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 87 þe zope uorbiane huer-by we byeþ yssape to his ymage.

Ysse, obs. f. *is* (see Ise *v.*); var. Ish, Is *v.*[1]

† **Ysse(a)wed, Yssed** [Y- 4], ME. pa. ppls. of Show *v.*, Shed *v.*[1] **Yssend, yssent, Ysset, Yssette**, ME. pa. ppls. of Send *v.*[1], Shut *v.*, Set *v.* 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 237 Yf the mecche be ouer depe y-sette in the oyle.

Yssew(e, yssehue, yssu(e, obs. ff. Issue.

Yssh(e, var. Ish, Is *v.*[1]

† **Yssored, Yssott(e, Yssred, Yssriue, Yssryned** [Y- 4], ME. pa. ppls. of Shore *v.*[1], Shoot *v.*, Shride *v.*[1], Shrive *v.*, Shrine *v.* 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 353 Wyllam, þe rede kyng, yssote was by cas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 188 Martin..me heþ yssred mid þise cloþe. *Ibid.* 70 Nou asel ..þe ilke..yzy diligentliche to by yssriue. **Yssstreynned**: see Ystrainyd.

Yst = Is't, *is it.*

1553 *Respublica* I. iv, Youe that sholde have wytte, yst youre

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Stable *v.*[1,2]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4690 (Linc. Inn MS.) W[illegible] hadde ystabled þat lay, þus he saide. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 238 The lawes y-stabelid in the Pepill. **Ystade** [Stead *v.*] beset (with difficulties). *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 3631 He was never so hard y-stade. **Ystall(ed**, ME. pa. pple. of Stall *v.*[1] **Ystamped**, pounded. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Take of blac pyccke and of [illegible] one as of an oþer wele ystamped. **Y-**[illegible] ple. of Statute *v.*[1] **Ystεare** [Y- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. Steer *v.*[1] **Ystake, -yd** [Y- 4], ME. pa. ppls. of Stek *v.*[1,2]. **Ystept** [Step *v.*], advanced. *c* 1534 *W. Cartwright Ordinary* II. ii, A Norice Some dele ystept **Ystesynnd**, ME. f. Stained. **Ystik(ked**, **Ystyked, -yd**, ME. pa. pple. of Stick *v.*[1] **Ystocked** [Stock *v.*[1]], imprisoned. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 41 Depe in this [illegible]tte with wo I ligge y-stocked. **Ystoffed, Ystoke(n, Ystol(n)e, Ystond(e, Ystongen, ystonge, Ystope, Ystored, -id**, obs. pa. ppls. of Stuff *v.*[2], Steek *v.*[1], Steal *v.*[1], Stand *v.*, Sting *v.*[1], Step *v.*, Store *v.* **Ystowe** [Sty *v.*[1]], ascended. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 227 Oo Kyng of blue,..þat.. art þis day I-steie [*MS.* y ystowe] up above alle hevenes. **Ystrainyd, ystrayndid** [Strain *v.*[1]], strained. *c* 1388 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 169 Sunt les boufs si fort artes, *gloss* ystreynned [*v.r.* streinged]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 17 Take Eyroun, þe 3olke an þe Whyte y-strainyd a lyte. **Ystrawed, Ystreiȝt, -streight, -streith**, ME. pa. ppls. of Straw *v.*[1], Stretch *v.* **Y-strengthed** [Strength *v.*], strengthened. 1340 *Ayenb.* 201 Y-strengþed be þe yefþe of understonndinge. **Ystrewed**, ME. pa. pple. of Strew *v.* **Ystrick(en, ystrike, ystruck**, obs. pa. ppls. of Strike *v.* 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Z ij, To rescue Phedimus and Tantalus ystrick with pearcing shaft yfere. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. i. I, Ystruck with mighty rage. **Ystrived**, ME. pa. pple. of Strive *v.* **Ystuded** [Study *v.*], endeavoured. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 83, I have studied [*MS.* y y-studed] to take þe floures of Stevenes book. **Ystured, Ystwyde, -yed**, ME. pa. ppls. of Stir *v.*, Stew *v.*[2] **Ystyffed** [Y- 5, Stiffle *sb.*[1]], having (weak) stiffe-bones. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Somtyme an hounde is euyl astyffed [*v.r.* y styffied], so þat he shall somtyme abydenn halfe a yere or more, or he be wele ferme. **Ysucrod**, obs. pa. pple. of Succour *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 157 Pere he was i-socoured [*MS.* y ysucrod] awhile wiþ oon Maximus.

Ysue, obs. form of Issue.

† **Ysuffred** [Y- 4], suffered. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* V. 415 This knowen folk þat han y-suffred peyne. **Ysuled** [Sule *v.*], sullied. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 752 A soutere y-suled in grees. **Ysunged**, etc., sinned. 13.. *Marina* 119 in Böddeker *Altengl. Dicht.* (1878) 260 Ich habbe ysunged, merci y crie. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 165 Soules þat han sunget [*MS. T* ysynned] seuen sipes dedlich. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xi. 213 After þat adam and eue hadden ysynged. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 47 We haveþ i-synned [*MS.* y ysynwed] grevously. **Ysuore**, ME. pa. pple. of Swear *v.* **Ysustained, -teyned**, sustained. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 877 3e han..ben y-sustained so wiþ sorwe in þis worde. **Y-suwed** [Sew *v.*[1]], sewn. *c* 1400 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 535 On caas 3e mowe kepe my body 3if hit is sewide [*MS.* y ysuwed] in hertes lether. **Ysuyled** [Soil *v.*[1]], soiled. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 458 Thus haukyn þe actyf man hadde ysoiled [*MS. O* ysuyled] his cote. **Yswathid**, swathed. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 143 Lors deyt estre mayloier, *gloss* yswathid. **Yswengyd**, pa. pple. of Swenge *v. Obs.* **Yswepe, yswepped**, ME. pa. ppls. of Sweep *v.* **Yswered**, ME. pa. pple. of Swear *v.* **Yswerred** [Y- 5, Swire], necked. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6264 (Linc. Inn MS.) Schorte y-swerred. **Yswoȝe** [Y- 4]: see Swow, swown *pa. pple. Obs.* **Yswolle, Yswolwet**, ME. pa. ppls. of Swell *v.*, Swallow *v.* **Y-swone, Yswounyng**: see Swow(n, Swoon *v.* 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 305 Heo criede & wep mid sorwe inou & ofte iswowe [*MS. B* yswone] lay. *Ibid.* 829 þe quene þo 3o ihurde þis nei iswowe [*MS. B* yswounyng] was. **Yswonge(n, yswonnge**, ME. pa. ppls. of Swing *v.*[1] **Yswope(n, -ed, Yswore, yswoȝn**, ME. pa. ppls. of Swope *v.*, Swear *v.* **Yswowe**: see Swow, swown *pa. pple.* 13.. *K. Alis.* 2262 (Linc. Inn MS.) þat heo to grounde yswowe sletten. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 477 þe kyng..fil doun to þe grounde as þeyȝ he were i-sowe [*MS.* y y-swowe]. **Yswyke**, variant of I-swike *v. Obs.* 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3261 Nou hii beþ al onywar hii wolleþ yswyke by daye.

Ysy, Ysyb, Ysyle: see Yse, I-sib, Isel.

† **Ysynged, -eynned, -synwed** [Y- 4]: see Ysunged. **Ysywed** [Sue *v.*], followed. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2743 þo he adde ysywed me longe in þisse fare.

Yss, obs. form of Ice.

Yt, obs. f. It; (also *y^t*) contr. graphic var. That.

† **Ytachid** [Y- 4, Tache *v.*[2]], attached. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xix. 279 Hit is a precious present,..ac þe ponke hit haþ attached [*v.r.* y-tachid]. **Ytaȝt, ytaught, y-taw3t(te**, obs. pa. pple. of Teach *v.* 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2197 3e beþ men bet iteiȝt [*v.rr.* ytaȝt, ytauȝt] to asofte & to spade. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3141 (Linc. Inn MS.) Bote he beo wel ytauȝt, Wiþouten akorn passiþ he nouȝt. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III. IV. viii, Thinking how all doth flee Whatever we have painfully ytaught.

Ytaile, var. Itaile *Obs.*, Italian.

† **Ytailed** [Y- 5], var. Tailed *a.* and *Appl. a.*[1] **Ytailled, ytayled** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of Tail *v.*[2] **Ytak(e, -en, -yn, ytan**, ME. pa. ppls. of Take *v.* **Ytald**, ME. pa. pple. of Tell *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Nou we habbeþ ytald ten manere sennes of þe tonge.

Ytalian, etc., obs. ff. Italian, etc.

† **Ytamet** [Y- 4, Tame *v.*[2]], broken into. *c* 1420 *Mirth's Festial* 276 Per was no clothe of hors, ny heere of her hede ytamet wyth þe fyre. **Ytaried**, ME. pa. pple. of Tarry *v.*

Ytch(e, obs. ff. Itch. **Yte**, obs. pa. t. of Eat *v.*

† **Yteld** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of Tell *v.* 13.. *Cœur de L.* 1972 His foe, That had his good knights queld, And eke on him despite y-teld. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7870 (Laud MS.) What helpeþ it lenger yteld? **Yteld(e, ytelt**, ME. pa. pple. of Teld *v. Obs.* **Ytelle**, var. I-telle *v. Obs.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 49 But þou doo as I ytelle and amende þy lyf. **Ytemperit, -yd, ytampred, -id, -yd, Ytempted**, ME. pa. ppls. of Temper *v.*, Tempt *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 257 And zuo mokle ha by wel ytempred and amesured. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 186 In ettynge and drynkynge be thou y-temperit. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 655/36 *Temperat*[illegible] ytempored. **Ytend, ytent, ytεyned**, ME. pa. pple. Tend *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 395 þe ingores þat were I-tend [*MS.* y ytent]. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Pynson) James iii. 6 Heo is y-tend of þe fuyr of helle. **Ytent**,

Ytented, ME. pa. pple. of TENT *v.*[6] **Ytenped** [TENTH *v.*], pitched. *a* 1400 *N. T.* (Paues) Heb. vii. 9 And yf it mowe be seyd so, by Abraham Leui, þat vnderfong tenþinges, was y-tenped. **Ytormenyd, -mynad, ME.** pa. pple. of TORMENTE *v.* 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 97 Til treuthe had ytormyned her trespas to þe ende. **Ytased, teased.** *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule*, etc. 68 Streche þam on wolle y-tased or subtille stupes of line. **Yteyd, Yteynd(e, ME.** pa. pples. of TIE *v.*, TINE *v.*[1]

Yth = *in the*: see I'TH'.

Ythan(d, -en, etc., var. ITHAND, etc.

† Ythe. *Obs.* Forms: 1–2 yþ, 2 uþe, 3 uðe, 4–5 yþe, 5 ythe, ithe. [OE. *ýþ* str. fem., also *ýþe* wk. fem. = OS. *ûðia*, OHG. *undea, unda* (MHG. *unde, ünde*), ON. *unnr, uðr.*] A wave of the sea.

Beowulf 2918 Þy læs hym yða ðrym wudu wynsuman forwrecan meahte. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 466 Mere sweoðerade, yða onxin eft oncyrde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Innan þan sea weren .vii. bittere uþe. *c* 1205 LAY. 4578 Þe wind com on weðere and þa sæ he wraðede; vðen þer urnen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 147 Hit reled on round vpon þe roȝe yþes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 63 Carrygis comand he knew keruand þe ithis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1992 So wode were the waghes & þe wilde ythes. 14.. *Siege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 3/50 Myd þe grym yþes.

Ythe (yþe), obs. f. EATH *a.*, easy; var. I-THE *v.*

† Ythewed [Y- 3], var. THEWED *ppl. a.*, mannered. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3209 (Linc. Inn MS.) Mony haroun ful wel y-þewed. **Ythied,** obs. var. THIGHED. **Ypirled, ypurled** [Y- 4, THIRL *v.*[1]], pierced. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 397 I-hored and i-brulled [*v. rr.* ypirled, ypurled] wiþ meny smale holes. **Yþo3t, yþoght, yþou(3)t,** ME. pa. pple. of THINK *v.*[2] *c* 1325 SHOREHAM iv. 413 Wanne hy y-þou3t beþ oþer y-speke, Oþer y-don in stat. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 157 Whan thou haste all y-thoght, mowrnynge and wrothi thow shalte reme. **Ytholed** [THOLE *v.*], suffered. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7138 (Linc. Inn MS.) Al his damage þat he hadde vboled in þat vyage. **Yþonked, Yþorsse, ythyrsshe, Ypraw, Ythrest, Ythreve,** ME. pa. pples. of THANK *v.*, THRASH *v.*, THROW *v.*[1], THREST *v.*, THRIVE *v.* **Ythrotelede,** throttled. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 161 A nakede man ythrotelede to the dedde. **Yþrowe,** ME. pa. pple. of THROW *v.*[1] **Ythrungin** [THRING *v.*], hurled. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxv, Be quhirlyng of the quhele, vnto the ground, Full sudaynly sche hath thaim vp ythrungin. **Ythrust, ythryste,** thrust. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 220 Ouer-oppyn eyen, lyke as they were y-thryste owte. **Ytielde, ytilde, Ytit,** ME. pa. pples. of TELD, TILD *v.*, TIGHT *v.*[1] **Ytilled, -lled** [TILL *v.*[1]], obtained. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 105 Tythes of vntrewe þinge ytilled or chaffared. **Ytint,** ME. pa. pple. of TINE *v.*[2] **Yto3te, ytought** [TEACH *v.*], taught. 1340 *Ayenb.* 254 þe wyse and þe wel yto3te tempreþ .. his wordes. 1636 *Choyce Drollery* 73 Full well she was y-tought the leire Of mickle courtesie. **Ytokenyd,** ME. pa. pple. of TOKEN *v.* **Ytold, ytolte,** ME. pa. pple. of TELL *v.* **Ytore, ytorn** [TEAR *v.*[1]], torn. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. cxxix, The tallest trees up by the root ytorn. *Ibid.* III. App. xvii, Sith unwillingly they were ytore From their dear carkasses their fate they rue. **Ytormentet,** tormented. *c* 1400 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 505 Grevouslich tormented [*MS.* y vtormentet]. **Ytornd, ytourned, -yd,** **Ytoet, Ytoted, Ytouchide, ytowchid, Ytouked,** obs. pa. pples. of TURN *v.*, TOSS *v.*, TOOT *v.*[1], TOUCH *v.*, TUCK *v.*[1] **Ytranslatid,** translated. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 236, I..haue y-translatid to youre excellence by this boke afor, the techynges [etc.]. **Ytraualid, -aillit, -ayled** [TRAVAIL *v.*], troubled, harassed. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 85 Decius and Valerius were I-travailled [*MS.* y y-travayled] wiþ a fend. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 162 He was ytraualid with the Deuyl. **Ytreated,** treated. 1480 [see HANDLE *v.*[1] 6]. **Ytredde, ytrodde,** ME. pa. pples. of TREAD *v.* *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, If ye se it gret and brode and wele ytredde [*MS. Reg.* ytrodde]. **Ytrent,** ME. pa. pple. of TREND *v.* **Ytressed,** var. TRESSED *ppl. a.* *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 810 To gon y-tressed with hire heeryes clere Doun by hire coler. **Ytried, ytryed, -id,** ME. pa. pple. of TRY *v.* **Ytrowbelid,** troubled. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 173 His Spirite is not by rancoure y-trowbelid. **Ytrowe,** ME. pa. pple. of THROW *v.*[1]

Ytt, obs. form of IT, YET *adv.*

Ytter (i·təɹ). *Min.* The first element of *Ytterby* (see next) used attrib. = combined with yttria, yttriferous, yttrious, in imitation of Sw. or Ger., as in Sw. *ytterjord*, G. *yttererde* (ytter earth).

1803 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* II. 585 Yttertantalite...According to Eckeberg, it is composed of tantalium, the new earth called yttria, and iron. 1877 *E. B. Dana's Text-bk. Min.* 281 Yttriferous, or Ytter-garnet. 1897 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 239 As early as 1794 Gadolin had separated from the gadolinite of Ytterby an earth which he called ytter earth.

Ytterbite (i·təɹbəit). *Min.* [Named by Gadolin 1794, from *Ytterby* in Sweden, where found: see -ITE [1].] A synonym of GADOLINITE. So **Ytterbia** (itɜ·ɹbiă) *Chem.*, the oxide of ytterbium; **Ytterbic** (itɜ·ɹbik) *a.*, containing ytterbium; **Ytterbium** (itɜ·ɹbiŏm) [mod. L. (Marignac)], a rare metallic element occurring in gadolinite, etc.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 541 Gadolinite; called also Yttrite and Ytterbite. 1879 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXVI. 118 Ytterbium, a new Metal from Gadolinite...Solutions of ytterbia give no absorption-spectrum. .. Ytterbium sulphate resembles..the sulphates of yttrium and erbium.

Ytterite (i·təɹəit). *Min.* [*f. Ytter(by* (see YTTERBITE) + -ITE [1].] A synonym of GADOLINITE.

1849 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 409 Silicate of Yttria.—Gadolinite, or Ytterite.

Yttria (i·triă). *Chem.* Also **ittria.** [mod.L. (Ekeberg, 1797), f. the name of *Ytterby*: see YTTERBITE.] An earth obtained as a white powder from gadolinite and other rare minerals, consisting of sesquioxide of yttrium (Y_2O_3).

1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 105 Yttria, or Ittria.—This earth was discovered in 1794..in a stone from Ytterby in Sweden. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) 382 To obtain the earths, yttria and erbia, in the separate state, gadolinite is digested with hydrochloric acid.

Yttrium (i·triŏm). *Chem.* [mod.L., f. YTTRIA, after names of other metals in *-ium.*] A rare metal of the cerium group, the base of the earth YTTRIA. Symbol Y.

1822 *Imison's Sci. & Art* II. 93 The base of yttria has been supposed to be a metallic substance, which would receive the name of yttrium. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 3 The metals yttrium, erbium, indium, &c. have only as yet been met with in most minute quantities.

Hence (or from prec.) **Yttrialite** (i·triəlait) *Min.*, a silicate of thorium and the yttrium metals; **Yttric** (i·trik) *a. Chem.*, related to or containing yttrium; **Yttri·ferous** *a.*, containing or yielding yttrium; **Yttrious** (i·triəs) *a.*, pertaining to or containing yttria; **Yttrite** (i·trait) *Min.*, a synonym of GADOLINITE.

1889 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXVIII. 477 *Yttrialite. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Yttricus*..*yttric. 1877 *yttriferous* [see YTTER]. 1828–32 WEBSTER, **Yttrious*, pertaining to yttria; containing yttria; as, the yttrious oxyd of columbium. *Cleaveland.* 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 541 Gadolinite; called also *Yttrite and Ytterbite.

Yttro- (i·trŏ), *Min.*, used as combining form of YTTRIUM in names of minerals containing yttrium, the second element usually indicating the other metallic constituent, sometimes an allied mineral: as **Yttrocerite** (-siə·rait) [CERIUM], **Yttrocolumbite** [COLUMBIUM], **Yttrogummite** [GUMMITE], **Yttrotantalite** [TANTALUM], **Yttrotitanite** [TITANIUM]: see quots.

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) III. 495 *Yttrocerite ..occurs at Finbo in Sweden...It is found in amorphous masses,..disseminated through quartz. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1065 *Yttrocerite*, a mineral consisting of fluoride of yttrium mixed with the fluorides of cerium and calcium. 1819 W. PHILLIPS *Elem. Introd. Min.* (ed. 2) 202 *Yttrocolumbite...It consists, according to Vauquelin, of 45 oxide of columbium, 55 of yttria and oxide of iron. 1879 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXVI. 365 *Yttrogummite..is the final product of the decomposition of clevite. 1850 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* IV. 19 *Samarskite.*—This mineral, first named Urano-tantalite or Columbite, and afterwards called *Yttro-Ilmenite by Hermann. 1809 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 246 The two Swedish minerals, tantalite and *yttro-tantalite, from which I could obtain tantalum. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 519 Yttrotantalite..Color black, brown, brownish-yellow, straw-yellow. .. Tantalate of yttria and lime, or yttria, lime, and iron, with some protoxyd of uranium. 1828 WHEWELL *Ess. Min. Classif. & Nomencl.* 52 *Yttro-Tantalum Oxide. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 341 Keilhauite,..*Yttrotitanite. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1063 *Yttrotitanite. Keilhauite.* A silicotitanate containing lime, yttria, ferric oxide, and alumina, with small quantities of other bases.

† **Ytuckde, ytukked** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of TUCK *v.*[1] **Ytuebed,** ME. pa. pple. of TITHE *v.*[2] *c* 1400 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 504 Cristes flok was tethed [*MS.* y ytuebed], the nyne were slayn and the tenthe was kept. **Ytund,** ME. pa. pple. of TINE *v.*[1] **Yturnde, -ed,** ME. pa. pple. of TURN *v.* 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 443 Þe wombe and þe bowels were i-slitte and y-turned to seche gold wiþ yune.

† **Ytwyn** = *atwin, in twin*, apart: see TWIN *sb.* 4. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 175 Thai War in-twyn [*v.r.* ytwyn] a bow-draucht & mar. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. i. 3 In diuers placis set full fer ytwyn.

† **Ytwynned** [Y- 4, TWIN *v.*[1]], separated. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 788 (Corpus MS.) Though in erthe ytwynned be we tweyne. **Ytyed,** tied. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 226 Ful mony of hem wer in my cheyne y-tyed. **Ytynt,** ME. pa. pple. of TINE *v.*[2]

Yu, obs. form of YOU.

† **Yuarged, yuarwed, ME.** pa. pple. of FARROW *v.* **Yuast(e:** see YFAST.

Yucca (yu·kă), **yuca** (yū·kă). Forms: 6–7 iucca, 6–9 yuca, 7–8 iucca, 7– yucca. [In sense 1, found in the forms *juca* (Amerigo Vespucci, 1497), *yuca* (Clusius, 1567); of Carib origin.]

1. The common name in Western South America and Central America for the CASSAVA. (Now usually in form *yuca*, for distinction from sense 2.)

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 67 They haue also an other kynde of rootes, whiche they call *Iucca*, wherof they make breade in lyke maner. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxlix. 1359 Of Yuca or Iucca...The roote wherof the bread Cassaua, or Cassaua is made. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* ix. 67 Figs and Lemmans from Spaine, Jucca from Cuba, Mayze from Peru. 1726 J. STEVENS tr. *A. de Herrera Tordesillas' Hist. Amer.* IV. 135 A Roll of Yuca, being a clammy Root, like a Patata. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xx, There were 'lairs' among the underwood thatched with the palmated leaves of the yuca. 1894 C. D. TYLER in *Geogr. Jrnl.* III. 481 The *masato*..is..the masticated and fermented root of the yuca.

2. Any plant of the liliaceous genus *Yucca*, native of the warmer parts of N. America, and extensively cultivated for ornament, characterized by a woody stem with a crown of usually rigid narrow pointed leaves and an upright cluster of white bell-shaped flowers; popularly known as *Adam's needle*, particular species being also called *Spanish bayonet* and *Spanish dagger*. (Almost always in form *yucca*.)

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* 83 [Plants] not perishing but in excessive Colds, ..Opuntia, or the smaller Indian Fig, Jucca, Seseli Æthiop. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v., The Narrow-leav'd Carolina Yucca. 1841 MANTELL in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXI. 140 The..trunks of the *Cladtraria*,..*Yucca*, and arborescent ferns. 1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* I. (1853) 18 The thickets of yucca and acacia-trees. 1870 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* I. 20 Tall stems of yucca bore up their magnificent bunches of bluish flowers.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yucca-flower, -plant, -root*; yucca-borer, (*a*) a N. American moth, *Megathymus yuccæ*, whose larva bores into the roots of yucca-plants; (*b*) a Californian weevil, *Yuccaborus frontalis*; yucca-moth, a tineid moth of the genus *Pronuba*, esp. *P. yuccasella*, which lays its eggs in the ovary of the yucca-plant, and deposits a ball of pollen on the stigma, thus fertilizing the seeds on which the larvæ feed; yucca-palm, yucca-tree, any arborescent species of *Yucca*.

1895 COMSTOCK *St. Insects* 367 A much better known species is the *Yucca-borer, *Megathymus yuccæ*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Yucca-Bread, or Cassada-Bread.

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124 She was standing near one of the *yuca palm trees that grew up from the agotés. 1868–32 TENNYSON in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 57 She gave them the *yuccaroot ..Of sweet Xaraguay. 1868 G. F. LYON *Jrnl. Mexico* I. 142 Most uninteresting country, bearing here and there a stunted bush or a *Yucca-tree.

Yuck, variant of YUKE.

Yuckle (yu·k'l). *dial.* Also **yuckel, yucole, yukkel, yookel.** [var. of *hickle*, HICKWALL, influenced by YAFFLE.] The green woodpecker.

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Yuckel*, a woodpecker. *Wilts.* 1862 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xii, I feels sum how as peart as a yukkel.

Yud(e, 3ud(e, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

Yue, obs. form of GIVE *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Nou broþren and sostren y-byreþ my red and yueþ youre. *Ibid.* 272 Yue.

† **Yued,** ME. pa. pple. of FEED *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 241 Þe hedde yprechad and yued þet wolk.

Yual(l, -lle, obs. ff. EVIL. **Yuer,** var. YURE, udder. **Yuer, yuery(e, Yuereme,** obs. ff. IVORY, IVORINE. **Yuerred,** ME. pa. pple. of FAR *v.* **Yuert,** variant of YOUET.

Yuff, variant of YOUF.

‖ **Yuffrouw** (yu·frau). Forms: 5–6 3ong-, 6 3oung frow, yong frow, 7 yough Fro, 9 yuffro(u)w, yungfrau, euvrou, uvrou, -ow: see also EUPHROE. [ad. early mod. Du. *jongvrouw(e* (cf. FROW *sb.*), now *juffrouw* young lady, miss, and (in shortened form) *juffer* young lady, beam in shipbuilding, rammer (see JUFFER, UFER). See also EUPHROE.]

1. A young lady, girl.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 45 To see the fashion of these countrey yong frowes. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* IV. i, And it may be then in stead of kissing, desir'd yough Fro to hold his head. 1810 W. IRVING *Let. to Mrs. Hoffman* 26 Feb., I have..formed acquaintance with some of the good people, and several of the little Y[u]ffrouws.

2. *Naut.* a. ? A dead-eye. *Obs.* b. (See quots. 1810, 1867.)

1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 254 3ong frowis and collaris, seme and ruse to the bote. 1505 *Ibid.* III. 86 Blokkis and brassin schiffis, paralingis, and 3ong frowes. 1810 J. DENSTON *Moore's Pract. Navigator* 291 *Uvrou*, the piece of wood by which the legs of the crow-foot are extended. 1815–[see EUPHROE]. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Crow-foot*, a number of small lines spreading out from an uvrow or long block, used to spread awnings [etc.].

‖ **Yuft** (yuft). Also 9 youghten, juoten, juft, juft, youft. [a. Russ. ЮФТЬ, ЮХТЬ, whence also G. *juften, juchten.*] Russia leather (see RUSSIA 1).

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russ. Emp.* III. 514 The chief products of the tanneries of this country..are the yufts. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 45 Russian leather, or Youghten. 1833 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 60 The Russians have long been possessed of a method of making a peculiar leather, called by them *juchten*, dyed red with the aromatic saunders wood. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Juft, Youft.*

‖ **Yug** (yug), **yuga** (yu·gă). Also **yoog, yoogu.** [Hindi *yug*, Skr. *yugá*- YOKE, an age of the world.] In Hindu cosmology, any of the four ages in the duration of the world, the four ages comprising 4,320,000 years and constituting a great yuga

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1784 W. HASTINGS in *Asiatick Researches* (1788) I. 237 The duration of the Historical ages must needs be very unequal..; while that of the Indian Yugs is disposed so regularly and artificially, that it cannot be admitted as natural or probable. 1810 W. WARD *View Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 315 The amount of these four yoogs form a mûha or great yoogi, viz. 4,320,000 years. 1889 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 207/2 The Hindu doctrine of the four ages or yugs.

Yugement, obs. form of JUDGEMENT.

Yuill, obs. Sc. form of YULE.

Yuke (yuk), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. next.] Itching, itch.

1552 TURNER *Herbal* I. A vb, ——— haiyth also the yche or yuke. *Ibid.* P iv, The broth of them is good..for yche or yeuvk that goeth ouer the hole body. 1572 BUCHANAN *Detection* in Jas. Anderson *Coll.* (1727) II. 28

Certane blak Pimples..brak out ouer all his haill Body, with sa greit Zmk,..that he lingerit out his Lyfe with verray small Hope of Eschaip. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. ix, When their hands be shook, Ga'e them what he got frae his dad, Videlicet, the yuke. 1722 in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 93 All the best families in the parish are laid up with what they call the yoke—which in England is the itch. 1824 W. OLIVER *Songs* 7 For fear that..Scotch Donald chance to myak owr free, An' gie wor king the yuick. [1902 *Let. to Editor*, Among stablemen, coachmen, &c., the itch goes by the name of the 'dukes' (or dooks), and horses suffering from the complaint are referred to as 'dukey (or dooky) horses'.]

Yuke (yuk), *v.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 ȝhuyk, ȝoke, ȝouk, 5–6 ȝuke, 6 ȝoik, yuik, iuke, yeowk, 7 yeauk, 6– yeuk, yuke, 7– yuck, 8–9 yook, (youk, yoke, 9 yuk, yuc, yewk, yeuck, yuick, ewk, euk(e, uke). [app. alteration of north. ME. *ȝoke*, *ȝike* (see ITCH *v.*[1]), prob. under the influence of MDu. *jeuken*.] *intr.* To itch.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. vii. 574 Senyphes..And alkyn kynde of cleggis als þat gert ȝhuyk [*v. r.* ȝuke] bathe heid and bak. *a* 1568 DUNBAR *Tua Maritl Wemen* 130 Bot I may ȝuke all this ȝer, or his ȝerd help. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xxvi. 3 Quhais craig ȝoiks fastest, let tham sey thame sell. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 56 *Yuck*; Linc. 1790 BURNS *'Kind Sir, I've read,'* etc. 26 How Daddie Burke the plea was cookin', If Warren Hastings' neck was yeukin'. 1796 — *Poem on Life* vi, Ah Nick!..Thy auld, damned elbow yeuks wi' joy, And hellish pleasure. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 99 She'll

etc. 42 For poachin' aye his heart it yeukit.

Hence **Yuking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1449 W. BOWER in *Fordun's Scotichron.* (1759) II. 376 Wyth prik ȝoukand eerla, as the awsk gleg [tr. L. *auribus indisciplinatis, ut aspis*]. 1562 TURNER *Bathes* 1 b, Good.. for the sciatica, and for all kindes of itche or iukinge. 1600 J. HAMILTON *Facile Traictise* 40 Sik as flatters thair seuking earis. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v. *Yuck*, Such a nasty yucking pain comes on in the legs. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxiv, When I get that dry yeukin' in my thrapple.

Yuky (yu·ki), *a.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. YUKE + -Y[1].] Itchy; itching with curiosity.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* xv, We, like nags whase necks are yucky, Ha'e us'd our teeth. 1722 — *Three Bonnets* III. 46 While haste his youky mind expresses. *c* 1750 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Fratres in Malo*, Scratching his Yuky arm. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 46 Unto thy smooth'ning tongue they fainly turn Their yeuky rumps. 1867 RAMSAY *Remin.* (ed. 15) 86 I'm unco yuckie to hear a blaud o' your gab.

Hence **Yu·kiness.**

1823 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 74 If the hairs get into the neck, a youkiness (itch) is the..consequence.

‖**Yulan** (yū·lăn). Also **youlan.** [Chinese, *f. yu* a gem + *lan* plant.] A Chinese species of magnolia, *M. conspicua* (*M. Yulan*).

1882 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 55 Lily flowered Magnolia, or Youlan. 1888 *Garden* 6 May 311/1 The Yulan..forms a conspicuous object amongst spring flowering trees.

Yule (yūl), *sb.* Forms: 1 ȝeol, ȝeocohol, ȝeoh(h)ol, -ol, ȝeh(h)ol, ȝehhel, ȝeola, iula, 2 iol, 2–4 ȝol (yol), 3 ȝeol, 4 ȝool, 4–5 ȝole, 5 ȝoil(l, yoyll(e, ȝowle, yowle, youle, yole, yoole, ȝwle, (yold(e), 5–7 ȝule, 6 ȝoile, ȝuill, ȝull, ȝowill, -ell, ȝoull, ȝeoll, (ewle), 6–7 yeul, yewl, yool, yuill, ȝuil, (ule, 9 yuhl), 6–yule. Also *dial.* (in comb.) 7 yew, 7–8 yu, u. [The modern form descends from OE. *geól*, earlier *geoh(h)ol*, *geh(h)ol*, also *geóla* sometimes pl.) Christmas day or Christmastide, and in phr. *se ærra geóla* December, *se æftera geóla* January; corresp. to ON. *jól* pl. a heathen feast lasting twelve days, (later) Christmas. An Old Anglian *giuli*, recorded by Bede (see quot. 726 in sense 1) as the name of December and January, corresponds to ON. *ýlir* month beginning on the second day of the week falling within Nov. 10–17, and Goth. *iuleis* in *fruma iuleis* November. The ultimate origin of the Teut. types **jeul-* (*jegul-*) and **jeχul-*:— pre-Teut. **jeq[w]l-* is obscure.]

†**1.** December or January. *Obs.*

726 BÆDA *De Temp. Rat.* xv, De Mensibus Anglorum.. Primusque eorum mensis, quem Latini Januarium vocant, dicitur Giuli...December Giuli, eodem quo Januarius nomine, vocatur...Menses Giuli a conversione solis in auctum diei, quia unus eorum præcedit, alius subsequitur, nomina accipiunt. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 1 Jan. 12 Ianuarius, þæt is on ure ȝeþeode se æftera ȝeola. *Ibid.* 10 Dec. 216 Se monaþ ys nemned on leden Decembris ond on ure ȝeþeode se ærra ȝeola. *c* 1000 ORMIN 1910–13 Crist wass borenn i þiss lif Wiþinnen ȝoless monebþ, þatt wass o þe fiffte dazz Att twenntiz dazhess ende Off ȝol.

2. Christmas and the festivities connected therewith. (Still the name in *Sc.* and *north. dial.*; since *c* 1850 also a literary archaism in Eng.)

a 900 *O.E. Martyrol.* 6 May 76 Feowertiz daga ær Cristes acennisse, þæt is ær ȝeolum [*v. r.* ȝyhhelum]. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xix. (1890) 318 Þy twelftan dæge æfer Ȝeochol [*v. rr.* ȝeohol, ȝeohhel]. *a* 901 *Laws of Ælfred* § 43, xii dazas on ȝehhol [*v. rr.* ȝehol, ȝehhel, ȝeol]. ?12.. *Charter of Eadweard* an. 1067 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 209 Ealle ða gyltes ða belimpeð to mine kinehelme inne Iol and inne Easterne. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 284, I crawe..a crystemas gomen, For hit is ȝol & nwe ȝer. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 49 Þe kyng one on þe morn went to London, His ȝole ferto hold was his encheson. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* (1896) 42 Seynt Tomas-yn day, Apostle, yn þe fyft day after yold. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1897 Of seynt Hyllary the churche yn, The twenty day of yowle y wys. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vi. 96 The kynge is now deed sithe Martin-masse, and fro hens to ȝoole is but litill space. 1533 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 249 At the natiuite of our Lord, callit ȝowill. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* XIII. xiv. (1821) II. 340 Quhen he wes sittand with his modir, on the Epiphany Day, at his ȝuill. *a* 1580 SIR R. MAITLAND *Sat. Age* 45 Thai..yat held grit iulis. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxiv. 108 At Ewle we wonten, gambole, daunce, to carrole, and to sing. 1637 *Bk. Com. Prayer Scotland* Table Proper Pa., Yule, or Christmas day. 1644 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xxix, Knowing that the superstitious dayis of Yool was approching. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* App. 61 About Yule last. 1794 BURNS *Bonie Peggy Ramsay* I, And dawin' it is dreary, When birks are bare at Yule. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xxiii, Ye ken a green Yule makes a fat kirk-yard. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxviii, They bring me sorrow touch'd with joy, The merry merry bells of Yule. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 74 And many a Yule since..You chose a spray all brightly berried over.

¶ *Yule of August, Lammas Yule*: the festival of Lammas, the first of August. *Obs.*

This use has arisen from confusion of this word with GULE *sb.*[2] (Lammas Day).

1643 HAMMOND *Let. Resol. Six Queres* vi. § 65. 465 *Gula Augusti*, or the Yule of August. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northumbld.* (1662) II. 304 It [*sc.* Yule] is a name general for festivals, as Lammas Yule, &c.

†**3.** Used as an exclamation of joy or revelry at the Christmas festivities. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 28 It is easy to cry yle at other mens coste. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 380 It is eith [*pr.* dith] to cry yule [*Maitl. Fo. MS.* hailȝule] On ane vder manis coist. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Ule*, In Yorkshire and our other Northern parts, they have an old Custom, after Sermon or Service on Christmas day, the people will, even in the Churches cry *Vle, Vle*,..and the common people run about the streets singing Ule, Ule, Ule, Three Puddings in a Pule, Crack nuts and cry Ule. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 58 It is eith crying yool on anither man's stool. 1823 W. SANDYS *Christmastide* 143 In some places it ——— to have been the custom to dance in the country churches, after prayers, crying out, 'Yole, yole, yole!' &c.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yule banquet, batch, common* (COMMON *sb.*[1] 8), *fare, feast, hearth, night* [cf. ON. *jólanótt*], *time*; locally applied to articles of food made specially for Christmas, as *yule-bread, -cake, -dough, -loaf* (see quots.); also **yule-block** = *yule-log*; **yule-candle** = *Christmas candle* (CHRISTMAS 4); **yule-clog** = *yule-log*; **yule-game,** a Christmas game or sport; †a frolic, gambol; †**yule-girth** [see GRITH *sb.* 6; cf. ON. *jólagrið*], the peace of Christmas; **yule-log,** a large log of wood burnt on the hearth at Christmas; **yule-song** *dial.*, a Christmas carol; †**yule-stock** (*a*) [? STOCK *sb.*[1] 20, 47], ? contribution to Christmas festivities; (*b*) = *yule-log*; **yule-tide** [cf. ON. *jólatíð*], the season of Yule, Christmas-tide; †**yule-waiting** (*yolwayting*) [app. ON. *veiting*, WAITING *vbl. sb.*[2]], app. a due paid by bondmen at Christmas; †**yule-waitstand** (*yolwayte-*), ? the place where the waits (WAIT *sb.* 8 a) stood at Christmas; †**yule-work** (Sc. *ȝeoll vark*), ? preparations for Christmas festivities.

1809 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *N. B. Advertiser* Oct. (1894), If ever the guidman of the hous sould mak ane other *Yuill* bankett. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, *Yu-batch. 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.), *U-bach, U-block.* See *Yu-batch*..*Yu-back.* *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northumberland* (1662) II. 304 The Northern parts call Christmas Yule, (hence the *Yule-block, *Yule-cakes [*pr.* oake-], Yule-songs, &c.). 1800 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) VI. 283 Yule Cake, a kind of spiced cake, often supplies the place of gingerbread. 1884 BESANT *Dor. Forster* xiii, The tables were covered with Yule-cakes, which are, in the north, shaped like a baby, and Christmas pies in form of a cradle. 1808 JAMIESON s. v., The candle, that is lighted on Yule, must be so large as to burn from the time of its being lighted till the day be done... Hence large candles are by the vulgar called *Yule-candles. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) VI. 283 The yule candle, a tall mould candle, is lighted and set on the table. 1725 BOURNE *Antiq. Vulg.* xiii. in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* xiii. (1777) 155 Our Fore-Fathers..were wont..to lay a Log of Wood upon the Fire, which they termed a *Yule-Clog, or Christmas-Block. 1836 R. FURNESS *Astrol.* III. Wks. (1858) 163 When ample yule-clogs lent their heat and light, And all-spiced possets warm'd the Christmas night. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxviii, The yule-clog sparkled keen with frost. *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 274 That *Yuill comoun they thought to repay weill now at Pasch. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* 163 The *Yule-Dough,..a Kind of Baby or little Image of Paste, which our Bakers used formerly to bake at this Season, and present to their Customers. 1888 JESSIE M. E. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda* 210 Such bounty, in the form of *Yule-fare, as the folks are pleased to bestow. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northumbld.* (1662) II. 304 A *Yule feast may be quat at Pasche. That is Christmas-cheer may be digested, and the party hungry again at Easter. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Geordie & Davie* 14 Poems (1789) II. 6 For the Yule-feast a sautit mart's prepar'd. 1611 COTGR., *Gambards*, a gamboll, *yew-game, tumbling tricke. 1632 SHERWOOD, A yew-game, or yeule-game, *gambade.* 1815 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 93 The shipps company .. plaied Christmas ule games in good sort. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iv. 346 Masks, singing, dancing, vlegames. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, Yu-game. 1685–70 *Rec. Inverness* (New Snalding Club) I. 182 For breking of *Yule ger[he and trubling of the towne. ? 18.. in F. Drake *Eboracum* I. vi. (1736) 107 The fower serjeants shall go and ride..and so go forth to the fower barrs of the city and blow the youle-girthe. *Ibid.*, To make proclamation at the pillory of the Yoole-girthol. 1696 MEMIS & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2) 23 Thrice had all New-yeares Guests their *yewl guts fill'd With embalm'd Veal, buried in Christmas Past. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* IV. vi, We strip not the green leaves for our *yule-hearths. 1709 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 85 A *yule loaf, 3d. 1725 BOURNE *Antiq. Vulg.* xiii. in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1777) 157, I am apt to believe, the Log has had the Name of the *Yule-Log, from its being burnt as an Emblem of the returning Sun. 1848 LONGF. *R. Wilaf's Drinking-horn* viii, The Yule-log cracked in the chimney. 1903 R. BAUNNE *Haudi. Symne* 4648 Howe God was bore yn *ȝole nyght. *c* 1385 *Metr. Hom.* 101 On feld thar thai woc on yol niht. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 342 Betuix none of the day and ȝule nicht. 1792 BURNS *Duncan Gray* I, On blythe yule night when we were fu'. *a* 1661 *Yule-songs [see *yule-block*]. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Yule-sangs*, s. pl. Christmas carols. 1888 *Yorksh. Inquis.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc. 1892) I. 244 [The same pays 12d. at Christmas, which is called] *Yolstoch. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Sum Practysis Med.* 77 (Bann. MS.) With thre crawis of the cok, The schadow of ane ȝule stok, Is gud for þe host. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 4 Quhair Empreouris and Erlis, and vther mony ane, Turnit fra Sanct Thomas befoir the *ȝule tyde. 1860 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. *Musician's T.* XII. ii, Three days his Yule-tide feasts He held. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Poems* 44 About *Yule-time an' Hogmenai. 1864 PRIOR in *Athenæum* 2 Jan. 20/2 [Mistletoe] ripened its snow-white fruit just at Yule-time. 1183 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) 20 Dant cum villanis partem suam de scat et de metride et de *yolwayting. *c* 1380 *Bp. Hatfield's Surv.* (Surtees) 22 Iidem tenentes red. p. a. pro yolwayting, ad festum Nativitatis Domini, 5s. 1413–14 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) Gloss. p. lxxii, De quadam placea vocata *Yolewaytestand. 1540 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 47 Dauid Hardy..sall pay ane stane wax to the nixt *Zeoll vark.

Hence **Yule** *v.*, *intr.* to keep Christmas. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

a 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 39 The lords refuised to lett the lady marchioness go to the castie with her husband, except she would waird also, and with great intreatie had the favour, to Yule with him, but to stay no longer. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Yuling*, Christmas feasting.

Yule-day. Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: see YULE *sb.* and DAY *sb.* [OE. *geohhelddæg*; cf. ON. *jóladagr*.] Christmas Day.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 1 Nov. 198 Se ærysta dæg in *natale domini*, þæt is ærysta ȝeohhelddæg. *c* 1000 ORMIN 11063 Itt iss þe þrittenndе dazz Fra ȝoldazz, nohht te twellfte. *c* 1205 LAY. 22737 Hit wes in ane ȝeol-dæie þat Ardur in Lundene lai. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10371 On þe ȝol day he made his feste. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. vii. 1381 On ȝoil [*v. r.* ȝule] day He had thre messis be said ay. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 100 To the Kingis offerande on ȝwle da, ij demyss. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot* (S. T. S.) II. 462 Euin ȝuil day, Christes awne day. 1600 J. HAMILTON *Facile Traictise* 174 Thay cause thair wyfis and seruants spin in oppin sicht of the people vpon zeul day. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 85 Doctor Scrogie gave the communion, upon Yeull day, in Old Aberdein. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Daft Days* V, Whan merry Yule-day comes, I trow, You'll scantlins fin' a hungry mou.

Yule-even. *Sc.* Forms: see YULE *sb.* and EVEN *sb.* [Cf. ON. *jólaaptann*.] Christmas Eve.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 204 Befor ȝoill-evyn ane nycht bot mair. 1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 67 Gevin to Rob Pulvas,..on ȝule evin,..xxiiij s. 1567 *Guda & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 72 Ane Caitell of the Epistill on ȝule Euin. 1570–1 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 198 Vpon the xxiiij day of December last being Yule Ewin. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm., Isa. Lxiv.* 6 Wks. (1735) 618/1 Sin rising up to Iniquities..hath accomplished the Judgment, put Fire among us, made us as the Birk in Yule-even. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 85 The marquess of Hamilton..upon Yeull evin, takes journey towards London. 1808 JAMIESON s. v., Some farmers..are so extremely superstitious, as to go into their stables and cow-houses on Yule-e'en, and read a chapter of the Bible behind their horses and cattle, to preserve them from harm.

Yuncte, obs. form of JOINT *sb.*

Yund (ȝ-), **Yunder** (ȝ-), obs. ff. YOND, YONDER.

Yung, Yunker, obs. ff. YOUNG, YOUNKER.

Yungth(e (ȝungth(e), var. YOUNGTH *Obs.*

‖**Yunx** (yuŋks). Aberrant mod.L. a. Gr. *ἴυγξ ἰυγξ*, JYNX; adopted by Linnæus.

1694 RAY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 200 The Yunx, a genuine Woodpecker, hath a tail as long [as the Cuckow] in proportion to his body, and marked with crosse-bars too.

†**Yuo,** pl. *yuon* [OE. *geféa(n*: see Y- 2 and FOE], an enemy. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 Þe castel of his herte..he heþ yolde to his yuo dyadlich. YUOȝTE [Y- 4, FIGHT *v.*], fought. 1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Efterward me asel zigge yef he ne heþ nazt yuoȝte aye þe uondinge.

Yuori(e, -ory(e, obs. forms of IVORY.

1589 LODGE *Scillaes Metam.* B 2, An yuorie shadowed front. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* I. pr. V. 20 Nor doo I desyre my shops walles adornid with yuory or glasse.

†**Yuorped** [Y- 4, FORTH *v.*], supplied, kept going. 1340 *Ayenb.* 186 Vor be oyle is y-uorþeȝ þet uer ine þe lompe.

Yupon, variant of YAPON.

1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 19 Dec. 909/1 That horrid yupon and sassafras tea.

Yur, yure, obs. forms of YOUR.

Yure (yūəɹ). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 ȝowre, 7– yower, ure, ewr, 8–9 yewer, ewer, 9 yure (yuer, yoo(e)r, yowr, etc.). [Obscurely connected with ON. *júgr* (Norw. *juver*, MSw. *juver, jugher*, Sw. *jufver*, Da. *yver*), i. unexplained variant of the Teut. stem represented by OE. *ádder* UDDER.] An udder.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/2 A ȝowre, *uber.* 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 8 It is goode to admonish the shepheard to pluck the wolle away from the yower of the ewe, thereby to make more way for 'wanke lambes to finde the peppa. *Ibid.* So If an ewe bee bittle on her yower, or unkinde

to her lambs. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Urve*, udder. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Ewer*, an udder. 1825 JAMIESON, *Urr*, the dug or udder of an animal, particularly of a sheep or cow. *Ibid.*, *Urr-lock*, the name given to the locks of wool growing round the udder of a sheep, which are pulled off when it is near lambing-time. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Yower-joint*, the joint near the udder or thigh of the horse, opposite the hock or hough.

Yurn, Yurne, Yurt: see YEARN *v.*1, YERN *v.*, YERNE *adv.*, YOURT.

Yus, ȝus, obs. forms of YES. **Yused**, ME. pa. pple. of USE *v.* **Yust**, obs. f. JUST, JOUST *v.*1 **Yut(e, ȝut(e**, obs. ff. YET. **Yupe**, obs. f. YOUTH. **Yuu**, obs. f. YOU. **Yuy(e, yve**, obs. ff. IVY. **Yvel, -ll(e, Yven**, obs. ff. EVIL, IVY. **Yven-kessyd, -kised, -quyst**, ME. pa. pple. of VANQUISH. **Yver(e, -ery(e**, obs. ff. IVORY.

† **Yveresse.** *Obs.* [a. OF. (F.) *ivresse*, f. *ivre* :— pop. L. **ēbrius-s*, for *ēbrius-s* drunk : see -ESS.] Drunkenness.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xliii. (1869) 159 Twey wombes .. Of whiche yueresce [*gloss* drunkeshipe] is that oon seid. And that oother the gulf that to ete is euere redy.

† **Yveryasshe**, *a. Obs.* [*f. yvery*, IVORY + -ISH.] Of or like ivory.

1530 PALSGR. 330/2 Yveryashe,..*eburnyn*.

† **Yves.** *Obs.* Also 8 **ives.** = VIVES.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 301 To the ende the horse by his continuall trembling mighte seeme to haue the Yues. 1753 BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* 104 The vives or ives differs from the strangles only in this [etc.].

† **Yvewdid**, ME. pa. pple. of VOID *v.* † **Yvitaillid** [VICTUAL *v.*], supplied with victuals. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 215 That thou be..well y-vitaillid.

Yvi(e, Yvle, Yvoire, yvor(e, -ie, etc., obs. ff. IVY, EVIL, IVORY.

† **Yvolvuld** [Y- 4, FULFIL *v.*], fulfilled. *c* 1330 *Hymn* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 87 Y-volvuld ys Davidthes sawe. **Y-vowted**, ME. pa. pple. of VAULT *v.*1 **Yvsed, yvsed**, ME. pa. pple. of USE *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 115 Þine greate guodnesses þet ich habbe eche daye onderuonge, huyche ich habbe kueadliche yvzed. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 510 And also Domynikes dedes weren deruelich y-vsed.

Yvy, Yvyl, obs. forms of IVY, EVIL.

Yvyned, obs. form of VINNIED, mouldy.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/2 *Mucidus*, yvyned.

Yw, obs. form of YOU.

† **Ywaged** [Y- 4, WAGE *v.*], hired. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXIII. 261 Bote hii beon nempned in þe numbre of hem þat ben ywaged. **Ywalked**, ME. pa. pple. of WALK *v.*3 **Ywalled**, obs. f. WALLED *ppl. a.* **Ywalwed**, pa. pple. of WALLOW *v.*1

Ywar, obs. form of AWARE.

Ywarded, Ywareschid, Ywarnist, Ywarred, Y-wasche, ywasshe(n, Ywasted, Ywatert, -eryd, Ywedded, ME. pa. pples. of WARD *v.*1, WARISH *v.*, WARNISH, WAR *v.*1, WASH, WASTE, WATER, WED *vbs.*

Ywel(l, obs. forms of EVIL.

† **Ywelde**, variant of I-WELDE *v. Obs.*, to carry into effect. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 491 He..assaiep dedes þat he may nouȝt y-welde. **Ywemmed**, ME. pa. pple. of WEM *v.* **Ywende**, var. I-WENDE *v. Obs.*, to go, progress. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 4063 ȝif we in þisse manere wendeþ [*MS.* a ywendeþ] we ne fayleþ on none wyse þat we ne wolleþ abbe þe maistrie. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 62 Ich..wol y-wende To pylgrimages, as palmers don pardon to wynne. **Ywend(e, ywent(e, Ywenkused, Ywept**, ME. pa. pples. of WEND *v.*, VANQUISH *v.*, WEEP *v.*

Ywer, ME. var. of AWARE *a.*, wary.

1340 *Ayenb.* 100 By wys and y-wer.

† **Ywerche** [Y- 3 c], var. I-WIRCHE *v. Obs.* **Ywerred, Ywess(h)e, Ywet(te** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples of WAR *v.*1, WASH *v.*, WET *v.* **Ywete**, var. I-WITE *v.*1 *Obs.*, to know; to preserve, keep. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 59 ȝif any good counsaile..were I-ȝeve, anon enemyes schulde wite [*MS.* a ywete] for al. *a* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 Þt þe seal by-fore y-seyd shal be y-weted vnder þre heuedes. **Ywetered, Yweved, Ywexed**, ME. pa. pples. of WATER *v.*, WEVE *v.*, WAX *v.*

† **Ywhe·lped**, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [pa. pple. of WHELP *v.* or f. WHELP *sb.*: see Y- 4 and 5.] **a.** Brought forth as whelps.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Þe sonner þei haue here sight whan þey beþ ywhelpid.

b. In kindle with whelps.

a 1400 *Octouian* 433 A grysly best, A great y-whelpyd lyonesse.

† **Ywhere**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝehwær, 2 ȝewer, uwer, 3 ihwar(e, ihwer, ihwer, iwar(e, iwere, iwere. [OE. *gehwǽr*: see Y- 2 b and WHERE.] Everywhere.

Beowulf 526 Þeah þu beaȝornesa gehwær dohte. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 2 His ȝebyrd and goodnys sind gehwær cuþe. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 His under-þeoden ȝewer on his cyne rice wuneden. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 88 Þe þe deð godes wille swa he mei him finden. *c* 1205 LAY. 260 Hit iwerð þere swa hit deð wel iwere [*c* 1275 iware]. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 Þet he wule þet al þine wil ihwer beo iforþed. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 216 Þe Nihtegale wes al ware heo hedde ileorned wel ihware [*Cott. MS.* aiware].

Ywhet(t, ME. pa. pple. of WHET *v.*

† **Ywhether** [Y- 2 b], obs. var. WHETHER. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 113 Ywhether þou art alone, withoute mene? **Y-whyngged** [Y- 4], ME. var. WINGED. **Ywil(le**, var. I-WILL *Obs.*, will, desire. 12.. *Moral Ode* 14 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 22 Þe muchel folȝeþ his y-wil him sulfne he bi-ewikeð. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 423 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 129 Ich telle him for a dote, þat salt al is y-wille, þanne he sulde ben stille. **Ywilned**, ME. pa. pple. of WILN *v.*

Ywis, ywiss(e: see IWIS.

† **Ywist**, pa. pple. of I-WITE, YWITE *v.*1 *Obs.* 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 582 Of richesse & of renoun romme he ȝe kidde, & ben baldere y-wist þan any burn elles. **Ywite**, var. I-WITE *v.*1 *Obs.* **Ywitted**, ME. form of WITTED. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 233 Ryght wel ywittede men. **Ywive**, var. I-WIVE *v. Obs.*, to marry. **Ywon(e, ywonne(n, Ywonde(d, Ywonden, Ywon(e)d, -et, ywonte, -wonyd, Yworewid**, ME. pa. pples. of WIN *v.* (cf. I-WIN(NE *v.*), WOUND *v.*, WIND *v.*, WON *v.* (see WONT *a.*), WORRY *v.*

Ywori, obs. form of IVORY.

† **Yworred, Yworschiped, -wor(þ)sshipid**, etc., ME. pa. pples. of WAR *v.*1, WORSHIP *v.* **Yworþ(e, -worth(e, -wourthe**, var. I-WORTH *v. Obs.* 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 217 The chylde wox,..but for no-thynge he hit myght lerne; .. And ther-for they lettyn hym y-wourthe. **Y-wounded, Ywounden**, obs. pa. pples. of WOUND, WIND *vbs.* **Ywoven**, obs. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.* 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 285 Faire Reading towne,..where Cloth's ywoven be. **Ywowed, Ywoxe**, obs. pa. pples. of WOO, WAX *vbs.*

Ywrapped, ywrapt, obs. pa. pple. of WRAP *v.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. ix. (E.E.T.S.) 39 In þat same cloth so ywrapped the aungeles beren hire body to the mount Synay. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23324 (Trin.) Iwrapped alle in gome & gle. 1572 GASCOIGNE *Voy. Holland* Wks. 1907 I. 358 A wretch ywrapt in wroth. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* I iv b, Pills ywrapt in sugar. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. I. i, Nor Ladies loves, nor Knights brave Martiall deeds, Ywrapt in rolls of hid Antiquity.

Ywrabbed, Ywreȝe, Ywreke, obs. pa. pples. of WRATH, WRY, WREAK *vbs.*

† **Ywrit**, *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝewriten, 2–4 iwrite(n, 3–4 ywrite, ywryte, 4 iwritten, (i-, ywrete, 5 iwreten), 5–7 ywrit. [OE. *ge-writen*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*wrītan* to WRITE.] Written.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 26 Hwæt is ȝewriten on þære æ? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Þe þridde godes heste was iwriten inne þa table. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 178 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Swo he hit iscie aboc iwrite. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1901 An aungel he sey þat huld an croiz & þer on ywrite was lo þis. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM v. 320 Þer-bye we mowe wel y-wyte, þaȝ þer be nauȝt of y-wryte, þat cryst hym self was here. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 220 Sum wordes I fynde ywryten were of faithes techynge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 15 Whanne bookes of oure byleve were y-wrete. *Ibid.* VIII. 41 Foure famous men discreved his lyf and his dedes as it is i-written in his lyf. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 149 In the thyrde boke of kynges we fyndyth y-writ that [etc.] *c* 1450 *Merlin* 279 Whan it was I-wreten. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. XXVI, On which in golden letters be ywrit These words.

Ywroȝt, ywroht: see YWROUGHT.

Ywroken (ɪrōu·k'n), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 ȝewrecen, 3 iwreken, 4 iwrokin, 5 ywrekyd, ywroke, 4– ywroken. [OE. *gewrecen*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*wrecan*: see Y- 4 and WREAK *v.*] Avenged; taken vengeance upon, punished.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. XIV, Æt hie þæt ȝewrecen hæfden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2836 Symeon and Ieui..hauen here sister for i wreken. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4416 (Gött.) As þu art þan for þe Loke on him i-wrokin be. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 203 ȝif þow wilt ben ywroken wende in-to vaite. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (Turnbull) 1304 But they schall soo y-wrokyd bee That non of hem schall see the. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 41 Ther was no speke y-broke, Nor wrestelyng wherby he was y-wroke. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 921 Through iudgement of the Gods to been ywroken. 1805 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl., Vanda's wrong has been y-wroken. *a* 1825 MOTHERWELL *Clerke Richard & Maid Margaret* xi, And now that hatred was ywroken, A wondrous joy in them had sprung.

Ywronge, ME. pa. pple. of WRING *v.*

Ywrought (ɪrɔ·t), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeworht, 3–4 iworht, iwroht, 3–4 ywro(u)ȝt, 4–5 ywroght, (3 iwraht, ywort, 4 ywroht, 5 ywrouht, ywrowte), 5– ywrought. [OE. *ge-worht*, pa. pple. of *gewyrcan* IWURCHE, *wyrcan* to WORK.] Worked, wrought, made.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Ehta eaȝ þyrelu swiþe mycele of glæse ȝeworht. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 25 Þe þat art i wit iwraht to godes ilicnesse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3613 Aboute is seoldren & þeron ypeint was & ybroȝt [Ywroȝt, *v.rr.* ywrouȝt, ywort] þe ymage of vre leuedy. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 Hit is wonder wele y-wroht. 14.. *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 When suche clothe ys alle ywrowte, To the maker it wayleth lytylle or nowȝte. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3593 Ye han ywrouht ageynys kynde. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 49 A pleasaunt herber, well y-wrought. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 196 This by-word..(Hengaton downe well ywrought Is worth London deere ybought). 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. II. XX, What's gnawing conscience from impietie By highest parts of humane soul ywrought?

Ywrye, ywryed, ywryȝe, obs. pa. pples. of WRY *v.*

† **Ywryȝeliche**, *adv. Obs.* [repr. OE. type **gewrigenlice*, f. *gewrigen*, pa. pple. of *wrīdan* to cover, conceal + *-līce* -LY 2.] Secretly.

1340 *Ayenb.* 37 Þe þyef y-wreȝe is þet staleþ ine halkes and ywryȝeliche greate þinges oþer little.

† **Ywrythe, Ywurnd, Ywuste**, ME. pa. pples. of WRITHE, WARN, WIT *vbs.* (cf. I-WITE *v.*).

Ywus, obs. form of IWIS.

Ywyl, var. I-WILL *Obs.* **Ywylned**, pa. pple. of WILN *v.* **Ywympillit** [obs. Sc. var. WIMPLED], wrapped. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 48 Ywympillit [orig. *circumamictum*] in this bark tho did he take Hys ȝong douchtyr. **Ywynne**, var. I-WIN(NE *v. Obs.*, to win. **Ywyryed**, ME. pa. pple. of WORRY *v.*

Ywys(se, Ywysed, Ywyte, Ywyve: see IWIS, IWISSE *v.*, I-WITE *v.*1, I-WIVE *v.*

Yye, obs. form of EYE.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1124 Per xall þey se me..with here carnall yye. *a* 1530 in *Archaeologia* XLVII. 53 That ther vayle come as lowe as ther yye ledes.

† **Yȝeld(e, Yȝened**, ME. pa. pples. of YIELD *v.*, YEAN *v.* **Yȝete, yyete**: see I-YETEN, Y-ETE(N. **Yyeve, yȝeve, yȝive**, ME. pa. pple. of GIVE *v.*

Yyf(e, ȝyf(e, yyff: see GIVE *v.*, IF.

† **Yyȝt**, ME. pa. pple. of HIGHT *v.*2, to augment, enhance. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 485 By his studie and travaille þis storie is greetliche i-hiȝt [*MS.* ȝ y-yȝt].

Yyldyd, obs. f. *yieldéd*, pa. t. of YIELD *v.* **Yym(m)an(e, ȝym(m)an(e**, obs. ff. YEOMAN. **Yynge**, obs. f. YOUNG. **Yyoked, Yyolde (-ȝ-), yȝulde, Yyolpe, Yyoyned**, ME. pa. pples. of YOKE, YIELD, YELP, JOIN *vbs.* **Yyrne**, obs. f. YEARN *v.*2

Yys, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*1; obs. f. YES.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 640 Her xal Mary wasche þe fatt of þe prophet with þe terres of hur yys.

Yzard, obs. form of IZZARD.

1669 [see ZAD].

Yzawe, Yzed, ME. pa. pples. of SOW *v.*1, SAY *v.*1 **Yzen**, obs. var. IRON *sb.*1

† **Yzendred**: see SENDER. **Yzen(e)zed, Yzet**, ME. pa. pples. of SIN *v.*, SET *v.*1 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Þou zeelt yal þet þou best more zibe y-zeneȝd..þet þou ne kanst naȝt telle. *Ibid.* 7 Zondȝy and þe oþre heȝe festes þet byeþ y-zet to loky ine holy cherche. **Yziȝþ, yzy**: see YSEE *v.*

Z.

Z (zed), the twenty-sixth and last letter of the English and other modern alphabets, derives its form, through the medium of the Latin and Greek alphabets, from the Phœnician and ancient Hebrew ⵊ Ȥ Ƶ (Hebrew ז *zayin*); in the Phœnician, Greek, and earlier Roman alphabets it was the seventh letter, in the later Roman alphabet the twenty-third. Greek Ζζ seems to have had originally the phonetic value (zd) or (dz), but later simple (z). Instances of *z* are found in early Latin, but Greek ζ was more commonly represented initially by *s*, e.g. *sōna* (Plautus) = ζώνη, and medially by *ss*, e.g. *cōmissor* = κωμάζω, *massa* = μᾶζα MASS *sb.*², but after B.C. 100 *z* came into regular use to render the ζ of Greek loan-words. In consequence of the phonetic change of (dz) to (dy) exemplified by the spelling *baptidiare* for *baptizare*, Gr. βαπτίζειν to baptize, *z* in popular Latin came to denote (dy) and probably (y), as in *zaconus* for *diaconus* deacon, *zeta* for *dieta* (see ZETA¹), *zunior* for *junior* (cf. the spellings *Zopen*, *Zope* in Cursor Mundi for *Joppa*). For the use of *z* for initial *x* see X.

Z was used in OE. in the spelling of alien words, and (with or without *t* or *d*) in certain loan-words, as *bæ(d)zere* (L. *baptista* + *-ere* -ER¹) baptist, *mertze* (L. *mercem*, *merx*), with the value (ts); this use was continued in ME., e.g. *mildze*, *milz(c)e*, MILCE *sb.*, and was reinforced by French usage, as shown in forms like *caliz* chalice, *croiz* cross, *voiz* voice, *vestimenz*, pl. of *vestiment*. This phonetic value is preserved in, and indicated by the spelling of, mod. E. *assets* (AF. *assets*, OF. *asez* enough, pop. L. *ad-satis*) and the patronymic prefix *Fitz-* (AF. *fiz* = *fius*, *fils*, L. *filius*).

In French, the reduction of (ts) to (s) brought about a change of spelling from *z* to *s* (often alternating with *x*, e.g. *vois*, *voix*), and this helped to set free *z* to denote the voiced *s* appropriate to such 'learned' adoptions as *zone* (which appears as early as the 12th c., Ph. de Thaun). In English, by the end of the 13th c., *z* is found with the later OF. value (z) in 'learned' words, e.g. *zizanny* tares (Cursor Mundi 1138); it is conspicuous in the Ayenbite of Inwyt (*c* 1340) as the symbol for the voiced s characteristic of southern dialects (e.g. Kentish *zenne*, OE. *synn* sin); by the end of the 14th c. the character had become general, e.g. *gaze*, *mazed*, *canonize*.

In MSS. of 1300 onwards the tailed *z* and ȝ came to be indistinguishable in form (cf. first quot. s.v. ZED); hence in modern editions are found many instances of spellings such as *zelot* zealot, *Sarzine* Saracen. This identity of the two symbols was perpetuated in the typography of early Scottish printers, who represented the sounds (y) and (z) by the same characters, as in such words as *ze* ye, *zeir* year, *forzet* forget, *fenzeit* feigned, and *azure*, *zele* seal. This confusion has led to the general mispronunciation by Englishmen of *capercailzie* (-kǣ·lyi, corruptly -kǣ·lzi), and proper names such

letter *z* in the names Mackenzie and Menzies in the English was enough to turn his stomach.

The name given to the letter in England (presumably since the Norman Conquest) has been ZED, q.v., or one of its variants, †ZAD, †ZARD, IZZARD, EZOD, UZZARD. With the disyllabic forms, which survive dialectically, cf. F. *èdes*, ?for *ezed* (Coyfurelly, 14th cent.), *ézed* (Claude de Saint-Lien, 1580), Prov. *izedo*, Cat. *idzeta*, app. from pop. L. **idzēta*, a. Gr. ζῆτα (dzē·ta). The names *ez* (Gil, Logonomia Anglica, 1619) and *ze* (C. Butler, Eng. Gram., 1633) do not seem to represent actual usage, but are (like *ya* and *yi* as names of *y*) systematic inventions of these phonetic writers. The name ZEE, now widespread in the United States of America, appears to have had some early currency in England.

Initially and medially *z* occurs largely in words of Greek or Oriental origin, e.g. *zeal*, *azimuth*, *Amazon*, *zenith*; and in this Dictionary the spelling of the suffix derived ultimately from Greek -ίζειν has been normalized throughout as -IZE, q.v. In other classes of words the use of *z* has been determined by various circumstances, e.g. the immediate source of the word, as in *bronze*, or the desirability of an unambiguous or distinctive spelling, as in *ooze* (cf. *loose*), *prize* (cf. *price*). It is found in a number of monosyllabic words (and their derivatives), as *craze*, *daze*, *laze*, *maze*, *doze*, *gloze*, *gueeze*, *furze*, *blowze*, *size*, *assize*, *seize*, *freeze*, *wheeze*.

One fact which has told against an extensive use of it instead of *s* to represent the sound (z) is the difficulty of writing the character rapidly and intelligibly; this is referred to by Mulcaster, 1st Part of Elementarie, 1582, p. 123:—

> *Z*, is a consonant much heard amongst vs, and seldom sene. I think by reason it is not so redie to the pen as *s*, is, which is become lieutenant generall to *z*, as *gȧse*, amase, rāsur, where *z*, is heard, but, *s*, sene.

It is remarkable that in the three words cited by him the ultimate decision has been in favour of the spelling with *z*. In certain words usage fluctuated even in modern times until *s* or *z* prevailed, as in *tease* and †*teaze*, *pose* and †*poze*, *surprise* and †*surprize*; *rase* and *raze* are specifically differentiated.

Z is normally employed to denote (z), the blade-open-voice consonant, the voiced analogue of (s). In the combination *-zure* in *azure* it denotes (ʒ), a sound commonly denoted by other means, as in *pleasure*, *decision*, *lesion*, *transition*.

I. 1. The letter, or its sound.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ii. (Z.) 6 *Z*, *eac*, se grecisca stæf, geendað on *a*. Se stæf is ȝenumen of Grecum to ledenspræce for greciscum wordum. 1528 in Ellis *E. E. Pron.* III. 816 S betwene two vowelles, pronounceth [*sic*] by .z. 1530 PALSGR. 38 The *x* by this rule shalbe sounded lyke an *s* [*i. e.* ezod]. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 901 If ye do adde a *z*, at the latter ende of them, than are they plurell nombres. 1611 COTGR. *Fr. Dict.* Brief Direct. Nnnn j b, The tongue in the former [*guerre*] gluing onely a touch to the palate, and sounding the later [*poison*] as if it were a *Z*. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. xii. 369 (*Z*) is by some stiled (*S*) *molle*...(*Zh*) the sonorous Consonant, and (*Sh*) its correspondent muta. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 43 The vowel I, partaking also of the nature of a Consonant, added to Z, comes very near to the sound of *Zh*, as *Zya*. 1792 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 32 ⁋ 8 The Z's, an ancient sign at grocers shops, look very enigmatical; but I am told they allude to the word zinziber, or ginger, and intimated the sale of that article. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* ii, I have got names ready made to the end of the alphabet, and all the way through it again, when we come to Z.

2. The letter considered with respect to its shape; a figure or object of this shape. Also *attrib.*, as **Z-bar**, a metal bar having a cross-section of a form resembling a Z; so *Z-iron*; **Z-crank**, a crank of zigzag form, used in marine engines.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 223 Bent backwards and forwards..somewhat like an *z* [i. e. ezod or izzard]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 408/2 A Roman Z. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 17. ⁋ 2 The Irregularity of his Shape, which he describes as very much resembling the Letter Z. 1800 *Death of Minuet* 24 in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 453 No more the well taught feet shall tread The figure of the mazy Z. 1852 *Househ. Words* IV. 423/1 The road winds up the side of the cone like a strung series of Zs. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Z-crank*, the peculiarly-shaped crank of a cylinder, in a newly-invented engine for marine propulsion. 1877 W. H. WHITE *Naval Archit.* ix. 360 Provided the thin iron plating..be stiffened by angle-bars, T bars, or Z bars riveted to its surface. *Ibid.* x. 386 Z-iron..is used for frames behind armour in ironclads. 1880 JOS. ANDERSON *Scotl. in Early Chr. T.* Ser. II. (1881) 114 The Z and kindred varieties of this ornament. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* vi. 89 Instead of these Z bars, earlier vessels have the frames at their ends made up of two angle bars riveted back to back. 1893 MADAN *Bks. in MS.* 53 The Z-patterns (fine lines arranged diagonally, like natural and reversed Zeds combined).

3. As the last letter of the alphabet; hence allusively for 'end', esp. in phr. *from A to Z* = from beginning to end, all through, in every particular. (Cf. It. *dall' A alla Zeta*.)

1819 KEATS *Otho* v. v, We must obey The prince from A to Z. 1876 BROWNING *Fears & Scruples* v, Ask the experts! How they shake the head O'er these characters,..Call them forgery from A to Z! 1877 JAS. WELLS *Bible Echoes* 297 Christ is the A, and the Z of the Bible. 1912 L. TRACY *Mirabel's Isl.* v. (1915) 77, I know Ealing from A to Z, but have never visited Regent Street.

4. Used (usually repeated) to represent a buzzing sound. Hence *Z-ing* vbl. sb.

1852 THOREAU *Summer* 15 June, The dry z-ing of the locust is heard. 1884 R. W. BUCHANAN *New Abelard* i, The bats were ... flitting with thin z-like cry high up over the waterside. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 103 The oars rip out and go z-zip all along the line. 1900 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* ii, The rhythmical *z-z-z! z-z-z!* [of the saw].

II. Symbolic uses.

5. *Math.* Used as the symbol for the third of a set of unknown or variable quantities (the first and second being denoted by *x* and *y*); *spec.* in Analytical Geometry of three dimensions, for a quantity measured in the direction of the third axis of coordinates (hence called the *axis of z*).

For the history see X 3 *note*.

1660, 1709 [see X 3].

6. Used abstractly for the name of a person or thing: cf. X 3, 3 c, Y 5.

1798, 1873, 1901 [see X 3 c]. 1833 NEWMAN *Let. to Froude* 13 Nov., Palmer musters the Z.'s [*sc.* Establishment men] in great force against the tracts, and some Evangelicals. 1848 HANNAY *Biscuits & Grog* 109 Lord X, the Marquis of Y, and Baron Z. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xiii, Mr. X. pranced in in his long night garment with a candle, young Z. after him with another candle.

7. Used, like the other letters of the alphabet, to denote position in a series.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, We dismounted with as much ease and comfort as though we had been escorted by the whole Metropolitan Force from A to Z inclusive. 1860 SALA *Baddington P.* xxiv, A very Rabelais of the Z division. *Ibid.*, Z. 92 saw the striped bracelet of a sergeancy in perspective. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxxviii, 'Tell that to his worship,' says the incredulous Z. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine's Gage* etc. 381 He exchanged into the Z Battery going out to India.

'Z, phonetic spelling of 'S as a euphemistic shortening of *God's* in certain oaths: see 'ZBLOOD, 'ZDEATH, 'ZFOOT, 'ZLIFE, &c.

Zaara(h, Zaarra, variants of SAHARA.

1698 FROGER *Voy.* 13 The Deserts of Zaara. 1834 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* iv. Wks. 1890 VI. 332 The..sandy Zaarras of Africa.

Zabæan, variant of SABIAN.

Zabaism (**Zabiism**), variant of SABAISM. So **Zabaist**, one who practises Sabaism.

c 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vii. § 9 The rites and customs of these Zabaists. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. i. 3 Zabaisme,..gave a Deitie..to the Sun, Moon, and Stars. 1748 T. BLACKWELL *Lett. conc. Mythol.* 364 That Religion which is still known under the Name of Zabiism among the Eastern Writers. 1775 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 443 Addicted to Zabaism, and other species of idolatry.

Zabian, Zabianism, var. SABIAN, SABIANISM.

1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. xii. (ed. 2) 63 These Zabians thought whatsoeuer went from their bodies was vncleane. 1748 T. BLACKWELL *Lett. conc. Mythol.* 369 This Zabian Principle of the Worship of one God by Prayer and Incense. 1845 *Vulgar & Common Err.* 74 Zabianism, or star worship.

Zable, var. SABLE *sb.*³ *Obs.*, sabre.

‖**Zabra** (þa·bra, zā·brā). Also 6 **sabre, azabra,** 9 **zumbra.** [Sp.] A small vessel used off the coasts of Spain and Portugal.

1523 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 118 That the Emperour..do sende also *x* zabres of the portage of 30 or 40 ton a pece. 1588 ARCHDEACON tr. *True Disc. Army K. Spain* 19 The Zabra Augusta, of 166 tunnes. 1589 GREENE *Span. Masq.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 274 Of Gallions, Hulkes, Pataches, Zabres, Galeasses, and Gallies 130. 1607 DEKKER *Whore Bab.* H 4, Our Galeons, Galeasses, Zabraes, Gallies. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* xix. II. 507 Of the tenders and zabras, seventeen were lost. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Zumbra*, a Spanish skiff or yawl.

Zabra, obs. form of ZEBRA.

Zad. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Variant of ZED, name of the letter Z; hence (*slang*) applied to a thing or person of crooked form. (Cf. ZARD.)

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 140 We may imagine it to have been anciently pronounced, as it is now by the Italians, Ds or Ts; and so to be called *Zad* from the Hebrew *Tzadi*; but yet..we..do as often call it *Ysand*. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.* s.v., *A meer Zad*, used of any bandy-legg'd, crouch-back'd..Person. 1728 DE FOE *Street Robb. Consid.* 35 *Zad*, crooked. 1778 HALHED *Gram. Bengal Lang.* 6 W is defined from its form only, not from its use; and *Z sad*, or *izard* is an appellation equally useless. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xviii. 30 And how she soothed me, when, with study sad, I labour'd on to reach the final Zad. 1877 *Reports Provinc.* (E.D.D.) Labouring man said at a night school, 'I can't make a zad.'

Zaffre, zaffer (zæ·fəɹ). Also (7 **saphara, saffera**), 9 **saffre, saffer, (zaffira, zuphara).** [ad. It. *zaffera* (Neri) or F. *safre*, *safre* (12–13th c.); cf. Sp. *zafre*, *safre*, G. *zaffer*, *zaffra*: of uncertain origin.] An impure oxide of cobalt, obtained by roasting cobalt-ore, and used in the preparation of smalt and as a blue colouring-matter (cobalt blue) for pottery, glass, etc.

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* xii, Take Zaffer in gross pieces. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 26 Smalt is made of Zaffer and Pot-ashes. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Zaphara* or *Saffera*. 1745 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 497 Zaffer, which is used by the Glass-makers and Enamellers, is made of Cobalt..calcined after the sublimiting the Flowers. 1804 tr. *Tingry's Paint. & Varn. Guide* 301 Smalt, or vitreous oxide of cobalt, is saffer reduced to blue glass by the action of a violent fire. 1843 POE *Tales*, *Gold-Bug*, Zaffre, digested in *aqua regia*, and diluted with four

times its weight of water, is sometimes employed; a green tint results. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 860 The Egyptian porcelain..manufacturer, who used for the saffre the Cyprus blue-stone.

Zag (zæg). The second syllable of *zigzag* used as a separate word (*adv.*, *vb.*, or *sb.*) to express a movement or direction inclined at an angle to that indicated by *zig*.

1793 BURNS *Let. to R. Ainslie* 26 Apr., I have written many a letter in return for letters received, but, then, they were original matter. Spurt away! zig here, zag there. 1840 ARNOLD in A. P. Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. 403 We go down by zig and zag towards the level of the Tiber. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* xii, His steel zags down like lightning before a man's eye can teach his hand to parry. 1906 *Spectator* 1 Dec. 879/2 One of the chief difficulties of walking up snipe is that when you shoot zig he goes zag, and when you shoot zag he goes zig.

†**Zagai'e, -ay'e.** *Obs.* Also 6 sagaia, 7 sagay. [a. F. *sagaie*, reduced form of *asagaye*: see ASSAGAI.] = ASSAGAI.

1590 Sir J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* L 4, Some numbers of *Zagaias* (which are double headed Lances). 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 35 They are very dextrous at the *Zagaye*. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol., Long Hooks, Lances, Zagayes [Rabelais *zassegayes*]. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 19 The Sagay, which is a very light Half-Pike. [1708 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xxii. 95 They ..excell [in] the managing of the Zagaie; which is a sort of Stick about four Foot long, about an Inch Thick, round before and flat behind. 1869 ROUTLEL *Arms & Armour* vii. 102 The 'Estradiots,'..armed with a *zagaie*, or javelin, pointed at both ends.]

Zahara, variant of SAHARA.

1819 REES *Cycl.* XXXI. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxiii, The shadowless..wastes of Zahara.

Zalambdodont (zăle·mdŏdɒnt). *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. ζα-, intensive prefix + λάμβδα the letter lambda, Λ + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth.] Belonging to the division *Zalambdodonta* of insectivorous mammals, characterized by short molar teeth with a single Λ- or V-shaped ridge: opp. to DILAMBDODONT.

1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 136 The zalambdodont dentition.

Zalandyne, obs. form of CELANDINE.

1530 PALSGR 291/2 Zalandyne an herbe, *esclaire*.

‖**Zamang** (zæ·mæŋ). Also **saman, saman.** [Native name.] A large ornamental leguminous tree (*Pithecolobium Saman*, suborder *Mimoseæ*) of tropical S. America, having a spreading head of branches of immense extent.

1819 HEL. M. WILLIAMS tr. *A. von Humboldt's Pers. Narr.* IV. 116 The famous *samang del Guayre*, known throughout the province for the enormous extent of it's branches, which form a hemispheric head five hundred and seventy-six feet in circumference. The zamang is a fine species of mimosa, ..The branches extend like an immense umbrella, and bend toward the ground, from which they remain at a uniform distance of twelve or fifteen feet. 1852 E. SULLIVAN *Rambles N. & S. Amer.* 400 The zamang is a species of mimosa,.. the leaves of this giant of nature are as small and delicate as those of the silver-willow.

‖**Zamarra** (þama·rra). [Sp.] A sheepskin jacket worn by Spaniards.

1842 BORROW *Bible in Sp.* IX. 53 The gipsy Antonio.. dressed in his zamarra and high-peaked Andalusian hat. 1894 MAX PEMBERTON *Sea Wolves* xxii, Swarthy Galicians, in the black zamarra.

Zamasim, -sin, obs. corrupt ff. AMAZON.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7043 Zamazims[*c* 1425 *Trin. MS.* zs sinis] þat sith be-gan, þe wimmen land wit-outen man.

Zambo (zæ·mbo). [Sp.: see SAMBO.]

1. = SAMBO 1.

1819 HEL. M. WILLIAMS tr. *A. von Humboldt's Pers. Narr.* IV. 430 He was..of a dark brown complexion like a Zambo. 1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* xi. (1853) 72 In the sparse settlements of the country [*sc.* Mexico] you meet with a strange race—the cross of the negro with the ancient inhabitants of the country—the 'zamboes'. 1896 W. E. CURTIS *Venezuela* xii. 159 The zambos, the offspring of the imported negro and the native Indian stock.

2. A species of American monkey.

1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* I. (1853) 11 The ferocious zambo fills the woods with its hideous half-human voice. *Ibid.* 350 The 'zambo' monkey is one of the largest and fiercest of the family of *quadrumana*.

Zamboorak, zambourouk: see ZUMBOORUCK.

‖**Zambra** (þa·mbra, zæ·mbrä). [Sp.] A Spanish or Moorish dance.

1678 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* I. I, Fair Almahide..Prepares a Zambra to be danc'd this Night. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 46 In wanton Seville, where black-eyed damsels dance the zambra under every orange grove. 1906 *19th Cent.* June 942 The knights..often joined them in the graceful dance of the zambra.

Zambuck, variant of SAMBOOK.

1872 BERTON & R. SMITH *Livingstone & Stanley* 15 Small vessels, called zambucks.

‖**Zamia** (zē·miă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1767), taken from *azamia*, misreading for *asania* pine-nuts which open on the tree, in Pliny *N. H.* XVI. XXVI. 44.] A genus of cycadaceous plants, natives of the tropical and sub-tropical parts of N. America, the W. Indies, and S. Africa, resembling dwarf palms, with fern-like leaves and oblong cones; a plant of this genus.

1829 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 74 The embryo of *Zamia* is reversed with regard to the pericarp, and occupies an axile cavity in a large endosperm. 1867 *Gard. Mag.* II. 405 The Zamia is a palm with a large scaly protuberance above the surface. 1842 G. GREY *Journ. Two Exped. Discov.* II. iii. 61 The native had..gone away to look for Zamia nuts. 1847 ANSTED *Anc. World* IX. 219 Zamias, cycadeæ, and such plants.

Hence **Zamioid** (zē·mioid) *a.*, belonging to the genus *Zamia* or tribe *Zamieæ*.

1860 J. PHILLIPS *Life on Earth* 145 Stems and fronds of Zamioid and Cycadeoid plants.

Zamindar, variant of ZEMINDAR.

‖**Zamorin** (zæ·mŏrin). *East Indies.* Forms: 6 samoryn, 7 samorine, -orein, -aryn, -arine, samori, -ourin, (-erhin), 7–8 samori, 7, 9 samorin, 8–9 samorim, 9 samorine, 7– samorin. [a. Pg. *samorim*, *çamorim* (It. *samory*, 16th c.), ad. Malayalam *sāmūri*, of disputed origin.] 'The title for many centuries of the Hindu Sovereign of Calicut and the country round' (Yule).

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xiv. 33 b, They called him Samoryn, which in theyr tongue is Emperour. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 204 All soueraine authority ahuld rest in the king of Calecute, with the title of Samori. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 111 Since the establishment of the Portuguez in those parts, the power of Zamourin is grown so low,..the King of Cochim is more powerful then he. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. p. xlvii, Gama sent two of his officers with Monzaida to wait upon the Zamorim at his palace of Pandarene. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. Indie* I. I. vii. 156 Calicut,..was then the capital of a Hindoo sovereign, who, under the title of *zamiry* or *zamorin*, ruled a considerable extent of country. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 17 The Samorin, in 1513, sent a deputation to Portugal.

Zampatan, variant of SUMPITAN.

‖**Zamsummim.** Also 6 **Zamsumym, Samsumim**, 7 **Zansummin(e, -im.** [Heb. pl. זַמְזֻמִּים.] A name of 'a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims' (Deut. ii. 21); used *allusively* or *fig.*

1530 TINDALE *Deut.* ii. 20 That also was taken for a londe of geauntes and geauntes dwelt therin in olde tyme, and the Ammonites called them Zamzummyms. 1530 — *Answ. Sir T. More's Dial.* Pref., Wks. (1573) 249/1 Haue they not compelled the Emperours of the earth..to be their tormentours, and the Samsumims them selues do but imagine mischief and inspire them. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. II. (ed. 3) 290 Aiax, Caligula, and the rest of those great Zanzummins, or gigantical Anakims. 1642 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Shiamachia* Wks. (1711) 201 Such numbers of arm'd enemies, so many Nimrods, Zanzummims, adversaries to our opinions. 1660 *England's Mon. Asserted* 9 Those two great Zanzummines of Church and State, the Arch-bishop of Canterbury, and the Earl of Strafford.

Zanana(h: see ZENANA.

Zanbuc(o, var. SAMBOOK.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxiii. 129 b, Hee went to Mousanbique in a Zanbuco. 1821 *Nat. Rev.* Feb. 729 Small barques, which they called zanbuca.

Zand: see ZEND.

Zander (zæ·ndəɹ). Also **sandre, sander.** [G. *sander*; in mod.L. *sandra* (Cuvier).] A common European species of pike-perch, *Stizostedion lucioperca* (*Lucioperca sandra*), valued as a food-fish.

1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 114 The German *sandre*, pike-perch, one of the best-flavoured of the family. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 14 In the Old World,..there are two well marked species, the Zander, or Schill, *S[tizostedion] lucioperca*, and the Berschick, or Sekret, *S. volgensis*.

Zanella (zăne·lă). [? f. name of Antonio *Zanelli* (author of *Le lane italiane*, 1878).] (See quot. 1882.)

1882 *Gt. Industr. Gt. Brit.* III. 213 Since 1848 a material called zanella cloth, which has a cotton warp, has been largely made. 1882 BECK *Draper's Dict.*, *Zanella*, a mixed twilled fabric introduced of late years, and used for covering umbrellas.

Zaniacci, -o, Zanjack, obs. ff. SANJAK.

1563 DAVENANT *Siege of Rhodes* II. III. 1, A *Zanjack* from the Camp attends Behind the out-let of the Peer.

Zante (zæ·nti). Also 7 **Zant.** A name of one of the Ionian islands, anciently *Zacynthus*: used attrib. in the names of certain products (see quots.); also short for *Zante wine, wood*, etc.

1615 E. S. *Brit. Buss* in Arber *Eng. Garner* III. 634 Physic and Surgery helps..Zante Oil 1825 W. WELDON *Chem.* 560 Claret. Zante. Malmsey Madeira. 1838 *R. D. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 387 A black juicy berry resembling the Zante grape. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 110 Zante, or Young Fustic, from the Mediterranean, is a species of sumach, (*Rhus Cotinus*). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Zante-wood*, a name for the *Rhus Cotinus* and for the *Chlorоxylon Swietenia*.

Zantho-, misspelling of XANTHO-.

Zany (zē·ni), *sb. arch.* and *dial.* Also 6–7 **zani, sanie**, 7 **sane, sanee, zanni**, (*pl.* **saneese**), 8 **saney.** [a. F. *zani*, or its source It. *zani, sanni* name of servants who act as clowns in the 'Commedia dell' arte'.

Properly, the Venetian and Lombardic form of *Gianni* = *Giovanni* John (cf. *Zanipolo* the title of the church of St. John and St. Paul in Venice) used as an appellative for a porter (or the like) from the mountain country of Bergamo who had taken service in a seaside town.

In the following the French word is app. intended:—*a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon and Pithias* (1571) F ij, *Iache.* Iebit avow mon companion. *Grimme.* Ihar vow pleadge pety Zawne. *Iache.* Can you speake Francke, here is a trimme coller by this day.]

1. A comic performer attending on a clown, acrobat, or mountebank, who imitates his master's acts in a ludicrously awkward way; a clown's or mountebank's assistant, a merry-andrew, jack-pudding; sometimes used vaguely for a professional jester or buffoon in general. Now *Hist.* or *arch.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 463 Some carry-tale, some pleasman, some slight Zanie,..That..knowes the trick To make my Lady laugh. 1596 LODGE *Wits Mis.* M iv b, Here marcheth forth Scurrilitie,..the first time he lookt out of Italy into England, it was in the habite of a Zani. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. I, Hee's like a *Zani* to a Tumbler, That tries trickes after him to make men laugh. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 96, I protest I take these Wisemen..no better then the fooles Zanies. 1648 WINYARD *Mids.-Moon* 2 Cheynell among the vultors, is a mountebanke extraordinary with 4 zanyes. 1658 URQUHART *Jewel* 104 They go..in the disguise of a *Zanni* or *Pantaleon* to ventilate their knpperies. 1682 *New News fr. Tory-Land* 7 He may serve for some Zany to a Mountebank, to beat off Medicines for the Toothach to the Rabble in Southwark. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* lxix, A mountebank-doctor, and his zany. 1812 CRABBE *Borough* vii. 66 There was a time, when we beheld the quack, On public stage, the licensed trade attack; He ma his labour'd speech with poor parade; And then a laughing zany lent him aid. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* vi. 75 Those who had flattered him most when a king, were the loudest in their contempt, now that he was the court-zany. 1883 Mrs M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* viii, Everybody is good to the Court-fool, the zany!

2. Hence in transf. and allusive uses, with various shades of meaning: a. An attendant, follower, companion, assistant: almost always contemptuous (sometimes, hanger-on, parasite), and with direct reference to sense 1. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. iii. (Qo.), I pray Aristippian zanies,..Leave off at last your poysning hounied speech. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* IV. I, Protean fortune, and her zany, warre. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. Fr.-Greyb.* 50 The Directory, and the gend Covenant, (its zanee). 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Ep.* I. XV. 37 A vagrant Zany, of no certain Manger, Who knew not, ere he din'd, or Friend or Stranger. 1746–7 SMOLLETT *Advice* 181 To shine confess'd her zany and her tool, And fall by what I rose, low ridicule. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 24 Nov., On the Address, Pitt and his zany Beckford quarrelled. 1817 [see MOUNTEBANK *sb.* 2]. 1880 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 14 St. John was not content to be a mere zany, he aspired to rival his master as a wit, and to outstrip him as a libertine. 1911 *Athenæum* 25 Mar. 343/3 To figure as a zany of a peer.

†b. An imitator, mimic; *esp.* a poor, bad, feeble, or ludicrous imitator. *Obs.*

1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* v. 31 An Ape is Zani to a man, doing ouer those trickes..which hee sees done before him. 1627 DRAYTON *Ep. to H. Reynolds* 93 As th' English Apes and very Zanies be Of euery thing that they doe heare and see 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref. b 3 b, They are for persecuting Horace and Virgil, in the persons of their Successors..Some of their little Zanies yet go farther; for they are Persecutors even of Horace himself. 1730 *Flying Post* 22 Dec., Their little Zanies about the Country have learnt their Cant.

c. One who resembles, or acts like, a merry-andrew or buffoon; one who plays the fool for the amusement, or so as to be the laughing-stock, of others. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* III. I. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 42 Goe too, you French Zanies you. 1630 BP. HALL *Serm., 2 Tim. iii. 5* Wks. 1808 V. 393 What is a Hypocrite but a Player; the Zany of religion? 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 206 Oh great Restorer of the good old Stage, Preacher at once, and Zany of thy age! 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Adv. to Fut. Laureat* xv, I'll not be Zany to a King, not I. 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* June 662 Sydney Smith..was a West-end chapel preacher,..a lecturer in Albemarle-street, and Zany to Holland-house.

d. A fool, simpleton, 'idiot'. Still *dial.*

a 1784 JOHNSON in R. Cumberland *Mem.* (1806) I. 263 The lady asked me for no other purpose than to make a Zany of me. 1847 TENNYSON in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 241 The printers are awful zanies, they print erasures and corrections too, and other sins they commit of the utmost inhumanity. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* iii, Whether Andrew was a genius, or whether he was a zany, was always a moot question. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* III. I, A heaven for zanies and tom-fools!

3. *attrib.* That is a zany, or characteristic of a zany; †imitative; clownish; foolish, idiotic.

1616 ANTON *Philos. Sat.* C 2, Like a gorgeous robe, Purl'd ore with natures Ape, and Zany-art. 1628 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* E 2, Nor Britaines Odcomb (Zanye braue Vlissis) In all his ambling saw the like as this is. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xv, He will make some of your zany squires shake in their shoes. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* II. ii, Your zany doings have shut every other door against you.

Za·ny, *v. Obs.* or *rare arch.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To play the zany to; to imitate poorly or awkwardly like a zany; hence *gen.* to imitate, mimic.

1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. I, Who..Laughes them to scorne, as man doth buzle apes When they will zanie men. *a* 1649 FLETCHER, etc. *Q. Cor.* I. ii, [He] takes his oath..that all excellence In other Madams doe but zany hers. 1692 LANGBAINE *Acc. Drama. Poets* 351 Francisco's zanying the Person and Humour of Albano, is an Incident in several Plays. 1894 H. PEARS *Mark o' Dell* Pref. 7 If the delicious original be beyond capture, why essay to zany it?

Zanyism (zē·ni,izm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The character or style of a zany; action or language like that of a zany; fantastic folly; buffoonery.

1828 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 138 The caricature of his [*sc.* Rabelais'] filth and zanyism. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 660 Such zanyisms as these.

So **Za·nyship**, the condition or character of a zany.

1766 J. Adams *Diary* 7 Jan., Wks. 1850 II. 275 Y. Z. and H. had attracted him about idleness, and familiar spirits, and zanyship.

Zanzack, -siac, Zansummim, -in(e, Zephire, Zapota, -ote, Zapotilla, obs. ff. Sanjak, Zamsummim, Sapphire, Sapota, Sapodilla.

Zappe (cf. It. *zappare*), obs. f. Sap *sb.*[3] and *v.*[1]

1620 Dymmok *Ireland* (1843) 38 When that rampart which is, shall either be beaten or zapped.

‖ **Zaptieh** (zæ·ptiə). Also **-ieh.** [Turkish ضبطیه *ḍabṭiyeh*, f. Arab. ضبط *ḍabṭ* administration, regulation.] A Turkish policeman.

1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 100 A young Turkish Zaptié, or policeman. 1878 tr. *F. von Löher's Cyprus* XXI. 277 A wretched coffee-house, which was full of zaptiehs, who were quartered here.

Zarab, early var. *sharab*, Sherab, wine, etc.

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 27 b, He that seketh the delices of this worlde is like vnto him that seketh to drink zarab wenyng it were water.

Zarapé (zarī·pe), U. S. var. of Serape.

1888 Mary E. Blake in *Lit. World* (U. S.) 18 Aug. 262/1 The men, with wide-rimmed sombrero and gay zarape.

Zarathustrian (zærāþu·striăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Zarathustra*, the Old Iranian form of the name of the founder of the ancient Persian religion.] = Zoroastrian. So **Zarathu·strianism, Zarathu·strio** *a.*, **Zarathu·strism.**

1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. ii. 49 Brahmanism, Zarathustrism, and Buddhism. *Ibid.* II. xv. 219 The Wicked Serpent of the Zarathustrians. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 361/1 The Vedic and Zarathustric religions. *Ibid.* 370/1 Mazdaism (Zarathustrianism), with its sects. 1891 Cheyne *Orig. Psalter* viii. 401 The Bundahis is thoroughly Zarathustrian in spirit when it states [etc.].

Zaratite (zæ·rătəit). *Min.* [a. Sp. *zaratita* (Casares, 1851), f. the name of Señor *Zarate*: see -ite[1].] A hydrous carbonate of nickel, of a green colour, found as an incrustation and in stalactites.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* [erron. as *Zamtite*]. 1861 Bristow *Gloss. Min.* [erron. as *Zavalite*]. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 710 Zaratite.

‖ **Zarcole.** Also 6 **saracoll,** 6–7 **sarcoola,** 7 **-cull, sercoola.** [Turkish.] A high cylindrical head-dress such as was worn by janizaries.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vi. 4 b, Slaues bearyng on theyr heads a Saracoll of Crymson velues. *Ibid.* III. iii. 73 b, A hood of fine white felt, whiche they call Zarcola. *Ibid.* X. 91 b, A white Zarcole. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 831 His slaues with their red sarcull on their heads. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* 176 A Thousand Janisaries..with Zercola's on their Head.

† **Zard.** *Obs.* Variant of Izzard; cf. Zad.

1608 J. Day *Humour out of Breath* III. i, *Asp.* Marry, bus. *Flo.* Double the zard and take the whole meaning for your labour.

Zareba, sareeba: see Zariba.

‖ **Zarf** (zăf), **surf** (zŭf). [Arab., = vessel.] A cup-shaped holder for a hot coffee-cup, used in the Levant, usually of metal and of ornamental design.

1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* I. 168 Zurf.

‖ **Zariba** (zări·bă), *sb.* Also **seriba, sariba, serybeh, sare(e)ba, ser(r)iba, sereba.** [Arab. زريبة *zarība*[h] pen or enclosure for cattle (زرب *zarb* sheep-fold).] In the Soudan and adjacent parts of Africa, A fence or inclosure, usually constructed of thorn-bushes, for defence against the attacks of enemies or wild beasts; a fenced or fortified camp.

1849 O'Reilly tr. *Werne's Exped. Sources White Nile* II. 112 A shining seriba of reeds, the stalks of which.. to tame animals. 1852 *Elisa* Sultan has planted a zerybeh, o issues. 1867 Baker *Nile Trib.* xii. 315 We employed ourselves .. in cutting thorn branches, and constructing a sareeba. 1884 *Times* 11 Mar. 3 The Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) advanced this morning to Baker Pasha's zariba.

b. Applied to a formation of troops for defence against attack.

1887 *Times* 9 Apr. 5/3 Forming a zariba, or square, to resist cavalry.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1885 *Glasgow Herr.* 19 Mar. 4/5 It is when he advances from these elementary zarebas that he loses himself in the wilderness, and, apparently from an inherent inability to state any fact correctly. 1898 A. White in *Nat. Rev.* Aug. 804 The..Tsar..is..surrounded by a sereba of detail and enticed from affairs of State by organised diversions.

d. *attrib.*

1895 A. H. Keane *Africa* I. v. 245 The expression 'seriba country' applied by some geographers to the northern slope of the Nile-Congo divide. 1901 H. Vivian *Abyss.* vii. 284 A succession of enclosures, each with a zareba wall.

Hence **Zari·ba** *v. trans.*, to surround or inclose with a zariba; *intr.* to construct or form a zariba.

1885 *29th Cent.* July 89 Orders were given to sereba ourselves..The Brigadier ordered the force to sereba on the best position that was near. 1886 *Contemp. Rev.* June 850 A large garden, serebaed in with aloes and henna.

Zarish, obs. form of Cearish.

1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav. Cauc.* 181 The ambassadors of his Zarish Majesty.

‖ **Zarnich** (zā·nik). Also 7 **sernich,** 9 **sarnac, -ec, -eg, -ek.** [Arab. زرنيخ *zarnīkh*, f. Pers. زرنى *zarnī* orpiment, f. زر · gold.] A name for the yellow and red sulphides of arsenic, usually called respectively *orpiment* and *realgar*.

1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Your lato, asoch, sernich, chibrit, beautarit. 1748 J. Hill *Hist. Fossils* 406 Bright red Zarnich, the Sandarach of Authors. 1867 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.* s. v. *Yellow Orpiment*, In its native state it [*sc.* yellow arsenic] is used under the name of Zarnic or Zarnich.

Zarp (zŭp). *S. Africa.* [From the initials of Du. *Zuid Afrikaansch Republiksinsch Politie* South African Republican Police.] An appellation for a member of the Boer police force in the late South African Republic; a Boer constable. Hence **Zarpine** *a.*, of or belonging to the 'Zarps'.

1895 *Standard & Diggers News* (Johannesburg) 23 Nov. 2/1 The Zarp produces his latest capture. Jan, an Ethiop, is a vagrant who resisted Zarpine authority, and even attempted to test the Zarpine probity by the bribe of a six-pence.

Zarsa parilla: see Sarsaparilla.

Zaught, Zaunders, Zauns, Zavana: see Yacht, Sanders[1], Zounds, Savannah.

Zax, dial. form of Sax, tool for cutting slates.

Zay, dial. form of Say *v.*[1]

‖ **Zayat** (zā·yăt). [Burmese.] A public hall or shed for worship, meetings, or shelter.

1823 Mrs. A. Judson *Amer. Bapt. Miss. Burman Emp.* 145 The Zayat, the Burman name for a place for public worship, was erected. 1832 Pierson *Miss. Mem.* 89 In April 1819 the first zayat was opened for Christian worship. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 230/2 They went straight to the *zayat*, the strangers' rest-house.

Zbloud, 'Zbud, Z'death, obs. ff. 'Sblood, 'Sbud, 'Sdeath.

1600 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* IV. iii. M 2, Zbloud I heard otherwise. 1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* I. i, 'Zbud, I think you men of quality will grow As unreasonable as the Women. 1689 N. Lee *Princ. Cleve* II. ii, Z'Death and Fury, if they shou'd try.

Ze, obs. form or graphic var. of The, Ye.

‖ **Zea** (zī·ă). [late and mod.L. *zea*, a. Gr. ζειά.]

† **1.** A Latin name for the grain called spelt. *Obs.*

1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 29 Next to Wheate and Barley, foloweth Zea. 1611 Cotgr., *Bled ieger*, Spelt or Zea; a corne which makes light and sauorie..bread.

2. *Bot.* Adopted by Linnæus as the name of a genus of graminaceous plants, comprising the one species *Z. Mays* (sometimes anglicized as *sea maise*), Maize or Indian corn.

1767 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* II. 633 *Zea*...Indian, or Turkey Wheat. 1818 Bartram in A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) I. 8, I fed him with corn, (zea, maize). 1820 *Amer. Trnl. Sci.* II. 46 The smut upon an ear of Zea-Mays. 1851 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* i. (1853) 16 The lance-like blades of the sea maize.

Zeagonite (zī·ægŏnəit). *Min.* [Named in 1816 by Gismondi, f. Gr. ζεῖν to boil + ἄγονος barren: see -ite[1].] = Gismondine.

c 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 519/2.

Zeal (zil), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **sele,** 5 **sel,** 5–6 **seel(e,** 5–7 **seale,** 6 **sealle,** *Sc.* **seil(e, seill, (syll),** 4– **seal.** [Late ME. *sele*, ad. L. *zēlus*, a. Gr. ζῆλος. Cf. OF. *sel* (F. *zèle*), It., Pg. *zelo*, Sp. *celo*.]

1. In biblical language, rendering L. *zelus* (or *æmulatio*), Gr. ζῆλος, denoting ardent feeling or fervour (taking the form of love, wrath, 'jealousy', or righteous indignation), with contextual tendency to unfavourable implications (emulation, rivalry, partisanship).

1382 Wyclif *2 Kings* xix. 31 The seel [1388 feruent loue, Coverdale gelousy] of the Lord of hoostis schal done that. — *Ezech.* viii. 3 The north, where the idol of sele [*gloss* or enuye], was set. 1526 Tindale *Gal.* v. 20 The dedes of the flesshe..hatred, lawynge, zele [1611 emulations, 1881 (*R.V.*) jealousies]. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xlviii. 2 He brought an honger vpon them and in his zele he made them few in nombre. 1575 tr. *Luther's Comm. Gal.* iii. 88 These kindes of anger are good, and are called in the scripture ielousies or zeales. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* II. iii. 63 Zeale (that is, envie, emulation or indignation) and anger shorten thy dayes. 1611 *Bible* Ezek. v. 13 They shal know that I the Lord haue spoken it in my seale, when I haue accomplished my fury in them.

† **2.** In a specialized sense: Ardent love or affection; fervent devotion or attachment (to a person or thing). *Obs.* or merged in sense 4.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lxxii. 139 As there is an euyll sele, loue, or affeccyon the whiche departyth one from god.. soo there is a sele or affeccion..the whiche departyth one from synne. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 3168 With sel of feith I brenne as doth þe glede, Of alle harmys to bidden 3ow be war. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xlii. 71 Bi cause noon of hem..wole so allegge ayens me for eny sele or credence which he him silf hath to what he schal so allegge. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. iii. 43 Haue þerfore first zeel to þiself, & þan maist þou haue zeel to þi neiȝbore [*Habe primo zelum super te ipsum, et tunc juste zelare poteris etiam proximum tuum*]. 1485 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 524 The loue and sele that ye owe..to the wele..of our said Citie. 1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 36 Hath the protectour so tender sele to him that he fereth nothing but lest he should escape hym? 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Salisbury* xxviii, For though no cause be found, so nature frames, Men haue a zeale to such as beare their names. *a* 1562 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 51 The Cardynall espieng the great seale that the kyng had conceyved in this gentilwoman. 1606 G. W[ood-cocke] *Hist. Iustine* xxxv. 113 Demetryus..spared his life not for any seale hee had toward him. 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 403 I thought I had ground for those hopes, which.. the zeal of my soul formed into wishes for her recovery.

† **3.** Ardent, earnest, or eager desire; longing. Also const. inf. or clause. *Obs.* or merged in 4.

c 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* 65 Gilberd..had..so grete zel to lede soules to heuene. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 522 Wherfore he might nat performe his zele & desire þat he had conceyved Agenst þe Turke. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 54 Thus shold the knightes haue grete zele that the lawe be kept. 1547 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. K. 39 Upon the confydence of whych your accomplyschment to my expectation, zele, and request. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 21 Yᵉ rout with seale of newes now goes. 1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV*, v. v. 14 This doth inferre the zeale I had to see him. 1698 Slingsby *Father's Leg.* in *Diary* (1836) 211 My tender zeal..of your future welfare. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 300 Such Rage of Honey in their Bosom beats And such a Zeal they have for flow'ry Sweets.

4. Intense ardour in the pursuit of some end; passionate eagerness in favour of a person or cause; enthusiasm as displayed in action. Const. *for*; † formerly *to*, occas. *of*.

[*c* 1320 Nisbet *N. T.* Eph. iv. 26 *marg.*, This angre and wraith was bot a weray zeill vnto the law of God. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxviii(i). 9 The zele of thine house hath euen eaten me.] † 1545 Brinklow *Complt.* xxv. (1874) 74 Let all thinges be done of zeale only for Gods truthes sake. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 50 By whose..godly zeale this myghtie portion of the worlde hath byn added to the flocke of Chrystes congregation. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 175 Inordinate Zeale is a pernitious Reformer. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* III. i, In pure zeale, I doe not like the man: He is a heathen. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. ¶ 1 Zeale to promote the common good. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 197 They deride our worship, and zeale, as Michall did Davids. 1681 Tate *Lear* Ep. Ded., My Zeal for all the Remains of Shakespear. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Aug. 1641, Popular reformers, whose zeale had foolishly transported them in other places rather to act like mad-men than religious. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1615 That first paternal virtue, Public Zeal. 1816 Byron *Siege Cor.* iv, With all the zeal Which young and fiery converts feel. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* vi. I. 209 A mean between this irreverent criticism, and the excessive zeal of those who regarded Homer as a master of all arts and sciences. 1860 E. B. Rambay *Remin.* v. (ed. 6) 183 He joined with his drinking propensities a great zeal for the Episcopal Church. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 6. 400 The decay of Catholicism appealed strongly to the new spirit of Catholic zeal.

† (*b*) In obsolete constructions.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 122 b, Many hath a good zele to perfeccyon, whiche for lacke of this lyght..knoweth not what is to be done. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 535 His gude Lyfe and Maneris, and Zeill of Justice. 1562 Winȝet *Bk. Questions* To Rdr., Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 53 Blindit be feruent zele towart the Mosaical law. 1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 27 Vnder the counterfeited Zeale of Heauen. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 86 A Zeal of converting the neighboring Nations.

† (*c*) In plural. *Obs.*

c 1533 Latimer in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1309/2 Such ar zeles without knowlege, and iudgement. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Vicissit. Things* (Arb.) 570, I doe not finde, that those Zeales, doe any great Effects. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* Pref., Whereof (my Lords)..we..by your unwearied Zeals may..obtain the full..Fruition.

† **5.** In weakened sense, with qualifying adj.: Intent, purpose, will, disposition (chiefly *good seal*). *Obs.* (chiefly *Sc.*).

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. Prol. 29 Gentill curtas redaris of guide zeill. *a* 1533 Frith *Answ. More* (1548) A 3 b, Master More which of late hath busyed him selfe to medle in al such matters (of what sele I will not defyne). 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* VI. v. (1821) I. 207 Thus grew he, ilk day, more terribill and odius to his pepill, and governit the realme with na better zeil than he gat it. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 707 The many discomoditeis,..the wiche be like were unknowen to hym or them that have preferrid the same, who myght of a good zyil doo it. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 14 Men of guid zeall and conscience.

† **6.** *transf.* (from 4). A zealous person, zealot.

1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* I. iii, As errant a Zeale as he. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 3 There are..both in Greek, Roman, and African Churches, solemnities,..whereof the wiser seales doe make a Christian use. 1647 Jer. Taylor *Lib. Proph.* Ep. Ded. 9 Although some Zeales are so hot, and their eyes so inflamed with their ardors.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a 1623 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 140 The hooke and crooke of his *Zeale-blind Shepheard. 1628 Leighton *Apol. Parlt.* ix. 202 The fyrie *zeal-consuming love of Gods howse. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XII. ccii, The Stranger's *zeal-inflamed Eye. 1736 Thomson *Liberty* IV. 919 The worst the zeal-inflam'd Barbarian drew. 1774 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 93 This zeal will prove fatal to the fortune and felicity of my family...Colonel Otis's phrase is, 'The *zeal-pot boils over'. 1672 Foulis *Hist. Romish Treasons* [illegible] P. Walker in broning, Church- 1598 Sylvester

Edwards *Autob. A. Young* (1898) 309 Knowing..your zeal for all *zeal-worthy objects.

Hence **Zea·lful** *a.*, full of zeal, zealous; † **Zea·list,** a zealot; **Zea·lless** *a.*, wanting in zeal (whence **Zea·llessness**).

1602 Fulbecke *2nd Pt. Parall.* Ded. 2 My dutifull thankfull and *zealefull affection toward your graces person. 1605 Sylvester *Tri. Faith* iv, Meek Moses with a zeal-full ire. 1614 C. Brooke *Ghost Rich. III*, lxxiv. Poems (1872) 107 Proue not a *Zelist in fond purity, Nor paint a heauen, nor counterfeit a hell. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 27 The Meccan zealists have here a few poore built Mosques. 1643 Sydenham *De non Temer. Eccl.* (1646) 30 O thou *zealeless mortality. 1643 Hammond *Serm., John xviii.* 40 Wks.

1684 IV. 514 That heartless soulless behaviour in this very house of God. 1688 Pusey *Our Pharis.* 15 A soulless, loveless, lifeless worship of God. 1667 Watrhouse *Narr. Fire Lond.* 65 Levity and †Zealessness for Reformed Religion.

† Zeal, *v. Obs.* Also **zele**. [ad. late L. *zēlāre*, ad. Gr. ζηλοῦν, f. ζῆλος Zeal *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To be zealous for; to pursue with zeal or passionate ardour.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* I. 69 A notable exaumple of sapience with whole herte & mynde, feruently desired and zeled. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Wisd. i. 12 Zeale not death in the errour of your life. 1623 Naunton in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 193 Blesse and prosper it to both yourselves and to all that truely zeale your truest prosperities.

2. To inspire with zeal.

1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) L iij b, Men zealed towarde God, but not fit to iudge. 1642 Featly *Vortumnus* 85 They will..stirre up an earnestnesse in them in religion, as zealing their owne being opposed by falshood.

3. *intr.* To act with zeal, show zeal, be zealous.

1459 [see *zealing* below]. *a* 1626 Bacon *Disc. conc. Ch. Aff.* (1641) 19 Stiffe fellowes, and such as zeale marvellously for those whom they have chosen to bee their masters.

Hence † **Zealed** *ppl. a.*, full of zeal, zealous (see also Over-zealed); † **Zea·ling** *ppl. a.*

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 348/2 Subtily coloured, and feyned zelyng Justice. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 68 A faire seeming..fountaine of zealing christall streames. ? 1635 Fletcher, etc. *Love's Pilgr.* IV. 1, You might have done, but for that zeald religion You women bear to swoonings.

Zealander (*zĭ·*lændəɹ). Forms: 6 **Zelender**, 7 **Zelander**, 7– **Zealander**. [f. *Zealand* = Du. *Zeeland* + -er [1].] A native or inhabitant of Zealand, a province of the Netherlands.

1573 Bedingfield tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* 11. (1576) 21 Guliel-mus a Zelender. 1636 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 254 She doth..make more..War upon the Spaniards, than do the Hollanders and Zealanders. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* 5 H b/1 The Zealanders let their's [*sc.* madder] grow larger. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 485 Every merchant ship that cleared out from the Thames or the Severn would be manned by Zealanders and Hollanders and Frieslanders.

*** See also New Zealander.

Zeale, obs. form of Seal *sb.*[1]

1666 *Chirk Castle Acc.* (1908) 109 Paid Sir Thomas Myddelton..what he gave the men that came to shew the seale fish.

Zealot (*zĕ·*lɔt). Forms: [4], 6–7 **selote**, 4–8 **selot**, 7 **selott**, 6– **sealot**. [ad. eccl. L. *zēlōtēs*, a. Gr. ζηλωτής, f. ζηλοῦν to be zealous (see Zeal *v.*).]

1. A member of a Jewish sect which aimed at a Jewish theocracy over the earth and fiercely resisted the Romans till the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

[*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21165 Symon selote.] 1537 [Coverdale] *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* 33 Zelotes or Gelous secte. These were suttyll and sedicious rascals amonge the Iewes of Ierusalem. 1644 Hammond (*title*) Of Resisting the Lawfull Magistrate under colour of Religion...Also, Of the Zelots among the Jewes. 1671 Stillingfl. *Serm., Matt. xxi. 43* Wks. 1710 I. 107 That desperate Faction of the Zealots, who..soon put the whole Nation into Flames. 1831 E. Burton *Eccl. Hist.* I. 11 The persons who were called *Zealots*, from their zeal for the national religion and independence. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* II. 111 *note*, The Zealots formed the 'extreme left' division of the Pharisees politically, as the Essenes did religiously.

2. One who is zealous or full of zeal; one who pursues his object with passionate ardour; usually in disparaging sense, one who is carried away by excess of zeal; an immoderate partisan, a fanatical enthusiast. Const. *for*, † *of*, † *to*.

a 1638 Mede *Diatribæ* iii. Wks. I. (1672) 300 The true Zealot whom God approveth, namely, He whose Spirit is in Fervency and not in Shew. 1652 Howell *Venice* 5 Though they continue still such great Zelotts to their own Country..they are not so to the Church. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1838) 23/1 The more religious zealots, who afterward were branded with the name of Puritan. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zelot*..is often taken in an ill Sense, for a Separatist or Schismatick, a Fanatick. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 445 ¶ 6 The insignificant Party Zealots on both sides. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 11 P 3 Slavery is now no where more patiently endured than in countries once inhabited by the zealots of liberty. 1779 Burke *Let. to J. Erskine* Apr., I do not aspire to the glory of being a zealot for any particular national Church. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 168 The queen [*sc.* Elizabeth] was as a mark for the pistol or dagger of every zealot. 1851 *Housek. Words* III. 386/2 A horde of Methodists, Baptists, Campbellites, and other burning zealots. 1892 Meredith *Lett.* (1912) II. 448 They are both zealots of the rod [*i. e.* keen anglers].

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* That is a zealot; characteristic of a zealot.

1670 Prewich *Deep.* (1903) 73 The old zelot Cardⁱˡˡs have made a great noyse, being much offended. 1721 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. 322 Our gentleman by these expressions had already given considerable offence to his zealot-auditors. 1723 *Guardian* No. 93 P 10, I would not willingly lie at a zealot papist's mercy. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 262 It was not likely that at Rome there should be any of that zealot fanaticism which held it unlawful for a Jew to recognise any other earthly ruler besides God.

Zealoter, Zealotic, -ical, -ism: see Zelator, Zelotic, etc.

Zealotry (*zĕ·*lɔtrĭ). Also 7 **zel-**. [f. Zealot + -ry; cf. *bigotry*.] Action or feeling characteristic of a zealot; an instance of this.

[*Handsom.* 63 Some mens and womens more ... 1686 Gauden *Consid. Liturgy* 29 The late irius, and desperate frolicks of Religion. 1797 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXIII. 573 The ecstasy of eulogy and the zealotry of panegyric. 1839 De Quincey *Wordsw.* Wks. 1854 II. 287 A more apostolic fervour of holy zealotry in this great cause. 1898 Bodley *France* II. iii. vi. 316 A bigot whose zealotry could not be pierced with sentiments of patriotism.

Zealous (*zĕ·*lɔs), *a.* Also 6–7 **selous**. [ad. med.L. *zēlōsus* (cf. It., Pg. *zeloso*, Sp. *celoso*), f. *zēlus* Zeal *sb.*: see -ous.]

1. Full of or incited by zeal; characterised by zeal or passionate ardour; fervently devoted to the promotion of some person or cause; intensely earnest; actively enthusiastic. a. of persons. Const. *for*.

In the 17th cent. sometimes connoting puritanical zeal.

1535 Coverdale *1 Kings* xix. 10, I haue bene selous for the Lorde God Zebaoth. 1585 Whitney *Choice Emb.* (1586) Ep. Ded. 83, A selous fauorer of the Gospell, and of the godlie Preachers thereof. *a* 1592 H. Smith *Serm., Acts xxvi. 27–9* (1592) 921 As some giddy spirites thinke now, that they which are zelouser than themselues know not what they say nor doe. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 32 Let them stay at home who are so zealous, as they will pull the *Hostia* or Sacrament out of the Priests hand. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 368 Out of the ablest and zealousest among them to create Elders. 1673 J. W[ade] *Vin. & Must.* (1873) 15 Are they not reverend botchers,..or some weavers, Some zealous cobblers, hatmakers and glovers? 1733 in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 47 Be assured that none is more truly zealous for your welfare, than your F. A. Kelly. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 175 The House of Commons..more zealous for royalty than the king, more zealous for episcopacy than the bishops. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 5. 508 Episcopacy had become identified among the more zealous Scotchmen with the old Catholicism.

(*b*) Const. inf., occas. clause (the sense passing into: Eagerly desirous).

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 2. 24, I am..zealous and affectionate to recede as little from Antiquitie..as may stand with truth. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 365 A Spirit, zealous, as he seem'd, to know More of th' Almighties works. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Apr. 1688, Multitudes zealous to hear the second sermon. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 403 Not a scorner of your sex But venerator, zealous it should be All that it might be. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* viii, I's so zealous to be cotchin' Lizy, that I couldn't hold in.

† (*c*) In obs. const. with preps.

1526 Tindale *Acts* xxi. 20 They are all zelous over the lawe [*Geneva* zelous of the Lawe]. 1611 *Bible* Acts xxii. 3, I..was zealous towards God. *Ibid.* Titus ii. 14 A peculiar people, zealous of good workes. 1644 Milton *Judgm. Bucer* xxii. Wks. 1851 IV. 313 Jerom..though zealous of single life more then enough,..defended Fabiola.

b. Of passions, actions, etc.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* xiv, The many meanes, wherby I dyd bewraye My zelous wyll, to earne my prynces grace. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 94 When..Religious men Are at their Beades, 'tis much to draw them thence, So sweet is zealous Contemplation. 1595 — *John* II. i. 19 This zelous kisse. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* II. iii. 130 Then wch [*sc. Bulla Cruciata*] there was never a more zealous piece, published to the world. 1808 W. Wilson *Hist. Disc. Ch.* I. 391 To those doctrines he expressed a zealous attachment. 1851 Gladstone *Glean.* VI. lxiv. 42 Zealous and intelligent co-operation.

† 2. = Jealous 4, 4 c. *Obs. rare.*

1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Idol.* III. T t ij b, To spoyle the zelous God of his honour. 1630 Hakewill *Apol.* (ed. 2) IV. x. § 4. 433 That this people should be so wonderfully zealous of the renowne of their nation.

Zealously (*zĕ·*lɔsli), *adv.* Also 6–7 **sel-**, (7 **seluslie**). [f. prec. + -ly [2].] In a zealous manner; with zeal or passionate ardour; with enthusiastic eagerness.

1578 tr. *Luther's Comm. Gal.* 24 b, At the first when the ... it of the gospel..began to appeare, many were zelously bent to godlines. 1612 *Bible* Transl. Pref. P 3 To professe it [*sc.* Religion] zealously. *Ibid.* Gal. iv. 17 They zelously affect you, but not well [Tindale They are gelous over you amysse]. *c* 1630 Milton *Sonn.* ix, Thy care is fixt and zealously attends To fill thy odorous Lamp with deeds of light. 1661 *Laudердale Papers* (Camden 1884) I. 92 The chanslir is seluslie your frind. 1769 *Junius Lett.* iii, You zealously undertook the cause of that gallant army. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* ii. 36 We know how fond ants are of honey, and how zealously and unremittingly they search for food. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. v, A place..where there was no prospect of improvement, however zealously one worked.

† b. In the way of religious zeal or devotion.

1644 Milton *Divorce* I. viii. Wks. 1851 IV. 40 It will easily be true that a father or brother may be hated zealously, and lov'd civilly or naturally.

Zealousness (*zĕ·*lɔsnés). Now *rare*. [f. Zealous + -ness.] The quality of being zealous; zeal.

c 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xliii. 122 Mark..Christ's Words, which he spake with Zealousness and Power. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Faun. Love* A iv, The old Fathers grew out of a zealousnes of the mynde towardes God..to institute certaine Ceremonies. *c* 1668 Boyle *Me-*

a right to expect. 1903 M'Lean *Stud. Apost.* xiii. 194 It is difficult to draw the line between zealousness and zealotry.

† **Zealousy**. *Obs.* Forms: 6 **selousie, -ye, selosie, -sie**. [f. Zealous + -y [3].]

1. Jealousy.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* II. 177 b Whiche grudges... the selousie, and the eagre fearesnes of Olympias did augments. 1598 Q. Eliz. *Füterock* 226/25 Or Zelosie of wife, or Seuit suspect, or dout of kind.

2. Zealousness, zeal.

1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* v. G 2 b, His armour zealousie, his breast-plate heauen.

Zebaught, obs. Sc. form of Yacht.

Zeayde, obs. Kent. ind. past of Say *v.*[1]

Zebec(k, variant of Xebec.

† **Ze·bedist**. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. the name *Zebedee* + -ist.] One who acts like the sons of Zebedee (see Matt. xx. 20–22).

1574 tr. *Josselin's Life 70 Abp.* To Rdr. E iij, Like a pore blinde zebedaist to aske he knoweth not what.

Zebelin, -elline, -iline, obs. ff. Zibelline.

Zebra (*zī·*brə, *zē·*brə), *sb.* Also 7 **zabra, zeuera, zebra, zebre, zevre, (zambra)**, 7–8 **zeura**; 7 *pl.* **zebræ**. [Congolese. Cf. F. *zèbre*, It. (Florio, 1598), Pg. *zebra*, Sp. *cebra*.]

1. A South African equine quadruped (*Equus* or *Hippotigris zebra*), of a whitish ground-colour striped all over with regular bars of black; inhabiting mountainous regions, and noted for its wildness and swiftness.

With qualifying words, applied to other species, as Burchell's Zebra, *E.* or *H. Burchelli* (also called Dauw); Grévy's Zebra, *E.* or *H. Grevyi*. Sometimes applied generically to the whole subgenus *Hippotigris*, comprising all the striped species of African wild horses, including the Quagga.

1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 39 The Zebra or Zebra of this countrey [*sc.* Congo] being about the bignes of a mule, is a beast of incomparable swiftnes. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrimes* VII. iii. § 3. 977 Holding in each hand a *Zeuera*, or wilde horses tayle. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 14 Apes, Baboons,..Zebrae, Wolves, Foxes. 1663 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lv. 216 Some applied themselves..to the pursuing of Tygers, Rhinocerots, Ounces, Zevres. 1668 *Weekly Mem.* 15 A Beast called *Zecora* or *Zembra*. 1728 Johns *Lobo's Abyssinia, Voy.* I. 5 A *Zeura* or Wild-Ass, a Creature of large Size, and admirable Beauty. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xii. I. 350 Twenty zebras displayed their elegant forms and variegated beauty to the eyes of the Roman people. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* iii. 56 The presence of the..zebra.. is always a certain indication of water being within a distance of seven or eight miles. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. vi. You might as well put a zebra in harness as Melenda into any kind of service.

2. *transf.* Applied to things having stripes resembling or suggesting those of a zebra:

a. natural objects (see quots.).

1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* II. 102 There is also a rare kind [of agate] called the zebra, from its regular black bands upon a white ground. 1813 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 200 *Bulla Achatina*, Broad-striped Zebra, or Pink-mouthed Chersina. 1901 *Field* 23 Nov. 812/2 Howietoun still supplies..two-year-old 'zebras', a name given to a very beautiful hybrid between our English trout and the American char.

b. *Comm.* Name for a striped shawl, scarf, or the like.

1821 *Illustr. Exhibitor* 7/1 Coloured goods, such as handkerchiefs, ginghams, checks,..scarfs, and zebras. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zebras*, a name given to Paisley shawls, which are very generally worn in Turkey, as sashes or other parts of dress.

c. Humorous name for a convict in striped prison dress.

1882 Sala *Amer. Revis.* (1883) 218 A 'Zebra' is the humorous nickname for a convict.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *zebra mark, meat, stripe*; *zebra-like, -striped* adjs.; esp. in names of genera, species, or varieties of animals having stripes like those of a zebra, as *zebra caterpillar, finch, frog, mackerel, mussel, parakeet, rush, shark, sole, woodpecker* (see quots.); also **zebra fish**, an Australian fish (*Neotephræops zebra*) of the perch kind; **zebra-opossum** = *zebra-wolf*; **zebra-plant**, a tropical American plant, *Maranta* (*Calathea*) *zebrina*, having large ornamental leaves marked with dark stripes (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **zebra-poison**, a South African tree, *Euphorbia arborea*, with highly poisonous milky juice (see quot.); **zebra-wolf**, the striped Tasmanian 'wolf' = Thylacine; **zebra-wood**, name for several kinds of ornamentally striped wood used by cabinet-makers, furnished by various trees and shrubs, as *Omphalobium Lamberti* of S. America, *Eugenia fragrans* of the W. Indies, and *Guettarda speciosa* of various tropical regions; also for the plants themselves.

1895 J. H. & A. B. Comstock *Study of Insects* 305 The *Zebra Caterpillar, *Mamestra picta*. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 215 *Zebra finches. 1772 Lort in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 247 It is called by the Commodore the *Zebra fish. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. 123 *Zebra Frog*...This appears to be .. the largest of all the .. slender-bodied Frogs, and is, according to Seba, a native of Carolina and Virginia. Its colour is an elegant pale rufous brown, beautifully marked ..with transverse chesnut-coloured bands. 1825 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 201 *Buccinum Rugosum*, *Zebra Helmet. 1892 *Daily Tel.* 11 Jan., Certain most brilliant fish, covered with *zebra-like stripes of green and pink. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. 587 *Zebra Mackrel. *Scomber Zebra*, ..bands of the body continued nearly through the dorsal and anal fin. 1869 Sir J. Paget in *Mem. & Lett.* (1901) 408 A note from Lord Fitzwilliam about his horse with *zebra-marks. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xxiii. 262 He was afraid that they would seize all the *zebra-meat that the lions had not already eaten. 1889 *Goole Weekly Times* 7 Sept. 8/4 Down among the side stones are *zebra-mussels (*Dreissenia polymorpha*). 1899 *Spectator* 18 Feb. 224/1 The zebra mussel is a native of the rivers of Southern Russia.

Zebu

so popular in London as *Zebra parabeata. 1882 *J. Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 449 *Zebra Poison... Its milky juice is highly poisonous, whole herds of zebras having been killed by branches of it being placed in the water which they drink. 1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 946 *Zebra rhomb, *Voluta pangerucula*. 1882 *Garden* 2 Sept. 203/1 The Eulalia although very beautiful..is still surpassed by the *Zebra Rush. 1804 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* V. 352 *Zebra Shark...*Squalus tigrinus*...Of a dark brown colour,..barred with..milk-white,..somewhat undulating stripes. 1803 *Ibid.* IV. 305 *Zebra Sole...Marked from head to tail by numerous..deep brown..bands. 1890 Burnand *Very Much Abr.* 332 The Merry Swiss Boy, in canary-coloured uniform with *zebra stripes over it. 1895 J. H. & A. B. Comstock *Study of Insects* 379 The *Zebra Swallow-tail, *Iphiclides ajax*. 1843 *Housek. Wds.* VII. 210/2 The skin of the *Zebra-Wolf is smooth and glossy, somewhat resembling in its colour that of the Bengal tiger. ..Zebra-Wolves are now extremely scarce. 1783 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 22 For importing Earth Nuts, Myrtle Wax, Sturgeon, and *Zebra Wood. £175. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xlii, A beautiful Devonport of zebra-wood, with a plate-glass back.

Hence **Zebraed** (zĭ·brĭăd) *pa. pple.* or *ppl. a.* (cf. F. *zébré*), striped like a zebra; **Zebra·ic** [irreg. after *Hebraic*], **Zebrine** (zĭ·brəin) [-INE[1]] *adjs.*, related to, or characteristic of, the zebra; **Ze·broid** *a.*, resembling or characteristic of a zebra.

1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 311 The whole garment *zebraed with tarnished lace. 1855 *Engl. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* III. 697 Barred or zebraed on the lower part of the back and rump with about 16 jet-black transverse stripes. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 267/2 Its multi-coloured zebraed form. 1893 W. Wright *Palmyra & Zenobia* xxiv. 277 Hermon itself, streaked and zebraed with snow. 1898 A. Lang in *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 559 The horse is supposed to have been developed out of the zebra, or a *zebraic animal. 1868 Darwin *Anim. & Pl.* II. 373 The *zebrine stripes on dun-coloured horses. 1899 *Nat. Science* Mar. 209 The reproductive organs, which were of a *zebroid type.

Zebu (zĭ·biu). [ad. F. *zébu* (Buffon, who states that it was shown under this name at a fair in Paris in 1752).] A humped species of ox, *Bos indicus*, domesticated from the most ancient times in India, China, Japan, and parts of Africa.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 83 Others among them [*sc.* bisons], such as the zebu, or Barbary cow, are very small. 1844 Carpenter *Zool.* § 269 The Zebu or Brahmin Ox. 1894 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 2 July 488/1 Zebus (the pigmy cattle of Ceylon).

attrib. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 19/1 The zebu race is not confined to India, China, and the Indian islands, but is found on the eastern coast of Africa, and in..Madagascar. 1903 *Times* 9 Jan. 5/2 He bred a female hybrid from a zebu bull and a grayal cow.

Zecchin (zĕ·kin). Forms: 6–7 **zechine**, 7 **-yne**, 8–9 **zechin**, (8 **zeckin**, **sequeen**), 7–**zecchin**, **-ine**. [ad. It. *zecchino*, f. *zecca* the mint at Venice = Sp. *seca*, a. Arab. سكة *sikkah* coin.] A former gold coin of Venice and Turkey: = Chequeen, Sequin 1.

1578 Gascoigne *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 77 Zechines of glistering golde, two thousand was his price. 1613 G. Sandys *Trav.* 3 They pay tribute to the Turke, 14000 Zecchins yearely. 1627 Morvson *Itin.* I. 88 The gold coyne of the Venetians is called Zecchino. *Ibid.* 276 In Turkey the gold zechines of Venice are most currant. 1708 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xl. 160 A Subsidy of 600000 Zechins; worth about seven Franks and a half a piece. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. 304, I presented the Officer..with five Zequeens 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 195 A zecchine will bend between your fingers. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, They would swear the mother that bore them a sorceress for a zecchin. 1887 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. (1868) 124 If you don't choose to submit to be cheated by them out of a ducat here and a zecchin there, you will be cheated by them out of your picture.

Zechian, var. Czechian, a Czech.

1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* i. 5 The Western races — the Moravians, Zechians, Carantaneans, and to some extent, even the Poles.

‖ **Zechstein** (zĕ·kstain). *Geol.* [Ger., lit. mine-stone.] A limestone stratum of the Permian system as developed in parts of Germany, corresponding to the Magnesian Limestone of the N.E. of England; also extended to the series of rocks containing this, forming the upper division of the Permian.

1823 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* VI. 189 On the Rhine.., the Zechstein or 1st floetz limestone is imbedded in the coal-field. 1888 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) VI. ii. v. § 2. 754 Zechstein, an argillaceous thin-bedded compact limestone.

Zed. Also 5–6 **sedde**. [a. F. *zède* (= It. *zeta*, †*zette*, Sp. *seta*, *seda*), ad. L. *zēta*, a. Gr. ζῆτα.]

1. Name of the letter Z.

In quot. 1605 applied contemptuously to a person.

14.. *MS. Reg.* 17. *B.* i. *f.* 146 in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1912) VI. 442 For as miche as þe carect yogh, þat is to seie ȝ is figuriȝ lijk a sed, þerfore alle þe wordis of þis table þat biginnen wiþ þat carect, ben set in sed, which is þe laste lettre of þe a·b·c. 14.. Maundev. (MS. Laud 699 f. 37) Too lettres..þat is to sey ·y· [*i.e.* þ] & ·ȝ· which is called thorn and sedde. 1582 Mulcaster *1st Pt. Elem.* xxiii. 161 Hence cummeth it that so manie seds in our tung are herd, and so few sene, for dexteritie and spede in the currantnesse of writing. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. ii. 69 Thou whoreson Zed, thou vnnecessary letter. 1755 Johnson *Dict., Gram.*, Z.., [Name] *zed*, more commonly *izzard* or *uzzard*, that is, *z hard*. 1827 *Err. Pron. Lond.* 38 Children..often call this letter *lizard*...They should be taught to pronounce it Zed. 1882 E. A. Freeman in *Longman's Mag.* I. 94 The name.. given to the last letter of the alphabet...in New England is always *zee*; in the South it is *zed*. 1893 [see Z 3].

2. *Zed-bar*, also simply *zed* = Z-bar: see Z 2.

a 1892 *Engineer* LXXI. Advts. p. xxxviii. (Cent. Dict.), Angles, Zeds, Channels, Beams, Bars. 1892 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 6/1 The improved sections of steel known as channel and zed bars.

Zed(e: see Sad *a.*, Say *v.*[1], Seed.

Zedewal, -wal(l)e, -ward, obs. ff. Setwall (= Zedoary).

1310 *Acc. Exors. T. Bp. of Exeter* (Camden) 9 De xd. de j libra de zedewand [*sic*] vendita.

Zedge, obs. dial. form of Say *v.*[1]

Zedoary (zĕ·dŏări). Forms: 5–6 **seduarye**, **-ie**, 6 **sedwary**, 6–7 **sedoarie**, 6– **sedoary**. [ad. med.L. *sededrium*, *-ia* (also *sedu-*), ad. Arab. زدوار *zedwār*: cf. OF. *sedouar*, *sedoar*, mod.F. *sédoaire*, Prov. *sedoari*, Sp., It. *sedoaria*, Pg. *sedoaria*, It. *zettovario*, OHG., MHG. *zitwar* (G. *zitwer*). See also Setwall.] The aromatic tuberous root of one or more species of *Curcuma* (N. O. *Zingiberaceæ*), of the East Indies and neighbouring countries, sold in two forms, *long zedoary* and *round zedoary*, and used as a drug, having properties resembling those of ginger; also the plant itself. *Yellow Zedoary* = Cassumunar.

c 1475 *Nominale* in Wr.-Wülcker 714/11 *Hoc seduarium*, seduarye. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* I vj, Zedwary, chawed..and swallowed..taketh awaye the grefe of the bely. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 103 Zedoary is most powerfull against vitreous Phlegm. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Zedoary, round, *Kæmpferia*. Zedoary, long, *Amomum*. 1773 W. Lewis *C. Neumann's Chem. Wks.* (ed. 2) II. 201 Zedoary is the root of a plant said to be of the Ginger kind, growing in different parts of the East Indies, and brought to us chiefly from Bengal. 1858 Hogg *Veg. Kingd.* 784 From the roots of *Zingiber casumunar*, the article known in commerce as Casumunar, or Yellow Zedoary, is obtained...Long Zedoary is the root of *Curcuma serumbet*, a native of the East Indies...Round Zedoary is furnished by *C. zedoaria*. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 347 The undergrowth..consists of cardamom, wild ginger, zedoary, rattan, a small bamboo,..and a few ferns.

attrib. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 40 Take..Zedoary Root 10 Grains. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Curcuma*, *C. aromatica* and *C. Zedoaria* furnish Zedoary tubers,..used by the natives of India as aromatic tonics, and as a perfume.

Zeduale, obs. form of Setwall (= prec.).

Zee(zī). A name, esp. now in U. S., of the letter Z.

1677 T. Lye *New Spelling Bk.* II. 5 Z z zee Z-eal, thou shalt be my charret, whilst I ride, Elijah-like, with Word and Spirit, my Guide. 1797 *Gazette of U. S.* No. 1429. 3/3 Younker yield the yawning yea—Zounds, I'm safe at zig-zag zee. 1828 Webster, *Z*...It is pronounced *zee*. 1882 [see Zed 1].

Zeel(e, obs. forms of Zeal.

Zeelde, variant of Seld *adv. Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. met. iii. 26 (Camb. MS.) ȝif the forme of this worlde is so zeelde stable.

Zeferus: see Zephyrus.

†**Zegedine.** *Obs.* Also **sega(r)dine.** [? f. *Szegedin* in Hungary.] A drinking cup of silver (?).

1643 *Ball. Coll. Oxf. List of Plate* (MS.), Given to the King in the year 1642—silver plate—5 great two-ear'd pots: called Zegardines. 1650 *Balliol Coll. Reg.* (MS.), Mr. Robt. Pudsey a Zegadine 15 [oz.] os [dwt.]. 1651 Barksdale *Nympha Lib.* IV. xlv. 91 Gift have we discours'd 'ore a Zegedine Of Double, and now and then a pot of wine. 1668 *Ball. Coll. Oxf. List of Plate* (MS.), Mag. Price, a Bedmaker in the Colledge gave the 5th segadine of 5 *li.* price.

Zeil(e, zeill, obs. Sc. forms of Zeal.

Zeilanite (zəi·lănəit). *Min.* Also **sey-**. [ad. G. *zeilanit*, f. *Zeilan* Ceylon.] A variety of spinel, found in Ceylon; = Candite, Ceylonite.

1851 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 275 Aluminate of Ferrous Oxide.—Zeilanite.

Zein (zī·in). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [f. Zea + -in[1].] A protein found in maize, analogous to gluten.

1822 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* XIII. 402 The zeine of John Gorham, is obtained from Indian corn, by infusing it in water. 1877 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1066.

Zeinte, obs. form of Saint.

Zeir, Sc. graphic var. *yeir*, Year.

‖ **Zeitgeist** (tsəi·tgəist). [G., f. *zeit* time + *geist* spirit.] The spirit or genius which marks the thought or feeling of a period or age.

1893 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* v. 129 It is what we call the *Times-Spirit* that is sapping the proof from miracles,—it is the 'Zeit-Geist' itself. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 5 Jan. 13/2 Rome has undergone radical changes, for the year 1870 has intervened, and the *Zeitgeist* has occupied and is rebuilding the city.

Zekill, obs. form of Sickle *sb.*

Zel. Also **zell.** [Turkish *zil* (Redhouse).] A kind of cymbal.

1817 Moore *Lalla Rookh*, *Fire-Worshippers* I. 8 Where, some hours since, was heard the swell Of trumpet and the clash of zel. 1838 Lytton *Leila* IV. i, The clash of the zell, the boom of the African drum, and the wild and barbarous blast of the Moorish clarion.

Zel, obs. form of Sell *v.*, Zeal.

Zelander, obs. form of Zealander.

†**Ze·lant.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *zēlant-*, *zēlans*, pr. pple. of *zēlāre*: see Zeal *v.* Cf. It. *zelante* zealous.] A zealot.

1629 Bacon *Extr., Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 427 To certaine Zelants all Speech of Pacification is odious. [1889 E. A. Abbott *Bacon* 426 An *Advertisement touching an Holy War*.., in which the interlocutors represent a Moderate Divine, a Protestant Zelant, a Romish Catholic Zelant.]

Zelator (zĕ·lătəɹ). Also 5–6 **zelatour**, 6 **zelat(e)ur**, **-oure**, **zealatour**, 9 **zealator**, **zealoter**. [a. OF. *zelateur* (= It. *zelatore*, Sp. *celador*, Pg. *zelador*) or its source eccl. L. *zēlātor*, f. *zēlāre*: see Zeal *v.* The spellings with *zeal-* are due to assimilation to *zeal*, *zealot*.]

1. A zealous defender or supporter; one who zealously furthers the cause *of*. *rare.*

1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 293 That the qween and the prince schuld be receyved as good zelatores of the rem. 1552 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxvii. (1883) II. 426 Many zelatours or fauourers of the publyke weale. 1849 *Compl. Scot.* ix. 76, I praye ȝou to be zelatours of the law of gode. 1600 Hamilton *Facile Traictise* Ded., Al zelateurs of the trew seruice of God. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Journ. Arabia* I. 428 'Meddey' yeeyah', 'man of zeal', or 'Zelators'. *Ibid.* II. 3 He had figured conspicuously in the first band of Zelators at the epoch of their foundation in 1855. 1891 *Catholic News* 25 July 8/6 The Salford Diocesan Branch of the Zelators of St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society.

2. = Zealot 1, 2. *rare.*

1644 H. Leslie *Blessing of Judah* 41, I can best compare them..with that Rebellious rout of the Iewes, who called themselves Zelators. 1867 Palgrave in *Macm. Mag.* XVI. 143 Even stoutest parliamentary 'zealoters' must yield to utter weariness of body.

3. A sister in a religious community whose duty is to keep a check upon the conduct of the mother superior or of the younger religious and novices.

[1671 Woodhead *St. Teresa* II. xvi. 113 Nor was there any accusation against her in the Chapter concerning the least defect; although the smallest, and most minute matters are by the *Zelators* observed, and mentioned there.] 1851 Ullathorne *Plea Rights Relig. Women* 11 The rule commonly requires also that there should be two prudent sisters who are called *Zealators*, and whose duty it is to admonish the superioress, should she exceed or fail in her duties.

Zelatrice (zĕ·lătris), **Zelatrix** (-iks). [ad. F. *zélatrice* and its source eccl. L. *zēlātrix*, fem. of *zēlātor*: see prec.] A female zelator.

1890 *Tablet* 17 May 794 The Superioress of a Convent, a most fervent zelatrix. 1902 M. J. F. McCarthy *Priests & People in Irel.* 200 A zelatrice is a curiosity of religion in Ireland. *Ibid.* 201 A zelatrice for the Œuvre Expiatoire.

Zelde, Zele, Zelender, Zelie, Zell, Zelonian, Zelot, -(t)e: see Seld *adv.*, Zeal, Zealander, Seely, Sell, Zeylonian, Zealot.

Zelotic, zealotic (zĭlo·tik), *a.* [f. Zealot + -ic; now often assimilated to Gr. ζηλωτικός, f. ζηλωτής zealot.] Of the nature of, or characteristic of, a zealot.

1687 Gauden *J. Watts' Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. To Rdr., He..is void as of all superstitious novelties, so, of all zealotick transports. 1743 J. Morris *Serm.* iv. 90 In such a legal and zelotic, such a passionate and fierce..spirit. 1889 J. B. Bury *Later Roman Empire* I. i. 3 We have the zelotic dogmatism of Epiphanes. 1899 Stalker *Christol. Jesus* iv. 152 Such zealotic enthusiasm. 1916 P. T. Forsyth in *Contemp. Rev.* June 762 The Pharisees were doing that passionately. It was their whole zealotic programme about which they had no misgivings.

So † **Zelo·tical** *a.*

1630 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 80 One Leviston, a zealotical Scotsman. *a* 1638 Mede *Par. Peter* Wks. III. (1672) 611 The zelotical Anti-chiliasts. 1694 Strype *Cranmer* III. xix. 373 Dr. Marshal Dean of Christ's-Church, a most furious and zelotical Man.

Zelotism, zealotism (zĕ·lŏtiz'm). [f. Zealot + -ism; for the spelling of. prec. So F. *zélotisme*.] Action, thought, or feeling characteristic of a zealot; zealotry.

1726 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Suppl. Diss. Drama* 2 His Embassador's indefatigable Zelotism. 1752 Gray *Let. to Walpole* 8 Oct., Wks. 1825 II. 165 The folly and cruelty of stiffness and zealotism in religion. 1883 J. F. Smith tr. *Ewald's Hist. Israel* VII. 615 Zealotism itself did not.. ——] to ferment in the hearts..of many..adherents of the party. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 548, I could not altogether escape..the Mohammedan zelotism.

So † **Zelotist** *Obs.*, a zealot.

1893 G. Harvey *Pierce's Supper.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 173 Their feruent, and illuminate Zelotistes. 1608 H. Clapham *Errour Left Hand* 8, I haue sinned much in following blind Zelo[t]ists, setting al on fire with Samsons foxes. 1640 [see Sciolous].

‖ **Zelotypia.** *Obs. rare.* [late L., a. Gr. ζηλοτυπία, f. ζηλότυπος, f. ζῆλος Zeal *sb.* + τυπ-, stem of τύπτειν to strike.] Jealousy. So † **Zelotypie** [cf. F. *zélotypie*, Cotgr.]. Hence † **Zelotyping** *a.*, jealous; † **Zelotypist** (-tip-), a person characterized by excessive zeal, a zealot.

1601 T. Wright *Passions* I. vi. (1604) 26 Every diversity or change we finde in passions,..as, Mercy, Shamefastnesse, ..Zelotypia, Examination. 1619 Cockeram, *Zelotypie*, Iealousie. 1632 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creat.* xvii. 302 In all the hot Countries, where hotspurre Zelotipists have resided. *a* 1680 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 239 Castlehaven..apointinge there his tamptings and zelopy-tinge [*sic*] spirits, deserted the towne.

Zely, obs. form of Sekly *a.*

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* h j b, Who soo woll ryse erly shall be holy lwithy & zely. 1533 Pendleton in *Bonner's Hom.* 38 b, The impudente procedars haue taught the zely people that euery man..maye be a iudge of controuersyes.

Zembl(i)an, *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. (*Nova*) *Zembla* = Russ. *Novaya Zemlya* 'new land'.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to Nova Zembla, a group of islands

In the Arctic Ocean north of Archangel in Russia; hence, arctic. b. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Nova Zembla.

1674 tr. *La Martinière's New Voy.* 34 Samoiedes, Siberians, Zemblians. *Ibid.* 122 We descryed..a Zemblane in a Canoe. 1749 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 179 Thy unwearied soul..gave to Britain half the zemblian sky. 1806 SHEE *Rhymes Art* (ed. 3) 10 Lybian sands, or Zemblan snows.

†**Ze·mbletee.** *Obs. rare.* (*illiterate.*) [f. SEMBLE *a.* + *-tee*, -TY.] *By semblatee*, in appearance: = *by semblant* (see SEMBLANT *sb.* 2 b).

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iv, A sore man by sembletee.

Zembra, obs. var. ZEBRA.

Zeme, semi (zī·mi). [Carib *cemi.*] An idol, or a tutelary spirit represented thereby, worshipped by the aborigines of the West Indian islands. Hence **Ze·meism** (see quot. 1902); **Zemei·stic** *a.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IX. xiv. 743 These Images they made of Gossampine cotton hard stopped, sitting, like the pictures of the Deuill, which they called *Zemes. Ibid.*, Euery King hath his particular *Zemes*, which he honoureth. 1663 J. OWEN *Vind. Animadv. Fiat Lux* xxi. 487 In the Indies, the Catholick Spaniards took away the *Zemes* or Images of their Idols. 1902 FEWKES in *Science* 28 July 104 The whole social and religious organization was knit together by a form of totemism or tutelary clan ancients worship which I shall call *Zemeism.* 1903–4 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* 54 Zemiism. *Ibid.* 59 Her body was painted with figures and..flowers, evidently zemeistic or totemistic.

Zeme, obs. form of SEAM *sb.*[2]

Zemindar (zĕmĭ·ndaı). *E. Ind.* Forms: 7 gemidar, 7–8 jem(m)idar, 8 jemitdar, jemendar, semidar, semendar, simeendar, 8–9 zemindar, 9 sem-, zumeendar, 8– semindar. [Hind., a. Pers. زمیندار *samīndār* (also *samīdar*), f. زمین *samīn*, زمی *samī* earth + دار *dār* holder.

The pronunciation shown by the earliest forms *gemi-, jemidar*, is that of the North-West Provinces of India to day, where 'the rustic pronunciation of the word *samīndār* is hardly distinguishable from the Anglo-Indian pronunciation of *Jama'dār*' (Yule).]

Formerly, a collector of the revenue from land held by a number of cultivators; now, a native who holds land for which he pays revenue direct to the British government.

1683 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 77 We lay at Bogatchera,..ye Gemidar invited us ashore, and showed us Store of Deer, Peacocks, &c. 1698 *Ext. Consultations at Chuttanutte* 31 Oct. (Yule) Paying the said Rent to the King as the Jemidars have successively done. 1713 *MS. Records* in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., Mr. Edwd. Page...Jemendar. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xiv. iv. 357 *note*, *Rajahs*, who are the chiefs of those people who are distinguished by the name of *semidars*, which signifies possessors of lands. 1764 *Ann. Reg.*, *St. Papers* 288/1 To all governors, officers..and zemindars..in the provinces of Bengal. 1776 JAS. RENNELL *MS. Let.* 5 Aug. (Yule), The Countrey Jemitdars remote from Calcutta, treat us frequently with great Insolence. 1782 *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Eur.* 177/1 The Zemindars, who are the present great landholders of India, are likewise a sort of hereditary princes of the country. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. I. vii. 401 The Zemindars had been formerly charged with the management of the police, and were held accountable for all acts of robbery or violence committed within their Zemindaris. 1890 *Times* 8 Mar. 4/1 The zemindar of Devarakota.

Hence **Ze·mindarship,** zemindary.

1698 *Ext. Consultations at Chuttanutte* 31 Oct. (1788) (Yule), The Prince having given us..the Jemmidarship of the said towns. 1860 [C. GRANT] *Rur. Life Bengal* 64 For the honour and glory of Zumeendarship he cares not a fig. 1878 JAS. GRANT *Hist. India* I. ii. 9 For a good round sum he sold to the East India Company the zemindarships of Govindpore, Chutanutty, and Calcutta.

Zemindary (zĕmī·ndarı). *E. Ind.* Forms: 8 zemidary, 8–9 zemindarry, -aree, 9 seme(e)ndary, sam-, semindari, zumeen-, zemindary. [Hind., a. Pers. *samīndārī*, f. *samīndār*: see prec.]

1. The system of holding lands and farming revenue by means of zemindars; the office or jurisdiction of a zemindar.

1757 in Scrafton *Indostan* (1770) 81 All the land lying south of Calcutta, as far as Culpee, shall be under the Zemindary of the English Company. 1758 in *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XXXIII. 850/1 Sunnud from the Dewan of the Subah of Bengal, for the Zemindarry of the Lands granted to the Company. 1783 *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Eur.* 5/2 The zemindary was secured to the family..of Bulwant Sing. 1890 *Times* 8 Mar. 4/1 The appellant, who was the eldest son of the late zemindar..contended that the zemindary was impartible.

attrib. 1790 J. GRANT (*title*) An Inquiry into the nature of Zemindary Tenures in the landed property of Bengal. 1885 G. S. FORBES *Wild Life in Canara* 171 They now ..cultivate the lands of some eight or ten semindari estates.

2. The territory administered by a zemindar.

1764 *Ann. Reg.*, *St. Papers* 191/2 If the French come into the country, I will not allow them to hold lands, zemindaries, &c. 1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 165 The ancient semindary of Golugondah, which yields about 20,000 rupees of clear surplus annually. 1878 *Macm. Mag.* Jan. 250/2 The actual extent of land cultivated in the Madras Presidency (excluding Zemindary), amounted to 14,256,072 acres of dry and 3,320,625 acres of wet.

‖**Zemni** (ze·mnı). Also 8 ziemni, 9 semmi. [Short for Russ. dial. *zhchenók zemnói* 'puppy of earth' (*zemnói* adj. f. *zemlya* earth).] The blind mole-rat, *Spalax typhlus.* Also *zemni-rat.*

1785 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 230 In Poland and Russia there is another animal called *ziemni* or *zemni*, which is of the same genus with the zisel. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 571/2 Some..are devoid of the auricle, as the mole, the zemni-rat, the mole-rat.

‖**Zemstvo** (ze·mstvo). Also **sem(p)stvo.** [Russ., f. *zemlya* land.] An elective district or provincial council in Russia for purposes of local government, created by Alexander II in 1864.

1865 *Saunder's Newsletter* 8 Feb., He..sneered at the upstart ambition of the *Zemstwo* class, by which is meant the mere owners of certain acreable amount of the soil. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* xiv. (ed. 2) I. 326 The Zemstvo is a kind of local administration. 1896 *Jewish Chron.* 27 Jan. 8/1 The Zemstwo of Odessa.

Hence **Ze·mstvoist,** a member of a zemstvo.

1905 *Times* 8 May 5/3 The Zemstvoists have split over the question of universal suffrage.

Zenana (zĕnā·nă). Also 8–9 zananah, zenanah, zunana, (8 jenana), 9 zennanah, zanana. [Hind. *zenāna*, *zanāna*, a. Pers. *zanāna*, f. *zan* woman (related to Gr. γυνή woman: see QUEAN *sb.*).]

1. In India and Persia, that part of a dwelling-house in which the women of a family are secluded; an East Indian harem.

1761 COOTE in Vansittart *Narr. Trans. Bengal* (1766) I. 245, I asked him where the Nabob was? Who replied, he was asleep in his Zenana. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 66/2 Sujah Dowlah..plundered all the goods..of Cossim Ally; he even infringed the rights of his Zenana. 1790 in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., The Jenanas or Women's apartments of principal Natives. 1889 G. HOOPER *Wellington* ii. 45 He was disgusted with an order to search the zenana for treasure.

2. (Also *zenana-cloth.*) A light thin fabric used for women's dresses.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Dec. 2/2 A bolero of pale blue zenana. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 17 Jan. 8/4 Such combinations of wool and silk as Zenana cloth.

3. *attrib.*, esp. of missionary work carried on by Christian women among native women in India.

1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 244 The *zenanah* apparel is given to him [*sc.* the doby] to wash, and to iron. 1872 E. BRADDON *Life in India* III. 57 The influence of zenana society told upon his character. 1888 CUPPLES *Mem. Mrs. Valentine* IX. 146 For the purpose of assisting her to pursue Zenana-work when she returned to India. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., The growth of the admirable Zenana missions has of late years made this word more familiar in England.

Zend (zend). Also **Zand, Zund.** [a. F. *zend* (used as the name of the language by Anquetil du Perron, 1771): see ZEND-AVESTA.]

I. = ZEND-AVESTA.

In T. Hyde *Hist. Relig. Vet. Pers.*, 1700, it is usually designated *liber Zend*, but it is also referred to as *Zendavestâ*, *Vestâvasend*, *Avesta*, *Vesta*, *Avestak*, etc.

1715 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test.* I. (1718) 176 This book is called *Zendavesta*, and by contraction *Zend*, the vulgar pronounce it *Zundæveslow*, and *Zund. Ibid.*, In their language they call a righteous action *Zend-aver*, i.e. what the book Zend allows. 1789 SIR W. JONES *Disc. Persians* Wks. 1799 I. 79 Besides the Pârsi and Pahlavi, a very ancient and abstruse tongue was known to the priests and philosophers, called the language of the Zend. 1790 FRANCKLIN *Obs. Tour Bengal to Persia* 89 Their sacred book, the Zend, which is said to have been written by their celebrated prophet Zerdusht.

2. The language of the Avesta (see ZEND-AVESTA): also called *Old Bactrian*, forming with Old Persian the Iranian group of the Indo-European languages. Also *attrib.*

In early use, attrib. use of sense 1, = pertaining to or used in the Zend-Avesta.

1700 T. HYDE *Hist. Relig. Vet. Pers.* XXVI. 338 Literæ.. quæ..apud incolas vulgò audiunt *Literæ Zundicæ*, seu *Character Zundicus*, vel si Anglicè loquimur, the *Zund Character.* 1768 *Asiatick Researches* I. 45 *note*, The Zend Letters. 1789 SIR W. JONES *Disc. Persians* Wks. 1799 I. 83 M. Anquetil..has exhibited in his work, entitled *Zendvestâ*, two vocabularies in Zend and Pahlavi. 1823 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 251 Some of this very class [of words] belong to the Zend and Pehlevee. 1842 (*title*) The Vandidad Sâdi of the Pârsis in the Zand Language. 1878 G. SMITH *Life John Wilson* VII. 213 He was the first English scholar to master the original Zand texts.

Hence **Ze·ndic** *a.* [cf. mod.L. *Zundicus*, T. Hyde, 1700], belonging to Zend; so **Ze·ndish** *a.* (also as *sb.* = Zend); **Ze·ndist,** one versed in Zend.

1813 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 266 In ancient Media, Zendish was the language of the northern, and Pehlvi, or Parthian, of the southern parts. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* App. II. (ed. 3) 582 The Zendic and Pehlvi dialects of Persia. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 25 June 457/2 That persons professing to be specialists in Zend should be able to read the Pahlavi lan- ..in MS.—an ..plishment which..very few professed Zendists possess.

†**Zendalet.** *Obs.* Also **sendaletto.** [It. *sendaletto*, dim. of *sendale* SENDAL.]

1. In Venice, a large square woollen shawl, usually black, folded triangularly and worn either over the head (in the 18th cent. upon a wire frame) or over the shoulders.

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 184 A Venetian lady's mode of appearance in her sendalet, without which nobody stirs out of their house in a morning. It consists of a full black silk petticoat..flounced with gauze...A skeleton wire ..place of black mode or ..like a curtain. [1790 tr. *P. Monnier's Venice 18th Cent.* IV. 39 Over their heads they fasten that *sendaletto* of white lace, which inwreathes the waist, the shoulders, and the smile.]

2. A long piece of cloth falling from the back of the hood of a gondola into the water; hence, the gondola itself.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XVII, The count led Emily to his *sendaletto*. a 1814 *Gondolier* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 183 When moonlight sheers the scenes we love, ..And sendalettos seem to move Upon a sea of liquid light.

Zend-Avesta (zendāve·stă). Also 7–8 **Zundavastaw.** [Alteration (cf. Pers. *zand(a)wastâ*, *zandastâ*) of *Avestâ-va-Zend* (Pehlevi *Avistâk va Zend*), i.e. the Avesta with the interpretation. The word *Zend* was taken as an attrib. element denoting the language of the books, and was hence used independently as its name: see ZEND.] The sacred writings of the Parsees, usually attributed to Zoroaster.

1630 LORD *Relig. Persees* Proeme, A booke writ in the Persian Character, containing their Scripture, and in their owne language, called their Zvndavastaw. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* XV, 'Kabul', says the Zendavesta, 'was born on the rushy banks of the river Mawra.' 1854 [see VATICAN 2 b]. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 303 The Zendavesta of the Persians.

Hence **Zend-Avesta·ic** *a.*

1826 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. p. xxxii, The materials of the Zend-Avestaic history seem to be genuine.

Zende, obs. form of SEND *v.*[1]

Zendik (ze·ndik). [a. Arab. زندیق *zindīq* atheist, fire-worshipper, disbeliever in a future state, etc., Pers. زندیق *zandīq* fire-worshipper; cf. late Avestic *zandô-* a kind of heretic (Bartholomae).] A name given in the East to a disbeliever in revealed religion or a practiser of heretical magic. Also **Zendi·cism.** Hence **Ze·ndicize** (**Zin-**), a believer in zendicism.

1697 PRIDEAUX *Mahomet* (1708) 13 Zendicism, an Error among the Arabs near of kin to the Sadducism of the Jews, ..denying Providence, the Resurrection, and a Future State. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v., The sect of Zendiks opposed the progress of Mohammedanism in Arabia with great obstinacy. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XI. 558/2 The Zendicians...Their belief seems to have been a medley formed from the doctrines of the Magians and Paulicians. 1877 *Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 477/2 The Persians exulted in crimes and Zendicism abounded. *Ibid.* 478/1 Hareth, son of Amr,..who is said by Hamza to have been a Zendikite, was of Kendite race.

Zenezi, Zeng, obs. ff. SIN *v.*, SINGE *v.*

Zenick (zī·nik). Also **zenik.** [a. F. *zénik* (Sonnerat *Voy. aux Indes Orientales*, 1806).] The African suricate, *Suricata zenik.*

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 764. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 96.

Zenith (ze·nith, zī·nith). Forms: 4–5 cinit, cenith, -yth, senith, -yth, 5 cenit, senit, 6 senit, -ithe, -yth, ceneth, 6– senith. [a. OF. *cenit(h* (F. *zénith*) or med.L. *cenit* (cf. It. *zenit*, Sp. *cenit*, Pg. *zenith*, G. *zenith*, etc.), obscurely ad. Arab. *samt*, in *samt ar-rās* (سمت الراس) lit. way or path over the head (*samt* way, *al* the, *rās* head); cf. AZIMUTH (*al* the, *sumūt* pl. of *samt*).]

1. The point of the sky directly overhead; the highest point of the celestial sphere as viewed from any particular place; the upper pole of the horizon (opp. to NADIR).

†Sometimes, as in quots. 1555, 1638, used like a predicative adj. = in the zenith, 'vertical'; cf. also quot. 1604.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 177 Cinit, þat is þe point þat is in þe welken euen ayenst hem in þe ouer side of þe erþe. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 18 The centre þat standith a-Middes the narwest cercle is cleped the senyth...this forseide cenyth is ymagened to ben the verrey point ouer the crowne of thyn heued, & also this senyth is the verrey pool of the orisonte in euery regioun. *Ibid.* II. § 22 As fer is the heued of aries..from owre orisonte as is the cenyth fro the pole artik. *c* 1425 *The Eptiaffe*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 393 Creatures more maddyr In erthe none wandreth atwene senit and naddyr. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 50 The point that is rycht abufe our hede is callit zenyth,..ande as oft as ve change fra place to place, as oft ve sal bef ane vthir zenytht. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 251 The sonne beinge there Zenith (that is the poynt of heauen directly ouer theyr heades) they felte greater heate..then when they were vnder the Equinoctiall line. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. ix. 101 When I passed, which was when the sun was there for Zenith, being entered into Aries. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 6 Shadowlesse, when Sol is Zenith. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 745 From Morn To Noon he fell, from Noon to dewy Eve..; and with the setting Sun Dropt from the Zenith like a falling Star. 1733 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 60 As an object gradually ascends from the horizon towards the zenith. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 144 There was not a speck of cloud from east to west, from zenith to horizon. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 72 The stars..near the zenith shine with a steady light. 1889–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxiv, She saw the evening light In shifting colour to the zenith tower.

†**b.** The point of the horizon at which a heavenly body ... the point of intersection of an azimuth-circle with the horizon; hence by extension = AZIMUTH 2. *Obs.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 19 Thise Azimuts seruen..for to knowe the cenyth of the sonne & of euery sterre. *Ibid.* II. § 33 To knowe the senyth of the Altitude of the sonne, &c...Any tyme of the day tak the altitude of the sonne, &

by the Arymat in which he stondith, Maistoc sen in which partie of the firmament he is.

†c. *transf.* Course towards the zenith. *Obs.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 329 Satan..Betwixt the Centaure and the Scorpion steering His Zenith, while the Sun in Aries rose.

d. *Magnetic zenith*: the point of the sky directly above the magnetic pole of the earth.

1885 S. TROMHOLT *Aur. Bor.* x. I. 221 The Auroral Corona ..is produced by the streamers shooting from every part of the sky towards a common point, viz., the magnetic zenith.

2. *loosely.* The expanse of sky overhead, the upper region of the sky; the highest or culminating point of a heavenly body.

[1590 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* L 2 b, If we beleeue, that men do liue Vnder the Zenith of both frozen Poles.] 1632 MASSINGER *Believe as you List* I. ii, Two-and-twentye yeares of miseries..that longe time spent to Under distant zeniths. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* T. Tub, etc. 271 The conscious Moon, now in her Zenith. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 118 As Night's pale Queen..climbs the zenith. 1827–38 N. P. WILLIS *Starlight* 11 Above To the far-stretching zenith. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 587 Huge trees that branch'd And blossom'd in the zenith. 1898 E. V. LUCAS *Willow & Leather* 106 Jack would..brandish the bat, And away the balls would go,..sometimes bang into the zenith.

3. *fig.* Highest point or state, culmination, climax, acme.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 182, I finde my Zenith doth depend vpon A most auspitious starre, whose influence If now I court not,..my fortunes Will euer after droope. 1627 DONNE *Serm., Acts vii. 60* (1661) 214 Gods suffering for man was the Nadir the lowest point of Gods humiliation, mans suffering for God is the Zenith, the highest point of mans exaltation. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 17 The hand of God, whereby all Estates arise to their Zenith and verticall points. 1708 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iv. 149 In S. Augustine's Time, the Christian affairs seem to have been in their Zenith of Prosperity. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. i, I left the festival before It reach'd its zenith. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (1851) I. 377 Bacon had reached the zenith of his fortunes. 1884 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 251 Built..in the zenith of the pointed style, [Westminster Abbey] is one of the most exquisite examples of its class.

†b. *Med.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Zenith*,..a word used by some medical writers to express the first appearance of the menses in young women.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*: cf. quots. 1555, 1638 in 1): Belonging to or situated in the zenith, directly overhead, as *zenith sky, star, sun*; also *fig.* (cf. 3) highest, supreme, culminating, as *zenith happiness, hour*. b. *Astron.*, etc. In names of instruments used for determining the *zenith distance* (see c) of a heavenly body, as **zenith sector, telescope, tube** (see quots.). c. Other special combs.: **zenith-borne** *a.*, borne to or towards the zenith; **zenith distance**, the angular distance of a heavenly body from the zenith (the complement of its *altitude* or angular distance from the horizon); †**zenith line**, used for a vertical line or arc extending from the zenith to the horizon (= AZIMUTH 1); so †**zenith point**, the point at which such a line meets the horizon (cf. sense 1 b); **zenith sweep** (SWEEP *sb.* 7), a series of observations of a region of the sky passing through the zenith.

1886 M. F. TUPPER *My Life as an Author* 365 Liberty! ..Rise to thy height upon *zenith-borne wings! 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.*, **Zenith Distance*, is the Complement of the Sun, or Stars Meridian Altitude, or what the Meridian Altitude wants of 90 Degrees. 1834 TOMLINSON *Arago's Astron.* 41 Zenith-distances and azimuths form..a system of angles, by means of which it is easy to fix the positions of the stars with extreme precision. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 156 The zenith-distance of Gamma Draconis is daily observed at Greenwich. 1878 W. COBY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 405 Scott's year of *zenith happiness. 1853 WHITTIER *Rantoul* iii, Dead! in .That triumph of life's *zenith hour! 1596 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Urna.* I. B j b, The 90. lower ends of the 90. *zenith lines, which before I called the 90. *zenith points. 1776 MASKELYNE *Astron. Observ.* I. Pref. p. ix, The *zenith sector,..constructed by that excellent artist Mr. Graham,..was fixed up at Wanstead in the year 1727, for the use of that great astronomer Dr. Bradley; who, from his first year's observations with it, discovered the apparent motion of the fixed stars, which he called the aberration of light. 1802 A. ELLICOTT *Jrnl.* (1803) 185 The pack-horsemen likewise brought on my small zenith sector. 1829 W. PEARSON *Pract. Astron.* II. 531 The zenith sector..can be used only on the meridian; and its measures are referred to the zenith point of the place of observation. Its principal uses are to determine the latitude of the place of observation by a star of known zenith distance; to measure the zenith distance of a star..; and to ascertain the zenith point...The first zenith sector was..constructed by the ingenious Dr. Hooke [*c* 1700], with an intention of determining whether or not a fixed star has a measurable annual parallax. 1866 F. T. PALGRAVE *Hymns*, *'Lord God of morning and of night'* iii, The sun may stand in *zenith skies. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. ix, When *zenith-stars were trembling on the wave. 1903 HARDY *Dynasts* I. v. v, This Trafalgar Will..Pitt exalt As zenith-star of England's firmament. 1826 CARRINGTON *Dartmoor* 3 Deep-hued flowers that light Their tints at *zenith suns. 1789 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 10 My twenty-feet speculum was so much tarnished by *zenith sweeps, in which it had been..exposed to falling dews. 1834 POND *ibid.* CXXIV. 209 The erection of a *zenith telescope of twenty-five feet focal length.., for the purpose of measuring the zenith distance of γ Draconis. 1836 G. B. AIRY *Autobiog.* (1896) 123 The North Terrace was the official passage to the North-west Dome, where there was a miserable Equatoreal, and to the 19-foot *Zenith Tube. 1847 *Ibid.* 184 On Nov. 13th I circulated an Address, proposing to discontinue the use of the Zenith Tube, because it had been found..that the Zenith Tube was not more accurate than the Mural Circle. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 15 The reflex zenith-tube.

Hence **Ze·nithal** *a.*, pertaining or relating to, situated or occurring at, the zenith; also *fig.* supreme, 'culminating'; †**Zenithfer**, a part of an astrolabe used for measuring zenith distances; **Ze·nithward(s)** *adv.*, towards the zenith.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 39 The deep *zenithal blue. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 57 Beta and Gamma Draconis..were the two zenithal stars in June. 1892 HARDY *Tess* XXV, A zenithal paradise, a nadiral hell. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 651/1 They have known the zenithal instant of piscatorial life. 1596 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Urna.* I. B 1, This Astrolabe hath three generall partes, that is to say, the Celestiall, the *Zenithfer with his Cursor, and the Almicantifer with his Pointer. *Ibid.* B 2 b, As farre as the Zenithfer will giue leaue. 1881 TRAILL in *Nature* 10 Feb. 351/1 The streamers ..still ascending *zenithward. 1871 A. STEWART *Nether Lochaber* XXII. (1883) 128 The meridian sun..is..climbing *zenithwards.

Zenober, obs. var. of SINOPER.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* XXII. 14 The sylinges and geastes maketh he off Cedre, and paynteth them with Zenober.

†**Zenocra·tically**, *adv. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *Ζηνο-*, combining form of *Ζεύς* + *κράτος* power, rule + -ICALLY; cf. *autocratically*.] With the power or authority of Zeus or Jove.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 35 They will seeme..to haue borrowed euen from the mouth of mightie Ioue, or the oracle of wise Apollo himselfe, or Zenocratically, and Pythagorically to haue remained .. *Instar Sybillæ cuiusdam vaticinantis, furentisque.*

Zenography (zĭnǫ·grăfi). *rare*—°. [f. Gr. *Ζηνο-* (see prec.) + -GRAPHY: cf. AREOGRAPHY.] The description or study of the planet Jupiter. So **Zenographical** (zĭnǫgræ·fikăl) *a.*, pertaining to zenography.

1889 A. S. WILLIAMS (*title*) Zenographical Fragments, Part I, The Motions and Changes of the Markings of Jupiter in..1886–87.

Zenonian (zĭnǫ·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Zēno, Zēnōn*, Gr. *Ζήνων* + -IAN.] a. *adj.* (*a*) Of or pertaining to Zeno of Elea, a philosopher of the 5th century B.C., famed for his paradoxical arguments about motion. (*b*) Of or pertaining to Zeno of Citium (*c* 300 B.C.), the founder of the Stoic school of philosophy. b. *sb.* A follower of Zeno, esp. of Zeno of Citium; a Stoic. So **Zenonic** (zĭnǫ·nik) *a.* = a.; **Zenonism** (zī·nŏniz'm), the philosophy of Zeno, Stoicism.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 769/1 They [*sc.* Stoics] were at first called Zenonians from the name of their master. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxviii. VIII. 565 Generalising dialectics and Zenonian negation. 1866 CHARNOCK *Verba Nom.* 343 Zenonism. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 779/1 Gorgias's sceptical development of the Zenonian logic. *Ibid.* 779/2 The Zenonian difficulty continued to demand and to receive Plato's best attention. 1888 *Academy* 21 Apr. 278/1 Heraclitus's system was the polar antithesis to this Zenonic position.

Zenvy, dial. form of SENVY *Obs.*, mustard.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 172 b, Zenvy sede ones sowed wyll neuer almoste oute of the grounde. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Zenvy*, wild mustard.

†**Ze·nzic**, *a.* and *sb. Math. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *zensicus, zens-*, f. *zensus*, Germanized f. *census* (1202 in Leonardo of Pisa), transl. Arab. جذر *māl* possessions, property, as used spec. in mathematics. Cf. It. *censo* (13th c.).] a. *adj.* Of a number or root: = SQUARE *a.* 2, 2 b. b. *sb.* A square number: = SQUARE *sb.* 8.

So various compounds denoting higher powers or roots, as **Ze·nzicube** (the square of the cube, the sixth power), **Zenzicu·bic** *a.*, **Zenzicu·bicube, Zenzize·nzic** *a.* and *sb.*, **Zenzisenzicube, -cu·bic** *a.*, **Zenzisenzize·nzic**, etc. (Cf. 13th c. It. *censo di censo, censo di cubi, censo cubo*, etc.)

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* H ij b, Squares of Squares..of some men..are named *Zenzizenzike*, as square nombers are called *Zenzikes*. *Ibid.* H iij, 81 whiche is a *Zenzizenzike* nomber. *Ibid.* H iij b, If I name it [*sc.* 64] to bee a Square of Cubes, or *zenzicube*: then is..a. his roote. *Ibid.* H iv b, *Zenzizenzizenzikes*, that is squares of squared squares. *Ibid.* K j, *Zenzicubike*, or Squared Cube. *Ibid.* Q iv, When Squares and Cubes be compounde together: as *Zenzicubes, Zenzizenzicubes, Zenzicubicubes*. ...3. is the Zenzizenzicubike roote of .531441. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* Dd j b, Extracte the Zenzike rootes of these numbers. 1674 JAKE *Arith.* (1696) 177 A Zenzicube, or a Squared Cube Number made by multiplying the Sursolide into the Root.

Zenzyber, -yr, obs. forms of GINGER.

*c*1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 343 Zenzybyr and synamom.

Zeolite (zī·ŏlait). *Min.* Also 8–9 *erron.* **-yte.** [ad. Sw., G., etc. *zeolit*, f. Gr. *ζεῖν* to boil, seethe + *λίθος* stone, -LITE; so named from its boiling and swelling under the blowpipe: see quot. 1777.] Generic name for a large and varied group of minerals, consisting of hydrous silicates in which the bases are alumina and the alkalies and alkaline earths; generally characterized by swelling up and fusing to a glass or enamel before the blowpipe, and often by gelatinizing with acids; commonly found in the cavities of igneous rocks.

Examples are ANALCITE, BREWSTERITE, CHABAZITE, HARMOTOME, NATROLITE, PHILLIPSITE, STILBITE, THOMSONITE, etc.

1777 *Dict. Chem.* III. X 8, *Zeolites*. This name is given by Mr. Cronstedt to a stone described by him in the Transactions of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm for the year 1756, the peculiar properties of which have induced that mineralogist to consider it as forming a distinct order of earths, called *zeolites*. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Exper. Air* III. 39 The sparry zeolyte from the Ferro Isles. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 510 This Zeolite, found in the rocks of Edinburgh Castle. 1814 *Ibid.* Jan. 311 Zeolytes (see CHABAZITE). 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 145 Chabasie and other minerals of the zeolite family. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* v. 214 *note*, Tabular trap, which..contains abundant zeolites.

Hence **Zeolitic** (-i·tik), †**-ical** *adjs.*, pertaining to, consisting or of the nature of zeolite; **Zeolitiform** (-i·tifĭm) *a.* 'having the form of zeolite' (Webster, 1828); **Ze·olitisa·tion**, transformation into a zeolite; so **Ze·olitize** *v.* (in mod. Dicts.).

1808–32 WEBSTER, *Zeolitic. 1848 DAUBENY *Volcanoes* (ed. 2) 18 An intimate mixture of augite and magnetic iron with a mineral of the zeolitic family. 1887 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 231 Four-sided prisms, which exhibited, like the zeolitic crystals, beautiful coloured bands, when examined with polarised light. 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 86 *Zeolitical concretions. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Zeolitisation*, the process by which a mineral is converted into a zeolite by alteration—for example, nepheline into thomsonite.

Zep, obs. form of SAP *sb.*[1]

Zephyr (ze·fəɹ). Forms: *a.* (in Latin form) 1 **zefferus**, 4 **zeferus**, 4–7 **zephirus**, 5 **zeforus**, 5–6 **zepherus**, 6– **zephyrus**; *β.* 7 **zephir**(e, **-yre**, 7– **zephyr**. [a. or ad. L. *zephyrus*, a. Gr. *ζέφυρος*: cf. F. *zéphire*, It. *zefiro, zeffiro*, Sp. *cefiro*, Pg. *zephyro*, G. *zephyr*, etc.]

1. The west wind, esp. as personified, or the god of the west wind.

a. a 1000 *Riddles* xl[i]. 68 Nis zefferus se swifta wind þæt swa fromlice mæg feran eghwær. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 470 & sayez vnte Zeferus þat he syfle warme. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 5 Zephirus..with his swete breeth. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 677 There blew in that gardynge a soft pipiyng colde, Enbrethyng of Zepherus with his pleasant wynde. 1594 *Selimus* 2d fin., Zephyrus sweete smelling blast. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 116 Art thou perhaps that purest breathing aire, Sweet Zephirus? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 16 With voice Milde, as when Zephyrus on Flora breathes. 1898 MEREDITH *Lett.* (1912) II. 498 Like a gossamer puffed by summer Zephyrus.

β. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. [XI.] 190 When the hollow floode of ayre in Zephyres cheeks doth swel. 1603 DRAYTON *Idea* liii, Sweet mirrh-breathing Zephire. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 19 Zephir with Aurora playing, As he met her once a Maying. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 80 P 3 Regions in which no wind is heard but the gentle Zephyr. 1823 B. W. PROCTER *Flood of Thess.* I. 89 Words more soft than ...

A soft mild gentle wind or breeze.

1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 172 They are as gentle As Zephires blowing below the Violet, Not wagging his sweet head. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 47 The pure thin sweet Vapours of the Air (which are the Refreshing *Zephiri* of Nature). 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 389 While gentle Zephyrs play in prosp'rous Gales. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 173 No zephyr fondly sues the mountain's breast. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 287 The flowers, the zephyrs, and the warblers of spring, returning after their tedious absence. 1883 MISS M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* I, The zephyrs breathed softly from the south.

3. a. Applied to various very light articles of clothing; e.g. a light shawl; a light dust-coat; *esp.* a light shirt worn by athletes.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 259 Negligees of pale lutestring,.. with tassels and zephyrs in fancy, or of muslin. 1830 *Lady's Mag.* 31 May 284/2 Some wear little square shawls of soft crape, called zephyrs. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Conse.* I. ii, The gentleman's light overcoat had once done duty as a 'zephyr' at the races. 1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics* 68 When the athlete has got a pair of the best shoes, a zephyr, and a pair of silk or merino drawers,..he has got all the stock-in-trade required to win half-a-dozen championships. 1891 R. F. MURRAY *Scarlet Gown* 6 He sat upon the sofa, where my hat, My wanton Zephyr, rested on its rim.

b. [after Ger.] A fine light cotton cloth of the gingham type used for women's dresses, having the colours woven into the fabric.

1849, etc. [see 6 b]. 1863 B. TAYLOR *Hans. Thurston* I. 128 [To] measure a yard of calico..or choose a shade of zephyr. 1866 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Spinning* II. (1868) 490 Equal in appearance to the finest German zephyr. 1903 WELLS *Kipps* I. vi. § 1 I'm sorting up zephyrs to-morrow, Sir.

c. *Cookery.* (See quot.)

1894 *Garrett's Encycl. Cookery, Zephyrs.* These might almost be described under the heading of *Soufflés*.

4. A butterfly of the genus *Zephyrus*.

5. [after Fr.] A soldier of the Algerian light infantry.

1894 *Hensh. Words* VIII. 145/1 Zephyrs is a nickname given in Algeria to a corps which is recruited from..the French army. 1911 *Blackw. Mag.* May 595/2 Service with the 'Zephyrs', the malefactors of the French army.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 2) *zephyr-bough, -breath, -sigh, -whispering*; *zephyr-fanned, -haunted, -kissed* adjs.; **zephyr-flower** = ZEPHYRANTH (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884).

1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 318 Within my breast there lives a ...

96 The *zephyr-fanned summits of the oak wood. 1798 COLERIDGE *Lines to a beautiful Spring* 5 Ere from thy *zephyr-haunted brink I turn. *c* 1840 ELIZA COOK *Spring* v, The *zephyr-kissed grass. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 378 Where every *zephyr-sigh pours, and endows Her lips with

music for the welcoming. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* x, Nor was the atmosphere quite free from 'sephyr whisperings of the thirty beds which had just been cleared away.

b. Applied to certain light yarns and fabrics (see quots.); also = made of zephyr (sense 3 b).

1849 *Jrnl. Design* Aug. 143 Zephyr Silk Barège...This is one of those light and elegant fabrics which have done so much to reduce the demand for the higher class of light

made in Belgium; a waterproof fabric. *Ibid., Zephyr-shawl*, a kind of thin light worsted and cotton embroidered shawl. 1864 Webster, *Zephyr yarn*, or *worsted*, a fine kind of yarn or worsted, called also *Berlin wool*. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework, Zephyr Ginghams* or *Prints*. These are pretty delicate textiles, resembling a cotton batiste. *Zephyr Merino Yarn*, the term employed by the wool staplers of Germany to signify what is usually called German or Berlin. *Zephyr Shirting*...a kind of gauze flannel, having a silk warp. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 768/2 Two sisters in blue zephyr gowns. 1888 Maude Bradshaw *Ind. Outfits* 31 Two pairs of zephyr stays,..besides a few pairs of ordinary stays.

Hence **Zephyre·an, Zephy·rian, Ze·phyrous, Ze·phyry** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a zephyr; full of or having zephyrs; **Ze·phyret**, a gentle zephyr; **Ze·phyrine**, the name of a light thin material or a garment made of this; also *attrib.*; **Ze·phyrless** *a.*, destitute of zephyrs.

1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 146 The voice of Reason, like the *zephyrean breath of summer. 1848 tr. *J. P. F. Richter's Levana* III. iii. § 54 To..send the *zephyrets of pleasure through artistic bellows and air-pumps, to the little flowers. 1734 *Poor Robin* Mar. A 7, And from the West with a *Zephyrian Breath, Plants seeming dead he re-revives from Death. 1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* lii, A span new tea-coloured *zephyrine polonaise. *Ibid.*, Her zephyrine, with its silky shine. 1819 Keats *Lines to Fanny* 37 Whose winds, all *zephyrless, hold scourging rods. 1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 267 This soft *zephyrous breeze. 1792 Learmont *Poems* 188 The *Zephiry Summer breeze. 1880 A. H. Swinton *Insect Var.* 169 In zephyry hay-fields.

Zephyranth (ze·firæn|þ). [ad. mod. L. *Zephyranthes*, f. Gr. ζέφυρος Zephyr + ἄνθος flower: with allusion to the waving flower-stalks.] A plant of the genus *Zephyranthes*.

1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 248 In habit the one-flowered Habranths are the same as the Zephyranths.

Zeppelin (ze·pəlin), *sb.* [The name of the German Count Ferdinand von *Zeppelin*.] (With capital Z.) In full *Zeppelin airship*: a dirigible airship; properly, one of a type constructed by Count Zeppelin of Germany in 1900.

Sometimes colloquially abbreviated *Zep(p.*

1900 *Whitaker's Alm.* 665/2 The Zeppelin Air-ship, now [1899] in construction on an island of the Boden See, is a cylindrical frame of aluminium in partitions, each holding 1 gas-bag. 1914 F. T. Jane in *Land & Water* 12 Sept. 15*/1 A Zeppelin has dropped bombs on Antwerp. *Ibid.* 19 Sept. 19*/1 Alarming rumours of a German Zeppelin invasion of England *viâ* Calais. *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 16*/2 It takes something like a year to build a Zeppelin shed. 1915 Jessie Pope *Simple Rhymes, Mariana*, The night those Zeps bombarded town. 1916 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Jan. 40/3 A hostile raiding 'Zepp.'

Hence **Ze·ppelin** (also abbrev. *zep*) *v. trans.*, to drop bombs on from a Zeppelin; **Ze·ppelinite**, one who advocates the use of Zeppelins as an engine of war, esp. against non-combatants.

1916 Wells *Mr. Britling* I. v. § 12 They will Zeppelin the fleet and walk through our army. 1916 *Daily Express* 29 Mar. 4/7 The battle royal between the Zeppelinites and the anti-Zeppelinites [in Germany] continues. 1920 W. J. Locke *House of Baltazar* vii. 83 'So you've been Zepped, I hear,' she said.

Zequi, sequin(e, obs. forms of Sequin.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VII. iv. (1614) 675 Euery Zequi being sixteene ryals, and with vs eight shillings. *a* 1702 [see Sequin *sb.* 1]. 1765 Smollett *Trav.* xxx. (1766) II. 107 Two scudi make a zequine; and a French loui'dore is worth about two zequines.

Zeraphim, var. Seraphin.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zeraphim*, a former money of account of Goa, of 240 Portugese reis.

Zerbaffe, zerbaft, variants of Sherbaff *Obs.*

1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 81 Seventy Pieces of Zer-baffe, which is a very rich sort of Persian Tissue. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 92 Zerbaft, which is the Brocart of Persia.

Zerbet, obs. form of Sherbet.

Zerda (zɔ·ɹdə). *Zool.* [So called by the 'Moors' (*Kongliga Svenska Vetenskaps Handlingar*, 1777, XXXVIII. 265).] The fennec, *Canis zerda*.

1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 248.

Zereba, zeriba: see Zariba.

Zeroglia, Zeres, obs. ff. Seraglio, Xeres.

Zeriff, var. Sheriff, Xeriff.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zeriff*, an old Turkish coin worth about 2½ dollars.

Zernich, obs. form of Zarnich.

Zero (zi·ro). Pl. **zeroes** (-roz). [ad. F. *zéro* (1515 in Hatz.-Darm.) or its source It. *zero*, for **zefiro*, ad. Arab. *ṣifr* Cipher.]

1. The arithmetical figure o which denotes 'nought': = Cipher *sb.* 1. Now *rare*.

1605 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. ii. 435 They accompted their weekes by thirteene dayes, marking the dayes with a Zero or cipher. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zero*, a Word sometimes us'd especially among the French, for a Cipher or Nought (o). 1799 *Tilloch's Philos. Mag.* II. 413 Every letter..marked with a figure followed by a zero. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math. Sci.* 26 Sometimes the divisor ends with zeros or noughts. 1897 *Housek. Words* 8 Aug. 143/2 A five, with a zero to the right, and a three to the left. 1898 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 23 If we have two zeros in the symbol.

b. The compartment numbered o on a roulette table.

1859 Lever *Dav. Dunn* xlvi, I have been sketching out a little plan of a martingale for the roulette-table. There's only one zero at Homburg, and we can try it there as we go up. 1889 J.-S. Bond *Roulette* 29 If for 150 years Roulette has held its own against all comers, it is zero that has done it. 1922 tr. *Silberer's Roulette* 50 When the zero comes out, the Bank takes the half of all stakes on the *chances simples* and the whole of all stakes upon the *chances multiples* (excepting, of course, stakes laid upon zero, or on a combination including zero, which alone it pays).

2. The point or line marked o on a graduated scale, from which the reckoning begins: esp. in a thermometer or other measuring instrument.

1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 446 When the instrument is adjusted, and the index belonging to the micrometer-screw stands at the zero on its circle. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (Libr. Usef. Knowl. 1829) 19/2 If the saccharometer be made so as to sink to a certain point marked zero (a cypher) in distilled water. 1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* II. 639 The Centigrade thermometer places the zero at the freezing point. 1840 Lardner *Geom.* 208 The French adopt as their zero of longitude the meridian which passes through the Observatory at Paris. 1890 W. F. Stanley *Surv. & Lev. Instr.* 439 These rollers are fixed in such a manner as to turn in a circumference concentric with the zero of the alidade.

3. The temperature corresponding to the zero of a thermometer; that degree of heat (or cold) which is reckoned as o°: i. e. in the Centigrade and Réaumur's scales, the freezing-point of water; in Fahrenheit's scale (the usual one in Eng. use), 32° below this, or 'thirty-two degrees of frost'.

Absolute zero, the lowest temperature possible in the nature of things, at which the molecular motion which constitutes heat would cease; the zero of absolute temperature, reckoned as −273° C.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 78 That the melting of ice produces cold, is proved by the custom which confectioners have of melting certain salts with ice to produce a cold below zero. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 525 On the 23d of January, at sunrise, the thermometer was 10 deg., on the 26th 13 deg. below Zero; the coldest weather ever recorded in this town. 1823 Byron *Juan* x. xxxiii, Thermometers sunk down to..zero. 1848 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* I. 303 Clement and Desormes place the absolute zero at −266·6° C. (−447·0° Fah.). 1905 *Times* 24 Jan. 4/6 In a terrible surf, with the glass near zero, they finally brought the remnant of the crew off safely.

4. In abstract sense: Nought or nothing reckoned as a number denoted by the figure o, and constituting the starting-point of the series of natural numbers; the total absence of quantity considered as a quantity (in *Alg.* and *Higher Math.* as intermediate between positive and negative quantities); hence as expressing the amount of something = 'none at all'.

1823 Byron *Juan* IX. ii, Though your years as man tend fast to zero. 1831 *Phil. Trans.* CXXI. 113 This sum is equal to zero in all positions of the line *ds* round the point (*x*, *y*, *z*). 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. ix, Unless my Algebra deceive me, Unity itself divided by Zero will give Infinity. 1872 Lowell *Dante* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 155 Dante's direct acquaintance with Plato may be reckoned at zero. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 248 In a certain patient, I have observed the intercranial tension to be slightly below zero while he was standing upright.

b. In the theory of functions, A value of a variable for which a function vanishes.

1893 A. R. Forsyth *Functions* 62 The number of distinct zeros in the limited area is finite. 1902 E. T. Whittaker *Mod. Anal.* 94 A polynomial of degree *n* has *n* zeros.

5. *fig.* (from 4). Something that counts as or amounts to nothing; a worthless thing or person, one of no account; a 'cipher', 'nonentity'; a 'nothing' or 'nobody'.

1813 Maria Edgeworth *Patronage* xxiv, The other gentlemen are zeros. 1858 Carlyle *Fredh. Gt.* VI. ix. II. 126 Whatever the answer now be from England, I will have nothing to do with it..to me it shall be zero. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* III. 328 A man who *will* not work..is as complete a zero in the labour supply as if he were dead. 1870 H. Macmillan *True Vine* iii. (1872) 82 He is not surrounded with a vast zero, an all-absorbing negation.

6. *fig.* (from 2 and 3). a. The lowest point or degree; vanishing-point; nothingness, nullity. (Sometimes coinciding with b.)

1820 Byron *Juan* III. cx, Sure my invention must be down at zero. 1827 Hood *Desert-Born* 64 Merely to look at such a sight my courage sinks to zero. 1867 'Mark Twain' *Jumping Frog, Curing a Cold*, I got to coughing incessantly, and my voice fell below zero. 1894 Drummond *Ascent of Man* 276 Man began the Ascent of Civilisation at zero.

b. The initial point of a process or reckoning; the starting-point, the absolute beginning.

Hour of zero, in recent military use = *zero hour* (see 7 a).

1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creator* x. 193 The vegetation of the Silurian system, from its upper beds down till where we reach the zero of life. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 7 He..makes 1788 his zero of human history. 1916 P. Gibbs *Battles of Somme* xxviii. 248 When the hour of 'zero' came for the attack.

7. *attrib.* a. in sense 2 (or 6 b), as *zero-line, -mark, -plane, -point*; **zero creep**, spontaneous slow displacement of the zero-point on a graduated scale; **zero hour** (*Mil.*), the hour at which an attack or operation is timed to begin; **zero magnet**, a magnet for adjusting the zero, e. g. of a galvanometer; **zero mark, post**, a mark or post from which distances along roads are measured.

1926 *Athenæum* 19 May 612/2 A very ingenious bifilar galvanometer..warranted free from the tendency to 'zero creep. 1917 W. Beach Thomas *With British on Somme* II. v, The coming of the 'zero hour of 3.30 in the morning. 1918 A. Keith *Antiq. Man* xxi. 341 The horizontal or 'zero line, which crosses the hinder and lower angles of the right and left parietal bones. 1866 Tyndall *Heat* I. (1863) 3 At the present moment the needle..points to the 'zero mark on the graduated disc. 1908 *Times* 2 Jan. 8/6 The iron tablet marking the position of Tyburn-gate..is virtually a milestone, marking, as it does, a spot from which the miles on the two great roads that join at Marble Arch are measured. It is perhaps the sole survivor of the zero marks of London. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* ii. 51 The 'zero plane is the surface of the ellipsoid similar to the sea surface. 1812 T. Thomson *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 4) I. 365 A thermometer, the 'zero point of which indicates absolute cold. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 9 Jan. 3/3 The 'zero posts which formerly stood on the present site of the Marble Arch, and at Hyde-park-corner.

b. in sense 3, as *zero night, temperature, weather*.

1854 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 162 In the zero atmosphere of America. 1855 Browning *Old Pict. in Flor.* xxxiv, Feel truth at blood-heat and falsehood at zero rate. 1884 E. P. Roe in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 288/2, I can keep my..hens warm even in zero weather. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 323 Molecular rest—the theoretical condition of zero-temperature. 1900 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 299/2 The zero reading and the steam reading would both generally correspond to a failing meniscus.

c. in sense 4: That is of the amount expressed by zero, i. e. none at all; in *Math.* also *transf.* applied to a value of a function corresponding to the value o of the variable or variables.

1879 Cayley *Math. Papers* X. 499 The letter *c* is used in connexion with the zero values *u* = 0, *v* = 0...S_0, S_1, S_2,... are even functions, and the corresponding zero-functions are denoted by c_0, c_1, c_2,... When (*u*, *v*) are indefinitely small each of these functions is of course equal to its zero-value *plus* a quadric term in (*u*, *v*). 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 25 The surface of still water is agitated by wave disturbances proceeding from three fixed points..: find the points of zero disturbance. 1900 *Conquest* Apr. 237/2 Years of tedious work out of which there was always the chance of a zero result.

‖ **Zerumbet** (zɪrʌ·mbet). Also 7–8 -eth. [Pg., ad. Hind., Pers. زرنباد; *zerunbād*.] An East Indian plant of the genus *Curcuma*, or its aromatic root, used, like the allied Cassumunar and Zedoary, as a tonic drug.

[1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 269 Of the Apothecaries drugges: And of what price they are in Calicut and Malabar... Zerumba, the farazuola Fanan ii. Zedoaria, the farazuola Fanan i.] 1668 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* II. 151 The Zerumbet..likewise growes in these parts, and is like to ginger. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 278 Kua or Zerumbeth of our Shops, a Species of Ginger. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 33 The Zedoary is the long Part of the Plant, serving as a root to the Zerumbeth. 1882 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 668 The so-called Cassumunar roots, Zedoary roots, and Zerumbet roots of commerce.

Zerybeh: see Zariba.

Zerzeline, zerzelnie, var. Sergelim *Obs.*

Zest (zest), *sb.*[1] Also 8 zist. [a. F. *zeste*, earlier † *sest*, † *sec*, 'the thicke skin, or filme whereby the kernell of a wall-nut is diuided' (Cotgr.), also orange or lemon peel; of obscure origin. Cf. Walloon *sast*, Pg. *zeste*.

The sense given in Chambers *Cycl.* 1728, 'the woody, thick Skin, quartering the Kernel of a Walnut', is taken from French, and was not in English use.]

1. Orange or lemon peel used as a flavouring or for preserving; also, the oil squeezed from such peel to flavour liquor, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Zest* (Fr.) the pill of an Orange, or such like, squeesed into a glass of wine, to give it a relish. 1722 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 150 Citron Oil..is made..by the Zest or the rasping or grating of the Citron Peel. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1755) 70 Pour into the Palm of the Hand a little Brandy, with some Zist of Lemon. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 173 To prepare lemon-juice you must first carefully remove the zest and then the white part. 1903 Gilchrist *Beggar's Manor* ii, As he..fastidiously deprived the oranges of their zest.

2. *fig.* Something that imparts a relish, savour, or piquancy; a piquant quality which adds to the enjoyment or agreeableness of something.

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 107 Monsieur St. Amant lov'd nothing so tenderly as he did the Baron;..he was the Zest to all his Pleasures. 1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* III. i, A smart Repartee, with a Zest of Recrimination at the Head of it, makes the prettiest Sherbet. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1211 The Life of life, the Zest of worldly bliss. —— Keats *To Fanny* 6 That sweet minor zest Of love, your kiss. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 134 There was a quaintness too, mingled with all this revelry, that gave it a peculiar zest. 1860 Thackeray *Philip* xvi, The sense that, perhaps, it was imprudent to take a cab or drink a bottle of wine, added a zest to those enjoyments. 1873 Helps *Anim. & Mast.* viii. 207 The difference of character should have given a zest to companionship, not destroyed it.

3. Keen relish or enjoyment displayed in speech or action; the pleasure of enjoying something; gusto. Usually const. *for*.

1791 Boswell *Johnson* 20 Sept. an. 1777, If I were to reside

in London, the exquisite zest with which I relished it in occasional visits might go off. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 358 After travelling..for two or three days alone, when he arrives at an inn, it gives him a greater zest for society. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xix, She went to a lying-in or a laying-out with equal zest. 1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* i, The zest of life was certainly keener. 1895 Salmond *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* i. vii. 119 The Greek people had an almost unrivalled zest for life.

b. phr. *To your zest*, to your taste or liking. *rare.*

1817 Byron *Beppo* xii, That picture .. Is loveliest to my mind of all the Show; It may perhaps be also to your zest.

4. *transf.* Something which furnishes a relish or provides a savoury addition to a meal; an appetizer; also, a relish, a piquant flavour.

1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Miss Evans & Eagle*, Mr. Wilkins had brought a pint of shrimps .. to give a zest to the meal [*sc.* tea]. 1848 Newman *Loss & Gain* 154, 'I like these rides into the country', said Vincent, as they began eating; ..'it is exquisite as a zest'. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxvi, The Native had private zests and flavours on a side-table, with which the Major daily scorched himself. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xxvii. 273 We .. renewed the zest of the table with the best salad in the world—raw eggs and cochlearia. 1876 Miss Braddon *Dead Men's Shoes* i, For a cheap relish, a zest which shall make bread and butter supply the place of dinner, your fishmonger is your best friend.

Hence **Ze·stful** *a.*, full of zest, characterized by piquancy or keen relish or enjoyment; whence **Ze·stfully** *adv.*, **Ze·stfulness.**

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 345 A zestful sort of place in which to spend a fortnight. 1857 *Ibid.* LVI. 601 How.. shall any man..abridge..twenty volumes of such zestful personalities? 1872 C. King *Mountain, Sierra Nev.* xi. 241 While we chatted and ate zestfully portions [of meat] not too freely brecciated with lava sand. 1897 Jacobs *Skipper's Wooing* i, He bent over and with much zestful splashing began his ablutions. 1882 *Illustr. Lond. News* 30 Sept. 350/2 The zestfulness of its Radicalism is not lessened.

† Zest, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. = Siesta.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zest*..sometimes taken for a short Afternoon's Sleep or Nap: as To go to one's Zest.

Zest (zest), *v.* [f. Zest *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To flavour with 'zest'; to add a relish to; to give a piquant quality to; also *fig.*

1704 Cibber *Careless Husb.* III. 56 My Lord, when my Wine's Right I never care it shou'd be Zested. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. Ded. p. vii, Heaven is sometimes pleased with Bitterness to Zest the Bowl of Bliss! 1737 *J. Heavey Mem. Reign Geo. II* (1848) II. xxx. 288 Many more expressions not quite so strongly zested, though but few degrees weaker. 1760 Goldsm. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 327 Hundreds sunk to the bottom by one broadside, furnish out the topic of the day, and zest his coffee. 1862 Meredith *Marian* ii, Ye who zest the turtle's nest With the eagle's eyrie. 1872 H. Marshall *For very Life* I. i, One autumn morning, zested with a sharp frosty feeling.

† 2. [after F. *sester.*] (See quot.) *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Zest an Orange or Lemon*, (among Confectioners) is to cut the Peel from top to bottom into small Slips, as thin as it can possibly be done.

Hence **Ze·sted** *ppl. a.*

1769 Goldsm. *Rom. Hist.* II. 74 One circumstance that might well..teach mankind to relish the beverage of virtue ..above their most zested enjoyments. 1802 *Lusignan* III. 131 The most zested enjoyments of vice.

†Zest, *int. Obs.* [Cf. F. *zest* int.] An exclamation accompanying quick action.

1705 Vanbrugh *Confed.* III. i, Oons the old Woman—Zest.

Zest, s.w. dial. f. 2nd pers. sing. pres. of Say *v.*[1]

1602 *Contention betw. Lib. & Prod.* I. iv, Bur Lady, sonne, zest true.

Zet, dial. f. Set *v.*

‖ Zeta[1] (zī·tă). *Antiq.* [med.L., = *diæta* (see Z), a. Gr. *δίαιτα* way of living, dwelling (see Diet *sb.*).] A term of disputed meaning (see quots.).

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zeta*,..a Room kept warm like a Stove; a withdrawing-Chamber with Pipes convey'd along in the Walls, to receive from below, either the cool Air, or the heat of warm Water. In our old Records, it is taken for a Dining-Room, Hall, or Parlour. 1849–50 *Weale's Dict. Terms, Zeta*, presumed to be a room over the porch of a Christian church. 1860 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Zeta, Zetarila* [*? Zeticula*]..the *Vaporaria* and *Conclavia*, or vapour-baths and inner closets, in the pavement of which warm or cold water was diffused as required.

‖ Zeta[2] (zī·tă). [Gr. ζῆτα, the letter Z, ζ: see Z.] Name of the sixth letter of the Greek alphabet, used *attrib.* in zeta-function *Math.*, one of a set of functions (denoted by a capital Z prefixed to the variable) connected with elliptic integrals. Hence **Ze·taicism** (-sizm) [cf. Etacism, Lambdacism, Rhotacism], frequent or faulty use of the letter ζ; **Zetaic** (zĭtē·ik) *a. Math.*, applied by Sylvester to operations (denoted by the letter ζ prefixed to an expression) in which subscript indices are treated like ordinary indices of powers, and to expressions or functions so obtained.

1840 Sylvester *Coll. Math. Papers* (1904) I. 47, I use the Greek letter ζ to denote that the product of factors to which it is prefixed is to be effected after a certain symbolical manner. This I shall distinguish as the zeta-ic product. *Ibid.*, Rule for zeta-ic multiplication. *Note.* An analogous interpretation may be extended to any zeta-ic function whatever. 1889 I. Taylor *Aryans* v. § 1. 260 The tendency to Zetacism among the Ionians may be due to an admixture with the pre-Aryan population.

Zete, obs. dial. form of Set *v.*

Zetetic (zĭte·tik), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. med.L. *zēlēticus*, a. Gr. ζητητικός, f. ζητεῖν to seek, inquire.]

A. *adj.* Inquiring, investigating; proceeding by inquiry or investigation.

In quot. 1645 used in burlesque.

1645 Urquhart *Trissotetras* Wks. (1834) 145 Zetetick, is said of loxogonospherical moods which agree in the same quæsitas. 1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1687) 772/1 This was called the Zetetick Philosophy, from its continual enquiry after Truth. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Zetetick* Method in Mathematicks, is the Analytick, or Algebraick way. 1849 S. B. Rowbotham (*title*) Zetetic Astronomy. A description of several experiments which prove that the surface of the sea is a perfect plane and that the Earth is not a Globe! 1885 *Bookseller* 7 Jan. 12/1 A party of Zetetic astronomers with scientific instruments.

B. *sb.* **1.** (*sing.* or *pl.*) Investigation, inquiry (as in mathematics, etc.).

Often with allusion to Franciscus Vieta's *Zeteticorum libri quinque.*

part of algebra which consists in the direct search after unknown quantities. 1853 W. Thomson *Laws Th.* (ed. 3) § 35 [Logic] has been called..Zetetic or the Art of seeking.

2. An investigator, inquirer; *spec.* an adherent of the ancient Greek sceptic school of philosophy (see Sceptic A., B. 1).

1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1687) 772/2 These all were called Pyrrhonians from their Master; Aporeticks, and Scepticks, and Ephecticks, and Zeteticks, from their (as it were) Doctrine. 1828 J. Rowbotham *Dict.* 66 The ancient Pyrrhonists were called Zetetics or seekers.

Hence **Zete·tically** *adv.* [see -ically], by way of inquiry or investigation.

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* Ix. 55 It would be somewhat too long ..zeteticallyto examine..what particular kind of motion it is.

Zep, obs. dial. pl. ind. pres. of See *v.*

Zeppe, obs. var. Sith.

Zetland (ze·tlănd). Later spelling (see Z) of Sc. *Zetland* (also *Yetland*, latinized *Yhetlandia*), a. ON. *Hja(l)tland*, *Hjetland* (MDa. *Hetland*) Shetland. Hence **Ze·tlander, Zetla·ndic** *a.* (Survives as an official name of the Shetland Islands, and in a title of the peerage.)

1703 J. Brand *Descr. Orkney*, etc. To Rdr., Zetland..is unknown to the most of the Nation, if not, that they have only heard, there were such Isles, as the Zetlandick. *Ibid.* 116 Some Zetlanders went to the King with their Skin-Coats, laying the oppressed condition of their Countrey before him. 1809 Edmondston *Zetland Isl.* I. 206 The native Zetland horse is very small. 1813 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl. s.v. *Shearwater*, In addition to the Zetlandic name of Lyre, Lyar or Lyrie, it has acquired the Norwegian names of Skrabe or Skraap. 1821 Scott *Pirate* ii, Sweyn Erickson, as good a Zetlander as ever rowed a boat to the *haaf* fishing. 1868 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 338 A list of the Zetlandic Annelids dredged in 1867 and 1868.

Zeuera, Zeuet, obs. ff. Zebra, Civet *sb.*[1]

‖ Zeuglodon (zĭū·glodŏn). *Palæont.* [mod.L. (Owen, 1839), f. Gr. ζεῦγλη strap or loop of a yoke + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth.] A genus of extinct cetaceans of a primitive type, whose fossil remains are found in the Eocene. Hence **Zeu·glodont,** *sb.* a cetacean of this genus; *a.* belonging to this genus; **Zeuglodo·ntoid** [-oid], *a.* having the characters of this genus, or belonging to the family *Zeuglodontidæ*; *sb.* a cetacean of this family.

1839 Owen in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Lond.* Ser. II. VI. 75 The microscopic characters of the texture of the teeth of the *Zeuglodon* are strictly of a mammiferous character. 1857 Agassiz *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U. S.* I. 116 The Zeuglodonts [are] embryonic Sirenidæ. 1883 Flower in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 393/2 The earliest Cetaceans of whose organization we have anything like complete evidence are the Zeuglodons of the Eocene period. 1885 *J. Phillips' Man. Geol.* II. 650 Whales of the Zeuglodont family. 1892 *Athenæum* 12 Nov. 667/3 Zeuglodont and other cetacean remains from the tertiaries of the Caucasus.

‖ Zeugma (zĭū·gmă). *Gram.* and *Rhet.* [mod. L., a. Gr. ζεῦγμα a yoking, f. ζευγνύναι to yoke, related to ζυγόν Yoke *sb.*] A figure by which a single word is made to refer to two or more words in the sentence; esp. when properly applying in sense to only one of them, or applying to them in different senses; but formerly more widely, including, e.g., the use of the same predicate, without repetition, with two or more subjects; also sometimes applied to cases of irregular *construction*, in which the single word agrees *grammatically* with only one of the other words to which it refers (more properly called Syllepsis).

1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1595) 82 *Zeugma*, when one or more clauses are concluded vnder one verbe, as to say, His loosnesse ouercame all shame; his boldnesse, feare; his madnesse, reason. 1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xii. (Arb.) 175 But if it be to mo clauses then one, that some such word be supplied to perfit the congruitie or sence of them all, it is by the figure (*Zeugma*) we call him the (single supplie)..: as to say, Fellowes and friends and kinne forsooke me quite. 1848 J. T. White *Xenophon's Anab.* Notes I. v. § 9 (1872) 52 Observe the zeugma in πλήθει [in ἡ βασιλέως ἀρχή, πλήθει μὲν χώρας καὶ ἀνθρώπων ἰσχυρὰ οὖσα]. 1872 Lillie tr. *J. P. Lange's Comm. 2 Thess.* iii. 156 Αὐτοῖς is now to be taken out of the dative τοιούτοις, by an obvious zeugma [in 2 Thess. iii. 12 τοῖς δὲ τοιούτοις παραγγέλλομεν, καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν]. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* II. 560 By the figure of speech called zeugma, or rather syllepsis, the same word..is often made to serve two purposes in the same sentence. A verb is often used with two clauses which is only appropriate to one of them, as in Pope's line—'See Pan with flocks, with fruits Pomona crowned.'

Hence **Zeugmatic** (-æ·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or involving zeugma; **Zeugma·tically** *adv.*, so as to involve zeugma.

1837 Ellicott *Comm. Col.* ii. 5 A zeugmatic construction of the accus. with both verbs. 1857 — *Comm. Phil.* i. 27 Attempts have been made to defend the construction as it stands,..by referring ἀσώτως zeugmatically to both clauses.

Zeunerite (zoi·nərəit). *Min.* [f. the name of Gustav *Zeuner* of Freiberg, Saxony.] A hydrous arseniate of uranium and copper, occurring in bright-green crystals.

1873 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXVI. 1010 Arseniferous Uranium Mica (Zeunerite) from Joachimsthal.

Zeura, obs. form of Zebra.

‖ Zeus (zĭūs). [Gr. Ζεύς, gen. Διός, related to L. *Jovis* (gen.): see Jove, Jupiter.]

1. *Myth.* Name of the supreme deity of the ancient Greeks; cf. Jupiter. Hence *allusively.*

1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Apr. 207/4 The Zeus of Weimar [*sc.* Goethe] was the last person we should have imagined comparable with our Swan of Avon!

b. *Comb.*

1839 T. Mitchell *Frogs of Aristoph.* Add. 421 Cretan Zeus-worship. *a* 1861 Clough *Poems* (1869) II. 464 You are the hatefullest to me of the Zeus-fed princes. 1875 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* Post. Wks. 1896 I. 730/2 The hapless Zeus-born offspring. 1880 Jebb in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 140/1 Legends of warlike deeds done by Zeus-nourished kings.

2. *Ichthyol.* A genus of spiny-finned fishes, including the John Dory, *Zeus faber*, anciently sacred to Zeus or Jupiter.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zeus*, a Fish taken about Cadiz.., of a black Colour and very delicate. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 274 The red Zeus, with an even tail. 1854 Badham *Halieut.* 48 His own fish Zeus, the dory [was offered] to Jupiter.

‖ Zeuxis (zĭū·ksis). Name of a famous ancient Greek painter; hence *allusively*, and in comb. *Zeuxis-like* adj. Hence **Zeu·xian** *a.*

1616 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* I. Sonn. xlix. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 23 Desire (alas) Desire a Zeuxis new, From Indies borrowing Gold, from Westerne Skies Most bright Cynoper, sets before mine Eyes In every Place, her Haire, sweet Looke and Hew. 1635 Quarles *Emblt.* III. ix, Zeuxian Art. 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Mon. Ord.* 299 A vase containing white lilies..painted with such Zeuxis-like skill, that birds..have been seen attempting to..peck the flowers.

Zeuxite (zĭū·ksəit). *Min.* [f. Gr. ζεῦξις yoking, joining (f. ζευγνύναι to join), rendering 'unity' in the name Huel Unity (see quot.).] A variety of tourmaline.

1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 320 Zeuxite. The mineral which I distinguish by this name was found in 1814 in considerable quantity in the Huel Unity mine, about three miles east of Redrath, in Cornwall.

Zeve, obs. form of Seven.

Zevre, obs. form of Zebra.

Zfoot, var. 'Sfoot *int. Obs.*

1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milkmaids* II. ii. G 4 b, *Ber.* Zfoot, hee's turn'd Eccho. 1640 *Wits Recreat.* I 7 b, Z' foot, will you have of men more than their hearts?

Zhe, zhee, dial. forms of She.

‖ Zho (ʒō). [Tibetan *ɲdzo.*] A hybrid bovine animal, bred from a yak bull and a common cow, used for domestic purposes in Northern India. Also called **‖ Zobo, zobu** [with masc. affix *-bo*]. So **‖ Zhomo,** also jomo [with fem. affix *-mo*], a female zho.

1841 Moorcroft *Trav.* I. 272 Oxen of the common kind are not used for ploughing, the zho ox, or hybrid male between the yak..and the common cow, or the humped variety called zebu, being greatly preferred, as is its sister, the zhomo, for the dairy. Ploughing is performed by a pair of zhos. *Ibid.* 309 The Zho or Yak-mule. 1854 Hooker *Himal. Jrnls.* I. ix. 213 The zobo..is but rarely seen in these mountains, though common in the North West Himalaya. 1867 A. L. Adams *Wand. Nat. India* 272. 1880 R. Strachey in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 833/2 The yák, from which is reared a cross breed with the ordinary horned cattle of India locally called 'zobu'.

Zibeline (zi·bĕlin, -əin). Forms: 6 **sebelin,** 7 **-elline,** 7 **sibellin, -en, subeline,** 8 **sebiline,** 8– **sibelin(e,** (9 **sibelline**). [ad. F. *sibeline* (also † *sabelline*, † *sebeline*, OF. *sebelin*), = It. *sibellino*, Sp. *z-*, *cebellina*, Pg. *sebelina*; Romanic deriv. of Slav. *sobol*: see Sable *sb.*[1]]

1. A small carnivorous quadruped, the sable, *Mustela sibellina.* Also *attrib.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxiii. 62 Furres of martins, Zebelins, Sables. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 9 Garnished round with..skin three fingers broad, of Castor, or Zibellin. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colleg.* 447 Clothed ..in cloth of Gold and Silver in Zebelline and African furs. 1784 King *Cook's Voy. Pacific* VI. vi. 340 The common fox; the stoat, or ermine; the zibeline, or sable. 1808 Eleanor Sleath *Bristol Heiress* I. 177 The sibelin from her haunts decoy'd; Or chas'd the ermine from his cell. 1844 Hugh Murray *Trav. Marco Polo* I. § 23. 233 The inside is lined with skins of ermine and sibelline.

2. The fur of the sable: sable.

1869 *Daily News* 9 Jan., Black velvet, trimmed all over with sibeline. 1889 *Pall. Sci. Monthly* May (1890) 34 In 1188 or thereabout no person was allowed to wear garments of vair, gray, sibeline, or scarlet color.

3. (**Also** *sibeline cloth.*) A soft smooth woollen

material with a slightly furry surface, used for women's dress. Also *attrib.*

1890 *Daily News* 17 Dec. 3/7 Blue-grey sibeline cloth... A Czarina jacket of almond-coloured sibeline. 1893 *Lady* 17 Aug. 172/2 The cloths coming in are mostly beavers, thick sibeline finished beavers for choice. 1900 W. J. Locke *Septimus* ix, It was Emma. He recognised the sibeline toque and coat.

Zibet (zi·bĕt). Forms: 6– sibeth, 7 sibith, (sebat), 8– sibet. [ad. med.L. *sibethum* (cf. It. *sibetto*, F. *sibet*, G. *sibeth*): see Civet *sb.*[1]] A variant of Civet *sb.*[1], the animal and the perfume; used distinctively (after Buffon) for the Asiatic species of *Viverra*, *V. sibetha*, and the secretion it yields (called also *sibethum*).

1594 Blundevil *Exerc., Plancius' Map* (1597) 265 Next to her genitories, shee hath a little bagge into the which doth fall the precious greace or humour, which they call Ciuet chas'd their more terrene excrements, out of them to exalt his occidental zibith. 1781 Smellie *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) V. 242 The zibet is probably the civet of Asia, of the East Indies, and of Arabia. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 406 The marks on the lateral and anterior parts of the neck are very dark in the Zibet.

b. Comb. †**zibet-muff**, a muff made of civet fur.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2078/4 A Sebat Muff.

Zich, Zick, dial. ff. Such, Sick.

Zicsac (zi·kzæk). Also **ziksak, sagsag, siosac, si(c)ksa(c)k.** [Ultimately a. Arab. زَقْزَاق *saqzāq*, زقزاق *saqsaq* (Dozy).] An Egyptian species of plover, *Pluvianus ægyptius* (*Charadrius melanocephalus*), which by its cry warns the crocodile of approaching danger; perhaps identical with the trochilus (see Trochilus[1] 1).

1844 W. D. Cooley *Larcher's Notes Herod.* II. lxviii. I. 285 The bird called sagsag, or siksak, by the Arabs, is a species of plover. 1849 Curzon *Vis. Monast. Levant* xii. 150, I was on the point of firing at his [*sc.* a sleeping crocodile's] eye, when I observed that he was attended by a bird called a ziczac. 1882 Phil Robinson *Noah's Ark* iii, Almost too lazy to keep his jaws open while the little 'sicsac' plover picked his teeth.

Zicsac, variant of Zigzag.

Zide, obs. or dial. f. Side.

Zidonian, obs. var. Sidonian.

Ziekle, obs. form of Sickle.

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (1894) 16 He destroyed the vices in suche wyse as the siekle cuttyth herbes.

Zifer, obs. form of Cipher.

Ziffius, obs. f. Xiphias, swordfish.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 24 Huge Ziffius, whom Mariners eschew No lesse, then rockes.

Zig, the first syllable of *zigzag*: see Zag.

Zig(g, variants of Sig *sb.*, urine.

Zigan, early variant of Tzigane.

1851 Borrow *Lavengro* xc. (1893) 352 Like the forge and tent of a wandering Zigan.

Zigge, obs. f. Say *v.*[1]

Zigger, zighyr, Cornish dial. ff. Sicker *v.*[2], *Zighyr, zigger,* or *sicher,* to percolate, trickle

Ziggurat: see Zikkurat.

Zig, zigt, Zigpe: see See *v.*, Sight.

Zigzag (zi·gzæg), *sb., a., adv.* Also as two words or with hyphen; also 8 **zic-zac, zigzac(k, zicsag.** [ad. F. *zigzag* (1686 in Hatz.-Darm.); ultimate origin unknown; partly symbolic, the two different vowels suggesting the two different directions. Cf. G. *zickzack* (Speranders, 1727), said to be first used of fortifications (sense 3 a).]

A. *sb.*

1. A series of short lines inclined at angles in alternate directions; a line or course having sharp turns of this kind; *concr.* something characterized by such lines or turns. Orig. in phr. *in zigzag* (= F. *en zigzag*).

1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 42 Steps of Grass laid in *Zic-Zac* [*Note*, The French call this an *Allée en Zic-Zac*, for its Likeness to a Machine so called]. *Ibid.* 215 Chevrons, or Checks of Grass in *Zig-Zac*. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Alley*, An Alley in Ziczac, is that which has too great a Descent. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 139 The larger tubercles placed in zig-zag. 1850 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 299 Entering by the beautiful Gate of Justice, and winding in zigzag through the thickness of the tower.

1766 Colman & Garrick *Cland. Marr.* II. ii, Here's none of your strait lines here—but all taste—zig-zag—crinkum crankum—in and out. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 235 Twisted into a serpent, or bent into a zig-zag. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xl. IV. 495 The other [road] was practicable for carriages, and for this purpose was made to climb the acclivity with a zigzag. 1871 Nesbitt *Catal. Slade Coll. Glass* 6 Terminating with a turquoise zig-zag ing his forms thirteen zig-zags. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. Lehre* 182 A cap, laced and ribanded in all manner of zig-zags. *a* 1861 Clough *Poems, Ita Domum Saturus* 11 The lightning zigzags shoot across the sky. 1865 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* lxxiv, The button made many a zigzag from side to side of the table. 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 742 The grand curve of growth..does not assume the form of a continuous curve, but shows a number of small zigzags.

c. *fig.*

1781 Cowper *Conversation* 861 Though such continual zigzags in a book, Such drunken reelings, have an awkward look. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. 1842 II. 311 The fanaticks going straight forward and openly, the politicians by the surer mode of zigzag. 1813 Jane Austen *Emma* xv, The little zigzags of embarrassment. 1913 Roosevelt *Autobiogr.* 579 Our policy is apt to go in zigzags, because different sections of our people exercise at different times unequal pressure on our government.

2. A road or path turning sharply at angles in alternate directions, esp. so as to reduce the gradient on a steep slope; each of the sharp turns forming such a road.

1728 Swift *My Lady's Lam.* 184 How proudly he talks Of zigzags and walks. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* vi, I thread the doubtful zig-zags of Mayfair. 1895 Alford in *Life* (1873) 250 Up the valley of the Adour to Arreau, a village approached by zigzags. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Many years before the Zig Zag [*sc.* railway in New South Wales] was chopped out of the sidelings.

3. Applied *spec.* to other things of a zigzag shape.

a. *Fortif.* A trench leading towards a besieged place, constructed in a zigzag direction so as not to be enfiladed by the defenders; a boyau. b. *Archit.* A chevron-moulding. c. *Fishery.* (See quot.)

a. 1733 Budgell *Bee* IV. 67 A Battery began in the Morning to play upon the Cavalier of the Bastion Ghiera; the Night following the *Zic-zacs* were continued. 1854-67 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* (1851) 239 The zig-zags may often require a greater relief than the parallels.

b. 1814 Scott *Border Antiq.* I. 59 The dancette, as the figure is termed in heraldry, or zig-zag. 1826 W. A. Miles *Deserel Barrow* 4 The chevron or zig zag, that favorite British ornament so prominent in Egyptian remains. 1884 Ruskin *Pleas. Eng.* iii. § 87. (1885) 119 The Norman zigzag.

c. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Zigzag*, a winding chute on the face of a dam to enable fish to ascend.

4. Collectors' name for a shell, or a moth, with zigzag marking.

1813 S. Brookes *Conchol.* 157 Zigzag, *Cypræa Zicsac.*

B. *adj.* 1. Having the form of a zigzag; turning sharply at angles in alternate directions; characterized by turns of this kind.

1750 Dobbs in *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 543 Striking it with a wriggling Motion from Side to Side, in a zigzag Way. 1767 Hamilton *ibid.* LVIII. 11 Flashes of forked, or zig-zag lightning. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 364 He..transforms old print To zig-zag manuscript. 1792 Wordsw. *Descrip. Sketches* 236 Up from the lake a zi[illegible]h will creep. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, River*, Away jogs the boat in a zig-zag direction. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 11 A kind of zigzag channel had been worn on the side of the mountain.

fig. 1798 Mathias *Purs. Lit.* (ed. 7) 327 Be regular: from A to B proceed; I hate your zig-zag verse, and wanton heed. 1861 J. Pycroft *Ways & Words* 192 The old joke of the zigzag jury who said 'Guilty' and 'Not guilty' alternately, all through the assizes. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* vi. 145 All the brood of zig-zag politicians. 1897 Goschen in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* XLVII. 597 Our policy is to have as little of the zigzag policy..as possible.

b. *Archit.* Applied to a moulding or other ornament of a zigzag pattern: cf. A. 3 b.

c 1765 Gray *Let. to Bentham* Wks. 1825 II. 286 The chevron-work (or zig-zag moulding). 1818 *J. Smith Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 136 Channels in various forms, plain zigzag, some like network, and some spiral. 1840 C. Wordsw. *Greece* 58 Columns of green basalt, with fantastic zigzag ornaments.

c. *Bot.* Applied to the stem of a plant, or to a plant having such a stem.

1796 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* (ed. 2), *Zigzag*, used by some English writers for *Flexuous*. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 579 Zigzag Ladies smock. 1819 Rees *Cycl., Zigzag Trefoil*,..a term sometimes applied by farmers to the perennial red clover, marl grass, or wild red clover.

2. Having zigzag markings. (Chiefly *Nat. Hist.*)

1785 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* V. 61 Zigzag Bittern. 1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 946 Zigzag chama, *Venus castrensis.*

3. *Comb.*

1758 Goldar. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) II. 149 A Way very commodious cut, Zigzag Fashion. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 236 The interline is zigzag shaped. 1877 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* 96 Its joints are bent zig-zag-wise.

C. *adv.* In a zigzag manner or direction.

1787 The lightening is observed to run not in strait line, but zig zag. 1846 Grenner *Sci. Gunnery* 244 When he ignites a rocket, it may go straight forward, or zig-zag. 1860 Beveridge *Hist. India* III. viii. iv. 374 The road..led zigzag up the side of a precipitous mountain.

Zi·gzag, *v.* [f. prec. Cf. F. *zigzaguer.*]

1. *intr.* To go or move in a zigzag course; to have a zigzag course or direction. Also quasi-*trans., to zigzag it, to zigzag one's way.*

1787 Burns *Let. to J. Richmond* 7 July, His horse..zigzagged across before my old spavined hunter. 1790 T. Twining in *Recr. & Stud.* (1882) 163 We..zigzagged up to the very top. 1866-7 J. Bumborough *Minerlet Hymn. Life* xviii, *Mitherless Trove*, xiii, The surprising range of rocks, zigzagging away in all directions. 1872 Colman *Br. Coline, Lady of Wreck* II. xxvi, He had zigzagged many a league. 1882 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, He managed to..zigzag down Kennington reach..with much labour. 1897 Jacobs *Skipper's Wooing* iii, He..zigzagged his way back to the ship.

fig. [1787 Burns *Let. to Earl Buchan* Feb., While I was chalking out to you the straight way to wealth and character, with audacious effrontery you have zigzagged across the path.] 1829 Southey in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 78 Not following the natural course of thought and feeling,.. but zig-zagging after the rhyme. 1829 Hon. Smith *Gaieties & Gray.* II. 245 The red and black had zig-zagged, or won alternately for fourteen times. 1901 G. Douglas *House with Gr. Shut.* xxiii, His courage zigzagged,..one moment he towered in imagination, the next he grovelled in fear.

2. *trans.* To give a zigzag form to; to trace a zigzag line upon. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*; see also Zigzagged *a.*

1777 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 98 White zigzagged with ferruginous edges cranulated. 1872 Howells *Wedd.* growth of conically elongated cells.

3. To cause to move in a zigzag direction; *refl.* = 1.

1822 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 115, I oft zigzag me round Thy uneven, heathy ground. 1889 Gretton *Mem. Harbk.* 49 To see him zigzag his large body through the mob from the vestry to the pulpit.

Hence **Zi·gzagging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1827 Southey *Let. to Mrs. Hughes* 31 Dec., The zigzaging which it would be necessary to make in stage-coaches. 1861 E. T. Holland in *Peaks, Passes*, etc. Ser. II. (1862) I. 85 We..climbed a steep zigzagging ascent up the ridge. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1886) 14 One of these zigzagging blurs [*sc.* humming-birds] came purring toward me. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* viii, These zigzagging minds. 1893 *Athenæum* 15 July 90/1 The irritating task of zigzagging through her volumes.

Zigzagged (zi·gzægd), *a.* [f. Zigzag *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.] Having a zigzag form or marking.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1864) III. 62 The body oblong; the line running down the side zigzagged towards the tail. 1781 Warton *Hist. Oxf.* (1783) 4 The zigzagged semicircle of this arch. 1829 *Anniversary* 88 [The house] presents sundry crowfooted, alias zigzagged, gables. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 86/1 On the external barbs of the caudal feathers are two zigzagged bands.

Hence **Zi·gzaggedness.**

1893 *Strand Mag.* VI. 693 It is in accordance with the general zig-zaggedness of things that the most popular residents in the fish-house are the birds.

Zigzaggery (zi·gzægəri). [f. as prec. + -ery.] Zigzag course or proceeding (*lit.* and *fig.*).

In first quot. with allusion to Zigzag *sb.* 3 a.

1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. iii, The transverse zigzaggery of my father's approaches towards it [*sc.* his coat pocket]. 1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 248 One of those whimsical beings who hated the zig-zaggery of worldly wisdom. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 31 Aug. 4 The zigzaggery of the English Foreign Office.

Zigzaggy (zi·gzægi), *a.* [f. Zigzag *sb.* + -y[1].] Characterized by zigzags or short sharp turns at alternate angles.

a 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Blasph. Warn.* 387 The zig-zaggy pattern by Saxons invented. 1865 W. White *East. Eng.* I. x. 135 We rambled in and out of strange zig-zaggy back ways. 1900 A. Lang in *Longman's Mag.* Sept. 481 A fortification in a sketch of the style of Vauban, a zig-zaggy forked-lightning affair.

Zikere, obs. ff. Sick, Sicker *a.*

‖ **Zikkurat, ziggurat** (zi·kŭrăt, zi·g-). [Assyrian *ziqqurratu* (also *zigr-, sig(g)-, -ur(r)at*) height, pinnacle, top of a mountain, temple-tower; cf. *zagaru* to be high (Muss-Arnolt).] A staged tower of pyramid form in which each successive storey is smaller than that below it, so as to leave a terrace all round; an Assyrian or Babylonian temple-tower.

1877 tr. *Lenormant's Chaldæan Magic* xv. 227 The ziggurat or sacred tower of the palace of Khorsabad. 1883 P. H. Hunter *Story of Daniel* ix. 156 In all directions rise the lofty *ziggurats* or towers of the temples. 1898 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 5 The ziggurat, or great tower, of which the Tower of Babel was a famous example. 1908 *Expositor* May 402 The zikkurats at Erech and Borsippa.

‖ **Zillah** (zi·lă). Also **silla.** [Hind. ضلع *zilā* side, part, district, division.] An administrative district in British India.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Char.* 24 Within the silla or district of Calcutta. 1832 T. Williamson *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* II. 493 In each of the *sillahs*, or districts, only a collector, with an assistant, perhaps, was stationed. 1889 *Jrnl. Agric. Soc. India* I. 308 The Zillah of Hummeerdeg.

attrib. 1824 Heyne *Tracts on India* 303 Punishments.. executed..by the Zillah judge. 1845 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 340 Ahmedabad, 300 miles from Bombay, is a zillah station.

Hence **Zi·llahdar,** the collector of a zillah.

1785 *Asiatic Misc.* I. 409 The riots paid their revenues to the Zillahdars in the produce of the lands.

‖ **Zimb** (zimb). [Amharic.] A dipterous insect of Abyssinia, allied to and resembling the tsetse, and very destructive to cattle.

1790 Jas. Bruce *Trav.* I. 368 Large swarms of flies appeared wherever that loomy earth was..This insect is called *Zimb*..It is in size very little larger than a bee. *a* 1827 Coop *Pa. Mu. 31* (1854) 415 He spake, and the zimb-fly came.

Zimme, spurious word; being the OE. *zimme gem*, with the *g* taken for a *z*.

1846 Lytton *Harold* II. iii, Taking from his own neck a

collar of zimmes..of great price. *Ibid.* III. ii, His diadem, with the three zimmes shaped into a triple trefoil.]

Zimome: see ZYMOME.

Zinc (ziŋk), *sb.* Forms: 7–9 **sink**, (7 **sinke**, 7–8 **sinck**), 8– **zinc**. [ad. G. *sink* (of obscure origin), whence also late 17th c. F. *sinc* († *sinch*, † *sin*, † *sain*), Sw., Da. *sink*, etc., mod.L. *zincum*.]

1. A hard bluish-white metal (commercially known as SPELTER), brittle at ordinary temperatures, but malleable and ductile between 200° and 250° F.; obtained from various ores, esp. the sulphide (BLENDE), the carbonate and silicate (CALAMINE, SMITHSONITE), and the red oxide (ZINCITE), and used for roofing, for coating or 'galvanizing' sheet-iron, and for numerous other purposes; it forms several alloys, of which the best known is that with copper called BRASS. Chemical symbol Zn; atomic weight 65.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 139 Any sulphurous, and imperfect metall, as Iron, Copper, or Zinke. 1732–3 P. SHAW *Chem. Lect.* xviii. (1755) 409 We took six Ounces of Copper, and melted it in a Wind-Furnace, added to it an Ounce of Zink. 1813 Sir H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* ii. (1814) 48 Zinc is one of the most combustible of the common metals. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiv. 344 The metal zinc may be burnt in oxygen. 1878 BROWNING *Poets of Croisic* viii, Zinc's uncontrolled Flake-brilliance.

b. (with *pl.*) A plate of zinc used as the electro-positive metal in a voltaic battery. (Cf. ZINCODE.)

1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 29 If the zincs are scraped clean and the solution of sal-ammoniac kept up.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. attrib. Made or consisting of zinc, as *zinc dish, filings, gauze, plate, wire*; containing or made with zinc, as *zinc amalgam, bath, lotion, ointment, ore, plaster*; *spec.* in names of chemical compounds, as *zinc carbonate, oxide, salt*, etc.; pertaining to or used in connexion with zinc, as *zinc furnace*. b. objective and instrumental, as *zinc etching, printing; zinc-worker; zinc-lined, -roofed* adjs. c. Spec. comb.: **zinc-alum, -amide** (see quots.); **zinc-blende**, native zinc sulphide = BLENDE; **zinc-bloom** [tr. G. *zinkblüthe* (Karsten, 1808)], hydrous carbonate of zinc, hydrozincite; **zinc-dust**, zinc in the form of fine powder (often mixed with zinc oxide and other impurities), obtained by grinding, or in the extraction of zinc from its ores, and used as a deoxidizing agent and as a paint (see *zinc-grey*); **zinc-foil**, thin sheet zinc; **zinc-grey**, (*a*) zinc-dust obtained by grinding in oil, used as a preservative paint for ironwork; (*b*) a colour resembling that of zinc; **zinc-iron**, *sb.* an alloy of zinc and iron; *adj.* consisting of zinc and iron; **zinc-plate** = *zinc-foil*; **zinc-powder** = *zinc-dust*; **zinc spar**, an old name for native zinc carbonate (= CALAMINE, SMITHSONITE 2); **zinc-spinel** = GAHNITE (Dana *Min.* 1868); **zinc-sponge** (see quot.); **zinc-vitriol**, sulphate of zinc, white vitriol (Jameson *Syst. Min.*, 1805, II. 35); **zinc-white**, oxide of zinc used as a white paint.

1821 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 46 Sulphate of Alumina and Zinc-oxide.—"Zinc-alum = $ZnO,SO^3 + Al^2O^3,3SO^3+24Aq$. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 166 Dilute muriatic acid, containing some wine stone and *zinc amalgam. 1849 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XIII. 503 Action of Zinc-ethyl on Ammonia..after a little while, *zinc-amide NH^2Zn separates out. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 339 During the year 1827, the venereal patients took on the whole 14 saline baths, 38 *zinc baths. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 573 The principal ores of zinc are calamine..and *zinc blende. *Ibid.* 575 The mineral substance, *zinc bloom. 1821 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 9 The precipitated *zinc-carbonate is washed..by subsidence and decantation. 1883 *Hartwich's Phot. Chem.* (ed. 9) 390 *Zinc dishes must not be used. 1877 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* I. 458 Action of *Zinc-dust on the Chlorides of Sulphoparabromobenzoic Acid. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 216 In the *zinc-etching systems the gelatin is spread on the zinc. 1809 J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 305 The concrete phosphoric acid, heated with *zinc-filings, is decomposed. 1821 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 4 To obtain zinc-plate, or *zinc-foil, the metal cast in a tabular form is heated in a boiling solution of common salt, and then passed between rollers. 1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* IV. 1006 *Zinc Furnace for the Distillation of Zinc combined with Lead. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 914 The windows should be protected..with fly *zinc-gauze. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Zinc-gray, see *Zinc-dust*. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Jan. 3/2 Zinc grey is very much worn. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 177 The *zinc-iron circuit. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 149 Kreittonnite, or Zinc-Iron Gahnite. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 385/2 The leather is rolled and compressed on a level *zinc-lined wooden bed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 522 *Zinc lotions. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvi. 332 *Zinc ointment. 1868 *Zinc ore [see GAHNITE]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1330 The mineral genus called zinc-ore..is denser than either of the above. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 223 Small quantities of iron and *zinc oxides. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 579 A simple *zinc plaster will be as much as the skin will tolerate. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 126 A *zinc plate of ten inches was immersed in the liquid. 1881 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXIX. 462 Two grams of the *zinc powder are weighed out. 1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 411, *Zinc printing..can be applied with great advantage for certain purposes in the etching style, for maps, plans,..&c. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 312 The *zinc-roofed bungalow.

1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 3) 777 When hydroferrocyanic acid is added to a soluble *zinc-salt. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Zinc-scum, the zinc-silver alloy skimmed from the surface of the bath in the process of desilverization of lead by zinc. 1908 *Times* 6 July 14/6 *Zinc sheets quiet at late rates. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 236 *Zinc Spar. 1900 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 110/2 The deposition of pure zinc is beset with many difficulties,..unless the conditions are closely watched, it is liable to be thrown down in a spongy form...Siemens and Halske have proposed the addition of oxidising agents such as free halogens, to prevent the formation of zinc hydride, to which they attribute the formation of *zinc-sponge. 1821 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 14 The solution of *zinc-sulphate is mixed with sal-ammoniac. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 398 Zinc sulphate..is used..as an emetic. 1849 *Weale's Dict. Terms* s.v., *Zinc white is valuable..in painting, on account of its durability both in oil and water. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 58 He placed the *zinc wire on the tongue. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Zinc worker and drawer, a preparer of zinc for making into wire.

Zinc (ziŋk), *v.* Inflected **zinced, zin(c)ked** (ziŋkt), **zincing, zin(c)king** (ziˑŋkiŋ). [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To cover or coat with zinc or some compound of zinc (esp. ironwork, as a preservative from rust); to treat with zinc, add zinc to. Hence **Zinced** (ziŋkt) *ppl. a.*, **Zincing** (ziˑŋkiŋ) *vbl. sb.*

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 328/2 Improvements..in tinning or zincing metal. *Ibid.* 353/2 Zinked nails and bolts. 1842 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 731 The advantage of zinced iron. 1843 *Pract. Mech. & Eng. Mag.* II. 348 These processes enable us to zinc in an economical manner, iron, steel [etc.]. *Ibid.*, An estimate for zinking the suspension bridge at Hungerford Market. 1890 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Nov. 401 The conditions under which the zincked pipe is to be used. 1891 J. A. PHILLIPS & BAUERMAN *Elem. Metall.* (ed. 3) 700 Parkes's process, or, as it is now frequently called, 'zincing'. 1895 MORRIS in Mackail *W. M.* (1899) II. 319 The little barn finished with a zinked iron roof.

‖ **Zincalo** (ziˑŋkälo), *fem.* **-ala.** Pl. **-ali.** [The name by which the Gitanos of Spain call themselves. Cf. ZINGANO, etc.] A Spanish gipsy.

1849 BORROW *Bible in Spain* ix, The Zincali, Gitános, or Spanish gypsies. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gypsy* I. 137 Before you dreamed You were a born Zincala—in the bonds Of the Zincali's faith.

Zincate (ziˑŋkeit). *Chem.* [f. ZINC *sb.* + -ATE⁴.] A compound which may be regarded as a combination of the oxide of zinc (*zincic oxide*) with that of a more electropositive metal.

1872 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* Index 330/1.

Zincic (ziˑŋkik), *a.* Also **sinckic.** [ad. mod.L. *zincicus*, f. *zincum* ZINC.] Of, pertaining to, or containing zinc. *Zincic oxide*, oxide of zinc, regarded as the source of the compounds called *zincates*.

1820 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Zincicus* .. Berzelius terms *Oxydum zincicum* the second degree of oxidation of zinc.. zinzic [*sic*]. 1869 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXII. 33 The mixture of ethylic zincodiethoxalate and zincic iodide.

Zincíferous (ziŋkiˑfĕrəs), *a.* Also (in Dicts.) **zincokiferous, zinkiferous.** [f. ZINC *sb.*: see -FEROUS.] Containing or producing zinc.

1820 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 333 The black zinciferous mineral, the Franklinite. 1828–32 WEBSTER, Zinkiferous.

Zincify (ziˑŋkifəi), *v.* Also (in Dicts.) **zinkify.** [f. ZINC *sb.*: see -FY.] *trans.* To coat or impregnate with zinc. Hence **Zi·ncifica·tion** (zink-), the process of zincifying, or state of being zincified.

1821 COLERIDGE in *Sir H. Davy's Rem.* (1858) 89 My motive muscles tingled and contracted at the news,..as if you..were zincifying their life-mocking fibres. 1891 EISSLER *Metall. Argent. Lead* 304 Argentiferous zinc may settle in the cavities during zincification.

Zincite (ziˑŋkəit). *Min.* Also (in Dicts.) **zinckite, zinkite.** [f. ZINC *sb.* + -ITE¹.] A native oxide of zinc, of a deep-red or orange-yellow colour, found in New Jersey; red oxide of zinc, red zinc ore.

1854 DANA *Min.* (ed. 4) II. 100 Zincite Group.

Zinckenite, variant of ZINKENITE.

Zinckic, -iferous, -ite: see ZINCIC, etc.

Zincky: see ZINKY.

Zinco (ziˑŋko), abbreviation of ZINCOGRAPH.

1887 *Scott. Leader* 23 Nov. 5 The zinco has some resemblance to Mr. G. 1889 *Athenæum* 26 Oct. 542/2 Drawings Wanted (on litho paper for zincoing) for a Provincial Journal. 1892 *Cost of Production* (ed. 2) 44 Various 'processes' of which the 'zinco-process' is one of the commonest.

Zinco-, combining form of mod.L. *zincum* ZINC. a. In terms denominating chemical compounds containing zinc and some other element or radical, as *zinco-aluminic, -ammonic*, etc. adjs.; *zinco-sulphate*, etc. b. In various other terms: **Zincocalcite** (ziŋkokaˑlsəit) *Min.* (see quot. 1892); **Zincolysis** (ziŋkoˑlisis) [after ELECTROLYSIS], decomposition by an electric current (as in a voltaic cell of which the anode consists of zinc), electrolysis; so **Zincolyte** (ziˑŋkolsəit), a substance thus decomposed, an electrolyte; **Zincopo·lar** *a.*, having the polarity of the zinc plate or zincode of a voltaic cell; **Zi·ncotype** = ZINCOGRAPH.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 209 The surface of the zinc presented to the acid has zincous affinity, or is zinco-polar. *Ibid.* 222 On the electrical hypothesis a body which is thus decomposed in the active cells..is called an *electrolyte*,.. and this kind of decomposition is distinguished as *electrolysis*. The chemical expressions equivalent to these are *zincolyte* and *zincolysis*. 1892 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 36 Carbonate of Zinc-oxide and Ammonium Carbonate. *Ibid.* 481 Zinco-cupric Sulphate. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 29 Mar. 373/2 White lead is..more siccative than the zinco-sulphate. 1889 *Athenæum* 12 Oct. 492/2 The two volumes are copiously illustrated by a zincotype process. 1890 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 335 In Zincotypes the zinc is first coated with bitumen or bichromated gelatine or albumen. 1892 *Dana's Min.* (ed. 6) 269 *Zincocalcite*, Contains some zinc carbonate; one specimen from Olkucz, Poland, gave Gibbs 4·07 ZnO. 1892 *Daily News* 23 Sept. 8/6 Zincotyper is open for Engagement.

Zincode (ziˑŋkəʊd). *Electr.* [f. mod.L. *zincum* ZINC + Gr. ὁδός path, after ANODE, etc.] The positive (zinc) plate (anode) of a voltaic cell.

1839 [see PLATINODE].

Zincography (ziŋkoˑgräfi). [f. ZINCO- + -GRAPHY.] The art or process of engraving or etching designs on zinc, or of printing from such designs. Hence **Zincograph** (ziˑŋkograf) *sb.*, a design or impression produced by zincography; **Zi·ncograph** *v. trans.*, to engrave or print by zincography; **Zinco·grapher**, one who practises zincography, an engraver on zinc; **Zincogra·phic** *a.*, pertaining to or produced by zincography.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 523 The art of zincography has several advantages over that of lithography. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1334 Zinc is extensively employed for making..plates for the zincographer. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 469 [Zinc] is also engraved on (instead of stone) for zincographic printing. 1865 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 239/2 An ancient map zincographed. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 14 Jan. 429/3 The..zincographic plate is brought under the roller. 1888 *Encin. Rev.* Jan. 231 Reproduced in 'zincograph' by the aid of photography. 1890 *Munim. Royal Burgh Irvine* I. Introd. p. xxxii, Zincographs of these stones.

Zincoid (ziˑŋkoid). [f. ZINC + -OID.] = ZINCODE.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 216 On the electrical hypothesis, the same plates are variously denominated: The zincoid as the positive pole, the positive electrode, and the zincode...Chlorine is of course attracted by the surface of the zincoid and discharged there. 1848 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* I. 431 Graham's *Zincode* or *Zincoid*.

Zincous (ziˑŋkəs), *a. Chem.* and *Electr.* [f. mod.L. *zinc-um* ZINC + -OUS.] Pertaining to or of the nature of zinc; having the affinity of zinc; relatively electropositive. (Opp. to CHLOROUS.)

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 204 The zincous pole. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 277 It is true in a general way that those elements which differ most strongly in their electrical characters, chlorine and potassium, for example, are likewise those which combine together with the greatest energy; and the division of bodies into electro-positive and electro-negative is therefore retained; the former are also called acid or chlorous, and the latter basylous or zincous.

Zines, ? obs. variant of ZOUNDS.

1709 [E. WARD] *Rambling Fuddle-Caps* 9 Zines, Madam, says Nell, in a damnable Fury, I won't be thus snub'd and abus'd. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 82. 2/2 *Zines*..we suppose..an affected Word for *Zouns*.

Zinfandel (ziˑnfændel). A red or white dry wine of California.

1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 393 He drinks cheap Zinfandel, which must kill him eventually. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) Nov. 144/2 Four-year-old zinfandel.

Zing(e, obs. or dial. ff. SING *v.*[1]

‖ **Zingano** (ziˑŋgäno), *fem.* **-ana** (-ănă). Pl. **-ani, -e.** Also anglicized **6 cingane, 7–8 zingan**; pl. **7, 9 zinganies.** [Italian. For the etymology, see Miklosisch in *Denkschr. d. k. Akad.* (Wien) XXVI. 55–64, Wiener in *Archiv f. d. Studium d. neueren Spr.* CIX. 295–6.] = ZINGARO, -ARA.

1582 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 26 Your meaning is..that as it is lawfull onelie for the Cinganes to robbe, so these also haue priuiledge to plaie in open streete. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 290 In that iourney they are exceedingly molested by certaine theeues called Zingani. 1684 T. SMITH in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 446 There are thousands of Gypsies or Zinganies in Turkey. 1728 JON. RICHARDSON *Statues Italy* 334 An Exquisite Madonna, a Half Figure only, the same Attitude as the Zingana. *a* 1733 CHISHULL *Trav. Turkey* (1747) 93 A gang of Zingans, or gypsies. 1838 W. HOWITT *Rural Life Eng.* I. 249 They were very sweet nondescripts, but not very perfect beggars; and far, far indeed from perfect Zinganies.

‖ **Zingaro** (ziˑŋgäro), *fem.* **-ara** (-ără). Pl. **-ari, -e.** Also 7 *pl.* **Singari, Zingaries**; 9 **Zingares.** [It. Cf. prec.] A gipsy; also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 45 The very Northerne Women..haue their faces tanned, that they may seeme to be Southerne Women (which sort are in Italy called *Singari*). 1775 CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* 159 Some of the vagrant people, called Atsincari or Zingari, the Gypsies of the East. 1784–8 *Ann. Reg.* II. 83 A Vocabulary of the Zingara, or Gypsey Language. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, I am a Zingaro, a Bohemian, an Egyptian, or whatever the Europeans..may choose to call our people. *Ibid.*, The Zingaro boy was no house-bred cur. 1846 FITZBALL *Maritana* III. Duetto, *Don C.* Once more we meet! 'Tis the Zingara! *Mar.* Yes, Maritana. 1856 *Amy Carlton* 129 She had copied two lines of the 'The Merry Zingra'; then she.. hummed 'I'm a merry, merry Zingra'. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mary & Merch.* I. vii. 217 The Zingari had built their fires. 1906 E. REICH *Plato* vi. 134 The Zingaree or gypsy mother.

‖ **Zingel** (tsiˑŋgĕl). [G.] Any fish of the perciod genus *Aspro*; esp. *A. zingel* of the Danube. So **Zi·ngelin**, an allied species.

1809 SHAW *Zool.* IV. 55 Zingel Perch. *Ibid.*, Zingelin Perch. ..... to the Zingel in general appearance. 1868 *Chambers Encycl.* X. 352/2.

† Zingho. *Obs. rare.* [? for It. *zinco.*] Zinc.
1743 WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 10 June, He promised me too to go to Lord Islay, to know what cobolt and zingho are.

Zingiberaceous (zindʒibĕrē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Zingiberaceæ*, f. *Zingiber*: see GINGER *sb.* and -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N. O. *Zingiberaceæ* of monocotyledonous plants, typified by the genus *Zingiber* (GINGER).
1848 SMART (ed. 2). 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. iii. 52 A stream overgrown with Zingiberaceous plants.

Zink, obs. f. ZINC.

‖ Zinke (zi·ŋkɛ̄, tsi·ŋkɛ̄). Also **sincke, sink, zinka.** [G.] A cornet-like musical instrument of wood or horn, formerly common in Europe; also, a loud reed-stop in an organ.
1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* II. iv. iv. 452 Luscinius next exhibits the forms of four other wind instruments, namely, 1. the Ruspfeiff. 2. The Krumhorn. 3. The Gemsen horn. And 4. the Zincke. [*Note*] The Gemsen horn and Basaun.. are to be found in many great organs in Germany, as is also the Zincke corruptly spelt Cink. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 521 *Zink* or *Zincke*. 1927 *Museums Jrnl.* XVI. 239 A zinka (wind instrument) of the 17th century, made of ivory with ornamental mountings.

Zinked: see ZINC *v.*

Zinkenite (zi·ŋkĕnəit). *Min.* Also **sinok-.** [ad. G. *zinkenit* (G. Rose, 1826), named in honour of J. K. L. *Zincken*, director of Anhalt mines.] A steel-grey sulphide of antimony and lead.
1835 *R. D. & T. Thomson's Ann. Gen. Sci.* I. 272 Combinations of sulphuret of antimony and sulphuret of lead in different proportions, viz.: zinkenite,..Plagionite, Federerz, Bournonite.

Zinkiferous, -ify, -ite: see ZINCIFEROUS, etc.

Zinking: see ZINC *v.*

Zinky (zi·ŋki), *a.* Also **sinoky.** [f. ZINC + -Y 1.] Pertaining to zinc; containing zinc.
1757 tr. *J. F. Henckel's Pyritologia* 176 The ground-mixtion of this zinky matter. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 218 The Zincky ores.

Zinnar, obs. f. CHENAR, plane-tree.

‖ Zinnia (zi·niă). *Bot.* Also *errón.* **zinia.** [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1763), from the name of J. G. *Zinn*, a German botanist.] A plant of the genus so named of American composite plants, extensively cultivated for the beauty of their flowers.
1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 227 Sowing less tender Annuals.. The principal sorts are.. alkekengi or winter-cherry, tobacco-plant, zinnia, Indian corn. 1885 PATER *Marius* xi. I. 187 They visited the flower-market..and purchased zinias..to decorate the folds of their togas. 1910 *Nation* 13 Aug. 702/1 The hot and scentless glare of zinnias and dahlias.

Zinnwaldite (zi·nwɒldəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *zinnwaldit* (Haidinger, 1845), f. *Zinnwald* in Bohemia, its locality.] A kind of mica containing lithium and iron, a variety of lepidolite.
1861 BRISTOW *Glass. Min.*, *Zinnwaldite*, Haidinger.

Zinopre, var. SINOPER *Obs.*

Zinziberaceous (zi·nzibĕrē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* = ZINGIBERACEOUS. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Ziogoon, variant of SHOGUN.

Zion (zəi·ən). Forms: 1– **Sion**, 5 **Syon**, 7– **Sion.** [eccl. L. *Sīon*, Gr. Σιών, Σειών, a. Heb. צִיּוֹן *tsīyōn.*] The name of one of the hills of Jerusalem, on which the city of David was built, and which became the centre of Jewish life and worship; in biblical and derived use, allusively for: The house or household of God; and, hence connoting variously, the Israelites and their religious system, the Christian Church, heaven as the final home of believers, a place of worship or meeting-house (cf. BETHEL, EBENEZER 2).
c 1000 *Ps.* lxxxiv. 7 in Ælfric *Hom.* II. 334 Ða halgan faraŏ fram mihte to mihte; ealra goda God biŏ geseewen on Sion. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* li. 16 That thou plaunte heuenus, and founde erthe, and sey to Sion, My puple thou art. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 2 As ye are doughtres of this bodely Syon, so ought ye to be doughtres of Syon goostly. *Ibid.* 147 By Syon ..ye vnderstonde sowles that are gyuen to contemplacyon, where in oure lorde Iesu chryste ye sewrely stabled. *a* 1542 WYATT *Penit. Ps.* iv. 77 Make Syon, Lord, acordyng to thy will, Inward Syon, the Syon of the ghost. 1611 *Bible* Ep. Ded., Many, who wished not well vnto our Sion. 1779 J. NEWTON *Hymns*, '*Glorious things of thee are spoken*' v, Solid joys and lasting treasure None but Zion's children know. 1820 GALT *R. Gilhaize* vii, That same city of St. Andrews is the Zion of Scotland. Of old, the glad tidings of salvation were first heard there. 1872 R. B. VAUGHAN *Life S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 859 As if the Basilica of S. Peter's were brought into juxtaposition with the Zions and Ebenezers of our more modern days.

Hence **Zi·oner**, a member of an organized religious body; **Zi·onless** *a. fig.*, having no centre of common worship.
1760 RUTTY *Spir. Diary* (ed. 2) 158 O the carelessness of our Sioners. 1908 F. SPENCE *Chr. Reunion* ix. 170 The tribes must remain Zion-less without the Ecclesia.

Zionism (zəi·ənizm). Also **Sion-.** [f. prec. + -ISM.] A movement among modern Jews having for its object the assured settlement of their race upon a national basis in Palestine. So **Zi·onist**, a supporter of Zionism; also *attrib.* or as *adj.*
1898 *Jewish Chron.* 27 Jan. 12/2 The emigration and Zionist societies. *Ibid.* 13 May 10/2, I would ask them.. to consider whether Zionism..really deserves to be preached down as a standing danger to Israel's progress. *Ibid.* 28 Aug. 6/1 Many of those who worship the national ideal are Zionists; not all though, nor do all Zionists share the national idea. *Ibid.*, Zionism does not necessarily aim at the formation of a Jewish State in Palestine. 1905 *Times* 5 May 15/2 Zionism had actually penetrated the West End Synagogue. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 389 The Zionists, who are a small minority of the Jews.

Zionite (zəi·ənəit). [f. ZION + -ITE 1.] **a.** A citizen of Zion; one of the chosen people of God. **b.** One of a sect so called: see quot. 1886.
1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 342 The Zionites, the people of God, the citizens of Zion. 1880–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1604 The Zionites in Norway. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 842/2 Founded in 1737 by the followers of Elias Eller, a religious enthusiast, Ronsdorf received town-rights in 1745. The Ronsdorf sect, the members of which called themselves Zionites, is now extinct.

Zionward(s (zəi·ənwɒ̆d(z)), *adv.* [f. ZION + -WARD(S.] Towards Zion; usually *fig.* heavenwards.
1815 A. BURN *Mem.* (1816) I. 35 The same..Sun of Righteousness to guide our faces Zionward. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trumpet, Christianity* (1890) 83 They are too polite to travel Zionward in such company. 1861 EDMOND *Children's Ch. at Home* xxi. 325 The faces of all are Zionwards.

Zip (zip), *sb. colloq.* [Imitative.]
1. (Often reduplicated *zip, zip*, or *zip-zip.*) A syllable expressing a light sharp sound such as that produced by a bullet or other small or slender object passing rapidly through the air or through some obstacle, or by the tearing of canvas or the like; a sound of this kind, or movement accompanied by such sound.
1875 FOCA *Arabistan* xxi. 264 The blood-thirsty *sip* of mosquitoes by the million. 1885 *Century Mag.* May 134/2 The *ping, sip, zip* of bullets. 1887 D. C. MURRAY in *Good Words* Apr. 249 The zip of the needle and swish of the thread went on. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* ii. 55 Another buck-shot tore through the rotten canvas tilt with a vicious zipp.
2. *fig.* Energy, force, impetus.
1900 LORIMER *Old Gorgon Graham* xi. (1904) 225, I need.. a little more zest for my food, and a little more zip about my work. 1907 N. MUNRO *Daft Days* xxxii, That's how I feel..when I've got the zip of poetry in me.

So **Zip** *v., intr.* to make the sound expressed by 'zip' (chiefly in *pr. pple.* and *vbl. sb.*).
1881 J. M. BATTEN *Remin. Two Yrs. U.S. Navy* 72, I heard the zipping of bullets in the air close to my head. 1913 STRATTON-PORTER *M. O'Halloran* xix, [A snake] that would..coil zipping mad over the warm twisting body.

Ziphioid (zi·fiɔid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* Also *errón.* siphoid. [f. mod.L. *Ziphius* (Cuvier, 1834), erron. form for *Xiphius*, ad. Gr. ξίφιος, var. form of ξιφίας swordfish, XIPHIAS; see -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling or allied to the genus *Ziphius* of whales; belonging to or having the characters of the family *Ziphiidæ*. **b.** *sb.* A ziphioid whale. Also **Zi·phian**; so **Zi·phiiform** *a.*, having the form of a whale of this genus.
1870 FLOWER *Osteol. Mamm.* Iv. 40 In *Hyperoodon*, and most of the other Ziphioids, the whole of the cervical vertebræ are ankylosed together. 1870 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. VI. 348 A Ziphioid Whale, probably *Berardius Arnuxii*. 1876 TOMES *Dental Anat.* iii. 56 The *Micropteron*, a siphoid Cetacean. *Ibid.* ix. 288 The Cetaceans classed together as Ziphoids have no teeth in the upper jaw. 1896 R. J. ANDERSON *Whales & Dolph.* II. 23 In Ziphians the ribs are ten. *Ibid.* 24 In Sternum of the Ziphian kind A hole at middle, you will find.

Ziphoide, erron. var. XIPHOID.

Ziphre, obs. form of CIPHER.

Zippeite (zi·pɛ̆,ɛit). *Min.* [ad. G. *zippeit* (Haidinger, 1845), named after F. X. M. *Zippe*, a German mineralogist.] A sulphate of uranium, occurring in small bright yellow needles.
1844 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*

Ziraleet (zi·rălɛ̆t). [Arabic; cf. *saghrata, saghlata* to utter the cries of joy called *saghrūta*[h] or *saghrīta*[h], pl. *saghārīt* (Dozy).] (See quot. 1794.)
1794 *A. Russell's Aleppo* (ed. 2) I. 382 The Ziraleet, or Zilroota زلغوطة, (as written by a native of Aleppo) is the common manner of a company of women expressing joy, or any sudden exultation. The words expressed are Lilié, Lilié, Lilié, repeated as often as the person can do at one breath. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R., Veiled Prophet* m. ix, And light your shrines and chaunt your ziraleets. [In *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. VI. 268 'A lark's ziraleet' is said to be used by Longfellow.]

Ziraph, obs. form of GIRAFFE.

† Zirbal, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. late L. *zirbus* + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the *zirbus* or omentum.
1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cccx, There be thre kyndes of ruptures, the fyrst is zirbale.

Zirco-: see ZIRCONIO-.

Zircon (zɔ·ɹkɒn). *Min.* Also 8 **circon**, 9 **sircone.** [ad. F. *zircone*, G. *zirkon*; see JARGON *sb.*[2]] A native silicate of zirconium, occurring in tetragonal crystals, variously coloured, red, yellow, brown, green, etc.
Colourless and translucent varieties are used as gems: cf. HYACINTH 1 b, JARGON *sb.*[2]
1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 24 Jargonic Earth or Jargonia. This earth has been discovered by Mr. Klaproth; it has as yet been found only in the stone called Jargon, or Circon, of Ceylon. 1814 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 93 *Zircon earth. 1809 J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 274 *Zircon fossils. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 275 Tetragonal *zircon-like minerals. 1825 HAIDINGER tr. *Mohs' Treat. Min.* II. 370 Those [varieties of pyramidal zircon] from Frederiksvärn in Norway [occur] in *zircon-syenite.

Zirconate (zɔ·ɹkŏnɛ̄t). *Chem.* [f. ZIRCON-IC + -ATE 1 c.] A salt of zirconic acid.
1831 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 464 Zirconate of Cupric Oxide.

Zirconia (zəɹkɔ·niă). *Chem.* Also 8 **circonia**, 9 **sirconia.** [mod.L. (Klaproth), f. *zircon*: see above and -IA 1.] An earth, usually obtained as a white powder by heating zirconium to redness in contact with air; zirconium dioxide, ZrO_2; used in certain incandescent burners.
1797 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 206 The hyacinth..consists of.. more than six-tenths of its weight of a peculiar earth, now known under the name of jargon, zircon, or circonia. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 160 When exposed to a violent heat, zirconia becomes fused, and assumes a somewhat greyish colour. 1812 DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 361 Zircona is soluble in the mineral acids. 1871 tr. *Schellen's Spectrum Anal.* 19 The oxyhydrogen light..attains a still higher intensity, if a piece of magnesium or zirconia be substituted for the cylinder of lime.
attrib. 1849 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 343 The sirconia-salts are not precipitated by zinc. 1878 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Zirconia Light*, one in which a stick of oxide of zirconium is exposed to the flame of oxyhydrogen gas.

Zirconian (zəɹkɔ·niăn), *a.* [f. prec. + -AN.] = ZIRCONIC. *Z. syenite* = zircon-syenite (ZIRCON b).
1823 ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* III. 378 *note*, Pyroxenic porphyries with amygdaloids and zirconian syenites.

Zirconic (zəɹkɒ·nik), *a.* [f. ZIRCON, ZIRCONIA, or ZIRCONIUM + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or like zircon; containing zirconia or zirconium. *Zirconic acid*, an acid containing zirconium, known only by its salts (*zirconates*).
1804 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 304 After the zirconic follows the silicious genus. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 539/1 Zirconic oxide is infusible.

Zirconio- (zəɹkɔ·niǒ), *Chem.*, also **zircono-**, and abbreviated **zirco-**, combining form of ZIRCONIUM, indicating the presence of zirconium in a compound, as *zircon(i)ofluoride*, a compound of zirconium fluoride, ZrF_4, with any of various oxides (more properly *fluozirconate*: see FLUO-).
1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 383 Double salts, called zirco-fluorides or fluozirconates. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 859/1 Combinations..With various metallic fluorides..These salts are often called zircono-fluorides, or fluo-zirconates; they are better named zirconi-fluorides.

Zirconite (zɔ·ɹkŏnəit). *Min.* [f. ZIRCON + -ITE 1 2 b.] A greyish or brownish variety of zircon. Hence **Zirconi·tic** *a.*, containing zircon.
1814 AIKIN *Man. Min.* 87 Zirconite..occurs in small crystals imbedded in Sienite. 1895 *Dana's Man. Geol.* (ed. 4) 83, *a.* Common or ordinary granite..*d.* Zirconitic.

Zirconium (zəɹkɔ·niŏm). *Chem.* Also 9 **circonum.** [mod.L., f. ZIRCON.] A metallic element, obtained from zircon as a black powder or as a greyish crystalline substance. Symbol Zr.
1808 DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 353 Had I been so fortunate as to have..procured the metallic substances I was in search of, I should have proposed for them the names of sillicium, alumium, zirconium, and glucium. 1822 — *Chem. Philos.* 361 No substance has as yet been formed..in which zirconum can be supposed to exist free from oxygene. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* 382 Zirconium..is a tetrad metal.
attrib. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 382 Zirconium Oxide ..is prepared by strongly igniting zircon. 1906 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 245/3 The osmium, tantalum, and zirconium incandes..nt filan.. of electric glow-lamps.

Zisel, variant of ZIZEL.

Zit(te, Zitoh: see SIT *v.*, SUCH.

‖ Zitella. *Obs.* Pl. **-e.** [It.] A girl, young woman, maiden.
a 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 230 The Procession of the *Zitelle* upon our Ladyes day in Lent. 1679 MRS. BEHN *Feign'd Curtizans* III. i, A Curtizan! and a Zittella too? a pretty contradiction! *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Mar. 1645, We saw the Pope and Cardinals ride in pomp to the Minerva..when he gives portions to 300 *zitelle*.

Zither (zi·ɒəɹ). Also **zitt(h)er.** [ad. G. *zither*: see CITHER, CITHERN.] A musical instrument (introduced into England *c* 1850 from Austria) having from thirty to forty strings let into the lower rim of a shallow resonance-box, and played by striking with the fingers and thumb.
In modifications of the instrument a fretted finger-board is fitted across a resonance-box shaped like a heart (*true zither*) or like a viola (*viola zither*), and the instrument is played with a bow.
1890 *The Initials* Iv, I expected some such proposition as soon as I heard the sound of the zither. 1891 MEREDITH *Harry Richmond* xxx, Nothing haunted me so much as those tones of her zither. 1894 Miss R. H. BUSK *Vall.*

Tirol Prof. p. vi, Just as..the barrel-organ supersedes the zither and the guitar.

b. *Comb.*, as *zither music, player*; **zither-banjo**, a modification of the zither, resembling a banjo.

1890 *The Initials* iv, The untutored singers and zither players. 1891 W. BLACK *Sunrise* iii, He was passionately fond of zither music. 1900 *Referee* 9 Dec. 3 (Cass. Suppl.), Mr. ——'s 'Valse des Fleurs', with a zither-banjo.

Hence **Zi·therist**, a performer on the zither.

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Feb. 6/2 The Zitherist to his Highness the Duke of Nassau.

Zithern (zi·þəm). Also **sittern**. Variant of ZITHER; cf. CITTERN.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1868 *Daily News* 14 Aug., A couple of musicians, one playing the violin, another an instrument something like the zittern. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. vi. 215 He is playing..on a kind of zithern-harp.

Zix, Zixt: see SIX, SEE *v.*

‖ **Zizania** (zi-, zəizē·niă). *Bot.* [mod.L. fem. sing. = late L. n. pl. (see ZIZANY).] (Any aquatic grass of) the genus so named, esp. *Z. aquatica* (Canada, Indian, water, or wild rice).

1809 T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 157 The zizania or Canada-rice. 1847 PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man.* V. vi. v. § 6. 395 The Menomonies are called 'Folles Avoines', or Wild Oats, from the wild rice or zizania which their country produces.

† **Zizany.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **sizanny**, **-ije**, 5 **sizannie**, 6 **sizanie**, 6–8 **sizany**; also (in Gr.-L. form) 4–6 **sizania**, 7 *pl.* **sizaniaes**. [a. OF. *sizanie*, ad. late L. *zizania* n. pl., a. Gr. ζιζάνια, pl. of ζιζάνιον.]

1. An injurious weed among corn; also *fig.*; = TARE *sb.*[1] 3, b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1138 þi wete sal bi-com sizanny [*Gött.* sizannije, *Fairf.* darnel]. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 100 Recipe semen iusquiamus, sizannie, i. darnel. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 913 Zizany, droe. 1582 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 74 To desaue the varld to sau zizanie and pernicious heresie in mennis hartis. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 314 Many holy and excellent persons God has dispersed, as wheat among the tares and zizany.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxciv. (1495) X iv/1 Ray hyghte Zizania and is a certen herbe..lyke to whete whanne it is grasse.] 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 41 There is great lyknes betwene whete and zizaniam, which we call lollum. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 899/2 The doctrine of the Behemians, whiche he termeth by the name of Zizania. 1612 T. JAMES *Iesuits Downef.* 8 With their Zizaniaes of faction, they make boot & havocke of Catholickes estates.

2. = ZIZANIA. *rare.*

1789 B. STILLINGFLEET tr. *Gedner's Use Cur.* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 184 A great number of plants fit for food might be sown, such as zizany of Canada.

Zizel (zi·zĕl). Also **zisel**. [ad. G. *ziesel* (also *zieselmaus*, *-ratte*; in MHG. *zisel*; cf. also OHG. *sisemâs* dormouse = OE. *sisemûs*).] The ground-squirrel *Spermophilus citillus*; = SUSLIK.

1785 SMELLIE *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 229 The Zisel, or Earless Marmot. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 441/2 The zisel or souslic marmot. 1893 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 20 Other Southern districts [were visited] by zisels and worms.

‖ **Zizyphus.** *Obs.* [mod.L., pl. of late L. *zizyphum* fruit of the tree ZIZYPHUS.] The fruit of the zizyphus; = JUJUBE 1; also, the tree itself.

1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* III. ii. 67 Zinzipha [*sic*] & Tuberes .ii. kyndes of apple trees S. Papinius conueighed out of Siria and Affrike into Italy. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 110 The frute cauled *Zizipha*, which the Apothecaries caule *Iuiubs*. 1712 [see ZIZYPHUS].

‖ **Zizyphus** (zi·zifŏs). *Bot.* Also **-iphus** (5 **-ifus**); 8 anglicized **sizyph**. [late L., ad. Gr. ζίζυφον.] A plant of a large widely distributed genus so named, which comprises spiny shrubs or trees of the buckthorn family, various species of which bear an edible fruit called ZIZYPHA or JUJUBE, q.v.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 84 Now zizifus in cold lond wole ascende. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 214 Jujuba, or Zizipha, a large Fruit of the Ziziph Tree. 1741 J. MARTYN *Virg. Georg.* II. 84 *note*, It seems to me more probable that the *Lotus* of the *Lotophagi* is what we now call *Zizyphus* or the *Jujube-tree*. 1865 TRISTRAM *Land of Israel* xxii. 587 The sizyphus and caper crept higher up the hills. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluch.* 265 We are..still camped under a spreading sizyphus.

attrib. 1890 *Daily News* 5 Apr. 6/1 The Crown of Thorns at Notre Dame is made of plaited reeds, in which sizyphus thorns are intertwined.

Zizz, a syllable used to express the noise made by the rapid motion of a wheel; hence as *sb.*

1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xi, I carried a cutler's wheel for several weeks,..there I went bizz—bizz—whizz—sizz, at every auld wife's door. 1908 BELLOC *Mr. Clusterbuck's Elect.* xiii, They shot round the base of the hills,..had a splendid sizz along the Hog's Back, and then turned sharp round.

† **Zlead(s, zlid.** *Obs.* A minced oath: = *God's lidikins*: see GOD *sb.* 14 a, and cf. UDS 1. So † **Z'life** = God's life.

1616 S. S. *Honest Lawyer* 1. B. 4 b, Zlid, before the Prologue had done, I had lost my purse. 1689 N. LEE *Princ. Cleve* II. ii. 19 Z'life I am as weary of mine, as a Modish Lady of her old Cloaths. 1785 HUTTON *Bran New Wark* 270 (E.D.S.) Zlends! he niwver played hocus pocus.

Zo, dial. f. SO. **Zoa**, plural of ZOON. **Zoase**: see ZOSA. **Zoane**, obs. form of ZONE.

Zoantharian (zōæn|ē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Zoantharia* neut. pl., f. *Zoanthus*, name of genus, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + ἄνθος flower.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Zoantharia*, one of the main divisions of *Actinozoa* (contrasted with *Alcyonaria*), containing the sea-anemones and other (often flower-like) animals, usually with simple tentacles and parts arranged in sixes (HEXACORALLAN); *sb.* a member of the *Zoantharia*. Also **Zoa·nthid**, a member of the family *Zoanthidæ* of zoantharians, typified by the genus *Zoanthus* (hence **Zoa·nthidan** *a.*); **Zoa·nthodeme** (-dīm) [Gr. δῆμα bundle], a compound organism formed of coherent zoantharian zooids or polyps (hence **Zoanthode·mic** *a.*); **Zoa·nthoid** *a.* [-OID], resembling or related to the genus *Zoanthus*.

1887 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (ed. 7) 186 Transverse section of a simple *Zoantharian Coral (*Cyathina Bowerbankii*). 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 733 *note*, The Zoantharian mesenterial filaments. 1890 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xiii. (1893) 132 Structures supposed to be gills are developed in some *Zoanthids on either side of the primary mesenteries. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 736 A pair [of mesenteries] of the typical *Zoanthidan structure. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 155 Many give rise by gemmation to turf-like, or arborescent, *zoanthodemes. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 354 *Zoanthoid-Polyps (Zoanthoida). 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 37 A small *Zoanthus or other naked zoophyte.

Zoanthropy (zōæ·nþrŏpi). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *zōanthrōpia*, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + ἄνθρωπος man: cf. CYNANTHROPY, LYCANTHROPY.] A form of insanity in which a man imagines himself to be a beast. Hence **Zoanthropic** (-ō·pik) *a.*, pertaining to zoanthropy.

1896 E. JESSE *Walton's Angler* 2. v. 166 *note*, Several forms of mania, classed by Sauvages in his Nosology under the general head of Zoanthropy. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Zoanthropic*, Zoanthropic mania..; zoanthropic literature.

‖ **Zoarium** (zōē·ĕriŏm). *Zool.* Pl. **zoaria** (-iă). [mod.L., in form ad. Gr. ζωάριον, dim. of ζῷον animal, but taken as if f. ζῷον + -ARIUM: cf. POLYZOARY.] The common supporting structure of a colony of polyps, or the colony or compound organism as a whole (esp. in the *Polyzoa* or moss-animalcules): = POLYZOARY. Hence **Zoa·rial** *a.*, pertaining to or constituting a zoarium.

1880 SAVILLE-KENT *Infusoria* I. 338 The zoarium of the polyzoic genera *Aulopora* or *Hippothoa*. 1896 J. W. GREGORY *Catal. Fossil Bryozoa* Introd. 16 In typical *Diastopora* the zoarium consists of two layers of zooecia, one on each side of the zoarial lamina.

Zobo: see ZEBO.

† **Zocco, zoc(c)olo.** *Obs.* [It. *socco*, *soccolo*: see SOCLE.] = SOCLE 1.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* II. 92 The Piedestal with its sutire *Basesament*, *Cymatium*, and that *Zocolo* or Plinth above wrought with a festoon (which in my judgment makes a part of it, as rendering it a perfect Cube). *Ibid.* 124 Certain *Zoccos* or Blocks elevating the rest of the members of an Order. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 31 The Bases have no Zocco. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 27 KL. Piedroit with its Fillet at bottom. M. Its Zocco.

Zocle (zō·k'l). [ad. It. *soccolo*.] = prec.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Zocle*, is a Square Member in Architecture, being lower than its Breadth, which serves to support a Pillar...*Continued Zocle*, is a kind of continued Pedestal, on which a Structure is raised, but hath no Base, or Cornish. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 54 Vignola terminates these Pillars with a plain Zocle. 1870 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* II. 334 Two little naked winged boys standing on a highly elaborate zocle.

Zodiac (zō·diæk), *sb.* (*a.*). Forms: 4–7 **sodiak**, **-ake**, 4–8 **-aque**, 5 **sodyak**, **-ack**, (**sodyak**, **sodias**), 6 **sodiacque**, 6–7 **-acke**, 6–8 **-ack**, (7 **-aq**), 5– **zodiac**. [a. OF. (mod. F.) *zodiaque* (= Pr. *zodiac*, It., Sp., Pg. *zodiaco*), ad. L. *zōdiacus* (Cicero), a. late Gr. ζῳδιακός, sc. κύκλος the circle of the figures or signs (cf. L. *orbis signifer*, Cicero, *circulus signifer*, Vitruvius = ὁ ζωοφόρος κύκλος, Aristotle), f. ζῴδιον sculptured figure (of an animal), sign of the zodiac (ὁ τῶν ζῳδίων κύκλος), dim. of ζῷον animal.]

1. *Astr.* A belt of the celestial sphere extending about 8 or 9 degrees on each side of the ecliptic, within which the apparent motions of the sun, moon, and principal planets take place; it is divided into twelve equal parts called *signs* (see b).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 108 Ther ben signes twelve, Whiche have her cercles be hemselve Compassed in the sodinque. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol. 3 To knowe in owre orisonte with wych degree of the zodiac that the Mone arisith in any latitude. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3726 The sun vnder zodias settis hym to leng Two dayes betwene. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17200 She held also a gret ballaunce, Only off purpos (yiff she konne,) To peyse the sodyak and the sonne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 90 Ane vthir grit circle in the spere, callit the zodiac, the quhilk deuidis the circle equinoctial in tua partis. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. i. 7 When the golden Sunne..Gallops the Zodiacke in his glistering Coach. 1621 DONNE *Poems, Anat. World* 263 They have impal'd within a Zodiake The free-borne Sun, and keepe twelve Signes awake To watch his steps. 1709 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 86 Thus Phœbus through the zodiack takes his way. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 364 One of the points in which the zodiac cuts the equator.

b. *Signs of the zodiac* (SIGN *sb.* 11): the twelve equal parts into which the zodiac is divided, and through one of which the sun passes in each month; they are named after the twelve constellations (Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricornus, Aquarius, Pisces with which at a former epoch they severally coincided approximately (see PRECESSION 3).

[1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 117 Hou that the Signes arowe, Ech after other be degre In substance and in prorete The zodiaqu
It appendeth.] *c* 15
The XII signes of t
Calvin on Acts XXVIII. 11 The signe in the Zodiacke called Gemini. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Delin.* I. v. 101 Wheresoeuer any man stands on the Surface of the Earth, six signes of the Zodiacke will shew themselues. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 203 The images of the Stars have removed from the Signs of the Zodiac, to which they originally gave names. 1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 36 The sun is in the northern signs of the zodiac.

c. *Zodiac of the moon, a planet*, etc.: that belt of the heavens (usually a portion of the ordinary zodiac) within which the apparent motion of the moon, planet, etc. takes place.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Zodiack* of the Comets, Cassini hath observed a certain Tract..within whose Bounds ..he hath found most Comets..to keep. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* II. 821 These Comets..do not go in the Zodiac or Way of the Planets. 1768 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 190 The Bedoween..was taught by experience to divide, in twenty-eight parts, the zodiac of the moon. 1834 *Nat. Philos., Astron.* i. 4 (U.K.S.), According to Gaubil, the invention of the Chinese zodiac, divided into twenty-seven constellations, is to be referred to Yao. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 793/2 The synodical revolution of the moon laid down the lines of the solar, its sidereal revolution those of the lunar zodiac.

2. A figure or representation of the zodiac.

c 1392 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 21 Alle sterres sittinge wythin the zodiak of thin astrolabie ben cleped sterres of the north. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 157 b, In the zodiak were the twelue figures curiously made and aboue this were made the seuen planettes. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 168 A virgin Prince, who presented in his shield, the Zodiacke with the Characters onely of Leo and Virgo. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 42/2 Zodiack, is the imitation of a Bend, and is esteemed a girdle of Honor, or a note of favour. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 483 The Zodiac, which Sir Isaac Newton supposed to relate to the Argonautic expedition, was an assemblage of Egyptian hieroglyphics. 1820 BELZONI *Egypt & Nubia* II. 278 The Egyptians connected astronomy with their religious ceremonies, as we found various zodiacs, not only among the temples, but in their tombs also. *a* 1836 M'NICOLL *Wks.* (1837) 24 The motto of a crest which bears his own picture, encircled by a zodiac.

3. † a. *transf.* A year; the calendar. *Obs.*

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) v. 25 Vpoun thair vyce war lang to walk, Quhais falsatt, fibilnes, and treasone, Hes rung thryis oure this zodiak. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 172 So long, that nineteene Zodiacks haue gone round. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* IV. ii. (1636) 291 A month in the Zodiack.

b. *fig.* and *allusively.* (*a*) Recurrent series, round, course. (*b*) Compass, range. (*c*) Set of twelve.

This fig. use was inaugurated by Marcellus Palingenius in the title of his work *Zodiacus vitæ, hoc est de hominis vita* (*c* 1530), each book of which was named after a sign of the zodiac. The title was imitated by Gaspar Barthius in *Zodiacus vitæ christianus* (1623).

1560 (*title*) The first thre Bokes of the most christian Poet Marcellus Palingenius, called the Zodyake of lyfe: newly translated out of latin into English by Barnabe Googe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 25 The Poet..goeth hand in hand with Nature, not inclosed within the narrow warrant of her guifts, but freely ranging onely within the Zodiack of his owne wit. 1607 WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* Ep., It moues not once within the Zodiacke of my expectation. 1629 DEKKER *London's Tempe* (1844) 53 In your yeares zodiacke may you fairely move. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems, Litanie* ix, Thy illustrious Zodiacke Of twelve Apostles, which ingirt this All. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 94 Gladlie hast Through Follie's Zodiacke, from the first to th' Last. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 989 Thro' various virtues, they, with ardour, ran The Zodiac of their learn'd, illustrious lives. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Religion*, The Catholic church..moves through a zodiac of feasts and fasts. 1888 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. ii. 67, I saw my turn had come, and the ruinous zodiac brought its fairest sign to me.

B. a. *attrib.* (orig. *adj.*), as *zodiac-figure, -lion, -sign*; † **zodiac circle** [cf. Gr. ὁ τῶν ζῳδίων κύκλος (Aristotle)], † **zodiac line**, the zodiac; **zodiac ring**, a ring with figures of the signs of the zodiac. b. *Comb.* as *zodiac-zoned* adj.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Anne* 604 The XII signes thryes by & by In þe *sodyak circle had passyde courayly. 1620 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* 60 The Zodiacke circle is alwayes rowled about. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 20/2 The Zodiack Circle is ever born Bendways Sinister. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* III. 90 Poems (1850) 27 The *zodiac-figures of the earth loom slow. 1590 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 157 Ye Figures in the *Zodiacke line, that decke heauns girdle with eternall light. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 553 Now when his [*sc.* the sun's] chariot last Its beams against the *zodiac-lion cast. 1895 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. VIII. 187/2 *Zodiac Rings. These, when made of gold, are usually said to be the work of native goldsmiths on the African coast. *Ibid.* 272/1, I have a gold zodiac ring marked with the leopard's head. 1889 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 218/2 The similar *zodiac-signs of the Old World. 1896 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* VIII. iii. (1860) II. 48 The *zodiac-zoned and silver-bearded counsellor.

Zodiacal (zōdi·ăkăl), *a.* [f. L. *zōdiacus*: see prec. and -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or situated in the zodiac.

1676 F. ——— *Magd. Ephist.* 370 The yearely course of the Sunne through the 12. signes Zodiacall. 1681 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 26. (1716) 121 The Northern Zodiacal Signs. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. 256 Before the full revolution of

a Zodiacal Girdle [*i.e.* before the completion of a year]. 1728 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 304 By the help of the Moon,.. they placed this Zodiacal Armilla in such a situation as was agreeable to the present moment of time. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 226 Pearson's [catalogue] has 320 zodiacal stars. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* I. i. 18 The zodiacal constellations occupy quite unequal spaces in the heavens.

b. *Zodiacal light*: a tract of nebulous light extending along the zodiac on each side of the sun in the form of an elongated ellipse; in the temperate zones visible chiefly after sunset in late winter and early spring, and before sunrise in autumn.

1734 EAMES in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 244 The Zodiacal Light is the purer unmixed Atmosphere of the Sun. 1849 Mrs. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxvii. (ed. 8) 449 [Professor Olmsted] agrees with La Place in thinking that the zodiacal light is a nebulous body, revolving in the plane of the solar equator. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* x. 259 The zodiacal light, which obviously cannot possibly be part of the gaseous atmosphere of the sun. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 411/2 The Zodiacal light is supposed to be the remains of the great nebula out of which the solar system was constructed.

† Zodio·grapher. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. type *ζῳδιογράφος, f. ζῴδιον, dim. of ζῷον animal (see ZODIAC) + γράφειν to write: see -GRAPHER.] One who writes about or describes animals.

1680 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. i. (ed. 2) 197 Ancient Zodiographers, and such as have particularly discoursed upon Animals.

‖ Zoea (zō,ī·ă). *Zool.* Pl. **zoeæ** (zō,ī·ī), also in Eng. form **zoeas** (zō,ī·ăz). Also **zocea, zoëa.** Earlier form **zoe** (zō·ī); pl. **zoes** (zō·īz). [mod. L. *zoe, zoea* (Bosc, 1802), the first form a. Gr. ζωή life, the second an extension of it by addition of fem. suffix -A 2.] **† a.** (An animal of) a supposed genus of crustaceans, founded on certain larval forms mistaken for adults. *Obs.* b. A larval stage of development in crustaceans, esp. decapods, usually characterized by one or more spines on the carapace, and rudimentary thoracic and abdominal limbs. Also *attrib.*, as *zoea-form, -phase, -stage.*

1808 J. V. THOMPSON *Zool. Res.* I. i. 5 The fifth or terminal joint formed as in all the genuine Zoeas, of a deep fork, the inner sides of which are furnished with three small spines. *Ibid.* 9 On the 1st of May of the present year, (1827,) another large Zoea was taken. *Ibid.* 11 *note*, The French have adopted the term Zoe for these animals, which, as more simple, and better suited to the genius of our own language than the Latin, may be used in familiar discourse without any impropriety. *Ibid.* 63 The Zoe or Larva of the common or edible Crab. 1835 WESTWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* CXXV. 324 If..these latter Zoes are to be regarded as the larvæ of Crabs, they must be considered as having acquired the maximum of their Zoe form. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* viii. 217 The Zoea form [of the crab], with carapace rising into a tall erect spine, sessile eyes, no claws. 1865 [see MYSIS b]. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 303 In most Podophthalmia the embryo leaves the egg, not as a Nauplius, but as a Zoœa, which has thoracic, but no abdominal, appendages. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 169 In the larval form [of the crayfish] known as *Zoœa*, the first *Zoœa*-stage has no palp to the mandible.

Hence **Zoeal** (zō,ī·ăl) *a.*, of a zoea.

1870 P. M. DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 459 During the next zoëal period the paired eyes..are formed.

Zoecial, -ium: see ZOÖ-.

Zoetrope (zō·ĭtrōp). [irreg. f. Gr. ζωή life + -τροπος turning.] A mechanical toy or optical instrument consisting of a cylinder open at the top, with a series of slits in the circumference, and a series of figures representing successive positions of a moving object arranged along the inner surface, which when viewed through the slits while the cylinder is in rapid rotation produce the impression of actual movement of the object. Also called *wheel of life.*

1869 W. S. GILBERT *'Bab' Ball., Capt. Reece* vi, And, also, with amusement rife, A 'Zoetrope, or Wheel of Life.' 1881 *Athenæum* 29 Oct. 567/2 By a zoetrope these figures are projected on a screen, and the clown exhibited as in motion, with all his changes of position.

Zoge, obs. Kent. pa. pple. of SEE *v.*

† Zographer, Zography. *Obs.* See quots. and cf. ZOOGRAPHER, ZOOGRAPHY.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* d ij b, This Mechanicall Zographer (commonly called the Painter). *Ibid.*, Zographie, is an Arte Mathematicall, which..demonstrateth, how, the Intersection of all visuall Pyramides, made by any playne assigned, (the Centre, distance, and lightes, beyng determined) may be, by lynes, and due propre colours, represented.

Zoic (zō·ĭk), *a.* [ad. Gr. ζωικός, f. ζῷον animal; in sense 1 taken as f. ζωή life, after AZOIC.]

1. Showing traces of life; in *Geol.*, containing organic remains.

1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 397 If, therefore, these simple species existed in the Azoic era, they were systemless life, and only foreshadowed the great systems of life which were afterwards displayed..in the true Zoic ages. 1883-6 *Rep. U.S. Geol. Survey* (1888) 453 These great Pre-Cambrian and Post-Archæan series are zoic in character.

2. Of the nature of an animal; animal.

1893-6 W. J. MCGEE in *17th Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* (1898) 169 The Seri face-painting would seem to be essentially zoösematic, or symbolic of zoic mutelaries. 1900 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 63 The use of zoic motives in the decoration of primitive weapons.

Zoid (zō·id), *sb. Biol.* (Disused.) [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -ID 2, or shortened f. ZOOID.] = ZOOID.

1896 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 336 In one group [of Tunicata] the individuals..become blended into ——— ..The separate individuals of these composite masses are termed Zoïds. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 69/1 Many zoids or buds being attached in line.

Zo·id, *a. Zool. rare*⁻¹. [f. *see* = ZOEA + -ID 3.] Applied to a larval or zoea stage in Crustacea.

1864 *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 215/2 The early zoid conditions and subsequent transformations of the Crustacea.

Zoid(i)ogamous: see *zoidiogamous* s.v. ZOOID.

Zoilus (zō·ĭlŭs). Also 6-7 **Zoylus**, 7 **Zoilis**; also 6-7 anglicized **Zoil(e, Zoyl(e.** [L., a. Gr. Ζωΐλος. Cf. F. *zoïle*, It., Sp. *zoilo.*

The supposed relation of Ζωΐλος to ζῆλος ZEAL, which is held to account for the association of the notion of malignancy or envy with this word, is reflected in the following:

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 23 There..resolution to suffer for these bad causes will intice the ignorant,..to thinck that there outragiouse zoyle is a sanctified zeale.]

Name of a Greek critic and grammarian (4th century B.C.) famous for his severe criticism of Homer; *transf.* (with pl. *Zoili, Zoiluses*), a censorious, malignant, or envious critic. Hence **Zoi·lean, † Zoili·tical, Zo·ilous** *adjs.*, characteristic of Zoilus or his criticism; **Zo·ilism,** carping criticism like that of Zoilus; **Zo·ilist,** an imitator of Zoilus, a carping critic.

1587 J. SANFORD *Epictetus* A v b, Carp not ye cankred *Zoiles al, the men Whose labour spente in paynfull toyle hath ben. 1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. at St. Martin's* 47 Such as are eminent should be careful of their conuersations when they are besieged with such malitious Zoiles. 1846 WORCESTER cites RICHARDSON for *Zoilean. 1669 N. MORGAN *Perf. Horsem.* 44 The bitter humor of *Zoilisme and malice. 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. § 2 Let not Zoilism or Detraction blast well intended labours. 1753 *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 54, I am convinced of your Endeavours to propogate the Cause of Zoilizm. 1594 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., The ploddinger sort of vnlearned *Zoilists about London, exclaim, that it is a puft-up stile. 1658 FRANCK *Northern Mem.* (1694) Pref. p. xxvii, Some prevaricating Zoilist will arraign my Hypothesis. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 87 Polydore Virgil, Dr. John Cay, with other Zoilists, reported that his Poetical Wit made him so conceited. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 75 The same class of fastidious wits who in France became Zoilists, in England were the stoutest stickers to Homer. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 41 Their magnificent Monuments shall come to be controverted by every *Zoilitical Pretender! 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Ep. Ded. A iv b, I thought it good (somwhat to stop a *zoilous mouth) to sette a more cleanly name vpon it, that is, *Golden Aphroditis.* 1618 M. BARET *Hippon.* I. 47 Hee .therefore needeth not be daunted for the taunts of any Zoylous beholders. 1585 COOPER *Thesaurus, Dict. Hist. & Poet.* s.v. *Zoilus*, Of him, all malicious carpers of other mens wourkes be called **Zoili.* 1575 W. CLOWES in *J. Banister's Treat. Chirurg.* In praise of Author, Although that Zoylus would him spot, Let him doe what he may. 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Pol. Plat* Pref. **ij, To defende my imperfection, against a sorte of Momus secte, and Zoilus bande. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 76 Zoilisses and Thersitisses. 1636 PRYNNE *Rem. agst. Ship-money* Ep., Carping Zoilusses, or malignant Momusses whom no men can please. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Fl. Macarthy* (1819) II. ii. 99 This formidable Zoilus of the Crawley family. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 64 How then comes it that not only single *Zoili*, but whole nations have combined in unhesitating condemnation of our great dramatist?

Zoisite (zoi·sŏit). *Min.* [ad. G. *soisit*, named by Werner after Baron von *Zois*, the discoverer.] A native silicate of alumina and lime, occurring in orthorhombic prismatic crystals, of various colours, white, green, or red.

1805 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* II. 597. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 209 Zoisite in fine crystals of a greyish brown or olive colour,..at Hollyhill, near Strabane, County Tyrone.

Zoism (zō·iz'm). [f. Gr. ζωή life + -ISM.] The doctrine that life depends on a peculiar vital principle, and is not a mere resultant of combined forces; esp. in connexion with 'animal magnetism' and the like. So **Zoist** (zō·ist), one who upholds the doctrine of zoism; hence **Zoi·stic** (zoi·stik) *a.*, as in *zoistic magnetism* = animal magnetism.

1843 (*title*) The Zoist: a Journal of Cerebral Physiology & Mesmerism, and their Applications to Human Welfare. 1849 SCORESBY (*title*) Zoistic Magnetism. 1900 (*title*) Psychic Research Co.'s Course of Instruction in Personal Magnetism, Series A: Mind Reading, Hypnotism, Magnetic Healing, and Zoism.

Zolaism (zō·lă,iz'm). [f. the name *Zola* + -ISM.] The literary manner characteristic of the French novelist Émile Zola (1840–1902), whose works are marked by an excessively realistic treatment of the coarser sides of human life. So **Zolaesque** (-e·sk) *a.*, characteristic of or resembling the style of Zola; **Zo·laist,** one who studies or approves of the writings of Zola (hence **Zolaistic** *a.*); **Zo·laize** *v. intr.*, to imitate or follow the style of Zola; *trans.* to make like Zola.

1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 July 5/2 Mr. Moore's *Zolaesque search for characteristic phrases has led him into some startling extravagances. 1903 in Gayley *Repr. Engl. Com.* I. 387 The mean circumstances of his Bohemian career, and the terribly brutal, ——— ..A particular form of *Zolaism, much in vogue at ——— moment. 1886 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall 60 Yrs. After* 145 Set the maiden fancies wallowing in the troughs of Zolaism. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Jan. 162/2 Even the *Zolaist has to remember that 'art is art because it is not nature'. *Ibid.* 162/3 The French critics either of the Hugoistic or the *Zolaistic persuasion. *Ibid.* 2 July 23/3 The *Zolaising novel of Paul Lindau, 'Arme Mädchen.' 1901 *Literature* 30 Mar. 234/1, I do not mean that M. Rod has Zolaized Mr. Hardy.

Zoll, variant of SAL 2.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Zoll*, or *Saul*, an Indian timber, much used in the construction of country vessels.

‖ Zollverein (tso·l,ferain). [G., f. *zoll* tax, impost, TOLL *sb.*1 + *verein* union.] A union, orig. between certain states of the German empire, afterwards in 1833 including all the states, for the maintenance of a uniform rate of customs duties from other countries and of free trade among themselves; hence *gen.* of other countries. Hence **Zo·llvereinist,** an advocate of a British imperial zollverein.

1843 *Times* 21 Aug. 5/2 The Zollverein.—The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies..voted by an immense majority the two following resolutions. 1847 COBDEN in Morley *Life* (1881) I. xviii. 448 The Prussian law of 1818, and the tariff which followed it, form the foundation of the German Zollverein. 1862 (*title*) London Exhibition. Special Catalogue of the Zollverein-Department edited by authority of the Commissioners of the Zollverein-Governments. 1893 GOLDW. SMITH *Ess. Quest. Day* 150 When colonists propose an Imperial zollverein.

‖ Zolotnik (zolotni·k). Also 8 **solothnic, solotnik, -nick.** [Russ. ЗОЛОТНИ́КЪ, f. ЗО́ЛОТО *zoloto* gold.] A Russian unit of weight, $\frac{1}{96}$ of the funt or Russian pound.

1783 MARTYN in *Geogr. Mag.* II. 40 Russia has some weights peculiar to itself: such as a solothnic, which is one-sixth of an ounce. ——— 532 The solotnik is only reckoned at 19½ kopecks, whereas the solotnik of gold is valued at 2 rubles 50 kopecks. 1919 PETRIE in *Man* XIX. 80 The Russian and Irak pound.. was divided into 96 zolotniks, which were equal to the Attic drachma.

Zolow, Zom(e, Zomboruk, Zomer: see SULLOW, SOME, ZUMBOORUK, SUMMER 1.

Zomotherapy (zōmo)pe·răpi). *Med.* [ad. F. *zomothérapie*, f. Gr. ζωμός soup + θεραπεία THERAPY.] The use of raw meat, or the juice expressed from it, in the treatment of tuberculosis. Hence **Zomotherapeu·tic** *a.*, pertaining to zomotherapy.

1900 *Lancet* 27 Oct. 1242/2 The experiments of M. Richet and M. Héricourt relative to the use of raw meat as a prophylactic and curative substance in tuberculosis...Such treatment these observers have called 'zomotherapy'. *Ibid.*, At various stages of the zomotherapeutic treatment.

Zon, dial. form of SON.

‖ Zona (zō·nă). The Lat. form of the Gr. word repr. by ZONE. **a.** *Archæol.* A girdle: = ZONE *sb.* 3. **b.** Used in Anatomy with various qualifying adjs. to denote certain structures or parts of structures (see quots., and cf. ZONE *sb.* 6). **Zona ignea** [L., = fiery girdle] *Path.*, also simply **zona,** the disease *herpes zoster* or shingles. **Zona pellucida,** the transparent membrane forming the cell-wall of the ovum in Mammalia.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Zona*...a kind of *Herpes*, or Shingles call'd Holy Fire. 1800 DALLAWAY *Anecd. Arts Eng.* 249 Both the tænia and zona are concealed by drapery falling over them. 1818-20 THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol.* (ed. 3) 331 Herpes *Zoster, Zona*; or *Zona ignea*: the shingles. 1842 M. BARRY in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXII. 116 We saw the incipient chorion, when rising from the 'zona pellucida' in the mammiferous ovum, to leave a stratum of unappropriated cells behind it on the 'zona'. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v., *Zona Tendinosa*, the whitish circle around the auriculo-ventricular orifice of the right side of the heart. 1883 KLEIN *Elem. Histol.* 341 The inner zona, or *zona reticularis*, composed of smaller or larger groups of polyhedral cells. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 616 Yet there has never been any confusion with regard to H[erpes] Zoster, or Zona, since the disease was first described.

Zonal (zō·năl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *zōnālis*, f. L. *zōna* ZONE.]

1. Characterized by or arranged in zones, circles, or rings; of the nature of or forming a zone.

1873 A. WILSON *Elem. Zool.* I. ii. 22 In 'zonal' symmetry the merosomes are arranged in zones, one after another, in a longitudinal axis. 1880 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 124 The small spherical crystalline aggregates show.. a concentric zonal structure.

b. Marked with zones or circular bands of colour: applied to varieties of pelargonium or geranium having the leaves so marked.

1868 *Morn. Star* 17 June, The cultivators of zonal pelargoniums, or variegated leaf-coloured geraniums, had a grand competition. 1908 *Nation* 22 Feb. 756/2 The zonal geranium.

2. *Math.* & *Cryst.* Relating to a zone or zones of a sphere, or of a crystalline form: see ZONE *sb.* 8.

1867 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* § 781 These circles..are ..all in parallel planes.. and cut the spherical surface into zones, in which case the harmonic is called zonal.

3. Pertaining or relating to, involving, or constituting a 'zone' or 'zones', i.e. regions or areas distinctively characterized in some way: see ZONE *sb.* 2 b, 7.

1889 *Knowledge* 7 July 92 The six zonal areas we have thus described will serve our purpose admirably for grouping together our Seaside Health-Resorts. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept. 434/2 Zonal divisions are based upon these bogus species

and conclusions drawn from them. 1893 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. III. i. (ed. 3) 876 In tracing the zonal parallelism of the Triassic succession within the Alps themselves. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 219 The study..of strata characterised by the dominance of a zone-fossil forms zonal geology. 1909 *Spectator* 29 May 856/2 The companies adopted a zonal tariff (as the State has done for telephone purposes).

Hence **Zona·lity**, zonal character or distribution; **Zo·nally** *adv.*, in or according to zones.

1873 A. Wilson *Elem. Zool.* I. ii. 28 The segments..of the body, which are arranged zonally along a longitudinal axis. 1889 *Amer. Nat.* XXIII. 814 Crystals of the hyacinth variety of quartz..contain numerous inclusions of anhydrite arranged zonally. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 21 Mar. 3/5 The zonality of the flowers.

Zona·rious, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *zōna* Zone *sb.*]

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Zonarious*..of or belonging to a Girdle, Purse, or Zone.

Zonary (*zō*·*nări*), *a.* [f. Zone *sb.* + -ary.]

1. Having the form of a zone or girdle: applied to the placenta in certain mammals, as the *Carnivora*, forming a broad girdle round the chorion.

1881 Mivart *Cat* 472 Though the Rodents have a deciduate placenta, it is never zonary.

2. Occurring in a zone or zones, i.e. within definite limits of depth (see Zone *sb.* 7).

Zonate (*zō*·*nēt*), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *zōnātus*, f. *zōna* Zone *sb.*: see -ate 2.] Marked with zones, rings, or bands of colour; zoned. Also **Zo·nated** *a.*

1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. 452 Zonated Sparus. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3315 The coral snake (zonated scarlet and black). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Zonate*, *Zoned*, marked with concentric bands of colour.

Zonation (*zōnē*·*ʃən*). [f. Zone *sb.* + -ation.] a. Distribution in zones or regions of definite character (see Zone *sb.* 7). b. Formation of zones or concentric layers, as in a growing plant-cell.

1900 *Bot. Gaz.* Dec. 421 During the completion of the mitosis the cytoplasm and periplasm become clearly differentiated, but as yet no plasmoderma exists. This process of differentiation has been termed zonation.

Zone (*zōn*), *sb.* Also 6–7 **zoane.** [ad. L. *zōna*, a. Gr. ζώνη girdle (ζωννύναι to gird). Cf. F. *zone* (from 12th c.), It., Sp., Pg. *zona*.]

1. *Geog.*, etc. Each of the five 'belts' or encircling regions, distinguished by differences of climate, into which the surface of the earth (and, in ancient cosmography, the celestial sphere) is divided by the tropics (of Cancer and Capricorn) and the polar (arctic and antarctic) circles; viz. the *torrid* (†*burning*, †*burnt*, †*hot*) *zone* between the tropics, the (north and south) *temperate zones* extending from the tropics to the polar circles, and the *frigid* (†*frozen*, †*cold*) *zones* (arctic and antarctic) within the polar circles.

The arctic and antarctic zones are strictly not 'belts' but circular 'caps' with the poles in the centre.

a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* († 1510) U iv, For thre zones [*Laud MS.* thre wonynges] shal he fynde Where no man may lyue in one kynde One is hote and colde are two. 1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 64 The olde Cosmographers..called all that space betweene the twoo Tropykes, the Burnynge Zone...And of eche syde of it, they noted twoo Zones,..whiche they called the Frosen zones,.. and betweene those Frosen zones, & the Burning zone, they appointed two Temperat zones. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 298 The could zone or clime was condemned to perpetuall snowe. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.*, *Mercator* (1597) 208 The hotte Zone is that which lyeth betwixt the two Tropiques. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 304 Till our ground Sindging his pate against the burning Zone, Make Osse like a wart. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* Introd. (1674) 19/2 The parts next the Torrid Zone are the hotter, and the parts next the Frigid Zone are the colder. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* I. 55 The Sun, with Rays directly darting down, Fires all beneath, and fries the middle Zone. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 38 The feathered inhabitants of the temperate zone are but little remarkable for the beauty of their plumage. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 53 Africa belongs almost entirely to the torrid zone.

b. Any region extending around the earth and comprised between definite limits, e. g. between two parallels of latitude. Also *Astron.* applied to a similar region in the heavens or on the surface of a planet or the sun.

1589 W. Cunninghame *Cosmogr. Glasse* 64 Do you not in this Figure call euery portion betwixt two paralleles: a zone?..Yes verely. 1578 T. Twyne tr. *Dancus's Workm. World* 61 Those fiue quarters and zones, which the Astronomers doe describe in heauen, and vppon the earth. 1692 [see 3 b]. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog.* (Low) iv. § 505 We have, extending entirely around the earth, two zones of perpetual winds. *Ibid.* § 555 On the north side of this calm zone of Cancer. 1890 C. A. Young *Elem. Astron.* § 190 The spots are confined mostly to two zones of the sun's surface between 5° and 40° of north and south latitude.

2. a. More or less vaguely: A region or tract of the world, esp. in relation to its climate; also *fig.*

1599 Sir J. Davies *Nosce Teipsum* 5 We that acquaint our selues with euery Zoane, And passe both Tropikes, and behold the Poles. *a* 1628 F. Grevil *Sidney* iv. (1907) 39 Her nature hard to imitate, and diuersly worshipped, according to Zones, complexions, or education. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 397 We may..in some milde Zone Dwell not unvisited of Heav'ns fair Light Secure. 1772 *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 190/2 'Midst Lapland's live-long snows, Or India's burning zone. 1836 Vaughan *Mystics* VI. vi, It has been theirs..to encounter the perilous fervours of that zone where never cooling cloud appears to veil insufferable red 1870 O'Shaughnessy *Epic Wom.*, *Seraphitus* i, Some from a zone Of light, and ecstasy, and psalm.

b. A definite region or area of the earth, or of any place or space, distinguished from adjacent regions by some special quality or condition (indicated by a defining word or phrase); also *fig.*

Often in technical use; see also 4 b, 5, 6, 7.

1822 Mantell *Foss. S. Downs* 298 This occurrence of the more ancient deposits, within a zone of chalk hills. 1832 Thirlwall *Greece* I. i 29 Greece lies in a volcanic zone, which extends from the Caspian..to the Azores. 1837 Brewster *Magnet.* 222 The zone of easterly diurnal variations. 1849 Paton *Highl. Adriatic* II. xix. 253 The wide-scattered city, with its zone of the glacis, is the foreground of the view. 1852 E. Yates *Elem. Strat.* 9 Every theatre of war is supposed to be divided into three Zones...These are called Zones of Operation, and are distinguished as the Right, Left, and Central. 1873 *Daily News* 2 Aug., That all extensions should be performed before entering within the fire zone. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* s. v., The *zone of defence* signifies a belt of ground in front of the general contour of the works within effective range of the artillery on the ramparts...*Zone of fire*, a term synonymous with range or trajectory. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.* s. v., In a shaft-furnace, the different portions (horizontal sections) are called *zones*, and characterized according to the reactions which take place in them, as the *zone of fusion*. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal M.*, *Zone*, in coal-mining phraseology, this word signifies a certain series of coal seams, with their accompanying shales, &c. 1900 *Times* 24 Nov. 5/2 Beyond the rain zone dead scrub and lifeless trees alone meet the eye.

3. A girdle or belt, as a part of dress. (Chiefly *poetic.*) Hence, any encircling band.

1608 B. Jonson *Masques*, *Beauty* Wks. (1616) 906 Germinatio. In greene; with a Zone of gold about her Wast. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* v. viii. 40 Shall these course hands untie The sacred Zone of thy Virginitie? 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* II. iii. 13 This was the first place where he untyed his zone since he fled from Athens..So great was his fear. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* v. 30 Wit calls the Graces the chaste zone to loose. *a* 1806 H. K. White *To My Lyre* vii, Dear to me the classic zone, Which..Adorns th' accepted bard. 1839 *E. D. Clarke's Trav. Russia* 83/1 It was a zone for the leg, or bracelet for the arm, of the purest massive gold. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* II. v. 338 To the fabled zone of beauty the Christian saints opposed their zones of chastity. 1883 Hardy in *Longman's Mag.* July 258 The carters with a zone of whipcord round their hats.

b. A money-belt or purse.

1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. People* Ix. 212 How many Zones you observed in that Golden and Silken Heaven of the King's, I know not; but I know you got one Zone (a Purse) well tempered with a Hundred Golden Stars by your Astronomy. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The *zone* of the ex-trooper, to use Horace's phrase, was weighty enough to purchase a cottage.

c. *Astron.* The girdle of Orion.

1599 T. Hill *Schoole of Skill* 92 The constellation named the Zone or gyrdle of Orion.

4. Something that encircles like a girdle; a circumscribing or inclosing line, band, or ring.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 71 Round about him he so closely cleaves With's wrything body; that his Enemy.. Hastes to some Tree, or to some Rock, whereon To rush and rub-off his detested zone. 1620 T. Peyton *Glasse of Time* I. 50 With twelue braue gates the curious eye to fill, The sacred luster as the glistring Zoane, And euery gate fram'd of a seuerall stone. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 257 The moon.. set With modest grandeur in thy [*sc.* Evening's] purple zone. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 144/1 Below the entablature is a band or zone, formed of large stones and bricks placed alternately. 1856 W. Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 93 Tentacles disposed in a zone around the mouth. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxii. 154 A tendency to form circular zones round the sun. 1895 Bridges *Ode to Music* IV. i, His [*sc.* the sea's] world-wide elemental moan Girdeth our lives with tragic zone.

b. A band or stripe of colour, or of light or shade, extending around something, or (*loosely*) over any surface or area; often, any one of a number of concentric or alternate markings of this kind.

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 131 The outer surface of the whole shell [of the Buccinum]..is of a pale brownish colour, elegantly variegated with a great number of yellow zones. 1803 Shaw *Nat. Misc.* XVI. pl. 657 Long-tailed green Parrot, with..the collar on the nape and abdominal zone yellow. 1826 R. Jameson *Syst. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 146 All such white marbles as are marked with green-coloured zones, caused by talc or chlorite. 1833 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 356 When Jupiter is viewed through a good telescope, we perceive a number of zones or belts, of a darker colour than the rest of his disc. 1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1834) 311 If we press upon the eye-ball with a key or the end of a pencil-case, zones of light are excited. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* vi, The atrium glowed in zones of light.

5. *Astron.* A region or belt of the sky comprised between definite limits, e. g. between two parallels of declination.

1795 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 382 My examinations of the heavens in zones. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 413 That broad zone called the milky-way. 1890 Agnes M. Clerke *Syst. Stars* xxiv. 377 The general plan of nebular distribution is into vast assemblages, one on either side of the galactic zone.

6. *Anat.*, *Zool.*, and *Bot.* A growth or structure surrounding or encircling some part in the form of a ring or cylinder; also, a region or area extending around or over some part and distinguished by some special character or conditon.

With various defining words applied *spec.* to particular structures or regions. Ciliary *zone*, Motor *zone*: see these words. *Zone of Zinn*: see Zonule.

1822 C. Bell *Anat. Hum. Body* (ed. 3) III. 468 These tubercles are..surrounded by a zone or disk, of a brownish red colour, the areola. 1849 A. H. Hassall *Microsc. Anat. Hum. Body* I. 514 Ciliary processes.—These processes..are received into corresponding folds or plaitings of the hyaloid membrane, called the secondary ciliary processes, and which taken altogether form a circle around the crystalline lens named after their discoverer the Zone of Zinn. 1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat. Technol.* § 1421 The cornea..is..intermediate in thickness between that of the white zone and the rest of the sclerotic. 1884 Bowen & Scott *Du Bary's Phaner.* 7 The periblem, which is a zone of tissue lying between the plerome and dermatogen. 1913 Dorland *Med. Dict.* s.v., *Abdominal zone(s)*, the three zones into which the surface of the abdomen is divided by the subcostal and intertubercular lines...*Pellucid z.*, the zona pellucida.

7. *Geol.* and *Physical Geog.* A region, or each of a series of regions, comprised between definite limits of any kind, e. g. of depth or height, and distinguished by special characters, esp. by characteristic fossils or forms of animal and plant life.

1829 Ure *New Syst. Geol.* 150 In the north [of France], it [*sc.* limestone] forms a portion of the great transition zone, which stretches from Flanders into the Hartz. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. ii. 17 The presence of this zone of clay ..is marked by the outburst of water. 1851 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XI. 263 This cretaceous zone of the shore of the Cantabrian sea. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. 635 A bed, or limited number of beds, characterized by one or more distinctive fossils, is termed a zone or horizon.

8. a. *Math.* A part of the surface of a sphere contained between two parallel planes, or of the surface of any solid of revolution contained between two planes perpendicular to the axis. b. *Cryst.* A series of faces of a crystal extending around it and having their lines of intersection parallel.

1795 Hutton *Math. Dict.* II. 477/2 The curve-surface of any segment or zone of a Sphere, is also equal to the curve surface of a cylinder of the same height with that portion, and of the same diameter with the Sphere. 1867 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* § 781 I. 622 These circles..are..all in parallel planes..and cut the spherical surface into zones. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) Introd. p. xxvi, The planes [of a crystalline form] may thus be viewed as lying in vertical zones, a different zone for every ratio of the lateral 1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 21 These four vertical faces constitute what is called a zone (or girdle) of the form. 1895 Palmer tr. *Nernst's Theor. Chem.* 67 The 'law of zones', ..viz. all planes which can occur on a crystal are related to each other in zones; or, in other words, from any four planes, no three of which lie in one zone, all possible crystal planes can be derived by means of zones.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.*, chiefly in technical senses: e.g. in sense 2 b, esp. in reference to 'zones' or regions into which a district or country is divided for purposes of railway or other travelling, etc., as *zone centre*, *fare*, *system*, *tariff*; in sense 5, as *zone-clock*, *-piece*, *-reticle*; in sense 8 b, as *zone-axis*, *-circle*, *-plane*; also zone-plate, a plate of glass marked out into concentric zones or rings alternately transparent and opaque, used like a lens to bring light to a focus. b. *Comb.* (objective, instrumental, parasynthetic, etc.), as *zone-confounding*, *-like*, *-tailed* adjs.

1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 22 The zone, the *zone axis, and the zone plane are all denoted by the same symbol, namely (U V W). *Ibid.* 32 The poles of all the faces in the same zone will lie in the same *zone circle. 1795 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 398 It would not only be troublesome to the workman, but often bring on mistakes, were he to count the turns of the handle, which perhaps for hours together he is moving; a *zone-clock, therefore, has been contrived to release him from that care...It strikes a bell..when the telescope is come to one of the limits of the zone. 1890 *Punch* 28 June p. iv, The yellow pod-flowers and the waving palms, the vermeil apples and the primrosed banks, of Camoens' somewhat *zone-confounding vision. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 18 Dec. 6/3 They proposed to fix *zone fares, and they treated Hammersmith as what they called the zone centre. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. i, When chast Dictinna, breakes the *Zonelike twist. 1795 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 385 A *zone-piece, to point out the required limits of the intended zones. 1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 22 The plane to which they [*sc.* the edges of the crystal] are all perpendicular is called the *zone plane. 1876 G. F. Chambers *Astron.* (ed. 3) 632 Observers..will find a '*zone reticle' of great service. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 7/2 Hungary has introduced a *zone system on her railways, which has made travelling on them the cheapest in the world. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 62 *Zone-tailed Eagle. 1891 *Econ. Jrnl.* I. 507 A system of *zone tariffs. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 153/2 A zone-tariff system..whereby the country is mapped out into zones, and the traveller pays according to the number of these he passes through.

Zone, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with, or surround like, a zone or girdle; to gird, encircle.

1795 *Monthly Rev.* Dec. 542 Her population..had zoned every hill with vines and with olive-trees. 1795 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) IV. 105 Our road zoned the midway of the Alpine steeps which overhung it. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* II. iv, Art she invokes to Nature's aid, Her vest to zone, her locks to braid. 1818 Keats *Endym.* II. 569, I could hear he lov'd Some fair immortal, and that his embrace Had zoned her through the night. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxviii. (1856) 237 The southeastern horizon is zoned with a mellow uniform band of light.

2. *Nat. Hist.* To mark with zones, rings, or bands of colour. (Only in *pa. pple.*)

1792 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) III. 433 Auricularia papyrina...Annual, membranaceous, soft, zoned. 1894 Dana *Min.* (ed. 4) II. 148 Egyptian Jasper is zoned with colors, and forms nodules. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* II. xiv, 132

A variety of the common pigeon with the wing-bars symmetrically zoned with three bright shades.

3. *Geol.*, etc. To divide into zones; to distribute or arrange in zones: see ZONE *sb.* 7.

1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 222 The Ordovician and Silurian rocks have been zoned by means of their graptolites.

Hence **Zo·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1819 KEATS *Fall Hyperion* I. 318 Not so much air As in the zoning of a summer's day. 1833 ALEX. SMITH *Life Drama* ii, When first they clasped a Son of God..In zoning heaven of their milky arms. 1865 TENNYSON *On a Mourner* v, When the zoning eve has died. 1888 *Nature* 5 July 225 What Mr. Lockyer has called the zoning of colour in the heavens. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 220 The zoning of the strata.

Zoned (zōund), *a.* [f. ZONE *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

†**1.** Located in a zone or region of the celestial sphere: = ZONIC *a.* *Obs. rare*—1.

1662 STANLEY *Hist. Chaldaick Philos.* 4 Or else by fiery Zone, he means the Seat of the zoned Deities just above the Empyreal or Corporeal Heaven.

2. Wearing a zone or girdle. Hence, virgin, chaste.

1718 POPE *Odyss.* XXIII. 142 Fair zoned damsels. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. ix, A zoned and untainted Innocence.

3. Characterized by or arranged (naturally) in zones, rings, or bands.

1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 435 The zoned or tabulated form of the onyx. 1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 213 Zoned (*zonaire*), when a row of facets is arranged around the middle part, thus forming a kind of zone or girdle. Example, Zoned calcareous-spar. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. IV. 200 As a fifth source of variety [in wood] may be mentioned eyes, zoned spots, and curls.

b. Marked with zones, circles, or bands of colour.

1792 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) III. 433 *Auricularia ferruginea*, .zoned above. 1805 SHAW *Nat. Misc.* XVI. pl. 657 The Zoned Parrot. 1849 W. H. HARVEY *Brit. Mar. Algæ* 121 Zoned tetraspores exist in *Rhodymenia*] *ciliata*. 1874 BIRCH *1st and 2nd Egypt. Rooms B. Mus.* 31 With side handles of zoned alabaster.

4. Arranged according to zones or definite regions.

1795 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 384 A zoned catalogue of the stars. 1890 AGNES M. CLERKE *Syst. Stars* v. 80 The spectra of the great nebulæ, like those of the 'zoned' stars, must be considered as integrating the results of emanations taking their rise under notably diverse circumstances.

Zoneless (zōu·nlés), *a.* [f. ZONE *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Not confined by, or not wearing, a zone or girdle; ungirt.

1748 W. MASON *Isis* 8 In careless folds loose flow'd her zoneless vest. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 52 Pleasure..That reeling goddess with the zoneless waist. 1802 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 370, I always thought him a bantling of zoneless Italian muses. 1822 MILMAN *Mart. Antioch* 14 Come in thy zoneless grace, thy flowing locks Crown'd with the laurel of the Gods.

2. Not marked with zones or bands of colour.

1836 M. J. BERKELEY *Sir J. E. Smith's Engl. Flora* V. II. 140 Pileus of a fleshy..substance zoneless villous white.

Zonelet (zōu·nlét). *rare.* [-LET.] A little zone.

1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 30 From the moon's hand her starry stole he took, And zonelet studded with thrice ten beamy rings.

Zonic (zō·nik), *a.* *rare.* [f. ZONE *sb.* + -IC.] Belonging to a particular zone or region.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 511 The zonic gods are those which revolve round the celestial zones.

Zonite (zōu·nəit). *Zool.* [nd. mod. L. *zonītes*, f. L. *zōna* ZONE *sb.*: see -ITE[1].]

1. A snail of the genus *Zonites*.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 43. 390 Porcelain Zonites that lived two years and a half without aliment.

2. Any of the body-rings of a segmented animal, as an arthropod or annelid. Hence **Zoni·tic** *a.*

1880 PASCOE *Zool. Class.* (ed. 2) 197 Zonites, Somites, or Metameres. 1888 *Huxley & Martin's Pract. Biol.* 241 Each somite is subdivided externally into at least two lesser divisions or zonites. 1888 J. R. A. DAVIS *Biol.* 161 The zonitic constrictions.

Zonne, obs. (Kentish) form of SUN.

Zono- (zōuno), repr. Gr. ζωνο-, combining form of ζώνη ZONE, occurring in a few scientific and technical words.

Zonochlorite (-klō·rəit) *Min.* [Gr. χλωρός green], name for a supposed species of mineral from Lake Superior, marked with bands of different shades of green (perh. the same as CHLORASTROLITE). **Zonociliate** (-si·lisēt) *a. Zool.*, having a zone or circlet of cilia. **Zonoplacental** *a. Zool.*, having a zonary placenta, as the *Carnivora* and other mammals: opposed to *discoplacental*.

1870 A. E. FOOTE in *Proc. Amer. Ass. Adv. Sci.* (1873) 65 *Zonochlorite, a New Hydrous Silicate from Neebay, North Shore of Lake Superior. 1883 *Encycl.* XIX. 437/1 The fertilized egg of the Phylactolæma does not give rise to a *zonociliate larva. 1879 DE QUATREFAGES *Hum. Spec.* xi. 109 Man, apes, bats, insectivora, and rodents..form a natural group to which no *zonoplacental, and, of course, no indeciduate mammals can be admitted.

Zonular (zō·niŭlăi), *a.* *Anat.* and *Path.* [f. mod. L. *zōnula* ZONULE + -AR[1].] Pertaining to or forming a zonule or little zone; zonal, zonary; *spec.* belonging to or affecting the zonule of Zinn.

1833–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 320/1 The Pigeon..having the gastric glands..arranged in a zonular form. 1876 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) I. 354 Zonular or lamellar cataract is either congenital or commences soon after birth.

Zonule (zō·niul). *Anat.* Also in L. form **zonula** (zō·niŭlă). [ad. mod.L. *zōnula*, dim. of L. *zōna* ZONE: see -ULE.] A little zone: applied *spec.* to the ring-shaped fibrous structure which forms the suspensory ligament of the crystalline lens (*zonule of Zinn*).

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 535 These membraneous folds, which collectively are called the zonule of Zinn, are vascular. 1854 KÖLLIKER *Hum. Histol.* 390 The zonula is a thin transparent .. membrane, stretching from the *ora serrata retinæ* as far as the border of the lens. 1873 POWER tr. *Stricker's Histol.* III. 354 The zonula-fibres arise from the substance of the vitreous behind the ora serrata.

†**Zo·nulet.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -ET.] A little zone or girdle.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Upon Julia's Riband*, 'Tis that Zonulet of love, Wherein all pleasures of the world are wove.

Zonure (zōu·miuəi). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Zōnūrus*, f. Gr. ζώνη ZONE + οὐρά tail; from the rings of spiny scales on the tail.] A lizard of the genus *Zonurus* or family *Zonuridæ*, found in South Africa, Madagascar, and other countries.

1883 *List Vert. Anim. Gardens Zool. Soc.* (ed. 6) 583 *Zonurus derbianus*, Gray. Derbian Zonure.

Zoo (zū). *colloq.* [The first three letters of ZOOLOGICAL taken as one syllable.] The Zoological Gardens in Regent's Park, London; also extended to similar collections of animals elsewhere.

c 1847 MACAULAY in *Life & Lett.* (1878) II. 216 We treated the Clifton Zoo much too contemptuously. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* iv. (ed. 3) 65 The 'Zoo' in time past was as favourite a fashionable resort as Rotten Row.

Zoo- (zōu·o, zoi·), before a vowel properly **zo-**, repr. Gr. ζῳο-, combining form of ζῷον animal, occurring in numerous scientific and technical terms, of which the more important will be found in their alphabetical places. (The second element is usually and properly from Greek, but in a few recent words from Latin or English.)

In biological and botanical terms the prefix sometimes denotes the power of spontaneous movement (formerly supposed to be a distinctive characteristic of animals): see *zoogamete*, *zoogonidium*, *zoosperm*, *zoozygosphere*; ZOOSPORE.

‖ **Zo·ocarp** [Gr. καρπός fruit], † (*a*) a former name for certain algæ of low organization, then supposed by some to be animals; (*b*) a zoospore. ‖ **Zoocau·lon** [mod.L., f. Gr. καυλός stalk] (see quot.). **Zoochemistry,** the chemistry of animal bodies; so **Zoochemical** *a.* **Zooculture** = *zootechny*; so **Zoocu·ltural** *a.* ‖ **Zoocytium** (-si·tiŏm), pl. -ia [mod.L., after SYNCYTIUM] (see quot.). ‖ **Zoodendrium,** pl. -ia [mod.L., after SYNDENDRIUM] (see quot.). **Zoodynamics,** the dynamics of animal bodies; so **Zoodyna·mic** *a.* **Zooerythrin** (-eri·þrin), also **zoonerythrin** [irreg. for **zoerythrin*, f. Gr. ἐρυθρός red], a red pigment found in the plumage of the touracos, and in sponges. **Zoofu·lvin** [L. *fulvus* tawny], a yellow pigment found in the plumage of the touracos. **Zoogamete,** a motile gamete: = PLANOGAMETE. **Zoogeology,** that branch of geology which deals with fossil animal remains, palæozoology; so **Zoogeolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to zoogeology; **Zoogeo·logist,** one versed in zoogeology. ‖ **Zoogoni·dium,** pl. -ia [mod.L.: see GONIDIUM], a motile gonidium. **Zooma·gnetism,** animal magnetism. **Zoo·mancy** [-MANCY], divination by observing the actions of animals. **Zooma·nia** (*nonce-wd.*), a mania or insane fondness for animals. **Zooma·ntist,** one who practises zoomancy. **Zoomecha·nics** = *zoodynamics*; so **Zoomecha·nical** *a.* **Zoome·lanin,** the black pigment of animal bodies, MELANIN; *spec.* as found in the feathers of birds. **Zoo·metry** [-METRY], measurement of the dimensions and proportions of the bodies of animals; so **Zoome·tric** *a.* **Zoomy·thic** *a.*, belonging to a mythology in which the deities are represented in the form of animals. **Zo·onose** [Gr. νόσος disease], a disease communicated from one kind of animal to another or to a human being; so **Zo·onoso·logy,** the study of the diseases of animals; **Zo·onoso·logist,** one who pursues this study. **Zoo-orga·nic** (bad formation for **zoorganic**) *a.*, belonging to animal organs or organisms. **Zo·opatho·logist, Zo·opatho·logy** = *zoonosologist, -logy.* ‖ **Zoophobia** (-fō·biă) [mod.L.: see -PHOBIA], morbid or superstitious fear of animals. **Zoophy·sics,** the study of physics in relation to animal bodies; so **Zoophy·sical** *a.*, pertaining to zoophysics. **Zo·ophysio·logy,** animal physiology. **Zoopla·nkton** [PLANKTON], floating animal organisms collectively. **Zoopla·stic** *a.* [see PLASTIC], forming figures of animals or living beings. **Zo·opsycho·logy,** animal psychology, the study of mental phenomena in animals. **Zoosco·pic** *a.* [Gr. σκοπεῖν to view], † (*a*) examining or studying animals, zoological (*obs.*); (*b*) applied to a species of hallucination (**Zoo·scopy**) in which imaginary animal forms are seen, as in delirium tremens. **Zoosema·tic** *a.* [Gr. σῆμα sign]: see ZOTIC, quot. 1895–6. **Zoo·sophy** [Gr. σοφία wisdom], the knowledge or study of animals; † (*a*) the art of keeping and breeding animals (*obs.*); (*b*) the science of zoology (Oken). **Zo·osperm,** (*a*) = SPERMATOZOON; (*b*) = ZOOSPORE; hence **Zo·osperma·tic** *a.* **Zo·otaxy** [Gr. τάξις arrangement], zoological classification, systematic zoology. **Zo·otechny** (-tekni) [Gr. τέχνη art], the art of rearing and using animals for any purpose; so **Zootechnic** *a.*, pertaining to zootechny; **Zootechnics** = *zootechny.* ‖ **Zootheca** (-þī·kă), pl. -æ [mod.L., f. Gr. θήκη case], the case or sheath inclosing a zoosperm. ‖ **Zoothecium** (-þī·ʃiŏm), pl. -ia [mod.L., f. Gr. θήκιον, dim. of θήκη: see prec.], the tubular sheath produced and inhabited by certain Infusoria. **Zootheism** [see THEISM], the attribution of deity to animals (cf. ZOOLATRY); hence **Zo·otheistic** *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by zootheism. **Zo·othome** [Gr. θωμός heap] (see quot.). ‖ **Zoo·tokon** [Gr. ζωοτόκον, neut. of ζωοτόκος viviparous], a viviparous animal. **Zootrophy** (-ŏ·trŏfi) [ad. Gr. ζωοτροφία, f. ζῷον animal + τρέφειν to breed, rear, tend, etc.], the practice of rearing or tending animals. **Zo·otype,** an animal, or figure of one, used as the type of a deity, as in Egyptian hieroglyphics. **Zootypic** (-ti·pik) *a.*, pertaining to the animal type or types. **Zooxa·nthin** [Gr. ξανθός yellow], a (? yellow) pigment obtained from the red feathers of certain birds. **Zoozygosphere** (-zəi·gŏsiləi) [see ZYGO-, and cf. OOSPHERE], a motile spherical cell produced by conjugation: proposed as a substitute for *zoogamete*.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 804 **Zoocarpes*, the name given to certain organized bodies..variously classed..as animals or plants,..placed by botanists in the natural order Algæ... It is in the lower forms more particularly that the Zoocarpes occur. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Zoocarp...A zoospore. 1882 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusoria* 874 **Zoocaulon*..title conferred by the author on the erect tentaculiferous branching colony-stocks of the genus *Dendrosoma*. 1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 87 *Zoochemical analyses are instituted for the purpose of ascertaining..the..constituents of animal substances. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 352 [Zoology] consequently divides itself into..Zootomy, or the dissection of all the formative parts of the body: *Zoochemistry, or their chemical investigation. 1898–9 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* p. cxiii, Agricultural and *zoöcultural industries. 1900 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 65 That condition of toleration between animals and men which normally precedes domestication, and forms the first step in *zoöculture. 1882 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusoria* I. 286 Spongomonas, .. Animalcules .. living in social colonies, and forming by excretion a common domicile, which takes the form of a .. gelatinous or semi-granular *zoöcytium, within which they remain constantly immersed. *Ibid.* 265 Dendromonas. .. Animalcules .. stationed singly at the extremities of an erect,..variously branching pedicle or *zoödendrium. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 803 *Zoo-Dynamics, Zoo-Physics, Zoo-Chemistry. 1882 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 410 Another red pigment is the *zoerythrin; first extracted by Bogdanow from *Calurus auriceps*. 1885 *Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond.* XXXVIII. 321 Under this name [*sc.* luteins] are also included allied pigments, such as carotin, zoonerythrin. 1882 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 415 All other green feathers [than those of the Musophagidæ] contain only either *zoofulvin or a black-brown pigment. 1880 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XX. 418 In the proposed system .. Strasburger's 'zoogametes' or 'planogametes' must enjoy the somewhat cumbrous name of 'zoozygospheres', the prefix 'zoo' or suffix 'zoid' being always used to denote an apparently spontaneous power of motion. 1861 GEIKIE *E. Forbes* xv. 343 The *zoogeological researches of Edward Forbes. *Ibid.* 537 It is mainly as a *zoo-geologist or palæontologist that he will take rank. *Ibid.* 536 The transition from these fields of inquiry to that of palæontology or *zoo-geology. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 221 Each *zoogonidium breaks itself up into sixteen new zoogonidia. 1864 T. SHOOTER *Two Worlds* 19 Familiar with *zoo-magnetism and clairvoyance. 1842 HON. SMITH *Moneyed Man* xxi, That attachment to birds and animals..has afforded me no little..solace, though you have sometimes been pleased to term it a *zoo-mania. 1861 F. HALL in *Jrnl. Asiat. Soc. Bengal* 198 *note*, Vasantrája Bhatta, the *zoomantist. 1897 *Nat. Sci.* June 412 Roux claims that *zoomechanical methods are of primary importance. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Zoomechanics. 1897 *Nat. Sci.* June 412 To tack on the word 'mechanics' to zoology and re-christen it 'zoomechanics' in a general philosophical sense is not to create a new science. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1085 **Zoomelanin*, a name applied by Bogdanow.. to the black pigment of birds' feathers, probably identical with the melanin of the choroid coating of the eye. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* ii. 81 Osteometry itself is only a part of what should be called *zoometry. 1889 *Nature* 5 Dec. 99/2 Their *zoo-mythic conceptions of their divinities. 1878 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 132 The *zoonoses,..in which there is a transference between individuals of different species, and for the most part from animals to man. 1880 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Zoönosologist*..name for him who studies specially the diseases of cattle, or *zoönosology. *Ibid.*, Zoönosology. 1821 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 712 Vital or *zoo-organic power, instinct and understanding, fall all three under the same definition *in genere*. 1879 WEBSTER Suppl., *Zoopathology. 1884 W. WILLIAMS *Vet. Med.* (ed. 4) 4 Pathology, or more properly, when applied to the lower animals, Zoo-Pathology. 1901 *Amer. Anthrop.* (N. S.) III. 21 Experience of superior faculty awakens consciousness of superior power..and rends the shackles of *zoöphobia. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 803 *Zoophysics [see *zoödynamics*]. *Ibid.* 816/1 Schwann united two lines of inquiry, viz., that of minute investigation of structure and development and that of zoo-chemistry and zoo-physics.

1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 350 [Zoology] divides itself into many..branches, amongst which we may indicate.. *Zoophysiology, or the science of the functions of the organs. 1901 *Lancet* 3 Dec. 1801/1 Shallow pools of clear water which were rich in *zooplankton. 1870 RUSKIN *Aratra Pent.* ii. Wks. 1872 III. 31 The great mimetic instinct underlies all such purpose [*sc.* the fashioning of figures of living creatures]; and is *zooplastic, life-shaping. 1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* 19 The study of animal psychology (*zoo-psychology, comparative psychology). 1826 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 87 *Zooscopic or Zoologic Physiurgics. 1890 *Science* XV. 43 This condition of zoöscopic hallucination is one of the commonest among the phenomena of alcohol poisoning. 1668 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Orist* 163 The other Son..noted the properties and Societies of living Creatures; whence by the undoubted hope of a Flock, a quiet life is led: This indeed, was *Zoosophie or the wisdom of keeping living Creatures together. 1854 SPENCER *Ess.* iv. (1858) 166 Biology..divides into Organogeny, Phytosophy, Zoosophy. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 112/1 The *Zoosperm appears to be a moving filament like a minute *Vibrio*. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 270/1 According to his principles of *zootaxy. 1890 O. T. MASON in *Amer. Anthrop.* (N. S.) I. 46 The industries of the American aborigines, in connection with..animal life.., may be divided into *zoötechnic provinces. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Zootechnics. 1900 DENIKER *Races of Man* Introd. (ed. 2) 4 [In] the genus *Homo*..one can neither speak of the 'species', the 'variety', nor the 'race' in the sense that is usually attributed to these words in zoology or in zootechnics. 1879 DE QUATREFAGES *Hum. Spec.* 61 Anyone who possesses even the smallest knowledge of zoology and *zootechny. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 376 The *antheridium*..is filled at maturity with a number of minute cells, which have been termed *zoothecæ. 1880 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusoria* I. 61 For these aggregations of..simple lorices the distinctive title of *zoöthecia has been adopted. 1889 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 62 In the stage of barbarism all the phenomena of nature are attributed to the animals..or rather to the ancestral types of these animals, which are worshiped. This is the religion of *zoötheism. *Ibid.* Dec. 208 The prophets tried to pull the Israelites too rapidly through the *zoötheistic and physitheistic stages into monotheism. 1872 DANA *Corals* I. 48 The compound mass produced by budding..was called..a Zoöphyte. As a substitute the term *Zoöthome may be employed. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 132 They [*sc.* bats] are *zootokous*, only, amongst all flying creatures, and bring forth..two young ones at a time. 1877 G. MACDONALD *Marq. Lossie* xxxix, Pigs, which, with all her *zootrophy, Clementina did not like. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 4 Sept. 3/1 Egyptian hieroglyphics and Totemic *zootypes. 1897 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 454 Out of this worm-form type..all the higher ranges of *zootypic evolution have sprung. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1085 **Zoxanthin*, the colouring-matter of the red feathers of *Calurus auriceps*. 1880 *Zoöxygosphere [see *zoögamete*].

Zoodikers (zōdˈdikəz), *int. rare.* An asseverative exclamation: cf. ZOOKERS, ZOOKS, ZOONTERS.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. xii, Zoodikers! She'd have the wedding to-night.

Zoea: see ZOÆA.

‖ **Zoecium** (zōˌiˈ-ʃĭəm). *Zool.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., f. Gr. ζῷον animal + οἶκος house.] The thickened and hardened part of the cuticle of each zooid or polyp of a colony of Polyzoa, forming a cell or sheath in which it is lodged. Hence **Zoecial** (zōˌiˈ-ʃĭăl) *a.*, pertaining to or forming a zoœcium.

1880 PASCOE *Zool. Class.* 297 *Zoœcium*, a cell in which a polypide of the Polyzoa is lodged. 1881 *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Jan. 2 The avicularia are placed in the outer border of the *Zoœcia*. 1884 *Athenæum* 29 Mar. 414 The zoœcial tube.

Zoogen (zōˈʊdʒĕn). *Chem.* ? *Obs.* [ad. F. *zoogène*: see Zoo- and -GEN.] A nitrogenous substance found in the water of sulphur-springs; also called BAREGIN or GLAIRIN.

1880 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 710 Mineral Animal Matter—Zoogene.—Sig. Carlo di Gimbernat has discovered a peculiar substance in the thermal waters of Baden and of Ischia.

Zoogenic (zōʊdʒeˈnik), *a.* [f. Zoo- + *-genic*, adj. suffix of -GENY.] **a.** Pertaining to zoogeny (*rare*—°). **b.** Produced from animals; in *Geol.* applied to formations of animal origin, e.g. limestones formed from shells.

1864 WEBSTER, *Zoogenic*, of, or pertaining to, animal production. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 360 Zoogenic deposits are products of animal agency.

Zoogeny (zōˌɒˈdʒĕni). *rare.* [f. Zoo- + -GENY.] Production or generation of animals; an account, or the study, of this.

1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Zoogeny*..the doctrine of animal formation. 1854 SPENCER *Ess.* iv. (1858) 166 [Oken's Classification] Biology. Organosophy, Phytogeny, Phyto-physiology, Phytology, Zoogeny, Physiology [etc.].

Zoogeography. [f. Zoo- + GEOGRAPHY.] The geographical distribution of animals. Hence **Zoogeographer**, one versed in zoogeography; **Zoogeographical** *a.*, pertaining to zoogeography; **Zoogeographically** *adv.*, in relation to zoogeography.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 738/1 It is therefore..the business of the *zoogeographer, who wishes to arrive at the truth, to ascertain what groups of animals are wanting in any particular locality. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Zoögeographic. 1868 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 317 None of the great *zoogeographical provinces..are sharply defined from one another. 1893 SEEBOHM in *Geogr. Jrnl.* II. 338 The fact is that life areas, or zoo-geographical regions, are more or less fanciful generalisations. 1890 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 148 That section of the United States *zoogeographically known as the Sonoran Region. 1868 *Ibid.* 295 The relations of these subdivisions to *zoogeography. 1896 *Naturalist* 80 The inclusion of Irish habitats would have been of value in the study of zoogeography.

‖ **Zoogloea** (zōʊglĭˈă). *Biol.* [mod.L. (Cohn, 1872), f. Gr. ζῷον animal + γλοιός glutinous substance.] An aggregate of bacteria with thickened cell-walls, forming a gelatinous mass. Also *attrib.* Hence **Zoogloeic** *a.*

1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 95 Living objects variously described as bacteria, vibrios, micrococci, microzymes, zoogloea, &c. 1897 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 26 *Bacteria*, in the still state, very often become surrounded by a gelatinous matter..This is termed the *Zoogloea* form of *Bacterium*. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 409/2 The giant or mother cells have the appearance of zoogloeic masses.

Zoogonic (zōʊgɒˈnik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. ζωή life + *-γονος* producing + -IC.] Life-producing.

1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 118 The zoogonic, or vivific goddess. 1792 — *Diss. Elens. Myst.* 95 This goddess..is evidently of a Saturnian and zoogonic, or intellectual and vivific rank.

Zoogony (zōˌɒˈgŏni). *rare.* [nd. Gr. ζωογονία, f. ζῷον animal + *-γονία* a begetting.] The generation or production of animals, or a doctrine concerning this.

1678 BUNYHOUGH *Causa Dei* 242 The Theogonie and Zoo-

ζωγράφος one who draws figures, a painter, artist, f. ζῷον animal, figure: see -GRAPH.] = next, 2.

1623 COCKERAM, *Zoograph*, any one that painteth beasts.

Zoographer (zōˌɒˈgrăfəɹ). [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + *-γραφος* depicting, describing; see -GRAPHER.]

1. One who describes animals; a descriptive zoologist.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. i. 180 One kinde of Locust.., by Zoographers called *mantis*. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 104 The Zoographer Gesner. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* ii. 61 Zoographers observe, That the Camelion has a very uncommon structure of his viasive Organs. 1712 *Brit. Apollo* IV. No. 17. 1/2 Others [*sc.* beasts having only one horn] are mentioned by Zoographers.

2. A painter or depicter of animals; a painter or artist in general.

(In the latter use repr. Gr. ζωγράφος (see ZOOGRAPH): not an Eng. sense.)

1626 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Zoographer*..a Painter or one that draws the pictures of beasts. [Citing Sir T. Browne: see 1646 in 1.] 1824 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 66 This very clever artist and zoographer. 1824 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXVII. 406 The earlier writers on art,.. who flourished before the age of Trajan and the Antonines, constantly entitle their books on zoographers, on zoography—this was their only usual denomination for painting, as if still life did not merit the name.

Zoographic (zōʊgræˈfik), *a.* [f. ZOOGRAPHY + -IC.] Describing or representing animals; relating to zoography. So **Zoographical** *a.*; hence **Zoographically** *adv.*, in relation to zoography.

1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. IV. iv. 111 A new Species of *Zoographic Writing, called by the Ancients Symbolic. 1870 RUSKIN *Aratra Pent.* iv. § 110 Both arts [*sc.* painting and sculpture]..so far as they are zoo-graphic;—representative, that is to say, of animal life. 1881 *Academy* 17 Sept. 224 He it was, and not Polygnotos, whose lifelike figures earned him a similar zoographic reputation to that of Giotto. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 194 My censure on this rare *Zoographical piece. 1887 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 171/3 *Zoographically the fauna and flora of this archipelago appear to have their affinities with those of the Philippine Islands.

Zoographist. *rare*—°. [f. Gr. ζωγράφος (see ZOOGRAPH) + -IST.] = ZOOGRAPHER.

1778 in ASH. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Zoography (zōˌɒˈgrăfi). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + *-γραφία*, -GRAPHY.]

1. Description of animals; descriptive zoology.

1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 97 When men play the parts of beasts, let them go among the numbers of cattel in Zoography. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 194 We are now come to that rare piece of Zoography of thine, the world drawn out in the shape of an Animal. 1697 SWIFT *T. Tub* Ep. Ded. (1704) 8, I was grosly mistaken in the Zoography and Topography of them. 1807 W. WOOD (*title*) Zoography; or the Beauties of Nature, displayed in Select Descriptions from the Animal and Vegetable.. Kingdom. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 352 With regard to species and groups of species, (*a*) their complete description or Zoography; (*b*) their systematic arrangement or Taxonomy.

2. The art of depicting animals; pictorial art in general. (Repr. Gr. ζωγραφία: not an Eng. sense.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Zoography*..the painting or picturing of beasts. 1824 W. TAYLOR [see ZOOGRAPHER 2].

Zoogyroscope (zōʊdʒəiˈrɒskəʊp). [f. Zoo- + GYROSCOPE.] An apparatus in which a series of instantaneous photographs of a moving animal are placed upon a rotating glass cylinder and illuminated so as to throw the images in rapid succession upon a screen, producing the appearance of the actual movement.

1880 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* 640 The zoogyroscope can..be applied to photographs of other animals besides the horse.

Zooid (zōˈoid), *sb. Biol.* [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -OID: cf. late Gr. ζωοειδής adj. resembling an animal.] Something that resembles an animal (but is not one in the strict or full sense): in early use applied somewhat widely, including, e.g., a free-moving animal or vegetable cell, as a spermatozoon or antherozooid; but chiefly restricted to an animal arising from another by asexual reproduction, i. e. budding (gemmation) or division (fission); *spec.* (and most usually) Each of the distinct beings or 'persons' which make up a compound or 'colonial' animal organism, and often have different forms and functions, thus more or less corresponding to the various organs in the higher animals. (Cf. ZOON.) Also *attrib.*

Often as the second element of a compound, as *antherozooid, ascidiozooid, dactylozooid, gonozooid, siphonozooid*, etc.: see these words.

1851 HUXLEY in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. II. VIII. 15 The term 'zooid'..is..intended to suggest..with regard to the creatures to which it is applied..that they are like individuals, and yet are not individuals, in the sense that one of the higher animals is an individual..Instead of saying then, that in a given species, there is an alternation of so many generations, we should say that the individual consists of so many zooids. *Ibid.* 17 Zooid Development by External Gemmation. Internal Gemmation. 1855 W. S. DALLAS in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 456 The individual *Salpa* consists of two zooids, one oviparous, the other gemmiparous..In the *Aphides*, as many as eleven consecutive series of gemmiparous zooids have been observed to intervene between two periods of sexual reproduction. 1864 [see ZOON]. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. LXXXVI, In the Polyzoa polymorphic zooids are produced by gemmation. 1872 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 98 In each colony [of hydroids] the alimentary and reproductive functions are respectively intrusted to two distinct kinds of zooids,..the nutritive and the sexual polypites...The sexual zooids, like the flower-buds of plants, are only developed at certain seasons. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 721 *Rhabdopleura* forms indefinitely branching colonies...The zooids are all connected by a stem. *Ibid.* 745 The sexual zooid is developed from the asexual, either directly by metamorphosis, or indirectly by gemmation or fission, thus giving rise to an Alternation of Generations.

Hence **Zoˌoiˈdal** *a.*, pertaining to a zooid or zooids; **Zoˌoidioˈgamous** (zoˌidioˈ-, zoˌidoˈgamous) *a.*, characterized by, or of the nature of, fertilization in which a 'zooid' or motile cell (e.g. an antherozooid) unites with another cell.

1886 *Geol. Mag.* Dec. 535 The larger (tubuli) I regard as zoöidal tubes. 1891 *Nature* 17 Sept. 484/1 Karyogamy is.. Zooidiogamous: one gamete at least is actively motile. 1907 *Amer. Nat.* June 362 Ancient zoidogamous Gymnosperms.

Zooid, *a. rare*—°. [? erron. deduction from attrib. use of prec.] Resembling, or having the character of, an animal. Only in recent Dicts.

Zookers (zuˈkəɹz), *int. Obs.* or *arch.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **swookers.** [Short for *gadswookers* (GAD *sb.*[5] 3), GODSOOKERS.] = next.

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. XXV. 166 Zwookers (quoth Sancho) He not giue a farthing to know what is past. 1632 MASSINGER *Emperor East* IV. i, Zookers had I one of you zingle with this twigge, I would so veeze you! 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct. 491/1, I had proceeded by Fegs, 'Faith, Pox, Plague, 'pon my life, 'pon my soul, Rat it, and Zookers, to Zauns, and the divill. 1762 A. MURPHY *Way to keep Him* v. i. (1765) 101 Zookers, that money—Oh! I am going to blab—, *a* 1814 *Sixteen & Sixty* II. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 387 Zookers! if measter Bore'em were to pop in! 1854 AINSWORTH *Flitch of Bacon* iv, 'I've..Seen him make love to another woman.' 'To Mrs. Nettlebed?' 'Zookers! no.'

Zooks (zuks), *int. Obs.* or *arch.* exc. *dial.* [Short for *gadsooks* (GAD *sb.*[5] 3); cf. *Gods sokinges* (GOD *sb.* 14 b).] An exclamation or minced oath, expressing vexation, surprise, or other emotion.

1634 HEYWOOD *Witches Lancs.* III. i. E 4, Zookes thou art so brave a follow that I will stick to thee. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. x, Zooks, parson, you remember how he recommended the weather o' her to me. 1754 GARRICK *Prol. to J. Brown's 'Barbarossa'*, He eat a plagy deal, Zooks! he'd have beat five Ploomen at a Meal! 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Lay St. Cuth.* Moral, And as for that shocking bad habit of swearing,..leave it to dustmen and mobs, Nor commit yourself much beyond 'Zooks!' or 'Odsbobs!' 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo Lippi* 3 Zooks, what's to blame?

Zoolatry (zoˌɒˈlătri). [ad. mod.L. *zoölatria*, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + λατρεία worship.] The worship of animals. So **Zoˌoˈlater**, one who practises zoolatry; **Zoˌoˈlatrous** *a.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or practising zoolatry.

1827 G. S. FABER *Eight Dis.* (1845) I. 285 That the gods of the Gentiles, however connected with Sabianism and Materialism and Zoölatry, were originally..deified mortals. 1858 HARDWICK *Christ & Other Masters* IV. i. 56 Conspicuous at the head of the zoolatry of Egypt stands the worship of the great Memphitic bull, Apis. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, Zoolater..Zoolatrous. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* i. 6 Vestiges of zoölatrous worship. 1907 *Q. Rev.* July 200 They brought with them a concrete form of zoolatry in the cult of the buffalo.

Zoolite (zōˈʊlăit). *rare.* [ad. F. *zoölithe* (J. F. Esper, 1774), f. Gr. ζῷον animal + λίθος stone: see -LITE.] A fossil animal or animal substance.

Zoologer (zoˌɒˈlŏdʒəɹ). *rare.* [f. mod.L. *zoologia* ZOOLOGY + -ER[1]; cf. *astrologer.*] = ZOOLOGIST.

1668 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 46 As the Naturalist may thus illustrate Pathologie as a Chymist, so may he do the like as a Zoologer. 1726 SWIFTON in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 112 That those bodies ever ascend fifty or sixty feet, has not..been yet observed by any Zoologer. 1884 *Prospectus of Brehm's 'Life of Animals'*, Dr. Alfr. Edm. Brehm, the eminent zoologer.

-logie (zōˈɒlŏdʒik), *a. rare.* [f. ZOOLOGY +

-IC; cf. mod.L. *zōologicus* (Kirchmaier, 1661).] = next.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 87 Zooscopic or Zoologic Physiurgics. 1849 SAXE *Times* 279 As boys expend their zoologic rage On annual tigers in a travelling cage. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* 368 That roses weep is a botanic fact; A zoologic truth, that birds woo flowers.

Zoological (zōŭlǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. ZOOLOGY + -ICAL; cf. prec.] Pertaining or relating to zoology; belonging or devoted to the scientific study of animals.

1813 *Tweddell's Rem.* 190 *note*, His numerous zoological and botanical works. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* III. 465 Molluscous animals had been placed too high in the zoological scale. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Beagle* vii. 152 We shall .. have two zoological provinces strongly contrasted with each other. 1877 COUES *Fur-Bearing Anim.* i. 2 The zoological characters by which it is distinguished from other Carnivorous Mammals.

b. *Zoological Garden* (usually *Gardens*), the gardens of the London Zoological Society, situated in Regent's Park, London, in which the society's collection of wild animals is housed (formerly colloquially abbreviated as 'the Zoological', subsequently further shortened to 'the Zoo'); hence *gen.* a garden or park in which wild animals are kept for public exhibition.

1829 T. ALLEN (*title*) A guide to the Zoological Gardens and museum. 1831 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 279, I..passed three hours with some new foreigners at the Zoological, which is the best lounge of London. 1843 *Comic Album* W a b/t The parrots at the Zoological Gardens. 1854 GOSSE *Aquarium* 13 The interesting exhibition opened to the public last year at the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 416 The first annual exhibition of the Hull and East-Riding Poultry Society, took place on Wednesday, June 27th, at the Zoological Gardens, Hull. 1890 BURNAND *Very Much Abr.* 122 After which I never gave any buns to the bears at the Zoological. *attrib.* and *comb.* 1843 HOOD in *Mem.* (1860) II. 152 Me, who have no more notion of engineering than a Zoological monkey of driving piles. 1858 *Household Words* 18 Dec. 51/1 A whole zoological-garden-full of symptoms constantly making him uncomfortable.

c. *transf.* (sometimes *humorous*). Animal.

1855 DICKENS *Holly-Tree* i, One of the apartments has a zoological papering on the walls, not so accurately joined but that the elephant occasionally rejoices in a tiger's hind legs and tail, while the lion puts on a trunk and tusks. 1889 H. P. LIDDON *Magnificat* iv. 91 Which is the nobler sort of ancestry—the purely zoological, or the spiritual? 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 39/2 Other strange and zoological sounds.

Hence **Zoologically** (zōŭlǫ·dʒikăli) *adv.*, in a zoological way, in relation to zoology.

1819 W. LAWRENCE *Lect. Phys.* etc. 249 The representations of all the animals being brought before Adam in the first instance, and subsequently of their being all collected in the ark, if we are to understand them as applied to the living inhabitants of the whole world, are zoologically impossible. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xvii. (1852) 393 This Archipelago [*sc.* the Galapagos Islands] is zoologically part of America. 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. i. 24 Borneo and New Guinea, as like physically as two distinct countries can be, are zoologically wide as the poles asunder.

Zo,olo·gico-, used as combining form of *zoologic* or *zoological*: **zoologico-archæologist**, one who studies archæology zoologically, i. e. in relation to animal remains.

1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* 114 The admirable researches of the Danish and Swiss zoologico-archæologists.

Zoologist (zǫǫ·lŏdʒist). [f. mod.L. *zōologia* ZOOLOGY + -IST; cf. *zoologer*.] One versed in zoology; a scientist who studies or treats of animals.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 46 The..liberty of making those Experiments in live Beasts .may enable a Zoologist .. to determine divers Pathologicall difficulties. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 531 This..has been described.. under the name of the Mus Africanus Hayopolin dictus. Most of the zoologists have omitted it. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 Sept., Nor have I seen any thing that interested me as a zoologist, except an otter. 1870 NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. viii. 253 The proverb says, 'Ex pede Herculem'; and we have actual experience how the practised zoologist can build up some intricate organization from the sight of its smallest bone.

Zoologize (zǫǫ·lŏdʒaiz), *v.* [f. ZOOLOGY or ZOOLOGIST: see -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To study zoology practically; to seek and examine animals zoologically. (Cf. *botanize*.)

1851 GEIKIE *E. Forbes* ix. 267 He had botanized and zoologized..from the Shetlands to the Channel Isles. 1890 ROMANES in *Life & Lett.* (1896) 256, I have just heard that Charles Lister..has died of fever in Brazil, where he was zoologizing.

2. *trans.* To study, explore, or treat zoologically.

1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* I, Not to him, as to us, a world.. circumscribed, mapped, botanized, zoologised.

Hence **Zoo·logizing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1887 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 20 Giving up zoologising for the present. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xiv. 290 On a zoologising excursion.

Zoology (zǫǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *zōologia*, mod. Gr. ζωολογία (see note below), f. ζῷον animal + -λογία (see -LOGY). Cf. F. *zoologie* (18th c.).

The word was orig. used to denote that part of medical science which treats of the medicines or remedies obtainable from animals; e. g. in the title of T. Bateson's translation of Johann Schröder's *Zoologia*: *or the History of Animals, as they are useful in physick and chirurgery*, 1667; and in Sperling's *Zoologia Physica*, 1661, a distinction is made between 'zoologia medica' and 'zoologia sacra'; the first concerns animals 'ut materiam medendi præbent', the second 'ut ad Dei majestatem, ad vitæ deponendæ, et ad vitam corrigendam faciunt.'

The sense first recorded in English dictionaries is 'a treatise concerning living creatures' (Bailey, 1736) and is still the only one in Todd's Johnson, 1818.]

The science which treats of animals, constituting one of the two branches (*zoology* and *botany*) of Natural History or Biology, and comprising many subordinate branches, as ornithology, ichthyology, entomology, etc.; also, a treatise on, or system of, this science.

1669 ROWLAND tr. *Schröder's Chym. Disp.* 306 The Fifth Book of the Chymical Dispensatory, called Zoology, treating of living Creatures. Zoology is a Part of Pharmacy, that shews what Medicines are to be taken from Animals. 1736 BAILEY, *Zoology*, a Treatise concerning living Creatures. 1788 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Zoology makes a considerable Article in Natural History. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Vacca*, in zoology, the female of the ox-kind. 1766 PENNANT (*title*) The British Zoology. 1833 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 158 'Dogs bark': this was erst of necessary matter; 'dogs' were then 'all dogs'... Since an observation of the dogs of Labrador (I think), the proposition, as in our zoologies, so in our logics, has fallen to contingent matter. 1857 OWEN in Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.* etc. s. v., The term *Zoology* is practically restricted to the science of the outward characters, habits, properties, and classification of animals. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 1. 599 John Ray was the first to raise zoology to the rank of a science.

Zoom (zūm), *v.* [Echoic.]

1. *intr.* To make a continuous low-pitched humming or buzzing sound.

1892 'Q' *I saw three Ships* 1, Amid..the scraping and zooming of the instruments, string and reed. 1904 — *Shining Ferry* xiv, A couple of humble-bees zoomed against the window pane.

2. *Aircraft slang.* (See first quot.) Hence **Zoom** *sb.*, an act of 'zooming'.

1917 *Daily Mail* 19 July 4/5 'Zoom'..describes the action of an aeroplane which, while flying level, is hauled up abruptly and made to climb for a few moments at a dangerously sharp angle. 'Zooming' is.. frequently the only means of avoiding an obstacle when flying low. 1918 'B. CABLE' *Air Men o' War* i. 11 The 'Silver Wings' righted, zoomed sharply up, whirled round.

Zoomorph (zōŭ·ǫmǫf). [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + μορφή shape.] A representation of an animal form in art; a zoomorphic design or figure.

1895 HADDON *Evol. Art* 40 The designs are based on human faces..; sometimes the human form is employed, and occasionally zoomorphs are depicted. 1902 *Trans. Glasgow Archæol. Soc.* (N.S.) IV. 398 Key-patterns, zoömorphs, and figure subjects.

Zoomorphic (zōŭǫmǫ·fik), *a.* [As prec. + -IC.]

1. Representing or imitating animal forms, as in decorative art or symbolism.

1872 *Archæol. Cant.* VIII. 266 A legend not in runes, but in zoomorphic characters. 1883 M'CRIE *Sk. & Stud.* 23 The zoomorphic character so conspicuous in the ornamentation of Celtic manuscripts.

2. Attributing the form or nature of an animal to something, esp. to a deity or superhuman being. (Cf. ANTHROPOMORPHIC.)

1880 MURRAY *Philol. Soc. Addr.* 22 The enlargement or abbreviation of words by letters, which in the curious zoomorphic dialect of many books, *creep in*, or *drop out*, or *fall away*, or develop as *parasites*. 1884 A. LANG *Custom & Myth* 118 Mr. Sayce, who recognises totemism as the origin of the zoomorphic element in Egyptian religion.

b. Having, or conceived or represented as having, the form of an animal.

1886 A. LANG in *19th Cent.* 428 Under Dynasty XII. the gods..appear in their later shapes, often half anthropomorphic, half zoomorphic. 1887 — *Myth, Rit. & Relig.* I. 9 All pre-Christian religions have their 'zoomorphic'..idols.

Zoomorphism (zōŭǫmǫ·fizm). [Formed as prec. + -ISM, prob. after F. *zoomorphisme*.]

1. Attribution of animal form or nature to a deity or superhuman being. (Cf. ANTHROPOMORPHISM.)

1840 SMART, *Zoomorphism*, (belief of a transformation into beasts). 1882 MIVART *Nat. & Th.* 205 Zoomorphism is much more absurd than Anthropomorphism.

2. Imitation or representation of animal forms in decorative art or symbolism.

1879 JOS. ANDERSON *Scot. Early Chr. T.* (1881) 206 Zoomorphism of ornamentation. *Ibid.* 221 An Irish crosier.. exhibits a more pronounced character of zoomorphism.

Zo,omorphize, *v.* [f. ZOOMORPHIC + -IZE.] *trans.* To make zoomorphic; to attribute an animal form or nature to.

1895 *Folk-Lore* Mar. 75 The belief in sympathetic interchange and interrelation between man and the lower animals,..the zoomorphizing of everything.

‖ **Zoon** (zōǫn). Pl. **zoa** (zōă). *Biol.* [mod.L. (Herbert Spencer), a. Gr. ζῷον animal.] An organism scientifically regarded as a complete animal, i.e. one which is the total product of an impregnated ovum, whether constituting a single being as in the higher animals, or a number of distinct beings (*zooids*) as in the successive asexual generations of aphides or the various 'persons' that make up a compound or 'colonial' animal.

1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* § 73 A zoological individual is constituted either by any such single animal as a mammal or bird, which may properly claim the title of a *zoon*, or by any such group of animals as the nauseous *Medusæ* that have been developed from the same egg, which are to be severally distinguished as *zooids*.

Zoonerythrin: see *zoerythrin* s.v. Zoo-.

†**Zoonic** (zǫǫ·nik), *a. Chem. Obs.* [ad. F. *zoïnique* (Berthollet), irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -ογος, -IC.] Applied to a supposed peculiar acid obtained from animal substances, afterwards shown to be impure acetic acid. Hence †**Zo·onate** [-ATE 4], a salt of this acid.

1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 349 Among the acids, the editor has omitted several..newly discovered; viz. the Zoonic [etc.]. 1802 PYE *Chem. Nomencl.* 181 Zoonic acid. *Ibid.*, Zoonates.

Zoonist (zōŭ·ŏnist). *rare.* [irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον living being, animal + -IST.] One who holds that nature as a whole is a living being, or that natural objects are such. (In quots. only *attrib.*)

1892 *Athenæum* 25 June 829/2 The conception of nature as itself living, or the Zoönist conception, and..the conception of nature as inclusive of beings of a superhuman character, or the Supernalist conception. 1897 *Folk-Lore* Sept. 274 Among the Zoönist poems are dialogues between personified natural objects.

Zoonite (zōŭ·ŏnəit). *Zool. rare.* [ad. F. *zoonite* (Dugès) or mod.L. *zōonitum*, irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον animal: see -ITE¹.] = ZOOID; *spec.* each of the segments of an articulated animal regarded as distinct organisms; a somite. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* = articulated, segmented. Hence **Zo,onitic** (-i·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or composed of 'zoonites' or segments.

1860 *Cornh. Mag.* I. 203 *note*, We may adopt Huxley's suggestion, and call all such individual parts zooids, instead of animals. Dugès suggested zõonites in the same sense. 1860 LAYCOCK *Mind & Brain* II. Contents p. ix, Zoonitic Constitution of Vermes. 1861 HULME tr. *Maquin-Tandon* II. II. 59 The Worm..is composed of segments or articulations, in each of which the same organs are regularly repeated.. It may be termed a distinct series of animals... These special organisms have received the name of Zoonites (1826). *Ibid.* 60 Three sub-kingdoms: I. The Isolated animals; II. Zoonite animals; III. The Associated animals.

Zoonomy (zǫǫ·nŏmi). *rare.* ? *Obs.* [ad. mod. L. *zōonomia* (E. Darwin, 1794), which (after ASTRONOMY, q.v.) should properly mean 'arrangement of animals, zoological classification', but taken as f. Gr. ζῷον animal (or ζωή life) + νόμος law.] The science of the laws of animal or organic life; physiology. So **Zo,ono·mic** (in mod. Dicts.), **Zo,ono·mical** *adjs.*, pertaining or relating to zoonomy; **Zo,o·nomist**, one who is versed in or treats of zoonomy.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 282 The Zoonomical inquirer, when he attempts to explain organic and animal phænomena, should renounce all .. unfounded hypotheses. *Ibid.*, The Zoonomist must endeavour to avoid all partial and incomplete explanations. 1815 T. FORSTER (*title*) Sketch of the New Anatomy and Physiology of the Brain and Nervous System of Drs. Gall and Spurzheim, considered as comprehending a complete system of Zoonomy. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subsec.* Ser. II. 375 If we could..give ear to the teaching of an enlightened zoonomy, we might soon drive many of our fellest diseases out of our breed.

Zoons: see ZOUNDS.

†**Zoo·nters**, *int. Obs. rare.* An exclamation, app. suggested by *zoons* (ZOUNDS) and ZOOKERS.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Ode Dr. Brattle* 16 Zoonters they're gone.

Zoophagous (zǫǫ·făgəs), *a.* [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -φάγος -eating: see -PHAGOUS.] Feeding on animals; carnivorous; belonging to the *Zoophaga*, a name for various groups of animals: opp. to PHYTOPHAGOUS. So **Zo,o·phagan** *a.* and *sb.*

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., **Zoophagans*..the order of Unguiculate Mammals which live on animal food,..also the corresponding group of the Marsupial Quadrupeda. 1858 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvi. 70 *Zoophagous animals, or those which attack and devour living animals. 1859 OWEN in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Lond.* Ser. II. VI. 72 The true or zoophagous Cetacea. 1881 *Nature* 3 Feb. 324/1 The countless host of animals that inhabit the depths of the ocean, all of which are necessarily zoophagous.

Zoophile (zōŭ·fil). [ad. F. *zoophile*, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -φιλος -loving.] **a.** *Bot.* A zoophilous plant, or its seed. **b.** = *zoophilist*. So **Zoophilism** (zǫǫ·filiz'm) = *zoophily*; **Zoophilist** (zǫǫ·filist), a lover of animals; an opponent of cruelty to animals, *spec.* an anti-vivisectionist; **Zo,o·philite** (-əlt) = prec.; **Zoophilous** (zǫǫ·filəs) *a.*, loving animals; in *Bot.* (after *entomophilous*) applied to plants whose seeds are disseminated by the agency of animals; **Zo,o·phily**, love of animals; *spec.* the principles of zoophilists.

1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 501 The seeds which are aided by this mode of dissemination are called *zoöphiles. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Aug. 290/2 The Progress of *Zoophilism. 1880 *Hull Packet* 17 Nov., A species of animal which is likely to become a great favourite among our female *zoophilists. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* CCXXVII, Our Philosopher and Zoophilist..advised those who consulted him as to the best manner of taking and destroying rats. 1895 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 502 None of us Zoophilists have ever pleaded for equal rights for animals with men. 1879 SIR R. CUNNINGTON in *Life* (1886) II. 251 He has been assailed by extreme *Zoöphilites. 1886 *Nature* 26 Aug. 403/1 Plants..which he terms '*zoophilous' or 'ornithophilous', *i.e.* those which are absolutely dependent for the germination of their seeds on the fruit being swallowed by birds. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 279 (*title of article*) *Zoophily. 1903 *Month* Aug. 214 The extremer advocates of Zoophily.

Zoophorus, etc.: see ZOPHORUS.

Zoophyte (zō·ŭfəit). Forms: *α.* 7–8 **zoophyton** (7 **zoophiton**), 7–9 *pl.* **zoophyta** (zōi·fĭtă). *β.* 7 **zoophyt**, **-phit**, 7–9 **-phite**, 7– **zoophyte**. [ad. mod.L. *zōophyton*, a. Gr. ζῷόφυτον (Aristotle), f. ζῷον animal + φυτόν plant, f. φύεσθαι to grow. Cf. F. *zoöphyte* (Rabelais).]

†**1.** Applied to certain plants having or supposed to have some qualities of animals, as the 'sensitive plant' and the 'vegetable lamb' or BAROMETZ. *Obs.*

1601 JOHDE *Summary Du Bartas* 1. 130 There is mention of the Boranets, Zoophites, or Plant-animals of Moscouy, in the first Booke of the second Weeke. 1653 W. HARVEY *Anat. Exerc.* xvii. 95 The sensative Plant, and other Zoophyta. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Muscovy* (1685) 67 In this Country grows the Plant Zoophyte that resembles a Lamb.

2. A general name for various animals of low organization, formerly classed as intermediate between animals and plants, being usually fixed, and often having a branched or radiating structure, thus resembling plants or flowers: as crinoids, hornwracks, sea-anemones, corals, hydroids, sponges, etc.; any member of the group *Zoophyta*.

Formerly sometimes applied to the branched connecting structure in hornwracks, corals, etc. as distinct from the 'polyps' inhabiting it; but often also a synonym of 'polyp'.

In early modern Zoology the term *Zoophyta* was applied systematically but with varying extent, sometimes including all the Echinoderms, Polyzoa, Cœlenterates, Sponges, and Protozoa, in other cases more restricted, esp. to the Cœlenterates; it is now almost or entirely disused.

a. 1635 PERSON *Varieties* 1. § 9 Mid creatures which wee call Zoophyta, and Plantanimalia. 1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 74 The Zoophyton [*misprr. Zeo-*(*i. e.*) half Animall, and half Plant. 1688 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 53 To blame her [*sc.* Providence] for making Zoophiton's, or rather Amphibion's. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 190 A Zoophyton, somewhat resembling the Flower of the Marigold. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Mem. Geol.* 46 The innumerable tribes of zoophyta, mollusca, and other (in)vertebrata.

β. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iii. 319 Many strange creatures, mineralls, vegetalls, Zoophites. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Grove* 23 Those Zoophits or Plant-Animals the Philosophers write of. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxiii. (1658) 259 Under the title of plants I include not zoophytes or plant animals. 1752 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 457 If..some will still consider these marine productions as plants, they are truly zoophytes, formed by the labour of the animals, which inhabit them. 1762 NASMYTH ibid. LII. 536 Whether animal, zoophite, or submarine plant, I leave to your determination. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 395 Polypi or Zoophytes; comprehending all those small, gelatinous, and compound or aggregated animals which have a mouth surrounded by tentacula, and conducting into a simple stomach. 1847 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) III. 463 Suppose the coralline zoophytes to go on building. 1877 THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. iv. 255 Very elegant alcyonarian zoophytes.

fig. 1865 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Brkfst.-t.* viii. 75 When the whole human zoophyte flowers out like a full-blown rose.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Marygold*, Zoophyte Marygold..the name of a species of sea animal, of a very beautiful kind, and of the nature of those commonly called Zoophytes,..by the old naturalists. 1856 CARPENTER *Microsc.* § 69 For the examination of living aquatic objects, too large to be conveniently received into the Aquatic Box, the Zoophyte-trough contrived by Mr. Lister may be employed with great advantage. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 38 The zoophyte-clothed rocks.

Hence **Zo·ophytal**, **Zo,ophytic** (-fi·tik), **-ical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to a zoophyte or zoophytes; of the nature of a zoophyte; produced by zoophytes; **Zo·ophytish** *a.*, having the character of a zoophyte; **Zo·ophytist**, a naturalist who studies zoophytes, a zoophytologist; **Zo·ophyto·graphy**, description of zoophytes; **Zo,ophy·toid** *a.*, resembling a zoophyte, or related to the zoophytes; **Zo·ophytolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to zoophytology; **Zo·ophyto·logist**, one versed in zoophytology; **Zo·ophyto·logy**, that department of zoology which treats of zoophytes.

1838 MANTELL *Wonders Geol.* II. 468 In the flustra..we have the elements of *zoophytal organization. 1818 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* V. 375 Molluscous and *zoophytic animals. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 128 The zoophytic, and shelly limestones..sometimes alternate with the rocks of mechanical origin. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 216 The ocean's bed, on which the foundations of the zoophytic structure are laid. 1838 G. JOHNSTON *Brit. Zoph.* 8 Bernard de Jussieu and Guettard proceeded..to different parts of the coasts of France with the view of examining their *zoophytical productions. 1850 W. SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* iv. (1858) 53 Many of the zoophytical and molluscous orders. 1854 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 28 Oct. 280/2 The home of some human reptile or *zoophytish monster. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. ix. 242 Caverns..worthy the careful examination of the *zoophytist. 1736 BAILEY (folio) Pref., **Zoophytography*..a Treatise or Discourse of animal Plants, as Cockles, Muscles, Oysters. 1861 R. E. GRANT *Tabular View Rec. Zool.* 66 Physeograda ..*Zoophytoid. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Zoophytological. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1307/1 The modern *Zoophytologist. 1828 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 651/1 *Zoophytology. Respiration of Animalcules. 1883 *Knowledge* 13 July 22/1 Ellis..has been called the father of English Zoophytology.

Zoopraxiscope (zō·opræ·ksĭskōp). Also **-praxeoscope**, and erron. **-praxinoscope** (cf. PRAXINOSCOPE). [f. Zoo- + Gr. πρᾶξις (acc. πρᾶξιν, gen. πράξεως) action + **-SCOPE**.] A modified form of the ZOOGYROSCOPE.

1882 *Leeds Merc.* 31 May 5 The Zoöpraxeoscope is..the zoögyroscope in an improved form. 1889 *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 350/3 Mr. Muybridge, of Philadelphia, lectured on 'The Science of Animal Locomotion in its Relation to Design in Art.'..The lecturer by the zoopraxiscope and its limelight displayed a great number of illustrations.

‖**Zoosporangium** (zō·osporæ·ndgiŭm). *Bot.* Pl. **-ia**. Also in anglicized form **soosporange** (zō·osporsendʒ). [mod.L., f. next after SPORANGIUM.] A receptacle containing zoospores. Hence **Zo·o-spora·ngiophore** (-fō·r) [see **-PHORE**], a structure bearing zoosporangia.

1874 COOKE *Fungi* 170 Thick filaments or tubes, similar to those which form the Zoosporangia. 1882 HUXLEY in *Nature* 9 Mar. 438 The zoospores are set free through an opening formed at the apex of the soosporangium. 1889 A. W. BENNETT & MURRAY *Crypt. Bot.* 326 The..zoospores are borne in zoosporanges at the end of cylindrical or club-shaped zoosporangiophores.

Zoospore (zō·ospōr). *Biol.* [f. Zoo- + SPORE.] A spore having the power of spontaneous movement, occurring in certain Algæ, Fungi, and Protozoa; a motile spore, swarm-spore.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 8 Cellular flowerless plants,..propagated by zoospores, coloured spores, or tetraspores. 1848 — *Veg. Phys.* § 767 For the propagation of their kind,..the Confervæ have two different modes; the one being the liberation of moving particles, termed zoospores, from the interior of the cells. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 821 The spores [in Protozoa]..may when they become motile be amœboid or flagellate, and to these two states respectively the terms *amœbula*, or *zoospore* a. *flagellula* may be applied.

Hence **Zoosporous** (zō,ŏ·spŏrəs) *a.*, producing, of the nature of, or effected by zoospores.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 2 The spores of those Confervæ which are sometimes called Zoosporous. 1850 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 818/2 Zoosporous reproduction.

Zooster, var. ZOSTER.

Zo,otic, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *zōoticus* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*), f. Gr. ζῷον animal: see **-OTIC**.] (See quots.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1085 *Zootic Acid*, syn. with Hydrocyanic Acid. 1879 WEBSTER, *Zootic*..containing the remains of organized bodies;—used of rock or soil.

Zootomy (zō,ŏ·tŏmi). [ad. mod.L. *zōotomia* (M. A. Severinus, 1645): see Zoo- and **-TOMY**.] The anatomy of animals; the dissection, or the science of the structure, of animal bodies; in mod. use *esp.* comparative anatomy.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. i. 21 The naturalist by his Zootomy, may be very serviceable to the Physitian in his anatomical inquiries. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 558 Zootomy is either for compleating natural History,..or for the better Attainment of the Cure of Diseases. 1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 156 The cook..lives in East Smithfield, where he exercises the trade of zootomy. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Pref. p. v, To combine the concrete facts of Zootomy with the outlines of systematic Classification. 1872 MIVART *Anat.* 74 This lower jaw—or, as it is called in zootomy, mandible. 1875 W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 799/1 [Anatomy] resolves itself into..Animal Anatomy or Zootomy,..and Vegetable Anatomy or Phytotomy.

So **Zootomic** (zō,ŏtǫ·mik), **Zo,oto·mical** *adjs.*, belonging or relating to zootomy; **Zo,oto·mically** *adv.*, in relation to or in the way of zootomy; **Zo,o·tomist**, one versed in zootomy; one who dissects, or who studies the structure of, animal bodies; in mod. use *esp.* a comparative anatomist.

1887 *Nature* 17 Nov. 70/1 The *zootomic and embryological works of the last ten years. 1833 R. E. GRANT in *Lancet* 12 Oct. 93/2 The *zootomical investigations of Moreschi of Milan. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Pref. p. v, A Zootomical account of its various Sub-kingdoms. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 873/1 The investigation of the whole of this vast subject, *zootomically. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* iv. 223 The remarks of *Zootomists. 1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 156 The cook..by profession a zootomist. 1879 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. III. I. 132 If the biologist recognises the many points of community in animal structures, the zootomist has to insist on the points of diversity.

Zootrope (zō·ŏtrōp), corrected form of ZOETROPE, with substitution of the more normal combining form *zoo-* [Gr. ζωο-] for *zoe-*.

1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* x. 245 The curious toy called the thaumatrope or 'Zootrope' or 'wheel of life'.

Zope (zōp). [a. G. dial. *zope* (F. *sope*), prob. Slav. (cf. Russ. *sapá*).] A bream, *Abramis ballerus*.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 603 In Europe there occur the 'Common bream', *A. brama*; the 'Zope', *A[bramis] ballerus*.

‖**Zophorus** (zō·fŏrŭs), **zoophorus** (zo,ŏ·fŏrŭs). *Anc. Arch.* Pl. **-i**. Also 8 anglicized **zoophore**. [L. *zōphorus*, *zōophorus* (Vitruvius), ad. Gr. ζωφόρος, ζωοφόρος adj. bearing figures of animals, f. ζῷον animal + **-φόρος** -bearing. Cf. F. *zophore* (Rabelais).] A continuous frieze bearing figures of men and animals carved in relief.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* B iij, Vpon their heddes, he laide Epistilia, and Coronas, setting betwixt them Zophorus. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xliii. 199 The Architraves, Zoophores and Cornishes. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), Zophorus or Zoophorus. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 586. 1905 *Times* 25 Apr. 5/2 The sculptures on the zophorus of the west front..should be taken down and stored in a museum.

So **Zo(o)phoric** (-fǫ·rik) *a.*, bearing the figure of an animal.

1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Zophoric Column*, is a Statuary Column; or a Column that bears or supports the Figure of an Animal. 1752 *Ibid., Zophoric.*

‖**Zopilote** (zō·pilōt). Also **-ot**. [Sp., a. Mexican *zopilotl.*] A vulture of the family *Cathartidæ*, esp. the American carrion vulture or turkey-buzzard, *Cathartes aura*.

1787 CULLEN tr. *Clavigero's Mexico* I. 47 The *Zopilote*, known in South America by the name of *Gallinazo*;..There are two very different species..; the one, the Zopilote properly so called, the other called the *Cocaçaquahtli*. 1850 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* II. xxx. 278 The Eagle's cliff was black with zopilotes. 1860 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 17 When in search of food, the Zopilote ascends to a vast height in the air.

‖**Zopissa** (zōpi·să). [L., a. Gr. ζώπισσα, f. πίσσα pitch.] †**a.** An old medicinal application made from wax and pitch scraped from the sides of ships. *Obs.* **b.** A patent composition used as a hardening or protecting coat for metal, etc.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxiv. vii. II. 284 Zopissa, is that Pitch, which.., is scraped from ships, and is confected of wax well soked in the salt water of the sea. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 218 This Zopissa is a Composition of black Pitch, Rosin, Suet and Tar melted together. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 Feb. 108/1 To experimentalise on a portion of that stone with a substance called 'zopissa'—phraseologically borrowed from Dioscorides..pitch-plaster. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2653 The zopissa composition, for preserving iron and wooden ships against rust and decay, invented by N. C. Særeltmy. *Ibid.* 3089 Arabian zopissa waterproof and paper boards processes.

Zopy, obs. var. SOPIE.

1687 LOCKE in Fox Bourne *J. L.* (1876) II. 71 A hogshead of cyder, even now and then a bottle of wine or a sopy.

Zore, obs. or dial. f. SORE *a.*[1]

c 1572 GASCOIGNE *Posies* Wks. 1907 I. 73 Our landlordes a sore man: He racketh up our rentes.

Zorge, obs. form of SORROW.

Zorgite (zǫ·rgəit). *Min.* [f. *Zorge*, a village in the Hartz Mountains: see **-ITE** [1].] A lead-grey selenide of lead and copper.

1850 BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Introd. Min.* 153.

Zorgo, obs. variant of SORGHO.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 5 b, He is not hable..to finde breade of Zorgo (a verie vile graine).

Zoril, zorille (zǫ·ril). Also **sorilla**, **-o**. [ad. F. *zorille*, ad. Sp. *zorrilla*, *-illo*, dim. of *zorra*, ZORRO.] An animal of the African genus *Zorilla*, allied to the skunks; also applied to some Central or South American skunks, as the conepatl.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 47 The zorille resembles the skink, but is rather smaller. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iv. 80 We saw also a couple of Zorillos, or skunks. 1878 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 196 The Cape Zorilla. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Zoril*, a variety of the American skunk.

Zoroastrian (zŏrǫ,æ·striăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 **Zoroastran**. [f. L. *Zōroastrēs*, a. Gr. Ζωροάστρης, ad. Zend *Zarathustra* (Pers. *Zardusht*): see **-IAN**.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Zoroaster or his religious system, which is mainly dualistic.

1743 WARBURTON *Pope's Ess. Man* II. 81 *note*, This dangerous school-opinion gives great support to the Manichean or Zoroastran error. 1798 T. MAURICE *Hindostan* (1820) II. iv. iii. 249 The..heresy of Manes, which was compounded out of the ancient Zoroastrian or Magian superstition, and certain perverted doctrines of Christianity. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 172 There appears to be a distinct polemical element in the earliest Zoroastrian Hymns. 1903 *Times* 5 Mar. 3/5 On no previous occasion has any one been received from Christianity into the Zoroastrian faith.

B. *sb.* A follower of Zoroaster; a Parsee.

1811 BYRON *Let. to F. Hodgson* 3 Sept., I would sooner be a Paulician, Manichæan, Spinozist, Gentile, Pyrrhonian, Zoroastrian, than any one of the seventy-two villainous sects who are tearing each other to pieces for the love of the Lord. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* 492 The doctrine of the Resurrection..was not known to the Zoroastrians until after the Christian era. 1886 PHIL ROBINSON *Vall. Teetotum Trees* 3 The semi-sacred character of the holly..among the Zoroastrians and Fire-worshippers.

Hence **Zoroa·strianise** *v.*, *trans.* and *intr.*, to make or become Zoroastrian in character.

1891 CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* viii. 449 Zoroastrianizing phraseology. *Ibid.* 452 The Judaism carried to Egypt..had..already been in some degree Zoroastrianised.

Zoroa·strianism. Also **-ter-**. [f. prec. + **-ISM**.] The religious system taught by Zoroaster and his followers, and incorporated in the Zend-Avesta: commonly known as *fire-worship*.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* IV. i. II. 4 Zoroasterianism had failed to propagate itself with any great success. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* viii. 307 The deities of the Veda became the evil spirits of Zoroastrianism.

Zoroa·stric, *a. rare.* [f. L. *Zōroastrēs* Zoroaster.] = ZOROASTRIAN. So **Zoroa·st(e)rism** = ZOROASTRIANISM.

1854 T. KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* (ed. 3) 468 The Ferwer of Zoroastric theology. 1862 tr. *Renan's Age & Antiq. Bk. Nat. Agric.* ii. 45 The old Zoroasterism of the Zend writings. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* ix. 328 Zoroastrism betrays its original, the Aryan creature-worship, to which has been added its characteristic Dualism.

‖**Zorro** (ǫ·rŏ, zǫ·rŏ). [Sp., = fox.] The South American fox-wolf. Also **Zorri·no** [dim.], a kind of skunk (cf. ZORIL), or its fur.

1838 HUNTER tr. *Azara's Nat. Hist. Paraguay* I. 290 As to habits they vary considerably in my zorros. 1889 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 353/1 The zorro or *Canis Azaræ* (a kind of fox), the zorrino or *Mephitis patagonica* (a kind of skunk), and the tuco-tuco or *Ctenomys magellanicus*. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 7/1 Furs in great variety (chinchilla, vicuna, zorrino, lynx, leopard, alpaca, &c.).

‖ Zoster (zɒ·stəɹ). Also 9 **zooster**. [L., a. Gr. ζωστήρ girdle, f. ζωννύναι to gird.]

†**1.** A kind of seaweed. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII. xxv. I. 401 As for the former [seaweed] called Zoster, it is found among the sheives and shallow waters not farre from the shore.

2. The disease shingles, *Herpes zoster*. Also *attrib.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1887 O. W. HOLMES *Guardian Angel* XXV, Armed against every malady from Ague to Zoster. 1896 DUNGLISON *Dis. Skin* 78 Pustules are met with ..in non-parasitic sycosis, zoster, etc.

3. *Gr. Antiq.* A belt or girdle, esp. as worn by men.

1824 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 483 A *zooster* or girdle of the same metal, which reaches half round the body. 1906 *Academy* 1 Dec. 543/2 The Mitré is a band of metal worn round the waist under the Chiton, the Zoster a similar belt worn over the tunic.

Zoster, obs. form of SISTER.

‖ Zostera (zɒstĭə·rā). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), f. Gr. ζωστήρ: see ZOSTER and -A[1]. So called from its long leaves.] A marine plant of the genus so named, esp. grasswrack, *Z. marina*.

1829 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 54 The kernel of *Zostera* is an oblong oval. 1835 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 37 The delicate green ribbons of the Zóstera (the only English flowering plant which grows beneath the sea). 1858 *Phytologist* Nov. 601 The thin line of dry *Zostera* to be met with at high-water mark. 1869 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Common Seaweeds* ii. 30, I have found it often in *Zostera* beds at low tide.

‖ Zosterops (zɒ·stĕrɒps). *Ornith.* [mod. L. (Vigors and Horsfield, 1827), f. Gr. ζωστήρ girdle + ὤψ eye.] Any of the small birds of the genus so named, widely distributed chiefly in tropical and subtropical regions, and characterized by a ring of white feathers round the eye; a silver-eye or white-eye.

1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Nat. India* 72 That beautiful warbler the yellow zosterops, known by the white downy ring round the eye. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 204/2 It is interesting to watch a Zosterops operating on a pear.

Zop(e, obs. forms of SOOTH *a.*

Zotie, zoty, variants of SOTIE [2] *Obs.*

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. Ind.* (1596) 272 They burned.. three Zoties neere vnto their owne lodging. 1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* v. ii. At last Cydaria looks over the zoty.

Zouave (zuā·v). Also **souava**. [F., f. native name *Zouaoua* (see below).]

1. One of a body of light infantry in the French army, originally recruited from the Algerian Kabyle tribe of Zouaoua, but afterwards composed of French soldiers distinguished for their physique and dash, and formerly retaining the original Oriental uniform.

[1830 tr. *E. Blaquiere's Sfg. Panantl* (ed. 2) 56 The whole of the native warriors called the *Zouavi*.] 1848 KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 320 The Zouaves were standing on the breach. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* 8 Jan., Zouaves with turbans, long mantles, and bronzed, half Moorish faces. 1897 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 752/1 In January, 1863, the French general Forey laid siege to Puebla... In one of the many assaults on the corner held by Diaz the zouaves broke into the first court-yard of his stronghold.

fig. 1858 BENCHER *Life Th.* 135 Those sciences which might be called the light infantry of progress, the Zouaves of thought. 1903 *Spectator* 30 May 810/2 The 'Physical Force' agitators were the Zouaves of Carlton House.

attrib. 1863 E. DICEY *Six Months* II. 7 The orderly disorder of a Zouave march.

b. (Also *Papal* or *Pontifical Z.*) One of a corps of French soldiers organized at Rome in 1860 for the defence of the pope, and disbanded in 1871.

1864 MANNING in A. Reinaud *Abbé-Zouave* Pref. p. ix, Some hundreds of the Pontifical Zouaves, chiefly French and Belgian,..were seen at St. Peter's. 1868 tr. *Cardella's V. W. Russell* 38 When he returned to Rome to join the Zouaves.

c. A soldier of any of several volunteer regiments, assuming the name and in part the uniform of the French Zouaves, which served on the side of the North in the American Civil War (1861–5).

1865 SALA *My Diary* I. 292 In the beginning, when the Yankee Zouaves were young and hopeful.

2. (In full, *s. jacket, bodice.*) A woman's short embroidered jacket or bodice, with or without sleeves, resembling the jacket of the Zouave uniform.

1859 *Ladies' Treas.* Sept. 285/2 One of the most decided novelties of the present season is the *Zouave* jacket. 1859 *Ladies' Cabinet* Dec. 338/1 Nothing can be prettier for the interior than the little oriental jackets which we call to-day *Zouaves*. 1893 *Lady* 17 Aug. 128/1 Zouave Bodices are a feature of autumn gowns.

Zouchee: see WATER SOUCHY.

Zounds (zoundz), *int.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* In later use a literary archaism. Forms: 6 **sownes**, 7 **soones**, **'sons**, **sons**, **sonnes** (?), **dsowns**, **sownds**, **zwounds**, **sauns**, 7–8 **'soons**, 7–9 **soons**, 8 **'dswounds**, 7– **sounds**. (Cf. ZINES.) A euphemistic abbreviation of *by God's wounds* (1535, 1573, s.v. GOD *sb.* 14 a) used in oaths and asseverations.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Sat. v. 72 If any fall together by the eares, To field cries he; why? sownes (to field) he sweares. 1609 ARMIN *Fools upon F.* E 3 b, One comes swearing, soones (Cobler) the boots. 1607 DEKKER *Hist. Sir T. Wyatt* Wks. 1873 III. 219 Zwounds I was talking with a crue of vagabondes. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* C 2, *Stand.* M. Rash! zounds how does he know I am here? 1626 *Marlowe's Faustus* 1158 Zounds bee'l raise vp a Kennell of Diuels. *Ibid.* 1300 'Zons, hornes ... 1643 *Shake. John* II. ii. 466 Zounds, I was neuer so bethumpt with words. 1682 *Tories' Conf.* in *Rawl. Ball.* (1882) IV. 269 Downs, we'l have none but honest Souls. 1699 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* II. ii, Zoons is only us'd by the disbanded Officers and Bullies: but Zauns is the Beaux pronunciation [*sic*]. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. ix, 'Dswounds! why dost thou not lay out thy money to purchase a place at court? 1739 *Joe Miller's Jests* 3 Zoons, Sir, said an old Campaigner.. who's that? 1822 COMBE *Picturesque* x, Syntax look'd wild—the man said 'Zounds! You know you betted twenty pounds.' 1825 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VII. 180 Zoons! said we, deranging the economy of our grey hairs. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* I. i, Zounds, Charles, I love you, and that's the truth. 1883 *Furn. Rev.* July 112 Forgiven me! Zounds! I must correct him in that.

Hence †**Zounds** *v.* (*obs. nonce-wd.*) *intr.* to exclaim 'zounds'.

1680 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* IV. i. 39 When he loses upon the Square, he comes home Zoundzing and Blooding.

Zoutchee: see WATER SOUCHY.

Zow, Zowl, dial. ff. SOW, SOWL *v.*[3], SULL.

Zown, obs. form of SWOON *v.*

Zoyl(e, etc.: see ZOILUS, etc.

Zubeline, obs. form of ZIBELINE.

‖ Zubr (zū̆br). [Russ. See *Columna lui Trajan* (1875) 97 ff.] The European bison or aurochs, *Bos bonasus*.

1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 8/1 He who kills a zubr without permission of the Russian government, has to pay as a fine 2000 rubles. 1888 C. ELTON *Orig. Eng. Hist.* 59 A confused account of two distinct animals, the Aurochs or Zubr of Lithuania, and the extinct Urus which Charlemagne is said to have hunted.

Zubu, var. *Zobo*: see ZHO.

†**Zucarine**, *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *sucarīnus* adj., f. *sucara* SUGAR.] *Alum sucarine*, saccharine alum (see ALUM 1).

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 40 Tapalmel, In whiche be puluures of alume sucarine brent, of attrament, and of vitriol. *Ibid.* 81 Alum sucaryne is called comonly alumglasse. [1616 B. JONSON *Devil is an Ass* IV. iv, Your *Alum Scagliola*, or *Pol dipedra*; And *Zuccarino*.]

Zuccary, zucco(u)r, obs. ff. SUGAR.

‖ Zucchetto (tsukke·tō). Also **zuchetta, -etto**. [Incorrect but usual form for It. *succhetta* (tsukke·tta) small gourd, cap, f. *succa* gourd, the head.] The skull-cap of an ecclesiastic, differing in colour according to rank.

1833 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 3 They should take off their zucchettos in the act of genuflecting. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 June 3/2 Instead of the usual college cap the Chapter will appear in *zuchettos*. 1901 M. J. F. MCCARTHY *Five Yrs. in Irel.* xx. 257 Leo XIII...took off the Zuchetta he had been wearing and gave it to Father O'Brien.

Zucer, obs. form of SUGAR.

†**Zuche.** *Obs.* [app. AN. form of OF. *çoche* (tsoʊʃə), mod. F. *souche*, Norman-Picard *chouque* (whence dim. *chouquet*): of unknown origin. Not known in real English use as an ordinary *sb.*; survives in the town-name of *Ashby-de-la-Zouch* (Leicestershire).] A tree stump.

[1200 *Close Rolls 4 Hen. III* memb. 10 (1833) I. 418/1 De auxilio faciendo burgensibus Salop. de veteribus zuchis & de mortuo bosco. 1223 *Plac. Forest. in Com. Nott.* (Cowell 1672) Omnes Zuches aridos qui Anglice vocantur stovenes infra Haiam nostram de Beskewood [now Bestwood]. 1238 *Patent Rolls 32 Edw. III.* memb. 5 (1911) I. 59 [Grant to Richard de la Vache, steward of the forest of Shirewod, of all logs (*ligna*) called] zouches in Beskwode. 1672 COWELL *Interpr.*, Zuche, *suchens, stipes siccus & aridus*, A withered or dry stock of wood. 1676 COLES *Dict.*, *Zuche, Stovens*, a withered or dry stock of wood.

Zucre, -ur, Zucrish, -ys, obs. ff. SUGAR, -ISH.

Zuen(o)feldian, obs. ff. SWENKFELDIAN.

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 9 b, Memnonites and Zuenckfeldians.

Zuft: see SUFF *Obs.*

Zugere, -ure, suker, -re, -ur, obs. ff. SUGAR.

Zuitser, obs. form of SWITZER.

Zule, zulis. *Her.* A chess rook as a bearing.

1780 EDMONDSON *Compl. Body Her.* II, *Zulis*, a German bearing, nearly resembling a chess-rook. 1874 PAPWORTH *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 1125 Gu. three zules (chess rooks?) arg. in chief a label of three points of the last.

Zull(ow, var. SULL(OW, a plough.

Zulu (zū·lu), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Zoola, Zooloo**. [Native name.]

1. (Also *Z.-Kaffir.*) **a.** *sb.* A member of a warlike South African race of blacks belonging to the Bantu family, of a type resembling the Kaffir, and inhabiting Natal. **b.** *adj.* Belonging to this race.

1824 in Christopher *Natal* (1850) 21 Chaka, king of the Zulus, to whom belongs the whole of the country from Natal to Dela Goa Bay. 1828 *Ibid.* 23 The country of the Zoolas, eastward of Natal. *Ibid.* 25 The interior productions of the Zoola country. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* II. 40 A buffalo, which some Zulu Kaffirs had killed. *Ibid.* III. 75 They much resemble the Zulu huts, but have larger doorways. 1895 A. H. KEANE *Africa* II. vi. 241 Tribal groups belonging either to the Bechuana, or to the Zulu-Kafir division of the Southern.

2. (*sb.* or *adj.*) Applied to the language spoken by the Zulus.

1850 CHRISTOPHER *Natal* 137 The Zulu alphabet. 1857 DÖHNE *Zulu-Kafir Dict.* Introd. p. XXXVII, The Zulu, as the high language, has ever exercised a controlling influence upon the low languages. 1882 COLENSO *Zulu-Engl. Dict.* p. v, The Zulu for dog is commonly spelt *inja*. 1889 BLEEK in *Cape & its People* (ed. R. Noble) 272 The Zulu noun *u-Zulu-ntu* 'man, people'. 1900 *Spectator* 24 Feb. 332/2 What we want is competent officials, with knowledge of Zulu.

3. Name of an artificial fly used in angling.

1898 *Spectator* 29 Oct. 615 General utility flies... Such are the red tag, the Zulu, the blue dun, the snipewing. 1901 *Field* 9 Nov. 739, I put up a fine cast with three biggish flies tied on fine gut (a March brown, a Zulu, and a black palmer).

Hence **Zu·lu** *v., intr.* (with *it*) to act like a Zulu; **Zu·ludom**, the domain of the Zulus; **Zu·luize** *v., trans.* to make into a Zulu.

1896 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 28 Jan. 166/2 Into the heart of savage Zuludom. 1888 PHIL ROBINSON *Noah's Ark* I. The lion, again, they say, is King in Africa, yet the gorilla Zulus it over the forests within the lion's territory. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Aug. 7/1 Death of John Dunn. A Zuluised Englishman.

Zum, dial. f. SOME.

Zumate: see ZYMATE.

†**Zumbador.** *Obs.* [Sp., f. *zumbar* to hum.] A humming-bird of S. America.

1760–72 J. ADAMS tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* VI. viii. (ed. 3) I. 436 Partridges, condors, and zumbadores or hummers. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* I. 642 The swift-wing'd zumbadore The mountain desert startled with his hum.

Zumboorak (zʊ·mbʊrɒk). Also **sumbooruck, -boorak, -barak, somboru(o)k, samboorak, -borouk, -bûrak.** [ad. Hindustani زنبورك; *sambûrak*, f. Pers. زنبور *zambûr* hornet. Cf. Pers. زنبرك *semberek* crossbow.] A small swivel-gun, esp. one mounted on the back of a camel. Hence **Zumboorakchee**, a gunner.

1825 J. B. FRASER *Journ. Khorasan* 198 One or two shots from Zumboorucks dropping among them. 1840 — *Trav. Koordistan* II. xliii. 249 Four guns, and a large body of *zumbooruhchees*. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Abeokuta* I. 75 East Indian jezails and zumbaraks. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* July 87/1 Rakish swivel-guns, bell-mouthed *zumbooraks*.

Zumeendar, -ary, var. ZEMINDAR, -ARY.

Zumic, Zumologic, etc.: see ZYMIC, etc.

Zunana, Zundavastaw: see ZENANA, ZEND-AVESTA.

‖ Zuñi (zū·nyi). A Pueblo Indian inhabiting the valley of the Zuñi, New Mexico. Hence **Zuñian, Zunyan** *a.*

1883 *Century Mag.* XXV. 201 Zûni food prepared in Zûni fashion. *Ibid.* 202/1 The domestic life of the Zûnis. 1885 *Science* 25 Sept. 269/2 This clay model of the Zuñian owl. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* xiv. 275 In the Zuñi hymn we have the myth of the marriage of Heaven and Earth.

Zunyite (zū·nyəit). *Min.* [f. *Zuñi*, name of a mine in Colorado + -ITE [1].] A fluosilicate of aluminium, occurring in transparent tetrahedral crystals. 1885 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Apr. 340.

Zur, southern dial. form of SIR.

1825 J. JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* etc. 118, I bag ye, zur, to take on vooath. 1838 JAS. GRANT *Sk. Lond.* ix. 292 'Woy, yes, Zur,' said a waggon-driver, with a short smock-frock...'That's how it is, Zur.'

Zureveld, Zurf: see ZUUR-VELDT, ZARF.

Zurlite (zū·rlait). *Min.* [f. the name of Signor *Zurlo*, an amateur naturalist of Naples + -ITE [1].] A white or green variety of melilite.

1886 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XI. 253 The zurlite was discovered by Ramondini.

Zurumbeth, var. ZERUMBET.

‖ Zuur-veldt (zū·rvelt). *S. Africa.* Also **-feldt, sureveld.** [Cape Du., = sour country or pasture land: see SOUR, VELD.] A district covered with sour pasturage. Also *attrib.*

1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* vi. 203 Long, coarse, wiry grass, of the sort called sour (whence the names Zureberg and Zureveld). 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 13 Black, zuur-feldt oxen.

‖ Zuz (zūz). Pl. **zuzim**; also **zuzees**. [Rabbinical Heb. זוּז *sûz*.] A silver coin anciently in use among the Jews, the fourth part of a silver shekel.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 25/2 A Zuz or Zusim shekil. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Zuzah*, an ancient Hebrew silver coin, worth about 6d. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* XXXVI, A blow on the ear was variously set at the fine of a shilling or a pound: a blow on the one cheek at two hundred zuzees.

‖ Zwanziger (tsvā·ntsigər). [G., f. *zwanzig* twenty + *-er* masc. adj. ending.] An Austrian silver coin, equivalent to twenty kreutzers.

1828 R. CRAIG in *Mem.* viii. (1862) 151 A passenger pays a zwanzig[er] or 17½ sous of France per hour. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* II, I possess a burning pocketfull of *zwigers*. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xix, Lest the fervid imagination of the gondolier rise to zwanzigers and florins.

Zwenckfeldian, var. SWENKFELDIAN.

1565 HARDING *Confut. Apol.* II. xi. 88 The Zwenckfeldians that spring out of the same stocke.

Zwieselite (tsvī·zĕlait). *Min.* Also **zwis-**. [ad. G. *zwieselit* (Breithaupt, 1841), f. *Zwiesel*, Bavaria.] A clove-brown variety of triplite.

1882 BRUSH *Gloss. Min.*

Zwingfelter, aberrant f. SCHWENKFELDER.

1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* (1796) I. 545 Zwingfelters, who are a species of Quakers.

Zwinglian (zwi·ngliăn, tsvi·ngliăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 **Zu-, Zwynglian, -lyan**, 6–7 **Swi-**, 6–9 **Sui-**, 7 **Sui-**. [f. *Zwingli* (see below) + -AN.]

A. *sb.* A follower of Ulrich Zwingli (1484–1531), the Swiss religious reformer.

1529 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 370/1 The Lutheranes & Zwinglianes haue begunne to ryse & ruffle in rebellion in soondry partes of Almayne. 1533 — *Answ. poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1051/2 These Lutherane heretikes, and these Huskins, Swinglians: and Tyndalins. 1567 Allen *Def. Priesth.* 146 The whole pacte of Protestaunties and Zuinglians deny that sacrament also to remitte sinnes. 1618 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 4 Yes, for want of a bush thou'l hang thy selfe, And caper like a zuinglian. 1687 T. R. *Veritas Evang.* 23 Some being Lutherans, others Swinglians others Anabaptists. 1768 Maclaine tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (ed. 2) IV. 70 This union, between the Lutherans and Zuinglians, was so ardently desired by Melancthon. 1888 Schaff *Hist. Church, Med. Chr.* I. 61 He regretted the toleration of the Zwinglians in Switzerland.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Ulrich Zwingli or his doctrine, esp. concerning the eucharist (see Sacramentarian B. 1).

1565 Harding *Confut. Apol.* I. x. 36 b, Ye shall be driuen to forsake your Zuinglian doctrine which putteth signes and figures only in the sacrament of the aulter for the true and reall body of Christ there present. 1661 Heylin *Hist. Ref.* II. (1670) 59 Their..Leaders..being for the most part of the Zwinglian-Gospellers. 1728 Carte *Hist. Eng.* III. 395 The Zuinglian doctrines preached by Farel and other ministers. 1898 *Expositor* Oct. 271 Mere protest is conducting us through Zwinglian attenuation to Socinian negation.

Hence **Zwi·nglianism**, the doctrines of Zwingli, or the holding of such doctrines; † **Zwi·nglianist**, a Zwinglian.

1581 Allen *Apol.* 35 b, In most things agreing with Zuinglianisme, in some with Lutheranisme. 1642 'Sanctyminuus' *Answ.* (1653) 71 So doe the Papists upbraid the Protestants with their Lutheranisme, Calvinisme, and Zuinglianisme. 1674 Hickman *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) Ep. 2, The Lutherans use no breaking of the Bread: So do the Zuinglianists. 1745 Butler *Lives of Saints* (1845) XI. 117 Where he..converted many Zuinglianists. 1837 Pusey *Real Pres.* I. 109 Zwinglianism was consistent in itself.

Zwitsar, -er, obs. ff. Switzer. **Zwookers, Zwop, Zwounds**: see Zookers, Swap, Zounds.

Zy: see Sye *v.*, The. **Zyalde**: see Sell *v.*

Zyga, plural of Zygon.

Zygadite (zi·gădəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *zygadit* (Breithaupt), f. Gr. *ζυγάδην* in pairs, f. *ζυγόν* yoke.] A variety of albite, occurring in tabular twin crystals, of a yellowish-white or reddish colour.

1861 Bristow *Gloss. Min.* 1886 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* L. 518 *Zygadite*..occurs in druses in the slate of St. Andrewsberg in association with quartz and sphalerite.

‖ **Zygæna** (zəidʒi·nă). *Zool.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζύγαινα* a kind of fish, perh. the hammer-headed shark.] **a.** *Ichth.* A fish of the genus formerly so named (now *Sphyrna*), comprising the hammer-headed sharks. **b.** *Entom.* A genus of moths (also called *Anthrocera*), comprising the burnet-moths. Hence **Zygæ·nid, -idan** *sbs.*, a member of the family *Zygænidæ*, typified by the genus *Zygæna*; *adjs.* belonging to the *Zygænidæ*.

1683–4 [see *balance-fish*, Balance *sb.* 2a]. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 34 The Dog Fish,..the Zygæna, the Tope, the Cat Fish 1837 Sir J. Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* IV. 301 Family Zygænidæ. Zygænidans. 1913 *Oxf. Univ. Gaz.* 954/1 The Zygaenid moth *Procris geryon*.

Zygal (zəi·găl), *a. Anat.* [f. Zygon + -al.] Pertaining to or having a zygon.

1886 B. G. Wilder in *Jrnl. Nerv. & Mental Dis.* June 304 The complete or typical condition of a zygal fissure is like two y's joined by their stems,..or, viewed from the side, like an expanded H.

‖ **Zygantrum** (zəigæ·ntrŏm, zig-). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. **-antra.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *ἄντρον* cave.] A double cavity on the posterior side of the neural arch of each ordinary vertebra in serpents and some lizards, into which the *zygosphene* of the next vertebra fits.

1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 197 This wedge [*sc.* the zygosphene] is received into a cavity (the 'zygantrum') excavated in the posterior expansion of the neural arch. 1868 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 73.

‖ **Zygapophysis** (zəigăpp·fisis, zig-). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. **-physes** (-fisīz). [mod.L., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *ἀπόφυσις* Apophysis.] A lateral process on the neural arch of a vertebra, articulating with the corresponding process of the next vertebra; an articular process. There are normally four to each vertebra, viz. right and left anterior (*prezygapophyses*) and right and left posterior (*postzygapophyses*). Hence **Zygapophysial** (-ăpŏfi·ziăl) *a.*, pertaining to a zygapophysis.

1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 169 The exogenous parts are the diapophysis.., the parapophysis.., the zygapophysis.., the anapophysis.., the metapophysis.., the hypapophysis.., and the epapophysis. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 11 Two oblique zygapophysial surfaces.

Zygge, Zygt, Zygþ, Zygþe: see Say *v.*[1], See *v.*, Sight *sb.*[1]

Zygite (zəi·dgəit). *Gr. Antiq.* [ad. Gr. *ζυγίτης*, f. *ζυγόν*: see Zygon 2 and -ite [1].] In the ancient bireme or trireme, a rower of the upper or the middle tier: cf. Thalamite, Thranite.

1888 Woodgate *Boating* (Badm. Libr.) i. 17 In the bireme the zygite, as he sat on his bench, had behind him and below him his thalamite.

Zygnemaceous (zignĭmē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Zygnēmăceæ* pl., f. *Zygnēma* (Kützing, 1843), irreg. for **zygonēma*, f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *νῆμα* thread: see -aceous.] Belonging to the N. O. *Zygnemaceæ* of filamentous fresh-water algæ, typified by the genus *Zygnema*, which propagate by conjugation. So **Zygnemid** (zigni·mid), a member of this order.

1887 *Athenæum* 12 Mar. 357/1 The Conjugatæ, including zygnemids and desmids.

Zygo- (zəigo, zigo), before a vowel properly **zyg-**, repr. Gr. *ζυγο-*, combining form of *ζυγόν* yoke; occurring in various scientific terms, of which the more important will be found in their alphabetical places. (In terms of Biology the prefix often refers to *conjugation* or *zygosis* as a method of reproduction: see Conjugation 5.)

Zygocardiac *a.* [Cardiac A. 4], denoting an ossicle in the stomach of the crayfish and other crustaceans (see quot., and cf. Pterocardiac, Urocardiac). **Zy·godont** *a.* [Gr. *ὀδούς, ὀδοντ-* tooth], having molar teeth with an even number of cusps arranged in pairs; having cusps thus arranged, as a molar tooth. **Zygoneurous** (-niū·rəs) *a.* [Gr. *νεῦρον* nerve], applied to an arrangement of the nervous system in certain gastropod molluscs, in which the pallial nerve of each pleural ganglion unites directly with the ganglion of the visceral commissure of its own side (opp. to *dialyneurous*); so **Zygoneu·ry**, zygoneurous condition. **Zygophiuran** (-fiyū·rān) *a.* and *sb.*, belonging to, or a member of, the division *Zygophiuræ* of ophiuroids, having special structures which limit the movement of the ossicles of the arms (cf. *zygospondyline* below). **Zy·gophyte** (-fəit) [Gr. *φυτόν* plant], a plant which reproduces by conjugation. **Zygopterid** *sb.* and *a.* [Gr. *πτερόν* wing], a member of, or belonging to, the division *Zygopterides* or *Zygoptera* of dragon-flies, having all the wings nearly or quite equal in size. **Zy·gosperm** [Gr. *σπέρμα* seed] = Zygospore. **Zy·gosphere** (-sfīəi) [after Oosphere], either of the two conjugating cells or gametes which form a zygospore. **Zygospondyline** *a.* [Gr. *σπόνδυλος* vertebra, joint], applied to those ophiuroids in which the arms are incapable of being coiled round straight objects, the movements of their ossicles being limited by internal pits and processes. **Zy·gostyle** (-stəil) [Style 10] (see quot.). **Zygoso·ospore, a** zoospore formed by conjugation; a motile zygospore.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 319 A large, elongated postero-lateral or *zygocardiac ossicle. 1888 *Amer. Naturalist* XXII. 832 The *zygodont (quadritubercular) type. 1901 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 466 A *Vivipara* possessing a single *zygoneurous connection on the left and the normal dineurous relationship of the nerves upon the right. 1892 *Ibid.* 182 For the *Zygophiurans assistance in classification will be gained from Ljungman's well-known work. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* 439 *note*, The sexual process in *Zygophytes is characterized by the confluence of the protoplasmic masses of two very similar cells by which a new mass is formed as the starting-point of the new individual. 1900 W. J. Lucas *Brit. Dragonflies* 53 A *Zygopterid [wing] *Ibid.* 34 Nymph of a Zygopterid Dragonfly. 1880 A. W. Bennett & Murray in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XX. 417 The conjugated *zygospheres..constitute a *zygosperm. 1892 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1 Mar. 178 To regard the streptospondyline type [of ophiuroids] as earlier than the *zygospondyline. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 463 The caudal vertebræ are few and end in a bone, shaped somewhat like a ploughshare, called the *zygostyle. 1881 *Nature* 28 July 292 Family *Protococcaceæ*. Genus *Chlorochytrium*...Each cell becomes resolved into spherical zoospores, which upon leaving the mother-cell conjugate within the gelatinous envelope. The *zygozoospores before becoming surrounded with a membrane make their way..into the intercellular spaces of living plants.

Zygobranchiate (zəigobræ·ŋkiĕit, zig-), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Zygobranchiāta* pl., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *βράγχια* gills: see -ate [2].] Belonging to the division *Zygobranchiata* or *Zygobranchia* of gastropod molluscs, having paired (right and left) gills or ctenidia; as *sb.* a mollusc of this division.

1883 Ray Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 655/2 The Zygobranchiate Streptoneura.

Zygodactyl (zəigodæ·ktil, zig-), *a.* and *sb. Ornith.* Also **-yle.** [See Zygo- and Dactyl.] **a.** *adj.* Having the toes 'yoked' or arranged in pairs, i.e. two before and two behind, as the feet of a scansorial bird, or the bird itself; yoke-toed. **b** *sb.* A yoke-toed bird. Also **Zygodacty·lic, Zygoda·ctylous** *adjs.*

[1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Zygodactyles*, the name given by M. Temminck to an order of Climbing Birds.]

1848–52 Webster, *Zygodactylous.* 1831 *Gard. & Menag. Zool. Soc., Birds* 73 By the structure of their toes, which are partially zygodactyle (the intermediate ones being turned forwards, and the two lateral ones most commonly taking the opposite direction). 1835 Partington *Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* I. 445/1 Feet which accomplish these purposes are all zygodactylic, or yoke-toed. 1890 Coues *Handbk. Ornithol.* 187 The arrangement of toes in pairs, two before and two behind,..is called zygodactyl or zygodactylous. *Ibid.* 188 The true hind toe is wanting, the outer anterior one being reversed as usual in zygodactyls.

‖ **Zygoma** (zəigō·mă, zig-). *Anat.* Pl. **zygomata, zygomas.** Also 8 *erron.* **sigoma.** [mod. L., a. Gr. *ζύγωμα*, f. *ζυγόν* yoke. Cf. F. *zygome*, † *sigome.*] The bony arch on each side of the skull in vertebrates, consisting of the malar or jugal bone (cheek-bone) and its connexions, and forming a junction between the cranial and facial bones; the zygomatic arch; also, in restricted sense, some part of this, as the malar bone itself, the zygomatic process of the temporal bone, or the process of the malar which articulates with this.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Zygoma*, the Jugal Bone about the Temples. 1798 J. S. tr. *La Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 13 There appeared near the *Zigoma*.., by the Wing of the Nostril, a slender Fluctuation. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 175 The fracture ran horizontally, about a quarter of an inch above the zygoma. 1806 Sir C. Bell *Anat. Expr.* (1872) 109 The zygoma, a process of the cheek-bone, which joins the temporal bone. 1825 A. Monro *Anat. Hum. Body* I. 379 The Temporal muscle is seen in the temples, and its tendon passing under the zygoma. 1855 Holden *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 69 At the lower part of the squamous portion there is an outgrowth of bone, termed the zygoma. 1893 H. Morris *Treat. Human Anat.* 37 A ridge of bone, the supra-mastoid crest, runs immediately above the external auditory meatus, and is continued outwards to the zygoma.

Zygomatic (zəigomæ·tik, zig-), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *zygomaticus*, f. Gr. *ζύγωμα*, -ατ-: see prec. and -ic.] Pertaining to or forming part of the zygoma; jugal.

Zygomatic apophysis = *s. process. Zygomatic arch* = Zygoma. *Zygomatic bone*, the malar bone. *Zygomatic fossa*, an irregularly-shaped cavity on the side of the skull below and within the zygomatic arch. *Zygomatic muscle*, any one of several small muscles connected with the zygoma; *esp.* each of two pairs of muscles (*zygomaticus major* and *minor*) arising from the malar bone and inserted at the corners of the mouth, serving to draw the upper lip outward and upward. *Zygomatic process*, a process of the squamosal portion of the temporal bone, which articulates with the malar bone. *Zygomatic suture*, the suture connecting the squamosal with the malar bone.

1709 Blair in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 143 Two Zygomatic Bones. 1741 A. Monro *Anat.* (ed. 3) 95 Immediately before the Root of the zygomatic Process. 1811 C. Bell *Anat. Hum. Body* (ed 3) I 180 The zygomatic muscles pull the angles of the mouth upwards as in laughter. 1885 *Zool. Jrnl.* II. 162 The zygomatic arch. 1855 Holden *Hum. Osteol.* 102 The 'zygomatic fossa' is bounded externally by the zygomatic arch. 1895 *Q. Rev.* July 178 That 'sweet contraction' of the zygomatic muscles.

B. *sb.* Short for *s. muscle* or *s. bone.*

1811 C. Bell *Anat. Hum. Body* (ed. 3) I. 181 The zygomatics and levators pull the angles of the mouth upwards. 1919 *Man* XIX. 156 Prominence of the zygomatics.

Zygoma·tico-, combining form of mod.L. *zygomaticus* Zygomatic, forming adjs. in sense 'belonging to the zygoma or zygomatic arch and (some other part)', as *zygomatico-auricular* (see quot.).

1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, *Zygomatico-auricular index*, ratio between the bizygomatic and the biauricular diameters of the cranium.

Zygo·mato-, combining form of Zygoma, used as prec., as in *zygomato-temporal.*

1831 R. Knox tr. *Cloquet's Anat.* (ed. 2) 41 The cerebral and zygomato-temporal aspects of the sphenoid bone.

Zygomorphic (zəigomō·fik, zig-), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *μορφή* form + -ic.] Applied to a flower that is symmetrical about a single plane, i.e. divisible into similar lateral halves in only one way; = Monosymmetrical. Also **Zygomo·rphous**; opp. to Actinomorphous. So **Zygomo·rphism**, the character of being zygomorphic.

1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 526 In Orchids both whorls are developed in a petaloid, and like the whole flower in a zygomorphic or monosymmetrical manner. *Ibid.* 534 The zygomorphism of the flower. 1879 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* 175 *note*, Both these forms [*sc.* monosymmetrical and (*median zygomorphous*, when this is a median or antero-posterior plane, *transverse zygomorphous*, when the plane of section is transverse or at right angles to the median).

‖ **Zygon** (zəi·gŏn). Pl. **zyga** (zəi·gă). [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke.]

1. *Anat.* The bar or stem connecting the two branches of an H-shaped fissure (*zygal fissure*) of the brain.

1886 B. G. Wilder in *Jrnl. Nerv. & Mental Dis.* June 310 If..the zygon is the principal, central, and primary constituent of a fissural integer, the paroccipital.

2. *Gr. Antiq.* A cross-bench or thwart for rowers.

1888 Woodgate *Boating* (Badm. Libr.) i. 17 When .. vessels were expressly built as triremes, we may imagine ..the benches or zyga would be a little raised.

Zygophyllaceous (zəigofilē·ʃəs, zig-), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Zygophyllaceæ* pl., f. *Zygophyllum*, f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *φύλλον* leaf: see -aceous.] Belonging to the N. O. *Zygophyllaceæ*, typified by the genus *Zygophyllum* (bean-capers).

1887 J. Ball *Nat. S. Amer.* 198 The singular Zygophyllaceous shrub *Porliera hygrometrica*.

‖ **Zygopleura** (zəigoplū·ră, zig-), *sb. pl. Morphol.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *πλευρά* side.] Organic forms having bilateral symmetry, with

either two or four antimeres or corresponding opposite parts (DIPLEURA, TETRAPLEURA). Hence **Zygopleu·ral** *a.*, having bilateral symmetry.

1883 [see DIPLEURA]. 1896 [see DIPLEURAL def.].

‖ **Zygosis** (zəigō·sis, zig-). *Biol.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζύγωσις*, f. *ζυγοῦν* to yoke, f. *ζυγόν* yoke.] = CONJUGATION 5.

1880 PASCOE *Zool. Chem.* (ed. 2) 297. 1882 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusoria* 874.

Zygosphene (zəi·gosfīn, zi·g-). *Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *σφήν* wedge.] A double wedge-shaped projection on the anterior side of the neural arch of each ordinary vertebra in serpents and some lizards, which fits into the *zygantrum* of the next vertebra. Hence **Zygosphe·nal** belonging to or constituting a zygosphene.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 196 A wedge-shaped process (the 'zygosphene')..is developed from the fore part of the base of the spine. *Ibid.* 197 Surfaces to which the zygosphenal surfaces are adapted. 1892 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1 Mar. 176 The zygosphenes and zygantra of the Ophidian vertebræ.

Zygospore (zəi·gospōəɹ, zi·g-). *Bot.* [ad. G. *zygospor*: see ZYGO- and SPORE.] A spore formed by conjugation; a germ-cell arising from the fusion of two similar cells (gametes), as in certain Algæ and Fungi.

1864 *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* (N.S.) IV. 178, I have..made use of..the more apt term 'Zygospore', as suggested by Prof. authors. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 164 The threads which conjugate to form the zygospores.

†**Zygostat.** *Obs. rare*—⁰. [ad. late L. *zygosta·tēs*, a. Gr. *ζυγοστάτης*, f. *ζυγόν* yoke, beam of a balance, etc. + *ἱστάναι* to set, place.] Hence †**Zygostatical** *a.* (*obs. rare*—⁰). (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Zygost[at]e*, one that is appointed to see the weights, a Clarke of the market. [1654 CHARLETON *Physiol. Epic.-Gass.-Charlton.* 403 Such a Zygostata or Ballance, wherewith Jewellers are to weigh Pearles and Diamonds.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Zygostatical*..belonging to the pound weight of Sixteen ounces, or to a Clark of a Market that looks to weights.

Zygote (zəi·gōt). *Biol.* [ad. Gr. *ζυγωτός* yoked, f. *ζυγοῦν* to yoke.] A body of living protoplasm, as a cell or cell-nucleus, formed by the conjugation or fusion of two such bodies in reproduction; a zygospore, or any germ-cell resulting from the union of two reproductive cells or gametes. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* That is a zygote, formed by conjugation; of or pertaining to a zygote.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 Paragamy or Endokaryogamy: vegetative or gametal nuclei lying in a continuous mass of cytoplasm fuse to form a zygote nucleus. 1895 OLIVER tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* II. 628 The cell produced by the fusion of the bodies of two gametes is called the zygote.

Hence **Zygotic** (-ɒ·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a zygote, produced or characterized by zygosis; **Zygo·toblast** [-BLAST], one of a number of germ-cells or sporozoites produced by budding from a *zygotomere* (see below); **Zygo·toid** [-OID], a multinucleate form of zygote in certain fungi (see quot.); **Zygo·tomere** [Gr. *μέρος* part], one of a number of cells formed by segmentation of a zygote in the malaria parasite or other *Sporozoa*.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 In apocytial fungi multinucleated masses of protoplasm (*gametoids*) may conjugate to form a *zygotoid*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 945 Nucleus and protoplasm divide into a number of zygotomeres, which become blastophores, each bearing on its surface .. a large number of filamentous zygotoblasts.

Zyke, Zykere, obs. ff. SICK, SICKER.

Zylo-, erroneous spelling of words in XYLO-.

Zymad (zəi·măd). [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -AD, after *monad*.] A micro-organism which produces zymotic disease.

1885 *Leisure Hour* Jan. 25/2 The cook..exorcises zymads and parasites. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.*

Zymase (zəi·mēis). *Chem.* [ad. F. *zymase* (Bechamp), f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven, after *diastase*.] Name given to a ferment obtained from the yeast-fungus; also extended to unorganized ferments or enzymes in general.

1875 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXVIII. 374. 1899 J. R. GREEN *Soluble Ferm.* viii. 108 Bechamp thought that the enzyme from fungi was not quite the same as that existing in the flowers..He gave to the first the name *zymase*...The name *zymase* was soon abandoned, as it began to be applied to enzymes in general.

†**Zymate** (zəi·mēit), in actual use **zumate** (zi·mēit). *Chem. Obs.* [f. ZYM-IC (*sum-ic*) + -ATE⁴.] A salt of 'zymic acid'.

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 189 Zumate of ammonia. 1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 281 Zumate of peroxide of iron.

Zyme (zəim). [ad. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven.] A name for the substance or principle causing a zymotic disease; cf. ZYMOSIS.

1882 *Quain's Dict. Med.* 1806 Corresponding with the adjective *zymotic* is the substantive *zyme*.., by which we refer to the poisonous cause of zymotic diseases.

†**Zymic** (zəi·mik, zi·mik), in actual use **zumic** (zi·mik), *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -IC.] Pertaining to or connected with fermentation; formerly applied to a supposed acid (afterwards shown to be impure lactic acid) obtained by fermentation of starchy substances.

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 189 Of Zumic Acid. I give this name to an acid recently discovered by M. Braconnot. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 241.

Zymin (zəi·min). Also **-ine.** [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -IN¹.] **a.** = ZYME. **b.** A pancreatic extract used in medicine. Hence **Zy·minized** *a.*, predigested by means of zymin.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 The morbific principle (zymine). *Ibid.* 202 Some..kinds of matter (zymin) are reproduced in the organization after they have been destroyed by transformation (zymosis) in attacks of disease. 1888 M. MACKENZIE *Fredk. the Noble* vii. 99 Zymin'ised nutriments 1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.*, *Zymin*, ..a pancreatic extract prepared for therapeutic use.

Zymo- (zəimo), before a vowel **zym-**, combining form repr. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven, used in the general sense 'ferment', in various scientific terms. (Some of these were formerly written *zumo-*, the Gr. *υ* being represented, contrary to analogy, by *u*: see Y.) **Zy·mocyte** (-səit) [-CYTE], a unicellular organism which produces fermentation. **Zy·mogluco·nic** *a.*, epithet of an acid obtained by fermentation from glucose; hence **Zymoglu·conate,** a salt of this acid. ‖ **Zy·mohydro·lysis,** hydrolysis effected by the action of a ferment. **Zymo·logy** (†zumo-) [-LOGY], the science of fermentation; that department of chemistry which deals with ferments and their action; hence **Zymolo·gical** (†zumo-) *a.*, relating to zymology; **Zymo·logist** (†zumo-), one versed in zymology. **Zymo·lysis** [Gr. *λύσις* loosening], decomposition by means of a (esp. an unorganized) ferment; so **Zymoly·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or involving zymolysis. **Zymo·meter** (†zumo-) [-METER] = ZYMOSIMETER. **Zy·mophore** (-fōəɹ), **Zymophoric** (-fɒ·rik), **Zymophorous** (-fŏrəs) *adjs.* [see -PHORE, etc.], in Ehrlich's theory of immunization, applied to a particular group of atoms in a ferment, or in the receptors of a living cell, to which the fermentative action is due (analogous to the toxophore group in a toxin). **Zy·mophyte** (-fəit) [-PHYTE], a vegetable organism which causes fermentation. **Zymopla·stic** *a.* [see PLASTIC *a.*], forming a ferment. **Zy·moscope** [-SCOPE]: see quot. **Zymotechnic** (-tekni·k), **-ical** *adjs.* [Gr. *τεχνή* art], relating to the art of fermentation; so **Zymote·chnics, Zy·motechny,** the art of fermentation (cf. ZYMURGY); **Zy·motechno·logy** [-LOGY], the scientific study of the principles of zymotechny; **Zy·motechno·logist,** one versed in zymotechnology. **Zymoto·xic** *a.*, having a fermentative and toxic action.

a 1909 *Disinfectants* 14 (Cent. D. Suppl.) Salicylic acid only holding its reputation as an enemy to the *zymocytes of the cider barrel. 1887 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LII. 468 The crystallised ammonium gluconate recently described by Volpert..had previously been obtained by the author [*sc.* L. Boutroux], and described by him as ammonium *zymogluconate. 1886 *Ibid.* L. 682 The *zymogluconic acid obtained by the action of *M[icrococcus] oblongus* on glucose. 1903 C. SNYDER *New Concept. Sci.* 236 Croft Hill's bold announcement, three or four years ago, of the discovery of 'reversible *zymohydrolysis'. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Zumological, *Zumologist. 1846 WORCESTER, Zymological, Zymologist (citing OSWALD). 1753 *Chambers's Cycl. Suppl.*, *Zymology [referring to W. Simpson's *Zymologia Physica*, 1675]. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Zumology.* 1890 A. S. LEA in *Jrnl. Physiol.* XI. 254 *note*, I would suggest that the word *'zymolysis' might be..used to denote generally the changes produced by the enzymes or unorganised ferments. *Ibid.* 264 The *zymolytic activity of the digestive fluid. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Zumometer*, or *Zumosimeter*... an instrument intended to show the degree to which fermentation has proceeded in different fermenting liquors. 1900 *U. S. Dept. Agric., Bur. Anim. Ind.* Rep. 257 (Cent. D. Suppl.) The hypothesis of Morgenroth in regard to the existence of a haptophore group and the [*sic*; ? a] *zymophore group in the labile ferment has been recently verified by Myers and Bashford, who have discovered zymolds analogous to the toxoids. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 970 There is no amboceptor as such, but the body consists of a *zymophoric group. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Zymophytes*, bacteroid ferments that liberate fatty acids from neutral fats. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1086 **Zymoscope*, an instrument..for testing the fermenting power of yeast, by bringing it in contact with sugar-water, and observing the quantity of carbonic anhydride evolved. 1896 A. K. MILLER tr. *E. C. Hansen's Ferment.* 71 Ancker and Bergh's *zymotechnic laboratory, Stockholm. 1900 tr. *A. Jörgensen's Micro-org. & Ferment.* 47 *Zymotechnical examinations of water according to the principles laid down by Hansen. 1896 A. K. MILLER tr. *E. C. Hansen's Ferment.* 113 Several *zymotechnologists have made similar experiments. 1880 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Zymotechny. 1902 *Jrnl. Exper. Med.* 27 Mar. 282 The complement possesses in addition to such a..haptophore group, another group which exhibits fermentative properties (*zymotoxic or toxophore group).

Zymogen (zəi·mədʒən). *Biol. Chem.* [ad. G. *zymogen* (Heidenhain, 1875): see ZYMO- and -GEN.] A substance formed in an organism, from which a ferment is produced. Also *attrib.*

1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* II. i. (1878) 219 A pancreas taken fresh from the body..contains but little ready-made ferment, though there is present in it a body which, by some kind of decomposition, gives birth to the ferment... To this body..Heidenhain has given the name of Zymogen. 1896 E. B. WILSON *Cell in Devel.* 288 Zymogen granules. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 906 A zymogen is the antecedent of the ferment of the secretion—pepsinogen, trypsinogen, for example.

So **Zymogene·tic, Zymoge·nic, Zymo·genous** *adjs.*, producing a ferment, or causing fermentation.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 528 Organisms..acting partly as ferments, partly as *zymogenetic cells. 1884 KLEIN *Micro-org.* xxi. 187 Putrefactive and many *zymogenic organisms thrive well at ordinary temperatures. 1900 *Nature* 13 Sept. 465 Zymogenic..bacteria.

Zymoid (zəi·moid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *ζύμη*: see ZYMO- and -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling a ferment. **b.** *sb.* A substance having a relation to a ferment analogous to that of a toxoid to the corresponding toxin.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* 1900 [see *zymophore* under ZYMO-].

†**Zy·mome.** *Chem. Obs.* Also **zimome.** [ad. mod.L. *zymōma*, It. *zimoma* (Taddei), ad. Gr. *ζύμωμα* fermented mixture, f. *ζυμοῦν*: see ZYMOSIS.] A name for that constituent of gluten which is insoluble in alcohol. Also called †**Zymomin.**

[1820 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* VIII. 377 D. Taddei..having undertaken researches in fermentation,..In various cases has ascertained that the gluten of wheat is composed of two substances, perfectly distinct from each other, one of which he has named *gloiodina*, and the other *zimoma*.] 1820 T. THOMSON in *Ann. Phil.* May 390 M. Taddey..has lately ascertained that the gluten of wheat may be decomposed into two principles, which he has distinguished by the names, *gliadine*..and *zimome*. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 268 Zimome is obtained pure by boiling gluten in alcohol. 1830 DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 345 Zimomin is of a dirty white colour, hard, and without any of the elasticity which gluten possesses. 1832 JONES *New Comm. Chem.* xxix. 292 Zymome.

Zymosimeter. Also **zumo-.** [f. Gr. *ζύμωσις* (see next) + *μέτρον* measure: see -METER.] An instrument for measuring the degree of fermentation of a fermenting liquor.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Zymosimetre. 1842 Zumosimeter [see *zymometer* under ZYMO-].

‖ **Zymosis** (zəimō·sis). Pl. **zymoses** (-sēz). [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζύμωσις* fermentation, f. *ζυμοῦν* to leaven, in pass. to ferment, f. *ζύμη* leaven: see -OSIS.] Fermentation; *spec.* the morbid process which constitutes a zymotic disease, regarded as analogous to or involving fermentation.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 *note*, Zymosis fermentation, and zyma ferment, may also be employed in English, not in the sense which they have in Greek, but as general designations of the morbid processes and their exciters. *Ibid.* 202 [see ZYMIN]. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 523 As all fermentations are correlative of the growth and multiplication of these minute bodies, carbolic acid, by destroying their activity, arrests zymosis. *fig.* 1876 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Eloquence* Wks. (Bohn) III. 295 In the Elizabethan Age there was a dramatic *zymosis*, when all the genius ran in that direction.

Zymotic (zəimɒ·tik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. Gr. *ζυμωτικόν* causing fermentation, f. *ζυμοῦν*: see ZYMOSIS.] A general epithet for infectious diseases, originally because regarded as being caused by a process analogous to fermentation (cf. ZYMOSIS); pertaining to this theory of disease; causing such disease.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 The property of communicating their action, and effecting analogous transformations in other bodies, is, characteristic in these diseases, which it is proposed therefore to call..zymotic. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 395/2 The zymotic doctrine of the Board of Health as to the cause of cholera. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 528 Since many morbid processes are analogous, if not akin, to fermentative processes, ..the term *zymotic* has been applied to them,—a term, however, to be avoided rather than recommended.

b. In etymological sense: Causing or consisting in fermentation, fermentative.

1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 143 The zymotic action of yeast.

c. *transf.* Containing putrefactive germs.

1881 TYNDALL *Exs. Floating Matter Air* 208 An éprouvette containing one cubic centimeter of cold water, previously ascertained to be zymotic, was evaporated to dryness.

B. *sb.* A zymotic disease.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 A single word, such as Zymotics, is required to replace..the long periphrasis 'epidemic, endemic, and contagious diseases'. 1899 *Housek. Words* 8 Jan. 128/2 People who have died of Zymotics. 1916 *Lancet* 8 Jan. 112/1 Health of Belfast... In 1914 there were 52 notifications of typhus..; not a case of this zymotic has been reported in 1915.

Hence **Zymo·tically** *adv.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 385/2 Whether this mass of filth be, zymotically, the cause of cholera.

Zymurgy (zəi·mədʒi). [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + *-ουργία* working, as in METALLURGY.] The practice or art of fermentation, as in wine-making, brewing, distilling, etc. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1086.

Zynder, Zyne, Zyphe: see CINDER, SINE¹, XIPH. **Zyp,** obs. (Kentish) 3rd sing. ind. pres. of SEE *v.* **Zype,** obs. f. SITHE *sb.*¹ **Zyxt,** obs. f. SIXTH. **Zyxt,** obs. (Kentish) 2nd sing. ind. pres. of SEE *v.*

ADDITIONS AND EMENDATIONS TO VOLUMES I-XII OF THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

A, *prep.*[2] 3. See further s.v. MANNER *sb.*[1] 9.

Acnode. Substitute for definition: = *conjugate point* (see CONJUGATE A. 6 a).

Angrom, Angromed should be deleted as erroneous forms depending on a misreading of derivatives of OE. *angsum*. See *Notes & Queries* 22 Sept. 1923, p. 228.

Annex, *sb.* Add the more recent pronunciation (ǽneks).

Atarned. Read ATREN *v.* for ATRUN *v.*

Autem. *Old Cant.* A church. Hence **autem mort**, a married woman, **autem cackler**, a Dissenting preacher. See Harman's *Caveat*, B.E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Grose, Farmer & Henley *Slang*.

Awl. The forms 1 **awel, awol**, 2 **owul**, 3 **eawl, eaule, owel, ouel**, 3–5 **oule**, belong to other words (OE. *ǽwel, áwel, *ǽwel*) meaning 'flesh-hook'. See *Trans. Philological Society*, 1905–6, pp. 261–4.

Balance, *sb.* 8. First quot. for *c* 1384 CHAUCER read *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE.

Bane, *sb.*[1] *Etymology.* Delete 'also with Gr. *φόνος* . . . murderer'.

Bennet[1]. Delete form 3 **benoit**, and quot. *c* 1265, in which the form is Anglo-French.

Bison 2. Definition: for 'roams' read 'formerly roamed'.

Blunket B. First quot. read: *c* 1420 *Anturs Arth.* xxix, Here belle [= cloak] was of blunket.

Boodle[1] 1. Delete the form **buddle** and quot. 1625; the word is most probably HUDDLE *sb.* (q.v., 1b).

Brang. Delete; error for CRANG or *Krang* (see KRENG).

Breath 4. Delete †.

Brisket 2. Quot. 1637 for 'shoon' read 'spoon'.

Broach, *v.*[1] For numbers of senses 6, 7, 8, read 5, 6, 7.

Bureaucracy. Earlier example:—1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 180 bureaucracy.

Bye-bye[1]. Earlier example:—*a* 1500 *Carol* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 76–7 By, by, lulley . . . By and lulley.

Cent[2]. *Etymology.* The Romanic origin is established: *juego de los ciéntos*, i.e. 'hundred-game', is the Spanish name of piquet. Cf. CIENTO.

Chess-men. See MAN *sb.*[1] below.

Clead, cleed, *v.* *Etymology.* Omit the eighth line, and substitute: f. *klǽði* sb.: see CLOTH.

Coincide and its derivatives are treated in a scholarly monograph by H. E. Shepherd, in the *American Journal of Philology*, vol. I. pp. 271–280, in which the history of the words in the mediæval Latin of Roger Bacon and the English writers of the 17th c. is traced with much fullness. For the verb, in sense 3, earlier instances are given from BERKELEY (1705) *Works* 1871 IV. 442, and W. WOLLASTON (1709) in Nichols *Illustr. Lit. Hist.* I. 201.

Corduroy. Earlier example of the form *corderoy*:—*Chadwick's Patent*, No. 1093, of 1774, specifies *inter alia*, 'cotton corderoys, cotton and linen corderoys'.

Cowl, *sb.*[2] Prof. Skeat points out the OE. form *cuſel*, pl. *cuſlas*, of date 963–84, in *Cartul. Saxon.* (ed. Birch) 367, 'ii cuſlas & þry trogas' [two cowls and three troughs]. This makes certain its relationship to OHG. *chubisl*, whether originally Teutonic, or of West German adoption from Latin.

Daver, *v.* *dial.* [In I. app. cognate with Du. *daveren* to shake, quake, MLG., LG. *davern*, a word of frequentative form, of which the root is uncertain. In II. perh. transferred from the same.]

Davit. Early examples:—1485 *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 40 Daviott for the bote. *Ibid.* 49 Daviottes in the ffore castell. 1495 *Ibid.* 193 Devettes with a shyver of yron. *Ibid.*, Dyvettes with a colke of brasse.

Dock, *sb.*[3] 4. Earlier examples:—1486 *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 23 About the bringing of the same ship into her dokke. 1488 *Ibid.* 26 Keping the said Ship at Erith in her dokke. 1495 *Ibid.* 137 The Reparalyng, fortifying, and amendyng the dokke for the Kynges shippes at Portesmouth, makyng of the gates, & fortifying the hede of the same dokke. *Dock-head*: 1497 *Ibid.* 143 The dokke, the dokke hedde & gates of the same.

Dory, *sb.*[2] Earlier example:—1726 *Trav. Capt. N. Uring* 346 We launched the Dory over the reef.

Dunnage, *sb.* Earlier example:—1497 *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 251 For xxxvj shegge Shevys layed alow in John Millers crayer for donage.

The form **euych** should be deleted, with the quotation 1480–7 under A. 6, the correct reading being *euerych* (see EVERY).

Egg-berry. (EGG *sb.* 7, p. 58/2.) This is a corrupt form of HAGBERRY, and ought not to have been given here.

Egromancy. The form *egremauncey* occurs *a* 1469 in *Gregory's Chron.* (Camden Soc. 1876) 183.

Elrant. Read:—Erroneous form of HAURIENT.

Enheudee. The word is, as stated in the text, a mistake for OF. *enheudee*; but the misreading occurs in Fr. writers, *e.g.* Palliot, 1664.

Eve-star. The quotation 1691 under this word should be deleted. The word *evester* occurring there is adapted from the mod.Lat. *evestrum*, which seems to have been arbitrarily invented by Paracelsus, and is explained in the *Onomasticon* of Toxites (1574) to mean, amongst other things, 'the astral body [*corpus sidereum*] of man, which foretells to us either death or any other evil'.

Eyelet-hole, *sb.* 1. Earlier example:—1407 *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 334 Makyng of olyett-hooles with other necessaries for the seid sayles.

Faldstool. The explanation given of the OE. form *fyldestōl* is incorrect; cf. the gloss 'volumina, fyldas' in *Zeitschrift f. deutsches Alterthum*, IX. 494.

Fastgong, Fastingong. The ON. forms *fǫstugangr, fǫstuinngangr*, should have been referred to. From the latter it appears that the correct analysis of *fastingong* is *fast* sb. + *ingang*.

For, *prep.* 7 c. The expression '*to name* (a child) *for* (= after) a person' is erroneously marked 'now only U.S.' It is still current in Sc.

Forayer. A reference should be given to the articles FOURRIER, FURRIER[1].

Fox, *sb.* 16. *Fox-whelp* was app. a kind of cider. Cf. the following quot:—1664 EVELYN *Pomona* iv. 14 For the kinds then of Cider-Apples in being . . Some commend the Fox-Whelp.

Foy, *v.* Mr. G. H. Haswell informs us that on the north-east coast (esp. at Shields), a *foy-boat* was a small boat used (before the introduction of steam-tugs) to tow vessels in and out of harbour. The boat carried a small anchor or 'kedge', and was rowed a certain distance ahead of the vessel being towed; the kedge was then dropped, and the men on the ship 'hove upon' the kedge with a windlass until the vessel came over it, when the kedge was taken up and the process repeated. The operation was called *foying*, and the men employed *foy-men*. (See *The Maister: a Century of Tyneside Life*, p. 39.)

Gabion 2. The source of Scott's peculiar use of the word is found in the following quotations, but it does not appear what suggested the 'catachrestic' application:—1638 ADAMSON *Muses Threnodie* [no paging or signature] *note*, The ornaments of his Cabin, which by a Catachrestic name, he usually calleth *Gabions*. *Ibid.* (*title of piece*), Inventarie of the *Gabions*, in M. George his Cabinet.

Gable-end. Earlier example of the *β* form:—*a* 1380 *St. Bernard* 299 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 46 In þe gable end of þe churche Ben þreo wyndouwus.

Gadling[1]. The following passage is the original of the example quoted from Stow: *a* 1360 *Chronicon Galfridi le Baker* (1889) 113 Thomas quibusdam stimulis curtis et acutis quos manum dextram compримendo digitorum nodi radicales e cirotecis laminatis expresserunt, et eos moderni vocant gadelinges, nudam Johannis faciem wlneravit.

Gage, *v.* Earlier example:—1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. (1481) G vij, They began . . to axe and demande of her the besaunt that they had geuen to her. And she answerd That hit was holden and gaged vpon an ymage.

Gaid, gade. The word occurs also in the sense of 'goad':—1682 PEDEN in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1838) I. 51 Their Theats will burn, and their Swingletrees will fall to the Ground . . and the Gade-men will throw away their Gades.

Game, *sb.* 7 ('prize contended for'). Earlier example:—*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 258 Two men . . rennen a space for a priis, and he þat comeþ first to his ende shal have þe gamen þat is sett, whether it be spere . . or oþir þing þat is putt.

Gangrel 1. Earlier example:—*c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Perfect Living* viii. in Wks. 1895 I. 33 Gangrels, and langelers, & kepers of comers and gangars arely & late.

Gargoyle. Earlier example:—13 . . *S. Erkenwald* 48 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 267 Hit was a throghe of thykke stone . . With gargeles garnysht aboute, all of gray marbre.

Garter, *sb.* 6 a. Earlier example:—? 1504 in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden Soc.) III. 17 The armys off Carmynow, Garter seth . . came of

the iij brotherys. When ye ware made knytt ther wher but iiij cottes off recorde yn Garterys booke.

Gas, *sb.* In the Etymology, reference should have been made to the use of *chaos* by Paracelsus: see GNOME[2].

Gender, *sb.* 2. Earlier example:—*a* 1380 *St. Theodora* 109 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 36 Hire name, þat was femynyn Of gendre, heo turned in to masculyn.

Genitras (see GENITOR[1]). Add the following quotation:—13 . . *Minor Poems of Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 276 Men mişte, şif his brech weore to-tore, seon his genitras [*rime* has].

Gentlemanly, *a.* Earlier example:—1433 LYDG. *S. Edmund* II. 128 This said Lothbrok was . . Riht gentilmanly in al his demenyng.

Gibbet, *sb.*[1] 5. The comb. *gibbet-tree* occurs many centuries earlier:—13 . . *St. Cristofer* 668 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 462 Myne eldirs . . sloughe hym on a gebete-tree.

Giesetrye. The OF. *giesiteris* is f. the med.L. *giesīta* (St. Bernard), which was anglicized as GYESITE, q. v.

Gist, *sb.*[3] See also JET *sb.*[4] The AF. law phrase (*cest*) *action gist*, '(this) action lies', which is the source of the Eng. sb., occurs 1502–3 in *Kelvey's Rep.* (1688) lf. 50 a, and is common in law-books. An earlier example of the sb. is:—1711 5 *Modern Reports* (1794) 305 (*Gatehouse* v. *Row*) Because it is the very gist of the action.

Gite[1], **gide.** Earlier example:—13 . . *Minor Poems of Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 281 Þis wymmen þat muchel haunteþ pride . . Heore reuersede gydes on hem are streyt drawe.

Glavering, *vbl. sb.* Earlier examples:—*c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. v. in *Anglia* VIII. 165/26 Made proude wiþ glauerynge of prosperite. *Ibid.* 168/36 Pryde gaf me comforte . . wiþ brighte beemes of glauerynge.

Glooming, *vbl. sb.* 1. Earlier example:—13 . . *Peter & Paul* 74 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 77 Hetheli glowminge & wordes grete.

Glossary[1]. Earlier example:—*a* 1380 *S. Paula* 36 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 8 As seiþ þe bok, iclept Glosarie.

God-speed. Earlier examples:—*c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* II. (*Town & C. Mouse*) xv, This burges brocht thame sone quhair thay suld be; Without god speid thair herberie was tane. *Ibid.* xxiv, Quhen in come gib hunter . . And bad god speid.

Golden, *a.* 4. Earlier example:—*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5650 Pictagoras himsilf reherses In a book that the Golden Verses Is clepid.

Golden, *a.* 10, **Gold**, *a.* 10. Earlier examples of *golden rain*, *gold rain* (Fireworks) occur in 1672 VENN *Compleat Gunner* III. x. 19; this author also uses *golden* or *gold hair* in the same sense.

Go-summer. Earlier example:—1649 *Cupar Presb. Rec.* in Campbell *Balmerino* (1899) 381 In the last goesommer save one.

Goul mau. Delete the article. (See *gull maw*, GULL *sb.*[1])

Gourd[1]. Add to the Forms 6 gord, and insert the following earlier example in sense 4:—1596 RALEIGH *Disc. Guiana* 16 He . . called for his Calabaza or gords of the gold beades.

Gunpowder. Earlier example:—1411 *Indenture* in *Excheq. Accts.* Q. R. Bdle. 44, no. 17 (P.R.O.), Une petit barell' de gonpouder. [Misdated 1338 by Nicolas *Royal Navy* II. 476 App.]

Halfpennyworth. b. Earlier example of *halfpennyworth of tar*:—1631 CAPT. SMITH *Advt. Planters* 30 Rather . . to lose ten sheepe, than be at the charge of a halfe penny worth of Tarre.

Hander. *spec.* = HANDLER 2. 1746 *Acct. of Cock-fight* in 42*nd Ann. Rep. Deputy Keeper P. R.* 166 In such manner as is usual for handers to account ten. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 169 Called 'handers' or 'setters to'.

Hansard[1]. Early examples:—1449 *Rolls Parlt.* V. 144/2 Hanser. 1453 *Ibid.* V. 230/2 Another Subsidie . . of every Venecian, Esterlynge . . Lumbard, Hanszard, Prucier, and also other Straungers Merchauntz. *Ibid.*, Hansard.

Harrier[2], the dog. Earlier examples:—1408 *Privy Seal* (20 Aug.) 9 Hen. IV. (No. 5874) La garde de nos chiens appellez hayrers. 1413 *Rot. Pat.* 1 Hen. V. pt. 3, memb. 19, 12 June, Custodiam canum nostrorum vocatorum 'hayreres'. 1446 *Issues of Excheq.* (ed. Devon), [Hounds called] heireres.

†**Hask**, *a.* (used *adv.*) *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 124 Al hugely and haske [L. *rauce*].

†**Haskness.** *Obs.* [f. HASK *a.*] Hoarseness, huskiness. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 28 He hath a great haskenes [*grauí asthmate implicatur*]. 1540 EARL OF BATH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 158, I am . . sore aggreved with the agew myxte with a cough & haskenes. 16 . . in J. Thompson *Ann. Influenza* (1863) 9 A dry cough, pain of the breast, haskness and roughness of the throat.

Haversine. The name was introduced by Prof. Jas. Inman, D.D., in his *Navigation and Nautical Astronomy* ed. 3, 1835. Cf. *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

Haw, *sb.*[3] b. Earlier example:—*c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 98 A charme for þe hawe in þe ye.

Headstock 1 f. (Of a bell.) Earlier example:—1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 461/2 A Bell Azure hanging by its Headstock and Guglons in an Arch.

Hog-deer 1. Definition, read: The common name of a small Indian deer, *Axis porcinus*. (Sometimes also used to include *A. maculatus*.)

Hunch, *v.* 1. Earlier example:—1581 R. V. *Caluine on Gal.* Iv. 30. 112 The heritage is saued for vs, howsoeuer bragly they hunche at vs for a time.

Husting 2 b. For a hustings court, *curia hustengorum*, in Oxford, see Wood's *Life & Times* (O. H. S.) IV. 183–4.

Hut, *sb.* 1 b. Earlier example, showing this to be the earlier use. 1545 *St. Papers, Hen. VIII*, X. 609 The French armey . . having broken up their campe and brent all their huittes, removed . . towardes Arde.

†**I-kepe**, *v. Obs.* The sense in the quots. is that of KEEP *v.* 5, 6 c, to watch for, wait for, intercept, ward off.

Immersion. Earlier example:—*c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1407 Thas whilk in watire takes duwe inmersionne.

Imperial, *sb.* 8. Early example:—1839 WARREN *Ten Thousand a Year* i, An imperial—i.e. a dirt-coloured tuft of hair, permitted to grow perpendicularly down the under lip of puppies—poor Mr. Titmouse had been compelled to sacrifice some time before. [This makes the history of the word doubtful. Perh. it was merely revived in compliment to Napoleon III, to whom the French Dicts. refer it.] 1841 [see Supplement].

Inasswageable. Early example:—1654 GAYTON *Pleasant Notes* III. v. 96 Don Mariotto, Knight of the Inasswagable Panch.

Incitress. Literary example:—1654 GAYTON *Pleasant Notes* IV. vi, Bright Sun-beame, repairer and incitresse of my decaying heat.

Incluse, *a.* Later example:—1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 20 The Incluse Anchoret Peter, from the Confines of Spain.

Incomb, *v.* Delete quot. *c* 1565, the word being an error of the ed. cited.

Inconsutile, *a.* Early example in lit. sense:—*c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3205 Marie didde onne hire sons cote inconsutyle with out semyng.

India paper. Cf. 1750 WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 351 Mrs. Frere . . screamed about Indian paper.

Indomable, *a.* Early example:—*c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 5062 The Egle indomable thow reclamed at the fulle.

Ingot. Anglo-Fr. example of sense 2:—1423 *Rolls Parlt.* IV. 22 Item, diverses Yngotes & kakes d'arg[ent], pois[nuntz] xxxiii lb vii unc'. Item, vi Yngottes d'arg[ent], poisauntz vi lb ix unc' di.

Ingrain, *a.* 1 b (American use):—1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 314/1 Kidderminster . . carpets, or, as the Americans more descriptively term them, ingrain carpets.

Inscriber. Earlier example:—1674 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Laws & Customs Scotl. Matters Criminal* xix. § 8 (1699) The inscriber was according to the Civil Law, oblidged to find caution.

Insensible, *a.* 1. (Confirming this as earliest sense):—*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 469 Bilene is insensible & more trewe þan siche signes; as þis treuþe is insensible þat two & þre maken fyne, & şit it is more certeyn þan ony sensible þing heere.

Instigatrix. Literary example:—1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 109 The Woman should be the Instigatrix, or the first Sollicitress.

Interlace, *v.* 4. Earlier example:—1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxv. (1880) II. 398 Admytte that some histories be interlaced with leasynges.

Invert, *v.*, sense 2, add: g. *Math.* To transform by inversion; to obtain the inverse of: see INVERSE *sb.* 2, INVERSION 3.

Irreclaimable, *a.* 2 b. Earlier example:—1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views of Louisiana* (1814) 159 Of this portion, there is not more than a fourth which can be considered irreclaimable.

Irregular, *a.* Insert between senses 6 and 7:—*Math.* (see quots.). 1700 MOXON *Math. Dict.* s.v. *Regular*, Those [figures are] called Irregular, which have not the Equality of Sides and Angles, as are Prisms and Trapezia's. 1734 J. WARD *Introd. Math.* III. I. § 4 (ed. 6) 290 An Irregular Polygon is that Figure which hath many unequal Sides standing at unequal Angles.

Irrelevancy. Early example:—1592 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1597) § 151 Seeing that diverse exceptiones and objectiones risis vpon criminall libelles . . be alleged irrelevancie thereof.

Ism, *quasi-sb.* Earlier example:—1680 E. PETTIT *Vis. Purgatory* 46 He was the great Hieroglyphick of Jesuitism, Puritanism, Quaquerism, and all Isms from Schism.

Jasmine 1 β. Cf. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 44 Iasminum otherwise called Iasme.

Jaw, *sb.*[1] 7, *jaw-piece.* Read:— = JOWPY. See also Supplement.

Jerkin-head. Cf. KIRKIN-HEAD, the earlier existence of which suggests that *jerkin-head* originated in some error.

Jiboya. Early examples:—1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 842 [*Brasil*] Of Snakes without venome, he numbereth the *Giboya*, some of which are twentie foote long, and will swallow a Deere whole. *Ibid.* 839 *Iaboya.*

Lability. Earlier example:—1554 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. (1855) 65 The labilite and breuitie of tymes maneris and of men in this wale of teiris beand considerit.

Labyrinthine, *a.* Earlier example:—1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 99 These Labyrinthing Seas.

Lachrymous, *a.* Earlier example :—1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* viii. 35 Lacrymous and playnynge sorowes.

Lacquering, *vbl. sb.* For lacquering-stone read lacquering-stove.

Lake, *sb.*[3] The reference to LETCH *v.* in the etymology should be to LEACH *v.*[2]

Lamantin. Earlier example :—1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isl.* I. xvii. 103 A certain fish by the French called Lamantin, by the Spaniards Namantin and Manaty. *Ibid.* 300 Their not eating of salt, Swines-flesh, Tortoises, and Lamantin.

Lamba. Earlier example :—1729 DRURY *Madagascar* 234 The Corps being .. wrapped up in a Lamber, or perhaps two Lambers.

Landaulet. Earlier example :—1771 *Patent Specif.* No. 997 The fore part of the head of a landawlet is constructed with a hinge [etc.].

Lantern, *v.*[2] Example :—1815 *Paris Chit-Chat* (1816) II. 184 He was himself very near being lanterned in the streets of Paris by a group of the *fauxbourg Saint Antoine*.

Lark, *sb.*[2] Phrase, *To make a lark of* = 'to make game of' :—1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxix. (1885) 385 Don't make a lark of me, hang it!

Lathe, *sb.*[4] The Ger. *lade* is used in the same sense, and should have been cited as cognate.

Lawn, *sb.*[1] 3 b. For an explanation of the torture of the 'lawn', see 1569 JEWEL *Expos. 1 Thess.* Wks. 1848 VII. 42–3. (Cf. *linen-ball*, LINEN B 5.)

Ledger, *sb.* 1 b. Earlier examples :—1401 in Wylie *Hen. IV*, IV. 198 [Items of expenditure] 19 portos, 3 liggers. 1444 in *Dugdale's Mon.* VI. 1427 Duo portiphoria .. alias nuncupata lyggers.

Leetle, *a.* Earlier example :—1687 PHILLIPS *Don Quixote* 496 The Taylour .. held up five leetle Cloaks.

Legitimate, *a.* Earlier example of *legitimate drama* :—1821 BYRON *M. Faliero* Pref. 18 *note*, While I was in the sub-committee of Drury Lane Theatre .. we did our best to bring back the legitimate drama.

Let, *sb.*[1] 2. Earlier instance (*attrib.*) :—1819 *Examiner* 7 Feb. in *Hazlitt's Table Talk* (1870) 118 His [Cavanagh the fives-player's] blows were not .. let balls like the Edinburgh Review.

Lettice. See also LITUIT.

Liberty 2 b. Earlier instance of *liberty of conscience* :—*a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 364 To suffer euerie man to leaf at libertie of conscience.

Lieutenant-general 2. Earlier example :—1589 [T. CATES] *Sir F. Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 5 We descried another tall ship .. vpon whom Maister Carleill, the Lieutenant Generall, being in the Tiger, vndertooke the chase. [C. 'commanded the land forces against the Spanish West Indies' (Dict. Nat. Biog.).]

Lifehood. Delete quot. 1484 : *lyuehode* is an error in the modern reprint for *lyuelode*.

Lift, *sb.*[2] 11. Add to the definition :—Also = LOCK *sb.*[2] 9 c. For the quotation read as follows :—1825 [see LOCK *sb.*[2] 9 c]. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Lighthouse. Earlier example :—1622 BACON *Hist. Hen. VII* 142 They .. were executed .. at diuers places vpon the Sea-Coast .. for Sea-markes or Light-houses, to teach Perkins People to auoid the Coast.

Live, *a.* 3. Delete quot. 1865.

-lock, *suffix*, in mod. Eng. occurring only in *wedlock*, represents OE. *-lāc*, the second element of numerous compounds (usually neuter : rarely masc.) in which the first element is a sb. OE. had about a dozen of these compounds (those in which *-lāc* means 'offering', LAKE *sb.*[1], are not counted) ; in all these the second element may be rendered 'actions or proceedings, practice', as *brȳdlāc* nuptials, *beadolāc*, *feohtlāc*, *hearðolāc* warfare, *hæmedlāc*, *wiflāc* carnal intercourse, *rēaflāc* robbery, *wedlāc* pledge-giving, also espousals, nuptials, *witelāc* punishment, *wrōhtlāc* calumny. The *-lāc* of these compounds should probably be identified with *lāc* play, sport, LAKE *sb.*[2] ; the words meaning 'warfare', which may have been the earliest examples of this use, may be compared with the synonymous compounds in *-plega* play. Of the OE. compounds of *lāc* three (*brȳdlāc*, *feohtlāc*, *rēaflāc*) survived into early ME., and *wedlāc* still survives with altered meaning. In ME. the suffix was sometimes assimilated in form to the etymologically equivalent but functionally distinct Scandinavian *-LAIK*. A few examples, not recorded in OE., appear in early ME. : *dweomerlak* (DEMERLAYK), FERLAC, SHENDLAC, *treulac*, *wohlac* (cf. WOUHLECHE), the last from a vb.-stem, *woȝ-* to woo ; but none of these survived later than the 14th century.

Long standing. The origin of this phrase seems to be illustrated by the following passage :—*a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 34 Except a very fewe, to whom peraduenture blood and happie parentage, may perchance purchase a long standing vpon the stage.

Look, *v.* The synonymous MDu. *loken* should have been cited as cognate.

Loot, *sb.*[1] See LUTE *sb.*[3], which is etymologically identical.

Machit, var. of MESQUITA[2].

Macuta. The Rev. W. Holman Bentley, writing from the Congo Free State, informs us that *makuta* is the plural of **ekuta*, and denotes a bundle of ten mats of palm-fibre, still used as currency north of the Congo near the French frontier. Elsewhere the word survives only as the name of the Angola 'penny' piece or its value. Mr. Bentley says that it is derived from a Congo verb *kuta* to tie, now obsolete, but preserved in the reversing form *kutulula* to untie.

Mademoiselle. Earlier example :—*a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 126 Madamoiselle I y praie you that ye ansuere not vnto this fole.

Maghoore, obs. variant of MOGUL.

Magnetician. Example :—1854 *Peretra's Polarised Light* (ed. 2) 65 The electrician and the magnetician have assumed, respectively, an electric and a magnetic fluid.

Mahone. Earlier example :—1572 MALIM in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. 1. 122 Great Hulkes called Maones.

Maidfeloun, obs. variant of MATFELLON.

Maim, *sb.* Earlier example :—*c* 1475 *Partenay* 6356 That mariage no mahyme to his kinred.

Main-brace[2]. Earlier example :—1680 SIR J. FOULIS *Acct. Bk.* 13 Aug. (Sc. Hist. Soc.) 487 To James Wilson, sadler, for .. helping y[e] main braces.

Mainmort. Earlier example :—1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 265.

Majolica, var. form of MAJOLICA.

Man, *sb.*[1] 15. The view that CHESS-MEN originated as a corruption of *chess-meinie* is untenable, the word for '(chess-)man' in AF. being regularly *hom*. Earlier instances of *man* in this sense are :—*c* 1400 *Beryn* 1820 The Burgeyse seid : 'comyth nere! ye shul se þis man, How he shall be matid, with what man me list!' He drouȝe, & seyd 'chek mate!' *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi. 71 (Harl. MS.) The first man, þat goth afore hath not but oo poynt, but whenne he goth aside, he takith anoþer. .. The secund, *scil.* alphyn, renneth iij poyntes both vpward and douneward.

Mandarin[1] 1 b. Earlier example :—1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (ed. Hill) I. 31 From a man so still and so tame .. conversation could ne more be expected, than from a Chinese mandarin on a chimney-piece.

Mandragne. Add etymology :—Corruptly a. F. *mandragne*.

Mandrake 3. Earlier example :—1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 248 There is a plant in our woods, known by the names of man-drake, may-apple, and duck's-foot.

Mangy, *a.* 1. Earlier example :—1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* (E.E.T.S.) 1123 *Fol.* In faythe, there is not a better dogge. .. *Fan.* Ye, but trowest thou that he be not maungey?

†Mantist. *Obs.* [f. Gr. *μάντις* + -IST.] A seer, prophet. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 1. 84 Without which felicitie, neither Persian Magician .. nor Athenian Mantist .. shall euer passe with me for a prophet.

Manumotive. Earlier example :—1825 *Mech. Mag.* V. 97 (*heading*) Idea for a manumotive carriage.

Maracaibo. Earlier example :—1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 94 Maracaybo is a furniture wood of moderate size, as hard as good mahogany, and in appearance between it and tulip-wood.

Marble, *sb.* 3. Earlier example :—1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. 474 The reducing of any thing into a fine powder, by grynding it on a Marble.

Margent, *sb.* 2. Additional form and earlier example :—1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Y schalle purpulle the mariantes [TREVISA margyns] .. with a dowble ordre of yeres.

Mariner 1 b. See also MASTER *sb.*[1] 29. *Mariner portage* (in MARINER 4) : Delete the explanation ; see PORTAGE *sb.*[1]

Maritime. Add form 7 maretine and examples :—1652 EARL MONM. *Hist. Rel. Flanders* I. vii. 12 Of their Maretine Forces. 1654 — tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* I. IV. 56 The City of Embden, .. one of the most considerable Towns of all the Maretine part.

Mark, *sb.*[1] 11 i. Earlier example :—1625 B. JONSON *Staple of News* IV. iv, Were he a learned Herald, I would tell him He can giue Armes, and markes.

Marriage 8. Earlier example of *marriage-rites* :—1621 BRATHWAIT *Natures Embass., Sheph. Tales* Egl. ii. 198 For I your patience might wrong, To stand vpon these marriage rites too long.—According to modern editors *marriage rite* or *rites* should be read in SHAKS. *Pericles* IV. Gower 17, where the first Quarto (1608) has 'Euen right for marriage sight'.

Masse(n)ger(e, -inger(e, obs. forms of MESSENGER.

Massy, *a.* 5. The following quot. should have been given :—1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 158 With antick Pillars massy proof.

Master-hunt in MASTER *sb.*[1] 28. Read 'master-hunt [see HUNT *sb.*[1]], a head huntsman' and transfer to 29, adding the following earlier instance :— *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 375 (Fairf. MS.) The mayster hunte anoon fote hote With a grete horne blewe thre mote.

Mere, *a.*[2] 1 c. Earlier example :—*c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXV. 116 Bringand cowpez of gold full of meere mylk.

Mesquita[1]. Earlier example :—1477 CAXTON *Dictes* 58 b, Somme men saye that legmon is buried in a toun called karanalle bitwene the mesquitte & the marche.

Mickle, *v.* Additional example :—*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Sicnesse .. halt ine edmodnesse & mucheleð þe mede.

Minute, *sb.*[1] 7. To the definitions of *minute-bell*, *-gun*, add :—'used as a sign of mourning or distress'.

Montanous, *a.* Earlier example :—1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 947 *Bombilophagus*, is a Fly, montanous, big, very black.

Moot, *v.*[1] 1. Quots. 1642–44 probably do not belong to this word : see MUTE *v.*[2]

Mequet. Delete this article, and substitute **Mequet**, obs. var. **Meggot** [2].

Meshwell. The word (*morhusl*) is quoted as English by Rondelet *De Pisc. Mar.*, 1554, p. 280.

Motional, *a.* Earlier example:—1679 tr. *Willis's Pharmac. Rationalis* I. i. ii. 7 This Coat contains manifold orders of motional Fibres.

Motor, *sb.* 1 a. (*a*) The explanation given is erroneous; read:—'in mediæval astronomy, = PRIMUM MOBILE 1'.

Moustache 6. *Mustache monkey* occurs in Pennant *Syn. Quadrup.*, 1771, p. 114.

Myriad, Myrio-. Read: μῦρίοι countless, μύριοι ten thousand.

Obliterature. = OBLITERATION:—1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Christ. Priesth.* (1847) II. 50 A perfect obliterature of all injuries.

Obscure, *a.* 7 and *v.* 1. Earlier examples:—1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 55 There be other names of cites founde in cronicles obscure to the intellecte. *Ibid.* VII. 411 That kynge dreamed that .. the bloode of hym obscurede and hidde the sonne.

Obstinative, *sb.* An obstinate tendency:—1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglioni's Courtyer* (1577) I. D'ij b, And of these errors there are diuers other causes and among other the obstinatiues of princes.

† **Obsurd**, *v. Obs. trans.* To make dull of hearing, deafen:—1639 J. WELLES *Soules Progr.* 109 Old age .. dimmed with blindness, obsurded with deafenes.

Occupable, *a. rare.* Capable of being occupied:—1851 WHEWELL *Grotius* I. 256 In things which are properly no-one's, two things are occupable; the lordship, and the ownership.

Octagonian, *a.* Earlier example:—1598 [see HEXAGONIAN].

Ogive. Early example:—1357–8 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 180 In lvj pedibus de oggifs empt. per pede iijd. ob. 16s. 4d.

† **Olyver currant**, *advb. phr. Obs.* [ad. OF. phr. *avoir l'olivier* or *son olivier courant* (in Cotgrave, *Il a tous ses oliviers courans*, hee hath his full swindge or libertie, he doth what he list); so med.L. *olivero currente* (Giraldus Cambrensis): origin unascertained. See Gaston Paris, *Romania* XVIII. 132 ff., Paul Meyer, *Ibid.* XXXII. 450–1, *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Aug. 1933, p. 537.] In accordance with one's plans or desires. 1470 SIR J. PASTON in *Paston Lett.* II. 415 If ye cowde fynde the meanes .. to cawse [the] Meyr in my Lordes ere to telle hym .. that the love of the contre and syte restyth on owr syde .. thys wolde do nonn harme, if it be soo that that [*sic*] all thynge go olyver currant.

Omnium 1, **Omnium gatherum** 3. Quot. 1775 should be 1761.

Oudemian. Earlier example:—*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 345 To meete as that night at Mantinea, in the Oudemian streete, at Charitas vncles house.

Out-be. To be beyond, excel:—1613 B. JONSON *To Earl of Somerset* (ed. Cunningham III. 465/2) May she .. Outbee that Wife in worth thy friend did make.

Out-dweller. Earlier example:—1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 40 Anie stranger or out-dweller.

Outputter [1]. Insert after sense 1:—b. A publisher. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. 1. III. 587 Sellaris and outputtaris of thair saidis buikis.

Pachyntic, *a.* Earlier example:—1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pachuntick* Medicines.

Package 1. Earlier example:—1540 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1837) VII. 48 Certain leade .. was stayed at London by the packer for lack of payment of package money.

Pagan. *Etymology.* The explanation of L. *pāgānus* in the sense 'non-Christian, heathen', as arising out of that of 'villager, rustic', given by Orosius (a Spaniard) *c* 417, has been shown to be chronologically and historically untenable, for this use of the word goes back to Tertullian *c* 202, when paganism was still the public and dominant religion, and even appears, according to Lanciani, in an epitaph of the 2nd cent. The explanation is now found in the L. use of *pāgānus* as = 'civilian, non-militant', opposed to *miles* 'soldier, one of the army'. The Christians called themselves *milites* 'enrolled soldiers' of Christ, members of his militant church, and applied to non-Christians the term applied by soldiers to all who were 'not enrolled in the army'. Cf. Tertullian *De Corona Militis* xi, 'Apud hunc [Christum] tam miles est paganus fidelis quam paganus est miles infidelis'. See also GIBBON xxi. *note.*

Pamp. For further evidence of this word see POMP *v.*[2]

Papex. Earlier (in Latin context) in *Ely Sacr. Rolls* 1341–2 papyr; 1359–60 paper.

Parabolic, *a.* 1. Early example:—*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* (1860) II. 533 Signified bi likenes in parabolik speche.

Parapet 3. Earlier example:—1795 *Gen. Hist. Liverpool* 273 The foot paths here called parapets.

Parchmenter. Delete 'cf. PASSEMENTER'.

Parliament, *sb.* 5 b. Earlier example:—1583 *Cal. Inner Temple Recds.* (1896) I. 102 Parliament-house.

Particulate, *a.* In reference to organic matter, introduced 1871 by SIR J. BURDON SANDERSON (paper) *The Origin & Distribution of Microzymes* (*Bacteria*) *in Water* in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XI. 325.

Pelfry. Quots. 1480, 1496, 1565 are removed to PILFER *sb.* In their place insert *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 391/1 (MS. S) Pelfrey, *spolium.*

Petty, *a.* 1. *Obs.* add: exc. in special collocations (see 5).

Philosophic, *a.* 1 b. Add **Philosophic cotton**: see COTTON 7.

Pintle 2 a. Delete 'fixed erect .. small boats)', the ordinary practice in all cases being to have the pintles on the rudder.

Pleromorph, Plerophory. *Etymology.* Correct πληρής to πλήρης.

Plucky 2. Literary example:—1891 G. P. MERRILL *Stones for Build.* 39 Fine grained compact rocks .. break into concave and convex shell-like surfaces .. such stones are called *plucky* by the workmen.

Plump, *sb.*[2] Earlier example:—1477 NORTON in Ashm. *Theat. Chem.* 83 In Plomps .. Where heavie Water ariseth after Ayre.

Podike: see POWDIKE.

Port, *sb.*[6] Earlier example:—1543–4 (Jan. 11) *Adm. Ct. Exam.* 92 (Rypper's Depos.) The sayd [ship] mighte have layed his helme a porte.

Portitor. Later example:—1737 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* Lists 213/2 Portitor and Taylor to the great Wardrobe, Mr. John Mills.

Postnares. Read: So **Postnarial** *a.* (*a*) situated behind the nostril: 1866 [see PRENARIAL 2]; (*b*) belonging to the postnares.

Pourallee. For definition ¶, substitute: b. Subsequently used in the sense PURLIEU, as more fully shown under the form PURALÉE, q. v.

Prehalteres. Earlier:—1840 [see *pseudhalteres* s. v. PSEUDO- 2].

Providence. In etym. read 'Late Latin'. Early example:—*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. vi 83 (Sk.) For which it nis nat y-cleped previdence, but it sholde rather ben cleped purviaunce.

Principal, *sb.* Earlier examples:—[1 c] 1438 *Early Chan. Proc.* (P. R. O.) 75/11 One Roger Grey, Clerk, principalle of Brasenoce in Oxynforde. [2 d] 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 ¶ 24 The Principals put on their Pumps.

Procatalectic. Substitute for definition 'Catalectic in its former colon'. 1843 T. F. BARHAM tr. *Hephæstion* 195.

Provence. Delete the note following the definition, and quot. 1905; see next.

Provincial, *a.* 7 b. For definition read: Of, consisting of, or resembling a rose of Provence (='*Rose de Provence*, the Prouince Rose, the double Damaske Rose', Cotgrave; *Rosa provincialis*, Gerarde's Herbal, 1597).

Sabbatical, *a.* 2. Earlier example:—1599 PONT *Right Reckoning of Years* 2 These Sabbaticall yeares.

Sabbatine, *a.* Earlier example:—1674 BREVINT *Saul & Sam.* xiii. 281 Sabbatine bull.

Sagamite. Earlier example:—1698 *Hennepin's Contn. New Discov. Amer.* xxviii. 106 Sagamite, or Pap made of Indian Corn.

Salient, *a.* 3. The source of this use is Aristotle, *Hist. Anim.* VI. iii, Τοῦτο δὲ τὸ σημεῖον πηδᾷ καὶ πάλλεται ὥσπερ ἔμψυχον, 'this point [representing the heart in the egg] leaps and moves as alive'.

Saliva. Earlier example (in anglicized form):—*c* 1400 *Pety Job* 40 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 122 Thow woldest suffer neuer more Me to swolowe my salyue?

Salsitude. Earlier example:—1623 COCKERAM 1, *Salcitude*, brine liquor that is salt. *Ibid.* II, *Brine*, salsitude.

Saltation. Earlier example:—1623 COCKERAM 1, *Saltation*, dancing.

Samoloth. Earlier example:—*a* 1450 *Glossary* (*MS. Harl.* 1002), *Hoc perzoma*, a samcloth.

Sanable, *a.* Earlier example:—1623 COCKERAM 1, *Sanable*, which may be healed.

Sanguine, *a.* 5. Earlier example of *sanguine stone*:—1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a iii, The .v. stone is calde a Loys, a sanquine stone or sinamer hit is calde in armys. Also ellipt. as sb.:—*Ibid.*, Aloys is calde sinamer or sanquine in armys.

Sarrasin. Earlier example:—1621 LODGE *Summary Du Bartas* 1. 135 That graine, which we call Sarazin Wheate, or Turky Wheate.

Saucer 4. Earlier example:—13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2784 With eghen that war ful bright and clere, And brade, ilkone, als a sawsere.

Sauciate, *v.* Earlier example:—1644 HAMMOND *Of Conscience* 27 Any such act of willfull sinne .. is a naturall meanes .. of sauciating and wounding the soule.

Sawvity. Earlier example:—1623 COCKERAM 1, *Scævitie*, vnluckinesse.

Scale, *sb.*[2] 3. Earlier example:—*c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 208 Þe scales of notes ant ryndes.

Scarlet, *sb.* 4 a. For quot. *a* 1683 substitute the following:—*c* 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. i. (1622) 70 Doe the Lords bow, and the regarded scarlets, Kisse their gumd gols, and cry we are your seruants?

Scarlet, *a.* 4. Earlier example of *scarlet whore*:—1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 29 Forthwith he gaue in charge vnto his Squire, That scarlot whore to keepen carefully.

Scart, *sb.*[1] In list of Forms dele '9 scrath (? error)' and read 'See also SCRATH'.

Schiller. The Ger. word has been used by English entomologists in the literal sense: 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* 87 The elegant tribe of *Cetonidæ* .. are generally of a fine green, often accompanied with a delicate schiller or play of colour.

School, *sb.*1 19. Additional example of *school-butter*:—1618 FLETCHER *Loyal Subj.* v. iv, *Anc.* He was whipt like a top, I never saw a whore so lac'd: Court schoole-butter? Is this their diet?

Screaling. Earlier example:—1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exercises* IV. (1597) 270, *Descr. of P. Plancius his Map*, This Countrey is inhabited of Dwarfes called in Latine *Pigmei*, being in height 4 foote as those be of Groynland, which are called Screlings [*printed* Serelings; *edd.* 1622, 1637 Sereelings].

Scuddle, *v.*2 Earlier example:—1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* G iv, The Goddesses..skuddelyng and sekyng to defende themselues.

Sea-swallow 3. Delete quot. 1902 (where the word denotes a kind of swallow or swift).

Seed, *sb.* 5 a. Earlier example:—1620 *Observ. Making Fit Rooms Silkworms* 5 The Silk-wormes comming of ten ounces of seed [etc.].

Seeker 1 b. The date and authorship of the first quotation seem to be highly questionable. The passage quoted from Pagitt 1645 appears to contain the earliest known example of the use of the word as the designation of a sect, though the opinion there described was held by the three brothers Legate (*c* 1600), whose followers were called Legatine-Arians. (See C. Burrage, *The Early English Dissenters*, 1912, I. 214–6, 259–61, and App. A.)

Sentimentalize, *v.* 1. Earlier example:—1764 *Let. to W. C.* 5 Aug., Orig. Lett. (1788) 14. In the mean time we will philosophize and sentimentalize; the last word is a bright invention of the moment in which it was written, for yours or Dr. Johnson's service.

Sepal. The etymology should be as follows:—[ad. F. *sépale*, mod.L. *sepalum* (N. J. de Necker, *Phytologie philosophique*, 1790, p. 55, and *Corollarium ad Philosophiam botanicam Linnæi*, 1790, p. 18). Necker derives the word from Gr. *σκέπη* covering; as he refused to acknowledge the distinction between the calyx and the corolla (using the term *perigynanda* to comprise both), *sépale* (*sepalum*) in his use denotes the petals as well as what are now called 'sepals'.]

Servetist. Earlier example:—1621 LODGE *Summary Du Bartas* 1. 9 The ancient and moderne Diuines, who haue disputed against the Arians, and Seruetists.

Shiner 1 b. The word in the quotation is perhaps a misprint for *shiver* (pulley).

-ship. At end of first paragraph delete 'and perhaps . . . region'. The alleged OE. *landsceap* is due to a misreading: see Napier *Contrib. OE. Lexicogr.* (1906) 41.

Shirley. For '*Obs.* or *spurious*' read '*Obs*' The bird, a South American tanager, was named by G. Edwards (*Gleanings Nat. Hist.*, 1764, III. 276) from *Shirley*, the family name of Earl Ferrers, to whom the specimen described belonged.

Shittle, *a.* The form *shuttle* survives *dial.*; see SHUTTLE *a.*, where additional quotations are given.

Shoe, *sb.* 6 c. The following examples of *shoe-thong* should have been given:—*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 27 Ne eom ic wyrðe þæt ic unbinde his sceo-þwang. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10387 Þatt he ne wass nohht god inoh Cristess shoþwang tunnbindenn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 Ac ich nam noht ne forðen wurðe þat ich un-cnutte his sho þuong.

Staddle, *sb.* Earlier example of sense 2: 1543 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 17 § 1 (1544) The same stathilles or storers [*elsewhere in the section* standilles or storers]. Earlier example of sense 3 a: *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 785/21 *Hic arcomus* [read *arconius*], a stathele.

Stanstickle. Earlier example:—*a* 1300 NECKAM *De Utensilibus* in Wright *Voc.* 98 *Gamarus, pinoscha*, stanstikel.

Variolist. *rare*—1. [f. VARIOLA + -IST.] One who prefers small-pox to vaccination. 1799 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 665 A consciousness of propriety, which it seems that the Variolists have not had sufficient shame to acknowledge.

Vellumise, *v.* [f. VELLUM + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into vellum. 1907 C. DAVENPORT *The Book* 173 The white 'vellumised' pigskin has always been the most favourite material for the covering of German books.

† **Vene·dic,** *a.* *Obs.* [f. med.L. *Venedi* (pl.): see WEND *sb.*] Wendish, Vendish. 1768 T. NUGENT *Trav. Germany* II. 178 Mirow is..supposed to have derived its name from the Sclavonic, or Venedic word *mir*, signifying peace. 1790 DORNFORD *Püttter's Hist. Developm. Ger. Emp.* I. 8 Except in Bohemia and Lusatia, the Venedic language has been under the necessity of yielding to the German.

Verger2 1. Earlier example:—*c* 1402 in *Peterborough Registry* (MS.), fol. 457, Officium hostiarii, alias dictum verger, in eodem [collegio de Wyndesore] vacans.

Vocabular, *sb.* Later example:—1659 W. JACOB in Somner *Dictionarium*, To list your names in this Vocabular.

† **Whene,** *v.* *Obs.* Also wene, ȝwene. [Aphetic f. ÁWHENE (OE. *dhwénan*).] *trans.* To afflict, trouble, offend. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 49 Lyare wes mi latymer, Sleuthe ant slep my bedyuer [= bed-fellow; *printed* bedyner], that weneth me unbe-while. Umbe-while y am to whene, when y shal murthes meten. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1908 And þaȝ þat lawe for-bede nauȝt þat man and wyf ymene Toe-hebbe a child, ȝet scholdy nauȝt Honestete so ȝwene. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 6887 'Lord,' he seyde, 'ȝow þar nought wene, Why y am comen ȝe may wel mene.'

Whistle, *v.* sense 9. *To go whistle.* Earlier example:—1453–4 PECOCK *Folewer to Donet* 106 If eny man pretende so greet a curiosite anentis þe persoon of crist þat he lackid þe passioun of angir, he may go whistle til he leerne bettir.

Y- *prefix* 3 c. The creation of new compounds falling under this heading began in the fifteenth century; examples are *ybete* (Kingis Quair), *ydrawe, yryve* (Lydgate), *ylipe, yminne, ypass.*

Yode. Earlier example:—*c* 1030 *Rule of S. Benet* xxvii. (ed. Logeman) 58 *Abiit*, se ðe gode. [How this spelling is to be interpreted in this instance is doubtful.]

LIST OF SPURIOUS WORDS

IN the following articles are treated in detail the more important spurious words (arising chiefly from misprints or misreadings) that have been current in English dictionaries or other books of some authority.

Dict. = New English Dictionary. Dicts. = (other) dictionaries.

Abishering, abishersing. App. error for MISKENNING: see Dict. and add: 1579 RASTELL *Expos. Termes Lawes, Abishersing* (and in some copyes Mishersing,) that is to be quite of amercementes before whom soeuer of transumption [ed. 1598 transgression] proued. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* III. iv. 71 Abishersing, alias Mishersing, implies both forfaitures and Amerciaments of all transgressions within the Fee, and also the immunity from like penalties. 1696 PHILLIPS, Abishershing. 1706 PHILLIPS, Abisherifing.

Aristarchy. Erroneous alteration of *Aristarchi* 'severe critics' (= Gr. 'Αριστάρχοι: see ARISTARCH) in some later edd. of the works cited below. Hence in WEBSTER (1828–32) and some later Dicts. (with erroneous definition). *a* 1612 HARINGTON *Brief View Ch. Eng.* in Park *Nugæ Antiquæ* (1804) II. 207 (from autograph copy) Some of the *Aristarchi* [ed. 1653 p. 153 Aristarchy] and sowr censurers of theise dayes. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. v. 205 The onely *Aristarchi* [ed. 1674 Aristarchy] of the world [*orig.* gli Arristarchi del Mondo].

Banket. Error for BANKER[4] a. 1846 W. M. BUCHANAN *Technol. Dict.*, *Banket*, in *bricklaying*, a piece of wood of about eight inches square, and nine feet in length, on which to cut the bricks. Hence in 1864 WEBSTER, 1889 *Century Dict.*

Censerie, misreading of TENSERIE in *O.E. Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.).

Cherisance, -saunce. Error for CHEVISANCE[1], associated with *cherish*. 1658–62 PHILLIPS, *Cherisaunce* (old word), comfort. Hence in 1881 OGILVIE (Annandale) and some later Dicts.

Colophonian, *a.* The meaning 'relating to a colophon or the conclusion of a book' given in OGILVIE (Annandale, 1881, citing *Cudworth*) and some later dicts., is app. an error based on the following quot., in which the word means 'an inhabitant of Colophon', a town in Lydia. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 226 The same thing is .. intimated by Xenophanes the Colophonian.

Commonye. Explained as: Discourse, communing. Error in *Century Dict.* (1889) founded on *com'nye*, misreading of *comunye* (?). 16.. *Ballad of K. Arthur* xxxi. in Child *Eng. & Sc. Ballads* (1861) 237 To heere theire talke, and theire com'nye [ed. 1884 I. 285/2 comunye].

Compasture. Error for *composture* (Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 444). 1742–1800 BAILEY, *Compastures*, large Tracts of Pastures or Pasture Grounds, lying together. *Shakesp.*

Compearer. Form and meaning app. unauthorized. 1861 *W. Bell's Dict. Law Scot.*, *Compearer*. A party not called as a Defender in an action, but who conceives that he has an interest to oppose the action, may compear and claim leave to sist himself. If his claim is sustained, an interlocutor allowing him to sist himself is pronounced, and is designated as *Compearer*. [Not in earlier or later edd.] Hence in OGILVIE (Annandale) and *Century Dict.*

Conjoin, *a.* Explained as: Conjoined. App. some error for *conjoined* or *conjoint*, or a misunderstanding of *conjoin* used as a verb. 1864 WEBSTER, *Conjoin, a.* Conjoined. (*Obs.*) *Holland.* Hence in OGILVIE (Annandale) and *Century Dict.*

Corb. App. error for CORF, q.v., end of etymol. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Corb.*, 1. A basket used in coaleries. Hence in *Century Dict.*

Corf. Explained as: A temporary building, a shed. Error founded on a misprint for *coif*, 16th c. Sc. form of COVE *sb.*[1] 1770 *Bannatyne Poems* 114 Intill a corf he crap [= Henryson's *Dog, Schiep, & Wolff* xxi, where the reading of the Bannatyne MS. is 'coif']. Hence in 1808 JAMIESON, 1864 WEBSTER, and some later Dicts.

Corfe. Erroneously inferred, with the sense 'a gap between hills', from *at Corfgeate* (F; Latin *Porta Corf*), *æt Corfes geate* (E) of *O.E. Chron.* an. 978, lit. 'at Corf's gate', the cleft in the chalk hills which was the site of the later Corfe Castle. 1882 *Cornhill Mag.* July 90 The great square castle that stands in the gap or 'corfe' from which it takes its name. 1883 *Good Words* July 464/1 That most lovely of all English ruins, Corfe Castle; the castle of the gap or *corfe* between the hills.

Cotgare. Erroneous compound of COT *sb.*[2] and GARE *sb.*[2] (AF. variant, if genuine, of OF. *gard*) due to misinterpretation of the formula *cot, gare, & vileine tuuen* (31 Edw. III, Stat. i. c. 8), *cot. gard & vilein* (13 Rich. II, Stat. i. c. 9); cf. *sine cot. gard, et omni viti vellere* (1277 in J. M. Rigg *Sel. Pleas Rolls Exch. Jews* (1902) 93). 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Cot, or Cotgare*, a kind of refuse Wooll, so clung, or clotted together, that it cannot be pull'd asunder. [Definition derived from Cowell's *Interpreter* s.v. *Cot.*]

Cremett, -it(t. Error for EREMITE, inmate of a hospital. 1624 *Will* in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 363, I give sixteene cremets here, in Well, fower markes. *Note*, This word occurs occasionally in the older registers at Well, applied to the inmates of the hospital, 'eermits' once. 1709 in *Thoresby's Corr.* II. 221 The word Cremits in your old deed relating to the Hospital at Well, is doubtless, or should be, Eremits. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* 284 The Eremites, or Hermits, in the north were corruptly called Cremitts; and there is an annual rent .. called Cremitt-money at this day.

Crepane. Error for CREPANCE. 1755 JOHNSON [citing *Farrier's Dict.*; but *The Farrier's and Horseman's Dictionary* by N.B., 1726, has *crepance*]. Hence in later Dicts.

Cresset. In *water cressets*, error for *water crusies* (WATER-CRESS). 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1589) 669 A poore woman that sold Water cressets [so in ed. 1618]. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Cruset*, an Herb.

Crevet. App. an error for CRUSET, crucible. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Crevet*, or *Cruset*, from the French word *Creux*, hollow, a Goldsmiths melting pot. [So all edd. to 1706.] 1721 BAILEY, *Crevet, Cruset*, a Melting Pot used by Goldsmiths. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Crevet*, a melting pot used by goldsmiths. [Hence in WORCESTER and some later Dicts.] 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Crevet*, a crucible.

Crinel. Error for CRINET 2, small hair-like feathers which grow about the cere of a hawk. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), Crinels, Crinets [with definition of *Crinet* from 1721 Bailey]. Hence in 1775 ASH, 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, 1846 WORCESTER, 1864 WEBSTER, OGILVIE (Annandale), and *Century Dict.*

Cruyshage. Error for Du. *cruyshaye*, a species of shark (Marcgraf *Hist. Rer. Nat. Brasil.*, 1648, 181) = *kruis* cross + *haai* shark. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Cruyshage*, .. the name of a fish of the shark kind, somewhat approaching to that strange fish the zygæna: but much less monstrous, its head being only triangular, or something like the figure of an heart... *Marggrave* p. 132. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Cruyshage*, a fish of the shark kind, having a triangular head and mouth. *Dict. Nat. Hist.* [Hence in 1864 WEBSTER, and some later Dicts.]

Curriedew, -dow, curridow. Error based on a misreading of *curreiden* (see quot. *c* 1400 s. v. CURRY *v.*[1] 4 b). 1561 *Chaucer's Wks.* Ggg vi/2 Tho curreiden glosours. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, *Curriedew*, in. Chaucer signifieth *Currie-favour*, or *Flatter*. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Curriedow*, a curry-favour or flatterer. 1721 BAILEY, *Curridow*, a Curry-favour or Flatterer. *O[ld]*.

Cuvette. A spoon-like instrument used in extracting a cataract. Error for CURETTE. 1849 in CRAIG; hence in some later Dicts.

Dardy-line. Error for DANDY-LINE. 1889 in *Century Dict.* (citing Day *Brit. Fishes*).

David's staff. Originally an error of Pietro della Valle's, who gave *Dauidstoff* as the English name of an instrument for taking the altitude of the sun. This was reproduced by his translator, Havers, as *David's Staff*, which was copied by Blount and Phillips, and is repeated in some modern Dicts. So also *David's Quadrant* (= BACK-STAFF) in Phillips (ed. 1696), corrected in Kersey's ed. (1706) to *Davis's Quadrant*: see QUADRANT *sb.*[1], quot. 1696. 1623 PIETRO DELLA VALLE *Viaggi* Let. i. 22 Mar. (1663) IV. 16 Con diuersi altri strumenti: e con vno in particolare, che mi dissero, da poco tempo in quà, essere stato inventato da vn tal Dauid, che dal suo nome l'haueua chiamato *Dauidstoff*, che in lingua Inglese vale à dir legno di Dauid. 1664 G. HAVERS *translation*, One [instrument] invented by one *David*, and from his name call'd *David's Staff*. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Davids-staff*, is an instrument in Navigation, consisting of two Triangles united together, one longer then the other, both having their base arched, and between them in the circle of their bases, containing an entire Quadrant of ninety degrees. *Valle's Travels.*

Declinous, *a.* Error for DECLIVOUS. 1864 in WEBSTER; hence in some later Dicts.

Declivant, *a.* Error for DECLINANT. 1830 ROBSON *Brit. Herald*, Declinant or Declivant. Hence 1881 OGILVIE (Annandale), Declinant, Declivant. 1890 in *Century Dict.*

Demoniasm. Error for DEMONIANISM: see note at end of article in Dict.

Dentise, -ize, *v.* To cut new teeth. Error due to misreading of L. *dentire*, inf. of *dentio* to cut teeth, in Bacon *Sylva*, 1626, § 755. 1773 JOHNSON (quoting *Bacon*). Hence in some later Dicts. [1626 BACON *Sylva* § 755 They tell a Tale of the old Countesse of Desmond,

who liued till she was seuen-score yeares old, that she did *Dentire*, twice, or thrice; Casting her old Teeth, and others Comming in their Place.]

Depectible, *a.* Error in Johnson's Dict. and some later Dicts. for DEPERTIBLE.

Deportare. Explained as: Carriage, bearing, deportment. Error for *departure*. [1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. § 285. 871/2 Her stately port and majesticall departure.] Quoted in 1775 *Gray's Poems* 34 *note*, Her stately port and majestical deporture. Hence in 1864 WEBSTER (citing *Speed*), and some later Dicts.

Despousage. Explained as: Betrothal. Error for DESPOUSAGE. [*a* 1587 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 103/2 Despousage of Athilrid his daughter.] Quoted in 1836 RICHARDSON *Dict.* as desponsage. Hence in 1864 WEBSTER (citing *Foxe*).

Dialect, *v.* Explained as: To speak a dialect. [1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 41 By corruption of speech they false dialect and misse-sound it.] Here *false* is a vb. meaning to 'falsify', and *dialect* a sb. But 1881 DAVIES *Suppl. Eng. Gloss.* (quoting the above) has erron. entered *dialect* as a vb. Hence in some later Dicts.

Diffranchise, -ment. Errors for DISFRANCHISE, -MENT, due to reading f as f. 1755 JOHNSON. (No quotation.) 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Diffranchise, Diffranchisement*: see *Disfranchise*, which is the word in use. Hence in 1864 WEBSTER, and some later Dicts.

Disconsolancy. Explained as: Disconsolateness. Error for DISCONSOLACY. [1818 TODD Addenda, *Disconsolacy*, disconsolateness (quoting Barrow *On the Creed*, Penury, baseness, disconsolacy).] Entered in 1846 WORCESTER as *Disconsolancy* (citing *Barrow*); hence in some later Dicts. From this has been derived an erron. **Disconsolance** (1849 in CRAIG, and some later Dicts.).

Disjudication. Error for DIJUDICATION. [1664 BOYLE *On Colours* ii. 20 The Dijudications we make of Colours.] 1755 JOHNSON, *Disjudication*, judgment; determination; perhaps only mistaken for *dijudication*. *Boyle on Colours*. Hence in 1864 WEBSTER (citing Boyle), and some later Dicts.

Disquietare. Error for DISQUIETNESS. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* V. 435 (quoting letter of 1552 of Sir J. Crofts to Cecil) Such disquietures of mind. [The original MS. reads *disquyetnes*.]

Dissoned. Explained as: Dissonant. Error for *distoned* in *Rom. Rose* 4248 (formerly ascribed to Chaucer). 1731 BAILEY, *Dissonid*, dissonant, disagreeing. *Chaucer*. 1881 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Dissoned*. Hence in some later Dicts.

Dog-ray, -rete. Explained in some mod. Dicts. as: Dog-fish. App. error arising from misreading *dorrey* (see quot.), var. of DORY. [1577 HARRISON *England* III. x. 110/1 in Holinshed *Chron.* I, Of the first [sort of fish, the flat] are the Plaice, the Butte, the Turbut, Dorrey, Dabbe, &c.]

Exidemic, -ical. Errors for EPIDEMIC, -ICAL, due to the similarity of *x* and *p* in 16th and 17th cent. hands. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 76 A certaine token . . that some exidemicall [ed. 1658 epidemicall], generall pestilence or plague rageth amongst them. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, Exidemic (citing HALL).

Exiled, *a.* Explained as: Slender, weak. Error for EXILE *a.*, meagre, scanty. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* Ded. 4 My exiled and slender learning. [So in the undated edition, supposed to be of 1577; but the much better edition of 1579 has 'exile'.] Hence in 1859 NARES (quoting the above), and in *Century Dict.*

Expediate, *v.* Error for EXPEDITE in an imperfect and unauthorized edition of Sandys' *Relation of the State of Religion*, reproduced by Cockeram, copied by Todd, 1818; hence in later Dicts. 1605 SANDYS *Rel. State Relig.* K3, Some great alterations in some kinde of marchandise . . which may serve for that present instant to expediate [*MS. correction by author and ed.* 1629 expedite] their businesse. 1623 COCKERAM, *Expediate*, to dispatch, or make ready.

Factable, Factabling. Errors for FRACTABLE, FRACTABLING. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. 971 *Factabling*, the same as Coping. 1862 *Dict. Archit.* (Archit. Publ. Soc.), *Factabling* or *Coping*. A mistake in some books for *Fractable*. 1904 *Correspondent*, Factable is a word constantly used by architects, surveyors, and builders to denote the apex of a coping or the apex stone of a gable of a building.

Feathery. Error for FEATHERY. [1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. (ed. 2) 55 Some feathery particle of snow.] 1773 JOHNSON, *Featherly*, resembling feather [quoting 'Brown' with the reading 'featherly'.] Hence in 1828–32 WEBSTER, and some later Dicts.

Foupe, *v.* Error for *soupe* (see SWOOP *v.* 2 b), through misprint of f for f. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Languages* 23 To soupe [edd. 1614–37 foupe; 1657, etc. soupe] their words out of the throat with fat and full spirits. Hence 1755 in JOHNSON [quoting the above with the reading 'foupe']. 1775 in ASH. Corrected by TODD, 1818.

Galverly, *adv.* Explained as: Cleverly, actively. Error for *gallierdly*, GALLIARDLY. 1836 in RICHARDSON [quoting Wriothesley *To Sir T. Wyatt* Oct. 1537, A light gennet that is young and trotteth galverly; but the orig. MS. reads *gallierdly*]. Hence in some later Dicts.

Garb-feathers. Error for *barb feathers* (see BARB *sb.*[1] 2). [1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b], The federis vnder the beke be calde the barbe federis.] 1676–1732 COLES *Garbe feders*, the Feathers under a Hawk's beak. 1721–92 BAILEY, Garbe feeders [*sic*.]. 1848 HALLIWELL, *Garb feathers*, the feathers under the bill of a hawk (citing *Bernrs*, i.e. quot. 1486).

———. Error for *catchers*, the after-leavings of tin, originating in the glossary to Pryce's *Mineralogia Cornubiensis*. Also **Gatchers** (*English Dialect Dictionary*). 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 229 All dressers save the hinder stuff from the frame end, as it washes off in a pit by the name of Catchers. Gloss., *Gatchers*, the after leavings of Tin. 1849–50 WEALE *Dict. Terms, Gatchers*, the after-leavings of tin. [Hence 1890 in *Century Dict.*] 1882 JAGO *Anc. Lang. & Dial. Cornwall* 320 *Gatchers*, the after-leavings of tin ore. *Pryce.*

Geminal. Explained as: A pair. Error founded on *geminels*, misprint for *gemmels*: see GEMEL 1, quot. 1603. 1871 in LATHAM (quoting Drayton). Hence in some later Dicts. Also as *adj.* = geminate, in the following: 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 344 Because its roots were frequently geminell [*read* Gemmell] resembling two Leggs.

Geotic, *a.* Error for GOETIC: see note in Dict. s.v. GOETY. 1755 JOHNSON, *Geotic*, belonging to the earth; terrestrial. *Dict.* [But 1727 BAILEY vol. II. (followed by 1730–6 folio) has '*Geotick*, a sort of Magick, performed by the assistance of a Dæmon, the same as Geomancy'.] Hence in 1864 WEBSTER, and some later Dicts.

Gofysshe, *a.* Error for *gosysshe* GOOSISH *a.*, silly, stupid, occurring in Thynne's ed. (1532) of Chaucer's *Troylus* (III. 584) and perpetuated in some modern editions. Hence the following dictionary entries: 1658–1706 PHILLIPS, *Gofish* (old word), sottish. 1864 WEBSTER, Goffish [citing *Chaucer*]; so in 1890 *Century Dict.*

Gosting. Explained in Johnson and some later Dicts. as 'madder', is taken from 1736 AINSWORTH *Thesaurus* I, '*Gosting* (herb), Rubia'. In the Eng.-Lat. part there is: '*Rubia*, Rubia tinctorum, an herb called gosling weed or clivers; madder'. Thus *gosting* in Ainsworth is a mistake for *gosling weed*, which does not mean, however, 'madder', but 'goose-grass' or 'clenvers'.

Graduotion. Error for GRADUATION (sense 1 and 3 b). 1849 CRAIG. 1860 WORCESTER [citing *Brande*; but edd. 1842, 1853, and 1866 of *Dict. Sci.*, etc., read *Graduation*]. Hence in some later Dicts.

Grail. Error for BRAIL *sb.*[1] (sense 3). [1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a viij b, The same federis ye shall call the brayles or the brayle federis.] 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* IV, *Grayll feders*, or *Graylles*, vox quæ apud solam Jul. Barns occurrit lib. de re Falconaria [*i.e.* quot. 1486], à Fr. G. *Gresle*, Gracilis. 1847 in HALLIWELL [citing *Blome*; but not found there]. Hence in some later Dicts.

Griefhead. Explained as: Sadness. Error for GREENHEAD[1], due to reading *grenehede* (Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 65) as *greuehede* (taken to be f. *greue* GRIEF + *-hede* -HEAD). 1890 *Century Dict.*

Griefly, *a.* Explained as: Indicative of grief. Error for *griesly* GRISLY *a.* (through misreading f for f). [*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 165 b, Grisly [edd. 1629, 1633 griesly] Grones.] 1881 DAVIES *Suppl. Eng. Gloss.*, Griefly [quoting the above as 'griefly groans']. Hence in some later Dicts.

Grout. Explained as: A kind of wild apple. Error due to misinterpretation of *agromelum* (quasi *agriomelum*, Gr. ἀγριόμηλον wild apple), which occurs in glosses as a synonym of *idromelum*, etc. (see GROUT *sb.*[1] 2 b). 1755 JOHNSON, *Grout* . . 3. A kind of wild apple (*Agriomelum*, Latin.)

Guay. Originally in *cheval guay*, repr. F. *cheval gai*, a heraldic term for a horse without harness, misinterpreted as in quots. 1725 COATS *Dict. Her.* (1739), *Guay*, as *Cheval guay*, is a Horse rearing, and standing on his hinder Legs. 1730–6 in BAILEY (fol.). 1828–40 in BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. 1830 ROBSON *Brit. Herald*, *Guay*, or *Cheval Guay*, a horse in the position of rearing, or standing on its hind legs.

Habenry. Inferred from: '*Habenries*, architectural decorations of some kind, but the exact meaning of the term does not appear to be known. It occurs in Chaucer, some copies reading *barbicans*' (Halliwell). The source is Chaucer's *House of Fame* 1189 (= III. 99), where Skeat, by emendation, reads 'Babewinnes' (see BABOON 1), MSS. and early printed edd. having various misreadings: *MS. Bodl.* Rabewynnes, *MS. Pepys* Babeweuries, edd. 1532 (Thynne), 1598 (Speght) babeuries, 1602 (Speght) habeuries, 1721 (Urry) Barbicans. 1882 OGILVIE, *Habenry*, a barbican; a corner turret. [So *Century Dict.*] 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* [following Halliwell].

Herebode, Herebote. Spurious forms (due to 17th century antiquaries) compounded of OE. *here* army, HERE *sb.*, and *boda* messenger, BODE *sb.*[1], confused with *bót* compensation, BOTE, BOOT *sb.*[1] 1671 SKINNER *Etym. Ling. Angl.* Pppp 3 b, *Herebode*, vox ant. For. AS. olim Edictum Regis quo Cives seu subditi ad Militiam evocabantur, ab AS. *Here*, Exercitus, & *Bode*, Nuncius, *Bodian*, Denunciare, Indicere. 1727 *Cowell's Interpr.*, *Herebote*, the King's Edict, commanding his Subjects into the Field: From the Saxon *Here, exercitus*, and *Bode*, a Messenger. Hence *Herebote* in 1882 OGILVIE and *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Herebode* in *Century Dict.*

Icre. Error for *dicre* = DICKER *sb.*[1], the number ten, derived from a misinterpretation of quot. 1086 s.v. (xxxvi. dicras ferri), and reproduced in some mod. Dicts. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 361 As we finde in the survey booke of England [*marg.* Doomesday-booke], the Kings demanded in maner no other tribute than certaine *Icres* of Iron [CAMDEN 1586 ferri Ieras; ed. 1607 ferri Icras], and Iron-barres.

Inanent, *a.* Explained as: Significant. First in Todd (1818), based on a misreading of *inuent* = *invent* in the following. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. 264 He may apply his minde . . to Heraldry, Antiquity, inuent Impreses, Emblems, make Epithalamiums [etc.].

Instinctly, *adv.* Error for INSTINCTIVELY. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* xxii, Margaret .. drew her ruffled, luxuriant hair instinctly [so in ed. 1855; ed. 1897 instinctively] over the cut. Hence in 1871 HOPPE *Engl.-Deutsches Suppl.-Lex.*, 1881 OGILVIE (Annandale), and some later Dicts.

Investive, *a.* Explained as: Encircling, enclosing. Error for INFESTIVE *a.*, troublesome, annoying. [1610 *Englands Elisa* in *Mirr. Mag.* 829 Th' horrid fire all mercilesse did choake The scorched wretches with infestiue smoake.] 1818 TODD [quoting this as 'investive']. Hence in some later Dicts.

Joves. Error for F. *joues* cheeks of a battery. 1883 WILHELM *Mil. Dict.*, *Joves* (Fr.), the two sides in the epaulment of a battery which form the embrasure are so called. [*Joves*, which is an error for F. *joues* (old-print spelling *IOVES*), is entered in *Century Dict.* (1890, citing *Wilhelm*) as an English word ('Origin not ascertained'). Hence in some later Dicts.]

Lolion. Error for LOTION (sense 1). [1549 LATIMER *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* Uj b, Their doctrine was vnsauery, it was but of Lotiones of decimacions of anets seade, and Cummyn and suche geere.] In ed. 1549 and later 16th c. editions 'Lotiones' is misprinted 'Loliones'. Hence in 1881 DAVIES *Supplt. Eng. Gloss.* [quoting this as 'lolions'], and in some later Dicts.

Lool. Error for LOOB (sense 1), a vessel to receive the washings of metallic ores. [1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Prepar. Tin* 121 The dross and earth .. is carried all along the trough to a pit or vessel, into which the trough delivers it, called a loob.] 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, Lool (citing *Ray's English Words* p. 121). Hence in 1846 BUCHANAN *Technol. Dict.*, and some later Dicts.

Loudful, *a.* Error for *loud full.* [1606 MARSTON *Sophonisba* I. ii. B 4 b, The Cornets and Organs playing loud full Musicke for the Act.] 1864 WEBSTER, *Loudful*, full of sound; noisy; ringing. (*Obs.*) 'Loudful music' *Marston.* Hence in some later Dicts.

Mangering. Error for *mamering*, MAMMERING in Parker Society ed. of Philpot's *Exam. & Writ.* 315, where there is a note, 'A mangering: perplexing, throwing their faith into confusion, is the probable meaning, from *mang*, a word of Celtic origin, meaning to *stupify* or *confound*.' Hence in some mod. Dicts. [1559 PHILPOT *Jesus is God with us* C 3 b, Y^e^ simple people might be brought in a mamering of their faith, & stande in doubte whome they myght beleue.]

Minutal. Explained as: A diminutive. Error due to misinterpreting L. *minutal* mincemeat. [1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 802 A Iussell, or meate made with diverse things, chopped together. 1 Minutal, n. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Jussel* (*minutal*) meat made with divers things chopped together. *Rider.*] 1658–96 PHILLIPS, *Jussel*, a minutal from *jus*. [See JUSSEL in Dict.]

Misher(s)ing: see ABISHERING above.

Momblishness. Explained as: Muttering talk. Error for *moubliemies* in *ne moubliemies* forget-me-nots. [*a* 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 61 (Addit. MS.) Ne moubliemies and souenez also.] 1532 *Chaucer's Whs.* 294 Ne momblysnesse and souenesse. 1721 BAILEY, *Momblishness*, talk, muttering. *O[ld word]*. 1837 RICHARDSON s.v. *Mumble*, 'Ne *momblisnesse* ne sonenesse.'—No *mumbling* talk nor noisy sound. *Chaucer.* 1890 *Century Dict.*, *Momblishness*, muttering talk. *Bailey.*

Munity. Explained as: Security, freedom. Error for MUTINY. [1648 W. MOUNTAGUE *Devout Ess.* I. 35 Devotion .. doth rather compose the mutiny [*misprinted* munity, *corrected in Errata*], then infringe the true liberty of our affections.] 1818 TODD [quoting this as 'munity']. Hence in 1864 WEBSTER, and some later Dicts.

Paddy, *a.* Explained as: Low in character or manners; mean; contemptible; poor. Error for *baddy*. [1585–6 T. DIGGES *Let. to Walsingham* 2/12 Jan. (P.R.O.) Such baddy persons as commonly, in voluntary procurements, men are glad to accept.] Quoted in 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. vii. 393 as 'paddy'. Hence in 1864 WEBSTER, and some later Dicts.

Errors for *parechasis*, Gr. παρέκβασις deviation, digression. Also **Parecthaticall** *a.* 1584 SCOT *Disc. Witchcr.* XV. xxiii. 438 *marg.*, A parecnasis or transition of the author to matter further purposed. 1589 *Arte Eng. Poesie* III. 195 *marg.*, *Parecnasis*, or the Stragler. 1625 *A. Day's Eng. Secretary* II. 100 *Parsonasis* [sic], or *Digressio*, a speech beside the matter in present spoken on, as to say, But here let me remember vnto you something of the deserts and eternised memory of your worthy and most vertuous parents. 1659 *Queeres Prop. Officers Armie to Parlt.* 4 The first instrument together with a new fangled advice, have proved parecthaticall botcheries, or meer peccant forms of Polity, without any patterne or president in the Chequer Rolle of politicall Records. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Parechasis* [so 1696–1706], a digression, in Rhetorick, it is a wandering in discourse from the intended matter.

Pensible, *a.* Error for PENSILE. [1626 BACON *Sylva* § 15 The Water being made pensile.] Misprinted 'pensible' in ed. 1651. Hence in 1837 RICHARDSON; 1890 *Century Dict.*

Phantomnation. Explained as: Appearance as of a phantom; illusion. Error for *phantom nation.* [1725 POPE *Odyss.* X. 627 The Phantome-nations of the dead.] Entered as one word in 1820 JODRELL, in accordance with his method of writing compounds: *Phantomnation*, a multitude of spectres. Hence the following entries: 1860 WORCESTER, *Phantomnation*, illusion. *Pope.* 1864 WEBSTER, *Phantomnation*, appearance as of a phantom; illusion. (*Obs. and rare.*) *Pope.* So in OGILVIE (Annandale) and *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Pisnet, puisnet. Errors for PINSNET. [1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 57 They haue corked shooes, pinsnets, and fine pantofles.] Quoted in 1834 PLANCHÉ *Hist. Brit. Costume* 261 as 'puisnets', and thence copied in 1860 FAIRHOLT *Costume* Gloss. s.v. *Boots.* 1860 *Ibid.* Gloss., *Pisnets*, a species of shoe, mentioned by Stubbes. Hence 1881 OGILVIE (Annandale), Pisnet, Puisnet. 1890 *Century Dict.*, Pisnet.

Quadrune. Error perhaps founded on a mistaken form of *Quadersandstein*, 'the German term for certain soft sandstones of the Chalk formation' (Page). 1832 WEBSTER, *Quadrune*, a gritstone with a calcarious cement. 1860 WORCESTER [citing MAUNDER]. Hence in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, Funk's *Standard Dict.*

Sardel. Explained as: A precious stone. Error for *sardine* or *sardius.* [1721 BAILEY, *Sardel*, *Sardine*, a sort of Fish.] 1755 JOHNSON, *Sardel*, *Sardine Stone*, *Sardius*, a sort of precious stone. [Johnson omits Bailey's meaning 'a sort of Fish', but combines his *Sardel*, *Sardine* with *Sardius*.] Hence in 1828–32 WEBSTER, 1850–82 OGILVIE, and some later Dicts.

Sardonican, *a.* Error for SARDONIAN *a.* [1794 [T. TAYLOR] *Pausanias' Descr. Greece* III. 149 Homer first, and others after him, call laughter, which conceals some noxious design, Sardonian.] 1837 RICHARDSON, Sardonican [quoting this as 'Sardonican']. Hence in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Century Dict.*, WEBSTER (1911).

Scise, *v.* Explained in 1864 WEBSTER, *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, etc. as: To cut, penetrate; and etymologized as from L. *scissus*, pa. pple. of *scindere* to cleave. Inferred from *scis'd*, misreading for *seis'd* (early edd. *seas'd*) in: 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VII. xli. 125 The wicked steele seaz'd deepe in his right side. [See SEIZE *v.* 9 b, 'to penetrate deeply'.]

Sevant *a.*, **Sevantly**, *adv.* See note s.v. SUANTLY *adv.* in Dict.

Tendsome, *a.* Explained as: Requiring much attendance. Known only in the following Dict. entries. 1847 WEBSTER, *Tendsome*, requiring much attendance; as, a *tendsome* child. .. *Tensome*, see Tendsome. So 1850 OGILVIE, adding (*Obs.* or *fam.*). 1864 WEBSTER, adding (Written also *tensome*). 1891 *Century Dict.*

OTHER spurious forms (chiefly those having a more limited currency in dictionaries or in editions of texts) are entered in the main alphabet of the Dictionary; they are collected below for convenience of reference.

Abacot
Abarcy
Abarstic
Abatude
Abligurie
Abstable
Acherset
Adventine
Agipe
Aguiler
Ailingness
Alienatory
Anagriph
Aneye
Arerisement
Arpentator
Arrid
Arriont
At (for Ac *conj.*)
Barowe
Beast (after BEAST *v.*)
Beneficience
Beneficiency
Beneficient
Beneship
Bertying
Bewunus
Bixwort
Bord-halfpenny
Bouning
Brodeha(l)fpenny
Bronden
Bullenger
Burgheristh
Busyless
Buxion
Caitisned
Capriny
Carlet
Carnel, carnel-work
Cavilon
Cesshery
Chafter
Chare (after CHARE *v.*)
Chest-rope
Chirography
Chivancy
Chorl
Chukis
Cietezour
Civantick
Claw-back *v.*
Clinket
Clolle
Cluttish
Cocatrye
Cock *sb.*[9]
Cocket (after COCKET *sb.*[2])
Cockle (after COCKLE *sb.*[1])
Coll
Collarage
Colligence
Comgage, com-habitant
Commissionship
Commit
Commonance
Cone and Key
Confy
Congrument
Contrused, -sit
Convertile
Conyne

Cook-mate
Corsage
Counterset
Cowdrife
Coysell
Crampland
Crathe
Creche
Cyne
Defray
Delapsation
Demple
Devastion
Devastitation
Devastor
Devoterer
Diplomatial
Dipsin
Disgore
Dishele
Disporting
Dissense, disensse
Dooring
Drank
Duddels
Dulcerate, -ation
Dulciness
Eger
Emich, emych
Enanation
Enbreame
Encastic
Encortif
Enest
Enhendee
Ennation, enneation
Ennoisies
Envyte
Eposculation
Eranc
Erynet
Evacate
Filour
Finiteless
Foreflow
Foreholding
Fortition
Frenchmore
Fructiculose
Furt
Gannok
Gingerness
Grimmer
Gryff
Guest-taker
Gurmie
Gyronnetty
Hamylone
Hanelon, -oune
Hastard
Hauselins
Heedlesshood
Heliospherical
Honorate
Hugesome
Humblehede
Impropriety
Incertain
Indoice
Indultif, -yf
Ingree
Inguilty
Insenseless
Instructess
Intervene *sb.*
Inveccyde
Inwood
Irrevalent
Irrevitable
Jimwhiskee
Journ-chopper
Jug (after Jug *sb.*[4])
Jumpish
Juter
Juventate
Kennet
Kerned
Kin-kind, ken-kind
Lastery
Leadman
Macegriefs
Maletent
Mandevi(l)le
Meine
Mestino
Microdermatous
Mightsome
Mightsomnes
Minovery
Moile
Mormal *a.*
Movereas
Moy (after Moy *sb.*[2])
Muggent
Obess(e
Obstruct *sb.*
Oilous
Onlo5est
Onwhar, onwar
Opeagha
Ound
Ouster-le-mer
Out(-)bud
Outer
Out-joy
Outparter
Owser
Padar
Pailer
Pangetive
Pannell
Pantener
Pantoner
Papescent
Paramour *v.* (see Paramour *sb.* at end)
Pardelun
Parrett
Partel
Pavade, pauade
Pavon
Pentile
Pibling
Pickmire
Picy
Pile-worn
Pimprint
Planticle
Plenishing-nail
Pointel ¶
Ponk
Ponsondie
Pornial
Poteuere, poewer
Poune
Preseeing
Prill
Quarteus
Rat (after Ra *v.*[3])
Ribaudred
Rip-towel
Sacratyle, -til
Sandaline
Scentingly
Scissible
Sea-bar
Segnotic
Semi-rife
Senacion
Serviant
Shairl
Silice
Snet(te
Strike
Strow
Take
Tantling
Terrosity
Tetrifolie, tetrifoil
Theaming
Therial
Thitling
Tidder
Tineman
Tip-cheese
Topinch
Tranect
Trefte
Trigen
Tumulate
Tyne
Wadage
Wafter
Wall-can
Waltron
Water-gauge, -gage
Wayward, -wards
Weasy
Winter-ground
Zimme

A LIST OF BOOKS QUOTED IN VOLUMES I–XII OF THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

NOTE

THIS List, which has been compiled by two members of the editorial staff of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, Mr. F. J. Sweatman and Mr. H. J. Bayliss, comprises the titles of such works as have been most commonly quoted in the Dictionary. While it has no claim to be regarded as a complete guide to English literature, it will be found to contain a large proportion of the more important works, together with many others less familiar; it includes a large number of titles of periodical publications.

The arrangement is according to the alphabetical order of authors' names or titles of works. Following each title is the date of the first edition, or of composition (ascertained or inferred), printed in thick type. Where it is possible or necessary to give only a limiting date, such as that of an author's death, or of a manuscript in which the work is extant, this is preceded by *a* (= *ante*), e. g. BACON *Works a* 1626, *King Horn a* 1300. As occasion requires, the dates of editions used other than the first, or the names of editors or of series of publications, are added in ordinary type within round brackets. Where a title (e. g. Arnolde's *Chronicle*) is followed by a second title in brackets, the first is that by which the work is generally known, the second is its proper title. Round brackets are also occasionally used to indicate that works are questionably assigned to the authors under whom they are entered.

It is to be observed that the dates assigned (in the early years of the history of the Dictionary) to some Middle English texts and to a few books of later date (e. g. the plays of Shakespeare), as also certain ascriptions of authorship, have been modified by subsequent research (the resulting discrepancies rarely affect in any serious degree the chronology of words and senses).

SIGNS AND ABBREVIATIONS

a before a date = *ante* (before).
c ,, ,, ,, = *circa* (about).
v.d. = various dates.
tr. = translated (by); translation of.
Ed., ed. = editor of; edited (by).

Cl. = Club. Soc. = Society.
E.D.S. = English Dialect Society.
E.E.T.S. = Early English Text Society.
S.H.S. = Scottish History Society.
S.T.S. = Scottish Text Society.

A LIST OF BOOKS QUOTED IN THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

A. 1593: see Passionate Morrice
A., A. *Reply to Dr. Sanderson* 1650
A., D. *The art of converse* 1683
A., H. 1613, 1633: see Austin, Henry; Hawkins, Henry
A., W. *A speciall remedie against the furious force of lawlesse love* 1579 (Roxb. Cl. 1844)
ABBAY, RICHARD *The Castle of Knaresborough* 1887
ABBOT, CHARLES *Jurisdiction and practice of the Court of Great Sessions of Wales on the Chester Circuit* 1795
ABBOT, ABP. GEORGE *A briefe description of the whole worlde* (anon.) 1599 (1617, 1634)
An exposition upon the prophet Jonah 1600
A treatise of the perpetuall visibilitie and succession of the true church (anon.) 1624
ABBOT, GEORGE *The whole book of Job paraphrased* 1640
ABBOT, ROBERT *The old ways* 1610
ABBOTT, CHARLES C. *Waste-land wanderings* 1887
ABBOTT, EDWIN A. *Francis Bacon: an account of his life and works* 1885
ABBOTT, JACOB *Wallace: a Franconia story* 1853
ABBOTT, JOHN S. C. *Life of Napoleon* 1854 (1855)
ABDY, EDWARD S. *The water cure* 1842 (1843)
Aberbrothoc. Liber S. Thome de Aberbrothoc. Registrorum Abbacie de Aberbrothoc pars prior; pars altera v.d. (Bannatyne Cl. 1848, 1856)
ABERCROMBIE, JOHN *Every man his own gardener* 1767 (1803)
ABERCROMBY, HON. RALPH *Weather* 1887
Aberdeen, Extracts from the council register of the Burgh of 1398–1625 (Spalding Cl. 1844–48)
1625–1747 (Scott. Burgh Rec. Soc. 1871–72)
Aberdeen, Selections from the records of the Kirk session of 1562–1681 (Spalding Cl. 1846)
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COTTON, CHARLES *Burlesque upon burlesque, or the scoffer scoft* 1675
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COTTON, SIR ROBERT B. *An abstract out of the records of the Tower touching the kings revenue a* 1631 (1642)
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COTTON, ROGER *An armor of proofe, brought from the tower of David, to fight against Spannyardes* 1596
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COVELL, WILLIAM *Polimanteia, or, the meanes to judge of the fall of a common-wealth* 1595
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COVENTRY, HENRY *Letters of Philemon to Hydaspes; relating a conversation with Hortensius upon the subject of false religion* 1736
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COVERDALE, MILES *Writings and translations; Remains* v.d. (Parker Soc. 1844, 1846)
Certain most godly letters of such true saintes and holy martyrs as gaue their lyues, etc. v.d. (1564)
The christen state of matrymonye tr. (from H. Bullinger) 1541
A confutacion of that treatise, which one J. Standish made agaynst the protestacion of D. Barnes in 1540 ?1542
The defence of a certayne poore christen man tr. 1545
An exhortacion to the cerainge of Chrystes crosse ?1550
A faythful and most godly treatyse concernynge the most sacred sacrament of the blessed body and blood of Christ [illegible]
[illegible] *lessons upon the passion,* etc. 1540
The [illegible] of the faythfull ?1554 (1574)
A mo[illegible]ll, pithye, and learned treatise how a christen man ought to beh[illegible] hymselfe in the daunger of death tr. ?1550 (1579)
The old faith tr. (from H. Bullinger) 1541
The order that the churche in Denmarke doth use ?1550
The original and sprynge of all sectes and orders tr. 1537
The second tome or volume of the Paraphrase of Erasmus upon the New Testament 1549
A spyrytuall and most precious pearle 1550
A very excellent and swete exposition upon the two and twentye Psalme of David tr. (from M. Luther) 1537
A worke entytled of ye olde God and the newe, etc. tr. 1538 (1534)
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COVERTE, ROBERT *A true and [illegible]ble report of an Englishman that travelled by land throw many unknowne kingdomes* 1612
COWELL, JOHN *The interpreter: or booke containing the signification of words* 1607 (1637, 1672)
—— *augmented by Thomas Manley* (1684)
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COWIE, ROBERT *Shetland, descriptive and historical* 1872
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Cutter of Coleman-street 1663
Davideis 1638–56
The guardian; a comedie 1650
Loves riddle 1638
Miscellanies 1656
The mistress 1647
Ode upon the Restoration 1660
Of plants tr. Bks. I and II, by J. O. 1693; Bk. III, by C. Cleeve 1711; Bks. IV and V, by N. Tate 1695; Bk. VI, by Mrs. Behn 1688
Pindarique odes 1656
Poeticall blossomes 1633
A proposition for the advancement [illegible] experimental philosophy 1661
[illegible] *by way of essays in verse and prose a* 1667
Sylva, or, divers copies of verses 1636
The tragicall history of Piramus and Thisbe 1633
Verses written on several occasions 1663
A vision, concerning his late pretended highnesse, Cromwell the Wicked 1661
COWLEY, CAPTAIN *Voyage round the globe in* 1683 (in Hacke's Collect. Voy. 1699)
COWLEY, HANNAH *A bold stroke for a husband* 1782
Who's the dupe? 1779

COWPER, MARY, COUNTESS *Diary* 1714–20 (1864)
COWPER, BP. WILLIAM *His dikaiologie: containyng a just defence of his apologie* 1614
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Poetical works a 1800 (1889, 1905)
Poems 1782, 1800
Anti-Thelyphthora 1781
Charity 1781
Conversation 1781
The diverting history of John Gilpin 1782
Expostulation 1781
Homer tr. 1791; ed. 2, a 1800 (1802)
Hope 1781
Letters v.d. (1876)
Olney hymns 1779
Private correspondence with several friends v.d. (1837)
The progress of error 1780
Retirement 1781
Table talk 1781
The task 1784
Tirocinium 1784
Truth 1781
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COX, HOMERSHAM *The institutions of the English government* 1863
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COX, LEONARD *The arte or crafte of rhethoryke* 1524 (1899)
COX, NICHOLAS *The gentleman's recreation* 1674 (1677, 1686)
COX, SIR RICHARD *Hibernia Anglicana; or, the history of Ireland from the conquest thereof by the English to this present time* 1689–90
COX, SAMUEL *The pilgrim psalms; an exposition of the songs of degrees* 1874
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COXE, DANIEL *A description of the English province of Carolana* 1722
COXE, WILLIAM *Account of the Russian discoveries between Asia and America* 1780
History of the House of Austria from 1218–1792 1807
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COXON, ETHEL *A basil plant* 1881
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COXENS, FREDERIC S. *The Sparrowgrass papers: or, living in the country* 1860
CRABB, GEORGE *Universal technological dictionary* 1823
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The borough 1810
The candidate 1780
Inebriety 1775
The library 1781
The newspaper 1785
The parish register 1807
Posthumous tales a 1832
Tales (in verse) 1812
Tales of the Hall 1819
The Village 1783
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E.E.T.S. 1870)
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John Halifax, gentleman 1856
A life for a life 1859
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Vigilius dormitans, Romes seer overseene, or a treatise of the fift Generall Councell 1631
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CRAWFORD, THOMAS (*cont.*)
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Steps to the temple. With the delights of the muses 1646
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Mr. Isaacs 1882
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The card player 1863
Football, golf and shinty, hockey, polo, and curling 1878
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The rise and progress of the English constitution 1853 (1854)
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Little Anna Mark 1900
Lochinvar 1897
Love idylls 1901
Mad Sir Uchtred of the hills 1894
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CROKER, TEMPLE H. *Ariosto's Orlando Furioso* tr. 1755
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Select Scottish songs 1810
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CROWE, WILLIAM *Lewesdon Hill; a poem* 1788
A sermon preached before the University of Oxford, Nov. 5. 1781 1781
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A deliberat answere made to a rash offer 1588
An informacion and peticion agaynst the oppressours of the pore Commons 1548
One and thyrtye epigrammes 1550
Pleasure and payne, heauen and hell 1551
A setting open of the subtyle sophistrie of T. Watson 1569
The voyce of the laste trumpet blowen bi the seuenth angel 1549 (1550)
The way to wealth, wherein is taught a remedy for sedicion 1550
CROWNE, JOHN *Dramatic works a* 1703 (1872)
The ambitious statesman 1679
City politiques 1683
Juliana, or the Princess of Poland 1671
The misery of civil-war 1680
Sir Courtly Nice 1685
Crowned king, The c 1415 (in Langland, Piers Plowman; Text C, E.E.T.S. 1873)
CROXALL, SAMUEL *The fables of Æsop and others* tr. 1722
The fair Circassian, a dramatic performance 1720
nto of Spencer by 'Nestor Ironside' 1713 (1714)
A sermon pr ched before the House of Commons Jan. 30, 1729 1730
The vision: a poem 1715
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CUDWORTH, RALPH *A discourse concerning the true notion of the Lords supper* 1642 (1676)
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Culloden papers: comprising an extensive and interesting correspondence from 1625 to 1748 v.d. (1815)
CULLUM, JOHN *The history and antiquities of Hawsted and Hardwish in the county of Suffolk* 1784 (1813)
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—— AND, RICHARD *Anecdotes of eminent painters in Spain* 1782 (1787)

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Calvary; or the death of Christ 1792
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Ruth: a chapter in providence 1859
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Nile notes of a Howadji 1851
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Memoirs of a Cavalier 1724 (1840)
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If it be not good, the diuel is in it 1612
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Lanthorne and candle-light, or the bell-mans second nights-walke 1608
Newes from hell; brought by the diuells carrier 1606
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The mad lover 1617
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The sea-voyage 1622
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GILSON, DAVID *Sermons on pr* 1788
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The state in its relation with the church 1838 (1839)
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Glanvil, Bartholomew : see Trevisa
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Essays on several important subjects in philosophy and religion 1676
A further discovery of M. Stubbe 1671
Lux orientalis, or an enquiry into the opinion of the eastern sages concerning the pre-existence of souls 1662 (1682)
Palpable evidence of spirits and witchcraft 1668
Plus ultra ; or the progress and advancement of knowledge since the days of Aristotle 1668
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Scepsis scientifica : see The vanity of dogmatising, below
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Seasonable reflections and discourses 1676
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GLANVILLE, SIR JOHN *The voyage to Cadiz* 1625 (Camden Soc. 1883)
GLAPTHORNE, HENRY *Plays and poems* c 1640 (1874)
The Hollander, a comedy 1640
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GLASSE, MRS. HANNAH *The art of cookery. By a lady* 1747 (1796)
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Glencors tower (a novel) 1806
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GLENNY, GEORGE *The gardener's every day book* 1826
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GLIDDON, GEORGE R. *Ancient Egypt* 1847 (ed. 10)
Glossary of heraldry 1847 : see Gough, H.
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GLOVER, STEPHEN Ed. *The history of the county of Derby* 1829
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Things as they are; or the ...s of Caleb Williams 1794 (1838, 1868)
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Going to service: a sequel to My station and its duties 1836
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Mornay's (P. de) Woorke concerning the trewnesse of the christian religion tr. (begun by Sir P. Sidney and finished by A. Golding) 1587 (1592, 1617)
The xv bookes entytuled Ovid's Metamorphosis tr. 1565–67 (1567, 1593)
The Psalmes of David and others, with J. Calvin's commentaries tr. 1571
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The double ..., a tale 1765
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She stoops to conquer, or the mistakes of a night, a comedy 1773
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GOOD, JOHN MASON *The book of nature* 1826 (1834)
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GOODMAN, JOHN *The old religion dem* ...*tied in its principles* etc. 1684 (1848)
The penitent pardoned 1679
A winter-evening conference between neighbours (anon.) 1684 (1705)
GOODMAN, NICHOLAS *Hollands leaguer* (anon.) 1632
GOODRICH, CHAUNCEY A. *Select British eloquence* 1852
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GOODRIDGE, CHARLES M. *Narrative of a voyage to the South Seas* 1839 (1837)
GOODWIN, HARVEY *Memoir of Bishop* (*C. F.*) *Mackenzie* 1864
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GORE, JOHN *The way to well-doing* (a sermon) 1638
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A naturalist's sojourn in Jamaica 1852
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The romance of natural history 1860
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Pleasant quippes for upstart newfangled gentlewomen (anon.) 1595 (1596)
The schoole of abuse, containing a pleasant invective against poets, pipers, players, iesters and such like caterpillers of a commonwealth 1579 (Arber)
GOTHER, JOHN *Good advice to the pulpits* (anon.) 1687
GOUGE, THOMAS *Christian directions, shewing how to walk with God all the day long* 1660 (1664, 1831)
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Gods three arrowes; plague, famine, sword 1631
A learned commentary on the whole Epistle to the H ... c 1635 (1655, 1867)
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GOUGH, HENRY *A glossary of terms used in British heraldry* (anon.) 1847 (1894)
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The birds of Australia 1840–69
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Menaphon, Camillas alarum to slumbering Euphues etc. (ed. 1616 *Greenes Arcadia; or Menaphon*) 1589 (1616; Arber)
Morando, the tritameron of love 1584–87
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The [illegible]iudiction of the Lords House, or Parliament, consi[illegible]d according to antient records c 1676 (1796)
Pleas of the crown; or, a methodical summary of the principal matters relating to that subject c 1676 (1678, 1682)
Preface to H. Rolle's Abridgment 1668
The primitive origination of mankind c 1676 (1677)
See also Hargrave, F.
Hale, Thomas *An account of several new inventions; also [illegible]neral philosophy written by Sir W. Petty* 1698
Hales, John *Golden remains c* 1636 (1659); *with additions, viz. sermons and miscellanies, also, letters and expresses concerning the Synod of Dort* (1673, 1688)
Several tracts c 1636 (1677)
A sermon at St. Marie in Oxford [illegible] the abuses of obscure and [illegible]ure 1627
A tract concer[illegible]ng schismatiques (anon.) 1642
Brevis disquisitio 1653: see Stegmann, J.
Dissertatio de pace 1653: see Praipocvius, S.
Hales, John W. *Longer English poems* 1872
Notes and essays on Shakespeare 1884
Hales, Stephen *Some considerations on the causes of earthquakes* 1750
[illegible] 1727–32
Half-hours with best authors (publ. C. Knight) 1847
Halfpenny, William *The art of sound building, strated in geometrical problems* 1725
Halhed, Nathaniel B. *A code of Gentoo laws* tr. 1776
Hali meidenhad, an alliterative homily c 1230 (E.E.T.S. 1866, 1922)
'Haliburton, Hugh' (James L. Robertson) *Dunbar: being a selection from the poems of an old maker, adapted for modern readers* 1895
In Scottish fields 1890
Ochil idylls and other poems 1891
Haliburton, Thomas C. *The clockmaker; or the sayings and doings of Samuel Slick of Slickville* 1835 (1837), 1838, 1840
Nature and human nature 1855
Ed. *Traits of American humour, by native authors* 1852 (1866)
Halifax, Charles Montagu, 1st Earl of *Poetical works c* 1715 (1790, 1810)
—— and Prior, Matthew *The hind and the panther vers'd* 1687
Halifax, George Savile, Marquis of *Works c* 1695 (1912)
A character of King Charles the second: and political, moral, and miscellaneous thoughts and reflections c 1695 (1750)
Miscellanies c 1695 (1699–1700)
Halkett, Lady Anne *Autobiography c* 1699 (Camden Soc. 1875)
Hall, Anna M. (Mrs. S. C. Hall) *Sketches of Irish character* 1829
The Whiteboy; a story of Ireland in 1822 1845
See also Hall, S. C.
Hall, Arthur *Ten books of Homers Iliades* tr. 1581
Hall, Basil *Account of a voyage of discovery to the west coast of Corea and the great Loo-Choo Island* 1818
Patchwork 1841
Hall, Benjamin H. *A collection of college words and customs* (anon.) 1851
Hall, Charles F. *Narrative of the North Polar expedition* 1876
Hall, Chr. Newman *An autobiography* 1898
Hall, Edward *Chronicle (The union of the two noble and [illegible] families of Lancastre and Yorke)* 1548 (1550, 1809)
[illegible]ite [illegible]ard *Modern English* 1873
En[illegible]sh adjectives in -able, with special reference to 1877
A rational refutation of the Hindu philosophical systems tr. 1862
Recent [illegible]fications of false philology 1872
Hall, Granville S. *Adolescence; its psychology and its relations to physiology, anthropology* 1904
Aspects of German culture and education 1881
Hall, Hubert *The antiquities and curiosities of the Exchequer* 1891
Society in the Elizabethan age 1886
Hall, James *Legends of the West* 1833
Notes on the Western States 1838
Hall, John 1565: see Halle, John
Hall, John *Horæ vacivæ, or essays* 1646
An humble motion to the parliament, concerning the advancement of learning 1649
Paradoxes 1650 (1653)
Poems 1646–47 (1816)
Hall, John *A Christian home: how to make and how to maintain it* 1884
Hall, John, Memoirs of the right villainous. To which is added [illegible] *heretofore severally published and are now revised* v.d. (1614, 1615, 1617, 1621)
The shaking of the olive tree: The remaining works of J. H. With some specialities of divine providences in his life, noted by his own hand. Together with his Hard Measure, written also by himself c 1656 (1660)
An answer to Pope Urban his inurbanitie, expr[illegible]ed in a breve sent to Louis the French King exasperating him against the Protestants in France tr. by B. S. 1689
The arte of divine meditation 1606
The balme of Gilead: or comforts for the distressed both morall and divine 1646
The best bargaine. A sermon 1623
Breathings of the devout soul: see *Select thoughts*
Characters of vertues and vices 1608
Christ mysticall; or, the blessed union of Christ and his members 1647
Christian moderation 1640 (1840)
A common apologie of the Church of England against the unjust challenges of the over-just sect, commonly called Brownists 1610
Contemplations upon the principal passages of the holie storie; Vol. I (O.T., bks. I–IV) 1612; vol. II (bks. V–VIII) 1624; vol. III (bks. IX–XI) 1625; vol. IV (bks. XII–XIII) 1628; vol. V (bks. XIV–XV) 1630; vol. VI (bks. XVI–XVII) 1632; vol. VII (bks. XVIII–XIX) 1625; vol. VIII (bks. XX–XXI) 1626
The residue of the contemplations upon the New Testament, with sermons, etc. 1628–34 (1634)
Decisions of [illegible]ases of conscience: see *Resolutions and decisions*
The devout soul; or, rules of heavenly devotion 1644
[illegible]*y of a new world* 1609; see Healey, J.
...ve from Popery: see *The ...pose of Rome*

HALL, Dr. JOSEPH (cont.)
Apologetical and diuine right asserted 1640
Epistles 1608–11
The great impostor, laid open in a sermon 1609
The great mysterie of godlinesse, laid forth by way of affectuous and feeling meditation. Also, the inuisible world discouered to spirituall eyes 1652
Heauen vpon earth, or of true peace and tranquillitie of minde 1606
Holy obseruations 1607
An holy panegyrick. A [illegible] *at Paules Crosse* 1613
Holy raptures; or patheticall meditations of the loue of Christ 1653
The honor of the married clergie mayntayned 1620
An humble remonstrance to the High Court of Parliament (anon.) 1640
—— *A defence of the humble remonstrance* 1641
The hypocrite: set forth in a sermon 1630
The impresse of God; in two sermons preacht at the court 1611–12 (in Recoll. treat. 1614)
The inuisible world: see *Great mysterie of godlinesse*
The kings prophesie: or, weeping ioy 1605
Meditations and vowes diuine and morall 1605 (1606, 1608, 1621)
A modest confutation of (*Milton's*) *Animadversions upon the remonstrants defense against Smectymnuus* 1642
No peace with Rome tr. 1614 (in Recoll. treat.)
Occasional meditations 1630 (1631, 1633, 1851)
The olde religion 1628
The peace of Rome. To which is prefixed a Dissuasive from Popery 1609
The peace-maker, laid forth in a sermon 1624
Pharisaisme and christianity 1608
A plaine and familiar explication (by way of paraphrase) of all the hard texts of the whole diuine scripture of the Old and New Testament 1633
Quo vadis? a just censure of trauell as it is commonly undertaken by the gentlemen of our nation 1617
The reconciler, an epistle pacificatorie of the seeming differences of opinion concerning the trueenesse and visibility of the Roman Church 1629
The remedy of discontentment; or, a treatise of contentation in whatsoeuer condition 1645
The remedy of prophanenesse, or, of the true sight and feare of the Almighty 1637
Resolutions and decisions of diuers practicall cases of conscience in continuall use amongst men 1649
The Reuelation unrevealed 1650
The righteous mammon. An hospitall sermon 1618
Salomon's diuine arts. Drawne out of his Proverbs and Ecclesiastes 1609
Satan's fiery darts quenched; or, temptations repelled 1647
Select thoughts. Also The breathings of the deuout soul 1648
The Song of Songs paraphrased 1614 (in Recoll. treat.)
Susurrium cum Deo. Soliloquies: or, holy self conferences of the deuout soul. Together with the soules farewell to earth 1651
The true peace-maker: laid forth in a sermon before his Majesty at Theobalds 1624
Virgidemiarum, sixe bookes: first three bookes, of toothlesse satyrs 1597; *the three last bookes, of byting satyres* 1598
HALL, MARSHALL *Lectures on the nervous system and its diseases* 1836
On the diseases and derangements of the nervous system 1841
On the mutual relations between anatomy, physiology, pathology, and therapeutics, and the practice of medicine, being the Gulstonian lectures for 1841 1842
HALL, RICHARD *The life and death of John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester* c 1559 (1655)
HALL, ROBERT *Works* a 1831 (1832)
Fifty sermons a 1831 (1843)
Selections a 1831 (1840)
HALL, SAMUEL C. *A book of memories of great men and women of the age* 1871
Retrospect of a long life: from 1815 to 1883 1883
and ANNA M. (Mrs. S. C. Hall) *Ireland: its scenery, character*, etc. 1841–43
See also Hall, Anna M.
HALL, THOMAS *Funebria florae; the downfall of May-games* 1660
HALL, WILLIAM E. *The rights and duties of neutrals* 1874
HALL, WILLIAM H. *Practical experience at the diggings of the gold fields of Victoria* 1852
HALLAM, ARTHUR H. *Remains in verse and prose* a 1833 (1834; privately printed)
HALLAM, HENRY *The constitutional history of England from the accession of Henry VII to the death of George II* 1827 (1849)
Introduction to the literature of Europe in the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries 1837–39 (1847, 1864)
View of the state of Europe during the middle ages 1818 (1872)
HALLE, EDWARD 1548: see Hall, Edward
HALLE, JOHN *A most excellent and learned woorke of chirurgerie called Chirurgia parua Lanfranci* tr. 1565; (*also*) *an historiall expostulation against the abuses of chyrurgerie and phisicke* 1565 (Percy Soc. 1844)
HALLETT, HOLT S. *A thousand miles on an elephant in Shan states* 1890
HALLEY, ROBERT *A short biography of. Together with a selection of his sermons preached in Manchester and elsewhere* a 1876 (1879)
HALLIFAX, BP. SAMUEL *An analysis of the Roman civil law compared with the laws of England* 1774
HALLIWELL (afterwards HALLIWELL-PHILLIPPS), JAMES O. [illegible]*ters illustrating the habits and manners of Eng*[illegible] *from the reign of James I to the Restoration* 1851
A brief account of the life, writings and inventions of Sir Samuel Morland 1838
Contributions to early English literature, derived chiefly from rare books and ancient inedited [illegible]*ipts, from the fifteenth to the* [illegible]*ury* 1849
A dictionary of archaic and p[illegible] *phrases, proverbs and ancient* [illegible]*ne, from the fourteenth century* 1847
Letters of the kings of England. Now first collected from the originals, with an historical introduction and notes 1846
HALLIWELL, JAMES O. (*cont.*)
A new lake about Shakespeare and Stratfo[illegible] 1850
Nuga poetica: select pieces of old [illegible]*s po*[illegible] *illustrating the manners and arts of the fifteenth century* 1844
The nursery rhymes of England, obtained principally from oral tradition 1842 (Percy Soc.)
—— ed. 2, with alterations and additions 1843
Outlines of the life of Shakespeare 1881 (1885)
Popular rhymes and nursery tales; a sequel to the nursery rhymes of England 1849
Reliquiae antiquae; scraps from ancient MSS. illustrating chiefly early English literature and the English language; ed. by T. Wright and J. O. Halliwell 1841–43
HALLOCK, CHARLES *Sportsman's gazetteer and guide* 1877 (1883)
HALLYWELL, HENRY *An account of familism as it is revived by the quakers* 1673
The excellency of moral virtue from the serious exhortation of St. Paul to the practice of it 1692
Melampronoea: or, a discourse of the polity and kingdom of darkness 1681
The sacred method of saving humane soule by Jesus Christ 1677
HALSBURY, HARDINGE STANLEY GIFFARD, 1ST EARL OF *The laws of England, being a complete statement of the whole law of England*. By the Earl of Halsbury and other lawyers 1907–
HALSTED, GEORGE B. *Elementary synthetic geometry* 1893 (ed. 2)
Mensuration 1881
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HAMERSLY, LEWIS R. *Naval encyclopædia* 1881
HAMERTON, PHILIP G. *The graphic arts* 1882
The intellectual life 1873 (1875, 1876)
Thoughts about art 1873
HAMILTON, ALEXANDER *A new account of the East Indies* 1727
HAMILTON, ALEXANDER *Works* a 1804 (1885–87)
The Federalist; a collection of essays by A. H., J. Jay, and J. Madison 1788 (1857)
HAMILTON, ALLAN MCL. *Nervous diseases: description and treatment* 1878
HAMILTON, ELIZABETH *Letters of a Hindoo Rajah* tr. 1796 (1811)
HAMILTON, LADY ELIZABETH R. *Louis Pasteur: his life and labours*, by his son-in-law, Vallery-Radot, tr. 1885
HAMILTON, LD. ERNEST *The Mawkin of the Flow* 1898
The outlaws of the marches 1897
HAMILTON, JAMES *Works* a 1867 (1869–73)
Lessons from the great biography 1857
Memoirs of the life of James Wilson 1859
The mount of Olives, and other lectures on prayer 1846
HAMILTON, JANET *Poems and ballads* 1868
Poems and essays 1863
Poems of purpose and sketches in prose of Scottish peasant life and character in Auld Langsyne 1865
HAMILTON, ABP. JOHN *Catechism* 1552 (1884)
A facile traictise, contenand, first: ane infallible reul to discerne trew from fals religion, etc. 1600 (S.T.S. 1901)
A godly exhortation, commonly styled The twopenny faith 1559 (in Bannatyne Cl. Misc. III. 1855)
HAMILTON, RICHARD W. *Hora et vindicia sabbatica: or familiar disquisitions on the revealed Sabbath* 1848
The institutions of popular education 1845
Nuga literaria: prose and verse 1841
The revealed doctrine of rewards and punishments 1847 (1853)
HAMILTON, THOMAS *Men and manners in America* 1833
HAMILTON, WALTER *A geographical, statistical, and historical description of Hindustan and the adjacent countries* 1820
HAMILTON, WALTER *A hand-book, or concise dictionary of terms used in the arts and sciences* 1825
HAMILTON, WILLIAM *The life and character of James Bonnell* 1703
HAMILTON, WILLIAM *History of Sir William Wallace* 1722
HAMILTON, WILLIAM *Poems on several occasions* 1749 (1760)
HAMILTON, WILLIAM *Berthollet's (C. L.) Elements of the art of dyeing* tr. 1791
HAMILTON, SIR WILLIAM *Remarks on several parts of Turkey. Part I. Ægyptiaca, or some account of the ancient and modern state of Egypt* 1809
HAMILTON, SIR WILLIAM *Discussions on philosophy and literature, education and university reform* 1831–(1852)
Lectures on metaphysics 1836–37 (1859) *and logic* 1837–38 (1860)
A letter to Augustus De Morgan on his claim to an independent re-discovery of a new principle in the theory of syllogism 1847
HAMILTON, WILLIAM J. *Geography* 1851–59 (in Manual of scientific enquiry 1859)
HAMILTON, SIR WILLIAM R. *Lectures on quaternions* 1853
Life of, by R. P. Graves; *including* [illegible]*lectio*[illegible] *from his poems, correspondence, and* [illegible]*ellaneous writings* (1882–91)
Hamilton papers, The: being selections from original letters in the possession of the Duke of Hamilton 1638–50 (Camden Soc. 1880)
HAMMOND, CHARLES E. *Outlines of textual criticism applied to the New Testament* 1872 (1880)
HAMMOND, HENRY *Works* a 1660 (1674–84, 1847–50)
An answer to the animadversions (of John Owen) on the dissertations touching Ignatius's epistles 1654
Λόγια καὶ ἐλεήμων, or a pacifick discourse of God's grace and decrees 1660
The Christian's obligations to peace and charity, delivered in an Advent sermon 1647 1649
A copy of some papers past at Oxford betwixt (*H. Hammond*) *and Mr. Ch*(*eynell*) 1647
The dispatcher dispatched 1659
Of consolence 1644
Of fundamentals in a nation referring to practice 1654
Of the power of the keyes, or of binding and loosing 1647
Of schisme 1653
A paraenesis: or seasonable exhortatory to all true sons of the Church of England 1656
HAMMOND, HENRY (*cont.*)
A paraphrase and annotations upon all the books of the New Testament 1653
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A practical catechism 1645
HAMMOND, JAMES *Poetical works* a 1742 (1790, 1810)
Love elegies. Written in the year 1732 (1743)
HAMMOND, JOHN *Leah and Rachel, or, the two fruitfull sisters, Virginia and Mary-land* 1656 (1844)
HAMMOND, JOSEPH *A Cornish parish: being an account of St. Austell, town, church, district and people* 1897
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Some memorials of R. D. H. a 1868 (1871)
HAMPOLE, RICHARD ROLLE OF *A deuoute medytacyon* (*The remedy ayenst the troubles of temptacyons*) a 1349 (W. de Worde 1508)
English prose treatises. Edited from Robert Thornton's MS. c 1340 (E.E.T.S. 1866)
The pricke of conscience (*Stimulus conscientiae*); a *Northumbrian poem* c 1340 (Philol. Soc. 1863)
The psalter; or psalms of David, and certain canticles, with a translation and exposition in English a 1340 (1884)
Richard Rolle of Hampole and his followers (Yorkshire writers) v.d. (Horstman 1895–96)
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Hampshire glossary: see Cope, Sir W. H.
HAMPSON, R. T. *Medii ævi kalendarium; or dates, charters, and customs of the Middle Ages* 1841
HANBURY, DANIEL: see Flückiger, F. A.
HANCOCK, WILLIAM N. *Sanchus mor*. Ed., with translation, by W. N. Hancock, Th. O'Mahony, etc. 1865–73
Handbook (*Murray's*) *for travellers on the Continent* 1838
Handbook of turning 1859
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HANDERSON, HENRY E. *Baas' (J. H.) Outlines of the history of medicine and the medical profession* tr. 1889
Handfull of honisuckles 1583: see Hunnis, W.
Handmaid to the arts 1758: see Dossie, R.
HANDSON, RAPHE *Pitiscus'* (*B.*) *Trigonometry* tr. 1614
HANE, JOACHIM *Journal, containing his escapes and sufferings during his employment by Oliver Cromwell in France from Nov. 1653 to Feb. 1654*. 1653–54 (ed. by C. H. Firth 1896)
HANKINSON, CHARLES J.: see Holland, Clive
HANMER, MEREDITH *The auncient ecclesiasticall histories of the first six hundred years after Christ, written by Eusebius, Socrates, and Evagrius* tr. 1577 (1663)
The historie of Ireland a 1604 (1633, 1809)
The Jesuites banner 1581
HANMER, SIR THOMAS *The works of Shakespear revised and corrected* 1744
HANNA, WILLIAM *The earlier years of Our Lord's life on earth* 1864
See also Chalmers, Thomas
HANNAY, JAMES *Satires and satirists* 1854
Singleton Fontenoy, R. N. 1850
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HANNAY, ROBERT K.: see Herkless, J.
Hansard's Parliamentary debates 1803–
HANSON, SIR LEVETT *An accurate historical account of all the orders of knighthood at present existing in Europe* 1802
HANWAY, JONAS *An historical account of the British trade over the Caspian sea; with a journal of travels from London into Persia and back* 1753 (1762)
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HARBERT, WILLIAM *Poems* 16.. (Grosart 1870)
HARBORD, JOHN B. *Glossary of navigation* 1863
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HARDING, THOMAS *An answere to maister Ivelles chalenge* 1564
A confutation of a booke (*by Bp. Jewel*), *intituled An apologie of the Church of England* 1565
HARDING, WILLIAM *The history of Tiverton* 1845–47
HARDMAN, SAMUEL *A descriptive poem on the battle of Waterloo* 1827
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HARDWICK, CHARLES *Traditions, superstitions, and folk-lore* (*chiefly Lancashire and the North of England*) 1872
HARDWICKE, PHILIP YORKE, 2ND EARL OF *Miscellaneous state papers* 1501–1726 (1778)
Hardwicke's (*Robert*) *Science-gossip* 1865–
HARDY, FREDERICK AND WARE, J. R. *The modern Hoyle* 1870
HARDY, IZA DUFFUS *New Othello* 1890
HARDY, NATHANIEL *A divine prospective* 1649
Divinity in mortality 1653
The first general epistle of St. John the Apostle, unfolded and applied 1656–59 (1865)
HARDY, ROBERT SPENCE *A manual of Buddhism, in its modern development* tr. 1853 (1860)
HARDY, THOMAS *Desperate remedies* 1871
The dynasts: a drama of the Napoleonic wars 1904–08
Far from the madding crowd 1874
The hand of Ethelberta 1876
Jude the obscure 1895
A Laodicean 1881
The mayor of Casterbridge 1886
Poems of the past and the present 1902
The return of the native 1878
Tess of the D'Urbervilles 1891
The trumpet-major 1880
Two on a tower 1882
Under the greenwood tree 1872
Wessex poems 1898
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HARDY, SIR WILLIAM *The charters of the Duchy of Lancaster* tr. and ed. 1845
HARDYNG, JOHN *Chronicle* 1457 (original version, Lansdowne MS. 204: see Eng. Hist. Rev., July and Oct. 1912); c 1470 (Bodl., MS. Arch. Seld. B. 10, MS. Ashm. 54; B.M., MS. Egerton 1992); with continuation by R. Grafton 1543 (1812)
HARE, AUGUSTUS J. C. *The life and letters of Frances, Baroness Bunsen* 1879
The story of my life 1896–1900
Studies in Russia 1885
HARE, JOHN *St. Edward's ghost; or Anti-Normanisme* 1647 (in Harl. Misc.)
HARE, JULIUS C. *The mission of the Comforter, and other sermons* 1846 (1850)
The philological museum, ed. by J. C. H. 1832–33
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The victory of faith, and other sermons 1840 (1853)
—— and AUGUSTUS W. *Guesses at truth* 1827 (1847–48, 1859)
HAREWOOD, HARRY *A dictionary of sports* 1835
HARFORD, JOHN S. *Life of Michael Angelo Buonarroti; with translations of many of his poems and letters* 1857
HARGRAVE, FRANCIS *A collection of tracts relative to the law of England, from manuscripts by Hale, Norburie, Blackstone, Hargrave, and others* 1787
Juridical arguments and collections 1797–99
HARINGTON, SIR JOHN *An anatomie of the metamorphosed Ajax* 1596 (1814)
An apologie: 1. Or rather a retractation; 2. Or rather a recantation; 3. Or rather a recapitulation . .; 12. Or rather none of them 1596 (1814)
Ariosto's (L.) Orlando Furioso in English heroical verse 1591; now secondly imprinted 1607; now thirdly revised and amended c 1612 (1634)
A briefe apologie of poetrie 1591 (Prefixed to tr. of Ariosto's Orlando; in Haslewood, Anc. crit. ess. II. 1815; G. G. Smith, Eliz. crit. ess. II. 1904)
A briefe view of the state of the Church of England in Queen Elizabeth's and King James his reigne c 1612 (1653)
The Englishman's doctor. Or, the Schoole of Salerne tr. 1607 (1608, 1617, 1624)
Epigrams both pleasant and serious c 1612 (1615); *the most elegant and wittie epigrams of Sir J. H. Digested into foure bookes* (1618)
A new discourse of a stale subject, called the Metamorphosis of Ajax 1596 (1814)
Nugæ antiquæ; being a miscellaneous collection of original papers in prose and verse, in reigns of Henry VIII to James (I), by Sir J. Harington and others 1509–1625 (1769, 1779, 1792; re-edited by T. Park 1804)
A short view of the state of Ireland 1605 (1879)
Ulysses upon Ajax 1596 (1814)
HARLAN, GEORGE C. *Eyesight, and how to care for it* 1879
HARLAND, JOHN *A glossary of words used in Swaledale, Yorkshire* 1873 (E.D.S.)
—— and WILKINSON, T. T. *Lancashire folk-lore* 1867
Lancashire legends, traditions, pageants, sports, etc. With an appendix containing a rare tract on the Lancashire Witches 1873
'HARLAND, MARION' (Mary Virginia Hawes, *afterwards* Terhune) *Common sense in the household: a manual of practical housewifery* 1872
The hidden path 1855
Harleian miscellany, The: or, a collection of scarce, curious, and entertaining pamphlets and tracts, as well in manuscript as in print, found in the late (Edward Harley, second) Earl of Oxford's library v.d. (1744–46; ed. T. Park 1808–13; ed. J. Malham 1808–11)
—— *A selection from the Harleian miscellany* v.d. (1793)
HARLEY, SIR EDWARD *An humble essay toward the settlement of peace and truth in the church* 1681
HARLEY, JOHN *Royle's (J. F.) Manual of materia medica* 1876 (ed. 6)
HARLEY, ROBERT, 1ST EARL OF OXFORD *The secret history of Arlus and Odolphus, ministers of state to the Empress of Grandinusia* 1710
HARMAN, THOMAS *A caueat or warening for common cursetors, vulgarely called vagabones* 1567 (E.E.T.S. 1869)
HARMAR, JOHN *Master Bezaes sermons upon the three first* [illegible] tr. 1587
HARMER, THOMAS *Observations on divers passages of Scripture* 1764 (1776–87, 1808)
Harnack's (A.) History of dogma tr. 1894–99
Harp of Caledonia, a collection of songs ancient and modern v.d. (ed. John Struthers 1819)
Harp of Perthshire, The, a collection of songs, ballads, and other poetical pieces, chiefly by local authors v.d. (with notes by R. Food 1893)
Harp of Renfrewshire, The: a collection of songs and other poetical pieces v.d. (ed. W. Motherwell 1819, 1872)
HARPER, CHARLES G. *The Exeter road, the story of the West* [illegible]
HARPER, JAMES W. *The social ideal* 1910
HARPER, SAMUEL *Practical hints for abstracting title deeds* 1817 (1818)
HARPER, THOMAS *Peace through the truth* 1866
Harper's New monthly magazine 1850–
HARPSFIELD, NICHOLAS *A treatise on the pretended divorce between Henry VIII and Catharine of Aragon* c 1555 (Camden Soc. 1878)
HARRADEN, BEATRICE *The fowler* 1899
Hilda Strafford 1897
Interplay 1908
The scholar's daughter 1906
Ships that pass in the night 1893
HARRAL, THOMAS *Scenes of life; a novel* 1805
HARRICK, ROBERT: see HERRICK, R.
HARRINGTON, JAMES *The Oceana, and other works, som whereof are now first publish'd from his own manuscripts* c 1677, with an account of his life by J. Toland (1700)
Aphorisms political 1659
The art of law-giving 1659
The common-wealth of Oceana 1656
The petition of divers well-affected persons 1659
The prerogative of popular government 1658
Seven models of a commonwealth 1659
Valerius and Publicola 1659
The ways and means whereby an equal and lasting commonwealth may be suddenly introduced etc. 1659
HARRINGTON, JAMES *A defence of the rights and priviledges of the University of Oxford* 1690
HARRIS, ALEXANDER *Settlers and convicts; or recollections of sixteen years' labour in the Australian backwoods* (anon.) 1847 (1852)
HARRIS, BARTHOLOMEW *Parival's (J. N. de) Historie of this iron age* tr. 1636 (1639)
HARRIS, CHAPIN A. *A dictionary of d* [illegible] *raphy, bibliography and medical* [illegible] *logy* 1849 (1854)
HARRIS, JAMES *Works* c 1780 (1841)
Hermes, or a philosophical inquiry concerning universal grammar 1751 (1786)
Philological inquiries 1781
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Three treatises (on 'art,' 'music, painting, and poetry,' and 'happiness') 1744 (1765)
HARRIS, JAMES, and JAMES H.: see MALMESBURY
HARRIS, JAMES RENDEL *The guiding hand of God* 1905
Side-lights on New Testament research, 7 lectures delivered in 1908 1909
HARRIS, JOEL C. *Free Joe, and other Georgian sketches* 1887 (1888)
Uncle Remus 1881
HARRIS, JOHN *Lex* [illegible] *English dictionary of arts and sciences* 1704–10
Navigantium atque itinerantium bibliotheca: or, a plain collection of voyages and travels 1705 (176[illegible]
HARRIS, JOHN *The great teacher: characteristics of our ministry* 1835 (1837)
HARRIS, JOSEPH *An essay upon money and coin* 1757–58
HARRIS, MRS. MIRIAM C. *Rutledge* (anon.) 1866
St. Philip's 1865
HARRIS, MOSES *The Aurelian, or natural history of English insects* 1766
The English Lepidoptera 1775
An exposition of English insects 1776
HARRIS, ROBERT *Abner's funerall* 1641
The drunkard's cup 1619
God's goodnes and mercy 1622
Hezekiah's recovery 1626 (1630)
Samuel's funerall, or a sermon preached at the funerall of Sir A. Cope 1618 (1622)
A sermon preached to the House of Commons at a publike fast 1642
HARRIS, SAMUEL *A commentary on the fifty third chapter of Isaiah* c 1733 (1735)
HARRIS, THADDEUS W. *A treatise on some of the insects injurious to vegetation* 1862 (ed. 3)
HARRIS, WALTER *Lemary's (N.) Course of chymistry* tr. 1677 (1686)
HARRIS, WALTER *The history and antiquities of the city of Dublin* 1766
HARRIS, WALTER B. *A journey through the Yemen* 1893
HARRIS, WILLIAM A. *A technical dictionary of fire insurance* 1886
HARRISON, FREDERIC *The choice of books and other literary pieces* 1886
HARRISON, MRS. J. W. *A. M. Mackay, pioneer missionary of the Church Missionary Society to Uganda* 1890
HARRISON, JAMES *An exhortacion to the Scottes to conforme themselfes to the . .union betweene . . Englande and Scotland* 1547 (in Complaint of Scotland, E.E.T.S. 1872)
HARRISON, SARAH *The housekeeper's pocket-book and compleat family cook* 1739 (1748)
HARRISON, STEPHEN *The arches of triumph erected in honor of James the first at his entrance and passage through London* 1604
HARRISON, WILLIAM *The description of England* 1577, 1587 (in Holinshed's Chronicle I; New Shaks. Soc. 1877)
Boetius' (H.) Description of Scotland tr. 1387 (in Holinshed's Chron. II)
Harrison, William, Murder of: see OVERBURY, SIR T.
Harrowing of hell, The. A miracle play c 1300 (1837, Halliwell 1840, Mall 1871, E.E.T.S. 1907)
HARSNET, ADAM *God's summons unto general repentance* c 1639 (1640)
HARSNET, SAMUEL *A declaration of egregious popish impostures* 1603
A discovery of the fra [illegible] *of J. Darrel* 1599
A sermon (on Esth. xxxiii. 11) *preached at S. Pauls Cross* 1584 (in R. Steward, Three serm. 1638)
Her'st rig, The 1786 (1801)
HART, HENRY *A godly newe short treatyse instructyng every parson howe they shulde trade theyr lyues in the inuyiacyon of verie* 1548
HART, JAMES *The anatomie of urines* 1625
Forestus' (P.) Arraignment of urines tr. 1623
KATHARSIS, *or, the diet of the diseased* 1633
HART, JOHN *An orthographie* 1569
HART, JOHN H. *Cacao, a manual on the cultivation and curing of cacao* 1911
HART, RICHARD *Ecclesiastical records of England, Ireland and Scotland, from the fifth century till the Reformation* 1836 (1846)
HARTCLIFFE, JOHN *A treatise of moral and intellectual virtues* 1691
HARTE, F. BRET *Works* 18.. (1873, 1880–1900)
Poetical works 1878
By shore and sedge 1885
An episode of Fiddletown, and other sketches 1873
A first family of Tasajara 1891
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An heiress of Red Dog, and other tales 1879
The Hoodlum Band, and other stories 1878
In the Carquinez woods 1883
The luck of roaring camp, and other sketches 1869
The man on the beach 1878
Maruja 1885
Mrs. Skagg's husbands, and other sketches 1873
Sandy Bar; with other stories 1873
Stories of the Sierras, and other sketches 1872
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HARTE, WALTER *An essay on reason* 1735
An essay on satire, particularly on the Dunciad 1730
The history of the life of Gustavus Adolphus 1759
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—— *Samuel Hartlib his legacie: or, an inlargement of the Discourse of husbandry* 1651 (1655)
A discoverie for division or setting out of land as to the best form 1653
The reformed common-wealth of bees 1655
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HARTMAN, GEORGE *The true preserver and restorer of health* 1682
HARTMANN, ROBERT *Anthropoid apes* 1885
HARTSHORNE, CHARLES H. Ed. *Ancient metrical tales; printed chiefly from original sources* 1829
Salopia antiqua, or, an enquiry from personal survey i[illegible] the Druidical, military, and other early remains Shropshire and the North Welsh borders; with a glossary of words used in the county of Salop 1841
HA[illegible]SHORNE, HENRY *1931: a glance at the town* 1881
HARTWELL, ABRAHAM *A report of the kingdome o*[illegible] Drawen out of the writings of O. Lopez by P. Pigafetta, tr. 1597 (in Purchas, Pilgrims, pt. II. 1625; Osborne's Collect. voy. II. 1745)
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The sea and its living wonders tr. 1860
The subterranean world tr. 1871
Harvard memorial biographies 1866
Harvard psychological studies 1903–06
Harvard University, Orders and regulations of the faculty of 1877
HARVEY, ANNIE J. *Our cruise in the Claymore, with a visit to Damascus and the Lebanon* 1861
HARVEY, CHRISTOPHER *Complete poems* c 1663 (Grosart 1874)
Schola cordis, or the heart of it selfe gone away from God; brought back againe to him; and instructed by him (Adapted from B. von Haeften's Schola cordis) 1647 (1664)
The synagogue, or, the shadow of the temple 1640 (1647)
HARVEY, GABRIEL *Works* c 1600 (Grosart 1884–85)
Foure letters, and certaine sonnets, especially touching R. Greene 1592
Letter-book 1573–80 (Camden Soc. 1884)
A new letter of notable contents 1593
Pierces supererogation, or a new prayse of the old asse 1593
The trimming of Thomas Nashe 1597
Three proper letters 1580: see SPENSER, E.
HARVEY, GIDEON *A discourse of the plague* 1665
The art of curing diseases by expectation 1689
Morbus Anglicus: or, the anatomy of consumptions 1666
HARVEY, JAMES *Sciera aquarum: or, a supplement to Mr. Graunt on the bills of mortality.* By J. H. 1701
HARVEY, JOHN *A discourses problems concerning prophesies* 1588
HARVEY, RICHARD *An astrological discourse upon the conjunction of Saturne and Jupiter* 1583
Philadelphus, or a defence of Brutes and the Brutans history 1593
Plaine Percevall the peace-maker of England 1590 (1860)
HARVEY, WILLIAM *Anatomical exercises concerning the* [illegible]
HARVEY, WILLIAM H. *A manual of* [illegible] *British (marine) algæ* 1841 (1849)
The sea-side book 1849 (1854)
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l's sanctuary 1644
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HASLETON, RICHARD *Strange and wonderful things in his ten years travels in many foreign countries* 1595 (in Arber, Eng. Garner, VIII)
HASLEWOOD, JOSEPH Ed. *Ancient critical essays upon English poets and poesy* v.d. (1811–15)
HASLUCK, PAUL N. *The model engineer's handybook* 1888 (1900)
HASSELL, J. *Picturesque rides and walks, with excursions by water, thirty miles round the British Metropolis* 1817–18
HASTINGS, CHARLES S. *Light* 1901
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HASWELL, WILLIAM A.: see PARKER, THOMAS J.
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New view of London (anon.) 1708
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Clytia: a novel of modern life 1874
The old house at Sandwich 1887
The Tallants of Barton 1867
Three recruits, and the girls they left behind them 1880
The valley of poppies 1872
Hatton, Correspondence of the family of. Being chiefly letters addressed to Christopher first Viscount Hatton 1601–1704 (Camden Soc. 1878)
Hatton gospels c 1160 (The Holy Gospels, in Anglo-Saxon, etc., Skeat 1871–87)
HATZFELD, ADOLPHE and DARMESTETTER, ARSÈNE *Dictionnaire général de la langue française, avec le concours de Antoine Thomas* 1895–1900
HAUGHTON, SAMUEL *Six lectures on physical geography* 1880
HAUKSBEE, FRANCIS *Physico-mechanical experiments on various subjects* 1709
Haupt's (Moriz) Zeitschrift für deutsches Alterthum 1841–
HAUSTED, PETER *The rivall friends. A comedie* 1632
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HAVERGAL, FRANCIS T. *Herefordshire words and phrases* 1887
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HAWARD, LAZARUS *The charges issuing forth of the crown treasure of England* 1647
HAWARD, NICOLAS *Eutropius' (F.) Briefe chronicle* tr. 1564
HAWES, STEPHEN *The conuersyon* [illegible] 1509 (Abbotsford Cl. 1845)
The example of vertue 1530

HAWES, STEPHEN (cont.)
The pastime of pleasure 1509 (1517)
—— another ed., entitled *The historie of grande Amour and la bell Pucel, called The pastime of pleasure* 1554 (1555; Percy Soc. 1845)
HAWES, MICHAEL *Killing is murder and no murder* 1657
HAWKER, ESSEX *The wedding* 1789
HAWKER, LIEUT.-COL. PETER *Diary* 1802–53 (1893)
Instructions to young sportsmen in all that relates to guns and shooting 1824 (ed. 3)
HAWKER, ROBERT S. *The Cornish ballads and other poems; including a second edition of 'The quest of the Sangreal'* 1869
Footprints of former men in far Cornwall 1870
The quest of the Sangreal 1864
Life and letters a 1875 (1905)
HAWKESWORTH, JOHN *An account of the voyages undertaken for making discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere and performed by Commodore Byron, Captain Wallis, Captain Carteret, and Captain Cook (from 1764–71)* 1773
See also Adventurers
HAWKINS, EDWARD *The silver coins of England arranged and described* 1841
HAWKINS, FRANCIS *Youth's behaviour: or, decency in conversation amongst men* tr. 1646 (1663)
HAWKINS, HENRY *Parthenia sacra. Or, the mysterious and delicious garden of the sacred Parthenes.* By H. A. (i. e. ——awkins) 1633
HAWKINS, SIR JOHN *The first voyage made to the West Indies* 1562
The (second) voyage made to the coast of Guinea and the Indies of Nova Spania, begun in 1564 (signed at end John Sparke) o 1565
A true declaration of the (third) troubl[es] [in] voyages to the parties of Guynea and the west-Indies in 1567–68 1569 (in Hakluyt, Voy. 1589; Hakluyt Soc. 1878; partly repr. in Arber, Eng. Garner V)
HAWKINS, SIR JOHN *A general history of the science and practice of music* 1776
The life of Samuel Johnson 1787
See also Walton, I.
HAWKINS, LAETITIA M. *The Countess and Gertrude* 1811
Memoirs, anecdotes, facts, and opinions 1824
HAWKINS, SIR RICHARD *Observations in his voiage into the South Sea 1593* 1622 (Hakluyt Soc. 1847, 1878)
HAWKINS, SUSANNA *Poems and songs* 1841
HAWKINS, SIR THOMAS *Caussin's (N.) Holy court* tr. 1626
Mentini's (G. B.) Political observations on the fall of Selanus tr. 1624
Matthieu's (P.) Unhappy prosperitie, expressed in the histories of Ælius Sejanus and Philippa tr. 1632 (1639)
The odes and epodes of Horace tr. 1625
HAWKINS, THOMAS *The origin of the English drama* 1773
Hawkstone 1845: see Sewell, W.
Hawkwood, History of Sir John (The honour of the taylors; or, the famous and renowned history of Sir J. Hawkwood) 1687
HAWTHORNE, JULIAN *Dust* 1883
Fortune's fool 1883
Garth 1877
The laughing mill and other stories 1879
Nathaniel Hawthorne and his wife 1885
HAWTHORNE, NATHANIEL *The Blithedale romance* 1852
Doctor Grimshawe's secret a 1864 (1883)
The house of the seven gables 1851
The marble faun (The original title of *Transformation*)
Mosses from an old manse 1846
Our old home 1863
Passages from the American note-books a 1864 (1868)
Passages from the English note-books 1853–58 (1870)
Passages from the French and Italian note-books a 1864 (1872)
The scarlet letter 1850
Septimius Felton; or the elixir of life a 1864 (1872)
The snow image, and other tales 1851
Tanglewood tales, for girls and boys: being a second Wonder-book 1853
Transformation; or the romance of Monte Beni 1860
Twice told tales 1837–42
A wonder-book for girls and boys 1851
HAY, ALEXANDER *Saint Germain's (C. de) Royal physician* tr. 1689
HAY, ANDREW *Diary* 1659–60 (S.H.S. 1901)
HAY, EDWARD *History of the insurrection of the county of Wexford in 1798* 1803
HAY, JOHN *Pike county ballads, and other pieces* 1871 (1880)
HAY, WILLIAM *Deformity; an essay* 1754
An essay on civil government 1728
Remarks on the laws relating to the poor 1735 (1751)
HAY, WILLIAM D. *Elementary text-book of British fungi* 1887
HAYDOCKE, RICHARD *Lomazzo's (G. P.) Tracte containing the artes of curious paintinge* tr. 1598
HAYDON, BENJAMIN R. *Correspondence and table-talk* a 1846. With a memoir by F. W. Haydon (1876)
HAYDON, G. H. *The Australian emigrant* 1854
Five years' experience in Australia Felix 1846
HAYE, SIR GILBERT *The buke of the law of armys or buke of batailles* 1456 (S.T.S. 1901)
The buke of knychthede and the buke of the governaunce of princis 1456 (S.T.S. 1914)
HAYES, ALICE M. *The horsewoman* 1893
HAYES, CHARLES *A treatise of fluxions* 1704
HAYES, WILLIAM *A natural history of British birds* 1775
HAYES, WILLIAM *A short introduction to conveyancing* 1834 (1837, 1840)
HAYLEY, WILLIAM *A philosophical, historical, and moral essay on old maids.* By a friend to the sisterhood (i. e. W. Hayley) 1785
The triumphs of temper; a poem 1781
HAYMAN, ROBERT *Owen's (J.) Epigrams* tr. 1628
Quodlibets, lately come over from new Britaniola, old Newfoundland 1628
HAYNE, THOMAS *The life and death of Dr. Martin Luther* 1642
HAYWARD, ABRAHAM *A selection from the correspondence of A. H., with an account of his early life* 1834–84 (ed. H. E. Carlisle 1886)
HAYWARD, JAMES *Biondi's (G. F.) Donzella desterrada; or the banish'd virgin* tr. 1635
Biondi's (G. F.) Eromena; or love and revenge tr. 1632
HAYWARD, SIR JOHN *Annals of the first four years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth* a 1627 (Camden Soc. 1840)
HAYWARD, SIR JOHN (cont.)
An answer to the first part of a [illegible] concerning succession, published under the name of R. Dolman 1603
The first part of the life and reigne of King Henrie the IIII 1599
The life and reigne of King Edward the sixt a 1627 (1630)
The lives of the three Normans, kings of England 1613 (in Harl. Misc.)
A reporte of a [illegible]ing affaires of religion (anon.) 1606; another ed., entitled *Of supremacie in affaires of religion* 1624
The sanctuarie of a troubled soule 1604 (1616, 1620)
HAYWARD, SAMUEL *Seventeen sermons on various important subjects* 1758
HAYWARD, W. STEPHENS *Love against the world* 1875
HAYWOOD, MRS. *A new present for a servant-maid: containing rules for her moral conduct, the whole art of cookery, etc.* 1771
HAYWOOD, ELIZA *The female spectator* (anon.) 1744–45 (1748)
The history of Miss Betsy Thoughtless 1751
Le belle assemblée by M. A. Poisson de Gomez tr. 1724–25 (1732)
HAZARD, SAMUEL *Cuba with pen and pencil* 1871
HAZLITT, WILLIAM *Characters of Shakespear's plays* 1817 (1818)
Lectures chiefly on the dramatic literature of the age of Elizabeth 1820
Lectures on the English poets 1818 (1869)
Political essays, with sketches of public characters 1819
The spirit of the age; or, contemporary portraits 1825
Table talk; or, original essays on men and manners 1821–22 (1824, 1869)
HAZLITT, WILLIAM C. *English proverbs and proverbial phrases* 1869
Four generations of a literary family 1897
The history of the origin and rise of the republic of Venice 1858
Offspring of thought in solitude: modern essays 1884
Ed. *Remains of the early popular poetry of England* v.d. (1864–66)
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HEAD, BARCLAY V. *Historia numorum; a manual of Greek numismatics* 1887
HEAD, SIR FRANCIS B. *Bubbles from the Brunnens of Nassau* 1834
Rough notes taken during some rapid journeys across the Pampas and among the Andes 1826
HEAD, SIR GEORGE *Forest scenes and incidents in the wilds of North America* 1829
A home tour through the manufacturing districts of England 1836
HEAD, PERCY R. and POYNTER, EDWARD J. *Classic and Italian painting* 1880
HEAD, RICHARD *The canting academy, or, the devil's cabinet [illegible]* by Head and Kirkman 1671 (1674)
Jackson's recantation, or, the life and death of the notorious highway-man now hanging in chains at Hampstead (anon.) 1674
Proteus redivivus: or the art of wheedling or insinuation 1675
HEADLEY, HENRY *Poems and other pieces* 1786
HEADRICK, JAMES *General view of the agriculture of the county of Angus or Forfar* 1813
View of the mineralogy, agriculture, manufactures and fisheries of the Island of Arran 1807
HEALEY, JOHN *St. Augustine Of the citie of God with the learned comments of J. L. Vives* tr. 1610 (1616)
Discovery of a new world, or a description of the South Indies, hitherto unknowne (a version in English of Bp. Jos. Hall's *Mundus alter et idem*) 1609
Epictetus his manuell. And Cebes his table tr. 1610 ed. 1616 adds (*And*) *Theophrastus characters* (1636)
Health. International health exhibition; official catalogue 1884
Health and longevity, Account of p[er]s[on]s remarkable for their. By a physician 1829
HEARN, WILLIAM E. *The Aryan household, its structure and its development* 1878
HEARNE, SAMUEL *A journey from Prince of Wales's fort in Hudson's Bay to the Northern ocean in 1769–72* 1795
HEARNE, THOMAS *Ductor historicus; or a short system of universal history* 1698
—— ed. 2, augmented and improv'd 1704–05 (1714)
Reliquiæ Hearnianæ: the remains, being extracts from his MS. diaries 17.. (collected by P. Bliss 1857)
Remarks and collections 1705–12 (ed. C. E. Doble, O.H.S. 1885–89)
HEATH, FRANCIS G. *The fern world* 1877
The 'romance' of peasant life in the West of England 1872 (1880)
HEATH, JAMES *A brief chronicle of the late intestine war in the three kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland* 1663
England's chronicle: or, the lives and reigns of the kings and queens from the time of Julius Cæsar to K. William and Q. Mary 1689
Flagellum: or, the life and death, birth and burial of Oliver Cromwel. By S. T. gent. (i. e. James Heath) 1663 (1672)
HEATH, JAMES D. *The [illegible]mplete croquet-player* 1874
HEATH, JOHN B. *Some account of the worshipful Company o[f] Grocers of the city of London* 1829 (1869)
HEATH, RICHARD *The English peasant* 1893
HEATH, ROBERT *A natural and historical account of the islands of Scilly* 1750
HEATH, THOMAS *A manifest and apparent confutation of an astrological discourse (by R. Harvey)* 1583
HEATH, SIR THOMAS L. *Apollonius of Perga. Treatise on conic sections* 1896
The works of Archimedes 1897
HEATHCOTE, CHARLES G. and JOHN M. *Tennis*: by J. M. Heathcote. *Lawn tennis*: by C. G. Heathcote. *Rackets*: by B. O. Pleydell-Bouverie. *Fives*: by A. C. Ainger. 1890 (Badminton Library)
HEATHCOTE, FREDERICK G.: see Claus, C.
HEATHCOTE, RALPH *Sylva, or, the wood: being a collection of anecdotes, dissertations, characters, apophthegms, original letters, bons mots, and other little things* (anon.) 1786
HEATON, MARY M. *The history of the life of Alhraht Dürer* 1870 (1881)
HEAVYSEGE, CHARLES *Saul; a drama* 1857 (1869)
HEBER, BP. REGINALD *Hymns* a 1826 (1827)
of Jeremy Taylor 1822
of a journey through the upper provinces of India, [illegible] Calcutta to Bombay 1824–25, with notes on Ceylon; an account of a journey to Madras and Southern provinces 1826, and letters written in India a 1826 (1828, 1844)
Palestine; a prize-poem 1803
Palestine and other poems v.d. (1843)
HEBERDEN, WILLIAM (the younger) *Heberden's (W., the elder) Commentaries on the history and cure of diseases* tr. 1803
HECTOR, MRS. ANNIE F.: see 'Alexander, Mrs.'
HECTOR, JAMES *Handbook of New Zealand* 1883
HECTOR, WILLIAM Ed. *Selections from the judicial records of Renfrewshire* 16..–17.. (1876)
HEDDERWICK, PETER *A treatise on marine architecture* 1830
HEDGES, SIR WILLIAM *Diary* a 1701 (Hakluyt Soc. 1887–88)
HEDIN, SIR SVEN A. *Through Asia* 1898
HEILPRIN, ANGELO *The geographical and geological distribution of animals* 1887
Heister's (L.) General system of surgery tr. 1743
HELFENSTEIN, JACOB *A comparative grammar of the Teutonic languages* 1870
Heliconia; comprising a selection of English poetry 1575–1804 (ed. T. Park 1815)
Heliodorus' Triumphs of love and constancy: a romance, containing the heroick amours of Theagenes and Chariclea. In ten books. The first five rendered by a person of quality, the last five by N. Tate 1686
—— another ed., entitled *Æthiopian adventures* 1753
HELLOWES, EDWARD *Guevara's (A. de) Chronicle, conteyn-[illegible]* (For Guevara's Golden epistles see Fenton, Sir G.)
HELME, ELIZABETH *St. Margaret's cave, or the nun's story* 1801
HELPS, SIR ARTHUR *Companions of my solitude* 1851 (1874)
Essays written in the intervals of business 1841 (1875)
Friends in council 1847–49, 1859
Organisation in daily life. An essay (anon.) 1852
Realmah 1868 (1876)
Social pressure 1875
Some talk about animals and their masters 1873 (1873)
Helps to the study of the Bible 1880 (1884; revised and enlarged edition 1893)
HELSHAM, RICHARD *A course of lectures in natural philosophy* a 1738 (1739)
Helvetius' (C. A.) *Child of nature improved by chance* tr. 1774
HELY, JAMES O'Flaherty's (R.) *Ogygia, or, a chronological account of Irish events* tr. 1793
Helyas, Knight of the Swanne 1512 (W. de Worde; in Thoms, Prose romances III. 1828)
HEMANS, FELICIA D. *Works* a 1835 (1839)
Poems 1808
Poetical works a 1835 (1875)
Early blossoms of spring, a collection of poems written between eight and fifteen years of age 1808 (1840)
England and Spain; or, valour and patriotism 1808
'HEMINGWAY, PERCY' (W. P. Addleshaw) *Out of Egypt* 1895
HEMYNG, BRACEBRIDGE *Eton school days* 1864
HENCHMAN, RICHARD *A peace-offering in the temple; or, a seasonable plea for unity among dissenting brethren* 1661
Henckel, J. F.: see Henkel, J. F.
HENDERSON, ALEXANDER *The history of ancient and modern wines* 1824
HENDERSON, ANDREW *Scottish proverbs* 1832 (1881)
HENDERSON, EBENEZER *Iceland; or the journal of a residence in that island* 1814–15 1818
HENDERSON, GEORGE *The popular rhymes, sayings, and proverbs of the county of Berwick* 1856
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HENDERSON, PETER *Practical floriculture* 1869
HENDERSON, WILLIAM *Notes on the folk lore of the northern counties of England and the Borders* 1866 (1878)
Hendyng, Proverbs of: see Proverbs of Hendyng
HENEY, THOMAS *In middle harbour, and other verse, chiefly Australian* 1890
HENFREY, ARTHUR *An elementary course of botany* 1857
The rudiments of botany 1849
The vegetation of Europe, its conditions and causes 1852
See also Griffith, John W.
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HENLEY, WILLIAM E. *A book of verses* 1888
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Poems 1898
—— and STEVENSON, ROBERT L. *Three plays: Deacon Brodie, Beau Austin, Admiral Guinea* 1892
See also Farmer, J. S.
HENNELL, MARY *An outline of the various social systems and communities which have been founded on the principle of co-operation* 1841 (1844)
Henry VII, Materials for a history: see Materials
Henry VII, Memorials of 15.. (Rolls series 1858)
HENRY VIII *A declaration, conteynyng the iust causes and consyderations, of this present warre with the Scottis* 1542 (in Complaint of Scotland, E.E.T.S. 1872)
The privy purse expences of 1529–32 (1827)
HENRY, ALEXANDER *Travels and adventures in Canada and the Indian territories* 1760–76 1809
HENRY, CALEB S. *Doctor Oldham at Greystones, and his talk there* 1860
HENRY, JOHN J. *An accurate account of the hardships of that band of heroes who traversed the wilderness in the campaign against Quebec in* 1775 1812
HENRY, MATTHEW *Works* a 1724 (1796, 1853)
Disputes reviewed; a sermon 1710
An exposition of the Old and New Testament 1708 (1737–38)
A sermon concerning the forgiveness of sin as a debt 1711
A short account of the life of Lieutenant Illidge 1710
HENRY, PHILIP *Diaries and letters* 1631–96 (1882)

HENRY, ROBERT *The history of Great Britain* 1771–85; c 1790 (1793)
HENRY, THOMAS *An account of a method of preserving water at sea from putrefaction* 1781
HENRY, WILLIAM *The elements of experimental chemistry* 1810 (1826–40)
An epitome of chemistry 1800 (1808)
HENRY THE MINSTREL *The acts and deidis of the illustere and valiand champioun Schir William Wallace* c 1470 (1570, 1820; S.T.S. 1889)
Henry and Isabella: a novel 1811
HENRYSON, ROBERT *Poems* c 1480 (S.T.S. 1906–14)
The morall fabillis of Esope c 1480 (1570; Maitland Cl. 1832; in Anglia IX. 1886)
Orpheus and Eurydice c 1480
The testament of Cresseid c 1480
HENSHALL, JAMES A. *Camping and cruising in Florida* 1884
HENSHALL, SAMUEL *The Saxon and English languages reciprocally illustrative of each other* 1798
HENSHAW, BP. JOSEPH *Horæ succisivæ, or, spare-hours of meditations* 1631 (ed. 2)
Meditations miscellaneous, holy and humane 1637; ed. 3, much enlarged, entitled *Daily thoughts; or a miscellany of meditations, holy and humane* 1651
HENSLOW, GEORGE *The origin of floral structures through insect and other agencies* 1888
HENSLOW, JOHN S. *A dictionary of botanical terms* 1856
The principles of descriptive and physiological botany 1835 (1836)
HENSLOWE, PHILIP *Diary* 1591–1609 (Shaks. Soc. 1845; 1904–08)
Henslowe papers, being documents supplementary to Henslowe's diary c 1616 (ed. W. R. Greg 1907)
HENTY, GEORGE A. *The cornet of horse; a tale of Marlborough's wars* 1881
With Lee in Virginia: a story of the American civil war 1890
Hentzner's (Paul) Journey into England in the year 1598 (being a part of the Itinerary of P. H. translated by R. Bentley; ed. H. Walpole, Earl of Oxford) 1757
HEPBURN, GEORGE B. *General view of the agriculture and rural economy of East Lothian* 1794
Heraclitus ridens 1681–82: see Flatman, T.
Herald, The. By Stentor Telltruth 1757–58
Herball, Grete: see Grete herball
HERBERT, EDWARD, 1ST BARON HERBERT OF CHERBURY *The life and reigne of King Henry the eighth* c 1648 (1649, 1682)
Life, written by himself c 1648 (1764, 1886)
Occasional verses c 1648 (1665)
HERBERT, SIR EDWARD *A short account of the authorities in law, upon which judgement was given in Sir Edw. Hales his case* 1688
HERBERT, GEORGE *Poetical works* c 1633 (Grosart 1876)
Outlandish proverbs c 1633 (1640)
—— another ed., entitled *Jacula prudentum, or outlandish proverbs, sentences,* etc. (1651)
A priest to the temple, or, The countrey parson his character, and rule of holy life c 1633 (1652)
The temple; sacred poems and private ejaculations 1633
HERBERT, GEORGE ROBERT C. (EARL OF PEMBROKE) and KINGSLEY, GEORGE H. *South Sea bubbles* 1872
HERBERT, H. 1727–30: see Fleury
HERBERT, HENRY, 10TH EARL OF PEMBROKE *A method of breaking horses, and teaching soldiers to ride, designed for the use of the army* 1761
—— ed. 3, entitled *Military equitation* 1778
HERBERT, HENRY W.: see 'Forester, Frank'
HERBERT, MARY E. *Cradle lands* 1867
Hübner's (J. A. von) Ramble round the world 1874 (1878)
Impressions of Spain in 1866 1867
HERBERT, SIR THOMAS *A relation of some yeares travaile begunne anno 1626, into Africa and the greater Asia* 1634 (1638, 1665, 1677)
Threnodia Carolina 1678 (printed from original MS. in A. Fea, Memoirs of the martyr King 1905); repr. with additions under the title of *Memoirs of the two last years of the reign of Charles I* 1702
HERBERT, WILLIAM *Ella Rosenberg, a romance* 1808
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HERD, DAVID Ed. *Ancient and modern Scottish songs, heroic ballads,* etc., v.d. (1776)
HERING, FRANCIS: see Herring, Francis
HÉRISTAL, ADAM D' *Our discordant life* 1894
HERKLESS, JOHN and HANNAY, ROBERT K. *The archbishops of St. Andrews* 1907–13
HERLE, CHARLES *An answer to Dr. Ferne's Reply entituled: Conscience satisfied* etc. 1643
David's song of three parts 1643
A fuller answer to a treatise written by Dr. Ferne, entituled, The resolving of conscience etc. 1642
HERMAN, HENRY *His angel, a romance of the Far West* 1891
See also MURRAY, D. C.
Hermann and Emilie 1805: see Lafontaine, A. H. J.
Hermann's (C. F.) Manual of the political antiquities of Greece historically considered tr. 1836
Hermeticall banquet drest by a spagiricall cook, for the better preservation of the microcosme 1652
Hermit in the country 1820–22; *in Edinburgh* 1824; *in London* 1819–20: see M'Donogh, Felix
HERNE, SAMUEL *Domus Carthusiana; or an account of the foundation of the Charter-House* 1677
Hero and Leander 1652: see Loves of H. and L.
Herodian's History tr. 1629: see Maxwell, James
Herodotus, The famous history of, tr. by B. R(ich) 1584
Heroic epistle to an unfortunate monarch, by Peregrine the Elder 1778
Heroics of the Peninsula, The 1826: see M'Donogh, Felix
HERON, ROBERT *Information concerning the strength, views, and interests of the powers presently at war* 1794
HERRICK, ROBERT *The complete poems* c 1674 (Grosart 1876)
Poetical works c 1674 (1869, 1915)
Hesperides: or, the works both humane and divine of R. H. 1648
The noble numbers: or, his pious pieces 1647
Herrig's Archiv: see Archiv
HERRIPO, FRANCIS *A modest defence of the assent given to the oathes of supremacie* etc. 1604
Oberndorffer's (J.) Anatomyes of the true physition and counterfeit mounte-banke tr. 1600
HERRING, RICHARD *Paper and paper-making, ancient and modern* 1855
Herrings tayle 1598: see Carew, R.
——, SIR JOHN F. W. *Essays from the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, with addresses and other pieces* v.d. (1857)
Familiar lectures on scientific subjects 1866
A manual of scientific enquiry, ed. by Sir J. F. W. Herschel 1849; ed. 3, superintended by Robert Main 1859
Meteorology 1859 (in Manual of scientific enquiry)
Outlines of astronomy 1849 (1853)
Physical geography 1861
A preliminary discourse on the study of natural philosophy 1830
Schiller's (J. C. F. von) Wallenstein tr. 1847
A treatise on astronomy 1833
HERTFORD, FRANCES SEYMOUR, COUNTESS OF *Correspondence of Frances, countess of Hertford (afterwards duchess of Somerset), with Henrietta countess of Pomfret* 1738–41 (1805)
HERVÉ, PETER *Beauties of Paris* 1818
How to enjoy Paris 1816
HERVET, GENTIAN *Xenophon's Treatise of housholde* 1532 (1768)
HERVEY, MRS. *The Mowbray family* 1800
HERVEY, FREDERIC *The naval history of Great Britain* 1779
HERVEY, JAMES *Meditations and contemplations.* Vol. I. *Meditations among the tombs, Reflections on a flower garden, A descant upon creation* 1746; Vol. II. *Contemplations on the night, Contemplations on the starry heavens, A winter piece* 1747 (1767, 1818)
Theron and Aspasio: or, a series of dialogues and letters upon the most important and interesting subjects 1755
HERVEY, JOHN, BARON HERVEY OF ICKWORTH *Memoirs of the reign of George the second* c 1743 (ed. from the original MS. by J. W. Croker 1848)
Herzog's (J. J.) Religious encyclopædia: or, dictionary of Biblical, historical, doctrinal, and practical theology, ed. by P. Schaff 1882–83
HESLOP, RICHARD O. *Northumberland words. A glossary of words used in the county of Northumberland and on the Tyneside* 1892–94 (E.D.S.)
HESSEY, JAMES A. *Sunday: its origin, history, and present obligation considered* 1860
HESTER, JOHN *A compendium of the rationall secretes of L. Phioravantis* tr. 1582
HETH, THOMAS 1583: see Heath, T.
HETLEY, SIR THOMAS *Reports and cases in the third–seventh years of the late King Charles as they were argued at the Common-pleas barre* 1657
HETT, CHARLES L. *A glossary of popular, local, and old-fashioned names of British birds* 1902
HEWETT, JOHN c 1658: see Hewit, J.
HEWETT, SARAH *The peasant speech of Devon* 1892
HEWETT, WILLIAM *Glossary of Berkshire provincialisms* 1847
HEWIT, JOHN *Repentance and conversion the fabrick of salvation, or the saints joy in heaven for the sinners sorrow upon earth, being the last sermons preached by J. H. With other of his sermons* c 16[illegible]
HEWITSON, WILLIAM C. *Coloured [illegible] of the eggs of British birds* 1846
HEWITT, JOHN c 1658: see Hewit, J.
HEWITT, JOHN *Ancient armour and weapons in Europe* 1855–60
HEWLETT, JOSEPH T. J. *The parish clerk* 1841
Parsons and widows 1844
Peter Priggins, the college scout (anon.) 1841
HEWLETT, MAURICE H. *Earthwork out of Tuscany* 1895
The forest lovers, a romance 1898
HEWYT, JOHN c 1658: see Hewit, J.
Hexameron of St. Basil: see Basil, St.
HEXHAM, HENRY *A copious English and Netherdutch dictionarie* 1647 (1660)
Groot-Woordenboeck; a large Netherdutch and English dictionarie 1648 (1658)
The principles of the art militarie 1637
A tongue-combat (anon. Preface signed H. Hexham) 1623: see Scott, Thomas
Hexham, The Priory of, its chronicles, endowments and annals v.d.; *its title deeds, black book,* etc., v.d. (Surtees Soc. 1864–65)
HEY, JOHN *Lectures in divinity, delivered in Cambridge* 1780–85 1796–98
HEYDON, SIR CHRISTOPHER *An astrological discourse in justification of the validity of astrology. Together with an astrological judgement upon the great conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter* 1603 c 1610 (1650)
A defence of judiciall astrologie 1603
HEYLIN, PETER Ἐκκλησία διαλελυμαινομένη. *Historical and miscellaneous tracts* c 1668 (1681)
Aerius redivivus; or, the history of the presbyterians from 1536 to 1647 c 1668 (1670)
Antidotum Lincolniense; or an answer to a book entituled, The Holy Table, name and thing 1637
A brief and moderate answer to the seditious and s[illegible] one Challenge of H. Burton 1637
Certamen epistolare; or the letter-combate with Mr. Baxter, etc. 1659
A coale from the altar 1636
Cosmographie 1652: see MICROCOSMUS, below
Cyprianus Anglicus; or the history of the life and death of William Laud c 1668 (1668, 1671)
Ecclesia restaurata; or, the history of the reformation of the Church of England 1661
Ecclesia vindicata; or, the Church of England justified 1657
[illegible] discovery and examination of the mistakes in some modern histories 1659
[illegible] tapulans; or, the observator rescued from the violent but unlea assaults of Hamon L'Estrange 1656
A full relation of two journeys; the one, into the mainland of France; the other, into some of the adjacent islands 1656
—— another ed., entitled *A survey of the estate of France* 1656
Ἱεραπολεμοῦντες *Anglorum; or, an help to English history* 1642
Historia quinquarticularis; or a declaration [illegible] ment of the Western churches, particularly of the church of England, in the five controverted points reprouched by the name of Arminianisme 1660
The historie of quinquarticularie 1659
The history of St. George of Cappadocia 1631
The history of the Sabbath 1636
HEYLIN, PETER (*cont.*)
Microcosmus. A little description of the great world 1621 (–1639); enlarged and entitled *Cosmographie in four bookes, containing the chorographie and historie of the whole world* 1652 (1674)
(Relations and observations 1648–49: see C. Walker *History of Independency*)
The stumbling-block of disobedience and rebellion cunningly laid by Calvin in the subjects way, discovered, censured and removed 1658
Survey of the estate of France: see A full relation of two journeys, above
The undeceiving of the people in the point of tithes 1648
HEYNE, BENJAMIN *Tracts, historical and statistical, on India* 1814
HEYWOOD, ELIZA: see Haywood, Eliza
HEYWOOD, JASPER *Seneca his tenne tragedies* tr. by J. Heywood and others 1581
L. A. Senecæ Tragediæ prima quæ inscribitur Hercules Furens tr. 1561
The seconde tragedie of Seneca entituled Thyestes tr. 1560
The sixt tragedie of L. A. Seneca, entituled Troas tr. 1559
HEYWOOD, JOHN *Dramatic writings* 15.. (J. S. Farmer 1905–08)
Woorkes. A dialogue conteynyng prouerbes and epigrammes 1562 (Spenser Soc. 1867)
A dialogue containyng the nomber in effect of all the prouerbes in the Englishe tongue 1546 (1874)
A dialogue on wit and folly 15.. (Percy Soc. 1846)
Epigrammes 1555–60
A mery play betwene Johan Johan the husbande, Tyb his wyfe, and syr Jhan the preest 1533 (Brandl 1898)
A mery play betwene the pardoner and the frere, the curate and neybour Pratte 1533 (in Pollard, Eng. miracle plays 1890)
Of gentylnes & nobylyte: see Rastall, John
The plays called the foure PP. A newe and a very mery enterlude of a palmer, a pardoner, a potycary, a pedler ? 1545 (in Manly, Specim. pre-Shaks. drama I, 1897)
A play of love 1534 (Brandl 1898)
The play of the wether 1533 (Brandl 1898)
The spider and the flie, a parable 1556 (Spenser Soc. 1894)
HEYWOOD, OLIVER *Works* c 1702 (1825–27)
The best entail, or, dying parents living hopes for their surviving children 1693
Heart-treasure 1667–72
Autobiography, diaries, anecdote and event books, illustrating the general and family history of Yorkshire and Lancashire c 1702 (1881–85)
HEYWOOD, THOMAS *Dramatic works* c 1630 (1874)
An apology for actors 1612 (Shaks. Soc. 1841)
The brazen age 1613
The captives; or, the lost recovered 1624 (in Bullen, Old Plays IV)
A challenge for beautie 1636
England's Elizabeth, her life and troubles during her minoritie from the cradle to the crowne 1631 (1641; in Harl. Misc.)
The English traveller 1633
The exemplary lives and memorable acts of nine the most worthy women of the world 1640
The fayre mayde of the Exchange 1607 (Shaks. Soc. 1843)
The fair maid of the west 1631 (Shaks. Soc. 1850)
The foure prentices of London, with the conquest of Jerusalem 1615
A funerall elegie upon the death of Henry, Prince of Wales 1613
A funeral elegie upon the death of King James 1625
The golden age 1611 (Shaks. Soc. 1851)
Γυναικεῖον: *or nine bookes of various history concerninge women* 1624
The Hierarchie of the blessed angells 1635
If you know not me, you know no bodie: or, the troubles of Queene Elizabeth 1605 (Shaks. Soc. 1851)
The second part of, If you know not me, you know no bodie. With the building of the Royall Exchange 1606 (Shaks. Soc. 1851)
The iron age 1632
The first and second parties of King Edward the fourth 1599 (Shaks. Soc. 1842)
Londini sinus salutis 1635
Londini speculum; or, Londons mirror 1637
Londini status pacatus; or, Londons peaceable estate 1639
London's jus honorarium exprest in sundry triumphs 1631
Loves mistresse: or the Queene vnmaske 1636
A pleasant comedy called A mayden-head well lost 1634
A marriage triumphe 1613 (Percy Soc. 1842)
Philocothonista; or the drunkard opened, dissected, and anatomized 1635
Pleasant dialogues and dramma's 1637
Porta pietatis, or the port or harbour of piety 1638 (Percy Soc. 1844)
The rape of Lucrece 1608
The royall king and the loyall subject 1637 (Shaks. Soc. 1850)
Sallust's Two most worthy and notable histories tr. 1608–09
The silver age 1613 (Shaks. Soc. 1851)
Troia Britanica: or Great Britaines Troy 1609
A true description of his Majesties royall ship built at Woolwich 1637
The wise-woman of Hogsdon 1638
A woman kilde with kindnesse 1607 (Shaks. Soc. 1850)
See also TOURNEUR, C.
—— and BROME, RICHARD *The late Lancashire witches* 1634
—— and ROWLEY, WILLIAM *Fortune by land and sea* 16.. (1655; Shaks. Soc. 1845)
HIERBERT, HENRY *Systagma theologicum: or, a treatise wherein is concisely comprehended the body of divinity; wherunto are added certaine divine discourses* 1662
HIERBERT(-WARE), SAMUEL *A description of the Shetland Islands* 1822
Hibbert Journal, The; a quarterly review of religion, theology, and philosophy 1902–
HICHCOCK, ROBERT: see Hitchcock, R.
HICKERAN, ROBERT S. *The green carnation* (anon.) 1894
The Londoners, an absurdity 1898
HICKERINGILL, EDMUND *Works* c 1708 (1709)
Mi[illegible]ny, essays, satyrs, etc. in verse 1707

HICKERINGILL, EDMUND (*cont.*)
The black non-conformist discover'd in more naked truth 1682
The c… …nger, his character 1689
Curse ye Meroz, or the fatal doom 1680
Gregory, Father Greybeard, with his vizard off 1673
The history of whiggism 1682
The horrid sin of man-catching 1682
Jamaica view'd 1661
The lay-clergy; or, the lay-elder 1695
The naked truth 1680–82
—— *A vindication of the naked truth.* By Phil. (or rather Edmund) Hickeringill 1681
Priest-craft, its character and consequences 1705–07
—— *The vindication of the character of priestcraft* 1705
A speech without doors, or some modest inquiries humbly proposed to the Convention of Estates 1689
The Trimmer. Debate with the Observator 1683
HICKERINGILL, PHIL.: see Hickeringill, E.
HICKES, GEORGE *The case of infant baptism* 1683
The spirit of Popery 1680
Two treatises, one of the Christian priesthood; the other of the dignity of the episcopal order 1707 (1711, 1847)
—— and NELSON, ROBERT *Memoirs of the life of John Kettlewell.* Compiled (by F. Lee) from the collections of G. Hickes and R. Nelson 1718
HICKIE, WILLIAM J. *The Comedies of Aristophanes* tr. 1853 (1872)
HICKMAN, HENRY *Historia quinq-articularis exarticulata; or, Animadversions on Doctor Heylin's Quinquarticular history* 1673 (1674)
HICKOCK, THOMAS *The voyage and travells of M. C. Frederich into the East India* tr. 1588
Hickscorner: see Hyckescorner
'HIEOVER, HARRY' (C. Brindley) *Practical horsemanship* 1850
The stud for practical purposes 1849
HIERON, SAMUEL *Works* a 1617 (1620)
Aarons bells a-sounding a 1617 (1623)
A defence of the ministers reasons for refusall of subscription to the Booke of Common Prayer 1607–08
A short dialogue proving that the ceremonyes now in question, are defended by arguments such as the papists have used (anon.) 1605
HIFFERNAN, PAUL: see H., P.
Higden's Polychronicon tr. 1432–50 (Rolls series 1865–86)
See also Trevisa
HIGGINS, GODFREY *The Celtic Druids* 1827
HIGGINS, JOHN *The nomenclator, or remembrancer of Adrianus Junius* tr. 1585
See also Hulcot; Mirror for magistrates
HIGGINS, MATTHEW J. *Essays on social subjects* a 1868 (1875)
HIGGINSON, THOMAS W. *Malbone: an Oldport romance* 1869
Oldport days 1873
Young folks' history of the United States 1875
HIGGS, PAGET Ed. *Magneto- and dynamo-electric machines …From the German of Glaser de Cew* 1885
High commission cases. Reports of cases in the Courts of Star Chamber and High Commission 1632–32 (Camden Soc. 1886)
Highland Society of Scotland, Prize essays and transactions of 1799–1843
—— *Transactions* 1843–
Highlanders, The 1824: see M'Donogh, F.
Highlands of Scotland in 1750 17.. (From MS. in the British Museum. With introd. by A. Lang 1898)
HIGINS, JOHN: see Higgins, J.
Hildanus tr. 1643: see Steer, John
Hildebrand. The life of Hyldebrande, called Gregory, the …, pope of that name 1554 (W. de Worde)
HILDITCH, ANN *Ross de Montmorien. A novel* 1767
HILDROP, JOHN *Miscellaneous works* 1754
A letter to a member of parliament, containing a proposal for bringing in a bill to revise, amend or repeal certain obsolete statutes, commonly called the Ten Commandments (anon.) 1738
HILES, JOHN *Catechism of the organ* 1876 (1878)
A complete dictionary of musical terms 1871
HILL, AARON *Works* a 1750 (1753)
Poems a 1750 (1822)
Advice to the poets. A poem 1731
HILL, ABRAHAM *Familiar letters which pa…ed between A. H. and several eminent and ingenious persons of the last century* 16.. (1767)
Some account of the life of Dr. Isaac Barrow 1687 (in Barrow's Works, I. 1687)
HILL, DAVID J. *American authors. W. C. Bryant*, etc. 1879
HILL, JOHN *The British herbal* 1756
A general natural history: or, new and accurate descriptions of the animals, vegetables, and minerals of the different … Vol. I. *A history of fossils* 1748; vol. II. *An history of plants* 1751; vol. III. *An history of animals* 1752
A history of the materia medica 1751
Pomet's (P.) Compleat history of drugs tr. 1748 (ed. 4)
The sleep of plants, and cause of motion in the sensitive plant, explain'd 1757
Theophrastus's History of stones tr. 1746 (1774)
The useful family herbal 1755 (1812)
HILL, ROBERT *Christs prayer expounded, a christian directed and a communicant prepared* 1606
—— another ed., entitled *The pathway to prayer and pietie* 1610 (1629, 1847)
HILL, THOMAS *The arte of vulgar arithmeticke* 1600
A briefe … …*d: Naturall and artificiall conclusions* tr. 1586
A most briefe and pleasaunt treatise, teachynge howe to dresse, sowe, and set a garden 1563
—— another ed., entitled *The profitable arte of gardening, now the third tyme set fourth.* 2 pts. 1568
—— another ed. *Wherunto is newly added a treatise of the arte of graffing and planting of trees* 1574
A profitable instruction of the perfite ordering of bees 1579
HILL, THOMAS *God's eternal preparations for his dying saints* 1648
An olive branch of peace and accommodation budding 1648
The right sep… …*d* 1644 (1645)
The spring of strengthening grace in the rock of ages, Christ …
The strength of the saints to make Jesus Christ their strength 1648
The trade of truth advanced 1642
HILL, THOMAS (*cont.*)
Truth and love ha… …ed in the saints and in the churches of …
HILLARY, WILLIAM *Observations on the changes of the air and the concomitant epidæmical diseases in the Island of Barbadoes* 1766
HILLIARD, NICHOLAS *A treatise concerning the arte of limning* c 1600 (MS. in Edinb. Univ. Library; in Annual of Walpole Soc. I, 1912)
HILLS, RICHARD *Proverbs from the common-place book of* c 1530 (in Fraser's Mag., Aug. 1858)
See also Songs, carols, etc.
Hills of the Shatemuc 1856: see Warner, Susan
HILMAN, DANIEL *Tuscer redivivus. The calendar of the twelve months with notes*, published by D. Hilman 1710
HINCHLIFF, THOMAS W. *South American sketches* 1863
HIND, HENRY Y. *Explorations in the interior of the Labrador peninsula* 1863
HIND, JOHN *Eliosto lubidinoso, described in two bookes* 1606
HINDE, SIDNEY L. *The fall of the Congo Arabs* 1897
HINDE, WILLIAM *A faithfull remonstrance of the holy life and happy death of John Bruen* a 1629 (1641)
HINDLEY, CHARLES Ed. *The life and adventures of a Cheap Jack* 1876
Ed. *The old book collector's miscellany* 1871–73
'HINTON, BENEVENTURA' (Valentine Dutrant) *Until my lord's return. A romance of a river town* 1892
HINTON, RICHARD J. *English Radical leaders* 1875
HIRD, FRANK *The cry of the children: an exposure of certain British industries in which children are iniquitously exposed* 1898
HIRST, HENRY B. *The coming of the Mammoth, and other poems* 1845
HISLOP, ALEXANDER *The book of Scottish anecdote* 1874
The proverbs of Scotland 1862 (1874)
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Catiline his conspiracy 1611
Conversations : see Drummond, W.
Cynthias revels : see Fountaine, below
Discoveries : see Timber, below
The divell is an asse 1616 (1631)
The English grammar 1636 (1640, 1692)
Entertainments v.d.
Epicœne : or the silent woman 1609 (1620)
Epigrams 1612–16 (1616)
Every man in his humor 1598 (1601, 1616)
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Q. Horatius Flaccus his art of poetry tr. a 1637 (1640)
The magnetick lady, or humors reconcil'd 1632 (1640), *Masques* v.d.
The new inne, or the light heart 1629 (1631)
Poetaster, or the arraignement 1601 (1602)
The sad shepherd, or a tale of Robin Hood 1637 (1641)
Sejanus his fall 1603 (1605, 1616)
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The staple of newes 1626 (1631)
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Lyra innocentium 1846 (1873)
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Free thoughts on religion, the church . . . 1720 (1729)
The grumbling hive, or knaves turn'd honest 1705
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A practical commentary . . on the epistle of Ja 1651 (1871)
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Manwood, John *A brefe collection of the lawes of the forest* 1592
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Marcel, Claude *Language as a means of mental culture and international communication; or, manual of the teacher and the learner of languages* 1853
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Cavelarice, or the English horseman: contayning all the arts of horsemanship etc. 1607 (1617)
Cheape and good husbandry for the well-ordering of all beastes and fowles etc. 1614 (1623)
Country contentments in two bookes: the first containing the whole art of riding great horses, etc.: *the second intitulad The English huswife* 1615 (1631, 1649, 1668)
The country housewifes garden, together with the husbandry of bees, etc. 1617 (1623, 1648)
The dumbe knight, a historicall comedy by Jarvis M. (and L. Machin) 1608 (Dodsley)
The English husbandman 1613–15 (1635)
The English hus-wife (part of Country contentments) 1615
Estiennes (C.) and Liebault's (J.) Maison rustique; or the countrey farme tr. (cf. Surflet, R.) and augmented 1616
Hungers prevention, or the whole arte of fowling by water and land 1621 (1655)
The inrichment of the weald of Kent, or a direction for the husbandman etc. 1625 (1631)
M.'s Farwell to husbandry, or the inriching of all sortes of barren and sterril grounds 1620 (1649)
M.'s maister-peece or what doth a horse-man lacke, containing all possible knowledge whatsoever which doth belong to any smith, farrier or horse-leech 1620 (1623)
—— *M.'s master-piece revived* (1688)
The most honorable tragedie of Sir Richard Grinvile 1595 (Arber, The last fight of 'The Revenge' at sea)
The pleasures of princes or good mens recreations (part of The English husbandman) 1615 (1635)
The poem of poems or Sions muse, containing the divine song of king Solomon, by I. M. 1593
A way to get wealth (re-issue of several of the above) 1631–38 (1648–49, 1660, 1668)
MARKHAM, WILLIAM O. *Skoda's (J.) Treatise on auscultation and percussion* tr. 1853
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Marlorat's (A.) Catholike exposition upon the revelation of saint John tr. 1574
—— *Catholike exposition vppon the two last epistles of John* tr. 1578 (1580)
MARLOWE, CHRISTOPHER *The famous tragedy of the rich Jew of Malta* c 1592 (1633)
Hero and Leander (finished by G. Chapman) a 1593 (1598)
Lucan's First booke tr. a 1593 (1600)
The massacre at Paris 1592 (c 1600)
All Ovid's elegies a 1593 (c 1597)
Tamburlane the great (2 parts) 1586, –87 (1590)
The tragical history of Doctor Faustus c 1590 (1616)
The troublesome raigne and lamentable death of Edward the second a 1593 (1594)
—— and NASHE, THOMAS *The tragedie of Dido queene of Carthage* a 1593 (1594)
Marly; or a planter's life in Jamaica 1828
Mar-Martine (attrib. to T. Nashe) 1589 (1843–45)
MARMION, SHACKERLEY *The antiquary, a comedy* 1636 (1641; Dodsley)
A fine companion, a comedy 1633
Hollands leaguer, an excellent comedy 1632
Marocous extaticus, or Bankes bay horse in a trance 1595 (Percy Soc. 1843)
'MARPRELATE, MARTIN' *Hay any worke for Cooper* 1589 (1844)
Oh read over D. John Bridges (preliminary *Epistle to the terrible priests of the Confocation House*) 1588 (1842)
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Theses Martinianæ: that is, [illegible] tive conclusions sette downe and collected by M. M. the great 1589 (1843–45)
See also Almond 1590; Harvey, R. 1589; Mar-Martine 1589; Martins months minde 1589; Nashe, T. 1589; Pappe with an hatchet 1589
Marriage. A new and pleasaunt enterlude intituled The marriage of wittes and science c 1570 (Hazl. Dodsley)
The marriage of wit and wisdom a 1590 (Shaks. Soc. 1846)
Marriage broaker, The; or the pander, (a comedy) by M. W. 1662 (Gratiæ theatrales 1662)
MARRIOT, ROBERT *A sermon in commemoration of Mris. E. Daring* 1642
MARRIOTT, SIR JAMES *The rights and privileges of both universities . . defended* 1769
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MARRYAT, FRANK S. *Mountains and molehills: or, recollections of a burnt journal* 1855
MARRYAT, FREDERICK *The children of the New forest* 1847 (1848)
A diary in America 1839
The dog-fiend: see Snarleyyow, below
Frank Mildmay: see Naval officer, below
Jacob Faithful 1834
Japhet in search of a father 1836
Joseph Rushbrook; or the poacher 1841
The king's own 1830
Masterman Ready; or the wreck of the Pacific 1841
Mr. Midshipman Easy 1836
MARRYAT, FREDERICK (cont.)
Narrative of the travels and adventures of Monsieur Violet in California etc. 1843 (1879)
The naval officer; or scenes and adventures in the life of Frank Mildmay 1829
Newton Forster; or the merchant service 1832
Olla podrida (Diary on the continent 1835–37, etc.) (1840)
The pacha of many tales 1835
Percival Keene 1842
Peter Simple 1834 (1863)
The phantom ship 1839
The pirate, and the three cutters 1836
The poacher: see Joseph Rushbrook, above
Poor Jack 1840
Ratlin the rover: see Howard, E. G. G.
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Valerie, an autobiography 1847 (1849)
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MARSDEN, REGINALD G. Ed. *Select pleas in the court of admiralty* (1390–1404, 1527–45, 1547–1602) (Selden Soc. 1894–97)
MARSDEN, WILLIAM *The history of Sumatra* 1783
MARSH, MRS. ANNE *Emilia Wyndham; a novel* 1846
Evelyn Marston 1856
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Ravenscliffe 1851
MARSH, GEORGE P. *Lectures on the English language* 1858–59 (1862)
MARSH, JOHN *An argument . . of the great question concerning the militia, by J. M.* (formerly ascribed to Milton) 1642
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MARSHALL, EMMA *Memories of troublesome times* 1880
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—— and others *Tennis, rackets, fives* 1890
MARSHALL, PERCIVAL *Metal working tools and their uses* 1902
MARSHALL, STEPHEN *A copy of a letter written . . to a friend* 1643
A peace offering to God, a sermon 1641
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[illegible]ALL, WALTER *The gospel-mystery of sanctification opened in sundry discourses* 1692 (1764, 1780)
[illegible]ALL, WILLIAM E. *A phrenologist among the Todas* 1873
MARSHALL, WILLIAM H. *Minutes of agriculture made on a farm . . near Croydon* 1778
Planting and rural ornament (anon.) 1796
A review of the reports of the Board of agriculture from the northern (western etc.) *department of England* (5 parts) 1808–18
The rural economy of Gloucestershire 1789 (1796)
—— *Provincialisms* from the above (E.D.S. 1873)
The rural economy of the midland counties 1790 (1796)
—— *Provincialisms* (E.D.S. 1873)
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—— *Provincialisms* (E.D.S. 1873)
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MARSTON, JOHN *Works* v.d. (1633; also 1856, 1887)
The history of Antonio and Mellida 1600 (1602)
—— (part 2) *Antonios revenge* 1600 (1602)
The Dutch courtesan, a comedy 1605
(The insatiate countess, a tragedie 1613)
The malcontent 1604
The metamorphosis of Pigmalions image; and certaine satyres 1598 (1764)
Parasitaster, or the fawne, a comedy 1606
The scourge of villanie, three books of satyres 1598 (1764)
—— *corrected, with the addition of newe satyres* 1599
What you will, a comedy 1607
The wonder of women, or the tragedie of Sophonisba 1606
—— and others *Jacke Drums entertainment or the comedie of Pasquill and Katherine* 1600 (1601; R. Simpson, School of Shaks. 1878)
See also Histrio-mastix 1610
MARTEN, HENRY *Familiar letters to his lady of delight. Also her kinde returnes* 1662
Martens' (F.) Observations made in Greenland and other northern countries tr. 1694 (Acc. sev. late voy. 1711)
MARTIALL, JOHN *A treatyse of the crosse, gathred out of the scriptures* etc. 1564
MARTIN, BENJAMIN *The general magazine of arts and sciences* 1755
Institutions of language 1748
The natural history of England 1759–63
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MARTIN, BENJAMIN *Messiah's kingdom in its origin, development and triumph* 1876
MARTIN, EDWARD *His opinion concerning the difference between the church of England and Geneva* etc. a 1662 (1662)
MARTIN, H. *Helen of Glenross; a novel* 1801 (1802)
MARTIN, HELENA (FAUCIT), LADY *On some of Shakespeare's female characters* 1885
MARTIN, HENRY N. and MOALE, W. A. *A hand-book of vertebrate dissection* 1881–84
MARTIN, JAMES *Discourses* a 1834 (1835)
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MARTIN, R. F. *Havras' (J.) On recent impr[illegible]s in winding machinery* tr. 1875
MARTIN, SIR THEODORE *The Æneid of Virgil* books 1–VI tr. 1896
A life of Lord Lyndhurst 1883
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—— and AYTOUN, W. E. *Bon Gaultier's Book of ballads* 1855
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MARTIN, WILLIAM C. L. *The ox* (Farmer's Libr. I) 1847
MARTINDALE, ADAM *The countrey-survey-booh: or landmeters vade-mecum* 1682
MARTINDALE, WILLIAM *The extra pharmacopoeia of unofficial drugs* etc. 1883 (1890)
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Berkeley the banker 1833, *Briery creek* 1833, *and Brooke farm* 1833, *The charmed sea* 1833, *Cinnamon and pearls* 1833, *Demerara* 1832, *Ella of Garveloch* 1832, *The hill and the valley* 1832, *Homes abroad* 1832, *Ireland* 1832, *Life in the wilds* 1832, *The loom and the lugger* 1833, *A Manchester strike* 1832, *A tale of the Tyne* 1833, *Weal and woe in Garveloch* 1832
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Massie, Joseph *Reasons humbly offered against laying any further tax on malt or beer* 1760 (1770)
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The bashful lover, a tragicomedy 1636 (1655)
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The city-madame, a comedie 1632 (1659)
The duke of Millaine, a tragedie 1623
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The guardian 1633 (1655)
The maid of honour (a tragi-comedy) 1632
A new way to pay old debts, a comedie 1625 (1633)
The old law : see Middleton, T.
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Three new playes, viz, the bashful lover, the guardian, the very woman (1655)
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Hints to a soldier on service 1845
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Stories of Waterloo 1829
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—— *A continuation of Lucan's historicall poem* 1630
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The famelie of love 1607 (1608)
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Lycidas 1637
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The readie and easie way to establish a free commonwealth 1659
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—— *The mirrour for magistrates* (first and last parts combined) 1587
—— *A mirrour for magistrates, newly enlarged with a last part called A winters nights vision .. with a poem annexed called Englands Eliza* ed. R. Niccols 1610
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Our village; sketches of rural character and ... 1824–32 (1863)
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Malvezzi's (V.) Romulus and Tarquin tr. 1637
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An essay on c ... 1744 (1780)
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Letters (1763–67, 1790, 1820)
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Poetical works (1768, 1785)
MONTAGU, BP. RICHARD *The acts and monuments of the church before Christ incarnate* c 1641 (1642)
Appello Cæsarem, a just appeale from two unjust informers etc. 1625
Articles of enquiry and direction for the diocese of Norwich, in the first visitation 1638
Diatribæ on the first part of the late History of tithes (by J. Selden) 1622
A gagg for the new gospell ? 1624
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MONTAGU, WALTER *The accomplish'd woman* tr. 1656
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The practical ... vigator and seaman's new daily assistant 1772 (1808)
—— SIR JOHN HENRY *Poetical trifles (Absence, The debtor* etc.) 1778 (1783)
MOORE, SIR JONAS *M.'s Arithmatick* 1660
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MOORE, MARIAN *Lascelles* 1802
MOORE, PHILIP *The hope of health, wherein is contained a goodlie regiment of life* 1564 (1565)
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The Epicurean, a tale 1827 (1839)
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The ... r in Paris 1818
... Fudge family in England 1835
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... Fudgiana 1827–35
Lalla Rookh, an oriental romance (The veiled prophet of Khorassan, Paradise and the peri, The fire-worshippers, Nourmahal) 1817
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The poetical works of Thomas Little 1801
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Morey, A survey of the provinces of 1798
MORDEN, ROBERT *Geography rectified, or a description of the world* 1680 (1688)
MORE, HANNAH *The bas bleu* : see Florio, below
Calebs in search of a wife 1808
An estimate of the religion of the fashionable world 1790 (1791)
Florio ; a tale ; and The bas bleu ; or conversation, two poems 1786 (1827)
Sacred dramas (Moses, David and Goliath, Belshazzar, Daniel, Hezekiah, Sensibility) 1782 (1827)
A search after happiness, a pastoral 1773
Strictures on the modern system of female education 1799
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Complete poems 1614–87 (Grosart 1878)
The ... works a 1687 (1708)
Annotations upon J. Glanvill's Lux orientalis 1682
An ... a learned psychopyrist 1681 (1688)
An ... atheisme 1653 (1662, 1712)
—— *appendix* 1655–87 (1712)
An antidote against idolatry 1669 (with Exposition seven epistles)
—— *An appendix* 1673
Apocalypsis apocalypseos ; or the revelation of St. John unveiled 1680
—— *An answer to several remarks on M.'s Expositions of the apocalypse and Daniel, as also upon his Apology* 1684
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A brief discourse of the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in the celebration of the holy eucharist (anon.) 1686
Conjectura cabbalistica ; or a conjectural essay of interpreting the minde of Moses according to a threefold cabbala 1653
—— *The defence of the threefold cabbala* 1653
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Democritus platonissans ; or an essay upon the infinity of worlds out of platonick principles 1646
Divine dialogues 1668 (1713)
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An explanation of the grand mystery of godliness 1660
An exposition of the seven epistles of the seven church 1669
An illustration of the book of Daniel and the revelation of St. John, by continued ... notes 1685
The immortality of the soul 1659 (1713
Letters on several subjects a 1687 (1694
A modest enquiry into the mystery of iniquity (second part *Synopsis prophetica ; the apology*) 1664
Observations upon Anthroposophia theomagica Anima magica abscondita 1650 (with Enthusiasmus 1656)
Paralipomena prophetica, containing several supplements and defences 1685
A plain and continued exposition of the prophecies of Daniel 1681
Psychozoia platonica ; or a platonicall song of the soul 1642
—— (ed. 2) *Philosophicall poems* 1647
Remarks upon two late ingenious discourses (by Sir M. Hale) 1676
Some cursory reflections made upon Mr. R. Baxter 1685
Synopsis prophetica 1664 (and pt. of Mystery of iniquity)
MORE, ROBERT JASPER *Under the Balkans* 1877
MORE, SIR THOMAS *Works* a 1535 (1557)
Answer to Frith : see Letter, below
The answere to the fyrst parte of the poysoned booke 1533 (1534, 1557)
The apologye made by hym 1533 (1557)
The confutation of Barnes 1532 (with next)
The confutacyon of Tyndales answere 1532 ; the seconde parte 1533 (1557)
De quatuor novissimis : see Treatyse, below
The debellacyon of Salem and Bizance 1533 (1557)
A dialoge of comforte against tribulation 1534 (1557, 1847)
A dyalogue wherin he treatyd dyuers maters as of the veneration and worshyp of ymagys etc. (= *A dialoge concerning heresyes*) 1528 (1529, 1557)
The history of kyng Richard the third unfinished 1513 (1557 ; 1883)
—— (see also Hardyng, J. (1543) ; Hall, E. 1548 ; Grafton, R. 1568)
—— *The historie of the pitifull life and unfortunate death of Edward V* (1641)
A letter impugnynge the erroneous wrytyng of John Fryth agaynst the blessed sacrament of the aultare (= Answere to Frith) 1532 (1557)
The lyfe of Johan Picus tr. c 1510 (1557)
The supplycacyon of soulys made .. agaynst the supplycacyon of beggers 1529 (1557)
A treatise upon the passion of Christ unfinished 1534 (1557 ; a part tr. Mary Basset)
A treatyse upon those wordes of holye scripture Memorare novissima etc. (= De quatuor novissimis) 1522 (1557)
Utopia tr. : see Burnet, G. ; Robinson, Ralph

More, Sir Thomas (a play) *c* 1590 (Shaks. Soc. 1844; Shakespeare Apocrypha 1908)
MORER, THOMAS *A short account of Scotland* 1702
MORESBY, JOHN *New Guinea and Polynesia: discoveries and surveys in New Guinea* etc. 1876
'MORETON, ANDREW': see De Foe, D.
MORETON, J. B. *Manners and customs of the West Indies* 1790
MORFILL, WILLIAM R. *The dawn of European literature, Slavonic literature* 1883
Russia (Story of the nations) 1890
MORFIT, CAMPBELL *The arts of tanning and currying* 1852 (1853)
MORGAN, CONWY LLOYD *Animal biology* 1887
Animal life and intelligence 1890–91
Habit and instinct 1897
MORGAN, J. *A complete history of Algiers* 1728–29
MORGAN, J. *Phœnix Britannicus, being a miscellaneous collection of scarce and curious tracts* 1731–32
MORGAN, LEWIS H. *Ancient society; or researches in the lines of human progress, from savagery . . into civilization* 1877
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France 1817 (1818)
The life and times of Salvator Rosa 1824
Passages from my autobiography 1818–19 (1859)
The wild Irish girl 1846
MORGAN, SYLVANUS *The sphere of gentry* 1661
MORGAN, THOMAS *The moral philosopher* (anon.) 1737–40
MORGAN, THOMAS H. *Evolution and adaptation* 1903
Regeneration 1901
MORGANS, WILLIAM *Manual of mining tools* 1871
MORIARTY, DENIS I. *The husband hunter* 1839
MORICE, WILLIAM *Cana quasi nova, The new . . . brohen down, and the Lords supper laid forth . . in a diatribe, and defence thereof* 1657
—, JAMES J. *The adventures of Hajji Baba of Ispahan* 1824
Ayesha, the maid of Kars 1834
MORISON, DAVID *Poems, chiefly in the Scottish dialect* 1790
MORISON, JAMES COTTER *Gibbon* (English men of letters) 1878
The life and times of St. Bernard 1863
The service of man: an essay towards the religion of the future 1887 (1889)
MORISON, SIR RICHARD *Vives' (J. L.) Introduction to wysedome* tr. 1540
MORISON, WILLIAM M. *The decisions of the Court of Session . . digested . . in the form of a dictionary* 1811
—— *Supplement to the dictionary*, by M. P. Brown (1826)
Moritz' (C. P.) Travels, chiefly on foot, through several parts of England in 1782 tr. 1795
MORLAND, SIR SAMUEL *The Comte of Pagan's method of delineating all manner of fortifications* 1672
Tuba stentoro-phonica, an instrument of excellent use as well at sea as at land etc. 1671
MORLAND, SAMUEL *A specimen of a dictionary English and Latin* 1723
MORLEY, HENRY *Cornelius Agrippa. The life of Henry Cornelius Agrippa von Nettesheim* 1856
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MORLEY, HENRY F.: see Muir, M. M. Pattison
MORLEY, JOHN *Burke* (English men of letters) 1879
Critical miscellanies 1871, 1877
Diderot and the encyclopædists 1878
Edmund Burke: an historical study 1867
The life of R. Cobden 1881
The life of W. E. Gladstone 1903 (1908)
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On compromise 1874
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See also Skeat, W. W.
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—— and BAX, E. B. *Socialism: its growth and outcome* 1893
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See also Arthur; Malory, Sir T.
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MORTIMER, G. W. *Pyrotechny: or a familiar system of recreative fire-works* 1852 (1853)
MORTIMER, JOHN *The whole art of husbandry* 1707 (1721)
MORTIMER, THOMAS *Every man his own broker* 1761 (1762)
A general dictionary of commerce etc. 1810 (1819)
MORTON, JOHN *The natural history of Northamptonshire* 1712
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The opinion of T. Morton concerning the peace of the church 1641 (Good counsels 1641)
A preamble unto an incounter with P. R. 1608
MORTON, THOMAS *New English Canaan or new Canaan, containing an abstract of New England* 1637
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MORWYNG, PETER *Joseph, Ben Gorion's Compendious history of the latter times of the Jewes commune weale* tr. 1561 (1567)
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MORYSON, FYNES *An itinerary* 1617
—— *Shakespeare's Europe, unpublished chapters of F. Moryson's Itinerary* (1903)
MOSELEY, HENRY *Lectures on astronomy* 1839 (1854)
MOSELEY, HENRY N. *Notes by a naturalist on the 'Challenger'* (1872–76) 1879
MOSELEY, WALTER M. *An essay on archery* 1792
MOSER, JOSEPH *The hermit of Caucasus, an oriental romance* 1796
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Poems, narrative and lyrical 1832
Poetical works c 1835 (1847, 1881)
Motives to godly mourning and rejoycing 1698
MOTLEY, JOHN LOTHROP *Correspondence c* 1877 (1889)
History of the united Netherlands 1860–67 (1868)
The life and death of John of Barneveld 1874 (1879)
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—— and BENNET, C. *Healths improvement* (*c* 1604) Corrected and enlarged by C. Bennet 1655 (1746)
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Mathematicks made easie: or a mathematical dictionary 1679 (also 1701)
Mechanick dyalling 1668
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——, *printing* 1683 (repr. De Vinne 1896)
Regula trium ordinum literarum typographicarum: or the rules of the three orders of print letters 1676
A tutor to astronomie and geographie 1659 (1665)
MOYLE, JOHN *Abstractum chirurgiæ marinæ; or an abstract of a surgery* 1686
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MOXLEY, MRS. HARRIET *The lost brooch* (anon.) 1841
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Sermon on the atonement 1873
Sermons before the university of Oxford and on various occasions v.d. (1876)
M. P.'s Letter on Royal Navy 1758: see Letter
Mr. Gray and his neighbours 1876
Mrs. Raven's temptation, by the author of Dr. Hardy's marriage 1882
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MUDGE, THOMAS *Thoughts on the means of improving watches* 1763 (1799)
MUDIE, ROBERT *The feathered tribes of the British islands* 1834 (1842)
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MUFFET, PETER *A commentarie on the whole bookes of the proverbs of Salomon* 1596 (1868)
MUILMAN, PETER *A new and complete history of Essex* 1769–72
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MUIRHEAD, JAMES *The institutes of Gaius and rules of Ulpian* tr. 1880
MULCASTER, RICHARD *The first part of the elementarie which entreateth chefelie of the right writing of our English tung* 1582
Positions, wherin those primitive circumstances be examined, which are necessarie for the training up of children 1581 (1888)
MULCASTER, ROBERT *Fortescue's (Sir J.) Learned commendation of the politique lawes of England* tr. 1567 (1573)
MULFORD, ELISHA *The republic of God* 1882
MULLER, JOHN *A treatise of artillery* 1768
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Munchausen, Baron. Gulliver revived: or the singular travels, campaigns, voyages and adventures of Baron Munchausen (by R. E. Raspe) 1786 (1792)
MUNDAY, ANTHONY *The book of John a Kent and John a Cumber, a comedy* 1595 (Shaks. Soc. 1851)
Busche's (A. van den; le Sylvain) Orator; handling a hundred severall discourses tr. 1596
The defence of contraries tr. out of French by A. M. 1593
A discoverie of E. Campion and his confederates 1582
The downfall of Robert earle of Huntington afterwards called Robin Hood 1599 (1601; Hazl. Dodsley)
The English Romayne lyfe 1582 (Harl. Misc.)
The famous history of Palmendos tr. 1589 (1653)
The first part of the . . history of Palmerin of England ? 1581 (1602, 1639)
A view of sundry examples (anon.) 1580 (with John a Kent etc., Shaks. Soc. 1851)
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MURRAY, ALEXANDER STUART *Manual of mythology* 1873
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Hearts, a novel 1883
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stepson 1869
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Murray's Hand-book for travellers in southern Germany 1837
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—— (another ed.) *A new book of cookerie* 1641
Museum delicia 1655: see Mennes, Sir J.
Museum rusticum et commerciale: or select papers on agriculture etc. 1763–66
MUSGRAVE, GEORGE MUSGRAVE *By-roads and battle-fields in Picardy* 1861
Nooks and corners in old France 1867
A pilgrimage into Dauphiné 1857
Ten days in a French parsonage 1864
MUSH, JOHN *a* 1617: see Clitherow, Margaret
Music. A short explication of such foreign words as are made use of in musick books 1724
Musical magazine, The 1835
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My ducats and my daughter (by H. Hunter and W. Whyte) 1884
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N., M.: see Needham, M.
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N. O.: see O., N.
N., R. (Robert Norton) 1635: see Camden, W.
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N., T. (Richard Neve) *The city and builder's dictionary* 1703 (1726, 1736)
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NABBES, THOMAS *The bride, a comedie* 1640
Covent garden, a pleasant comedie 1638
Microcosmus, a morall maske 1637
NAISMITH, JOHN *General view of the agriculture of the county of Clydesdale* 1708
NALL, JOHN G. *Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft* 1866
NANSEN, FRIDTJOF *Farthest North* 1897
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NAPHEYS, GEORGE H. *Prevention and cure of disease* 1871
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Scenes and sports in foreign lands 1840
NAPIER, JAMES *A manual of the art of dyeing* 1853
NAPIER, MACVEY *Selections from the correspondence of M. Napier a* 1847 (1879)
NAPIER, MARK *Memoirs of the marquis of Montrose* 1856
Memorials and letters illustrative of the life and times of J. Graham of Claverhouse, viscount Dundee 1859–62
NAPIER, ROBINA Ed. *Johnsoniana: anecdotes of Samuel Johnson; with diary of Dr. Campbell, and extracts from that of Madame D'Arblay* (1884)
Ed. *A noble boke of cookry* (1882)
NAPIER, SIR WILLIAM F. P. *History of the war in the Peninsula, and in the South of France from 1807–14* 1828–40
NARBOROUGH, SIR JOHN *Journal* 1694 (in Account of several late voyages; 1711)
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NARES, EDWARD *Think-I-to-myself* 1811
NARES, SIR GEORGE S. *Narrative of a voyage to the Polar Sea 1875–76* 1878
Seamanship 1862 (1864, 1868, 1882)
NARES, ROBERT *Elements of orthoepy* 1784
A glossary; or, collection of words, phrases, names, and allusions to customs, proverbs, etc. in English authors 1822
—— new ed., with additions by J. O. Halliwell and T. Wright (1859)
Narrationculæ Anglice conscriptæ a 1200 (ed. Cockayne 1861)
Narrative of the bloudy murders committed by Sir John Fites, alias Fitz, 1605, with an account of his suicide at Twickenham 1605 (ed. J. O. Halliwell 1860)
Narrative of the late parliament (so called), *their election and appearing* etc. 1657 (in Harl. Misc.)
Narratives of the days of the Reformation, chiefly from the manuscripts of John Foxe 15..(Camden Soc. 1859)
NARRIEN, JOHN *Practical astronomy and geodesy* 1845
NASHE, THOMAS *Works a* 1601 (Grosart 1883–85; McKerrow 1904–10)
The anatomie of absurditie 1589
Christ's teares over Jerusalem 1593
A countercuffe given to Martin Junior, by the venturous, hardie and renowned Pasquill of England 1589
Four letters confuted 1592 = Strange newes
Have with you to Saffron-walden 1596
Nashes Lenten stuffe 1599
The first parte of Pasquils apologie (anon.) 1590
Pierce Penilesse his supplication to the diuell 1592
A pleasant comedie, called Summers last will and testament 1600
The returne of the renowned Cavaliero Pasquill of England from the other side the seas, and his meeting with Marforius at London upon the Royall Exchange (anon.) 1589
Strange newes, of the intercepting certaine letters, and a convoy of verses (i. e. G. Harvey's Foure letters and certaine sonnets) 1592 (Head-title *Foure letters confuted*)
The terrors of the night, or, a discourse of apparitions 1594
The unfortunate traveller 1594
A wonderfull, strange and miraculous astrologicall prognostication for this yeer of our Lord God, 1591 1592
See also Almond; Pappe
NASMITH, JOSEPH *Modern cotton spinning machinery* 1890
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Nation, The (New York) 1865–
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—— *The Nation and The Athenæum* 1921–
National cyclopædia of useful knowledge 18..
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National geographic magazine, The 1888–
National MSS., Facsimiles of v.d. (1865–
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Χριστος και κερδος Christ the life, and death the gain of every true believer 1650
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SELBY, CHARLES *London by night, a drama* a 1863 (1886)
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Illustrations of British ornithology 1825–33
SELDEN, JOHN *The duello or single combat* 1610
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The historie of tithes 1618
Illustrations (to Drayton's Poly-olbion) 1612
Table-talk a 1654 (1689 ; Arber)
Titles of honor 1614
(For *Discourse of the government of England*: see BACON, N.)
SELDEN, JOSEPH *The trades man's help. An introduction to arithmetick* 1694
Select cases in the court of requests 1497–1569 (Selden Soc. 1898)
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Sacrilege sacredly handled, that is, according to scripture only 1619
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SEMPLE, GEORGE *A treatise on building in water* 1776
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Schism dispach't, or a rejoynder .. to the replies of Dr. Hammond and the lord of Derry, by S. W. (i.e. J. Sergeant) 1657
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Ursula, a tale of country life 1858
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SHADWELL, CHARLES *The fair Quaker of Deal, or, the humours of the navy, a comedy* (anon.) 1710
The humours of the army, a comedy 1713
SHADWELL, THOMAS *The dramatic works* a 1692 (1720)
The amorous bigotte 1690
Bury-fair 1689
Epsom Wells 1672 (1673)
Fountain's (J.) Royal shepherdess 1669
The humorists 1670 (1671)
The Lancashire-witches, and Tegue ODivelly, the Irish priest 1682
The libertine 1676
The medal of John Bayes: a satyr against folly and knavery 1682
The miser 1672
The scowrers 1691
The squire of Alsatia 1688
The sullen lovers, or the impertinents 1668
The tenth satyr of Juvenal tr. 1687
The true widow 1679
The virtuoso 1676
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The woman-captain 1680
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A letter concerning enthusiasm (anon.) 1708
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Soliloquy; or advice to an author (anon.) 1710
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—— The Globe edition (1866)
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As you like it 1600
The comedie of errors 1590
The tragedy of Coriolanus 1607
The tragedie of Cymbeline 1611
The tragedie of Hamlet, prince of Denmarke 1603
—— *The tragicall historie of Hamlet, prince of Denmarke* (1603, 1604)
The first part of Henry the fourth 1596
—— *The history of Henrie the fourth* (1598)
The second part of Henry the fourth 1597
—— *The second part of Henrie the fourth* (1600)
The life of Henry the fift 1599
—— *The cronicle history of Henry the fift* (1600, 1619)
The first part of Henry the sixt 1591
—— *The second part* 1593
—— *The third part* 1593
The famous history of the life of king Henry the eight 1613
The life and death of king Iohn 1595
The tragedie of Iulius Cæsar 1601
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—— *His true chronicle historie of the life and death of king Lear and his three daughters* (1608)
A lovers complaint 1597 (at end of Sonnets 1609)
Loues labour's lost 1588
—— *A pleasant conceited comedie called Loues labors lost* (1598)
Lucrece 1593 (1594 ; *The rape of Lucrece* 1616)
The tragedie of Macbeth 1605
Measure for measure 1603
The merchant of Venice 1596
—— *The most excellent historie of the merchant of Venice* (1600, 1619)
The merry wiues of Windsor 1598
—— *A most pleasaunt and excellent conceited comedie, of Syr Iohn Falstaffe and the merrie wiues of Windsor* (1602)
A midsommer nights dreame 1590 (also 1600, 1619)
Much adoe about nothing 1599 (also 1600)
The tragedie of Othello, the Moore of Venice 1604 (also 1622)
The late and much admired play, called Pericles, prince of Tyre 1608 (1609)
The phœnix and the turtle 1601 (in R. Chester's Loves martyr, repr. New Shaks. Soc. 1878)
The life and death of king Richard the second 1593
—— *The tragedie of king Richard the second* (1597)
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The tragedie of Romeo and Iuliet 1592
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The taming of the shrew 1596
The tempest 1610
The life of Tymon of Athens 1607
The lamentable tragedy of Titus Andronicus 1588
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The tragedie of Troylus and Cressida 1606
—— *The historie of Troylus and Cressida* (1609)
Twelfe night, or what you will 1601
The two gentlemen of Verona 1592
Venus and Adonis 1593 (1593)
The winters tale 1611
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SHARP, SAMUEL *A treatise on the operations of surgery* 1739
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SHARPHAM, EDWARD *The fleire* (a comedy) 1607

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SHAW, SIR CHARLES *Personal memoirs and correspondence, comprising a narrative of the war .. in Portugal and Spain* 1837
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—— continued by J. F. Stephens (1815–26)
Musei Leverani explicatio, Anglice et Latine 1792–96
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Man and superman 1903
Plays : pleasant and unpleasant 1898
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SHAW, HENRY W. 1866 : see 'Billings, Josh'
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A survey of the miracles of the church of Rome, proving them to be Antichristian 1616
SHELFORD, ROBERT *Five pious and learned discourses* 1635
SHELLEY, CHARLES P. B. *Workshop appliances* 1873 (1893)
SHELLEY, GEORGE *Sentences and maxims .. in prose and verse* 1712 (1730)
SHELLEY, JANE, LADY Ed. *Shelley memorials* 1859
SHELLEY, MRS. MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT *Frankenstein, or the modern Prometheus* 1818
SHELLEY, PERCY BYSSHE *Poetical works* c 1822 (1853, 1882, 1904)
Prose works (1880, 1888)
Adonais, an elegy on the death of John Keats 1821
Alastor ; or the spirit of solitude 1815
Calderon, Scenes from the Magico Prodigio of tr. 1822
The Cenci, a tragedy 1819
Charles the first 1821–22
The Cyclops, a satyric drama, tr. from Euripides 1819
Epipsychidion 1821
Essays, letters from abroad, translations and fragments c 1822 (1852)
Hellas, a lyrical drama 1821
Julian and Maddalo 1818
Laon and Cythna : see Revolt of Islam, below
Lines written among the Euganean hills 1818
The mask of anarchy 1819
[illegible]pus tyrannus ; or Swellfoot the tyrant, a tragedy 1820
Peter Bell the third 1819
Prince Athanase 1817
Prometheus unbound, a [illegible] drama 1820
Queen Mab, a [illegible] poem 1813
The revolt of Islam (an ed. 1818 *Laon and Cythna*) 1817
Rosalind and Helen, a modern eclogue 1818
Select letters c 1822 (1882)
The witch of Atlas 1820
Shelley papers, The (1833) : see Medwin, T.
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SHENNAN, ROBERT *Tales, songs and miscellaneous poems .. chiefly in the Scottish dialect* 1831
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Essays on men and manners c 1763
The judgment of Hercules, a poem (anon.) 1741
Poems upon several occasions 1737 (1798)
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Salmacis, Lyrian and Sylvia .. with several other poems and translations 1651 (Chalmers 1810)
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SHERER, JOHN W. *At home and in India* 1882 (1883)
The conjurer's daughter, a tale 1880
SHERER, JOSEPH MOYLE *Notes and reflections during a ramble in Germany* (anon.) 1826
Sketches of India (anon.) 1831
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SHERIDAN, PHILIP H., general U.S. army *Personal memoirs* 1888
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Plays as he wrote them (1902)
The critic, or a tragedy rehearsed 1779
The duenna 1775 (1783)
Pizarro (adapted from Kotzebue) 1799
The rivals 1775
St. Patrick's day 1775
The school for scandal 1777
(*The stranger* (from Kotzebue) 1798)
A trip to Scarborough 1777
SHERIDAN, THOMAS, D.D. *Letters* etc. c 1738 (Swift's works)
The satyrs of Persius tr. 1728 (1739)
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Lectures on the art of reading 1775
The life of Dr. Jonathan Swift 1784
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The cardinal 1641 (1652)
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SMITH, SIR JOHN 1590 : see Smythe
SMITH, JOHN, captain *Works c* 1631 (Arber)
An accidence or the pathway to experience necessary for all young sea-men 1626
The generall historie of Virginia, New-England and the Summer Iles 1624
A map of Virginia, with a description of the countrey 1612
A sea grammar, with the plaine exposition of Smiths accidence for young sea-men enlarged 1627
—— *The seaman's grammar* (enlarged 1653, 1692)
A true relation of such occurrences and accidents of noate as hath hapned in Virginia since the first planting of that collony 1608
The true travels, adventures and observations of Captaine J. Smith 1630
SMITH, JOHN *Select discourses c* 1652 (1821)
SMITH, JOHN *A compleat practice of physick* ed. J. Ridgley 1656
SMITH, JOHN *The mysteries of rhetorique unvail'd* 1657
SMITH, JOHN *King Solomon's portraiture of old age* 1666
—— *The pourtract of old age* (1676)
SMITH, JOHN *England's improvement revivd* 1670 (1673)
SMITH, JOHN *Christian religion's appeal from the groundless prejudices of the sceptic to the bar of common reason* 1675
SMITH, JOHN *Horological dialogues, by J. S.* (? Smith) 1675
Horological disquisitions concerning the nature of time 1694
SMITH, JOHN *The narrative of Mr. J. Smith .. containing a further discovery of the late horrid and popish plot* 1679
SMITH, JOHN *Chronicon rusticum-commerciale ; or memoirs of wool* etc. 1747
—— *Memoirs of wool* etc. (1756–57)
SMITH, JOHN *The printer's grammar* 1755
SMITH, JOHN *Galic antiquities ; consisting of a history of the Druids, particularly of those of Caledonia* 1780
SMITH, JOHN *Treatise on the management and cultivation of forest trees* 1843
SMITH, JOHN *A dictionary of popular names of the plants which furnish the natural and acquired wants of man* 1882
Ferns : British and foreign 1866 (1879)
SMITH, JOHN *Christian character as a social power* 1899
SMITH, JOHN BARKER *Ideation* 1888
SMITH, JOHN PYE *On the relation between the holy scriptures and some parts of geological science* 1839
SMITH, JOHN THOMAS *Antiquities of Westminster* 1807–09
A book for a rainy day c 1833 (1845)
The cries of London c 1833 (1839)
Nollekens and his times 1828
SMITH, JOHN THOMAS *Vicat's (L. J.) Practical treatise on calcareous mortars and cements* tr. 1837
SMITH, JOSEPH A. *Productive farming* 1843 (ed. 2)
SMITH, JOSHUA TOULMIN *The parish, its obligations and powers* etc. 1854 (1857)
SMITH, JUDE *A mistical devise of the spirituall .. love betwene Christ .. and the church .. set forth in verse* 1575
SMITH, LOGAN PEARSALL *The life and letters of Sir H. Wotton* 1907
SMITH, BP. MILES *Sermons c* 1624 (1632)
SMITH, PRIESTLEY *Glaucoma : its causes, symptoms, pathology and treatment* 1879
SMITH, REGINALD BOSWORTH *Carthage and the Carthaginians* 1878
Life of Lord Lawrence 1883
SMITH, ROBERT *Poems of controversy between episcopacy and presbytery* 1724 (1869)
SMITH, ROBERT *A compleat system of opticks* 1738
SMITH, SIR ROBERT M. *Persian art* 1876
SMITH, SAMUEL *Davids blessed man ; or a short exposition upon the first psalme* 1614 (1633, 1868)
SMITH, SAMUEL *A general view of the agriculture of Galloway* 1810
SMITH, SEBA *The life and writings of Major Jack Downing of Downingville* 1833 (1834)
Way down east ; or portraitures of Yankee life 1854 (1866)
SMITH, SIMON *The herring-busse trade* 1641
SMITH, SOUTHWOOD : see Smith, T. S.
SMITH, SYDNEY *Works c* 1845 (1850, 1859)
Elementary s[illegible] of moral philosophy 1804–06 (1850)
Letters on the subject of the Catholics, by Peter Plymley 1807–08 (1867)
Six sermons 1800
Two volumes of sermons 1809
A memoir by Lady Holland, with a selection of his letters c 1845 (1855)
SMITH, SIR THOMAS *De republica Anglorum ; the maner of gouernement or policie of the realme of England c* 1577 (1583, 1584)
—— *The common-wealth of England and maner of gouernement thereof* (1589, 1609)
SMITH, THOMAS *Memorials of .. S. Miller, with a biographical sketch by .. T. Smith* 1883
SMITH, THOMAS SOUTHWOOD *The philosophy of health* 1835–37
SMITH, TOULMIN : see Smith, Joshua T.
SMITH, WALKER C. *Kildrostan : a dramatic poem* 1884
SMITH, WILLIAM *Chloris ; or the complaint of the passionate despised shepheard* 1596 (Grosart 1877 ; Arber, English Garner VIII)
SMITH, WILLIAM *The annals of University College* (Oxford) 1728
SMITH, WILLIAM *A natural history of Nevis and the rest of the English Leeward Charibee islands in America* 1745
SMITH, WILLIAM *Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian war* tr. 1753
SMITH, WILLIAM *An historical account of the expedition against the Ohio Indians in 1764, under the command of H. Bouquet* (? by W. Smith) 1765 (1868)
SMITH, WILLIAM *Strata identified by organized fossils* 1816
SMITH, SIR WILLIAM Ed. *A dictionary of the Bible* 1860–63
A dictionary of Greek and Roman antiquities 1842 (1890)
Dictionary of Greek and Roman biography etc. 1844–49
—— and CHEETHAM, S. *A dictionary of christian antiquities* 1875–80
—— and WACE, H. *A dictionary of christian biography* etc. 1877–87
SMITH, WILLIAM ANDERSON *Lewisiana ; or life in the outer Hebrides* 1875
SMITH, WILLIAM HENRY *Gravesherst, or thoughts on good and evil* 1862 (1875)
Thorndale ; or the conflict of opinions 1857 (1858)
SMITH, WILLIAM ROBERTSON *Kinship and marriage in early Arabia* 1885
Lectures on the religion of the Semites 1889
The Old Testament in the Jewish church 1881
Smithsonian contributions to knowledge 1848–
Smithsonian Institution, Annual reports 1850–
Smithsonian miscellaneous collections 1862–
SMITT, F. A. *The Swedish fisheries* 1883 (Fisheries exhibition literature)
SMOLLETT, TOBIAS *Works c* 1771 (1797, 1870)
The adventures of Ferdinand Count Fathom 1753
The adventures of Peregrine Pickle 1751 (1779)
The adventures of Roderick Random 1748 (1812)
The adventures of Sir Launcelot Greaves 1762 (1793)
Advice : a satire 1746
Cervantes Saavedra's (M. de) History and adventures of .. Don Quixote tr. 1755 (1803)
A compleat history of England 1757–58 (1800)
The expedition of Humphry Clinker (anon.) 1771 (1813)
Le Sage's (A. R.) Adventures of Gil Blas of Santillane tr. 1749 (1802, 1878)
The reprisal, or the tears of old England, a comedy 1757 (1777)
Reproof : a satire 1747
The tears of Scotland (a poem) 1746
Travels through France and Italy 1766 (1797)
Smugglers, The : a tale descriptive of the sea-coast manners of Scotland 1819 (1820)
SMYTH, BP. (1632) : see Smith, Bp. M.
SMYTH, CHARLES PIAZZI *Madeira spectroscopic* 1882
Our inheritance in the great pyramid 1864 (1874, 1880)
SMYTH, JAMES *The practice of the customs in the entry, examination and delivery of goods* etc. 1821 (1821)
SMYTH, JOHN *The Berkeley manuscripts. The lives of the Berkeleys, .. with a description of the hundred of Berkeley and of its inhabitants c* 1640 (1883–85)
SMYTH, PHILIP *Aldrich's (H.) Elements of civil architecture* tr. 1789 (1818)
SMYTH, R. BROUGH *The gold fields and mineral districts of Victoria* 1869
Victorian exhibition 1872. Mining and mineral statistics 1873
SMYTH, SAMUEL P. NEWMAN *Old faiths in new light* 1879 (1882)
SMYTH, SIR WARINGTON W. *A treatise on coal and coal-mining* 1867
—— and others *A catalogue of the mineral collections in the Museum of practical geology* 1864
SMYTH, WILLIAM *Lectures on history ; second series, on the French revolution* 1840 (1848)
SMYTH, WILLIAM HENRY, admiral *The sailor's word-book : an alphabetical digest of nautical terms c* 1865 (1867)
SMYTHE, SIR JOHN *Certain discourses .. concerning the formes and effects of divers sorts of weapons, and other verie important matters militarie* 1590
Instructions, observations and orders mylitarie 1595
SMYTHIES, MRS. HARRIET M. Y. *The bride elect* (anon.) 1852
Fitzherbert, or lovers and fortune-hunters (anon.) 1838
SNAITH, JOHN C. *Fiercehaert the soldier* 1897
The wayfarers 1902
Willow the king 1899
Snake in the grass, The 1696 : see Leslie, C.
SNAPE, ANDREW *The anatomy of an horse* 1683 (1686)
SNOWDEN, JAMES KEIGHLEY *Tales of the Yorkshire wolds* 1893
The web of an old weaver 1896
SNOWDEN, RALPH L. *Magistrate's assistant* 1846 (1862)
SOAMES, HENRY *The Anglo-Saxon church* 1835 (1838)
SOANE, GEORGE *New curiosities of literature, and book of the months* 1847
Social life in England and France from 1780 to 1830 (by Mary Berry) 1831
Society for the diffusion of useful knowledge, Publications of the 1827–
Society for psychical research, Proceedings 1882–83
Society in London, by a foreign resident 1885
Society of Arts, The. Journal 1852–
Transactions of the society .. for the encouragement of arts, manufactures and commerce 1783–
SOLA, FRANCISCO GARCIA *The fisheries of Spain* 1883 (Fisheries exhibition literature)
Soliman. The tragedye of Solyman and Perseda 1592 (Hazl. Dodsley ; Kyd's Works 1901)
Solleysel's (J. de) Parfait mareschal or compleat farrier tr. Sir W. Hope 1696
—— *The compleat horseman or perfect farrier* (1717 ; also abridged 1702)
Solomon's Book of wisdom, King c 1400 (with Adam Davy's dreams, E.E.T.S. 1878)
SOLON, LOUIS M. E. *The art of the old English potter* 1883 (1885)
SOMERS, LORD JOHN *A collection of scarce and valuable tracts* 1748
A second (third, fourth) collection 1750–52
—— complete ed. ([illegible]5)
Somerset medieval wills [illegible]58 (Somerset Record Soc. 1901–05)
Somerset Record Society, Publications of the (1887–)
SOMERVILLE, ALEXANDER *History of the British legion and war in Spain* 1839
SOMERVILLE, EDITH CE. and 'MARTIN ROSS' *Some experiences of an Irish R.M.* 1899
—— *Further experiences* 1908
Some Irish yesterdays 1906
SOMERVILLE, MRS. MARY *On the connexion of the physical sciences* 1834 (1849, 1858)
On molecular and microscopic science 1869
Physical geography 1848 (1849)
SOMERVILLE, ROBERT *General view of the agriculture of East Lothian* 1805
SOMERVILLE, WILLIAM *The chace, a poem* 1735 (1749, 1767)
Field sports, a poem 1742
Hobbinol, or the rural games, a burlesque poem 1740 (1749)
Occasional poems, translations, fables, tales etc. 1727 (Chalmers 1810)
SOMERVILLE, WILLIAM *Hartig's (R.) Text-book of the diseases of trees* tr. 1894
Something old, a novel, by Gabrielli 1804
SOMNER, WILLIAM *The antiquities of Canterbury* 1640 (1703)
Dictionarium Saxonico-Latino-Anglicum 1659 (1701)
A treatise of gavelkind 1647 (1660)
'SON OF THE MARSHES, A' : see Jordan, D.
Song of Roland, Fragment of the c 1400 (Sege off Melayne etc., E.E.T.S. 1880)
Songs. A collection of songs and ballads relative to the London prentices and trades, during the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries (Percy Soc. 1841)
Festive songs, principally of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (Percy Soc. 1848)
The political songs of England from the reign of John to that of Edward II (Camden Soc. 1839)
Satirical songs and poems on costume from the 13th to the 19th century (Percy Soc. 1849)
Songs and ballads, chiefly of the reign of Philip and Mary (Roxb. Club 1860)
Songs and carols from a MS. in the British Museum c 1475 (Warton Club 1856)
Songs and carols, from a MS. of the fifteenth cent[illegible] (Percy Soc. 1847)
Songs, carols, and other [illegible]s, from R. Hill's commonplace-book c 1530 (E.E.T.S. 1907)
Sonnerat's (P.) Account of a voyage to the Spice islands and New Guinea tr. 1781
—— *Voyage to the East Indies and China* tr. F. Magnus 1788–89
Sorel's (C.) Comical history of Francion tr. 1655
Sortes Horatianæ, a poetical review of poetical talent 1814
SOTHEBY, SAMUEL L. *Principia typographica ; the block-books* etc. 1858
SOTHEBY, WILLIAM *Wieland's (C. M.) Oberon, a poem* 1798 (1826)
SOUTER, DAVID *General view of the agriculture of the county of Banff* 1812
SOUTH, ROBERT *Sermons preached upon several occasions* 1679, 1692, 1697–98, *c* 1716 (1715, 1737–44, 1823, 1842)
South-English legendary or lives of saints, The early c 1290 (E.E.T.S. 1887)
South Kensington Museum. Handbook to the special loan collection of scientific apparatus 1876 (1877)
SOUTHALL, JOHN *A treatise of bugges* 1730 (1793)
SOUTHERNE, EDMUND *A treatise concerning the right use and ordering of bees* 1593
SOUTHERNE, THOMAS *Works* 1721
—— *Plays c* 1746 (1774)
The fate of Capua 1700
The loyal brother or the Persian prince, a tragedy 1682
The maid's last prayer, a comedy 1693
Oroonoko, or the royal slave, a tragedy 1696
Sir Anthony Love, or the rambling lady, a comedy 1691
SOUTHEY, MRS. CAROLINE ANNE *Poetical works c* 1854 (1867)
Chapters on churchyards (anon.) 1829
Ellen Fitzarthur, a metrical tale (anon.) 1820
SOUTHEY, ROBERT *Poetical works* (1837–38, 1853)
All for love and the pilgrim to Compostella 1829
The book of the church 1824 (1841)
Chronicle of the Cid, from the Spanish 1808
Common-place book c 1843 (1849–51)
The correspondence with Caroline Bowles c 1843 (1881)
The curse of Kehama 1809 (1810, 1853)
The doctor 1834–43 (1848, 1862)
English eclogues 1799
Essays, moral and political 1810–28 (1832)
The expedition of Orsua and the crimes of Aguirre 1821
History of the Peninsular war 1823–32
Joan of Arc ; an epic poem 1795 (1837)
Juvenile and minor poems c 1800
Letters c 1843 (1856)
Letters from England ; by don Manuel Alvarez Espriella 1807 (1814)
Letters written during a short residence in Spain and Portugal 1796 (1799)
Life and correspondence c 1843 (ed. C. C. Southey 1849–50)
The life of the rev. Andrew Bell c 1843 (1844)
The life of Nelson 1813 (1854)
The life of Wesley 1820 (1846)
Lives of the British admirals 1833–40
Madoc (Madoc in Wales, Madoc in Aztlan) 1805
Metrical tales and other poems 1805 (1853)
Minor poems 1793–1805 (1815)
Oliver Newman, a New England tale 1829 (1845)
Omniana or horæ otiosiores 1812
The poet's pilgrimage to Waterloo 1816
Roderick, the last of the Goths 1814 (1815)
Selections from his letters c 1843 (1856)
Sir Thomas More, or colloquies on the progress and prospects of society 1829 (1831)
Specimens of the later English poets 1807
A tale of Paraguay 1825
Thalaba the destroyer 1801 (1853)
Vindiciæ ecclesiæ Anglicanæ, letters to Charles Butler 1826
A vision of judgment 1821
Wat Tyler, a dramatic poem 1794 (1817)
SOUTHWARD, JOHN *Dictionary of typography* 1875
Practical printing 1882 (1892)
SOUTHWELL, ROBERT *The poetical works c* 1595 (Turnbull 1856)
—— *The complete poems* (Grosart 1872)
—— *Prose works* (1828)
A hundred meditations on the love of God c 1595 (1877)

SOUTHWELL, ROBERT (*cont.*)
Marie Magdalens funerall teares, by S. W. 1591 (1594, 1602, 1823)
Saint Peters complaynt 1595
—— *S. Peters complaint and Saint Mary Magdalens funerall teares, with sundry other selected and devout poems, by R. S.* (1616)
The triumphs over death, by R. S. 1591 (1596; Archaica 1815)
Southwell minster, Visitations and memorials of v.d. (Camden Soc. 1891)
Soudons of Babylone, The romaunce of the c 1400 (E.E.T.S. 1881)
SOWERBY, GEORGE B. *A conchological manual* 1839
Popular British conchology 1854
SOWERBY, JAMES *English botany; or coloured figures of British plants* (text from vol. IV by Sir J. E. Smith) 1790–1814 (1832–46)
SOYER, ALEXIS *The gastronomic regenerator: a .. new system of cookery* 1846
The pantrophon: or history of food and its preparation 1853
Spaewife, The 1823: see Galt, J.
SPALDING, JOHN *The history of the troubles and memorable transactions in Scotland from* 1624 *to* 1645 *a* 1670 (1792)
—— *Memorialls of the trubles in Scotland and in England* 1624–45 (Spalding Club 1850)
SPALDING, THOMAS A. *Elizabethan demonology* 1880
SPALDING, WILLIAM *Italy and the Italian islands* 1841
Spalding Club, Publications of the (1841–71)
—— *Miscellany* (1841–52)
Spallanzani's (L.) Dissertations relative to the natural history of animals and vegetables tr. 1784
—— *Travels in the two Sicilies* tr. 1798
Spanish history, The: or a relation of the differences that happened in the court of Spain between Don John of Austria and Cardinal Nitard; with other transactions of that kingdom (Running-title—*Transactions of the court of Spain*) tr. 1678
Spanish rivals, The; a musical farce, by M. Lonsdale 1784 (1785)
SPARKE, EDWARD *Scintillula altaris, or a pious reflection on primitive devotion* 1652 (1663)
SPARKE, MICHAEL Ed. *Truth brought to light .. or a discourse .. of the first fourteen yeares of king James reigne* 1651
SPARKE, THOMAS *A brotherly perswasion to unitie and uniformitie in judgment and practice* 1607
SPARKS, JARED Ed. *Correspondence of the American revolution* 1853
The library of American biography 1834–38
—— (Second series) 1844–47
Life of Gouverneur Morris, with selections from his correspondence and miscellaneous papers 1832
Sparrman's (A.) Voyage to the Cape of Good Hope tr. G. Forster 1785 (1786)
SPARROW, BP. ANTHONY *A collection of articles, injunctions, canons* etc. *of the church of England* v.d. (1684)
A rationale upon the Book of common prayer 1657 (1661)
SPARROW, JOHN *Behmen's (J.) Mysterium magnum* tr. 1654
Several treatises of J. Behme tr. 1661
The remainder of books written by J. Behme tr. 1662
SPARROW, JOHN *Le Dran's (H. F.) Observations in surgery* tr. J. S. 1758 (1772)
SPARROW, WILLIAM *Select discourses* 1677
SPARRY, FRANCIS *Caltan's (C. de) Geomancie* tr. 1591
Speaker, The; a review of politics etc. 1890–97
SPEARMAN, JAMES MORTON *The British gunner* 1828 (ed. 2)
Specimens of the British poets ed. T. Campbell (1819)
Specimens of lyric poetry a 1310 (Percy Soc. 1842)
Spectator, The (by J. Addison, Sir R. Steele, and others) 1711–14 (1868, 1891)
Spectator, The; a weekly review of politics etc. 1828–
Spectator, The new; with the sage opinions of John Bull 1784–86
Speculum Gy de Warewyke, an English poem c 1330 (E.E.T.S. 1898)
SPEDDING, JAMES *Reviews and discussions, .. not relating to Bacon* 1846–77 (1879)
—— and others Ed. *Bacon's (F.) Works* 1857–74
Speech for Mr. D—ss (Dundas) *of Arnistoun, A* (by D. De Foe) 1711
excellent experiments touching the advancement of husbandry c 1650 (1659)
SPEED, JOHN *The history of Great Britaine* 1611 (1623, 1632)
The theatre of the empire of Great Britaine 1611
—— *England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland described and abridged c* 1620 (1627)
SPEED, ROBERT *The counter scuffle* by R. S. 1683 (1628)
SPEEDY, THOMAS *Sport in the highlands and lowlands of Scotland with rod and gun* 1884
SPEID, MRS. JOHN B. *Our last years in India* 1862
SPEKE, JOHN HANNING *Journal of the discovery of the source of the Nile* 1863
SPELMAN, SIR HENRY *The English works a* 1641 (1723)
Archæologus. In modum glossarii ad rem antiquam posteriorem etc. 1626
—— *Glossarium archaiologicum* (1664)
De non temerandis ecclesiis, a tracts of the rights and respect due to churches 1613 (1646)
De sepultura (in English) 1630 (1641)
The history and fate of sacrilege, discover'd by examples a 1642 (1698)
—— and others *Tithes too hot to be touched. Certain treatises wherein is shewen that tithes are due a* 1641 (1646)
SPELMAN, SIR JOHN *Cases of our affairs* 1643
The life of Alfred the great a 1643 (1678, 1709)
Psalterium Davidis latino-saxonicum vetus (1640)
A view of a printed book (of Hen. Parker's) intituled Observations upon his Majesties late answers and expresses (anon.) 1642
SPENCE, CHARLES *From the brass of the Carse, poems and songs a* 1869 (1898)
SPENCE, FERRAND *St. Evremond's* (Marguetel de St. Denis, C.) *Miscellanea* tr. 1686
Varillas' (A.) Secret history of the House of Medicis tr. 1686
SPENCE, JOHN *Shetland folk-lore* 1899
SPENCE, JOSEPH *Anecdotes, observations and books and men a* 1768 (1820)
An essay on Pope's Odyssey 1726
SPENCER, BENJAMIN: see Spenser
SPENCER, HERBERT *Ceremonial institutions* (part of Principles of sociology) 1879
The data of ethics 1879
Education 1861 (1879)
Essays: scientific, political and speculative 1852–73 (1858, 1863, 1874)
First principles (a system of philosophy) 1862 (1875)
Illustrations of universal progress 1864
The man versus the state 1884
Political institutions (part of Principles of sociology) 1882
The principles of biology 1864–67
The principles of psychology 1855 (1870–72)
The principles of sociology 1876–82
Social statics 1851 (1854)
The study of sociology 1873
SPENCER, JOHN *A discourse concerning prodigies* 1663
—— Second ed. To which is added *a short treatise concerning vulgar prophecies* 1665
The righteous ruler, a sermon 1660
SPENCER, THOMAS *The art of logick* 1628
SPENCER, (WALTER) BALDWIN *Horn scientific expedition. Through Lorapinta Land* 1896
SPENCER, WILLIAM ROBERT *Poems* 1811
SPENSER OR SPENCER, BENJAMIN *Vox civitatis, or London's complaint against her children in the country* 1625 (Phenix 1732)
SPENSER, EDMUND *Works a* 1599 (Globe)
Amoretti 1594
Astrophel, a pastorall elegie upon the death of .. Sir Philip Sidney 1596 (in Arber, Eng. Garner I)
Colin Clouts come home again 1591–95
Complaints, containing sundrie small poemes of the worlds vanitie 1591
Daphnaïda, an elegie 1591
Epithalamion 1595
The faerie queene 1590–96
Fowre hymnes (in honour of love, in honour of beautie, of heavenly love, of heavenly beautie) 1596
Muiopotmos: or the fate of the butterflie 1590
Prosopopoia: or Mother Hubberds tale 1591
The shepheardes calender 1579
Three proper and wittie familiar letters, lately passed betweene two universitie men (E. Spenser and G. Harvey) 1580
—— *Two other letters* 1579 (1580)
A view of the present state of Ireland 1596 (1633; Globe)
[illegible], G. (the younger)
SPILLING, JAMES *Giles's trip to London* (anon.) 1872
Molly Migg's trip to the seaside (anon.) 1873
SPINGARN, J. E. Ed. *Critical essays of the seventeenth century* 1908–09
Spinster, The; a defence of the woollen manufacture. Publ. J. Roberts 1719
Spirit of the metropolitan conservative press 1839 (1840)
Spirit of the nation, The; ballads and songs by the writers of 'The Nation' (Dubl.) 1845
Spirit of popery speaking out of the mouths of phanatical protestants, The (by G. Hickes) 1680
Spirit of the public journals, The 1797–1814, 1823–25 (1798–1826)
Spirituall counsayle, very necessarye for every persone to have c 1530
Splendid follies, a novel 1810
SPOFFORD, MRS. HARRIET E. P. *The amber gods, and other stories* 1863
Sir Rohen's ghost, a romance (anon.) 1859 (1863)
Spon's (E. and F. N.) Household manual 1887
SPON, ERNEST *Spon's Encyclopædia of the industrial arts, manufactures and commercial products* 1879–82
Workshop receipts 1873
—— (Second series, by R. Haldane 1883; third, fourth series by C. G. W. Lock 1884–85)
SPOONER, WILLIAM C. *Veterinary art: a practical treatise on the diseases of the horse* 1843 (1851)
Sporting magazine, The 1793–1870
Sports. A new book of sports, reprinted from the 'Saturday review' 1885
Sportsman's gazetteer and general guide, The (by C. Hallock) 1877 (also 1883)
SPOTTISWOOD, ABP. JOHN *The history of the church of Scotland a* 1639 (1677; Spottiswoode Soc. 1847–51)
SPOTTISWOODE, WILLIAM *Polarisation of light* 1874 (1879)
Spottiswoode Society, Publications of the (1844–51)
SPRAT, BP. THOMAS *A discourse to the clergy of his diocese* 1695 (1696)
The history of the Royal-society of London 1667
Poems a 1713 (1790; Chalmers 1810)
SPRIGGE, JOSHUA *Anglia rediviva; Englands recovery* 1647 (1854)
SPRIGGE, SAMUEL S. *The life and times of Thomas Wakley* 1897
Spring and summer in Lapland, A (by H. W. Wheelwright) 1863 (1864)
SPROULE, JOHN *An essay on the growth and management of flax in Ireland* 1844 (1846)
SPRY, WILLIAM J. J. *The cruise of Her majesty's ship 'Challenger'* 1876
SPURDENS, WILLIAM T. *A supplementary volume to R. Forby's Vocabulary of East Anglia* 1840 (1858)
See also Longinus, D. C.
SPURGEON, CHARLES HADDON *John Ploughman's pictures* 1880
The treasury of David; containing an original exposition of the Book of psalms 1870–86
SPURSTOWE, WILLIAM *The spiritual chymist* 1666 (1668)
The wells of salvation opened 1655
SQUIER, EPHRAIM G. *Notes on Central America* 1855
Peru: incidents of travel and exploration in the land of the Incas 1877
SQUIRE, JANE *A proposal for discovering our longitude* 1742
Squyr of lowe degre, The a 1400 (Ritson, Metrical romances III, 1802)
STABLES, W. GORDON *The cruise of the land yacht 'Wanderer'* 1886
Our friend the dog 1884
Stacions of Rome, The (verse) *c* 1400 (E.E.T.S. 1867; prologue only, Minor poems of the Vernon MS., E.E.T.S. 1901)
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Five ... from the Ecclesiastes of Solomon paraphrastically versified a 1547 (Park, Harington's Nugæ antiquæ II, 1804; Anglia XXIX)
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Susan: a novel (anon.) 1809
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The battle of the books 1697 (with Tale of a tub 1704)
The bubble: a poem (Upon the South Sea project) 1721
Cadenus and Vanessa, a poem 1713 (1726)
A complete collection of genteel and ingenious conversation (Polite conversation) 1731–38 (1738; Wks. 1738 VI)
The conduct of the allies, and of the late ministry, in beginning and carrying on the present war 1711
Correspondence a 1745 (1841)
Directions to servants in general 1729 (1745)
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The Drapier letters 1724, 1735
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A letter .. concerning the sacramental test 1708 (Misc. 1711)
Letters by Dr. Swift and several of his friends 1703–40 (1767)
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Miscellaneous works (The tale of a tub, Miscellanies in prose and verse) 1720
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A modest proposal for preventing the children of poor people from being a burthen to their parents, or the country 1729
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—— *Vindication of I. Bickerstaff* 1709 (ibid.)
A proposal for correcting, improving, and ascertaining the English tongue 1712
The publick spirit of the Whigs set forth 1714
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—— *A biennial retrospect of medicine, surgery, and their allied sciences 1867–68* 1869
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Lachrimæ lachrimarum ; or the distillation of teares shede for the death of .. Panaretus 1612
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Tobacco battered and the pipes shattered c 1615 (1617)
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Logic in theology, and other essays 1830–31 (1859)
Loyola : and Jesuitism in its rudiments 1849
Natural history of enthusiasm (anon.) 1829
Physical theory of another life (anon.) 1836
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The restoration of belief (anon.) 1852 (1853)
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TAYLOR, JAMES *The Scottish covenanters* 1882
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Contemplations of the state of man a 1667 (1684, 1699)
Deus justificatus ; two discourses of original sin 1656
A discourse concerning prayer ex tempore, or by pretence of the Spirit, in justification of authorized and set formes of liturgie (anon.) 1646
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A dissuasive from Popery to the people of Ireland 1664, 1667 (1668)
Ductor dubitantium ; or the rule of conscience in all her generall measures 1660
Ἐνιαυτός : a course of sermons for all the Sundaies of the year 1653–55
A funeral sermon (*on 2 Sam. xiv. 14*) *preached at the obsequies of the Countesse of Carbery* 1650
The golden grove ; or a manuall of daily prayers and letanies 1655
The great exemplar of sanctity and holy life 1649
Of the sacred order and offices of episcopacy 1642
The real presence and [illegible] *Christ in the blessed* [illegible] *ni proved aga* [illegible] *ins of transubstantiation* 1654
The rule and exercises of holy living 1650 (1676)
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A sermon preached at the funeral of John (*Bramhall*) *late Lord Archbishop of Armagh* 1663
A sermon preached in Saint Maries Church in Oxford upon the anniversary of the Gunpowder-treason 1638
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Unum necessarium : or, the doctrine and practice of repentance 1655
The worthy communicant 1660
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TAYLOR, JOHN (Water poet) *Works* 1630
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An apology for private preaching 1642
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